Lithgow City Council

Cultural Plan 2008-2013

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Mayoral Message

The Lithgow City Council Draft Cultural has been developed to provide a direction for economic sustainability and growth through cultural development in the Lithgow local government area for the 2008 – 2013 time frames. By closely linking the strategies and actions from the Cultural Plan with the Lithgow Jobs Summit Report and other planning instruments within Council it is anticipated that Council will become the champion for future economic development and growth in the Lithgow Local Government Area.

This document proposes that the way forward for cultural development in the Lithgow Local Government Area is to begin a cultural mapping and placemaking process which will identify what the individual towns, villages and localities within the Local Government Area want in terms of cultural development.

Cultural mapping will seek to identify current activities and community groups providing an overall view of the direct and indirect benefits of cultural activities within the community. In addition to this we will look at ways that Council can assist communities to develop new programs based on their tangible and intangible assets which will benefit the whole of the Lithgow Local Government Area.

A sustainable approach to placemaking such as cultural, heritage, main street and village enhancement programs will be identified in conjunction with the local community. This type of approach aids in the promotion of community pride, growth and economic development.

Venues and facilities in the Lithgow area will be the subject of an audit process which will identify opportunities for enhancement and marketing of these facilities. A feasibility study into Cultural Precincts for Lithgow, Wallerawang and Portland has been set as a key priority for the Cultural Plan. There is a diverse range of facilities within these towns which can provide a variety of services to the community.

The importance of heritage is a significant component of the Lithgow Region's identity. Identification and recognition of our cultural landscapes, both built structures and significant environmental corridors, will aide in the development of management plans for Crown Lands, Community Lands and local streetscapes. This information will inform Council's Local Environment Plan and future Development Control Plans designed to identify areas of industrial development, urban expansion and economic growth.

This plan recognises the role creative and cottage industries will play in the future economic development and growth of the area. As there is a shift in the future from the traditional industrial base, Lithgow will need to rely more on its ability for growth and renewal to develop economically sustainable and viable businesses. Active participation in the Learning Cities program will see the Lithgow area move forward into the future. A Learning City is one that renews itself and promotes life long learning. Education and the facilitation of proactive learning partnerships will generate a broader workforce and skills base.

Acknowledgement of the Indigenous Culture of the area through the development of a Wiradjuri Language Program, festivals and events will promote understanding and inclusion. Working together we will start to tell the stories of the area; both traditional and settlement.

In conclusion, the Lithgow City Council Cultural Plan 2008-2013 provides a way forward for cultural community development in the Lithgow area. It is anticipated that this document will seek to encourage the community to look to ways that cultural activities can be a significant factor in the future development and economic growth of the Lithgow local government area.

Councilor Neville Castle
Mayor

Executive Summary

The Lithgow City Council Cultural Plan acknowledges the diversity and contribution that the residents of the Lithgow Local Government Area play in developing the community. The arts benefit and strengthen communities, cultural tourism not only provides a direct economic benefit to communities but, important quality of life factors, such as improved health, wellbeing and reductions in anti-social behaviour can all be linked to the development of cultural activities and community building (Yates & Collins 2008, p.12).

An extensive community consultation process has been conducted throughout the Local Government Area along with an audit of prior attempts at Cultural Planning and all of Councils strategic documents. The Lithgow City Council Management Plan 2008-2011 outlines a number of activities which will be undertaken in the 2008-2009 year that can be linked to the Cultural Plan. This includes:

- Develop a cultural plan with the community.
- Donations and sponsorship of community groups and organisations.
- Improvements to community halls.
- Upgrade of park furniture and play equipment.
- Provision of advice and assistance to community groups to identify and obtain grant funding.
- Support for community activities and events
- Operation of Eskbank House & Museum
- Conducting Australia Day activities.

The Lithgow City Council Cultural Plan identifies key areas for sustainable growth in relation to economic, environmental, social, cultural, heritage, tourism and industrial development in the Lithgow Local Government Area.

Cultural Precinct

- Conduct a Feasibility Study into the development of a cultural precinct for Lithgow which includes:
    - Hoskins Church
    - The Lithgow Court House
    - The Hoskins Memorial Institute (old Library)
    - Lloyd Copperworks Building
    - Union Theatre
    - The Tin Shed
    - The central business district (including Mort Street & Railway Parade)
    - The Eskbank Station
    - Eskbank House
    - Blast Furnace Park
    - Lake Pillans Wetlands
    - Farmers Creek
- Conduct a Feasibility Study into the development of a cultural precinct/s for Wallerawang and Portland
- Investigate as part of the Cultural Precinct/s the viability of a commercial movie theatre in addition to the community run movie theatres in Lithgow and Portland.

Governance & Administration

- Annual review of fees and charges associated with the use of community facilities.
- Monitoring of fees and charges for sporting fields to ensure affordability by families and community members participating in sports.
- Identification of Partnership opportunities for the future development of cultural facilities.
- Hold Crystal & Union Theatre Committee meetings in accordance with the terms of reference of the committee.
- Increase the number of bookings for the Crystal & Union Theatres.

Eskbank House & Museum

- Implementation of a staged capital works program to upgrade and maintain the facility.
- A conservation management plan and landscape strategy to be developed.
- Investigation of the staffing complement at Eskbank House & Museum to include a suitably qualified Museums Officer.
- Develop and implement exhibition, collections management and public programs strategies.

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Lithgow Library Learning Centre

- Continue to provide quality programs and facilities for the community at Lithgow, Wallerawang, Portland and Rydal.
- Upgrade Wallerawang Library
- Develop and implement a library resources strategy
- Establishment of a Community Garden at the Lithgow Library in association with the Lithgow Family and Community Mental Health Support Group.

Recreational Facilities

- Undertake an Open Space and Recreational Needs Study.
- Provide linkages between open space networks.
- Implement a program of improving the standard of current facilities to ensure greater marketability.
- Undertake a Pedestrian Access and Mobility Plan to provide safe, convenient and connected pedestrian routes throughout the Local Government Area.

Skate Parks

- Implement a strategy for developing new skate park facilities and/or improving existing facilities in Lithgow, Wallerawang, Portland and Cullen Bullen.

Swimming Pool

- Undertake a feasibility study into the needs of the community and current swimming facilities, potential partners and funding/sponsorship sources.

Placemaking

- Undertake a cultural mapping program to identify cultural heritage and environmental programs which enhance the social well-being of the community.
- Redevelop and invigorate civic and public spaces through the development of
    - Main Street Programs
    - Neighbourhood Enhancement Programs
    - Heritage restoration
    - Cemetery Management
    - Interpretive strategies including dual naming and recognition of indigenous culture.

Public Arts Program

- Undertake a facilities audit to identify suitable locations for public art.
- Identification of heritage and arts trails as part of a Cycle Plan for the Lithgow Local Government Area.

Wallerawang

- Develop a management plan for Lake Wallace which includes:
    - Recreational activities
    - Development and partnerships
    - Interpretation
    - Landscaping
    - Public Art
    - Promotion
    - Events
- Implement a development control plan which includes a Public Space Strategy designed to connect environmental corridors, the Lake Foreshores and wetlands to public facilities and Main Street by cycle/walkways and riding tracks.

Villages

- Undertake further consultation in the villages of Cullen Bullen, Rydal and Capertee to establish priorities for village enhancement and promotion.

Cultural Landscapes

- Identification and promotion of indigenous culture and history.
- Development of the Local Environmental Plan and Development Control Plans which recognise the management of our cultural landscapes.

Heritage Study

- Include the Heritage Study in the Local Environmental Plan
- Mapping of all heritage items and historic sites in the Council Geographic Information System.

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Heritage Streetscapes

- Working with the community to interpret and recognise local landmarks such as:
    - Black Bridge – Wallerawang
    - Cullen Bullen Skip Line
    - Portland Cement Works Site

Environmental Corridors

- Development of Plans of Management for Crown Land Reserves and community lands.

Heritage Advisor Program & Heritage Assets Working Party

- Reinstatement of the Heritage Advisors Program
- Reinstatement of the Heritage Assets Working Party
    - to assess and develop strategic plans for Councils Heritage Assets; and
    - to develop cultural and heritage plans

Heritage Networks

- Participation in regional and local heritage networks.

Cultural Heritage Tourism

- Development of a Tourism Marketing Strategy for the Lithgow Local Government Area.
- Reinstatement of the Lithgow Cultural Heritage Partnership to further develop the Furnace, Fire & Forge Heritage Trail.

Economic Development

- A pro-active approach to economic sustainability through the creation of infrastructure, creative business opportunities, mentoring programs, education and skills development.
- Review of staffing resources within the Community and Culture Division to:
    - implement the Cultural Plan
    - Manage of Eskbank House & Museum and Councils collections
    - Specialist community support officers

Regional Networks

- Participation in regional and local cultural networks.

Cultural Mapping

- Undertake Cultural Mapping to identify the current and projected contributions a creative economy will make to the Lithgow Local Government Area.

Promotion

- Develop promotional and marketing materials designed to encourage new residents and developers to the area.
- Audit current events and develop strategies to promote new events.

Retail Development

- Develop Main Street Programs for Lithgow, Wallerawang and Portland which are inclusive of Cultural Precincts.
- Investigate the introduction of KP free Wireless Broadband Technology for the Lithgow Local Government Area.
- Develop strategies to promote and market local product.

Learning Cities

- Review and implement a strategy for furthering Lithgow as the 'First Learning City in NSW'.

University of the Third Age

- Identify current U3A (University of the Third Age) activities and opportunities to expand on these programs including the implementation of a Men's Shed Project.

Indigenous Programs

- Implementation of Cultural Awareness Training for Councillors and employees
- Development of a Wiradjuri Language program for the area.

- Partnerships with TAFE and GreenCorp to establish an accredited Environmental Conservation and Bush Regeneration Program.

Collection Management

- Investigate the implementation of the Museums Advisor Program for the Lithgow Local Government Area.
- Assist the Rydal community to develop a museum within a Train Carriage telling the stories of Rydal.
- Apply to be registered as part of the Cultural Grants Incentive Program to enable tax incentives for community donations.
- Develop a collections policy for Lithgow City Councils cultural and archival collections.

Eskbank House & Museum Collection

- Implement a strategy to conserve the collection in line with the 2006 Preservation Needs Survey.
- Identify indigenous items within the collection and establish appropriate strategies for the preservation and recognition of these items.

Lithgow City Council Art Collection

- Develop a program for collecting and exhibiting Councils Art Collection.

Lithgow Local Studies Collection

- Enhancement of the local historical photographic collection.
- Digitising of the social history recordings.

Lithgow City Council Historical Records and Archives

- Identification of the accessibility and storage of Council's Historical Records and Archives in relation to the State Records Act.

Events

- Development of a Tourism Ambassador Program for the Lithgow Local Government Area.
- Development of an Event Profile for the Lithgow Local Government Area.

Volunteers

- Development of a local volunteer network to promote volunteering opportunities and recognise the important role volunteers play within the community.

Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander People

- Investigation into the development of a multi-purpose facility to provide social and cultural benefits to the local Indigenous and Torres Trait Islander community.
- Establishment of a Section 355 Committee of Council to provide advice on cultural and social issues relating to the local Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Community.

Youth Programs

- Liaison with local youth service providers to develop outreach programs for youth.
- Development of cultural and recreational activities for youth to alleviate anti-social behaviour.

2. Preamble

2.1 Introduction

The Lithgow City Council Cultural Plan has been prepared by Lithgow City Council with the cooperation and participation of the greater Lithgow community. The Cultural Plan will assist Council in identifying cultural resources and facilities existing in our communities, facilitate opportunities for improvements, define the role Council should have in cultural activities and develop a better understanding of the needs of our community. Furthermore, the Lithgow City Council Cultural Plan provides a framework from which achievements can be measured against identified outcomes.

To successfully implement the Cultural Plan, Council acknowledges the diversity and individuality of the towns, villages and localities in the Lithgow Local Government Area and their role in developing and shaping the community through heritage, festivals, the arts and the intangibles such as community spirit, shared stories and wellbeing. Council recognises the need to form partnerships with specific sections of our community and the need to consult with other governmental departments and agencies to further enhance and promote cultural opportunities.

The development of the Cultural Plan is a key strategic process that seeks to recognise our unique culture as an essential element of the social and economic existence of our community. The Cultural Plan will be closely linked to Council's Social Plan, Strategic Plan, Crime Prevention Plan, Management Plan and Local Environmental Plan.

The cultural planning process involves the examination (audit) of the community's social and cultural activities, resources and aspirations. It is also an important document for Council to have as a background tool to enable the pursuit of government funding for cultural activities and specific community based funding opportunities for projects.

2.2 Local Government Association & Shires Association of NSW

"The future of local government depends largely on its capacity to anticipate, challenge, and respond to the forces that will shape our communities in the coming years."

Department of Local Government (2006)

Although it was initially suggested that all NSW Councils should have a Cultural Plan in place by November 2004, there is no mandatory requirement to date to develop a Cultural Plan. However, In July 2004, the NSW Ministry for the Arts (Arts NSW) and the NSW Department of Local Government published the "Cultural Planning Guidelines for Local Government". The guidelines provide a framework for the development and implementation of a Cultural Plan.

In 2002, amendments to the Local Government Act provided for Councils to include in their management plans a statement on social, community or cultural matters. However this does not imply that Councils are 'required' to develop a cultural plan (NSW Ministry for Arts & NSW Department of Local Government, 2004).

Cultural Planning and Development is recognised as a component of community planning and services. At the conclusion of the 2005 Annual Local Government Conference, a policy statement was developed which outlines local governments' vision for 'Community Planning and Services' acknowledging the

important role it contributes to physical, psychological and social health, welfare and the general wellbeing of citizens (Local Government Association 2005).

The Third Cultural Accord was implemented on 1 January 2006 for a three year period to conclude on 31 December 2008 under the auspices of the Cultural Development Standing Committee (representatives of the Local Government & Shires Association & Arts NSW).

The focus of the committee is:

- To work collaboratively to establish a new Ministry funding program for Local Government that recognises Local Governments who are making a sustained commitment to the arts and culture through a cultural planning framework.
- In recognition of the important cultural collections held by Local Governments, to jointly encourage greater integration of the operation of Local Government cultural facilities including libraries, museums and art galleries.
- To jointly develop a proposal for a national strategy for Community Cultural Development through the Cultural Ministers Council.

2.3 Definitions

The following definitions are used by the Local Government Association & Shires Association NSW in regards to cultural policy and planning.

2.3.1 Culture

Culture in its broadest terms, is about how people socialise, interact with their environment and each other, whether through activities and responsibilities associated with work, sports, leisure, common interests and other activities contributing to the well being of their society and family and to their quality of life. Culture is both tangible, it is the spirit of individuals and communities and it is the tangibles that people create that express the intangibles. Culture is how people determine their way of life.

2.3.2 Cultural Activities

Cultural activities encompass the visual, performing and literary art, social events and activities, educational activities leading to the development of cultural skills and knowledge, festivals, celebrations, commemorative events, community and urban planning and design, public art and cultural planning.

2.3.3 Art

Art is a medium, tool or resource/s that can be used to creatively express and communicate the community's culture and spirit, whether to promote issues, nurture and express their creativeness, embrace and preserve a quality of life and/or develop. Art can make the tangible intangible.

2.3.4 Community Cultural Development

Community cultural development describes processes in which communities interact at a local level with arts and culture. It is the nurturing, expanding and expression of a community's cultural life by the community itself, enabling communities to advance their artistic, social and economic aspirations.

3. Vision

3.1 Overarching Vision

The following overarching vision was developed in collaboration with the community and adopted by Council at its Policy and Strategy Committee Meeting of 3 October 2006 (Minute No. 06-315):

"A Centre of Regional Excellence that:

- **Encourages community growth and development**
- **Contributes to the efficient and effective management of the environment, community and economy for present and future generations."**

3.2 Vision Statements

The following vision statements were developed in collaboration with the community and adopted by Council at its Policy and Strategy Committee Meeting of 3 October 2006 (Minute No. 06-315).

Community	We retain, respect and strengthen both our overall sense of community, and the unique linked communities of groups, rural areas, villages and towns that make up the Lithgow Local Government Area.
Transport	Providing a choice of effective public and private transport options for those who live, work and visit our community.
Employment	Developing and embracing diverse job opportunities for all ages and abilities.
Heritage	Celebrating, protecting and sustaining our unique industrial and natural heritage, its cultural landscapes and its built heritage.
Education	Progressing to a "learning city of excellence" with a broad range of formal and non-formal education services.
Health	Creating a healthy community providing opportunities and facilities for a healthy lifestyle
Environment	Balancing, protecting and enhancing our diverse environmental elements, both natural and built, for the enjoyment and support of both current and future generations.
Arts & Culture	Supporting, celebrating and expanding a diversity of cultural and creative adventures that explore and discover the richness in our society.
Youth	Providing suitable entertainment and recreational facilities; education and employment opportunities and lifestyle choices for our valuable community of young people.
Growth	Providing for sustainable and planned growth, while enhancing the existing rural and village identity.

4. Cultural Planning Process

4.1 Cultural Planning History

The development of a Cultural Plan for the Lithgow Local Government Area has had a long history.

- In 1998 the Lithgow Arts Council was re-established and has as one of its aims the development of a Cultural Plan.
- In 2000, the Arts OutWest Local Government Cultural Planning Project produced a Preliminary Draft Report. Following this Draft, a Working Party was established to develop a 'one page' statement outlining the framework for the development of a Cultural Plan.
- In 2002, Council reconvened this Working Party to further develop this framework for discussion and the finalisation of the Cultural Plan.
- In May 2003 a Draft Cultural Plan was prepared by John Bayliss, Lithgow Regional Library.
- In May 2004 Arts OutWest prepared a revised Lithgow Cultural Plan Draft for the Cultural Plan Working Party.
- February 2007 Lithgow City Council appointed a Cultural Development Officer who is required to develop and implement a Cultural Plan for the Lithgow Local Government Area.

4.2 Lithgow City Council Management Plan 2008-2011

Lithgow City Council has identified the following items within its 2008/09, 2009/10 and 2010/11 Management Plan as being integral to the development of Arts and Culture within the Lithgow local government area.

- Develop a cultural plan with the community
- Donations and sponsorship of community groups and organisations.
- Construction of new or upgraded public toilet facilities at Pioneer Park, Lithgow.
- Improvements to a number of community halls such as Hermitage Hall, Red Cross House, Meadow Flat Hall, Union Theatre, Vale Hall and the Civic Ballroom.
- The upgrade of park furniture and/or play equipment in the Vale of Clwydd, Lithgow; Cullen Bullen; Lake Wallace, Wallerawang; and Endeavour Park, Lithgow.
- The provision of advice and assistance to community groups to identify and apply for grant funding through the Grants Officer which is an initiative of the Central Tablelands Alliance.
- Donations to Ironfest, the Koori Kids NAIDOC Week activities, the City and Highland Bands, the Community Orchestra and a student scholarship to the Mitchell Conservatorium.
- Operation of Eskbank House and Museum.
- Conducting Australia Day activities.

Preparation of the management plan for 2009/10 – 2011/12 which is fully integrated with the Strategic Plan, Social Plan, Cultural Plan and other key documents (Lithgow City Council Management Plan 2007/08 – 2010/11, p6) is a key requirement in the governance and administration of Lithgow City Council. Quarterly reports in relation to progress with activities and programs identified in the Management Plan are presented to Council and available on Councils website www.lithgow.nsw.gov.au.

4.3 Methodology

The Lithgow City Council Draft Cultural Plan has been subject to extended exhibition and a community consultation period (as detailed below). The final plan is a five year working document. This is in keeping with the Department of Local Governments recommendations for 'Delivery Programs' in Option 3 of the Integrated Planning and Reporting Options Paper (2006) which should continue to inform Councils' overall long-term Strategic Planning Process – Our Place, Our Future the Lithgow City Council Strategic Plan prepared for Council by Geolyse in consultation with the community (April 2007).

4. Cultural Planning Process

This document has been compiled by

- Amalgamating previous 'draft' Cultural Plans developed by Council and the Lithgow Arts Council.
- a review of the recent community consultation processes undertaken for the Lithgow Social Plan 2006-2011 and the Lithgow Strategic Plan – Our Place, Our Future.
- Conducting a joint community consultation process for the Cultural Plan and the Crime Prevention Plan with consultations (see attachment 1 – Community Consultation Session Notes) being held in:
    - Lithgow
    - Wallerawang
    - Portland
    - Rydal
    - Cullen Bullen

  Consultations were also conducted with key target groups including:
    - Local community groups & cultural workers
    - The Indigenous Community
    - Cultural & Linguistically Diverse Community
    - People with a disability
    - Local Students
        - Year 10 La Salle Academy
        - Year 6 Wallerawang Public School
        - Years 7-11 Portland Central School

85 cultural organisations, cultural workers, artists, performers and community groups within the local government area were sent an initial draft document requesting:

a) Written submissions in relation to the 'Draft' Cultural Plan;
b) Written responses to the Cultural Mapping form enclosed; and
c) Nominated representatives to attend a Cultural Plan – Community Consultation Session.

Three written submissions, which have been summarised and included as attachment 2 to this document were received from:

- Margaret Maddock representing Lyre Blue Creative, Greater Lithgow Region Events Diary & Lithgow Regional Fellowship of Australian Writers.
- Wendy Carlson and Ian Milliss representing CarlsonMilliss Art & Heritage Management.
- The Lithgow Small Arms Factory Inc.

4.3.1 Key issues

The initial community consultation sessions held with community groups and cultural workers identified a number of key issues for the Lithgow area which are listed below in order of priority.

- Arts Centre/Resources
- Perceptions
- Raising Awareness
- Diversity
- Heritage
- Promotion
- Communication

Above all the number one priority was:

ACTION NOT WORDS!!!

4.3.2 The way forward

A Cultural Plan has been prepared which will allow council to move forward with the implementation of cultural planning for the Lithgow Local Government Area. The document to date has achievable goals and actions for the 2008-2013 periods.

4. Cultural Planning Process

4.4 SWOT Analysis

Following the first two Cultural Planning sessions it was agreed that a SWOT Analysis be developed of the perceived Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities and Threats identified by the participants.

STRENGTHS	OPPORTUNITIES
• The range and depth of cultural activities • Unique built & cultural heritage of the area. • Intangible cultural heritage • High School Musical Program • Venues – Halls (community run) • Volunteer/charitable/generosity	• Value adding to current cultural activities • Promotion of built and cultural heritage assets • Seek opportunities for adaptive re-use and preservation of built heritage assets • Identify intangible cultural heritage. • Promote and develop unique attributes to this area. • Develop opportunities for further skills development outside of school activities. • Carry out a facilities audit and look at ways to facilitate the use of halls. • Promote community halls. • Promote volunteering opportunities, efforts and achievements to the community. • Conduct a feasibility studying into the development of a cultural centre for Lithgow. • Greater promotion of activities on a regional level to draw on a greater population base.
THREATS	**WEAKNESSES**
• Perception that “things are better in other places” • Conservatism • Domination of sport & pub culture to the exclusion of other cultural pursuits • Public liability insurance • Lack of meeting/exhibition/workshop centre.	• Weather • Small population base • Lack of cultural perspective on the part of Council and internal culture of discouragement • Apathy • Lack of momentum • Lack of resources • Lack of encouragement • No facilities audit identifying and facilitation of use.

4. Cultural Planning Process

Action Plan – Cultural Planning Process					
Objective	**Action**	**Time Frame**	**Key Responsible Person**	**Key Performance Indicator**	**Estimated Cost**
Develop guidelines for an integrated cultural planning process	Prepare cultural assessment	August – October 2007	Cultural Development Officer	Review prior draft documents and collate data.	2008/09 Management Plan
	Conduct community consultations & consider submissions to amend draft Cultural Plan	December 2007 – October 2008	Cultural Development Officer	Draft Cultural Plan amended.	
	Report to Councils Policy & Strategy Committee Meeting for adoption	15 November 2008	Community & Culture Manager	Exhibition of Draft Cultural Plan	
	Amend document and Report to Council	November 2008 – January 2009	Community & Culture Manager & Cultural Development Officer	Cultural Plan Adopted	
	Implement Cultural Plan	Ongoing	Cultural Development Officer	Achievement of identified actions within set timeframes.	
Encourage Lithgow City Council to integrate cultural planning into their management planning process	Formal Council involvement in the cultural planning process	2008/09	Community Development Officer	Included in 2006-2011 Social Plan adopted Nov 2006.	
	Employ a grants officer to actively seek funding for Council and community groups.	2007/08	Policy & Planning Manager	Grants Officer position filled January 2008.	
	Improve collaboration between Council and community cultural organisations including financial support.	2009/10	Cultural Development Officer & Grants Officer	Development of a cultural grants process as part of Councils Financial Assistance Program	
	Incorporate the Cultural Plan into Councils Management Plan.	Ongoing	Cultural Development Officer	Annual inclusion of Cultural Planning actions in Management Plan	
Develop a review process for the Cultural Plan	Review annually by the Cultural Plan Working Party	Annual	Cultural Development Officer & Cultural Plan Working Party.	Review of the Action Plan and progress and inclusion of defined financial requirement in the Cultural Plan and Management Plan	As per identified actions in Cultural Plan

5. Venues & Facilities

5.1 Cultural Precinct

The community consultation process has identified the need to develop a venue with a focus for the community which incorporates an Arts Precinct, Gallery, Theatre, Entertainment Centre and Research Archive as the number one priority for the Lithgow Cultural Plan. The venue should become a focal point encouraging the sharing of ideas and resources. A place where the diversity of cultures can mix, living in harmony with the environment.

As part of the community consultation it is considered important that a feasibility study for the proposed Cultural Precinct should not only include the Hoskins Memorial Institute, Lloyd Copperworks Building and Union Theatre but take into consideration the surrounding streetscape which includes:

- Hoskins Church
- The Court House
- The central business district
- Eskbank Station
- Eskbank House & Museum
- Blast Furnace Park
- Lake Pillans Wetlands
- Farmers Creek
- Mort Street and Railway Parade

The Precinct needs to incorporate indoor and outdoor environments to encourage sharing and mixing by the community. Small businesses such as cafes, retail and craft shops are seen as an integral part of the overall cultural precinct (Western Research Institute 2008:18).

It was proposed that a Research Archive be investigated for inclusion within the Hoskins Memorial Institute. This would provide opportunities for Lithgow to further capitalise on the Industrial Heritage of the area as part of the Learning Cities Program. The program offers an opportunity for Lithgow to 'specialise' in a key area of both local and national history providing opportunities to serve as an adjunct to the State Archives in Western Sydney and becoming an archive for scholars of industrial heritage.

Cultural precincts offer increased employment opportunities for teachers, curators, artists, musicians, performers, administration (Western Research Institute 2008:18) etcetera along with sustained economic development and growth through increased retail and tourism related industry. These aspects add to an improved quality of life which in return encourages people to remain in the area retaining and building on our skills base.

The Hoskins Memorial Institute is a known local landmark – 'the Old Library Building'. Although a major part of the Hoskins Memorial Institute is currently unused, the building is still utilised to some extent by the following community groups:

- The Musical Society utilises the former Ballroom and Library Stack area as change rooms and prop storage for performances in the Union Theatre.
- The below street level basement is rented by the Lithgow Theatre Group, The Lithgow Senior Citizens Club and Basil Lemke's Gym.

As part of the feasibility study it is recommended that the current user groups be consulted and their facilities maintained. For example Basil Lemke's Gym epitomizes an 'old time gentlemen's gym' and is itself a mark of character and culture within the building which should be preserved.

The community consultation process identified the need to investigate the feasibility of incorporating an entertainment centre as part of the cultural precinct to attract major musical acts and be utilised by local performing

arts practitioners, musicians and community groups as a performance and rehearsal space. It is noted that the Union Theatre does currently attract a number of acts to the area and that it would be advisable to undertake a planning process into the current usage, limitations and possible development of this facility to improve its standards and increase its marketability.

The Lithgow Branch of the Mitchell Conservatorium and the Lithgow City Band has identified a need to either redevelop their current sites or seek an alternative site. Both of these facilities are heavily utilised by both the building owners and other user groups.

Lithgow Information & Neighbourhood Centre is also seeking to enter a partnership to enable the continued development and sustainability of community cultural development programs coordinated by the Centre.

As part of the initial stages of the consultation process into the cultural precinct it would be feasible to

a) identify current and future user groups; and
b) Potential partners in the cultural precinct.

A 'Music Education Node' has been proposed in the Lithgow Jobs Summit Report (2008:18 & 30). The development or identification of suitable infrastructure in the area is integral to furthering this concept with the need for a suitable Auditorium for concert, teaching and rehearsal space. There is an opportunity to "build on the success" of current schools and tertiary programs in the area providing ongoing educational and employment opportunities.

The scope of work for a feasibility study into the development of a Cultural Precinct should not be limited to Lithgow. Investigation of opportunities for the development of cultural precincts within Portland and Wallerawang should include:

- The Crystal Theatre and surrounding streetscape in Portland; and
- The Blaxland Building and surrounding streetscape in Wallerawang.

5.1.1 Portland Cultural Precinct

As part of the proposed development of a Cultural Precinct for Portland, it has been identified that there is a need to investigate options for providing workshop, exhibition and marketing space suitable for collaborative work or skill-sharing activities which will to the education focus of the Learning City (Community Submission 2009).

5.1.2 Movie Theatre

Attending the movies at Bathurst or Penrith was identified as a major source of entertainment for the community, particularly among young people. It is noted that there are two community operated cinemas in the Lithgow Local Government Area; one in Main Street Lithgow and the second at the Crystal Theatre Portland. Both of these cinemas represent a part of the cultural precincts for Lithgow and Portland.

Although the need for further investigation into attracting a major cinema for the area was identified, young people in Portland also noted that they would like to see movies shown more frequently at the Crystal Theatre.

5.2 Governance & Administration

In addition to this it was considered important that Council review the fees and charges annually associated with the use of council owned and managed facilities such as the Union Theatre, the Memorial Hall at Wallerawang, Eskbank House & Museum and the Civic Ballroom to

encourage greater usage by the community. It was also felt important that Council ensure that its facilities are seen to be community assets and not exclusively controlled by any single user group.

Key performance indicators for the management of the Crystal and Union Theatres have been set by Council as part of the 2008-2011 Management Plan (p.31) as follows:

- Hold Crystal & Union Theatre Committee meetings in accordance with the terms of reference of the committee.
- Increase the number of bookings for the Crystal & Union Theatres.

Lithgow's sporting heritage is notable and it was seen as important to ensure that the fees & charges in relation to the use of Sporting Fields by organisations be monitored to ensure affordability by families and community members participating in sports.

The Lithgow Information and Neighbourhood Centre runs community cultural development programs in Wallerawang and Portland. When considering the future development of cultural precincts in these towns, partnership opportunities should be identified for facilities.

5.3 Eskbank House & Museum

Lithgow City Council has identified the promotion and development of Eskbank House & Museum as a principle activity in the 2008-2011 Management Plan (p.31-32). The following key performance indicators have been identified for this facility.

- Increase in the number of visitors to the facility
- Conducting of three exhibitions/displays per year.
- Improvements to the courtyard space to enable rotating exhibitions to be held in this space.
- Conducting Australia Day festivities at the Museum.
- Workshop the creation of significant collection replicas.
- Improvements to the Carpark.

Education is a principal activity in the Lithgow City Council Management Plan 2008-2011. One of the key objectives is to "provide the community with opportunities to develop knowledge and skills through Learning City Programs" (p.23).

Local students trying out the recently installed access ramp at Eskbank House & Museum.

The following activities currently implemented or identified to be implemented at Eskbank House & Museum are seen to be in line with this objective.

- Implementation of a Volunteer Management Program.
- Provision of quality school holiday arts programs.
- Provision of exhibitions and public programs sympathetic to the Museum and its collection.
- The development of a research program at the Museum to assist in providing quality exhibitions and to update the interpretation of the

collection, the Museum and the Eskbank Estate.
- The development of an education program for local schools.
- The development of a newsletter or information packages for local schools designed to promote upcoming exhibitions, public programs and visitation to the Museum by local and regional schools.
- The development of a public programs strategy for the Museum and its facilities.
- Provide informative guided tours of the Museum to visitors, tour groups and school groups.
- Develop an outreach program for the museum.

A staged capital works program designed to upgrade the facilities and maintain the property is integral to the future development of this community asset.

The development of a Conservation Management Plan and Landscape Strategy for the facility will assist in identifying property management priorities within heritage guidelines. This will also assist in establishing a future direction for the Museum in the areas of disabled access, garden/grounds development, facilities development/expansion etcetera. Through the community consultation process it has been identified that when developing a Conservation Management Plan and Landscape strategy for the grounds that consideration is given to:

- The inclusion of picnic/BBQ facilities; and
- The inclusion of an edible/sensory garden and/or community garden.

Staffing
At present Eskbank House & Museum is staffed by the Cultural Development Officer three days per week and volunteers on weekends. Due to difficulty in recruiting and maintaining volunteers there are times when the museum is closed.

The adoption of the Cultural Plan by Council will require the Cultural Development Officer to be more focused on the implementation of the Plan. As such the current two-days per week spent on Cultural Development will need to be increased to full-time.
Furthermore, it is considered that there is a need to have a qualified Museums Officer employed at Eskbank House & Museum to:
- Develop Eskbank House & Museum as part of the Cultural Precinct.
- Promote and manage the Museum and its collection.
- Supervise and maintain the Volunteer Program.
- Implement exhibition, collections management and public programs strategies.

5.4 Lithgow Library Learning Centre

The Lithgow Library Learning Centre is a modern facility designed to encourage life-long learning within the community. Libraries are charted with the requirement to provide recreational reference and information needs to the community.

The centre offers the community a diversity of programs and facilities including:
- The Delta Electricity Homework Zone
- The Local Studies Unit
- The Lithgow Technology Centre
- The Lithgow Forum
- Areas to read and enjoy the company of others.
- Meeting facilities
- Changing Exhibitions
- Reading groups
- Books for Babies

- Cooperative ventures with TAFE & Schools.
- Children's Story time
- School holiday activities

The Library also has branches which are operated in Wallerawang, Portland and Rydal.

5.4.1 Community Garden Project

The establishment of a community garden at the Lithgow Library Learning Centre by the Lithgow Family and Community Mental Health Support Group is included in the Community donations for 2008/09 (LCC Management Plan 2008/09 – 2010/11 p.14). The aim of this rehabilitation project is to promote health and well-being through social interaction for people with mental health issues. The Lithgow Family & Community Mental Health Support Group has an extremely good reputation within the Sydney West Area Health Service due to its successes and it is hoped that some participants will return to the workforce through re-skilling as part of this program.

5.5 Recreational Facilities

There was a general consensus for the further development or improvement of recreational facilities throughout the local government area. This included:

- The future development of more parks and recreational areas in new subdivisions;
- Inclusion of gas or solar BBQ facilities in parks and reserves including:
    - Hassans Walls Reserve
    - Lake Pillans Wetlands
    - Londonderry
    - Clarence Pirie Park (Capertee)
- More leash free areas
- Better public toilets
- Improvements to irrigation systems and inclusion of water saving tanks in parks and public facilities.
- More picnic facilities
- More bins
- Improvements to play ground facilities including outdoor recreational apparatus such as Climbing Walls.

5.5.1 New or extension of existing recreational facilities and activities

The Lithgow Local Government Area offers opportunities to develop and promote a broad range of passive recreation activities and extreme sports.

Quality sporting facilities and opportunities offer not only lifestyle benefits but also economic benefits through major tournaments and events.

It was considered to be important for Council to implement a program of improving the standard of current facilities to ensure greater marketability. The development of a proactive approach to encouraging sporting groups, developers and event coordinators to utilise and develop facilities in the Lithgow local government area is seen to be a priority. In addition to an audit of Cultural Facilities it would be beneficial to conduct an Open Space and Recreational Needs Study of all sporting and recreational facilities in the area.

5.5.1 Open Space & Recreational Needs Study

The objectives of an Open Space & Recreational Needs Study is to provide the Lithgow Local Government Area with a coordinated and well managed system of open space complimented by sporting and recreational facilities to meet a full range of recreational needs as follows:

5. Venues & Facilities

- To ensure that open spaces and recreation facilities meet the needs of local people and promote greater social inclusion.
- To protect and improve open space and recreation facility provision in terms of quality, quantity, accessibility and safety.
- To respond to the community's changing needs for access and use of open space and recreation facilities.
- To provide linkages within, and between, the open space network.
- To ensure open spaces and recreational facilities enhance the quality of the local environment.
- To encourage and facilitate partnerships with community and other public and private stakeholders for planning, provision, development and management of open space and recreation facilities.
- To provide direction on capital works, priorities and action to ensure "best practice" planning and management of open space and recreation facilities.

(LCC Memo 2008)

The consultation process has identified a number of suggestions for the improvement or replacement of facilities at the following parks and sporting fields within the local government area.

Kramer Park – Portland

- Improvement/replacement of the grandstand
- Review of the usage of the cricket pitch and possible removal.

Saville Park – Portland

- Installation of goal posts
- Assist the Portland Development Association to gain funding for a Rotunda/Bandstand to the built at the park which will become a focal point for outdoor concerts and festivals.

Clarence Pirie Park – Capertee

- Installation of a gas or solar BBQ
- Improve the rest area
- Develop a leash free area for travelers and locals

Lake Wallace Wallerawang – Foreshores

- Assist in the development of a boat shed to house sailing, canoeing and rowing equipment.

Sailing at Lake Wallace, Wallerawang

Greg Featherstone Park – Rydal

- Installation of children's play equipment.

Pioneer Park – Rydal

- Assist the Rydal Development Association to secure funding for an amphitheatre (Designed by local Artist, Antony Symonds) to further enhance community events.

Glanmire Oval – Lithgow

- Liaise with the Lithgow Hockey Association to identify requirements and funding opportunities for improvements to the turf.

Lithgow Golf Club – Marrangaroo

- Investigate possible opportunities for development of this facility to include:
    - Improvements to the current course.
    - A golf driving range.
    - Putt Putt Golf.

Emora Park – Bowenfels

- Liaise with community stakeholders for the revitalization of the Wisteria Walk as part of an overall community gardens project for Bowenfels.
- Upgrade the park in consultation with the Department of Housing the Bowenfels community.

Tennis Courts – Portland

- Assess the need for improvements to the tennis courts.

The **Oakey Park/Inch Street** area is serviced by four different parks each offering different recreational opportunities for the community. It is suggested that a survey be carried out to identify the types of usage for each park and improvements be made based on the specific needs of the community.

Oakey Park Oval appears to be utilised by the community for cricket practice. Young people are also noted for riding their bikes on the oval.

Saywell Street Recreation Area - open space backing onto Farmers Creek, there is also open space on the other side of the creek which could be linked by a walkway.

Inch Street Children's Playground – a small block opposite the Saywell Street Recreation Area which has some playground equipment.

Lake Pillans Wetlands is part of the cultural heritage precinct to be discussed in Section 7 of this document.

Lake Pillans Wetlands with Blast Furnace Park in the background

In addition to identifying the requirements and strategies for developing this area, it is further suggested that ways of linking the various recreational reserves and playgrounds be investigated as part of the Pedestrian Access and Mobility Plan. A Pedestrian Access and Mobility Plan (PAMP) is a comprehensive strategic action plan which identifies ways to "provide safe, convenient and connected pedestrian routes which will encourage people to walk rather than use their cars" (RTA 2002:7). This will highlight ways of promoting and enhancing the usability of these parks and may offer opportunity for redevelopment of some lands.

5.6 Skate Parks

There are four Council developed and maintained skate parks in the Lithgow local government area.

- Lithgow – Tony Luchetti Sportsground
- Wallerawang – Adjacent to the Wallerawang Memorial Hall and Childrens playground.
- Portland – Adjacent to Kramer Park
- Cullen Bullen – adjacent to the Rural Fire Shed.

5. Venues & Facilities

SK8 Park at Tony Luchetti Sportsground courtesy of www.skateboard.com.au

Over the years Council has come under criticism for the inadequacy and poor planning of these facilities.

The cultural planning process highlighted the need for Council to implement a strategy for developing new skate park facilities and/or improving existing facilities.

A number of concepts were put forward for consideration in the redevelopment of Skate park facilities:

- Combining Skate Park & BMX Facilities which cater for competition.
- The inclusion of 'Tagging Walls' for graffiti art.
- Inclusion of youth in the planning of facilities to encourage pride and ownership.
- Landscaping and family facilities.
- Integration of these facilities into areas of high visibility which incorporate other activities.

5.7 Swimming Pool

A general consensus has been reached across all age groups and through various planning sessions including the recent community consultations for the Cultural Plan and the Lithgow Jobs Summit for improvements to the current Lithgow Memorial Swimming Pool. The current pool, built in the 1960's is considered somewhat outdated and does not meet all of the needs of the community. It is considered appropriate that Council undergo a feasibility study to identify:

- The needs of the community and current facilities available.
- Potential partners in the project
- Funding and sponsorship sources.

A number of suggestions have been put forward in relation to the redevelopment of the current site including:

- Larger Pool – the current pool is an Olympic size pool.
- A high diving pool and board.
- A heated/Therapeutic pool.
- Investigation of water park concepts for inclusion i.e.
    - Water slide
    - Wave Pool
    - Aqua Golf

The concept of an Adventure Park was considered as part of the Lithgow Jobs Summit (see Section 3 – Macro Ideas – Environment – Western Research Institute 2008:14). The development of an Adventure/Theme Park which incorporates a quality swim centre would provide economic development and population growth for the community through tourism, sporting events and increased social capital.

Lithgow Swimming Pool

5. Venues & Facilities

Action Plan – Venues and Facilities

Objective	Action	Time Frame	Key Responsible Person	Key Performance Indicator	Estimated Cost
Develop cultural and recreational infrastructure that will meet the needs of the community now and in the future.	Survey user groups of Council facilities and identify future requirements and uses.	2008/09	Public Assets Engineer/Cultural Development Officer	Final report used to assist in the development of a Cultural Precinct Feasibility Study and Open Space & Recreational Needs Study.	
	Develop a project scope for a feasibility study into the proposed Cultural Precinct.	2008/09 2009/10	Public Assets Engineer/Cultural Development Officer	Recommendations from Cultural Precinct Feasibility Study adopted by Council and included in Management Plan	
	Investigate funding for feasibility study for Cultural Precinct.	2009/10 2010/11	Cultural Development Officer/Grants Officer	Funding/sponsorship opportunities identified	Grant funding
	Investigate current usage, limitations and develop a management plan for upgrading the Union Theatre to increase marketability.	2008/09	Cultural Development Officer/ Assets Officer /Union Theatre Management Committee	Development of a management and marketing plan for the Union Theatre	
	Develop a project scope for an Open Space & Recreational Needs Study taking into consideration the identified needs in the Cultural Plan.	2009/10 2010/11	Cultural Development Officer/Assets Officer/Strategic Planner	Recommendations from Cultural Precinct Feasibility Study adopted by Council and included in Management Plan	Grant funding
	Investigate funding for Open space & Recreational Needs Study.	2009/10	Cultural Development Officer/Assets Officer/Strategic Planner	Funding/sponsorship opportunities identified	
	Identify the need for a movie theatre complex to be developed in Lithgow.	2009/10	Economic Development Officer	Development opportunities identified	
	Open Space and Recreation Study and the Cultural Precinct Feasibility are developed in conjunction with the Study Pedestrian Access & Mobility Plan.	2008/09	Road Safety Officer/Traffic & Development Engineer	Development of a consistent planning framework for Cultural, recreational and Accessibility planning.	

5. Venues & Facilities

Action Plan – Venues and Facilities					
Objective	**Action**	**Time Frame**	**Key Responsible Person**	**Key Performance Indicator**	**Estimated Cost**
Manage the Crystal & Union Theatres	Hold Crystal & Union Theatre Committee meetings in accordance with the terms of reference of the committee.	Ongoing	Public Assets Engineer/Cultural Development Officer	Regular attendance at meetings	Management Plan 2007-2010 (p. 30)
	Operate the Crystal and Union Theatres	Ongoing		Annual increase bookings	Management Plan 2007-2010 (p. 30)
Undertake an audit of the existing cultural resources and facilities.	Implement a process to audit the Lithgow LGA's cultural resources as part of the Cultural Planning review.	Annual	Cultural Development Officer	Optimisation and enhancement of the role and accessibility of the existing cultural facilities and industries	Grant funding
	Identification of gaps within the cultural facilities provided and development of new performance and exhibition facilities	Ongoing	Cultural Development Officer/Grants Officer	Obtaining of grant funding to upgrade and/or develop new facilities.	Grant funding
	Promotion of Council and Community run facilities to interested vendors.	Ongoing	Cultural Development Officer	Annual increases in bookings.	
Develop and promote Eskbank House and Museum as a cultural heritage venue.	Operate Eskbank House & Museum	Ongoing	Cultural Development Officer	Annual increase in visitation	Management Plan 2007-2010 (p. 30)
	Conduct exhibitions and displays of the EHM Collection, Travelling Exhibitions, Councils Art Collection and Local & Regional Artists.	Annual	Cultural Development Officer	Minimum of 3 exhibitions per year	Management Plan 2007-2010 (p. 30)
	Improvements to the court yard space to provide for exhibitions	2007/08 2008/09	Cultural Development Officer	Works completed by 30 June 2008	Grant funding
	Implement a Volunteer Management Program	2007/08	Cultural Development Officer	Provision of informative guided tours of the museum to visitors, tour groups & school groups.	Nil
	Consult with the local indigenous community on the identification and interpretation of artifacts held within the Museums collection.	2008/09	Cultural Development Officer	Identification & interpretation of items which lead to educational outcomes for the community.	Grant funding

5. Venues & Facilities

Action Plan – Venues and Facilities

Objective	Action	Time Frame	Key Responsible Person	Key Performance Indicator	Estimated Cost
Develop and promote Eskbank House and Museum as a cultural heritage venue. (cont.)	Develop a Public Programs Strategy for Eskbank House & Museum.	2008/09	Cultural Development Officer/Grants Officer	A diverse program of arts, performances, events & exhibitions hosted at the Museum	$5,000 (council) + Sponsorship/ Grant funding for programs
	Enhancement & development of Waste 2 Art Exhibition and public programs.	Ongoing	Cultural Development Officer	Increases to: • Sponsorship • Entries • Visitation • Workshop participation	Grant funding
	Development of an education program for Schools	Ongoing	Cultural Development Officer	Programs catering to different educational needs from pre-school to secondary school.	Nil
	Development of a newsletter for Schools to promote the Museum facilities, exhibitions, public programs and schools programs.	Bi-monthly	Cultural Development Officer	Increased visitation by local schools	
	Develop and implement a research program based around upcoming exhibitions, interpretation strategies, the Museum Collection and the Eskbank Estate	Ongoing	Cultural Development Officer & Volunteer/s	• Develop a research library from which to develop exhibitions & interpretation for the Museum. • Provide a research facility for local history & family history enquiries.	Nil
	Develop an Outreach Program for the Museum	2007/08 20010/11	Cultural Development Officer	• Peep @ Sheep travelling exhibition from Department of Primary Industries • Joint exhibitions conducted with EHM & Lithgow Library • Small Travelling Exhibitions for local promotional opportunities	Nil Nil - In-house promotion & design Nil - In-house promotion & design

5. Venues & Facilities

Action Plan – Venues and Facilities

Objective	Action	Time Frame	Key Responsible Person	Key Performance Indicator	Estimated Cost
Develop and promote Eskbank House and Museum as a cultural heritage venue. (cont.)	Implementation of a staged upgrade of the interpretation of the Museum and its collection. • Front of House • Lithgow Pottery Exhibition – Barton Building • Coach House	 2008/09 2009/10 2010/11	Cultural Development Officer/Grants Officer	Gaining of Sponsorship/Grant Funding and Council budget allocations	Draft 2008/2012 Management Plan Grant funding
	Development of a Conservation Management Plan & Landscape Strategy	2008/09	Cultural Development Officer /Grants Officer	Recommendations from Conservation Management Plan & Landscape Strategy adopted by Council and included in Management Plan	Draft 2008/2012 Management Plan $11,000
	Employ a full-time Museums Officer to manage and develop the Museum.	2009/10	Community & Culture Manager/Cultural Development Officer	Museums Officer employed and Cultural Development Officer allocated to full-time implementation of the Cultural Plan and overseeing Museum operations.	$60,000 + on costs.

6. Civic Spaces & Public Places

6.1 Placemaking

Placemaking is "making a public space a living space"
Project for Public Spaces website (2008)

Placemaking offers an opportunity to discover the heart of the communities we live in through public consultation and cultural mapping. Community groups such as progress and village associations, tidy towns committees, arts and cultural groups have been working on community projects which focus on the needs of their towns and villages.

Through public consultation we can continue to identify capital, cultural, heritage and environmental programs currently being undertaken and new programs which the community feels will be of economic and social benefit.

Programs and activities such as:

- Physical artworks
    - Sculptures, murals, etcetera
- Main Street programs
- Creative and performing arts
- Neighbourhood enhancement
- Heritage restoration
- Cemetery Management

All contribute to the enhancement and well being of communities. Providing growth through economic development and learning opportunities.

Placemaking is not only concerned with the physical aspects of a community. It is about the emotional and social ties that bind a community; the heart and soul of a community, its history, heritage and traditions. These aspects can be replicated in the physical environment and through events and cultural activities which enhance the social well-being of the community.

Future planning and development for the Lithgow local government area should include the redevelopment of existing civic spaces and public places along with provision for new spaces as part of the development process for centres of commercial or residential development.

6.1.1 Council Administration Centre Entrance Courtyard

Consideration is being given to removal of the pine which dominates the entrance courtyard and redesigning the space. As part of the redevelopment of the site it is considered appropriate to include a sculpture and water feature to create a calming and soothing effect.

Administration Centre Entrance Courtyard taken from rear of courtyard facing Mort Street.

The courtyard is the entrance to the administration centre/customer service area and provides a link with the Centrelink building. It is proposed that by applying Feng Shui principles to the design and layout of corporate space it will enhance the success of the business, by encouraging a positive flow of energy, creating a happy and prosperous environment (Piscitello 2007).

The five elements of Feng Shui include: Fire, Water, Wood, Earth and Metal. These elements can be linked sculpturally to the History, Heritage, Industrial and Environmental aspects of the Lithgow Local Government Area. A recent

discussion with a local business operator (Janette Watson, Jannai Goat Dairy) expanded the tag lines surrounding Councils logo to:

"Lithgow, a valley of artisans, surrounded by nature, steeped in history"

It is suggested that submissions be called from Artists/Architects to redesign the entrance courtyard, celebrating the industrial heritage and local environment incorporating Feng Shui design principles.

6.1.2 Cook Street Plaza

Cook Street Plaza in the centre of the Central Business District is seen to be an area of high priority for redevelopment as a civic space. The Plaza is regularly used for community activities such as:

- cake stalls;
- the Annual Lions Club Chocolate Wheel at Christmas; and
- International Womens Day festivities.
- Celebrate Lithgow Festivities
- NAIDOC Week activities

Cook Street Plaza is a meeting place with an outdoor café and also a source of community information through the Council maintained Community Notice Board.

It should be noted that great public spaces have the potential to not only be important to the community that values them, but also to be national or internationally acclaimed (Project for Public Spaces 2005:3).

Cook Street Plaza is already a popular tourist destination for fans of the Legendary 'Lithgow Flash', Marjorie Jackson seeking to view the bronze statue by Rydal Artist, Antony Symonds.

Due to Lithgow's proud sporting heritage it could be considered appropriate that redevelopment and enhancement of this site could include:

- Making it a more usable space for events, small concerts, busking and markets
- Instilling pride in our sporting achievements by developing a 'Sportsman's Walk' replacing some of the pavers with pavers celebrating our local sporting heroes.
- Installation of a public amenities block.

6.1.3 Signage – Dual Naming

A program of including the traditional Wiradjuri names of areas in signage is seen to be of importance to the local indigenous community. Signage should include the correct spelling, pronunciation and where possible meaning thereby increasing awareness of the Wiradjuri Language and traditions in this area.

This program should be extended to include the interpretations of the area so that the stories and significance of places are told. For example locations such as Hyde Park in Hartley is a significant 'Women's Place'. This information should be interpreted for the community and visitors to the area in a sensitive and appropriate way.

6.2 Public Arts Program

The development of a Public Arts Program for the area was seen to be a priority. As part of the program a facilities audit should be carried out to identify the suitability of Council facilities, public space areas and community halls for hosting exhibitions, events and marketability.

Placemaking provides an opportunity to promote community well-being, a sense of pride and to further enhance tourism within the towns and villages. Sculptures, murals, seating and lighting etcetera all

contribute to cultural landscapes. Further consultation with the individual communities that make up the Lithgow local government area will identify activities currently being undertaken within communities and ways that Council can assist and enhance these program i.e. tidy towns programs.

A facilities audit and community consultation will identify additional areas throughout the local government area which would provide suitable locations for a Public Arts Program.

6.2.1 Arts Trails

Council has identified the need to develop a Pedestrian Access Mobility Plan in 2008/09. This plan should be linked to the cultural plan and review the Greater Lithgow City Council Bicycle Plan (Cycle Planning, 1998) providing an opportunity to develop open space areas along designated biking/walking trails as public arts space.

Furthermore there is a need to obtain funding to revise the Lithgow City Council Bicycle Plan identifying locations of current heritage and attractions along designated bike trails and future locations and opportunities for cycleways and walkways.

The promotion of cultural activities and workers is seen to be a priority and the provision of a drive/ride pocket guide highlighting the cultural landscape and artist trail/s should be developed to promote healthy and fun ways to explore the area. This should be further promoted with regular open weekends to showcase the diversity and quality of works created by local artists. This would enable artists who do not have galleries an opportunity to promote their works to the public as part of a coordinated event.

The community consultation process highlighted the need to promote current cycleways to the community and to develop new cycleways linking the towns and villages such as Wallerawang/Portland/Cullen Bullen.

6.2.2 Heritage Sites

Eskbank House & Museum has been utilised as an indoor/outdoor arts venue since 2004 hosting the successful Waste to Art Program. In 2007 Council transferred the Lithgow Australia Day festivities to the Museum and began to develop a living history style event.

A unique opportunity exists to further develop this venue as a public arts space for workshops, utilising the enclosed courtyard as a gallery space for local and travelling exhibitions.

The facility provides an opportunity to develop the site as a Cultural Center within the Cultural Precinct offering a variety of regular visitor programs to be developed in conjunction with exhibitions and performances by local and regional cultural workers.

Locations such as Blast Furnace Park, Lake Pillans Wetlands and the State Mine Heritage Park provide heritage backdrops which, like Eskbank House & Museum offer an opportunity to marry the celebration of our industrial heritage with a unique location to host events, use as backdrops for film making and permanent or semi-permanent displays of public art.

6.2.3 Pioneer's Heritage Park

Council has recently commissioned architectural plans to redesign the toilets at the Pioneer's Heritage Park. The Park features the following interpretation and monuments:

- Interpretative signage for Eskbank Station.
- Pioneers Wall which features 35 plaques donated by the families of Pre-1856 Pioneers in conjunction with the Lithgow District Family History Society.

  - It is also suggested that a rose, which covers some of the plaques may have been dedicated as a pioneer's memorial and that this rose should be relocated in the park as part of the redevelopment of the site to enable people to view all of the plaques.
- Memorial Stone dedicated to Volunteer Fire Fighters, Ted Hughes and Col Eather who lost their lives fighting the bushfires, December 1997. This was a Youth Week project and features a poem by Levi Elms.
- Rotary Signage dedicating the Park 1963-68.

It is suggested that submissions be sought from local artists to create a sculptural piece which celebrates our early pioneers. Since the Pioneers Wall celebrate Pioneering Families pre-1856, it may be possible to celebrate our early industrialists.

It is noted that the Pioneers Wall does not include Andrew Brown, Thomas Brown or James Walker all of whom were early settlers to the district, playing a significant role in the development of Lithgow and Wallerawang. Furthermore, as noted above, there is an opportunity to celebrate our industrial pioneers including James Rutherford, William Sandford, the Hoskins Brothers and Thomas Mort. There is a need to conduct further research into creating a suitable list of our industrial pioneers prior to approaching artists.

The space should include interpretation and a heritage walking map for visitors and locals to encourage visitation to heritage attractions. Many people to Lithgow by train for a day trip to go for a walking tour. When they get to the top of the Main Street this will provide them with directional information on our local heritage attractions.

Furthermore it is suggested that as this park celebrates our early pioneers, as part of the redevelopment project it should be included on Councils websites under the heritage section. The site should promote the park and its facilities, the sculptural works and memorials, listing the names of the Pioneers to encourage visitation to the park by tourists and family historians.

6.3 Wallerawang

6.3.1 Lake Wallace

Lake Wallace is significant not only to the Lithgow Local Government Area but, it is also of National Significance.

James Walker, the first colonist to settle in the Lithgow-Wallerawang district (Leslie, 1988:1) in 1823 on the site of present day Lake Wallace. The property was named Waller'o'wang, the Wiradjuri word for 'place of wood and water'.

In 1836, Charles Darwin stayed at the Walker property and discovered the Platypus on the Cox's River. The park on the Lakes foreshores has been named "Charles Darwin Park" and a monument has been erected in honour of this.

In 1865 Georgina Walker married Edwin Barton the surveyor for the Rail line across the Blue Mountains. In 1948, brother and

sister, Lue Loveday and James Lyon Walker Barton were killed at Waller'o'wang House by William Benjamin Harvey Bugg. At this time the property was known as the Barton Estate. Following their deaths the house and property went into decay.

During the late 1970's the house and buildings were dismantled to allow for the present day Lake Wallace.

At this stage the historic cemetery was also dismantled, conservation works carried out and relocated to a site above the rising water line. The cemetery not only dates from 1836 but also boasts a number of names of families' synonymous to the district including the grave of Thomas Brown of Eskbank House. In addition to the grave markers of our early settlers, the cemetery is significant in that it pays tribute to the local indigenous community. In 1856, the Walker family erected a tombstone for "Bobby". The tombstone was inscribed as follows:

Erected by
Archibald James Walker
In memory of
BOBBY and the WALLEROWONG ABORIGINE TRIBE
May 4, 1856

(Smith 1990)

Today, Lake Wallace serves as a water source for the nearby Wallerawang Power Station cooling towers.

The lake and its foreshores provide the community with a variety of recreational pursuits including:

- Fishing
- Sailing
- Sail boarding
- Canoeing
- Swimming
- Baseball
- Picnic facilities
- Bird Watching
- Walking/Cycling
- Leash Free Area
- Childrens playground

The recent installation of a Memorial to Charles Darwin is the beginning of telling the story of white settlement in the area.

The development of a Management Plan for the site which incorporates:

- Suitable recreational activities to be carried out on the site.
- Future development and partnerships for the site.
    - Cycle/walkways
    - Facilities
- Interpretation of the site
    - Indigenous culture and white settlement.
    - Environmental - Identification of birdlife, flora & fauna.
    - Dual naming signage
- Landscaping/Sculptural strategy
- Promotion
- Events/Celebrations

6.3.2 Development Control Plan

The implementation of a Development Control Plan for the land surrounding Wallerawang Public School was seen to be of importance to the community. It was noted that this area links the Lake with the forested ridge to the (NSEW) and that consideration should be given to ensuring environmental corridors are developed and/or maintained.

The community felt that a development control plan for this area should be sympathetic to the aesthetic environment linking the Lake and the Forest in relation to:

- Housing development
- The school and current sporting facilities.

The Development Control Plan should identify a Public Space Strategy for this area which includes:

- Linking to Forest Ridge Estate and Hume Avenue via cycle/walkways.

    - Linking the forest ridge to the lake foreshores and wetlands.
- Wetlands – preservation and interpretation
- Environmental Corridors from the forest to the lake to encourage the return of wildlife and native birds to the lake.
    - Encourage current landholders to protect/conserve wildlife corridors.
- A viewing platform and pathways along the ridge.

6.4 Villages

The community consultation process was conducted in Lithgow, Portland, Wallerawang and the villages of Cullen Bullen and Rydal. Through this process, residents identified opportunities for the enhancement of Cullen Bullen, Rydal and Capertee. It is suggested that Council Officers work with each of the three villages to develop Village Enhancement Strategies which will identify current and future programs, events and activities establishing priorities in the following areas:

- Current events
- Community resources
- Opportunities for youth activities
- Identification and interpretation of heritage and history of the village
- Village beautification program
- Development of a signature event
- Economic development
- Promotion of the Village
- Funding, sponsorship and partnership opportunities
- Signage

6. Civic Spaces & Public Places

Action Plan – Civic Spaces and Public Spaces

Objective	Action	Time Frame	Key Responsible Person	Key Performance Indicator	Estimated Cost
Enhancement of Civic Spaces and Public Places within the Lithgow local government area through the development & promotion of public art and amenity.	Enhance the visual amenity and public facilities located at the Council Administration Centre & Pioneers Heritage Park through the installation and interpretation of public art and heritage.	2008/09 2009/10	Cultural Development Officer/Public Assets Engineer	Redevelopment and improvements to civic spaces.	2008/09 Management Plan
	Undertake Main Street Programs for Lithgow, Wallerawang & Portland.	2008/09 2009/10 2010/11	Economic Development Officer	Main Street Programs which link to Cultural Precinct and the inclusion of Civic Spaces	
	Identify usage, public/performance art & interpretative opportunities for the redevelopment of Cook Plaza as a Civic Space	2010/11	Cultural Development Officer	Increased usage and cultural programs for Cook Plaza linked to Main Street and Cultural Precinct development strategies.	Grant Funding
	Undertake a facilities audit as part of the Public Space & Recreational Needs Assessment to identify suitable locations for Public Art.	2009/10 2010/11	Cultural Development Officer/Public Assets Engineer/Strategic Planner	Public Arts Program for Civic spaces and Public Spaces.	
	Identification of current and future heritage and arts trails as part of the Lithgow Bike Plan.	2011/12	Road Safety Officer/Cultural Development Officer Tourism Manager/ IT Manager/Grants Officer	Identification of heritage and arts trails.	
	Development of a map, brochure & website indicating Heritage & Arts Trails for biking.	2009/10	Tourism Manager	Reproduction of Furnace, Fire & Forge Heritage Brochure and development of Arts Trail	
	Develop an 'open weekend' scheme for local artists and artisans.	2010/11	Cultural Development Officer/Tourism Manager	Regular Open Weekends held.	
	Develop a Public Arts Program for the Lithgow Local Government Area	2010/11	Cultural Development Officer	Adoption by Council and implementation of a Public Arts Program for the Lithgow Local Government Area	

6. Civic Spaces & Public Places

Action Plan – Civic Spaces and Public Spaces					
Objective	**Action**	**Time Frame**	**Key Responsible Person**	**Key Performance Indicator**	**Estimated Cost**
Protection of local heritage and the environment within our towns and villages	To develop an implement a Management Plan for Lake Wallace and its foreshores.	2011 – 2013	Public Assets Engineer, Strategic Planner & Cultural Development Officer	Management Plan adopted by Council	
	To ensure development within the Wallerawang urban area is sympathetic to current public amenity and facilities.	2011-2013	Strategic Planner	Development Control Plan for Wallerawang.	
	To consult with local villages to develop and implement village enhancement programs.	2010 - 2013	Cultural Development Officer	Village Enhancement Programs development adopted by Council.	

7. Heritage

7.1 Cultural Landscapes

'Evolved continuing landscapes where people and nature dwell'.

(Leader-Elliott et al 2004:1)

Recognition and raising awareness of the regions built and natural heritage has been identified as a priority. This includes the need to consult with the local indigenous community to identify and promote indigenous culture and history.

The cultural landscape offers an insight into the tangible aspects of our heritage (Leader-Elliott et al. 2004:2). According to the NSW Heritage Office (2003:1) this includes:

- Homesteads and farmlands
- Remnant native vegetation
- Aboriginal sites & places
- Wetlands
- Early settlements
- Disused cemetaries
- Defunct industrial complexes
- Scenic landscapes

All of which celebrates our cultural diversity, providing both tangible and intangible assets which knit a community together thereby developing its identity.

The heritage and history of the Lithgow area is a valuable part of the areas identity. By developing an overarching intellectual framework which supports all cultural actvities based on the heritage and history context we can seek to change peoples perception of the area.

Several items have been identified in the Lithgow City Council Management Plan 2007/08 – 2010/2011 (p.4) which will aid the further development of the identification, retention and promotion of heritage assets within the Lithgow LGA.

- Continuation of site stabilisation works at the Blast Furnace.
- Determination of the criteria and presentation of the inaugural John Wellings Heritage Award to a local school student.
- Consideration and/or completion of the Heritage Study with a major focus on matters for the comprehensive Lithgow Local Environmental Plan incorporating the former Lithgow, Rylstone and Evans Heritage Studies as appropriate.

Councils key planning instruments such as the Local Environmental Plan and Development Control Plans should be developed to include the recognition and management of our cultural landscapes.

7.2 Heritage Study

Professor Ian Jack conducted a Heritage Study of the Lithgow local government area in 1998. The study has not formally been adopted by Council and is currently undergoing a final analysis to identify gaps and complete the study during 2008-2009. A number of recommendations have been made by Councils' Heritage Advisor, Christo Aitken in respect to adopting, implementing and integrating the study into Councils' planning and daily management processes.

- Include the Heritage Study in the Local Environmental Plan.
- Preparation of SHIDATA (State Heritage Inventory Data) Sheets for all significant items.
- Ensure all relevant Council Officers are trained in usage of the State Heritage Inventory Software.
- Map all heritage items and historic sites in Council Graphic Information System.

7.3 Heritage Streetscapes

The retention of the heritage features within the streetscape is seen to be highly significant to the area. The reinstatement of the Heritage Advisors Program and the completion and adoption of the Heritage Study will provide background for the

development of a sustainable placemaking strategy for the area. Heritage streetscapes offer an enormous benefit to the area not only for their aesthetic value, but also their community and economic value (Sustainable-placemaking.org 2003:1).

The Gardens of Lidsdale House are listed on the State Heritage Register for their Cultural Landscape Significance. It would appear that this is the only item listed on the register for its cultural landscape significance from the Lithgow local government area (NSW Heritage Office).

7.3.1 Local Landmarks

Black Bridge – Wallerawang

The Black Bridge at Wallerawang is an identifiable local landmark synonomous with the area. Consideration should be given to the listing of this item on the local heritage register with appropriate mechanisms put in place to upgrade the bridge yet maintain its heritage significance.

Cullen Bullen Skip Line

The Cullen Bullen Tidy Towns is seeking to develop an interpretive walkway along the historic skip line. This walkway links the Castlereagh Highway to Carsons Siding Road (The Cullen Bullen/Portland Road) along the back of houses, travelling through an open space area off McCann Way and connecting the fire station and the Skate Park. This is an opportunity to not only develop an interpretive walk but also to develop a functional open space area for the community.

Portland Cement Works Site

The township of Portland's history is strongly linked to the Portland Cement Works Site. The community identifies with the site and proudly promotes itself as "The Town that built Sydney". In an area with a strong coalmining heritage this is a unique attribute to Portland. It is considered appropriate that Council work with the property owner and the Portland community to find a positive resolution to the longstanding issue of its rehabilitation in a manner that conserves its cultural heritage and landmark value (Community Submission 2009).

A number of concepts were proposed as part of the community consultations;

- Redevelop the site to incorporate a museum;
- Rehabilitate the quarry for housing development;
- Develop heritage assets – adaptable re-use of cement works site and other heritage buildings within the township.
- Develop a function centre on the cement works site.
- Investigate the redevelopment of the quarry as a park/garden.

7.4 Environmental Corridors

Identification and understanding of our environmental corridors plays an important role in the development of councils future planning for urban, industrial and economic development.

Areas of place with scenic significance, special meaning to traditional Aboriginal Australians or containing remnants of early settlement can be identified in various locations throughout the local government area.

Identification of such sites should be included in management plans for community lands, Crown Land Reserves, Development Control Plans and the Local Environmental Plan. This will ensure that local indigenous sites are appropriately interpreted, protected, promoted and conserved.

The concept of developing a wildlife or Australian Native Park in the area was proposed during the consultation sessions. The Old Hermitage Colliery Site was one

location proposed for this type of redevelopment.

Bicentennial National Trail

The Bicentennial National Trail has been designed to be a "living history of our country" (www.nationaltrail.com.au 2008) which allows horseriders, mountain bikers and hikers to travel between Healesville, Victoria and Cooktown, Queensland. A portion of the trail travels through Rydal, Wallerawang and the Capertee Valley in the Lithgow local government area. The trail is of National significance and there exists an opportunity to work closely with the Bicentennial National Trail office, local horse riders, hiking groups and the Mountain Bike Association to develop opportunities to promote this section of the track in relation to tourism and events.

Travelling Stock Routes

The issue of the possible sale of Travelling Stock Routes was raised as a concern by the residents in the Rydal area. It was noted that these lands are home to native grasses, plants and wildlife.

Hassans Walls Reserve

Hassans Walls Lookout is the highest lookout in the Blue Mountains at 1136m above sea level. The lookout is part of the Hassans Walls Reserve which includes Bracey Lookout and the area known as Sheady's Gully – The Lithgow Pony Club Grounds.

There is a need to develope a plan of management for the site which includes ways of promoting the site as a tourist area without denegrating the area. This should include

- Interpretation;
- mapping and identifying flora and fauna, developing viewing areas; and
- Identification of points of interest from viewing platforms and lookouts.

The implementation of an interpretive information bay for the Hassans Walls Reserve highlighting the historic and environmental significance of the site including a site plan for tourists should be included at both entrances to the site. This would be enhanced by interpretive panels in key locations. This will allow visitors to the site to conduct a self-guided tour which could be enhanced by booklets or brochures designed to cater to specific interests ie:

- History of the Hassans Walls Convict Stockades
- Birdlife
- Native flora

Travelling through the site should also be included as part of the Pedestrian Access Mobility Plan. This should include promotion of the site as part of a Walkways and Cycleways Program.

7.5 Heritage Advisor Program and Heritage Assets Working Party

The recent Lithgow Jobs Summit identified the need to develop "Champions" to drive and promote various aspects of economic development within the community. Council has a direct role to play in the development and promotion of cultural heritage within the community.

Council has operated the Heritage Advisors Program for approximately nine years (Aitken 2008:1). The program assists Council in the planning and development of its heritage assets and provides ongoing support for the community through consultation and assistance with heritage issues.

The Heritage Assets Working Party is currently a non-functioning committee within Council which consisted of Council Officers, the Heritage Advisor, a Councilor

and community representatives from the State Mine Heritage Park & Railway and the Lithgow Branch of the National Trust. The committee was responsible for assessing and developing strategic plans for Councils Heritage Assets and developing cultural and heritage policies. The Draft Heritage Strategy 2009-2011 recommends that a Heritage committee be set up with clear terms of reference for the promotion and development of Councils Heritage Assets and Cultural & Heritage Policy.

7.6 Heritage Networks

It is also important that local and regional heritage groups and affilitions be further developed and recognised as integral to the development of the area and its unique heritage assets.

This includes supporting and working with the local branch of the National Trust and participating in regional or national networks such as the

- Central West Heritage Network
- Blue Mountains Area Cultural Heritage Organisation.
- History Council of Australia

Networking with regional and national organisations provides an opportunity to not only promote the unique attributes of the Lithgow area but, to develop cross promotional activities which are beneficial to the region as a whole.

7.7 Cultural Heritage Tourism

The Lithgow local government area has a strong link to its industrial heritage. The need to develop a marketing strategy which promotes Cultural/Heritage, Sporting and Eco-tourism has been identified as part of the recent Lithgow Jobs Summit (2008:77). The participants developed the tag line "Just a little further" as a way to encourage tourists to travel over the Blue Mountains and stay in the Lithgow local government area.

The development of a Tourism Marketing Strategy should take into consideration the public face of the area in respect to tourism; signage, entrances and hospitality all work together to promote a welcoming environment which shows pride in our history and heritage.

The community consultation sessions highlighted the need to have the entrance to the Zig Zag Railway tarred. The Zig Zag Railway is one of the areas greatest tourism assets and it is important that this is reflected in the image presented to visitors to the area.

7.7.1 Furnace, Fire & Forge Heritage Trail

The Furnace, Fire and Forge Heritage Trail Interpretation Plan (2004) was developed for the Lithgow Cultural Heritage Partnership by the Lithgow Enterprise Development Agency. The program is designed to "present and interpret three important elements...Coal, Steel and Railways" (2004:4). Three main themes have been developed to interpet these elements:

- The legacy of coal
- The ironmasters and the birth of a nation
- Work, home and dignity.

With respect to the plan the Cultural Heritage Partnership consists of:

- Lithgow City Council;
- Zig Zag Railway;
- State Mine Heritage Park & Railway; and
- Lithgow Small Arms Museum & Collection.

Key outcomes to date from the plan include the installation of further interpretative signage throughout the Lithgow area building on and in keeping with the Centenery of Federation Signage and the development of a furnace, fire and forge brochure.

There has been a break down in the momentum, developed as a result of the plan it is now timely for the Lithgow Cultural Heritage Partnership to be reconvened in order to review the 2004 plan.

7.7.2 Portland

The township of Portland is unique to the area as it is renowned for being the "Town that built Sydney". The community is dedicated to the further development of the town and sees the exploration of economic development strategies which encourage growth through creative and cottage industries along with cultural heritage tourism as a way to move forward.

It is proposed that Council work with the community of Portland to develop a master plan for the future growth of the township. The Master Plan would include the following areas which have been identified as part of the community consultation process:

- Community aspirations and resources
- Economic development
- Identification and interpretation of the heritage and history of the township
- Promotion of the township
- Funding, sponsorship and partnership opportunities
- Opportunities for youth activities
- Signage
- Town beautification program
- Further development of the events calendar.
- Development of Arts & History Trails
- Walking tours
- Connectivity of local cultural and environmental heritage sites to Portland including:
    - The Town Common
    - Thompsons Creek Dam
    - Signs of Yesteryear
    - The Portland Cement Works Site

7. Heritage

Action Plan – Heritage					
Objective	**Action**	**Time Frame**	**Key Responsible Person**	**Key Performance Indicator**	**Estimated Cost**
Facilitate an awareness of the region's history - identifying, preserving, improving and promoting the LGA's indigenous and non-indigenous built and natural heritage.	Inclusion of Heritage Study in the Local Environmental Plan	2008/09	Manager Policy & Planning	Review and study completed by 30 June 2008.	Draft Heritage Strategy 2009-2011 (p2)
	Inclusion of the identification of cultural heritage & environmental corridors in planning instruments i.e. Crown Lands Management Plans, Community Lands Management Plans, and Development Control Plans.	Ongoing	Manager Policy & Planning	Inclusion of cultural landscape assessments and management criteria within all of Councils planning instruments.	
	Continuation of the heritage Advisor's Position to Provide guidance in restoring and preserving heritage items.	Ongoing	Manager Regional Services/Policy & Planning Manager	Number of residents utilising the service	Management Plan 2008-2011 (p.22)
	Prepare a heritage policy and strategy and commence implementation	2008/09 – 2010/11	Heritage Advisor	Strategy completed and adopted by Council by 30 June 2008.	
	Reconvening of the Heritage Assets Working Party to promote and develop policies for Cultural and Heritage development.	2008/09	Heritage Advisor/Cultural Development Officer	Adoption of Policies by Council.	Draft Heritage Strategy 2009-2011 (p1)
	Develop criteria for the John Wellings Heritage Award	Ongoing	Heritage Advisor	Design and present the Award	Management Plan 2008-2011 (p.22)
	Consult with the local indigenous community to identify, promote, interpret and preserve local indigenous sites.	2010/11-2011/12	Cultural Development Officer/Tourism Manager	Management plans and practices developed with local indigenous community & relevant stakeholders.	
	Site stabilisation works at Blast Furnace Park	2008/09	Manager Regional Services	Stabilisation of works.	Management Plan 2008-2011 (p.22)
	Refurbishment and interpretation of the South Bowenfels Gun Emplacements.	2008/09	Manager Regional Services/Heritage Advisor	Interpretation strategy Developed and site management plan developed.	Management Plan 2008-2011 (p.22)

7. Heritage

Action Plan – Heritage

Objective	Action	Time Frame	Key Responsible Person	Key Performance Indicator	Estimated Cost
Facilitate an awareness of the region's history - identifying, preserving, improving and promoting the LGA's indigenous and non-indigenous built and natural heritage.	Reconvene the Cultural Heritage Partnership to review the 2004, Furnace, Fire & Forge Program in line with the development of a Tourism Marketing Strategy.	2008/09	Cultural Development Officer	Adoption of the Furnace, Fire & Forge Interpretation Program by Council.	
	Development of a Marketing Strategy to promote Tourism throughout the Lithgow Local Government Area.	2009/10	Tourism Manager/Cultural Development Officer	Tourism Marketing Strategy developed and adopted by Council	Lithgow Jobs Summit (p.77)
	Investigate a scope of works for a Plan of Management for Hassans Walls Reserve which includes the overall interpretation and conservation of the reserve.	2009/10 2010/11	Community & Culture Manager/Cultural Development Officer	Successful attaining of grant funding.	
	Participation by relevant officers in local and regional heritage networks.	Ongoing	Cultural Development Officer/Local Studies Officer/Heritage Planner/Tourism Manager	Attendance at relevant network meetings.	
	Assist towns and villages to develop the stories, interpretation, conservation and management of local landmarks.	2008/09 – 2012/13	Cultural Development Officer/Manager Operations/Assets Officer/Grants Officer	Assistance with identified projects: • Cullen Bullen Skip Line • Wallerawang Black Bridge • Portland Cement Works Site	

8. Economic Sustainability

8.1 Economic Development

To achieve community sustainability through economic development and employment, funding and partnership opportunities need to be identified and prioritised.

Through the creation of infrastructure, creative business opportunities, mentoring programs, education and skills development, the Lithgow local government area has an opportunity to become a leader within the region in the areas of culture, Heritage Management, the Arts, Tourism and Education.

Due to the future depletion of coal reserves in the area and the need to seek new and innovative industrial development it is felt that a more supportive role from Council will encourage future growth for the area. Greater assistance from Council staff and encouragement for people seeking to develop creative/cottage industries within the area is seen to be integral to the development of sustainable small business activities (Community Consultation Sessions).

The appointment of an Economic Development Officer who is pro-active in seeking to establish creative industries i.e. events, tourism, arts etcetera will be of benefit to the area's future sustainability. The community consultation process has identified a number of key areas to be developed in order to promote the Lithgow local government area as a viable place in which to live, work and invest.

8.1.1 Cultural Positions

Currently Council employs a Cultural Development Officer who works two days per week in a Cultural Development role and three days per week at Eskbank House & Museum, managing and developing the Museum and its programs.

With the finalisation of the Cultural Plan there is a need to review the current structure to provide for the implementation of the cultural plan and the further development of the Museum as a cultural facility.

8.1.2 Youth Job Network

The investigation of alternative ways to provide youth at risk with the opportunity to integrate with the community through education and job skills will assist in breaking the welfare cycle. There is a need to focus on alternative means of education through cultural programs such as the arts and opportunities to attend recreational camps and activities that focus on life and job skills.

8.1.3 New Business Incentives Programs

The need to develop a program to attract new business to the area was seen to be of the utmost importance. This will include the identification of industrial lands and development of a strategy to promote the area to potential developers.

Portland

In relation to the township of Portland it is considered that the following areas could be investigated as part of the New Business Incentives Program:

- The provision of a rental subsidy to encourage retail businesses to relocate to Portland revitalizing the Wolgan and Williwa Street Shopping Centre area.
- Develop a strategy to encourage creative/cottage industries to relocate to Portland.
- Promote Portland as a cultural heritage tourism destination.

8.1.4 Bells Line of Road Motorway

The motorway was seen to be positive for the future economic sustainability of the area. Noted advantages were the opening up of the transport routes and cultural development. There will be a need for the

Economic Development Officer to research and develop strategies which will assist Lithgow in moving forward in the event that the town is bypassed by the development of the proposed Motorway.

8.1.5 Specialist Officers

Both the Indigenous and the Disabled communities identified the need for support workers. Although it was suggested that these positions should be housed within Council, there is a need to further investigate this area as part of the review of the Social Plan 2006-2011.

8.1.6 Cultural Development

There is a perception within the community that the pub/club culture is limiting to personal development and that there is a need to develop an overarching intellectual framework which supports all cultural activities within the context of promoting Lithgow's history and heritage.

The Lithgow Local Government Area has a unique industrial history which provides an opportunity for the Lithgow area to become a 'specialist' within this field. The creation of a Cultural Precinct which includes workshop space, gallery space, a research archive and entertainment venue will provide the infrastructure to support a creative economy.

The small population base was seen as a weakness and it is perceived that the pub/club and sporting culture of the area is more strongly represented. Classical music performances are felt to be generally undervalued and not well supported by the community. However there exists an opportunity to develop a more regional focus for the arts in Lithgow promoting to the Blue Mountains and Central West in addition to the local community.

The Lithgow City Council Management Plan 2008 – 2011 (p.31) identifies the need to develop and implement a support program for local artists during 2008/09.

8.2 Regional Networks

Furthermore there is an opportunity to expand on our current skills base by developing cross regional networks. Recent developments have included Council working with the Bathurst Theatre Company to apply for funding to provide a School Holiday Youth Theatre Program at Eskbank House & Museum and the Cullen Bullen Progress Hall in April and July 2008 respectively.

8.2.1 The Macquarie Philharmonia Foundation Inc.

The Macquarie Philharmonia Foundation Inc. is working to establish itself as Australia's Inland Symphony Orchestra. Residents of the Lithgow Local Government Area form part of its membership. During its 2006 concert series "Mozart's 250th Birthday" the Orchestra performed in Lithgow. The Foundations charter is to develop a Regional Concert Performance Committee with local committees currently established in Dubbo, Cowra, Mudgee and Bathurst and to be established in Lithgow and Orange.

8.2.2 The Mitchell Conservatorium of Music

The Mitchell Conservatorium of Music is one of 15 regional conservatoriums with branches in Bathurst, Forbes and Lithgow. The Conservatorium fosters a love of music from 18 months of age with its early childhood classes through to professional musicians.

8.2.3 FilmCentral

Lithgow City Council is one of 22 local government areas covering approximately 35% of inland NSW supporting FilmCentral NSW. FilmCentral NSW employs a Project Officer (based in Rylstone) to search for

film and television locations throughout the area to promote to interested parties within the film and television industries. The promotion of filming within the LGA is seen as a key objective for Tourism in the Lithgow City Council 2008-2011 Management Plan (p. 20).

An extensive Location Gallery is available plus a searchable Local Film Support Services database (Resources Section) that lists skills, services, facilities available to assist film and television production in each Local Government Area.

The Local Film and Television Directory (Resources Section) lists individuals living within the region who possess extensive film and television industry experience. Those listed are available to provide services to any production. (Filmcentral NSW).

8.3 Cultural Mapping

It is considered appropriate that Cultural Mapping be carried out during 2009/10 to allow a statistical base to be developed for monitoring the contribution a creative economy is making within the Lithgow Local Government Area.

A cultural mapping form was initially distributed in 2007 as part of the initial consultation process for the Lithgow City Council Cultural Plan. Its aim was to gain a comprehensive economic profile for the Lithgow local government area from both professional artists and community organisations. Nine responses from the following sectors were received and are included as attachment 3.

- 1 Tidy Towns/Progress Association
- 3 Musical groups/organisations
- 2 Youth Organisations/workers
- 1 Recording artist/label
- 1 Dance Studio/Instructor
- 1 Visual Artist

In order to further the cultural mapping process it is considered appropriate to develop an all inclusive approach to surveying the community to identify individual strengths, needs and aspirations. This will assist in planning for future development and allocation of resources.

A breakdown of statistical information from the 2006 ABS Census for the Lithgow Local Government Area and national comparisons on public funding for arts and cultural activities, facilities and services for 2002-03 to 2004-05 from the Australia Bureau of Statistics Cultural Funding by Government, Australia 2004-05 are also included as part of Attachment 3 to this document.

8.4 Promotion

Promotion is seen to be integral to the economic development and sustainability of the Lithgow local government area.

There is a need to review the current new residents' kit ensuring that it promotes economic development, creative industries, culture and educational opportunities to new residents and developers.

The Lithgow Jobs Summit (2008:24) has identified a target of "50 events a year" for the Lithgow area. This includes an audit of current events and the development of strategies to promote new events. New events may or may not be ongoing events; they may include one-off events which will require the marketing of local facilities to event promoters and Organisers.

The Lithgow local government area is traversed by several touring routes including:

- The Tablelands Way from Muswellbrook to Canberra.

- The Botanists Way from Lithgow to Hawkesbury
- The Greater Blue Mountains Drive – touring routes in the Greater Blue Mountains World Heritage Area; and
- The Capertee Valley Drive – Glen Davis to Rylstone

These drives all have unique attributes from which Lithgow Tourism can promote the area. However, it is noted that the area does need to recognise its cultural and heritage assets in addition to its natural beauty.

"Lithgow the valley of artisans, steeped in history, wrapped by nature."
Janet Watson, Jannei Goat Dairy

8.5 Retail Development

Overall, the consultation sessions provided a unanimous need for an improved retail sector in Lithgow, Wallerawang and Portland. One consultation session, suggested that there was also a need for more shops in Capertee. The sessions identified that 'more shops equal more jobs' and greater marketing through tourism would also assist in reducing retail vacancies within shopping centres.

There were a number of suggestions for considerations by developers and planners in relation to retail development. It was noted that people with disabilities have difficulty in some shops and offices with the height of shop counters and reception desks. In general people considered that there is a need for a greater variety of specialty food stores including multicultural food stores and more cafes.

8.5.1 Main Street Programs

A Main Street Program was developed for Lithgow in 1997. A review of the previously developed program will ascertain if any of the recommendations are still relevant to this area. However, it is considered appropriate that any consultation for a Main Street Program for Lithgow, Wallerawang and Portland should be considered in line with the identification and implementation of Cultural Precincts.

Communications Technology

There are a number of issues with black spots for mobile phone usage and broadband/internet technology throughout the local government area. The introduction of KP free Wireless Broadband Technology would assist in developing a vibrant 'café culture' in the central business district further enhancing a Main Street Program.

> 'My vision is people being able to sit in cafes and the plaza accessing information via their laptops. I think it could develop a cafe culture and bring some life into Main St. I also think it fits in very well with the Learning Cities concept. It is a very tangible and achievable goal.'
> (Cultural Plan Submission 2008)

8.5.2 Local Product

Many people highlighted the desire for greater emphasis on the marketing of local product. A number of ideas were suggested with a groundswell of support concepts such as:

- Growers/Organic Markets
- Marketing and promoting local products through local restaurants and cafes.
- Foreign foods – classes and events utilising local product.
    - Multicultural Grocery Shop with free workshops on Ethnic Cooking.
- Development of cooperative concepts:
    - Food Share
    - Slow foods
    - Promoting local foods and products.
- Made in Lithgow Enterprises (MILE).

Some of these concepts are already in their infancy with groups developing and implementing the concepts. The State Mine Heritage Park and Railway is seeking to conduct a regular Farmers Market and the Beyond Lithgow Group is investigating ways to implement 'Made in Lithgow Enterprises'.

8.6 Master Planning

8.6.1 Portland

The township of Portland is unique to the area as it is renowned for being the "Town that built Sydney". The community is dedicated to the further development of the town and sees the exploration of economic development strategies which encourage growth through creative and cottage industries along with cultural heritage tourism as a way to move forward.

It is proposed that Council work with the community of Portland to develop a master plan for the future growth of the township. The Master Plan would include the following areas which have been identified as part of the community consultation process:

- Community aspirations and resources
- Economic development
- Identification and interpretation of the heritage and history of the township
- Promotion of the township
- Funding, sponsorship and partnership opportunities
- Opportunities for youth activities
- Signage
- Town beautification program
- Further development of the events calendar.
- Development of Arts & History Trails
- Walking tours
- Connectivity of local cultural and environmental heritage sites to Portland including:
    - The Town Common
    - Thompsons Creek Dam
    - Signs of Yesteryear
    - The Portland Cement Works Site
    - Upgrade to town entrances and signage.

8. Economic Sustainability

Action Plan – Economic Sustainability

Objective	Action	Time Frame	Key Responsible Person	Key Performance Indicator	Estimated Cost
Promote economic development, education and employment opportunities.	Appoint an Economic Development Officer	2008/09	Group Manager, Community & Corporate	Economic Development Officer Appointed	
	Review Councils corporate structure for the need to employ additional staffing in the Cultural Development Area	2008/09	Manager, Community & Culture and Cultural Development Officer	New structure for Cultural Development identified and funding sourced.	
	Develop local artists by offering support	2008/09	Cultural Development Officer	Recommendations from Artists Support Program adopted by Council and included in Management Plan	Management Plan 2008/09 – 2010/11 (p31)
	Identify gaps for economic development and employment opportunities within the creative arts and heritage management sectors.	2009/10	Cultural Development Officer	Cultural Mapping of the Lithgow LGA completed.	
	Investigate educational and skills development opportunities as part of the learning cities program	2010/11	Community & Culture Manager	Inclusion of identified skills development requirements in local school/TAFE programs.	
	Investigate funding opportunities for Economic development and growth within the creative arts and heritage management sectors of the community.	Ongoing	Cultural Development Officer/Grants Officer	Successful grant applications	Grant funding
	Form industry partnerships with the Lithgow Business Association.	Ongoing	Cultural Plan Working Party & Lithgow Business Association	Representative of the Lithgow Business Association on Cultural Plan Working Party	
	Continued participation by Council in the Bells Line of Road Motorway proposal	Ongoing	Mayor/General Manager	Attendance at Meetings of the Bells Line of Road Motorway Group	
	Investigate the development of a Youth Job Network	2009/10 2010/11	Community Development Officer	Identification of service providers and development of a strategy for a Youth Job Network	

8. Economic Sustainability

Action Plan – Economic Sustainability

Objective	Action	Time Frame	Key Responsible Person	Key Performance Indicator	Estimated Cost
Promote economic development, education and employment opportunities.	Develop and implement a New Business Incentives Programs.	2009/10	Economic Development Officer	Adoption of an overall New Business Incentives Program for the Lithgow Local Government Area by Council	
	New Business Incentive Opportunities aimed at revitalizing the township of Portland be investigated as part of an overall Program for the Lithgow LGA.	2009/10	Economic Development Officer		
	Investigate the need for the employment of an Indigenous Liaison Officer and Disabilities Officer in line with the Social Planning review process.	2009/10	Community Development Officer	Community consultation undertaken and recommendations made to Council.	
	Review and update the 'New Residents kit' and investigate ways to welcome new residents.	2009/10	Economic Development Officer	New Residents Kit distributed and a Welcome Program implemented.	
	Conduct an audit of events and develop strategies to promote Lithgow as a place to host events.	2009/10	Cultural Development Officer/Tourism Manager/Economic Development Officer	Tourism Marketing Strategy Adopted	
	Conduct a feasibility study into Main Street Programs for Lithgow, Wallerawang and Portland.	2009/10 2010/11	Economic Development Officer/Cultural Development Officer/Heritage Advisor	Developed in line with Cultural Precinct Feasibility Study/s	
	Investigate and lobby for improved telecommunications and internet technology.	2008/09-2012/13	General Manager/ IT Manager	Improved telecommunications and internet technologies.	
	Develop a strategy to promote local product to the community.	2008/09 2009/10 2010/11	Live Life Well in Lithgow Officer/Economic Development Officer	Strategy adopted by Council and implemented.	

8. Economic Sustainability

Action Plan – Economic Sustainability					
Objective	**Action**	**Time Frame**	**Key Responsible Person**	**Key Performance Indicator**	**Estimated Cost**
Promote networks and resource sharing local and regionally.	Establishment of a local cultural directory and network.	Annual	Cultural Development Officer	Comprehensive database of the cultural community.	
	Encourage the sharing of ideas and resources through networking forums and membership on regional network groups	Bi-annual	Cultural Development Officer	Participation by local cultural workers & artists – promotion of cultural plan	
	Identify and promote opportunities for cultural groups and others to work together.	Ongoing	Cultural Development Officer	Regular information dissemination through e-blasts and newsletters.	As per Management Plan 2007-2010 Principle Activities.
	Further identify the cultural needs of the region, including the funding of a complete and broad based needs analysis.	2009/2010	Cultural Development Officer	Identification of gaps within the cultural community as part of Cultural Mapping.	
	Continue to survey local cultural groups and organisations as part of the Cultural Mapping Process.	Ongoing	Cultural Development Officer		
	Identify funding opportunities to develop Cultural Precinct Master Plan for Portland.	2011/2012	Cultural Development Officer	Funding obtained and Master Planning process undertaken.	

9. Education

9.1 Learning Cities

A learning city is a city that renews itself by promoting lifelong learning and building partnerships within the community.
(Lithgow City Council Brochure, 2004).

Lithgow was pronounced the first Learning City in NSW in 1998. This was at a time when there was a downturn in industry with the closure of the Berlei factory and coalmines. A Learning City is designed to promote social and economic growth and support lifelong learning offering opportunities to re-skill the workforce through partnerships with industry and learning centres.

The following principles were developed by the Lithgow Learning City Management Committee as a focus to promote and develop lifelong learning in the Lithgow local government area.

- **Building partnerships** between business, education, welfare and health organisations and the people of the Lithgow region.
- Developing a **positive attitude** to **lifelong learning** through publicity programs, promotion of learning activities and consultation with the community.
- Coordinating the **Spread the Word** community literacy program and the **Books for Babies kits** which promote reading to children from birth.
- **Promoting** Lithgow as a Learning Community in order to create a positive image of Lithgow as a place to work and live.
- **Form links** with universities to establish a university presence in Lithgow.
- Attracting business investment by developing a **highly skilled workforce**.

(Lithgow City Council Learning City Brochures, 2004)

Lithgow City Council recognises the importance to the community of the Learning Cities Concept. Education is a principal activity incorporated into the Councils management plan with the key objective being "To provide the community with opportunities to develop knowledge and skills through Learning City Programs (p. 23)." The review and implementation of the Learning City Action Plan is seen to be a key priority for 2008/09.

The Lithgow Library Learning Centre is a result of the Learning Cities concept; it was designed to house the Lithgow Regional Library, Lithgow Technology Centre and the Lithgow Library Learning Shop.

Lithgow City Council operates the Lithgow Library Learning Centre and Portland, Rydal and Wallerawang Libraries.

9.1.1 Internet Technology

With the rapid increase of internet usage and expectations by people travelling for work or pleasure to be able to communicate with family, friends or business via internet and other methods of telecommunications. A greater emphasis is being placed on the development of increased serviceability in this area.

The development of a 'café culture' which enables people to access broadband telecommunications is seen to be the way of the future for economic development and education.

It was noted that by encouraging cafés to include internet facilities as part of their business development, this would enable the Technology Centre at the Lithgow

Library Learning Centre to concentrate on more educational focused activities. Although this is a core function of the technology centre it is foreseeable that there exists an opportunity to act as an education provider or alternatively to market the use of the centre to outside education providers for the running of courses.

9.1.2 Schools and Tertiary Education

Students highlighted a need for the development of programs outside of school hours such as 'Summer School' programs.

As part of the Learning Cities Program there was an emphasis on forming links with Tertiary Institutions to establish a university presence in this area. The consultation process has further highlighted the need to continue to develop this concept.

9.1.3 Catering and Cooking Classes

There was an overwhelming response from all age groups to investigate the development of catering and cooking classes.

This included Multicultural Cooking Classes which are inclusive of all ages and ethnicities with this being an opportunity for couples and families also to mix and learn together.

School students highlighted a need for Catering Classes to be further developed as part of the schools program included religious, multicultural and indigenous foods.

9.1.4 Cultural Education Program

The promotion of cultural activities to schools and the need to encourage greater participation by schools in local activities was discussed. It was felt that Council needs to encourage schools to become more involved in these types of activities.

Council does contact schools regularly in relation to cultural activities being coordinated by Council. This includes:

- Information packs
- Newsletter
- Competitions and exhibitions
- School tour packages for Eskbank House & Museum
- Development of outreach programs for schools – Travelling exhibition – Peep at Sheep.

9.1.5 Dog Ownership Education Program

It was suggested that there is a need for the running of a dog ownership education program, particularly in the Department of Housing area where, a number of residents have large dogs.

It is possible that as part of the Rangers program this could be coordinated in conjunction with local Veterinary Clinics and Kennel Clubs.

9.2 University of the Third Age

Members of the U3A are seniors, or people in their third age, with a passion for life long learning who wish to share their own knowledge or learn new skills. The U3A is a program of educational and recreational activities developed from its members and the resources of the community (U3A. 2008)

Current local activities which support this concept include:

- Beehive (Lithgow & Portland)
- Lithgow Senior Citizens Club
- Gorrie Ban Seniors Group
- Seniors week activities

- Lithgow Forums held at the Lithgow Learning Centre on specific topics of interest.

9.2.1 Men's Shed Project

Investigation into the development of a 'Men's Shed' project is being considered for the area. This type of project can take one or two forms:

- A mentoring project where men teach youths' rare trades and skills type opportunities.
- An opportunity for men to get together in a relaxed forum to discuss issues.

These concepts are closely linked with the learning cities philosophy of life-long learning.

9.3 Indigenous Programs

Inclusion is the key to developing successful programs which aim to promote an understanding of different cultures and minority groups. All programs when, developed should encourage participation by all, this will assist in ensuring the continuation and success of the program by breaking down cultural barriers.

9.3.1 Cultural Awareness Training

The 2006-2011 Social Plan (P165) and the recent community consultation process have identified the need for Cultural Awareness Training to be conducted for Councilors and staff. Cultural Awareness training can be provided by the Blue Mountains National Parks & Wildlife Service Aboriginal Heritage Environment Conservation Officer and/or Department of Environment and Climate Change Cultural Heritage (Hurstville). This training will provide staff and councilors with an understanding of Aboriginal Culture and also aids in the identification of items found on work sites.

In addition to the initial training, an annual training program for new staff and Councilors should be implemented to ensure that cultural issues and identification of sites are dealt with correctly and respectfully.

In addition to Cultural Awareness Training for Indigenous Culture, training for frontline staff in Multi-cultural Awareness should be revisited.

9.3.2 Wiradjuri Language Program

The development of a Wiradjuri Language Program will foster the culture and its traditions within the community through the teaching of traditional Wiradjuri terms, pronunciations and names of the area. A successful program is currently being run in Bathurst and it is considered appropriate that this program could be extended to Lithgow.

9.3.3 Environmental Conservation & Bush Regeneration Programs

The issue of youth on the streets is seen to be a major problem in the area. It was noted that there is a need to look at suitable external education programs. Green Corp currently runs a program for youth in Environmental Conservation. A similar, TAFE Accredited program could be run between Lithgow and Bathurst to provide youth with the skills to maintain and conserve significant sites using both traditional methods and modern bush regeneration practices.

9. Education

Action Plan – Education					
Objective	**Action**	**Time Frame**	**Key Responsible Person**	**Key Performance Indicator**	**Estimated Cost**
To provide the community with opportunities to develop knowledge and skills through Learning City Programs.	Review the Learning City Action Plan and identify opportunities to further develop the Local Government area as a learning city.	Annual	Community & Culture Manager	Review completed and actions incorporated into Management Plan 2009-2012.	
	Implement activities identified in the Learning City Action Plan according to priorities.	Ongoing	Community & Culture Manager	Completion of identified activities	
	Maintain membership of the Australian Learning Community Network.	Ongoing	Community & Culture Manager	Membership and participation in network.	
	Operate the Lithgow Library Learning Centre and the Portland, Rydal and Wallerawang Libraries.	Ongoing	Library Manager	Annual increases in borrowings, membership and attendance/participation in Library coordinated activities.	
	Investigate opportunities to promote the Technology Centre as a training facility to education providers.	2011/12	Library Manager	Promotion & marketing strategy adopted by Council	
	Investigate U3A programs currently available in Lithgow and identify opportunities to expand the concept.	2010/11	Library Manager/Cultural Development Officer	Included in Learning Cities Strategy	
	Investigate the need for a Men's Shed Program.	2009/10	Community Development Officer	Working Party implemented	
	Incorporate Cultural Awareness program into Councils annual staff/Councilor training program	2010/11	Community Development Officer/Human Resources Manager	Included as part of Councils annual Training program for all staff and Councilors	
	Ensure regular Multi-cultural Awareness training for Frontline staff.	2010/11	Community Development Officer/Human Resources Manager	Include Multicultural Awareness Training for Frontline staff in council's annual training program.	

10. Local Collections

10.1 Collection Management

The Lithgow Local Government Area has an opportunity to further develop and promote its industrial heritage through heritage management, archival management, collections management, and the arts and through the intangible cultural heritage of the community.

The identification of local collections held both privately and by community groups and organisations needs to be carried out to assist in the development of suitable infrastructure for the Lithgow area. The Lithgow area has a proud genealogical heritage which is both tangible (Family History Society archive) and intangible collective memories of the community. Investigation into the future needs of local collections should include the capturing of the communities collective memories.

10.1.1 Museums Advisor Program

The NSW Museums & Galleries, Museums Advisor Program provides a professional Advisor to assist communities to develop, promote and maintain their collections, museums and galleries. This program should be investigated and suitable funding sourced to enable an Advisor to work within the community.

10.1.2 Rydal Community Collection

The Rydal community is currently in the process of liaising with Council to develop a Museum telling the stories of Rydal in an old train carriage. As Council does not currently participate in the Museums Advisors program it is feasible that the Cultural Development Officer, Heritage Advisor and Grants Officer provide assistance and advice where possible on the development of this valuable resource for the community.

10.1.3 Charlie Pinch Museum

The Charlie Pinch Museum is a privately owned collection and museum developed and fostered by the late Charlie Pinch. The collection focuses on the history of Portland and is a source of community pride. As part of the consultation process it was considered appropriate that a proposal be developed and put forward to the "current owners for a relocation of the Charlie Pinch Museum with it being run by volunteers" (Community Submission 2009).

10.1.4 Cultural Grants Incentive Program

Furthermore the Cultural Grants Incentive Program needs to be investigated to encourage donations from the community to further develop and enhance our community held arts and heritage collections.

10.1.5 Lithgow City Council Collections Policy

A collection policy is required to be developed for all of Councils collections which will provide a focus for collecting, preservation and maintenance.

Lithgow City Council is responsible for four major collections:

- Eskbank House & Museum Collection
- The Lithgow City Council Art Collection
- Lithgow Library Local Studies Collection
- The Lithgow City Council Records Collection

10.2 Eskbank House & Museum Collection

A Preservation Study has been carried out on the Eskbank House & Museum Local History Collection which provides recommendations as to the preservation of the collection. Some of these are in the

process of being carried out and it is advisable that the recommendations within the Preservation Study be further progressed and included in Council's management plan for the Museum and its collection.

The collection held at Eskbank House & Museum includes a number of sub-collections, which in 2005 were listed as 'of National Significance'. These sub-collections include:

- The Lithgow Pottery Collection 1877-1906
- The Sutton Family Crazy Patchwork Quilt
- The Lithgow Woollen Mills Collection 1857 – 1977
- The Sir Joseph Cook Collection
- The Edwin Barton Diary & Workbook c1857
- The Lithgow Ironworks & Blast Furnace Collection 1876-1932
- The HMAS Lithgow Collection

Local students participate in a 'white-glove tour' at Eskbank House & Museum of the Sutton Family Crazy Patchwork Quilt.

A plan of management for the Eskbank House & Museum Collection needs to be developed which is inclusive of the recommendations in the Preservation Needs Survey. Such a plan should also include a collections policy identifying items which are to be collected by the Museum; a strategy to collect items within the "Nationally Significant Collections"; and research priorities for the collection.

Due to the size and significance of the Lithgow Pottery Collection held at the Museum it is considered appropriate that Museum Staff and Volunteers, through the implementation of a research program become 'experts' on this valuable collection. It is further considered appropriate that a strategy be developed to include items by modern potters who have been associated with or are associated with the Lithgow Pottery Site.

10.2.2 Indigenous Collection

Eskbank House & Museum holds within its collection several artifacts which may be of significance to the local Indigenous Community. Consultation with local Aboriginal elders and the Local Aboriginal Lands Council would provide an opportunity for the Museum to recognise the importance of these items to the local community. These artifacts provide an opportunity to educate the community on local aboriginal heritage.

10.3 Lithgow City Council Art Collection

The Arts and Culture section of the Lithgow City Council Management Plan 2007-2010 has included the development of a program for exhibiting and conducting exhibitions of Councils' Art Collection as a key objective with a view to managing and preserving the collection.

Lithgow City Council annually supports the Portland Art Purchase held in March by purchasing artworks to be included in the Councils' collection. New purchases are placed on display in the Council Chambers for twelve months for viewing by the public.

A policy has been developed for the collecting of art works by Lithgow City Council. This policy should be reviewed

and include, but not be limited to preservation, exhibition, storage & handling, allocations of funding for collecting artworks and support of local art shows. This policy should be integrated with the Collections Management Policy for Eskbank House & Museum, the Lithgow Library Local Studies Collection and Lithgow City Council Records Collection to ensure consistency and establish priorities. This will enable applications for funding to be sought to conserve areas within the collection as a whole as opposed to individual applications.

St Bernards Church & Presbyterry, Hartley Historic Site by local artist Hans Liebhart. Lithgow City Council Art Collection.

10.4 Lithgow Local Studies Collection

The Lithgow Local Studies Collection held by the Lithgow Learning Centre includes:

- Monographs
- Photographs
- Vertical Files
- Council of the City of Lithgow Historical Records on Microfilm
- Folios
- Family History Resources
- Newspapers
- Archives & Ephemera
- Maps
- Oral History Tapes
- Lithgow Woollen Mills Records
- Lithgow Valley Coal Company Records

The enhancement of the local historical photographic collection, digitisation of the social history recordings and provision of archival boxes for the preservation of community resources have been included in the Lithgow City Council Management Plan 2007-2010 for the 2008/09 and 2009/10 budgetary years (p.22).

10.5 Lithgow City Council Historical Records and Archives

Lithgow City Councils historical records and archives are subject to the State Records Act 1998 (NSW). Although they have value as cultural artifacts this does not diminish Council's responsibility to comply with the requirements of the Act.

Council holds an extensive archival collection. All council records prior to 1920 are required to be retained as State Archives.

Councils' archival records along with the Local studies collection, Art Collection and Museum collections will all be subject to an internal review by Councils Collections Management Officers and their preservation, management, future storage and accessibility under the State Records Act will be include in Councils Collections Policy.

10. Local Collections

Action Plan – Local Collections

Objective	Action	Time Frame	Key Responsible Person	Key Performance Indicator	Estimated Cost
Facilitate an awareness of the region's history – identifying, preserving, improving and promoting the LGA's local history collections.	Implement the recommendations in the 2005 Preservation Survey of the Eskbank House & Museum Collection.	Ongoing	Cultural Development Officer	Actions included in the Management Plan as programs, archival materials etcetera.	Grant funding
	Develop a collection policy for Council's Cultural Collections and archival records.	2008/09	Cultural Development Officer/Local Studies Officer/IT Manager & Records Officer.	Collections policy adopted by Council	
	Upgrade Council's Museum Collections Database.	2008/09	IT Manager	Upgraded system installed.	Management Plan 2008-2011 $1000
	Investigate and implement the Museums Advisors Program	2009/10 2010/11	Cultural Development Officer	Museums Advisor Position	$6000 pa
	Identify and establish a database of the region's cultural collections.	2012/13	Cultural Development Officer	Cultural Collections Database	
	Provide assistance to the Rydal community for the development of its Train Museum.	Ongoing	Cultural Development Officer/Heritage Advisor/Grants Officer	Provision of advice and sourcing of suitable grant funding.	
	Undertake a feasibility study into the region's collections and future storage.	2009/10 – 2010/11	Cultural Development Officer	Completion of a feasibility study into the proposed cultural precinct.	See Section 4 Venues & Facilities.
	Investigate the proposal for the relocation of the Charlie Pinch Museum and the development of a volunteer community to coordinate and manage the Museum.	2010/11	Cultural Development Officer	Community Management Committee Established.	
	Register for Tax Incentives as per of the Cultural Gift Register	2009/10	Cultural Development Officer	Increases in donations to Council Collections.	Grant funding
	Investigate the implementation of an oral history program for the Community to capture the 'collective memories' of the local area.	2010/11	Cultural Development Officer/Local Studies Officer and Grants Officer	Annual oral history program implemented to capture local stories.	

10. Local Collections

Action Plan – Local Collections					
Objective	**Action**	**Time Frame**	**Key Responsible Person**	**Key Performance Indicator**	**Estimated Cost**
Facilitate an awareness of the region's history – identifying, preserving, improving and promoting the LGA's local history collections (Cont.)	Transcribe and digitally enhance current oral history records held on audio tapes.	2009/10	Local Studies Officer/Grants Officer	Copies of current records available for use by the public	Management Plan 2008 – 2011 (p.22)
	Enhancement of the local history photographic collection	2008/09 2009/10	Local Studies Officer/Grants Officer	Accessibility of photographic collection	Management Plan 2008 – 2011 (p.22)
	Purchase of archival materials for collection preservation.	Ongoing	Local Studies Officer/Cultural Development Officer	Appropriate storage and preservation of councils' collections.	Management Plan 2008 – 2011 (p.22)

11. Cultural Activities & Development

11.1 Events

The Lithgow City Council Social Plan 2006-2011 has identified the need for Council to provide cultural and recreational activities to meet the needs of the community.

Events provide both a direct and an indirect benefit to the community. They provide economic advantage to local businesses, accommodation providers and attraction operators offering an opportunity to raise the profile of the area through advertising and the experiences of the audience/participants.

Events such as Harmony Day and NAIDOC Week offer communities from multicultural and indigenous backgrounds an opportunity to raise awareness of the diverse cultures within the area.

Lithgow City Council recognises the economic impact on the community that events and tourism provide and one of its key objectives for local employment is:

"To foster Tourism in the LGA through promotional activities by:

> Operating the Lithgow Visitor Information Centre including the provision of tourism marketing services such as:
> - Tourism Ambassador Program
> - 'What's in your backyard campaign'
> - Support for local tourism events including Ironfest, Daffodils at Rydal, Hartley's Big Backyard, Celebrate Lithgow and other events as supported by Council."
>
> (LCC Management Plan 2007-2010, p18)

As a result of this the Lithgow Visitor Information Centre compiles a regular list of events which is promoted on its website www.tourism.lithgow.nsw.gov.au, is available from the Visitors Centre and displayed on the community notice boards in Cook Plaza & the Visitors Centre.

Although this list is promoted by the Visitors Centre, it was noted however, that there is insufficient awareness of the range of activities and the resources available in the area. The list has been extended to include community and cultural development activities coordinated by Lithgow City Council on an annual basis. The list is included as attachment 4.

11.1.1 '50 Events Concept'

The Lithgow Jobs Summit held on 22 July 2008 (p35) recognised the economic value of events on our community. As one of its key themes the summit has developed a '50 Events' idea. It is accepted however, that there is a need to develop a strategy for the sustainability of events which promote and showcase the region as follows:

- Undertake an audit to develop an event profile.
- Determine the skills of event organisers and opportunities for skills development.
- Develop an understanding of how events showcase the history, heritage, industrial activities and sporting culture of the Lithgow area to develop 'related' events.
- Consider new event opportunities which fit within the event profile.

The community consultation process has provided widespread support for the development of events and activities which will enhance the quality of life within the community providing educational opportunities as part of the learning cities program. Suggested activities include:

- Concerts and festivals
  - Youth festivals which include music,

entertainment and markets.
- Fireworks
- Events to promote multiculturalism and acceptance
- More country style events which include activities such as wood chopping, horse riding, archery, clay pigeon or target shooting.
- Food and wine festival focusing on multicultural foods and local product.
- New Years Eve festival for families
- Celebrations of international and cultural holidays and events ie:
    - Halloween
    - Queens Birthday
    - Oktoberfest

11.2 Volunteers

Lithgow City Council recognises the important role that volunteers play in our community.

Council has implemented volunteer programs to assist in the operations at the Lithgow Regional Library, Rydal Library and Eskbank House & Museum.

Eskbank House & Museum Volunteer, Kim joining in the festivities on Australia Day.

There is an enormous variety of volunteering opportunities within the area and it is considered appropriate that volunteers be recognised for their contribution to the community.

The development of a local volunteer network which promotes the benefits of volunteering to the community – health and well-being, learning, mentoring, companionship – will not only encourage new opportunities but, provide a forum for support and recognition of volunteers.

11.3 Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander People

Lithgow City Council has traditionally provided assistance to the Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander Peoples through a rental subsidy for the use of Council owned premises as a meeting place (Lithgow City Council Social Plan 2006-2011:81). Unfortunately due to the demise of the Greater Lithgow & Torres Strait Islander Community (GLATSIC) this service is no longer provided.

The recent community consultations with representatives of the local Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander community have noted the desire by this group of people to develop a new cultural centre in the Lithgow Local Government Area. Discussions have indicated that the facility should be a multi-purpose facility which would provide cultural and social benefits to the community such as:

- A shop front facility to house a gallery for the exhibition and sale of arts and crafts produced by the community.
- Workshop space for art, silk screen painting and crafts.
- Café selling traditional foods.
- Educational facility for the teaching of traditional language programs
- A Keeping Place to house Aboriginal Artifacts.
- Aboriginal Liaison Officer
    - Court Support for Aboriginal Youth
    - Coordination of Hostel Accommodation for

Aboriginal Youths & Children.
- o Coordinate Events and Celebrations

11.3.1 Aboriginal Consultative Committee

Through the community consultation process a number of identifiable actions have been developed and incorporated into the Social Plan 2006-2011, Cultural Plan 2008-2011 and Crime Prevention Plan 2008-2011. It is considered appropriate that an Aboriginal Community Consultative Committee be established as a Section 355 Committee of Council which includes representation from the newly formed Mingaan Aboriginal Corporation and other relevant non government organisations to provide advice on cultural and social issues relating to the local Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Community. The committee will develop a charter relating to cultural and social issues and work towards achieving the actions identified within Councils key planning instruments that relate to this community.

This group will also assist in the coordination and promotion of indigenous involvement in events and celebrations held in the Lithgow Local Government Area.

Events & Celebrations

Lithgow City Council currently supports the annual NAIDOC Week activities coordinated by Koori Kids.

Council also flies the Aboriginal Flag during NAIDOC and Reconciliation Weeks and out of respect on significant occasions.

Indigenous involvement in Council programs and events would provide an opportunity to further educate the community in Indigenous culture, practices and heritage.

11.3.2 Indigenous Events

The need to develop a major event which celebrates traditional Wiradjuri stories was considered to be important. There is an opportunity to identify funding and extend the "2007 River Dreaming Festival" started in Bathurst on the Macquarie River to Lake Wallace at Wallerawang. This project could be developed to achieve a number of educational, cultural and historical objectives:

- Telling of the traditional stories of the Platypus and waterways in our area.
- Educate on the importance of healthy eco-systems and waterways.
- Provide opportunities for workshops in traditional dance, artworks, theatre production etcetera.
- Telling the stories prior to and following white settlement which are of historical significance to the area.

11.4 Youth Programs

As part of the community consultation process, Council Officers consulted with the following student groups:

- Wallerawang Public School – Year 6
- Portland Central School – Years 7-11
- La Salle Academy – Year 10

The students provided a great deal of relevant information into the types of activities they wished to have within the area. This included contributing to the economic development, promotion of our local history and heritage, educational processes, event ideas as listed in section 11.1 above and also the types of youth programs they wished to be able to participate in.

The youth of the area expressed the continuation of the current family fun days

program coordinated through the Lithgow Information and Neighbourhood Centre.

The need for more after school activities and after school care in the towns and villages was seen as a high priority by the youth of the area. There was a great deal of support by local youth for outreach programs to be developed by organisations such as PCYC, YouthWorx and youth groups/clubs to provide afterschool activities in Portland, Wallerawang and the villages. This also included activities such as music tuition and school holiday workshops.

It was further suggested that parents should become more involved in non-sporting related activities for youth. It was noted that many parents participate in their children's sports as coaches or committee members however; there is also a need for parental involvement in developing and implementing cultural programs, youth camps and events.

11.4.1 Bands Nights and Discos

Opportunities for Youth Bands to participate at events such as Rock-Up held during Youth Week, discos and talent shows were seen to be extremely popular. There is a need to look further at funding opportunities to host more events to be held throughout the area, not just centralized in Lithgow. When considering funding opportunities transport needs to be included as a priority to allow youth from the towns and villages to participate.

11.4.2 Anti-social Behavior

There was an overwhelming sense that the perceived lack of recreational and cultural activities in the area leads to anti-social behavior amongst local youth. This has been identified as part of the Crime Prevention Plan 2008-2011 which is currently being developed for Lithgow City Council. However, it is noted that cultural activities can significantly reduce anti-social behavior and also increase the overall well-being of the community.

Through planning instruments such as the Social Plan 2006-2011, Cultural Plan 2008-2011 and Crime Prevention Plan 2008 – 2011, Lithgow City Council Officers are able to work in conjunction with other service providers and law enforcement agencies to initiate activities aimed at combating anti-social behavior. Strategies should, however also be included in town planning and design to reduce isolation, poor lighting, improve access to open space recreational areas, create family friendly parks and skate/bike facilities which provide families and youths with an opportunity to interact in safe, fun environments.

11. Cultural Activities & Development

Action Plan – Cultural Activities

Objective	Action	Time Frame	Key Responsible Person	Key Performance Indicator	Estimated Cost
Ensure the Lithgow community values and celebrates its unique cultural diversity.	Coordination and promotion of Cultural activities and events.	Ongoing	Cultural Development Officer/Tourism Manager	Regular promotion of Cultural activities within the Lithgow LGA via local and regional media and networks.	
	Development of an awareness program with regular media promotion of cultural activities to target and build new audiences	Ongoing	Cultural Development Officer/Tourism Manager	Production and distribution of quarterly newsletters/e-blasts & cultural media outlets	
	Produce and enhance quarterly Council Connections newsletters	Quarterly	Cultural Development Officer/Executive Assistant	Production & distribution of quarterly newsletter.	
	Create a cultural section within the Councils website	Ongoing	Cultural Development Officer/IT Manager	Developed as part of cultural planning process includes cultural mapping database	
	Inclusion of promotion of Councils Cultural Facilities, Council collections and public programs on Electronic Media Display	2012/2013	Cultural Development Officer/IT Manager	Installation of Electronic Media Display in Council Administration Centre, Tourism Centre and Lithgow Learning Centre	Estimated Cost $21,000
Support and encourage community participation in the cultural life of our community.	Encourage (ensure) diverse representation in the cultural life of our community	Ongoing	Cultural Development Officer	Involvement of each locality in the Lithgow Local Government Area in the development and implementation of the Cultural Plan.	
	Identify & promote local indigenous cultural and history.	Ongoing	Cultural Development Officer	Participation of local indigenous leaders in cultural activities.	
	Collaborate with community groups and organisations, individuals, education sector etc., to encourage community development projects.	Ongoing	Cultural Development Officer	Promotion of activities/events & opportunities through newsletters and e-blasts	
	Develop local artists by offering support	2008/09	Council	Develop and implement a program for support of local artists.	

11. Cultural Activities & Development

Action Plan – Cultural Activities					
Objective	**Action**	**Time Frame**	**Key Responsible Person**	**Key Performance Indicator**	**Estimated Cost**
Identify the needs of Lithgow's youth	Consult with local youth and representative organisations and work in partnership with them on cultural matters.	June 2008	Community Development Officer/Cultural Development Officer	Participation in Focus Groups	
	Encourage youth support in establishing cultural programs to meet youth needs.	Ongoing	Community Development Officer/Cultural Development Officer	Development of a Youth Programs Strategy	
	Seek ways to integrate youth programs within the wider cultural activities.	Ongoing	Community Development Officer/Cultural Development Officer	Youth activities incorporated into cultural programs.	
Encourage participation in cultural activities	Promote the benefits of being involved in cultural activities to all members of the community.	Ongoing	Cultural Development Officer	Participation	
	Ensure cultural facilities and activities are accessible to the general public.	Annual	Operations Manager/Cultural Development Officer	Inclusion of cultural activities in Disability Access Plan	
Utilise the creative talents of the Lithgow Region.	Establishment of a network of artists, artisans, performers, designers etc integrated with the Central West Cultural Directory hosted by Arts OutWest	Ongoing	Cultural Development Officer	Comprehensive database of the cultural community.	
	Develop a Council Cultural Grants funding program including scholarships and Artist & Historian residencies	2009/10 – 2010/11	Cultural Development Officer	Inclusion in councils annual Management Plan.	
Identify the needs of the community to develop cultural landscapes	Consult with the community to promote placemaking as an integral part of community development	Ongoing	Cultural Development Officer	Placemaking strategies adopted as part of the Cultural Plan	
	Apply the creativity of the region in streetscape and landscaping	2009/10	Cultural Development Officer/Manager Policy & Planning	Inclusion in Open Space Study	Grant Funding

11. Cultural Activities & Development

Action Plan – Cultural Activities

Objective	Action	Time Frame	Key Responsible Person	Key Performance Indicator	Estimated Cost
Encourage Accessibility & Equity within Cultural programs and facilities.	Promote opportunities for participation in cultural activities for the disabled, frail and disadvantaged.	Ongoing	Cultural Development Officer	Participation	
	Encourage arts organisations to make their venue and services more accessible for people with disabilities.	Ongoing	Group Manager, Regional Services	Provision within development planning	Grant Funding
	Investigate training opportunities for Arts organisations and Arts workers	2012/13	Cultural Development Officer	TAFE Accredited Disability Awareness and Access Training Program	
Encourage, Promote and recognise the role of volunteering to the area.	Develop a volunteer's network to promote and facilitate volunteering in the area.	2009/10	Community Development Officer	Participation	
	Implement a recognition program for volunteering in association with International Volunteers Day.	2008/09	Community Development Officer/Cultural Development Officer/Library Manager	Annual ceremony and recognition of service to the community event.	Council/Local Sponsorship

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13. Addendum

The Lithgow City Council Cultural Plan 2008-2013 was developed in collaboration with the community and adopted by Council at its Ordinary Meeting of Council held on 16 February 2009 (Minute No. 09-71) with the inclusion of the following submissions.

Mr. B. Maranda Dip/Soc.Sc (Welfare) Member Lithgow Arts & Craft Co-Op Author of www.MyLithgow.com	<u>8.3 Cultural Mapping (pp 41 and 45)</u> • Council adopts an all inclusive approach to engaging the broader community (p41). • Council conducts a comprehensive survey of individual strengths, needs and aspirations to prioritise allocation of resources to engage more of the community in cultural activity (p41). • Council conducts a confidential questionnaire to every household to assist developing a community profile of individual attitudes, skills and abilities – this is to be considered in relation to the implementation of the following Action Plan item: "Further identify the cultural needs of the region, including the funding of a complete and broad based needs analysis".
Catherine Rookyard – Central West Publishing, Portland on behalf of a selection of the Business Community in Portland.	<u>6.2.1 Arts Trails (pp 27 & 31), 8.6 Master Planning (pp43 & 46)</u> • An Artisans Trail with open weekends every 3, 6 or 12 months promoting the diversity and quality of our local artists work. • A History Trail • Improved informative signage with flyers and/or Brochures available providing visitors to Portland with details of: ▪ Local heritage sites ▪ The Town Common ▪ Thompsons Creek Dam (fishing) ▪ Walking tour of the Signs of Yesteryear. • Upgraded entries to Portland similar to the current Wallerawang-Portland entrance. <u>10.1.3 Charlie Pinch Museum (pp50 – 53)</u> • A proposal to the current owners for the relocation of the Charlie Pinch Museum with it being run by volunteers. <u>8.1.3 New Enterprise Incentives Programs (pp39 - 45)</u> • Council to investigate economic development incentives models which ▪ Provide a rental subsidy to encourage retail businesses to relocate to Portland revitalizing the Wolgan and Williwa Street shopping centre. ▪ Develop and encourage creative/cottage industries to relocate to Portland ▪ Promotion of the Portland Village as a cultural heritage tourism destination.
Maeve Dunnett, Community Development & Multicultural Worker LINC	<u>Indigenous</u> • There are a lot of good things in this area of the plan and if they are implemented it will be a great step forward. <u>Culturally & Linguistically Diverse Community (CALD)</u> • The lack of a CALD section makes it difficult to see what is said about the needs of the CALD community. NOTE: A Multicultural forum was held at LINC. This was attended by the

13. Addendum

	Regional Multicultural Worker and a non-CALD community representative. 9.3.1 Cultural Awareness Training for Councilors and Council Staff (pp48-49) • This should include annual training in both Indigenous and CALD Community issues and culture. 6.2.1 Arts Trails (pp 27 & 31), • There is a need for: o Maps of local bike paths o Information and downloadable maps on the website. o Well signposted and safe bike paths in Lithgow. 8.5.2 Local Product (pp42 & 44) • The need to include the development of Growers Markets in the Action Plan and not just referenced in the body of the document. Develop a strategy to promote local product to the community 2008-2010
Gill Mulholland, President Portland Development Association	The PDA appreciates the breadth and overall direction of the plan and in particular its acknowledgement of Council's role in "developing and shaping the community through heritage, festivals, the arts and the intangibles such as community spirit, shared stories and wellbeing", while recognising the individual character of townships such as Portland". 5.5.1 Open Space & Recreational Needs • The Association is pleased to see that support would be offered to gain funding for our major project of rebuilding the Rotunda/Bandstand in Saville Park. 6.3.1 and 6.3.2 – Civic Spaces and Public Spaces This item has been included under Section 8 Economic Development – 8.6 Master Planning (pp43 & 46). • Concern that there is no section relating to Portland • The PDA would be interested in exploring with Council Officers an Enhancement Strategy for Portland which includes: o Community aspirations and resources o Economic development o Identification and interpretation of heritage and history of the township o Promotion of the township o Funding, sponsorship and partnership opportunities o Opportunities for youth activities o Signage o Town beautification program o Further development of the events calendar. Cycleways • We support the concept of new cycleways linking Wallerawang/Portland/Cullen Bullen. 8.6 Master Planning (pp43 & 46) It is felt that there are some significant omissions, including: o Signs of Yesteryear o Portland's regular annual events o The Youth Centre soon to open in the Portland RSL o Tidy Towns monthly market o The Town Common – potential for recreational use o The establishment of a Men's Shed in Portland

13. Addendum

	7.3.1 Local Landmarks (p34 & 39) • The Draft Cultural Plan correctly identifies the significance of the Portland cement works Site. We seek Councils support in finding a positive resolution to the longstanding issue of its rehabilitation in a manner that conserves its cultural heritage and landmark value. 5.1.1 Portland Cultural Precinct (p14) • We suggest that consideration be given to providing workshop, exhibition and marketing space suitable for collaborative work or skill-sharing activities, preferably within the potential Crystal Theatre cultural precinct. This would also contribute to the Education focus of the Draft Cultural Plan.

14. Attachments

1. Lithgow City Council Cultural Plan Community Consultation Session Notes
2. Summary of written submissions
   a. Margaret Maddock representing Lyre Blue Creative, Greater Lithgow Region Events Diary & Lithgow Regional Fellowship of Australian Writers
   b. Wendy Carlson & Ian Milliss – CarlsonMilliss Art & Heritage Management
   c. The Lithgow Small Arms Factory Museum Inc.
3. Cultural Mapping
   a. Responses to Cultural Mapping Form sent out in 2007
   b. 2006 ABS Census results for Lithgow Local Government Area.
   c. Summary of Findings for Cultural Funding by Government, Australia, 2004-05 (Reissue)
4. Events listing for Lithgow Local Government Area 2007 – Compiled by the Lithgow Visitor Information Centre

ATTACHMENT 1

Community Consultation Session Notes

Lithgow City Council would like to thank the community organisations and representatives who provided input into the consultation process for this Cultural Plan. Submissions were also received via e-mail, internet, and letter and on the notice board at the Lithgow Library.

LITHGOW CITY COUNCIL
CULTURAL PLAN
COMMUNITY CONSULTATION
SESSION NOTES
Tuesday 23 October 2007

1. Welcome

Penny Hall welcomed everyone and provided a brief overview of the session.

2. Attendance

Ian Milliss	Carlson Milliss Arts & Heritage Management
Danny Whitty	Wallerawang Tidy Towns
Janette Watson	Jannei Goat Dairy (Graphic Artist)
Peter Avery	Lithgow Community Orchestra
David Cowie	Lithgow Community Orchestra
Gordon Mudway	Lithgow Folk Club
Louise Dean	Lithgow Community Projects
Wendy Carlson	Arts OutWest & Central West Heritage Network
Margaret Maddock	Lyre Blue Creative, Greater Lithgow Regional Events Diary & Fellowship of Australian Writers – Lithgow.

Apologies

Lithgow Small Arms Factory Museum

It is also noted that a session had originally been advertised for 6.00pm. However due to a low response rate this session was cancelled. As such, the following people were unable to attend either session.

Rae Burton	Lithgow Musical Society
Al Ritchie	Greater Lithgow Arts Council
Annette Milroy	Mitchell Conservatorium Lithgow Branch and alternate representative for The Lithgow City Band.
Gavin Lidgard	Lithgow City Band

3. Submissions

Two written submissions were distributed for information; one from Wendy Carlson and one from Margaret Maddock.

4. Rules

Prior to starting the session rules were set by the group to enable the session to run smoothly and remain on track.

1. Keep it relevant
2. Focus on action
3. Listen
4. Prioritise – make it count
5. Be objective rather than subjective
6. One person talking at a time.

5. Key Issues

The group was given five post-it notes each and asked to identify five key issues which they feel defines culture in our region. The key issues were then ranked by grouping them and defining the commonalities. This was done to aid in identifying the cultural issues and those issues which come under the broader social planning banner. A priority ranking was then given to the five key issues by applying a weighting system with 5 being high and 1 low.

Arts Centre/Resources – 41 points

- *Urgent need for gallery/theatre*
- *Arts Centre (Hoskins Institute)*
- *To identify those cultural and arts issues which are lacking in resources and finances and do something about them.*
- *Focal venue eg: Arts Precinct*
- *Outdoor/Indoor community environments to encourage sharing and mixing*
- *Resources to enable living in harmony etcetera sharing cultures.*

Perceptions – 28 points

- *Need for Council to genuinely support (rather than despise) cultural activities*
- *Cultural events not based on licensed premises*
- *Pub/club culture limiting personal development*
- *Reliance on "tried & true" rather than innovative & inspirational*
- *Recognise that cultural activity is the key to economic future of area*
- *Develop an overarching intellectual framework which supports all cultural activities based on Lithgo*w's *history & heritage context*.
- *Classical music performances are generally undervalued and not well supported as a community.*

Raising Awareness – 26 points

- *Cultural events raise profile as tourist destination*
- *Availability of appropriate activities/leisure pursuits*
- *To promote the arts and culture in general*
- *Raise awareness of what we already have*
- *More tourism promotion*
- *Recognise that the area now has a population of major artists*
- *Insufficient awareness of the range of what is available*
- *To utilise the various resources that council has available for art & cultural activities.*
- *Lack of financial support for local initiatives.*

Diversity – 26 points

- *Safety in 1) being different, 2) differences don't hurt others & 3) environment*
- *Need to give all ages permission to experiment creatively*
- *Financial restraints both personal and overarching.*
- *To target specific groups eg: youth, local artists indigenous, disabled etc, etc and cater to their specific needs.*
- *Provide greater/broader arts consultation than Arts Council*
- *Provide a linked/integrated holistic approach to cultural activities not ad hoc.*
- *Social network*
- *Freedom for diversity & differences*
- *Respect for differences*
- *The link between creative/cultural realities and physical & mental health.*
- *Identify & promote aboriginal culture/history*
- *Diversity of ethnicity*

Heritage – 24 points

- *Establish local history stand alone archive centre*
- *Genealogical Heritage*
- *Streetscape eg: highlight heritage features*
- *Provide time frames on actions in relation to heritage (p.14)*
- *Heritage study needs to be more integrated into culture plan (and I suspect strategic plan)*
- *Recognise importance of heritage ie: where is National Trust? Central West Heritage Network? What is the timeframe?*
- *Retention of heritage*

6. The Questions

Two key questions were identified prior to the session to facilitate the identification of the good and bad cultural aspects of our community. It was agreed at the meeting that the responses would be developed into a SWOT Analysis.

What's good about the cultural aspects of our community?

- *The range of cultural activities.*
- *The depth of cultural activities*
- *Unique built & cultural heritage of the area.*
- *Strong relationships – family heritage (Intangible cultural heritage)*
    - *Folk Musical Heritage with a Lithgow Specific Style ie: Celtic, English, and Scottish.*
- *High School Musical Program*
- *Venues – Halls (community run)*
- *Networks (local contacts)*
- *Volunteer/Charitable/Generosity*

What's not good about the cultural aspects of our community?

- *Weather*
- *Small population base*
- *Lack of cultural perspective on the part of Council*
- *Apathy*
- *Perception that "things are better in other places"*
- *Conservatism*
- *Domination of sport & pub culture to the exclusion of other cultural pursuits.*
- *Lack of momentum*
- *Lack of resources*
- *Lack of encouragement*
- *Internal culture of discouragement at Council*
- *Public liability insurance*
- *No facilities audit identifying & facilitation of use*
- *Lack of meeting/exhibition/workshop centre*

7. Setting Priorities

The forum ended with the group setting priorities from the session.

- *Arts Centre – Cultural precinct*
    - *Hoskins Building, Lloyds Copper Works Building and the Union Theatre.*
- *Need a lead role within Council*
    - *Coordinating the process*
    - *Implementing cultural actions from the plan*
    - *Grants Officer*
    - *Funding for specialist consultancies*
        - *Museums Advisor, Heritage Advisor*
- *Making Cook Street Plaza available for regular cultural activities*
- *Developing a Public Arts Program*
    - *Alternative & public venues for the arts*
- *Union Theatre*
    - *Blocked out due to musical society "Home of the Musical Society"*
    - *Can the Council budget for Union Theatre & Wallerawang Memorial Hall to encourage usage by community groups.*
- ***ACTION NOT WORDS***

LITHGOW CITY COUNCIL
CULTURAL PLAN & CRIME PREVENTION PLAN 2008-2011
COMMUNITY CONSULTATION SESSION NOTES
Thursday 1 May 2008

1. Welcome

Deborah McGrath welcomed everyone and introductions were made. She noted that the purposed of the meeting was to open the lines of communication between Council and the local Indigenous Community to develop the Cultural Plan, Crime Prevention Plan and review the Actions from the Lithgow City Council Social Plan 2006-2011.

2. Attendance

Deborah McGrath, LCC Cultural Development Officer
Jason Hopkins, LCC Community Development Officer
Sharon Riley, NPWS Aboriginal Heritage Environment Conservation Officer
Helen Riley, Wiradjuri Council of Elders
Leona George, La Salle Academy Aboriginal Education Worker

Apologies

Nil were received. It was noted however that Judy Harding was currently on leave and may not have been aware of the meeting.

3. General Discussion

It was noted that Jason Hopkins will also be reviewing the Social Plan 2006-2011 in the first quarter of the next financial year and that a copy of the relevant section had been attached for the representatives of the meeting. The Social Plan has particular relevance to the current planning process and the action items in it were discussed and reviewed as part of this meeting.

It was noted that GLATSIC is no longer a functioning body and that Helen and other Wiradjuri representatives are currently seeking to develop a new overarching body for the community which will clearly identify the sub-groups and their roles. This will make communication with the community easier and clearer.

Burramadine is still functioning through Bob Sutor, it is set up to assist the Police with Aboriginals in Custody etcetera.

Cultural Awareness Training for Councillors' & Staff

Sharon noted that she conducts this training through NPWS. It looks at the Aboriginal Culture and aids people in identifying items found on sites etcetera.

Kath Shilling, DECC Cultural Heritage in Hurstville is the best point of contact for this. As this is an action identified for the 2009/10 Financial Year, Deborah & Jason will make further enquiries so that it can be included in the next budget process to begin in November.

Wiradjuri Language Program

The Wiradjuri Language Program which is currently conducted through Bathurst was discussed and it was agreed that this program should be extended to here as part of the Cultural Plan. This will allow the community to learn the traditional Wiradjuri terms, pronunciations and names of the area. This program should also be encouraged as part of Lithgow's Learning Cities Program.

Dual Naming & Interpretation
A program of including the traditional Wiradjuri names of areas in signage and interpretation was discussed. This should include not only the meaning but, correct spelling and pronunciation to increase awareness of the language and traditions of the area.

This should be further extended to include the interpretation of the area so that the stories and significance of places are told. For example Hyde Park is a significant 'women's place' and this information should be interpreted for the community in a sensitive and appropriate way.

Plans of Management for Council Controlled or owned sites
This item is included in the Social Plan with the objective of including ways to interpret, protect and preserve Aboriginal Heritage. This information should be included in the cultural plan as part of the Placemaking and environmental corridors strategies.

In addition to this the development of a program for Aboriginal Youths who are unemployed and no longer at school could be implemented to allow them to learn the traditional ways of maintaining these sites. This could be part of a regional program with Bathurst. This action is relevant to both the Cultural and Crime Prevention Plans. This type of program is similar to the Greencorp Program and includes TAFE Accreditation. Providing future employment opportunities and ensuring traditional ways are maintained within the local culture.

Employment of an Indigenous Liaison Officer by Council
This is seen to still be a high priority for the community. However it was noted that this role can be extended to include the development of cultural activities and the development of events i.e. Reconciliation Week, NAIDOC Week and Survival Day/Australia Day as well as ways the Community can participate in other Council coordinated activities, exhibitions and programs.

Indigenous Community Centre
Due to the disbanding of GLATSIC there is no longer a location for the local indigenous community to meet. It was noted however that there needs to be considered planning for a future Community Centre which can be used by the local community similar to the one in Kelso. Funding can be sourced through ICC (formerly ATSIC) for this type of Centre and Jill Bower from Kelso is the best person to talk to, to gain an understanding of the processes that were involved in developing their centre.

The future proposal for a Cultural Precinct/s in Lithgow, Wallerawang and Portland was discussed to ascertain if this type of facility could be co-habited. However it was felt that due to historical reasons it would be better if a new building was developed as opposed to co-habiting in a refurbished building such as the Hoskins Building.

This facility could also be developed as an Aboriginal Keeping Place. Eskbank House & Museum has several artefacts within the collection. These need to be researched through the old museum records to try to establish provenance and how they came to the Museum. Sharon explained that there are legal processes and requirements to be followed in relation to Aboriginal Artefacts and it is important that this matter be considered a high priority and investigated appropriately.

4. Events/Opportunities

Reconciliation Week 27 May – 3 June – Reconciliation: It's all our story
It was agreed that this would be the perfect time to hold a focus group meeting of the Traditional Owners to establish what they feel the issues are and gain an insight into what they want in both the Cultural and Crime Prevention Plans. It was felt that this would signify "moving forward by working together" and that this is a key factor in reconciliation.

Ways to access the community to ensure participation in the focus group was discussed. Deborah and Jason are to contact Jill Bower for suitable wording of a press release. Invitation should be extended to the Traditional Wiradjuri People of the Lithgow Local Government Area, the Native Title Group for North East Wiradjuri and the Aboriginal Land Council.

Suitable locations and times were discussed. It was agreed that the Workmens Club or Secret Creek would be suitable and that an after hours meeting starting at 6pm would be appropriate to enable people who work to attend. Transport was seen to be a possible issue for some and it may be necessary to consider providing transport to and from the meeting.

It was further noted that this is only the beginning and that Reconciliation Week should be considered as an annual event in the local area.

NAIDOC Week – 6-17 July – Advance Australia Fair

Jason will be liaising with Maeve Dunnit from LINC regarding activities and funding for this event.

Working Party for Events
It was suggested that it may be worthwhile to investigate the level of interest in implementing a Working Party to be associated with Council to enable consultation and to develop and encourage events/actions from the Social Plan, Cultural Plan and Crime Prevention Plan for or inclusive of the Aboriginal Community.

This would include:

- Participation in Australia Day – Survival Day activities
- Developing activities for Reconciliation Week and NAIDOC Week
- Participation in History and Heritage Weeks – how can national themes be adapted for Aboriginal Story Telling.
- Coordination of Exhibitions/Workshops/Public Programs associated with Councils activities at Eskbank House & Museum and future Cultural facilities. Including displays for the Library and Council Administration Centre.
- Preservation, protection and interpretation of Aboriginal Heritage and Collections.

History Week 6 – 14 September – The Waters Edge
Deborah discussed plans to celebrate the Discovery of the Platypus on the Cox's River by Charles Darwin as part of History Week 2008. She noted that due to the significance of the Platypus in Aboriginal Folklore it would be a good opportunity to work with the local Aboriginal Community to promote this side of the story. It was felt that this would be a way to educate the public through traditional storytelling and methods on the importance of the environment to the traditional owners i.e. maintaining healthy eco-systems and waterways.

History Week would be a stepping stone providing an opportunity to expand on this through Placemaking with both the Wallerawang community and the Traditional Owners coming together and developing this site so that it tells the story of the Wiradjuri and of white settlement – The Discovery of the Platypus by Charles Darwin ecetera.

Possible activities include:

- 2008 – An art competition for students to be displayed at Eskbank House & Museum based on the Platypus – Traditional Stories and the Charles Darwin Discovery Story.
    - Infants School
    - Primary School
    - Secondary School
    - Traditional Paintings by Aboriginal Students
- 2008 – Education through telling the Traditional Story of the Platypus
- Proposed future activities
    - Continued education on the importance of healthy eco-systems and waterways
    - Extension of the successful 2007 “River Dreaming” Festival in Bathurst to include the Lithgow local government area waterways and story of the Platypus.
    - Interpretive walkways around Lake Wallace which include
        - Aboriginal language/significance/art i.e. stone sculptures;
        - Preservation of significant sites such as the Walker/Barton graves.
        - Identification and dual naming of flora & fauna
    - Workshops to create artworks and sculptures
    - Workshops in traditional methods to conserve waterways and eco-systems.

LITHGOW CITY COUNCIL
CULTURAL PLAN & CRIME PREVENTION PLAN 2008-2011
COMMUNITY CONSULTATION SESSION NOTES
Thursday 29 May 2008

1. Welcome

Deborah McGrath & Jason Hopkins welcomed those present and gave a brief PowerPoint overview of the requirement of Council to develop Crime Prevention and Cultural Plans for the 2008-2011 periods. The overview highlighted areas identified as part of previous consultation with the local Indigenous community in the Social Plan 2006-2011.

2. Attendance

Deborah McGrath, LCC Cultural Development Officer
Jason Hopkins, LCC Community Development Officer
Maeve Dunnit, LINC Community Development Officer
Paul Engler, Criminologist and SailAbility
Kay Shirt, Community Member

Apologies

Nil were received.

3. Methodology

Due to the low number of attendance it was felt that it would be best to discuss the individual questions to gain feedback from those present as to their personal response for the community as a whole and in their respective professional roles any specific areas that may relate to Indigenous issues.

CRIME PREVENTION

What do you think the primary crime problems are?

It was agreed by those present that alcohol related violence was a major issue for the area in general including:

- Sexual Assault
- Domestic Violence
- Malicious damage

Where do you think they may be?

The Bowenfels area was noted to be a high risk area for this type of behaviour however, it was noted that many crimes go unreported from this area. It was felt that this was due to two key factors:

1. A closed culture – you do not report on your neighbour, family etc.
2. Fear of retribution, isolation from the community.

Maeve noted that the LINC has the Bowenfels Cottage in the area but, that they are having difficulty getting the community to utilise this facility and its services. This is due, to some degree to a stigma associated with the Cottage as a result of a brutal murder there when it was a rental property. They are looking to hold a second 'smoking ceremony' on the premises to be conducted by a Traditional Wiradjuri Elder in the hope of cleansing the site. It

is hoped that this will encourage use of the facility by the indigenous community.

It was noted that Sexual Assault is high amongst youths and that there were incidences at the secondary schools.

Alcohol related violence and malicious damage is of concern in the Main Street area in relation to the pubs etcetera. Furthermore, two recent deaths caused by transient people are of particular concern to the community as a whole.

Theft was seen to be an issue, however it was noted that this was not a high issue in the Bowenfels area due to the closed culture of the area.

CULTURAL PLAN

What is your understanding of cultural activities in the LGA?

- The Heritage of the area was seen to be of importance. Particularly places such as the Small Arms Museum, Blast Furnace Park, Eskbank House & Museum etcetera.

- Indigenous art and music was seen to be of great value to the area. It was noted that a local indigenous girl has just had one of her artworks accepted by the National Gallery.

- Youthworx has a recording studio for youths associated with the centre.

- Garage or Backyard Youth Bands.

What recreational activities do you enjoy?

- Paul noted that the local Lakes, Lyell and Wallace were extremely popular as training areas for Sailing, Rowing and Dragon Boat Racing. These areas are utilised by locals and people from Sydney.

- He noted that Abseiling and Canyoning are also popular recreational activities for locals and tourists to the area.

- Fishing and camping on the foreshores of local lakes.

WHAT WOULD YOU LIKE TO SEE MORE OF IN LITHGOW?

- A Hostel for emergency accommodation for Aboriginal youths and children.
- Court support for Aboriginal juveniles
- Funding/Sponsorship to further develop programs such as SailAbility – SailAbility teaches youth at risk, disabled youths and indigenous youths to sail, row and associated workmanship/craftsmanship in relation to boat building, decorating. The program is designed to motivate youths to learn.

  Needs
  - Funding to purchase wetsuits for participating youth to enable the program to continue during the winter.
  - This program is designed to motivate youth to learn. There is a need for funding and networking to extend the program to develop a flexible learning program (reading/writing etc.) to enable participating youth to receive the educational

requirements and training to become accredited trainers in sailing, rowing, abseiling, canyoning etc. There is a need for accredited trainers in this area.

- Indigenous Community Centre
- Shopfront for Indigenous Artworks to be sold.
- Indigenous Art and Craft Workshops
    - *"Creativity is a pathway to finding yourself, particularly for indigenous people".*
- Indigenous Music Workshops which combine traditional music with modern styles i.e. extending programs such as bush percussion to include hip hop, making and decorating of the instruments, writing songs, writing music.
- Opportunities to be developed to encourage backyard/garage bands to perform and record their music.
    - *"We need to capitalise on and celebrate the creativity"*
- Wildlife Sanctuary
- Promotion of our heritage – Small Arms Museum, Blast Furnace Park, Eskbank House & Museum etc.
- Cultural Awareness - Indigenous

LITHGOW CITY COUNCIL
CULTURAL PLAN & CRIME PREVENTION PLAN 2008-2011
COMMUNITY CONSULTATION SESSION NOTES
Tuesday 10 June 2008

1. Welcome

Deborah McGrath & Jason Hopkins welcomed those present and gave a brief overview of the requirement of Council to develop Crime Prevention and Cultural Plans for the 2008-2011 periods. The overview highlighted areas identified as part of previous consultation with the local community in 2005 for the development of the Lithgow City Council Social Plan 2006-2011.

2. Attendance

Deborah McGrath, LCC Cultural Development Officer
Jason Hopkins, LCC Community Development Officer
Alf O. Community member, Rylstone
Robert Lindsay, Community Member (Lithgow Library Officer)
Graham Dean, LJ Hooker Real Estate
Kim Price, Department of Housing
Yvonne Maxfield, Department of Housing
Anne-Maree Osborne, Volunteer LINC
Dennis Ismay, HACC Services, LINC
Annie Thompson, HACC Services, LINC

3. Methodology

The individual questions were workshopped as a group with strategies developed.

CRIME PREVENTION

What do you think the primary crime problems are?

- Truancy
- Gambling
- Drug abuse – Illegal and prescription
- Theft from shops – sidewalk displays
- Car theft
- Break & Enter

It was agreed by those present that alcohol related violence was a major issue for the area in general resulting in:

- Concerns for personal safety
- Vandalism and damage to property
- Assaults
- Gambling
- Domestic Violence
- Drug use
- Contempt for public spaces
- Gambling

The group reflected on possible causes for this problem and noted

- Mental Health problems
- Unemployment

- poor education
- Hotels are open too late
- Responsible service of alcohol not appropriately reinforced by authorities and publicans. i.e. Anecdotal evidence provided that bar staff trained in RSA do not feel they are backed up by their bosses in some instances.
- Family stress – economic pressure
- Gambling
- Transient workers – recent fatalities involving RailCorp Contractors were cited.

Lack of response to incidents by Police was seen to be an issue. The group agreed that this is possibly a result of low police staffing numbers. It was noted however that staffing is in response to statistical data from reports. However, the group did comment on the fact that many crimes go unreported as people are of the opinion that nothing will be done about it. They cited two recent minor incidents which were unreported.

Reasons for not reporting incidents included:

- A perception that there is little response from Police
- Fear of continued victimisation i.e. businesses having windows continually broken in Main Street.
- Police powers are no longer what they used to be.
- Penalties don't fit the crime.

Strategies
A number of strategies were recommended by the group.

1. Alcohol related issues need to be taken up at a higher level through the Police Action Community Team (PACT). Penalties need to be applied to enforce the responsible service of alcohol including:
    a. Temporary Closure of premises
    b. Enforcement of RSA
    c. Initiation of discussion with Contractors or employers of contractors to develop a strict code of conduct in relation to contract/transient workers in the area.
    d. Stronger enforcement of penalties on individuals committing alcohol related crimes.
    e. Education in relation to the effects of alcohol and alcohol related crimes.
2. Re-instatement of a drug support group (Narcotics Anonymous) and Community Drug Action Team.
3. Information to be available on networks and support groups.
4. A support group for Mental Health Patients who are affected by Drug/Alcohol abuse.
5. Better policing and enforcement of skateboarding and bike riding in Main Street.
6. There is a need to ensure better follow up by the relevant authorities on identified issues with a view to implementing preventative strategies with short, medium and long-term goals.
7. Council needs to take a leadership role.
8. Education through schools
9. Truancy – Get the kids into school and/or educational programs.

Where do you think they may be?

Main Street CBD – Pubs and in the street – Alcohol related crimes
Queen Elizabeth Park – Night Club
Homes – Break & Enter – Assault

Carparks – Street – car theft
Main Street CBD – Sidewalk theft from shop displays

CULTURAL PLAN

What is your understanding of cultural/recreational activities in the LGA and what would you like to see more of?

The group noted that Lithgow has a predominately sporting culture. Although it was noted that many of the sporting teams are sponsored by Pubs and Clubs and that Alcohol abuse is a key problem in the area. Sport was also viewed as a positive way to educate young people as follows.

- Compliance with the rules associated with sports also aids in developing respect for property and other individuals.
- The use of local sporting heroes i.e 'A' Grade players, Coaches and Elite athletes as role models promoting key behavioural messages was seen to be a great opportunity.

High sporting fees was seen to be an issue.

Programs such as the Midnight Basketball Program in Orange were seen to be beneficial in getting bored youths off the streets. The implementation of a similar type of program consisting of a Guest Speaker, meal and midnight basketball game was seen to be needed in this area.

Boredom was seen to be an issue with youth.

Previous schemes such as the Community Support Scheme which was closed some years ago due to lack of government funding were seen to be worthwhile. These schemes look at teaching job skills and providing recreational activities.

The local business culture was seen to be a closed culture. The group felt that there should be more encouragement for new businesses, economic development and growth.

The concept of promoting local produce through:

- The development of a community garden
- Growers markets
- Marketing local produce/products in local restaurants

A climbing wall for local youths and competition.

Paint ball on the Gap Road at Hartley was recognised as a fun recreational activity to be promoted.

The group discussed the Bells Line of Road concept as not only opening up transport routes but, also economic and cultural development.

Viewing platforms on Bracey's & Hassans Walls Lookouts.

Wallerawang

- Community Garden
- Men's Shed project

Lake Wallace

It was agreed that there is a need for an overall development plan for the Lake Foreshores and adjacent estates linking to the forest. A plan has been put to Council by Landcare which looks at environmental corridors. Areas to be included are:

- Housing
- Public space strategy
- The area around the school
- Forest Ridge Estate
- Wetlands
- Environmental Corridors from the forest to the lake to encourage the return of wildlife and native birds to the lake.
- A viewing platform and pathways along the ridge.
- Pathways/cycle ways from the forest to the lake
- Pathways/cycle ways around the lake foreshores
- Landholders in the Forest Ridge Estate to be encouraged to implement or protect small wildlife corridors on their acreages.

LITHGOW CITY COUNCIL
CULTURAL PLAN & CRIME PREVENTION PLAN 2008-2011
COMMUNITY CONSULTATION
SESSION NOTES
Monday 16 June 2008
Cullen Bullen Progress Association Hall

1. Welcome

Deborah McGrath & Jason Hopkins welcomed those present and gave a brief overview of the requirement of Council to develop Crime Prevention and Cultural Plans for the 2008-2011 periods. The overview highlighted areas identified as part of previous consultation with the local community in 2005 for the development of the Lithgow City Council Social Plan 2006-2011.

2. Attendance

Councillor Neville Castle, Mayor
Deborah McGrath, LCC Cultural Development Officer
Jason Hopkins, LCC Community Development Officer
Michael Bulkeley, President Cullen Bullen Progress Association
Lucy Deveigne, Vice President Cullen Bullen Progress Association
Beth Bulkeley, Secretary Cullen Bullen Progress Association
Ray Blakley, Portland Car Club
Barbara Milne, President Cullen Bullen Tidy Towns
Carol Banks
Marjorie Warrington Mercer
Agnes Tilley
Sandra Tweedie

3. Methodology

The individual questions were workshopped as a group with strategies developed.

CRIME PREVENTION

What do you think the primary crime problems are?

Although crime in the Cullen Bullen area, in general was seen to be minimal, the primary crime problems were seen to be:

- Break & Enter
- Theft of Property
- Property Damage – Vandalism (recently at the Speedway by youths).
- Rural theft – farm gates and equipment from sheds, etc.
- Speeding in the village – over the 50km limit

The matter of crime issues in the area in general was also discussed and the members of the group identified the following issues:

- Alcohol related violence in Pubs and Clubs
- Why are pubs open to 4am?
- Drugs – the recent death of a Portland girl as a result of a drug overdose was noted. It is believed that the drugs were purchased in Lithgow.
- Bag snatching – Supermarkets

Policing
The Highway Patrol maintains a high presence in the Cullen Bullen area.

It was noted that in general the Police need to develop a higher community presence throughout the area. It was proposed that they should be raising their community profile by:

- Attending Progress/Tidy Towns meetings in the villages
- Introducing themselves to local business owners
- Visiting schools

His Worship the Mayor, Councillor Neville Castle made a note to take this matter to the Police Action Community Team meeting to be held on 17 June.

The matter of feedback on crime issues from Police was discussed. Even though a matter may be reported there does not seem to be any follow up by Police.

It was suggested that there needs to be more of a Police presence i.e. Foot patrols late at night and in pubs/clubs.

The matter was raised that Police do not appear to have the same powers they used to. That they do not make their presence or themselves known to young people like they used to i.e. pulling up to individual youths or groups and just having a chat.

Strategies

- Reducing the hours of trading in Pubs and Clubs.
- More of a Police presence in pubs/clubs and streets

Where do you think they may be?

- Pubs – particularly in Lithgow.
- Nightspot
- Supermarkets

CULTURAL PLAN

What is your understanding of cultural/recreational activities in the LGA and what would you like to see more of?

Cullen Bullen Speedway has been operating since 1991. It was noted that the monthly speedway meetings promote Cullen Bullen to the wider community through television advertising and also provides young people, interested in motor sports, with an opportunity to compete and get involved.

Cullen Bullen Showground

- Home of the Cullen Bullen Speedway
- Family fun days hosted there coordinated by LINC/Council
- Cullen Bullen Public School Billycart races
- Progress has held family days there.

Cullen Bullen Progress Association

- Annual Christmas Street Party & Chocolate Wheel

Other recreational activities in Cullen Bullen

- Skate park

- Park – currently being upgraded with toilet facilities and picnic table/s
- Horse riding
- Bushwalking
- Motor Bike riding
- Whitewash caves – it was noted that there was no longer ease of access to this location.
- Yabbying
- Progress Hall – to be upgraded – new roof and toilet
    - Progress Association – meetings/functions
    - School Concerts
    - Car Club functions
    - Funerals/weddings/parties
    - Meetings
    - Red Cross Morning Teas

The upcoming Xmas In July dinner being hosted by the Progress Association was discussed. It was noted that there was concern over numbers attending due to the small population base and as such there was a need to draw people from the wider community.

Other Community Assets – Cullen Bullen

- Church – Multi-denominational services
- Old Cemetery on Back Cullen Road – dating c1849 and acknowledged as the third cemetery across the Blue Mountains.
- The Cullen Bullen Cemetery – has been part of Tidy Towns Beautification strategy.

Cultural Strategies for Cullen Bullen

- Interpretive Signage
    - Skip line
    - Old Cullen Bullen Cemetery
- Skip Line
    - Development of a safe walkway with Tidy Towns
- Skate Park
    - Upgrade the facility
    - Landscaping
- Footpaths
- Car park and landscaping – School/RTA/Council project

The group discussed the need to develop a signature event/festival for Cullen Bullen - something that would draw people to the village.

School holidays activities such as art/craft activities

General area – There was discussion in general about the lack of balls in the area now. Previously, there were balls held in all of the smaller communities which were difficult to get tickets too and resulted in a “Ball Season”.

Priorities

1. To investigate and develop a Signature Festival/Event for Cullen Bullen to assist in promoting and developing the community.
    a. Rodeo
    b. Fancy Dress Ball
2. To enhance and value add to current events i.e. Cullen Bullen Speedway
    a. Show ‘n’ Shine
    b. Tractor Pull
3. To investigate opportunities for school holiday activities.

a. Pet show – bring your own pets
b. Drama Workshops
c. Fancy Dress Ball

4. A facility to be developed in the Lithgow area which can host major acts such as Lee Kernagan etc.
5. The 2828 Restaurant concept at Gularganbone was discussed. This restaurant is volunteer run and on a regular basis holds a theatre restaurant style event. The hall where the restaurant is housed still has the old theatre projector housed there and it was considered that this type of event could be held at locations such as the Crystal Theatre in Portland or Cullen Bullen Progress Hall.
    a. Movie and Meal Package
    b. The theme of the night matches the movie i.e. Titanic, Rocky Horror Picture Show, Grease etc.

LITHGOW CITY COUNCIL
CULTURAL PLAN & CRIME PREVENTION PLAN 2008-2011
COMMUNITY CONSULTATION SESSION NOTES
Wednesday 18 June 2008
La Salle Academy – Yr 10

1. Welcome

Deborah McGrath & Jason Hopkins welcomed those present and gave a brief overview of the requirement of Council to develop Crime Prevention and Cultural Plans for the 2008-2011 periods. The overview highlighted areas identified as part of previous consultation with the local community in 2005 for the development of the Lithgow City Council Social Plan 2006-2011.

2. Attendance

88 Year 10 Students

3. Methodology

The group was asked two key questions regarding Crime Prevention Planning and Cultural Planning. This was carried out so that the facilitators could gain an understanding of the groups perception of the concepts of cultural and crime prevention. The following responses were supplied.

What do you think a Crime Prevention Plan?

- A plan to prevent crime.
- To stop naughty people doing bad things.
- To help make Lithgow a safer place.

What do you think a Cultural Plan is?

- Organising events
- To accept different cultures.
- Makes it a more multicultural place
- Bringing different cultures together
- To preserve cultural places.

The students were broken up into groups of 8 (11 groups in total). Within these groups they workshopped each of the questions. An individual was elected from each group to present their responses to the entire group.

CRIME PREVENTION

What do you think the primary crime problems are that occur in your community? And where are they?

- Graffiti – (Bus sheds/fences/signs)
  - Kids are bored
- Pub fights (night spot)
  - Recent deaths associated with Rail Corp
- Drug
  - Pot, Pills
  - Blue Magic
  - Recreational Drugs
  - Unhygienic population

- Breaking & entering (houses, shops)
- Car crashes (Gap Road) driving fatigue, young drivers.
- Racism
    - Shell servo, Cnr Hartley Valley Road – burnt down and racial slurs written on it.
    - In the streets and schools
- Stereotypical Gangs (Lads)
- Alcohol Abuse
    - Binge Drinking
    - Underage Drinkers
        - Parties
        - Peer Pressure
    - Drink Driving
- Violence
    - Recorded Fights
    - Kids Fighting
    - Mainly take place at the Skate park, parks, main streets, Eddy street, Lithgow Street, shops, PCYC,
    - Bashings on trains
    - Bashing of poor people
    - Attacks by youths and bashing of elderly people at Train Stations.
    - Domestic Violence
    - High School
- Underage Drivers
- Vandalism
    - Back Streets
    - Buildings – Shops
    - Trains
    - Public Toilets
    - Skate Parks
    - Zig Zag
- Sexual Assault/Rape
- Unlicensed Guns
- Trolley People – poverty struck.
- Lack of Police
- Gate Crashing of parties
- Underage Sex
- Animal Cruelty
- Rebellion
- Loitering
- Bullying
    - Street Bullies
- Crime occurs because there is nothing else to do.
- No self respect
- No courtesy for others in the community

Where do you think they may be?

- Main Street
- Train Stations
- Landa Street
- Housing Commission area
- KFC – Maccas (other side of the Highway)
- Parks
    - Queen Elizabeth Park (Queeno)
    - Endeavour Park
    - Properties backing onto the Park

- Outside Pubs/Night Clubs
    - Except the Donnybrook
- Schools (on weekends)
- Skate Park
- Parties
- Shopping Centres
    - Coles
    - Woolworths
- Pretty much everywhere
- Churches
- Backstreets & Alleyways
- Wallerawang – recent alcohol related death.
- Pub gigs
- Lithgow Show
- Family homes (bad families)
- Buses
- People's letter boxes
- Toilet blocks
- Ovals
- Cook street plaza

CULTURAL PLAN

What activities do you mostly do when you're not at school?

- Horse riding
- Camping
- Hanging out with friends/mates/boyfriends/girlfriends
- Sleeping
- Zig Zag
- Playing Playstation/Xbox 360/Wii/Video Games/Runescape/Game Boy
- Working
- Drinking
- Football
- Motor bike riding
- Parties
- Go Away
- Air League
- Army Cadets
- Hanging out with family
    - Family occasions
- Push bike riding
- Computer
    - Myspace
    - Talking on MSN
    - Bebo
    - YouTube
    - Flash Games 24/7 – the future of computer gaming
- Bush Walking
- Going 2 Penrith
- Going to the movies
- Hockey
- Playing with pets
- Skiing
- Camping
- Wood chopping

- Eating
    - McDonalds
    - Donuts
    - KFC
    - Red Rooster
- Moto racing
- Boxing
- Mountain Bike Riding
    - Downhill Racing
- U/18's Nitespot (Dancing) Should have it more often
- Movies (Penrith, Bathurst)
- Music
    - T.N.T., ACDC
    - Rap
    - Lessons
- Gigs
    - PCYC
    - Nite Spot
- Driving
- Camping
- Swimming
    - Water works
    - Clarence Dam
- Nothing to do at Wallerawang
- Hunting
    - Recreational Shooting
    - Shooting vermin
- Soccer
- Basketball
- Smoking
- Drugs
- Dancing
    - Hardcore Dance
- TV
- Netball
- Shopping
    - Bathurst
    - City
    - Vinnies
- Going outside
- Rent videos @ video ezy
- Hang around Main Street
    - Loitering
- Sleep overs
- Riding
- Surfing
- Flying/Gliding @ Bathurst
- Air Guitar/Guitar Hero
- Nothing
- Shining Shoe Services
- Maths Study/Homework
- Bush Fire Brigade
- Archery
- Putt Putt Golf
- Board Games
- Diving

What activities would you like to see more of in the Lithgow local government area?

- Movies
- Better/More Shops
  - Thong Shops
  - Better hairdressers
  - Brazilian Shops
  - Jay Jays
  - Valley Girl
  - Supre
  - Tight rope
  - City Beach
  - Beta Electrical
  - Local Liqueur – There the one near you.
  - Nice brand name shops
  - Another two stories on the shopping centre
  - Aldi Expanded
  - Bunnings Warehouse
  - Rebel Sports
- Indoor Swimming Pool
  - With water slides
  - Whirl pool
  - Wave pool
  - High diving board
  - Aqua Golf
  - Better Swimming Pool
  - Foot Locker Sports Shop
  -
- Ice Skating
- Bowling Alley
- Better sporting facilities
  - New hockey turf
- Dining
  - All you can eat restaurant
  - Krispy Kreme
  - Gloria Jeans
  - Star Bucks
  - Lindt Café
  - Lolly shop
  - Food Court
  - Boost Juice
  - Chocolate Shop
  - Dominoes doing cheaper pizza
  - Hungary Jacks
  - British Lolly shop
- Night Club (under age)
- Entertainment Centre
- Airport
- Casino
- Better public toilets
- Nicer houses
- Theme park
- Beach
- Snow fields
- Lazer Tag
- Educational facilities
  - Summer School
  - University
- More jobs

- Sumo Wrestling
- Sky diving/bungee jumping
- Nike Factory
- Sky Scrapers
- Music
  - Bigger Gigs
  - More concerts for youth
  - Rap Contests/concerts
  - Heavy metal concerts
  - Rock concerts
- More teenage events
- Grass Skiing
- Stadium Cross
- Demolition Derby
- Games Arcade
- Putt Putt Golf
- Bigger/Better Skate Park
- Dodgem Cars
- Better Go Kart racing track
- Grass Karts
- Toboggans
- Clay Pigeon Shooting
- More U18 activities at the Night Spot
- More area for motocross
- More shows
- More Equestrian Events
  - Shows
  - One day events
  - Show Jumping
  - Dressage Competitions
- Gym
- Indoor sports centres
- Discos
- More Downhill Tracks
- Golf Driving Range
- Flying fox
- Mono rail
- Hover crafts
- More games websites
- A bike riding foam pit
- Better Golf Course
- Goal Posts at School
- Rugby League
- Motor Cross Tracks
- Road to the Zig Zag to be fixed and tarred
- More phone reception
- Holiday camps
- 4 X Tracks
- Rock Climbing
- Fire Works
- Indoor Ski Slopes

What is your understanding of Cultural activities in the Area?

- Ironfest
- Rock-up
- Arts and Crafts
  - Brethren Cake Stall
  - Craft Stalls
- Rydal Show
- Daffodils at Rydal
- Lithgow Show
- Anzac Day
- Celebrate Lithgow
- Carols by Candlelight
- Australia Day
- Zig Zag Railway
  - Events
  - Bringing in imported trains from around the world
- Eskbank House
- Historical Sites – Hartley
- Three Sisters
- Gold Mine – Bathurst
- Scenic Railway
- Queen Elizabeth Park
- ADI Factory/Museum
- Blast Furnace
- Old Police Stations

What cultural activities would you like to see in the area?

- Hair Removal Expo
- Daddy Day Care
- Rydals Grass Expo
- Festival of the Chins
- Spitting Tobacco
- Lithgow Show
  - More attractions
  - More rides
- Music
  - Hip Hop Concerts – singing /Dancing (Krump)
  - Rap Concerts
  - Music festivals should take part in Lithgow throughout the year.
  - More gigs
  - Funding four local bands to play more gigs
  - Big Day Out
  - Taste of Chaos – hardcore/EMO Bands, metal etc get together like Big Day Out.
  - Raves
  - Festivals
  - More rock-ups
- We need a festival that promotes multiculturalism – Violence because of racism lowers the chances of celebration.
- People who graffiti in Lithgow should actually make an art out of it and have graffiti competitions.
- Develop more country competitions throughout the year eg. Horse riding and wood chopping.
- Supernatural shows people with deformities.
- Organised protests
- Food & wine Festival
- Art Gallery

- More Youth Groups/Clubs
- Rock Climbing
- Australia Day Parades
- New Years Eve Festival
- Carnivals (The Entrance concept)
- Markets
  - Organic Markets
- Youth Festivals – music events, entertainment, markets
- Catering Schools with religious & cultural foods
- Foreign Foods
- International/Cultural Holidays
  - Halloween
  - Queens Birthday
- Camps for family/Youth
- Festivals e.g. Art, music
- Make PCYC Better/bigger – renovate the building
- More parks
- Indigenous people teaching young people about their art and their cultural beliefs
- October Fest

LITHGOW CITY COUNCIL
CULTURAL PLAN & CRIME PREVENTION PLAN 2008-2011
COMMUNITY CONSULTATION SESSION NOTES
Thursday 19 June 2008
Wallerawang Public School Year 6

The Wallerawang school student consultation was held between 2-3pm with 12 year six students in attendance. To begin with the students were asked the following questions to identify their level of understanding in regards to Crime Prevention Planning and Cultural Planning.

What is a crime prevention plan?

- Prevent more crimes
- More policing in the area
- Promote and develop PCYC
- Alleviate Vandalism
    - School
    - Charles Darwin Memorial
    - Skate parks
- Fights/Bullying
    - Skate Park
- Theft of bikes

What is a Cultural Plan?

- Multiculturalism
    - Other people's Culture
    - Different Cultures
    - Different Societies
- History
- Park lands/Reserves/Bush
- Black Fellows Hands
- Planting trees – memorials
- Wallerawang is unique
    - Famous people such as Charles Darwin
    - History
    - Local Stories
- Library – Books/Computers/Information

The students were then asked to provide input into the Crime Prevention and Cultural Planning Process.

What do you think the main crime problems are that occur in your community?

At this stage the students generalised about crime issues in the area.

- Fighting
- Vandalism
- Drinking
- Drugs
- Broken Glass

- Thieving
- Death – murder
- Spiking drinks
- Bullying
- Raping
- Drink driving
- Bashings
- Pubs closing to late
- Noise
- Stealing –Lithgow
- Talking on a mobile phone while driving
- Alcohol abuse
- Speeding

Where do you think these problems occur?

Group discussion provided an opportunity for the students to relate actual incidents that they or a close/friend or relative had been involved in. It was stressed to the group to think of actual regular occurrences as opposed to one off random incidents.

- Fighting at the Skate park and the pubs
- Vandalism
    - Broken Glass
        - Skate Park
        - Bus Shelters
        - Phone Boxes
    - Graffiti
        - Skate park
        - Public toilets
        - Gutters
        - Pub
        - Dam Wall
    - Destruction of private property
        - Mail boxes blown up.
- Littering
    - Dam and park
    - Main Street
    - Road Verges
    - Dam Wall (aerosol cans from graffiti)
    - Netball Stadium – Cigarette Butts
- Driving
    - Talking on mobiles
    - Drinking
    - Speeding – school zone
    - Swerving - Dangerously
- Drugs
    - Finding needles/syringes in bushes at church
    - Bong at the Oval
    - Overdosing – Panadol
- Bullying
    - Park – Oval
    - Name calling at school

What do you do when you are not at school?

- Playing with my dog
- Taking my dogs for a walk
- Playing sports
    - Soccer
    - Tennis

        - Football
        - Basketball
        - Athletics
        - Netball – training
        - Cricket
    - Riding motor bikes
    - Ride my bike
    - Going to dancing
    - Playing with my brother
    - Camping
    - Going to friends houses
    - Spending time with friends
    - Fishing
    - Play station – X Box
    - Jogging
    - Walking
    - Talking

What sort of recreational activities would you like to see more of in Lithgow and surrounding areas?

- Indoor swimming pool
- Spa- steam room
- Games arcade
- Bowling Alley
- Go Kart Track
- Motel
- Bike Path
- Better Black Bridge
- More work shops
- Cleaner/better skate park
- A place for kids with fun activities and games
- After school care – PCYC
- More sporting fields/grounds
- Swimming Pool in Wang
- Shopping Centre like in Bathurst
- A movie theatre
- More sporting clubs/activities
- More after school sporting events/activities

What is your understanding of cultural activities in the Lithgow and surrounding areas? What makes Wallerawang special?

- Black bridge – upgrade but maintain the history
- The Memorial Hall
- Thursday Club (Youth Club)
- Lake Wallace
    - Charles Darwin Story
    - Celebrate James Walker and Barton Park
    - Celebrate Barton
    - Plaque/signage at the Lake
- Black Fellows Hands
- Indigenous History

How can we celebrate the uniqueness of Wallerawang?

- Festival
    - Celebrating Walker/Barton/Darwin
    - Indigenous stories
- 2010 Wallerawang Public School will be celebrating its 150th Anniversary

LITHGOW CITY COUNCIL
CULTURAL PLAN & CRIME PREVENTION PLAN 2008-2011
Bowenfels Meeting
Monday 7 July 2008

Attendance:

Deborah McGrath	Cultural Development Officer - LCC
Jason Hopkins	Community Development Officer - LCC
Kim Price	Senior Client Services Officer – Housing NSW

A general meeting was held between Lithgow City Council and Housing NSW to discuss issues and possible opportunities for collaborative development in the Bowenfels area.

Deborah and Jason discussed the matters that have arisen out of the recent community consultation sessions for the Crime Prevention Plan and Cultural Plan in relation to the Department of Housing Estate in Bowenfels. Kim discussed possible options and areas of concern that Housing NSW have for the area.

1. Housing NSW will be conducting a Night Time Safety Audit of the area in the future to identify issues in relation to lighting etcetera.
2. The matter of play equipment being vandalized in parks was discussed. Kim noted that Touma Park is located in the centre of a number of houses accessible only by walkway. This makes this location difficult to police as vehicle patrols cannot be carried out there.
3. Access to public transport is an issue as many of the people in this area are reliant upon the transport system. Bus shelters are an older style and tend to be smaller. If there is a large number of people waiting not all have access to the shelter during inclement weather conditions or personality conflicts.
4. There is a lack of footpaths in the area.
5. There are a number of privately owned homes in the Landa/Stewart/Andrew Street areas. There is a need to find ways to get the residents to integrate better.
6. Housing NSW is seeking to develop social supports and services by collaborating with local networks/organisations such as DOC's to provide case management models for clients.

Bowenfels Cottage

The cottage has been developed by Lithgow Information & Neighbourhood Centre & Housing NSW as a community centre and drop-in centre.

It is noted that due to the stigma associated with the Cottage (a previous murder was committed there prior to it becoming a community space) that Indigenous people are reluctant to access the cottage. There is a need to develop support networks for these people as many are moving to the area with no previous association with the area.

There is a need to actively seek out, develop and promote outreach programs for the cottage with other local service providers such as YouthWorx and PCYC.

Other programs which could be developed as part of the services offered at the cottage include:

- Men's Shed
- Aunts & Uncles (Mentoring program)
- Gardening program
    - Developing a staged program to encourage community gardening and to teach residents about propagation, suitable plant types, and edible gardens with a view to encouraging a broader overall community beautification scheme.
    - Implementing a committee (i.e. through the cottage) to promote and enter Bowenfels Gardens in local and regional competitions. Plus the Housing NSW Competitions.

    - Look at future expansion to develop a larger project for the overall community starting with a smaller garden at the cottage. Revitalising the Wisteria Walk in Emora Park.
    - Edible Gardens – opportunity to promote healthy eating programs
    - Invite representatives from the Lithgow Community Nursery, Lithgow Garden Club and Dahlia Club to come and give talks to the community.
- Dog Ownership Education Program – There are a number of residents with dogs and it may be worthwhile conducting an educational program into responsible dog ownership.

LITHGOW CITY COUNCIL
CULTURAL PLAN & CRIME PREVENTION PLAN 2008-2011
COMMUNITY CONSULTATION SESSION NOTES
Tuesday 1 July 2008

Portland Community Centre

Two sessions were held from 9am to 11am with students from years 7-11 being represented. These sessions were broken into two groups with the first being for the younger students and the last being for the older.

CRIME PREVENTION PLAN

What are the main crime problems in the Lithgow/Portland area and where are they?

- Bullying
    - At school
    - In community
    - Cyber/text bullying

- Lake Wallace
    - Burn outs
    - Toilet block being smashed
- Drink driving
- Stealing
- Underage drinking
- Malicious damage
    - Houses
    - Parks
    - Tennis courts
    - Play equipment in Landa street area

- Sexual Assault
- Drug use in Landa street area
- Break & enter
    - schools
    - houses
    - cars

- Murder at Wallerawang
- Swearing
- Discrimination
- Littering
- Vandalism
    - Graffiti at skate park
    - Graffiti at school
    - Shops (Broken windows and kicked in door)
    - Kids throwing rocks at street lights
- Underage sex
- Alcohol related problems
    - Smashed beer bottles
- Fights
- Boredom

- Lighting Fires
- Underage drinking
- Underage smoking of cigarettes
- Binge drinking
- Parental abuse
- Drugs
- Lack of police

What is your understanding of culture and recreational activities do you enjoy out of school?

- Skate park
- Wallerawang Library
- Sports
    - Football (touch and rugby)
    - Netball
    - Golf
    - Hockey
    - Cricket
    - Basketball
    - Tennis
    - Lawn Bowls
    - Golf
- Running
- Walking
- Walking the dog
- After school activities program at Portland School
- Horse riding
- Shooting
- Motocross

- Technology
    - TV and Austar
    - Play station
    - X Box
    - Nintendo
    - Wii
    - Texting
- Hunting
    - Hunting in the pine forest
- Pigging
- Rabbiting
- Yabbying
- Ferreting
- Fishing
- 4WD
- Camping

- Hanging out with friends

- Motor bike riding
- Recycling bin racing at Wallerawang
- Ant Fitness Gym

- Playing pool at
    - Youth Worx
    - PCYC
    - Capertee
    - Wang
    - Portland

- Sunday School
- Easter Festival
- Football matches
- Family fun day
- Portland art shows
- YouTheatre at Cullen Bullen(school holidays)
- School fetes
- Local and regional shows
- Cullen Bullen Speedway
- Sunny Corner Sunday
- Sunny Corner rally
- Boxing at La Salle Academy
- Concerts
- Thursday Friday club
- Tidy Town Markets (First Sunday of every month)
- Crystal Theartre movies
- Billy cart races at Cullen Bullen School
- Bingo
- Homework Centre at Portland Central School
- Line dancing
- Disco at RSL
- Pool Competition at Coronation Hotel in Portland
- Pool Parties at Portland swimming pool
- Celebrate Lithgow
- Anzac Day
- Clean up Australia day
- Australia day
- Ironfest
- New Years Eve parties and celebrations
- Kandos Street Machine
- Christmas in July activities
- Sailing at Lake Wallace
- Darts
- Graffiti tagging

How can we make Lithgow/Portland Better?

- Better promotion of Portland's role as the 'Town that built Sydney'
- Skate Park
    - Bigger better cement Skate Park
    - BMX track in Portland
    - Skate/BMX competition
    - Graffiti tagging wall at skate park
- Fix up cement works and turn into museum
- Fix tennis courts
- Clean up litter
- Motor bike track in Portland
- Archery club in Portland
- Down hill track

- More shops in Portland
    - Lolly shop
    - Clothes shop
    - Coles
    - Westfield
    - Dominos pizza
    - Doughnut packs
    - Drop in petrol prices
    - Food court
    - Better Coffee Shop
    - Internet Café
    - IGA
    - Pet Shop
    - Florist
    - Supermarket
    - Kebab shop
    - Video Ezy outlet
    - Fruit & Vegetable Shop
    - More shops = more jobs
    - A proper service station
- Swimming Pool
    - The pool to be bigger
    - New diving board at pool
    - Water Polo
    - Water slide
    - Heated pool
    - Bike shop
    - Water Park like at Wagga Wagga
- Parks
    - Better irrigation system in park
    - More equipment at parks
    - New Grandstand in Kramer Park
    - Water saving tanks in park
    - Goal posts at saville park
    - Cricket pitch taken out of Kramer Park
    - Bigger Park with play equipment
    - Reserve that's legal
    - Better toilet facilities
    - More tables, chairs and bins at Parks
    - More leash free areas
- Fix up quarry for housing development
- Super car circuit
- Shooting range
- Billy cart racing
- More events like family fun day
- Gaming events
- Games arcade
- Laser Tag
- Paint Ball so as to help in self defense
- Rock climbing
- Sumo wrestling in school hall
- Craft activities
- Crystal theatre to show more movies
- Talent Show
- Music Tuition
- More jobs
- More outreach programs for PCYC
- Ten Pin Bowling

- Down Hill Track
- More Youth Programs
- Squash Courts for Portland
- Move the Skatepark at Portland so that the old Netball Courts can be used.
- Youth Job network
- Portland Cement Works Site
    - Develop heritage assets – adaptable re-use of Cement works site and other heritage buildings
    - Develop a museum on the Cement Works Site
    - Develop a function Centre on the Cement Works Site
    - Tourism = less empty Shops
- Basketball Courts
- Promote more events using Kramer & Saville Parks i.e. Motocross and Great Escapade
- Cullen Bullen
    - Cricket Nets at the Showground in Cullen Bullen
    - Better skate park at Cullen Bullen
- Capertee
    - Capertee needs full time Police Man
    - Capertee needs more shops
    - Capertee needs a better rest area at the Park.

- Bike Path from Wallerawang – Portland – Cullen Bullen
- Develop facilities at Lake Wallace for Sailing, Canoeing, and rowing equipment – Boat Shed.

LITHGOW CITY COUNCIL
CULTURAL PLAN & CRIME PREVENTION PLAN 2008-2011
COMMUNITY CONSULTATION SESSION NOTES
Tuesday 24 June 2008

Multicultural Session

This consultation was held at Lithgow information Neighbourhood Centre (LINC) between 11am -12:30 pm.

Deborah McGrath, LCC Cultural Development Officer
Jason Hopkins, LCC Community Development Officer
Maeve Dunnit - LINC Community Development Worker
Monique – BINC Migrant Support worker
Marianne Sweet – The Spade

CRIME PREVENTION

What do you think the primary crime problems are and where do you think they may be?

- Break and enter
- Alcohol related crimes
- Crime under reported
  - Continued repercussions
  - Language and cultural issues
  - Domestic violence in particular it was noted that woman on sponsored wive visas are in vulnerable positions
  - If not a major incident, community members feel that it is not worth going to police about as they will not do much about it anyway
  - People ignore crime, do report when they have witnessed crime
  - Apathy leads to the demise of the social fabric
- Theft
- Racism
  - Integration into community, how welcoming and accepting is the community of different cultural backgrounds
- Group and gang related crime
- Lighting
  - not well lit in our major traffic areas
  - Not well lit in alley way next to Queen Elizabeth park
- Driving under influence of alcohol or other drugs
  - Lack of public transport contributes to this
  - Some from of public information program is needed to address this

Where are these issues?

- Main St after licensed premises are closed
  - Licensed premises security to clear street after closing

- Precinct Committees
  - Neighbourhood watch not active

- Sporting fields
  - Homeless people sleeping in park
  - Dark
  - Drinking

- Bowenfels – Difficult to get police to attend incident

CULTURAL PLAN

What is your understanding of cultural/recreational activities in the LGA and what would you like to see more of?

- Harmony day – need to raise profile

- Multicultural group is no longer functioning - group to small

- Multicultural community members want to meet and be part of the community

- Multicultural dinner could be developed to promote local products

- Made in Lithgow Enterprise(MILE)
  - Food Share
  - Multicultural cooking

- Overall lack social events

- Cultural Education program in schools – Council to encourage kids to become involved
- Men's Shed into school – possible location could be State Mine Heritage Park
- Aunts and Uncles Program
- Mentoring programs
- Civic spaces & public spaces

LITHGOW CITY COUNCIL
CULTURAL PLAN & CRIME PREVENTION PLAN 2008-2011
COMMUNITY CONSULTATION SESSION NOTES
Tuesday 24 June 2008

Disability Session

1. Attendance

Deborah McGrath, LCC Cultural Development Officer
Jason Hopkins, LCC Community Development Officer
Julie Flavell, UnitingCare Lithgow, Respite Manager

2. Methodology

This consultation was held at Lithgow Information & Neighbourhood Centre between 1.00pm – 2.30pm. As there was only one community representative present, an informal interview was conducted with notes taken.

CRIME PREVENTION

What do you think the primary crime problems are and where do you think they may be?

Need an accurate reflection of crime stats

- under reporting in community
- need for proof for government departments around funding
- People are scared to say things for fear of reprisal
- Need to be able to anonymously record incidents and stats
- Provide support for a data base, identifying age gender and location

People afraid to walk at night or to Workies for fear of gangs
Bowenfels post office, a man was approached for cigarette here and was badly bashed
Elderly people are perceived to be to scared to go out at night
Stats should be given by hospitals

CULTURAL PLAN

What is your understanding of cultural/recreational activities in the LGA and what would you like to see more of?

A lot of buildings have access through back

- Bowling Club
    - Doors don't always automatically open, difficult for people to open on own

- International disabilities week is in December
- We need to look at acceptance
- Seek funding for more culturally focused programs for people with disabilities
- Disability officer at LCC
- W2A workshops for people with disabilities
- Art workshops and exhibitions by people with disabilities

- Develop combined activities that are integrated so people with disabilities can take part in it
- International day of disabilities
- Community walk, councillors and community members " try on my disability"
- Auto tellers need voice access
- Public phone - height issues
- Footpaths
- High counters in shops and offices – needs to be considered in development applications
- BBQ'S(gas or solar) in public parks
    - Hassan walls
    - Lake pillans
    - Londenderry
    - Clarence pirie Park (Capertee)

    - Cinema
    - Bowling Alley
    - Heated/ therapeutic pool
    - Better shops/retail
        - more men's clothing
        - Best and Less
        - JB Hi Fi

- International food festival/hall
    - Cooperative
    - Food Share
    - Slow foods
    - Promoting local foods and products

- Eskbank House and Museum
    - Conservation management plan to incorporate community garden (edible/sensory garden)

- Hartley big back yard

LITHGOW CITY COUNCIL
CULTURAL PLAN & CRIME PREVENTION PLAN 2008-2011
COMMUNITY CONSULTATION SESSION NOTES
Thursday 26 June 2008

Portland Community Centre

A series of community consultation sessions were held throughout the day at 11.00am, 3.00pm and 7.00pm in the Community Hall, Portland Central School.

The first session was attended by one local community member and a community worker from Lithgow. There was no one in attendance at the 3.00pm and 7.00pm sessions.

Attendance:

Deborah McGrath, Cultural Development Officer
Jason Hopkins, Community Development Officer
Maeve Dunnitt, Community Development Worker, LINC
Margaret Clune

CRIME PREVENTION PLAN

What do you think the primary crime problems are that occur in your community? And where are they?

Street lighting was deemed to be an issue as it was felt that it promotes 'larrikinism'.

Responsible service of Alcohol was raised as an issue. One particular incident at the Coronation Hotel was cited recently with noise from fighting able to be heard in other areas and Police being called to attend the incident. However it was stressed that this type of issue is not a regular occurrence.

Vandalism – an incident where a fence was recently pushed/kicked down was noted.

Harassment – It was noted that one elderly lady was having problems with local youths knocking on doors and windows at irregular times. The matter of whether the elderly feel scared or are made prisoners in their own homes was discussed. This was felt not to be an issue in Portland. Many elderly ladies live alone. They appear to have good support from friends and a good social support network. They also know many of the local youths. However, they can be a bit apprehensive towards larger groups of youths or new people coming into the area.

High Profile of Police – brings respect and trust from the community. More police 'presence' (interaction with the community) = greater level of respect.

Break and Enters

Cars hooning, mainly in the summer months. However, this was alleviated due to the presence of the Highway Patrol reacting to the problem.

Domestic/Family Violence

There does not appear to be a lot of major crime problems in Portland. However, some incidents do occur in the Hotels, Clubs and the street.

CULTURAL PLAN

What is your understanding of culture in the Lithgow/Portland area?

Australia Day
December 2008 = 50 years Portland Pool

Fetes with entertainment such as the Filipino Dancers and Kung Fu Boxing.

World Youth Day – Excursion to Rydal and other festivities

Portland is responsive to most things.

Movie Theatre

Hospitals support crafts by allowing activities such as quilters and artists to use their space for a token fee.

Beehive in Portland is still active

Lots of space in Portland to run activities.

What do you want to see more of in Portland/Lithgow?

Saville Park – Portland Development Association is developing a concept to have a Rotunda\Bandstand built which will become a central focus for outdoor concerts etcetera.

Community buses to provide youths an opportunity to go to discos in other areas i.e. Blue light discos at Lithgow and Capertee.

Cleaner Skate Park – kids should be encouraged to clean it up – they should be involved in the process of development – not just handed to them.

Disco in Portland – supported by Police Youth Club

Police to look at better community support programs for youths.

PCYC to consider outreach programs.

More for kids to do – Parents should get involved more not only in current programs but in initiating programs and activities rather than 'saying there's nothing for kids to do".

Roads in Portland need work.

Men's Shed. As with previous meetings the concept of a Men's shed was discussed not only for the Portland area, but Wallerawang and Lithgow as well. This project has previously been discussed in Portland. It was felt that there are a lot of activities and support networks for women's but, not for men. The fact that many people are retiring early seems to be promoting the need for activities for men to be involved in.

Capertee –

Several suggestions were put forward for developing Capertee.

Capertee to develop a Tidy Towns Committee.
Town Signs and a more pleasing/pretty town entrance
Leash free area near the park.

LITHGOW CITY COUNCIL
CULTURAL PLAN & CRIME PREVENTION PLAN 2008-2011
COMMUNITY CONSULTATION
SESSION NOTES
Thursday 3 July 2008

Rydal Mount Guest House & Conference Centre

Community consultation was held at Rydal Mount from 7pm – 9pm, there were 8 members of the Rydal community.

A brief overview of the Crime plan and the cultural plan was spoken on before leading into the first question.

Before answering the crime questions, a couple of the community members stressed that there is not much crime in Rydal. It was noted that generally any crime in Rydal is periodical and caused by people passing visiting Rydal to local residents causing problems.

Attendance
Deborah McGrath, LCC Cultural Development Officer
Jason Hopkins, LCC Community Development Officer
Anne Krone
Emile & Mrs Bananni
Galina Newcombe
Lorraine & John Stack
Linsey Featherstone
Gordon Shannon

CRIME PREVENTION PLAN

What do you think the primary crime problems are that occur in your community? And where are they?

- Graffiti on benches at the railway station
- Old machine gun missing
- Rally driving at show ground
- Price buster's in Lithgow are selling a wide range of dangerous weapons/knifes
- Stacks Hill on the Rydal Hampton Road - Burnouts
- Low presence of police in outer rural communities such as Rydal
- Occasional vandalism at show ground
- Trail bikes
    - Racing through forest
    - Unregistered
    - Bad for tourism(gives impression that locals have no respect for community)
    - Designated areas for riders

  In relation to the discussion on trail bikes it was noted that there are two types of riders:
    a. On unregistered bikes riding in the State Forest and coming into the village, riding through the streets and at the Showground.
    b. Tourist staying in the area to ride in the forest and respecting the village.

- Street Lighting
    - Smashed by rocks
    - Removed and not replaced at New Street
    - A light to be installed on western side of railway gates in the vicinity of the bus shelter.

It was discussed at this point how Rydal community members tend to know one another enough to identify if someone different is in town or just passing through, some felt this made it easier to identify troublemakers etc. Before moving on to Culture they added that the village association has brought the Rydal community closer together as well as helping new residents to integrate more easily into he community.

CULTURAL PLAN

What is your understanding of culture in the Lithgow/Rydal area?

- Daffodils at Rydal
- Australia Day
- Rydal Show
- Dog Show
- Library
- Pony Club (Lithgow) There also used to be a Rodeo at the Pony Club Grounds
- Musicals at school
- Musical Society at Union Theatre
- What's in your backyard – Tourism program
- Art classes – At Antony Symonds studio starting 5.7.08
- Colonial show at Rydal Pub
- Family support playgroup at Bowenfels cottage
- Margo's exercise classes at Vale Hall (Mondays and Thursdays)
- Coffee club at Rydal Pub (Thursdays afternoon)
- Social club at Rydal Hotel
- Fishing club at Rydal Hotel
- Rites of Spring (held by Antony Symonds in October)

What recreational events do you enjoy?

- Downhill motor bikes every 2nd Sunday (Lidsdale State Forest)
- Walking
- Bird watching
- Cycling
- Water Skiing (Lake Lyell)
- Sailing (Lake Wallace)
- Draught horse
    - Plowing at Stacks Property
    - Showing them at Rydal Show & Oberon

- Lake Lyell
    - Dinner
    - Fishing

- Horse riding in forest
- Shooting
- Gold panning in creek
- Community groups in Rydal

- Rydal Village Association
- Rydal Show Society
- Fishing & Social club at pub

What do you want to see more of in Rydal/Lithgow?

- Internet Café in Lithgow as it would make technology centre more available as a teaching facility

- Gaming arcades for youth
- Broadband internet for village
- More road and drainage works in Rydal
- More play equipment in Greg Featherstone Park
- Pioneer Park – Amphitheatre as designed by Antony Symons for events and events
- Train Carriage Museum - Written photos explaining Rydal History
- Quarry at Portland Cement Works to be turned in Garden
- Bicentennial National Trail goes through Rydal
- Traveling stock routes -environmental corridors need to be preserved as they under threat off being sold off – The stock routes are home to native grasses and plants.

LITHGOW CITY COUNCIL
CULTURAL PLAN & CRIME PREVENTION PLAN 2008-2011
COMMUNITY CONSULTATION SESSION NOTES
Tuesday 10 June 2008

1. Welcome

Deborah McGrath & Jason Hopkins welcomed those present and gave a brief overview of the requirement of Council to develop Crime Prevention and Cultural Plans for the 2008-2011 periods. The overview highlighted areas identified as part of previous consultation with the local community in 2005 for the development of the Lithgow City Council Social Plan 2006-2011.

2. Attendance

Deborah McGrath, LCC Cultural Development Officer
Jason Hopkins, LCC Community Development Officer
Alf O. Community member, Rylstone
Robert Lindsay, Community Member (Lithgow Library Officer)
Graham Dean, LJ Hooker Real Estate
Kim Price, Department of Housing
Yvonne Maxfield, Department of Housing
Anne-Maree Osborne, Volunteer LINC
Dennis Ismay, HACC Services, LINC
Annie Thompson, HACC Services, LINC

3. Methodology

The individual questions were workshopped as a group with strategies developed.

CRIME PREVENTION

What do you think the primary crime problems are?

- Truancy
- Gambling
- Drug abuse – Illegal and prescription
- Theft from shops – sidewalk displays
- Car theft
- Break & Enter

It was agreed by those present that alcohol related violence was a major issue for the area in general resulting in:

- Concerns for personal safety
- Vandalism and damage to property
- Assaults
- Gambling
- Domestic Violence
- Drug use
- Contempt for public spaces
- Gambling

The group reflected on possible causes for this problem and noted

- Mental Health problems
- Unemployment

- poor education
- Hotels are open too late
- Responsible service of alcohol not appropriately reinforced by authorities and publicans. i.e. Anecdotal evidence provided that bar staff trained in RSA do not feel they are backed up by their bosses in some instances.
- Family stress – economic pressure
- Gambling
- Transient workers – recent fatalities involving RailCorp Contractors were cited.

Lack of response to incidents by Police was seen to be an issue. The group agreed that this is possibly a result of low police staffing numbers. It was noted however that staffing is in response to statistical data from reports. However, the group did comment on the fact that many crimes go unreported as people are of the opinion that nothing will be done about it. They cited two recent minor incidents which were unreported.

Reasons for not reporting incidents included:

- A perception that there is little response from Police
- Fear of continued victimisation i.e. businesses having windows continually broken in Main Street.
- Police powers are no longer what they used to be.
- Penalties don't fit the crime.

Strategies
A number of strategies were recommended by the group.

1. Alcohol related issues need to be taken up at a higher level through the Police Action Community Team (PACT). Penalties need to be applied to enforce the responsible service of alcohol including:
    a. Temporary Closure of premises
    b. Enforcement of RSA
    c. Initiation of discussion with Contractors or employers of contractors to develop a strict code of conduct in relation to contract/transient workers in the area.
    d. Stronger enforcement of penalties on individuals committing alcohol related crimes.
    e. Education in relation to the effects of alcohol and alcohol related crimes.
2. Re-instatement of a drug support group (Narcotics Anonymous) and Community Drug Action Team.
3. Information to be available on networks and support groups.
4. A support group for Mental Health Patients who are affected by Drug/Alcohol abuse.
5. Better policing and enforcement of skateboarding and bike riding in Main Street.
6. There is a need to ensure better follow up by the relevant authorities on identified issues with a view to implementing preventative strategies with short, medium and long-term goals.
7. Council needs to take a leadership role.
8. Education through schools
9. Truancy – Get the kids into school and/or educational programs.

Where do you think they may be?

Main Street CBD – Pubs and in the street – Alcohol related crimes
Queen Elizabeth Park – Night Club
Homes – Break & Enter – Assault

Carparks – Street – car theft
Main Street CBD – Sidewalk theft from shop displays

CULTURAL PLAN

What is your understanding of cultural/recreational activities in the LGA and what would you like to see more of?

The group noted that Lithgow has a predominately sporting culture. Although it was noted that many of the sporting teams are sponsored by Pubs and Clubs and that Alcohol abuse is a key problem in the area. Sport was also viewed as a positive way to educate young people as follows.

- Compliance with the rules associated with sports also aids in developing respect for property and other individuals.
- The use of local sporting heroes i.e 'A' Grade players, Coaches and Elite athletes as role models promoting key behavioural messages was seen to be a great opportunity.

High sporting fees was seen to be an issue.

Programs such as the Midnight Basketball Program in Orange were seen to be beneficial in getting bored youths off the streets. The implementation of a similar type of program consisting of a Guest Speaker, meal and midnight basketball game was seen to be needed in this area.

Boredom was seen to be an issue with youth.

Previous schemes such as the Community Support Scheme which was closed some years ago due to lack of government funding were seen to be worthwhile. These schemes look at teaching job skills and providing recreational activities.

The local business culture was seen to be a closed culture. The group felt that there should be more encouragement for new businesses, economic development and growth.

The concept of promoting local produce through:

- The development of a community garden
- Growers markets
- Marketing local produce/products in local restaurants

A climbing wall for local youths and competition.

Paint ball on the Gap Road at Hartley was recognised as a fun recreational activity to be promoted.

The group discussed the Bells Line of Road concept as not only opening up transport routes but, also economic and cultural development.

Viewing platforms on Bracey's & Hassans Walls Lookouts.

Wallerawang

- Community Garden
- Men's Shed project

Lake Wallace

It was agreed that there is a need for an overall development plan for the Lake Foreshores and adjacent estates linking to the forest. A plan has been put to Council by Landcare which looks at environmental corridors. Areas to be included are:

- Housing
- Public space strategy
- The area around the school
- Forest Ridge Estate
- Wetlands
- Environmental Corridors from the forest to the lake to encourage the return of wildlife and native birds to the lake.
- A viewing platform and pathways along the ridge.
- Pathways/cycle ways from the forest to the lake
- Pathways/cycle ways around the lake foreshores
- Landholders in the Forest Ridge Estate to be encouraged to implement or protect small wildlife corridors on their acreages.

ATTACHMENT 2

SUMMARY OF WRITTEN SUBMISSIONS

Where possible the submissions have been matched with the 5 key issues identified by the Cultural Plan Forum. Please note that this is a summary only and as such is an interpretation of the authors' original comments. The original documents have been made available to all members of the Cultural Plan Forum for review.

Margaret Maddock – Lyre Blue Creative, Greater Lithgow Region Events Diary & President Lithgow Regional Fellowship of Australian Writers	
Arts Centre/Resources	• Promotion of professional artists, their specialisations/genres and commercial galleries to local residents and tourists. • Council to encourage the autonomy and self sustainability of individuals and groups by providing infrastructure support and training. • Lithgow should accept a leadership role in the development of Regional Arts in NSW • Creative businesses in the community must be encouraged and supported at least as much as the various non-profit organisations. • Infrastructure must be created and maintained which encourages strongly innovative practices and creative ideas. • Lithgow to become a leader in the development of alternative styles of business. • Development of the "University of the Third Age" – encouraging a mutual learning environment between older people and younger people within the community.
Perceptions	• Encouraging local groups/organisations to promote their resources/services locally – get away from the "everybody knows where we are/what we do" attitude. • Changing perceptions of people who may seem "different" or things which are not the "norm". • The Cultural Plan MUST FOCUS on the value of real differences, not just cosmetic ones. • Acknowledge and support the link between individual creativity & creative thinking and emotional and social well-being. • Identifying the different needs of the community ie: teenagers/older people to assist in reducing much of our anti-social behaviour across all age groups. • Catch phrase for the cultural plan: DIFFERENCE, DIFFERENCE, DIFFERENCE; CREATIVITY, CREATIVITY, CREATIVITY; ENERGY, ENERGY, ENERGY. • Encouraging an environment of "inclusiveness" – If we keep getting the same people over and over again, we

	may as well just turn back the clock and accept Lithgow will never change for the better.
Raising Awareness	• Promotion of professional artists & specialisations/genres and commercial galleries to local residents and tourists. o A large number of galleries in Lithgow, particularly the Hartley Valley area. • Seeking ways to ensure the sustainability of organisations and groups through research and promotion ie: Fellowship of Australian Writers Lithgow Region is uncertain as to continuation – there are a lot of writers in the Lithgow LGA, but they are not part of the group. • Identification of cultural groups and facilities through cultural mapping – many places mentioned, no contact or address details. • Acknowledgement of the tourist potential of creative business.
Diversity	• Changing perceptions of people who may seem "different" or things which are not the "norm".
Other	• The need for individual as well as group responsibilities • Linking to the Social Plan/Crime Prevention Plan to address social/health issues.
Wendy Carlson & Ian Milliss – Carlsonmilliss Art & Heritage Management.	
Arts Centre/Resources	• Feasibility study be undertaken into a Cultural Precinct incorporating the Hoskins Memorial Institute. • The Hoskins Memorial Institute to become a Research Archive which would serve as an adjunct to the State Archives in Western Sydney providing a valuable resource for scholars of industrial heritage, thereby providing Lithgow with a specialisation as part of the 'Learning Cities Program' which it so far lacks. • Opportunities for partnership and funding from state and commonwealth government be sought to develop an archive/cultural precinct which will create employment and volunteering opportunities. • The Cultural Grants scheme be investigated to encourage donations.
Heritage	• The Hoskins Institute, Tin Shed, the Court House and the Hoskins Church to be recognised as a highly significant heritage precinct • Identify heritage items of local significance for listing in the comprehensive Lithgow Local Environmental Plan • Incorporate heritage controls into the comprehensive Lithgow Local Environmental Plan and development control Plans • Provide guidance in restoring and preserving heritage items • Undertake a feasibility study into the regions collections

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	and future storage. • Council adopt the proposed objectives for the conservation of the environmental cultural heritage of Lithgow to provide a framework for the planning administration and works activities of Council as per the City of Lithgow Heritage Study (Jack, 2000).
The Lithgow Small Arms Factory Museum Inc.	
Arts Centre/Resources	• Achieve community sustainability goals by providing regional employment in the areas of Cultural, Heritage, Arts and Tourism. • Establish community supportive frameworks to maintain the direction of the regional sustainability principals and to increase the general public's awareness of this region.
Raising Awareness	• Raise the community profile with respect to the subjects of the Arts, Culture, Heritage and Tourism. • Need to act to develop an increased overall community awareness of the benefits that may be derived from the regions Heritage, Arts and Cultural activities both present and past. • The development of a regional sustainability program focussed on the Arts, Culture, Heritage and Tourism is considered as a necessary step to prevent regional cultural loss and to increase the profile of the Lithgow region outside the municipality for the GCL.
Heritage	• The Kennard Report, commissioned by the NSW Railways Heritage Office be reviewed and developed in relation to its recommendations for local heritage attractions. • Recognise the strong sense of individualism that prevails within the Lithgow regions cultural, heritage, historical and tourism organisations.
Other	• Establish a peak representative body representing the Arts, Culture, Heritage and Tourism chaired by an independent person/group. • A signage plan be developed and implemented for local tourist attractions. • A Cultural Heritage Tourism forum be held in Lithgow.

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Cultural Mapping 2007

The following groups provided a written response to the Cultural Mapping form initially sent out as part of the Cultural Plan Consultation Process.

- 1 Tidy Towns/Progress Association
- 3 Musical groups/organisations
- 2 Youth Organisations/workers
- 1 Recording artist/label
- 1 Dance Studio/Instructor
- 1 Visual Artist

Due to the small number of responses the information has been collated as one batch.

- Three respondents identified themselves as professional artists. The remainder indicated they were non-professional artists or community organisations.
- The longest established business was listed as pre-1900 followed by 1952, 1978 and two newly established businesses in 2005 and 2006.
- In relation to staffing numbers one respondent was self-employed with no additional staff.
- Full-time employees:
    - 3 organisations employed 1 employee
    - 1 organisation employed 4 employees
- Part-time employees:
    - 1 organisation employed 1 employee
    - 1 organisation employed 2 employees
    - 3 organisations employed 3 employees
    - 1 organisation employed 16 employees.
- In addition to full-time and part-time employees two organisations noted that they worked with 20 and 30 volunteers respectively.

Income for 2006/07

Three organisations noted that their income for the 2006/07 financial year was less than $100,000 while 1 organisations' income was in excess of $100,000. The remainder did not respond.

Although this information is minimal and cannot be compared on a regional or statewide level it provides a small snapshot of the value of the arts to our local economy and through cultural mapping we will be able to gain a clearer picture of the economic sustainability of our community through the arts.

2006 ABS Census results for Lithgow Local Government Area

Below is a breakdown Area of statistical information from the 2006 ABS Census for the Lithgow Local Government.

2006 ABS Non School Qualifications			
Society & Culture		Creative Arts	
Male	Female	Male	Female
163	286	53	78

2006 ABS Non School Qualifications Indigenous Status				
Field of Study	Indigenous		Non-Indigenous	
	Male	Female	Male	Female
Society & Culture	5	9	157	277
Creative Arts	0	0	53	76

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2006 ABS Industry of Employment	
Art & Recreation Services	
Male	Female
157	103

2006 ABS Industry of Employment Indigenous Status				
Industry	Indigenous		Non-Indigenous	
	Male	Female	Male	Female
Arts & Recreation Services	0	0	31	41

2006 ABS Industry of Employment										
Industry	**Managers**	**Professionals**	**Technicians & Trades Workers**	**Community & Personal Service Workers**	**Clerical & Admin. Workers**	**Sales Workers**	**Machinery Operators & Drivers**	**Labourers**	**Inadequately Described/Not Stated**	**Total**
Arts & Recreation Services	3	18	4	21	8	0	7	6	4	71

Non-School Qualification						
Field of Study	1996		2001		2006	
	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female
Society & Culture	72	121	108	182	159	278
Creative Arts	24	54	50	57	55	76
Industry of Employment						
Industry	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female
Arts & recreation Services	116	98	156	96	156	106

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Australian Bureau of Statistics – Cultural Funding by Government, Australia, 2005-05 (Reissue)

Cultural Funding

Total government funding for cultural activities was $5 billion in 2004-05 ($5,014.9m). The Australian Government contributed $1,760.9m (35.1%) to total cultural funding while the state and territory governments contributed $2,356.3m (47.0%) and local governments provided $897.7m (17.9%).

Broadcasting and film was the largest recipient of funds in 2004-05 with funding of over $1 billion ($1,167.1m or 23.3% of total cultural funding) from the Australian Government and state and territory governments combined. This was an 8.5% increase on the $1,075.7m allocated in 2003-04. The other major recipients of federal and state and territory government funding in 2004-05 were Nature Parks and Reserves ($1,008.9m or 20.1% of total cultural funding); Libraries and archives ($515.4m) and other museums ($483.8m).

Changes over time

Between 2003-04 and 2004-05, the Australian Government contribution to cultural funding increased by 3.6% ($61.5m) while the state and territory government contribution fell by 0.3% ($6.4m). During the previous period from 2002-03 to 2003-04 cultural funding by the Australian Government increased by $28.9m (1.7%) while the contribution by the state and territory governments had risen by $69.7m (3.0%) during this period.

The increase in funding by the Australian Government was primarily for Broadcasting and film, which received $1,096.5m in 2004-05 compared to $1,012.8m in 2003-04, an increase of $83.7m or 8.3%. Conversely, funding allocated to Other museums fell by $20.3m (10.0%) to $182.1m in 2004-05 from $202.4m in 2003-04.

The state and territory government's funding for Libraries and archives received the largest increase, rising (14.4% ($29.8m) to $395.3m in 2004-05. Funding for Art museums also rose to reach $270.7m (9.3% or $14.4m) while Performing arts venues at $162.9m had a similar increase of 9.3% ($14.3m). Funding for Zoological parks, aquaria and botanic gardens rose $8.0m (6.2%) to $136.9m, as did funding for Broadcasting and film which was sup $7.7m (12.3%) to $70.6m. Offsetting these increases was a fall in funding for Nature parks and reserves (down $73.4m or 7.3%) and Other museums (down $12.6m or 4.0%) compared to 2003-04.

Funding per person

Government cultural funding per person increased for the Australian Government but fell for the state and territory governments in 2004-05. Federally, the Australian Government contribution to cultural funding increased by $2.08 per person from $85.06 in 2003-04 to $87.14 in 2004.05. Over the same period, the state and territory governments, contribution decreased by $1.64 per person (from $118.25 in 2003-04 to $116.61 in 2004-05). For local governments, cultural funding decreased by $2,88 per person from $47.30 in 2003-04 to $44.42 in 2004-05.

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Recurrent and Capital Expenditure

Recurrent expenditure refers mainly to expenditure on wages and salaries, purchases of goods and services, and current grants and subsidies. In 2004-05, recurrent expenditure was $4,533.6m (98.6%) of its cultural funding towards recurrent activity, whereas state and territory governments provided $2,050.1m (87.0%) and local governments contributed $747.2m (83.2%).

Capital expenditure is primarily on the creation of fixed assets and on the acquisition of land, buildings and intangible assets. In any one year, the amount of funding for cultural activities can be affected by high levels of one-off capital expenditure. In 2004-05, capital expenditure by the Australian government was $24.6m, state and territory governments accounted for $306.2m while local governments spent $150.4m.

Funding by Level of Government

Australian Government

In 2004-05, the Australian Government allocated the majority of its cultural funding to support Arts activities ($1,329.4m or 75.5%), while Heritage activities received $431.5m (24.5%). The majority of federal Arts funding (82.5%) was attributed to Broadcasting and film ($1096.5m). The main recipient was Radio and television services which received $967.3m (72.8%) of Arts funding. The largest recipient of Heritage funding was the Other museums category which was allocated $182.1m (42.2%) in 2004-05.

State and Territory Government

The state and territory governments traditionally direct the majority of their funds towards Heritage activities. In 2004-05, the state and territory governments allocated $1,940.2m, or 82.3% of cultural funding for Heritage activities, while Arts activities received $416.1m, or 17.7% of cultural funding. Across all categories, the largest recipient of funding was the Nature parks and reserves category which received $935.6m (39.7%). Other major recipients were Libraries and archives ($395.3m), Other museums ($301.7m), Art museums (4170.7m) and Performing arts venues ($162.9m).

Funding for National parts and reserves was a major component of per person expenditure for all regions in 2004-05, but especially so in the Northern Territory, where expenditure was $303.02 per person. Tasmania ($60.96) and Western Australia ($59.79) were also well above the national average of $46.30 per person.

Another major component of state and territory government expenditure was for Libraries, where the national average the national average was $16.52 per person (333.9m in total). The Northern Territory Government ($56.60) and Australian Capital Territory Government ($64.73) spent the most per person, but this is partly because libraries are generally funded by local governments in the other states. Tasmania expenditure was also well above the national average at $45.91 per person.

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Local Government

In 2004-05, local government funding for cultural activities was $897.7m, which was 17.9% of total cultural funding provided by all levels of government. This is a drop of 47.4m or 5.0% on 2003-04 when local government funding for cultural activities was $945.1m (19.0%). Over a third of local government funding was provided by NSW local governments, where funding was $311.9m (34.7%).

On a per person basis, the average value of local government funding fell from $47.27 per person in 2003-04 to $44.42 per person in 2004-05. Local government in WA contributed the largest amount of cultural funding per person ($67.94) which was $23.52 above the national average.

(Australian Bureau of Statistics 2007)

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Events listing for Lithgow Local Government Area 2007

Regular events held monthly or on an annual basis; it does not include one-off events are listed below. The list reflects the diversity of the regular activities held in the Lithgow area. Although predominately developed from event listings compiled by the Lithgow Visitor Information Centre, the list also includes community and cultural development activities coordinated by Lithgow City Council on annual basis.

- Thomas & Friends and Wizards Express Steam Trips at the Zig Zag Railway.
- Monthly Markets
  - Bowenfels Station Markets
  - Portland Market Day
  - Markets @ Clarence (Zig Zag Railway)
  - State Mine Heritage Park Markets
- Movie showings
  - Lithgow Community Cinema
  - Crystal Theatre, Portland
- Musical/Theatre performances
  - Lithgow Musical Society – Union Theatre
  - Lithgow High School
  - Lithgow Theatre Group – Lithgow Golf Club
- Lithgow Folk Club monthly performances & Sing-a-longs – Courthouse Hotel
- Regular Exhibitions at Lithgow Craft Cooperative
- Lake Wallace Sailing Regatta, Wallerawang
- Cullen Bullen Speedway
- Motocross/Motorcycle monthly meet at Clarence
- Go Kart Racing, Marrangaroo
- Central West Bushwalking Club – bushwalks in local national parks & forests.

<u>January</u>

- Australia Day Celebrations in Lithgow, Portland, Rydal, Hartley and Capertee.

<u>February</u>

- Rydal Agricultural Show
- Uniting Church Garden Fair

<u>March</u>

- Portland Art Exhibition
- Lithgow Agricultural Show
- Harmony Day
- Youth Week

<u>April</u>

- Ironfest
- Seniors Week

<u>May</u>

- Mum's Day @ the Comet Inn

<u>June</u>

- Yulefest @ the Comet Inn

<u>July</u>

- Yulefest @ the Comet Inn
- Christmas in July, Zig Zag Railway

<u>August</u>

- Yulefest @ the Comet Inn
- Waste 2 Art Exhibition, Eskbank House & Museum

<u>September</u>

- Waste 2 Art Exhibition, Eskbank House & Museum
- Dad's @ the Comet Inn
- Daffodils @ Rydal

<u>October</u>

- The Big Backyard, Hartley

<u>November</u>

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- Waste 2 Art – Local Exhibition Eskbank House & Museum
- Celebrate Lithgow

December

- Sunny Corner Sunday Arts Exhibition