



TENTERFIELD SHIRE

CSP 2025-2036 COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT REPORT



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OVERVIEW

Tenterfield Shire Council recently engaged Centium to conduct community consultation to review the current Community Strategic Plan (CSP), Tenterfield 2032.

The CSP is a key component of the Integrated Planning & Reporting Framework. It is written on behalf of the community to represent their main priorities and aspirations for the future and to plan strategies for achieving these goals. It guides all remaining strategies and plans written by Council including the Delivery Program and Operational Plan.

The purpose of the review of the Community Strategic Plan was to:

- Provide an opportunity to discuss the successes and challenges of the previous Council term
- Understand current community priorities
- Reconfirm the key themes, goals, strategies and measures against community priorities
- Reconnect the CSP to current regional and state plans
- Provide the community and new councillors with a vehicle to talk about the future of the shire
- Discuss resourcing constraints and provide honest early messages regarding a future SRV

During the consultation period Council engaged with the community in a range of different ways:

- **Newsletter** – we posted a newsletter to every household about the CSP review.
- **Website** – we invited participation on the front page of our website, and posted the ‘State of the Shire’ report for an update of progress made on the previous CSP “Tenterfield 2032”
- **Surveys and Submissions** – we distributed both hard copy and electronic surveys canvassing peoples’ views on the issues relevant to the CSP and received a total of 79 returned surveys.
- **Information Sessions** – we hosted 11 information sessions in 10 locations across the Shire, and the Mayor, Councillors and Executive Leadership Team joined 125 people from the community who attended.

The engagement questions that were posed throughout the engagement are presented in **Appendix One**.



TOWN AND VILLAGE MEETINGS

The town and village meetings were held at the end of 2024 and as shown in the following table:

Date	Time	Place
Monday 2 nd December	8am	Tenterfield Memorial Hall
	11.30 am	Drake Community Hall
	3.30pm	Jennings Community Hall
Tuesday 3 rd December	10am	Urbenville Community Hall (9am QLD)
	2pm	Legume Community Hall (1pm QLD)
	6pm	Liston Community Hall (5pm QLD)
Wednesday 4 th December	10.30am	Mingoola Community Hall
	6pm	Tenterfield Memorial Hall
Thursday 5 th December	9am	Bolivia Community Hall
	12.30pm	Torrington Community Hall

At each meeting, the program was as follows:

- Welcome and introduction from the Mayor
 - Benefits of forward planning
 - Encouraging people to participate
 - Introduction of the staff and the facilitator
- Overview by the facilitator
 - Description of the integrated planning and reporting framework
 - Outline of the survey and options for completing it
 - Leading through each of the sections of the current community strategic plan.
- Discussion in response to the first question put to all of the meetings is summarised in the following table:

What we like about living in Tenterfield Shire	What we dislike about living in Tenterfield Shire
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Space and freedom • Great sense of community – village feel and friendships • Progress association and the halls • The quiet • Valuable farming land • Natural beauty, scenic rural setting • Close to Stanthorpe, Warwick, Gold Coast, Brisbane and the coast • Beautiful gardens in town • We can live off the grid and be independent • Great climate 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lack of road maintenance – tree hazards and erosion • Hospital is not good, not enough doctors or support for health issues • Lack of public transport options • We miss the small businesses - village is isolated • It's hard for young people, they have to travel to university • Finding aged care weighs on everyone • Lack of drainage • Lack of coordination in disaster planning and recovery • Lovegrass and other weeds • Challenge of working across borders • Pressure from new residents • It's hard to stay on the farm

People who attended the public meetings raised the following issues:

The common issues raised across all the villages were:

- Roads and lack of road maintenance
- Lack of maintenance on roadside drainage
- Poor internet communication
- Lack of Disability Access in townships
- Weeds management
- Lack of Aged Care and medical services and support
- Cross border issues
- Not promoting tourism
- Waste charges at transfer stations
- Poor Communication between Communities and Council

Tenterfield Meetings

- Council should stick to its core functions and control its expenditure
- Raise the standards for subdivisions and ensure infrastructure for growth
- Communication a major problem (internet connectivity)
- Heavy vehicle bypass
- Promote heritage/history
- Need more signs in the cemetery
- Support for rail trail
- Our environment is our biggest asset
- Tourism expectations about priorities for either local or tourism services
- More community events
- Doctor availability
- Lack of public transport
- Harness positive ideas from the business community
- People need to understand how to report issues to Council
- Need parking in the main street for long vehicles and RVs
- Lack of workforce and apprenticeships
- Save the heritage buildings
- Work closely with Southern Downs Regional Council in regards to regional tourism and cross border issues
- Tourism businesses should contribute to promotions
- Airport is a great model of community effort
- Need to improve Council's email database and reinstate the newsletter
- Better opportunities for young people
- Need more events and arts and cultural activities to attract visitors
- Lack of rental housing
- Beautification of the creek

Drake Meeting

- Roads in bad condition – need a maintenance schedule
- Off grid is a problem as people get older
- Great sense of community in a beautiful rural setting

- Need transport to medical appointments
- New multipurpose building that could double as an evacuation centre
- Blackberries a problem on the roads
- Creek bank land is not being maintained
- Getting rid of white goods and burning plastic – problems in the village
- Lack of support services
- High cost of living
- Aged care support needed
- Lack of maternity support services
- Local Government boundaries and having to draw on other Local Government Area services

Jennings Meeting

- Not happy with road repair methods
- Road to ammunitions depot needs repair – seek Federal Government funding for road maintenance and repair
- Roadside slashing isn't done enough
- Carpenter lane is not where it should be, boundaries have moved
- Cross border fire management
- Clearer boundaries between road reserve and private land
- It was hard when the fires came through, across the border they had better support and the funding was unfair
- Not enough doctors and female doctors
- Twin town is tricky for medical support and policing
- Hall ramp is very slippery when wet
- Feral cats and rabbits are a problem
- A pity the picture theatre isn't running
- A newsletter would be good
- Sign at the Jennings free camp to direct visitors
- UGL railway land – swings, tables, chairs, carriage museum, skate park?

Urbenville Meeting

- Urbenville Road, worst it has ever been
- Road conditions need regular monitoring for overhanging trees
- Young Austin does a great job on the roads
- Urbenville Road has overhanging trees and lack of drainage
- Not enough for young people and teenagers to do
- Cane toads have come in from Grevillea
- Now the general store is closed the brochures need to be somewhere else
- Recycling service doesn't come here
- We want to understand how our rates are allocated
- War memorial maintenance needs both Tenterfield and Kyogle Shires to work together and support the volunteers
- Stormwater issues
- Waste services for Urbenville Road
- Untended unsightly blocks
- Satellite communications upgrade

Legume Meeting

- The patching isn't holding up or isn't being done. Need more resources for road maintenance
- The White Swamp Road is the gateway to the shire, it would bring tourists to spend money here if it was fixed up
- White lines on the road are needed, especially in heavy fog
- Cross border services are an issue, it generates communication problems. We need to work with the cross-border commissioner
- The old school building is being fixed up for the RFS
- There's a lot of lantana close to the town, also mother of millions
- We need teamwork between Council and the Progress Association
- The post doesn't always get through
- NDIS aged care services come from Queensland
- Mobile service doesn't work in bad weather
- Need a border sign Queensland/New South Wales
- Stormwater drainage issues
- Tourism via Mt Lindesay
- Aged care cross border QLD taking no more clients from NSW
- Postage not getting through
- Travelling Stock Reserves weeds
- Fire burn-offs

Liston Meeting

- Worst and most dangerous road is Cullendore Road
- Mt Lindesay Road culvert needs attention – reeds and blackberries
- Working with the traffic committee on traffic calming
- People need help to fill in the forms to get access to aged care
- Would like some sort of coffee shop or retail
- Undercliffe falls needs improvement, could be a major tourism attraction
- Willsons Downfall cemetery needs mowing assistance
- Bicentennial National Trail needs facilities along the route and information about the trail at the Cobb and Co museum
- We need to be registered as a dark sky area
- Lantana, rabbits, privet, coolatai grass, lovegrass, whiskey grass
- Fire risk around the village, hazard reduction is needed
- The hall is very important to the community
- Council needs to publish a list of works and check them to see that they're done
- Do people want recycling? Boonoo Boonoo is in a swamp; we should calculate the cost of sending rubbish to Ipswich

Mingoola Meeting

- Emergency Services Access in the area
- Fire trails upgrades were promised after the last bushfire, still not done
- Road conditions
- River crossings and floods
- Advocate for medical and aged care support and services
- Weeds coming down the creeks and infesting farms
- Bruxner and New England Highway intersection very dangerous
- High use of Bruxner Highway by trucks and need for constant upkeep

- Flood signs at Sunnyside for the Mole River
- Update the truck stop
- Cross border issues on the river
- Cross border crime
- Welcome pack for all new residents to the area
- Telephone exchange doesn't have 48-hour backup as is required
- Internet communication is poor
- Dead trees on riverbank posing a threat in the next flood

Bolivia Meeting

- Weed control inadequate
- A new western grader crew for Bolivia
- Roads conditions generally poor
- Maintain culverts to help eliminate road degradation
- Advocate for more health care practitioners and services
- There is a need for buildings to house more tourists
- Simplify planning process for tourism accommodation
- Improve communication between community and Council
- Rural crime has become prevalent

Torrington Meeting

- Dangerous trees along side of road
- Gravel roads washing out
- Telecommunications tower only services village
- Fire hazard needs addressing as it is worse than 2019 fires
- Torrington road in need of rehab on existing seal and to replace pipes
- Advocate for medical services
- Aging population
- Advocate for Aged care support
- Open bush camping
- Repair Kangaroo Creek bridge
- Weeds and pest problems
- Beautify the village with paintings on electricity poles
- Insert interpretive signs within the village for tourists
- History tours
- Dam within conservation area needs repair
- Protect the areas historical mining equipment
- Tidy the entry and exit to town from regrowth

SURVEY RESULTS

An online survey was part of the community engagement process, and was posted online as well as distributed in hard copy at the public meetings. 79 surveys were received, and the following is a summary of the results to the questions listed on the survey and shown in Appendix One.

About the Respondents

53% of the respondents have lived in the area for over ten years.

Respondents came from the following localities:

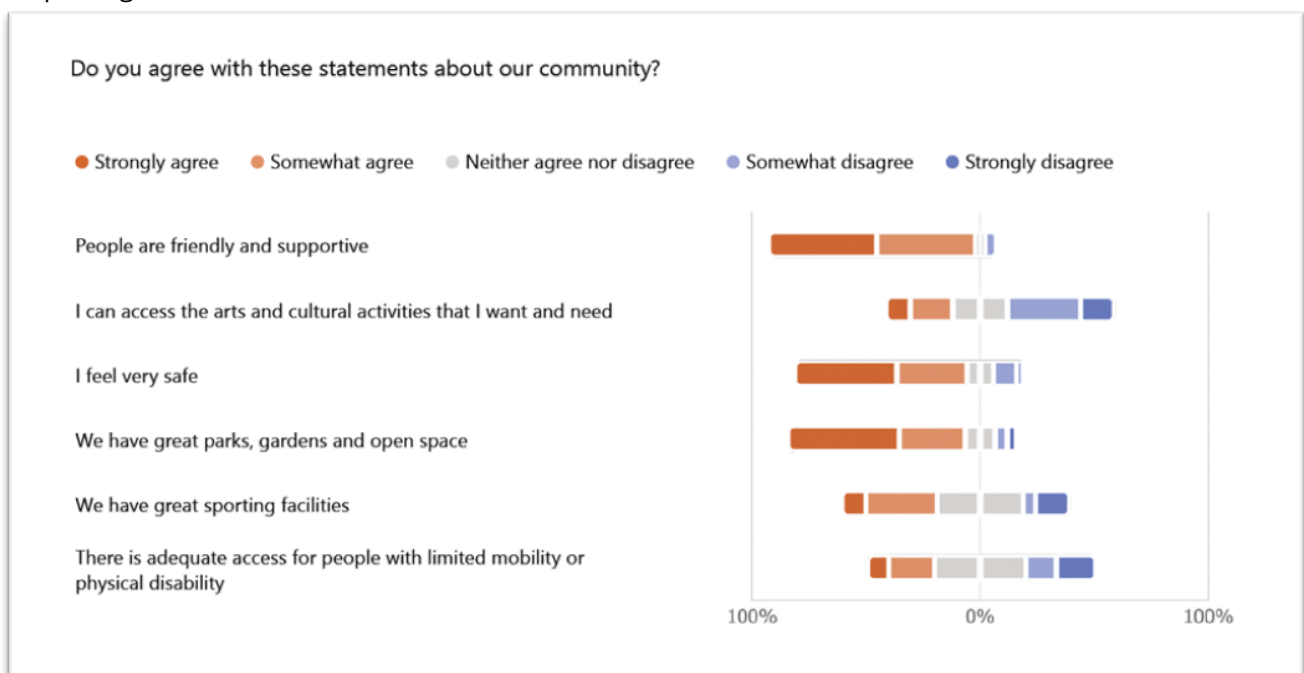
Bolivia	Maryland	Tenterfield Township
Clive Street	Mingoola	Tooloom
Drake	Mt Mackenzie	Torrington
Dumaresq Valley	Saddlers Estate	Undercliffe
East Side	Sailor Jack	Urbenville
Jennings	Stannum	Woodside
Legume	Sunnyside	Wylie Creek
Liston		

51% of the respondents were over 65, and 8% were younger than 54.

Priorities and Preferences

Community

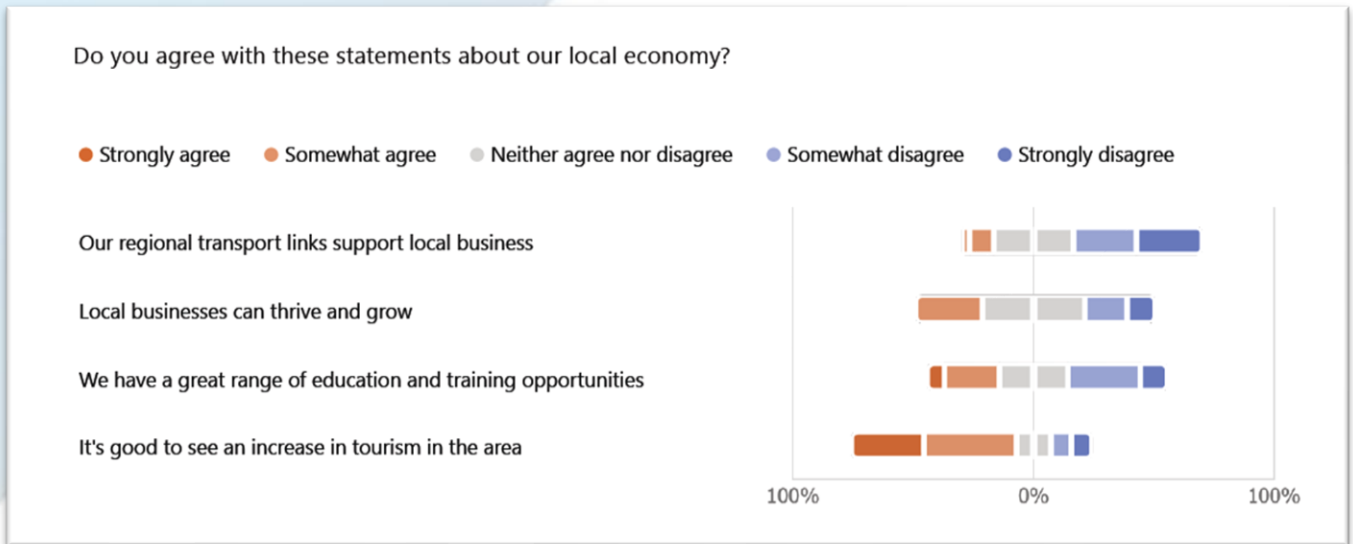
Survey respondents were asked to express their feelings about their community. They agreed that people are friendly and supportive, that they feel safe, and that they have great parks, gardens and open space. They were less positive about the arts and cultural activities, the access for people with limited mobility or disability and sporting facilities.



A full list of ideas to make the community safer, fairer and more inclusive is listed in **Appendix Two**.

Economy

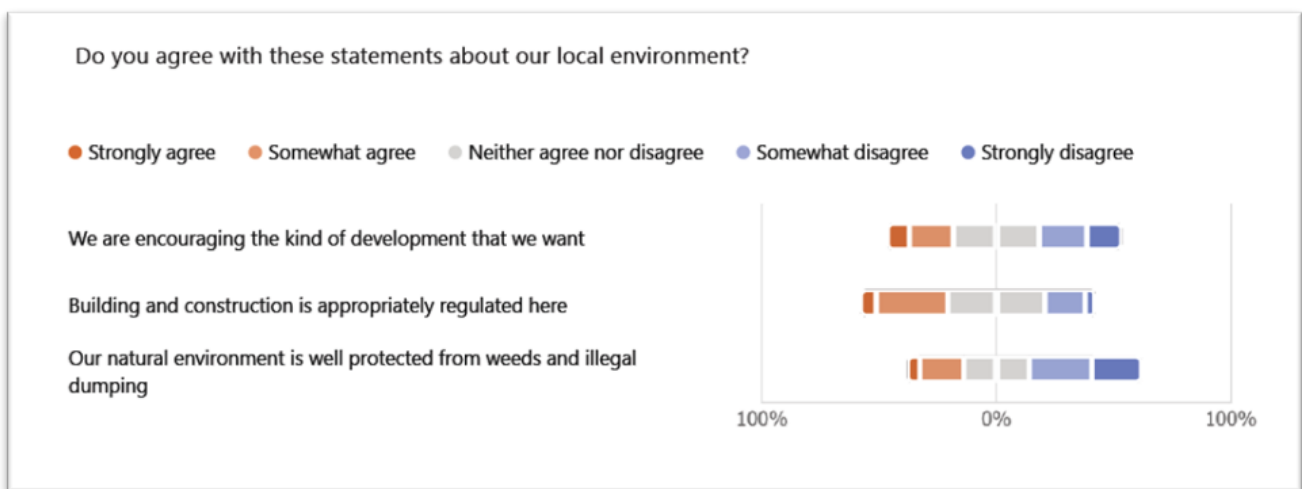
When asked about the local economy, people were less satisfied with regional transport links and keen to see more tourism in the area:



A full list of ideas to improve the local economy is listed in **Appendix Three**.

Environment

Survey respondents were more satisfied with building and construction regulation than development approval. They were most likely to disagree that the environment is safe from weeds and illegal dumping:



A full list of ideas to protect the local environment is listed in **Appendix Four**.

Infrastructure

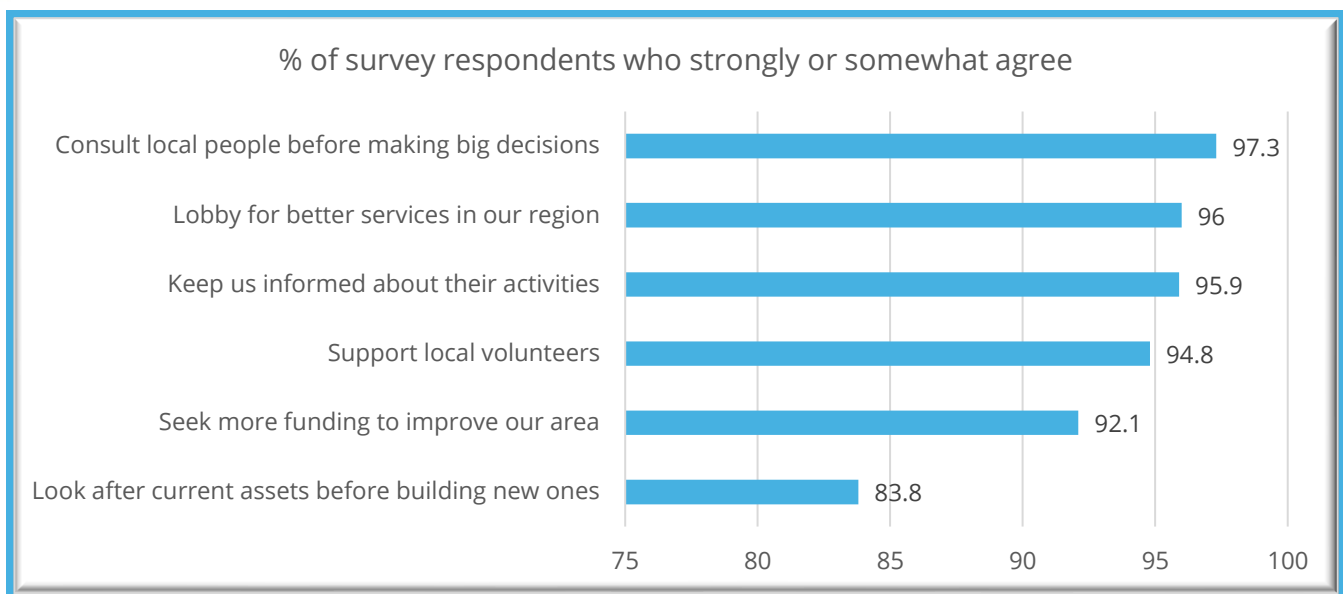
Survey respondents were asked to rate local infrastructure, and the average rating was between two and three stars. The highest average rating was given to sealed roads and footpaths, and the lowest rating was given to car parking:

	Average Rating Scale of 1 - 5
How would you rate the sealed road network in Tenterfield Shire?	2.81
How would you rate the unsealed road network in Tenterfield Shire?	2.54
How would you rate the number and location of footpaths in Tenterfield Shire? (i.e. are there enough?)	2.73
How would you rate the standard of existing footpaths in Tenterfield Shire? (eg surface and width)	2.81
How would you rate the car parking in Tenterfield Shire?	2.53

A full list of ideas to improve local infrastructure is listed in **Appendix Five**.

Leadership

Survey respondents were asked to rate their level of agreement with a series of statements about local leadership, and they felt most strongly about consulting local people:



A full list of ideas for consideration in planning the future of the shire are listed in **Appendix Six**.

NEXT STEPS

Council will consider the outcomes of the community engagement process in formulating and finalising the draft Community Strategic Plan "Tenterfield 2036". The draft plan will be placed on public exhibition from April 2025, and people will be invited to make submissions in order to finalise the plan and adopt it in June 2025.

APPENDIX ONE – ENGAGEMENT QUESTIONS

Theme	Goals	Community engagement questions
COMMUNITY Accessible and Inclusive	<p>C1: Tenterfield Shire is a vibrant, inclusive, and safe community where diverse backgrounds and cultures are respected and celebrated.</p> <p>C2: The community is supported by accessible and equitably distributed facilities and recreational opportunities for people of all ages.</p>	<p>What do you like/dislike about living in Tenterfield Shire?</p> <p>What are your top priorities for improving your village or locality?</p> <p>Do you agree with these statements about Tenterfield Shire:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • People are friendly and supportive • I can access the arts and cultural facilities that I want and need • I feel very safe • We have great parks, gardens and open space • We have great sporting facilities • There is adequate access for people with limited mobility or physical disability. <p>Do you have any suggestions for making our community fairer, safer and more inclusive?</p>
ECONOMY Good opportunities	<p>EC1: Develop Tenterfield Shire's economic base into a robust and growing economy that supports employment and business opportunities.</p>	<p>Do you agree with these statements about Tenterfield Shire:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Our regional transport links support local business • Local businesses can thrive and grow • We have a range of educational and training opportunities • It's good to see an increase in tourism in the area. <p>Do you have any suggestions for improving the economy in Tenterfield Shire?</p>
ENVIRONMENT Well looked after	<p>EN1: Our natural environment will be protected, enhanced and promoted for future generations.</p> <p>EN2: Provide secure, sustainable and environmentally sound infrastructure and services that underpin Council's service delivery.</p>	<p>Do you agree with these statements about our local environment?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We are encouraging the kind of development that we want • Building and construction is appropriately regulated here • Our natural environment is well protected from weeds and illegal dumping. <p>Do you have any suggestions for improving the natural environment in Tenterfield Shire?</p>
TRANSPORT Easy to get around	<p>T1: The Tenterfield Shire has an effective transport network that is safe, efficient and affordable.</p>	<p>How would you rate the following in Tenterfield (from one to five stars);</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Our local road network: sealed and unsealed • Footpaths: number/ location and standard • Car parking. <p>What is your top priority for improving the road network in Tenterfield Shire?</p>

Theme	Goals	Community engagement questions
LEADERSHIP A sustainable future	L1: Council is a transparent, financially sustainable and high-performing organisation, delivering valued services to the Community. L2: Resources and advocacy of Council are aligned to support the delivery of the community vision outlined in the Community Strategic Plan.	Do you agree with these statements that Council should; <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Look after our public assets before building new ones • Support local volunteers • Lobby for better services in our region • Seek more funding to improve our area • Consult local people before making big decisions • Keep us informed about their activities. Do you have any other thoughts or suggestions about the long-term future of Tenterfield Shire?

APPENDIX TWO – SAFER AND MORE INCLUSIVE COMMUNITY

Do you have any suggestions for making our community fairer, safer and more inclusive?

Inform newcomers about this area's history and culture to help foster regard and respect for the Shire's people and places.

Install CCTV in town centre – Tenterfield.

Widen footpaths.

Pathway to golf club for disabled.

Advocate for a 24-hour manned police station/presence.

Allow more modular/container accommodation, this can increase tourism and population to grow the local economy.

Facilitate all residents to have their opinion and encourage transparency.

Better disability access to shops and services (doctors' surgery, medical facilities), wheelchair access for parking in town centre and across the shire.

More benches in Jubilee and nearby parks for older people; more bins in these parks; concerts in the parks using local talent.

Bring back the closed off street fairs and events that serve locals but also attract tourists.

Improve internet connectivity across the Shire, to help facilitate communication, and for emergency contact.

Road awareness for horse riders' safety.

Facilitate Community hubs.

Introduce and promote a community noticeboard/news facility.

Community support and engagement.

Drake - Advocate for access to arts and culture activities - Support Women's Shed, markets etc.

Get a McDonald's to Tenterfield to give young people a training shop.

Give the community adequate access to a good size of crown land and build a new multipurpose building that can be used for multiple activities.

Pay a professional grant writer to apply for a grant that allows for this facility to be fully stocked as an emergency evacuation centre with animal enclosures fully functional kitchen, coffee shop, young children's area and safe rooms for emergency Domestic Violence.

Encourage police to monitor and action the speed limits through Rouse Street, Tenterfield.

Rumble strips, speed limits on road surfaces - entrances to villages.

Do you have any suggestions for making our community fairer, safer and more inclusive?

Provide more cultural activities.

I would like to see the cinema open or used for plays and musical events.

I would like to see the "Band Hall" put to use for community groups.

Improve the parks and gardens and improve parking.

More activities for the older population.

Encourage Economic Development and Businesses to the Shire.

Install disability access in Legume, path to the public toilet, disability access to the toilet, cover the play equipment and install a boundary fence for the safety of children.

Install public waste bins in Legume village.

Install shelters in our parks.

Advocate for Aged Care Support so the seniors and disabled people don't have to move away because of a lack of services and support.

Advocate for more Doctors so they can make house calls. Encourage a more caring community centred approach.

Advocate for support needed for locals in financial hardship or experiencing domestic violence.

People from different cultural backgrounds (societal backgrounds) need the opportunities to get to know each other in a non-structured way.

Make better parking options for all of town not just one block.

Advocate for public transport to local waterfalls and Bald Rock for everyone to enjoy.

Play music in Central Park to promote a better feel.

Encourage shops to open and to open longer on weekends for tourists despite parking issues which need to be addressed.

Reclaim land at back of shops as it is currently a hang-out for unruly teenagers and unruly behaviour.

Address the youth supervision issues after dark by providing affordable entertainment, PCYC style maybe?

Replace hot metal chairs for timber chairs on the streets.

Safer community resilience - Redistribution of water rights allowing land holders who wish to grow food and grain to do so for a more resilient community in our current climate emergency.

Repair roads to a safe level, less big trucks in town.

The disability access ramp in Rouse Street is too steep and narrow, needs modification.

Create a Timber Museum for Legume, similar to Liston's Cobb & Co.

Make Villages more appealing with equal standards.

APPENDIX THREE – LOCAL ECONOMY

Do you have any suggestions for improving the economy in Tenterfield Shire?

A good public transport system between Tenterfield and other centres north, south and east would go a long way to improving the economy.

Adopt a plan that engages village communities and enhances the overall shire.

Advocate for big business shops.

Build that jail.

Create more tourism.

Encourage locals to buy locally through fruit and vegetable markets more often; more variety in food outlets.

Encourage more retail businesses to be open on the weekend for visiting tourists.

Farm and small business need encouragements.

Fix roads to adjoining shires as this is where the tourists are coming from.

Highway through the Main Street prevents some tourists as traffic is a risk for young families – need Heavy Vehicle Bypass.

Trucking hub as Tenterfield is central with highways in all directions.

If we maintain the natural environment of the Shire and maintain accessibility, then the area will certainly attract continued increases in visitation from urban dwellers seeking a different experience.

Improve internet/telecom communication.

Maintain the local roads to help Tourism.

Support small or rural businesses by responsible and moderate planning rules and permits.

Maintain village streets so potential buyers are encouraged to Legume.

Make it attractive for businesses to come here and be here.

More ability to subdivide to attract new homeowners to build a larger community with facilities and infrastructure.

Advertise Tenterfield on television as a place to visit.

Move away from reliance on tourism and encourage manufacturing industries.

Review LEP.

Provide free buses to surrounding attractions.

Do you have any suggestions for improving the economy in Tenterfield Shire?

Have movies in the park and night markets for growers.

Approve and be open to other businesses other than cafes.

Better use of parking for all of the Main Street.

Simplify the approval process for modular/container homes.

Tenterfield could attract significant tourism and economic advantage by implementing a clean green future, becoming a model of land restoration and natural farming area using biological remediation and increasing diversity.

The Tenterfield True gift cards - make them available to be used in all shops.

There needs to be less reliance on tourism and more support for the formation of local industries.

We must find unique selling points and focus on them. History is the key and could be emphasised more. It's not just about more cafes and dress shops. Why not have a history precinct.

We need a tourist information hub where we market, promote and encourage tourists to stay and spend. We need more shops and variety.

Council needs to understand, commit and support tourism and where possible promote new ventures such as recreation on the dam (trout fishing), and bike trails (along the rail reserve if necessary).

Advertise town businesses. Promote business and stop-over visits - Amenities, Fuel, Gas, EV Charging and Etc.

APPENDIX FOUR – ENVIRONMENT

Do you have any suggestions for improving the natural environment in Tenterfield Shire?

Council to clean up after any work being done. (e.g. pile of gravel left behind park by council for months).

Cleaning up piles of trees (fire breaks for village) This has been left by council and is now a fire risk not a fire break.

4 Botanic gardens would be a good addition.

Use existing authority to get on top of dangerous fuel loads and invasive weed species.

Biological soil remediation and water harvesting strategies, creek repair.

Bush walks + (caravans, convoys, bike trails), encourage tourism on Yelvie Trails, and local folk love events, eco-friendly tourism, that allows people to interact on a friendly basis, allowing people to contribute to national parks and wildlife without controlling the resources. Revise the climate change agenda so that it does not exclude people from accessing the natural environment.

Clean up railway corridor on Jennings Site.

Discourage unnecessary (e.g. fire conditions) wholesale vegetation clearing.

Privately owned land requires natural landscape, habitat, environment protection as much as possible - not just in natural parks area.

Encourage rate payers to use tank water and get rid of heavy vehicles using main streets, and if possible, have an electrician here for town.

Enforce the covenants for the shire and push those that break them to comply.

Planning and regulation needs a customer service focus.

Our weed focus is limited in enforcement and delivery. Improve weed treatments.

Have an annual waste pickup day for each area of Tenterfield Shire where people can put their large items of waste out for pickup, instead of dumping it somewhere outback in the shire, because the fees are too much at the transfer station.

If Tenterfield dam is developed for leisure activities, people will break any rules posted.

Council staff will be needed to manage the activities on and around the dam. It is small dam for our drinking water and easily polluted.

Keep the town's parks and gardens department well resourced. Maintain the gardens in the main street as it looks good.

Maintenance of blocks - Keep grass short for fires.

More bins placed in busier areas e.g. entry to Tenterfield. During peak holiday seasons and weekends these need more frequent emptying. Too many remain overflowing which is not a good look for tourists and residents alike. More bins on the river walk in town.

Opening Tenterfield dam for Recreational use needs attention to many details, including infrastructure such as toilets, bins and parking spaces. The dam is small, garbage disposal is critical.

Do you have any suggestions for improving the natural environment in Tenterfield Shire?

Facilities need regular maintenance. Many species of native birds live on/around the dam, some using the reeds and other vegetation for nesting. All of these require substantial amounts of capital, initially and ongoingly. Our natural environment needs protecting.

More needs to be done to control weeds and suppress the spread of long grass. Some properties have allowed black berries to proliferate for many years. This puts a lot of pressure on landowners who make an effort to control them.

More roadside maintenance i.e. mowing, clearing overgrown laneways and roads corner of Millers lane/ Bellevue Rd.

Nature's environment is a resource that must be efficiently monitored and not over-regulated.
Too many laws/rules/regulations, tend to be simply ignored.

Perhaps we could focus on the unique features of the natural environment for example bird and animal life here as well as the New England Autumn experience.

Advocate NPWS to allow hunting of feral pests in National Parks as in State Forests. Restrict lifestyle block developments.

Recycle & Tip service (Landfill, Recycle sales and Green waste) need to be cheaper, increase hours of availability.

Roadsides weed control. Monitor water quality of Maryland River as land use changes to more intense or horticulture. Bats in Liston Community Hall - need relocation and solution - Health hazards + degrading the building. Protect "Dark Sky". It is worth it. Promote Astronomy here. Promote TSR for horse trail riding, just need a sign as trailer parking + note on the council site.

Shade trees - Paths, Car Parks. Reduce invasive weeds and pests - more staff employed to undertake some of this work. Provide newcomers with relevant information, i.e. climate/environmental challenges and solutions. Involve real estate agents and developers - be realistic and proactive. Orient buildings to reduce summer heat and discourage black roofing.

Stop spraying poison instead of mowing / weeding.

There are invasive, environment-destroying weeds all up and down the Tooloom Creek, to say nothing of local property owner's creek-adjacent filling the gullies with their household rubbish (take a drive down Connells Road), cow paddocks creek-adjacent with cows standing in the creek. A dream would be to have the Tooloom Creek revegetated with native plants e.g. rushes, sedges, trees and not destroyed as per example of Richmond River. Illegal dumping takes places on the hill overlooking the town past the cemetery.

Wattles are a natural part of environment but have to be cut back as highly flammable. We have areas of koala habitat that should be more protected from logging. No more mines... leave so much contamination...all ends up in Rocky River which should be kept pristine.

Banning and fines for people burning plastics - (many burn their rubbish).

Improve drainage - Legume

APPENDIX FIVE – LOCAL INFRASTRUCTURE

What is your top priority for improving the road network in Tenterfield Shire?

1. Maintain streets and roads
2. Put up signs when working on roads.
3. Gravel on sealed roads - sweep

Accessible footpaths and parking.

Improve drainage.

Address long term road safety risks e.g. Torrington Rd between Deepwater and Stannum is full potholes that are never adequately repaired and reappear quickly and multiple dangerously leaning trees.

Red Hill Rd has dangerously slippery bends, multiple dangerously leaning trees. Pyes Creek Stannum Rd has a washout so deep that an adult male can stand in it. This road is the only access for three properties and is in danger of total collapse and land-locking the residents despite years of lobbying for its repair & maintenance.

No long-wheel base vehicles (e.g. ambulances, fire trucks, bulk fuel delivery or stock transport trucks) have been able to use this road for over two years.

Better car parking for all of the Main Street for business and customers.

Construct a heavy vehicle bypass.

Maintenance of drainage on all roads, repairing potholes more permanently and seal, add white lines on sealed and re-sheeting gravel roads.

Council allocating more funds and time to outlying lanes and roadways.

Footpaths should be a priority to keep people off roads. This is a safety issue. New developments, both commercial and residential, need it to be a mandatory requirement for approval. This has been the case in many state-wide councils.

We have many roads that now have had a first bitumen seal but are narrow and therefore dangerous so that situation needs to be monitored and rectified.

The talk regarding the potential Tenterfield by-pass needs resolving. I'm not 100% sure a by-pass would be economically good for the town, it would probably make our main street safer and a little more pleasant but would really put pressure on the towns people and business to provide product and service for tourism.

Improve the serration on many corners of Bruxner highway from Tenterfield to Drake , colour coded road marking for different speed zones blue for 40 yellow for 60 red for 100 etc. Each town have a digital portable solar road signs that tell emergency up ahead / or road repairs slow to 40 etc

Increase Spending on problem areas, quality Job first time.

What is your top priority for improving the road network in Tenterfield Shire?

Keep improving crests, blind corners, and narrow culverts.

Maintain a balance between inner urban and rural road access.

Maintenance of roads especially after floods or fires is key for safety. Some additional signage would help people from out of town find their way along the highways especially the smaller villages.

Maintenance to avoid dangerous hazards as soon as they develop, e.g. road surface after environmental events e.g. floods.

Maintenance. Not maintaining roads and saying they are good after no maintenance for 20 years.

Make a good road base to minimise potholes after rain events.

More bitumen roads in country areas.

More car parking; fewer restrictions for parking in Rouse Street; shoppers only in carpark behind the shops.

More off-street parking and signage especially for long vehicles and caravans.

More training for the road constructions.

Need more disability parking and police than what we have.

Repairing damage in a timely manner and maintaining rural property access roads that are TSC controlled public roads. Attending to reports of dangerously overhanging trees in a timely manner.

Reseal main roads in the town vicinity.

Resurface town roads; straighten road between Tenterfield Town and Drake as far as is possible. Get Bruxner Road returned to Highway status for its whole length.

Standardising intersection and clearing weeds growing in the road that obstruct line-of-sight.

Stop building BROKEN sealed roads.

Street parking only in Urbenville, no off-street parking

Fix the long sweeping blind left hand curve going down to the dip just before the border crossing on Cullendore Rd.

We requested horse riders signs on the Wylie Creek Rd between 399 and 100, NOT DONE.

Top quality materials, machinery operators, supervision and regular maintenance budgeted.

New developments - incorporate paths, parking, shade trees, wide and safe vehicle access.

Inspect/access intersections - line of sights, visibility and proximity.

Future cycling events - safety issues.

APPENDIX SIX – PLANNING FOR THE FUTURE

Do you have any final suggestions for Council in planning the future for Tenterfield Shire?

- A huge Shire with lots of area of expensive maintenance necessary. A fantastic environmental area with unique areas due to location, climate etc. Council needs to recognise these factors that make our Shire so special and maintain its natural features as much as possible to protect its value to others wishing to experience it and to those who have chosen Tenterfield as their forever home.
- A sustainable future must include biological soil remediation and water harvesting techniques to rehydrate the landscape which ensures community resilience and buffers the impacts of climate change. Food, grain, meat, and milk are a regional priority for a sustainable community.
- Apply for more grants to help fund works. Use funded grant money – example rural addressing.
- Attract and retain top quality staff. Abolish the ward system. Reduce the number of councillors. Ban black roofing. Support cash payments. Monitor ABS data, plan accordingly. Learn from past mistakes, acknowledge, apologise and rectify. Improve communications. Educate councillors, encourage skills and knowledge to improve job performance. Very concerned re: This community's/shire's vulnerability to entrepreneurs and developers plans and events, checks and balances.
- Advise of public consultation meetings via email to all ratepayers. Transparency and Community Consultation are key. Increase Facebook interaction.
- Better hospital services - both Doctors and nurses lack expertise. Nurses are overworked at the nursing homes. A PUBLIC TOILET in town not up the hill.
- Better ways to keep our land safe from fires and floods. Need an outlet to rid of old white goods, and refuse, worn out. Provision of support to our aging population.
- Communicate with constituents (at a time accessible for working people - not the middle of the day).
- Don't be so Tenterfield-centric.
- Encourage industry and education to keep young people in the area and divert the highway to promote a village atmosphere rather than a thoroughfare.
- Funding for Jennings community for more tourists.
- Assist with finding professional grant writers and funding for yearly events for moral /mental health /inclusivity /connectivity /and support the same 20 volunteers that run everything and upcoming volunteers with some funding through grants and variables to encourage more volunteers.
- Over \$4000 per lot in town in rate bills is ridiculous.
- Listen to all rate payers. Maintain all infrastructure to a better standard. Build roads and bridges for tomorrow, not yesterday.

Do you have any final suggestions for Council in planning the future for Tenterfield Shire?

Look after buildings - unless better to pull down + build new. e.g. Liston Hall Bats!! Think Big Start Small. Local input. A sense of place (lovely place to live) isn't the same as a destination (Tourism). Identify strengths and promote them, those will attract people. Do you want an increased population living in the area or an increased passing through tourism?

Look after rate payers before tourists and development.

Look outside the box for opportunities.

Maintain our unique tree lined streets. Maintain existing trees, plant replacements when necessary. Ensure Councillors and Mayor remain visible and active to the public. Council exists for the town and ratepayers not the other way around. Ratepayers are not an endless supply of resources.

Make Councillors accountable to address the issues of all rate payers.

More activities for older population such as Pickleball, Table tennis, U3A.

More inclusiveness in decision making with affected people. Also, no established emergency communication process, and seemingly no effective coordinates of community-led recovery after disasters.

Pay off debts and reduce rates to a sustainable level for all. Have other income rather than only relying on rates. Rates are currently too high.

Reduce the red tape and speed up approval times.

Support farming please, with good road infrastructure.

Tenterfield suffers from a lack of employment opportunities and allied to that, opportunities for young people to develop future life skills.

Does Council have a shortlist of physical, locational and service reliability assets that could reasonably form the basis of new initiatives.

Mining and forestry, for instance, probably have very low ratings. However, the good physical environment, civic services support, personal safety, clean air, and living space without suburban crowding could attract high-tech development. I am thinking of web-based software development enterprises, design studios and tourism destination activities, rather than simply passing tourism services.

The community needs more information on how Council is progressing the town. The community needs more opportunity to have a say. Review the LEP and open up opportunities for everyone to grow this place.

The newsletter was a good way of keeping us informed especially with the lack of newspapers.

Boonah border gate is the gateway to SE Qld population potential tourists as such should be well maintained and welcoming.

Use Railway as a tourist destination with route from Tenterfield - Armidale. Need rail service.

We definitely need better access to medical services at a local level.

I firmly believe that council has to be proactive with investment and if a business case supports investment into new infrastructure, then it shouldn't be restrained by existing debt or obligations. Support volunteers. Maybe council could look at some rewards system for volunteers such as rate rebates or some other incentive that is well thought out and not likely to be abused.

Do you have any final suggestions for Council in planning the future for Tenterfield Shire?

I ask that Council be bold in their thinking and planning. Include the community's enthusiasm and commitments outside of existing staff and councillors but don't become hamstrung due to community's negativity and/or procrastination.

Community noticeboards in prominent locations (Tenterfield and Villages) would assist greatly.



OUR THANKS AND FEEDBACK

Tenterfield Shire Council would like to thank the many community members and stakeholders who have provided valuable input into the development of this Community Strategic Plan.

Council will continue to monitor and evaluate the progress of the Plan to ensure it continues to reflect our community's priorities and aspirations.

Council encourages and welcomes feedback regarding this Community Strategic Plan. All correspondence is to be addressed to:

General Manager
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