



ENNGONIA COMMUNITY WORKING PARTY

HOUSING and ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH PLAN

MARCH 2022



MURDI PAAKI
REGIONAL
ASSEMBLY

Murdi Paaki Services Ltd
45 Bathurst Street
Cobar NSW 2835
T: 02 6879 8100 or 0438 602 246 E: admin@mpira.com.au

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ENNGONIA COMMUNITY WORKING PARTY

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

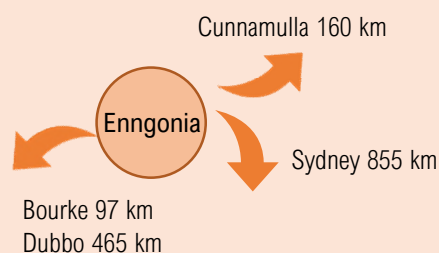


Enngonia

Housing and Environmental Health Plan Executive Summary

This Housing and Environmental Health Plan provides a Master Plan for housing, infrastructure and housing-related human services for the Aboriginal community of Enngonia. The Master Plan is based on a body of evidence outlined in this Executive Summary. Much community input is drawn from the Household Survey organised by Murdi Paaki Services, and from the Enngonia CWP's Community Action Plan. This Plan describes the current situation and proposes measures to improve the state and supply of housing, the way it is allocated and managed, and what needs to be done in the future to meet community needs for housing, wrap-around services and economic development. The Executive Summary begins with some facts about the community, looks at the housing situation, then presents the key points of the Master Plan. The Plan belongs to the Aboriginal community of Enngonia

Where we are to be found?



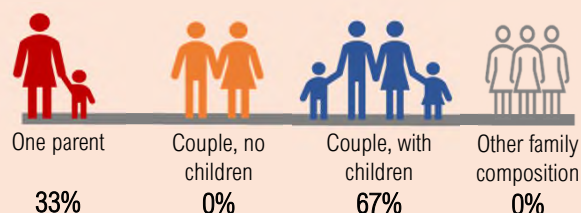
The Enngonia climate is hot, dry, semi-arid. The number of days with temperatures $>35^{\circ}\text{C}$, already 77 days, is predicted to increase by 30-40 days by 2070

About the rural community:

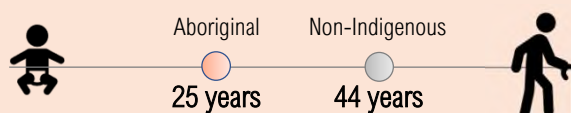


Aboriginal population = 45% of total population of 148 persons

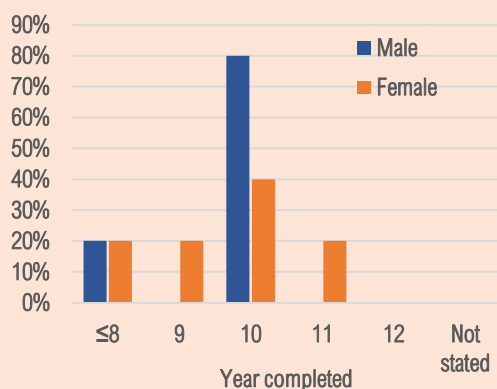
Family household composition



Median age of the population



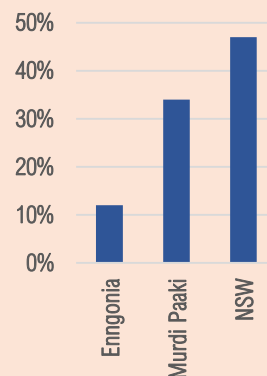
Highest year of schooling, all Aboriginal adults



29% of the Aboriginal population is aged under 15 years



Employment to population ratio



Enngonia

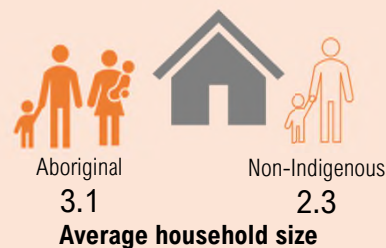
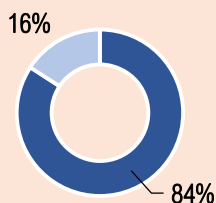
Facts about housing in our community:



On Census night, 12% of private dwellings were not occupied

Tenure type (from Census)

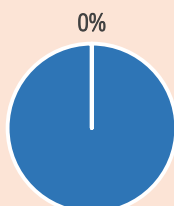
- Owners
- Private renters
- Social housing renters
- Other



Existing Aboriginal social housing

| Ownership | Bedrooms | | | | |
|------------------------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|
| | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| Murrawari LALC | - | 6 | - | 8 | 1 |
| Murrawari AC | - | 1 | 8 | - | - |
| Other | - | - | - | - | - |
| Total dwellings | 0 | 7 | 8 | 8 | 1 |

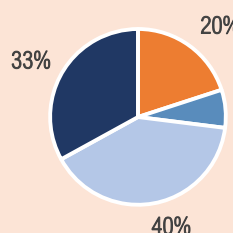
Social housing manager(s)



- Local ACHP
- Regional ACHP
- Out of Region ACHP
- Community housing manager
- Public housing manager

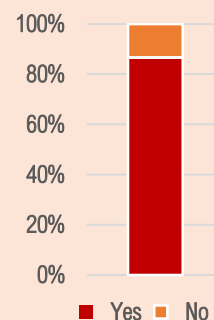
48% of households lived in the same house 5 years before the MRH&BC

Satisfaction with housing manager

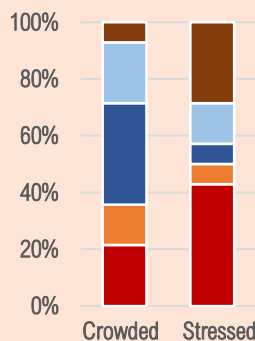


- Very satisfied
- Satisfied
- Neutral
- Dissatisfied
- Very dissatisfied
- Not stated

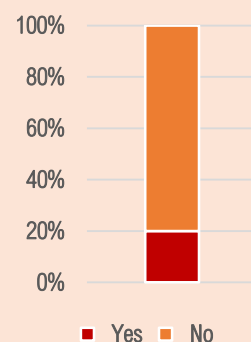
Feeling safe



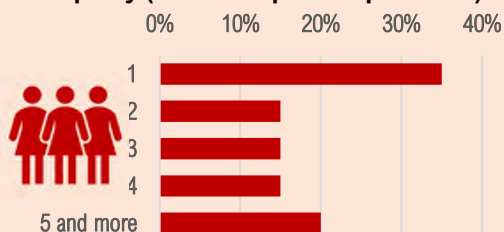
Households feeling



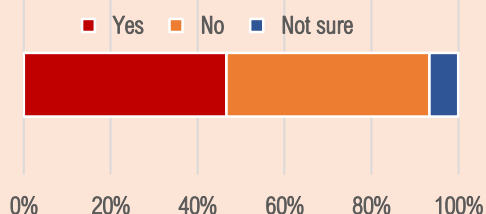
Households giving shelter



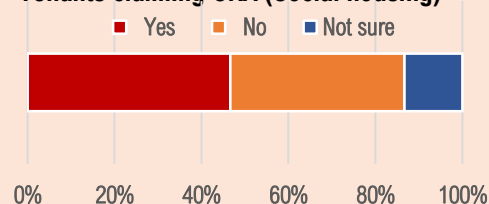
Occupancy (number of persons per house)



Tenants with a tenancy agreement



Tenants claiming CRA (Social housing)



REASONS FOR LIVING IN ENNGONIA

To be close to family and relations

60%

My family has been here a long time

53%

To be on my Country

47%

MASTER PLAN - HOUSING



ESTIMATE OF HOUSING NEED

Predicted housing need

| | Bedrooms | | | |
|-------------------|----------|---|---|---|
| | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| Families | - | 2 | - | - |
| Older persons | - | - | - | - |
| Young persons | 6 | - | - | - |
| Homeless families | - | - | - | - |
| Total dwellings | 6 | 2 | 0 | 0 |

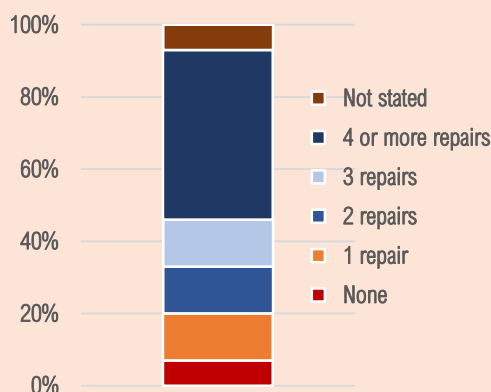
Home modifications

| | |
|----------|---|
| Required | 3 |
|----------|---|

Extra bedrooms

| | Bedrooms | | |
|-----------|----------|---|---|
| | 1 | 2 | 3 |
| Estimated | - | - | - |

Tenant reported condition



Housing repairs

(Number of properties)

| Degree of work | Number |
|----------------|--------|
| ↗ | 2 |
| ↗ ↗ | 10 |
| ↗ ↗ ↗ | 9 |
| ↗ ↗ ↗ ↗ | 0 |
| ↗ ↗ ↗ ↗ ↗ | 0 |
| Replacements | 3 |

- On completion of the Build and Grow head/sub-lease arrangement, return Aboriginal social housing management services of all properties to a local or Regional ACHP to be more directly under the governance and influence of the local community
- Work with the managing ACHP(s) to establish a way of working which satisfies the community's way of doing business
- Develop a communication strategy with relevant stakeholders to ensure the efficient and timely flow of information, including regular reporting to the CWP on matters relating to housing management and emerging issues
- As part of the MPRH&BC project, co-design application and allocation processes which preference the community and are straightforward and consistent, and rent setting policies which set fair and affordable rents
- Increase supply to meet demand arising from young persons wishing to live independently and older persons and couples wishing to move to accessible housing for health-related reasons or from crowding
- Increase the number of dwellings purpose-built for the elderly, frail and disabled to allow them to live independently
- Replace properties at the end of their life with new housing
- Carry out independent property inspections, arrange adequate funding, and carry out repairs, upgrades and extensions using only trusted contractors with the capacity to carry out work professionally to a high standard
- Arrange with the housing manager(s) to negotiate with the ACAT, registered Home Modifications providers, and funding body where necessary, to expedite home modification work on houses occupied by a household with a resident member with a disability
- Train and employ a local Aboriginal worker as a licenced handyman to maintain property condition by carrying out basic repairs
- Ensure that all homes are equipped with energy efficient air conditioning with sufficient capacity to deal with rising temperatures and with roof mounted-solar PV systems to reduce energy bills
- Foster a lasting partnership between MP TSEP, housing provider(s) and homelessness services which ensures that vulnerable Aboriginal members of the community are able to receive the support needed to remain safe, healthy and

Enngonia

MASTER PLAN - INFRASTRUCTURE

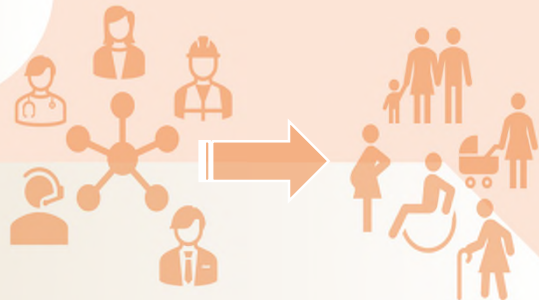


Advocate with Bourke Shire Council and other responsible agencies for:

- Further works to the cemetery for ongoing use by the community, including constructing an amenities block
- An improvement in the quality of the drinking water supply to meet Australian Drinking Water Guidelines
- Improved footpaths and efficient street lighting to all parts of the village which complies with the relevant Australian Standard
- A regular kerbside domestic waste collection service and a bulky waste collection service community-wide
- A dust mitigation strategy to reduce the risk of respiratory and other diseases and illnesses, and the burden of maintaining a clean home
- Remove the asbestos contaminated soils at Clara Hart Village
- Road and drainage improvements at Clara Hart Village

The Master Plan sets out the actions the CWP has adopted to secure a better future for the community. The actions come from the contributions of the community and from analysis of the gaps which prevent people from living healthy, prosperous and comfortable lives in Enngonia. The actions written into this Executive Summary are shorthand versions of the actions in the Plan itself

MASTER PLAN - HUMAN SERVICES



- Engage with MPRA, DCJ and other agencies to advance the actions in the Community Action Plan in conjunction with this Housing and Environmental Health Plan
- Audit and review the role and operational objectives of health and human services and providers across all sectors to ensure that services promised are being received and culturally safe, that gaps are identified and can be addressed, and protocols established which increase transparency and accountability
- Improve the community's ability to access health care services locally and regionally
- Develop a transport solution which will allow community members without a vehicle to attend to their daily household tasks and personal business, and to attend health appointments at the hospital, and in regional centres
- Advocate with Council, the Local Health District and Outback Division of General Practice for primary health care services provided by a visiting GP(s)
- Assess the presence and capabilities of funded NDIS registered providers, the level of care delivered against clients' funded package, and package availability and inequalities of care of Aboriginal people with disability

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GLOSSARY

| | |
|--------------|---|
| ABS | Australian Bureau of Statistics |
| ACDP | Aboriginal Communities Development Programme |
| ACHP | Aboriginal Community Housing Provider |
| AEDC | Australian Early Development Census |
| AEP | Annual Exceedance Probability |
| AHIMS | Aboriginal Heritage Management Information System |
| AHO | NSW Aboriginal Housing Office |
| ALRA | Aboriginal Land Rights Act |
| APB | Aborigines Protection Board |
| ATSIC | Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Commission |
| AWB | Aborigines Welfare Board |
| CAP | Community Action Plan |
| CNOS | Canadian Occupancy Standard |
| CRA | Commonwealth Rent Assistance |
| CSP | Community Strategic Plan |
| CWP | Community Working Party |
| DCJ | NSW Department of Communities and Justice |
| DPE | NSW Department of Planning and Environment (formerly DPIE) |
| DPIE | NSW Department of Planning, Industry and Environment |
| ERP | Estimated Resident Population |
| HEHP | Housing and Environmental Health Plan |
| HLP | Healthy Living Practices |
| IFD | Intensity Frequency Duration |
| ILOC | Indigenous Location |
| IRSD | Index of Relative Socio-economic Disadvantage |
| LALC | Local Aboriginal Land Council |
| LEP | Local Environmental Plan |
| LGA | Local Government Area |
| LHD | Local Health District |
| LSPS | Local Strategic Planning Statement |
| MLAHMC | Mid Lachlan Aboriginal Housing Management Cooperative |
| MLALC | Murrawari Local Aboriginal Land Council |
| MPRA | Murdi Paaki Regional Assembly |
| MPRH&BC | Murdi Paaki Regional Housing and Business Consortium |
| MPS | Murdi Paaki Services Limited |
| MP TSEP | Murdi Paaki Tenant Support and Education Programme |
| NDIS | National Disability Insurance Scheme |
| NRM | Natural Resource Management |
| NSHS | National Social Housing Survey |
| N-W NSW IREG | North-West NSW Indigenous Region |
| NSWALC | New South Wales Aboriginal Land Council |
| OCHRE | Opportunity, Choice, Healing, Responsibility and Empowerment (NSW Government Aboriginal Affairs Plan) |
| RAHLA | Regional Aboriginal Housing Leadership Assembly |
| REDI.E | Regional Enterprise Development Institute Ltd |
| SA1 | ABS Statistical Area Level 1 |
| SEIFA | Socio-Economic Indexes for Areas |
| SSC | State Suburb |



ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

This Housing and Environmental Health Plan has been prepared by the Enngonia Community Working Party with the help of Murdi Paaki Services Ltd. The Enngonia Community Working Party acknowledges the contributions of all community members and others who participated in the development of this plan through offering their advice, knowledge and encouragement.

We acknowledge and pay our respects to Elders past and present. We also acknowledge and respect the efforts of those community members seeking to improve the wellbeing of all Aboriginal families and individuals living in our community.

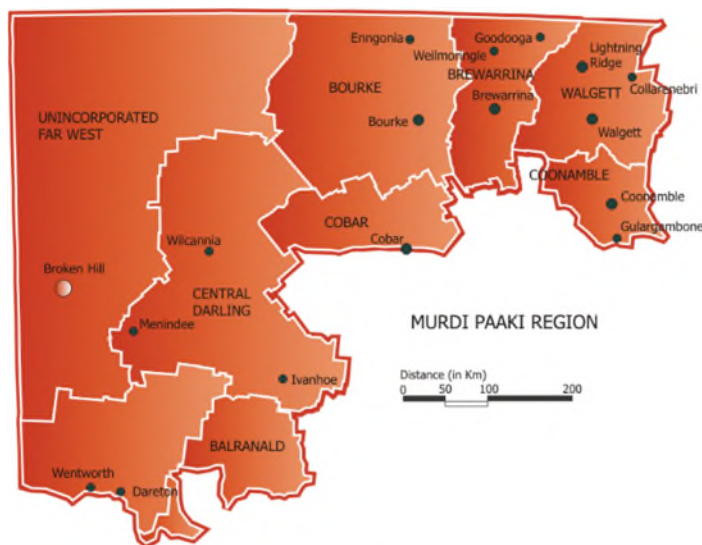
For the purposes of this Plan, an Aboriginal person is a person of Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander descent who identifies as an Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander (person) and is accepted as such by the community in which he or she lives.

1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Purpose of the Plan

This Housing and Environmental Health Plan (HEHP) is prepared for the Aboriginal community of Enngonia, in north-western NSW. The Enngonia community is one of sixteen larger communities within the Murdi Paaki Region shown in Figure 1.1.

Figure 1.1: Murdi Paaki Region



- Determine the need for and form of tenant support and education services;
- Contribute to a review of requirements for financial wellbeing of the Aboriginal social housing sector;
- Provide an informed basis for planning for future housing need and development, and associated value-adding initiatives; and
- Describe a high-level community-led approach to project master planning to shape the future of Aboriginal housing and related human services in Enngonia.

The Plan describes the aspirations of Aboriginal people living in Enngonia and outlines a strategic approach to achieving the community's goals. Planning is the necessary first step in a programme aimed at achieving better housing and environmental health outcomes by building and improving housing and environmental health infrastructure, together with related services and amenities in the community.

The Aboriginal community of Enngonia, and particularly existing and prospective tenant households, will benefit directly through having the foundation of a more strategic and informed approach to resourcing and managing Aboriginal social housing.

The purpose of the HEHP is to:

In conjunction with data collected through the Murdi Paaki Regional Housing and Business Consortium (MPRH&BC) project and described in the Social Housing Providers and Assets Audit Report, establish an evidence-base to guide the way in which housing policy is set and decisions are made in respect of Aboriginal social housing provision and management, and responses to environmental risk;

- Describe the current situation in relation to housing Aboriginal individuals and families in Enngonia;
- Gauge interest in home ownership;
- To the extent possible, report on the condition of Aboriginal social housing assets;
- Give an assessment of 'wrap-around' human services;

1.2 Governance arrangements

HEHPs are an initiative of the Murdi Paaki Regional Aboriginal Housing Leadership Assembly (RAHLA), a partnership of Murdi Paaki Regional Assembly (MPRA) and the NSW Government created through the OCHRE Local Decision-Making policy and directed by the Ministerial Agreement to improve Aboriginal social housing outcomes in the Murdi Paaki Region.

The RAHLA sees the preparation of HEHPs in all Murdi Paaki communities as a priority project under the Agreement and has authorised Murdi Paaki Services Ltd (MPS) to carry out the project to begin the process of developing the evidence base for regional policy setting and decision making as a vital step in rebuilding the social housing sector

and the social and economic capabilities of the Region.

The Agreement sets a framework for the active participation of Murdi Paaki communities, through elected representative peak bodies, in the development and delivery of better services, and the building of individual and organisational capacity to raise skills, knowledge and competencies. In this regard, the Agreement recognises the status of the Enngonia Community Working Party (CWP) as the principal point of contact for conducting business within the Aboriginal community and for leading the development of the HEHP planning process at community level.

1.3 Respecting Land Council autonomy

The roles and functions of Local Aboriginal Land Councils (LALCs) are defined in the NSW Aboriginal Land Rights Act 1982 (ALRA). Land Councils play a vital role in maintaining cultural practice and conserving Aboriginal heritage within their boundaries. They fulfil a critical function in NSW of restoring to the local Aboriginal population land which has been alienated by European colonisation. This land may be used for cultural or economic purposes; the rationale for each land claim is based upon the aspirations of the relevant LALC. LALCs also provide Community Benefit Schemes which may include Aboriginal social housing provision. In the Murdi Paaki Region, most LALCs are housing owners; some also manage their own housing. Individual LALCs have the inalienable right to make decisions in relation to their assets in accordance with the processes and constraints set out in the ALRA.

The Murdi Paaki Regional Assembly has made it a policy not to involve itself in matters of heritage and culture which are rightly the domain of the LALCs. Similarly, the Assembly recognises the autonomy of LALCs to make their own decisions in relation to their land and property. This Housing and Environmental Health Plan does not in any way impinge on the LALC's autonomy as a sovereign decision-maker in relation to its assets. In the interests of achieving maximum benefit for the community, the CWP invites the LALC to join its

voice and hands in unity to advocate for and implement the change agenda set out in the Master Plan.

1.4 The bigger picture

This HEHP is intended to supplement the work undertaken to date through the MPRH&BC project with more detailed and targeted enquiry at community level.

Plans have been produced to a similar degree of detail for all communities across the Murdi Paaki Region. The Plans acknowledge the reality of the experiences of Aboriginal people living in western NSW and form a resource for intelligent leadership and an integrated, creative response which places communities, to the greatest extent possible, as the principal drivers of sustainable local action.

It is hoped the HEHPs will:

- Reinstatement and strengthen the capacity of Murdi Paaki regional and local Aboriginal Community Housing Providers (ACHPs) to ensure that all Aboriginal people living in Aboriginal social housing in the community can receive culturally appropriate, professional and sustainable tenancy and asset management services from ACHPs which themselves are viable and supported;
- Increase access, opportunity and choice in affordable, healthy and safe housing for Aboriginal persons and families living in Murdi Paaki communities through growing the size and mix of the ACHP asset base;
- Work to ensure that houses are maintained in good condition in the long term;
- Ensure that tenants most at risk of a tenancy breach can access the services they need to sustain their tenancies;
- Establish the level of financial investment in respect of capital and recurrent costs to ensure sector viability; and
- Set the foundation for procurement practices and value add initiatives which respond to the 'failed market' environment and benefit the community.

2 BRIEF HISTORY

2.1 Sources of information

This chapter has been largely drawn from work completed by Burns Aldis in their Housing and Environmental Health Plan for the Enngonia Working Party in 2000. Further insights have been obtained from Charles Rowley's *Outcasts in White Australia* (1972), Judith Burns's PhD dissertation (2006) and the Bourke Shire Aboriginal Heritage Study (2019) prepared by OzArk Environmental and Heritage Management Ltd. Information about Murrawari societal structures, traditional practice and cultural continuity is documented in *The Two Worlds of Jimmie Barker* (1988).

2.2 Snapshot

According to mapping by both Norman Tindale (1974) and the David Horton for the Australian Institute of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Studies (1996), Enngonia is situated close to the boundary between Murrawari and Gurnu (Baakantji) Country; however, Jimmie Barker's recollections place it central to Murrawari Country. Many of the residents of Enngonia are of Murrawari descent, living on Country and identifying as Murrawari; other residents are descended from families which came to live at Enngonia from Queensland in the 1920s, 1930s and 1940s. The Aboriginal people of Enngonia variously live within the village or at Clara Hart Village, the former Aboriginal reserve about 1 km north-east of the village.

The village of Enngonia was formally established in the early 1870s with the opening of the Enngonia post office (postal services had previously been provided at an earlier post office on Belalie Station), but the locality had been known as Eringunya, spelled in various ways, since the 1860s. The village grew up as a service centre for surrounding pastoral properties. Its early history was marked by repeated bushranger activity, and this has contributed to the identity of the village.

2.3 Aboriginal ownership

Jimmie Barker described the boundary of Murrawari country as follows: "Starting at North Bourke, the line moves along the Darling River to the east, then it continues along the western bank of the Culgoa River to Collierina. Here it moves to the western bank of the Birrie River until it is level with Langboyd. At this point it moves north-west and crosses the Culgoa again, approximately twelve miles north of Weilmoringle. It is here that the border adjoins the Juwalarai tribe. The boundary crosses the Queensland border a few miles west of Toulby Gate, and Guwamu is the neighbour here. The line then moves north-west and crosses the Warrego River south of Cunnamulla, continuing to the eastern bank of the Paroo River, where it turns south through Caiwarro. Soon after this point the direction becomes south-easterly. The line passes through Warroo and slightly west of Yantabulla, then just south of Goombalie it moves due east to join the starting point at North Bourke." Jimmie Barker's mother was of the Murrawari sub-group whose Country was located around Enngonia: they were called the Gangugari. In addition to providing an abundance of food, water and shelter to the Murrawari people, Murrawari country is a densely storied landscape rich in narratives of creation and of ancestral travels. The landscape in the country around Enngonia retains evidence of millennia of Murrawari ownership: the NSW Office of Environment and Heritage *Statement of Management Intent for the Ledknapper Nature Reserve* (the country of the Dinigada sub-group to the east of Enngonia), for instance, mentions the area's "highly significant archaeological, traditional and contemporary social values to the local Aboriginal people. Evidence of Aboriginal occupation recorded within the reserve includes open camp sites, modified (scarred) trees for canoe making, stone tools and other artefacts." Murrawari heritage and cultural practice has been well documented; there is a continuous thread of spiritual belief, cultural knowledge and practice which extends from the old people and is still strong within the community today.

The traditional Aboriginal way of life was devastated by the arrival of Europeans in the region. European explorers Captain Charles Sturt

and Major Thomas Mitchell opened up the region to Europeans over a period of less than twenty years, between 1828 and 1845. The effects of European settlement in the east of the state were, however, felt by Aboriginal people in the region before this: highly infectious, often deadly diseases such as smallpox, tuberculosis and influenza had spread into western NSW before European explorers came.

Aboriginal people managed to ensure that seizure of the land along the Darling River and its tributaries was temporary until the 1860s, and defended their land and safeguarded their laws to the best of their ability. Problems arose where the invading Europeans flouted those laws, and Aboriginal people acted in accordance with their law. The Europeans' response to the Aboriginal people's action tended to be murder on a colossal scale, and there are several massacre sites in the region. Eventually, though, most of the land was taken for grazing. In general, Aboriginal people were able to gain employment as stockmen and shepherds for a time, particularly during the 1850s when most non-Aboriginal labourers had deserted the stations to go to the goldfields, until, in the 1870s, the availability of cheap drawn fencing wire meant that paddocks could be fenced, and shepherds and stockmen became redundant. The misguided policies relating to subdivision of parcels of marginal rangelands into smaller areas, pursued by successive NSW governments, led to further employment problems for Aboriginal people, since graziers were limited by economic necessity to depend on the labour of their own families. On the properties around Enngonia, though, the experience was somewhat different, with continuing employment on the larger properties, at least for some, in pastoral work into the latter half of the twentieth century. Charles Rowley, writing about his 1964 fieldwork, remarked the presence of "a group of shanty houses" in Enngonia where he noted a continuing need for station workers.

In 1882, the Aborigines Protection Act passed through the NSW Parliament, and a Protector of Aborigines was appointed. This had ramifications for Aboriginal people which lasted directly until the 1960s, and which still affects the way Aboriginal families live their lives. The effect of that Act, and

subsequent legislation, was that Aboriginal people were made wards of the state, and lost autonomy to make decisions about the way they lived their lives. Aboriginal people were deprived of the right to decide where to live, whom and when to marry, how to raise their children, what jobs to take, and every other facet of existence which anyone else would take for granted. The ironically named Protector of Aborigines commenced the establishment of reserves and government ration stations for Aboriginal people in the 1880s. Enngonia was not the site of a government managed station in the way that Angledool and Brewarrina, for instance, were; nor did it have a gazetted Aboriginal reserve through most of the protection period. As a locality, it attracted Aboriginal pastoral workers who wanted to be easily accessible to potential employers. Continuing pastoral industry requirements, who are likely to have lived with their families on the properties where they worked, would have tended to provide a degree of protection from the draconian control exercised by the Aborigines Protection Board (APB). Even so, Evelyn Crawford, in her autobiography *Over My Tracks*, wrote a dramatic account of her family's escape from the Brewarrina Aboriginal Station during which several children stolen from Enngonia by the APB also escaped to return to their families.

Some residents of Enngonia are descended from families which came from southern Queensland and thus have an historical association with the place dating back to the 1920s. Pressures on Aboriginal people in Queensland arising from drought-related unemployment in the 1920s, 30s and 40s brought about migration from south-western Queensland into northern NSW through this period. James Tyson, who owned Tinnenburra Station (on traditional Murrawari land) south of Cunnamulla, had, in 1867, set aside a reserve for a station camp. This camp accommodated up to 200 people, mainly Kunja but also Badjuri/Badjeti and Murrawari. Later, a ration station was established there. When the Tinnenburra property was broken up in the 1930s several families, including Murrawari people, were relocated to settlements such as Cherbourg; some moved to Eulo or Cunnamulla, but others moved south to settle at Yantabulla, Enngonia and Weilmoringle. Descendants of these families still live at Enngonia,

Weilmoringle, Bourke and Brewarrina. They had moved to improve their chances of obtaining award wages and educate their children, escape the provisions of the Queensland *Aboriginals Protection and Restriction of the Sale of Opium Act*, the strictures of which were even more oppressive than the NSW legislation of the time.

In 1964, Rowley observed that there were, close to the centre of the village, “seventeen family groups housed in shacks as bad as the worst that one gets used to expecting, in terms of overcrowding and facilities.” At that point, the only water supply available was from the village bore (it had to be rolled in oil drums to the self-built houses) so it was impossible for anyone to live on the area beyond the cemetery which had been reserved for use by Aboriginal people only seven years earlier. At that time, though, Rowley reported that the Aborigines Welfare Board (AWB) was, indeed, building sixteen new houses on the Reserve. Employment for these families was, at the time, precarious because of prevailing drought conditions and, in general, the availability of station jobs was very much subject to variations in the state of the pastoral economy.

2.4 Aboriginal people and the village of Enngonia

The site of Enngonia Reserve (now Clara Hart Village) was gazetted for use by Aborigines in May 1957. Rowley speculated that the establishment of housing in this location could only have been because of pressure applied by local non-Indigenous people to politicians, especially as the cost of providing infrastructure was incurred. At the time, Aboriginal residents were located conveniently to obtain work and, having been living rent-free, were unsure whether they would be able to meet rental payments to the Aborigines Welfare Board, but were coerced into moving by the threat of having their self-built homes bulldozed.

During the 1970s and 1980s, after the repeal of the Aborigines Protection Act, positive change was felt in Enngonia, as elsewhere in the Region. The introduction of the Aboriginal Land Rights Act in 1984 enabled the formation of the Enngonia Local

Aboriginal Land Council, which obtained title to Clara Hart Village. In 1985, Murrawari Aboriginal Corporation was registered and, over time, particularly following the creation of the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Commission in 1990, acquired and managed village housing, auspiced the Community Development Employment Project in Enngonia, and built and ran the general store in the community. Enngonia elected a representative first to the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Commission (ATSIC) Wangkumara Regional Council and the, following the amalgamation of ATSIC regions, to the Murdi Paaki Regional Council. Self-determination had become Government policy; at the same time, though, continuing restructuring of the rural sector had put independent employment out of reach of many Aboriginal residents of Enngonia. With the destruction of ATSIC in 2005, arrangements for provision of CDEP came to an end, and Murrawari Aboriginal Corporation’s CDEP-related assets were stripped by the Commonwealth Government. The store failed to thrive, and was subsequently closed. Murrawari Aboriginal Corporation continues to exist, and maintains an extensive membership base within the community.

Over the fifty-seven years since Aboriginal people took up residence at Clara Hart Village, other housing programmes have been delivered; most notably the Tripartite Programme in the late 1980s and early 1990s and the Aboriginal Communities Development Programme (ACDP) in the early 2000s. The NSW Government announced the ACDP in May 1998: over the following seven years, there was to be \$200M allocated to Aboriginal housing and infrastructure projects. Capital works funding was allocated to most communities in the Murdi Paaki Region, including Enngonia, designated a ‘priority community’. In parallel with allocation of capital works funding under this programme, a Community Working Party was created to govern the roll-out of ACDP and other development projects. The first Enngonia Housing and Environmental Health Plan was finalised in 2000. This original Plan documented a need for extensions to three houses in Enngonia and two at Clara Hart Village; an extensive programme of housing repair and maintenance; provision of a meat house for each dwelling; playgrounds; improvement to sporting facilities, refurbishment

of community facilities including the Murrawari Aboriginal Corporation's office and CDEP facilities, the Enngonia Local Aboriginal Land Council Office and the shop; reinstatement of the market garden at Clara Hart Village; and a training and employment programme. The housing extension and maintenance works were carried out in the early 2000s, and improvements to sporting facilities and some community facilities were delivered at the same time. Some works, however, did not proceed: these included the provision of meat houses, which Bourke Shire Council rejected. Notwithstanding the mixed outcomes of ACDP, though, the Enngonia CWP emerged from these capital works projects with a highly developed capacity to represent the community, and to govern community projects. The community continues to be represented at the Murdi Paaki Regional Assembly.

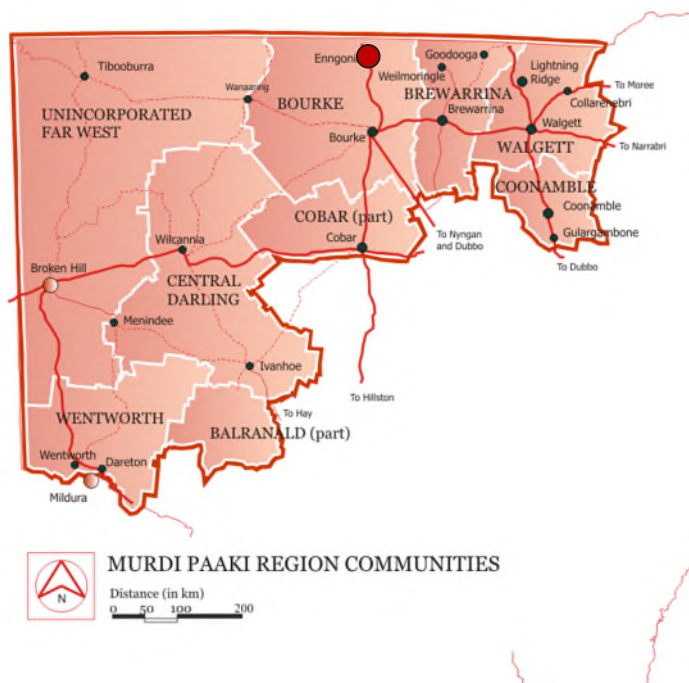
In 2013, the Murrawari Republic, a micronation claiming jurisdiction over Murrawari Country, declared its independence from Australia. Sovereignty of the Murrawari Republic over Country has not been recognised by the Australian Government. The Murrawari Republic is under the governance of the People's Council of the Murrawari Republic.

3 GEOGRAPHY

3.1 Location

Enngonia is located in the north-western New South Wales on the Warrego River. The village, which is in Bourke Shire, is 855 kms from Sydney, 97 kms north of Bourke and 40 km south of the Queensland border. The nearest district centre is Bourke and regional centre Dubbo, 465 km distant. The location of Enngonia is shown in Figure 3.1.

Figure 3.1: Locality



3.2 Access

Enngonia village is bisected by the Mitchell Highway which extends between Bourke and Cunnamulla in Queensland. The highway is single lane, bitumen sealed, and is passable in most weather except when subject to an extreme flood event in the Darling River north of Bourke. A cross country unsealed road connects with Weilmoringle and thence to Brewarrina.

Enngonia airstrip to the north-east of the village and opposite Clara Hart Village is a non-controlled aircraft landing area not registered or certified by

CASA. The gravel runway is approximately 1,000 m in length and runs north-east to south-west.

There are no public transport services to and from Enngonia.

3.3 Natural environment

The country around Enngonia has little topographic relief: the landscape is flat with river channels, streams and floodplains the primary features. Falls in ground level from the village occur generally in a westerly direction towards the Warrego River 600 m to the west. Elevation in the centre of the village is approximately 138 m above sea level.

Enngonia is located at the north-western edge of the Darling Riverine Plains bioregion which includes the Warrego River catchment. Soils in the Warrego floodplain are typically of cracking grey alluvial clay deposits with areas of red soils and localised elevated areas of red and yellow wind-blown sand. Away from the river corridor, soils tend to sandplains, dunes and hummocks with shallow slopes and relief to 5 m. The location of Enngonia in the landscape and its immediate surroundings, including the position of Clara Hart Village to the east of the village, are shown at Figure 3.2.

The occurrence and types of native vegetation communities are influenced by past sedimentation and flooding regimes associated with the river, and more recently by pastoral activity. Native vegetation communities are characterised by lignum, canegrass, copperburrs and saltbush on areas of clay floodplain with scattered gidgee, whitewood, white cypress and wilga on sandy rises and dense gidgee on sandplains. Away from the river on country with red sands and red earths, vegetation changes to include scattered to locally dense mulga, brigalow, bimbale box, belah and other species with an understorey of woody shrubs and sparse ground cover mainly of Mitchell grass.

Habitat loss through agricultural activity and encroachment by feral animals have depleted the range of fauna species and numbers supported by these woodland communities. The NPWS Wildlife Atlas records sightings of a limited range of amphibians and reptiles, water birds, parrots, birds of prey and a very few species of small tree and ground-dwelling mammals in the vicinity of Enngonia. The red kangaroo population is estimated by NSW Department of Planning, Industry and Environment (DPIE) to be a quarter of that estimated in 2015 while the grey kangaroo population has fallen to be less than 8% of a 2013 estimate.

49.7°C in 1903. Figure 3.4 indicates that temperatures above 30°C are recorded for a mean of 150 days each year and above 35°C for 77 days each year.

Figure 3.5 investigates the trend in highest monthly temperature over the relatively short period of record of Bourke Airport. While there is no marked change, the graph points to a gradual rise in higher temperatures over time. If this trend continues, the community can expect to live with more extreme temperatures for longer.

In November 2014, the former NSW Office of

Figure 3.2: Enngonia and immediate surroundings



© Spatial Services, NSW Department of Customer Service

3.4 Climate

The climate of Enngonia may be described as hot, dry, semi-arid. There is no Bureau of Meteorology weather station at Enngonia recording data so, for the purposes of this Plan, reference is made to climate data recorded continuously at Bourke Post Office (048013) from 1871 to 1996, supplemented by data recorded at Bourke Airport (048245) from 1998 onward.

Temperature-related information is shown in Figure 3.3 to Figure 3.6. Mean monthly temperatures range from a low of 5°C to a high of 36°C with the highest temperature recorded being

Environment and Heritage released its *Far West Climate Change Snapshot* which provided predictions based on modelling of changes in climate for the far west of NSW. The projected impact for residents of Enngonia is an increase in the number of days with temperatures over 35°C of 10-20 days in the period 2020–2039, increasing to 30-40 additional days by 2070.

Figure 3.3: Temperatures

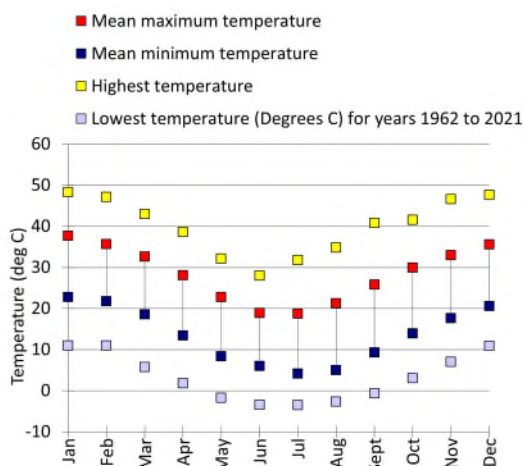


Figure 3.4: Mean number of hot days

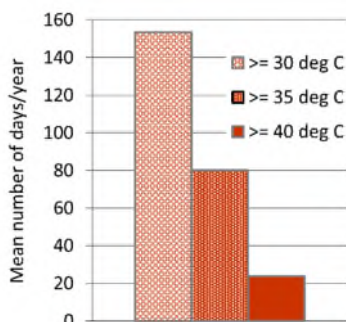


Figure 3.5: Trend in highest monthly temperatures (Station 048245)

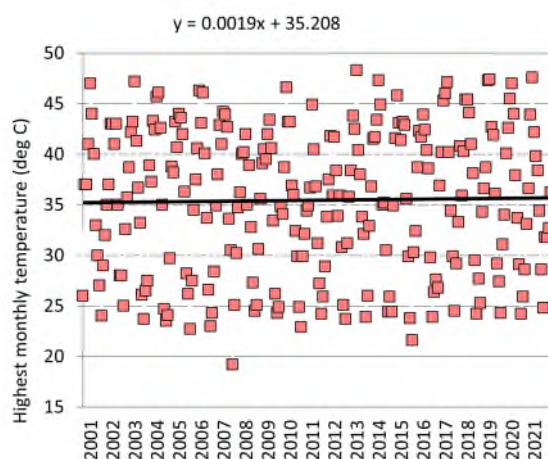
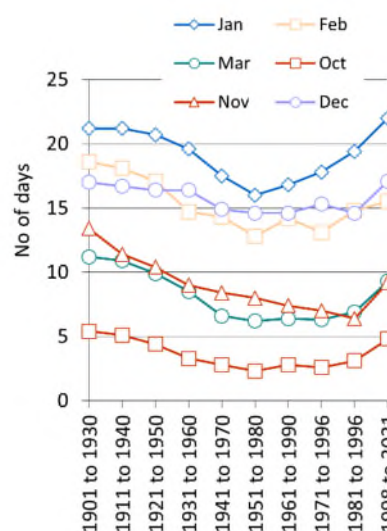


Figure 3.6, which is derived primarily from data for Bourke Post Office supplemented by the most recent data for Bourke Airport, appears to both reinforce and contradict this assessment. After a

progressive fall in the mean number of days above 35°C over the early part of last century, the month of January shows a reversal of this trend in the second half to start to rise. For other months, at least for data for the Bourke Post Office, the fall levelled and remained steady thereafter. Data for Bourke Airport has the mean number of days with temperatures above 35°C for the initial period of record noticeably higher than recorded at Bourke Post Office over the period before closure.

Figure 3.6: Mean number of days with temperatures $\geq 35^{\circ}\text{C}$, (Stations 048013 and 048245)

Mean annual rainfall calculated from 119 years of records at Bourke Post Office between 1871 and 1996 is 352 mm. Highest rainfall occurs during the summer months. Monthly rainfall distribution and average monthly pan evaporation are shown in Figure 3.7. Average monthly pan evaporation estimated from Bureau of Meteorology mapping is well in excess of the mean monthly rainfall throughout the year. The rates of pan evaporation at Enngonia are similar to the rates for Bourke.

Change in relative humidity over the year is shown in Figure 3.8. Mean humidity is typically above 40% in the morning, at the threshold of 40% accepted as ideal for human health and comfort, for all the year, but reduces to below 40% into the afternoon in the summer months.

Prevailing winds are from the south-east tending to north-east in the morning, moving to south-westerlies in the afternoon. Mean morning and afternoon wind speeds are shown in Figure 3.9. Maximum wind gust speed is not recorded.

Maximum wind gust speed for the years 2002 to 2021 recorded at Bourke Airport was 104 km/hr in 2012 as indicated by Figure 3.10.

Figure 3.7: Rainfall and monthly pan evaporation

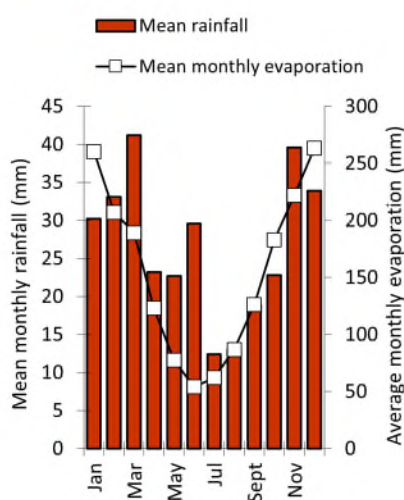


Figure 3.8: Relative humidity

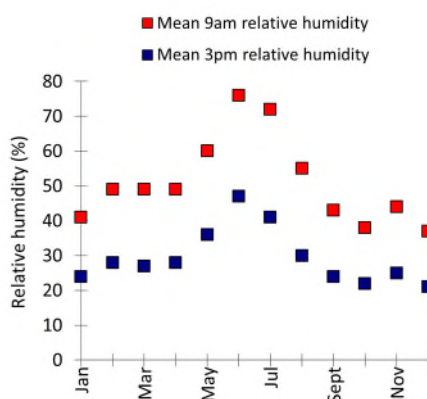


Figure 3.9: Wind speed

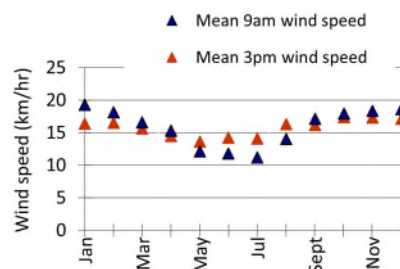


Figure 3.10: Maximum wind gust

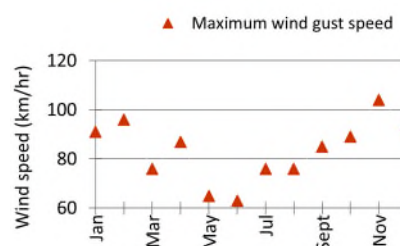
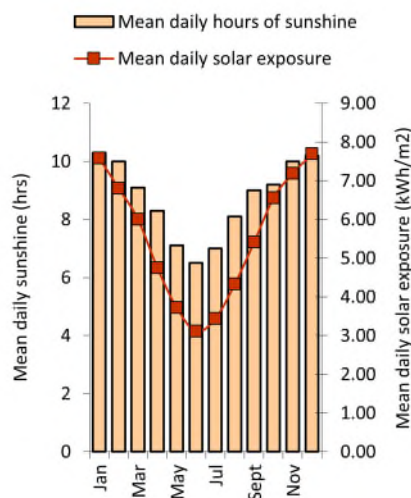


Figure 3.11: Sunshine and solar exposure



Mean daily hours of sunshine and solar exposure is given by Figure 3.11. Solar energy available to residential solar PV installations varies from a low 3.1 kWh/m² in winter to a high of 7.7 kWh/m² at the height of summer. The mean daily hours of sunshine are similar but slightly lower at Enngonia than Bourke. The difference is a matter of minutes.

3.5 Flooding and drainage

Enngonia is situated on the east bank of the Warrego River but is at little risk of flooding. Settlement is on higher ground so no protection has been necessary. The only floods classified as major occurred in 1956, reaching a gauge height of 3.05 m. Flood classifications are shown in Table 3.1.

While flooding can cut rural roads, isolating rural properties for between 4 and 8 weeks, the Mitchell Highway to Bourke remains open even in moderate floods. The road north to Cunnamulla can be cut at Cato at Enngonia gauge height 2.70 m.

Table 3.1: Flood classification

| Gauge | Gauge height (m) | | |
|-----------|----------------------|----------|-------|
| | Flood classification | | |
| | Minor | Moderate | Major |
| Barringun | 2.0 | 3.0 | 4.5 |
| Enngonia | 2.0 | 2.5 | 3.0 |

Source: Bourke Shire Local Flood Plan, April 2008, NSW State Emergency Service

Rainfall intensity-frequency-duration (IFD) values for Enngonia are shown at Table 3.2.

Table 3.2: Rainfall IFD (-29.3125, 145.8375)

| Duration | IFD Design Rainfall Depth (mm) | | | |
|----------|-------------------------------------|------|------|------|
| | Annual Exceedance Probability (AEP) | | | |
| | 10% | 5% | 2% | 1% |
| 1 min | 4.29 | 5.19 | 6.47 | 7.5 |
| 2 min | 7.45 | 9.14 | 11.5 | 13.4 |
| 3 min | 10.3 | 12.6 | 15.7 | 18.3 |
| 4 min | 12.8 | 15.6 | 19.5 | 22.6 |
| 5 min | 15 | 18.2 | 22.7 | 26.4 |
| 10 min | 23.4 | 28.3 | 35.1 | 40.7 |
| 20 min | 33.3 | 40.3 | 50.2 | 58.3 |
| 30 min | 39.3 | 47.8 | 59.7 | 69.4 |
| 1 hour | 49.6 | 60.6 | 76 | 88.6 |
| 2 hour | 59.8 | 73.1 | 91.9 | 107 |
| 6 hour | 77.7 | 94.2 | 118 | 137 |
| 12 hour | 91.7 | 110 | 137 | 159 |
| 18 hour | 101 | 122 | 150 | 174 |
| 24 hour | 109 | 131 | 161 | 185 |

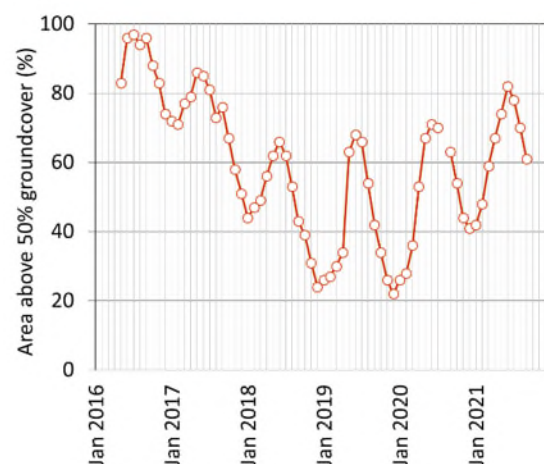
Table 3.2: Rainfall IFD (-29.3125, 145.8375)

| Duration | IFD Design Rainfall Depth (mm) | | | |
|----------|-------------------------------------|-----|-----|-----|
| | Annual Exceedance Probability (AEP) | | | |
| | 10% | 5% | 2% | 1% |
| 48 hour | 128 | 155 | 190 | 217 |
| 72 hour | 140 | 169 | 206 | 236 |
| 96 hour | 146 | 177 | 216 | 247 |
| 120 hour | 150 | 182 | 222 | 253 |

3.6 Dust

The NSW Office of Environment and Heritage collects data related to dust, including the hours of dust haze and storms and the extent of ground cover, through its DustWatch programme in the Western Natural Resource Management (NRM) Region. Figure 3.12 highlights the change in the amount of groundcover at regional scale greater than 50% since 2016. The nearest DustWatch monitoring station to Enngonia is at Bourke so locally specific data is not available although the village is subject to serious dust events; ground surfaces around the village are heavily disturbed by vehicles.

Figure 3.12: Seasonal variation in the land area with groundcover exceeding 50%, Western NRM Region



Dust particles can be harmful to human health. There is strong evidence of long-term exposure to fine particles (PM_{2.5}) in the air contributing to adverse respiratory conditions. The cause of dust generation is a combination of very low

groundcover resulting from prolonged dry conditions, high temperatures and increased hours of strong winds (> 40km/h) associated with the passage of cold fronts bringing with them north to north westerly winds. Added to this the formation of informal tracks between the village and Clara Hart Village suggests the residents of Clara Hart Village will be most susceptible health risks.

3.7 Native title

There are no existing Native Title claims on record for the Country around Enngonia.

3.8 Sites of cultural significance

A preliminary search of the Heritage NSW Aboriginal Heritage Management Information System (AHIMS) for sites of cultural significance within the rectangle formed by latitude and longitude -29.3301, 145.8359 and -29.312, 145.8539 indicates the existence of one Aboriginal site in or near the above location. In the interests of sites preservation, and as a condition of accessing the data, no details are included in this Plan other than to note its existence.

The draft *Bourke Shire Aboriginal Heritage Study, 2019*, prepared by OzArk Environmental & Heritage Management Pty Ltd does make mention of Aboriginal archaeological sites in the vicinity of Enngonia, including the Old Gerara Springs Aboriginal Place, a landscape within Ledknapper Nature Reserve.

3.9 Economic geography

The Enngonia economy is underpinned by pastoral activity on marginal rangelands and government support to a generally disadvantaged village population. Primary production is centred on goats, sheep and some cattle.

The village has one retail outlet, the Oasis Hotel, which also functions as the village store.



4 THE POPULATION

4.1 Population profile

The statistical information set out in this chapter has been derived from the Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) 2016 Census using data available from ABS TableBuilder.

The finest geographical division available is the State Suburb (SSC) geography. The area of the Enngonia SSC is 6,039.7 km². Thus, in addition to the village of Enngonia, the State Suburb includes a sizeable area of rural residue where the population, though scattered, is predominantly non-Indigenous. Anybody who knows Enngonia will be aware that the population of the village is overwhelmingly Aboriginal, so the influence of census geography on population fraction must be borne in mind when reviewing the following data.

Table 4.1: Total population, Enngonia (SSC)

| | |
|--|------------|
| persons | 148 |
| Source: ABS 2016 Census | |
| Table 4.2: Aboriginal population %, Enngonia (SSC) | |
| n=66 | |
| Aboriginal population | 45% |
| Murdi Paaki Region | 23% |
| New South Wales | 3% |
| Source: ABS 2016 Census | |

A longitudinal comparison of population to determine trends using the SSC geography is not possible since the SSC geography changed markedly between censuses. The geography used for Enngonia SSC at the ABS 2011 Census encompassed an area of 14,475 km and the boundary was the same as the ABS Statistical Area Level 1 (SA1 1109205) boundary at both the 2011 and 2016 Censuses. If counts for the SA1 from the 2011 and 2016 censuses are compared, the Aboriginal counts show an average annual growth

rate of 5.6%, which would have taken place almost exclusively in Enngonia itself.

The most accurate count of the population is the Estimated Resident Population (ERP); however, the finest scale at which this is available is by local government area. At the ABS 2016 Census, based on comparison with the ERP, the Aboriginal population of the Bourke Shire was undercounted by 29%, and the non-Indigenous population by 18%. Notional populations based on the ERPs for Enngonia are given by Table 4.3.

Table 4.3: Notional resident population, 2016, Enngonia (SSC)

| | |
|---|------------|
| Aboriginal | 93 |
| Non-Indigenous | 99 |
| Aboriginal population as percentage of total population | 48% |

Census data in the remainder of this chapter are generally for the Enngonia State Suburb. The State Suburb (SSC) geography was selected even though it incorporates a substantial area of rural residue but the ABS's Indigenous geography is larger (Bourke surrounds) and includes the population of Wanaaring and other, smaller centres. Indigenous Location (ILO) geography has been used where SSC data are unavailable, as indicated in the table heading.

Data for Enngonia indicate that the ABS has imputed populations for 5 dwellings which were thought to be occupied on census night but which returned no census form. Using a standardised process, the ABS imputed a total of 19 persons (13 male and 6 female) to the 5 dwellings. These people form the great majority of the cohort for whom Aboriginality is not stated in the Census tables. It is not possible to know how many of these dwellings actually housed Aboriginal households.

Where possible, the Murdi Paaki Region comparison geography used in this Plan is the aggregated 154 SA1s that approximate the Region. For variables where SA1 level data are not published, either the 8 Local Government Areas (LGAs) approximating the Murdi Paaki Region or

the North-West NSW Indigenous Region (N-W NSW IREG) has been adopted.

KEY FINDINGS

- According to the ABS 2016 Census, the Aboriginal population of Enngonia on census night was 66 persons or 45% of the total population. Based on the ERPs, the Aboriginal population at the time was closer to 93 persons or 48% of the total population;
- Of all those counted in Enngonia on Census night 2016, no one was in a non-private dwelling (hotel or motel) or staff quarters;
- The median age of the Aboriginal population, at 25 years, is just under half that of the non-Indigenous population, but is slightly lower than for the Murdi Paaki Region on average, but higher than for NSW;
- The Aboriginal population aged under 15 years is slightly lower than for the Murdi Paaki Region as a whole, and for NSW, but is almost two times the population fraction for the non-Indigenous population of Enngonia;
- Non-Indigenous households are less likely to comprise a person living alone as an Aboriginal household;
- When compared with a non-Indigenous family, Aboriginal families living together in a household are more likely to be a single parent family;
- Aboriginal adults were almost 33% less likely to be in a couple relationship than non-Indigenous adults, perhaps reflecting the younger population age structure;
- There were no multi-family households in Enngonia;
- Non-Indigenous households had twice as many resident non-dependent children as Aboriginal households.

Figure 4.1: Population age distribution

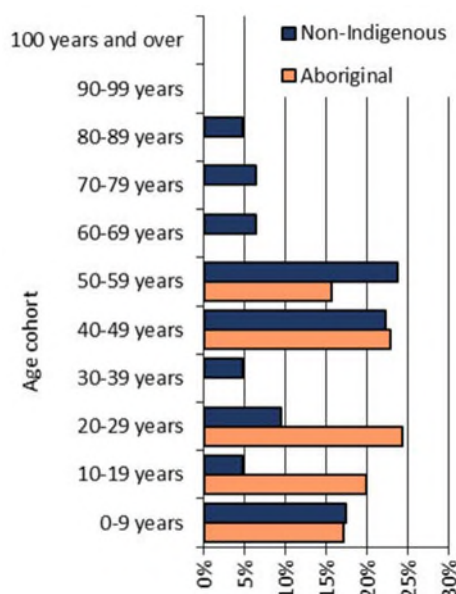
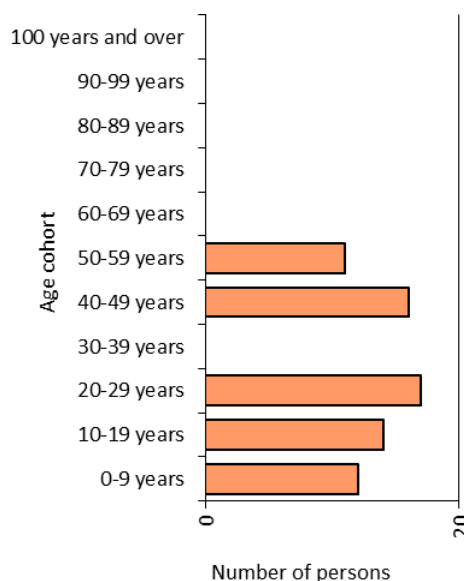


Figure 4.2: Aboriginal population age distribution



| Population fraction | Aboriginal | Non-Indigenous |
|--|------------|----------------|
| Table 4.4: Median age of persons (years) (Bourke surrounds (ILOC)) | | |
| Median age | 25 | 44 |
| Murdi Paaki Region | 26 | 46 |
| New South Wales | 22 | 38 |
| Table 4.5: Population aged under 15 years (2016) | | |
| | n=20 | n=11 |
| Of population fraction | 29% | 17% |
| Murdi Paaki Region | 32% | 16% |
| New South Wales | 34% | 18% |
| Table 4.6: Social marital status (Persons aged 15 years and over) | | |
| Registered marriage | 0% | 66% |
| De facto marriage | 27% | 17% |
| Not married | 73% | 17% |
| Table 4.7: Lone person households | | |
| | n=7 | n=5 |
| Lone person household | 32% | 20% |
| Murdi Paaki Region | 21% | 36% |
| New South Wales | 15% | 24% |
| Table 4.8: Family household family composition | | |
| One parent | 33% | 0% |
| Couple, no children | 0% | 45% |
| Couple, with children | 67% | 55% |
| Other family | 0% | 0% |
| One parent families: | | |
| Murdi Paaki Region | 43% | 15% |
| New South Wales | 36% | 15% |

| Population fraction | Aboriginal | Non-Indigenous |
|--|------------|----------------|
| Table 4.9: Multi-family households (of all family households) | | |
| | n=0 | n=0 |
| | 0% | 0% |
| Murdi Paaki Region | 4% | 1% |
| New South Wales | 4% | 2% |
| Table 4.10: Families with resident non-dependent children (Bourke surrounds (ILOC)) | | |
| | n=3 | n=22 |
| | 8% | 17% |
| Murdi Paaki Region | 25% | 18% |
| New South Wales | 25% | 21% |
| A non-dependent child is a natural, adopted, step or foster child of a couple or lone parent usually resident in the household, who is aged 15 years and over and is not a full-time student aged 15-24 years, and who has no identified partner or child of his/her own usually resident in the household | | |

4.2 Educational status

| | |
|---|------|
| Table 4.11: Educational institution attended by the Aboriginal population | |
| | n=19 |
| Preschool | 6 |
| Infants/primary – Government | 10 |
| Infants/primary – other non- Government | 0 |
| Secondary - Government | 0 |
| Secondary – Other Non-Government | 0 |
| University or other Tertiary Institution | 3 |
| Other educational institution | 0 |
| Not stated | 0 |

KEY FINDINGS

- There were no Aboriginal 3- or 4-year-olds enumerated in the ABS 2016 Census;
- Insufficient data is available to determine developmental vulnerabilities through the Australian Early Development Census (AEDC).

Indicators for Bourke LGA as a whole suggest children commencing their first year of full-time schooling have not reached the same stage of early childhood development as their counterparts in NSW;

- Student attendance level (the proportion of students attending 90% or more of the time) is quite poor for Aboriginal children (15%). The attendance for non-Indigenous children is almost six times higher;
- Educational attainment at Enngonia Public School is well below the average of all Australian students;
- No Aboriginal or non-Indigenous people in Enngonia aged 15 to 19 years who had left school had completed Year 12;
- Aboriginal adults were half as likely as non-Indigenous adults to hold a post-school qualification at any level. The Aboriginal population aged over 15 years has a lesser proportion of adults with a post-school qualification than for the Murdi Paaki Region generally or for the Aboriginal population of NSW.

| Population fraction | Aboriginal | Non-Indigenous |
|----------------------------------|------------|----------------|
| Table 4.12: Preschool attendance | | |
| | n=0 | n=4 |
| Children 3 years old | 0% | 100% |
| Murdi Paaki Region | 41% | 50% |
| New South Wales | 52% | 49% |
| | n=0 | n=0 |
| Children 4 years old | 0% | 0% |
| Murdi Paaki Region | 82% | 79% |
| New South Wales | 72% | 72% |

Table 4.13: Educational attainment, NAPLAN, School average when compared with all Australian students

| | Reading | Writing | Spelling | Grammar | Numeracy |
|-----------------|---------|---------|----------|------------|----------|
| Year 3 | | | | | |
| Enngonia Public | 5 | 5 | 5 | 5 | 5 |
| Legend | | | | | |
| Above average | 2 | | | Close to | 3 |
| Below average | 4 | | | Well below | 5 |

Source: acara MySchools website

Figure 4.3: Student attendance level (proportion of students attending 90% or more of the time), 2021 Semester 1

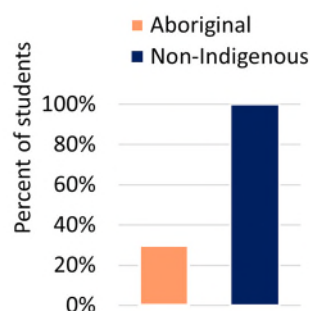


Figure 4.4: Highest year of schooling, all Aboriginal adults

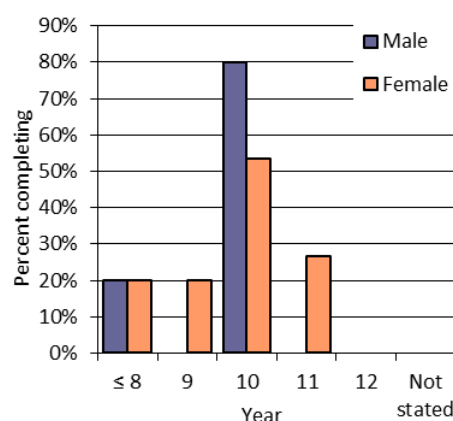
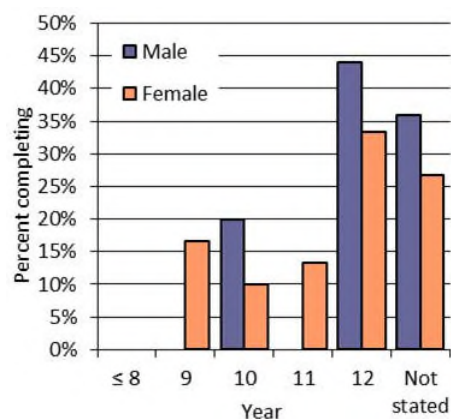


Figure 4.5: Highest year of schooling, all non-Indigenous adults



| Population fraction | Aboriginal | Non-Indigenous |
|---|------------|----------------|
| Table 4.14: Percentage of students completed Year 12 (Persons aged 15 to 19 who have completed schooling and are no longer at school) | | |
| | n=6 | n=3 |
| | 0% | 0% |
| Murdi Paaki Region | 20% | 48% |
| New South Wales | 33% | 51% |
| Table 4.15: Percentage of persons aged 15 years and over with a vocational qualification | | |
| | n=47 | n=55 |
| Cert I-IV | 11% | 7% |
| Murdi Paaki Region | 18% | 26% |
| New South Wales | 25% | 20% |
| Table 4.16: Percentage of persons aged 15 years and over with an undergraduate diploma | | |
| | n=47 | n=55 |
| Diploma and Advanced Diploma | 0% | 13% |
| Murdi Paaki Region | 5% | 7% |
| New South Wales | 7% | 10% |

| Population fraction | Aboriginal | Non-Indigenous |
|--|------------|----------------|
| Table 4.17: Percentage of persons aged 15 years and over with a tertiary qualification | | |
| | n=47 | n=55 |
| Degree and higher | 0% | 0% |
| Murdi Paaki Region | 4% | 12% |
| New South Wales | 8% | 27% |

4.3 Economic participation

| Population fraction | Aboriginal | Non-Indigenous |
|---|------------|----------------|
| Table 4.18: Labour force status (Percent of labour force) | | |
| | n=11 | n=31 |
| In full-time or part-time work | 55% | 100% |
| Unemployed, looking for work | 45% | 0% |
| Murdi Paaki Region | 76% | 94% |
| New South Wales | 85% | 94% |
| 29% of those employed worked part-time | | |
| Table 4.19: Participation in the labour market (Percent of population aged 15 and over) | | |
| | n=50 | n=48 |
| In labour force | 22% | 65% |
| Not in labour force | 78% | 35% |
| Murdi Paaki Region | 44% | 61% |
| New South Wales | 56% | 64% |

| Population fraction | Aboriginal | Non-Indigenous |
|---|------------|----------------|
| Table 4.20: Employment to population ratio (Percent of population aged 15 and over) | | |
| | n=6 | n=31 |
| Employment to population ratio | 12% | 60% |
| Murdi Paaki Region | 34% | 57% |
| New South Wales | 47% | 60% |

| Table 4.21: Industry of employment, total population | | |
|--|-------------|----|
| Industry | No employed | |
| Education and Training | 3 | 9 |
| Agriculture, Forestry and Fishing | 0 | 14 |

| Table 4.22: Occupation of all persons employed | | |
|--|---|-----|
| Managers | * | 70% |
| Professionals | * | 17% |
| Technician/ trades | * | 0% |
| Community service workers | * | 0% |
| Clerical/admin workers | * | 0% |
| Sales workers | * | 0% |
| Machinery operators | * | 0% |
| Labourers | * | 13% |

* Occupation was not given for Aboriginal employees who reported they worked in the Education and Training industry sector

| Table 4.23: Number of Aboriginal workers employed in the public and private sectors | | |
|---|--|---|
| Australian Government | | - |
| NSW Government | | 5 |
| Bourke Shire Council | | - |
| Private sector | | - |
| Not stated | | - |

| Table 4.24: Median total household income (Bourke surrounds (ILOC)) | | |
|---|-------|-------|
| \$/week | 1,071 | 1,178 |
| N-W NSW IREG | 907 | 1,013 |
| New South Wales | 1,214 | 1,498 |

Figure 4.6: Hours worked by age group

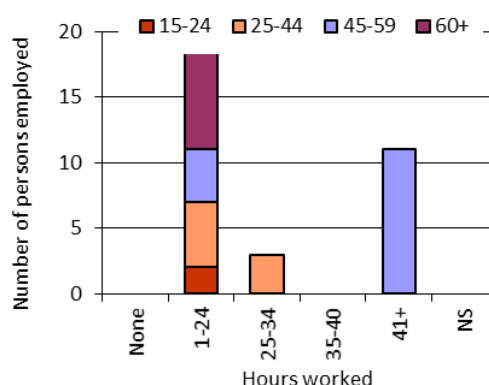


Table 4.25: SEIFA Index of Relative Socio-economic Disadvantage, IRSD, 2016

| | |
|---------------------------|------------------------------|
| SEIFA Index: Enngonia SSC | 887 |
| Rank in NSW | 3,831 st of 4,122 |
| SEIFA Index: Bourke LGA | 916 |
| Rank in NSW | 114 th of 130 |
| Murdi Paaki Region: | |
| Highest (Cobar) | 968 |
| Lowest (Brewarrina) | 757 |

KEY FINDINGS

- With a low labour force participation rate, the employment to population ratio for Aboriginal people in Enngonia implies that only one in eight adults are in any form of employment. This ratio is higher for the non-Indigenous population;
- Investigation of the age structure of the Enngonia Aboriginal population through calculation of the dependency ratio (40.0 for Enngonia – lower than for the Murdi Paaki Region, at 61.6) indicates that this is not the cause of the very low employment to population ratio. It is simply that Aboriginal people of working age resident in Enngonia have a very low workforce participation rate;
- Aboriginal workers all work in education and training. Most non-Indigenous people work in Agriculture, Forestry and Fishing industry sector;

- The Agriculture, Forestry and Fishing industry sector employs the largest proportion of the workforce, followed the Education and Training industry sector;
- Of those employed, most workers were employed on a part-time basis. No person under the age of 45 years worked full-time;
- The Aboriginal median weekly individual income is 44% lower than for non-Indigenous persons;
- It is well established that the Murdi Paaki Region suffers the highest level of socio-economic disadvantage in NSW. Bourke LGA is placed 17th in NSW in the SEIFA IRSD ranking. The IRSD for Enngonia SSC is lower than for Bourke LGA as a whole.

5 COMMUNITY HOUSING PROFILE

5.1 Housing in Enngonia

Data for this Chapter has been extracted from the ABS 2016 Census for Enngonia State Suburb (SSC). This area incorporates a substantial area of rural residue. Indigenous location (ILOC) and Local Government Area (A) geography have been used where SSC data are unavailable, as indicated in the table heading.

Table 5.1: Dwelling types, Enngonia (SSC)

| | | |
|-----------------------|----|------|
| Total number | 56 | |
| Separate houses | 56 | 100% |
| Terraces, town houses | - | 0% |
| Apartments | - | 0% |
| Other dwelling types | - | 0% |

Table 5.2: Private dwellings unoccupied on census night (Enngonia (SSC))

| | | |
|--------------------|------|-----|
| | n=56 | |
| | 7 | 12% |
| Murdi Paaki Region | 19% | |
| New South Wales | 9% | |

14 people were counted elsewhere on census night

Table 5.3: Households counted in a dwelling on census night (Enngonia (SSC))

| | |
|---------------------|----|
| Resident households | 42 |
| Visitor households | 4 |
| Non-classifiable | 7 |

Table 5.4: Number of bedrooms per dwelling (Enngonia (SSC))

| | | |
|---------------------|----|-----|
| 0 or 1 bedrooms | 5 | 13% |
| 2 bedrooms | 4 | 10% |
| 3 bedrooms | 9 | 23% |
| 4 bedrooms | 18 | 46% |
| 5 bedrooms and more | 3 | 8% |

Figure 5.1: Dwelling size by number of bedrooms

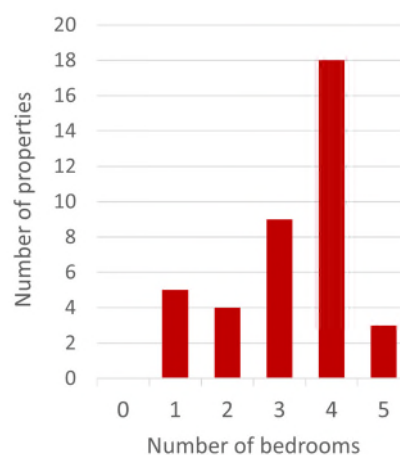


Table 5.5: Average household size (Bourke surrounds (ILOC))

| Population fraction | Aboriginal | Non-Indigenous |
|---------------------|------------|----------------|
| Persons | 3.1 | 2.3 |
| N-W NSW IREG | 3.0 | 2.1 |
| New South Wales | 3.1 | 2.6 |

Table 5.6: Average number of persons per bedroom (Bourke surrounds (ILOC))

| Persons | Aboriginal | Non-Indigenous |
|-----------------|------------|----------------|
| Persons | 0.9 | 0.7 |
| N-W NSW IREG | 0.9 | 0.7 |
| New South Wales | 1.0 | 0.9 |

Table 5.7: Households enumerated (Enngonia (SSC))

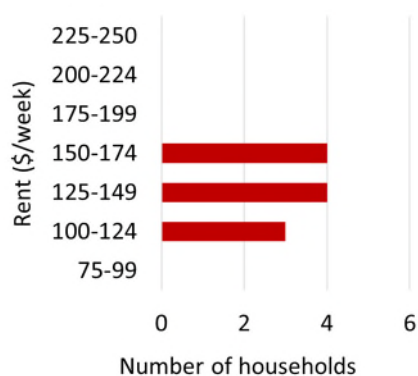
| | | |
|---------------------------|----|----|
| One family household | 8 | 17 |
| Multiple family household | 0 | 0 |
| Non-family household | 10 | 5 |
| Non-classifiable | 0 | 0 |
| Not applicable | 0 | 0 |

Table 5.8: Occupancy (Enngonia (SSC))

| | | |
|-------------------------|---|---|
| One person | 7 | 5 |
| Two people | 3 | 9 |
| Three people | 3 | 0 |
| Four people | 3 | 0 |
| Five people and greater | 4 | 3 |

| Population fraction | Aboriginal | Non-Indigenous |
|---|------------|----------------|
| Table 5.9: Proportion of all households renting (Enngonia (SSC)) | | |
| Proportion of households | 83% | 25% |
| Real estate agent | - | - |
| NSW housing authority | - | - |
| Community housing provider | 84% | - |
| Other | 16% | 100% |
| Murdi Paaki Region | 62% | 24% |
| New South Wales | 56% | 32% |
| Table 5.10: Median rent (Bourke surrounds (ILOC)) | | |
| \$/week | 130 | 30 |
| N-W NSW IREG | 160 | 150 |
| New South Wales | 270 | 390 |
| Table 5.11: Percentage of all households with rent equal to or greater than 30% of household income (2016) (Bourke (A)) | | |
| Renting | 5.1% | |

Figure 5.2: Weekly rent payable by Aboriginal households, social housing rentals (Enngonia (SSC))



| Population fraction | Aboriginal | Non-Indigenous |
|---|------------|----------------|
| Table 5.12: Home ownership (including owned with a mortgage) (Enngonia (SSC)) | | |
| | n=0 | n=11 |
| Proportion of households | 0% | 46% |
| Murdi Paaki Region | 38% | 76% |
| New South Wales | 44% | 68% |
| Table 5.13: Persons accommodated in non- private dwellings (Enngonia (SSC)) | | |
| Persons | 0 | 0 |
| Table 5.14: One-year residential mobility (Enngonia (SSC)) | | |
| | n=24 | n=18 |
| Residents in the household aged one year and over with a different address one year ago | | |
| All residents | 0% | 0% |
| Some of the residents | 21% | 0% |
| No resident | 79% | 100% |
| Murdi Paaki Region | 12% | 10% |
| New South Wales | 16% | 13% |
| Residents in the household aged five years and over with a different address five years ago | | |
| All residents | 21% | 0% |
| Some of the residents | 11% | 0% |
| No resident | 68% | 100% |
| Table 5.15: Number of Aboriginal persons with a different address at stated location 1 year ago and five years ago (Enngonia (SSC)) | | |
| Place of residence | 1 year ago | 5 years ago |
| Within Bourke | 3 | 0 |
| Brewarrina or Walgett | 0 | 0 |
| Elsewhere in the MPR | 0 | 0 |
| Elsewhere in NSW | 0 | 0 |
| Other | 4 | 0 |

| Population fraction | Aboriginal | Non-Indigenous |
|--|------------|----------------|
| Table 5.16: Access and mobility (Enngonia (SSC)) | | |
| No motor vehicles | 41% | 0% |
| One motor vehicle | 27% | 20% |
| Two motor vehicles | 14% | 23% |
| Three motor vehicles | 0% | 11% |
| Four or more vehicles | 0% | 26% |
| Not stated | 18% | 20% |

5.2 The local housing market

There were no houses sold in Enngonia for the period 2017 to 2020 and at the time of writing no properties were for sale in Enngonia.

5.3 Property details

Residential housing is provided in the village by Murrawari Local Aboriginal Land Council (MLALC) and Murrawari Aboriginal Corporation (MAC). Details are shown in Table 5.17.

Table 5.17: Residential property schedule

| Lot | Section | DP | Registered Proprietor | Property Address | Dwelling Type | House size (bedrooms) |
|-----|---------|--------|-----------------------|---------------------------------------|---------------|-----------------------|
| 43 | - | 720997 | Murrawari LALC | 2 First Avenue, Clara Hart Village | Cottage | 4 |
| 43 | - | 720997 | Murrawari LALC | 3 First Avenue, Clara Hart Village | Cottage | 5 |
| 43 | - | 720997 | Murrawari LALC | 4 First Avenue, Clara Hart Village | Cottage | 4 |
| 43 | - | 720997 | Murrawari LALC | 5 First Avenue, Clara Hart Village | Cottage | 4 |
| 43 | - | 720997 | Murrawari LALC | 6 First Avenue, Clara Hart Village | Cottage | 4 |
| 43 | - | 720997 | Murrawari LALC | 7 Second Street, , Clara Hart Village | Cottage | 4 |
| 43 | - | 720997 | Murrawari LALC | 8 Second Street, Clara Hart Village | Cottage | 4 |
| 43 | - | 720997 | Murrawari LALC | 9 Second Street, Clara Hart Village | Cottage | 4 |
| 43 | - | 720997 | Murrawari LALC | 10 Third Street, Clara Hart Village | Cottage | 4 |
| 43 | - | 720997 | Murrawari LALC | 11 Third Street, Clara Hart Village | Cottage | 2 |
| 43 | - | 720997 | Murrawari LALC | 12 Third Street, Clara Hart Village | Cottage | 2 |
| 43 | - | 720997 | Murrawari LALC | 13 Third Street, Clara Hart Village | Cottage | 2 |
| 43 | - | 720997 | Murrawari LALC | 15 Third Street, Clara Hart Village | Cottage | 2 |
| 4 | 13 | 758389 | Murrawari LALC | 1 Belmore Road | Cottage | 2 |
| 5 | 13 | 758389 | Murrawari LALC | 2 Belmore Road | Cottage | 2 |
| 6 | 4 | 758389 | Murrawari AC | U3, 3 McCabe Road | Unit | 3 |
| 6 | 4 | 758389 | Murrawari AC | U4, 3 McCabe Street | Unit | 3 |
| 11 | - | 705011 | Murrawari AC | 11 Irrarra Street | Cottage | 3 |
| 2 | 5 | 758389 | Murrawari AC | 2 Paroo Street | Cottage | 3 |
| 7 | 7 | 758389 | Murrawari AC | 7 Paroo Street | Cottage | 3 |
| 8 | 7 | 758389 | Murrawari AC | 9 Paroo Street | Cottage | 3 |
| 6 | 10 | 758389 | Murrawari AC | 12 Belalie Street | Cottage | 3 |
| 1 | - | 214790 | Murrawari AC | 1 Shearer Street | Cottage | 3 |
| 9 | 5 | 705011 | Murrawari AC | 3 Irrarra Street | Cottage | 3 |
| 43 | - | 720997 | Murrawari LALC | 1 First Avenue | Vacant | - |
| 43 | - | 720997 | Murrawari LALC | 14 Third Avenue | Vacant | - |
| 17 | - | 658750 | Murrawari LALC | Belmore Street | Vacant | - |

Table 5.17: Residential property schedule

| Lot | Section | DP | Registered Proprietor | Property Address | Dwelling Type | House size (bedrooms) |
|-----|---------|--------|-----------------------|------------------|---------------|-----------------------|
| 44 | - | 720992 | Murrawari LALC | Belalie Street | Vacant | - |
| 1 | 13 | 758389 | Murrawari LALC | Belmore Street | Vacant | - |
| 2 | 13 | 758389 | Murrawari LALC | Belmore Street | Vacant | - |
| 3 | 13 | 758389 | Murrawari LALC | Belmore Street | Vacant | - |
| 1 | 16 | 758389 | Murrawari LALC | Cowper Street | Vacant | - |
| 2 | 16 | 758389 | Murrawari LALC | Cowper Street | Vacant | - |
| 3 | 16 | 758389 | Murrawari LALC | Cowper Street | Vacant | - |
| 4 | 16 | 758389 | Murrawari LALC | Cowper Street | Vacant | - |
| 5 | 16 | 758389 | Murrawari LALC | Cowper Street | Vacant | - |
| 6 | 16 | 758389 | Murrawari LALC | Belmore Street | Vacant | - |
| 7 | 16 | 758389 | Murrawari LALC | Belmore Street | Vacant | - |
| 8 | 16 | 758389 | Murrawari LALC | Belmore Street | Vacant | - |
| 9 | 16 | 758389 | Murrawari LALC | Belmore Street | Vacant | - |
| 10 | 16 | 758389 | Murrawari LALC | Belmore Street | Vacant | - |
| 1 | 2 | 758389 | Murrawari LALC | Warrego Street | Vacant | - |
| 10 | 2 | 758389 | Murrawari LALC | Warrego Street | Vacant | - |
| 1 | - | 820471 | Murrawari LALC | Warrego Street | Vacant | - |
| 1 | 1 | 758389 | Murrawari LALC | Warrego Street | Vacant | - |
| 6 | 1 | 758389 | Murrawari LALC | Warrego Street | Vacant | - |

Figure 5.3: Enngonia and Clara Hart Village



Courtesy: Spatial Collaboration Portal, Spatial Services, NSW Department of Customer Service

Table 5.18: Housing mix

| Ownership | Bedrooms | | | |
|----------------|----------|---|---|---|
| | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| Murrawari LALC | 6 | - | 8 | 1 |
| Murrawari AC | 1 | 8 | - | - |
| Total | 7 | 8 | 8 | 1 |

Housing of both Murrawari LALC and Murrawari AC is managed by Mid Lachlan Aboriginal Housing Management Cooperative (Mlahmc) under a head lease/sublease arrangement with the Aboriginal Housing Office under the Build and Grow policy.

5.4 Housing forms

Residential buildings shown in Figure 5.4 are illustrative of the forms of framed housing construction which constitute the greater part of the Aboriginal social housing portfolio. Typically, houses are either of:

- Timber frame construction with suspended floor on piers, fibre-cement sheet or plank cladding with profiled steel sheet roof; or
- Brick veneer construction on concrete slab on ground with a metal or tiled roof.

Figure 5.4: Typical forms of housing



5.5 MPRH&BC household survey in summary

A major data gathering exercise was undertaken in 2016 and early 2017 under the guidance of the Murdi Paaki Regional Assembly to provide the evidence for reform of the Aboriginal social housing sector in the Murdi Paaki Region. Over 1,400 households took part, including 15 households in Enngonia. The contribution from the village is presented below.

Figure 5.5: Housing mix (All households participating in the survey)

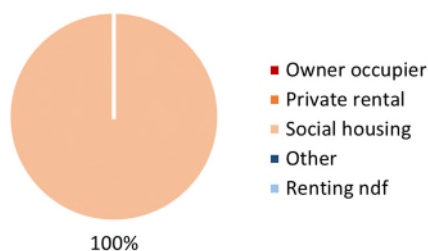


Figure 5.6: Managing organisation (Social housing tenants)

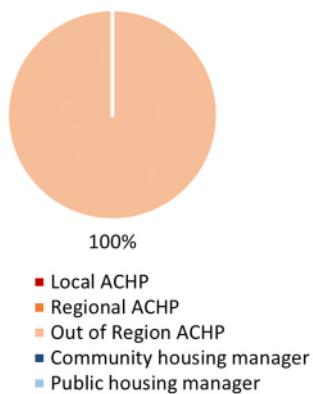


Figure 5.7: Level of satisfaction with housing manager

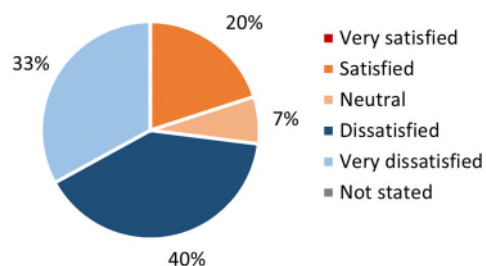


Figure 5.8: Preferred manager of Aboriginal social housing (Social housing tenants)

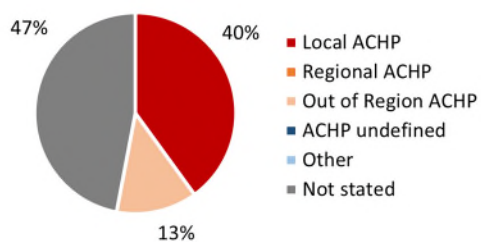


Figure 5.9: Social housing tenants with a tenancy agreement

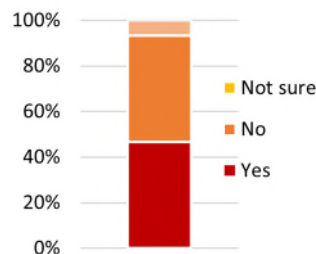


Figure 5.10: Social housing tenants claiming Commonwealth Rent Assistance

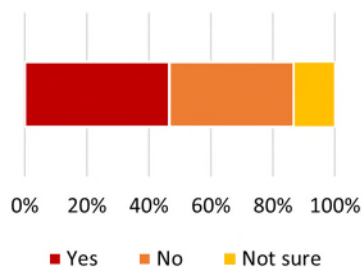


Figure 5.11: Rent levels 2016-2017

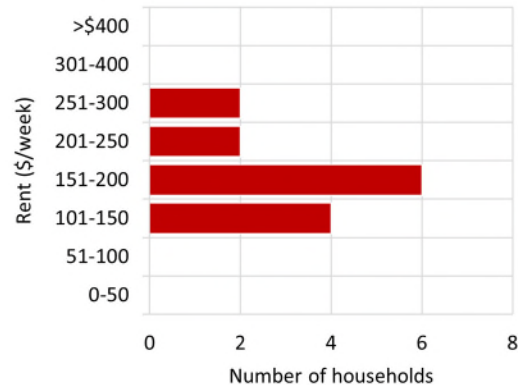


Figure 5.12: Respondents view of a fair rent

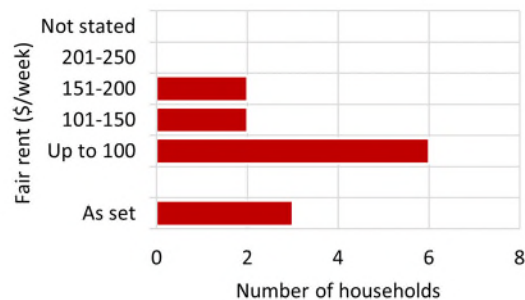


Figure 5.13: Household size range (All households)

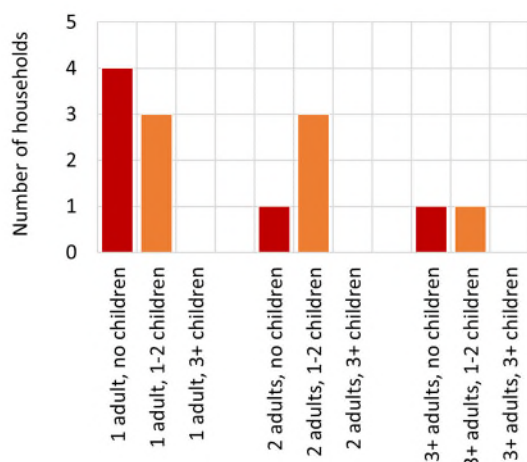


Figure 5.14: Address of household 5 years ago

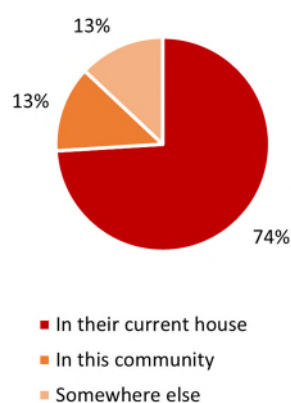


Figure 5.15: Households feeling crowded

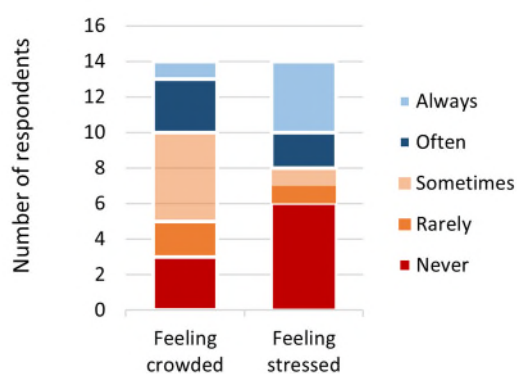


Figure 5.16: Households providing shelter to one or more homeless persons

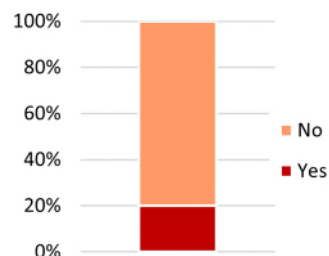


Figure 5.17: Tenants feeling unsafe at home

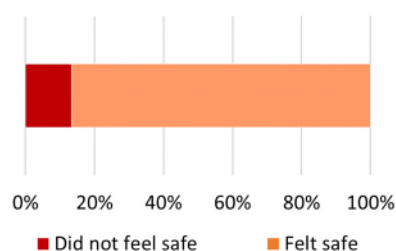
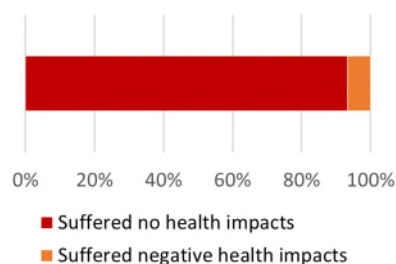


Figure 5.18: Tenants experiencing negative health impacts



KEY FINDINGS

- All respondents to the survey were renting Aboriginal social housing. No respondents reported being homeless;
- Of Aboriginal social housing tenants, all rented through an Out of Region (OoR) Aboriginal community-controlled housing manager;
- A high level of dissatisfaction with housing management services was expressed: a significant minority (40%) were dissatisfied and a further significant minority were very dissatisfied (33%). Almost all households interviewed offered a view;
- The principal reason for dissatisfaction

appeared to be a lack of urgency or failure on the part of the housing manager to attend to repairs, including urgent repairs;

- Nearly 40% of respondents stated a preference for housing management to be restored as a local service. A smaller number (13%) favoured a Regional ACHP. The balance of responses did not state a preference so it is hard to gauge community view on this question. No explicit support was expressed for continuation of the arrangement with an OoR provider;
- Of the fifteen households that responded to the question, 14 respondents said that the reason for renting Aboriginal social housing was that it was the only housing available;
- At the time of the household survey, five young people were seeking their own accommodation, two had applied and been accepted onto a waiting list for a unit or house in Enngonia. Waiting time could not be reliably determined;
- When asked about their reasons for living in Enngonia, most respondents stated that they were either born in the community or their families had been resident for a long time. A strong feeling of belonging, wanting to live on Country and/or being part of the community and around family, relations and friends were important considerations. Having employment in the community was a factor;
- Half of social housing renters had entered into a formal tenancy agreement but only one third of respondents reported being aware of the limit on occupancy imposed by the agreement;
- At the time of the MPRH&BC household survey, social housing tenants indicated rent levels to be principally in the range \$101-\$200/week. An overwhelming proportion thought this rent to be too high with a fairer rent being no more than \$100/week;
- One half of respondents reported they were not claiming Commonwealth Rent Assistance (CRA);
- Half of households stated they were adult households with or without children. Older children attend school elsewhere and so are unlikely to be counted;
- One out of three households reported their house never or rarely felt crowded. Of the

60% that indicated feeling crowded at times, two said that crowding was often a cause of stress while four said crowding was always a stressful experience;

- Three households in Aboriginal social housing were providing shelter at the time of the survey to one or more persons who would otherwise be homeless. Residents in four households had experienced homelessness in the three years prior to the survey involving ten people. Most had slept rough, couched surfed and used emergency accommodation;
- Little evidence exists of short term mobility within the community. No Aboriginal social housing resident was living at a different address 1 year prior to the household survey and only one in four had a different address 5 years prior. Median duration of a tenancy was 8 years;
- The majority of Aboriginal social housing tenants (67%) had no intention of moving if their circumstances changed. The balance of respondents (33%) thought they might consider relocating if their needs changed;
- Over half of respondents said their house failed to meet cultural needs, mainly on the grounds that the dwelling layout and size was a poor cultural fit;
- Only one respondent stated their house impacted negatively upon their health, quoting defective plumbing as the reason;
- About 13% of respondents said they did not feel safe in their accommodation for the reason of not being able to lock external doors and windows;
- All tenants reported trouble meeting their electricity bills;
- Of those tenants who responded to the question, only a quarter indicated a preference for social housing tenancies to be passed down within the family;
- Suggested service improvements focused on improved communication between the housing manager and tenants and a greater level of diligence in carrying out repairs;
- As to additional services in the community, improved access to tenant support services was requested;
- Tenants who responded to open ended questions generally commented on the lack of housing, particularly affordable homes for

younger people.

5.6 Unmet housing need

From the MPRH&BC household survey, unadjusted responses from households living in Aboriginal social housing in Enngonia to questions of housing need are summarised in Table 5.19.

Table 5.19: Need for new housing as recorded by the MPRH&BC household survey

| | Number |
|-------------------------------------|--------|
| Total number of households renting | 24 |
| Number of respondents | 15 |
| Young people requesting own housing | 5 |
| Older people requesting own housing | - |
| Multi-family households | - |

To arrive at a more nuanced and realistic estimate, each individual survey return has been examined

Table 5.20: Unmet housing need

| | | From MPRH&BC household survey | | | | Factored for whole community | | | |
|-----------------------|---------|-------------------------------|---|---|---|------------------------------|---|---|---|
| | | Number of bedrooms | | | | Number of bedrooms | | | |
| Tenure type | Ratio | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| Owner occupier | 3 / 0 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Private rental | 0 / 0 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Homeless | 20 / 15 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Social housing rental | 24 / 15 | 4 | 1 | - | - | 6 | 2 | - | - |
| Employer | - / - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Not defined | - / - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Total | | 4 | 1 | - | - | 6 | 2 | - | - |

The methodology assumed that, for Enngonia:

- Young single persons are allocated a 2-bed unit; and
- As a minimum, younger couples are allocated a 3-bedroom dwelling in the expectation that family size will increase.

Table 5.20 indicates unmet housing need for individuals and families living in Enngonia assessed as eligible for housing at the time of the MPRH&BC

and equitable allocation made based on expressed need, existing household composition, crowding, homelessness and potential family formation. The results, as determined against a set of criteria, are shown at Table 5.20.

household survey. The assessment is empirical in nature and requires to be refined with each household at the time of housing becoming available. Total need is derived by factoring the results of the ratio of the whole population cohort to those that participated in the household survey.

Enngonia is not a designated allocation zone for the allocation of social housing through NSW Housing Pathways process so a waiting list is not publicly available. It is known that the waitlist for the Bourke allocation zone indicates demand from

the Aboriginal and non-Indigenous population as 16 approved general applicants and fewer than 5 priority applicants as of 30th June 2020. The findings stated in Table 5.20 should be a reasonable reflection of need in the community. Every attempt was made to ascertain actual household composition at the time of the MPRH&BC survey but household populations may be greater than recorded, and likewise demand.

When assessed against the Canadian National Occupancy Standard (CNOS) for crowding, no household was found to exceed the thresholds.

Canadian National Occupancy Standard

CNOS adopts the following criteria to determine the number of bedrooms required by a household:

- There should be no more than 2 persons per bedroom;
- Children less than 5 years of age of different sexes may share a bedroom;
- Children 5 years of age or older of opposite sex should have separate bedrooms;
- Children less than 18 years of age and of the same sex may share a bedroom;
- Single household members 18 years or older should have a separate bedroom: and
- Couples share a bedroom.

Data obtained from the MPRH&BC household survey in respect of utilisation by permanent residents is summarised in Table 5.21. From the sample, if representative, it would appear that most households would have one bedroom spare, if not two.

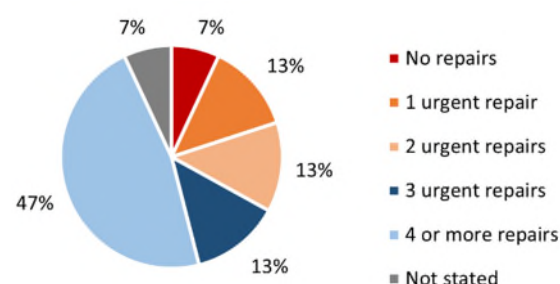
Table 5.21: Number of bedrooms required to accommodate permanent residents only

| House size (Number of bedrooms) | Number of households using | | | |
|---------------------------------------|----------------------------|---|---|---|
| | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| | bedroom(s) | | | |
| 2 | 2 | - | - | - |
| 3 | - | 1 | - | - |
| 4 | 2 | 3 | 1 | - |
| 5 | - | - | - | - |
| 6 and more | - | - | 1 | - |
| All | 4 | 4 | 1 | 1 |

5.7 Asset condition

The MPRH&BC household survey invited households to advise about the need for urgent repairs as a general indicator of housing manager responsiveness to critical defects and, subsequently in the survey, to provide a more detailed appreciation of condition. Responses from social housing tenants to the first enquiry are shown in Figure 5.19.

Figure 5.19: Respondents reporting need for urgent repairs



A method of analysis similar to that employed by the National Social Housing Survey (NSHS) conducted by AIHW (Australian Institute of Health and Welfare 2018) has been used to characterise asset condition on the basis of information self-reported by tenants about dwelling condition, defects and facilities.

The basis of this assessment is the judgment that a house is deemed to be of acceptable standard if it has no more than two major specified structural, electrical and/or plumbing problems and has at least six working facilities. In this context, facilities are those comprising 'health hardware' in the Housing for Health terminology which characterise safety and nine healthy living practices (HLPs):

- HLP 1: Washing people
- HLP 2: Washing clothes and bedding
- HLP 3: Removing wastewater safely
- HLP 4: Improving nutrition – the ability to store, prepare and cook food
- HLP 5: Reducing the negative impacts of over-crowding (treated separately in this Plan)
- HLP 6: Reducing the negative effects of animals, insects and vermin

- HLP 7: Reducing the health impacts of dust
- HLP 8: Controlling the temperature of the living environment
- HLP 9: Reducing hazards that cause trauma

The household survey sought to establish observance of the practices using the indicators shown in Table 5.22.

| Table 5.22: Indicators for meeting safety and HLPs | |
|--|---------------------------------------|
| Practice | Represented by functional: |
| HLP 1 | Bath or shower, and hot water heater |
| HLP 2 | Laundry tub |
| HLP 3 | Toilet and wastewater disposal/septic |
| HLP 4 | Cooking stove and oven, kitchen sink |
| HLP 6 | Flyscreens and site drainage |
| HLP 7 | Glazed windows |
| HLP 8 | Heating and cooling devices |
| HLP 9 | Electrical installations |

The single divergence from the NSHS methodology adopted in this project is to increase the number of working specified facilities to seven through the addition of air-conditioning which MPRA and HLP 8 consider to be essential to managing the health of residents at risk from heat, particularly children, older people and those with long term health conditions. A means of heating the home is also included.

| Classification of structural and major services faults |
|--|
| Sinking/moving foundations |
| Uneven/sagging floors |
| Major cracks in wall and/or ceiling |
| Termite damage |
| Roof leaking inside |
| Major electrical faults |
| Major plumbing faults |
| Major air-conditioning problems |
| Malfunctioning on-site wastewater treatment system |

The results of the evaluation of tenant responses are shown at Table 5.23.

| Table 5.23: Social housing condition as expressed by tenants in Enngonia | |
|--|-----|
| Condition | |
| No structural problems, and 7 working facilities | 7% |
| No more than 2 structural problems, and 6 or more working facilities | 40% |
| 3 or more structural problems, and 6 or more working facilities | 53% |
| None, 1 or 2 structural problems, and 5 or fewer working facilities | 0% |
| 3 or more structural problems, and 5 or fewer working facilities | 0% |

The principal deficiencies recorded in the quality of social housing are noted in Table 5.44.

| Table 5.24: Social housing principal structural, electrical, plumbing and facilities problems (%) | |
|---|-----------------|
| Problem area | Houses affected |
| Moving foundations | 7% |
| Uneven floors | 40% |
| Cracks in wall and/or ceiling | 53% |
| Termite damage | 13% |
| Roof leaking inside | 33% |
| Major electrical faults | 40% |
| Major plumbing faults | 33% |
| Major air conditioning problems | 47% |
| Septic/sewerage problems outside | 33% |
| Non-functional facilities | |
| Kitchen stove/oven | 0% |
| Electric hot water heater | 7% |
| Kitchen sink | 0% |
| Shower | 7% |
| Toilet | 7% |
| Laundry tub | 7% |
| Air conditioning | 27% |

The results of the assessment against the Housing for Health safety and healthy living practices are reported in Table 5.25. Whereas Table 5.24 indicates the proportion of installed systems, appliances and fixtures which are non-functional, Table 5.25 captures those households which do not have the benefit of some appliances, primarily wood or electric heaters or air conditioners.

Table 5.25: Social housing observance of the HLPs (%)

| Practice | Meeting the standard | |
|----------|-------------------------------|------|
| HLP 1 | Washing people | 93% |
| HLP 2 | Washing clothes and bedding | 93% |
| HLP 3 | Wastewater disposal | 67% |
| HLP 4 | Improving nutrition | 100% |
| HLP 6 | Pest control | 7% |
| HLP 7 | Reducing impact of dust | 60% |
| HLP 8 | Temperature control (heating) | 80% |
| HLP 8 | Temperature control (cooling) | 73% |
| HLP 9 | Free of electrical hazards | 60% |

Tenants also reported other minor defects such as fractured verandah decking (67%), no fence or gates (53%), no working clothesline (27%), missing flyscreens (93%), broken windows (40%) and the like. An inability to secure the house because entry and/or back doors could not be closed or locked was noted by one household in two, contributing to the feeling of insecurity mentioned by some tenants and reflected by Figure 5.17.

In respect of HLP 2 and HLP 4, provision of whitegoods is a tenant responsibility. The percentage of respondents stating access to a working washing machine and fridge were 80% and 100% respectively.

5.8 Asset preservation

As discussed above, and in answer to a series of objective, closed questions, tenants reported a range of structural, building fabric and facilities defects in response to the household survey. Unlike the original HEHP investigations of the early 2000's, no independent scoping of properties has been carried out to determine the scale of repairs needed to restore properties to a fully serviceable state and develop a schedule of planned maintenance. This Plan relies on the household survey to generate a profile of asset condition.

In the absence of detailed scopes of work, this HEHP adopts an analysis of previous repair and maintenance projects to derive an 'order of probable cost'. The sample totals 98 properties spread across seven communities in the Region, large and small, and includes properties requiring little or no work to those in need of major

refurbishment. The sample is grouped into five bands (quintiles) of increasing scope to generate median values for each band. No adjustment has been made for the average age of properties or type of construction, but values have been revised to account for remoteness as per Rawlinsons cost guide. Costs are to September 2020.

For Enngonia, band medians are listed in Table 5.26.

Table 5.26: Median values for property repair and maintenance

| Band | Median value (\$) |
|-------|-------------------|
| One | 9,310 |
| Two | 28,330 |
| Three | 43,810 |
| Four | 65,490 |
| Five | 98,080 |

The median values for repair and maintenance quoted in Table 5.26 allow for minor routine works or responsive works in the case of Band 1 and Band 2 properties progressing through Band 3 to Bands 4 and 5 which include elements of works categorised as planned: cyclical and life cycle (preventative) maintenance, but which have not been attended to, by and large, under the *Build & Grow* policy regime. Band 4 and Band 5 works would include internal and external repainting; replacement of floor coverings; replacement of kitchens, bathrooms and/or laundries; replacing appliances, fixtures and fittings where these are no longer serviceable; and ensuring roofing, gutters and downpipes are brought to a satisfactory condition.

The values quoted in Table 5.26 are median values so it is possible that repairs on the more distressed properties could exceed \$100,000 at which point the value question arises as to whether it is more cost effective to replace rather than refurbish.

Based on tenant response to the questions relating to property condition posed in the MPRH&BC household survey, the probable order of cost for repairs and maintenance is given by Table 5.27. Information about any expenditures between the time of the household survey and the preparation

of this HEHP which might influence cost projections is not available.

To derive an order of probable cost for all repairs and maintenance, the number of properties has been factored up in the inverse of the ratio of household survey respondents providing detailed information on asset condition to the total number of social housing properties in the community; in the case of Bourke, the factor is (24/15) or 1.60. The total number is an aggregate of Murrawari LALC and Murrawari AC properties.

Table 5.27: Repair and maintenance, probable order of cost

| Band | Number of properties assessed in band from survey | Total number of properties for repair | Probable order of cost (\$) |
|-----------------------------------|---|---------------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| One | 1 | 2 | 18,620 |
| Two | 6 | 10 | 283,300 |
| Three | 8 | 12 | 525,720 |
| Four | 0 | 0 | - |
| Five | 0 | 0 | - |
| Total | 15 | 24 | 827,640 |
| Average spend/property = \$34,490 | | | |

It is stressed that the cost projections are based on tenant responses to the MPRH&BC household survey and the actual scale of repair and maintenance work will be identified through scoping once regional priorities have been established. From the data analysis and as identified in Table 5.27, it would appear that no property requires major refurbishment. The CWP has advised subsequently that the condition of two properties could warrant replacement.

5.9 Entrenched structural inequity

The 2015 report *Demand and Supply of Aboriginal Housing in Remote and Outer Regional NSW*, prepared on behalf of the NSW Aboriginal Housing Office (AHO), sought to explore the “unexpressed demand” for remote Indigenous housing in twenty-two remote, very remote and outer regional communities across central, western and far west NSW. The focus of this study was to gain an

understanding of the factors that contributed to homelessness and crowding in these communities and the attitude towards home ownership.

In respect of Enngonia, the report found mild to moderate levels of homelessness but significant to extreme levels of crowding, conditions that were not being reflected adequately in ABS census data at LGA scale. The social housing waiting list totalled 3 applicants but the list was said to be incomplete.

Consultations with community indicated a strong unmet demand for housing in Enngonia with the type of unmet housing tabulated as Table 5.28.

Table 5.28: Housing need by cohort

| Cohort | Need | Comment |
|----------------|------|------------------|
| Young people | ✓ | |
| Singles | ✓ | |
| Couples | - | |
| Young families | ✓ | |
| Large families | ✓ | 5-6 bedrooms |
| Elders | ✓ | Accessible units |

The report flagged the need for 4-5 extra properties, mainly two-bedroom flats for singles and young people, a conclusion entirely consistent with this HEHP.

A range of policy and practice measures relating to the application process, housing and asset management, human service delivery, and planning, design, implementation and control of works programmes was proposed. Despite the wide-ranging findings and actions recommended in this report, the MPRH&BC household survey data, and subsequent consultation with the Community Working Parties in 2021, found little evidence of these actions being implemented or delivered on.

6 ROLE OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT

6.1 Council strategic interests

Bourke Shire's Community Strategic Plan 2017 (CSP) outlines key challenges confronting the community and Council's aspirations to strengthen its position as an important remote community, united and productive in its endeavour, prospering through application of all modern services.

The action areas proposed by the CSP focus on the higher order objectives of:

- Environmental sustainability;
- Liveable and vibrant community;
- Economic prosperity;
- Governance and organisational performance;
- Infrastructure.

These aspirations broadly align with the aspirations of the Aboriginal community although there is little in the way of strategic intent in advancing common interests. The only direct reference to engagement is to be found as stakeholder feedback to an environmental issue – *Celebrating and acknowledging Aboriginal culture*.

Council's Local Strategic Planning Statement (LSPS), which defines land-related medium-term economic, social and environmental development proposals, including guiding change to Council's Local Environmental Plan 2012 (LEP) and Development Control Plan 2012 (DCP), reflects no greater level of engagement and ambition than the CSP across areas of potential common interest. The LSPS, in responding to the Directions in the NSW Government *Far West Regional Plan 2036*, focusses on planning priorities aimed at sustainable living, maintaining natural assets and environment, and strengthening the local economy, this within the context of a declining and ageing population base estimated to have fallen by about 13% between 2006 and 2016. The LSPS contains no specific strategies proposing participation with the Land Councils in matters of land management and use, nor with the CWP in relation to housing needs and affordability, future

development and opportunities for economic growth so, in this regard, it is hard to see how Council will achieve the intent of the *Far West Regional Plan 2036*. The absence of the Enngonia CWP as a key stakeholder from the draft Bourke Community Engagement Strategy 2022 is a notable omission and reinforces the perception of a weak relationship with the Aboriginal community.

6.2 Planning controls

Bourke Shire Council LEP 2012 sets out the planning controls applicable to residential development in the Shire and the DCP further requirements in relation to planning and design. Key controls are shown at Figure 6.1 which identifies zoning and Figure 6.2 which indicates minimum lot size of 1,000 m² for the general residential (RU5) zone, including Clara Hart Village.

6.3 Municipal rates and charges

Council is permitted by legislation to levy a different municipal rate across its towns and villages. Rates relating to the residential category and service charges for 2021/22 for Enngonia are shown in Table 6.1 and Table 6.2.

Table 6.1: Ordinary rate, residential (2021/22)

| General rate | Base rate | Ordinary rate (\$ in the \$) |
|--------------|-----------|------------------------------|
| Enngonia | 39.00 | 0.032379 |

Table 6.2: Service charges (2021/22)

| | |
|------------------------------------|----------|
| Water | |
| Water access | \$781.00 |
| Wastewater management | |
| Septic inspection | \$150.00 |
| Waste management | |
| Domestic waste management, service | \$99.00 |

Table 6.3 provides an indication of the spread of unimproved land values across properties owned by the ACHPs.

Table 6.3: Typical land values

| Property | | Area (m ²) | Unimproved value (\$) |
|-------------|----------------|---------------------------|--------------------------|
| 1/214790 | Shearer Street | 860 | 500 |
| 8/7/758389 | Paroo Street | 2,023 | 1,000 |
| 4/13/758389 | Belmore Street | 2,023 | 1,000 |

Typically, in 2021/22, residential lots of about 2,000 m² in Enngonia will incur a nominal annual rate charge of about \$70 and service charges totalling in the order of \$1,000, for a total annual bill of about \$1,100, depending upon individual circumstances.

6.4 Involvement in Aboriginal social housing

The CWP advises that Council is not involved with ACHPs in respect of property management issues.



Figure 6.1: Land zoning map



Source: Bourke LEP 2012, 1150_COM_LZN_004A_010_20121205

Figure 6.2: Lot size



Source: Bourke LEP 2012, 1150_COM_LSZ_004A_010_20121205

7 ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH INFRASTRUCTURE


7.1 Infrastructure asset schedule

| INFRASTRUCTURE ASSET SCHEDULES | | |
|--------------------------------|--|--|
| Table 7.1: Water supply | | Responsible Authority: Bourke Shire Council |
| Works | Description | Details |
| Source | Groundwater abstraction by way of a single bore Ref: GW030554. A second bore, Village Common bore, Ref: GW004181 supplies irrigation water to the village oval | GW030554 drilled in 1971, minimum reliable yield 6.0 L/s. GW004181 drilled 1892. Quality is historically acceptable except that pH is close to 8.5 and sodium levels exceed NHMRC Australian Drinking Water Guidelines taste threshold |
| Treatment | Nil | Community are resistant to chlorination,. DPE and NSW Health are consulting with community to understand concerns |
| Storage | Low level storage circular roofed steel reservoir 10.0m ϕ and 1.7m water depth, capacity 134 kL High level storage circular roofed steel tank 4.0m ϕ and 1.8m water depth, capacity 22.5kL on 19m high tank stand | |
| Distribution | Mainly DN100 AC mains | Additional mainlaying required to cross connect at terminations and improve security of supply in village (NSW Department of Commerce Drgs 040062 series refers) |
| Operation and maintenance | | By Bourke Shire Council funded through NSW Government <i>Aboriginal Water and Sewerage Programme</i> |

| Table 7.2: Wastewater | | Responsible Authority: Bourke Shire Council and MLALC |
|----------------------------------|---|--|
| Works | Description | Details |
| Systems generally | Residential on-site septic tanks constructed from concrete or fibreglass with capacities ranging from 1,800L to 2,200L with gravel filled absorption trenches | |
| Clara Hart Village installations | Residential on-site concrete septic tanks, capacity 1,800L, connected to reticulation with gravity flow to 2 x 5.3 m ² vented rectangular chambers of 3.8/5.0 m depth discharging to fenced transpiration area to south of village. Enclosed absorption trench 5 m deep DN150 slotted upvc in gravel filled trench | |
| Operation and maintenance | | By Bourke Shire Council funded through NSW Government <i>Aboriginal Water and Sewerage Programme</i> |

| Table 7.3: Stormwater drainage | | Responsible Authority: Bourke Shire Council and MLALC |
|--------------------------------|--|---|
| Works | Description | Details |
| Trunk and local drainage | Kerb and guttering throughout Clara Hart Village and open drains throughout Enngonia village Natural table drains in Enngonia Village | Ponding and flooding reported in south west corner of Clara Hart Village during wet periods due to blocked channels and overgrown tailout Ineffective drainage results in saturation of roadbase and loss of road surface, and an increase in the population of mosquitoes |

| Table 7.4: Roads | | Responsible Authority: Bourke Shire Council and MLALC |
|----------------------|--|---|
| Works | Description | Details |
| Roads | Clara Hart Village 6.0 to 7.5 m sealed surface with 13.0 m road reserve. Internal length 415 m approximately and 165 m sealed access from Dunsandle Road. Design speed 40 km/hr, construction 14mm/7mm two coat seal over 150 mm graded granular roadbase material Enngonia Village 6.0 m approx carriageway width in existing 30.2m road reserve | Sealed carriageway required to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Belmore Street north of McCabe Street Paroo Street north and south of McCabe Street Irrarra Street south of McCabe Street |
| Speed limit | 50km/hr | |
| Black spots | Nil | |
| Heavy traffic routes | Heavy vehicles, 25/26 m B-doubles are permitted on the Mitchell Highway | |

| Table 7.5: Environmental Amenity | | Responsible Authority: Bourke Shire Council |
|----------------------------------|--|--|
| Works | Description | Details |
| Streetscape | Occasional well established street plantings to Mitchell Highway. Some streetscape plantings to Belalie Street comprising flowering gums in grassed verge. Mature plantings of street trees at Clara Hart Village in grassed verge. Remnant vegetation elsewhere and low canopy bush on village outskirts and in close proximity to the boundaries of the Reserve Tree of cultural significance to open area at rear of Second Avenue at Clara Hart Village High salinity levels of groundwater prevent successful cultivation |  |
| Public spaces | Football oval with facilities Childrens' playground opposite hotel on Mitchell Highway No serviceable facilities at Clara Hart Village | |
| Pollution | Accumulation of building materials containing bonded asbestos dumped to the east of and close to Clara Hart Village | |
| Air quality | No issues reported except fordust generated by vehicles travelling unmade tracks over friable soils between Enngonia Village and Clara Hart Village | |

| Table 7.6: Fire control | | Responsible Authority: NSW Rural Fire Service | |
|-------------------------|--|--|--|
| Works | Description | Details | |
| Mobile plant | One operational appliance based in Shearer Street with a brigade staffed by volunteers | Incidents: Mostly grass fires, 1 house fire per annum Supply at Clara Hart Village sufficient for 4.5L hose stream only | |
| Fixed plant | Hydrants located throughout the village including Clara Hart Village. Mains pressure adequate for appliance to operate effectively | | |
| Fire safety | NSW Rural Fire Service carryout annual hazard reduction burns | | |

| Table 7.7: Power and lighting | | Responsible Authority: Essential Energy | |
|-------------------------------|--|--|--|
| Works | Description | Details | |
| Service | 33 kV supply from Essential Energy Bourke Zone Substation. Pole mounted cabling distributed throughout village; LV distributed as single and three phase power | Problems of blown lamps and appliance motors are reported but Essential Energy do not advise on voltage fluctuations | |
| Connection | Dwellings connected via aerial cabling | | |
| Outage | Frequency and duration not known | | |
| Street lighting | Pole mounted lamps | | |

| Table 7.8: Communications | | Responsible Authority: Telstra | | | |
|---------------------------|---|--------------------------------|-------|-----------|------------------------------------|
| Works | Description | | | | Details |
| Digital service | | Telstra | Optus | Vodaphone | |
| | 3G | ✓ | - | - | |
| | 4G | - | - | - | |
| | 5G | - | - | - | |
| NBN | Satellite | | | | All parts available for connection |
| TV satellite | VAST satellite TV and Foxtel satellite TV | | | | Free to air and pay TV services |

| Table 7.9: Solid waste disposal | | Responsible Authority: Bourke Shire Council | |
|---------------------------------|---|---|--|
| Works | Description | Details | |
| Collection | Kerbside household waste service weekly | Funded by WasteAid and managed by local residents | |
| Disposal | Fenced but unmanned single cell waste disposal facility | | |
| Recycling | Nil | | |
| Clean up | Innumerable vehicle bodies exist within the bush to the south-east of Clara Hart Village and in yards. Accumulated debris includes vehicle parts, engine blocks, household appliances and building debris | | |
| Safety | Fire hazard reduction | | |

| Table 7.10: Animal control | | Responsible Authority: Bourke Shire Council |
|----------------------------|---|---|
| Works | Description | Details |
| Services | Ranger patrol. Mandatory cat and dog registration | |
| Facilities | Council managed pound | |
| Domestic pets | Action in respect of dangerous and menacing dogs, restricted dogs, and nuisance dogs and cats | |

7.2 Infrastructure improvements

| Table 7.11: Community expressed service improvements | |
|--|--|
| Service | Improvement |
| Reticulated potable water supply | Cross connect pipeline terminations and improve security of supply in the village (NSW Department of Commerce Drgs 040062 series refer) |
| Reticulated sewerage | Install a CDL system for Enngonia village, extending to Clara Hart Village. Pump stations to deliver to the Clara Hart Village system for onward transmission to treatment. Treatment by lined facultative lagoons located to the east of Clara Hart Village. Effluent quality to be sufficient to irrigate market garden |
| On-site wastewater management | Attend to septic discharging effluent into yards |
| Stormwater drainage | Clear surface drainage at Clara Hart Village and reinstate kerb and gutter and tailouts as necessary Investigate the installation of a culvert from the table drain fronting Dunsandle Road across the airfield to allow free discharge of ponding runoff |
| Roads | In addition to resurfacing roads at Clara Hart Village, seal carriageways: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Belmore Street north of McCabe Street Paroo Street north and south of McCabe Street Irrarra Street south of McCabe Street |
| Environmental amenity | Undertake a major clearance exercise to clear legacy asbestos material from the area immediately to the east of Clara Hart Village Plant additional shade trees to Clara Hart Village and along the Dunsandle Road footpath to the Mitchell Highway Undertake a village-wide pest control effort to eliminate rodents as a food security measure |
| Power and lighting | Install streetlighting to Dunsandle Road between Enngonia and Clara Hart Village to reduce close encounters with snakes |
| Solid waste disposal – bulky items | Carry out a major clean up to remove dead cars and bulky waste Resolve the long term arrangements for weekly garbage collection in joint discussions with Bourke Shire Council and Regional Enterprise Development Institute (REDI.E) |

8 COMMUNITY HEALTH PROFILE

8.1 Community health profile summary

Enngonia is a small community in the Bourke Local Government Area. Bourke Shire is considered very remote on all remoteness scales. It is one of twenty-three local government areas in the Western NSW Local Health District (LHD).

Quantitative data for the Enngonia community is not available due to its small size so a mixed-methods approach has been used to describe the health of the community. In summary, the Aboriginal community of Bourke Shire is not very healthy and the health of the Enngonia community is heavily impacted by social isolation. The underlying risks of poorer health are evident: risky birth outcomes, historically poorer access to educational opportunities, higher rates of admission to hospital, poorer health behaviours and health literacy, and more likelihood of chronic conditions leading to death.

8.2 Health status - qualitative assessment

Qualitative evidence gathered by interviewing health care providers underpins an assessment of the perceived health status of the Enngonia community. Evidence indicates that while the health of the Aboriginal population is poor there is a sense of the community just 'getting on with it'. There is a feeling of inevitability about the low level of service provision because of remoteness acceptance that medical assistance is at least 100 km away in Bourke. Factors leading to poor health outcomes were said to be:

- Crowded households;
- The spread of diseases such as gastroenteritis within households as a result of crowding;
- Poor mental health when traditional community activities such as yabbying are not available;
- Lack of access to services for routine checks and treatment, particularly for elderly

community members with diabetes, heart disease and other chronic disease.

This does not quite fit the description of the broader Western NSW LHD population, 77.8% of whom reported in 2019 excellent, very good, or good health¹.

8.3 Available health services

Enngonia Health Service is a health outpost which currently only opens one day per week to coincide with the visit from Western NSW LHD Aboriginal Health Workers. Other services also visiting Enngonia are:

- Optometrist (2 times per year)
- Centrelink worker

For all other services, community members must travel almost 100 km to Bourke. In an emergency, the community call for an ambulance from Bourke.

9 HUMAN SERVICES

9.1 Human services target population

The sectors of the Aboriginal population which should be the target of human services are identified in Table 9.1 together with the corresponding population numbers. The figures are for 2016.

| Table 9.1: Service age groups, 2016 | | | | | |
|--|------------|-------|----------------|-------|-------|
| Total persons (Usual residence) | Aboriginal | | Non-Indigenous | | |
| Service age group (years) | Number | % | Number | % | Ratio |
| Babies and pre-schoolers (0-4) | 7 | 10.3 | 3 | 5.2 | 2.0 |
| Primary schoolers (5-11) | 10 | 14.7 | 8 | 13.8 | 1.1 |
| Secondary schoolers (12-17) | 4 | 5.9 | 5 | 8.6 | 0.7 |
| Tertiary education and independence (18-24) | 14 | 20.6 | 0 | 0 | - |
| Young workforce (25-34) | 7 | 10.3 | 10 | 17.2 | 0.6 |
| Parents and homebuilders (35-49) | 17 | 25.0 | 14 | 24.1 | 1.0 |
| Older workers and pre-retirees (50-59) | 9 | 13.2 | 10 | 17.2 | 0.8 |
| Empty nesters and retirees (60-69) | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | - |
| Seniors (70-84) | 0 | 0 | 8 | 13.8 | - |
| Elderly aged (85 and over) | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | - |
| Total | 68 | 100.0 | 58 | 100.0 | - |
| Source: ABS Tablebuilder with age classifications as .id Consultants | | | | | |

9.2 Human services in the community

Human services available to the Aboriginal community to cater for a range of needs are shown at Table 9.3 and the features of home care services are described at Table 9.4. Table 9.5 lists the NSW government principal agencies providing services to Enngonia. There is no Australian Government presence.

| Population fraction | Aboriginal | Non-Indigenous |
|--|------------|----------------|
| Table 9.2: Core activity need for assistance | | |
| | n=697 | n=1,086 |
| Of cohort population | 5.5% | 3.8% |
| Murdi Paaki Region | 7% | 7% |
| New South Wales | 8% | 6% |

It is known that the National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS) is funding a total of 39 NDIS packages across Bourke LGA as a whole and the total Aboriginal population requiring assistance across Bourke LGA is 44 persons.

The proportion of the Aboriginal population of Enngonia requiring assistance in the core activity areas of self-care, mobility and communication because of disability, long term health condition or old age cannot reliably be defined from the ABS 2016 Census for such a small population but Table 9.2 provides an indication of proportionate need for the Aboriginal and non-Indigenous population of Bourke.

Table 9.3: Human service providers and service mix

| Sector | Provider | Principal services | Resident office | Target population | Funding agency |
|------------------------------------|--|--|-----------------|----------------------------|----------------|
| Health services | Bourke Aboriginal Health Service | Primary health care outreach clinic | Bourke | Aboriginal community | - |
| | Western NSW Local Health District (LHD) | Bourke Multi-purpose service | Bourke | General population | - |
| | Royal Flying Doctor Service | Primary health care, retrieval plus visiting specialists | Broken Hill | General population | - |
| | NSW Outback Division of General Practice | Primary health care | Bourke | General population | - |
| | Orana Haven Aboriginal Corporation | Drug and alcohol service | Gongolgon | Aboriginal community | - |
| Aboriginal social housing services | Mid Lachlan Aboriginal Housing Management Co-op | Aboriginal social housing | Dubbo | Aboriginal community | AHO |
| | Murrumbidgee Local Aboriginal Land Council | Aboriginal social housing | Enngonia | Aboriginal community | NSWALC |
| | Murrumbidgee Aboriginal Corporation | Aboriginal social housing | Enngonia | Aboriginal community | - |
| Tenant support | Murdi Paaki Services Ltd | Tenant education and support programme | Cobar | Aboriginal community | DCJ |
| | Western Aboriginal Tenants Advice and Advocacy Service | Tenant advocacy and representation | Dubbo | Aboriginal community | Fair Trading |
| Homelessness services | Birrang Enterprise Development Company | Womens and families homelessness and housing support service | Bourke | Aboriginal community | - |
| | CatholicCare Wilcannia-Forbes | Homelessness and housing support service | Bourke | Aboriginal community | DCJ |
| | Mission Australia | Homeless youth assistance program | Bourke | General population - youth | DCJ |
| Early childhood services | Bourke and District Child Care Services | Yanmali - childcare centre, preschool, mobile play sessions and before and after school care | Bourke | Young Aboriginal children | DESE |
| Family support services | Mission Australia | Brighter futures - family strengthening service | Bourke | Aboriginal community | DCJ |
| | CatholicCare Wilcannia-Forbes | Family support service, Young Children | Bourke | General population | DCJ |
| | NSW Outback Division of General Practice | Did Ya Know program | Bourke | General population | DCJ |
| Social support | REDI.E | Centrelink services | Bourke | General population | - |
| Legal services | Legal Aid NSW | Legal services to disadvantaged people | Bourke | General population | Australian |

Table 9.3: Human service providers and service mix

| Sector | Provider | Principal services | Resident office | Target population | Funding agency |
|-------------------------------------|--|---|-----------------|-----------------------|----------------|
| | Aboriginal Legal Service (NSW/ACT) | Criminal, family, care and protection law, and tenancy services | Bourke | Aboriginal population | Government |
| Home care and home support services | Australian Unity Home Care Services | Aboriginal home care services | Bourke | Aboriginal community | - |
| | Live Better Services Ltd | Aboriginal home care services | Bourke | General population | NDIS |
| Cultural services | Murrawarri Local Aboriginal Land Council | Culture and heritage, land management | Enngonia | Aboriginal community | NSWALC |
| Disability services | Lifestyle Solutions (Aust) Ltd | Plan development, support coordination and support services | Bourke | General population | NDIS |
| | Birrang Aboriginal Corporation | | Bourke | Aboriginal community | NDIS |

Table 9.4: Home care services

| | Services | Transport | Meals | Other food services | Home maintenance | Home modifications | Social support individual | Flexible respite | Personal care | Domestic assistance | Social support group | Nursing | Centre-based respite | Specialised support services | Allied health and therapy services | Assistance with care and housing | Transition care |
|---|----------|-----------|-------|---------------------|------------------|--------------------|---------------------------|------------------|---------------|---------------------|----------------------|---------|----------------------|------------------------------|------------------------------------|----------------------------------|-----------------|
| | | Y | Y | Y | Y | Y | | Y | Y | Y | | | | | | | |
| Australian Unity Home Care – Ngangana Community Options | | Y | Y | | | | | Y | Y | Y | | | | | | | |
| LiveBetter Community Services - Enngonia | | Y | Y | | Y | Y | | | Y | Y | | | | | Y | | |

Table 9.5: NSW Government agency representation

| Cluster | Principal department and agencies | Responsibilities | Service access |
|----------------------|---------------------------------------|---|----------------|
| Stronger Communities | Department of Communities and Justice | Families, communities and disability services; public housing and homelessness services; law and justice; child protection; sport, seniors and veterans | Bourke |

10 COMMUNITY PERSPECTIVES

10.1 Authority for change

The way Aboriginal social housing is managed has changed markedly since the first Murdi Paaki HEHPs were produced; that change being very much to the detriment of the Region. There has been a sustained centralisation of decision-making and depreciated scope of authority and autonomy within Regional and locally managed ACHPs. This has adversely impacted management services, enfranchisement of tenants, and asset condition and preservation.

The integrity of physical infrastructure on former Reserves such as Clara Hart Village has declined and self-determination has been compromised as housing management services moved from local ACHPs and LALCs to third party, out-of-Region ACHPs without adequate provision for recurrent expenditure. The relative contribution of the AHO *Build and Grow* policy within Murdi Paaki has been the increased fragility of local services, marked decline in the condition of community housing assets, and feeble tenancy support from out-of-Region ACHPs. Aboriginal social housing tenants in Enngonia have experienced poor service from their housing manager: telephone calls go unanswered, housing inspections are not undertaken, repairs and maintenance, including urgent repairs, are not carried out or, if they are, are unduly delayed, and promises are broken. Owning ACHPs experience the lack of an effective mechanism for communication with, and reporting by, the managing provider in the coercive AHO head lease/sub-lease agreement. This has rendered the Murrawari LALC and Murrawari Aboriginal Corporation powerless to have a say in the management of their own assets

The CWP appreciates that it is not practical for housing management services to have a permanent, full-time presence in Enngonia but is determined that housing management services be reformed such that tenants' rights are respected; timely, responsive services are delivered; and effective communication channels are in place. Service design must reflect the needs, and be driven primarily by the best interests, of the

community, taking account of cultural norms and desire to become self-reliant.

10.2 Community priorities

The Enngonia CWP has set out its aspirations and priorities for improved community wellbeing in its Community Action Plan (CAP), advocating for improved service delivery across the full spectrum of housing, infrastructure, education, economic development, health and human services. The CAP priorities and key actions which relate to this Plan are set out in Table 10.1 and the issues which give rise to the action areas are summarised in Table 10.2 and Table 10.3.

10.3 Community observations

Critical housing and human service issues covered in this HEHP continue to be at the forefront of planning and advocacy by the Enngonia CWP. Issues related to housing management and condition were raised frequently by tenants who participated in the MPRH&BC household survey, but human services received little comment.

The Enngonia community has expressed dissatisfaction with the current property management arrangements, citing difficulties relating to remote support, and seeking greater local responsiveness in decision making:

"We need property managers to be in the community more often and we also spoke about employing someone local to assist; it was promised in a meeting but nothing has been done."

Broken promises and lack of trust are sore points with tenants:

"They promise to fix repairs and maintenance but it never gets done; it took nearly three months to fix my sewerage problem. I have had three snakes in my house because of holes in the floors, and they won't come out and fix things."

"Tell the truth to tenants on the timeframe it will take to get R&M done."

Planning and consultation for urgent repairs and maintenance is reported to be poor; much work is outstanding, and tenants cite very slow response rates, even for emergency repairs:

“When my power went off, I had to wait one week for it to come back on – all my food went to waste.”

Some work is reported to have been outstanding since the AHO-funded and managed R&M programme at the commencement of *Build and Grow*. Tenants are required to sign off on works being completed by contractors but don't feel qualified to make a judgment as to the standard of work:

“The LALC should be signing off on trades work, not tenants; they often don't know what they are signing”

The process of planning and approving works is not clear. Many urgent issues, including repairs to bathrooms and kitchens, remain outstanding. The housing manager's requirement that tenants take photographs and email work requests is problematic given technology and connectivity issues, and often results in long delays to repair and maintenance requests. Telephone calls to the housing manager often go unanswered, messages are not responded to, and tenants are forced to wait on the line for extended periods of time.

There is concern that tenants have entered into tenancy agreements and started paying rent for houses which have major defects:

“Tenants moving into damaged houses have to sign a tenancy agreement but then the work doesn't get done”

Several survey participants expressed a need for workshops in the community to inform tenants of their rights and responsibilities, including advice about services included in their rent, and courses of action available if repairs and maintenance is not undertaken.

The CWP strongly supports face-to-face delivery of property management services in the community

to improve access to personnel and build relationships that will enable more responsive management and tenant support. Tenants participating in the household survey variously requested quarterly, six-monthly and annual visits from housing managers. The implication that housing managers are not seen in the community from one year's end to the next is particularly concerning.

Many tenants question how rent is calculated, with reports that current rental charges are creating financial hardship for households:

“Some people are paying \$400 per week for a single man – how are rents being determined?”

“Rent is going up. We struggle living in a remote area and only getting to town once a fortnight to buy food, so I believe the rent should be lowered out here.”

Excessive power bills compounding the impact of rent costs; many tenants have reported that this contributes to financial stress. The CWP strongly supports the home solar programme to secure more affordable energy solutions for community members.

The CWP is seeking a commitment to creation of employment opportunities for local Aboriginal people in housing capital works programmes, including repairs and maintenance and new housing construction.

Survey participants' comments about housing deficiencies indicate that existing homes are maladapted both to Enngonia's climate and to tenants' requirements for living spaces. Particular issues include the need to enclose verandas (because it is too hot to sit outside in summer); safety concerns and lack of privacy due to missing fencing; slab on ground construction leading to concern about snake ingress; small rooms; and low ceiling heights making it impossible to install double bunks in rooms with ceiling fans. Climate adaptations such as rainwater tanks and air conditioning are particularly vexing issues:

“When asked for a rainwater tank, they say I don’t need it, and they don’t understand the need ... we live in a remote community, so understand the needs of our people.”

“The air conditioner blows dust and I have asthma. My water tank hasn’t worked for 10 years and it needs replacing.”

Other priority needs nominated by the CWP included granny flats for Elders to live in close to family; smaller houses better suited to younger families and youth; access to rainwater for domestic purposes; and improved outdoor recreation and cooking areas.

Several desired improvements to community amenities have been identified. These include a purpose-built home care facility incorporating a large kitchen, a laundry service and a gym area for adults to exercise. Residents at Clara Hart Village would like to see better street lighting; a wider footpath for safer village access, especially for children; a better equipped park area at Clara Hart Village; and an outdoor bush kitchen.

The CWP is dissatisfied with the level of support from Bourke Shire Council; more could be done to improve basic infrastructure and services necessary to make Enngonia liveable. Keeping the village regularly slashed and tidy, as well as investment in upkeep of the oval, local parks and gardens, and provision of shade, toilets and water at the cemetery were highlighted as key opportunities for greater collaboration with community. The CWP is concerned that social infrastructure for young people is inadequate; the community would benefit from a shaded basketball court and more youth programmes.

Access to an affordable regular transport service is a major concern. With no fuel in Enngonia and half of households without a motor vehicle, access to services located 100 km away in Bourke is challenging. Internet-based access to services cannot be substituted for physical access owing to poor connectivity and unreliable internet service. The current signal strength is reported to be very weak and subject to frequent outages. This has implications for all digital and online services. A

reliable community transport service is one of the most pressing issues impacting on the Enngonia community. Current public transport services are reported to be inflexible and inadequate. This is particularly the case for health-related transport during emergencies, admission to hospital or when needing to travel to Dubbo for routine primary care supports:

“People don’t want to ring an ambulance or go to hospital as they can’t get home when discharged...”

“For Dubbo appointments, people need to be there the day before and finding accommodation can be difficult and expensive”.

The CWP feels more needs to be done to inform the community about options for access to the NDIS for people with disabilities, and to increase capacity to ensure that access to a package is available to those who need it. Given the small population and relative isolation, many assessments can only be carried out in Bourke or over the phone; this creates barriers. The CWP wishes to see NDIS providers come to the community to provide information sessions for families and carers. More broadly, the CWP is seeking greater accountability from service providers, and closer engagement to ensure greater awareness of services and a better understanding of provider roles and capabilities.

Food security is a critical priority for the community. Since the Murrawari Aboriginal Corporation Store closed many years ago, the community has had to make do with a very limited local service at the Oasis Hotel. This leads to consumption of more fast food; households often experience food shortages due to inability to procure a broader range of staple foods locally, and limited access to transport.

Concern exists within the community regarding undercounting of the population in the 2016 ABS Census. The CWP is anxious that this is contributing to reduced investment and fewer long-term opportunities for the community.

Table 10.1: Community Action Plan objectives and actions

| Goal | Objective |
|------|---|
| 1 | Make our community safer and healthier |
| | 1.1 Repair and keep maintained village infrastructure |
| | 1.2 Repair and keep maintained residential property |
| | 1.3 Improve the health and wellbeing of the community |
| | 1.4 Build the capacity of community to undertake their own housing repairs |
| 2 | Get our adults into work |
| | 2.1 Provide a variety of training courses targeted to the needs of the community that get adults into real employment |
| | 2.2 Increase employment and business opportunities |
| 4 | Housing |
| | 4.1 Limit the increase of rent to tenants and ensure appropriate communication |
| | 4.2 Ensure repairs and maintenance are done regularly and to a good standard |
| 5 | Transport |
| | 5.1 Implement better transport systems for travel out of Enngonia |
| | 5.2 Ensure bus service meets the need of children |
| 6 | Community facilities |
| | 6.1 Make services accessible for community |
| | 6.2 Ensure water is accessible at cemetery |
| | 6.3 Ensure village facilities are safe and appropriate for children |
| | 6.4 Water bubblers |
| | 6.5 Toilet at cemetery |
| 8 | Health |
| | 8.1 Find out what NDIS roles are |
| | 8.2 Employ a local community member to be trained to roll out better health initiative |
| | 8.3 Re-open medical clinic |

Table 10.2: Summary of housing and housing-related issues

| Issue | Description |
|--------------------|---|
| Housing management | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Housing managers fail to respond to tenant attempts to make contact, break promises, and do not visit the community ▪ Housing management must be based in the region ▪ Local access to housing managers is needed for improved communication, services and accountability ▪ All houses should be in acceptable condition prior to tenants entering into a tenancy agreement ▪ Housing management practice must be shaped to account for community aspirations and cultural norms ▪ A workshop is required to explain tenant rights and responsibilities, and courses of action available when housing managers fail to respond |

Table 10.2: Summary of housing and housing-related issues

| Issue | Description |
|---|--|
| Housing repair and maintenance | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Routine inspections by property managers do not take place but are required to determine the extent of all work necessary to restore and maintain structural soundness, functionality, amenity and safety. ▪ Most houses are in urgent need of R&M but processes for actioning requests are poorly designed, and timeframes are excessive ▪ Inspection of works is not a tenant responsibility, housing managers need to ensure this is done by someone with the necessary skills and training ▪ Training and employment of a local Aboriginal workforce to support trades to undertake repair and maintenance works is required ▪ Kitchens and bathrooms require upgrading ▪ Inclusions such as rainwater tanks and air conditioning are unserviceable but have not been replaced ▪ Replacement of fencing, enclosure of verandas, shaded areas in yards, and responses to security problems arising from inability to lock houses are priorities for tenants |
| Housing affordability | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Rents are too high for the quality of housing provided, given the remote geographical setting ▪ Many people struggle to pay power bills due to high energy consumption, especially in the hotter months ▪ Rent setting should be considered in the context of cost-of-living pressures more broadly ▪ People are not accessing CRA because the process is too difficult |
| Housing need | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Housing mix does not cater for Elders, young people at the stage of household formation, or people with disabilities ▪ Crowding is common, and leads to stress, health impacts, and excessive wear and tear Provision of granny flats is seen as a desirable option to provide for Elders' housing needs ▪ Provision of new housing should take into account tenant requirements relating to room sizes and ceiling heights, and provision of sheltered outdoor living space including enclosed verandas |
| Specific housing needs of Elders and people with a disability | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Lack of access to the Home Modifications and Maintenance Service access has mobility and safety implications for older community members |
| Safe and healthy communities | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The quality of drinking water can be poor; rain water tanks are preferred for domestic supply ▪ Certainty is required regarding the village rubbish service and local contracts ▪ Inadequate stormwater drainage is resulting in mosquitoes breeding ▪ Most houses are overdue for comprehensive pest control services. Measures are required to address the problem of ingress to housing by snakes, mosquitoes and vermin ▪ Dust presents a health hazard; it impacts on amenity in homes, particularly at Clara Hart Village ▪ Domestic rubbish on vacant lots, and damaged vacant dwellings are a hazard and need to be cleaned up |

Table 10.3: Summary of human services-related issues

| Issue | Description |
|--|---|
| Accountability and accessibility | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Cultural safety is an issue with mainstream providers, both visiting and local; high staff turnover exacerbates the problem ▪ Visiting services are poorly coordinated, are not integrated and are challenging to access ▪ The CWP requires greater accountability from service providers, and seek closer engagement to ensure community engagement in service planning, better awareness of services and improved understanding of provider roles and capabilities ▪ Service effectiveness could be improved by building a local capacity to deliver ▪ A closer working relationship is needed between the CWP and Bourke Shire Council; the current level of service is inadequate ▪ Assistance is required for community members who are not digitally literate to access support to complete online forms, liaise with Service NSW and deal with myGov sign-in, and the like. Access issues are compounded by lack of computers within the community, and inadequate internet reliability |
| Elders' services | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Care and support services for older people do not exist, even for eligible potential clients ▪ Home care and other aged care community-based programmes need to be established locally |
| Service needs for people with disabilities | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Access to NDIS services, even for eligible potential clients, is very difficult ▪ Assessment processes requiring travel to regional centres or telephone or online contact are a barrier to service access ▪ The CWP wishes NDIS providers to come to the community to provide information sessions for families and carers |
| Children's services | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Need exists for comprehensive child and maternal health services; early intervention programmes to respond to significant childhood development challenges; and family support programmes and services |
| Youth services | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Social infrastructure for young people is inadequate; the community would benefit from a shaded basketball court, reinstatement of the oval, and more youth programmes |
| Employment | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ There are few opportunities for local employment; training being provided does not translate to employment outcomes ▪ The CWP is seeking a commitment to creation of employment opportunities for local Aboriginal people in housing capital works programmes, including repairs and maintenance and new housing construction. |
| Community facilities and social infrastructure | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The CWP aspires to develop a purpose-built home care facility with a large kitchen, laundry service and a gym ▪ A better equipped park with a bush kitchen has been requested by Clara Hart Village residents, together with improvements to lighting and footpath access to Enngonia village ▪ Better infrastructure, including accessible water and an amenities block, is required at the cemetery |
| Mental and physical health | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Health services in the community are inadequate. A minimum once-weekly health clinic service is required; health outreach services should be co-ordinated and integrated; and improved access to programmes and services provided to support lifestyle risk factor management for chronic diseases ▪ Limited access is available to non-clinical mental health and social and emotional wellbeing counselling and support services, including youth-specific services |

Table 10.3: Summary of human services-related issues

| Issue | Description |
|---------------|--|
| Transport | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Inadequate transport services impact on community members' ability to manage health and wellbeing ▪ A regular daily transport service to Bourke, and improved local school bus service, are required to improve access to services and support ▪ A regional health related transport service is urgently needed to assist travel out of region to Dubbo and Orange |
| Food security | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Lack of a local grocery store and consequent inadequate supply of fresh food is impacting on health and wellbeing ▪ Many families do not have adequate food and often rely on fast food from the Oasis Hotel for daily meals |

11 MASTER PLAN

11.1 Aspiration

Development of this HEHP ends the second round of MPRA's approach to sector strategic planning at community scale. The HEHP examines the factors that are affecting the sector; documents an evidence base of the community's housing and infrastructure needs; and estimates the amount of funding. The lead time and long lifetime of housing infrastructure requires a long-term view so identifying, planning and prioritising a package of measures to ensure the sector delivers sustainable long-term outcomes for the community is vital.

The connections between the housing and human services sectors add to complexity and uncertainty in the strategic planning process, particularly in a cultural context. Learning lessons is a central part of any project so with the RAHLA now firmly established and evidence provided, the community expects informed policy-setting and decision-making to lead to positive change.

11.2 Cultural influences on decision-making

The *NSW Aboriginal Housing and Infrastructure Programmes Implementation Manual* was an initiative of MPRA and the NSW Department of Aboriginal Affairs (as was) flowing from the successful Australian Government National Aboriginal Health Strategy projects. Written in 1999, the manual placed the idea of effective community management of capital works and associated housing and infrastructure projects into a more practical local context. Working with a community-selected professional Project Manager, the CWP demonstrated ample capacity to set community objectives, and to control and co-ordinate overall programme delivery on behalf of, and in the best interests of, their communities. The agreed system of rules governing projects roll out was formal acknowledgement of the ongoing position of the CWP as the local decision-making body. The Regional and local governance structures remain in place and the CWP remains

best positioned to bring local knowledge and cultural practices to inform housing and infrastructure developments. This Master Plan shows this decision-making in practice.

11.3 Master Plan

The master planning process adopted by this HEHP aims to create an integrated process of change at community level, reaching across the built environment, and social and economic issues within a cultural context. The Plan is about taking the lead in terms of planning for, and design of, improvements to the living environment, and coordination and integration of human services. It aims also to give renewed life to the principles of self-determination and self-management. This approach challenges stakeholders to be open and willing to change the way business with the community is conducted.

The Master Plan is set out at Table 11.1. It brings together the aspirations as documented in the Community Action Plan and the views of the community as derived from survey and consultation. The proposed actions are those which matter to the community.

Implementation will take time. Ongoing engagement between the community through the CWP, stakeholders and decision makers is vital to ensure the focus is maintained throughout the course of the project. Change will happen and, with this expectation, there is a need to foster a strong collaboration between all parties to ensure that the ultimate objective of bringing about positive improvement in the lived experiences of Aboriginal people is achieved.

Table 11.1: Master Plan

| Strategy | Chapter reference | Action area | Strategy | Justification |
|----------|--|--------------------|--|--|
| ENN-01 | CAP-1.2 5.5 10.3 | Sector governance | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> On completion of the Build and Grow head/sub-lease arrangement, return Aboriginal social housing management services of all properties to a local or Regional ACHP to be more directly under the governance and influence of the local community | <p>The MPRH&BC household survey, tenants and Enngonia CWP consistently flagged a series of concerns in relation to tenancy and property management services. Particular issues raised related to ACHP accessibility and visibility, poor communications, and delays or failure to carry out property repairs and maintenance.</p> <p>The community expressed a strong preference to take back responsibility where local relationships can be better established, and communication and responsiveness to unique issues in Enngonia better understood. Of those that offered an opinion in the household survey, 40% would prefer a local ACHP managing their housing but, with major changes to the sector happening, only a Consortium member registered under the National Regulatory System (NRSCH) offers a practical option. In the case of Enngonia, this is Murdi Paaki Regional Housing Corporation</p> |
| ENN-02 | CAP-1.2 CAP-4.1 5.5 T10.2 10.3 | Housing management | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Work with the managing ACHP(s) to establish a way of working which satisfies the community's way of doing business Develop a communication strategy with relevant stakeholders to ensure the efficient and timely flow of information, including regular reporting to the CWP on matters relating to housing management and emerging issues As part of the MPRH&BC project, co-design application and allocation processes which are straightforward and consistent, and rent setting policies which prescribe fair and affordable rents | <p>Following from the poor experiences with Out-of-Region ACHP, the community is keen to have a more professional way of working with any new managing-ACHP. It is intended that protocols be established which define the relationship between the community and stakeholders, and set out the way business is to be conducted.</p> <p>The CWP considers rent levels are not consistent with housing condition, level of amenity and services, and the high costs of living in a remote community. A rent review is requested to test affordability. The CWP would like to see this review conducted in conjunction with a broader review of management practices including the complex application and allocation processes</p> |
| ENN-03 | CAP-1.3 5.6 T5.20 T5.28 T10.2 10.3 11.2 T11.2 | Housing need | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Increase supply to meet demand arising from young persons wishing to live independently and older persons and couples wishing to move to accessible housing for health-related reasons or from crowding, and individuals and families who would otherwise be homeless Increase the number of accessible dwellings purpose-built for the elderly, frail and disabled to allow them to live independently in their homes Replace properties at the end of their life with new housing | <p>The MPRH&BC household survey identified a family and four young people in need of accommodation which, when factored to reflect need across the whole community, indicated a total requirement for the number of dwellings of size shown in Table 11.2. The estimate is consistent with that stated in the 2015 AHO report, <i>Demand and Supply of Aboriginal Housing in Remote and Outer Regional NSW</i>. Land is available in Enngonia Village and at Clara Hart Village. It is recommended that three very old Lands Trust houses be replaced as these are well beyond serviceable life and have been patched up over many years. They are not comfortable, are basic, prone to failures of</p> |

Table 11.1: Master Plan

| Strategy | Chapter reference | Action area | Strategy | Justification |
|----------|---|------------------------------------|---|---|
| ENN-04 | CAP-1.2 CAP-1.3 CAP-1.4 CAP-4.2 5.5 5.7 5.8 T5.27 10.1 T10.2 10.3 11.6 | Asset condition and serviceability | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Arrange with managing ACHP(s) to determine the extent of all work necessary to restore structural soundness, functionality, amenity, safety and security to social housing properties, secure adequate investment, and carry out repairs and upgrades using trusted tradespeople to ensure high quality work Install boundary fencing and access gates where none exist and restore functionality where already erected. Make sure that external doors and windows to houses close and are lockable Arrange with the housing manager(s) to negotiate with the Aged Care Assessment Team, registered Home Modifications providers, and funding body where necessary, to expedite home modification work on houses occupied by a household with a resident member with a disability Where possible, engage trades which are willing to train and assist a local Aboriginal worker to achieve a NSW Department of Fair Trading licence permitting the holder to carry out minor maintenance and cleaning Provide all Aboriginal social housing with adequate heating and energy efficient cooling appliances where absent, obsolete and/or non-functional, ensure all houses are sufficiently insulated to maximise thermal benefits, and are equipped with residential rooftop solar PV systems to reduce power costs | <p>facilities and services, and easily invaded by snakes. Before any final decision is taken, reference must be made to the CWP and Land Council in view of the historic significance of the houses</p> <p>The CWP advises that works carried out under the AHO Build and Grow were not scoped correctly, poorly managed and badly executed with the result that properties have deteriorated over time. Repairs took too long if they were carried out at all. In consequence, there is a significant backlog of work which will be confirmed once scoping occurs.</p> <p>Provided crowding is addressed by the building of additional supply, no bedroom extensions are required but several houses require modifications because of a physical impairment. Getting assessment, funding and a tradesperson(s) on site to carry out modifications can take in excess of a year so this deficiency will need to be rectified.</p> <p>Part of the problem with r&m has been the use of low-cost tradespeople without adequate supervision. It is unrealistic to expect a permanent local building workforce but the community may be able to sustain a handyman, perhaps in conjunction with the Bourke portfolio. This can be the subject of further investigation at the time work is being carried out</p> <p>The MPRH&BC household survey established that 13% of Aboriginal social housing dwellings in Enngonia had no heating appliances and 17% had no cooling appliances installed at the time of the survey. With the duration of extreme temperatures increasing, it is essential for reasons of personal health and general wellbeing for air conditioning to be provided to each household. As energy poverty is rife, and to counter any increase in running costs, installations should include residential solar rooftop PV systems to all properties</p> <p>Acceptance of MP TSEP by the community is allowing potential and existing tenants requiring assistance to access much needed housing support services. The team has built a capability to work across a wide range of human services, tackling barriers to housing and connecting tenants to other supports. At Enngonia, the team will</p> |
| ENN-05 | CAP-6.1 11.12 | Tenant support | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Maintain the role of MP TSEP in educating tenants in roles and responsibilities and supporting tenants at risk of breach to retain their tenancies and assisting with access to human services Assist all Aboriginal social housing tenants not claiming CRA through the application process | |

Table 11.1: Master Plan

| Strategy | Chapter reference | Action area | Strategy | Justification |
|----------|--|--------------------------------------|---|---|
| ENN-06 | CAP-1.1 CAP1.3 CAP-6.2 CAP-6.3 CAP-6.4 CAP-6.5 T7.11 10.3 11.8 | Infrastructure generally | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Foster a lasting partnership between MP TSEP, housing provider(s) and homelessness services which ensures that vulnerable Aboriginal members of the community are able to receive the support needed to remain safe, healthy and housed ▪ Advocate with Bourke Shire Council and other agencies with responsibility for: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - An improvement in the quality of the drinking water supply to meet Australian Drinking Water Guidelines - An ongoing domestic waste collection service and a regular bulky waste collection service community-wide - Efficient street lighting to all parts of the village which complies with the relevant Australian Standard - Improvements to the cemetery in the form of a drinking water supply and toilet block - Works to raise the visual and environmental amenity of the village streetscape to make a positive contribution to the quality of life of residents, including accumulated debris (vehicle parts, engine blocks, household appliances and building debris) from vacant blocks - A dust mitigation strategy to reduce the risk of respiratory and other diseases and illnesses, and the burden of maintaining a clean home | <p>focus initially on raising the number of tenants claiming CRA above the 50% level indicated by the household survey</p> <p>The quality of bore water is variable and can show evidence of pollution at times. The community is not in favour of chlorination but, in taking this position, becomes reliant upon rainwater tanks. The situation calls for a strategic approach which ensures that a compliant supply can be delivered eventually</p> <p>The collection of household waste in Enngonia is based on a fragile funding model underpinned with financial assistance from Waste Aid, which is nearly expended. The local contractor paid to collect and remove waste considers the arrangement insecure and may cease to provide the service</p> |
| ENN-07 | CAP-1.1 CAP-6.3 T7.11 10.3 11.8 | Infrastructure at Clara Hart Village | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Advocate through the MPRA and RAHLA for: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Maintenance of internal roads and drainage, ideally through the NSW Government Roads2Home project - Maintenance of the wastewater collection and treatment infrastructure - Removal of dumped and partially buried asbestos materials from village surrounds - Tree planting to roads to improve amenity and shading - General village clean up | <p>Internal roads to Clara Hart Village require resurfacing and kerb and guttering cleaning to remove obstructions to drainage. Tail-outs are blocked and require to be cleared. The lack of functional street lighting requires to be addressed in the interest of safety and lighting requires to be extended into town along the footpath so that snakes can be avoided at night.</p> <p>An assessment of the condition of the wastewater collection, treatment and disposal system should ideally be undertaken as it is some considerable time since the installation was constructed. Some system failures are to be expected</p> <p>The area to the east of Third Street at Clara Hart Village has been identified as a high-risk area for asbestos. It appears as though large quantities of bonded asbestos generated from demolition of old properties were dumped in this area and left. The area is not</p> |

Table 11.1: Master Plan

| Strategy | Chapter reference | Action area | Strategy | Justification |
|----------|--|---|--|---|
| | | | | generally used, but it is not possible to rule out the prospect of children playing there and/or the area being disturbed by vehicles. It is likely that the fragments will weather over time and become friable, and then airborne. |
| ENN-08 | CAP-6.1 CAP-8.1 CAP-8.3 T9.1 T9.2 10.3 T10.3 11.1 11.2 11.9 | Human services improvement, reach and accessibility | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Engage with MPRA, DCJ and other agencies to advance the actions in the Community Action Plan in conjunction with this Housing and Environmental Health Plan In conjunction with the Bourke CWP, foster a closer relationship between the CWP and all tiers of government to drive improvements in human services including a greater focus on provider cooperation and coordination, service integration, performance and cost-effectiveness Audit and review the role and operational objectives of human services and human services providers across all sectors to ensure that services promised are being received, that gaps are identified and can be addressed, and protocols established which increase transparency and accountability | CWP feedback indicates that community awareness of the availability of various human services, and of the presence and performance of some providers needs to be improved significantly. The CWP sees this as a barrier to the community to being able to access culturally safe services and to find a pathway through cross agency services. The limited time providers can be in the community strongly suggests that services cannot be client-centred and elderly, frail residents and those with a disability requiring home care and home support services are greatly disadvantaged. The community repeatedly complains of not being aware of when services will be visiting. Providers often experience a high turnover of staff which decreases the quality of services and engagement with local community. The CWP considers that a community contribution in this space would assist in rationalising and guiding service implementation. Some providers have turned to online and digital platforms but low digital literacy, access to computers and/or poor internet connections effectively prevent the community from using technological solutions. The inter-connections between housing, culture, health, and economic and social wellbeing is well established and, to obtain most traction from this HEHP, the strategic and operational steps to improvement should happen jointly with the Community Action Plan |
| ENN-09 | CAP-8.3 8.2 T10.3 | Physical and mental health services | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Improve the community's ability to access health care services locally and regionally Develop a transport solution which will allow community members without a vehicle to attend to their daily household tasks and personal business, and to attend health appointments locally (if and when a GP is available) and in Bourke, Dubbo and Sydney | Access to specialist diagnosis, early intervention and intensive support for children with learning and development difficulties is challenging. Excessive wait times are impacting upon children attaining development milestones and achieving at school so the community would like to advocate for greater allied health funding to support improved health service access especially OT, audiology and speech pathology |
| ENN-10 | CAP-8.1 9.1 | Aged and disability care services | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Assess the presence and capabilities of funded NDIS registered providers, the level of care delivered against clients' funded | Inequities in access to NDIS services in smaller, outlying communities have been documented in the course of HEHP preparation. It has |

Table 11.1: Master Plan

| Strategy | Chapter reference | Action area | Strategy | Justification |
|----------|-----------------------|-------------|---|--|
| | T9.3 T9.4 T10.3 | | package, and package availability and inequalities of care of Aboriginal people with disability | been reported that disability service providers funded to deliver services across a local government area decline to travel to remote communities unless there are several clients eligible to receive a service. An assessment of service accessibility and delivery is required to ensure that Aboriginal people with disabilities living in Enngonia are able to have their needs met adequately within their community |

11.4 Defining need for new housing

The total number of Aboriginal social housing dwellings in Enngonia was 24 in June 2020 as detailed in the AHO property schedule, the same number as of June 2018.

At the time of the MPRH&BC household survey, there was a waiting list for Aboriginal social housing across all adult age groups. The estimate of housing need shown at Table 5.20 and Table 11.1 is derived by extending the findings of the MPRH&BC household survey across all Aboriginal households and tenure types to estimate need arising from those few that did not participate.

The age profile of the community is such that most of those in search of their own housing are young single people.

Table 11.3: Estimated cost of new builds (GST excl)

| Number of bedrooms | GFA (m2) | Unit cost (\$/m2) | No | Estimate (\$) |
|--------------------|----------|-------------------|----|------------------|
| 2 | 120 | 3,470 | 6 | 2,498,400 |
| 3 | 160 | 2,850 | 2 | 912,000 |
| 4 | 185 | 2,850 | 0 | 0 |
| 5 and more | 200 | 2,850 | 0 | 0 |
| Total | | | | 3,410,000 |

11.5 Replacement housing

Three very old Lands Trust two-bedroom dwellings at Clara Hart Village are recommended for replacement. While of some cultural significance, these have been patched repeatedly over many years to the extent that they should be considered to be at the end of their serviceable life. Plumbing has been an ongoing issue and the slabs, being at ground level, are more at risk from snakes.

Table 11.2: Housing need

| | | From MPRH&BC household survey | | | | Factored for whole community | | | |
|-----------------------|---------|-------------------------------|----------|----------|----------|------------------------------|----------|----------|----------|
| | | Number of bedrooms | | | | Number of bedrooms | | | |
| Tenure type | Ratio | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| Owner occupier | 3 / 0 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Private rental | 0 / 0 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Homeless | 20 / 15 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Social housing rental | 24 / 15 | 4 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 6 | 2 | - | - |
| Employer | - / - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Not defined | - / - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| Total | | 4 | 1 | - | - | 6 | 2 | - | - |

Table 11.3 puts an order of cost against increased supply based on new builds, acquisition not being a practical solution at Enngonia.

Table 11.4: Estimated cost of replacement housing (GST excl)

| Number of bedrooms | GFA (m2) | Unit cost (\$/m2) | No | Estimate (\$) |
|--------------------|----------|-------------------|----|---------------|
| 2 | 120 | 3,470 | 3 | 1,374,120 |
| 3 | 160 | 2,850 | 0 | 0 |
| 4 | 185 | 2,850 | 0 | 0 |
| 5 and more | 200 | 2,850 | 0 | 0 |
| Total | | | | 1,374,120 |

11.6 Housing extensions and modifications

Expressed need for extensions is stated in Table 11.5. Numbers have not been revised upwards in the same way as Table 11.2 and come directly from the MPRH&BC household survey. A budget of \$35,000/extension is allowed for extension and \$4,000 for each home modification.

Table 11.5: Requirement for housing extensions and modifications

| Extensions (Factor 24/15) | Bedrooms | | |
|------------------------------|---------------------|---|---|
| | 1 | 2 | 3 |
| Number of extensions | - | - | - |
| Total number of bedrooms | - | - | - |
| Modifications | Number of dwellings | | |
| | 3 | | |

Estimated budget to attend to extensions and modifications listed in Table 11.5 is given in Table 11.6.

Table 11.6: Estimated budget for housing extensions and modifications

| | Estimate (\$) |
|---------------|---------------|
| Extensions | - |
| Modifications | 24,000 |
| Total | 12,000 |

11.7 Asset preservation

Estimated costs for routine repair and maintenance including planned maintenance, and

for any particular works such as roof replacement, foundation packing and releveling if any, required to attend to immediate restoration and asset preservation are summarised in Table 11.7. The number of properties to receive attention is reduced from 24 by the three houses earmarked for replacement. Average unit expenditure is approximately \$33,150 per property.

Table 11.7: Repair and maintenance, probable order of cost

| | Cost (\$) |
|--|-----------|
| Property repair, maintenance and upgrade | 696,210 |
| Particular works | - |
| Total | 696,210 |

The desludging and cleaning of septic tanks is included in the budget for repair and maintenance work.

11.8 Infrastructure

Table 7.11 itemises infrastructure elements of concern to the CWP. Of these, the tasks set out in Table 11.8 are the responsibility of the Land Council and are included as cost items in the overall budget. The cost of dealing with the large area of contaminated land immediately to the east of Third Avenue is notional but it is noted that similar remediation projects elsewhere have involved a multi-million-dollar commitment. Other areas for improvement resting with Council are itemised in Table 11.1.

Table 11.8: Notional budget for infrastructure improvements to Clara Hart Village

| | Estimate (\$) |
|--|---------------|
| Clear stormwater drainage channels | 25,000 |
| Clear dumped and partially buried asbestos sheeting from village surrounds (5 ha) and securely dispose | 2,000,000 |
| Tree planting | 50,000 |
| Village clean up | 50,000 |
| Total | 2,125,000 |

With a tightening of health and safety requirements and the threat of legal action, the

risks posed by the legacy asbestos cannot be ignored.

11.9 Probable order of cost

Probable orders of cost for each work item are summarised in Table 11.9. The estimates were prepared on the following basis:

- New builds will be located on existing land holdings which can be readily serviced;
- Costs for building-related work are derived from industry standard cost information and/or for project costs for similar work in the Murdi Paaki Region;
- Prices are current to September 2020;
- An index appropriate to locality is applied;
- Building costs assume that construction takes place in accordance with MPS procurement practice. Projections may need to be re-evaluated if training or employment schemes are integrated;
- Allowance for project management has been assumed to be generally between 10% and 15% of the construction budget depending upon the nature of the work involved and the degree of investigative work required; and
- Estimates are stated as GST exclusive.

Table 11.9: Probable orders of cost, housing and environmental health infrastructure

| Description | Order of cost (\$) |
|----------------------------------|--------------------|
| Planning and development | 24,000 |
| Land acquisition | 0 |
| Site infrastructure (nominal) | 0 |
| New housing supply | 3,410,400 |
| Replacement housing | 1,374,100 |
| Housing extensions | 0 |
| Housing modifications | 12,000 |
| Repair and maintenance | 696,210 |
| Environmental rehabilitation | 2,125,000 |
| Sub-total | 7,641,700 |
| Unquantified risk allowance (5%) | 380,900 |
| Project management (12.5%) | 952,200 |
| Programme admin (3%) | 228,500 |
| Total | 9,203,300 |

No costs have been assigned to improvement in and extension of human services because these services are already the subject of government programme planning and resource allocation processes. Performance monitoring of government services is a key area of focus under the OCHRE Murdi Paaki LDM Accord II and Accord processes should be brought to bear on areas of underperformance. With consistent themes emerging across the Murdi Paaki Region, many recommendations will have regional application and universal application locally.

11.10 Funding sources

Funding for works and measures proposed by Table 11.1 and Table 11.9 will need to be negotiated through the RAHLA as the principal decision-maker on matters of Aboriginal social housing in the Region. Neither ACHP is in a financial position to contribute to these extraordinary costs from revenue derived from property rents and subsidies. Realising a solution to the sustainability and growth of the Aboriginal social housing sector in Enngonia is dependent to an equitable level of on-going financial support in the form of government grants and subsidies, including those from the AHO. Alternative financial investment models are unlikely to provide a productive pathway to funding of the magnitude envisaged.

11.11 Staging of works

Repair and maintenance work should be programmed to proceed as one integrated contract following scoping. New housing supply and replacement housing will likely be constructed off-site and delivered as transportable units. If this is the case, it would be sensible to contract work as a single package to achieve economies of scale and to allow all housing needs in the community to be satisfied at the one time.

The existence of contaminated land to the east of Clara Hart Village has been known for some time but awareness has not resulted in any action. Treatment by removal or capping should occur at the earliest opportunity to remove the risk to the community. Other proposed improvements are

routine maintenance tasks which can be programmed to suit community activities.

11.12 Tenant support and education

The MP Tenant Support and Education Programme has become an essential and valued support service in the social housing space in all communities across the Region, including Enngonia. This Master Plan acknowledges the contribution of the Murdi Paaki Tenant Support and Education Programme (MP TSEP) to help maintain stability in the Aboriginal social housing sector and act as the link between tenants in need of support and the human services responsible for providing that support.

