



MONTHLY REPORT ON OPERATIONS

FEBRUARY 2025

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Introduction

The purpose of the Monthly Report on Operations is to provide a summary of the activities that occurred over the preceding month related to the operations of Woorabinda Aboriginal Shire Council aligned to the Corporate and Operational Plan 2023/24.

Our Vision	Our Mission
<i>It is our community vision that our future leaders will be engaged, empowered and strong.</i>	<i>It is our Mission to be transparent, honest and fair leaders for our community. To advocate and collaborate with and for our community.</i>
<i>Our community will be sustainable, informed, active and safe.</i>	<i>We will measure our success and review our methods and actions.</i>
<i>We will be known for our culture and its connection to our actions.</i>	<i>We will base decisions and direction on research, knowledge, local context and community engagement.</i>
<i>We will understand our community and define our own path and place in society.</i>	<i>We will create a framework to build and restore culture.</i>
<i>We will advocate, lead and collaborate.</i>	<i>We will form pathways into existing legal and government organisations for action and advocacy.</i>
	<i>We will show initiative and leadership to support families to achieve greater education and employment.</i>

Woorabinda Aboriginal Shire Council goals are:

1. **Governance** – Open, inclusive and accountable representation
2. **Infrastructure** – Effective town planning infrastructure designed to support the communities visionary planning to suit changing needs into the future.
3. **Industry** – Develop sustainable economic to contribute to a prosperous local economy and improve opportunities and living standards for all.
4. **Environment** – To enhance, protect and sustain the local environment.
5. **Community** – A vibrant community that is safe, healthy, educated and proud of their culture and traditions and embraces diversity.

Woorabinda Aboriginal Shire Council acknowledges the traditional owners, Gaangalu Nation People, Wadja People and the Barad Kabalbara Yetimarla People. Elders past and present, also the many descendants of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people that reside in Woorabinda and surrounds.

GOVERNANCE



Open, inclusive, and accountable representation

Governance Key Focus Areas

- A Technical Working Group that determines standard for service delivery that enhances community solutions across government
- Councillors Development Forum that provide information to effective decision-making
- Contract Management compliance and service delivery improvements.
- Budget effectively monitored and reviewed
- Adopt a bottom-up approach that place decision-making in the hands of the community.
- Organisational Structure that builds the capacity and capability of the workforce.
- Infrastructure Management Plans that meet regulatory requirements

Progress as of February 2025

1. Community Safety Plan

A consultant has been appointed to undertake the engagement process to develop the Community Safety Plan. As of February 2025 approximately 91 surveys were collected with ongoing engagement with key stakeholders and community members.

2. Building Workforce Capacity and Capability

Proposed training for 2025 include:

Mental Health First Aid	Fire Warden & Workplace Safety	Excel Introduction and Intermediate
Forklift, Excavator, Bobcat, Confined Space, Working at Heights	MR/HR Vehicle License	Cert III Informatics Technology & Communication
Cert III Water	Cert IV WHS	First Aid
Cert IV Training & Assessor	Cert IV Government Investigation	

3. Contract Management & Service Delivery Improvement

There are a number of Grants with surplus funds that are currently being analysed to determine underspend and/or incorrect coding of expenses.

Regulatory

- QAO 21/22 Financial Year Audit – All documented evidence from Woorabinda Pastoral Company has not been submitted to QAO and we are awaiting the outcome. Representative of QAO and newly appointed Auditors visited in January to source the remaining evidence for the Audit requirements.
- Department of Local Government appointment of an Advisor and Financial Controller to assist with finalizing the QAO Audit requirements.
- WASC Annual Report has not been released for two (2) years.
- Water Regulation:- There is outstanding matters over a number of years and was issued an Information Requirement in March 2023. WASC is required to submit monthly compliance report to the Water Regulator

Funded Programs

- Undoonoo Daycare Centre standards has been audited by the Child Care Service Regulator with a number of non-compliance yet to be rectified. Though efforts have been focused on the Childcare Centre, there is still a requirement to meet other aspects of the standards.
- Ranger Program funding suspended for 24/25 due to not providing acquittals for the 21/22, 22/23 & 23/24 Financial Years.

New Program

- No progress to the transitioning of the NIAA funding or the LTC from DATSIP for the Woorabinda Leadership Group.

Incidents & Complaints

Topic	Action
Incidents	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Dog attack on pig – see Council progress report• 5/02/2025 Impound dog removed from Animal Care Facility without authority
Complaints	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Woorabinda Healthy Country Plan given to the Illegal Dumping team in Brisbane by QCM.• 5/02/2025 Police involvement with impound dog removed from Animal Care Facility without authority• Community perception that Council is taking community dogs and selling them are inaccurate as they are being delivered to animal rescue in and around the SEQ Region.

INFRASTRUCTURE



Effective town planning and infrastructure designed to support the communities visionary planning to suit changing needs into the future.

Infrastructure Key Focus Areas

- Waste Management Plan that identifies opportunities for circular economy
- Industry Specific skill development opportunities for the workforce
- Facilities and Public Places consistently maintained
- Identify opportunities for cost recovery from Capital Infrastructure projects
- Obtain community feedback on initiatives that impact on individuals and groups
- Grow technical expertise internally
- Capital infrastructure projects completed on time and within budget

Progress as of February 2025

1. Planning and Development

Community Hub & Disaster Recovery Centre:- This project is continuing with the Architects working on completing a full set of working drawings to be completed end of March 2025. Architects will be in the Community to meet with you all to Provide the final building designs and discuss the Artistic component – artwork, paths, fencing and general signage and appearance.

Forward Capital Program – Green Street Development:- The Variation for this Project was signed off and forwarded through to Brisbane for confirmation.

Work4Queensland:- A Variation for the Animal Care Facility was put through and approved for the supply and installation of a modular Vet clinic. Also to increase the allocation WASC Housing.

Woorabinda Town Signage:- Project is currently underway with the signs to be installed by late February.

Remote Airstrip Upgrade:- Project has commenced with a Contractor to do the New Seal of Airstrip Runway and Apron, followed by the Line marking.

Water Security Plan:- An investigation report has been complete as the foundation to source funding to improve on water supply and usage.

2. Housing Upgrades, Repairs & Maintenance

Lawn Lockers:- Seven (7) lawn lockers remain to be installed for the 24/25 financial year.

Concrete Path Program:- The completion of the concrete path program is outstanding with a remaining five (5) paths to be delivered before June 2025.

Isolation Water Valves:- 89 isolation valves have been completed to date with a further three (3) packages to be delivered by 30 June 2025.

Monthly Work Orders for February 2025 include:

Carpentry – 154 Job Cards

Electrician – 150 Job Cards

Plumbing – 95 Job Cards

Glazier – 37 Job Cards

Total= 436 Work Orders

3. Water Quality

On the 19th December 2024 the Qld Water Regulator issued a noncompliance notice and required WASC to provide the following:-

1. From 2 January 2025 to 31 December 2024, implement the operational and verification monitoring programs details in Councils approved DWQMP and give the regulator a summary of water quality data acquired during each calendar month, within 5 business days after the end of the month, in which data was acquired.
2. Immediately notify the regulator when the equipment necessary to undertake continuous online monitoring of turbidity at the outlet of the sand filters and continuous monitoring of chlorine at the outlet of the Water Treatment Plant is reinstated. When the relevant monitoring equipment is again operational, set the appropriate alert and critical limits and include corresponding correction actions in Council's DWQMP, to enable a timely response to potential in treated water quality.

4. Capital Infrastructure Program

Cemetery Upgrade is currently undertaking a variation to extend the project to ensure a thorough engagement process is undertaken.

Mechanic's Yard Resurfacing and Drainage:- WASC has secured stage one of the project and is required to complete Stage 2 through being awarded a Grant.

Women's Facility & Netball Courts Upgrade:- WASC has received \$1.9M to deliver this project, starting with a Design stage.



INDUSTRY

Develop sustainable economic activity to contribute to a prosperous local economy and improve opportunities and living standards for all.

Industry Key Focus Areas

- Review Procurement Policy to provide increase local economic opportunity
- Pilot workforce initiatives for specific industry sector
- Provide specific training relating to Building Services
- Standardise commercial arrangements for Council assets for local business growth
- Focus on Council Enterprise Entities viability
- Establish a Community Transport Services that is structured and targeted
- Determine industry pathways to decrease unemployment rates
- Provide commercial spaces that meet current building codes.

Progress as of February 2025

1. Workforce Initiative

The 'Give-it-Ago' strategy has benefited the organisation by increasing the workforce.

February 2025 Workforce Statistics			
Positions	135	Total Casual Workers	50
Total Staff	103	% Casual Workers	48.5%
% Filled Positions	76.3%	Part-time Workers	5
Vacant Positions	32	% Part-Time Workers	5%
% Vacant	23.7%	Contractors	2

2. Staff Recruitment

2025 New Staff	15
Resigned/Terminated	6
Feb 2025 Inducted	10

3. Woorabinda Food Store

The Commercial Lease for the food store has been finalised and awarded to Fair Dinkum Meats.

ENVIRONMENT



To enhance, protect and sustain the local environment.

Environment Key Focus Areas

- Woorabinda Healthy Country Plan implementation
- Recycle in a feasible way
- Bio-Security Planning the includes community participation
- Evidence-based approach that influence environmental approaches
- Waste reduction, reuse and recycle
- Circular Economy opportunities
- Feasibility and funding opportunities for Mimosa Creek Waling Path

Progress as of February 2025

1. Rangers Program

- Efforts will be directed towards Gully Restoration to rectify previous works that have been undertaken.

2. Public Health

Council is in the process of designing and costing the establishment of an Animal Care facility. It has become noticeable to the reduction of dogs in the community due to increased options to community members to surrendering puppies.

The Rangers have been involved in the identification of illegal dumping and have advised a number of asbestos dumping locations. Council have loaned surveillance cameras arrived from LGIDPP to develop the skills of the workforce.

3. Landfill (Refuse Tip)

- Council is currently undertaking a project to manage and remove legacy waste from the site as a priority.

4. Environmental Health

- Performance reports for the ATSI Public Health Plan due for Public Health
- New health planning process due before EOFY
- Researching little red fox roosting plan
- Researching swallow management plan – nests
- Following up mosquito testing

COMMUNITY



A vibrant community that is safe, healthy, educated, and proud of their culture and traditions and embraces diversity.

Community Key Focus Areas

- Co-design service delivery to overcome socioeconomic development
- Indigenous knowledge Centre programming
- Sport, Recreation and Fitness Training
- Woorabinda Leadership Group for Local Decision-making
- Gym facility operationalized
- Small Grants that support community initiatives and events
- Community Safety Planning
- Sport, Recreation & Fitness Industry career pathways
- Sporting Facilities utilization that meets community needs
- Facility structural improvements to include the pool and IKC

Progress as of February 2025

1. Indigenous Knowledge Centre

- New Grant Agreement has been endorsed. Additional Digital Programs will be delivered in Woorabinda.

2. Woorabinda Gym & Pool

- Current Gym membership is approximately 110.
- Key stakeholders have been utilizing the gym to deliver programs.
- Upskilling Gym staff will occur in March 2025 with the delivery of Certificate III in Fitness.

3. Centrelink Agency

- Centrelink Agency vacancy is currently being reviewed and advertised. The Centrelink Remote Team is scheduled Woorabinda in February 2025.

4. Undoonoo Day Care Centre

- The centre is averaging 6-8 children per stay with rooms alternating from 0-2 years and 3-5 years.
- Undoonoo has not yet met the compliance requirements against the Standards.
- Ongoing compliance issues are still ongoing and corrective actions are being undertaken to rectify all issues.

5. Community Justice Group

- The Program has been operating with a full team after almost 12 months of recruitment.
- The team have been making progress in the court support with followup reminders to the community members of court dates.

6. Night Patrol

- Night Patrol has commenced and will operate seven (7) days a week for six (6) weeks. A proposal is being prepared for Council to approve the extension of services to community.

7. Community Bus Service

- Is operating as usual with extra bus runs when required. The last week seen 3 bus runs due to ongoing banking issue. Council new bus drivers were on hand to drive community member out of town. WASC had the bus service operating on over the 3 days Thursday, Friday and Saturday.

