

ABOUT NSW LOCAL GOVERNMENT

Councils range in size, population, structure and in the services they provide. As at January 2005 there were 152 Councils located throughout New South Wales. A Council can be made up of a group of suburbs, a town and the surrounding countryside, or a rural area.

Councils work for their community by:

- PROVIDING a wide range of services and facilities and giving support to many other communities;
- PROTECTING the community by making sure the environment is safe and clean;
- PREVENTING things that would harm the community, such as disease, noise and pollution;
- PLANNING for the future of the community;
- MAINTAINING roads to ensure safe passage throughout the Shire;
- REPRESENTING the needs and desires of local communities to other governments and other organisations.

More than 40,000 people work for local councils in NSW. The General Manager heads the Council staff. The General Manager is responsible for a wide range of administrative, technical and professional staff such as finance, engineers, planners, librarians, child care workers and environmental health & building inspectors.

There are also around 1,800 councillors in NSW with elections held every four years whereby residents and other ratepayers elect their council members. Councillors meet regularly to discuss issues and make decisions on behalf of the local community. The leader of the elected council is called the Mayor, with four Councils having Lord Mayors.

ABOUT LACHLAN SHIRE

Lachlan Shire Council is one of the largest Shires in New South Wales managing an area of over 15,000 square kilometres. Our Council is responsible for the maintenance of many kilometres of sealed and unsealed roads. In fact, we have the longest road network of any Shire in NSW.

The Shire is also responsible for parks and gardens, cemeteries, garbage tips and garbage collections, dog registrations, libraries and public halls. In recent years the Shire has also become directly or indirectly involved in the provision of medical services (including aged care), child care, employment and development issues, tourism and regional development initiatives. Council also operates an RTA service at Council chambers.

The current population of the Shire is approximately 7,200 with our administration centre based at Condobolin. Other towns and villages within the Shire include Tottenham, Lake Cargelligo, Tullibigeal, Albert, Burcher and Fifield.

Lachlan Shire Council owns:-

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| 3 Depots – Condobolin, Lake Cargelligo, Tottenham | Village – 40 bed low care hostel, 42 bed high care nursing home |
| 3 Caravan parks – Condobolin, Lake Cargelligo, Tottenham | Youth Services - Condobolin, Lake Cargelligo, Tullibigeal |
| 3 Pools – Condobolin, Lake Cargelligo, Tottenham | Willow Bend Sports Stadium |
| Lachlan Aged & Community Service - social support for entire Shire. Meals on Wheels services to Condobolin, Lake Cargelligo, Euabalong, Burcher, Tullibigeal | 5 Libraries – Condobolin, Lake Cargelligo, Tottenham, Tullibigeal, Burcher |
| Children's Services – consisting of Family Day Care, After School Hours Care, Vacation Care and Mobile Child Care in Tullibigeal (on Mon), Euabalong (on Tues), Condobolin (on Wed), Lake Cargelligo (on Thurs) and Murrin Bridge (on Fri) | |

Our Council operates within the legislative framework set by the State Government and our powers and responsibilities mainly derive from the Local Government Act 1993 for New South Wales and it is Council's mission to meet the needs of the community by providing sustainable services and establishing a long term strategy that leads to the social and economic success of Lachlan Shire.