

CORPORATE PLAN

# 2025-30

Committed to open and transparent decision making.



**SOUTH BURNETT**  
REGIONAL COUNCIL



## Adoption by Council

The South Burnett Regional Council 2025-30 Corporate Plan was adopted by Council on 21 May 2025.

## Copies of the Corporate Plan

Copies of both the Corporate Plan and the Annual Report are available free of charge electronically on Council's website at [www.southburnett.qld.gov.au](http://www.southburnett.qld.gov.au) or can be viewed at any Council Library or Customer Service Centre.

## Contact Us

All written communications to be addressed to:

"The Chief Executive Officer"

PO Box 336 Kingaroy Q 4610

P 1300 789 279

E [info@sbrc.qld.gov.au](mailto:info@sbrc.qld.gov.au)

W [www.southburnett.qld.gov.au](http://www.southburnett.qld.gov.au)

F [www.southburnettregion](http://www.southburnettregion)

ABN 89 972 463 351

## Acknowledgement

We acknowledge and respect the Wakka Wakka and Auburn Hawkwood people, the traditional owners of this land that we live, work and play and respect their cultures, their ancestors and their elders past, present and future generations.

## Version

VERSION final (21-05-2025)

ECM ID: 3315169

# COUNCIL'S COMMITMENT

**Our commitment to our region and our communities.**

The South Burnett Regional Council will work to the financial strength of our region and is committed to a Council presence in all of our communities.

This is transformation time for the region – with so many exciting opportunities.

Leadership, advocacy, culture, respect, collaboration and promotion are our key enablers.

The two key priorities of this term of Council will be to continue to give attention to ongoing financial sustainability and to continue to support and develop our towns and villages.

Recognising that a significant portion of Council's annual budget each year goes to the provision of ongoing services and facilities that are valued by our communities (estimated at in excess of 80% of the annual budget), Council commits in this plan to continuing to provide those recurrent services and facilities at or near existing service levels over the life of this plan, resources permitting.

Council is committed to open and transparent decision making.

## OUR VISION:

"An organisation known for its exceptional customer service empowering employees to go above and beyond to ensure customer satisfaction."

## OUR VALUES:

- Honesty
- Respect
- Accountability
- Integrity
- Unity





## OUR PURPOSE:

“To deliver the best possible outcomes for our customers, within the resources we have.”

## CONTENT:

Adoption by Council	
Council's Commitment	2
Our Vision	2
Our Values	2
Our Purpose	3
Mayor's Message	4
Our Region	4
Corporate Plan Engagement	5
Stages of Engagement	6
Community Engagement	7
About the Corporate Plan	8
Strategic Priorities	8
1. Enhancing liveability and lifestyle	9
2. Providing key infrastructure for our towns and villages	10
3. Growing our region's economy and prosperity	11
4. Safeguarding our environment	12
5. Organisational excellence	13



# MAYOR'S MESSAGE

This Corporate Plan is a very important document as everything we do in Council, the way we operate and the decisions we make are all required to link back to the Corporate Plan.

There are five key elements in this plan that cover the different sections of Councils operations. They are enhancing liveability and lifestyle, providing key infrastructure for our towns and villages, growing our regions economy and prosperity, safeguarding our environment and organisational excellence.

When enhancing liveability and lifestyle together we can ensure that we have an inviting, well cared for region that we can all feel proud of. As Mayor, I want to ensure that our Council is customer focused and the community feels valued, listened to and respected in every aspect of Council services.

When providing key infrastructure for our towns and villages, together we can ensure that we look after the assets that we already have and that future upgrades of key infrastructure meet the community needs across our region.

When growing our region's economy and prosperity, together we can ensure that we continue to build strong working relationships with our State and Federal members. As Mayor I will strongly advocate for the priorities for our region at every available opportunity. Through the regional organisation of Councils (WBBROC) I can also work to ensure that as a collective the State and Federal issues for our region are being addressed.

When safeguarding our environment together we can ensure that our natural assets and beautiful region are being considered in all of the decisions particularly with the role out of renewable energy projects. The variable weather conditions bring additional challenges with the spread of weeds and high fire risks. As Mayor I will continue to advocate for better outcomes and more support for our environment at both State and Federal Government levels.

With organisational excellence my role as Mayor is to work with the CEO to ensure that you our residents and ratepayers are getting the best possible services, and that the organisation is delivering value for money and exceptional customer service.

This Corporate plan is your plan, and I look forward to working with you on the strategic directions outlined to deliver the best possible outcomes for our beautiful South Burnett region.

# OUR REGION

Located on the edge of the Great Dividing Range and set against a backdrop of the Bunya Mountains, the South Burnett is a unique blend of vibrant country towns and laid-back living.

**SITUATED** inland from the Sunshine Coast and an easy drive from Brisbane, the South Burnett is a great place to make a home. The South Burnett region is uniquely positioned to offer lifestyle and employment opportunities which other regions can only envy. The region covers a geographical area of approximately 8,381.6km<sup>2</sup> and is home to 34,290 people.

The close-knit communities with many towns less than 15 minutes from each other, deliver services normally associated with larger populations. Natural surrounds and rolling landscape give the region a relaxed atmosphere. An array of services, retail and events can be found across the region, along with high quality educational, medical and recreational facilities.

Peanuts, navy beans, cattle and pigs are among the region's notable produce, enabling globally significant value-added processing.

The South Burnett region has a lively history, from the tribes that traversed the region on their way to the Bunya Mountains through to Queensland's longest serving Premier and symbol of traditional country fare, Lady Flo's pumpkin scones.

Our residents enjoy a relaxed country lifestyle, contrasted with abundant opportunities and possibilities afforded by our innovative industries. From agriculture, manufacturing, mining and renewable energy, to art, culture, tourism, health and quality education, the South Burnett really does have it all.





# CORPORATE PLAN ENGAGEMENT

The purpose of this document is to outline the process for developing and facilitating community engagement activities required for the development of the South Burnett Regional Council 2025-30 Corporate Plan.

## What are we doing?

South Burnett Regional Council is developing a new Corporate Plan.

A legislative requirement, the new Corporate Plan will guide how Council prioritises and delivers services, programmes and facilities to the community over the next five years. It is also the core strategic document that helps Council set its annual Budget and Operational Plan.

The Corporate Plan is a living document where its success lies in having conversations with our communities to ensure that Council's goals align with the needs and priorities of our people and community.

The current council is focusing on a back-to-basics approach. So, what does this look like?

## What's changing?

In this plan, we are focusing on the outcomes that will make the biggest transformation for the South Burnett in the medium term – from the environment through to the economy, our community and our organisation.

The new document will be Council's fifth five-year Corporate Plan since the original Corporate Plan was adopted in 2009 after amalgamation. The five outcome areas and long-term goals identified in the current Corporate Plan are:

1. **ENHANCING LIVEABILITY AND LIFESTYLE** - Elevate the South Burnett region to be recognised as a "Community of choice";
2. **PROVIDING KEY INFRASTRUCTURE FOR OUR TOWNS AND VILLAGES** - Develop, renew and maintain community infrastructure through sound asset management principles;
3. **GROWING OUR REGION'S ECONOMY AND PROSPERITY** - Boost our economy through investment and innovation that promotes population growth and community wellbeing;
4. **SAFEGUARDING OUR ENVIRONMENT** - A sustainable environment, proactively and responsibly managed in partnership with the community for future generations; and
5. **ORGANISATIONAL EXCELLENCE** - An organisation that is characterised by effective leadership, responsible management, good governance and quality service delivery.

The South Burnett Regional Council acknowledges the traditional custodians of country in the South Burnett region - the Wakka Wakka and Auburn Hawkwood/Wulli Wulli People. We also acknowledge the cultural diversity of all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander People, elders past and present and the significant contribution Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander People have made and continue to make to shaping the identity of the South Burnett and Australia.

The Corporate Plan identifies key issues under each outcome area as priorities for the next five years.

Council also reviewed and refreshed our corporate vision, purpose, and strategic priorities, which articulate our long-term direction and define the culture of Council's organisation.

## Developing the Corporate Plan

As part of this process, we asked for stakeholder and community feedback through a series of meetings and online surveys:

- Community consultation sessions were held around the region during April/May 2025
- An online survey was conducted during April/May 2025

The community feedback was then reviewed in detail, taking all points of view into consideration to develop the new Corporate Plan.

On Wednesday 21 May 2025, Council adopted the 2025-30 Corporate Plan at the General Meeting, Resolution Number 2025/448.



# STAGES OF ENGAGEMENT





# COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Council's community engagement is based on the International Association of Public Participation (IAP2) spectrum. IAP2 details seven core values which form the basis of Council's principles of community engagement as follows:

1. Public participation is based on the belief that those who are affected by a decision have a right to be involved in the decision-making process.
2. Public participation includes the promise that the public's contribution will influence the decision.
3. Public participation promotes sustainable decisions by recognising and communicating the needs and interests of all participants, including decision makers.
4. Public participation seeks out and facilitates the involvement of those potentially affected by or interested in a decision.
5. Public participation seeks input from participants in designing how they participate.
6. Public participation provides participants with the information they need to participate in a meaningful way.
7. Public participation communicates to participants how their input affected the decision.



**The formation of the 2025-2030 Corporate Plan Communication Strategy has been developed in conjunction with the following key corporate documents:**

- Community Engagement Policy
- Community Engagement Procedure
- Media Relations Policy
- Social Media Procedure
- Employee Code of Conduct



# ABOUT THE CORPORATE PLAN

## Legislative Requirements

It is a mandatory requirement of *section 104(5)(a)(i)* of the *Local Government Act 2009* and *section 165* of the *Local Government Regulation 2012* for a Council to prepare and adopt a Corporate Plan.

1. A local government must prepare a 5-year corporate plan for each period of 5 financial years.
2. A local government must adopt its 5-year corporate plan in sufficient time to allow a budget and annual operational plan, consistent with the corporate plan, to be adopted for the first financial year that is covered by the plan.
3. A local government may, by resolution, amend its 5-year corporate plan at any time.
4. A local government must discharge its responsibilities in a way that is consistent with its 5-year corporate plan.

## Planning Framework

The Plan sets the strategic direction of the local government and states the performance indicators for measuring the local government's progress in achieving its vision for the future of the local government area.

The Corporate Plan is supported by Council's annual Operational Plan which details the activities and projects planned to achieve our goals. The annual budget provides the funding and resources to meet the objectives of the operational plan.

An assessment of Council's performance in implementing its Corporate and Operational Plans will be monitored with quarterly Operational Plan reviews and reported in Council's Annual Report.

Both the Annual Report and quarterly reviews will be publicly accessible and available on Council's website at [www.southburnett.qld.gov.au](http://www.southburnett.qld.gov.au).

# STRATEGIC PRIORITIES

## 1. ENHANCING LIVEABILITY AND LIFESTYLE

Elevate the South Burnett region to be recognised as a "Region of choice".

## 2. PROVIDING KEY INFRASTRUCTURE FOR OUR TOWNS AND VILLAGES

Develop, renew and maintain community infrastructure through sound asset management principles.

## 3. GROWING OUR REGION'S ECONOMY AND PROSPERITY

Boost our economy through investment and innovation that promotes population growth and community wellbeing.

## 4. SAFEGUARDING OUR ENVIRONMENT

A sustainable environment that is proactively and responsibly managed in collaboration with the community and other partners for future generations.

## 5. ORGANISATIONAL EXCELLENCE

An organisation that is characterised by effective leadership, responsible management, good governance, financial sustainability and quality service delivery.



# 1

## ENHANCING LIVEABILITY AND LIFESTYLE

Elevate the South Burnett region to be recognised as a “Region of choice”.



### KEY PRIORITIES

EC1	Develop and implement fit for purpose initiatives to enhance <b>community parks, gardens</b> as well as <b>sport and recreational facilities</b> for presentation and maintenance
EC2	Continue to develop and implement <b>Urban Renewal and Revitalisation Programmes</b> for areas of our townships including service standards for maintenance and cleaning programmes and encourage community participation.
EC3	Advocate to minimise the impact of <b>heavy vehicle traffic</b> in the CBD areas of major towns as appropriate.
EC4	Foster and encourage vibrant <b>arts, culture and heritage</b> growth in our communities
EC5	Continue to support, renew and maintain <b>pools, libraries, halls and Customer Service Centres</b> across our region at agreed service levels.
EC6	Appropriately support and encourage <b>volunteers, advisory groups and community organisations</b> to value add to Council's services and infrastructure.
EC7	Development and implementation, in consultation with local communities, of realistically achievable <b>rural resilience programmes</b> .
EC8	Partner with our region's youth to ensure the voice of youth is heard.
EC9	Develop, in consultation with communities, <b>Community Plans</b> that identify key priorities for each town and village to inform Council's prioritisation.
EC10	Support indigenous reconciliation and empowerment.
EC11	Support, advocate and facilitate real outcomes on <b>mental health and suicide prevention</b> .
EC12	Develop and implement a plan that makes our region's towns 'Communities of choice' for <b>people living with disability</b> .
EC13	Work with our <b>senior citizens</b> to provide greater opportunities and relevant infrastructure for them to play an active role in our communities and to age in place.
EC14	Develop and implement a systematic programme for addressing <b>non-compliant commercial properties and residential</b> living arrangements that pose significant health and safety risks.
EC15	Continue to provide pro-active support to the <b>Local Disaster Management and Recovery Groups</b> .
EC16	Partner with community to develop and promote <b>events</b> that have a positive impact on our region.
EC17	Support and advocate for the vulnerable members of the community.
EC18	Advocate and support the specialist health services needs of our residents.

# 2

## PROVIDING KEY INFRASTRUCTURE FOR OUR TOWNS AND VILLAGES

Develop, renew and maintain community infrastructure through sound asset management principles.



### KEY PRIORITIES

IN1	Provide sound asset management strategies to maintain and improve Council's <b>road network, bridges, drainage, footpath infrastructure and street lighting.</b>
IN2	Provide and investigate options to improve <b>slashing and spraying</b> programmes on state and local road networks.
IN3	Collaborate with the transport sector and industry to identify <b>key freight and transport route</b> state infrastructure and advocate to government on asset upgrades, renewals and maintenance, and Heavy Vehicle Parking.
IN4	Develop and implement a hierarchy and programme to refurbish <b>median strips and roundabouts</b> prioritising entry ways into our major towns.
IN5	Continue to provide and investigate options to improve <b>rail trail infrastructure, residential footpaths and cycleways</b> to promote active lifestyle connectivity.
IN6	Develop and advocate for a secure, reliable and improved <b>urban and rural water supply</b> system through increased allocations, upgraded and renewed infrastructure and pricing models and advocate for potable water for all residential communities.
IN7	Continue to focus on initiatives that position our region as a destination of choice for tourists including <b>caravan and RV camping</b> including heavy vehicle parking.
IN8	Investigate options for leasing opportunities to <b>not-for-profit groups and organisations.</b>
IN9	Provide and investigate options to improve our <b>saleyards</b> as an important community asset.
IN10	Identify assets that may be suitable for <b>commercialisation.</b>
IN11	Provide and investigate options to improve our <b>cemetery infrastructure.</b>
IN12	Provide and investigate options to improve our <b>aerodromes.</b>



# 3

## GROWING OUR REGION'S ECONOMY AND PROSPERITY

Boost our economy through investment and innovation that promotes population growth and community wellbeing.



### KEY PRIORITIES

GR1	Implement a well-researched, action based <b>'Regional Development Strategy'</b> that supports business and employment growth.
GR2	Continue to develop Council's <b>investment readiness</b> to identify a sequence of actions that can enhance council's capability in responding to investment related enquiries.
GR3	Work with key stakeholders to create a pipeline of priority <b>shovel ready projects</b> that invests in strategic infrastructure, aim to improve the quality of life experienced by all residents, and create a prosperous future for all.
GR4	Support and advocate for the development of an expanded and diversified <b>agricultural economy</b> .
GR5	Provide and investigate options to improve our <b>arts, heritage, museums, visitor information centres and tourism infrastructure</b> .
GR6	Advocate for and support of the region's tourism sector through an industry led development of a <b>Tourism Strategy</b> developed in partnership with the LTO
GR7	Provide and investigate options to improve our <b>dams</b> as tourist attractions as an important community asset.
GR8	Support and advocate for appropriate <b>growth and development</b> with responsive planning solutions, processes, customer service and other initiatives.
GR9	Explore, advocate and pursue opportunities for <b>post-secondary education</b> within the region.
GR10	Advocate for enhanced regional <b>digital connectivity and black spots</b> .
GR11	Support local businesses through the implementation of Council's Procurement Policy and encourage others to <b>promote and buy local</b> .
GR12	Progress the 25 year Economic Roadmap as priority projects and advocate for and support the options as identified in the <b>National Water Infrastructure Development Fund (NWIDF) Water Feasibility Study - North and South Burnett Options Analysis</b>
GR13	Advocate for and support the options short list as identified in the <b>National Water Infrastructure Development Fund (NWIDF) Water Feasibility Study - North and South Burnett Options Analysis</b> , including 2nd stage Boondooma
GR14	Advocate for <b>improved regulation on large scale renewable energy projects</b> with a view to protecting our environment and infrastructure which supports our community and key stakeholders to build a plan for future energy generation including improved community outcomes and legacy projects.
GR15	Work with key stakeholders to promote <b>workforce attraction and retention</b> in the region.
GR16	Advocate for <b>legacy infrastructure</b> from the 2032 Olympic Games.
GR17	Advocate for <b>Trunk Infrastructure Expansion</b> and upgrades to allow for growth and improved facilities in our Communities.

# 4

## SAFEGUARDING OUR ENVIRONMENT

A sustainable environment that is proactively and responsibly managed in collaboration with and community and other partners for future generations.



### KEY PRIORITIES

EN1	Implement the <b>Environmental Sustainability Policy</b> .
EN2	Explore and implement <b>energy efficient initiatives</b> to reduce Council's energy / carbon footprint.
EN3	Provide and investigate options to improve <b>waste reduction, landfill management and recycling</b> .
EN4	Ongoing commitment to <b>bio-security and pest management</b> , including declared and non-declared species.
EN5	Advocate for improved regulation on large scale renewable energy projects with a view to protecting our environment and infrastructure.
EN6	Encourage investment in <b>transport innovation</b> , for example electric vehicles and charging stations.
EN7	Support groups and initiatives that promote and protects <b>biodiversity, natural resource management</b> and caring and retaining our unique landscapes.
EN8	Advocate for responsible management to address <b>fire risk</b> .
EN9	Advocate for funding to take action to address <b>stray / feral / pests and wild animals</b> .
EN10	Support and assistance to <b>food and other local businesses</b> to meet relevant Local Laws compliance standards.
EN11	Investigate <b>rainwater tanks</b> for properties including any subsidy programs.
EN12	Trade Waste and Environmental Protection Officer.
EN13	Develop and progress regional <b>Pound</b> .



# 5

## ORGANISATIONAL EXCELLENCE

An organisation that is characterised by effective leadership, responsible management, good governance, financial sustainability and quality service delivery.



### KEY PRIORITIES

OR1	Deliver on our Corporate Plan through high level delivery of the <b>annual operational plans</b> .
OR2	Achieve community recognition as an <b>ethical Council</b> that values and practices community consultation, accountable governance and open and transparent decision-making.
OR3	Manage Council assets effectively through the development and implementation of <b>Asset Management Plans</b> .
OR4	Continue to monitor and align the <b>organisational structure</b> with Council's adopted strategies and priorities.
OR5	Continue to give priority to ongoing <b>financial sustainability</b> and prudent budget management.
OR6	Implement consultative, responsible and sound <b>project management</b> practices.
OR7	Continue implementation of zero-based budgeting to support <b>responsible fiscal management</b> in the preparation of Council's budget.
OR8	Prioritise Council's <b>Customer Service Charter</b> .
OR9	Foster a continuous improvement, <b>customer focused culture</b> led by the senior management team and underpinned by an effective performance setting, monitoring and evaluation system.
OR10	Continued commitment to <b>community engagement</b> and to proactive strategic delivery of <b>media and communications</b> .
OR11	Finalise and implement a <b>Workforce Plan</b> that guides the engagement, development, management and performance of Council's human resources.
OR12	<b>Advocate</b> strongly to key stakeholders, including state and federal governments, on regional priorities, including funding opportunities.
OR13	Develop and apply reliable, practical, and cost-effective <b>information technology and business systems</b> that support innovation, strengthen service delivery, and position the organisation to adapt with emerging technologies.
OR14	Continue to implement <b>regional equity / consistency</b> in Council's rating system.
OR15	Continue to give priority to ongoing <b>Audit and Risk</b> and prudent management.
OR16	Continue to give priority to ongoing <b>Work Health and Safety</b> and prudent management.






**SOUTH BURNETT**  
**REGIONAL COUNCIL**

PO Box 336 Kingaroy QLD 4610

P 07 4189 9100

info@sbrc.qld.gov.au

www.southburnett.qld.gov.au

 southburnettregion

*(Image front and back cover:  
Nancy Jayde Photography)*

