



COUNCIL ADVOCACY SUBCOMMITTEE REPORT

I am pleased to present the Council Advocacy Subcommittee Report for 2025-2026. The subcommittee met four times with Liverpool Plains Shire Council representatives to strengthen relationships and advocate for local businesses' interest. The subcommittee included Rusty Wallis (Chair/Committee Member), Tammie Clark (President), and Mark Chapple (Vice President). Thank you to Mark and Rusty for their time and ongoing support.

Our meetings provided a forum to discuss business issues across the Liverpool Plains and created opportunities to work with Council on community projects.

The subcommittee advocated for Chamber members, including discussions about the Plains Fitness Gym Partners Membership discount. After the gym's sale in June and the new owners taking over in July, we will reach out to new owners to help support members' health and well-being.

We monitored key Council initiatives, including traffic management; water availability for flowering plants; replacement Christmas Street banners along Quirindi's main street; the Community Calendar and Directory launch; input into the Regional Drought Resilience Plan, Destination Management Plan and Economic Development Strategy; Disability Inclusion Plan and the Waste Management Strategy review, which followed safety concerns at the Carroona Transfer Station.

The subcommittee supported Council's economic development initiatives by discussing tourism, Quirindi's main street beautification and vibrancy, business growth, grant opportunities, and access to economic data. We welcomed Caroline Lumley (Manager of Economy and Engagement) and Warwick Stimson (Director of Planning and Growth). Caroline has since departed, and we wish her well. We remain committed to collaboration and strengthening relationships.

Our advocacy extended beyond raising issues. In partnership with Council, we held a "Meet and Greet Your Council" event, including a public forum with Council representatives after our AGM on 25 August 2025. Last year, we also worked with Council to organise the Lighting of the Community Christmas Tree, featuring entertainment and activities for children. In addition, we partnered on two National Volunteer Week events in May and supported Council's involvement in the Business NSW New England North West Regional Business Awards, to be held in Quirindi on 25 September 2026 — the first time the event will take place in our shire. Planning is also underway for the Lighting of the Community Christmas Tree on 2 December 2026, with Council staff helping coordinate decorations at the Quirindi Library Precinct.

We look forward to continued collaboration with Council in 2026-2027, strengthening communication, identifying the chamber's role, supporting local business and tourism, and working together for a stronger Liverpool Plains.

Tammie Clark, President
Council Advocacy Subcommittee
5 August 2026