



South Burnett Regional Council

CORPORATE PLAN

Individual communities building a strong and vibrant region!

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Welcome

to our CORPORATE PLAN



Message from the MAYOR & CEO

A new beginning: an opportunity for change. Since the formation of the South Burnett Regional Council in March 2008 Councillors and staff have been working hard to merge four organisations into one regional Council.

It is with great pleasure that we present the Council's first corporate plan. This strategic document sets a new united direction for Council and our greater region. It will guide our decisions and priorities for the next five years.

As a larger regional Council we have come to understand what makes the South Burnett a region of choice for lifestyle, employment and investment opportunity; *Individual Communities*. Together with them we will build a strong and vibrant region. That is our vision!

This Corporate Plan purposefully articulates how Council will fulfill its role in achieving the vision. The plan is structured around five priority areas which collectively will help deliver positive outcomes for the region. These priority areas focus on:

- » organisational excellence
- » service delivery and infrastructure
- » enhancing our communities
- » our environment
- » growth and opportunity

Within the planning framework, the Corporate Plan will be supported by an operational plan and budget which will be prepared annually. Over the coming years Council will develop activities and projects that will bring the Vision into a reality.

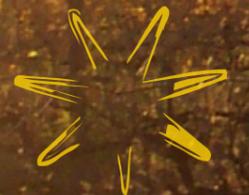
In delivering outcomes every organisation needs corporate values that are fundamental to decision making processes and guide the way they do business. Our values form the acronym ACHIEVE, which is what we aspire to do over the duration of the plan.

Finally, we must acknowledge the valuable feedback provided by staff, the community and other stakeholders. Your contributions have ensured that Council considered the needs, expectations and aspirations of the South Burnett community in the development of this plan.

We look forward to strengthening and shaping our future together.

Cr David Carter
Mayor

Tony Hayward
Chief Executive Officer





REGIONAL PROFILE

The South Burnett Regional Council was formed in March 2008 as a result of state-wide local government amalgamations. Located in South-East Queensland the new region covers an area of 8 399 km² and is only a short drive away from Brisbane, Toowoomba and the Sunshine Coast.

Combining quality living and working environments, the region's relaxed country lifestyle, strong community values and outstanding cultural and natural attractions continue to encourage economic growth within the region. Our strong and diverse economy offers many exciting opportunities for investors and new industry alike.

Kingaroy is the regional centre of the South Burnett with services including a commercial aerodrome, shopping facilities, government services and many of the industries generally expected in much larger centres.

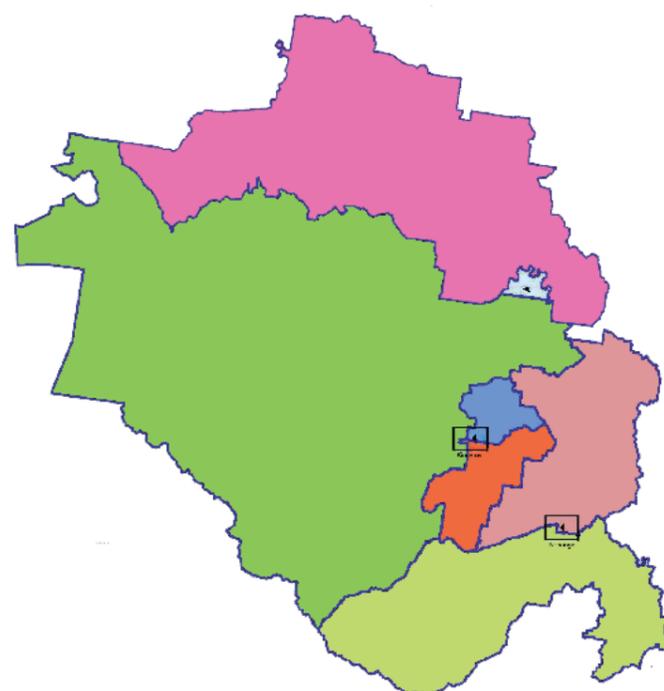
All townships within the region support a vigorous sporting, cultural and social lifestyle with facilities including a range of heritage museums, art galleries, craft outlets, shopping malls, indoor and outdoor sporting and fitness opportunities, local theatre groups, annual festivals and music venues. There is also a wide variety of wineries, cafes and restaurants spread throughout the region that serve a range of gourmet dishes prepared with delicious local produce.

We are one of Queensland's largest wine regions and home to some of the state's biggest vineyards. Our region boasts an extensive selection of award winning tourism facilities including the popular Lake Boondooma and Yallakool Park on the foreshores of Bjelke-Petersen Dam. To the south of the region is the Bunya Mountains National Park providing visitors with spectacular views and an opportunity to explore and experience this unique rainforest.

The South Burnett is experiencing unprecedented growth, proving to be a region of choice for lifestyle, employment and investment opportunities.

Region Quick Facts:

Size:	8 399 km ²
Population:	29 734
Estimated Population by 2026:	37 187
Council Divisions:	6
Council Representation:	7 Councillors



ABOUT THE CORPORATE PLAN

Legislative Requirements

It is a mandatory requirement of section 504(1) of the Local Government Act 1993 for a Council to prepare and adopt a Corporate Plan. The Corporate Plan shall be for a minimum period of four years and will remain in force for the specified period of the plan or until the earlier adoption of a new plan.

The local government must ensure each corporate plan is prepared and adopted in enough time, before the start of the first financial year covered by the plan, to allow preparation and adoption of a budget for the financial year consistent with the plan.

By Council resolution, the corporate plan may be revised or amended at any time provided the changes comply with the Local Government Finance Standards and the draft plan is made available for public inspection for a 30 day period.

A corporate plan or amendment of a corporate plan -

- must comply with the Local Government Finance Standards; and
- must be open to inspection for at least 30 days before the local government adopts the plan or amendment.

Community Consultation

The Corporate Plan was developed in consultation with the community, staff and Council representatives.

Initially a series of three workshops with the Councillors and Leadership Team were conducted to discuss:

- » a vision for Council and our new region
- » organisational values to guide the way we operate
- » local and regional issues
- » desired outcomes for the future

A draft Corporate Plan was then prepared and open for public inspection from 1 May to 1 June 2009. This gave the community an opportunity to review the draft plan and provide comments back to Council for their consideration.

Correspondence was also sent to community organisations, business representatives and key stakeholders advising of the release of the draft plan, the community consultation sessions and how to provide comments back to Council. All employees were provided information about the plan and encouraged to provide feedback.

Community consultation sessions were held in Kingaroy, Murgon, Nanango and Wondai to explain the draft plan and provide an opportunity for discussion and input from the community.

At the conclusion of the consultation period the comments from the community consultation sessions and feedback forms were collated and considered by Council.

The Corporate Plan was adopted at the General Council meeting held on 17 June 2009. Council would like to acknowledge the valuable feedback provided by staff and community members. The expectations and aspirations of the South Burnett community formed an essential component of the finalisation of this plan.

Planning Framework

The Corporate Plan is Council's strategic business plan, providing the framework for Council to develop strategies that deliver outcomes and achieve our vision.

- » Outcomes are what Council wants to achieve
- » Strategies are how Council plans to achieve these outcomes

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.



OUR VISION

Individual communities building a strong and vibrant region

OUR VALUES

A ACCOUNTABILITY

We accept responsibility for our decisions and actions

C COMMUNITY

Building partnerships, supporting communities and delivering quality services

H HARMONY

Our people working cooperatively to achieve common goals in a supportive and safe environment

I INNOVATION

Encouraging an innovative and resourceful workplace and community

E ETHICAL CONDUCT

We behave fairly with open, honest and accountable behaviour and consistent decision-making

V VISION

Our vision is the driving force behind our actions and responsibilities

E EXCELLENCE

Striving to deliver excellent environmental, social and economic outcomes



1. ENHANCING OUR COMMUNITIES

Building vibrant, healthy, supportive and inclusive communities



2. GROWTH & OPPORTUNITY

A strong and sustainable regional economy supported by diverse sectors and innovative planning mechanisms



3. OUR ENVIRONMENT

A sustainable environment, proactively and responsibly managed in partnership with the community for future generations



4. ORGANISATIONAL EXCELLENCE

An organisation that is characterised by effective leadership, responsible management and quality service delivery



5. SERVICE DELIVERY & INFRASTRUCTURE

The provision of quality services and infrastructure for our growing community that is planned, provided and managed on sound asset management principles



1. ENHANCING OUR COMMUNITIES

Building vibrant, healthy, supportive and inclusive communities

GOALS & STRATEGIES

- EC1 *A community with the capacity to develop the area of arts, culture and heritage*
 - EC1.1 Work in partnership with community organisations
 - EC1.2 Build the capacity of our arts, heritage and library facilities to become vibrant community centres

- EC2 *An active, safe and healthy community*
 - EC2.1 Develop and provide in partnership a range of sporting and recreation facilities
 - EC2.2 Advocate and support community initiatives that promote healthy lifestyles
 - EC2.3 Manage identified public health and environmental issues in accordance with relevant legislation
 - EC2.4 Partner, investigate and implement plans to increase community safety in public areas

- EC3 *A community with the ability to manage natural and man-made disasters*
 - EC3.1 Maintain an effective Counter Disaster Management Framework

- EC4 *A transport system that connects communities*
 - EC4.1 Advocate and partner with other organisations to develop regional transport solutions





2. GROWTH AND OPPORTUNITY

A strong and sustainable regional economy supported by diverse sectors and innovative planning mechanisms

GOALS & STRATEGIES

- GO1 *The South Burnett is a recognised tourism destination*
 - GO1.1 Work with stakeholders to develop, market and promote the South Burnett as a premier tourist destination within the South East Queensland Country Region
 - GO1.2 Develop and promote Council-owned tourism facilities
- GO2 *A strong and sustainable regional economy*
 - GO2.1 Develop and implement an Economic Development Strategy that identifies opportunities for economic expansion and development within the region
 - GO2.2 To partner with industry sectors to assist in their future sustainability and growth
- GO3 *Balanced development that preserves and enhances our region*
 - GO3.1 Support the region's growth through integrated, planned and timely delivery of infrastructure
 - GO3.2 Be an active partner in the implementation of the statutory Wide Bay Burnett Regional Plan
 - GO3.3 Implement policies and plans that support appropriate planning and development for business, industry and community needs



3. OUR ENVIRONMENT

A sustainable environment, proactively and responsibly managed in partnership with the community for future generations

GOALS & STRATEGIES

- ENV1 *Our region's environmental assets are promoted, protected and enhanced*
 - ENV1.1 Include natural resource management priorities in the planning scheme
 - ENV1.2 Manage the diverse array of natural assets that exist in the region
 - ENV1.3 Investigate and implement strategies to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and non-renewable resource use
 - ENV1.4 Implement strategies to improve the environmental water quality of our region's rivers and water storage facilities
 - ENV1.5 Maintain and enhance quality habitat for native fauna and flora particularly endangered, rare and vulnerable species
 - ENV1.6 Manage weed and pest infestations
 - ENV1.7 Engage and assist the community and private land owners in environmental stewardship
- ENV2 *Environmentally responsible and efficient waste management*
 - ENV2.1 Develop and implement a Regional Waste Management Plan
 - ENV2.2 Provide cost effective waste management facilities and operations





4. ORGANISATIONAL EXCELLENCE

An organisation that is characterised by effective leadership, responsible management and quality service delivery

GOALS & STRATEGIES

- EXC1 *Effective financial management*
 - EXC1.1 Develop and implement long term financial plans and indicators to achieve optimum use of resources and alignment to strategic priorities
 - EXC1.2 Optimise Council's revenue, based on realistic and equitable policies and practices

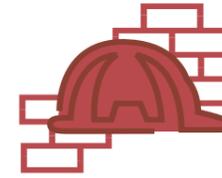
- EXC2 *Effective business management*
 - EXC2.1 Develop and implement information and technology solutions that meet corporate and customer needs
 - EXC2.2 Ensure document management systems and practices cover the full range of Council's activities and are compliant with statutory requirements

- EXC3 *A skilled and sustainable workforce*
 - EXC3.1 Develop a Strategic Human Resource Management Plan
 - EXC3.2 Promote a 'safety first' environment
 - EXC3.3 Develop an organisational culture and structure which reflects our shared vision and values
 - EXC3.4 Develop and promote an environment where our people feel valued and rewarded for their performance
 - EXC3.5 Develop and implement employment programs to provide opportunities for targeted groups

- EXC4 *Ethical, accountable and transparent decision-making*
 - EXC4.1 Develop and implement a governance framework that delivers good organisational management
 - EXC4.2 Implement management plans to reduce risk to Council and the community

- EXC5 *An informed and engaged community*
 - EXC5.1 Develop a range of initiatives to engage and inform the community
 - EXC5.2 Develop a community plan that identifies our region's aspirations and direction for the future

- EXC6 *Effective advocacy and strategic partnerships*
 - EXC6.1 Advocate Council's strategic position on key issues to government sectors
 - EXC6.2 Develop and maintain close working relationships with State and Federal governments, agencies, corporate entities and community groups



5. SERVICE DELIVERY AND INFRASTRUCTURE

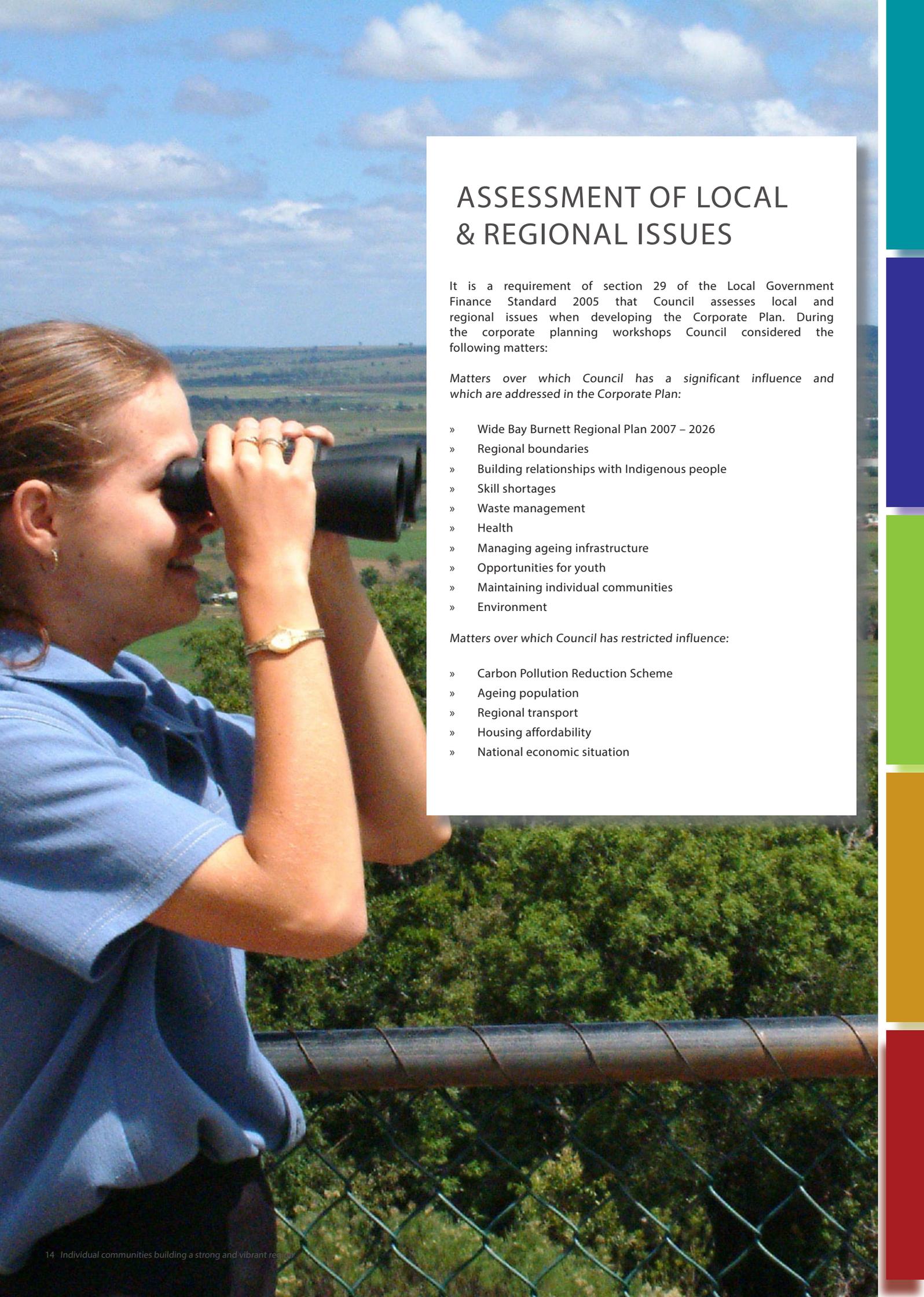
The provision of quality services and infrastructure for our growing community that is planned, provided and managed on sound asset management principles

GOALS & STRATEGIES

- SD1 *Quality customer service*
 - SD1.1 Establish customer service standards within resource capabilities that promote the delivery of quality services to all customers

- SD2 *Infrastructure that meets our communities needs*
 - SD2.1 Partnering to provide a transportation network that allows safe and efficient access to residential, employment and recreational destinations
 - SD2.2 Planning and providing water and wastewater systems that meet the economic, environmental and social requirements of the community
 - SD2.3 Plan for and develop service levels for plant and buildings
 - SD2.4 Develop and implement Asset Management Plans for all classes of assets



A woman with brown hair, wearing a light blue short-sleeved shirt and a gold watch, is looking through black binoculars. She is standing on a balcony or overlook with a metal railing and a chain-link fence. The background shows a vast, green landscape under a blue sky with scattered white clouds.

ASSESSMENT OF LOCAL & REGIONAL ISSUES

It is a requirement of section 29 of the Local Government Finance Standard 2005 that Council assesses local and regional issues when developing the Corporate Plan. During the corporate planning workshops Council considered the following matters:

Matters over which Council has a significant influence and which are addressed in the Corporate Plan:

- » Wide Bay Burnett Regional Plan 2007 – 2026
- » Regional boundaries
- » Building relationships with Indigenous people
- » Skill shortages
- » Waste management
- » Health
- » Managing ageing infrastructure
- » Opportunities for youth
- » Maintaining individual communities
- » Environment

Matters over which Council has restricted influence:

- » Carbon Pollution Reduction Scheme
- » Ageing population
- » Regional transport
- » Housing affordability
- » National economic situation