



# **HALF-YEAR REPORT ON OPERATIONS**

**DECEMBER 2024**

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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 December 2024

### 1. Leadership and Advocacy

Councillors are actively involved and advocating for projects and outcomes within their individual portfolio.

Portfolio	Strategi Focus (Corporate Plan 20/25)	Portfolio Councillor
Town Beautification	<p>To enhance, protect and sustain the local government:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Promote efficient water use practices.</li><li>• Establish local beautification and restoration projects for the Mimosa Creek</li><li>• Create recreational opportunities through maintenance and development of community greenspaces and parks</li><li>• Develop a Cemetery Masterplan</li><li>• Complete feasibility of a community greenhouse</li></ul>	Cr. Stewart Smith
Sport & Recreation	<p>Diverse sport facilities and programs available;-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Develop a Sport and Recreation Master Plan</li><li>• Support the development of a Woorabinda Sports Association</li></ul>	Cr. Anthony Munns

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Sporting infrastructure is maintained and upgraded</li> </ul>	
Horticulture & Environment	<p>Best practice water and waste management and recycling. Enhancement of local biodiversity and pest management:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Engage with Government Agencies and targeted environment stakeholders to deliver environment programs and training.</li> <li>• Funding secured from new and existing biosecurity offsets are utilised for land management.</li> <li>• Develop a business case for a local can recycling program</li> </ul>	Cr. Wagwan Savage
Educational Pathways	<p>To actively engage youth in education and establish education pathways aligned to industry:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Improved education outcomes</li> <li>• Engage with the parents and community groups or the education reference group 'from bubs to jobs'</li> <li>• Advocate for teacher aides and school administration staff to be provided on-going professional development.</li> <li>• Digital literacy training is available and promoted</li> <li>• Life skills training is available and promoted</li> <li>• Develop a targeted Scholarship Program</li> </ul>	Cr. Howard Booth

## 2. Employment

'Give-it-a-Go' strategy that focuses towards increased staffing that is scaled to the operations of Council.

Topic	Activity	Outcome
Recruitment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Employment Expression of Interests Register has approximately 70 people.</li> <li>• Access to jobs initially as casual.</li> </ul>	Increase of staff by 40 people.

New Staff Induction	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>* Workplace inductions include Work, Health &amp; Safety and Diversity in the Workplace.</li> </ul>	Monthly Induction Sessions Held
Employee Assistance Program	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>An Agreement has been finalised with an external organisation to provide employee assistance.</li> </ul>	Yet to be confirmed

### 3. Service Program

Contract Management compliance and service delivery improvements.

Grant	Purpose	Duration
Foundation of Rural & Regional Renewal	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Drought Preparation</li> </ul>	12 months
Local Government Subsidy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>SES Volunteer Emergency Service</li> </ul>	One-off Grant
Queensland Health	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Pet Care resources</li> </ul>	One-off Grant
Dept. of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development, Communication and the Arts	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Regional Airstrip Upgrade Program</li> </ul>	2 years
State Library of Queensland	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Public Library Services (IKC)</li> <li>First 5 Forever Family Program</li> </ul>	2 years
Greening Australia	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Lilly Creek Gully Repair</li> </ul>	One-off Grant
Department of Environment, Science and Innovation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Illegal Dumping Partnership Program</li> </ul>	12 months



# 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 December 2024

### 1. Service Program

Identify priorities to ensure Water Security for future impacts of climate change.

Topic	Activity	Outcome
Drinking Water Quality Incident Reporting	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Four (4) reported incidents to the Water Regulated.</li> </ul>	Creation of new role to ensure improved reporting.
Water Security	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Water Security Plan – Stage 3 to determine scope of works to operationalize Water Supply Assets (Bores 1-4)</li> </ul>	Completed
Queensland Health	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Pet Care resources</li> </ul>	One-off Grant
Dept. of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development, Communication and the Arts	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Regional Airstrip Upgrade Program</li> </ul>	2 years

State Library of Queensland	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Public Library Services (IKC)</li> <li>• First 5 Forever Family Program</li> </ul>	2 years
Greening Australia	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Lilly Creek Gully Repair</li> </ul>	One-off Grant
Department of Environment, Science and Innovation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Illegal Dumping Partnership Program</li> </ul>	12 months

## 2. Infrastructure

Capital Infrastructure projects completed on time and within budget.

Topic	Activity	Outcome
Housing Construction	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Four (4) Duplex completed</li> <li>• Once (1) detached House.</li> </ul>	Five (5) bedrooms to reduce overcrowding.
Repairs & Maintenance Program	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Building and Construction team alongside external contractors provides repairs and maintenance to all social housing and Council properties.</li> </ul>	892 Work Orders over 12 months
Housing Upgrade Programs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Major upgrade programs include:- Bathrooms, Laundries, Driveway, Paths, Ceiling Insulation, Vinyl Floor and Fencing.</li> </ul>	38 Upgrade Projects completed



# 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 December 2024

### 1. Education and Training

Provide reskilling opportunities for future jobs in the environmental sector.

Topic	Activity	Outcome
Rangers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Land Management and Conservation Certificate.</li></ul>	3 Staff completed course.

### 2. Community Education

Community Education to increase understanding of climate change and its impacts.

Topic	Activity	Outcome
Community on Country	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Community Leaders talking about changemaking. Drought/Land Degradation/Building Resilience</li></ul>	12 community representatives attended.

# 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 December 2024

### 1. Community Engagement

Community Safety Planning.

Topic	Activity	Outcome
Consultation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To obtain feedback on Community Safety issues and/or concerns.</li> </ul>	Survey Responses:- Stakeholders 10 Crime & Policing 10 Youth and Vulnerable groups 13 Alcohol and Drugs 37

### 2. Infrastructure

Sporting facilities utilization to meet community needs.

Topic	Activity	Outcome
Woorabinda Gym	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Staffing level consists of six (6) Promotion and Activity Officers assisting members to utilize the Gym.</li> </ul>	109 Members

