



ATTACHMENT TO MINUTES OF THE PUBLIC FORUM HELD ON 17 December 2025

‘Questions on Notice’ from the Public

Responses to the following ‘Questions on Notice’ received up to Wednesday 10 December 2025 were provided and tabled at the meeting.

Questions submitted by: John Tuckwell

1. Can Council staff please find out, and share, the reasons behind the significant change in the NSW Population Projections?

NSW Population Projections details are published in FAQs on the draft Braidwood Structure Plan’s project page on Council’s Your Voice website: <https://yourvoice.qprc.nsw.gov.au/draft-braidwood-structure-plan-nov-2025>

This indicates that growth rates and population forecasts are fluid and the result of many contributing factors, such as migration trends post-COVID, cessation of mining operations, and/or an aging population. They have decreased for Braidwood since work started on preparation of the Plan and needed to be updated to reflect current data. This includes updated population projections provided by NSW State Government, Profile ID and the Palerang Communities Integrated Water Cycle Management (IWCM) Issues Paper 2025.

In addition to the response in the FAQs, the NSW Government population projections used in the earlier draft were the 2022 population projections. The current version of the Plan uses the 2024 population projections. The following link to the NSW Government projections reiterates Council’s FAQ response. See: <https://www.planning.nsw.gov.au/data-and-insights/population-projections/projections-explained>

2. Can Council staff please advise whether a community consensus approach could be used to deal with population growth? If so, and if broad support for this approach can be demonstrated, can Council staff please advise whether they would like to lead discussions aimed at reaching a community consensus on a desired population growth rate?

The community are invited to comment on the draft Braidwood Structure Plan while it is on public exhibition. Comments can also be made on the population projections provided in the plan. Council staff will address each submission and amend the plan accordingly if required. Council staff have collated a series of different population data to inform a variety of different population scenarios, which is consistent with the NSW Local Housing Strategy Guidelines. We would welcome other data sources or anecdotal evidence if available.

The above information is considered appropriate to manage potential growth scenarios for Braidwood. In addition, the 309 additional dwelling limit provides a growth cap to the area, monitoring the construction of new dwellings is a priority to ensure land is released in an orderly manner. The Plan also commits Council to a review every five years, which will allow for population projections to be revised.