



Environmental Action Plan Annual Update

10/2013



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shire council

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Environmental Action Plan

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WELCOME TO THE ENVIRONMENTAL ACTION PLAN

Welcome to Ballina Shire Council's Environmental Action Plan. The Environmental Action Plan (EAP) documents actions that aim to improve our local environment through improving Council's own operations and activities.

The aim of the EAP is to provide guidance to the elected council and the community on the types of actions that are taking place within the organisation. Whilst Council has always been active in improving environmental outcomes across its areas of responsibility, the EAP documented these actions for the first time in 2011. This is the third annual report to the community.

The EAP is a working document that is reviewed on an ongoing basis. This process provides an opportunity for council staff, Councillors and community to regularly contribute to the plan by providing good ideas aimed at increasing the environmental sustainability of our shire.

WHAT IS THE ENVIRONMENTAL ACTION PLAN?

The EAP informs Council's delivery program and operational plans that are required by the Department of Local Government as part of the Integrated Planning and Reporting Framework. Each of these programs and plans serve to inform the community about how Council is moving toward its commitments in the Ballina Shire Council Community Strategic Plan (CSP).

The EAP outlines Council's own commitments in meeting the environmental components of the CSP and identifies the principal activities that Council is undertaking to meet those objectives. It documents planned improvements in Council's practices that will improve the environmental sustainability of the organisation. Although these actions are focused on improving environmental outcomes, many actions also have economic or social benefits.

This plan aims to improve the planning and priority setting for the Council as a whole organisation in regard to its various environmental initiatives. This action plan will assist in the review of resources available to develop and implement environmental programs, ensure we are able to measure our performance in delivering against the plan, and identify areas which would benefit from a more proactive development of programs and initiatives.

DEVELOPING THE ENVIRONMENTAL ACTION PLAN

This Environmental Action Plan identifies actions that seek to achieve better environmental outcomes in many of Council's activities and operations. The development of the plan has required input from Councillors and from staff across many of Council's principal activity areas including:

- Open Space and Reserves
- Engineering Works
- Depot, Assets and Systems
- Commercial Property
- Waste Management
- Water and Wastewater
- Governance and Finance
- Human Resources
- Risk Management
- Community Facilities and Services
- Building Services
- Development Services
- Environment and Public Health
- Communication and Tourism
- Strategic Planning
- Airport
- Information Services

This EAP collates the array of environmental initiatives that are undertaken by Council. This plan also collates ideas for future action to ensure that these are not lost and can be reviewed once resources become available.

Each action in the plan is listed alongside the benefits of the action and how progress towards the action will be measured. The action plan is largely operational in nature and has been designed to ensure that actions can be viewed and sorted against a number of different criteria such as the CSP outcome it relates to, possible funding sources or progress status. Each of the actions has also been assigned a management portfolio within Council that has the responsibility of regularly reporting the progress of these actions through internal reporting mechanisms.

The EAP is reviewed annually for progress of actions as well as additional projects. Regular review of this plan provides an internal process that seeks to encapsulate all of these activities and ideas in a centralised and ongoing way.

COMMUNITY STRATEGIC PLAN OBJECTIVES

Our Community...Our Future is Ballina Shire Council's Community Strategic Plan and sits above all other council plans and policies in the planning hierarchy. The CSP identifies the community's main priorities and aspirations for the future to promote a positive lifestyle and improve the amenity for our residents and visitors. Council will use this document to guide and inform its decision making and planning for at least the next ten years.

While council has a custodial role in initiating, preparing and maintaining the CSP on behalf of the Ballina Shire, it is not wholly responsible for its implementation. Other partners, such as State government agencies and community groups may also be engaged in delivering the long term objectives of the Plan.

The EAP documents those activities for which Council is responsible, and whilst projects are in progress, many will also be outlined in the combined Delivery Program and Operational Plan document that supports the CSP.

The Delivery Program outlines the Strategies to achieve the Directions and Outcomes of the CSP. The Operational Plan schedules Council's Actions over the next four years to achieve the Strategies in the Delivery Program. For ease of reference and reporting the Delivery Program and Operational Plan have been combined into one document. The implementation of the Delivery Program and Operational Plan (combined document) is monitored quarterly by performance indicators and measurements to ensure actions are completed on time and within allocated budgets. The review of the Delivery Program and Operational Plan (combined document) is undertaken annually to ensure that Strategies and Actions are meeting Directions and Outcomes outlined in the CSP.

All Council's actions relate directly to the outcomes of the CSP. These outcomes have been outlined below.

- We feel safe
- We feel connected to the community
- There are services, facilities and transport options that suit our needs
- We attract new business and visitors
- Business can grow and diversify
- We can work close to home
- We understand the environment
- We use our resources wisely
- Our built environment blends with the natural environment
- Our Council works with the community
- Council's finances and assets are well managed
- We are all valued citizens.

The EAP works towards achieving Ballina Shire Council's commitments to the environmental components of the CSP. The EAP table of activities mirrors the table template used in the combined Delivery Program and Operational Plan document.

A DYNAMIC & EVOLVING DOCUMENT

A WORKING DOCUMENT

As a working document the EAP also provides a database for the good ideas that are provided by Council staff and the community. It is intended that the EAP process will become embedded into the organisation and that individual program managers will access and use the plan as a compiled reference source as they monitor grant and project opportunities. Internal procedures will also ensure that the plan is reviewed quarterly and progress is reported to the elected Council and the community.

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Community members wanting to contribute can email their ideas to greenbea@ballina.nsw.gov.au

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BALLINA ENVIRONMENTAL ACTION (BEA)

The **Green Bea** mascot assists in keeping the Ballina Shire community up to date on Council's environmental initiatives.



Look out for Bea buzzing about in various Council media, such as Council's Community Connect newsletter, the Ballina Shire Advocate and the Staff Matters newsletter.

HOW CAN I CONTRIBUTE?

The EAP is an evolving document and serves also as a central database of ideas for further actions. To date, the actions documented in this plan have primarily come from ideas provided by staff, management and the elected Council. The community is also encouraged to provide ideas for improving our shire's environmental sustainability. Although not every idea can or will be resourced, community ideas and input will help Council in considering which areas to focus on.

Community members wanting to contribute their ideas can do so by emailing greenbea@ballina.nsw.gov.au with the subject heading *Environmental Action Plan*.

ENVIRONMENTAL ACHIEVEMENTS



This section of the EAP outlines the environmental actions that Council implemented during the 2012/13 financial year. For previous completed actions, please see Appendix 1

HEADING IN THE RIGHT DIRECTION

Our progress in achieving the Actions identified for 2013/14 is reported to Council on a quarterly basis. The section responsible, as per our Organisation Structure, for delivering these Actions, is also identified.

Council has developed a Delivery Program and Operational Plan to achieve the Directions and Outcomes identified in our Community Strategic Plan. This section of the EAP shows how our Environmental Actions links into the Intergrated Planning Framework.

Many outcomes and actions are included in Council's Delivery Program and Operational Plan and can be directly cross-referenced within these documents.

Actions which are new, or not included in the Delivery Program and Operational Plan (combined document) that Council has endorsed may be included in future Delivery Programs.

The reporting in the following tables relates to the period from September 2012 to September 2013.



Direction One: A Connected Community (CC)

CSP Priorities	The benefits will be...	Action	Measures/Target	2012/13 Report	Responsibility	Status	Links to NSW 2021 Goals
OUTCOME CC1. WE FEEL SAFE							
CC1.2 Ensure adequate plans are in place for natural disasters and environmental changes	The community is more aware of the plans in place and better prepared for change	CC1.2.1 Deliver contemporary disaster and environmental plans					
		Implement Council's Climate Action Strategy:-		See actions below.	All		4.28
		Inclusion of sea level rise considerations in flood and hazard studies across the shire (ie Ballina Island, West Ballina, Lennox Head, Newrybar Swamp)	SLR consideration included	Council's policy is to include a 40cm SLR estimate for 2050 and a 90cm SLR estimate for 2100. Floodplain Risk Management Study adopted, and Plan proceeding.	Civil Services	Complete	2.11
		Gallery of historic flood events uploaded onto website	Gallery accessible on website.	Gallery uploaded and launched in July 2013. 108 photographs available for viewing dated from 1896 to 2005.	Strategic Planning	Complete	
Arbovirus surveillance and mosquito monitoring undertaken during peak season	Safety alerts issued as appropriate	Much lower rates of infection reported during 2012/13 season (25% lower than usual)	Environmental and Public Health	Ongoing			

CSP Priorities	The benefits will be...	Action	Measures/Target	2012/13 Report	Responsibility	Status	Links to NSW 2021 Goals
CC1.3 Monitor the built infrastructure and the services delivered to the community to ensure relevant standards are being met	Higher levels of legislative compliance Lower risks of f accidents and outbreaks of disease	CC1.3.1 Improve asset management to minimise risk of failure and to maximise benefits delivered					
		Lennox Head dual reticulation operational	Megalitres potable water and associated costs saved	Lennox Head Recycled Wastewater Treatment Plan near completion. Kings Court Recycled Water Tank construction almost complete, most 'purple' pipes laid to transport recycled water.	Water and Wastewater	In progress	3.21
		Upgrade Ballina Sewage Treatment Plant for recycled water	Percentage re-use, water quality monitoring	Ballina Recycled Wastewater Treatment Plant nearing completion.	Water and Wastewater	In progress	3.21
		Implement urban stormwater management plan	Actions implemented	New plan adopted August 2012. Implementation dependent on funding opportunities. Funding applied for through NRCMA's Call for Partners and Projects.	Engineering Works, Development and Environmental and Public Health	In progress	4.22
		Upgrade streetlighting across the shire	All streetlighting now energy efficient	Streetlighting upgrade complete. Energy efficient streetlighting now conditioned as part of new subdivisions.	Assets and Systems Management, Infrastructure Planning	Complete	3.19
		Promote existing carpool website for NR Carpool.	Social and economic drivers for users	The Northern Rivers Carpool has now developed the NR carpool app for smart phones and tablets that allows users to add plans, search for matches and browse current people travelling to where they want to go, and get an instant calculation of travel costs and CO ₂ savings. The website has recently been redesigned to improve its functionality.	Strategic Planning (Ballina hosting NR Carpool during 2013)	Complete	4.24

CSP Priorities	The benefits will be...	Action	Measures/Target	2012/13 Report	Responsibility	Status	Links to NSW 2021 Goals
		Pollution reduction program for sewer overflows	Reduce sewer overflows from WWTP's	Pollution reduction plan included in Council's budget. As of 16 Sep 13, currently in design with construction of necessary works anticipated by end of 2014.	Water and Wastewater	In progress	3.19
		Ongoing upgrade pump station assets	Reduce sewer overflows and incidents	10% of sewerage pumps to be replaced this financial year (2013/14).	Water and Wastewater	Ongoing	3.19
CC1.3.2 Seek a high level of development compliance in our community							
		Update Contaminated Lands Register and Mapping Program	Maintain real time information for community safety and information	Contaminated Land Register has been established with information being added to Council's GIS and Corporate Planning Control Database. With the update of the computer software systems a project to improve updating and expansion of these records to conform to statutory requirements is at scoping	Environmental and Public Health	In progress	2.11
CC1.3.3 Ensure food premises, public pools and potable water is safe for human use and consumption							
		Ensure all drinking water sites are monitored weekly	Drinking water sites monitored	100% of drinking water sites monitored weekly.	Environmental and Public Health	Ongoing	2.11
		Ensure compliance with National Health & Medical Research Council drinking water standards	Non-compliance issues (Target = nil)	Nil (100% compliance)	Environmental and Public Health	Ongoing	2.11

CSP Priorities	The benefits will be...	Action	Measures/Target	2012/13 Report	Responsibility	Status	Links to NSW 2021 Goals
		Ensure all food premises are audited on a regular basis	Food premises audited (Target 100% per year)	<p>All fixed food premises (253) on the register were inspected during the course of the financial year. There are 70 market food stalls subject to inspection and of these 60 were present at the time inspections were carried out. A total of 49 Warning Letters were issued following inspections. Six Improvement Notices for urgent food safety breaches were issued, and 6 Penalty Infringement Notices were issued for food safety/hygiene offences.</p> <p>A total of 34 food related complaints were also received during the year with most (24) being related to food hygiene/food safety concerns.</p>	Environmental and Public Health	Ongoing	2.11
		Maintain an acceptable level of compliance with health regulations for all food premises	Food premises issued with Infringement Notices (Target <5%)	< 2% of premises required to be issued with infringement notices	Environmental and Public Health	Ongoing	2.11
		Maintain an acceptable level of compliance with health regulations for all food premises	Food premises issued with Infringement Notices (Target <5%)	< 2% of premises required to be issued with infringement notices	Environmental and Public Health	Ongoing	2.11
OUTCOME CC2. WE FEEL CONNECTED TO THE COMMUNITY							

CSP Priorities	The benefits will be...	Action	Measures/Target	2012/13 Report	Responsibility	Status	Links to NSW 2021 Goals
CC2.1 Encourage community interaction and volunteering	There are more people volunteering in our community	CC2.1.1 Encourage and foster community pride through volunteering initiatives					
		Acknowledge and support volunteers in Landcare and Coastcare	Actions taken to recognise volunteers	All groups have First Aid Officers and members trained in Chemical Certification with annual refresher training.	Open Space and Reserves	Ongoing	4.24
CC2.2 Create events and activities that promote interaction and education, as well as a sense of place	Increase in events, community participation and a sense of place	CC2.2.2 Grow and support the Northern Rivers Community Gallery					
		Develop opportunities to explore environment through art and culture.	Initiatives implemented	Environmental art exploration through workshops with Digby Moran and the Saltwater Women during April 2013.	Community Facilities and Services	Ongoing	4.27
		CC2.2.3 Support local events					
		Develop a waste policy for events	Reduce waste to landfill from events	Due for completion late 2013.	Tourism/Waste	In progress	4.23
		Support Clean Up Australia Day	Reduce litter in environment	Six sites were registered for Clean Up Australia Day 2013 held on 3 March 2013. Four school sites were registered for Schools Clean Up Day. Council collected and disposed of the 750kg of rubbish collected by those participating in CUAD.	Waste/Environmental and Public Health	Ongoing	4.23
CC2.2.4 Manage and encourage Companion Animals							

CSP Priorities	The benefits will be...	Action	Measures/Target	2012/13 Report	Responsibility	Status	Links to NSW 2021 Goals
		Implement Companion Animals Management Plan	'Doggy poo' dispensers installed at Lennox Head.	<p>The trial of 'doggy poo' bag dispensers at Lennox Head has been successful. As part of the Companion Animal Management Plan review in 2012, Council resolved to install additional dispensers through out the Shire.</p> <p>Currently four dispensers have been installed following positive feedback from the community. It is planned to install another two dispensers by the end of 2013.</p> <p>Owners of dogs are required to remove and dispose of dog faeces.</p>	Environmental and Public Health	In progress	4.22
OUTCOME CC3. THERE ARE SERVICES AND FACILITIES THAT SUIT OUR NEEDS							
CC3.1 Provide equitable access to a range of community services and facilities	Increased satisfaction and participation rates A healthier community	CC3.1.2 Oversee management of community centres and improve their access and services					
		Connection of internal water tanks at Lennox Head CCC to toilets and urinals.	Reduce TBL costs of operating facilities.	Action awaiting funding.	Community Facilities/Operations Support	Not started	4.23



Direction Two: A Prosperous Economy (PE)

CSP Priorities	The benefits will be...	Action	Measures/Target	2012/13 Report	Responsibility	Status	Links to NSW 2021 Goals
OUTCOME PE1. WE ATTRACT NEW BUSINESS AND VISITORS							
PE1.1 Promote our area as an attractive place to invest and visit	Economy grows and is more resilient Improved range of services An appreciation of the environmental assets of our local area	PE1.1.1 Work together to plan, coordinate and implement visitor attractive tourism initiatives for the region and Ballina Coast & Hinterland to benefit the local economy and community					
		Emphasise the natural assets of Ballina Shire	Recognise in Destination Management Plan	Destination Management Plan in development.	Tourism	In progress	4.27
		Enhance nature based tourism opportunities	Increase over time in low-impact nature based tourism activities	Ballina LEP 2012 implemented in February 2013. Includes specific provisions enabling nature based tourism land uses where compatible with environmental values.	Tourism	In progress	4.27
		Installation of photovoltaic panels for solar power for cabins, amenities and lighting at Flat Rock Holiday Park	Number of panels installed and capacity generated.	Amenities building has two large water tanks and gas hot water. Lighting on beach side of park is solar. No resources for PV panel purchase at present.	Commercial Services	In progress	4.27
		Install solar powered lights in public areas (including tourist parks)	Save energy, lower installation costs, increase attractiveness and safety of public areas.	12 solar lights installed in public areas in 2012/13.	Operations Support/Commercial Services	In progress	4.27



Direction Three: A Healthy Environment (HE)

CSP Priorities	The benefits will be...	Action	Measures/Target	2012/13 Report	Responsibility	Status	Links to NSW 2021 Goals
OUTCOME HE1. WE UNDERSTAND THE ENVIRONMENT							
HE1.1 Our planning considers past and predicted changes to the environment	Reduced risk from natural disasters or changes in climate	HE1.1.1 Plan, monitor and manage to protect our coastline					
		Finalise and implement Coastal Zone Management Plan for Ballina Coastline.	Plan completed and actions implemented	CZMP Adopted 26 September 2013.	Engineering Works	Adoption of plan complete	4.22
		Implement natural area management plans on an ongoing basis.	Natural areas consolidated and enhanced	Landcare and Coastcare groups across shire provide thousands of hours service each year in removing weeds, planting and management of natural areas. Duck Creek and Killen Falls areas currently implementing 3 rd and final year of Environmental Trust grant. Ballina Coastcare successful in obtaining grant funds for this financial year also. See Appendix 2 for full list.	Open Space and Reserves	Ongoing	4.22
		Ensure compliance with the 'Code of Conduct' for beach vehicle access.	Safer multiple uses of beach, manage erosion	Compliance monitoring and education ongoing. Rangers and public 'peer review', as well as commercial operators assist in this process. Works in partnership with Cape Byron Marine Park.	Open Space and Reserves/Environmental and Public Health	Complete	4.23
HE1.1.2 Plan, monitor and manage to protect our floodplains							

CSP Priorities	The benefits will be...	Action	Measures/Target	2012/13 Report	Responsibility	Status	Links to NSW 2021 Goals
		Finalise Floodplain Risk Management Plan	Plan exhibited and adopted	Floodplain Risk Management Study complete, and Plan in preparation.	Engineering Works	In progress	4.22
		Undertake Acid Sulfate Soils audit	Reduce impacts from the agricultural (mostly sugar cane) industry on water quality.	Audit continues to be completed annually by the Co-operative with Council environmental officers present at each of the randomly selected farm inspections. Council receives a copy of the audit each year. Audit is an integral part of MOU between Planning NSW and Co-operative for the sugar industry regarding self-regulation of drainage and earthworks in acid sulfate soil areas. The report details the results of the annual audit of acid management practices of grower members of the NSW Sugar Milling Co-operative Limited.	Environmental and Public Health	Ongoing	4.22
HE1.1.3 Actively promote and undertake climate saving and environmental actions as an organisation							
		Implementation of Council's Climate Action Strategy and Environmental Action Plan	Actions implemented.	Climate Action Strategy has largely been progressed with some actions still remaining in Environmental Action Plan for action. CAS has been nominated for LGNSW Awards for Environmental Excellence and Coastal Management Award (2013 Coastal Conference).	Strategic Planning	In progress	4.22
		Provide information to community about environmental and public health risks.	Relevant information available.	Additional factsheets have been added to Council's website covering the following topics: Mosquitoes, Public Health Risk and Mosquitoes, Blue Green Algae and Prevent Stormwater Pollution in Northlakes.	Environmental and Public Health	Ongoing	4.23

CSP Priorities	The benefits will be...	Action	Measures/Target	2012/13 Report	Responsibility	Status	Links to NSW 2021 Goals
		Collate a Regional State of the Environment report.	RSOE completed in year of local government election.	2012 Regional State of the Environment report completed by the CMA with Council staff input.	Strategic Planning	Complete	4.22
		Prepare a Community Environmental Education Strategy.	Strategy adopted.	Internal draft commenced, internal discussions continuing.	Strategic Planning	In progress	4.22
		Apply for grant funding to leverage existing resources.	Increase ability to undertake projects.	\$256 780 awarded in grants to Council, and \$21 510 to Landcare and Coastcare groups in Ballina shire.	All	Ongoing	4.22
		Protect and stabilise coastal dunes at Lake Ainsworth.	Coastal dune protection, ensure ongoing viability of Lake Ainsworth.	Additional plantings undertaken during the year, but coastal erosion a constant issue in this area.	Open Space and Reserves	Ongoing	4.22
		Implement actions from the Bitou Bush Threat Abatement Plan (TAP.)	Increase in areas of native vegetation and habitat where bitou bush under control.	8 sites previously under active management, external funding has ceased as of 2013/14 financial year. Council currently does not have funds to maintain areas Bitou Bush free.	Open Space and Reserves	Complete	4.22
		Implement actions from the Chickiba SEPP 14 EIS.	Number of actions implemented, hectares vegetation restored.	RFS funding assisting APZ construction. CMA funding received for ecological restoration has begun. Funding application made for hydrological changes needed which was unsuccessful, but further funding opportunities being pursued.	Open Space and Reserves	Ongoing	4.22
		Implement the Ballina Coastal Reserve Plan of Management and Precinct Plans	Effective management of the Ballina Coastal Reserve.	Most actions for Precinct plans being progressively implemented. This year Pat Morton Lookout received new amenities, There were formalisation and maintenance of beach and bushland access tracks and final year implementation of the Bitou Bush TAP.	Open Space and Reserves	Ongoing	4.22

CSP Priorities	The benefits will be...	Action	Measures/Target	2012/13 Report	Responsibility	Status	Links to NSW 2021 Goals
				Plan of Management under review.			
		Implement a water quality MoU with local government and agencies undertaking WQ monitoring within the Richmond River catchment	Comparable monitoring parameters	MoU in development. Ecohealth program due to run during 2014 undertaking water quality monitoring across catchment.	Strategic Planning	In progress	4.22
		Passive gas management system to be developed for inclusion of capping of landfill	Reduction of methane and CO ₂ generated by landfill	Application for variation of the POEO licence for the landfill has been submitted to EPA and is under consideration.	Waste	In progress	3.19
		Trial community education centre as a 'pop-up shop'	Increase awareness of Council's environmental activities	Pop-up shop a moderate success. Environmentally themed workshops were run during April school holidays.	Strategic Planning	Complete	4.23
		School debating run during World Environment Day week.	Increase discussion of climate change and environment themes in the community	Five schools participated in debating which was very well received. Plans for 2014 debating underway.	Strategic Planning	Complete	4.23/4.27
HE1.2 Promote initiatives that improve our natural environment	Natural environment is maintained and enhanced	HE1.2.1 Reduce impact of stormwater on our waterways					
		Implement Stormwater Management Plan	Actions implemented	Plan adopted in August 2012. Approvals in place for works at Lake Chickiba and funding sources under investigation. NRCMA's Call for Projects and Partners has been applied to for funding of this project.	Engineering Works	In progress	4.22

CSP Priorities	The benefits will be...	Action	Measures/Target	2012/13 Report	Responsibility	Status	Links to NSW 2021 Goals
		Undertake review of Shaws Bay Management Plan	Updated plan adopted	Review of 10 year bathymetry is complete. Funds allocated for review in 2013/14 financial year.	Environment and Public Health	In progress	4.22
		Implement engineering works from Lake Ainsworth Management Plan	Actions Implemented	Future action on this aim is dependent on completion of the western road (\$700K estimate). Difficulties in obtaining community agreement for locating western road in previous attempts.	Engineering Works	In progress	4.22
HE1.2.2 Protect Koala habitat							
		Prepare Koala Habitat Study and Plan of Management	Plan adopted	Koala Habitat Study nearing completion (field work and analysis complete).	Strategic Planning	In progress	4.22
		Undertake vegetation mapping for the shire.	Mapping complete.	Base mapping compiled with ongoing refinement underway. Funding application to NRCMA's Call for Projects and Partners for completion of remainder.	Strategic Planning	In progress	4.22
HE1.2.3 Protect and enhance our waterways							
		Benchmark overall health of the Richmond River	Implement 'Ecohealth' program	Funding obtained by RRCC through Estuary Management Grants Program. Ecohealth program to be undertaken in 2013/14.	Strategic Planning	In progress	4.22
		Establish regional water quality monitoring agreement and program.	Regionally consistent parameters	Discussions held and draft prepared but project on hold until completion of Ecohealth program.	Strategic Planning	In progress	4.22

CSP Priorities	The benefits will be...	Action	Measures/Target	2012/13 Report	Responsibility	Status	Links to NSW 2021 Goals
		Implement Coastal Zone Management Plan for the Richmond River	Work collaboratively with other catchment interests to implement priority projects	Fundamental management strategies – review of estuary governance and administration and Ecohealth monitoring program; High priority action – cost benefit analysis of backswamp management options; and medium priority action of identifying appropriate riparian areas for revegetation are underway or complete.	Strategic Planning/All	In progress	4.22
		Undertake review of Shaws Bay Management Plan	Updated plan adopted	10 year bathymetry review completed during 2012/13. Funding provided for review and update of plan during 2013/14.	Environmental and Public Health	In progress	4.22
		Undertake and report on Beachwatch monitoring throughout swimming season	Improving water quality for primary contact recreation	Six of the ten sites monitored were graded as 'Very Good' or 'Good'. The number of sites monitored were expanded during the 2012/13 season.	Environmental and Public Health	Ongoing	2.11
		Undertake review of Lake Ainsworth Management Plan	Updated plan adopted	Review of management plan dependent on finalisation of actions in previous plan. As above, further action requires completion of western road.	Environmental and Public Health		4.22
		Monitor blue-green algae levels at Lake Ainsworth throughout the swimming season.	Inform community with regard to safety of swimming.	The summer program for 2012-2013 showed some moderate levels of blue green algae. The algae level moved into amber alert for 6 weeks and red alert for 1 week over the summer.	Environmental and Public Health	Ongoing	2.11
HE1.3.2 Undertake actions to beautify our streetscapes, open spaces and to provide shade							
		Proactively plant suitable native trees in streets and reserves	Greater than 200 trees planted pa in urban areas	Urban Vegetation and Tree Management on Public Land Policy. Program under implementation. Some plantings vandalised repeatedly, alternative venues sought in these instances.	Open Spaces and Reserves	Ongoing	3.20

CSP Priorities	The benefits will be...	Action	Measures/Target	2012/13 Report	Responsibility	Status	Links to NSW 2021 Goals
		Maintain contemporary vegetation management plans	Review at least two plans per annum	Chickiba Wetland Plan under review. Angels Beach, Shelly Beach to Lighthouse Beach and Shaws Bay reserve vegetation management plans to be combined as one larger reserve for planning purposes, recognising the value of the linked reserves from a biodiversity viewpoint.	Open Spaces and Reserves	Ongoing	4.22
		Implement actions from vegetation management plans for urban and amenity areas.	Implement plans as adopted	Pat Morton Lookout Toilet Block completed, with recycled plastic stairs construction and a 'Seascape' loop still to be constructed to formalise 'goat tracks' down to the Point itself. Bitou bush Threat Abatement Plan funding in final year. Program has been very successful but requires significant ongoing resourcing. Code of Conduct for Beach Access and Permit system has been implemented for Seven Mile Beach. Wooden bollards installed along roadfront at Lennox Head to delineate beach-side reserve.	Open Space and Reserves	Ongoing	4.22
OUTCOME HE2. WE USE OUR RESOURCES WISELY							
HE2.1 Implement total water cycle management practices	Reduced water consumption per capita	HE2.1.1 Provide and plan for the adequate water cycle requirements in urban areas					
		Implement adopted Urban Water Management Strategy	Actions implemented	Review of UWMS undertaken, to be finalised in late 2013.	Water and Wastewater	Complete	3.21
		HE2.1.2 Provide good quality recycled water and minimise water consumption					

CSP Priorities	The benefits will be...	Action	Measures/Target	2012/13 Report	Responsibility	Status	Links to NSW 2021 Goals
		Develop and implement recycled water quality management plan	Reduce demand potable water	Currently with NSW Office of Water for review.	Water and Wastewater	In progress	3.21
		Provide recycled water to dual reticulated properties	Number of properties utilising service and kilolitres used	Alstonville STP diverting recycled water (treated effluent) to local nurseries and expanding program as new applicants come on-line. Lennox Head Recycled Waste Water Treatment Plant now constructed, with Ballina RWWP due for completion late 2013. Both will supply subdivisions fitted with dual reticulation for garden use and toilets.	Water and Wastewater	In progress	3.21
		Average water consumption per residential connection	Less than 250kl/pa	174kL/pa for 2012/13	Water and Wastewater	Complete	3.21
		Recycled water during dry weather	20% of dry weather flows	Target is progressive, up to 80% of dry weather flows by 2026. Currently re-using about 15% annually of dry weather flows for Ballina STP (before upgrade), 8% annually for Lennox Head STP (before upgrade) and 23% for Wardell STP.	Water and Wastewater	In progress	3.21
HE2.2 Reduce, reuse and recycle our resources	Reduction in costs and extended life for existing resources	HE2.2.1 Reduce our waste to landfill through effective management and recycling					
		Conduct Demolition Waste Sorting and Diversion Trial	Trial completed and evaluated	Trial of waste sorting completed, which proved problematic. Alternative approach under investigation.	Waste Services	Complete	4.22
		Participate in regional waste initiatives and pursue waste resource sharing opportunities	Initiatives implemented and services shared	2013 Secondhand Saturday to be held on 16 November 2013 across Northern Rivers. Green House education van agreement in place for community events.	Waste Services	Ongoing	4.22

CSP Priorities	The benefits will be...	Action	Measures/Target	2012/13 Report	Responsibility	Status	Links to NSW 2021 Goals
		Implement Council Waste strategy	Initiatives implemented and outcomes identified	Public recycling bins installed in Lennox Head during 2012. Bins to be installed in Ballina in late 2013. Promotion of correct use of organics bins undertaken during 2013. Landfill Environmental Management Plan under review (reviewed bi-annually). Trial of larger (360L) recycling bins completed, now available on request. E-waste collection and recycling service commenced September 2013.	Waste Services	Ongoing	4.22
		Provide effective and efficient waste management operations	Vol of waste in landfill as a % of total waste received (< 40%) % of waste received diverted for beneficial reuse from landfill (> 50%) Airspace used at the landfill per year for landfill (< 10,000m3)	Ballina Waste Management facility is not currently land-filling waste. Contracts are in place for transporting waste to other sites for processing and disposal. As of 30 September 2013, 54% of received waste is diverted for beneficial reuse. No airspace has been used at the landfill this year due to landfilling not occurring.	Waste Services	Ongoing	4.22
		Utilise electronic media to reduce need for paper copies of documents etc.	Less paper used by Council, reduction in total paper required at a community level to review documentation.	All documents available on the web. 'E-blasts' used for quick consultation with community. Community Connect delivered to all households in Ballina in paper form to overcome issues with gaining access to traditional print media through releases. Records system introduced in 2012 has reduced need for paper copies of Dev Applications and other records.	Corporate Services	Ongoing	4.24, 5.31
		Install drinking water fountains as part of Council's commitment to the Bottled Drinking Water Alliance	Reduce need to buy bottled water, reduce waste	Nine fountains installed across the shire to date.	Open Space and Reserves	In progress	4.23

CSP Priorities	The benefits will be...	Action	Measures/Target	2012/13 Report	Responsibility	Status	Links to NSW 2021 Goals
		HE2.2.2 Reduce water wastage					
		Implement water loss reduction program	Actions implemented and effectiveness	134 megalitres per annum already saved through this program through three areas implemented as a trail, and a further 134 megalitres projected to be saved. Pressure management to be extended to other areas in the shire. Contract to be let November 2013 for this, after which 95% of the shire will be managed for pressure and 60% for demand/leakage. To date, >\$330K saved annually in leakage costs.	Water and Wastewater	In progress	3.21
		Reduce volume of unaccounted water	Less than 18% of total water purchased	22% for 2012/13	Water and Wastewater	In progress	3.21
		Establish water meter replacement program to improve accuracy of meter readings	Program established and implemented	Draft program established and being finalised. Incorporating old water meter accuracy testing at the same time. Water Meter Supply Tender awarded by Council.	Water and Wastewater	In progress	3.21
		Reduce water main breaks	Less than one per 30km of main	.33 per 30km/main	Water and Wastewater	Ongoing	5.30
HE2.3 Pursue innovative technologies	Cost and resource use efficiencies	HE2.3.1 Reduce our waste to landfill through effective waste management and recycling					
		Progress Biochar program	Increase in level of certainty and feasibility of project	Council is currently seeking planning approval and a concept design prior to going to tender for construction of the facility. Completion of the concept design will also facilitate the finalisation of capital cost estimates and a further review of the business case.	Waste Services	In progress	1.4

CSP Priorities	The benefits will be...	Action	Measures/Target	2012/13 Report	Responsibility	Status	Links to NSW 2021 Goals
		Upgrade of recyclables area to effectively contain recyclables to reduce overspill and increase resource recovery rate	Increase in tonnages of recyclables being recovered	Option assessment being conducted and concept design developed to improve efficiencies of recyclables.	Waste Services	In progress	
HE2.3.2 Increase efficiencies for treating wastewater							
		Implement reticulation main renewal program	Initiatives implemented and results forthcoming	Investigation study underway	Water and Wastewater	In progress	3.19
		Complete the Ballina Salinity Infiltration Reduction Program	Reduce non-sewage inflow to pipes	Sewer relining/repair work completed. No significant reduction in wastewater salinity levels. Council investigating reverse osmosis to reduce salinity levels in recycled water, and if required evaluate the economic justification for further sewer rehabilitation.	Water and Wastewater	Complete	3.19
OUTCOME HE3. OUR BUILT ENVIRONMENT BLENDS WITH THE NATURAL AND CULTURAL ENVIRONMENT							
HE3.1 Develop and implement plans that balance the built environment with the natural environment	More people are satisfied with our management of development	HE3.1.1 Plan and provide for residential urban and semi-rural expansion					
		Complete DCP/urban design for the Cumbalum Urban Release Area	DCP implemented	DCP in preparation	Strategic Planning	In progress	3.20
		Investigate concept of semi-rural land uses at the edges of urban areas	Investigation completed	Project planning underway. Project commencement expected in this financial year.	Strategic Planning	In progress	3.20

CSP Priorities	The benefits will be...	Action	Measures/Target	2012/13 Report	Responsibility	Status	Links to NSW 2021 Goals
		HE3.1.2 Maintain and enhance existing communities					
		Prepare strategic land use plan for Ballina Island	Plan adopted	Council has applied for a grant from the planning reform fund to implement this program. Council is awaiting advice on the outcome of the application.	Strategic Planning	In progress	5.32
HE3.2 Minimise negative impacts on the natural environment	Retention of our natural environment	HE3.2.1 Ensure compliance with environmental legislation and standards					
		Develop and implement Illegal Dumping Action Plan	Actions implemented	Illegal Waste Dumping Plan developed. Online reporting form soon to be launched, and illegal waste dumping 'hot spots' will be signed appropriately, possibly with surveillance if required.	Environmental and Public Health	Plan development complete	5.30
		Establish Waste Management Plan for Multi-Unit Residential Developments	Plan completed	Project in initial stages	Environmental and Public Health	In progress	3.20
		Number of major non-compliance events – waste, water and wastewater	Nil major compliance issues	Nine – waste non-compliance events, due to high rainfall and uncontained stormwater. Situation now stable. Zero – Water and Wastewater	Water and Wastewater	Ongoing	5.30
		Complete quarterly compliance reports for water and wastewater in respect to licence requirements	100% of reports are completed within 30 days of quarter	50% complete	Water and Wastewater	Ongoing	5.30
		Continue inspections of all on-site sewage management systems to ensure systems are compliant	Number of on-site sewage management systems inspected (Target > 250)	167 inspections undertaken. 16% failed and 40% non-compliant (working, but may be missing a cover etc). Wastewater Industry Forum run to explain new, more efficient assessment process for installing OSSM.	Environmental and Public Health	Ongoing	4.22

CSP Priorities	The benefits will be...	Action	Measures/Target	2012/13 Report	Responsibility	Status	Links to NSW 2021 Goals
		HE3.2.2 Reduce impact of Council energy consumption on environment					
		Average fleet green star rating (petrol vehicles)	Greater than 3.5	Average fleet green star rating is 2.96 overall, but 3.66 for petrol vehicles. Light pool vehicles are diesel fuelled which provides better CO ₂ emissions and fuel economy, but worse rating due to particulate emissions. Life cycle costing utilised to ensure best possible decision. Emissions and greenhouse rating heavily weighted in costing to ensure emissions as low as possible.	Operations Support	Complete/ongoing	4.22
		Reduce CO ₂ emissions from Council's Built Assets	CO ₂ emissions (Target < 8,800 tonnes)	Energy usage reviewed monthly for existing buildings as a way to identify 'bang for buck' projects. Council's Customer Service Centre audit undertaken, lighting refit planned for 2013/14. Dual flush toilets progressively replacing old stock. Investigation large scale solar system up to 300kW for Ballina Wastewater Treatment Plant. Twelve solar lights installed in public places. 2012/13 result is 8445 tonnes.	Operations Support	Ongoing	4.22
		Construction of Ballina-Lighthouse Surf Lifesaving Club	Reduce energy costs and CO ₂ emissions	Function rooms and clubhouse is constructed using passive solar design reducing need for air-conditioning. Louvred screen on western side allows for adjustment of internal temperatures also. Energy efficient lighting installed, and heat pumps for heating. Plantation pine and recycled timber utilised in secondary structural elements to reduce carbon footprint of the build.	Commercial Services	Complete	3.19
		Ballina-Byron Airport – Energy Management Program	Reduce lighting costs and CO ₂	Timing of awning and driveway lights adjusted. Lighting in café replaced by	Airport Operations	Ongoing	3.19

CSP Priorities	The benefits will be...	Action	Measures/Target	2012/13 Report	Responsibility	Status	Links to NSW 2021 Goals
			emissions	energy efficient lighting. Rearrangement of apron floodlights to allow a single lamp unit operation (replaces 3 lamps per light). Investigation of replacement of car park lighting with LED lights has begun, as has review of installation of solar panels to generate 45kW of energy on roof of airport.			
		Rechargeable batteries for use in computer 'mice' and electronic keyboards.	Reduction in use of non-renewable batteries, less environmental impacts.	Trial by Strategic and Civil Services for rechargeable batteries undertaken during 2012/13.	Information Services	In progress	4.23



Direction Four: Engaged Leadership (EL)

CSP Priorities	The benefits will be...	Action	Measures/Target	2012/13 Report	Responsibility	Status	Links to NSW 2021 Goals
OUTCOME EL1. OUR COUNCIL WORKS WITH THE COMMUNITY							
EL1.2 Involve our community in the planning and decision making processes of Council	More people in the community proactively participating in Council engagement activities	EL1.2.1 Expand opportunities for involvement in Council activities					
		Provide a terminal (or kiosk) at the Customer Service Counter for customers to view documents and find information.	Save paper and improve Council's service to the community.	Kiosk design phase funded 2013/14, for use in all Council buildings.	Information Services	In progress	5.31
EL1.3 Actively advocate community issues to other levels of government	Increased levels of State and Federal Government support	EL1.3.1 Be the voice of our community and liaise with State and Federal Governments					
		Approach State and Federal Governments and local members in respect to issues that affect our Shire	Issues identified and pursued	Representations made to NSW Government with respect to the Alstonville Aquifer and its status as heavily overallocated for groundwater.	Governance and Finance	Ongoing	5.31

CSP Priorities	The benefits will be...	Action	Measures/Target	2012/13 Report	Responsibility	Status	Links to NSW 2021 Goals
EL1.3.2 Pursue additional revenue opportunities from other levels of government							
		Actively seek grant funding from State and Federal Governments	Number of grant applications submitted -greater than 40 pa (this figure for all grants, not just environmental)	Three environmental applications successful – attracting a total of \$187 250 for vegetation and koala management programs	All	Ongoing	1.2
OUTCOME EL2. COUNCIL'S FINANCES AND ASSETS ARE WELL MANAGED							
EL2.1 Proactively pursue revenue opportunities, cost savings and/or efficiencies	More financially viable Council resulting in improved asset management	EL2.1.3 Utilise plant, equipment and stock effectively and efficiently					
		Implement Procurement Roadmap	Level of compliance	Strategic Purchasing Position has been recruited.	Operations Support	Yes	1.4
		Implement sustainable purchasing policy	Link economic performance with social, environmental and ethical outcomes.	Policy has been developed but limited impact to date.	Governance and Finance, Civil Services	Ongoing	1.4
		Small plant performance assessment – lifecycle costings and energy rating	Value for money	Council staff assess available small plant for best environmental and operational outcome.	Operations Support	Ongoing	3.19
		Reduce energy consumption (dollar value) from Council's Built Assets	Less than \$1,700,000 pa	Lighting audit for Depot and Customer Service Centre completed. Grant funds applied for to supplement resources required for changes to CSC. Trial of motion sensor lighting in low-	Operations Support	Ongoing	3.19

CSP Priorities	The benefits will be...	Action	Measures/Target	2012/13 Report	Responsibility	Status	Links to NSW 2021 Goals
				use areas finalised, and installation has now begun. Waste facility now has solar panels for electricity generation.			
		Construct covered store for small plant and stockpiles of materials	Reduce weathering of materials and protect plant from elements.	Covered store constructed, now awaiting pouring of concrete surround.	Operations Support	In progress	3.19
		Installation of GPS systems for Council's works fleet.	Efficient use of Council plant.	Two systems are on order for use in new vehicles as a trial.	Operations Support/Waste	In progress	3.19
		Installation of rainwater tank at Depot for plant washing	Reduce potable water consumption	Rainwater tank installed	Operations Support	Complete	3.19
EL2.2 Utilise modern operating systems and apply contemporary practices	Increased efficiencies and higher staff satisfaction levels	EL2.2.1 Improve organisation's technology by progressively utilising available software that integrates with our existing systems					
		Incorporate sustainability requirements or targets into position descriptions.	Each PD has a clear indication of the position's contribution to QBL within the Council.	General sustainability principles have been incorporated into the PD's.	Human Resources and Risk Management	In progress	1.6
OUTCOME EL3. WE ARE ALL VALUED CITIZENS							
EL3.2 Deliver responsive and efficient services	Increased community satisfaction levels with Council's customer service	EL3.2.1 Provide efficient services to our clients					
		Enhance web accessibility - Ensure information showing Council's environmental performance across all areas is available on the web.	Updated annually	Reviewed early 2013	Strategic Planning	Ongoing	1.4

Other ideas for Environmental Action

This next section of the document details actions that have yet to be progressed as well as ideas that have been put forward by staff, Councillors and the public that may be considered in the future.



CSP Priorities	The benefits will be...	Delivery Program Strategy	Measures/Target	Responsibility	Links to NSW 2021 Goals
		Operational Plan Activity			
CC1.3 Monitor the built infrastructure and the services delivered to the community to ensure relevant standards are being met	<i>Higher levels of legislative compliance</i> <i>Lower risks of accidents and outbreaks of disease</i>	Develop a Building Management System in stage 2 of the passenger terminal re-development at the airport.	Reduced energy consumption	Airport	3.19
		Develop an 'Environmental Safety Statement' for Council operations	Increase certainty in Council's environmental performance	Civil Services	3.19
		Implement a 'steering committee' approach for rezoning with representation from Strategic Planning, Development and Environmental Health, and Civil Services to capture all environmental and practical considerations.	Streamline requirements for developers with regard to environmental considerations	Strategic Planning	3.19
		Introduce a schedule of environmental performance for works over \$20 000 for completion by those submitting tenders (currently required for works over \$150 000)	Include in assessment process to ensure best practice in all works for Council. Review of schedule required by procurement panel.	Operations Support	3.19
		Investigate options for making a Council building carbon neutral	Save energy, but also demonstrate Council's commitment to addressing future climate.	Operations Support	4.23
PE2.2 Promote and facilitate a range of business activities	<i>Improved perception that Council supports business</i>	Use triple bottom line methodology to evaluate all economic activities	Full cost of all options assessed	Commercial Services, Operations Support, Engineering Works	1.3

CSP Priorities	The benefits will be...	Delivery Program Strategy	Measures/Target	Responsibility	Links to NSW 2021 Goals
		Operational Plan Activity			
PE 3.1 Facilitate and provide economic land and infrastructure to support business growth	<i>Increased availability of land and locations to support business activities</i>	Use triple bottom line methodology to evaluate all economic activities	Full cost of all options assessed	Commercial Services	1.3
PE3.2 Facilitate and provide affordable infrastructure, both business and residential	<i>More residents living close to where they work, with more affordable options available</i>	Implement a 'steering committee' approach to planning proposals for large or rezoning issues	All options considered and address, all issues considered and addressed	Strategic Planning	5.31
HE1.1 Our planning considers past and predicted changes to the environment	<i>Reduced risk from natural disasters or changes in climate</i>	Build display homes to show what is possible in terms of ESD.	Building constructed or alternative method to meet desired outcomes found.	Strategic and Community Facilities	4.23
		Communicate local climate change information through social networking technology.	Opportunities utilised to provide informal discussion on climate change	Strategic Planning	4.23
		Encourage corridor plantings, especially for Big Scrub vegetation community, to enhance biodiversity outcomes on both public and private lands.	Hectares replanted and corridors established	Open Space, Waste and Recycling	4.22
		Establish a ClimateCam for energy and another for Water	'Real-time' public awareness of water usage and energy usage in their locality measured in kilolitres and kilowatt hours.	Operations Support/Water and Wastewater	4.23

CSP Priorities	The benefits will be...	Delivery Program Strategy	Measures/Target	Responsibility	Links to NSW 2021 Goals
		Operational Plan Activity			
		Establish a web-page on design and renovation for new and additions to homes	Webpage developed for information of local residents.	Strategic Planning	4.23
		Investigate feasibility of charging an additional (voluntary) fee on normal charges for environmental initiatives	Program implemented, resources received, projects implemented	Strategic Planning	4.22
		Investigate funding partnerships with private or NGO sector to progress environmental initiatives	Formation of public/semi-private partnerships to progress project based work	All	4.22
		Maintenance of weed-free reserves after target programs conclude	Funding source identified and utilised	Open Space and Reserves	4.22
		Form alliance with other coastal shires in NSW to collaborate on funding from government	Number of applications submitted, number successful	All	4.22
		Prepare a community environmental education strategy	Strategy established, endorsed and resourced.	Strategic Planning	4.23
		Review website to ensure linkages with relevant local sustainability organizations and showcase local industry (ie sustainable fishing, local primary production etc)	Website links established and promoted	Strategic Planning	4.23
		Implement actions from the Marom Creek Weir Vegetation Management Plan (2005) (partnership with Lismore City Council)	Restoration and revegetation of weir area	Open Space and Reserves	4.22
		Prepare vegetation management plan for Richmond Hill	Plan prepared	Open Space and Reserves	4.22
		Prepare vegetation management plan for Shaws Bay	Plan prepared	Open Space and Reserves	4.22

CSP Priorities	The benefits will be...	Delivery Program Strategy	Measures/Target	Responsibility	Links to NSW 2021 Goals
		Operational Plan Activity			
HE2.1 Implement total water cycle management practices	<i>Reduced water consumption per capita</i>	Install dual flush cisterns in female and disabled public toilets	Reduced potable water consumption	Operations Support	3.196
		Install water tanks to harvest stormwater and plumb into toilets for flushing	Reduced potable water consumption	Operations Support	3.19
		Install waterless urinals in public toilet facilities	Reduced potable water consumption	Operations Support	3.19
		Install waterless urinals in Customer Service Centre toilet facilities	Reduced potable water consumption	Operations Support	3.19
HE2.2 Reduce, reuse and recycle our resources	<i>Reduction in costs and extended life for existing resources</i>	Investigate new ways to divert 1000 tonnes of food waste and 1800 tonnes of dry recyclables by 2014 to meet WASIP targets	Avoid penalties for waste to landfill, tonnages diverted from landfill	Waste	4.23
		Investigate provision of organics waste to business	Tonnages diverted from landfill	Waste	4.23
		Investigate recycling from commercial suppliers – why is recycling more expensive to pick up than rubbish	Better recycling rates as a shire (much of commercial waste currently taken out of Ballina shire)	Waste	4.23

Appendix 1: Vegetation Management Plans for Council Reserves

East Ballina Crown Reserve VMP 2003
Little Fisheries Creek Reserve VMP 2003
Duck Creek Reserve VMP 2003
Duck Creek High Conservation Value VMP 2004
Hutley Road Reserve VMP 2004
Lumley Park VMP 2004
Rainforest Way VMP 2004
Tara Downs Rainforest Palm Forest and Wetlands Restoration Management Plan 2000
Tintenbar Hall Reserve VMP 2004
Killen Falls VMP 2004
Willow Bank WMP 1998
Western Chilcotts Creek VMP 2002
Mercer Park Native Restoration Management Plan 2003
Dalwood Scrub Rainforest Restoration Management Plan 1999
Wollongbar Drainage Reserve Restoration Plan (2001)
Ross Lane Reserve Vegetation Restoration Plan (2004)
Lake Ainsworth Vegetation Management Plan 2007
Seven Mile (Precinct 2) Beachfront VMP 2005
Shaws Bay Escarpment VMP 2004
Angels Beach VMP 2004
Maguires Creek Catchment VMP
Sharps Creek to Shag Rock VMP
Shelly Beach to Lighthouse Beach VMP
Patches Beach VMP 2001
Western Shelley Beach VMP 2002
Lennox Point VMP March 2006

Appendix 2: Database of completed actions

This section provides an historical database of actions completed that are finalised and require no further action.

Action	Benefits and Outcomes	Council Area	CSP Outcome
'Plain english' community information sheets about climate change.	Decision taken that it is more appropriate that this information be provided on a regional, state or national basis. Council provides some information on their website. (October 2012)	Strategic and Community Services	Individual and collective action to mitigate the risks posed by a changing climate.
Adoption of Companion Animals Management Plan.	Assist pet owners and wider community to manage expectations about rights and responsibilities of pet owners. Plan now adopted and implementation underway.	Environmental Health	Clean beaches and foreshores.
Assess hardware solutions for their green credentials and commitment to materials recovery of redundant hardware.	Improved whole-of-lifecycle management with Council making informed purchasing decisions as to where products come from and where it goes to after Council use. IT equipment is purchased on State Govt contract, which includes green credentials as part of the contract assessment process. (February 2012)	IT	Socially and environmentally responsible business.
Assess hardware solutions for their green credentials and commitment to materials recovery of redundant hardware.	Improved lifecycle analysis both pre and post purchase. State Government contract includes these parameters as part of consideration – all IT equipment is purchased through this process.	Information Services	Efficient production systems that minimise and reuse waste.
Assess hybrid technologies as new applications arise for cost/benefit and application for vehicles.	Hybrid passenger vehicles are not as viable for use as there are significant barriers to servicing and maintenance. Hybrid tractor coming onto market which Council is looking into, that may be useful.	Depot	Socially and environmentally responsible business.
Assess new fuel technologies associated with small plant as replacement required - select for best fuel economy and lowest emissions. (Replaces - Phase out two stroke engines in Council small plant fleet where possible, replace with four stroke engines).	Improved fuel efficiency, less smoke & other pollutants released into the atmosphere. Less noise. Ongoing action which is now embedded into Council's normal practice. (2012)	Depot	Effective and responsible power generation and use

Action	Benefits and Outcomes	Council Area	CSP Outcome
Audit adequacy of chemical storage controls at the Depot.	Reduce the risk of the pollution. Improve Workplace Health and Safety. Audit complete. Currently have a safe chemical storage area for Water and Sewer. Construction of a specialised chemical store scheduled for 2016/2017.	Depot	Socially and environmentally responsible business.
Beachwatch WQ monitoring program for 2011/2012.	Public health and environmental information provided to the public regarding water quality. Most beaches and swimming areas have good to excellent ratings, with the exception of Shaws Bay East which has poor drainage and significant adjacent urban development.	Environmental Health	Clean beaches and foreshores.
Carried out environmental rehabilitation works including a community/business tree planting day at Kingsford Smith Reserve – Ballina.	Rehabilitation of sensitive land and also engagement of local businesses in the tree planting day highlighting the link between business activities and the local environment.	Public and Environmental Health	Maintain our diverse and attractive landscapes.
Carry out energy audits for key sewage treatment and pumping infrastructure.	Audits have been completed for all key infrastructure including pump stations. (2010)	W&S	Individual and collective action to mitigate the risks posed by a changing climate
Collate a Regional State of the Environment report.	First regional SoE prepared for 2012 by the NRCMA funded by Councils and CMA in partnership. (November 2012)	Strategic and Community Services	Continuous improvement in the condition of our environment in all areas of the Shire
Complete Sewer Backlog Program.	Connects groups of unsewered properties which are located near existing urban sewer areas to Council's sewer system. Addresses public and environmental health issues. All properties which can be connected under this program have now been connected.	Water and Wastewater	Clean beaches and foreshores.
Completed PC Refit With LCD Monitors.	Remaining replacements will result in an energy saving of approximately 14160 kWh and 15 tonnes of eCO2 p.a. (2006)	IT	Effective and responsible power generation and use.

Action	Benefits and Outcomes	Council Area	CSP Outcome
Completed Sustainable Urban Business project.	Environmental and Sustainability Assessments for Small to Medium Businesses. Sustainability Education Kits for businesses distributed. Community education material over 6 week campaign in local media. Undertook CEO Forum with a sustainability focus. Initial energy efficiency lighting audit of Council's Customer Service Centre. Champion business of the month promotions. Sustainability assessments for Council owned buildings. Resource Efficiency Workshops for local businesses.	Public and Environmental Health	Socially and environmentally responsible business.
Construct leachate pre-treatment facility at Council's waste management facility.	Improved water quality and reduced risk of pollution. Reduces ammonia, TKN, BOD and COD concentrations in treated effluent. Plant constructed and operational as at June 2011.	Waste	Continuous improvement in the condition of our environment in all areas of the Shire.
Constructed a catchment activity model of Richmond River.	Encourages understanding about the water cycle and the need to care for our catchment. Utilised regionally for community and school education events. (2009)	Strategic and Community Services	Excellent water quality in the Richmond River.
Construction and chemical handling storage area for waste management facility for public use as well as Council's own operations.	Reduce amounts of toxic materials being sent to landfill. Chemical handling is available at the landfill with some closets put in. The material is then transported to the regional facility at Lismore for disposal. Not all chemicals are taken as no adequate provision to ensure safe handling and disposal practices. Council's policy is to rely on the regional facility at Lismore for these.	Depot	Socially and environmentally responsible business.
Construction of a chemical handling storage area for waste management facility for public use as well as Council's own operations.	Handling of some chemicals now available, but Lismore Regional Waste Facility is still the main destination for chemicals.	Waste	Continuous improvement in the condition of our environment in all areas of the Shire.
Continue to coordinate the Summer Bus initiative.	No longer funded as usage rates too low (only 1 to 2 people per night utilising bus). (2010)	Strategic and Community Services	Efficient and effective transport.
Continue to provide for the recycling of tyres at the Ballina Waste Management centre.	Divert waste from landfill, provide raw materials for use in other applications. 12 tonnes of tyres were diverted last year from the landfill. 80% of these were recycled and 13% reused (2011 figures).	Waste	Efficient production systems that minimise and reuse waste

Action	Benefits and Outcomes	Council Area	CSP Outcome
Council currently utilizes electronic tender system to reduce hardcopy tenders.	Reduced paper. Reduced cost of printing. (2011)	Commercial	Efficient production systems that minimise and reuse waste.
Council supporting and enabling community gardens, school gardens, farmers markets, and backyard vegetable gardens.	Reduce food miles associated with food production and consumption, community cohesion benefits. Have supported the development of the Ballina Community Garden and markets selling local produce within the shire. New markets supported include Ballina Twilight Markets and Alstonville Farmers Markets (to open soon – August 2013).	Strategic Planning	Individual and collective action to mitigate the risks posed by a changing climate.
Council to investigate and consider available options for the management of sea level rise risks and severe weather events in relation to low lying settlements in the shire.	Have available information on potential risks and outcomes of climate change to improve response. In the short to medium term, this is being considered as part of the Floodplain Management Plan and Coastal Hazard Management Plan.	Engineering Works	Individual and collective action to mitigate the risks posed by a changing climate.
Council to investigate bicycle loan/share system similar to Brisbane model.	Recommendation of Climate Ballina citizens forum. Encouraging more sustainable modes on transport in the shire can increase uptake of these modes and reduce greenhouse gas emissions. Council explored this option, and utilises two bicycles in its own fleet for short rides. A number of bicycle shops offer short-term hire. (March 2012)	Strategic and Community Services	Efficient and effective transport.
Council to investigate incentives for people who install solar power and other energy efficiency measures on existing housing.	Recommendation of Climate Ballina citizens forum. Almost 1 in 4 households in Ballina have taken up the option for solar power cells, some in response to Council's energy efficiency awareness and education campaigns and others in response to state and national campaigns including generous feed in tariffs. (March 2012)	Strategic and Community Services	Individual and collective action to mitigate the risks posed by a changing climate.
Council to plant more native trees but not in places where they create a bushfire hazard.	Provides habitat, limits soil loss, stores carbon. Council's new Street Tree Planting program underway supporting this action. Council's nursery and own park and gateway plantings also support this action.	Open Space and Reserves	Individual and collective action to mitigate the risks posed by a changing climate.
Council to show leadership in relation to establishment of a local centre for distribution of local and regional produce (lower emissions and sustainable local economy and local-social cohesion).	Council's involvement in the Foodlinks project has supported initiatives encouraging this action. Summerland HWNS has successfully attracted funding to set up a distribution hub for local and regional produce. (2011)	Strategic and Community Services	Individual and collective action to mitigate the risks posed by a changing climate.

Action	Benefits and Outcomes	Council Area	CSP Outcome
Council to support/ enable community gardens, school gardens, local farmers market and backyard vegetable gardens.	Recommendation of Climate Ballina citizens forum. Council has supported the development of the Ballina Community Garden which was established in 2010. Local farmers markets are also being supported in Alstonville and Ballina. (March 2012)	Strategic and Community Services	Individual and collective action to mitigate the risks posed by a changing climate.
Council/State government to investigate removal of impediments to evacuation of Ballina (e.g. widening of bridges, removal of bottlenecks)	Investigating impediments to efficient and safe evacuation increases the ability to respond effectively and minimise risk to human life. In the short to medium term, this is being considered as part of the Floodplain Management Plan and Coastal Hazard Management Plan.	Engineering Works	Individual and collective action to mitigate the risks posed by a changing climate.
Develop a Climate Change Action Strategy.	The Ballina Shire Council Climate Action Strategy was developed in conjunction with the community during 2010 and 2011, and was endorsed by Council at its December 2011 meeting. A number of actions have already been implemented. (2011)	Strategic and Community Services	Individual and collective action to mitigate the risks posed by a changing climate
Develop a Climate Change Adaptation and Mitigation Action Plan.	Ballina Shire Council Climate Action Strategy 2012 -2020 endorsed by Council in December 2011. Implementation of actions required through the Environmental Action Plan.	Strategic Planning	Individual and collective action to mitigate the risks posed by a changing climate.
Develop a system and methodology for financial monitoring of spending on environmental actions and savings gained through sustainability actions.	Highlight the cost effectiveness of environmental activity. A 'revolving' energy fund has been established, where cost savings made on energy usage will be redeployed to other projects reducing energy usage in the future. (2011)	Corporate	Socially and environmentally responsible business
Develop a system and methodology for financial monitoring of spending on environmental actions and savings gained through sustainability actions.	Highlight the cost-effectiveness of environmental activity. A revolving energy fund has been set up that is currently receiving funds generated from feed-in tariffs for solar electricity on Council's facilities as well as expected savings on electric streetlights after retrofitting program. Savings are currently 'paying off' capital costs of installation.	Finance	Socially and environmentally responsible business.
Develop a system for monitoring air-conditioning units in Council's built assets to ensure units are operating at maximum efficiency and have in place controlled time of use.	An air-conditioning monitoring system has been installed in Council's administration building to ensure maximum efficiency of energy use. However, it appears the system requires total replacement. (2010)	Built Assets	Effective and responsible power generation and use

Action	Benefits and Outcomes	Council Area	CSP Outcome
Develop an environmental management plan for the depot.	Control inappropriate storage of chemicals, tyres, batteries and other potentially contaminating materials. Reduced risk of pollution. Improve storm water quality leaving the site. As at March 2012, Environmental Protection Plan for fuel storage and Depot Safety management Plan developed 2010 and requires daily tank dip to detect any fuel leaks from tanks. Also regular testing to ensure fuel is not leaking into ground water. A groundwater monitoring well (bore) has been installed in accordance with UPSS (Underground Petroleum Storage Systems) legislation.	Depot	Socially and environmentally responsible business
Developed a shire-wide waste management strategy.	Strategy completed and adopted in 2010.	Waste	Efficient production systems that minimise and reuse waste.
Developed a Sustainable Purchasing Procedure.	Procedure developed but no simple way of implementation at this stage. (2008)	Strategic and Community Services	Socially and environmentally responsible business.
Developed the 'Avoiding the Dangers of Accepting Fill on Your Land' brochure and included in rate notices to Ballina Shire rural rate payers 2007.	Educated rural land owners about the dangers of accepting uncertified fill on their land. Potentially reduce the number of contaminated sites within Ballina Shire. (February 2010)	Public and Environmental Health	Continuous improvement in the condition of our environment in all areas of the Shire.
Development of a brochure and web page on care of water tanks.	Increased community awareness of the importance of maintaining water tanks to help ensure good water quality and reduce the possibility of mosquito infestation.	Public and Environmental Health	Effective water collection use and reuse.
Draft sea level rise of 50cm and 90cm (as provided by the NSW Government in their draft policy statement) to be included in flood modelling.	Inclusion of latest climate change predictions, in line with NSW Government recommendations. to ensure use of contemporary information. This action can no longer be included due to a change in NSW Government policy, but was previously completed. (October 2012)	Engineering Works	Individual and collective action to mitigate the risks posed by a changing climate.

Action	Benefits and Outcomes	Council Area	CSP Outcome
Educate community on existing bus services.	Recommendation of Climate Ballina citizens forum. Bus transport as well as pedestrian and cycle traffic options is supported by Council through the Road Safety Officer. (2012)	Strategic and Community Services	Socially and environmentally responsible business
Efficient sorting of waste to ensure appropriate disposal.	Equipment has been purchased to ensure greater accuracy in sorting and weighing of waste. Assists Council to meet licensing requirements for EPA, as well as ensure that only appropriate materials are sent to landfill.	Waste	Efficient production systems that minimise and reuse waste
Encourage continued take up of 4-cylinder vehicles in council fleet.	The 4-cylinder vehicles selected produce between 1.2 and 2.4 tonnes of equivalent eCO ₂ less than that of a 6-cylinder vehicle. 65% of private use vehicles are now 4 cylinder, and 25% are diesel. (2012 figures, but policy introduced in 2009)	Depot	Efficient and effective transport.
Engage a Sustainability Environmental Education Officer.	Specialist community engagement skills now held in house. Opportunities for collaboration with other councils (and therefore cost savings). (March 2012)	Strategic and Community Services	Continuous improvement in the condition of our environment in all areas of the Shire.
Engage a Sustainability Environmental Education Officer.	Specialist community engagement and education skills held in-house. A part-time Sustainability Planner with these skills has now been employed. Planner has significant corporate history in environmental education in local and regional area.	Strategic Planning	Continuous improvement in the condition of our environment in all areas of the Shire.
Ensure environmental information on website is accurate and current.	Information accurate and timely. Environmental information across a range of issues has been updated. Located at 'Environmental messages' on Council's website.	Various	Continuous improvement in the condition of our environment in all areas of the shire.
Ensure new buildings have sustainable technology such as solar power, solar hot water and rainwater tanks.	Increasing sustainability of new buildings improves efficiency and reduces green house gas emissions. Green Home and Green Building Checklists have been developed for those submitted development applications.	Development Application Review	Individual and collective action to mitigate the risks posed by a changing climate.
Establish a correspondence policy in relation to electronic delivery.	Improve staff efficiency and cost savings. Policy established, but not all correspondence can be sent electronically. (February 2012)	Corporate	Socially and environmentally responsible business.

Action	Benefits and Outcomes	Council Area	CSP Outcome
Establish a correspondence policy in relation to electronic delivery.	Improve staff efficiency and cost savings. Community Connect and staff newsletter are examples, but limitation for outdoor staff and those with no computer access. Policy is that where possible electronic delivery is the preference.	Policy and Communication Liaison	Socially and environmentally responsible business.
Establish a herbicide usage and spray policy.	Reduce use of herbicide and areas of overspray. Improved customer perceptions about council's environmental practices. Policy now operational.	Depot, Open Space and Reserves	Maintain our diverse and attractive landscapes.
Establish capability to sell native plants from Council's nursery.	Potential for raising revenue for NRM work. Increase in native endemic vegetation in private gardens, improved habitat potential. Nursery selling plants is now operational. Sales and level of cost recovery will be reviewed after a period of operation.	Open Space and Reserves	Continuous improvement in the condition of our environment in all areas of the shire.
Establish requirement for energy efficient street lighting in newly developed areas.	New streetlighting infrastructure matches energy efficiency of existing infrastructure that has been recently retrofitted with energy efficient fittings. An addition to the Ballina Shire Combined Development Control Plan is now complete.	Strategic Planning	Socially and environmentally responsible business.
Establish staff carpooling network. Establish a carpooling database linking work colleagues who live in close proximity to each other that can travel to work together.	Carpooling network established in 2008 and has now been rolled into the Northern Rivers Carpool network which is still operational. (2008)	Strategic and Community Services	Individual and collective action to mitigate the risks posed by a changing climate.
Establish sustainability criteria for inclusion in all tender processes requiring a minimum NABERS standard of 4 stars. Issues such as life-cycle costing, healthy buildings, energy and water efficiency, green buildings.	4 stars will enable Council to be comparable to other local government areas and businesses. Reduced environmental impacts of products and services purchased by Council. (2011)	Commercial	Infrastructure and facilities that meet individual and community needs.
Finalise the Richmond River Estuary Management Plan.	Plan gazetted as the Coastal Zone Management Plan for the Richmond River Estuary (February 2012)	Strategic and Community Services	Excellent water quality in the Richmond River.
Finalise the Richmond River Estuary Management Plan.	Provide for grant opportunities to improve the health of the Richmond River. Coastal Zone Management Plan for the Richmond River Estuary gazetted in February 2012.	Strategic Planning	Excellent water quality in the Richmond River.

Action	Benefits and Outcomes	Council Area	CSP Outcome
Implement a fleet management system	Improved fuel consumption rate and reduced operating costs. Ausfleet fleet management system is operational and as data is collected it will allow monitoring of fleet items with regard to fuel consumption etc. For private use vehicles, 3.56 stars is the average standard achieved. However, commuter use vehicles are diesel, attracting a 2.6 star standard, which is obviously lower. These offer better fuel economy though, so there is a balance being struck.	Depot	Socially and environmentally responsible business.
Implement a fleet management system.	Improved fuel consumption rate and reduced operating costs. Fleet management system is operational and as data is collected, this will allow monitoring of fleet. Future plant purchase decisions will utilise this information to ensure best value.	Fleet and Supply	Efficient and effective transport.
Implement a Street Tree Planting program with targets for native species, both endemic and indigenous.	Increased numbers of native trees, enhance biodiversity, improved customer perceptions. 'Urban vegetation and tree management on public lands' policy in place. Implementation underway.	Open Space and Reserves	Maintain our diverse and attractive landscapes.
Implement a Urban 3-bin Waste Service with organic waste collection	Divert organic waste from landfill, compost for use in agriculture etc. Higher contamination rates at Christmas and other holiday periods. Recent article in Advocate aimed at reducing contamination rates (at 4% as at September 2012). (2011)	Waste	Efficient production systems that minimise and reuse waste
Implement after hours auto shutdown of overhead monitors at the Airport Terminal Check-In counters.	Reduced electricity use. Extend life of monitors.(October 2012)	Airport	Efficient production systems that minimise and reuse waste.
Implement after hours auto shutdown of overhead monitors at the Airport Terminal Check-In counters.	Reduced electricity use. Extend usable life of monitors. Automatic shutdown implemented.	Airport	Socially and environmentally responsible business.
Implement and complete the Backlog Sewer Program.	Connects groups of unsewered properties which are located near existing urban sewer areas to Council's sewer system. In doing so it addresses existing public health and environmental issues. All eligible properties are now connected. (2010)	W&S	Clean beaches and foreshores.

Action	Benefits and Outcomes	Council Area	CSP Outcome
Implement Biodiesel Fuel Program .	Produce less carbon emissions and smoke particulates. Avoids the use of fossil fuels. Biodiesel (B20) has been used in Council's trucks for over eighteen months. There have been no major issues with plant operation to date. (2012 update, introduced 2010)	Depot	Socially and environmentally responsible business
Implement Biodiesel Fuel program.	Produce less carbon emissions and smoke particulates. Displaces some usage of fossil fuels. All Council's heavy plant is currently utilising B20 from new bowsers at Council's works depot.	Fleet and Supply Co-ordinator	Socially and environmentally responsible business.
Implement drop- off and recycling of compressed fluorescent lights and fluorescent lights at Council's Waste Management Facility.	Improved environmental management and opportunities for recycling and reuse. Completed. (2009)	Waste	Efficient production systems that minimise and reuse waste.
Implement Lake Ainsworth Management Plan.	Ensure the environmental outcomes detailed in the management plans are achieved, including adjusting of the running time for Lake Ainsworth Aeration System. (February 2010)	Public and Environmental Health	Continuous improvement in the condition of our environment in all areas of the Shire.
Implement Stormwater Quality Management Plan at Council's Waste Management Facility.	Improved water quality and reduced risk of pollution.	Waste	Continuous improvement in the condition of our environment in all areas of the Shire.
Implement the use of remanufactured printer cartridges in printers.	Reduced resource footprint associated with the production of cartridges. Remanufactured printer cartridges used in all printers but not photocopiers. (2012)	IT	Efficient production systems that minimise and reuse waste.
Implemented the 'Bin Your Butt' community education project.	Raised community awareness in relation to cigarette butt littering. Provided community butt bins at key identified sites in public spaces i.e. Wigmore Arcade. (June 2010)	Public and Environmental Health	Continuous improvement in the condition of our environment in all areas of the Shire.
Implemented the Erosion and Sediment Control Education Program.	Educated the construction industry working in the Ballina Shire about the need for and benefits of erosion and sediment control measures. Refreshed regulatory staff's knowledge on Council's Erosion and Sediment Control Enforcement Protocol. (June 2010)	Public and Environmental Health	Excellent water quality in the Richmond River and its tributaries.

Action	Benefits and Outcomes	Council Area	CSP Outcome
Implemented the 'Our Lakes' community education project.	Education may reduce threats to the water quality in our coastal lakes i.e. litter, nutrients, pollution, weeds and dog droppings. (June 2010)	Public and Environmental Health	Excellent water quality in the Richmond River and its tributaries.
Implemented use of recycled paper, envelopes and business cards and soy based inks.	Saving on natural resource paper and also emissions by using soy based inks. (2011)	Corporate	Socially and environmentally responsible business.
Improve efficiency of air-conditioning in Customer Service Centre.	Reduction in energy usage. Better control over individual areas, can zone air-conditioning to suit needs. An audit and costings for this project have been undertaken. Grant funding was applied for but Council was unfortunately unsuccessful. Cost-benefit analysis has shown that improvement in lighting will benefit air-conditioning by removing lighting as a heat source, and that ongoing maintenance is the most effective aid to ensuring optimal efficiency in air-conditioning system.	Assets and Systems Manager	Effective and responsible power generation and use.
Install photovoltaic cells for a council building as a demonstration project.	Reduce coal fired power used. Chance to review technology ourselves. Develop business case for other buildings. (2010)	Built Assets	Effective and responsible power generation and use.
Install photovoltaic cells for a council building as a demonstration project.	Sites currently fitted with photovoltaic cells including the Ballina Library, the Waste Management Centre, the Kentwell and Lennox Head Community Centres and Alstonville Leisure and Entertainment Centre. (2010/11)	Built Assets	Effective and responsible power generation and use
Install public recycling bins in town and village centres throughout shire.	Bins installed in June 2012. Some contamination issues. (2012)	Waste	Efficient production systems that minimise and reuse waste
Install public recycling bins in town and village centres.	Increase recycling rates and reduce drink containers etc going to landfill. Public recycling bins have been installed in all village centres. They are located adjacent to bins. Some problems with contamination due to a lack of understanding by users of what is recyclable and what is not.	Waste	Infrastructure and facilities that meet individual and community needs.

Action	Benefits and Outcomes	Council Area	CSP Outcome
Install water efficient shower heads.	Reduced water use (both hot and cold). Reduced electricity use associated with heating and pumping of water. All showers and taps in Council operated buildings are fitted with flow restrictors. Water efficient hardware is replacing old hardware when and as required. Flow restrictors and water efficient shower heads have been installed at all Council operated caravan parks. Water efficient retrofits continue to be undertaken in all Council operated caravan parks.	Assets and Systems Manager	Effective water collection use and reuse.
Install workstation power isolation in Council Administration Building as required.	Staff can reduce standby power usage when workstation is not in use. Workstations in Corporate Services with multiple appliances that use standby power have been fitted with one main switch for each station.	Assets and Systems Manager	Effective and responsible power generation and use.
Internal environmental committee to integrate environmental projects between Council sectors.	Group no longer meets. (2011)	Strategic and Community Services	Continuous improvement in the condition of our environment in all areas of the Shire.
Introduced a power management protocol .e.g.a 'Switch Off' protocol for PCs, lights and other electrical appliances.	Reduced energy consumption and raised awareness amongst staff. Ensuring computers are switched off overnight will result in approximately 1/3 of the energy use than that of a computer left on. (2010)	IT	Effective and responsible power generation and use.
Introduction of electronic records management system.	A new electronic records management system has been implemented which is more compatible with Council's other database and software systems. This should reduce paper use and, over time, increase efficiency of service for ratepayers. (2012)	Corporate	Socially and environmentally responsible business
Investigate biochar – pyrolysis of organics to charcoal.	Reduction in amounts of organic waste to be handled. 'Sequester' carbon in biochar which can then be used to improve soil carbon. \$4.5 million in funding achieved through partnership submission to construct pyrolysis plant. Plant operational as at 2015. (June 2012)	Waste	Efficient production systems that minimise and reuse waste.
Investigate fuel saving technologies.	Identify technologies for application within Council's vehicle fleet that have the potential to deliver improved fuel efficiency. Ongoing investigations achieved through the criteria for the purchase of new vehicles and the sorts of fuel used for fleet.	Depot	Socially and environmentally responsible business.

Action	Benefits and Outcomes	Council Area	CSP Outcome
Investigate potential sites for the installation of alternative power generation e.g. wind & solar.	Public education and environmental leadership. Solar energy now utilised for Ballina Library, Lennox Head Community Centre, Alstonville Leisure and Entertainment Centre, Ballina's Waste Management Centre and Kentwell Community Centre.	Assets and Systems Manager	Effective and responsible power generation and use.
Liaise with industry and stakeholders to stop the burning of cane on site/research Queensland pathway to legislation on not burning cane.	Recommendation of Climate Ballina citizens forum. Richmond River Canegrowers are working toward this outcome, although operational difficulties with the milling of green cane as been a setback. Queensland cane is still burnt in areas, so this has not improved air quality as much as hoped. (December 2010)	Strategic and Community Services	Socially and environmentally responsible business.
Maintain internal environment team to integrate action for environmental sustainability between Council sectors.	An internal working group will provide a coordinated, integrated and innovative implementation of the environmental sustainability actions across the organisation. Internal working groups formed on an as needs basis to advance projects.		Socially and environmentally responsible business.
Participate in Bottled Water Alliance to reduce consumption of water packaged in plastic bottles.	Council is a signatory to the Alliance. Drinking water fountains are now installed at nine locations across the shire. (2011)	W&S	Efficient productions systems that minimise and reuse waste.
Participation in the Garage Sale Trail.	Support local community to consider alternatives to disposal of unwanted items. 148 garage sales held in March 2012, up from 130 the previous year.	Waste	Efficient production systems that minimise and reuse waste
Planted Tea-Tree in western paddock (Runway 06 undershoot).	Revegetation and bird hazard reduction. (2010)	Airport	Integrated land uses.
Promote EFT payments for creditors.	Saving on paper, reduction to costs. Extra payment options for creditors, including ratepayers. (February 2012)	Corporate	Socially and environmentally responsible business.
Protect prime agricultural land in the Shire.	Projection of prime agricultural land will ensure that land is available for food production (Climate Ballina recommendation). This was achieved in this shire by the NSW Government's declaration of the Alstonville Plateau as State Significant Farmland. (2010)	Strategic and Community Services	Maintain and improve our land based productivity.

Action	Benefits and Outcomes	Council Area	CSP Outcome
Provide environmentally acceptable, off-road vehicles beach access while retaining beach amenity and safety for others.	Decrease in damage to beach environment by off-road vehicles and a harmonious sharing of the beaches and dunes of the Coastal Reserve. Beach access points finalised. Permit system in place. Brochure and Council website promote code of conduct. Requires maintenance, especially repairs after storm and high sea events.	Open Space and Reserves	Infrastructure and facilities that meet individual and community needs.
Provide recycling bins in the passenger terminal building at the airport.	Recycling bins are now located in the terminal building for drink containers and the like in both the check in and café areas. They reduce waste to landfill and provide visitors with a positive perception of Council and the community's approach to waste management.(March 2012)	Airport	Efficient production systems that minimise and reuse waste
Purchase computer hardware with lower wattage power supplies, and embrace alternative technologies such as high-speed solid state flash drives and cases made from organic materials as opposed to petro-chemical based products.	Reduction of the ecological footprint associated with computer hardware used by Council. See above action for implementation.	IT	Socially and environmentally responsible business.
Purchase computer hardware with lower wattage power supplies, and embrace alternative technologies.	Reduction of ecological footprint associated with hardware usage. New PC's purchased with lowest wattage available for required machine specification. Technology watch on other technologies such as solid state drives etc.	Information Services	Socially and environmentally responsible business.
Raised temperature of IT server room to higher end of optimal operating temperature range.	Higher ambient temperature means air conditioning is not working as hard therefore consuming less power. (2010)	IT	Effective and responsible power generation and use.
Rationalized the number of physical servers by moving to a virtual server environment where appropriate.	Reduced spend on server hardware and server room power consumption, both in terms of server power and room air conditioning costs. Raising of server room to higher end of optimal range. Improved business continuity outcome. Resource efficiency. (2010)	IT	Effective and responsible power generation and use.
Recycling of pavement.	Resource efficiency. Less 'new' material. (2010)	Engineering Works	Efficient production systems that minimise and reuse waste.

Action	Benefits and Outcomes	Council Area	CSP Outcome
Reduce radiant heat of Council store by painting roof of shed with UV reflective paint.	Reduce comfort levels within Council store. Reduce need for air-conditioning in office area. Ensure store materials are not compromised by excessive heat. (2008)	Built Assets	Effective and responsible power generation and use
Reduced paper consumption by making staff newsletter electronic.	Saving on paper, reduction to costs. (2012)	Corporate	Socially and environmentally responsible business.
Reduced use of paper printed for audit purposes.	Saving on paper, reduction to costs. TRIM and Authority provide this functionality. (2011)	Corporate	Socially and environmentally responsible business.
REF for trial of Qx resistant oysters in the Richmond River.	Ensure environmental health protected from potential for pollution. Support local oyster industry. Trial complete. Awaiting final report from oyster growers.	Environmental Health	Socially and environmentally responsible business.
Refine water, waste and energy data management and reporting to further enhance the identification of site specific abnormalities in account charges and energy use.	Provides clear and current information on which to base decision-making. Assists with SoE reporting, and accurate cost estimation etc. Energy data for all council sites is now collated and reported in a format that highlights any anomalies in use. Exploring options for the collation and reporting of water use data.	Assets and Systems Manager	Effective and responsible power generation and use.
Refine water, waste and energy data management reporting.	Compare against past performance and other structures of similar usage. Identify anomalies in use. (First begun 2009, completed meaning reporting in place for all assets to Council's satisfaction 2012.)	Built Assets.	Effective and responsible power generation and use.
Refit public lighting with energy efficient fittings.	Lighting refit complete. As at October 2012, awaiting Essential Energy's 'handover' of information to electricity retailer to ensure correct billing. (2012)	Built Assets	Effective and responsible power generation and use.
Refit public lighting with energy efficient fittings.	Use of high-pressure sodium and T5 fluorescent bulbs will significantly reduce energy consumption associated with public lighting. Refit is now complete. Awaiting Essential Energy's 'handover' to Council's retailer to receive the full financial benefit of refit.	Assets and Systems Manager	Effective and responsible power generation and use

Action	Benefits and Outcomes	Council Area	CSP Outcome
Replace Customer Service Centre storage hot water with gas instantaneous or solar heating systems.	Reduced electricity consumption. Cost found to be prohibitive for the amount of hot water used. Off peak found to be most efficient option for provision of hot water.	Assets and Systems Manager	Effective and responsible power generation and use.
Replace the Customer Service Centre storage hot water units with gas instantaneous or solar heating systems.	Cost prohibitive for the amount of hot water used. Off-peak water most efficient method based on usage patterns. (March 2012)	Built Assets	Effective and responsible power generation and use
Reuse of cleared vegetation.	Mulch and reuse of resources. (2009)	Engineering Works	Efficient production systems that minimise and reuse waste.
Review Council's internal DA distribution process to reduce paper.	Save on paper due to computerised referral. Introduction of new software is allowed electronic referral of development applications.	Development Application Review	Socially and environmentally responsible business.
Review existing Demand Management Measures in partnership with Rous Water.	This is a Rous Water function and has been devolved to their charter. (2010)	W&S	Effective water collection use and reuse.
Review of Environmental Factors for trial of disease resistance oysters in Richmond River.	Support local industry. (2011)	Public and Environmental Health	Excellent water quality in the Richmond River.
Reviewed Pedestrian and Mobility Plan to improve pedestrian network across shire.	Provide as much opportunity as possible for alternatives to motor vehicle transport. (2012)	Built Assets	Infrastructure and facilities that meet individual and community needs.
Supply and maintenance of municipal garbage bins (replacement of lost, broken and damaged bins, lids, wheels, axles).	Simple to use garbage bin system, with appropriately maintained equipment. (Ongoing)	Waste	Efficient production systems that minimise and reuse waste
Trial of 360L recycling bins for residents (50% larger than now)	Improved environmental management and opportunities for recycling and reuse. (2012)	Waste	Efficient production systems that minimise and reuse waste

Action	Benefits and Outcomes	Council Area	CSP Outcome
Undertake an environmental audit and hazard risk assessment of operations and facilities at the depot.	Ensure all WSH, environmental and compliance issues are met for chemicals etc stored. Quarterly audits undertaken. (2012)	Depot	Socially and environmentally responsible business
Undertake energy audits for Council's top energy using sites.	Audits for Council's Customer Service Centre and Depot are now complete and as of October 2012 a Council resolution is in place to replace lighting in both centres. Energy use monitoring is in place across Council's assets. (February 2012)	Built Assets	Effective and responsible power generation and use
Undertake public lighting audit.	Audit of street light infrastructure throughout the Shire, including lighting types, lighting location, energy use and maintenance regimes. (2009)	Built Assets	Effective and responsible power generation and use.
Update and adoption of Urban Stormwater Management Plan.	Plan adopted as at August 2012. Implementation schedule and budget adopted also.	Environmental Health	Socially and environmentally responsive business.
Update urban stormwater management plan.	Improve stormwater quality. Provide a schedule of works for future SQUIDS. (October 2012)	Engineering Works	Excellent water quality in the Richmond River.
Worm farms and compost bins provided to the public to assist in diverting organics from landfill.	Assists with reducing organics going to landfill, provides social and community benefits. This program is ongoing. Reports on numbers provided will be updated in future years.	Waste	Efficient production systems that minimise waste.