

Boulia Shire Council's

STRATEGIC CORPORATE PLAN



'Your Vision, Your Plan, Our Future 2019 - 2024'



Table of contents

About this plan	Pg 1
Message from the Mayor	Pg 2
Message from the Chief Executive Officer	Pg 2
The Strategic Corporate Planning Framework	Pg 3
Our Shire	Pg 4
Who we are	Pg 4
Our priorities	Pg 5
Our challenges as a Council	Pg 6
What we are hearing from you	Pg 7
Our Stakeholders	Pg 8
Our Council	Pg 9
Foundations of the Corporate Plan	Pg 10
Strategic Corporate Planning Framework	Pg 11
Our Vision, Our Purpose, Our Values	Pg 12
What are we planning to do?	
Community	Pg 14
Infrastructure	Pg 15
Economy	Pg 16
Environment	Pg 17
Governance	Pg 18
People	Pg 19
Regions	Pg 20
Health and Wellbeing	Pg 21
Key Priority 1: A strong supportive community environment	Pg 22
Key Priority 2: Building and maintaining quality infrastructure	Pg 23
Key Priority 3: Economic Development - A sustainable local economy	Pg 24
Key Priority 4: Caring for the environment	Pg 25
Key Priority 5: Robust Governance	Pg 26
Key Priority 6: Supporting local services and facilities	Pg 27
Key Priority 7: Valuing our greatest asset - people	Pg 28
Key Priority 8: Proactive and responsible leadership	Pg 29
2019 Community Meeting and Council Survey Feedback	Pg 30

Acknowledgement to Country

Boulia Shire Council acknowledges and pays respect to the Pitta Pitta people and their Elders, both past and present, as the traditional custodians of this land.

Boulia Shire Council also recognises the different spelling name of the town of Urandangie and this spelling (Urandangie) will be used throughout the entirety of this document.

Boulia Shire's Strategic Corporate Plan

'Your Vision, Your Plan, Our Future 2019–2024'



About this plan

In Queensland, Local Government Authorities are required to prepare a Corporate Plan in accordance with the Local Government Act 2009 and Local Government Regulations 2012. This Corporate Plan sets the direction for the communities of the Boulia Shire Council and Council decision-making for the period 2019 to 2024.

This document, the Strategic Corporate Plan, is our plan for the future of Boulia Shire. It outlines what the community have told us you want to see in the Shire as it grows over the next four years.

As the 'big picture' plan for the Shire, the Corporate Plan identifies some outcomes that are beyond Council's responsibilities. There are some issues (such as affordable housing or better health facilities) on which Council can advocate, inform and influence but are not within Council's direct control.

The Corporate Plan recognises that others in our community (individuals, businesses, governments and agencies) can also contribute to future outcomes. To work out what you felt were the most important things to focus on, there have been a range of engagement activities, including surveys and focus groups over the past couple of years.

Our Shire

The remote rural shire of Boulia is the Capital of the Channel Country in the heart of Central-West Queensland. Encompassing the communities of Boulia and Urandangie, the region has a population of approximately 496 covering an area of more than 61,000 square kilometres.

The pillars of the Boulia Shire economy are cattle and tourism with new interests in mining exploration. Other industries, like retail and construction, or key service sectors such as health and education, rely on these pillars for their own sustainability and growth.

Over the next four years Boulia will be working towards attracting industry, supporting existing businesses and developing the tourism market to support our vibrant and resilient community. The residents of Boulia are proud of their communities and passionate about their future.

Our shire will be well planned and supported with the right infrastructure in the right places to support present and future population. We will value education as a lifelong pursuit where we gain practical skills, enrich our lives, find secure jobs and improve our local and regional economy.

We will have a community spirit that embraces our diversity and unique culture and gives everyone the opportunity to shine.

Boulia Shire will be characterised by strong communities and an economy driven by skills, innovation and diversification.

Message from the Mayor

There is an inevitability about change and with change comes the opportunity to grow. Boulia Shire Council - its Councillors, Executive Staff and workforce have provided stability and from this we have delivered on all aspects of the previous Corporate Plan 2015-2019.

Fundamentally, this new plan seeks to build on previous versions of the Corporate Plan to ensure that it continues to reflect the aspirations of our community.

Our region has experienced several years of the continued effects of drought and while this has stifled the potential it has not defeated the will of the people who call this home. We have within our midst the first hint of new resource discoveries and this diversification will bring population growth and new industries that will propel us into the future. This plan seeks to encourage and build on the strong values and goals that we have and enable and invite new opportunity into our shire. It sits well with our long-term financial strategies and can be easily delivered operationally and practically. It is the plan for our time and a plan for our future.



Mayor
Mr Eric (Rick) Britton

Message from the Chief Executive Officer

Since 2013 this region has suffered the ongoing effects of drought, interspersed by floods, and now potential strong agricultural commodities and potential resource mining opportunities are knocking at our door. However, no matter what happens in the short-term, the Council has to maintain a steady focus on the future and navigate the region's fortunes to provide stable services to its community. The Corporate Plan is how we set the course for this navigation and provides the strategic framework to make it happen. The Annual Operational Plan determines the activities on which we deliver these outcomes and measure our performance.

In effect, this suite of reports, culminating in the Annual Report, provides the community with a blueprint for our operations. From a business perspective, our intention is steadfast: to establish priorities that deliver services and activities while maintaining a responsible fiscal position. Throughout each of the seven strategic focus areas identified in this plan there is an emphasis on efficiency, partnerships, sustainability, investment, advocacy, governance and safety – each strengthened by our core values, from which we derive clarity of intent and endeavour. This will give, not only the Boulia Shire community, the wider RAPAD region and also potential investors in the region, surety and confidence that the Council is open to creative development and progress and will respond to opportunities and challenges with consideration.

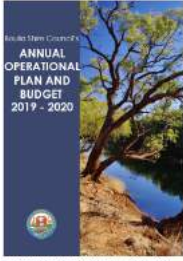


Chief Executive Officer
Ms Lynn Moore

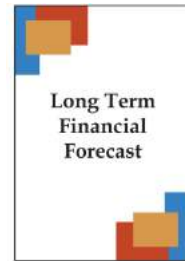
'A strong and inclusive shire creating opportunities for all'

The Strategic Corporate Planning Framework

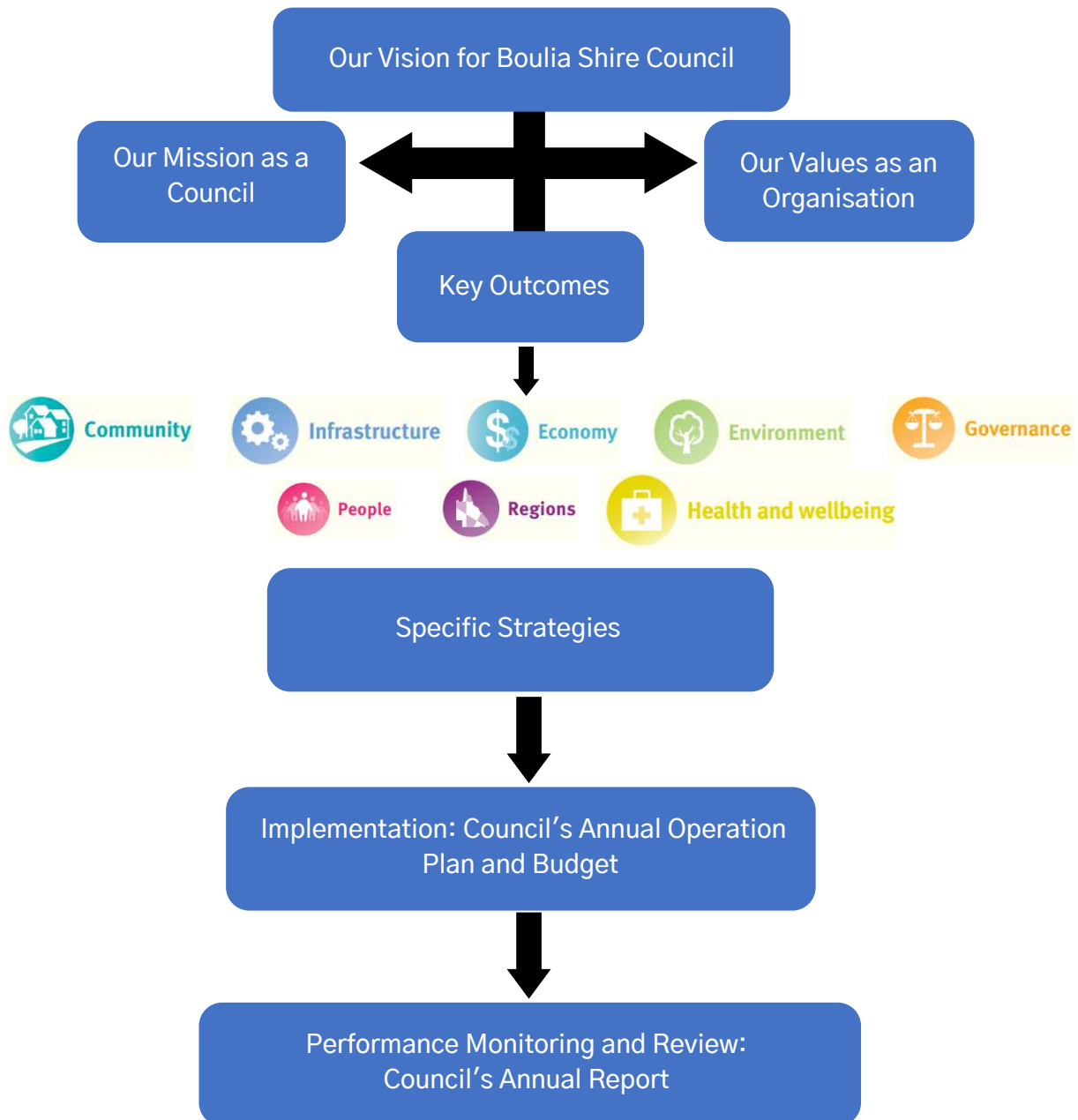
The **Strategic Corporate Plan** 'Your Vision, Your Plan, Our Future 2019-2024' identifies the long term aspirations our community wants to see delivered by Boulia Shire Council. The Corporate Plan stretches beyond the next four years, identifying the outcomes and long term strategic responses needed to achieve the agreed directions. It demands strong leadership from Council in working with others to grow our Shire into the future.



The **Annual Operational Plan** is the document that guides the organisation's work program. The document sets out clear priorities, ongoing activities and specific actions Council will undertake to achieve outcomes for the community.



The **Long Term Financial Plan** provides a framework within which we can assess our revenue building capacity to meet the activities outlined in our Corporate Plan. It provides an opportunity for early identification of financial issues and any likely impacts in the longer term. It also confirms that we can remain financially sustainable into the future.



Our Shire...

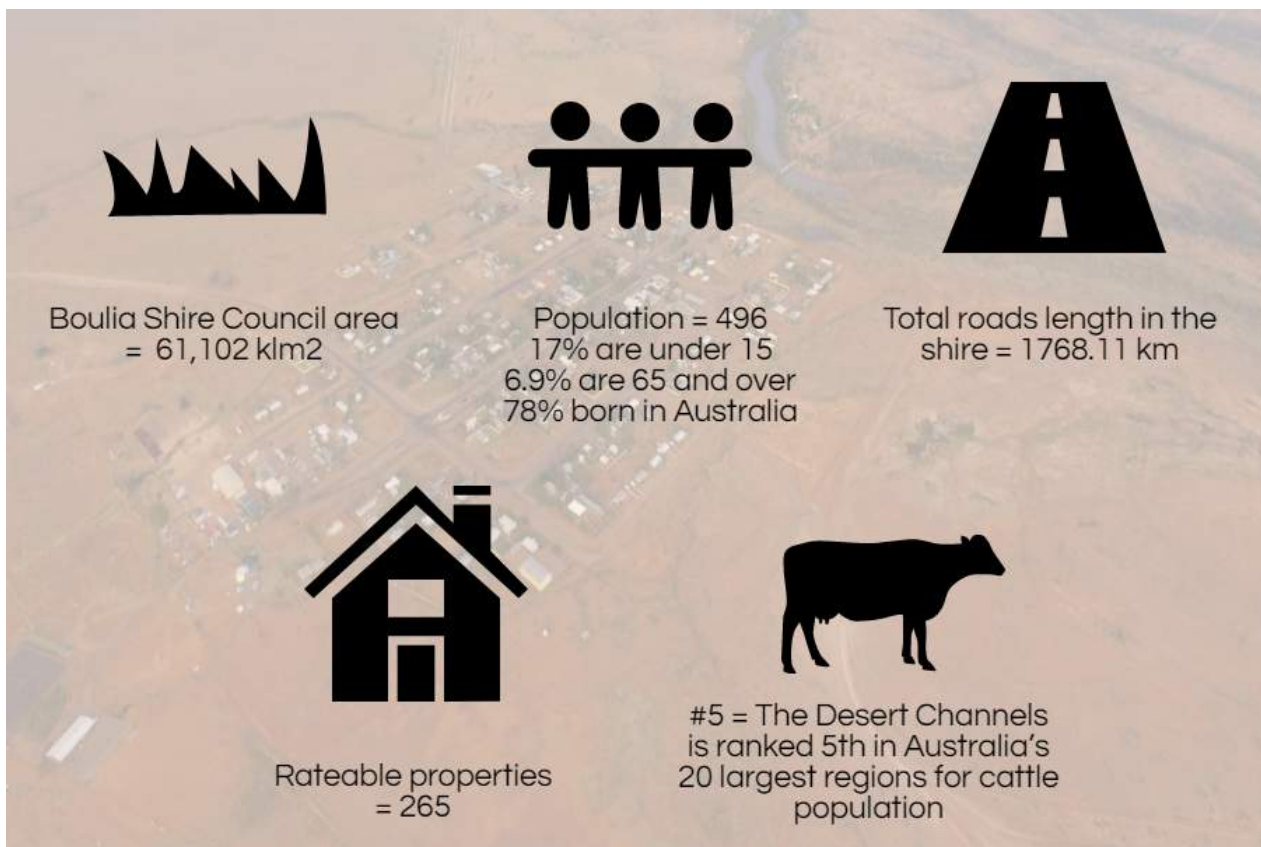
It is the Land of the Min Min Light, Capital of the Channel Country and big sky country. Bouli encapsulates these well earned titles and so much more.

Steeped in a rich history which evolved 100 million years ago when the shire was part of the Inland Sea and was home to a mass of marine reptiles, the 61,000 square kilometre land mass called Bouli Shire is of predominately Mitchell and Flinders grass plains and considered to be exceptional fattening country for livestock. Beneath the surface is a wealth of natural treasures including gas, oil and diamonds – and these are only the deposits that we know of.



As our town has progressed over many generations, what has stood the test of time over hundreds of years are the famed Min Min Lights. There is no rhyme or reason as to what the lights are, when and where they will appear and how long they will appear for. There are many myths and bush yarns about the lights, which are still seen today.

Who we are...



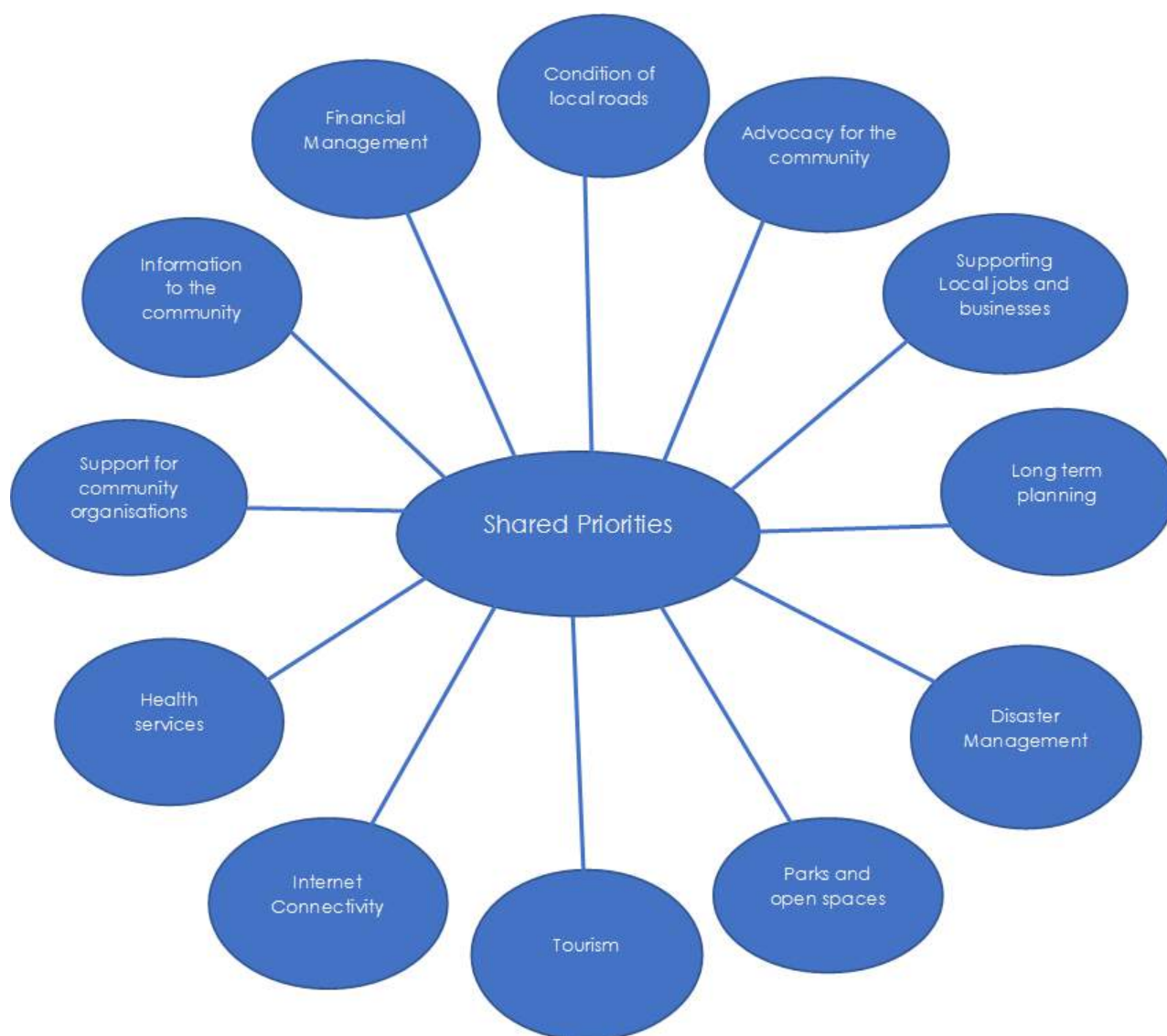
This information is sourced from Council data, Beef Central and 2016 data from ABS (Australian Bureau of Statistics) for Bouli Shire

Our Priorities

Not surprisingly, the community's highest priority is the condition of the local road network. Roads are important, not only economically but also socially; they are the means by which our geographically separated community members are connected. The Shire has a network of 1768.11km of roads and does not have the population/rate base to generate sufficient revenue to maintain them to a standard that satisfies our community.

Nevertheless, we have invested considerable resources into road maintenance over the past few years and will continue to do so into the foreseeable future. Our efforts over the next four years will also be directed towards the other priorities highlighted by our Corporate Plan.

As part of our commitment to continual improvement we wanted to make sure our reporting focused on those issues that are of the greatest concern to our community. The 12 important areas for the future of Bouliā Shire are detailed in the diagram below. These were consistent with the priorities raised during the development of the Bouliā Shire Corporate Plan 2014-2019, and will continue to guide our strategic planning directions.



Our challenges as a Council

Limited resources
to support growth

CHANGES TO
**GOVERNMENT
FUNDING**
MODELS

MAINTAINING THE
ROAD
Networks

increasing
[demand for services]

INCREASED DEMANDS with Government regulation and reporting

The sustainability
of our small towns

WORKFORCE

planning,
attraction
and retention of staff

NEW
Emerging
TOURISM AND MINING
OPPORTUNITIES

Ageing Population

What we are hearing from you

PROVIDE EDUCATION
**OPPORTUNITIES
FOR THE
COMMUNITY**

**IMPROVE
COMMUNICATIONS,**
internet, mobile black spots

*Act
quickly!*

*Control
weeds*

SUPPORT THE
AGRICULTURAL
INDUSTRY

Be
EFFICIENT

Look after our elderly

ADVOCATE
on our behalf

FIX

**LOCAL
ROADS**

**ENGAGE OUR
YOUNG PEOPLE**

LOOK AFTER
our infrastructure

Be fair
&
consistent

*Provide
child care*

Support community events

Our Stakeholders

Employees



- Employees provide valuable knowledge, skills and labour
- Council provides training, career development and flexible work arrangements

Community



- Our community provides guidance, values, engagement and feedback
- Council provides services, facilities, civic leadership and representation

Government



- Government provides legislation, planning, services and funding opportunities
- Council provides local strategies and partnerships

Bouliā Shire Council

We recognise and value the wealth of skills, knowledge and expertise in our community and aim to use these to improve its decision making. Effective stakeholder participation is good democracy, good business and good management.

Regional Partners



- Regional partners provide shared knowledge, resources and networks
- Council provides advocacy and local leadership

Local Contractors



- Local contractors provide economic stability and development opportunities
- Council provides partnership opportunities

Suppliers



- Suppliers provide goods and services to meet requirements and standards
- Council provides opportunities in line with legislation and supply policy



Our Council

Our community seeks leadership from Council, and responsibility in managing its finances and assets. Our community needs Council to speak out for Boulia Shire and the region, and make sure all levels of government plan responsibly for the Shire's future.

Our community wants us, as an organisation, to behave ethically, be responsible and encourage accountability and transparency.

Each of the three spheres of government in Australia (Federal, State and Local) has different roles and responsibilities in the funding and delivery of services to our communities. There are some services that all local governments must provide, and some that Councils can choose to make available to their communities.

As a leader, Council embraces a role that extends far beyond the direct provision of services. Council actively drives an advocacy agenda for the region, focusing on an equitable allocation of resources from the State and Federal Governments. Council has a number of key roles in working towards a sustainable future Shire with a healthy and resilient community – leader, advocate, custodian, facilitator, educator, regulator and service provider.



Mayor Rick Britton



**Deputy Mayor
Cllr Beck Britton**



Cllr Sam Beauchamp



Cllr Brook McGlinchey



Cllr Jack Neilson



**Director of Works
and Operations
Harin Karra**



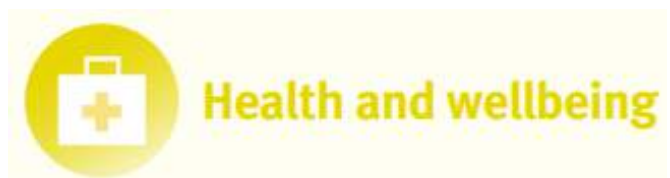
**Chief Executive Officer
Lynn Moore**



**Manager Corporate
and Financial Services
Kaylene Sloman**

FOUNDATIONS OF THE CORPORATE PLAN

The foundation blocks of the Bouli Shire Council Corporate Plan link directly to the outcomes of the Queensland Plan.



STRATEGIC CORPORATE PLANNING FRAMEWORK

The Corporate Plan is part of a framework of planning that provides a clear line of sight to the vision to be a progressive shire creating opportunities for all it considers the social, environmental, economic and governance themes that contribute to the long-term wellbeing of the community.

THE SUITE OF DOCUMENTS

- The Bouliā Shire Council **Corporate Plan 2019-2024** sets a strategic direction for the Bouliā Shire Council to deliver progressive outcomes for the region that create opportunities for all.
- The Bouliā shire Council **Town Planning Scheme 2019** guides how land, buildings and structures are used and developed in the region.
- The **Asset Management Plan** deals with the financial, economic and technical practices applied to the management of Council assets.
- The **Long Term Financial Management Plan** supports the framework for the procurement, investment and administration of Council funds.
- The **Annual Operational Plan** outlines the services and project delivery actions for the coming year.
- **Staff Performance Plans** - drives organisational performance to achieve strategic goals.
- **Annual Report** - The outcomes of the Annual Operational Plan and the performance on the budget are reported in the Annual Report.





OUR VISION

'A progressive shire creating opportunities for all'

We will be valued as a shire where people choose to live, work and play, and a guardian of a sustainable natural environment that inspires and supports a healthy community.

OUR PURPOSE

'Delivering our plans, planning for the future'

We are a Council committed to decisive leadership in making locally responsive, informed and responsible decisions. We aim to deliver continuous improvement, to provide quality services and facilities which support a sustainable future.

OUR VALUES

Leadership and Collaboration

Building trust, teamwork, communication and a shared understanding which actively listens to our community.

Accountability, Consistency and Transparency

Equal opportunities, fair and open consultation and communication. Accepting responsibility for our actions.

Performance and Value for Money

Achieving best value for money outcomes for our community. Collaboration, managing expectations and working towards common goals.

Commitment, Teamwork and Staff development

Continually improve on our achievements and drive innovative solutions. Lead change and continuous improvement in delivering for our community. Promote a positive health and safety culture.

'No one individual can do this alone but as a community working together we can achieve everything we need for the future of our shire'

What are we planning to do?



Community



We will support our communities by.....

- Promotion of community events, services and facilities
- Respecting our culture and heritage, past, present and future
- Having active and inclusive communities
- Supporting the volunteers that contribute to community organisations and activities
- Advocating to support a secondary education facility in our region
- Providing footpaths to encourage families to walk and cycle together

TARGET PROJECTS

- Continuation of the community events assistance program
- Upgrading of the Boulia Heritage Complex
- Foot path upgrades, and new footpaths with lighting

Infrastructure



We will look after our infrastructure and make improvements wherever we can by

- Advocating for and securing additional funding for State-managed roads
- Maintaining Council roads
- Partnering with community to improve buildings and other infrastructure
- Providing infrastructure that suits community needs
- Delivering infrastructure that helps the community come together and share experiences
- Providing accessible and sustainable facilities for local airports
- Looking after our infrastructure in accordance with our strategic plans
- Partnering with community to improve community and recreation buildings

TARGET PROJECTS

- Support 'Australia's Longest Shortcut' by sealing the Donohue Highway
- Continued improvements to the Racecourse Reserve facilities
- Minimum \$3,630,806 per annum capital expenditure on roads
- Develop an organic spelling facility
- The progression of the Boulia Shire Regional Community Hub
- Development of industrial, rural and residential land

Economy



We will support our business and industries to enable our community to prosper by

- Ensuring new developments have appropriate infrastructure to cater for future growth
- Providing for sustainable agricultural industries through responsible land use planning
- Processing permit requirements in a timely fashion to support development
- Developing and implementing an economic development strategy
- Supporting businesses to complete their own business plans
- Supporting the training needs of business owners and their staff
- Continuing to work with RAPAD and other regional groups to increase and enhance tourism
- Advocating to other levels of government for adequate water, power and waste services to support business development

TARGET PROJECTS

- Developing and implementing an economic development strategy
- Promote Boulia and the RAPAD region as a region for tourism and development
- Development of digital technology to support tourism and agriculture
- Development of the Industrial, rural and residential estates

Environment



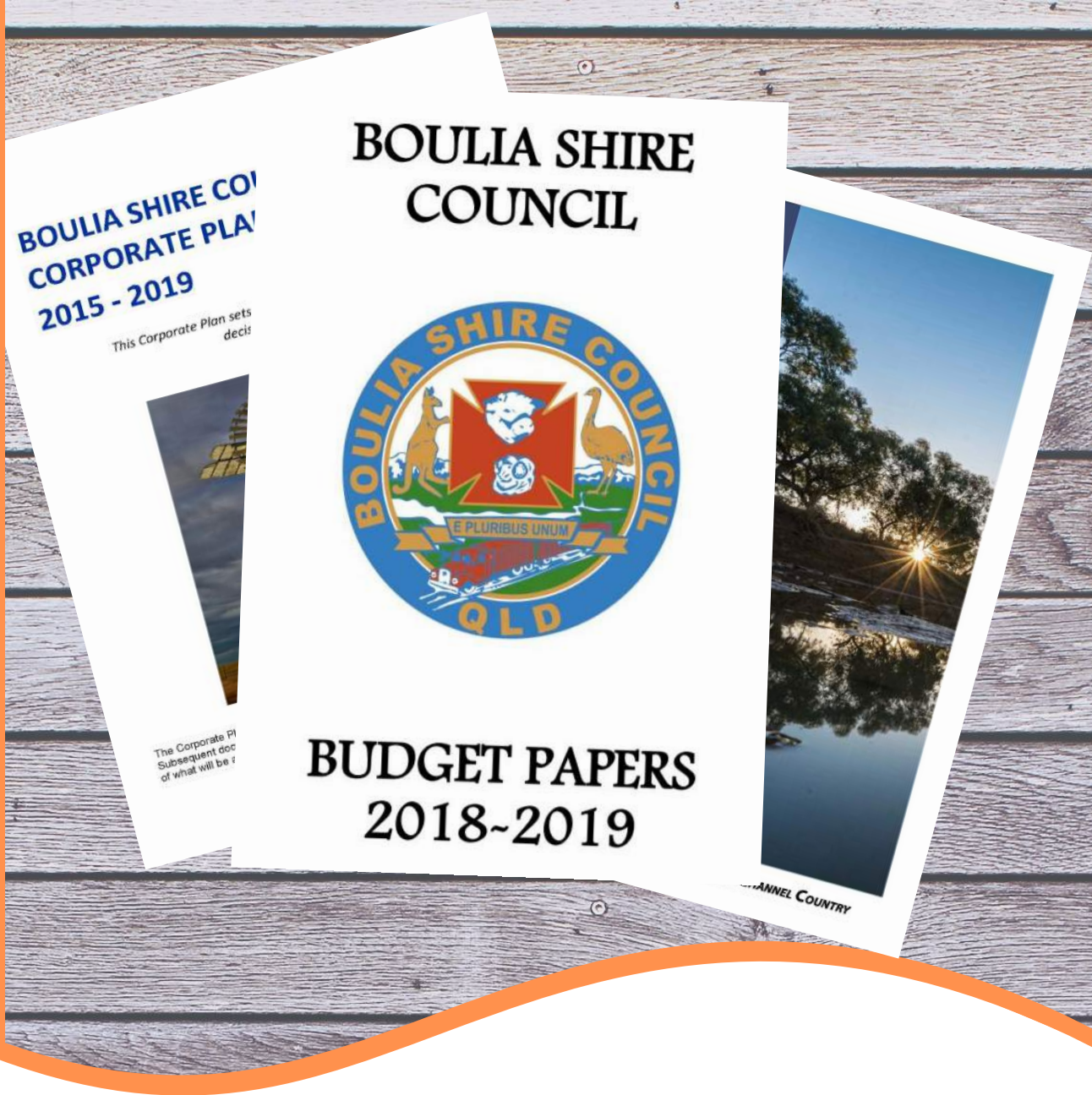
We will protect and conserve our environment by

- Supporting and encouraging renewable energy
- Continuing to implement Council's Waste Management Strategy
- Educating the community about recycling and kerbside collection arrangements
- Reducing the spread of weeds across our Shire
- Actively engage in pest management initiatives
- Continuing to partner with schools and community organisations to deliver environmental benefits

TARGET PROJECTS

- Continue to work with regional groups for the control of weeds and pest management
- Continue to develop water conservation practices
- Provisions of a safe environment for families to live and work

Governance



We will govern and administer our organisation to achieve the best outcomes for our community by

- Budgeting responsibly
- Planning our finances for the long term
- Being consistent with our decision making
- Ensuring our Councillors and staff are accountable
- Being clear about the roles and responsibilities of the organisation and individual staff members
- Looking for efficiencies in the way we work
- Supporting and training staff to fulfil their roles to the best of their ability
- Undertaking workforce planning
- Partnering with RAPAD to deliver shared projects and services
- Keeping up-to-date with technology and modern systems of work
- Ensuring our procurement practices continue to be transparent
- Expanding our social media communication

TARGET PROJECTS

- Continue to engage with RAPAD to derive benefits for the community
- Explore systems which can assist Council to provide sound information for decision making

People



We will support the staff to work happily and safely in our workplace by

- Adopting sound employment practises
- Support Workplace Health and Safety plans
- Provide training opportunities for all staff
- Provide career pathways to develop staff

TARGET PROJECTS

- Continue to develop the new business system
- Staff training in all Council activities is planned, monitored and reviewed.
- Meet the annual targets for Workplace Health and Safety each year
- Continue to provide the Employee Assistance Program.

Regions



We will continue to represent and promote our shire by

- Strong representation
- Genuine community engagement
- Education
- Developing new employment opportunities

TARGET PROJECTS

- Continuation of the partnerships with Outback Highway Development Association for 'Australia's Longest Shortcut'
- Continuation with the association of RAPAD
- Continuation of the 'job seeker' project.

Health and wellbeing



We will support our families to live happily and safely in our community by

- Advocating for the provision of quality childcare and kindergarten services
- Advocating for the provision of aged care services
- Supporting our families through the provision of increased Health Services

TARGET PROJECTS

- Improving the accessibility to Council buildings and paths for those with limited mobility
- Council's buildings are able to be used for community social events when needed

Key Priority 1: A strong supportive community environment

Our communities are our heartland and boast a unique character. They are places where we demonstrate our diversity and community spirit and provide vital hubs for the services and activities that connect us. We will encourage individual and community responsibility, foster acceptance and reduce disadvantage - bringing our communities closer together.

Service areas:

Public assets and facilities, Libraries, Community planning and development, Arts and cultural services, Sport and recreational engagement, Youth and indigenous development, Parks and recreational services, Sport and recreational facilities, Cemeteries, Grant funding

Performance Measures
Council services are in line with community expectations
Community strategies and plans implemented
Community satisfaction with activities and services delivered

1.1: Promotion of community events, services and facilities

Strategy

1.1.1	Build a strong sense of community, capacity and pride by supporting partnerships
1.1.2	Liaise and work with community groups and organisations in attracting funding and/or providing support where appropriate
1.1.3	Maintain a high quality of life by providing facilities and resources that encourage a secure, interactive and progressive community lifestyle

1.2: Respecting our culture and heritage, past, present and future

Strategy

1.2.1	To preserve and promote the heritage and diverse cultures of our community
1.2.2	To maintain, preserve, develop and provide access to our region's history
1.2.3	To promote the heritage, arts and cultures of our communities

1.3: Bouliā Shire to have active inclusive communities

Strategy

1.3.1	Partner with relevant organisations to support educational opportunities for the shire
1.3.2	Recognise the outstanding work done by volunteers by partnering with relevant groups to support volunteering services within the shire
1.3.3	Facilitate opportunities for learning, social activities, community events, grants and funding programs
1.3.4	Build social capital through provision of accessible community infrastructure and programs
1.3.5	Provide equitable access to and advocate for a range of services, programs and facilities to address disadvantage and foster inclusion

Key Priority 2: Building and maintaining quality infrastructure

Infrastructure creates the building blocks for our future. Our access to clean water, reliable energy supplies, communication technology and public infrastructure is paramount to our standard of living. We will keep pace with demand by planning for the future. We will create green spaces and social infrastructure, manage expansion and provide essential services.

Service areas:

Land development, Waste management services, Technical services, Project design and management, Infrastructure services, Depots and workshops operations, Water utilities

Performance Measures
Infrastructure, roads, airports, buildings are well maintained
New development is consistent with relevant plans and strategies
Asset Sustainability benchmarks attained

2.1: Well connected

Strategy

2.1.1	Develop, manage and maintain Council controlled roads and airport infrastructure to sustain and improve connectivity and safety
2.1.2	Deliver quality roadwork on non-Council roads within quality assurance guidelines
2.1.3	Lobby for appropriate State and Federal government funding to upgrade the quality of major access roads within the shire and also accessing the region

2.2: Well serviced

Strategy

2.2.1	Provide sustainable and environmentally sound water, sewerage and waste services for the communities within the Shire
2.2.2	Provide and maintain well planned sustainable community assets to meet the needs of our community

2.3: Well planned

Strategy

2.3.1	Develop and implement a robust asset management plan to support effective long-term asset management
2.3.2	Implement a decision-making framework for the prioritisation of shovel-ready projects
2.3.3	Plan open spaces and recreational facilities and streetscapes to improve civic pride and aesthetic appeal
2.3.4	Facilitate land and infrastructure development that meets the needs of the community and fits with the financial constraints of Council, key stakeholders including State and Federal governments
2.3.5	Ensure Town Planning Scheme accommodates appropriate land/zonings for future commercial/industrial establishment and growth
2.3.6	Facilitate land and infrastructure planning and development that meets the needs of the community

Key Priority 3: Economic Development - A sustainable local economy

Economic prosperity creates opportunity. Our economic strength fuels growth across our region and is responsive to opportunities, particularly in the tourism and the agricultural market. We will advocate for local businesses and work to diversify the local economy to include mining and exploration and take full advantage of the resources available to us.

Service areas:

Regional development, Tourism development, Agribusiness development

Performance Measures
Employment statistics show a stable or an increasing trend
New businesses – mining/commercial/industrial commence in the shire
Visitor numbers and length of stay show a stable or an increasing trend

3.1: Facilitate employment and investment opportunities

Strategy

3.1.1	Encourage a diverse supply of housing affordability and choices
3.1.2	Council owned housing is managed, is affordable, and which is suitable to meet demands
3.1.3	Facilitate networks and partnerships between local business, industry groups and government

3.2: Support local business and advocate for the region

Strategy

3.2.1	Support opportunities for new and existing businesses
3.2.2	Actively support networks and partnerships between local businesses, industry groups, relevant organisations and State and Federal government
3.2.3	Advocate and support the development of the Outback Highway
3.2.4	Advocate for the future development of the road network to strengthen tourism and transport within the shire

3.3: Innovate and explore opportunities

Strategy

3.3.1	Identify economic opportunities and enablers for the Shire
3.3.2	Enhance digital connectivity opportunities for the Shire
3.3.3	Grants, commercial and regulatory functions and other revenue sources increases

3.4: Promote Boulia Shire and the RAPAD region as a region for tourism and development opportunities

Strategy

3.4.1	All opportunities used to increase the shires exposure to the tourism market
3.4.2	Support Council operated businesses which are associated with tourists and benefit the wider community
3.4.3	Support local groups in the development of tourism activities which will benefit the wider community
3.4.4	Promote Boulia Shire and the RAPAD Region as a region for tourism and development opportunities

Key Priority 4: Caring for the environment

We are the guardians of our environment. Our shire is home to diverse, pristine and culturally sensitive environments. We have a duty of care to preserve and protect our shared environment so it continues to underpin our history, lifestyle and economy. We will encourage sustainable practices including green energy solutions and the responsible land management.

Service areas:

Town planning, Development assessment, Strategic land use planning, Building and plumbing services, RLPO services, Environmental health, Disaster management, Emergency services, Flood mitigation project

Performance Measures
Community satisfaction with environmental activities
Environmental plans are implemented

4.1: Well managed

Strategy

4.1.1	Employ efficient development planning processes and practices
4.1.2	Facilitate land and infrastructure planning and development that meets the needs of the community
4.1.3	Provide a safe and pleasant environment for families to live and work
4.1.4	To be aware of significant cultural heritage listed areas and to engage with Traditional Owners for the management and future identification of culturally sensitive areas

4.2: Resilient

Strategy

4.2.1	Implement initiatives for flood mitigation and to plan, prepare, respond, recover and build resilience from disasters for the communities of our region
4.2.2	Establish and maintain a disaster management response capability to meet community needs when required

4.3: Sustainable

Strategy

4.3.1	Ensure the region's sustainability through integrated weed and pest management practices
4.3.2	Ensure all roadwork activities conducted by Council meet with environmental guidelines and are sustainable
4.3.3	Apply practical water conservation practices that ensure that the town retains a green look and feel
4.3.4	Caretake environmental impact areas of pests, weeds, water, resources, disasters and natural resources

Key Priority 5: Robust Governance

The decisions made by local government and community organisations change our lives. Decisions made by State and Federal Government affect how we operate. We want a greater say in the process and in the allocation of resources, especially in our local communities. We will ensure we have effective process, procedures and policies to positively change behaviours which are supported by the Local Government Act 2009 to provide confidence to funding providers.

Service areas:

Gravel pits, Boulia and Urandangie Airports, Land development, Corporate Communications, Information Services, Financial Services, Governance, Procurement, Records management, Asset management, Risk management, Safety

Performance Measures

Sustainability ratios within Queensland Government guidelines

The corporate and operational plans are monitored and performance reported

5.1: Confidence

Strategy

5.1.1	Manage Council's operations in an effective manner by clearly defining the functions, services, roles and responsibilities of Council
5.1.2	Effective internal and external communication and records management
5.1.3	Adopt and integrated risk management approach

5.2: Accountability

Strategy

5.2.1	Ensure Council's financial activities are monitored and well managed
5.2.2	Maintain high standards of Corporate Governance through effective audits
5.2.3	Decisions on new or enhanced community assets or facilities are viewed with the future financial impact on Council
5.2.4	Ensure transparency and accountability through integrated performance management reporting

5.3: Stability

Strategy

5.3.1	Provide a working environment for all in which risk is managed and monitored in all Council areas and facilities
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5.4: Sustainability

Strategy

5.4.1	Council's offices, depots and business enterprises are operated under 'value for money' principles
5.4.2	Optimise performance of Council business units using available technology
5.4.3	Ensure the long-term financial sustainability of the Council through prudent financial management and budgeting
5.4.4	Implement good practice in managing and maintaining our assets
5.4.5	Advocate for improved services and infrastructure

5.5: Advocacy

Strategy

5.5.1	Advocate for improved services and infrastructure
5.5.2	To have Councillor representation and actively involved in regional forums

Key Priority 6: Supporting local services and facilities

Active, healthy lifestyles drive our success as a Shire. Health and wellbeing are building blocks for fulfilling lives. We will support smart lifestyle decisions to reduce the toll of preventable disease and increase our life spans. We understand the importance of open green spaces for recreation and social cohesion and support a work-life balance to remain connected with our colleagues, family and community.

Service areas:

Boulia Primary Health Centre, Wellbeing Centre, Urandangie Health Centre

Performance Measures
Council facilities are available to be used when required
Number of government funding opportunities accepted
Boulia health requirements are represented in local and regional forums

6.1: Facilitate opportunities

Strategy

6.1.1	Facilitate health and medical service provision for Boulia and Urandangie
6.1.2	Provide community services through government funded programs for the benefit of disadvantage members of the community

6.2: Support an active healthy community

Strategy

6.2.1	Encourage and promote community wellbeing, including healthy and active lifestyles
6.2.2	Maintain a high quality of life by providing facilities and resources that encourage a secure, interactive and progressive community lifestyle
6.2.3	Improve disability access to facilities in each community
6.2.4	Facilitate health and medical service provision for Boulia and Urandangie

Key Priority 7: Valuing our greatest asset - people

People are our greatest asset. Unleashing individual potential maximises personal, community and economic outcomes. We will encourage an inclusive community that supports the needs of business people, our staff, the young and the elderly and we will support the least advantaged including Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Queenslanders. We will encourage diversity, foster innovation and use the talents of all - we believe that nobody should be left behind.

Service areas:

Council workplaces (inside and outside), Tourist attractions, Local businesses

Performance Measures
Council recognised as an employer of choice not simply be the 'only' employer
Increased stays during tourist season
Increased visitations to local attractions

7.1: An innovative culture

Strategy

7.1.1	Adopt employment practices that develop and support a motivated and focused workforce
7.1.2	Keeping pace with technological changes in the workplace environment
7.1.3	Ensure the workforce is adequately trained and staff have access to development programs and continually support Workplace, Health and Safety practices

7.2: A great place to work

Strategy

7.2.1	Collaboration with staff and Unions on the content of the workplace agreements
7.2.2	Develop and maintain a positive and future focused culture that demonstrates and supports Council's vision and values
7.2.3	Support the continuation of the Employee Assistance Program
7.2.4	Provide a safe, healthy working environment and be proactive in all Work Health and Safety matters

7.3: Living our values

Strategy

7.3.1	Be known for our excellent reputation, our friendliness and dedication service delivery
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7.4: Tourism

Strategy

7.4.1	Make Boulia the place on everyone's bucket list
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7.5: Education

Strategy

7.5.1	Partner with relevant groups to support and deliver Emergency services within the shire
7.5.2	Partner with relevant agencies and organisations to provide a range of community awareness and educational programs
7.5.3	Support further education for all employees relevant to their roles

7.6: Develop new employment opportunities

Strategy

7.6.1	Partner with other organisations who can deliver training to improve prospects of future employment roles within Council.
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Key Priority 8: Proactive and responsible leadership

Our Shire is well recognised and respected both in Queensland and the Federal arena and this is critical for the future growth of the region. We recognise the challenge population decline brings and will find ways to manage it and do what we can to reverse the trend. We will build on what already makes our shire and the surrounding regions exceptional - people, local enterprise, and natural resources - developing our strategic and competitive advantage underpinned by strong regional partnerships.

Service areas:

Council workplaces (office and depot), Tourist attractions/locations, Local businesses

Performance Measures

Communication with the community is proactive and relevant

8.1: Genuine community engagement

Strategy

8.1.1	Develop and implement initiatives to encourage the community to become more informed and involved in issues that may affect them
8.1.2	Manage and govern to ensure transparency and responsiveness to the needs and views of our communities in decision making practices
8.1.3	Communication with the community is aimed to capture the wide range of media
8.1.4	Residents are informed about and involved in Council's decision making

8.2: Strong representation

Strategy

8.2.1	To represent and collectively make decisions to benefit the entire community
8.2.2	Develop and maintain partnerships with regional organisations
8.2.3	Council acts in a coordinated manner to implement this Plan

2019 Community Meeting and Council Survey Feedback



In order to gather the Community's thoughts on the future direction of the Boulia Shire, a Community Meeting was held on the 15th May 2019 along with the distribution of a Community Survey.

Many bright ideas came from the people who participated - some of the ideas were futuristic and this is what Council were looking for! All the different perspectives on what is important to the community are valuable insights that Council needs to ensure we incorporate, where feasible, the ideas and suggestions when planning for our future.

All the ideas, suggestions and comments received in the community meeting and survey have been linked to both Council's Strategic Corporate Plan and Annual Operational Plan and the State Government's Queensland Plan.

Following is a snapshot of some of the suggestions Council received and of which we can already put on our 'bucket list'- ie: planning and obtaining funding for:

- Design and construct modern housing to accommodate people wanting to relocate for work opportunities (which would require land allocation).
- Add more walking paths with trees and plantings, install more signage with historical information along those paths, interview and document stories, memories and photo's from all past and present residents to be compiled in a book and new versions compiled every 5-10 years.
- Upgrade River Road with bitumen and install town water and sewerage to allow for future development.
- Continue to design business hub incorporating Council Offices, Boardroom, Mail Centre, Meeting Rooms, Library, QGAP etc.
- A childcare centre facility in the VERY future is a must - we must retain the younger people in the town for its growth.
- School to grade 10.
- Tafe courses be held in Boulia.
- A weir/reservoir on the Burke to make a permanent waterhole here would 1) keep the tourists in town and 2) keep the locals happy (like Richmond - big enough for water sports).
- Greater water storage for town use - increased population.
- Get the kids off the streets with a youth centre, open the Sports Centre with activities/games, community activities/groups.
- Better affordable electricity, phone, internet, renewable energy for Boulia.



- Tourism is a way to the future, it would be great to offer a tour to include our local Indigenous peoples with talks about Bush Tucker and Bush Medicines.
- Lease Sports Centre to a qualified Personal Trainer who knows gym equipment use and can conduct exercise classes and/or squash competitions etc.
- Build modern dormitory style accommodation behind Sports Centre to encourage schools, boarding schools, sporting groups to visit Boulia for school camps or sporting carnivals.
- Become part of the 'Containers for Change Scheme' which rewards consumers with 10 cents for every can or bottle. Start a 'Return and Earn' drop-off point at Depot to help the environment and give people incentive to recycle.
- When local elections are held, there should be an extra Councillor and this one should represent the small community of Urandangie.
- Restructure of Racecourse Reserve, deck at Rodeo Grounds, renewal of Rodeo Grounds yards - chutes and rails, shaded grandstand at the oval.
- Ads within mags, TV, Facebook, YouTube.
- Influencers on tourism to come to town and advise what they could do.
- Increase tourism promotion - the drone footage of the town is excellent. A similar ad to encourage the Alice to Boulia route to increase tourism. Use drone footage of the Donohue and show it is not as daunting as most expect.
- Create a chamber of commerce/tourism to address issues.
- Business operators group - work together with Council.
- Aged care accommodation.
- Permanent doctor in Boulia and ambulance drivers.
- Guided local tourism drives/walks, interactive historical displays, art gallery/photography.
- Affordable public transport

Council would like to thank all those who participated in the community meeting and survey.

*'We can't do this alone, we don't have the answers to everything
but together we can achieve great things.'*



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