21 January 2022



## 2022/23 Budget Process

The Council budget for 2022/2023 is currently in preparation, and there are a number of opportunities for the community to be involved in the process.

"Each year Council adopts an Operational Plan – also known as the budget – that details the activities to be undertaken during that year," said Warrumbungle Shire Council Mayor, Councillor Ambrose Doolan. "Community participation is a vital part of the process of developing the budget each year and I encourage residents and community groups to take the various opportunities that are available to have input to the budget."

"At this stage of budget preparations, residents and community groups can make a submission for items or projects to be considered for inclusion in the Operational Plan. These external budget submissions are open until 18 February 2022, with each and every submission being seen and considered by Council before the Operational Plan is endorsed," said Cr Doolan.

"In addition to external budget submissions, community groups are able to apply for financial assistance, by way of an Annual Donation, during the budget preparations. Annual Donations may be used for contribution to general rates or water rates, waste collection charges, hire of halls or plant, or a monetary grant. Applications for Annual Donations are also open until 18 February 2022," Cr Doolan continued.

Forms for external budget submissions and annual donations, along with guidelines, are available on Council's website under the Have Your Say tab. Hard copy forms are also available at Council Administration Offices in Coolah and Coonabarabran.

"After external budget submissions and applications for Annual Donations have been received, the budget will be considered by Council before going out on public exhibition. At that time, the community will have further opportunity to have their say on the draft budget for 2022/2023," concluded Cr Doolan.

For further information on having input to the 2022/23 Operational Plan, contact Council's Manager Corporate Services on (02) 6849 2000.

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