

Draft 2023/2024 Budget and Operational Plan

June 2023

Community Engagement Summary

On Thursday 27 April 2023, Council endorsed the Draft 2023/2024 Budget and Operational Plan for Public Exhibition. The endorsed engagement level of consultation was identified as **CONSULT**, aimed to gain feedback on identified issues and potential alternatives. Consultation methods applied ensured regional community had an opportunity to participate allowing Council to receive direct feedback and identify community sentiment to inform decision making.

Engagement activities were largely centred on the Your Say platform and a targeted Communications Plan. Enabling content to be viewed through multiple channels.

Question and Answer tools were utilised within the Your Say project page to give community an opportunity to seek clarification before completing their formal submission. Engagement and Customer Insights Team proactively and efficiently facilitated the answers to these tools which community appreciated.

A summary of engagement activities and resulting community participation is highlighted below.

How we reached you




28 days of engagement

- 1 May - 29 May 2023
- 4 locations available across Wellington & Dubbo for viewing




Advertising and communications

- 66,724 newspaper advertisements (Readership)
- 678 radio advertisements
- 5 media releases distributed



1,262 visits to Your Say page

- 41 project followers
- 8 Q&A contributions, all answered
- 611 downloads of document library



Digital engagement

- 28 referred from DRC website page
- 54,130 social media impressions
- 67 social media posts




Water & sewer harmonisation Consultation Sessions

- 1 Wellington, Residents & Ratepayers
- 1 Wellington, Business & Government
- 1 online Q&A Session, Residents & Ratepayers




Direct stakeholder engagement
Pre and post public exhibition

- 8 facilities directly informed stakeholders identified with moderate to high impact
- 2 targeted information sessions informed stakeholders with moderate to high impact
- 5 community Committee Meetings informed



Councillor engagement videos

- 9 videos encouraged community participation via Your Say on key areas of impact.
- 1,620 combined total watch time



Formal submission's received

- 52 via Your Say
- 15 via other methods

Fees & Charges

Outcomes and next steps

- A report will be provided to Council at the Ordinary Council Meeting to be held at the Dubbo Council Chambers, 5:30pm Thursday 22 June 2023 for consideration.
- Any person wishing to address Council during Public Forum regarding their submission must complete and return to Council’s Corporate Governance team the Procedures for Addressing Council and Standing Committees form.
- For more information on addressing Council or to view the live stream event please visit: <https://www.dubbo.nsw.gov.au/About-Council/Meetings-and-Documents/council-meetings>
- All formal submissions, where appropriate contact details have been received, will be notified of the outcome of the Council report titled 2023/2024 Draft Budget, Operational Plan and Associated Documents – Results of Public Exhibition
- On 1 July 2023 the Delivery Program and Operational Plan, budget and Fees and Charges for the 2023/2024 year come into effect.