



# **MONTHLY REPORT ON OPERATIONS**

**NOVEMBER 2024**

Table of Contents

**INTRODUCTION ..... 3**

**GOVERNANCE KEY FOCUS AREAS..... 4**

**PROGRESS AS OF NOVEMBER 2024 ..... 4**

**INFRASTRUCTURE KEY FOCUS AREAS..... 6**

**PROGRESS AS OF NOVEMBER 2024 ..... 6**

**INDUSTRY KEY FOCUS AREAS..... 8**

**PROGRESS AS OF NOVEMBER 2024 ..... 8**

**ENVIRONMENT KEY FOCUS AREAS..... 9**

**PROGRESS AS OF NOVEMBER 2024 ..... 9**

**COMMUNITY KEY FOCUS AREAS..... 10**

**PROGRESS AS OF NOVEMBER 2024 ..... 10**

## 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 November 2024

### 1. Community Safety Plan

A consultant has been appointed to undertake the engagement process to develop the Community Safety Plan. The following approach is proposed:-

- Stakeholders – 10 Surveys
- Crime and Policing – 10 Surveys
- Youth and Vulnerable Groups – 13 Surveys
- Environment – 14 Surveys
- Alcohol & Drugs – 32 Surveys

### 2. Food Stability

With the announcement of Serca Foodworks going into administrative Council has been focused of ensuring that food stability and security is considered through the transition process to a new owner.

A number of meetings were held with possible business owners to lease the commercial space to highlight the importance of economic factors that impact on Woorabinda.

Council has advocated for fair pricing of food products, improved supply chain providing variety of products of a high quality and the employment of locals.

### **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.

With the creation of the Essential Service Technical Officer the non-compliance relating to Water Regulation has reduced significantly.

#### 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. Latest update is that audit will be completed and tabled for the October Council meeting.
- WASC Annual Report has not been released for two (2) years.
- Boil Water alert due to turbidity and the lack a clarity in the water
- Waste Management Site (Waste Dump) non-compliant.

#### Funded Programs

- Local Thriving Communities Grant – Surplus fund of \$457 to be identified. Contract Manager as suggested to expend with the next LTC Agreement.
- Negotiating variation for the Interim and Forward Capital Housing Program. Department has provided a variation and awaiting review by the management team.
- 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 NIAA funding or the LTC from DATSIP

#### Incidents

- Animal Cruelty – Dogs being stabbed/injured
- Threats – Direct at Council Staff
- Water Treatment Plant – System Failure
- Shooting of Dogs – Referred to Qld Police Service

#### Hazard Reports

- No night lighting at shopping centre – Repairs completed
- Removal of drainage grates at Council & shopping centre – Options be discussed
- Fencing off seating area at the shopping centre to segregate dogs – Awaiting Quotes
- Sewage Treatment Plant loose metal structure - Removed

# 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 November 2024

### 1. Planning and Development

Community Hub & Disaster Recovery Centre:- The notice period for Native Title Owners to respond to the construction of the Community Hub & Disaster Recovery Centre ended on the 17<sup>th</sup> November with no response. This enables progressing with the development.

Forward Capital Program – Green Street Development:- A variation has been provided by Department of Housing and awaiting management team review.

Work4Queensland:- Funding application has been completed to undertake Water Treatment Plant Upgrade, Council Housing Upgrades and Animal Care Facility.

#### Local Government Grants and Subsidies Program (LGGSP)

Woorabinda Aboriginal Shire Council has achieved in principle approval for the second round of the application process. Projects include Workshop Depot Resurfacing and Drainage and Water Treatment Plant Upgrade (Stage 4 and 5). The submission are required to be completed by May 2025.

Council Office Front Façade: - It is intended that a renovation be undertaken to the front entrance of the Council Office. The works will include a security roller and automatic doors due to commence late November.

Water Security Plan:- All four (4) bores have undertaken an assessment and it is identified that there a hydraulic and electrical problems.

- The Water Security Plan is due to be completed early 2025.
- High level meetings have been held with Government representatives to resolve Woorabinda's ongoing issues with the Water Treatment Plant.
- The National Water Grid Fund presents the best opportunity to get sufficient funds to fix both the Water Treatment Plan and Bores.

## **2. Housing Upgrades, Repairs & Maintenance**

Lawn Lockers:- A further 20 sites have been identified.

Isolation Water Valves:- Stage 5 is yet to commence with a further tender to be release for the completion of the project.

New Security Cameras:- A contractor has been appointed to supply the new security camera and computer system.

Monthly Work Orders for November 2024 include:

Carpentry – 17 Job Cards

Electrician – 24 Job Cards

Plumbing – 16 Job Cards

Glazier – 7 Job Cards

Other – 2 Job Cards

Total= 66 Work Orders

## **3. Capital Infrastructure Program**

The Town Signs have been delivered and will be erected before the end on 2024.

Woorabinda Airstrip Upgrade Program will commence in January 2025 with resurfacing of the runway and replacement of the apron.

Cemetery Precinct Design consultants have been appointed by the Remote Indigenous Land and Infrastructure Program Office. CPR Group from Maroochydore QLD will commence their engagement process in December 2024.

# 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 November 2024

### 1. Workforce Initiative

All Management positions have now been filled and transition existing staff to team leader position will commence.

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

Recruitment for full-time and/or part-time positions within the structure will be advertised in December with appointments to be made in January. This will provide the opportunity for 'Give-it-A-Go' casual staff to apply and secure ongoing employment.

### 2. Staff Recruitment

WASC currently employs approximately 70 staff.

Recruiting:

- Senior Administration
- Centrelink Officer
- Compliance Officer x 1
- Environmental & Animal Management Workers
- Finance Officers
- Roads Maintenance Crew

### 3. CQ Regional Jobs Committee (CQROC)

Woorabinda Aboriginal Shire Council has a representative of the CQ Regional Jobs Committee to develop initiatives for employment, skills and training opportunity within the Central Queensland Regional.



# 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 November 2024

### 1. Rangers Program

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

### 2. Public Health

- Vet clinic has changed to once a month
- Animal Rescue:-
  - 14xpuppies; 4xFemale Cats; 1xDog; 12xkittens
- Community Education Program to focus towards increased understanding of Local and State Laws relating to animal management.
- Environment Health initiatives have commenced with Car Removalist to communicate with residents on removal of cars from footpaths.

### 3. Waste Management Site (Waste Dump)

Council has negotiated with the Department of Environment Science & Innovation, Environment Protection Agency to implement a Program of works to bring the site within the bounds of the Environmental Act. It is proposed that there is installation of temporary transfer containers, with suitable signage at the entry of the site. Different large skip containers will be used for the different waste streams; domestic, cleanup, industrial, garden putrescibles, white goods, e-waste, cardboards.



# 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 November 2024

### 1. Indigenous Knowledge Centre

- New Grant Agreement has been endorsed. Additional Digital Programs will be delivered in Woorabinda.
- A National Library of Australia Grant has been successful to digitize historical collections of books, newsletters, photographs and genealogical records.
- Frequency of visitors have increased with 120 visitors to the Centre.
- Creating new ideas for engaging with community

### 2. Woorabinda Gym & Pool

- Pool is open and operate regularly dependent on staffing levels and program bookings.
- Lifesaving training has been completed by 10 members of the community including seven (7) employed people and one (1) high school student.
- Upskilling Gym staff will occur in January 2025 with the delivery of Certificate III in Fitness.
- The Gym continues to grow in membership members.

### 3. Blackboy Outstation

- Continuing to perform strongly with an increase in revenue for the month of October.
- The installation of starlink is not completed and it provides internal access for all visitors.
- Water supply issues have declined with Bore 1 meeting water needs

### 4. Centrelink Agency

- Centrelink Agency vacancy is currently being reviewed and advertised.

#### **5. Undoonoo Day Care Centre**

- The Centre is licenced to have 62 children, for the centre to reach these higher number requires recruitment of qualified education.
- Ongoing compliance issues are still ongoing and corrective actions are being undertaken to rectify all issues.

#### **6. Community Justice Group**

- Department of Justice and Attorney General have confirmed funding for a further two (2) years.
- DV Support Workers position remain vacant and will be advertised again.
- A Justice Forum is scheduled for Friday, 29<sup>th</sup> November 2024.

#### **7. Night Patrol**

- Night Patrol has commenced and will operate seven (7) days a week for six (6) weeks. Hours of shift will be 1800-2300 and 2300-0400. Council have employed eight (8) staff rostered for two (2) days on and two (2) days off.
- It is proposed to operate until early January 2025.

#### **8. Community Bus Service**

- Is operating during the following days Monday to Saturday 8am-5pm with bus service to Baralaba for banking and shopping as required on demand.

