

Central Highlands 2022 Community Plan Refresh



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CONTENTS

Message from the Mayor	4
Our region	5
Our vision in 2022	6
Our values	6
Remembering our past	7
Here and now	7
Snapshot of the Central Highlands	8
Opportunities for the future	9
Our Community Plan 2022 Refresh	10
Planning: in context	11
Regional Priorities	12-15
Realising our local priorities through place community planning	16
Our Community Aspirations	17-29
Reporting: keeping on track	30

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Message from the Mayor

WELCOME TO THE CENTRAL HIGHLANDS COMMUNITY PLAN 2022 REFRESH.

The Plan continues to influence key decision-making by our communities for their future.

As a diverse regional community, this important roadmap document identifies the vision, priorities and goals that we aspire to across the thirteen towns and localities that make up the Central Highlands region.

The Plan is wide-reaching in its outlook and considers social, environmental (built and natural) economic and governance themes that contribute to the long-term wellbeing of our community. It will also assist council, community, government, business and industry to strategically plan for the region's future.

If we are to achieve sustainability for the next generation, our people and businesses will need to be adaptable and supported to respond to an ever-changing world. As a community we need to leverage our existing strengths and refocus our potential.

Our support as a council will be to commit to managing our assets well, delivering the services we need and to invest and encourage innovation that will make our communities more resilient and competitive; the new economies of the future.

All of us have responsibility and a part to play to unlock the unlimited potential that exists in our people, our business, and our region. Our success depends on everyone working together to realise a sustainable and prosperous future for all.



Kerry Hayes
Mayor
Central Highlands Regional Council



Our region in 2022



THE CENTRAL HIGHLANDS IS IN CENTRAL QUEENSLAND, AUSTRALIA – CONSIDERED A GATEWAY TO THE OUTBACK. THE REGION'S CENTRAL BUSINESS AREA, EMERALD, IS A THREE-HOUR DRIVE FROM ROCKHAMPTON ON THE COAST AND NEARLY 900 KILOMETRES FROM BRISBANE.

Our region is huge, approximately 60,000 square kilometres, which we liken to the size of Tasmania. It stretches from Arcadia Valley in the south to the Peak Ranges in the north, east from Boolburra to Bogantungan in the west.

Around 28,000 people call the Central Highlands home and they live in the thirteen communities of Arcadia Valley, Bauhinia, Blackwater, Bluff, Capella, Comet, Dingo, Duaringa, Emerald, Rolleston, Sapphire Gemfields, Springsure and Tieri.

Our region is naturally rich – in minerals, in grazing land, in dryland and irrigated agricultural land, in water from the Nogoa and Comet rivers and the Fairbairn Dam (three times the size of Sydney Harbour), in national parks and wilderness areas like Blackdown Tablelands and Carnarvon Gorge, and in gems as we claim the largest sapphire-producing fields in the Southern Hemisphere.

Travellers in big rigs and small abound with major freight routes through the region that include the north-south link between Charters Towers and northern New South Wales – identified as the inland transport alternative between Cairns and Melbourne – and the Capricorn Highway leading 'grey nomads' to all points west.

This is a vibrant region with a diverse economy based on:

- A globally competitive coal mining industry.
- Robust and resilient agriculture and horticultural industries, including beef, grain, cotton, grapes and melons, nuts and citrus.
- Dynamic small to medium size businesses.
- Professional and government sectors.
- Adequate availability of commercial, industrial and residential land.
- An evolving tourism offering.
- Major health and education services.
- Significant new infrastructure and construction projects.



Our vision in 2022

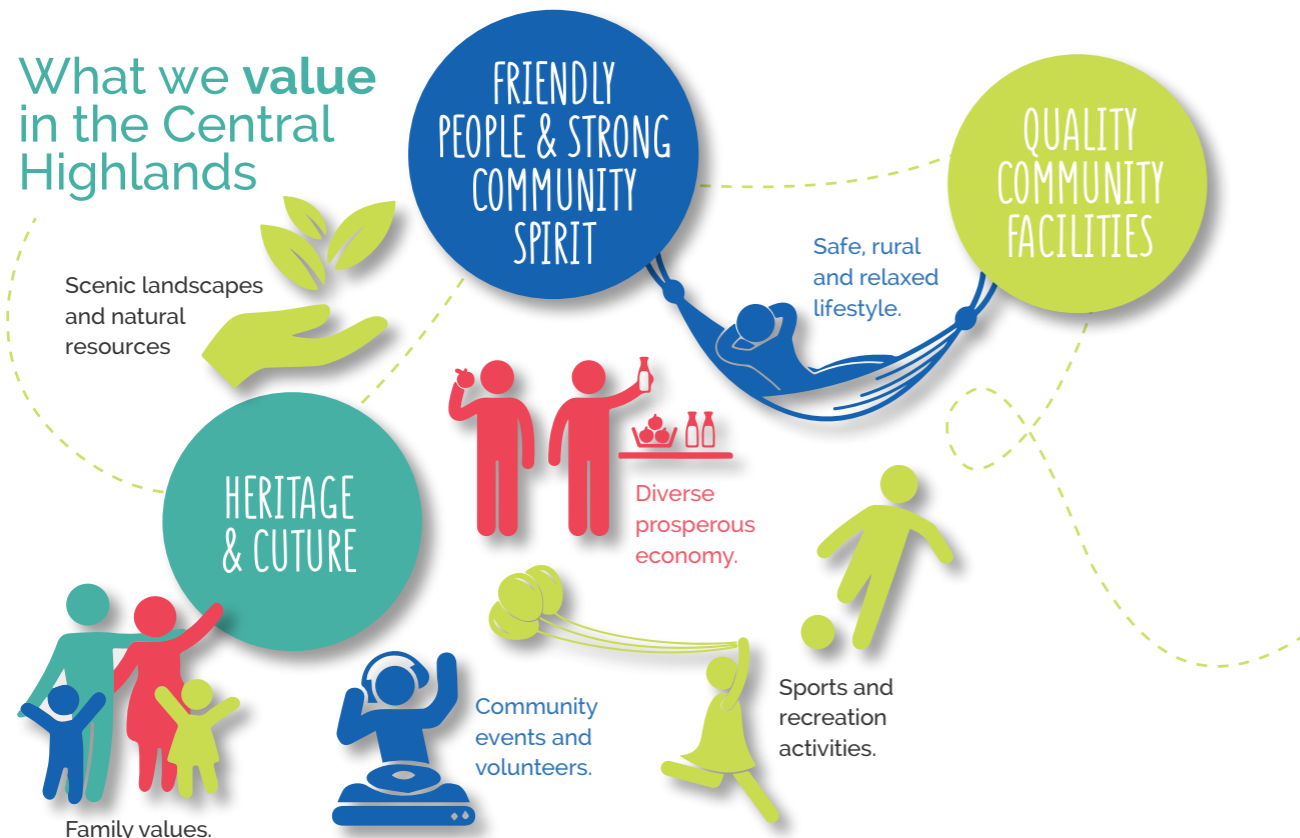
Remembering our past

THE CENTRAL HIGHLANDS IS RENOWNED FOR ITS DIVERSITY, LIVEABILITY AND PROSPERITY; THE REGION WE ARE PROUD TO CALL HOME!

The Central Highlands was originally home to many Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples who remain proud custodians of these lands. Our First Australians experienced a life rich in traditional customs, spirituality and a strong connection to their land.

Early European settlement in the region dates from the 1850s, with our first pioneers mainly grazing sheep. Regional growth continued into the late 1800s with the inland expansion of the railway line west from Rockhampton and the establishment of towns along the line.

Significant growth occurred from the 1950s to 1980s with the introduction of beef cattle grazing and development of the Fairbairn Dam, coal mining, and agricultural irrigation. Today, the region is defined by a diverse, prospering economy that supports our unique, vibrant communities.



HERE & NOW

Central Highlands is home to more than 28,000 people. The average age of 33 makes it a young community with children aged 0 – 14 years making up nearly 25% of the population (Australian Bureau of Statistics 2016 Census).

This adds energy and enthusiasm to the community and provides a genuine and dynamic vibrancy to the region.

The unemployment rate is generally around 2% lower than the state average.

The Central Highlands offers an active, healthy lifestyle with more than 140 sport and recreational parks – many featuring exercise facilities, play equipment, skate ramps and off-leash dog areas. There are three quality aquatic centres, pristine bushland reserves, as well as manicured botanical gardens in Emerald.

The region's liveability is enhanced by a cultural offering of a regional art gallery, libraries, and several clubs and groups undertaking photography, art, dance, theatre and other artistic and cultural pursuits.

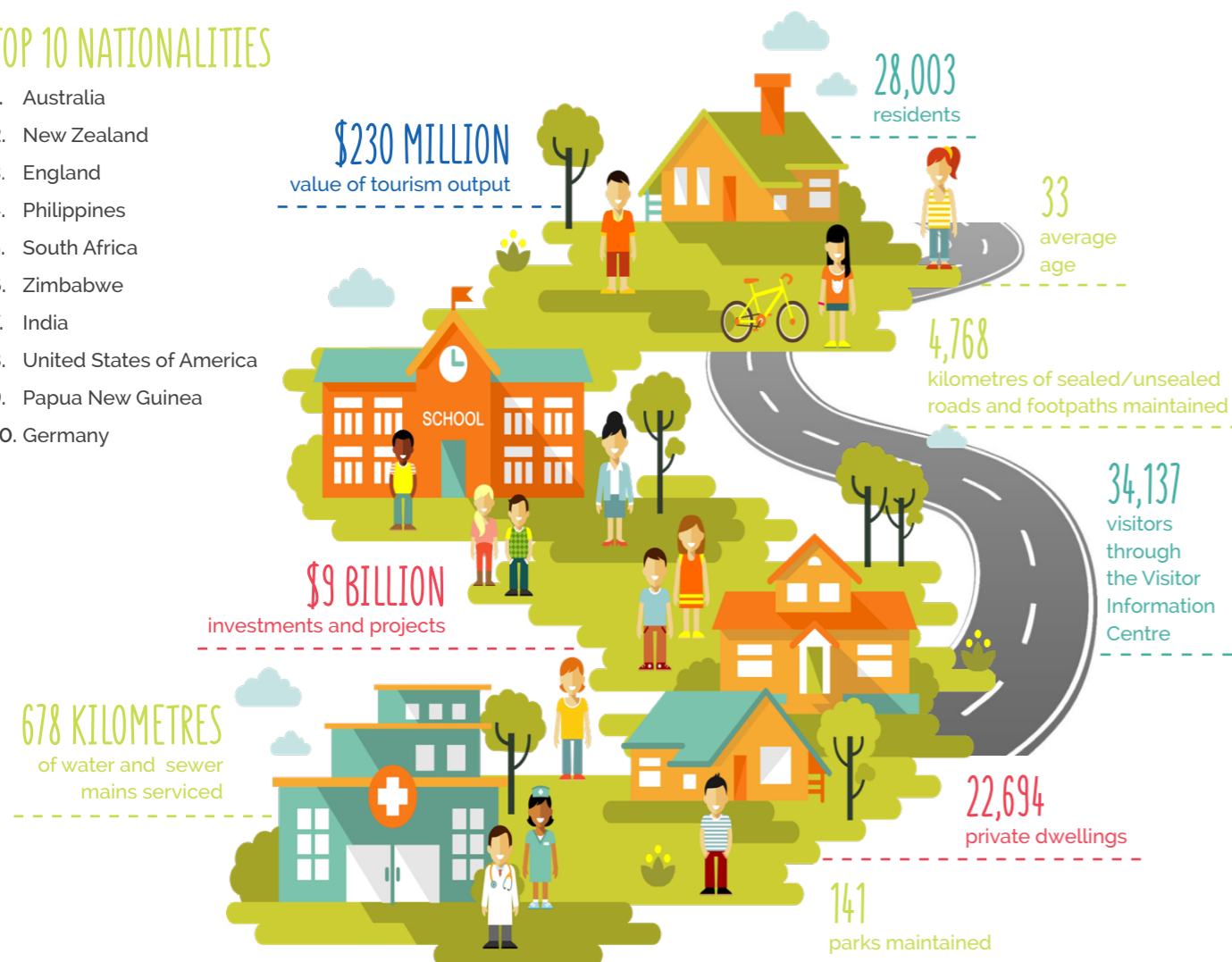
Tourism is a cornerstone industry in the region worth \$230 million annually. The visitor information centre in Emerald welcomes more than 30,000 people most years as the 'drive market' visitors sample the area as they travel north or west.

Snapshot of Central Highlands

Opportunities for the future

TOP 10 NATIONALITIES

1. Australia
2. New Zealand
3. England
4. Philippines
5. South Africa
6. Zimbabwe
7. India
8. United States of America
9. Papua New Guinea
10. Germany



The Central Highlands 2047 Economic Master Plan outlines a robust 30-year vision of a self-sustaining regional inland hub for successful and thriving communities. It's important to understand the challenges for the region to determine the opportunities for the future.

RESOURCE SECTOR

To address the uncertain future of the coal sector, the focus is diversified to other industries, particularly agriculture and tourism, and the investigation of emerging opportunities, such as energy renewables and coal seam gas.

POPULATION SERVICES

The region's education, health and aged care are under-developed compared to the Queensland average. They could be strengthened by investment in digital infrastructure and connectivity, tele-health, and specialised education pathways.

DIGITAL INFRASTRUCTURE

Overcoming digital infrastructure limitations will be game-changing for the Central Highlands. Access to reliable high-speed internet and mobile connectivity is the key to optimisation of market opportunities for local business.

WATER SECURITY

Water security is generally quite strong but ensuring towns have sufficient supply, unlocking high-value productive areas, and minimising conflict between industry and irrigators are ongoing considerations. Collaborating with the Queensland Government to identify and achieve full use of under-utilised water resources in the region is required.

EXTREME WEATHER EVENTS

It's imperative that the region is prepared for droughts, floods and other extreme weather events. This is being achieved by flood-proofing infrastructure works, bolstering facilities and resources for the local disaster management group, and advocacy to government for natural disaster assistance.

COMMUNITY PROGRAMS

Community programs and sport and recreation clubs are important for people to socialise and maintain an active lifestyle. Whilst there are challenges across the region, with the adoption and implementation of the Game Plan, council is working with community, sporting and active recreation organisations to support adaptable, sustainable facilities and promote active participation and connected communities.

LIVEABILITY AND SKILLS ATTRACTION

Enhancing and promoting the region's lifestyle and employment opportunities to attract people to the Central Highlands. Expanding and establishing local skills, training and education services in areas such as agricultural sciences and trades, will minimise the risk of people, particularly young people, leaving the region for higher education and other specialisations.

Our Community plan 2022

PLANNING TOGETHER

The original 10-year community plan, *Central Highlands Visions for Our Community, Our Region 2022*, began with extensive community consultation and was published in 2012.

Seven years on, we have undertaken a 'refresh' to ensure the plan continues to be relevant to the community today. To achieve this, community were consulted to validate the vision, values

and regional priorities. The previous plan was updated and consolidated into a 20 page simplified document. Community Reference Group information has been relocated to the haveyoursay.chrc.qld.gov.au website.

The refreshed community plan sets our regional priorities and goals. Essentially, it is a long-term roadmap that signifies the vision and aspirations of the Central Highlands' community and the actions required to realise those goals.

It will provide guidance to council, the community, state and federal governments, business and industry when undertaking strategic planning for the region.

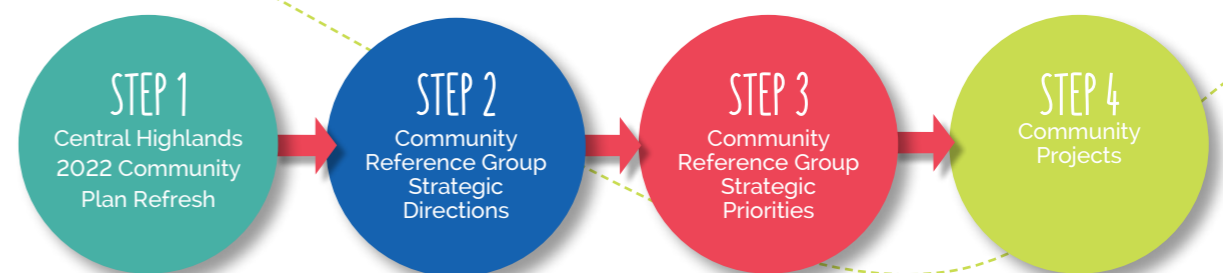
In January 2021, we will commence drafting a new Central Highlands community plan for 10 years to 2032.

WHAT IS OUR ROLE?

This plan has been developed with the community, for the community; enabling everyone to shape the region's future.

The success of this plan depends on strong partnerships between the community, government, council, business and industry. While it is council's responsibility to consult, adopt and steward this plan, all stakeholders will play one or more roles to lead, partner, action and report on regional goals and local priorities.

PLANNING IN CONTEXT



Regional priorities

IN 2022

WE WILL BE DEFINED BY:

WE WILL BE:

1

RESOURCEFUL AND VIBRANT COMMUNITIES

Celebrating our diversity, lifestyle and heritage through strong social networks and active participation to nurture the wellbeing of our unique, safe communities.

2

INTEGRATED QUALITY INFRASTRUCTURE

Connecting and servicing our communities with quality, maintained infrastructure and integrated transport networks through advanced telecommunications, innovative urban design and affordable housing choices.

3

DIVERSE PROSPEROUS ECONOMY

Boasting a thriving responsive economy led by innovation leading-edge technology and a skilled professional workforce that attracts continued investment across our diverse business, industry and tourism enterprises.

4

HEALTHY NATURAL ENVIRONMENT

Actively enjoying our pristine scenic landscapes and open green spaces while responsibly managing our valued natural resources with innovative practices and sustainable planning.

5

PROACTIVE OPEN GOVERNANCE

Shaping our region through ongoing community engagement, proactive partnerships, and strong leadership to enhance communication and decision-making for equitable future planning.

RESOURCEFUL VIBRANT COMMUNITY

1

In 2022, we will be celebrating our diversity, lifestyle and heritage through strong social networks and active participation to nurture the wellbeing of our unique, safe communities.

OUR ASPIRATIONS

- 1.1 Increase opportunities to provide and promote social inclusion and achieve high levels of community participation.
- 1.2 Resource, encourage and support our volunteers and community groups.
- 1.3 Plan to offer a diverse range of sporting, recreation and leisure services, programs and events to encourage active lifestyle options and high levels of participation.
- 1.4 Plan and deliver a high standard of healthcare and services that are holistic, innovative and focussed on prevention.
- 1.5 Plan and provide a range of social infrastructure to enable access to facilities, services and programs to meet the needs of all ages and abilities.
- 1.6 Plan and enhance opportunities for learning and innovation through improved access to education and lifelong learning.
- 1.7 Ensure young people are empowered to advocate for their needs and are actively involved in community life.
- 1.8 Encourage and provide access to a diverse range of arts and cultural initiatives, programs and events.
- 1.9 Capture, interpret and celebrate our cultural diversity, heritage and history.
- 1.10 Maintain and foster safe communities through well resourced agencies and prevention programs.
- 1.11 Plan for and promote family oriented communities with adequate access to facilities and services including childcare options and family support networks.
- 1.12 Plan and provide opportunities and initiatives for older people to actively or passively participate in community life and access a range of accommodation and care options.

INTEGRATED QUALITY INFRASTRUCTURE

2

In 2022, we will be connecting and servicing our communities with quality, maintained infrastructure and integrated transport networks through advanced telecommunications, innovative urban design and affordable housing choices.

OUR ASPIRATIONS

- 2.1 Plan for well-maintained and equipped community facilities to enhance community participation and maximise utilisation.
- 2.2 Improve and maintain existing community facilities to a quality standard allowing for restricted mobility and equitable access.
- 2.3 Plan and deliver a regional road network system that is well-maintained and interconnected for safe and effective movement of people and products.
- 2.4 Plan for the development and maintenance of reliable, affordable and integrated regional transport services, networks and systems including public transport options.
- 2.5 Plan and provide access to reliable, affordable high-speed telecommunications systems and services.
- 2.6 Plan and deliver infrastructure development based on best practice urban design principles to enhance our lifestyle quality, heritage, safety and active social inclusion.
- 2.7 Plan and deliver energy and power to meet economic development, community, and environmental requirements.
- 2.8 Plan and maintain quality sewerage infrastructure.
- 2.9 Deliver well-maintained road-side drainage, walkways and cycling paths with options for limited mobility transport.
- 2.10 Plan and provide for land availability to deliver a diverse range of quality housing and accommodation options to meet the lifecycle needs and personal preferences for people living in or relocating to the region.
- 2.11 Plan for the delivery of improved tourism infrastructure including short-term accommodation facilities.
- 2.12 Deliver and maintain infrastructure for reliable, high-quality water supply and treatment plants.

DIVERSE PROSPEROUS ECONOMY

3

In 2022, we will be boasting a thriving responsive economy led by innovation, leading-edge technology and a skilled, professional workforce that attracts continued investment across our diverse business, industry, and tourism enterprises.

OUR ASPIRATIONS

- 3.1 Support and enhance business growth through innovative technologies, business best practice and improved customer service.
- 3.2 Support regional business growth through networking, information and resource sharing.
- 3.3 Facilitate balanced, responsive and collaborative regional economic planning and development across business, industry, government and the community.
- 3.4 Plan and attract regional investment to support targeted and new opportunities for industry growth, economic sustainability and diversity.
- 3.5 Plan and host conferences, festivals and iconic events to promote our region, increase entertainment and visitor attraction.
- 3.6 Market 'the region' and 'regional communities' to retain and attract population growth and appropriate workforce numbers.
- 3.7 Deliver appropriate regional education and training that is linked to business and industry development and employment.
- 3.8 Partner to plan and attract research and development funding and programs to secure long-term economic prosperity.
- 3.9 Promote industry and business uptake of environmentally-sustainable practices.

HEALTHY NATURAL ENVIRONMENT

4

In 2022, we will be actively enjoying our pristine scenic landscapes and open green spaces while responsibly managing our valued natural resources with innovative practices and sustainable planning.

OUR ASPIRATIONS

- 4.1 Plan and adopt innovative practices, continuous monitoring and planning to meet the challenges of a changing climate.
- 4.2 Conserve and monitor our waterways, wetlands and water catchments (surface and underground).
- 4.3 Maintain and monitor our biodiversity and air quality.
- 4.4 Rehabilitate and reinstate land that has been utilised for mining and resource development.
- 4.5 Protect, maintain and enhance our national parks, flora and fauna, and cultural heritage sites.
- 4.6 Plan, improve and maintain open green spaces, parks and gardens.
- 4.7 Plan and partner to protect the natural environment and good quality agricultural lands.
- 4.8 Plan and partner for renewable and cleaner energy sources.
- 4.9 Maintain waste management strategies and encourage increased levels of reducing, reusing and recycling waste.
- 4.10 Partner and implement environmental education and awareness programs and initiatives.
- 4.11 Work collaboratively to develop regional pest, weed and animal management plans.

PROACTIVE OPEN GOVERNANCE

5

In 2022 we will be shaping our region through ongoing community engagement, proactive partnerships and strong leadership to enhance communication and decision-making for equitable future planning.

OUR ASPIRATIONS

- 5.1 Council, federal and state governments, organisations, business and industry will adopt active, open and meaningful engagement with all sectors of the community.
- 5.2 Maintain and develop effective communication strategies to keep the community informed.
- 5.3 Adopt responsible, transparent, accountable and balanced decision-making procedures, practices and reporting.
- 5.4 Plan and partner to advocate with a unified voice on issues of importance for the region and communities.
- 5.5 Develop strategies to encourage community participation in local decision-making and future planning through inclusive engagement.
- 5.6 Commit to prudent and efficient management of community infrastructure, assets and funding.
- 5.7 Plan for effective risk management, resources and preparedness for managing disaster response and recovery.
- 5.8 Commit to working collaboratively to lead and deliver on the *Central Highlands 2022 Community Plan*.

Realising your local priorities through place community plans

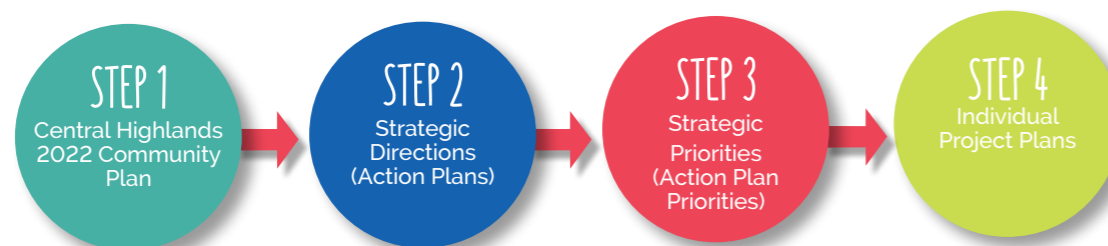
REGIONAL STRATEGIC PRIORITIES



OUR COMMUNITIES



COMMUNITY PLANNING



There are four steps in the Place Based Community Planning process. The place-based community planning documents provide a framework to achieve regional and community outcomes and goals. These documents recognise the unique and diverse communities within the region and give equal representation to their future visions and priorities. To view these strategic documents and plans visit: haveyoursay.chrc.qld.gov.au

Arcadia Valley community

OUR COMMUNITIES ASPIRATIONS

OUR VISION:

In 2022, we are

A welcoming and resourceful community, proud of our idyllic valley and sustained by a prosperous agricultural sector as we work towards an equitable future for our families.

OUR VALUES:

We value our sense of community, independence and self-reliance. Developing and maintaining our community assets, especially the school hall and roads are important to us along with protecting our beautiful natural environment.



ARCADIA VALLEY STRATEGIC DIRECTIONS:

STRATEGY	RESOURCEFUL VIBRANT COMMUNITY	INTEGRATED QUALITY INFRASTRUCTURE	DIVERSE PROSPEROUS ECONOMY	HEALTHY NATURAL ENVIRONMENT	PROACTIVE OPEN GOVERNANCE
1	Resource, encourage and support our volunteers, community groups and clubs in Arcadia Valley.	Improve telecommunications infrastructure to achieve efficient networks and reliable phone and internet services.	Promote Arcadia Valley as a tourist destination offering idyllic valley vistas, links to national parks and unique eco-tourism experiences.	Plan and deliver improved animal management approaches in Arcadia Valley.	Raise awareness and knowledge of social/environmental impact planning.
2	Increase our capacity to determine our community's future.	Improve our community facilities and infrastructure, especially roads.	Plan for the delivery of improved tourism infrastructure.	Plan and undertake environmental education and awareness to protect Arcadia Valley as parthenium free zones.	Support Arcadia Valley 2022 CRG to have a voice.
3	Promote Arcadia Valley as a friendly and resourceful community.	Enhance our community options for quality education outcomes.	Promote and protect the future viability of agriculture in the Arcadia Valley area.	Preserving flora, fauna and scenic beauty for future generations.	Working towards an equitable future for the Arcadia Valley community.
4	Improve access and raise community awareness of available medical services and support in Arcadia Valley.				
5	Encourage and provide access to a diverse range of arts and crafts programs and events.				

Further information on Arcadia Valley is available at haveyoursay.chrc.qld.gov.au/arcadia-valley-CRG

Bauhinia community

OUR VISION:

In 2022, we are

A vibrant, active and caring community celebrating our community spirit and drawing inspiration from times past to embrace future opportunities.

OUR VALUES:

We value our people, rich local history, the services and facilities our community worked together to build; especially the sporting fields, school hall and store.



BAUHINIA STRATEGIC DIRECTIONS:

STRATEGY	RESOURCEFUL VIBRANT COMMUNITY	INTEGRATED QUALITY INFRASTRUCTURE	DIVERSE PROSPEROUS ECONOMY	HEALTHY NATURAL ENVIRONMENT	PROACTIVE OPEN GOVERNANCE
1	Encourage families to live, work and thrive in the Bauhinia area.	Improve roads, crossings and road signage cost effectively.	Encourage local buy and utilise local knowledge.	Implement a good quality waste management and recycling facility to support the community and visitors.	Improve council governance to support Bauhinia community.
2	Increase linkage to surrounding communities within the Central Highlands region.	Ensure continuity of the Bauhinia Road User Group.	Promote and encourage families to live and work in Bauhinia.		An allocated and clear rural address identification through the postal system.
3	Increase linkage to surrounding communities within the Central Highlands region.	Improve and maintain our valued community hall and school, which is so central to the Bauhinia community.			
4		Continue to add value to the Bauhinia Sports Grounds, which will continue to attract people and major events.			
5		Advance the coverage in telecommunications to the Bauhinia region.			

Further information on Bauhinia is available at haveyoursay.chrc.qld.gov.au/bauhinia-CRG

Blackwater community

OUR VISION:

In 2022, we are

A thriving, strong and caring community, showcasing our unique local heritage and attracting diverse industry investment as we proactively plan together for our future.

OUR VALUES:

We value our people and vibrant community spirit as well as our community facilities, housing choice, sporting and recreation spaces. Our rich indigenous and mining heritage and economic sustainability are important to us.



BLACKWATER STRATEGIC DIRECTIONS:

STRATEGY	RESOURCEFUL VIBRANT COMMUNITY	INTEGRATED QUALITY INFRASTRUCTURE	DIVERSE PROSPEROUS ECONOMY	HEALTHY NATURAL ENVIRONMENT	PROACTIVE OPEN GOVERNANCE
1	Inspire pride in the Blackwater community.	Improve and maintain community facilities (replace with new as necessary).	Diversify our industry to achieve a sustainable economic community.	Maintain clean waterways.	Management of community infrastructure.
2	Increase senior accessibility to support and involvement initiatives in the Blackwater community.	Provide quality infrastructure for transport and signage in the Blackwater area.	Attract and retain tourists throughout the area.	Sustain the national parks in our region as pristine.	Quality disaster management practices.
3	Youth activities.	Maintain and promote the Blackwater recreational precinct.	Support and promote local businesses.	Improve open spaces and facilities in the area.	Fair cost of living for Blackwater residents.
4	Encourage groups to use shared facilities.	Maintain the availability and service of water.	Implement and sustain a local healthy economy.	Maintain and enhance the local environment to reflect a proud community.	Maintain community groups to advocate for Blackwater
5	Clubs to work towards encouraging community participation.	Encourage more localised town planning practices to meet future needs of the community.	Promote local events in Blackwater to increase community participation.		
6	Community health access.	Increase the accessibility to quality telecommunication services and network providers.	Connect local business to the internet to promote themselves.		
7	Promotion of Blackwater for tourism.	Increase the accessibility to quality telecommunication services and network providers.	Have positive images of local business and a variety of business, this will encourage families to live locally and also provide local jobs.		
8		Blackwater skate park facility.	Encourage neighbouring communities to boost their business and industry as each community builds local jobs and expands services it will benefit all in the region.		

Further information on Blackwater is available at haveyoursay.chrc.qld.gov.au/blackwater-CRG

Bluff community

OUR VISION:

In 2022, we are

A caring, friendly family-oriented community renowned for our railway heritage, enjoying our relaxed rural lifestyle, and embracing new opportunities for growth.

OUR VALUES:

We value our people and united community spirit as well as local access to services and our community facilities, especially the school, library and parks.



BLUFF STRATEGIC DIRECTIONS:

STRATEGY	RESOURCEFUL VIBRANT COMMUNITY	INTEGRATED QUALITY INFRASTRUCTURE	DIVERSE PROSPEROUS ECONOMY	HEALTHY NATURAL ENVIRONMENT	PROACTIVE OPEN GOVERNANCE
1	Involve the youth in Bluff's future.	Maintain football facility in Bluff.	Organise and promote tourism opportunities for Bluff.	Weed management for Bluff.	Disaster management planning in Bluff.
2	Hold local community events.	Maintain community hub at Lions Park, Bluff.	Promote business investment and business growth in Bluff.	Bluff to be proactive in environmental awareness.	Open communication available to Bluff community.
3	Identify and record historically significant events in Bluff.	Improve telecommunications to Bluff to achieve reliable and efficient networks.			
4	Liveable community of Bluff.	Maintain and plan for community assets and services.			
5		Improve roads and frequented areas to achieve safe and efficient traffic for the Bluff community.			

Further information on Bluff is available at haveyoursay.chrc.qld.gov.au/bluff-CRG

Capella community

OUR VISION:

In 2022, we are

A dynamic growing community with strong family values who actively enjoy our high-quality facilities and great rural lifestyle.

OUR VALUES:

We value our community events, existing services and facilities, and our friendly proactive community. We respect our heritage and value the many significant landmarks showcasing our rich and lively past.



CAPELLA STRATEGIC DIRECTIONS:

STRATEGY	RESOURCEFUL VIBRANT COMMUNITY	INTEGRATED QUALITY INFRASTRUCTURE	DIVERSE PROSPEROUS ECONOMY	HEALTHY NATURAL ENVIRONMENT	PROACTIVE OPEN GOVERNANCE
1	Provide programs and activities to promote community involvement and family orientated events.	Research and report on future options for a reliable water supply for Capella.	Promote Capella as a lifestyle, business and tourism destination.	Improve the quality of the water ways in Capella.	Disaster management planning in Capella.
2	Plan and enhance opportunities for learning and innovation through improved access to education and lifelong learning.	Maintain and plan for improvements to existing infrastructure and community facilities to meet a high standard.	Support and grow Capella businesses.	Prepare a pest management plan for Capella.	Increase the transparency and decision-making process for the Capella CH2022 Community Plan.
3	Support arts and cultural programs, activities and performances at Capella.	Maintain and plan for improvements to existing infrastructure and community facilities to a high standard.	Support and grow local Capella businesses.	Maintain the green spaces areas in Capella.	Plan, maintain and improve road networks.
4	Improve and deliver health and medical services in Capella.		Increase knowledge and awareness of waste management systems for Capella.	Increase knowledge and awareness of waste management systems for Capella.	
5	Capture, interpret and celebrate our heritage through the promotion of the Capella Pioneer Village and its annual heritage day.				
6	Engage and support community groups, sporting clubs and associations to hold events, and attraction and retain volunteers.				

Further information on Capella is available at haveyoursay.chrc.qld.gov.au/capella-CRG

Comet community

OUR VISION:

In 2022, we are
A caring and welcoming rural community showcasing our famous heritage and enjoying our community assets as we work together to grow and prosper our town.

OUR VALUES:

We value our historical significance to the region and our ability to help support each other. We also value our existing community facilities and services.



COMET STRATEGIC DIRECTIONS:

STRATEGY	RESOURCEFUL VIBRANT COMMUNITY	INTEGRATED QUALITY INFRASTRUCTURE	DIVERSE PROSPEROUS ECONOMY	HEALTHY NATURAL ENVIRONMENT	PROACTIVE OPEN GOVERNANCE
1	Increase community participation in Comet events and activities.	Advocate for improved digital communications infrastructure.	Increase the utilisation of the old railway station for events/activities.	Improve the streetscape of Comet.	Monitor flood areas around town.
2	Promote new people to join in community and clubs.	Advocate for improved water pressure in Comet.	Improve facilities for tourists by promoting Comet as an RV friendly community.	Improve the Whistle Stop Park playground area.	Rural addressing to be completed.
3		Advocate for improved facilities at the Comet Showgrounds.	Showcase Comet's rich history.		Increase community awareness during a natural disaster.
4		Advocate for improved capacity and storage at the Comet Fire Shed.			
5		Advocate for improved drainage and storm water management in Comet.			
6		Advocate for improved facilities at the museum in Comet and Dig Tree Park.			
7		Advocate for improved signage in Comet and surrounding areas.			

Further information on Comet is available at haveyoursay.chrc.qld.gov.au/comet-CRG

Dingo community

OUR VISION:

In 2022, we are
A positive and welcoming community with a prospering economy, attracting new residents and visitors by showcasing our genuine country lifestyle.

OUR VALUES:

We value our people and families, community celebrations and the facilities we have worked hard to establish in our town. Our indigenous and pioneering history is also important to our community.



DINGO STRATEGIC DIRECTIONS:

STRATEGY	RESOURCEFUL VIBRANT COMMUNITY	INTEGRATED QUALITY INFRASTRUCTURE	DIVERSE PROSPEROUS ECONOMY	HEALTHY NATURAL ENVIRONMENT	PROACTIVE OPEN GOVERNANCE
1	Maintain and improve recreational spaces and facilities in Dingo to encourage sporting opportunities.	New infrastructure needed in Dingo.	Heritage and cultural tourism.	Protect the nail tail wallaby in Dingo area.	Increase community involvement in planning for Dingo's future.
2	Record cultural significance.	Maintain existing infrastructure.	Heritage and cultural tourism.	Identify and plan for significant locations.	
3	Celebrate community spirit and value our community history.	Dingo Hall future.	Support business continuance in Dingo.		
4		Telecommunications accessible to all in Dingo.			
5		Value our quality signage.			
6		Maintain and improve existing water infrastructure.			
7		Promote and maintain the town entrance signage.			

Further information on Dingo is available at haveyoursay.chrc.qld.gov.au/dingo-CRG

Duaringa community

OUR VISION:

In 2022, we are
A united caring community celebrating our heritage and strong family values while attracting opportunities to grow and create a prosperous future.

OUR VALUES:

We value our people and strong community spirit as well as our location, which provides the benefits of a country lifestyle and close to city access. Our existing services and recreational facilities along with our heritage are also important to us.



DUARINGA STRATEGIC DIRECTIONS:

STRATEGY	RESOURCEFUL VIBRANT COMMUNITY	INTEGRATED QUALITY INFRASTRUCTURE	DIVERSE PROSPEROUS ECONOMY	HEALTHY NATURAL ENVIRONMENT	PROACTIVE OPEN GOVERNANCE
1	Affordable, accessible healthcare and transport.	Improve transport options.	All museum and tourism venues in Duaringa to enhance and promote Duaringa tourism economy.	Create a flying fox free community.	Maintain disaster management preparedness.
2	Community volunteering to help locals stay in their home longer. Connect to community volunteering program.	Increase learning opportunities.	Provide welcoming space for tourists to stay.	Weed and rubbish control.	Increase community involvement in planning for Duaringa's future.
3	Youth involvement and retention.	Review CHRC assets, facilities and spaces in Duaringa.	Employers to encourage employees to live locally with their families.		
4			Host community sporting events, which are widely promoted.		
5			Create and retain employment.		

Further information on Duaringa is available at haveyoursay.chrc.qld.gov.au/duaringa-CRG

Emerald community

OUR VISION:

In 2022, we are
A dynamic bustling inland centre with a welcoming and resilient community that celebrates our diversity, lifestyle and locality while being strengthened by our prospering diverse economy.

OUR VALUES:

We value our safe and active community with its many services and community facilities. We also value our rich history and the Fairbairn Dam, which provides permanent access to water and offers a quality recreational space.



EMERALD STRATEGIC DIRECTIONS:

STRATEGY	RESOURCEFUL VIBRANT COMMUNITY	INTEGRATED QUALITY INFRASTRUCTURE	DIVERSE PROSPEROUS ECONOMY	HEALTHY NATURAL ENVIRONMENT	PROACTIVE OPEN GOVERNANCE
1	Establish and increase Emerald's available community infrastructure and services.	Improve access to bike lanes/roadways to increase bike users for both leisure and recreational activities.	Promote and increase the tourism industry in Emerald.	Establish a Nogoa River management plan to protect the natural ecosystem.	Increase community group's capacity to achieve a sustainable future for Emerald.
2	Plan and promote Emerald as a family-oriented community with adequate family support networks.	Maintain and improve pedestrian pathways.	Develop and implement education and training that influences business development and employment opportunities.	Develop a management plan for the Fairbairn Dam to diversify both economic and recreational activities.	Continue to work collaboratively to lead and deliver on the Central Highlands 2022 Community Plan.
3	Empower Emerald's youth to actively advocate for their needs and participate in community life.	Enhance existing community facilities to maintain or increase participation numbers.	Provide accessible and relevant youth education and training services to increase local employment opportunities.		
4	Provide opportunities for seniors to actively or passively participate in the community.	Improve the quality and access to telecommunication services in Emerald.	Promote industry investment and growth in Emerald.		
5	Encourage and support local volunteers and community groups.		Attract and retain sustainable population growth in Emerald for now and in the future.		
6	Provide access to a diverse range of art initiatives and local events.				

Further information on Emerald is available at haveyoursay.chrc.qld.gov.au/emerald-CRG

Gemfields community

OUR VISION:

In 2022, we are
Passionately proud of our vibrant community spirit, celebrating our unique and rich heritage as we work together to create and sustain a bright prosperous future.

OUR VALUES:

We value our people, strong community spirit and the unique character of our small communities. We also value our creativity, history, precious gemstones and natural resources. The services and facilities we worked together to establish are also important to us.



GEMFIELDS STRATEGIC DIRECTIONS:

STRATEGY	RESOURCEFUL VIBRANT COMMUNITY	INTEGRATED QUALITY INFRASTRUCTURE	DIVERSE PROSPEROUS ECONOMY	HEALTHY NATURAL ENVIRONMENT	PROACTIVE OPEN GOVERNANCE
1	Increase accessibility to health care and emergency services in the area.	Improve access to reliable and affordable telecommunication systems/services.	Advocate for and promote various tourism opportunities in the Gemfields.	Protect, preserve and maintain the common.	Continue to deliver on the Central Highlands Community Plan 2022.
2	Maintain the local characteristics of the Gemfields area.	Provide affordable community transport for the Gemfields area.	Support our local miners in the Gemfields area.	Provide accessible waste management facilities/services to support the community and travellers.	Continue to maintain effective communication to the Gemfields area.
3	Establish regular lifestyle education programs for the community.	Increase and maintain community facilities to maximise utilisation.	Support our local miners in the Gemfields area.	Preserve our Wildlife	Provide and deliver on adequate disaster management practices.
4	Increase community participation through various activities.	Increase access to pathways throughout the Gemfields area.	Establish a qualification/skills register for employment opportunities.	Support the development of activated green spaces.	Establish clear township identification on world systems to enable correct communication between core services and residents.
5	Encourage volunteer participation in the Gemfields Community.	Improve safety on major road networks.			
6	Increase youth participation and engagement through various activities.				

Further information on Gemfields is available at haveyoursay.chrc.qld.gov.au/gemfields-CRG

Rolleston community

OUR VISION:

In 2022, we are
A growing welcoming and united community valuing our diverse prospering economy and abundant natural environment.

OUR VALUES:

We value our people, supportive community and rich heritage. We also value living in clean, healthy and picturesque natural environment. Our existing community services and facilities, including the transaction centre and sporting grounds, are also important to us.



ROLLESTON STRATEGIC DIRECTIONS:

STRATEGY	RESOURCEFUL VIBRANT COMMUNITY	INTEGRATED QUALITY INFRASTRUCTURE	DIVERSE PROSPEROUS ECONOMY	HEALTHY NATURAL ENVIRONMENT	PROACTIVE OPEN GOVERNANCE
1	Foster the people of Rolleston and ensure community spirit, values and generosity continues for coming generations.	Improve and value-add to community facilities and services to meet the community's needs.	Support the cattle, crop and agriculture education industries.	Create spaces to encourage healthy lifestyles.	Work towards a cost effective and equitable future for the Rolleston community.
2	Promoting active and healthy lifestyles, including accessibility to health care services for Rolleston community.	Expand telecommunication networks systems and services.	Encourage small business opportunities.	Plan and deliver improved spraying management approaches throughout Rolleston and surrounding areas.	Enhance the community's capacity to deal with community governance issues.
3	Increase youth participation and engagement in the community.	Improve our roads and associated infrastructure to enable better accessibility and safety.	Continue building tourism and attracting visitors to stay here and spend.	Ensure that mining and agriculture can cohabitate in our pristine and clean environment.	
4	Foster arts and culture within the community.				

Further information on Rolleston is available at haveyoursay.chrc.qld.gov.au/rolleston-CRG

Springsure community

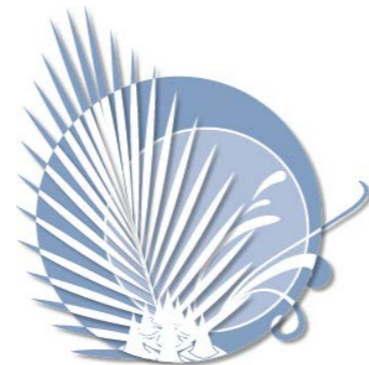
OUR VISION:

In 2022, we are

A friendly safe and welcoming community enjoying our relaxed country lifestyle and celebrating our rich historical journey while embracing progress and innovation to sustain our future growth.

OUR VALUES:

We value our community spirit and preserving our core community values. The facilities and services we worked together to build and maintain are important to us. We value and respect our rich cultural heritage and natural environment.



SPRINGSURE STRATEGIC DIRECTIONS:

STRATEGY	RESOURCEFUL VIBRANT COMMUNITY	INTEGRATED QUALITY INFRASTRUCTURE	DIVERSE PROSPEROUS ECONOMY	HEALTHY NATURAL ENVIRONMENT	PROACTIVE OPEN GOVERNANCE
1	Establish and expand Springsure's community infrastructure services.	Maintain and improve recreational spaces and facilities in Springsure.	Promote business investment and business growth in Springsure.	Maintain and improve heritage sites and environmental sites	Increase community involvement in planning for our future.
2	Involve the youth in Springsure's future.	Improve telecommunications to Springsure to achieve reliable and efficient networks.	Organise and promote community events and tourism opportunities for Springsure.	Promote Central Queensland and Central highland's wilderness and national parks.	
3	Work together to celebrate Springsure's spirit by linking, motivating and mobilising the Springsure community.	Improve roads, crossings and frequented areas to achieve safe and efficient movement of people and products in and around Springsure.	Enhance customer service by providing improved transport services.	Showcase Springsure's picturesque natural environment, offering community wellbeing benefits.	

Further information on Springsure is available at haveyoursay.chrc.qld.gov.au/springsure-CRG

Tieri community

OUR VISION:

In 2022, we are

A dynamic welcoming and family-oriented community proudly showcasing our mining heritage and enjoying our quality facilities and idyllic lifestyle.

OUR VALUES:

We value our family-oriented community and relaxed lifestyle. We value our existing community facilities, such as the health centre, library, pool and sporting facilities.



TIERI STRATEGIC DIRECTIONS:

STRATEGY	RESOURCEFUL VIBRANT COMMUNITY	INTEGRATED QUALITY INFRASTRUCTURE	DIVERSE PROSPEROUS ECONOMY	HEALTHY NATURAL ENVIRONMENT	PROACTIVE OPEN GOVERNANCE
1	Plan and promote Tieri as a family-orientated community with adequate family support networks.	Improved digital communications in Tieri.	Develop a tourism industry for Tieri.	Provide accessible waste management facilities/ water services to support the community and travellers.	Advertise effective communication and connections in the Tieri community.
2	Engage and support community groups, sporting clubs and associations to hold events, and attract and retain volunteers.	Improved radio and telecommunication signals.	Promote Tieri as an RV friendly community.		Increase community involvement in planning for our future through the Tieri Community Reference Group.
3	Tieri facilities to be promoted to external sporting facilities/ opportunities for training camps.	Supporting tourism activities to encourage travellers to stop/rest in Tieri.	Identify business development opportunities in Tieri.		Continue to maintain local disaster management controls.
4		Install more pathways for improved people and town connectivity.	Establishment of active volunteering in Tieri.		

Further information on Tieri is available at haveyoursay.chrc.qld.gov.au/tieri-CRG

Implementing and reporting



OUR ROLE IS TO SUPPORT THE COMMUNITY TO ACHIEVE ITS VISION AND STEWARD THE DELIVERY OF THE REGIONAL GOALS AND LOCAL PRIORITIES.

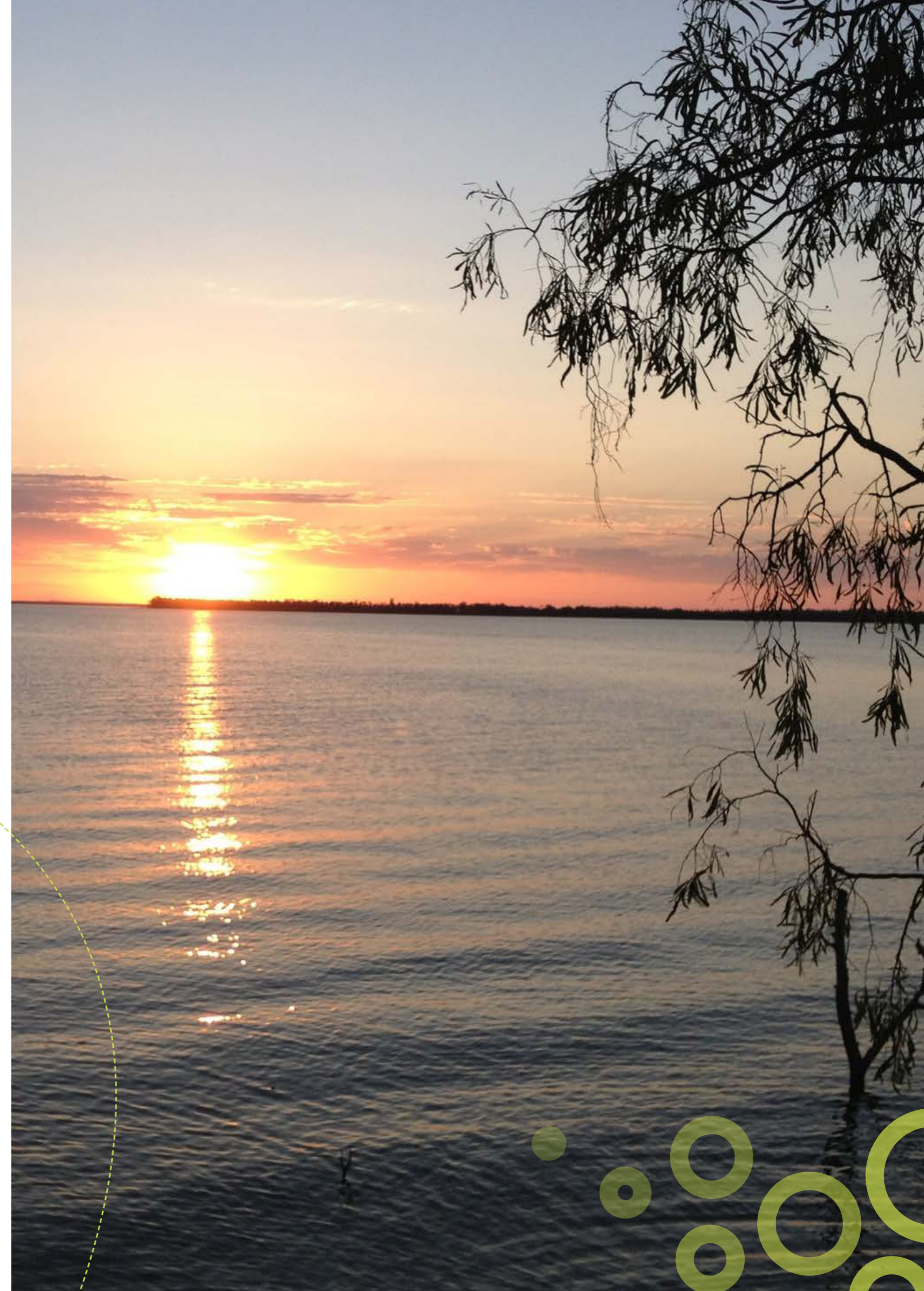
This Plan is at the forefront of council's community planning, informing the corporate plan, long-term financial plan, asset management plan and operational plans. This Plan should also be used in

conjunction with other broader strategic documents at all levels of government, community and business sectors.

The community plan is to be supplemented by 13 community identified strategic direction documents.

The implementation plans will detail who, when and how specific regional goals and place priorities will be achieved. The implementation plans can adapt to changes in projects and actions as determined by key project stakeholders including council, the community and other partners over the life of this plan.

Reports on activities or projects being delivered through the council's corporate and operational plans will be presented to council quarterly. In addition, the connected communities team will report annually through the Community Standing Committee on community projects.





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centralhighlands.qld.gov.au