



**REGIONAL
AUSTRALIA**
at its best!



Goondiwindi Regional Council **Corporate Plan** 2024 – 2028

Setting the direction to serve our community

**RICH
HISTORY**

**THRIVING
COUNTRY
CULTURE**

**AGRICULTURAL
EXCELLENCE**

GOONDIWINDI REGIONAL COUNCIL

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Message from the Mayor & Chief Executive Officer

We are pleased to present the Goondiwindi Regional Council Corporate Plan 2024 - 2028.

The corporate plan outlines the Council's vision for the region and establishes a strategic framework that supports Council's role in providing the foundation for the quality of life enjoyed by our communities. Over the course of this plan, the Council will strive to realize its vision, ensuring the region's continued prosperity and a thriving local economy. The Council will maintain a strong collaborative relationship with State and Federal Governments to ensure the region's future infrastructure needs are adequately addressed.

Councillors and officers of the Goondiwindi Regional Council are committed to working closely with the community, delivering timely and customer focused services and decision-making.

Council acknowledges the significant challenges ahead and the importance of carefully managing the region's growth while balancing various financial, social, and environmental pressures.

We have full confidence that the Council and its staff, in partnership with our communities, will successfully implement the goals and deliver the performance indicators outlined in this corporate plan, and positively contribute to making our region a great place to live. We look forward to delivering the Goondiwindi Regional Council Corporate Plan 2024 – 2028 for the benefit of the communities we serve.

The Hon Cr Lawrence Springborg AM
MAYOR



Mr Carl Manton
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER



Our region

The Goondiwindi region is a regional success story in Australia. It's why we're known as Regional Australia at its best. The region was formed in March 2008, following the amalgamation of Goondiwindi Town Council and the Shires of Inglewood and Waggamba. Located in the Darling Downs along the Queensland – New South Wales border, the Goondiwindi Regional Council area covers almost 20,000 km². With a population of 10,770, the Goondiwindi region is home to almost 2,000 businesses and around 5,500 jobs.

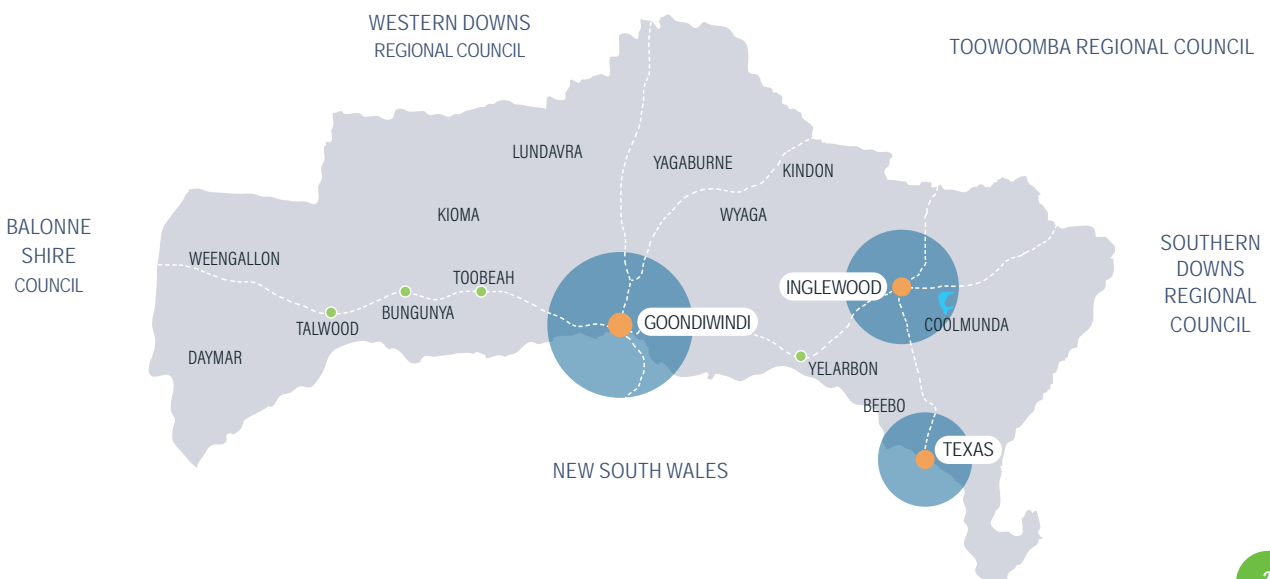
The region's three larger towns of Goondiwindi, Inglewood and Texas are the primary hubs for a number of diverse communities dispersed throughout the area, while the towns of Yelarbon, Toobeah, Bungunya and Talwood also play important roles in the social and economic lives of our rural residents.

The river systems traversing the region are the lifeblood of the area. The Dumaresq, Weir and Macintyre Rivers and Macintyre Brook provide town water as well as water for irrigation, livestock and industry. Close to Inglewood, Coolmunda Dam also offers recreational opportunities while the Dumaresq and Macintyre Rivers form the State boundary between Queensland and New South Wales.

The Goondiwindi region is a commercial hub of a vast agricultural and pastoral sector producing cotton, grain, dairy, wool, poultry, beef, lamb and pork for domestic and overseas markets. Emerging opportunities in the region include technology-driven food production, related professional, technical and creative services in agri-business, construction and design, health and education, 'knowledge-intensive' business services and tourism.

The region is rich in history, home to a thriving country culture and renowned for its agricultural excellence. We are proud of our agricultural roots and confident in our future as a modern regional centre. From gourmet local producers to global leaders in ag-tech, the Goondiwindi region boasts a unique combination of tradition and innovation.

GOONDIWINDI REGIONAL COUNCIL LOCALITY MAP:



Council's roles

Local Government have a number of roles that help to guide the services delivered by Council to meet the needs of the community.

Understanding Council's roles will assist Council to focus our direction appropriately and effectively, to align our diverse roles and responsibilities to outcomes for the region:

PROVIDER	Delivering services
FUNDER	Funding other organisations to deliver services
REGULATOR	Regulating activities through local law or policy
PARTNER	Forming partnerships and alliances with other parties in the interests of the community
FACILITATOR	Assisting others' involvement in activities by bringing interested parties together
ADVOCATE	Promoting the interests of the community to other decision makers and influencers

Council services

- Airports
- Building services
- Cemeteries
- Community development & partnerships
- Community facilities
- Customer & community relations
- Community engagement
- Disaster management
- Economic development
- Facilitation and advocacy
- Libraries
- Local laws
- Public health
- Recreation parks, & facilities
- Local road networks
- Sporting facilities
- Waste management
- Animal management
- Pest control
- Sewerage & water
- Stock route management
- Planning & planning scheme
- Walkways, footpaths, cycleways & streetscaping
- Visitor information services

Corporate services

- Financial & procurement services
- Asset management
- Governance
- Human resource management
- Information technology
- Property management
- Workplace health & safety
- Organisational strategic planning
- Staff engagement & communication

Our staff & volunteers

Our people are our greatest asset. Council is one of the region's largest employers and we believe that our team's passion, professionalism and willingness to go above and beyond sets us apart from other councils and organisations. We demonstrate every day that Council is an outstanding organisation and committed to the long-term future of the region.

Council's values and behaviors also shape our culture, performance, and how the organisation grows. As we constantly strive to be an outstanding organisation, our people are committed to being high-performing, supported by good governance, robust decision making and regional leadership.

Our residents

The residents of Goondiwindi region are passionate, talented and hard-working. They are why we are known as Regional Australia at its best. It is through strong community partnerships that Council understands and sets the strategic directions for the region, as it seeks to deliver on what is most important to the people who call the Goondiwindi region home.

This Corporate Plan seeks to continue that partnership by clearly outlining the priorities for the coming five years and inviting ongoing engagement with the community as services and projects are delivered.

Our vision

In Queensland, Local Government Authorities are required to prepare a Corporate Plan in accordance with the *Local Government Act 2009* and *Local Government Regulation 2012*. This Corporate Plan sets the direction for the communities of the Goondiwindi Region and Council decision-making for the period 2024 – 2028.

The vision encapsulates the potential for the Goondiwindi Region to transition to a prosperous 21st Century regional economy by capitalising on its traditional industry strengths and promoting new forms of high-value economic activity consistent with the community's aspirations to represent 'Regional Australia at its best'.

OUR VISION To strengthen our thriving regional lifestyle and prosperous economy.

The vision is supported by Goondiwindi Regional Council's mission statement.

Our mission

Our mission sets out the purpose of the organisation and demonstrates how we will achieve the vision:

OUR MISSION To provide leadership in making locally-responsive and informed decisions, delivering quality services and facilities to the communities of the Goondiwindi region.

Our goals

Our vision, mission and values inform the strategies presented in this Corporate Plan and the key goals that Council aspires to realise across four themes:



A THRIVING COMMUNITY

A welcoming, engaged and resilient community supported by quality community infrastructure and services



A STRONG ECONOMY

A region known for its prosperous rural economy and innovation



A SUSTAINABLE REGION

A sustainable, well-managed and healthy region for today and future needs



A HIGH-PERFORMING ORGANISATION

An engaging and transparent Council providing community leadership and quality service delivery

PERFORMANCE INDICATORS

- Providing quality community facilities and services
- Delivering planned and coordinated disaster management response
- Supporting local arts, culture, and history
- Providing a foundation for active community participation, connectedness, inclusivity and an attractive lifestyle
- Contributing to creating an attractive place to do business, invest, work and visit
- Maximising opportunities with renewable energy
- Providing town and regional planning that enhances opportunity for economic prosperity
- Enhancing our communities by maximising our natural assets
- Contributing to a healthy and safe community
- Delivering sustainable and affordable essential services and infrastructure that meet current and future needs
- Provide opportunities for positive community engagement and planning for the future
- Providing excellent customer service across the whole organisation
- Operating a transparent and accountable organisational governance based on evidence based decisions
- Being recognised as an employer of choice in the region with a strong culture of safety, learning and collaboration
- Fostering an innovative and contemporary approach to delivering outcomes in our evolving organisation
- Delivering a sustainable financial position

Our five core values

Our values govern Council's actions and how we serve the communities of our region. Our five core values are:

TEAMWORK	INTEGRITY	ACCOUNTABILITY	COMMUNICATION	LEADERSHIP
We value our stakeholders and look for opportunities to work cohesively, by collaborating and connecting internally and externally.	We strive to be valued and trusted by our community. As a Council we are respectful, open, balanced, fair, transparent, and honest in our dealings with the community.	We will be accountable for our decisions, and achieve value for our communities through sound planning, innovation, informed decision-making and efficient work practices.	We embrace respectful and open communication.	We lead by example, collaborating with the communities of our region, to achieve our vision.

The Corporate Plan in context

The Goondiwindi Regional Council Corporate Plan 2024 – 2028 is the guiding document informing the preparation and delivery of Council's annual operational plan and budget. The Corporate Plan has an ongoing interface at the planning, operational and performance review levels with other Council strategies. These relationships are illustrated below.

The Corporate Plan will be implemented through the annual operational plan and budget. These documents will be monitored by Council throughout each year (quarterly) and will be used as the basis of reporting performance through Council's Annual Report.



Goondiwindi Regional Council's Corporate Plan in Context

Performance monitoring process

The Annual Operational Plan and Council Budget will be monitored by Council throughout each year (quarterly) and will be used as the basis of reporting performance through Council's Annual Report.

Goondiwindi Regional Council is committed to regular engagement with the communities of the region through representation at community advisory groups, chambers of commerce and industry organisations. Council will engage with the community on the progress of the Corporate Plan implementation (and of other related strategies and programs being led by or contributed to by Council) and listen to community concerns and ideas for the future.

Through its commitment to show respect for all and to continually engage with and listen to the people of our communities, Council's CEO, the Mayor and Councillors will also engage with the communities of the region on ad hoc matters as they arise, ensuring Council can respond to all issues and opportunities appropriately in an informed and strategic manner. This reflects Council's mission to deliver decisive leadership in making locally-responsive, informed, transparent and responsible decisions, providing quality services and facilities to all communities of the Goondiwindi region.

Goondiwindi Regional Council's annual planning and monitoring process:



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