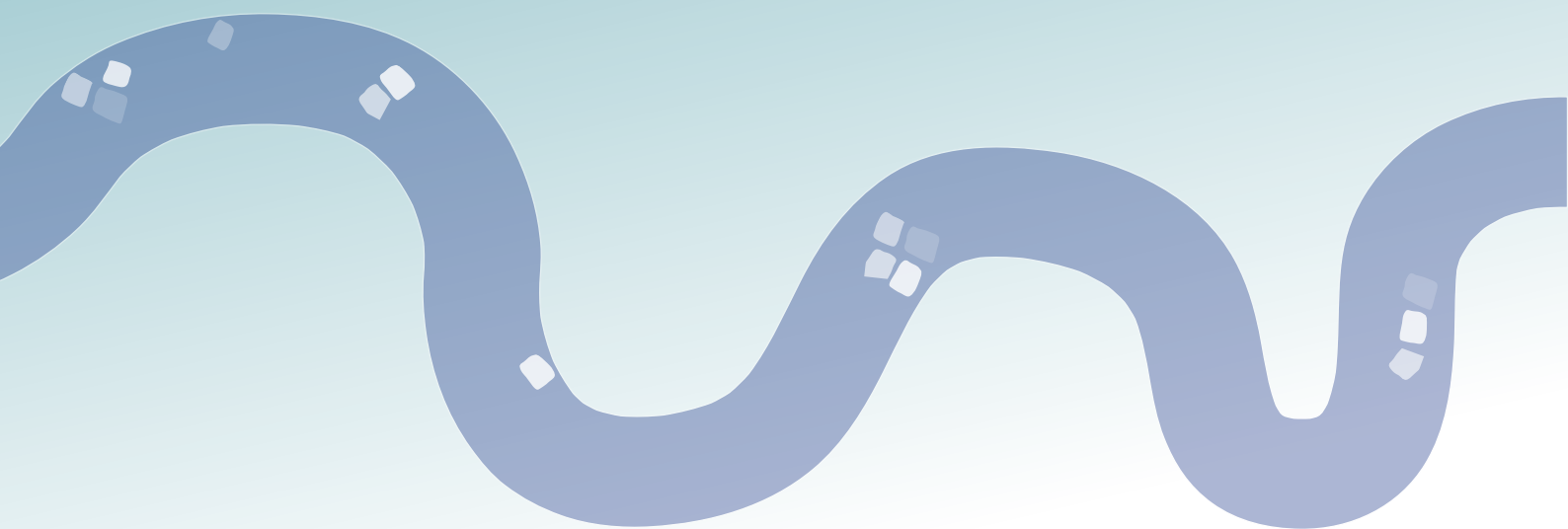


Burdekin Shire Council
Corporate Plan 2022-2027



Wadda mooli

Welcome to Birri Gubba country. Burdekin Shire Council is situated on the land of both the Bindal and Juru people. We give thanks to the traditional owners and acknowledge and pay our respects to Bindal and Juru Elders past, present and emerging.



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Purpose of Plan

The Burdekin Shire Council Corporate Plan 2022-2027 outlines Council's five-year strategic direction based on community priorities.

The Corporate Plan guides the actions of Council Officers as well as the annual planning process to determine

services, infrastructure provision and resource allocation.

Section 165 of the *Local Government Regulation 2012* (Qld) states that it is a statutory requirement to formulate a plan every five years. This plan meets this requirement, as well as those

outlined in the *Local Government Act 2009* (Qld).

The following document also details Council's strategic priorities and objectives over the next five years, and key actions identified as part of each.

About Our Region

Sitting on the delta of the Burdekin River, from which the Shire derives its name, the Burdekin covers an area of 5,053 square kilometres.

Its central business district is 80km South of the Townsville city centre, 100km North of Bowen and 120km South East of Charters Towers.

Resting on an underground aquifer containing more than 20 million litres of fresh water, the Burdekin boasts an average of 300 days of sunshine per annum, rich fertile soils, abundant water supplies and pristine coastlines.

In 2020 the Australian Bureau of Statistics estimated the Burdekin population to be 16,953.

The Shire is home to 15 junior and four senior schools, four public swimming pools, nine major parks and nine boat ramps.

In 2020, the Burdekin Shire was home to 2,131 local businesses employing 8,583 people. Agriculture, Forestry and Fishing is the largest industry sector by both employment and wealth, generating \$322 million in 2019/20.

Situated on the North Queensland coast, the Burdekin can experience unpredictable weather during its annual wet season (November - April).

Abundant water combined with dry conditions have lead to cane in the Shire growing larger and faster than other areas, with the Burdekin recently named sugar cane capital of Australia.

Sugar cane crushing occurs from June to November annually, during which time cane fires can be seen dotting the horizon at both dawn and dusk.



Vision

A prosperous, connected and inclusive community built on the Shire's strong rural foundations.

Mission

To achieve our vision through leadership, partnerships and outstanding service.

Our Values

Honesty

We are open and truthful in everything we do in order to build and maintain trust within our organisation and the community we serve.

Teamwork

We are one team that works together to achieve positive outcomes for the community.

Respected

We strive to earn the respect of our colleagues and the community by listening, responding and consulting in our decisions and actions.

Community Focussed

We provide services for the improvement of our community in which we live, work and play.

Motivated

We are passionate about what we do and genuinely believe making a difference matters.

Supported

We value each other's wellbeing in striving to create a caring and healthy workplace and community.

Strategic Priorities

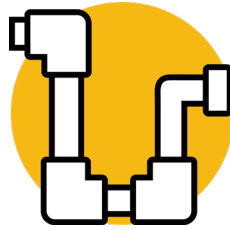
Burdekin Shire Council's Corporate Plan sets out the strategic direction of our organisation for the five-year period from 2022-2027. The plan has been developed to deliver objectives through the performance of key actions which are aligned to five strategic priorities, which are:



**Vibrant
Community**



**Prosperous
Economy**



**Resilient
Infrastructure**



**Sustainable
Environment**



**High
Performing
Organisation**

As a Queensland Local Government, Burdekin Shire Council is required to adopt a Corporate Plan every five years and work toward the achievement of the key actions within the Plan. Council's annual Budget and Operational Plan are developed to ensure the Corporate Plan objectives are delivered.

Progress toward the implementation of Council's adopted Operational Plan is delivered quarterly and the Annual Report provides an evaluation of Council's performance and progress in delivering the Corporate Plan objectives and Budget each year.



1 Vibrant Community

We are a welcoming, inclusive and adaptive community.



Objective

1.1: Healthy, inclusive and socially engaged community

Key action

1.1.1: Support projects and activities to improve public safety, health, and inclusiveness through strategic partnerships.

1.1.2: Encourage equitable access to facilities and resources.

1.1.3: Provide ongoing support for art, culture, youth, seniors, and welfare activities.

1.1.4: Build active communities by delivering programs promoting regular physical activity and wellbeing.

1.2: A safe and resilient community

1.2.1: Deliver regulatory and advisory programs.

1.2.2: Facilitate partnerships to improve community safety and wellbeing, including crime prevention initiatives.

1.2.3: Partner with State, District, and local agencies to coordinate and facilitate disaster planning, preparedness, response, and recovery to reduce the impact of disaster events.

1.3: Celebrate our unique identity

1.3.1: Promote the benefits of living, working, playing, visiting, and investing in the Burdekin.

1.3.2: Support and encourage creative and cultural activities and initiatives that enhance the community identity through the *Arts and Cultural Strategy*.

1.3.3: Communicate our story and recognise the achievements of our community members.

1.3.4: Facilitate events for the community.

1.4: Strong community organisations

1.4.1: Promote and encourage community participation, volunteerism, and capacity building within community organisations.

1.4.2: Support community organisations and events.

1.4.3: Support sporting organisations in providing opportunities for physical activity.

1.4.4: Implement the *10 Year Sport and Recreation Plan*.

1.5: Engaging public spaces

1.5.1: Encourage active communities through the provision and maintenance of recreational spaces.

1.5.2: Provide safe, attractive, accessible, and functional community spaces and facilities.

1.5.3: Shape the built environment to enhance connectivity, social interaction, and a healthy lifestyle.

Evaluation measures

- Participant attendance at community events.
- Utilisation of Council facilities and public spaces.
- Effective disaster management.
- Support provided to community and sporting organisations.
- Client satisfaction and feedback.
- Strategy actions implemented.
- Community and stakeholder partnerships developed.

Prosperous Economy 2

We build upon our strong agricultural base and encourage opportunities that strengthen a thriving and resilient community.



Objective

Key action

2.1: Diverse and innovative industry

2.1.1: Position the Burdekin as regional leaders in agriculture, aquaculture, manufacturing, and other agribusiness activities.

2.1.2: Facilitate the provision of information to encourage a digitally connected community.

2.1.3: Promote opportunities and initiatives that encourage business to invest in research and diversification.

2.1.4: Encourage business establishment, development, and expansion.

2.1.5: Support and encourage the development of tourism through implementation of the *Burdekin Tourism Strategy*.

2.2: Strong networks

2.2.1: Support business and industry networks.

2.2.2: Advocate for local and regional needs through lobbying and partnerships.

2.3: Investment growth and opportunities

2.3.1: Implement actions from the Burdekin Shire Economic Development Strategy.

2.3.2: Support, facilitate and promote potential synergies with agribusiness including bio-futures, technology, and innovation.

2.3.3: Support development, value-adding, diversification, and expansion to provide a sustainable economic base.

2.4: Resilient adaptive business

2.4.1: Build relationships with educational institutions to identify gaps in skills, qualifications, and training programs valued in the Burdekin.

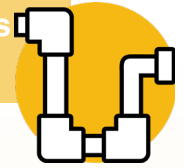
2.4.2: Promote local employment and training opportunities.

Evaluation measures

- Implementation of strategies.
- Industry satisfaction and feedback.
- Stakeholder partnerships developed and maintained.
- Attendance at industry workshops and events.

3 Resilient Infrastructure

We provide and advocate for cost-effective infrastructure that supports our quality of life.



Objective

3.1: Effective transport and drainage networks

Key action

3.1.1: Prioritise road and footpath network renewals and upgrades to improve safety, connectivity, and serviceability.

3.1.2: Collaborate with State and Federal Governments to enhance the regional transport network.

3.1.3: Improve drainage networks and structures through upgrades and renewals.

3.2: Sustainable water resources

3.2.1: Enhance water security and protect and improve water quality.

3.2.2: Improve water and sewerage network reliability and efficiency through planned infrastructure renewals and upgrades.

3.3: Vibrant community assets

3.3.1: Implement the *Asset Management Strategy* and Roadmap.

3.3.2: Plan, build and maintain infrastructure that enhances and extends the life of community assets.

3.3.3: Develop and implement strategic infrastructure plans to inform the decision-making process when planning for future infrastructure renewal and enhancements.

3.4: Well-planned communities

3.4.1: Support strategic projects that will contribute to liveability and economic growth in the Burdekin.

3.4.2: Review land supply and uses to meet community and business needs.

3.4.3: Design facilities that are adaptable and inclusive with consideration of the needs of all residents.

3.4.4: Implement the *10 Year Sport and Recreation Plan* and provide innovative facilities that meet the current and future needs of our community.

3.4.5: Protect and improve the resilience of assets by utilising betterment programs and implementing flood and disaster mitigation strategies.

Evaluation measures

- *Asset Management Strategy* implementation.
- *Water and Wastewater Service Standard* compliance.
- Completion of capital works program.
- Compliment-to-complaint ratio.
- Adoption of new *Planning Scheme*.

Sustainable Environment 4

We value and respect our natural and built environments and work towards balanced and improved outcomes for our community.



Objective

4.1: A sustainable and healthy environment

Key action

4.1.1: Implement planning policy to adapt to the impacts of changes in the climate.

4.1.2: Improve environmental sustainability outcomes through consultation, collaboration, and partnerships with key stakeholder groups.

4.1.3: Develop and implement strategies to align Council activities with Australia's carbon emissions reduction target.

4.2: Balanced environmental outcomes

4.2.1: Maintain the balance between positive environmental outcomes and ongoing development.

4.2.2: Promote and support community education programs that contribute to improved environmental and community outcomes.

4.2.3: Protect and enhance the natural environment, partnering with organisations and the community to safeguard and improve environmentally sensitive areas.

4.2.4: Actively encourage reduction, reuse, and recycling of waste to support sustainable waste management principles through the implementation of the *North Queensland Waste and Resources Recovery Strategy 2020-2030*.

4.2.5: Promote the implementation of environmental best practice by Council, residents, and business.

Evaluation measures

- Community and business participation in environmental programs.
- Resident feedback through community engagement processes.
- Compliance with statutory obligations.
- Delivery of community education programs.

5 High Performing Organisation

We deliver positive outcomes for our community through ethical, transparent, and financially sustainable decision-making.



Objective

5.1: Engaged community and stakeholders

Key action

5.1.1: Undertake meaningful community engagement through Community Advisory Groups and other engagement methods to encourage diverse community participation and feedback.

5.1.2: Be responsive and proactive in providing information to keep the community informed.

5.1.3: Foster cooperative and collaborative partnerships on matters of regional, state, and national importance.

5.1.4: Demonstrate the Council's strategic direction to government, business, and the community through strong leadership and advocacy.

5.2: Transparent and accountable governance

5.2.1: Demonstrate open and transparent leadership.

5.2.2: Responsibly manage Council's financial position to ensure sustainability.

5.2.3: Implement effective governance frameworks.

5.2.4: Undertake regulatory responsibilities in accordance with legislative obligations.

5.3: Embrace technology

5.3.1: Support and improve Council's operational performance through the delivery of innovative, efficient, and effective ICT solutions.

5.3.2: Improve access to information through digital platforms.

5.4: An enviable organisational culture that actively demonstrates our values

5.4.1: Build effective leadership and management capability.

5.4.2: Develop a cost-effective, adaptable, and capable workforce to implement our vision.

5.4.3: Provide training and development opportunities to meet organisational needs.

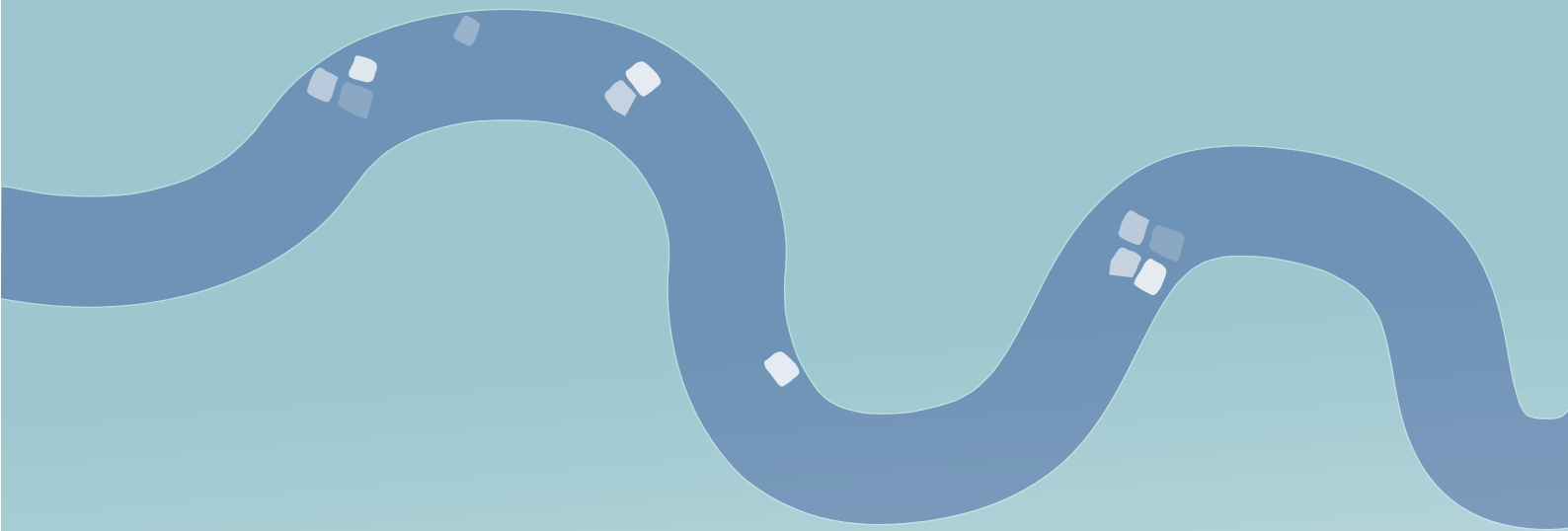
5.4.4: Protect the health and safety of employees and community members through the implementation of an effective Health and Safety Management System.

5.4.5: Develop and implement a strategic workforce plan to advance Council's recruitment, onboarding, career mapping and succession planning activities.

5.4.6: Implement the *Staff Culture Program*.

Evaluation measures

- Compliance with statutory obligations.
- Annual Auditor's Report.
- Workplace health and safety audit.
- Application of *Customer Service Charter*.
- Effectiveness of ICT systems.
- Community relations management.
- Implementation of *Staff Culture Program*.



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