

**Walcha Council 2022 – 2023
Annual Report – Appendix E**



State of the Environment Report

STATE OF THE ENVIRONMENT

INTRODUCTION

The vision of our Community Strategic Plan (CSP), *Walcha 2032*, is:

“To be a vibrant and sustainable environment in which people want to live, work and play.”

The term environments includes the natural, built, social and cultural environment that has and will continue to shape the Walcha Community, and demonstrates that the environment is fundamental to the success of delivering the CSP and achieving our vision.

This report conveys a snapshot of environmental measures identified in the CSP and demonstrates progress of achieving the quadruple bottom line in the Delivery Program and Operational Plan for 2022-2023.

GOAL 6.1



STRATEGY 6.1.2

Promote sustainable development and protection of our natural resources through the planning system.

ACTIONS

Apply Council's Local Environmental Plan and planning controls

TASK	MEASURE	OUTCOME
Town Planning functions	Full compliance with legislation	Each development application is assessed under section 4.15 of the EP&A Act 1979 taking into consideration relevant planning controls and ensuring compliance
Biodiversity Conservation		

GOAL 6.2



STRATEGY 6.2.1

Develop and promote programs that increase the participation of the community in recycling.

ACTIONS

- a) Advertise options for recycling
- b) Educate residents on ways to recycle
- c) Participate in container deposit scheme

TASK	MEASURE	OUTCOME
Advertise options for recycling	The weight of material recycled	Waste Strategy complete and adopted. Year 1 actions being worked through and delivered.

TASK	MEASURE	OUTCOME
Educate residents on ways to recycle	The weight of material recycled	Waste strategy completed and adopted – Year 1 actions being worked through and delivered.
Participation in CDS	CDS Operating	✓

STRATEGY 6.2.2

Implement alternate and affordable processes that reduce waste going to landfill.

ACTIONS

Identify and investigate process options to reduce waste going to landfill.

TASK	MEASURE	OUTCOME
Identify and investigate process options	Completion of Waste Management Strategy	Waste Strategy completed and adopted.

STRATEGY 6.2.4

Manage solid waste in an efficient, affordable and sustainable manner.

ACTIONS

- a) Review and update Council's Waste Management Strategy.
- b) Maintain and operate Council's Waste services as per the Waste Management Strategy.
- c) Participate actively in Northern Inland Regional Waste Group.

TASK	MEASURE	OUTCOME
Review and update the Waste Management Strategy	The strategy is developed	Waste Strategy is completed and adopted. Year 1 actions being worked on and delivered.
Maintain and operate waste services as per the Waste Management Plan	Maintain and operate the waste services.	The Waste Services are maintained and utilised.
Participate in the NIRW Group	The number of meetings attended	Well attended, exact statistics not available.

GOAL 6.3



STRATEGY 6.3.1

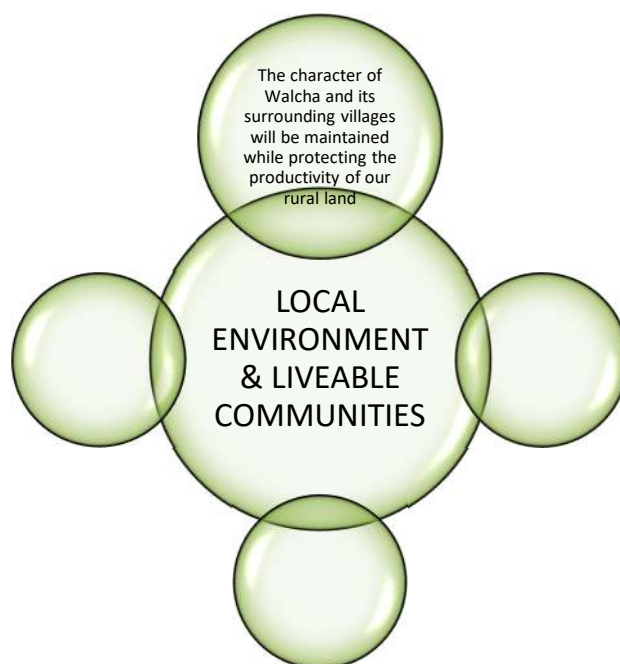
Update the Integrated Water Cycle Management Strategy and other water and sewer management plans.

ACTIONS

- a) Update the recommendations of the Integrated Water Cycle Management Strategy
- b) Review the Drought Management Plan.
- c) Review the Drinking Water Quality Management Plan

TASK	MEASURE	OUTCOME
Review the Drought Management Plan.	The Plan is reviewed.	Draft Emergency Water Carting Plan developed and to be included in updated Drought Management Plan.
Review the Water Quality Management Plan annually.	The Plan is reviewed annually.	Annual DWMS Report completed and submitted to DPIE-Water, and NSW Health. Monthly water quality meetings and improvement plan actions reviewed.

GOAL 6.5



STRATEGY 6.5.1

Maintain the character of the Walcha Local Government Area through orderly development of the natural and built environment.

ACTIONS

Apply Council's Local Environmental Plan and planning controls to ensure development complies with codes, regulations and policies.

TASK	MEASURE	OUTCOME
Building Control - Ensure development complies with code, regulations and policies.	100% compliance during construction inspections	BCA compliance and consistency with development consent ensured at each critical inspection stage prior to construction progressing

STRATEGY 6.5.2

Ensure that sufficient land is available to meet the demand for appropriate land uses.

ACTIONS

Undertake review of NENW Housing & Land Monitor Report to assess housing and employment land availability and demand.

TASK	MEASURE	OUTCOME
Provide housing and employment land data to the DoP&E to assist in preparation of the NENW Land Monitor Report	Service provision and infrastructure investment meet the needs of the LGA.	Updated Housing and Land Monitoring data submitted to the Department annually.

STRATEGY 6.5.3

Enhance the Walcha Local Government Area so that it continues to be an attractive place to live, work and visit.

ACTIONS

- a) Maintain parks as per the Parks Asset Management Plan
- b) Control activities that impact on residential amenity.

TASK	MEASURE	OUTCOME
Review and update the Parks Asset Management Plan.		Asset Management Plan reviewed.
Enhance the facilities at, and the use of, Council's Parks ensuring equipment is inclusive.	Improve parks facilities.	Facilities have been improved within the LGA with equipment that is inclusive and adheres to safety standards.