



**Bulloo**  
Shire

# Budget 2025/2026



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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.

#### Interest Rates

Interest rates on money invested by Council are taken at 5.11% 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 2024-2025 projects that were not completed by 30 June 2025 should be considered for inclusion in the 2025-2026 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 2025-2026, 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-25 Revised	Jun-26B	Jun-27F	Jun-28F	Jun-29F	Jun-30F	Jun-31F	Jun-32F	Jun-33F	Jun-34F	Jun-35F
<b>Revenue</b>											
<b>Operating revenue</b>											
Net rates, levies and charges	6,056	6,056	6,268	6,488	6,715	6,950	7,193	7,445	7,705	7,975	8,294
Fees and charges	182	33	34	35	36	38	39	40	42	43	45
Rental income	447	317	328	339	351	363	376	389	403	417	434
Interest received	1,014	1,064	975	1,023	1,094	1,180	1,116	1,217	1,305	1,387	1,442
Sales revenue	3,620	3,545	3,669	3,797	3,930	4,068	4,210	4,357	4,510	4,668	4,854
Other income	34	144	149	154	160	165	171	177	183	190	197
Grants, subsidies, contributions and donations	45,819	60,761	62,887	65,089	67,367	69,724	72,165	74,691	77,305	80,010	83,211
<b>Total operating revenue</b>	<b>57,172</b>	<b>71,919</b>	<b>74,310</b>	<b>76,925</b>	<b>79,653</b>	<b>82,488</b>	<b>85,270</b>	<b>88,316</b>	<b>91,453</b>	<b>94,690</b>	<b>98,478</b>
<b>Capital revenue</b>											
Grants, subsidies, contributions and donations	4,954	8,091	2,561	2,579	2,708	2,843	2,985	3,135	3,291	3,425	3,562
<b>Total revenue</b>	<b>62,126</b>	<b>80,010</b>	<b>76,871</b>	<b>79,504</b>	<b>82,361</b>	<b>85,331</b>	<b>88,255</b>	<b>91,451</b>	<b>94,744</b>	<b>98,115</b>	<b>102,040</b>
<b>Capital income</b>											
Total Capital Income	265	-	292	307	322	338	355	373	392	411	428
<b>Total income</b>	<b>62,391</b>	<b>80,010</b>	<b>77,163</b>	<b>79,810</b>	<b>82,683</b>	<b>85,669</b>	<b>88,610</b>	<b>91,824</b>	<b>95,136</b>	<b>98,526</b>	<b>102,467</b>
<b>Expenses</b>											
<b>Operating expenses</b>											
Employee benefits	7,459	6,103	6,282	6,438	6,599	6,763	6,932	7,105	7,282	7,464	7,762
Materials and services	44,426	60,311	62,422	64,607	66,868	69,209	71,631	74,138	76,733	79,418	82,595
Finance costs	44	45	47	48	50	52	53	55	57	59	62
Depreciation and amortisation	6,252	6,462	6,724	7,023	7,343	7,698	7,641	7,040	7,373	7,735	8,045
<b>Total operating expenses</b>	<b>58,181</b>	<b>72,921</b>	<b>75,474</b>	<b>78,117</b>	<b>80,860</b>	<b>83,722</b>	<b>86,257</b>	<b>88,338</b>	<b>91,445</b>	<b>94,677</b>	<b>98,464</b>
<b>Net result</b>	<b>4,210</b>	<b>7,089</b>	<b>1,689</b>	<b>1,694</b>	<b>1,823</b>	<b>1,947</b>	<b>2,353</b>	<b>3,485</b>	<b>3,690</b>	<b>3,850</b>	<b>4,004</b>
<b>Operating result</b>											
Operating revenue	57,172	71,919	74,310	76,925	79,653	82,488	85,270	88,316	91,453	94,690	98,478
Operating expenses	58,181	72,921	75,474	78,117	80,860	83,722	86,257	88,338	91,445	94,677	98,464
<b>Operating result</b>	<b>(1,009)</b>	<b>(1,002)</b>	<b>(1,164)</b>	<b>(1,192)</b>	<b>(1,207)</b>	<b>(1,234)</b>	<b>(987)</b>	<b>(22)</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b>

# QTC Financial Forecast Template—Bulloo Shire Council

## Statement of Financial Position

	Jun-25 Revised	Jun-26F	Jun-27F	Jun-28F	Jun-29F	Jun-30F	Jun-31F	Jun-32F	Jun-33F	Jun-34F	Jun-35F
<b>Assets</b>											
<b>Current assets</b>											
Cash and cash equivalents	18,243	18,846	20,808	23,597	26,278	28,504	31,253	33,638	35,829	37,887	39,402
Trade and other receivables	4,616	5,824	6,028	6,221	6,457	6,683	6,917	7,139	7,409	7,669	7,975
Inventories	1,237	1,237	1,237	1,237	1,237	1,237	1,237	1,237	1,237	1,237	1,286
Contract Assets	4,273	4,273	4,273	4,273	4,273	4,273	4,273	4,273	4,273	4,273	4,444
Other current assets	326	326	326	326	326	326	326	326	326	326	339
<b>Total current assets</b>	<b>28,695</b>	<b>30,506</b>	<b>32,672</b>	<b>35,655</b>	<b>38,571</b>	<b>41,024</b>	<b>44,006</b>	<b>46,613</b>	<b>49,075</b>	<b>51,392</b>	<b>53,448</b>
<b>Non-current assets</b>											
Property, plant & equipment	311,122	317,653	319,776	321,137	322,779	325,053	327,280	331,080	335,357	340,022	345,637
<b>Total non-current assets</b>	<b>311,122</b>	<b>317,653</b>	<b>319,776</b>	<b>321,137</b>	<b>322,779</b>	<b>325,053</b>	<b>327,280</b>	<b>331,080</b>	<b>335,357</b>	<b>340,022</b>	<b>345,637</b>
<b>Total assets</b>	<b>339,817</b>	<b>348,160</b>	<b>352,448</b>	<b>356,792</b>	<b>361,350</b>	<b>366,077</b>	<b>371,286</b>	<b>377,693</b>	<b>384,433</b>	<b>391,414</b>	<b>399,085</b>
<b>Liabilities</b>											
<b>Current liabilities</b>											
Trade and other payables	3,939	5,193	5,372	5,543	5,750	5,949	6,154	6,350	6,587	6,815	7,088
Contract Liabilities	3,888	3,888	3,888	3,888	3,888	3,888	3,888	3,888	3,888	3,888	4,043
Provisions	1,209	1,197	1,185	1,173	1,161	1,150	1,138	1,127	1,115	1,104	1,148
<b>Total current liabilities</b>	<b>9,036</b>	<b>10,277</b>	<b>10,445</b>	<b>10,604</b>	<b>10,799</b>	<b>10,986</b>	<b>11,180</b>	<b>11,364</b>	<b>11,591</b>	<b>11,807</b>	<b>12,279</b>
<b>Non-current liabilities</b>											
Provisions	75	87	112	137	162	187	212	237	262	287	299
<b>Total non-current liabilities</b>	<b>75</b>	<b>87</b>	<b>112</b>	<b>137</b>	<b>162</b>	<b>187</b>	<b>212</b>	<b>237</b>	<b>262</b>	<b>287</b>	<b>299</b>
<b>Total liabilities</b>	<b>9,111</b>	<b>10,365</b>	<b>10,557</b>	<b>10,741</b>	<b>10,961</b>	<b>11,173</b>	<b>11,393</b>	<b>11,602</b>	<b>11,853</b>	<b>12,095</b>	<b>12,578</b>
<b>Net community assets</b>	<b>330,706</b>	<b>337,795</b>	<b>341,891</b>	<b>346,052</b>	<b>350,389</b>	<b>354,904</b>	<b>359,893</b>	<b>366,092</b>	<b>372,580</b>	<b>379,319</b>	<b>386,506</b>
<b>Community equity</b>											
Asset revaluation surplus	191,238	191,238	193,644	196,111	198,626	201,193	203,830	206,543	209,341	212,231	215,414
Retained surplus	139,468	146,557	148,247	149,940	151,763	153,710	156,064	159,549	163,239	167,089	171,092
<b>Total community equity</b>	<b>330,706</b>	<b>337,795</b>	<b>341,891</b>	<b>346,052</b>	<b>350,389</b>	<b>354,904</b>	<b>359,893</b>	<b>366,092</b>	<b>372,580</b>	<b>379,319</b>	<b>386,506</b>

## QTC Financial Forecast Template—Bulloo Shire Council

### Statement of Cash Flows

	Jun-25 Revised	Jun-26F	Jun-27F	Jun-28F	Jun-29F	Jun-30F	Jun-31F	Jun-32F	Jun-33F	Jun-34F	Jun-35F
<b>Cash flows from operating activities</b>											
Receipts from customers	9,321	9,787	10,092	10,448	10,808	11,189	11,581	11,989	12,403	12,840	13,353
Payments to suppliers and employees	(49,493)	(65,206)	(68,545)	(70,897)	(73,283)	(75,798)	(78,384)	(81,076)	(83,807)	(86,686)	(90,153)
Interest received	1,014	1,064	975	1,023	1,094	1,180	1,116	1,217	1,305	1,387	1,442
Rental income	421	327	327	338	350	362	375	388	402	416	433
Non-capital grants and contributions	43,173	59,533	62,713	64,922	67,165	69,531	71,964	74,500	77,073	79,788	82,980
Payment of provision	-	-	(13)	(13)	(13)	(13)	(14)	(14)	(14)	(14)	(14)
<b>Net cash inflow from operating activities</b>	<b>4,435</b>	<b>5,506</b>	<b>5,548</b>	<b>5,821</b>	<b>6,121</b>	<b>6,450</b>	<b>6,639</b>	<b>7,004</b>	<b>7,362</b>	<b>7,731</b>	<b>8,040</b>
<b>Cash flows from investing activities</b>											
Payments for property, plant and equipment	(11,713)	(12,993)	(6,440)	(5,917)	(6,471)	(7,405)	(7,231)	(8,127)	(8,853)	(9,510)	(10,514)
Proceeds from sale of property, plant and equipment	265	-	292	307	322	338	355	373	392	411	428
Grants, subsidies, contributions and donations	4,954	8,091	2,561	2,579	2,708	2,843	2,985	3,135	3,291	3,425	3,562
<b>Net cash inflow from investing activities</b>	<b>(6,493)</b>	<b>(4,902)</b>	<b>(3,587)</b>	<b>(3,031)</b>	<b>(3,441)</b>	<b>(4,224)</b>	<b>(3,890)</b>	<b>(4,619)</b>	<b>(5,170)</b>	<b>(5,674)</b>	<b>(6,525)</b>
<b>Cash flows from financing activities</b>											
Proceeds from borrowings	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Repayment of borrowings	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Net cash inflow from financing activities</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>Net increase in cash and cash equivalent held</b>	<b>(2,059)</b>	<b>603</b>	<b>1,962</b>	<b>2,790</b>	<b>2,680</b>	<b>2,227</b>	<b>2,748</b>	<b>2,385</b>	<b>2,192</b>	<b>2,057</b>	<b>1,515</b>
<b>Opening cash and cash equivalents</b>	<b>20,301</b>	<b>18,243</b>	<b>18,846</b>	<b>20,808</b>	<b>23,597</b>	<b>26,278</b>	<b>28,504</b>	<b>31,253</b>	<b>33,638</b>	<b>35,829</b>	<b>37,887</b>
<b>Closing cash and cash equivalents</b>	<b>18,243</b>	<b>18,846</b>	<b>20,808</b>	<b>23,597</b>	<b>26,278</b>	<b>28,504</b>	<b>31,253</b>	<b>33,638</b>	<b>35,829</b>	<b>37,887</b>	<b>39,402</b>

## QTC Financial Forecast Template—Bulloo Shire Council

### Statement of Changes in Equity

	Jun-25B	Jun-26F	Jun-27F	Jun-28F	Jun-29F	Jun-30F	Jun-31F	Jun-32F	Jun-33F	Jun-34F	Jun-35F
<b>Asset revaluation surplus</b>											
Opening balance	191,238	191,238	191,238	193,644	196,111	198,626	201,193	203,830	206,543	209,341	212,231
Net result	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na
Increase in asset revaluation surplus	-	-	2,406	2,467	2,515	2,567	2,636	2,713	2,798	2,890	3,183
Internal payments made	na	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	na
Closing balance	191,238	191,238	193,644	196,111	198,626	201,193	203,830	206,543	209,341	212,231	215,414
<b>Retained surplus</b>											
Opening balance	135,258	139,468	146,557	148,247	149,940	151,763	153,710	156,064	159,549	163,239	167,089
Net result	4,210	7,089	1,689	1,694	1,823	1,947	2,353	3,485	3,690	3,850	4,004
Increase in asset revaluation surplus	na	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	139,468	146,557	148,247	149,940	151,763	153,710	156,064	159,549	163,239	167,089	171,092
<b>Total</b>											
Opening balance	326,496	330,706	337,795	341,891	346,052	350,389	354,904	359,893	366,092	372,580	379,319
Net result	4,210	7,089	1,689	1,694	1,823	1,947	2,353	3,485	3,690	3,850	4,004
Increase in asset revaluation surplus	-	-	2,406	2,467	2,515	2,567	2,636	2,713	2,798	2,890	3,183
Internal payments made	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Adjustment for Initial Recognition of Accounting Standards	-	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na
Closing balance	330,706	337,795	341,891	346,052	350,389	354,904	359,893	366,092	372,580	379,319	386,506

## Bulloo Shire 2025/2026 Adopted Budget – Measures of Financial Sustainability

### QTC Financial Forecast Template—Bulloo Shire Council Financial Management (Sustainability) Output Ratios

Type	Measure (as per Guideline)	Target (Tier 7)	30 June 2025	30 June 2026	30 June 2027	30 June 2028	30 June 2029	30 June 2030	30 June 2031	30 June 2032	30 June 2033	30 June 2034	30 June 2035
Financial Capacity	Council-Controlled Revenue*	na	10.91%	8.47%	8.48%	8.48%	8.48%	8.47%	8.48%	8.48%	8.47%	8.47%	8.47%
	Population Growth*	na	-20.12%	-3.65%	-3.65%	-3.65%	-3.65%	-3.65%	-3.65%	-3.65%	-3.65%	-3.65%	-3.65%
Operating Performance	Operating Surplus Ratio	na	-1.76%	-1.39%	-1.57%	-1.55%	-1.52%	-1.50%	-1.16%	-0.03%	0.01%	0.01%	0.01%
	Operating Cash Ratio	Greater than 0%	9.17%	7.59%	7.48%	7.58%	7.70%	7.84%	7.80%	7.95%	8.07%	8.18%	8.25%
Liquidity	Unrestricted Cash Expense Cover Ratio	4 months	3.32	2.7	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na
Asset Management	Asset Sustainability Ratio	Greater than 90%	94.62%	74.75%	87.66%	68.80%	73.95%	93.60%	100.67%	107.40%	113.97%	120.60%	120.25%
	Asset Consumption Ratio	Greater than 60%	79.9%	80.4%	80.3%	79.9%	79.4%	78.7%	77.6%	76.2%	75.2%	73.8%	72.6%
	Asset Renewal Funding Ratio*	N/A	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na
Debt Servicing Capacity	Leverage Ratio**	3 times	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na	na

\* The Council-Controlled Revenue, Population Growth, and Asset Renewal Funding Ratio measures are reported for contextual purposes only and are not audited by the QAO.

\*\* The Leverage Ratio is not required to be reported if a council has not held any QTC or other debt within the last five financial years.

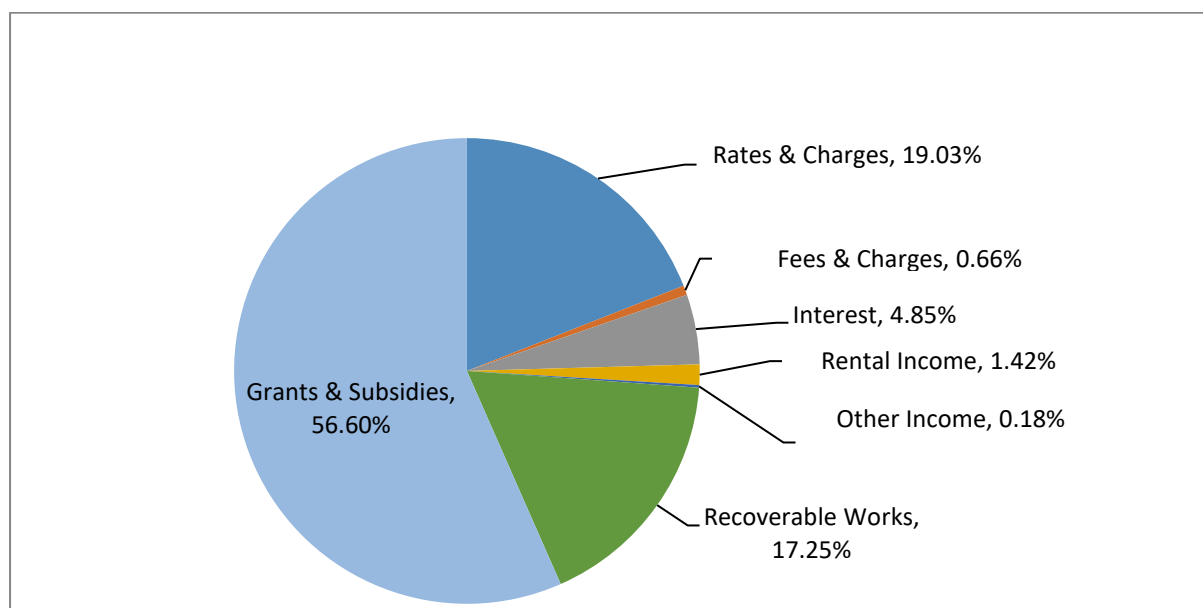
## Summary of Key Information

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

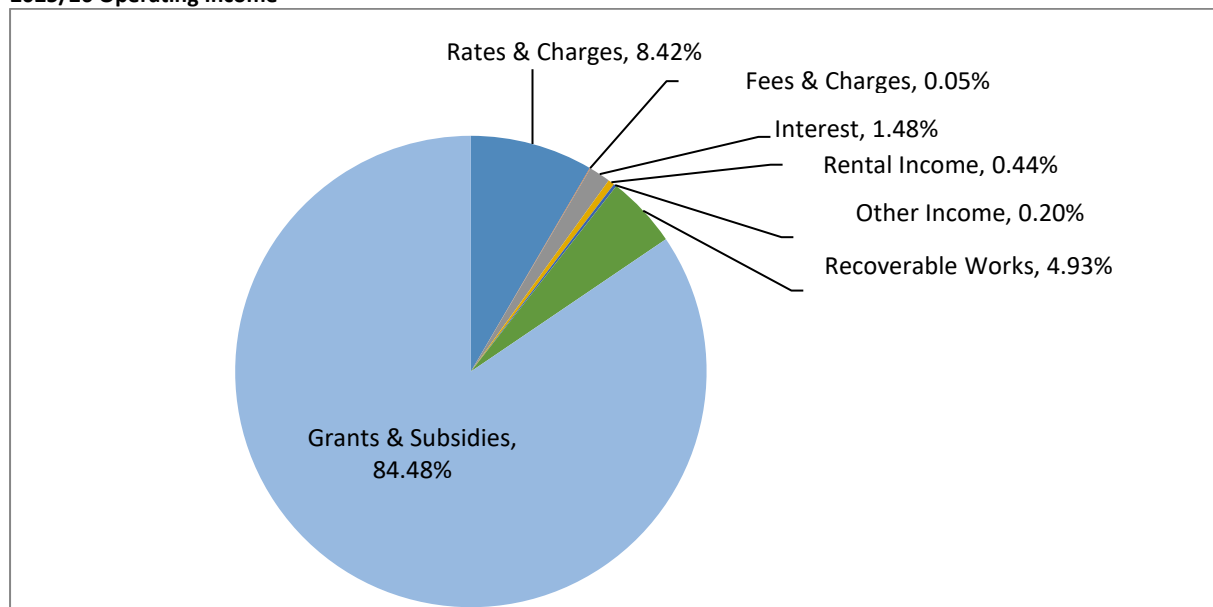
### Council Operating Income

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 \$4.6M from Commonwealth Financial Assistance Grants.

#### 2024/25 Actual Operating Income

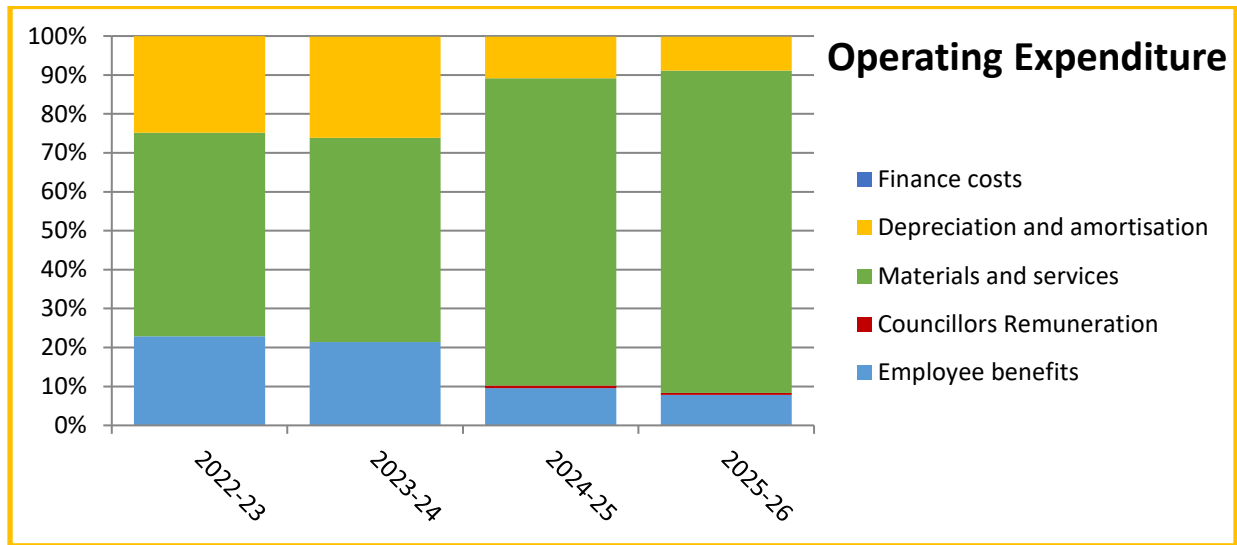


#### 2025/26 Operating Income



### Councils Operating Expenditure

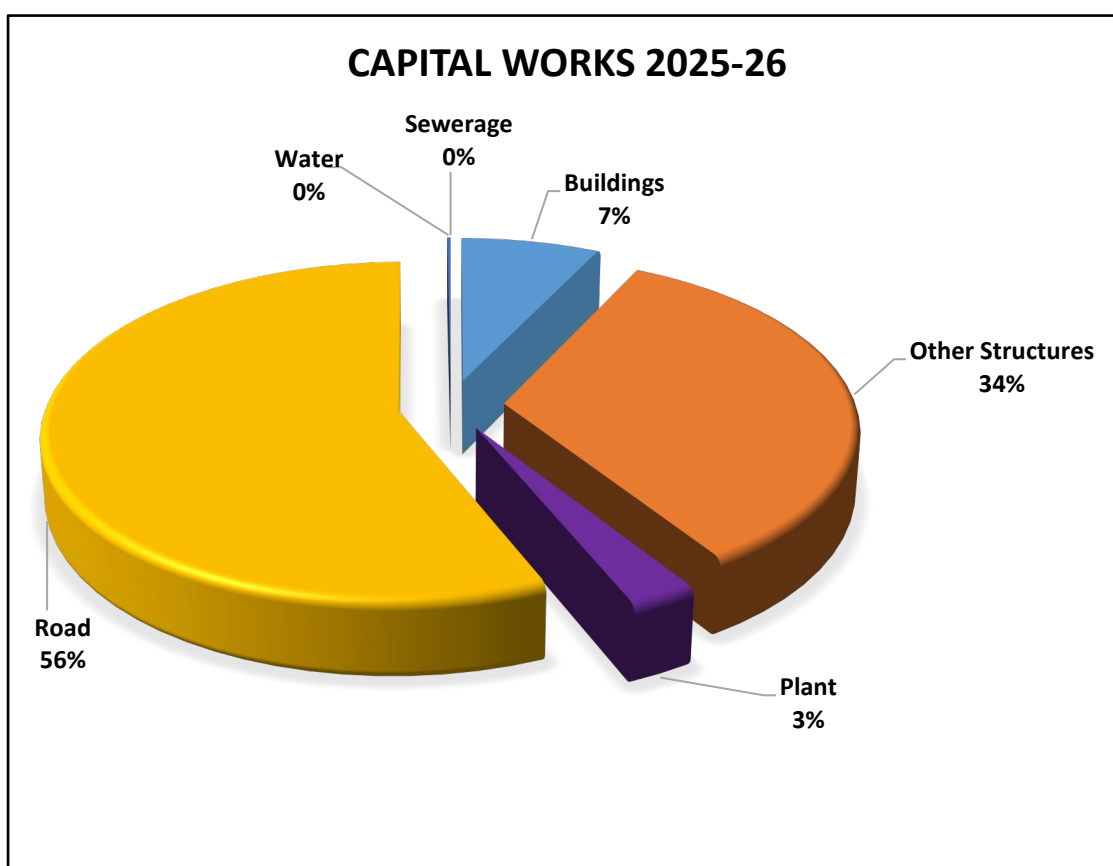
Councils operating expenditure for the 2025-26 year compared to previous years expenditure levels.



## Capital Works

Bulloo Shire Council is continuing to undertake a very large capital program totaling \$12.9M.

Buildings	937,500
Other Structures	4,377,557
Plant	359,239
Road	7,295,581
Water	23,000
Sewerage	0
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>12,992,877</b>



## Capital Works Program 2025-2026

Capital Expenditure	Project Type	2026_Total	2026_Council	2026_Grant	2026_Trade-in	Grant Name
Grand Total		12,992,877	4,902,335	8,090,542	0	
<b>Finance &amp; Admin</b>						
Multifunction Printers x 1	Renewal	12,000	12,000			
		12,000	12,000	-	-	
<b>Rural Services</b>						
Thargomindah Town Common Fence Completion	New	30,232		30,232		LRCI 4
Fencing and Sealing of Noccundra Airstrip	New	3,515,000		3,515,000		QMF
		3,545,232		3,545,232		
<b>Tourism &amp; Economic Development</b>						
		0	0	0	0	
<b>Buildings and other Structures</b>						
BoR 4 Connectivity Project	New	199,161	199,161			
Nacowlah & Bellalie Camp - Clean up	Renewal	80,000	80,000			
Hungerford Landfill Fence	New	100,000	100,000			
Multi Roomed Cabins - ECP	New	532,739	532,739			
Jet A1 + AVG Fuel Bowser & Hose	Renewal	72,615	72,615			
OPT Upgrade	Upgrade	18,968	18,968			
1 x 3 Bed House	New	145,051		145,051		W4Q5
3 x Single Cabins	New	171,400	50,000	121,400		W4Q5
Fence and Plumbing to relocated house - 96 Sam St	Upgrade	81,500	81,500			
New Pit at the Thargo Dump	New	160,000	160,000			
Upgrade Cabin 2 Explorers Caravan Park	Upgrade	6,810	6,810			
Upgrade Retic watering system at Explorers Caravan Park	Upgrade	20,000	20,000			

<b>Swimming Pool</b>						
LRCI 4 Thargo Swimming Pool Upgrade	Renewal	169,581		169,581		LRCI 4
		<b>1,757,825</b>	<b>1,321,793</b>	<b>436,032</b>	<b>0</b>	
<b>Roads</b>						
RRUP - Warri Gate Road - Stage 1	Renewal	2,751,000		2,751,000		RRUP
Innaminka Rd Reseal -	Renewal	580,000	580,000			
<b>Roads to Recovery (848,921)</b>						
R2R_Warri Gate - Rd - Seal	New	3,614,581	2,256,303	1,358,278		R2R
New Road for Subdivision	New	350,000	350,000			
		<b>7,295,581</b>	<b>3,186,303</b>	<b>4,109,278</b>	<b>0</b>	
<b>Plant</b>						
Major Plant		<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	
Isuzu FVD 1000 Crane/Tip truck 11ton (725 YR 2013 - 217,818kr	Renewal	299,239	299,239			
Refurbish Step Deck - with Bifold ramps	Upgrade	60,000	60,000			
		<b>359,239</b>	<b>359,239</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>0</b>	
<b>Water Infrastructure</b>						
Thargomindah - Finalisation of Bore 2 Connection	Renewal	8,000	8,000			
Replace 2nd UV Housing - Hungerford	Upgrade	15,000	15,000			
		<b>23,000</b>	<b>23,000</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	

# Rates Calculation Summary

## Differential General Rates

Category	Category Detail	2024-25 Revenue	2025-26 Revenue	% Change
1	Vacant Land – Thargomindah	\$4,252	\$4,252	0%
2	Vacant Land – Hungerford	\$3,512	\$3,512	0%
3	Vacant Land – Noccundra	\$3,912	\$3,912	0%
4	Vacant Land – Other	\$403	\$403	0%
5	Residential – Thargomindah	\$40,030	\$40,030	0%
6	Residential – Hungerford	\$5,100	\$5,100	0%
7	Commercial – Thargomindah	\$7,493	\$7,493	0%
8	Commercial – Hungerford	\$418	\$418	0%
9	Commercial – Noccundra	\$1,096	\$1,096	0%
10	Commercial – Other	\$3,851	\$3,851	0%
11	Industry - Thargomindah	\$20,330	\$20,330	0%
12	Small Rural	\$1,561	\$1,561	0%
13	Rural	\$1,261,977	\$1,261,977	0%
14	Jackson & Naccowlah	\$1,140,590	\$1,140,590	0%
15	Ballera Gas Centre	\$2,622,387	\$2,622,387	0%
16	Petroleum Leases	\$722,841	\$722,841	0%
17	Extractive Leases	\$3,053	\$3,053	0%
18	All Other Land	\$45,535	\$45,535	0%
19	Worker Accommodation 50-100	\$0	\$0	0%
20	Worker Accommodation 100-200	\$0	\$0	0%
21	Worker Accommodation >200	\$0	\$0	0%
*22	Mining Claim <900m2	\$0	\$0	0%
*23	Mining Claim >900m2	\$1,521	\$1,521	0%
24	All land > 10 Ha but < 100 Ha	\$3,578	\$3,578	0%
25	All land with Carbon Credit Units	\$0	\$0	0%

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	2024-25 Revenue	2025-26 Revenue	% Change
1	Thargomindah	\$143,486	\$143,486	0%
2	Hungerford	\$16,275	\$16,275	0%

## Sewerage Charges

Group	Rate Group Details	2024-25 Revenue	2025-26 Revenue	% Change
1	Thargomindah	\$119,818	\$119,818	0%

## Garbage Charges

Group	Rate Group Details	2024-25 Revenue	2025-26 Revenue	% Change
1	Thargomindah – Environmental	6,338	6,338	0%
1	Thargomindah - Collection	\$57,673	\$57,673	0%

## 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 2025-26 compared with the rates and utility charges levied in 2024-25 is 0%, 0% & 0%.

This decision to freeze Rates and Utilities reflects Council's recognition of the financial hardship experienced by the community following The Western Queensland Surface Trough and Associated Rainfall and Flooding event in March 2025 and ongoing recovery efforts.

## 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 2025-2026

*The Operational Plan sets out the action areas to deliver the strategic goals for the period of 1<sup>st</sup> July 2025 to 30<sup>th</sup> June 2026, 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.	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
COM1.2.1	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 sessions, community morning teas, bingo.	COM2.1	Community, Culture & Places	30 June
COM2.1.3	Identify and respond to community infrastructure funding opportunities.	Ongoing - 100%.	COM2.1	Admin & Finance	30 June

## Operational Plan 2025-2026

Ref	Operational Initiative	Measure	CP Ref	Officer	Due Date
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 learning facility and ensure schools has appropriate resources to provide education services in line with community expectation.	Fund ½ teacher at Primary School, as required Fund teachers aid at Secondary Learning Facility	COM2.6	Community, Culture & Places	30 June

## Operational Plan 2025-2026

Ref	Operational Initiative	Measure	CP Ref	Officer	Due Date
COM2.7.1	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 LDMG.	COM3.1	CEO	30 June
COM3.1.2	Lobby for Flood Mitigation Study inclusive of levee options (LRAP) by QRA/Dept of Resources	Study commenced in 2025/2026	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 Council's 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 years 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

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	Develop a 'Bulloo Shire brand toolkit' and engage with local businesses operating in the visitor economy to use the Shire's tourism branding in their own marketing and communications (ED Strategy)	Toolkit developed.	ECO2.2	Community, Culture & Places	30 June
ECO2.3.1	Work with Outback Queensland Tourism and neighbouring Councils to encourage a coordinated approach to the planning, promotion and delivery of major events, including marketing and coordination of events calendars (ED Strategy).	Ongoing – 100%.	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
ECO2.4.3	Explore options to enhance the Thargomindah Heritage Walk, Hydro Walk and River Walk with a new ANZAC Walk component and improved directional and interpretive signage, to add to the visitor experience (ED Strategy).	Develop options to seek funding.	ECO2.4	Community, Culture & Places	30 June

## Operational Plan 2025-2026

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.	Four meetings attended.	ECO4.1	CEO	30 June

## Environment

Ref	Operational Initiative	Measure	CP Ref	Officer	Due Date
ENV1.1.1	Review Biosecurity Plan for 2022 onwards.	Plan reviewed.	ENV1.1	Rural	30 Nov
ENV1.2.1	Work with First Nations people to preserve cultural heritage in Bulloo	Consultative Committee Meetings in accordance with ILUAs Cultural Clearances	ENV1.3	CEO	30 June
ENV1.2.2	Continue to promote the Dig Tree National Heritage asset.	Include in Tourism Promotion material.	ENV1.2	Community, Culture & Places	30 June
ENV1.3.1	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.	Two meeting held annually, or as required.	ENV1.3	CEO	30 June
ENV1.3.4	Meet with Regional DDMG to ensure co-ordination of Disaster Management planning and emergency service provision.	Two 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 two coordinated wild pig & dog aerial baiting campaigns.	ENV1.4	Rural	30 June
ENV1.4.2	Support Bulloo Shire Pest Management Committee.	Two meetings coordinated annually.	ENV1.4	Rural	30 June

## Operational Plan 2025-2026

Ref	Operational Initiative	Measure	CP Ref	Officer	Due Date
ENV1.4.3	Monitor Inactive Stock Routes and deliver pest management program.	Stock Routes inspected annually.	ENV1.4	Rural	30 June
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.	Two events held.	ENV2.1	Town Services	30 June
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.	Develop water management plans.	ENV2.3	Road Services	30 June
ENV2.4.1	Assist landholders with invasive animal management techniques including emerging technology, disease and education sessions.	Ten individual sessions held. Two 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

## Operational Plan 2025-2026

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.	One 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	Continue with restoration of council and community infrastructure impacted by March 2025 flooding under relevant funding bodies – QRA/State Departments	Make-safe & clean-up completed Restoration commenced	INF1.1	CEO	30 June
INF1.1.2	Infrastructure (buildings incl. housing) is maintained and upgraded in accordance with Council asset management plans and adopted budget.	Implement the schedule of infrastructure maintenance and inspections (Plan) for Council buildings.	INF1.1	Town Services	30 June
INF1.1.3	Construct a Multi Roomed Cabin at ECP	Tender Complete Project Management	INF1.1	Admin & Finance Road 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	Implement Action Plan from the Local Housing Action Plan for Bulloo.	Undertake actions in accordance with the 2025/26 Budget.	INF1.2	Admin & Finance	30 June
INF1.2.3	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
INF1.2.4	Seal and Fence <u>Noccundra Airstrip</u> (2-year program)	Complete 50% of Project by 30 June 2026	INF1.2	Road Services	30 June

## Operational Plan 2025-2026

CP Ref	Operational Initiative	Measure	CP Ref	Officer	Due Date
INF1.3.1	Support State Roads Network maintenance (TMR, TIDS, RMPC).	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 street lighting is identified; install appropriate signage, line marking.	INF1.3	Road Services	30 June
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
INF1.5.1	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

## Operational Plan 2025-2026

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	Review the planning scheme to meet housing needs objectives while acknowledging the town character.	Review annually.	INF2.1	Admin & Finance	30 June
INF2.1.2	Continue to extend the current land development in Sams and Frew Streets to service the provision of Council employee & community housing.	Seek funding for sewerage extension.	INF2.1	CEO	30 June
INF2.1.3	Complete subdivision of Township land on <u>crn</u> of Frew Street & Gilmour Street) including construction of new gravel road	Subdivision approved Road constructed	INF2.1	CEO Road Services	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 annually.	INF2.2	CEO	30 June
INF2.3.1	Continue to advocate for government funding for improved road connections from NSW into Queensland via the Warri Gate Road, to facilitate interstate freight movements and travellers (tourists).	Number of issues that affect Council that are effectively lobbied and result in positive outcomes.	INF2.3	CEO	30 June
INF2.3.3	Lobby State and Federal Governments to consider financial options to remove inequity in rural and remote areas to access finance for house ownership.	Promote Queensland Housing Finance Loan Scheme.	INF2.3	CEO	30 June
INF2.4.1	Maintain an efficient and safe network of roads	100% delivery.	INF2.4	Road Services	30 June

## Operational Plan 2025-2026

CP Ref	Operational Initiative	Measure	CP Ref	Officer	Due Date
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	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	Admin & Finance	30 June
GOV1.1.3	Internal Audit Plan activities and management of internal audit requirements completed as per schedule.	Appoint Internal Auditor for 2025/26, 2026/27 & 2027/28 Four Internal Audit Meeting held	GOV1.1	Admin & Finance	30 June
GOV1.1.4	Grants, capital works and maintenance programs 2025/26 delivered on time and within budget by 30 June 2026.	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.	grant application submissions.	GOV1.1	Admin & Finance	30 June
GOV1.2.1	Asset Management Valuations – Four Year Plan <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Land, Buildings &amp; Other Structures 2025/26</li> <li>Road Infrastructure 2026/27</li> <li>Water &amp; Sewerage Infrastructure 2027/28</li> <li>Indexation Only 2028/29</li> </ul>	Valuation of Land, Buildings & Other Structures.	GOV1.2	Admin & Finance	30 June
GOV1.2.2	Continue to improve asset management within Council.	Complete Asset Management Training for Senior Finance Officer.	GOV1.2	Admin & Finance	30 June

## Operational Plan 2025-2026

Ref	Operational Initiative	Measure	CP Ref	Officer	Due Date
		Implement Asset Management Plans.			
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 <u>the financial year</u> .	GOV2.2	Admin & Finance	30 June
GOV2.2.3	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 MAGIQ use and implementation.	GOV2.2	Admin & Finance	30 June
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.	Maintain framework.	GOV2.3	Admin & Finance	30 Dec

## Operational Plan 2025-2026

Ref	Operational Initiative	Measure	CP Ref	Officer	Due Date
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
GOV2.4.1	ICT systems are contemporary and are maintained and supported to deliver efficient and responsive business needs.	100% ongoing.	GOV2.4	Admin & Finance	30 June
GOV2.5.1	Identified a broad range of projects that will benefit all communities across the Shire with for potential grant funding.	Report to Council.	GOV2.5	CEO	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
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

## Operational Plan 2025-2026

Ref	Operational Initiative	Measure	CP Ref	Officer	Due Date
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.	Four SWQROC meetings attended.	GOV4.3	Admin & Finance / CEO	30 June
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.	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
Adopted / Approved:	19 June 2025; Resolution 2025/87
Last Reviewed:	June 2025
Review:	June 2026 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 is to provide guidelines for those who work for Bulloo Shire Council ("Council") in respect to its approved strategies for borrowings for the Financial Year 2024-25.

### 1.2 POLICY OBJECTIVES:

The objectives of this Policy are to ensure that Council's intent with respect to 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

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### 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

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### 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.

**External Borrowings in \$'000**

Loan	2025/26	2026/27	2027/28	2028/29	2029/30	2030/31	2031/32	2032/33	2033/34	2034/35
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	2025/26	2026/27	2027/28	2028/29	2029/30	2030/31	2031/32	2032/33	2033/34	2034/35
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 2025-26 financial year.

Loan	Original Loan Amount \$'000	Liability as at 30 June 2025 \$'000	New Loan 2025-26 \$'000	Repayment Principal 2025-26 \$'000	Liability as at 30 June 2026 \$'000
External Loans	0	0	0	0	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>

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"> <li>• <i>Local Government Act 2009;</i></li> <li>• <i>Local Government Regulation 2012; and</i></li> <li>• <i>Statutory Bodies Financial Arrangements Act 1982.</i></li> </ul>
Responsible Officer:	Admin & Finance Manager
Responsibilities:	Statutory compliance
Adopted / Approved:	19 June 2025; Resolution 2025/89
Last Reviewed:	June 2025
Review:	June 2026 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

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### 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

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### 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"> <li>Local Government Act 2009; and</li> <li>Local Government Regulation 2012</li> </ul>
Responsible Officer:	Admin & Finance Manager
Adopted / Approved:	19 <sup>th</sup> June 2025; Resolution 2025/88
Last Reviewed:	June 2025
Review:	June 2026 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:

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*'..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 2025-26

### Purpose

The Purpose of this Revenue Statement is to set out the revenue measures adopted by Council to frame its 2025-26 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 2025-26

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	2025-26 Rate in \$	2025-26 Minimum
<b>Vacant and Residential Land</b>			
<b>1</b>	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.	5.3936	\$475
<b>2</b>	All land within the Township of Hungerford that has a primary land use code designated as vacant land, horses /animal special or a reservoir.	3.9258	\$351
<b>3</b>	All land within the Township of Noccundra that has a primary land use code designated as vacant land, horses /animal special or a reservoir.	112.6802	\$351
<b>4</b>	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.	100.6826	\$403
<b>5</b>	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.	7.9468	\$403
<b>6</b>	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.	3.4000	\$340
<b>Commercial and Industrial land</b>			
<b>7</b>	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.	7.6586	\$484
<b>8</b>	All land within the Township of Hungerford that has a primary land use code designated as commercial, special use commercial or general.	6.6378	\$418
<b>9</b>	All land within the Township of Noccundra that has a primary land use code designated as commercial, special use commercial or general.	109.6002	\$404
<b>10</b>	All other land not identified in another category that has a primary land use code designated as commercial, special use commercial or general.	22.8744	\$420
<b>11</b>	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.	8.4376	\$484
<b>Rural Lands</b>			
<b>12</b>	All land greater than 100 Ha but less than 1,000 Ha that has a primary land use code designated as grazing or agricultural.	0.4032	\$351
<b>13</b>	All land greater than 1,000 Ha that has a primary land use code designated as grazing or agricultural.	0.3804	\$432
<b>Intensive Industry and Other Lands</b>			

Category	Criteria	2025-26 Rate in \$	2025-26 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.	93.0864	\$700
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.	5,244.7746	\$700
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.	16.2348	\$700
17	All other land with a primary land use designated 'extractive' generally used for the extracting of precious metals and/or gemstones.	11.3594	\$351
18	All other land in the shire.	86.8994	\$869
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.	2.76	\$12,669
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.	2.76	\$25,338
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.	2.76	\$50,676
22	All mining claims over land that is 900m <sup>2</sup> or less.	0.00	\$170
23	All mining claims over land that is larger than 900m <sup>2</sup> .	0.00	\$507
24	All land, greater than 10 Ha but less than 100 Ha that has a primary land use code designated as residential.	7.95	\$403
25	All land in whole or in part that has received Australian Carbon Credit Units (ACCU).	1.34	\$432

## 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	2025/26 Charge
<b>Each residence – Treated or Bore and Untreated Water</b>	Water – Connection Charge	<b>\$ 509.70</b>
<b>Water – Consumption Charge – Treated or Bore Water Only</b>	Per kL	<b>\$ 1.22</b>

### 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	2025/26 Charge
<b>Water – Access Charge</b>	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.	<b>\$ 361.48</b>
<b>Water – Connected Charge</b>	Charge applied to a vacant land, single unit dwelling and each unit of a multi-unit dwelling that is connected to the water scheme.	<b>\$ 564.16</b>
<b>Water – Commercial Unit Charge</b>	Charge applied to each unit identified in the Commercial Water Unit Table	<b>\$ 94.02</b>

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	2025/26 Charge
<b>Sewerage – Access Charge</b>	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.	<b>\$ 274.70</b>
<b>Sewerage – Connected Charge</b>	Charge applied to a single unit dwelling, each unit of a multi-unit dwelling, each room in workers accommodation and the 1 <sup>st</sup> pedestal at all other connected allotments.	<b>\$ 549.40</b>
<b>Sewerage – Additional Pedestal</b>	After the Sewerage – Connected Charge, the Charge applied to each additional non-residential pedestal (including urinal cistern) that is connected to the sewer scheme.	<b>\$ 274.70</b>

### 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	2025/26 Charge
<b>Garbage – Domestic Environmental Charge</b>	Charge applied to each domestic assessment within Thargomindah to contribute towards to costs of providing the recycling and waste transfer facilities.	<b>\$ 28.20</b>
<b>Garbage – Commercial &amp; Industry Environmental Charge</b>	Charge applied to each commercial & industry assessment within Thargomindah to contribute towards to costs of providing the recycling and waste transfer facilities.	<b>\$ 56.42</b>
<b>Garbage – Domestic Collection</b>	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.	<b>\$ 211.76</b>
<b>Garbage – Commercial &amp; Industry Collection</b>	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.	<b>\$ 408.56</b>

All properties within the garbage service area are charged a *Garbage Collection Charge* as defined above.

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 with the 2025/26 rates and charges for an average residential assessment in Thargomindah. There is no change in 25/26.

Description	2024/25 Charge	2025/26 Charge
<b>Average General Rates</b>	\$508.60	\$508.60
<b>Water – Connected Charge</b>	\$564.16	\$564.16
<b>Sewerage – Connected Charge</b>	\$549.40	\$549.40
<b>Garbage – Domestic Environmental Charge</b>	\$28.20	\$28.20
<b>Garbage – Domestic Collection</b>	\$211.76	\$211.76
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$1,862.12</b>	<b>\$1,862.12</b>

### 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 2025 – 31 December 2025
- 1 January 2026 – 30 June 2026

### 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 2025-26 financial year is 12.12% 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 2025-26 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.