



LOCAL MATTERS

LISMORE CITY
COUNCIL NEWS
ISSUE 282,
26 MAY 2025



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COMMUNITY VOICES SHAPE COUNCIL'S NEW STRATEGIC PLAN

In late 2024, almost 1700 residents across the Lismore LGA shared their views in a Community Scorecard — offering Council a frank assessment of current performance and a clear set of community priorities.

Now, after months of collaboration and planning, Council has placed its updated Community Strategic Plan, Delivery Program and Operational Plan on public exhibition. These integrated documents form a shared roadmap for the next four years, with a strong focus on better roads, housing, services and resilience.

Lismore Mayor Steve Krieg said the results left no room for misinterpretation.

“Residents were clear — they expect safer roads, better services for young people, action on housing, improved waste and flood management, and more visibility around how decisions are made,” he said.

“We accept that, and we’ve used the past few months to reset our direction.”

Community workshops in April confirmed broad support for the draft strategy and pushed Council to go further in key areas. The final version responds to this feedback with measurable actions and timelines.



Key priorities include:

- Major investment in long-term road upgrades through the four-year Capital Delivery Program
- A new quality management system to improve road maintenance and reduce deterioration
- Flood mitigation projects including Brown Creek, stormwater pump stations and floodgates
- Advocacy for bridge and intersection upgrades through Transport for NSW
- Expanded youth services including new programs and park upgrades at Spinaze and Nesbitt
- Improved housing strategies, land-use planning and precinct planning across Lismore
- Upgrades to water and wastewater facilities and expansion of rural water tank programs
- Enhanced waste recovery options, including investigation into biogas energy partnerships
- Support for local pride and economic recovery through service team-led village improvements

The plan also includes strong accountability measures, with transparent reporting and regular reviews to ensure progress remains aligned with community expectations.

Now, it's time for the final step: your input. These plans are currently on public exhibition until Thursday, 12 June 2025, and we're inviting the community to review them and have a say. Do the priorities reflect what you told us? Are we on the right path?



Scan the QR Code or make a submission at
**[www.yoursay.lismore.nsw.gov.au/
reimagine-lismore-community-strategic-plan-2025-2035](http://www.yoursay.lismore.nsw.gov.au/reimagine-lismore-community-strategic-plan-2025-2035)**

NEW ZONING CHANGES UNLOCK GROWTH FOR RURAL AND CREATIVE INDUSTRIES



New changes to Lismore’s planning rules will make it easier for landowners to start small businesses, eco-tourism ventures and creative enterprises, unlocking sustainable growth opportunities across rural and urban areas.

Council has endorsed amendments to the Lismore Local Environmental Plan 2012 (LEP) that allow artisan food and drink industries and creative industries to operate with consent in the RU1 Primary Production zone. This zoning covers much of Lismore’s rural hinterland, including farming and nature-based tourism areas.

The changes also allow creative industries to operate with consent in the E1 Local Centre and E2 Commercial Centre zones, which cover the Lismore CBD and parts of Goonellabah.

Mayor Steve Krieg said the changes strike the right balance between flexibility and planning integrity.

“This is the kind of forward-thinking, practical change that supports new jobs and encourages innovation while keeping our planning controls sensible and clear,” he said.

“If you’re a landowner in one of these zones, now’s a great time to explore new opportunities.”

The amendments support a wide range of low-impact activities —

from pottery studios and artisan food production to eco-tourism and creative workspaces — helping more people activate their land in productive ways.

One of the most significant updates involves rural tourism. Previously, small-scale nature-based tourism ventures could only operate if the landowner lived onsite. That restriction has now been lifted, allowing businesses to employ staff and host up to 100 patrons at any one time, with consent.

Strategic Planning Coordinator Jamie van Iersel said the changes will unlock real potential along areas like the Rail Trail and across Lismore’s rural zones.

“These updates support small-scale, job-creating ventures that are compatible with existing land uses,” she said.

“It’s a practical shift that aligns with state planning policy and responds to community demand for more flexibility, especially in areas where agri-tourism is growing.”

The LEP amendment package also corrects a technical error in the E1 Local Centre zone objectives and clarifies the language used in certain tourism-related planning clauses to simplify future assessments.

Now that Council has endorsed the changes, staff will work with the NSW Department of Planning, Housing and Infrastructure to finalise the legal process in the coming weeks.

COUNCIL DECIDES

At the Ordinary May Council Meeting, Councillors resolved to:

Mayoral Minute

- Convene a committee of interested Councillors to lead the recruitment process for a new General Manager, with authority to shortlist and interview candidates. The preferred candidate will be reported back to Council for resolution.

Reports of the General Manager

Place the following draft documents on public exhibition for 28 days, with any submissions to be reported to Council for consideration prior to adoption:

- Draft Reimagine Lismore Community Strategic Plan 2025-2035
- Delivery Program 2025-2029 and Operational Plan 2025-2026 (including detailed budget and Revenue Policy)
- Community Engagement Strategy 2025 and Community Participation Plan
- Draft Fees and Charges 2025-2026
- Draft Long Term Financial Plan

Note: All references to “affordable housing” to be replaced with “diverse housing” where practical

- Support a Planning Proposal to permit certain light industries in RU1, E1 and E2 zones, and instruct the General Manager to proceed with changes to the Local Environmental Plan under existing Gateway Determination delegations.
- Forward a Planning Proposal to allow additional permitted uses in South Lismore (in support of the rail trail project) to the Department of Planning, Housing and Infrastructure seeking Gateway Determination, and:
 - If objections are received during public exhibition, return the matter to Council
 - If no objections are received, finalise the proposal under delegated authority
- Adopt revised Development Control Plan housekeeping amendments.
 - Note the progress review of the Lismore Urban Stormwater Management Plan (2025 Status Review and Update), and:
 - Adopt the revised implementation program
 - Delegate authority to the General Manager to vary project priorities and integrate new priority projects in line with funding opportunities or urgent safety needs

- Adopt the March 2025 Quarterly Budget Review Statement, approve the recommended variations, and note updated employee benefits and costs linked to water, sewer and flood expenses.

Note: Management to remain within the approved FY2024–2025 total expenses budget of \$151 million

- Commit \$50,000 (excluding GST) from the 2025/2026 Lismore Special Business Rate to Business Lismore for delivery of business advocacy and support across Lismore CBD, South Lismore, North Lismore and Goonellabah.
 - Enter into a Service Level Agreement with Business Lismore for the same
- Appoint the following community members to advisory groups:
 - **Aboriginal:** Bradley Walker, Cindy Roberts, Tim Roberts
 - **Sister City:** Micheal Lynch, Cindy Roberts, Taz McLaren, Bradley Walker, Matthew Healy, Elizabeth Olivieri, Daniel Gubby, Brandon Yee
 - **Disability Inclusion:** Micheal Lynch, Brad Lancaster, Alicia Knight, Diana Grobler, Bridget Barker, Jenny London, John Zambelli, Elissa Caldwell
 - **Koala:** Lucy Kinsley, Elissa Caldwell, Shae Salmon, Mark Bailey
 - **Lismore Villages:** Gwen Trimble, Mark Pike (Nimbin), Adrienne Morgan (Modanville/Dunoon), Lucy Kinsley (Rural South), Denise Whitney (Rural North West)
 - Promote Expressions of Interest for remaining vacancies, to be reported to Council for further decision
- Receive and note the April 2025 Investments Report.
- Write to the NSW Reconstruction Authority seeking a partnership to resell salvaged materials from demolished buyback properties to the community.
- Convert six (6) 10-hour parking bays in Bounty Street, Lismore to 2-hour zones.
- Note findings of the Northern Rivers Living Lab timber reuse research, and:
 - Acknowledge recommendations to support a circular timber economy
 - Support development of deconstruction guidelines, a recovery facility, and a value assessment framework for reuse versus demolition

Confidential Session

- Authorise the General Manager to enter negotiations for the lease of land at 97 Caniaba Street, South Lismore, with final terms to be reported back to Council before execution.

Note: All other items from the May business paper were deferred to the June Ordinary Meeting.

LISMORE TO HOST NSW OPEN GOLF QUALIFIER IN 2025 AND 2026

Lismore has secured a major sporting win, locking in hosting rights for the NSW Open Golf Championship Qualifier in both 2025 and 2026.

The 36-hole tournament, to be held at Lismore Workers Golf Club from 27–29 July 2025, will bring professional and amateur talent from across the state and expected to inject more than \$350,000 into the local economy across the three-day event.

The tournament will feature an 18-hole pro-am followed by two days of competitive play, showcasing one of regional NSW's best courses to a state-wide sporting audience.

Lismore Mayor Steve Krieg said the event is a milestone in Council's plan to grow the city's reputation as a regional events hub.

"This isn't just about golf — it's about positioning Lismore for future success," he said. "Events like this support local businesses, attract visitors and show that Lismore is open, capable and ready for high-quality, large-scale events."

The economic impact will be felt across the city, with accommodation providers, cafés, restaurants and retailers all expected to benefit. Hosting the qualifier also helps promote Lismore as a destination for sport and tourism while building pride and confidence across the community.

Council is supporting the event in partnership with Destination NSW and Golf NSW, recognising the long-term value of attracting events that bring both economic returns and regional exposure.

Mayor Krieg said the event is just one example of how Council is working to deliver on its commitment to economic renewal through tourism, sport and regional promotion.

"This sends a message — Lismore is more than just a city in recovery. We're a city with momentum."

Lismore Workers Golf Club, with its strong track record of hosting regional events and high-quality course facilities, will deliver the event.

Further tournament details will be released in the lead-up to July, with planning already underway to ensure Lismore puts on a first-class show.



DEVELOPMENT CONSENTS ISSUE

ENVIRONMENTAL PLANNING AND ASSESSMENT

In accordance with the provisions of Section 4.59 of the Act and Clause 124 of the EP&A Regulation, notification is given that the undermentioned developments have recently been granted consent.

APPLICATION DETAILS

DA22/326-2 21, 37, 39, 41 North Street, 1, 3, 5, 7, 9 Numulgi Street, 48, 48A, 48C Osborne Road, 16, 17, 17A, 18, 20, 21, 22, 23, 23A, 24 Withers Street Bexhill:

Section 4.55(2) Application to Modify Consent 5.2022.326.1 (38 Lot Subdivision) comprising:

1. minor re-alignment of the southern end of Road 2 and the relocation of the emergency access road (for bushfire) so that it is contained in a road reserve;
2. minor adjustment to some of the village residential lot boundaries and areas;
3. changes to some of the typical/indicative locations of the building envelopes and LAA reserves;
4. minor changes to the levels and alignment of Road 2 to provide an improved relationship between the building envelopes and future access to Road 2; and
5. reconfiguration and siting of the constructed wetlands (for the control and management of stormwater) so that they are situated wholly on the public open space lot (being Approved/Proposed Lot 39).

DA23/291-2 324 Gordon Road, Koonorigan: Section 4.55(1A) modification to development consent 5.2023.291.1 by altering condition 20 to allow an extra 6 months to obtain an occupation certificate.

DA24/279 1 Magellan Street, Lismore: Part demolition, alterations and additions to the Laurie Allen Centre being in a heritage conservation area.

DA24/337 180 Wilson Street, South Lismore: Proposed alterations and additions to an existing vehicle repair station by way of an extension of the mezzanine level for additional flood free storage and the extension of the awning over the car parking area to provide weather protection.

DA25/20 2 Tregeagle Road, Wyrallah: Change of use of part of a shed to a detached dual occupancy.

DA25/29 75 Conway Street, Lismore: Change of use to a hair salon with associated alterations and additions.

DA25/30 91 Magellan Street, Lismore: To change the use of part of an existing retail premise to a restaurant or café.

DA25/58 26 & 26A Spurfield Road, McLeans Ridges: Construction of a new dwelling to create a detached dual occupancy with associated garage and swimming pool.

DA26/60 86 Casino Street, South Lismore: Construction of a covered first floor deck extension to an existing dwelling.

DA25/62 131 Laurel Avenue, Lismore: Raise existing dwelling.

DA25/63 16 Sapphire Court, Lismore Heights: Carport with building line variation to 0.35m to Sapphire Court.

DA25/65 43 Funnell Drive, Modanville: Re-sited dwelling to create a detached dual occupancy with associated additions and alterations.

DA25/70 144 Fredericks Road, Caniaba: Staged development:

1. Addition of two bedrooms and an ensuite to an existing dwelling. Includes upgrade of existing Onsite sewage management system, and
2. Addition of a swimming pool and gazebo with toilet.

DA25/71 7 Georgi Place, Nimbin: Construction of a dwelling, shed and carport.

DA25/72 1 Birdwing Place, Modanville: Dwelling.

DA25/73 12/78 Cecil Street, Nimbin: Dwelling, carport and shed.

DA25/76 27 Cullen Street, Nimbin: Swimming pool.

DA25/78 32 George Drive, Chilcotts Grass: Single storey dwelling with attached double garage, retaining walls and associated earthworks.

Details of applications and consents, together with conditions attached, may be inspected at Council's Corporate Centre during business hours or via DA Tracking at www.lismore.nsw.gov.au.



COUNCIL DELIVERS \$10 MILLION IN UPGRADES TO SECURE LISMORE'S WATER FUTURE

Lismore City Council has now delivered more than \$10 million in water infrastructure upgrades since 2020, as part of a long-term program to ensure a safe and reliable water supply for the community.

Through the Capital Works Water Pipeline Renewal Program, Council has renewed over 20.4 kilometres of mains, 5.8 kilometres of service lines and installed 680 new water and fire service meters across the Lismore LGA.

Mayor Steve Krieg said it's an example of essential work that residents might not always see but rely on every day.

"This is a great example of rates at work," Cr Krieg said.

"These upgrades are about protecting our water supply and making sure the network is fit for the future. And it's just the beginning."

Council's current draft budget for 2025/26—now on public exhibition—includes more than \$240 million in capital works across the region. While the exact figure may change from year to year, this level of investment is expected to continue annually, as part of Council's long-term commitment to renewing infrastructure and delivering core services.

Delivered largely by Council's own Water and Wastewater team, with support from local contractors, the works use modern materials and techniques to extend service life and minimise disruption.

Manager of Water and Wastewater, Tom Lloyd, said the program targets known weak points in the network with durable, long-life materials.

"We're now standardising on high-performance polyethylene and PVC mains that meet current design codes and offer an 80 to 100-year lifespan," Mr Lloyd said.



One of the largest projects was the \$3.4 million renewal of 1.7 kilometres of old cast iron mains in the Lismore CBD, now replaced with a fully welded polyethylene system.

"That project required detailed planning and trenchless drilling to reduce impact on traffic and local businesses," Mr Lloyd said.

Wherever possible, Council is using trenchless technology to install pipelines with less disruption to roads, residents and the environment.

All new installations are pressure tested and assessed against Australian Drinking Water Guidelines to ensure long-term quality and safety.

This \$10 million milestone marks just one step in a comprehensive strategy to modernise Lismore's infrastructure and future-proof important services.

To view Council's Draft 2025/26 Budget, or make a submission, visit yoursay.lismore.nsw.gov.au.

WHAT'S ON AT YOUR LOCAL LIBRARY

Elders and carers get support at home workshop

29 and 30 May, 10:30am and 1pm

Goonellabah Library is holding free workshops with Kath Dower to help Elders and their carers learn how to get support at home through My Aged Care. This can include things like cleaning, meals, and nurse visits to help you stay safe and well at home. Kath has used these services to help her own family and wants to teach others how to use them too. Workshops are 1.5 hours held on Thursday, 29 May at 10:30am and 1pm, and Friday, 30 May at 10:30am and 1pm. Free snacks and help with transport available. Call Goonellabah Library 6625 1235

Social Circle - Author Talk

Friday, 6 June at 10am

Lismore Library's Social Circle is delighted to host the launch of local author Linzi Murrie's book, 'An Artful Conspiracy', the second novel in the trilogy that began with 'Writing Between the Lines'. The book explores the volatile relationship of crime writer, Mack Hannah and his character, private detective Dexter Cathcart, as they're propelled through a web of forgery, abstract art and murder. Lismore Library Social Circle is a free social group for people aged 55 and over that meets every Friday from 10am-12pm in the Lismore Library Function Room. Activities vary and can include creative workshops, local excursions, craft and games. Tea, coffee and biscuits are provided. No bookings required.



Meeting rooms open for bookings

In addition to the open study spaces and reading areas available to the public, Lismore Library also now has two bookable study pods and a Function Room that can be hired by members of the community. Study pods are free for patrons to use for private or group study (2hr limit applies). The Function Room is \$28/hr for Government and business groups, and \$14/hr for not-for-profit groups. Community groups can talk to the Branch Technician to see if your group qualifies for subsidised use. Book through the library website.

Free workshop- Speak up thru slam

Sunday, 15 June at 1.30am

Got something to say? If you're aged 12-18, we want to hear from you! Join a free workshop for young people with prize-winning poets Sarah Temporal and Andrew Cox. Explore writing and spoken word, make friends and have fun.

Registration essential. Go to www.poetsoutloud.org/youth



CONTACT US:
6625 0500

Corporate Centre: 43 Oliver Avenue, Goonellabah

Hours: Monday to Friday, 8.30am to 4.30pm

Post: PO Box 23A, Lismore, NSW 2480

Email: council@lismore.nsw.gov.au

Web: www.lismore.nsw.gov.au



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