

ANNUAL 2015-2016

COMMUNITY

REPORT



hornsby.nsw.gov.au



FROM THE

MAYOR



Welcome to your Annual Community Report for 2015/2016. In this report we are sharing some of our achievements from the past year. There have been many highlights, including:

- **New Hornsby Station Footbridge.** Commuters, local businesses and residents would be well aware this major piece of infrastructure is well underway. This project will also include an upgrade of the Florence Street end of Hornsby Mall. Council thanks everyone for their patience during these works and, in particular, the local businesses in the construction zone.
- **Moving forward with Hornsby Quarry.** When I commenced as Mayor this was a huge problem with no obvious solution. However, through working closely with state government, and in particular the local member Matt Kean, we now have a vision to deliver one of the finest parklands in Sydney if not New South Wales. This massive project is estimated to take eight years and the first step to remediate the site has now commenced. Importantly, I must add that this project is fully funded.
- **The completion of the Hornsby Mountain Bike Trail in Old Mans Valley, Hornsby.** This track has been a huge success attracting thousands of riders. Recently, Council worked with RMS and the cycling community to come up with a plan to keep the trail open during remediation work at Hornsby Quarry. The solution was to temporarily close the trail for re-alignment. Once reopened, there will be a new entry point in Hornsby Park and longer loops for beginner and novice riders.
- **The purchase of the Sydney Water site at Westleigh.** Last December, Council purchased 34 hectares of land at Westleigh for \$21 million, with the intention of turning it into sports fields and recreation space. Council has wanted this land for many decades and thanks to great co-operation with the state government, we were able to secure it. The site will now be remediated and Council will consult with sporting groups and the local community to work out what is the best for this site.
- **Installation of synthetic grass at number three oval, Pennant Hills Park, Pennant Hills.** We have received tremendous feedback from local sporting clubs about this new all-weather venue. The project also delivered an underground stormwater tank for irrigation, bio filtration basins, new perimeter fencing, an upgraded carpark, footpaths and floodlights. This new surface and upgrade will ensure this facility can be used for many decades to come.

None of this would be possible without sound financial management. This has been a key focus for everyone at Council. We have regularly undertaken reviews, which have turned Hornsby Shire Council into one of the best performing Councils in the state. Importantly, it has also ensured we will have a sustainable financial future.

The last few months have been a tumultuous time for local government employees, elected representatives and residents as everyone adjusts to the State Government's Fit For The Future announcements. Change is never easy and no doubt there will be many challenges ahead of us as we head into a new era for local government. I have always supported the idea of amalgamation and I am looking forward to seeing the benefits it will deliver.

I would like to conclude by adding that it has been an honour to serve the local community for the past three and half years and I thank everyone for their support and their feedback (positive and negative!) during this time. I also thank my fellow councillors for their time and commitment. These highlights show we have achieved a great deal this year and certainly have contributed to Hornsby Shire being one of the greatest places to live, work and play in Australia.

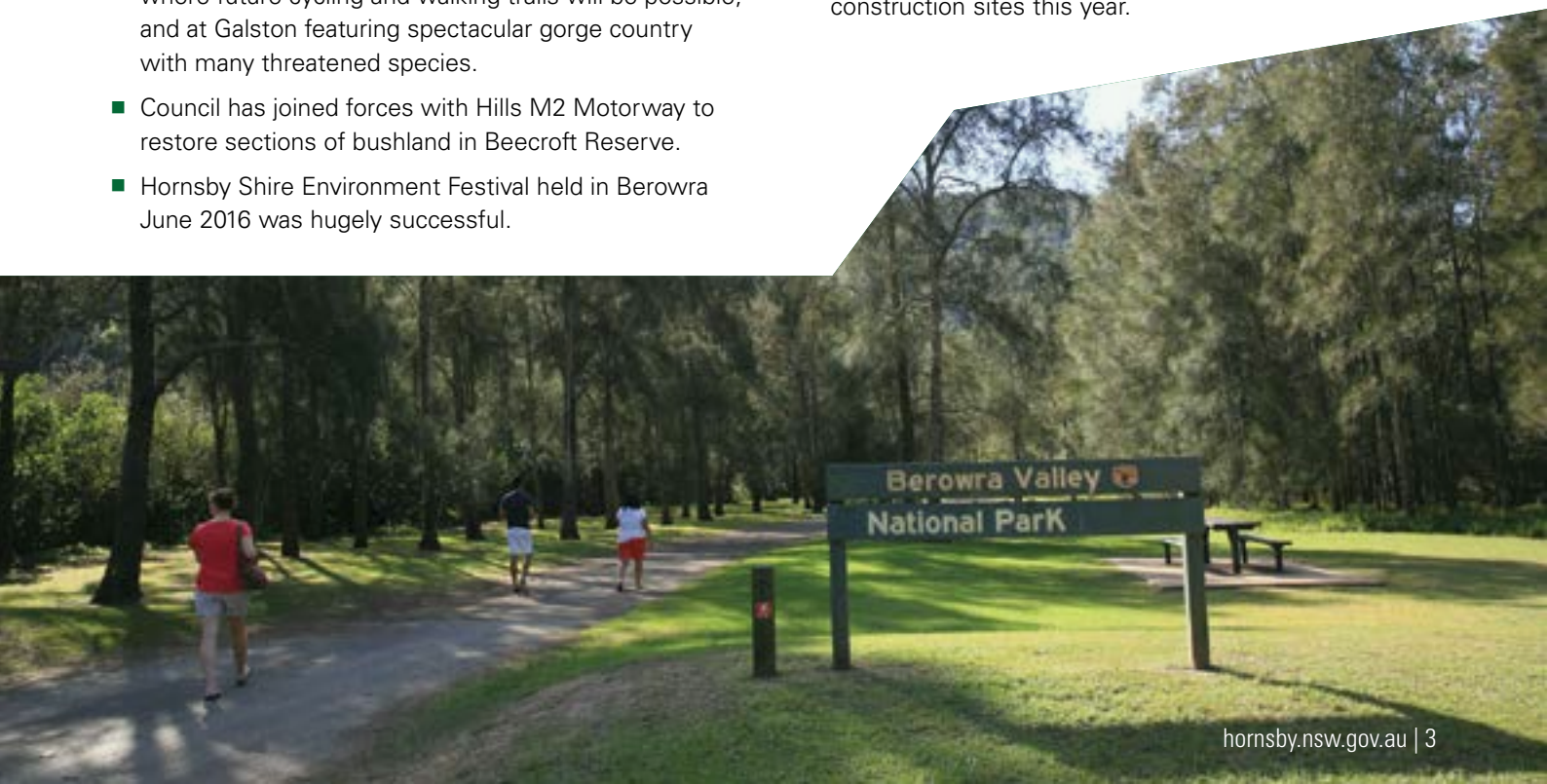
Steve Russell

Mayor of Hornsby Shire Council

MY ENVIRONMENT

ACHIEVEMENTS

- Council and Sydney Water worked in partnership to transform Hookhams Corner, the intersection of Galston Road and Pacific Highway. While Sydney Water replaced the fence, Council planted a number of trees and more than 350 plants, most of which came from our Community Nursery at Pennant Hills.
- 102 volunteers participated in 10 field trips collecting 4.63 tonnes of marine litter along 17km of Lower Hawkesbury foreshore. The volunteers included local and country schools, youth groups and oyster farmers through the Clean4Shore initiative.
- Historical information on the health conditions of the river, and swimming conditions, at 11 sites are now included on Council's website and data portal.
- Free guided bushwalks program expanded by 50% to meet community demand through the introduction of 'winter walks'.
- The total number of Bushcare volunteers registered on Council's database is over 600.
- Volunteers at Council's Community Nursery propagate and dispatch an average of 40,000 plants annually to residents, schools and public land projects.
- The State Government gave Council 74 hectares of land valued at more than \$22 million, which will be used for bushland conservation and open space. The land consists of 29 parcels which are along Terrys Creek, an important wildlife corridor; Devlins Creek, where future cycling and walking trails will be possible; and at Galston featuring spectacular gorge country with many threatened species.
- Council has joined forces with Hills M2 Motorway to restore sections of bushland in Beecroft Reserve.
- Hornsby Shire Environment Festival held in Berowra June 2016 was hugely successful.
- Stage 2 of restoration works on Hornsby Heritage Steps finished in July 2016.
- Council joined forces with City of Ryde Council to rehabilitate and restore a section of Terrys Creek which adjoins both councils. The project cost of \$250,000 was split between the two councils.
- 41 hectare biobank site created at Thornleigh's Dog Pound Creek with \$1.3 million grant from the NSW Government. The grant will help weed control at the site noted for its community of critically endangered Sydney Blue Gums.
- Large end-of-pipe biofilters installed at Castle Howard Road, Cheltenham and Morrison Place, West Pennant Hills.
- Streetscape raingardens installed on Berowra Waters Road, Berowra and in Pennant Hills Park.
- Large trash racks installed at Larool Crescent, Thornleigh; Bellamy Street, Pennant Hills and Braidwood Road, North Epping. Underground vault gross pollutant traps installed at Lyne Road, Cheltenham; Salisbury Road, Sherbrook Road and Pike Road, Hornsby.
- Bushwalking tracks in Cherrybrook, Beecroft and Epping were refurbished.
- To maintain and protect our waterways from sediments washing off building sites, Council's Environmental Compliance Officers have proactively inspected 304 construction sites this year.



MY COMMUNITY

ACHIEVEMENTS

- Hornsby Shire Libraries welcomed nearly 900,000 visitors throughout the Shire and over 300,000 visits to the Library webpage.
- A new Library Management System was implemented in August 2015 providing improved access to library collections and customer interaction such as online transfer requests and personal book reviews.
- New Korean and Hindi Collections were launched in May and include both adult and children's titles. Hornsby Libraries support over 20 different language groups with resources from the State Library of NSW, and are the highest user of this service in the state.
- Hornsby Library again hosted the Sydney Writers Festival, attracting an audience of 180 for the author Jane Caro.
- The Hornsby Shire Family History group now attracts over 100 members.
- The Annual Knit In was hosted at Hornsby Library with over 300 people of all ages attending. Over 512 wraps were donated to Wrap With Love on this day, bringing the total number of wraps donated since the commencement of this event to over 5,000.
- 583 children enjoyed the Summer Reading Program at all libraries, attending special events and winning prizes for their efforts.
- The 'Three Little Pigs And the Not So Bad Wolf' Christmas pantomime was created by dedicated staff and presented at five sessions across the Shire, with 470 delighted children attending.
- Our Book Club program continued to support library and community based book clubs, and now includes a new Open Book Club with theme based discussions. Attendance at book clubs has now reached over 1000 visits annually.
- Library JPs, family history, Tax Help and Home Library volunteers served over 15,500 visitors.
- Cultural activities in the libraries included an author talk program featuring Ken Done, Tara Moss and Hugh Mackay, plus community education programs in topics such as financial education, health and environmental workshops. Strata Living, Wills and Moving into a Retirement Village topics were featured in Law Week seminars.
- A 40% increase in the use of eResources such as eBooks, eMagazines and eMusic was achieved.
- Hornsby Shire Library produced a display highlighting the community's involvement in the Battle of the Somme.
- The Home Library Service made 2,500 visits to those who were unable to visit their local library.
- Community engagement with 60 local businesses and the community in advance of street tree planting as part of the 'Renew, Rethink, Revitalise', scheme to revive Hornsby's west side.
- In partnership with Mission Australia, Hornsby Police, Northern Sydney Institute of TAFE, Hornsby Lions Club, 2realise and Ability Options, the fifth annual Apprenticeship Expo was held, where more than 30 training organisations and traineeship providers provided information to over 350 young people, their parents and carers.
- The highly successful Festival of the Arts 2015 included 64 events presented by 33 community organisations and individuals. Total attendance across all events was 10,000 over a six week period. Increased online marketing saw strong results, with 4,323 visitors to the microsite home page.
- Council donated \$10,000 to the Hornsby Ku-ring-gai Women's Shelter.



- Five people received grants under the Mayor's Youth Trust Fund.
- Westside Vibe returned to Dural Lane for its second year in May 2016 and was a huge success.
- Council provided emergency accommodation to Studio Artes at Wallarobba when their studio and offices on Bridge Road, Hornsby burned down in April.
- The Healthy Living Festival was held over four weeks in April, offering over 70 events. The festival is run by Council in collaboration with community groups, and is designed to help residents get active and explore ways to improve their lifestyles.
- Australia Day celebrated at Council's free event at Hornsby Park, including an Australia Day citizenship ceremony welcoming 36 new citizens.
- Christmas Spectacular event held on 5 December 2015 in Hornsby Park.
- Let's Light Westside party held 20 November 2015 to launch the festive season.
- Council endorsed the Community and Cultural Facilities Strategic Plan outlining the direction for the Shire's community and cultural facilities over the next 10-20 years.

FESTIVAL OF THE ARTS

21 OCTOBER - 20 NOVEMBER 2016

FEAST BY THE FOUNTAIN

Saturday 22 October
3pm-8pm

Hornsby Mall
Florence Street, Hornsby

Twilight feast of exotic flavours, fine wine, craft beer and cider surrounded by live music and interactive art.

MORE EVENTS IN THE
FESTIVAL INCLUDE...

EXHIBITIONS AT WALLAROBBA ARTS AND CULTURAL CENTRE.

HORNSBY ART PRIZE | 17-27 November

Entries are now open for the annual art award and exhibition.

BROKEN WINGS EXHIBITION | 17-30 October

Works and workshops by the 2015 emerging artist award recipient Nicole Robertson.

For more information and for more events visit fota.com.au

FOTA.COM.AU

#FOTA



ACHIEVEMENTS

- Construction commenced off-site for the new Hornsby Station Footbridge, which has now been moved into place with construction continuing on site.
- 34 acres of Sydney Water land at Westleigh was purchased for sportsgrounds and recreation.
- Synthetic playing field, perimeter fencing and new floodlighting installed at Pennant Hills Park No. 3, costing \$1.3 million.
- Hornsby Aquatic and Leisure Centre operated well above budget revenue forecast.
- Galston Aquatic Centre opened its new Program Pool that allows expanded opportunity for learn to swim classes.
- The archery range at Pennant Hills Park was upgraded and a new sportsfield at Brooklyn created.
- Construction commenced in May 2016 on a new 4-lane boat ramp and pontoon at Parsley Bay.
- Council has committed to building a new RFS station in Berowra with construction expected to begin in early 2017.
- The Institute of Public Works Engineering Australasia awarded Council a trophy for its project management of the construction of the new Hornsby Aquatic and Leisure Centre.
- Footpath improvements made at Boyd Avenue, West Pennant Hills; Quarter Sessions Road, Westleigh; Burdett Street, Hornsby; Nyara Road, Mount Ku-ring-gai; Alamein Avenue, Carlingford and Karongal Close, Epping.
- Local road improvements made at Berowra Waters Road, Berowra Heights; Brisbane Avenue, Mount Ku-ring-gai; Berowra Road, Mount Colah; Hazelmead Road, Asquith; Flora Avenue, Mount Colah; Jack Russell Road, Berrilee; Calabash Road, Arcadia and Venner Road, Berrilee.
- Cycleways built at Brooklyn Road, Brooklyn and Berowra Waters Road, Berowra Heights.
- Park and playground upgrades at Ray Park, Carlingford; Asquith Park; Carmen Crescent Park, Cherrybrook; James Henty Park, Dural; Hornsby Park and Dangar Island.
- Playground softfall replacements at Greenway Park, Cherrybrook and Somerville Park, Eastwood.
- Sporting facility upgrades at Montview Oval, Hornsby Heights; Pennant Hills Park, Pennant Hills; Oakleigh Park, Thornleigh; Brooklyn Old Dairy Site; Campbell Park, West Pennant Hills; Berowra Oval, Berowra; Roselea Park, Carlingford; Greenway Park, Cherrybrook; Ron Payne Oval, North Epping; Asquith Oval, Storey Park, Asquith; Hayes Park, Galston; Thomas Thompson Park, Cherrybrook and Galston Aquatic and Leisure Centre, Galston.
- Dog off leash area lighting upgrade at Greenway Park, Cherrybrook.
- Building improvements made at Hornsby Library; Hawkins Hall, Thornleigh; Wisemans Ferry Community Centre; Galston Community Centre and Arcadia Community Centre.
- After successful implementation last year and contributing to a change in traffic laws, '2 Way Street' cycle campaign was again promoted by Council in partnership with Ku-ring-gai Council.
- Joint campaign between Council traffic rangers and NSW Police Force to target dangerous drivers around school zones.
- Park Safe for Kids' campaign run by Council to educate local parents about the dangers of illegal parking in school zones over six weeks at the beginning of 2016.
- Council participated in the Distracted...? campaign, a joint initiative with other Northern Sydney Councils, to make pedestrians aware of the dangers of distraction while using mobile devices.
- Motorcycle Crash Card developed by Council in consultation with emergency services - national launch on 26 June 2016 at Kangaroo Point.



ACHIEVEMENTS

- Council determined 1,168 Development Applications in 2015/16, and maintained an average processing time of less than 60 days.
- The value of development determined was \$1.29 billion during 2015/16.
- 32,171 tonnes of garbage collected; 15,194 tonnes of recycling collected and 19,574 tonnes of green waste collected so far this year.
- A new waste campaign, 'Love where you live', encouraged residents in units to keep their streets beautiful and clean during January and February.
- In May 2016, Council was named by Planet Ark as the top Council area in Australia for residents recycling printer cartridges.
- Re-magine exhibition, which showcases unwanted waste items transformed into artworks, held at Wallarobba in June 2016.
- Waste Less Recycle More funding used to upgrade the rubbish bins in Hornsby Mall and other hot spots across the Shire.
- 485 private swimming pool fences were upgraded and made safe under Council's Swimming Pool Inspection Program.
- Council's Companion Animal Officers rescued 208 animals that wandered away from their home of which 206 were reunited with their owners, or rehomed to new families.
- The state wide Scores on Doors Program has been strongly encouraged by Council's Health Officers with a growing number of businesses participating. To date, 141 food retailers have been issued with a score of 3 stars or higher.



CHOOSE YOUR NEXT ADVENTURE

discoverhornsby.sydney

EXPLORE
OUR BEAUTIFUL

WALKS



ENERGISE AND
BE ACTIVE ON OUR

TRACKS



ESCAPE
ALONG OUR

WATERWAYS



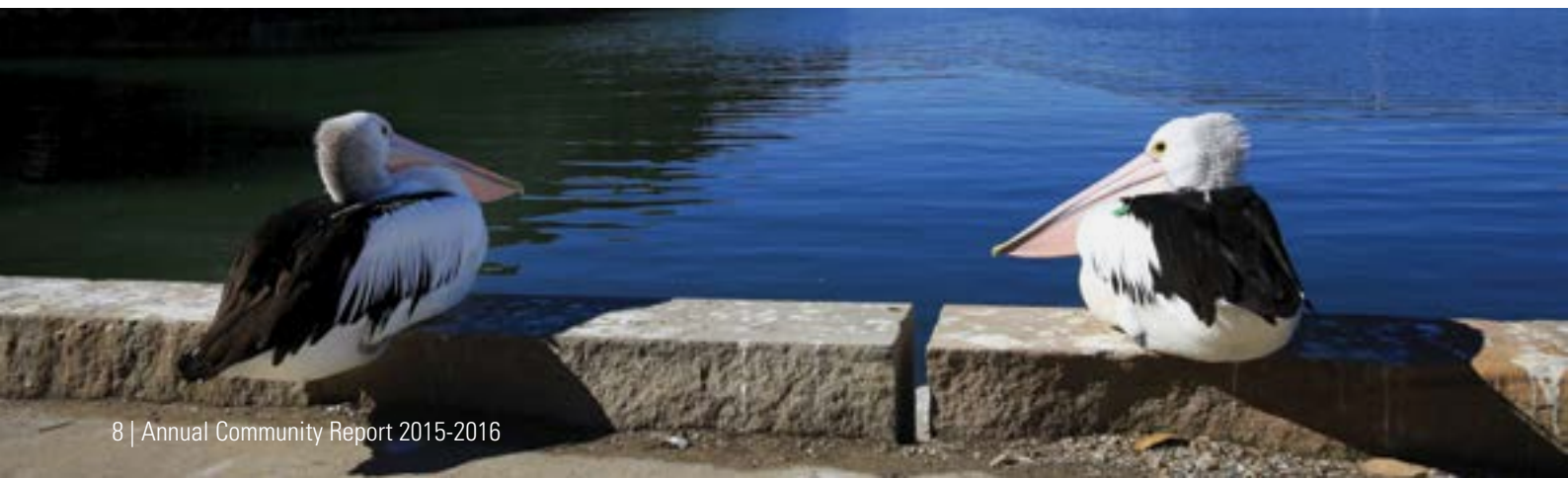
ENJOY OUR
FAMILY FRIENDLY

PARKS



ACHIEVEMENTS

- Agreement signed with RMS to place fill material from NorthConnex into Hornsby Quarry including construction of access road to Old Mans Valley via Bridge Road, and delivery of three intersection upgrades.
- Plan of Management adopted for Waitara Park that will provide for the delivery of a new sport and culture centre by the PCYC.
- In May 2016, Council adopted the Rural Lands Planning Proposal to permit the opportunity for secondary dwellings, dual occupancy, roadside stalls and split zone lots on rural zoned land.
- Consultant selected to develop the Brooklyn Improvement Master Plan, to create a comprehensive blueprint for the future of Brooklyn in partnership with a Community Reference Group.
- Council entered into a funding agreement with UrbanGrowth NSW to share the cost of preparing technical studies and the precinct plan for the Cherrybrook Station Precinct.
- Section 94 and Section 94A Contributions Plans were updated to provide for future local infrastructure requirements arising from population growth, consistent with Council's Active Living Hornsby Strategy and Community and Cultural Facilities Strategic Plan.
- Council's Hornsby Local Environmental Plan 2013 was amended to incorporate design excellence requirements for development greater than 10 storeys in height. Council also implemented a Design Excellence Panel to assist in providing expert advice on development applications at pre-lodgement and assessment stages.
- Funding for two Blackspot Projects obtained - The Esplanade, Thornleigh and Wylds Road, Arcadia.
- The Mayor appeared before Upper House Inquiry into Local Government advocating the benefits of reform and amalgamation.
- Under the Local Government (City of Parramatta and Cumberland) Proclamation 2016 dated 12 May 2016, the area south of the M2 Motorway was transferred to the new City Of Parramatta Council.
- Hornsby Shire Council assisting with the provision of services under transitional arrangements.
- The Operational Plan 2016/17 outlining key actions, capital projects and budget has been adopted. More than a third of the budget will be spent on improvements to local facilities: \$20 million on improvements to sport and recreation precincts; \$5 million on improving local roads and upgrading traffic facilities; \$1.7 million on drainage improvements; \$1.2 million on projects to improve local waterways; \$800,000 on bushland recreation improvements, including upgrades to walking trails; \$480,000 on playground renewals; and \$266,000 on local footpath improvements.
- Work is underway to implement a new software solution across Council for internal processes. The new system is expected to go live in October 2016.
- Council's Facebook page has more than 12,500 followers, Instagram has grown to 577 followers, Council's monthly e-newsletter is sent to over 30,000 subscribers.
- Mini tourism website 'Discover Hornsby' launched featuring a selection of bushwalks, bike tracks, parks and waterways.
- High quality 'What's On' newsletter distributed to 45,000 households quarterly.
- Australian citizenship has been conferred on 1,310 candidates in 37 ceremonies.



FINANCIAL STATEMENT

Where the money came from

	\$m
Rates and charges ¹	94.99
Fees and charges ²	16.83
Interest ³	3.27
Grants and contributions ⁴	48.02
Asset sales ⁵	3.92
Other ⁶	9.49
Total⁷	176.52

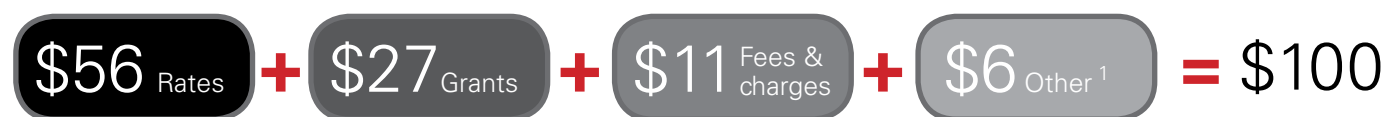
1. Rates and Charges includes all ordinary rates, the Catchments Remediation Rate and garbage charges.
2. Fees and Charges includes fees from Development Applications and revenue earned from aquatic centres, nurseries and preschools, commercial waste services, park and oval hire and property rentals.
3. Interest Investment income received from Council's investment portfolio, overdue rates and annual charges interest.
4. Grants and Contributions includes development contributions, the Federal Government's Financial Assistance Grant and numerous smaller amounts from governments for services including preschools, bushfire mitigation, children's services, various community services, libraries, roads, various environmental grants and pensioner rate subsidy.
5. Asset Sales includes proceeds from the sale of property, plant or equipment.
6. Other includes many revenue sources such as fines, recycling income, private vehicle use fees and income from road closures.
7. Estimates provided are based on the March Qtr Budget Review 2015/16.

Where the money was spent

	\$m
Employee costs ¹	51.02
Capital expenditure ²	62.11
Debt servicing expenditure ³	1.97
Materials and contracts ⁴	44.79
Restricted assets ⁵	2.38
Other ⁶	14.19
Total⁷	176.46

1. Employee expense includes salaries and wages, leave entitlements, travel expenses, superannuation, workers compensation insurance, fringe benefits tax and training.
2. Capital expenditure includes infrastructure work such as drainage and property, plant and equipment, and asset purchases such as community land.
3. Debt servicing expenditure includes principal and interest repayments required from external loan borrowing.
4. Materials and contracts includes all costs, other than employee costs, associated with the maintenance of parks, roads, buildings, nurseries and preschools, aquatic centres, drainage and the cost of waste services. Also included are environmental protection and plant operating expenditure.
5. Restricted asset funds set aside for specific expenditure purposes in future years.
6. Other reflects Council's diverse operations and include such items as rentals, interest charges, consultants, contributions to Fire Brigade Services, street lighting, office equipment, legals, insurance, advertising, telephones and cash collection charges.
7. Estimates provided are based on the March Qtr Budget Review 2015/16.

What's in our wallet?



Yearly shopping list for Hornsby Shire Council ...

\$33 Improvements to local facilities	\$7 Planning and Development
\$19 Waste management and property cleansing	\$5 Bushland, trees, waterways, environmental sustainability
\$11 Library, Community Services and Culture	\$5 Governance
\$9 Parks and recreation	\$2 Contribution to State emergency management agencies
\$9 Maintaining roads, footpaths and drains	

Based on original budget (@ June 2015) per \$100 with funding adjustments for the 2015/16 financial year

1 Other = inter alia - parking fines, rental income, interest, asset sales

MY

LIBRARY

Community Connections Hot Desk

Connecting the community to local services
Thursday 4 August - Thursday 27 October, 2pm-4pm
Hornsby Library

New referral and information Hot Desk **Thursdays 2pm-4pm.**

See library webpage for details of upcoming topics and to book an appointment.
A diverse range of services and topics will be represented in a calendar year.

Free. Book in person at the library or by phone 9847 6614.

Meet the Author: David Dyer

Author of *The Midnight Watch*

Thursday 4 August, 6.30pm-8.30pm
Hornsby Library

A compelling novel about the SS Californian. It saw distress rockets fired from the Titanic, but did nothing. What went wrong?

\$5.00 including light refreshments.

Ticketed event. Book online at hornsby.nsw.gov.au/library
or at any Hornsby Shire Library branch or phone 9847 6614.

Annual Knit in

Supporting Wrap With Love

Friday 5 August, 9am-12.30pm
Hornsby Library

Join us for a fun morning as we knit, crochet and sew. Light refreshments provided. Or leave wraps and squares at any library before the event.

Free. No booking required.

For more information visit hornsby.nsw.gov.au/library,
email library@hornsby.nsw.gov.au or phone 9847 6614.

Hornsby Open Book Club

Discover your next great read

Friday 5 August, 10.30am-11.30am
Hornsby Library

Read anything you like and then come along and talk about it with other book lovers. We meet on the first Friday of each month.

Upcoming themes:

- August - #GeekRead
- September - #HistoryRead
- October - Based on a true story.

Free. No booking required.

For more information visit hornsby.nsw.gov.au/library,
email library@hornsby.nsw.gov.au or phone 9847 6614.

Fascinating Frogs talk

Thursday 11 August, 6.30pm-8.30pm
Hornsby Library

Come and learn about frog species of the local area. How to encourage frogs in your garden, how to spot local frogs in the wild. FATS-frog rescue, with live specimens to view.

Free. Ticketed event. Book online at hornsby.nsw.gov.au/library or at any Hornsby Shire Library branch or phone 9847 6614.

Meet the Author: John Newtown

Author of *The Oldest Foods on Earth*

Thursday 18 August, 6.30pm-8.30pm, Hornsby Library

A history of Australian native foods and the potential for these foods to be grown and eaten more widely.

\$5.00 including light refreshments.

Ticketed event. Book online at hornsby.nsw.gov.au/library or at any Hornsby Shire Library branch or phone 9847 6614.

Mindful Parenting with Leonie Percy

Author of *Mother Om*

Saturday 20 August, 10.30am-12pm

Hornsby Library

Mindful parenting can reduce worry, stress and anxiety, enabling families to experience more joy, calmness and centredness.

\$5.00 including light refreshments.

Ticketed event. Book online at hornsby.nsw.gov.au/library or at any Hornsby Shire Library branch or phone 9847 6614.

Sounds of Silence

Living with hearing loss

Wednesday 24 August, 6.30pm

Hornsby Library

Are you suffering from hearing loss? Join us for an informative presentation on how you can manage your hearing impairment. Demonstrations of Assistive Listening Devices for the home are included.

Free. Ticketed event. Book online at hornsby.nsw.gov.au/library or at any Hornsby Shire Library branch or phone 9847 6614.

Children's Book Week Performance

Fair Dinkum the Musical

Thursday 25 August, 5.30pm-6.30pm

Hornsby Library

Perform Educational Musicals presents *Fair Dinkum* the Musical. A modern day fable that references classic Australian storytelling to create an action packed fun-filled adventure with audiences help.

Free. Book online at hornsby.nsw.gov.au/library or at any Hornsby Shire Library branch or phone 9847 6614.

Less Mess

Decluttering workshop

Tuesday 30 August, 6.30pm

Hornsby Library

Do you have cupboards that are bulging, a garage that is overflowing or general clutter and mess you would like to tame?

Join Susanne Thiebe from Less Mess for a workshop to help you conquer clutter.

\$7.00. Ticketed event. Book online at hornsby.nsw.gov.au/library or at any Hornsby Shire Library branch or phone 9847 6614.

Asset Test Changes

Presented by **Centrelink Financial Services**

Wednesday 7 September, 6.30pm-8.30pm

Hornsby Library

This talk will cover the asset test changes from 1 January 2017:

- Maximum rates of pensions
- Current income and asset tests
- Examples

Free. Ticketed event. Book online at hornsby.nsw.gov.au/library or at any Hornsby Shire Library branch or phone 9847 6614.

Sydney Wildlife Rescue

Sharing our Environment

Thursday 8 September, 6.30pm

Hornsby Library

A Sydney Wildlife representative will discuss the hazards for our wildlife and:

- how you can help
- what to do if you find an injured animal
- explain their volunteer service

\$3.00.

All proceeds donated to Sydney Wildlife Organisation's animal rescue service. Ticketed event. Book online at hornsby.nsw.gov.au/library or at any Hornsby Shire Library branch or phone 9847 6614.

Parkinson's Talk

Presented by Judy Recher

Friday 9 September, 10.30am-12pm

Hornsby Library

Diagnosed in 2005, Judy presents her own personal viewpoint of some of the challenges that she and others with Parkinson's face on a daily basis and will discuss what happens next.

Free. Ticketed event. Book online at hornsby.nsw.gov.au/library or at any Hornsby Shire Library branch or phone 9847 6614.

Meet the Author: Dr Tim Hawkes

Author of *Ten Leadership Lessons You Must Teach Your Teenager*

Thursday 15 September, 6.30pm-8.30pm

Hornsby Library

The information you need to instil leadership in your child, so they can learn how to take responsibility for themselves - whether to lead others or become the leader of their own lives.

\$5.00 including light refreshments.

Ticketed event. Book online at hornsby.nsw.gov.au/library or at any Hornsby Shire Library branch or phone 9847 6614.

Meet the Author: Melina Marchetta

Author of *Tell the Truth, Shame the Devil*

Wednesday 21 September, 6.30pm-8.30pm

Hornsby Library

Hear one of Australia's most loved authors discuss her new literary crime novel, a cracking fusion of suspense and heart-rending drama.

\$5.00 including light refreshments.

Ticketed event. Book online at hornsby.nsw.gov.au/library or at any Hornsby Shire Library branch or phone 9847 6614.

Holiday Storytime

Wednesday 28 September, 6.30pm-7.30pm

Pennant Hills Library

Thursday 29 September, 10am-11am

Hornsby Library

Friday 30 September, 10.30am-11.30am

Berowra Library

Friday 30 September, 10.30am-11.30am

Epping Library

Join us for stories, songs, craft and refreshments. All ages welcome. Children 7 and under must be accompanied by an adult.

\$2.00 per child for children 18 months and over. Free for adults accompanying children. Payment is required at the door.

Little Puppet World

Monday 3 October, 10.30am-11.30am

Hornsby Library

Monday 3 October, 2.30pm-3.30pm

Pennant Hills Library

Little Puppet World presents a fun filled musical adventure with a loveable cast of characters featuring live original songs, pantomime, ventriloquism and laughs for the whole family.

For ages 3-6. Children 7 and under must be accompanied by an adult.

\$10.00. Book online at hornsby.nsw.gov.au/library or at any Hornsby Shire Library branch or phone 9847 6614.

Kaleidoscope Science

Solids, liquids, gases and plasmas show

Thursday 6 October, 10.30am-11.30am, Berowra Library

A spectacular showcase of exciting and energetic demonstrations, all about matter, energy and temperature. The children will be amazed by sublimating dry ice, boiling-cold liquid nitrogen and flaming fireballs. Phone 9847 6140.

Air, atmosphere and weather show

Thursday 6 October, 2.30pm-3.30pm, Hornsby Library

Air can do amazing things. This show will put the children in touch with the air around them, by exploring some of the intriguing and spectacular things that air can do. Phone 9847 6614.

The force and movement show

Friday 7 October, 10.30am-11.30am, Pennant Hills Library

Most of our favourite objects, gadgets and toys move. How does that happen? This show tells the story of forces, movement and energy through our hand-picked, entertaining live demonstrations. Phone 9847 6100.

Colour reflection and lenses

Friday 7 October, 2.30pm-3.30pm, Epping Library

Light. We need it to see, communicate, grow food and even to explore the universe. So what is light, where does it come from, how does it work and what happens when it meets an object? Phone 9847 6120.

For ages 6-12. Children 7 and under must be accompanied by an adult.

\$10.00. Ticketed event. Book online at hornsby.nsw.gov.au/library or at any Hornsby Shire Library branch or phone 9847 6614.

Learn to Swim

Intensive September/October
Holiday Program

Week One

Monday 26 September – Friday 30 September (5 days)

Week Two

Tuesday 4 October – Friday 7 October
(4 days due to public holiday)

Hornsby Aquatic and Leisure Centre ☎ 9847 6306

Galston Aquatic and Leisure Centre ☎ 9651 2393

Booking information: please contact Aquafun Swim School.

AQUAFUN
SWIM SCHOOL

MY

ENVIRONMENT

INTERESTED IN VOLUNTEERING?

Join Bushcare

Groups work every day except Tuesday

There are over 80 Bushcare groups throughout the Shire.

Do you want to know more about your local bushland reserves, update skills and make new friends? Bushcare offers the opportunity to learn more about native plants and animals and create a healthy environment.

Free. Contact Leanne Johnston by phone 9847 6362 or email bushcare@hornsby.nsw.gov.au

Crop and Swap

Grow, Make, Brew, Bake, Bunch, Swap it

Saturday 6 August, 10am-11am

Saturday 3 September, 10am-11am

Saturday 8 October, 10am-11am

Pennant Hills Leisure and Learning Centre,
8 Warne Street, Pennant Hills

Swap fruit, vegetables, chutney, sauce, bread, cookies, flowers, herbs, seeds and handmade items.

Free. No money exchanged.

Contact Tanya Mein on tmein@hornsby.nsw.gov.au

Kimbriki Tour

Tuesday 9 August, 9am-2.45pm

Wednesday 19 October, 9am-2.45pm

(Bus leaves 9.15am sharp Hornsby Park bus stop, Hornsby)

On the tour of the Kimbriki site you will see how your green waste is transformed into a usable garden product. We will then stop at the Eco Garden and hear a short talk on eco gardening.

Free. Bookings essential. Book online at hornsby.nsw.gov.au/whatson or phone the Waste Hotline on 9847 4856.

Compost and Worm Farming Workshop

Sunday 14 August, 10am-12.30pm

Eco Garden Gazebo, Fagan Park, Arcadia Road, Galston

Wednesday 7 September, 9.30am-11.30am

Wallarobba Garden, Edgeworth David Avenue, Hornsby

Composting is a fun and easy way to recycle your garden and kitchen waste. Compost improves your garden soil, saves space in your red or green bin and saves you money.

Free. Bookings essential. Book online at hornsby.nsw.gov.au/whatson or phone the Waste Hotline on 9847 4856.

Chipping for Mulch

Sunday 21 August, 8am-2.45pm

Council Depot, Johnson Road, Galston

Sunday 18 September, 8am-2.45pm

The Old Dog Pound, next to 8 Warrigal Drive, Westleigh

Sunday 16 October, 8am-2.45pm

Council Depot, Johnson Road, Galston

Bring along your green waste for chipping and take home free mulch. For information about what is accepted and not, see Council's website for full details.

Free. Visit hornsby.nsw.gov.au/waste for full details or phone the Waste Hotline on 9847 4856.

Recycling Tour

Wednesday 24 August, 9am-1pm

(Bus leaves 9.15am sharp Hornsby Park bus stop, Hornsby)

Ever wondered what happens to the mix of materials in your yellow bin? Come on a tour of the Materials Recycling Facility and find out how your paper is sorted from your plastic containers.

Free. Bookings essential, spaces are limited. Book online at hornsby.nsw.gov.au/whatson or call the Waste Hotline on 9847 4856.

Eco Garden Working Bee

Saturday 10 September, 9.30am-12.30pm,
Eco Garden Gazebo, Fagan Park, Arcadia Road, Galston

Gardening fun, no experience required!

Free. Parking \$5.00. For more information contact the Waste Hotline on 9847 4856 or visit hornsby.nsw.gov.au/communitygardens

End of the Solar Bonus Scheme

Solar panels information evening

Wednesday 28 September, 6.30pm-8.30pm,
Thornleigh Community Centre,
Phyllis and Central Avenues, Thornleigh

On 31 December 2016 the Solar Bonus Scheme will cease. Find out what your options are when the 20c/60c feed-in-tariff finishes.

Free. Book online at trybooking.com/206471.

For more information email agenova@hornsby.nsw.gov.au

Sustainable Garden Day

Saturday 1 October, 11am-3pm,
Fagan Park Eco Garden, Arcadia Road Galston

Tours, talks, kids activities, native plant giveaway, cob oven, bees, chooks, community gardens, permaculture.

Free. Parking \$5.00. For more information contact the Waste Hotline on 9847 4856 or visit hornsby.nsw.gov.au/communitygardens

Catchment Tour

Celebrate National Water Week 2016

Saturday 22 October, 9am-12pm
Bus and walking tour within Lane Cove Catchment

Join us on a three hour bus and walking tour exploring the upper Lane Cove River Catchment and see examples of Hornsby Shire's stormwater quality improvement devices.

For Hornsby Shire residents aged 16 and over.

Free. Book online at hornsby.nsw.gov.au/bushwalks.

For more information contact Natural Resources on 9847 6832 or email bushland@hornsby.nsw.gov.au

Eco Garden Talk and Tour

Sunday 23 October, 10am-12.30pm
Eco Garden Gazebo, Fagan Park, Arcadia Road Galston

Discover what makes the Eco Garden grow so well!

Free. Parking \$5.00. For more information contact the Waste Hotline on 9847 4856 or visit hornsby.nsw.gov.au/communitygardens

Our River: Boat, Walk and Talk

Walk and Talk on the lower Hawkesbury River Estuary

Thursday 27 October, 9.30am-1pm
Parsley Bay, Brooklyn

This walk and talk on water presents a unique insight into how Hornsby Shire Council manages the estuarine assets in the lower Hawkesbury River.

For Hornsby Shire residents aged 16 and over. Free.

Book online at hornsby.nsw.gov.au/bushwalks.

For more information contact Natural Resources on 9847 6832 or email bushland@hornsby.nsw.gov.au

NATIVE PLANT GIVEAWAYS

Saturday 1 October, 11am-3pm
Fagan Park Eco Garden, Arcadia Road Galston

Free native plants for ratepayers from all suburbs of Hornsby Shire.

(Giveaway is part of Sustainable Garden Day)

Saturday 29 October, 1pm-3pm
Council's Community Nursery,
28 Britannia Street, Pennant Hills

Free native plants for ratepayers from Cherrybrook, Normanhurst, Thornleigh, Wahroonga, Waitara and Westleigh.

For more information visit hornsby.nsw.gov.au/nursery.

MY

LIFESTYLE

Follow your Dreams

Dulkara printmakers exhibition

Monday 8 - Sunday 21 August,
Monday - Friday, 9am-5pm,
Saturday - Sunday, 10am-4pm

Wallerobba Arts and Cultural Centre

Dulkara's printmaking group presents a collection of lino cuts and collagraphs exploring our internal and external worlds.

Free. For more information phone 9634 2521.

2016 Apprenticeship Expo

Apprenticeships and traineeships

Wednesday 10 August, 4pm-7pm
Hornsby War Memorial Hall, 2 High Street, Hornsby

Come and discuss your career options with the experts!

Free. For more information contact Sue Downing on 9847 6889
or email sdowning@hornsby.nsw.gov.au

Comfortable Homes

A Renovator's guide

Saturday 20 August, 10am-12pm
Hornsby Shire Council Chambers
296 Peats Ferry Road, Hornsby

Find out how you can design your renovation so that it remains comfortable all year round without breaking the bank, through implementing good design principals and spending your money wisely.

Free. Book online at trybooking.com/205906.
For more information email agenova@hornsby.nsw.gov.au

Child Seat Safety Checking Day

For parents and carers

Thursday 1 September, 9.30am-3.15pm
Thornleigh Brickpit Sports Centre

Free. Bookings essential. Bookings open from Monday 1 August.
Phone 9847 6616 / 9847 6856 or email ltipping@hornsby.nsw.gov.au

Teaching a Learner Driver

Thursday 22 September, 6.30pm-8.30pm
Hornsby Shire Council Chambers
296 Peats Ferry Road, Hornsby

Free. Bookings essential.
Book online trybooking.com/LILU or phone 9847 6856.

TAKE A WALK ON THE WILD SIDE

LOU REED

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