



GOODOOGA COMMUNITY WORKING PARTY

HOUSING and ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH PLAN

MAY 2022

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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WORKING PARTY**

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

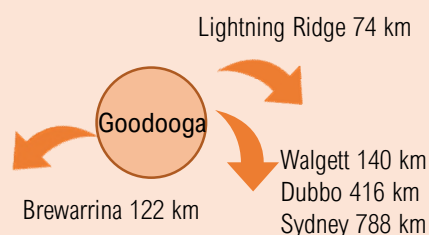


Goodooga

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 Goodooga. 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 Goodooga 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 Goodooga

Where we are to be found?



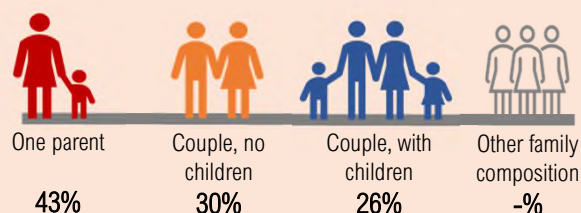
The Goodooga climate is hot and dry. The number of days with temperatures $>35^{\circ}\text{C}$, already 70 days, is predicted to increase by 30-40 days by 2070

About the community:

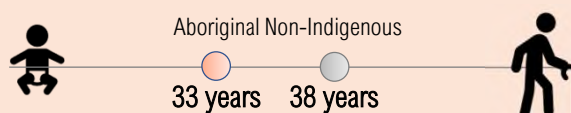


Aboriginal population = 74% of total population of 247 persons

Family household composition



Median age of the population



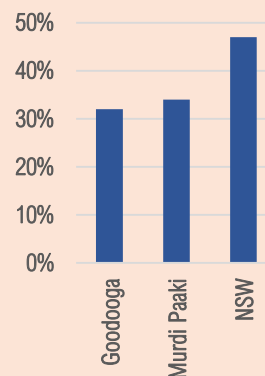
Highest year of schooling, all Aboriginal adults



27% of the Aboriginal population is aged under 15 years



Employment to population ratio



Goodooga

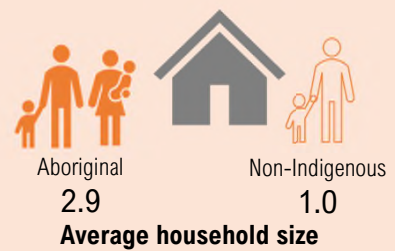
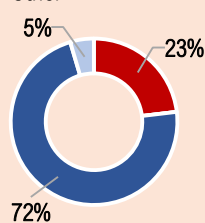
Facts about housing in our community:



On Census night, 5% of private dwellings were not occupied

Tenure type (from Census)

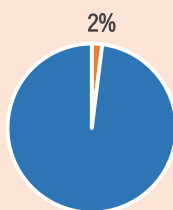
- Owners
- Private renters
- Social housing renters
- Other



Existing Aboriginal social housing

Ownership	Bedrooms				
	1	2	3	4	5
Goodooga LALC	-	-	8	13	-
Bohda Ltd	1	-	21	4	-
MPRHC	-	-	1	-	-
Other	-	-	-	-	-
Total dwellings	1	0	30	17	0

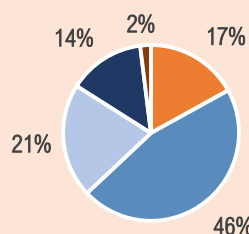
Social housing manager(s)



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

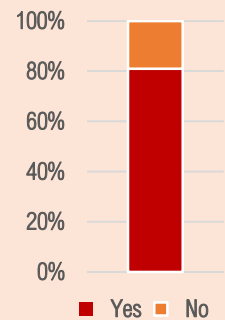
68% of households lived in the same house 5 years before the MRH&BC

Satisfaction with housing manager

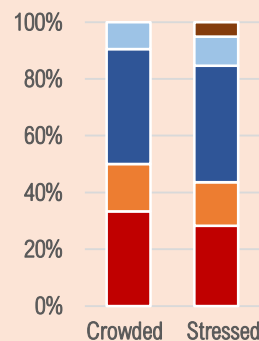


- Very satisfied
- Satisfied
- Neutral
- Dissatisfied
- Very dissatisfied
- Not stated

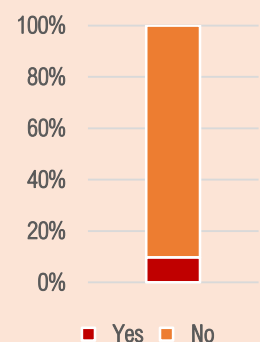
Feeling safe



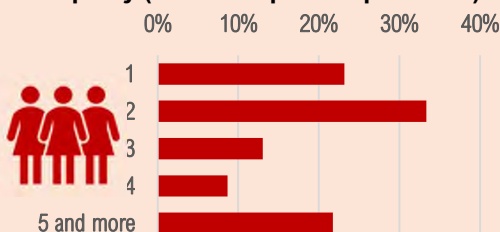
Households feeling



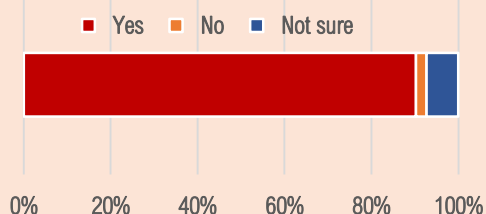
Households giving shelter



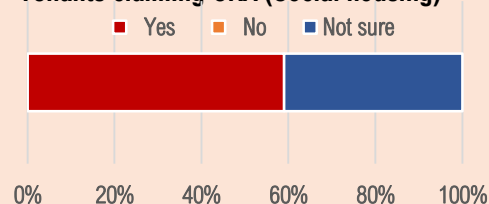
Occupancy (number of persons per house)



Tenants with a tenancy agreement



Tenants claiming CRA (Social housing)



REASONS FOR LIVING IN GOODOOGA

My family has been here a long

59%

To be close to family and relations

56%

Because I was born here

54%

MASTER PLAN - HOUSING



ESTIMATE OF HOUSING NEED

Predicted housing need

	Bedrooms			
	2	3	4	5
Families	1	1	-	-
Older persons	1	-	-	-
Young persons	15	-	-	-
Homeless families	-	-	-	-
Total dwellings	17	1	0	0

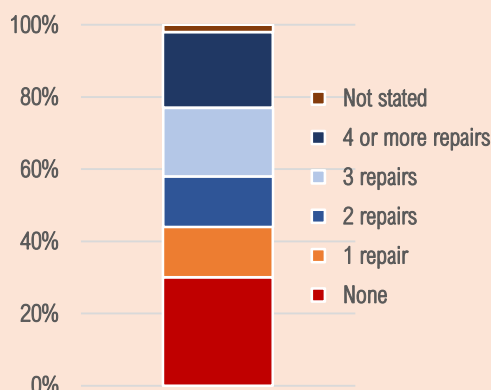
Home modifications

Required	7
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Extra bedrooms

	Bedrooms		
	1	2	3
Estimated	-	-	-

Tenant reported condition



Housing repairs

(Number of properties)

Degree of work	Number
↗	1
↗ ↗	26
↗ ↗ ↗	16
↗ ↗ ↗ ↗	0
↗ ↗ ↗ ↗ ↗	0
Listed for replacement	5

- Following termination of the AHO/Goodooga LALC headlease agreement, transfer management of GLALC and Bohda properties to a NRSCH-registered Regional ACHP in line with community preference
- Foster a more inclusive partnership between the CWP and housing manager(s), which entails regular communication with, and performance reporting to, the CWP on matters relating to housing management, including actions taken to maintain and upgrade asset condition
- 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 accessible dwellings purpose-built for the elderly, frail and disabled to allow them to live independently in their homes
- 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
- Carry out independent property inspections, arrange adequate funding, and carry out repairs, upgrades and extensions using only values-aligned contractors with the capacity to carry out work professionally to a high standard
- Train and employ a local Aboriginal worker as a licensed handyman to maintain property condition by carrying out basic repairs and organising specialist trades for more major work
- Ensure that all homes are equipped with energy efficient air conditioning with sufficient capacity to deal with rising temperatures and with residential 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 housed

Goodooga

MASTER PLAN - INFRASTRUCTURE



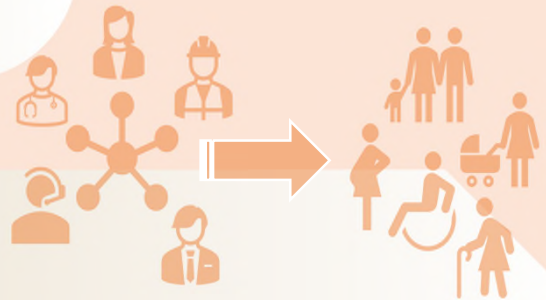
Advocate with Brewarrina Shire Council and other responsible agencies for:

- Introduction of a reticulated raw water supply to be the foundation of a community-wide streetscape beautification initiative, dust mitigation strategy and creation of a community garden
- Upgrading of facilities and amenities to public and cultural spaces and to recreational areas to make them more functional and useable
- Improved footpaths, kerb and guttering and efficient street lighting to all parts of the village which complies with the relevant Australian Standard
- A regular bulky waste collection service community-

Advocate with Goodooga LALC for a safe pick up point at Goodooga Reserve for the school bus

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 Goodooga. 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 jointly with the Housing and Environmental Health Plan in an effort to achieve a fully integrated and coordinated community development framework with a firm focus on the wellbeing of all Goodooga residents
- 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
- Advocate through MPRA for a comprehensive review of Aboriginal alcohol and other drug residential and counselling services across western NSW with a view to developing a strategy and the infrastructure to address the unmet need
- Advocate through MPRA for a guarantee from NSW Health that the Goodooga Health Service will continue to be resourced to provide acute care and general medicine
- Support Goodooga Preschool to take a leadership role in early childhood learning so that our young children can get the best possible start in life
- Work with the NSW Department of Education and Goodooga Central School to raise the level of personal development and educational attainment of school age students
- Negotiate a package of initiatives around the NSW Government Regional NSW Youth Framework: *Empowering youth in regional NSW* relating to jobs and pathways to employment, physical and mental health, digital and physical connection, and things to do and places to go
- In conjunction with MPS, create a package of initiatives relating to providing essential services to the village through developing the skills and employment opportunities for local people

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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
ALT	Aboriginal Lands Trust
APB	Aborigines Protection Board
ATSIC	Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Commission
AWB	Aborigines Welfare Board
CAP	Community Action Plan
CNOS	Canadian National Occupancy Standard
COPD	Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease
CRA	Commonwealth Rent Assistance
CSP	Community Strategic Plan
CWP	Community Working Party
DCJ	NSW Department of Communities and Justice
DPIE	NSW Department of Planning, Industry and Environment
ERP	Estimated Resident Population
GLALC	Goodooga Local Aboriginal Land Council
HCP	Home Care Package
HEHP	Housing and Environmental Health Plan
HLP	Healthy Living Practices
IBA	Indigenous Business Australia
IFD	Intensity Frequency Duration
ILOC	Indigenous Location
ILSC	Indigenous Land and Sea Corporation
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
MPRA	Murdi Paaki Regional Assembly
MPRH&BC	Murdi Paaki Regional Housing and Business Consortium
MPRHC	Murdi Paaki Regional Housing Corporation
MPS	Murdi Paaki Services Limited
MP TSEP	Murdi Paaki Tenant Support and Education Programme
NAHS	National Aboriginal Health Strategy
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)

OOHC	Out of Home Care
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
WAMS	Walgett Aboriginal Medical Service

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

This Housing and Environmental Health Plan was prepared by the Goodooga Community Working Party with the help of Murdi Paaki Services Ltd. The Goodooga 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.

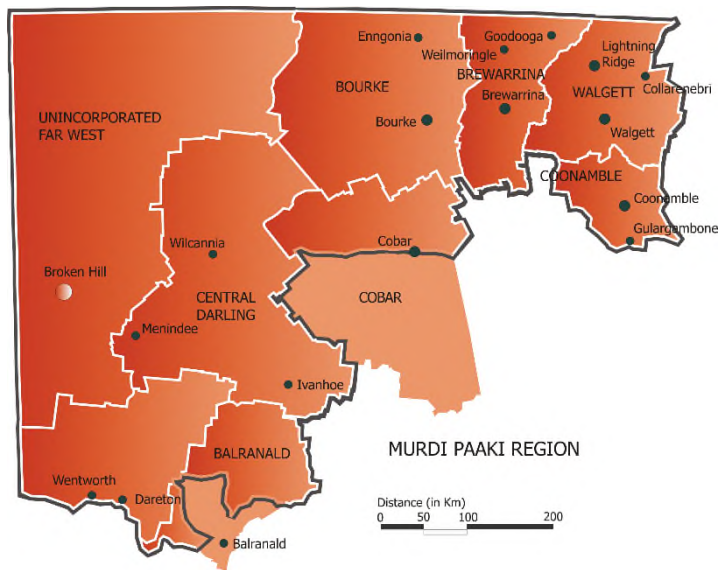
For the purposes of this Plan, an Aboriginal person is a person of Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander descent who identifies as an Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander (person) and is accepted as such by the community in which he or she lives.

1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Purpose of the plan

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

Figure 1.1: Murdi Paaki Region



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 Goodooga;
- 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;

- 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 Goodooga.

The Plan describes the aspirations of Aboriginal people living in Goodooga 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 Goodooga, and particularly existing and prospective tenant households, will benefit directly through having the foundation of a more strategic, informed and innovative approach to resourcing and managing the Aboriginal social housing sector in the community.

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 Goodooga 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 Goodooga 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, providing the opportunity for MPRA to assess communities' strengths and needs both as individual communities and comparatively, in relation to each other. The Plans acknowledge the reality of the experiences of Aboriginal people living in far 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.

Put together, it is hoped the HEHPs will:

- Reinststate 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 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 assets 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 Information sources

This chapter has been largely drawn from work completed by Burns Aldis in their Housing and Environmental Health Plan for the Goodooga Working Party in January 1998. Further insights have been obtained from the Brewarrina Shire *Community-based Heritage Study*, prepared by Elaine Thompson and Dr Laila Haglund (2008) and the *Community-based Aboriginal Heritage Study* prepared by Dr Laila Haglund (2012); Stephanie Smith's chapter 'The Tin Camps: Self-constructed Housing on the Goodooga Reserve, New South Wales', 1970-96, in Peter Read's *Settlement: A History of Australian Indigenous Housing (2000)*; and *Shared landscapes: archaeologies of attachment and the pastoral industry in NSW*, by Rodney Harrison (2004). Information about Murrawari societal structures, traditional practice and cultural continuity is documented in *The Two Worlds of Jimmie Barker* (1988).

2.2 Snapshot

The land on which Goodooga is situated traditionally belongs to the Yuwaalaraay/Euahlayi/Yuwaaliyaay people (referred to as Yuwaalaraay in this chapter for simplicity). Many of the residents are of Yuwaalaraay descent; others identify as Murrawari and are descended from people who lived at the Dennawan Reserve in the period up to the 1940s and migrated to Goodooga. The town itself was established in its current location as 'Bokhara' in about 1880, having been formerly located on the western side of the Birrie River. By 1870, the original village incorporated an hotel, store and police station; following the move, a school was opened in 1882, and the village gazetted in 1885. It was not until 1938 that the change of name from Bokhara to Goodooga was gazetted. The first 'Reserve for Use of Aborigines' was gazetted in 1897 but this was not in the same location as the current Goodooga Reserve.

Aboriginal people have lived in Goodooga continuously for tens of thousands of years prior to establishment of the village and, since European

colonisation, Aboriginal ties to place and Country have continued uninterrupted.

2.3 Aboriginal ownership

Goodooga is located within the country belonging to the Yuwaalaraay people (also variously spelled Yuwaaliyaay, Euahlayi, Ualaroi, Wollaroi, with some differences in spelling denoting different dialect groups). There are three discrete settlements or former reserves associated directly with the village of Goodooga itself, as well as three smaller blocks, two of which contain cemeteries. Residents also maintain a strong association with the historical Angledool Aboriginal Station, located 42 km east as the crow flies, and with the Dennawan Aboriginal Reserve, 40 km to the west. According to the mapping of anthropologist Normal Tindale, Yuwaalaraay country is situated on the 'Narran River from Narran Lake (Terewah) to Angledool; southeast to near Walgett; on Birrie and Bokhara rivers, southwest to Brewarrina; their western boundary fell between the Culgoa and Birrie rivers.' This places Goodooga towards the northern boundary of Yuwaalaraay country. As with other language groups, the country of Yuwaalaraay is profoundly storied, with creation accounts describing the way in which significant landscape features such as Narran Lake were created by Baiame and other ancestral beings.

Evidence of pre-contact Aboriginal society indicates that different language groups lived in different ways; either moving through their own country on a path which took them to certain places at particular times, or as fairly settled communities who practised a form of agriculture. Country was divided in such a way that boundaries and localities could be readily identified by the practice of naming of landscape features. Aboriginal language groups had very complex kinship systems which controlled the way people were able to marry, and shaped formal relationships between family members and others.

The 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 and, in doing so, produced some of the earliest European accounts of Aboriginal culture and connections to country. As the pastoral industry expanded, the Aboriginal economy changed as a consequence of increasing difficulty in maintaining traditional practices, including land management activity. Aboriginal people were employed in pastoral or domestic servitude living in camps on grazing properties so had access to traditional country; an arrangement which had benefits both to traditional owners, who could continue to fulfil cultural obligations, and to pastoralists, who had access to essential labour. Descriptions of the traditional life-world of Yuwaalaraay were recorded by European professional and amateur anthropologists they encountered: AW Howitt, for example, and more particularly, Katie Langloh-Parker who lived at Bangate Station and published detailed accounts of Yuwaalaraay culture and the oral tradition of dreaming stories. It is certain, though, that by the time these accounts were written, the colonisation of Yuwaalaraay country, and the sedentarising impact that it had, would already have wrought change in the relationship between people and country.

Aboriginal property rights first received government recognition in the 1840s and, in 1850, the colonial government authorised creation of thirty-five small reserves across NSW. One was located north of Brewarrina on the boundary between Murrawari and Yuwaalaraay country, but precise locations are not known. Aboriginal people continued to defend their land but the settler response was brutal: the Yuwaalaraay and their neighbours were victims of at least three massacres in the region: at Angledool; on Currawillinghi Station and at Hospital Creek, where, in 1860, about 400 people were shot by stockmen on the Quantambone Plain north of Brewarrina.

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 particularly of subsequent amendments, 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 robbed 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.

The first Aboriginal reserve at Goodooga was gazetted on 19th June 1897 (R. 26133). This parcel of land, Portion 23 Parish of Cowga County of Narran identified at Figure 2.1, was located between 2 km and 3 km north of the town on the eastern side of the Bokhara River, and had an area of 240 acres (97 ha). No records exist as to whether Aboriginal people camped there. On 1st September 1909, that reserve was revoked, and a new reserve gazetted (R. 44303 and R. 44304). The revocation of the original reserve states explicitly that the new reserve was declared 'in lieu of' the original. The new reserve, Portion 7 Parish of Cowga, County of Narran shown in Figure 2.2, had an area of 80 acres (32 hectares), had been excised from an area gazetted as Temporary Common in 1892 (R. 16047 and R. 16048), and was located between the Bokhara and Birrie Rivers about 2 km north-west of the town. References to Aboriginal camping on a reserve in the 1930s and early 1940s would almost certainly relate to this site, and it is also this reserve to which the Aborigines Protection Board (APB) attempted to bring the population of the Weilmoringle pastoral camp in 1941 before their plans were foiled by community action. Portion 86, one of the three small parcels of land owned by Goodooga Local Aboriginal Land Council in the area surrounding the present reserve, is likely to have been the cemetery for this reserve; it is located at the north-eastern extremity of the site. This second reserve was, in turn, revoked on 26th January 1945, and a third reserve, the current Goodooga Reserve (Portion 76), gazetted (R. 71410 and R. 71411) as shown in Figure 2.3. The small number of 'mission huts' provided by the AWP on Portion 7 were demolished, and the materials sold. The area of this third reserve was 42 acres 2 roods (17 ha). The other two small parcels of land (Portions 84 and 85) are most likely related to this third reserve

– it has not been possible to find any records of these three small portions in the NSW Government Gazette.

a post office, police station, store and hotel in the early years of the 20th century. Aboriginal people camped alongside a small lagoon. In 1912, as a result of representations to the APB by local non-

Figure 2.1: First Aboriginal reserve at Goodooga, 1897 (R. 26133)

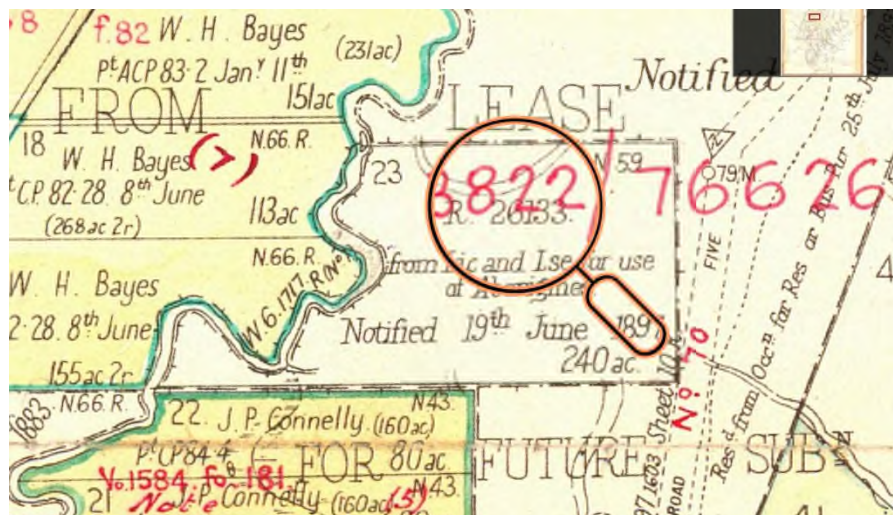
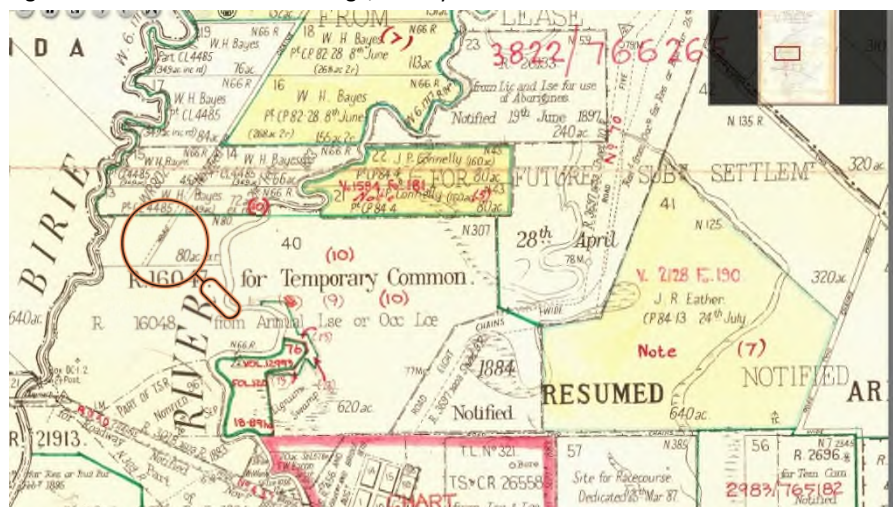


Figure 2.2: Portion 7 Parish of Cowga, County of Narran



Source: NSW Land Registry Service Parish and Historical Maps

Aboriginal people associated with Goodooga also lived at another reserve: Dennawan, now part of the Culgoa National Park and located adjacent to the Culgoa River, is part of the traditional country of Gandugari sub-group of the Murrawari language group. From the 1880s, Dennawan was part of Toulby; Aboriginal people were an important source of labour on Toulby, and camped on the Tatala block at Dennawan. Dennawan was located on a Travelling Stock Route and was provided with

Station. The camp broke up; residents moved to Goodooga and other towns. The reserve was revoked in 1969. Dennawan is still an important place to some people living at Goodooga and Weilmoringle.

During the protection period, many Yuwaalaraay and Murrawari people were employed on local stations in a variety of capacities ranging from station hands and stockmen to cooks and

Aboriginal people keen to have Aboriginal people able to be confined by police to a specified parcel of land, a 30 acre reserve was surveyed, and then gazetted in September 1913. This reserve was located close to the store, police station and hotel. APB Annual Reports incorporate the Dennawan population as part of the Goodooga count, suggesting a close connection between the two communities. The Dennawan Reserve was never a managed station; missionary workers from the Aborigines Inland Mission taught the children and conducted church services. By about 1940, Dennawan was in decline; the store had closed, and the APB policy of concentrating Aboriginal people at large managed stations had come to constitute a threat to Aboriginal people living at Dennawan owing to the risk of being transported to Brewarrina Aboriginal

domestics. Because of their independence, they were initially insulated to some extent from the excesses of the APB. An area at New Angledool was excised from a pastoral property in 1906 and reserved 'for use by Aborigines' with the intention for providing for the education of Aboriginal children in response to their formal exclusion from the public education system. The reserve effectively functioned as the Angledool pastoral property camp until, in 1912, the area was formalised as the Angledool Aboriginal Station, a managed reserve under the control of an APB manager.

children. In the period from 1912 to 1921 alone, 27 Aboriginal children were stolen from their families at the Angledool Government Station to become wards of the APB. During the 1920s, exclusion of Aboriginal children from schools in Walgett and other communities, and unease about the APB's own ability to control Aboriginal families living in pastoral and town camps, led the APB to transfer children from those communities to dormitories at Angledool, and their parents naturally followed.

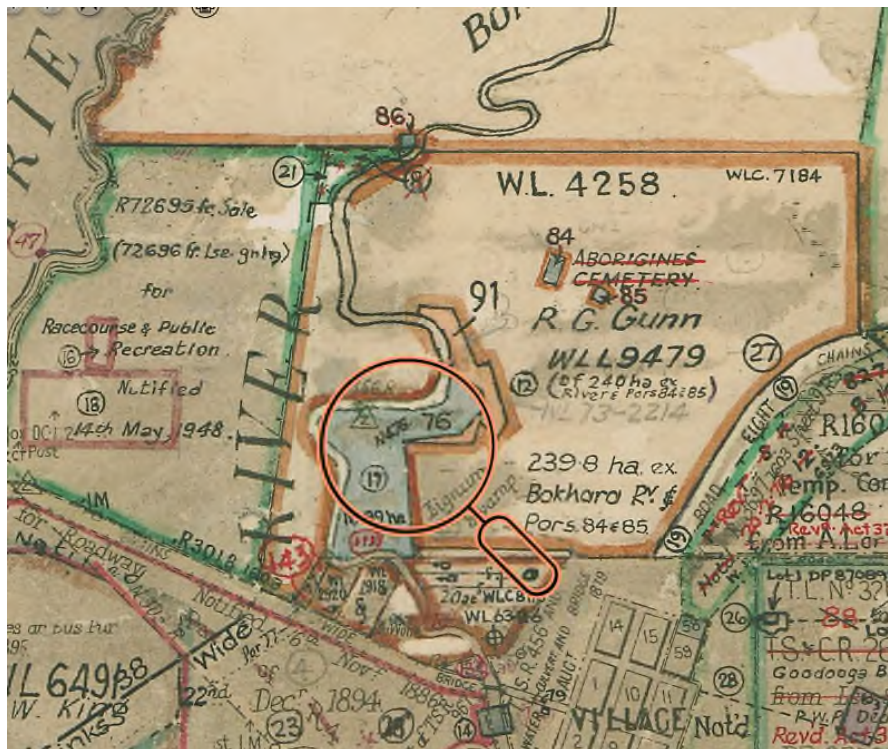
Yuwaalaraay people, together with their

Gamilaraay/Gomerioi and Murrawari neighbours, continued to live at Angledool until the 1930s, when the Aborigines Protection Board began to implement a policy of concentration. This policy involved the creation of a few large Government stations such as those at Brewarrina and Menindee, and the selling-off of smaller, more scattered reserves which were located, generally, on the traditional country of the language groups who lived there. The residents of the smaller stations were forcibly removed to the larger reserves by means of trains and cattle trucks.

In May 1936, over 100

people resident at Angledool Mission were forcibly removed by semi-trailer to Brewarrina Mission, situated on country belonging to the Ngemba people. They had no choice in the matter, and their houses were burned to stop the people from moving home. The APB's justification for removing the population was that it could treat eye disease, rife in the Angledool population, and improve housing conditions more efficiently at Brewarrina. This whole process was extremely traumatic, and

Figure 2.3: Third reserve and current Goodooga Reserve, Portion 76



Source: NSW Land Registry Service Parish and Historical Maps

Amendments to the Aborigines Protection Act in 1909, which came into force in 1910, put in place the legislative basis for draconian control of Aboriginal individuals and families. The Aboriginal population of the Angledool Station in 1912 was 109, of whom 52 were receiving rations; in 1915 the population was 53, with 48 receiving rations. Numerous people had returned to station camps and pastoral employment, and were thus self-supporting. From 1915, further amendments to the Act provided for the wholesale removal of

caused great sorrow, illness and death among the Yuwaalaraay people. As recently as the first years of this century, people who had been children at the time vividly recalled having been forced at gunpoint to leave their home. Heartrending accounts exist of Granny Ellen, the Angledool matriarch, having just arrived and having gathered with her people around fire buckets, rise and begin dancing and singing in Yuwaalaraay to mark their arrival and comfort her people.

Following the removal to Brewarrina, some Angledool people left the Brewarrina Government Station to move home to Angledool, where employment conditions had improved; others moved to Goodooga, Collarenebri, Walgett and Lightning Ridge, where their descendants continue to live. There are still strong linkages between Goodooga and Weilmoringle, and Goodooga and Brewarrina, due in large part to the close relations forged during the time of the APB and the Aborigines Welfare Board (AWB).

2.4 Aboriginal people and the town of Goodooga

Aboriginal people continued to live in Goodooga itself, and on the Goodooga Reserve. Some of the traditional Yuwaalaraay owners of the Goodooga area married spouses from other language groups such as the Murrawari and Gamilaraay people over the century and a half since the European colonists arrived, but generally, Goodooga represents a community of Yuwaalaraay people living on their own country.

In the town area, a series of small reserves over town blocks was gazetted during 1966 and 1967, and these blocks were used by the AWB to provide small houses of timber construction. The reserves were revoked in 1974, at which point the properties passed to the Aboriginal Lands Trust (ALT), together with the Reserve and the three small portions around it. Following the proclamation of the NSW Aboriginal Land Rights Act in 1984, and the subsequent creation of Goodooga Local Aboriginal Land Council (LALC), these properties all passed to the Goodooga LALC.

The Goodooga Reserve was available for Aboriginal people to build shelters from the time of its gazettal in 1945 onwards; its heritage as a site of self-built housing is better recorded than in most localities following the work of architect Stephanie Smith, who noted that it was known locally as the 'tin camp'. No formal housing or infrastructure was provided for over four decades, until the first round of the Tripartite Programme between 1992 and 1995. The land was augmented through a successful land claim over the adjoining Portion 91 by the Goodooga LALC in 1996.

During the 1970s and 1980s, after the repeal of the Aborigines Protection Act, positive change was felt in Goodooga, as elsewhere in the Region. The focus turned to the development of Aboriginal community-controlled organisations to meet the needs of the community. Bohda Ltd was registered in 1974 (originally as Muriwari Ltd), and became a provider of Aboriginal social housing in Goodooga. The creation of the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Commission (ATSIC) in 1990 saw a new focus on self-determination. Goodooga elected representatives first to the ATSIC Wangkumara Regional Council and the, following the amalgamation of ATSIC regions, to the Murdi Paaki Regional Council. Funding was made available for various community projects, including the construction of a new general store for Goodooga LALC and minor programmes of housing repairs and maintenance. Further Aboriginal organisations were registered: Pulkurru Aboriginal Corporation, in 1990, and then Bohda Pastoral Aboriginal Corporation in 1996. A primary function of Pulkurru was to auspice the Community Development Employment Project in Goodooga; the role of Bohda Pastoral Aboriginal Corporation was to manage Bohda Station, later augmented by Bangate and Willoring. With the destruction of ATSIC in 2005, arrangements for provision of CDEP came to an end; Pulkurru was deregistered in 2009. Bohda Ltd survived until 2021; Bohda Pastoral Aboriginal Corporation continues to manage the rural properties located on traditional Yuwaalaraay land.

Community members were to benefit from the purchase of the Mogila and Currawillinghi pastoral properties by the Indigenous Land and Sea Corporation (ILSC) in 1997-99. Both properties

were established commercial merino wool growing operations. Mogila was granted to the registered proprietors, Ngurampaa Ltd, in 1998, the organisation having been created by ILSC as a not-for-profit organisation to ultimately own and manage the properties on behalf of the community. The ILSC had incorporated Mogila Merino Stud Pty Ltd in 1997 as a subsidiary and lessee to manage day-to-day operational aspects at Mogila Station, including buying plant, equipment and livestock but the organisation was deregistered in 2004 and responsibilities divested. Currawillinghi Station was granted to Ngurampaa Ltd in 2000. Subsequent to the purchases, the parties fell into disagreement and Ngurampaa Ltd was placed into liquidation in 2015 and de-registered in 2020.

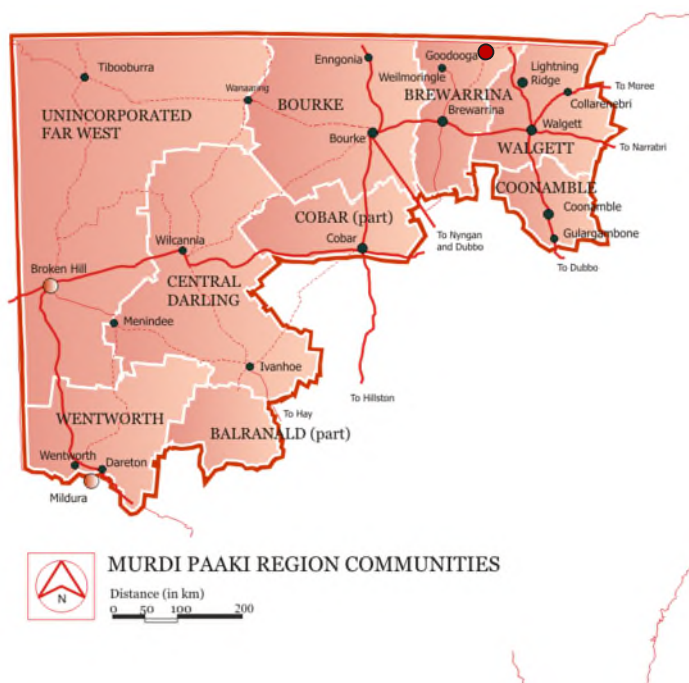
In 1998, Goodooga was granted funding under the Commonwealth Government's National Aboriginal Health Strategy programme (NAHS). This project, later supplemented by the NSW Government's Aboriginal Communities Development Programme, was the catalyst for establishment of the Goodooga CWP Community Working Party (CWP), created to govern the roll-out of NAHS and the other development projects. Preparation of the first Goodooga Housing and Environmental Health Plan followed; a multi-million programme of works flowed from the HEHP, supplemented by a training and employment strategy. Housing repairs and maintenance, infrastructure delivery and new housing construction continued into the 2000s. The Goodooga CWP emerged from these capital works projects with a well-developed governance capacity.

3 GEOGRAPHY

3.1 Location

Goodooga is located in north-western New South Wales on the eastern bank of the Bokhara River close to the Queensland border. The nearest district centre is Lightning Ridge and regional centre Moree. The location of Goodooga is shown in Figure 3.1. The village is part of Brewarrina Shire.

Figure 3.1: Locality



3.2 Access

Goodooga is connected by road to Brewarrina 122 km to the south and to Lightning Ridge 74 km to the south-east. Hebel and Weilmoringle are accessible by back road. The capital cities of Sydney and Brisbane are 788 km and 739 km distant respectively. Of the principal routes, only the road to Lightning Ridge is fully sealed, the road to Brewarrina is partly sealed. All other routes are currently unsealed. All roads are subject to flooding and can be cut, isolating the town.

Brewarrina Shire Council has major challenges maintaining all secondary roads and the running surface can be very rough.

Goodooga Airport (YGDA) is a CASA-registered airfield with a single 1,076 m long runway, but there are no scheduled services nor facilities.

The sole public transport service is provided is a daily Trainlink rail service from Sydney to Dubbo, with coach service onward to Lightning Ridge, then on-demand taxi or other road transport to Goodooga. Total travel time is about 13 hours.

3.3 Natural environment

The country around Goodooga has little topographic relief: the landscape is flat with river channels, streams, and floodplains the primary features. Falls in ground level occur generally in a westerly direction towards the Bokhara River which runs approximately 400 m to the west of the town, but overall grades are shallow. Elevation in the centre of town is approximately 140 m above sea level.

Goodooga is located centrally in the Darling Riverine Plains bioregion, which stretches north to St George in Queensland and east to Boggabilla. Soils are typically of heavy, highly reactive, dark grey alluvial clay deposits which crack extensively. Goodooga town sits on less reactive red brown silty sands while Goodooga Reserve is located on highly reactive soil in a former channel as shown in Figure 3.2.

The occurrence and types of native vegetation communities are influenced by past sedimentation and later flooding regimes. Remnants of the original vegetation community around Goodooga are characterised as coolibah, river cooba and lignum woodlands with shrubby thickets on grey cracking clay floodplains, transitioning to gidgee and black box woodlands on minor rises with sandy brown or red, red brown or light brown clay soils and grey cracking clay soils. Mitchell grass is dominant on clay floodplains with some saltbush.

Habitat loss through clearing for agriculture 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 range of amphibians and reptiles, water birds, parrots, birds of prey, kangaroo and wallaby species, bats and a few species of small ground-dwelling mammals in the vicinity of Goodooga.

Figure 3.2: Goodooga landforms aerial image



Map data: Google, Image © 2021, Maxar Technologies

3.4 Climate

Goodooga's climate may be described as hot, persistently dry, semi-arid.

The Goodooga Post Office (048046) weather station commenced collecting rainfall data in 1891 and continued to do so until 2016 when the station closed. A more comprehensive set of recordings were taken but only for the period 1969 to 1982. The only dataset available for this HEHP is the set of records for the Lightning Ridge Visitor Information Centre (048243) which only commenced recording in 1997. All other stations are at least 100 km away.

Temperature-related information is shown in Figure 3.3 to Figure 3.5. Mean monthly temperatures range from a low of 5°C to a high of 36°C with the highest temperature recorded being 48.5°C. Figure 3.4 indicates that temperatures above 30°C are recorded for a mean of 150 days each year and above 35°C for 70 days each year.

Figure 3.5 investigates the trend in highest monthly temperature over the relatively short period of record. 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 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 Goodooga 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.

Mean annual rainfall calculated from 23 years of records at the Lightning Ridge Visitor Information Centre between 1997 and 2021 is 450 mm. Highest rainfall occurs during the summer months. Monthly rainfall distribution and average monthly pan evaporation are shown in

Figure 3.6. Average monthly pan evaporation estimated from Bureau of Meteorology mapping is well in excess of the mean monthly rainfall throughout the year.

Change in relative humidity over the year is shown in Figure 3.7. Mean humidity is typically above 55% in the morning, above 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 north-east in summer and autumn, changing to light southerlies

and south-westerlies in the winter. Mean morning and afternoon wind speeds are shown in Figure 3.8. Maximum wind gust speed is not recorded.

Figure 3.3: Temperatures

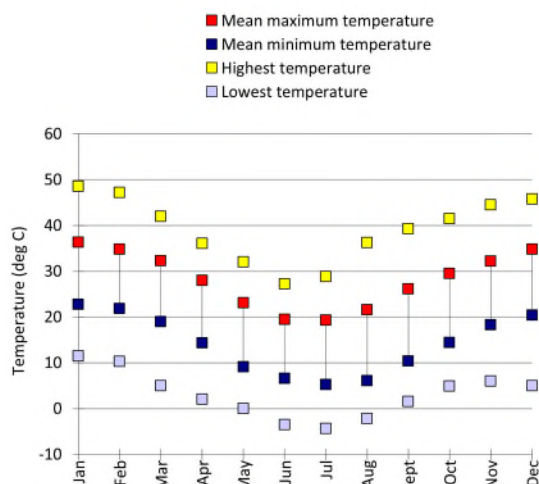


Figure 3.4: Days with extreme temperatures

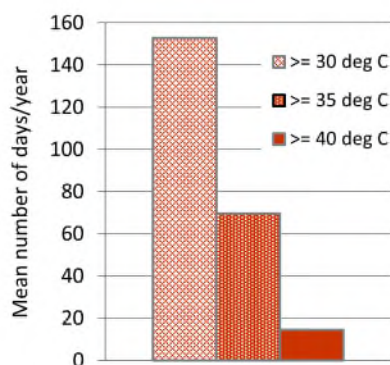


Figure 3.5: Trend in highest monthly temperature

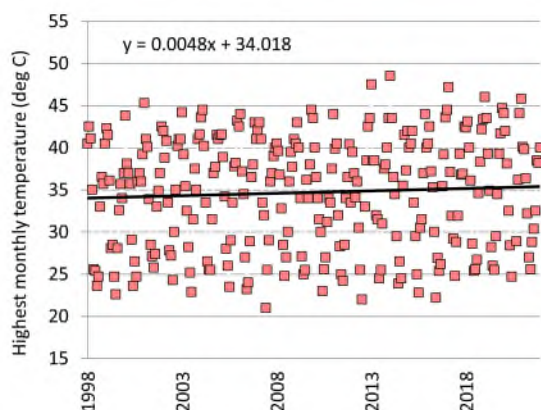


Figure 3.6: Rainfall and monthly pan evaporation

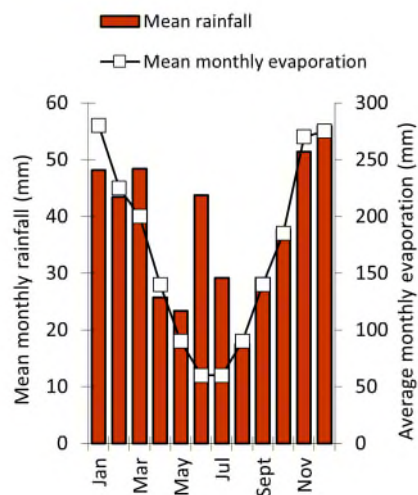


Figure 3.7: Relative humidity

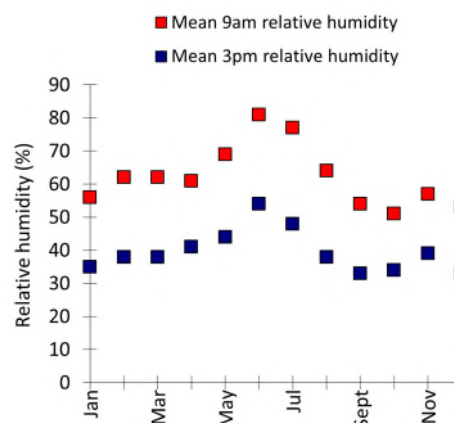


Figure 3.8: Wind speeds

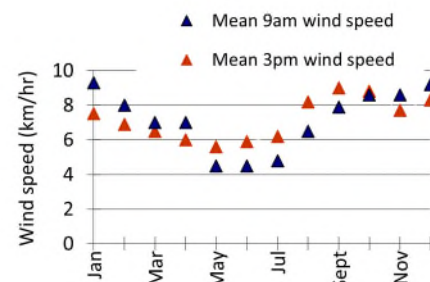
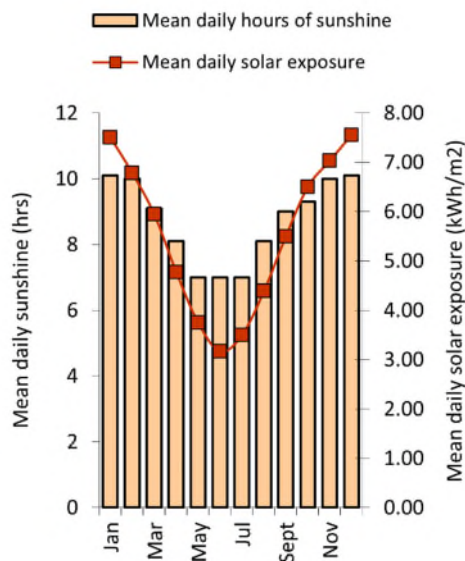


Figure 3.9: Sunshine and solar exposure



Mean daily hours of sunshine and solar exposure is given by Figure 3.9. Solar energy available to residential solar PV installations varies from a low 3.2 kWh/m² in winter to a high of 7.6 kWh/m² at the height of summer.

3.5 Flooding and drainage

Goodooga is positioned between the eastern bank of the Bokhara River and the western bank of the Birrie River which branches from the Bokhara River to the north-east of the town. The river is usually close to being dry but floodwaters reaching a height of 2.7 m are sufficient to surround the town. Flood classifications are given by Table 3.1.

Table 3.1: Flood heights (Bokhara River)

Station	Station ref	Flood classification		
		Minor	Moderate	Major
Goodooga	422014	2.7	3.4	4.2
Goodwins	422005	2.0	2.6	3.5

The floods of record occurred in April 1890 when the Bokhara River reached a peak height of 5.18 m

at the Goodooga gauge and 4.79 m in February 1976. During the 1974 flood, the Bokhara River peaked at 3.96 m requiring most of the town to be evacuated. Goodooga Reserve is highly vulnerable during flood events and occupants are usually evacuated to higher ground in the town.

Larger flooding events can cause Goodooga to be isolated for significant periods of time as the road network is cut. Isolation arises when One Mile Creek to the east floods and other roads, being unsealed, become untrafficable. Access to the airstrip is severed by floodwaters so resupply of essential foodstuffs, fuels, urgent medical supplies and stores is by air using rotary wing aircraft.

Table 3.2 details the highest daily rainfall recorded at Goodooga Post Office and the year of occurrence for each month.

Table 3.2 Highest daily rainfall totals (mm) (048046)

Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun
207.1	177.8	79.5	126.8	83.1	67
1974	1976	1939	1990	1953	1988
Jul	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec
70.6	52.6	62.2	73.7	79	95.2
1920	1939	1964	1955	1984	2003

Rainfall intensity-frequency-duration (IFD) values for Goodooga are shown at Table 3.3.

Table 3.3: Rainfall IFD (29.1125 S, 147.4625 E)

IFD Design Rainfall Depth (mm)				
Duration	Annual Exceedance Probability (AEP)			
	10%	5%	2%	1%
1 min	4.14	4.93	5.99	6.83
2 min	7.33	8.8	10.6	11.9
3 min	10.1	12.1	14.5	16.3
4 min	12.5	14.9	17.9	20.3
5 min	14.6	17.4	21.0	23.8
10 min	22.6	26.8	32.7	37.3
20 min	32.3	38.3	46.8	53.6
30 min	38.2	45.5	55.6	63.6
1 hour	48.2	57.7	70.3	80.3
2 hours	57.7	69	84	95.8
6 hours	72.6	86.2	106	121

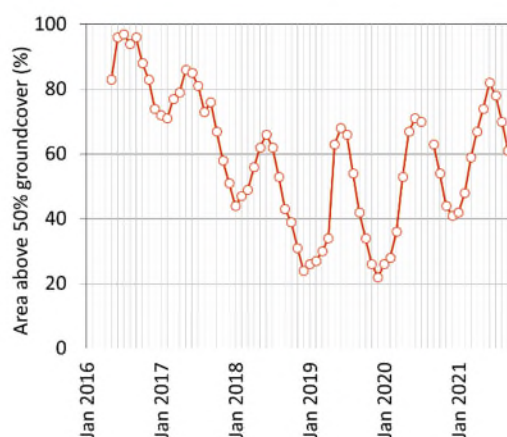
Table 3.3: Rainfall IFD (29.1125 S, 147.4625 E)

IFD Design Rainfall Depth (mm)				
Duration	Annual Exceedance Probability (AEP)			
	10%	5%	2%	1%
12 hours	84	99.6	123	142
18 hours	92.2	110	135	157
24 hours	98.8	118	146	169
48 hours	117	142	177	205
72 hours	129	157	196	227
96 hours	137	167	207	240
120 hours	142	173	214	248

3.6 Dust

The NSW Office of Environment and Heritage collects data related to dust, including the hours of dust haze and storms and percentage of ground cover, through its Rural Air Quality network Dust Watch programme in the Western Natural Resource Management (NRM) Region. Data from this programme for seasonal variation in ground cover are shown at Figure 3.10.

Figure 3.10: Seasonal variation in the land area with groundcover exceeding 50%, Western NRM, to Sept 2021



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. 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 nearest DustWatch monitors are located at Bourke and Walgett, too far away to be representative of conditions in Goodooga, so no description of exposure to dust haze and storms is attempted.

3.7 Native title

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

3.8 Sites of cultural significance

Two Aboriginal cemeteries on the outskirts of Goodooga adjacent to the old 'Tin Camp' Reserve are sites of significant importance to the Goodooga community. A preliminary search of the Heritage NSW Aboriginal Heritage Management Information System (AHIMS) for other sites of cultural significance within the rectangle formed by latitude and longitude -29.1322, 147.4246 and -29.0962, 147.4817 indicated the existence of several Aboriginal sites of significance close to the town. 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 their existence.

3.9 Economic geography

Goodooga is a small village with only one hotel and post office, and recently a new store. The town has seen an increase in numbers of tourist visitors due to the construction of the new Goodooga Artesian Springs bore bath and campground, the reopening of the hotel and promotion of the remote Culgoa National Park.

Pastoral activity is predominantly sheep and wool production but in good seasons cattle can be fattened. Cropping is wheat and cotton. Prosperity is heavily dependent upon rainfall and the health of the river system, so recent years of drought have been accompanied by depressed economic conditions.

Table 3.4: SEIFA Index of disadvantage, IRSD, 2016

SEIFA Index – Goodooga SSC	723
Rank in NSW	4113 th of 4122
SEIFA Index – Brewarrina LGA	757
Rank in NSW	130 th of 130
Murdi Paaki Region:	
Highest (Cobar)	968
Lowest (Brewarrina)	757

economic Disadvantage (IRSD) ranking. The IRSD for the Goodooga SSC is lower than the LGA as a whole, placing it very close to being the lowest ranked statistical area in NSW.

It is well established that the Murdi Paaki Region suffers the highest level of socio-economic disadvantage in NSW. As indicated in Table 3.4, Brewarrina Local Government Area (LGA) is the lowest in NSW in the Index of Relative Socio-



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 Table Builder. Data are generally for the Goodooga State Suburb (SSC). The SSC geography has been selected because it includes Goodooga Reserve, but it also covers a large area of rural residue, so the non-Indigenous population fraction is artificially inflated. For some variables the Goodooga Locality (L) (village area) and Brewarrina LGA data is used.

Table 4.1: Total population, Goodooga (SSC)

persons	247
---------	------------

Source: ABS 2016 Census

Table 4.2: Aboriginal population %, Goodooga (SSC)

n=183	
Aboriginal population %	74%
Murdi Paaki Region	23%
New South Wales	3%

Source: ABS 2016 Census

Populations for the village excluding Goodooga Reserve drawn from the ABS 2001 to 2016 censuses are shown by Figure 4.1.

Where possible, the Murdi Paaki Region comparison geography used in this Plan is the aggregated 154 SA1s (ABS Statistical Area Level 1) that approximate the Region. For variables where SA1 level data are not published, either the 8 LGAs approximating the Murdi Paaki Region or the North-West NSW Indigenous Region (N-W NSW IREG) has been adopted.

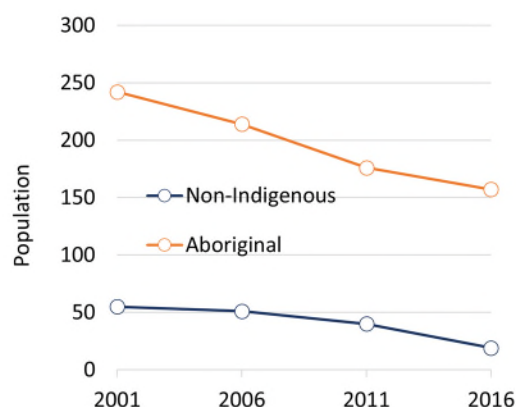
The most accurate count of the population is the Estimated Resident Population (ERP); however, the finest scale at which this is available is by local government area. At the 2016 ABS Census, based

on comparison with the ERP, the Aboriginal population of the Brewarrina Shire was undercounted by 15%, and the non-Indigenous was *over counted* by 3%. Notional populations based on the ERPs for the area of interest are given by Table 4.3.

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

Aboriginal	213
Non-Indigenous	64
Aboriginal population as percentage of total population	77%

Figure 4.1: Population change, 2001 to 2016, Goodooga (L)



Data for Goodooga indicate that the ABS has not imputed any population to unoccupied premises as there was a census form received from each dwelling that was thought to be occupied on census night.

KEY FINDINGS

- According to the ABS 2016 Census, the Aboriginal population of Goodooga on census night was 183 persons or 74% of the total population. Based on the ERPs, the Aboriginal population at the time was closer to 213 persons or 77% of the total population;
- Of all those counted in Goodooga on the night of the census, 13 people (all non-Indigenous) were in a non-private dwelling (motel);
- Since 2001, the Aboriginal population in the village area has decreased by 2.9% on average

each year and the non-Indigenous population by 7%;

- The median age of the Aboriginal population, at 33 years, is lower than that of the non-Indigenous local population, but higher than for the Murdi Paaki Region and NSW on average;
- The Aboriginal population aged under 15 years is lower than the Murdi Paaki Region as a whole, and for NSW, and is almost the same as the population fraction for the non-Indigenous population of Goodooga;
- Non-Indigenous households are two times more likely to comprise a person living alone as an Aboriginal household;
- There were no non-Indigenous single parent families in Goodooga, however 43% of the Aboriginal households were single parent families;
- Aboriginal adults were 17% less likely to be in a couple relationship than non-Indigenous adults;
- Seven percent of Aboriginal households contained multiple families compared to no multi-family households in the non-Indigenous population.
- About 1 in 5 (19%) of Aboriginal households had resident non-dependent children compared to no non-Indigenous households. The fraction in both Aboriginal and non-Indigenous households was less than both the Murdi Paaki Region and NSW as a whole.

Population fraction	Aboriginal	Non-Indigenous
Table 4.4: Median age of persons (years) (Goodooga (ILOC))		
Median age	33	38
Murdi Paaki Region	26	46
New South Wales	22	38

Figure 4.2: Population age distribution

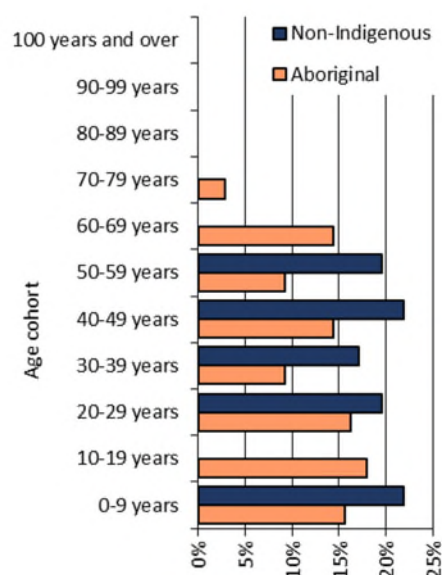
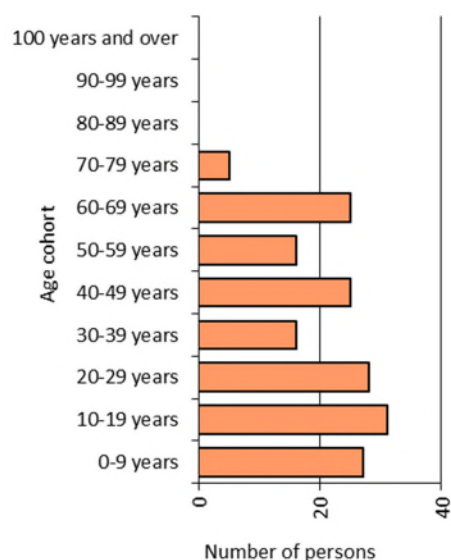


Figure 4.3: Aboriginal population age distribution



Population fraction	Aboriginal	Non-Indigenous
Table 4.5: Population aged under 15 years (2016)		
	n=46	n=9
Of population fraction	27%	22%
Murdi Paaki Region	32%	16%
New South Wales	34%	18%

Population fraction	Aboriginal	Non-Indigenous
Table 4.6: Social marital status (Persons aged 15 years and over)		
Registered marriage	7%	57%
De facto marriage	33%	0%
Not married	60%	43%
Table 4.7: Lone person households		
	n=16	n=12
Lone person households	26%	55%
Murdi Paaki Region	21%	36%
New South Wales	15%	24%
Table 4.8: Family household family composition		
One parent	43%	0%
Couple, no children	30%	40%
Couple, with children	26%	60%
Other family	0%	0%
One parent families:		
Murdi Paaki Region	43%	15%
New South Wales	36%	15%
Table 4.9: Multi-family households (of all family households)		
	n=3	n=0
Multi-family households	7%	0%
Murdi Paaki Region	4%	1%
New South Wales	4%	2%

Population fraction	Aboriginal	Non-Indigenous
Table 4.10: Families with resident non-dependent children (Goodooga (ILOC))		
	n=8	n=0
	19%	0%
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 of Goodooga (SSC)	
	n=56
Preschool	5
Infants/primary - Government	28
Infants/primary – other non-Government	0
Secondary - Government	12
Secondary – Other Non-Government	3
University or other Tertiary Institution	0
Other educational institution	0
Not stated	8



Population fraction	Aboriginal	Non-Indigenous
Table 4.12: Pre-school attendance		
	n=8	n=0
Children 3 years old	88%	-
Murdi Paaki Region	41%	50%
New South Wales	52%	49%
	n=1	n=0
Children 4 years old	0%	-
Murdi Paaki Region	82%	79%
New South Wales	72%	72%

Figure 4.4: Student attendance level (proportion of students attending 90% or more of the time), 2019 Semester 1

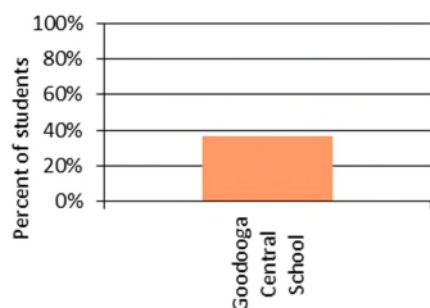


Table 4.13: Educational attainment, NAPLAN, School average when compared with all Australian students

	Reading	Writing	Spelling	Grammar	Numeracy
Year 3					
Goodooga Central		5			
Legend					
Above average	2			Close to	3
Below average	4			Well below	5

Source: acara MySchools website

Note: Data not supplied for most Year levels due to the small number of children participating in NAPLAN at Goodooga Central School

Figure 4.5: Highest year of schooling, all Aboriginal adults

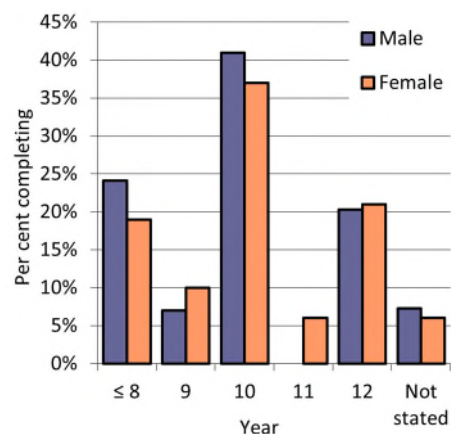
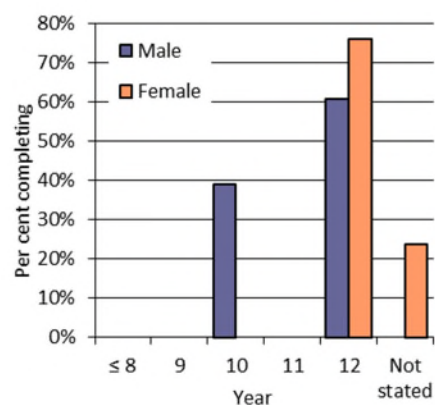


Figure 4.6: Highest year of schooling, all non-Indigenous adults



Population fraction	Aboriginal	Non-Indigenous
Table 4.14: Percentage of persons aged 15 years and over with a vocational qualification		
	n=19	n=8
Cert I-IV	13%	18%
Murdi Paaki Region	18%	26%
New South Wales	25%	20%

Population fraction	Aboriginal	Non-Indigenous
Table 4.15: Percentage of persons aged 15 years and over with an undergraduate diploma		
	n=3	n=3
Diploma and Advanced Diploma	2%	7%
Murdi Paaki Region	5%	7%
New South Wales	7%	10%
Table 4.16: Percentage of persons aged 15 years and over with a tertiary qualification		
	n=5	n=10
Degree and higher	3%	23%
Murdi Paaki Region	4%	12%
New South Wales	8%	27%
Table 4.17: Engagement of persons aged 17 and 18 years in employment, education and training		
Fully engaged	67%	0%
Murdi Paaki Region	49%	74%
New South Wales	62%	84%

KEY FINDINGS

- Almost all of Aboriginal three-year-olds, but none of the 4-year-olds, enumerated in the census appeared to attend preschool. There were no non-Indigenous 3- or 4-year-olds years counted in the census;
- An Australian Early Development Census (AEDC) Community Profile for Brewarrina LGA is not available due to insufficient data for evaluation and reporting purposes;
- Student attendance level for Aboriginal children (the proportion of students attending 90% or more of the time) is only 37% at Goodooga Central School;
- Two-thirds of Aboriginal persons aged 17 or 18 years were engaged in training or learning;

- Non-Indigenous adults were almost three times more likely than Aboriginal adults to hold a post-school qualification at any level. The Aboriginal population aged over 15 years in Goodooga with a post-school qualification is lower than that for the Aboriginal population in both the Murdi Paaki Region and NSW.

4.3 Economic participation

Population fraction	Aboriginal	Non-Indigenous
Table 4.18: Labour force status (Percent of labour force)		
	n=64	n=38
In full-time or part-time work	64%	100%
Unemployed, looking for work	36%	0%
Murdi Paaki Region	76%	94%
New South Wales	85%	94%
22% of those employed worked part-time		
Table 4.19: Participation in the labour market (Percent of population aged 15 and over)		
	n=140	n=44
In labour force	46%	86%
Not in labour force	54%	14%
Murdi Paaki Region	44%	61%
New South Wales	56%	64%
Table 4.20: Employment to population ratio (Percent of population aged 15 and over)		
	n=41	n=38
Employment to population ratio	32%	100%
Murdi Paaki Region	34%	57%
New South Wales	47%	60%

KEY FINDINGS

- With about a third of the Aboriginal population unemployed and a low labour force participation rate, the employment to population ratio for Aboriginal people in Goodooga implies that one in three adults are in any form of employment;
- Investigation of the age structure of the Goodooga Aboriginal population through calculation of the dependency ratio (51.8 for Goodooga – lower than for the Murdi Paaki Region, at 61.6) indicates that Aboriginal

people of working age resident in Goodooga have a low workforce participation rate;

- Aboriginal workers are more likely than their non-Indigenous counterparts to be employed in education and training and health care or social assistance but less likely to be employed as a manager or professional;
- Education and health care employ the largest proportion of the workforce;
- Data for Brewarrina LGA as a whole indicate a slow decline over time in the number of businesses.

Table 4.21: Industry of employment – Total population

Industry	Aboriginal		Non-Indigenous	
	No employed	% of total employed	No employed	% of total employed
Education and Training	13	36%	12	32%
Health Care and Social Assistance	6	17%	5	14%
Public Administration and Safety	5	14%	0	0%
Agriculture, Forestry and Fishing	3	8%	20	54%
Administrative and Support Services	3	8%	0	0%
Accommodation and food services	0	0%	0	0%
Arts and Recreation Services	0	0%	0	0%
Construction	0	0%	0	0%
Financial and insurance services	0	0%	0	0%
Professional, scientific and technical services	0	0%	0	0%
Retail trade	0	0%	0	0%
Transport, postal and warehousing	0	0%	0	0%
Other Services	0	0%	0	0%
Inadequately described/not stated	6	17%	0	0%

Population fraction	Aboriginal	Non-Indigenous
Table 4.22: Occupation of all persons employed		
Managers	0%	54%
Professionals	13%	29%
Technician/trades	21%	0%
Community service workers	39%	0%
Clerical/admin workers	8%	0%
Sales workers	0%	0%
Machinery operators	0%	0%
Labourers	18%	17%

Figure 4.7: Hours worked by age group

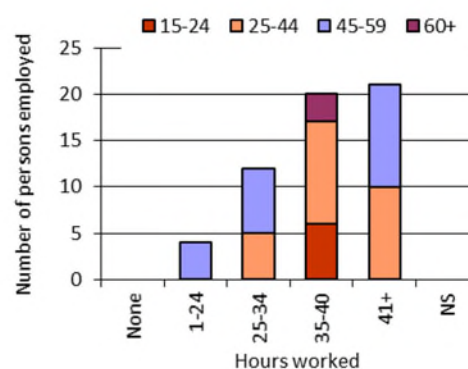


Table 4.23: Number of Aboriginal workers employed in the public and private sectors

Australian Government	0
NSW Government	7
Brewarrina Shire Council	3
Private sector	24
Not stated	3

Table 4.24: Total number of businesses, Brewarrina LGA, at 30th June 2019

No of employees	No of businesses
Nil	55
1-4	26
5-19	7
20 or more	3

Table 4.25: Business entries and exits, Brewarrina LGA, at 30th June 2019

Year	Change in number
2015	-
2016	-3
2017	8
2018	-9
2019	4

4.4 Income

Table 4.26: Median total household income (Goodooga (ILOC))

Population fraction	Aboriginal	Non-Indigenous
\$/week	617	1674
N-W NSW IREG	907	1,013
New South Wales	1,214	1,498

Table 4.27: Estimates of personal income, total population, Brewarrina LGA

Median employee income (\$) (2017)	41,801
Income share of top 10% of earners (excl. government payments)	27%
FW and Orana SA4	44,418
New South Wales	49,256

Figure 4.8: Average annual growth in median employee income, 2013-2017, Brewarrina LGA

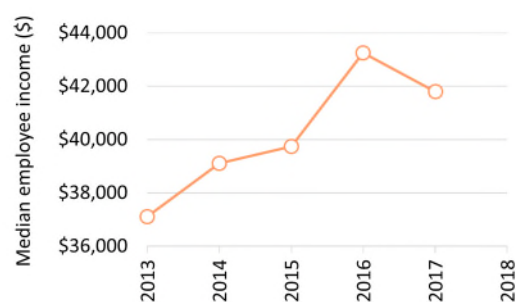


Table 4.28: Sources of income support, Brewarrina LGA

In 2019, percentage of total population aged 15 and over receiving:

Age pension (n=128)	10%
Carer payment (n=46)	4%
Disability support pension (n=128)	10%
Newstart allowance (n=156)	12%
Parenting payment, single (n=66)	5%
Family tax benefit A (n=169)	13%
Family tax benefit B (n=156)	12%
Commonwealth rent assistance (n=156)	12%

- Twelve percent of the total population aged 15 and over were receiving Commonwealth rent assistance (CRA);
- In 2019, the top 10% of earners received 27% of total income excluding Government pensions and allowances.

KEY FINDINGS

- The median weekly income for Aboriginal households is lower than the median for non-Indigenous people. The median weekly individual income is 76% lower than for non-Indigenous persons;



5 COMMUNITY HOUSING PROFILE

5.1 Housing in Goodooga

Data used in this Chapter is drawn from the ABS 2016 Census for the Goodooga State Suburb (SSC). Where SSC data is unavailable, the Goodooga Indigenous Location (ILOC) or Brewarrina Local Government Area (A) data is used.

Table 5.1: Dwelling types, Goodooga (SSC)

Total number	102	
Separate houses	102	100%
Terraces, town houses	0	0%
Apartments	0	0%
Other dwelling types	0	0%

Table 5.2: Private dwellings unoccupied on Census night (Goodooga (SSC))

	n=102	
	5	5%
Change since 2011	n=31	-26
Murdi Paaki Region		19%
New South Wales		9%

13 people were counted elsewhere on Census night

Table 5.3: Households counted in a dwelling on Census night (Goodooga (SSC))

Resident households	87
Visitor households	7
Non-classifiable	0

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

0 or 1 bedrooms	0	0%
2 bedrooms	11	13%
3 bedrooms	41	49%
4 bedrooms	32	38%
5 bedrooms and more	0	0%

Figure 5.1: Dwelling size by number of bedrooms

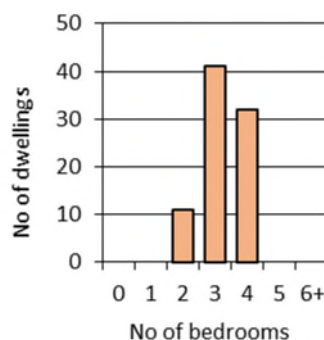


Table 5.5: Average household size (Goodooga (ILOC))

Population fraction	Aboriginal	Non-Indigenous
Persons	2.9	1.0
N-W NSW IREG	3.0	2.1
New South Wales	3.1	2.6

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

Persons	0.7	0.7
N-W NSW IREG	0.9	0.7
New South Wales	1.0	0.9

Table 5.7: Households enumerated (Goodooga (SSC))

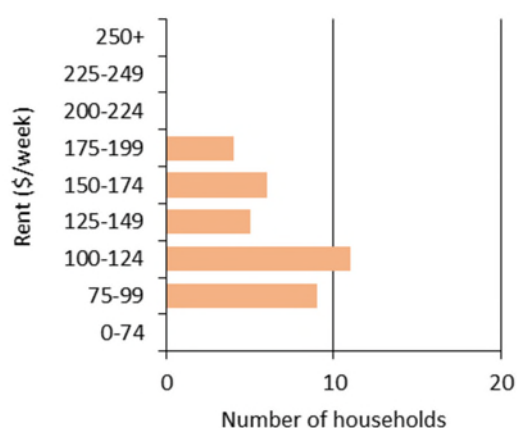
One family household	47	17
Multiple family household	4	0
Non-family household	21	12
Non-classifiable	0	0
Not applicable	0	0

Table 5.8: Occupancy (Goodooga (SSC))

One person	16	12
Two people	23	4
Three people	9	5
Four people	6	6
Five people and greater	15	3

Population fraction	Aboriginal	Non-Indigenous
Table 5.9: Proportion of all households renting (Goodooga (SSC))		
Proportion of all households	77%	38%
Real estate agent	0%	0%
NSW housing authority	6%	0%
Community housing provider	88%	0%
Other private	0%	0%
Other	6%	100%
Murdi Paaki Region	62%	24%
New South Wales	56%	32%

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



Population fraction	Aboriginal	Non-Indigenous
Table 5.10: Median rent (Goodooga (ILOC))		
\$/week	120	36
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) (Brewarrina (A))	
Renting	10.8%

Population fraction	Aboriginal	Non-Indigenous
Table 5.12: Home ownership (including owned with a mortgage) (Goodooga (SSC))		
	n=15	n=16
Proportion of all households	23%	62%
Murdi Paaki Region	38%	76%
New South Wales	44%	68%

Table 5.13: Change in Aboriginal home ownership (Goodooga (SSC))		
	2016	2011
Proportion of all Aboriginal households	23%	16%

Table 5.14: Persons accommodated in non-private dwellings (Goodooga (SSC))		
Hotel, motel	0	13

Table 5.15: One-year residential mobility (Goodooga (SSC))		
	n=69	n=25
Residents in the household aged one year and over with a different address one year ago		
All residents	10%	12%

Some of the residents	4%	0%
No resident	86%	88%
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	11%	35%
Some of the residents	11%	0%
No resident	78%	65%

Table 5.16: Number of Aboriginal persons with a different address at stated location 1 year ago and five years ago (Goodooga (SSC))

Place of residence	1 year ago	5 years ago
Within Brewarrina LGA	0	9
Bourke or Walgett LGAs	0	0
Elsewhere in the MPR	0	0
Elsewhere in NSW	9	8
Other	5	5

Table 5.17: Access and mobility (Goodooga (SSC))

Population fraction	Aboriginal	Non-Indigenous
No motor vehicles	35%	0%
One motor vehicle	35%	58%
Two motor vehicles	22%	0%
Three motor vehicles	9%	19%
Four or more motor vehicles	0%	23%
Not stated	0%	0%

5.2 Market activity

Real estate transactions in Goodooga are rare. For the period 2015 to 2020, information is available for four sales. Median price was \$32,250 and the highest sale was \$65,000. No sales occurred in 2020 and, at the time of writing, no properties were being advertised. Median sale price for Brewarrina Shire as a whole is shown in Table 5.18.

Table 5.18: Median residential property price (Brewarrina (A))

In 2019	\$67,500
No of transfers	8
Source: ABS, Data by Region, 2011-19, Economy and Industry	

New building activity is also subdued with no new residential development taking place in recent times.

5.3 Aboriginal social housing

Several Aboriginal organisations own and manage land and social housing in Goodooga: Goodooga Local Aboriginal Land Council (LALC), Bohda Limited, and Murdi Paaki Regional Housing Corporation. Goodooga LALC has title to the discrete settlement of Goodooga Reserve. Full property schedules are included at Table 5.22 to Table 5.24 inclusive and vacant lots are noted at Table 5.25.

Responsibility for Aboriginal social housing management rests with Mid Lachlan Aboriginal Housing Management Cooperative (MLAHMC) and Murdi Paaki Regional Housing Corporation (MPRHC) although the portfolio of the latter is confined to one property.

Table 5.19: Asset portfolios

Asset owner	Housing manager	Number of dwelling units
Goodooga LALC	MLAHMC	21
Bohda Ltd	MLAHMC	26
MPRHC	MPRHC	1
Total		48

Table 5.20: Housing mix by number of properties

Asset owner	Bedrooms				
	1	2	3	4	5
Goodooga LALC	-	-	8	13	-
Bohda Ltd	1	-	21	4	-
MPRHC	-	-	1	-	-
Total	1	-	30	17	

Table 5.21: Number of properties by location

Location	Bedrooms				
	1	2	3	4	5
Goodooga	1	-	30	9	
Goodooga Reserve	-	-	-	8	-
Total	1	-	30	17	

Table 5.22: Residential property schedule – Bohda Ltd

Lot	Section	DP	WLL	Registered proprietor	Property address	Property type	Bedroom type
Housing manager: Mid Lachlan Aboriginal Housing Management Cooperative							
2	7	758459		Bohda	17 Hammond Street	Cottage	1
10	7	758459		Bohda	20 Doyle Street	Cottage	3
8	7	758459		Bohda	16 Doyle Street	Cottage	3
9	15	758459		Bohda	54 Hammond Street	Cottage	3
8	15	758459		Bohda	52 Hammond Street	Cottage	3
10	5	758459		Bohda	20 Hammond Street	Cottage	3
1	10	758459		Bohda	49 Adams Street	Cottage	3
2	10	758459		Bohda	47 Adams Street	Cottage	3
9	14	758459		Bohda	58 Adams Street	Cottage	3
10	4	758459		Bohda	20 Adams Street	Cottage	3
4	5	758459		Bohda	13 Adams Street	Cottage	3
7	15	758459		Bohda	50 Hammond Street	Cottage	3
9	5	758459		Bohda	18 Hammond Street	Cottage	3
3	7	758459		Bohda	15 Hammond Street	Cottage	3
9	11	758459		Bohda	44 Doyle Street	Cottage	3
7	11	758459		Bohda	40 Doyle Street	Cottage	3
5	17	758459		Bohda	21 Doyle Street	Cottage	3
10	12	758459		Bohda	37 Hammond Street	Cottage	3
1		730796		Bohda	1 Brenda Street	Cottage	3
1	2	758459		Bohda	39 Bokhara Street	Cottage	3
5	5	758459		Bohda	11 Adams Street	Cottage	3
1	5	758459		Bohda	19 Adams Street	Cottage	3
9	7	758459		Bohda	18 Doyle Street	Cottage	4
1	7	758459		Bohda	19 Hammond Street	Cottage	4
8	5	758459		Bohda	16 Hammond Street	Cottage	4
4	2	758459		Bohda	33 Bokhara Street	Cottage	4

Table 5.23: Residential property schedule – Goodooga Local Aboriginal Land Council

Lot	Section	DP	WLL	Registered proprietor	Property address	Property type	Bedroom type
Housing manager: Mid Lachlan Aboriginal Housing Management Cooperative							
6	15	758459		GLALC	48B Hammond Street	Cottage	3
6		758459		GLALC	48A Hammond Street	Cottage	3
7		758459		GLALC	34 Hammond Street	Cottage	3
8	9	758459		GLALC	36B Hammond Street	Cottage	3
10	11	758459		GLALC	46B Doyle Street	Cottage	3
7		758459		GLALC	36A Hammond Street	Cottage	3
10	17	758459		GLALC	30A Warraweena Street	Cottage	4
91		755024		GLALC	8 Reserve	Cottage	4
76		755024		GLALC	7 Reserve	Cottage	4
76		755024		GLALC	6 Reserve	Cottage	4

Table 5.23: Residential property schedule – Goodooga Local Aboriginal Land Council

Lot	Section	DP	WLL	Registered proprietor	Property address	Property type	Bedroom type
Housing manager: Mid Lachlan Aboriginal Housing Management Cooperative							
76		755024		GLALC	5 Reserve	Cottage	4
76		755024		GLALC	4 Reserve	Cottage	4
76		755024		GLALC	3 Reserve	Cottage	4
76		755024		GLALC	2 Reserve	Cottage	4
76		755024		GLALC	1 Reserve	Cottage	4
10	11	758459		GLALC	46A Doyle Street	Cottage	4
5	2	758459		GLALC	31B Bokhara Street	Cottage	4
5	2	758459		GLALC	31A Bokhara Street	Cottage	4
2	2	758459		GLALC	37 Bokhara Street	Cottage	4
Identified by MP TSEP as omissions and subsequently added to property schedule							
				GLALC	10 Brenda Street	Cottage	3
				GLALC	51 Brenda Street	Cottage	3

Table 5.24: Residential property schedule – Murdi Paaki Regional Housing Corporation

Lot	Section	DP	WLL	Registered proprietor	Property address	Property type	Bedroom type
Housing manager: Mid Lachlan Aboriginal Housing Management Cooperative							
7	3	758459		MPRHC	24 Adams Street	Cottage	3

Table 5.25: Residential property schedule – Vacant lots

Lot	Section	DP	WLL	Registered proprietor	Property address	Property type
10		758459		GLALC	30B Warraweena Street	Vacant
3				GLALC	45B Adams Street	Vacant
3				GLALC	45A Adams Street	Vacant
9	3	?		MPRHC	28 Adams Street	Vacant

Figure 5.3: Goodooga village



Map data: Google, Image © 2021, Maxar Technologies

Figure 5.4: Goodooga Reserve



Map data: Google, Image © 2021, Maxar Technologies

5.4 Forms of housing construction

Residential buildings shown in Figure 5.5 are illustrative of the lightweight forms of framed housing construction which form the greater part of the Aboriginal social housing portfolio in Goodooga. Typically, houses are either of timber frame on suspended floor construction with fibre-cement sheet or Hardiplank style cladding and metal roof, or brick veneer on concrete slab with metal roof. Houses at Goodooga Reserve are all of brick veneer construction on earth mounds.

Figure 5.5: Typical forms of Aboriginal social housing



New Elders units shown above are prefabricated modules manufactured in Maitland jail and transported to site.

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 61 households in Goodooga. The contribution from Goodooga is presented below.

Figure 5.6: Housing mix (All households participating in the survey)

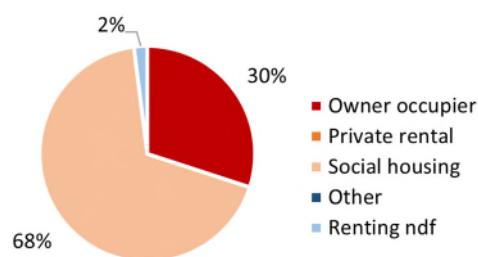


Figure 5.7: Managing organisation (Social housing tenants)

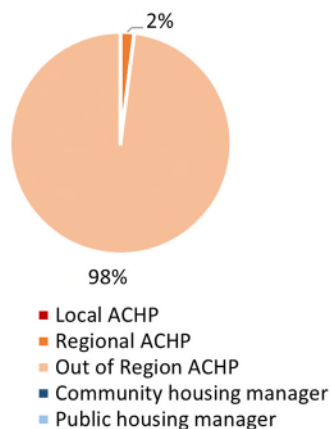


Figure 5.8: Level of satisfaction with housing manager

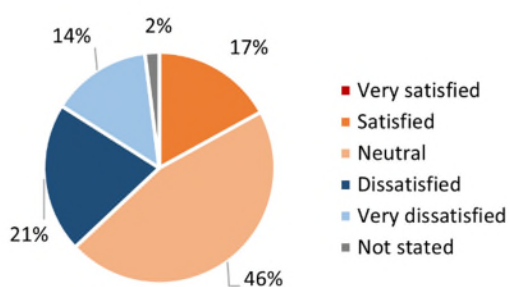


Figure 5.9: Preferred manager of Aboriginal social housing (Social housing tenants)

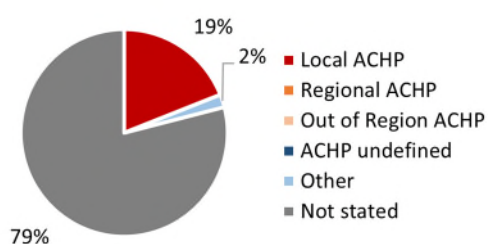


Figure 5.10: Social housing tenants with a tenancy agreement

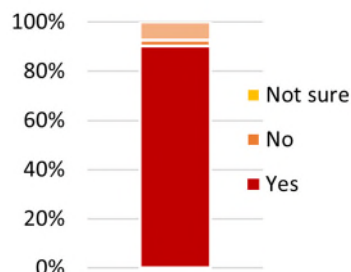


Figure 5.11: Social housing tenants claiming Commonwealth Rent Assistance

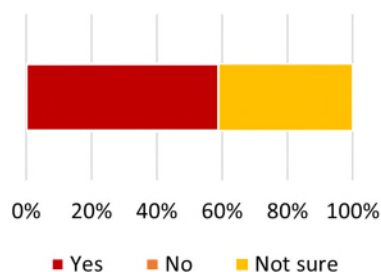


Figure 5.12: Rent levels 2016-2017

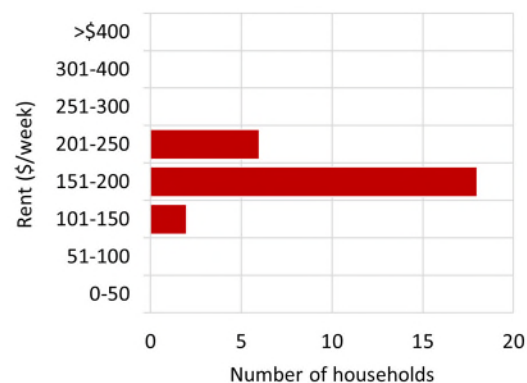


Figure 5.13: Respondents view of a fair rent

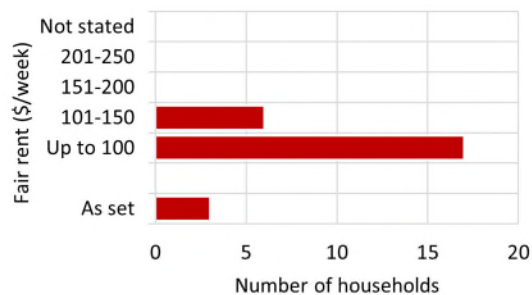


Figure 5.14: Household size range (All households)

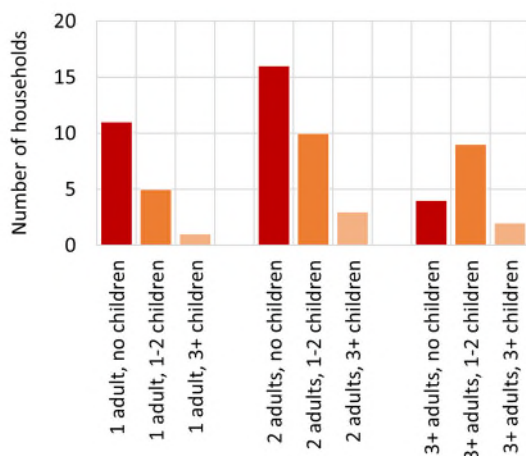


Figure 5.15: Address of household 5 years ago

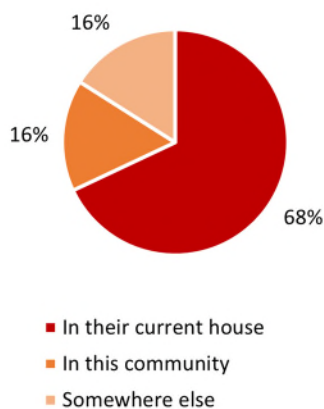


Figure 5.16: Households feeling crowded

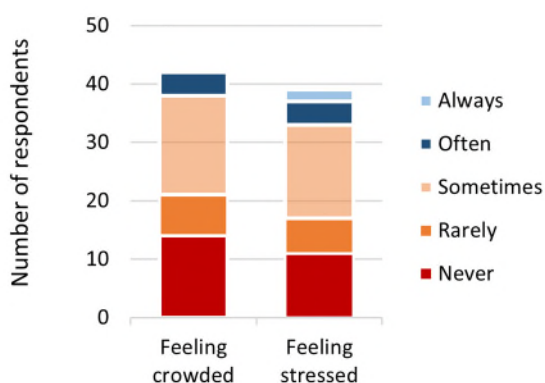


Figure 5.17: Households providing shelter to one or more homeless persons

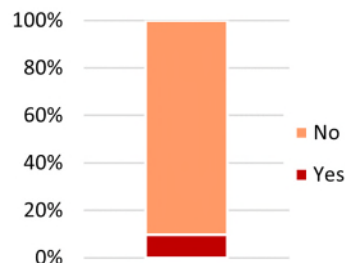


Figure 5.18: Tenants feeling unsafe at home

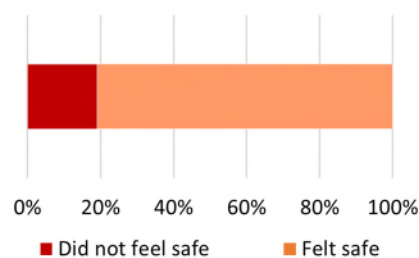
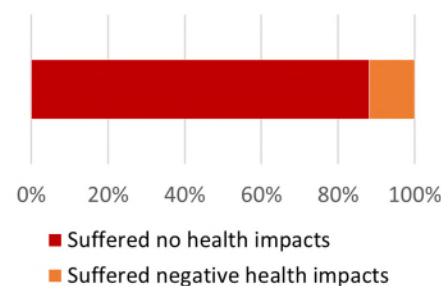


Figure 5.19: Tenants experiencing negative health impacts



KEY FINDINGS

- Three out of ten of respondents to the survey were homeowners and 69% were renting social housing. No household rented privately, and, for one response, tenure type could not be determined. No respondents reported being homeless;
- Of Aboriginal social housing tenants, all except one rented through an Out of Region (OoR) Aboriginal community-controlled housing manager;
- The level of satisfaction with housing managers was neutral in large measure but just over one third (35%) expressed

dissatisfaction. All except two Aboriginal social housing households interviewed offered a view;

- The principal reason for dissatisfaction appeared to be a lack of urgency on the part of the housing managers to attend to repairs;
- Four out of five respondents did not state a preference for housing manager but, of those that did, almost all were in favour of a local ACHP;
- Of the 40 households that responded to the question, 33 respondents (83%) said that it was the only housing available;
- When asked about their reasons for living in Goodooga, most respondents stated that they were either born in the community or their families had been resident for a long time. Being around family and relations was an important consideration as were wanting to live on Country and/or feeling part of the community. Being able to find work was an insignificant factor;
- Most social housing renters (90%) had entered into a formal tenancy agreement but only a few 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 \$151-\$200/week but the median rent was calculated as being \$140/week. Rent set for Reserve houses was lower at \$115/week. A large proportion thought this rent to be excessive;
- Two in three respondents reported they were claiming Commonwealth rent assistance;
- Just over half of households stated they were adult households without children;
- One in two households reported their house felt crowded sometimes or often. Of those that indicated feeling crowded at times, six said that crowding was often or always a stressful experience. One respondent said that fourteen people were occupying the house at the time of the household survey;
- Four households in Aboriginal social housing were providing shelter at the time of the survey to one or more persons who would otherwise be homeless. Two homeowner

respondents reported providing shelter to persons who would otherwise be homeless;

- The survey failed to detect much sign of mobility of Aboriginal social housing households living in the village. Nine out of ten Aboriginal social housing respondents were living at the same address 1 year prior to the household survey and 75% had the same address 5 years prior. Median duration of a tenancy was 10 years. Three households indicated having to move more than once in the twelve months prior to the survey. All households living at Goodooga Reserve had been resident at the same address 1 year prior to the household survey;
- Many Aboriginal social housing tenants (79%) had no intention of moving if their circumstances changed. The balance of respondents (21%) thought they might consider relocating if their needs changed;
- Almost all tenants responding to the question (n=40), three quarters reported trouble meeting their electricity bills. Interestingly, tenants at Goodooga Reserve appeared more able to meet power costs;
- Of those tenants who responded to the question (n=39), the overwhelming majority (n=34) indicated a preference for social housing tenancies to be passed down within the family;
- Suggested service improvements focused on greater responsiveness in carrying out repair and maintenance work;
- As to additional services in the community, better access to an upgraded and expanded retail sector, mainly to fresh food, rated most mention;
- Tenants who responded to open ended questions generally focused on linking rents with the range and level of accessible services.

ADDITIONAL FINDINGS - OWNERS

- Eighteen homeowners responded to the MPRH&BC household survey and all were purchasing or had purchased detached houses;
- Two-thirds of owners were purchasing with the aid of a loan from a financial institution.

- Indigenous Business Australia (IBA) had very limited reach;
- Two-thirds of owners were satisfied with their decision to purchase. Only two were unhappy;
- In most instances, owners had long-standing attachment to Goodooga, having been born in the town or through lengthy family residency. Being on Country was an important motivation as was being close to family and relations;
- Tenure was relatively stable. All respondents were living in the same house one year prior to the household survey while three quarters reported living in the same house five years prior;
- Median period of ownership was 12 years;
- Respondents valued the sense of autonomy ownership brought and the fact that outgoings were not 'dead money'. Several saw ownership in terms of a financial investment and creating a legacy for family;
- Disadvantages of ownership, where they existed, were said to be burden of Council rates and charges, and the need to bear responsibility for property maintenance;
- Crowding was not apparent to any great extent although two respondents said they were often or always stressed because of crowding. Two properties required an extra bedroom;
- Three quarters of homeowners reported trouble in paying power bills.

ADDITIONAL FINDINGS – SOCIAL HOUSING TENANTS

- At the time of the household survey, twenty young people were seeking their own accommodation, thirteen had applied and been accepted onto a waiting list for a unit or house in Goodooga. Waiting time could not be determined;
- Three older persons were seeking their own accommodation;
- One person had applied for a house or unit in another community;
- Less than one in five respondents said their house failed to meet cultural needs, mainly on the grounds that outdoor space or

facilities for cultural activities, including food preparation, was inadequate;

- Five respondents stated their accommodation impacted negatively upon their health, although the reasons were not stated;
- One quarter of village respondents said they did not feel safe in their accommodation for the primary reason of lack of security of property and/or yard. All residents at Goodooga Reserve felt safe.

5.6 Unmet housing need

From the MPRH&BC household survey, unadjusted responses from households living in Aboriginal social housing in Goodooga to questions of housing need are summarised in Table 5.26.

Table 5.26: Need for new housing as recorded by the MPRH&BC household survey for Aboriginal social housing

	Number
Total number of households renting	53
Number of respondents	41
Young people requesting own housing	20
Older people requesting own housing	3
Multi-family households	1

To arrive at a more nuanced and realistic estimate, each individual survey return has been examined 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 5.27.

The methodology assumed that:

- Young single persons are allocated a 2-bed unit;
- As a minimum, younger couples are allocated a 3-bedroom dwelling in the expectation that family size will increase;
- Older couples are allocated a 2-bedroom unit on the presumption that they will move out of the family home;
- Multi-family households, composed variously of couples only and couples with children, are

allocated housing of a size commensurate with family composition in accordance with the Canadian National Occupancy Standard (CNOS), the methodology for which is included in §5.10.

tenancy agreement that a tenant notify the housing manager of any change in the number of residents housed. Observing this process is likely to lead to a rent increase which, for obvious reasons, tenants are eager to avoid and so,

Table 5.27: Unmet housing need

Tenure type	Ratio	From MPRH&BC household survey				Factored for whole community			
		Number of bedrooms				Number of bedrooms			
		2	3	4	5	2	3	4	5
Owner occupier	18 / 18	5	0	0	0	5	-	-	-
Private rental	- / -	0	0	0	0	-	-	-	-
Homeless	69 / 59	0	0	0	0	-	-	-	-
Social housing rental	48 / 42	10	1	0	0	12	1	-	-
Employer	- / -	0	0	0	0	-	-	-	-
Not defined	- / -	0	0	0	0	-	-	-	-
Total						17	1	0	0

Table 5.27 indicates total unmet housing need for individuals and families living in Goodooga assessed as eligible for housing at the time of the MPRH&BC 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.

The NSW Department of Communities and Justice (DCJ), in its NSW Housing Register dashboard for June 2021, quotes the combined number of approved Aboriginal and non-Indigenous applicants shown in Table 5.28 which, contrary to the findings of the MPRH&BC household survey, suggests a minimal demand exists.

Table 5.28: Applicants approved for social housing, NSW Housing Register as of 30th June 2021

	Applicants	
	General	Priority
Goodooga	<5	<5
Waiting times are not stated		

The findings stated in Table 5.27 may underestimate need. 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. It is a requirement of the

although this places a tenant in breach, non-disclosure of all occupants is common.

Data obtained from the MPRH&BC household survey in respect of utilisation by permanent residents is summarised in Table 5.29. From the sample, if representative, it would appear that several households would have one bedroom spare, if not two. It is unlikely that many rental properties would become available if attempts were made to rationalise utilisation.

Table 5.29: Number of bedrooms required to accommodate permanent residents only

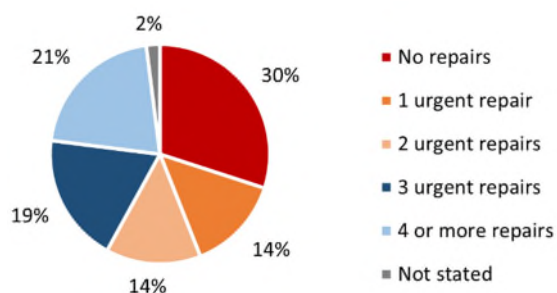
House size (Number of bedrooms)	Number of households using			
	1	2	3	4
Bedroom(s)				
2	2			
3	6	6		
4	3	6	8	
5	-	-	-	-
All	11	12	8	-

5.7 Asset condition

The MPRH&BC household survey invited social housing tenants 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 5.20.

Figure 5.20: 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 crowding
- 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 5.30.

Table 5.30: 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 in Table 5.31.

Table 5.31: Social housing condition as expressed by tenants

Condition	
No structural problems, and 7 working facilities	2%
No more than 2 structural problems, and 6 or more working facilities	54%
3 or more structural problems, and 6 or more working facilities	34%

Table 5.31: Social housing condition as expressed by tenants

None, 1 or 2 structural problems, and 5 or fewer working facilities	0%
3 or more structural problems, and 5 or fewer working facilities	10%

The principal deficiencies recorded in the quality of social housing are noted in Table 5.32.

Table 5.32: Social housing principal structural, electrical, plumbing and facilities problems (%)

Problem area	Houses affected
Moving foundations	33%
Uneven floors	26%
Cracks in wall and/or ceiling	33%
Termite damage	2%
Roof leaking inside	19%
Major electrical faults	17%
Major plumbing faults	19%
Major air conditioning problems	33%
Septic/sewerage problems outside	14%
Non-functional facilities	
Kitchen stove/oven	15%
Electric hot water heater	10%
Kitchen sink	10%
Shower	5%
Toilet	7%
Laundry tub	7%
Air conditioning	15%

The results of the assessment against the Housing for Health safety and healthy living practices are reported in Table 5.33. Whereas Table 5.32 indicates the proportion of installed systems, appliances and fixtures which are non-functional, Table 5.33 captures those households which do not have the benefit of some appliances, primarily wood or electric heaters or air conditioners.

Table 5.33: Social housing observance of the HLPs

Practice	Meeting the standard	
HLP 1	Washing people	90%
HLP 2	Washing clothes and bedding	93%
HLP 3	Wastewater disposal	86%
HLP 4	Improving nutrition	85%
HLP 6	Pest control	40%
HLP 7	Reducing impact of dust	74%
HLP 8	Temperature control (heating)	88%
HLP 8	Temperature control (cooling)	85%
HLP 9	Free of electrical hazards	83%

Tenants also reported other minor defects such as fractured verandah decking (48%), no working clothesline (21%), missing flyscreens (60%), broken windows (26%) 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 three, contributing to the feeling of insecurity mentioned by some tenants and reflected by Figure 5.18.

In respect of HLP 2 and HLP 4, provision of whitegoods is a tenant responsibility. The percentage of household survey respondents stating access to a working washing machine and fridge were 83% and 80% 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. Band medians are listed in Table 5.38. 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.

Table 5.34: 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 5.34 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 5.34 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 5.35. 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 Goodooga, the factor is (48/41) or 1.17. The total number is an aggregate of Goodooga LALC, Bohda and MPRHC properties. The denominator of 41 is the number of reliable returns on which a projection could be based.

Table 5.35: 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	1	9,300
Two	22	26	736,600
Three	14	16	701,000
Four	0	0	0
Five	4	5	490,400
Total	41	48	1,937,300
Average spend/property = \$40,360			

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 5.35, 5 of 48 would appear to require major refurbishment and may require replacement.

5.9 Replacement

The MPRH&BC household survey did not record any social housing respondents describing their properties as 'condemned' or 'unliveable' but many houses are old and contain bonded asbestos materials which have become friable with age. Additionally, the thin concrete posts on which the structures sit are spalling, exposing rusting reinforcement. Table 5.35 indicates five houses require major refurbishment and this HEHP takes the position that, although, scoping of properties will identify those houses beyond economic repair

requiring a decision on serviceability, these five will be found to need replacement.

5.10 Extension and modification

The presence and scale of crowding, as reflected by the MPRH&BC household survey, was determined against the CNOS threshold criteria shown below. Some responses could not be adequately assessed for want of information so this number is likely to underestimate actual need.

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.

Results of the assessment are shown at Table 5.36.

Table 5.36: Eligibility for additional bedrooms

Extra bedrooms	Number from MPRH&BC household survey
1	2
2	-
3	-
Not sufficiently defined	-

The assessment shown at Table 5.36 assumes that household composition remains as was at the time of the household survey and no new housing or tenancies are available to address crowding and undersupply. If the number of new dwellings estimated by Table 5.27 is delivered, then the need for extensions drops to the number shown in Table 5.37.

Table 5.37: Eligibility for additional bedrooms as revised

Extra bedrooms	Number from MPRH&BC household survey	Factored across whole community
1	-	-
2	-	-
3	-	-
Total number of extra bedrooms		0

Need for home modifications for persons with a disability is shown by Table 5.38. The total time waiting for initial assessment and, then, for work to be carried out would seem to exceed twelve months.

Table 5.38: Need for home modifications

Number of dwellings			
Requiring modification	Modified	Remaining	Factored
9	3	6	7
Number of households			
Status	< 6 months		> 6 months
Waiting assessment	1		2
Approved, waiting work	2		1

5.11 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 and the attitude towards home ownership.

In respect of Goodooga, the report found mild to moderate levels of homelessness and moderate levels of crowding. The social housing waiting list totalled 10 applicants which, although said to be incomplete, appeared to be a fairly accurate indicator. This is much greater than determined by

the MPRH&BC household survey. Type of unmet housing was tabulated as given by Table 5.39:

Table 5.39: Housing need by cohort		
Cohort	Need	Comment
Young people	✓	
Singles	✓	
Couples	✓	Young
Young families	✓	
Large families	-	
Elders	✓	With health problems

subsequent consultation with the Community Working Party found little evidence of these measures being implemented.

The report flagged the need for units for older singles and couples, and flats or duplexes for young people. A range of policy and practice measures relating to the application process, housing and asset management, human service delivery, and planning, design, delivery 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



6 THE ROLE OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT

6.1 Council strategic interests

Brewarrina Shire Council's Community Strategic Plan 2026 (CSP) outlines key challenges confronting Brewarrina and the Shire's villages, and the community's aspirations to create an economic and socially sustainable community for future generations.

The action areas proposed by the CSP are:

- Creating a living and working environment which meets and sustains the expectations and lifestyles of families and their children;
- Access to a greater range of local quality services and facilities, principally education and health;
- Economic prosperity through innovation and education;
- Better transport options and safer roads;
- Higher standards and performance of utility infrastructure;
- Protection and improvement of natural places and waterways; and
- A safe environment.

These action areas address the aspirations of the Aboriginal community as expressed in the consultation process which emphasised the need for a greater focus on village streetscape and safety, activities for young people, enterprise development and employment creation. It is notable that many contributors to the CSP were employed in the tiers of government, with few in private business. In terms of industry sector growth, activities in agricultural value-add and food retailing ranked as the strongest suggestions.

Council's Local Strategic Planning Statement (LSPS), which defines land-related medium-term economic, social and environmental development proposals, including guiding any amendment of Council's Local Environmental Plan 2012 (LEP), only capitalises on the potential of environmental and cultural tourism as an area of common interest. Little ambition to work with the Aboriginal community around other areas of growth is visible.

Rather, in responding to the Directions in the NSW Government *Far West Regional Plan 2036*, the LSPS acknowledges that the challenges of a changing climate, changing demographics, and transformations in rural industry are significant.

One critical infrastructure upgrade is the sealing of the Goodooga Road between Hebel on the Queensland border and Brewarrina via Goodooga. Work has commenced at both ends and, when complete, will allow an alternative route for heavy freight vehicles and tourist traffic. Improved vehicular access is a crucial element in being able to sustain an equitable service level across the Shire.

In respect of residential development, Council is keen to consolidate development within the existing urban area and anticipates current zonings and land use controls will facilitate this objective. The LSPS also endorses the work of the RAHLA and the initiative to improve social housing outcomes for Aboriginal residents more broadly.

6.2 Planning controls

Brewarrina 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 the zoning as RU5 Village and Figure 6.2 which indicates minimum lots size of 2,500 m² for the village generally. The planning controls apply to the discrete settlement of Goodooga Reserve where minimum lot sizes are also 2,500 m².

6.3 Municipal rates and charges

Council is permitted by legislation to levy a different municipal rate across the town and villages. Rates relating to the residential category and service charges for 2021/22 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 \$)
Brewarrina	137.50	0.0265798
Goodooga	108.50	0.1151999

Table 6.2: Water and sewer charges (2021/22)

Water		
Filtered water access, 20 mm		\$375.90
Water cost (kL)		\$1.30/kL
Raw water access, 20 mm		\$404.10
Sewerage		
Sewerage access (connected)		\$388.80
Waste management		
Domestic waste management, collection		\$369.40

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 (\$)
58 Adams Street	2,023	600
16 Hammond Street	2,023	600
37 Bokhara Street	2,023	600
46B Doyle Street	1,011.5	600

Typically, in 2021/22, residential lots of any size in Goodooga will incur an annual rate charge of about \$180 and service charges totalling in the order of \$1,560, for a total annual bill of about \$1,750, depending upon individual circumstances and assuming raw and treated water is connected.

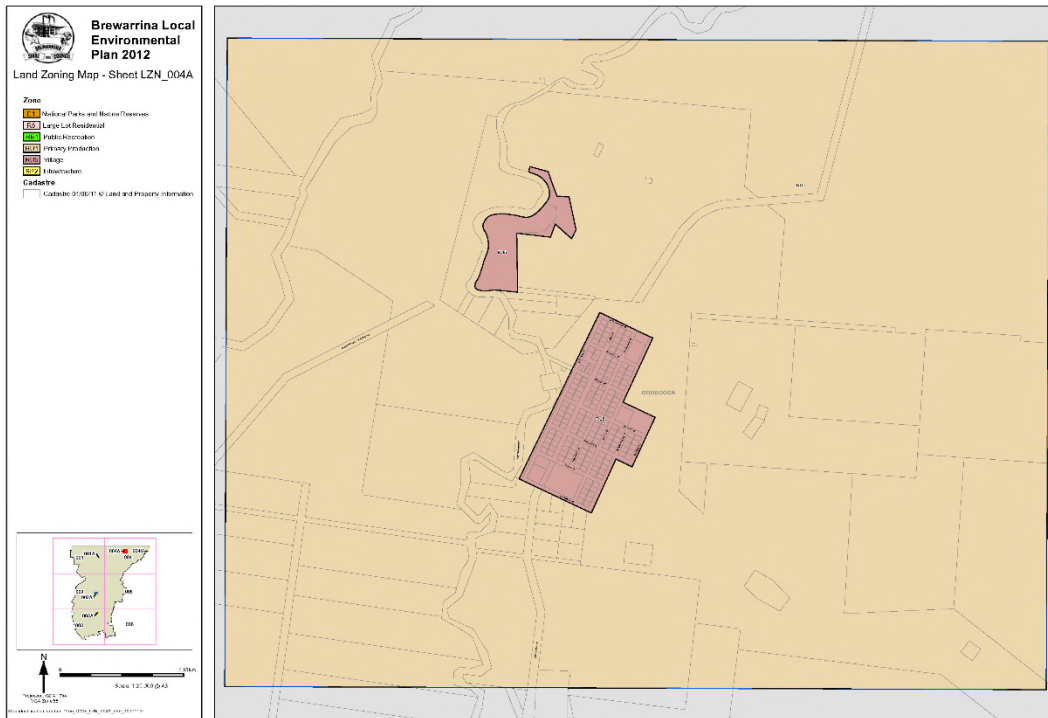
Water use is normally charged to the tenant. The NSW Industry Local Water Utility performance monitoring data dashboard indicates a typical residential bill for water and sewerage in 2019-20 in Brewarrina Shire to be in the order of \$1,975 per connected property, including water access charges. This is above the weighted median of

\$1,414 for all water utilities in NSW and places Brewarrina Shire as the third most costly supply in NSW.

6.4 Financial assistance grants

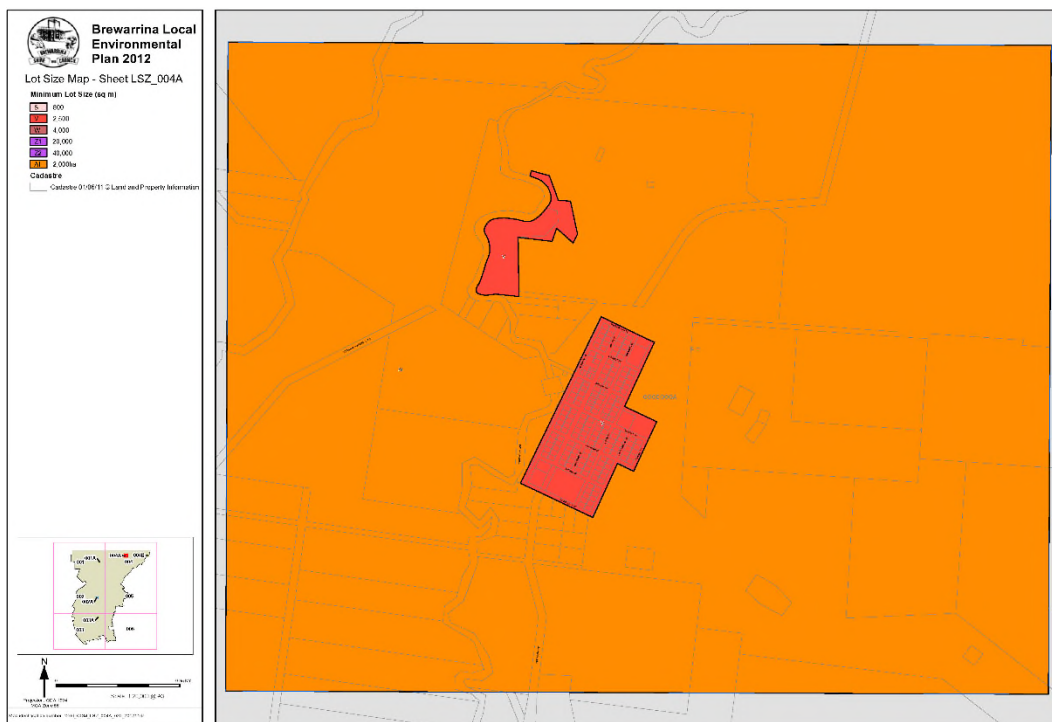
Council is responsible for water and sewerage services to Goodooga Reserve under the NSW Department of Planning, Industry and Environment Aboriginal Water and Sewerage Programme which ensures the infrastructure to the discrete settlement is monitored, remains operational and supplies are of acceptable quality.

Figure 6.1: Land zoning map



Source: Brewarrina LEP 2012, 1200_COM_LZN_002A_020_20201020

Figure 6.2: Lot size



Source: Brewarrina LEP 2012, 1200_COM_LSZ_002A_020_20201020

7 ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH INFRASTRUCTURE

7.1 Infrastructure accessibility

The Goodooga community has access to a basic range of municipal and other services and Council provided facilities similar to other remote communities in the Murdi Paaki Region. Brewarrina Shire Council has limited capacity through its weak rate base to maintain its infrastructure to a high standard, provide some services and maintain facilities so, in consequence, the CWP expectations are higher than Council is able to deliver against. Table 7.1 summarises the range of services the community can access and community perspectives on acceptability.

As mentioned at §6.4, the internal hydraulic services: water reticulation and sewerage, to Goodooga Reserve are owned, operated and maintained by Goodooga LALC. Roads, streetlighting and general environmental management is also the responsibility of the Land Council. Funding is available for the on-going

operation of the water and wastewater systems but maintenance of other infrastructure assets is at the organisation's cost.

Table 7.2 provides CWP feedback identifying action areas relating to infrastructure broadly while Table 7.3 flags other issues of concern relating to facilities condition and management.

Figure 7.1: Dust blanketing the village



Table 7.1: Service accessibility

Service	Responsibility	Available service	Community acceptance of service level			
Reticulated filtered water supply	Brewarrina Shire Council	✓	■	■	■	■
Reticulated raw water supply		-			■	
Reticulated sewerage	Brewarrina Shire Council	✓	■	■	■	■
On-site wastewater management	Brewarrina Shire Council	✓		■		
Roads and drainage	Brewarrina Shire Council	✓		■		
Stormwater management	Brewarrina Shire Council	✓		■		
Solid waste disposal – bulky items	Brewarrina Shire Council	-			■	
Solid waste disposal – kerb collection	Brewarrina Shire Council	✓	■			
Environmental management	Brewarrina Shire Council	✓			■	
Animal control	Brewarrina Shire Council	✓	■			
Electrical power	Essential Energy	✓	■			
Streetlighting	Essential Energy	✓			■	
Mobile telephone	Telstra	3G/4G	■			
NBN	NBN/Internet service provider	Satellite		■		
TV satellite	Viewer Access Satellite TV (VAST)	✓	■			
Fire fighting	NSW Rural Fire Service	✓	■			

Table 7.2: Areas for service improvement

Service	Community feedback
Reticulated raw water supply	An alternative water supply is needed to allow gardens, street plantings and parks to be irrigated as a means of dust suppression and to permit residents to grow vegetables. Refer to Figure 7.1.
On-site wastewater management	Some houses still rely on septic tanks for greywater collection and treatment. The properties are not yet identified but, in the interests of health and safety, the CWP would like these to be connected to reticulated sewerage
Roads and drainage	Pedestrian footpath with street lighting to Goodooga Reserve from the village
Electrical power	Billing processes are leading to inflated power bills
Environmental amenity	Clean-ups are required in residential areas: reduction of weed infestation, maintenance of long grass and clearing of kerb and gutter Measures are required to control the spread of mosquitoes during flood events and from standing water and reduce the risk from consequent threats to health A continuous programme is required to monitor vegetation growth and prevent fire hazards

Table 7.3: Facilities accessibility and improvement

Service	Community feedback
Bore bath camping ground	Access is not being managed and Goodooga residents, particularly young people, are prevented from using the facility A water park is preferred to the proposed skate park
Public recreational facilities	Shade structures and amenities are suggested for facilities such as the cemetery, football oval and veteran's memorial
Community hall	Requires to be refurbished, plan of management prepared and improved community access
Bowling club	Requires to be refurbished and form the basis of a local business
Churches	Both are dilapidated and unfit for use. Funerals cannot be conducted
Community store	Construction has stalled, delaying access to supplies of foodstuffs

7.2 Upgraded municipal services

Advice from NSW Department of Planning, Industry and Environment (DPIE) is that the Goodooga sewage treatment plant is scheduled to be upgraded but details have not been disclosed.

Corporation has been funded to establish a pop-up store so that fresh and dry foodstuffs are available in the short term. Additionally, Goodooga LALC has been funded to undertake some further small-scale improvement works at Goodooga Reserve and Regional Enterprise Development Institute (REDI.E) will lead the Goodooga Mural and Cultural Signage project.

7.3 Community infrastructure

Goodooga has been without a store for many years following the destruction of the previous building by fire. A replacement is now under construction with funding provided to the North West Land Corporation by several agencies including the National Indigenous Australians Agency (NIAA). Pending completion, the North West Land

8 COMMUNITY HEALTH PROFILE

8.1 Community health profile summary

Goodooga is a small community in the Brewarrina Local Government Area. Brewarrina Shire is considered remote and very remote on all remoteness scales. It is one of twenty-three local government areas in the Western NSW Local Health District.

Quantitative data show that the Aboriginal community of Brewarrina Shire experiences significantly poorer health compared to its counterpart in NSW. Overall, 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, low level of health literacy and greater likelihood of chronic conditions leading to death. A more nuanced and useful picture of the health of Goodooga residents could not be drawn as, despite numerous attempts to secure meaningful input from the Goodooga Health Service and Lightning Ridge Health Service (as co-manager of Goodooga), personnel have chosen not to assist the preparation of this Plan.

8.2 Health status - quantitative assessment

Data for Brewarrina Shire, Western NSW LHD and NSW as a whole is presented to describe the health status of the population.

8.2.1 Mother and baby health

- The proportion of babies born to teenage mothers in Western NSW LHD is 2.5 times higher than in NSW¹;
- Almost two-thirds of Aboriginal mothers in Western NSW LHD had their first antenatal visit before 14 weeks gestation (65.4%) compared to three quarters of all NSW Aboriginal mothers (75.3%) and all NSW mothers (79.6%)²;
- By comparison, 72.7% of all women in Brewarrina Shire had their first antenatal visit before 14 weeks, which is not significantly

different to the proportion of all women in NSW³;

- Aboriginal women in Western NSW LHD are almost 6 times more likely to smoke during pregnancy (49.5% compared to 8.8%)⁴;
- Compared to all Aboriginal women in Australia, Aboriginal women in Brewarrina Shire are also more likely to smoke during pregnancy (58.7% compared to 47.3%)⁵;
- All women in Brewarrina Shire are significantly more likely to smoke during pregnancy compared to NSW (40.3%)⁶;
- Aboriginal women in the Western NSW LHD are almost 2 times more likely to have a baby with a low birthweight (<2,500g)⁷;
- Aboriginal women in the Western NSW LHD are 1.5 times more likely to have a baby prematurely (<37 weeks gestation)⁸.

8.2.2 Growth and development of children and young people

- Compared to all NSW 1-year olds there are more Aboriginal 1-year olds fully vaccinated in the Western NSW LHD (95.2% compared to 94.2%)⁹;
- Children in Western NSW LHD had significantly more decayed, missing and filled deciduous (baby) teeth (dmft) compared to all NSW children (average of 2.4 dmft in Western NSW LHD children compared to 1.53 in NSW children). The average number of decayed, missing and filled permanent (adult) teeth (DMFT) in Western NSW LHD children is about the same as all NSW children (average of 0.87 DMFT in Western NSW LHD children compared to 0.74 in NSW children)¹⁰;
- The average number of dmft and DMFT for all Aboriginal children in NSW are both significantly higher than the NSW comparison (3.04 average dmft and 1.17 average DMFT)¹¹;
- Children in Western NSW LHD are significantly less likely to have no caries in their baby teeth (dmft=0) compared to all NSW children (47.7% of children in Western NSW LHD children compared to 61.2% of NSW children). The proportion of Western NSW LHD children with no caries in their adult teeth (DMFT=0) is not significantly different to the proportion in NSW (58.4% of children in Western NSW LHD

with DMFT=0 compared to 65.4% in NSW children)¹²;

- The proportions of Aboriginal children who are caries free in both their baby and adult teeth (dmft=0, DMFT=0) are both significantly lower than the NSW comparison (35.2% with dmft=0 and 53.6% with DMFT=0)¹³;
- Children in the Western NSW LHD are significantly less likely to eat the recommended number of serves of vegetables compared to all NSW children (2.8% of Western NSW LHD children eating the recommended number of serves compared to 5.5% in NSW);
- The proportion of children in Western NSW LHD eating the recommended number of serves of fruit is not significantly different to the proportion in NSW (67.7% of Western NSW LHD children eating the recommended number of serves compared to 62.7% in NSW)¹⁴.

8.2.3 Morbidity

- Compared to all Aboriginal people in Australia, Aboriginal people in Brewarrina Shire are significantly more likely to present to the Emergency Department for all reasons. Overall, Aboriginal people in Brewarrina Shire are 2.5 times more likely to present to the Emergency Department compared to all Aboriginal people in Australia (150,865.7 per 100,000 people compared to 62,109.4 per 100,000 people)⁶;
- In 2016/17, on average, more than 110,000 admissions to hospital were attributed to Western NSW LHD residents of whom 14% were Aboriginal people, who form 13% of the total LHD population¹⁶;
- The leading cause of admission for Aboriginal people in the Western NSW LHD is dialysis (27%) then maternal health, childbirth and neonatal issues (9%) and symptoms and signs of illness (8%);
- The proportion of Aboriginal people in the Western NSW LHD admitted to hospital for dialysis is more than twice that of the proportion expected based on comparison with the NSW (total) population¹⁶;
- Compared to all Aboriginal people in Australia, Aboriginal people in Brewarrina Shire are

significantly more likely to be admitted to hospital for endocrine, nutritional and metabolic diseases, circulatory system diseases, respiratory system diseases, chronic obstructive pulmonary diseases, digestive system diseases, chronic kidney disease, pregnancy and childbirth and injury or poisonings. There are significantly fewer admissions for cancers⁵;

- Conversely, the admission rate for all people in the Western NSW LHD for skin infections is significantly higher than the rate in NSW (493.4 per 100,000 people compared to 355.3 per 100,000 people)¹⁵;
- The rate of potentially preventable hospitalisations in Brewarrina Shire is significantly higher than in NSW (3,121.6 per 100,000 admissions compared to 2,160.7 per 100,000 admissions)¹⁶;
- The leading cause of potentially preventable hospitalisation in the Western NSW LHD is cellulitis followed by dental conditions and ear nose and throat infections¹⁷;
- Aboriginal people in Brewarrina Shire are significantly more likely to be admitted to hospital for a potentially preventable condition compared to all Aboriginal Australians (6,663.0 per 100,000 people compared to 5,395.2 per 100,000 people)⁵.

8.2.4 Mortality

- In 2018, there were 2,467 deaths of people who lived in the Western NSW LHD. For people who lived in the Western NSW LHD, the all causes death rate was significantly higher than the rate for all of NSW (610.1 per 100,000 people compared to 506.4 per 100,000 people)¹⁸;
- For all Aboriginal people in Brewarrina Shire, the median age at death is 60.5 years compared to 61.0 years in NSW⁵. By comparison the median age at death for all people who live in Brewarrina Shire is 67.0 years compared to 82.0 years for all NSW residents¹⁹;
- The leading age-adjusted death rate for all Aboriginal people in NSW is circulatory disease (189.0 per 100,000 population) which is significantly higher than the rate of circulatory

disease death in all of NSW (144.6 per 100,000 population)²⁰;

- Similarly, in the Western NSW LHD the leading cause of death is also circulatory disease (28.1% of all deaths)²¹;
- In Brewarrina Shire in the period 2016 to 2018, the death rate from injury and poisoning was significantly higher than in NSW (53.0 per 100,000 population compared to 35.6 per 100,000 population)²²;
- In NSW, 6.9% of all deaths in outer regional and remote areas are due to injury and poisoning and 1.5% are due to infectious and parasitic diseases²³;
- The rate of potentially avoidable deaths in Brewarrina Shire is not significantly different to the rate in NSW (129.1 per 100,000 population compared to 99.4 per 100,000 population)²⁴;
- Aboriginal people in Brewarrina Shire are likely to die prematurely from cancer (110.6 per 100,000 people), circulatory systems diseases (105.7 per 100,000 people) and external causes (84.8 per 100,000 people) but these rates do not differ from the rates for all Aboriginal people in Australia⁵.

8.2.5 Health risk factors

- In NSW, 26.4% of the Aboriginal population smoked cigarettes daily²⁵. In the Western NSW LHD, 12.4% of the total population aged 16 and over smoked daily; by comparison the proportion of smokers in NSW was 11.2%²⁶;
- In NSW 48.7% of the Aboriginal population drank alcohol at levels that posed a long-term risk to health²⁷. In the Western NSW LHD, 35.9% of the total population aged 16 years and over drank alcohol at levels that posed a long-term risk to health; by comparison the proportion of at-risk drinkers in NSW was 32.8%²⁸.

Tables 8.1 to 8.5 and Figure 8.1 provide detailed information of the health statistics for the region.

Table 8.1: Cause of presentation to Emergency Departments, all Aboriginal people, rate per 100,000, Brewarrina Shire, NSW and Australia 2015/16-2017/18

	Brewarrina Shire	NSW	Australia
All causes	150,865.7*	71,135.8	62,109.4
Infectious and parasitic disease	5,427.5*	3,393.1	3,293.9
Mental health and related conditions	4,966.9*	3,649.3	3,636.7
Circulatory system diseases	1,928.6*	1,274.2	1,570.1
Respiratory system diseases	9,592.4*	7,153.7	6,340.7
Digestive system diseases	9,826.5*	3,972.5	3,500.8
Musculoskeletal system diseases	12,172.8*	3,936.2	2,910.1
Urinary system diseases	3,711.0*	2,364.4	2,263.4
Injury, poisoning and external causes	30,862.8*	16,420.0	14,458.8
Other factors requiring contact with the health system	4,250.3	5,889.1	4,664.0
Other reasons	67,478.8*	23,097.0	19,471.0

* Significantly higher than the rate for Australia

Data source: Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Social Health Atlas of Australia.
Public Health Information Development Unit, Torrens University Australia

Table 8.2: Leading cause of admission for Aboriginal people, Western NSW LHD, 2016-17

Reason	Admissions (%)		
	Aboriginal people in Western NSW LHD	Aboriginal people in NSW	All people in NSW
Dialysis	27%	27%	13%
Maternal, neonatal & congenital disorders	9%	10%	7%
Symptoms & abnormal findings	8%	7%	8%
Respiratory diseases	8%	7%	5%
Digestive system diseases	7%	7%	10%
Injury & poisoning	7%	7%	7%
Other factors infl. health	6%	7%	11%
Nervous & sense disorders	4%	4%	7%
Circulatory diseases	4%	3%	5%
Genitourinary diseases	4%	4%	5%
Mental disorders	4%	5%	5%
Musculoskeletal diseases	3%	3%	5%
Skin diseases	2%	2%	2%
Infectious diseases	2%	2%	2%
Malignant neoplasms	2%	2%	4%
Endocrine diseases	2%	2%	2%
Blood & immune diseases	1%	1%	1%
Other neoplasms	1%	1%	2%

Data source: NSW CAPED, ABS (SAPHaRI). Centre for Epidemiology and Evidence, NSW Ministry of Health

Table 8.3: Cause of admission, all Aboriginal people, rate per 100,000, Brewarrina Shire, NSW and Australia 2015/16-2017/18

	Brewarrina Shire	NSW	Australia
Infectious and parasitic disease	1,398.1	759.9	1,093.5
All cancers	652.2#	926.1	983.8
Endocrine, nutritional and metabolic diseases	1,546.6*	704.9	1,101.0
- Diabetes	928.5*	319.0	420.9
Mental health and related conditions	2,521.1	2,515.3	2,626.5
- Mood affective disorders	234.3	351.3	355.6
Nervous system diseases	1,180.7	807.1	916.5
Eye and adnexa diseases	592.1	465.4	531.6
Ear and mastoid process diseases	594.4	336.1	423.4
Circulatory system diseases	2,236.7*	1,389.5	1,822.7
- Ischaemic heart disease	578.7	473.7	652.8
- Heart failure	252.0	163.4	238.4
Respiratory system diseases	4,464.2*	2,659.0	3,373.8
- Asthma	337.5	280.6	300.4
- Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease (COPD)	873.0*	548.3	594.9
Digestive system diseases	3,787.5*	2,843.6	3,099.5
Skin diseases	1,246.2	821.0	1,370.0

Table 8.3: Cause of admission, all Aboriginal people, rate per 100,000, Brewarrina Shire, NSW and Australia 2015/16-2017/18

	Brewarrina Shire	NSW	Australia
Musculoskeletal system diseases	1,302.6	1,415.0	1,446.0
Urinary system diseases	1,436.3	1,460.8	1,696.2
- Chronic kidney disease	570.6*	252.7	387.3
Pregnancy and childbirth	18,444.5*	12,749.2	14,700.7
Congenital conditions	237.5	215.0	210.3
Injury, poisoning and external causes	5,377.3*	3,305.9	4,364.1
* Significantly higher than the rate for Australia			
# Significantly lower than the rate for Australia			
Data source: Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Social Health Atlas of Australia. Public Health Information Development Unit, Torrens University Australia			

Table 8.4: Leading cause of death, Western NSW LHD and NSW, 2018-19

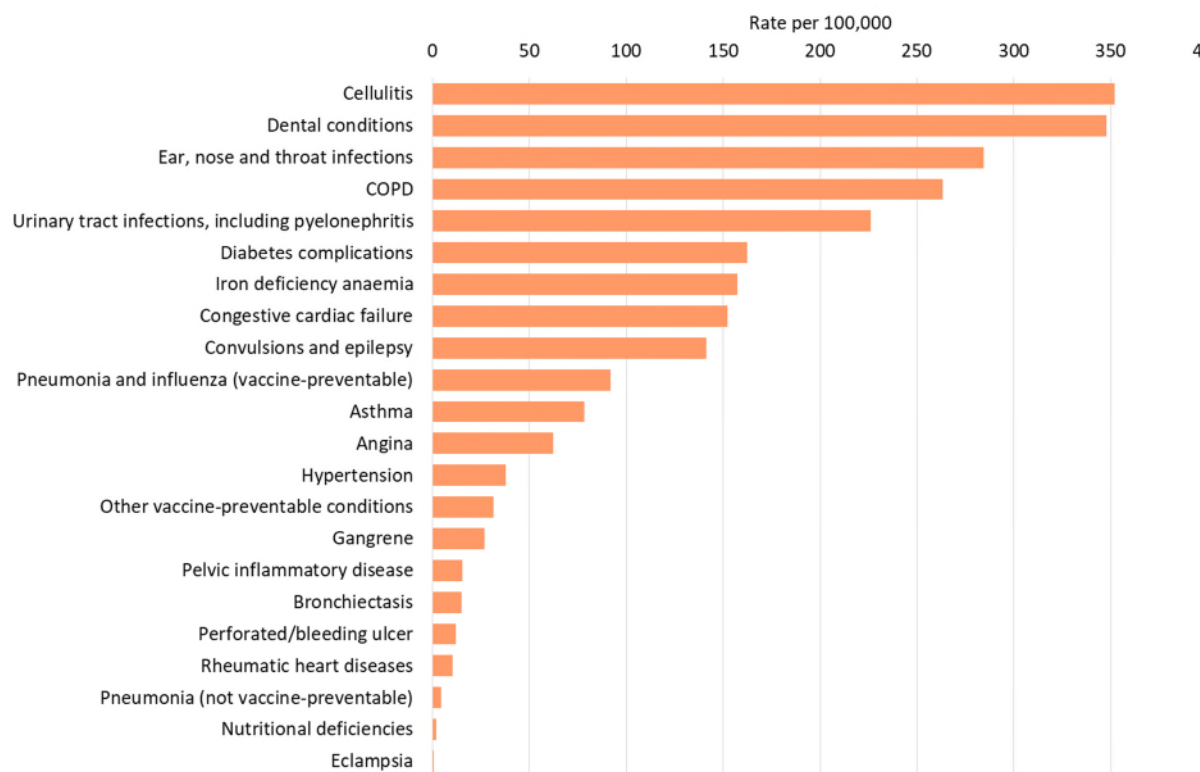
	Western NSW LHD total population			NSW	
	Ave # deaths per year	Rate per 100,000	% deaths	Aboriginal % deaths	Total % deaths
Circulatory diseases	714.5	169.2	28.1	21.8	27.6
Malignant cancers	659.5	167.9	26.0	25.3	28.3
Respiratory diseases	305.5	73.9	12.0	11.6	9.8
Injury and poisoning	147.0	47.5	5.8	13.6	5.9
Mental and behavioural disorders	147.0	33.6	5.8	6.7	6.9
All other causes	567.5	142.2	22.3	21.0	21.5
All causes	2,541	634.2			
Data source: NSW COC URF, ABS (SAPHARI). Centre for Epidemiology and Evidence, NSW Ministry of Health					

Table 8.5: Premature deaths, Aboriginal people aged 0-74 years, rate per 100,000, Brewarrina Shire, NSW and Australia 2013-2017

	Brewarrina Shire	NSW	Australia
Deaths from cancer	110.6	56.3	72.1
Deaths from diabetes	Not reported ¹	10.0	23.4
Deaths from circulatory system diseases	105.7	46.1	69.8
Deaths from respiratory system diseases	Not reported	22.4	26.9
Deaths from external causes	84.8	41.5	58.1
Data source: Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Social Health Atlas of Australia. Public Health Information Development Unit, Torrens University Australia			

¹ Data for this indicator is not reported for Brewarrina Shire as the actual number is between 1 and 4.

Figure 8.1: Potentially preventable hospitalisations (rate per 100,000), total population Western NSW LHD, 2018-19



Data source: NSW CAPED, ABS (SAPHaRI). Centre for Epidemiology and Evidence, NSW Ministry of Health

8.3 Available health services

Goodooga public hospital provides acute care and general medicine weekdays in normal business hours only. A more comprehensive and emergency service is provided at the Lightning Ridge Multi-Purpose Health Service which offers primary health care on weekdays as well as providing a Level 1 emergency service with 24-hour on call general practitioner services. The facility has four acute care beds and twenty aged care beds which, if available, can be used for respite care.

Health services in Goodooga are provided by the Western NSW LHD and Walgett Aboriginal Medical Service (WAMS).

The Western NSW LHD provides:

- Visiting doctor

- Allied health (diabetic educator, podiatrist, speech therapist, dietitian, paediatric OT, OT, optometrist)
- Mental health team
- Drug and alcohol counsellor
- Children's dentist
- Visiting medical specialists (endocrinologist)

Walgett AMS provides:

- Family centred primary health team
- Eye health (including an optometrist)
- Ear health (including an audiologist)

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.

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 readily accessible to Goodooga residents through which services can be directly obtained.

Table 9.1: Service age groups, 2016

Total persons (Usual residence)	Aboriginal		Non-Indigenous		Ratio
	Number	%	Number	%	
Service age group (years)					
Babies and pre-schoolers (0-4)	13	7.1	3	4.1	1.7
Primary schoolers (5-11)	26	14.2	6	8.2	1.7
Secondary schoolers (12-17)	20	10.9	10	13.7	0.8
Tertiary education and independence (18-24)	10	5.5	3	4.1	1.3
Young workforce (25-34)	23	12.6	10	13.7	0.9
Parents and homebuilders (35-49)	34	18.6	17	23.3	0.8
Older workers and pre-retirees (50-59)	20	10.9	13	17.8	0.6
Empty nesters and retirees (60-69)	30	16.4	8	11.0	1.5
Seniors (70-84)	7	3.8	3	4.1	0.9
Elderly aged (85 and over)	0	0	0	0	-
Total	183	100.0	79	100.0	-

Source: ABS Tablebuilder with age classifications as .id Consultants

Population fraction	Aboriginal	Non-Indigenous
Table 9.2: Core activity need for assistance		
	n=176	n=78
Of cohort population	1.7%	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 14 NDIS packages across Brewarrina LGA as a whole and the total Aboriginal population requiring assistance across Brewarrina LGA, including Aboriginal residents of Goodooga, is 52 persons.

The proportion of the Aboriginal population requiring assistance in the core activity areas of self-care, mobility and communication because of disability, long term health condition or old age is identified at Table 9.2, together with the non-Indigenous population for comparison. Itemised need based on the age ranges shown in Table 9.1 cannot be quantified because the numbers are small and the risk exists of identifying individuals.

Table 9.3: Human service providers and service mix

Sector	Provider	Principal services	Resident office	Target population	Funding agency
Health services	Walgett Aboriginal Medical Service	Primary health care outreach clinic	Walgett	Aboriginal community	-
	Western NSW Local Health District (LHD)	Goodooga Health Service	Dubbo	General population	-
	Orana Haven Aboriginal Corporation	Drug and alcohol service	Gongolgon	Aboriginal population	-
Aboriginal social housing services	Mid Lachlan Aboriginal Housing Management Corp	Aboriginal social housing	Dubbo	Aboriginal community	AHO
	Murdi Paaki Regional Housing Corporation	Aboriginal social housing	Broken Hill	Aboriginal community	AHO
	Goodooga Local Aboriginal Land Council	Aboriginal social housing	Goodooga	Aboriginal community	NSWALC
Tenant support	Murdi Paaki Services Ltd	Tenant education and support programme	Cobar	Aboriginal community	-
Homelessness services	Mission Australia	Specialist homelessness services	Brewarrina	General population - youth	DCJ
Early childhood services	Brewarrina Shire Council	Early childhood service	Goodooga	General population	NIAA
	Mission Australia	Brighter Futures (Walgett service to Goodooga)	Walgett	General population	DCJ
	Mackillop Family Services	Brewarrina mobile children's service	Brewarrina	General population	-
Family support services	Mission Australia	Targeted Early Intervention	Brewarrina	General population	DCJ
	Goodooga Central School	Targeted Early Intervention	Brewarrina	General population	DCJ
	Lifeline	Targeted Early Intervention	Goodooga	General population	DCJ
Employment services	Regional Enterprise Development Institute	Community Development Programme	Goodooga	Aboriginal community	-
	Regional Enterprise Development Institute	Jobactive employment service	Goodooga	Aboriginal community	-
	North West Land Corporation	1000 Jobs Package: Goodooga Store	Goodooga	Aboriginal community	NIAA
Social support	Regional Enterprise Development Institute	Centrelink service	Goodooga	General population	-

Table 9.3: Human service providers and service mix

Sector	Provider	Principal services	Resident office	Target population	Funding agency
Legal services	Legal Aid NSW	Legal services to disadvantaged people	Walgett	General population	Australian Government
	Aboriginal Legal Service (NSW/ACT)	Criminal, family, care and protection law, and tenancy services	Walgett	Aboriginal population	
Home care and home support services – aged and disability care	Goodooga Health Service	Home care packages HCP Level 1 to 4	Goodooga	General population	-
	Australian Unity Home Care Services	Aboriginal home care services	Lightning Ridge	Aboriginal community	-
	Livebetter	LiveBetter Services - Intensive Residential Care Transition - OOHHC Contracted Care	Lightning Ridge	Aboriginal community	-
		Plan development, support coordination and support services	Orange	General population	NDIS
Cultural services	Goodooga Local Aboriginal Land Council	Culture and heritage, land management	Goodooga	Aboriginal community	NSWALC

Table 9.4: Home care and home support 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	Y		Y				
	Y				Y	Y		Y		Y					Y	Y
Goodooga Health Service (declined to disclose services provided)																
Australian Unity Home Care																
Live Better Services Ltd																

Table 9.5: NSW Government agencies readily available to Goodooga residents

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	Lightning Ridge
Customer Service	Department of Customer Service	Customer services: primary access point to government services; registration and licencing; payment of fines	Lightning Ridge
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> NSW Office of Fair Trading 		
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Revenue NSW 		
Planning, Industry and Environment	Department of Planning, Industry and Environment	Urban and regional planning; water and natural resources; industry; environment, energy and science; Aboriginal and social housing; and Aboriginal heritage and land use	Lightning Ridge
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> National Parks and Wildlife Service 		

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 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 Goodooga 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, or of poor quality. 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 housing owners in the Region powerless to have a say in the management of their own assets

The CWP is firm in its view that housing management services be returned to Regional and local ACHPs as this is the only way in which service design can 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 Goodooga 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 cultural, economic, education, early childhood, health, housing, safety and governance. The CAP priorities and key actions which relate specifically 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. In preparing its CAP, the CWP nominated three immediate priorities for urgent action. These were: essential services, water, and access to food. These are issues which are central to the very survival of the community, and are discussed further in the next section.

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 Goodooga CWP. Issues related to housing management and condition were raised frequently by tenants who participated in the MPRH&BC household survey; human services were also the subject of comment, especially in relation to access to basic groceries, fuel and medical services.

The CWP expanded upon the three priority areas identified above as follows:

- Essential services: access is required to a local supermarket including fresh meat and baked goods, fuel, a newsagent; a full-time police presence, consistent power supply, potable water to an acceptable standard; restoration of sporting facilities (golf course, bowling green, tennis courts; and improved bus services);
- Water: long periods of low or no flow in the Bokhara River have implications for the environment, cultural practice, and raw water availability; high salinity in bore water has health impacts related to inability to suppress dust or grow food;
- Access to food: current supply of non-perishable basics via the post office are unaffordable; residents depend upon being able to travel nearly 70 km to Lightning Ridge

to access other supplies including fuel, and over one third of households have no vehicle.

The food access issue has been dealt with through the community's partnership with Outback Stores, and the construction and provisioning of a new general store. Other issues remain to be addressed.

The CWP and tenants have articulated a desire to see housing management services provided by organisations that are based in the Region. Current housing management is not considered sufficiently responsive, and communication is poor. Specific concerns relate to rent levels, lack of attention to housing inspections and repairs and maintenance, and failure to respond to attempts to make contact by telephone. The process of planning repairs and maintenance is not clear to tenants or to the CWP. It is generally agreed that most houses have outstanding repair and maintenance issues; tenants desire information about programming of a response to housing defects, and a regular property inspection schedule is required:

"They don't attend the community enough. They are located too far away. There's a delayed response to queries – they need to have a local liaison."

"They take too long to do R&M. They don't visit Goodooga – they're very hard to contact. We need frequent visits to assess R&M."

Access to qualified trades in the community is problematic; the CWP wishes to see opportunities created for local training and employment in building trades.

Rent setting is of concern to tenants. At the time of the MPRH&BC household survey, just over 40% of participating households were not receiving Commonwealth Rent Assistance. Isolation, utilities costs and housing condition are seen by tenants as matters which ought to be considered when rents are set:

"We need to discuss rent prices 'cause I have to go to the Ridge every fortnight to do my shopping and

I've got to pay someone, and I'm only on a pension."

"I feel that the rents should be reviewed and lowered as our community has very limited to no services, and it costs us extra money to travel for services."

With the number of hot days per year increasing, cooling houses is a critical concern. The issue of climate control will be addressed by the RAHLA-auspiced project being delivered at the time of writing. The cost of power to provide cooling at present is excessive and results in financial stress for tenants; however, this should be resolved in large measure by installation of PV solar panels under the same programme.

Like many other Murdi Paaki communities, support for health, ageing and for people with disabilities needs a deliberate strategy to ensure people can obtain home modifications and other supports within the community. Recently constructed units purpose-designed for Elders and people with disabilities have been welcomed and the CWP supports consideration of similar developments as part of a wider housing strategy.

Although households responding to the survey did not identify many dwellings where crowding was experienced, a substantial need for additional dwellings targeted for young people at the stage of household formation was identified.

Housing related support services are provided in the community by the TSEP Team and Mission Australia. The TSEP service provided by Murdi Paaki Services is well-regarded in the community; as a culturally safe and effective housing support service available to residents. Mission Australia is responsible for provision of Specialist Homelessness Services and housing support in Goodooga from its office in Lightning Ridge. Mission Australia refers to the TSEP for support for housing application preparation, which they are also funded to provide.

Service providers indicate that Link2Home is unable to provide support to homeless people in

Goodooga. No emergency accommodation is available, so the service cannot be used.

Owner occupiers in Goodooga are generally happy with their situation; those who have purchased are pleased with their decision to buy their home. Some homeowners, though, feel unsupported, and grow frustrated with renters whom they see as failing to appreciate the houses they are provided with:

“My home has significant sentimental value to our family; I grew up in this house and know I am raising my children here. I also care for my 85-year-old grandmother who has such a strong cultural connection to the community and always says she will die here. I love my home and country and have a connection to this country.”

“Homeowners can't afford the repairs, no help is given to age pensioner for fixing the house. No help for old pensioners who bought their house years ago. You have to keep up all repairs and you have little money to do this and no one help you. Tenants who have nice houses should pay. Any damage done by them, they should pay for it. Pay rent.”

Some owner-occupiers have people living with them who are on the waiting list for social housing. One homeowner reported feeling insecure because of family members living with them “passing keys to whoever they want”.

The importance of the connection between houses and their external environment is emphasised in the CAP. Access to adequate water to irrigate gardens, parks and street plantings for amenity and dust suppression is seen as a priority: dust is a major issue, particularly during the summer months, and bore water is not suitable for irrigation because of high salinity levels. The CWP also seeks improved arrangements for waste removal services and street lighting, including to the Reserve.

Cultural safety, consistency and design of human services delivered in the community are a continuing concern for the CWP. Recognition is sought of the critical role of culture in service

delivery. Integration of cultural perspectives in education, health and aged and disability care services is seen as essential, and service providers will be required to observe local protocols determined by community.

The Goodooga community has experienced decline in, and withdrawal of services, and consequent loss of employment, over many years. The prospect of further downgrading of health services is a source of ongoing anxiety. Several respondents to the household survey expressed a desire for hospital capacity to be reinstated, and for local access to general practice, as had been the case until the local GP retired several years ago. Service providers are frustrated by very limited access to mental health services and associated support. Patients with high level needs are unable to obtain services within the community: the waiting list for the visiting psychiatrist who provides outreach services via Community Health in Lightning Ridge, 70 km away, is lengthy. Duplication in risk assessment and preparation of health plans between referring organisations and the psychiatrist is time-wasting and stressful for the client. There is only one mental health nurse in the area to support patients with acute mental illness, and the position is contracted for three months at a time, so continuity of care is problematic. Providers report that a substantial proportion of clients are high-need mental health patients who require assisted living services, but these services are not available in Goodooga.

The nature of service delivery by drive-in, drive-out providers, even those from neighbouring towns, can be problematic. Service provider accountability is a CWP priority; the CWP seeks to ensure greater levels of access and better understanding of provider roles, services and outcomes. The community is poorly informed about which organisations are delivering particular services, scheduling of service provider visits, and referral pathways. Lack of coordination across services, inadequate observance of cultural protocols, and failure to support greater local training and employment opportunities are major issues the CWP wishes to see remedied.

The quality and range of social infrastructure in Goodooga leaves much to be desired; the CWP

aspires to improvements to the sporting oval precinct, and reinstatement of the bowls and tennis club as vehicles for social engagement, improved health through physical activity, and diversion from alcohol and other drug use and antisocial behaviour. The community aspires to ensure that younger people in Goodooga can pursue sporting development; opportunities are constrained at present due to limited infrastructure. Children and young people are unable to obtain access to services and supports required for wellbeing and development. The CAP highlights the need for more structured health promotion targeting youth engagement and leadership development. Youth mental health services are reported by service providers to be “non-existent”: the nearest Child and Adolescent Mental Health Service is based in Dubbo. There are three staff to cover the entire region but the closest worker is located in Dubbo, so outreach visits are rare. RFDS provides a mental health counsellor on an outreach basis to Lightning Ridge but is not funded to provide child and adolescent mental health services.

Concerns have been expressed regarding other social infrastructure: the current condition of the churches, both cemeteries and the community hall; these are seen as important infrastructure that, along with the recreational facilities, improve mental health and social cohesion.

Lack of adequate community transport is a continuing issue for the community, particularly

given the lack of a fuel outlet in Goodooga. Accessible, affordable, reliable scheduled local and regional transport services are required to ensure community can meet day to day health and social needs.

Aged care services have been highlighted as needing more focus on better access to nutrition, yard maintenance and inclusion in local cultural programmes and activities. Access to care for Elders and for people with disabilities in Goodooga is challenging; service providers report that all NDIS packages currently allocated are full. Even when a client is allocated a package, the services they need cannot be delivered in Goodooga due to lack of availability. Services, where they exist, are delivered by external providers.

The relationship between the Goodooga CWP and Brewarrina Shire Council has improved although more needs to be done. Recent construction of bore baths is seen as a response to community agitation for infrastructure for water sports; however, the CWP is concerned that Council sees the baths more as servicing tourism than as a facility for the local community. The CWP has identified opportunities for closer collaboration and a stronger relationship with Council as a means to securing a response to the need to upgrade essential services and achieving aspirations for greater local employment and training in new and emerging industries.

Table 10.1: Community Action Plan (CAP) objectives and actions

Goal	Objective
2	Allow for community development to support our town's economic growth
	2.4 Develop skills in land management including implementation of tree cultivation and planting programme
3	Best educational outcomes for all of our Aboriginal school students
	3.6 Provide a safe pick-up point for children attending school from Goodooga Reserve
5	Focus on keeping community healthy and strong
	5.1 Provide a ready supply of fresh fruit and vegetables as a means of improving nutrition
	5.3 Continue to provide vital care to our frail, aged & people with a disability within our community
6	Live in a safe and healthy home environment
	6.1 Ensure all community-based houses have access to proper air conditioning
	6.2 Support Aboriginal Elders and those with a disability to live independently in their homes

Table 10.1: Community Action Plan (CAP) objectives and actions

Goal	Objective
	6.3 Support tenants to live in a safe and healthy environment
	6.4 Ensure streets and residential areas are clean, tidy and safe
	6.5 Provide additional housing to cater for our community to reduce overcrowding
7	Implement measure to prevent risk to keep our community safe
	7.1 Keep our community safe from illicit substances and promote home and family safety
	7.5 Implement a risk management strategy to keep community safe from fire and other hazards
	7.6 Create a safe environment in and around Goodooga sporting oval
	7.7 Upgrade the canteen area and toilet facilities at the sporting oval
	7.8 Improve the Goodooga tennis court for safety and accessible use
	7.9 Improve street lightning in the town area
	7.12 Ensure youth have access to safe recreational facilities
8	Governance and leadership
	8.1 Encourage all agencies and organisations to improve governance practices, including accountability
	8.2 Maintain strong and effective support to address our CAP objectives and strategies
	8.4 Address the issue of partnership with agencies who are not engaging with the partnership agreement
	8.5 Ensure visiting agencies follow cultural protocols when in Goodooga

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 and be provided by an ACHP accountable to the community Local access to housing managers is needed for improved communication, services and accountability Housing management practice must be shaped to account for community aspirations and cultural norms More accessible, transparent and culturally relevant processes are required for housing application and allocation TSEP services are highly regarded and ongoing access is viewed as important
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 need of R&M but processes for actioning requests are poorly designed, and timeframes are excessive Training and employment of a local Aboriginal workforce to undertake repair and maintenance works is required Air conditioning is to be provided to all houses
Housing affordability	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A method for rent setting which is understood and accepted by tenants is desired. This should account for the impacts of isolation and other cost-of-living pressures Many people struggle to pay power bills due to high energy consumption, especially in the hotter months Households are not accessing CRA because the process is too difficult Homeowners on fixed incomes are seeking support to undertake maintenance of their homes

Table 10.2: Summary of housing and housing-related issues

Issue	Description
Housing need	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Demand for additional housing arises mainly from the needs of young people at the stage of household formation ▪ Crowding is leading to stress, health impacts, and excessive wear and tear ▪ Provision of new housing should consider tenant requirements relating to cultural preferences and practices, as well as household size and family relationships ▪ Access to emergency housing is required to assist persons who become homeless
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 has mobility and safety implications for older community members
Safe and healthy communities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Lack of reliable flows in the Bokhara River threatens the community's raw water supply and consequent lack of access for fishing and yabbying impacts on nutrition ▪ An alternative water supply is needed to allow gardens, street plantings and parks to be irrigated as a means of dust suppression and to permit residents to grow vegetables ▪ Houses are overdue for comprehensive pest control services ▪ A continuous programme is required to monitor and prevent fire hazards ▪ Measures are required to control the spread of mosquitoes during flood events and consequent health threats ▪ Clean-ups are required in residential areas, including reduction of weed infestation, maintenance of long grass and clearing of kerb and gutter

Table 10.3: Summary of human services-related issues

Issue	Description
Accountability and accessibility	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ The CWP requires greater accountability from service providers, and seeks closer relationships to ensure community engagement in service planning, better awareness of services and improved understanding of provider roles and capabilities ▪ Visiting services are poorly coordinated, are not integrated and are challenging to access. The community is poorly informed about service provider visits and referral pathways ▪ Service providers have failed to support local training and employment opportunities; this is essential both to improve economic engagement within the community and to ensure culturally safe service delivery ▪ Cultural perspectives must be integrated into education, health and aged and disability care services and service providers must observe protocols determined by community ▪ A closer working relationship is needed between the CWP and Brewarrina Shire Council ▪ 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
Elders' services	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Care and support services for older people are challenging to access ▪ Home care and other aged care community-based programmes should be provided locally, employing local Aboriginal people ▪ Aged care services need greater focus on nutrition, yard maintenance and engagement in cultural programs and activities
Service needs for people with disabilities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Access to NDIS services, even for eligible potential clients, is very difficult ▪ All NDIS packages currently allocated are full ▪ Comprehensive NDIS services cannot be delivered in Goodooga due to lack of availability

Table 10.3: Summary of human services-related issues

Issue	Description
Youth services	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A wider range of accessible, affordable after-school youth activities (especially sporting activities) is required Initiatives targeting youth engagement and leadership development would be supported by the community
Employment and enterprise	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Human services providers have failed to support greater local training and employment opportunities in service provision The CWP is seeking creation of training and employment opportunities for local Aboriginal people in housing capital works programmes, including repairs and maintenance and new housing construction The CWP wishes to create training and employment through town beautification initiatives, land management activities, the Bowling Club, and tourism enterprises Sustainable employment for local Aboriginal people should be targeted through the pre-school and the Goodooga Health Service In view of improved road connections to larger towns, the community wishes to promote the building of a service station
Community facilities and social infrastructure	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Improvements to the sporting oval precinct, including upgrading of canteen and toilet facilities, are required The community wishes to see the bowls and tennis clubs reinstated as vehicles for social engagement, The churches, cemeteries and community hall are in poor condition limiting community participation in civic, social and community events A footpath and cycleway is required to connect the Reserve to town
Health	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The community is strongly opposed to further downgrading of the Goodooga Health Service and wishes to see staffing levels, access to emergency, and after-hours calls maintained Additional, targeted health promotion activities are required, especially for children and young people Better access is needed to mental health services, and particularly to child and adolescent-specific services
Transport	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Local and regional scheduled transport services, especially to meet the needs of older people and people with a disability, are required A safe school bus stop is required at Goodooga Reserve
Food security	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Access to an alternative water source for irrigation is needed to allow community members to establish vegetable gardens as a means to improve community nutrition

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 makes transparent the core demand drivers that are affecting the sector; documents an evidence base of the community's housing and infrastructure needs; and estimates the magnitude of sector investment. 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.

Interdependencies 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 concept 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, CWP's 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 negotiated system of rules governing projects roll out was formal acknowledgement of the ongoing position of CWP's as the local decision-making body. The Regional and local governance structures remain in place and CWP's remain uniquely positioned to bring their local knowledge

and cultural perspectives to inform the shape and configuration of housing and infrastructure developments. This Master Plan evidences 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, arching across the built environment, and social and economic issues within a cultural context. The Plan is about taking the initiative in terms of planning for, and design of, improvements to the living environment, job creation, and coordination and integration of a raft 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 Goodooga CWP Master Plan is set out at Table 11.1. It brings together the relevant aspirations as documented in the CAP and the views of the community as derived from a structured survey and direct consultation. The proposed actions are those which matter to people.

Implementation will take time. Ongoing engagement between the community through the CWP, stakeholders and decision makers is vital to ensure the strategic 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	Plan reference	Action area	Strategy	Justification
GOOD-01	CAP-6.3 CAP-8.1 CAP-8.4	Address issues surrounding the management of Aboriginal social housing in the community	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Following termination of the AHO/Goodooga LALC headlease agreement, transfer management of GLALC and Bohda properties to a NRSCH-registered Regional ACHP in line with community preference for a local managing ACHP and the aspirations of MPRA to rationalise management services Foster a more inclusive partnership between the CWP and housing manager(s), which entails regular communication with, and performance reporting to, the CWP on matters relating to housing management, including actions taken to maintain and upgrade asset condition 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 Foster an enduring partnership between the Murchi Paaki Tenant Support and Education Programme (MP TSEP), housing provider(s), tenants and homelessness services which ensures that vulnerable Aboriginal members of the community are able to receive the assistance required to remain housed, safe and supported 	<p>CWP members and responses to the MPRH&BC household survey indicated that the performance of the Out-of-Region housing manager was totally unacceptable: requests for R&M were ignored, communication was poor, and accessibility and visibility rare. CWP reported there were houses that urgently required repairs and maintenance work but felt their complaints about housing management were not being heard by the AHO Regional Manager</p> <p>Some actions proposed by the CWP, as documented in the CAP, sit within a regional context and should be referred by the CWP Chair to MPRA for a regional response. Rent levels and aspects of the application and allocation process fall within this category</p> <p>The presence of MP TSEP in the community is allowing tenants and others in need to access much needed housing support services, including applying for CRA through the "difficult, tedious and frustrating Centrelink process". The team has built a strong capability to work across a wide range of human services and tackle barriers to housing on behalf of applicants, including the current online application process, and is contributing to a greater understanding of the lived experiences of Aboriginal tenants</p>
	HEHP-5.5 HEHP-5.8 HEHP-C10 HEHP-11.13			
GOOD-02	CAP-5.3 CAP-6.2 CAP-6.5	Meet 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 Increase the number of accessible dwellings purpose-built for the elderly, frail and disabled to allow them to live independently in their homes 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 	<p>This HEHP shows the need for new housing for Aboriginal individuals and families is not at all reflected by the current housing DCJ Housing Pathways waitlist. Table 11.2 provides a more reliable estimate of need. The CWP feel strongly that the data on crowding collected by the survey did not represent the true seriousness of the situation and that crowding was a major hidden reality as tenants are reluctant to reveal the true level of occupancy as this could lead to tenancy or Centrelink issues.</p> <p>Tenancies in the community are relatively stable and tenants tend to age in place. In view of the poor level of aged care and home care services, it is imperative that the elderly, frail and</p>
	HEHP-5.6 HEHP-5.9 HEHP-5.10 HEHP-5.11 HEHP-10.3 HEHP-11.4			

Table 11.1: Master Plan

Strategy	Plan reference	Action area	Strategy	Justification
GOOD-03	CAP-6.1 CAP-6.3 HEHP-3.4 HEHP-5.7 HEHP-5.8 HEHP-5.9 HEHP-10.2 HEHP-10.3 HEHP-11.7	Rectify the loss of property 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 without delay to a high standard Where assessed to be no longer serviceable, replace housing at the end of its useful life Where possible, use values-aligned contractors which employ or are willing to train local Aboriginal workers to form the nucleus of a local trades workforce 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>those with a disability have accessible housing. The MPRH&BC household survey flagged a requirement for modifications to seven households. The risk of flooding has resulted in many of the older houses having elevated floors which can only be reached by a flight of steps adding to the barriers to mobility</p> <p>Ensuring housing repairs and maintenance was scheduled and carried out competently was a common complaint for respondents to the MPRH&BC household survey. Many of the CWP members felt that no-one was monitoring the performance of the Out-of-Region ACHP and complaints were falling on deaf ears. The only way tenants were getting a response was to contact WATAAS to force the matter. CWP members felt that rent increases had been imposed while agreed improvements in r&m had not happened. Under the AHO Build and Grow policy, asset condition has deteriorated and landlord responsibilities under the Residential Tenancies Act have been ignored. About one in six tenants did not feel safe in their homes, mainly because it was not possible to secure the house as a result of repairs and maintenance not being carried out. CWP indicated that the Out-of-Region ACHP advised the community that the availability and cost of trades is a major barrier to getting housing repairs and maintenance carried out: it's too hard. A proposed solution is to train and employ a local handyman able to respond to requests for r&m directly and coordinate work requiring a licensed trade</p> <p>Provided recommendations for new housing are implemented, there is no need for extensions to existing houses. On the other hand, if new housing is not built, housing extensions and extra bedrooms are needed to manage crowding</p> <p>Supply of packaged air conditioners to all ACHP properties, including the eight homes on Goodooga Reserve, are essential to improve the health and wellbeing of Elders and children. Recent climate modelling points to an increased number of very hot days as the norm. The MPRH&BC household survey</p>

Table 11.1: Master Plan

Strategy	Plan reference	Action area	Strategy	Justification
				established that 17% of Aboriginal social housing dwellings in Goodooga did not have cooling appliances installed and one third of installed systems were either inoperable or not functioning correctly. With the duration of extreme temperatures increasing, it is essential for efficient air conditioning to be provided to each household and properly maintained for reasons of personal health and general wellbeing. Aboriginal social housing in Goodooga without rooftop solar PV systems are included in the joint RAHLA/DPIE funded Alternative Energy project currently proceeding: the objective is to tackle energy poverty. CWP indicate power bills are routinely being estimated by the energy retailer rather than being based on meter readings so bills are astronomical
GOOD-04	CAP-2.4 CAP-3.6 CAP-6.4 CAP-7.5 CAP-7.6 CAP-7.7 CAP-7.8 CAP-7.9 CAP-7.12 HEHP-7.1 HEHP-7.2 HEHP-7.3 HEHP-10.2 HEHP-10.3 HEHP-11.8	Ensure streets and residential areas are clean, tidy and safe	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Advocate with Brewarrina Shire Council and other agencies responsible for infrastructure and the environment for: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The construction of a raw water supply system to irrigation flows to street, public space and yard tree and ground cover plantings as dust control and village beautification measures. Extend to include a local community garden Upgrading of facilities and amenities to public and cultural spaces and to recreational areas to make them more functional and useable Kerb and guttering to all residential areas in the village Regular cleaning and maintenance of kerb and guttering, weed control and slashing of natural vegetation An audit and upgrading of street lighting to all parts of the village to comply with the relevant Australian Standard A pedestrian footpath/bike path with street lighting to Goodooga Reserve from the village Advocate with Goodooga LALC for a safe pick-up point at Goodooga Reserve for the school bus 	<p>The CWP is seeking to improve the overall amenity of the village streetscape, public and cultural places, and recreational areas through greening open spaces, removing rubbish, providing more shaded areas and improving street lighting. Extended dry periods result in loss of vegetation and high levels of dust which blankets every surface and infiltrates homes and commercial premises. Water rates are not affordable so residents are not able to contribute to greening the environment through yard watering (or for larger families to use evaporative coolers in the summer).</p> <p>Goodooga residents have experienced significant food insecurity since the Goodooga Store was destroyed by fire many years ago and this has had direct impact on the community's health and wellbeing. Adding to this is the reality that one third of the community do not have access to a motor vehicle and local transport is limited so ready access to locally produced fresh food will generate a health benefit</p> <p>Lack of shade and suitable facilities and amenities are limiting the ability to conduct public and cultural events such as funerals and ceremonies, and offer recreational activities. With an increase in tourism, the absence of such features reflects</p>

Table 11.1: Master Plan

Strategy	Plan reference	Action area	Strategy	Justification
				poorly on the community
GOOD-05	CAP-8.1 CAP-8.2 CAP-8.4 CAP-8.5 HEHP-9.1 HEHP-9.2 HEHP-10.2 HEHP-10.3 HEHP-11.9	Raise the standard, reach and accessibility of human services contracted to service the community	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 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 Increase the level of employment of Aboriginal community members in the health and human services sectors to improve cultural safety service quality and accessibility Dispense with the contestability model of procurement in favour of negotiation with known regional/local values-aligned providers having a track record of collaboration and community acceptance 	CWP feedback indicates limited community awareness of the presence of human services generally and some providers listed in Table 9.3 are not known. Of those services which are delivered, the CWP flags cultural safety and observance of community cultural protocols as being inadequate. The limited duration allotted to providers in the disability and home care and home support services sectors for face-to-face contact strongly suggests that services cannot be client centred. In consequence, the CWP aspires to see a closer working relationship with governments at community level and/or through MPRA in respect of decision-making, monitoring and performance evaluation of human services. The procurement process is entirely remote and does not necessarily lead to efficient service delivery. It is the view of the CWP that a community contribution in this space would assist in rationalising and guiding service implementation
GOOD-06	Goodooga Community Action Plan: Areas 1 to 8	Arrange and coordinate the integration and effective delivery of health and human services considered essential by the CWP to sustain an equitable level of community wellbeing and cohesion	<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 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 Advocate through MPRA for a comprehensive review of Aboriginal alcohol and other drug residential and counselling services across western NSW with a view to developing a strategy and the infrastructure to address the unmet need for services in the Region and locally Advocate through MPRA for a guarantee from NSW Health that: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Goodooga Health Service will continue to be 	<p>The CWP wishes to action a strategic agenda across the full range of housing, health and human services in a coordinated way to achieve a fully integrated framework that ensures the wellbeing of all Goodooga residents. The CWP has requested that the broad areas of concern be identified in this HEHP Master Plan so that stakeholders are working to one consolidated programme of improvement</p> <p>Access to alcohol and other drug services, particularly early intervention and prevention services, for Aboriginal people living in the Murrumbidgee Region is extremely problematic. Although the Orana Haven residential service is in Brewarrina Shire, the catchment is large and vacancies rare. Access to a detoxification service is even harder</p> <p>A running battle has continued for twenty years or more to retain a hospital service in Goodooga. Through a process of</p>

Table 11.1: Master Plan

Strategy	Plan reference	Action area	Strategy	Justification
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - resourced to provide acute care and general medicine and family services, including specialist nursing and allied health services: OT, audiology and speech pathology - Availability of non-clinical mental health and social and emotional wellbeing services will be increased so that wait times for a professional and culturally safe service do not exceed two weeks and persons presenting with acute mental and behavioural conditions are seen within the appropriate Australasian Triage Scale timeframe for their presentation urgency 	<p>attrition, capability has been reduced to the point where the community is fearful of its closure. The community note that Goodooga Hospital is not provided with a classification in the NSW Health 2021 publication <i>Role Delineation Levels of Emergency Medicine</i> and, as a result, WNSWLHD service planners may not consider Goodooga in its clinical service planning</p>
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Support Goodooga Preschool to take a leadership role in early childhood learning so that our young children can get the best possible start in life ▪ Work with the NSW Department of Education and Goodooga Central School to raise the level of personal development and educational attainment of school age students ▪ Negotiate a package of initiatives around the NSW Government Regional NSW Youth Framework: <i>Empowering youth in regional NSW</i> relating to jobs and pathways to employment, physical and mental health, digital and physical connection, and things to do and places to go ▪ In conjunction with MPS, create a package of initiatives relating to providing essential services to the village through developing the skills and employment opportunities for local people 	<p>The Preschool plays an important educational and social role in community life but the CWP is of the view that it is not taking full advantage of the cultural resources available in the community. Greater involvement of Elders, the introduction of language programme together with the use of trained Aboriginal staff under Aboriginal leadership are seen as essential steps in improving outcomes</p> <p>The community is very concerned about the low level of attainment by children attending the local school: attendance is poor, access to specialist diagnosis, early intervention and intensive support for children with learning and development difficulties is poor, children are not adequately fed, the learning environment is not culturally suitable or engaging, communication between the school and parents is said to be lacking, and mentoring by community leaders is not coordinated</p> <p>Recreational infrastructure supporting personal development of young people are few. Some basic sporting facilities exist but there are few organised or structured activities for young people</p>
				<p>The CWP aspires to improve the economic situation of the community by increasing the level of active participation in the labour market through community development activities and in local delivery of human services. Employment at a renovated Goodooga bowling club and through National Parks and</p>

Table 11.1: Master Plan

Strategy	Plan reference	Action area	Strategy	Justification
				Wildlife Services are viewed as opportunities to develop
				CWP indicates that access to aged care facilities is very limited and that there is huge need for more services for elderly people in Goodooga. There are insufficient aged care facilities, homecare services in the community are not adequate and are always very short staffed. Many people have not been properly assessed and are not on the right package

11.4 Defining need for growth

The total number of Aboriginal social housing dwellings in Goodooga was 48 in June 2020 as detailed in the AHO property schedule, having reduced by one from a total of 49 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 5.27 and Table 11.2 is derived by extrapolating the findings of the MPRH&BC household survey across all Aboriginal households and tenure types to

estimate need arising from those that did not take part.

The number of new dwellings enumerated in Table 11.2 is more than the number of approved applicants shown on the DCJ Housing Register for the total population: fewer than five general applicants and fewer than five priority applicants.

The age profile of the community is such that the majority of those in search of their own housing are young single people or couples without children.

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	18 / 18	5	0	0	0	5	-	-	-
Private rental	- / -	0	0	0	0	-	-	-	-
Homeless	69 / 59	0	0	0	0	-	-	-	-
Social housing rental	48 / 42	10	1	0	0	12	1	-	-
Employer	- / -	0	0	0	0	-	-	-	-
Not defined	- / -	0	0	0	0	-	-	-	-
Total						17	1	0	0

A breakdown of social housing waiting list by bedroom capacity as of mid-2019 provided by the AHO is shown at Table 11.3 for comparison purposes. There were no applications identified.

Table 11.3: Waiting list, number of dwellings by bedroom size, 2018

	Number of bedrooms					Σ
	1	2	3	4+	NK	
Waiting list	-	-	-	-	-	-

Feedback received from the community summarised in Chapter 10 reinforces the need for additional housing on the scale and with the mix proposed.

Table 11.4 puts an order of cost against increased supply based on new builds and suggests that given the costs for new builds that alternatives to on-site construction be considered.

Table 11.4: Estimated cost of new builds (GST excl)

Number of bedrooms	GFA (m2)	Unit cost (\$/m2)	No	Estimate (\$)
2	120	3,470	17	7,078,800
3	160	2,850	1	456,000
4	185	2,850	0	0
5 and more	200	2,850	0	0
Total				7,534,800

Four new houses were added by the AHO to the Goodooga Aboriginal social housing portfolio in 2020 in the form of prefabricated Elders housing with modifications for access and disability. These dwellings have been very favourably received by the community and the CWP has expressed its endorsement for this style of housing as a solution to meeting the acute demand for suitable housing for elderly residents to allow them to live independently.

11.5 Replacement housing

The MPRH&BC household survey did not record any social housing respondents describing their properties as 'condemned' or 'unliveable' but many houses are old and contain bonded asbestos materials which have become friable with age. Table 5.35 indicates five houses require major refurbishment and this HEHP takes the position that, although, scoping of properties will identify those houses beyond economic repair which will require a decision on serviceability, these five will be found to need replacement. An allocation shown at Table 11.5 is included in the budget for this eventuality.

Table 11.5: Estimated cost of replacement housing (GST excl)

Number of bedrooms	GFA (m2)	Unit cost (\$/m2)	No	Estimate (\$)
2	120	3,817	0	-
3	160	3,135	5	2,508,000
4	185	3,135	0	-
5 and more	200	3,135	0	-
Total				2,508,000

11.6 Housing extensions and modifications

Expressed need for extensions projected on the same basis as Table 11.2, is stated in Table 11.6. A budget of \$35,000/extension is allowed for extension and \$3,000 for each home modification.

Table 11.6: Requirement for housing extensions and modifications

Extensions (Factor 48/42)	Number of bedrooms		
	1	2	3
Number of extensions	-	-	-
Total number of bedrooms			
Modifications			
Number of dwellings	7		

Estimated budget to attend to extensions and modifications listed in Table 11.6 is given in Table 11.7. The estimate assumes that works are of a minor nature.

Table 11.7: Estimated budget for housing extensions and modifications

	Estimate (\$)
Extensions	-
Modifications	21,000
Total	

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 11.8. Average unit expenditure is approximately \$33,650 per property. The estimate assumes that five properties assessed from the MPRH&BC household survey as requiring high-cost repairs are replaced.

All properties are, or should be, subject to regular and planned inspection and, where under head lease, as per an AHO housing management agreement.

Table 11.8: Repair and maintenance, probable order of cost

	Cost (\$)
Property repair, maintenance and upgrade	1,446,900
Total	1,446,900

Murdi Paaki Regional Housing Corporation has secured funding through the AHO Aboriginal Community Housing Investment Fund (ACHIF) for property repair and maintenance and/or upgrades to one property. The AHO ACHIF allocation amounts to \$20,630.

11.8 Infrastructure

Table 7.2 itemises infrastructure elements of concern to the CWP. Responsibility for improvement rests with Brewarrina Shire Council and so no costs are attached to any of the projects in this HEHP. The health and amenity impacts of dust are of primary concern and attention is drawn to the need for a town raw water supply to sustain a vegetated landscape and recreational spaces on very friable black soils. A discontinued scheme drew water via a weir pool on the Bokhara River and distributed a supply to residential properties but the infrastructure needed renewal and was withdrawn from service.

11.9 Emergency, short term and transitional accommodation

The Goodooga community does not have access to emergency accommodation in the village. Telephone help may be available through the CentaCare or DCJ Link2Home hotline but no accommodation is readily available. Practical and immediate support exists only to the extent of the Women's Safe House in Lightning Ridge managed by Mission Australia along with the Lightning Ridge Homeless and Housing Support Service. This service provides support to young people and adults; however, the only accommodation it has available to it is the Women's Safe House: a three-bedroom share house and two-two-bedroom crisis units.

11.10 Probable order of cost

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

- 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;
- Costs for replacement housing allow a contingency of 10% for demolition and site clearing;
- 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 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	54,000
Land acquisition	28,000
Site infrastructure (nominal)	70,000
New housing supply	7,534,800
Replacement housing	2,508,000
Housing extensions	0
Housing modifications	21,000
Repair and maintenance	1,446,900
Sub-total	11,662,700
Unquantified risk allowance (5%)	575,500
Project management (12.5%)	1,438,800
Programme admin (3%)	345,300
Total	14,022,400

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.

11.11 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 so realising a solution is dependent upon grant funding from governments.

11.12 Staging of works

There are no priorities attached to the improvements listed in Table 11.9. All works may be classified as immediate. Repair and maintenance work should be programmed to proceed as one integrated contract following scoping. Programming may be subject to building sector capacity which can be mobilised from surrounding towns and/or using the work as a vehicle for an Aboriginal apprentice training scheme.

Key to rolling out new building work at any scale may be resolution of planning and land acquisition matters. Only four vacant Land Council and MPRHC sites may be available in the town area, but the number is insufficient to build new housing on the scale outlined. Detailed planning for future works will necessarily follow once the level of investment and potential sites are identified.

Before proceeding with any residential development of scale, a full asset management planning process and feasibility assessment should be completed to investigate the balance of new housing construction and major upgrades to older dwellings or those in very poor condition. As for

previous major capital works projects, scheduling of works must balance the need to satisfy community housing needs with the benefits of skills acquisition.

The CWP suggests that rate at which new housing is delivered be matched to an effective and longer-term construction training programme. A skills audit and assessment of interest has not been attempted so conceptualisation of a training and employment strategy remains to be carried out.

11.13 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. Team members play a key role in supporting community members to establish and maintain tenancies, negotiate application and compliance processes and leverage partnerships to deliver wrap-around services as required by the principal objectives of the programme:

- Increase community knowledge of the Aboriginal housing sector among both tenants and service providers;
- Increase awareness and accessibility of services for vulnerable groups who may be at risk of homelessness or living in overcrowded situations;
- Increase the number of tenants engaged with support services;
- Increase knowledge of housing application processes; and
- Increase housing stability through case management.

Relationships have been established with all Community Working Parties, many community organisations and human services support providers, and through this network, MP TSEP is gaining further valuable insights into the internal dynamics of each community. This knowledge allows MP TSEP to step beyond local politics and mechanisms of control to play an increasingly strategic role in supporting CWPs and MPRA initiatives. Given the complexity of the housing and related human services landscape from a

community perspective, the role of MP TSEP is critical to ensuring equity to tenants in service delivery.

A MP TSEP client will often require several case management interventions before housing-related assistance can begin. Typically, these external supports delivered through partner organisations might include:

- Arranging a repayment plan for rental arrears, power bill arrears, and fines and debts with State Debt Recovery Office;
- Referral to health and wellbeing services, mental health and addiction services;
- Assistance to obtain childcare; and
- Referral to DCJ in relation to child and family matters, help to negotiate the justice system, and support for victims of domestic and family violence.

In respect of housing, MP TSEP provides direct assistance to the community through:

- Arranging for identification documents and working with an applicant through the Housing Pathways process;
- Helping tenants to apply for Commonwealth rent assistance and/or are receiving this assistance through Centrelink;
- Intervening when tenants are in danger of breaching their tenancy agreements and, as above, arranging a repayment plan when tenants fall behind with their rent; and
- Generally supporting tenants at risk to sustain tenancies and reduce the risk of homelessness.

This Master Plan acknowledges the valuable contribution of MP TSEP to help maintain stability in the Aboriginal social housing sector and acting as the link between tenants in need of support and the human services responsible for providing that support.

11.14 Home ownership

Relative to other Murdi Paaki communities, the level of home ownership in Goodooga is high. Thirty percent (n=18) of respondents to the

MPRH&BC household survey were owners and, of these, only two were unhappy with their decision to purchase. This cohort provides a local example of active participation in the real estate market of which tenants will be aware. In consequence, the CWP considers there is little to be gained in further promoting home ownership as an alternative form of tenure. Tenants will be self-motivated if there is interest. Being saddled with debt in an uncertain economy will be a serious deterrent for some.

11.15 Value-adding initiatives

The community benefitted from the Goodooga Aboriginal Community Development Programme (ACDP) between 2003 and 2008. House renovation and extension, streetscape and stormwater drainage improvements, and environmental rehabilitation created opportunities for trainee builders through the local Pulkurru Building Company. As a result, an Aboriginal trades capacity was formed. Unfortunately, a continuing pipeline of work was not forthcoming and Pulkurru ceased building once ACDP concluded. Establishing a long-term relationship with a licensed builder able to supervise a team daily, coupled with material supply, proved challenging. To respond to the latest CWP proposal for development of an Aboriginal trades capacity, these difficulties would need to be overcome and programming of the construction of new housing and maintenance of existing properties would need to reflect a long-term commitment to integrating education, training and economic development activities in a remote environment.

With investment in an improved road network and facilities, the economic potential of Goodooga as a tourist destination is increased. Despite earlier work, the village streetscape creates a poor visual image. The CWP suggests that constructing a raw water supply system able to support large scale revegetation of the community will:

- Optimise the latest investments by raising tourist perceptions of Goodooga as a desirable destination and, as a result, number of visitors;

- Greater neighbourhood interaction through increased social and recreational activities centred on the Bowling Club and oval; and
- Contribute to sustainable living through controlling dust, lowering temperatures through shading and generating relationships between an accessible natural environment and wellbeing.

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