



**GALARIIN
BARAAY-GU**
MURDI PAAKI
COORDINATING COMMITTEE

**COMMUNITY PLAN
2022-2032**



Acknowledgement of Country

*We live and work on the lands of the
First Australians. We pay our respects
to Elders past, present and emerging.*

Gamilaraay

Dhayn ngiyani winangaylanha NSWga
ganunga-waanda yanaylanha,
dhaymaarr ganugu-waanda nhama
ngarrangarranmaldanhi

English

We respect Aboriginal peoples as the
First Peoples and custodians of NSW.



Community Plan - prepared by the Healthy
Communities Foundation in collaboration with
the Collarenebri-Galariinbaaray-gu community
and Murdi Paaki Coordinating Committee.



COLLARENEBRI COMMUNITY VISION

A united, thriving community in which everyone has the opportunity to learn, prosper and be healthy.

What does this mean?



Our children have the best possible start in life.



Our young people get the knowledge and skills they need to realise their potential and live a healthy life with a full understanding of the ancient culture and language of our land.



Our community is a safe and inclusive place to live and work, is free from discrimination and provides the social and economic opportunities all people need to live well and raise the next generation.



Residents can easily access essential help and care from local culturally safe services when they need it including safe and affordable housing, transport, education and employment support and comprehensive primary health care.



Residents with special needs get the support they need to participate in the social and economic life of the community.

PARTNERS





OUR STORY - PROGRESS TO RECONCILIATION

Collarenebri is the English word of the Gamilaroi place called 'Galariinbaraay' meaning 'place of flowers' or 'eucalyptus blossoms'.

Gamilaraay is the language spoken on Gamilaroi country, which is also known as Yuwaalaraay country.

The Gamilaroi people have inhabited the lands of Collarenebri-Galariinbaraay for more than 50,000 years. They are one of the Aboriginal nations of the Australian continent, which are the oldest continuous civilisations on Earth.

The British colonisation of the Australian continent in 1788 marked the beginning of a new and painful era in the history of the people of Collarenebri-Galariinbaraay.

Under the authority of the British Empire, William Earl took possession of land near what is called Collarenebri Crossing.

This marked the beginning of a period of British agricultural expansion which generated enormous wealth for the British, and subsequently Australian, people over the next two centuries.

During this time the Gamilaroi people were evicted from their lands and were forced to relocate. The Gamilaroi people were exposed to hitherto unknown western diseases against which they had no natural immunity. New foods, alcohol and cigarettes, which were unknown in traditional Gamilaroi culture led to high rates of chronic disease. Western religion and beliefs displaced the traditional beliefs and stories of the Gamilaroi people, and the ancient culture and language were suppressed.

Two centuries of racial discrimination defined the lives of the Gamilaroi people of Collarenebri-Galariinbaraay as they were pushed to the fringes of their own lands.

On the nearby Collymongle Station, ancient Gamilaroi scar trees and rocks were stolen from the people.

This was akin to removing the tomb stones of Australians killed in action at the Somme, and building a city over the graves of the fallen. Lack of understanding, and regard, for Gamilaroi history, culture and way-of-life caused great physical and mental harm to the traditional owners.

Despite this history, Collarenebri-Galariinbaraay continues to this day to be one of the most unique and significant cultural and historical sites for Aboriginal and Gamilaroi people in Australia.

Work is continuing to achieve the return of stolen scar trees and artefacts, while other trees have been preserved for the community.

As much as Collarenebri-Galariinbaraay is part of the long and ancient story of this continent, it holds another unique place in the modern history of Australia.

Collarenebri-Galariinbaraay is one of the birthplaces of Aboriginal land rights, and a process of reconciliation that continues to this day.

Isabel Flick was a Gamilaroi and Bigambul woman born in 1928. She moved to Collarenebri-Galariinbaraay at an early age with her father.

Like many other Aboriginal kids in 1938, Isabel Flick was denied an education because she was "too black" to be allowed into the racially segregated public school in Collarenebri-Galariinbaraay.

In "defiance of her exclusion from the local school", she taught herself to read and write "determined she would not be defeated by segregation ..".

"By the 1950s, as a young mother, Isabel was working as a cleaner in the same school to which she had been denied access as a student ...'.

"She and her sister-in-law, Isobelle Walford, had for years been angered by the discrimination their children were facing in the schools and in the main streets.

"Watching their kids being herded down to the front seats [of the Liberty Picture Theatre in town], where they were roped off and had to crane their necks to see the screen, Isabel and Isobelle made the decision in 1961 to challenge the unspoken rules".

"They marched up to the ticket box and demanded seats that had been reserved for whites only ... [T]his local activism, which happened much earlier than the celebrated 1965 Freedom Ride led by Charles Perkins, later drew the attention of the university campaigners in north west NSW.

As Isabel remembered it, "...I stood in front of the ticket office and I said: 'I want you to come and fix this. Take these ropes off! What do you think we are? Our money is as good as anyone else's and we want to sit where we want to sit.'

Moving to Sydney she "got to know Aboriginal people from other places, with similar stories, as well as non-Aboriginal activists who were advocates for social change.

Isabel returned to Collarenebri-Galariinbaraay in 1978 having “become a skilled and careful negotiator. After campaigning for Land Rights, she took up a job with Mangankali, the Aboriginal Housing company she helped found”.

“She was trying to achieve concrete outcomes – better housing, more equitable distribution of resources – but always had a recognition of the importance of the broader, symbolic issues”.

“So, she paid a great deal of attention to the Aboriginal cemetery, in which many of the community had buried their loved ones, old and young”.

“The town cemetery was segregated – but the Aboriginal community had turned this into a strength, recording their family stories and carefully decorating, washing and caring for the graves in their cemetery over the years.

“Many people, like Isabel, saw this tiny pocket of land as symbolic not only of community but of all the land they had lost. But the road to this cemetery was unreliable in wet weather, deepening the pain of loss when burials had to be delayed”.

“... Isabel developed a consensus among all the Collarenebri-Galariinbaraay families that they would refuse government funding for any other project until it was available to upgrade this road ...”.

“Their solid collective refusal to take funds for two funding rounds was astounding, demonstrating how deeply the community felt about the cemetery. The government relented, [just as the Liberty Theatre had done many years before] recognising the importance of the demand for reliable access – not only to this burial site but to this tiny corner of their land. The new and upgraded road was opened in 1983”.



"Her fellow Aboriginal community recognised her political experience and courage, and even non-Aboriginal people of her town acknowledged her, as well ...

Her popularity was proved when she was chosen by both Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal people to be the spokesperson for their town in negotiations with the government for resources to address the health, education and other needs of the town.

“After her retirement from the Land Council largely until her death in 2000, Isabel again took on wider roles, particularly focussing on the campaign to end Aboriginal Deaths in Custody and to recognise the right to safety of Aboriginal women and children”.

Isabel Flick was recognised in 1986 with an Order of Australia Medal. She was recognised by the Collarenebri-Galariinbaraay and Brewarrina communities with awards. She was awarded an Honorary Doctorate from Tranby, an Aboriginal-controlled, post-secondary educational body.

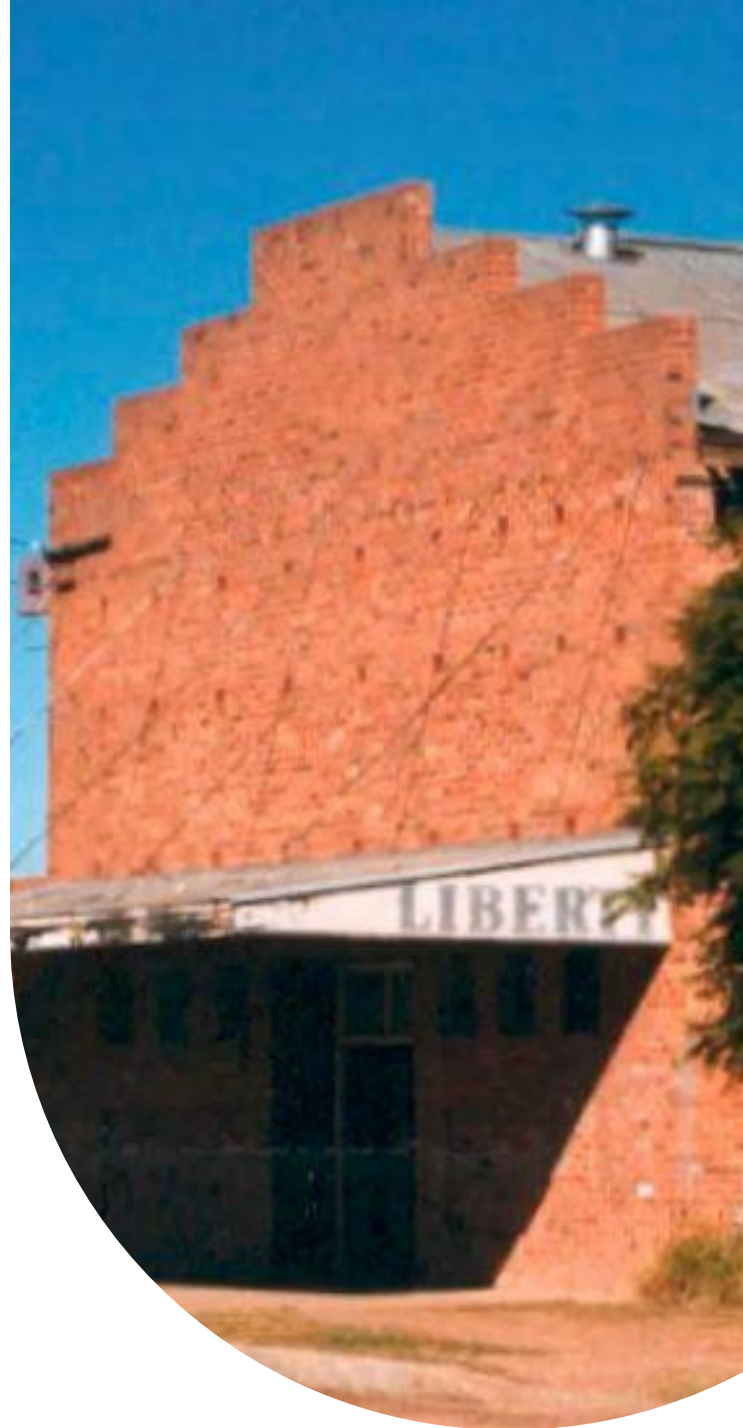
Collarenebri-Galariinbaraay has prospered for more than 50,000 years. While it has endured decades of neglect and discrimination as a community, the spirit of its ancient custodians has inspired a new generation of Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal people to join together in the important work of reconciliation and progress.

Quotes from:

SBS (2019) Hidden Women of History: Isabel Flick, the tenacious campaigner who fought segregation in Australia at <https://www.sbs.com.au/nitv/article/hidden-women-of-history-isabel-flick-the-tenacious-campaigner-who-fought-segregation-in-australia/r1c4bdfbt>.

Reference:

Goodal, Heather, Isabel Flick - The many lives of an extraordinary Aboriginal woman (Allen & Unwin, 2004) at <https://readingaustralia.com.au/books/isabel-flick/>



The people of Collarenebri-Galariinbaraay recognise that reconciliation can only be achieved hand-in-hand with addressing the social, economic and environmental barriers experienced by remote communities.

COMMUNITY OBJECTIVES

This Plan is built on the principle of 'Progress through Reconciliation'. This recognises the need for everyone, Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal, to take responsibility to preserve, protect and promote the unique culture, history, language and arts of the Gamilaroi people for the benefit of all people in Australia, while also addressing the underlying barriers to the full enjoyment of equal rights of remote Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal people through a program to comprehensively address the social determinants of disadvantage through a community-led and strengths-based approach.

EMPOWERMENT

Establish the Collarenebri-Galariinbaraay Reconciliation and Renewal Corporation to advance community and economic development in Collarenebri-Galariinbaraay.

EDUCATION AND SKILLS

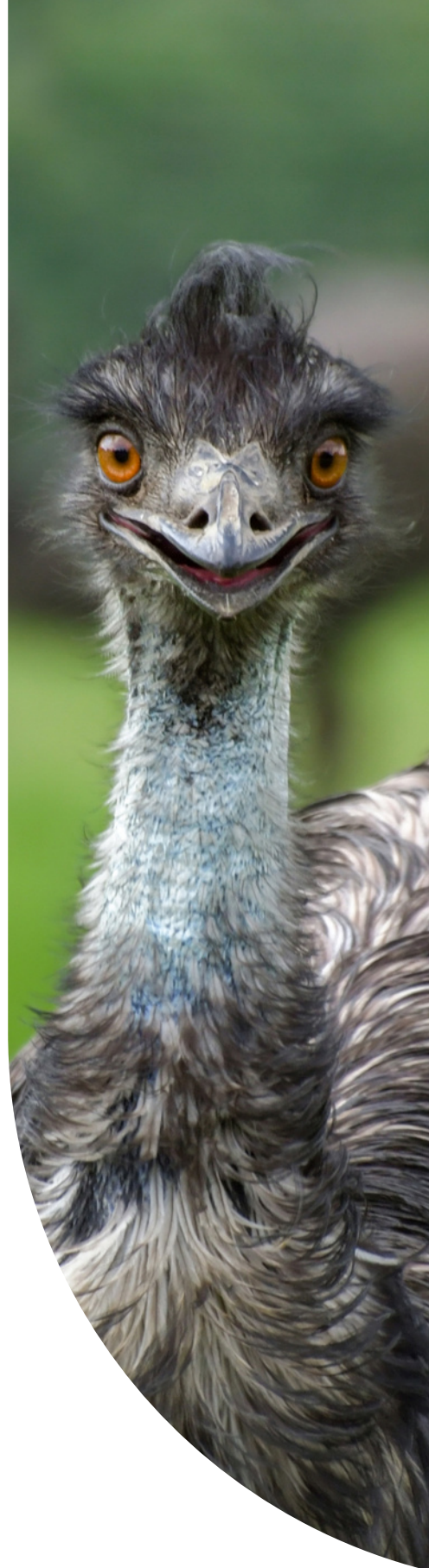
Develop a Learning Community Plan to promote education and its value to parents and kids, support our early childhood providers and schools, and promote positive messages about lifelong education and skills to residents of the community.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Establish the Collarenebri-Galariinbaraay Business Incubator and develop an investment plan to support the establishment of small startup businesses that respond to the needs and priorities of the community and which create new jobs and training opportunities.

HEALTH & HOUSING

Establish a local Aboriginal Community Controlled Health Organisation and Community Housing Cooperative in Collarenebri-Galariinbaraay to put decisions about local health in local hands, and to strengthen local on-site access to sustainable primary health and medical care for the whole community.



A STRENGTHS APPROACH

The community conducted a SWOT Analysis to better understand its genuine strengths and the barriers that can be addressed to help it to achieve its goals.

STRENGTHS

- Unique and important history in Australia of reconciliation & community cooperation
- Unique ancient culture and relics.
- Low crime/high community safety
- Cheap land
- Established Integrated Primary Health Care Centre
- Early Childhood Centre
- Strong School community
- Active community with passion for progress and true reconciliation for the future

OPPORTUNITIES

- Land available for farming and production of cheap food to improve health and offer training
- Historic Aboriginal culture and unique art forms (e.g. scar trees and rocks) as a basis for tourism
- Main Street Shop vacancies available for new business and training startups
- TVET offerings in schools provide a foundation for expanding career opportunities for kids.

WEAKNESSES

- Lack of local small businesses to provide people with the training needed for work and to build educational aspiration
- Food insecurity due to lack of local food production
- Lack of expertise in economic and social development and business management
- Hospital service that is not responsive to community needs
- Power blackouts due to poor energy infrastructure
- Very poor broadband quality and low household Internet access limiting employment and education
- Lack of zoned land for development

THREATS

- Low AGPAR scores and low birth weight in babies due to lack of opportunity and poor access to sexual health/family planning services
- Very high rate of developmental vulnerability on 2 or more domains
- Sub-optimal school attendance and attainment limiting career pathways
- Excess level of preventable hospitalisations and avoidable deaths
- Racial discrimination by some government services.
- No economic plan for the town.
- Government funding allocations do not get to Collarenebri-Galariinbaraaay



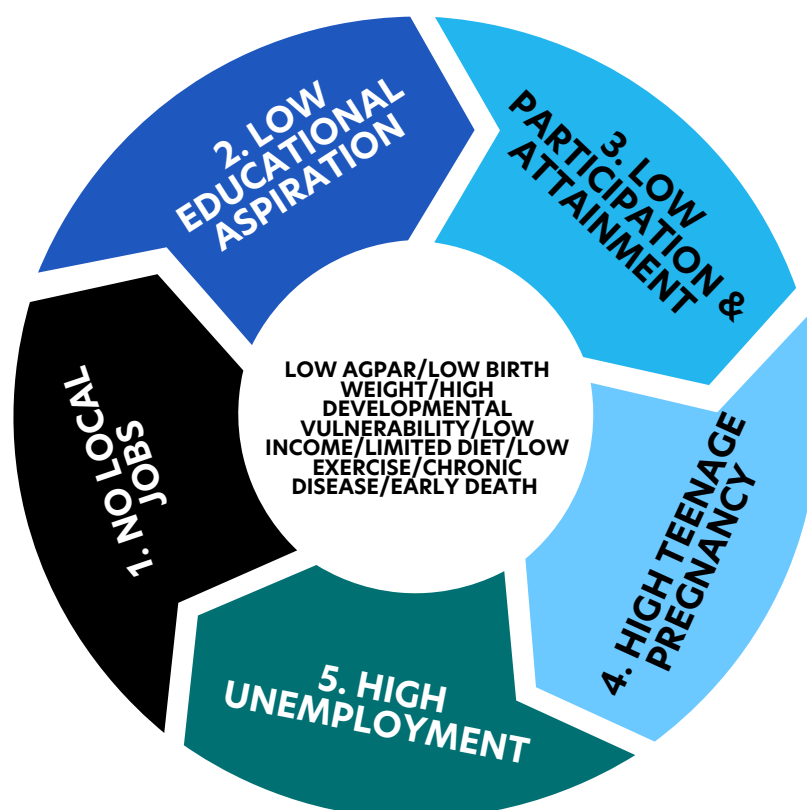
Collarenebri-Galariinbaraay is in the bottom quintile of socioeconomic disadvantage in Australia.

If Closing the Gap in health is ever to succeed in addressing the poor educational, health, social, economic and environmental outcomes of Aboriginal Australians, the focus must shift from intervening when things go wrong to proactively addressing the social determinants that lead to entrenched disadvantage.

This Community Plan acknowledges the critical role of addressing social determinants such as employment, economic opportunity, housing, food security, access to services and education as a pathway to closing the gap. It recognises that as a community we cannot plan for health, education, employment or justice separately because all these things are connected in creating disadvantage.

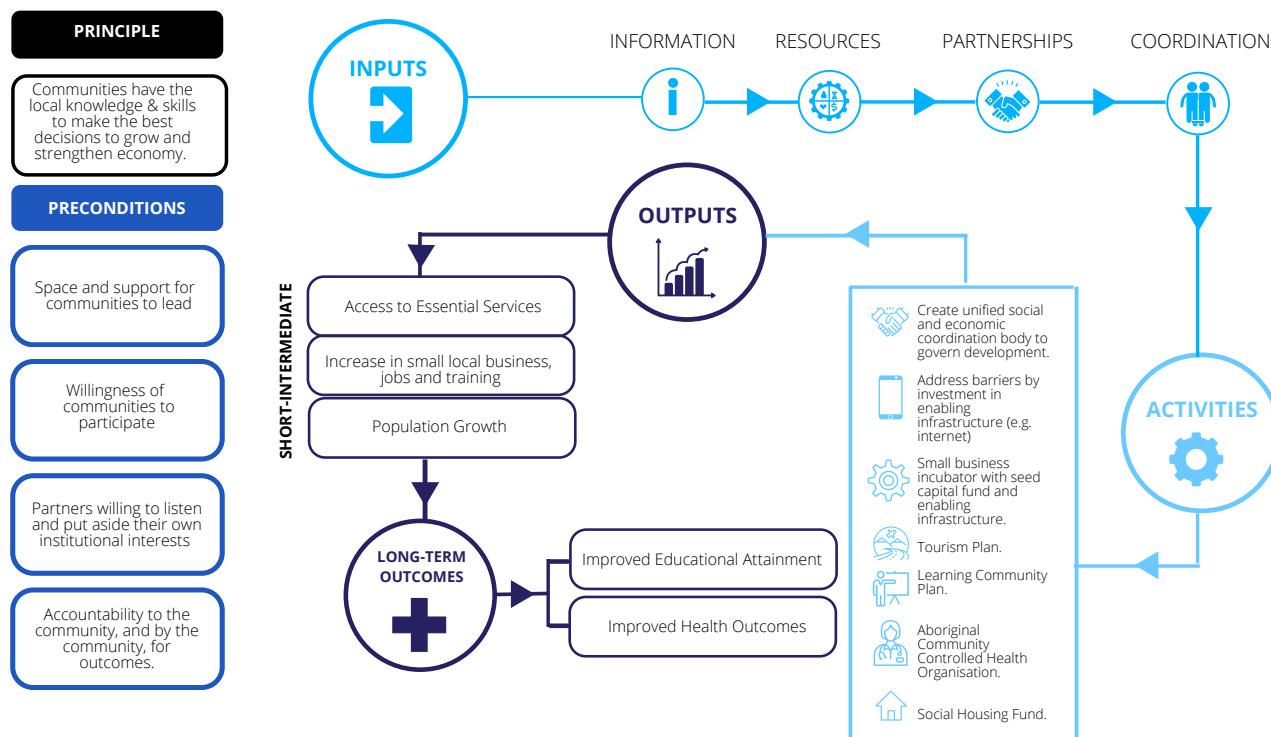
It also recognises that the population of Collarenebri-Galariinbaraay is too small and that fragmenting our efforts will result in services that are not sustainable for anyone. The nature and consequences of social determinants differ in their impact on Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal people. But as a small town we cannot hope to address them sustainably by having competing strategies and services for Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal people. We must work as one community in the spirit of strength and reconciliation shown to us by Isabel Flick.

We believe that the whole community of Collarenebri-Galariinbaraay benefits when we work together for mutual progress in a spirit of mutual advancement and reconciliation.



THEORY OF CHANGE

As a charity, the Healthy Communities Foundation Australia is driven to improve the health of rural and remote communities by helping communities to sustain viable primary health care services. Our Theory of Change sets out the assumptions that underpin our approach. The Community Outcomes Framework outlines what we aim to achieve working with rural and remote people and communities.



COMMUNITY OUTCOMES FRAMEWORK



ENABLING INVESTMENTS

Enabling investments describe the funds and activities that are required to remove road-blocks in the way of the community in building an economy designed around its strengths.



ENERGY SECURITY

Power in Collarenebri-Galariinbaraay is unreliable due to infrastructure that is highly susceptible to climatic conditions.

IMPACT

The lack of reliable energy undermines the capacity of the town to attract new business investment, creates risks for local business revenue, impacts health care and education, and inhibits future tourism growth.

ACTION

Examine opportunities to secure funding for a Community Battery and Solar/Wind Farm to ensure reliable power for business, industry, health, education and the community to underpin growth.

BROADBAND ACCESS

Broadband access and reception is very poor in Collarenebri-Galariinbaraay and household internet access is very low.

IMPACT

Poor reliability and cost are a major contributor to low rates of household internet access and has a major impact on business investment, education and health care limiting growth.

ACTION

Explore options securing funding to implement a reliable satellite or other technology to ensure high speed reliable access to broadband services and provide free wifi access in town for school children, job seekers and other community members unable to afford internet at home.





ENTRYWAY & STREET BEAUTIFICATION

The main street is tired and unattractive, and mixes heavy freight and pedestrian usage which is unsafe.

IMPACT

The town lacks an attractive street presence to underpin increased visitation and tourism investment, and poor management of interaction between heavy vehicles and pedestrians.

ACTION

Explore grants to invest in the beautification of the mainstreet and improve community safety.



INFRASTRUCTURE MAINTENANCE & REPAIR

There is limited regular maintenance of public assets (street cleaning), and poor storm water drainage in the main CBD results in flooding of shops during heavy rains.

IMPACT

The Main Street and associated businesses flood during heavy rain due to inadequate drainage impacting business continuity, resulting in additional business costs and in some cases can impede access to health care. A lack of green cover during hotter months discourages CBD utilisation during the daytime including retail and hospitality. The absence of regular street cleaning and maintenance allows dust and dirt accumulation contributing to low visitor stickiness.

ACTION

Work with the Walgett Shire Council to secure an agreed plan for street maintenance, drainage upgrades and new street planting to increase shade cover.



TOWN PLANNING & INDUSTRIAL LAND

There is no current plan for industrial, manufacturing and tourism development Collarenebri-Galariinbaraay.

IMPACT

The lack of a clear plan for Collarenebri-Galariinbaraay, including appropriate zonings to attract freight and other businesses to the town, limits business investment, employment growth, training capacity and population growth.

ACTION

Work with the Walgett Shire Council to develop a new urban, tourism and industrial master plan for Collarenebri-Galariinbaraay.



VISITOR ACCOMMODATION

Low volume of inappropriate quality accommodation for visitor attraction and overnight stays.

IMPACT

Reduced visitation and overnight stays.

ACTION

Work with local businesses on investment strategy to improve quality and volume of accommodation offerings. Work with Walgett Shire Council to explore grants to upgrade existing Primitive Camp Ground into a full service campground with power, water and bathroom facilities with boardwalk to the CBD to increase the length of stay of visitors to the town.



RIDGE-COLLY ROAD

The Ridge-Colly Road is not suitable to safely enable visitors and residents in either community to easily access the other.

IMPACT

Walgett Shire is largely reliant on Lightning Ridge as a tourist destination limiting the capacity of the region to attract increased overnight stays and potential economic and employment flow-on benefits. A second tourism focused town, offering a range of complementary services and activities, with a direct link to the Ridge would add to the destination assets and increase overnight stays and economic activity.

ACTION

Work with Walgett Shire Council to prioritise upgrading of the Ridge-Colly Road in parallel with development of a Tourism Plan (see below).

COMMUNITY OBJECTIVES 2022-2032





EMPOWERMENT

Establish the Collarenebri-Galariinbaraay Reconciliation and Renewal Corporation to advance community and economic development in Collarenebri-Galariinbaraay.

The Corporation will be a not-for-profit charitable entity established as a community voice for Collarenebri-Galariinbaraay's Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal community and advance the implementation of this Plan, govern general funds allocated to the Collarenebri-Galariinbaraay community under this Plan (not funds that are granted to specific organisations such as Murdi Paaki Coordinating Committee, ACCHO etc) and monitor performance. The Members of the Corporation will include:

1. Murdi Paaki Regional Assembly Coordinating Committee
2. Collarenebri Local Aboriginal Land Corporation
3. The Healthy Communities Foundation Australia (formerly Rural and Remote Medical Services)
4. Collarenebri Central School

The Members will elect the Directors. The Chair of the Board of Directors will be elected for a term of 2 years and will rotate between an Aboriginal and a non-Aboriginal member. The first Chair must be an Aboriginal person.

To the extent possible, the Board will be comprised of an equal number of women and men and at least one Elder. The Board will actively encourage participation as directors by people with a disability, from the LGBTQIA+ community and youth.

The directors will be elected by the Members for a 4 year term. Half of the directors will be elected every two years in order to ensure a balance of experience and new ideas.

There will be 9 directors. Directors will be elected from among local stakeholders and community members including:

- Aboriginal community organisations
- Educational organisations
- Health organisations
- Police and Justice organisations
- Human and community services organisations
- Government organisations

At least one director must have:

1. financial qualifications and experience;
2. business development experience;
3. experience working with government and communities.

To the extent possible appointed directors should reside in Collarenebri-Galariinbaraay or have a significant role in the Collarenebri-Galariinbaraay community.

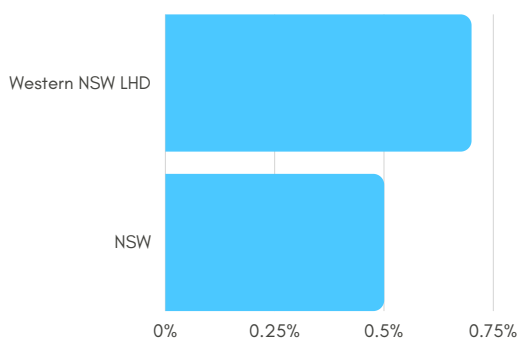


EDUCATION & SKILLS CONTEXT

LOW APGAR SCORE

Why is this important to know?

The APGAR score is a quick way for doctors to work out a baby's healthy after they are born. A score of 7 to 10 after five minutes is considered to be good. Infants with low APGAR scores at birth have increased risk of poor functioning and lower intelligence in later life.



DEVELOPMENTALLY VULNERABLE KIDS

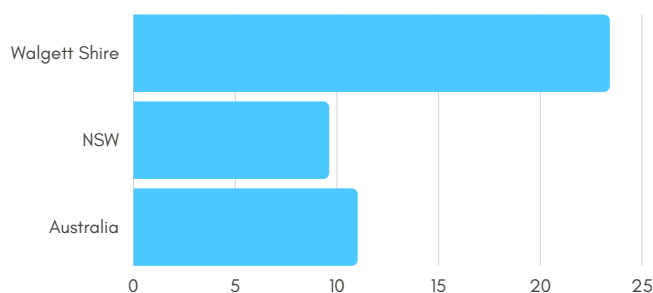
Why is this important to know?

The Australian Early Development Census (AECDC) is a survey conducted at the time children commence their first year of full-time school. The survey collects data relating to five key areas referred to as 'domains', these include:

- Physical health and well being
- Social competence
- Emotional maturity
- Language and cognitive skills (school-based)
- Communication skills and general knowledge

Children are assessed in terms of their vulnerability and risk under each of these domains with the aim of working out how to intervene to reduce potential disadvantage over time.

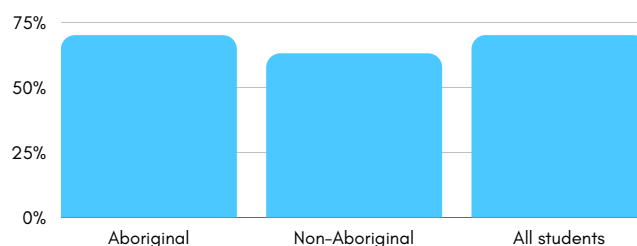
23.4% of kids in Walgett Shire (Social Health Atlas) were assessed under the AECDC as being developmentally vulnerable on two or more domains compared to 9.6% of kids in NSW.



SCHOOL ATTENDANCE

Why is this important to know?

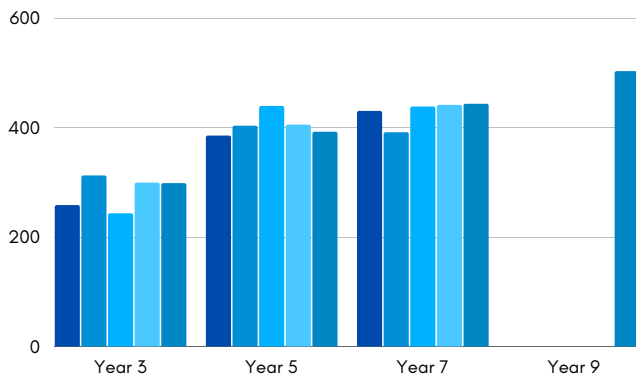
Attending school is really important for children to learn the skills and knowledge they will need to have a good life, get a job and manage their health. Low levels of school attendance are associated with poorer life outcomes, poor health outcomes and lower levels of economic capacity in a community. Data from MySchools shows that 70% of kids attended school in Collarenebri in Term 3 of 2019. Aboriginal kids were more likely to attend school (71%) compared to non-Aboriginal kids (63%). The proportion of kids who attended school 90% of the time, however, is very low at 19% overall.



NAPLAN

Why is this important to know?

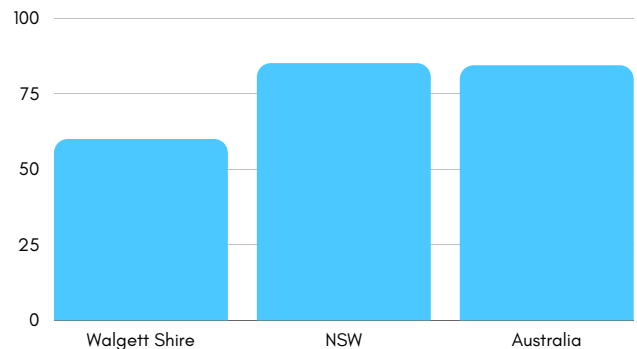
NAPLAN is a test that kids take at school to see how they are progressing with things like spelling, reading and math. Doing well in these areas is really important for kids to have the best opportunities in life and to get a good job that pays well. According to the NAPLAN results for 2018, kids in Collarenebri scored well-above kids in similar schools across all domains but well-below kids in Australia generally. This suggests that the local school is doing a good job for the community. The community needs to talk to the school about how we can help to continue to support the good work they are doing.



LEARNING OR EARNING

Why is this important to know?

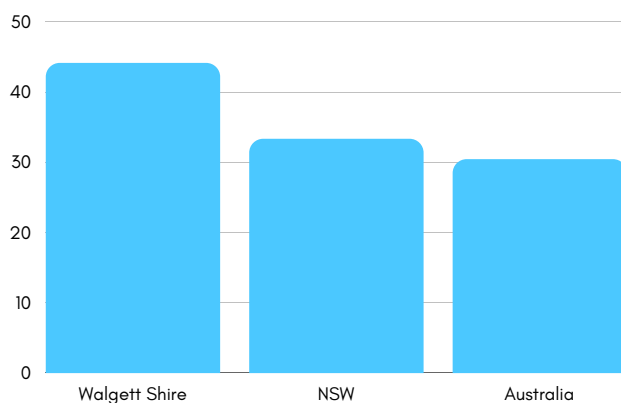
If young people are not earning (have a job) or learning (at TAFE or University) they will struggle to get well-paying jobs to build a comfortable life and support the local economy. The proportion of people aged 15 years to 24 years who were enrolled in an educational program or in paid employment in Walgett Shire in 2016 was 59.9% compared to 85% of young people in NSW and 84.3% of young people in Australia. The community has identified the lack of local jobs and training opportunities as a major barrier for kids that may aspire to pursue further education.



LEFT SCHOOL BY YEAR 10

Why is this important to know?

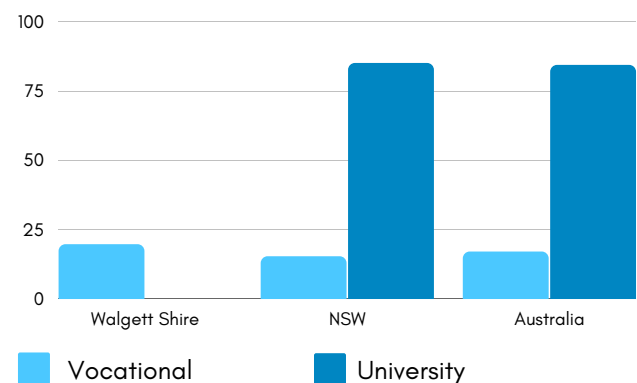
Research shows that the more years of education a kid gets, the better jobs they have. This is because the more knowledgeable and skilled a person, the more businesses want to employ them. The longer kids in rural towns stay in school the more they will benefit in their life (e.g. the income they can earn) and the more the community and local economy benefits. More than 44% of residents in Walgett Shire left school at or before Year 10 (Social Health Atlas). That is more than 10% higher than the NSW average. As a community we need to think about how we can improve engagement by young people in education and increase the number of kids completing Year 12 to pursue skills in areas of need in the town.



TERTIARY EDUCATION

Why is this important to know?

Vocational education (TAFE) and university education is a really important way that members of the community can grow their skills to support local businesses and build economic capacity. 19.5% of people aged 15 years to 24 years were enrolled in a vocational education program in 2019 compared to 15.4% of people in NSW and 17.1% of people in Australia (Social Health Atlas). In the same year, no young people were recorded as being enrolled in higher education program from Walgett Shire, compared to 85% of people in NSW and 84.3% of people in Australia. There is a big opportunity for the community to look at ways of building local aspiration for tertiary education by focussing on the careers where there are shortages in town like nursing, medicine, dentistry, aged care, personal assistance, agronomy, agriculture and hospitality.



EDUCATION & SKILLS PLAN

Develop and publish a Learning Community Plan to promote education and its value to parents and kids, support our early childhood providers and schools, and promote positive messages about lifelong education and skills to residents of the community.



LEARNING COMMUNITY PLAN

The town experiences low AGPAR scores, low school attendance rates, low educational attainment, high rates of developmental vulnerability and poor employment outcomes which limits economic capacity for growth in the community.

IMPACT

Low educational attainment contributes to high rates of residents neither earning or learning between the age of 15 to 24 years and poorer health outcomes.

ACTION

Develop a Learning Community Plan to coordinate programs to engage everyone in the community in understanding the value of education and promoting early years learning, health literacy, educational participation and attainment and progress to vocational and higher education for employment.

LOCAL TRAINING

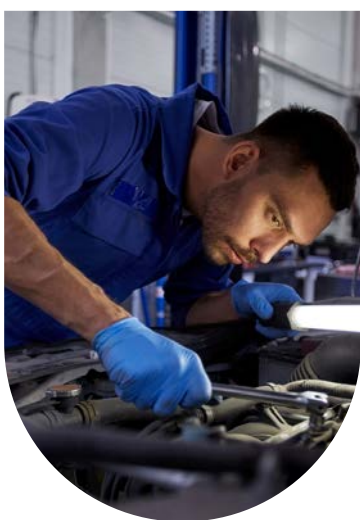
Limited local training opportunities beyond TVET in schools is a major barrier to educational participation, aspiration and attainment, and impacts on the retention of skills in the community and the capacity for jobs growth.

IMPACT

A thin skills market reduces business investment, and job creation, and increases the risk of the loss of essential services.

ACTION

Work with the school, local businesses, TAFE and other stakeholders to explore how the community can help to increase the number of apprenticeships and traineeships in the community.



ECONOMIC CONTEXT

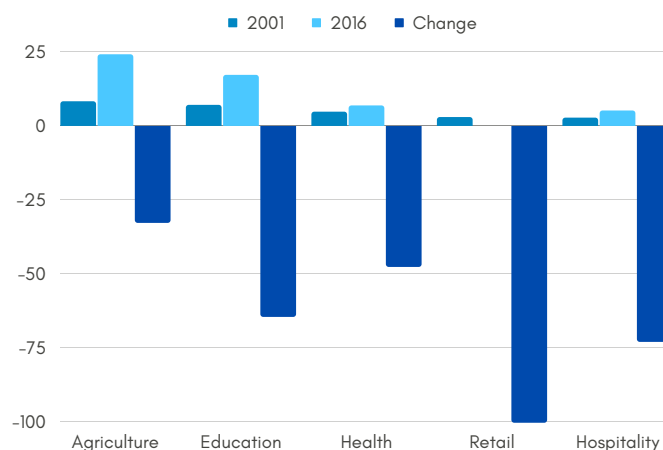
INDUSTRY OF EMPLOYMENT

Why is this important to know?

The number of people employed in an industry tells us about the types of industries that do well in a location. Declines in employment may reflect changes in technology (e.g. increased mechanisation), changes in policy or funding (particularly government services), or changes in the environment that may reduce the sustainability of the industry in the location.

The industry composition of Collarenebri (ABS Census 2016, UCL) has changed between the years 2001 and 2016. For example, in 2001 agriculture employed 8.3% of the population, but by 2016 it employs 24.3% of the population. This does not reflect growth in the number of people employed in Agriculture, but rather a decline in the number of people employed in the services sectors. This largely reflects the withdrawal of government services (e.g. centralisation of health services in regional cities, outsourcing of government functions to non-local providers).

Despite the decline in government support, Education remains responsible for 17.2% of employment, health (6.9%) and hospitality (5.2%) even though each of these industries has had a decline in job numbers. The data does help us understand which industries are the most important for Collarenebri's future growth. For example, if health services were closed or reduced this would affect 6.9% of the towns employment. But it also helps us to understand where opportunities exist. It is easy to grow an existing industry than create a new one, so investing in agriculture, health, education and hospitality should be a key focus.

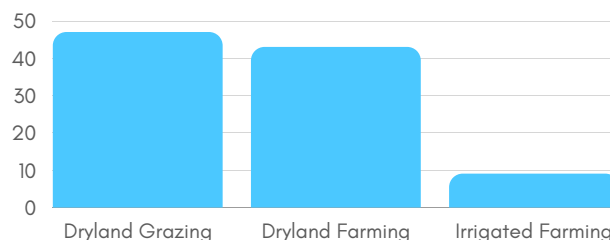


LAND USE

Why is this important to know?

AbLand use in the Collarenebri community is predominantly dryland grazing (47% of the land area), with 43% of the land area used for dryland farming. The maximum area of land developed for irrigation is 9%, with cotton the main crop grown when water is available. Other irrigated crops grown include sorghum, sunflowers, wheat, mungbeans, chickpeas, turf, pecans and citrus.

The irrigated area has varied between 0 and 17,100 hectares. The maximum area developed equates to 20 hectares of irrigated area per person.

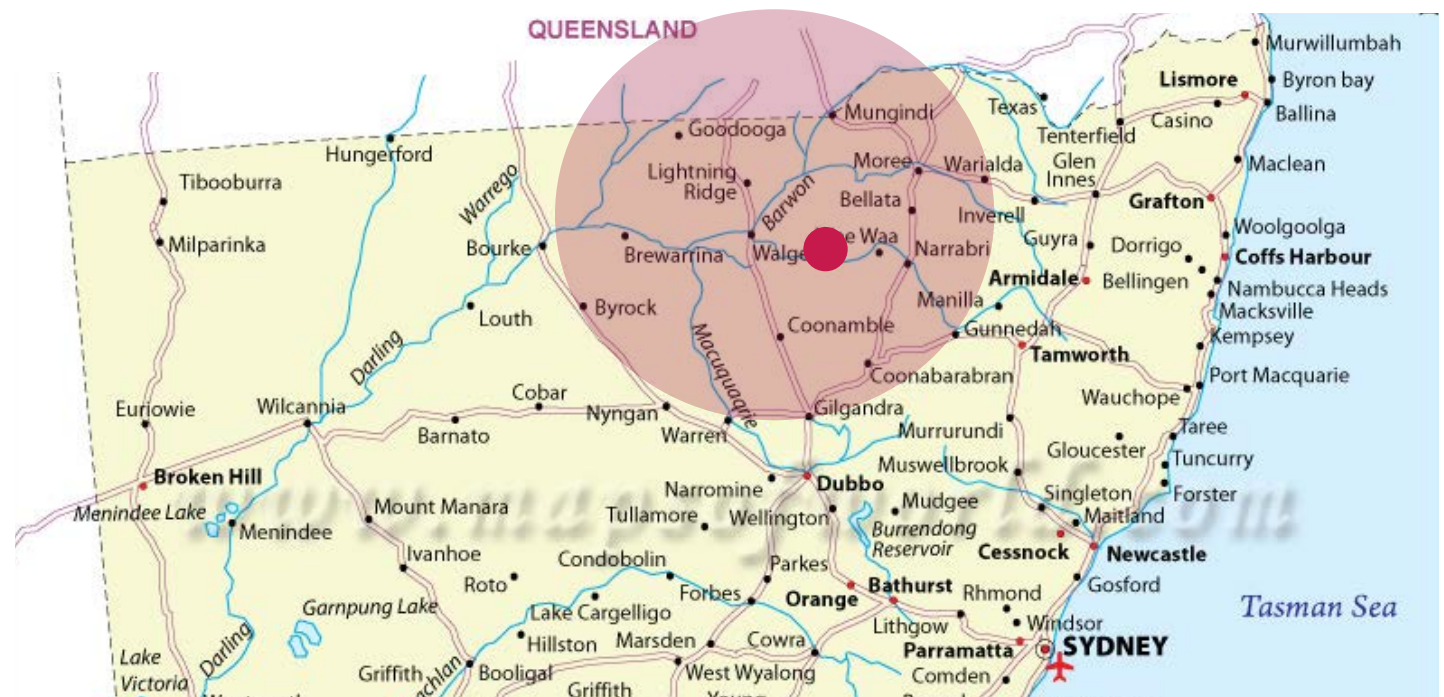


LOCATION

Why is this important to know?

Locational advantages are advantages that arise from being located at a particular site or in a particular region. These can include access to raw materials, low wages or access to investment funding or taxation concessions. It is important for towns to identify and understand any genuine locational advantages that give it a competitive edge in attracting business investment and employment.

Collarenebri is located at a key geographic position between the New England and North Coast regions, Southern Queensland and Western and Far Western NSW. Collarenebri is located within 3.5 hours of agricultural export regions such as Bourke, Brewarrina and Walgett and within 1-1.5 hours of access to the inland rail freight terminals in Narrabri and Moree. While less prominent than towns like Walgett, Collarenebri has a lower residential housing cost and commercial land price, a good quality school, reliable health services and greater social cohesion than surrounding towns. There is an opportunity for Collarenebri to expand the availability of commercial, industrial and residential land, and promote the educational, health and safety aspects of the town as key locational advantages compared to other towns.



HOUSE AND LAND PRICES

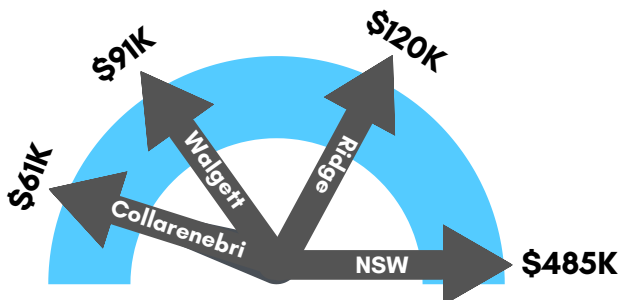
Why is this important to know?

There is an opportunity for Collarenebri to expand the availability of commercial, industrial and residential land to provide services into these key locations to support freight movement, storage, engineering and professional services and to become a domestic destination for visitors from these areas.

RESIDENTIAL HOUSE PRICES

Why is this important to know?

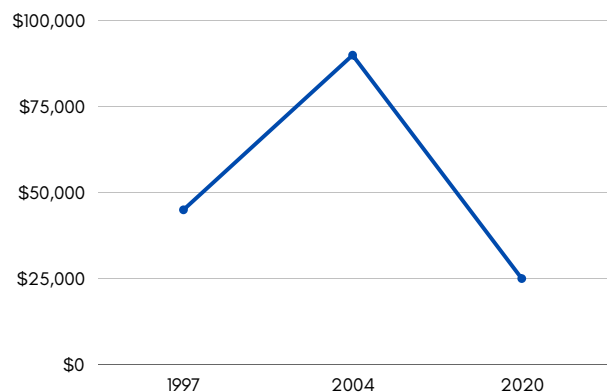
Housing affordability is important to attracting residents to live and work in Collarenebri. Median residential house prices in Collarenebri (2021) are well below the median price in Walgett and Lightning Ridge, and 12.5% the median price in NSW. The low housing price may be a competitive advantage in attracting people to live in Collarenebri. The number of houses sold in Collarenebri has increased from 4 in July 2020 to 14 in July 2021. The community may need to consider how the standard and quality of housing and street presentation may contribute to increase in residential house purchases in the town (CoreLogic, Suburb Statistics Report, 2021).



COMMERCIAL PROPERTY

Why is this important to know?

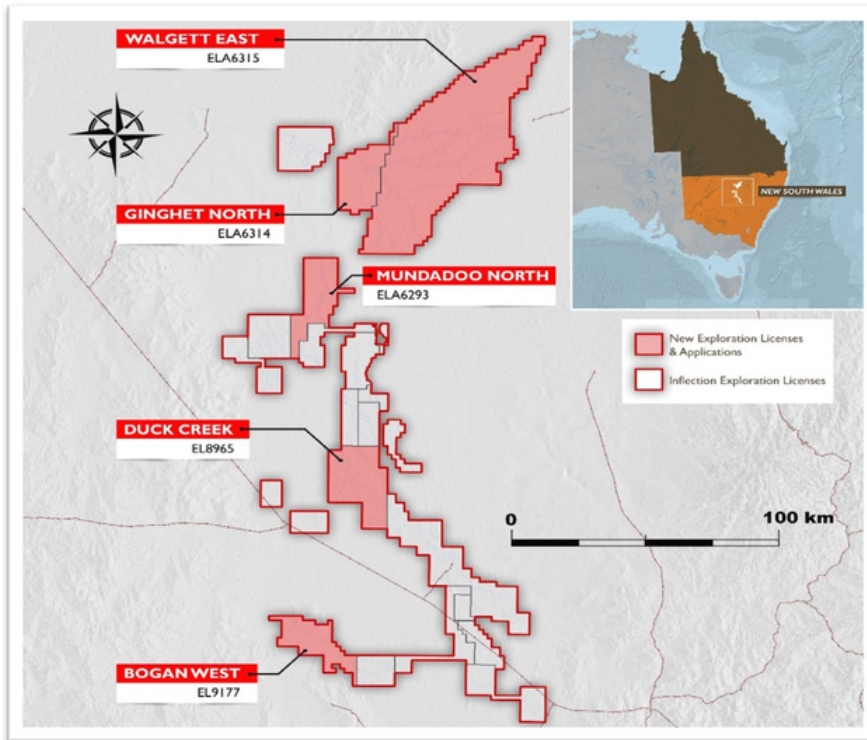
Commercial property is closely held in Collarenebri and values reflect the nature of the property. It is therefore difficult to obtain a reliable indicator of trends in commercial land values. The value of commercial property will be closely tied to its build quality and the level of town demand for goods and services, as well as the visitor economy.



MINING

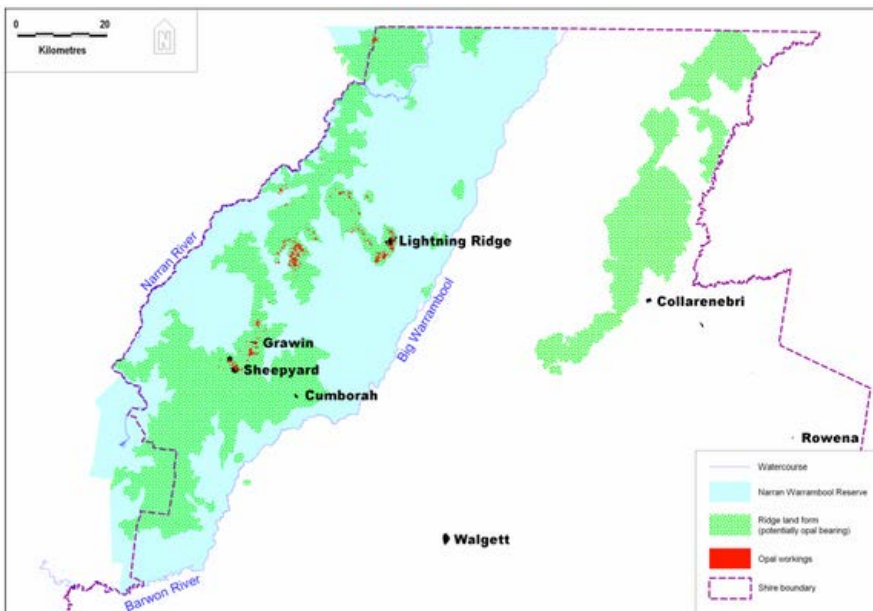
Why is it important to know?

Global and domestic demand for minerals is a major driver of economic growth in rural and regional Australia. Understanding the mineral exploration potential of land surrounding Collarenebri is important because it builds an understanding of future opportunities for investment and business growth. The presence of mining prospects and businesses in close proximity to Collarenebri (e.g. Lightning Ridge, Grawin and Walgett) create potential opportunities to explore mining support industry opportunities.



Inflection Resources is undertaking gold and copper explorations to the east of Walgett as part of a prospecting venture covering the Macquarie Arc. Targets have been generated using regional aeromagnetic and gravity data and are primarily considered prospective for alkalic porphyry-related copper-gold mineralisation.

Inflection Resources plans to systematically drill test these new targets as part of its ongoing Northern New South Wales drill program with the goal of discovering large, concealed copper-gold deposit.



According to the NSW Department of Primary Industries "the entire area of Cretaceous rocks exposed between Collarenebri, White Cliffs and Tibooburra has potential to host precious opal".

The value of opal produced in New South Wales for 2002-03 was estimated to be A\$35 million, based on Australian Customs figures for worked black opal exports. The total of all opals exported from Australia in 2000 was over A\$79 million (Australian Bureau of Statistics).

The major markets for opal exports are Japan, Hong Kong, the USA and Germany, with lesser but significant exports to New Zealand, Singapore, Switzerland, Republic of Korea, Taiwan and Thailand.

The Finch Co. Collarenebri Opal fields have widely dispersed opal deposits of generally poor quality.

There may be value for Collarenebri to facilitate the exploration of potential opal fields to its east for the opportunity to expand its industry base into mining and associated industries.

https://www.regional.nsw.gov.au/__data/assets/pdf_file/0003/238179/Opal.pdf

MANUFACTURING LAND

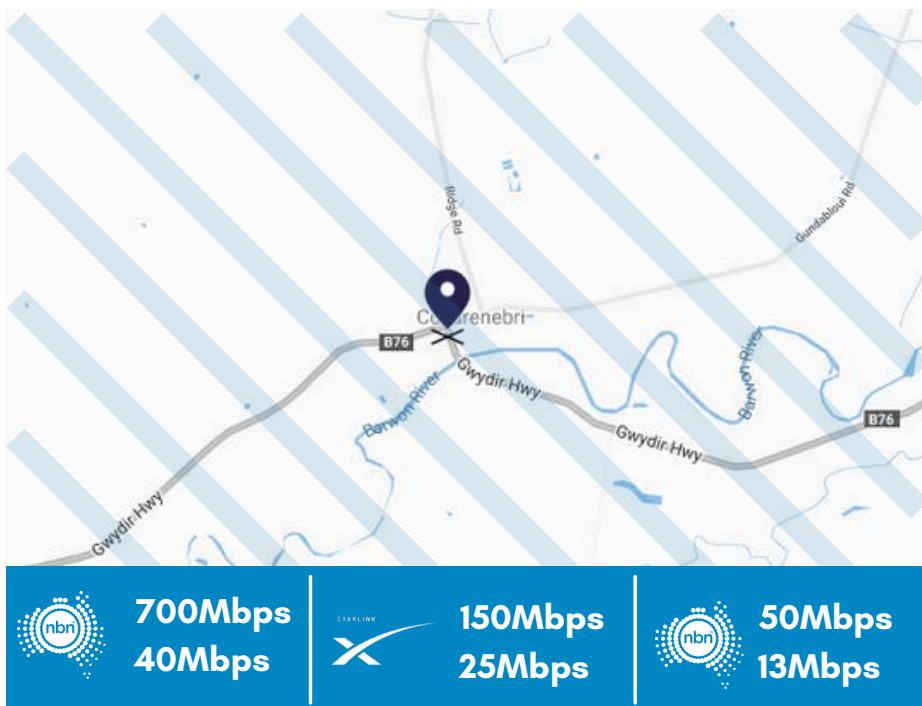
Why is it important to know?

The growth of manufacturing in Collarenebri is dependent on access to well-serviced, high quality industrial land.



The extent, servability and availability of industrial land in Collarenebri needs to be evaluated by the community to determine the potential for manufacturing to be supported at scale.

BROADBAND



Why is this important to know?

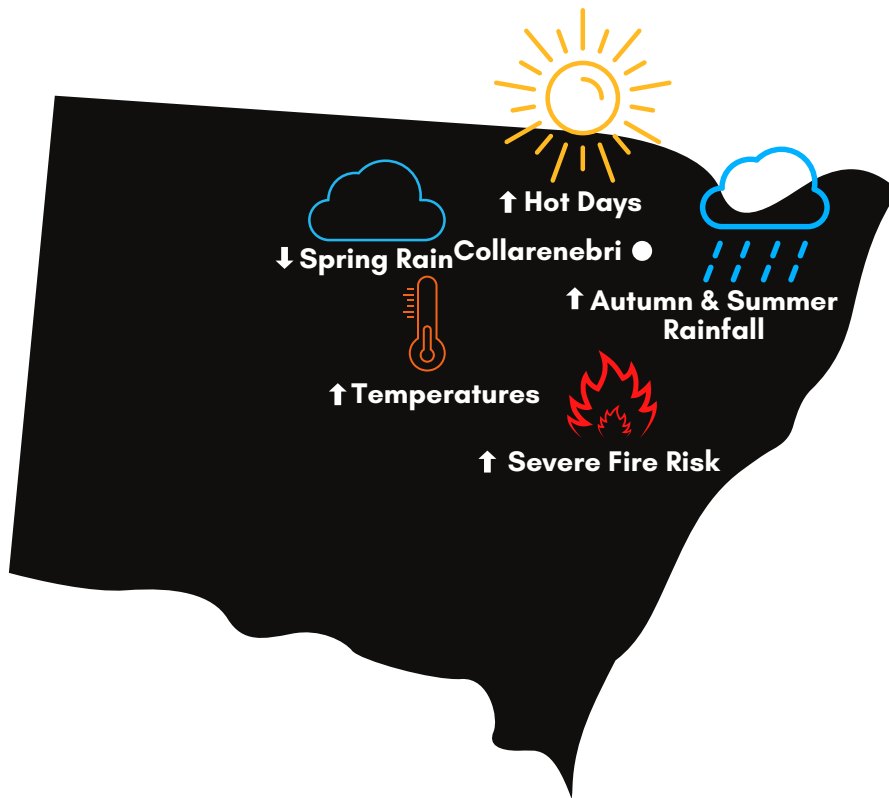
Broadband fibre provides business with high bandwidth, fast and reliable internet connections for global and national market access. Access to NBN fibre is critical to the ability to attract businesses to towns.

The nbnCo map shows that Collarenebri is able to access the SkyMuster Satellite service which delivers Committed Information Rate (CIR) bandwidth of up to 50Mbps forward and 13Mbps return. This is well below Business ultrafast fibre ethernet speeds available in cities of 700Mbps upload and 40Mbps download. SkyLink is a new low-orbit satellite service that reportedly supplies 150 Mbps download and 25 Mbps upload capacity, with plans to increase this to 300 Mbps download. For businesses to grow in Collarenebri access to faster broadband will be important.

CLIMATE STRENGTHS

Why is this important to know?

Climate change will have a potentially significant impact on Collarenebri. The Barwon River starts at an elevation of about 200 metres, at the confluence of the Macintyre and Weir rivers. The Barwon River has highly variable flows and capacity only increases downstream of Collarenebri, after the Little Weir, Boomi, Moonie, Gwydir and Mehi rivers have joined the Barwon. The southward progress of the tropics is expected to bring an increase in summer and autumn rain to Collarenebri which could improve river flows in summer and autumn in the town, but reduced spring rainfall is likely to impact on grazing and cropping. An increase in temperature and the number of hot days in the summer months is expected to place greater pressure on farm water storage through evaporation loss and increase the risk of severe bush fires.



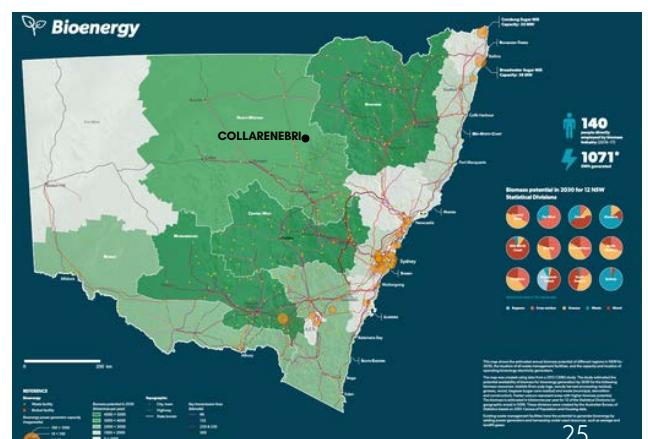
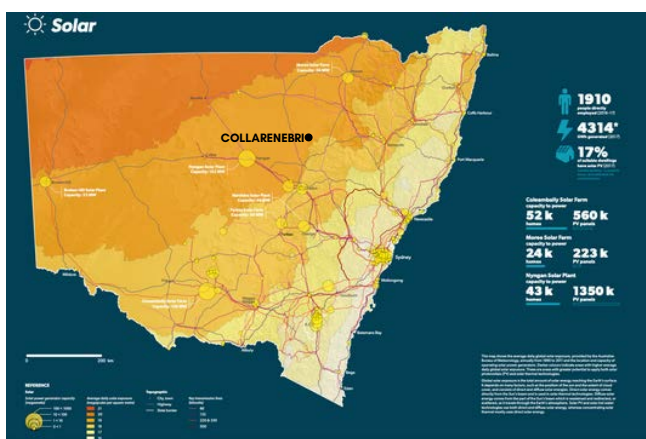
The map left illustrates the projected impact of climate change on Collarenebri and surrounding regions.

RENEWABLE ENERGY

Why is this important to know?

Access to reliable and sustainable energy is critical for business investment, community amenity and population growth. Collarenebri routinely experiences power outages due to unreliable supply.

Collarenebri has been identified by the NSW Government as potential locations with good solar energy and bioenergy capacity. The potential to leverage these natural assets to secure a reliable power supply for the town, and provide access to businesses with cheap energy, should be explored as part of the Collarenebri activation plan.



ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT PLAN

Establish the Collarenebri-Galariinbaraay Business Incubator and Activation Centre.

LEVERAGING COMPETITIVE ADVANTAGES



FREIGHT & RELATED BUSINESSES

Collarenebri-Galariinbaraay is on the major freight route between Far Western NSW and the Brisbane and Newcastle Ports, and is the closest town in Walgett Shire to the Inland Rail ports at Narrabri and Moree.

The availability of cheap land and housing, the proximity of Collarenebri-Galariinbaraay to major export hubs, the low relative rate of crime, and the large volume of freight movements through the town are competitive advantages that could be leveraged to expand freight and agriculture related services.

Further investigation of transport, freight and agricultural industry opportunities will be explored through this planning process.



MINING

Inflection Resources has acquired five copper-gold exploration targets in Northern New South Wales, including the East Walgett license.

The East Walgett exploration area comprises a large segment of possible Macquarie Arc volcanics and intrusions. Inflection Resources considers East Walgett highly prospective for copper and gold.

Collarenebri-Galariinbaraay is a known location for Topaz, Agate and Opal fossicking that could provide opportunities for tourism operators.

Under the Plan, the community will meet with the departments, mining companies and others to explore the status of mineral exploration and opportunities, including timelines for Collarenebri-Galariinbaraay to work with mining companies to support infrastructure and workforce needs.



ABBATOIR

The Collarenebri Abbatoir is located on the Mungindi Road.

Previously an emu and ostrich abattoir the company discontinued operations in 2008. Subsequently purchased by Dellmain it planned to develop a goat abattoir with a capacity to process 750 goats a day for 250 days of the year creating 40 direct jobs and up to 100 indirect jobs.

The Abbatoir has recently been sold to a new investor who plans to re-open operations. Further investigation of the plans for the Abbatoir and future opportunities for employment and training will be undertaken as part of this planning process.



COTTON

Irrigated cotton continues to be a major industry around the town. GM cropping and new technology have had a significant impact on low skill labour requirements on cotton farms. Further discussions will be held with the cotton industry about future developments, training and employment opportunities and the outlook for irrigated cotton farming in the area in the context of climate change.



BROADACRE & DRYLAND

Broadacre and dryland grazing remain the primary agricultural uses in and around Collarenebri-Galariinbaraay.

Climate change is expected to impact these farming operations. Further discussions will be held with major industry stakeholders to explore the future direction of the industry and opportunities for related industries, training and diversification.

BUILDING ABORIGINAL AND COMMUNITY CAPACITY



SMALL ABORIGINAL BUSINESS INCUBATOR

The decline of small businesses in Collarenebri-Galariinbaraay is largely due to a heavy reliance on a thin skills base and poor access to capital by local people. For example, the local Butcher was a profitable business but when the owner moved on there was no-one with the resources and skills to take over the business resulting in the loss of jobs and economic activity.

IMPACT

Capacity to create jobs and improve community amenity, while addressing high unemployment rates among Aboriginal people, which has a flow-on impact to low educational aspiration and attainment create a vicious cycle of disadvantage.

ACTION

Explore options with government to establish the Collarenebri-Galariinbaraay Aboriginal Business Incubator. The Incubator would offer a fixed-term management and backend support to local people who have formal training to take over, or start up, small businesses. This may include a 'rent-to-buy' program in which a local business or a premises is purchased by the Incubator and the operator pays rent to the Incubator which is applied to a mortgage over the business over a 5 or 10 year period. The model could include requirements for the new business to take on a minimum number of trainees, once established, to ensure succession planning for essential services and functions in the community. The community has identified a butcher, baker, hairdresser, tyre repair and supply, truck cleaning and other small business gaps that could be supported to maturity.



GALARIINBARAAY COMMUNITY FARM

The Murri Elders hold a large parcel of agricultural land on the river for the community that is presently undeveloped.

IMPACT

The cost of fruit and vegetables, and fresh meats, results in increased intakes of high calorie processed foods contributing to obesity and increased heart risks. Lack of utilisation of land restricts the potential economic and employment opportunities for the Aboriginal community.

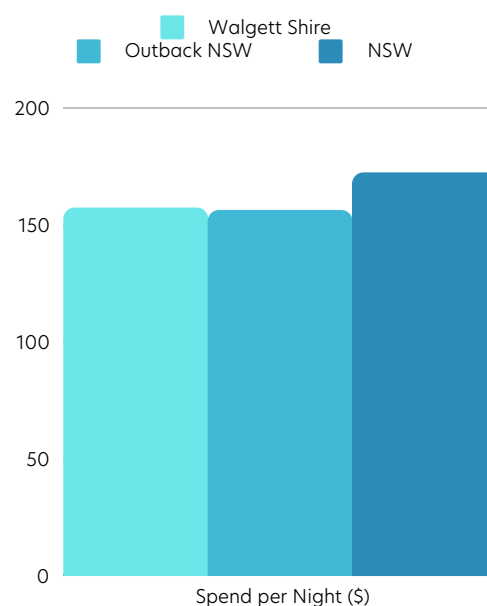
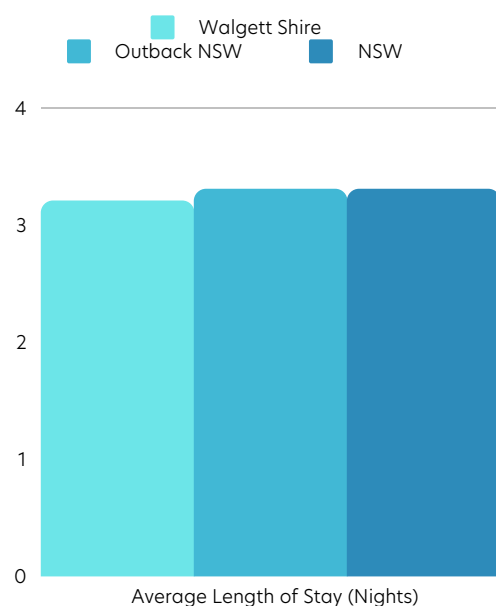
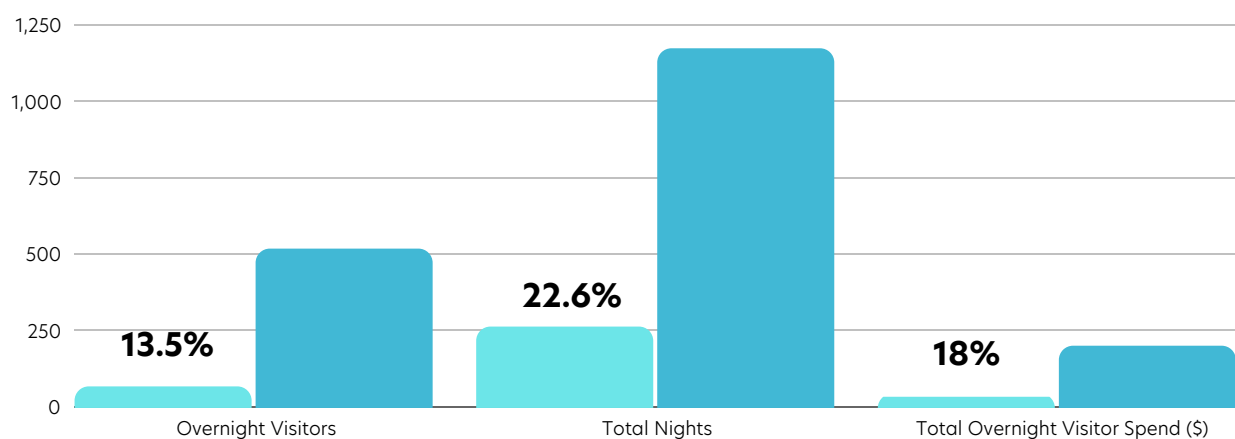
ACTION

Work with the Murri Elders, University of Sydney Faculty of Agriculture, Rural and Remote Medical Services, Collarenebri Central School and TAFE to explore funding options to establish a Model Farm as a training facility for Aboriginal people in agricultural trades and management to create employment and training for local people and reduce the cost of fresh produce across the region.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CONTEXT

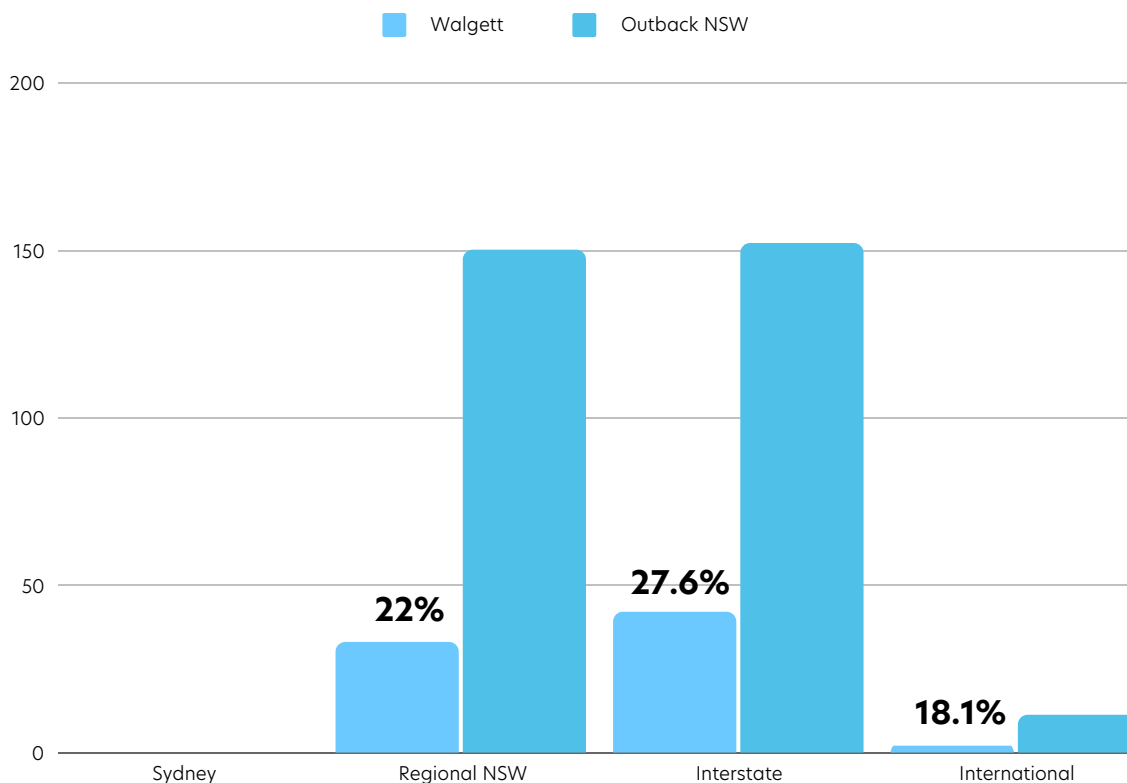
TOURISM

Domestic & Overnight Travel as a proportion of Outback NSW

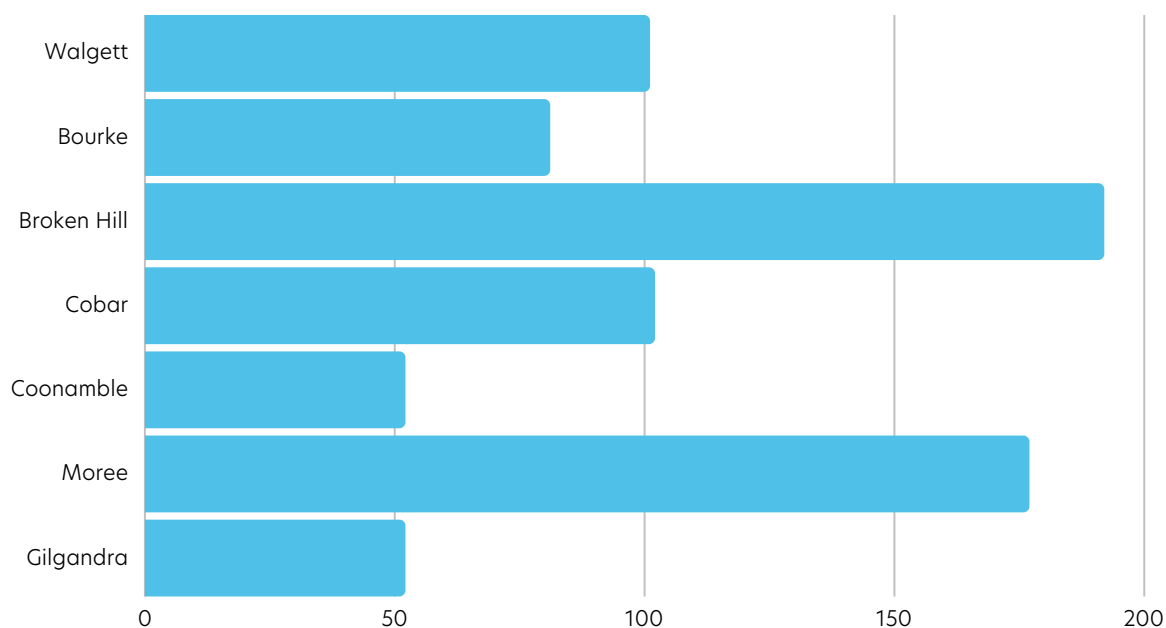


The data above and below uses the last available information from Walgett Shire in 2014. There is no later data available for comparison.

Domestic & Overnight Spend per Capita as a proportion of Outback NSW



Domestic & Overnight Stays Town Comparison



ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT PLAN TOURISM

TOURISM

Tourism in Walgett Shire is largely centred on Lightning Ridge which attracts both domestic and international tourists. While this is positive, there is capacity to lift overnight stays and spend per capita by expanding the range of destinations across the Shire and through investment in the cultural assets of the town. Tourism in Collarenebri-Galariinbaraay has largely been driven by one-off activities such as fishing, the mud trials and sporting carnivals. Fishing is a year-round activity that attracts grey nomads and enthusiasts typically staying at the primitive camp ground, but adds very little value to retail sales or hospitality. The Mud Trials and sporting events typically attract day or short-stay visitors. The key to success in destination management is to increase the overnight stays and expenditure per capita in the local economy. This requires work to build multiple destinations and attractions leveraging existing events by adding new activities that appeal to a similar audience, while also building new attractions and events based on unique destination advantages for a different visitors base.



MUD TRIALS

The Mud Trials are an important tourism event occurring over one weekend.

IMPACT

There are no estimates available of the total economic contribution of the Mud Trials to the local community (e.g. spending in town, accommodation, food) but it is expected to be of low value.

ACTION

Explore the feasibility of staging complementary events and attractions to extend the number of overnight stays for visitors (B&S Ball, Car Show, Concert [like the Mundi Mundi Bash]) as part of a Destination Management Plan.



MURRAY COD

The reputation of Collarenebri-Galariinbaraay for fishing is well established and may be strengthened.

IMPACT

There are no estimates available of the total economic contribution of recreational fishing to the local community (e.g. spending in town, accommodation, food) but it is expected to be of low value.

ACTION

Explore the feasibility of river related events and attractions such as boating, canoeing, fishing supplies etc as part of a Destination Management Plan.

A Destination Management Plan and funding applications will be pursued under this Plan to leverage the key strength of Collarenebri-Galariinbaraay - its Aboriginal history, culture, language and art - to increase overnight stays and higher value visitors and provide economic opportunities and training for Aboriginal people.



MUSEUM OF GAMILAROI HISTORY, CULTURE, LANGUAGE & ART

A key strength of Collarenebri-Galariinbaraay is the strong connection to country and an ancient history that goes back more than 50,000 years including an important tradition of carvings.

IMPACT

The Collarenebri-Galariinbaraay scar trees were stolen from the local Aboriginal community and are held away from country in various university and academic collections. The return of these artefacts will require a purpose built museum to safely store and display the trees, as well as other traditional artefacts creating jobs and training opportunity for local Aboriginal people, and supporting the restoration of language and culture.

ACTION

Work with the government to secure funding to build a museum to house the stolen artefacts, provide a repository for recovery of the Gamilaroi language and stories, create new jobs and training opportunities as the foundation for a cultural tourism destination plan for the town.



WOMEN'S ABORIGINAL ART CO-OPERATIVE

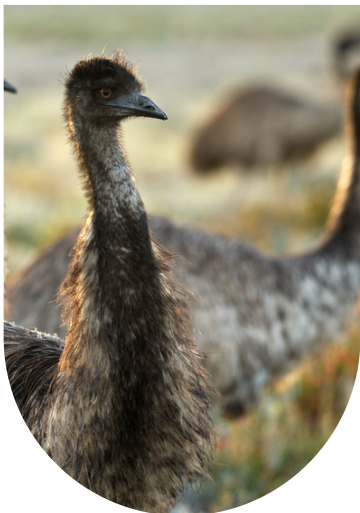
The carve trees and stones represent a unique cultural and artist heritage that has the potential to engage adult women in recovering history and social interactions supporting mental health, while creating an income source from the sale of goods

IMPACT

Income opportunity for lower skilled women and improvement in mental health through increased social engagement linked to health services.

ACTION

Seek funding to establish a Women's Aboriginal Art Co-operative.



NATIVE WILDLIFE & BUSH TUCKER VISITOR PARK

Collarenebri-Galariinbaraay has a diversity of native wildlife. There is an opportunity to establish a riverbank petting park for visitors, including cottages, to allow visitors to get close to nature in an idyllic riverside setting attracting family visits.

IMPACT

A petting park is targeted at providing entertainment for families with children to diversify the visitor economy and provide training and employment opportunities for Aboriginal people in animal care, cultural story telling, native food collection and cooking and associated activities.

ACTION

Work with Walgett Shire Council and government to secure support and funding for a Native Wildlife and Bush Tucker Visitor Park.



NATURAL SPRINGS

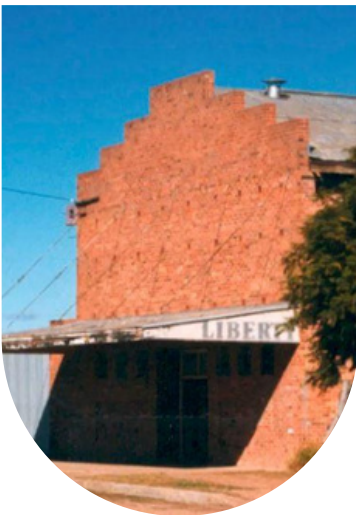
The community received funding to establish a bore bath in town to enhance visitor attraction.

IMPACT

Increased visitation and employment.

ACTION

There are bore baths in Walgett, Lightning Ridge, Goodooga and other locations that are proximate to the town. It will be important to the success of these baths that they are developed as part of an integrated destination management plan to ensure that they enhance local attractions and do not replicate what is available elsewhere.



THE LIBERTY THEATRE - ISABEL FLICK PROGRESS TO RECONCILIATION CENTRE

Isabel Flick was a key historic figure in the Aboriginal land rights and reconciliation movement. The Liberty Theatre, which is no longer operating, was the scene of one of the major challenges to racial segregation in Australia. The creation of a centre dedicated to her life, and the history of reconciliation and land rights in Australia, would honour her work and memory and the role that Collarenebri-Galariinbaraay played in our national story. As Australia progresses towards the Statement from the Heart and a Voice to Parliament, the creation of. Centre for Reconciliation would be a major step in demonstrating the integrity of the process for some of the most disadvantaged Aboriginal people in Australia.

IMPACT

Create jobs and tourism.

ACTION

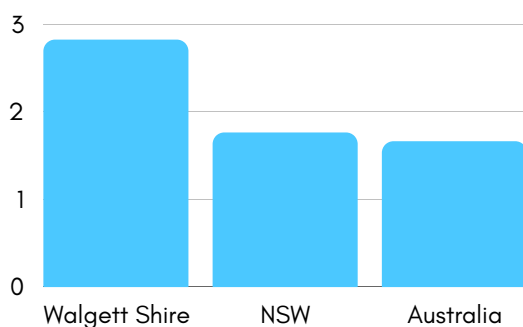
Work with governments to secure a grant to acquire the Theatre and establish a Centre for Reconciliation to teach young people across the region and more broadly about Aboriginal history and the significant role played by leaders such as Isabel Flick in challenging engrained racism and segregation in Australia.

HEALTH CONTEXT

BIRTH RATE

Why is this important to know?

The fertility rate is the number of babies born in the community. It tells us the level of early years support that is needed in the community, the number of school places and in the long-term how many people will need jobs in the town. A fertility rate above 2 means the community is replacing mums and dads and adding more people, while a rate below 2 means the population will decline as there are not enough babies to replace the mums and dads when they die. The fertility rate in Walgett Shire (Usual Residence, SSC) was 2.82 in 2016, compared to 1.66 nationally (Social Health Atlas, 2020). This means that Collarenebri can expect the population to grow over time as more babies are born assuming that people do not leave town for other reasons.

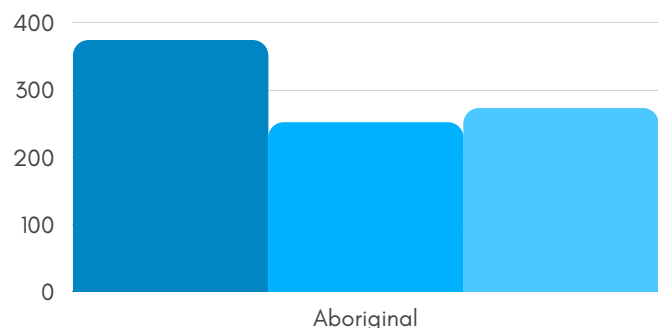


ABORIGINAL RESIDENTS

Why is this important to know?

Aboriginal people often experience greater challenges due to historic discrimination, inter-generational trauma and social exclusion.

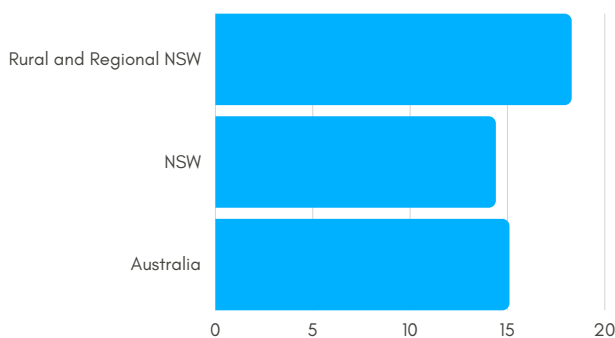
Understanding changes in the Aboriginal population help to understand the composition of our town in the future and consider how this may impact on our local economy, opportunities and challenges. The Aboriginal population of Collarenebri (Usual Residence, SSC) declined at a slightly slower pace compared to the non-Aboriginal population. The Aboriginal population declined 27.0% between 2006 and 2016 compared to 33.2% for the population as a whole (ABS Census 2016, 2011, 2016). As a result, Aboriginal people now make up a larger proportion of the community. Combined with higher birth rates among Aboriginal residents, Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander will comprise the majority of the population within the next 10 years. Engaging Aboriginal people in community planning and as economic leaders will be critical to the future of the town.



SMOKING GENERALLY

Why is this important to know?

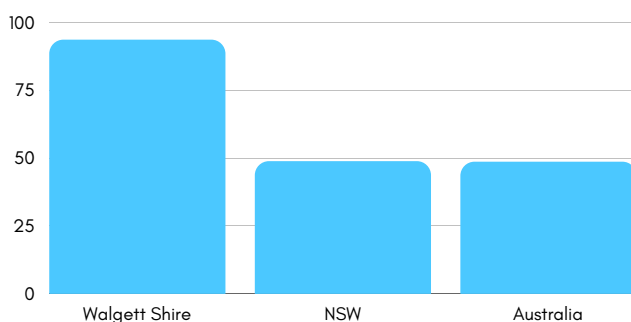
Smoking is a known cause of lung and other cancers and heart disease that significantly reduce quality of life and life expectancy. It is important to know the rate of smoking in a community to understand the things that may be contributing to poorer health, lower levels of participation in the workforce and limit the ability of a town to economically and socially thrive. There is no data on smoking rates in Collarenebri. The information above is the smoking rates of people who live in rural and regional NSW (that is, not in Newcastle, Sydney or Wollongong). There was agreement in the local community that the rate of smoking in Collarenebri is very high. Reducing the rate of smoking in the community is critical to enabling Collarenebri to grow



LUNG CANCER

Why is this important to know?

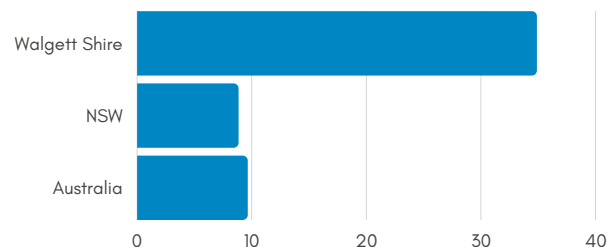
The major contributor to lung cancer is smoking. Lung cancer leads to suffering for local families, reduced capacity for work and avoidable population decline and economic capacity. Lung cancer rates in Walgett Shire are twice the rate of NSW and Australia (Social Health Atlas, 2010-2014) reflecting higher rates of smoking. Smoking is not just a problem for adults. Children learn behaviour from their mum, dad, aunties and uncles increasing the chance of young people taking up smoking and having a poor quality of life and dying early. One option that Collarenebri could consider is a community 'Quit Smoking' commitment to give everyone support and help to think about the impact of smoking on themselves and our kids and support improvement in outcomes for everyone.



SMOKING IN PREGNANCY

Why is this important to know?

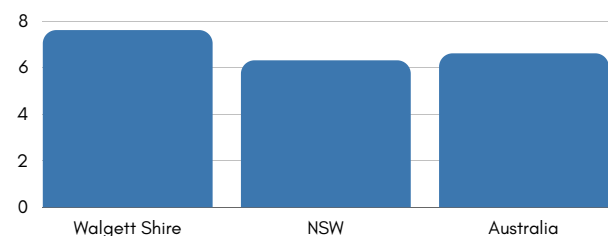
We know that smoking during pregnancy increases the risk of a wide range of problems for our kids, including miscarriage, premature labour, low birth weight babies, Sudden Infant Death Syndrome (SIDS), weaker lungs, an increased risk of getting infections, breathing difficulties and long-term health problems in adulthood. More than 34% of women smoke while they are pregnant in Walgett Shire (Social Health Atlas, 2016-18) compared to just 8.8% in NSW and 9.6% in Australia. Collarenebri needs a community strategy to reduce the very high rates of smoking during pregnancy to lessen the impacts on our kids and to give them the best chance for a long and happy life. Reducing smoking during pregnancy is also important to strengthening our community and supporting long-term growth.



LOW BIRTH WEIGHT BABIES

Why is this important to know?

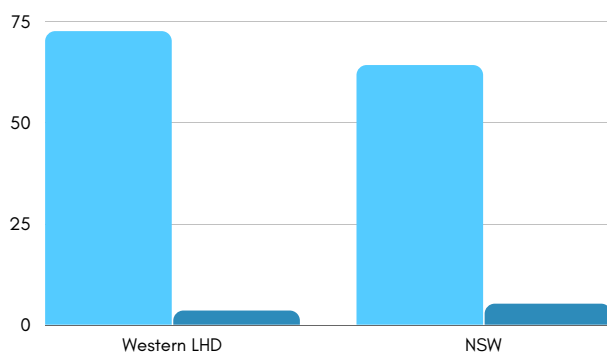
Low birth weight babies have a higher risk of lifelong problems including respiratory, brain, digestive, liver and eye diseases. Babies with very low birth weight are at risk for long-term complications and disability including cerebral palsy, blindness, deafness and learning problems. An increase in the number of children with disabilities impacts on the costs of raising a child by the family and can sometimes lead to the mum or dad having to stop work full-time or part-time to look after the child. This has broader impacts on the community from reduced labour force participation which impacts on the attractiveness of a town for investment by business. The rate of low birth weight babies in Walgett Shire is higher than the average for NSW and Australia (Social Health Atlas, 2010-2014). That means that more babies in Walgett Shire are born with low birth weight and a higher risk of development delay, learning problems and other issues throughout their lives. The best way to reduce low birth weight babies, and give our kids the best chance in life, is to reduce smoking in pregnancy, improve diet and exercise and to have regular appointments with your doctor to monitor the progress of pregnancy.



FRUIT & VEGETABLE INTAKE - KIDS

Why is this important to know?

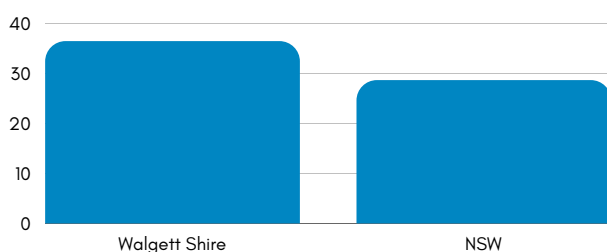
The amount of fruit and vegetables you eat has a significant impact on how healthy you are. Low fruit and vegetable intake can increase your risk of infection and other problems. Only 3.5% of residents of Western NSW eat the recommended daily amount of vegetables (compared to 5.2% in NSW) while 72.6% ate the recommended number of fruits (compared to only 64.2% in NSW). Nonetheless, fruit and vegetable intake across NSW is very low and contributes to increase disease risk and lower economic capacity. The community believes that one of the reasons for low fruit and vegetable intake in the town is because of the very high price of fresh foods compared to processed foods in the community. The community believes that a local fresh food production capacity would not only address this problem, but also create local jobs and traineeships for kids and help other surrounding communities to improve their health.



DIABETES RELATED DEATHS

Why is this important to know?

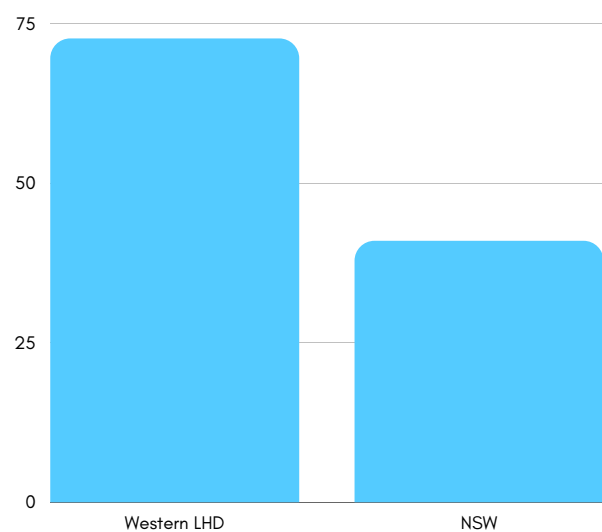
Diabetes is a major cause of poor health and avoidable death in rural and remote communities, particularly among Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander people. Type 2 diabetes is caused by a diet high in sugars and processed foods (pies, soft drink, burgers), and low in fruit, vegetables and moderate exercise. Diabetes contributes to poor physical and mental health, higher health costs and lower levels of economic contribution through employment and social activity. Diabetes related deaths in Walgett Shire were 36.4 per 100,000 people compared to an average across NSW of 28.6 per 100,000 people and a rate in Sydney of 20.9 (NSW HealthStats, 2017-18). Reducing diabetes is critical for the future social and economic development of the town.



OVERWEIGHT OR OBESE

Why is this important to know?

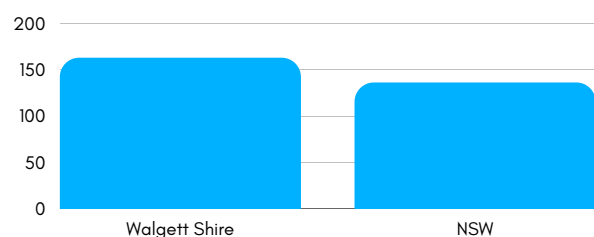
Being overweight or obese increases a range of health risks including the risk of stroke, heart attack, diabetes and some forms of cancer which impact on community and economic capacity. 71.2% of residents of Western NSW (HealthStats) are overweight or obese compared to just 40.9% of residents in Sydney. Being overweight or obese reduces the capacity for adults to raise kids to enjoy healthy lifestyles, increases the risk of early death, reduces capacity for strenuous work and increases the chance of disability. This impacts the whole family and community by reducing economic productive capacity and placing increased demand on health care.



HEART DISEASE DEATHS

Why is this important to know?

Heart disease leads to heart attacks, stroke and other circulatory problems. It can really reduce your quality of life and could result in missing really important milestones like the birth of a grandchild or a child getting married. Being around to support the next generation, and maintain culture and traditions, is so important to a healthy and thriving community. Deaths from circulatory diseases account for 162.7 deaths per 100,000 people in Walgett Shire compared to 136.0 in NSW as a whole (NSW HealthStats, 2017-18). Reducing heart disease would make a really big difference to the population of Collarenebri and its economic prosperity for our kids.

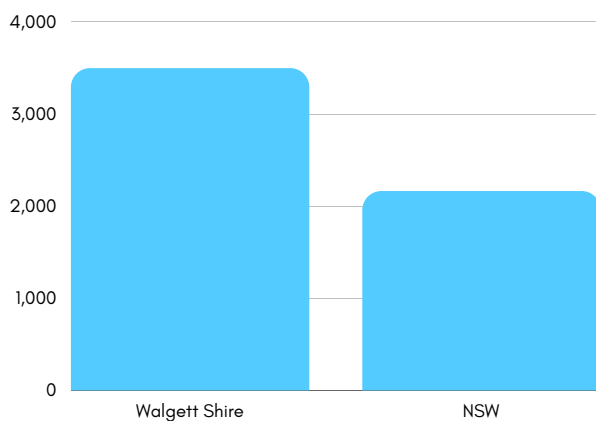


PREVENTABLE HOSPITALISATIONS

Why is this important to know?

Potentially preventable hospitalisations are hospital admissions that could have been prevented if a person sought help from their local GP, changed aspects of their lifestyle, took medications to manage a condition etc. Going to hospital is not just distressing for family members, it also reduces the capacity for a person to contribute socially and economically to their community.

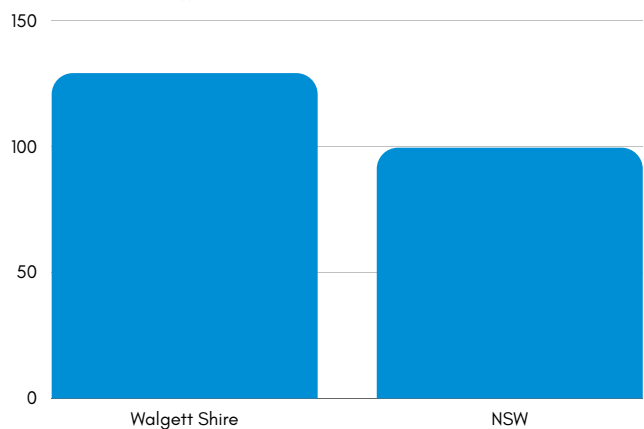
in 2017-19 35 people per 1000 residents of Walgett Shire were admitted to hospital for conditions that could have been prevented by visiting a GP compared to just 21 people in NSW (NSW HealthStats, 2017-19). If more people saw their local GP regularly for health checks Collarenebri could reduce the need of people to be admitted to hospital and primary health services run by a local GP would be more likely to remain in the town.



AVOIDABLE DEATHS

Why is this important to know?

Avoidable deaths are deaths that may not have happened if the person got regular health checks from their GP, went on a Chronic Disease Management Plan and made some lifestyle changes. For every 1000 people in Walgett, 13 people died from a condition that could have been treated through regular health checks with the local GP and lifestyle changes (NSW HealthStats, 2017-19). That is 13 people died when they didn't have to! Working together to reduce unnecessary deaths, and to encourage each other to look after their health, could build a stronger community that is attractive for new residents and visitors.



HEALTH PLAN

Establish a local Aboriginal Community Controlled Health Organisation in Collarenebri-Galariinbaraay to put decision making about health in the hands of Aboriginal people, expand access to primary health and medical care for the whole community and address the housing needs of residents that contribute to poorer health outcomes.



INTEGRATED ABORIGINAL HEALTH CENTRE

The population of Collarenebri-Galariinbaraay is too small to sustain multiple health services for different parts of the population. This fosters unproductive competition which makes all services unsustainable. Discussions with Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal residents found that they do not feel confident in using the local hospital services and feel that Aboriginal Medical Services outside the town are unable to effectively address the needs of local people due to their distance from Collarenebri-Galariinbaraay.

IMPACT

Reduce the high rates of chronic disease, preventable hospitalisations and avoidable deaths within the Aboriginal community and improve the sustainability of existing PHC services.

ACTION

Work with Rural and Remote Medical Services to secure approval to operate an Aboriginal Community-Controlled Health Organisation for Collarenebri-Galariinbaraay and contract RARMS to deliver an integrated service to the community on behalf of the ACCHO.



DISABILITY AND AGED CARE SERVICES

Disability and aged care services are delivered to Collarenebri-Galariinbaraay from organisations that are not located in town.

IMPACT

Reduced flow-on benefits of economic activity from funding for NDIS and Aged Care services, and the loss of job opportunities and training for locals. Standardised service models designed for regional or metropolitan cities do not reflect unique community needs particularly Aboriginal residents.

ACTION

Explore with local community, NDIS and Department of Health and Ageing the establishment of a community based NDIS/Aged Care services provider to increase local employment, economic activity, education and training and ensure services reflect local needs.



MANGANKALI HOUSING CORPORATION

Re-establish the Mangankali Housing Corporation.

IMPACT

Inadequate shelter leads to overcrowding, poor health and insufficient space for study and poor mental health.

ACTION

Work with relevant authorities to explore the establishment of the Mangankali Housing Corporation as a local provider of environmentally sustainable social and public housing, and a provider of local skills and apprenticeships.

