



AGENDA

General Meeting

23 August 2023

NOTICE OF GENERAL MEETING

To: Cr Leslie Hotz (Mayor)
Cr Robert Radel (Deputy Mayor/Division 6)
Cr Melinda Jones (Division 1)
Cr Kingsley Mesner (Division 2)
Cr Susan Payne (Division 3)
Cr Dael Giddins (Division 4)
Cr Michael Dingle (Division 5)

Please be advised that the General Meeting of the North Burnett Regional Council will be held at the Monto Boardroom on Wednesday, 23 August 2023 commencing at 9.00am.

An agenda is attached for your information.



Margot Stork

Chief Executive Officer

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- 1 WELCOME/HOUSEKEEPING**
- 2 ATTENDEES**
- 3 APOLOGIES/LEAVE OF ABSENCE**
- 4 ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY**
- 5 MOMENT OF SILENCE AND REFLECTION**

The Mayor to call for a moment of silence to pay respects to those who have passed in our region.

<i>Darryl Faint</i>	<i>Biggenden</i>
<i>Alex Pointon</i>	<i>Eidsvold</i>
<i>Ashley Cobbo</i>	<i>Gayndah</i>
<i>Lorraine Maas</i>	<i>Gayndah</i>
<i>Shirley Cooper</i>	<i>Gayndah</i>
<i>Coralie Keiler</i>	<i>Monto</i>
<i>Frederick Dahtler</i>	<i>Monto</i>
<i>Brian Tucker</i>	<i>Mount Perry</i>
<i>Clarence Daffey</i>	<i>Mundubbera</i>

6 DEPUTATIONS/PETITIONS

There are nil deputations for this meeting.

Council will make time available at each General Meeting for public questions/representations commencing at 9.15am. This is an opportunity for members of the public to make a representation on a matter in which they have an interest on an item which is before the Council for decision e.g. development applications.

A deputation wishing to attend and address a meeting of the Council shall apply in writing to the CEO not less than seven (7) business days before the meeting. The CEO, on receiving an application for a deputation, shall notify the Chairperson who will determine whether the deputation may be heard. The CEO will inform the deputation of the determination in writing. Where it has been determined the deputation will be heard, a convenient time will be arranged for that purpose, and an appropriate time period allowed (e.g. 15 minutes).

Meetings proceed in accordance with the [Standing Orders Model Meeting Procedures PRO-5005](#), which is a Departmental directive outlining the procedures for meetings of local government.

7 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

The Mayor to call for any declaration of interests.

8 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

8.1 MINUTES OF THE GENERAL MEETING HELD ON 31 JULY 2023

Doc Id: 1162987

Author: Taylor Applewaite, Administration Officer (Executive Services)

Authoriser: Margot Stork, Chief Executive Officer

Attachments: 1. Minutes of the General Meeting held on 31 July 2023

OFFICERS RECOMMENDATION

That the Minutes of the General Meeting held on 31 July 2023 be confirmed.

**MINUTES OF NORTH BURNETT REGIONAL COUNCIL
GENERAL MEETING
HELD AT THE EIDSVOLD BOARDROOM
ON MONDAY, 31 JULY 2023 AT 9.00AM**

1 WELCOME/HOUSEKEEPING

The Mayor declared the meeting open at 9.00am and welcomed all attendees.

2 ATTENDEES

COUNCILLORS: Cr Les Hotz (Mayor)
Cr Robert Radel (Deputy Mayor)
Cr Dael Giddins
Cr Kingsley Mesner
Cr Melinda Jones
Cr Michael Dingle
Cr Susan Payne

OFFICERS: Margot Stork (CEO)
Anna Scott (General Manager - Works)
Kim Mahoney (General Manager – Corporate & Community)
John Fraser (Development & Building Services Stream Leader)^{^*}
Marlene Carstens (Executive Assistant to the General Manager - Works)[^]
Michael Cartwright (Governance, Policy and Risk Advisor)[^]
Michael Wallace (Contracts & Leasing Officer)^{^*}
Owen Jensen (Financial Services Manager)^{^*}
Rhys Habermann (Business Analyst)
Shaun Johnston (Water & Wastewater Manager)*
Taylor Applewaite (Administration Officer – Executive Services)
Tegan Bauer (Executive Assistant to the Mayor)

[^] attended the meeting via Microsoft Teams ^{*} attended part of the meeting only

3 APOLOGIES/LEAVE OF ABSENCE

Nil.

4 ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

On behalf of Council, the Mayor extended an Acknowledgement of Country.

5 MOMENT OF SILENCE AND REFLECTION

George Patterson	Gayndah
Maud Hill	Gayndah
Phyllis McGilvery	Gayndah
Heather Ping	Gayndah
Kevin Ballin	Binjour
Valma Hotz	Monto
Michael Jamieson	Monto
John Spoor	Mundubbera

6 DEPUTATIONS/PETITIONS

There were nil deputations for this meeting.

7 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Nil.

UNCONFIRMED

8 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

8.1 MINUTES OF THE GENERAL MEETING HELD ON 28 JUNE 2023

OFFICERS RECOMMENDATION

That the Minutes of the General Meeting held on 28 June 2023 be confirmed.

RESOLUTION 2023/124

Moved: Cr Kingsley Mesner

Seconded: Cr Robert Radel

That the Minutes of the General Meeting held on 28 June 2023 be confirmed.

In Favour: Crs Leslie Hotz, Robert Radel, Melinda Jones, Susan Payne, Dael Giddins, Michael Dingle and Kingsley Mesner

Against: Nil

CARRIED 7/0

8.2 MINUTES OF THE BUDGET MEETING HELD ON 28 JUNE 2023**OFFICERS RECOMMENDATION**

That the Minutes of the Budget Meeting held on 28 June 2023 be confirmed.

RESOLUTION 2023/125

Moved: Cr Dael Giddins

Seconded: Cr Michael Dingle

That the Minutes of the Budget Meeting held on 28 June 2023 be confirmed.

In Favour: Crs Leslie Hotz, Robert Radel, Melinda Jones, Susan Payne, Dael Giddins, Michael Dingle and Kingsley Mesner

Against: Nil

CARRIED 7/0

9 OFFICE OF THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER**9.1 CURRENT OUTSTANDING COUNCIL RESOLUTIONS REPORT****OFFICERS RECOMMENDATION**

That Council receive the Current Outstanding Council Resolutions Report from September 2020 to May 2023.

RESOLUTION 2023/126

Moved: Cr Dael Giddins

Seconded: Cr Michael Dingle

That Council receive the Current Outstanding Council Resolutions Report from September 2020 to May 2023.

In Favour: Crs Leslie Hotz, Robert Radel, Melinda Jones, Susan Payne, Dael Giddins, Michael Dingle and Kingsley Mesner

Against: Nil

CARRIED 7/0

9.2 2022-2023 (FY23) - FINAL QUARTERLY PROGRESS REPORT (Q4)

OFFICERS RECOMMENDATION

That Council receive the 2022-23 (FY23) Q4 Progress Report for the period 1 April 2023 – 30 June 2023.

RESOLUTION 2023/127

Moved: Cr Melinda Jones

Seconded: Cr Dael Giddins

That Council receive the 2022-23 (FY23) Q4 Progress Report for the period 1 April 2023 – 30 June 2023.

In Favour: Crs Leslie Hotz, Robert Radel, Melinda Jones, Susan Payne, Dael Giddins, Michael Dingle and Kingsley Mesner

Against: Nil

CARRIED 7/0

9.3 PROPOSED AMENDED LOCAL LAWS

OFFICERS RECOMMENDATION

That Council -

1. Endorse by Resolution:

- (a) Proposed Amended Local Law & Subordinate Local Law No.1 (Administration) 2011
- (b) Proposed Amended Local Law & Subordinate Local Law No. 2 & Subordinate Local Law No.2 (Animal Management) 2011
- (c) Proposed Amended Local Law & Subordinate Local Law No.3 (Community and Environmental Management) 2011
- (d) Proposed Amended Local Law & Subordinate Local Law No.4 (Local Government Controlled Areas, Facilities and Roads) 2011
- (e) Proposed Amended Local Law & Subordinate Local Law No.5 (Parking) 2011
- (f) Proposed Amended Local Law No.6 (Waste Management) 2018

2. Authorise the Chief Executive Officer to proceed with the State Interest Checks and Public Consultation.

RESOLUTION 2023/128

Moved: Cr Robert Radel

Seconded: Cr Melinda Jones

That Council -

1. Endorse by Resolution:

- (a) Proposed Amended Local Law & Subordinate Local Law No.1 (Administration) 2011
- (b) Proposed Amended Local Law & Subordinate Local Law No. 2 & Subordinate Local Law No.2 (Animal Management) 2011
- (c) Proposed Amended Local Law & Subordinate Local Law No.3 (Community and

Environmental Management) 2011

- (d) Proposed Amended Local Law & Subordinate Local Law No.4 (Local Government Controlled Areas, Facilities and Roads) 2011
- (e) Proposed Amended Local Law & Subordinate Local Law No.5 (Parking) 2011
- (f) Proposed Amended Local Law No.6 (Waste Management) 2018

2. Authorise the Chief Executive Officer to proceed with the State Interest Checks and Public Consultation.

CARRIED 7/0

UNCONFIRMED

9.4 LOCAL GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION OF QUEENSLAND ANNUAL CONFERENCE 2023

OFFICERS RECOMMENDATION

That Council:

1. Adopt the following motions and the CEO submit same to the Local Government Association of Queensland seeking inclusion in the Local Government Association Queensland schedule of motions for debate at the Annual Conference in October 2023:
 - (a) That the Local Government Association of Queensland (LGAQ) calls on the State and Federal governments to provide local government areas classified as regional, rural or remote, which have limited capacity to raise or increase own source revenue outside current rating streams, to have access to State grant funding with a co-contribution of 10% or less for capital works projects to renew or replace essential water, waste water, roads and waste management infrastructure.
 - (b) That the Local Government Association of Queensland (LGAQ) calls on the State Government to provide increases toward the construction of new and augmented water infrastructure projects across regional Queensland to improve water security and deliver long-term, bulk water sources for regional communities.
 - (c) That the Local Government Association of Queensland (LGAQ) calls on the State and Federal governments to support increased investment in skills training, supply chain improvements, and initiatives that further fortify the economy and improve Australia's self-sufficiency in treatment and delivery of potable water, wastewater collection and treatment, and other essential services.
 - (d) That the Local Government Association of Queensland (LGAQ) calls on the State and Federal governments to work with local councils to assist with the identification of existing skills shortages and the types of on-the-job training in water and wastewater treatment that meet micro-credentialling requirements and assist local councils to take up these options to fortify these essential services.
 - (e) That the Local Government Association of Queensland (LGAQ) calls on the State Government to develop innovative programs to attract and incentivise professional, skilled and unskilled Local Government workers to regional and remote areas.
 - (f) That the Local Government Association of Queensland (LGAQ) calls on the Queensland State Government to work with the Environment Protection Authority to simplify the regulatory processes to allow councils to utilise local gravel pits to ease supply chain pressures and to support local economic development.
 - (g) That the Local Government Association of Queensland (LGAQ) calls on the State Government to work with the Environment Protection Authority to simplify regulatory requirements to ensure that councils can continue to provide washdown facilities to mitigate the spread of weeds and seeds and support other biosecurity measures.
 - (h) That the Local Government Association of Queensland (LGAQ) calls on the State Government to take control of and meet all Councillor remuneration costs across Queensland with such payments to be adjusted to provide equity for all Councillors across the State through the provision of same pay for same work.
 - (i) That the Local Government Association of Queensland (LGAQ) calls on the State Government to review all regional waste management plans and ensure the equitable provision of waste management project funding to provide economic development opportunities for regional, rural and remote councils.
 - (j) That the Local Government Association of Queensland (LGAQ) calls on the State Government to partner with regional, rural and remote Councils to fund practical solutions to the housing crisis being experienced.

RESOLUTION 2023/129

Moved: Cr Robert Radel

Seconded: Cr Kingsley Mesner

That Council:

1. Adopt the following motions and the CEO submit same to the Local Government Association of Queensland seeking inclusion in the Local Government Association Queensland schedule of motions for debate at the Annual Conference in October 2023:
 - (a) That the Local Government Association of Queensland (LGAQ) calls on the State and Federal governments to provide local government areas classified as regional, rural or remote, which have limited capacity to raise or increase own source revenue outside current rating streams, to have access to State grant funding with a co-contribution of 10% or less for capital works projects to renew or replace essential water, waste water, roads and waste management infrastructure.
 - (b) That the Local Government Association of Queensland (LGAQ) calls on the State Government to provide increases toward the construction of new and augmented water infrastructure projects across regional Queensland to improve water security and deliver long-term, bulk water sources for regional communities.
 - (c) That the Local Government Association of Queensland (LGAQ) calls on the State and Federal governments to support increased investment in skills training, supply chain improvements, and initiatives that further fortify the economy and improve Australia's self-sufficiency in treatment and delivery of potable water, wastewater collection and treatment, and other essential services.
 - (d) That the Local Government Association of Queensland (LGAQ) calls on the State and Federal governments to work with local councils to assist with the identification of existing skills shortages and the types of on-the-job training in water and wastewater treatment that meet micro-credentialling requirements and assist local councils to take up these options to fortify these essential services.
 - (e) That the Local Government Association of Queensland (LGAQ) calls on the State Government to develop innovative programs to attract and incentivise professional, skilled and unskilled Local Government workers to regional and remote areas.
 - (f) That the Local Government Association of Queensland (LGAQ) calls on the Queensland State Government to work with the Environment Protection Authority to simplify the regulatory processes to allow councils to utilise local gravel pits to ease supply chain pressures and to support local economic development.
 - (g) That the Local Government Association of Queensland (LGAQ) calls on the State Government to work with the Environment Protection Authority to simplify regulatory requirements to ensure that communities can continue to provide washdown facilities to mitigate the spread of weeds and seeds and support other biosecurity measures.
 - (h) That the Local Government Association of Queensland (LGAQ) calls on the State Government to take control of and meet all Councillor remuneration costs across Queensland with such payments to be adjusted to provide equity for all Councillors across the State through the provision of same pay for same work.
 - (i) That the Local Government Association of Queensland (LGAQ) calls on the State Government to review all regional waste management plans and ensure the equitable provision of waste management project funding to provide economic development opportunities for regional, rural and remote councils.
 - (j) That the Local Government Association of Queensland (LGAQ) calls on the State Government to partner with regional, rural and remote Councils to fund practical solutions to the housing crisis being experienced.

<u>In Favour:</u>	Crs Leslie Hotz, Robert Radel, Melinda Jones, Susan Payne, Dael Giddins, Michael Dingle and Kingsley Mesner
<u>Against:</u>	Nil
CARRIED 7/0	

UNCONFIRMED

9.5 AUSTRALIAN LOCAL GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION NATIONAL GENERAL ASSEMBLY 2023 REPORT**OFFICERS RECOMMENDATION**

That Council note the report back on attendance at the Australian Local Government Association National General Assembly.

RESOLUTION 2023/130

Moved: Cr Robert Radel

Seconded: Cr Susan Payne

That Council:

1. Note the report back on attendance at the Australian Local Government Association National General Assembly.
2. Provide feedback expressing disappointment that insufficient time was allowed for debating of motions.

In Favour: Crs Leslie Hotz, Robert Radel, Melinda Jones, Susan Payne, Dael Giddins, Michael Dingle and Kingsley Mesner

Against: Nil

CARRIED 7/0

9.6 ANNUAL REVIEW - COUNCIL TO CEO STATUTORY DELEGATIONS**OFFICERS RECOMMENDATION**

That:

1. Council note the contents of the Summary of Changes report (attachment 1).
2. In accordance with section 257 of the *Local Government Act 2009*, Council resolves to delegate the exercise of powers contained within the Delegations Register – Council to Chief Executive Officer 2023/2024 (attachment 2);
3. The powers must only be exercised subject to:
 - (a) Any limitation as indicated in the Delegations Register of Powers; and
 - (b) Delegations General Terms and Conditions (attachment 3).

RESOLUTION 2023/131

Moved: Cr Robert Radel

Seconded: Cr Michael Dingle

That Council:

1. Note the contents of the Summary of Changes report (attachment 1).
2. In accordance with section 257 of the *Local Government Act 2009*, Council resolves to delegate the exercise of powers contained within the Delegations Register – Council to Chief Executive Officer 2023/2024 (attachment 2);
3. The powers must only be exercised subject to:
 - (a) Any limitation as indicated in the Delegations Register of Powers; and
 - (b) Delegations General Terms and Conditions (attachment 3).

In Favour: Crs Leslie Hotz, Robert Radel, Melinda Jones, Susan Payne, Dael Giddins, Michael Dingle and Kingsley Mesner

Against: Nil

CARRIED 7/0

10 CORPORATE AND COMMUNITY**10.1 FINANCE REPORT TO 30 JUNE 2023****OFFICERS RECOMMENDATION**

That in accordance with section 204 *Local Government Regulation 2012 (Qld)*, Council receives the Finance Report for the period ended 30 June 2023.

RESOLUTION 2023/132

Moved: Cr Dael Giddins
Seconded: Cr Robert Radel

That in accordance with section 204 *Local Government Regulation 2012 (Qld)*, Council receives the Finance Report for the period ended 30 June 2023.

In Favour: Crs Leslie Hotz, Robert Radel, Melinda Jones, Susan Payne, Dael Giddins, Michael Dingle and Kingsley Mesner

Against: Nil

CARRIED 7/0

10.2 NORTH BURNETT REGIONAL PLANNING SCHEME - MAJOR AMENDMENT 'BUSINESS RESILIENCE AMENDMENT'

OFFICERS RECOMMENDATION

That Council:

1. Approve the proposed planning scheme amendment 'Business resilience' at Attachment Two (proposed amendment).
2. Resolve to give the proposed amendment to the Minister for a State interest review in accordance with section 16.5 of the Minister's Guidelines and Rules (MGR).
3. Note: Chief Executive Officer has existing delegated authority for preparing the notice to the Minister for the State interest review, including the required material as prescribed in Schedule 3 of the MGR.
4. Delegate to the Chief Executive Officer the responsibility for responding to requests from the State about refinements to the proposed scheme amendment.
5. Note: following the State interest review consultation will be progressed by the Chief Executive Officer only if it can be commenced and completed prior to the end of November 2023.

RESOLUTION 2023/133

Moved: Cr Dael Giddins

Seconded: Cr Robert Radel

That Council:

1. Approve the proposed planning scheme amendment 'Business resilience' at Attachment Two (proposed amendment).
2. Resolve to give the proposed amendment to the Minister for a State interest review in accordance with section 16.5 of the Minister's Guidelines and Rules (MGR).
3. Note: Chief Executive Officer has existing delegated authority for preparing the notice to the Minister for the State interest review, including the required material as prescribed in Schedule 3 of the MGR.
4. Delegate to the Chief Executive Officer the responsibility for responding to requests from the State about refinements to the proposed scheme amendment.
5. Note: following the State interest review consultation will be progressed by the Chief Executive Officer only if it can be commenced and completed prior to the end of November 2023.

In Favour: Crs Leslie Hotz, Robert Radel, Melinda Jones, Susan Payne, Dael Giddins, Michael Dingle and Kingsley Mesner

Against: Nil

CARRIED 7/0

11 WORKS**11.1 PARADISE DAM REFERENCE GROUP 8 JUNE 2023 MEETING SUMMARY****OFFICERS RECOMMENDATION**

That Council notes the draft meeting summary provided by Sunwater following the 8 June 2023 Paradise Dam Reference Group Meeting.

RESOLUTION 2023/134

Moved: Cr Kingsley Mesner

Seconded: Cr Michael Dingle

That Council notes the final meeting summary provided by Sunwater following the 8 June 2023 Paradise Dam Reference Group Meeting.

In Favour: Crs Leslie Hotz, Robert Radel, Melinda Jones, Susan Payne, Dael Giddins, Michael Dingle and Kingsley Mesner

Against: Nil

CARRIED 7/0

11.2 NBRC BOR R6 INFR 0018- WATER SUPPLY SAFETY AND RELIABILITY PROJECT FUNDING**OFFICERS RECOMMENDATION**

That Council Resolves:

1. To confirm it has budgeted for its financial contribution to the estimated project cost.
2. Is committed to delivering the project.
3. Acknowledges responsibility for any funding shortfall if costs or other contributors change.

RESOLUTION 2023/135

Moved: Cr Susan Payne

Seconded: Cr Melinda Jones

That Council Resolves:

1. To confirm it has budgeted for its financial contribution to the estimated project cost.
2. Is committed to delivering the project.
3. Acknowledges responsibility for any funding shortfall if costs or other contributors change.

In Favour: Crs Leslie Hotz, Robert Radel, Melinda Jones, Susan Payne, Dael Giddins, Michael Dingle and Kingsley Mesner

Against: Nil

CARRIED 7/0

12 COUNCILLOR REPORTS**12.1 MAYOR AND COUNCILLORS REPORTS****OFFICERS RECOMMENDATION**

That Council receives the Councillor Reports for the period 1 June 2023 to 30 June 2023.

RESOLUTION 2023/136

Moved: Cr Melinda Jones

Seconded: Cr Michael Dingle

That Council receives the Councillor Reports for the period 1 June 2023 to 30 June 2023.

In Favour: Crs Leslie Hotz, Robert Radel, Melinda Jones, Susan Payne, Dael Giddins, Michael Dingle and Kingsley Mesner

Against: Nil

CARRIED 7/0

13 URGENT BUSINESS**13.1 RECISSION OF MOTION**

Cr Dael Giddins raised a matter of urgent business concerning Resolution 2023/98 and 2023/99 adopted by Council at the General Meeting 28 June 2023 to allow an opportunity for all Councillors to re-nominate.

RESOLUTION 2023/137

Moved: Cr Dael Giddins

Seconded: Cr Melinda Jones

That Council:

1. Rescind Resolution 2023/98 and 2023/99 adopted by Council at the General Meeting 28 June 2023; and
2. In the event that Council vote to rescind Resolution 2023/98 and 2023/99 I move that nominations be called for the appointment of two (2) Councillors for the Audit & Risk Committee, and if more than two (2) Councillors are nominated then by random draw the order in which Councillors are voted on is decided pursuant to procedures as per the Local Government Act 2009 be taken where all Councillors will have the opportunity to vote for two (2) Councillors to fill the positions on the Committee.

In Favour: Crs Leslie Hotz, Melinda Jones, Dael Giddins and Michael Dingle

Against: Crs Robert Radel, Susan Payne and Kingsley Mesner

CARRIED 4/3

Mayor Hotz suggested that point 2 of the above Resolution 2023/137 lay on the table allowing time for legal advice to be obtained.

RESOLUTION 2023/138

Moved: Cr Kingsley Mesner

Seconded: Cr Melinda Jones

That point 2 of Resolution 2023/137 lay on the table until legal advice is obtained.

In Favour: Crs Leslie Hotz, Robert Radel, Melinda Jones, Dael Giddins, Michael Dingle and Kingsley Mesner

Against: Cr Susan Payne

CARRIED 6/1

14 CONFIDENTIAL REPORTS

OFFICERS RECOMMENDATION

That Council considers the confidential report(s) listed below in a meeting closed to the public in accordance with Section 275(1) of the *Local Government Regulation 2012*:

14.1 Central Burnett Motorcycle Club Inc.

This matter is considered to be confidential under 254J - 254J(3)(g) of the Local Government Regulation, and the Council is satisfied that discussion of this matter in an open meeting would, on balance, be contrary to the public interest as it deals with negotiations relating to a commercial matter involving the local government for which a public discussion would be likely to prejudice the interests of the local government.

RESOLUTION 2023/139

Moved: Cr Kingsley Mesner

Seconded: Cr Dael Giddins

That Council considers the confidential report(s) listed below in a meeting closed to the public in accordance with Section 275(1) of the *Local Government Regulation 2012*:

14.1 Central Burnett Motorcycle Club Inc.

This matter is considered to be confidential under 254J - 254J(3)(g) of the Local Government Regulation, and the Council is satisfied that discussion of this matter in an open meeting would, on balance, be contrary to the public interest as it deals with negotiations relating to a commercial matter involving the local government for which a public discussion would be likely to prejudice the interests of the local government.

In Favour: Crs Leslie Hotz, Robert Radel, Melinda Jones, Susan Payne, Dael Giddins, Michael Dingle and Kingsley Mesner

Against: Nil

CARRIED 7/0

THE MEETING MOVED INTO A CLOSED SESSION AT 10.56AM.

NOTE: During the confidential closed session, Councillors discussed the content in the confidential report listed above.

RESOLUTION 2023/140

Moved: Cr Robert Radel

Seconded: Cr Kingsley Mesner

That Council moves out of Closed Session into Open Session.

In Favour: Crs Leslie Hotz, Robert Radel, Melinda Jones, Susan Payne, Dael Giddins, Michael Dingle and Kingsley Mesner

Against: Nil

CARRIED 7/0

THE MEETING MOVED BACK INTO AN OPEN SESSION AT 11.16AM.

14.1 CENTRAL BURNETT MOTORCYCLE CLUB INC.**OFFICERS RECOMMENDATION**

That Council:

1. Resolves to rescind Resolution 2020/115, part 1(b).
2. Resolves to grant a Licence Agreement to the Central Burnett Motorcycle Club Inc. over area "C" within Lot 3 RP28439, once the Lot has been returned to a satisfactory condition as determined by Council's Planning and Environment Manager.
3. Authorises the Chief Executive Officer to negotiate and finalise the terms of such agreement.

RESOLUTION 2023/141

Moved: Cr Dael Giddins

Seconded: Cr Michael Dingle

That Council:

1. Resolves to rescind Resolution 2020/115, part 1(b).
2. Resolves to grant a Licence Agreement to the Central Burnett Motorcycle Club Inc. over area "C" within Lot 3 RP28439, once the Lot has been returned to a satisfactory condition as determined by Council's Planning and Environment Manager.
3. Authorises the Chief Executive Officer to negotiate and finalise the terms of such agreement.

In Favour: Crs Leslie Hotz, Robert Radel, Melinda Jones, Susan Payne, Dael Giddins, Michael Dingle and Kingsley Mesner

Against: Nil

CARRIED 7/0

15 CLOSURE OF MEETING

The Meeting closed at 11.26am.

The minutes of this meeting were confirmed at the General Meeting held on 23 August 2023.

.....
CHAIRPERSON

9 OFFICE OF THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER**9.1 CURRENT OUTSTANDING COUNCIL RESOLUTIONS REPORT****Doc Id:** 1163901**Author:** Kat Bright, Senior Executive Assistant to the CEO**Authoriser:** Margot Stork, Chief Executive Officer**Attachments:** 1. Outstanding Resolutions Report as at 8 August 2023 [1163914]**INTRODUCTION/BACKGROUND**

This report provides a summary of outstanding resolutions for North Burnett Regional Council from May 2021 to July 2023 (date range determined by oldest outstanding resolution).

OFFICER COMMENTS/CONCLUSION

A total of twenty-two (22) resolutions remain outstanding for the period May 2021 to July 2023. The attached table provides updates for each resolution.

This report will be tabled monthly at the General Meeting of Council.

OFFICERS RECOMMENDATION

That Council receive the Current Outstanding Council Resolutions Report from May 2021 to July 2023.

#	General Meeting Date	Res #	Res Title	Res Details	Responsible Function	Status	Comments
Outstanding Resolutions 2021							
1	26/05/2021	2021/52	Offer For Lease – Reginal Murray Williams Australian Bush Learning Centre	<p>That Council receive this report as presented and resolves to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Call Expressions of Interest for the possible disposal of the asset through lease or sale of the RM Williams Australian Bush Learning Centre in accordance with the requirements of Section 228 of the Local Government Regulation 2012; and 2. Council conducts a community survey to gather community sentiment on the future of the RM Williams Australian Bush Learning Centre; and 3. Further consider a report on the outcome of the Expressions of Interest and survey feedback at the August 2021 General Meeting. 	Office of the CEO	Outstanding	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Expressions of Interest called and assessed. 2. Outstanding. 3. Report tabled at the General Meeting of Council held on 21 July 2022 with outcome of the EOI. Survey outstanding. <p>Being informed by our recently endorsed Customer Engagement Framework, a review is underway to establish the best way forward. A report will be tabled at an upcoming General Meeting.</p>
2	30/06/2021	2021/60	Service Delivery Review- Swimming Pools	<p>That Council:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Continue to maintain and operate existing pools in Biggenden, Eidsvold, Gayndah, Monto and Mundubbera. 2. Further investigation and condition assessment of the region's pools is undertaken. 3. A fit for purpose asset management strategy is developed and funding sourced to replace existing pools over 10 years. 4. Review the operating agreements to ensure the most effective delivery of the service to the community and report to Council on the outcomes. 	Water, Facilities & Assets	Work In Progress	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. A business-as-usual activity that has been captured into the workflow. 2. Completed. No significant structural defects were found. Monitoring program to be implemented to monitor water levels for leaks. 3. This remains a work in progress, with effort planned for 2023/24 financial year to commence the activity. 4. Completed. New leases issued in 2022.

#	General Meeting Date	Res #	Res Title	Res Details	Responsible Function	Status	Comments
3	30/06/2021	2021/64	Service Delivery- Showgrounds	That Council work with Show Societies and the Queensland Department of Resources to remove itself as trustee for the Gayndah, Eidsvold, Monto and Mt Perry Showgrounds and negotiate a model similar to that of the Biggenden and Mundubbera Showgrounds.	Corporate & Community / Contracts & Lea	Work In Progress	A review of lease/tenure is underway to confirm arrangements for each showground. Completion of this review is expected at the end of September 2023. Following the review, an update will be provided to Councillors at a Councillor Information Workshop to discuss next steps.

#	General Meeting Date	Res #	Res Title	Res Details	Responsible Function	Status	Comments
Outstanding Resolutions 2022							
4	27/01/2022	2022/19	Tender for Lease of Gayndah Airport Refuelling Facility	That Council: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Resolve to conduct a Tender for the lease of Gayndah Airport Refuelling Facility located at 2 John Taylors Road, Gayndah; being part of Lot 2 RP201121. 2. Authorise the Chief Executive Officer to enter an agreement for the Gayndah Airport Refuelling Facility Depot (proposed Lease Area "A" 2 within RP201121), on terms to be negotiated by the Chief Executive Officer for period not exceeding ten years. 	Fleet	Work In Progress	This matter is being assessed in line with further operational considerations.
5	23/02/2022	2022/29	North Burnett Landcare Group Inc. (<i>Now legally known as Monto Landcare Group Inc.</i>)	That Council: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Note the contents of this report. 2. Authorise the Chief Executive Officer to negotiate and finalise a Trustee Lease to North Burnett Landcare Group Inc on terms consistent with the Reserve purpose of "Public Halls" and the Land Act, including terms to ensure broad community access, with a lease term until 30 June 2033 for Lot 1 M74755. 3. In the event, that after negotiations with North Burnett Landcare Group Inc that they do not wish to proceed with a new lease, resolve to relinquish Trusteeship of Reserve for Public Halls being Lot 1 M74755. 4. Resolve to offer no objections to any application by North Burnett Landcare Group Inc to purchase or apply for Trusteeship of Reserve for Public Halls being Lot 1 M74755. 5. Resolve to offer no objections to any application by North Burnett Landcare Group Inc to purchase or apply for 	Contracts & Leasing	Work In Progress	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Completed. 2. 10-year Trustee Lease issued by email for signing by Landcare; due 18/08/23. 3. Dependant on outcome of item 2. 4. Completed. 5. Completed. 6. Completed. 7. Work in progress. 8. Completed. 9. Work in progress. 10. Completed – Presented at the Councillor Workshop on 5 April 2023.

#	General Meeting Date	Res #	Res Title	Res Details	Responsible Function	Status	Comments
				<p>Trusteeship of Reserve for Park being Lot 2 M74755.</p> <p>6. Resolve to offer no objections to any application by North Burnett Landcare Group Inc to purchase or apply for Trusteeship of current Unallocated State Land being Lots 3 & 4 M74755.</p> <p>7. Resolve to relinquish Trusteeship of Reserve for Park being Lot 2 M74755.</p> <p>8. Resolve to cease to supply North Burnett Landcare Group Inc with any no cost allocation of water effective, 01 March 2022.</p> <p>9. Resolve that from 01 March 2022, that North Burnett Landcare Group Inc be charged full water access and consumption charges pursuant to Council's adopted Revenue Statement.</p> <p>10. Authorise the Chief Executive Officer to request a report from North Burnett Landcare Group Inc with regards to the progress of the Wetlands Project, on current leases over Lot 2 RP153207 and Lot 7 SP155908, and take any actions deemed appropriate. This report is to be presented at a Councillor Information Workshop.</p>			
6	21/07/2022	2022/117	Reginald Murray Williams Australian Bush Learning Centre – Expression of Interest Recommendation	<p>That Council:</p> <p>1. Decline to proceed with any of the Expressions of Interest submitted.</p> <p>2. Delegate authority to the Chief Executive Officer to determine a tender process designed to attract innovative solutions for the future operation of the Reginald Murray Williams Australian Bush Learning Centre.</p>	Office of the CEO	Work In Progress	<p>1. Completed.</p> <p>2. As per the recently endorsed Customer Engagement Framework, a review is underway to establish the best way forward. A report will be tabled at an upcoming General Meeting.</p>

#	General Meeting Date	Res #	Res Title	Res Details	Responsible Function	Status	Comments
7	24/08/2022	2022/132	Mount Perry Caravan Park	That Council: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Resolves to terminate by mutual consent the lease for the period 01 September 2022 to 30 June 2028 with Maclean Parks Pty Ltd, over Lease A SP255553 within Lot 1 on SP117730, located at Heusman Street, Mount Perry, and alternate operating arrangements are explored to maintain this service. Resolves to undertake a review of all Council caravan park operations within the North Burnett region. 	Facilities & Assets	Work In Progress	Officers are reviewing the draft report with a focus on the costs associated with each option.
8	26/10/2022	2022/163	Rural Fire Levy Expenditure	That Council: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Endorse Biggenden Rural Fire Brigade's request to utilise Rural Fire Levy funds to the value of \$35,813.15 towards construction of a suitably approved shed at Saleyards Road, Biggenden; and Endorse Mount Perry Rural Fire Brigade's request to utilise Rural Fire Levy Funds to the value of \$900.00 to install a Wireless Access Point at 11 Elliot Street, Mount Perry. 	Disaster Management	Work In Progress	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Project going ahead however, work has not yet commenced. Completed.
9	23/11/2022	2022/172	Mount Perry State School P&C request for financial support	That: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> The report, Mount Perry State School P&C Request for Financial Support, lay on the table. The Chief Executive Officer to seek further information and table a report at a future General Meeting of Council early in the New Year. 	Financial Services	Work In Progress	Report to be tabled at the General Meeting of Council to be held on 27 September 2023.

#	General Meeting Date	Res #	Res Title	Res Details	Responsible Function	Status	Comments
10	14/12/2022	2022/181	Mount Perry Community Development Board Incorporated – Request for Exemption from Hall Hire Fees	<p>That Council:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Decline to grant Mount Perry Community Development Board Incorporated a fee waiver for use of the community hall. Formal correspondence be sent to Mount Perry Community Development Board Incorporated advising them of Council's decision and that 2022/23 Fees and Charges will be upheld. A review of policies relating to fees and charges for community groups hiring Council facilities be undertaken. 	Customer Experience & Communities	Work In Progress	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Completed. Completed. A review of Policy 269 Free Use of Meeting Rooms for Non-For-Profit Organisations is underway with a view to table a report for Council endorsement of amendments anticipated at the end of October 2023.

#	General Meeting Date	Res #	Res Title	Res Details	Responsible Function	Status	Comments
Outstanding Resolutions 2023							
11	25/01/2023	2023/13	BIEDO 2023 Partnership Proposal	That Council lay the partnership agreement on the table until further clarification is provided, and a report is brought back to Council.	Office of the CEO	Work In Progress	Negotiations are ongoing with BIEDO regarding the proposed partnership agreement.
12	25/01/2023	2023/08	Road Register Classification Review	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> That Council engages Shepherd Services to undertake a full review of the Road Register to identify assets potentially being overserviced, off alignment or incorrectly classified in the adopted road hierarchy set out in Council's Road asset management plan. The findings are to be returned to Council for review before any service level change. 	Civil Works	Work In Progress	Update tabled at the Councillor Information Workshop scheduled for 16 August 2023.
13	22/02/2023	2023/22	Monto Administration Building - Future Plan	<p>That Council:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Resolves to undertake repairs to the Monto Administration Building at 51A Newton Street, Monto Queensland 4630, to the Design Specifications dated 16 March 2022 and Engineering and Architectural Drawings dated 06 April 2022 and 25 March 2022 respectively prepared by Council's consultant structural engineer. Allocate an additional budget of \$137,277 for the stabilising works for the Monto Administration Building. 	Facilities & Assets	Work In Progress	A structural engineer has been engaged to confirm the root cause of the building cracks and review the proposed solution.
14	26/04/2023	2023/50	Review of Public Washdown Facilities Compliance and Operations	<p>That Council:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Resolve to put an immediate temporary closure on the Mundubbera Washdown facility due to compliance concerns while investigations commence into a potential and compliant alternative for future use. That notice be provided onsite that the facility has closed and that investigations 	Planning & Environment	Outstanding	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Completed. Completed. Outstanding.

#	General Meeting Date	Res #	Res Title	Res Details	Responsible Function	Status	Comments
				<p>will commence into a potential and compliant alternative for future use; and locations of alternative services be provided via site signage, social media, and newspaper advertisement.</p> <p>3. That this matter be tabled at a future General Meeting of Council with outcomes of the investigation.</p>			
15	28/06/2023	2023/86	RADF Community Grants Round 2 2022-23	<p>1. Endorse the following Regional Arts Development Fund (RADF) project variation and project termination, on the recommendation of the North Burnett Arts and Cultural Advisory Committee (NBACAC).</p> <p>2. Danica Nizic – Auspiced by Monto Magic Tourism Action Group - \$16,000</p>	Corporate & Community	Work In Progress	This item is in progress with an anticipated completion date at the end of August 2023.
16	28/06/2023	2023/102	Sale of Land for Overdue Rates and Charges	<p>1. That Council receives and notes the information within the report.</p> <p>2. That Council:</p> <p>a) Pursuant to section 140(2) of the Local Government Regulation 2012 sell the land described in the table for overdue rates and charges;</p> <p>3. Delegate to the Chief Executive Officer power to take all further steps under Chapter 4, Part 12, Division 3 of the Local Government Regulation 2012 to effect sale of the land, including the power to end sale procedures.</p>	Financial Services	Work In Progress	<p>1. Completed.</p> <p>2. Progressing - Auction for properties not paid to be held between 12/10/2023 (3 months from issue of notice) and 12/1/2024 (6 months from issue of notice).</p>
17	28/06/2023	2023/90	Round 2 of the Growing Regions Program	That Council authorises the Chief Executive Officer to redirect resources to the identification and development of a suitable project for submission to Round 2 of the Growing Regions Program administered by the Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development, Communication and the Arts.	Office of the CEO	Outstanding	While considering the co-contribution requirements, we are intending to look at potential community infrastructure programs that meet the Grant Guidelines.

#	General Meeting Date	Res #	Res Title	Res Details	Responsible Function	Status	Comments
18	28/06/2023	2023/83	Nomination of 2024 North Burnett Regional Council Show Holidays	<p>That Council:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Authorise the Chief Executive Officer to submit a nomination to the Queensland Government's Office of Industrial Relations, to appoint the following Show Holiday dates for the North Burnett region: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a) Mundubbera – Friday, 10 May 2024; and b) Biggenden, Eidsvold, Gayndah, Mt Perry and Monto – Monday, 12 August 2024. 2. Request the CEO to conduct community engagement with all North Burnett townships, to identify the community's sentiment on seeking a regionally consistent Show Holiday date from 2025, in accordance with Council's Community Engagement Policy. 3. Are presented with a report on the outcomes of the community engagement, by March 2024 and prior to the nomination of Special and Show Holiday dates for 2025. 	Corporate & Community	Work In Progress	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Completed. Office of Industrials Relations notified of Council Show holiday dates for 2024. Dates to be promoted with community once confirmed by the Office of Industrial Relations. 2. Community Engagement planning in progress. 3. To be actioned following completion of item 2.
19	31/07/2023	2023/130	ALGA National General Assembly 2023 Report	<p>That Council:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Note the report back on attendance at the Australian Local Government Association National General Assembly. 2. Provide feedback expressing disappointment that insufficient time was allowed for debating of motions. 	Office of the CEO	Outstanding	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Completed. 2. Outstanding.

#	General Meeting Date	Res #	Res Title	Res Details	Responsible Function	Status	Comments
20	31/07/2023	2023/135	NBRC BoR R6 Infr 0018- Water Supply Safety and Reliability Project Funding	<p>That Council Resolves:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> To confirm it has budgeted for its financial contribution to the estimated project cost. Is committed to delivering the project. Acknowledges responsibility for any funding shortfall if costs or other contributors change. 	Water & Wastewater	Outstanding	
21	31/07/2023	2023/133	North Burnett Regional Planning Scheme - Major Amendment 'Business Resilience Amendment'	<p>That Council:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Approve the proposed planning scheme amendment 'Business resilience' at Attachment Two (proposed amendment). Resolve to give the proposed amendment to the Minister for a State interest review in accordance with section 16.5 of the Minister's Guidelines and Rules (MGR). Note: Chief Executive Officer has existing delegated authority for preparing the notice to the Minister for the State interest review, including the required material as prescribed in Schedule 3 of the MGR. Delegate to the Chief Executive Officer the responsibility for responding to requests from the State about refinements to the proposed scheme amendment. Note: following the State interest review consultation will be progressed by the Chief Executive Officer only if it can be commenced and completed prior to the end of November 2023. 	Planning and Development	Work In Progress	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Noted. Submission to the State for consideration being prepared. Anticipated submission at the end of August 2023. Noted. Pending state consideration. Pending state consideration.

#	General Meeting Date	Res #	Res Title	Res Details	Responsible Function	Status	Comments
22	31/072023	2023/141	Central Burnett Motorcycle Club Inc.	<p>That Council:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Resolves to rescind Resolution 2020/115, part 1(b). 2. Resolves to grant a Licence Agreement to the Central Burnett Motorcycle Club Inc. over area "C" within Lot 3 RP28439, once the Lot has been returned to a satisfactory condition as determined by Council's Planning and Environment Manager. 3. Authorises the Chief Executive Officer to negotiate and finalise the terms of such agreement. 	Contracts & Leasing	Work In Progress	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Completed. 2. Pending correspondence being issued by Planning and Environment. 3. Email sent to club outlining Council's interim requirements regarding Insurance and Risk.

9.2 CARETAKER PERIOD - POLICY AND PROCEDURES

Doc Id: 1162046

Author: Michael Cartwright, Governance Policy and Risk Advisor

Authoriser: Margot Stork, Chief Executive Officer

Attachments:

1. Draft 2003 Caretaker Period Policy.pdf [1164374]
2. Draft PRO-2003 Caretaker Period Procedures.pdf [1164375]
3. LGMA Template - Election Management Plan.pdf [1158366]

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Council will enter a caretaker period prior to the 16 March 2024 quadrennial elections. During this time, certain restrictions shall apply to Council operations, Councillors, and staff. This will ensure that the ordinary business of Council continues in a responsible, transparent, and legally compliant manner in the period leading up to the election.

CORPORATE PLAN

OUR VISION: A prosperous future for generations built on a solid foundation of customer focused, efficient and effective service delivery.

OUR PRIORITY AREAS:

1. *Essential Service Delivery – Getting the basics right*

OFFICERS RECOMMENDATION

That Council:

1. Adopt by Resolution – Policy 2003 Caretaker Period
2. Adopt by Resolution – Procedures – PRO2003 Caretaker Period

REPORT

Timing

The caretaker period starts on the day when the Electoral Commission of Queensland (the 'ECQ') publishes the public notice about holding the election. The ECQ will also advise when the election has ended for each Local Government.

Election Material

During the caretaker period, Council must not publish or distribute election material. Election material is anything that could influence an elector about their vote or affect the election result. For example, fact sheets or newsletters that raise the profile of a Councillor are prohibited during the caretaker period.

Major Policy Decisions

During the caretaker period, Councillors are prohibited from making decisions:

- about the appointment, remuneration or termination of a Chief Executive Officer;
- to enter into a contract greater than \$200,000 or 1% (whichever is greater) of the Local Government's net rate and utility charges (as stated in the Local Government's audited financial statements included in the Local Government's most recently adopted annual report);

- significant procurement activities, such as establishing preferred supplier arrangements, or establishing exceptions to obtaining quotes or tenders when entering into a contract;
- to make, amend or repeal local laws; and
- to make, amend or repeal a local planning instrument under the Planning Act 2016 (i.e. a planning scheme, a temporary local planning instrument or a planning scheme policy).

A prohibited policy decision made during a caretaker period will be invalid, unless the Minister's approval has been given prior to making the decision (see below). A person who suffers loss or damage because of the invalidity of a major policy decision during the caretaker period has a right to be compensated by the Local Government for the loss or damage.

Planning Instruments and Approvals

During the caretaker period, Council cannot approve development variation requests or change variation approvals that involve:

- varying the category of development or category of assessment of consequential development;
- varying the assessment benchmarks or criteria for accepted development that would apply to consequential development; and
- facilitating development that would result in a greater demand on infrastructure than the demand anticipated in the Council's infrastructure plan.

Ministerial Approval for Decisions in Exceptional Circumstances

Council should prepare for the caretaker period by planning to make major policy decisions before or after the election period. However, unforeseeable events can result in Council having to make major policy decisions during the caretaker period. In exceptional circumstances Council could apply to the Minister for approval if:

- the need for the decision was unforeseeable;
- the decision is essential to the functioning of Council;
- the decision cannot wait until the end of the caretaker period; and
- the decision is in the public interest.

The Minister will decide on a case-by-case basis whether the decision meets the exceptional circumstances requirement of the Local Government Act 2009.

Leave for Employee Candidates

Local Government employees may take paid leave (e.g. accrued annual leave) or unpaid leave for up to eight weeks to contest a Local Government election. Those that elect not to take leave will be subjected to an Election Management Plan to ensure that the employee can continue to carry out their duties impartially and with integrity, and to ensure the employee's personal conduct does not reflect adversely on the reputation of the Council.

CONSULTATION

The draft Policy, Procedure and Election Management Plan was presented to Councillors at the Councillor Information Workshop held in the Gayndah Boardroom on Wednesday, 2 August 2023.

The Senior Management Team was also consulted throughout the development of each of the documents.

RISK IMPLICATIONS**Reputation / Political**

The Policy and Procedures will support Council business activities throughout the caretaker period, ensuring Councils conduct is responsible, transparent and that operations are undertaken in a legally compliant manner.

Occupational Health & Safety (WHS)

Not Applicable.

Financial Impact

Existing Councillors will continue to be remunerated throughout the Caretaker Period until the Declaration of the Polls has been published by the ECQ.

Legal & Regulatory

Caretaker provisions are outlined in Chapter 3, Part 5 of the Local Government Act 2009.

Environmental

Not Applicable.

Property & Infrastructure

Not Applicable.

Human Resources

Not Applicable.

Information Communications Technology

Not Applicable.

Service Delivery

Day to day Council operations will be unaffected during the caretaker period.

Climate

Not Applicable.

KEY MESSAGE

Local Government caretaker conventions place restrictions on the types of decisions and activities that may be undertaken by a Local Government in the period immediately before an election.

Restrictions on Local Government decisions and activities during a caretaker period have the purpose of preventing actual or perceived advantage or disadvantage to a candidate that may be actually or perceived to arise from Local Government decisions, activities, or use of public resources.

Draft 2003 Caretaker Period

Governance Policy



PURPOSE

- 1) The purpose of this Policy is to support Council's business activities throughout the Caretaker Period, ensuring its conduct is responsible, transparent and that operations are undertaken in a legally compliant manner.
- 2) Council will enter a Caretaker Period prior to the Local Government Quadrennial Election, at a time as determined by the Electoral Commission Queensland (ECQ).

SCOPE

- 3) This Policy applies to all North Burnett Regional Councillors, and employees whether permanent, temporary, casual or part-time, contract or volunteer.

DEFINITIONS

Term	Definition
Civic Event	Means a public event that Council initiates, manages and has full responsibility for.
Community Event	Means an event including but not limited to media launches, promotional events, community engagement, workshops, dinners, receptions, Mayoral events, awards, invitations to make submissions, local fairs.
Conclusion of Election	As defined at section 7 of the <i>Local Government Electoral Act 2011</i> ; the day on which the last declaration of a poll conducted in the election is displayed at the office of the returning officer under section 100(2)(a).
Council Resources	Includes employees, services, information, equipment, printing, photographs, graphic design, public funds, grants, media services, materials published by Council (e.g. newsletters), hospitality, stationery, property, facilities, website, vehicles, administrative tools, telecommunication devices.
Election material	As defined at section 90D of the <i>Local Government Act 2009</i> ; anything able to, or intended to: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> (a) influence an elector about voting at an election; (b) or affect the result of an election.
Election period	As defined in Schedule Dictionary of the <i>Local Government Electoral Act 2009</i> ; the period: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> (a) starting on the day when public notice of the holding of the election is given under s 25(1); and (b) ending on the close of the poll for the election.
Fresh Election	As defined in Schedule Dictionary of the <i>Local Government Electoral Act 2011</i> ; an election of all the Councillors of a local government that is not a quadrennial election.
Major Policy Decision	As defined in Schedule 4 Dictionary of the <i>Local Government Act 2009</i> ; for a local government, means a decision: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> (a) about the appointment of a Chief Executive Officer of the local government; (b) about the remuneration of the Chief Executive Officer of the local government; (c) to terminate the employment of the Chief Executive Officer of the local government; or (d) to enter into a contract the total value of which is more than the greater of the following: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> (i) \$200,000; (ii) 1% of local government's net rate and utility charges as stated in the local government's audited financial statements included in the local government's most recently adopted annual report.
Term of office	As defined at section 159 of the <i>Local Government Act 2009</i> : A councillor's term starts on—

Term	Definition
	<p>a) if the councillor is elected—the day after the conclusion of the councillor's election; or</p> <p>b) if the councillor is appointed—the day on which the councillor is appointed.</p> <p>Section 160 <i>Local Government Act 2009</i>: A councillor's term ends—</p> <p>a) if the councillor is elected at a quadrennial election or at a fresh election— at the conclusion of the next quadrennial election; or</p> <p>b) if the councillor is elected at a fresh election and a declaration is also made under a regulation—at the conclusion of the quadrennial election after the next quadrennial election; or</p> <p>c) if the councillor is elected or appointed to fill a vacancy in the office of another councillor — at the end of the other councillor's term; or</p> <p>d) when the Legislative Assembly ratifies the dissolution of the local government under section 123; or</p> <p>e) when the councillor's office becomes otherwise vacant.</p>

POLICY

- 4) Section 90A of the *Local Government Act 2009* provides that the Caretaker Period for a local government is the period during local government elections that starts on the day when public notice of the holding of the election is given, and ends at the conclusion of the election.

OBJECTIVES

- 5) The objective of this Policy is to ensure there is no actual or perceived use of Council provided resources and/or facilities that could be considered as having an electoral benefit.

PRINCIPLES

- 6) During the Caretaker Period Council is committed to:
- The efficient continuation of Councils day to day business;
 - Transparent actions and decision making;
 - Actions that do not, or cannot be perceived to, bind an incoming Council in its operational delivery;
 - The suspension of major policy decisions;
 - The neutrality of Council employees; and
 - The continuation of the principle that the use of public funds for electoral purposes is unacceptable.

POLICY STATEMENT

- 7) Failure to comply with this Policy may constitute inappropriate conduct, misconduct, or official misconduct.
- 8) Major policy decisions will not be made during the Caretaker Period unless approved by the Minister.
- 9) Council resources must not be used for any political or electoral purposes.

ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

- 10) Councils Chief Executive Officer is the principal adviser to Council and all Councillors in relation to the application of this Policy.

APPLICABLE LEGISLATION AND REGULATION

- 11) Applicable legislation and regulation:
- a) *Local Government Act 2009*
 - b) *Local Government Electoral Act 2011*

RELATED DOCUMENTS

- 12) Related documents are:
- a) Advertising Spending Policy

- b) Caretaker Period Procedures
- c) Councillor Acceptable Requests Policy
- d) Entertainment and Hospitality Policy
- e) Gifts and Benefits Policy
- f) Reimbursement and Provision of Facilities Mayor and Councillors Policy
- g) Guideline Local Government Employees To Contest Local Government Elections
- h) Template Election Management Plan

RESPONSIBLE OFFICER

Chief Executive Officer

APPROVAL DATE

[To insert date]

REVIEW DATE

[To insert date] (Standard four year term)

REVISION HISTORY

Version	Meeting	Approval Date	History
1	General Meeting	19/01/2016	New
2	General Meeting	[To insert date]	Revised

Draft PRO-2003 Caretaker Period

Procedure



PURPOSE

- 1) The purpose of these Procedures are to support Council business activities throughout the Caretaker Period, ensuring Councils conduct is responsible, transparent and that operations are undertaken in a legally compliant manner.

SCOPE

- 2) The *Local Government Act 2009* imposes some restrictions during the Caretaker Period (the period between when nominations are called for, until the declaration of the polls).
- 3) These Procedures apply to all North Burnett Regional Councillors, and employees whether permanent, temporary, casual or part-time, contract or volunteer.

DEFINITIONS

Term	Definition
Civic Event	Means a public event that Council initiates, manages and has full responsibility for.
Community Event	Means an event including but not limited to media launches, promotional events, community engagement, workshops, dinners, receptions, Mayoral events, awards, invitations to make submissions, local fairs.
Conclusion of Election	As defined at section 7 of the <i>Local Government Electoral Act 2011</i> ; the day on which the last declaration of a poll conducted in the election is displayed at the office of the returning officer under section 100(2)(a).
Council Resources	Includes employees, services, information, equipment, printing, photographs, graphic design, public funds, grants, media services, materials published by Council (e.g. newsletters), hospitality, stationery, property, facilities, website, vehicles, administrative tools, telecommunication devices.
Election material	As defined at section 90D of the <i>Local Government Act 2009</i> ; anything able to, or intended to: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> (a) influence an elector about voting at an election; (b) or affect the result of an election.
Election period	As defined in Schedule Dictionary of the <i>Local Government Electoral Act 2009</i> ; the period: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> (a) starting on the day when public notice of the holding of the election is given under s 25(1); and (b) ending on the close of the poll for the election.
Fresh Election	As defined in Schedule Dictionary of the <i>Local Government Electoral Act 2011</i> ; an election of all the Councillors of a local government that is not a quadrennial election.
Major Policy Decision	As defined in Schedule 4 Dictionary of the <i>Local Government Act 2009</i> ; for a local government, means a decision: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> (a) about the appointment of a Chief Executive Officer of the local government; (b) about the remuneration of the Chief Executive Officer of the local government; (c) to terminate the employment of the Chief Executive Officer of the local government; or (d) to enter into a contract the total value of which is more than the greater of the following: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> (i) \$200,000; (ii) 1% of local government's net rate and utility charges as stated in the local government's audited financial statements included in the local government's most recently adopted annual report.
Term of office	As defined at section 159 of the <i>Local Government Act 2009</i> : A councillor's term starts on—

[Insert Procedure Title]
Approved [To insert date]

Page 1 of 5
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Term	Definition
	<p>a) if the councillor is elected—the day after the conclusion of the councillor's election; or</p> <p>b) if the councillor is appointed—the day on which the councillor is appointed.</p> <p>Section 160 <i>Local Government Act 2009</i>: A councillor's term ends—</p> <p>a) if the councillor is elected at a quadrennial election or at a fresh election—at the conclusion of the next quadrennial election; or</p> <p>b) if the councillor is elected at a fresh election and a declaration is also made under a regulation—at the conclusion of the quadrennial election after the next quadrennial election; or</p> <p>c) if the councillor is elected or appointed to fill a vacancy in the office of another councillor — at the end of the other councillor's term; or</p> <p>d) when the Legislative Assembly ratifies the dissolution of the local government under section 123; or</p> <p>e) when the councillor's office becomes otherwise vacant.</p>

PROCEDURE

OVERVIEW

- 4) Council is committed during an Election Period, to minimising the making of decisions that will have an enduring effect that spans or extends into the new Council.
- 5) Elected members of Council should take particular care in any campaign activity to ensure that there can be no possible perception of use of council provided resources and or facilities for activity that could be perceived as having some electoral favour.

PROCEDURE DETAIL

Council and Council Committees

- 6) Council and its Standing Committees (where formed) will continue to meet during the caretaker period for the purpose of making decisions in the public interest. However, Council will defer making any decisions during the caretaker period which:
 - a) could be perceived to unreasonably bind an incoming Council in its operational delivery; or
 - b) constitute a major policy decision for which Ministerial approval has not been received
- 7) If Council considers that, having regard to exceptional circumstances that apply, it is necessary to make the major policy decision in the public interest, Council shall apply to the Minister for approval to make the decision.
- 8) A major policy decision made by Council during a caretaker period is invalid if Council does not have the Minister's approval to make the decision.
- 9) A contract is void if it is the subject of a major policy decision that is invalid.

Timing and Planning

- 10) The exact dates of a caretaker period are determined by the Electoral Commission Queensland (ECQ).
- 11) The Caretaker Period will end at the conclusion of the election.

Prohibition on Election Material

- 12) Section 90D of the Local Government Act 2009, prohibits Council from publishing or distributing anything that may influence an elector about voting in an election or affect the result of the election.

Use of Council Resources during the Election Period

- 13) Use of Council resources for election purposes is strictly forbidden. This includes but is not limited to Council vehicles, administrative tools and telecommunication devices.
- 14) Councillors may continue to use Council resources for routine activities in the fulfilment of their roles and responsibilities as a Councillor and in accordance with the Reimbursement and Provision of Facilities Mayor and Councillors Policy, until their term of office ends.
- 15) Councillors must not fix or allow to remain affixed, to Council property any sticker, decal, magnetic or adhesive advice that promotes the Councillor as a candidate or potential candidate in an election.

Advertising and Media Releases

[Insert Procedure Title]
Approved [To insert date]

Page 2 of 5
Doc ID #####

- 16) Pursuant to s90D of the Local Government Act 2009, advertising will be limited during the Election Period.
- 17) Council's publications may be produced as usual and will only cover key operational projects and events during this period where:
 - a) advertising and media releases are required to maintain the necessary, customary and routine operations;
 - b) it is required for ongoing business and the commercial operation of Council;
 - c) it provides essential public information, without which the public would be detrimentally affected;
 - d) it is educational, provides information on core Council services, or can demonstrate a clear community benefit; and
 - e) media enquiries relate to operational matters only.
- 18) During the caretaker period:
 - a) Individual Councillors will not be featured in any paid advertising and media releases will not be attributed to individual Councillors;
 - b) advertising or media releases must not be able to be construed to be of a political nature;
 - c) All quotes within media releases will be attributed to the CEO or their delegate;
 - d) Councillors may respond to media questions in their individual capacity as a candidate and should distinguish their individual opinion and the majority view of the elected Council; and
 - e) Councillors must not seek media notes from officers for the purpose of assisting them with their campaign.
 - f) Council officers must not offer advice, assistance or scheduling to any Councillor in relation to a Councillors advertising or media release that has not been explicitly approved by the Chief Executive Officer.

Civic Events

- 19) Civic events will only be held where:
 - a) it is of a routine nature;
 - b) it is a planned event endorsed by Council's current Operational Plan;
 - c) it demonstrates a clear community benefit, or serves an educational or welfare purpose;
 - d) it contributes to cultural development, social awareness or sense of community identity;
 - e) it is held to commemorate the anniversary of a significant event; or
 - f) its purpose is to host visiting dignitaries.

Community programs and engagement

- 20) Surveys, blogs, invitations to put forward submissions, and other community engagement activities should be avoided during the caretaker period. However community engagement may continue if it is part of an ongoing project that requires the engagement as part of approved programs.
- 21) Where community engagement has occurred before the caretaker period but the report has not yet proceeded to Council, results of the consultation will not be provided to Council until the caretaker period has concluded.

Council Website and Social Media

- 22) Councillor profiles on the website will be amended to satisfy any legislative statutory requirements at the time.
- 23) Facebook, twitter, blogs and other social media hosted or published by Council must exclude campaign or political comment.
- 24) Council employees must not 're-tweet', 'post' or 'share' campaign or political content.
- 25) Council's website will not feature any new articles or events which are not first approved by the Chief Executive Officer.
- 26) Updates of Council's website will be limited to the following administrative or operational information of public interest and of a time sensitive nature including
 - a) Road work updates or road closures;
 - b) Health or emergency warnings;
 - c) Material that is purely factual and does not promote Council's decisions;
 - d) Updates to existing forms;
 - e) Aesthetic changes;
 - f) Fixing broken links or repairing web issues; and
 - g) In compliance with any other legislative requirement.

Information Requests

- 27) Requests for information or requests for services from Councillors will continue to be processed under the existing administrative arrangements established within the Councillor Acceptable Requests Policy.
- 28) Councillors may continue to correspond with constituents on matters related to Council business during the caretaker period.
- 29) In responding to correspondence, Councillors shall not purport to make policy commitments binding the incoming Council.
- 30) Councillors must limit information requests to those matters that are either routine, or essential to continue Council operations.

Councillor Support

- 31) Normal service delivery and business activities will be maintained, and Councillor Support persons will continue to provide support for core Council activities, but not election or politically related matters.
- 32) Councils Media team will not assist individual Councillors with their media activity during the Caretaker Period.

Council Employees (See Guidelines Annexures 1 and 2)

- 33) The *Local Government Electoral Act 2011*, section 203, provides guidance for employees who are interested in contesting a local government election:
 - (1) A local government employee who nominates as a candidate for an election is entitled to a leave of absence, for a period of not more than 2 months, to contest the election.
 - (2) A local government employee may use any entitlement to accrued leave with pay as leave to which the employee is entitled under subsection (1).
 - (3) A local government employee is not entitled to payment of salary or wages for any period of leave taken under subsection (1) other than any accrued leave with pay that the employee uses during the period.
- 34) Reference is also made to the *Local Government Act 2009*, section 167, should an employee be successful in their contest:
 - (1) If a person becomes a Councillor while the person is a local government employee, the person is taken to have resigned as a local government employee on the day before the person becomes a Councillor.
 - (2) The employee is taken to be a Councillor on the Declaration of the Poll.
- 35) Council employees shall undertake their duties in an appropriate way and take all steps to avoid any real or perceived conflict in order to protect the Councils ability to impartially serve any incoming Council following an election.
- 36) Council employees are prohibited from engaging in any activity that is, or could be perceived to be, an electioneering activity for a Council election unless a leave of absence for the duration of the election campaign is granted in accordance with Council's normal leave processes.

Compliance

- 37) Failure to comply with these procedures may constitute inappropriate conduct, misconduct, or official misconduct.

ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

- 38) The Chief Executive Officer is authorised to make determinations and issue such directions as necessary to assist compliance with this Procedure.
- 39) The Chief Executive Officers determination of any matter considered under this procedure is final.

APPLICABLE LEGISLATION AND REGULATION

- 40) Applicable legislation and regulation:
 - a) *Local Government Act 2009*
 - b) *Local Government Electoral Act 2011*

RELATED DOCUMENTS

- 41) Related documents are:
 - a) Advertising Spending Policy
 - b) Caretaker Period Policy

- c) Councillor Acceptable Requests Policy
- d) Entertainment and Hospitality Policy
- e) Gifts and Benefits Policy
- f) Reimbursement and Provision of Facilities Mayor and Councillors Policy
- g) Guideline Local Government Employees To Contest Local Government Elections
- h) Template Election Management Plan

RESPONSIBLE OFFICER

Chief Executive Officer

APPROVAL DATE

[To insert date]

REVIEW DATE

[To insert date] (Standard four year term)

REVISION HISTORY

Version	Meeting	Approval Date	History
1	General Meeting	[To insert date]	New

APPENDIX 1:

Local Government Managers Australia - Guideline Local Government Employees To Contest Local Government Elections

APPENDIX 2:

Local Government Managers Australia – Template Election Management Plan



TEMPLATE

ELECTION MANAGEMENT PLAN

<Election Details>

<Employee's Name>

Employees Position:

PREAMBLE

The following document forms the basis of a management plan to manage my situation as an employee of <council name> Council (Council) while I am a candidate for Councillor for the <council name> Council at the forthcoming Local Government Election. I acknowledge the responsibilities under section 13 of the *Local Government Act 2009*, in particular section 13(2)(d)&(e):

- carrying out my duties impartially and with integrity; and
- ensuring the employee's personal conduct does not reflect adversely on the reputation of the local government.

DECLARATION

I wish to declare that:

- (1) I publicly declared on <Date> that I am standing as a Councillor for the <council name> Council at the forthcoming Local Government Election <Date> or <with a date and conditions yet to be determined>.
- (2) I will comply with the requirements of the *Local Government Act 2009* and the *Local Government Electoral Act 2011*, supporting Regulations and requirements during the election period.
- (3) I will continue to comply with my obligations and undertake my assigned duties diligently as an employee of the <council name> Council during this election period.

CURRENT EMPLOYMENT ISSUES

In relation to my employment as an employee with the <council name> Council I wish to advise that:

- (1) I will act in accordance with Council's Code of Conduct at all times and have read the code to reappraise myself of its obligations.
- (2) The demands of my work, as an employee with <council name> Council, will take absolute precedence over any activities associated with the impending local government election.
- (3) My campaign activities will be undertaken only during my private time including, lunch breaks and time off.



- (4) Council uniforms, assets, computers, phones and other equipment belonging to the Council will not be used to support my campaign activities.
- (5) Confidential information that I have access to as a Council employee will not be used to support my campaign activities.
- (6) Only publicly available information relating to Council affairs will be used to support my campaign activities.
- (7) I accept that the onus rest solely with me, as the candidate, to ensure that a conflict of interest does not arise or is managed appropriately.
- (8) I have established a private email address and private phone contact details to support my campaign activities.
- (9) I will develop social networking facilities and public media contacts through my own private means.
- (10) All public statements and releases will be authorised by myself as a Councillor candidate and will be published through my private contact details ensuring that there is no confusion or reference to my role as an employee of Council.
- (11) Interactions with other currently elected Mayor, Councillors and other candidates for the purposes of my campaign activities will be conducted in a professional manner in my own private time.
- (12) I wish to continue as an employee of Council working normal hours up to the closing date for nominations. *<optional for individual circumstances – delete or amend clause where applicable>*
- (13) I will commit to formalising appropriate arrangements and conditions, including identifying any work arrangements, change of duties, leave arrangements in preparation for my nomination.
- (14) Once I have formally nominated or the date for nominations has closed, whichever is earlier, I will seek approval for *<Type of Leave>* until the date of the declaration of the election. *<optional for individual circumstances – delete or amend clause where applicable – employees are entitled up to two months leave>*
- (15) I understand that should the performance of my duties be impacted negatively by my candidature; managerial intervention may occur and may include disciplinary action.
- (16) Appendix A outlines any special arrangements and conditions as agreed and I acknowledge these can be updated, in consultation with me should the need arise.

MANAGING CONFLICT AND COMPLAINTS

If a perceived conflict should arise, a complaint from the public is received or other matters of concern raised, the following processes will apply:

- (1) The *<Manager>* shall liaise with me on these matters when they arise.
- (2) I will inform the *<Manager>* of perceived conflicts of interest or matters which have the potential to impact upon the reputation of Council immediately after they have been identified.
- (3) Council will inform me of perceived conflicts of interest or matters which have the potential to impact upon the reputation of Council immediately after they have been identified.



- (4) Where I am unclear on issues, I will raise these issues for advice from the <Manager>.
- (5) If matters require a more formal consideration or dispute resolution process then I am entitled to use a nominated person to support me and attend dispute resolutions with me.
- (6) In the event of a public complaint being received by Council, the matter will be the investigated at the direction of the CEO.

	EMPLOYEE	MANAGER
Signature:		
Name:	_____	_____
Date:	_____	_____



APPENDIX A – Employee Management Plan

The following outlines the special arrangements and conditions as agreed relating to my contesting the < council > local government elections, scheduled for XXXX.

Employees name:	
Employee’s substantive position:	
Employee’s manager/supervisor:	
Temporary Manager/Supervisor for duration of campaign:	<delete if not applicable>

Work Arrangements

Leave Arrangements

Return of work issued equipment

10 CORPORATE AND COMMUNITY

10.1 FINANCE REPORT TO 31 JULY 2023

Doc Id: 1162970

Author: Michelle A. Burns, Senior Accountant
Owen Jensen, Financial Services Manager

Authoriser: Kim Mahoney, General Manager Corporate & Community

Attachments: 1. Finance Report - July 2023.pdf [1163571]

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This report provides a summary of Council's financial performance against budget, for the financial year to 31 July 2023.

CORPORATE PLAN

OUR VISION: A prosperous future for generations built on a solid foundation of customer focused, efficient and effective service delivery.

OUR PRIORITY AREAS:

1. *Essential Service Delivery – Getting the basics right*

OFFICERS RECOMMENDATION

That in accordance with section 204 *Local Government Regulation 2012 (Qld)*, Council receives the Finance Report for the period ended 31 July 2023.

REPORT

The monthly financial report includes a Statement of Financial Performance, Statement of Financial Position and Rates Debtor Analysis. Exception reporting is noted within the reports comparing actual performance against budget. Key highlights as at the end of July 2023 include:

- Rates, Levies and Charges recorded in July 2023 totalling \$10.423m, are lower than budget year-to-date figure of \$10.450m, resulting in a \$27,000 or 0.26% variance.
- Employee Benefits – The result in employee benefits has been impacted by the current level of vacancies, as compared to budget, from a forecast figure of \$1.283m to \$986,000; with a \$296,415 or 23% variance.
- Materials and Services – The result in Materials & Services of \$1.777m from a budgeted \$1.762 (variance of \$14,485, equivalent to 0.82%) which reflects a minor variance at the commencement of the new financial year.
- Depreciation is below the forecast budget of \$1.597m, at \$1.392m (resulting in a \$204,897 variance and 13% difference), this will trend towards budget upon finalisation of the end of financial year fixed asset schedules.
- The expense coverage ratio has been included as recommended by the Queensland Audit Office as an indicator of Council's short-term liquidity. A target range is between three (3) and six (6) months. The ratio needs to be monitored as cost control measures would need to increase to maintain the ratio at acceptable levels. The ratio currently is at a cash management level of four (4) months, which is within the target range. This has been calculated allowing for externally restricted funds such as unspent capital government grants and subsidies of \$4,613,000, landfill management levy of \$7,448,644, and state government prepaid waste management levy of \$1,314,085.

- The current ratio is a liquidity ratio that measures an organisation's ability to pay short-term obligations, or those due within one (1) year. A current ratio above 1 is considered a minimum. It is anticipated that the current ratio will decrease in the latter half of the year as Council draws down on the operational assistance grants received. Council's current ratio, at 31 July 2023 is 3.44:1.
- Cash and investments as at 31 July 2023 totals \$31,419,000. After consideration of funds held for external restrictions (as above), the total unrestricted cash balance available for operational purposes is currently \$18,044,000.

CONSULTATION

Report prepared with input from internal budget managers and delegation holders.

RISK IMPLICATIONS

Reputation / Political

Low risk if expenditure deviates slightly from budget or project delivery schedule.

Occupational Health & Safety (WHS)

The operational budget enables funding to improve Council's compliance with workplace, health and safety.

Financial Impact

Low risk as expenditure is broadly in line with budget. The report highlights the need to continue to closely monitor expenditure and incorporate identified efficiencies into operations.

Legal & Regulatory

Council is required under s170 *Local Government Regulation 2012 (Qld)* to have an adopted budget in place for each financial year and by resolution can amend the budget for a financial year at any time before the end of the financial year.

Environmental

Council is managing its landfill and quarry operations by completing closure plans for the end of their respective useful lives. This will enable compliance in accordance with environmental regulations.

Property & Infrastructure

The capital expenditure budget allows for a program in accordance with respective infrastructure asset management plans.

Human Resources

This operational budget enables resourcing to achieve Council's corporate plans and objectives.

Information Communications Technology

The capital expenditure budget includes an asset replacement program for information communication technology infrastructure to be maintained at a requires standard.

Service Delivery

Revenue is set at a level which considers the services which are to be provided to the community.

Climate

Not Applicable.

KEY MESSAGE

Council is presenting this monthly financial report to provide information on financial performance against budget and to comply with legislative requirements.

FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE (as at July 2023)

Areas to note

Overall, the council reported a YTD actual net operating profit before capital grants and contributions as at 31 July 2023 which is currently \$392,000 higher than predicted. The net difference is comprised of revenue lower than budget by \$97,000 and operating expenses below budget of \$489,000.

Operating Revenue

- Rates, levies, and charges revenue is below budget by \$26,694, *Natural Resource Management Levy* is higher than budget by \$16,472, *Waste Management* is above budget by \$2,885 and *Discounts* have decreased to budget by \$1,336. Whereas *General Rates* are lower than budget by \$20,610, *Other Levies* - including Local Disaster Management Levy is lower than budget by \$14,653, *Water* has decreased to budget by \$9,850 and *Sewerage* has decreased by \$2,274 to budget.
- Fees and Charges have increased to budget in July by \$44,476 due to additional *Caravan Park Takings* that are above budget by \$23,428 mainly due to increases in Mt Perry and Mingo Crossing, *Building and Development Fees* have increase by \$8,654, *Community Service Fees* are above budget by \$6,637, *Trade Waste & Recycling* revenue has increased by \$5,905 with slight increases across all waste facilities, *Other Fees and Charges* have increased by \$5,387 mainly due to aviation fuel sales and rates search fees and *Licences and Registrations* have increased to budget by \$2,689, Whereas *Water and Sewer Fees* have decreased by \$8,224 to budget.
- Interest received is on par with budget.
- Other Income is above below by \$4,094 as *Reginald Murray Williams Centre* is below budget by \$1,400 and *Washdown Bays* in Gayndah and Monto are below budget by \$2,966, other varying small amounts make up the difference.
- Recurrent Grants, subsidies, contributions are on par with budget.
- Rental Income has decreased from budget by \$2,955, which relates to Council housing and a minor timing difference in invoicing.
- Sales revenue is slightly below budget by \$107,897 which was a result of additional claims Roadworks Performance Contract (RPC) and Road Maintenance Performance Contacts (RMPC) with The Department of Transport being incurred in June 2023 to align with work being completed in last financial year.

Operating Expenditure

- Materials & Services is slightly above budget by \$14,485 which relates to varying small amounts across various many areas.
- Depreciation is slightly below budget as at 31st July 2023, and will trend towards budget as financial end of year 30th June 2023 project capitalisation is finalised.

Capital revenue and expenses

- Capital Revenue is on par with budget.

YTD FY2023 - 2024

	Actual \$000	Budget \$000	Variance \$000	%	Impact on net result
Recurrent Revenue					
Rates, levies and charges	10,423	10,450	(27)	(0%)	
Fees and charges	141	97	44	46%	▲
Interest Received	63	63	0	0%	
Other Income	12	16	(4)	(25%)	▼
Recurrent Grants, subsidies, contributions and donations	0	0	0	0%	
Rental Income	3	6	(3)	(50%)	▼
Sales Revenue	187	295	(108)	(37%)	▼
Total Operating Revenue	10,830	10,927	(97)	(1%)	
Recurrent Expenses					
Employee Benefits	(986)	(1,283)	296	23%	▲
Materials & Services	(1,777)	(1,762)	(14)	(1%)	▲
Depreciation	(1,392)	(1,597)	205	13%	▲
Finance Costs	(2)	(3)	2	53%	▲
Total Operating Expense	(4,157)	(4,645)	489	11%	▲
Operating Profit / (Loss)	6,673	6,282	392	6%	
Capital Revenue and Expenses					
Capital Revenue	0	0	0	0%	
Capital Expenses	0	0	0	0%	
Net Capital Income Gain / (Loss)	0	0	0	0%	
Net Result	6,673	6,282	392	6%	

Legend:
■ favourable movement
■ unfavourable movement

FINANCIAL POSITION (as at July 2023)

	YTD FY2024	FY 2024
	<i>Actual</i>	<i>Budget</i>
	<i>\$000</i>	<i>\$000</i>
Current Assets		
Cash and cash equivalents	31,419	29,018
Inventories	463	515
Trade and other receivables	11,234	3,344
Contract Assets	1,347	2,787
	44,463	35,664
Non-Current Assets		
Property, plant and equipment	906,882	929,331
	906,882	929,331
Total Assets	951,345	964,995
Current Liabilities		
Current Borrowings QTC	(155)	(170)
Contract Liabilities	(4,613)	(2,500)
Other Current Liabilities	(4,492)	(1,724)
Current Provisions	(2,049)	(3,209)
Trade and other payables	(1,860)	(2,620)
	(13,168)	(10,223)
Non Current Liabilities		
Borrowings Non Current	(1,513)	(1,333)
Other Non Current Liabilities	(891)	(876)
Provisions Non Current	(13,287)	(7,263)
	(15,690)	(9,472)
Total Liabilities	(28,859)	(19,695)
Net Community Assets	922,487	945,300
Community Equity		
Asset revaluation reserve	(176,757)	(176,757)
Retained surplus/(deficiency)	(745,729)	(768,543)
Total Community Equity	(922,487)	(945,300)

Areas to note

Assets

- YTD Cash and cash equivalents has decreased from 30 June 2023 to 31 July 2023 by \$1,694,000. This is mainly due to ensuring expenses relating to the 2022-23 financial year were accrued and paid in the relevant financial year.

- Trade and other receivables have increased from 30 June 2023 to 31 July 2023 by \$5,273,000, which is mainly as a result rates being levied. The due date for rates levied is 15 September 2023.

- Contract assets represent predominantly works carried out for flood recoveries to date and payable through Disaster Recovery Funding Arrangements (DRFA).

Liabilities

- Current Liabilities have decreased 30 June 2023 to 31 July 2023 by \$1,017,000 in line with recognition of revenue received and work completed for grant funded projects. Contract liabilities of \$4,613,000 relates to capital grants received in advance and as respective projects are completed, the revenue is therefore able to be recognised for these grants.

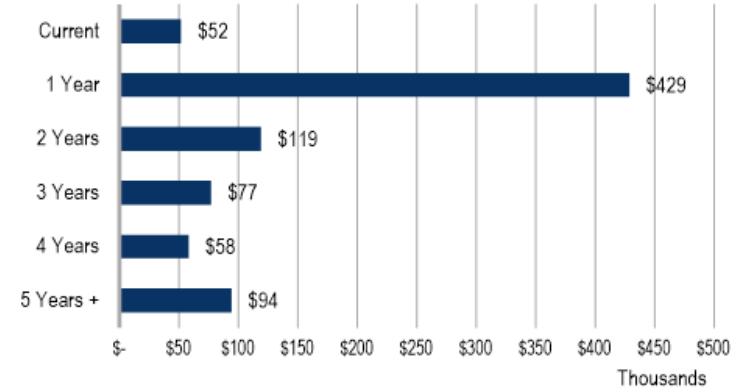
- Other non-current liabilities of \$891,535 relate to the prepayment of the state government waste levy charges for the years 2024-2025 to 2025-2026. These payments will be brought to account in their respective future years.

RATES OVERDUE (as at July 2023)

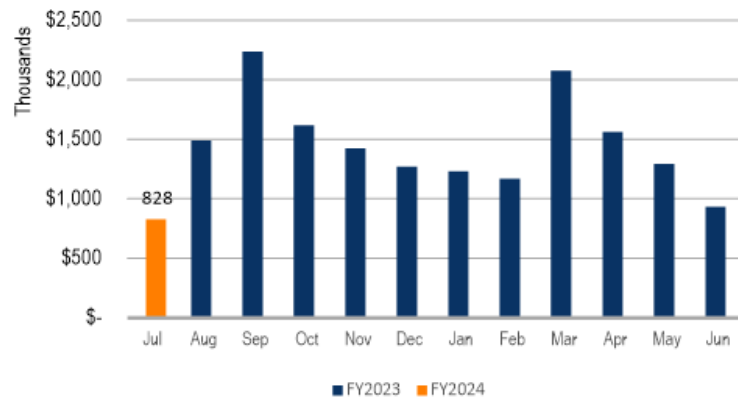
Areas to note

- In July 2023 the rates overdue has decreased from June 2023. This has been a decrease from June (\$932,017) to July (\$828,460) of \$103,557.
- In July 2023 the overdue rates balance has decreased by 11.11%.
- Approximately 57.98% of rates overdue as at 30 June 2023 are less than one year overdue.
- Discount take up for 23/24 year to date cannot be provided as the first discount period does not close until the 15/9/2023.

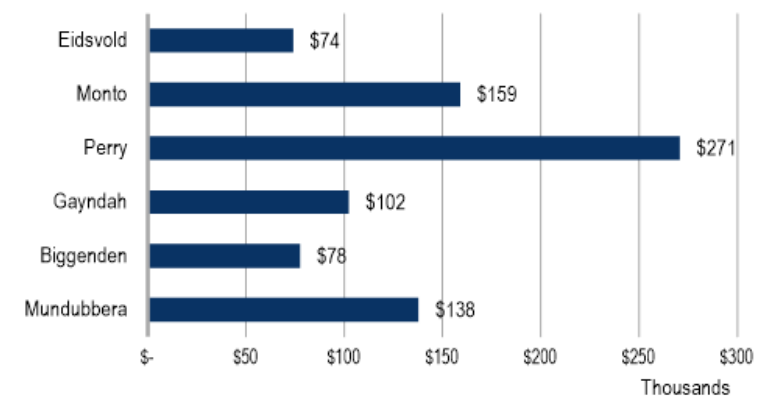
Overdue rates by age



Overdue rates balance



Overdue rates by location



10.2 GOVERNANCE POLICY 2261 LOCAL DISASTER MANAGEMENT LEVY**Doc Id:** 1160486**Author:** Owen Jensen, Financial Services Manager**Authoriser:** Kim Mahoney, General Manager Corporate & Community**Attachments:** 1. Draft Governance Policy 2261 Local Disaster Management Levy.pdf [1160484]**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

The objective of the Governance Policy 2261 Local Disaster Management Levy is to provide oversight of funding provided by Council to fund recurrent disaster management activities including those costs relating to the operation and maintenance of equipment used by Council in fulfilment of its disaster management obligations, and those costs relating to disaster prevention and disaster planning.

CORPORATE PLAN

OUR VISION: A prosperous future for generations built on a solid foundation of customer focused, efficient and effective service delivery.

OUR PRIORITY AREAS:

1. *Essential Service Delivery – Getting the basics right*

OFFICERS RECOMMENDATION

That Council adopts Governance Policy 2261 Local Disaster Management Levy as presented.

REPORT

Council considered and resolved (2023/114) at the Council meeting held 28 June 2023, to make and levy a separate charge to be known as the Local Disaster Management Levy.

The Governance Policy 2261 Local Disaster Management Levy (the Policy) supports the above Council resolution and demonstrates Council's compliance with the State's disaster management legislation by providing a financial means to assist the community to respond to and recover from a disaster event that might occur within the North Burnett region.

The Policy will contribute to a comprehensive disaster management framework in addressing disaster prevention, preparedness, response and recovery and will apply equally to all rateable properties within the North Burnett Regional Council area.

The levy funds will be utilised for disaster management arrangements at the sole discretion of Council.

The levy is in addition to the State Emergency Service (SES) Annual Local Government Subsidy received from the Queensland Government Queensland Fire and Emergency Services.

CONSULTATION

There has been consultation with Councillors at the Council Workshop held 3 May 2023.

RISK IMPLICATIONS**Reputation / Political**

Complying with legislative requirements ensures Council mitigates regulatory or reputational risk.

Occupational Health & Safety (WHS)

Not Applicable.

Financial Impact

This Levy has been established to ensure that Council:

- has the capability to meet its obligations in times of disaster events; and
- is able to assist local emergency services community groups with resilience and disaster management activities and requirements.

Legal & Regulatory

Applicable legislation and regulation:

- *Disaster Management Act 2003;*
- *Local Government Act 2009; and*
- *Local Government Regulation 2012.*

Environmental

Not Applicable.

Property & Infrastructure

Not Applicable.

Human Resources

Not Applicable.

Information Communications Technology

Not Applicable.

Service Delivery

Revenue is set at a level which considers the services which are to be provided to the community. This levy enables Council to achieve its corporate objectives outlined in its operational plans.

Climate

Not Applicable.

KEY MESSAGE

This Policy demonstrates Council's compliance with the State's disaster management legislation by providing a financial means to assist the community respond to and recover from a disaster event that might occur within the North Burnett region.

Draft 2261 Local Disaster Management Levy Governance Policy



PURPOSE

- 1) The purpose of this Policy is to support Council's Budget Meeting decision to adopt a Local Disaster Management Levy - Separate Charge.
- 2) This Policy demonstrates Council's compliance with the State's disaster management legislation by providing a financial means to assist the community respond to and recover from a disaster event that might occur within the North Burnett region.

SCOPE

- 3) This Levy will contribute to a comprehensive disaster management framework in addressing disaster prevention, preparedness, response, and recovery.
- 4) This Levy will apply equally to all rateable properties within the North Burnett Regional Council area.
- 5) Levy funds will be utilised for disaster management arrangements at the sole discretion of Council.
- 6) This Levy is in addition to the Emergency Management Fire and Rescue Levy collected under the *Fire and Emergency Services Act 1990* on behalf of the Queensland state government.

DEFINITIONS

Term	Definition
Council	means North Burnett Regional Council
Disaster	means a serious disruption in a local community, caused by the impact of an event that requires a significant coordinated response by State and other entities (including Council), to help the community recover from the disruption.
Disaster Management Activities	means plans, processes, systems and actions to manage the impacts and/or potential adverse effects of an event. This includes arrangements for mitigating, preventing, preparing for, responding to, and recovering from a disaster.
Event	an event may be natural or caused by human acts or omissions, and may include any of the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A cyclone, earthquake, flood, storm, or other natural happening. • An explosion, fire, chemical or oil spill, gas leak. • An infestation, plague, epidemic or pandemic. • A failure or, or disruption to, an essential service or infrastructure.
Rural Fire Brigade	means Rural Fire Brigades within the North Burnett Regional Council Area
SES	means Local State Emergency Service Groups within the North Burnett Regional Council Area
Serious Disruption	means a loss of human life, or illness or injury to humans; widespread or severe property loss or damage, and/or widespread or severe damage to the environment.

POLICY

OBJECTIVES

- 7) The objective of the Levy is to contribute to funding the recurrent disaster management activities including those costs relating to the operation and maintenance of equipment used by Council in fulfilment of its disaster management obligations, and those costs relating to disaster prevention and disaster planning.
- 8) Funding may include (but is not limited to):
 - The operation of Council's disaster management activities;

- Operating costs of SES as outlined in Memorandum of Understanding Between Council and Queensland Fire and Emergency Services "A Partnership for the Management and Support of the State Emergency Service" (Doc ID 882687);
- Resourcing, maintenance, and implementation of Council's Disaster Management Plan;
- Work with local emergency services, community groups and key community organisations to enhance disaster recovery and resilience;
- Ensuring continued compliance with current disaster management legislation;
- Upgrading of Counter Disaster facilities and equipment identified through community consultation and as prioritised by Council, to address mitigation and resilience strategies;
- Assisting Rural Fire Brigades with maintenance and acquisition of plant and equipment for rural fire management.

PRINCIPLES

- 9) This Levy has been established to ensure that Council:
- has the capability to meet its obligations in times of disaster events; and
 - is able to assist local emergency services community groups with resilience and disaster management activities and requirements.

POLICY STATEMENT

- 10) The ability of Council to develop and maintain a capacity for disaster management planning and operations is a key factor in helping to ensure the safety, response, recovery and well-being of local residents, as well as the resilience and sustainability of our communities.
- 11) This Policy supports Council's strong commitment to transparency, accountability and adherence to the financial management function.

ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

- 12) Council's Financial Services Manager is responsible for:
- ensuring that this policy is understood and adhered to by all employees involved in the recovery of rates and charges; and
 - ensuring annual review in line with Council's budget resolution.

APPLICABLE LEGISLATION AND REGULATION

- 13) Applicable legislation and regulation:
- a) *Disaster Management Act 2003*
 - b) *Local Government Act 2009*
 - c) *Local Government Regulation 2012*

RELATED DOCUMENTS

- 14) Related documents are:
- a) Debt Recovery Policy and Procedure
 - b) Local Disaster Management Levy Procedure

RESPONSIBLE OFFICER

General Manager Corporate and Community

APPROVAL DATE

[To insert date]

REVIEW DATE

30 June 2024

REVISION HISTORY

Version	Meeting	Approval Date	History
1	Budget Meeting	8 July 2014	New Policy
2	General Meeting	27 June 2018	Review
3	General Meeting	22 September 2021	Review
4	General Meeting	23 August 2023	Review

10.3 RADF COMMUNITY GRANTS ROUND 3 2022-23**Doc Id:** 1162935**Author:** Jenny Hall, Community Development Stream Leader
Amanda Nissen, Customer Experience & Communities Manager**Authoriser:** Kim Mahoney, General Manager Corporate & Community**Attachments:** 1. RADF Assessment Meeting Minutes - 03/08/23 [1163501]**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

The purpose of this report is to inform Council of the progress of the North Burnett Regional Council's Regional Arts Development Fund (RADF) Program; and to recommend 2022-23 Round three (3) applications for endorsement.

The total budget for the 2022-23 RADF program is **\$48,664** to be allocated through two (2) community grant funding rounds by 31 August 2023. The first and second funding rounds have been completed. A third funding round was offered as funds were not exhausted through rounds one and two.

CORPORATE PLAN

OUR VISION: A prosperous future for generations built on a solid foundation of customer focused, efficient and effective service delivery.

OUR PRIORITY AREAS:

2. *Sustainable Communities – to retain population and attract investment*

OFFICERS RECOMMENDATION

That Council:

1. Endorse the following Regional Arts Development Fund (RADF) applications on the recommendation of the North Burnett Arts and Cultural Advisory Committee (NBACAC):
 - (a) Rachel Koster: North Burnett Regional Songwriting Workshop - \$4,490.
 - (b) Monto Art Group: Artist Workshop with Lizzie Taylor - \$880.
2. Decline the following RADF application on the recommendation of the NBACAC.
 - (a) Gayndah and District Historical Society: Blacksmithing Workshop - \$4200.
3. Endorse the following RADF project variation, on the recommendation of the NBACAC:
 - (a) Noosa Film Academy Pty Ltd - auspiced by Monto Magic Tourism Action Group: Youth Acting and Screen Production – additional funding allocation to include Mundubbera State College and Eidsvold State School in the program - \$5,285.

REPORT

The North Burnett Regional Council partners with the Queensland Government through Arts Queensland to deliver the RADF Program in our region. For 2022-23, the RADF program has a budget of \$41,664 to be allocated through two (2) community grant rounds by 31 August 2023. The first and second rounds have been undertaken and a third round has been undertaken to allocate funds not expended after rounds one (1) and two (2).

RADF Round 3 2022-23 was released by Council on Monday, 29 May 2023 and applications closed on Monday, 17 July 2023. The grant program was conducted online via SmartyGrants and assessed by the NBACAC. Three (3) applications were received in total for Round 3. There were three (3) in-progress applications that were not submitted by the closing date of the round.

To assess Round 3 applications, six (6) NBACAC members independently completed a standardised assessment checklist of each application, via SmartyGrants, prior to the RADF Assessment Panel Review meeting held on Thursday, 3 August 2023 in Monto. The initial assessment included:

- Declaring any conflicts of interest.
- Applying a scoring system to consider aspects of project quality, impact, reach and viability.
- Conditions of funding.
- A recommendation for funding (yes or no) and a recommended amount.
- A comment to justify decisions made.

This information was collated and presented at the RADF Assessment Panel Review meeting for consideration.

Dr Geoff Walden chaired the Assessment Panel Review meeting, with three (3) assessors attending in person and one remotely via Microsoft Teams. The Committee's recommendations were assessed in line with the NBACAC Terms of Reference and the RADF Guidelines, and members' initial assessments and comments were factored into the overall decision making of the panel.

The NBACAC is an advisory committee to the Council. The RADF guidelines state any recommendations for funding through RADF require Council endorsement at a General Meeting. It should be noted that RADF is administered separately to the 1004 Community Grants Policy and guidelines due to RADF's joint funding with Arts Queensland.

2022-23 Round 3 Application

The Committee's recommendations for Round 3 are as follows:

1. RADF2223R300047 – Rachel Koster – North Burnett Regional Songwriting Workshop \$4,490

Funding is sought to conduct a regional songwriting seminar for North Burnett & surrounding area songwriters. The workshop aims to connect songwriters, build song crafting skills, create new work, and share important career information, processes, and steps. The workshop will be facilitated by Boi Crompton, Eskae Van Eck and Rachel Koster. Renowned vocalist Lisa Edwards will speak with the group via zoom about the music industry.

Recommended up to the value of \$4,490.

2. RADF2223R300044 – Monto Art Group – Artist's workshop with Lizzie Taylor \$880

Funding is sought to hold a mixed media workshop with artist Lizzie Taylor. The workshop will provide participants with knowledge on how to portray the history of Monto in early settlement through different art mediums. The artwork will be displayed at the Monto Centenary celebrations in 2024.

Recommended up to the value of \$880.

The following application was not recommended for funding:

3. RADF2223R300045 – Gayndah and District Historical Society – Blacksmithing Workshop \$4,200.

Funding is sought to hold a 2-day blacksmithing workshop with a professional teacher/blacksmith, Wayne Schmidt of Cracked Anvil Forge. This workshop will be held in conjunction with the Gayndah Museum Open Day, so the wider public are able to watch and learn.

Not Recommended.

Applicant encouraged to further develop application and resubmit a funding application in a future round.

Project Variation – Noosa Film Academy Pty Ltd

The Noosa Film Academy Pty Ltd were successful in receiving RADF grant funding in the 2022-23 Community Grants Round 1, to deliver a Youth Acting and Screen Production project in the region. This project aims to build youth acting and screen production capacity in two (2) North Burnett Schools: Biggenden State School and Monto State High School. The workshops and screenings develop cultural capacity, innovation, community pride and connection plus deliver professional development for educators.

The Noosa Film Academy Pty Ltd requested a variation to their original RADF funding to be able to extend the program in the region. The funding variation request was to:

- a) Extend the School based program to offer workshops in two (2) additional Schools: Mundubbera State College and Eidsvold State School.
- b) Offer a Community Acting and Screen production workshop in Monto and a Community Screening event. The Community Screening event would showcase videos developed in the School and Community workshops across the region.

The Arts and Cultural Advisory Committee made the following recommendation:

- a) Extend the School based program to offer the workshops at Mundubbera State College and Eidsvold State School in September 2023.
Recommended up to the value of \$5,285.
- b) Decline the Community Workshop and Community Screening event variation request. This was on the basis that this was a new element from their original grant application and would require a full RADF application for consideration.

Further reasoning behind the recommendation of the NBACAC is detailed in the minutes, which are attached (Attachment 1).

CONSULTATION

Six (6) NBACAC members individually completed a full assessment of the RADF Round 3 2022-23 applications via SmartyGrants. This assessment was used to inform discussions at the Assessment Panel Review Meeting held on 3 August 2023 and factored into the overall decision making of the Committee.

All assessments and recommendations were made in accordance with the RADF Program Guidelines and the NBACAC Terms of Reference.

The Noosa Film Academy Pty Ltd variation request was presented at the meeting for discussion and determination.

RISK IMPLICATIONS

Reputation / Political

Members of the NBACAC were successfully endorsed by Council as Advisory Committee members based on the skills and experience they possess in the arts and cultural arena. The members are expected to serve the interests of the region. Lack of endorsement would result in delays in RADF projects commencing and increased strain on Council's ability to fulfil the requirements of the 2022-23 RADF Funding Agreement.

The management of the RADF Program is conducted in line with the Arts Queensland funding agreement and is guided by the NBACAC Terms of Reference, RADF Guidelines and the use of approved standardised applications, assessment checklists, forms, and letters to mitigate any risk of harm to the reputation of Council and Arts Queensland.

Two (2) declarations of conflict of interest were made at the time of the individual assessment process or during the assessment committee meeting (details in Attachment 1).

- Cr Melinda Jones - Monto Art Group - RADF round 3 grant application.
- Cr Melinda Jones – Noosa Film Academy Pty Ltd – Variation of grant application.

Occupational Health & Safety (WHS)

Not Applicable.

Financial Impact

The following table outlines the funding available for the 2022-23 RADF Community Grants Program:

2022-23 RADF Program funding

Funding Source	Funding
Arts Queensland – 2022-23 RADF Program Funding Agreement	\$ 25,000
NBRC Financial Contribution to RADF	\$ 13,000
Sub-total: Funding as per agreement	\$ 38,000
2020-21 and 2021-22 RADF projects – returned funds	
24/10/22 Returned project funds – Gayndah Art Gallery (2021/22)	\$ 3,008.27
26/10/22 Returned project funds – MEA (2021/22)	\$ 655.56
Returned project funds – Danica Nizic auspiced by Monto Magic Tourism Action Group (2020-21) (Pending)	\$ 7,000*
Sub-total: Total funding returned	\$ 10, 663.83*
Total Funding for Community Grants program	\$ 48, 663.83*

*Funds from Danica Nizic's RADF project are in the process of being returned to Council. A funding variation was submitted to Arts Queensland to request that the returned funds be allocated to the 2022/23 Community Grants funding pool. If Arts Queensland decline the funding variation request, the total funds for the 2022-23 funding program will be **\$41,663.83**.

2022-23 RADF Grant funding awarded

Funding	Funds Available	Grant Applications Received	Approved / Expended	RADF Funds Remaining
Committee initiative	\$ 48,663.83		\$ 3,600	\$ 45,063.83
Round 1	\$ 45,063.83	\$ 16,086	\$ 12,586	\$ 32,477.83
Round 2	\$ 32,477.83	\$ 1,315	\$ 1,315	\$ 31,162.83
Round 3 (if endorsed)	\$ 31,162.83	\$ 9,570	\$ 5,370	25,792.83
Funding Variation (if endorsed)	\$ 25,792.83	\$ 9,934	\$ 5,285	\$20,507.83
Total funds remaining for Round 3 2022-23				\$ 20,507.83**

Note: Any applicable GST for approved/expended funds is not paid from RADF grant funds.

If Arts Queensland decline the funding variation request for \$7,000 of returned funds to be allocated to the 2022/23 Community Grants funding pool, the total funds remaining after Round 3 will be **\$ 13,507.83.

Legal & Regulatory

The RADF Program complies with the *Local Government Act 2009*, the Local Government Regulation 2012, 3207 Arts and Culture Policy and Arts Queensland Funding Agreement.

Environmental

Not Applicable.

Property & Infrastructure

Where applicable, RADF applicants are required to show Certificates of Currency in respect to public liability insurance.

Human Resources

Council employs a Community Development Officer who undertakes work as a RADF Liaison Officer to manage the RADF Program within designated timeframes. Use of the online grants system SmartyGrants assists to streamline the process.

Information Communications Technology

Not Applicable.

Service Delivery

No impact on service delivery by proposed recommendations. The requirements of the RADF Program are managed in line with other service delivery responsibilities.

Climate

Not Applicable.

KEY MESSAGE

The RADF Program is a partnership between North Burnett Regional Council and Arts Queensland to support access to quality arts and cultural experiences in our region and build local cultural capacity, cultural innovation, and community pride. Media releases, website posting, and Facebook posts will be undertaken following endorsement to celebrate and promote upcoming projects.



NORTH BURNETT ARTS AND CULTURAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE RADF ASSESSMENT MEETING

**MONTO COUNCIL CHAMBERS (BOARDROOM)
THURSDAY, 3 AUGUST 2023**

1. MEETING ATTENDEES

Dr Geoff Walden, Gillian Nicholl, Lorraine Maskell (online), Judith Bohm-Parr and Cr Melinda Jones.

North Burnett Regional Council Officers: Amanda Nissen, Jenny Hall and Jenny Ward (secretary and online).

2. WELCOME AND HOUSEKEEPING

Dr Geoff Walden welcomed members to the meeting and shared an acknowledgement to country.

3. APOLOGIES/LEAVE OF ABSENCE

Apologies: Marshall Langston and Kerry Slack.

4. MINUTES FROM PREVIOUS MEETING

The minutes from the previous meeting held on 1/06/2023 and 6/06/2023 were circulated.

Minutes of the previous meeting were confirmed with no amendment.

Moved: Judith Bohm-Parr

Seconded: Gillian Nichol

Carried: 5/5

5. BUSINESS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MEETING

5.1 Arts Queensland Review

J Hall provided the following update:

- In March 2023, Arts Queensland advised Councils that a RADF program review was underway and wanted to seek Council's input on areas of improvement to the program, funding methodology and future direction of the program.
- After this meeting, Arts Queensland circulated a survey to Local Government organisations about whether a multi-year funding agreement would be supported and if any challenges would arise. This survey was completed by Andrew Knight, Interim General Manager - Corporate and Community with advice that a multi-year funding agreement could be challenging for smaller Councils when budgets are determined on a yearly basis.
- At the end of July 2023, Arts Queensland advised that the funding review was ongoing and are proposing to seek further input from smaller Councils on the impacts of a multi-year funding model.

J Hall advised the committee will be kept information on further progress at the next meeting or via email if information is known prior to this time.

5.2 Daniel Patterson, Digital Design for Youth - project update

J Hall has been in contact with Daniel to discuss the Digital Design for Youth Project. The project was due to be completed by 1 January 2023. Daniel advised that due to extenuating circumstances that only two of the three workshops had been completed and plans are underway to complete the final workshop component.

The committee discussed if a variation to the project completion date could be granted to allow this project to finalised. The committee agreed to extend the due date to complete the project until end of August 2023.

Action: J Hall to notify applicant that an extension has been awarded until 31 August 2023.

5.3 5.3 Danica Nizic – Masonry Workshop – NR010RADF – Project update

J Hall advised the committee that the Council General Meeting on the 28 June 2023, Council endorsed the committee's project variation recommendation and to terminate this project. This included:

- (a) A project variation be supported for Monto Magic Tourism Action Group to use \$1000 to relocate the large Siltstone rocks from the Monto Historical Complex to Monto Magic Tourism Action Groups leased area at the RV Stopover on Lister Street, Monto.
- (b) The project be terminated with remaining funds being returned to Council.
- (c) Seek approval from Arts Queensland to allocate returned funds to the 2022-23 RADF funding round 3 if timeframes permit.

J Hall provided the following update on the status of the above elements:

- Item (a) has been completed with Monto Magic providing Council with a copy of the invoice.
- Item (c) has been completed – currently waiting for the outcome from Arts Queensland.
- Item (b) to be finalised.

Action: J Hall to formally correspond with Monto Magic about the project termination so funds can be returned to Council.

6. **CONFLICT OF INTEREST**

J Hall advised that one conflict was reported during the assessment phase via SmartyGrants.

- Cr Melinda Jones - RADF2223R300044 – Monto Art Group – Artist's workshop with Lizzie Taylor. A letter of support from ADRA was provided with application and Cr Jones declared she is a close contact with the person that wrote the letter.

The committee agreed unanimously that Cr Jones could remain in the meeting room, however, would not take part in determining recommendations and voting.

No further conflicts were declared.

7. **APPLICATIONS FOR ASSESSMENT**

7.1 RADF2223R300047 – Rachel Koster – North Burnett Regional Songwriting Workshop \$4,490.00

Funding is sought to conduct a regional songwriting seminar for North Burnett & surrounding area songwriters. The workshop aims to connect songwriters, build song crafting skills, create new work, and share important career information, processes, and steps. The workshop will be facilitated Boi Crompton, Eskae Van Eck and Rachel Koster. Renowned vocalist Lisa Edwards will speak with the group via zoom about the music industry.

The committee had a comprehensive discussion on the project proposal including:

- The workshop has been offered previously, however, the applicant would be able to share new knowledge and skills with the workshop attendees following her successful RADF songwriting project.
- The cost of a professional artist fees was high, however, the cost benefit of engaging high calibre facilitators was highly commended.
- The project is aligned with the QLD government priority areas: Investing in skills, educating for the future, growing our region.
- The project is well rounded and a valuable workshop for our region.

The committee members noted that the dates for the workshops were scheduled for early September and queried if activities would be conducted prior to Council endorsement at the Council General Meeting on the 23 August 2023. The grant application was reviewed, and it was determined that the project expenditure that would be covered by RADF funding would commence after Council endorsement. Council is unable to fund activities that commence before Council endorsement is given.

Motion: That the committee recommend funding to the value of \$4490.

Moved: Judith Bohm-Parr

Seconded: Cr Melinda Jones

Carried: 5/5

Action: J Hall to contact applicant to re-confirm that RADF is unable to fund activities that commence before Council endorsement is given.

7.2 RADF2223R300044 – Monto Art Group – Artist's workshop with Lizzie Taylor \$ 880

Cr Jones declared a conflict of interest. Cr Jones remained in the room on agreement from the committee, however, abstained from voting or contributing to the discussion on the application.

Funding is sought to hold a mixed media workshop with artist Lizzie Taylor. The workshop will provide participants with knowledge on how to portray the history of Monto in early settlement through different art mediums. The artwork will be displayed at the Monto Centenary celebrations in 2024.

The committee had a comprehensive discussion on the project proposal including:

- The Monto Art Group have applied for numerous RADF grants over the past years. The group however is engaging new artists and teaching new skills for the group to use in community projects.
- The importance of professional development for artists.
- The workshops are a worthwhile project to encourage works to be included in the Monto Communities Centenary celebrations.

Motion: That the committee recommend funding to the value of \$800.

Moved: Judith Bohm-Parr

Seconded: Gillian Nichol

Carried: 4/4

7.3 RADF2223R300045 – Gayndah and District Historical Society – Blacksmithing Workshop \$ 4200

Funding is sought to hold a 2-day blacksmithing workshop with a professional a teacher/blacksmith, Wayne Schmidt of Cracked Anvil Forge. This workshop will be held in conjunction with the Gayndah Museum open day, so the wider public are able to watch and learn.

The committee had a comprehensive discussion on the project proposal including:

- The workshop idea is great to encourage the continuation of these skills. Artists use blacksmithing to create beautiful pieces of metal art.
- The current grant application does not meet RADF eligibility criteria and development outcomes.
- The RADF application requires further development to align with RADF criteria and requires additional supporting documentation e.g., letters of support. Dr Walden agreed to work with applicant to further develop their application.

Motion: Recommend that the funding be declined. The application in the current format does not meet RADF guidelines. Applicant is encouraged to resubmit application in future round.

Moved: Cr Melinda Jones

Seconded: Jud Bohm-Parr

Carried: 5/5

8. REQUEST FOR FUNDING VARIATION

8.1 Noosa Film Festival - Youth Acting and Screen Production

Cr Jones declared a conflict of interest as Monto Magic auspice the original grant application. The committee agreed that Cr Jones could remain in the meeting room, however, to abstain from voting.

The Noosa Film Academy Pty Ltd were successful receiving RADF grant funding in the 2022-23 Community Grants Round 1, to deliver a Youth Acting and Screen Production workshop project in the region. This project aims to build youth acting and screen production capacity in two North Burnett Schools – Biggenden State School and Monto State High School. The workshops develop cultural capacity, innovation, community pride and connection plus deliver professional development for educators.

The Noosa Film Academy applied for external Arts Funding to deliver the program in two additional Schools in the North Burnett - Mundubbera State College and Eidsvold State School. In addition, funding was sought to offer a Community Acting and Screen Production Workshop in Monto along with a Red Carpet Community Screening event in Monto. The Community Screening event premier is designed to showcase the films created in the School and Community workshops across the region. Unfortunately, this funding application was unsuccessful.

The Noosa Film Academy Pty Ltd has subsequently requested a variation to their original RADF funding grant to be able to extend the initial funded program to more communities in the region. The funding variation request was to:

Initial Funding request	Variation
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2022-23 Community Grants Round 1 • Youth Acting and Screen Production workshop in Biggenden and Monto. • RADF funds: \$ 5476 (excluding GST) 	<p>Noosa Film Festival are seeking a variation to their original grant application to extend the reach of the program:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Youth Acting and Screen Production workshop in Mundubbera and Eidsvold. • Community Acting and Screen Production Workshop in Monto

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Red Carpet Community Screening event in Monto. <p>Funding requested</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Additional funding for School workshops: \$5285 (excluding GST) <p>Additional funding for Community workshops and Screening: \$4649 (excluding GST).</p>
Workshop days	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Biggenden State School: Tuesday 5 September 2023 Monto State High School: Wednesday, 6 September 2023 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mundubbera State College: Thursday, 7 September 2023 Eidsvold State School, 8 September 2023 Community Acting and Screen Production Workshop in Monto: Saturday, 9 September Red Carpet Community Screening event in Monto: Sunday, 10 September 2023.

The committee had a comprehensive discussion on the project proposal including:

- Noosa Film Academy Pty Ltd were awarded RADF funding in Round 1 2022-23. There was discussion at this time if the project could be extended to other North Burnett Schools and cover additional demographics. This variation request responds to queries raised by the Committee in Round 1.
- The amount of additional funding requested.
- The variation to extend the program to more Schools aligns with their funding application in Round 1. The community workshops and screening event were considered favourably in principle, however, these project elements are new and extend on their initial funding application.
- Should the community workshops and screen event require a new RADF application.

The Arts and Cultural Advisory Committee made the following recommendation:

Motion 1: That the committee recommend the funding variation as presented be declined.

Moved: Judith Bohm-Parr **Seconded:** Lorraine Maskell **Carried: 4/4**

Further discussion was held with the Committee about part-funding the variation request.

Motion 2: That the committee recommend the funding variation to offer the Youth Acting and Screen Production workshops at Mundubbera State College and Eidsvold State School in September 2023.

Recommended up to the value of \$5,285.

Moved: Judith Bohm-Parr **Seconded:** Lorraine Maskell **Carried: 4/4**

9. OUTCOME REPORTS FOR ACQUITTAL

NIL

10. GENERAL BUSINESS

10.1 CQ RASN 'Wide Bay Touring Circuit Committee project'

- At the Council General Meeting on 24 August 2022, Council endorsed the recommendation of the North Burnett Arts and Cultural Advisory Committee (NBACAC) to allocate \$3,600 of the 2022/23 RADF program funding, towards the 'Wide Bay Touring Circuit Committee project'.
- This initiative was included in our 2023-23 RADF program and funding application to Arts Queensland and was accepted.
- The Ironing Maidens were selected as the touring group.
- The Ironing Maidens will be delivering dance and music workshops in Schools, a Community Dance and music workshop and a live performance.
- The CQ RASN Project team and Ironing Maiden have asked Council to confirm the location of the schools and community workshops as well as the Community Live Performance.

Motion: That the committee recommend Gayndah be selected as the location for the performance and workshops.

Moved: Judith Bohm-Parr

Seconded: Lorraine Maskell

Carried: 5/5

10.2 Funding outlook

2022-23 RADF Program funding

Funding Source	Funding
Arts Queensland – 2022-23 RADF Program Funding Agreement	\$ 25,000
NBRC Financial Contribution to RADF	\$ 13,000
Sub-total: Funding as per agreement	\$ 38,000
2020-21 and 2021-22 RADF projects – returned funds	
24/10/22 Returned project funds – Gayndah Art Gallery (2021/22)	\$ 3008.27
26/10/22 Returned project funds – MEA (2021/22)	\$ 655.56
Returned project funds – Danica Nizic Auspiced by Monto Magic Tourism Action Group (2020-21)	\$ 7000*
Sub-total: Total funding returned	\$ 10, 663.83*
Total Funding for Community Grants program	\$ 48, 663.83*

*Funds from Danica Nizic's RADF project are in the process of being returned to Council. A funding variation was submitted to Arts Queensland to request that the returned funds be allocated to the 2022/23 Community Grants funding pool. If Arts Queensland decline the funding variation request, the total funds for the 2022-23 funding program will be **\$41,663.83**.

2022-23 RADF Grant funding awarded

Funding	Funds Available	Grant Applications Received	Approved / Expended	RADF Funds Remaining
Committee initiative	\$ 48,663.83		\$ 3,600	\$ 45,063.83
Round 1	\$ 45,063.83	\$ 16,086	\$ 12,586	\$ 32,477.83
Round 2	\$ 32,477.83	\$ 1315	\$ 1315	\$ 31,162.83
Round 3 (if endorsed)	\$ 31,162.83	\$ 9570	\$ 5370	25,792.83
Funding Variation (if endorsed)	\$ 25,792.83	\$ 9934	\$ 5285	\$20,507.83
Total funds remaining for Round 3 2022-23				\$ 20,507.83*

Note: Any applicable GST for approved/expended funds is not paid from RADF grant funds.

*If Arts Queensland decline the funding variation request for \$7000 of returned funds to be allocated to the 2022/23 Community Grants funding pool, the total funds remaining after Round 3 will be \$ 13,507.83.

10.3 RADF program in 2023-24 – RADF Round 4 to opened in September.

Arts Queensland have notified Council that they will be extending the current RADF funding agreement for 2023-24. A Deed of Variation is currently in development and will be provided to Council for endorsement in August 2023. Arts Queensland have proposed the following funding for 2023-24:

Funding Source	Funding
Arts Queensland – 2023-24 RADF Program Funding	\$26,250
NBRC Financial Contribution to RADF	\$13,000
Sub-total: Funding as per agreement	\$39,250

10.4 RADF 2023/24 Round 1

The committee discussed timeframes for opening 2023-24 RADF Community Grants funding round 1. J Hall advised that opening timeframes will be determined on endorsement of the funding agreement with Arts Queensland. There was general agreement that it would be preferred if the first round opened in September to allow projects to commence from January 2024.

11. **ROUND 3 ASSESSMENT MEETING**

Town: Mt Perry

Venue: Mt Perry Boardroom

Date: TBA

Time: 9.30am

Action: J Hall to determine next meeting date once 2023-24 Deed of variation has been signed. and Community Grant program timeframes have been established. J Hall to communicate new date to committee members.

12. **CLOSURE OF MEETING**

Meeting closed at 12.03pm. Dr Geoff thanked all attendees and thanked them for their time.

Summary of Action Items from Meeting

SUMMARY OF ACTION ITEMS

Item	Actions	Response to action items / questions	Status
5.2	Daniel Patterson, Digital Design for Youth - project update <i>J Hall to notify applicant that an extension has been awarded until 31 August 2023.</i>		
5.3	Danica Nizic – Masonry Workshop – NR010RADF – Project update J Hall to formally correspond with Monto Magic about the project termination so funds can be returned to Council. J Hall to provide Monto Magic Tourism Action group with access to the RADF application to finalise project outcomes.		
7.1	Rachel Koster – North Burnett Regional Songwriting Workshop RADF2223R300047 J Hall to contact applicant to re-confirm that RADF is unable to fund activities that commence before Council endorsement is given.		
11	RADF Round 1 2023-24 J Hall to determine RADF round 1 opening and closing dates and communicate with committee		In progress
PM	Arts Queensland Review J Hall to provide committee with an update on the review when further information comes to light.	Council is currently waiting for further advice from Arts Queensland on the outcome of the RADF review.	Ongoing
PM	Grant Workshops J Hall to continue to liaise with Art and Cultural workshop facilitator to discuss capacity building workshops in the region.	J Hall has reached out to workshop facilitator to determine workshop dates in the 2023-24 financial year. Planning is underway to deliver an online grant workshop in late September with in person workshops in February 2024,	Ongoing
PM	Danica Nizic – Masonry Workshop – NR010RADF – Project update J Hall to contact Monto Magic Tourism Action group to request status update, request for variation and evidence of workshops being completed.		Completed
PM	Daniel Patterson: Digital Design for Youth, J Hall to contact applicant to follow-up on extension request and project completion.	J Hall contacted applicant about project status.	Completed
PM	RADF Round 3 2022-23 J Hall to determine RADF round 3 opening and closing dates and communicate with committee	Details confirmed	Completed
PM	Noosa Film Academy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The applicant missed ticking the target age group of 12-21 on their RADF application. The school ages (grades) that 	Completed

SUMMARY OF ACTION ITEMS

Item	Actions	Response to action items / questions	Status
	J Hall to contact Noosa Film Academy to clarify questions raised and to seek advice if there is any evidence or research on the impact of the program	<p>will be part of the program range from primary to high school aged children. Biggenden State School grades range from prep to year 10 and Monto State High School grades 7 to 12.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Noosa Film academy are interested to offer workshops in all towns in our region and would consider future projects in towns they have yet to visit. They are interested to continue to offer a School based program plus complement this by delivering community workshops and/or community screening event where students can showcase their work (or community members). They can cater workshops to all ages and abilities. The applicant advised that they have been able to track progress of participants through their program and long-term outcomes/benefits. They can only track those students who reach out to them and remain in touch with them post the workshops. 	
PM	Noosa Film Academy J Hall to liaise with Noosa Film Academy to confirm auspice organisation	Monto Magic Tourism Action Group has agreed to auspice their application and the paperwork has been received. The funding condition has now been satisfied.	Completed
PM	Kaiden Ratcliffe Project Jenny Hall to clarify RADF expenditure items for Kaiden Ratcliffe Project	Email sent to request additional information. Follow-up phone call - waiting for response. Meeting held with John Zahl, Katherine Ratcliffe and Jane Glenn.	Completed
PM	Danica Nizic – Masonry Workshop – NR010RADF – Project update J Hall to contact applicant to discuss project and progression with intent for funding to be returned if project is unable to be completed.	Discussions have occurred between Monto Magic Tourism Action group and Danica Nizic. Update on project has been included in meeting minutes.	Completed
PM	Daniel Patterson, Digital Design for Youth - project update J Hall to contact applicant to decline acquittal in current format and seek advice on when the project will be completed to be able to process extension grant project.	J Hall has contacted Daniel to advise that acquittal is unable to be progressed. J Hall has requested additional information if an extension by the committee can be considered. Additional information received and to be discussed at RADF meeting 3/8/2023.	Completed
PM	CQRASN Wide Bay Touring Circuit Program. J Hall to progress letter of support and confirm locations for first touring circuit performance.	Letter of Support was drafted and signed by Interim General Manager – Corporate and Community.	Completed
PM	RADF Round 2 2022-23 J Hall to determine RADF round 2 opening and closing dates and communicate with committee	Round opened and closed.	Completed
PM	Returned RADF funds J Hall to submit formal request to Arts Queensland for unspent funds from grant projects be allocated to the 2022-23 RADF community grants funding pool.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Arts Queensland confirmed 9/3/2023 that unspent funds. \$ 3,663.83 are approved to be allocated to the 2022-23 RADF community grants program. 	Completed

10.4 WIDE BAY BURNETT REGIONAL WASTE AND RESOURCE RECOVERY PLAN

Doc Id: 1162888

Author: Kim Mahoney, General Manager Corporate & Community

Authoriser: Margot Stork, Chief Executive Officer

Attachments: 1. Final Draft - WBB RWRRP - Regional Waste and Resource Recovery Plan V2.pdf [1164909]

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

North Burnett Regional Council has committed to the development of the Wide Bay Burnett Regional Waste and Resource Recovery Plan (the Plan), facilitated by Local Government Association of Queensland (LGAQ) and funded by the Queensland Government.

The Plan identifies a series of actions to be taken at a regional scale and for individual Councils to improve waste and resource recovery outcomes. The key benefits for the North Burnett Regional Council (NBRC) include support from other regional Councils and the State government as well as ensuring involvement in relevant funding opportunities.

CORPORATE PLAN

OUR VISION: A prosperous future for generations built on a solid foundation of customer focused, efficient and effective service delivery.

OUR PRIORITY AREAS:

1. *Essential Service Delivery – Getting the basics right*

OFFICERS RECOMMENDATION

That Council note and support in principle the Wide Bay Burnett Regional Waste and Resource Recovery Plan.

REPORT

Background

The Queensland *Waste Management and Resource Recovery Strategy* (Strategy), released in 2019 provides a framework and series of actions for the State government, local government, and industry to move toward a Zero Waste Society by 2050. To support the implementation of the Strategy, the State Government commenced a levy on the disposal of waste to landfill in 2019.

Further, the Department of Environment and Science announced an initiative to fund the development of Regional Waste Management Plans which are the primary vehicle for future funding for waste management infrastructure aligning with the Strategy.

At the Council Meeting held 25 May 2022, the Planning and Environment Manager and Cr Sue Payne were formally endorsed (Resolution 2022/63) as NBRC delegates for the Resource Recovery Working Group (RRWG) for the preparation of the Plan.

Collaboration and Partnership

The Wide Bay Burnett Regional Councils partnered to develop the Plan, facilitated by the LGAQ and funded by the State government.

The Plan covers a path for the future of waste management, resource recovery and recycling in the region, along with formation and strengthening of regional collaboration for the delivery and improvement of waste services. Councils participating and collaborating on the Plan are:

- Bundaberg Regional Council
- Cherbourg Aboriginal Shire Council
- Fraser Coast Regional Council

- Gympie Regional Council
- North Burnett Regional Council
- South Burnett Regional Council

Identified Key Issues Within the Wide Bay Burnett Region

The Plan has been developed to address key issues across the region, identified through a series of collaborative workshops. The key issues include:

- landfills in the region are approaching capacity which may prohibit long-term landfilling;
- individual Councils do not have sufficient scale for processing and remanufacturing of recyclable materials or residual waste;
- insufficient local end markets for recycled materials and secondary raw materials;
- community behaviour and lack of understanding to support production of high-quality recyclable output; and
- current policy settings do not support greater recovery and recycling.

In response to the above issues the Plan identifies a way forward including opportunities to collaborate as a region and with the State government.

Benefits for NBRC

Council officers have reviewed the Plan and have identified the following benefits for NBRC:

- education and behavioural change;
- enhancement of planning, management, and operations of landfills sites;
- greater capacity for future re-use of deposited materials identified;
- support from the State Government to meet requirements relating to landfill closure and rehabilitation of historic, current and future sites;
- collaboration with Council's will improve access to supporting resources and funding;
- opportunity for growth in the private market through potential scale of services and material; and
- current waste management services, and new and emerging opportunities detailed.

Due to NBRC's scale, geographical location, and the small volume of generated waste, there is likely to be greater benefits and focus on the larger Councils to increase services, reduce waste to landfill and provide waste recovery options. Notwithstanding the focus on the larger Councils, support for and participation in implementation of the Plan will benefit NBRC in a number of areas and ensure where possible involvement in relevant funding opportunities.

Resource Recovery Working Group (RRWG)

The RRWG has been established to facilitate collaborative approach to the development and implementation of the Plan for the region. The RRWG are proposing a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with nominated Wide Bay Councils to coordinate key actions for the group including:

- continue to collaborate on Plan implementation;
- seek and undertake regional procurement;
- collaborate on the implementation of education and awareness campaigns;
- coordinate, liaise with the State government; and
- advocate for better waste outcomes for the region.

Review and Monitoring

The Plan will be reviewed and updated every five (5) years to ensure the plan is responding to the needs/requirements of the region and individual Councils. Implementation and specific actions will be reviewed against both short and long-term measures identified in the plan.

CONSULTATION

During the development of the Plan, several engagement sessions have been held with Wide Bay Burnett Councils, the State government and other key stakeholders.

Council has been briefed via Councillor workshops during the course of the development of the Plan. Councillors were provided with the opportunity to comment on the draft Plan in April 2023 with no comments received. The final draft Plan was presented to a Councillor workshop on 17 May 2023.

RISK IMPLICATIONS

Reputation / Political

Collaboration and relationship development with neighbouring Councils, LGAQ, Queensland Government and stakeholders.

Occupational Health & Safety (WHS)

Continued improvement of workplace health and safety aspects in relation to landfill operations.

Financial Impact

The noting and supporting of the Plan does not commit Council to the implementation of the recommendations and/or associated costs. Funding may be provided by the State Government under the plan (Council co-contribution may or may not be required) which will assist in the further development and implementation of the Plan.

More detailed funding information and any impacts will be provided as part of any subsequent actions and business cases progressed as part of implementing the Plan.

Legal & Regulatory

The *Waste Reduction and Recycling Act 2011* outlines Council's obligations and responsibility in relation waste management operations. Failure to comply with the act results in enforcement action.

Environmental

Ongoing compliance with Environmental Authority and Site Conditions.

Property & Infrastructure

Minimal infrastructure for recycling and repurposing of goods within the North Burnett.

Human Resources

Not Applicable.

Information Communications Technology

Not Applicable.

Service Delivery

Waste Management is a core business of Council. The Plan will provide potential actions for each region, with the aim to enhance waste management in the future, including the increasing demands and expectations in relation to higher levels of recycling, repurposing, and re-use.

Climate

Not Applicable.

Key Message

Under the RRWG, the region has established a functioning collaborative approach to strategy development and implementation. In the immediate term the region will continue to collaborate on the Plan implementation, and seek to undertake regional procurement where beneficial, as well as collaborate on the implementation of education and awareness campaigns.

REGIONAL WASTE & RESOURCE RECOVERY PLAN

Wide Bay-Burnett Region

Prepared for:

Local Government Association of Queensland
Local Government House
25 Evelyn Street
Newstead
Fortitude Valley 4006

SLR Ref: 620.31107-R04
Version No: -v2.0
May 2022



PREPARED BY

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BASIS OF REPORT

This report has been prepared by SLR Consulting Australia Pty Ltd (SLR) with all reasonable skill, care and diligence, and taking account of the timescale and resources allocated to it by agreement with Local Government Association of Queensland (the Client). Information reported herein is based on the interpretation of data collected, which has been accepted in good faith as being accurate and valid.

This report is for the exclusive use of the Client. No warranties or guarantees are expressed or should be inferred by any third parties. This report may not be relied upon by other parties without written consent from SLR.

SLR disclaims any responsibility to the Client and others in respect of any matters outside the agreed scope of the work.

DOCUMENT CONTROL

Reference	Date	Prepared	Checked	Authorised
620.31107-R04-v2.0	6 May 2022	SLR Consulting	SLR Consulting	SLR Consulting
620.31107-R04-v1.0	22 February 2022	SLR Consulting	SLR Consulting	SLR Consulting

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Wide Bay-Burnett Regional Waste and Resource Recovery Plan

This Plan identifies a series of actions to be taken at a regional scale and for individual Councils to improve waste and resource recovery outcomes in the Wide Bay-Burnett region. Participating Councils are Wide Bay Burnett region. Participating Councils are Bundaberg Regional Council, Cherbourg Aboriginal Shire Council, Fraser Coast Regional Council, Gympie Regional Council, North Burnett Regional Council and South Burnett Regional Council. Under a working group established by councils, a series of workshops and interviews were undertaken to initially define current challenges and opportunities, to identify, refine and select preferred options, and to identify a pathway for implementation. Whilst this Plan sets the forward trajectory to improve waste and resource recovery outcomes in the Wide Bay-Burnett region, nothing in this Plan mandates Councils must deliver the actions identified in the Plan.

The population of the Wide Bay Burnett region was reported to be 310,728 in 2021 with a population density of 6.39 persons per square kilometre over a total land area of approximately 48,598 square kilometres.¹ Population is forecast to grow within the region to between 324,778 and 396,515 by 2041². Growth across the region is forecast to be highest in Bundaberg (19%), Fraser Coast (21%), Gympie (15%) and South Burnett (12%) LGAs, with Cherbourg Aboriginal Shire Council to experience modest (6%) growth and North Burnett Regional Council expected to contract marginally by 2%. Land use within the region is predominantly rural, with rural-residential, residential, commercial, and industrial land uses in numerous urban centres and small townships. The Wide Bay Burnett Region's Gross Regional Product is estimated at \$14.19 billion, which represents approximately 3.79% of the state's Gross State Product (GSP)³ and contributes 109,360 local jobs.

Current state

Waste arisings and services

Councils in the WBB region managed a total of 461,269 tonnes of waste in the 2020-21 financial year (FY20-21). This included (see **Figure EX1**):

- 197,286 tonnes of household waste
- 80,378 tonnes of commercial and industrial waste
- 183,605 tonnes of construction and demolition waste

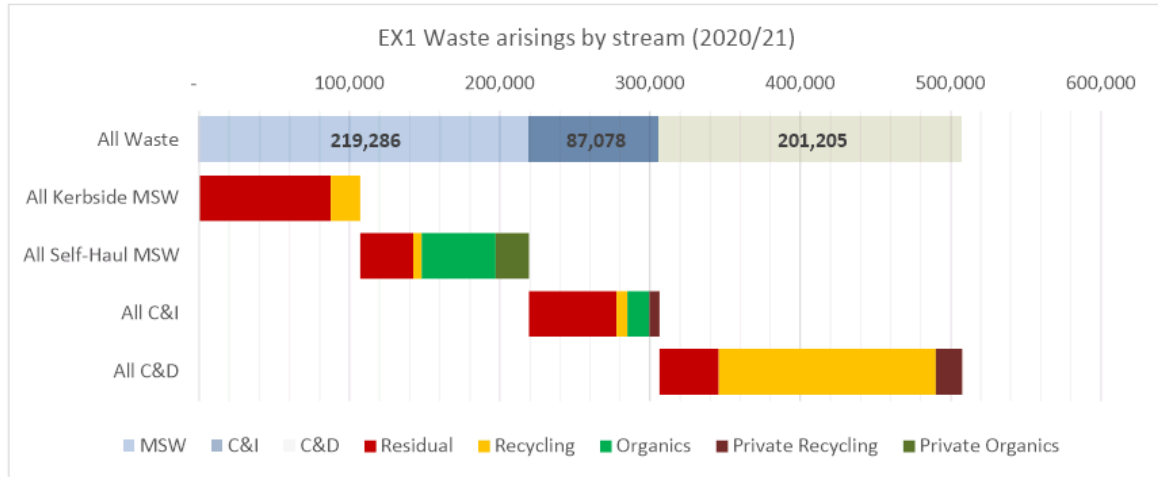
A further 46,300 tonnes of private sector waste was identified as managed in the region. Bundaberg Regional Council (42%) and Fraser Coast Regional Council (36%) manage the highest proportion of waste with Gympie Regional Council (9%), North Burnett Regional Council (4%), South Burnett Regional Council (9%) and Cherbourg Aboriginal Shire Council (<1%).

¹ Regional Development Australia, Wide Bay Burnett, 2023. RDA Wide Bay Burnett Region – Community Profile

² Queensland Government population projections, 2018 edition; Australian Bureau of Statistics, Population by age and sex, regions of Australia, 2016 (Cat no. 3235.0).

³ Regional Development Australia, Wide Bay Burnett, 2023. RDA Wide Bay Burnett Region – Economic Profile <https://economy.id.com.au/rda-wide-bay-burnett>

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY



Without intervention, waste managed by councils in the region is forecast to grow to 545,000 tonnes in FY30-31, 582,000 tonnes in FY40-41 and 619,000 tonnes in FY50-51.

All Councils offer a kerbside residual waste collection service. Bundaberg Regional Council, Cherbourg Aboriginal Shire Council, Fraser Coast Regional Council, Gympie Regional Council and South Burnett Regional Council currently provide a 2-bin collection system comprising residual waste and kerbside recycling.

All Councils offer a form of self-haul facility which receive householder, commercial and industrial, and construction wastes. This includes significant amount of garden organic waste managed at Council transfer and resource recovery facilities. Problematic wastes with limited currently available recovery options in the region include construction and demolition wastes (e.g., masonry, aggregates, and concrete), contaminated soils, e-waste, food and garden organics, timber, textiles, and tyres.

The plan identifies several regional or cross-regional solutions for these but acknowledges that Queensland or Commonwealth Government leadership and interventions will be needed for some of the more problematic waste streams.

Key issues

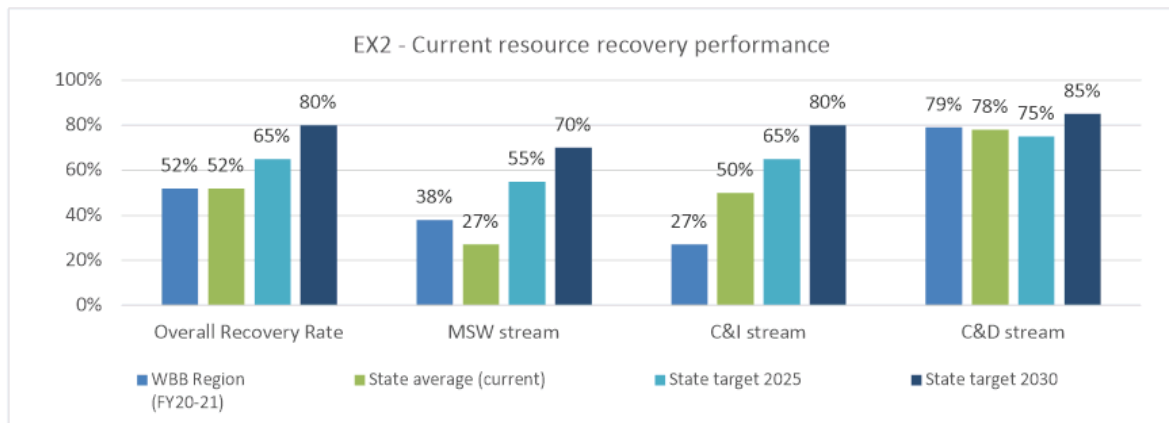
To inform the development of this Plan, several key issues identified that were considered to limit waste outcomes in the region including:

- Some landfills in the region are approaching capacity which may prohibit long-term future landfilling.
- Individual councils do not have sufficient scale for processing or remanufacturing recyclable materials or residual waste.
- There are insufficient current local end markets for recycled materials and secondary raw materials, except for organic waste, generally limiting the commercialisation of resource recovery.
- Community behaviour lacks understanding to support production of high-quality recyclable output.
- Current policy settings do not support greater recovery and recycling.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Current performance against Strategy targets

The Wide Bay-Burnett region has a current recovery rate of 52% across all streams, compared to a current state average of 52% and 2025 state target of 65%. The MSW and C&D streams are consistent with the state average, whilst the C&I stream is performing poorly. Across all streams except C&D, the 2025 and 2030 targets are however challenging without intervention, as shown on **Figure EX2**.



Plan outcomes

Education as a primary focus

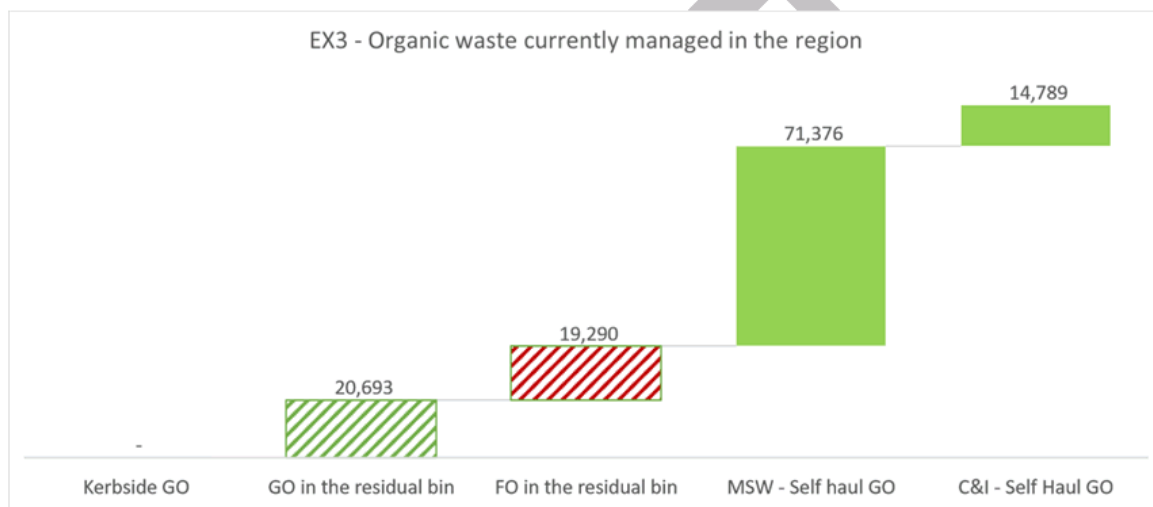
A regional waste and recycling education strategy has been identified by Councils to focus investment on education and behaviour change activities that promote better outcomes for the region. Education will focus on problem areas including reducing the kerbside recycling bin contamination rates, which diminishes the value of sorted material and can increase operational costs. Other areas of focus will include food waste avoidance programs, and other behaviour change activities which educate residents on the benefits of getting recycling right.

The regional education strategy will be developed through collaboration by Councils in the region however will require investment from the Queensland Government to prepare and implement. Through further investment, this Strategy, and the resources deployed could also target education of waste producers in the C&I stream to drive better resource recovery outcomes. Cherbourg Aboriginal Shire Council will develop its own community specific education plan to align with other education services in the area.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Improved organic waste management

The Wide Bay-Burnett region already recovered and recycled 86,165 tonnes of organic waste in FY20-21 through material delivered to Council resource recovery facilities. A further 40,000 tonnes of food and garden organics is estimated to currently go to landfill (as show in **Figure EX3**) representing an opportunity in the region to divert some of this material from landfill and into organic waste recycling through composting, whether at commercial facilities, at home, or via community facilities. In the region, policy and economic settings suggest that Bundaberg Regional Council and Fraser Coast Regional Council have sufficient volume to introduce a separate kerbside collection for organic waste, to be processed in the region. For other councils in the region current policy settings may limit the potential establishment of kerbside organic waste services.



For those parts of the region that cannot access a kerbside organic waste collection service, the Queensland Government should establish mechanisms to participate in composting through community gardens or composting hubs, or by providing access to at-home composting infrastructure such as compost bins or worm farms. These interventions will be implemented as soon as practically possible and dependent on availability of funding. Food waste avoidance education should also be rolled out across the region.

Economic analysis identified that the introduction of a new kerbside organics service would result in extra cost. The estimated cost for Bundaberg Regional Council and Fraser Coast Regional Council for a new organics collection service including recycling at a private sector organic waste processing is estimated at **\$153.5 million** (present value) assuming councils procure a service from an existing organic waste processing provider and over the 30-year model period. This assumes that open windrow composting is the preferred technology. The estimated annualised cost increase compared to business as usual, allowing for increasing levy costs, would be an additional estimated **\$55 per household** per year (present value, annualised) allowing for the residual bin collection being reduced to fortnightly where a kerbside organic waste collection is available. This includes:

- One-off-transition costs to purchase consumables and distribute to households including new bins, kitchen caddies, and compostable liners estimated at **\$2.7 million** for Bundaberg Regional Council and **\$3.1 million** for Fraser Coast Regional Council.⁴

⁴ Assumes estimated 80% coverage of FOGO service across local government area. Actual number may vary.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- An additional potential one-off cost of \$11-\$21 per bin may also be incurred to change current residual bin lids from green to the standardised red.
- Additional establishment education and ongoing annual organics diversion education costs just for FOGO implementation are included in the estimate of an initial at **\$0.27 million per annum** for Bundaberg Regional Council and **\$0.29 million** per annum for Fraser Coast Regional Council, expected to commence 2-years before a new service commences.

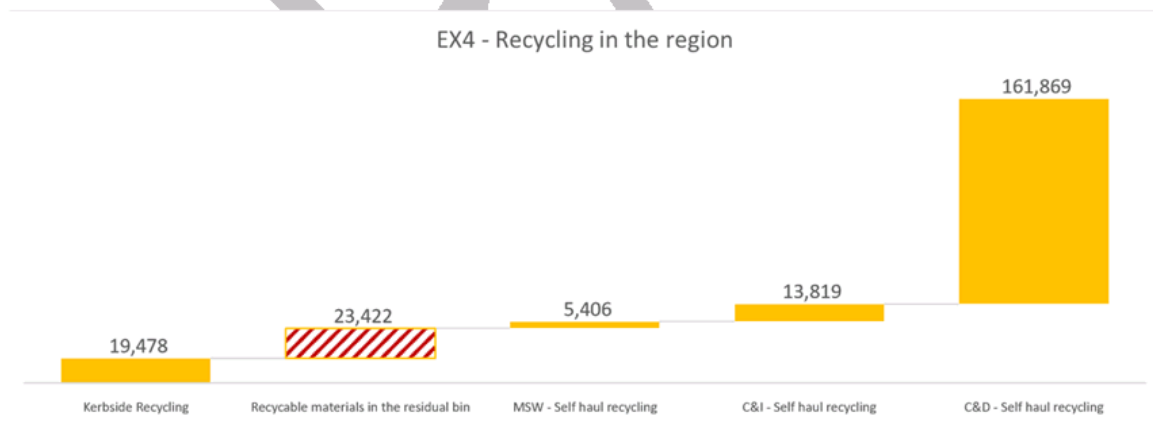
Whilst nothing in this Plan precludes other Councils from introducing a kerbside FOGO collection and processing solution, under current policy settings, the comparable cost per household would be higher due to 100% of landfill levy paid being returned to council in annual advance payments, in addition to the lack of scale and large distances required to transport waste for processing. Similar proportional costs may be incurred by other Councils progressing organic waste diversion.

It is estimated that the introduction of FOGO collection services in both Bundaberg and Fraser Coast Regional Council areas could capture an initial 28,000 tonnes of organic waste for recycling. At a regional scale this is forecast to improve the overall resource recovery rate from the existing 52% to an estimated 59% upon commencement in FY26-27. Between FY26-27 and FY30-31 this could divert an estimated additional 140,000 tonnes of organic waste from landfill into recycling.

Material recovery and recycling

Household kerbside stream

In FY20-21, 200,572 tonnes was reported as recovered in the region, of which the household kerbside collection of dry recyclables contributed 19,478 tonnes, and clean earth contributed 134,000 tonnes of the C&D recycled amount.



Contamination of the kerbside commingled bin in the region ranges up to 16-18%. It is estimated that there is also approximately 23,500 tonnes of dry recyclable material in the kerbside residual waste bin that could potentially be captured.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Through focussed education campaigns as part of the regional education strategy it is expected that contamination will be reduced, and that there will be greater capture of recyclable material currently lost to landfill. There are material recovery facilities in Bundaberg and Cherbourg, with a new potentially regional scale facility to be operational in Maryborough in 2024. It is also proposed to install glass processing and washing equipment in Maryborough through implementation of this Plan.

There may be opportunities for the establishment of new recycling or reprocessing facilities in the region aligned with the Queensland Governments precinct approach, however this requires further refinement. Target reprocessors may access organic waste, C&D waste (clean earth, masonry, aggregates, and concrete), agricultural plastics, e-wastes, timber, and solar panels.

The estimated cost to implement the material recovery and recycling interventions is an incremental **\$47 million** (present value) equivalent to an annualised cost of approximately \$17 per household per year. This includes:

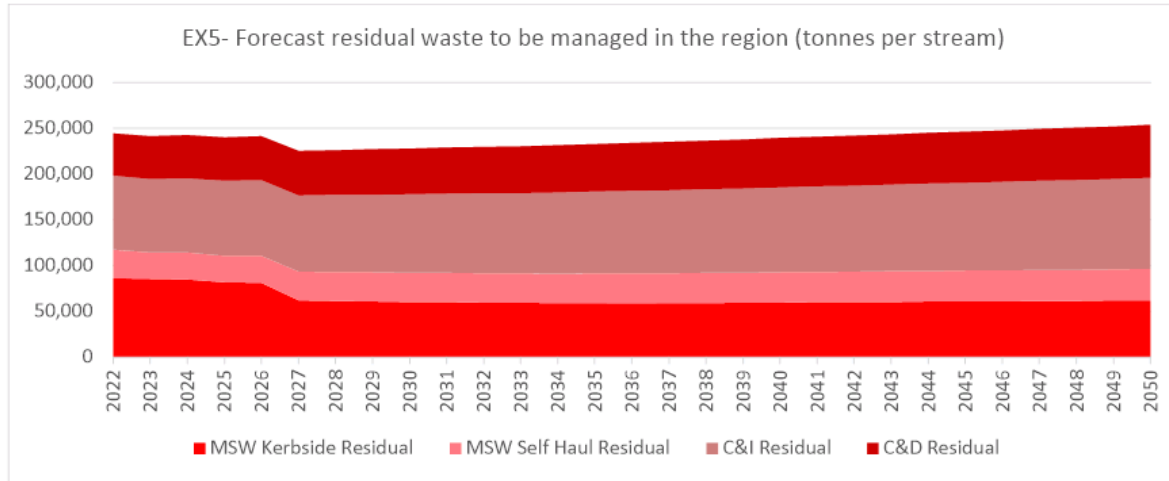
- Estimated capital expenditure of approximately **\$6.5 million** for new glass processing and washing technology to be deployed, and ongoing operational costs for over the 30-year lifetime.
- Small-scale transfer infrastructure improvement indicative budget of **\$7.5 million**.
- Allowances for funding supported improvements to provide household hazardous waste facilities, waste stream audit and other initiatives to support better segregation and understanding of waste flows in the region.
- The development and delivery of a regional education strategy that applies across all Councils to provide education priorities in collaboration with the Queensland Government, estimated to be **\$1 million** per annum commencing immediately.

It is assumed that additional education costs are funded by the Queensland Government. These changes are focussed on improving the quality and quantity of material captured for recycling and educating. A separate education plan will be developed by Cherbourg Aboriginal Shire Council specific to community needs.

Residual waste management in the long-term

In FY20-21, approximately 221,000 tonnes of residual waste was managed, of which 123,000 tonnes was generated directly by households. With the interventions identified in this Plan, resulting residual waste is expected to be 229,000 tonnes by FY30-31, 241,000 tonnes by FY40-41 and 256,000 tonnes by FY50-51 (see **Figure EX5**). For the household derived MSW stream only, Councils are forecast to need to manage 92,000 tonnes of residual waste in FY30-31, 93,000 tonnes in FY40-41 and 97,000 tonnes by FY50-51.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY



Gympie Regional Council has an immediate need for new landfill capacity. Other councils are running out of approved and constructed landfill capacity in the medium term. The cost of residual waste management is expected to increase as new capacity is required, or alternative solutions procured. The immediate cost of landfilling is also rapidly increasing for Bundaberg Regional Council and Fraser Coast Regional Council due to changes in annual advanced payments. In developing this Plan, councils did not expect to develop energy from waste (EfW) facilities within the region but recognised the potential to send residual waste from within the region to energy from waste facilities, if established outside the region. The estimated cost per household of diverting residual waste to an out of region EfW facility is likely to be significantly greater than continued landfilling. As technology evolves smaller scale regionally located facilities may be established by the private sector which could prove an alternative solution to sending out of region.

Other problematic streams identified in the residual waste stream include timber and contaminated soils. Long term solutions for these streams that avoid the need for landfill will be developed at a regional scale and implemented.

Expected recycling and resource recovery outcome of the Plan

To achieve an estimated regional resource recovery rate of approximately 60%, which amounts to an overall improvement of 8% for the region, and an estimated 22% improvement in recovery rate on the kerbside MSW stream, Bundaberg Regional Council and Fraser Coast Regional Council would need to introduce an organics diversion service targeting FOGO waste. This should be coupled with improvements to the existing yellow top bin recycling services through a combination of improved transfer facilities and education. Beyond this, significant improvements to the C&I stream are required, but only after data for non-council managed wastes are collected and assessed. Beyond this, the primary pathway to get closer to the Queensland Government’s resource recovery targets of 90% of waste diverted from landfill by 2050 would require a significant proportion of residual waste to be sent to EfW. Under current policy settings this is expected to be more expensive than sending the same waste to landfill.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Implementation

Cost to deliver the Plan

The estimated cost for implementation (excluding residual waste management) is **\$84 million** over the period FY23-24 to FY30-31 as presented in **Table EX1**.⁵

Table EX1 Indicative Cost Estimate (costs in millions, p50 accuracy)

Item	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029	2030	2031	Total to FY31
Regional Implementation									
Project Manager (RWG)	0.18	0.18	0.19	0.19	0.20	0.20	0.21	0.21	1.57
Administrative & Legal	0.10	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.10
Develop detailed implementation Plan	0.05	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.05
Review RWWP	-	-	-	-	0.10	-	-	-	0.10
Meetings (Council FTE requirement)	0.05	0.05	0.05	0.05	0.05	0.06	0.06	0.06	0.43
Council contribution to actions	0.05	0.05	0.05	0.05	0.05	0.06	0.06	0.06	0.43
Sub Total – Plan Implementation	0.43	0.28	0.29	0.30	0.41	0.31	0.32	0.33	2.67
Regional Education Strategy									
Education Strategy (and updates)	0.05		0.02		0.02		0.02	0.00	0.10
FOGO implementation, BRC/FCRC only	Captured within organic implementation costs below								-
Kerbside Education & Other	Captured within material recycling & recovery costs below								-
Sub-Total – Regional Education	0.05	0.00	0.02	0.00	0.02	0.00	0.02	0.00	0.10
Regional Organics Solution⁶									
<i>FOGO Implementation, BRC only</i>									
Administration, business cases, PM	0.20	0.20	0.08	0.08	0.08	0.08	0.08	0.08	0.88
FOGO education costs (new service BRC)		0.26	0.27	0.27	0.28	0.29	0.29	0.30	1.97
One off investment (bins) (BRC)				2.74					2.74
Collection costs (new, BRC)				1.71	1.75	1.80	1.84	1.89	8.99
Processing Costs (new, BRC)				1.56	1.60	1.65	1.69	1.75	8.24
FOGO implementation, BRC only	0.20	0.46	0.34	6.35	3.71	3.81	3.91	4.02	22.80
<i>FOGO Implementation, FCRC only</i>									
Administration, business cases, PM	0.20	0.20	0.08	0.08	0.08	0.08	0.08	0.08	0.88
FOGO education costs (new service FCRC)		0.29	0.30	0.31	0.32	0.32	0.33	0.34	2.21
One off investment (bins) (FCRC)				3.08					3.08
Collection costs (new, FCRC)				1.92	1.97	2.02	2.07	2.12	10.11

⁵ Costs are estimated to a maximum of p50 accuracy where presented in this Plan

⁶ Costs for new services presented here do not include benefits (e.g., reduced levy, reduced use of landfill airspace) however these savings are represented in the economic analysis. These costs represent actual costs for implementation. Benefits may not be realised at the same time.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Item	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029	2030	2031	Total to FY31
Processing Costs (new, FCRC)				1.56	1.61	1.66	1.71	1.77	8.32
FOGO implementation, FCRC only	0.20	0.49	0.38	6.95	3.98	4.09	4.20	4.32	24.59
<i>Organics Programs</i>									
Community composting	0.10	0.10	0.10	0.10	0.10	0.10	0.10	0.10	0.80
Roll out of compost bin program		0.31						0.31	0.61
Material flow analysis - organics	0.01	0.02					0.02		0.05
Sub-Total – Organics Programs	0.11	0.43	0.10	0.10	0.10	0.10	0.12	0.41	1.46
TOTAL (Regional Organics Solution)	0.51	1.38	0.82	13.40	7.79	8.00	8.23	8.74	48.86
Material recovery & recycling solution									
Education Implementation (kerbside + other)	0.98	1.01	1.03	1.06	1.09	1.11	1.14	1.17	8.59
Education Plan (Cherbourg)		0.05	0.02	0.02	0.02	0.02	0.02	0.02	0.18
Small scale infrastructure improvements		1.25	1.25	1.25	1.25	1.25	1.25	1.25	7.50
Community circular economy programs	0.05	0.05	0.05	0.05	0.05	0.05	0.05	0.05	0.40
Household Hazardous Waste CRCs			0.20	0.20	0.20	0.20	0.20	0.20	1.20
Glass processing & washing plant		0.20	7.00	1.00	1.03	1.05	1.08	1.10	12.46
Supplementary funding for Waste Audits	0.08	0.08	0.08	0.09	0.09	0.09	0.09	0.10	0.70
TOTAL (MRR Solution)	1.11	2.64	9.64	3.67	3.72	3.78	3.83	2.64	31.03
Residual Waste									
Progress & implement R&D into problematic wastes	0.10	0.10	0.10	0.10	0.10	0.10	0.10	0.10	0.80
TOTAL (Residual Solution)	0.10	0.10	0.10	0.10	0.10	0.10	0.10	0.10	0.80
OVERALL TOTAL – IMPLEMENTATION COST FOR RWRRP TO FY30-31	2.20	4.41	10.86	17.46	12.03	12.19	12.50	11.81	83.46

All costs presented in Million \$ based at 2023 rates, BRC-Bundaberg Regional Council, CASC-Cherbourg Aboriginal Shire Council, FCRC-Fraser Coast Regional Council, GRC-Gympie Regional Council, NBRC-North Burnett Regional Council. SBRC-South Burnett Regional Council

Access to supporting resources and funding

Evidence prepared in development of this Plan indicates the cost of implementation will be significant compared to the current state. There is a need for support around the development of business plans and forecasting suitable for approval by the Queensland Government, particularly for infrastructure such as new or improved transfer facilities, new collections, or processing infrastructure. Access to regional facilitation / coordination support resources is essential for Councils implementation of the Plan, as would funding support to develop supporting documentation for funding applications. Implementation at the regional scale will also require funding to coordinate and liaise with the Queensland Government, and advocate for better waste outcomes in the region.

Funding for capital expenditure such as an organic waste processing facility (or enhancements to existing privately owned facilities), small scale infrastructure improvements, or potentially an energy from waste facility may also be facilitated by the Queensland Government, pending specific business case development.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Regional collaboration and responsibilities

To support development of this Plan, the region has utilised a collaborative approach to strategy development and implementation by establishing a specific working group. To implement the Plan, the region is required to formalise a working group. This group will continue to collaborate on Plan implementation, and seek to undertake regional procurement where beneficial, as well as collaborate on the implementation of education and awareness campaigns. This is a critical action required to be commenced immediately following finalisation of the Plan. The Queensland Government will fund a project or program manager to deliver the Plan. Depending on procurement and ownership decisions around certain infrastructure, there may be a need to establish additional governance structures.

Responsibility for decision making for the implementation of interventions under this Plan will sit with individual councils facilitated by the RRWG. The RRWG will coordinate funding requests required to the Queensland Government for approval under the following proposed structure:

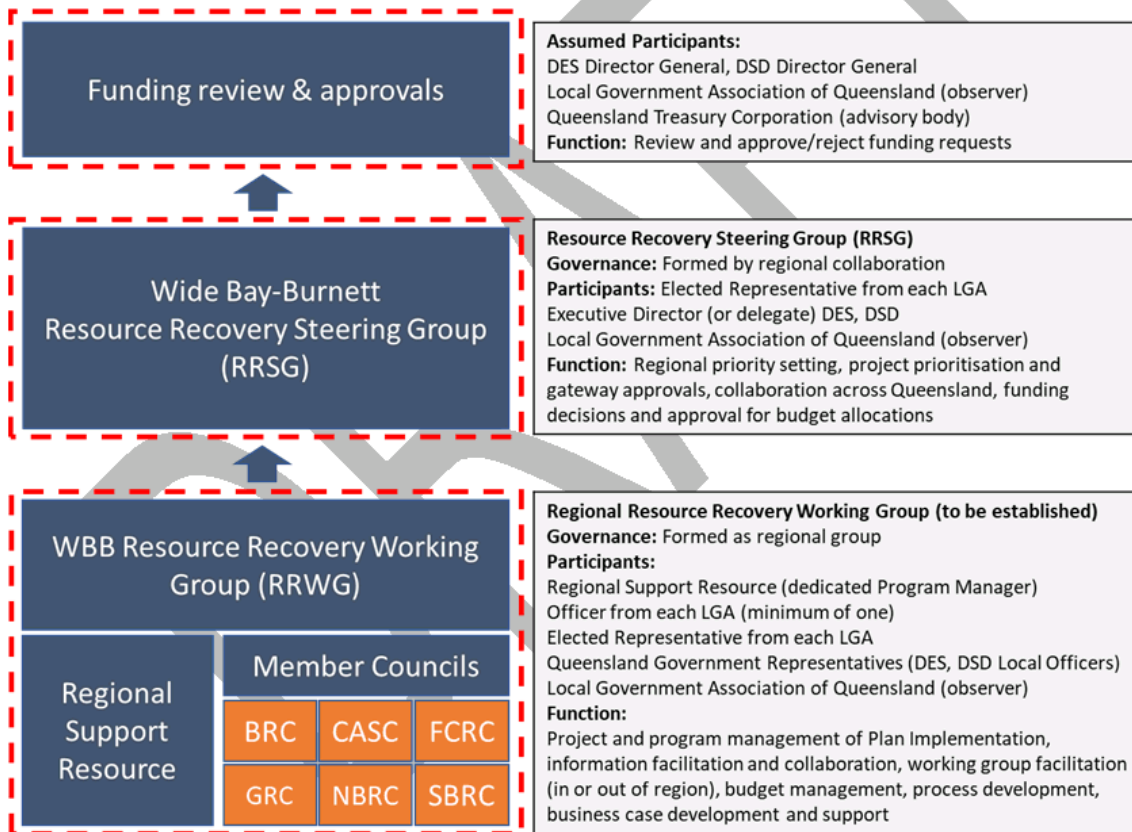


Figure EX6 – Regional governance structure

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Review and monitoring

Implementation of the Plan will be the responsibility of the regional steering group through the regional facilitation / coordination support assistance. Initial actions will be measured against progress, but longer-term review should be against metrics including delivery of specific services identified in the Plan and achieving levels of education, capture of types of waste (e.g., FOGO, GO, Dry Recyclables) and resultant change to recovery rates compared to forecast. The Plan will be scheduled for review and update every 5-years.

Implementation roadmap

An implementation roadmap has been developed identifying timing and activities to deliver this Plan, as show in **Table EX2**.

While the regional waste management plan provides the primary vehicle for accessing available funding from the Recycling and Jobs Fund, there may also be opportunities for initiatives to be funded that are outside the plan. For example, a pilot at a local level to 'test' the suitability of a model or infrastructure for the region (or sub-region). It is recognised that the plan needs to be a living document and that not all potential initiatives will have been identified in the plan.

However, it is expected that the bulk of the funding will come through the projects identified in the plan with a more streamlined pathway for funding approvals as it has already been identified in the plan. In the first instance any projects identified that are outside the plan would likely be discussed with the regional working and steering groups and the proposed regional support resource position that will be funded to support implementation of the plan, to assess suitability for funding under the plan or whether this would be considered under a separate funding process.

Councils, in participating in the development of this plan and subsequent endorsement of or support for its finalisation and publication, can do so in the knowledge that this consideration does not obligate individual Councils to any funding commitment. Subsequent business cases developed as part of implementing the plan and implementation decisions made by the region for implementing the plan would normally include that detail.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Table EX2 Implementation Roadmap

Action	Responsibility	Immediate	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029	2030	2031	2032	2033	2040	2050
		Next 2 years			Within next 5 years			Within next 10 years					To 2040	To 2050
General														
Establish regional waste working group to implement Plan	All													
Program management	RWWG													
Regional collaboration (e.g., RWWG meetings, action management, etc.)	RWWG, All													
Organic Waste Management														
Participate in Education and Behaviour Change Initiative (assumed continuation) as part of regional education strategy – incorporating a food waste avoidance component	All													
Review potential for behaviour change regulation (new services)	BRC, FCRC													
Roll out of at-home composting solutions	QGOV													
Develop business case for organics collection service for council approval including refinement of market price for recycled organics	BRC, FCRC													
Commence new organic waste collection service education	BRC, FCRC													
Procurement of organic waste collection solution	BRC, FCRC													
Procurement of organic waste processing solution	BRC, FCRC													
Commence and operate kerbside organic waste collection service (pending individual council approval)	BRC, FCRC													
Continuation of self-haul green waste receipt and processing	All													
Roll out of community composting solutions including guidance	QGOV													
Collaborate on regional solution for finding highest value market for green waste across region	RWWG													
Develop regional solution for biosolids and timber	RWWG													
Develop pathway to improve non-Council held data collection	QGOV, All													
Material Recycling & Recovery														
Participate in Education and Behaviour Change Initiative (assumed continuation) and develop regional education strategy, implement	RWWG, All													
Review & agree pathway for improved enforcement activity for poor household behaviours in kerbside bin service provision, and implement	RWWG, All													
Seek opportunities to collaborate on regional collections approach when contracts allow	RWWG													
Develop business case for funding of glass processing and washing solution	FCRC													
Procure, construct and commission glass processing and washing solution	FCRC													
Develop business case, designs for new or improved transfer facilities	All (as required)													
Construct and commission upgrades or new transfer facilities	All (as required)													
Collaborate on establishment of regional scale precinct and ancillary satellite sites in accordance with precinct guidelines	RWWG, All													
Construct enabling infrastructure for precinct	QGOV													
Establish new resource recovery processing facilities within precinct	GGOV, All support													
Work with Queensland Government agencies to improve uptake or recycled materials in procurement	QGOC, All RWWG													
Develop pathway to improve material flow data and knowledge across region for recyclable material	QGOV, All													
Collaborate to collect data on contamination within kerbside bins to improve education approach.	RWWG, All													

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Action	Responsibility	Immediate	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029	2030	2031	2032	2033	2040	2050
		Next 2 years			Within next 5 years			Within next 10 years					To 2040	To 2050
Residual Waste Management														
Councils to consider individual landfill capacity needs in short-medium and long-term	All													
Consider long-term options and approach to managing residual waste in the long-term, pending availability of facilities out of region	RWWG, All													
Develop long-term approach to managing problem and emerging wastes	All													

Notes: BRC-Bundaberg Regional Council, Cherbourg Aboriginal Shire Council, FCRC-Fraser Coast Regional Council, GRC-Gympie Regional Council, NBRC-North Burnett Regional Council, SBRC-South Burnett Regional Council; ALL: Indicates collaborative activities for all councils to participate in.

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APPENDICES

- Appendix A – Investment Logic Mapping & Strategic Rationale Outcome
- Appendix B – Waste Flow Model Assumptions
- Appendix C – Economic Analysis Report
- Appendix D – Indicative implementation cost estimate

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Glossary

Acronym	Details
Annual advance payment	A payment made by the Queensland Government as part of a commitment made to avoid there being a direct impact of the waste disposal levy on households. Councils receive a percentage (depending on levy zone) of the amount paid in waste disposal levy on household waste as an advanced payment.
Capital Expenditure (CAPEX)	An expense incurred through the additional of capital infrastructure works
C&D	Construction and demolition – Waste generated by demolition and excavation companies, builders, contractors, and property developers. The waste from these activities can include excavated material, waste asphalt, bricks, concrete, plaster, timber, vegetation, asbestos, and contaminated soils.
C&I	Commercial and Industrial – Waste generated by manufacturers, shops and business of all sizes and varieties.
Circular economy	A model of production and consumption that avoids waste and depletion of finite resources through the reuse of materials and assets.
Composting	Repurposing of organic waste to produce compost or other soil improver products, which are then sold into landscaping and agricultural markets
DES	Department of Environment and Science – A department of the Queensland Government driving sustainability, wellbeing, and scientific excellence.
Diversion	Diversion in the context of this report refers to diversion of waste from landfill to an alternative recovery pathway
EfW	Energy from waste: Interchangeably termed 'waste to energy'. A collection of treatment processes and technologies used to generate a usable form of energy, for example, electricity, heat, and fuels, from waste materials. The Queensland EfW Policy defines EfW under four categories: biological, chemical, mechanical, and thermal.
Expanded polystyrene (EPS)	A lightweight cellular plastic material, widely used in building and construction, and packaging.
FOGO collection	Food Organics and Garden Organics – Refers to a kerbside collection service of combined food and garden waste, mostly from domestic or municipal sources in one collection bin
Infrastructure	Infrastructure in the context of this report refers to waste and resource recovery infrastructure unless otherwise noted
In-vessel composting	Composting technology involving the use of a fully enclosed chamber or vessel in which the composting process is controlled by regulating the rate of mechanical aeration
Leachate	A form of wastewater that has percolated through waste such as that in landfills
Mixed recyclables	Comingled recyclable materials including plastic, aluminium, glass, steel, and paper
MRF	Material recovery facility – A Plant that separates and prepares recyclable materials to sell to end users as raw materials for new products.
MSW	Municipal Solid Waste – Primarily the waste and recyclables generated by households and collected by Councils but may also include other Council generated wastes
Operating expenditure (OPEX)	An expense a business incurs through its regular business operations.
Organics processing	The processing of organic materials into beneficial products such as soil conditioners and mulch
PEF	Process Engineered Fuel, also known as refuse derived fuel (RDF), is a solid fuel produced after processing of waste, for example in a dirty MRF, to increase the calorific value, homogenise the material, remove recyclable materials, remove inert materials, and remove hazardous contaminants

Acronym	Details
Processing facilities and infrastructure	Facilities which either receive materials directly from collection systems or from recovery facilities for further sorting and/or processing to provide material for use in the generation of new products.
PV	Photovoltaic- mechanism used in solar panels
Product stewardship	Recognition of the shared responsibility to reduce the environmental and human health and safety impacts of products and materials over their life from design to disposal.
QWDS	Queensland Waste Data System. The web-based data system used by the Queensland government to collect data from operators. Depending on reporting entity there are different reporting requirements. Data from QWDS has been utilised to inform this Plan.
Recyclate	Raw material transported to a waste recycling facility or a material recovery facility for processing into a new material or product
Reprocessing	Changing the physical structure and properties of a waste material that would otherwise have been sent to landfill to add value to the processed material and prepare it for reuse.
Resource recovery	The process of obtaining matter or energy from discarded materials
Secondary processing	Taking pre-sorted materials and changing their physical and/or chemical nature, adding value to the processed material so that it can become a feedstock for a manufacturing process or re-enter the economy
Single use plastic	Materials primarily made from petrochemicals to be disposed of directly after use. Commonly used for packaging and service ware, such as bottles, wrappers, straws, and bags.
Sustainable procurement	Meeting the need for materials, goods, utilities, and services in a sustainable, environmentally friendly, responsible, and ethical way.
WBB	Wide Bay Burnett, refers to the collective region comprising Bundaberg Regional Council, Cherbourg Aboriginal Shire Council, Fraser Coast Regional Council, Gympie Regional Council, North Burnett Regional Council, and South Burnett Regional Council.

1 Introduction

Wide Bay Burnett (WBB) region and the Queensland Government recognise the importance of regional implementation in the delivery of Queensland's *Waste Management and Resource Recovery Strategy*⁷ (WMRR Strategy). The Local Government Association of Queensland (LGAQ) is therefore supporting the development of the Wide Bay Burnett Regional Waste and Resource Recovery Plan (the Plan) on behalf of the Councils within the Wide Bay Burnett region. This plan details a clear path for the future of waste management, resource recovery and recycling in the region through providing strategies and actions to strengthen regional collaboration regarding the delivery and improvement of waste management and resource recovery services across the region.

The intention of the plan is to provide long-term direction to 2050 for the needs of the region in terms of critical waste streams, infrastructure, and the identification of a particular suite of levers required to achieve regionally specific targets. Specific activities and actions in the short- to medium-term are identified, where there is a relatively high degree of certainty in process and outcome. Longer-term activities and actions are expected to be implemented later in the program of works or require further refinement and development. It is anticipated that the plan will require a degree of flexibility.

The Plan aims to achieve a balance between a clear implementation plan for the best whole of system outcome for the region, while reflecting the needs and wishes of each individual council and their rate payers.

1.1 Purpose

The purpose of the Plan is to address any problems and opportunities with the current waste management in the region. The objectives of this Plan are to:

- Maximise the value of waste, including problematic waste streams.
- Deliver the best pathway for the region that identifies opportunities for government co-funding arrangements, and industry investment or co-investment.
- Provide councils with the data and options analysis required to make informed decisions about policy, location of infrastructure and optimal value for money investment, and non-infrastructure options
- Support improved waste management, resource recovery and recycling practices to contribute towards agreed regional and state targets
- Encourage and support opportunities to embed circular economy principles into business-as-usual practices, including through sustainable procurement principles
- Encourage and support job creation and economic and market development opportunities.
- Improve environmental outcomes for the community.
- Identify non-infrastructure and social and community benefits and
- Establish and maintain collaborative relationships with key stakeholders to drive long-term sustainable outcomes.

⁷ Queensland Government, 2019. *Waste Management and Resource Recovery Strategy*

1.2 The region

This Plan is specifically for the Wide Bay Burnett region, comprising the Local Government Areas of Bundaberg Regional Council, Cherbourg Aboriginal Shire Council, Fraser Coast Regional Council, Gympie Regional Council, North Burnett Regional Council and South Burnett Regional Council. Where appropriate, the Plan may look outside of the region to neighbouring regions or individual Councils for benefit of Plan implementation. Neighbouring regions include Southeast Queensland, Central Queensland, and the Darling Downs. The region is shown on **Figure 1**.

The population of the Wide Bay Burnett region was reported to be 310,728 in 2021 with a population density of 6.39 persons per square kilometre over a total land area of approximately 48,598 square kilometres.⁸ Population is forecast to grow within the region to between 324,778 and 396,515 by 2041⁹. Growth across the region is forecast to be highest in Bundaberg (19%), Fraser Coast (21%), Gympie (15%) and South Burnett (12%) LGAs, with Cherbourg Aboriginal Shire Council to experience modest (6%) growth and North Burnett Regional Council expected to contract marginally by 2%. Land use within the region is predominantly rural, with rural-residential, residential, commercial, and industrial land uses in numerous urban centres and small townships. The main urban centres are Bundaberg, Gayndah, Gympie, Hervey Bay, Kingaroy, and Maryborough alongside the aboriginal community at Cherbourg.

The Wide Bay Burnett Region's Gross Regional Product is estimated at \$14.19 billion, which represents approximately 3.79% of the state's Gross State Product (GSP)¹⁰ and contributes 109,360 local jobs. The largest industry by employment is health care and social assistance. Rural land within the region is used largely for forestry, agriculture, and horticulture, particularly sugar cane, fruit, vegetable, cereal, and crop growing and cattle grazing. Tourism and the resources industry are also important contributors to the economy.

Several key projects are identified within the region which, when developed will contribute both to regional growth and potentially expansion of waste generated within the region including the manufacturing of new trains and associated supply chain in Maryborough, the Wide Bay Burnett minerals region activation, activities at the Port of Bundaberg and State Development Area, and facilitation to support the growth of food and beverage manufacturing. These are supported by the Queensland Government Department of State Development, Infrastructure, Local Government and Planning (DSDILGP).¹¹

⁸ Regional Development Australia, Wide Bay Burnett, 2023. RDA Wide Bay Burnett Region – Community Profile

⁹ Queensland Government population projections, 2018 edition; Australian Bureau of Statistics, Population by age and sex, regions of Australia, 2016 (Cat no. 3235.0).

¹⁰ Regional Development Australia, Wide Bay Burnett, 2023. RDA Wide Bay Burnett Region – Economic Profile <https://economy.id.com.au/rda-wide-bay-burnett>

¹¹ State of Queensland, 2023. Strengthening Wide Bay Burnett,

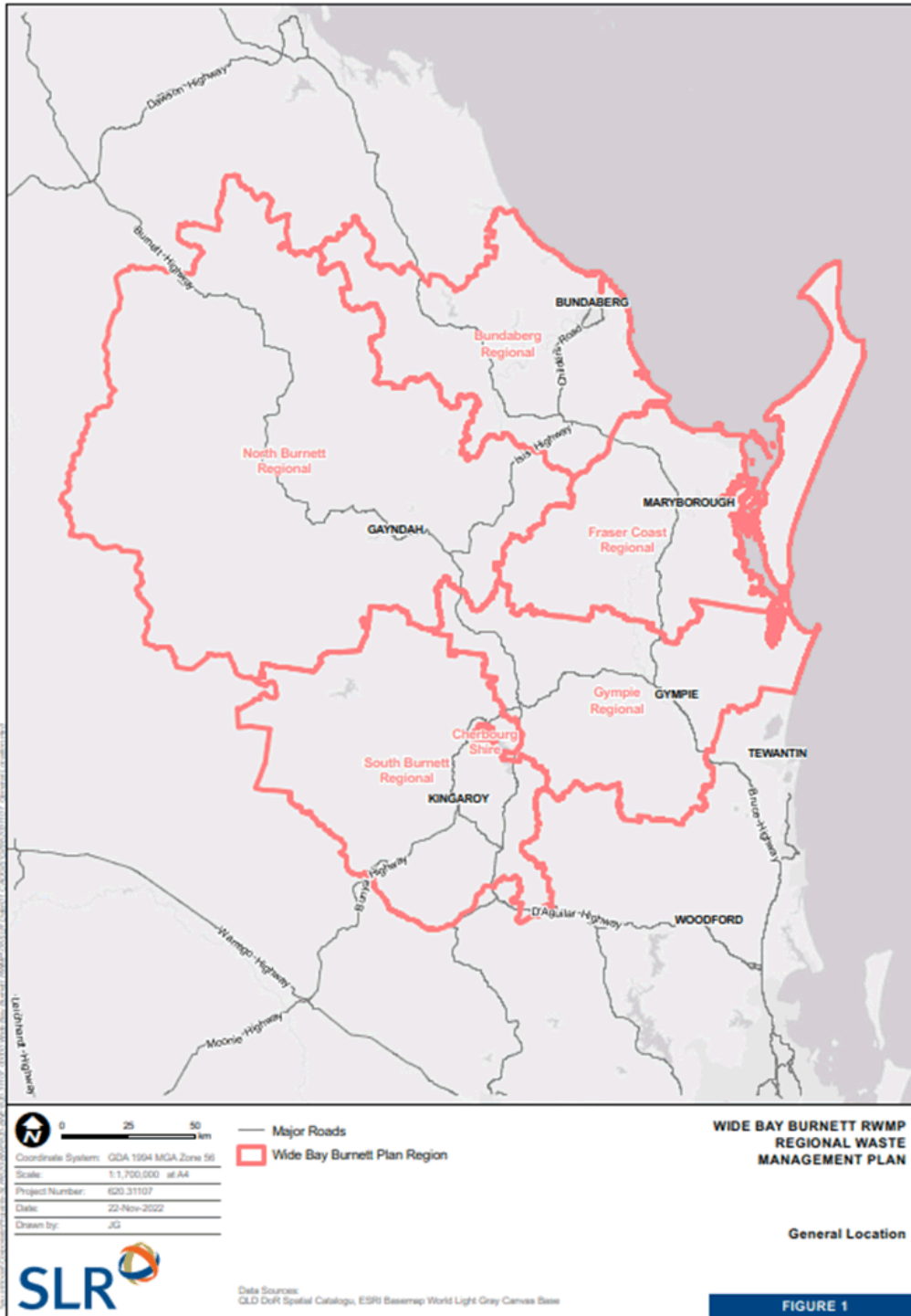


Figure 1 Regional Location Plan

1.3 Key issues to be addressed

Through an Investment Logic Mapping (ILM) process with WBB councils, elected officials and key plan stakeholders including the Queensland Government, the following needs for the plan to address (service needs) were identified:

- Some landfills in the region are approaching capacity, which will prohibit further landfilling and require further diverse investment to enable management of residual waste
- Individual councils do not have sufficient scale for processing and remanufacturing recyclable materials or residual waste, limiting the ability to achieve resource recovery at a commercial scale
- There are insufficient current local end markets for recycled materials and/or secondary raw materials, with the exception of recycled organic waste, generally limiting the ability to achieve commercial rates of return for resource recovery
- A lack of community understanding around the increasing cost of waste management and absence of incentives and benefits for households to improve behaviours is leading to inefficient waste management practices.
- There is an opportunity to develop and support new industries and create local economic and community benefits through collaborative waste management planning between WBB councils and outside the region.
- The objectives and targets in the Queensland Waste Management and Resource Recovery Strategy and National Waste Policy Action Plan cannot be met in the Wide Bay Burnett Region with existing infrastructure, initiatives, funding, resourcing, and supporting policy.

These key issues are explored further in **Section 3**.

1.4 Approach to plan development

This Plan has been developed through initial engagement between WBB Councils, the Queensland Government, and other key stakeholders. Engagement to inform this interim report has included:

- An investment logic mapping workshop with the WBB Resource Recovery Working Group including representatives from each member council and the Queensland Government.
- An options assessment workshop considering the key options available to councils as part of a regional collaboration or for individual council action with the WBB Resource Recovery Working Group including representatives from each member council and the Queensland Government.
- An implementation options workshop with the WBB Resource Recovery Working Group including representatives from each member council and the Queensland Government to identify roles and responsibilities, governance structures, funding needs and timeframes.
- A series of follow up sessions with individual councils to refine and improve on the understanding of workshop outcomes, capturing specific needs or to undertake editorial.
- Presentations to a working group comprised of elected representatives and waste officers from WBB Councils specifically to develop this Plan
- Presentations to individual Councils to update on scope, progress and overall outcomes as related to their specific Local Government Area.

- Additional follow up sessions with council teams and Department of Environment and Science (DES) relating to information and data provided to inform waste flow forecasting.
- Engagement with key non-Council or Queensland Government stakeholders in the region including peak bodies, local industry and other specialist businesses managing materials or waste.

1.5 Document map

This Plan is the result of a significant research, consultation, and collaboration effort by council representatives across the WBB region and draws together work undertaken by individual councils within the region. Key information utilised is referenced in the document. The following provides a document map to where information is presented:

Table 1 Document map

Detail	Section	Sub-section	Description / Relevance to Plan
Purpose of the RWRRP	1	1.1	The rationale and expected objectives of the Plan
Background information	1	1.2	Information on the Wide Bay Burnett Region
Policy setting	2	2.1, 2.2	The current policy setting in which this Plan is developed including approach to regional collaboration
Waste arisings, current baseline, and forecasting	2	2.4, 2.6	Analysis relating existing waste arisings in the region, current management, and processing infrastructure, and forecast arisings utilised to shape the plan.
Key issues & opportunities	3	1.3, 3.1-3.6	Description of strategic rationale and detail of key issues identified by stakeholders to be addressed by the Plan
Organic waste stream	4	Whole section	This section considers the role the region will play in diverting organic waste from landfill, whether by large scale intervention or community based non-infrastructure solutions, including estimated cost of the transition and role each Council will play.
Material recycling & recovery	5	Whole section	This section considers how material recycling and recovery can be improved in the region, including reducing contamination, improving transfer and segregation facilities, and identifying collaborative actions for MRF and precinct development.
Residual waste stream	6	Whole section	Following implementation of the outcomes of s4 and s5 this section considers how the residual waste stream will be managed in the context of reducing airspace and increasing cost for landfill disposal.
Plan implementation	7	Whole section	This section presents how the plan will be implemented, including key actions and agreements for collaboration, how the plan will be delivered, and where funding may make the impact on households lower or more meaningful.

1.6 Assumptions and limitations in preparing this Plan

The following assumptions and limitations have been used to develop this Plan:

- Data provided by the Queensland Government from annual returns is assumed to be free from errors. The data cut off allows the utilisation of data up to FY20-21 to inform the study. In some cases, Councils have provided additional data to supplement or reflect their own analysis, which may be inconsistent with the Queensland Government supplied data.
- Cost estimates provided in the cost benefit analysis and presented in the Plan are accurate at a p50 level. These estimates are built using proxy costs in the region (where available), from out of region or from benchmark data. It is a general assumption that any costed solution will require further definition during implementation of the Plan and to satisfy the needs of Local, Queensland and Commonwealth Government decision makers.
- The waste sector is highly dynamic. Over the duration of the Plan development changes have been captured, however the Plan should be reviewed on a regular basis during implementation to ensure it meets the needs of the current policy position.
- This Plan represents the inputs and requirements of Councils developed through an interactive process. Whilst decisions reflected in the Plan are current at the point of issue, these decisions require continued council involvement, authorisation, and funding (whether from Councils or other funding sources) to progress towards the targets and outcomes.
- This Plan identifies the pathway and the evidence base for the region to deliver on the objectives of Queensland's Waste Management and Resource Recovery Strategy, including suggested actions and costs to implement.

2 Existing Information

2.1 Policy & legislative drivers

The Plan is not prepared in isolation. There are a range of economic, environmental, policy and legislative factors that drive the need for a regional-scale response. The key policy and legislative drivers are:

2.1.1 National policy and legislation

The **National Waste Policy**, which was updated in 2018, and the **National Waste Policy Action Plan**, identify priority wastes and prioritises the increased diversion of organic waste from landfill. Under the policy, and the introduction of the *Recycling and Waste Reduction Act 2020*, a framework for the banning of export of certain waste materials (glass, plastic, tyres and paper and card). Reprocessers can now only export these materials under specific requirements¹², with a view to driving in Australia processing and remanufacturing. Support for the waste industry is provided by a partnership between the Commonwealth and State Governments under the Recycling Modernisation Fund. In relevance to this Plan, export bans provide a barrier to existing Material Recovery Facility (MRF) operators and likely, over time will lead to increased gate fees for users of these facilities (e.g., Councils who provide kerbside collected commingled recycling), particularly whilst onshore processing and secondary markets utilising the recycled material are catching up.

Under the National Waste Policy, the Commonwealth Government has initiated the **Ministers Priority List**¹³. This is a list of priority wastes and actions updated annually, with an aim to driving action through product stewardship to manage problematic or emerging wastes. From this list product stewardship schemes for photovoltaic (PV) systems (i.e., solar panels), electrical and electronic products (e-wastes), plastic oil containers, child car seats, clothing and textiles, and problematic and unnecessary single use plastics have been established or are in the process of being established. A series of national product stewardship schemes are established for oil, TVs and computers, plastics and packaging, mattresses, mobile phones, tyres, large plastic bags, batteries, aluminium cladding under mandatory schemes, co-regulatory arrangements, or government accredited industry-led voluntary schemes. In regional Queensland access to residents, whether directly or via Council operated resource recovery or transfer facilities can be variable.

2.1.2 Queensland policy and legislative environment

The Queensland Government's **Waste Management and Resource Recovery Strategy** (WMRR Strategy), released in 2019 provides a framework and series of actions for the Queensland Government, Local Government, and industry to move toward a Zero Waste Society by 2050. The state is required to have a waste management strategy under the *Waste and Recycling Act 2008*. The development of this Plan is an action under the Strategy, which sets specific resource recovery targets for 2025, 2030, 2040 and 2050. To support the implementation of the Strategy, the Queensland Government commenced a levy on the disposal of waste to landfill in 2019. The implication of this on this Plan is presented in Section 2.1.3. Under the strategy a series of action Plans and policies have been developed or are in progress.

¹² The regulation of export of paper and card will commence on 1 July 2024. Glass, plastic, and tyres are already regulated.

¹³ Australian Government, 2022. Minister's Priority List, from <https://www.dcceew.gov.au/environment/protection/waste/product-stewardship/ministers-priority-list>

The Queensland WMRR Strategy points towards a **transition towards a circular economy**. Whilst the waste hierarchy and the traditional 3Rs of Reuse, Recycling and Recovery continue to dominate how waste is managed in the region, and will continue to do so, it is reasonable to expect over time the nature of waste will change as producers and consumers begin to adopt circular concepts. The 10Rs of the circular economy place (see **Figure 2**) a much greater emphasis on the use of design for consumers and producers to refuse, rethink and reduce waste. Consumption under the circular economy will support reuse, repair, refurbishment, remanufacturing, and repurposing to minimise the return of materials for recycle or recovery. This Plan attempts to find a balance between meeting existing needs and allowing for future changes.

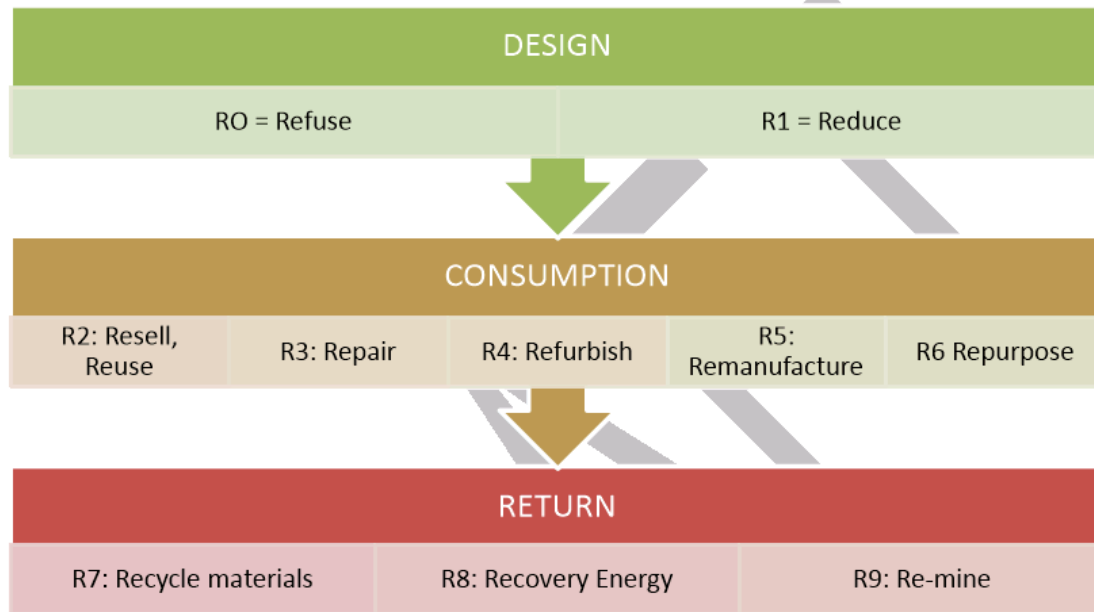


Figure 2 The 10 Rs of a Circular Economy¹⁴

¹⁴ Vermeulen, W.J.V, Reike, D. and Witjes,S. 2019. Circular Economy 3.0 – Solving confusion around new conceptions of circularity by synthesising and reorganising the 3R’s concept into a 10R hierarchy.

Table 2 Summary of relevant State legislation and policy

Document	Status	Relevance to regional Plan
Queensland Waste and Resource Recovery Infrastructure Report	Current	Statewide waste and resource recovery infrastructure report detailing stocks and flows, and locations and capacity of existing waste infrastructure. Used to inform baseline for this Plan
Queensland Resource Recovery Industries 10-Year Roadmap and Action Plan (2019)	Current	Action Plan under Waste Strategy Sets out a Plan to support industry growth and job creation in resource recovery, including framework for grant funding. Interaction with precinct planning provides for beneficial co-location of recycling and post-recycling
First Nation communities waste strategy and Action Plans	Current	Provides an innovative approach for Queensland's 17 Aboriginal and Torres Strait Island Councils in managing waste. Is supported by regional Action Plans, in development, with three Councils included in Regional Waste and Resource Recovery Plan, Palm Island, Woorabinda, Cherbourg
Queensland Energy from Waste Policy (2021)	Current	Non-statutory policy sets framework for role of EfW in Queensland and key performance and compliance indicators. Implications for EfW projects proposed under this Plan, requirements may impact analysis
Queensland Organics Strategy and Action Plan 2022-2032	Current	The Organics Strategy provides the framework and actions for improved management of organic materials across the supply and consumption chain. Regional Planning must be consistent with the Strategy aims and objectives and allow for the impact of the successful implementation in forward projections. The Action Plan provides specific actions for delivery across the avoidance, landfill diversion and recycling themes in the short, medium, and long term. The regional Plan will seek to contribute to these actions to support the Queensland Government in achieving the objectives of the strategy.
Queensland Plastic Pollution Reduction Plan	Current	Presents the strategy for how Queensland will be part of the solution to plastic pollution, including prioritised actions along every step in the supply chain. Implementation of the strategy has included the ban on sale or supply of single-use plastic items in 2021, with additional bans on other problematic plastics to commence soon. Solutions for improving the management of plastic wastes and moving towards a circular economy delivered under the regional Plan should align with the Plastic Pollution Reduction Plan.
Single-use plastic items ban	Current	Implemented on 10 March 2021, the legislation bans the sale or supply of straws, cutlery, unenclosed bowls and plates, stirrers and expanded polystyrene takeaway food containers and cups. This ban and future bans should be considered when forecasting future supply of waste containers such as compostable packaging.
Plastic bag ban	Current	The ban on the supply of single-use lightweight plastic shopping bags came into effect on 1 July 2018, forming part of broader measures to reduce single use plastic.
Containers for Change – container refund scheme	Current	The current container refund scheme facilitates a 10-cent refund for eligible drink containers at approved container refund points. The availability of recycled material collected through the scheme may be relevant to feedstock supply for certain types of secondary processing, for example, aluminium, plastics, and others. Recently announced consultation on the addition of wine and spirit bottles in late 2022.
Queensland E-Products Action Plan	In development	This plan seeks to address waste avoidance, reduction, reuse, repair, and recycling for electrical and electronic products, collectively known as e-products.
Queensland Textile Waste Action Plan	In development	This plan seeks to address problematic and hard to recycle textile wastes. It may present new pathways or avenues for support to improving recycling.
Landfill Disposal Bans	In development	The Queensland Government is currently undertaking analysis of the potential to implement bans on the disposal of certain types of waste to landfill.
End of waste framework	Current	Framework that allows waste to be used as a resource under certain conditions, including a range of waste types relevant to council operations.

2.1.3 Queensland's Landfill Levy

The Queensland Government introduced a landfill disposal levy in 2019 through amendments to the *Waste Reduction and Recycling Act 2011*. The levy is payable on all waste (including waste generated in another state or territory) disposed to a leviable waste disposal site within the levy zone or if it has been generated within the levy zone and disposed of to a landfill outside the levy zone in Queensland.¹⁵ In the Wide Bay Burnett region, Bundaberg Regional Council, Fraser Coast Regional Council, Gympie Regional Council, North Burnett Regional Council and South Burnett Regional Council were all included within the levy zone. The waste levy does not apply to waste generated in the Cherbourg Aboriginal Shire Council area.

In late 2021 changes to the approach were announced. From 1 July 2022, the levy zone has been divided into two areas:¹⁶

- the metro zone—comprising 12 south-east Queensland local government areas.
- the regional zone—made up of the remaining 27 local government areas in the current levy zone.

The two zones have different rates. These changes reflect the differences between South-East Queensland and regional areas in terms of waste volumes and opportunities for recycling and resource recovery. The non-levy zone has not changed and as such, there is no change for Cherbourg Aboriginal Shire Council.

From commencement in 2019, 105% of the levy collected on household waste (the MSW stream) disposed of to landfill was returned to levied councils via annual advanced payments to meet the Queensland Government commitment of no direct impact on households.¹⁵ The changes announced in late 2021 also have an implication on councils within the Wide Bay Burnett Region, in particular for Bundaberg Regional Council and Fraser Coast Regional Council, as outlined in the table below.

Table 3 Announced changes to annual advanced payment proportions

Council	2022-23	2023-24	2024-25	2025-26	2026-27	2027-28	2028-29	2029-30	2030-31
Bundaberg Regional Council	105%	95%	85%	70%	60%	50%	40%	30%	20%
Cherbourg Aboriginal Shire Council	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
Fraser Coast Regional Council	105%	95%	85%	70%	60%	50%	40%	30%	20%
Gympie Regional Council	105%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
North Burnett Regional Council	105%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
South Burnett Regional Council	105%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%

Source: Queensland Government¹⁶

From 1 July 2023 Gympie Regional Council, North Burnett Regional Council, and South Burnett Regional Council will receive 100% of the annual advanced payment, a reduction from the 105% received up to this point. The annual advanced payments for Bundaberg Regional Council and Fraser Coast Regional Council are different to other councils in the region, with a progressive reduction in the proportion of annual advanced payment received commencing from FY23-24 and reducing to an annual advanced payment of 20% by FY30-31. Four years' worth of payments were made to Queensland Councils at the start of the FY22-23 as summarised in **Table 4** and **Figure 3** below.

¹⁵ State of Queensland, 2022 [About Queensland's waste levy | Environment, land and water | Queensland Government \(www.qld.gov.au\)](https://www.qld.gov.au/about/our-work/department-of-environment-and-water/about-queensland-s-waste-levy)

¹⁶ State of Queensland, 2022 [Waste levy changes from 1 July 2022 | Environment, land and water | Queensland Government \(www.qld.gov.au\)](https://www.qld.gov.au/about/our-work/department-of-environment-and-water/waste-levy-changes-from-1-july-2022)

Table 4 Regulated annual advance payments – FY22-23 to FY25-26

Council	2022-23	2023-24	2024-25	2025-26	Four-year total
Bundaberg Regional Council	\$3,723,443	\$3,428,137	\$3,168,400	\$2,720,303	\$13,040,283
Cherbourg Aboriginal Shire Council	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Fraser Coast Regional Council	\$3,946,415	\$3,581,532	\$3,310,172	\$2,842,025	\$13,680,144
Gympie Regional Council	\$1,742,893	\$1,639,022	\$1,693,055	\$1,765,100	\$6,840,070
North Burnett Regional Council	\$404,232	\$422,550	\$436,481	\$455,054	\$1,718,317
South Burnett Regional Council	\$1,420,778	\$1,365,692	\$1,410,715	\$1,470,746	\$5,667,931

Source: as per Waste Reduction and Recycling Regulation, Schedule 4A

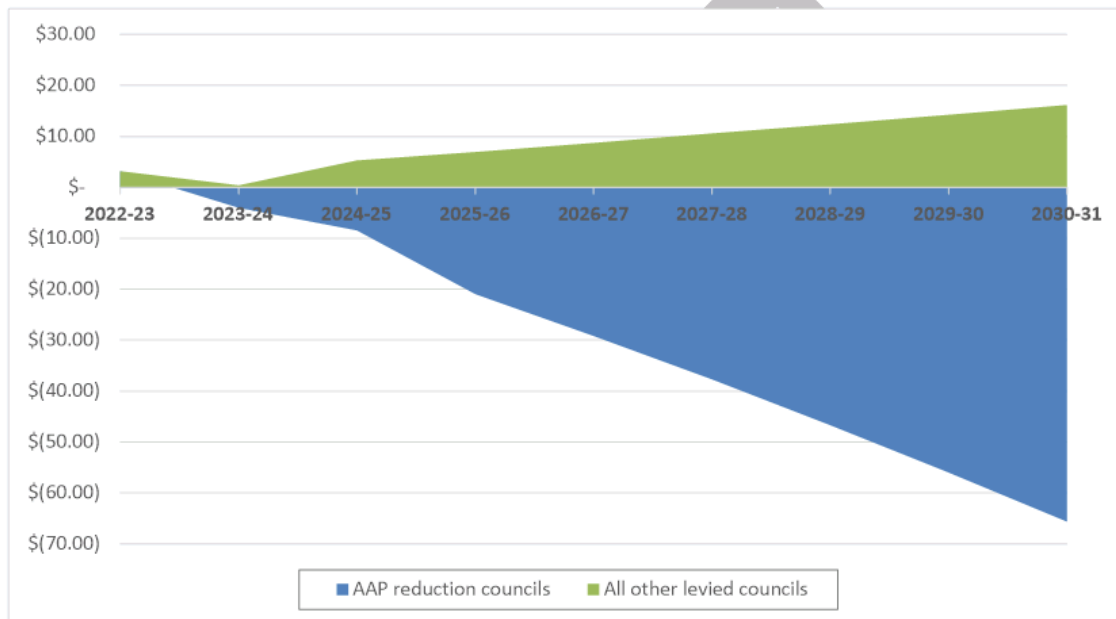
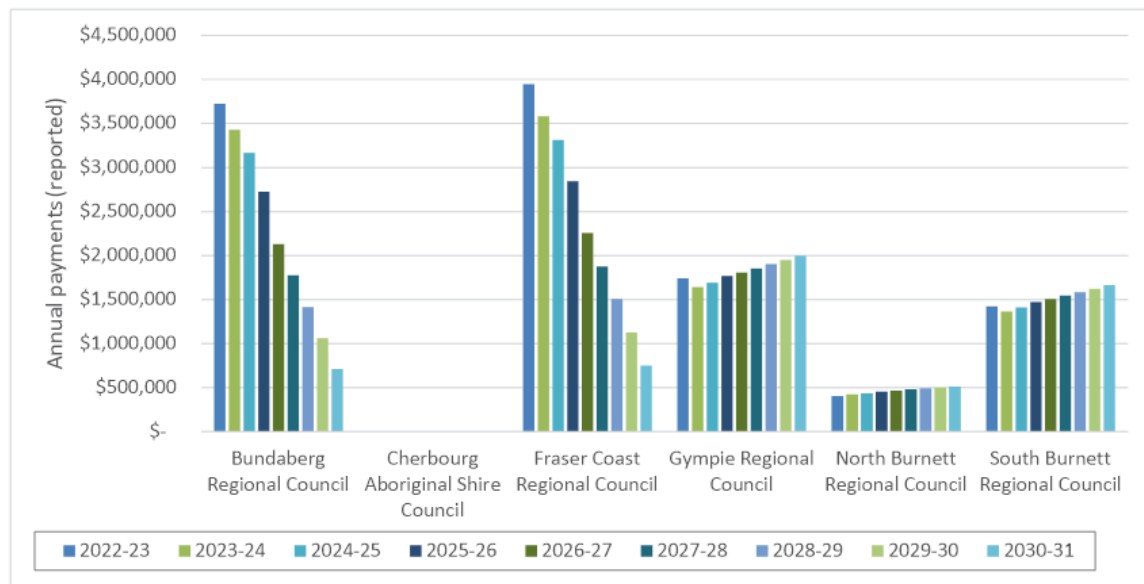


Figure 3 Impact of differential in annual advanced payment (\$/tonne)

Beyond FY25-26 the regulated amounts of annual advanced payment have not been published; however, it is assumed they are based upon the same base year for calculating annual advanced payments through to FY30-31. Over this four-year period there may be changes to the amount of household waste that goes to landfill within some Councils. Based on current arisings, the regulated annual advanced payments have been extrapolated out based on the proposed changes to the annual advanced payments. Waste arisings are expected to be different to the base year, so there may be some variation across all councils.

For Bundaberg Regional Council over the period FY22-23 to FY30-31 it is estimated, based on forecasting to inform this Plan, that the cost of the landfill levy without any intervention would be \$36 million. Over the same period Bundaberg Regional Council will receive an estimated \$20.5 million in annual advanced payments, leaving a shortfall of \$15.5 million over the 9-year period.

For Fraser Coast Regional Council over the period FY22-23 to FY30-31 the estimated cost of the landfill levy without any action is around \$33 million. Over the same period Fraser Coast Regional Council will receive an estimated \$21.5 million in annual advanced payments, leaving a shortfall of an estimated \$20 million over 9 years. There may be some uncertainty beyond the 4-year reported annual advanced payments, including the ability for councils to receive higher payments to bridge the gap between forecast arisings and actuals. The estimated cost impact is shown on **Figure 4**.



Note: Bundaberg and Fraser extrapolated based upon FY22-23 at 105% estimated based on current data. Other Councils assumed to receive 100% over duration with annual advanced payment increasing by generalised CPI of 1.9%

Figure 4 Change in annual advanced payments – Wide Bay Burnett Councils

2.1.4 Queensland’s Resource Recovery 10-year Roadmap and Action Plan

The Queensland Resource Recovery 10-year Roadmap and Action Plan was released in 2019 following the release of the WMRR Strategy. As a key action plan under the Strategy, the Roadmap and Action Plan intends to support industry growth and job creation in resource recovery industries over the 10-year plan period. The Roadmap and Action Plan targets the acceleration of project pipelines, market and supply chain development, updates specifically, where required, to the planning framework and supporting the advancement of new and emerging technologies.

Under the Roadmap and Action Plan funding has been provided to support the establishment of businesses and local government through the establishment of:

- The Resource Recovery Development Program (RRIDP) provided funding support to an additional \$193.8 million of capital investment creating more than 360 jobs across Queensland and diverting 1.3 million tonnes of waste per annum from landfill. Within the region, funding was granted for:
 - Upgrade of the existing material recovery facility operated by Cleanaway Pty Ltd at Dundowran, Hervey Bay, within the Fraser Coast Regional Council area
 - The establishment of a construction and demolition waste processing centre by Horne Group Pty Ltd at Hervey Bay.

- To support a late-stage engineering report for Laminex looking at the potential for a cogeneration plant in Gympie.
- The Queensland Recycling Modernisation Fund (QRMF) – co funded \$20 million from the Commonwealth Government and \$20 million from the Queensland Government for investment to support sorting, processing, recycling, or manufacturing of waste and divert wastepaper and cardboard, plastic, tyres, or glass from landfill. This fund is now closed.
- The Regional and Remote Recycling Modernisation Fund (RRRMF) – provides grants of up to \$500,000 for local governments, and their industry partners, to improve the viability of sorting, processing, recycling, or remanufacturing of waste in regional and remote Queensland. Funding is available for infrastructure projects that divert waste plastics, mixed and unsorted paper and cardboard, unprocessed glass, or whole used tyres from landfill in regional and remote areas of Queensland. This fund is now closed to new applications.
- Industry Partnership Program – this \$350M program will invest in several priority industry sectors including resource recovery including financial and non-financial incentives or assistance packages. This program may be accessed to support implementation of this plan.
- The \$1.1 billion Recycling and Jobs Fund announced late in 2021 seeks to deliver more opportunities for businesses and industry as resource recovery infrastructure is expanded and new markets for waste material are developed. A portion of this will be administered under the Roadmap and Action Plan.

2.1.5 Recycling Enterprise Precinct Development

Under Queensland's Resource Recovery 10-year Roadmap and Action Plan a key action was the development of enterprise recycling precincts. The Department of State Development, Local Government, Infrastructure and Planning (DSDLGIP) has undertaken a series of workshops during 2022 with the aim of engaging with local stakeholders, including local government and industry to identify opportunities and challenges, gain insight into how to progress and how the states approach to developing precincts for resource recovery and secondary processing can support local growth and existing initiatives. The expected outcomes of the workshops is the collation of feedback as well as the development of guidelines for precinct development and specific location strategies to be applied across Queensland.

A workshop was held in Bundaberg in August 2022¹⁷. During the workshop it was identified that:

- Wastes requiring most attention in the region were organic wastes including green wastes, sugar cane waste, timber waste, and food wastes. Other key wastes identified included agricultural plastics, mattresses, soft plastics, batteries, tyres, e-waste, cardboard, agricultural chemicals, and paint products.
- A precinct does not exist in the region. Transport infrastructure was identified as a critical element in addition to transport costs. The Port of Bundaberg State Development Area was identified as being able to support coastal shipping for end products which was supportable by the rail network.
- There was strong support for a hub-and-spoke approach to precinct development, with a larger precinct envisaged in one location with smaller "spokes" in other regional centres. Location close to existing facilities was considered desirable. There was also strong support biofuels and remanufacturing of agricultural plastics back into agricultural products or food grade plastics to be explored.

Two guiding documents have been released by the Queensland Government complementary to this Plan:

¹⁷ E3 Advisory, 2022. Resource Recovery Precincts, Regional Forum Report, Bundaberg 3 August 2022

- Recycling Enterprise Precincts: A “How To” Guideline¹⁸ – this document provides practical information to assist proponents seeking to establish a precinct including key actions, activities and matters to consider.
- Recycling Enterprise Precinct Location Strategy¹⁹ – this document presents guidance on potential locations for the establishment of a network of Recycling Enterprise Precincts across Queensland to maximise locational opportunities for industry development and recovered materials-based activities.

2.1.6 Queensland’s Organic Waste Strategy and Roadmap

Queensland’s Organic Waste Strategy and Roadmap provides a series of actions and outcomes that are directly relevant to this Plan.

Table 5 Organic Waste Strategy and Roadmap targets relevant to this Plan

Ref	Title	Detail & relevance
A1	Halve the amount of food waste generated	Utilising existing programs provide materials to Queensland Councils with dedicated education officers to assist deliver messaging. Targeting a 10% reduction in household food waste in the residual waste bin by 2025.
A2	Understand food waste behaviours in Queensland	Design effective interventions for state-wide and targeted messaging.
A3	Commence education for future generations	Develop materials and deliver food waste education materials as part of sustainability curriculum to reach 80% of Queensland schools by 2030.
A11	Lead by example at Government events	Driving food waste avoidance through action at State and Local Government events.
D1	Review fit for purpose solutions	Local governments are required to conduct a business case to identify the best fit-for-purpose option to improve household organic waste management in their local government area, including consideration of Food organics, Vegetable Organics, Garden Organics or combined Food and Garden Organics systems; or to implement small scale solutions to process organics such as through community composting hubs or encouraging home-based approaches for organics processing (e.g., composting at home, bokashi bins, worm farms etc.) Specific actions relevant to this plan including funding for additional council trials, this Plan is required to recommend improved organics management options by 30 June 2023, and 75% of councils within the levy zone have business cases for their solutions completed by 30 June 2023.
D2	Implement new household collection options which are consistent from the start	Based on D1 Local Governments are to implement solutions to improve household organic waste management in their LGA. The Queensland Government will provide support to better manage this material in a fit-for-purpose manner, including support for education and behaviour change, for consistency (bin lid colour harmonisation etc.), to understand and enforce contamination levels, and incorporate sufficient data collection and auditing processes to monitor uptake and contamination levels. Performance measures include improved organics management services in place by 2026 in major regional council areas with 80% of households participating in services within 3 years of a service commencing, plus demonstration of an increase in the volume of organics captured and reprocessed over time.

¹⁸ E3 Advisory, 2022. Recycling Enterprise Precincts, A “How To” Guideline

¹⁹ E3 Advisory, 2022. Recycling Enterprise Precinct Location Strategy

Ref	Title	Detail & relevance
D3	Make the inputs clear	Develop, implement, and align household education and behaviour change tools in partnership with local government and industry to minimise contamination across all household kerbside bins, to maximise organic material being captured in organics bins and minimise contamination. Key metrics are that 65% of households in Queensland will have organics capture services by 2025, and 80% by 2030, with a 90% capture rate for Food and Garden Organics comprising 50% capture of Food Organics, 90% of garden organics and less than 1% contamination rate.
D6	Set a clear end goal	Queensland Government looking at the potential feasibility and options associated with undertaking landfill disposal bans for organic wastes, with a feasibility assessment to be completed by the end of 2022, with a view to progressive bans starting in South-East Queensland by around 2025. No information has been provided on this.

2.2 Regional collaboration

There is no formal collaboration in the region on waste and resource recovery issues, and no formal overarching local government collaboration structure. There is collaboration between councils on an informal basis. To support the co-development of this Plan Councils have agreed to collaborate. An expected outcome of the Plan is to provide a template for future regional collaboration on waste and resource recovery issues.

The WBB region RRWG has prepared several region-specific reports, feasibility studies and business cases which provide a high level of detail to support this plan. Involvement by Council decision makers is high, which gives legitimacy to the decisions made by each council in supporting the group, which in turn supports ownership of this plan. Several council specific documents are also available and utilised to inform this Plan.

Table 6 Regional strategy documents

Document	Status	Relevance to regional plan
Regional Strategy Documents		
Wide Bay Burnett Regional Organisation of Councils Waste Strategy 2015-2020	Released 2015 however ROC disbanded in 2021	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Seeks to minimise waste to landfill, maximise the potential of waste as a resource and explores innovative solutions in management, resource recovery and recycling of waste. Provides short-, medium- and long-term actions and goals over the term of the five-year strategy. Outlines population trends, waste data and projections, waste reduction and recycling goals and targets, and details strategic goals and targets.
Key documents for member Councils		
Bundaberg Regional Council Waste Management and Resource Recovery Strategy 2017-2025	Current	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The first waste management strategy developed for Bundaberg Regional Council Details current facilities, services, and regional profile Addresses waste avoidance, collection, treatment, resource recovery, final disposal, and remediation of site for post closure
Cherbourg Aboriginal Shire Council, Corporate Plan 2020-2025	Current	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Identifies waste management within the corporate plan, in particular maintenance of the existing waste management facility to an acceptable standard as an objective to develop and maintain a healthy living environment for the community and maintaining essential infrastructure for the community.

Document	Status	Relevance to regional plan
Fraser Coast Waste Strategy 2019-2029	Current	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sets a clear path for the management of solid waste in the Fraser Coast region towards 2029. • Builds on the success of the Waste Management & Resource Recovery Strategy 2013- 2020 • Focus on resource leadership to deliver the greatest benefits to the local community in terms of resource recovery, environmental amenity, and economic development.
Gympie Regional Council, Regional Waste Management Strategy 2013-2020	Current (on GRC website)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prepared in 2013 so pre-landfill levy and current Queensland WMRR Strategy. Sets objectives, strategy development including levels of service required, and details around collection services for MSW, C&I and C&D within the region. • Presents a strategy implementation plan. • Presents records of consultation.
North Burnett Regional Council Waste Reduction and Recycling Plan 2021-2026	Current	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sets out waste reduction and recycling target and recommends actions to improve waste reduction and recycling. • Details current and proposed waste infrastructure • Discusses the performance of local government in terms of management and monitoring. • Promotes continuous improvement
South Burnett Regional Council Waste Management Strategy 2015-2022	Current	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provides overarching vision, objectives, and strategy framework for regional strategy. • Presents goals, level of service, waste reduction and resource recovery and infrastructure/network planning • Sets out measures for implementation of the waste hierarchy, strategy implementation and consultation undertaken.

At an individual council level all councils have undertaken an element of development of plans, typically around remaining capacity of existing facilities, potential options, and feasibility studies. In some cases, these have been extended into forward plans. The findings of these reports have been incorporated into the analysis undertaken to develop this Plan.

2.3 Existing services

Waste services provided by Wide Bay Burnett Councils are variable (see **Table 7**). All Councils provide a weekly residual or red lidded bin collection available to most households. Bundaberg, Fraser Coast, Gympie, and South Burnett offer a fortnightly commingled recycling bin collection, and only Cherbourg Aboriginal currently offers a kerbside weekly recycling bin collection. Self-haul to transfer station options are available across all Councils except Cherbourg Aboriginal Shire Council, with weekly bulky waste collections operated by Cherbourg Aboriginal Shire Council.

Table 7 Existing Services by Council

Council	Residual Waste	Recycling	Garden Organics	Bulky Waste
Bundaberg Regional Council	Weekly, 240L	Fortnightly, 240L	Self-Haul only	No kerbside service, transfer station drop-off
Cherbourg Aboriginal Shire Council	Weekly, 240L	Weekly, 240L	None	Weekly, 240L
Fraser Coast Regional Council	Weekly, 240L	Fortnightly, 240L	Self-Haul only	No kerbside service, transfer station drop-off

Council	Residual Waste	Recycling	Garden Organics	Bulky Waste
Gympie Regional Council	Weekly, 240L	Fortnightly, 240L	Self-Haul only	No kerbside service, transfer station drop-off
North Burnett Regional Council	Weekly, 240L	Self-haul only	Self-Haul only	No kerbside service, transfer station drop-off
South Burnett Regional Council	Weekly, 240L	Fortnightly, 240L	Self-Haul only	No kerbside service, transfer station drop-off

In addition to the Container Refund Scheme eligible materials captured through kerbside recycling, each LGA has at least container refund point to allow residents to participate in the state's container refund scheme, Containers for Change, as shown in **Table 8**.

Table 8 Container refund points

Local Government Area	Number of Container Refund Points	Commentary
Bundaberg Regional Council	7	Located at Childers (1), Qunaba (1), Bundaberg (3), Moore Park Beach (1), Burnett Heads (1)
Cherbourg Aboriginal Shire Council	1	1 Facility located in Cherbourg. Cherbourg Aboriginal Shire Council operate 4 further return points in South Burnett.
Fraser Coast Regional Council	13	Glenwood (1), Tiaro (1), Maryborough (2), Howard (1), Hervey Bay (8),
Gympie Regional Council	7	Gympie (3), Tin Can Bay (2), Rainbow Beach (1), Kilkivan (1)
North Burnett Regional Council	5	Biggenden (1), Gayndah (1), Mundubbera (1), Eidsvold (1), Mulgildie (1)
South Burnett Regional Council	4	Kingaroy (1), Nanango (1), Yarraman (1), Blackbutt (1)

2.4 Current performance

2.4.1 Overall waste managed

The total waste received at sites managed by or under contract to Wide Bay Burnett Councils in the 2020-2021 financial years was 461,269 tonnes. This includes kerbside MSW and self-hauled MSW, C&I and C&D waste streams as reported in the Queensland Waste Data Survey (QWDS). A further 46,300 tonnes of waste has been identified in the region as managed by the private sector. A breakdown of the regional waste by stream, and service type, residual, recycling, and organics, is shown in **Figure 5**.

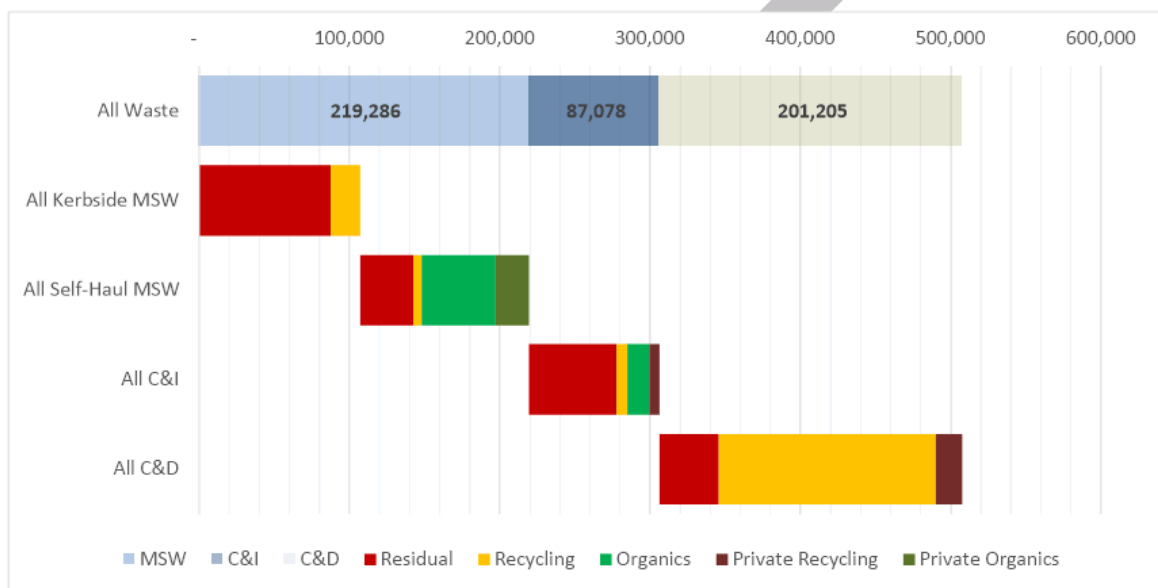


Figure 5 Regional waste summary by stream (tonnes, 2020/21)

A further 2,458 tonnes of other Council waste was recorded, including litter, street sweepings and public place waste. During the same period, no disaster waste was recorded, noting this can be variable depending on the nature of disasters. Biosolids totalled 3,822 tonnes reported as being disposed of to landfill during the period, however it is noted this data does not include biosolids deployed under the end of waste code under land application as the Queensland Government does not collect this data.

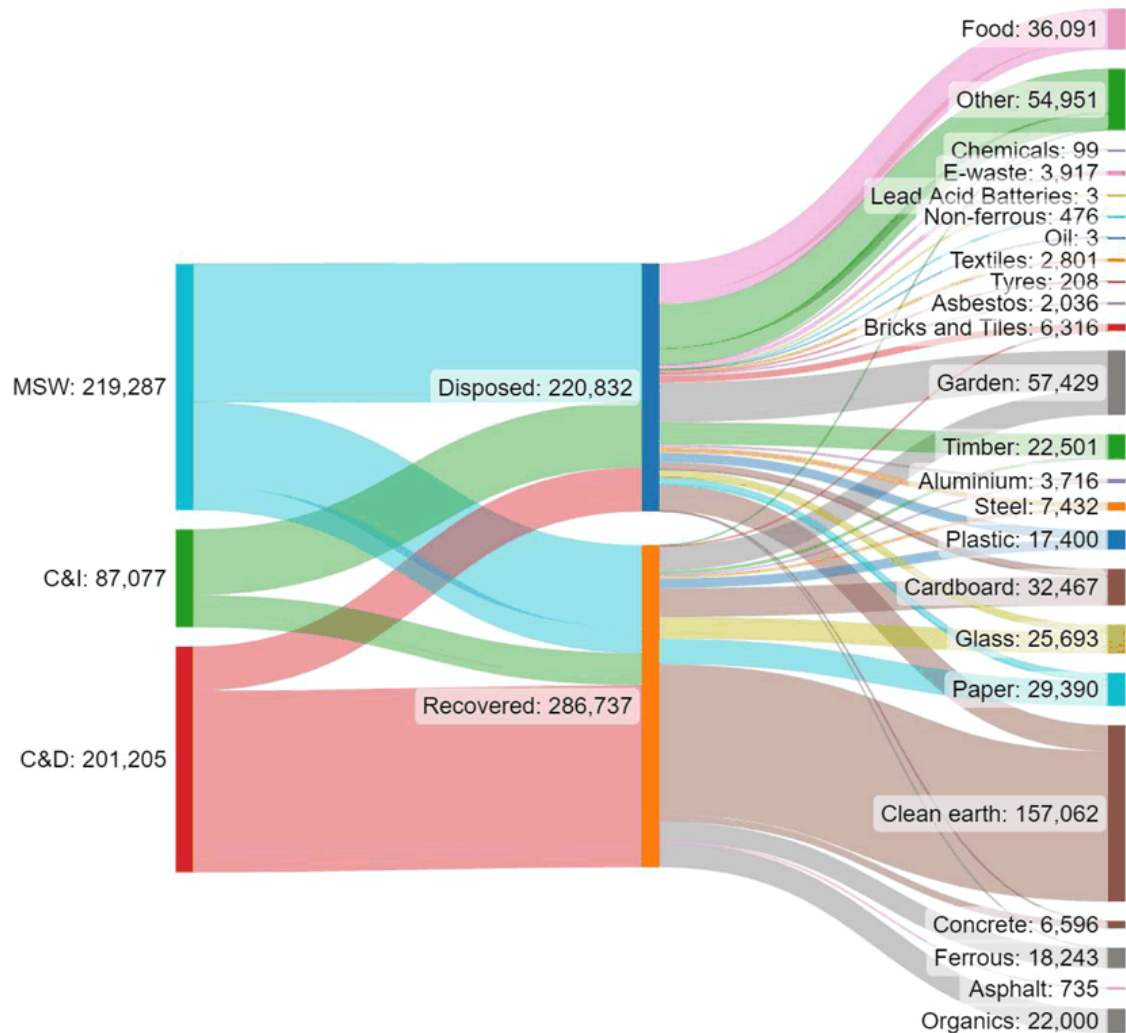
Table 9 provides a breakdown of the contribution of each council to the total regional waste quantities. Waste generated is dominated by the larger councils of Bundaberg Regional Council and Fraser Coast Regional Council, with smaller contributions from the others. At a regional scale the contribution of Cherbourg Aboriginal Shire Council is approximately 0.1%.

Table 9 Distribution of waste across the Wide Bay Burnett region

Council	Percentage of Regional Waste by Tonnes
Bundaberg Regional Council	42%
Cherbourg Aboriginal Shire Council	<1%
Fraser Coast Regional Council	36%
Gympie Regional Council	9%
North Burnett Regional Council	4%
South Burnett Regional Council	9%

2.4.2 Breakdown of waste arisings in Wide Bay Burnett

Figure 6 is a waste flow diagram showing the fates by waste stream and the material types managed by Councils in the region. The materials represent what has been reported through QWDS, additional private sector information provided, and with a reference composition applied to kerbside waste and self-haul waste.



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Figure 6 Summary of fates by stream and material for the Wide Bay Burnett region

A breakdown of all waste materials collected across the region is provided in **Figure 7** and shows the relative quantities that are recovered or disposed.

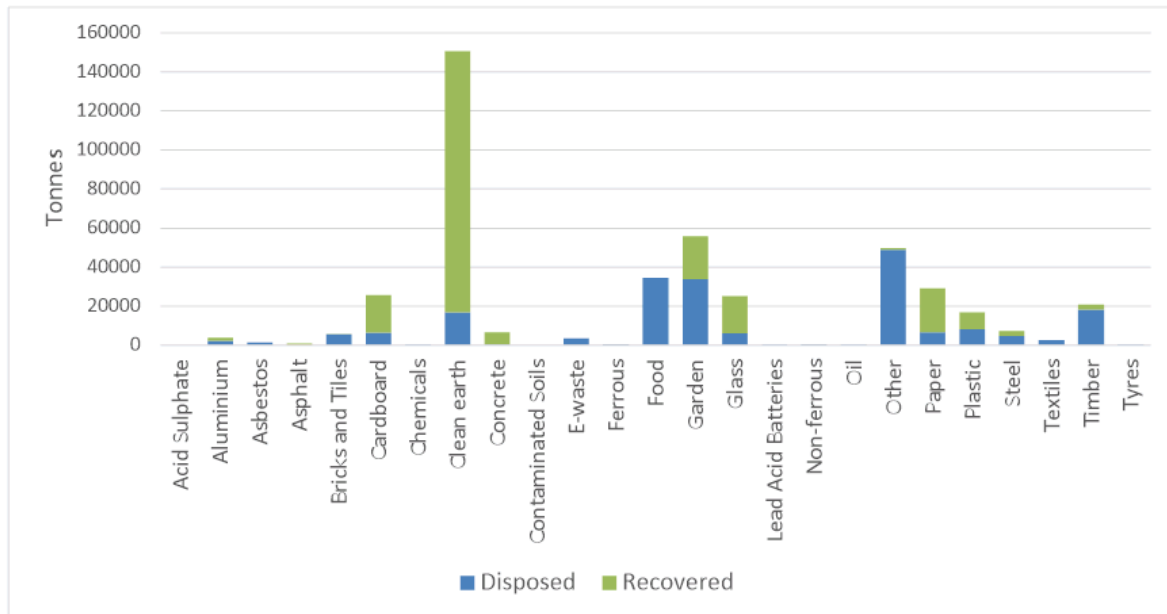


Figure 7 Waste materials by fate for the Wide Bay Burnett Region

The resource recovery potential of different materials can be observed in **Figure 7** with obvious opportunities for food and garden organic waste, plastic, timber and bricks and tiles, plus potential opportunities for e-waste and textiles that may currently go to landfill but for which the Queensland Government is currently developing Action Plans for.

2.4.3 Current resource recovery performance

Table 10 and **Figure 8** detail the Wide Bay Burnett regions’ performance in comparison to the Queensland average and targets. The region has a current recovery rate of 52% across all streams, compared to a current state average of 52% and 2025 state target of 65%. The MSW and C&D streams are consistent with the state average, whilst the C&I stream is performing poorly. Across all streams except C&D, the 2025 and 2030 targets are however challenging without intervention,

Table 10 Wide Bay Burnett regional waste diversion target comparison

Waste Type	Diversion from landfill targets			
	WBB (FY20/21)	State average (current)	State target 2025	State target 2030
Combined waste (all categories)	52%	52%	65%	80%
MSW	38%	27%	55%	70%
C&I	29%	50%	65%	80%
C&D	83%	78%	75%	85%

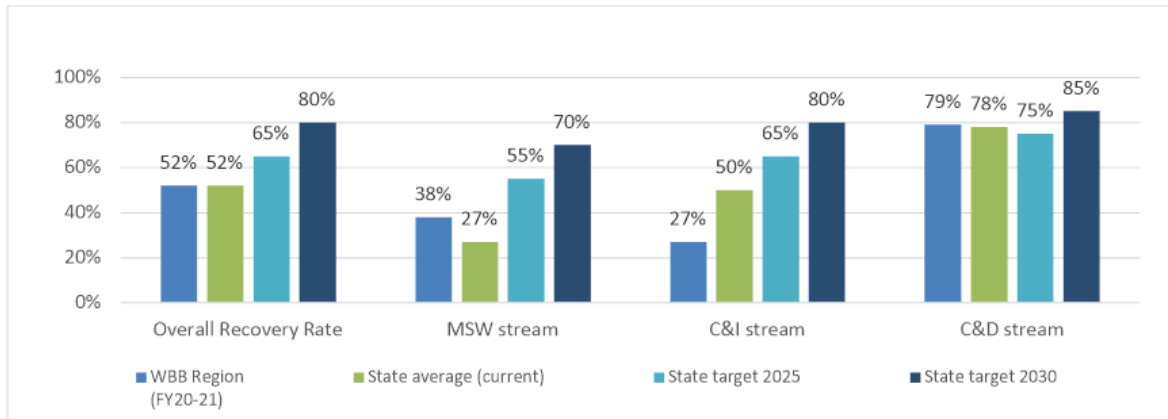
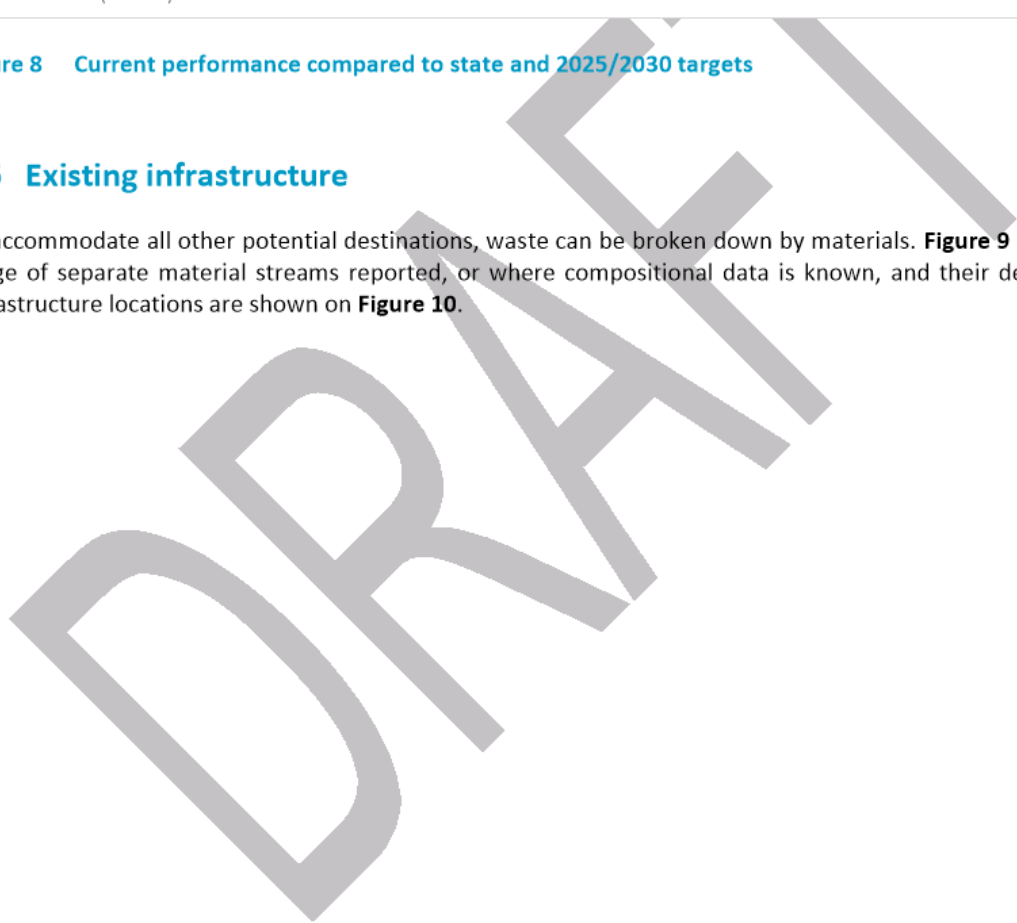
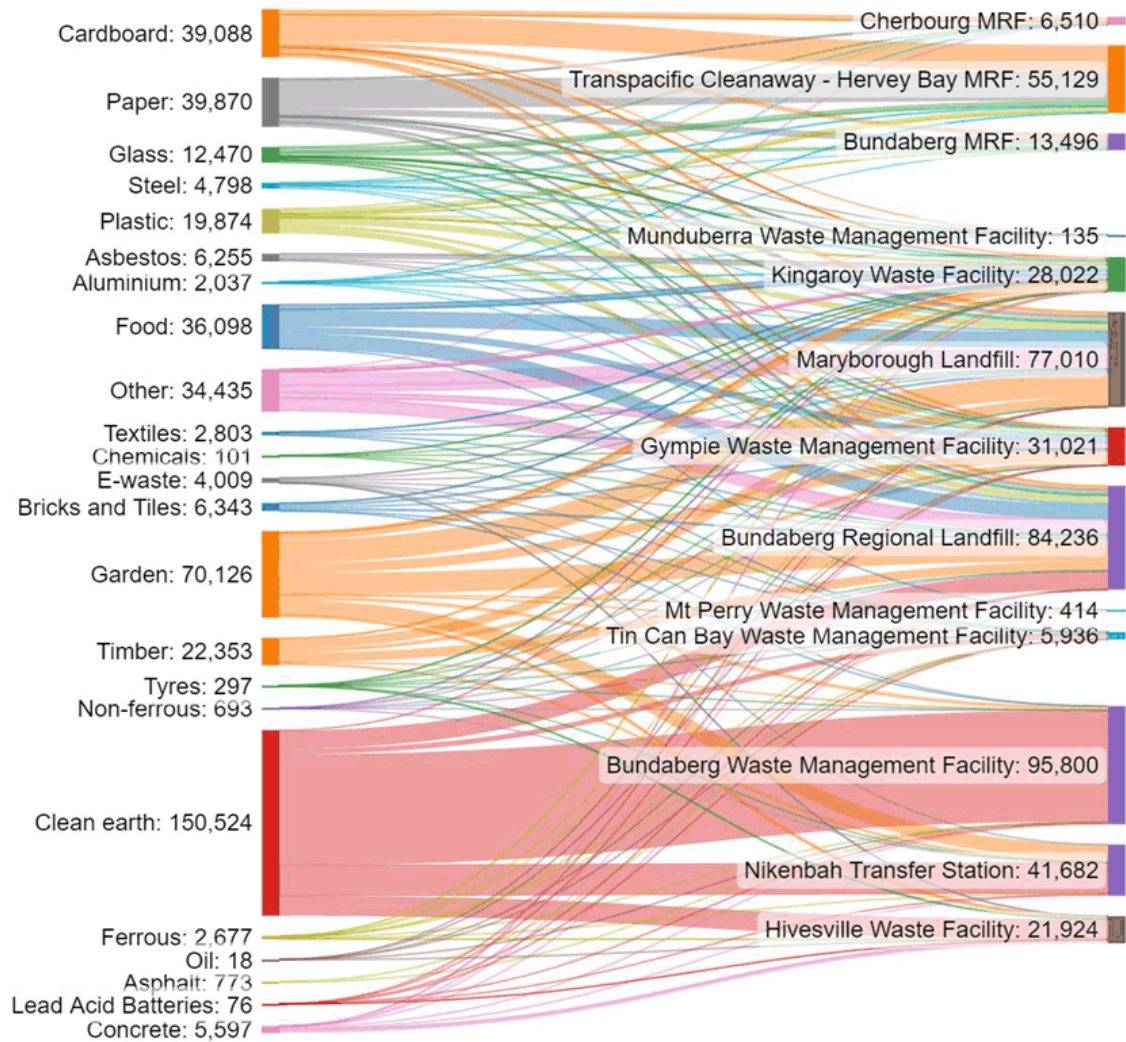


Figure 8 Current performance compared to state and 2025/2030 targets

2.5 Existing infrastructure

To accommodate all other potential destinations, waste can be broken down by materials. **Figure 9** shows the range of separate material streams reported, or where compositional data is known, and their destination. Infrastructure locations are shown on **Figure 10**.





Made with SankeyMATIC

Figure 9 Current waste flow mapping by materials and destination for Wide Bay Burnett²⁰

²⁰ Note end fate does not necessarily reflect final management point, however, is as reported in the QWDS data

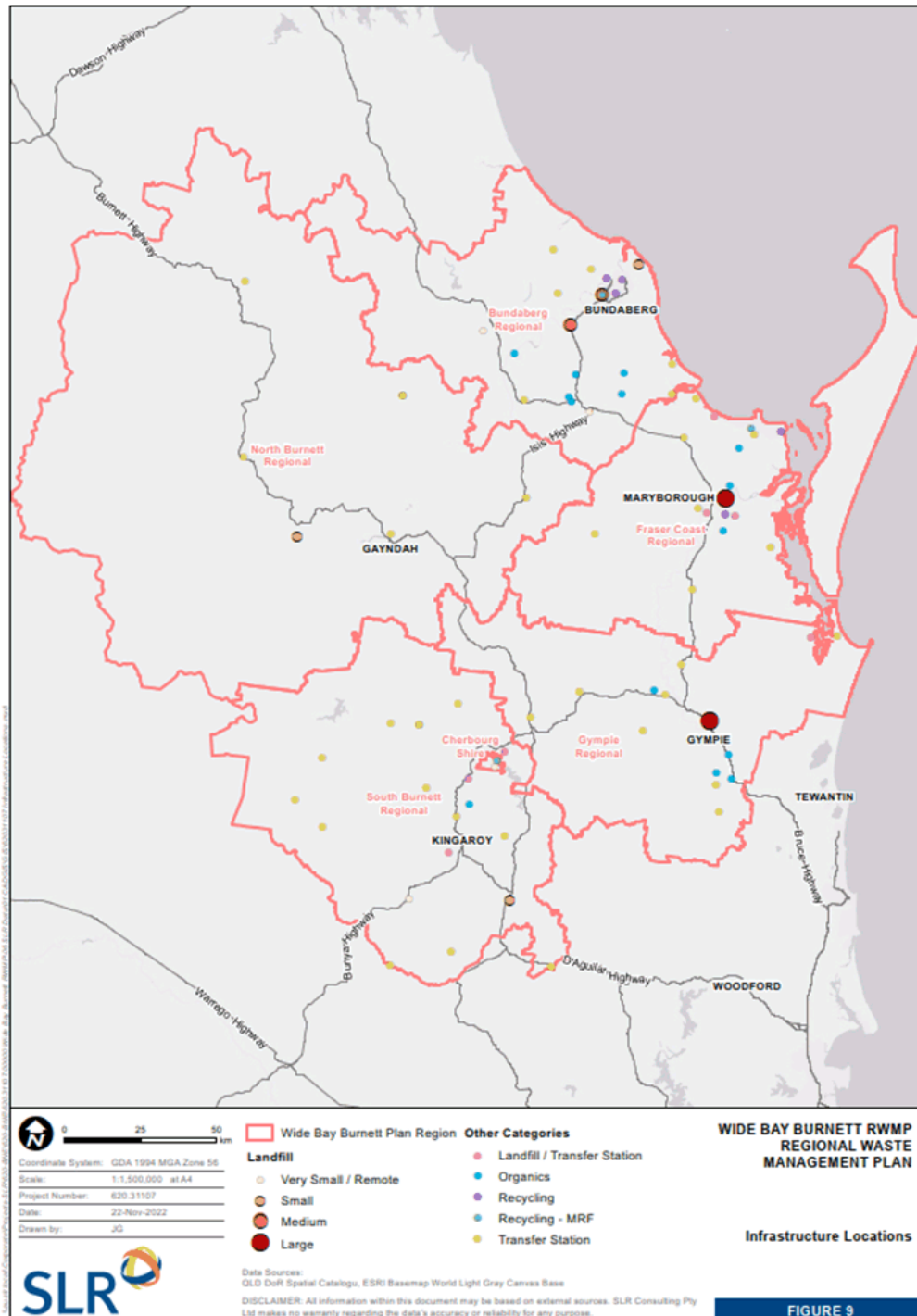


Figure 10 Regional Infrastructure Stocks

2.6 Forecast waste arisings

2.6.1 Regional waste growth projection

Figure 11 provides a 30-year summary of regional waste projections by waste stream, which indicates total waste is expected to increase to 545,000 tonnes in FY30-31, 582,000 tonnes in FY40-41 and 618,000 tonnes in FY50-51 without intervention.

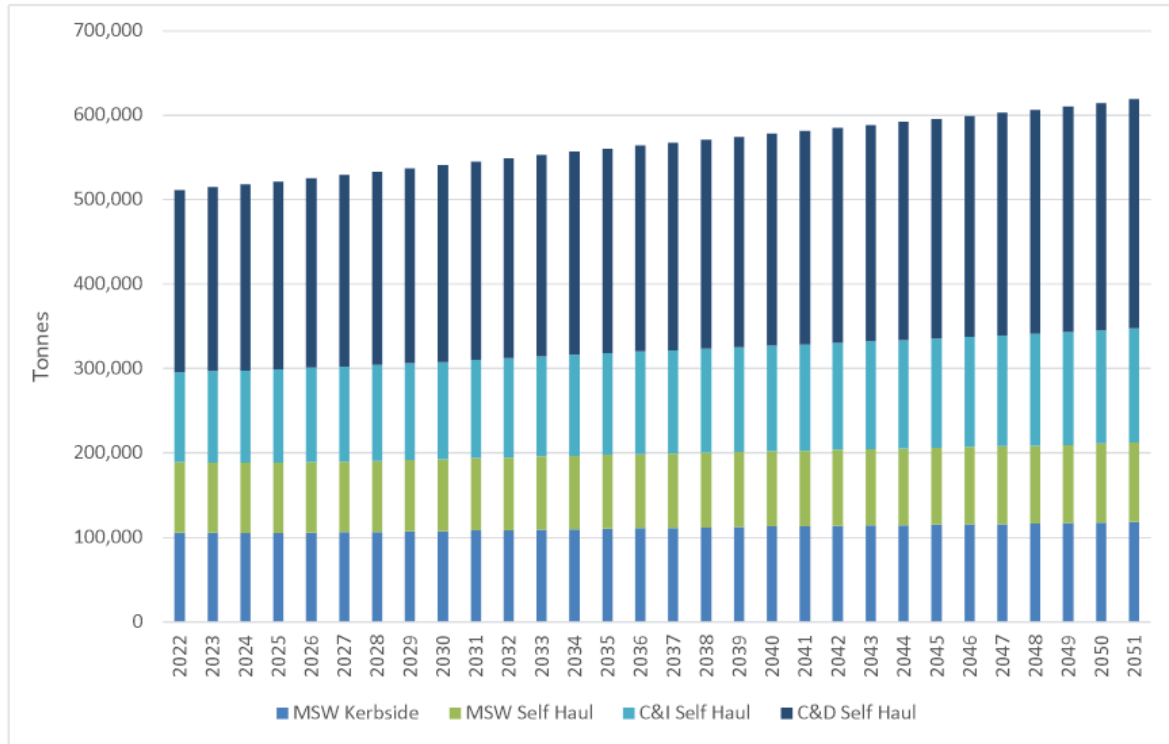


Figure 11 30-year waste projections for the Wide Bay Burnett region by waste stream

3 Key issues and Opportunities

3.1 Landfill capacity

Some landfills in the region are approaching capacity, which will prohibit further landfilling, and require further diverse investment to enable appropriate management of residual waste

Landfills are an essential component of Australia's waste management system. In the Wide Bay Burnett region, landfills receive approximately 45.6% of headline waste (based on FY20-21 reporting year) as reported by the Queensland Government and provide a final disposal solution for waste that cannot be recovered.²¹ The WBB region contains nineteen identified active putrescible landfills that are all council-owned, of which fourteen are considered to be small or very small rural facilities.²² The resource recovery infrastructure in the region includes eight composting, four mulching, three MRFs, two source separated recycling, and two metals recycling facilities. There are no existing C&D recycling facilities identified in the region. Each LGA has a principal landfill, with landfills in the region generally developed in existing holes, usually formed by quarrying or mining operations and as such, landfill lifespans are inherently finite.²³

Landfill capacity is primarily defined in terms of remaining airspace, the volume of void which is available to fill with waste.²¹ A landfill capacity assessment undertaken to support this Plan has identified that there is approximately 6 million tonnes of approved putrescible landfill capacity in the WBB region, with minimal potential for expansion of capacity. Gympie Regional Council has a need to develop a landfill solution with constructed capacity expected to expire early in 2024, noting additional capacity can be constructed at the existing landfill to give capacity through to approximately 2028. There are currently no inert landfills identified in the region. The landfill capacities and expected exhaustion years are presented in **Table 10**.

Table 11 Wide Bay Burnett Region landfill capacity

LGA	Landfill	Annual disposal (20-21, tonnes)	Current approved capacity (estimated tonnes)	Expected exhaustion of capacity
Bundaberg Regional Council	Bundaberg Regional Waste Management Facility	84,236	1,700,000	35 Years
Cherbourg Aboriginal Shire Council	Cherbourg Rubbish Tip	650	9,845	2030
Fraser Coast Regional Council	Maryborough Landfill	77,709	3,767,000	2052
Gympie Regional Council	Gympie Waste Management Facility	31,836	180,000	2028
North Burnett Regional Council	Biggenden Waste Management Facility	0	8,177	2025
North Burnett Regional Council	Eidsvold Waste Management Facility	0	518	2025
North Burnett Regional Council	Gayndah Waste Management Facility	0	8,221	2030

²¹ Arcadis for Department of Environment and Science (2019). Queensland Waste and Resource Recovery Infrastructure Report. Accessed at https://www.qld.gov.au/_data/assets/pdf_file/0034/199249/qld-waste-resource-recovery-infrastructure-report.pdf

²² Very small = < 2,000 tonnes to landfill p.a. Small = 2,000 to 10,000 tonnes to landfill p.a.

²³ Hyder for Department of the Environment, Water, Heritage, and the Arts (2009). Australian landfill capacities into the future. Accessed at <https://www.dccew.gov.au/sites/default/files/documents/landfill-capacities.pdf>

LGA	Landfill	Annual disposal (20-21, tonnes)	Current approved capacity (estimated tonnes)	Expected exhaustion of capacity
North Burnett Regional Council	Monto Waste Management Facility	0	14,861	2050
North Burnett Regional Council	Mt Perry Waste Management Facility	0	0	2020
North Burnett Regional Council	Munduberra Waste Management Facility	0	28,066	2200
South Burnett Regional Council	Kingaroy Waste Facility	35,091	158,543	2029
South Burnett Regional Council	Kumbia Waste Facility	0	TBC	2051
South Burnett Regional Council	Murgon Waste Facility	0	10,920	2031
South Burnett Regional Council	Nanango Waste Facility	0	39,338	2031
South Burnett Regional Council	Wondai Waste Facility	0	19,087	2030

The population of the Wide Bay Burnett Region is expected to grow by 18% between 2016 and 2041⁹ with growth forecast in the Bundaberg (19%) and Fraser Coast (21%) regions, moderate growth for Gympie (15%), South Burnett (12%), Cherbourg (6%) and North Burnett Regional Council remaining static. Overall population is expected to grow by 54,000 people by 2024. Population growth is typically linked to growth in waste arisings, however, evidence in Queensland suggests that per capita waste generation is falling, however in the Wide Bay Burnett region marginal growth of waste per capita has been experienced. Other factors such as economic activity, house building, or other construction can also influence growth in waste. As waste generation grows, there is an ongoing need for effective, fit-for-purpose waste avoidance and resource recovery pathways and solutions to avoid the need for expanding landfills or to extend the lifetime. Major projects, such as new hydrogen, renewables, highways, or mining in the region will also increase population and create additional waste volumes during construction, and in some cases wastes which are challenging to manage.

Whilst there is significant landfill capacity at a regional scale, Bundaberg Regional Council and Fraser Coast Regional Council have the added constraint of the increasing cost of landfill disposal. At present there are no commercial scale energy recovery facilities in operation or planned within the region that could be used as a substitute for landfill. Outside of the Wide Bay Burnett Region, there may be opportunities to send some waste that would otherwise go to landfill to be converted into refuse derived fuel in South-East Queensland (e.g., at the in-construction ResourceCo facility in Brisbane) or as a coal substitute in the Cement Kiln at Gladstone.

3.2 Scale for processing and remanufacturing

Individual councils do not have a sufficient scale for processing and remanufacturing recyclable materials or residual waste (given the cost of transport and geographic size of councils), limiting the ability to achieve resource recovery at a commercial scale

Resource recovery is the process of creating value from waste materials, including by reusing, reprocessing, and re-manufacturing discarded materials for secondary purposes such as manufacturing or compost, or generating energy from waste. It excludes any processes that provide no value from waste, such as incineration alone. Resource recovery delays the need to use virgin materials in manufacturing processes that would eventually become waste, as quality recovered, or reprocessed materials can be used as a substitute.²⁴

While resource recovery is established in metropolitan Queensland, barriers including scale, transportation, distance, and staff retention reduce the ability to implement commercially viable solutions in regional areas. Following the release of the *National Waste Policy* in 2010, the Australian Government established the Regional and Remote Working Group to better understand the challenges faced by dispersed communities. The working group indicated that the primary barriers to resource recovery for regional and remote areas were poor economies of scale, distances and road conditions between regional centres and limited waste collection services.²⁵ These barriers are prevalent for Wide Bay Burnett Councils, although relative proximity to South-East Queensland and potential new processing facilities may present new opportunities in the future.

The existing resource recovery facilities in the region include three separate small Materials Recycling Facilities (MRF) which includes the Council owned and contractor managed Bundaberg MRF, the Cleanaway owned and managed Fraser Coast MRF in Hervey Bay, servicing the Fraser Coast and Gympie Regional Councils, and the Council owned and managed Cherbourg MRF, servicing the Cherbourg, Gympie, Fraser Coast, and North and South Burnett regions. The MRFs process aluminium, steel, mixed paper, cardboard, HPDE, PET and mixed plastics for distribution to offtake markets locally and further afield.²⁶ Fraser Coast Regional Council will shortly have a new MRF in Maryborough.

Cost and scale are the key barriers to waste collection and recovery in the region. Most LGAs provide fortnightly recycling with four councils, Bundaberg, Cherbourg, Fraser Coast, Gympie, and South Burnett offering a conventional two bin service of waste and recycling.²¹ All councils provide residents and local businesses with transfer facilities. Under current economic and policy conditions disposal of waste to landfill will remain the most viable solution unless a suitable and commercial alternative is available.

3.3 Insufficient end-markets

There are insufficient local end markets and demand for secondary raw materials, except FOGO/GO, where there is insufficient supply in the region, limiting the ability to achieve commercial rates of return.

The circular economy in Queensland, and Australia more broadly, is still developing. End markets for secondary raw materials are limited, however, national and state policies are prioritising the use of recycled materials in government projects. Generally, end markets are proximate to reprocessing and remanufacturing facilities to enable efficient and commercially viable outcomes.

²⁴ Queensland Government (2019). Queensland Resource Recovery Industries 10-Year Roadmap and Action Plan, https://www.statedevelopment.qld.gov.au/_data/assets/pdf_file/0014/17204/resource-recovery-roadmap.pdf

²⁵ National Waste Policy Regional and Remote Australia Working Group. Solutions for waste management in regional and remote Australia

²⁶ Queensland Government. (2019). Cleanaway on track to achieve a more sustainable future for the Fraser Coast. Accessed at <https://www.statedevelopment.qld.gov.au/news/cleanaway-on-track-to-achieve-a-more-sustainable-future-for-the-fraser-coast>

Generally, private organisations are responsible for resource recovery processes and therefore investment attraction is critical to developing sustainable circular economies. Visy is one of Australia's leading resource recovery companies and in 2022, announced a \$700 million investment in Queensland recycling and re-manufacturing. Included in the commitment is \$500 million for a new glass food and beverage container recycling and manufacturing facility in Yatala, SEQ, a new \$150 million corrugated box factory at Hemmant, SEQ, and \$48 million towards major upgrades to the MRF on Gibson Island, SEQ.²⁷ Visy's product range covers food and beverage, commercial and industrial, retail and online and moving and storage, for which its major markets are located proximately in SEQ.

With local end markets concentrated in SEQ, the challenge remains for regional areas to achieve commercially viable local reprocessing and remanufacturing. All kerbside collected recyclable material is processed locally at one of the three MRFs, with the outputs transported out of region to SEQ end markets or exported which is assumed to increase prices and limit value for money outcomes. Investment in the development of end markets, such as manufacturing industries, in Wide Bay Burnett would be required to change this approach, and to support resource recovery facilities in the region and drive increased use of local recycled materials.

While regional areas currently struggle to compete with metropolitan areas, there is increasing support from governments at all levels to shift business to the regions to drive job growth and economic activity. In June 2022, the Queensland Government committed an additional \$10 million to continue the *Manufacturing Hub Grants Program* for a further two years. Since its inception in 2017, the program has supported 104 advanced manufacturing projects across the state with 38 per cent delivered in regional Queensland.²⁸ Regional areas are attractive locations for large operations due to there being more space and fewer operation limitations such as transport and noise restrictions. Positioning Wide Bay Burnett as an attractive location for such activities would assist in creating end markets for recovered resources. There is a significant opportunity for the region as it aims to deliver increased regional wealth, as set out in the Wide Bay Burnett Economic Development Strategy 2019-2024,²⁹ with the strategy providing a strategic roadmap for the region whilst the Wide Bay Burnett Regional Plan (2011) is being reviewed to ensure it best reflects the Queensland Government's strategic direction for managing population growth and regional development.³⁰ Furthermore, attracting industry and increasing regional development will create additional end markets for recycled material making resource recovery processes more viable.

Despite these challenges, progress is being made in some regional areas through support from the Resource Recovery Industry Development Program. Initiatives include the development of a new MRF in Maryborough to increase the recovery of recyclables from kerbside collection, the establishment of a C&D waste processing facility in Hervey Bay to increase recovery rates, and a feasibility study to inform a final investment decision for an energy cogeneration plant in Gympie which will support operations of the Laminex Gympie (Toolara) plant, which processes medium density fibreboards.³¹ There are a number of other established C&D and concrete reprocessors, and metal recyclers in the region although data is limited for volumes.

²⁷ Visy. (2022). Our \$700 million investment in Queensland recycling and re-manufacturing. Accessed at <https://www.visy.com.au/newsroom/2022/4/28/queensland-investments>

²⁸ Queensland Government. (2022) Made in Queensland. <https://www.rdmw.qld.gov.au/manufacturing/manufacturing-assistance-programs/made-in-queensland>

²⁹ Wide Bay Burnett Regional Organisation of Councils (2019). Economic Strategy 2019-2024. Accessed at <https://wbbroc.org.au/wp-content/uploads/2019/09/WBBROC-Economic-Strategy-2019-2024-Web-version.pdf>

³⁰ Queensland Government (2022). Planning – Wide Bay Burnett regional plan. Accessed at <https://planning.statedevelopment.qld.gov.au/planning-framework/plan-making/regional-planning/wide-bay-burnett-regional-plan#:~:text=The%20Draft%20Wide%20Bay%20Burnett%20Regional%20Plan%202022%20assists%20local,affordable%20and%20diverse%20housing%20choices.>

³¹ Queensland Government (2022). Resource recovery, Industry Development Program. Accessed at <https://www.statedevelopment.qld.gov.au/industry/priority-industries/resource-recovery/industry-development-program>

Despite a lack of end markets for reprocessed recycled materials, there are several composters in the region, such as Green Solutions Wide Bay who provide residents with free green waste drop-off for recovery. They operate an open windrow composting facility to process green waste where they screen the materials, ground, and form the materials in to windrows which are pasteurised and cured before being processed as a final product. NuGrow – Waste and Recycling operate the Bundaberg Composting and Recycling Facility which offers services for liquid, solid, and green waste, including garden organics from Fraser Coast Regional Council. This site has the potential to receive food organics in the future pending approval conditions and technology requirements. The compost products created both composting facilities are expected to comply with the Australian Standard for Soil Conditioners and Mulches AS4454.

Oreco Group manufacture high quality garden and animal care products through various processes using repurposed waste materials and organics sourced from their own products and from farms within the region. Operations of large-scale composters in the region would indicate a significant demand for garden waste and compost from within the region, most likely from agricultural producers who use the compost on their crops and farms.

3.4 Community understanding and behaviours

A lack of community understanding and concern around the increasing cost and environmental impacts of waste management and absence of incentives or disincentives for households to improve behaviours is contributing to inefficient waste management practices

There is a clear need and ambition to improve the resource recovery rate across Wide Bay Burnett to reduce environmental impact, optimise the life of the landfills, and manage cost pressures. However, much of the community do not understand the cost of managing their waste, or challenges faced by Councils and the value of resource recovery. There is a need for investment in long term community and industry education to improve resource recovery and add value to recyclables.

Contamination rates from audits undertaken by Councils range across the region from 16.3-18%.³² The general community is not aware of the environmental problems caused by waste generation and find it difficult to connect individual actions to address those problems. Most people do not know where their waste goes, whether it is recyclable or if it can be recovered. Many people in the community are not sure what happens to their waste, or whether their actions make a difference. The lack of understanding across the region has led to high contamination rates in kerbside bins and low resource recovery rates, as potentially recyclable items are disposed rather than recovered. This exacerbates existing challenges regarding scale for reprocessing and remanufacturing in regional locations.

Illegal dumping is also a concern across the Wide Bay Burnett region, where low population density and distance from waste infrastructure leads to illegal disposal and dumping of large waste volumes in remote areas. Littered and illegally dumped wastes are a substantial source of environmental contamination. Waste in the environment can cause animal entanglement, injury and death, and the economic costs of litter and illegal dumping are nearly always borne by local councils.³³ Prevention of littering and dumping reduces or avoids these costs, demonstrating the importance of investment in litter and dumping prevention, targeted surveillance, and enforcement at identified illegal dumping hotspots, and efforts to modify behaviour.

³² Combination of council provided information and that reported in QWDS.

³³ Queensland Government: Department of Environment and Science (2021). Keeping Queensland Clean: the litter and illegal dumping plan. Accessed at https://www.qld.gov.au/data/assets/pdf_file/0024/176262/keeping-qld-clean-lid-plan.pdf

Better messaging, such as emphasising how waste can be transformed into new objects, may make a difference. However, information alone cannot always drive sustainable behaviours. The community must feel motivated, and the best motivations may be a combination of environmental benefits with personal incentives, such as economic rewards, increased status, or social connections.³⁴

In the first instance, initiatives that encourage waste avoidance and product reuse should be prioritised to reduce end-of-life volumes. Waste education should be integrated into specific actions areas in each LGA and should be supported by regional campaigns such as consistent messaging across the region and shared resources and messages.

While education is valuable, behaviour change is often reliant on the choices available to the community. The provision of additional residential bin services, such as co-mingled recycling and FOGO, provides the community with a convenient alternative to standard disposal in the residual waste bin. While these services may be cost prohibitive to some Councils with low population density, resource recovery infrastructure such as MRFs and transfers stations may be feasible to further recover materials from the MSW stream.

3.5 An opportunity for local economic or community benefits

There is an opportunity to develop and support new and innovative resource recovery industries as well as create regional and local economic and community benefits through collaborative waste management planning between Wide Bay Burnett councils and the broader region

The Wide Bay Burnett region has a varied economic base and benefits from a diverse natural environment and range of industries, liveable cities, and its strategic position to provide goods and services to domestic and international markets. The region has access to these markets through the Port of Bundaberg, multiple intraregional highways, and numerous regional and local airports. The waste management and resource recovery sector is already an important contributor to the economy, however, there is further potential to grow the sector by improving recovery of resources and investing in the resource recovery industry.

The WBB Economic Strategy outlines a roadmap for WBB to deliver increased regional wealth to the region, and act as an enabler to facilitate businesses, the government, and stakeholders to grow the region's economy. For the waste management and resource recovery sector, this includes action relevant to this Plan such as planning and partnerships, circular economy development and regional infrastructure.

A focus on driving these outcomes through further industry growth presents opportunities for the development of downstream waste industries in the region. Economic value and jobs for Wide Bay Burnett residents can be created through the development of resource recovery industries, however, capacity for jobs requires scale of recovered waste. As identified in previous sections, this is a barrier at an individual council level in the Wide Bay Burnett region.

A key pathway to achieving economic growth in the Wide Bay Burnett region will be increased collaboration and knowledge sharing between Councils. Increased collaboration across policy planning, procurement and delivery of infrastructure will be necessary to respond to the State and national push towards a circular economy while ensuring solutions are right-sized and cognizant of regional economic drivers and community needs. This increased focus on collaborative planning can also provide opportunities to articulate and plan for challenges facing the region now and into the future.

³⁴ The Conversation (2019). How to boost recycling: Reward consumers with discounts, deals and social connections. Accessed at <https://theconversation.com/how-to-boost-recycling-reward-consumers-with-discounts-deals-and-social-connections-124389>

A key benefit of investment in the waste and resource recovery industry in the Wide Bay Burnett region is the opportunity to increase both skilled and unskilled employment. There is significant potential for economic growth in the waste management and resource recovery sector in Queensland. For every 10,000 tonnes of waste that goes to landfill, it is estimated that fewer than three jobs are supported, but where that waste is reused or recycled, it is estimated that there are more than nine jobs created. The higher job rate for recycling is due to the higher number of activities associated with the recycling process, and in particular the sorting, transfer, and transformation of materials into new products, and the labour-intensive nature of some of these processes compared with landfill-related employment.

3.6 Meeting state and Commonwealth waste objectives and targets for waste management

The objectives and targets in the Queensland Waste Management and Resource Recovery Strategy⁷ and National Waste Policy Action Plan³⁶ cannot be met with existing infrastructure, initiatives, funding, resourcing, and supporting policy in Wide Bay Burnett

Recognising that a shift to a circular economy requires a national approach, the *National Waste Policy*³⁵ was updated in 2018 by the Federal, State and Territory governments. In 2019, the *National Waste Policy Action Plan*³⁶ was delivered, outlining several strategic priorities as a framework and guide to implement the National Waste Policy.

Details the Wide Bay Burnett regions' performance in comparison to the Queensland average and targets was presented in **Table 10**. Overall, the region is performing slightly above the current state average, with C&D recovery reported as the highest performer achieving the 2025 target.

The issue with targets is not that the waste diversion (or reduction, or recycling) targets cannot be met, the critical issue is that the cost of making the transition towards zero waste to landfill, and greater recycling is not necessarily well understood. Furthermore, where change is required from an existing system, the question of who pays is fundamental, although adopting the polluter pay principals, ultimately the cost of these changes is borne by the consumer or ratepayer, who is typically the same. The introduction of the levy in 2019 provided a safeguard measure to protect the cost to households from implementation of the levy. Whilst this is now being reduced for some Councils (Bundaberg Regional Council, Fraser Coast Regional Council), this now becomes a cost that Council must recover, although potentially supported by funding from the State or Commonwealth Government, or via services provided by private sector operators, however the question returns to how this cost is covered and the environmental and economic benefit from achieving the targets.

The 2025 targets will not be met, and this is consistent across the state. There is a need for pragmatism when considering the technical, economic, and environmental practicalities of pursuing a zero waste to landfill strategy, particularly when set within the context of the waste legislation and policy settings in Queensland.

³⁵ Australian Government (2018). National Waste Policy. Accessed at <https://www.dcceew.gov.au/sites/default/files/documents/national-waste-policy-2018.pdf>

³⁶ Australian Government (2019). National Waste Policy Action Plan 2019. Accessed at <https://www.dcceew.gov.au/sites/default/files/documents/national-waste-policy-action-plan-2019.pdf>

4 Organic waste

Organic waste is identified in both National and State guidance documents as a low hanging fruit when it comes to diverting more waste from landfill. There is significant support via the National Food Waste Policy to divert more food waste from landfill, supported by the establishment of research and roll out of the Food Waste behavioural change programs by the Queensland Government, alongside a series of actions in Queensland's Organic Waste Strategy and Action Plan. A key consideration of the options assessment for this Plan was the prospect of introducing regional or individual council scale organics collections. This section considers:

- The existing dynamics of the organic waste stream in the Wide Bay Burnett Region
- Potential levers and interventions
- Major options considered
- The expected outcomes of the preferred options
- What is required to support the change including cost; and
- What may change during the implementation of the Plan

4.1 Organic material stream dynamics

Organic waste across the region is managed via several collection pathways. All councils provide self-haul facilities where residents and local industry can drop off garden waste. In Bundaberg there is also a privately operated facility where residents can drop off garden waste for free which is composted and reused in agriculture. In general, self-hauled garden waste is processed locally by councils. Fraser Coast Regional Council sends its garden organic waste to a private composting facility at Gregory River, located between Maryborough and Bundaberg. Bundaberg Regional Council provides some self-hauled garden organics to a second private operator located near Bundaberg where it is processed into soil amendment products and used in agriculture.

Within the region, Councils and the private sector received and recovered a reported 86,165 tonnes of green waste in FY20-21. For organic waste this represented a recovery rate of 69% for organic material and contributed 10% to the overall region recovery rate. This is solely green waste received and is typically processed into a mulch or compost. Information provided by Councils indicated that there is strong demand for high quality organic waste derived product for reuse within agriculture, particularly in the Bundaberg Region.

A significant proportion of household food and garden organics are still disposed of in the residual bin across the region. **Figure 12** presents the estimated breakdown of organic waste based on audit information for organic waste managed at Council sites within the region.

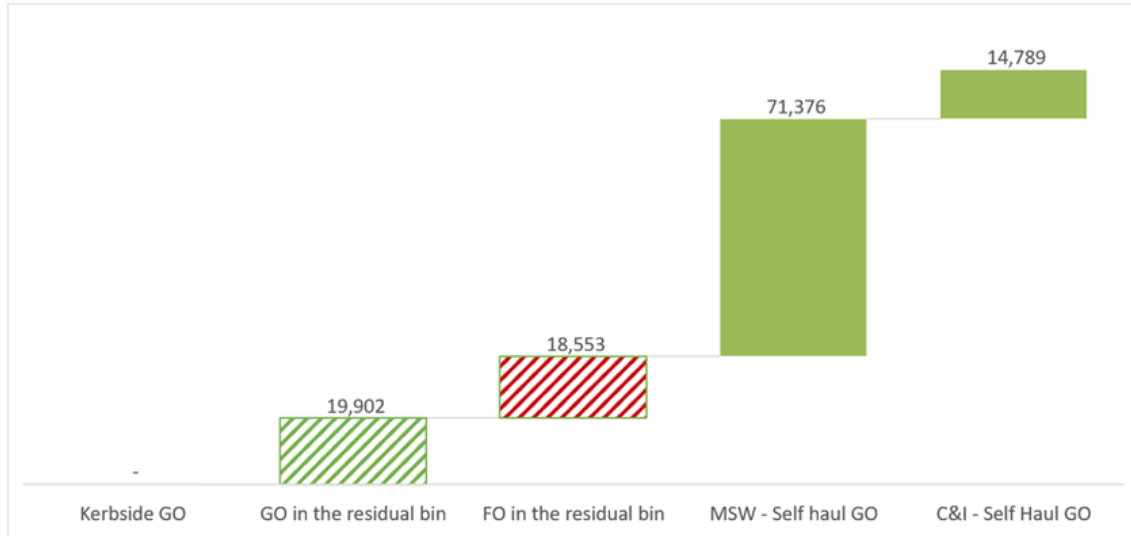


Figure 12 Estimated breakdown of organic waste managed by councils in region (tonnes)

Geographical diversity also influences organics collection and processing across the Wide Bay-Burnett region. For example, the Councils within the region with very low population density, and with households generally on larger blocks are more likely to have informal at home organics diversion solutions in place, such as compost heaps, chickens, or worm farms, compared to higher density parts of the region such as parts of the Bundaberg, Gympie, and Fraser Coast LGAs.

Away from reported kerbside organic waste, other organic waste streams are generated within the region. This includes a range of agricultural residues and wastes. Analysis undertaken by the Queensland Government in FY18-19 indicated that there was a combined total of 1,291,550 tonnes of food crop residues and 257,060 tonnes of organic wastes and other residues in the region. The latter includes material reported in the graph above. These values are significant although it is noted that a high proportion of this material is already managed and is not necessarily available for reprocessing.

4.2 Levers and interventions

4.2.1 Avoiding and reducing organic waste

Organic waste reduction or avoidance can be achieved through education with support from other levers, which may also link to regional or council landfill diversion solutions. Under Queensland's Organic Waste Strategy there are specific actions to support national objectives to halve food waste, including a reduction in food waste of 10% per household by 2025. The Queensland Government currently has the license to the Love Food Hate Waste branded education and engagement program developed by WRAP³⁷ in the UK. Fraser Coast Regional Council participates in Love Food Hate Waste already. Some existing councils within the region provide education packages that include composting at home^{38,39,40} however the ability to commit resources to education varies across councils within the region.

The roll out of state-backed education or behaviour change campaigns such as deployment of Love Food Hate Waste materials is likely to require additional resources to have a significant impact. Education could be delivered at a regional scale for issues such as behaviour change to avoid food waste without impacting individual council service delivery. This could be delivered to commercial or industrial premises. Avoiding household generated food or garden organic waste being disposed of into a residual bin could be supported by the provision of at-home composting equipment such as compost bins or worm farms supporting education campaigns.

Some Councils in the Wide Bay Burnett region have implemented behaviour change initiatives to improve household practices, increase community knowledge of waste streams, and improve the potential for resource recovery. The Bundaberg, Fraser Coast, and Gympie Regional Councils have all implemented waste and recycling education programs, which are facilitated through educational tours of waste facilities and consultations, with the main target audience being primary and secondary school students. The educational programs aim to develop environmental values and encourage long-term environmental behaviours.⁴¹ Utilising Queensland Government support these initiatives should include meaningful measures to avoid food waste.

4.2.2 Alternative pricing strategies / pay as you throw

Aligned with education and behaviour change is the development of a bin sizing and price incentive strategy. This approach, currently being considered by several councils in Queensland based on experience from elsewhere in Australia and overseas would seek to achieve higher landfill diversion by aligning bin volume pricing to the polluter pays principal and backing this up with targeted enforcement. This approach may also seek to include pricing mechanisms that prioritise recycling or organics collections over residual waste systems.

³⁷ WRAP, 2022. Love Food Hate Waste – Why we're here.

³⁸ Bundaberg Regional Council, 2023. Waste and recycling education: Waste minimisation – Bundaberg Regional Council. Accessed at <https://www.bundaberg.qld.gov.au/waste-recycling/education-waste-recycling/5>

³⁹ Fraser Coast Regional Council, 2023. Composting Workshop – Fraser Coast Regional Council. Accessed at <https://www.frasercoast.qld.gov.au/events/event/410/composting-workshop>

⁴⁰ South Burnett Regional Council, 2023. Introduction to Composting and Worm Farming Workshop – South Burnett Regional Council. Accessed at <https://www.southburnett.qld.gov.au/events/event/211/introduction-to-composting-and-worm-farming-workshop>

⁴¹ Gympie Regional Council (2022). Waste Education Program. Accessed at <https://www.gympie.qld.gov.au/waste-education-program>

4.2.3 Levies and bans

4.2.3.1 Landfill levy and annual advanced payment

Organics managed within the residual waste stream and landfilled is subject to the landfill levy, except for waste generated in the Cherbourg Aboriginal Shire Council area. The current landfill levy applied to general waste in the regional zone is \$88 per tonne disposed of, with the levy rate to increase by the rate of CPI in future years. The annual advanced payment for FY22-23 is 105%, which is scheduled to reduce to 100% for Gympie Regional Council, North Burnett Regional Council, and South Burnett Regional Council through to at least FY30-31. Bundaberg Regional Council and Fraser Coast Regional Council are scheduled to receive progressively lower annual advanced payments over the same period. The continued return of landfill levies paid by the three Councils through the continuation of annual advanced payments allows the continuation of the commitment of no-direct impact to households, however, provides little financial disincentive to reduce the amount of organic waste going to landfill.

For Bundaberg Regional Council and Fraser Coast Regional Council the cost of landfill disposal will increase to be nearly \$90 per tonne in FY30-31. This provides a potential opportunity to consider the benefit of introducing further organics diversion to minimise the impact of upcoming cost increases.

4.2.3.2 Landfill bans

The Queensland Government is currently exploring the potential for banning of organic waste from landfill to help increase diversion⁴². Individual landfill facilities could also adopt bans however this is considered unlikely in the region. It is expected that should the Queensland Government decide to legislate bans on organic waste to landfill within the region, there would be a very long-lead time to allow local government and industry to adjust, and to ensure collections and post-collection processing infrastructure could support the flow of material.

4.2.4 Introducing new organics collections services

Most Councils in the region provide a transfer station facility for self-hauled green organic waste across the MSW, C&I and C&D streams, noting no organic waste is captured in the C&D stream. No kerbside collection services are provided in the region, although there are substantial self-haul arisings managed by private sector organic waste processing businesses in the region.

An option for all Councils could be to introduce a new kerbside organics collection service. An estimate of potential material within the household organic waste system for each Council is shown in **Table 12** based on the FY20-21 dataset and audit data.

⁴² State of Queensland, 2022. Queensland Organics Strategy and Action Plan.
<https://www.qld.gov.au/environment/management/waste/recovery/reduction/organics-strategy>

Table 12 Potential organics in kerbside waste per LGA

LGA	Potential Food Organics in residual bin (tonnes per annum)	Potential Garden Organics in residual bin (tonnes per annum)	Total potential organics (tonnes per annum)
Bundaberg Regional Council	6,346	9,807	16,153
Cherbourg Aboriginal Shire Council	70	67	137
Fraser Coast Regional Council	7,765	7,412	15,178
Gympie Regional Council	2,995	2,859	5,853
North Burnett Regional Council	406	388	794
South Burnett Regional Council	1,044	865	1,909

Note – availability based on forecast arisings in FY25-26 and available compositional data

Key decisions for new organics collections within the region would need to include:

- Which Councils will introduce a service, and the drivers for this including cost of landfill disposal, geography, ability to meet any increased costs, and the general direction of council and commitments made in other strategic documents and planning.
- Who the service is offered to, whether to households, or for commercial premises, and the areas of service (i.e., not all councils provide a household garbage/recycling service to all households within the region). This includes consideration of whether individual councils provide the service.
- The type of material to be collected (e.g., whether to include all food wastes including meat, bones, dairy and fruit and vegetable scraps) or a restricted list. Councils may also wish to commence a kerbside garden organics collection service first, with a view to considering implementation of a kerbside FOGO service in the future.
- The frequency of service provided to optimise collections vs cost, and the potential to reduce the kerbside general waste collection frequency from weekly to fortnightly to offset new collection cost.
- Options for take up by residential or commercial service providers, including whether the service provided is mandatory, opt in, or opt out, noting that universal systems tend to have higher diversion rates.
- The type of facility to be constructed for processing, noting that some technologies are considered better for odour management than others however this also depends on the nature of feedstock.

Additional costs to support new services would include new organic waste bins (assumed 240L) for all households receiving the new service. Where the existing residual (garbage) bin is not red (typically older garbage bins are dark green lidded) it may also be necessary to replace the bin lid to avoid confusion with the light green coloured organics bin, and to meet national harmonisation standards. Additional at home infrastructure such as kitchen caddies and bin liners may also be required, which add additional costs to implementation. The indicative one-off cost of new household equipment required for introducing a new FOGO service is estimated to be in the range \$60 to \$84 per household with the variance depending on whether councils provide a kitchen caddy and liners for residents. The breakdown of this cost is shown in **Table 13**.

Table 13 Indicative One-off Costs for Collection Consumables

Item	Cost per item excluding GST
Mobile bin (240L)	\$45
Delivery & distribution of bins	\$15
FOGO kitchen caddy liners including delivery	\$13 (pack of 200)
Kitchen caddies including delivery	\$11
Re-lidding of mobile bin	\$11-\$21

Source: Council provided information, quote from equipment provider

4.2.5 Education to support a new kerbside organic collection

The introduction of a new collection service for organic waste within the region would require supporting education and engagement prior to and during implementation. Evidence from Victoria indicates whole of system education costs including a range of waste education and reduction measures for a 3-bin system including FOGO collections should be estimated at approximately 5% of overall waste management costs. Additional funding may be required in the first year of a new service to include business as usual, improvements to the yellow bin service and food waste avoidance, and organics education including FOGO education and food waste avoidance estimated at \$8 per household (noting if Councils decided to introduce a garden organics collection service these costs may be reduced). The breakdown of this cost is shown in **Table 14**.

Table 14 Indicative Costs for Education

Item	Cost per household per annum excl. GST (2021/22)
Business as usual (assumed for single or two bin system)	\$4 per HH/yr
Improvements to the yellow bin service and food waste avoidance	\$8 per HH/yr
Organics education including FOGO education and food waste avoidance	\$8 per HH/yr

Source: Council provided information.

To support a new organic collection education and soft enforcement through bin tagging are already applied for the kerbside recyclable collection, councils already have powers under local laws to apply penalties for offences around bin collection and materials placed in bins, which could be utilised or modified to support implementation. It is assumed that these activities are captured within the \$8 per household per year cost for FOGO service implementation education.

4.2.6 Post collections infrastructure

Organic waste processing infrastructure is required to recover or recycle a greater volume of material. There are several established organic wastes processing facilities, including shredding/grinding and composting within the region. The compost product is understood to be sold predominantly for agricultural purposes, as well as in the landscape amenity market. The addition of food waste, either individually or via a mixed food and garden organics service (FOGO) may require more involved processing but have outputs that are generally of higher value. There are several considerations when choosing organics processing infrastructure, including the type and quantity of feedstock, quality of product required, and key location specifics such as proximity to sensitive receptors or product offtakers. There are a range of technologies available to process the FO, GO and FOGO stream. Some of these are summarised in **Table 15** noting that there are a wide range of different technological solutions for composting that could be considered by Councils in detail.

Table 15 FOGO processing options

Description	Mulching	Open windrow	Covered aerated static pile (CASP)	Covered inoculated static pile (CISP)	In-vessel composting	Anaerobic Digestion
Process	Use of grinding equipment to create a mulch product.	Composting via open windrow methodology	Composting process enhanced by piped air supply with use of a membrane cover system to manage odours.	Process enhanced by fermentation – compost pile is inoculated with specialised microbes and covered.	Composting undertaken in tunnels with air circulated beneath tunnels; open windrow for maturation.	The breakdown of organics by microorganisms in an enclosed oxygen free environment
Suitable feedstock	Garden Organics	Food and/or Garden Organics	Food and/or Garden Organics	Food and/or Garden Organics	Food and/or Garden Organics	Food Organics
Capital cost	Mobile Plant	\$0.5M-4M	\$4M-\$20M	\$1M-\$5M	\$20M-\$34M	\$10M-\$30M
Estimated operating cost	\$10-\$40 / tonne	\$30-\$120 / tonne	\$50-\$70 / tonne	\$50-\$70 / tonne	\$20-\$120 / tonne	\$70 to \$200/tonne
Output product	Mulch	Compost	Compost	Compost	Compost	Energy, Digestate

Note: indicative costs provided based on 20k to 30ktpa organics processing facility; real costs would form part of detailed business case
Capital costs exclude site preparation, output product quality depends on quality of input. Detail based on benchmarking.

As there are existing composting facility operations in the region, where FOGO collection services are introduced, it may be more cost beneficial for Council to procure a service rather than seek to involve themselves in the build, ownership, or operation of their own facility. Under the service provision scenario, Councils would pay a gate fee for the processing, secondary product manufacturing and distribution of recycled organic material.

Key considerations for organics processing facilities in the region are:

- Type and volume of feedstock
- Location of facility, including number of facilities required within a region
- Transport costs, and benefit of location within a precinct
- Existing facilities and technologies that could provide a service, and whether a new service might impact their ability to continue operation.
- Specific technology to be deployed to meet specific location requirements.
- Facility procurement, ownership, operations, and funding models which provide greatest value for money
- Timeframes for intervention and required go-live date
- The potentially to introduce a garden organics service first as a precursor to a future FOGO service
- The requirements of the Queensland Government’s model operating conditions for processing food waste as part of the FOGO stream

Additional technologies may be deployed at a smaller scale to manage organic wastes locally, including anaerobic digestion which may be an option at a small scale for more remote or island communities.

4.2.7 Establishing a market for recycled organics

At a regional scale several offtake markets will need to be identified for recycled organic products. Product quality may dictate the end market, but end market demand may also drive manufacturing of certain products containing recycled organics. In the region the urban amenity market and landscaping is identified as a key target and the establishment of new composting facilities in the region could be expected to contribute to this. Councils within the region may drive continued demand for this material by using on their own parks and gardens. Other markets may include intensive agriculture, broad acre agriculture or rehabilitation of mine sites, however the product value is likely to vary. Other markets may include or rehabilitation of mine sites, however the product value is likely to lower for this use. Agriculture is generally assumed to be able to utilise large volumes of FOGO compost that could be produced, but further work is required to establish supply or offtake agreements, and perhaps proven quality and benefit. The material may be sold in bulk, but further investment may be required to include screening and bagging infrastructure. Information provided by Councils to support this Plan indicates a price of \$30 to \$120/tonne for recycled organics product may be achievable in the Bundaberg Region depending on product quality.

Product quality is likely to determine the end price and applicability for all end markets. Contamination of both self-haul organics as well as future kerbside collections is a critical issue that has not yet been resolved. At a household level, education will be important in ensuring items that are not suited to composting are not placed in a FOGO collection service bin. Although compostable, some single-use containers can add additional contaminants, and do not currently meet the definition of FOGO in Queensland.

There also remains additional concern in operation of organics processing facilities with the presence of emerging contaminants such as PFAS in all waste streams, including organics. These concerns need to be addressed in waste collection, processing, and product quality to maintain offtake agreements.

4.3 Major options considered

Major options considered for how organic waste is managed in the region are presented in the following table and discussed in subsequent sub-sections:

Table 16 Major organic waste decisions

Decision area	Business as usual	Options				Rationale
Priority of focus on organic waste stream	Limited specific focus on organic waste diversion	Not a priority focus		Priority focus		Clear driver for BRC and FCRC with annual advance payment change. Focus under Organics Action Plan for region but specific to each Council.
Point of organics separation	At home composting + self-haul + one individual GO collection	FOGO collections for individual councils as business case and economic conditions dictate		FOGO collections for whole of region		BRC/FCRC to progress development of FOGO collections offering for LGA. Other councils to continue BAU collections.
Waste stream composition for collection	Garden Organics / Green waste only	Garden organics only	Food organics only	All garden organics and some food organics	All food and garden organics	BRC and FCRC only – assumed move to FOGO collections. Accepted contents to be determined.
Waste stream for self-haul	Garden Organics / Green waste only	Garden organics only	Food organics only	All garden organics and some food organics	All food and garden organics	All councils to continue to receive self-haul green waste to transfer stations.
Processing technologies	Mulching & local composting (private sector)	Small scale organics infrastructure	Open Windrow	Covered windrow systems	In-vessel composting	Councils to work through individual solutions for processing technologies. May depend on private infrastructure.
Infrastructure ownership	Mulching infrastructure limited	Council owned and operated	Council owned, privately operated	Privately owned and operated	Other	BRC and FCRC likely to seek a service from private industry.
Market development	Mulch product used locally, given away, some challenges	Limited intervention	Moderate level of support or intervention to establish local offtake markets for all products		High level of support or intervention	Secondary market for recycled organics requires further establishment and support.
Approach to behaviour change: Food waste avoidance	Limited delivery through waste education team members.	Limited focus	Priority focus at individual council scale		Priority focus at regional scale	Food waste avoidance can be delivered at regional scale to tie in and leverage state-based support.
Approach to education: collections	Delivery through existing service offerings	Limited focus	Priority focus at individual council scale		Priority focus at regional scale	Different collections will require different approaches. For new collections BRC and FCRC will require significant input
Non-infrastructure organics solutions	No solutions offered	Provision of at home composting solutions (program)		Provision of community composting facilities to allow food scrap diversion		Additional non-infrastructure solutions to allow participation in LGAs or parts of LGAs with lack of access.

Cells in GREEN reflect decision made; BRC – Bundaberg Regional Council, CASC – Cherbourg Aboriginal Shire Council, FCRC – Fraser Coast Regional Council, GRC – Gympie Regional Council, NBRC – North Burnett Regional Council, SBRC – South Burnett Regional Council

4.3.1 Priority of focus on organics waste stream

It is estimated that around 50% of the kerbside residual bin collected from households in the region is organic in nature. With the increasing cost of landfill disposal for Bundaberg Regional Council and Fraser Coast Regional Council, a desire to minimise waste sent to landfill, and the known greenhouse gas emissions caused by organic waste in landfill, there is a clear need to divert organic waste from landfill in the region. However, this is tempered by the geography of the region and the economic conditions including waste levy and annual advanced payment settings for all Councils except Bundaberg Regional Council and Fraser Coast Regional Council.

Bundaberg Regional Council and Fraser Coast Regional Council are developing feasibility and business case documentation to consider the establishment of an organics diversion service commencing from FY26-27. For the other council areas, the organic waste stream is not as much a priority, although efforts should be made to allow participation in reduction and diversion activities at a local scale through access to food waste avoidance programs or other participation events. Alternative collection approaches, such as a milk run for organic waste from households and businesses should be converted from concept into trials that can be supported by the Queensland Government.

4.3.2 Organics separation approach

In FY20-21 a reported 86,165 tonnes of green waste were self-hauled to transfer facilities in the region across the MSW and C&I streams. This includes an estimated 22,000 tonnes of green waste self-hauled in Bundaberg to private facilities. It is expected that self-haul will continue as the separation approach for garden organics across the region. For Gympie Regional Council, North Burnett Regional Council, South Burnett Regional Council, and Cherbourg Aboriginal Shire Council separate kerbside organic waste collections are not a priority in the short-term under current levy and policy settings, due to the potential cost impact on household and relatively low resource recovery benefit. Education activities that focus on food waste avoidance and at home or community composting activities should be supported. These Councils may progress kerbside organic waste collection in the future, because of policy change or through community or council led change.

4.3.3 A new kerbside organics collection service in Bundaberg and Fraser Coast LGAs

To support greater organics collection in the Bundaberg Regional Council and Fraser Coast Regional Council areas a kerbside FOGO collection service will be introduced. The service will commence as soon as economically practicable and pending individual Council approval. The service area is expected to be provided to residents that currently receive a kerbside commingled recycling bin collection, noting specific coverage will be identified by councils undertaking specific business case development. To support economic analysis, it was assumed 80% of households currently receiving a waste collection service would receive a kerbside food and garden organics service. There could be opportunities for councils to collaborate on collection or processing contracts, with benefits from duplication of procurement activities or from shared operational management. To support the roll out of a new kerbside collection system, significant and early investment is required in education to drive initial behaviour, followed up by ongoing education efforts.

Development of a specific business cases will support the best value combination of cost versus service and impact on residual bin collections. In the future this service may expand or a new service to collect commercial food waste from commercial customers will be explored.

4.3.4 Processing technology

Mulching is a favourable solution for green waste managed by most Councils. Large amount of garden organics are also used in composting processes particularly in Bundaberg and Fraser Coast LGAs. Composting is expected to be the primary processing technology for FOGO however technology may yet still be determined. The Department of Environment and Science is currently considering the risks associated with processing FOGO and specific requirements for processing facilities which is expected to dictate to a degree location of facilities or technology to be deployed and will dictate cost. This may necessitate improvements to existing facilities where food waste is received. A further consideration in the region is the integration of existing green waste processing into future composting activities.

4.3.5 Infrastructure ownership and facility delivery vs service fee

There are a range of ownership and funding options available for organic recycling technology. This will be reviewed and considered during the development of business cases and funding requests, however, could include options for Councils to own facilities, design, build and operate, or engage the private sector to do one or all the options. The decision will be made on the most cost-beneficial approach and risk/impact on ratepayers.

Where the private sector is engaged to deliver services relating to organic waste collection or processing, decisions for technology will reside with the solution provider and be reflected in the gate fee paid by the Council or other waste providers. This approach reduces operational risk on Councils however reduces the control Councils have on price, and it would be expected that there would be penalties or increased gate fees associated with poorer quality material delivered.

There is an opportunity for Bundaberg Regional Council and Fraser Coast Regional Council to collaborate on the organic waste processing solution with expected similar commencement dates however this may depend on existing contracts.

4.3.6 Improved understanding of whole of region waste stream composition

There are a range of different organic wastes that could be collected across the region. Business as usual activities for Councils receive a large proportion of garden waste through the self-haul system including both the household and commercial streams which is composted to higher values uses or mulched with little residual value. Across the region green waste will continue to be processed in this manner.

For Councils that decide to include additional collection systems including the FOGO stream an opportunity is provided for composting activities providing a higher quality output than mulching. It is expected that a proportion or single stream garden organics will continue to be mulched and used by Council for operational purposes. Improved or refined data is required to support new systems, including the potential contribution of commercial food organics, and those that are not captured as waste (i.e., agricultural residues etc.,) but may support either public or private investment in new processing facilities. The work undertaken by the Queensland Government on organic material flows should be shared more broadly and used to support holistic discussions around potential feedstocks at a regional level not just limited to waste managed by Councils.

4.3.7 Market development

Market development activities are required to support both existing activities through mulching and the compost product to be produced by the organics processing facility. Whilst there is confidence that a market exists, or links with offtakers can be identified, further work is required to connect supply with potential users. This can be facilitated by individual Councils, through procurement of product for use within urban amenity and by the Queensland Government where recycled organics can be deployed in the road reserve. Use in agriculture may require further refinement of offtake product, strong quality management, and a period of trial with agricultural users to demonstrate product quality. Mulched product, though likely lower value, also has been challenging for some Councils to find a market for. The price of any organic waste processing derived product varies significantly with quality, with a range of between \$0 and \$130 suggested, the higher value where the product can be deployed locally in agriculture. The establishment of a market for high-quality product should be a consideration of business case activity, as it can determine the processing technology required.

If Councils, choose to follow the service fee approach then ability to influence the market is restricted to purchase of recycled organics product for use in landscaping or amenity purposes. Organic waste derived products have high demand for deployment in agriculture in the region.

4.3.8 Approach to behaviour change and education

For organic waste there are two clear elements for action. Behaviour change aligned to the Queensland Government supported campaign options like Love Food Hate Waste⁴³ program will support the entire region reduce the amount of food waste generated and proportions of food waste in waste. It is expected and essential that the Department of Environment and Science will provide support through resources, both financial and collateral, to allow regional delivery. This messaging should be delivered at a regional scale, initially through the establishment of a regional waste education strategy, to allow all Councils to participate fully and allow economies of scale in messaging, however in the region it was also highlighted that individual Councils may need to tailor education packages to their own needs, whether specific to new collection or processing systems, or timeframes associated with other engagement activities.

For individual Councils messaging around existing services may be targeted to improve the quality of self-hauled green waste provided to Council transfer stations, as this has an implication on mulch product quality. Where Councils approve the introduction of a kerbside organics collection a specific education and awareness campaign in the lead up to commencement will be required. It is expected that education coupled with behaviour change or enforcement activities will be required to ensure compliance with scheme requirements and to take actions to minimise contamination. Specifically in relation to penalising poor behaviour it is expected and essential that the Queensland Government will take the lead on legislating penalties, rather than individual Councils being required to introduce new penalties into local laws.

4.3.9 Regional collaboration on community initiatives to reduce organic wastes

The potential to support or develop trials for community composting, specifically in parts of the region that are unlikely to move to a kerbside organics service in the immediate term, is identified as an opportunity to allow residents to participate in organics diversion activities and is consistent with the Organic Waste Action plan. There are activities such as licensing arrangements, identifying sites, and procedures to encourage community composting that are better suited for development by the Queensland Government than by individual councils.

⁴³ Fraser Coast Regional Council already subscribes to Love Food Hate Waste

4.3.10 Tackling problem organic wastes

Regional collaboration to assess jointly higher order end uses in the region for recycled organics derived from green waste were identified as an opportunity. Additionally, the development of an approach to managing biosolids, although not necessarily a critical issue at present, noting successful projects in South-East Queensland (for example the Logan City Biosolids Gasification project or an Urban Utilities project pelletising biosolids for use as a fuel), particularly with the potential for regulatory change regarding the presence of emerging contaminants in biosolids. Gympie Regional Council is reviewing options for managing biosolids through co-digestion, which may have benefits for the whole of the region.

4.4 Expected outcomes

For this Plan, there are clear environmental and social benefits to implement new kerbside organic waste collections and processing solutions throughout the region, however there is no clear economic incentive for Cherbourg Aboriginal Shire Council, Gympie Regional Council, North Burnett Regional Council or South Burnett Regional Council to implement such a solution. There are expected benefits for Bundaberg Regional Council and Fraser Coast Regional Council to progress the development of an organic waste collection and processing solution which will commence when practicable and approved by individual Councils.

A FOGO collection service by both Bundaberg Regional Council and Fraser Coast Regional Council is predicted to capture a combined 27,500 tonnes (initially upon commencement), rising each year through sustained investment in education and as population grows. Other councils may introduce their own services, and build their own processing facilities, or take advantage of existing facilities. The outcome in this Plan assumes:

- A new FOGO system captures 35% of food organics and 85% garden organics from the residual bin⁴⁴ estimated to be 2,092 tonnes of food waste and 7,850 tonnes of garden waste diverting a combined 9,942 tonnes of organic waste from landfill in Bundaberg Regional Council, and 2,092 tonnes (food) and 6,261 tonnes (garden) diverting around 8,911 tonnes of organic waste from landfill in Fraser Coast Regional Council.
- Additional garden organics captured with the provision of a new kerbside service (i.e., some material may currently be managed at home or that is currently self-hauled is captured in the new FOGO service, estimated at 8,700 tonnes.
- This includes the impact of education as well as the capture of existing food and garden organic waste currently in the residual bin, plus additional garden organics added to the system by residents.
- After implementation, across the region, there would still be an estimated 21,200 tonnes of organic waste in the residual bin.

Should Cherbourg Aboriginal Shire Council, Gympie Regional Council, North Burnett Regional Council or South Burnett Regional Council decide to introduce a new kerbside organics service benefits based on volumes could generally be scalable, however due to distance and need for additional composting infrastructure costs could escalate significantly. The addition of a FOGO collection service for all other councils would add an extra 1-2% to the MSW kerbside recovery rate and likely have marginable impact on the regional recovery rate for all streams.

Figure 13 provides an estimate of the annual cumulative tonnes of FOGO waste collected through the potential Bundaberg and Fraser Coast FOGO collections. The lines are a reference mark showing the total amount of FOGO waste currently in the residual bin.

⁴⁴ RAWTEC, Analysis of NSW Kerbside Green Lid Bin Audit Data Report 2020

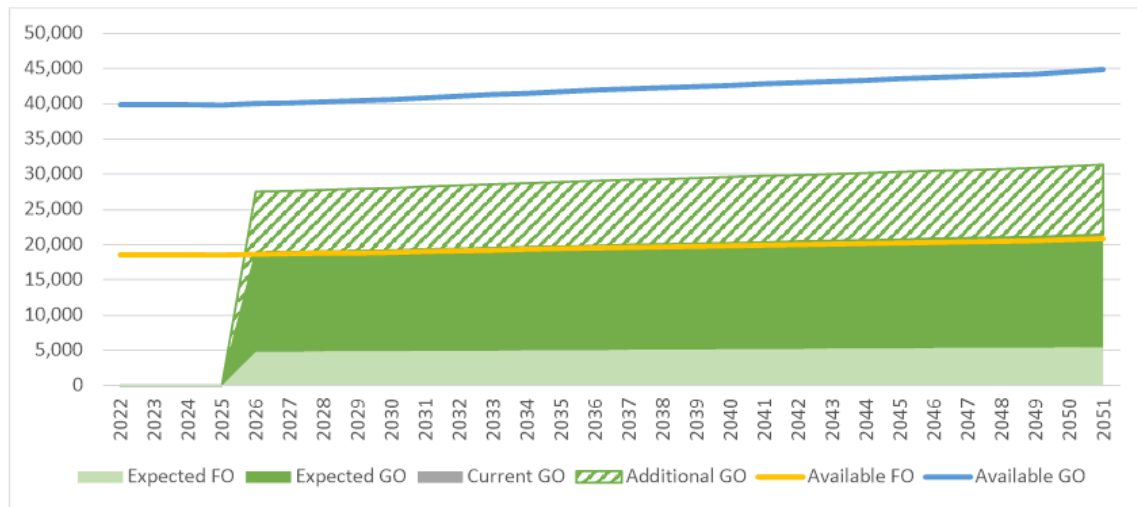


Figure 13 Future State for kerbside organics collections

Community composting is considered to provide a modest reduction in the food waste reduction where applied across the region, however overall, the combination of existing green waste processing across the region, growth of community composting and FOGO collection and processing service in Bundaberg and Fraser Coast is estimated to improve the MSW kerbside recovery rate from 18% to 42% and contribute an additional 5% growth in the regional recovery rate from the current 52% to 57%. New FOGO services could divert an estimated 96,000 tonnes from landfill, between FY26-27 and FY30-31. The estimated emissions savings from organic waste diverted from landfill to composting is 149,000 t/CO²e over this period.⁴⁵

Table 17 summarises the expected outcomes for the region in implementing the Regional Waste and Resource Recovery Plan regarding organic waste.

Table 17 Expected Outcomes – changes to organic waste performance

Metric	Current (FY20-21)	Forecast 2030	Forecast 2040
Household organic waste recycling rate (kerbside)	0%	24%	26%
Household organic waste diversion tonnage (kerbside)	0 tonnes	28,000 tonnes	30,000 tonnes
Contamination rate	No service	<5%	<5%

⁴⁵ Australian Government, Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water, 2022. Australian National Greenhouse Account Factors, November 2022 – direct comparison between processing technologies only.

4.5 The cost of making the change

Economic analysis undertaken to support the Plan has identified that the expected cost of making the change at a regional scale or for individual Councils would include:

- Capital, operating and lifecycle costs – for sending organic waste to a 3rd party organic processing facility and paying a gate fee, plus collection, transfer, and bulking infrastructure (if required for transport to a centralised facility). These costs also include one-off costs for the delivery and distribution of new bins for households. Costs may vary depending on the processing technology. For example, costs of anaerobic digestion or covered aerated/inoculated static pile have significantly higher capital costs than an open windrow system.
- Transport costs – these include both the delivery of new kerbside collections and transport to a facility in region.
- Education costs – education costs commencing before the establishment of new services and assumed to continue through service provision to support the change.

This analysis includes a rapid cost benefit analysis. For implementation of the organic waste component of the Plan, it was assumed that existing organic waste processing facilities in the region would be utilised by Bundaberg Regional Council and Fraser Coast Regional Council and so Councils would pay a gate fee. This would be supported by new kerbside collections, assumed weekly, offset by a reduction in the residual waste collection services to fortnightly collections for those households receiving an organic waste collection service. It was assumed that the kerbside FOGO collection service would be rolled out to 80% of households in Bundaberg and Fraser Coast. The estimated whole-of-life cost for the introduction of FOGO collection and processing services in Bundaberg and Fraser Coast LGAs, over a modelled 30-year period is estimated to be **\$153.5 million** (present value⁴⁶) or annualised at **\$55 per household per year** over the whole period compared to business as the business-as-usual scenario. In summary:

- The kerbside collection cost is estimated to be **\$48.5 million** (present value) reflective of the addition of 52 weeks of FOGO kerbside collection and reduction of 26 weeks of residual waste collections over the period.
- Assuming Councils pay a gate fee for processing, the estimated cost of processing forecast collected organic wastes is **\$105 million** (present value) over the forecast period. This assumes an initial gate fee of \$110 per tonne for a simple windrow facility in the region at an existing facility.
- Initial one-off costs for the purchase of new bins and other consumables (kitchen caddies, liners etc.,) estimated to cost **\$2.7 million** for Bundaberg Regional Council and **\$3.1 million** for Fraser Coast Regional Council.⁴⁷ These costs may vary depending on the final service configuration and decisions made by Councils (e.g., provision of liners for caddies) and the point when they are purchased.
- Additional one-off costs may be required to replace existing residual bin lids with Australian Standard red lids, estimated at between \$11-\$21 per household, although it is assumed that these can be replaced progressively as bins are replaced.
- Education costs (included in the OPEX costs above) associated with the introduction of a new kerbside organic waste collection service are estimated to be **\$0.27 million per annum** for Bundaberg Regional Council and **\$0.29 million per annum** for Fraser Coast Regional Council, assumed to start up to 2-years prior to commencement of a full service.

⁴⁶ Note whole of life costs are discounted at a rate of 7% per year and presented as present value costs.

⁴⁷ Cost based on \$84 per household establishment costs

It is assumed that FOGO collection would be impracticable to introduce at this stage in Cherbourg Aboriginal Shire Council and North Burnett Regional Council due to scale and cost. It is also assumed at this stage that Gympie Regional Council and South Burnett Regional Council do not have the economic driver (i.e., 100% annual advanced payment meaning levy cost is not realised) to add additional kerbside collection services. Nothing in this Plan or modelling undertaken precludes any council from deciding to implement a kerbside organics collection service.

Further refinement of the cost estimate would be expected as initially Councils establish whether there is a clear benefit for collaboration between Bundaberg Regional Council and Fraser Coast Regional Council. There may be benefit in collaborating on project management, education, and collectively pooling feedstock to avoid duplication of cost.

Additional costs may be incurred in implementing the plan for:

- Support required to implement food waste avoidance education and behaviour change. This is included within whole of region education costs alongside activities identified in **Section 5**.
- Costs associated with developing a regional or individual council studies for problematic organic wastes such as biosolids and timber.
- Costs associated with the roll out of at home composting solutions such as worm farms or compost bins. This is assumed to be a whole of state response coordinated by the Queensland Government.
- Costs associated with the establishment of community compost facilities within communities in the Wide Bay-Burnett Region. This is assumed to be a whole of state response coordinated by the Queensland Government.
- Updates to material flow analysis commissioned by the Queensland Government to provide a snapshot of current material flows, demand and supply across the region and neighbouring regions to maximise the potential for reuse and recycling in the region.

A breakdown of expected costs for implementation of this Plan is presented in **Appendix D**.

4.6 Supporting the change

4.6.1 Getting to the decision point for investments

Councils require a significant understanding of the business case for delivering new service before making a decision that affects their ratepayers. The preparation of a business case for a proposal requires significant investment in time and potentially the procurement of specialist economic, engineering, and other technical services. Future funding requests associated with the implementation of this Plan will likely require a gateway approval from State Government entities, who will expect documentation of a high standard to support any application.

4.6.2 Funding support for Capital Expenditure

The introduction of a new kerbside organics service in the region will cost more than the current service offering to provide additional collections and support gate fees or operational costs at a new processing facility. This includes preparing business cases that will consider existing fleet capacity and capability in the context of an additional collection service, and the establishment of a new organics processing facility. Ownership and delivery of the latter are to be established, but whether Council or privately owned, capital costs are expected to be significant.

A new organic waste processing facility may be located within a Precinct or existing industrial zone land. Support will be required from the host Council or from the Queensland Government to facilitate the establishment of the precinct to support organics or other resource recovery activities (see **Section 5**) which may be financial, planning and approvals. This includes a clear role for the Department of State Development to support establishment of both enabling infrastructure and industry attraction for new businesses to fill the precinct. There may be benefit in locating an organic processing facility in a future precinct development. The cost of the enabling infrastructure is included in the whole of life cost estimate, however broader precinct costs would require additional investment.

4.6.3 Behaviour change and education support to support food waste avoidance

Central to this Plan is the establishment of regionally focussed education and behaviour change programs. Engagement is required, plus the potential for support through partnerships with the State Government to fully recognise the benefits of a food waste avoidance program, and other behaviour change activities under the National Food Waste Strategy. This should be extended not just to new programs, but for existing services such as self-haul green waste to ensure product quality targets can be met.

4.6.4 Clarity of regulation

Clarity is required around regulation of sites processing food waste (FOGO) at scale as this has a cost implication on ratepayers as well as siting of facilities. Immediate clarity is required from the Queensland Government to ensure clear and transparent application of legislation that enables rather than hinders the establishment of organics processing facilities. This includes providing certainty on the type of facility required to process FOGO. Clarity is also required to how the Queensland Government intends to use landfill disposal bans about organic waste. This need for clarity or certainty also extends to how emerging contaminants (e.g., PFAS) potential in organic waste derived products are managed.

4.6.5 Setting the parameters of community composting

Community Composting could be deployed throughout the region, including in remote and regional communities. Whilst unlikely to have a high cost, consideration of funding for the development of state-wide education and information resources, education staff support, and support to facility community action should be provided by the Queensland Government. Priority should be given to Councils and populations without access to an organic waste service in the first instance, however documents and guidance should be available to all.

4.7 Timeframes

The proposed timeframe for implementation of the organics stream are:

Table 18 Organics implementation timeframes

Immediate action (ASAP)	Within next 5 years	Within next 10 years
Education & Behaviour Change		
ALL: Development of Regional Education Strategy incorporating food waste avoidance behaviour change program (all) as well as specific education for new services or re-enforcing existing rules (e.g., around self-hauled green waste)	Update and continuation	Update and continuation

Immediate action (ASAP)	Within next 5 years	Within next 10 years
DES + Councils: Consider how State based legislation/regulation or individual council action may need to be implemented.	DES + Councils: Implementation of agreed approach	Continuation
	ALL: Support state-based roll out of at home composting or worm farm equipment subsidisation (pending State funding & administration) linked to avoidance and broader education needs.	
Collections		
Bundaberg Regional Council and Fraser Coast Regional Council (pending Council approvals) will further progress plans for kerbside organic waste collection including detailed cost estimate.	BRC and FCRC (pending Council approval) commence modified kerbside organics collection at point where optimal. ALL: Review potential for long-term regional or sub-regional collaboration to collaborate on collection contracts	BRC and FCRC continue to deliver. ALL: monitor policy position.
Processing solutions		
ALL: Continue to process green waste under BAU	ALL: Continuation	ALL: Continuation
ALL: Collaborate with DES to develop guidance on community composting	ALL: Implement community composting where feasible and guidance allows	ALL: Continuation
BRC and FCRC collaborate on potential procurement of organics processing solution.	BRC and FCRC: Implement preferred processing solution to coincide with commencement of collection service.	BRC and FCRC: Continued implementation. ALL: other councils to monitor opportunity to utilise new facilities.
ALL: Commence discussions regarding to the potential for alternative solution to land application for biosolids	ALL: Implement alternative solution for biosolids if triggered by change in regulation or economics	ALL: Continuation
Market development		
BRC & FCRC: As part of feasibility study or business case identify likely opportunities to purchase recycled organics from organics processor(s).	BRC & FCRC: Procurement of recycled organics for use in council projects.	BRC & FCRC: Continuation
Data & Information		
ALL: Work with DES to refine data associated with non-council managed organic waste within region and identify opportunities to collaborate on processing or supply. Collaborate as part of overarching data strategy.		

Cells in GREY indicate action not expected to commence during the timeframe, BRC-Bundaberg Regional Council, Cherbourg Aboriginal Shire Council, FCRC-Fraser Coast Regional Council, GRC-Gympie Regional Council, NBRC-North Burnett Regional Council, SBRC-South Burnett Regional Council; ALL: indicates collaborative activities for all councils to participate in.

4.8 What could affect implementation?

The following variables could affect implementation of the organics comment of this Plan:

The following variables could affect implementation of the organic waste component of this Plan:

- Changes to regulation or rules relating to the processing of food wastes within composting facilities, and in particular the stipulation of technology type specific to this processing.

- The updating of Australian composting standards (e.g., AS 4454 Composts, soil conditioners and mulches) with more stringent controls associated with the nature of emerging contaminants or other issues that hamper the distribution of recycled organics, including products derived from organic waste.
- The price of recycled organics product (e.g., compost, etc.,) can vary significantly. The typical compost product generated by existing composters running FOGO projects in Victoria and NSW may achieve only \$20/tonne for their outputs, whereas high-quality (and low contamination) outputs reported in strong agricultural market areas may achieve up to \$120 per tonne. The establishment of high-quality output producing facilities coupled with market development activities could achieve a lower overall whole of life cost for organics diversion.
- Changes to the landfill disposal levy (i.e., incremental prices in levy rate greater than CPI) or annual advanced payments could impact the viability of decisions made to support this Plan, including making the economics of kerbside FOGO collection more or less viable.
- The Queensland Government are considering the potential to introduce landfill disposal ban for certain types of wastes including organic wastes. The introduction of a ban on organic waste to landfill (either holistically or for single streams) would support the establishment of a local or regional scale infrastructure. For those Councils with existing landfill gas to power generation facilities a ban on organic waste to landfill could potentially affect the commerciality of these systems, although this would also support a general reduction in greenhouse gas emissions from landfills and promote diversion.
- The expectation in implementation of the education and behaviour change components of the Plan imply reduction in food waste as well as a movement towards low levels of contamination in organics collection services. This will require ongoing effort and financial commitment to reinforce this messaging throughout delivery of the service offering.
- Incorporation of other organic waste streams could allow for growth of proposed processing facilities over time (e.g., commercial food waste, agricultural wastes, timber etc.,)

5 Material recycling and recovery

This section is intended to capture actions and interventions associated with the kerbside recycling scheme and materials recovered or potentially recoverable and recyclable across the region. Challenges in recent years for the kerbside collected bin have stemmed from restrictions on the export of mixed recyclables firstly due to restrictions in China and other receiving countries due to quality or contamination issues, and more recently due to the implementation of export bans on certain unsorted waste streams imposed by the Commonwealth Government. This section considers:

- The existing dynamics of the recyclable waste stream in the Wide Bay-Burnett Region
- Potential levers and interventions
- Major options considered
- The expected outcomes of the preferred options
- What is required to support the change; and
- What may change during the implementation of the Plan

5.1 Waste stream dynamics

All councils except North Burnett Regional Council offer a kerbside commingled recycling service. There are three MRFs within the region, at Bundaberg, Hervey Bay and at Cherbourg, with a new MRF under construction by Fraser Coast Regional Council in Maryborough. All councils provide transfer facilities for self-haul recycling.

In FY20-21, 200,572 tonnes was reported as recovered, of which the household kerbside collection of dry recyclables contributed 19,478 tonnes. A further 180,994 tonnes is self-hauled to council managed facilities within the region comprising 5,406 tonnes of household, 13,819 tonnes of C&I and 161,869 tonnes of C&D waste (of which 134,000 tonnes is reported as clean earth). **Figure 14** presents a breakdown of estimated quantities, combining audit data with projections.

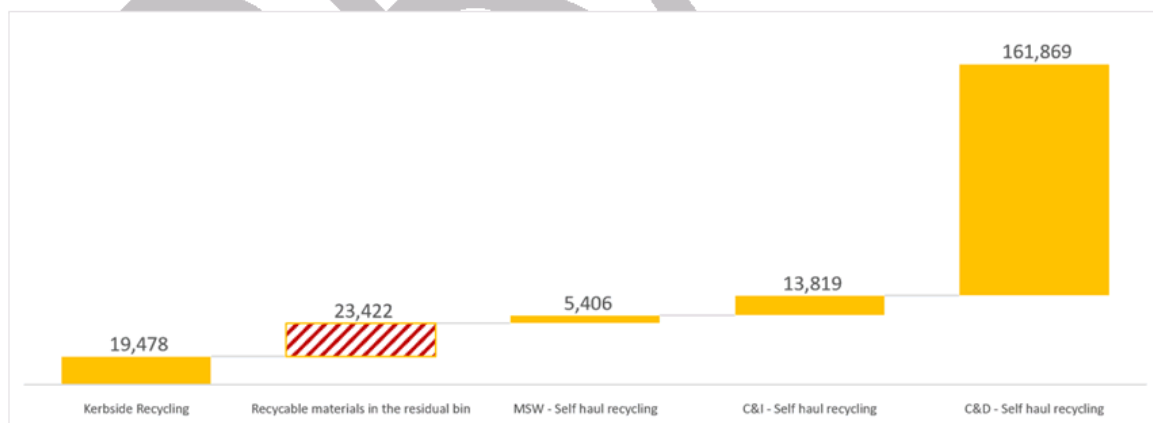


Figure 14 Proportion of recyclable material forecast in each source (FY20-21)

The overall recovery rate (including organic waste) reported in FY20-21 was 38% for the MSW stream. The overall recovery rate for the C&I stream is 29% and the C&D stream is 83%, although it noted that approximately 80% of C&D waste recovered in the region in FY20-21 was clean earth. Contamination in the yellow-top bin is a significant issue across the region with rates across the region ranging from 16-18%.⁴⁸ Contracts MRF operators typically have penalties in for exceeded contamination, and this also can affect downstream quality and price of MRF sorted materials. Waste education is provided across the region which strives to drive the avoidance of waste and drives better performance in existing services. Waste education provision is dependent on funding and resource availability, with larger Councils having greater resources. All kerbside collected materials is sorted via existing MRFs and then further processing and remanufacturing is undertaken outside of the region.

Some self-hauled C&I materials are recovered within the region, although recovery rates are low. Wastes in the C&D stream achieve a regional recovery rate of around 83% already, with Councils recycling and recovering large proportions of this material. The levy, operational since 2019 is likely to have driven this diversion rate with a common response observed across the state. This stream already exceeds the target for 2025 and is marginally below the 2030 target of 85% recovered, suggesting significant further intervention is not required.

Although Councils in the region manage a relatively high proportion of non-household waste, private sector businesses operate in the region, including providing waste collection services on behalf of some councils. Whilst some of this data has been captured in the forecasting, it is likely that there are gaps in the reported data for private sector operations not captured in the annual waste data survey by the Queensland Government. These gaps may represent opportunities for material that could be processed locally.

5.2 Levers and interventions

5.2.1 Refuse, reduce, avoid, and reuse through education

For kerbside collection, education of households is critical for reducing contamination. The Queensland Government is currently preparing a behavioural change campaign under its State Education and Behaviour Change Initiative (EBCI) which is understood to include Statewide advertising as well as toolkit resources to be deployed locally at a regional or individual Council scale. Education around putting the right thing in the right bin will not necessarily impact recovery rates, so education around what can and should go in the recycling bin is also critical. Likewise helping residents understand what happens to their recycling and validating that it is recycled and turned into new products is critical, as is understanding what non-kerbside recycling options may also be available. By extension there are numerous reuse and "op" shop type facilities across the region. These facilities could grow their scope to include preparation of certain recyclables for further transport and processing. A critical need for education is not just initial funding, but ongoing funding throughout the lifetime of this Plan.

⁴⁸ Contamination rates provided by Councils based on most recent audit data and as reported in QWDS.

5.2.2 Policy and legislation

At a national scale the phase out of materials, especially plastics or other packaging materials that are harder to recycle would help to drive better quality in the commingled bin; however, this cannot be controlled by those collecting the waste locally and requires Queensland and Commonwealth Government negotiation and intervention. The waste industry, including both Councils and private industry are responsible for managing the end-of-pipe products produced and consumed by residents and visitors to their regions and Council areas. As such they can have limited impact on the materials that flow through the economy and ultimately become waste. Alignment with upcoming recommendations regarding harmonization of bins should be incorporated, where relevant to the services offered, noting that a case for a separate glass collection as currently being implemented in Victoria does not appear to offer significant benefit to existing arrangements and infrastructure. More assistance is needed from the Queensland and Commonwealth Governments on this front.

There are several circular economy transition changes currently being progressed that may achieve some of the higher order 10Rs before the material becomes waste such as changes to right to repair legislation. These activities over time may impact the material flows eventually becoming waste, most likely through delays or keeping products in use for longer.

5.2.3 Regulation and enforcement

Enforcement activities will support education, but Councils need to be able to enforce requirements or even penalise repeat offenders. This could be undertaken under either local laws, or preferable consistent laws at a state-level to allow repeat offenders to be penalized for their repeated poor behaviour. This could include the introduction of alternative pricing systems or potential removal of service.

5.2.4 Collection systems

Collection systems for materials that can be recycled or recovered (excluding organics and residual waste which are addressed in other sections) rely on a combination of kerbside recycling collections or via the self-haul system. Private sector operators undertake collections within the region, although typically this is understood to be for niche wastes (e.g., liquid regulated wastes), for businesses with multi region collection contracts, or where they are contracted to provide a collection service on behalf of a Council. Councils often end up managing large amounts of the non-Council collected waste at resource recovery facilities.

Enhanced material recovery and recycling also requires improvements to self-haul facilities to for both household waste and that generated by the private sector operators, particularly in parts of the region where Councils manage a high proportion of the C&I and C&D stream. This would include better segregation and separation of problem wastes which typically end up in landfill such as tyres, timber, mattresses, e-waste, paint, and construction wastes. Separation of these wastes needs to be supported also by existing or future product stewardship schemes providing a service to all Councils, and not just those on major routes, or subsidising the transport from more regional areas into a centralised hub to allow collection and reprocessing.

In areas where there are kerbside services there are numerous household hazardous waste products (e.g., mattresses, paint tins, batteries, household chemicals etc.) that cannot be collected from the kerbside, but often end up in the yellow top bin as contamination, or the residual bin where they can cause issues such as fires or contamination. Education can support the non-inclusion of this material in kerbside service bins, but a clear pathway for these materials to be recycled at Council transfer stations should be expanded. Dedicated household hazardous waste transfer facilities (such as the NSW Community Recycling Centres (CRCs)) would help facilitate better capture of these materials. In NSW such facilities are state funded, and there is a clear role for the Queensland Government to support establishment of facilities across the region.

Alignment with an expanded Container Refund Scheme with the updated scheme capturing wine and spirit bottles from late 2023 helps to remove lower quality items, as well as items that cause contamination of other streams (e.g., broken glass to paper/card) helps to further improve the quality. These changes may impact the flow of material into the recycling processing solution which in turn have a material impact on processing contract rates (i.e., less volume being processed typically increases cost to Councils for processing). Councils estimate that annual weight reduction through MRFs may amount to 10-15% less because of the change.

5.2.5 Processing infrastructure

Material recovery facilities typically process and sort wastes. With the new MRF in Maryborough is expected to be operational by mid-2024, it is considered that there are sufficient MRFs with capacity to meet the needs of improved kerbside sorting and commingled recycling. The new MRF in Maryborough has been designed to allow increased throughput to become a regional scale facility in the future, as required. Therefore, it is not proposed for new MRF infrastructure to form part of this Plan, although it is identified that glass processing and washing technology would be beneficial in the region.

Following sorting at an MRF, or taking materials collected individually under specific schemes or at Council transfer facilities, material can be reprocessed into a resource. These reprocessing facilities take pre-sorted materials and change their physical and/or chemical nature, adding value to the processed material so that it can become a feedstock for a manufacturing process or otherwise re-enter the economic cycle.⁴⁹ Reprocessing facilities typically manage single-stream materials such as paper, cardboard, plastics, glass, timber, metals, batteries, e-waste, tyres, and oils. The Recycling Enterprise Precinct Location Strategy suggests there may be opportunities for organics, C&D waste, and solar panel recycling within the region. **Table 19** presents indicative processing costs for different types of processing based on published documentation.

Table 19 Indicative Costs for Reprocessing

Item	Capacity tonnes per year	CAPEX	OPEX per Year	Reference
E-waste processing – batteries	4,000	\$1.75 million - \$2.2 million	\$250,000-\$300,000	Infrastructure Victoria, 2020 ⁵⁰
E-waste processing – batteries, monitors, and televisions	5,500	\$2.8 million - \$3.4 million	\$400,000-\$500,000	
E-waste processing – solar panels	5,000	\$1.5 million - \$10 million	\$250,000 - \$550,000	Infrastructure Victoria, 2020 ⁵⁰ Council provided information
Glass beneficiation	108,000	\$8.1 million - \$13.34 million	\$1.5 million – \$2 million	Infrastructure Victoria, 2020 ⁵⁰
Glass – sand/aggregate plant - crushing/grinding/washing	10,000	\$3 million – \$7 million	\$500,000 - \$1 million	
Small scale paper and cardboard processing	20,000	\$3 million - \$3.5 million	\$300,000 - \$400,000	
Medium scale paper and cardboard processing	50,000	\$8.5 million - \$10 million	\$750,000 - \$850,000	
Plastics processing – flaking and pelletising plant	10,000 – 20,000	\$6 million - \$14 million	\$1 million-\$2 million	

⁴⁹ Queensland Waste and Resource Recovery Infrastructure Report 2019

⁵⁰ Infrastructure Victoria, Waste and Resource Recovery Infrastructure Gap Analysis, 2020. https://www.infrastructurevictoria.com.au/wp-content/uploads/2020/05/2.-Resource_Recovery_Infrastructure_Gap_Analysis_Final_IV.pdf

Item	Capacity tonnes per year	CAPEX	OPEX per Year	Reference
Tyre processing	15,000	\$6 million - \$8 million	Unknown	

Costs indicative based on published information, Council provided information, or consultant benchmarked data.

The establishment of post-processing infrastructure can be supported by Councils, working with industry and Queensland Government agencies to reduce barriers to entry. The establishment of precinct type infrastructure allowing short transport distances between MRF and post-sorting processing, and the provision of long-term leases on prepared, connected (e.g., to services) and appropriately approved or zoned land can also facilitate the reduction of barriers for processing infrastructure. Councils may play a facilitation role.

5.2.6 Market development

At the moment most MRF processed recyclable (glass, paper and card, plastics, metals) material is sent out of region. Exported recyclable material is typically taken to South-East Queensland and beyond to be processed into new material. Whilst this remains a good outcome, there may be opportunity to establish new industry to process this material in region, thus creating secondary markets and minimizing the long-distance transport of waste. But this requires private sector investment where Council and State Governments’ role is to facilitate through identification of land (e.g., in precincts) or for utilities connections, and provide certainty of supply that gives industry the confidence to invest. Councils and the State Government can support demand for recycled content through their own procurement policies and strategies. When the levy commenced in Queensland in 2019, support was also provided to councils to support the transport of recyclables from regional centres to reprocessing facilities. The Queensland Government should consider reintroducing this program to support implementation of this Plan.

5.3 Major options considered

Options are limited for commingled collections where existing contracts are active. Education is critical to help lift the quality of material that enters the post-collection recycle processing service via the kerbside bin, but also to ensure dangerous materials do not enter any other bin.

Table 20 Major recyclable waste decisions

Decision area	Business as usual	Options			Rationale
Increasing coverage of kerbside collections	Kerbside collection in all councils except NBRC	Current level of service	Increasing number of households serviced in each Council area	Expand service to all Councils	Existing services may grow as population/dwellings grow. SBRC recently commenced kerbside collection.
Getting more from kerbside recycling	Current recovery rate is 20% for kerbside MSW	No significant action	Individual Councils take action to address	Significant action – addressed at regional scale	Bin audits indicate a further 24,000 tonnes of the residual bin could be diverted into the kerbside commingled bin.
Reducing contamination	Current contamination rate is 16-18%	No significant action	Individual Councils take action to address	Significant action – addressed at regional scale	Including support from DES, behaviour change focussing on getting more from the kerbside bin and reducing contamination.
Enhanced and improved transfer facilities	Transfer facilities in each LGA	No significant action	Significant action – individual councils upgrade transfer facilities where needed	Significant action – regional scale transfer facilities	Upgrade and enhancement of transfer facilities in each LGA to better segregate and aggregate recyclable wastes and participate in product stewardship scheme.
Regional collaboration on future MRF and kerbside collections contracts	Existing commercial MRF with individual supply arrangements	No regional collaboration on single MRF	Sub-regional collaboration on single MRF	Regional collaboration in future for regional MRF as required	No need for new MRF at present with Maryborough MRF soon to be operational. Potential for new FCRC MRF to act as regional MRF in future if required
Improve knowledge of material flows for recycle in region	Data held by DES/Councils limited.	No significant action	Individual councils develop material flow analysis for each LGA	Regional collaboration to identify other feedstocks or materials within region to facilitate localised industry	Current gap in C&I and C&D stream plus other non-waste materials within region. Seek opportunity with DES to improve knowledge to facilitate establishment of new facilities to process regional wastes.
Increased recycling and post-processing technology	Limited recycling or post-processing infrastructure	No significant action	Individual councils attract new technologies and providers to LGA	Regional collaboration for new technologies and consideration of location	Need to attract and support establishment of new processing infrastructure for wastes not currently recycled.
Establish a regional precinct	No existing precinct	No significant action	Establish individual recycling facilities in each LGA	Regional collaboration on precinct including hub and spoke approach	Working with State Development and Councils to develop precinct and attract new recycling and secondary processing industry to region.

Cells in **YELLOW** reflect decisions made, BRC – Bundaberg Regional Council, CASC – Cherbourg Aboriginal Shire Council, FCRC – Fraser Coast Regional Council, GRC – Gympie Regional Council, NBRC – North Burnett Regional Council, SBRC – South Burnett Regional Council

5.3.1 Behaviour change and education are critical deliverables

Bundaberg Regional Council, Cherbourg Aboriginal Shire Council, Fraser Coast Regional Council, Gympie Regional Council and South Burnett Regional Council currently provide kerbside recycling services to most dwellings within their respective LGAs. There will certainly be opportunities to grow the number of services as population grows over time, however it is generally considered that coverage is optimal when balanced with the cost of collecting from areas with very low population density with trucks travelling long distances. The cost associated with introducing a new kerbside recycling service in the North Burnett Regional Council area would yield less than an estimated 450 tonnes per year across the whole LGA and so a new service here was also not warranted.

There is an opportunity, through education and enforcement, to both reduce the level of contamination in the kerbside collection recycling bin whilst also increase the volume of acceptable recyclable materials collected. What enters the yellow top bin will be captured to a degree by a proposed state-wide education campaign encouraging behavioural change. This is funded by the Queensland Government at \$17M for the next 4-years (to FY26-26) and will include partnerships opportunities for Councils to participate further. There may be a cost to participate, and it might be reasonable to assume the deployment of additional staff to support the campaign which may require financial support, with necessary funding support needed to extend beyond 4-years. This could be from direct funding, the procurement (and funding) at a regional scale, or the allocation of resources procured centrally by the Queensland Government. Regional collaboration may help to gain efficiencies in the roll out of this behaviour change approach. This package of behaviour change should explore use of consistent approach to continued poor behaviour as a last resort, which could be supported by modifications to existing Waste Management local laws enacted by each Council in the region.

5.3.2 Glass processing

It is proposed to develop a new glass processing and recycling facility at the location of the new MRF in Maryborough to support regional recycling. The estimated capital cost for glass processing technology is \$6 million. Funding support will be required as part of implementation of this Plan to establish the new technology which can process and recycle glass from across the region.

5.3.3 Improved or new transfer facilities for community and business recycling

The new MRF in Maryborough will be operational during 2024, complementing facilities in Bundaberg and Cherbourg. Self-haul facilities receiving household, commercial and industrial, and construction and demolition waste streams represent a large proportion of waste managed in region. At an individual council level there is a need to improve the ability of facilities to capture problematic wastes to pull away from kerbside and offer opportunity to participate in recycling in areas where kerbside collection is limited (i.e., parts of LGAs where kerbside is not economic). Upgrades to other transfer stations may be required to facilitate better segregation of wastes, and arrangements, particularly in more remote locations, need to be in place to aggregate and transport wastes for reprocessing and recovery.

Upgraded facilities to segregate waste however are limited by the cost of transport, particularly the further a collection site is from aggregation or from processing infrastructure. In some cases, it may be considered economically beneficial to do nothing (i.e., stockpile) with this material, or dispose of to landfill than transport at cost. Regional transport assistance may be required to help support flow of material towards centralised sites, avoiding their loss to landfill but mitigating transport costs.

5.3.4 Improved knowledge of recyclable material in region

Data relating to the nature of waste captured at the kerbside is generally granular and of good reliance and captured by Councils through existing data management systems that flow through to the Queensland Government. Data quantity and quality is lower or absent for wastes not managed by Councils. This limits the visible feedstock available for certain types of waste that are expected to flow through the region, which may present an opportunity for localised processing. The Queensland Government has developed materials flow analysis for organic waste, e-waste, and textiles. The region will work with the Queensland Government to provide data and intelligence to update and support future material flow analysis to enable regional analysis to be undertaken to support new business establishment. It is noted that existing material flow analysis data, particularly in regional Queensland, is limited by confidentiality of data providers as aggregation is not usually possible.

5.3.5 Establish an enterprise recycling precinct and attract investment in new industry

A potential option within the region is to collaborate on a regional approach to the attraction, siting, and establishment of new recycling businesses. This includes collaboration with the Queensland Government to develop a Recycling Enterprise Precinct adopting a hub and spoke approach. Under this approach is the establishment of a centralised “Transform Precinct” where most primary and secondary processing will be undertaken, supported by “Prepare Precincts” within the region (and outside of region) where material is pre-processed prior to transport. Work has been prepared by the Queensland Government to identify a location strategy and guidelines to allow precincts to be developed in a consistent manner. Within the region, Bundaberg is identified as the potential location for the “Transform Precinct” with Cherbourg and Curra proposed for potential “Prepare Precincts” however further investigation is referenced in the location strategy to refine locations and understand further the demand for industry within proposed precincts.

Whilst the funding source for establishment of the precinct is uncertain, it is assumed that Councils will not be required to contribute to establishment fees. Councils can also support the establishment of facilities by providing certainty of supply for wastes that they manage which will contribute to feedstock assessments for business cases for new facilities.

To reduce barriers further support is recommended to support the transport of recyclable materials to spokes, or from spokes to the regional processing facility. This can help to support the establishment of new industry within the region. The Queensland Government has previously provided transport assistance for recycling, particularly in remote locations to facilitate greater resource recovery. Whilst long-term sustainability of logistics should be the aim of new business, support over a defined period may encourage investment.

5.3.6 Promoting the 10Rs hierarchy

Opportunities to promote higher order activities under the 10Rs framework should be sought in the region. This could include supporting resale or reuse of materials through existing tip shops on Council resource recovery facilities. Opportunities to repair and refurbish could be promoted in the region, either through identifying specific areas within a precinct site, or through the encouragement or establishment of repair facilities within individual Council areas. This should include working collaboratively with ratepayers to identify opportunities for services such as repair centres or cafes to be established. These likely require minimal funding but could be supported through education activities or minor funding for booking of locations (such as Men’s Sheds, PCYCs etc.). Funding for the establishment of community repair services should come from program funding by the Queensland Government.

5.4 Expected outcomes

At present 12,784 tonnes of kerbside recycling material is collected by councils in the region via two council owned MRFs in Bundaberg and Cherbourg, with new MRF to commence operation in Maryborough in 2024. Education to encourage greater use of the kerbside bin for household recyclables could reasonably divert a further 6,500 tonnes of material from the residual stream per year by FY30-31. The addition of a kerbside service by North Burnett Regional Council is considered unlikely as it would only add less than 400 tonnes for processing per annum and require collection across a large geographical area. Forecasting to support this Plan indicates that the volume of available material for kerbside recycling will increase to 28,500 tonnes per year by FY30-31, 33,000 tonnes by FY40-41 and 35,000 tonnes by FY50-51.

An important element of engagement and behaviour change is buy-in from residents within the participating communities. A region wide Education Strategy will be developed with investment from the Queensland Government to support both additional staff resources as well as funding for advertising to support implementation. This is important across all streams and gives ownership. Communities will be better informed as to what should go in their bin, and what happens to the waste that is collected. This education needs to be sustained and should not be viewed as a one-off intervention. Cherbourg Aboriginal Shire Council will develop their own community focussed waste education strategy.

Evidence from other regions suggests that education and behaviour change campaigns could reduce contamination in the kerbside commingled bin from the regional contamination rate of 18-20% contamination a target by of <5% by FY30-31. Whilst the Queensland Government is currently baselining contamination rates as part of a kerbside education and behaviour change program and initiative, which should define target contamination rates, other Councils in Australia have sought to achieve 2% contamination.⁵¹ It is noted however the presence of contaminants such as glass fines may restrict contamination rates below 5%. Contamination rates would form a new baseline for the procurement of a new recycling processing or MRF contract for the region. This would also form part of the objectives of a regional Education Strategy.

Enhanced transfer facilities for non-kerbside waste will give residents better opportunities to participate and remove hazardous or harmful materials from the kerbside collected waste, protecting a new MRF or recycling solution contract, as well as reducing the potential for these materials to get into the organics and residual waste streams. Provision of these facilities should be dependent on the establishment of collection, processing and treatment systems for these wastes being available in region, or for transfer out of region. There is little benefit in providing better sorting and separation for there to be no processing available.

Wine and spirit bottles will be the heaviest item in a bin and will contribute significantly to reduction in weight. Less weight also means more bins can be collected per truck; however, there is a need to manage compaction ratios so that product is not over compacted.

Table 21 presents the expected outcomes from the material recycling and recovery stream by way of metrics to measure the performance of this action.

⁵¹ NSW Government, Department of Energy and Climate Change, 2007. Reducing Contamination of Dry Recyclables and Garden Organics at the Kerbside – The NSW Experience, <https://www.epa.nsw.gov.au/~media/EPA/Corporate%20Site/resources/warrlocal/070211-kerb-dry-recycling.ashx>

Table 21 Expected Outcomes – material recycling and recovery

Metric	Current (FY20-21)	FY30-31	FY40-41
Kerbside recycling rate (Proportion of kerbside waste collected sent for recycling excluding organics)	18%	25%	27%
Kerbside recycling tonnes (Material collected at the kerbside sent for recycling excluding organics)	19,478 tonnes*	28,500 tonnes	33,000 tonnes
Contamination rate (Contamination rate as reported by waste audits)	16-18% Requires baselining across the region	< 5%	< 5%

*Value does not include new service for South Burnett Regional Council which commenced in FY22-23. These are included in the forecast numbers.

5.5 The cost of making the change

The economic assessment considered the cost of incrementally adding to the intervention scenario described for organic waste in Section 4. The estimated costs for implementing the changes described for materials recycling and recovery include:

- Capital, operating and lifecycle costs – for the delivery and operation of a new material recycling solution within the region beyond existing business as usual costs, and processing facilities for local beneficiation. It is noted this does not include the establishment costs for a new precinct or capital costs for establishing new facilities which is assumed to be driven by private sector involvement.
- Transport costs – which include the ongoing increased cost in region from local improved transfer stations to a regional facility.
- Education costs to support behaviour change activities described in this section (assuming these would be delivered in tandem with organic waste behaviour change and new system implementation). Evidence collected during the development of this plan suggests approximately 5% of overall operating budget would be allocated to education to achieve best practice results.

Through analysis undertaken to support this Plan, the estimated whole-of-life costs for the introduction of a of the proposed interventions of the material recycling and recovery stream is **\$53 million** (present value) over the economic model lifetime.⁵² This can be summarised as an incremental cost of **\$19 per household per year** (present value) compared to the base case (and on top of the organics diversion cost per household for Bundaberg and Fraser Coast) In summary:

- Estimated capital expenditure of approximately **\$6.5 million** for new glass processing and washing technology to be deployed, and ongoing operational costs for over the 30-year lifetime.
- Small scale improvements to transfer facilities have been estimated without formal assessment of need or build-up of designs. For this Plan, it is assumed the cost of upgrades will average \$1.25 million in CAPEX, comprising **\$7.5 million** in overall expenditure with resulting increases in OPEX and an allowance for transport. Councils may need funding support to develop specifications for design upgrades, which may be determined by the establishment of precincts within the region.

⁵² Includes discount rate of 7%

- Allowances for funding supported improvements to provide household hazardous waste facilities, waste stream audit and other initiatives to support better segregation and understanding of waste flows in the region.
- Additional education costs will be incurred to both increase the capture of recyclable material at the kerbside (from the residual bin) and optimise levels of contamination. As part of a broader education strategy this could be developed at a regional level but implemented by each Council. Funding should support additional FTEs to provide education in partnership with the Queensland Government and partially under the Education and Behaviour Change Initiative. All councils should be able to access resources. Using the metrics discussed in Section 4, a further \$8 per Household per Year is estimated to provide additional education funding across the region. Based on the total number of waste services offered across the region, this gives an overall per year estimate of **\$1 million** to cover additional staff cost, marketing material and advertising. As a region there are clear benefits from working together on collaborative campaigns (in partnership with the Queensland Government) but it would be also reasonable for the distribution of funding to be allocated to a degree based upon scale (i.e., number of services) or population. Extrapolated over the period from FY23-24 to FY30-31 the overall funding required would be an estimated **\$8 million**. This investment in education will need to be maintained on an ongoing basis beyond this period and this has been assumed in the waste flow and financial models.
- It is expected that Cherbourg Aboriginal Shire Council will require an individual community specific education and engagement strategy, working collaboratively across other services provided by Council.
- Within the economic analysis there is an additional cost is considered for the development of beneficiation facilities. There would be a capital cost to build such facilities, which could be aligned with the proposed precinct plans. The economic analysis includes new beneficiation facilities, noting the intent and allowance for new glass processing technology in the region. In the cost per household presented it is assumed the capital costs associated with the development of new beneficiation facilities would be funded by industry, potentially with industry support funding from the Queensland Government and would not have a direct impact on Council or householder cost, so these costs are excluded.

5.6 Supporting the change

For the material recycling and recovery stream getting better quality and greater quantity from existing services has a direct impact on overall recovery rates. The following supporting actions are required to move towards a future state for recycling:

- **Education resourcing and collaboration:** The Queensland Government has announced funding to support the development of a behavioural change and education campaign over the next 4-years targeting contamination of the kerbside comingled bin. At a regional scale Councils will benefit from collaboration to develop an approach, particularly for the three Councils currently providing a kerbside collection for recycling. Through a partnership approach with DES, support could be provided to roll out the campaign, whether funding for additional education staff resources or for materials and events.
- **Establishing regional precinct infrastructure:** The region in collaboration with the Queensland Government may progress the development of plans for a precinct to house resource recovery and secondary processing infrastructure. There are initial start-up costs associated with construction of a precinct, including planning, enabling infrastructure (roads, connections etc.,) that may present barriers to establishment or colocation of new resource recovery or secondary processing infrastructure. Both Councils and the State Government can support establishment of infrastructure at a centralised precinct hub, or at local spoke sites facilitating pre-processing and transport.

- **Upgrading or building new transfer, aggregation, and bulking facilities:** This Plan has identified the need to upgrade existing or build new transfer facilities within the region. This will facilitate the better separation of materials brought to local transfer facilities. This includes better separation of household hazardous wastes. New facilities designed to accommodate better separation, plus the potential for storage of collected material for longer to allow bulk transport would help to reduce the cost of transport but require capital investment. This also includes the potential for the Queensland Government to support the establishment of community recycling centres to target household hazardous wastes.
- **Offsetting transport costs for recyclables.** The hub and spoke approach, and collection of recyclable materials at transfer facilities will require the transport of these materials to either a precinct, or out of region for processing. Transport costs may require short-term support through grant funding to reduce barriers for supply to new facilities, however a long-term strategy may need to be developed to ensure viability of these arrangements in the medium to long term. Take back schemes or reverse logistics could also be explored to support transport of materials.
- **Procurement for recycled content.** Through updated local, Queensland and Commonwealth Government procurement, there is an opportunity to drive the uptake of recycled material demand by specifying use of recycled product in procurement documentation and tendering processes. The Department of Transport and Main Roads in Queensland has a significant opportunity to drive this process within the region.
- **Improved granularity and availability of data:** Data quantity and quality is generally good for Councils within the region, and through weighbridge transaction software records of transactional data have a high degree of reliability. There are gaps in the data set that limit the discussion with regard to the total volumes of recyclable material that flows through the region, which in turn hinders the development of new reprocessing or remanufacturing solutions. This includes the C&I stream for which there remains opportunities to reduce and avoid waste going to landfill. Whilst Councils in the region have provided some knowledge of private processing tonnes, records are not complete.

5.7 Timeframes

Table 22 Recycling Stream implementation timeframes

Immediate action (within next 2 years)	Within next 5 years	Within next 10 years
Education & Behaviour Change		
ALL: Development of Regional Education Strategy incorporating behaviour change and education associated with 1) reducing contamination and 2) improving recovery of the kerbside commingled recycling bin, working with DES to support behaviour change campaign. Options to refine messaging for all councils depending on	ALL: roll out and continued delivery of regional campaign associated with existing collections. Delivery mixed between region and individual councils.	Update and continuation
Collections		
ALL: Consider regional or sub-regional collections approach when contract expiry dates align.	ALL: Implement join approach (if in agreement) for collections to commence (if within next 5-years)	ALL: Consider new collection contract when existing expires within this period.
ALL: Develop business cases/plans for enhancements to existing, or new transfer facilities to facilitate better segregation of self-haul recyclables and capture household hazardous materials	ALL: With funding support, construct and commission improved transfer facilities	Continued operation
Regional infrastructure & precinct		
ALL: Collaborate on establishment of a regional scale precinct (hub) with identification of site and location of potential feeder (spoke) sites across region.	ALL (funded by State): Construct enabling infrastructure for precinct (road, utilities, approvals etc.,) within Continue to collaborate on approach to providing feedstock to processing sites within precinct	Continued
Processing solutions		
ALL: Working with Queensland Government agencies establish and attract new resource recovery processing or secondary material processing facilities within precinct.	Continued support.	Continued support.
Market development		
	Queensland Government + ALL: Work with State Government agencies to improve update of recycled materials in procurement.	
Data & Information		
QGOV + ALL: Led by the Queensland Government, councils collaborate to obtain and understand material flow data from the region from council and non-council managed streams with a view to supporting establishment of recycling and reprocessing technologies in region.	ALL: Update and refinement under regional data strategy	ALL: Update and refinement under regional data strategy

Immediate action (within next 2 years)	Within next 5 years	Within next 10 years
ALL: Collaborate to collect data on contamination and materials within all kerbside bins to facilitate improvement. This may include regional or subregional procurement of audits facilitated by a governance body (if progressed)	Continuation	Continuation

Cells in **GREY** indicate action not expected to commence during the timeframe, BRC-Bundaberg Regional Council, Cherbourg Aboriginal Shire Council, FCRC-Fraser Coast Regional Council, GRC-Gympie Regional Council, NBRC-North Burnett Regional Council, SBRC-South Burnett Regional Council; ALL: Indicates collaborative activities for all councils to participate in.

5.8 What could affect implementation

This Plan provides certainty over the direction and actions required to support Queensland’s Waste Management and Resource Recovery Strategy for the region. In the recycling space, flexibility or alternate delivery of the Plan may be necessary due to unforeseen circumstances, or potential challenges such as:

- Wine and spirit bottles are proposed to be included within the container refund scheme, which will further divert material from the kerbside recycling bin. If wine and spirit bottles are incorporated into the CRS, this will reduce the volume of material that needs to go to the existing, or a future MRF for sorting. A future MRF or kerbside collected recyclable processing contract would need to allow for this, particularly as glass reprocessing will still be undertaken at this private facility. The benefits seen for MRFs under this scenario is that MRFs with CRS processor capability will benefit from a separate income stream by processing CRS collected material. Conversely the removal of wine and spirit bottles may increase the proportion of contamination of MRF glass above the levels permitted under the existing end of waste code for glass, requiring MRFs to invest in washing equipment or charge a higher gate fee for beneficiation.
- Reduction in variability of materials in household products. Over time as the 10Rs and circular economy approach drives the rejection of materials used in products that cannot be reused or recycled, a simpler stream of products may develop. This in turn may support larger volumes of material for single stream reprocessing opportunities or less mixed waste processed in the MRF stream. This is likely to be a long-term outcome.
- There is a significant amount of investment required to establish the enabling infrastructure for a precinct, and for the establishment of new industry to lease land and contribute to the precinct objectives. If this precinct is not available at the time of construction, then implementation of these solutions could be delayed, or alternative sites may be required.

6 Managing Residual Waste in the Wide Bay Burnett region

Residual waste refers to the material left over and managed in, or out of region, after all other technologically, economically, and environmentally practicable alternatives are exhausted. This typically includes material captured in the household kerbside recycling bins, but also unsorted mixed loads delivered to transfer stations, and portions of commercial waste. This chapter considers actions for the region to take to support the identification of an acceptable long-term solution for residual waste. Each of these are discussed in turn:

- i) An overview of residual waste stream dynamics
- ii) Discussion over key levers including potential costs and benefits.
- iii) Options considered.
- iv) Recommendations and agreed actions to move towards a 2032 outcome.
- v) Expected outcomes.
- vi) Consideration of what may change in execution.

6.1 Residual waste stream dynamics

In FY20-21, approximately 221,000 tonnes of residual waste was managed, of which 123,000 tonnes was generated directly by households. By FY30-31, with greater organics diversion and improvements in capture from the kerbside streams, the amount of residual waste is expected to be 224,000 tonnes (allowing for growth) across the MSW, C&I and C&D streams, growing to 235,000 tonnes by FY40-41 and 250,000 tonnes by FY50-51. For the household MSW stream only, Councils are forecast to need to manage 90,000 tonnes of residual waste in FY30-31, 91,000 tonnes in FY40-41 and 94,000 tonnes by FY50-51. The forecast residual waste arisings including interventions are presented in **Figure 15**

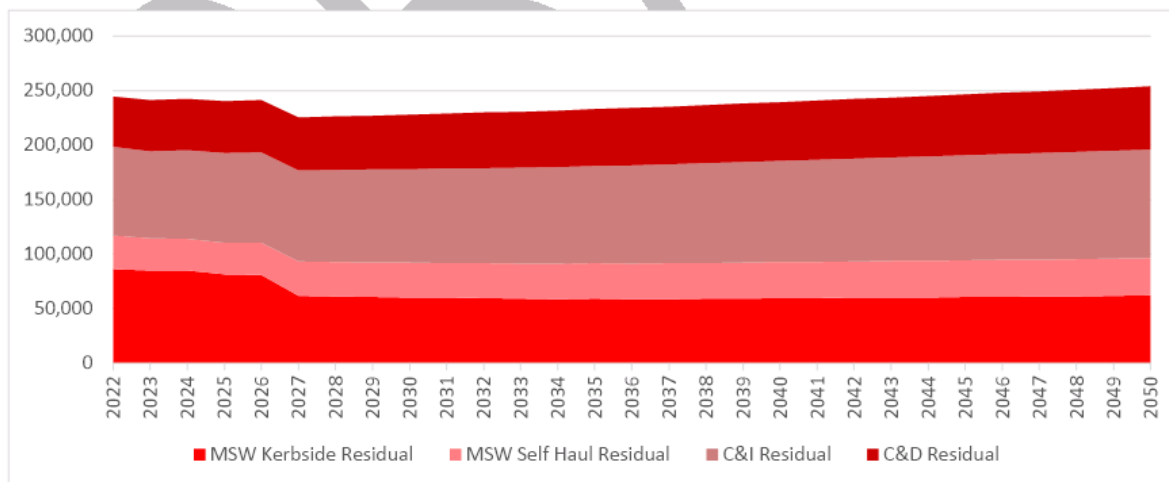


Figure 15 Current forecast – residual waste within the region to 2050 (tonnes per stream)

Each Council manages its own landfill capacity, including both current and historic landfill. Landfill capacity at a regional scale is not constrained, with the two largest facilities at Bundaberg and Maryborough having significant remaining airspace however Gympie Regional Council has an immediate need to secure or construct additional landfill capacity. Council is currently progressing

The Queensland Waste Management and Resource Recovery Strategy and supporting action plan *Queensland's Energy from Waste Policy* both clearly present a role for energy recovery within waste management. In the Wide Bay Burnett region, there are no commercial scale energy from waste facilities that can process mixed household or commercial residual waste. There are also none planned. Outside of the region there are plans to establish Energy from Waste facilities in the Southeast Queensland region but there are no large-scale approved combustion projects, meaning it could take several years for a plant to be approved, constructed, and commissioned.

6.2 Levers and interventions

6.2.1 Avoidance and residual waste reduction

Education programs associated with reducing food waste, diversion of food and garden organics and improving returns in the kerbside recycling bin and providing more choice or separation opportunities for away from home recycling there is expected to be a knock-on effect on the residual waste bin.

6.2.2 Landfill levy and bans

The landfill levy rate is scheduled to increase with the prevailing rate of inflation over the forward estimated period. For residual waste, the levy rate is paid on all waste disposed of to landfill. As previously detailed within the region all Gympie Regional Council, North Burnett Regional Council and South Burnett Regional Council will receive 100% of the levy paid on household waste that goes to landfill as an advanced payment. The landfill levy liability, the difference between levy paid and annual advanced payment, will continue to reduce to 20% by FY30-31 increasing the operating cost of this service for Bundaberg Regional Council and Fraser Coast Regional Council, which is likely to need to be passed onto ratepayers. It is noted there is a commitment from the Queensland Government to review the annual advanced payment arrangements by 2025.

The introduction of landfill bans for additional materials will further support diversion from landfill and reduce the amount of residual waste generated. This work has not yet been completed by the Queensland Government, and implementation is likely to focus on materials that either pose an unacceptable risk when placed in landfill or where economically feasible recycling exists for a product.

6.2.3 Infrastructure – landfill capacity and new landfill

Landfill capacity is severely constrained for Gympie Regional Council, but generally not constrained within the broader region in the short-medium term. In the longer term if long-term landfill was the preferred solution, then additional capacity may need to be added as current approved and engineered cells are used up. The true cost of adding additional landfill capacity extends beyond solely traditional capital and operational expenditure, but into provisions for capping and closure, and long-term geotechnical and environmental monitoring for 20-25 years beyond exhausted airspace capacity. Where extension is not possible, the approvals process and cost of identifying a new site for a large-scale landfill can be significant.

Landfills are often cited as a major landfill gas emitter, however actions in the region removing a portion of the putrescible component may reduce these emissions. The traditional view is that energy recovery of material that otherwise would go to landfill would be environmentally beneficial however evidence from Scotland has cited the reducing emissions benefit of incineration (with energy recovery) technology that is processing a higher proportion of fossil fuel derived non-recyclable wastes (e.g., plastics)⁵³, particularly with the expected growth of alternative renewable energy sources in Queensland. It is noted however that Scotland has several operational EfW facilities and planning approvals in place for several further facilities, compared to the region which has none. The carbon benefits would need to be explored further in a life cycle assessment as part of a future business case.

6.2.4 Infrastructure – Energy recovery

The Queensland Waste Management and Resource Recovery Strategy places an emphasis on the waste hierarchy with energy recovery placed higher than landfill. **Table 23** presents summary information on potential energy recovery technology that could be deployed in the region.

Table 23 EfW technologies and options

Description	Combustion	Pyrolysis	Gasification	Processed Engineered Fuel as fuel substitute
Indicative capacity	50ktpa to 200ktpa plus	Range from 10ktpa to 70ktpa	Approx 50-100ktpa	Range from 50ktpa to 250ktpa
Process	Moving grate combustion technology with energy recovery	Thermal breakdown of waste in the absence of air.	Thermal breakdown & partial oxidation of waste under controlled oxygen environment	Development of fuel from waste
Suitable feedstock	Mixed residual waste with limits on certain materials	Single source feedstock or PEF/RDF derived from MSW/C&I mixed waste that is homogenised and uniformly sized.	Requires pre-processing system to extract unsuitable materials (glass, inorganics, metals etc.). Can target specific feedstocks at smaller scale. Some technologies use mixed waste feedstock.	Post-processed mixed waste targeting non-recyclable plastics, cardboard, paper, textiles, and waste timber.
Capital cost	\$300M-\$500M	\$9M-\$119M	\$150M-\$200M	\$40M
Indicative gate fees	\$140-\$350 per tonne	\$180-\$300 per tonne	\$180-\$300 per tonne	\$100-\$200 per tonne
Output product	Electricity, heat, steam, metals	Biochar	Syngas converted to electricity	Engineered fuel
By products	Flue gas residues Incinerator bottom ash Fly ash	Bio-oil and syngas	Biochar / slag material Flu gas residues	Pre-processing wastes (i.e., rejected material)

⁵³ Scottish Government, 2022. Stop, Sort, Burn, Bury – incineration in the waste hierarchy: independent review, from <https://www.gov.scot/publications/stop-sort-burn-bury-independent-review-role-incineration-waste-hierarchy-scotland/documents/>

Description	Combustion	Pyrolysis	Gasification	Processed Engineered Fuel as fuel substitute
Environmental concerns or benefits	Would need to operate under EfW Policy and environmental limits Relatively large footprint Would require EIS	Pyrolysis is not harmful to the environment when it is done properly. Some reasons for pollution from pyrolysis include incomplete pyrolysis, no gas recycling, oxygen entry, improper feedstock, dangerous disposal of products and inappropriate storage and transport.	Limited emission as closed system. Emissions managed under EfW policy and environmental limits.	Greater proportion of residual waste goes to landfill. Can require long-distance transport Can offset use of fossil fuels (e.g., if burnt in cement kiln)
Community concerns or benefits	Untested in North Queensland. Would require long community interaction and strong social license.	Tyre pyrolysis has a poor compliance record with planning and EPA requirements in Victoria. In Queensland, a pyrolysis plant, treating tyres and plastics, is in the process of obtaining approval.	Typically deployed in smaller scale Plants. Larger Plants may have similar challenges to combustion	Generates a fuel product. Fuel may be utilised out of region
Technology certainty	Proven technology at large scale: smaller scale also proven internationally. By-products 20-25% of feedstock and require approved pathway for reuse.	Limited maturity. Largely unproven on mixed wastes such as un-treated residual MSW. There are no pyrolysis facilities or proposals for mixed waste in Australia.	Technology still developing, particularly at large scale. Some high profiles with facilities in Europe. Unproven on required scale in Australia. Small scale deployment for specific wastes viable or can be deployed on mixed feedstock	Existing technology deployed in Australia servicing local and international markets. It is understood that Cement Australia has approved the use of PEF in the Gladstone Cement Kiln.

Note: Accurate costings would form part of detailed business case
Capital costs exclude site preparation, output product quality depends on quality of input. Detail based on benchmarking.

Whilst there is a clear acceptance of the role of energy from waste within Queensland, its deployment has been hindered to date by a lack of need (e.g., levy or other fiscal drivers, general availability of landfill airspace), or by a lack of community support. Key questions to be answered in the region in relation to EfW would be:

- Timeframes when an EfW facility is required to come online and expected benefits (compared to the modified current state) compared to landfilling. A life cycle analysis should be undertaken as part of business case development.
- The approach to be taken to engage with the community and broader stakeholder groups to develop a proposal that allows engages prior to key decisions being made and supports the community.
- The type of technology to be deployed.
- A solution for incinerator bottom ash allowing its safe and environmentally sound reuse and recycling, ideally within the region, would help support the development of future business cases. This will require liaison with the Queensland Government to facilitate through existing policy and legislation.

- The ownership and contracting approach for development of a facility. Typically, there would be some private sector interest in providing investment, alongside opportunities for co-ownership or even for Councils to own themselves, although this is likely undesirable.
- The cost and affordability of a long-term energy from waste facility warrants further scrutiny. Whilst there is a need to secure a long-term solution for how residual waste is managed, Councils will need to decide based on best value for their ratepayers.

Individually procured or delivered larger scale traditional EfW may be beyond even the largest Council within the region based on a current technology assessment. Smaller scale portable EfW is already deployed for processing of some specific wastes, such as tyres, however technology is still emerging, and cost-effectiveness and reliability may not be attractive at scale and by-products (e.g., biochar) remain challenging for reuse. Over the next several years this is expected to change, as technologies are proven to be operable and profitable for technology providers, which may present an alternative to conventional residual waste solutions.

6.3 Options considered

Major options considered for how residual waste is managed in the region are:

DRAFT

Table 24 Major residual waste decisions

Decision area	Business as usual	Options			Rationale
Short term residual capacity considerations	No action on existing capacity	No need for action	Individual council action	Immediate regional solution	In the immediate term Councils continue to manage their own landfill airspace. GRC has an immediate need.
Long term residual waste solution needed	Existing landfills manage residual waste	Do nothing	Individual council action	Develop long-term regional solution	Councils to work through individual solutions
Residual waste solution	Landfill	Extend existing landfills	Close smaller landfills and move to regional landfill	Develop energy from waste solution as a region	Councils to work together consider long-term regional landfill feasibility
Develop EfW solution in region	No current EfW	No action	Develop individual EfW solutions for Councils	Develop regional EfW solution	Councils decided there was no desire to have an EfW facility within the region.
Send residual waste to EfW	No waste sent to EfW	Do nothing	Send to regional EfW facility	Send out of region to EfW or PEF facility	Councils were of the view that some residual waste may be sent out of region to EfW facilities, or a PEF facility, once constructed (likely in SEQ) and operational.
Other problem wastes: timber, contaminated soil, PFAS etc.	Manage via existing arrangements (e.g., landfill)	Do nothing (BAU)	Develop individual council solutions	Develop regional solution to problem wastes	Regional collaboration to identify alternative management solutions or safe disposal options for range of problematic wastes or emerging contaminants within the region
Regional management plan for disaster wastes	Manage under existing arrangements	Do nothing (BAU)	Councils develop individual solutions	Collaboration at regional scale to manage disaster wastes	No change in existing disaster waste management procedures

Cells in RED reflect decisions; BRC-Bundaberg Regional Council, Cherbourg Aboriginal Shire Council, FCRC-Fraser Coast Regional Council, GRC-Gympie Regional Council, NBRC-North Burnett Regional Council, SBRC-South Burnett Regional Council; ALL: Indicates collaborative activities for all councils to participate in.

6.3.1 Short term residual capacity considerations

In the short to medium term Councils will continue to manage their own landfill airspace. Where a Council will run out of landfill airspace before an alternative solution, whether at their own facility or at a regional scale is available, they may seek to transport residual waste to another facility out of LGA. This is an immediate action for Gympie Regional Council who are expected to run out of landfill capacity shortly. Others will run out of capacity in the short-medium term and need to seek alternative arrangements.

6.3.2 Deciding on a long-term residual waste solution

At a regional scale there may be a need to develop a collaborative long-term approach to residual waste management which could involve development of a long-term regional landfill facility. The decision is whether to send most residual waste to landfill over the medium and long-term, or to utilise energy from waste. Through development of the Plan, it was decided that Council led energy from waste facilities at large scale are unlikely to be developed in the region, however an alternative solution could be to utilise facilities out of region. As there are currently no facilities in development that can receive and process mixed MSW or C&I wastes, there is uncertainty over this option. Until such a facility is commissioned and contracted, Councils will need to continue to send their residual waste to landfill. Even if Councils decide to send waste out of region, long-term landfill capacity will need to be maintained in the region to manage lower volumes of residual waste.

Decisions to send waste out of region to EfW will be driven by commercial decisions associated with the differential between local disposal and gate fee plus transport cost for the receiving facility. It is also feasible that in the long-term smaller scale EfW technologies may emerge at a commercial scale locally that can provide a similar service for Council.

Councils also receive a significant portion of predominantly C&I waste that is disposed of to landfill. This material may also be targeted by EfW facility operators outside of the region. The diversion from Council facilities may drive a further reduction in residual waste managed by Councils pending commercial decisions by those collecting the C&I waste in the region.

6.3.3 Managing disaster waste

A long-term management approach to disaster waste within the region was identified as a collaborative opportunity for the region, however it was decided that there already sufficient processes in place to manage this, so no further action was identified.

6.3.4 Managing problem wastes

Additional to biosolids already identified, the region manages several other problematic residual wastes. This includes timber, contaminated soils, asbestos and material containing emerging contaminants. Councils will collaborate at a regional scale to develop solutions for these wastes and identify appropriate management fates.

6.4 Expected outcomes

Decisions supporting how residual waste is managed within the region could have a direct impact on households. The quantity and quality of residual waste is dependent on the avoidance and diversion activities undertaken in the region. Solutions and actions are not just around additional resource recovery, but also ensuring that there is sufficient residual treatment and disposal capacity in the region in the long-term to meet the needs of a growing population. Residual waste will continue to be sent to landfill.

6.4.1 Residual waste management - landfill

With landfill as the preferred solution for at least the next 10-years, capacity will need to be able to manage as a minimum 89,700 tonnes of residual MSW per year in FY30-31, 90,700 tonnes in FY40-41 and 95,000 tonnes by FY50-51, however across the region Councils also manage significant volumes of the C&I and C&D streams. Based on current proportions and a long-term forecast, Councils in the region will still need to manage 224,700 tonnes of residual waste per year by FY30-31 and potentially 250,000 tonnes by FY50-51. Additional capacity can be progressively added over time. If all residual waste continues to go to landfill, the resulting recovery rate in FY30-31 will be 59% with little change through to FY50-51. This recovery rate assumes improvements to organics recovery and material recovery as described in prior sections. **Figure 16** shows the forecast residual waste arisings under the landfill scenario (compared to the do nothing current residual scenario).



Figure 16 Forecast whole of region residual waste arisings (landfill scenario)

6.4.2 Sending waste out of region to future EfW facility

Under the assumption that an EfW facility will be established out of region that is commercially viable for Councils to utilise, by FY35-36, it is expected that a combination of MSW and C&I streams will be captured. If such a facility was available in proximity to the region it may target mixed C&D loads currently managed by Councils. Additionally, not all residual waste will be suitable for EfW such as asbestos and soils. The deployment of an EfW solution capturing residual waste from the region could significantly increase the regions resource recovery rate to an estimated 70% to 80%. There is uncertainty over how much residual waste would be sent under this scenario, however this is likely, under current policy and technology settings, the only pathway to the region getting close to the Queensland Government’s resource recovery rate target of 90% by 2050. The impact on the MSW stream inclusive of kerbside and self-hauled waste is show on **Figure 17**.

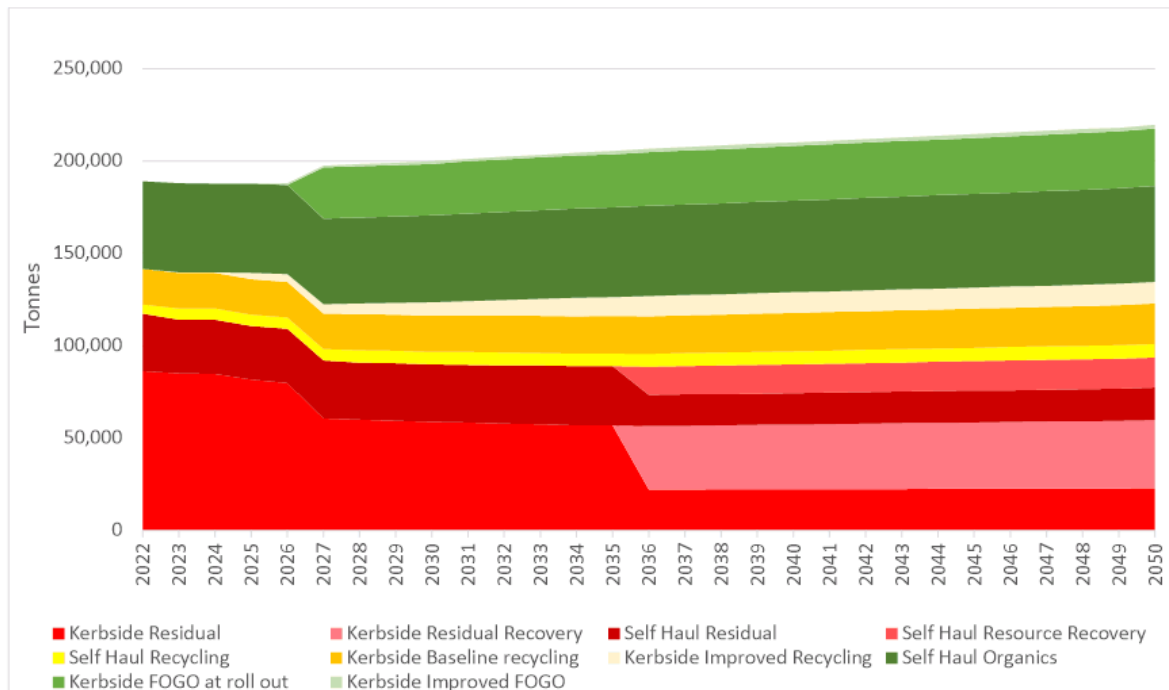


Figure 17 Forecast changes to MSW stream with energy recovery (out of region)

There is a high degree of uncertainty over the councils sending waste to EfW at this stage of Plan development, notably as facilities do not exist. Whilst it is likely they will be available in the future, it is unlikely this will be within the next 10-years, and so there is time for Councils to adapt to new facilities and technologies becoming commercially available. For all councils there would be little incentive to send waste to EfW unless commercially comparable to their own landfill costs. Even if EfW was utilised, it is estimated that Councils would still need to manage 40,000 tonnes of residual waste from the MSW stream per year from FY35-36. **Figure 18** shows that an estimated 125,000 tonnes of residual waste may still need to be managed in landfill, even if 80% of residual MSW and C&I waste from Bundaberg and Fraser Coast LGAs was sent to an EfW facility in FY35-36.



Figure 18 Impact on residual waste volumes if EfW is utilised

6.5 The cost of making the transition

For residual waste the solutions tested under economic analysis included sending residual waste via road to a hypothetical EfW facility utilising combustion technology on the northside of the Greater Brisbane Area. There is a general expectation that under current policy settings, the utilisation of EfW is more expensive than sending the same waste to landfill, even accounting for the cost of adding additional landfill airspace. The costs of implementing EfW were considered in the context of decisions made in relation to streams discussed in Section 4 and Section 5.

Costs included in the analysis include:

- Capital, operating and lifecycle costs – focussed predominantly on operating costs associated with paying a gate fee and any primary processing (e.g., bulking) associated with preparing waste for transport to an out-of-region EfW facility.
- Transport costs, including transport of bulked waste to hypothetical EfW facility in Brisbane.

Managing residual waste will cost more than the pre-FY22-23 levy settings for Bundaberg Regional Council and Fraser Coast Regional Council, regardless of preferred solution. For other leviable councils, it is assumed that costs will still be considered as business as usual, including the establishment of new landfill capacity. The following costs are identified depending on the solutions chosen:

- **Residual waste to landfill:** Under the current proposed levy settings, by FY30-31 the increased levy liability after improvements in organics diversion and recycling capture are expected to be **\$2.7 million per year** for Bundaberg Regional Council and **\$3.0 million per year** (in real terms) for Fraser Coast Regional Council if all resulting residual waste continues to be sent to Landfill. This amounts to an additional cost per household of \$66-68 to account for the increased cost in landfill disposal allowing for a reduction in waste to landfill because of actions and interventions in this Plan. For the other levy paying councils in region the costs for sending waste to landfill are not forecast to increase above business-as-usual. Business as usual costs for new cell development, and for closing and rehabilitating former landfill may still be significant and require funding support.
- **Sending residual waste to an out-of-region combustion facility:** If a proportion of residual waste was sent to an energy from waste facility out of region, the indicative whole-of-life costs in modelled period for doing so are estimated to be **\$92 million** (real cost, based on 2023 values) over the period FY35-36 to FY50-51. Councils would be a price taker, and largely these costs would be operational covering gate fee plus transport.⁵⁴ It is estimated that this might add an additional \$130 per household per year considering the levy benefit of not sending this waste to landfill. The economic analysis assumes such a facility would not be operational until at FY35-36. There is a high-degree of uncertainty in the cost per household per year which depends on the procurement approach, and, assuming a private-sector owned facility, the expected gate fee. Consideration of saved landfill airspace also significantly affects the overall cost. All of these will require detailed consideration as the as a potential solution becomes available.

⁵⁴ Note the CBA covers the 30-year period of the Plan however an EfW solution is not expected to be operational until halfway through this period (assumed in FY35-36), and as such costs are not necessarily indicative of full solution costs. Cost per household per year above sending the same waste to landfill may be more beneficial.

6.6 Timeframes for delivery

The timeframes for delivery of the residual waste component of the plan require the development or continuation of work to identify the feasibility and required timings for a solution to be in place. Long-term residual solutions are not required immediately, but the establishment of new landfill capacity or EFW could take several years to progress from inception to commissioning. **Table 25** summarises proposed timeframes for managing the residual waste stream.

Table 25 Residual Waste Stream implementation timeframes

Immediate action (within next 2 years)	Within next 5 years	Within next 10 years
ALL: Ongoing management of own councils landfill requirements	ALL: Ongoing management of own councils landfill requirements	ALL: Ongoing management of own councils landfill requirements
	ALL: Collaborate on the development of long-term approaches to managing problematic and emerging wastes, including contaminated soils, asbestos, PFAS containing materials and biosolids.	
	ALL: Develop long-term solution for regional infrastructure including either a regional landfill or sending waste out of region for energy recovery, progressing from feasibility study to business case.	ALL: Construct and commission long-term infrastructure solution including provision of bulking facilities where out of LGA residual waste transport is required.

Cells in GREY indicate action not expected to commence during the timeframe.

6.7 Supporting the change

There is a clear choice to be made between the most economically beneficial approach to residual waste management in the region, whether acceptance of long-term landfill or the development of a long-term energy from waste solution. The latter will still require long-term landfill airspace, however significantly less. To support the definition of the future state for residual waste:

- **Long term strategic planning requires support:** A long-term residual waste strategy for the Wide Bay Burnett region should be developed in collaboration. This could be expanded to incorporate neighbouring Councils or regions to identify potential scale and transport costs. This strategy should identify and work in partnership with industry to identify feasible solutions but also expected costs versus the need to ensure residual landfill capacity is available beyond currently approved capacities.
- **Levy clarity supports planning beyond the next 10-years:** long term certainty of the waste levy rate and annual advanced payment is required. For residual waste that goes to landfill, where there are no other options, there is little benefit of applying a waste disposal levy other than to raise revenue as further diversion has been proven to be unachievable without an unreasonable cost burden on households and industry.

7 Implementing the Plan

The previous sections have identified current issues and opportunities and developed a series of preferred actions and approaches for how waste and resource recovery is managed in the Wide Bay Burnett Region.

7.1 Key actions & collaborations

This Plan has been developed to identify areas for Councils within the WBB region to collaborate on in the delivery of waste services, as well as to identify and accept individual Council actions and decisions. To support development of this Plan, the region has utilised a collaborative approach to strategy development and implementation by establishing a specific working group. Due to the varied economic and geographical conditions in the region agreement has been reached on the actions for regional collaboration and for individual council action.



Figure 19 Regional Collaboration & Individual Council Actions

7.2 Delivery mechanism

The Plan will be delivered by the region via the establishment of a Resource Recovery Working Group which will be formalised by member councils. The structure of a steering group and working group and its functionality has been endorsed by member councils. **Figure 23** provides a schematic of the proposed governance structure and function.

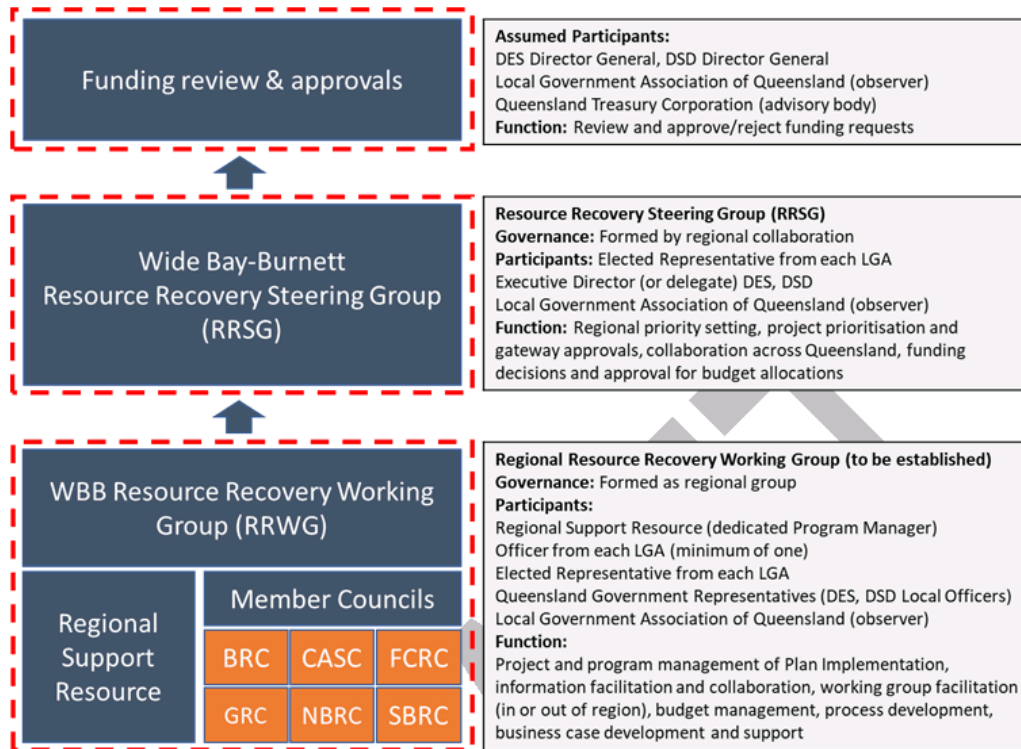


Figure 20 Governance and collaboration structure for implementation

7.2.1 Regional Working Group

Strategic ownership of this Plan and the underlying actions sit with the member councils. A Waste and Resource Recovery Working Group will be formalised to deliver the Plan. This will need to be established as the first action in implementing the Plan, including establishing terms of reference, participation expectations and implementation goals. This group will have responsibility to steer the outcomes of the region in resource recovery and recycling, including the following activities:

- Ownership, monitoring, and review of the WBB Regional Waste and Resource Recovery Plan
- Support identification and priorities (as per the RWRRP) as they require decisions for funding from the Queensland Government decision making body
- Access support via a regional resource or centralised function for administration, funding, and development of supporting documentation and access to shared information.
- Collaboration on:
 - Education and behavioural change, including a regional Strategy
 - Data harmonisation, management, and reporting
 - Capacity building and education for resource recovery staff
 - Establishment of circular economy community initiatives such as repair cafes or hubs, community composting, tool libraries

- Development of feasibility studies, business cases and other research activities relating to progressing regional solutions that benefit Councils in the long-term

The Queensland Government would be required to facilitate a coordinator for the established group to manage collaboration, progress against the plan and generally be a champion for collaborative actions across the region. One full-time equivalent resource will be included as part of Plan Implementation to coordinate the regional plan response and act as secretariat to the group.

Whilst detail will be developed as part of the terms of reference. Implementation of the Plan including an allowance for Council Officer time (above existing commitments), and a project or program manager is likely to be approximately **\$0.3 million per year**. The majority of this is for new staff requirements to implement the Plan.

7.2.2 Regional Procurement

Where the working group progress actions that will require the contracting (of more than one Council) of a service provider consideration of setting up a separate regional procurement entity would be advantageous. It is noted that the current model by Councils (with one Council leading procurement but each Council signing an individual contract) may continue to be the preferred approach. The actions that potentially would require either approach are:

- Procurement of technical or commercial advisory services relating to research and development
- Regional scale contracts for waste audit, surveys, software
- Development of a new contract(s) for kerbside recycling collections and processing
- Development of a long-term regional residual waste solution(s) or other problem wastes

For some elements of regional scale procurement at a regional scale (notably long-term contracts for collection or post-collections services) it is expected that the entity would need to have authorisation from the Australian Consumer and Competition Commission (ACCC) to collectively procure.

7.2.3 Support for delivery

To support the execution of the regional plan, and the development of detailed business cases, procurement and contract development activities support will be required. It is understood that this function will be developed and funded by the Queensland Government, for which details are currently being finalised. This function will support:

- Governance and management system development for implementation of projects
- Project Management and scheduling associated with development of key initiatives.
- Non-technical support to development of business cases and funding plans for key initiatives
- Support with preparation of information to support funding applications specific to the gateway processes setup by the Queensland or Commonwealth Government
- Support the coordination of the monitoring, evaluation and reporting requirements arising from the implementation of the plan

7.3 Implementation Plan

An implementation schematic, bringing together the details of this Plan and timeframes for implementation has been developed as presented in **Table 26**.

While the regional waste management plan provides the primary vehicle for accessing available funding from the Recycling and Jobs Fund, there may also be opportunities for initiatives to be funded that are outside the plan. For example, a pilot at a local level to 'test' the suitability of a model or infrastructure for the region (or sub-region). It is recognised that the plan needs to be a living document and that not all potential initiatives will have been identified in the plan.

However, it is expected that the bulk of the funding will come through the projects identified in the plan with a more streamlined pathway for funding approvals as it has already been identified in the plan. In the first instance any projects identified that are outside the plan would likely be discussed with the regional working and steering groups and the proposed regional support resource position that will be funded to support implementation of the plan, to assess suitability for funding under the plan or whether this would be considered under a separate funding process.

Councils, in participating in the development of this plan and subsequent endorsement of or support for its finalisation and publication, can do so in the knowledge that this consideration does not obligate individual Councils to any funding commitment. Subsequent business cases developed as part of implementing the plan and implementation decisions made by the region for implementing the plan would normally include that detail.

Table 26 Implementation Schematic

Action	Responsibility	Immediate	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029	2030	2031	2032	2033	2040	2050
		Next 2 years			Within next 5 years			Within next 10 years					To 2040	To 2050
General														
Establish regional waste working group to implement Plan	All													
Program management	RWWG													
Regional collaboration (e.g., RWWG meetings, action management, etc.)	RWWG, All													
Organic Waste Management														
Participate in Education and Behaviour Change Initiative (assumed continuation) as part of regional education strategy – incorporating a food waste avoidance component	All													
Review potential for behaviour change regulation (new services)	BRC, FCRC													
Roll out of at-home composting solutions	QGOV													
Develop business case for organics collection service for council approval including refinement of market price for recycled organics	BRC, FCRC													
Commence new organic waste collection service education	BRC, FCRC													
Procurement of organic waste collection solution	BRC, FCRC													
Procurement of organic waste processing solution	BRC, FCRC													
Commence and operate kerbside organic waste collection service (pending individual council approval)	BRC, FCRC													
Continuation of self-haul green waste receipt and processing	All													
Roll out of community composting solutions including guidance	QGOV													
Collaborate on regional solution for finding highest value market for green waste across region	RWWG													
Develop regional solution for biosolids and timber	RWWG													
Develop pathway to improve non-Council held data collection	QGOV, All													
Material Recycling & Recovery														
Participate in Education and Behaviour Change Initiative (assumed continuation) and develop regional education strategy, implement	RWWG, All													
Review & agree pathway for improved enforcement activity for poor household behaviours in kerbside bin service provision, and implement	RWWG, All													
Seek opportunities to collaborate on regional collections approach when contracts allow	RWWG													
Develop business case, designs for new or improved transfer facilities	All (as required)													
Construct and commission upgrades or new transfer facilities	All (as required)													
Collaborate on establishment of regional scale precinct and ancillary satellite sites in accordance with precinct guidelines	RWWG, All													
Construct enabling infrastructure for precinct	QGOV													
Establish new resource recovery processing facilities within precinct	QGOV, All support													
Work with Queensland Government agencies to improve uptake or recycled materials in procurement	QGOV, All RWWG													
Develop pathway to improve material flow data and knowledge across region for recyclable material	QGOV, All													

Action	Responsibility	Immediate	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029	2030	2031	2032	2033	2040	2050
		Next 2 years			Within next 5 years			Within next 10 years					To 2040	To 2050
Collaborate to collect data on contamination within kerbside bins to improve education approach.	RWWG, All													
Residual Waste Management														
Councils to consider individual landfill capacity needs in short-medium and long-term	All													
Consider long-term options and approach to managing residual waste in the long-term, pending availability of facilities out of region	RWWG, All													
Develop long-term approach to managing problem and emerging wastes	All													

Notes: BRC-Bundaberg Regional Council, Cherbourg Aboriginal Shire Council, FCRC-Fraser Coast Regional Council, GRC-Gympie Regional Council, NBRC-North Burnett Regional Council, SBRC-South Burnett Regional Council; ALL: Indicates collaborative activities for all councils to participate in.

DRAFT

7.4 Roles and responsibilities

It is assumed that the region will establish a resource recovery working group who will overall ownership of the Plan. Roles and responsibilities for implementation of the Plan sit with individual councils collaborating under the RWWG. A RACI (responsible, accountable, consulted, informed) matrix has been developed to describe the participation of various stakeholders in delivering the regional plan. It is expected that this matrix is updated as implementation of the Plan progresses by the RWWG.

The definitions adopted for the RACI matrix are in **Table 27**, with the matrix presented in **Table 28**.

Table 27 RACI definitions

Item	Definition	Abbreviation
Responsible	Entity responsible for completing the work associated with the action/task, may be split across multiple entities	R
Accountable	Entity responsible for signing off/approving the outcome of the task. May reside with Councils to sign off, or with funding entities or gateway approvals to sign off.	A
Consulted	Provides input into the delivery of the task/action based on their specialist knowledge or experience.	C
Informed	Important to keep stakeholders engaged/informed as an activity progresses or decisions are made.	I
Where required	Identifies where RACI action will sit if the activity is required. This may denote an activity where Council in the future decides to progress a particular option.	*
Not required	Specific to decisions made in this Plan, to complete the RACI, not required is applied to stakeholders who do not have role in addressing specific tasks or actions.	NR

Intentially left blank.

Table 28 RACI Chart – Plan Implementation

Action	RACI										
	QGOV (DES)	QGOV (DSD)	Project & Funding Support Function	RRWG	Bundaberg Regional Council	Cherbourg Aboriginal Shire Council	Fraser Coast Regional Council	Gympie Regional Council	North Burnett Regional Council	South Burnett Regional Council	Industry
General Actions											
Establish regional waste working group to implement Plan	C	C	I	NR	A	A	A	A	A	A	I
Program management	C	C	I	A	R	R	R	R	R	R	NR
Regional collaboration (e.g., RRWG meetings, action management, etc.)	C	C	I	R	A	A	A	A	A	A	C
Liaison with State Agencies, PMO, industry	C	C	I	A	R	R	R	R	R	R	C
Organic Waste Management											
Participate in Education and Behaviour Change Initiative (assumed continuation) as part of regional education strategy – incorporating a food waste avoidance component	A	I	NR	R	R	R*	R	R	R	NR	A
Review potential for behaviour change regulation (new services)	C	I	NR	I	A/R	I	A/R	I	I	I	C
Roll out of at-home composting solutions	A/R	I	I	C	I	I	I	I	I	I	I
Develop business case for organics collection service for council approval including refinement of market price for recycled organics	C	C	C	I	A/R	I	A/R	I	I	I	C
Commence new organic waste collection service education	I	I	I	I	A/R	I	A/R	I	I	I	I
Procurement of organic waste collection solution	I	I	C	I	A/R	I	A/R	I	I	I	C
Procurement of organic waste processing solution	I	I	C	I	A/R	I	A/R	I	I	I	C
Commence and operate kerbside organic waste collection service (pending individual council approval)	I	I	C	I	A/R	I	A/R	I	I	I	R
Continuation of self-haul green waste receipt and processing	I	I	NR	I	A/R	A/R*	A/R	A/R	A/R	A/R	NR
Roll out of community composting solutions including guidance	A/R	I	NR	I	R	R	R	R	R	R	NR
Collaborate on regional solution for finding highest value market for green waste across region	C	C	NR	R	A	A*	A	A	A	C	C
Develop regional solution for biosolids and timber	I	C	I	R	A	A*	A	A	A	C	I
Develop pathway to improve non-Council held data collection	A	C	NR	R	C	C	C	C	C	C	A
Material recycling and recovery											
Participate in Education and Behaviour Change Initiative (assumed continuation) and develop regional education strategy, implement	R	I	C	I	A	A	A	A	A	A	NR
Review & agree pathway for improved enforcement activity for poor household behaviours in kerbside bin service provision, and implement	A/R	I	I	I	A/R	A/R	A/R	A/R	I	A/R	C
Seek opportunities to collaborate on regional collections approach when contracts allow	C	C	C	I	A	A	A	A	A	A	C
Develop business case, designs for new or improved transfer facilities	C	I	C	I	A*	A*	A*	A*	A*	A*	I
Construct and commission upgrades or new transfer facilities	C	I	C	I	A*	A*	A*	A*	A*	A*	I

Action	RACI										
	QGOV (DES)	QGOV (DSD)	Project & Funding Support Function	RRWG	Bundaberg Regional Council	Cherbourg Aboriginal Shire Council	Fraser Coast Regional Council	Gympie Regional Council	North Burnett Regional Council	South Burnett Regional Council	Industry
Collaborate on establishment of regional scale precinct and ancillary satellite sites in accordance with precinct guidelines	C	A	C	R	R	R	R	R	R	R	C
Construct enabling infrastructure for precinct	C	A/R	A	I	I	I	I	I	I	I	C
Establish new resource recovery processing facilities within precinct	C	A/R	A	I	C*	C*	C*	C*	C*	C*	R
Work with Queensland Government agencies to improve uptake or recycled materials in procurement	A	A	I	I	R	R	R	R	R	R	C
Develop pathway to improve material flow data and knowledge across region for recyclable material	A	C	NR	R	C	C	C	C	C	C	C
Collaborate to collect data on contamination within kerbside bins to improve education approach.	C	I	NR	R	A*	A*	A*	A*	A*	A*	NR
Residual waste management											
Councils to consider individual landfill capacity needs in short-medium and long-term	I	I	NR	I	A/R*	A/R*	A/R*	A/R*	A/R*	A/R*	NR
Consider long-term options and approach to managing residual waste in the long-term, pending availability of facilities out of region	C	C	C	I	A/R*	A/R*	A/R*	A/R*	A/R*	A/R*	C
Develop long-term approach to managing problem and emerging wastes	C	I	NR	R	A/R*	A/R*	A/R*	A/R*	A/R*	A/R*	C

Responsibility highlighted in BLUE indicates owner(s) of the activity.

7.5 Cost estimate

A high-level cost estimate for implementation of this Plan has been developed for the period between FY23-24 (year 1) through to FY30-31 (the year to which regulated changes to the AAP has been forecast). Costs should be assumed with a level of accuracy than p50 be considered indicative, and subject to change as Plans are refined and the level of funding available is confirmed. The estimated cost for implementation (excluding residual waste management) is **\$84 million** over the period FY30-31. A breakdown is presented in **Appendix D**.

7.6 Funding

Funding needs to support implementation of the preferred option has been identified within Sections 4-6 as specific to initiatives across each stream. The following summarises prospective funding sources.

7.6.1 Local Government funding & financing

Local government can fund the provision of resource recovery infrastructure and initiatives through Council revenue, which is primarily derived from municipal rates, other duties and charges, or transfers from Federal and State Governments. Depending on the population size, Local Governments often have limited resources to directly support capital investment in resource recovery infrastructure and initiatives.

7.6.2 Private sector funding & financing

The significant capital costs to construct and deliver the packages suggests that co-funding with non-government organisations and private sector proponents may be viable. The private sector can participate in a variety of capacities, from concept and design, to construction, operations, and maintenance. They can also provide financing to a greater capacity than the public sector and relieve Local Governments of borrowing constraints. However, by assuming financial risk in the proposed project, the private sector will require confidence in an expected return. The private sector will typically be involved in two ways – a traditional public-private partnership (PPP) model, or through complete ownership of the process and operations. Local Government may attract private sector investment by providing land, concessions, guaranteed feedstocks, or product offtake agreements. Private funding is most likely to be sought for options that incur high capital costs such as anaerobic digestions or an energy from waste facility, or for facilities where private sector expertise and innovation are critical.

7.6.3 State Government funding - Annual Advanced Payment for Local Governments

The forward estimates for the period to FY25-26 has resulted in the payment of \$40.95 million to the region in annual advanced payments. Cherbourg Aboriginal Shire Council sits outside the levy zone and has not received annual advanced payments. For Gympie Regional Council, North Burnett Regional Council and South Burnett Regional Council these payments are expected to be used to offset the amount paid on the levy to avoid passing those costs on to households. As they are based on forecast from previous years landfilled amounts it is feasible that the amount may vary and be less (or more) than paid. For Bundaberg Regional Council and Fraser Coast Regional Council, who have received around \$13 million each, their landfill levy liability is expected to be significantly higher than this amount over the same period and growing significantly beyond in the regulated period to FY30-31. On this basis the benefit from the annual advanced payments in terms of funding additional resource recovery activities in the region is likely to be marginal as it will go to offset the gap between annual advanced payment and levy liability.

Annual advanced payments form part of the Queensland Governments \$2.1 billion waste and recycling package, which includes the \$1.1 billion jobs and recycling fund. This funding, allocated over a 10-year period to FY30-31 is identified as the funding mechanism to implement this Plan. Some funding has already been announced; however, it is intended that this Plan will help to shape funding required for the Wide Bay Burnett region. This includes one-off-costs to make transitions (e.g., the cost of FOGO bins) plus longer-term funding support.

7.6.4 State Government funding – Infrastructure

Funding from the State Government typically occurs in the form of direct investments, grants, and subsidies. The State may provide cash transfers to local governments, direct investments in projects, or offer low-interest loans.

Queensland Treasury Corporation (QTC) is the central financing authority for the Queensland Government and provides financial resources and services to the State. Typically, QTC does not provide project-specific funding for Local Councils so Councils should seek resource recovery infrastructure funding from QTC as part of their annual funding request (i.e., whole of Council funding). There may be potential for a group of Councils to set up a special purpose vehicle (SPV) to request funding for a specific project as a group, however, there is no precedent for this.

Access to grant funding from the State typically requires the proponent and the project to meet a certain set of criteria which may include funding requirement, potential economic impact, location, partnership arrangements with the private sector and several other factors. Relevant to Councils, grant funding may be dependent on the location and scale of the proposed infrastructure. Resource recovery facilities in larger LGAs are likely be self-sufficient owing to the expected scale and output of the facility and therefore may not require grant funding. However, small facilities may rely more on grants and transfers from the State as their revenue may be uncertain and slow to achieve.

The Federal Government may be able to fund the delivery of the project however, the benefits for the broader Australian economy would need to be explicitly demonstrated. A concessional loan from facilities such as Northern Australia Infrastructure Facility (NAIF) or the Clean Energy Finance Corporation (CEFC) may be appropriate as these loans can be offered below the market rate of interest and often provide other benefits such as long payback periods, grace periods in which only interest or service fees are due, and interest holidays.

Public funding may be used for low to medium technology options, such as organics composting (e.g., open windrow or similar), local community solutions including community composting and repair hubs, funding for education and landfill expansion.

7.6.5 Government funding – Subsidising & supporting new systems

Financial mechanisms for resource recovery operations vary widely however, operational expenditures must be financially self-sustaining. There are recent and relevant examples of failed resource recovery projects in Queensland that utilised grant funding for capital expenditure however, ultimately collapsed due to the inability of the owner to support operational costs. Operational expenditures can be managed through traditional methods of improving businesses' processes and maximising revenue streams, including gate fees, and selling products such as compost.

Australian Carbon Credit Units (ACCUs) may also be utilised to secure ongoing financing. ACCUs are a financial instrument awarded to eligible energy efficiency, renewable energy generation and carbon sequestration projects that result in a reduction of greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions. One ACCU represents the avoidance or removal of one tonne of carbon dioxide equivalent GHG. CCUs are a financial product that can reduce the total capital expenditure for an emissions reduction project. ACCUs are traded or sold on the national environmental commodity market, through carbon market agents, to organisations looking to offset their carbon footprint or meet emissions reduction obligations. ACCUs are also purchased by the Federal Government in a commitment to decarbonise Australia's economy through emission reduction projects.

7.6.6 Government funding – non-infrastructure

Through the delivery of grant programs additional funding may be provided by the Queensland or Commonwealth Governments to support non-infrastructure solutions. These include education, such as the already commenced support program for improving kerbside behaviour support, or the roll out of love-food-hate-waste education packages. These programs should be developed to account for the non-infrastructure interventions presented in this Plan to support participation and education activities across the region.

7.7 Managing change

It is expected that the economic, environmental, and technical assumptions that this Plan is based on will change over the next 10-years, as documented in the individual stream sections. It is important that in implementing the Plan, the RWWG is aware of and able to respond or react to disruptions caused by policy change, industry, or technology. The biggest potential disruptors are:

- Changes to the levy rate (beyond the forecast CPI increases) and annual advanced payments (beyond the current state) – the potential introduction of a reduction in annual advanced payments to those Councils in the region who currently receive the full levy amount returned. Even the gradual reduction in payment would likely increase the cost of waste management for ratepayers within these Councils whilst adding limited resource recovery or other benefits.
- Policy changes imposed by the Queensland Government or Commonwealth Government that have a direct impact on the services provided by Councils (e.g., the introduction of landfill disposal bans or mandatory collections).
- Changes to the composition of waste within household and other streams due to action taken by the Commonwealth Government on imported materials.
- The change in packaging materials, particularly an increase in the type of packaging used to favour a greater proportion of recyclable packaging.
- The development of new technologies, or the establishment in Australia of technologies that are more commonly deployed elsewhere in the world (e.g., proven small-scale EfW technologies or anaerobic digestion).

7.8 Monitoring and review

Responsibility for monitoring of this Plan will reside with member Councils under the overall leadership of the WBB Region. It is expected that Plan implementation will reside with the RRWG under the WBB Region. Key metrics to be monitored area:

Table 29 Monitoring parameters

Criteria	Measurement	Rationale
Establish a regional delivery mechanism to support Plan implementation	Mechanism in place by 31 Dec 2023	To facilitate implementation of the regional Plan a mechanism should be formalised and in place by 31 December 2023 to maintain momentum.
Action tracking and accountability	Working group develops action tracking register with specific dates for action of key players. Project Management tracking against actions. Quarterly updates reported back to Councils.	The implementation of the Plan has a series of actions, and sub actions to deliver. These actions require allocation to specific Councils or other actors (e.g., State Government) who should be held to account. Project Management reports should be prepared Quarterly to track progress and correct delays.
Regional Targets		
Contamination percentage in comingled kerbside recycling	Measurement of contamination via standard methodology reported at least annually.	To measure impact of behaviour, change program in achieving target of <5% contamination.
Regional resource recovery target (all streams)	Current: 52% 2030: 59% 2040: 65%	To measure long term progress and commitments under Plan to achieving regionally specific resource recovery target rates. This assumes that organics diversion commences in Bundaberg and Fraser Coast prior to 2030.
Organics specific targets		
Regional organics diversion target (kerbside household organic waste)	Current: 0% 2030: 24% 2040: 30%	This Plan sets out the potential for organics diversion rates for kerbside organic waste.
Organics collection contamination rate	Current: Baseline to be established 2030: <5% 2040: <5%	Where service provided, data will be collected on contamination rates as a proxy for effectiveness of education and awareness campaigns.
Kerbside recycling specific targets		
Regional kerbside recycling diversion target (excluding organic waste)	Current: 19% 2030: 25% 2040: 27%	Diversion rate to increase because of education but excluding organic waste diversion. Measured by Council data records, annual returns.
Kerbside recycling tonnes (material collected at the kerbside sent for recycling)	Current: 19,478 tonnes 2030: 28,500 tonnes 2040: 33,000 tonnes	Target takes account of increased population but also improved capture of material from the residual bin (plus recently introduced service in South Burnett)
Regional kerbside recycling contamination rate	Current: 16-18% 2030: <5% 2040: <2%	Contamination rate to be measured through audits undertaken by participating Councils.
Residual waste monitoring		

Criteria	Measurement	Rationale
Collect data on type and management fate of residual waste	No specific target	As a function of other streams, the regional should continue to monitor how residual waste is managed to facilitate future opportunity development. Revisit relevance of targets if long-term solution is developed.

DRAFT

Appendix A:

Investment Logic Mapping & Strategic Rationale Outcome

Problem / opportunity	Benefits	Strategic responses	Solution options	
Some landfills in the region are approaching capacity, which will prohibit further landfilling, and require further diverse investment to enable appropriate management of residual waste	Reduction in potential resources to landfill	Update regional waste reduction targets	Do nothing	Investigate highest value for money secondary raw material streams for each LGA
	Reduction in all waste generated		Reform	Investigate raw material streams with the highest environmental impacts for each LGA
Individual Councils do not have sufficient scale for processing and remanufacturing recyclable materials or residual waste (given the cost of transport and geographic size of Councils) limiting the ability to achieve resource recovery at a commercial scale	Reduction in environmental impacts (leachate, landfill, fires etc.)	Educate community and industry on better resource recovery practices	Change/expand/review local Council policy, procurement and standards to incentivise use of recycled material	Facilitate investment attraction in resource recovery services or support existing providers to enhance their service offerings
	Reduction in illegal dumping and other illegal waste management practices	Legislative/regulatory action including state and local government policy to reduce waste to landfill	Advocate for State Government and industry policy, procurement and standards to incentivise use of recycled material	Advocate for waste transport assistance/funding for recyclables and waste to energy inputs
There are insufficient local end markets for secondary raw materials (except FOGO/GO, where there is insufficient supply in the region), limiting the ability to achieve commercial rates of return	Improved waste management practices	Collaborative approach to waste management in the region	Implement local, targeted landfill bans for certain products	Improve existing
	Improved resource recovery and reuse		Invest in compliance and enforcement of regulations	Mine resource from existing landfills
A lack of community understanding/concern around the increasing cost and environmental impacts of waste management and absence of incentives/disincentives for households to improve behaviours is contributing to inefficient waste management practices	Increased downstream industry capacity and resulting economic activity in WBB	Incentivise resource recovery	Establish formal governance arrangements for the region	Create additional landfill disposal capacity
	Reduction in methane emissions and carbon emissions (due to better waste management)	Invest in new or upgraded resource recovery infrastructure	Research into future potential waste streams	Expand (geographically) household source separation i.e. recycling and/or organics bin collections
Better engaged and empowered community	R&D for waste avoidance, minimisation processing and reuse		Provide household organics solutions (where viable)	
There is an opportunity to develop and support new and innovative resource recovery industries as well as create regional and local economic and community benefits through collaborative waste management planning between WBB councils and the broader region	Reduction in methane emissions and carbon emissions (due to better waste management)	Invest in new or upgraded resource recovery infrastructure	Better use	Regional collaboration to purchase mobile plant and equipment/long term service contracts to service the broader region
	Better engaged and empowered community		Regional, targeted and specific education campaign that encourages better consumer behaviour to avoid waste generation, improve source separation and promote circular economy objectives	Optimise/expand existing facilities
The objectives and targets in the <i>Queensland Waste Management and Resource Recovery Strategy and National Waste Policy Action Plan</i> cannot be met with existing infrastructure, initiatives, funding, resourcing and supporting policy in WBB	Increase in local skilled jobs	Invest in new or upgraded resource recovery infrastructure	Investment in Councils' staff education (capacity building)	Develop product stewardship hubs
	Improved value for money of waste management (environmental, social, economic, infrastructure)		Improve data collection and reporting	New
The objectives and targets in the <i>Queensland Waste Management and Resource Recovery Strategy and National Waste Policy Action Plan</i> cannot be met with existing infrastructure, initiatives, funding, resourcing and supporting policy in WBB	Development of circular economies for recovered materials	Invest in new or upgraded resource recovery infrastructure	Advocate for new/expanded product stewardship schemes	Investigate potential for development of a waste precinct, including partnerships with industry
	Ability to meet State and Federal targets		Investigate commercial viability of waste transportation to and/or from other regions/private facilities	Construct new transfer stations in strategically located areas
			Undertake strategic waste management assessment and mapping of LGAs to determine local capacity and constraints and suitable areas for infrastructure development	Construct materials recovery facilities in strategically located areas
				Construct new processing facilities (MSW, C&D, C&I) in strategically located areas
				Construct an energy from waste facility (residual waste)

Appendix B: Waste Flow Model Assumptions

B1 Modelling Methodology

The following works have been undertaken:

Step 1 - Data Request

- Prepared and issued formal data requests to each Local Government Area (LGA)

Step 2 - Review of Information

Review of available information including:

- Suitability for use / data quality
- Data type (arising, infrastructure, materials/service, and cost factors).
- Completion of data gap analysis
- Review of future policy and legislative requirements

Step 3 – Stakeholder Engagement

- Attended initial project inception meeting with the working group established by councils to develop the Regional Waste and Resource Recovery Plan
- Developed baseline status and forecasting for inclusion in WBB Interim Report
- Undertook Options Assessment and Multi Criteria Analysis (MCA) Workshop with key LGA stakeholders to discuss findings of WBB Interim Report.
- Additional follow up sessions with relevant LGAs and Department of Environment and Science (DES) to validate data / address identified data gaps provided to inform waste flow forecasting.

Step 4 - Modelling

- Develop forecast scenarios to analyse variation of generation rates, recovery rates, processing, and landfill demand scenarios for different waste streams
- Develop predictive scenarios based on population change within the region

B2 Data sources

The following State-wide primary data sets reviewed during the development of this model include:

- Queensland Waste Data Survey (QWDS) – Waste Arisings
- Queensland Waste Resource Recovery Infrastructure Report (QWRRIR) – Waste Infrastructure
- Recycling and Waste Collection Options Tool (RAWCOT) – Waste Materials/Service

In addition, the following WBB specific data sets were reviewed such as local waste audits / independent studies not captured under the above as summarised below:

- Council responses to the DES Annual Waste Data Survey
- Council data provided for the Queensland Waste and Resource Recovery Infrastructure Report (2019)
- Council waste management strategy, operational planning, and reporting documents
- Council infrastructure data including remaining airspace
- Council waste site and facility statistics
- Australian Bureau of Statistics government population and householder forecasts
- Studies, business cases and other documentation prepared at a council or regional scale to inform the development of new or optimised services for collection or post-collection
- Workshops, interviews and discussion with regional working groups, councils, mayors, CEOs, councillors, economic development, waste management.

A full list of data sources used is presented in **Table C1** below.

Table B1 Data sources

Title / Dataset	Date	Provided by	Summary
2015-16 WBBROC_Regional_Waste_Strategy_Final	2015-20	WBBROC	regional waste strategy
20171101 ATCW COM Transport Analysis	11/1/2017	ATC Williams	Transport Analysis – Centre of Mass
20171101 Figure 1 - haulage routes	2017	ATC Williams	regional waste transport network infrastructure map
2021_22_23 Annual Tonnage and Levy Liability (A5833502)	2019-2023	WBBROC	annual tonnage data
2022 Forecast Life of Landfills	2022	WBBROC	forecast life of landfills
620.31107-WBB-RWMP-RFI-01	5-Aug-22	WBBROC	RFI on WtE feasibility study 2020
AECOM Report. Note: Title is Implementation of Regional Waste Strategy Feasibility Study - Options Paper	24-Jan-18	WBBROC	"Implementation of Regional
BRC Waste Fees 202223	2022-23	WBBROC	Waste Strategy Feasibility
BRC_Waste_Management_and_Resource_Recovery_Strategy_2017__2025 (5)	Jan-17	BRC	Study - options paper"
Bundaberg Council - RAWCOT - 5 August 2020 (A7060956)	2020	Ricardo	waste disposal fees

Title / Dataset	Date	Provided by	Summary
Cedars Airspace Option Ltr 6.6	6-Jun-16	BRC	"WASTEMANAGEMENT& RESOURCE
Cedars Road Landfill Development Plan 2019	7 November 2019	ATC Williams	RECOVERY STRATEGY
Confidential - FINAL Report updated - Waste to Energy Feasibility 2020	16-Apr-20	Ricardo	2017-2025"
FW Waste Reserves Spreadsheet and historic information	Monday, August 22,	BRC	resource and waste collections options tool
Local Government Survey 2021 (2020 - 2021) (A6187963)	2021	BRC	Cedars Road landfill Airspace 2015 – 2035
QTC Analysis - New Regional Landfill information	2021?	QTC	BRC - update to the 2013 Cedars Road Landfill Site Development Plan
Qunaba Landfill Development Plan 2019	7-Nov-19	ATC Williams	Regional Waste Strategy for WBBROC – Waste to Energy Feasibility Study
SLR Info Request BRC	September 5, 2022,	BRC	Email thread, no data, refer to financial summary fund PDF
SLR Information Request - Items 1 - 17 (A7098998)	5-Aug-22	BRC	local government survey on waste services/ composition
University Drive Landfill Development Plan 2019	8-Nov-19	ATC Williams	New Regional Landfill information
Waste Collections Business case for the introduction of a Food Organics and Garden Organics Service in 2026 (A6429083)	8/19/2022	BRC	BRC - update to the 2016 Qunaba Road Landfill Site Development Plan
Waste Service charges 202223	2022	BRC	SLR Info Request BRC
Waste Services - Monthly Budget Report - June 2022 Alt version	Jun-22	BRC?	completed RFI by BRC from SLR
2019003 Maryborough Landfill Optimisation - Rev 2	31-Mar-20	Maryborough Landfill Optimisation	"Update to the 2013 the
CTWW008 - Waste Services Contract 2020 - Material Recovery Facility Feasibility Assessment - Redacted Version - Specification At	29-May-20	Fraser Coast Council	site development plan (SDP) for University Drive Landfill"
DOCSHBCC_3854587_v2_FINAL_Fraser_Coast_Waste_Strategy_2019_2029	2019	Fraser Coast Council	Waste Collections introduction of a Food Organics and Garden Organics service in 2026
FCRC FCP MODEL v15.0	2020	Fraser Coast Council	waste disposal fees - long term financial plan
2022_DES-Waste-Survey-Final_Local Government	2022	DES/NBRC	XL SS with monthly budget report
620.31107-WBB-RWMP-RFI-01	5-Aug-22	NB	Landfill Optimisation Study for the Maryborough Landfill which will inform the extent and design criteria for Cell 9
Confidential - FINAL Report - Waste to Energy Feasibility 2020	see row 013	see row 013	"MRF Feasibility Assessment -
Confidential - FINAL updated Waste to Energy Feasibility presentation 2020	15-Apr-20	Ricardo	derives from basic assumptions and the general direction from Council's Waste Strategy 2019-2029 (Waste Strategy), yellow lid bin composition surveys from other comparable councils and the research performed by the Waste Services team."

Title / Dataset	Date	Provided by	Summary
NBRC-Waste-Reduction-and-Recycling-Plan-2021-26-020821	7/28/2021	North Burnett Regional Council	waste Strategy document
2022_DES-Waste-Survey-Final_Local Government	2021-22	DES/South Burnett Regional Council	FRC financial model
Master facility Register_Fixed	31/08/2019	Arcadis	waste survey for local government
2019 Operator Site_Updated LH	18/19	Arcadis	North Burnett response to SLR RFI
LG Survey Qual responses	18/19	Arcadis	WBBROC Waste to Energy Feasibility CEO and Mayors Briefing
018 QunabaTransfer Station Opinion of Probable Cost_draft_18.12 Draft Rev	19-Dec-13	AECOM	waste reduction and recycling plan 2021-26

B3 Model Assumptions

Assumptions

Regional waste projections have been developed (see Figure 2) based on the data sources and assumptions summarised below:

- Medium population projection applied
- Per capita generation rates (tonnes per capita) calculated from historical population and waste data
- Two-year historical average per capita rate applied to all waste streams and all councils.
- Historical waste quantities and generation rates are prone to inter-yearly fluctuations due to administrative issues including reporting changes, or underlying changes to consumption.
- Economic and social factors influence what residents and businesses buy, use, consume and dispose of, which is particularly relevant considering COVID-19 induced restrictions.
- Variations are especially prevalent with C&I and C&D waste as these streams are dependent on a range of external market forces and can be price sensitive.
- The Queensland Waste and Resource Recovery Infrastructure Report (QWRRIR) outlined trends in waste generation rates and their relationship with GDP to determine if an adjustment factor might be applied. However, no conclusive adjustment factor was determined due to data quality concerns and inconsistency in waste tonnage data reporting back to 2010-2011.
- At a national scale, the National Waste Data Report 2020,5 reported a 20% reduction in per capita generation of waste for MSW and C&I over a 13-year period, equating to an annual decrease of approximately 2.5%. However, analysis of regional waste generation rates does not support this.

Regional waste projections have been developed based on the assumptions summarised below:

Table B2 Model Assumptions

Title	Input	Description
Population Scenario	Implied Compound Annual Growth Rate (CAGR) of 0.9% for 2021-2031 and 1.0% 2021 to 2041 Medium population projection has been applied	CAGR and Medium population scenario applied based on existing QLD State government forecasts: Projected Populations - sourced from QLD Government Statistician's Office (2019) <i>The State of Queensland, Queensland Treasury, 2022. Projected-dwellings-series-local-government-area-qld-2016-2041.xlsx</i> accessed at: https://www.qgso.qld.gov.au/statistics/theme/population/population-projections/regions Historical Population - sourced from Queensland Government Statistician's Office (2022), <i>The State of Queensland, Queensland Treasury, 2022. Estimated-resident-population-lga-qld-2001-2021pr.csv</i> accessed at: https://www.qgso.qld.gov.au/statistics/theme/population/population-estimates/regions
Generation per capita	Assumed kerbside yield (kg/capita):	Generation per capita
Bundaberg - 334		Bundaberg - 334
Recycling Bin	80% Default bin coverage	Default bin coverage assumption based on Council of Mayors Southeast Queensland (COMSEQ) SEQ Waste Management Plan, Final Report 2021.

Title	Input	Description
Organic Bin Assumptions	100% proportion of food organics can go in Food Organic and Garden Organic (FOGO). 0% proportion of food organics can go in GO 100% proportion of garden organics can go in FOGO 100% of garden organics can go in GO. 80% Default Organics bin coverage 14% Additional GO from service introduction (based on yield per person). 5% Loss of self-haul GO due to FOGO service introduction (best guess estimate / nothing reported).	Organic bin assumptions based on COMSEQ SEQ Waste Management Plan, Final Report 2021. Capture rates based on existing services and review across NSW from Analysis of NSW Food and Garden Bin Audit Data, RAWTEC (2018) FO: High (50%), Med (35%) & Low (25%) GO: High (95%), Med (85%) & Low (75%)
Residual Waste Recovery Options	90% Energy for Waste (EfW) 80% Refuse Derived Fuel (RDF)	Nominal recovery rates for EfW assuming Air Pollution Control residues will be disposed to landfill and assuming bottom ash has a viable recovery option such as base material for road construction. Recovery rate for RDF assumes estimated 25% loss of materials required to meet RDF acceptance criteria (defined by moisture content and calorific value)

Appendix C: Economic Analysis Report

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Regional Waste Management Plan - Cost Benefit Analysis

Wide Bay Burnett Regional Organisation of Councils

May 2023



Strictly private and confidential

Disclaimer:

This report is not intended to be read or used by anyone other than Local Government Association Queensland Ltd (LGAQ).

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1 Introduction

The purpose of the report is to evaluate the economic viability of implementing the Regional Waste Management Plan package solutions in the local government areas (LGAs) which make up the Wide Bay Burnett Regional Organisation of Councils (WBBROC) region. This chapter includes:

- Project context
- Project objectives
- Study area.

1.1 Project context

Wide Bay Burnett (WBB) Councils have identified that there is a strategic need to improve regional waste management and resource recovery practices. Landfills are an essential component of Australia's waste management system, and currently landfills in the WBB region receive approximately 49.5 per cent, or 197,000 tonnes of headline waste and provide a final disposal solution for waste that cannot be recovered.¹ The WBB region contains nineteen identified active putrescible landfills that are all council-owned, of which fourteen are small or very small rural facilities.² The resource recovery infrastructure in the region includes eight composting, four mulching, three MRFs, two source separated recycling, and two metals recycling facilities. There are no existing C&D recycling facilities identified in the region. Each LGA has a principal landfill, with landfills in the region generally developed in existing holes, usually formed by quarrying or mining operations and as such, landfill lifespans are inherently finite. At the end 2021, it was announced that there would be a differential levy rate for waste generated in some LGAs, as well as a progressive reduction in the differential annual advanced payment to the 2030-31 financial year. In WBB, the annual advanced payment for Bundaberg Regional Council and Fraser Coast Regional Council will reduce from 105% to 20% by FY30-31. For all other councils except Cherbourg Aboriginal Shire Council, who sit outside the levy zone, annual advanced payments are scheduled to continue at 100% over the same period, however, this determination is set to be reviewed in 2025. Therefore, it is critical that waste is increasingly diverted from landfill to ensure Councils and ratepayers are minimally impacted.

To achieve reduced waste to landfill, improved recycling and resource recovery practices are required, however there is currently a poor understanding of the costs and benefits. The scale of waste generated by individual LGAs in the WBB region is relatively small, with significant distances and dispersion between populations and resource recovery and waste disposal infrastructure. Due to the region's geographic dispersion, transport costs are often prohibitive and there is currently insufficient scale locally for commercially viable resource recovery exclusively in the region. Councils are unable to collect or sort a commercial amount of recycled materials, resulting in a lack of recovered materials for processing and remanufacturing. As a result, it is difficult to attract downstream industries and private investment to the region. Furthermore, there is often a lack of community understanding around waste management and little incentive to improve practices, resulting in waste disposal to landfill. Without intervention, WBB LGAs will find it difficult to meet the objectives and targets in the Queensland Waste Management and Resource Recovery Strategy and National Waste Policy Action Plan.

In response to this, SLR and PwC have been engaged by the LGAQ to undertake the development of a Regional Waste Management Plan (RWMP) to confirm the strategic need, investigate potential options to improve waste management and resource recovery practices in the region, and to find agreement on a collaborative pathway forward for councils in the region. Implementation of the plan to achieve agreed strategic outcomes will support access to the announced \$2.1 billion funding for waste and resource recovery activities announced by the Queensland Government in late 2021. This Cost Benefit Analysis (CBA) considers the solutions as discussed and agreed upon by the WBBROC Waste Management Group.

¹ Arcadis for Department of Environment and Science (2019). Queensland Waste and Resource Recovery Infrastructure Report. Accessed at https://www.qld.gov.au/data/assets/pdf_file/0034/199249/qld-waste-resource-recovery-infrastructure-report.pdf

² Very small = < 2,000 tonnes to landfill p.a. Small = 2,000 to 10,000 tonnes to landfill p.a.

1.2 Project objectives

The objectives of the overarching Plan are to:

- Maximise the value of waste, including problematic waste streams
- Deliver the best pathway for the region that identifies opportunities for government co-funding arrangements, and industry investment or co-investment
- Provide councils with the data and options analysis required for them to make informed decisions about policy, location of infrastructure and optimal value for money investment, and non-infrastructure options
- Support improved waste management, resource recovery and recycling practices to contribute towards agreed regional and State targets
- Encourage and support opportunities to embed circular economy principles into business-as-usual practices, including through sustainable procurement principles
- Encourage and support job creation and economic and market development opportunities
- Improve environmental outcomes for the community
- Identify non-infrastructure and social and community benefits
- Establish and maintain collaborative relationships with key stakeholders to drive long-term sustainable outcomes.

The intention of the Plan is to provide long-term direction to 2050 of the needs of the region in terms of critical waste streams, infrastructure, and the identification of a particular suite of levers required to achieve regionally specific and agreed targets. Specific activities and actions in the short- to medium-term are identified, where there is a relatively high degree of certainty in process and outcome. Longer-term activities and actions are expected to be implemented later in the program of works or require further refinement and development. It is anticipated that the plan will require a degree of flexibility.

The scope of the Plan is defined by engagement with stakeholders. Focus is on waste and recycle typically managed within the region by local government. In regional Queensland, local government often manages large proportions of the commercial and industrial (C&I), and construction and demolition (C&D) waste streams, due to the absence of private post-collection processing facilities. Activities and actions will be identified in the Plan for key streams, with a view to continuously seek opportunities to capture new and emerging or problematic streams as implementation progresses.

The Plan aims to seek a balance between defining a clear implementation plan for the best whole of system outcome for the region, while reflecting the needs and wishes of each individual council and their rate payers, with the base assumption to minimise cost impact to councils and current waste operations.

1.3 Study area

The WBB region comprises of the LGAs of Bundaberg Regional Council, Cherbourg Aboriginal Shire Council, Gympie Regional Council, North Burnett Regional Council, and South Burnett Regional Council. Where appropriate, the Plan may look outside of the region to neighbouring regions or individual Councils for benefit of Plan implementation. The WBB region has a total land area of 48,600 km² and an Estimated Resident Population (ERP) of 310,728 people as of 2021 and is forecast to grow to around 360,000 in 2041.³ Approximately 113,961 residents are employed.⁴

The WBB region has a varied economic base and benefits from a diverse natural environment and liveable cities. Its broad industry base and strategic position to provide goods and services to domestic and international markets is supported by access via the Port of Bundaberg, multiple intraregional highways, proximity to SEQ and numerous regional and local airports. The region's Gross Regional Product (GRP) is estimated at \$14.2 billion,⁵ representing 3.8% of Queensland's

³ Based on medium series projections by the Queensland Government Statisticians Office.

⁴ Economy ID (2021). Regional development Australia Wide Bay Burnett Region economic profile - population & employment. Accessed at <https://economy.id.com.au/rda-wide-bay-burnett/employed-residents>

⁵ Economy ID. Regional development Australia Wide Bay Burnett Region economic profile – gross product (2021). Accessed at <https://economy.id.com.au/rda-wide-bay-burnett/gross-product>

estimated Gross State Product (GSP) of \$366.3 billion.⁶ The waste management and resource recovery sector is already an important contributor to the economy, however, there is further potential to grow the sector by improving recovery of resources and investing in the resource recovery industry.

⁶ REMPLAN. Queensland Economic Profile, Gross Regional Product (2021). Accessed at <https://app.remplan.com.au/eda-queensland/economy/industries/gross-regional-product?state=KbP5hXIPmxBTYqwaTrJxRnhY2d5PH0hAfYBghmf3fZlwf80d>

2 Economic appraisal framework

This chapter outlines the economic appraisal framework implemented to assess the packages against the base case to recommend the most economically viable option for implementation in the RWMP. This chapter includes:

- Overview
- General approach and limitations
- Cost benefit analysis methodology.

2.1 Overview

The economic analysis was undertaken using a cost benefit analysis (CBA) framework that applied discounted cash flow techniques, in accordance with Infrastructure Australia (IA) guidelines. The CBA assesses the benefits and costs of the project options to evaluate whether incremental benefits exceed the incremental costs of achieving them.

The key steps undertaken in developing the economic appraisal are:

1. **Establish the economic appraisal framework:** Defines the approach and overarching methodology to be used for the economic appraisal and determine the key modelling assumptions.
2. **Define the Base Case and project option scenarios:** Defines the Base Case, which represents the counterfactual against which the project options will be assessed and defines the project options.
3. **Develop and incorporate cost estimates:** Incorporates delivery and operating phase cost estimates associated with the project options, and relevant costs for the Base Case, into the economic appraisal.
4. **Identify and quantify economic benefits:** Estimates the incremental benefits for the project options based on a range of inputs using economic assumptions/parameters. The economic benefits framework has been designed to reflect the impacts of the Project on user groups in society.
5. **Economic appraisal:** Involves discounted cashflow assessment within a cost benefit analysis framework to determine key metrics including the benefit cost ratio (BCR) the net present value (NPV).

This chapter is structured to provide a summary of each of the steps above.

2.2 General approach and limitations

CBA is an economic analysis framework that examines the broad range of economic, social and environmental impacts of a proposed initiative across all affected stakeholders. A robust CBA requires:

- Costs and benefits to be expressed as far as possible in monetary terms to allow options to be compared on a consistent basis
- Results to be discounted to 'present value' terms to allow for consistent comparison of impacts that may occur at different points in time
- The valuation of costs and benefits based on the impacts they have on the community as a whole
- A holistic approach that considers and quantifies impacts across all impacted parties, rather than a specific project proponent or stakeholder. The WBB region member LGAs are the referent group in this CBA.

2.2.1 Assumptions

The initiative is in early stages of analysis and as such, a number of assumptions were made to define the inputs for the analysis and to undertake the CBA. The results of this CBA should not be relied on to form an investment decision and it is recommended that a detailed assessment of individual option components is undertaken. The broad assumptions include:

- A detailed quantification of costs was not undertaken for the options packages. All capital and operating cost assumptions were provided by SLR and are indicative and based on professional experience and benchmarking, supplemented with desktop research. They represent basic building costs (where appropriate) and typical processing costs. Land acquisition and site preparation costs are excluded.

- Arcadis provided detailed waste generation data and waste flow modelling to determine potential volumes of resources that may be recovered under each package. PwC did not perform a detailed review of data quality or integrity and all data is assumed to be appropriate for the purpose of this CBA.

2.3 Cost benefit analysis methodology

CBA uses discounted cash flow analysis to convert future costs and benefits to a common time, the present value (PV). PVs are calculated by discounting future values using IAs recommended real discount rate of seven per cent per annum (which reflects the time value of money). These discounted costs and benefits are then used to produce conventional CBA measures of economic performance, including:

- **NPV** – the difference between the PV of total incremental benefits and the PV of the total incremental costs, which allows the project options to be compared on the same basis to determine the greatest net benefit to the community or the most efficient use of resources
- **BCR** – ratio of the PV of total incremental benefits to the PV of the total incremental costs. A BCR greater than 1.0 indicates that quantified project benefits exceed project costs. However, projects with BCRs less than 1.0 may still be considered to have net benefits if some of the benefits cannot be fully captured within an economic appraisal framework, for example, where data is unavailable to quantitatively measure additional benefits expected to result from the project.

These economic metrics are part of a broader initiative valuation process and should be considered in conjunction with non-monetisable costs and benefits, the results of a financial analysis, and the potential economic impact on the region. Revenues exceeding costs is not a sole reason to proceed with a project. It is essential to also consider community and social costs, as a project that causes significant harm to the community may not have a direct financial cost, however, could still be damaging. If the BCR is below one, the project may still be suitable for government investment provided there are other project benefits which were not able to be monetised and included in the BCR (e.g., social benefits). The CBA uses both market and non-market monetisable costs and benefits to ensure impacts to the referent group are captured. Non-monetisable costs and benefits are detailed but are not quantified.

2.3.1 Parameters

This analysis requires a range of general assumptions which have been developed in line with relevant guidelines, preliminary technology considerations and scoping of the project. The general assumptions are outlined in Table 1 and form the basis of the economic model. These are subject to sensitivity testing as appropriate.

Table 1: General economic analysis assumptions

Assumption	Value	Comment
Base year	FY23	The base year is the year the evaluation is conducted as the CBA is forward looking. Any costs of benefits incurred in the past years are treated as sunk and excluded from the analysis.
Pricing year	FY23	All values are expressed in FY23 dollars, in the year they are expected to be incurred.
Appraisal period	Construction + 30 years of operation	Commencement of operations of the first implemented solution (2023).
Discount rate	7%	Consistent with Queensland Government Business Case Development Framework and the Infrastructure Australia Assessment Framework. Sensitivity scenarios run at 4% and 10% as identified by Infrastructure Australia.

3 Base Case and project options

The base case and package options were defined in collaboration with LGAQ and WBBROC LGA representatives. The package options address the following waste streams and recovery measures, to different levels (low, medium and high intervention):

- Organics education, collection, and resource recovery
- Recycling education, collection, and resource recovery
- Residual waste disposal and resource recovery.

This chapter defines the base case and options packages, and includes:

- Base Case
- Solution descriptions
- Options.

3.1 Base Case

The base case is defined as the continued resource recovery and waste management scenario in the LGAs in WBB. It represents the 'do minimum' approach, where the majority of the waste generated across the WBB is transported to local landfills or the regional Material Recovery Facilities (MRF) located in Cherbourg, Hervey Bay and Bundaberg, without significant capital investment in alternative solutions or major operational changes.

The Bundaberg, Fraser Coast, Gympie, and South Burnett Regional Councils, and Cherbourg Aboriginal Shire Council provide fortnightly recycling collections services, offering a two-bin service of residual waste and recycling.⁷ The North Burnett Regional Council offer a weekly single-bin residual waste service.

The landfill capacity assessment undertaken in the Queensland Waste and Resource Recovery Infrastructure Report highlights that within the WBB region, existing approved regional landfill capacity will start to approach exhaustion by approximately 2030 in a low recovery scenario.

The landfill capacities and expected exhaustion years are presented in Table 2.

Table 2: WBB LGA landfill capacity

Council	Landfill	Annual disposal (20-21, tonnes)	Current approved capacity (tonnes)	Expected exhaustion of capacity
Bundaberg Regional Council	Bundaberg Regional Waste Management Facility	84,236	1,700,000	35 Years
Cherbourg Aboriginal Shire Council	Cherbourg Rubbish Tip	650	9,845	2030
Fraser Coast Regional Council	Maryborough Landfill	77,709	3,767,000	2052
Gympie Regional Council	Gympie Waste Management	30,956	180,000	2028

⁷ Arcadis (2019). Queensland Waste and Resource Recovery Infrastructure Report. Accessed at https://www.qld.gov.au/_data/assets/pdf_file/0034/199249/qld-waste-resource-recovery-infrastructure-report.pdf

Council	Landfill Facility	Annual disposal (20-21, tonnes)	Current approved capacity (tonnes)	Expected exhaustion of capacity
North Burnett Regional Council	Biggenden Waste Management Facility	797	8,177	2025
North Burnett Regional Council	Eidsvold Waste Management Facility	318	518	2025
North Burnett Regional Council	Gayndah Waste Management Facility	722	8,221	2030
North Burnett Regional Council	Monto Waste Management Facility	1,286	14,861	2050
North Burnett Regional Council	Mt Perry Waste Management Facility	468	0	2020
North Burnett Regional Council	Munduberra Waste Management Facility	2,607	28,066	2200
South Burnett Regional Council	Hivesville Waste Facility	TBC	0	2017
South Burnett Regional Council	Kingaroy Waste Facility	TBC	158,543	2029
South Burnett Regional Council	Kumbia Waste Facility	TBC	TBC	2051
South Burnett Regional Council	Murgon Waste Facility	TBC	10,920	2031
South Burnett Regional Council	Nanango Waste Facility	TBC	39,338	2031
South Burnett Regional Council	Wondai Waste Facility	TBC	19,087	2030

The base case includes regulations set out in the following legislations:

- *Waste Reduction and Recycling Act 2008*
- *Environmental Protection Act 1994*
- *Local Government Act 2009*.

The following legislation act on initiatives in the following strategies and policies:

- Queensland Waste Management and Resource Recovery Strategy (2019)
- Queensland Resource Recovery Industries 10-Year Roadmap and Action Plan (2019)
- Wide Bay Burnett Waste Management & Resource Recovery Strategy 2015-2020
- Bundaberg Regional Council Waste Management & Resource Recovery Strategy 2017-2025
- North Burnett Regional Council Waste Reduction & Recycling Plan 2021-2026
- South Burnett Regional Council Waste Management Strategy 2015-2022

- Gympie Regional Council – Regional Waste Management Strategy 2013-2020
- Fraser Coast Waste Strategy 2019-2029
- Waste disposal levy
- Queensland Energy from Waste Policy (2021)
- Queensland Organics Strategy and Action Plan 2022-2032
- Queensland Plastic Pollution Reduction Plan
- Single-use plastic items ban
- Plastic bag ban
- Containers for Change - container refund scheme.⁸

The base case also includes committed and funded waste projects which are subject to further analysis.

3.2 Solution descriptions

There are several solutions implemented as part of each package to enable resource recovery. These solutions are described in Table 3. Detail on which solutions are included in each package is provided in Section 3.3. Some solutions detailed in Section 3.3 are considered in sensitivity testing.

Table 3: Description of solutions

Category	Solution	Description
Organics	Food Organics and Garden Organics (FOGO) to open windrow composting including collection.	Councils provide FOGO bin to residents and implement FOGO kerbside collection for residential and commercial waste (in addition to self-haul green waste). This waste is transported to open windrow composting facilities (either in-region or a regional facility). Waste is processed in an open air environmental where the materials break down in the presence of oxygen into compost or other soil improver products that can be sold into landscaping and agricultural markets. It is noted that there remains uncertainty related to the Queensland Government requirements associated with FOGO processing and requirements to process this stream within a more expensive enclosed system but likely this will be determined on a case-by-case basis depending on risk assessment. For the purpose of this assessment, it is assumed that an outdoor composting site can be located in an area where risks can be managed satisfactorily for the regulator.
	FOGO to anaerobic digestion (AD) including collection.	Councils provide FOGO bin to residents and implement FOGO kerbside collection for residential and commercial waste (in addition to self-haul). This waste is transported to a dry AD facility and processed into biogas and digestate. AD decomposes FOGO waste by anaerobic bacteria in the absence of oxygen (usually in a sealed tank). Biogas and digestate are collected, and secondary products can be sold and reused.
Kerbside recycling	Commingled kerbside (BAU or amended services)	Councils continue BAU commingled kerbside collection. Recovered recyclables are transported to a regional MRF either direct or via transfer stations for sorting and processing. Paper and cardboard, glass, plastics, and metals can be sent from the facility for reprocessing. The Bundaberg Regional Council owned and private sector operated MRF in Hervey Bay currently performs this function as well as the Cherbourg Aboriginal Shire Council owned and operated MRF. This option assumes existing MRF contracts are either extended or a new regional MRF

⁸ This analysis does not account for the upcoming introduction (pending approval) from the State to include wine bottles and spirit bottles.

Category	Solution	Description
		contract is agreed as contracts expire.
Residual (including feedstock location)	Landfill	Councils invest in additional landfill capacity as required. This could be the addition of new landfill cells within existing facilities, or the construction of new landfills. Landfills could be at a Council scale, or collaboratively deliver a regional landfill servicing all Councils in the region.
	Energy from Waste (EfW)/ Alternate Waste Treatment (AWT) Feedstock location (from within region)	Waste is sent out of region to an EfW/AWT facility. Residual waste generated within the region is provided as a feedstock. Energy recovery process is via incineration or thermal treatment. Energy is recovered from waste through a steam boiler and turbine as electricity, while heat, in the form of steam or hot water, may also be captured. Secondary materials are sold for reuse. EfW residual is disposed of in landfill. Recovery of incinerator bottom ash (IBA) may be a critical factor in the financial viability of an incinerator as 20% of input becomes bottom ash. Potential for this material to be used under an end-of-waste code once developed to avoid landfill cost,
Processing capacity	Local beneficiation (e.g., glass, tyres, etc)	A local beneficiation operation is established to process recyclable materials that are either sorted at the MRF or self-hauled to transfer stations by residents (non-council managed waste). Local beneficiation could be established at the MRF to reduce transportation costs. It is anticipated for this option that private industry would provide the solution (i.e., facilities to process and convert recycle into feedstock for manufacturing) however Councils may play an important role in facilitation and providing feedstock to these facilities, which in turn will help progress regional resource recovery rates.

3.3 Options

Nine options packages were assessed at the multi-criteria assessment (MCA) workshop. Packages were assessed against their ability to meet the objectives of the project, using criteria including:

- Waste diversion and resource recovery
- Environmental impact
- Downstream economic impact
- Cost
- Community impact.

The packages are displayed in Figure 1.

Package	Package 1	Package 2	Package 3	Package 4	Package 5	Package 6	Package 6a	Package 7	Package 7a
Intervention level	Minimum intervention	Low intervention	Medium intervention A	Medium intervention B	Medium intervention C	High intervention A	High intervention A	High intervention B	High intervention B
Organics solution	-	FOGO to composting incl collection	FOGO organics to AD incl collection	FOGO to composting incl collection	FOGO to composting incl collection	FOGO to composting incl collection	FOGO to composting incl collection	FOGO to composting incl collection	FOGO to composting incl collection
Kerbside recycling solution	BAU commingled	BAU commingled	BAU commingled	commingled kerbside (new or additional services)	commingled kerbside (new or additional services)	commingled kerbside (new or additional services)	commingled kerbside (new or additional services)	commingled kerbside (new or additional services)	commingled kerbside (new or additional services)
Residual waste solution	Landfill	Landfill	Landfill	Landfill	Landfill	Landfill + EMW/AWT/PEF/RDF (regional)	Landfill + send residual waste of out region	Landfill + EMW/AWT/PEF/RDF (regional)	Landfill + send residual waste out of region
Feedstock location	In region	FOGO sourced from in or out of region	FOGO sourced from in or out of region	FOGO sourced from in or out of region	FOGO sourced from in or out of region	FOGO sourced from in or out of region	FOGO sourced from in or out of region	FOGO sourced from in or out of region	FOGO sourced from in or out of region
Processing capacity	Out of region	Out of region	Out of region	Out of region	Beneficiation locally e.g. glass, agricultural plastics, tyres, solar panels etc.	Out of region	Out of region	Beneficiation locally e.g. glass, agricultural plastics, tyres, solar panels etc.	Beneficiation locally e.g. glass, agricultural plastics, tyres, solar panels etc.

Figure 1: Options packages

The three packages that scored the highest (illustrated above) were assessed in the economic appraisal and are:

- Package 2 - Low intervention
- Package 5 - Medium intervention C
- Package 6a – High intervention A
- Package 7a - High intervention B.

It is important to note that each Council is different in geographic area, population, resource recovery capability and local economic drivers. The proposed packages are regional solutions, however, are not 'one size fits all'. In addition to the proposed regional solutions, Councils can:

- Maintain existing service and other non-red bin activities such as self-haul etc.
- Opt-in (or -out) of proposed solutions for certain waste streams if it is not commercially feasible/viable, in favour of a more local solution
- Collaborate as a region on problem solving (e.g., disaster waste, problem wastes)
- Deliver regional education campaigns to improve community understanding and behaviour
- Provide feedstock to regional facilities, such as the regional MRF
- Collaborate for transport solutions or hub and spoke style models
- Participate in regional solutions in the future once sufficient capacity/demand is achieved locally
- Investigate opportunities to work with industry to facilitate or support non-council managed waste for example, tyres, plastic and glass.

The analysis is predicated on a number of assumptions, including:

- For each package, it is assumed that the waste infrastructure (e.g., FOGO processing and beneficiation facilities) is located at an appropriate location in the Bundaberg LGA (to be determined in the future) near the MRF, to estimate required transport costs. It is assumed that some waste will be transported outside of the WBB region to an EfW facility in South East Queensland (SEQ).
- The package descriptions below are incremental to 'business as usual' waste management and resource recovery practices.

3.3.1 Package 2 – low intervention B

As a low intervention option, Package 2 involves the introduction of kerbside FOGO collection, transported to a processing facility for composting. All other waste streams are managed as per the base case. It is noted that South Burnett Regional Council commenced a kerbside recycling collection in early 2023 which is captured as an expansion in the waste forecasting model and included under Package 2. The package and its components are outlined in Table 4.

Table 4: Package 2 implementation (commencing operations)

	Bundaberg	Cherbourg	Fraser Coast	Gympie	North Burnett	South Burnett
Kerbside FOGO collection	2027	-	2027	-	-	-
FOGO education	2026	-	2026	-	-	-
Kerbside recycling collection (expansion)	-	-	-	-	-	2023

3.3.2 Package 5 – medium intervention C

As a medium intervention option, Package 5 incorporates the Package 2 FOGO solution, an improved recycling collection, as well as local beneficiation of collected recyclables (plastic and glass) while paper and cardboards are sent out of region for beneficiation. The package and its components are outlined in Table 5.

Table 5: Package 5 implementation (commencing operations)

	Bundaberg	Cherbourg	Fraser Coast	Gympie	North Burnett	South Burnett
Kerbside FOGO collection	2027	-	2027	-	-	-
FOGO education	2026	-	2026	-	-	-
Kerbside recycling collection (expansion)	-	-	-	-	-	2023
Recycling education	2025	2025	2025	2025	2025	2025
Glass beneficiation	2025	2025	2025	2025	2025	2025
Plastics beneficiation	2028	2028	2028	2028	2028	2028

3.3.3 Package 6a – high intervention A

As a high intervention option, Package 6a incorporates the Package 2 FOGO solution, an improved recycling collection (i.e., expanding service offering with the exception of North Burnett Regional Council), as well as recycling education, however, does not include local beneficiation. It also incorporates transporting a portion of residual waste outside of the region to an EFW facility assumed to be in SEQ. The package and its components are outlined in Table 6.

Table 6: Package 6a implementation (commencing operations)

	Bundaberg	Cherbourg	Fraser Coast	Gympie	North Burnett	South Burnett
Kerbside FOGO collection	2027	-	2027	-	-	-
FOGO education	2026	-	2026	-	-	-
Kerbside recycling collection (expansion)	2026	2026	2026	2026	-	2023

	Bundaberg	Cherbourg	Fraser Coast	Gympie	North Burnett	South Burnett
Recycling education	2025	2025	2025	2025	2025	2023
Residual waste solution	2036	-	2036	-	-	-

3.3.4 Package 7a – high intervention B

As the highest intervention option, this package provides a solution for all headline waste streams. It incorporates transporting residual waste outside of the region to an EfW facility in SEQ, in addition to the FOGO and kerbside recycling solutions and local beneficiation included in Package 5. The package and its components are outlined in Table 7.

Table 7: Package 7a implementation (commencing operations)

	Bundaberg	Cherbourg	Fraser Coast	Gympie	North Burnett	South Burnett
Kerbside FOGO collection	2027	-	2027	-	-	-
FOGO education	2026	-	2026	-	-	-
Kerbside recycling collection (expansion)	2026	2026	2026	2026		2023
Recycling education	2025	2025	2025	2025	2025	2023
Glass beneficiation	2025	2025	2025	2025	2025	2023
Plastics beneficiation	2028	2028	2028	2028	2028	2028
Residual waste solution	2036	-	2036	-	-	-

4 Costs

The costs of the packages that form part of the economic analysis include capital, lifecycle and operating costs of new infrastructure as well as education costs, transport and collection costs.

4.1 Capital expenditure

Owing to the preliminary nature of the analysis, assumptions have been made regarding the technology, scale and location of resource recovery facilities and requirements in WBB. Sensitivity testing will utilise different technologies to understand how this effects the economic analysis.

The estimated capital costs (CAPEX) for the facilities were provided by SLR, using industry benchmarks, information from Councils, and supplemented with desktop research. Detailed cost estimates were not undertaken for the analysis and the costs do not include land acquisition or site preparation. A description of key cost inclusions in the core scenario is presented in Table 8.

Table 8: Capital cost inclusions

Capital cost item	Description
FOGO facility	Organic waste (kerbside and self-hauled) will be collected from Councils across WBB and transported to a regional facility to be processed. Location: Bundaberg LGA Technology: Open windrow composting Scale: 60,000 tonnes per annum (tpa)
Transfer/bulking station infrastructure Dedicated household hazardous waste transfer facilities	New transfer stations/bulking stations/dedicated household hazardous waste transfer facilities may be required to sort waste in each Council area prior to be transported to the regional facilities. Allowance has been made for one station per Council (i.e., six stations). Location: All LGAs - exact location within LGA not specified. Technology: Surface infrastructure amendments to provide new pads, storage locations, access roads and other enabling infrastructure. Cost estimates for these sites may vary depending on existing infrastructure, scale, complexity (i.e., if developed on landfill or new site) as well as specific mobile or fixed plant required. Scale: 10,000 tpa at each station
Bin provision	New kerbside organics and recycling services will require provision of bins to households. Provision for collection vehicles has not been included as the procurement and operating model for these new services is unknown (i.e. it has been assumed these are incorporated as part of a contracted bin lift cost (detailed in the operating costs)). This also does not include re-lidding of bins in response to national harmonisation recommendations. Location: Councils introducing kerbside FOGO collection and/or expanding kerbside recycling collection Inclusions: 240L GO bin, FO kitchen caddy, 240L recycling bin
Beneficiation facilities	Local beneficiation facilities have been assumed to include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Glass processing • Plastics processing. For the purpose of this analysis, it is assumed that the local facilities are located in the Bundaberg LGA.

Capital cost item	Description
	Paper processing is assumed to be done in SEQ.
Lifecycle costs	Lifecycle costs represent the cost of owning and maintaining a facility. The lifecycle costs have been estimated at 2.5% of CAPEX annually.

A summary of the capital costs is presented in Table 9.

Table 9: Capital costs (\$2023, real, millions)

Component	Package 2	Package 5	Package 6a	Package 7a
FOGO facility	-	-	-	-
Transfer/bulking station	-	7.50	7.50	7.50
Hazardous waste transfer facility	-	1.20	1.20	1.20
Bin provision (for new services)	3.60	3.99	3.99	3.99
Glass beneficiation facility	-	5.70	-	5.70
Plastics beneficiation facility	-	10.00	-	10.00
Total CAPEX	3.60	29.59	13.89	29.59

4.2 Operational Expenditure

The estimated operating costs (OPEX) for the facilities were provided by SLR, using industry benchmarks, information from Councils, and supplemented with desktop research. Detailed operating cost estimates were not undertaken for the analysis. Table 10 presents the operating costs over the life of the project. As discussed in Section 3.3, all OPEX costs are incremental to BAU. Note that beneficiation facility capital and operating costs are included for the purposes of the economic assessment, however, it is assumed these may be delivered by the private sector and therefore, costs are not incorporated into the cost to Councils/households discussed in Section 6.3.

Table 10: Operating costs (\$2023, real, millions)

Component	Package 2	Package 5	Package 6a	Package 7a
FOGO*	296.66	296.66	296.66	296.66
Transfer/bulking station	-	1.61	2.50	2.50
MRF	-	47.96	48.07	48.07
Bin collection costs (new services)	94.71	110.51	110.51	110.51
FOGO education	19.37	19.37	19.37	19.37
Recycling education	-	30.49	30.49	30.49
Transport costs	35.61	40.94	65.07	63.66
EFW gate fee**	-	-	152.40	145.09

Component	Package 2	Package 5	Package 6a	Package 7a
Glass beneficiation facility	-	45.50	-	45.50
Plastics beneficiation facility	-	39.00	-	39.00
Total OPEX	446.35	632.05	725.07	800.85

*It is assumed that a third party will develop and operate the FOGO facility. The operating cost represents the \$110/tonne gate fee incurred by participating Councils to send collected FOGO waste for composting (open window).

** For Package 6a and 7a, residual waste is sent out of region to an EfW facility in SEQ. This cost represents the \$225/tonne gate fee incurred by participating Councils to send collected residual waste for processing. It is assumed 80% of residual waste from Bundaberg and Fraser Coast is sent to EfW.

Additional detail on the methodology for different components of OPEX is presented in the sections below.

4.2.1 Infrastructure costs

The proposed packages include the ongoing operation of resource recovery infrastructure in WBB. The inputs used to quantify the operating costs of these facilities are displayed in Table 11.

Table 11: Infrastructure operating cost input assumptions

Infrastructure	Input	Assumption
FOGO gate fee	\$110/tonne	SLR benchmarking
Transfer/bulking station	\$60/tonne 10,000tpa facility (each station)	Using annual waste projections for self-haul recyclables provided by Arcadis and extrapolated to 2053
MRF	\$170/tonne 10,000 - 25,000tpa facility	Using annual waste projections for recyclables provided by Arcadis and extrapolated to 2053 MRF operation costs only calculated based on new recycling volumes above BAU (resulting from education and expanded collection)
Beneficiation facilities	Glass: \$1.75 million p.a Paper: \$0.35 million p.a Plastic: \$1.5 million p.a	Using annual waste projections for recovered recyclable products and extrapolated to 2053 Provided by Arcadis
EfW gate fee	\$225/tonne	SLR benchmarking and input from LGAs

4.2.2 Bin collection costs

The proposed packages include the introduction or expansion of kerbside FOGO and/or recycling services. The inputs used to quantify costs are displayed in Table 12.

Table 12: Collection cost inputs

Component	Input	Assumption
Kerbside bin provision	FOGO service: Bundaberg and Fraser Coast	Based on defined options and waste flow data

Component	Input	Assumption
	Recycling service: Expansion of services for Bundaberg, Fraser Coast, and Gympie. Implementation of service in South Burnett	
Kerbside collection cost (\$/bin lift)	Major cities: \$1.67 Inner regional: \$1.95 Outer regional: \$2.72	Inner regional – All councils <i>Provided by Arcadis</i>
Households (new/additional)	FOGO service (weekly): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Bundaberg: 32,565 households Fraser Coast: 36,623 households Recycling service (fortnightly): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> South Burnett: 11,540 households 	Number of new household collection services to match current kerbside MSW collection coverage in each LGA. Number of new household collection services to match current service coverage of kerbside recycling collection.

4.2.3 Education costs

The proposed packages include provision for education regarding the introduction of organics and expanded recycling collections to households that do not already offer this service. The inputs used to quantify costs are displayed in Table 13.

Table 13: Education cost input assumptions

Component	Input	Assumption
Ongoing collection support – weekly collection (FOGO)	\$8.00/household All LGAs introducing a FOGO service	Cost per household to deliver education campaigns and initiatives for a change in kerbside collection and general education regarding source separation.
Ongoing collection support – including fortnightly collection (commingled recycling), food waste avoidance and other waste education needs.	\$8.00/household All LGAs	Cost per household to deliver education campaigns and initiatives for reduced contamination, food waste avoidance and general education regarding source separation on top of BAU (BAU assumed to be \$4/hh).

4.2.4 Transport costs

Transporting recovered materials to be reprocessed will result in an increase in transport costs, measured through increased kilometres travelled from LGAs to the regional processing facilities. The transport costs for the collection routes have not been calculated. Transport modelling was not undertaken for this analysis therefore transport costs were calculated using standard national methodology. A summary of the annual transport costs is displayed in Table 14.

Table 14: Annual transport costs (\$2023, real)

Component	Input	Assumption
Bulk transport cost by road	\$0.147/tonne/km	Source: SLR

Component	Input	Assumption
Kilometres travelled to Bundaberg FOGO facility	From Cherbourg Rubbish Tip, Cherbourg: 197km	Assumed start location is existing landfill in each LGA and location of regional facility is assumed to be proximate to Bundaberg Regional Landfill. Bundaberg assumed as a central point to inform this analysis, and the actual location will depend on a Detailed Business Case.
	From Maryborough Landfill, Fraser Coast: 95km	
	From Gympie Waste Management Facility, Gympie: 175km	
	From Kingaroy Waste Facility, North Burnett: 232km	
	From Kingaroy Waste Facility, South Burnett: 232km	
Kilometres travelled to Hervey Bay MRF (Fraser Coast)	From Gympie Waste Management Facility, Gympie: 89km	Assumed that Fraser Coast and Gympie LGAs transport waste to existing Hervey Bay MRF
Kilometres travelled to Cherbourg MRF	From Kingaroy Waste Facility, South Burnett: 55km	Assumed that Cherbourg and South Burnett LGAs transport waste to existing Cherbourg MRF
Kilometres travelled to Bundaberg MRF	-	Assumed that Bundaberg LGA transports waste to existing Bundaberg MRF
Kilometres travelled to SEQ EfW facility	From Bundaberg Regional Landfill, Bundaberg: 336km	Assumed start location is existing landfill in each LGA and regional facility is proximate to SEQ EfW facility
	From Maryborough Landfill, Fraser Coast: 255km	

4.3 Summary of costs

A summary of the costs over the life of the project for each option is displayed in Table 15. The costs of the project were calculated over the lifetime of the project with two distinct periods:

- Construction period
- Operational period.

CAPEX is calculated as only occurring in the construction period. OPEX, transport costs, education, and bin collection costs are calculated as only occurring in the operational period.

Table 15: Summary of costs (\$2023, millions, real)

Cost	Real	PV
Package 2		
CAPEX	-	-
Lifecycle costs	-	-
OPEX	316.03	105.13
Transport and bin costs	133.92	48.48
Total	449.95	153.61

Cost	Real	PV
Package 5		
CAPEX	24.40	19.96
Lifecycle costs	16.88	5.92
OPEX	482.62	161.38
Transport and bin costs	156.28	56.46
Total	680.18	243.71
Package 6a		
CAPEX	8.70	7.60
Lifecycle costs	6.53	2.52
OPEX	551.52	169.37
Transport and bin costs	179.57	61.04
Total	746.31	240.54
Package 7a		
CAPEX	24.40	19.96
Lifecycle costs	17.16	6.16
OPEX	628.71	195.10
Transport and bin costs	178.28	60.83
Total	848.54	282.04

5 Benefits

5.1 Overview of benefits

Table 16 provides an overview of the identified benefits and disbenefits in each category, and notes whether they can be monetised for inclusion in the CBA.

Table 16: Overview of benefits

Benefits/disbenefits	Description	Monetised
Benefits		
Reduction in waste to landfill	Value of airspace at landfill as a proxy for deferred investment in expanding landfill	Yes
Increased resource recovery and reuse	Value of beneficiated products (recyclables and FOGO)	Yes
Energy and environmental benefits	Value of carbon saved from redirecting residual waste to EfW (rather than remaining in landfill) Value of carbon saved from diversion of FOGO waste to composting (rather than remaining in landfill)	Yes
Avoided cost of levy	Reduced waste to landfill will reduce to ongoing cost of the residual waste levy for Council	No
Reduction in environmental impacts (leachate, landfill, fires etc)	Reduced volumes of waste in landfill owing to higher resource recovery	No
Reduction in illegal dumping	Reduction in illegal dumping as residents have more options for resource recovery and disposal	No
Improved waste management practices	Provision of waste management education and additional waste management solutions resulting in improved household and industry practices	No
Increased downstream industry capacity and resulting economic activity in WBB	Manufacturing and processing activity in the region owing to the increase in feedstock available for local beneficiation	No
Better informed community	Resulting from waste management education	No
Increase in local skilled jobs	Increase in jobs in WBB across multiple industries	No
Improved value for money of waste management (environmental, social, economic)	More sustainable waste management will lead to improved long-term outcomes for Council and the community through reduced fees and better environmental outcomes	No
Development of local circular economies for recovered materials	Access to beneficiated materials provides opportunity for development of local circular economies	No
Ability to meet State and Federal targets	Increased diversion rates and use of secondary raw materials with reduced volumes of waste to landfill	No
Disbenefits		
Negative environmental externalities	Increase in transport emissions as a result of a transporting waste	Yes

Benefits/disbenefits	Description	Monetised
Impact to rate payers	Increase in rates for householders due to costs associated with package implementation. This is not monetised as an economic benefit - however a high-level analysis has been undertaken in Section 6.3.	No

5.1.1 Monetisable benefits

Value of airspace at landfill

The implementation of the packages proposed in the Regional Waste Management Plan will incentivise community and industry to improve waste management practices by providing additional solutions for resource recovery through Council and industry led services.

Within each package, there will be an opportunity for the community to increase resource recovery by utilising new household collection services and for industry to reduce waste through the provision of new waste processing facilities. This will reduce the volume of waste deposited at landfill, increasing the available airspace and potentially prolonging the life of the asset. To reflect the value of the saved landfill airspace to the economy, the value of the airspace has been calculated.

Assumptions

The estimated benefit of the value of airspace at landfill relies on a number of industry level benchmarks and assumptions, including:

- Waste volume projections across each LGA have been forecast by Arcadis
- The introduction of FOGO education and composting capability in WBB will incentivise the community in all LGAs to separate waste at the household level, using a new bin collection service that will reduce volumes of organic household waste going to landfill. The analysis assumes capture of Food and Garden Organics in the same FOGO stream rather than individual streams.
- The introduction of an amended recycling collection service (to meet current service coverage of MSW kerbside waste collection) coupled with waste education in WBB will incentivise the community to improve waste separation behaviour at the household level that will reduce volumes of recyclable materials going to landfill
- Transporting waste outside of the WBB region to an EfW facility in SEQ will utilise volumes of residual waste that are unable to be recycled, reducing the volumes of waste going to landfill however, landfill will still be required for residual wastes.
- The value of the benefit can be represented through the value of the gate fees at each landfill. Landfill gate fees typically cover the costs of operation, overheads, mobile plant and equipment, labour depreciation costs of roads and building and other fixed assets and profit.⁹ It is assumed that the gate fees also account for future post-closure management, rehabilitation and long-term monitoring and replacement of the asset.

Table 17 lists the assumptions used to calculate the total landfill airspace benefit to Councils in WBB.

Table 17: Value of airspace benefit input assumptions

Input	Assumption	Source
Gate fees at landfill (\$2023)	Bundaberg: \$90.0	Gate fees based on WBBROC Waste to Energy Feasibility Study 2020.
	Cherbourg: \$90.0	
	Fraser Coast: \$90.0	Gate fee ranged from \$20-\$165, with a median value

⁹ MRA Consulting Group (2015). What is air worth? How to price a landfill. Accessed at <https://mraconsulting.com.au/what-is-air-worth-appropriately-pricing-landfills/>

Input	Assumption	Source
	Gympie: \$90.0 North Burnett: \$90.0 South Burnett: \$90.0	assumed for the assessment.
Waste volumes	Baseline current residual waste volume projections extrapolated to 2053 Forecast residual waste volume projections based on intervention package implemented	Arcadis: WBB WMP Options Model v2.1 Waste projections are based on QWDS data and Council validation and also consider projected population growth and capture rates of waste streams

Approach to monetise

Using these assumptions, the value of landfill airspace has been calculated for each relevant Package. The following equations were used to calculate the avoided cost at each landfill over the appraisal period:

$$\text{Baseline residual waste volumes} - \text{projected landfill volumes with intervention} - \text{waste volume diverted from landfill}$$

$$\text{Waste volume diverted from landfill} * \text{landfill gate fee} = \text{value of airspace saved}$$

The results of these calculations for each LGA were summed to calculate the total benefit under each package.

Value of recovered and reprocessed products

Increased collection services and waste education in WBB is expected to result in better waste management practices and subsequent volumes of sorted materials that can be reprocessed for use. The implementation of reprocessing facilities, such as composting or glass/plastic/paper beneficiation plants are able to turn diverted waste volumes into secondary raw products that have value. As such, this benefit represents the avoided cost of making each product from raw materials.

Assumptions

The estimated benefit of the value of reprocessed products relies on a number of industry level benchmarks and assumptions, including:

- The increase in kerbside collection of organic and recyclable materials, as well as improved education regarding resource recovery in WBB will incentivise the community to separate waste and provide enough feedstock for use as secondary raw materials
- Industry will be incentivised to invest in the region and establish reprocessing operations, most likely in a larger LGA such as Bundaberg, close to the location of sorted feedstock
- The value of the benefit can be represented through the value (sale price) of the product after it has been reprocessed
 - It is assumed that paper and cardboard products will be sent to SEQ for beneficiation. No costs or gate fees have been included in this CBA for paper and cardboard products, therefore, the benefit for this material is currently excluded

Input assumptions are presented in Table 18.

Table 18: Value of reprocessed product input assumptions

Input	Assumption	Source
Waste volumes	Forecast volume of materials diverted through improved kerbside collection Forecast residual waste projections based	Arcadis: WBB WMP Options Model v2.1 Waste projections are based on QWDS data and Council validation and also consider projected

Input	Assumption	Source
	on Package implemented	population growth and capture rates of waste streams
Product value	Compost: \$30/t Glass sand: \$72/t Plastic pellets: \$350/t	Compost: Industry benchmarking based on previous projects has indicated a compost sale price of \$30 - \$120, depending on the quality of the compost. \$30 has been used as an average and sensitivity testing will test different prices. Glass: Department of Environment and Energy 2019 ¹⁰ Plastic: Department of Agriculture 2019 ¹¹
Conversion factor	Compost: 0.5 Glass, plastic: 0.8 Used to determine the loss in material volume after waste has been processed	Industry benchmarking

Approach to monetise

Using these assumptions, the value of landfill airspace has been calculated for each relevant Package. The following equation was used to calculate the avoided cost at each landfill over the appraisal period:

$$\text{Projected waste volume for each stream} * \text{conversion factor} * \$/\text{tonne} = \text{value of product}$$

Environmental benefit

The diversion of residual waste (transported to SEQ EfW facility) and FOGO waste (to composting facility) from landfill generates a carbon saving benefit due to the reduction of greenhouse gases associated with these resource recovery practices.

Assumptions

The estimated benefit of the value of avoided carbon emissions relies on a number of industry level benchmarks and assumptions, including:

- The value of these benefits can be represented through the current price of an Australian Carbon Credit Unit (ACCU) given that the avoided carbon emissions could be sold as credits.

Table 19: Value of energy and environmental benefit input assumptions

Input	Assumption	Source
Waste volumes	Forecast residual waste projections based on the Package implemented, and extrapolated to 2053	Arcadis: WBB WMP Options Model v2.1
	Forecast FOGO diverted waste projects based on the Package implemented, and extrapolated to 2053	Waste projections are based on QWDS data and Council validation and also

¹⁰ Department of the Environment and Energy (2019). Assessment of Australian recycling infrastructure – Glass packaging. Accessed at <https://www.agriculture.gov.au/sites/default/files/documents/assessment-australian-recycling-infrastructure-glass-packaging.pdf>

¹¹ Department of Environment and Energy (2019). Recycling market situation: Summary review. Accessed at <https://www.dceew.gov.au/sites/default/files/documents/recycling-market-review-paper.pdf>

Input	Assumption	Source
		consider projected population growth and capture rates of waste streams
Value of CO ₂ -equivalent	FOGO landfill CO ₂ -e emissions factor: 1.85 FOGO compost CO ₂ -e emissions factors: CH ₄ : 0.021 N ₂ O: 0.025	Landfill emissions factor is the average of emissions factors for food waste and garden waste Australian Department of industry, Science, Energy and Resources: National Greenhouse Accounts Factors. 2021
Carbon savings EfW	Carbon savings per tonne if EfW replaces landfill = 600kg	The Role of Waste-to-Energy in the EU's long term greenhouse gas emissions reduction strategy ¹²
Price of carbon	ACCU = \$31.00/t of carbon	Clean Energy Regulator ¹³

Approach to monetise

Using these assumptions, the value of avoided carbon emissions has been calculated for each relevant benefit and Package. The following equations were used to calculate the value of carbon emissions saved over the appraisal period:

EfW facility:

$$\text{Volume of residual waste} * \text{savings factor} = \text{tonnes of waste removed}$$

$$\text{Tonnes of waste removed} * \text{price of carbon} = \text{total carbon savings from transition to EfW}$$

Compost facility:

$$(\text{Volume of diverted FOGO} * \text{landfill CO}_2\text{-e emissions factor}) - (\text{Volume of diverted FOGO} * \text{compost CO}_2\text{-e emissions factor}) = \text{CO}_2\text{-e saved from FOGO composting}$$

$$\text{CO}_2\text{-e saved from FOGO composting} * \text{price of carbon} = \text{total carbon savings from FOGO composting}$$

The cost of emissions associated with transporting waste to the composting and EfW facilities is captured in the environmental externality disbenefit, outlined in Section 5.1.2, and is therefore not factored into this benefit's monetisation.

5.1.2 Monetisable disbenefits

Environmental externalities

Changes to the pattern and distance of travel by freight vehicles results in reduced urban amenity and increased costs to the environment by increasing the total distance travelled for waste transportation. Table 20 displays the assumptions used to calculate the environmental disbenefit.

¹² The Role of Waste-to-Energy in the EU's long term greenhouse gas emissions reduction strategy. Accessed at https://www.vivis.de/wp-content/uploads/WMB/2018_wm_025-036_clerens

¹³ Australian carbon credit units (ACCUs). Accessed at [https://www.cleanenergyregulator.gov.au/Infohub/Markets/Pages/qcmr/september-quarter-2022/Australian-carbon-credit-units-\(ACCUs\).aspx](https://www.cleanenergyregulator.gov.au/Infohub/Markets/Pages/qcmr/september-quarter-2022/Australian-carbon-credit-units-(ACCUs).aspx)

Table 20: Environmental externalities input assumptions

Input	Assumption	Source	
Environmental impacts	Environmental impact (\$2021)	\$/1000 tkm	<i>Australian Transport Assessment and Planning Guidelines PV5, 2021</i> ¹⁴
	Air pollution	0.57	
	Climate change	3.53	
	Well-to-tank emissions	1.06	
	Noise	0.08	
	Soil and water	0.98	
	Nature and landscape	3.31	
	Urban effects	0	
	Biodiversity	2.86	
	Total	\$12.39/1000 tkm	
Waste volumes	Forecast volume of organics and recyclable materials diverted through improved kerbside collection and self-haul volumes	Arcadis: WBB WMP Options Model v2.1 Waste projections are based on QWDS data and Council validation and also consider projected population growth and capture rates of waste streams	
Kilometres travelled to Bundaberg FOGO facility	From Cherbourg Rubbish Tip, Cherbourg: 197km From Maryborough Landfill, Fraser Coast: 95km From Gympie Waste Management Facility, Gympie: 175km From Kingaroy Waste Facility, North Burnett: 232km From Kingaroy Waste Facility, South Burnett: 232km*	Assumed start location is existing landfill in each LGA and location of regional is proximate to Bundaberg Regional Landfill. Bundaberg assumed as a central point to inform this analysis, actual location will depend on a Detailed Business Case.	
Kilometres travelled to Bundaberg MRF	Assumed that Bundaberg LGA transport waste to existing Bundaberg MRF	Assumed that Bundaberg LGA transport waste to existing Bundaberg MRF	
Kilometres travelled to Hervey Bay MRF (Fraser Coast)	From Gympie Waste Management Facility, Gympie: 89km	Assumed that Fraser Coast and Gympie LGAs transport waste to existing Hervey Bay MRF	
Kilometres travelled to Cherbourg MRF	From Kingaroy Waste Facility, South Burnett: 55km	Assumed that Cherbourg and South Burnett LGAs transport waste to existing Cherbourg MRF	
Kilometres travelled to SEQ EfW facility	From Bundaberg Regional Landfill, Bundaberg: 336km From Maryborough Landfill, Fraser Coast: 255km	Assumed start location is existing landfill in each LGA and regional facility is proximate to SEQ EfW facility	

Approach to monetise

Using these assumptions, the value of transport emissions has been calculated for each package.

¹⁴ Australian Transport Assessment and Planning Guidelines (2021). PV5 Environmental parameter values. Accessed at <https://www.atap.gov.au/sites/default/files/documents/pv5-multi-modal-update.pdf>

The following equations were used to calculate the annual transport emissions over the appraisal period:

*Volumes of waste * kilometres traveled * \$tkm = environmental impact*

5.1.3 **Non-monetisable benefits**

New upstream and downstream economic activity attracted to the region

Development of new waste sorting and processing infrastructure in WBB will provide economic stimulus to the regions where infrastructure is developed, as well as Queensland more broadly. Increasing resource recovery services available in WBB will require increased inputs throughout the supply chain, which may encourage businesses to establish in WBB to be closer to the market.

New upstream and downstream industrial activity in WBB will increase the resilience of the region through increased diversity of services and will decrease reliance on suppliers based elsewhere. This will improve efficiency for business and industry within WBB, potentially reduce logistics costs and further stimulate job growth in WBB.

Increased Gross Regional Product (GRP)

The whole of the WBB is expected to benefit from improving waste management and the development of new waste industries due to increased GRP. GRP is a measurement of the total final value of goods produced in a region. WBB is a major contributor to the state and national economy, generating \$14.2 billion in GRP in 2021. The investment in resource recovery infrastructure and associated downstream industry activity is expected to support an increase in GRP, through stimulating the demand for resource recovery services and encouraging private investment in the region.

An increase in resource recovery services may provide better offerings for businesses and greater diversity in waste management options. This may increase the attractiveness of WBB to private investors, however, the impact on the cost of resource recovery may be a deterrent for some investors.

Increased jobs

Investment in resource recovery infrastructure across WBB is expected to create direct jobs as well as indirect jobs in upstream and downstream industries during construction and operations. Industries that will be positively impacted include:

- Waste management: there may be an increase in jobs across the waste industry in waste management and resource recovery services, compliance and enforcement, data analysis and monitoring, waste collection, infrastructure operations and maintenance across the public and private sector.
- Materials production/manufacturing: increased volumes of secondary raw materials may lead to an increase in demand for recycled materials and inputs in the supply chain from businesses that are seeking to increase sustainability of their operations. The input materials can be sourced locally from newly established and expanded businesses within WBB, requiring an increase in production and manufacturing jobs in the region to cater for the increased demand of such goods.
- Logistics: indirectly, the project will increase jobs in transport and logistics companies as waste services and transportation requirements are expanded across WBB.

Meeting Queensland resource recovery targets

Most LGAs within WBB have set targets to work towards a circular economy and reduce waste disposal in landfills. The WBB recovery rates are reported in the Queensland Waste and Resource Recovery Infrastructure Report as approximately 60% for MSW – outperforming the state average of 32%, 47% for C&I – in line with the state average of 47%, and 38% for C&D – below the state average of 51%. To reach and maintain State targets, upgrades to infrastructure, policy and initiatives are required at both an individual Council and regional level. Organics processing in the region is also limited to mulching at Council landfills. Currently, the region has two MRFs, one in Cherbourg and one in Bundaberg which may be insufficient to process all current and emerging waste streams efficiently and may require further refurbishing and upgrades in the medium term. Without a fundamental shift in policy or investment in infrastructure, State and Federal targets will not be met.

6 CBA results

This section consolidates the costs and benefits to present the headline BCR and economic NPV.

6.1 Summary of costs and benefits

Table 21 summarises the total discounted incremental costs and benefits for the Project, based on the estimation of project benefits and costs relative to the base case. Incremental costs are dominated by capital expenditures. The incremental benefits are dominated by the value of landfill airspace.

Table 21: CBA summary (\$2023, millions, discounted at 7%)

Expenditure item	Package 2	Package 5	Package 6a	Package 7a
Costs				
CAPEX	0.00	19.96	7.60	19.96
Lifecycle costs	0.00	5.92	2.52	6.16
OPEX	105.13	161.38	169.37	195.10
Transport and collection costs	48.48	56.46	61.04	60.83
Total costs	153.61	243.71	240.54	282.04
Benefits				
Value of airspace at landfill	17.73	26.60	43.36	44.21
Value of compost	-	14.81	14.81	14.81
Value of carbon savings (FOGO)	10.26	10.26	10.26	10.26
Value of beneficiated glass	-	4.59	-	4.59
Value of beneficiated plastics	-	10.19	-	10.19
Value of energy and carbon savings (EfW)	-	-	2.89	2.76
Environmental disbenefit	-0.16	-0.35	-0.74	-0.88
Total Benefits	27.83	66.11	70.59	85.93
NPV	-125.78	-177.60	-169.95	-196.11
BCR	0.18	0.27	0.29	0.30

Figure 2 displays the resulting residual waste from each package, compared to the residual waste under a business-as-usual scenario. The increasing waste volumes are a result of increasing population growth in the region.

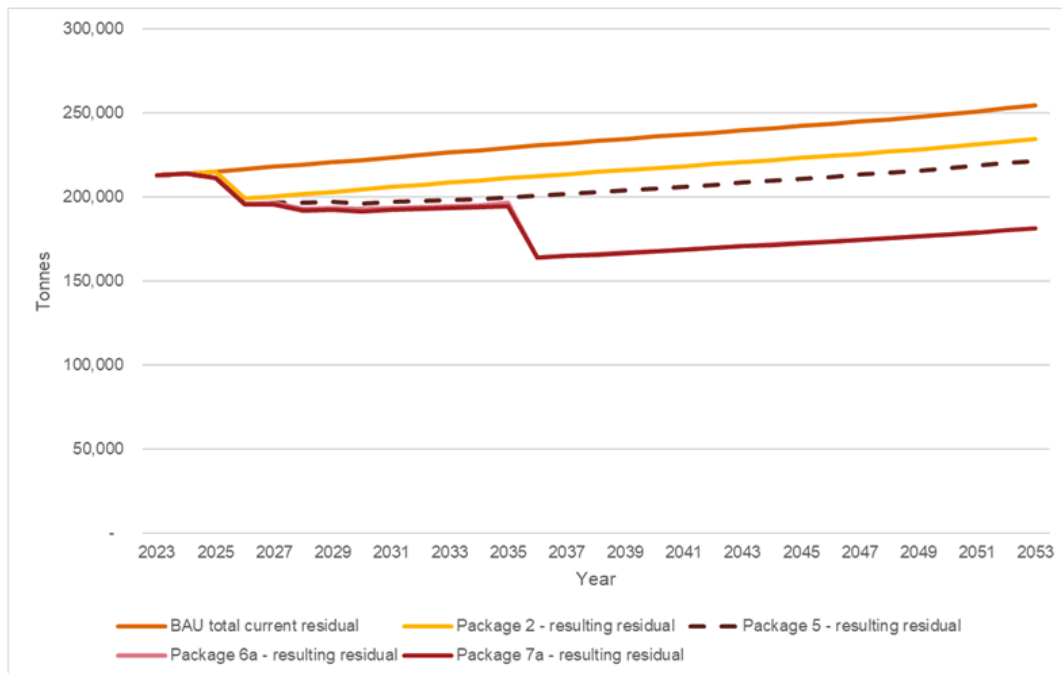


Figure 2: Residual waste from package implementation

The economic analysis results indicate that Package 5, Package 6a and Package 7a perform similarly based on the BCR metric. While Package 6a and 7a divert more waste from landfill, the benefits are outweighed by the greater costs associated with transporting residual waste out of region to the SEQ EFW facility. Package 5 has lower costs but diverts less waste from landfill given residual waste is not sent out of the region to the SEQ EFW facility. Package 2 has the lowest NPV and BCR owing to the costs associated with transport and collection and operating expenses, while the package experiences lower benefits due to no local beneficiation, compost value, or energy and carbon savings.

While the economic analysis reports negative NPVs and BCRs lower than one, this does not mean the project is not economically viable. The assessment has been undertaken from a regional perspective, assuming that Councils are involved in each component where viable. However, as discussed in Section 3.3, there is scope for Councils to 'opt in or out' of some components of the packages. This would reduce/increase capital costs, costs for transfer/bulking infrastructure, collection and transport costs, as well as operating costs where they are dependent on throughput, as well as influence overall waste diversion from landfill. It is recommended that further analysis is undertaken by Councils with detailed cost estimates of infrastructure as this is a key driver of economic viability.

6.1.1 No beneficiation scenario

It is likely the local beneficiation will be undertaken by the private sector and as such, a scenario assessment was undertaken to exclude the costs and benefits of local beneficiation, to understand the effect that this component has on the economic results.

Noting beneficiation is not included in Package 2 or Package 6a in the core scenario, the headline economic results excluding beneficiation are presented in Table 22.

Table 22: No beneficiation scenario results (\$2023, millions, \$PV)

Expenditure item	Package 2	Package 5	Package 6a	Package 7a
Total costs	153.61	200.31	240.54	238.65
Total benefits	27.83	66.11	70.59	85.93
NPV	-125.78	-134.21	-169.95	-152.72
BCR	0.18	0.33	0.29	0.36

6.2 Sensitivity analysis

This section presents a range of sensitivity and scenario analyses applied to the default economic analysis results. Several analyses have been undertaken to assess the responsiveness of the economic modelling results with respect to changes to key parameters and assumptions.

The analysis in this section is focused on specific alternative scenarios for key assumptions, reflecting different outcomes for Project performance or impact. Table 23 outlines the results from the sensitivity testing undertaken.

Table 23: Sensitivity analysis (\$2023, millions, discounted at 7%)

Sensitivity		Package 2	Package 5	Package 6a	Package 7a
Core	NPV	-125.78	-176.28	-168.56	-194.72
	BCR	0.18	0.27	0.30	0.31
4% discount rate	NPV	-190.66	-260.13	-261.22	-295.46
	BCR	0.18	0.28	0.30	0.32
10% discount rate	NPV	-87.64	-128.49	-117.46	-138.38
	BCR	0.18	0.26	0.29	0.29
20% increase in CAPEX	NPV	-125.78	-182.52	-171.70	-201.06
	BCR	0.18	0.27	0.29	0.30
20% decrease in CAPEX	NPV	-125.78	-172.69	-168.21	-191.17
	BCR	0.18	0.28	0.30	0.31
20% increase in OPEX	NPV	-127.15	-184.61	-177.03	-203.19
	BCR	0.18	0.26	0.29	0.30
20% decrease in OPEX	NPV	-124.41	-170.60	-162.87	-189.04
	BCR	0.18	0.28	0.30	0.31
20% increase in transport costs	NPV	-128.51	-180.79	-174.05	-200.17
	BCR	0.18	0.27	0.29	0.30
20% increase in bin collection costs	NPV	-126.33	-178.23	-170.57	-196.74
	BCR	0.18	0.27	0.29	0.30

Sensitivity		Package 2	Package 5	Package 6a	Package 7a
Compost sale price increased to \$120	NPV	-125.78	-133.18	-125.53	-151.69
	BCR	0.18	0.45	0.48	0.46

6.3 Effect on households

To understand the impacts on individual stakeholders such as Queensland Government, Local Government or the private sector, a detailed financial and commercial analysis should be undertaken. A financial and commercial assessment would assess the financial viability of the proposed options packages from the viewpoint of the owner of the infrastructure or initiative, such as Councils or the State. It would consider only those cashflows which directly impact the owner. An economic and financial assessment examine different measures of project viability, and neither should be considered in isolation.

For the purpose of this analysis, a high-level assessment of the effect that each package would have on households at a regional level (i.e., not individual Councils) was undertaken using:

- Estimated costs over the appraisal period excluding beneficiation costs (construction + 30 years of operation)
- The expected reduction in levy payment (for each LGA) due to a reduction in residual waste going to landfill based on the package implemented
 - This was calculated based on each LGAs resulting tonnes of residual waste post package implementation, times the annual levy
 - This analysis also took into account the reduction in annual payments from 1 July 2023, as per Table 23, noting that these payments continue to cover the full levy amount (100%) for all LGAs in North Queensland except Townsville over the appraisal period.

The number of serviced households within the coverage area - 108,330

Table 24: Annual payment percentage from 1 July 2023¹⁵

Financial Year	Bundaberg & Fraser Coast	All other LGAs
2022-23	105%	105%
2023-24	95%	100%
2024-25	85%	100%
2025-26	70%	100%
2026-27	60%	100%
2027-28	50%	100%
2028-29	40%	100%
2029-30	30%	100%

¹⁵ Queensland Government. Waste levy charges from 1 July 2022. <https://www.qld.gov.au/environment/management/waste/recovery/disposal-levy/about/from-1-july-2022>

Financial Year	Bundaberg & Fraser Coast	All other LGAs
2030-31	20%	100%

Table 25 presents the approximate costs to households in the region over the life of the analysis as well as an approximate annual cost. This cost to household is developed based on the discounted economic costs, with an annuity calculation based across the 30-year appraisal period.

Table 25: Cost to households (\$PV, 2023) (non-beneficiation scenario)

	Package 2	Package 5	Package 6a	Package 7a
Total costs over appraisal period (\$millions)	153.61	200.31	240.54	238.65
Total levy benefit over appraisal period (\$millions)	16.23	21.74	39.40	40.11
Annual cost per household (\$/hh)	62.05	80.92	97.17	96.41
Annual levy reduction per household (\$/hh)	6.56	8.78	15.92	16.20
Approximate net annual cost per household (\$/hh)	55.50	72.14	81.25	80.20

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Appendix D: Indicative Cost Plan

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Table D1 Indicative Cost Estimate (costs in millions, p50 accuracy)

Item	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029	2030	2031	Total to FY31
Regional Implementation									
Project Manager (RWG)	0.18	0.18	0.19	0.19	0.20	0.20	0.21	0.21	1.57
Administrative & Legal	0.10	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.10
Develop detailed implementation Plan	0.05	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.05
Review RWWP	-	-	-	-	0.10	-	-	-	0.10
Meetings (Council FTE requirement)	0.05	0.05	0.05	0.05	0.05	0.06	0.06	0.06	0.43
Council contribution to actions	0.05	0.05	0.05	0.05	0.05	0.06	0.06	0.06	0.43
Sub Total – Plan Implementation	0.43	0.28	0.29	0.30	0.41	0.31	0.32	0.33	2.67
Regional Education Strategy									
Education Strategy (and updates)	0.05		0.02		0.02		0.02	0.00	0.10
FOGO implementation, BRC/FCRC only	Captured within organic implementation costs below								-
Kerbside Education & Other	Captured within material recycling & recovery costs below								-
Sub-Total – Regional Education	0.05	0.00	0.02	0.00	0.02	0.00	0.02	0.00	0.10
Regional Organics Solution⁵⁵									
<i>FOGO Implementation, BRC only</i>									
Administration, business cases, PM	0.20	0.20	0.08	0.08	0.08	0.08	0.08	0.08	0.88
FOGO education costs (new service BRC)		0.26	0.27	0.27	0.28	0.29	0.29	0.30	1.97
One off investment (bins) (BRC)				2.74					2.74
Collection costs (new, BRC)				1.71	1.75	1.80	1.84	1.89	8.99
Processing Costs (new, BRC)				1.56	1.60	1.65	1.69	1.75	8.24
FOGO implementation, BRC only	0.20	0.46	0.34	6.35	3.71	3.81	3.91	4.02	22.80
<i>FOGO Implementation, FCRC only</i>									
Administration, business cases, PM	0.20	0.20	0.08	0.08	0.08	0.08	0.08	0.08	0.88
FOGO education costs (new service FCRC)		0.29	0.30	0.31	0.32	0.32	0.33	0.34	2.21
One off investment (bins) (FCRC)				3.08					3.08
Collection costs (new, FCRC)				1.92	1.97	2.02	2.07	2.12	10.11
Processing Costs (new, FCRC)				1.56	1.61	1.66	1.71	1.77	8.32
FOGO implementation, FCRC only	0.20	0.49	0.38	6.95	3.98	4.09	4.20	4.32	24.59
<i>Organics Programs</i>									
Community composting	0.10	0.10	0.10	0.10	0.10	0.10	0.10	0.10	0.80
Roll out of compost bin program		0.31						0.31	0.61
Material flow analysis - organics	0.01	0.02					0.02		0.05
Sub-Total – Organics Programs	0.11	0.43	0.10	0.10	0.10	0.10	0.12	0.41	1.46
TOTAL (Regional Organics Solution)	0.51	1.38	0.82	13.40	7.79	8.00	8.23	8.74	48.86
Material recovery & recycling solution									
Education Implementation (kerbside + other)	0.98	1.01	1.03	1.06	1.09	1.11	1.14	1.17	8.59

⁵⁵ Costs for new services presented here do not include benefits (e.g., reduced levy, reduced use of landfill airspace) however these savings are represented in the economic analysis. These costs represent actual costs for implementation. Benefits may not be realised at the same time.

Item	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029	2030	2031	Total to FY31
Education Plan (Cherbourg)		0.05	0.02	0.02	0.02	0.02	0.02	0.02	0.18
Small scale infrastructure improvements		1.25	1.25	1.25	1.25	1.25	1.25		7.50
Community circular economy programs	0.05	0.05	0.05	0.05	0.05	0.05	0.05	0.05	0.40
Household Hazardous Waste CRCs			0.20	0.20	0.20	0.20	0.20	0.20	1.20
Glass processing & washing plant		0.20	7.00	1.00	1.03	1.05	1.08	1.10	12.46
Supplementary funding for Waste Audits	0.08	0.08	0.08	0.09	0.09	0.09	0.09	0.10	0.70
TOTAL (MRR Solution)	1.11	2.64	9.64	3.67	3.72	3.78	3.83	2.64	31.03
Residual Waste									
Progress & implement R&D into problematic wastes	0.10	0.10	0.10	0.10	0.10	0.10	0.10	0.10	0.80
TOTAL (Residual Solution)	0.10	0.10	0.10	0.10	0.10	0.10	0.10	0.10	0.80
OVERALL TOTAL – IMPLEMENTATION COST FOR RWRRP TO FY30-31	2.20	4.41	10.86	17.46	12.03	12.19	12.50	11.81	83.46

All costs presented in Million \$ based at 2023 rates, BRC-Bundaberg Regional Council, CASC-Cherbourg Aboriginal Shire Council, FCRC-Fraser Coast Regional Council, GRC-Gympie Regional Council, NBRC-North Burnett Regional Council, SBRC-South Burnett Regional Council

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11 WORKS

11.1 WALKING NETWORK PLANNING REPORT

Doc Id: 1164260

Author: Allan Hull, Civil Works Manager

Authoriser: Anna Scott, General Manager Works

Attachments: 1. Walking Network Plans - Biggenden, Eidsvold, Gayndah, Monto and Mundubbera [1164269]

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Council has partnered with the Department of Transport and Main Roads (DTMR) to produce Walking Network Plans (WNP) and Priority Works Programs for five (5) towns:

1. Biggenden
2. Eidsvold
3. Gayndah
4. Monto
5. Mundubbera

The final study report (including the Plans and Programs) identifies potential footpath improvements in the urban areas of each town. The report is seeking Council's endorsement of the report inclusive of plans and programs. Subject to Council endorsement, the report will be made public and used by officers to inform development of future capital works programs and grant applications.

CORPORATE PLAN

OUR VISION: A prosperous future for generations built on a solid foundation of customer focused, efficient and effective service delivery.

OUR PRIORITY AREAS:

1. *Essential Service Delivery – Getting the basics right*

OFFICERS RECOMMENDATION

That Council endorse the report titled Walking Network Plans – Biggenden, Eidsvold, Gayndah, Monto and Mundubbera.

REPORT

Walking is an important mode of transport in each of the North Burnett townships, contributing to health and wellbeing, social interaction, tourism, and the local economy. Council recognises the importance of making walking an attractive transport and exercise option by providing a safe and comfortable pathway network for people of all ages and abilities.

Under the *Queensland Walking Strategy* and the *Action Plan for Walking 2022-2024*, the state government provided funding to local governments on a 50/50 basis to develop "Walking Network Plans". Council applied for this funding in 2022/23 and was successful in gaining approval for five towns.

1. Biggenden
2. Eidsvold
3. Gayndah
4. Monto
5. Mundubbera

At the same time, Council also applied for Mt Perry and is currently awaiting a response from DTMR regarding funding, potentially in 2023/24.

Council engaged Consulting Engineers Cormac Road Civil (CRC) to assist with the project which has followed DTMR guidelines, including holding community workshops in each of the towns. A final study report has been produced and has been reviewed by TMR. The work has been completed under-budget.

The final report includes, for each town:

- Maps showing walking destinations and routes.
- A detailed program of future works costed and given priorities of “essential”, “important” and “non-essential” as per DTMR guidelines.

The report will help ensure that Council’s future investment in pathways is directed towards meeting community expectations.

In total, over \$11m worth of potential footpath projects have been identified in the five (5) towns. It should be noted that Council’s historical allocation has been in the order \$200,000 per year to footpath construction and renewal. It is recognised that the identified plans and programs will not be able to be delivered, even over an extended period of time, with Council funds alone. It is expected that the project report (including the Plans and Priority Works Programs) will support Council in obtaining grant funding from higher levels of government for future pathway improvements in the Region.

It is proposed that the report be formally adopted by Council to assist officers with developing annual works programs in future, and to seek grant funding as opportunities arise.

It is also proposed that the report be made publicly available via Council’s website.

CONSULTATION

Stakeholder workshops were held in each of the towns in late November / early December 2022. The workshops were advertised via a media release and Council’s social media and were attended by a good cross-section of the community in each town as well as a number of Councillors. The final project report incorporates the input received from the workshop. Summaries of the workshop discussions are included in the report appendices.

RISK IMPLICATIONS

Reputation / Political

The planning study may create unrealistic expectations that identified potential footpath upgrades will occur in the near future. Messaging will need to be clear that the project has not come with any funding for construction and that works will be programmed as future Council budgets and other priorities permit. If historic rates of expenditure continue, the project has identified approximately sixty (60) years’ worth of work.

Occupational Health & Safety (WHS)

Not Applicable.

Financial Impact

As above, the project has some potential to result in pressure to accelerate funding for footpath improvements which is unlikely to be possible without external (grant) funding.

Legal & Regulatory

The project has identified some safety concerns (e.g. at road crossings). Although these have been given the highest priority for funding, it will take several years before all can be addressed. Council’s annual works program development will review and refine work priorities and ensure that safety issues are addressed as soon as funding permits.

Environmental

Not Applicable.

Property & Infrastructure

The project has identified a number of paths that are in poor or very poor condition. Many of these are given priority for renewal but the project has not specifically focussed on long term asset management aspects of Council's pathway network. Where existing paths are in poor condition and are not on nominated walking routes, renewal has not been recommended.

Human Resources

Not Applicable.

Information Communications Technology

Not Applicable.

Service Delivery

Footpath upgrades will continue to be delivered by Council's workforce where possible. Contractors will be used when necessary.

Climate

Not Applicable.

KEY MESSAGE

Subject to Council endorsement, a media release (requiring TMR approval) will be prepared to announce completion of the planning project and release of the final report via Council's website.

Media statement/s will include the following key messages:

- Council has partnered with the state government to produce plans that will guide future investment in footpaths in five towns.
- It is hoped that state funding will be provided for a similar study in Mt Perry in the near future.
- The project has included input from members of the local communities and has identified many potential improvements.
- Identified upgrades range from installing kerb ramps to constructing new footpaths, shade shelters and seating and at a total cost of more than \$11M (at today's prices). Council's ability to fund all the identified works is limited and it will be seeking funding support from higher levels of government at every opportunity.



North Burnett Regional Council Walking Network Plans

Biggenden
Eidsvold
Gayndah
Monto
Mundubbera



April 2023

Executive Summary

Walking is an important mode of transport in each of the North Burnett townships, contributing to health and wellbeing, social interaction, tourism and the local economy. North Burnett Regional Council recognises the importance of making walking an attractive transport and exercise option by providing a safe and comfortable pathway network for people of all ages and abilities.

To help ensure future investment in pathways is well directed, Council has partnered with the Department of Transport and Main Roads (DTMR) to produce Walking Network Plans (WNP) and Priority Works Programs for five towns in the North Burnett region:

- Biggenden
- Eidsvold
- Gayndah
- Monto
- Mundubbera.

Council is currently awaiting response from DTMR regarding funding approval for the Mt Perry WNP for 2023/24.

The Walking Network Plans and Priority Works Programs for each town are contained in the appendices of this overarching report. Each appendix comprises of:

- Map showing primary and secondary paths
- Prioritised and costed program of works
- Commentary on the maps and programs, including input received from the community workshops held in each town.

The body of this report describes how the plans were developed and gives a summary of the overall outcomes.

It is important to note that the programs of works will not be able to be delivered, even over an extended period of time, with Council funds alone. It is expected that this report and the detailed information contained in the appendices will assist Council in obtaining grant funding from higher levels of government for future pathway improvements in the North Burnett Region.



Burnett Riverwalk, Gayndah

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Glossary of Terms and Abbreviations

CBD	Central Business District
IPWEAQ	Institute of Public Works Engineers Australia – Queensland Division
MCA	Multi-criteria assessment
NBRC	North Burnett Regional Council
PCN	Principal Cycle Network
PCNP	Principal Cycle Network Plan
PWP	Priority Works Program
DTMR	Queensland Department of Transport and Main Roads
WNP	Walking Network Plan

Document Control

Version No.	Description of Revision	Author	Reviewer	Date
1.0	Final version for release - includes TMR comments and information	L O'Brien	L Marshall	11 May 2023

1. Introduction

1.1. Scope

The Queensland Government wants walking to become 'an easy choice for everyone, every day'. Every Queenslanders should have the opportunity to walk for transport, health and recreation. More people will walk when everyday destinations are connected by comfortable, direct, safe and accessible routes. To support this, the Queensland Government has developed the *Queensland Walking Strategy* and the *Action Plan for Walking 2022-2024*, as well as funding opportunities to assist local governments to plan urban footpath networks under a Walking Network Plan (WNP). A WNP can include improvements and upgrades to the existing footpath network such as the provision of improved signage, lighting, seating, shelter and drinking fountains, as well as the construction of new footpaths. The funding is provided by the Department of Transport and Main Roads (TMR) on a 50/50 contribution with successful Councils. In 2022/23, North Burnett Regional Council (NBRC) were successful in their funding application to develop WNPs to cover the urban areas in the towns of:

- Biggenden
- Eidsvold
- Gayndah
- Monto
- Mundubbera.

Council engaged consulting engineers Cormac Rd Civil Pty Ltd (CRC) to assist in preparing the WNPs and works programs.

While the project scope has not specifically included consideration of the needs of cyclists, the following is noted.

- Due to relatively small populations, pedestrian and cyclist numbers in the North Burnett towns are generally low compared to larger towns and cities.
- In Queensland, bicycles are permitted to ride on footpaths provided they keep left and give way to pedestrians. Footpaths in the North Burnett towns are particularly suitable for use by children on bicycles, subject to the provision of appropriate street crossing points.
- Many of the local town streets have very wide sealed road pavements and low vehicle traffic volumes. They are generally suitable for on-road use by confident cyclists. The state-controlled roads in each town may be exceptions to this as they carry much higher vehicle traffic volumes, including trucks. Planning for cycle facilities on these state-controlled roads is outside the scope of this project and is the responsibility of TMR.
- The Walking Network Plans and works programs in this report include a small number of existing shared paths for which future upgrades/extensions have been identified.
- In each of the North Burnett towns, TMR and Council have agreed on a set of core cycling routes, called the Principal Cycle Network (PCNP). Where the Walking Network Plan proposes pedestrian paths on the Principal Cycle Network there may be opportunities to fund shared pedestrian – cycle facilities via TMR’s Cycle Network Local Government Grants Program.

1.2. Context

The NBRC Walking Network Plans are shaped by a number of other plans, policies and legislation.

Source	Document	Context
North Burnett Regional Council	Planning Scheme	The provision of a network of pathways is identified in the Planning Scheme to support the development of strong and healthy communities. The Scheme defines the desired standard of service for pathways, referencing Australian Standards, Austroads <i>Guide to Road Design – Part 6A</i> and <i>Complete Streets</i> by IPWEAQ. The Scheme also identifies a limited number of trunk pathways. These are paths which may be improved using infrastructure charges from developers.

	Sport and Recreation Infrastructure and Strategic Plan 2018 - 2028	This plan notes the need to improve walking and cycling links between sporting and recreation assets, including those located on the Burnett River. It also notes the opportunities for rail trails in the Region. The Walking Network Plans aim to include links within the urban areas of each town.
	Asset Management Plan – Roads & Bridges	The asset management plan defines useful lives, service levels and performance standards for roads, bridges, kerbing, culverts and pathways. It identifies that paths have a useful life of 22 years and that Council should budget \$123,000 for depreciation of the existing pathway network each year. As the network is extended, this amount will increase.
State Government	Wide Bay Burnett Regional Plan 2022	This document is in draft form but updates the previous version. It is a high level document which recognises the importance of providing access to transport choices including walking, and for providing services which are in close proximity to encourage walking.
	Wide Bay Burnett Regional Transport Plan 2019	This plan includes a specific (high level) objective to reduce the reliance of private vehicles by supporting more trips by walking, cycling and public transport.
	Queensland Walking Strategy 2019 - 2029	This strategy promotes the benefits of walking and identifies four priorities: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Planning for walkable communities and places 2. Building connected, comfortable and safe walking environments for all 3. Encouraging more people to walk as part of their 'everyday' 4. Working together (between the different levels of government and private enterprise). The development of Walking Network Plans supports all four priorities.
	Action Plan for Walking 2022-2024	This plan provides activities that the state government will undertake to support the four priorities identified in the Queensland Walking Strategy. Under 'Working Together', the state government has identified an action to invest \$2.5M between 2021/22 and 2022/23, some of which has been allocated to local government grants for preparing Walking Network Plans and Priority Works Programs. The grant program provides a methodology that must be applied by local governments in performing this work.
Federal Government	2021 Australian Infrastructure Plan	This broad-reaching plan recognises the importance of active transport (walking and cycling) as part of an integrated transport network.
Legislation	Disability Discrimination Act 1992	This federal legislation requires public places (including pathways, parks etc) to be accessible to people with a disability. The Act does not require immediate changes to existing infrastructure but advocate groups in most areas have reasonable expectations of continuous improvement. New facilities should be accessible except in specific circumstances. The Queensland Anti-Discrimination Act (1991) is generally similar in scope.
	Transport Operations (Road Use Management – Road Rules) Regulation 2009	This state regulation includes the road rules pertaining to pedestrians, as well as the use of bicycles (and other mobility devices) on pathways. It is relevant in implementing regulatory signs among other things.



Monto RV Stop-over

2. Demographics

2.1. Age

Town populations and broad age distributions are tabulated below.

Town / State	Population	Median Age	% Population 14 years and under	% Population 65 years and older
Biggenden	657	59	11%	41%
Eidsvold	426	47	20%	27%
Gayndah	1,695	47	15%	27%
Monto	1,021	54	13%	34%
Mundubbera	1,066	38	14%	22%
Queensland	5,156,138	38	19%	17%

Source: ABS 2021 Census community profiles

In summary, population statistics show:

- With the exception of Mundubbera, the median ages of the populations in each town are significantly higher than the state average
- With the exception of Eidsvold, the proportions of school age children are lower than the state average
- The percentages of the population of each town aged 65 years and over are much higher than the state average, particularly in Biggenden.

A higher median age indicates a greater use of mobility aids and an increased need for resting places and shade. The social and health benefits of walking are important for older people.

Further, Australian and international research identifies that older pedestrians (over age 65) are at increased risk of injury and death from road crashes. Planners need to ensure that walking speeds of older people are considered in sight distance assessments.

2.2. Employment, Income and Vehicle Ownership

Employment statistics show similar divergence in communities of the North Burnett to the state averages.

Town / State	% Unemployed	% Population not in Labour Force	% Labour Force Participation	Median Household Income (Weekly)	% Households with no Motor Vehicles
Biggenden	10.8%	53%	27.2%	\$703	2.89%
Eidsvold	14.2%	35%	42.9%	\$772	5.63%
Gayndah	6.0%	32%	48.5%	\$988	2.30%
Monto	8.5%	40%	44.9%	\$829	2.74%
Mundubbera	2.0%	24%	58.3%	\$1,218	3.56%
Queensland	5.4%	26%	61.6%	\$1,675	2.06%

Source: ABS 2021 Census community profiles

In summary, employment statistics show:

- The unemployment rate is significantly higher in Biggenden, Eidsvold and Monto than the state average
- Mundubbera has a much lower unemployment rate compared to the other towns in the region and the state average
- Participation in the workforce is significantly lower than the state average in all towns except Mundubbera
- Median household incomes in all towns are much lower than the state average
- In Eidsvold and Mundubbera, the percentage of households with no vehicles is much higher than the state average.

Together with a lack of public transport, the income and vehicle ownership statistics point to a higher reliance on walking and cycling for transport.

2.3. Health and Disability

Selected health statistics are tabulated below.

Town / State	% Population with long term health conditions	% Population with Need for Assistance
Biggenden	61%	12.9%
Eidsvold	55%	6.8%
Gayndah	54%	10.0%
Monto	55%	12.7%
Mundubbera	46%	6.9%
Queensland	58%	6.0%

Source: ABS 2021 Census community profiles

People with a ‘need for assistance’ are those needing assistance in their day to day lives in one or more of the three core activity areas or self-care, mobility and communication because of a long term condition, a disability or old age. The ABS data shows that Biggenden, Gayndah and Monto have a much higher proportion of people needing assistance than the state average.

Walking has many health benefits. A number of long term health conditions can be reduced in severity or managed with regular walking.

2.4. Implications for the Walking Network

Lower incomes, higher unemployment rates and lower rates of vehicle ownership indicate the importance of walking as a means of transport. Investment in walking infrastructure will return high social, health and economic benefits.

Planning, design and construction need to support and encourage older people and people with disabilities and long term health conditions to walk more often.



3. Existing walking networks

Characteristics and key features of the existing networks in each town are given below. Quantitative information about the lengths and conditions of the existing path networks can be found in Council's Asset Management Plan.

Town	Existing Footpath Network Summary
Biggenden	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Town centre of Biggenden includes attractive gardens (Beiers Park) and pathways on Edward St and Victoria St. • The town has a relatively well-developed footpath network and the majority of existing concrete paths are in fair to good condition. • Urban pathway finishes in Edward St are worn in places. Pedestrian crossing points in the CBD could be improved. • Council has previously investigated streetscaping improvements for the Biggenden CBD. • The disused rail line divides the town. Pedestrian connectivity over rail corridor could be improved. • There are several missing/poor connections to key walking destinations (e.g., kindergarten, bowls club, intercity bus stop). • There are many missing or sub-standard kerb ramps.
Eidsvold	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Boundary Creek pathway offers an attractive off-road/nature walk and cycling path. Generally good paths on Moreton St in CBD, including Apex Lions Park. • The majority of existing concrete paths are in fair to good condition. • There are no formal walking or cycling connections to the RM Williams Australian Bush Learning Centre, showground and RV parking, or to the Golf Course and Mens Shed. The pedestrian bridge to golf course is also in poor condition and, based on community input, is well used. • Connections to skate park, showground and RM Williams Centre could be improved, including the pedestrian bridge which is in poor condition. Note that TMR has committed funding and has plans prepared for a new shared path between Esplanade St and the RM Williams Centre. • Connections to the state school require improvement. • There are many missing or sub-standard kerb ramps.
Gayndah	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Burnett Riverwalk is an attractive facility with opportunities for extensions in both directions. • The path network is relatively less complete in Gayndah than in the other towns but the majority of existing paths are in fair to good condition. • Paths in the CBD (Capper St) are aged and crossing points could be improved. Overall streetscape improvements could also be considered in the Gayndah CBD. • Connections to parks, Gayndah state school and other key destinations could be improved. • There are many missing or sub-standard kerb ramps.
Monto	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The pathways in the main street (Newton St) are wide and attractive, although broken concrete at the top of kerbing in places needs repair. • The pathway and gardens on Lister St are also a feature. • There are opportunities to improve connections to some key destinations including Rotary Park and the water tower art, Neighbourhood Centre, sporting fields, the state school and the Monto Health Service. • The disused rail corridor divides the town. The existing footpath on the overbridge is in poor condition. • The majority of paths are in fair to good condition. • There are many missing or substandard kerb ramps.
Mundubbera	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • C

Further details about the existing networks are included in Appendices A – E.

Crash records have been reviewed to identify pedestrian crashes in the past 20 years.

Town	Crash date	Location	Conditions	Crash Description	Severity
Biggenden	No reported pedestrian crashes in the past 20 years				
Eidsvold	2007	Burnett Hwy (180m north of Golden Spur St)	Dark, clear, dry	Pedestrian: play / work / stand / lie on road	Hospitalisation
Gayndah	2008	Burnett Hwy	Daylight, clear, dry	Pedestrian: near side vehicle hit from right	Hospitalisation
	2009	Burnett Hwy (Capper St at Pineapple St intersection)	Daylight, clear, dry	Pedestrian: far side vehicle hit from left	Medical treatment
	2011	Walker St (between Bridge St and Elliot St)	Dark, clear, dry	Pedestrian: play / work / stand / lie on road	Medical treatment
	2015	Burnett Hwy (Capper St between Pineapple St and Warton St)	Dawn/dusk, clear, dry	Pedestrian: near side vehicle hit from right	Hospitalisation
	2021	Warton St (between Porter St and Maud St)	Dark, clear, dry	Pedestrian: near side vehicle hit from right	Hospitalisation
Monto	No reported pedestrian crashes in the past 20 years				
Mundubbera	2002	Strathdee St (between Phillip St and Wilson Ave)	Daylight, clear, dry	Pedestrian: near side vehicle hit from right	Hospitalisation
	2006	Lyons St (near Mundubbera Hotel)	Daylight, clear, dry	Pedestrian: far side vehicle hit from left	
	2007	Lyons St (near Mundubbera Hotel)	Daylight, clear, dry	Pedestrian: hit other	
	2010	Strathdee St (between Phillip St and Wilson Ave)	Dark, wet	Pedestrian: hit facing traffic	Minor injury

Every crash is important. The crash data is not atypical of small regional towns. The dataset contains information on crashes reported to the police which resulted from the movement of at least one road vehicle on a road or road related area. Crashes involving personal mobility devices and pedestrians are under-reported which is a significant risk to understanding crash risks, locations and costs. The following is noted:

- Capper St in the Gayndah CBD carries approximately 2,300 vehicles per day with 16% heavy commercial vehicles. It is the most heavily trafficked road in any of the North Burnett towns. A 50km/hr speed limit is in place. The provision of safe pedestrian crossing points on this road is an important issue for the Walking Network Plan and works program.
- There have been no reported crashes on Lyons St in Mundubbera since 2007. The centre parking on Lyon St creates potential pedestrian safety issues that are difficult to address other than with traffic speed controls. At the current time, the 50km/hr default urban speed limit applies on Lyons St. Should there be further pedestrian crashes, or if pedestrian safety on Lyon St is identified as a concern by the local community, a reduced speed limit could be considered.
- Four of the ten reported crashes involve pedestrians being struck from the right (near side). This is the most common pedestrian crash type in Queensland and the most common pedestrian crash type causing death and serious injury. The provision of safe crossing points, including adequate visibility of oncoming traffic for pedestrians (and vice versa) is vital.



Newton St, Monto

4. Planning the Walking Networks

4.1. Vision and Objectives

The vision for the Walking Network Plans was discussed at the community workshops that were held in each town (see Section 4.4).

Vision: *To provide a network of accessible paths that is safe, connected and inviting for all users.*

The objectives of the Walking Network Plans relate directly to the *Queensland Walking Network Strategy*.

Objective:

To provide -

- Accessible and complete walking routes that include kerb ramps, road crossings, smooth and suitably wide paths, and aids to assist those with hearing and vision impairments
- Direct walking routes that include convenient short-cuts and road crossings in the places where people naturally want to walk
- Comfortable, attractive and inclusive walking routes that have shade and shelter, wayfinding signage, drinking water and places to stop and rest
- Safe and secure walking routes with surveillance from adjacent properties, lighting for night-time use and elimination of potential hiding places.



Jaycees Park, Capper St, Gayndah

4.2. Overview of method

The State Government has provided guidance for developing Walking Network Plans and priority works programs via the TMR website at <https://www.tmr.qld.gov.au/Travel-and-transport/Pedestrians-and-walking/Guidance-and-Resources/Walking-Network-Planning-Guidance>. This prescribes a six stage process:

- Stage 1 – Prepare draft walking network plan
- Stage 2 – Test the draft walking network plan
- Stage 3 – Finalise the walking network plan
- Stage 4 – Prepare draft works program
- Stage 5 – Finalise the works program
- Stage 6 – Implement, evaluate and promote the network plan and works program.

Further assistance is given in:

- *Walkability Improvement Tool – A Decision Making Guide for Neighbourhood Enhancements* (Queensland Treasury Planning Group, 2020)
- *Guidelines for development Principal Pedestrian Networks* (State of Victoria, 2015).

The TMR six stage process has been applied for the North Burnett project with the following amendments:

- Stage 1
Mesh block population and employment data has not been used to map residential populations or estimate numbers of walking trips as the geographic areas represented by the mesh blocks are too large to provide useful detail in regional townships. Instead, destinations and routes have been identified initially from desktop analysis and site inspections before being verified with stakeholders. For each of the towns, the 'walking catchment' has been defined as the whole of the town area.
- Stage 6
Implementation of the program is not part of the current project and will be carried out by Council in future years as funds permit.

4.3. Hierarchy of Paths and Destinations

Walking paths have been defined as either primary or secondary paths.

Primary paths:

- Are used most heavily on a daily basis
- Typically connect major residential, retail, educational and commercial areas
- Are accessible to workers, residents and visitors within 2 minutes of starting their walking trip
- Should be evenly spaced and (where they are parallel), not closer than 400m apart
- May be within road reserves or off-road where logical, to match desired lines
- May be of a higher standard (or have additional facilities) and are likely to be the higher priority for construction.

In each town, the centroid of the CBD has been identified as the primary walking destination. A large number of secondary destinations have been mapped, including schools, hospitals and community health centres, aged care and accommodation places, caravan parks, RV stop-overs, tourist attractions and so on.

4.4. Stakeholder Workshops

Draft Walking Network Plans were presented and discussed at stakeholder workshops in each town in late November/early December 2022. Members of the community were notified of the consultation sessions via Council's webpage and by letters/emails sent directly to known key stakeholders.

The workshop attendees provided invaluable input about:

- Additional destinations not identified in the desktop analyses, and destinations which are not required (eg. where a facility has recently closed down)

- Walking routes, including any differences to the routes, shown in the draft WNP's
- Gaps and other deficiencies in the existing network
- Future plans or projects that may require changes to the network
- Highest priority projects.

As well as identifying extensions to the network (i.e., new paths) and improvement to existing paths, the workshops considered associated facilities such as signage, seating, shade and so on.

Workshop participants represented a cross-section of the community in each town. The input provided has been included in the Plans and works programs.

4.5. Pathway Standards and Costs

In developing the lists of recommended works, a number of assumptions have been made.

Item	Assumption	Comment
Path width (standard pedestrian path)	1.5 metres	Exceptions have been made in CBD areas where paved paths are generally 4.0m wide or the full width of the verge.
Shared path width	2.5 - 3.0 metres	Only applied on specific shared paths such as the Burnett Riverwalk in Gayndah and the future upgrading of the Boundary Creek path in Eidsvold.
Path type	Concrete	Reinforced concrete is the preferred construction material as it gives the longest life and lowest annual maintenance cost. However, Council may choose to adopt alternative materials (such as asphalt) due to specific site or other conditions.
Path cost	\$120/m ²	This is taken as a typical and complete construction cost for new concrete paths and renewal of existing paths. Actual costs may vary due to terrain, numbers of driveway crossings etc and should be assessed on an individual project basis when projects are further developed for construction programs.
Kerb ramp cost	\$5,000 each	This is applied as a typical construction cost for a kerb/pram ramp. Additional costs have been applied where it is obvious that extra work is required. Again, estimated costs should be re-assessed as projects are moved on to construction programs in future.

Costs for miscellaneous and unique items such as wayfinding signage, seating, lighting etc are concept level only and based on experience with similar works in other local government areas.

In general, the following applies to all cost estimates shown in the prioritised works program:

- Costs are based on 2022/23 prices, with no provision for cost escalation in future years
- Costs assume average terrain, ground conditions etc
- As projects are considered for funding based on future capital works programs, an engineering assessment is required to determine the level of survey and design required and cost estimates should be updated to provide an accurate and project specific costing.

4.6. Multi-Criteria Assessment

The TMR guidance material recommends that pathway projects are placed into three categories: essential, important, non-essential. To do this, a multi-criteria method has been developed and applied. In large part, the method uses the same criteria and scoring parameters as the TMR *Guidelines – Walking Local Government Grants 2022-23 Round*. Three additional criteria have been included to provide greater local relevance: path priority (i.e., primary or secondary), community support (based on the stakeholder workshops) and cost (to increase priority for very low cost projects).

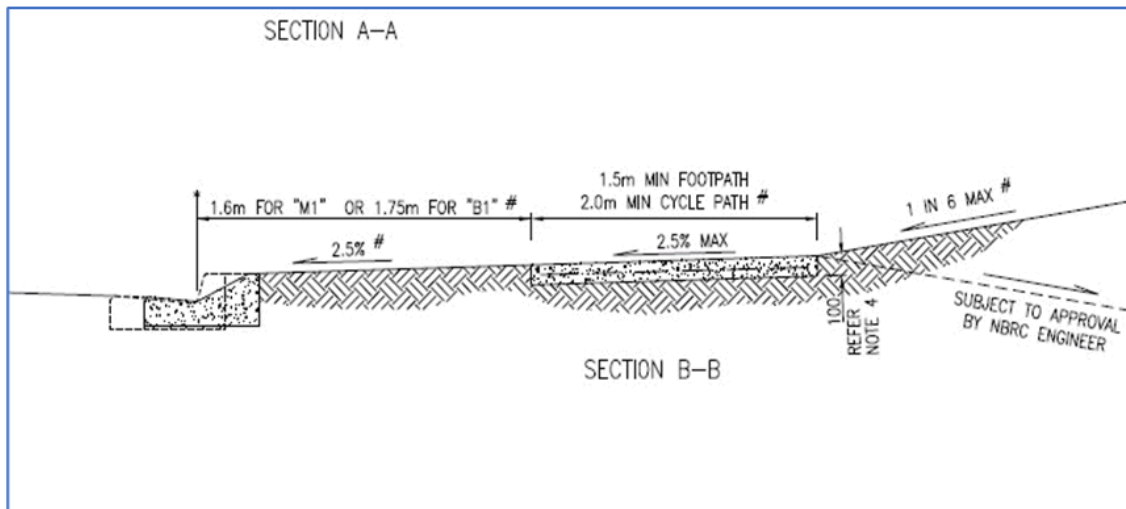
Criteria	Measure	Scoring Parameters	
		Score	Description
Path priority	Give increased priority to projects on primary paths	3	Primary path
Places to Walk	Is there a variety/diversity of secondary destinations/trip attractors within the 1-2km catchment of the primary destination? Trip attractors include: - schools (existing, new or upgraded primary and secondary schools and colleges) - public transport stations and stops town centres/activity centres and local neighbourhood shops (count these attractors as one attractor rather than every shop or business within the centre) - medium/high density neighbourhoods – current or DA approved (count as one attractor) - hospital/medical centre attractors - higher education campuses - industrial activity centres (count as one attractor rather than every business within the area) - sport or recreation facilities - cultural and entertainment facilities - tourist destinations.	4	10 or more trip attractors within identified precinct
		3	4 to 9 trip attractors within the identified precinct
		2	1 to 3 trip attractors within the identified precinct
		0	No destinations to walk to
Demand by Vulnerable Users	Is the precinct accessed by a high number of vulnerable users including people who: - are aged 65 years and over - are aged under 18 years - experience socio-economic disadvantage - are Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander (ATSI) - require assistance due to level of ability (based on core activity need for assistance). Data source: Social Atlas (https://atlas.id.com.au/) or https://www.abs.gov.au/census In the case of difficulty obtaining this information at your precinct level, use the next available geographic scale at which this information is available.	4	Precinct has a high number of people in four or more of the identified vulnerable user groups
		3	Precinct has a high number of people in three of the identified vulnerable user groups
		2	Precinct has a high number of people in two of the identified vulnerable user groups
		1	Precinct has a high number of people in one of the identified vulnerable user groups
		0	Precinct does not have a high number of people in any of the identified vulnerable groups
Safety	1) Is there a history of crashes involving pedestrians (minor injury and greater) in the precinct within the last (latest available) five (full) years of available crash data? (score of 2 if more than 10 identified crashes and score of 1 if between 9 to 1 identified crashes) Data source: TMR WebCrash 2) Has the community raised concerns about hazardous locations in the precinct in the last five years? (score of 2)	4	Cumulative score, with a maximum score of 4 if yes to all questions and the precinct has more than 10 identified crashes
		3	
		2	
		1	
		0	
Whole of Government Priority	Would the project assist to deliver any broader Queensland Government priorities or initiatives (i.e., health, social housing, sport and recreation or Priority Development Areas)? Do you intend to coordinate with your Department of Transport and Main Roads District to undertake network planning?	4	Delivers on more than two broader Queensland Government priorities and intends to work with TMR District
		3	Delivers on two broader Queensland Government priorities and intends to work with TMR District
		2	Delivers on one broader Queensland Government priority and intends to work with TMR District
		1	Does not deliver on broader Queensland Government priorities but intends to work with TMR District
		0	Does not deliver on broader Queensland Government priorities and shows no evidence of intention to work with TMR District
Cost Score	Give increased priority to low cost projects	4	if cost < \$10,000
		3	if cost is between \$10,000 and \$20,000
		2	if cost is between \$20,000 and \$30,000
Community Support	Give increased priority to projects most strongly supported by the community	4	If project was identified as a high priority by the stakeholder workshop

These criteria and scoring parameters are taken from the Guidelines - Walking Local Government Grants 2022-23 Round

Projects have been categorised as essential, important or non-essential based on their total score from the MCA.

The MCA provides a first pass at defining priorities and should be used as a guide only, for Council’s consideration when future funding programs are being compiled. The method could easily be altered, for example by the application of different weightings to the criteria or the use of other criteria.

In particular, Council may wish to provide higher priority to pathway renewal projects ahead of extension of the network. This report is not intended to replace or duplicate Council’s Asset Management Plan for pathways - the Asset Management Plan should override this document in guiding Council’s renewal program.



Extract from NBRC Standard Drawing for footpaths and cycle paths

5. Summary of Walking Network Plans and Programs

WNP maps and PWP are contained in appendices to this report:

- Appendix A - Biggenden
- Appendix B - Eidsvold
- Appendix C - Gayndah
- Appendix D - Monto and
- Appendix E - Mundubbera.

5.1. Overview of Works Identified

Work type	Example	Description
Construct new paths	 <p>Meson St, Gayndah</p>	<p>In each town there are important walking destinations which are not connected to the walking network and significant network extensions have been identified. In many cases, the demand for new paths can be seen from the level of wear on the existing verge. In other cases, pedestrians including school children and wheelchair users were observed on the road pavement.</p> <p>The construction of new paths will include kerb ramps and any other necessary connections to the existing network. Construction will occur in a logical order, extending from the existing path network based on the anticipated level of use and type of users.</p> <p>The WNPs have not aimed to include pathways on every street as this is not considered a sustainable long-term objective for Council.</p>
Renew existing paths	 <p>Path to Skate Park, Eidsvold</p>	<p>There are aged paths in poor to very poor condition in each of the towns. The majority of these are included for renewal in the Priority Works Program.</p>
Construct missing sections	 <p>Fielding St at Gayndah State School</p>	<p>In each town there are missing links to road crossings, across commercial driveways etc. Construction of short missing links are generally low cost works which will provide immediate and clear benefits for the community.</p>

Work type	Example	Description
Construct kerb ramps	 <p>Mount Rose St, Eidsvold</p>	<p>Paths without kerb ramps at intersections are difficult (if not impossible) to use safely by people pushing prams or using wheelchairs, walking frames or scooters and by people with impaired vision.</p> <p>There are numerous examples of missing kerb ramps in each of the towns. Generally, construction of ramps is a relatively low cost activity which will provide an immediate and clear improvement to the existing path network.</p> <p>In some cases, kerb ramps exist which do not comply with current standards. They may be too narrow or in the case of steel ramps, present a danger to pedestrians (particularly vision impaired) and parking vehicles. Replacement of sub-standard kerb ramps have been included on the program but given a lower priority.</p>
Upgrade accessible parking bays	 <p>Victoria St, Biggenden</p>	<p>There are some sites where kerbside accessible parking bays do not have the required kerb ramps or signage.</p>
Remove existing paths	 <p>Landy St, Mundubbera</p>	<p>Mundubbera has by far the most extensive footpath network and also the greatest length of paths in very poor condition, with some old paths barely visible under grass. Some of the existing paths are not considered necessary based on existing and future demand combined with Council's long term ability to fund renewal. These paths have not been included in the Walking Network Plan and are shown in the Priority Works Program for removal in due course.</p>
Install safe crossing points	 <p>Dalgangal St / Bridge St intersection</p>	<p>Safe road crossing points need to be installed at a number of locations. Where these are on state-controlled roads TMR requires compliance with its current best practice standards.</p>
Special projects	 <p>Biggenden streetscape plan</p>	<p>Several special projects have been identified through the stakeholder workshops. These have been captured on the Priority Works Program but have not been costed or assigned a priority. These projects are beyond Council's normal pathway construction and renewal activities and each would require considerable additional planning and/or design to determine their viability. (See Section 5.3).</p>

5.2. Summary of Priority Works Programs

The works identified are summarised below. This excludes “special projects” which are discussed in more detail in Section 5.3.

Town	Work Priority	Est. Value
Gayndah	Essential	\$ 243,900
	Important	\$ 2,989,300
	Non-Essential	\$ 2,546,100
	Total	\$ 5,779,300
Mundubbera	Essential	\$ 218,500
	Important	\$ 458,500
	Non-Essential	\$ 826,200
	Total	\$ 1,503,200
Monto	Essential	\$ 121,600
	Important	\$ 527,500
	Non-Essential	\$ 848,700
	Total	\$ 1,497,800
Eidsvold	Essential	\$ 187,400
	Important	\$ 455,800
	Non-Essential	\$ 916,300
	Total	\$ 1,559,500
Biggenden	Essential	\$ 167,100
	Important	\$ 247,900
	Non-Essential	\$ 504,000
	Total	\$ 919,000
Total	Essential	\$ 938,500
	Important	\$ 4,679,000
	Non-Essential	\$ 5,641,300
	Total	\$ 11,258,800

Council typically allocates \$200,000 per year to footpath renewal and construction. The Priority Works Program includes a substantial quantity of work which is well beyond Council’s ability to fund from its normal revenue sources. Funding grants from higher levels of government will be required to deliver the works. However, it is expected that the Walking Network Plans and works programs will strongly support Council’s future applications for grant funding for particular projects.

It is further noted that Council makes decisions each year about which projects will receive Council funding. This report is intended as a guide only. For many valid reasons, Council may choose to vary the priorities recommended in this report, or to carry out footpath works which are not included in the report.



Examples of paths in poor to very poor condition, impacting on use by wheelchairs, prams etc

5.3. Special Projects

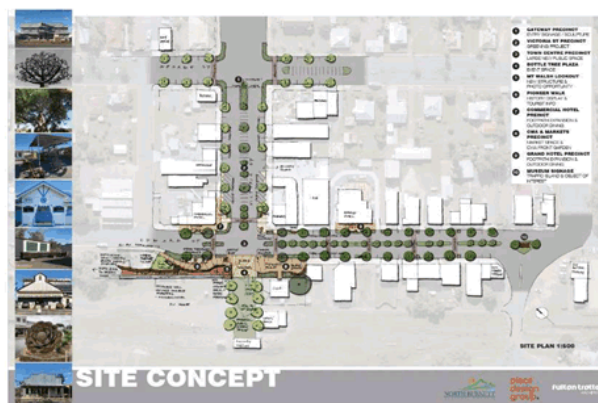
The stakeholder workshops identified several projects which would be outside Council’s normal footpath renewal and construction programs, requiring involvement from a range of Council departments and external bodies. To ensure these projects are captured for future consideration by Council, the special projects have been shown in the Priority Works Programs but are not costed or given a priority.

These special projects include:

- **Biggenden CBD Streetscape**
With the aid of consultant architects in 2020, Council carried out concept planning for streetscaping in the centre of Biggenden. Delivery of detailed design and construction of this project remains unfunded.
- **Gayndah CBD Streetscape**
It was noted during the Gayndah stakeholder workshop that the streetscape (i.e., footpath finishes, street furniture, street plantings etc) in the CBD are generally not of a standard expected in a modern town centre. Planning and design for streetscape improvements would guide the future renewal of footpaths and associated infrastructure and landscaping in this area.
- **Monto Nature Trail**
Some community members in Monto raised a potential nature walk that had previously been proposed by a past LandCare president. The path would approximately follow the waterway from the LandCare office, cross the rail corridor, run south of the high school, cross Airport Rd and Flinders St, then travel north of the Caravan Park to the old railway station.
- **Mundubbera**
Community members at the Mundubbera workshop requested consideration of a path on the Dimitrios Bridge which is on the Mundubbera – Durong Rd, crossing the Burnett River on the southern approach to town. The bridge and road are State-controlled assets and therefore are the responsibility of TMR. Given the likely cost of this path (more than \$10M) and the rural land use on the southern side of the bridge, this project may be difficult for Council and TMR to support in the short to medium term.

In addition, there is a major project planned by TMR:

- **Eidsvold**
TMR has funding committed to reconstruct and extend a 2.5m wide shared path parallel to the Burnett Highway between Esplanade St and the RM Williams Centre, connecting the skatepark and the showgrounds along the way. This work includes replacement of the aged pedestrian bridge over Boundary Creek. Design has been completed. Construction timing is yet to be confirmed.



Potential streetscape improvement in Biggenden will improve walkability

6. Implementation, Monitoring and Review

Action	Timeframe	Notes
Review project priorities and update costings	Annually as part of the development of the annual capital works program	The construction of new paths and improvements to existing paths needs to be balanced with renewal of existing paths that are in poor – very poor condition. Consider allocating funding to progress planning or design of the “special projects” that have been identified.
Monitor footpath usage and demand for new paths	Ongoing	This may be done through observation, feedback from members of the community and/or “Have Your Say” surveys.
Monitor opportunities for external funding	Ongoing	TMR provides 50/50 funding for pathway construction and improvement projects through its School Transport Infrastructure Program (STIP). All paths in the North Burnett towns support safe pedestrian and bicycle access to schools for school children. Other funding opportunities are likely to emerge from time to time.
Undertake periodic condition surveys to refine path renewal priorities	As per Council’s <i>Asset Management Plan - Roads & Bridges</i>	This may be carried out by Asset Management specialists, such as the Council staff and consultants utilised by Council in the past.
Formally update Walking Network Plans and Priority Works Programs	Nominally 10 years	The need to update the WNP’s and Priority Works Program will depend on the rate of progress of project delivery and changes in pedestrian demand.



Mundubbera Riverwalk

7. References

1. *Queensland Walking Strategy 2019- 2029*, Queensland Government, 2019
2. *Action Plan for Walking 2022-2023*, Queensland Government, 2021
3. *Walkability Improvement Tool – A Decision Making Guide for Neighbourhood Enhancements*, Queensland Treasury, 2020
4. *Guidelines for Developing Principal Pedestrian Networks*, Victorian Government, 2015
5. *Designing Streets for Kids*, Global Designing Cities Initiative, 2020
6. *NBRC Asset Management Plan – Roads and Bridges*, North Burnett Regional Council, 2019
7. *Principal Cycle Network Plan – Wide Bay Burnett*, Queensland Department of Transport and Main Roads, 2016
8. *Guide to Road Design – Part 6A: Pedestrians and Cyclists*, Austroads, 2021
9. *Queensland Manual of Uniform Traffic Control Devices, Part 9*, Department of Transport and Main Roads, November 2022
10. *Australian Standard AS1742.9-2018 Manual of Uniform Traffic Control Devices Part 9 – 2018*

8. Limitations

This report -

- Has been prepared for NBRC and TMR for the purpose of informing pathway planning and construction in the towns studied. It may not be used or relied upon by any other persons or for any other purposes.
- Has not included detailed design and costings of the recommended works. Designs and costings will require review and updating prior to applications for funding and/or commitment of funding for each project.
- Is based on opinions and assumptions made by CRC based on the information available at the time and the scope of services required by NBRC. From time to time, walking facilities may be required in other locations which have not been identified in this report.
- Should be reviewed and updated periodically by Council and TMR.
- Applies the MCA project prioritisation method based on the State Government's *Guideline – Walking Local Government Grants*, augmented with additional criteria. The project priorities given in the report are a guide for Council. Project priorities should be reviewed annually by Council in the development of its budgets and programs.

Appendix A – Biggenden

Biggenden Walking Network Plan and Priority Works Program

Overview

The Walking Network Plan (WNP) and Priority Works Program (PWP) for Biggenden should be read in conjunction with the overarching report which explains the methodology, assumptions and limitations applicable.

Stakeholder Workshop

A stakeholder workshop was held in Biggenden on 2 December 2022 and was attended by a number of community members representing various interests. It was also attended by Council staff with good knowledge of the local area.

The workshop reviewed a draft WNP prepared by consultants Cormac Rd Civil (CRC), providing valuable input. Major walking destinations were refined and are shown on the WNP. The workshop also identified multiple important projects which have been included in the PWP and given additional priority for construction.

High Priority Works

- Safe access to the kindergarten including a crossing point on Caroline St.
- Improve access to the hospital by updating the crossing points at Victoria and Alice Streets.
- Pathway/s to the Lions Park, Service Station and intercity bus stop.
- A path to the police station, bowls club, museum and future women’s shed at the southern end of Edward St.
- Improved connections over the railway line.
- Improved path connections to the Caravan Park.
- Path on Gloucester St in ‘new town’ (west of the railway corridor).
- Provide kerb ramps at accessible parking bays.
- Seating on Walsh St path.
- Construction/renewal of kerb ramps generally.
- Path renewal and widening (eg. Beiers Park path on Edward St).

Other Works

Other proposed works were also raised at the workshop and have been included in the program:

- Widening the path on the western side of Edward St.
- Additional paths in the residential area west of the railway.
- Connection to the Bluff View walking track.

Future Related Projects

Future projects or activities which are relevant to the pathway network include:

- Possible Women’s Shed (at southern end of Edward St).



The PWP includes a connection to the start of the Bluff View walking track



Connections to the rail overbridge path

- CWA Hall is having the front access ramp replaced. A project is included in the PWP to improve path connections to this building.
- Additional signage is proposed for the Pioneer Walk in Breier Park.
- A walking trail has previously been proposed by members of the community for Mt Woowoonga (around the golf course and hospital).

Existing Path Locations and Conditions

Existing path locations and conditions are shown on the map below. This information has been sourced from data provided by Shepherd Asset Management Services.

Walking Network Plan and Priority Works Program

The Biggenden WNP and detailed PWP are attached.

Summary of Priority Works for Biggenden

Town	Work Priority	Est. Value
Biggenden	Essential	\$ 167,100
	Important	\$ 247,900
	Non-Essential	\$ 504,000
	Total	\$ 919,000

Special Projects

Concept plans for streetscaping in the CBD have been prepared, however major works are currently unfunded. This future project is included in the PWP but is not given a cost estimate or construction priority.

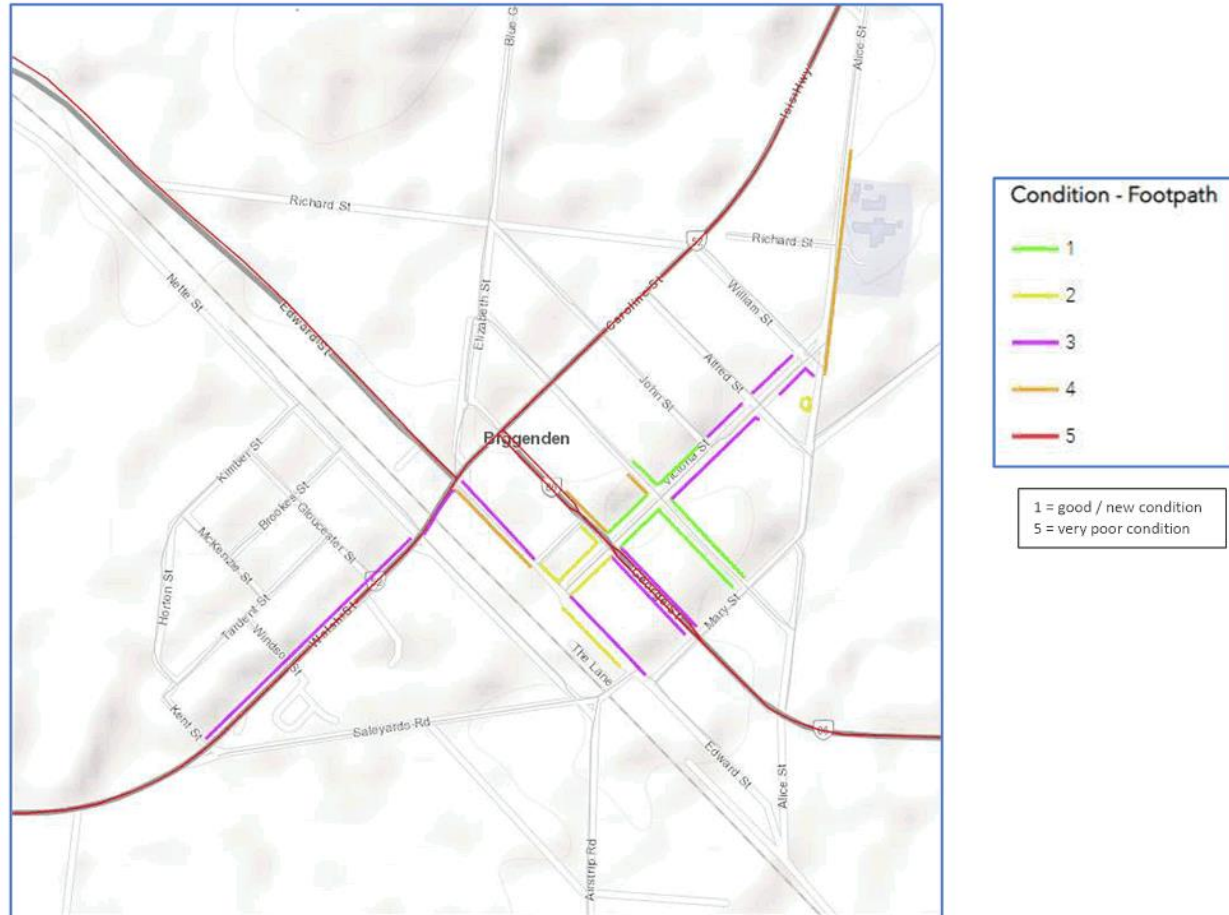


Showground and caravan park



Access to CWA hall and playground on Edward St

Existing Paths and Conditions in Biggenden



Priority Works Program - Biggenden

Ref	Town	Street	Side	Section	Recommendation	Length	Width	Quantity	Units	Unit Rate	Est Cost	Comments	MCA ranking
207	Biggenden	Airstrip Rd	Eastern	Saleyard Rd to Football and cricket grounds	Construct path	465	1.50	698	m2	\$ 120	\$ 83,700	Access to football and cricket grounds	Non-essential
208	Biggenden	Alfred St	Western	Caroline St to Victoria St	Construct path	270	1.50	405	m2	\$ 120	\$ 48,600	Access to Lions park, intercity bus stop and service station	Important
209	Biggenden	Alice St	Eastern	Victoria St to Hospital	Renew existing path	430	1.50	645	m2	\$ 120	\$ 77,400	Existing path in poor condition	Non-essential
210	Biggenden	Caroline St	Both	Edward St to George St	Construct crossing point for Kindergarten / Daycare Centre	NA	NA	1	ls	\$ 10,000	\$ 10,000	Consider pedestrian refuge island	Essential
211	Biggenden	Caroline St	Southern	Edward St to George St	Construct path	110	1.50	165	m2	\$ 120	\$ 19,800		Essential
212	Biggenden	Caroline St	Southern	George St to Frederick St	Construct path	110	1.50	165	m2	\$ 120	\$ 19,800		Essential
213	Biggenden	Caroline St	Southern	Frederick St to William St	Construct path	350	1.50	525	m2	\$ 120	\$ 63,000		Non-essential
214	Biggenden	Edward St	Both	Victoria St to Mary St	Construct kerb ramps at existing crossing points	NA	NA	1	ls	\$ 30,000	\$ 30,000	Three existing crossing points do not have kerb ramps	Important
215	Biggenden	Edward St	Eastern	Caroline St to Victoria St	Construct kerb ramp for accessible parking bay	NA	NA	1	ls	\$ 10,000	\$ 10,000	At Blue Care Community and Respite Centre	Essential
216	Biggenden	Edward St	Eastern	Augusta St intersection	Construct kerb ramps	NA	NA	1	ls	\$ 5,000	\$ 5,000	Replace existing steel grids	Essential
217	Biggenden	Edward St	Eastern	Victoria St intersection	Construct kerb ramps	NA	NA	1	ls	\$ 7,500	\$ 7,500	Replace existing steel grids	Essential
218	Biggenden	Edward St	Eastern	Mary St south	Construct path	140	1.50	210	m2	\$ 120	\$ 25,200	Construct path to connect to bowls club, historical society and police station	Essential
219	Biggenden	Edward St	Western	Caroline St to Augusta St	Renew existing path	260	1.50	390	m2	\$ 120	\$ 46,800	Existing path in poor condition and narrow. Reconstruct to rail overbridge. Include connections to existing shelters / seating in park	Important
220	Biggenden	Edward St	Western	Augusta St to Victoria St	Construct path to connect to playground, information kiosk and QCWA building	40	1.50	60	m2	\$ 200	\$ 12,000	Include kerb ramps to cross Edward St	Important
221	Biggenden	Frederick St	Eastern	Caroline St to Victoria St	Construct path	280	1.50	420	m2	\$ 120	\$ 50,400	Connection from Caroline St to school	Non-essential
222	Biggenden	Frederick St	Eastern	Mary St to Alice St	Construct path	110	1.50	165	m2	\$ 120	\$ 19,800		Important
223	Biggenden	George St	Western	Caroline St to Elizabeth St	Construct path from proposed crossing point to Kindergarten / Daycare Centre entrance	50	1.50	75	m2	\$ 120	\$ 9,000		Essential
224	Biggenden	George St	Eastern	Victoria St to Caroline St	Construct path	170	1.50	255	m2	\$ 120	\$ 30,600		Non-essential

Ref	Town	Street	Side	Section	Recommendation	Length	Width	Quantity	Units	Unit Rate	Est Cost	Comments	MCA ranking
225	Biggenden	George St	Western	Augusta St intersection	Construct kerb ramps	NA	NA	1	Is	\$ 5,000	\$ 5,000	Construct kerb ramp on northern side of intersection	Important
226	Biggenden	George St	Western	Caroline St to Augusta	Renew existing path	15	1.50	23	m2	\$ 120	\$ 2,700	Existing path in poor condition	Important
227	Biggenden	George St	Eastern	Caroline St to Victoria St	Renew existing path	50	1.50	75	m2	\$ 120	\$ 9,000	Sections of existing path in poor condition	Important
228	Biggenden	Gloucester St	Eastern	Walsh St to Kimber St	Construct path	325	1.50	488	m2	\$ 120	\$ 58,500		Non-essential
229	Biggenden	Saleyards Rd	Northern	Edward St to Walsh St	Construct path	780	1.50	1,170	m2	\$ 120	\$ 140,400	Connects showgrounds and caravan park to CBD	Non-essential
230	Biggenden	Victoria St	Both	George St intersection	Construct kerb ramps at intersection	NA	NA	1	Is	\$ 20,000	\$ 20,000	Construct compliant kerb ramps at all corners of intersection	Important
231	Biggenden	Victoria St	Northern	Alice St intersection	Extend path on northern side and construct additional crossing point on Alice St	60	1.50	90	m2	\$ 120	\$ 10,800	Improve access to Hospital	Essential
232	Biggenden	Victoria St	Northern	John St to Alfred St	Renew existing path	100	1.50	150	m2	\$ 120	\$ 18,000	Existing path in poor condition	Important
233	Biggenden	Victoria St	Northern	Alfred St to William St	Renew existing path	110	1.50	165	m2	\$ 120	\$ 19,800	Existing path in poor condition	Important
234	Biggenden	Victoria St	Northern	George St to Frederick St	Construct kerb ramp for accessible parking bay	NA	NA	1	Is	\$ 10,000	\$ 10,000	At Memorial Hall	Essential
235	Biggenden	Walsh St	Both	Gloucester St to Nette St	Construct crossing point to connect existing path to pedestrian bridge	NA	NA	1	Is	\$ 10,000	\$ 10,000	Existing path does not connect to pedestrian path on rail overbridge	Essential
236	Biggenden	Walsh St	Both	Caravan Park	Construct crossing point for Caravan Park to path on northern side	NA	NA	1	Is	\$ 10,000	\$ 10,000		Essential
237	Biggenden	Walsh St	Both	Caravan Park to Rail overpass	Install seating	NA	NA	1	Is	\$ 20,000	\$ 20,000	Consider shade shelter/s also.	Essential
238	Biggenden	Walsh St	Southern	Kent St intersection	Construct path to connect to Bluff View Walking Track	90	1.50	135	m2	\$ 120	\$ 16,200	Connection to Bluff View Walking Track around heavy vehicle rest area	Important
239	Biggenden	Edward St	Southern	CBD	Streetscaping					TBD	TBD	Special project - Streetscaping project as per previous planning by Council	



Appendix B - Eidsvold

Eidsvold Walking Network Plan and Priority Works Program

Overview

The Walking Network Plan (WNP) and Priority Works Program (PWP) for Eidsvold should be read in conjunction with the overarching report which explains the methodology, assumptions and limitations applicable.

Stakeholder Workshop

A stakeholder workshop was held in Eidsvold on 1 December 2022 and was attended by a number of community members representing various interests. It was also attended by Council staff with good knowledge of the local area.

The workshop reviewed a draft WNP prepared by consultants CRC, providing valuable input. Major walking destinations were refined and are shown on the WNP. The workshop also identified a number of important projects which have been included in the PWP and given additional priority for construction.

High Priority Works

- Provide a connection to the golf club, men's shed, service station (which sells take-away food) and RM Williams Centre. Additional planning and consultation is required for this as there are alternative routes available, including using the existing pedestrian bridge near Crown St and connecting to the rail corridor, or by extending the path within the Burnett Highway corridor (for which TMR has funding committed and designs complete). A safe crossing point on the highway is required and this will require liaison with TMR.
- Renew sections of path on Moreton St that are in poor condition.
- Improve connections to the school. It was noted that there are short missing sections of paths, missing kerb ramps, no pathway for parking area on Golden Spur St, and kerbing and accessible parking bay obstructing the zebra crossing.
- Extend the path network down Hamilton St and along Esplanade St to connect to the doctor's surgery, caravan park, golf course, bowls club and tennis courts.
- Provide accessible connections from Moreton St to the Star Hotel corner where there are currently no kerb ramps and challenging level differences.
- Repair pedestrian bridges near Crown St and on the Boundary Creek path (to skatepark).

Other Works

Other proposed works were also raised at the workshop and have been included in the program:

- Extend path on Golden Spur St to Hamilton Ave.
- Improve connections at the hospital.
- Consider providing a path to the cemetery.
- Improve general connectivity at intersections by completing missing section and constructing kerb ramps.
- Provide pathways to the daycare centre on Mount Rose St from the CBD and the school.



Golf course access



No kerb ramps – Burnett Hwy and Moreton St

- Provide lighting to the proposed path on Esplanade St, between Hamilton St and the bowls club
- Provide connections to the skatepark
- Install shade, drinking fountains and seating near the skatepark and on the path to the hospital
- Consider widening the Boundary Creek path as a shared path for recreational use by pedestrians and cyclists
- Construct a path on Mount Rose St west to the start of Pownall St (currently used for recreation and exercise)
- Consider improved crossings/access to the pool from Hodgkinson St.

Future related projects

- TMR has funding committed and designs completed to replace and extend a shared path parallel to the Burnett Highway from Esplanade St to the RM Williams Centre. The project includes replacement of the pedestrian bridge over Boundary Creek. Construction timing is expected to be confirmed soon.
- Activation of the Boyne – Burnett Inland Rail Trail is proposed. Connections from the rail trail to the CBD will be required. The trail is currently used by some local people but requires upgrading, including a highway crossing.
- The elderly care units (Moreton Street north of Crown St) are being extended.
- Community members noted that additional public housing and government medical accommodation has been mooted in the vicinity of the elderly care units.

Existing Path Locations and Conditions

Existing path locations and conditions are shown on the map below. This information has been sourced from data provided by Shepherd Asset Management Services

Walking Network Plan and Priority Works Program

The Eidsvold WNP and detailed PWP are attached

Summary of Priority Works for Eidsvold

Town	Work Priority	Est. Value
Eidsvold	Essential	\$ 187,400
	Important	\$ 455,800
	Non-Essential	\$ 916,300
	Total	\$ 1,559,500

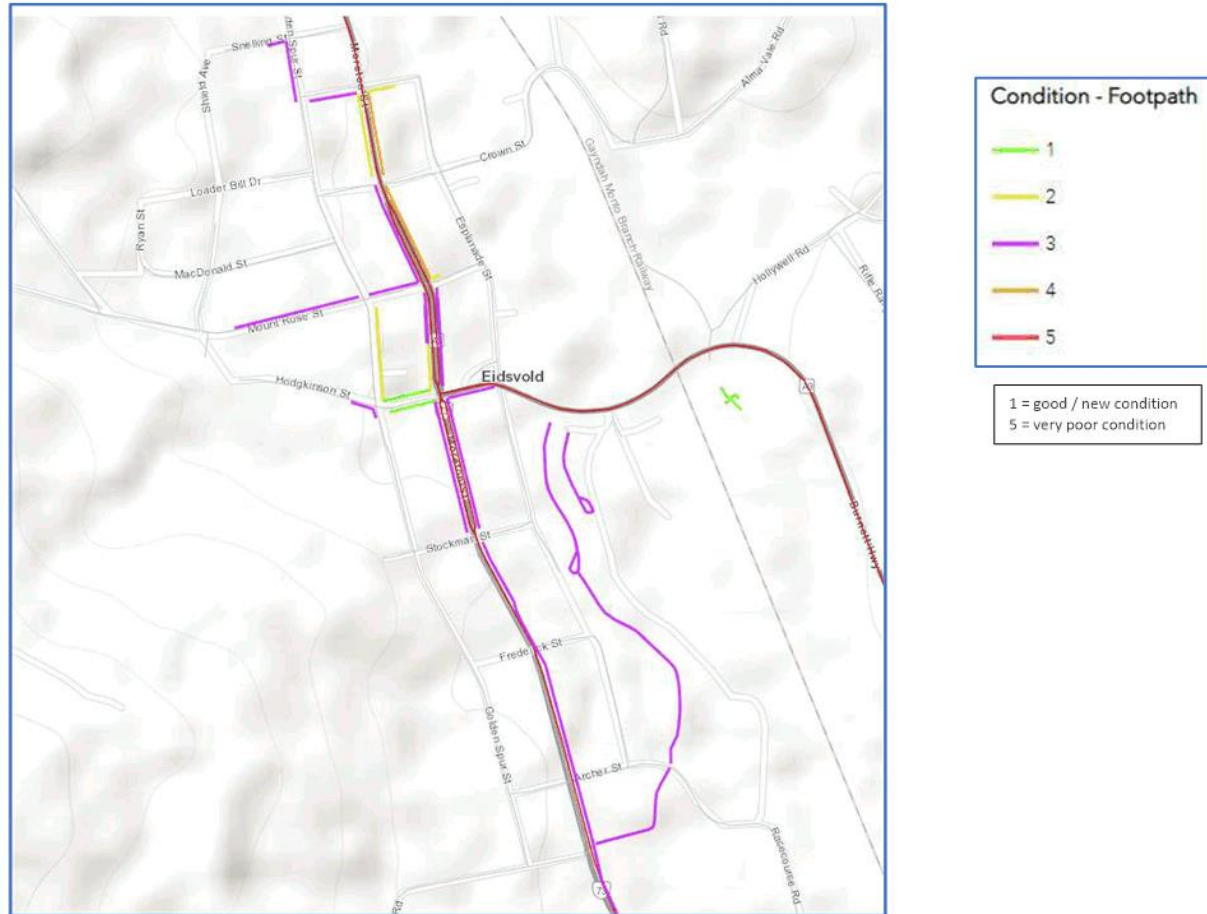


Pedestrian and cycle access to school



Connection to hospital building entrance

Existing Paths and Conditions in Eidsvold



Priority Works Program - Eidsvold

Ref	Town	Street	Side	Section	Recommendation	Length	Width	Quantity	Units	Unit Rate	Est Cost	Comments	MCA ranking
240	Eidsvold	Boundary Creek path	NA	Burnett Hwy to Reservoir Rd	Upgrade to shared path standard and provide connections to Esplanade St	1,170	3.00	3,510	m2	\$ 120	\$ 421,200	Upgrade to 3.0m shared path standard for use by cyclists	Non-essential
241	Eidsvold	Boundary Creek path	NA	Burnett Hwy to Reservoir Rd	Provide shelter, seating and water on Boundary Creek pathway	NA	NA	1	ls	\$ 30,000	\$ 30,000		Non-essential
242	Eidsvold	Burnett Highway	Southern	Esplanade St to skate park	Renew existing path	200						Reconstruct path from Esplanade St to skate park. This work is planned and funded by TMR	Essential
243	Eidsvold	Burnett Highway	Southern	Esplanade St to skate park	Renew existing bridge	NA						Repair or replace bridge. This work is planned and funded by TMR.	Essential
244	Eidsvold	Burnett Highway	Southern	Esplanade St to skate park	Provide shelter, seating and water at skate park	NA	NA	1	ls	\$ 30,000	\$ 30,000	May also service pedestrians and cyclists to showgrounds etc	Important
245	Eidsvold	Crown St	Northern	Moreton St to Esplanade St	Construct path	120	1.50	180	m2	\$ 120	\$ 21,600		Important
246	Eidsvold	Crown St	Northern	Esplanade St to Men's Shed	Construct path	370	1.50	555	m2	\$ 120	\$ 66,600		Important
247	Eidsvold	Esplanade St	Eastern	Esplanade St to Golf Course	Construct path and repair pedestrian bridge	NA	NA	1	ls	\$ 100,000	\$ 100,000	Construct path from Esplanade St to golf course including repairing/replacing bridge over gully	Important
248	Eidsvold	Esplanade St	Western	Hamilton Ave to Crown St	Construct path	190	1.50	285	m2	\$ 120	\$ 34,200		Important
249	Eidsvold	Esplanade St	Western	Crown St to Mount Rose St	Construct path	210	1.50	315	m2	\$ 120	\$ 37,800		Non-essential
250	Eidsvold	Esplanade St	Western	Mount Rose St to Hodgkinson St	Construct path	195	1.50	293	m2	\$ 120	\$ 35,100		Non-essential
251	Eidsvold	Esplanade St	Western	Hamilton Ave to Hodgkinson St	Install lighting	NA	NA	10	per light	\$ 5,000	\$ 50,000	Lighting for pedestrians - caravan park to bowls club	Non-essential
252	Eidsvold	Esplanade St	Western	Hodgkinson St to Stockman St	Construct path	300	1.50	450	m2	\$ 120	\$ 54,000	Include connection to Boundary Creek Path	Non-essential
253	Eidsvold	Esplanade St	Western	Stockman St to Archer St	Construct path	560	1.50	840	m2	\$ 120	\$ 100,800	Include connection to Boundary Creek Path	Non-essential
254	Eidsvold	Golden Spur St	Both	Mount Rose St intersection	Construct kerb ramps at Mount Rose St intersection	NA	NA	1	ls	\$ 20,000	\$ 20,000	Construct compliant kerb ramps for all existing paths	Non-essential

Ref	Town	Street	Side	Section	Recommendation	Length	Width	Quantity	Units	Unit Rate	Est Cost	Comments	MCA ranking
255	Eidsvoid	Golden Spur St	Both	Mount Rose St to Stockman St	Upgrade connections to School	NA	NA	1	ls	\$ 50,000	\$ 50,000	Construct connecting path to zebra crossing, remove parking bay from crossing, connect/upgrade paths on northern side of Hodgkinson St, extend path on Hodgkinson St on school frontage, construct path on Golden Spur St on school / car parking frontage, linemarking and signage	Essential
256	Eidsvoid	Golden Spur St	Western	Hodgkinson St to Hamilton Ave	Construct path	660	1.50	990	m2	\$ 120	\$ 118,800	Construct new path include kerb ramps at intersections	Non-essential
257	Eidsvoid	Hamilton Ave	Southern	Medical Centre to Esplanade St	Construct path	55	1.50	83	m2	\$ 120	\$ 9,900	Construct new path to connect Medical Centre to (proposed path on) Esplanade St	Important
258	Eidsvoid	Hodgkinson St	Northern	Moreton St to Esplanade St	Construct path to pool	80	1.50	120	m2	\$ 120	\$ 14,400	Path connection to existing pedestrian bridge over stormwater channel	Important
259	Eidsvoid	Moreton St	Both	Hospital entrance	Path connection to Hospital entrance	NA	NA	1	ls	\$ 10,000	\$ 10,000	Desirable for Queensland Health to construct internal path also.	Essential
260	Eidsvoid	Moreton St	Both	Mount Rose St intersection	Construct compliant kerb ramps at intersection	NA	NA	1	ls	\$ 20,000	\$ 20,000	Construct kerb ramps for all crossing points at intersection	Essential
261	Eidsvoid	Moreton St	Eastern	Mount Rose St to Hamilton Ave	Renew existing path	430	1.50	645	m2	\$ 120	\$ 77,400	Existing path is in very poor condition	Essential
262	Eidsvoid	Moreton St	Eastern	Hodgkinson St to Stockman St	Construct kerb ramp at Hodgkinson St	NA	NA	1	ls	\$ 20,000	\$ 20,000	Provides accessible path to Star Hotel. Ramp may be east of the Moreton / Hodgkinson intersection.	Essential
263	Eidsvoid	Moreton St	Eastern	Hodgkinson St to Stockman St	Renew existing path	295	1.50	443	m2	\$ 120	\$ 53,100	Existing path in poor condition	Important
264	Eidsvoid	Moreton St	Eastern	Stockman St intersection	Construct kerb ramps at Stockman St	NA	NA	1	ls	\$ 5,000	\$ 5,000		Essential
265	Eidsvoid	Moreton St	Western	Crown St intersection	Construct kerb ramps	NA	NA	1	ls	\$ 5,000	\$ 5,000		Essential
266	Eidsvoid	Mount Rose St	Northern	Shield Ave to Ray Pownall Dr	Construct path	270	1.50	405	m2	\$ 120	\$ 48,600	Construct new path from end of the existing path to Ray Pownall Dr (Airport access road)	Non-essential
267	Eidsvoid	Path to RM Williams and Service Station	NA	Esplanade St to Railway Station Rd	Construct path from Esplanade St to R M Williams Centre, Men's Shed, Golf Club, RV parking, showgrounds, BP Service Station	700	1.50	1,050	m2	\$ 120	\$ 126,000	Construct new path from Esplanade St to RM Williams Centre and Service Station, including crossing point on Burnett Highway. Requires planning to identify corridor. May use rail corridor, Crown St, golf course land.	Important



Appendix C - Gayndah



Gayndah Walking Network Plan and Priority Works Program

Overview

The Walking Network Plan (WNP) and Priority Works Program (PWP) for Gayndah should be read in conjunction with the overarching report which explains the methodology, assumptions and limitations applicable.

Stakeholder Workshop

A stakeholder workshop was held in Gayndah on 28 November 2022 and was attended by a number of community members representing various interests. It was also attended by a NBRC Councillor and Council staff with good knowledge of the local area.

The workshop reviewed a draft WNP prepared by consultants CRC, providing valuable input. Major walking destinations were refined and are shown on the WNP. The workshop also identified multiple important projects which have been included in the PWP and given additional priority for construction.

High Priority Works

- Extend the Capper St path to Zonhoven Park, the RV/free camping area on the eastern side of Oaky Creek. This was the highest priority pathway construction project identified by the stakeholder workshop.
- Extend primary path along Meson St to Barrow St and on Barrow St to the caravan park.
- Construct path on Anzac Pde and Simon St to Capper St, connecting to Council depot, Gunther Village Aged Care, and the IGA.
- Construct a crossing point at the intersection of Bridge St and Dalgangal Rd.
- Provide a path, including road crossing point, to the entrance of the Lions Park on Anzac Ave.
- Construct paths on Simon St and Maltby St to connect to the Riverwalk entry points.
- Construct stage 2 of the Riverwalk (from Simon St to the pool).

Other Works

Other possible improvements were raised at the workshop and have been included in the program.

- Construct path on Queen St (Fielding St to Spencer St) to connect to sports facilities and school. Consider current parking arrangements.
- Review shared use on Capper St footpaths. Currently bicycles, scooters and skateboards are banned by old signs on the Capper St footpath in the CBD. Stakeholders at the workshop (including police), agreed that the restrictions could be removed as it is safer for cyclists (particularly children), to use the footpath rather than the roadway.
- Install bicycle racks in the CBD area as bikes are being left outside businesses, including in the gardens at the doctor's clinic.



Capper St crossing point - shrub potentially obscures pedestrians



Example of poor path connections at an intersection



Bridge St / Dalgangal St intersection

- Street crossings in general need to be improved where kerb ramps are missing or their current condition is sub-standard.
- Provide seating and shade in Simon St near Gunther Village.
- Consider signage on Bridge St to advise pedestrians to use the pathway on the bridge rather than the traffic lanes.
- Construct a path to the Mt Archer lookout, separate from the road and consider lighting this path.
- Conduct an audit of existing signs and provide wayfinding signs. Consider cultural, community, nature and/or history bollards/signs for a walking tour.
- Install lighting from Mackenzie Bridge to Zonhaven Park.
- Some community members identified that lighting in the town could be improved with additional lights and/or upgrading to LED lights.
- Extend the path on Dalgangal Rd to the Norco Depot, public park and toilets, mechanic workshop and other businesses.

Future related projects

Future projects or activities which are relevant to the pathway network include:

- Extend Riverside Pathway eastwards from Simon St to the Pool
- Extend Riverside Pathway westwards from bridge to Barrow St. Priority for this is lower than the extension to the Pool.

Both projects have been included in the PWP.

Existing Path Locations and Conditions

Existing path locations and conditions are shown on the map below. This information has been sourced from data provided by Shepherd Asset Management Services.

Walking Network Plan and Priority Works Program

The Gayndah WNP and detailed PWP are attached.

Summary of Priority Works for Gayndah

Town	Work Priority	Est. Value
Gayndah	Essential	\$ 243,900
	Important	\$ 2,989,300
	Non-Essential	\$ 2,546,100
	Total	\$ 5,779,300



Queen St - Missing kerb ramp and path connections at school



Fielding St - Missing path connections at school

Special Projects

As noted above, the streetscape in the Gayndah CBD is dated and could be improved. A potential future streetscaping project would be a major expense and requires further consideration regarding priority and potential sources of funding. It has been included in the PWP but has not been given a cost estimate or construction priority.

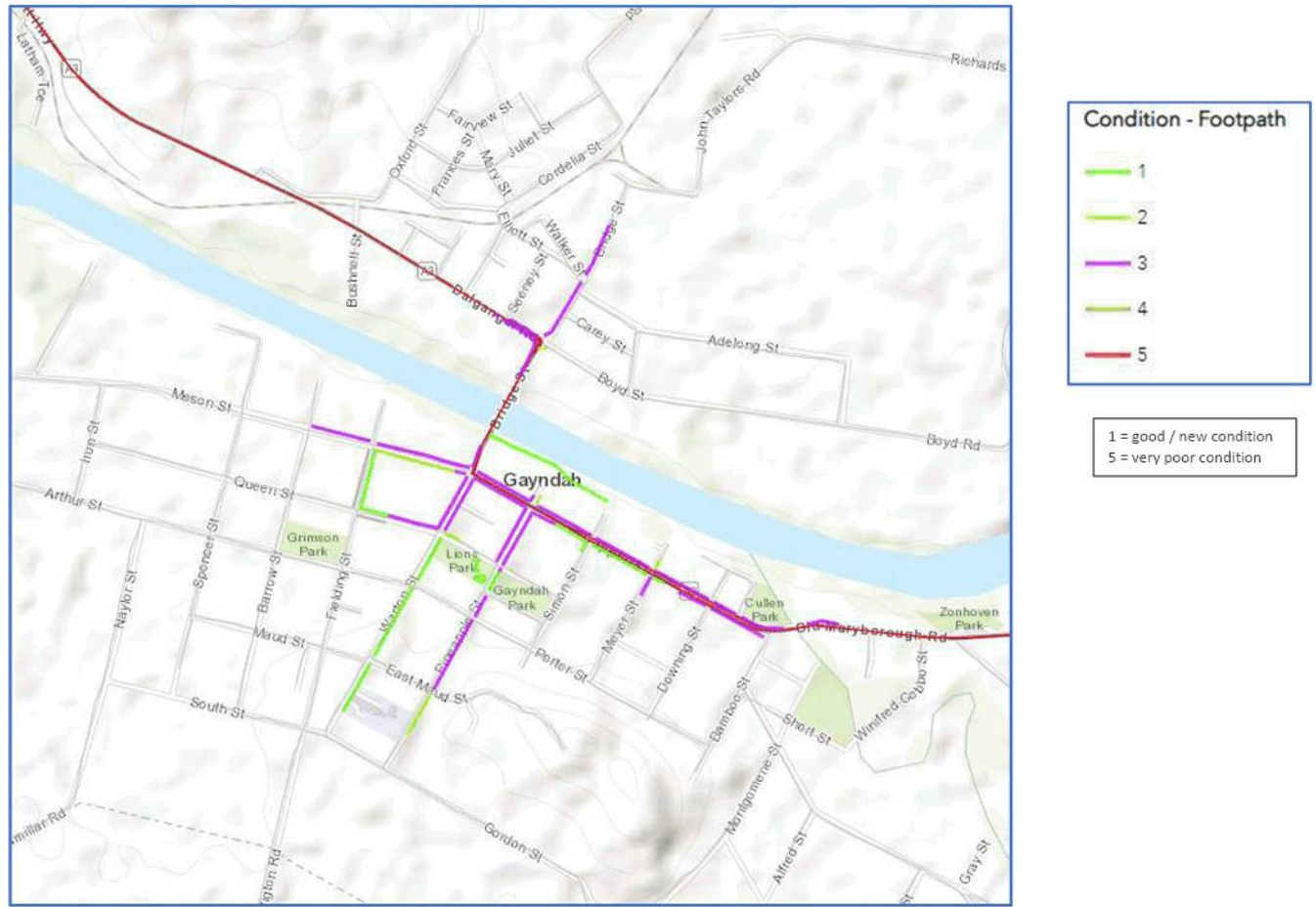


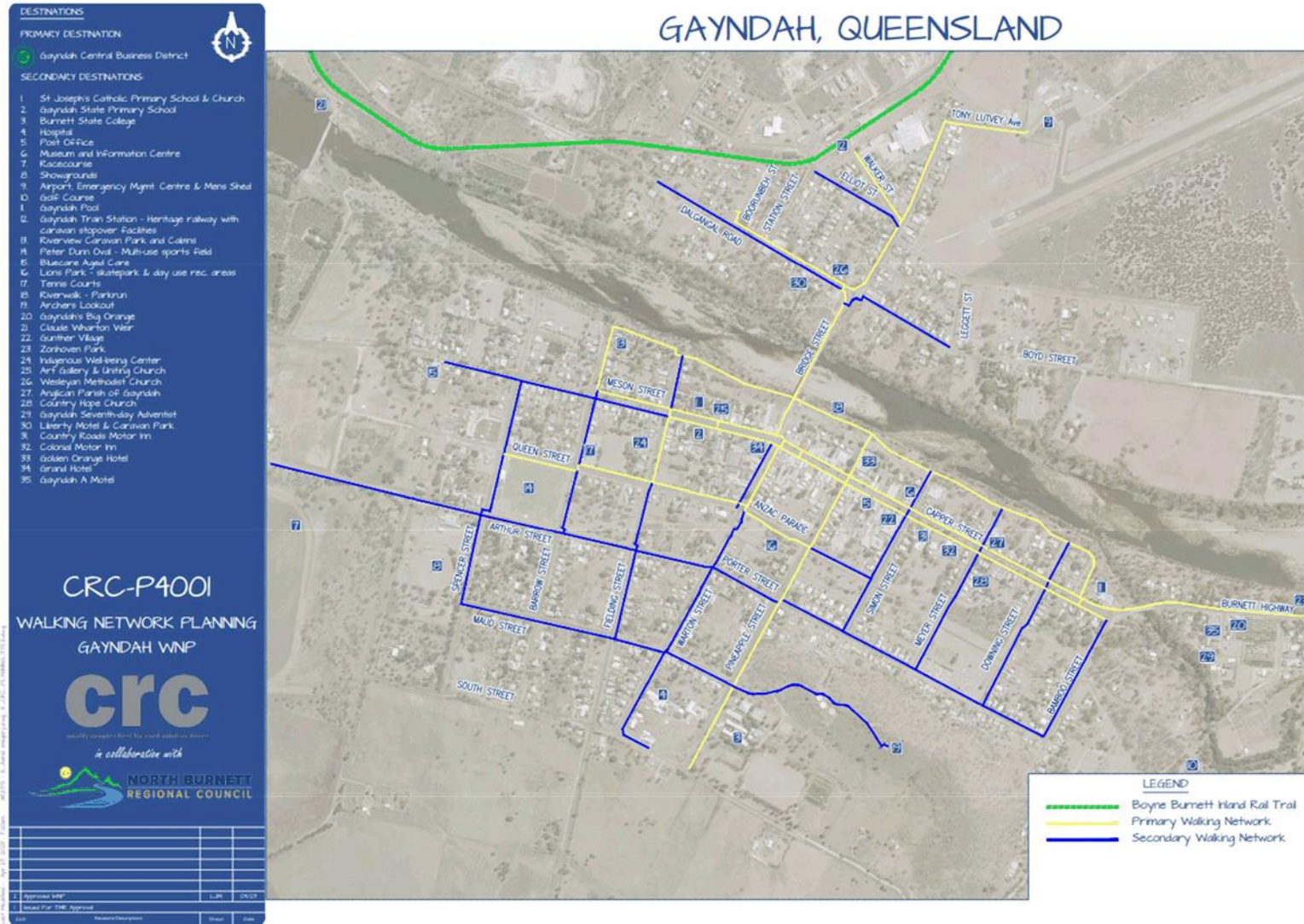
WNP includes path extension on Meson St



Connections to Lions Park included in PWP

Existing Paths and Conditions in Gayndah





Priority Works Program - Gayndah

Ref	Town	Street	Side	Section	Recommendation	Length	Width	Quantity	Units	Unit Rate	Est Cost	Comments	MCA ranking
1	Gayndah	Anzac Pde	Southern	Warton St to Pineapple St	Construct path	220	1.50	330	m2	\$ 120.00	\$ 39,600	Connects to Lions park incl playground	Essential
2	Gayndah	Anzac Pde	Southern	Pineapple St to Simon St	Construct path	220	1.50	330	m2	\$ 120.00	\$ 39,600		Important
3	Gayndah	Anzac Pde	Both	Warton St to Pineapple St	Construct crossing points to Lions Park	NA	NA	1	ls	\$ 10,000.00	\$ 10,000		Essential
4	Gayndah	Arthur St	Southern	Warton St to Fielding St	Construct path	240	1.50	360	m2	\$ 120.00	\$ 43,200		Non-essential
5	Gayndah	Arthur St	Southern	Fielding St to Barrow St	Construct path	240	1.50	360	m2	\$ 120.00	\$ 43,200		Non-essential
6	Gayndah	Arthur St	Southern	Barrow St to Spencer St	Construct path	240	1.50	360	m2	\$ 120.00	\$ 43,200		Non-essential
7	Gayndah	Arthur St	Southern	Spencer St to Racecourse	Construct path	600	1.50	900	m2	\$ 120.00	\$ 108,000		Non-essential
8	Gayndah	Bamboo St	Western	Capper St to Porter St	Construct path	410	1.50	615	m2	\$ 120.00	\$ 73,800		Non-essential
9	Gayndah	Barrow St	Eastern	Meson St to Caravan Park	Construct path	170	1.50	255	m2	\$ 120.00	\$ 30,600		Essential
10	Gayndah	Barrow St	Eastern	Meson St to Queen St	Construct path	220	1.50	330	m2	\$ 120.00	\$ 39,600		Non-essential
11	Gayndah	Barrow St	Eastern	Queen St to Arthur St	Construct path	220	1.50	330	m2	\$ 120.00	\$ 39,600		Important
12	Gayndah	Boyd St	Southern	Bridge St to Leggett St	Construct path	350	1.50	525	m2	\$ 120.00	\$ 63,000		Non-essential
13	Gayndah	Bridge St	Western	Walker St to Tony Lutvey Ave	Construct path	170	1.50	255	m2	\$ 120.00	\$ 30,600		Important
14	Gayndah	Bridge St	Western	Capper St to Dalgangal Rd	Construct crossing points at Dalgangal Rd I/S	NA	NA	1	ls	\$ 25,000.00	\$ 25,000		Essential
15	Gayndah	Bridge St	Western	Walker St to Tony Lutvey Ave	Construct kerb ramp / connection to Packers access	NA	NA	1	ls	\$ 2,500.00	\$ 2,500		Important
16	Gayndah	Bridge St	Western	Capper St to Burnett River Bridge	Renew existing path	75	1.50	113	m2	\$ 120.00	\$ 13,500		Important
17	Gayndah	Bridge St	Western	Burnett River Bridge to Dalgangal Rd	Renew existing path	140	1.50	210	m2	\$ 120.00	\$ 25,200		Important
18	Gayndah	Bridge St	Western	Dalgangal Rd to Walker St	Renew existing path	270	1.50	405	m2	\$ 120.00	\$ 48,600		Non-essential
19	Gayndah	Bridge St	Western	Walker St to Packers access	Renew existing path	190	1.50	285	m2	\$ 120.00	\$ 34,200		Non-essential
20	Gayndah	Capper St	Northern	Bridge St to Maltby Pl	Renew existing path	210	4.00	840	m2	\$ 300.00	\$ 252,000	Higher unit rate for CBD path finishes	Important
21	Gayndah	Capper St	Northern	Maltby Pl to Simon St	Renew existing path	210	4.00	840	m2	\$ 300.00	\$ 252,000	Higher unit rate for CBD path finishes	Important
22	Gayndah	Capper St	Northern	Simon St to Meyer St	Renew existing path	220	1.50	330	m2	\$ 120.00	\$ 39,600		Important
23	Gayndah	Capper St	Northern	Meyer St to Downing St	Renew existing path	220	1.50	330	m2	\$ 120.00	\$ 39,600		Important
24	Gayndah	Capper St	Northern	Downing St to Cullen Ave	Renew existing path	100	1.50	150	m2	\$ 120.00	\$ 18,000		Essential
25	Gayndah	Capper St	Northern	Cullen Ave to Mackenzie Bridge	Renew existing path	160	1.50	240	m2	\$ 120.00	\$ 28,800		Important
26	Gayndah	Capper St	Northern	Mackenzie Bridge to end of path	Renew existing path	150	1.50	225	m2	\$ 120.00	\$ 27,000		Important
27	Gayndah	Capper St	Southern	Bamboo St to Downing St	Renew existing path	210	1.50	315	m2	\$ 120.00	\$ 37,800		Important

Ref	Town	Street	Side	Section	Recommendation	Length	Width	Quantity	Units	Unit Rate	Est Cost	Comments	MCA ranking
28	Gayndah	Capper St	Southern	Downing St to Meyer St	Renew existing path	110	1.50	165	m2	\$ 120.00	\$ 19,800	Renew from Downing St to service station	Essential
29	Gayndah	Capper St	Southern	Downing St to Meyer St	Construct concrete path through service station access	60	1.50	90	m2	\$ 250.00	\$ 22,500		Important
30	Gayndah	Capper St	Southern	Meyer St to Simon St	Replace kerb ramp at Meyer St	NA	NA	1	ls	\$ 2,500.00	\$ 2,500		Essential
31	Gayndah	Capper St	Southern	Meyer St to Simon St	Replace kerb ramp at Simon St	NA	NA	1	ls	\$ 2,500.00	\$ 2,500		Essential
32	Gayndah	Capper St	Southern	Simon St to Pineapple St	Replace kerb ramp at Simon St	NA	NA	1	ls	\$ 2,500.00	\$ 2,500		Essential
33	Gayndah	Capper St	Southern	Simon St to Pineapple St	Remove shrub and upgrade pedestrian refuge	NA	NA	1	ls	\$ 15,000.00	\$ 15,000	Shrub obscures visibility of/for pedestrians in median refuge	Essential
34	Gayndah	Capper St	Southern	Simon St to Pineapple St	Renew existing path	90	4.00	360	m2	\$ 300.00	\$ 108,000	Renew from Post Office to Pineapple St. Higher rate for CBD path finishes	Important
35	Gayndah	Capper St	Southern	Pineapple St to Warton St	Renew existing path	210	4.00	840	m2	\$ 300.00	\$ 252,000		Important
36	Gayndah	Capper St	Southern	Warton St to Fielding St	Renew existing path	50	4.00	200	m2	\$ 300.00	\$ 60,000	Renew in front of Grand Hotel. Higher rate for CBD path finishes	Important
37	Gayndah	Cullen Av	Eastern	Capper St to Riverwalk	Construct path	130	1.50	195	m2	\$ 120.00	\$ 23,400		Essential
38	Gayndah	Dalgangal Rd	Northern	Bridge St to Seeney St	Renew existing path	130	1.50	195	m2	\$ 120.00	\$ 23,400		Important
39	Gayndah	Dalgangal Rd	Northern	Seeney St to Station St	Construct path	160	1.50	240	m2	\$ 120.00	\$ 28,800		Important
40	Gayndah	Dalgangal Rd	Northern	Station St to Boorunbeh St	Construct path	160	1.50	240	m2	\$ 120.00	\$ 28,800		Important
41	Gayndah	Dalgangal Rd	Southern	Bridge St to Caravan Park	Renew existing path	160	1.50	240	m2	\$ 120.00	\$ 28,800		Non-essential
42	Gayndah	Dalgangal Rd	Southern	Bridge St to Caravan Park	Construct path through service station access	40	1.50	60	m2	\$ 250.00	\$ 15,000		Non-essential
43	Gayndah	Dalgangal Rd	Southern	Caravan Park to Norco	Construct path	540	1.50	810	m2	\$ 250.00	\$ 202,500		Non-essential
44	Gayndah	Downing St	Eastern	Capper St to Porter St	Construct path	410	1.50	615	m2	\$ 120.00	\$ 73,800		Non-essential
45	Gayndah	Downing St	Eastern	Capper St to Riverwalk	Construct path	145	1.50	218	m2	\$ 120.00	\$ 26,100		Non-essential
46	Gayndah	East Maud St	Southern	Warton St to Pineapple St	Construct path	230	1.50	345	m2	\$ 120.00	\$ 41,400		Non-essential
47	Gayndah	East Maud St	Southern	Pineapple St to Lookout	Construct shared path	560	3.00	1,680	m2	\$ 300.00	\$ 504,000	Unit rate allows for earthworks etc	Non-essential
48	Gayndah	Elliot St	Southern	Walker St to Station St	Construct path	290	1.50	435	m2	\$ 120.00	\$ 52,200		Non-essential
49	Gayndah	Fielding St	Eastern	Maud St to Arthur St	Construct path	275	1.50	413	m2	\$ 120.00	\$ 49,500		Non-essential
50	Gayndah	Fielding St	Eastern	Arthur St to Queen St	Construct path	190	1.50	285	m2	\$ 120.00	\$ 34,200		Non-essential
51	Gayndah	Fielding St	Western	Capper St to Queen St	Construct path (missing connection to zebra crossing)	15	3.00	45	m2	\$ 200.00	\$ 9,000	Missing path connect to zebra crossing	Important
52	Gayndah	Fielding St	Eastern	Capper St to West Burnett Tce	Construct path	180	1.50	270	m2	\$ 120.00	\$ 32,400		Non-essential
53	Gayndah	Gordon St	Northern	Warton St to Ambulance Station	Construct path	100	1.50	150	m2	\$ 120.00	\$ 18,000		Important

Ref	Town	Street	Side	Section	Recommendation	Length	Width	Quantity	Units	Unit Rate	Est Cost	Comments	MCA ranking
54	Gayndah	Maltby Pl	Eastern	Capper St to Riverwalk	Construct path	130	1.50	195	m2	\$ 120.00	\$ 23,400		Important
55	Gayndah	Maud St	Southern	Warton St to Fielding St	Construct path	160	1.50	240	m2	\$ 120.00	\$ 28,800		Non-essential
56	Gayndah	Maud St	Southern	Fielding St to Spencer St	Construct path	460	1.50	690	m2	\$ 120.00	\$ 82,800		Non-essential
57	Gayndah	Meson St	Northern	Barrow St to Fielding St	Renew existing path	220	1.50	330	m2	\$ 120.00	\$ 39,600		Important
58	Gayndah	Meson St	Northern	Fielding St to Warton St	Renew existing path	340.00	1.50	510	m2	\$ 120.00	\$ 61,200		Important
59	Gayndah	Meson St	Southern	Fielding St to Barrow St	Construct path	225	1.50	338	m2	\$ 120.00	\$ 40,500		Non-essential
60	Gayndah	Meson St	Southern	Barrow St to Spencer St	Construct path	225	1.50	338	m2	\$ 120.00	\$ 40,500		Non-essential
61	Gayndah	Meson St	Southern	Spencer St to BlueCare Aged Care	Construct path	370	1.50	555	m2	\$ 120.00	\$ 66,600		Non-essential
62	Gayndah	Meyer St	Eastern	Capper St to Porter St	Construct path	340	1.50	510	m2	\$ 120.00	\$ 61,200		Non-essential
63	Gayndah	Meyer St	Eastern	Capper St to Riverwalk	Construct path	145	1.50	218	m2	\$ 120.00	\$ 26,100		Non-essential
64	Gayndah	Burnett Highway	Northern	Mackenzie Bridge to ZonHoven Park	Construct path	500	1.50	750	m2	\$ 120.00	\$ 90,000		Important
65	Gayndah	Pineapple St	Eastern	Capper St to Anzac Pde	Renew existing path	230	1.50	345	m2	\$ 120.00	\$ 41,400		Important
66	Gayndah	Pineapple St	Eastern	Sam Weller Ave to East Maud St	Renew existing path	370	1.50	555	m2	\$ 120.00	\$ 66,600	Include realigning ramps at Porter St intersection	Important
67	Gayndah	Pineapple St	Western	Capper St to Anzac Pde	Renew existing path	210	1.50	315	m2	\$ 120.00	\$ 37,800		Non-essential
68	Gayndah	Porter St	Southern	Warton St to Pineapple St	Construct path	220	1.50	330	m2	\$ 120.00	\$ 39,600		Non-essential
69	Gayndah	Porter St	Northern	Pineapple St to Simon St	Construct path	220	1.50	330	m2	\$ 120.00	\$ 39,600		Non-essential
70	Gayndah	Porter St	Northern	Simon St to Meyer St	Construct path	220	1.50	330	m2	\$ 120.00	\$ 39,600		Non-essential
71	Gayndah	Queen St	Both	Warton St to Fielding St	Construct kerb ramp and path connections at Warton St I/S	NA	NA	1	ls	\$ 10,000.00	\$ 10,000		Important
72	Gayndah	Queen St	Northern	Warton St to Fielding St	Renew existing path	180	1.50	270	m2	\$ 120.00	\$ 32,400	Renew section from Warton St to School	Non-essential
73	Gayndah	Queen St	Both	Warton St to Fielding St	Construct ramps and path connection for zebra crossing	NA	NA	1	ls	\$ 10,000.00	\$ 10,000	Missing ramps and path connections at zebra crossing	Important
74	Gayndah	Porter St	Northern	Meyer St to Downing St	Construct path	220	1.50	330	m2	\$ 120.00	\$ 39,600		Non-essential
75	Gayndah	Porter St	Northern	Downing St to Bamboo St	Construct path	230	1.50	345	m2	\$ 120.00	\$ 41,400		Non-essential
76	Gayndah	Queen St	Northern	Fielding St to Barrow St	Construct path	240	1.50	360	m2	\$ 120.00	\$ 43,200		Important
77	Gayndah	Queen St	Southern	Barrow St to Spencer St	Construct path	240	1.50	360	m2	\$ 120.00	\$ 43,200		Important
78	Gayndah	East Burnett Tce	NA	Simon St to Cullen Av	Construct shared path	580	3.00	1,740	m2	\$ 200.00	\$ 348,000	Unit rate allows for lighting, landscaping etc	Important
79	Gayndah	West Burnett Tce	NA	Bridge St to Barrow St	Construct shared path	660	3.00	1,980	m2	\$ 200.00	\$ 396,000	Unit rate allows for lighting, landscaping etc	Important
80	Gayndah	Simon St	Western	Capper St to Riverwalk	Construct path	130	1.50	195	m2	\$ 120.00	\$ 23,400		Non-essential

Ref	Town	Street	Side	Section	Recommendation	Length	Width	Quantity	Units	Unit Rate	Est Cost	Comments	MCA ranking
81	Gayndah	Simon St	Western	Capper St to Anzac Pde	Construct path	170	1.50	255	m2	\$ 120.00	\$ 30,600		Important
82	Gayndah	Simon St	Western	Anzac Pde to Porter St	Construct path	190	1.50	285	m2	\$ 120.00	\$ 34,200		Non-essential
83	Gayndah	Spencer St	Eastern	Meson St to Queen St	Construct path	220	1.50	330	m2	\$ 120.00	\$ 39,600		Non-essential
84	Gayndah	Spencer St	Eastern	Queen St to Arthur St	Construct path	210	1.50	315	m2	\$ 120.00	\$ 37,800		Non-essential
85	Gayndah	Spencer St	Western	Arthur St to Maud St	Construct path	280	1.50	420	m2	\$ 120.00	\$ 50,400		Non-essential
86	Gayndah	Tony Lutvey Av	Southern	Bridge St to Aisport	Construct path	250	1.50	375	m2	\$ 120.00	\$ 45,000		Non-essential
87	Gayndah	Walker St	Northern	Bridge St to National St	Construct path	250	1.50	375	m2	\$ 120.00	\$ 45,000		Important
88	Gayndah	Warton St	Eastern	Capper St to Queen St	Renew existing path	210	1.50	315	m2	\$ 120.00	\$ 37,800		Important
89	Gayndah	Warton St	Western	Capper St to Queen St	Renew existing path	210	1.50	315	m2	\$ 120.00	\$ 37,800		Non-essential
90	Gayndah	Warton St	Eastern	Hospital to Gordon St	Construct path	165	1.50	248	m2	\$ 120.00	\$ 29,700		Non-essential
	Gayndah	Other Actions											
91	Gayndah	Capper St		CBD	Review crossing locations. Few formal crossing points available - eg no crossing point at Warton St	NA	NA	1	ls	\$ 25,000	\$ 25,000		Essential
92	Gayndah	Capper St		CBD	Consider removing old signs which ban bicycles, scooters and skateboards from using the path	NA	NA	1	ls	\$ 10,000	\$ 10,000		Essential
93	Gayndah	Capper St		CBD	Planning and design for streetscape improvements including replacing path surfaces, street furniture, trees, landscaping and crossings.	NA	NA	1	ls	\$ 250,000	\$ 250,000	Estimated cost is for planning and design only. This should be done before the recommended path renewal works on Capper St.	Important
94	Gayndah	Various		CBD	Seating and shade	NA	NA	1	ls	\$ 50,000	\$ 50,000	Including Meson St, Capper St, Simon St (at GRV) plus Lions Park entry	Important
95	Gayndah	Various		Whole town	Improve wayfinding signage	NA	NA	1	ls	\$ 75,000	\$ 75,000		Non-essential
96	Gayndah	Capper St		CBD	Bicycle racks	NA	NA	1	ls	\$ 20,000	\$ 20,000	Capper St and Meson St	Essential
97	Gayndah	Capper St		CBD	Streetscaping	NA	NA	1	ls	TBD	TBD	Special project - Streetscaping to provide appropriate urban finishes, seating, street trees etc in Gayndah CBD	
98	Gayndah	Pineapple St		Anzac Pde to Sam Weller Ave	Consider bollards or wheel stops parallel to path to provide separation from vehicles	NA	NA	1	ls	\$ 25,000	\$ 25,000		Important

Appendix D - Monto

Monto Walking Network Plan and Priority Works Program

Overview

The Walking Network Plan (WNP) and Priority Works Program (PWP) for Monto should be read in conjunction with the overarching report which explains the methodology, assumptions and limitations applicable.

Stakeholder Workshop

A stakeholder workshop was held in Monto on 30 November 2022 and was attended by a number of community members representing various interests. It was also attended by a NBRC Councillor and Council staff with good knowledge of the local area.

The workshop reviewed a draft WNP prepared by consultants CRC, providing valuable input. Major walking destinations were refined and are shown on the WNP. The workshop also identified multiple important projects which have been included in the PWP and given additional priority for construction.

High Priority Works

- Construct a path to the neighbourhood centre, police station and Rotary Park (including the water tower art).
- Provide a path to the Hospital either through the show grounds or via Leichhardt St.
- Improve connections to the primary school.
- Renew the section of Rutherford St footpath near the pool.
- Make improvements to street crossings in general by providing (or improving) kerb ramps and crossing locations .
- Renew pathway surfacing on rail overpass bridge.

Other Works

Other possible improvements were raised at the workshop and have been included in the program.

- Construct a path on Flinders St including a safe crossing point (or points). This is needed for residents on the southern side of the highway as well as the caravan park on the northern side.
- Construct a path to the sporting facilities at Thomson St.
- Investigate wayfinding signage to assist visitors.
- Repair deteriorating concrete at the top of kerb and channel on the Newton St footpaths.
- Construct a path on Mouatt St to the bowls club and racecourse.

Future related projects

Future projects or activities which are relevant to the pathway network include:

- A mural is proposed on a 'retro' style caravan to be located on caravan park land near the Lions Park.



Missing kerb ramps, Lister St



Path damaged by tree roots, Rutherford St

- Monto Magic has obtained grant funding to construct gravel surfacing on the section of trail through the town and to construct a gravel crossing from Eyre St to Lister St. This suits an existing pedestrian desired path as a direct route from the western area of town to the CBD.

Existing Path Locations and Conditions

Existing path locations and conditions are shown on the map below. This information has been sourced from data provided by Shepherd Asset Management Services.

Walking Network Plan and Priority Works Program

The Monto WNP and detailed PWP are attached.

Summary of Priority Works for Monto

Town	Work Priority	Est. Value
Monto	Essential	\$ 121,600
	Important	\$ 527,500
	Non-Essential	\$ 848,700
	Total	\$ 1,497,800

Special Projects

Community members have identified a potential walking track that was originally proposed by a past member of LandCare some years ago. The path would be a nature trail, following the waterway from the LandCare office, across rail corridor, south of High School, across Airport Rd, across Flinders St, north of the Caravan Park to the old railway station. Further investigations would be needed to confirm the viability and likely costs. It has been captured as a “special project” in the PWP but a cost estimate and priority have not been applied.

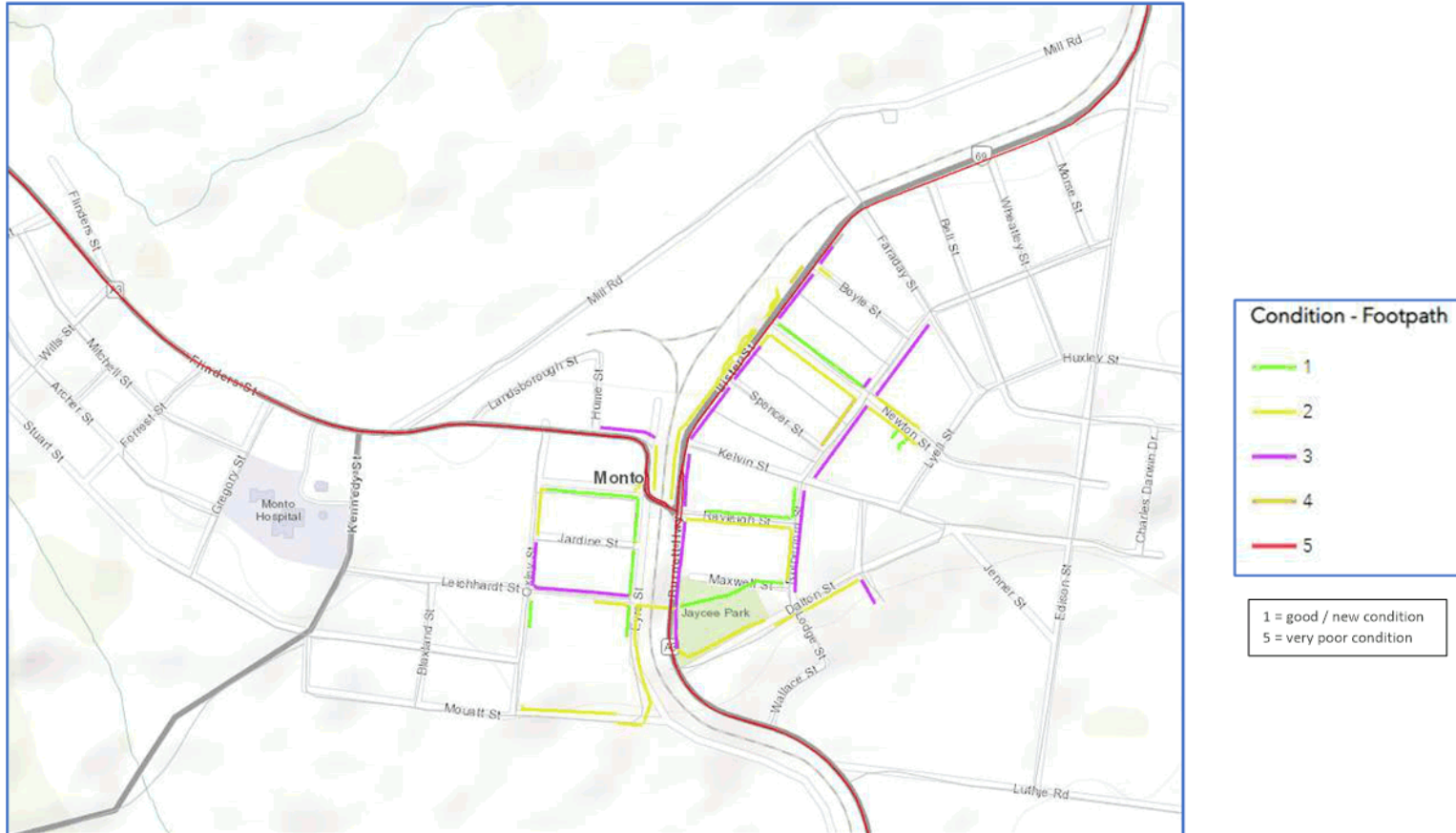


Path to Rotary Park included in WNP and PWP



Missing warning signage at crossings in Lister St

Existing Paths and Conditions in Monto



DESTINATIONS

PRIMARY DESTINATION

Monto Central Business District

SECONDARY DESTINATIONS

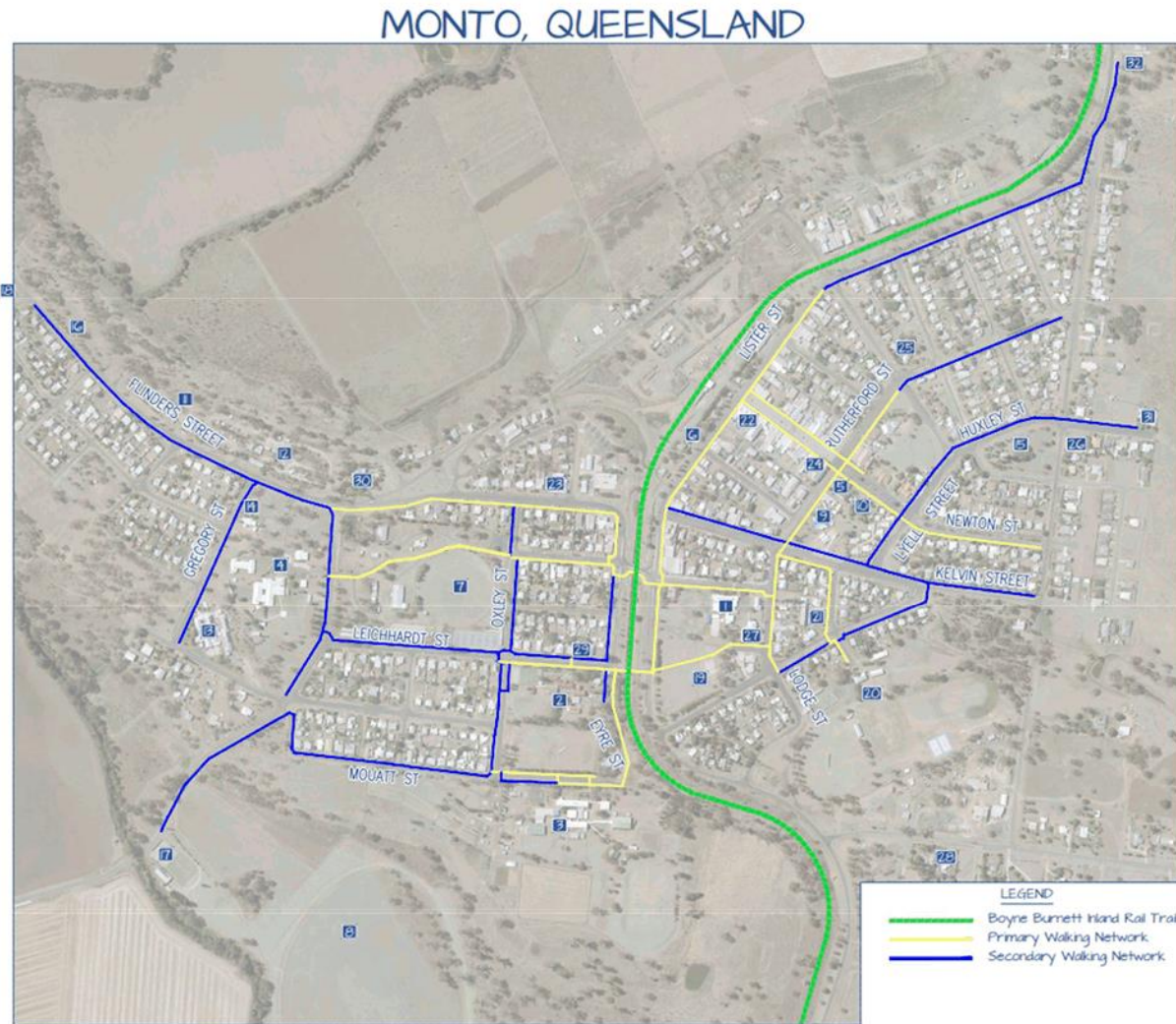
1. St Therese's Catholic Primary School
2. Monto State School
3. Monto State High School
4. Monto Health Services
5. Post Office
6. Monto Information Centre
7. Monto Showgrounds
8. Monto Racecourse
9. Monto Swimming Pool
10. War Memorial
11. Monto Heritage Centre
12. Monto Caravan and Cabin Park
13. Ridgehaven Retirement Complex
14. Bluecare Respite Services
15. Rotary Park - Water Tower Art
16. Don McInnes Park
17. Monto Lawn Bowls Club
18. Walter Park Art
19. Joycee Park - Skate Park
20. Monto Sports Complex
21. Colonial Motor Inn
22. Grand Hotel
23. Three Moon Motel
24. Albert Hotel
25. All Saints Anglican Church & Presbyterian Church of Qld
26. Seventh day Adventist Church
27. St Therese's Catholic Church
28. Kingdom Hall of Jehovah's Witnesses
29. Anglican Church
30. Lions Park
31. Neighbourhood Centre
32. Monto arts centre

CRC-P4003
WALKING NETWORK PLANNING
MONTO WNP

crc
Central Burnett Regional Council

in collaboration with
NORTH BURNETT REGIONAL COUNCIL

Approval V&P	1-21	09/23
Created For: TMC Approval		
Created	Revised/Amended	Drawn



Priority Works Program - Monto

Ref	Town	Street	Side	Section	Recommendation	Length	Width	Quantity	Units	Unit Rate	Est Cost	Comments	MCA ranking
165	Monto	Airport Rd	Southern	Kennedy St to Racecourse, Bowls Club	Construct path	340	1.50	510	m2	\$ 120	\$ 61,200	Construct new path to racecourse and bowls club	Non-essential
166	Monto	Dalton St	Southern	Kelvin St to Lodge St	Construct path	330	1.50	495	m2	\$ 120	\$ 59,400		Non-essential
167	Monto	Flinders St	Southern	Cunningham St to Kennedy St	Construct path	620	1.50	930	m2	\$ 120	\$ 111,600		Important
168	Monto	Flinders St	Southern	Kennedy St to Burke St	Construct path	720	1.50	1,080	m2	\$ 120	\$ 129,600	Construct new path incl crossing points for caravan park and at Hume St	Non-essential
169	Monto	Gregory St	Eastern	Flinders St to Stuart St	Construct path	350	1.50	525	m2	\$ 120	\$ 63,000		Non-essential
170	Monto	Huxley St	Eastern	Faraday St to Neighbourhood Centre	Construct path	550	1.50	825	m2	\$ 120	\$ 99,000	Construct path to access Police Station, Rotary Park and Neighbourhood Centre	Important
171	Monto	Kelvin St	Northern	Lister St to Lyell St	Construct path	420	1.50	630	m2	\$ 120	\$ 75,600		Non-essential
172	Monto	Kelvin St	Northern	Lyell St to Edison St	Construct path	320	1.50	480	m2	\$ 120	\$ 57,600		Non-essential
173	Monto	Kelvin St	Southern	Rutherford St to Thomson St	Construct path	110	1.50	165	m2	\$ 120	\$ 19,800	Construct path to Sports Complex	Non-essential
174	Monto	Kennedy St	Western	Leichhardt St to Hospital entrance	Construct path	130	1.50	195	m2	\$ 120	\$ 23,400	Construct new path to hospital and showgrounds. Alternative is to upgrade existing path through showgrounds	Non-essential
175	Monto	Kennedy St	Western	Mouatt St to Airport Rd	Construct path	75	1.50	113	m2	\$ 120	\$ 13,500	Construct new path to racecourse and bowls club	Non-essential
176	Monto	Leichhardt St	Northern	Oxley St to Kennedy St	Construct path	345	1.50	518	m2	\$ 120	\$ 62,100	Construct new path to hospital and showgrounds. Alternative is to upgrade existing path through showgrounds	Important
177	Monto	Leichhardt St	Southern	Eyre St to Oxley St	Construct path	120	1.50	180	m2	\$ 120	\$ 21,600	Construct new path from zebra crossing to Oxley St path. Upgrade crossing at Eyre St	Essential
178	Monto	Lister St	Both	Rayleigh St to Faraday St	Construct compliant crossing points	NA	NA	1	ls	\$ 15,000	\$ 15,000	Upgrade existing sub-standard crossing points at 5, 10 and 9 Lister St	Important
179	Monto	Lister St	Eastern	Boyle St to Faraday St	Construct kerb ramps at Faraday St	NA	NA	1	ls	\$ 5,000	\$ 5,000	Kerb ramps required at Faraday St (access to Foodworks)	Essential
180	Monto	Lister St	Eastern	Newton St to Kelvin St	Renew path at Spencer St intersection	NA	NA	1	ls	\$ 5,000	\$ 5,000	Existing ramps very rough and ponding water	Essential
181	Monto	Lister St	Eastern	Kelvin St to Rayleigh St	Renew existing path	110	1.50	165	m2	\$ 120	\$ 19,800	Renew aged concrete and AC path	Important
182	Monto	Lister St	Southern	Boyle St to Faraday St	Construct path	110	1.50	165	m2	\$ 120	\$ 19,800		Important
183	Monto	Lister St	Southern	Faraday St to Morse St	Construct path	360	1.50	540	m2	\$ 120	\$ 64,800		Non-essential

Ref	Town	Street	Side	Section	Recommendation	Length	Width	Quantity	Units	Unit Rate	Est Cost	Comments	MCA ranking
184	Monto	Lister St	Southern	Morse St to Girl Guides	Construct path	450	1.50	675	m2	\$ 120	\$ 81,000		Non-essential
185	Monto	Lyell St	Western	Newton St to Faraday St	Construct path	130	1.50	195	m2	\$ 120	\$ 23,400	Construct path to access Police Station, Rotary Park and Neighbourhood Centre	Important
186	Monto	Lyell St	Western	Kelvin St to Newton St	Construct path	120	1.50	180	m2	\$ 120	\$ 21,600		Important
187	Monto	Mouatt St	Northern	Oxley St to Kennedy St	Construct path	410	1.50	615	m2	\$ 120	\$ 73,800	Construct new path to racecourse and bowls club	Non-essential
188	Monto	Newton St	Both	Rutherford St to Lyell St	Install compliant signage and zebra crossings	NA	NA	1	ls	\$ 2,000	\$ 2,000	Review signage and install compliant signs (including pedestrian crossing signs - R3-1)	Essential
189	Monto	Newton St	Northern	Lister St to Rutherford St	Repair spalling concrete at kerb	NA	NA	1		\$ 40,000	\$ 40,000	Remove and replace concrete above the kerb	Important
190	Monto	Newton St	Southern	Lyell St to Edison St	Construct path	250	1.50	375	m2	\$ 120	\$ 45,000	Construct new path incl kerb ramps at intersections	Important
191	Monto	Newton St	Southern	Rutherford St to Lyell St	Construct path	45	1.50	68	m2	\$ 120	\$ 8,100	Extend existing path to Lyell St intersection	Essential
192	Monto	Oxley St	Western	Flinders St to Cunningham St	Construct path	100	1.50	150	m2	\$ 120	\$ 18,000		Non-essential
193	Monto	Oxley St	Western	Leichhardt St to Mouatt St	Construct path	240	1.50	360	m2	\$ 120	\$ 43,200		Non-essential
194	Monto	Oxley St	Both	Leichhardt St to Stuart St	Construct kerb ramps at zebra crossing	NA	NA	1	ls	\$ 5,000	\$ 5,000	Construct kerb ramps and missing concrete connections to existing zebra crossing	Essential
195	Monto	Rayleigh St	Northern	Eyre St to Lister St (Railway overpass)	Renew existing path	45	2.00	90	m2	\$ 120	\$ 10,800	Asphalt path on rail overpass in very poor condition.	Essential
196	Monto	Rutherford St	Both	Kelvin St to Dalton St	Construct kerb ramps at zebra crossing near Rayleigh St	NA	NA	1	ls	\$ 7,500	\$ 7,500	Construct kerb ramps and missing concrete connections to existing zebra crossing	Essential
197	Monto	Rutherford St	Eastern	Newton St to Kelvin St	Renew existing path	120	1.50	180	m2	\$ 120	\$ 21,600	Renew existing path past swimming pool, including ramp at Kelvin St	Essential
198	Monto	Rutherford St	Eastern	Kelvin St to Dalton St	Renew existing path	60	1.50	90	m2	\$ 120	\$ 10,800	Renew path - damaged by tree roots	Important
199	Monto	Rutherford St	Eastern	Kelvin St to Dalton St	Construct kerb ramps at Dalton St	NA	NA	1	ls	\$ 5,000	\$ 5,000	Construct kerb ramps to join existing paths at Dalton St intersection	Essential
200	Monto	Rutherford St	Southern	Faraday St to Edison St	Construct path	360	1.50	540	m2	\$ 120	\$ 64,800		Non-essential
201	Monto	Rutherford St	Western	Kelvin St to Dalton St	Construct kerb ramps at Rayleigh St	NA	NA	1	ls	\$ 5,000	\$ 5,000	Construct kerb ramps at Rayleigh St intersection	Essential

Ref	Town	Street	Side	Section	Recommendation	Length	Width	Quantity	Units	Unit Rate	Est Cost	Comments	MCA ranking
202	Monto	Rutherford St	Western	Newton St to Spencer St	Renew existing path	115	1.50	173	m2	\$ 120	\$ 20,700	Renew path - some locations badly cracked. Rated Condition State 4 in RACAS	Important
203	Monto	Thomson St	Western	Kelvin St to Dalton St	Construct path	125	1.50	188	m2	\$ 120	\$ 22,500	Construct path to Sports Complex	Important
204	Monto	Thomson St	Western	Dalton St to Sports Complex	Renew existing path	90	1.50	135	m2	\$ 120	\$ 16,200	Renew existing path on Thomson St to Sports Complex	Important
205	Monto	Nature trail	Various	Land Care office to old railway station	Plan nature trail	NA	NA	1	ls	TBD	TBD	Special Project - Requested by members of local community. Develop plan for nature trail from Land Care office, across rail corridor, south of High School, across Airport Rd, across Flinders St, north of Caravan Park to old railway station	
206	Monto	Various	Various	Various	Wayfinding signage	NA	NA	1	ls	\$ 25,000	\$ 25,000	Develop and implement wayfinding signage plan	Essential



Appendix E – Mundubbera



Mundubbera Walking Network Plan and Priority Works Program

Overview

The Walking Network Plan (WNP) and Priority Works Program (PWP) for Mundubbera should be read in conjunction with the overarching report which explains the methodology, assumptions and limitations applicable.

Stakeholder Workshop

A stakeholder workshop was held in Mundubbera on 29 November 2022 and was attended by a number of community members representing various interests. It was also attended by a NBRC Councillor and Council staff with good knowledge of the local area.

The workshop reviewed a draft WNP prepared by consultants CRC, providing valuable input. Major walking destinations were refined and are shown on the WNP. The workshop also identified multiple important projects which have been included in the PWP and given additional priority for construction.

High priority works

- Construct a path on Leichardt St and Orton St from the main hospital entrance to the Community Health and QAS buildings.
- Renew the remaining aged section of concrete path on the northern side of Stuart Russell St between Mahoney St and Bouverie St.
- Construct a path from Strathdee St via Landy St and Anne St to the caravan park entrance, noting that the caravan park provides accommodation for seasonal workers who (mostly) do not have cars.
- Construct the short missing section of path at the southern end of Bauer St to connect to the river path.
- Upgrade the pedestrian connections at the Lyons St/Bouverie St roundabout so that pedestrians are not directed onto the circulating lane of the roundabout.
- Provide/upgrade kerb crossings at various intersections, commencing with the primary routes.

Other works

Other possible improvements were raised at the workshop and have been included in the program.

- Review crossing points in Lyons St where kerb ramps are provided on one side of the street but not on the other.

Future Related Projects

The extension of the Boyne – Burnett Inland Rail Trail from Gayndah to Mundubbera will generate additional pedestrian and cycle traffic between the trail head and CBD.



Missing kerb ramp – Leichardt St/Perry St



Missing kerb ramp/s – Leichardt St / Mahoney St

Existing Path Locations and Conditions

Existing path locations and conditions are shown on the map below. This information has been sourced from data provided by Shepherd Asset Management Services.

Although Mundubbera still has a number of missing pathways, the town does have a relatively extensive (though generally aged) footpath network. It appears that many years ago, Council’s aim was to have concrete footpaths on both sides of every residential street - and in some locations that was achieved. However, based on more recent levels of Council funding, this is not a sustainable long-term goal.

The stakeholder workshop included discussion about whether paths are needed on one side or both sides of each street. It was agreed that paths on both sides are only warranted on a small number of primary routes where pedestrian numbers and traffic volumes are highest:

- Lyons St (Bauer St to Bouverie St), and
- Bauer St (Burnett St to Stuart Russell St).

It was noted the WNP will not include a path on every street, as this is not a financially sustainable objective for Council.

The WNP identifies a large network of existing and future paths that connect to significant destinations for a range of users. However, there is approximately 3km of existing concrete footpath in Mundubbera that is not included in the WNP and the majority of this is in poor or very poor condition. If these paths were to be renewed it would cost Council more than \$0.5M; equivalent to 3 to 4 years of Council’s path renewal budget for the whole region. It is therefore recommended that, over time, existing paths which are not shown in the WNP be removed and replaced with grass, as funding and other priorities permit.

Walking Network Plan and Priority Works Program

The Mundubbera WNP and detailed PWP are attached.

Summary of Priority Works for Mundubbera

Town	Work Priority	Est. Value
Mundubbera	Essential	\$ 218,500
	Important	\$ 458,500
	Non-Essential	\$ 826,200
	Total	\$ 1,503,200

Special Projects



Mahoney St – path renewal required



Missing kerb ramp and path at Stuart Russell St

Community members advised that pedestrians and cyclists currently use the traffic lanes to cross the Burnett River bridge on the Mundubbera – Durong Rd on the southern approach to town. The possibility of a separated pedestrian/cycle path on the bridge has been raised. The bridge and road are State-controlled assets and are the responsibility of TMR. Given the likely cost of this path (more than \$10M) and the rural land use on the southern side of the bridge, this project may be difficult for Council and TMR to support in the short to medium term. However, to allow the request to be further considered in future, it has been captured in the PWP as a “special project”, without an estimated cost or priority for completion.

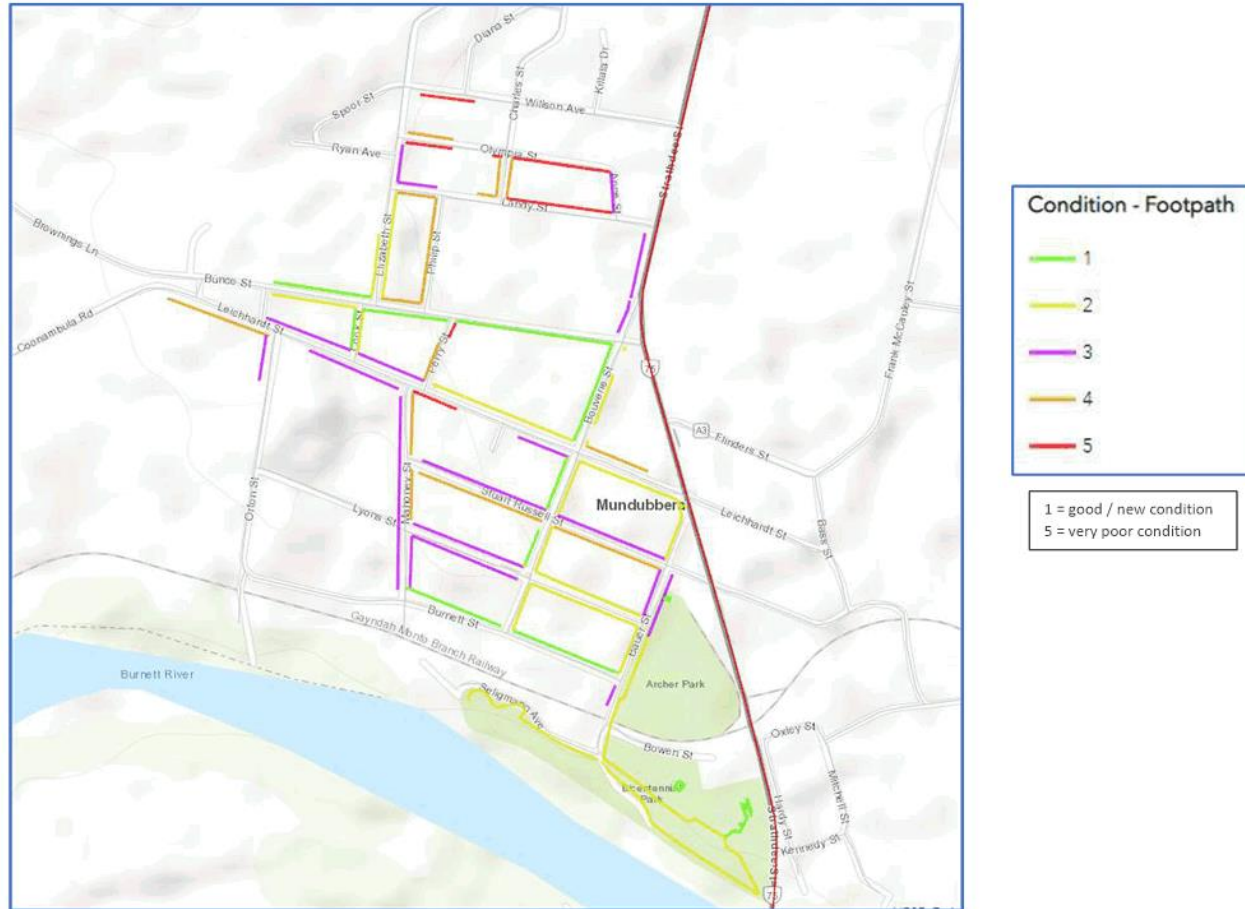


Ramps at Lyons St roundabout



Connections from Lyons St to Memorial Park and pool

Existing Paths and Conditions in Mundubbera



DESTINATIONS

PRIMARY DESTINATION

- Mundubbera Central Business District

SECONDARY DESTINATIONS

- Mundubbera State School
- Mundubbera Multipurpose Health Service
- Post Office
- Mundubbera Information Centre
- Mundubbera Showgrounds
- Leichhardt Lodge
- Mundubbera Golf Course
- War Memorial Swimming Pool
- War Memorial
- Mundubbera Heritage Centre
- Mundubbera Three Rivers Tourist Park
- Archery Park - Multi-use sports facility
- Bluecare Mundubbera Community and Respite Care
- OCAP and Centre Link offices
- Mundubbera Bowls Club
- Pump Station Art
- Boatmen's Park - Steam Train and Arthur Dagg Walk
- Halfpenny Park
- Mundubbera Railway Precinct
- The Big Mandarin & Caravan Park
- Kingsford Hill GP Jehovahs Witness
- Balolong Motor Inn
- Mundubbera Motel
- Royal Hotel Mundubbera & Picky Packers

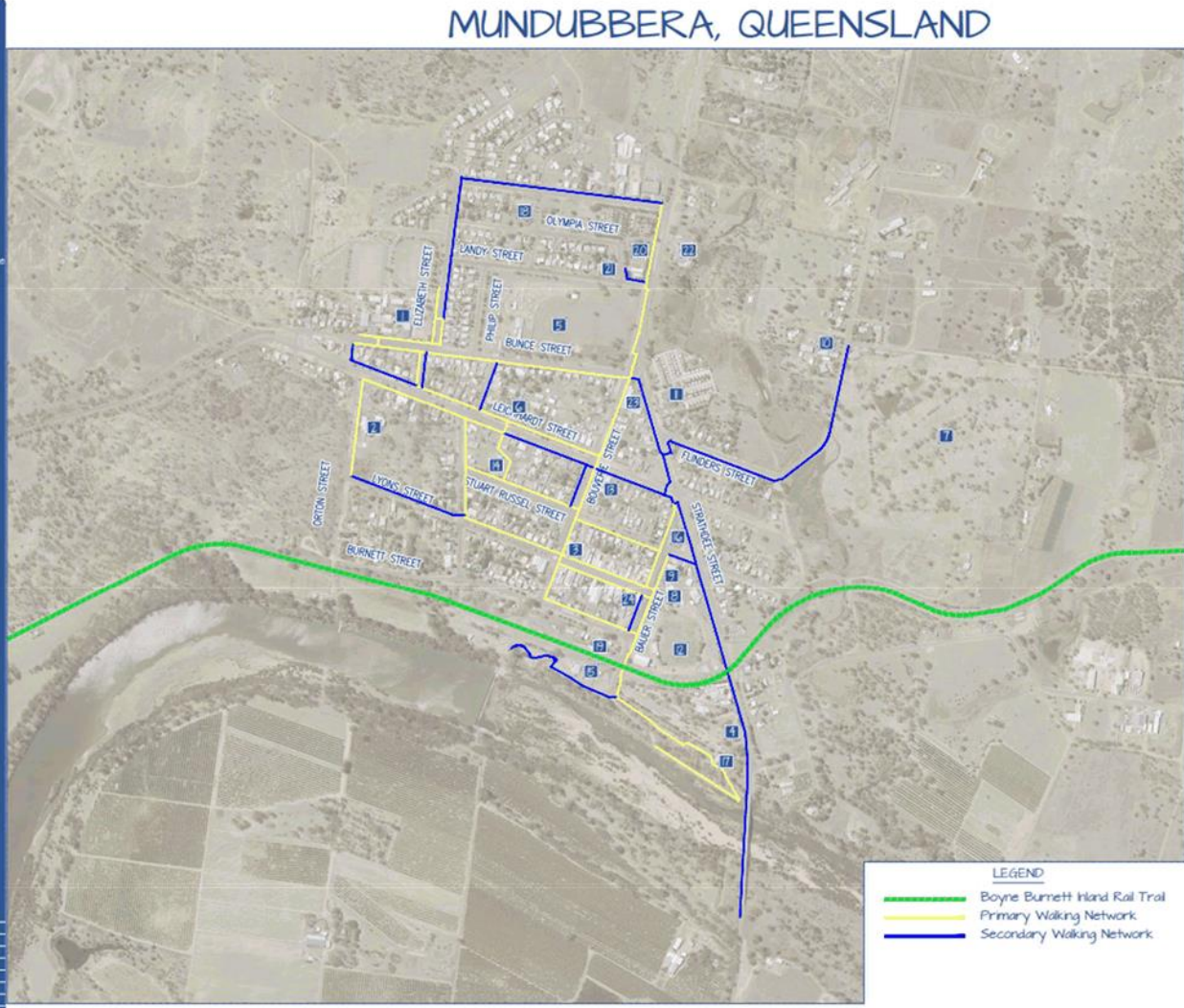
CRC-P4002
WALKING NETWORK PLANNING
MUNDUBBERA WNP

crc
Central Burnett Regional Council

in collaboration with

NORTH BURNETT
REGIONAL COUNCIL

1	Approved WNP	LBR	08/23
2	Issued For TMR Approval		
3	Revised/Amended	Issue	Date



Priority Works Program - Mundubbera

Ref	Town	Street	Side	Section	Recommendation	Length	Width	Quantity	Units	Unit Rate	Est Cost	Comments	MCA ranking
99	Mundubbera	Ann St	Western	Olympia St to Landy St	Remove existing dilapidated path	90	1.50	135	m2	\$ 120	\$ 16,200	Path in very poor condition. Not in WNP.	Non-essential
100	Mundubbera	Bauer St	Eastern	Lyons St to Stuart Russell St	Renew existing path	145	1.50	218	m2	\$ 120	\$ 26,100		Important
101	Mundubbera	Bauer St	Eastern	Seligmann Ave to Burnett St	Construct path (missing sections from Seligmann Ave path)	50	1.50	75	m2	\$ 120	\$ 9,000		Essential
102	Mundubbera	Bauer St	Western	Lyons St to Stuart Russell St	Renew existing path	110	1.50	165	m2	\$ 120	\$ 19,800		Important
103	Mundubbera	Bauer St	Western	Bowen St to Burnett St	Renew existing path	50	1.50	75	m2	\$ 120	\$ 9,000		Essential
104	Mundubbera	Bauer St	Eastern	Lyons St to Stuart Russell St	Construct kerb ramp opposite Lyons St	NA	NA	1	ls	\$ 2,500	\$ 2,500	Existing ramp not compliant	Essential
105	Mundubbera	Bouverie St	Western	Bunce St to Strathdee St	Construct path (missing section on north side of Bunce St)	20	1.50	30	m2	\$ 120	\$ 3,600		Essential
106	Mundubbera	Bunce St	Northern	Elizabeth St to Phillip St	Renew existing path	90	1.50	135	m2	\$ 120	\$ 16,200	Path in very poor condition.	Important
107	Mundubbera	Bunce St	Northern	Elizabeth St to Phillip St	Construct kerb ramps at Elizabeth St	NA	NA	1	ls	\$ 5,000	\$ 5,000		Essential
108	Mundubbera	Bunce St	Northern	Elizabeth St to Phillip St	Construct kerb ramps at Orton St	NA	NA	1	ls	\$ 5,000	\$ 5,000		Essential
109	Mundubbera	Charles St	Eastern	Landy St to Olympia St	Remove existing dilapidated path	90	1.50	135	m2	\$ 40	\$ 5,400	Path in very poor condition. Not in WNP.	Non-essential
110	Mundubbera	Charles St	Western	Landy St to Olympia St	Remove existing dilapidated path	90	1.50	135	m2	\$ 40	\$ 5,400	Path in very poor condition. Not in WNP.	Non-essential
111	Mundubbera	Elizabeth St	Eastern	Landy St to Olympia St	Renew existing path	90	1.50	135	m2	\$ 120	\$ 16,200	Path in very poor condition.	Non-essential
112	Mundubbera	Elizabeth St	Eastern	Olympia St to Wilson St	Construct path	100	1.50	150	m2	\$ 120	\$ 18,000		Non-essential
113	Mundubbera	Flinders St	Southern and eastern	Strathdee St to Ezy Rd	Construct path	780	1.50	1,170	m2	\$ 120	\$ 140,400		Non-essential
114	Mundubbera	Landy St	Northern	Strathdee St to Caravan Pk entrance	Construct path	120	1.50	180	m2	\$ 120	\$ 21,600	Includes short section on Annn St to caravan park entrance	Important
115	Mundubbera	Landy St	Northern	Elizabeth St to Charles St	Remove existing dilapidated path	130	1.50	195	m2	\$ 40	\$ 7,800	Path in very poor condition. Not in WNP.	Non-essential
116	Mundubbera	Landy St	Northern	Charles St to Ann St	Remove existing dilapidated path	230	1.50	345	m2	\$ 40	\$ 13,800	Path in very poor condition. Not in WNP.	Non-essential

Ref	Town	Street	Side	Section	Recommendation	Length	Width	Quantity	Units	Unit Rate	Est Cost	Comments	MCA ranking
117	Mundubbera	Landy St	Southern	Elizabeth St to Phillip St	Remove existing dilapidated path	90	1.50	135	m2	\$ 40	\$ 5,400	Path in very poor condition. Not in WNP.	Non-essential
118	Mundubbera	Leichhardt St	Northern	Orton St to Cook St	Renew existing path	200	1.50	300	m2	\$ 120	\$ 36,000		Non-essential
119	Mundubbera	Leichhardt St	Northern	Cook St to Perry St	Renew existing path	150	1.50	225	m2	\$ 120	\$ 27,000		Important
120	Mundubbera	Leichhardt St	Northern	Orton St to Cook St	Construct kerb ramps at Orton St	NA	NA	1	ls	\$ 5,000	\$ 5,000		Important
121	Mundubbera	Leichhardt St	Northern	Cook St to Perry St	Construct kerb ramp at Perry St	NA	NA	1	ls	\$ 2,500	\$ 2,500		Essential
122	Mundubbera	Leichhardt St	Southern	Orton St to Coonambula St	Remove existing dilapidated path	230	1.50	345	m2	\$ 40	\$ 13,800	Path in very poor condition. Not in WNP.	Important
123	Mundubbera	Leichhardt St	Southern	Orton St to Mahoney St	Renew existing path	210	1.50	315	m2	\$ 120	\$ 37,800		Important
124	Mundubbera	Leichhardt St	Southern	Mahoney St to Heritage Ct	Renew existing path	110	1.50	165	m2	\$ 120	\$ 19,800	Path in very poor condition.	Important
125	Mundubbera	Leichhardt St	Southern	Heritage Ct to Bouverie St	Renew existing path	120	1.50	180	m2	\$ 120	\$ 21,600		Non-essential
126	Mundubbera	Leichhardt St	Southern	Orton St to Mahoney St	Construct kerb ramp at Mahoney St	NA	NA	1	ls	\$ 5,000	\$ 5,000		Essential
127	Mundubbera	Leichhardt St	Southern	Orton St to Mahoney St	Construct path (Orton St to Hospital)	70	1.50	105	m2	\$ 120	\$ 12,600		Essential
128	Mundubbera	Leichhardt St	Southern	Mahoney St to Heritage Ct	Construct kerb ramp at Mahoney St	NA	NA	1	ls	\$ 5,000	\$ 5,000		Essential
129	Mundubbera	Leichhardt St	Southern	Mahoney St to Heritage Ct	Construct path (Council driveway to 64 Leichhardt St)	90	1.50	135	m2	\$ 120	\$ 16,200	Complete missing section	Important
130	Mundubbera	Leichhardt St	Southern	Bouverie St to Strathdee St	Construct kerb ramp at Buoverie St	NA	NA	1	ls	\$ 2,500	\$ 2,500		Important
131	Mundubbera	Lyons St	Northern	Orton to Mahoney St	Construct path	320	1.50	480	m2	\$ 120	\$ 57,600		Non-essential
132	Mundubbera	Lyons St	Both	Bouverie St roundabout	Construct compliant kerb ramps on all legs	NA	NA	1	ls	\$ 50,000	\$ 50,000		Essential
133	Mundubbera	Lyons St	Northern	Mahoney St to Bouverie St	Renew existing path	260	1.50	390	m2	\$ 120	\$ 46,800		Important
134	Mundubbera	Lyons St	Northern	Bouverie St to Bauer St	Construct kerb ramps at Bauer St	NA	NA	1	ls	\$ 5,000	\$ 5,000		Essential
135	Mundubbera	Lyons St	Southern	Mahoney St to Bouverie St	Renew existing path	250	1.50	375	m2	\$ 120	\$ 45,000		Important
136	Mundubbera	Lyons St	Southern	Bouverie St to Bauer St	Construct kerb ramps at Bauer St	NA	NA	1	ls	\$ 5,000	\$ 5,000		Essential
137	Mundubbera	Mahoney St	Eastern	Leichhardt St to Stuart Russell St	Renew existing path	140	1.50	210	m2	\$ 120	\$ 25,200	Path in very poor condition.	Important
138	Mundubbera	Mahoney St	Eastern	Stuart Russell St to Lyons St	Renew existing path	110	1.50	165	m2	\$ 120	\$ 19,800	Path in very poor condition.	Important

Ref	Town	Street	Side	Section	Recommendation	Length	Width	Quantity	Units	Unit Rate	Est Cost	Comments	MCA ranking
139	Mundubbera	Mahoney St	Eastern	Lyons St to Burnett St	Remove existing dilapidated path	120	1.50	180	m2	\$ 40	\$ 7,200	Path not in WNP.	Important
140	Mundubbera	Mahoney St	Eastern	Stuart Russell St to Lyons St	Construct kerb ramp at Stuart Russell St	NA	NA	1	ls	\$ 2,500	\$ 2,500		Essential
141	Mundubbera	Mahoney St	Western	Leichhardt St to Burnett St	Remove existing path when condition becomes unacceptable	420	1.50	630	m2	\$ 40	\$ 25,200	Path not in WNP.	Non-essential
142	Mundubbera	Olympia St	Northern	Elizabeth St to Charles St	Remove existing dilapidated path	120	1.50	180	m2	\$ 40	\$ 7,200	Path in very poor condition. Not in WNP.	Non-essential
143	Mundubbera	Olympia St	Southern	Elizabeth St to Charles St	Remove existing dilapidated path	120	1.50	180	m2	\$ 40	\$ 7,200	Path in very poor condition. Not in WNP.	Non-essential
144	Mundubbera	Olympia St	Southern	Charles St to Ann St	Remove existing dilapidated path	220	1.50	330	m2	\$ 40	\$ 13,200	Path in very poor condition. Not in WNP.	Non-essential
145	Mundubbera	Orton St	Eastern	Bunce St to Leichhardt St	Construct path	40	1.50	60	m2	\$ 120	\$ 7,200		Important
146	Mundubbera	Orton St	Eastern	Leichhardt St to Lyons St	Construct path	280	1.50	420	m2	\$ 120	\$ 50,400		Essential
147	Mundubbera	Orton St	Western	Leichhardt St to end of path	Remove existing dilapidated path	100	1.50	150	m2	\$ 40	\$ 6,000	Path in very poor condition. Not in WNP.	Non-essential
148	Mundubbera	Perry St	Eastern	Bunce St to Leichhardt St	Renew existing path	140	1.50	210	m2	\$ 120	\$ 25,200	Path in very poor condition.	Non-essential
149	Mundubbera	Perry St	Western	Bunce St to Leichhardt St	Remove existing dilapidated path	140	1.50	210	m2	\$ 40	\$ 8,400	Path in very poor condition. Not in WNP.	Non-essential
150	Mundubbera	Phillip St	Western	Bunce St to Landy St	Remove existing dilapidated path	230	1.50	345	m2	\$ 40	\$ 13,800	Path in very poor condition. Not in WNP.	Non-essential
151	Mundubbera	Strathdee St	Eastern	Stuart Russell St to Leichhardt St	Construct kerb ramp opposite Bauer St path	NA	NA	1	ls	\$ 2,500	\$ 2,500		Important
152	Mundubbera	Strathdee St	Western	Dimitrios Bridge	Construct shared path on bridge	300	3.00	900	m2	TBD	TBD	Special Project - Pathway requested by local community members - requires further planning	
153	Mundubbera	Strathdee St	Western	Dimitrios Bridge to Stuart Russell St	Construct path	790	1.50	1,185	m2	\$ 120	\$ 142,200		Non-essential
154	Mundubbera	Strathdee St	Western	Stuart Russell St to Leichhardt St	Construct path	170	1.50	255	m2	\$ 120	\$ 30,600		Non-essential
155	Mundubbera	Strathdee St	Western	Leichhardt St to Bunce St	Construct path	320	1.50	480	m2	\$ 120	\$ 57,600		Non-essential
156	Mundubbera	Strathdee St	Western	Landy St to Wilson St	Construct path	210	1.50	315	m2	\$ 120	\$ 37,800		Important
157	Mundubbera	Stuart Russell St	Southern	Bauer St to Strathdee St	Construct path	90	1.50	135	m2	\$ 120	\$ 16,200		Important
158	Mundubbera	Stuart Russell St	Northern	Mahoney St to Bouverie St	Renew existing path	230	1.50	345	m2	\$ 120	\$ 41,400		Essential

Ref	Town	Street	Side	Section	Recommendation	Length	Width	Quantity	Units	Unit Rate	Est Cost	Comments	MCA ranking
159	Mundubbera	Stuart Russell St	Northern	Bouverie St to Bauer St	Remove existing dilapidated path	250	1.50	375	m2	\$ 40	\$ 15,000	Path in poor condition. Not in WNP.	Non-essential
160	Mundubbera	Stuart Russell St	Southern	Mahoney St to Bouverie St	Remove existing dilapidated path	300	1.50	450	m2	\$ 40	\$ 18,000	Path in very poor condition. Not in WNP.	Non-essential
161	Mundubbera	Stuart Russell St	Southern	Bouverie St to Bauer St	Renew existing path	250	1.50	375	m2	\$ 120	\$ 45,000		Important
162	Mundubbera	Stuart Russell St	Southern	Mahoney St to Bouverie St	Construct kerb ramp at Bouverie St	NA	NA	1	ls	\$ 5,000	\$ 5,000		Essential
163	Mundubbera	Wilson Ave	Northern	Elizabeth St to Strathdee St	Construct path	580	1.50	870	m2	\$ 120	\$ 104,400		Non-essential
164	Mundubbera	Wilson Ave	Southern	Elizabeth St to Charles St	Remove existing dilapidated path	140	1.50	210	m2	\$ 40	\$ 8,400	Path in very poor condition. Not in WNP.	Non-essential

12 COUNCILLOR REPORTS

12.1 MAYOR AND COUNCILLORS REPORTS

Doc Id: 1161689

Author: Tegan Bauer, Executive Assistant to the Mayor

Authoriser: Margot Stork, Chief Executive Officer

Attachments: 1. Cr Giddins - Councillor Report for July 2023.pdf
2. Mayor Hotz - Councillor Report for July 2023.pdf

INTRODUCTION/BACKGROUND

This report is a summary of information provided by the Mayor and Councillors outlining their attendance at meetings and functions representing Council for the period 1 July 2023 to 31 July 2023.

In addition to the attached, Councillor Information Workshops were held throughout the period as noted below. These workshops are an opportunity for Council Officers to keep Councillors up to date with projects that are happening throughout the region.

- Wednesday 5 July 2023 in Gayndah
- Wednesday 19 July 2023 in Mundubbera

As per the 2023 Meeting Schedule, the Council General Meeting was held on Monday 31 July 2023 in Eidsvold.

OFFICER COMMENTS/CONCLUSION

Nil.

OFFICERS RECOMMENDATION

That Council receives the Councillor Reports for the period 1 July 2023 to 31 July 2023.

CR DAEL GIDDINS

JULY, 2023

Date	Meeting/Function	Location	Comments
03/07/2023	03/07/2023 08/07/2023 17/07/2023 – local residents funerals		
04/07/2023	Community Program – RADF & NBRC	Gayndah	Community engagement with the Wakka Wakka Art project
06/07/2023	Meeting with Rural Resident	Gayndah	Concerns regarding Council Roads being fenced/gated
11/07/2023	Meeting with Resident (8am) Meeting with Rural Resident (11am)	Gayndah	Regarding street kerb & channelling Regarding property signs damaged – 1070 Baiting program
12/07/2023	Meeting with Resident Phone Response with Biggenden Resident	Gayndah Gayndah	Concerns regarding areas around town with long grass and concerns about a possible fire. Was able to assist the Resident with setting up the Snap Send Solve app on his phone and demonstrating how useful this app is to advise NBRC of those types of concerns Responded to resident regarding her enquiry of setting up a 2 nd bus stop for the NBRC bus service in Biggenden.
14/07/2023	Burnett State College Gayndah State Primary School	Gayndah	Attended Burnett State College NAIDOC event Attended and participated with the students of Gayndah State Primary School with the activities for their NAIDOC event
15/07/2023	Boyne Burnett Inland Rail Trail (BBIRT) meeting	Monto	Attended meeting
15/07/2023	Mt Perry Art Gallery – Exhibition Opening	Mt Perry	Invited to attend the opening of new Exhibition and meet the Artist Carolyn Ward.
19/07/2023	Mundubbera Rotary Changeover Dinner	Mundubbera	Attended the function with Mayor Hotz
20/07/2023	Gayndah Art Gallery (GAC) Meeting	Gayndah	Discussion around the use of the GAC for outside school hours care and requesting a letter of support from the NBRC

Date	Meeting/Function	Location	Comments
21/07/2023	Gayndah State Primary School Sports Event	Gayndah	Asked to assist with the presentations etc.
21/07/2023	Meeting with Rural Resident	Gayndah	Progress of the Bon Accord Bridge repairs
22/07/2023	146 th Anniversary of the Proclamation of Eidsvold Goldfields	Eidsvold	Invitation to attend this function hosted by the Eidsvold Historical Museum. Mayor Hotz & Cr Mesner also attended.
22/07/2023	Coalstoun Lakes Connect Group	Coalstoun Lakes	Invited to attend their "Tis the Season Send Off" Community event
24/07/2023	Phone Conversation with Resident	Goondiwind	Residents concerns with recent dog issues
24/07/2023 to 27/07/2023	Bush Council Conference	Goondiwindi	Attended Conference & presentations
28/07/2023	Catholic Education Conference Cluster	Gayndah	Invited to showcase our Town & Region with the Principals on a Walk & Talk 6am event Invited to make a Welcome Speech at the start of the Conference that morning
28/07/2023	North Burnett Sports	Gayndah	Invited to attend this event and assist
28/07/2023	Phone Conversation with two (2) Residents	Gayndah	Residents ongoing concerns with dog issues
29/07/2023	NBRC Land Auction	Mundubbera	Attended Mundubbera Residential Land Auction
31/07/2023	Citizenship Ceremony	Eidsvold	Welcomed in two (2) new Australian Citizens

2023 BUSH COUNCIL CONFERENCE – GOONDIWINDI 25-27TH JULY 2023

Cr Dael Giddins

I attended the above Conference and below is my report of the Presentations.

The Bush Council Conference is held every 2 years and is where like minded Council's are able to relate to what's happening and not happening in their relevant Council boundaries. This year had the largest number of attendees since the Conference started a total of 216 and I believe the attendance will continue to grow.

The Hon Lawrence Springborg AM, Goondiwindi Regional Council Mayor welcomed all those in attendance and confirmed that 45 Councils are classified as Rural & Remote and believes this Conference is a great platform to share our concerns and ideas.

Senator the Hon Anthony Chisholm, Assistance Minister for Regional Development & Deputy Manager of Government Business in the Senate spoke on the Federal Government updates.

Mr Chisholm advised that out of the 77 local government authorities, 46 Council are now classified to be in an unsustainable position.

Members of the Policy Executive, Rural & Remote Council's Compact gave a progress report from their previous meeting.

Some of the concerns in many of these Council's is

Roads off Alignment – up to 60% of roads are in this category

Gravel Pit Licensing – Major issue for remote Council's with having to meet compliance with their gravel pits.

Hon Di Farmer MP, Minister for Employment & Small Business, Minister for Training & Skills Development and Minister for Youth Justice gave an interesting profile on how Council's need to Grow Your Own with young people in our Communities. Other points which were shared with us

Skilled workforce issues in rural communities

98% of indigenous training had been successful

The VET review needs our Council's input to make sure it covers the relevant aspects of what we need.

Rural University hubs are being recognised in our Rural Towns and we need to continue to push for these Hubs.

Dr Rachel Chay, Dept of Agriculture & Fisheries, Deputy Director-General of Chief Biosecurity.

Dr Chay talked about protecting our Food Bowl regions from any outbreaks. Qld has the 2nd largest road freight transport which carries our produce, and we need to adapt our strategies which will assist with protecting our Biosecurity industry.

Pat Vidgen, Electoral Commission of Qld, Electoral Commissioner gave an update for the 16th March 2024 Elections also advised of the proposed Caretaker Mode period.

Jake Ellwood, Qld Reconstruction Authority, CEO congratulated Council's on being proactive with their Recovery challenges. Also, that lessons learnt from previous disasters is to better understand the disaster and to change actions to make it better after a disaster. We need also to continue to fight for Betterment opportunities for flood affected Communities.

Day 2 - 26th July 2023

The Hon Lawrence Springborg gave a presentation on the importance of Social Licences and the recent Windfarm Projects in the Goondiwindi Region and how the Community contribution (\$19,000) is very minimal. From this project there will be no new infrastructure for Goondiwindi, Population Growth and Zero jobs for the Locals. The lack of engagement from Windfarm Projects with the Council from the start of this project has been very disappointing.

Warwick Squire, GasFields Commission Qld, CEO spoke of the importance of having the engagement with the Council, Community Organisations etc. From these engagements it can have a very positive change in co-existing with both land holders and local governments.

Four local gurus gave presentations on their experiences of using innovations in their businesses.

Local Pharmacy owner Lucy Walker talked about the struggle of obtaining and keeping staff in her Pharmacy business. Lucy took the challenge of investing a large amount of money into her business to put in an automated dispenser machine 5 years ago and how it has changed her business. Lucy also has moved forward with using a Drone to deliver to customers especially during the times they are in Flood.

Jerome Leary from Infarm showed how using technology to resolve issues has improved his business. From Artificial intelligence spot spraying for weeds to GPS location of weeds and aerial spraying. Also showed us the evidence of how Ripping & Ploughing your paddocks can make a big difference as to how water will stay longer on the land.

Maurice Hayes-Hayes Spraying – Conservation Farming

New technologies in manufacturing spraying equipment and new agricultural ideas can change the land for farmers.

Tom Woods – Aglepharm

Tom has grown a business from growing algae to use on farm. The algae has high omega 3 and is used in dry products, snack foods and oil. He is working with Universities to continue to improve the business.

Linda Dobe – Dept of Regional Development, Manufacturing & Water, Acting Director-General

At present there are several large infrastructure water projects under assessment. The Bundaberg & Burnett Water Draft is still being actioned. The Building our Regions water and wastewater infrastructure projects are available. Talked about the importance of Council's working together on infrastructure and sharing resources.

Tim Fynes-Clinton, Executive Partner, King & Co Solicitors

Peter Hutchinson, Director Native Title Agreements – “The Great Quarry Quandary”

Information was shared regarding the requirement to comply with the Native Title Act. All Councils are required to comply with the Native Title Act. Indigenous land use agreements are still being determined. DAF are working on these agreements which will expire within the next 12 months.

Denise Brown – Outback Tourism, CEO

Denise spoke of Tourism, post covid and how/why people are now visiting our Regions and what is expected. We have 19 Regional Tourism Organisations that assist Council's in promoting their product and regions. Interesting fact is that they have found visitors like a paper guide and map and the numbers who access Instagram & Facebook is increasing.

Ann Leahy MP, Shadow Minister for Volunteers & Shadow Minister for Local Government

Ann's topic was something that is on everyone's agenda, Youth Justice issues. Things that need to be addressed are the change to the ruling for Breach of Bail, Consequences for Actions and Early Intervention. A proposed amendment is being put to Government to address these issues.

Day 3 - 27th July 2023

LAWMAC, - Regional Waste Plan – Opportunities for Rural & Remote Councils

29 Councils and 50 Corporate Members are part of LAWMAC . Regional waste is one of the big issues with small regional Council's. We need to look at Educating & changing Waste behaviour at our kerbside collections.

Cr Tony Rayner (Longreach Mayor), Katie Bassett (Regional Australia Institute (RAI), Consulting Lead and Senator the Hon Matt Canavan

All spoke on the essential services that are required in the Bush such as Banks. Senator Matt spoke of his engagement with the big banks to stop their closures in our rural towns. All towns need a bank as they are one of the things that make a small town a liveable town. Other businesses like DAF are also slowly moving out of our Regions. We need to keep fighting to keep our Essential Services.

Lee Poole (Royal Flying Doctors, Executive General Manager) Cr Janene Fegan (McKinley Deputy Mayor), Dr Matt Masel (Goondiwindi GP)

Securing the services of Doctors, Nurses and Community Health Staff has become another major issue within our Rural areas. One of the problems that they are seeing is that Doctors once finished their medical degree now become specialised, so the number of General Practitioners is decreasing. Mt Isa has not had a permanent doctor for 15 years and other regional areas are without a doctor for several weeks at a time.

Greg Hoffman from the Western Qld Alliance of Councils spoke on Tackling the Housing Crisis within our Regions. The housing issue has an ongoing problem with Council's when they need to supply housing to employees to encourage them to take up positions. The issue of shortage of builders is also adding to the problem. The suggestion that modular housing could fill the gap but the cost for a 3 bedroom modular house to Julia Creek \$370,000

Our last speaker for the Conference was Melbourne Cup winning Jockey Michael Rodd. Michael engaged us with his long road to victory story and then his chronic health issues. From a young guy who didn't know what he wanted to do so started out as an apprentice carpenter. This didn't work out and someone suggested he become a jockey. The road ahead was a long one for him with several trainer changes and moving overseas and then back again. In 2007 his big break came when he rode "Efficient" to win the Melbourne Cup and then several other wins followed. Then in 2021 he fell from a horse he was riding and was knocked out. His health deteriorated after this, and the Doctors diagnosed him with mental health problems and he was placed on lots of different medication. His ability to ride was affected and so was his family life. Michael eventually found he had been misdiagnosed and the concussion he sustained from the fall is what had caused his health problems. Michael undertook a new trial using magnetic fields and this has turned his life around. This was the first time Michael has told his story and we were very fortunate to be his audience.

MAYOR LES HOTZ

JULY, 2023

Date	Meeting/Function	Location	Comments
03/07/2023	Funeral Service	Monto	Funeral Service for Valma Hotz.
08/07/2023	Memorial Service	Gayndah	Memorial Service for Kevin Ballin.
09/07/2023	Wide Bay Burnett – Fraser Coast Regional Forum Dinner	Monto	Official welcoming dinner.
10/07/2023	Wide Bay Burnett – Fraser Coast Regional Forum	Monto	This Forum discussed the current State Budget investment of \$849.2 million in Wide Bay Hospital and Health Service. Exciting messages shared at the Forum included the regional-specific update on the QLD Vocational Education and Training Strategy, health priorities, housing accessibility and affordability and economic diversification. The Attorney-General, Minister for Justice and Minister for the Prevention of Domestic and Family Violence, The Honourable Yvette D'Ath and Minister for Agricultural Industry Development and Fisheries and Minister for Rural Communities, The Honourable Mark Furner, Dr Chris Sarra (Director General, Queensland Department of Agriculture and Fisheries) and Member for Hervey Bay Adrian Tantari attended this forum.
13/07/2023	Paradise and Grosvenor Cemetery Tour	Eidsvold/Biggenden	Visited Paradise Cemetery with community member and discussed concerns. Walked through Grosvenor to understand layout.
14/07/2023	Funeral Service	Maryborough	Funeral service for Noelene Pope.
15/07/2023	Boyne Burnett Inland Rail Trail (BBIRT) Annual General Meeting	Monto	Annual General Meeting held, was well attending including Local Member for Callide Bryson Head.
18/07/2023	Tony Biggar Solicitor Opening Event	Monto	Opening evening for a new business in the Monto main street.
19/07/2023	Meet with community member	Gayndah	Replanting of trees in Gayndah.

Date	Meeting/Function	Location	Comments
19/07/2023	North Burnett Regional Council (NBRC) Service Awards Presentation	Mundubbera	Recognition for staff dedication and service to NBRC.
19/07/2023	Mundubbera Rotary Club Handover Dinner	Mundubbera	Approximately 40 people attended and welcomed the new president into office.
22/07/2023	146 th Anniversary of the Proclamation of Eidsvold Goldfields	Eidsvold	Approximately 70 people attended the luncheon and events held by Eidsvold and District Historical Society Inc.
24/07/2023	Eidsvold NAIDOC Event	Eidsvold	Held at the Eidsvold State School Assembly Hall where visiting speakers presented commentary for the Yes Vote for the Voice Referendum.
27/07/2023	Drop-in Session for Mayor Feedback	Online	Session for Mayors to meet to discuss the Local Government Remuneration Commission Category Review.
29/07/2023	Mundubbera Land sale	Mundubbera	Public auction of 10 allotments residential land in Mundubbera.
29/07/2023	Monto Rotary Club Handover Dinner	Monto	Approximately 20 people attended and welcomed the new president into office.
31/07/2023	Citizenship Ceremony	Eidsvold	Welcomed two (2) new citizens to be Australian Citizens.
31/07/2023	Monto Rate Payers Association	Monto	Topics discussed included Cania and Burnett Highway intersection and health issues.

12.2 RESCISSION MOTION**Doc Id:** 1164365**Author:** Kat Bright, Senior Executive Assistant to the CEO**Authoriser:** Margot Stork, Chief Executive Officer**Attachments:** Nil**INTRODUCTION/BACKGROUND**

At the General Meeting of Council held on 31 July 2023, the following resolutions were adopted regarding the appointment of two (2) Councillors to the Audit and Risk Committee:

RESOLUTION 2023/137

Moved: Cr Dael Giddins

Seconded: Cr Melinda Jones

That Council:

1. Rescind Resolution 2023/98 and 2023/99 adopted by Council at the General Meeting 28 June 2023; and
2. In the event that Council vote to rescind Resolution 2023/98 and 2023/99 I move that nominations be called for the appointment of two (2) Councillors for the Audit & Risk Committee, and if more than two (2) Councillors are nominated then by random draw the order in which Councillors are voted on is decided pursuant to procedures as per the Local Government Act 2009 be taken where all Councillors will have the opportunity to vote for two (2) Councillors to fill the positions on the Committee.

In Favour: Crs Leslie Hotz, Melinda Jones, Dael Giddins and Michael DingleAgainst: Crs Robert Radel, Susan Payne and Kingsley Mesner**CARRIED 4/3****RESOLUTION 2023/138**

Moved: Cr Kingsley Mesner

Seconded: Cr Melinda Jones

That point 2 of Resolution 2023/137 lay on the table until legal advice is obtained.

In Favour: Crs Leslie Hotz, Robert Radel, Melinda Jones, Dael Giddins, Michael Dingle and Kingsley MesnerAgainst: Cr Susan Payne**CARRIED 6/1****OFFICER COMMENTS**

Legal opinion was sought at the request of the Mayor as per Resolution 2023/138.

The legal opinion has been provided to the Mayor.

13 URGENT BUSINESS**14 CONFIDENTIAL REPORTS****OFFICERS RECOMMENDATION**

That Council considers the confidential report(s) listed below in a meeting closed to the public in accordance with Section 275(1) of the *Local Government Regulation 2012*:

14.1 NORTH BURNETT REGION - TOURISM DESTINATION MANAGEMENT ORGANISATION (DMO) ASSOCIATION

This matter is considered to be confidential under 254J - 254J(3)(g) of the *Local Government Regulation 2012*, and the Council is satisfied that discussion of this matter in an open meeting would, on balance, be contrary to the public interest as it deals with negotiations relating to a commercial matter involving the local government for which a public discussion would be likely to prejudice the interests of the local government.

15 CLOSURE OF MEETING