

COMMUNITY SURVEY 2014

The information received will be used as the basis for developing the Council's forward strategic plan for the next 10 years.

Bingara | Warialda | Coolatai | Upper Horton | Gravesend | North Star | Croppa Creek | Cobbadah | Crooble | Warialda Rail



GWYDIR
SHIRE COUNCIL

Q 1.*How would you best describe where your house is located? If you want to describe your location in more detail please type the information in the box provided.

- Rural Property
 Rural Residential
 Town Area
 Village Area
 Other

Q 2. Which description best describes your occupancy status?

- Resident/ratepayer
 Ratepayer/Non resident
 Resident/renter

Q 3. Where within the Shire (locality) is your household located? Locality Name:

- Back Creek (2390)
 Balfours Peak (2402)
 Bangheet (2404)
 Barraba (2437)
 Bingara (2404)
 Biniguy (2399)
 Blue Nobby (2408)
 Boonal (2409)
 Bundarra (2359)
 Cobbadah (2347)
 Coolatai (2402)
 Copeton (2360)
 Crooble (2400)
 Croppa Creek (2411)
 Delungra (2403)
 Dinoga (2404)
 Elcombe (2404)
 Gineroi (2404)
 Graman (2360)
 Gravesend (2401)
 Gulf Creek (2347)
 Gundamulda (2347)
 Keera (2404)
 Myall Creek (2403)
 North Star (2408)
 Pallal (2404)
 Pallamallawa (2399)
 Riverview (2404)
 Rocky Creek (2390)
 Tullooona (2400)
 Upper Bingara (2404)
 Upper Horton (2347)
 Warialda (2402)
 Warialda Rail (2402)
 Yallaroi (2408)

Q 4. Please indicate the age, gender and ethnicity of the permanent adult occupants, including you, within the household.

	Age • 18 - 35 • 36 - 50 • 51 - 65 • 65+	Gender Male / Female	Was he/ she born in Australia? Yes/No	Is English his/her first language? (CALD) Yes/No	Does he/she identify as Aboriginal or Torres Straight Islander Descent? Yes/No	Does he/she have a disability? Yes/No	Current employment status • Full time • Part time • Self employed • Home duties/ Carer • Studying • Unemployed
Adult 1							
Adult 2							
Adult 3							
Adult 4							
Adult 5							
Adult 6							
Adult 7							

Q 5. Please indicate the age, gender and other information regarding each child living at the residence. This includes children who attend a boarding school away from home.

	Age: 0 - 4 5 - 12 13 - 18	Gender Male / Female	Does he/she identify as of Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander descent? Yes/No	Does he/she have a disability? Yes/No	Does this child attend a Board- ing School? Yes/No	Does this child attend a school outside the Shire? Yes/No
Child 1						
Child 2						
Child 3						
Child 4						
Child 5						
Child 6						
Child 7						

Q6. How do you mostly find out about local news? Please indicate all the sources that you use.

- Warialda Standard
 Bingara Advocate
 Goondiwindi Argus
 Barraba Gazette
 Moree Champion
 Inverell Times
 Local Radio Commercial AM
 Local Radio ABC AM
 Local Radio ABC FM
 Local TV
 Facebook or other social media
 Local Radio Commercial FM
 Council's Websites
 Word of Mouth
 Emailed Newsletters
 North-West Magazine

Q15. Which of the following recreational facilities does your household use within the Shire?

	Never 1	2	Monthly 3	4	Daily 5
Nicholson Oval Warialda	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Gwydir Oval Bingara	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Cunningham Park Bingara	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
All Nations Hill Bingara	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Captain Cook Park Warialda	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Myall Creek Memorial Reserve	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Glacial Area along the Bingara-Narrabri Road	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Cranky Rock Reserve Warialda	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Gwydir River Reserve Bingara	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Camping along the Gwydir River	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Reedy Creek foreshore walk	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Warialda Recreation Ground	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Warialda Netball Courts Warialda	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Indoor Stadium Warialda	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Warialda Toy Library	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Bingara Toy Library	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Warialda Library	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Bingara Library	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Gwydir's Preschools	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Q 16. Please indicate, in your opinion, how you believe the Council performs overall in the performance of its operations

Satisfactory No Comment Unsatisfactory

 1 2 3

Q 17. Please indicate your opinion on how the Council performs in the following areas of its operations.

	No opinion	Poor	Adequate
Information availability - are you kept informed?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Donations and in-kind support to community groups	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
The maintenance of public infrastructure generally	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
The maintenance of unsealed roads	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
The maintenance of sealed roads The maintenance of urban roads	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Emergency services - State Emergency Services	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Emergency Services - Rural Fire Services Stormwater drainage	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Aged services - Naroo and Community Care	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Social and Community Planning	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Family based services	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Child and Youth services	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Community housing	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Council run Preschools (Bingara and Tharawonga)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Bingara Caravan Park	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Warialda Caravan Park	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Bingara Cemetery	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

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Warialda Cemetery	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Animal Control	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Noxious weed control	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Landfill management	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Domestic waste collection	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Recycling	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Recreational areas	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Town sewerage services	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Warialda water supply	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Bingara water supply	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Gravesend water supply	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
North Star water supply	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Bingara swimming pool complex	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Warialda swimming pool complex	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Cultural facilities	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Tourism and events promotion	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Economic development support	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Libraries	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Q 18. Since the amalgamation in 2004 to create Gwydir Shire Council, how do you rate the overall performance of the Council with regard to rural roads, when compared to the prior level of service pre-amalgamation?

- Not as good About the same Much better
- 1 2 3 4 5

Q 19. Do you support the move to develop an inland rail route with a loading option at North Star?

- Yes No

Q 20. *Are you aware of the Council's Self Help Program for the improvement to and maintenance of rural roads? You may select two responses in this question.

- Yes No I would like more information

Q 21. You have indicated that you may be interested in finding out more about the Council's self help program for the maintenance of rural roads. Please provide either your contact telephone number or email address.

Q 22. Are you aware of the availability of these Children's and Youth services?

	Yes	No	Do not have any need
Toy Library Warialda/Bingara	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Bingara Preschool	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Tharawonga Mobile Resource Unit	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Play Groups	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Vacation Care	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Library Book Clubs	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Gwydir Learning Region	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Warialda Gymnasium	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Sporting Fields	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Fitness Classes	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Youth Workshops	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Willoughby Student Exchange	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Q 23. You have indicated that you or a member of your household provide support and attention to either an elderly or disabled person. We would like to know more about your circumstances so that the Council can plan to provide a better service.

Please indicate the relationship between the carer and the person receiving the attention. You may indicate more than one if this is appropriate.

- Your spouse or partner Your daughter or son Your sister or brother Your mother or father
 Other

Q 24. If you indicated 'other' above please type in the relationship that exists.

Q 25. Please indicate the age of the person being care for. Under 18 years 18 - 64 years 65+ years

Q 26. Please indicate the level of care that is provided.

- Full-time care Part-time care Occasional care other

Q 27. If you indicated 'other' above please describe the level of care provided.

Q 28. Carer Respite Centres have been established to provide information on the options available for assistance to carers when they need to take a break.

Have you had any contact with these Centres? Yes No

Q 29. How appropriate to your needs was the service provided by the Carer Respite Centre?

- Quite good Satisfactory Not very good
 1 2 3 4 5 N/A

Q30. Do you have any suggestions on how the service provided by the Carer Respite Centre could be improved?

Q31. Do you undertake any voluntary community based work at the moment?

- Yes No No but I could be interested

Q 32. You have indicated that you currently undertake volunteering work. Please indicate the areas where this occurs.

- Sporting clubs Aged services Hospital Council services (eg Visitor information)
 Other

Q 33. You indicated that you may be interested in becoming a volunteer. Please provide the most appropriate contact details (telephone or email) for you to be contacted about any opportunities for volunteering that could be referred to you for your consideration.

Q34. What additional services may you or a member of your household require in the course of the next 10 years?

- Employment opportunities School attendance
 Improved children's services Aged care services
 Home care (eg meals on wheels, etc) Organised programs to encourage social interaction
 Organised cultural activities Expanded entertainment opportunities
 None

Q 35. What is it about the Gwydir Shire area that makes you want to live here?

- The natural environment
- The size and space of the Shire
- The people
- The services provided by the Council
- The community spirit
- Other

Q 36. You indicated 'other' in response to the last question. Please give a brief response as to why you like living in Gwydir Shire.

Q 37. *From time to time the Council will be using 'focus groups' to develop better programs to meet specific target groups. Would you be happy to be invited to participate in this process?

- Yes
- No
- Possibly depending upon the subject being discussed

Q 38. You have indicated that you may be willing to participate in any future 'focus group' discussions that may be organised. Please indicate the area of your particular interest.

- Children's services
- Aged services
- Indigenous and Torres Strait Island issues
- Recreational and sporting issues
- Roads and other public infrastructure issues
- Rating and financial matters

Q 39. Please provide your contact telephone number or email address so that you can be notified about the date for any future 'focus group' meeting.

Q 40. *The Council uses Australia Post to deliver regular Community Newsletters. The last newsletter was sent out during October 2014. Did you receive your copy?

- Yes
- No

Q 41. *You have indicated that you did not receive your October 2014 Community Newsletter. To ensure that you receive future newsletters would you like the Council to email you a copy each time one is posted out?

- Yes
- No
- The Newsletters may also be downloaded from www.gwydirshire.com/Council

Q 42. Please provide your email address for delivery of the community newsletter

Q 43. What is your preferred way to be kept informed about the activities of the Council?

- By individually addressed mail
- By email
- Through social media
- By regular Newsletters delivered through Australia Post
- By text alerts directing you to website information

Q 44. In the last question you indicated that your preferred way to access information from the Council is by text messages. In order for the Council to accommodate this request please provide your mobile telephone number.

Q 45. In the last question you indicated that your preferred way to access information from the Council is by email messages. In order for the Council to accommodate this request please provide your email address.

Q. 46 Please see over page for question regarding alternate rating outcome scenarios for proposed Special Rate Variation



As highlighted earlier in this survey the NSW State Government is reviewing the operations of every Council in NSW.

Gwydir Shire Council is proudly a rural based council but with a small ratebase and an extensive area to maintain.

In order for Gwydir Shire Council to meet the various benchmarks developed by the NSW State Government to be considered a Fit for the Future Council the Council will need to reduce its expenditure and raise its rates above the allowable rate pegging limit.

This will require a rate increase beyond the allowable rate pegging increase over the next 2 or 3 rating years (2015/16, 2016/17 and 2017/18). The increases will become a permanent increase. Various scenarios are listed for your consideration in the next question and the percentages include the allowable rate pegging limit for each of the rating years. That is if the rate pegging is 3.7% than the remaining amount up to the stated increase (say for example 15%) the amount of the Special Rate Variation, for that year, would be 11.3%..

Q 46. The Councillors are considering three alternate rating outcome scenarios. The three scenarios include a special rate variation over and above the allowable rate pegging limit and will be a permanent on-going adjustment to the Council's rate base.

Please indicate which of the following scenarios that you would support in order to maintain Gwydir Shire's financial viability or, alternatively, whether you do not support any special rate variation .

- An annual rate increase of 10% per year (includes the allowable rate pegging increase) over the next three years (2015/16 to 2017/18) with an overall and permanent cumulative increase of 33.1%
- An annual rate increase of 15% per year (includes the allowable rate pegging increase) over the next two years (2015/16 and 2016/17) with an overall and permanent cumulative increase of 32.25%
- A once only permanent rate increase of 20% (includes the allowable rate pegging increase) in 2015/16
- I don't support any rate increase beyond the allowable rate pegging increase

Thank you for taking the time to complete this survey.

The information received will be collated and used as the basis for developing the Council's forward strategic plan for the next 10 years.