

Warrumbungle Shire Council

Operational Plan 2024/25: Appendices

- Revenue Policy Fees and Charges
- Donations Policy
- Rating Maps

Adopted

Resolution

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Appendix 1: Statement of Revenue Policy

A1.1 Introduction

Under section 405 of the *Local Government Act 1993* (NSW) (hereafter 'the Act'), Council is required to include as part of its Operational Plan a statement of Council's Revenue Policy for the year covered by the Operational Plan.

The 2024/25 Budget reflects the following:

- Revenue (accrual basis) of \$53m
- Expenditure (accrual basis) of \$46m
- An operating surplus of \$6.5m with inclusion of Capital Grants and Contributions of \$9.8m
- A Capital Works Program of \$19.5m

For more information on these estimates, see Part 2 of the Operational Plan.

In arriving at the results for the 2024/25 year the following major items are noted:

- The Minister for Local Government has allowed a request for special rate variation of up to 4.5% for the 2023/24 year in the permissible ordinary rate;
- That Council accepts the full 4.5% offered by the Minister;
- Labour costs assume a 3.5% award allowance for wage increases (subject to actual award);
- With the exception of some expenses incurred for profit making agencies, Goods and Services Tax (GST) payable on supplies have not been included in the budget as Council receives an input tax credit equivalent to the GST paid and is reclaimed.

Financial Projections

General financial projections for the 2024/25 to 2027/28 years have been incorporated into the Delivery Program which includes an income statement, balance sheet and cash flow statement for the four years. Statements for 2023/24 have also been included in the Operational Plan. The information and assumptions used in all financial projections were the best available at the time of preparation.

A1.2 Ordinary Rates

Council levies Rates and Charges in accordance with the provisions of the Act, and Council must make and levy an ordinary rate for each year on all rateable land in its area (s 494 of the Act). Council's current rating structure is determined in accordance with section 497 of the Act being a rate based on land value, together with a Base Amount.

Per section 514 of the Act, all rateable land must be categorised as either farmland, residential, business or mining. Council also has the option to create sub-categories within these categories. The following is a brief explanation of these categories. For more detailed information, refer to sections 514 to 519 of the Act.

Rating categories are detailed in the table (over page).

| Category | Details |
|-------------|---|
| Residential | Land is categorised as residential if: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> the main use is for residential accommodation (but not as a hotel, motel, guesthouse, boarding house, lodging house or nursing home) it is vacant land zoned for residential purposes it is rural residential land |
| Farmland | Land is categorised as farmland if its main use is for commercial farming eg grazing, animal feedlots, dairying, pig farming, poultry farming, beekeeping, forestry, oyster or fish farming, or growing crops for profit. Rural residential land is not categorised as farmland. |
| Business | Land is categorised as business if it cannot be categorised as farmland, residential or mining. The main land uses in the business category are commercial and industrial. |
| Mining | Land is categorised as mining if it is a parcel of rateable land valued as one assessment and its dominant use is for a coal mine or metalliferous mine. |

Rate pegging

Council is limited in its ability to raise rates above a certain percentage (as specified by the Minister and determined by Independent Pricing and Regulatory Tribunal -- IPART) per section 506 of the Act. This limitation on Council's ability to determine its own level of rating revenue is commonly referred to as rate pegging.

IPART announced that the rate peg amount for the 2024/25 financial year will be set at 4.5%. The rate peg is set by IPART each year by measuring changes in the Local Government Cost Index (LGCI), which includes changes in 26 cost components to establish the average costs faced by councils.

The 4.5% rate peg for the 2024/25 financial year is significantly higher than the rate peg in recent years, which was 0.7% and 3.7% in 2022/23 and 2023/24 respectively. Council has determined to apply the full rate peg amount.

Ordinary Rates to be levied in the 2024/25 financial year

The property valuations to be used for rating commencing 1 July 2023 have been revalued by the Valuer General. In the table below the base and ad valorem amounts shown have generally been increased by the rate peg amount of 4.5%.

In accordance with section 494 of the Act the following Ordinary Rates will be levied by Council for the 2024/25 financial year:

| Description | No of Prop | Ad Valorem \$ | Base Rate \$ | Sum of Valuation \$ | Sum of Value \$ | Base Rate % |
|-----------------------------|--------------|---------------|--------------|----------------------|------------------|-------------|
| Residential | | | | | | |
| Baradine Residential | 328 | 0.01608 | 216.00 | 6,558,210 | 176,304 | 40% |
| Binnaway Residential | 247 | 0.01285 | 159.00 | 3,570,280 | 85,165 | 46% |
| Coolah Residential | 394 | 0.00966 | 271.00 | 20,087,670 | 300,901 | 35% |
| Coonabarabran Residential | 1,143 | 0.00979 | 312.00 | 52,575,470 | 871,451 | 41% |
| Dunedoo Residential | 382 | 0.00621 | 334.00 | 23,128,800 | 271,176 | 47% |
| Mendooran Residential | 173 | 0.01605 | 234.00 | 3,702,700 | 99,899 | 41% |
| Cobbora Residential | 15 | 0.00341 | 148.00 | 803,100 | 4,959 | 45% |
| Coolabah Estate Residential | 57 | 0.00244 | 171.00 | 4,938,400 | 21,816 | 45% |
| Rural Residential | 885 | 0.00653 | 277.00 | 84,013,082 | 794,086 | 31% |
| Village 1 Residential | 123 | 0.01875 | 143.00 | 1,255,080 | 41,122 | 43% |
| Village 2 Residential | 94 | 0.01118 | 117.00 | 1,279,590 | 25,304 | 43% |
| Total: Residential | 3,841 | | | 201,912,382 | 2,692,184 | |
| Farmland | | | | | | |
| Farmland | 1,724 | 0.00243 | 697.00 | 2,015,191,321 | 6,098,744 | 20% |
| Total: Farmland | 1,724 | | | 2,015,191,321 | 6,098,744 | |
| Business | | | | | | |
| Baradine Business | 31 | 0.02392 | 312.00 | 626,480 | 24,657 | 39% |
| Binnaway Business | 20 | 0.02413 | 245.00 | 317,050 | 12,550 | 39% |
| Coolah Business | 51 | 0.02139 | 443.00 | 1,735,600 | 59,724 | 38% |
| Coonabarabran Business | 152 | 0.03287 | 525.00 | 12,128,800 | 478,474 | 17% |
| Dunedoo Business | 46 | 0.01120 | 399.00 | 2,078,120 | 41,633 | 44% |
| Mendooran Business | 11 | 0.01516 | 242.00 | 323,670 | 7,569 | 35% |
| General Business | 39 | 0.02468 | 351.00 | 2,094,030 | 65,376 | 21% |
| Village 1 Business | 5 | 0.04820 | 184.00 | 62,970 | 3,955 | 23% |
| Village 2 Business | 4 | 0.05950 | 141.00 | 34,280 | 2,604 | 22% |
| Total: Business | 359 | | | 19,401,000 | 696,543 | |
| Mining | | | | | | |
| Mining | - | 0.00000 | 0.00 | 0 | 0 | 0% |
| Total: Mining | - | | | 0 | 0 | |
| Grand Total | 5,924 | | | 2,236,504,703 | 9,487,471 | |

- Village 1 includes: Bugaldie, Kenebri, Neilrex, Purlawaugh, Rocky Glen and Ulamambri.
- Village 2 includes: Leadville, Merrygoen and Uarbry.

Pensioner discount

The Act (section 575) provides for a rebate to be granted to eligible pensioners in the amount of 50% of their total rates and domestic waste charges, up to a maximum of \$250. A further discount not exceeding \$87.50 on water access and \$87.50 on sewer access charges is also available to eligible pensioners. A rebate to Council covering 55% of the pensioner discount amount is available in the form of a grant from the Office of Local Government (OLG).

Council has forecast the total discount provided to pensioners for rates, domestic waste, water and sewerage access services, as well as the OLG 55% rebate based on prior year actuals. Details are per the table below:

| Type | Pensioner Rebate Amount (\$) | OLG Grant (55%) |
|----------------|------------------------------|-------------------|
| Rates | 146,105.99 | 80,358.29 |
| Domestic Waste | 104,296.98 | 57,363.34 |
| Water Access | 68,045.53 | 37,425.04 |
| Sewer Access | 48,970.82 | 26,933.98 |
| Total: | 367,419.32 | 202,080.65 |

Interest on overdue rates and legal fees

This section to be completed following release of interest rate for 2024/25 (expected April 2024).

A1.3 Water Charges

Introduction

Council manages both water and sewer utilities which provide residents with water and sewer services. These utilities are run as separate business activities and are run per the principles of competitive neutrality which means they must be run at full cost recovery.

Council is authorised by sections 501 and 502 of the Act to make an annual charge for the connection to a water supply and for the consumption of water, measured on a volumetric basis, during the course of that financial year.

Council is authorised by section 552 of the Act to make a charge for water supply on:

- Land that is supplied with water from a water pipe of the Council; and
- Land that is situated within 225 metres of a water pipe of the Council, whether the land has a frontage or not to the public road (if any) in which the water pipe is laid, and although the land is not actually supplied with water from any water pipe of the Council.

The Water Supply, Sewerage and Trade Waste Pricing Policy Guidelines (issued by the Department of Land and Water Conservation in December 2002) require councils to levy charges for water and sewerage by means of annual charges (for access to the reticulation system) and service charges (for utilisation).

The Best-Practice Management of Water Supply and Sewerage Guidelines 2007 require NSW local water utilities to achieve ongoing full cost recovery for their water supply and sewerage services. This is also a requirement of National Competition Policy and the National Water Initiative. Full cost recovery involves raising sufficient revenue to cover

maintenance and administration costs as well as the cost of the depreciation of water supply infrastructure.

The best practice guide also requires smaller local water utilities (less than 4000 connected properties) to raise at least 50% of residential revenue from water usage charges in order to better manage water resources.

Council's suggested water charges must therefore:

- Achieve full cost recovery for Council's water business (including depreciation);
- Move towards raising more than 50% of revenue from usage charges.

Proposed charges for the 2024/25 financial year

The suggested charges for the 2024/25 financial year are detailed in the table below:

| Area | No of Assessments | Access 2023/24(\$) | Access 2024/25 (\$) | Consumption 2023/24 (\$) | Consumption 2024/25 (\$) |
|---------------|-------------------|--------------------|---------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| Access – base | 3330 | 712 | 744 | 3.80 | 3.97 |

The 2024/25 usage charge represents a 4.5% increase over the prior year charge, while the access charge has been increased by the same percentage. Council's Water business has decentralised and dated infrastructure coupled with comparatively low income and production capacity. In order to counter this and to improve Water's financial position and Capital work schedule, the water consumption charge has been increased from \$3.80 to \$3.97 per kl.

Council's forecast water access and usage revenue for the 2024/25 financial year is dependent on both the number of users (i.e. number of assessments) as well as the forecast consumption for the year.

Water consumption varies significantly from year to year. Factors that would normally affect water consumption include water pricing, weather and whether or not there is any water restriction in place.

Council's forecast for the number of assessments is from the current number of assessments in the water module of Council's Finance system. Details of the forecast water access and usage revenue can be found in the table below:

| Area | No of Assessments/ consumption | Rate 2024/25 (\$) | Total Revenue (\$) |
|---------------|--------------------------------|-------------------|--------------------|
| Access | 3,330 | 744 | 2,477,520 |
| Consumption | 521,532 | 3.97 | 2,070,482 |
| Total: | | | 4,548,002 |

A1.4 Sewerage Charges

Introduction

Council is authorised by sections 501 and 502 of the Act to make an annual charge for the connection to a sewer and a service charge for the discharge to the sewer. Best Practice Guidelines issued by the State also require that Council distinguish between residential and non-residential properties when establishing sewer charges.

Council's sewerage charges consist of a flat charge for residential properties (with a different rate for connected and not-connected properties), and a variable charge for non-residential properties. The non-residential charge consists of a consumption component based on water consumption, and an access fee based on meter size. The total of these two charges is then multiplied by a sewerage discharge factor which varies by property.

Suggested charges for the 2024/25 financial year

The 2024/25 usage charge represents a 4.5% increase over the prior year charge, while the access charge has been increased by the same percentage. The suggested charges for the 2024/25 financial year are detailed in the table below:

| Type | No of charges | 2023/24 Access \$ | 2024/25 Access \$ | Revenue 2024/25 \$ |
|---|---------------|-------------------|-------------------|--------------------|
| Residential - Connected | 2,006 | 782 | 817 | 1,638,902 |
| Residential – Non-Connected | 101 | 501 | 524 | 52,924 |
| Total Residential (Access only): | 2,107 | | | 1,691,826 |
| Non-Residential (Minimum) | 100 | 782 | 817 | 81,700 |
| Sewerage Access – 20mm | 345 | 491 | 513 | 176,985 |
| Sewerage Access – 25mm | 22 | 766 | 801.5625 | 17,634 |
| Sewerage Access – 32mm | 12 | 1255 | 1313.28 | 15,759 |
| Sewerage Access – 40mm | 31 | 1,960 | 2,052 | 63,612 |
| Sewerage Access – 50mm | 36 | 3,063 | 3,206 | 115,425 |
| Sewerage Access – 65mm | 1 | 5,104 | 5,419 | 5,419 |
| Sewerage Access – 80mm | 8 | 7,856 | 8,208 | 65,664 |
| Sewerage Access – 100mm | 9 | 12,250 | 12,825 | 115,425 |
| Not Connected (Minimum) | 60 | 501 | 524 | 31,440 |
| Total Non-Residential Access: | 624 | | | 689,063 |
| Non-residential Consumption | 81,656 | \$1.35 | \$1.41 | 115,135 |
| Total: | 2,731 | - | - | 2,496,024 |

All non-residential properties will be levied a charge based on the size of the water meter and the volume of water passing through the water meter. This charge consists of an access and a usage portion both of which are adjusted by a sewerage discharge factor based on property usage.

The access charge is based on the size of the pipe (see table above) and is calculated by adjusting the 20mm charge to the relevant diameter for the pipe size in question through the following formula (rounded down):

$$\text{Access Charge} = \text{Access Charge 20mm} \times \frac{D^2}{400}$$

D – Water supply service connection size (mm)

The Non-residential charge (both consumption and access) is modified by an assessment of the volume of water discharged to sewer, which is known as the Sewerage Discharge Factor (SDF). The charge is determined in accordance with the following formula:

$$\text{Bill} = \text{Sewerage Discharge Factor} \times (\text{Access Charge} + (\text{Consumption} \times \text{User Charge}))$$

The Sewerage Discharge Factors (SDF) is detailed in the table below:

| Type of Non-Residential Property | SDF (per kl) |
|--|--|
| All non-residential use other than specifically identified below | 95% or as determined by Council on request of the property owner |
| Motel | 85% |
| Hotel (pub) | 100% |
| Caravan Park | 50% |
| Schools | 50% |
| Nursery | 20% |
| Bowling Club | 50% |
| Home-Based Business | 70% |

A1.5 Waste Charges

The charges levied by Council for domestic waste services are made under the provisions of section 504 of the Act. The Act specifies that the Council cannot apply the income from ordinary rates towards the cost of providing domestic waste management services. The charges for domestic waste removal have been calculated so as to provide sufficient income to cover the reasonable cost expectations of providing the service.

Council levies a charge annually for a kerbside garbage service and kerbside recycling service. This charge is separately itemised on the rate notice and is levied on all properties within the defined scavenging area. Commercial properties are levied a separate annual charge for kerbside garbage collection and kerbside recycling services based on the number of services provided. The authority for commercial garbage removal charges are contained in section 501 of the Act.

A single weekly service is provided for kerbside garbage collection using 240 litre mobile containers which are available for purchase from Council. Additional weekly services are available on the basis of an additional annual charge.

The suggested charges for the 2024/25 financial year are summarised in the following table:

| Description of Waste Service | No. | 2023/24 Service Charge (\$) | 2024/25 Service Charge (\$) | Total (\$) |
|--|-------|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|------------|
| Base Charge | | | | |
| Waste management charge on all rateable properties | 6,079 | 124 | 130 | 790,270 |
| Additional Usage Charge – Domestic | | | | |
| Domestic waste charge used (incl. rural run) | 3,050 | 407 | 425 | 1,296,250 |
| Domestic waste charge unused (incl. rural run) | - | - | - | - |
| Additional Usage Charge – Non-Domestic | | | | |

| | | | | |
|----------------------------|--------------|-----|-----|------------------|
| Non-domestic waste service | 759 | 407 | 425 | 322,575 |
| Recycling charge 240L | 12 | 118 | 123 | 1,476 |
| Recycling charge 360L | 23 | 150 | 157 | 3,611 |
| Total | 9,923 | | | 2,414,182 |

Notes:

- As part of the \$130.00 waste management charge all residents will be granted one free 240 litre MGB disposal and sorted recycling per visit to the waste facilities.
- Non-domestic waste charges are to have GST added to the charges.

A1.6 Liquid Trade Waste Charges

Council's Liquid Trade Waste Policy was adopted in accordance with State legislation and the Department of Climate Change, Energy, Environment and Water, Liquid Trade Waste Management Guidelines, 2021. Under the Policy customers identified as discharging liquid trade waste must gain formal approval to discharge to Council's sewer, and will also be charged for the discharge of liquid trade waste.

A list of the fees and charges adopted by Council is included in the attachment 'Fees and Charges'.

Liquid trade waste charges are levied through two separate components for Liquid Trade Waste dischargers. The first component is a annual trade waste charge which is calculated depending on the discharger category, this is a flat rate fee for the financial year. The second component is a trade waste usage charge which is determined by the volume of liquid trade waste that is discharged into Council's sewerage system. This is determined by applying a discharge factor to the total volume of water consumed by all water meters connected to the property. The total charge is determined in accordance with the following formula:

Bill = Annual Trade Waste Charge + (Liquid Trade Waste Discharge Factor x Water Consumption x Trade Waste Usage Charge)

The Liquid trade Waste Discharge Factors are detailed in the table below:

| Type of Non-Residential Property | SDF (per kl) |
|--|--|
| All non-residential use other than specifically identified below | 50% or as determined by Council on request of the property owner |
| Motel | 20% |
| Hotel (pub) | 25% |
| Caravan Park | 25% |
| Schools | 25% |
| Nursery | 10% |
| Bowling Club | 50% |
| Home-Based Business | 40% |

A1.7 Stormwater Levy

Council has implemented a stormwater levy to fund stormwater projects that Council is currently unable to fund from General Fund due to funding limitations. This stormwater levy was introduced and is made under section 496A of the Act. Land within an urban area rated as either residential or business for rating purposes (except vacant land) will be charged an annual levy for Council to provide a stormwater management service. Within the LGA there are a total of 3,838 assessments rated as residential and 359 assessments rated as business.

In accordance with the *Local Government (General) Regulation 2021* (NSW), clause 125AA, the maximum annual charge for stormwater management services levied in respect of a parcel of rateable land is for land categorised as urban residential land at \$25.00 and for businesses up to \$25.00 per 350m² up to \$200.00.

Council will accrue additional revenue of \$105,625.00 per annum (same as 2022/23) for expenditure for stormwater management (assuming each business and residential assessment is charged a flat \$25.00 per assessment).

Income from this charge could only be spent on the following items, and would need to relate to new or additional stormwater management services:

- Planning, constructions and maintenance of drainage systems, including pipes, channels, retarding basins and waters receiving urban stormwater;
- Planning, construction and maintenance of stormwater treatment measures, including gross pollutant traps and constructed wetlands;
- Planning, construction and maintenance of stormwater harvesting and reuse projects;
- Planning and undertaking of community and industry stormwater pollution education campaigns;
- Inspection of commercial and industrial premises for stormwater pollution prevention;
- Cleaning up of stormwater pollution incidents (charge can fund a proportion);
- Water quality and aquatic ecosystems health monitoring of waterways, to assess the effectiveness of stormwater pollution controls (charge can fund a proportion); and monitoring of flows in drains and creeks, to assess the effectiveness for flow management (flooding) controls (charge can fund a proportion); and
- Non-permanent staff specifically appointed to work on stormwater management projects.

Funding from the charge would not be able to be spent on the following activities which do not relate to the stormwater management from eligible land:

- Parks and garden activities;
- Riparian restoration or management;
- Bush care (unless proposed activity specifically relates to stormwater impacts on bushland);
- Street sweeping;
- Kerb and guttering (unless dealing with flooding from a private land); and
- Permanent staff positions.

This levy will be utilised to fund the following program or activity:

| Drainage Project – Description | 2024/25 | 2025/26 | 2026/27 | 2027/28 |
|---------------------------------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|
| Stormwater Drainage Renewals | | | 70,000 | 70,000 |
| Stormwater Levy Projects (All Towns) | | | 48,000 | 50,733 |
| Total | | | 118,000 | 120,733 |

A1.8 Other Fees and Charges

Council proposes to apply fees and user charges in respect of its regulatory functions and the services it provides.

Section 608(1) of the Act provides that Council may charge and recover an approved fee for any services it provides. Section 608(2) provides that the services for which an approved fee may be charged include the following services provided under the Act or any other Act or the regulations by the Council:

- supplying a service, product or commodity
- giving information
- providing a service in connection with the exercise of the Council's regulatory functions – including receiving an application for approval, granting an approval, making an inspection and issuing a certificate
- allowing admission to any building or enclosure.

The actual fees and charges proposed to be applied by Council for 2023/24 are detailed in the Schedule of Fees and Charges included in this Revenue Policy document forming part of the Operational Plan. The document includes the details of each fee, charge or contribution.

Pricing Policy

Council is committed to providing a variety of goods and services which reflect concern for the individual and the wider community, and which meet the diverse needs of everyone who lives in, works in, or visits the Council area.

Council strives to attain the highest possible standards by making effective and efficient use of all resources, working in a spirit of team work and harmony amongst its councillors, staff and community.

Council will ensure that charges are raised as equitably as possible, whilst considering those groups and individuals in the community who are unable to meet their own needs. Council supports the user-pays principle in assessment and levying of fees and charges, whilst recognising the need for supplementing income in particular circumstances.

Council recognises the need to provide services for groups and members of the community that may not be able to afford a commercial rate of services.

Council will ensure that all rates, charges and fees are set so as to provide adequate cash flows to meet operating costs and to assist in the provision of funding capital works. Council will pursue all cost-effective opportunities so as to maximise its revenue base and to seek an acceptable commercial rate of return on investments subject to community service obligations.

Council recognises the need to set prices for goods and services so as to provide the most effective level of service possible to our community, ensuring resources are not wasted and can promote more efficient and effective investment in infrastructure and services.

Council's pricing policy in relation to any particular good or service may be found in the relevant section of this Revenue Policy.

Fees

Council provides a wide range of services to the community and has adopted a number of fees for these services. They have been set on the basis of the following categories:

- Community service
- Economic cost
- Nominal fee
- Regulatory charge
- User-pays principle

Council has defined the categories as detailed below:

| | |
|---------------------|---|
| Community services | The cost of the service is subsidised to provide for the community benefit |
| Economic cost | The cost of the service provided is estimated and the cost of recovery is based upon the anticipated number of users. |
| Nominal fee | Council adopts a minimal fee for record purposes only. |
| Regulatory charge | Set by government regulations. |
| User-pays principle | Used where a specific individual cost can be isolated and charged to the user of that service. |

A copy of the Schedule of Fees adopted by Council is attached. All fees have been calculated based on one or more of the abovementioned categories.

GST

Where GST is applicable, the GST column will have a 'yes'. If the GST column is blank the fee is not subject to GST.

Full List of Fees and Charges

For the full list of fees and charges refer to the separate publication 'Warrumbungle Shire Council Fees and Charges'.

A1.9 Private Works

Under section 67 of the Act.

Council may, by agreement with the owner or occupier of any private land, carry out on the land any kind of work that may lawfully be carried out on the land including the following:

- Paving and road making
- Kerbing and guttering
- Fencing and ditching
- Tree planting and tree maintenance
- Grass planting and maintenance
- Waste collection
- Demolition and excavation
- Land clearing and tree felling
- Water, sewerage and drainage connections

Private Works Policy

The procedure for undertaking private works and recovering costs are set out in Council's Policy on Private Works. Under this policy private works are categorised into either external

private works or internal private works. The procedures for internal private works relate to staff members and they are different to procedures for external private works.

For external private works, Council will send an invoice to clients when payment is not received up front. Payment up front is required for minor works less than \$150 (ex GST) in value.

Appendix 2: Donations Policy

B2.1 Policy Introduction

Warrumbungle Shire Council provides financial assistance or donations to community groups and individuals to encourage their development and growth within the LGA.

The expected outcomes of this policy are as follows:

- Identification and support for community groups, organisations and individuals that contribute to the social, economic and/or environmental fabric of Warrumbungle Shire.
- Transparent process of application, assessment and determination of financial assistance.
- That financial assistance provided by Council complies with requirements of section 356 of the Act.

Financial assistance is provided across a broad range of activities and is grouped as follows:

- Sporting Clubs and Events
- Charity Groups
- Religious Properties
- Education Support
- Community Service Organisations
- Cultural Groups and Societies
- Youth Groups and Senior Citizens
- Individuals
- Community Hall Committees

B2.2 Annual Donations

In accordance with section 356 of the Act, Council proposes to make a number of Annual Donations in 2024/25 to be decided by Council at the May 2024 Council Meeting.

Note 1: The types and structure of financial assistance depends upon the type of activity being undertaken and may be one of the following types:

1. Donation of one half on the annual General Rate, Water Access Charge and Sewerage Access Charge.
2. Donation of one half of the annual Water Access Charge and Sewerage Access Charge.
3. Donation of the full annual Waste Collection Charge and Waste Management Charge.
4. Monetary grant as provided.
5. Operator and/or Plant Hire.
6. Hall and/or Facility and/or Equipment Hire

Under section 356 of the Act, Council provides financial support to local community groups and organisations who Council believe contribute to the achievement of the aims and objectives of the Warrumbungle Shire Community Strategic Plan.

Annual donations are provided across six (6) categories:

1. 50% of the annual General Rate, Water Access Charge and Sewerage Access Charge.
2. 50% of the annual Water Access Charge and Sewerage Access Charge.
3. 100% of the annual Waste Collection Charge and Waste Management Charge.
4. Monetary grant.
5. Operator and/or Plant Hire.

Council considers Annual Donations each year together with the Draft Operational Plan and Budget for the following year.

| Applicants | Max. Amount (\$)/ Approximate |
|---|--|
| Coonabarabran Evening Branch Country Women's Assoc of NSW | 50% of the Annual General Rate, Water Access Charge, and Sewer Access Charge |
| Mendooran Turf Club Inc | \$1,000 |
| Dunedoo Area Community Group Inc | 50% of the Annual General Rate, Water Access Charge, and Sewer Access Charge |
| Coolah Landcare Coolaburragundy Riverwalk/Coolah District Development Group | \$1,000 |
| Baradine Preschool Inc | 50% of the Annual General Rate, Water Access Charge, and Sewer Access Charge |
| All Schools in Shire | \$770 |
| Anglican Church Coonabarabran Parish | 50% of the Annual General Rate, Water Access Charge, and Sewer Access Charge |
| The Baradine Rusty Club (a member of the Australian Men's Shed Assoc | 50% of the Annual General Rate, Water Access Charge, and Sewer Access Charge |
| Baradine Golf Club | 50% of the Annual General Rate, Water Access Charge, and Sewer Access Charge |
| Coonabarabran Golf Club | \$1,000 |
| Dunedoo Polocrosse Club | 100% donation of the Full Annual Waste Collection Charge and |

| | |
|---|--|
| | Waste Management Charge |
| Coonabarabran Rugby League Football Club | \$1,000 |
| Bugaldie War Memorial Hall Land Managers | \$500 |
| Borah Creek Reserve for Public Hall Land Managers | \$500 |
| Binnaway Jockey Club | \$1,000 |
| Australian Army Cadets – Coonabarabran Unit | \$1,000 |
| St Michael's Catholic Church Dunedoo | 50% of the Annual General Rate, Water Access Charge, and Sewer Access Charge |
| Sacred Heart Catholic Church Coolah | 50% of the Annual General Rate, Water Access Charge, and Sewer Access Charge |
| St Mary's Catholic Church Mendooran | 50% of the Annual General Rate, Water Access Charge, and Sewer Access Charge |
| North West Equestrian Expo | \$1,000 \$1,000 in kind |

B2.3 Council-owned Properties, Facilities, Plant, Equipment and Halls

Donations for the waiver of fees and charges at Council-owned facilities including halls, sporting facilities, ovals and grounds are made in accordance with the 'Council Facilities Waiver of Council Fees and Charges' policy.

| Waiver of Council Fees and Charges | Amount (\$) |
|---|-------------|
| Council Facilities – waiver of fees and charges | 15,000.00 |

B2.4 Council-owned Plant

When Council plant is used to carry out private work at the request of a local non-profit organisation, a donation equal to the plant hire may be made to the applicant subject to:

- The work is carried out at a time that does not adversely affect Council's work program.
- The plant being operated by an approved Council operator.
- The operator volunteering his/her services.
- An appropriate hire agreement being executed by the applicant.
- Appropriate insurance cover being arranged.
- That any requests be referred to Council for approval as part of the Financial Assistance Grants.

B2.5 Development Applications

Council will donate the equivalent amount of the development application costs in total only levied on works to be undertaken by community groups on Council-owned facilities with such funds to be provided from the 'Financial Assistance – Other' Budget.

B2.6 Financial Assistance Grants

Financial assistance requested in the form of a monetary grant must be made on Council's application form. There will be a cap of \$500 for Financial Assistance Grants.

B2.7 Assessment Criteria

Council will use the following general criteria when considering requests for financial assistance:

- Activities which address gaps in service or community development;
- Activities which promote community development in a multicultural context and seek to address issues of access and equity;
- Involvement from volunteers and self-help initiatives which build upon Council's contribution;
- Consumer/user participation in management of services/activities;
- Innovative and creative approaches to identified needs; and
- Activities which use Council funding to attract further resources.

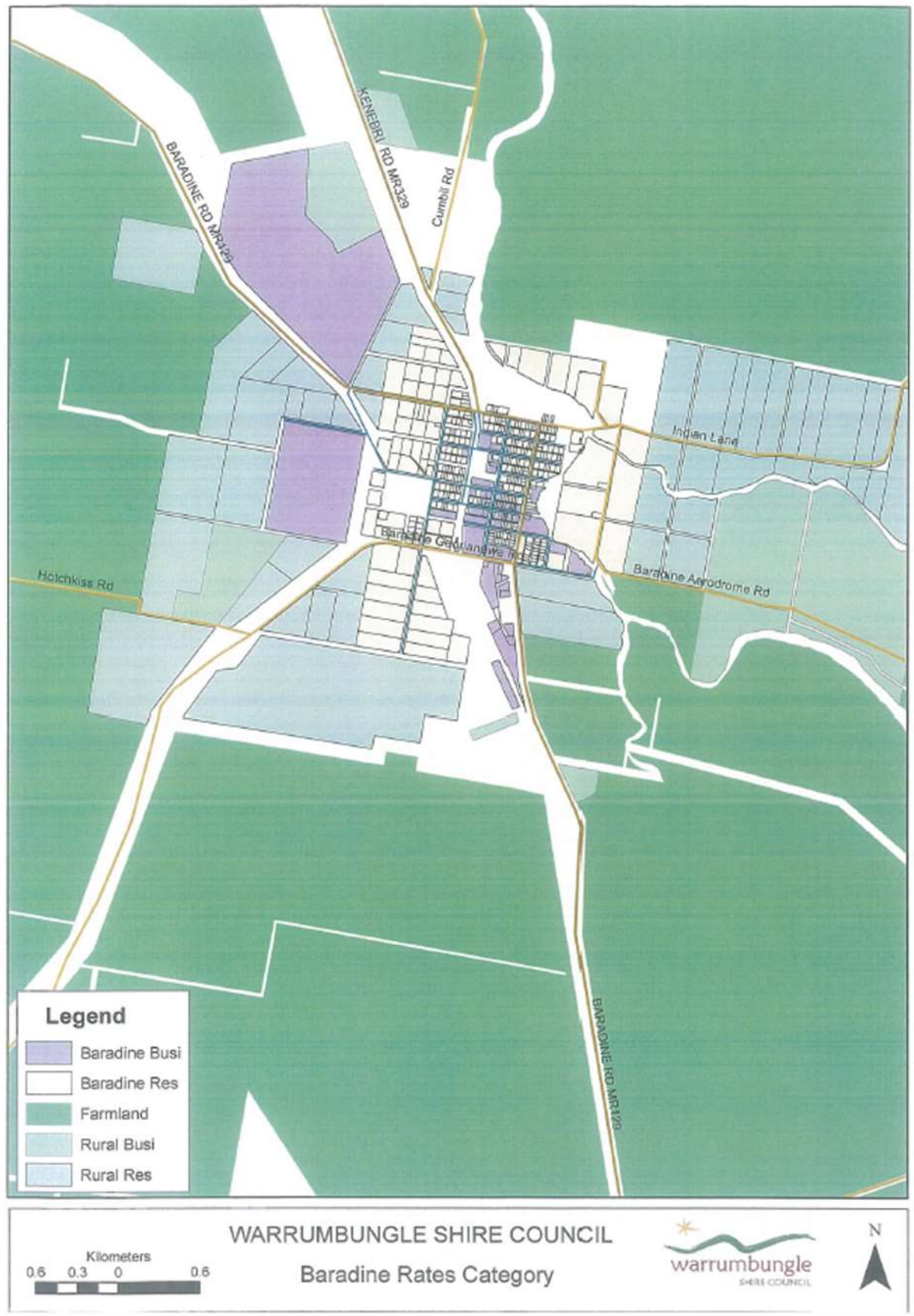
Council will give low priority to the following types of requests for financial assistance:

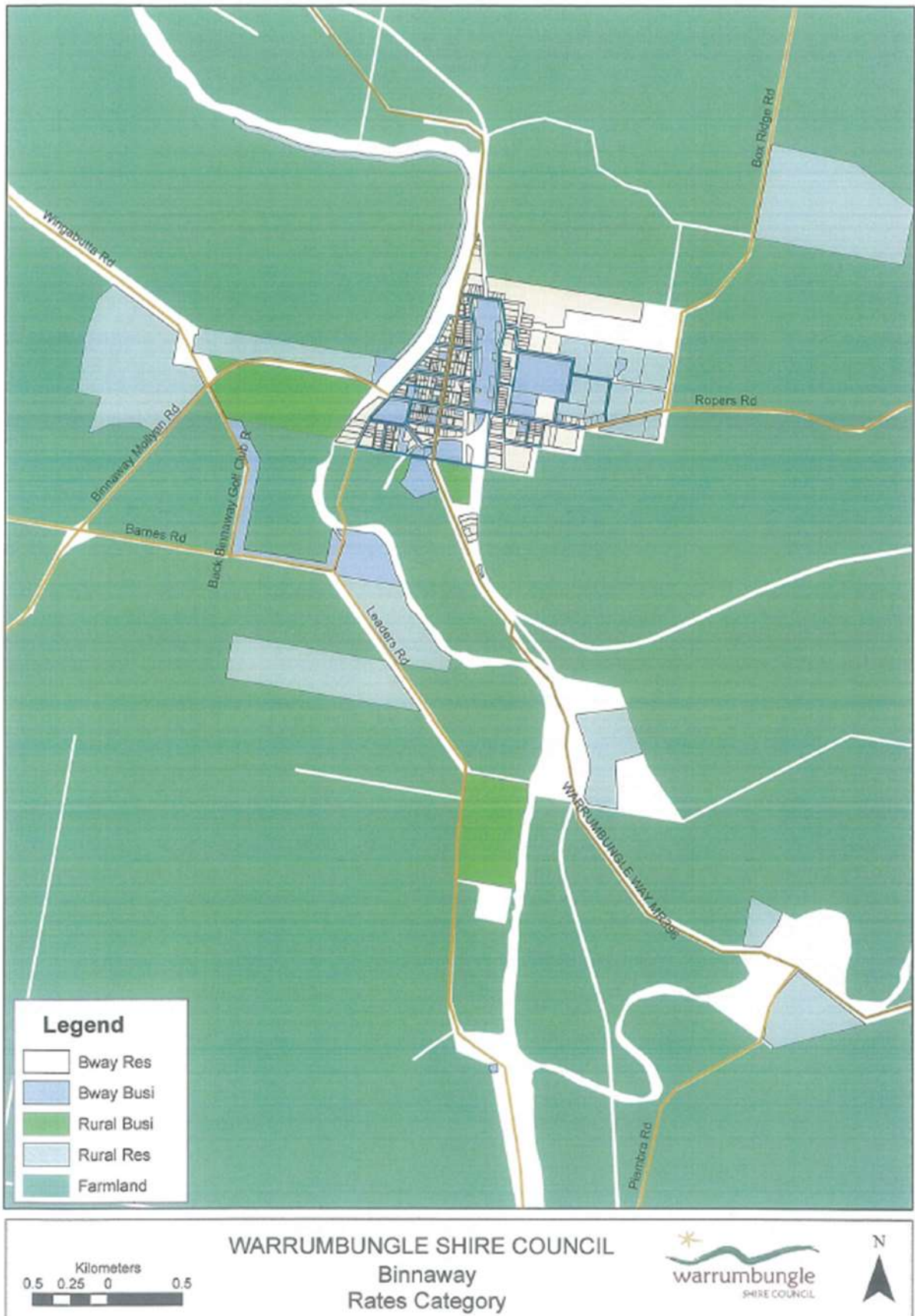
- Activities/services which do not attempt to become self-supporting where the potential exists through fees or other feasible income-producing activities.
- Activities of a purely social nature, which do not address the needs of disadvantaged groups.
- Activities which are eligible for support from state-wide or regional parent bodies.

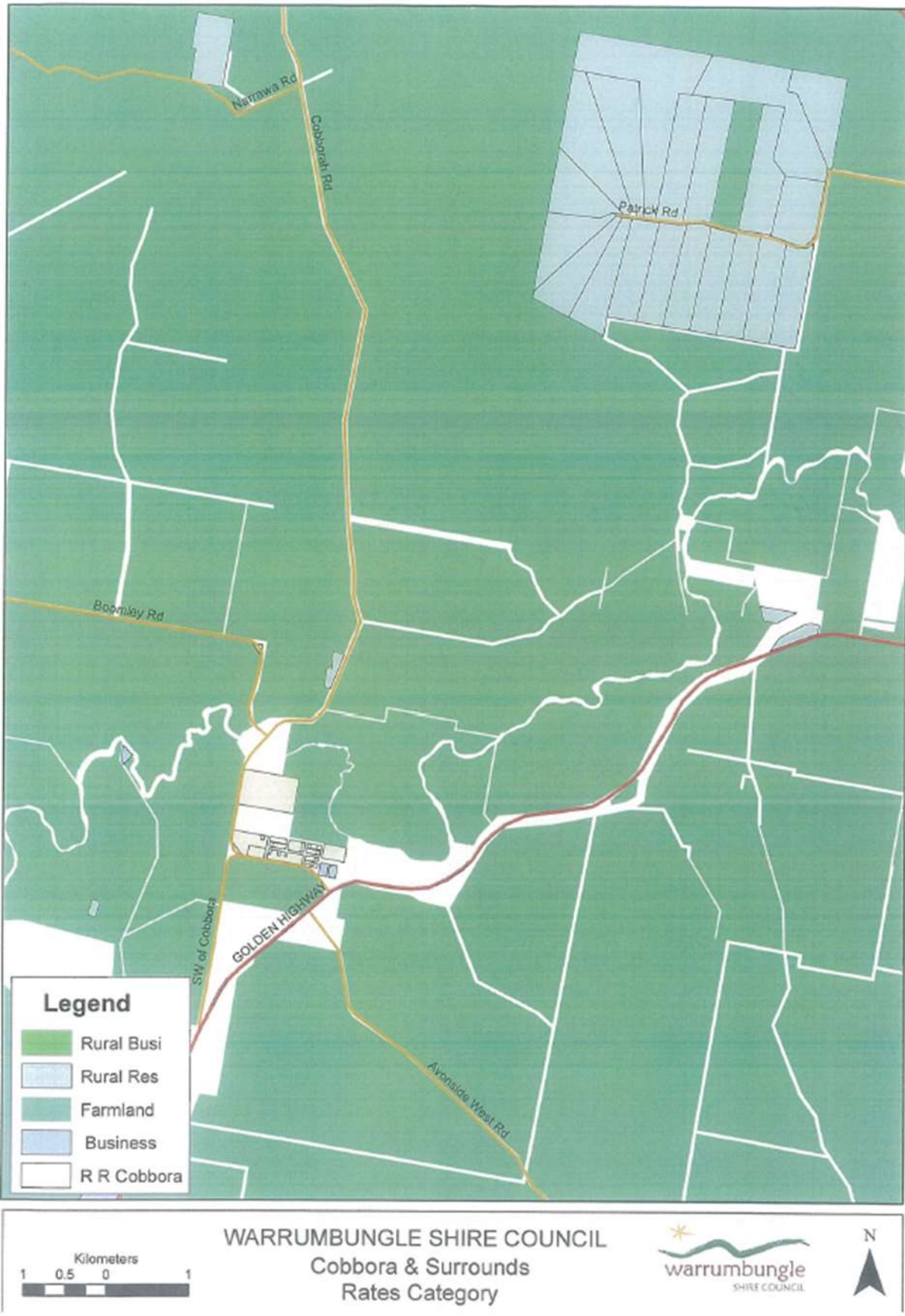
| Other Financial Assistance | Amount Allocated (\$) |
|-----------------------------------|------------------------------|
| Financial Assistance – Other | 20,000 |

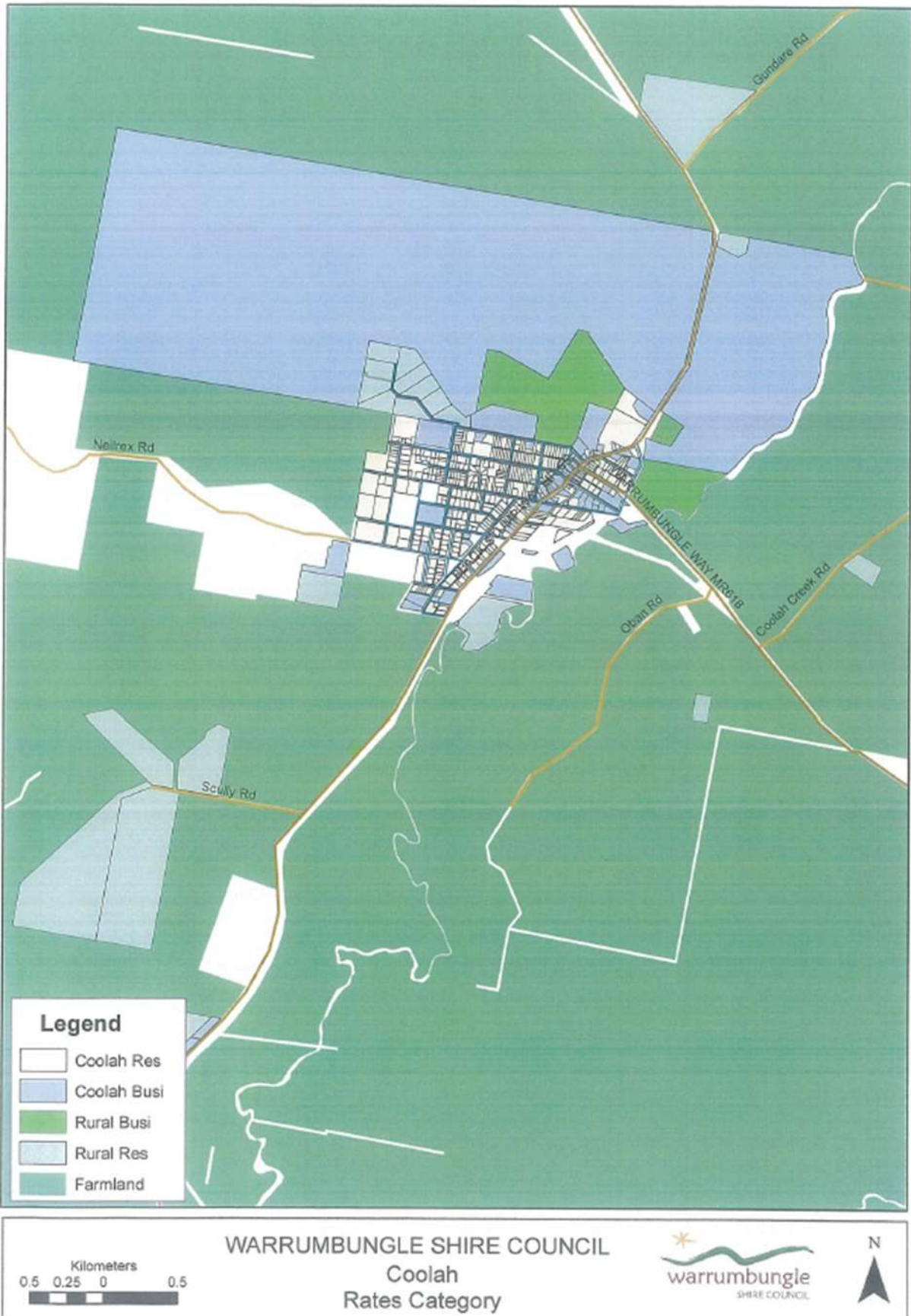
Council will consider applications for financial assistance at ordinary meetings twice per year. Before considering applications for financial assistance, Council will make a public call for applications. Generally, the calls for applications will take place in February and August of each year. Financial assistance donations are made within each financial year, and recipients must accept payment of funds within six (6) months of being notified of their successful application. Funds unclaimed after 6 months are taken to be forfeited.

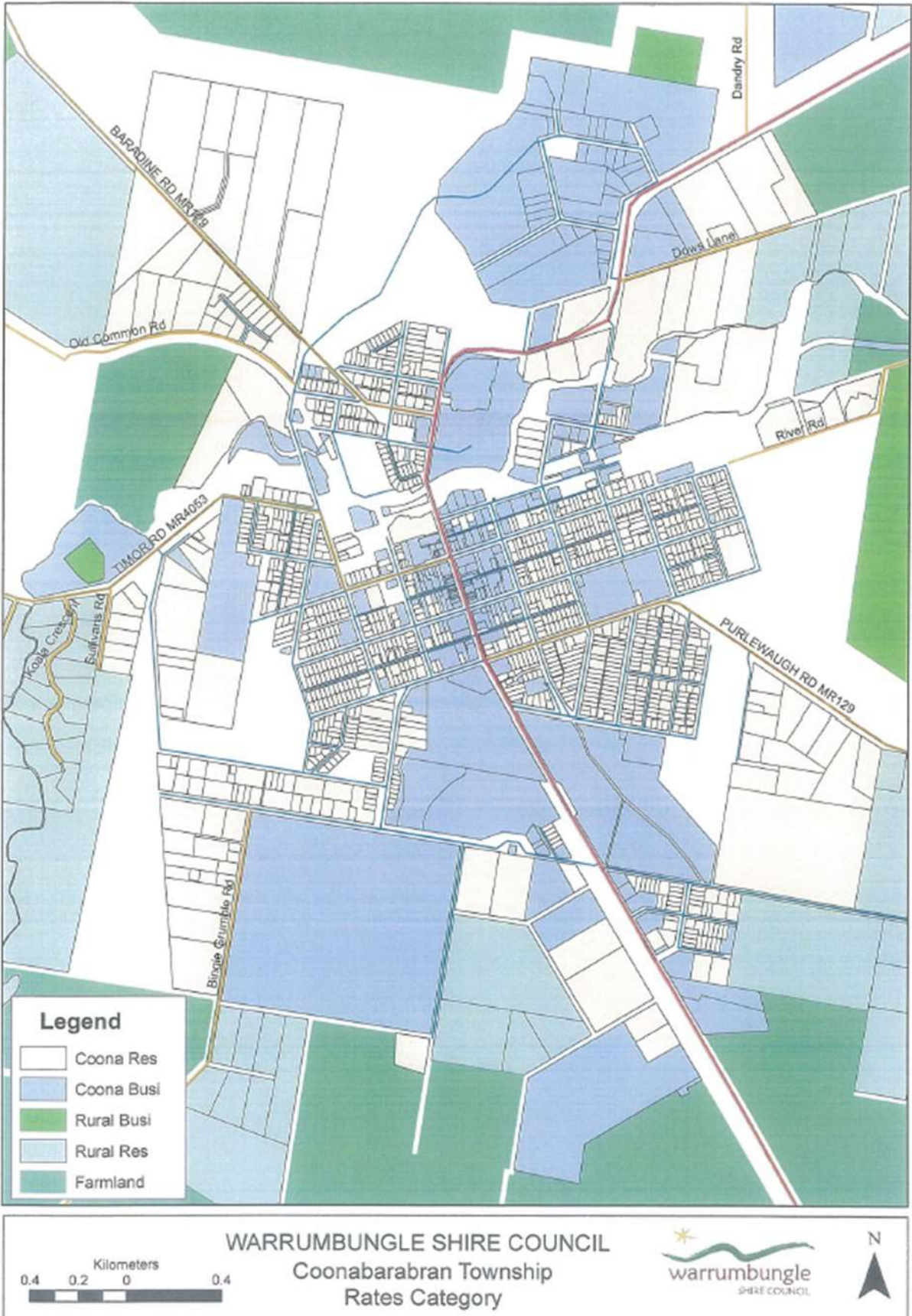
Appendix 3: Rates Maps

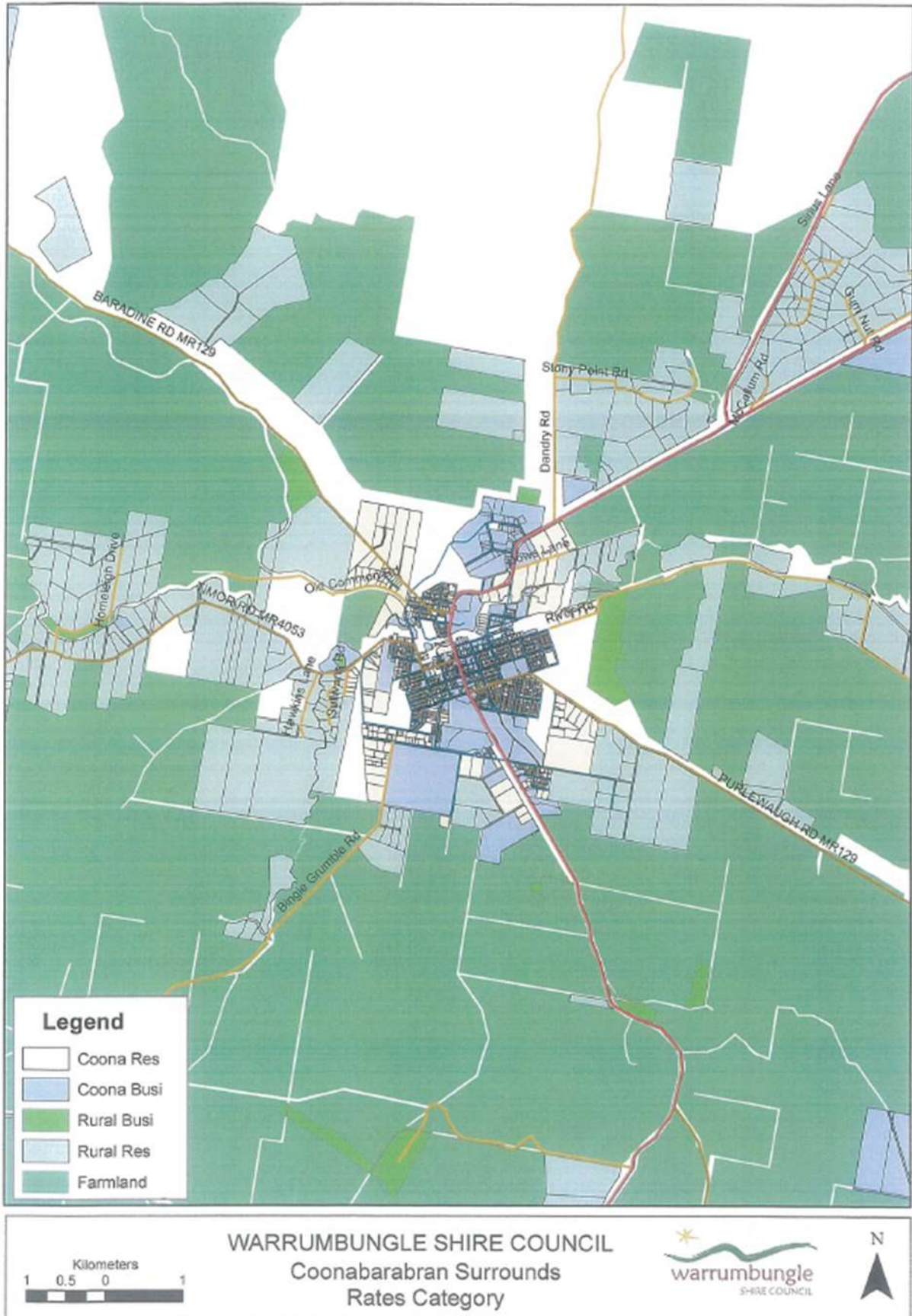


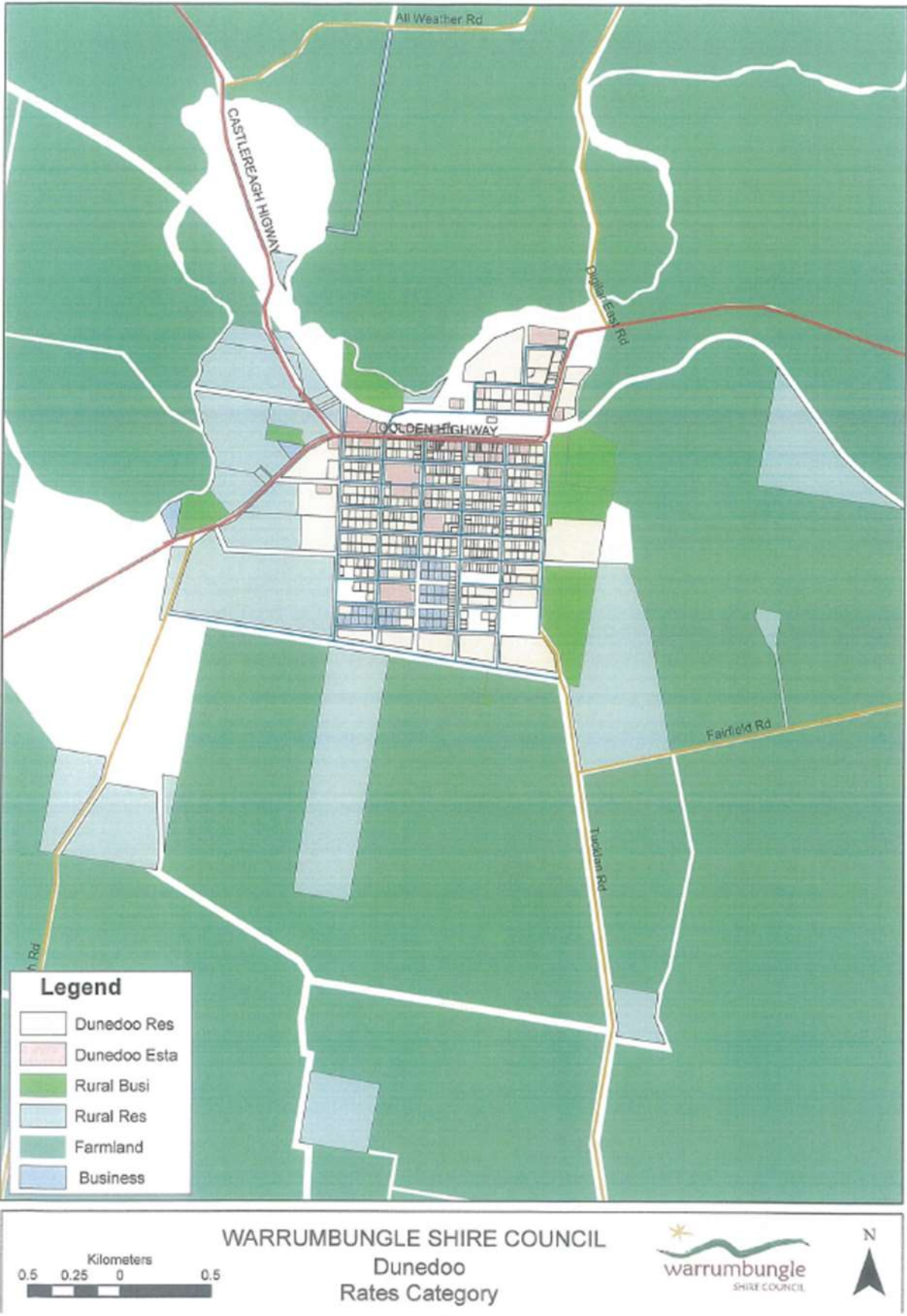


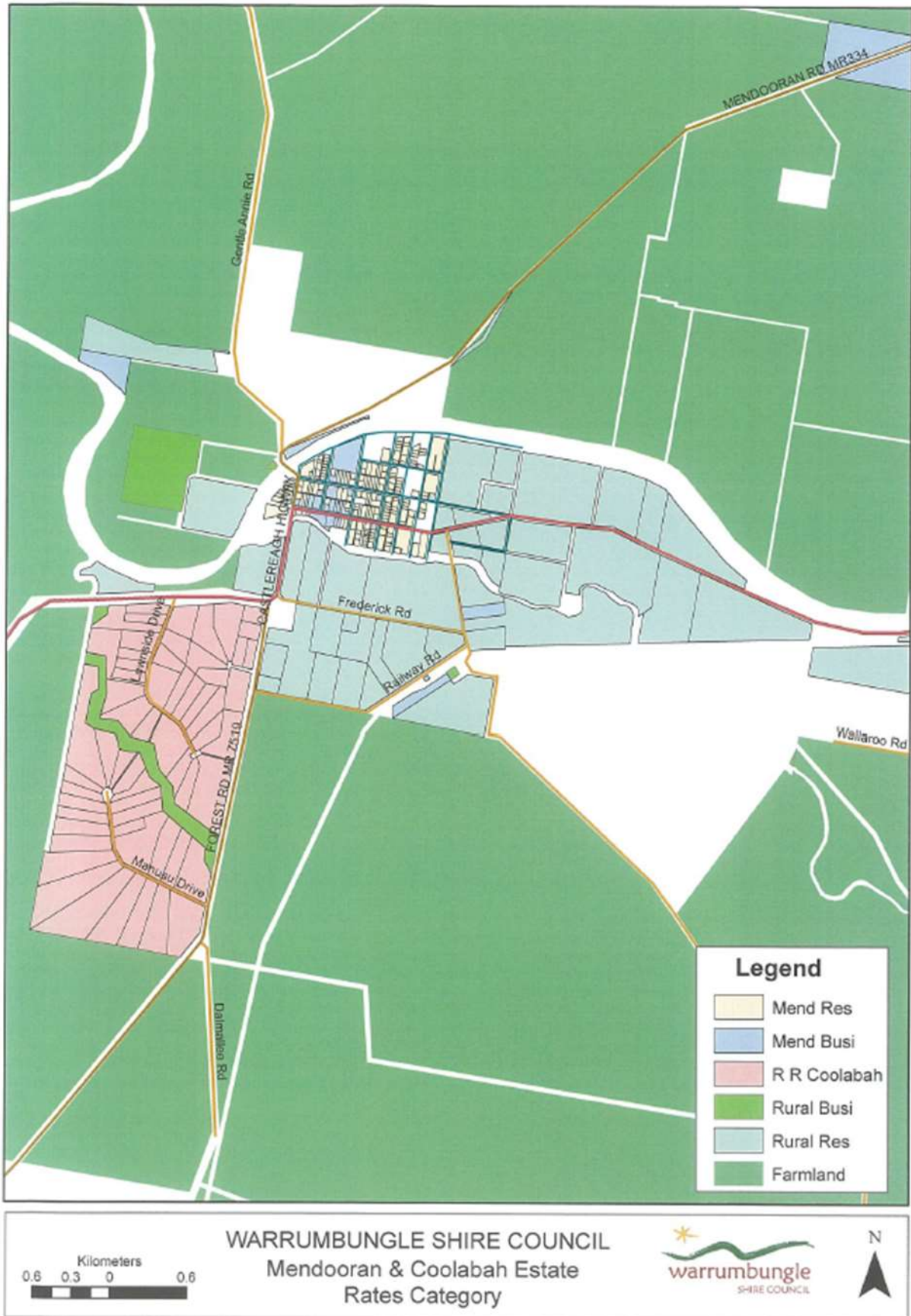


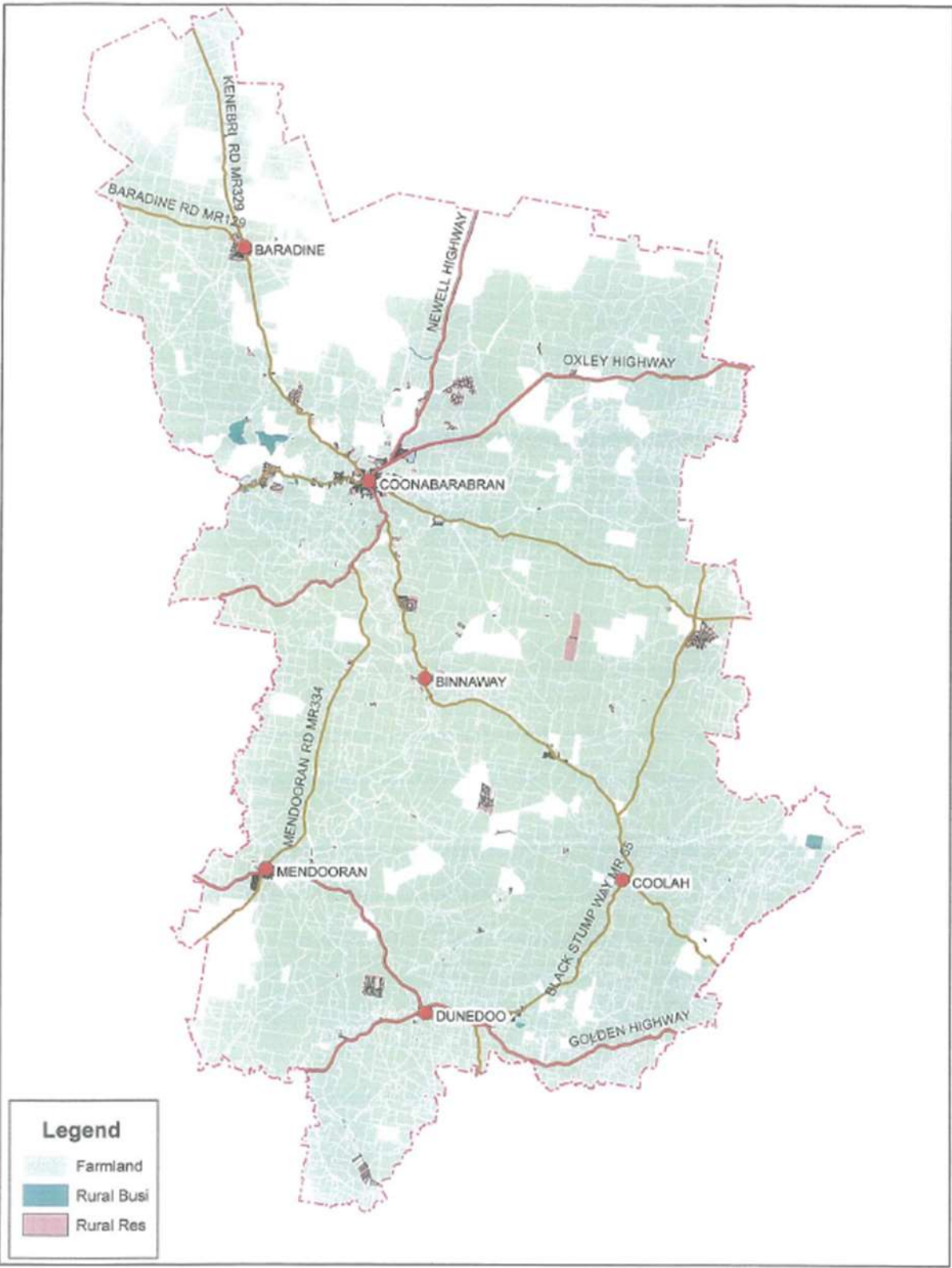












WARRUMBUNGLE SHIRE COUNCIL
 SHIRE MAP
 Rates Category

Kilometers
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warrumbungle
 SHIRE COUNCIL

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Warrumbungle Shire Council

Coonabarabran Administration Office

14-22 John Street
Coonabarabran NSW 2357

Phone: (02) 6849 2000

Coolah Administration Office

59 Binnia Street
Coolah NSW 2843

Phone: (02) 6378 5000

Mailing Address:

PO Box 191
Coonabarabran NSW 2357

Email: info@warrumbungle.nsw.gov.au