

CORPORATE PLAN

2023 - 2028



WELCOME TO RICHMOND

BOBBY MURRAY
MEMORIAL PARK

RICHMOND SHIRE
COUNCIL

STAWELL
CAMBRIDGE CROSSING

WELCOME TO RICHMOND



Message from the Mayor and Chief Executive Officer



Cr John Wharton AM Mayor

Peter Bennett CEO

It is our pleasure to present the Richmond Shire Council Corporate Plan 2023 - 2028. This plan outlines the vision of this Council for the next five years with outlooks to the next 10 years. Improvements to existing road, water and sewerage networks will take key priority over the next five years as Council prepares for future investment opportunities.

The potential development of the agricultural, energy and mining industries within the Shire will bring growth that in turn will bring a greater variety of services and opportunities for the Shire. Achieving the goals we have set in our Corporate Plan will require a united approach and partnerships with the Government and private sector. Council looks forward to working together to meet the challenges of our future. Over the life of the Corporate Plan, Council will develop a new 10 Year Community Plan with the consultation from the Community which will help shape future Corporate Plans.



VISION

“Richmond Shire – a community embracing quality lifestyle, opportunity and growth.”

MISSION

“To facilitate and foster economic development, industries, innovative projects, while continually upgrading and maintaining public infrastructure, for the benefit and growth of the Shire”.



The Richmond Shire

Richmond is situated on the southern banks of the state's longest river, the Flinders, approximately 498km due west of Townsville in the centre of Queensland's North West. The town of Richmond stands 216 metres above sea level on the border of rolling downs country. South of Richmond the open downs stretch away east, south and west covered by a thick body of Mitchell and Flinders grass. North of the Flinders River is a narrow belt of the same fertile country broken by belts of timber and limestone ridges. Further northeast, the black boulders of the basalt wall are visible and north-west the forest country stretches away to the Gulf.



The Shire of Wyangarie (meaning Aboriginal "Hut") later changed to Richmond on July 31, 1954. Council and the community recognise the need for growth through the ability to attract industry, agriculture and regional development. With a relatively low unemployment rate of 1.2% the main industries are agriculture employing 33% of the population. Richmond Shire Council, Queensland Education, Queensland Health and Queensland Rail are the other major employers in the town along with small businesses. Richmond have been described as a friendly bunch of people with community pride and spirit.

Richmond Shire is represented on numerous regional groups and recognises the need for regional collaboration with other local governments. Richmond Shire Council has a policy of developing good relationships with State and Federal Government Departments at all times, where possible.

Area - 26.655 km²

Towns - Richmond, Maxwellton

Industries -Agriculture, Mining and Tourism

Population - 761

Male - 51.2%

Female - 48.8%

Median Age - 37 years old

Length of Shire

Roads - 1,296 km

Length of State

Roads - 319 km

Council Employment

Female - 34 Staff

Male - 39 Staff

Avg Years of Service - 6.7

Council Financial Stats

| | | | |
|----------|---------------|-----------|--------------|
| Land | \$ 1,568,000 | Buildings | \$16,171,539 |
| Roads | \$168,221,108 | Water | \$12,911,765 |
| Sewerage | \$ 6,218,513 | Plant | \$7,751,479 |

COUNCIL PRIORITIES



Our Community

To facilitate and foster a wide range of quality services, projects and opportunities that promotes activity, health and prosperity in the community



Our Environment

To maintain and enhance a healthy living environment



Our Economy

To facilitate and foster economic development, industries, innovative projects, while continually upgrading and maintaining public infrastructure, to meet the growth of the Shire



Our Leadership

To pursue excellence as an organisation through transparent and accountable Local Government that provides professional, strategic and operational management and leadership



Our Services

To plan for future infrastructure requirements to meet the growth of the Richmond Shire while continually upgrading and maintaining Council's road network, assets and facilities



Our Community

To facilitate and foster a wide range of quality services, projects and opportunities that promotes activity, health and prosperity in the community.

- Recognise & promote heritage and cultural life
- Raise the profile of Richmond as a great place to live, work and visit
- Promote a new hospital to be built for Richmond
- Promote a Queensland Ambulance Service standalone service for Richmond
- Promote health services that come to Richmond
- Expand learning opportunities for secondary students



OUR ENVIRONMENT

To maintain and enhance a healthy living environment.

- Advocate for the protection of the Great Artesian Basin
- Mitigate the impact of natural disasters through best practice disaster management
- Ensure the distribution of Open Space and Recreation matches community demand
- Maintain and improve infrastructure that promotes an active lifestyle like the football oval, walking tracks, gym, lake and racecourse
- Provide shade for sporting and recreation facilities, playgrounds and public open space.
- To investigate and promote solar and renewable energy sources



OUR ECONOMY

To facilitate and foster economic development, industries, innovative projects, while continually upgrading and maintaining public infrastructure, to meet the growth of the Shire.

- Promote the Shire as a location to develop business
- Advocate for water development to support agriculture
- Investigate future locations for residential and industrial land
- Encourage economic diversity to stimulate business and employment opportunities
- Work with mining groups, Copper String and emerging industries to grow Richmond
- Attract and retain skilled workers and residents
- Provide incentives for young people to seek employment locally



OUR LEADERSHIP

To pursue excellence as an organisation through transparent and accountable Local Government that provides professional, strategic and operational management and leadership.

- Promote volunteering and mentoring to develop partnerships and community leadership
- Establish scholarships and mentoring programs to foster young leaders
- Councillors are regularly available for community members to raise issues of concern
- Develop and implement strategies to encourage and empower the community to participate in consultation activities
- Participate in regional collaboration



OUR SERVICES

To plan for future infrastructure requirements to meet the growth of the Richmond Shire while continually upgrading and maintaining Council's road network, assets and facilities.

- Continue to advocate for funding to maintain our road network
- Increase resident satisfaction with Council's local road network (including town streets)
- Re-invigorate Old Cemetery and upgrade Lawn Cemetery
- To seek funding for further development of Council's buildings infrastructure
- Continuous improvement to Council's water, sewerage and stormwater network
- Implement Shire roads improvement program
- Investigate strategies to use water wisely to make Richmond a greener community

FUTURE PROJECTS 10 YEAR PLAN

Community Development and Services

To develop “Stage Three” of Kronosaurus Korner.

Redevelop the buildings at the Racecourse.

To demolish old administration building and pave the way for the Shire Hall redevelopment.

To promote Queensland Health to build a new hospital at Richmond.

Seek funding to upgrade the Charlie Wehlow Football Oval.

To organise a uniform approach to advertising signs when approaching Richmond.

To pursue agricultural schemes in the Shire, including Council run agricultural project at Maxwellton.

To have an inland port built at Richmond.

To improve the communication network with the Richmond Shire.

To build a multi-purpose sports centre.

To undertake further expansion of the Lakeview Caravan Park.

Works and Services

In association with Croydon Shire Council, seal the entire Richmond - Croydon Road as a major transportation link to the North.

In association with the Department of Transport and Main Roads and Winton Shire Council, seal the entire Richmond - Winton Road.

To extend Council’s water and sewerage network to cover all properties located within the township.

Continuous upgrades to the streets, footpaths, stormwater, kerb and channel.

Continuous upgrades to Council road network.

Move towards a waste transfer station and environmentally friendly refuse tip.

To upgrade and lengthen the Richmond Airstrip.

Finance and Administration

Investigate and secure more land for residential and industrial purposes.

Install more Council owned accommodation to attract staff.

To work towards becoming carbon neutral.



Review of this Plan

Quarterly reports will be submitted to Council on the progress achieved during the reporting period. Each year Council will produce an Annual Report to inform the community of its achievements; the report will include a community financial report and financial statements. Copies of the Corporate/Operational Plan and Annual reports are available on the Richmond Shire Council's website at www.richmond.qld.gov.au.

The Corporate Plan 2023 - 2028 was adopted on 24 July 2023.

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