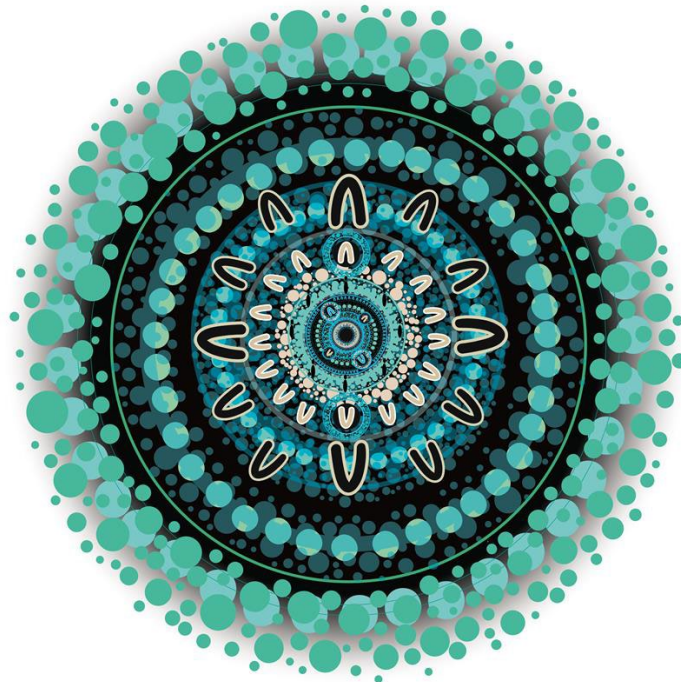


2025-2035

CAPTAINS FLAT COMMUNITY PLAN



Acknowledgement of Country



This strategy acknowledges the traditional custodians of the Captains Flat Region. Captains Flat is located in the southeast New South Wales. The Ngarigo people originally occupied the area around Captains Flat.

We pay our respects to their elders past, present, and emerging.
We acknowledge the stories, traditions and living cultures of First Nations peoples on this land and commit to building a brighter future together.

TITLE: Acknowledgement of Country Queanbeyan
YEAR: 2023

ARTIST: Lynnice Church
ABORIGINAL NATIONS: Ngunnawal, Wiradjuri and Kamilaroi

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1. Purpose of this plan

This plan has been developed to document and acknowledge the issues and projects that are important to the people of Captains Flat and the surrounding area. This will enable both Council and the community to take advantage of funding and other opportunities as they become available. It will also provide a sense of accomplishment as the projects are completed.

The plan will provide input into Council's Delivery Programs and Operational Plans that determine Council actions and projects for the following four years and one year respectively.

This is part of Council's Integrated Planning and Reporting Framework which is an hierarchical set of inter-related plans that deal with the organisation's delivery of services. These are shown in the diagram following.

- The **Community Strategic Plan** identifies the objectives (directions) that the community wants to head towards and sets out the strategies (key goals) on how they will get there.
- The **Delivery Program** picks up these strategies and then links them to the actions Council will undertake over the following four years.
- The **Operational Plan** looks at the specific actions Council will undertake within EACH financial year. It will identify the annual budget required to deliver the actions plus the responsible officer who will implement them.
- **Regional Strategic Plans** will help to inform the delivery program and operational plan to anticipate funding including grant applications.

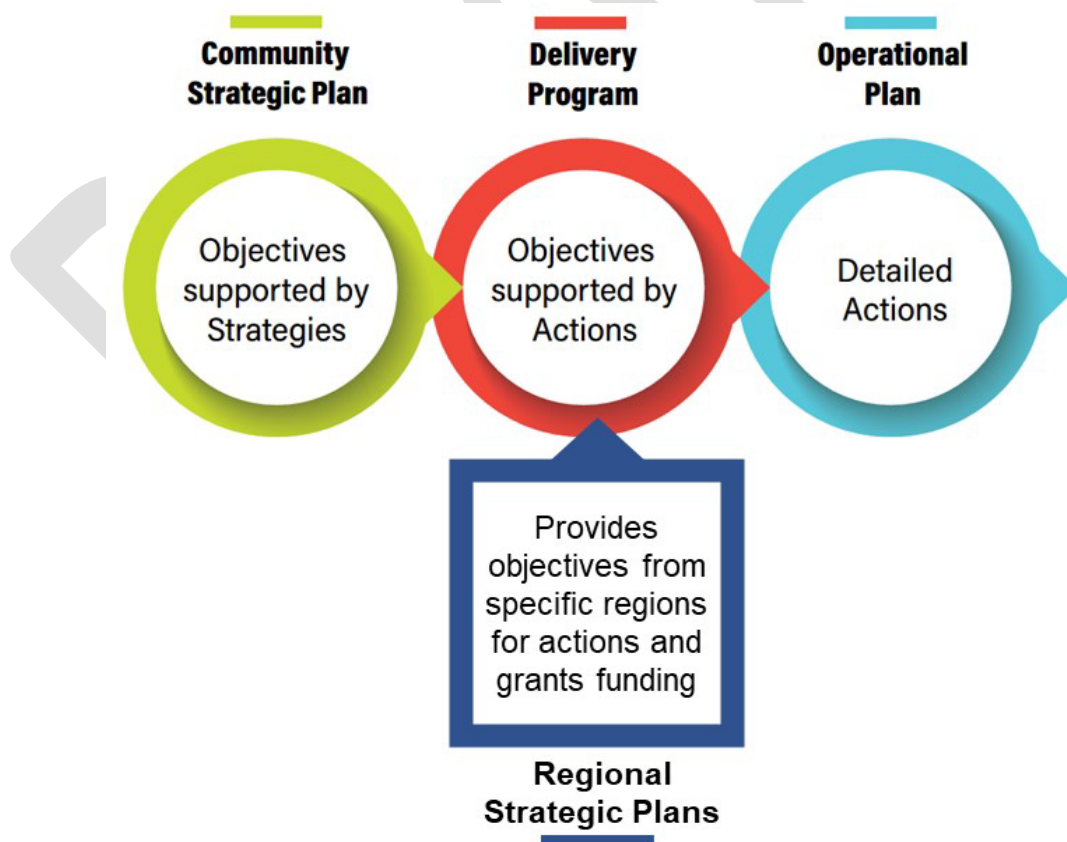


Figure 1: QPRC Integrated Planning Process

2. Consultation

A workshop was held with representatives from Captains Flat community groups and youth to develop a draft plan. The draft plan was shared with the wider community for further discussion, feedback and amendment through social media platforms and a community meeting. Consultations with all areas of the community will continue as the plan develops.

3. Describing Captains Flat

Captains Flat is an historic mining town in the Southern Tablelands of rural New South Wales. The town experienced two strong periods of mining boom from 1888-1899 and again from 1937-1962. It remains as a quaint, historic village located on the Molonglo river on the edge of the Great Dividing Range and Tallaganda State Forest and National Park.

Captains Flat is said to be named after a large white bull named Captain. Captain was part of a bullock team, but he had a tendency to leave the rest of the team and head for the grassy paddocks near the Molonglo River. Captain could be sighted grazing on "the flat" and the surrounding town came to be known as Captains Flat. The pasture the old bull was partial to is now the local football field.

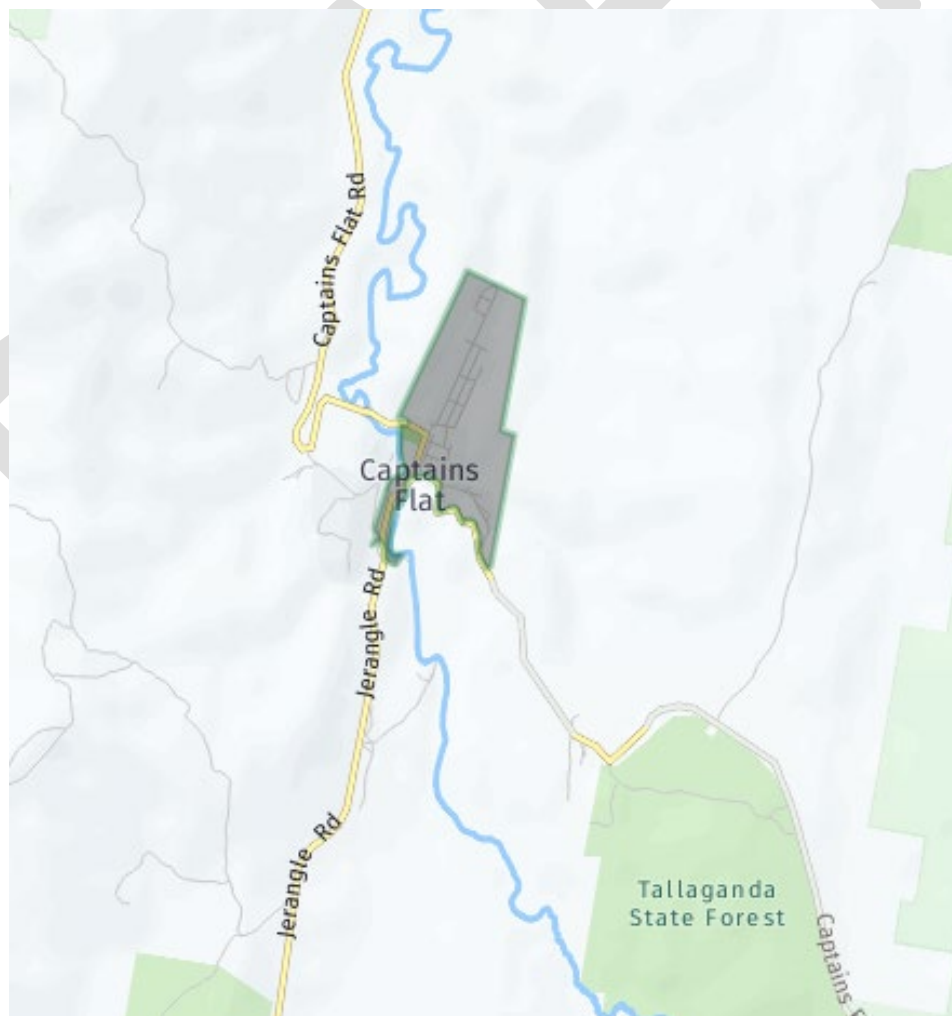


Figure 2: Captains Flat 2021 Census Data (Urban Centre)

4. Captains Flat Demographics

Based on 2021 census the population of Captains Flat township is 473, living in 230 dwellings with an average household size of 2.3 people. Captains Flat has a land area of 1.17 sq kilometres and a population density of 419.3 people per kilometre.

Twenty-three (10.8) percent of the population was born overseas predominantly in the United Kingdom. From 2016 to 2021, the Captains Flat population increased by 24 people (5%). The following graph shows population by age group, compared with the whole Queanbeyan-Palerang region.

Age structure - five year age groups, 2021

Total persons

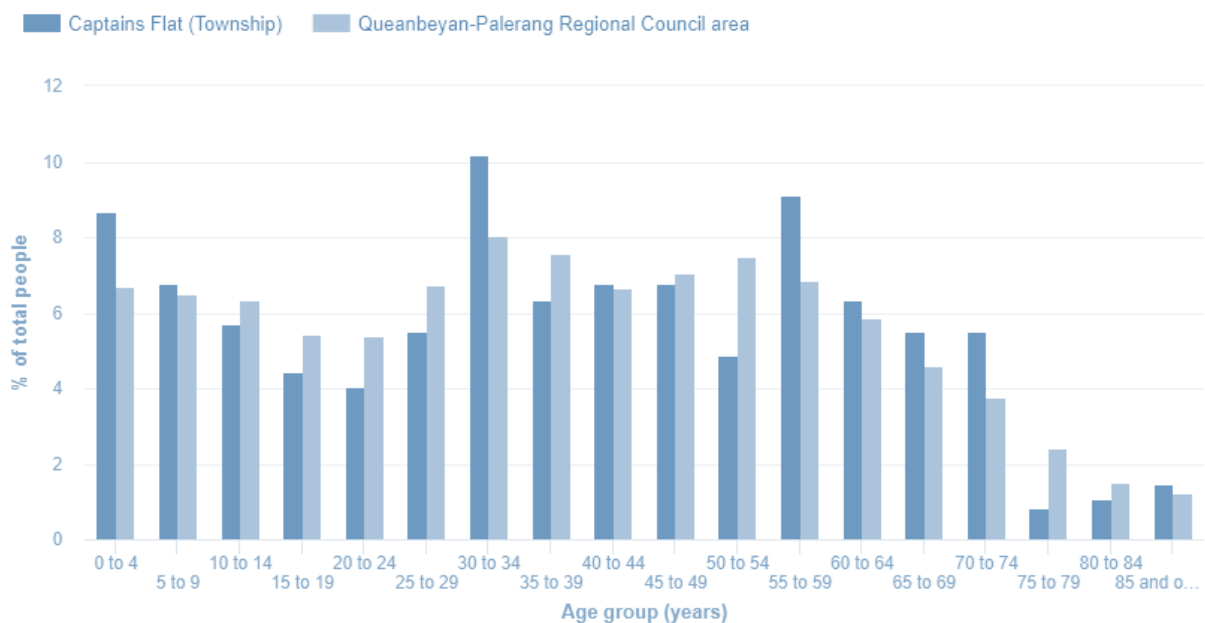


Figure 3: Captains Flat Five Year Age Groups, ABS Census 2021



Household Composition

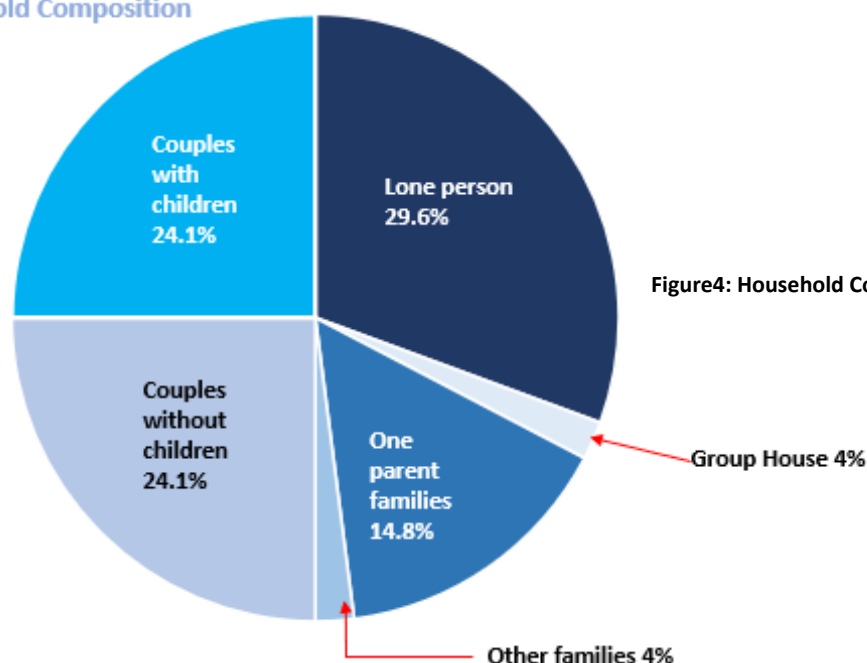


Figure4: Household Composition, ABS Census 2021

Median Age 38 QPRC area 38 Regional NSW 43 New South Wales 39	Lone Person Households 29.6% QPRC area 38 Regional NSW 43 New South Wales 25	Median weekly income (household) \$1,644 QPRC area \$2,295 Regional NSW \$1,466 New South Wales \$1,849
Median weekly mortgage \$302 QPRC area \$500 Regional NSW \$399 New South Wales \$500	Median weekly rent \$300 QPRC area \$360 Regional NSW \$330 New South Wales \$420	Households renting 13.8% QPRC area 26% Regional NSW 27% New South Wales 33%
University/Vocational qualification 45.4% QPRC area 58.9% Regional NSW 50.9% New South Wales 55.2%	Overseas born 10.8% QPRC area 18.4% Regional NSW 12% New South Wales 29%	Unemployment 3.1% QPRC area 3.1% Regional NSW 5.0% New South Wales 5.0%

Figure 5: Captain Flat Population Highlights and Comparisons, ABS Census 2021



Figure 6: Captains Flat Hotel

5. Lead

In February 2020 the Department of Regional NSW announced the discovery of elevated levels of lead that were found in the area next to the closed Lake George Mine, in particular along the disused rail corridor. Lead contamination was also identified at the Pre-School in Foxlow Street.

The *Captains Flat Taskforce* was established in January 2021 to determine priorities across agencies in addressing the presence of lead at Captains Flat. The Taskforce coordinated the development of the Captains Flat Lead Management Plan. The Plan, developed by Ramboll, provides a process for long term management of risks from lead contamination by environmental monitoring, management and remediation. The lead management and remediation issues will continue to impact decisions, planning and outcomes for the community and must be considered as an element of the community needs and aspirations.

The Taskforce has been replaced by *The Captains Flat Lead Management Network* (the Network) with members of the Captains Flat community, Molonglo Rail Trail Inc. and QPRC staff. The priority of the Network is to ensure agreed actions are implemented and community concerns and expectations are shared and a mechanism for solution brokerage is activated between community, local government, Mogo Aboriginal Land Council and NSW government agencies (including NSW Premiers Department, Transport for NSW, EPA, NSW Crown Lands, NSW Resources and NSW Health).

6. Vision

A community vision is the collective image of a community's future. It is a means of articulating and describing a desired outcome- a place where participants agree they would like journey together.

We are committed to the protection and enhancement of our natural environment, history and the heritage for the benefit of present and future generations. Captains Flat is a place of belonging, an inclusive and supportive rural community, improvements to our infrastructure and new developments will enhance the community lifestyle and welcome new visitors from other regions.

7. Strategies and values

QPRC STRATEGIC THEMES	CAPTAINS FLAT STRATEGIC THEMES	VALUES
<i>Contemporary civic leadership and governance</i>	History and heritage	We will value, celebrate, and promote: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • our First Nations Peoples, the Ngarigo people. • the contributions of settlers and migrants. • our unique heritage – mining.
<i>A safe, resilient & well-connected community with good infrastructure</i>	Diverse, inclusive and supportive community	We will be: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • a genuine rural community. • caring inclusive and generous. • encouraging and supportive of our youth.

QPRC STRATEGIC THEMES	CAPTAINS FLAT STRATEGIC THEMES	VALUES
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • protective of our diversity – creating an interesting . Environment.
<i>A clean, green community</i>	Rich natural environment	<p>We will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • continue as active custodians of our unique and beautiful environment. • value, protect, and promote our district's unique biodiversity, natural beauty and attractions in a responsible way.
<i>A safe, harmonious, happy and healthy community</i>	Sustainable and Resilient Community	<p>We will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • engage proactively with all levels of government and regional partners. • contribute to planning & managing, our region in line with our Vision. • ensure our growth is sustainable. • require our infrastructure, facilities and amenities meet community needs and are proactively managed and enhanced.
<i>A diverse, resilient and smart economy that creates choice</i>	Vibrant and Balanced Economy	<p>We will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • create a thriving and varied economy that takes advantages of our rural businesses, eco and heritage tourism, creative strengths and remote working opportunities. • promote Captains Flat as a small, but important regional Hub. • work to achieve a balance of sectors creating economic resilience & offering opportunities to our young and old, locals & newcomers.

8. Achievements 2017-2023

AREA	ITEM
Infrastructure	Upgrade of Captains Flat RFS Shed (2019)
	Lease of prior RFS building to the Men's Shed (2019)
	Refurbishment of the Community Hall, including external painting, new roofing and internal paint, floor covering and polishing the main hall hardwood floor.
	Upgrades to Captains Flat pool and toddlers pool
Parks and recreation	Upgrade to playground equipment at Wilkins Park
	Upgrade to BBQ and shelters at Wilkins Park
	Completion of Foxlow Parklet
	Water bubbler (dog and human) on Winchester oval
Roads and bridges	Resurfacing, stabilisation, drainage widening, reconstruction and realignment to 21km of Captains Flat Road (2021-2023)
	Replacement of Silver Hills Bridge with box culverts (2020)
	Replacement of Foxlow Street Bridge
	Sealing of Miners Flat Road including the SES compound and the RSL club carpark
Community	Recommissioning of the Cobb and Co horse trough (2019)
	Mike Shankster mural on shower and toilet facilities (2019)
	Replacement of damaged covers over Miners Memorial artwork (2019)
	Kerbside clean-up extended to Captains Flat with 3 bin collection service

8. Future Priorities for Captains Flat

The following actions have been identified as important for the community of Captains Flat over the next months and years. Council will have varying roles in these actions ranging from support and/or advocate to provider or facilitator. Many of the actions will require collaboration.

A brief explanation of these terms is shown below.

ADVOCATE	Publicly recommend and/or support
PROVIDE	Make available for use or supply
COLLABORATE	Work jointly on an activity or project
SUPPORT	Give assistance
FACILITATE	Help to bring about

Actions that are not in the current QPRC Operational or Delivery Plans will need to source funding, predominantly through grants. This list will assist Council and the community to identify local priorities.

Underpinning the development of Captains Flat will be:

- Certainty around the management of land, including improvements to recreational, heritage and tourism infrastructure arising from land remediation projects.
- Clear identification of, and options for, use and management of Crown Land, noting that Captains Flat has the largest area of Crown land in any NSW village.

NOTE:

CFCA	Captains Flat Community Association
CFLN	Captains Flat Lead Network
s355	Captains Flat Area 355 Committee
MALC	Mogo Aboriginal Land Council
MRT	Molonglo Rail Trail Inc.
Network	Captains Flat Lead Management Network
QPRC	Queanbeyan-Palerang Regional Council
RFS	Rural Fire Service
SES	State Emergency Service
TfNSW	Transport of NSW

AREA	ACTIONS	SHORT	MEDIUM	LONG	PROJECT LEAD	PARTNERS/ PLANS
INFRASTRUCTURE	Guttering and footpaths in town			X	QPRC	CFCA, Network
	Address road edge deterioration from logging trucks (2.5km into town)	X			QPRC	TfNSW
	Unblock drain at the back of the old service station		X		QPRC	
	Provide accessible walking track around perimeter of town (1km)			X	QPRC	CFCA, MALC, Crown Lands, RFS
	Provide asphalt car park			X	QPRC	s355
	Construct a footpath to the fire station and to the church			X	QPRC	CFCA
	Audit of roads to understand which are Council responsibility	X			QPRC	CFCA, Crown Lands
	Increase maintenance of unsealed 20km road from Captains Flat to Cooma Road		X		QPRC	CFCA
	Seal 1.5km of Captains Flat Road between Captains Flat & Transfer Station	X			QPRC	CFCA
	Upgrade diversion road from Kings Highway (Captains Flat Rd to Cooma Rd)			X	QPRC	CFCA

AREA	ACTIONS	SHORT	MEDIUM	LONG	PROJECT LEAD	PARTNERS/ PLANS
	Liaise with Snowy Monaro on Jerangle Road - major emergency exit and increased usage including the school bus		X		QPRC	CFCA
	Provide another SES facility		X		CFCA	CFCA, SES, RFS
	Off leash dog area		X		QPRC	
	Redesign Community Hall including a Commercial kitchen in hall for community use eg small business		X		CFCA	QPRC
	Improve wayfinding		X		QPRC	CFCA
	Further upgrades to the pool including heating			X	QPRC	CFCA
	PA system for community hall	X			CFCA	Small grants
ACCOM	Upgrade map of developable land for accessible/affordable housing	X			Crown Lands	QPRC, CFCA, MALC
	Identify potential options for commercial premises		X		QPRC	CFCA
	External outdoor 240v GPOs for camping			X	QPRC	CFCA
ENVIRONMENT	Provide EV station for cars and bikes		X		QPRC	NRMA or other provider
	Maintain riverway including blackberry spray		X		QPRC	CFCA, Crown Lands
	Address dumping on Crown land	X			Crown Lands	QPRC, CFCA
	Alternate heating of public buildings e.g. pipes and water not electricity		X		QPRC	CFCA
TOU	Establish the first stage of Molonglo Rail Trail as part of the remediation of the rail precinct and contaminated rail corridor		X		TfNSW, MRT	CFCA, Network
	Restoration of train station and rail heritage items		X		TfNSW	CFCA, Network
	Refurbish shower block at camping site		X		QPRC	CFs355
	Provide portable (or other) toilet and dump point with access for large caravans and campervans		X		QPRC	CFs355
	Convert old pre-school into arts hub		X		CFCA, Network	QPRC

AREA	ACTIONS	SHORT	MEDIUM	LONG	PROJECT LEAD	PARTNERS/ PLANS
	Identify Crown Land for a future mountain bike park		X		Crown Lands	QPRC, CFCA, MALC
	Provide walking trail access to the waterfall and the dam, including high quality heritage signage		X		QPRC	CFCA
	New town signage and map showing what is in town		X		QPRC	CFCA
	Refurbish public toilets		X		QPRC	
	Construction of a camp kitchen and camping site including power points using solar and battery			X	QPRC	Crown Lands, Network
	Provide brochures for walking and heritage		X		CFCA	QPRC
LANDSCAPE	Top soil and re-seed oval. Sprinklers on the oval		X		QPRC	s355, Network
	Upgrade Winchester oval and park for all ages			X	QPRC	s355, Network
	Clearly identify land ownership – Crown, Council, Indigenous, to enable future planning and community use	X			Crown Lands, QPRC	CFCA, MALC
	Spray weeds and clear storm water grates and drains incl blackberry removal around town.	X			QPRC	CFCA
	Park similar to Bungendore			X	QPRC	CFs355, CFCA
	Community garden		X		CFCA	QPRC
CON	Community bus to town on weekends and for local events		X		TfNSW, Private bus company	CFCA
	Update local emergency management plan (2010)	X			CFCA, RFS, SES	QPRC
	Emergency procedures including access during flood and fire and temporary fencing for animals	X			QPRC	CFCA, RFS, SES
	Source an indoor and contained outdoor facility for playgroup	X			QPRC, CFs355	CFCA
	Tech hub with internet access		X		CFCA	QPRC
	Youth group		X		CFCA	QPRC Youth Committee

AREA	ACTIONS	SHORT	MEDIUM	LONG	PROJECT LEAD	PARTNERS/ PLANS
	Food pantry that is accessible 24/7		X		CFCA	
	Projector and screen for community movie nights		X		CFCA	Small grants
HERITAGE	Rejuvenate and expand Heritage Trail from rail precinct to Winchester Park, including high quality signage for heritage locations.	X			CFCA	QPRC, Network, MALC
	Set up Captains Flat museum including mining heritage items	X			CFCA	QPRC, Network, MALC
	Rename bridge outside town and reinstate plaque.		X		QPRC	CFCA
RECREATION	Skatepark	X			QPRC	s355, CFCA, Network
	Upgrade Winchester Park for all age use		X		QPRC	s355, CFCA, Network
	Soccer nets on the oval	X			CFCA	s355
	Cap and re-surface tennis and basketball courts to multipurpose courts for tennis, basketball and pickleball	X			QPRC	CFCA, Network
	Provide seating and shade at BMX track	X			QPRC	CFCA, Small grants

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