



# COMMUNITY SERVICES POLICY

Approval Date:	25 May 2017
Review Date:	25 May 2019
Responsible Officer:	Director Community Services

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## Purpose

This policy details Council's commitment to community service planning, facilitation and service provision with the aim of contributing to the quality of life and well-being of Coonamble Shire residents.

## 1. Principles

- 1.1 Council recognises that an effective provision of community services should aim at meeting the needs of residents based on the social justice principles of participation, access, rights and equity.
- 1.2 Council recognises the role of Local Government in maintaining the quality of life of the community through the coordination and planning of community services; as well as acting as an advocate, catalyst and in providing development support for community based services.
- 1.3 Council recognises that the demand for community services will increase at a rate exceeding the capacity of local government and community resources to supply those services, thus economic constraints must be recognised.

## 2. Policy Statement

### 2.1 Community & Social Planning

Through community and social planning, Council will strive to understand and respond to the social needs of the community. Social planning processes will be used to document aspirations and needs and to establish priorities for community service provision.

### 2.2 Community Development & Support

Council will employ community development staff to work with communities in the establishment and maintenance of services. Community development involves working with communities to build their capacity to become self-reliant, connected and resilient.

### 2.3 Support for community managed groups and services

Council will encourage community-based management and, where possible and appropriate, offer support to community groups and services managed by community members in order to encourage groups in delivering high quality, viable services.

### 2.4 Advocacy

Council will raise the awareness of State and Federal Departments in regard to community service needs in the Coonamble Shire.

## 3. Legislative Provisions

Local Government Act (1993), Chapter 3, Section 8A

### Policy Review History

Date	Changes Made	Approved By
October 2011	Policy developed	General Manager
8 February 2012		Adopted by Council: Minute No. 9690
25 May 2017	Review – amendment to 3. <i>Legislative Provisions</i> to reflect amendment to Chapter 3 of Act-September 2016.	General Manager

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