

1. OPERATIONAL PLAN 2023 – 2024

Our Environment				
Is protected from degradation by practices which ensure environmental sustainability.				
Outcome	Strategy	Measure	Operational Target	Responsible Officer
Council practices ensure the rehabilitation of disused roads and gravel pits.	Establish a program to rehabilitate old roadworks and gravel pits.	Program is developed	1	DIS
Effective waste management practices.	Review Council waste management practices at Birdsville landfill.	Develop Strategy	1	DIS
	Consider options for increasing recycling of eligible products.	Develop Strategy	1	DIS
Benefits from the utilisation of renewable energy sources.				
Outcome	Strategy	Measure	Operational Target	Responsible Officer
Energy producers partner with Council and/or community to maximise the use of renewable energy production.	Lobby relevant agencies to install battery storage within the micro-grid of each town.	Batteries installed at Ergon sites in Bedourie and Birdsville	2	CEO
Continued uptake of renewable energy and energy efficient products.	Rectify remaining issues with inverters in Bedourie	All roof top solar systems working	100%	DIS
Is relatively free from pest weeds and animals.				
Outcome	Strategy	Measure	Operational Target	Responsible Officer
Pest weed and animal numbers are reduced.	Review pest management plans for currency.	Percentage of statutory plans that are up to date.	100%	DIS
Council cooperates at a regional level to prevent pest weed and animal spread into the shire.	Engage with regional bodies and participate in the development of regional environmental management plans and programs.	Number of regional meetings attended	4 per year	CEO
Is free from roadside waste				
Outcome	Strategy	Measure	Operational Target	Responsible Officer
All roadside waste is removed in the Shire.	Develop a Council policy for the management of roadside waste.	Develop a calendar for quarterly maintenance.	4 per year	DIS

Our Community				
Recognises the value of preserving the unique culture of the area				
Outcome	Strategy	Measure	Operational Target	Responsible Officer
Effective management of cultural heritage and native title.	Meet obligations under Indigenous Land Use Agreements (ILUA's) and Cultural Heritage Act and Heritage Act.	Obligations met.	1	CEO
	Progress the development, adoption and implementation of Council's Reflect Reconciliation Action plan.	Plan is implemented	Complete	CEO
Financially viable and strongly supported traditional social events.	Maintain support in accordance with Council's grants to community organisations policy.	Percentage of grants made in line with Council policy.	100%	CEO
Preservation of historical sites and artefacts.	Fully develop the Birdsville courthouse site	Attraction open	Complete	DCED
	Research and develop a tourism attraction at the Birdsville Geothermal Plant	Attraction open	Complete	DCED
	Research and develop a tourism attraction at the Pise' Hut Bedourie	Attraction open	Complete	DCED
	Record Oral history of Birdsville and Bedourie	History recorded	Complete	DCED
	Engage consultant to investigate various heritage sites across the shire so that various information boards, tourism apps etc can be developed	Consultant engaged	Complete	CEO
Has a cost of living that is managed within Council's capacity.				
Outcome	Strategy	Measure	Operational Target	Responsible Officer
The cost of living in the Shire is reduced.	In consultation with businesses, identify ways to reduce the cost of living for residents.	Number of cost of living improvement opportunities identified and implemented.	2 per year	CEO
Has attractive, green and clean towns of which residents are proud.				
Outcome	Strategy	Measure	Operational Target	Responsible Officer
Streetscapes maintained and parks developed in line with service catalogues.	Deliver activities in line with agreed service standards.	% compliance with service standards.	90%	CEO
	Install automatic irrigation in existing green spaces	Works completed as budget allows	100%	DIS
Has access to a range of affordable transport services.				
Outcome	Strategy	Measure	Operational Target	Responsible Officer
A reliable, safe and regular air service at reasonable prices.	Lobby REX to maintain 'Resident fares' for shire residents.	Lobbying activities completed	2/year	CEO
	Lobby the Queensland government to increase seat capacity on air services to Bedourie and Birdsville.	Number of lobbying activities.	1 per year	CEO
	Maintain a high standard of airport facilities in Bedourie and Birdsville.	Airstrips are compliant with CASA Tier 3 Regulated Passenger Transport (RPT) standards.	2	DIS

Has significant private home ownership with all residents appropriately housed.				
Outcome	Strategy	Measure	Operational Target	Responsible Officer
Private home ownership continues to increase.	Offer residential land for sale.	Develop Housing Strategy	1	CEO
Private home ownership continues to increase.	Promote the Council housing construction subsidy scheme in the community.	Number of options taken up during the life of the corporate plan.	2	CEO
Where volunteering in the community is a given and community spirit is visible.				
Outcome	Strategy	Measure	Operational Target	Responsible Officer
Active and well-resourced community groups.	Maintain support in accordance with Council's grants to community organisations policy.	Number of community events.	10 per year	CSM
	Continue to assist community groups to access grant funding.	Number of successful grant applications.	5 per year	FM
Is safe and crime-free.				
Outcome	Strategy	Measure	Operational Target	Responsible Officer
The community remains safe and crime free.	Continue to support police and emergency services in the Shire.	Active SES members in each town.	10	CEO
	Maintain engagement with regional police services to ensure that police stations are staffed at all times, community needs are understood and policing is effective.	Number of engagement/lobbying activities.	1 per year	CEO
	Maintain local disaster management plans.	Disaster management plan status.	Current	CEO
Cares for its residents of all ages.				
Outcome	Strategy	Measure	Operational Target	Responsible Officer
Services are provided for our aged, youth, children and families as appropriate.	Establish town infrastructure that is disability access compliant.	Assess suitability of public buildings and footpath crossings.	Maintained	DIS
	Facilitate the provision of play group services as per funding agreement	Status of play group services.	Maintained	DCED

Has access to fully operational medical and pharmacy facilities run by a quality service provider offering affordable access to onsite general practitioners and other health professionals.				
Outcome	Strategy	Measure	Operational Target	Responsible Officer
A community that is fully aware of and responsive to primary health care needs.	Lobby Queensland Health to provide half yearly dental visits to shire.	Number of lobbying activities.	1 per year	CEO
The Central West Hospital and Health Board owns and operates medical facilities in Birdsville and Bedourie.	Negotiate the transfer of the Bedourie and Birdsville Health clinics to CCWHHS	Properties transferred	Complete	CEO
Has quality sporting facilities with high participation rates.				
Outcome	Strategy	Measure	Operational Target	Responsible Officer
Well maintained sporting facilities which meet community needs with additional facilities as appropriate for the communities.	Develop master plans for 3 racetracks and Birdsville Bronco Yards	Masterplans completed	100%	DIS/DCED
Has quality internet access to all town and properies in the Shire and mobile coverage is maximised.				
Outcome	Strategy	Measure	Operational Target	Responsible Officer
The Birdsville, Bedourie and Betoota race courses have consistent mobile phone coverage.	Investigate options to improve mobile phone coverage at Shire race courses.	Telstra engaged to maximise coverage.	Complete	CEO
Is enhanced by participation in arts and cultural activities.				
Outcome	Strategy	Measure	Operational Target	Responsible Officer
Community groups are supported in their arts and cultural pursuits.	Support arts and culture through the grants of community organisations policy.	Percentage of grants made in line with Council policy.	100%	DCED

Our Economy...				
Is underpinned by the beef cattle industry and the expanding organic market.				
Outcome	Strategy	Measure	Operational Target	Responsible Officer
Improve animal welfare outcomes.	Lobby to extend sealed road network to improve animal welfare.	Number of lobbying activities undertaken.	2 per year	CEO
Flourishes from a growing tourism industry and continuation of major events.				
Outcome	Strategy	Measure	Operational Target	Responsible Officer
More tourists visit year on year.	A range of strategies are developed to extend the tourist season and fill in the peaks within the season in consultation with the community.	Visitor numbers increase outside of peak event periods.	5% each year	DCED
The Birdsville Tourist Park and Birdsville Lodge and Bedourie caravan park contribute significantly to the Shire economy.	Divest Council's interest in the accommodation sites.	% of Sites divested	100%	CEO
Birdsville Courthouse, geothermal precinct and Bedourie Pise' House are established as must see tourist attractions.	Complete restoration works and open to the public as tourist sites, following consultation with community.	Progress with restoration.	Complete	DCED
A regional outback tourism centre is established in Birdsville.	Approach the OQTA to located staff in Birdsville	Number of lobbying activities undertaken.	2 per year	CEO
Cultural, Historical, Indigenous Tourism products developed	Engage resources to develop self-guided app for self-drive routes	Routes established	2 per year	DCED
Council's tourism strategy delivers positive outcomes for the community.	Review and update the tourism strategy.	Progress with strategy review.	Complete	DCED
Benefits from a growing population with full employment.				
Outcome	Strategy	Measure	Operational Target	Responsible Officer
The employment rate maintained at more than 95%.	Make Council training activities available to community members if appropriate.	Community attendance at training sessions	20	DCS

Is led by Council and the business community, together growing and diversifying business and industry opportunities.				
Outcome	Strategy	Measure	Operational Target	Responsible Officer
Additional utilisation of vacant land in Bedourie, Betoota and Birdsville.	Identify and actively market available industrial and residential land stocks.	Council land sales.	Annual Auction	CEO
The Shire planning scheme facilitates the development of environmentally sustainable towns in the Shire.	Review the Shire planning scheme in cooperation with the Department.	Progress with scheme review.	Complete	CEO
Will be much stronger when there is sealed road access to Birdsville and more resilient and safe road access.				
Outcome	Strategy	Measure	Operational Target	Responsible Officer
The Bedourie - Birdsville road is fully sealed and a long term commitment to complete the sealing of the Birdsville - Windorah and Bedourie - Windorah roads is secured.	Lobby the Queensland and Australian Governments to fund the pave and bitumen seal of the remaining 18km of the Eyre Developmental Road by 2026.	Lobbying activities.	2 per year	CEO
Roads are safer to travel on, particularly during major events.	Lobby the Queensland and Australian Governments to fund the construction of sealed overtaking opportunities on the Birdsville Developmental Road at least every 25km and Diamantina Developmental Road every 50km.	Lobbying activities.	2 per year	CEO
Roads are more flood resilient (closing later, opening earlier) and enabling freight and travellers to move more readily.	Lobby the Queensland and Australian Governments for funds to improving flood immunity to the Diamantina Developmental Road at Farrars Creek channels and Eyre Developmental Road at Diamantina River channels.	Lobbying activities.	2 per year	CEO

Our Infrastructure...				
Is constructed and mained in a sustainable manner which meets community needs.				
Outcome	Strategy	Measure	Operational Target	Responsible Officer
A well maintained Shire road network which meets the needs of the road users.	Carry out works in line with works program.	Percentage of planned works that are completed each year.	95%	DIS
	Develop and implement a Gates and Grid Policy and procedure	Policy and Procedure document	Adopted	DIS
Airports and services that meet tourism and community growth needs.	Operate and maintain in accordance with CASA and Airservices standards	Standards met	100%	DIS
Well maintained community assets with additional facilities as appropriate for the communities.	Implement assets management plans for buildings and other assets.	Percentage of asset management plan actions implemented within agreed time frames.	80%	DIS
	Review Council service levels for Town Services.	Develop Strategy	100%	DIS
	Complete concept plans for a new depot at Bedourie industrial estate.	Source Funding	Complete	CEO
	Complete concept plans for new Birdsville hall.	Concept plan adopted	Complete	CEO
	Complete Concept plans for new Bedourie administration centre.	Source Funding	Complete	CEO
	Undertake engagement with the community to inform investigations and planning for old Diamantina River causeway replacement.	Progress with engagement and planning.	Complete	DIS
	Establish plans for a footpath network in Birdsville including pedestrian access to the racecourse.	Footpaths developed	Complete	DIS
Guarantees quality potable urban water supply and waste water treatment.				
Outcome	Strategy	Measure	Operational Target	Responsible Officer
Secure potable water sources are maintained for Bedourie and Birdsville.	Maintain water infrastructure in accordance with asset management plans.	Percentage of improvement actions in the Drinking Water Quality Management Plan (DWQM) carried out.	100%	DIS
A secure and effective waste water treatment system is maintained in each town.	Maintain waste water infrastructure in accordance with asset management plans.	Number of breaches of the Environmentally Relevant Activity permit (ERA).	Nil	DIS