



Bulloo
Shire

Budget 2023/2024



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Budget Influences & Principles

In preparing the budget, it has been necessary to consider a number of internal and external influences that are likely to significantly impact on the services delivered by Council during the budget period. Accordingly, it has been necessary to make some assumptions about the internal and external environment within which Council operates.

The following section outlines the main assumptions made: -

External Factors

Inflation

In the medium to long term Council tries to keep the level of rates in line with the level of inflation as it applies to Council's costs. The long-term trend, based on the Local Government Inflation Index, is approximately 3%, and this has been factored into Council's long-term sustainability forecast. The rate increase for 2023-24 has been held at the same level, with longer term rate projections based on a 3% increase.

Interest Rates

Interest rates on money invested by Council are taken at 4.06% which is the rate currently received on our deposits with Queensland Treasury Corporation (QTC).

Council has no loans.

Flood Damage

The area is subject to flooding in previous years and this has a substantial effect on the Council's financial performance and the cost of provision of most of its services. Overall, a major flood event has three impacts on the Council. Firstly, there is a significant loss of assets, which appears as a cost in the Council's accounts. Secondly, the Council rebuilds the affected assets, either with its own workforce or, where that is not feasible, with contractors. Thirdly, the State and Commonwealth Governments provide funding to pay for a substantial element of the cost of rebuilding, if submission for funding is approved.

Because the timing and size of flood events cannot be predicted, such events occurring in the future have not been included in the financial projections.

Government Funding

For many years the State and Federal Governments have provided substantial funding, by way of grants, to local governments, either as general funding for operations, as specific funding for particular activities, as capital funding for the construction of assets, or for the restoration of assets damaged in major natural disasters. Council is dependent on this funding to support the provision of services to its community and visitors to the area. In preparing this budget, it has been assumed that this funding will only continue where a specific or general commitment by government has been made. In all other cases, no assumptions have been made regarding Council's entitlement to either the continuation of such funding, or for new funding.

Accordingly, the costs of any activities that rely on such funding are not included.

Budget Principles

The budget also takes into account the following principles:

1. The underlying operating result must ensure Council's long-term sustainability
2. All strategies contained within the Corporate and Operational Plans for the year must be funded in the budget.
3. Rate revenue will be levied in accordance with Council's Revenue Policy and Statement
4. Spending and rating policies must be consistent with a reasonable degree of stability in the level of the rates burden.
5. Council must have regard to the effect on future generations of decisions made.
6. Staffing levels should be sufficient to achieve the outcomes in the operational plan.
7. Long-term assets should be managed to maximise community benefit.
8. Existing fees and charges should be increased in line with market forces.
9. New revenue sources should be identified wherever possible.
10. New initiatives or new employee proposals should be justified.
11. Council recognises that government grants are a crucial element of financial sustainability.
12. The balance of 2022-2023 projects that were not completed by 30 June 2023 should be considered for inclusion in the 2023-2024 budget.
13. Council's budget must take into account all of Council's other strategic plans.
14. Financial risks faced by Council must be managed having regard to economic circumstances.

Financial Management Strategy

By maintaining the retained surplus under the model of financial budgeting and reporting which separates capital and operating performance and position, Council ensures that it has, in the long term, sufficient funds from available sources to meet its operating and capital requirements.

In the current budget year 2023-2024, Council forecasts a Negative Operating Result. The future projections indicate a small cumulative operating surplus at the end of the ten years of the sustainability forecast. Providing Council can maintain its budgetary constraint, it will be in a strong financial position throughout that period, with sufficient positive cash flow to maintain its asset base, and provide community expectations in respect of the range and quality of its services. Council constantly reviews its programmes with a view to eliminating unnecessary costs, and looking for opportunities to increase its revenue streams.

It is reasonable to anticipate that additional funding may become available, which would allow Council to spend additional amounts on asset replacement, or appropriate new facilities. Where realistic opportunities arise, these would be included in future budget revisions.

An important aspect of our financial management and operational strategy, is to improve the way in which our roads are constructed, so that the annualised cost is minimised. In view of the reduced funding available for roads projects, Council adopts a strategy of high-level maintenance of essential roads and a reduced, but sufficient service level for minor roads.

As can be seen from the sustainability forecast, Council intends to fully fund its depreciation, with the resulting funds available for reinvesting in assets.

Statutory Reporting

QTC Financial Forecast Template—Bulloo Shire Council Statement of Comprehensive Income

	Jun-24 Budget	Jun-25F	Jun-26F	Jun-27F	Jun-28F	Jun-29F	Jun-30F	Jun-31F	Jun-32F	Jun-33F
Revenue										
Operating revenue										
Net rates, levies and charges	5,632	5,857	6,092	6,335	6,589	6,852	7,127	7,412	7,708	8,016
Fees and charges	160	167	173	180	188	195	203	211	219	228
Rental income	422	439	456	475	494	513	534	555	578	601
Interest received	623	1,265	1,253	1,294	1,352	1,440	1,526	1,565	1,578	1,641
Sales revenue	2,566	2,668	2,775	2,886	3,001	3,121	3,246	3,376	3,511	3,652
Other income	32	33	34	36	37	38	40	42	43	45
Grants, subsidies, contributions and donations	16,406	17,062	17,744	18,454	19,192	19,960	20,758	21,589	22,452	23,350
Total operating revenue	25,841	27,491	28,528	29,660	30,852	32,121	33,434	34,749	36,090	37,533
Capital revenue										
Grants, subsidies, contributions and donations	8,740	2,823	2,439	2,561	2,579	2,708	2,843	2,985	3,135	3,260
Total revenue	34,581	30,314	30,967	32,221	33,431	34,828	36,277	37,735	39,224	40,793
Capital income										
Total Capital Income	670	500	550	605	666	732	805	886	974	1,013
Total income	35,251	30,814	31,517	32,826	34,097	35,560	37,082	38,620	40,199	41,807
Expenses										
Operating expenses										
Employee benefits	6,482	6,673	6,839	7,010	7,184	7,364	7,547	7,735	7,928	8,246
Materials and services	15,850	16,484	17,143	17,829	18,542	19,284	20,055	20,858	21,692	22,343
Finance costs	31	32	34	35	36	38	39	41	43	44
Depreciation and amortisation	7,879	8,338	8,788	9,153	9,500	9,873	9,638	9,930	10,280	10,691
Total operating expenses	30,242	31,527	32,804	34,027	35,263	36,558	37,280	38,564	39,943	41,324
Net result	5,009	(714)	(1,287)	(1,201)	(1,166)	(998)	(198)	56	256	483
Operating result										
Operating revenue	25,841	27,491	28,528	29,660	30,852	32,121	33,434	34,749	36,090	37,533
Operating expenses	30,242	31,527	32,804	34,027	35,263	36,558	37,280	38,564	39,943	41,324
Operating result	(4,401)	(4,037)	(4,276)	(4,367)	(4,411)	(4,438)	(3,846)	(3,815)	(3,853)	(3,790)

QTC Financial Forecast Template—Bulloo Shire Council

Statement of Financial Position

	Jun-24 Budget	Jun-25F	Jun-26F	Jun-27F	Jun-28F	Jun-29F	Jun-30F	Jun-31F	Jun-32F	Jun-33F
Assets										
Current assets										
Cash and cash equivalents	16,090	15,554	16,575	18,046	20,422	22,776	23,762	24,181	19,379	14,386
Trade and other receivables	2,067	2,156	2,242	2,331	2,418	2,522	2,623	2,727	2,829	2,942
Inventories	803	803	803	803	803	803	803	803	803	835
Contract Assets	1,757	1,757	1,757	1,757	1,757	1,757	1,757	1,757	1,757	1,828
Total current assets	20,717	20,270	21,378	22,938	25,401	27,858	28,945	29,469	24,769	19,991
Non-current assets										
Property, plant & equipment	218,108	220,183	220,199	219,903	218,796	217,915	219,253	221,490	229,258	238,428
Total non-current assets	218,108	220,183	220,199	219,903	218,796	217,915	219,253	221,490	229,258	238,428
Total assets	238,825	240,454	241,576	242,841	244,197	245,773	248,198	250,959	254,026	258,419
Liabilities										
Current liabilities										
Trade and other payables	855	888	920	953	984	1,022	1,059	1,097	1,133	1,179
Contract Liabilities	1,447	1,447	1,447	1,447	1,447	1,447	1,447	1,447	1,447	1,505
Provisions	1,302	1,289	1,276	1,264	1,251	1,238	1,226	1,214	1,202	1,250
Total current liabilities	3,605	3,625	3,644	3,664	3,683	3,708	3,732	3,758	3,782	3,934
Non-current liabilities										
Provisions	157	184	212	240	267	295	323	350	378	393
Total non-current liabilities	157	184	212	240	267	295	323	350	378	393
Total liabilities	3,762	3,809	3,856	3,903	3,950	4,003	4,055	4,109	4,161	4,327
Net community assets	235,063	236,645	237,721	238,938	240,248	241,770	244,143	246,850	249,866	254,092
Community equity										
Asset revaluation surplus	101,952	104,247	106,610	109,028	111,505	114,025	116,596	119,247	122,007	125,750
Retained surplus	133,111	132,397	131,110	129,909	128,743	127,745	127,547	127,603	127,859	128,342
Total community equity	235,063	236,645	237,721	238,938	240,248	241,770	244,143	246,850	249,866	254,092

QTC Financial Forecast Template—Bulloo Shire Council

Statement of Cash Flows

	Jun-24 Budget	Jun-25F	Jun-26F	Jun-27F	Jun-28F	Jun-29F	Jun-30F	Jun-31F	Jun-32F	Jun-33F
Cash flows from operating activities										
Receipts from customers	8,454	8,696	9,046	9,407	9,786	10,173	10,582	11,005	11,448	11,906
Payments to suppliers and employees	(22,101)	(23,127)	(23,955)	(24,811)	(25,702)	(26,617)	(27,575)	(28,565)	(29,595)	(30,779)
Interest received	623	1,265	1,253	1,294	1,352	1,440	1,526	1,565	1,578	1,641
Rental income	421	437	455	473	492	512	532	554	576	599
Non-capital grants and contributions	15,810	17,004	17,688	18,396	19,136	19,892	20,693	21,520	22,386	23,282
Payment of provision	-	(15)	(15)	(15)	(15)	(15)	(15)	(15)	(16)	(16)
Net cash inflow from operating activities	3,208	4,261	4,472	4,744	5,049	5,385	5,743	6,064	6,378	6,633
Cash flows from investing activities										
Payments for property, plant and equipment	(14,330)	(8,119)	(6,440)	(6,440)	(5,917)	(6,471)	(8,405)	(9,516)	(15,288)	(15,900)
Proceeds from sale of property, plant and equipment	670	500	550	605	666	732	805	886	974	1,013
Grants, subsidies, contributions and donations	8,740	2,823	2,439	2,561	2,579	2,708	2,843	2,985	3,135	3,260
Net cash inflow from investing activities	(4,919)	(4,796)	(3,451)	(3,274)	(2,673)	(3,031)	(4,757)	(5,645)	(11,179)	(11,626)
Total cash flows										
Net increase in cash and cash equivalent held	(1,711)	(535)	1,021	1,470	2,376	2,354	986	419	(4,801)	(4,994)
Opening cash and cash equivalents	17,801	16,090	15,554	16,575	18,046	20,422	22,776	23,762	24,181	19,379
Closing cash and cash equivalents	16,090	15,554	16,575	18,046	20,422	22,776	23,762	24,181	19,379	14,386

QTC Financial Forecast Template—Bulloo Shire Council

Statement of Changes in Equity

	Jun-24 Budget	Jun-25F	Jun-26F	Jun-27F	Jun-28F	Jun-29F	Jun-30F	Jun-31F	Jun-32F	Jun-33F
Asset revaluation surplus										
Opening balance	101,952	101,952	104,247	106,610	109,028	111,505	114,025	116,596	119,247	122,007
Net result	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na
Increase in asset revaluation surplus	-	2,295	2,363	2,418	2,476	2,521	2,570	2,651	2,760	3,743
Internal payments made	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na
Adjustment for Initial Recognition of Accounting Standards	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na
Closing balance	101,952	104,247	106,610	109,028	111,505	114,025	116,596	119,247	122,007	125,750
Retained surplus										
Opening balance	128,102	133,111	132,397	131,110	129,909	128,743	127,745	127,547	127,603	127,859
Net result	5,009	(714)	(1,287)	(1,201)	(1,166)	(998)	(198)	56	256	483
Increase in asset revaluation surplus	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na
Internal payments made	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Adjustment for Initial Recognition of Accounting Standards	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na
Closing balance	133,111	132,397	131,110	129,909	128,743	127,745	127,547	127,603	127,859	128,342
Total										
Opening balance	230,054	235,063	236,645	237,721	238,938	240,248	241,770	244,143	246,850	249,866
Net result	5,009	(714)	(1,287)	(1,201)	(1,166)	(998)	(198)	56	256	483
Increase in asset revaluation surplus	-	2,295	2,363	2,418	2,476	2,521	2,570	2,651	2,760	3,743
Internal payments made	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Adjustment for Initial Recognition of Accounting Standards	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na
Closing balance	235,063	236,645	237,721	238,938	240,248	241,770	244,143	246,850	249,866	254,092

Bulloo Shire 2023/2024 Adopted Budget – Measures of Financial Sustainability

BULLOO SHIRE COUNCIL - Budget 23-24 - LT Sustainability Ratios										
Year ended	Forecast									
	2023/24 Budget	2024/25	2025/26	2026/27	2027/28	2028/29	2029/30	2030/31	2031/32	2032/33
Operating Surplus Ratio										
(Net Operating Surplus / Total Operating Revenue) (%)	(17.03)%	(14.68)%	(14.99)%	(14.72)%	(14.30)%	(13.82)%	(11.50)%	(10.98)%	(10.68)%	(10.10)%
Measures the extent to which operating revenues raised cover operational expenses only or are available for capital funding purposes or other purposes.										
Target between: 0% to 10%										
Net Financial Asset / Liability Ratio										
((Total Liabilities - Current Assets) / Total Operating Revenue)	(65.6)%	(59.9)%	(61.4)%	(64.2)%	(69.5)%	(74.3)%	(74.4)%	(73.0)%	(57.1)%	(41.7)%
Measures the extent to which the net financial liabilities of Council can be repaid from operating revenues										
Target: not greater than 60%										
Asset Sustainability Ratio										
(Capital Expenditure on the Replacement of Assets (renewals) / Depreciation Expense)	126%	62%	49%	49%	38%	40%	63%	80%	120%	115%
This ratio reflects the extent to which the infrastructure assets managed by Council are being replaced as they reach the end of their useful lives.										
Target: greater than 90%										

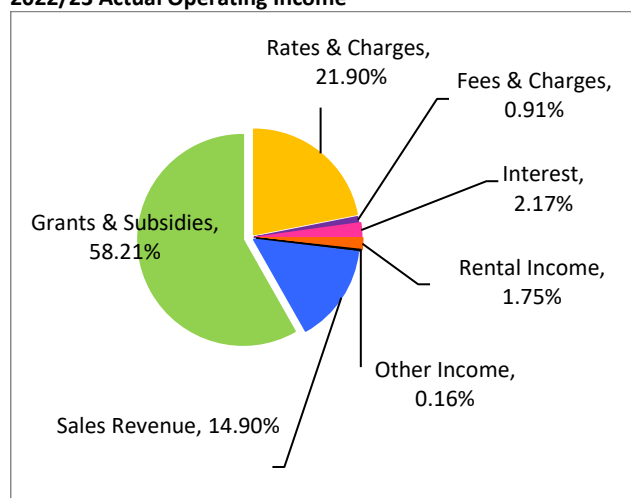
Summary of Key Information

The summary provides key information about the rate increase, operating result, capital works, financial sustainability and key strategic activities of the Council.

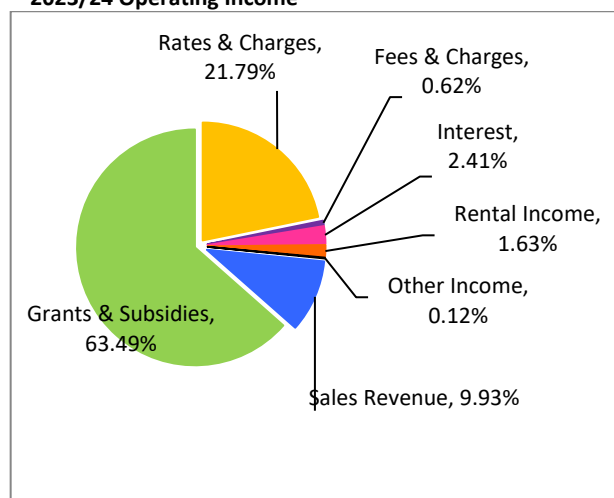
Council Operating Income

Council derives income from five major sources – rates; government grants; user fees and charges, sales revenue and interest. As indicated in the graph below, Council is very reliant on Grant funding as a primary income source, we have received a prepayment \$8.48M from Commonwealth Financial Assistance Grants.

2022/23 Actual Operating Income

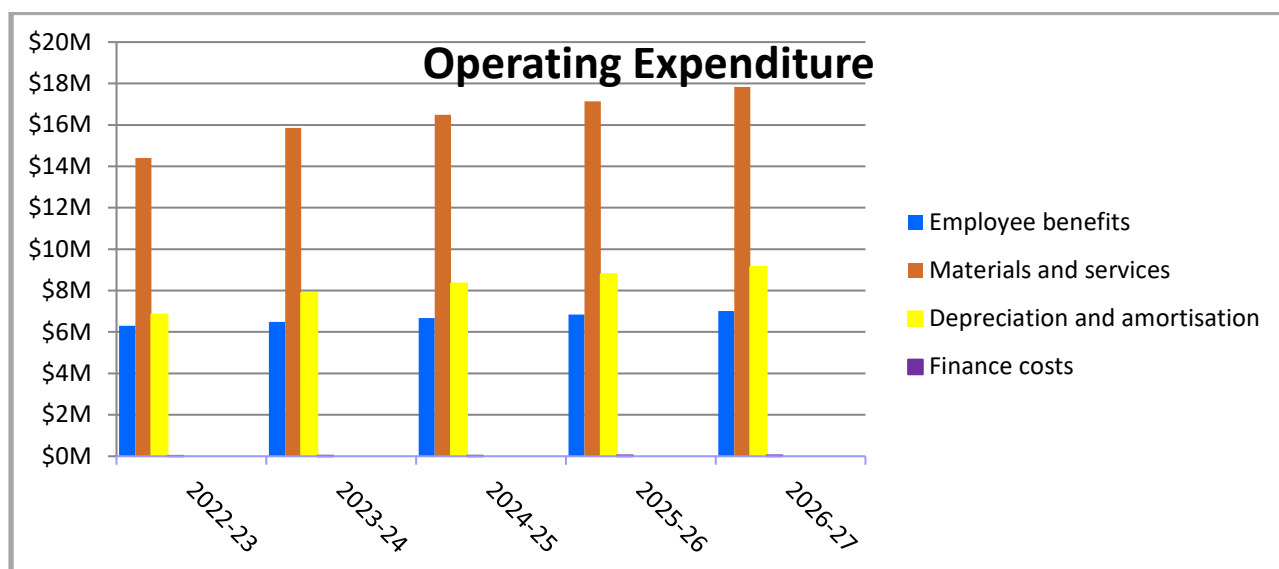


2023/24 Operating Income



Councils Operating Expenditure

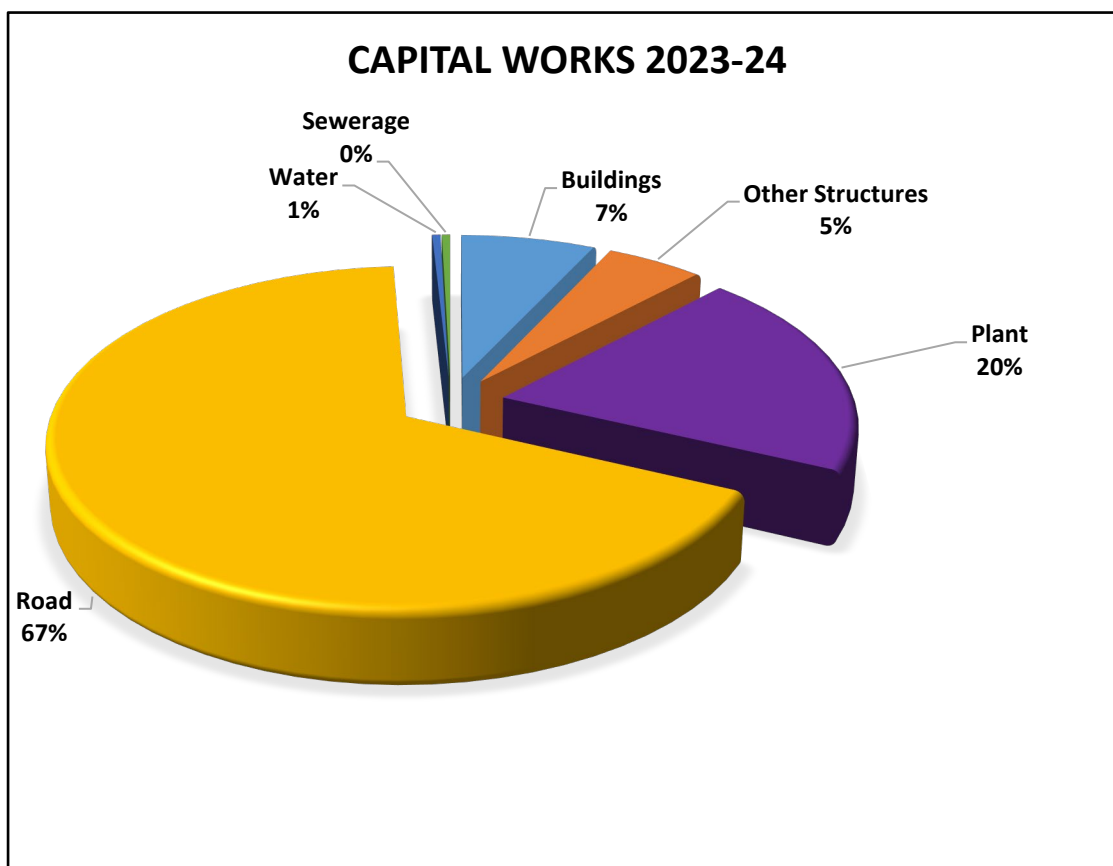
Councils operating expenditure for the 2023-24 year compared to 2022-23 expenditure levels.



Capital Works

Bulloo Shire Council is continuing to undertake a very large capital program totaling \$14.3M.

Buildings	\$1,002,000
Other Structures	\$726,574
Plant	\$2,847,458
Road	\$9,619,320
Water	\$62,000
Sewerage	\$62,000
TOTAL	14,319,352



Capital Works Program 2023-2024

Capital Expenditure	Project Type	2024_Total	2024_Council	2024_Grant	2024_Trade-in	Grant Name
Grand Total		14,319,352	4,909,032	8,740,320	670,000	
Finance & Admin						
Nil						
Rural Services						
Town Common Fence	Upgrade	110,000		110,000		W4Q4
		110,000		110,000		
Tourism & Economic Development						
Old Jail - Connect to mains electricity		50,000	50,000			
		50,000	50,000	0	0	
Buildings and other Structures						
Warri Gate Camp	Upgrade	10,000	10,000			
Fence for Old Depot (between O'Shea Residence)	New	10,000	10,000			
Renovate Golf Club - Cladding & Guttering	Upgrade	40,000	40,000			
Nacowlah & Bellalie Camp - Clean up	Renewal	10,500	10,500			
1x 3 Bedroom Houses (1 bath)	New	750,000	750,000			
Explorers Caravan Park - 6x Cabin Repairs/Upgrade	Renewal	70,000	70,000			
Generator for Teelow Court	New	80,000	80,000			
Hungerford Hall Switchboard Upgrade	Renewal	12,000		12,000		LRCI 4
Rubbish Tip & Top Yard tidy up from contamination + 2x new 3000L tanks	Renewal	176,074	176,074			
VIC Fence (along Riley, Bond side)	Renewal	20,000	20,000			
Sporting Amenities/P & G						
Noccundra Sport Facilities	Upgrade	250,000	30,000	220,000		W4Q4
Swimming Pool						
Thargomindah Swimming Pool Upgrade	Renewal	140,000		140,000		LRCI 4
		1,568,574	1,196,574	372,000	0	

Capital Expenditure	Project Type	2024_Total	2024_Council	2024_Grant	2024_Trade-in	Grant Name
Roads						
LRCI Phase 3 - Warri Gate Rd	Renewal	1,362,802		1,362,802		LRCI_3
LRCI Phase 4 - Remaining projects to be determined	Renewal	544,921		544,921		544,921
LRCI Phase 4 ROADS - Innamincka Rd Reseal	Renewal	489,676		489,676		
RRUP - Warri Gate Road - Stage 1	Renewal	5,000,000	1,000,000	4,000,000		
Rodeo Grounds - Gravel to Extend Rd & Parking Area	Upgrade	45,000		45,000		LRCI 4
Easton Drive - Upgrade with Gravel	Upgrade	45,000		45,000		LRCI 4
Road Closure Sign - at Tibbooburra (Qld Roads)	Upgrade	13,000	13,000			
Roads to Recovery (848,921)						
Besm Road Culvert	Renewal	250,000		250,000		R2R
Bulloo Downs Realignment	Renewal	598,921		598,921		R2R
Stormwater Drainage						
Stormwater drainage Frew Street		170,000	170,000			QRA_QRRRF 21/22
Stormwater drainage Stafford & Speedy Street	Renewal	1,100,000	240,000	860,000		QRA_QRRRF 22/23
		9,619,320	1,423,000	8,196,320	0	
Plant						
Vehicles						
Toyota DCab Utility Workmate 4wd - 6004 -79,000kms	Renewal	89,791	59,791		30,000	
Toyota DCab Utility Workmate 4wd - 6021-129,000kms	Renewal	89,791	59,791		30,000	
Toyota DCab Utility Workmate 4wd - 6022 -115,000kms	Renewal	89,791	59,791		30,000	
Toyota Dual Cab Utility SR (6017 - 122,532)	Renewal	58,375	28,375		30,000	
Toyota Dual Cab Utility SR (6019 - 123,145)	Renewal	58,375	28,375		30,000	
Toyota Dual Cab Utility SR Hilux (6020 - 40,000 km)	Renewal	72,771	37,771		35,000	
Toyota Dual Cab Utility SR Hilux (6014 - 60,000km)	Renewal	72,771	37,771		35,000	
Toyota Dual Cab Utility SR Hilux (6010 Dig Tree - 57,000km)	Renewal	72,771	37,771		35,000	
Toyota Dual Cab Utility SR Hilux (6029 - 60,000km)	Renewal	72,771	37,771		35,000	
Toyota Landcruiser Workmate 4x4 Ute (6066 - 107,000km)	Renewal	89,791	39,791		50,000	
		766,998	426,998		340,000	

Capital Expenditure	Project Type	2024_Total	2024_Council	2024_Grant	2024_Trade-in	Grant Name
Minor Plant						
Genelite 60KVA Genset Kubota - Replace P 0381	Renewal	30,000	30,000			
15KVA Kubota D1703-BG Genset Replace 3012	Renewal	18,000	18,000			
15KVA Kubota D1703-BG Genset Replace 3014	Renewal	18,000	18,000			
Transportable Diesel Tank	New	22,000	22,000			
4" Diesel Water Pump & Trailer	New	44,000	44,000			
Lathe - Hafco 560x1500mm	Renewal	27,000	27,000			
		159,000	159,000		-	
Major Plant						
Kenworth T659 Prime Mover	Renewal	440,000	400,000		40,000	
Light Truck - Isuzu - (Replace Hilux - 6028) Grader Crew	Renewal	110,000	80,000		30,000	
Light Truck - Isuzu - (Replace Hilux - 6026) Grader Crew	Renewal	110,000	80,000		30,000	
Komatsu WA380-8 Front End Loader (Replace Plant 560 - 10,500 hours)	Renewal	471,460	371,460		100,000	
Isuzu Truck crew cab - (Replace Hilux 6018) Grader Crew	Renewal	110,000	80,000		30,000	
Isuzu Truck crew cab - (Replace Hilux 6027) Grader Crew	Renewal	110,000	80,000		30,000	
Second hand service & fuel truck	New	80,000	80,000			
Kitchen / Amenities - 2nd Mobile Camp	New	100,000	100,000			
Water Tanker	New	155,000	115,000		40,000	
Isuzu Truck - (Mechanics) New 4x4 (Replace 706)	Renewal	135,000	105,000		30,000	
Isuzu Truck - Mechanic 2nd truck - 2 WD (replace 6024 Landruiser Ute)	Renewal	100,000	100,000			
		1,921,460	1,591,460	0	330,000	
Water Infrastructure						
Thargomindah - Finalisation of Water metre installation	New	37,000	37,000			
Thargomindah - Finalisation of Bore 2 connection	New	25,000	25,000			
		62,000	62,000	0	0	
Sewer Infrastructure						
Vacuum Pump Upgrade	Upgrade	62,000		62,000		LRCI 4
		62,000	0	62,000	0	

Rates Calculation Summary

Differential General Rates

A number of factors can result in some rate categories in the table below decreasing or increasing by more than 3% from the previous year:-

Category	Category Detail	2021-22 Revenue	2022-23 Revenue	% Change
1	Vacant Land – Thargomindah	\$6,363	\$6,554	3%
2	Vacant Land – Hungerford	\$2,568	\$2,645	3%
3	Vacant Land – Noccundra	\$3,599	\$3,707	3%
4	Vacant Land – Other	\$369	0	3%
5	Residential – Thargomindah	\$33,829	\$34,844	3%
6	Residential – Hungerford	\$4,665	\$4,805	3%
7	Commercial – Thargomindah	\$4,891	\$5,038	3%
8	Commercial – Hungerford	\$383	\$394	3%
9	Commercial – Noccundra	\$1,003	\$1,033	3%
10	Commercial – Other	\$3,908	\$4,025	3%
11	Industry - Thargomindah	\$18,668	\$19,228	3%
12	Small Rural	\$1,428	\$1,471	3%
13	Rural	\$1,073,127	\$1,105,321	3%
14	Jackson & Naccowlah	\$656,527	\$676,223	3%
15	Ballera Gas Centre	\$2,399,856	\$2,471,852	3%
16	Petroleum Leases	\$731,397	\$753,339	3%
17	Extractive Leases	\$2,793	\$2,877	3%
18	All Other Land	\$25,846	\$26,621	3%
19	Worker Accommodation 50-100	\$0	\$0	3%
20	Worker Accommodation 100-200	\$0	\$0	3%
21	Worker Accommodation >200	\$0	\$0	3%
*22	Mining Claim <900m2	\$0	\$0	3%
*23	Mining Claim >900m2	\$0	\$0	3%
24	All land > 10 Ha but < 100 Ha	\$2,951	\$3,010	3%
25	All land with Carbon Credit Units	\$179,057	\$184,429	3%

Changes can relate to changes within Categories & increases or decreases may not show actual changes to assessments.

**Minimum Charge for Category 22 & 23 is determined by Local Government Regulation 2012 sec 79*

Water Charges

Group	Rate Group Details	2021-22 Revenue	2022-23 Revenue	% Change
1	Thargomindah	\$126,906	\$130,713	3%
2	Hungerford	\$13,993	\$14,413	3%

Sewerage Charges

Group	Rate Group Details	2021-22 Revenue	2022-23 Revenue	% Change
1	Thargomindah	\$106,589	\$109,787	3%

Garbage Charges

Group	Rate Group Details	2021-22 Revenue	2022-23 Revenue	% Change
1	Thargomindah – Environmental	\$5,653	\$5,823	3%
1	Thargomindah - Collection	\$51,242	\$52,779	3%

Increase in Rates and Utility Charges

[section 169(6) – Preparation and content of budget]

The total value of the change, expressed as a percentage, in the rates and utility charges levied for 2023-24 (as adopted on 18 July 2023) compared with the rates and utility charges levied in 2022-23 as adopted on 19 July 2022 is 3%, 3% & 3%.

National Competition Assessment

Council has undertaken an assessment of its activities and has not identified any that are subject to type 3 arrangement and therefore does not need to apply the Code of Competitive Conduct.



Operational Plan 2023-2024

The Operational Plan sets out the action areas to deliver the strategic goals for the period of July 2023 to June 2024, as identified in the Bulloo Shire Council 2021-2026 Corporate Plan.

THARGOMINDAH | HUNGERFORD | NOCCUNDRRA | CAMERON CORNER

Community

Ref	Operational Initiative	Measure	CP Ref	Officer	Due Date
COM1.1.1	All relevant issues are referred for public consultation and the responses noted as per Council's Community Engagement Policy.	Undertake community engagement for significant strategies and corporate plans Community surveys are conducted for service satisfaction and community wellbeing Council holds its public meetings with each community each year	COM1.1	All Managers	Quarterly
COM1.1.2	Review the Community Engagement Policy	1 Review	COM1.1	Admin & Finance	30 June
COM1.2.1	Encourage and foster social cohesion between Council and the community	Ongoing - 100%	COM1.2	CEO	30 June
COM2.1.1	Delivery of high-quality public library services in accordance with public library guidelines and standards, that is responsive to the needs of the community.	SLQ reports submitted on time program of activities promoted and implemented	COM2.1	Community, Culture & Places	30 June
COM2.1.2	Monitor and respond to the needs of the aged in the community	Delivery of subsidised monthly seniors' activities such as Senior Lunches, organised craft session, community morning tea, bingo	COM2.1	Community, Culture & Places	30 June

Ref	Operational Initiative	Measure	CP Ref	Officer	Due Date
COM2.1.3	Identify and respond to community infrastructure funding opportunities	Ongoing - 100%	COM2.1	Admin & Finance	30 June
COM2.2.1	Support current and new community groups and activities	Ongoing - 100%	COM2.2	Community, Culture & Places	30 June
COM2.2.2	Facilitate and support community development through effective implementation and delivery of the Community Grants Program	Report to Council as applications are received Ongoing 100%	COM2.2	Admin & Finance	30 June
COM2.3.1	Public health licence applications, routine inspections of licensed premises and complaint investigation management effectively managed and actioned	Applications processed – 100% Conduct food inspections of all public food preparation facilities – 100%	COM2.3	Admin & Finance	30 June
COM2.3.2	Ensure all dogs and registerable animals are registered; To react to complaints regarding animal nuisances in a timely manner.	Animal Registration Program initiated. Number of complaints actioned	COM2.3	Admin & Finance	30 June
COM2.3.3	Effectively manage environmental authority registration applications, routine inspections of registered activities and environmental protection complaints	Applications processed – 100% Inspections completed as required – 100%	COM2.3	Admin & Finance	30 June
COM2.4.1	Continue to fund the Bulloo Shire Bursary	Funding advertised annually	COM2.4	Admin & Finance	30 Dec
COM2.6.1	Provide financial support for primary and secondary school and ensure schools has appropriate resources to	consultation sessions held Fund 1/2 teacher at primary school	COM2.6	Community, Culture & Places	30 June

Ref	Operational Initiative	Measure	CP Ref	Officer	Due Date
	provide education services in line with community expectation.				
COM2.7.1	Continue to support emerging enterprise with subsidised access to Council infrastructure	Ongoing - 100%	COM2.7	CEO	30 June
COM2.7.2	Continue to provide and develop local regional tourism product for retail in the VIC	Ongoing - 100%	COM2.7	Community, Culture & Places	30 June
COM3.1.1	Maintain a current Local Disaster Management Plan & Sub plans	Reviewed plan endorsed by Council and LDMP	COM3.1	CEO	30 June

Economy

Ref	Operational Initiative	Measure	CP Ref	Officer	Due Date
ECO1.1.1	Continue to deliver procurement activities in accordance with Councils Procurement Policy and promote Council procurement opportunities to local businesses	Ongoing - 100%	ECO1.1	Admin & Finance	30 June
ECO1.1.2	Ensure that a robust local economy is supported through Pre-qualified procurement and local purchasing wherever possible.	Pre-Qualified Suppliers Tenderer advertised every 2 yrs and reviewed annually	ECO1.1	Admin & Finance	30 June
ECO1.1.3	Advertise all tenders, contracts and expressions of interest in a manner readily available to the local community	As required 100%	ECO1.1	Admin & Finance	30 June
ECO1.2.1	Continue to produce and host video content that promotes the community	Engage contractors to help implement this program with a main aspect being growth – 100%	ECO1.2	Community, Culture & Places	30 June
ECO1.3.1	Partner with local businesses/industry and other local governments to promote local business	Ongoing - 100%	ECO1.3	Community, Culture & Places	30 June
ECO1.4.1	Advocate to Australian and Queensland Government and telecommunication carriers to continually improve telecommunications services available in the shire	Ongoing - 100%	ECO1.4	CEO	30 June
ECO1.5.1	Continue to advocate for a suitable early education and childcare service in Thargomindah	Ongoing	ECO1.5	Community, Culture & Places	30 June

Operational Plan 2023-2024

Ref	Operational Initiative	Measure	CP Ref	Officer	Due Date
ECO1.6.1	Maintain an active Social Media presence to ensure community education and awareness.	Through regular Facebook posts keeping the community up to date around upcoming training/initiatives/funding.	ECO1.6	Community, Culture & Places	30 June
ECO1.7.1	Continue to upgrade technology hardware & software as required i.e. Computers, Monitors, Internet/ <u>Wifi</u> Solutions	100% Delivery	ECO1.7	Admin & Finance	30 June
ECO1.7.2	Identify and adopt technology that supports efficiencies in operations	Ongoing - 100%	ECO1.7	Admin & Finance	30 June
ECO2.1.1	Review annually the Community, Culture & Places Plan	1 Plan reviewed	ECO2.1	Community, Culture & Places	30 June
ECO2.2.1	Expand the shire's involvement in regional tourism promotion	Work with OQTA on regional tourism initiative	ECO2.2	Community, Culture & Places	30 June
ECO2.3.1	Maintain links with Outback Queensland Tourism Association (OQTA), Tourism Queensland, Natural Sciences Loop and Adventure Way to promote and market the shire to visitors	Maintain memberships, meeting attendance and representation at trade shows and other tourism events	ECO2.3	Community, Culture & Places	30 June
ECO2.4.1	Facilitate appropriate infrastructure development to support tourism growth.	Identify potential infrastructure and apply for grants	ECO2.4 / INF1.2	CEO	30 June
ECO2.4.2	Investigate options to improve our visitor information Centre visitor experience	Ongoing – 100%	ECO2.4	Community, Culture & Places	30 June

Ref	Operational Initiative	Measure	CP Ref	Officer	Due Date
ECO3.1.1	Assess development applications in a timely manner in accordance with the legislation.	Ensure Development Applications are processed in a timely manner and in accordance with legislative requirements	ECO3.1	Admin & Finance	30 June
ECO3.2.1	Review the 2019 Bulloo Planning Scheme	Review Plan Annually	ECO3.2	Admin & Finance	30 June
ECO4.1.1	Maintain SWQROC membership and focus on opportunities in the Bulloo Shire	4 Meetings attended Adopt the Bulloo Investment Prospectus	ECO4.1	CEO	30 June

Environment

Ref	Operational Initiative	Measure	CP Ref	Officer	Due Date
ENV1.1.1	Review Biosecurity Plan for 2022-2025	Plan Reviewed	ENV1.1	Rural	30 Nov
ENV1.2.1	Continue to promote the Dig Tree National Heritage asset	Include in Tourism Promotion material	ENV1.2	Community, Culture & Places	30 June
ENV1.3.1	Develop and maintain preparedness and response capabilities to ensure the community is able to withstand a wide variety of disasters that may affect the region	Reviewed in conjunction with Resilience Recovery project	ENV1.3	Admin & Finance	30 June
ENV1.3.2	Support and coordinate the LDMG	2 meeting held annually, or as required	ENV1.3	CEO	30 June
ENV1.3.3	Review Disaster Management Plan annually	Plan reviewed	ENV1.3	Admin & Finance	30 June
ENV1.3.4	Meet with Regional DDMG to ensure co-ordination of Disaster Management planning and emergency service provision.	2 meetings attended annually	ENV1.3	CEO	30 June
ENV1.4.1	Support the management of invasive plants and animals (in particular wild dogs/feral pigs) and disease in the shire in accordance with the Biosecurity Plan	Deliver 2 coordinated wild pig & dog aerial baiting campaigns	ENV1.4	Rural	30 June
ENV1.4.2	Support Bulloo Shire Pest Management Committee	2 meetings coordinated annually	ENV1.4	Rural	30 June
ENV1.4.3	Monitor Inactive Stock Routes and deliver pest management program	Stock Routes inspected annually	ENV1.4	Rural	30 June

Ref	Operational Initiative	Measure	CP Ref	Officer	Due Date
ENV1.5.1	Manage the use of town commons and reserves in accordance with Local Laws and Subordinate Local Laws; Monitor pasture cover; Monitor stock numbers; Monitor fencing condition; Monitor feed and water levels.	Ensure pasture cover is sufficient for livestock on agistment; Fences are stock proof; Water resources adequate for current stock carrying capacity	ENV1.5	Rural	30 June
ENV2.1.1	Support initiatives that encourage and improve eco/enviro outcomes e.g. National Tree Planting Day, Clean Up Australia Day, Annual Bulk Waste Collection	4 events held	ENV2.1	Town Services	30 June
ENV2.2.1	Develop an Economic Development Strategy that support initiatives which maintain the integrity of the Great Artesian Basin	1 plan developed	ENV2.2	All Managers	31 March
ENV2.3.1	Develop and maintain water management plans for town supplies for Thargomindah and Hungerford to ensure town water consumption is within State allocation by analysis of existing data to ascertain current property consumption.	Review data collected through Water Meters installed in 2022/23 for draft plan	ENV2.3	Road Services	30 June
ENV2.4.1	Assist landholders with invasive animal management techniques including emerging technology, disease and education sessions	10 individual sessions held 2 landholder workshops held	ENV2.4	Rural	30 June
ENV2.4.2	Deliver High Priority invasive weed management program in line with the current Bulloo Shire Biosecurity Plan	Monitoring, Treatment & Mapping 100% completed	ENV2.4	Rural	30 June
ENV2.4.3	Regular communications with stakeholders involved in pest management and funding, annual property visits and attendance at field days to keep up to date with current best practice.	Each property visited once annually	ENV2.4	Rural	30 June

Ref	Operational Initiative	Measure	CP Ref	Officer	Due Date
ENV3.1.1	Monitor and improve waste management collection practices by maintain an effective and efficient garbage collection service	Maintain appropriate garbage collection program	ENV3.1	Town Services	30 June
ENV3.1.2	Review waste management program and facilities to ensure that they meet EPA standards and needs of the community.	Annually	ENV3.1	Roads Services	30 June
ENV3.2.1	Continue to actively identify and implement waste management initiatives that mitigate environmental harm refuse, reduce, reuse, repurpose and recycle	Type Recycling Use of Green Waste Recycling of White Goods/Steel	ENV3.2	All Managers	30 June
ENV3.3.1	Review regional waste management strategy annually	1 strategy reviewed	ENV3.3	Road Services	30 June
ENV4.1.1	Promote Water Education Campaign to community.	100% Campaign complete	ENV4.1	Road Services	30 June

Infrastructure

CP Ref	Operational Initiative	Measure	CP Ref	Officer	Due Date
INF1.1.1	Infrastructure (buildings incl. housing) is delivered in accordance with the BSC Asset Management plans and in a manner that reflects community priorities and standards	Develop a schedule of infrastructure works including inspections with appropriate refurbishment actions (Plan) for Council buildings in line with asset management plans	INF1.1	Project Services	30 June
INF1.1.2	Infrastructure (buildings incl. housing) is maintained and upgraded in accordance with the needs of the community	Implement the schedule of infrastructure maintenance and inspections (Plan) for Council buildings.	INF1.1	Town Services	30 June
INF1.2.1	Monitor and respond to the need for housing in the community	Monitor Tenancy Agreements	INF1.2	Admin & Finance	30 June
INF1.2.2	Provide aerodrome facilities that are maintained at the required standard and satisfy both regular public transport (RPT) and The Royal Flying Doctor Service (RFDS)	Annual inspection program for Thargomindah Airport Maintain the airstrips and report works to the Council Meetings Undertake yearly technical certification and inspection	INF1.2	Town Services	30 June
INF1.3.1	Support State Roads Network maintenance. (TMR, TIDS, RMPC, WRUP)	Deliver the program to TMR requirements	INF1.3	Road Services	30 June
INF1.3.2	Provide a rural roads & street network that satisfies the needs of the community, in terms of surface, lighting, safety and access.	Develop an annual maintenance program for sealed and unsealed roads and town streets; adequate	INF1.3	Road Services	30 June

CP Ref	Operational Initiative	Measure	CP Ref	Officer	Due Date
		street lighting is identified; install appropriate signage, line marking.			
INF1.3.3	Continue to maintain a road transport network that supports tourism, agriculture and resources sectors in the shire	Work with Transport & Main Roads for road improvements	INF1.3	Road Services	30 June
INF1.3.4	Seek funding to provide widen, seal and kerb and channelling to town streets	Implement a four strategy to kerb and wide seal community streets	INF1.3	Road Services	30 June
INF1.4.1	Sewerage treatment plant and ponds operating to standard, monitoring and testing schedule conducted and action plan implemented.	Testing is carried out in accordance with relevant compliance	INF1.4	Road Services	30 June
INF1.4.2	Water supply monitoring schedule conducted with testing and treatment levels maintained for compliance with State Legislative requirements.	Testing is carried out in accordance with approved Drinking Water Quality Management Plan (DWQMP)	INF1.4	Road Services	30 June
INF1.4.3	Implement water conservation measures including community, industry and business education campaigns to minimise demand	Develop and maintain water management plans for town supplies for Thargomindah and Hungerford to ensure town water consumption is within State allocation	INF1.4	Road Services	30 June
INF1.5.1	Continue to invest in a modern, safe and well-maintained plant fleet that meets its operational and work requirements	In line with 10-year program.	INF1.5	Road Services	30 June
INF1.5.2	Maintain a 10-year plant replacement program consistent with Council's plant replacement policy	Review 10-year program in line with reduced roadwork activity	INF1.5	Road Services	30 June

CP Ref	Operational Initiative	Measure	CP Ref	Officer	Due Date
INF1.5.3	Provide a high standard of camp accommodation for operational works staff that encourages a safe and comfortable work environment	Upgrade camp facilities as per recommendations	INF1.5	Road Services	30 June
INF2.1.1	Ensure our Planning Scheme supports growth for industry, tourism and population	Review Annually	INF2.1	Admin & Finance	30 June
INF2.1.2	Investigate available industrial land parcel within the Thargomindah township	Present options to council with options for sale	INF2.1	Admin & Finance	30 June
INF2.2.1	Review Local Disaster Management Plan & Sub Plans to ensure planning and systems are designed to respond to potential disasters	Review Plan & Sub Plans	INF2.2	CEO	30 June
INF2.3.1	Continue lobby State and Federal agencies as circumstances require for major infrastructure	Number of issues that affect Council that are effectively lobbied and result in positive outcomes	INF2.3	CEO	30 June
INF2.4.1	Maintain an efficient and safe network of roads	100% delivery	INF2.4	Road Services	30 June
INF2.5.1	Promote the visitor information centre as a key element driving economic development (promote tourism attractions, product and events within the Bulloo Shire)	100% delivery	INF2.5	Community, Culture & Places	30 June

Governance

Ref	Operational Initiative	Measure	CP Ref	Officer	Due Date
GOV1.1.1	Maintain an equitable system of rating and charges through annual review of the rating and charging structures	Review rates and charges	GOV1.1	Admin & Finance / Accountant	30 June
GOV1.1.2	Preparation on Annual Budget, General Purpose Financial Report, Long Term Financial Forecast, Asset Register and Annual Financial Statements are prepared within the statutory reporting timeframes	Documents are produced within legislative statutory timeframes	GOV1.1	Accountant	30 June
GOV1.1.3	Internal Audit Plan activities and management of internal audit requirements completed as per schedule for 2023/24	4 Internal Audit Meeting held	GOV1.1	Accountant	30 June
GOV1.1.4	Grants, capital works and maintenance programs 2023/24 delivered on time and within budget by 30 June 2024	Grant funded programs are delivered in line with agreed program deliverables	GOV1.1	Admin & Finance	30 June
GOV1.1.5	Maximise other revenue sources, grants and subsidies	8x Grant application submissions	GOV1.1	Admin & Finance	30 June
GOV1.2.1	Implement asset management plans and associated financial strategies to replace assets and account for depreciation	Implement asset management plans in accordance with adopted budget	GOV1.2	Admin & Finance/ Accountant	30 June
GOV1.2.2	Asset Management Valuations	Comprehensive valuation of Water & Sewerage & desktop valuation of all other assets	GOV1.2	Admin & Finance/ Accountant	30 June

Operational Plan 2023-2024

Ref	Operational Initiative	Measure	CP Ref	Officer	Due Date
GOV1.2.3	Continue to improve asset management within Council.	Implement Actions from 'Internal Audit of Asset Management Processes' Report. Continue the 'Advancing Asset Management' review with DSDILGP and present final report to Council	GOV1.2	Admin & Finance/ Accountant	30 June
GOV2.1.1	Deliver Operational Plan initiatives	Quarterly reports to Council	GOV2.1	All Managers	Quarterly
GOV2.2.1	Ensure adequate administrative systems are in place to enable appropriate and efficient governance, processes and procedures in line with Council policies	Review internal governance arrangements in line with external audit recommendations	GOV2.2	Admin & Finance	30 June
GOV2.2.2	Establish and maintain easy-to-understand, effective and fair procedures, protocols and policies that are accessible to the community	Review all Policies during the 2022-2023 financial year	GOV2.2	Admin & Finance	30 June
GOV2.2.3	Review Local Laws to ensure they are relevant and effective in supporting the administration of community regulatory matters.	Review local laws	GOV2.2	Admin & Finance	30 June
GOV2.2.4	Review regulation of Council's Local Laws to ensure efficient and effective complaint investigation and compliance enforcement to provide an appropriate level of service to address compliance issues	100% delivery	GOV2.2	Admin & Finance	30 June
GOV2.2.5	Provide an accurate records management system that is well maintained	Involve staff in Infocouncil use and implementation	GOV2.2	Admin & Finance	30 June

Operational Plan 2023-2024

Ref	Operational Initiative	Measure	CP Ref	Officer	Due Date
GOV2.2.6	Manage and maintain Council's digital communications (website, social media and email contact list)	Use social media for council purposes, and facilitate web site improvements	GOV2.2	Admin & Finance	30 June
GOV2.3.1	Review Council's Risk Management Plan and Framework including risk register	Review risk management documents	GOV2.3	Admin & Finance	30 Dec
GOV2.3.2	Fraud and Corruption Prevention Management Framework managed and compliant	Review framework	GOV2.3	Admin & Finance	30 Dec
GOV2.3.3	Review Business Continuity Plan while continuing to develop BCP Sub Procedures/Processes.	Review Business Continuity Plan.	GOV2.3	Admin & Finance	30 Dec
GOV2.3.4	Develop a Data Breach Response Plan	Plan Developed	GOV2.3	Admin & Finance	30 Dec
GOV2.4.1	ICT systems are contemporary and are maintained and supported to deliver efficient and responsive business needs.	Ongoing - Systems upgraded as required	GOV2.4	Admin & Finance	30 June
GOV2.5.1	Identified a broad range of projects that will benefit all communities across the Shire	Report to Council	GOV2.5	All Managers	30 June
GOV2.5.2	Ensure projects are managed and completed within budget and on time	Percentage of projects completed within budget and on time	GOV2.5	All Managers	30 June
GOV3.1.1	Review Human Resource (HR) policies and working conditions to ensure that they remain contemporary to meet the external environment and Council's future needs.	100% delivery	GOV3.1	Community, Culture & Places	30 June

Ref	Operational Initiative	Measure	CP Ref	Officer	Due Date
GOV3.2.1	Provide and follow clear communication practices within the workplace, allowing for transparency and trust.	KPIs set for meetings (consultation) between staff, management and departments. Staff BBQs held to allow place for open communication.	GOV3.2	Community, Culture & Places	30 June
GOV3.3.1	Ensure regular two-way communication between staff and management regarding job satisfaction and performance to determine organisational, professional and personal needs	Train supervisory staff in performance review processes Consult employees on the importance of completing a review. Implement annual reviews	GOV3.3	Community, Culture & Places	30 June
GOV3.4.1	Pursue goals and actions of Council's Safety Management System and its objectives	Ensure incidents are properly reported and recorded within timeframes Conduct a minimum two preventative training programs delivered per year;	GOV3.4	Community, Culture & Places	30 June
GOV4.1.1	Advocate strategic and operational position on key issues to government sectors	Ongoing – 100%	GOV4.1	CEO	30 June
GOV4.2.1	Collaborate and cooperate with peak bodies e.g. SWQROC	Memberships renewed	GOV4.2	CEO	30 June
GOV4.3.1	Participate in regional planning across a range of industries.	4 SWQROC meetings attended	GOV4.3	Admin & Finance / CEO	30 June

Operational Plan 2023-2024

Ref	Operational Initiative	Measure	CP Ref	Officer	Due Date
GOV5.1.1	Review internal and external reporting/complaints management system to better manage community and staff expectations and requirements	Review Complaints system in line with amended LG Act requirements	GOV5.1	Admin & Finance	30 June
GOV5.1.2	Review Customer Service Charter annually	Review charter	GOV5.1	Admin & Finance	30 June
GOV5.1.2	To respond to customer communications in a prompt and informative manner.	Customer communications are acknowledged and requests for service are completed within Customer Service Charter timeframes.	GOV5.1	Admin & Finance	30 June

Debt Policy



Policy No: 2.09.2

Debt Policy

CONTROL:

Policy Type:	Financial
Authorised by:	Council
Head of Power:	Section 192 of the Local Government Regulation 2012
Responsible Officer:	Admin & Finance Manager
Responsibilities:	Nil
Adopted / Approved:	18 July 2023; Resolution 2023/142
Last Reviewed:	May 2023
Review:	June 2024 Note: This Policy may be included with Budget documents and as such, must be reviewed annually, together with the Budget, however may be amended at any time.

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 PURPOSE:

The purpose of this Policy to provide guidelines for those who work for Bulloo Shire Council ("Council") in respect to its approved strategies for borrowings for the Financial Year 2023-24.

1.2 POLICY OBJECTIVES:

The objectives of this Policy are to ensure that Council's intent with respect future borrowing is consistent with its annual Budget projections and approved long term strategies.

1.3 COMMENCEMENT OF POLICY:

This Policy will commence on adoption. It replaces all other specific Borrowing policies of Council (whether written or not).

1.4 SCOPE:

This policy applies to all Council employees, however particularly impacts the work scope of the Council Chief Executive Officer and Manager of Financial Services.

2. POLICY

2.1 CONTEXT:

The context of this Policy aims to ensure a clear and concise approach is undertaken in respect to Council's approved strategy for long term borrowing.

2.2 POLICY STATEMENT:

In developing a Long Term Financial Plan, borrowing is identified as an alternative source for funding major capital projects.

To achieve long term financial sustainability, Council will adopt the strategies outlined in Section 3.

3. STANDARDS AND PROCEDURES

3.1 KEY PRINCIPLES

3.1.1 Council's approved strategies are detailed below:

3.1.1.1 Council will only borrow funds for new capital projects that provide an economic return and for which no other funding sources are available, or assets that contribute to the functioning of core Council activities.

3.1.1.2 External borrowings will be limited to the funding of those major items of physical infrastructure:

3.1.1.2.1 whose life will exceed the term of any loans borrowed for the same; and

3.1.1.2.2 which cannot be funded from the revenue sources of the Council.

3.1.1.3 Council will review, at least annually, its forward projections for reserves, borrowings and major capital funding and all decisions to undertake further borrowings take into account the projected reserves for the activity relative to the works to be financed.

3.2 CONSIDERATIONS

3.2.1 Based on Council's most recent review of its capital funding requirements, the following borrowings are identified as being required for the current financial year and the next nine financial years.

To maximize the use of its funds Council will borrow internally from amounts set aside for reserves where these are not required immediately.

Debt Policy

External Borrowings in \$'000

Loan	2023/24	2024/25	2025/26	2026/27	2027/28	2028/29	2029/30	2030/31	2031/32	2032/33
Housing	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Building	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil

Internal Borrowings

Loan	2023/24	2024/25	2025/26	2026/27	2027/28	2028/29	2029/30	2030/31	2031/32	2032/33
Plant	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil

3.2.2 Loan Position

The following table sets out the status of Council's loan liability over the coming 2023-24 financial year.

Loan	Original Loan Amount \$'000	Liability as at 30 June 2023 \$'000	New Loan 2023-24 \$'000	Repayment Principal 2023-24 \$'000	Liability as at 30 June 2024 \$'000
External Loans	0	0	0	0	0
Total	0	0	0	0	0

Existing borrowings have been repaid.

External new borrowings will be repaid over a period of 10 years.

Internal new borrowings will be repaid over a period of 5 years.

4. REFERENCE AND SUPPORTING INFORMATION

4.1 DEFINITIONS:

To assist in interpretation, the following definitions shall apply:

Word / Term	Definition
Council	means Bulloo Shire Council.

4.2 RELATED POLICIES, LEGISLATION AND DOCUMENTS:

Links to supporting documentation
Section 192 of the Local Government Regulation 2012

Investment Policy



Policy No: 2.10.2

Investment Policy

CONTROL:

Policy Type:	Financial
Authorised by:	Council
Head of Power:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Local Government Act 2009;</i> • <i>Local Government Regulation 2012; and</i> • <i>Statutory Bodies Financial Arrangements Act 1982.</i>
Responsible Officer:	Admin & Finance Manager
Responsibilities:	Statutory compliance
Adopted / Approved:	18 July 2023; Resolution 2023/144
Last Reviewed:	May 2023
Review:	June 2024 Note: This Policy may be included with Budget documents and as such, must be reviewed annually, together with the Budget, however may be amended at any time.

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 PURPOSE:

Council has a number of duties and responsibilities when investing funds. These are outlined in Sections 47 and 48 of the Statutory Bodies Financial Arrangements Act 1982 (SBFA).

The SBFA requires a statutory body to use its best efforts to invest its funds:

- at the most advantageous interest rate available to it at the time of the investment for an investment of the proposed type; and
- in a way it considers is most appropriate in all the circumstances.

Further, the SBFA requires that a statutory body must keep records that show it has invested in the way most appropriate in all the circumstances.

1.2 POLICY OBJECTIVES:

The purpose of this policy is to prescribe the circumstances and terms on which Council may invest its funds.

1.3 COMMENCEMENT OF POLICY:

This Policy will commence on adoption. It replaces all other specific Investment policies of Council (whether written or not).

1.4 SCOPE:

This policy applies to all Council employees, in the investment of all funds by Council.

2. POLICY

2.1 CONTEXT:

The context of this Policy aims to ensure a clear and concise approach is undertaken in respect to investments of Council funds.

2.2 POLICY STATEMENT:

It is Council's intention that all Council funds not immediately required for financial commitments be invested and that the investment vehicles used maximise Council earnings when taking into account counterparty, market and liquidity risks.

3. STANDARDS AND PROCEDURES

3.1 KEY PRINCIPLES

- 3.1.1 All Council funds not immediately required for financial commitments are to be invested.
- 3.1.2 Investment vehicles used should maximise Council earnings when taking into account counterparty, market and liquidity risks.

3.2 SPECIFIC AND STANDARD

3.2.1 Placement of Investment Funds

- 3.2.1.1 Section 44 (1) of the Statutory Bodies Financial Arrangements Act 1982 authorises that investments comprise of the following;
 - 3.2.1.1.1 Deposits with a financial institution;
 - 3.2.1.1.2 Investment arrangements accepted, guaranteed or issued by or for the Commonwealth or a State or a financial institution;
 - 3.2.1.1.3 Other investment arrangements secured by investment arrangements accepted, guaranteed or issued by or for the Commonwealth or a State or a financial institution;
 - 3.2.1.1.4 Investments with QIC Cash Trust, QIC Pooled Cash Fund, QTC Cash Fund, QTC 11am Fund or QTC Debt Offset Facility;
 - 3.2.1.1.5 An investment arrangement with a rating prescribed under a regulation for this paragraph; and
 - 3.2.1.1.6 Other investment arrangements prescribed under a regulation for this paragraph.
- 3.2.1.2 Section 44 (2) of the SBFA states that the investment must be;
 - 3.2.1.2.1 At call; or
 - 3.2.1.2.2 For a fixed time of not more than one (1) year.

3.2.2 Quotation on Investment

- 3.2.2.1 Not less than two (2) quotations shall be obtained from authorised institutions whenever a new investment is proposed.
- 3.2.2.2 The best quote on the day will be successful after allowing for administrative and banking costs, as well as having regard risk factors. This to be chosen by the Chief Executive Officer or his nominated delegate.
- 3.2.2.3 An exemption applies to the requirement to obtain quotes where funds are invested with QTC.
- 3.2.2.4 Investments held with QTC cash fund will be benchmarked against other investments or quoted investment rates half yearly to ensure Council is receiving the most advantageous rate given the risk/return trade-off.
- 3.2.2.5 When investing funds Council staff should aim to minimise the risk to the financial instruments. As such, the authorised investments must be from one of the following:
 - 3.2.2.5.1 Interest bearing deposits with a licensed bank;
 - 3.2.2.5.2 Deposits with Queensland Treasury Corporation (QTC); or
 - 3.2.2.5.3 Deposits with a credit union or building society specifically approved by Council.

3.2.3 Term to Maturity

- 3.2.3.1 Council's investment portfolio should be realisable, without penalty, in a reasonable time frame.
- 3.2.3.2 The term to maturity of Council investments should not exceed one (1) year.

3.2.4 Internal Controls

- 3.2.4.1 Council is, at all times, to have in place appropriate controls to prevent the fraudulent use of public monies. The following controls detail the minimum that is required:
 - 3.2.4.1.1 A person is to be identified as the responsible officer for the investment function;
 - 3.2.4.1.2 All investments are to be authorised by the Chief Executive Officer or nominated delegate;
 - 3.2.4.1.3 Confirmation advices from the Financial Institution are to be attached to the Investment Authorisation Form as evidence that the investment is in the name of Bulloo Shire Council; and
 - 3.2.4.1.4 A person, other than the Responsible Officer, is to perform the bank reconciliation at the end of each month (alternatively, the reconciliation needs to be reviewed by another officer).

3.2.5 Record Keeping**3.2.5.1** Section 48 of the SBFA states that:

"A security, safe custody acknowledgment or other document evidencing title accepted, guaranteed or issued for an investment arrangement must be held by the statutory body or in another way approved by the Treasurer".

3.2.5.2 This is Council's current practice and will be continued as part of the investment procedures.**3.2.5.3** The procedure for the investment of Council funds is to be documented and followed at all times.**3.2.6 Legislative Requirements****3.2.6.1** Council is, at all times, to comply with legislation applicable to the investment function within Local Governments.**3.2.6.2** Council will utilise its Category 1 Investment Powers under the SBFA to earn interest revenue on its operating funds to supplement Council's other sources of revenue.**4. REFERENCE AND SUPPORTING INFORMATION****4.1 DEFINITIONS:**

To assist in interpretation, the following definitions shall apply:

Word / Term	Definition
Council	means Bulloo Shire Council.
SBFA	Statutory Bodies Financial Arrangements Act 1982

4.2 RELATED POLICIES, LEGISLATION AND DOCUMENTS:

Links to supporting documentation
Local Government Regulation 2012 – Section 191

Revenue Policy



Policy No: 2.11.2

Revenue Policy

CONTROL:

Policy Type:	Financial
Authorised by:	Council
Head of Power:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Local Government Act 2009</i>; and • <i>Local Government Regulation 2012</i>
Responsible Officer:	Admin & Finance Manager
Adopted / Approved:	18 July 2023; Resolution 2023/143
Last Reviewed:	May 2023
Review:	June 2024 Note: This Policy may be included with Budget documents and as such, must be reviewed annually, together with the Budget, however may be amended at any time.

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 PURPOSE:

The Revenue Policy is intended to be a strategic document. Its adoption, in advance of setting the budget, allows Council to set out the principles that it will use to set its budget and to identify in broad terms the general strategy to be used for raising revenue, and setting of funds aside into reserves.

This Revenue Policy will be of interest to ratepayers, federal and state departments, community groups and other interested parties seeking to understand the revenue policies and practices of Council.

1.2 POLICY OBJECTIVES:

The objective of this Policy is to identify the planning framework within which Council operates and to set out details of the principles applied by Council in:

- Levying of rates and charges;
- Recovering overdue rates and charges;
- Granting rebates and concessions; and
- Cost recovery fees.

1.3 COMMENCEMENT OF POLICY:

This Policy will commence on adoption. It replaces all other specific Revenue policies of Council (whether written or not).

1.4 SCOPE:

This policy applies to all revenue and rating functions of Council and as such, all employees, particularly those employees directly involved in such operations.

2. POLICY**2.1 CONTEXT:**

The context of this Policy aims to ensure a clear and concise approach is undertaken in respect to the intended principles strategies for the raising revenue, and setting of funds aside into reserves.

2.2 POLICY STATEMENT:

Council will be guided by the principles of user pays in the making of rates and charges so as to minimise the impact of rating on the efficiency of the local economy and to meet the range and standard of services offered to and demanded by Council's stakeholders.

Council will also have regard to those Standards and Procedures outlined in Section 3 of this Policy.

3. STANDARDS AND PROCEDURES**3.1 KEY PRINCIPLES****3.1.1 Planning Framework**

3.1.1.1 The Local Government Act 2009 sets a general planning framework within which Council must operate. There are a number of elements to the planning framework including the preparation and adoption of a Corporate Plan, Operational Plan and an Annual Budget.

3.1.1.2 Section 193 of the Local Government Regulation 2012 also requires each Local Government to adopt a Revenue Policy prior to the start of the financial year to which it relates.

3.1.1.3 Council considers that the best way of setting its revenue objectives, and to achieve them, is to effectively plan through each of the elements of the planning framework. The revenue policy effectively cascades down from the Corporate Plan. Council's 2021 – 2026 Corporate Plan includes the following objective:

'Continue to give priority to ongoing financial sustainability and prudent budget management'

- 3.1.1.4 This will be achieved by maintenance of Council's existing revenue sources through the following strategies:

'..Maintain an equitable system of rating and charges through annual review of the rating and charging structures..'; and
'.. Maximise other revenue sources, grants and subsidies..'

3.2 SPECIFIC AND STANDARD

3.2.1 Making of Rates and Charges

- 3.2.1.1 In general, Council will be guided by the principles of user pays in the making of rates and charges so as to minimise the impact of rating on the efficiency of the local economy and to meet the range and standard of services offered to and demanded by Council's stakeholders.

- 3.2.1.2 Council will also have regard to the principles of:

- 3.2.1.2.1 Transparency in the making of rates and charges;
- 3.2.1.2.2 Having in place a rating regime that is simple and inexpensive to administer;
- 3.2.1.2.3 Equity by taking account of the different capacity of land to generate income within the local community, and the burden the use of the land imposes on Council services;
- 3.2.1.2.4 Responsibility in achieving the objectives, actions and strategies in Council's Corporate and Operational Plans;
- 3.2.1.2.5 Flexibility to take account of changes in the local economy;
- 3.2.1.2.6 Environmental conditions, particularly drought conditions that will have a suppressing impact upon the economic, social and financial recovery of the local region;
- 3.2.1.2.7 Maintaining local region services and assets to an appropriate standard;
- 3.2.1.2.8 Meeting the needs and expectations of the general community; and
- 3.2.1.2.9 Assessing availability of other revenue sources.

3.2.2 Levying of Rates

- 3.2.2.1 In levying rates Council will apply the principles of:

- 3.2.2.1.1 Making clear what is Council's and each ratepayers' responsibility to the rating system;
- 3.2.2.1.2 Making the levying system simple and inexpensive to administer;
- 3.2.2.1.3 Timing the levying of rates to take account the financial cycle of local economic, social and environmental conditions in order to assist smooth running of the local economy;

3.2.2.1.4 Adjusting the way general rates are charged in response to fluctuations in valuations combined with economic and seasonal factors affecting major local industries; and

3.2.2.1.5 Equity through flexible payment arrangements for ratepayers with lower capacity to pay.

3.2.3 Recovery of Rates and Charges

3.2.3.1 Council will exercise its rate recovery powers in order to reduce the overall rate burden on ratepayers. It will be guided by the principles of:

3.2.3.1.1 Transparency by making clear the obligations of ratepayers and the processes used by Council in assisting them to meet their financial obligations;

3.2.3.1.2 Making the processes used to recover outstanding rates and charges clear, simple to administer and cost effective;

3.2.3.1.3 Equity having regard to capacity to pay in determining appropriate arrangements for different sectors of the community;

3.2.3.1.4 Providing the same treatment for ratepayers with similar circumstances; and

3.2.3.1.5 Flexibility by responding where necessary to changes in the local economy and environmental conditions (including recovery from drought).

3.2.4 Concessions For Rates and Charges

3.2.4.1 In considering the application of concessions, Council will be guided by the principles of:

3.2.4.1.1 The same treatment for ratepayers with similar circumstances;

3.2.4.1.2 Transparency by making clear the requirements necessary to receive concessions;

3.2.4.1.3 Flexibility to allow Council to respond to local economic and environmental issues; and

3.2.4.1.4 Fairness in considering the provision of community service concessions.

3.2.4.2 Council may give consideration to granting a class concession in the event of all or part of the Council area experiencing a natural disaster, environmental disaster or similar event.

3.2.4.3 Council may provide a concession to eligible pensioners for general rates to ease the burden of cost of living.

3.2.4.4 Council will also consider a concession of whole or part of the general rate levied on organisations or entities that meet the criteria detailed under the Local Government Act 2009.

3.2.5 Council Reserves

- 3.2.5.1 Council constrains funds in reserves that are intended to meet specific future operating and capital requirements of the community. The funds in reserves are all backed by cash held in QTC investments except where they are the subject of internal borrowings.

3.2.6 Developer Contributions

- 3.2.6.1 While it is expected that developers will contribute to new physical and social infrastructure when they commence a new development, the amount of their contribution and how much of the infrastructure they fund may vary. This will depend on many factors and will be assessed for each development. The processes used in determining the contribution, however will be transparent, fair and equitable.

4. REFERENCE AND SUPPORTING INFORMATION**4.1 DEFINITIONS:**

To assist in interpretation, the following definitions shall apply:

Word / Term	Definition
Council	means Bulloo Shire Council.

4.2 RELATED POLICIES, LEGISLATION AND DOCUMENTS:

Links to supporting documentation
Local Government Regulation 2012 – Section 193

Revenue Statement

Purpose

The Purpose of this Revenue Statement is to set out the revenue measures adopted by Council to frame its 2023-24 Budget. Specifically, the Revenue Statement: -

1. Explains the rates and charges to be made or levied in the financial year.
2. Outlines rebates and concessions available on rates and charges levied by Council
3. Establishes limitation in increases in rates and charges
4. Criteria used to decide the amount of regulatory fees.
5. Establishes the extent by which physical and social infrastructure is to be funded by charges for the development giving rise to the infrastructure need.
6. Outlines whether Council intends to maintain, decrease or increase the operating capability of the local government.
7. Determines the extent to which Council will fully fund depreciation.

Legislative Requirement

This Revenue Statement is required under section 172 (Revenue Statement) of the *Local Government Regulations 2012*

Explanation of Rates and Charges Levied for 2022-23

Rates are levied according to the principles outlined in Council's Revenue Policy.

Differential General Rates

In accordance with section 15 (Categorisation of Land for Differential General Rates) of the LGR, Council has adopted a differential general rating scheme.

Council has identified twenty-five (25) categories of land for rating purposes, attached hereto. Each differential rate category attracts a different rate in the dollar of its unimproved capital value according to Council's assessment of:-

- The rateable value of the land and the rates which would be payable if only one general rate were adopted;
- the level of general services provided to the land and the cost of providing the services compared to the rate burden that would apply under a single general rate;
- the use of the land in so far as it relates to the extent of utilisation of Council's services
- Location and access to services.

Minimum General Rate [section 77]

Council recognises that every rateable property in the shire receives a basic level of service from Council, and as such, sets a minimum general rate over all rate categories to ensure that all rateable properties contribute an equitable amount compared to other ratepayers for the basic level of service they receive.

Category	Criteria	2023-24 Rate in \$	2023-24 Minimum
Vacant and Residential Land			
1	All land within the Township of Thargomindah (i.e. inside the Town Common fence) that has a primary land use code designated as vacant land, horses /animal special or a reservoir.	10.478	\$461
2	All land within the Township of Hungerford that has a primary land use code designated as vacant land, horses /animal special or a reservoir.	9.165	\$341
3	All land within the Township of Noccundra that has a primary land use code designated as vacant land, horses /animal special or a reservoir.	367.111	\$341
4	All other land not identified in another category that has a primary land use code designated as vacant land, horses /animal special or a reservoir.	292.226	\$391
5	All land within the Township of Thargomindah (i.e. inside the Town Common fence) that has a primary land use code designated as a single unit dwelling, multi-unit dwelling, large home site or Outbuildings.	14.938	\$391
6	All land within the Township of Hungerford that has a primary land use code designated as a single unit dwelling, multi-unit dwelling, large home site or Outbuildings.	8.032	\$330
Commercial and Industrial land			
7	All land within the Township of Thargomindah (i.e. inside the Town Common fence) that has a primary land use code designated as commercial, special use commercial or general.	14.838	\$470
8	All land within the Township of Hungerford that has a primary land use code designated as commercial, special use commercial or general.	15.790	\$406
9	All land within the Township of Noccundra that has a primary land use code designated as commercial, special use commercial or general.	354.696	\$392
10	All other land not identified in another category that has a primary land use code designated as commercial, special use commercial or general.	41.638	\$408
11	All land within the Township of Thargomindah (i.e. inside the Town Common fence), not identified in another category, that has a primary land use code designated as transport and storage or industrial.	16.399	\$470
Rural Lands			
12	All land greater than 100 Ha but less than 1,000 Ha that has a primary land use code designated as grazing or agricultural.	1.961	\$341
13	All land greater than 1,000 Ha that has a primary land use code designated as grazing or agricultural.	1.300	\$419
Intensive Industry and Other Lands			

Category	Criteria	2023-24 Rate in \$	2023-24 Minimum
14	All land recorded in Council's land record as being used for the production (extraction) of Oil and / or Gas / Petroleum and / or the treatment thereof, currently identified as the Jackson and Naccowlah Oil and Gas Facility.	97.421	\$680
15	All land recorded in Council's land record as being used for the production (extraction) of Gas Petroleum and/or Oil identified as the South West Queensland Gas Centre.	12,730.036	\$680
16	All other land used for the production of oil and/or gas not included in Category 14 or 15 generally known as other petroleum leases in the Shire.	16.991	\$680
17	All other land with a primary land use designated 'extractive' generally used for the extracting of precious metals and/or gemstones.	62.028	\$341
18	All other land in the shire.	84.368	\$419
19	All land predominately used for providing intensive accommodation capable of accommodating 50 or more but less than 100 persons (other than travelling public) in rooms, suites or caravan sites specifically built or provided for this purpose.	2.684	\$12,300
20	All land predominately used for providing intensive accommodation capable of accommodating 100 or more but less than 200 persons (other than travelling public) in rooms, suites or caravan sites specifically built or provided for this purpose.	2.684	\$24,601
21	All land predominately used for providing intensive accommodation capable of accommodating 200 or more persons (other than travelling public) in rooms, suites or caravan sites specifically built or provided for this purpose.	2.684	\$49,200
22	All mining claims over land that is 900m ² or less.	0.00	\$165
23	All mining claims over land that is larger than 900m ² .	0.00	\$492
24	All land, greater than 10 Ha but less than 100 Ha that has a primary land use code designated as residential.	10.436	\$391
25	All land in whole or in part that has received Australian Carbon Credit Units (ACCU).	1.300	\$419

Utility Charges [section 99]

Utility charges will be set on an annual basis having regard to the costs associated with providing the services. Rates will be determined with reference to maintaining assets and providing services and will generally reflect a user pays principle. Allowances will be made to balance the user pays system and to provide a service to ratepayers and/or the community at large at an affordable price.

Water Rates

Hungerford Water Rates

Council provides a dual water supply to all properties within the serviced area – a raw water supply for garden use and a treated supply for human consumption. Both Water Supplies attract a base infrastructure or access charge recognising that the properties have access to the water supplies. The treated water supply attracts a second charge based on the property's consumption of treated water, reflecting a user pays methodology as well as fulfilling a demand management role.

Vacant properties attract a water access charge recognising that a water service is available to the land as water infrastructure has been installed ready to supply the property once it is occupied.

Description	Units	2023/24 Charge
Each residence – Treated or Bore and Untreated Water	Water – Connection Charge	\$ 494.85
Water – Consumption Charge – Treated or Bore Water Only	Per kL	\$ 1.18

Thargomindah Water Rates

Council provides a water reticulation system to all properties within the serviced area of the township of Thargomindah. The charging system includes the following descriptions and is defined by:

Charge Description	Definition	2023/24 Charge
Water – Access Charge	Charge applied to each parcel of land in the water area that has the potential to be connected to the water scheme, but is not connected.	\$ 350.96
Water – Connected Charge	Charge applied to a vacant land, single unit dwelling and each unit of a multi-unit dwelling that is connected to the water scheme.	\$547.72
Water – Commercial Unit Charge	Charge applied to each unit identified in the Commercial Water Unit Table	\$ 91.28

At present, not all properties are metered. Council operates a rating regime based on an indicative allocation per property with a water connection. It is Council's intention in the future to install water meters allowing a two part tariff charging regime, commencing with those assessments charged the Commercial Water Unit Charge. Once meters are installed a review of the utility charging methodologies will be conducted with the aim to adopting a new charging system to replace the current unit based approach for commercial properties.

In recognising that the water network can service a much larger customer base and that existing connections should not recover all system costs, these charges are established to recover at least **85%** of the costs of providing this service. The costs include operating and maintenance costs together with a component seeking to recover an amount towards future replacement and augmentation of the system.

Vacant properties attract a water access charge recognising that a water service is available to the land as water infrastructure has been installed ready to supply the property once it is occupied.

Water – Commercial Units

Class	Description	Units
03	Shops Government Offices, Buildings and Other Premises	6
04	Business & Commercial Premises with Residence (Attached or separate)	16
05	Cafes	10
06	Caravan Parks	25
07	Churches	3
08	Community Centre	10
09	Council Depot or Store	25
10	Electrical Supply Authority Workshop	6
11	Not allocated	
12	Hall	10
13	Hospital / Medical Clinic	25
14	Hotel / Motel	25
15	Motel / Restaurant	20
16	Laundromat	15
17	Office, Workshop & Store	12
18	Parks	20
19	Post Office	6
20	Racecourse / Showgrounds / Rural	10
21	School	30
22	Service Stations (Mechanical Repairs)	12
23	Shire Office	10
24	Swimming Pool	25
25	Telephone Exchange	6
26	Any other building not specified	6

Sewerage Rates

Council provides a vacuum sewerage reticulation system within the township of Thargomindah. The charging system includes the following descriptions and is defined by:

Charge Description	Definition	2023/24 Charge
Sewerage – Access Charge	Charge applied to each parcel of land in the sewer area that has the potential to be connected to the sewer scheme, whether connected or not.	\$ 266.70
Sewerage – Connected Charge	Charge applied to a single unit dwelling, each unit of a multi-unit dwelling, each room in workers accommodation and the 1 st pedestal at all other connected allotments.	\$ 533.40
Sewerage – Additional Pedestal	After the Sewerage – Connected Charge, the Charge applied to each additional non-residential pedestal (including urinal cistern) that is connected to the sewer scheme.	\$ 266.70

Garbage Charges

Council provides a garbage collection service and disposal facilities within the township of Thargomindah. The charging system includes the following descriptions and is defined by:

Description	Charging Basis	2023/24 Charge
Garbage – Domestic Environmental Charge	Charge applied to each domestic assessment within Thargomindah to contribute towards to costs of providing the recycling and waste transfer facilities.	\$ 27.38
Garbage – Commercial & Industry Environmental Charge	Charge applied to each commercial & industry assessment within Thargomindah to contribute towards to costs of providing the recycling and waste transfer facilities.	\$ 54.78
Garbage – Domestic Collection	Charge for one refuse bin of up to 240L to be collected and disposed of once per week from each domestic premises. Each additional bin will be each charged another Garbage – Domestic Collection.	\$ 205.60
Garbage – Commercial & Industry Collection	Charge for one refuse bin of up to 240L to be collected and disposed of twice per week from each commercial & industry premises. Each additional bin will be each charged another Garbage – Commercial Collection.	\$ 396.66

All properties within the garbage service area are charged a *Garbage Collection Charge* as defined above. Because the garbage collection can service a much larger number of properties than the number in the town, the council considers that the charge for garbage collection should cover 80% of the operating costs excluding capital costs. The council intends to reduce the impact of this charge by phasing the new charges in over the next three year period.

A *Garbage Environmental Charge* was established in 2013/14 to partly fund the operation and maintenance of council refuse tips and recycling facilities. As the operational costs of these facilities are rising, council intends to phase in reasonable increases over the next three years to cover costs.

All occupied properties within the service area attract the *Garbage Environmental and Collection Charges* irrespective of whether they use the service or not. Council maintains that all levels of occupancy of land generate refuse that requires disposal at a central point. As such, all occupied land owners receive a collection and disposal service, it is their choice whether they take advantage of the collection service.

Average Residential Assessment Rate Increase

The below table displays a comparison of the 2022/23 rates and charges for an average residential assessment in Thargomindah.

Description	2022/23 Charge	2023/24 Charge
Average General Rates	\$ 461.49	\$475.33
Water – Connected Charge	\$ 531.75	\$547.72
Sewerage – Connected Charge	\$ 517.85	\$533.40
Garbage – Domestic Environmental Charge	\$ 26.58	\$27.38
Garbage – Domestic Collection	\$ 199.61	\$205.60
Total	\$ 1,737.28	\$1,789.43

Rating Frequency

For the purposes of Section 107 of the *Local Government Regulation 2012*, Bulloo Shire Council will levy rates on a half yearly basis covering the periods:

- 1 July 2023 – 31 December 2023
- 1 January 2024 – 30 June 2024

Interest on Overdue Rates and Charges

Council discourages the avoidance of responsibilities for meeting rates and charges debts and to this end Council will impose interest on rates and charges which remain unpaid and therefore overdue, from the end of the discount period.

The rate of interest will be determined annually by resolution at the budget meeting.

The rate of interest for the 2023-24 financial year is 11.64% compounding daily.

Discount for Prompt Payment of Rates

To encourage the prompt payment of rates and charges, a discount will be allowed in respect of general rates only: -

- (a) Paid within 30 days after the date of issue of a rate notice.
- (b) Paid after 30 days if special circumstances apply

The rate of discount will be determined annually by resolution at the budget meeting.

The rate of discount for the 2023-24 financial year is 3%.

Rebates and Concessions

Pensioner Remissions

Council grants pensioner remissions according to following principles: -

- Pensioners who comply with the conditions required for State rate remissions will be granted a remission equivalent to 20% of total rates and charges with a maximum subsidy payable of \$200 per annum.
- Aged, invalid, war service, war widows, widows or other approved pensioners who comply with the above conditions will be granted a remission.
- A remission of the rates granted to aged pensioner(s) in conformity with the foregoing conditions shall be allowed in each year without further application so long as the pensioner(s) remain qualified to receive such remission.
- In genuine cases of hardship Council may grant a concession in respect of any of the charges imposed by the Council to Pensioners, charitable, non-profit or community organisations on application.

State Fire Levy

The Council has a legal obligation to collect the *Emergency Management, Fire & Rescue Levy* in accordance with the Queensland Fire and Emergency Services Act 1990. The levy is applied to all prescribed properties under the Fire and Rescue Service Act 1990.

The levies are set by *Regulation (The Fire and Emergency Services Regulation 2011)* and vary according to the classification of the property and class of district in which the property is situated, and are therefore outside Bulloo Shire Council's discretion.

General and Regulatory Fees

General charges shall be set by Council at an amount considered reasonable and relevant to the service or facility provided, based on the principles outlined in Council's Revenue Policy.

Funding of Physical and Social Infrastructure by Developers

The Council will negotiate with any proposed new developer in relation to any extraordinary costs involved in providing or extending roads, water sewerage, stormwater drainage or other service to the proposed development.

Funding of Depreciation

Council will charge depreciation on its assets in accordance with the requirements of the relevant Australian Accounting Standards. The cash equivalent of this depreciation will be used to replace Council's non-current assets. It is Council's intention to fully fund depreciation.