

Richmond Shire Council

Corporate Plan

2018 - 2023





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 2018 - 2023. This plan outlines the vision of this Council for the next five years with outlooks to the next 10 years. Council has taken inspiration from the Community Plan that was developed in 2011 and updated some of those ideas to reflect the here and now. The next two years will see the Council consolidate its financial position and begin planning for future developments outline in this plan. 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 an irrigated agricultural industry and mining options 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.

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 recognises the need for growth through the ability to attract industry, agriculture and regional development. With a relatively low unemployment rate of 3.1% the main industries is agriculture employing 30% 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, Maxwelton

Industries -Agriculture, Mining and Tourism

Population - 700

Male - 52.3%

Female - 47.7%

Median Age - 37 years old

Length of Shire

Roads - 1,296 km

Length of State

Roads - 319 km

Council Employment

Female - 33 Staff

Male - 52 Staff

Avg Years of Service - 6.6

Council Financial Stats

Land	\$ 1,097,123	Buildings	\$29,293,110
Roads	\$152,481,668	Water	\$15,112,311
Sewerage	\$ 6,407,549	Plant	\$14,357,284

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
- Investing an Aged Care Nursing Home for Richmond
- Explore the option of a new hospital for Richmond that includes an Ambulance service
- Promote health services that come to Richmond



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.



OUR ECONOMY

To facility 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 ‘low development cost’ location to develop business
- Advocate for water development to support agriculture
- Investigate future locations of residential land
- Encourage economic diversity to stimulate business and employment opportunities
- Attract and retain skilled workers and residents
- Expand learning opportunities for secondary students
- 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

Complete the Streetscape project in Goldring Street.

To build an aged care nursing home.

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 line and insulate the after school hours building.

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

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 as a major transportation link to the South and to enhance the tourism route.

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.

Finance and Administration

Investigate and secure more land for residential purposes.

Install more Council owned units to attract more staff.

To pursue an irrigated agricultural scheme in the Shire.



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 2018 - 2023 was adopted on 31 July 2018.

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