

September 7, 2023

Media Release

## Active Transport Plan adopted for the Shire

Central Darling Shire Council has adopted a new Active Transport Plan.

While a major focus for Council resources continues to be on roads, there is a need to improve the pedestrian and cycling network, otherwise referred to as Active Transport.

The Central Darling Active Transport Plan aims to make walking and cycling the preferred way to make short trips. Transport for NSW is encouraging regional councils to assist with achieving the NSW target to double the number of active transport trips within 20 years.

The plan identifies a range of pathway improvements and social initiatives for towns in the Shire that will enhance pedestrian and cycling opportunities. The operation of public amenities, directional signage, water points, seating, bicycle racks, streetlights, and trees as well as other urban facilities that support the active transport network are also considered in the plan.

Because there are limited funds available to improve the active transport network, the plan proposes targeted improvements that are assessed to have the greatest benefits and user support.

In August last year Council received \$85,600 under the Get NSW Active program for the preparation of the plan. Work included community consultation over several weeks and assessment of existing infrastructure. Before being adopted the plan was placed on Public Exhibition for comment.

The Active Transport Plan will now be used as a reference for future grant funding opportunities for improved infrastructure across the Shire.

Ends.

Media Contact: Gabrielle Johnston 0472 787 022

Administration Centre – 21 Reid Street Wilcannia Mailing Address – PO Box 165 Wilcannia 2836 Email <u>council@centraldarling.nsw.gov.au</u> Phone 08 8083 8900