

Agenda – Late Items

Ordinary Meeting

Wednesday, 29 October 2025

Time: 9:00 am
Location: Council Chambers
82 Brisbane Street
BEAUDESERT QLD 4285

**Scenic Rim Regional Council
Ordinary Meeting
Wednesday, 29 October 2025
Agenda – Late Items**

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11 Consideration of Business of Meeting**Additional Items****11.12 Annual Report 2024-2025**

Executive Officer: Acting Manager People and Culture

Item Author: Corporate Strategy and Performance Officer

Attachments:

1. Scenic Rim Regional Council Annual Report 2024-2025 [↓](#) 

Councillor Portfolio / Representation

Not applicable.

Local Government Area Division

This report relates to the whole Scenic Rim region.

Executive Summary

The draft Scenic Rim Regional Council Annual Report 2024-2025 (the draft Annual Report) (Attachment 1), including the approved 2024-2025 Financial Statements, signed management certificates and signed Auditors' Report is provided for Council's review and approval.

Recommendation**Recommendation**

That

1. Council adopt the Scenic Rim Regional Council Annual Report 2024-2025;
2. Council note the general purpose financial statements for the year ended 30 June 2025; and
3. Council delegate to the Chief Executive Officer the power to make minor grammatical and formatting changes to the Scenic Rim Regional Council Annual Report 2024-2025, if required, after its adoption by Council and prior to publishing the document for public access.

Previous Council Considerations / Resolutions

Not applicable.

Report / Background

Under s104(5)(b)(ii) of the *Local Government Act 2009* (LGA), the system of financial management established by a local government must have prepared for them a number of financial accountability documents, one of them being an annual report.

Council has prepared the draft Annual Report in accordance with legislative requirements and in accordance with current best practice in reporting. The Annual Report not only includes all prescribed content, but also provides a balanced and comprehensive account of Council's achievements with the implementation of the Corporate Plan, *Scenic Rim 2026*, and the Operational Plan 2024-2025. The report provides evidence to support the assessment, and information that supports Council's efforts to achieve this progress in line with excellent business practices and robust governance principles. Content contained in the report is there to either meet statutory obligations or provides information about Council's performance during the 2024-2025 financial year.

In accordance with s182(2) of the *Local Government Regulation 2012* (LGR), local governments are required to adopt their annual report within one month after the day the Auditor General gives their audit report to Council about the financial statements for the financial year.

The draft Annual Report has been reviewed by the Queensland Audit Office. The approved Financial Statements and Audit Report were signed on 10 October 2025.

In order to comply with legislative requirements, the Annual Report must be adopted by 10 November 2025 and be published on Council's website within two weeks of adoption.

Budget / Financial Implications

The Annual Report is an important part of Council's financial management arrangements. Preparation of the Annual Report has been achieved within existing operational budgets.

Strategic Implications*Corporate Plan 2025-2030*

Council's Corporate Plan 2025-2030 outlines the organisation's Vision, Mission and Values. Council's Values are Service, Resilience, Respect, Commitment.

Strategic Goal: Not applicable

Guiding Principle: Operational Efficiency

Legal / Statutory Implications

Under s104(5)(b)(iii) of the LGA, the system of financial management established by a local government must have prepared for them a number of financial accountability documents, one of them being an annual report. The report complies with all the provisions detailed in the LGA and the LGR. As stated previously, in accordance with s182(2) of the LGR, local governments are required to adopt their annual report within one month after the day the Auditor-General gives their audit report about Council's financial statement for the financial year to Council, and publish the annual report on Council's website within two weeks of adoption.

In accordance with s176 of the LGR, the Report contains the following financial statements:

1. a general purpose financial statement;
2. a current-year financial statement; and
3. a long-term financial statement.

The general purpose financial statements (the statements) included in the Report are for the period 1 July 2024 to 30 June 2025 and have been prepared in accordance with Australian Accounting Standard. They also comply with the requirements of the LGA and LGR.

Section 212(1) of the LGR requires the financial statements be given to the Auditor-General for auditing. The long-term financial sustainability statement is not required to be audited.

Section 169(5) of the LGR outlines three measures of financial sustainability that local governments are required to report on:

1. Asset Sustainability Ratio;
2. Net Financial Liabilities Ratio; and
3. Operating Surplus Ratio.

These are outlined in the current-year sustainability statement and are also shown in the long-term financial sustainability statement. The Department of Housing, Local Government, Planning and Public Works has set targets for each indicator as outlined in the Financial Management (Sustainability) Guideline 2024 Version 1.

Risks

Strategic Risks

The following Level 1 and Level 2 (strategic) risks are relevant to the matters considered in this report:

CR8 Ineffective Organisation Governance - Council is a complex organisation delivering a wide range of services via different processes, using different resources and systems. Council's organisational governance, including corporate planning, controls, internal compliance, monitoring and reporting, may not be adequate to ensure quality outcomes and avoid potentially poor consequences.

Risk Summary

Category	Explanation
Governance, Risk & Compliance Failure to meet statutory requirements of the LGA	Council's adoption of the Scenic Rim Regional Council Annual Report 2024-2025 before November 2025 will ensure compliance with the LGA. A decision not to adopt the Scenic Rim Regional Council Annual Report 2024-2025 before 10 November 2025 will result in Council's failure to meet the statutory requirements of the LGA.
Reputation, Community & Civic Leadership Reputational risk if the Annual Report is not of an appropriate standard.	Reputational risk if the Annual Report is not of an appropriate standard.
Financial/Economic Failure to ensure annual financial statements are delivered in accordance with audit and legislative timeframes.	Financial Statements for 2024-2025 (the Statements) are prepared by suitable qualified and experienced staff. It is expected that the Statements will have been endorsed by the Audit and Risk Committee and externally audited by the Queensland Audit Office, prior to council's adoption of the Scenic Rim Regional Council Annual Report 2024-2025.

Human Rights Implications

No human rights have been impacted by any actions recommended in this report.

Consultation

The draft Annual Report has been prepared in consultation with Council officers, and was provided to the Queensland Audit Office for review.

Conclusion

The primary function of the Annual Report is to provide a balanced view of the progress Council has made during 2024-2025 in achieving Council's purpose and key strategic objectives in Council's Corporate Plan, Scenic Rim 2026, noting the new Corporate Plan 2025-2030 takes effect from 1 July 2025. It is also an opportunity to share with the community, not only what Council has achieved, but that Council has achieved this progress in a way that is consistent with excellence in business practices and principles of good governance.

OptionsOption 1

That:

1. Council adopt the Scenic Rim Regional Council Annual Report 2024-2025;
2. Council note the general purpose financial statements for the year ended 30 June 2025; and
3. Council delegate to the Chief Executive Officer the power to make minor grammatical and formatting changes to the Scenic Rim Regional Council Annual Report 2024-2025, if required, after its adoption by Council and prior to publishing the document for public access.

Option 2

That:

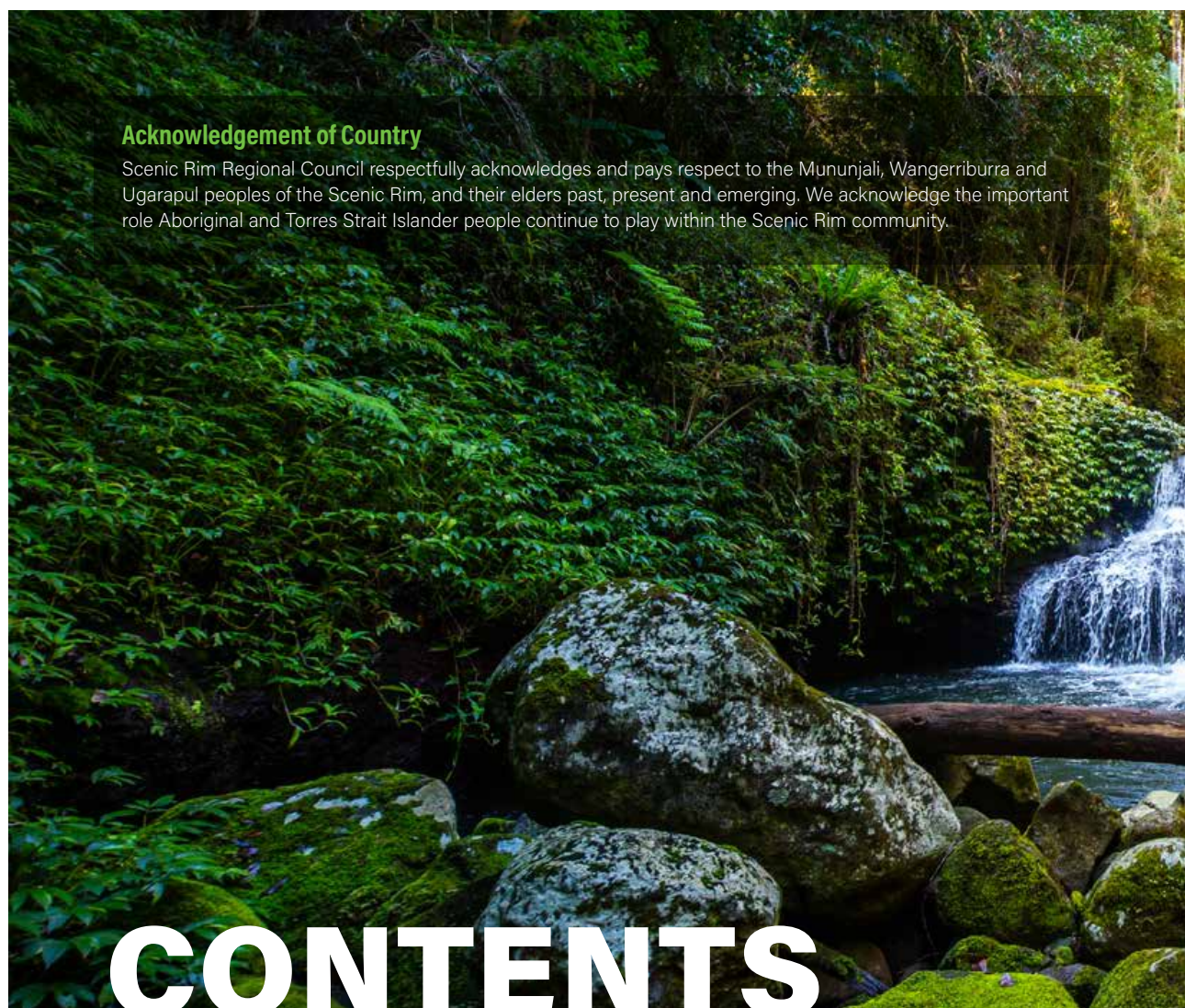
1. Council adopt the Scenic Rim Regional Council Annual Report 2024-2025, subject to changes agreed in the meeting;
2. Council note the general purpose financial statements for the year ended 30 June 2025; and
3. Council does not delegate to the Chief Executive Officer the power to make minor grammatical and formatting changes to the Scenic Rim Regional Council Annual Report 2024-2025, if required, after its adoption by Council and prior to publishing the document for public access.

2024–2025 ANNUAL REPORT

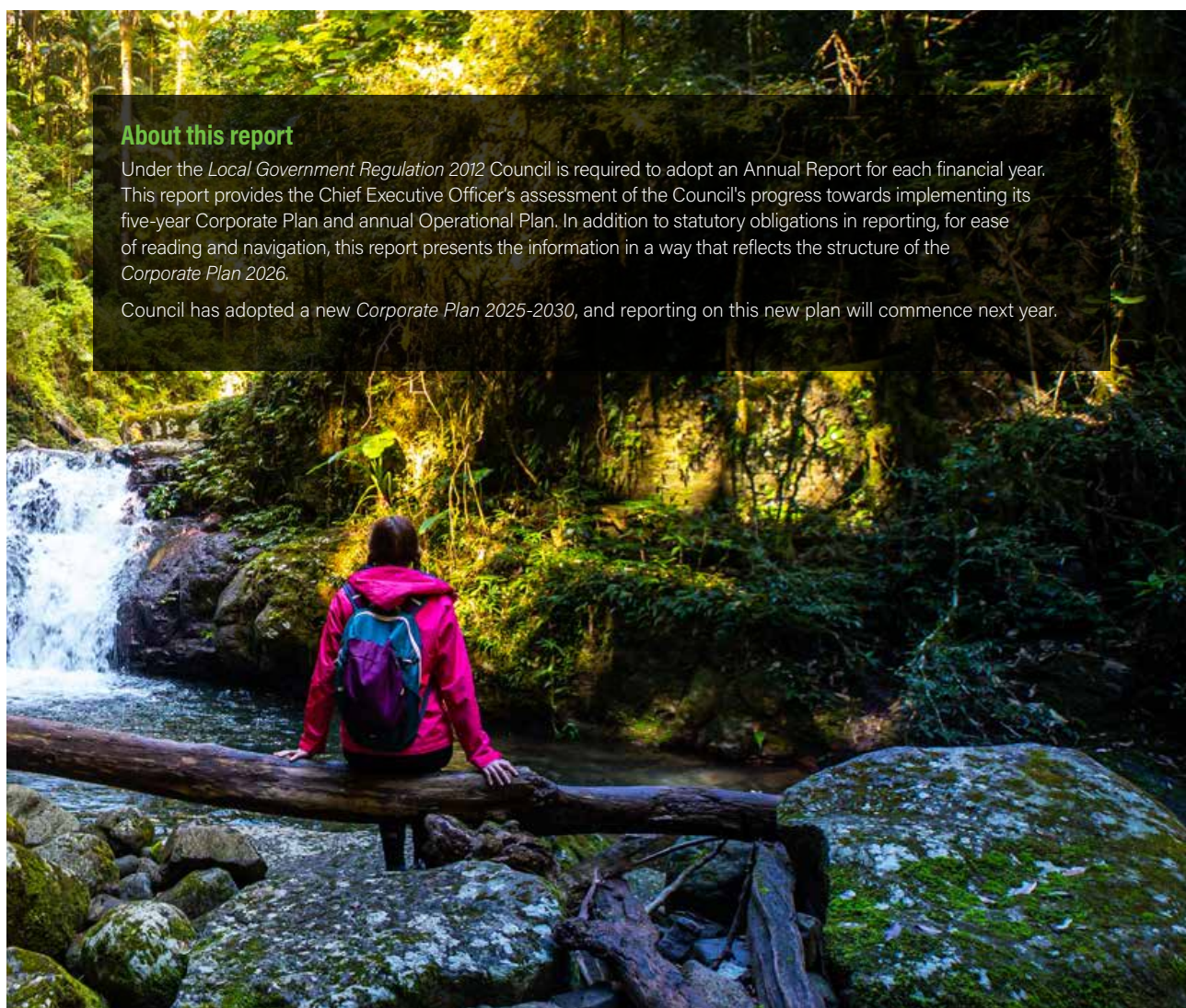


SCENIC RIM

REGIONAL COUNCIL



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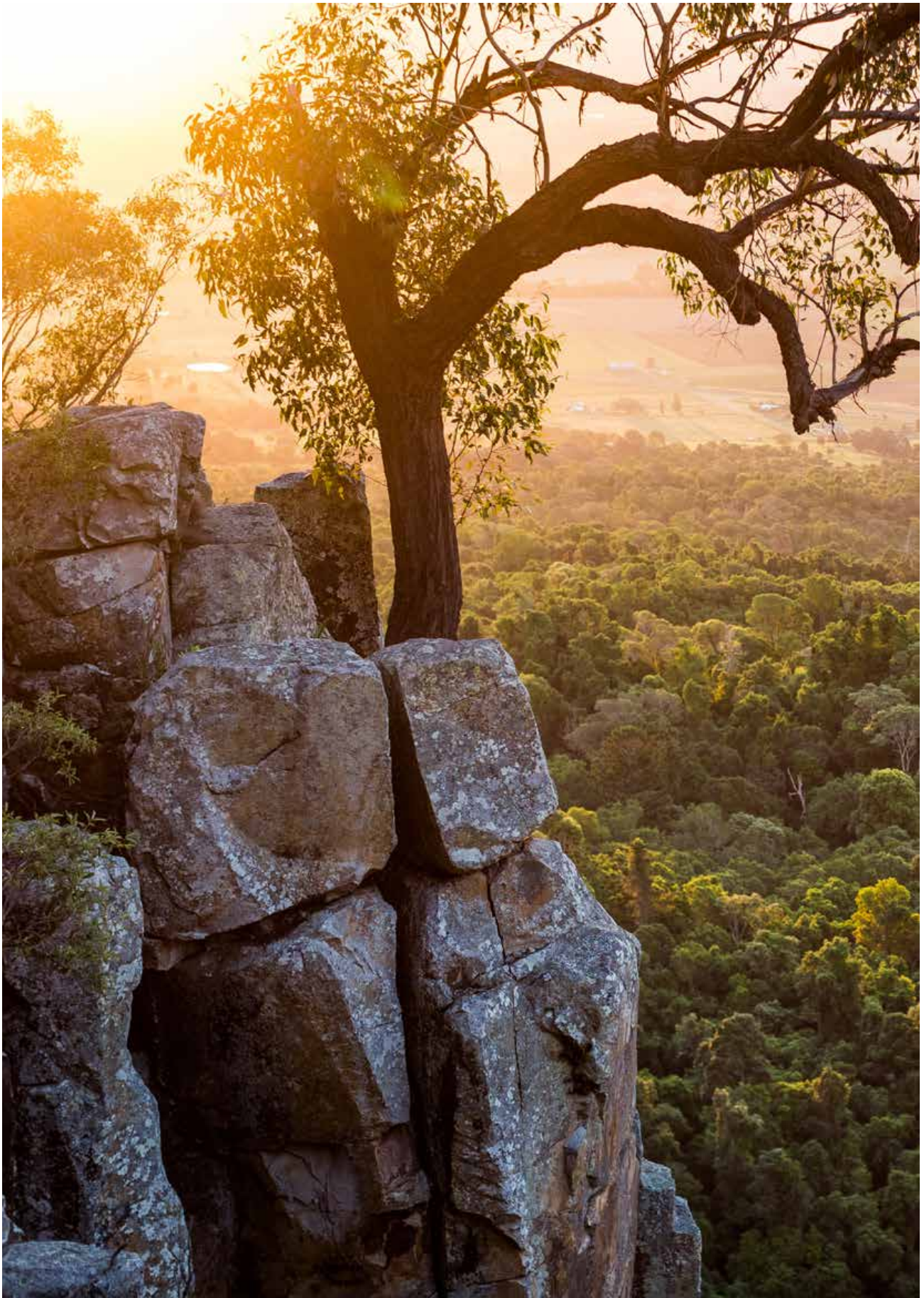


About this report

Under the *Local Government Regulation 2012* Council is required to adopt an Annual Report for each financial year. This report provides the Chief Executive Officer's assessment of the Council's progress towards implementing its five-year Corporate Plan and annual Operational Plan. In addition to statutory obligations in reporting, for ease of reading and navigation, this report presents the information in a way that reflects the structure of the *Corporate Plan 2026*.

Council has adopted a new *Corporate Plan 2025-2030*, and reporting on this new plan will commence next year.

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Our Values

SRRC



SERVICE



RESILIENCE



RESPECT



COMMITMENT

SERVICE

Applying a consistent and positive approach towards internal/external customers and community.

RESILIENCE

Responding under pressure, recovering from a challenge, managing adversity and viewing the experience of overcoming obstacles as a learning opportunity.

RESPECT

Acting respectfully to others, accepting each person's individuality and their role.

COMMITMENT

Dedication to workplace tasks including commitment to Council's goals, mission, and vision.

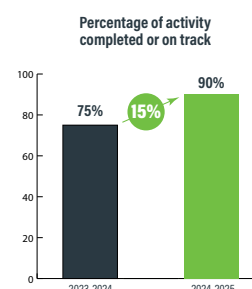
Our performance at a glance

The scorecard shows the status of each of the Indicators of Success from our Corporate Plan as they relate to the themes and statements of intent.

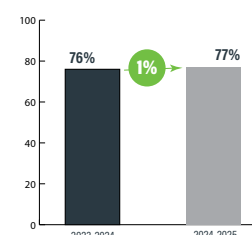
To the right of the success indicators is a chart showing the overall status of activities carried out during the year in support of our Operational Plan. The legend provides and explanation of the symbols used to indicate Key Performance Indicator status.

Indicators of success

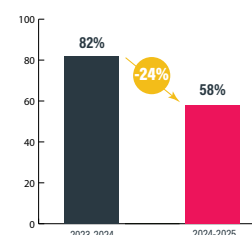
SPECTACULAR SCENERY AND HEALTHY ENVIRONMENT	
INDICATOR	RESULT
Biodiversity across the region is protected	✓
Natural environment and rural landscapes are enhanced as a result of planned actions	★
Outcomes are enhanced by productive partnerships and knowledge sharing	★
Council's assets provide appropriate and sustainable levels of service	✓
Water resilience across the region is increased	★
Increased community awareness of drought and natural disaster mitigation enhances resilience	★



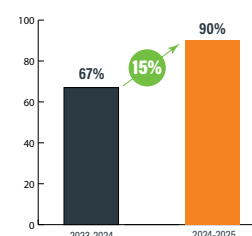
SUSTAINABLE AND PROSPEROUS ECONOMY	
INDICATOR	RESULT
Increased community awareness of drought and natural disaster mitigation enhances resilience	★
Investment in the region grows	✓
Creation of valued employment for local residents is supported	✓
Council continues to focus on 'buying local'	✓



RELAXED LIVING AND RURAL LIFESTYLE	
INDICATOR	RESULT
Advocacy and innovative partnerships enable the delivery of economic, social and environmental priorities across the region	✓
Legislation and regional planning instruments facilitate Scenic Rim's strategic framework for growth	✓
Growth in the region is supported by a clear and evidence-based planning vision	✗
Mobile and data services connectivity across the region is enhanced	✗



VIBRANT AND ACTIVE TOWNS AND VILLAGES	
INDICATOR	RESULT
Our parks, playgrounds and open spaces are popular and utilised by our diverse communities and visitors	★
The Scenic Rim's heritage is reflected in our planning guidelines, infrastructure design, public art and community events	★
The community is supported to deliver, or participate in, programs and activities that drive the vibrancy of our towns	★
Our streetscapes enhance the attractiveness of our unique towns and villages to residents and visitors	★

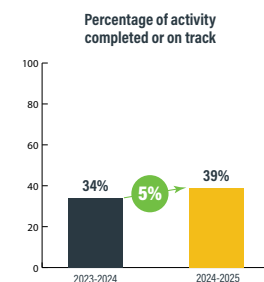


Our progress

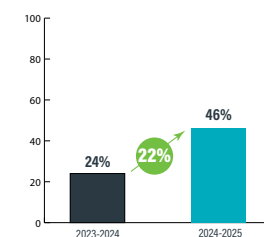
This scorecard provides a high-level view of Scenic Rim Regional Council's performance during 2024-2025, and indicates that, while there is room for improvement, Council made significant progress overall towards realising the

goals articulated in its Statements of Intent and enabling a sustainable future for our unique communities and rich environments.

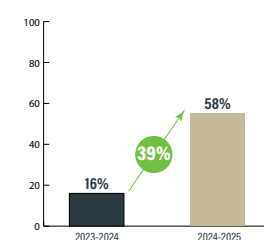
HEALTHY, ENGAGED AND RESOURCEFUL COMMUNITIES	
INDICATOR	RESULT
Existing, new and returning residents are motivated to participate in the community, resulting in strong and inclusive social networks and increased resilience	★
The inaugural Scenic Rim Reconciliation Action Plan is evidenced by action	✓
The community has access to a broad range of resources that drive increased community capability and resilience	★
The community has access to recreational infrastructure and opportunities that enable improved health and wellbeing	★
Productive discussions with government and agency partners facilitate the community's access to required human and social services	★



OPEN AND RESPONSIVE GOVERNMENT	
INDICATOR	RESULT
Council has the systems and digital capability to improve customer experience	✓
Council has ethical and transparent governance	★
Community sentiment regarding Council and its services is improved.	★
Council's advocacy enables the delivery of economic, social and environmental priorities across the region	✓
Clear and relevant information is delivered proactively and in a timely manner	★
Council's practice is consistent, accurate, open and honest	✓
Relationships with customers are improved	★
Ongoing integrity of Council's practice and processes	★



ACCESSIBLE AND SERVICED REGION	
INDICATOR	RESULT
Community has access to readily available information regarding Council's full suite of services, including defined service standards and cost to serve	★
Council-controlled community facilities and sporting infrastructure meet the identified needs of the community	✓
Sustainable asset lifecycle is assured through integration of asset planning and financial forecasting	✓
Council's advocacy enables the delivery of economic, social and environmental priorities across the region	✓
Total volume of waste disposed to landfill has decreased, resulting in value stream creation	✓



LEGEND

- ★ Fully Achieved
- ✓ Substantially Achieved
- ✓ Partially Achieved
- ✗ Not Achieved

MAYOR'S MESSAGE

It is my pleasure to introduce Scenic Rim Regional Council's 2024-2025 Annual Report documenting our progress in providing the services and infrastructure for our growing region, in line with our commitment to achieving value for money for our community in a challenging economic environment.

Community consultation was a major focus for Council throughout the year, as we sought feedback on projects and programs that will help shape the future of our region, and community events such as Eat Local Month, Anzac Day and the citizenship ceremonies conducted by Council throughout the year brought us together in celebrations of national pride.

I am grateful to everyone who contributed to the development of the 2025-2026 Budget and associated Capital Works Program, either through community consultation sessions at Boonah, Beaudesert and Tamborine Mountain or Council's online platform, Let's Talk Scenic Rim.

In addition to helping to fine tune Council's financial settings for the coming year, feedback from Scenic Rim residents and business owners was invaluable in developing the *Corporate Plan 2025-2030*, which captures the strategic priorities of Council and the aspirations of our community, providing lucidity of vision for our region for the next five years.

In our most successful community consultation to date, some 411 responses were received from Scenic Rim residents and business owners regarding the *Draft Economic Development Strategy 2026-2030*. Providing a roadmap for future growth, the strategy builds on the region's current economic strengths, which include a Gross Regional Product of \$2.4 billion and almost 5,000 local businesses.

With targeted actions to drive sustainable growth, support local businesses, attract investment and enhance the region's liveability and visitor appeal, it will set a clear direction for the region's growth, sustainability and prosperity through to 2030.

Community consultation on the Beaudesert Pig and Calf Saleyards showed support for their adaptive reuse as a place for community gathering while acknowledging their agricultural history. Council will continue to explore concept plans incorporating minor infrastructure improvements to enhance both Davidson Park and the Beaudesert Town Centre while maintaining the character of the site.



Hundreds of members of the community shared their experiences of walking, cycling, the local road network and the region's transport connections during the first stage of Council's consultation on the Integrated Transport Plan.

As well as helping to identify the region's future infrastructure needs, the Integrated Transport Plan will take account of road safety, local road networks in our key towns and villages, freight networks which are vital for industry, and the community's desired standards of service.

Council's \$4.3 million program of road reseals began rolling out in early March 2025 at 59 locations across the Scenic Rim. More than 80 kilometres of works were carried out in line with Council's commitment to the continuous improvement and renewal of the local road network as part of the \$37 million capital works program for 2024-2025.

Quality infrastructure is vital for the Scenic Rim, whose local economy is underpinned by tourism and agriculture, and Council is continuing to invest heavily in improving transport networks which deliver value for money to local communities and visitors to the region.

As a capable host venue for the Brisbane 2032 Olympic and Paralympic rowing events, Lake Wyaralong has the potential to create lasting tourism and economic legacies. The required estimated \$100 million for road, energy, waste and telecommunications infrastructure upgrades is significantly less than for other Queensland locations proposed for these events.

Council will continue to advocate to other levels of government for funding for a range of services and infrastructure to reduce, as much as possible, the financial burden on ratepayers while keeping the region moving forward.

CR TOM SHARP
MAYOR

CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER'S MESSAGE

The 2024-2025 year was another challenging time for Council and the community with Tropical Cyclone Alfred in March adding to the damage bill from the natural disasters of early 2024.

On behalf of Council, I would also like to thank the Queensland and Australian Governments for the funding assistance provided to our community to help restore our infrastructure and support our residents in the recovery process. Recent natural disasters have highlighted the vulnerability of our region's telecommunications systems and Council will continue to advocate for reliable telecommunications and internet connectivity as detailed in the Advocacy Statements endorsed by Council in February 2025.

This document provides the foundation for Council's advocacy for improved transport connectivity, community amenity and ongoing financial sustainability to support the services and infrastructure needed for a region whose population is estimated to grow to 67,000 by 2041.

To plan for this growth, Council has met with each of the residential developers in the region to better understand the timing of their developments and the infrastructure requirements. It should be noted that their growth forecasts indicate that the region is growing more rapidly than anticipated. It is also likely there will be more pressure on local government to deliver infrastructure to meet the needs of new communities.

Council officers are continuing to work closely with the Office of the Coordinator General in regard to the Bromelton State Development Area. Over the past eight months there has been increased interest from employment generating businesses, which is great. These industries include waste management, manufacturing and composting as well as transportation and logistics. Council officers will continue to work with these businesses to create local employment opportunities and leverage investment into the region.

The adoption of Council's *Corporate Plan 2025-2030* has provided a new strategic direction for Council's delivery of services, strategies, programs and facilities in line with community priorities and a commitment to continuous improvement and achieving value for money for our ratepayers.

Across the organisation, significant progress was made in both these areas during 2024-2025.



Council continues to embrace digital modernisation, with AI offering many opportunities to improve service delivery and better inform our community, although it may also present some challenges, especially in the way staff work.

Rising costs and labour shortages have continued to impact many councils across Queensland and Scenic Rim has been no exception.

A particular challenge has been the attraction and retention of suitably qualified and skilled staff, and Council has developed a range of incentives to attract new employees and retain experienced members of our workforce.

To this end, Council has also introduced initiatives to support employees' wellbeing and job satisfaction, recognising that the most resilient and innovative organisations prioritise the empowerment of staff and promote a positive workplace culture.

Additionally, Council will continue to employ trainees and apprentices and, where possible, aim to keep these staff on board at the conclusion of their placement.

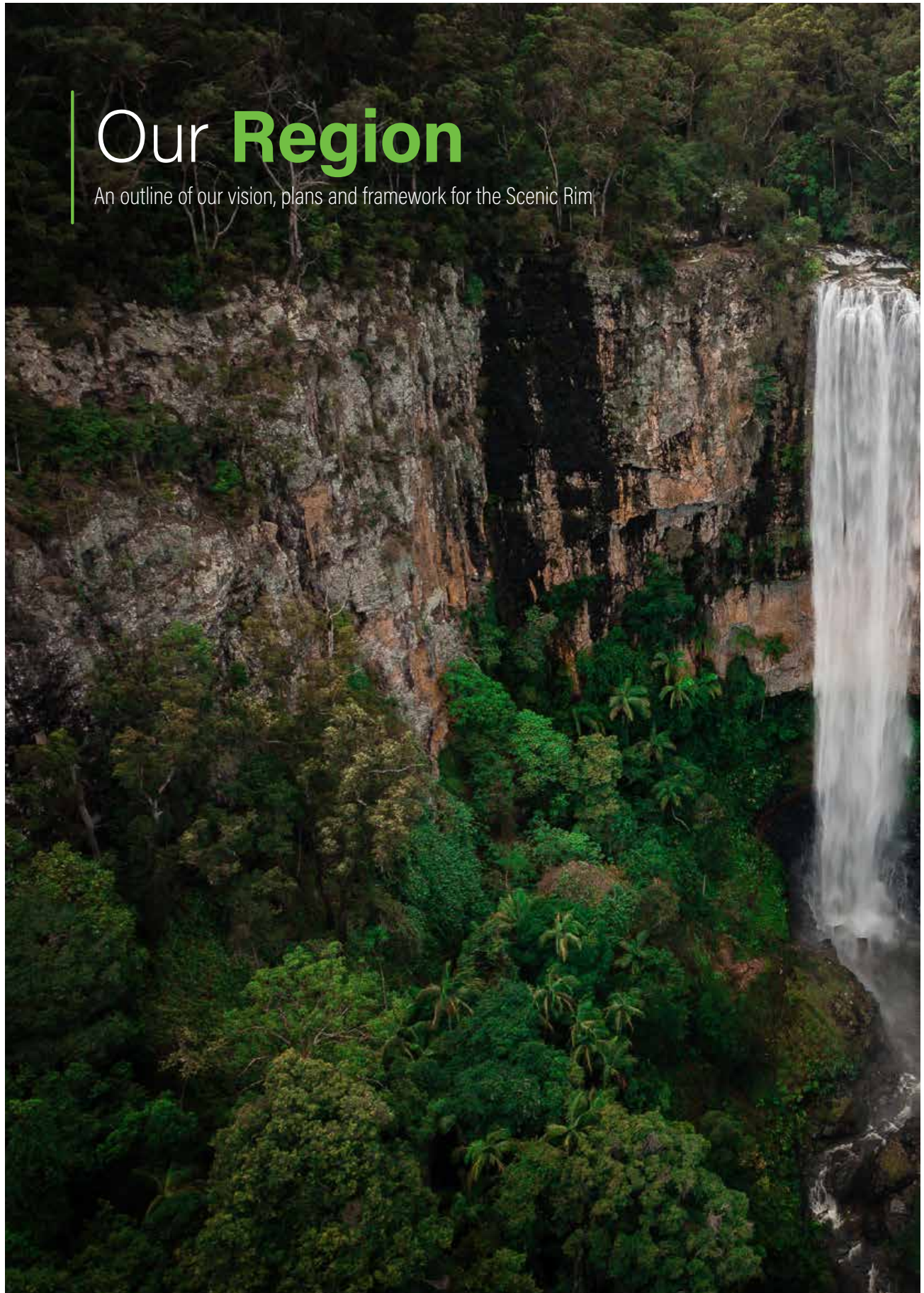
I am very grateful for the contribution of staff across the organisation who are proud to serve their community and have embraced the Corporate Values of Service, Resilience, Respect and Commitment.

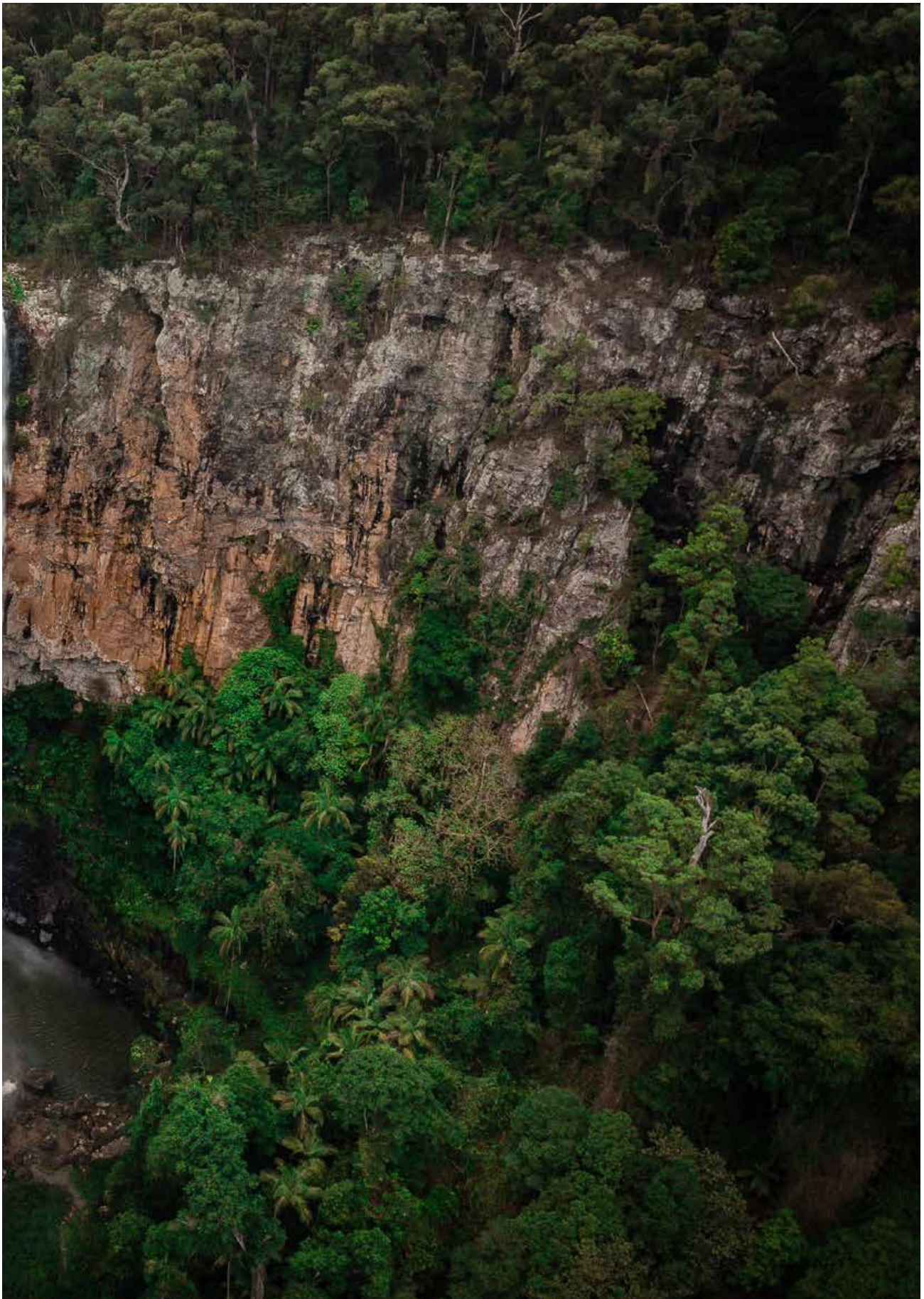
As 2024-2025 came to a close, a new organisational structure was being developed to create an environment of courageous leadership, collaboration at scale, and a future-focused approach that brings ideas to life and meets the needs and expectations of the Scenic Rim.

DAVID KEENAN
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

Our **Region**

An outline of our vision, plans and framework for the Scenic Rim





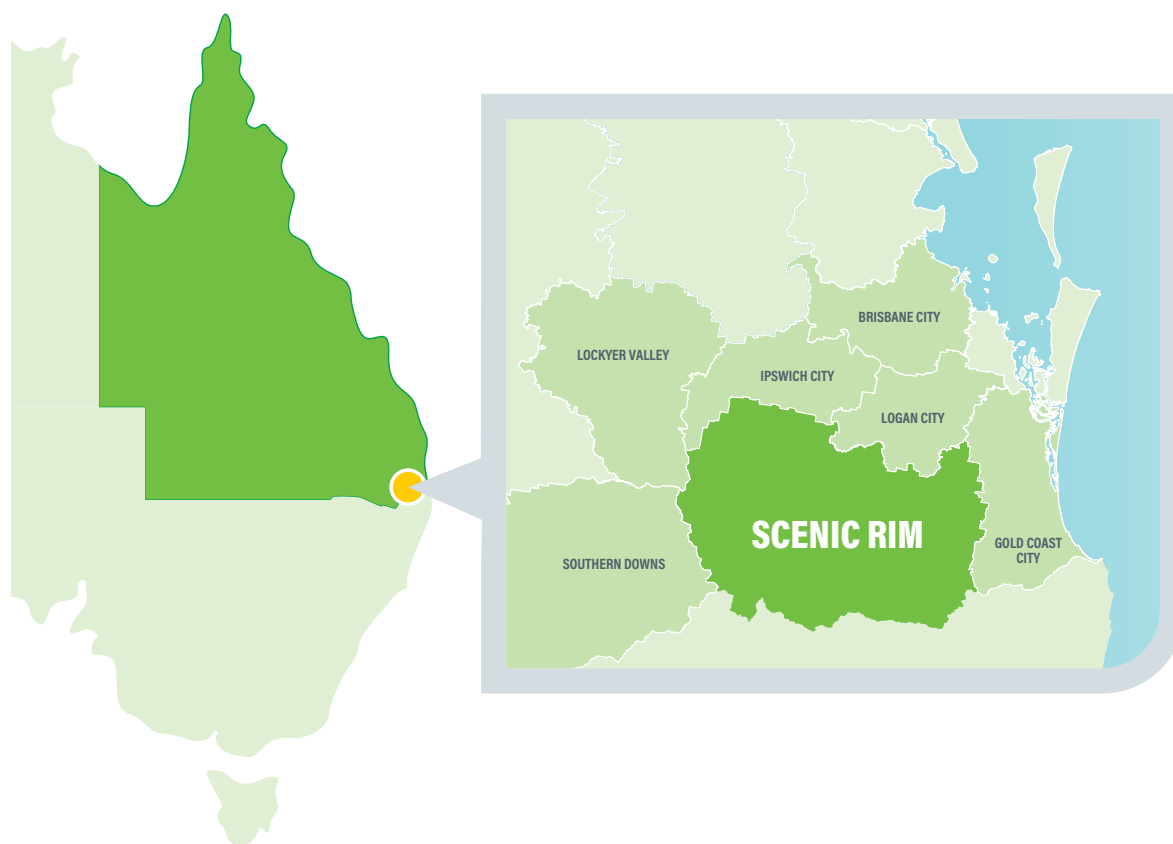
Our Scenic Rim

The region's chain of mountains, plateaus and peaks that extend from the coastal hinterland in the east to the Great Dividing Range in the west was first described as the Scenic Rim by author and naturalist Arthur Groom, who co-founded Binna Burra Lodge in 1933. The local government area which was formed during the Queensland Government's council amalgamations of 2008 encompasses many of these features and was subsequently named Scenic Rim Regional Council.

The Scenic Rim region covers an area of 4,249 km² within South East Queensland. Its 30,000 hectares of parkland include national parks and Council-controlled parks.

Known for its breathtaking scenery, the Scenic Rim region offers visitors plenty to see and do, from farm gate experiences to cultural events. From its myriad wineries and art galleries to expansive bushwalking tracks and state-of-the-art equine facilities, the Scenic Rim is recognised internationally as a leading visitor destination. Its welcoming rural communities include the unique towns and villages of Beaudesert, Boonah, Tamborine Mountain, Kooralbyn, Beechmont, Kalbar, Aratula, Canungra, Rathdowney, Harrisville and Peak Crossing which are experiencing steady population growth.

Home to a vibrant arts community, the Scenic Rim has a strong community spirit and a thriving economy supported by its key industries of tourism/ecotourism and agriculture.



Our community

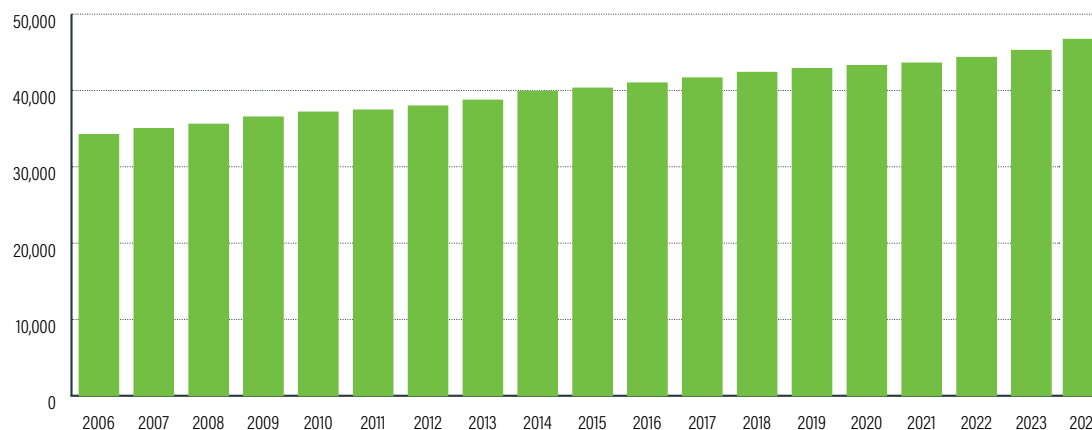
The Scenic Rim has a strong tradition of welcoming people from all backgrounds, with new citizens from more than 55 countries choosing to settle in the region since 2018. Some 15 per cent of Scenic Rim residents were born overseas, with many coming from the United Kingdom and New Zealand.

The largest non-English speaking country of birth for Scenic Rim residents was Germany. Understanding how our community is growing and changing will help Council's decisions guiding its service delivery.

As at June 2024, the Scenic Rim's population was estimated at 46,036, an increase of 2,444 since the 2021 Census. Australian Bureau of Statistics data from 30 June 2023 showed 23.6 per cent of the population was aged from birth to 19 years compared with 30.9 per cent at 60 years of age, indicating a lower proportion of children (under 18) and a significantly higher proportion of adults aged 60 or more than in other areas of Queensland.

Of particular note for Council from the most recent Census statistics was the increase of 6.8 per cent in the number of people in the Scenic Rim region who reported needing help in their day-to-day lives due to disability.

Estimated Resident Population (ERP)



Source: Australian Bureau of Statistics, Regional Population Growth

Our Services

Council's core function is the provision of services to the Scenic Rim community.

In addition to meeting current needs, Council is also working hard to plan ahead for future service delivery to the community with a focus on driving out waste, improving productivity and increasing efficiency.

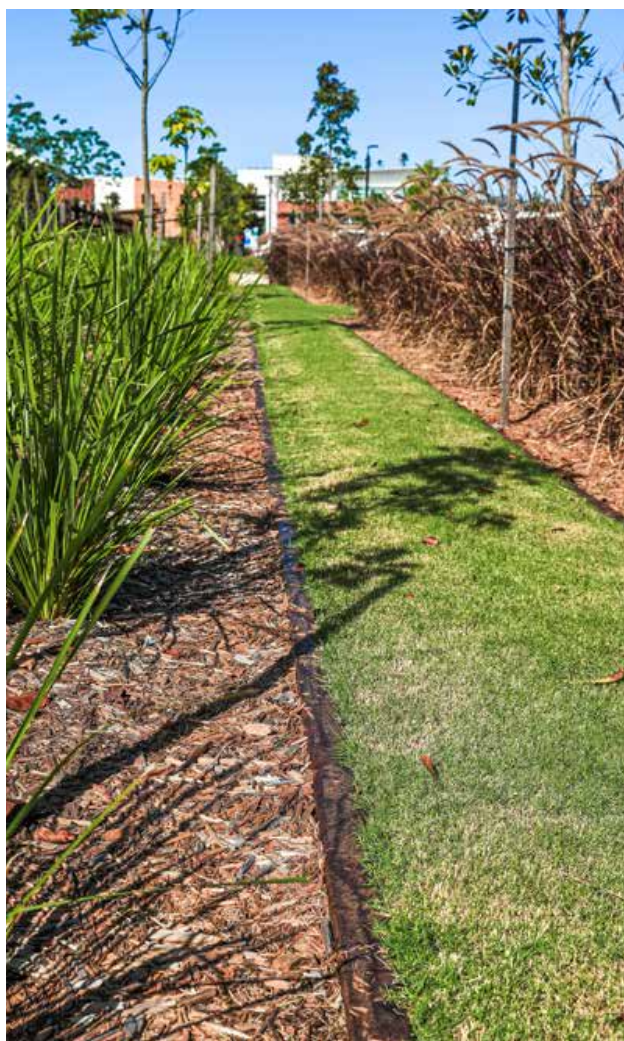
Work on the Service Planning Phase Two project was completed, and the improvements to Council's service planning outcomes, and levels of service will be integrated into the quarterly service delivery reporting during the coming year.

Service delivery at a local government level presents significant challenges, particularly in terms of community expectations and advances in technology. Council faces mounting pressure to adapt and overhaul its service delivery models to mirror those of the private sector, balanced against the community's capacity to pay, and the competing needs of the local environment, economy and community.

Increasing cost of living pressures have not only impacted residents and local businesses but also Council's operations. Fuel, energy, materials, plant purchases, the engagement of contractors and upgrades to information technology have all increased in cost, requiring Council to continue to seek ways to absorb or at least lessen the financial impost on ratepayers.

While meeting these challenges, Council continued to deliver a broad range of services to the community during 2024-2025. These services related to:

- Biodiversity and Climate Change
- Landscape Maintenance
- Campgrounds
- Plant Maintenance
- Cemeteries
- Property Management
- Community Development
- Regional Events
- Cultural Services
- Regulatory Services
- Customer Service and Community Engagement
- Roads and Traffic
- Design and Survey
- Strategic Infrastructure Planning and Delivery
- Development Services
- Strategic Planning
- Disaster Management
- Swimming Pools
- Economic Development
- Waste Management
- Library Services, and
- Waste Services.



14 | Scenic Rim Regional Council



Yarning Circle, Davidson Park, Beaudesert

Our Strategic Framework

Our regional vision

The *Scenic Rim Community Plan 2011–2026* provides the shared vision for our region's future as a network of unique rural communities embedded in a productive and sustainable landscape. This vision includes a high-quality rural lifestyle in self-reliant communities offering a choice of quality local food, products, services and recreation opportunities.

Our residents will have affordable transport options and ready access to the broader South East Queensland region. Our community will support sustainable farms, businesses and industries that are compatible with our environment and lifestyle and provide rewarding employment and prosperity for residents.

Residents will benefit from the region's productive farmland, stunning natural environment and character-filled towns and villages, which attract tourists and visitors and provide ecosystem services for the broader South East Queensland community.

The Community Plan also envisions the Scenic Rim as an inclusive, caring and creative environment whose residents are healthy and active, and a happy, safe and nurturing environment for children and families. Council is committed to planning and managing our communities for future generations of Scenic Rim residents.

Scenic Rim Community Plan 2011–2026

The *Scenic Rim Community Plan 2011–2026* articulates the vision shared by Council and the community, providing the foundation for long-term plans for the future of the Scenic Rim region. It acknowledges the region's heritage, defines its identity, and highlights the challenges it will face in the future.

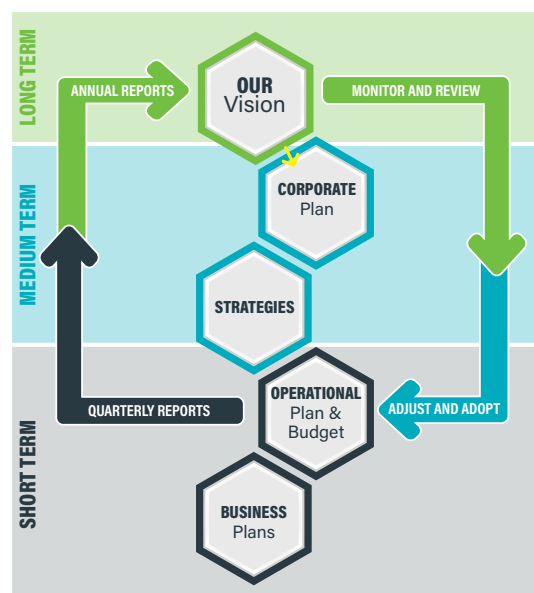
Developed in consultation with the community, the Community Plan provides the overarching framework for our operations through seven pillars (our themes), which are supported by the delivery of services and strategic activity through the five-year life of the Corporate Plan (*Scenic Rim 2026*) and annual Operational Plan.

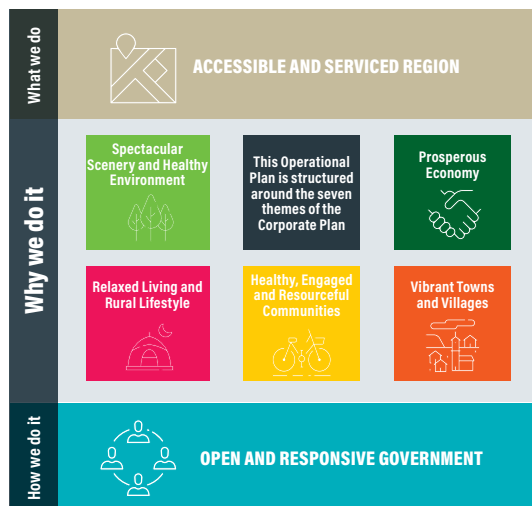
Corporate Plan 2021–2026 (Scenic Rim 2026)

In June 2021, Council adopted its *Corporate Plan – Scenic Rim 2026*, which reflects the strategic direction for the organisation and supports delivery of the aspirational vision set out in the *Community Plan 2011–2026*. Positioned between the Community Plan and Council's annual Operational Plan, *Scenic Rim 2026* informs operational priorities for the region's growth and development, from 2021 to 2026. The Corporate Plan establishes the key initiatives guiding the direction of Council's Operational Plan.

Our Corporate Plan provides clear direction for the organisation to ensure Council's strategic focus areas are aligned to the community's aspirational vision for the region. It informs decisions about operational priorities and allocation of resources.

It comprises seven key themes, each with areas of focus that describe where our efforts will be concentrated. As shown in the diagram overleaf, Accessible and Serviced Region provides direction on how we will meet community expectations by outlining our actions, while the five themes in the centre of the diagram (refer page 17) describe the impacts of those efforts and their rationale. The final theme of the Corporate plan, Open and Responsive Government, is Council's commitment to ensuring that everything we do is delivered in accordance with good governance principles and excellence in business practices.





This Annual Report provides an objective assessment of Council's progress towards meeting its strategic objectives, beginning with our performance scorecard (see pp. 6-7). This illustrates the progress that Council has made during the year in achieving the strategic objectives of our Corporate Plan and, ultimately, realising Council's vision for the region.

Council has developed a new Corporate Plan to meet the needs of the Scenic Rim community until 2030.

Council adopted its new *Corporate Plan 2025 - 2030* on 25 June 2025, which provides clear direction and measurable outcomes that will inform Council decisions about services, infrastructure, budgets and activities over the next five years. Community input was significant in the development of the plan, which replaces both the existing Corporate Plan, *Scenic Rim 2026*, and the *Community Plan 2011-2026*.



Operational Plan 2024-2025

The *Operational Plan 2024-2025* provided the framework for the delivery of Council's goals and objectives, as defined in the *Corporate Plan 2021-2026*.

It included a broad range of deliverables across the seven themes of Council's Corporate Plan. The progress of these deliverables was monitored by Council through detailed quarterly progress reports, which included measures against key performance indicators and highlights of key achievements and outcomes.

This Annual Report includes a summary of progress of individual activities and assesses how these activities contributed to progressing our overall strategic objectives and our vision.

SERVICE PLANS

Council is committed to the efficient and seamless delivery of a wide range of services to the Scenic Rim community. These include essential infrastructure such as roads and parks, robust waste management solutions, and engaging cultural programs offered through libraries and events.

Additionally, Council actively fosters a supportive environment for local businesses, recognising their vital role in our region's economic future. Whether it is our well-maintained parks and gardens, our sporting facilities or our disaster management planning, all Council's services are provided for the direct benefit of the Scenic Rim community.

This Annual Report also provides an assessment of the key role played by Council's services in the organisation's progress during the year.

LONG-TERM STRATEGIC PLANS

Council has established a comprehensive suite of strategies and plans for the provision of services to the community. Where appropriate, these are supported by policies and the delegation of statutory powers to the Chief Executive Officer.

Council reviews its policies in accordance with the Policy Framework with delegations reviewed annually.

Celebrating our Past

The Scenic Rim has a rich heritage which is celebrated in storyboards across the region.

The agricultural potential of what we now know as the Scenic Rim was first recognised in the 1820s by explorers Allan Cunningham and Patrick Logan for whom the Logan and Albert River systems were named.

When the penal colony of Moreton Bay closed in 1842, and the district opened to free settlement, the great pastoral runs were established in the fertile valleys of the Scenic Rim.

Soon after the establishment in 1859 of Queensland as a separate colony to New South Wales, the development of agriculture was a priority for the government.

As leases expired on pastoral runs, the land was made available for selectors and, by the 1880s, small-scale farming was the dominant land use.

A portion of what had been the Beaudesert Station was sold and subdivided into smaller allotments that went to auction in 1874 - an event celebrated as the town's beginning. In 2024, 150 years later, the town marked its sesquicentenary.

Boonah's history is also linked to a pastoral run, Dugandan, one of Queensland's earliest holdings, dating back to 1844. Although the area was first stocked with sheep, it was soon recognised as being better suited to cattle and the Scenic Rim has become renowned for the quality of its beef and dairy herds.

Originally known as Blumbergville, after storeowners the Blumberg Brothers, Boonah - believed to have been derived from an Aboriginal word for a native tree, either a bloodwood or acacia - was named in 1887 with the opening of the town's railway station.

Tamborine Mountain takes its name from the Aboriginal word meaning 'yam in a cliff' and was first home to the Wangerriburra people from Tamborine who came to the mountain for its abundance of foods including snake, goanna, wallaby, pademelon, scrub turkey, wild plum, finger lime and yam.

The first European settlers came in 1875 searching the rainforest for timbers such as cedar, white beech and rosewood followed by bollygum, hoop pine, crows ash and other hardwoods.

The importance of preserving the region's natural heritage was recognised with the establishment in 1908 of Tamborine Mountain's Witches Falls National Park - the first national park in Queensland.

The timber industry was also integral to the development of Canungra, with the now heritage-listed sawmill, which was established by the Lahey family in 1884, running until the 1930s and employing, at its peak, more than 100 men.



Wiss Brothers Emporium, Kalbar
Item held by John Oxley Library, State Library of Queensland, Public Domain

Looking to the Future

The role of local government goes beyond the day-to-day delivery of services - it also encompasses activities that address current and emerging risks. In addition to meeting the challenge of providing essential services to the community, councils must take into account a broader and longer-term strategic risk landscape. While many of these risks present challenges for Scenic Rim Regional Council, they also provide opportunities for an organisation able to adapt to changing circumstances.

Current risks to Council's ability to deliver basic services include skills shortages and long-term vacancies in key roles, cybersecurity and data security, as well as the management and maintenance of assets.

Emerging risks for the Scenic Rim include climate change, and the level of projected population growth in the region. While these risks are not unique to the Scenic Rim, their impacts on our region will differ from those in other local government areas, requiring a tailored approach in their assessment and management.

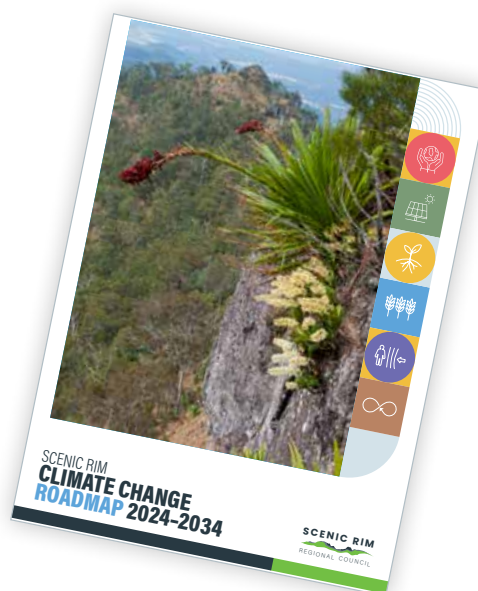
Skills shortages and long-term vacancies in key positions affect all councils and Scenic Rim has not been immune to the impacts of current labour market forces. Council is currently developing a strategy, not only to attract but also to retain skilled employees. Key advantages for Council are our region's relatively affordable housing compared with major metropolitan areas, and the Scenic Rim's enviable rural lifestyle.

Alongside our *Smart Region Strategy*, Council's *Information and Communication Technology Strategy* was approved in late 2024 to guide Council in the best way to leverage emerging technologies, providing greater efficiencies for Council operations and improved pathways to connect with our community. Improved and more robust incident response plans are also needed as, along with opportunities, technology brings greater threats in the form of cyber-attacks, a risk Council continues to manage. Emerging technologies such as artificial intelligence, 5G networks, quantum computing and cloud-based operations offer a range of benefits for our regional economy including greater opportunities for remote working and learning and the potential for hosting a regional data centre.

Climate change impacts in many ways on our region. In recent years, the Scenic Rim has experienced an increase in extreme weather events impacting regional infrastructure and creating additional burdens on Council's ability to maintain our assets. In the longer term, Council's heavy reliance on climate-dependent industries, such as agriculture, represent a risk that must be considered.

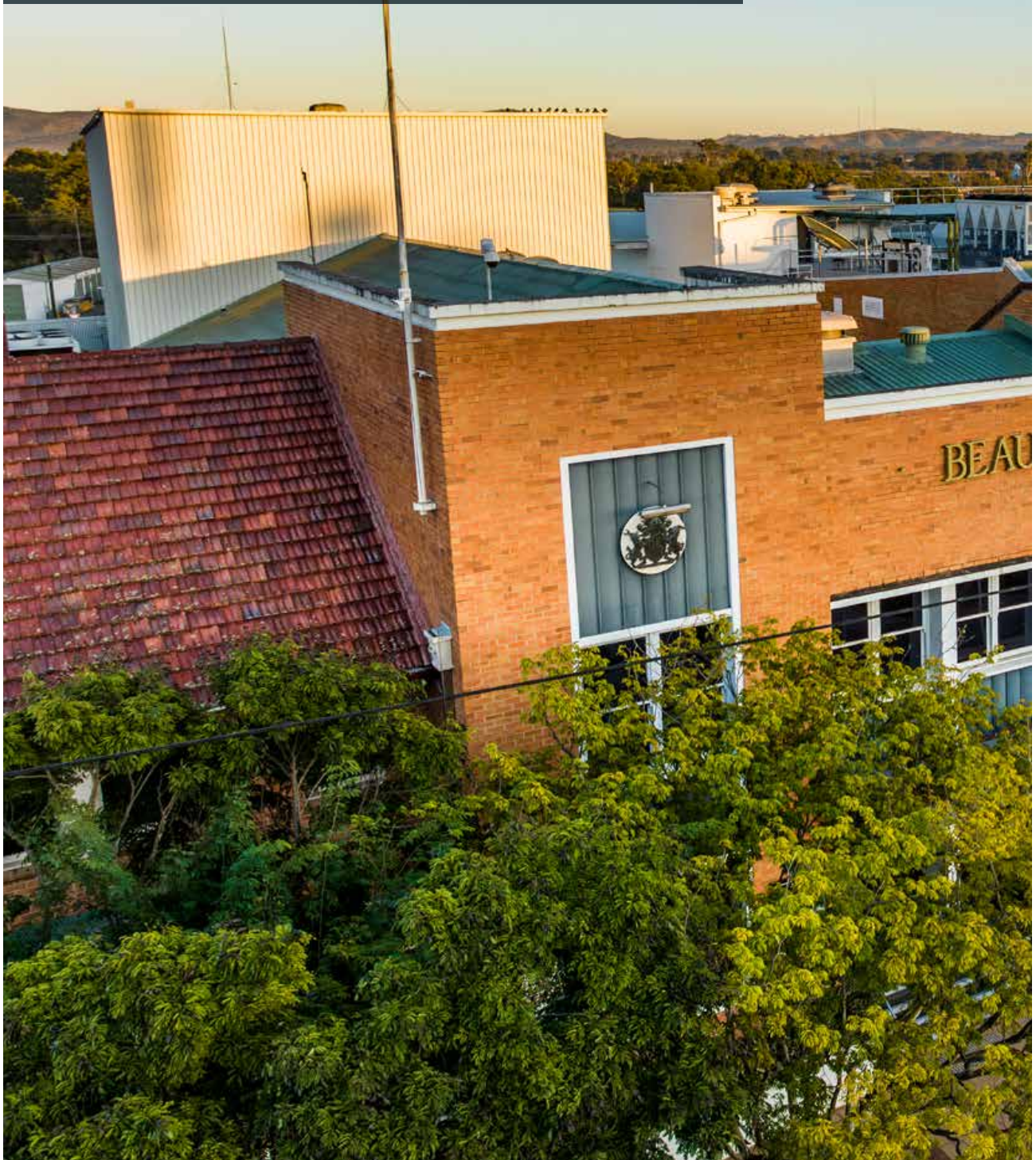
Council is working to diversify the region's economic base by embracing the Bromelton State Development Area, providing greenfield land in South East Queensland suitable for medium to large-scale industrial activities. Council's *Climate Change Roadmap*, *Action Plan* and *Biodiversity Strategy* outline a range of activities from internal operational changes to revegetation and ecosystem restoration on Council-owned and controlled land. Council is committed to ensuring the Scenic Rim's significant progress towards net zero emissions and improving its resilience to climate change impacts.

Council's long-term planning documents are refreshed regularly to capitalise on the opportunities and challenges presented by current and emerging risks continue to be analysed and amended as necessary.



Our Council

This chapter provides a profile of the Scenic Rim Regional Council, Divisional Councillors and our Executive Leadership Team





Council's Beadesert Administration Centre

Our Councillors



MAYOR

Cr Tom Sharp

Mayor Tom Sharp was born in Beaudesert and raised on his family's dairy farm at Beechmont. After secondary school he studied finance at the Securities Institute of Australia and began his career with Paul Morgan & Co Stockbrokers in Brisbane. In 1987, Cr Sharp relocated to Sydney and in 1989 moved into funds management with BZW Investment Management. During this time he became a foundation member of Sydney's Gypsy Cricket Club and a foundation director of the Sydney Harlequins Rugby Union Football Club, a director of The Rugby Club and served as Junior Vice President of The Gallipoli Club, of which he is now a Life Member.

Cr Sharp accepted a position with Cazenove Stockbrokers in 1998, responsible for Australian sales into Asian markets with a focus on Hong Kong, Singapore and Tokyo. That year he also acquired a small acreage at Beechmont outside of family interests and invested in developing a citrus orchard. Having branched out into the corporate world on his own in 2008, raising funds for development projects, Cr Sharp was employed in 2018 by NASDAQ-listed US company The Metals Co for which he continues to work as a consultant.

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DIVISION 1

Cr Amanda Hay

Parks Gardens and Open Spaces portfolio

Cr Amanda Hay came to Council in April 2023 following a by-election and was returned to represent Division 1 at the 2024 local government elections. At the first meeting of the 2024-2028 Council term, Cr Hay was appointed as a representative on Council's Audit and Risk Committee. She is currently a member of the Queensland Government's Animal Management Task Force.

Cr Hay has wide-ranging experience in both the private and public sectors and, originally from the semi-rural area of Wagga Wagga in New South Wales, has enjoyed a varied career that has taken her to Canberra, Papua New Guinea, Logan and Tamborine Mountain, where she now resides with her partner, Stuart. As a civilian, Cr Hay served as paymaster for the Department of Defence in Canberra and Port Moresby and has held a credit management role in the wholesale grocery and hardware sector in Brisbane. She also filled officer advisory and audit roles with the Australian Taxation Office, recruitment roles with the Commonwealth Employment Service and later Employment National, before moving into compliance and investigation activities with the Department of Human Services.

During her career, Cr Hay prepared briefs of evidence for prosecutions by the Commonwealth Director of Public Prosecutions. Accredited by Logan TAFE, Cr Hay worked as a volunteer tutor in English as a Second Language and has a Graduate Certificate of Case Management and Client Service. She has been heavily involved in community activities, firstly in Logan and, since 2009, on Tamborine Mountain where she has assisted ratepayers with land valuation objections and with submissions relating to development applications. Cr Hay's interests include horticulture and preserving the natural environment and she has served as a member or committee member of several Tamborine Mountain community organisations.

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DIVISION 2

Cr Kerri Cryer

Community Arts and Culture portfolio

Cr Kerri Cryer has enjoyed a career of more than three decades in the field of graphic and web design and marketing and, since 2019, has published two local community focused newspapers, one based in the Scenic Rim. She completed a Bachelor of Business, with Distinction, from Griffith University, earning membership into the Golden Key International Honour Society, and has been closely connected with her local community for almost 30 years through volunteer roles in community groups and her work in media and marketing.

Cr Cryer has served the local community in key secretarial and media roles promoting the Tamborine & Districts Citizens Association Inc, the Tamborine Memorial Hall Management Association, the Tamborine Cenotaph Committee, and the Tamborine Car Show Committee. She is also a foundation member of the new CWA Tamborine branch. Key issues for Cr Cryer are that of acknowledging residents and their environment, including protection of wildlife, maintaining the Scenic Rim lifestyle for families and positive connectivity through local community groups and activities, while supporting local business and commercial enterprise.

Married with two adult children, Cr Cryer was elected to represent Division 2 at the 2024 local government elections. She sees her role as a Councillor as an extension of her unwavering dedicated service to the Tamborine community and is committed to working for the benefit of the Scenic Rim region as a whole.

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DIVISION 3

Cr Stephen Moriarty

Sport and Recreation portfolio

Elected unopposed at the 2024 local government elections, Cr Stephen (Steve) Moriarty is committed to working as part of a united council that puts the needs of ratepayers at the forefront of decision making.

At the first meeting of the 2024-2028 Council term, Cr Moriarty was appointed Chair of the Local Disaster Management Group. He is a member of the Canungra Rural Fire Brigade, a long-standing volunteer and current Stud Beef Cattle steward at the Canungra Show, and Chairman of the Scenic Rim Uniting Church Council.

Born and raised in Canungra, Cr Moriarty has worked as a teacher in the Scenic Rim for the past 20 years at Beaudesert State High School, Canungra State School and McAuley College. He has taken unpaid leave from his teaching position to dedicate his time and energy to the role of Councillor.

Cr Moriarty also grazes cattle on the family property at Sarabah. He is committed to open and honest government, transparency in decision making, improving efficiency and reducing waste, maximising outcomes for residents and ratepayers, the upgrade of local roads and bridges to improve safety and cater for the region's growth and development, and the provision of sporting and recreation facilities for local youth.

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DIVISION 4

Cr Jennifer Sanders

Tourism and Regional Events portfolio

Re-elected to Council in 2024, Cr Jennifer Sanders previously served as Division 4 Councillor from 2012 to 2016, during which time she was Chair of Council's Planning and Development Committee. At the first meeting of the 2024-2028 Council term, Cr Sanders was appointed as a representative on Council's Audit and Risk Committee.

She had previously worked as a Council officer for both Beaudesert Shire Council and Logan City Council and, in addition to her local government experience, has a professional background that includes wide-ranging private and public sector roles. With experience in risk, governance and finance, Cr Sanders was a member representative Director for four-and-a-half years of Brighter Super, with \$29 billion of superannuation funds under management, and served for a year on its Audit and Risk and Finance Committees.

She has also worked from home as a claims manager for an insurance company assisting householders with home flood claims. A Justice of the Peace (Qualified) Cr Sanders has served as the President and Chair of the board of Beaucare, a community health and welfare organisation. Cr Sanders has a Bachelor of Australian Studies, a Graduate Certificate in Development Processing, and Diplomas in Local Government and Project Management.

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DIVISION 5

Cr Marshall Chalk

Biodiversity and Agribusiness portfolio

Cr Marshall Chalk is the sixth generation of his family born and raised in the Scenic Rim. A fourth-generation farmer, he runs a beef cattle business on his property at Carney's Creek, south of Boonah, with his wife Samantha and their three sons.

Cr Chalk was first elected to Scenic Rim Regional Council in 2020 and re-elected to represent Division 5 in 2024.

At the first meeting of the 2024-2028 Council term he was appointed Proxy to Council's Audit and Risk Committee. Having attended Mount Alford State School and Boonah State High School, Cr Chalk worked on the family farm after completing Year 12 before following his passion to play rugby league. His football career began with the Fassifern Bombers and the Ipswich Jets before he relocated to Canberra to play professional rugby league for the Canberra Raiders.

After playing in the United Kingdom for the Celtic Crusaders in the English Super League, Cr Chalk returned to work the family farm in 2010. Since then, he has been actively involved in the local community and is currently the First Officer and Deputy Fire Warden in Croftby Carneys Creek Fire Brigade. Still a keen sportsman, Cr Chalk enjoys having a hit of cricket with the Fassifern Bushrangers or playing a round of golf at the Boonah Golf Club.

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DIVISION 6

Cr Duncan McInnes OAM

Transport and Infrastructure portfolio

Scenic Rim Regional Council's longest-serving Councillor, Duncan McInnes OAM was first elected to represent Division 6 in 2012. At the first meeting of the 2024-2028 Council term he was appointed Deputy Mayor - a position he held previously in 2019 - for the next four years. He was also appointed Deputy Chair of the Local Disaster Management Group.

Born and raised at Radford, Cr McInnes is involved in a number of family farming enterprises in the western area of the Scenic Rim. He has spent more than 30 years within the wider dairying community, having served as a director at local, state and national levels and has represented his industry internationally. He is also a Commissioner For Declarations. Cr McInnes currently holds positions with:

- Regional Development Australia Ipswich and West Moreton - Director
- Darling Downs Moreton Rabbit Board - Chairman
- Harrisville School of Arts Committee - Treasurer
- Harrisville Cemetery - Trustee, and
- The Royal National Agricultural and Industrial Association of Queensland - Honorary Councillor.

He is also a member of:

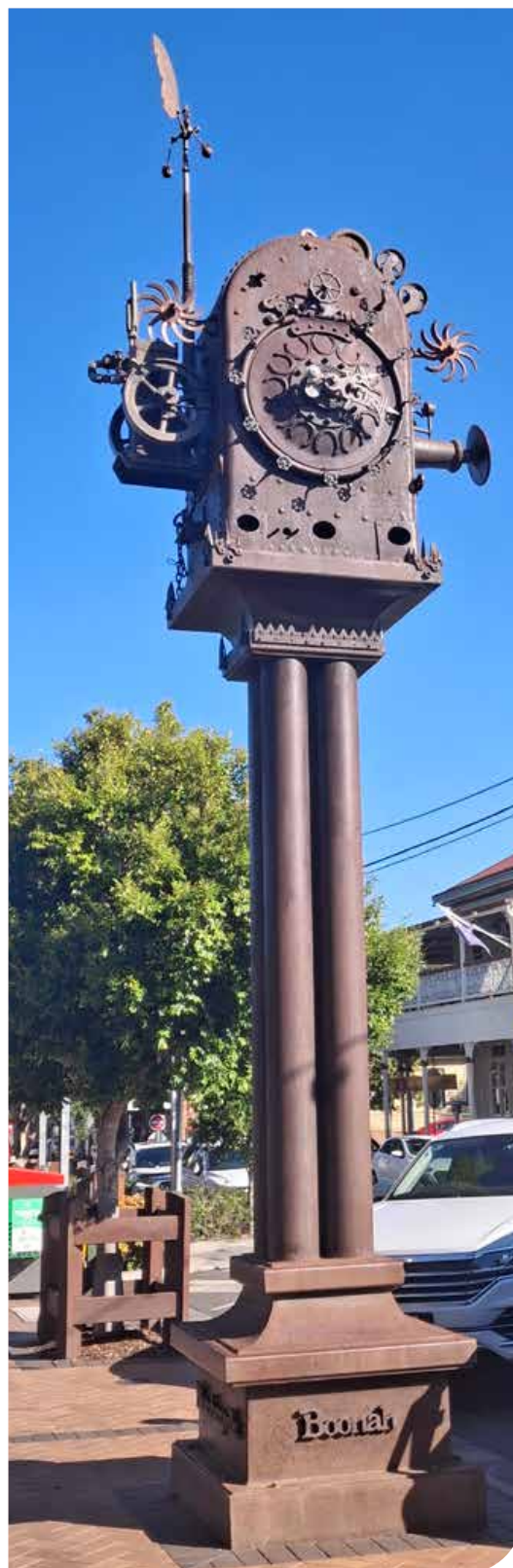
- Harrisville Lions Club
- Harrisville & District Historical Society Inc, and
- Boonah Show Society.

In January 2020, Cr McInnes was awarded an Order of Australia Medal for his service to the community and the dairy industry. He has four daughters, three of whom live with their families in the Scenic Rim.

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Ordinary Meetings

Council's core business and decision making takes place at its monthly Ordinary Meetings where policies, plans, development applications and local laws are considered.

Ordinary Meetings are held monthly on Wednesdays (usually the third or fourth Wednesday of the month). Special Meetings may also be held for the adoption of the annual budget or the consideration of other urgent matters.

In line with Council's commitment to accountable and transparent decision making, Ordinary Meetings and Special Meetings are open to the general public. However, Councillors can resolve to close a meeting to the public to discuss confidential matters. These include, but are not limited to, matters such as the appointment, dismissal, or discipline of employees, legal advice or legal proceedings involving the Council, or business for which a public discussion would be likely to prejudice the interests of the local government or someone else or enable a person to gain a financial advantage.

Meeting agendas and minutes are available on Council's scenicrim.qld.gov.au website and all Council meetings are livestreamed for residents who are unable to attend in person. The livestream link is also posted on the website and can be used to view the recordings of each meeting.

Strategy Workshops and Briefing Sessions

From October 2023, Strategy Workshops and Briefing Sessions were included in the Scenic Rim Regional Council suite of meetings.

All Councillors are required to attend Briefing Sessions and Strategy Workshops, although no decision making or voting takes place at these forums. As these are not formal meetings of Council, there is no public gallery and they are not livestreamed. However, following these forums, Council publishes on its website, subject to confidentiality, a list of topics which were discussed.

Strategy Workshops

Workshops provide an opportunity for Councillors, Council employees and external parties to collaborate, develop or advance proposals. These are focused on topics of strategic importance to collectively develop proposals prior to formal decision making. This may include discussions to determine strategic priorities, the development of the budget, initial input into the development or review of Council policies, or the initial development of a new Planning Scheme. While Workshops are not formal decision-making forums, they may be used as the basis for Council officers to develop proposals which may be considered formally by Council in the future.

Briefing Sessions

Briefing Sessions provide a valuable opportunity to enhance the decision-making process and are a forum for the Chief Executive Officer and Senior Council officers to address Councillors' questions and provide additional background on matters before they are presented to Council.

Briefing Sessions provide a forum for:

- Councillors to be fully informed on complex matters that will allow for more effective discussion and debate during subsequent Ordinary Meetings
- Councillors to share their views with each other to seek further information, clarification and background details from Council officers or any guest presenters
- Council officers to advise Councillors of their professional opinions and reasoning behind their intended recommendations, or
- presentations by an external party.



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Councillor remuneration

Section 186(a) of the *Local Government Regulation 2012* requires Council to publish remuneration and superannuation payments made to Councillors during the 2024-2025 financial year as detailed in the table below.

COUNCILLOR	REMUNERATION (\$)	SUPERANNUATION (\$)	TOTAL (\$)
Tom Sharp	146,144	16,807	162,951
Amanda Hay	78,713	8,241	86,954
Kerri-Marie Cryer	77,637	9,317	86,954
Stephen Moriarty	77,637	9,317	86,954
Jennifer Sanders	77,637	9,317	86,954
Marshall Chalk	77,637	9,008	86,645
Duncan McInnes OAM	91,769	10,742	102,511

Councillor expenses

Section 186(b) of the *Local Government Regulation 2012* requires Council to publish payments made to Councillors during the 2024-2025 financial year as detailed in the table below.

COUNCILLOR	MOBILE DEVICES (\$)	COUNCIL VEHICLE EXPENSES (\$)	TRAINING AND CONFERENCES (\$)	TOTAL (\$)
Tom Sharp	1670	5,077	1,660	8,407
Amanda Hay	1670	17,090	3,131	21,891
Kerri-Marie Cryer	1670	17,090	3,211	21,971
Stephen Moriarty	1670	7,888	2,250	11,808
Jennifer Sanders	1670	17,090	5,092	23,852
Marshall Chalk	1670	17,203	2,038	20,911
Duncan McInnes OAM	1670	17,090	3,596	22,356

Councillor meeting/forum attendance

Section 186(c) of the *Local Government Regulation 2012* requires Council to publish details of the number of local government meetings attended by each Councillor during the 2024-2025 financial year as detailed in the table below.

	ORDINARY MEETINGS (12)	SPECIAL MEETINGS (3)	BRIEFING SESSIONS (12)	STRATEGY WORKSHOPS (10)
COUNCILLOR	ATTENDED	ATTENDED	ATTENDED	ATTENDED
Tom Sharp	11	3	11	8
Amanda Hay	12	3	12	10
Kerri-Marie Cryer	12	3	12	10
Stephen Moriarty	12	3	12	10
Jennifer Sanders	11	3	8	7
Marshall Chalk	12	3	11	9
Duncan McInnes OAM	12	3	11	9

Councillor professional development

Becoming a Councillor and making a difference in the community is a major commitment bringing with it very real responsibilities. Making decisions in the public interest transparently, overseeing the delivery of vital services to the community and engaging meaningfully with constituents are key to being an effective Councillor.

Scenic Rim's Councillors have wide-ranging professional backgrounds, bringing to their roles individual qualifications, knowledge and experience.

Under section 169A of the *Local Government Act 2009*, all Queensland Councillors must have completed approved training relating to their responsibilities. This training covers the three most important topics of Code of Conduct, Registers of Interests, and Conflicts of Interests.

All of our Councillors have completed this training, however continuing professional development is encouraged. This includes active and reflective engagement in a range of professional experiences, in addition to their day-to-day responsibilities as Councillors, through formal courses, online training and attendance at conferences and seminars.

During 2024-2025, Councillors attended a variety of professional development opportunities to enhance their skills, knowledge and understanding, and to keep up to date. Events such as the Local Government Association of Queensland Conference, Civic Leaders Summit, Elected Members Update, SEQ Local Government Forum 2024 and Australian Local Government Women's Association Conference, all enhance their ability to undertake their role in representing the community.



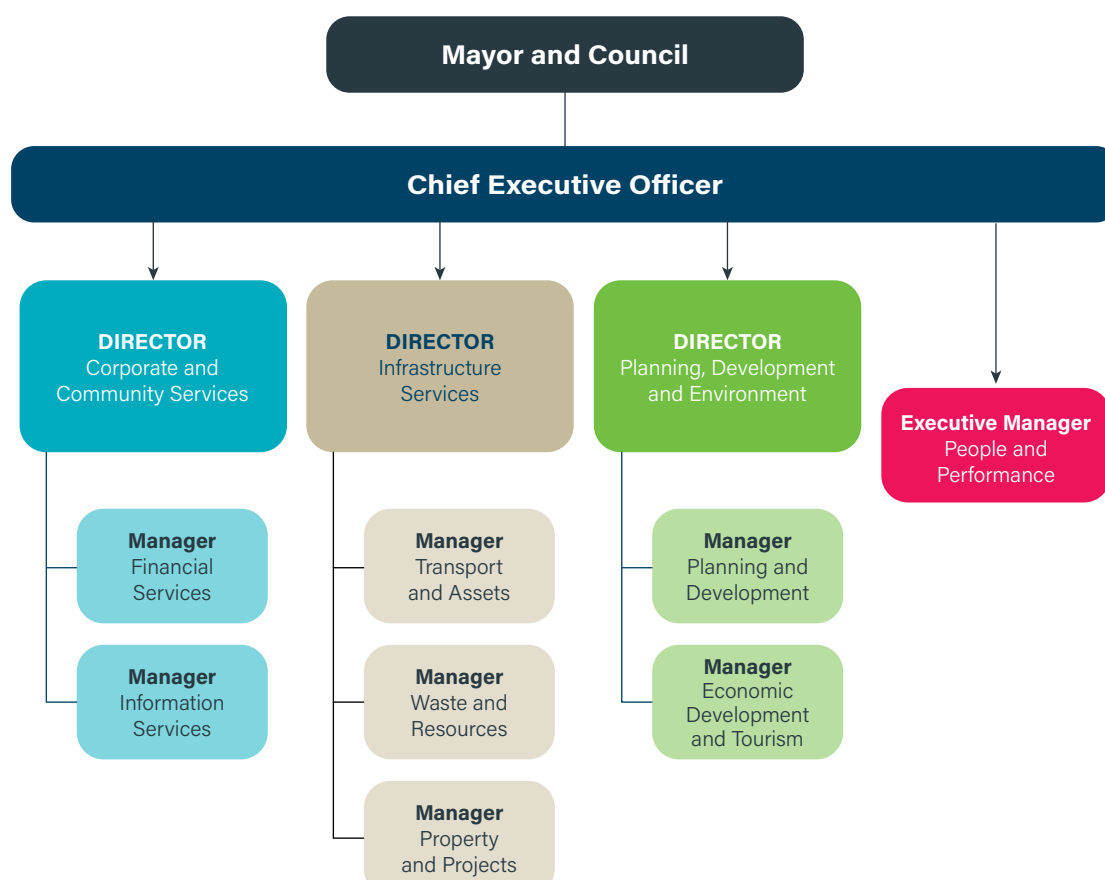
Following Tropical Cyclone Alfred, Governor-General of Australia Her Excellency the Honourable Sam Mostyn (centre) was welcomed to Tamborine Mountain by Scenic Rim Councillors (from left) Duncan McInnes, Stephen Moriarty, Mayor Tom Sharp, Amanda Hay and Kerri Cryer.

Our Organisation

Our Organisational Structure

The diagram below represents Council's organisational structure, showing clear lines of authority from Councillors through to the operational/functional areas of the organisation. It ensures that everyone is aware of their reporting lines, ensuring the efficiency and transparency of decision-making processes.

While guided by Councillors and the Chief Executive Officer, the Audit and Risk Committee and Internal Audit - two of Council's key internal control mechanisms - provide oversight and advice to Council and the Executive Team, contributing to robust governance.



Organisational Structure adopted by Council on 24 September 2025.

Meet the **Executive Leadership Team**

Strong leadership allows Council to maintain consistent operations and a stable environment for staff. This is essential for fostering trust among employees, enhancing engagement, and improving productivity. Stability creates a solid foundation upon which services can be delivered and change can occur, ensuring that employees feel secure and supported in their roles.

2024-2025 saw significant structural change in the organisation and movement in senior management positions due to a number of vacancies. However, with recent appointments Council is confident that it will be able to continue to deliver high quality services and value for money to the community.

Chief Executive Officer

The Chief Executive Officer (CEO) is Council's principal officer whose statutory obligations are to:

- implement the decisions of the elected Council
- manage the day-to-day business of Council
- organise reports to the Council
- conduct Council correspondence
- manage and oversee the administration of the Council and its Corporate Plan and Operational Plan, and
- coordinate the activities of employees.

These outcomes are managed by Council's Executive Leadership Team, comprising the CEO, and the three Directors.

DAVID KEENAN



David Keenan joined Scenic Rim Regional Council as Chief Executive Officer in November 2022 and brought to the Scenic Rim a wealth of experience in local government through previous Chief Executive Officer roles with Mitchell Shire Council, Hume City Council, Tweed Shire Council, Southern Downs Regional Council and Mount Isa City Council. In his roles at Mount Isa and Southern Downs, David was involved in facilitating investment in renewable energy, as well as working closely with the mining, food processing and agriculture sectors.

David's qualifications include a Master of Business Management, Post Graduate Diplomas in Town Planning and Environment, Management and Government Business and Environmental Science, amongst other qualifications.

David has also completed the Australian Institute of Company Director's course and was the inaugural President of Economic Development Australia. David is the Treasurer for AFL Masters Queensland.

EXECUTIVE LEADERSHIP TEAM

The CEO is supported in delivering the strategic and operational objectives of the Council by the Executive Team. This team of four executives comprises the CEO, the Director Corporate and Community Services, the Director Infrastructure Services and the Director Planning, Development and Environment.

Director Corporate and Community Services

The Director Corporate and Community Services is responsible for the portfolios of Finance, Corporate Service, Information Technology and Customer Services, Library Services and Cultural Services.

JASON BRADSHAW



Jason has led a productive local government career spanning more than three decades. Jason joined Council at the end of July 2025 as Director Corporate and Community Services, bringing with him significant experience in finance, corporate

services, and local government management. He has played a pivotal role driving organisational reform within Queensland local governments and has held executive roles for more than two decades including the position of CEO at two Queensland Councils since the 2008 local government reforms.

Jason has qualifications in business and management, and is a member of CPA Australia, Local Government Association Queensland, Australian Institute of Company Directors and the Institute for Managers and Leaders.

Jason is known for his collaborative leadership, financial expertise, and guiding organisations through change.

Director Infrastructure Services

The Director Infrastructure Services is responsible for the portfolios of Capital Works and Asset Management, Resource Recovery and Contracts, Open Space, Depots and Roads and Infrastructure Recovery.

JAMES RUPRAI



One of our newest Directors, James commenced his role at Scenic Rim in August 2025. James brings 13 years' executive level experience in local government, specialising in infrastructure, strategic planning, and organisational reform. James has led

major capital works, planning schemes, and compliance initiatives across complex, high-growth regions including the Sunshine Coast and Shoalhaven Councils.

Holding an MBA and being an Australian Institute of Company Directors graduate member, James also holds qualifications in science, business process improvement and procurement. James is known for building high-performing teams and turning strategy into results through strong stakeholder and political engagement.

Director Planning, Development and Environment

The Director Planning, Development and Environment is responsible for the portfolios of Planning and Development, Environment, Economic Development and Tourism and Regulatory Services.

LEO JENSEN



Leo commenced at Scenic Rim Regional Council in February 2025 as the General Manager Asset and Environment Sustainability. Following a restructure, he moved to the role of Director Planning, Development and Environment.

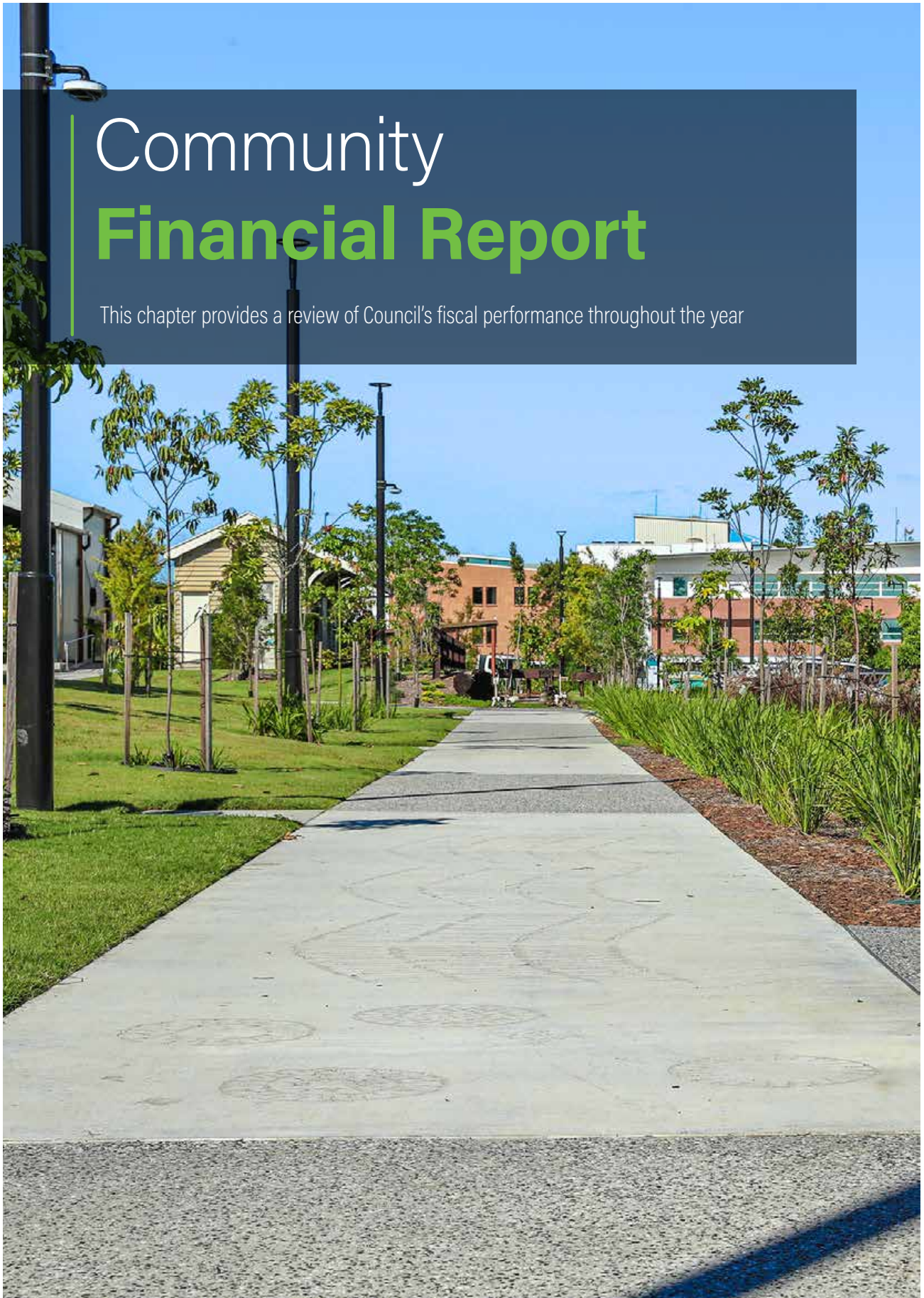
Leo is a respected executive with more than 30 years in local government and the private sector. Leo's expertise covers planning, environment, regulation, disaster recovery and resilience, community services and economic development. He has led large, multidisciplinary teams, secured significant funding, and delivered major reforms. Leo has a passion for developing high-performing teams and has mentored colleagues through the Local Government Managers Australia International Mentoring program, Women in Local Government, and Planning Institute of Australia's Emerging Planners program.

A Fellow of the Planning Institute of Australia (PIA), Associate Fellow of the Institute of Managers and Leaders, Adjunct Industry Fellow (University of the Sunshine Coast), and a Rotary International Paul Harris Fellow, Leo is known for ethical leadership, strategic thinking, and delivering results in complex settings.



Community **Financial Report**

This chapter provides a review of Council's fiscal performance throughout the year





Community Financial Report

The 2024-2025 Community Financial Report provides an analysis of Council's fiscal performance for the year as detailed in the audited financial statements published from page 126 onwards.

Council is required to prepare a Community Financial Report each year in accordance with Section 179 of the *Local Government Regulation 2012*.

The Community Financial Report is required to:

- a) contain a summary and analysis of Council's financial performance and position for the financial year;
- b) be consistent with the general purpose financial statement for the financial year;
- c) include the relevant measures of financial sustainability for the financial year; and
- d) be written in a way that can be easily understood by the community.

This community financial report complies with the above requirements and covers the financial performance and position of Scenic Rim Regional Council for the financial year ended 30 June 2025.

Financial Statements

Council is required to prepare a set of general purpose financial statements each year in accordance with the requirements of the *Local Government Act 2009*, *Local Government Regulation 2012* and Australian Accounting Standards. The financial statements are required to be independently audited. The audited financial statements, as set out on pages 126 onwards set out the financial performance, financial position, cash flows and net wealth of Council for the financial year ended 30 June 2025, incorporating four financial statements and accompanying notes.

Statement of Comprehensive Income

This Statement outlines:

- all sources of Council's income (revenue);
- all recurrent expenditure; and
- capital expenses relating to the write-off of non-current assets.

Both recurrent revenue and capital revenue are reported in the Statement of Comprehensive Income but only recurrent expenditure is recognised. Capital expenditure is recognised in the Statement of Financial Position. 'Recurrent' is also referred to as 'operating' because the income and expenditure relate to operations and maintenance and not capital, although depreciation of assets is included.

Statement of Financial Position

This Statement outlines what Council owns (assets) and what it owes (liabilities) at a point in time. Council's net wealth is determined by deducting total liabilities from total assets; the larger the net equity, the stronger the financial position.

Statement of Cash Flows

This Statement summarises the actual flows of cash for a period and explains the change in the cash balance held from the start of the period through to the end of the reporting period. Cash flows are separated into operating, investing and financing activities.

Operating activities include the normal transactions of conducting Council's day-to-day business while investing activities include the purchase and sale of assets and receipt of capital grants, subsidies and contributions. Financing activities include loan income and repayment of debt. The 'cash at the end of the reporting period' equals the amount reported as 'cash and cash equivalents' in the Statement of Financial Position.

Statement of Changes in Equity

This Statement summarises the change in Council's real worth throughout the financial year. Council's net worth can change as a result of:

- a surplus or deficit as recorded in the Statement of Comprehensive Income; and
- an increase or decrease in the net value of non-current assets resulting from a revaluation of those assets.



OVERVIEW

Council's key financial results for the financial year ended 30 June 2025:

KEY RESULTS	2024-25
Total income	\$156.9M
Total expenses	\$123.2M
NET RESULT	\$33.8M

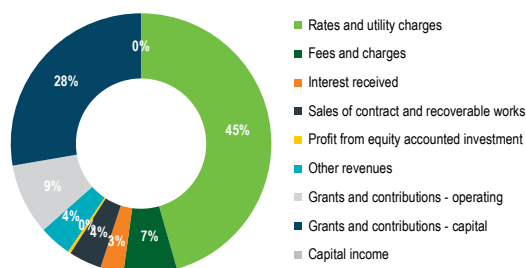
Operating surplus/(deficit)	(\$4.5M)
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Total assets	\$1,508.6M
Total liabilities	\$90.4M
NET ASSETS	\$1,418.2M

FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE**Total income**

Council's income is derived from various sources and a breakdown of Council's 2004-2025 income is shown below.

Rates and utility charges are Council's main source of recurrent income. However, other types of income such as fees and charges, sale of contract and recoverable works, grants and contributions are also important sources of funding.



TOTAL INCOME	2022-23	2023-24	2024-25
Rates and utility charges	\$61.5M	\$67.4M	\$71.5M
Fees and charges	\$7.6M	\$8.4M	\$10.4M
Interest received	\$2.8M	\$4.4M	\$4.5M
Sales of contract and recoverable works	\$7.4M	\$6.4M	\$6.4M
Profit from equity accounted investment	\$2M	\$2.8M	\$0.5M
Other revenues	\$5.1M	\$5.1M	\$6.3M
Grants and contributions - operating	\$11.7M	\$3.6M	\$13.8M
Grants and contributions - capital	\$47.8M	\$60.0M	\$43.5M
Capital income	\$0M	\$0.1M	\$0M
TOTAL INCOME	\$145.8M	\$158.2M	\$156.9M

Total income received during 2024-2025 was \$156.9 million, which is a decrease of \$1.3 million from the previous year.

Net rates and utility charges of \$71.5 million were \$4.1 million higher than the previous year. This result is slightly higher than the 2024-2025 budgeted revenue for net rates and utility charges of \$71.4 million.

Fees and charges were \$2.0 million higher than the previous year predominantly due to an increase in fees associated with refuse tipping, planning applications, building and subdivisions.

Interest received was \$0.1 million higher than the previous year.

Sale of contract and recoverable works income were \$0.1 million lower than the previous year.

Operating grants and contributions were \$10.2 million higher than prior year due to the timing of payments for the Financial Assistance Grant and through the Disaster Recovery Funding Arrangements (DRFA).

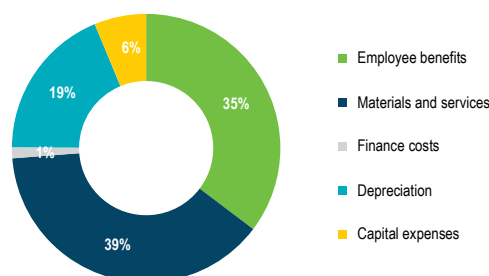
The profit from equity accounted investments is Council's share of profits from Urban Utilities (UU), in which it has an ownership interest of 1.042 per cent. Further information on UU is contained at Note 9 of the audited financial statements.

Other revenues is \$1.2 million higher than the previous year mainly due to an increase in insurance settlements.

Capital grants and contributions are \$16.52 million lower than the previous year largely due to fewer contributed assets from developers and lower recovery of expenditure on restoration works through the DRFA.

Total expenses

Council provides a wide range of services to the community and in doing so incurs a variety of expenses. A breakdown of Council's 2024-25 expenses is shown below.



TOTAL EXPENSES	2022-23	2023-24	2024-25
Employee benefits	\$35.2M	\$40M	\$42.8M
Materials and services	\$35.9M	\$43.6M	\$50.4M
Finance costs	\$1.3M	\$1.5M	\$1.5M
Depreciation and amortisation	\$19.1M	\$21.1M	\$23.3M
Capital expenses	\$3.8M	\$7.1M	\$5.2M
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$95.3M	\$113.2M	\$123.2M

Employee benefits have increased by \$2.8 million from the previous year.

Materials and services have increased by \$6.8 million from the previous year. This relates largely due to an increase in emergency works and counter disaster operations as a result natural disasters, and an increase in waste facilities maintenance and operations due to the State waste levy, landfill rehabilitation and leachate management.

Finance costs have remain unchanged from the pervious financial year.

Depreciation expenses are non-cash and represent the reduction of the value of non-current assets as a result of wear and tear, age, or obsolescence. Non-current assets are shown in the Statement of Financial Position.

Capital expenses represent the non-cash write-off of the written-down value of non-current assets because they have been disposed of through sale, obsolescence or renewal.

OPERATING RESULT

OPERATING RESULT	2022-23	2023-24	2024-25
Operating surplus/(deficit)	\$6.4M	(\$8M)	(\$4.5M)

The operating surplus/(deficit) is the net result excluding capital items related to income and expenses. A surplus indicates that revenue raised covers operational expenses and there is an amount available equivalent to the surplus for capital funding purposes or other purposes. A deficit indicates that revenue raised does not cover operational expenses. Council's operating deficit in 2024-2025 was (\$4.5 million).

The deficit is largely due to four factors. Firstly, a reduced percentage prepayment of the Commonwealth Financial Assistance Grant; secondly, expenditure on emergency works and counter disaster operations in relation to disaster events for which Council has not yet been reimbursed; thirdly, a lower share of net profits from urban utilities; and finally, an increase in depreciation expense due to a significant increase in the value of Council's infrastructure assets.

FINANCIAL POSITION

Total assets

Assets consist of current assets, which can be converted to cash in less than one year and non-current assets, which would most likely take longer than a year to convert to cash (eg. long term infrastructure such as roads, bridges etc.). A breakdown of Council's assets is shown below:

TOTAL ASSETS	2022-23	2023-24	2024-25
Cash and investments	\$54.4M	\$48.7M	\$49.6M
Trade and other receivables	\$12.2M	\$13.9M	\$17M
Other assets	\$13.4M	\$19.8M	\$14.1M
Loan to Urban Utilities	\$14.7M	\$14.7M	\$14.7M
Investment in associate	\$38.8M	\$40.3M	\$38M
Non-current assets held for sale	\$0M	\$18.5M	\$13.3M
Infrastructure, property, plant and equipment	\$1,044.9M	\$1,105.1M	\$1,362M
TOTAL ASSETS	\$1,178.3M	\$1,261M	\$1,508.6M

Cash and investments has increased from the previous year by \$0.9 million.

Trade and other receivables increased by \$3.1 million from the previous year due to a higher level of recoverable works outstanding at 30 June 2025.

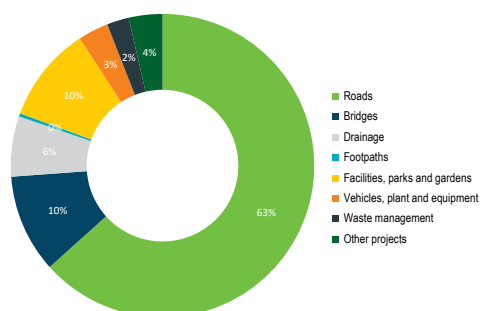
Other assets consist of inventories, contract assets (work performed on capital grants prior to the receipt of grant monies), and prepayments. This saw an increase of \$5.8 million from the previous year due largely to a decrease in contract assets.

The loan balance of \$14.7 million represents Council's loan to Urban Utilities (UU). This is an interest-only loan and payments received are recognised as interest revenue. The value of the loan represents 40 per cent of Council's regulatory asset base that was transferred to UU upon formation.

The investment in associate represents Council's participation rights in UU. Upon formation of UU, Council's participation rights represented 60 per cent of Council's regulatory asset base.

The written-down value of infrastructure, property, plant and equipment increased by \$256.9 million from the previous year. Infrastructure, property, plant and equipment accounts for 90 per cent of Council's total assets.

Capital works of \$73.4 million were undertaken during 2024-2025.



CAPITAL EXPENDITURE	2024-2025
Roads	\$45.5M
Bridges	\$7.7M
Drainage	\$4.7M
Footpaths	\$0.3M
Facilities, parks and gardens	\$7.5M
Vehicles, plant and equipment	\$2.4M
Waste management	\$1.7M
Other projects	\$1.8M
TOTAL	\$73.4M

Total liabilities

Liabilities consist of current liabilities, which are expected to be paid or settled in less than one year, and non-current liabilities, expected to be paid or settled in more than one year. A breakdown of Council's liabilities is shown below:

TOTAL LIABILITIES	2022-23	2023-24	2024-25
Trade and other payables	\$17.9M	\$27.7M	\$24.5M
Borrowings	\$47.4M	\$43.3M	\$39.3M
Provisions	\$10.6M	\$10.9M	\$12.9M
Other liabilities	\$1M	\$7.6M	\$13.7M
TOTAL LIABILITIES	\$86.9M	\$89.4M	\$90.4M

Trade and other payables decreased by \$3.2 million from the previous year largely due to high activity on the restoration of Council infrastructure as a result of natural disasters in the prior year.

Borrowings decreased by \$4.0 million from the previous year due to no new loans during the 2024-2025 financial year offset by \$4.0 million in repayments of loan principle.

Provisions consist of long service leave and rehabilitation and monitoring provisions for quarries and waste disposal landfill sites. Other liabilities consist mainly of contract liabilities (capital grants received in advance of the work being performed) and the domestic waste levy refund received in advance from the Queensland State Government. This increased by \$6.1 million due to an increase in the contract liabilities.



Net community assets and equity

Net community assets and equity are represented by what we own (total assets) less what is owed (total liabilities).

NET COMMUNITY ASSETS	2022-23	2023-24	2024-25
Net assets	\$1,091.4M	\$1,171.5M	\$1,418.2M

COMMUNITY EQUITY	2022-23	2023-24	2024-25
Accumulated surplus	\$779.4M	\$779.4M	\$811.6M
Asset revaluation surplus	\$392.1M	\$392.1M	\$606.6M
TOTAL EQUITY	\$1,171.5M	\$1,171.5M	\$1,418.2M

Community equity increased by \$246.7 million from the previous year, which is the value of total comprehensive income from the Statement of Comprehensive Income of \$33.8 million, less share of other incomprehensive income of UU of \$1.6 million, plus an increase in the Asset Revaluation Surplus of \$214.5 million.

CASH FLOWS

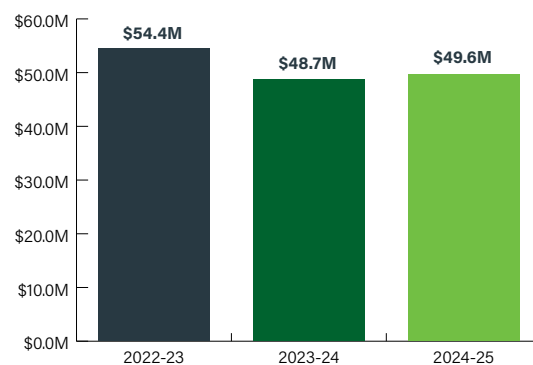
The Statement of Cash Flows outlines where Council received its cash from and where this was subsequently spent.

CASH FLOWS	2022-23	2023-24	2024-25
NET CASH INFLOW/(OUTFLOW) FROM:			
Operating activities	\$21.5M	\$11.8M	\$14M
Investing activities	(\$26M)	(\$13.3M)	(\$9.1M)
Financing activities	\$2.6M	(\$4.1M)	(\$4M)
NET INCREASE/(DECREASE) IN CASH HELD	(\$2.0M)	(\$5.7M)	\$0.9M

Net cash from operating activities increased by \$2.2 million from the previous year. Net cash used in investing activities decreased by \$4.2 million from the previous year. Net cash from financing activities decreased by \$0.1 million from the previous year.

Year-end cash balance

Council's year-end cash balance was \$49.6 million as at 30 June 2025.



FINANCIAL SUSTAINABILITY INDICATORS

Section 104(2) of the *Local Government Act 2009* provides the following definition of financial sustainability:

A local government is financially sustainable if the local government is able to maintain its financial capital and infrastructure capital over the long term.

Financial sustainability is a strategy and ratios are used as point-in-time measurements to assess the outcomes of the strategy. The Department of Infrastructure, Local Government and Planning has developed financial sustainability indicators to assist in the assessment of the long-term financial sustainability of councils.

Section 169(5) of the *Local Government Regulation 2012* refers local government entities to the financial management (sustainability) guideline for relevant measures of financial sustainability.

The *Financial Management (Sustainability) Guideline 2024* outlines nine sustainability measures for the Queensland local government sector.

The nine sustainability measures Council is required to report on are:

MEASURE	TARGET	2024-25 RESULT	FIVE YEAR AVERAGE	COUNCIL NARRATIVE
Operating Surplus Ratio	> 0%	-4.0%	-1.8%	Actual current year ratio impacted by lower prepayment of the Financial Assistance Grant, lower share of profits from Urban Utilities and timing with the receipt of Disaster Recovery Funding Arrangements emergency works funding.
Operating Cash Ratio	> 0%	17.4%	18.7%	Result within Financial Management (Sustainability) Guideline 2024 target range. Actual current year ratio impacted by lower prepayment of the Financial Assistance Grant, lower share of profits from Urban Utilities and timing with the receipt of Disaster Recovery Funding Arrangements emergency works funding.
Unrestricted Cash Expense Cover Ratio	> 3 months	5.4	NA	Result within Financial Management (Sustainability) Guideline 2024 target range.
Asset Sustainability Ratio	> 80%	257.4%	166.0%	Result within Financial Management (Sustainability) Guideline 2024 target range. Ratio impacted by Disaster Recovery Funding Arrangements reconstruction works.
Asset Consumption Ratio	> 60%	70.3%	73.6%	Result within Financial Management (Sustainability) Guideline 2024 target range.
Leverage Ratio	0 - 3 times	1.9	2.3	Result within Financial Management (Sustainability) Guideline 2024 target range. Actual current year ratio impacted by lower prepayment of the Financial Assistance Grant, lower share of profits from Urban Utilities and timing with the receipt of Disaster Recovery Funding Arrangements emergency works funding.
CONTEXTUAL RATIOS				
Council Controlled Revenue	Not Applicable	72.2%	73.5%	Actual current year ratio impacted by lower prepayment of the Financial Assistance Grant, lower share of profits from Urban Utilities and timing with the receipt of Disaster Recovery Funding Arrangements emergency works funding.
Population Growth	Not Applicable	1.2%	1.2%	Source: Queensland Government population projections (medium series), 2023 edition; Australian Bureau of Statistics, Regional population, 2021.
Asset Renewal Funding Ratio	Not Applicable	49.7%	NA	This ratio measures the ability of a council to fund its projected infrastructure asset renewal / replacements in the future.

Why is financial sustainability important?

Local governments are responsible for directly providing residents with a wide range of public services and community infrastructure and facilities. This requires local governments to hold and maintain a significant base of infrastructure assets, which necessitates not only substantial initial investments but also continued expenditure to maintain and renew assets over the course of their respective useful lives.

The outcomes of Council's financial sustainability strategy are as follows:

- To allow for the adequate provision for programs (including capital expenditure) and services into the future without having to introduce substantial or disruptive revenue (and expenditure) adjustments; and
- To allow for the equitable distribution of the costs of establishing and maintaining community assets and services between current and future ratepayers.

The Queensland Treasury Corporation performed a credit risk assessment during 2024-2025 and rated Scenic Rim Regional Council as being Sound with a Neutral outlook. Council is committed to remaining financially sustainable through appropriate levels of service provision.

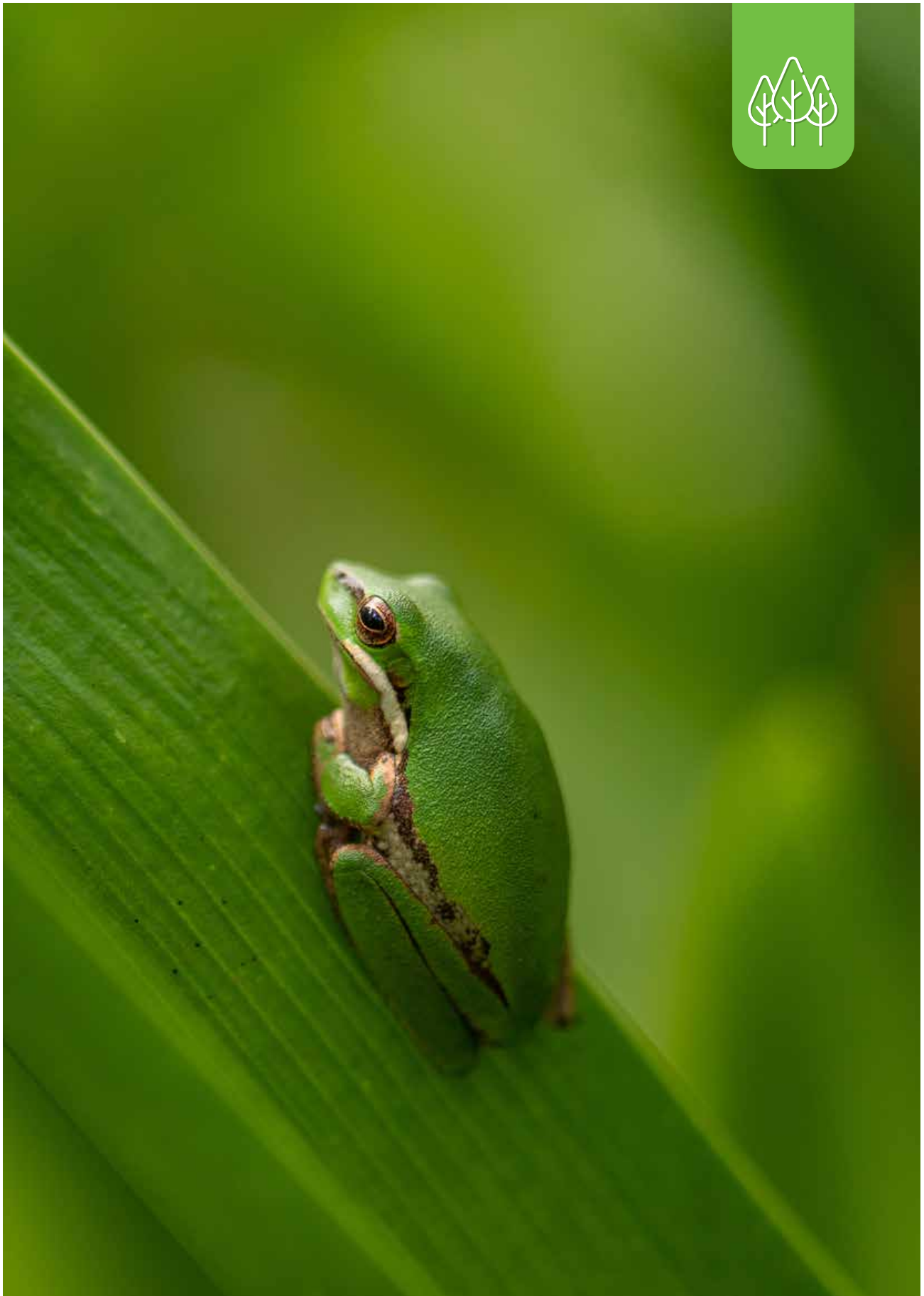
The Queensland Treasury Corporation shall perform another credit risk assessment during the 2026-2027 financial year in line with its schedule.





Spectacular Scenery and **Healthy Environment**

The region's unique natural environment and rural landscapes are preserved and enhanced in partnership with our community





Our Highlights

The Scenic Rim region is known nationally and internationally for its unique natural environment and rural landscapes. We are proud of our region's Scenic beauty and Council is committed to preserving and enhancing these landscapes in partnership with our community. During 2024-2025 Council:

- carried out assessments and scheduled management works to ensure Council's key fire trails and asset protection zones were prepared in the lead up to a potential fire season
- partnered with James Cook University to develop a Greater Glider citizen science project for Land for Wildlife properties in the Scenic Rim region
- obtained a Queensland Climate Resilient Councils grant valued at more than \$250,000 through South East Queensland Climate Resilient Alliance membership, and
- finalised environmental grants for koala conservation with 29 applications successfully funded from the \$179,942 available.

Our progress

Council again made excellent progress towards meeting our Corporate Plan outcomes in relation to the protection and enhancement of the Scenic Rim's natural environment. Our indicators of success were all fully or substantially achieved for the year and, in terms of delivery of activity to support this theme, more than 80 per cent of scheduled activity was on track or successfully completed, contributing to an excellent result.

Our challenges

Balancing the community's desire for increased economic outcomes and ensuring we do this in an environmentally responsible way is always a challenge - even more so as we aim to increase the number of visitors to the region without negatively impacting what draws them to the Scenic Rim. Increasing regional productivity and a growing population requiring housing and additional infrastructure are further challenges that Council needs to address in an environmentally sustainable way. Severe weather events including Tropical Cyclone Alfred in March 2025 have not only impacted residents but also our natural assets and Council and the community have continued reparation and preparedness activities to support the achievement of our vision for the region's spectacular scenery and healthy environment.

INDICATOR	RESULTS		SUMMARY OF ACTIVITY
	24-25	23-24	
Biodiversity across the region is protected.	✓	★	Completed On track Monitor Requires attention
Natural environment and rural landscapes are enhanced as a result of planned actions.	★	✓	
Outcomes are enhanced by productive partnerships and knowledge sharing.	★	✓	
Council's assets provide appropriate and sustainable levels of service.	✓	✓	
Water resilience across the region is increased.	★	✓	
Increased community awareness of drought and natural disaster mitigation enhances resilience.	★	★	
★ Fully Achieved ✓ Substantially Achieved ✓ Partially Achieved ✗ Not Achieved			

Investing in the Scenic Rim's natural assets

Individual and community projects to help protect threatened species including koalas, platypus and greater gliders, as well as combat invasive weeds, have been supported by Scenic Rim Regional Council's environmental grants totalling almost \$180,000.

Funding under the 2024-2025 Environmental Grants Program reflected Council's commitment to maximising value by working with the Scenic Rim community to preserve and enhance the region's unique natural environment.

Council's allocation of \$179,942 in grants represented an excellent return on investment for the community with the total value of works to be completed estimated at almost \$520,000.

Of the 72 applications received, 16 were fully funded and 13 received partial funding, ensuring the maximum benefit from projects to be carried out across the region.

Where possible, some projects were also supported through other Council initiatives including the One Million Trees Program.

This not only offers trees but also a variety of native tube stock plants for projects ranging from erosion control to butterfly, bird and insect gardens, food for koalas and plantings to encourage greater biodiversity or fill gaps in creek lines.

Projects by Scenic Rim residents and community groups, which have been supported through the environmental grants, include the control of invasive weeds and the regeneration of bushland as well as the restoration of creeks and riparian areas.

Plantings for koala corridors, the protection of platypus habitat and the installation of nest boxes for greater gliders, which will be monitored by wildlife cameras, and the recovery of habitat following the 2023 Christmas Night storm, are among projects undertaken across the Scenic Rim. The Scenic Rim is renowned for its biodiversity and, while it is home to many large national parks, much of the remaining native habitat in our region is found on private properties.

Landowners have an important part to play in helping to preserve our region's wide variety of native plants and animals and healthy ecosystems.

Updating disaster management plans

Changes to Queensland's disaster management arrangements and their implications for the community are reflected in Scenic Rim Regional Council's updated Local Disaster Management Plan.

The Plan, which is available on the Scenic Rim Disaster Dashboard, was endorsed by the Local Disaster Management Group (LDMG) following the Queensland Disaster and Emergency Service reforms which have seen the Queensland Police Service take responsibility for the state's disaster management arrangements.

It details the responsibilities of organisations and agencies which support the Scenic Rim's LDMG during a disaster and the Local Recovery and Resilience Sub Plan which guides the post-disaster recovery phase.

The Plan, developed in line with the *Disaster Management Act 2003*, aim to minimise the impacts of disasters and major emergencies within the Scenic Rim by ensuring a coordinated risk management approach.

This involves preparedness, response and recovery strategies at the local, district, State and Federal government levels in conjunction with emergency services to enhance the safety of residents and the region's resilience to natural disasters.

The updated Local Disaster Management Plan considers a range of disasters, including those that disrupt essential services or may involve an attack against the State and, through its strategies, aims to reduce the impact of a disaster and assist in the community's recovery.

It incorporates the region's experience with bushfires and flooding and the series of extreme weather events which have impacted the Scenic Rim in recent years. Members of the Scenic Rim community are encouraged to view the Plan on Council's website and also to prepare for what may lie ahead.

In the wake of the 2023 Christmas Night storm and 2024 New Year flooding, followed by Tropical Cyclone Alfred in March 2025, many residents came to understand the need for disaster preparedness, the possibility of extended periods without power and the importance of community connection.



Raising the community's biosecurity awareness

The community's role and responsibilities in protecting Queensland from pests and diseases were highlighted in a series of workshops presented by Scenic Rim Regional Council.

Council was one of 12 applicants across Queensland to secure funding in the first round of the Queensland Biosecurity Grants Program which supports the State Government's efforts in bolstering biosecurity preparedness and resilience.

The free workshops held across the region aimed to increase the community's awareness and understanding of Council's biosecurity plan and of landowners' General Biosecurity Obligations.

Presentations by Council's Biosecurity team, biodiversity officers and guest speakers focused on the potential biosecurity risks to our region, including invasive weeds and animals. Achieving short and long-term improvements in effective biosecurity measures will be vital in protecting our region's key industries of agriculture and tourism.

Under the *Biosecurity Act 2014* everyone is responsible for taking all reasonable steps to stop the spread of invasive plants and animals.

Improving our catchments

The Resilient Rivers Initiative has continued to deliver value for money to the Scenic Rim through meaningful projects to improve waterway health and resilience at targeted properties along the Bremer-Warrill and Logan-Albert catchments.

Delivered through the Council of Mayors South East Queensland, the Resilient Rivers Initiative is a collaborative program to improve the health and resilience of South East Queensland's catchments, rivers and Moreton Bay.

The Logan-Albert Catchment Action Plan, which identifies the high risk of sediment movement from the catchment and its downstream impact on the Logan and Albert Rivers and Moreton Bay, aims to keep soil on Scenic Rim land and out of waterways to support agricultural productivity and improve water quality.

The delivery of 15 waterway improvement projects during 2024-2025 included the release of Mary River Cod fingerlings into the Bremer and Warrill catchments, and the creation and installation of didactic fish identification signage in the Logan-Albert Catchment.

Monitoring an endangered species

Council has been working with property owners in its Land For Wildlife program and deploying detection dogs to help identify new populations of the endangered Greater Glider on private land in the Scenic Rim.

Some of the most important habitat for this large, nocturnal cat-sized marsupial is found on private properties, where it lives high in the treetops of eucalyptus forests.

Regarded as an indicator of forest health, the Greater Glider can glide up to 100 metres through the treetops, using its long tail to steer, and shelters in the hollows of old eucalyptus trees which are crucial for its survival.

The Sharing My Place With Greater Gliders Project has included spotlight nights, webinars and the strategic selection of 10 properties where Council staff have conducted face-to-face interviews regarding the benefits of the Land For Wildlife program which supports property owners in protecting and enhancing the natural environment.

Resources that have been developed to support the Greater Glider project have included fact sheets on tree hollows, spotlighting, the identification of arboreal mammals and how to set up a camera trap.

Greater Gliders have been found at Tamborine Mountain in the Scenic Rim's east and Mount Barney in the west.

The species is listed as endangered due to habitat loss and only some 20 individuals have been found in the Scenic Rim to date.



A pair of Greater Gliders

Servicing our Community

Local government's fundamental purpose is in meeting community needs delivered through its core services. Scenic Rim Regional Council's activities are outlined within its Service Catalogue, with core services reflecting its strategic direction aligned with the Corporate Plan commitments. While services often overlap in terms of their impact on Corporate Plan commitments, for the purpose of clarity in reporting the following services contributed most significantly to conserving the scenic amenity of the natural assets in the region.

Biodiversity and climate change

The natural environment is central to the Scenic Rim's lifestyle and economy which depend on tourism and agriculture.

Council delivers a range of biodiversity, waterway and climate change outcomes through planning, project development and programs to ensure the region's unique natural environment is recognised, preserved and enhanced, in partnership with the community, for future generations.

The delivery of the biodiversity and climate change service aims to ensure that the region is responsive to the threat of climate change and is progressing towards net zero emissions, improved resilience and adaptation to climate change impacts. Council carries out environmental management activities such as bushfire, weed and catchment management programs. Conservation and education programs are also delivered in partnership with the community and other levels of government.

ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT	2020-2021	2021-2022	2022-2023	2023-2024	2024-2025
Number of new Voluntary Conservation Agreements	0	0	2	8	8

LAND PROTECTED UNDER ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT PROGRAMS					
Land for Wildlife properties	290	320	348	387	411
Environmental Grants	16	36	52	39	29
New Conservation Agreements	20	25	25	8	42

SCENIC RIM ONE MILLION TREES PROGRAM					
Rural Trees Initiative	17,797	21,845	9,219	11,115	15,894
Habitat Trees Initiative	6,890	7,722	21,679	8,931	13,745
Community Trees Initiative	7,274	950	6,045	1,575	6,438
River Trees Initiative	7,632	4,420	4,630	5,270	8,706
TOTAL	45,225	35,025	46,493	26,891	44,753

NURSERY TREES	2022-2023	2023-2024	2024-2025
Distributed to the public (free trees)	6,183	5,254	5,783
Trees/plants planted in parks and gardens	8,691	9,194	13,528
Advanced Trees	52	83	5
TOTAL	14,926	14,531	19,316

* Nursery tree data was incorrectly reported in Annual Report 2023-2024. Updated figures provided.

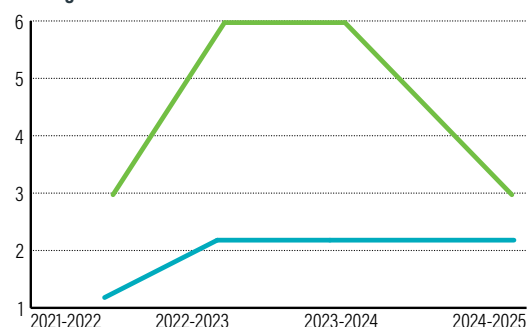
Disaster Management

A series of severe weather events in the Scenic Rim in recent years has highlighted the need for Council's delivery of services that minimise the impact of emergencies and disaster on the community.

Council coordinates various systems and strategies to meet federal and state government policies and guidelines, ensuring it meets its obligations under the *Disaster Management Act 2003* and *Disaster Management Regulation 2014* to prepare and respond to disasters and emergencies.

Council has an obligation to respond to emergencies or disasters in line with the responsibilities of local government as specified in a number of state and local policies, procedures and guidelines.

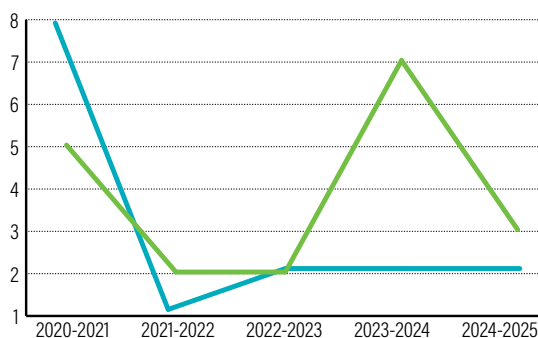
Number of disaster management exercises and training sessions facilitated



	2021-2022	2022-2023	2023-2024	2024-2025
Target	1	2	3	2
Result	3	6	6	3

Council continues to ensure our community and stakeholders are prepared in the event of disasters, with the number of exercises exceeding targets during the past four years.

Number of local disaster management plans and procedures developed and/or reviewed and endorsed by LDMG



	2021-2022	2022-2023	2023-2024	2024-2025
Target	1	2	2	2
Result	2	2	7	3

Having plans and procedures in place to provide guidance in the event of disasters is vital to ensuring the safety of our community and infrastructure. During 2024-2025 Council continued to exceed its target in relation to updating its disaster management plans.

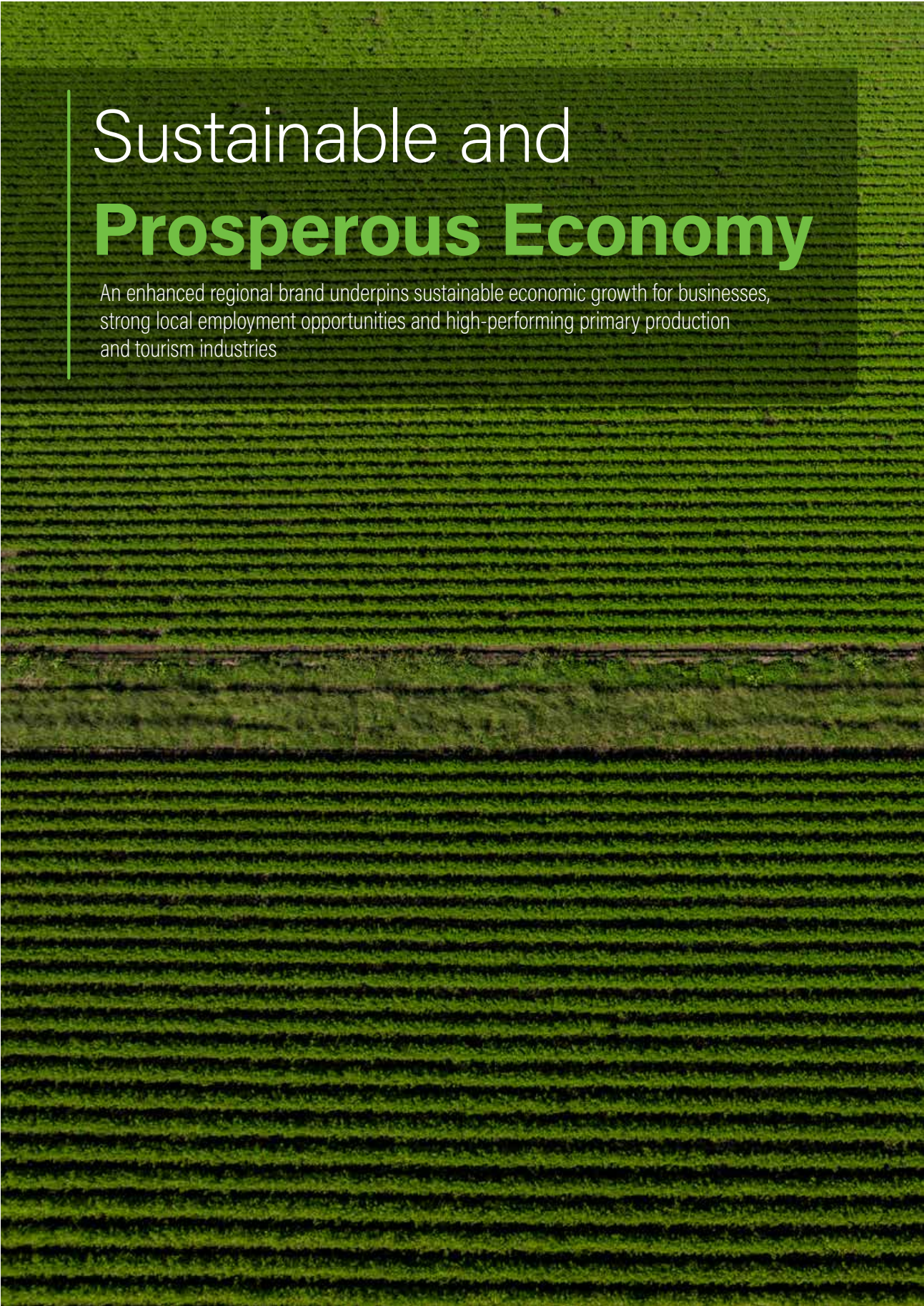
Delivering our Operational Plan

DELIVERABLE	STATUS	DELIVERABLE	STATUS
Deliver actions identified in the five-year Biodiversity Strategy implementation plan (2020-2025)	✓	Provide for increased on-site water storage capacity	✗
Deliver programs aligned with Council's biodiversity vision	✓	Community awareness and the knowledge to prepare for extreme weather and natural disasters	★
Establish project agreements with agencies, community groups or private landholders	✓	Develop a resilience register identifying potential betterment opportunities for the road network	✓
Deliver biodiversity projects in collaboration with agencies, community groups or private landholders	✓	Deliver approved betterment projects improving road infrastructure resilience	✓
Deliver actions under the Logan-Albert Catchment Action Plan	✓	Climate Change Policy developed for Council	✓
Deliver actions under the Bremer Catchment Action Plan	✓	Advocate for water security for agricultural purposes	★
Develop a program of work to facilitate climate adaptation across the region	✓	Deliver rural, community habitat and river trees initiatives	◆
Legend: Completed ★ On Track ✓ Monitor ◆ Requires Attention ✗			

Looking ahead

The continued management and conservation of the environment and the community's preparedness for future natural disasters will be a focus for Council in 2025-2026. It is committed to:

- delivering strategic catchment projects and outcomes for the Resilient Rivers SEQ as part of South East Queensland City Deal agreement
- reducing the volumes of leachate currently stored at Bromelton Waste Facility to return the site to full operational capacity
- managing targeted flying-fox roosts through Queensland Government-funded activities, and
- continuing to deliver the One Million Trees Program.

An aerial photograph of a vast, green agricultural field, likely a cornfield, with rows of crops stretching across the landscape. A semi-transparent dark grey rectangular box is overlaid on the upper left portion of the image, containing the title and subtitle text. The title 'Sustainable and Prosperous Economy' is written in white and green, while the subtitle is in white.

Sustainable and **Prosperous Economy**

An enhanced regional brand underpins sustainable economic growth for businesses, strong local employment opportunities and high-performing primary production and tourism industries



Our Highlights

With a continued focus on the growth of the local economy and employment opportunities during 2024-2025, Council:

- commenced production of a monthly email newsletter, *Business Link*, targeting business owners, operators and industry stakeholders of the Scenic Rim region
- successfully delivered a range of activities aimed at building the capacity of local businesses through the 2025 Scenic Rim Small Business Month program of events
- celebrated 66 local tourism and events businesses being named in the 2025 Best of Queensland Experiences list, and
- delivered the 2024 Eat Local Month program of events which contributed more than \$1.72 million to our local economy, an increase of 49 per cent over the previous year.

Our progress

Council continued to make good progress in meeting its Corporate Plan outcomes towards building a sustainable and prosperous economy for the region. Investment in the Scenic Rim has continued to grow against a backdrop of positive local employment rates. Council continued to work diligently to support the local community through its focus on buying locally, introducing new initiatives and developing its *Business Link* newsletter.

Investor interest in the region remains strong with the number of engagements with businesses to support the retention, expansion or attraction to the region - including the Beaudesert Enterprise Precinct - exceeding the target by almost 100 per cent. While there is still more to be done, 77 per cent of planned activities were completed during 2024-2025.

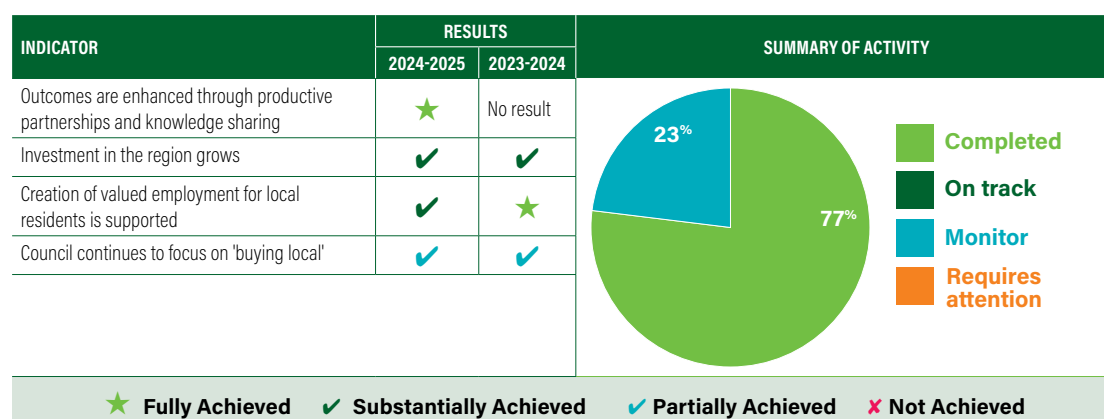
Our challenges

The Scenic Rim has not been immune to broader global and national economic impacts that have presented challenges for our region, with cost-of-living pressures affecting Australia also being experienced by our community.

Balancing population growth and preserving high-quality agricultural land while creating employment opportunities in small, medium and large businesses will be priorities for Council in the next 10 years.

Council will prioritise the attraction of investment in compatible industries such as food processing and tourism as well as in the defence, aeronautical, environmental, science, technology, and education sectors to further support the Scenic Rim's major economic driver, agriculture.

Securing this investment would require support from other levels of government to recognise and meet their obligations in providing the necessary infrastructure of roads, energy and water, enabling us to attract these industries to our region.



Recognising our tourism operators

The Scenic Rim's reputation as one of Queensland's most popular visitor destinations was reaffirmed with 66 local tourism and events businesses named in the 2025 Best of Queensland Experiences list.

Led by Tourism and Events Queensland, the Best of Queensland Experiences Program is the State's official mark of tourism excellence, allowing travellers to easily identify a tourism operator who has received the stamp of recognition.

The 2025 recipients represented a wide cross-section of the local tourism sector, from accommodation and attractions to food, beverage, and tour companies.

From the Scenic Rim, 29 accommodation providers including Binna Burra Sky Lodges, Cedar Glen Farmstay, Mount Barney Lodge, O'Reilly's Rainforest Retreat and The Polish Place made the list.

Attractions such as Thunderbird Park, Tamborine Rainforest Skywalk, Scenic Rim Adventure Park, Australian Outback Opals and Dig IT were among the 12 attractions recognised as a 2025 experience.

Popular food and drink venues including the Binna Burra Tea House, Kooroomba Vineyard and Lavender Farm, O'Reilly's Canungra Valley Vineyards, Tamborine Mountain Distillery, The Club Beaudesert and Witches Falls Winery and Cellar Door were some of the 19 hospitality venues included in this year's list.

The six Scenic Rim tour companies that made the exclusive list were Binna Burra Activities, Zipline Tour (Australia's largest zipline tour), Mt Barney Lodge, Pineapple Tours, Summer Land Camels and Tamborine Mountain Distillery Tours.

From Tamborine Mountain, Canungra and Boonah to Harrisville, the Scenic Rim is home to tourism operators who work hard to create welcoming and authentic experiences, not only supporting local jobs and our economy, but also showcasing the natural beauty of the region.

Reaping a bumper harvest from Eat Local Month 2024

The Scenic Rim's second annual Eat Local Month in 2024 served up an even greater smorgasbord of economic and social benefits for the region.

This landmark event has grown exponentially during the past 14 years from a modest week-long celebration of the region and its producers, with an analysis of Eat Local Month 2024 showing it had realised Council's vision for the event as Australia's most authentic paddock-to-plate food and farming experience as well as its social and economic objectives.

Celebrating the region's food and beverages, produce and farmers against the backdrop of the Scenic Rim's natural beauty and environment, more than 100 events were held throughout June 2024, attracting 12,993 visitors across all activations, with most participants coming from outside the region.

There was a 20 per cent increase in the average overnight stay spending and a 29 per cent increase in spending by day trippers resulting in Eat Local Month contributing more than \$1.72 million to our local economy, an increase of 49 per cent over the previous year.

With media coverage of the event reaching an estimated 4.8 million people, the value of the promotion of the Scenic Rim was around \$3.9 million. Some 93 per cent of visitors surveyed said Eat Local Month added to the Scenic Rim's appeal and that locals should take pride in this event.

In a break from tradition, Eat Local Month's signature event, the Winter Harvest Festival, was relocated to Kalbar and expanded into a weekend-long celebration resulting in a 60 per cent increase in attendance.

Scenic Rim Eat Local Month is a key element of the region's Eat Local movement which was recognised with a Bronze Award for Excellence in Food Tourism at the 2024 Queensland Tourism Awards in November.

Council is grateful to Tourism and Events Queensland for the Queensland Destination Events Program funding that Eat Local Month has received since 2015, as well as our sponsors Moffatt Fresh Produce, Kalfresh Vegetables, Urban Utilities, the Community Bank Kalbar and District (Bendigo Bank), ABC Radio Brisbane, Queensland Hire, and Brisbane Economic Development Agency.

Achieving globally recognised eco destination certification

The Scenic Rim's commitment to sustainable tourism was underscored by its achievement in January 2025 of ECO Destination Certification with Ecotourism Australia.

Located an hour from Brisbane and the Gold Coast, the Scenic Rim is celebrated for its UNESCO World Heritage Gondwana rainforests, dramatic landscapes and six National Parks.

It is home to eco tourism pioneers including Binna Burra Lodge, O'Reilly's Rainforest Retreat, Mount Barney Lodge, and Araucaria Ecotours, alongside a further nine Ecotourism Australia-certified businesses offering exceptional sustainable experiences for environmentally conscious travellers.

The Scenic Rim was the sixth destination in Queensland and the 12th in Australia to earn ECO Destination Certification.

This significant milestone in the region's tourism journey was achieved by Council in collaboration with local operators and stakeholders.

The certification process was made possible through support from the Queensland Government and WWF-Australia which, following the Black Summer bushfires, partnered with Ecotourism Australia to help 11 bushfire-affected regions rebuild through ecotourism.

Staging The Long Sunset

Council partnered with Queensland Music Festival to deliver The Long Sunset 2024, reprising an event which has brought more visitors and increased spending to the Scenic Rim while raising the region's profile.

Staged in 2022 and 2023 at Elysian Fields outside Canungra, The Long Sunset developed a cult following, with enthusiastic event-goers enjoying performances by artists including Angus and Julia Stone, Ball Park Music, Lime Cordiale and Winston Surfshirt against the backdrop of expansive greenery and mountains.

The Long Sunset in November 2024 was a key feature of the Scenic Rim Trail, part of the Queensland Music Trails program which explored the wonders of Queensland through curated itineraries of music events in spectacular and surprising settings.

The 2024 Scenic Rim Trail was applauded for bringing more than 4,500 visitors to the region, showcasing it as a leading tourism destination and capitalising on opportunities to boost visitor numbers and their length of stay.

Celebrating a winning partnership

The partnership between the Scenic Rim's agriculture and tourism sectors and Council that has shaped the region as a leading destination was recognised at the 2024 Queensland Tourism Awards in Brisbane in November.

In a glittering presentation at The Star, the Bronze Award for Excellence in Food Tourism celebrated the success of the Scenic Rim's Eat Local movement, the region's third straight win in the same category, following its 2022 silver award and 2023 bronze award.

The 2024 award was a further testament to the vision and perseverance of the producers, farmers, brewers, distillers, wine makers, restaurants and cafes behind the Eat Local movement, which had placed the region squarely on the food tourism map.

The success of our Eat Local movement is a shining example of what can be achieved by a local community collaborating to connect visitors to food, culture and country.



Catering for locals and visitors alike

Three curated itineraries focused on the Scenic Rim's west, centre and east set the scene for Eat Local Month 2025 when locals and visitors were invited to Indulge in Australia's most authentic paddock-to-plate food and farming experience and savour a smorgasbord of flavours and fun.

The Scenic Rim's annual month-long celebration of its farmers, growers, producers, artisans, chefs and quality food and beverages kicked off on the weekend of 30 May to 1 June at Tamborine Mountain, Canungra and Beechmont.

Rolling paddocks and ancient peaks provided the backdrop for a weekend of flavoursome experiences from Friday 6 June to Sunday 8 June when the small country towns of Boonah, Kalbar, Harrisville and Mount Alford had the tables set and the farm gates open to visitors.

Beaudesert, Allenvie, Kerry and Oaky Creek featured over the weekend of 20 to 22 June when the spotlight turned to the heart of the Scenic Rim.



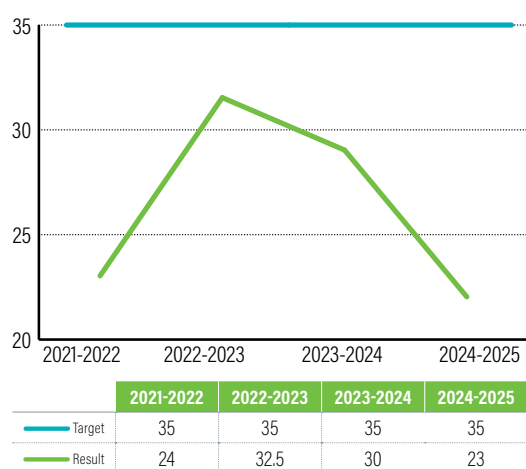
Servicing our Community

Local government's fundamental purpose is in meeting community needs delivered through its core services. Scenic Rim Regional Council's activities are outlined within its Service Catalogue, with core services reflecting its strategic direction aligned with Corporate Plan commitments. While services often overlap in terms of their impact on Corporate Plan commitments, for the purpose of clarity in reporting the following services contributed most significantly to building prosperity in the region.

Economic Development

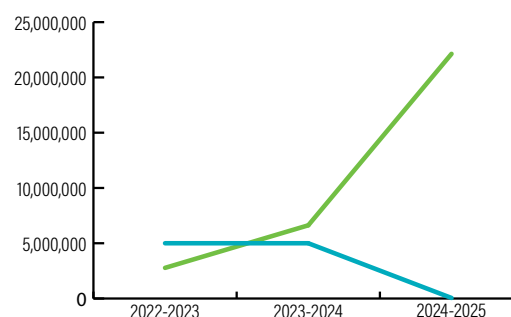
Council is committed to strengthening and growing the local economy to improve the region's overall prosperity and the community's standard of living. Council maintains the character of the Scenic Rim and its culture through initiatives to build capacity, capability and a sense of place and through its advocacy for the region. The Economic Development service encourages economic growth across the region and promotes the Scenic Rim as a destination for tourism and business. It delivers a range of programs aimed at specific sectors of our regional economy such as agribusiness, manufacturing, education, tourism and industry. Council works closely with industry and government agencies to help local businesses to grow and prosper and create new jobs for the region.

Percentage of Council's materials and services expenses purchased from local suppliers



Council continues to focus on supporting the local economy by sourcing services and materials where possible from local suppliers. This policy not only generates a degree of goodwill amongst local businesses but also contributes to the economic wellbeing of the region. In 2021-2022 our target was increased from 25 per cent to 35 per cent. However, despite Council's significant efforts, we have continued to fall short of this target.

Audience reach through destination marketing activities

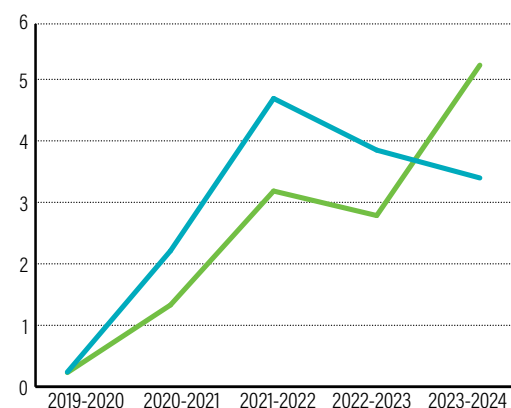


Tourism and events contribute a significant amount to the economy and reaching potential visitors and investors to raise awareness of the Scenic Rim Region is a critical element in achieving success.

While this figure exceeds the annual target, it is important to note that this is mostly from earned media (publicity generated media coverage) and Council cannot control journalists' level of reporting of the region, which has included Ecotourism certification and the venue for Brisbane 2032 Olympic and Paralympic Games. Results are, however, on an overall upward trend and Council exceeded its expected target this year.



Rate of growth in local employment



	2019-2020	2020-2021	2021-2022	2022-2023	2023-2024
QLD	0.32	2.15	4.45	3.67	3.25
Scenic Rim	0.46	1.48	3.2	2.83	5.1

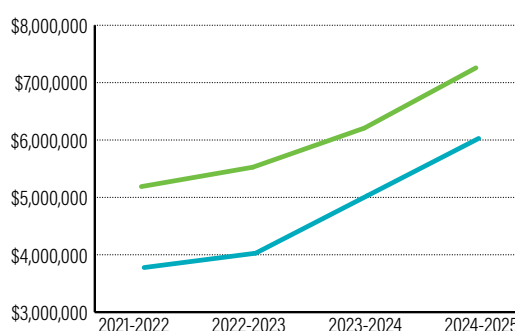
Tourism and events contribute a significant amount to the economy and reaching potential visitors and investors to raise awareness of the Scenic Rim region is a critical element in achieving success.



Regional Events

The development and delivery of quality regional events and encouraging the growth of established regional events are also key to building a sustainable and prosperous economy. This not only delivers economic return to the region but also contributes to building the Scenic Rim's destination brand.

Total value of economic impact generated by delivery and support of events



	2021-2022	2022-2023	2023-2024	2024-2025
Target	\$3,750,000	\$4,000,000	\$5,000,000	\$6,000,000
Result	\$5,342,178	\$5,680,122	\$6,361,960	\$7,411,380

Another excellent result was seen this year in terms of regional event-generated revenue. Council again exceeded its target and continues a trend of doing so.

Campgrounds

The attraction of tourists to the region is vital to building a sustainable and prosperous economy and providing a choice of quality accommodation options is key to appealing to the widest possible visitor base.

Recent years have seen enormous growth in the number of families and visitors returning to camping and caravanning. Recognising the importance of this trend, we are committed to ensuring that Council-controlled campgrounds are well managed and maintained to a suitable standard.

The maintenance of amenities and plumbing and the management of water supply, effluent pump-outs and tree hazards, as well as the provision of safety signage, are just some of the activities undertaken by Council to deliver this service.

Delivering our Operational Plan

DELIVERABLE	STATUS	DELIVERABLE	STATUS
Deliver year four actions contained within the Scenic Rim Regional Prosperity Strategy	★	Deliver year three of the action plan for the Agri-business and Agri-Tourism Industry Development Program 10-year roadmap	★
Deliver capability development programs and knowledge sharing initiatives catering to the needs of the local business community	★	Deliver Destination Marketing campaigns, initiatives and activities	★
Continue to explore opportunities for increasing Council's local spend	◆	Plan and deliver Scenic Rim Eat Local Month 2025, actioning the improvements detailed in the strategic recommendations report	★
Continue to deliver the Shop Scenic Rim, 'buy local' program	◆	Attract, expand, and develop new and existing events in the region that align with tourism strategies, drive yield and increase length of stay	◆
Develop Council's Inventory Procurement Plan to highlight the annual inventory procurement and opportunities for local supplier	★	Mentor organisers of regional events to build their capability to deliver economic return	★
Promote and advocate for the Bromelton SDA	★	Destination management focused on targeting and attracting high-value travellers	★
Implementation of the Scenic Rim Investment Attraction Plan	★		

Legend: Completed ★ On Track ✓ Monitor ◆ Requires Attention ✖

Looking ahead

With the aim of creating a more sustainable and prosperous economy for our region, Council in 2025-2026 will:

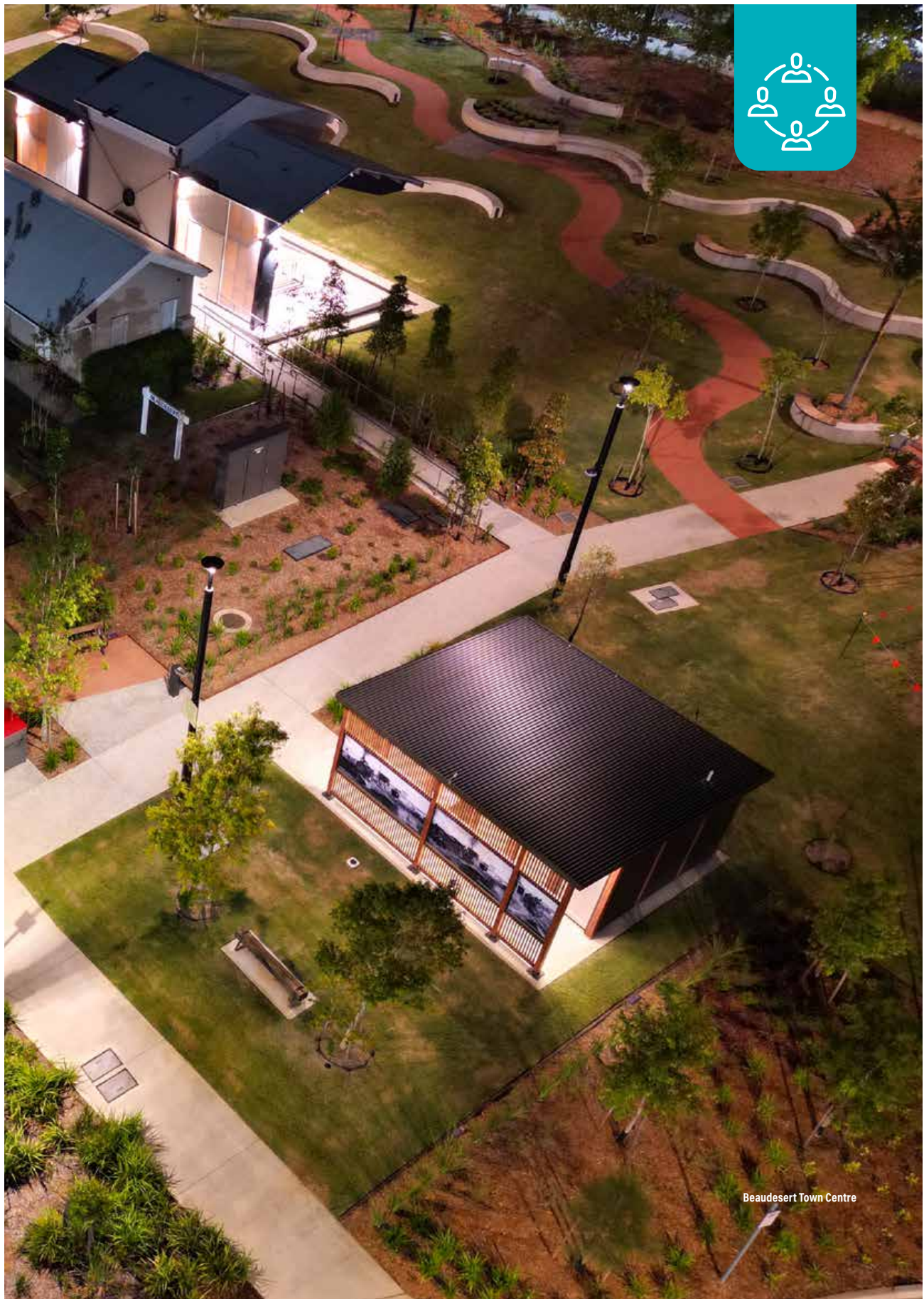
- implement the new Economic Development Strategy to identify, prioritise and assist in planning to boost regional prosperity
- continue to promote and advocate for the Bromelton State Development Area by implementing the Investment Attraction Action Plan
- plan and deliver Scenic Rim Eat Local Month 2026, and
- attract, expand, and develop new and existing events in the region that align with tourism strategies, drive yield and increase visitors' length of stay.



Open and **Responsive** **Government**

Ethical and transparent leadership supports the diverse needs of our community via a high performing and financially sustainable organisation





Our Highlights

In line with its commitment to delivering the highest standards of service to the community, Council in 2024-2025:

- sought feedback on the Draft Economic Development Strategy, with the first stage of the consultation resulting in 411 responses, the highest number ever in Scenic Rim's community engagement program
- introduced a revised complaint management protocol, improving response consistency, documentation, and follow-up for both internal and external complaints
- won national recognition for reporting excellence, achieving a silver award at the Australasian Reporting Awards for its 2023-2024 Annual Report, and
- successfully delivered the new *Corporate Plan 2025-2030*.

Our progress

Council continued to progress towards achieving its aim of ethical and transparent leadership to support the community throughout 2024-2025. Overall, very good progress was made, with almost 80 per cent of scheduled activities completed or on track, despite the impacts of budgetary and staff resourcing issues. Our indicators of success showed very positive results, with all targets either fully or substantially achieved.

Our challenges

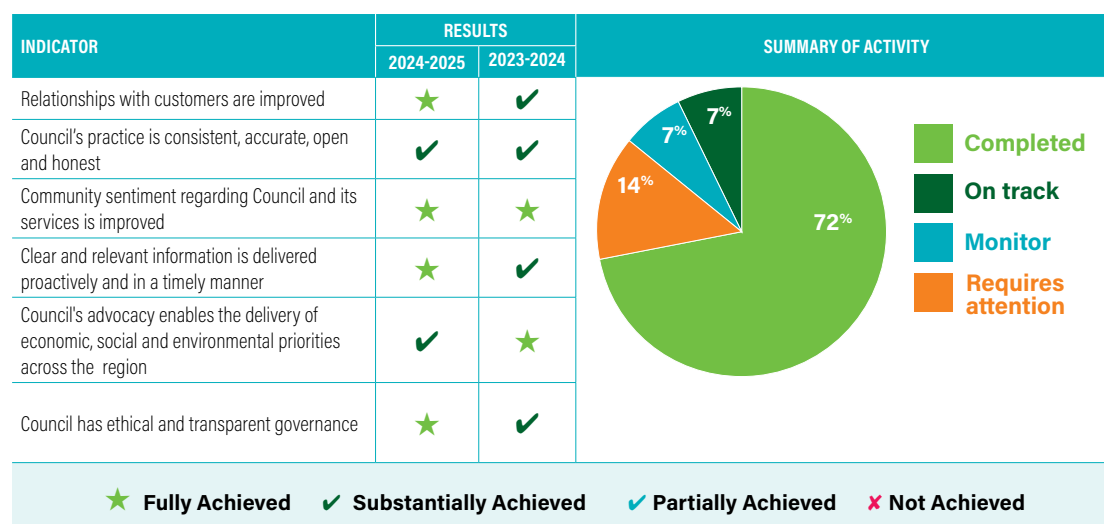
Meeting the needs of current and future residents, without creating a financial legacy for future generations, will require excellent planning and the delivery of capital works which will depend on increased funding.

Over the next 10 years, Council will allocate funds for the renewal, replacement, maintenance and construction of more than \$1 billion of community infrastructure.

Currently, Council receives 70 per cent of its income from rates, with grants, fees and charges and external funding accounting for the remaining 30 per cent. However, a review of funding from other levels of government is key to long-term financial sustainability as the infrastructure and services required to meet the growing needs of the region cannot continue to be supported solely through rates.

A more immediate challenge is the way in which Council connects with its residents to ensure maximum engagement when the Scenic Rim's population is dispersed over a large area. We are committed to ensuring that all of our residents feel that they are part of our community and have a voice in Council's decisions.

Our indicators of success



Achieving excellence in reporting

Council's 2023-2024 Annual Report won national recognition, achieving a silver award at the Australasian Reporting Awards (ARA) in June. A first-time ARA entrant, Council received the award in the category of Public Administration – Local, for its report which met the high international standards of professionalism, transparency and disclosure demanded by the ARA.

Scenic Rim's 2023-2024 Annual Report showcased our region as a jewel in the crown of South East Queensland and Council's focus on continuous improvement in its delivery of services and infrastructure to our community.

Held annually since 1950, the ARA is a prestigious event in Australia, New Zealand and the Asia-Pacific region. This year's theme, 75 Years of Encouraging and Recognising Excellence in Annual Reporting, inspired transparent, honest, and informative reporting from 175 entries from public and private sector organisations across a range of categories.

The awards highlight the value of communicating business processes integrated with environment, social and governance principles - all important for organisations aiming to remain relevant and responsible in the midst of global dynamics.

Council's win showed that its reports not only meet legislative obligations but are also recognised at the national and international level, in line with leading institutions in the field of reporting and governance.



Creating a new vision for the region

The launch of Council's new Corporate Plan has provided a new vision for the region for the next five years.

The *Corporate Plan 2025-2030* was developed in line with the requirements of the *Local Government Act 2009* and the *Local Government Regulation 2012* and provides the strategic direction for Council in its service delivery to the community.

Our Corporate Plan guides Council's planning for its services, strategies, programs and facilities.

It articulates our priorities that feed into our future budgets and annual operational plans.

The *Corporate Plan 2025-2030* presents six Strategic Goals for the region and details what Council is seeking to achieve over the life of the Plan.

Under the banner of FOCUS, the Plan includes guiding principles of:

- Financial sustainability
- Operational efficiency
- Customer responsiveness
- United team, and
- Strategic local partnerships.

To ensure it reflects community priorities, Council invited feedback on the Draft Corporate Plan during April and May 2025. During the consultation, Council welcomed feedback online, through its online engagement platform, Let's Talk Scenic Rim, and through hard copy submissions.

There were also three opportunities for face-to-face discussions at Beaudesert, Boonah and Tamborine Mountain. Council received 171 responses to the Draft Corporate Plan and 82 people attended consultation events.

Together with the community, Council has created a roadmap that reflects shared goals and supports a vibrant, sustainable future for the Scenic Rim.

The *Corporate Plan 2025-2030* is available on Council's website www.scenicrim.qld.gov.au/our-council/administration/corporate-publications.



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Customer Service and Community Engagement

Reducing call waiting times

Council provides a frontline customer service function, which aims to deliver a meaningful experience for all customers. Council strives to provide excellent customer service and has worked diligently in recent years, particularly in respect to reducing call waiting times. During 2024-2025, Council received more than 42,000 calls and achieved an average call waiting time of just 30 seconds, meeting our target of answering all calls within 30 seconds or less. Online enquiries have contributed to this result as well, with the number of online requests increasing this year by 22 per cent, further reducing the burden on customer service officers.

Enhancing decision making through engagement

Effective community engagement is the cornerstone of responsive local government committed to enhanced accountability and transparency in all operations. By actively involving residents in decision-making processes, Council ensures that diverse perspectives are heard and integrated, leading to policies that reflect the community's needs and aspirations. This collaborative approach fosters trust and strengthens the relationship between Council and its constituents, creating a shared sense of ownership and responsibility. Ultimately, robust community engagement not only improves the quality and effectiveness of local government services, strategies and programs, but also enables community members to feel empowered, contributing to a more connected and cohesive community.

Underpinned by the International Association for Public Participation Framework, each consultation is developed to ensure that timelines, engagement goals and strategic objectives are met and that the customer remains at the heart of everything we do.

Community engagement has continued to grow through the Let's Talk Scenic Rim online platform, with the number of registered participants increasing to 1,370 during 2024-2025. The platform achieved 20,599 site visits relating to nine surveys, achieving an engagement rate of 6.8 per cent. These results can be attributed to Council's successful engagement strategies, demonstrating the community's active involvement in our projects. Some 1,281 responses were received from the community via Let's Talk Scenic Rim and 40 published documents attracted 2,276 downloads. In addition to the online platform, 14 newsletters and notifications were distributed to more than 1,200 community members, with an average opening rate of 63 per cent.

Several key consultations were conducted during the year, reflecting positively on the organisation and providing valuable and constructive data to inform strategies and plans.

These included consultation and feedback on:

- **The Draft Corporate Plan 2025-2030 and The Draft Budget 2025-2026 (169 responses)**

Consultation on the Draft Corporate Plan 2025-2030 opened on 16 April 2025 and concluded on 12 May 2025. Council received 95 written responses specifically related to the Corporate Plan and 82 residents attended one of the three face-to-face consultation sessions, which also provided an opportunity to provide feedback on the Draft Budget 2025-2026. The face-to-face sessions were held at Beaudesert on 30 April, Boonah on 1 May and Tamborine Mountain on 6 May 2025.

Community feedback suggested support for the Corporate Plan vision, with more than 80 per cent of respondents to the survey agreeing with the vision statement.

- **The Draft Integrated Transport Plan - Stage Two (50 responses)**

This Plan will provide a strategic framework for Council's decisions about the development of road networks, walking paths, cycle routes, and transport connections as the Scenic Rim continues to grow.

It will also inform strategic documents such as the Local Government Infrastructure Plan. The responses from the community provided invaluable feedback that will be considered alongside other aspects of the plan.

Once the Plan is finalised, Council can begin to deliver on the strategies to enhance the Scenic Rim's transport experience.

▪ **The Future Use of Beaudesert Pig and Calf Saleyards (115 responses)**

Prior to its closure in March 2021, the Beaudesert Pig and Calf Saleyards were a facility for the sale of small livestock such as pigs, calves, and poultry. In November 2023, Council consulted with the community on concept plans for the saleyards' adaptive re-use.

The results of an earlier community survey predominantly supported the plans and concept design and, while it is important to acknowledge and respect the significant investments made by both Council and the community in the previous consultation process, Council was still open to community insights and perspectives in relation to future use of the saleyards and the site.

More than 740 people visited the project page resulting in the downloading of more than 320 documents and the viewing of photos and other project information.

The community consultation survey received 24 responses. Community support was broadly in favour of the proposed design and suggested some additional elements that respondents thought were missing such as rubbish bins and wheelchair accessibility for the tables. This feedback has now been included in the final design.

▪ **The Draft Scenic Rim Economic Development Strategy (448 responses across two stages)**

The Draft Scenic Rim Economic Development Strategy 2026-2030 aims to foster the region's economic growth and development over the next five years and beyond.

This Strategy will serve as a guiding framework for Council as it strives to fulfil its vision for the Scenic Rim as a location of choice to live, learn, work and invest, driven by innovation across a range of traditional and emerging industries.

Council will carefully consider all responses and suggestions which will be incorporated in the final version of the *Scenic Rim Economic Development Strategy 2026-2030* to be adopted in the first half of 2025-2026.

To stay informed about future community engagement opportunities, project updates and to provide feedback online, register to Let's Talk Scenic Rim www.letstalk.scenicrim.qld.gov.au



Governance

Council's governance services and activities promote robust, streamlined and defensible decision-making processes, and transparency, accountability, and efficiency in Council operations. This service assists Council in enhancing its governance practices, creating community confidence in the Council organisation.

Resolving complaints through best practice

Council's management of its complaints process is key to ensuring the confidence of the community. Council is committed to fairly and transparently managing and resolving complaints made by members of the public and promotes a positive customer-focused approach to complaints management. Significant improvements have been made in relation to the recognition of Administrative Action Complaints and a concerted effort has been made to record and complete all outstanding complaints from previous years. To ensure Council remains open and responsive, the Complaints Management Framework was reviewed fully and a new best practice approach was adopted in August 2024.

The table below shows the number of complaints received over the past three years. The significant increase in numbers in 2023-2024 was due to changes in the complaints resolution process that redefined what constituted a complaint under the process and this has also impacted this year's figures in terms of the number of complaints.

Complaints	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24	2024-25
Administrative Action Complaints Open	28	26	46	20
Administrative Action Complaints Closed	14	26	114	245
Total	42	52	160	265
Outstanding from Previous Year	0	28	0	0
Competitive Neutrality Complaints	0	0	0	0

Note: due to a change in the way it is calculated, this data is inconsistent with the data published in our 2022-2023 Annual Report.

Disclosing information to improve transparency

Transparency is an important element of good governance and key to open and responsive government. Council supports the disclosure of information, including the use of the Publication Scheme and access applications under the *Right to Information Act 2009* and the *Information Privacy Act 2009*.

A significant increase was seen in the total number of access applications received during 2024-2025 with the number of applications more than doubling. Despite the significant increase in the number of information request applications, Council was able to respond within statutory timeframes to all but one.

Application Type	2022-23	2023-24	2024-25
Access Request under the Right to Information Act	11	10	34
Access Request under the Information Privacy Act	2	5	2
Total requests	13	15	36

Internal Audit and Improvement

Ensuring Council appropriately manages risks and controls, complies with legislation, manages the risk of fraud and has integrity in financial reporting are fundamental tenets of open and responsive government. This is achieved within Council through internal audit, assurance and advisory services, including operation of the Audit and Risk Committee (ARC) and coordination of the external audit function.

Ensuring transparency, accountability and oversight

Since its establishment in 2009, Council's Audit and Risk Committee (ARC) has provided assurance to the community that Council is fulfilling its legislative responsibilities in relation to financial reporting, internal controls, risk management and ethical accountability.

The ARC comprises two Councillors and two external independent members in accordance with section 210(1) of the *Local Government Regulations (2012)*. In accordance with its Terms of Reference, the Chair of the Committee is one of the external members.

During 2024-25 membership of the Committee was as outlined below:

Name	Role	Notes
Stephen Coates	Independent Chair	For full year
Melissa Jacobs	Independent Member	For full year
Councillor Amanda Hay	Member	For full year
Councillor Jennifer Sanders	Member	For full year
Councillor Marshall Chalk	Proxy	For full year

The committee met five times during 2024–2025, with attendance shown in the table below:

Meeting Dates	Stephen Coates	Melissa Jacobs	Councillors	
22/08/2024	✓	✓	Cr Hay	Cr Chalk
10/10/2024	✓	✓	Cr Hay	Cr Sanders
21/11/2024	✓	✓	Cr Hay	Cr Sanders
27/03/2025	✓	✓	Cr Hay	Cr Chalk
19/06/2025	✓	✓	Cr Hay	

The committee membership consists of:

- Stephen Coates, the external Chair, who has 25 years' experience in internal audit, consulting and risk management roles with a focus on the public sector, and who is also Chair and member of a number of other audit committees. With significant experience and skills in financial matters, he satisfies the legislated requirement for membership. His other skills are in the areas of internal audit, governance risk and compliance, quality assurance and technology risks and controls.
- Melissa Jacobs, an external member who has more than 20 years' experience in corporate governance and risk management roles, primarily for local government and the Gold Coast Commonwealth Games Organising Committee, as well as other local government audit committees. She has a wide range of skills including risk management, corporate governance, program/project management, financial management and organisational change management.
- Two Councillors - Cr Amanda Hay and Cr Jennifer Sanders, whose profiles appear on page 24.

The committee operates in accordance with Terms of Reference, which were last updated in 2024. It follows an Annual Meeting Planner, with agenda items scheduled for all meetings to ensure the objectives in the Terms of Reference are met. The Audit and Risk Committee produces an annual report to Council, which provides a comprehensive summary of the committee's activities during the year. The ARC's 2024-2025 report is to be presented to Council in October 2025.

Council's Audit and Risk Management Committee significantly enhanced its role in supporting strong governance, integrity, and assurance outcomes across the organisation during 2025. Meeting on a quarterly basis, the committee provided active and independent oversight of Council's control environment, risk management framework, audit activities, and financial accountability.

The committee strengthened its engagement with management by seeking deeper insights into unresolved and emerging risk areas, particularly in infrastructure resilience, service delivery models, cybersecurity, asset sustainability, and regulatory compliance. This improved focus has allowed for a broader and more strategic risk coverage across the organisation's operations.

Enhanced reporting was a key feature of 2025, with the committee receiving more timely and comprehensive reports, clearer management responses, and targeted action plans. There was a noticeable shift toward greater transparency in tracking high-priority and long-outstanding risks, with the committee applying increased scrutiny to ensure that mitigation actions were not only planned but also progressing to completion. In March 2025, the committee specifically requested that the managers responsible for overdue high-risk actions prepare reports and attend the meeting to explain the status of those actions. Useful feedback was also provided on the draft Strategic Risk Register.

Additionally, the committee collaborated closely with the External Auditor to ensure the alignment of material issues and the integrity of financial reporting. Strategic discussions also took place on emerging risks relevant to the Scenic Rim region, such as climate adaptation, supply chain disruptions and digital transformation. Overall, the work of Council's Audit and Risk Management Committee in 2025 reflected a more proactive, data-informed, and risk-focused oversight function—ensuring that both compliance and performance assurance were delivered effectively.

Looking to the future, the ARC intends to focus on management of risk in areas such as:

- ethics and organisation culture
- procurement framework and processes
- cyber-security
- policy management
- quality assurance, and
- controls assurance.

Providing internal audit

Internal Audit is an independent professional appraisal function established within Council to examine and evaluate its activities, which include reviewing Council's risks, internal controls, efficiency, effectiveness, governance, performance and compliance. The Internal Audit function:

- provides a high quality audit, assurance and advisory service to Council
- assists in embedding a culture of continuous improvement practices across Council
- supports Council's risk management processes, and
- provides assurance and assists the CEO, management and Council in effectively discharging their responsibilities, by providing them with analyses, appraisals, recommendations, counsel, reports and information.

Despite staff shortages during 2024-2025, Internal Audit completed approximately 60 per cent of scheduled reviews. It delved deeply into all areas of Council's procurement and grants management processes and made a number of recommendations that will be monitored going forward.

To ensure that identified risks are managed appropriately, updates are collated on Council's progress in implementing agreed audit actions through an ongoing process. During 2024-2025, 17 actions in total were added to the tracking process and four actions were closed. In the year ahead, Internal Audit will focus on development assessment, regulatory compliance, payroll and roads maintenance scheduling, pending approval of the draft Annual Internal Audit Plan.

Risk Management

Reducing risk by embedding a robust framework

Council has a well-established enterprise risk management framework, which includes the Risk Management Policy, Guidelines and toolkit. The framework also establishes the Risk Reference Group as the internal governance mechanism for managing risk. Council's Risk Management Framework is based on an embedded, continuous improvement model in which the process is continually reviewed and enhanced to remain current, agile and responsive to the situation. To succeed, the framework must be an integrated part of management and all levels of decision making. Additionally, risk management must be integrated into the organisational structure and operations as well as Council processes. Council's Risk Management Framework is supported by the following key components:

- Scenic Rim Regional Council Risk Register
- Risk Management Policy
- Risk Management Guidelines, and
- Risk Tool Sheet.

These key documents, which are based on the principles of the Australian Standards Risk Management - Guidelines AS31000:2018, form the governing platform from which Council's risk management objectives are delivered.

The Audit and Risk Committee is regularly provided with the latest version of Council's Strategic Risk Register and, at each meeting, an update is provided on the activities that demonstrate ongoing effective risk management including specific risk reviews, training and awareness activities and the application of risk management in practice. During 2024-2025, in preparation for the development of a new corporate plan, Council completed a significant review and refresh of the Strategic Risk Register, as actions to mitigate strategic risk determine the content of strategic plans. This review was then presented to, and endorsed by, the Audit and Risk Committee. Additionally, Council's related risk policies and procedures are scheduled for review during 2025-2026.

In conjunction with this work, Councillors and Council's Management Team participated in a number of risk prioritisation exercises, revealing that the top three ranked risks were financial sustainability, failure of information systems and assets and infrastructure. With robust risk management policies, procedures and frameworks in place, Council will now concentrate on embedding a risk culture throughout the organisation, with the ultimate aim of making risk a regular topic of conversation within business teams.

Testing our continuity

Council's Business Continuity Plan (BCP), which was endorsed in 2023-2024 by the Executive Team following extensive consultation within the organisation and beyond, includes critical function identification, a roles and responsibility matrix and a Coordinator Kit. The Plan identified 15 critical functions with sub-plans, all with fully developed BCPs in place, while all other non-critical functions have been encouraged to develop their own sub-plans, as resources permit.

Council's goal is to exercise our BCP annually. However, due to staff turnover in critical and management positions, no exercise or review was conducted during 2024-2025, and this is expected to be rectified in 2025-2026. As an identified critical function, Information and Communication Technology has both a well-developed BCP and an IT Disaster Recovery Plan to ensure that Council's IT infrastructure is able to continue to provide support to the organisation and the community.



Our People

For a small rural council, the attraction and retention of suitably qualified, experienced and talented staff is a constant challenge and 2024-2025 was no exception for Scenic Rim. Our Human Resources Team worked diligently during the year to provide excellent service in recruiting the talent required for the organisation, undertaking employee onboarding as well as performance management, learning and development, industrial relations and legislative compliance activities. Team members also provide advice and guidance on a range of workforce-related matters.

As at 30 June 2025, Scenic Rim Regional Council had the equivalent of 478 full-time employees. Full-time employees represented 82.6 per cent of the workforce, with part-time and casual employees comprising 17.4 per cent.

Equal opportunity and diversity

As an equal opportunity employer, Council treats employees on their merits - from the recruitment and interview process through to their daily duties, promotion, training and development opportunities and their resignation, retrenchment or redundancy. The provision of a safe work environment, free from bullying and harassment, and in which equitable employment opportunities are maintained by ensuring that the work environment is free from discrimination, is a priority for Council. As at 30 June 2025, Council's workforce identified as 42.4 per cent female, 57.58 per cent male with 0.2 per cent of employees identifying as intersex or indeterminate.

Discrimination in the workplace is completely unacceptable and Council is committed to resolving any instances of this behaviour. All reports are taken seriously and managed in accordance with the provisions of the relevant policies. All employees, including contractors, are required to undertake training at induction, and then at regular intervals throughout their tenure, to ensure their compliance with Council's requirements.

Celebrating our employees

Council strives to develop an organisational culture in which high-performing and long-serving employees are valued, by providing positive feedback to maximise staff morale and improve operational performance.

The Chief Executive Officer's Valued Employee Award also celebrates and acknowledges Council staff who demonstrate outstanding performance in their role in line with Council's values. The award is presented quarterly, culminating in an annual award, and is open to all employees with the exception of members of the Management Team.

Council also encourages a general culture of recognition in the workplace through informal rewards including spontaneous, sincere and personal appreciation of an individual or group, short notes of appreciation or formal acknowledgement (for placement on a personnel file) or developmental opportunities (such as attendance at conferences). In addition to Council's Valued Employee scheme, Council recognises the contribution to Council and the community of employees who have provided extended years of dedicated service. Awards are made annually to employees who, during the preceding financial year, have completed 10, 15, 20, 25, 30, 35, 40, or even 50 years of continuous service to Council.

Developing our employees

The Development Plan and Appraisal (DP&A) process promotes open and honest two-way communication between staff and line managers and encourages skills development and performance management across the organisation. It has been designed to support employees when planning their goals at the beginning of the year followed by performance reviews throughout the year.

It also helps supervisors to monitor and assess their team's performance, coach and develop employees who are not performing to expectation, and reward those whose achievements exceed expectation.

Following a review of the DP&A process, the focus in 2025-2026 will be on the annual review for employees covering performance across the previous 12 months, incorporating the Corporate Values, then planning personal/professional development goals for the coming year.

This will provide a valuable opportunity for supervisors and employees to collaboratively review work performance incorporating Council's Corporate Values and agree to performance and professional development goals for the coming 12 months. This process is not only about what Council requires from its employees, but also serves to identify the support employees require to enable them to provide Council with the best possible performance.

Council is committed to providing learning and development opportunities to ensure employees remain up to date and are able to perform at their best in a world that is constantly changing in terms of culture, technology, regulation and new processes and procedures.

It recognises the importance of a skilled workforce and the value of supporting employees in acquiring formal qualifications.

Where these qualifications complement Council's goals, and are relevant to the work or agreed career path of a particular employee, Council will provide assistance in undertaking courses of study at universities and TAFE colleges through full or partial reimbursement for some expenses and study leave to attend examinations.

Council is also committed to supporting and providing learning and development initiatives that extend the skills and knowledge of employees and that align with operational needs and priorities, providing all employees with access to relevant learning and development opportunities.

During 2024-2025, Council provided more than 500 individual learning opportunities to employees. Training in relation to safe dog handling, de-escalation of hostile situations, stress management, load restraint, first aid and use of Council's social media was approved and delivered through Council's Learning and Development Team.

Providing training opportunities to secure future employees

Through a rigorous recruitment process, resulting in 175 applications, Council successfully filled all positions for its 2025 cohort of trainees and apprentices.

This program saw eight trainees and one apprentice commencing with Council in positions across the organisation including Library Services, IT, Administration, Civil Construction, and Workshop.

All trainees and apprentices are monitored through a formalised program including regular development sessions, individual mentoring for each trainee and apprentice, and team workshops for the cohort. Council is proud to assist trainees and apprentices to grow and learn throughout their program.

Surveying staff

A staff survey was launched in December 2024 to address the challenge of attracting and retaining staff. The survey aimed to gather employees' thoughts, ideas, and opinions to provide a better workplace experience for all, guaranteeing anonymity to ensure that survey responses were as open and honest as possible.

Some 293 surveys were completed, representing a response rate of approximately 65 per cent. Some of the positive results were that more than 80 per cent of respondents felt they contributed positively to the organisation, were aware of Council values and felt their supervisor/manager was approachable to questions or concerns. Employees' passion for their specific roles, enjoyment of their work and the sense of working together toward common goals with their teams, were highlighted through the survey.

On a less positive note, results of the survey also showed that staff believed general communication within the organisation, and in particular from the Executive level, was not as clear and effective as it could be. Employees also expressed the importance of competitive salaries and flexible working hours and locations on their level of satisfaction with working at Council. Overall, the survey indicated an average satisfaction rating of 3.26, on a scale of 1 to 5 (with 1 being least satisfied and 5 being very satisfied) and that more than 60 per cent of employees would recommend Council as an employer. The information provided by staff was considered during the latest round of Enterprise Bargaining Agreement negotiations and formed the basis for the creation of a number of activities to address concerns raised by staff. The survey is to be conducted annually so Council can monitor and evaluate the success of these activities.



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Work health and safety

Council takes very seriously its obligation to ensure the health, safety and wellbeing of all workers and meets this by providing and maintaining a safe work environment, safe systems of work, safe plant and structures and by preventing and managing illness or injury arising from its operations. All Council staff are responsible for ensuring the health, safety and wellbeing of co-workers, contractors, employees of contractors and sub-contractors as well as visitors to Council facilities. Council's Work Health and Safety Team worked throughout the year to make our workplace safer by developing and delivering training and training materials which included traffic management and general work health and safety for new employees. Key activities undertaken included:

- finalisation and endorsement of the 2025-2028 Safety Plan and its subsequent implementation. The progress of this plan is monitored and reported on quarterly to the Executive Team and 71 activities were completed with 21 more in progress at the end of the 2024-2025 year.
- Movember, the men's health awareness campaign, which raised more than \$1000 for research and support services
- workshop machine safety upgrades, including updated work instructions
- the launch of a new 24/7 Employee Assistance Program
- the rollout of fire and evacuation training to staff, and
- the 10,000 Steps Challenge, which saw more than 37.5 million steps recorded by the 20 per cent of participating staff.



In addition to its Work Health and Safety team, Council has Work Group Health and Safety Representatives who provide two-way communication of information between the Work Health and Safety team and Council employees. The duties of the elected Health and Safety Representatives include:

- attending portfolio group meetings
- attending monthly Health and Safety Representative meetings
- attending Work Health and Safety corporate meetings every eight weeks
- carrying out hazard inspections/audits/incident investigations, and
- providing a point of contact for any WHS issues in their work group area.

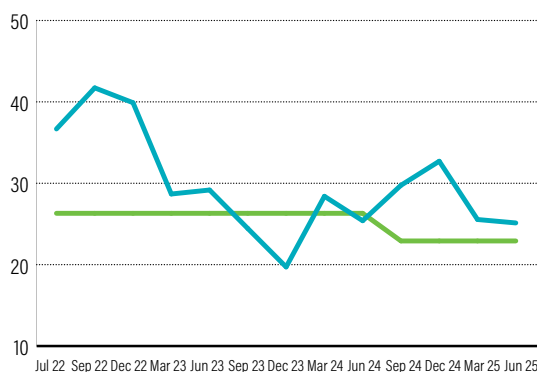
Total recordable injury frequency rate

The chart below shows our Total Recordable Injury Frequency Rate (TRIFR) measured against our targets over the past three financial years.

At the end of 2024-2025, this rate was 24.59 versus a target of 22.38. This target represented a 10 per cent reduction from the previous year's TRIFR of 24.86, reflecting Council's commitment to a more ambitious safety benchmark.

Although this target was not met, the general downward trend over the previous years has continued and, considering the focus has been on the reduction of critical injuries rather than less serious musculoskeletal injuries, this is a pleasing result.

Total Recordable Injury Frequency Rate

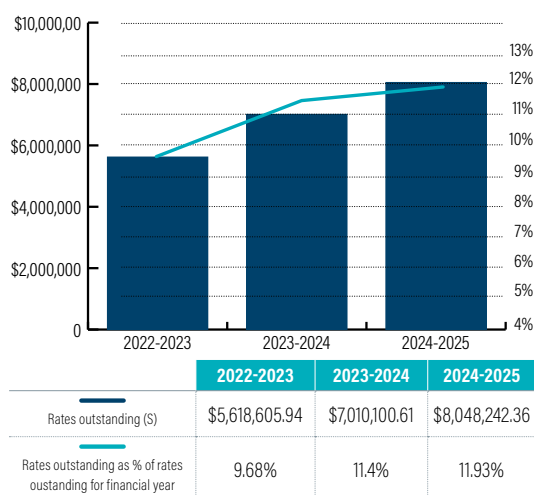


	JULY 22	SEPT 22	DEC 22	MAR 23	JUNE 23	SEPT 23	DEC 23	MAR 24	JUNE 24	SEPT 24	DEC 24	MAR 25	JUNE 25
TRIFR	36.12	41.16	39.34	28.14	28.63	23.9	19.19	27.86	24.86	29.21	32.16	25.01	24.59
TRIFR Target	25.77	25.77	25.77	25.77	25.77	25.77	25.77	25.77	25.77	22.38	22.38	22.38	22.38

Rates and Revenue

Rates are a necessary element of local government and delivering essential services to the community. Rates are the main source of revenue for Council so it is critical that the processing of rates, levying of charges, collection of outstanding rates-related debts, and fast and effective resolution of external customer enquiries, is conducted while still providing exceptional customer service to the community. The chart below shows Council's outstanding revenue as at 30 June 2024, a slight increase compared to the same period last year at 11.40 per cent. Council continues to work with residents and the community to improve this rate.

Revenue Outstanding



Purchasing and stores

Price is not the only factor in achieving value for money. It also involves assessing the quality of goods and services, warranty conditions, future maintenance requirements, the environmental sustainability of sources and even considerations relating to modern day slavery. Council's procurement and supply services are responsible for strategic sourcing solutions that provide fit-for-purpose goods and services that support Council's operations. Our policy is to support local business wherever possible and we have set a positive target of spending 35 per cent our total purchasing allocation with local suppliers.

Information services and technology

As the use of technology becomes increasingly embedded in the workplace, providing, managing and maintaining a range of information systems and services is critical to the continuity of Council operations and the provision of services to the community.

Protecting our technology

The security of data belonging to residents, businesses and visitors is a priority for Council, which is continuously reviewing and revising practices in line with emerging threats. Council continues to take a layered defence

approach that combines technology and people to provide the best possible outcome with available resources. As part of an ongoing program to reduce the risk of attack and increase Council's resilience, a number of legacy technology systems were upgraded throughout 2024-2025.

This included the upgrade of TechnologyOne to version 2024b and the commencement of the TechnologyOne Modernisation Phase 1. The Disaster Recovery Plan was comprehensively reviewed to ensure that it aligned with Council's Business Continuity Plan to reduce the potential impact on day-to-day operations if an incident were to occur. Cybersecurity awareness and regular testing assisted our most important layer of defence, our people, to understand and respond appropriately to potential threats.

Embracing digital modernisation

In today's fast-paced and ever-changing world, organisations must embrace digital modernisation and adapt to unlock its immense benefits. By taking full advantage of our Information and Communication Technology (ICT) investments, we can drive innovative digital solutions that revolutionise service delivery, streamline operations, and empower our residents. During 2024-2025, Council engaged a strategic IT consulting company, with extensive local government experience, to undertake information discovery and develop an ICT Review report. Workshops and interviews with the Executive Team, management and key stakeholders resulted in a report which included 75 recommendations, resulting in 85 actions, forming the basis for the development of the ICT Strategic Plan 2024-2028.

Endorsed by Council in October 2024, the ICT Strategic Plan provides the roadmap for Council's continued journey towards achieving the extensive and transformative advantages of digital modernisation. Support for Council's Corporate Plan and Annual Operational Plan is achieved through the ICT Strategic Plan's Vision, Mission, Guiding Principles and Goals. Underpinning the delivery of the ICT Strategic Plan will be the introduction of a revised ICT Governance Framework to ensure that priority projects and programs of work deliver sustainable business solutions.



Council has invested significantly in ICT infrastructure and systems and is expecting measured business improvement from robust, secure, fit-for-purpose systems that support modernisation and, ultimately, innovation. By integrating technology, we can enhance operational efficiency, optimise resource utilisation and ensure fiscal responsibility.

Effective ICT services, aligned to Council's business goals and community outcomes, are essential in enabling us to elevate service quality, empower our staff, engage with our residents and build a resilient community. The ICT Strategic Framework's goals are that:

- ICT is an enabler for business and community outcomes
- our technology environment supports digital business transformation and continuous service improvement
- ICT governance is established and embodies our organisational values and culture
- information assets are secure and managed to enable efficient, transparent, accountable and continuous operations, and
- our technology capability is modern, fit-for-purpose and delivers positive return on investment.

The Strategic Plan includes projects that will enhance our public-facing online services, strengthen our cybersecurity capability, formalise our ICT Governance Framework and provide service improvements across our ICT operations.

Maintaining our plant and vehicle fleet

Council's management of fleet vehicles, plant and equipment plays a vital role in the delivery of services to the community. Procuring a fleet that meets Council's needs, and complies with legislative and regulatory requirements while ensuring value for money, is a complex task. Coordinating disposal, replacement and servicing schedules and managing fuel and tyre purchases, insurance, registration and vehicle allocation as well as the induction of employees all serve to ensure Council's vehicle fleet is cost effective and fit for purpose. During 2024-2025, Council completed the delivery program for the installation of a new 4G global positioning monitoring system for our light motor vehicles, plant and truck fleet.

In addition to ensuring a dependable and fit-for-purpose fleet, assets and equipment, Council staff managed and delivered high-quality scheduled maintenance, preventative maintenance, repairs and, where possible, fabricated, modified, and repaired assets and equipment in Council workshops. Some 400 services were carried out on motor vehicles, trucks and heavy and light plant assets during the year.

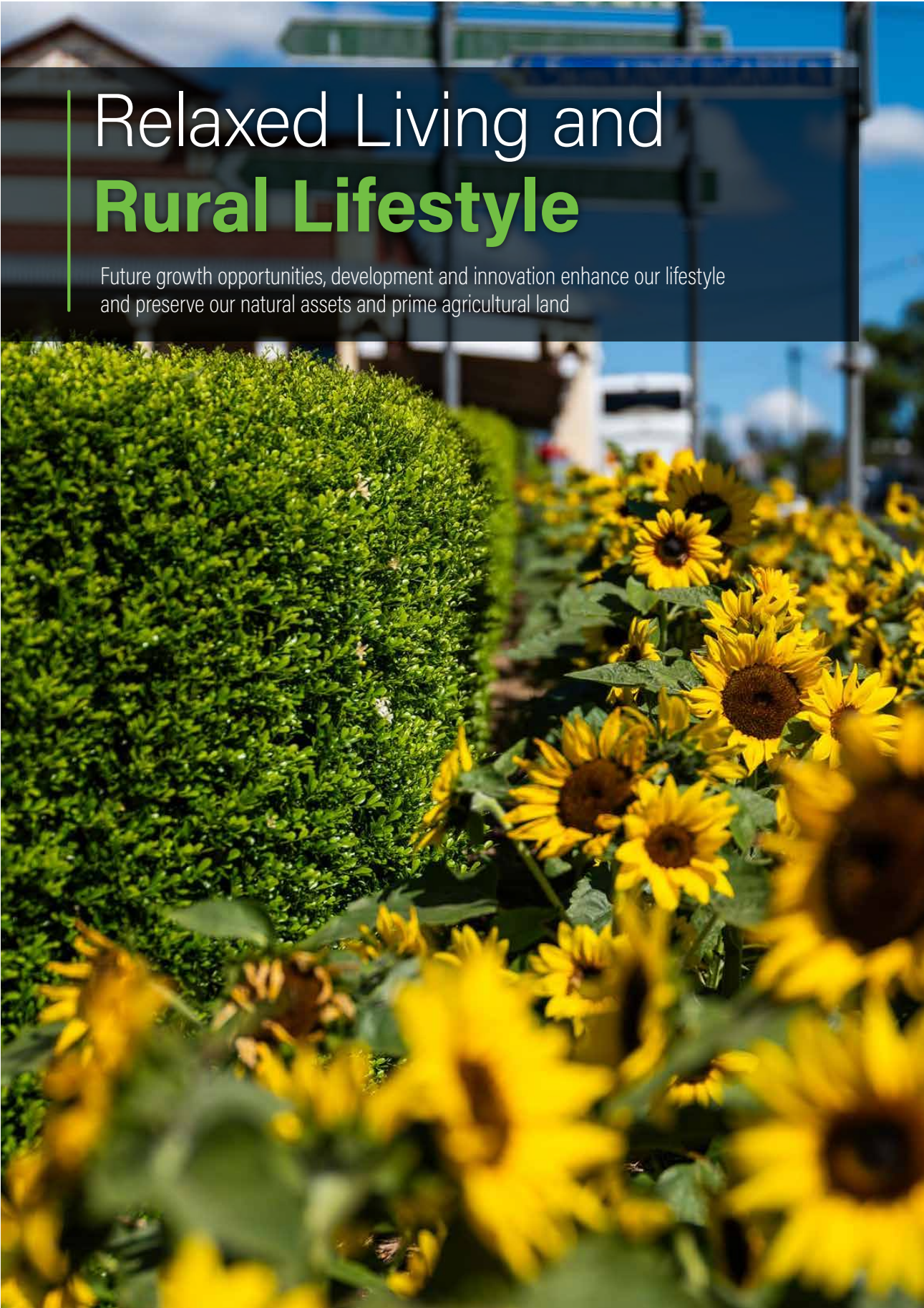
Delivering our Operational Plan

DELIVERABLE	STATUS	DELIVERABLE	STATUS
Reports to the executive each quarter on the types and numbers of administrative action complaints and any contributing factors causing those complaints to be made	★	At least one Councillor attends the LGAQ Annual Conference in 2024	★
Finalise the review of Council's meeting structures	★	Mayor attends Council of Mayors South East Queensland meetings	★
Finalise the review of Council's meeting standing orders and associated policies, procedures and terms of reference	★	All legislatively mandated policies are reviewed and presented to Council for adoption	★
Review and update standard development conditions in line with Scenic Rim Planning Scheme 2020, policies and best practice	✗	Internal training on fraud and corruption prevention	★
Provide diversified and inclusive community engagement opportunities to become aware, informed and engaged in Council projects and initiatives	✓	Good decision training from Queensland Ombudsman delivered to Coordinators and Principal Specialists	★
Review implementation of the Customer Experience Strategy 2021-2023 and develop new plan to further embed customer-charter	✗	Develop and implement the Annual Audit Plan incorporating a range of internal audit services	◆
Council submits a motion to the LGAQ Annual Conference	★	Facilitate the ongoing operation of the Audit and Risk Committee	★
Legend: Completed ★ On Track ✓ Monitor ◆ Requires Attention ✗			

Looking ahead

Council's focus on open and responsive government in 2025-2026 will be through:

- continuing to provide diversified and inclusive community engagement opportunities
- delivering internal training on fraud and corruption prevention and good decision making
- supporting the ongoing operation of the Audit and Risk Committee, and
- undertaking monitoring and reporting on Council's delivery of services and the Operational Plan.



Relaxed Living and **Rural Lifestyle**

Future growth opportunities, development and innovation enhance our lifestyle and preserve our natural assets and prime agricultural land



Our Highlights

With a continued focus on the growth of the local economy and employment opportunities, during 2023-2024 Council:

- completed its assessment of the State Interest Review of the Draft Scenic Rim Planning Scheme Amendment No. 6 which is focused on matters of environmental significance and the protection of water resource catchments
- completed its Draft Built Form Guidelines for Character Precincts in the region to preserve and enhance the Scenic Rim's unique identity, and
- continued to progress the Smart Region Strategy to enhance the region's liveability, workability and sustainability through innovative solutions and digital transformation.

Our progress

Progress against strategic outcomes was not as successful as expected during 2024-2025 with our performance indicators showing less than optimal results. Despite delivering almost 70 per cent of expected activities, Council was unable to progress significantly due, in part, to many outcomes relying on collaboration with the Queensland Government. Council's advocacy efforts were significantly curtailed due to the state election, which resulted in a change of government in October 2024.

A lack of progress in mobile and data services connectivity was also beyond Council's direct control, as this requires improved and upgraded telecommunications infrastructure in the region. Following the State election, Council redoubled its advocacy efforts with the submission of a major advocacy document to the new government and meetings with key Cabinet members.

Our challenges

Balancing the need to grow industries in addition to the tourism and agriculture sectors presents a major challenge in maintaining the region's relaxed living and rural lifestyle. Council needs to balance the development of industry, growth in employment and increased tourist numbers in a way that does not negatively impact the way of life enjoyed by Scenic Rim residents who also seek employment opportunities closer to home.

While the need for reliable telecommunications and internet connectivity in the region has been highlighted by a series of natural disasters, there continue to be significant gaps in relation to mobile and data services. Council will continue to advocate on behalf of the region to encourage service providers that, despite the Scenic Rim's relatively low population, improved connectivity is not only economically viable but also an expectation of good corporate citizenship.

Our indicators of success

INDICATOR	RESULTS		SUMMARY OF ACTIVITY
	2024-2025	2023-2024	
Advocacy and innovative partnerships enable the delivery of economic, social and environmental priorities across the region	✓	✓	- Completed - On track - Monitor - Requires attention
Legislation and regional planning instruments facilitate Scenic Rim's strategic framework for growth	✓	✓	
Growth in the region is supported by a clear and evidence-based planning vision	No data	✓	
Mobile and data services connectivity across the region is enhanced	No data	✓	

★ Fully Achieved ✓ Substantially Achieved ✓ Partially Achieved ✗ Not Achieved

Advocating for improved infrastructure and services

Council stepped up its advocacy for the region in the lead up to the 2025 federal election, endorsing its Advocacy Statements document to gauge the support of political parties and candidates in addressing critical issues facing the Scenic Rim.

The document focused on 12 key points, including improved services and increased infrastructure needed to keep pace with the region's population growth which will depend on funding from other levels of government.

Transport connectivity, community amenity and ongoing financial sustainability to support services and infrastructure have continued to be priorities in Council's advocacy to state and federal governments.

With a population estimated to grow to 67,000 by 2041, Council's key challenges will be meeting the expectations of current residents as well as future residents, attracting new businesses to provide employment opportunities and assisting existing businesses to expand.

In the coming decade, Council will need to allocate funds to renew, replace and maintain more than \$1 billion of community infrastructure as well as create new infrastructure to meet the forecast population growth.

Rates alone will not be able to fund the needs and expectations of the region's local communities and federal budgets currently do not address the need for infrastructure which is vital for economic prosperity and community wellbeing.

Community consultation which helped frame Council's 2024-2025 Budget highlighted the importance of road and transport connectivity for Scenic Rim residents and business operators.

The 12 key issues detailed in the advocacy statements which aim to enhance the region's transport and communications connectivity, improve community amenity and unlock the Scenic Rim's economic potential are the:

- Salisbury to Beaudesert Passenger Rail
- extension of the Rail Trail
- roads
- Coulson Road Upgrade
- Kooralbyn to Boonah Connection Road
- improved social and supporting infrastructure for tourism
- Bromelton State Development Area
- creation of a Country University Centre

- establishment of a Beaudesert Police Citizens Youth Club
- establishment of a business accelerator/incubator in the Beaudesert Enterprise Precinct in Partnership with community-based organisation, Traction
- strategic waste management, and the disposal of Australian Rail Track Corporation land to local government, and
- reliable telecommunications and internet connectivity.

Providing a framework for Kooralbyn's growth

Council made a significant move to support Kooralbyn's future growth and long-term sustainability by securing funding for the delivery of a Strategic Infrastructure Plan.

To accommodate current and anticipated population increases, the Strategic Infrastructure Plan aims to provide a framework for infrastructure improvements, including footpaths, streetscaping, safety improvements, and upgrades to recreational parks.

The \$150,000 project was made possible through grant funding from the Queensland Government's Local Government Grants and Subsidies Program 2024-2028, with \$90,000 contributed by the program and Scenic Rim Regional Council providing a further \$60,000.

The Kooralbyn Strategic Infrastructure Plan is an integral part of Council's broader vision for the rural community, ensuring it remains a vibrant and functional place for residents, businesses, and visitors.

Providing funding for the Kooralbyn Strategic Infrastructure Plan reflects Council's commitment to investment in the community's future aligned with plans for its long-term sustainability.

Council's focus on strategic infrastructure planning demonstrates its commitment to ensuring essential services and facilities are in place to support both present and future community needs.

Located 22 kilometres from Beaudesert, Kooralbyn takes its name from the Aboriginal term meaning The Place of the Copperhead Snake.

In 2021, this unique Scenic Rim town had an estimated population of 1,901.

For more than three decades, Kooralbyn has been a preferred choice for people seeking an affordable and peaceful rural lifestyle.

Residents can make the most of the town's natural setting and enjoy outdoor activities such as mountain biking, bushwalking, golf and visiting the aviation-themed playground at Billabong Park near the aerodrome.

Kooralbyn benefits from a variety of essential services and small businesses but is also known for being home to the Kooralbyn Valley resort and golf course.

Its workforce is expected to grow from 1,856 in 2016 to 2,427 by 2041.

With ample land available to support growth throughout this period, Kooralbyn has the potential to become another thriving rural hub in the Scenic Rim,.

Planning for growth

The Scenic Rim *Growth Management Strategy 2014*, adopted by Council in November 2022, provides the blueprint for the future growth needs of the region.

Its overall aim is to identify the indicative scale, location and timing of future residential and employment growth within the Scenic Rim through a strong evidence base, which includes community and stakeholder feedback, land use analysis and projected housing and employment needs.

The Growth Management Strategy also:

- guides future actions, including amendments to the *Scenic Rim Planning Scheme 2020* and the Local Government Infrastructure Plan, and
- outlines implementation strategies that include ongoing advocacy for state-led infrastructure and the ShapingSEQ changes to support the growth of the region.

Throughout 2024-2025, Council continued to implement elements of the strategy by developing amendments to the planning scheme to ensure our region grows in a way that is consistent with community wants and needs.



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Updating the Planning Scheme

Development in the Scenic Rim is regulated by the Planning Scheme, a document that the community, business, developers and other levels of government look to in order to understand our plans for managing growth and change across the region.

The Planning Scheme sets out the future vision for the local government area in a strategic plan or framework providing direction for growth and development for the next 20 to 30 years.

The Scenic Rim Planning Scheme was developed by Council in consultation with the local community in 2020 and underwent a major amendment in 2023.

It is important that the Planning Scheme is updated and therefore work continues to be undertaken on amendments which are vital in ensuring that it remains relevant and evolves in response to emerging issues and changing community priorities.

The Scenic Rim Planning Scheme Amendment No.6 (Matters of Environmental Significance and Water Resource Catchments) was submitted to the Department of Housing, Local Government, Planning and Public Works in September 2024.

During 2024-2025 Scenic Rim Planning Scheme Amendment No. 8 was prepared for Council's endorsement before proceeding to a State Interest Review.

Council officers also commenced a new Planning Scheme Amendment No.10 concerning Planning Scheme Policy No.5 - Ecological Assessments.

This work is critical to ensuring Scenic Rim remains a relaxed and rural lifestyle for residents and visitors alike.



Servicing our Community

Local government's fundamental purpose is in meeting community needs delivered through its core services. Scenic Rim Regional Council's activities are outlined within its Service Catalogue, with core services reflecting our strategic direction aligned with our Corporate Plan commitments.

While services often overlap in terms of their impact on our Corporate Plan commitments, for the purpose of clarity in reporting the following services contributed most significantly to enhancing our region's relaxed living and rural lifestyle.

Strategic Planning

The Scenic Rim Planning Scheme and Scenic Rim Local Heritage Register are key to ensuring the region's natural assets and lifestyle are preserved. Council ensures that development activity is monitored and the Planning Scheme is updated regularly to address emerging and future requirements.

Council also continues to advocate for the desired planning outcomes for the region as a stakeholder in the State-led planning framework. Other activities carried out by Council within the sphere of strategic planning are responding to general strategic planning enquiries from stakeholders and engaging in consultation with stakeholders for planning projects and policy led by other government agencies.



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Delivering our Operational Plan

DELIVERABLE	STATUS
Facilitate meetings between Council, and the Federal and State Members, to discuss priority projects and key advocacy topics for the region	★
Deliver regular updates to local Queensland and Australian Government representatives	★
Continue representation on COMSEQ and meetings of the SEQ Local Government Working Group to inform the SEQ Regional Planning Committee and the SEQ Growth Monitoring Program	★
Continue representation on the SEQ Regional Planning Committee to advocate for planning policy administered by the Queensland Government that better supports the economic, social, and environmental policies for the region	★
Prepare amendments to the Planning Scheme that address a range of policy updates in response to emerging issues	✓
Investigate inclusion of public Wi-Fi and smart sensors within Council facilities and Council- owned community facilities	✗
Legend: Completed ★ On Track ✓ Monitor ◆ Requires Attention ✗	

Looking ahead

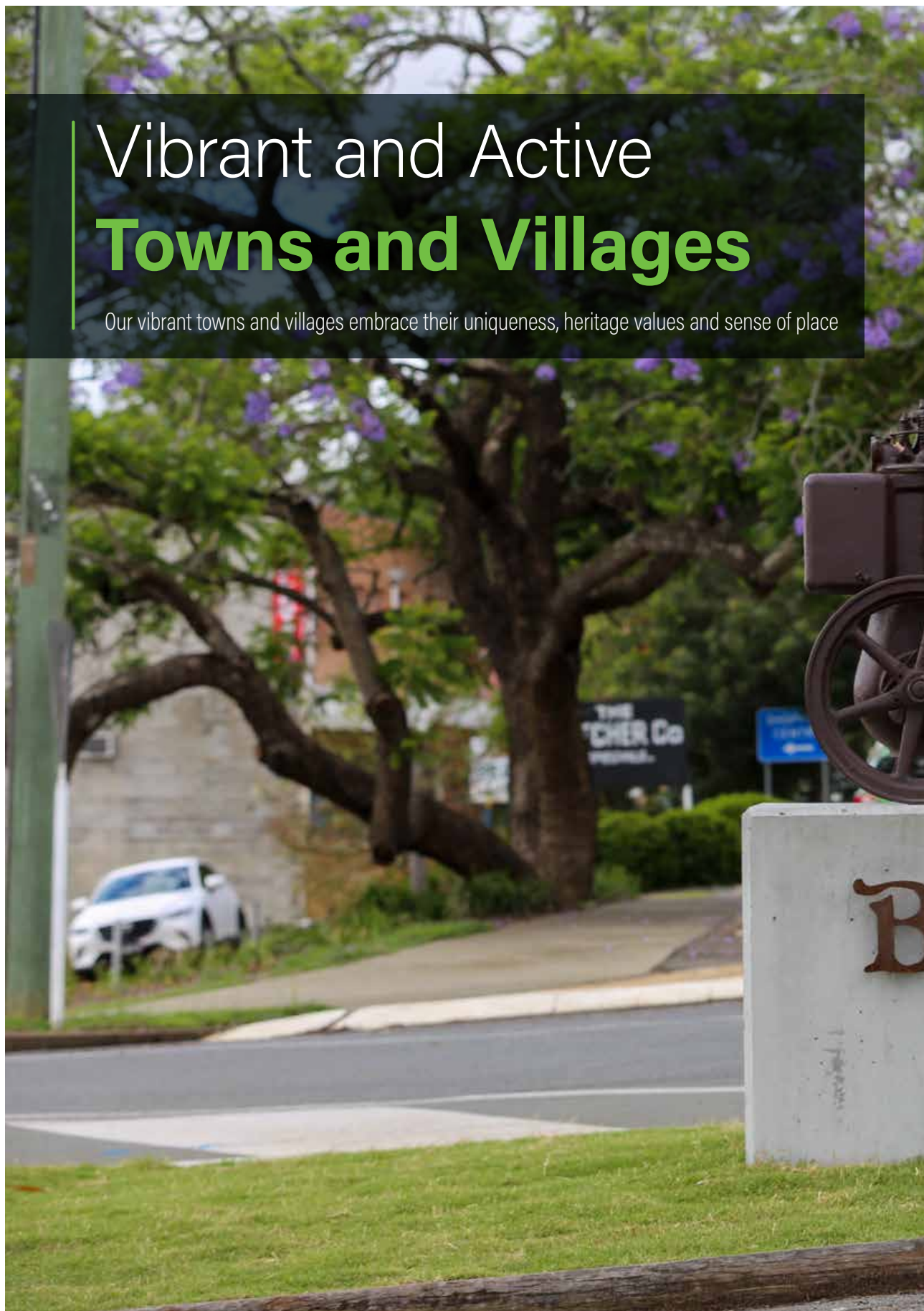
Ensuring the region retains its rural charm while continuing to grow employment opportunities and embrace innovation, Council in 2025-2026 will:

- finalise and implement comprehensive master plans for capital investment in upgrades to Council-owned and controlled land in Kooralbyn, Canungra and Kalbar
- facilitate meetings between Council and Federal and State Members, to discuss priority projects and key advocacy priorities for the region
- complete amendments to the Scenic Rim Planning Scheme to ensure its alignment to emerging issues and the Growth Management Strategy 2041, and
- continue to progress implementation of the Smart Region Strategy.



Vibrant and Active **Towns and Villages**

Our vibrant towns and villages embrace their uniqueness, heritage values and sense of place





Steaming Noisy Minor Rail artwork by Chris Trotter welcomes people to the revitalised Boonah Town Centre.

Our Highlights

The renewal of the Scenic Rim's towns and villages and Council's investment in community infrastructure continued in 2024-2025 with the:

- Big Ideas Regional Arts Development Fund awarding seven applicants a total of \$52,600 in grants for total projects with a combined value of \$196,481
- installation of informative storyboards at Kalbar and Harrisville
- installation of story markers at points of interest in Beaudesert
- restoration of entry gates and a marker at Selwyn Park, and
- delivery of school holiday programs which were well attended at Council's three cultural venues.

Our progress

Council continued to progress towards enhancing and maintaining the vibrancy and unique character of the region's towns and villages, supported by our indicators of success which show very positive results and an improvement on the previous year. More than 85 per cent of planned activities for 2024-2025 were completed or on track. Overall, Council made solid progress during the year, and planning work undertaken during 2024-2025 should yield more positive results in the future.

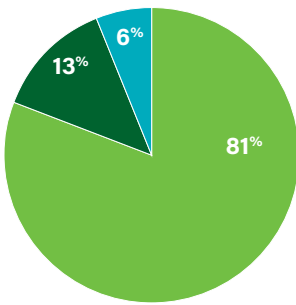
Our challenges

Attracting visitors is key to maintaining the vibrancy of the Scenic Rim's towns and villages, although this must be balanced against over-tourism which may impact negatively on their unique nature which is their attraction.

Major challenges for Council in maintaining the character of the Scenic Rim's towns and villages are the costs of developing and implementing bespoke design solutions versus those which are more economically viable but risk damaging their individuality and charm.

Maintaining vibrancy relies on remaining up to date and relevant, embracing modern technology and providing employment solutions that are sympathetic to each specific town or village without negatively impacting heritage values, and understanding the subtle differences between towns and villages that are important to those who live there.

Our indicators of success

INDICATOR	RESULTS		SUMMARY OF ACTIVITY
	2024-2025	2023-2024	
Our parks, playgrounds and open spaces are popular and utilised by our diverse communities and visitors	★	✓	 - Completed - On track - Monitor - Requires attention
The Scenic Rim's heritage is reflected in our planning guidelines, infrastructure design, public art and community events	✓	✓	
The community is supported to deliver, or participate in, programs and activities that drive the vibrancy of our towns	★	✓	
Our streetscapes enhance the attractiveness of our unique towns and villages to residents and visitors	✓	✓	

★ Fully Achieved ✓ Substantially Achieved ✓ Partially Achieved ✗ Not Achieved

Developing a sport and recreation plan

Council adopted the *Scenic Rim Sport and Recreation Plan 2024-2034* following community consultation which scored one of region's highest ever participation rates.

The Plan, adopted in August 2024, aims to increase the health and wellbeing of the Scenic Rim community through participation across all age groups in sporting and recreational activities.

Consultation on the draft Plan, through the Let's Talk Scenic Rim online community engagement platform and attendance at eight face-to-face sessions across the Scenic Rim from 2 April to 6 May 2024, resulted in 259 submissions.

The draft Plan was prepared in consultation with sporting organisations from across the region, peak sporting bodies, Queensland Government departments and non-Council sport and recreation providers.

It provides a strategic analysis of the community's sporting and recreational needs for the next decade supported by the four pillars of infrastructure, participation, governance and events and programs.

Importantly, it takes account of community and infrastructure needs, access to sporting and recreational opportunities, the region's changing demographics, environmental sustainability, and potential funding opportunities as well as opportunities associated with the Brisbane 2032 Olympic and Paralympic Games.

With a higher proportion of residents above the age of 45 compared to Queensland overall, the Scenic Rim faces increased demand for low-impact physical activities, particularly as this demographic is projected to continue to grow as the population ages.

Although the region's population is expected to reach 64,679 by 2041, there will be a significant increase in the number of people over 65 and a notable decrease in the region's 10 to 14-year-old population.

The need for affordable options for sport and recreation was highlighted by the higher proportion of low-income households in the Scenic Rim compared with Queensland overall.

Parents' work commitments were also found to impact the ability of young people to participate in sport.

Schools which responded to the community consultation noted that children continue to have an interest in the traditional sports but face challenges with the lack of availability of parents enabling them to participate in extracurricular activities.

There was some support for more outdoor spaces and recreational areas, including BMX tracks and skate parks, to address the lack of activities for young people that may impact their mental health.

Walking, swimming and park activities are the most popular open space activities in the Scenic Rim and, while many members of the community are involved in sporting and recreational activities at home, the Plan pointed to the possible increase in social interactions from the addition of community facilities and programs.

Upgrading Moriarty Park playground

Local families and visitors to Canungra's Moriarty Park have enjoyed an improved play experience following upgrades to the park during 2024-2025.

The new-look playground incorporates a sandstone seating wall, a basket swing and an exciting new tower including an internal climbing net, enclosed slide, rope climbing platform and external climbing net as well as a manipulative play panel and musical play panel to keep children entertained and engaged.

The park upgrades supported Council's *Playground Strategy 2019*, which includes the renewal and improvement of equipment to maximise the play experience for the youngest members of the community.

Council is committed to delivering projects that further develop vibrant towns and villages, which includes the continued investment in playground designs and equipment that provide high play values.

Playgrounds provide many free and fun activities helping children to develop, learn and grow in a safe setting and also allow parents and carers to socialise and enjoy time outdoors.

As a sports park and home to Canungra Pool, Moriarty Park already has several facilities which are at the heart of community life.

These include picnic shelters, a basketball half court, skate park, off-leash dog area, managed sports ground and exercise equipment.

Upgrades to the tennis court, with resurfacing and lighting, as well as new field lighting, supported through Council's *Sport and Recreation Plan 2024-2034*, were in well in progress as the 2024-2025 year came to a close.

Supporting increased participation in sport

Council scored more than \$1.13 million in Australian Government funding for female-friendly change rooms to support the participation of women and girls in local rugby league.

Construction of modular design change rooms and an amenities building with toilets and shower facilities at Willis Park, which is home to the Beaudesert Kingfishers Rugby League Club, is expected to commence in July 2026.

The Kingfishers Rugby League Club, which welcomes players from six years of age, will benefit greatly from the new facilities as existing facilities do not currently accommodate the needs of female players and the broader wellbeing of spectators.

The club currently has 320 registered players, including 80 female players, and has experienced significant growth in recent years, with home games attracting between 1,500 and 2,000 spectators.

The development of new female-friendly change rooms was initially identified in Council's *Sports Facilities Strategic Review 2023-2032* as an opportunity to support the growth of female participation in rugby league.

Women's sport, and rugby league clubs which cater to all ages, are an important part of the Scenic Rim's vibrant community, contributing to the livability of the region.

Council is grateful for the Australian Government's grant of \$1,138,423 through the Play Our Way Program, which provides funding for local initiatives and ideas to address participation barriers faced by women and girls.



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Going for Olympic gold

Council is going for gold to maximise opportunities from the 2032 Brisbane Olympic and Paralympic Games following the formation in May 2025 of a special advisory committee.

The eight-member Olympics, Sports and Recreation Advisory Committee will provide a forum for local voices, offering expert advice and driving strategic collaboration as the region prepares to capitalise on the social and economic opportunities from major sporting events including the Games.

The Committee includes representatives from local sporting organisations, community groups, government agencies, and industry stakeholders who will help to guide initiatives to improve access to recreational facilities, promote healthy and active lifestyles, and ensure the Scenic Rim community benefits from both regional and global events.

The Committee's formation was part of Council's coordinated approach to shaping a vibrant and inclusive sporting future for the region.

Recognising the economic benefits for the region associated with the Games, the Committee will be chaired by Scenic Rim's Economic Development Portfolio Councillor Marshall Chalk with Sport and Recreation Portfolio Councillor Stephen Moriarty serving as a Committee member.

Council has a key role to play in enhancing community well-being and ensuring the long-term growth of sporting groups and facilities in line with its Sport and Recreation Plan 2024-2034.

Through strategic planning and targeted investment in sport and recreation, Council will continue to strengthen the Scenic Rim's reputation as a destination for active, healthy living.

The Committee's formation also supports Council's advocacy efforts with the Queensland and Australian Governments, ensuring a coordinated approach to securing and maximising major sporting opportunities.

Encouraging inclusive participation

New and accessible car parking and upgraded driveways at Selwyn Park in Beaudesert and Coronation Park in Boonah were welcomed by the Scenic Rim sporting community in 2024-2025.

Council completed the upgrade of Selwyn Park's car park, stormwater infrastructure and fencing as well as the driveways, car park and stormwater infrastructure at Coronation Park after securing \$1.04 million from the Queensland Government's 2021-24 South East Queensland Community Stimulus Program.

The upgrades recognised the importance of sport to the health and wellbeing of all residents, including those with reduced or limited mobility.

Upgrading the car parks and access driveways at Selwyn Park and Coronation Park has been a priority for Council for several years and the completion of these projects marks an important milestone for Council in ensuring that the diverse needs of the region's sporting community are met, now and into the future.

The projects were completed entirely by Council's operational staff who worked hard to ensure they were delivered on time.

The upgrades have provided one accessible car parking space at the amenities block at Selwyn Park and one at its soccer club building, and two accessible car parking spaces at Coronation Park's sporting club building.

Council remains committed to regularly developing and upgrading the region's multi-sport, high-use facilities so they remain inclusive and can be enjoyed by all members of the community.

This project was proudly funded by the Queensland Government's South East Queensland Community Stimulus Program in association with Scenic Rim Regional Council.

Capturing community sentiment around The Sentinel

Council issued a callout to the community for a creative project to honour the memory of Tamborine Mountain's fallen hero, its much-loved local landmark, The Sentinel.

The loss in May 2024 of the basalt formation, which had seemingly stood guard on the winding Tamborine Mountain Road for some 100 years, rocked many in the local community, prompting calls for a meaningful use to be found for the shattered stone.

Expressions of Interest were called in September 2024 for individuals and community groups keen to use the basalt rock which was removed from The Sentinel's former site to create an enduring reminder of its place in Tamborine Mountain's history. The Sentinel had been a feature of the local landscape since the construction of Tamborine Mountain Road - Queensland's first bitumen road outside Brisbane - between 1922 and 1925.

Early photos of the construction of what was the 'new road' in 1924 show the huge basalt boulder which came to be known as The Sentinel. During construction of the road, this monolith was considered too heavy and too difficult to move and so was left in place, becoming a unique local landmark.

For around 100 years The Sentinel seemed to stand watch over the upper S bend on Tamborine Mountain Road, and was a wayfinder for visitors and locals returning home to the mountain.

In 2021, the Department of Transport and Main Roads engaged a specialist heritage stonemason to reinforce The Sentinel which had been developing cracks.

Three years later, inspections by the department's geotechnical engineers found The Sentinel to be unstable and it was removed due to potential safety risks for road users.



The Sentinel, once a much-loved local landmark

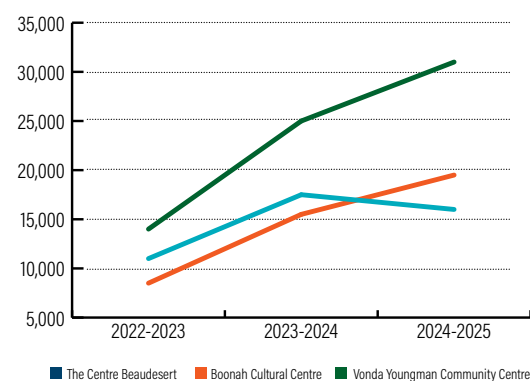
Servicing our Community

Local government's fundamental purpose is in meeting community needs delivered through its core services. Scenic Rim Regional Council's activities are outlined within its Service Catalogue, with core services reflecting our strategic direction aligned with our Corporate Plan commitments. While services often overlap in terms of their impact on our Corporate Plan commitments, for the purpose of clarity in reporting the following services contributed most significantly to supporting the Scenic Rim's vibrant and active towns and villages.

Cultural Services

Council's Cultural Services are key to maintaining the unique nature and vibrancy of the Scenic Rim's towns, villages and communities through cultural engagement and development, recognition of our region's heritage and assisting local creative industries. A vibrant, creative and cultural community is supported by Council's management of three cultural and community centres at Beaudesert, Boonah and Tamborine Mountain. These deliver a range of arts and cultural programs including exhibitions, concerts, performances, workshops and school holiday activities. Heritage groups, local museums and Scenic Rim artists are supported by Council through the Regional Arts Development Fund grant program. Council's delivery of public art and placemaking projects adds to the vibrancy of our communities, enhancing a sense of local identity.

Number of attendees at Council-managed cultural centres



Providing opportunities for local artists to display their work, and for residents and visitors to view locally produced and inspired art, continues to be a focus for Council. While no specific target is placed on attendance at venues, the continued growth in the number of attendees across each of Council's cultural centres indicates the value of Cultural Services' work in this area. It was pleasing to see a 16 per cent increase in total attendance during the year from 2023-2024.

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Development Services

Ensuring development is conducted in way that not only complies with legislation but also is sympathetic to the region's heritage is a focus for Council's Development Services. In addition to development information, assessment and compliance services, this area provides information, assessment and decision making related to development applications. Development Services also includes audit and compliance functions, advocacy on development-related matters, the administration and assessment of plumbing and building applications and the carrying out of inspections as required. This service recovers levied infrastructure charges and facilitates the provision of trunk infrastructure along with acceptance of any infrastructure which will become a public asset.

	2021-22	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24	2024-25
Material Change of Use	129	195	117	163	188
Reconfiguration of a lot	51	41	43	55	62
New lots approved	232	351	296	756	488
Survey plans signed	44	49	40	74	53
Planning certificates issued	26	49	81	38	55
Flood certificates issued	89	129	150	151	179

The building industry continued to perform strongly during 2024-2025 in line with trends seen across the region during the past five years. The number and value of building approvals has continued to be strong, surpassing pre-2020 levels. Continued development of residential land indicates that this level of building activity will continue well into the future and Council is predicting stability in this area for the Scenic Rim region in the coming financial year. The tables below show the number of applications processed by Council under the *Plumbing and Drainage Regulation 2019*.

Building applications have remained relatively steady during 2024-2025 and Council staff continued to work diligently to ensure approvals were delivered within legislative timeframes.

	2021-22	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24	2024-25
BUILDING APPROVALS					
Council certified building applications	199	107	32	23	13
Privately certified building applications	915	928	1,023	1,283	1,278
PLUMBING APPROVALS					
Inspections performed	2,361	3,146	2,995	3,446	4,986
Approvals issued	500	462	485	597	794

Parks and Landscape Maintenance

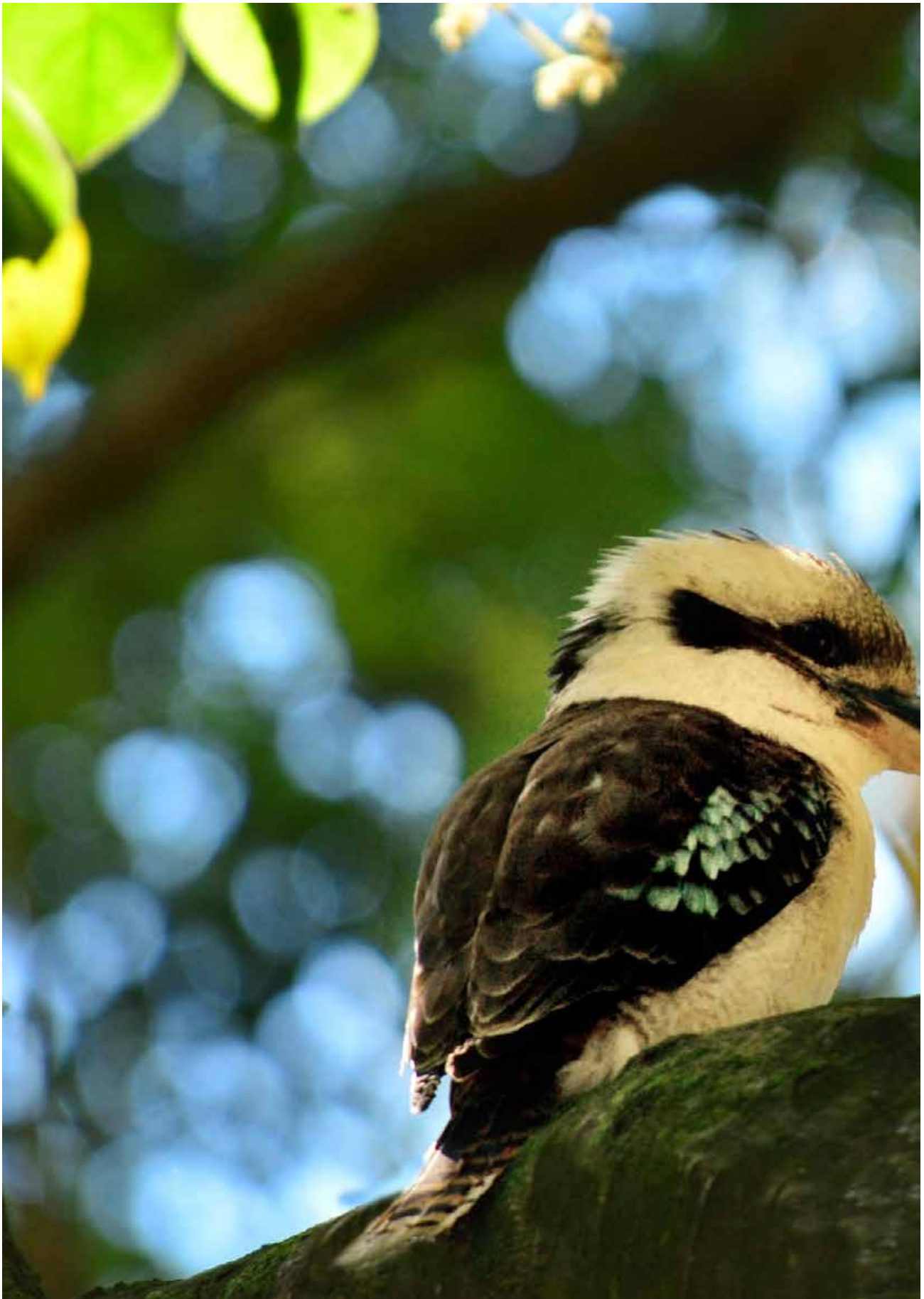
While services within the Accessible and Serviced Region theme essentially deliver the maintenance activity, Parks and Landscape Maintenance delivers outcomes within this theme in respect to maintaining the vibrancy of our communities by providing public parks and open spaces. These not only add to the uniqueness and individuality of towns and villages but also contribute to community wellbeing by providing safe, public open spaces for recreation, social gatherings, exercise, and relaxation.

Cemeteries

Providing well maintained, suitably located and peaceful places for residents to remember family members and loved ones is a vital service delivered by Council which is responsible for nine cemeteries for burials, interments, monumental work and the placement of ashes. Within this service area, Council provides funeral and service bookings, grave digging, maintenance of lawn areas and trees as well as the renewal and upgrade of cemeteries and associated facilities.



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Delivering our Operational Plan

DELIVERABLE	STATUS	DELIVERABLE	STATUS
Refresh the existing Parks and Amenities Strategy to reflect industry standards and Council future plans	✓	Develop public domain and open space electrical infrastructure guidelines for use in key identified towns within the region	✓
Review the infrastructure requirements for the different park categories to both inform developers' and Council's future planning	◆	Identify character precincts and built form requirements that aim to protect and enhance the unique character of valued historic streetscapes for implementation in the Planning Scheme	✓
Implement public art as scheduled	◆	Implement a Regional Arts Development Fund (RADF) program that supports the community to deliver a variety of projects across the region	✓
Encourage community participation in decision making relating to cultural outcomes	✓	Support and strengthen local community museums	✓
Implement public art as part of the Cultural Services annual program	✓	Deliver an exhibition program that supports local artists and builds capacity	✓
Develop and review a 10-year capital vibrancy and strategic projects program	✓	Deliver a cultural program that promotes community participation and connection	✓
Develop new masterplans for identified villages within the region	✓	Implement delivery of public art as part of the Davidson Park Revitalisation Project (Beaudesert Town Centre Revitalisation Project)	★
Actively seek alternative funding streams through application to external grant sources	✓	Develop a project plan for the management and enhancement of significant trees based on Parks and Amenity strategy	✓
Legend: Completed ★ On Track ✓ Monitor ◆ Requires Attention ✗			

Looking ahead

The Scenic Rim's unique identity will continue to be celebrated in 2025-2026 as Council:

- completes the construction of the Gallery Walk car park at Tamborine Mountain
- progresses the detailed design and applies for funding to support delivery of Beaudesert Recreational Precinct at Dick Westerman Park, Beaudesert and
- develops, analyses and implements strategic outcomes for parks and amenities across the region.

Accessible and **Serviced Region**

Infrastructure and services support the prioritised needs of our growing community





Our Highlights

To support the region's economic growth and the community's increasing need for key services and infrastructure, Council in 2024-2025:

- successfully advocated for changes to Translink bus services to better service the region
- developed the Scenic Rim Regional Advocacy Statements which was presented to the Queensland Government
- approved the 10-Year Capital Works Program, and
- completed the Container Exchange basket installation project.

Our progress

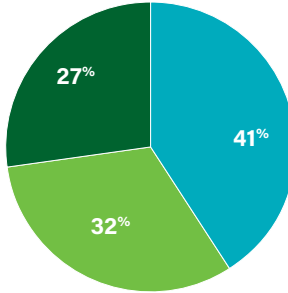
Steady progress was made during 2024-2025 in the achievement of the Corporate Plan outcomes relating to the delivery of services and key infrastructure, exceeding performance of the previous year. While some reparation work was still to be completed at the year's end, activities that had previously been held over while urgent restoration work was carried out on storm damaged roads, bridges and floodways, had recommenced. More than half of the scheduled activities for the year were completed, contributing to Council's continued forward progress.

Our challenges

Council has continued to face significant challenges in the delivery of services and infrastructure across the region against a backdrop of increasing costs and growing community needs. Scenic Rim Regional Council's vast network of community infrastructure includes more than 1,750 kilometres of local roads and 130 bridges, of which more than half are traditional timber structures requiring ongoing maintenance or replacement to meet the needs of industry as well as residents and the growing number of visitors to the region.

The local road network stretches from Cunningham's Gap and the Great Dividing Range in the west to Numinbah Gap and the Gold Coast hinterland in the east, south to the New South Wales border and north to the neighbouring council areas of Logan and Ipswich. While Council has worked to keep rates as low as possible, this has meant limited availability of resources to fund regional infrastructure. Council will continue to advocate to other levels of government for funding to support the maintenance and renewal of the Scenic Rim's infrastructure.

Our indicators of success

INDICATOR	RESULTS		SUMMARY OF ACTIVITY
	2024-2025	2023-2024	
Community has access to readily available information regarding Council's full suite of services, including defined service standards and cost to serve	★	✓	 - Completed - On track - Monitor - Requires attention
Community safety and visual amenity is preserved in Council-controlled reserves	★	No result	
Council-controlled community facilities and sporting infrastructure meet the identified needs of the community	✓	✓	
Sustainable asset lifecycle is assured through integration of asset planning and financial forecasting	✓	✓	
Council's advocacy enables the delivery of economic, social and environmental priorities across the region	✓	✓	
Council's assets provide appropriate and sustainable levels of service	✓	No result	
Total volume of waste disposed to landfill is decreased, resulting in value stream creation.	✓	✓	

★ Fully Achieved ✓ Substantially Achieved ✓ Partially Achieved ✗ Not Achieved

Reducing environmental impacts

Members of the Tamborine Mountain community are now able to cash in on bottles and cans eligible for the 10-cent refund following the installation in 2024-2025 of Containers for Change baskets at key locations.

Known as Container Exchange Points, the baskets that are provided free of charge by Container Exchange (COEX) replaced public recycling bins, providing cost savings for Council and a money spinner for members of the local community who are now able to collect the refundable recyclables.

Having proved popular at Beaudesert and Boonah, the Containers for Change baskets have had direct and indirect benefits for members of the Tamborine Mountain community who can now make the most of the opportunity to cash in on easily accessible recyclable bottles and cans.

Enabling members of the community to safely and easily retrieve bottles, cans and other eligible containers to obtain a refund has also helped to reduce litter and damage to Council bins in other locations.

Prior to the introduction of the Container Exchange Points, Council had 21 recycling bins in public places across the Scenic Rim in the main streets of Beaudesert, Boonah and Tamborine Mountain.

With low levels of use, they represented a high-cost service to the community and the recovery of recyclable material was limited by contamination from non-recyclable items which also added to Council's costs.

Members of the Tamborine Mountain community have a demonstrated commitment to recycling and Container Exchange Points help to boost container recycling by providing locations for people to donate eligible recyclables that can then be collected by others and taken to a local container refund point.

The expansion of the Container Exchange Points aligns with the objectives of Council's *Waste Management and Resource Recovery Strategy 2021-2026*, encouraging greater recovery of resources that might otherwise be disposed of in landfill and helping to reduce the contamination of recyclables that can occur through mixed kerbside recycling.

In 2024, some 8.2 million beverage containers were returned in the Scenic Rim Regional Council area through the Containers for Change scheme, which put more than \$800,000 back into the pockets of locals.

Restoring and upgrading our road network

Scenic Rim Regional Council's \$4.3 million program of road reseals began rolling out in early March 2025 at 59 locations across the Scenic Rim, from Aratula to Beechmont.

Funded under Council's 2024-2025 Budget, more than 80 kilometres of works were carried out in line with Council's commitment to the continuous improvement and renewal of the local road network as part of its \$37.1 million capital works program for 2024-2025.

Quality infrastructure is vital for the Scenic Rim, whose local economy is underpinned by tourism and agriculture, and Council is continuing to invest heavily in improving transport networks which deliver value for money to local communities and visitors to the region.

Works were carried out across the Scenic Rim at locations including Beaudesert, Beechmont, Canungra, Gleneagle, Peak Crossing and Rathdowney.

Boosting road safety and connectivity

The completion of Kengoon Bridge in the Scenic Rim's west was welcomed by residents and primary producers as providing a safer and more reliable link in the region's transport network.

The new bridge, near the intersection of Kents Lagoon Road outside Kalbar, replaced the previous timber structure, significantly increasing load-carrying capacity, reducing noise and improving disaster resilience.

The road approaching the bridge was also upgraded as part of the project, which included the installation of new guardrails, bridge rails, line marking, and signage to enhance safety for all road users.

The project was a partnership between the Australian Government, which provided more than \$2.49 million provided through the Safer Local Roads and Infrastructure Program, and Council which contributed \$623,000.

Feedback from the local community highlighted the bridge's essential role in daily travel, with residents noting it is a primary access route to the Cunningham Highway.

Council is grateful for the federal funding under the Safer Local Roads and Infrastructure Program which assists in the upgrade and replacement of ageing infrastructure to boost community access and improve road safety and productivity.

Providing a better picture of road conditions

In a first for the Scenic Rim, Council installed flood cameras on three key local roads to enhance community safety in April 2025.

Cameras were placed along Coburg Road at Canungra, the school zone on Macquarie Street at Boonah and on Churchbank Weir Road at Peaking Crossing, further improving Council's ability to monitor conditions and enabling the Local Disaster Management Group to respond swiftly and provide more timely warnings to the community about flooded roads.

Funded by the Australian Government under the Emergency Response Fund, this \$235,000 initiative was part of the federal government's broader commitment of \$150 million through the Queensland and New South Wales flood recovery and resilience package of 2021-2022.

The cameras, mounted on independent poles along roadsides, are remotely managed and monitored by Council's flood management team.

Static images captured periodically by the cameras are available to the community through the Scenic Rim Disaster Dashboard website, www.disasterdashboard.scenicrim.qld.gov.au

Delivering infrastructure to support regional tourism

Riders, walkers and runners welcomed the announcement of construction of a new 'training' track in the Scenic Rim - the first 1.8-kilometre section of the Bethania to Beaudesert Rail Trail.

The full Bethania to Beaudesert Rail Trail spans approximately 43 kilometres, with most of the trail located within the Logan City Council area and approximately eight kilometres of the trail to run through the Scenic Rim.

Funding for the construction of the first section, from Beaudesert to Gleneagle, was allocated within Council's 2024-2025 Capital Works Program, in partnership with the Department of Transport and Main Roads.

This will include the installation of a deco surface and the construction of interim active travel crossings across two creeks.

Once completed, the Bethania to Beaudesert Rail Trail is expected to become a premier example of how disused railway corridors can be repurposed for recreation, active transport, and tourism.

Reducing the impact of waste on the environment

Council's success in working with the community to reduce the impact of waste on the environment and create value for the region by capitalising on economic opportunities was highlighted in the third-year report card on Council's *Waste Management and Resource Recovery Strategy 2021-2026*.

In line with Queensland's *Waste Management and Resource Recovery Strategy 2019*, Council is committed to reducing the impact of waste on the environment, transitioning to a circular economy for waste and building economic opportunity through resource recovery as we work towards achieving our vision for a zero-waste future.

Council's efforts in supporting the community in reducing waste have seen an increase in resource recovery and a reduction in waste generation per capita.





Servicing our Community

Local government's fundamental purpose is in meeting community needs delivered through its core services. Scenic Rim Regional Council's activities are outlined within its Service Catalogue, with core services reflecting our strategic direction aligned with our Corporate Plan commitments. While services often overlap in terms of their impact on our Corporate Plan commitments, for the purpose of clarity in reporting the following services contributed most significantly to creating an accessible and serviced region.

Roads and Traffic

Ensuring our region's road network is safe and fit for purpose is the focus of this service, along with the maintenance and renewal of transport infrastructure and drainage assets. Scenic Rim's road network comprises Council and State-owned roads and Council has continued to progress works on its sealed and unsealed roads, bridges, culverts and floodways as well as the maintenance of footpaths.

Significant challenges remain as the region continues to recover from a series of damaging weather events from March 2021 onwards. Council continues to deliver its recovery efforts under the Disaster Recovery Funding Arrangements jointly funded by the Queensland and Commonwealth governments. The Queensland Reconstruction Authority (QRA) has approved approximately \$53.5 million of funding with approximately \$33 million spent to date. The estimated final cost of the program across the four weather events is approximately \$70.2 million, including Betterment applications still under assessment by the QRA.

Private Works

Council is delivering two main roads contracts on behalf of the Department of Transport and Main Roads (DTMR) which include the maintenance of pavements and roadside vegetation. This service is delivered in partnership with DTMR to maintain Council and State roads by utilising local skills and knowledge. Activities carried out during 2024-2025 included slashing, mowing, herbicide spraying, repairs to potholes, minor patching, edge repairs, grading of gravel and repairs to guard rails.

Design and Survey

All infrastructure activities undertaken by Council must comply with legislative, statutory, and regulatory requirements to ensure a safe environment for the community.

Services provided by our design and survey team support internally delivered capital works projects for roads and traffic through activities including 3D design modelling, engineering certification and the provision of expert technical design advice. The team works closely with other infrastructure owners to improve design standards and specifications.

Facilities Maintenance

Council owns a range of buildings, including public halls and community centres, and has an obligation to ensure they are maintained to acceptable standards, are fit for purpose and comply with relevant regulations.

During 2024-2025 Council continued to deliver maintenance and building services in a cost-effective manner. A contractor was appointed to undertake asset condition assessments of Council's buildings and facilities and to provide investment forecasts based on future service requirements.

Property Management

In addition to buildings and infrastructure, Council also has a significant property portfolio. This has to be managed for the greatest benefit of the community in line with the objectives of our Corporate Plan. Council manages land sales, land acquisitions, and compliance with relevant legislation.

This service is also responsible for balancing the needs of a range of community interests. These include our Indigenous residents and their cultural heritage and Native Title Claims as well as our farming community, through the issue and management of grazing licences and agistment permits, and the corporate sector through the coordination of land development projects.

Waste Management

Waste management includes a range of activities from operating landfill and waste transfer stations, to protecting the environment by ensuring legislative compliance and the management and delivery of infrastructure and waste capital projects.

Throughout 2024-2025, Council continued to provide safe, tidy and healthy waste environments for the residential and business community through a range of services including the operation of waste facilities, asset projects, repairs and maintenance and the management of open and closed landfills.

	2021-2022	2021-2022	2022-2023	2023-2024	2024-2025
WEEKLY KERBSIDE COLLECTION BY END OF PERIOD (WASTE BIN ONLY)					
Domestic services	15,286	15,608	15,926	16,263	16,751
Commercial	1,197 ⁽¹⁾	1,208	1,206	1,221	1,230
RECYCLING STATISTICS					
GREEN WASTE MULCHED					
- Tonnes	3,842	2,986	3,444	4,811	5,298
- Cubic metres	12,794	9,954	11,481	16,035	17,659
Waste oil (litres)	48,700	56,800 ⁽²⁾	67,500	54,100	60,700
Tyres (number)	3,569	2,995	4,438	5,156	816 ⁽³⁾
Batteries (tonnes)	41.5	37.6	44.68	43	44
Scrap metal (tonnes)	1,889	1,912	2,287	2,292	2,047
Refrigeration units degassed	1,152	2,617	1,925	2,355	2,573
Cardboard (tonnes)	1,035	1,044	3,289	4,145	3,308
Mixed recyclables (Kerbside collection, other glass and plastics (tonnes)	2,486	2,619	2,456	2,307	2,247
E-waste (tonnes)	39	110	95	100	107
WASTE PROCESSED (TONNES)	2021-2022	2021-2022	2022-2023	2023-2024	2024-2025
RECEIVED AT TRANSFER STATIONS					
- Beaudesert	1,755	1,949	1,891	2,110	2,220
- Canungra	1,281	1,492	1,499	1,474	1,601
- Rathdowney	448	465	398	423	440
- Tamborine Mountain	1,855	1,951	1,774	1,878	2,043
- Boonah	1,649	1,752	1,584	1,574	1,619
- Kalbar	103	180	100	93	68
- Peak Crossing	427	479	456	434	493
TOTAL	7,518	8,267	7,701	7,986	8,484
DEPOSITED INTO CENTRAL LANDFILL	33,476	34,809	40,806	37,504	45,258

Notes:

(1) Figure was incorrectly reported in the 2020-2021 Annual Report as 1,460.

(2) Due to system issues, the figure reported is an estimate of the annual total.

(3) Tyres were recorded as number of tyres in previous years. For 2024-2025 they are recorded in tonnes.

The table shows that the amount of waste deposited to landfill continues to increase. However, this is reflective of the increase in the number of households within the region.

Waste Services

A critical part of Council's waste management is its provision of waste collection services. This includes contract management, strategic asset management, waste education, strategy development and implementation, commercial business development, policy development and liaison, planning and development and the management of customer requests. Council works with all levels of government to meet the needs and expectations of the community, with a focus on reducing waste to landfill.

Delivering our Operational Plan

DELIVERABLE	STATUS	DELIVERABLE	STATUS
Deliver community consultation on the Draft 2024-2025 Budget position	★	Ensure works are being delivered to recommended treatment options that will increase the resilience of Council's critical infrastructure assets against natural disaster events	★
Review and update existing Council Policy: Rural Road Numbering	◆	Undertake asset condition assessments and comprehensive analyses of asset condition data sets as outlined in the rolling five-year condition assessment program	★
Continue the development of an online platform that provides stakeholders with information about works on road reserves that may impact the transport network	◆	Implement the Asset Information Strategy elements relevant to Council's open spaces	✓
Review and update existing Council Policy: Provision of Road Network	★	Develop Council's 10-year capital works program in line with Council's long-term financial plan	★
Management plan for all Council-controlled camping facilities has been developed	◆	Identification and implementation of a project management software	✓
Develop a business model to ensure ongoing revenue is received to appropriately operate, maintain, and enhance Council's camping facilities	◆	Finalise the review of Council's land holdings, with reports relating to the central and western region to be presented to Council	◆
Implement and monitor management model for Council-owned camping facilities	◆	Update land holding documents	◆
Rollout of new community tenure documentation within the region including updated occupier maintenance obligations	✓	Acquisitions or disposal of land as required	★
Develop a community facilities and community sporting inspection and compliance program	◆	Continue to identify infrastructure and services controlled by other levels of government or statutory entities which are critical to supporting population and economic growth in the region	★
Develop sports and recreation plan for the ongoing maintenance and development to meet future community needs	◆	Engage with Queensland Government, private sector and community sector, as opportunities arise, to advocate for improved public transport in the region	✓
Undertake asset condition assessments and comprehensive analyses of asset condition data sets as outlined in the rolling five-year condition assessment program	✓	Commence organics diversion preparatory works	◆
Revise Council's Depot Strategy and develop a supporting implementation plan to ensure Council can meet future service delivery requirements	★	Update compost rebate program	✓
Development of maintenance program for the ongoing management of detention and bio-retention basins	✓	Enhanced integration of kerbside collection customer requests	◆
Undertake asset condition assessments and comprehensive analyses of asset condition data sets as outlined in the rolling five-year condition assessment program	★	Develop waste service price path options	◆
Investigate opportunities to reuse recyclable materials in Council's activities	★	Develop remote waste servicing options	◆
Complete review of waste facilities and services	✗	Continue to participate in COMSEQ Waste Management Plan Portfolio Management Officer (PMO) meetings	✓
Trial improvements in Council event waste reduction	★	Continue to consult key stakeholders on the development of Bromelton facility	✓
Undertake a feasibility assessment for diversion of food organics and garden organics from landfill	◆		
Legend: Completed ★ On Track ✓ Monitor ◆ Requires Attention ✗			



Looking ahead

With a focus on the delivery of key infrastructure, and the sustainable management of waste, Council in 2025-2026 will:

- complete construction of Hinchcliffe Bridge at Kooralbyn
- finalise delivery of The Shelf Road Realignment Project at Tamborine Mountain under the infrastructure recovery program from the 2022 floods
- implement transport infrastructure recovery plans associated with the severe storms and rainfall event of 2023-2024
- continue to advocate for upgrades to Mount Lindesay Highway, and
- progress the detailed design and application for funding to support the delivery of the Beaudesert Recreational Precinct.

Healthy, Engaged and **Resourceful Communities**

The social fabric of our growing region is friendly, active, healthy and inclusive





Lego Masters star Andrew Tuppen joined Council's school holiday program

Our Highlights

With a focus on the health and wellbeing of the community and the Scenic Rim's rich cultural heritage, Council in 2024-2025:

- launched an exhibition at The Centre Beaudesert in conjunction with the town's 150th anniversary celebrations
- provided a range of community events including Movies in the Park, Get Ready disaster preparedness at Tamborine Mountain and Beaudesert, Seniors Month and the International Men's Day Dinner
- installed the Kalbar Star sculpture by Paul Stumkatt, and
- approved seven applications for Big Ideas grants totalling \$52,600 through the Regional Arts Development Fund.

Our progress

Council continued to provide opportunities to create a community that is more active and, as a result, healthier and happier. Good results were achieved during 2024-2025 against our indicators of success, with the delivery of more than 90 per cent of scheduled activities.

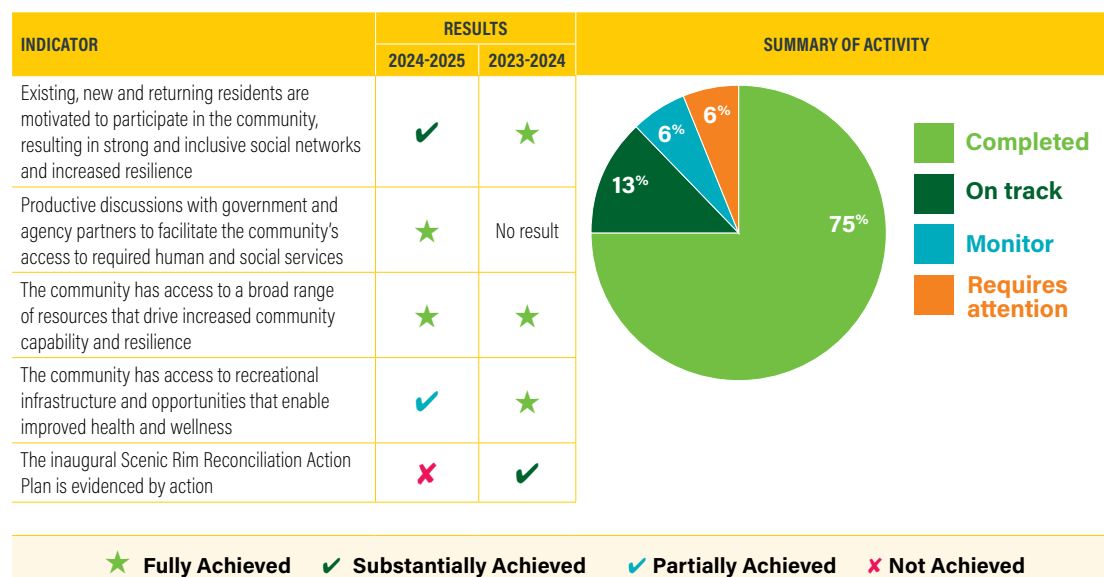
Significant progress was made during the year towards the achievement of our Corporate Plan outcomes.

Our challenges

The delivery of services and infrastructure to an estimated population of 46,000 spread across an area of 4,294km² presents particular challenges for Council. The region has 11 towns and many smaller villages and the distances between them poses challenges in creating community connection across the region.

Technology, in terms of internet availability and improved mobile services, plays a key role in Council's delivery of services to our more remote residents and we continue to advocate for improved telecommunications for the Scenic Rim.

Our indicators of success



Supporting community sports and not-for-profit groups

Twenty-seven grassroots groups and sporting clubs received almost \$85,000 from Council for small projects that will be a big help in their continued support of local communities.

Council allocated a total of \$84,488 under the Minor Community Grants Program as part of the broader Scenic Rim Community Grants Program for 2024-2025.

More than half of the grant recipients obtained at least \$3,000, with five organisations receiving the maximum amount of \$5,000 for their projects.

Grassroots sporting clubs and not-for profit organisations, which are at the heart of their local communities, play a vital role in supporting the Scenic Rim's health and wellbeing and social cohesion.

The grants supported community events, volunteer training, equipment purchases and minor facility upgrades by organisations catering to people of all ages and abilities. Council is pleased to provide support for these organisations which add so much value to community life.

Volunteers are the backbone of many of these groups which rely on funding for essential equipment and facilities, enabling them to develop programs that enhance cultural, recreational, and community development opportunities across the Scenic Rim.

Previous projects funded under the 2024-2025 Scenic Rim Community Grants Program have helped to foster resilient, supportive and vibrant communities and enhance the social wellbeing of local residents.

Community organisations and projects supported in this funding round were as follows:

NAME OF ORGANISATION	PROJECT TITLE
U3A Tamborine Mountain Inc.	Defibrillators Save Lives
The 4275 Collective Inc	The 4275 Collective Community Connection
Canungra Men's Shed Inc	Safety Fencing For Awning
Boonah Working Stock Dog Club Inc	Boonah Yard Dog Trial
Beaudesert Genealogy Inc	Purchase of Laminator
Beaudesert Show Society	Storage Shelving
Artisan Fayre	Artisan Fayre
Canungra Area Golf Club Inc	Upgrade outdoor area flooring
Tamborine Mountain Scout Group - The Scout Association of Australia Queensland Branch Inc	Tamborine Mountain Scout Group Air-conditioning
Beaudesert and District Junior Rugby League	Canteen Upgrade
Rathdowney & District Soccer Club Inc	New Equipment Storage Area
Kalbar School of Arts & Memorial Hall Inc	Safety Enhancement through Equipment Acquisition
Peak Crossing Public Hall Association Inc	Peak Crossing Public Hall WPH&S Compliance 2025
Beaudesert Pistol Club Inc	Lighting Project - Range 4
Tamborine Mountain Orchestral & Choral Society Inc	Orchestral Concerts
Boonah Gliding Club Inc	Ground Handling Equipment for Gliders
Lions Club of Tamborine Mountain Inc	Mountain Mates Bush Therapy and Chookas Theatre projects
Tamborine Mountain Triathlon Club	Watt Bike Purchase
Fassifern Netball Association	Shade Tents
Rotary Club of Beaudesert Inc	Replace chip warmer in catering van and new point of sale till
Maroon School of Arts Inc	Fence Maintenance
Moogerah Passion Play Association Inc	Hot Water on tap for the Catering Shed
Boonah & District Cultural Foundation	Boonah Arts Festival
Broken Paddle Canoe Club	Purchase of paddling equipment
The Beaudesert & District Horse & Pony Club Inc	New Portaloo
Harrisville Lions Inc	Christmas in July 2025
Historical Society of Beaudesert	Update equipment

Maximising funding success

Navigating the grants applications process is not everyone's cup of tea, which is why Scenic Rim Regional Council hosted morning coffee and information sessions to help members of the creative community maximise their chances of securing support through the Regional Arts Development Fund (RADF).

In preparation for the opening of submissions for funding for RADF grants for 2025-2026, Council's Cultural Services team assisted members of the creative community to ensure their applications had the best chance of funding success.

Throughout April 2025, Council's RADF liaison officer visited Scenic Rim secondary schools to connect with art teachers and their students and held coffee and grant sessions at Tamborine Mountain, Canungra, Boonah, Aratula, Kalbar, Beaudesert and Kooralbyn.

Council urged members of the creative community to take the time to maximise their chances of receiving grants for their projects by finding out about the types of funding available under the program and ensuring their projects meet the grants criteria.

Since 1991, the RADF has been a partnership between the Queensland Government and Council to support local arts and culture and help get a range of creative projects off the drawing board.

It has not only helped launch creative careers but also enriched the wider Scenic Rim community, providing employment opportunities and positive economic outcomes for the region, through grants in categories of Big Ideas, Launch Pad and Express Lane.

Big Ideas grant applications are awarded to projects which address at least one of the four categories of: valuing young people, supporting local artists, supporting First Nations artists and enhancing the Scenic Rim's towns and villages.

Launch Pad grants aim to assist aspiring artists aged 16 to 25 in their arts practice and help get their projects off the ground, while Express Lane Grants support professional development opportunities for local artists or cultural workers.

Inspiring a program of public events

Council's first exhibition of 2025, *Maps & Traces*, inspired a series of workshops and events exploring the importance of trees as enduring symbols of survival and change.

In conjunction with this free exhibition, which ran at The Centre Beaudesert from February until April, Council presented a documentary screening and a workshop with the exhibiting artist, Bronwyn Davies, as well as a gathering focused on developing a residency program combining art, science and nature.

The Giants, the story of environmentalist Bob Brown and his campaign to raise awareness of the need to protect native forests across Australia, screened as a fundraiser for the Bob Brown Foundation.

In *Maps & Traces*, Bronwyn Davies' large-scale works explored significant stories of survival and loss and the fragility of landscapes shaped by time, tradition and human intervention.

These were produced on backgrounds including vintage travel and tourist maps overlaid with images from nature to spectacular effect and were the result of years of 'art-science-environment' adventures from far north Queensland to Tasmania and South Australia as well as points in between including Mount Barney Lodge and Wild Mountains.

Investing in our creative community

Council continued to invest in the Scenic Rim's creative community by providing a total of \$60,000 under three funding categories through the RADF for a wide range of projects and initiatives during 2024-2025.

Scenic Rim ceramic artist Larissa Warren has continued to reap the rewards of a 2020 RADF grant for her Wild Women, Wild Clay project and her research into the use of local clays by Tamborine Mountain's female potters from the 1950s and 1960s, which led to her Shifting Ground touring exhibition.

A partnership between Council and the Queensland Government, RADF adds value to our region by supporting the wealth of talent in the Scenic Rim's creative community.

The Scenic Rim continues to gain recognition as a centre of creativity and RADF grants offer wide-ranging benefits for its arts practitioners as well as the wider community.

Welcoming our newest Australians

Some 70 members of the Scenic Rim community officially became true blue Aussies at citizenship ceremonies at The Centre Beaudesert during 2024-2025.

The Scenic Rim has a strong tradition of welcoming people from all backgrounds, with new citizens from more than 55 countries choosing to settle in the region since 2018.

At citizenship ceremonies in October, January and June, former residents of New Zealand, the United Kingdom, South Africa, Philippines, Netherlands, Israel, Thailand, the Democratic Republic of Congo, Germany, Iran, Indonesia, the United States, Poland and Finland swore allegiance to Australia and its people.

While some may have lived here for a long time and others for only a short while, all were welcomed as members of one of the most diverse nations on earth where citizenship is a bond which unites us all.

Telling our unique stories through public art

The stories of significant local places and people were captured in the first and second series of story markers which were installed across Beaudesert and Harrisville in 2024-2025, with storyboards for Rathdowney and Short Street in Beaudesert completed and ready for installation at the year's end.

To add to Beaudesert's sense of place, Expressions of Interest were called for a nature-based water play space as part of the South East Queensland City Deal Public Art Initiative. Some 23 submissions were received, from which seven were shortlisted for the concept development stage. Following assessment by the Scenic Rim Arts Reference Group, concepts by three artists were finalised for inclusion in the grant application submitted in June 2025.

Expressions of interest were also called for the Boonah Mural Public Art Brief, a project to transform the façade of the Boonah Cultural Centre. Some 21 responses were received and are to be assessed in early 2024-2025, with the community to be invited to provide feedback on the proposed designs.

Providing free and low-cost activities

Scenic Rim's school holiday program continued to cater to a range of age groups, with free and affordable school activities designed to spark curiosity, creativity, and family and community connection.

Family-friendly movies were screened at each of the Scenic Rim's three cultural centres and Scenic Rim libraries became hubs of creativity with activities and workshops to keep children occupied during the holidays.

The Asia Pacific Triennial Kids on Tour event, delivered by the Queensland Art Gallery - Gallery of Modern Art, was a winter school holiday highlight at The Centre Beaudesert. The 160th anniversary of the much loved children's story, *Alice's Adventures in Wonderland*, was celebrated with a range of activities and workshops at Council's libraries, including Follow the White Rabbit magic shows and Mad Hatter's STEAM parties.



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Servicing our Community

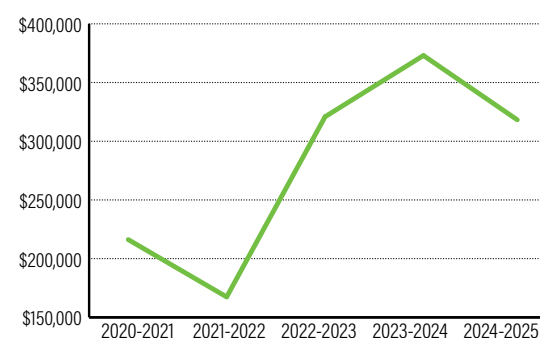
Local government's fundamental purpose is in meeting community needs delivered through its core services. Scenic Rim Regional Council's activities are outlined within its Service Catalogue, with core services reflecting strategic direction aligned with Corporate Plan commitments. While services often overlap in terms of their impact on our Corporate Plan commitments, for the purpose of clarity in reporting the following services contributed most significantly to supporting the Scenic Rim's healthy, engaged and resourceful communities.

Community Development

Community Development strives to strengthen the social fabric of local communities so that they are more resilient, inclusive, welcoming and connected. It supports community health and wellbeing through a range of social, sporting and recreational, heritage and cultural initiatives promoting social inclusion and community connection for a broad demographic.

Community development plays a key role in advocacy for the region for community and social services. Through the Community Grants Program, it supports grassroots organisations and not-for-profit groups which contribute to the health and wellbeing of the Scenic Rim and to meeting the needs of our diverse communities.

Value of Community Grants



	2020-2021	2021-2022	2022-2023	2023-2024	2024-2025
Value	\$266,540	\$238,452	\$326,732	\$356,740	\$331,332
Number	53	49	67	86	78

78 community grants, totalling \$331,332 were allocated during the year, demonstrating Council's commitment to supporting the community.

As well as providing direct funding through its Community Grants Program, Council also supports the activities of local not-for-profit organisations through in-kind support including subsidised use of Council's community and cultural centres and waste bins for local community events.

Community Engagement

Meaningful community engagement, delivered in accordance with an international standards framework, assists Council in providing excellence in customer service and helps us to meet our obligations detailed in our Customer Charter. Via a multi-channel service delivery model, Council provides the community with a frontline customer service function and meaningful community consultation for a range of projects. Council also coordinates community engagement programs and undertakes continuous improvement initiatives to improve the overall experience of Council's customers. See pages 64-65 for more information on Council's efforts to engage, consult and connect with the community.



Library Services

The delivery of library services, providing access to information and resources for leisure and learning, plays a key role in creating community connection. Council delivers these services through four library branches - Beaudesert, Boonah, Tamborine Mountain and Canungra - as well as a mobile library and online. Our library services foster a culture of learning, research, and community connection with libraries supporting the changing needs of residents in an increasingly digital and interconnected world. Council's library services represent an investment in the educational, cultural, and social wellbeing of residents, fostering a more informed, engaged and enriched community.

The management of physical and digital library collections, the delivery of programs and events that support literacy and lifelong learning for all ages, and a range of community information services, is vital to building resilience within our community.

The table below shows the changing patterns in library usage in an increasingly digital world, as well as the popularity of Council's library programs, with more than 20,000 library members now using these facilities. In addition, Council staff delivered 379 Story Time sessions, 61 School Holiday sessions and 161 Adult Activity Sessions during 2024-2025.

	2021-22	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24	2024-25
LIBRARY STATISTICS					
Visits to libraries	112,442	128,209	150,815	181,439	151,473
Items borrowed	132,386	133,054	145,240	153,165	188,147
New members	1,424	2,477	2,534	3,631	3,052
Internet / PC bookings	2,969	6,090	9,562	12,716	15,057
Items delivered to housebound customers	1,954	1,514	1,319	1,352	2,061
Storytelling attendees	2,265	3,520	6,012	7,267	7,082
School Holiday attendees	2,725	953	1,039	945	1,314
Adult regular program attendees	2,798	1,341	1,084	2,157	1,785
Online loans (digital resources)	33,219	37,357	40,745	53,974	50,455



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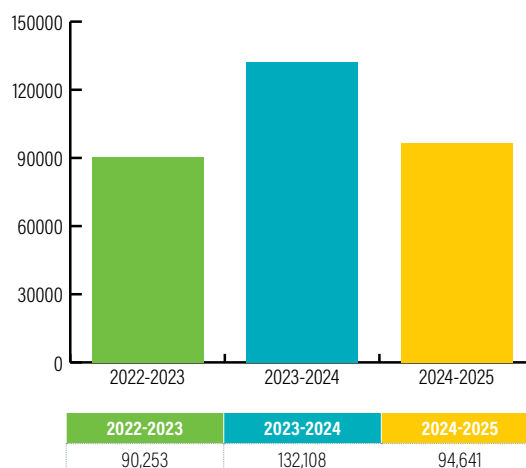
Swimming Pools

To help our residents remain active and healthy, Council provides five seasonal public swimming pools, and one aqua fitness centre, for water sports, health and fitness, physical therapy, recreation and water safety education. These facilities provide residents, as well as visitors to the region, the opportunity to learn to swim, participate in physical activity, exercise and socialise with friends and family in a safe aquatic setting. Users can enjoy recreational swimming, lap swimming, swimming programs, carnivals, learn to swim lessons or hydrotherapy sessions.

The table below shows swimming pool attendance figures for the past three years. Council's pools remain popular recreational facilities, despite a slight decrease, as indicated, in numbers attending our aquatic facilities.

	2022-23	2023-24	2024-25
Beaudesert	38,085	53,699	37,161
Boonah	8,584	14,341	8,260
Canungra	13,301	23,493	16,726
Rathdowney (only open during December / January school holidays)	198	666	900
Scenic Rim Aqua Fitness	10,278	10,691	12,494
Tamborine Mountain	19,807	29,218	19,100
TOTAL	90,253	132,108	94,641

Total Swimming Pool Attendance 2024-2025



As indicated by the graph above, Council's investment in the renewal and maintenance of our swimming pools and aquatic facilities represents excellent value for money, in terms of community health and wellbeing.



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Regulatory Services

Council's delivery of a range of compliance, environmental health, education and enforcement activities helps to ensure the safety of the community and visitors to the region through local laws and other regulations including the *Building Act 1975*, Queensland Development Code, and pool safety laws. Importantly, Council also provides guidance and advice as an alternative to enforcement action. Council's regulatory services function also delivers environmental protection programs that reduce risks to the community and environment from contaminants such as hazardous materials, wastes, fuels, and oils, and by monitoring standards for food service. Ensuring compliance with biosecurity obligations and the management of animals also contributes to the health and wellbeing of our community. The table below shows the number of cats and dogs impounded, returned to their owner, or rehomed or euthanised during the past five years.

	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24	2024-25
DOGS					
Registered at end of period	5,025	5,174	5,185	5,232	5,138
Impounded	168	159	130	127	197
Impounded and returned to owner	73	62	53	68	79
Impounded and re-homed	67	80	62	72	57
Impounded and euthanised	24	12	13	26	34
CATS					
Impounded	216	244	270	169	228
Impounded and returned to owner	23	18	22	26	27
Impounded and re-homed	115	123	48	49	52
Impounded and euthanised	78	90	200	94	138
ANIMALS REPORTED LOST/FOUND BY THE PUBLIC					
Animals reported lost	139	139	103	68	86
Animals reported found	25	10	14	14	12

Council manages a diverse range of health services programs, enforcing State and local laws to protect the community's health, safety and amenity. The Food Safety Program is managed by Council's environmental health officers, who are trained to work with operators of licensed food premises to ensure they understand the legislative requirements for safe food production. Council works closely with external agencies as stakeholders in the health and wellbeing of the community and the growth of the local economy. Our health services programs also cover accommodation including camping grounds, caravan parks and other operations involving shared facilities. Council also assesses temporary entertainment events across the region to ensure these are managed safely for those attending events as well as surrounding neighbours.

ENVIRONMENTAL AND PUBLIC HEALTH LICENSING	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24	2024-25
Food	378	367	399	77	93
Personal appearance services	4	5	8	2	4
All Local Law Licences (advertisements, kennels, events)	300	332	343	71	67

To protect the health of the environment, Council also responds to requests raised by members of the public in relation to litter and waste dumping and water and land contamination.

SERVICE REQUESTS INVESTIGATED	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24	2024-25
Health Services	1,915	1,701	1,853	1,837	2,814
Compliance Services	638	720	832	874	743

Delivering our Operational Plan

DELIVERABLE	STATUS	DELIVERABLE	STATUS
Support delivery of Cuppa in the Communi-tea events to improve social connection and community resilience	✓	Build the capability of community organisations through targeted volunteer initiatives and programs	✓
Deliver digital learning programs across Scenic Rim Libraries that improve digital lifestyle literacy and awareness of personal cyber security	★	Improve the quality and accessibility of sports facilities in the Scenic Rim. (Advanced Designs for new building environments)	✓
Engage all age groups in STEAM learning within Scenic Rim Libraries to enhance applied learning skills and outcomes	★	Provide a range of community health and wellbeing programs that encourage a healthy and active Scenic Rim	✓
Develop and foster partnerships with key stakeholders to deliver events and activities that celebrate identity, social inclusion, and connectedness	✓	Library program development enhances opportunities for education and personal development of improved health and wellness	★
Progress the development of Council's Innovate Reconciliation Action Plan	✗	Foster partnerships with key stakeholders through active engagement with community and social services	✓
Deliver the Scenic Rim Community Disaster Volunteers program to build the capacity and resilience of Community Disaster Volunteers	✓	Participate in industry forums that support library engagement and funding for applied standards of service	★
Legend: Completed ★ On Track ✓ Monitor ◆ Requires Attention ✗			



Looking ahead

Council will continue to work to improve community connectivity and the health and wellbeing of residents in 2025-2026 by:

- engaging with the community to develop the Reconciliation Action Plan
- developing a Community Safety Partnerships program to address community issues including domestic and family violence and homelessness
- launching the Shifting Ground Exhibition which will have an interstate touring program
- implementing an online Customer Service Request system, and
- progressing the detailed design of the Beaudesert Recreational Precinct.

Statutory Information

This section of the report contains information which is prescribed by the *Local Government Act 2009* and *Local Government Regulation 2012* to be disclosed in Council's annual report for the period.





Statutory Information (2024-2025)

This section of the report contains information which is prescribed by the *Local Government Act 2009* (LGA) and *Local Government Regulation 2012* (LGR) to be disclosed in Council's Annual Report for the period 2024-2025.

LGA s41- Beneficial Enterprises

During 2024-2025 Council did not conduct any beneficial enterprises.

LGA s41(a) - Business Activities

During the period Council operated the following business activities:

- Roads
- Waste collection
- Building certification

LGA s41(b) - Significant Business Activities

None of the above activities satisfied the statutory threshold for classification as a significant business activity.

LGA s41(c) - Competitive Neutrality

Council applied the competitive neutrality principle to these business activities.

LGA s41(d) - New Business Activities

None of these business activities commenced operations during the period.

LGA s201(1)(a)&(c) - Total Remuneration Paid to Senior Management

The total of all remuneration packages payable to the senior management was: \$1,147,372

Council did not appoint any Councillor advisors during the year.

LGA s201(1)(b) - Number of Senior Management in Each Remuneration Band

EFFECTIVE 30/06/2024	NUMBER OF SENIOR MANAGEMENT EMPLOYEES
\$200,000 - \$249,999	0
\$250,000 - \$299,999	4
\$300,000 - \$349,999	0
\$350,000 - \$399,999	1

LGR s183(a) - General Purpose Financial Statement

The general purpose financial statement is contained on pages 125 to 156.

LGR s183(b) - Financial Sustainability Statement

The financial sustainability statement is contained on page 160.

LGR s183(c) - Long-term Financial Sustainability Statement

The long-term financial sustainability statement is contained on page 165.

LGR s183(d) - Auditor-General's Audit Reports

The Auditor-General's audit report is contained on pages 161 to 163.

LGR s184 - Community Financial Report

The Community Financial Report is contained on pages 32 to 41.

LGR s185(a) - Resolutions Relating to Expenses Reimbursement Policy

There were no resolutions made relating to this policy.

LGR s185(b) - Resolutions Relating to Thresholds for Non-current Physical Assets

There were no resolutions made relating to thresholds for non-current physical assets.

LGR s186(a)(b)&(c) - Remuneration, Expenses and Meeting Attendance Relating to Councillors

The total remuneration paid, expenses incurred, facilities provided and number of meetings/forums attended by each Councillor is contained on page 27.

LGR s186(d) - Information Relating to Unsuitable Conduct by Councillors:

- LGR s186(d)(i) - There were no orders made under s150I(2) of the LGA
- LGR s186(d)(ii) - There were no orders made under s150IA(2)(b) of the LGA
- LGR s186(d)(iii) - There were three orders made under s150AH(1) of the LGA
- LGR s186(d)(iv) - There were no decisions, orders, and recommendations made under s150AR(1) of the LGA

LGR s186(e) - Information Relating to Decisions, Orders and Recommendations

- LGR s186(e)(i) - The name of each councillor for whom a decision, order, or recommendation under section 150I(2), 150IA(2)(b), 150AH(1) or 150 AR(1) of the LGA was made.
- LGR s186(e)(ii) - description of the unsuitable meeting conduct, inappropriate conduct or misconduct engaged in by each of the councillors.
- LGR s186(e)(iii) - summary of the decision, order or recommendation made for each Councillor:

LGR s186(1)(f)(i) - Complaints Referred to the Assessor Under LGA s150P(2)(a)

There were four complaints referred.

LGR s186(1)(f)(ii) - Matters Mentioned in LGA s150P(3)

There were no matters mentioned.

LGR s186(1)(f)(iii) - Notices Given Under LGA s150R(2)

There were five notices given.

LGR s186(1)(f)(iv) - Notices Given Under LGA s150S(2)(a)

There were no notices given.

LGR s186(1)(f)(v) - Occasions information was given under LGA s150AF(3)(a)

There were no notices given.

LGR s186(1)(f)(vi) - Occasions the Local Government Asked Another Entity to Investigate under LGA Chapter 5A, Part 3, Division 5

There were no occasions.

LGR s186(1)(f)(vii) - Applications Heard by the Conduct Tribunal Under LGA Chapter 5A, Part 3, Division 6

There were no applications.

LGR s186(1)(g) - Total Number of Referral Notices Given to the Local Government Under LGA s150AC(1)

There were no referral notices given.

LGR s186(1)(h) - Total Number of Suspected Conduct Breaches and Number Where Investigation Was Not Started.

There were no suspected conduct breaches where an investigation was not started.

LGR s186(1)(i) - The Number of Decisions Made by The Local Government Under LGA s150AG(1)

There were no decisions made.

LGR s186(1)(j) - The Number of Matters Not Decided Under LGA s150AG(1)

There were no matters not decided.

LGR s186(1)(k) - The Average Time Taken by The Local Government in Making a Decision Under LGA s150AG(1)

There were no decisions nor matters decided therefore this is not applicable.

LGR s187(1)&(2) - Information in Relation to Administrative Complaints

The relevant information in relation to administrative complaints is contained on page 66 (in Governance section).



LGR s188(1)&(2) - Information in Relation to Overseas Travel Made by A Councillor or Employee

Participant: Cr Tom Sharp, Mayor

Dates: 4-14 February 2025

Destinations: Singapore, Manchester, Paris

Purpose: To participate in The Council of Mayors (South East Queensland) February Mission 2025. The Council of Mayors (South East Queensland) undertook an international mission to Singapore, Paris, and Manchester to gather insights on infrastructure, sustainability, and legacy planning ahead of the Brisbane 2032 Olympic and Paralympic Games. By meeting with global city leaders and studying successful urban strategies, the delegation aimed to bring back innovative ideas to enhance transport, housing, and regional development across South East Queensland.

Cost: Travel costs for each participating Mayor (or their representative) - including flights, accommodation, and meals - was covered by the Council of Mayors (South East Queensland) through the annual membership levy paid by each member council.

LGR s189(1) - Summary of Expenditure on Grants to Community Organisations

Grants from Council Programs were:

PROGRAM	GRANTS PAID
Public Halls Assistance Program	\$48,000
Community Grants Program	\$331,332
Environmental Grants Program	\$179,942
Regional Arts Development Fund Grants	\$81,598

LGR s189(2) - Information Related to Discretionary Funds

- LGR s189(2)(a) - The Total Amount Budgeted as Discretionary Funds

This section is not applicable.

- LGR s189(2)(b) & LGR s201B(5) - The Prescribed Amount

This section is not applicable.

- LGR s189(2)(c)(i)&(ii) - The Total Amount of Discretionary Funds for Councillors to Allocate:

There were no discretionary funds for Councillors to allocate for capital works or other community purposes.

- LGR s189(2)(d) - The Amount of Discretionary Funds Budgeted for Use by Each Councillor

There were no discretionary funds budgeted for use by Councillors.

- LGR s189(2)(e)(i)(ii)(iii)(iv)(v) - Councillor Allocated Discretionary Funds

There were no discretionary funds allocated by Councillors.

LGR s190(1)(d) - Expenditure on a Service, Facility or Activity

- LGR s190(1)(d)(i)&(ii) - There were none that were supplied by another local government nor where a special rate was levied.

LGR s190(1)(e) - Invitations to Change Tenders Under LGR s228(8)

There are no changes from last year.

LGR s190(1)(f) - List of Registers Kept

The following registers were kept by Council during 2024-2025:

Councillors' Register of Interests	Register of Pest Control and Entry Notices
Outcomes of Complaints against Councillors	Related Parties Register
Register of Delegations	Infrastructure Charges Register
Council Policies	Register of Resolutions About Land Subject to Flooding
Register of Local Laws	Register of Exemptions Granted From Pool Safety Regulations on Basis of Disability or Impracticality
Register of Cost Recovery Fees	Register of Development Applications
Register of Impounded Animals	Register of Decision Notices and Related Documentation for All Types of Development Applications
Dog Registry	Register of Decision Notices Only for All Types of Development Applications
Road Map and Register	Register of Budget Accommodation Premises
Burial Register	Register of Unclaimed Moneys
Register of Council Business Activities	Register of Licenses under the Public Health (Infection Control and Personal Appearance Services) Act 2003.
Register of Notices given under Section 251 Building Act 1975	

LGR s190(1)(g) A Summary of All Concessions for Rates and Charges Granted by the Local Government.

In accordance with Section 130 of the Regulation, a discount of five per cent was allowed on general rates only for the 2024-2025 financial year, only if the total amount of all rates and charges included on an assessment for which the discount is allowed and all overdue rates and charges, is received by Council on or before the due date for payment, within 31 days from date of issue shown on the rate notice.

As part of Council's commitment to preserving the environment, a whole or partial concession on the General Rate was provided to owners of land who entered into a voluntary conservation covenant and/or a voluntary conservation agreement, depending on the portion of the area of the conservation area defined in the voluntary conservation covenant agreement for the total area of land.

In 2024-2025, Council granted a full rebate of the general rate, separate charge and the waste disposal utility charge to:

- Sporting groups and associations on Council-owned and controlled land that do not have a liquor licence.
- Not-For-Profit Organisations.
- Not-For-Profit Community Service Providers.

In 2024-2025, Council granted a full rebate of the separate charge and the waste disposal utility charge and a partial rebate on the general rate to:

- Stock dips and pump sites held separately from the balance of holdings or held separately by trustees; and
- Land identified as Historic Subdivisions under the Scenic Rim Planning Scheme 2020.

Council also granted a rebate of the lesser of \$200 or 20 per cent of the gross rates and charges levied on rateable properties owned and occupied by totally and permanently incapacitated (TPI) veterans holding a TPI Gold Card.

LGR s190(1)(h) - The Report of the Internal Audit.

The report on the internal audit for the financial year is contained on page 161.

LGR s190(1)(i) & (ii) - A Summary of Investigation Notices Given Under S49 and Responses to Any Competitive Neutrality Complaints Under s52(3)

Council did not receive any investigation notices about competitive neutrality complaints and no competitive neutrality complaint reports were received or responses required during the period.

**2024-2025 Financial Year Infrastructure Charges Revenue and Expenditure Summary
- Scenic Rim Regional Council**

INFRASTRUCTURE CHARGES REVENUE		INFRASTRUCTURE CHARGES REVENUE EXPENDITURE		
Total amount of infrastructure charges revenue collected (by way of infrastructure charges levied)	Total amount of infrastructure charges that were offset (i.e. infrastructure provided by a developer in lieu of paying the charge)	Total amount of infrastructure charges revenue spent on the supply of trunk infrastructure	Total amount of infrastructure charges that the local government refunded	Total amount of unspent infrastructure charges revenue
\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
\$12,100	\$7,516	\$1,836	\$0	\$5,680

2024-2025 Financial Year Trunk Infrastructure Information Summary

TRUNK INFRASTRUCTURE DESCRIPTION	LGIP REFERENCE NUMBER (IF APPLICABLE)	TRUNK INFRASTRUCTURE NETWORK	SUBURB OR LOCALITY OF TRUNK INFRASTRUCTURE	METHOD OF INFRASTRUCTURE DELIVERY (COUNCIL OR DEVELOPER CONTRIBUTED)	INFRASTRUCTURE VALUE (\$'000)
Footpath - Tina Street	N/A	Transport	Beautesert	Developer	\$88
Beautesert Town Centre Town Master Planning	NP3	Park	Beautesert	Council	\$1,759
Footpath - Church St (Macquarie St to McDonald St)	F23	Transport	Boonah	Council	\$77

Forecast Infrastructure Charges Revenue and Trunk Infrastructure Expenditure Summary

	FINANCIAL YEAR				
	2024-2025	2025-2026	2026-2027	2027-2028	TOTAL
	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
Infrastructure charges revenue	\$6,581	\$7,126	\$7,670	\$8,215	\$29,592
Trunk infrastructure expenditure	\$235	\$2,276	\$2,142	\$2,209	\$6,862



Financial statements (2024-2025)



The newly completed Beaudesert Town Centre project.

Scenic Rim Regional Council**Financial Statements**

For the year ended 30 June 2025

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Scenic Rim Regional Council
Statement of Comprehensive Income
For the year ended 30 June 2025

	Note	2025 \$'000	2024 \$'000
Income			
Recurrent revenue			
Rates and utility charges	3(a)	71,486	67,440
Fees and charges	3(b)	10,388	8,438
Interest received		4,481	4,413
Sales revenue	3(c)	6,422	6,358
Profit from equity accounted investment	10	547	2,771
Other revenues	3(d)	6,294	5,092
Grants, subsidies, contributions and donations	3(e)	13,835	3,629
Total recurrent revenue		113,453	98,141
Capital income			
Grants, subsidies, contributions and donations	3(e)	43,471	59,957
Other capital income		0	123
Total capital income		43,471	60,080
Total income		156,924	158,221
Expenses			
Recurrent expenses			
Employee benefits	4	42,813	39,970
Materials and services	5	50,385	43,560
Finance costs	6	1,486	1,508
Depreciation	11	23,289	21,086
Total recurrent expenses		117,973	106,124
Capital expenses		5,177	7,086
Total expenses		123,150	113,210
Net result		33,774	45,011
Other comprehensive income			
Items that will not be reclassified to net result			
Increase in asset revaluation surplus	17	214,519	35,133
Share of other comprehensive income of equity accounted investments	10	(1,578)	0
Total comprehensive income for the year		246,715	80,144

The above statement should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes and accounting policies.

Scenic Rim Regional Council
Statement of Financial Position
As at 30 June 2025

	Note	2025 \$'000	2024 \$'000
Current assets			
Cash and cash equivalents	7	49,622	48,686
Receivables	8	17,005	13,905
Inventories		977	1,082
Contract assets	13	10,939	17,363
Other assets		2,134	1,380
		<u>80,677</u>	<u>82,416</u>
Non-current assets held for sale	9	13,317	18,492
Total current assets		93,994	100,908
Non-current assets			
Receivables	8	14,676	14,676
Equity accounted investments	10	38,023	40,315
Property, plant and equipment	11	1,361,953	1,105,072
Total non-current assets		1,414,652	1,160,063
Total assets		1,508,646	1,260,971
Current liabilities			
Payables	12	24,549	27,679
Contract liabilities	13	10,718	2,975
Borrowings	14	2,503	4,023
Provisions	15	9,465	8,147
Other liabilities	16	1,537	1,720
Total current liabilities		48,772	44,544
Non-current liabilities			
Borrowings	14	36,819	39,285
Provisions	15	3,417	2,712
Other liabilities	16	1,395	2,902
Total non-current liabilities		41,631	44,899
Total liabilities		90,403	89,443
Net community assets		1,418,243	1,171,528
Community equity			
Accumulated surplus		811,629	779,433
Asset revaluation surplus	17	606,614	392,095
Total community equity		1,418,243	1,171,528

The above statement should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes and accounting policies.

Scenic Rim Regional Council
Statement of Changes in Equity
For the year ended 30 June 2025

	Accumulated surplus	Asset revaluation surplus (Note 17)	Total
	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
Balance as at 1 July 2024	779,433	392,095	1,171,528
Net result	33,774	0	33,774
Other comprehensive income			
Revaluations of property, plant and equipment	0	215,063	215,063
Change in value of future rehabilitation cost	0	(544)	(544)
Share of other comprehensive income of equity accounted investments	(1,578)	0	(1,578)
Total comprehensive income for the year	32,196	214,519	246,715
Balance as at 30 June 2025	811,629	606,614	1,418,243
Balance as at 1 July 2023	734,422	356,962	1,091,384
Net result	45,011	0	45,011
Other comprehensive income			
Revaluations of property, plant and equipment	0	35,129	35,129
Change in value of future rehabilitation cost	0	4	4
Total comprehensive income for the year	45,011	35,133	80,144
Balance as at 30 June 2024	779,433	392,095	1,171,528

The above statement should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes and accounting policies.

Scenic Rim Regional Council
Statement of Cash Flows
For the year ended 30 June 2025

	Note	2025 \$'000	2024 \$'000
Cash flows from operating activities			
<i>Inflows:</i>			
Receipts from customers		102,969	96,108
Interest received		4,496	4,385
Grants, subsidies and contributions		13,755	2,166
<i>Outflows:</i>			
Payments to suppliers and employees		(105,997)	(89,583)
Interest expense		(1,185)	(1,326)
Net cash inflow from operating activities	22	14,038	11,750
Cash flows from investing activities			
<i>Inflows:</i>			
Proceeds from sale of property plant and equipment		10,017	567
Grants, subsidies and contributions for capital acquisitions		55,982	41,261
Dividends received		1,256	1,303
<i>Outflows:</i>			
Payments for property, plant and equipment		(76,371)	(56,467)
Net cash outflow from investing activities		(9,116)	(13,336)
Cash flows from financing activities			
<i>Outflows:</i>			
Repayment of borrowings		(3,986)	(4,139)
Net cash outflow from financing activities	23	(3,986)	(4,139)
Net increase / (decrease) in cash held		936	(5,725)
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of reporting period		48,686	54,411
Cash and cash equivalents at end of reporting period	7	49,622	48,686

The above statement should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes and accounting policies.

Scenic Rim Regional Council
Notes to the financial statements
 For the year ended 30 June 2025

1 Information about these financial statements

1.A Basis of preparation

The Scenic Rim Regional Council is constituted under the Queensland *Local Government Act 2009* and is domiciled in Australia.

These general purpose financial statements are for the period 1 July 2024 to 30 June 2025. They are prepared in accordance with the *Local Government Act 2009* and the *Local Government Regulation 2012*.

Council is a not-for-profit entity for financial reporting purposes and these financial statements comply with Australian Accounting Standards and Interpretations as applicable to not-for-profit entities.

These financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention except for the revaluation of certain classes of property, plant and equipment and non-current assets held for sale which are measured at fair value less cost to dispose.

1.B New and revised accounting standards adopted during the year

Scenic Rim Regional Council adopted all standards which became mandatorily effective for annual reporting periods beginning on 1 July 2024. The relevant standards were:

- AASB 101 Presentation of Financial Statements (amended by AASB 2020-1, AASB 2020-6, AASB 2022-6, AASB 2023-3) relating to current / non-current classification of liabilities.
- AASB 13 Fair Value Measurement (amended by AASB 2022-10).

1.C Standards issued by AASB not yet effective

The AASB has issued Australian Accounting Standards and Interpretations which are not mandatorily effective at 30 June 2025. These standards have not been adopted by Council and will be included in the financial statements on their effective date. None of these standards are expected to have a significant impact for Council.

1.D Estimates and judgements

Councils make a number of judgements, estimates and assumptions in preparing these financial statements. These are based on the best information available to Council at the time, however due to the passage of time, these assumptions may change and therefore the recorded balances may not reflect the final outcomes. The significant judgements, estimates and assumptions relate to the following items and specific information is provided in the relevant note:

- Valuation of property, plant and equipment - Note 11(d)
- Impairment/condition assessment of property, plant and equipment due to natural disaster events - Note 11
- Depreciation of property, plant and equipment - Note 11
- Revenue recognition – Note 3
- Provisions - Note 15
- Annual leave within payables - Note 12
- Contingent liabilities - Note 19

1.E Rounding and comparatives

The financial statements are in Australian dollars and have been rounded to the nearest \$1,000 or, where that amount is \$500 or less, to zero, unless otherwise stated.

Comparative information is generally restated for reclassifications, errors and changes in accounting policies unless permitted otherwise by transition rules in a new Accounting Standard. Comparative information is prepared on the same basis as prior year.

Scenic Rim Regional Council
Notes to the financial statements
For the year ended 30 June 2025

1 Information about these financial statements (continued)

1.F Taxation

Council is exempt from income tax and payroll tax, however council is subject to Fringe Benefits Tax and Goods and Services Tax ('GST'). The net amount of GST recoverable from the ATO or payable to the ATO is shown as an asset or liability respectively.

Council has a participating interest in the Central SEQ Distributor-Retailer Authority (trading as Urban Utilities) governed by a Participation Agreement. The Authority is subject to the Local Government Tax Equivalents Regime (LGTER). Under the LGTER the Authority is required to make income tax equivalent payments to Council in accordance with the requirements of the Participation Agreement. Income tax equivalent payments from the Authority are recognised as revenue when the significant risks and rewards related to the corresponding assets have been transferred to Council.

Scenic Rim Regional Council
Notes to the financial statements
For the year ended 30 June 2025

2 Analysis of results by function

(a) Components of Council functions

The activities relating to the Council's components reported on in Note 2(b) are as follows :

Chief executive office

The objective of this function is to provide high quality support to the Mayor and Councillors and Chief Executive Officer.

Asset and environmental sustainability

The objective of this function is to provide professional services to assist with infrastructure construction, maintenance and asset management. This includes the provision of capital works, design services, asset management, facility and property management, fleet and waste management services as well as external contract management.

Customer and regional prosperity

The objective of this function is to provide professional services to assist the community with economic growth and development, customer service, planning and development activities, disaster management preparedness and recovery as well as community services.

People and strategy

The objective of this function is for the provision of human resources, work health and safety and payroll functions across all of Council. This function also includes business systems analysis and corporate strategy and performance reporting.

Council sustainability

The objective of this function includes the provision of governance, audit/risk and professional financial and information services across Council. The function includes finance, information services and technology, records, governance, audit and risk as well as business continuity and council wide transactions.

Scenic Rim Regional Council
Notes to the financial statements
For the year ended 30 June 2025

2 (b) Revenue, expenses and assets have been attributed to the following functions:

Year ended 30 June 2025

Functions	Income		Total income	Total expenses	Net result for period	Assets
	Grants	Other				
	\$'000	\$'000				
Chief executive office	0	0	0	1,786	(1,786)	179
Asset and environmental sustainability	52,171	24,010	76,181	79,801	(3,620)	1,332,132
Customer and regional prosperity	11,689	7,916	19,605	24,040	(4,435)	2,709
People and strategy	165	208	373	5,075	(4,702)	58
Council sustainability	(6,719)	67,484	60,765	12,448	48,317	173,568
Total	57,306	99,618	156,924	123,150	33,774	1,508,646

Year ended 30 June 2024

Functions	Income		Total income	Total expenses	Net result for period	Assets
	Grants	Other				
	\$'000	\$'000				
Chief executive office	0	2	2	1,825	(1,823)	171
Asset and environmental sustainability	41,450	22,171	63,621	72,241	(8,620)	1,091,983
Customer and regional prosperity	13,677	5,759	19,436	22,448	(3,012)	2,600
People and strategy	149	1	150	4,166	(4,016)	14
Council sustainability	8,310	66,702	75,012	12,530	62,482	166,203
Total	63,586	94,635	158,221	113,210	45,011	1,260,971

Scenic Rim Regional Council
Notes to the financial statements
For the year ended 30 June 2025

	2025	2024
	\$'000	\$'000

3 Revenue

(a) Rates and utility charges

Rates and annual charges are recognised as revenue at the beginning of the rating period to which they relate. Prepaid rates are recognised as a financial liability until the beginning of the rating period.

General rates	50,942	49,306
Separate rates	12,862	11,441
Garbage charges	9,783	8,750
Rates and utility charge revenue	73,587	69,497
Less: Discounts	(2,101)	(2,057)
Net rates and utility charges	71,486	67,440

(b) Fees and charges

Revenue arising from fees and charges is recognised at the point in time when the performance obligation is completed and the customer receives the benefit of the goods / services being provided. The performance obligation relates to the specific services which are provided to the customers. There is no material obligation for Council in relation to refunds or returns. Licences granted by Council are all either short-term or low value and all revenue from licences is recognised at the time that the licence is granted rather than the term of the licence.

Animal management fees	280	273
Building fees	2,092	1,779
Caravan park fees	980	911
Cemetery fees	447	460
Document lodgement fees	449	356
Food premises licencing fees	185	189
Planning application fees	1,918	1,398
Refuse tipping fees	2,209	1,551
Search fees	307	292
Subdivision fees	841	582
Other fees and charges	680	647
	10,388	8,438

(c) Sales revenue

Revenue arising from sales of contract and recoverable works is recognised at the point in time when the performance obligation is completed and generally comprises a recoupment of material costs together with an hourly charge for use of equipment and employees. This revenue and the associated costs are recognised by reference to the stage of completion of the contract activity based on costs incurred at the reporting date.

Road maintenance performance contract	5,231	4,568
Responsive maintenance contract	1,104	1,719
Other contracts and recoverable works	87	71
	6,422	6,358

Scenic Rim Regional Council
Notes to the financial statements
For the year ended 30 June 2025

	2025 \$'000	2024 \$'000
3 Revenue (continued)		
(d) Other revenues		
Other revenue is recognised at the point in time when the performance obligation is completed and the customer receives the benefit of the goods / services being provided. The performance obligation relates to the specific services which are provided to the customers. There is no material obligation for Council in relation to refunds or returns.		
Cultural centre revenues	282	253
Fuel rebates	283	267
Rental fees	58	82
Tax equivalent - Urban Utilities	812	965
Waste charges from Logan City Council	2,875	2,687
Insurance settlements	816	131
Workers compensation refunds	383	51
Other revenues	785	656
	6,294	5,092

(e) Grants, subsidies, contributions and donations

Grant income under AASB 15

Where grant income arises from an agreement which is enforceable and contains sufficiently specific performance obligations then the revenue is recognised when control of each performance obligation is satisfied. The performance obligations are varied based on the agreement. Payment terms vary depending on the terms of the grant, cash is received upfront for some grants and on the achievement of certain payment milestones for others. Each performance obligation is considered to ensure that the revenue recognition reflects the transfer of control and within grant agreements there may be some performance obligations where control transfers at a point in time and others which have continuous transfer of control over the life of the contract. Where control is transferred over time, revenue is recognised using either costs or time incurred.

Grant income under AASB 1058

Where Council receives an asset for significantly below fair value, the asset is recognised at fair value, related liability (or equity items) are recorded and income is then recognised for any remaining asset value at the time that the asset is received.

Capital grants

Where council receive funding under an enforceable contract to acquire or construct a specified item of property, plant and equipment which will be under Council's control on completion, revenue is recognised as and when the obligation to construct or purchase is completed. For construction projects, this is generally as the construction progresses in accordance with costs incurred.

Donations and contributions

Where assets are donated or purchased for significantly below fair value, the revenue is recognised when the asset is acquired and controlled by the council. Donations and contributions are generally recognised on receipt of the asset since there are no enforceable performance obligations. Physical assets contributed to council by developers in the form of road works, stormwater infrastructure and park equipment are recognised as revenue when Council obtains control of the asset and there is sufficient data in the form of drawings and plans to determine the approximate specifications and values of such assets. Non-cash contributions with a value in excess of the recognition thresholds disclosed in Note 10(a) are recognised as non-current assets. Those below the thresholds are recorded as expenses.

Scenic Rim Regional Council
Notes to the financial statements
For the year ended 30 June 2025

	2025 \$'000	2024 \$'000
3 Revenue (continued)		
(e) Grants, subsidies, contributions and donations (continued)		
i) Operating		
Commonwealth general purpose grant	7,449	192
Other commonwealth government grants	44	109
State government subsidies & grants	5,490	2,847
Contributions	852	481
Total operating grants, subsidies, contributions and donations	13,835	3,629
ii) Capital		
a) Monetary revenue		
Commonwealth government grants	5,865	7,238
State Government subsidies & grants	26,831	32,154
Contributions	9,120	10,032
	41,816	49,424
b) Non-monetary revenue		
Roads and drainage contributed by developers at fair value	488	10,222
Other physical assets contributed by developers at fair value	1,167	311
	1,655	10,533
Total capital grants, subsidies, contributions and donations	43,471	59,957
iii) Timing of revenue recognition for grants, subsidies, contributions and donations		

	2025		2024	
	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
	Revenue recognised at a point in time	Revenue recognised over time	Revenue recognised at a point in time	Revenue recognised over time
Grants and subsidies	12,983	32,696	3,148	39,392
Contributions	11,627	0	21,046	0
	24,610	32,696	24,194	39,392

4 Employee benefits

	Note	2025 \$'000	2024 \$'000
Total staff wages and salaries		36,287	34,995
Councillors' remuneration ⁽¹⁾		639	605
Termination benefits		290	64
Annual, sick and long service leave entitlements		4,219	3,630
Superannuation	20	4,829	4,446
Special payments ⁽²⁾		161	0
Other employee related expenses		1,686	1,535
		48,111	45,275
Less: Capitalised employee expenses		(5,298)	(5,305)
		42,813	39,970

⁽¹⁾ Councillors' remuneration - represents salary, and other allowances paid in respect of carrying out their duties.

⁽²⁾ Special payments - represents ex-gratia payments to former employees that Council were not contractually or legally obligated to make.

Total Council employees at end of reporting period:

Elected members	7	7
Administration staff	250	235
Depot and outdoors staff	177	174
Total full time equivalent employees	434	416

Scenic Rim Regional Council
Notes to the financial statements
For the year ended 30 June 2025

	Note	2025 \$'000	2024 \$'000
5 Materials and services			
Asset revaluation and condition assessments		25	321
Audit of annual financial statements by the Auditor-General of Queensland ⁽¹⁾		157	153
Consultancies		1,030	787
Cultural services		297	314
Economic development		1,019	1,077
Grants provided		593	421
Grant funded expenditure		1,736	1,299
Insurance		799	678
IT systems maintenance		2,548	2,633
Legal costs		1,821	1,655
Maintenance and operations - facilities		6,230	6,456
Maintenance and operations - fleet		4,030	3,867
Maintenance and operations - parks, gardens and cemeteries		1,723	1,966
Maintenance and operations - roads and bridges		11,804	9,936
Maintenance and operations - waste facilities		5,565	3,059
Office expenses		642	651
Pest and animal management		393	390
Recoverable works		2,748	2,487
Rentals - operating leases		50	63
Special payments ⁽²⁾		720	0
Subscriptions		331	374
Vibrant and active towns and villages		362	298
Waste collection contract		2,855	2,703
Other materials and services		6,068	5,774
		53,546	47,362
Less: Capitalised fleet expenses		(3,161)	(3,802)
		50,385	43,560

⁽¹⁾ Total audit fees quoted by the Queensland Audit Office relating to the 2024-25 financial statements are \$157,120 (2024: \$152,500)

⁽²⁾ Special payments - represents out-of-court settlements that Council were not contractually or legally obligated to make to other parties. Payments during the year include:
- an out-of-court settlement to a private company involved in a legal dispute.
- an out-of-court settlement to a former employee.

6 Finance costs

Finance costs - Queensland Treasury Corporation		1,004	1,134
Bank charges		181	192
Unwinding of discount - quarry site provisions	15	13	16
Unwinding of discount - refuse site provisions	15	288	166
		1,486	1,508

7 Cash and cash equivalents

Cash at bank and on hand		1,235	515
Deposits at call		37,387	25,171
Term deposits		11,000	23,000
Balance as per statement of financial position		49,622	48,686
Less: Externally imposed restrictions on cash		(22,395)	(20,986)
Unrestricted cash		27,227	27,700
Externally imposed expenditure restrictions at the reporting date relate to the following cash assets:			
Unspent government grants and subsidies		14,245	5,920
Unspent loan monies		5,248	10,481
State domestic waste levy refund received in advance		2,902	4,585
		22,395	20,986

The Council has an ongoing working capital facility with Queensland Treasury Corporation (facility limit \$10 million). The facility has not been utilised as at 30 June 2025.

Scenic Rim Regional Council
Notes to the financial statements
For the year ended 30 June 2025

	2025	2024
	\$'000	\$'000

8 Receivables

Settlement of receivables is generally required within 30 days from the invoice date.

Receivables are measured at amortised cost which approximates fair value at reporting date.

The loan to Urban Utilities is an interest only loan.

Current

Rates and utility charges	8,078	7,382
GST recoverable	1,335	1,155
Other debtors	7,592	5,368
	17,005	13,905

Interest was charged on outstanding rates at a rate of 9% per annum for the period ended 30 June 2025. No interest is charged on other debtors. There is no concentration of credit risk for rates and utility charges, fees and other debtors receivable. Council does not require collateral in respect of other debtors.

Non-current

Shareholder loan - Urban Utilities	14,676	14,676
	14,676	14,676

9 Non-current assets held for sale

Non-current assets held for sale	13,317	18,492
	13,317	18,492

Council has developed 30 blocks of industrial land at the Beaudesert Enterprise Precinct which have been marketed for sale with 9 blocks being sold during the financial year.

The last comprehensive valuation of the land was performed by Herron Todd White on 19 February 2024. The land was subsequently indexed using the latest Department of Natural Resources and Mines, Manufacturing and Regional and Rural Development valuation as at February 2025. The land was indexed for the period March 2025 to June 2025 using the consumer price index, housing. Disposal costs were estimated including real estate agent commission, legal and advertising costs.

Scenic Rim Regional Council
Notes to the financial statements
For the year ended 30 June 2025

	2025	2024
	\$'000	\$'000

10 Equity accounted investments

Name - Urban Utilities
Principal activity - Water and sewerage services
Proportion of ownership interest - 1.042%

Participation rights held in Urban Utilities are accounted for using the equity method to reflect Council's significant influence on Urban Utilities. The initial value of the participating rights on 1 July 2010 was calculated using a regulatory asset base valuation, and by applying a ratio agreed by the participating Councils and Urban Utilities. The value at year end includes Council's share of Urban Utilities' profit and other comprehensive income at 30 June 2025.

Council's investment in Urban Utilities comprises:

Participation rights	38,023	40,315
Details of movements in participation rights		
Opening balance	40,315	38,795
Plus share of profit of associate	547	2,771
Less share of other comprehensive income	(1,578)	0
Less participation return received and accrued	(1,261)	(1,251)
Closing balance at end of year	38,023	40,315

The following information has been extracted from Urban Utilities financial statements which were prepared in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards.

Urban Utilities

Extract from the statement of comprehensive income:

Revenue	1,642,351	1,648,209
Net profit	52,450	265,903

Extract from the statement of financial position:

Current assets	490,142	422,913
Non-current assets	6,791,455	7,006,711
	7,281,597	7,429,624
Current liabilities	337,626	323,923
Non-current liabilities	3,299,536	3,241,321
	3,637,162	3,565,244
Net assets	3,644,435	3,864,380

Scenic Rim Regional Council
Notes to the financial statements
For the year ended 30 June 2025

11 Property, plant and equipment

As at 30 June 2025

Basis of measurement

Asset Values

Opening gross value as at 1 July 2024

Additions*

Contributed assets at valuation

Disposals

Write-offs

Revaluation due to external assessment and indexation

Transfers between classes

Closing gross value

Note

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Accumulated depreciation and impairment

Opening balance as at 1 July 2024

Depreciation expense

Depreciation on disposals

Depreciation on write-offs

Revaluation due to external assessment and indexation

Revaluation due to impact of natural disasters

Closing accumulated depreciation balance

Net Value as at 30 June 2025

Range of estimated useful life in years

*Additions comprise:

Infrastructure renewals

Other additions

Total additions

Land	Buildings at valuation	Buildings at cost	Road and bridge network	Drainage	Other infrastructure	Plant and equipment	Capital work in progress	Total
Valuation	Valuation	Cost	Valuation	Valuation	Valuation	Cost	Cost	
\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
112,629	78,613	40,945	1,083,951	83,825	3,353	40,323	28,720	1,472,359
538	0	0	0	0	0	4,104	68,719	73,361
0	893	274	488	0	0	0	0	1,655
(591)	(3,047)	0	0	0	0	(1,730)	0	(5,368)
0	(2,354)	(243)	(37,526)	(4)	(55)	(11)	(1,481)	(41,674)
21,356	864	0	347,231	6,354	621	0	0	376,426
0	4,490	4,067	46,938	131	218	0	(55,844)	0
133,932	79,459	45,043	1,441,082	90,306	4,137	42,686	40,114	1,876,759

0	23,836	13,171	279,351	30,716	643	19,570	0	367,287
0	2,059	1,122	15,615	1,157	445	2,891	0	23,289
0	(101)	0	0	0	0	(1,188)	0	(1,289)
0	(754)	(120)	(36,366)	(5)	(6)	(11)	0	(37,262)
0	275	0	148,155	(5,697)	198	0	0	142,931
0	0	0	19,850	0	0	0	0	19,850
0	25,315	14,173	426,605	26,171	1,280	21,262	0	514,806
133,932	54,144	30,870	1,014,477	64,135	2,857	21,424	40,114	1,361,953

Not depreciated	15-100	10-100	15-120	15-80	6-75	2-40	Not depreciated
\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
0	0	0	0	0	0	0	52,501
538	0	0	0	0	0	4,104	20,860
538	0	0	0	0	0	4,104	73,361

Scenic Rim Regional Council
Notes to the financial statements
For the year ended 30 June 2025

11 Property, plant and equipment (continued)

As at 30 June 2024

Basis of measurement

	Land	Buildings at valuation	Buildings at cost	Road and bridge network	Drainage	Other infrastructure	Plant and equipment	Capital work in progress	Total
Note	Valuation	Valuation	Cost	Valuation	Valuation	Valuation	Cost	Cost	
Asset Values									
Opening gross value as at 1 July 2023	\$'000 113,113	\$'000 70,902	\$'000 39,137	\$'000 1,021,851	\$'000 73,384	\$'000 3,334	\$'000 34,674	\$'000 34,166	\$'000 1,390,561
Additions*	5,096	0	0	0	0	0	7,327	49,339	61,762
Contributed assets at valuation	0	536	109	11,253	1,523	0	0	0	13,421
Disposals	0	0	0	0	0	0	(1,643)	0	(1,643)
Write-offs	(774)	(69)	(1,041)	(34,226)	(12)	0	(35)	(1,848)	(38,005)
Revaluation due to external assessment and indexation	13,686	5,600	0	42,180	3,270	19	0	0	64,755
Non-current assets held for sale	(18,492)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	(18,492)
Transfers between classes	0	1,644	2,740	42,893	5,660	0	0	(52,937)	0
Closing gross value	112,629	78,613	40,945	1,083,951	83,825	3,353	40,323	28,720	1,472,359

Accumulated depreciation and impairment

Opening balance as at 1 July 2023	0	19,946	12,818	266,088	28,456	219	18,169	0	345,696
Depreciation expense	0	1,823	1,051	14,203	1,070	417	2,522	0	21,086
Depreciation on disposals	0	0	0	0	0	0	(1,080)	0	(1,080)
Depreciation on write-offs	0	(18)	(998)	(30,164)	(8)	0	(31)	0	(30,919)
Contributed assets at valuation	0	334	0	2,554	0	0	0	0	2,888
Revaluation due to external assessment and indexation	0	1,751	0	9,896	1,198	7	0	0	12,852
Revaluation due to impact of natural disasters	0	0	0	16,774	0	0	0	0	16,774
Closing accumulated depreciation balance	0	23,836	13,171	279,351	30,716	643	19,570	0	367,287

Net value as at 30 June 2024

Range of estimated useful life in years

*Additions comprise:
Infrastructure renewals
Other additions
Total additions

	15-100	10-100	15-120	15-80	6-75	2-40	Not depreciated	
Not depreciated	\$'000 0	\$'000 0	\$'000 0	\$'000 0	\$'000 0	\$'000 0	\$'000 0	\$'000 42,042
	5,096	0	0	0	0	0	7,327	19,720
	0	0	0	0	0	0	7,327	49,339
	5,096	0	0	0	0	0	7,327	61,762

112,629	54,777	27,774	804,600	53,109	2,710	20,753	28,720	1,105,072
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Scenic Rim Regional Council
Notes to the financial statements
For the year ended 30 June 2025

11 Property, plant and equipment (continued)

(a) Recognition

Plant and equipment with a total value of less than \$5,000, and infrastructure assets and buildings with a total value of less than \$10,000, are treated as an expense in the year of acquisition. All other items of property, plant and equipment are capitalised (including Land with a total value greater than \$1).

Land under roads and reserve land under the *Land Act 1994* or *Land Title Act 1994* is controlled by Queensland State Government and not recognised in the Council financial statements.

(b) Measurement

Property, plant and equipment assets are initially recorded at cost. Subsequently, each class of property, plant and equipment is stated at cost or fair value less, where applicable, any accumulated depreciation and accumulated impairment loss.

(c) Depreciation

Land and capital work in progress are not depreciated.

Depreciation, where applicable, is calculated on a straight-line basis. Management believe that the straight-line basis appropriately reflects the pattern of consumption of all Council assets.

(d) Valuation

Valuation processes

Council considers the carrying amount of its property, plant and equipment on an annual basis compared to fair value and makes adjustment where these are materially different. Council performs a full comprehensive revaluation of each asset class every 3 years with different classes being revalued each year on a rolling basis. An external professionally qualified valuer is engaged to perform these revaluations.

In the intervening years, Council undertakes:

- a management valuation using internal engineers and asset managers to assess the condition and cost assumptions associated with all infrastructure assets and an appropriate cost index for the region.
- a desktop valuation for land and buildings at valuation which involves management assessing a suitable index and applying an indexation if it is determined appropriate.

On revaluation, accumulated depreciation is restated proportionately with the change in the carrying amount of the asset and any change in the estimate of remaining useful life.

Fair values are classified into three levels as follows:

- Level 1 - fair value based on quoted prices (unadjusted) in active markets for identical assets or liabilities
- Level 2 - fair value based on inputs that are directly or indirectly observable, such as prices for similar assets, for the asset or liability
- Level 3 - fair value based on unobservable inputs for the asset and liability

There were no transfers between levels during the year.

Scenic Rim Regional Council
Notes to the financial statements
For the year ended 30 June 2025

11 Property, plant and equipment (continued)

(e) Valuation (continued)

(ii) Valuation techniques used to derive values

Asset class and fair value hierarchy	Valuation approach	Last comprehensive valuation date	Valuer engaged	Key assumptions and estimates (related data sources)	Index applied (change in index recognised this year)	Other interim revaluation adjustment
Land (level 2)	Market value	28-Feb-23	APV Valuers and Asset Management	Sales prices of comparable land sites in close proximity are adjusted for differences in key attributes such as property size. The most significant inputs into this valuation approach are price per square metre.	Movement in Department of Natural Resources and Mines, Manufacturing and Regional and Rural Development valuation for period February 2023 to February 2025 (21.97%); Reversal of previous indexation for period February 2023 to June 2024 (-4.79%); Movement in consumer price index, housing (1.79%) for period March to June 2025	Nil
Buildings (level 2) 2025: \$1,594m 2024: \$4,575m	Market value	28-Feb-23	APV Valuers and Asset Management	Sales prices of comparable properties after adjusting for differences in key attributes such as property size. The most significant inputs into this valuation approach were price per square metre.	Movement in producer price index, non-residential building construction Queensland (1.10%)	Nil
Buildings (level 3) 2025: \$52,550m 2024: \$50,202m	Current replacement cost	28-Feb-23	APV Valuers and Asset Management	Current replacement cost with a new asset having similar service potential. In determining the level of accumulated depreciation the asset has been disaggregated into significant components which exhibit different useful lives.	Movement in producer price index, non-residential building construction Queensland (1.10%)	Nil
Road and bridge network (level 3)	Current replacement cost	28-Feb-25	Marsh Pty Ltd	Current replacement cost for each asset by componentising the assets into significant parts with different useful lives and taking into account a range of factors, the most significant of which is the unit rate per square metre to construct similar assets.	Movement in producer price index, road and bridge construction Queensland (0.90%) for period March to June 2025	Nil
Drainage (level 3)	Current replacement cost	28-Feb-25	Marsh Pty Ltd	Current replacement cost for each asset by componentising the assets into significant parts with different useful lives and taking into account a range of factors, the most significant of which is the unit rate per square metre to construct similar assets.	Movement in producer price index, road and bridge construction Queensland (0.90%) for period March to June 2025	Nil
Other infrastructure (level 3)	Current replacement cost	30-Jun-25	Internal qualified staff	Current replacement cost of construction, estimates of present value of future restoration costs and estimates of present value of future monitoring costs of refuse and quarry sites.	Consumer price index historical average	Review of future restoration and monitoring costs. Review of useful life estimates.

Scenic Rim Regional Council
Notes to the financial statements
For the year ended 30 June 2025

	2025	2024
	\$'000	\$'000

12 Payables

A liability for creditors is recognised upon receipt of the goods or services ordered and are measured at the agreed purchase/contract price net of applicable discounts other than contingent discounts. Amounts owing are unsecured and are generally settled on 30 day terms.

A liability for salaries and wages is recognised and measured as the amount unpaid at the reporting date at current pay rates in respect of employees' services up to that date.

A liability for annual leave has been calculated based on the present value of wage and salary levels that will be paid when the liability is expected to be settled and includes related employee on-costs. All annual leave is classified as current as Council does not have an unconditional right to defer settlement beyond twelve months.

Current

Creditors and accruals	17,064	20,501
Salary and wages accruals	929	1,212
Annual leave	3,400	3,073
Prepaid rates	3,156	2,893
	24,549	27,679

13 Contract balances

(a) Contract assets

Contracts to construct Council controlled assets	10,939	17,363
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(b) Contract liabilities

Funds received upfront to construct Council controlled assets	10,718	2,975
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Revenue recognised that was included in the contract liability balance at the beginning of the year

Funds to construct Council controlled assets	1,714	3,485
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(c) Significant changes in contract balances

Contract assets has decreased significantly due to Council receiving grant monies in line with progress on the related projects. The main grant programs that make up the balance as at 30 June 2025 include Disaster Recovery Funding Arrangements and the Local Roads and Community Infrastructure Program.

Contract liabilities has increased significantly with grant funds being received in advance as at 30 June 2025 including the SEQ Community Stimulus Program 2024-2027, Disaster Recovery Funding Arrangements and the SEQ Liveability Fund.

Scenic Rim Regional Council
Notes to the financial statements
For the year ended 30 June 2025

14 Borrowings

Interest is expensed as it accrues. No interest has been capitalised during the current or comparative reporting period. Final repayment dates vary from 15 June 2028 to 15 June 2043.

Borrowings are underwritten by the Queensland State Government.

	2025	2024
	\$'000	\$'000
<i>Current</i>		
Queensland Treasury Corporation	2,503	4,023
<i>Non-current</i>		
Queensland Treasury Corporation	36,819	39,285
	39,322	43,308
Details of movements in borrowings:		
Queensland Treasury Corporation		
Opening balance	43,308	47,447
Interest accrued	1,004	1,134
Principal and interest repayments	(4,990)	(5,273)
Book value at period end	39,322	43,308

All unsecured borrowings are provided by Queensland Treasury Corporation.

There have been no defaults or breaches of the loan agreement during the period.

The loan market value at the reporting date was \$32,847,433. This represents the value of the debt if the Council repaid it at that date. As it is the intention of the Council to hold the debt for its term, no provision is required to be made in these accounts.

Council has no assets pledged as security.

Scenic Rim Regional Council
Notes to the financial statements
For the year ended 30 June 2025

	2025 \$'000	2024 \$'000
15 Provisions		
<i>Current</i>		
Long service leave	6,579	6,205
Refuse sites restoration	2,493	1,563
Quarry sites restoration	393	379
	9,465	8,147
<i>Non-Current</i>		
Refuse sites restoration	2,552	1,831
Long service leave	865	881
	3,417	2,712

Details of movements in provisions:

(a) Restoration provisions

Provisions are made for the cost of restoring refuse and quarry sites where it is probable the Council will be liable, or required, to do this when the use of the facilities is complete. The provisions are calculated as the present value of anticipated future costs associated with the restoration of these sites.

The calculation of these provisions requires assumptions such as application of environmental legislation, available technologies and engineering cost estimates. These uncertainties may result in future actual expenditure differing from amounts currently provided. Due to the long-term nature of the liabilities, the most significant uncertainty in estimating the provisions is the cost that will be incurred. The provisions recognised are reviewed at least annually and updated based on the facts and circumstances available at the time.

Refuse sites restoration

Balance at beginning of financial year	3,394	3,364
Increase due to unwinding of discount	288	166
Amounts used	(95)	(112)
Increase (decrease) due to change in estimated future cost	1,600	157
Increase (decrease) due to change in discount rate	(142)	(181)
Balance at the end of financial year	5,045	3,394

Quarry sites restoration

Balance at beginning of financial year	379	368
Increase due to unwinding of discount	13	16
Increase (decrease) due to change in estimated future cost	10	10
Increase (decrease) due to change in discount rate	(9)	(15)
Balance at the end of financial year	393	379

(b) Long service leave

The provision for long service leave represents the present value of the estimated future cash outflows to be made in respect of services provided by employees up to the reporting date.

The liability is calculated using current pay rates and projected future increases in those rates and includes related employee on-costs. The estimates are adjusted for the probability of the employee remaining in the council's employment or other associated employment which would result in the Council being required to meet the liability. Adjustments are then made to allow for the proportion of the benefit earned to date, and the result is discounted to present value. The provision is discounted using the Commonwealth Bond yield rates.

Scenic Rim Regional Council
Notes to the financial statements
For the year ended 30 June 2025

	2025	2024
	\$'000	\$'000
16 Other liabilities		
<i>Current</i>		
Ticket sales received in advance	30	37
Domestic waste levy refund received in advance*	1,507	1,683
	1,537	1,720
<i>Non-Current</i>		
Domestic waste levy refund received in advance*	1,395	2,902
	1,395	2,902

* The State government made an advance payment to Council for the domestic waste levy refund in June 2022. The advance payment covers the years 2022-2023 to 2025-2026. A further advance payment was received in June 2023 to cover the 2026-2027 year. The payment received in advance for the 2025-2026 financial year has been treated as a current liability. The payment received in advance for the 2026-2027 financial year has been treated as a non-current liability.

17 Asset revaluation surplus

The asset revaluation surplus comprises revaluation movements on property, plant and equipment.

18 Commitments for expenditure

Contractual commitments for operating expenditure

Contractual commitments at the reporting date but not provided for in the financial statements are as follows:

Within one year	4,031	4,128
One to five years	6,434	9,918
	10,465	14,046

Contractual commitments for capital

Capital expenditure contracted for at the reporting date but not provided for in the financial statements are as follows:

Within one year	26,406	33,972
	26,406	33,972

Scenic Rim Regional Council
Notes to the financial statements
For the year ended 30 June 2025

19 Contingent liabilities

Details and estimates of maximum amounts of contingent liabilities are as follows:

Local Government Workcare

The Scenic Rim Regional Council is a member of the Queensland local government workers compensation self insurance scheme, Local Government Workcare. Under this scheme the Council has provided an indemnity towards a bank guarantee to cover bad debts which may remain should the self insurance licence be cancelled and there was insufficient funds available to cover outstanding liabilities. Only the Queensland Government's workers compensation authority may call on any part of the guarantee should the above circumstances arise. The Council's maximum exposure to the bank guarantee is \$896,233.

Local Government Mutual

The Scenic Rim Regional Council is a member of the local government mutual liability self-insurance pool, LGM Queensland. In the event of the pool being wound up or it is unable to meet its debts as they fall due, the trust deed and rules provide that any accumulated deficit will be met by the individual pool members in the same proportion as their contribution is to the total pool contributions in respect to any year that a deficit arises. As at 30 June 2024 the Local Government Mutual financial statements reported an accumulated surplus and it is not anticipated any liability will arise.

Environmental Matter

Council will undertake soil remediation work in selected locations at the Hereford Street depot, in accordance with a notice issued by the Department of Environment, Science, Tourism and Innovation (the Department) requiring remediation of hydrocarbon impacted soil at this site.

Council officers have provided to the Department with a project schedule that will result in removal of the impacted material with subsequent disposal at the Bromelton landfill and the reinstatement of the Hereford Street site in September 2025, with project sign-off by an independent contaminated land auditor in early October 2025. The Department has subsequently confirmed acceptance of the project methodology and proposed timing.

Council has allocated \$350,000 for the completion of the project.

Shelf Road Tamborine Mountain

A claim has been lodged against Scenic Rim Regional Council in the Supreme Court seeking damages incurred as a result of a natural disaster. Council has been ably represented throughout the matter through the engagement of legal and insurance service providers.

Council is unable to reliably estimate the value of the outcome and advice from Council's legal experts indicates that there is no basis for Council to pay the Plaintiff any substantial amount to settle the matter. At this point in time, the legal process for the claim is continuing and further legal proceedings may establish a reliable estimate of any potential liability.

Other Legal Matters

From time to time Council is involved in investigations and legal matters, the effects and any potential impacts are unknown at this point in time.

Scenic Rim Regional Council
Notes to the financial statements
For the year ended 30 June 2025

20 Superannuation - Regional defined benefit fund

Council contributes to the LGIAsuper Regional Defined Benefits Fund (the scheme), at the rate of 12% for each permanent employee who is a defined benefit member. This rate is set in accordance with the LGIAsuper trust deed and may be varied on the advice of an actuary. The Regional Defined Benefits Fund is a complying superannuation scheme for the purpose of the Commonwealth Superannuation Industry (Supervision) legislation and is also governed by the *Local Government Act 2009*. The scheme is managed by the Brighter Super trustee.

The scheme is a pooled defined benefit plan and it is not in accordance with the deed to allocate obligations, plan assets and costs at the Council level.

Any amount by which the scheme is over or under funded may affect future benefits and result in a change to the contribution rate obligations, but has not been recognised as an asset or liability of the Council.

Scenic Rim Regional Council may be liable to the scheme for a portion of another local governments' obligations should that local government be unable to meet them. However the risk of this occurring is extremely low and in accordance with the Brighter Super trust deed changes to council's obligations will only be made on the advice of an actuary.

The last completed actuarial assessment of the scheme was undertaken as at 1 July 2024. The actuary indicated that "At the valuation date of 1 July 2024, the net assets of the scheme exceeded the vested benefits and the scheme was in a satisfactory financial position." The measure of vested benefits represents the value of benefit entitlements should all participating employees voluntarily exit the scheme. The Council is not aware of anything that has happened since that time that indicates the assets of the scheme are not sufficient to meet the vested benefits, as at the reporting date.

No changes have been made to prescribed employer contributions which remain at 12% of employee salary or wages and there are no known requirements to change the rate of contributions.

The next triennial actuarial review is due on 1 July 2027.

The most significant risks that may result in Brighter Super increasing the contribution rate, on the advice of the actuary, are:

Investment risk - The risk that the scheme's investment returns will be lower than assumed and additional contributions are needed to fund the shortfall.

Salary growth risk - The risk that wages or salaries will rise more rapidly than assumed, increasing vested benefits to be funded.

		2025	2024
		\$'000	\$'000
Superannuation contributions made to the Regional Defined Benefits Fund		121	127
Other superannuation contributions for employees		4,634	4,247
Other superannuation contributions for elected members		74	72
Total superannuation contributions	Note 4	4,829	4,446

Scenic Rim Regional Council
Notes to the financial statements
For the year ended 30 June 2025

	Note	2025 \$'000	2024 \$'000
21 Trust funds			
Monies collected or held on behalf of other entities yet to be paid out to or on behalf of those entities		6,106	6,494
The Scenic Rim Regional Council performs only a custodial role in respect of these monies. As these funds cannot be used by the Council, they are not brought to account in these financial statements.			
22 Reconciliation of net operating surplus to net cash inflow / (outflow) from operating activities			
Net result		33,774	45,011
Non-cash operating items:			
Depreciation and amortisation		23,289	21,086
Change in restoration provisions expensed		301	182
Share of profit from associate		(547)	(2,771)
		23,043	18,497
Investing and development activities:			
Capital grants, subsidies and contributions		(43,471)	(59,957)
Capital income		0	(123)
Capital expenses		5,177	7,086
		(38,294)	(52,994)
Changes in operating assets and liabilities:			
(Increase) decrease in receivables		(3,203)	(1,620)
(Increase) decrease in inventories		105	115
(Increase) decrease in other assets		(754)	(142)
Increase (decrease) in payables		(221)	4,553
Increase (decrease) in provisions		1,278	0
Increase (decrease) in other liabilities		(1,690)	(1,670)
		(4,485)	1,236
Net cash inflow / (outflow) from operating activities		14,038	11,750
23 Reconciliation of liabilities arising from financing activities			
Borrowings:			
Opening balance		43,308	47,447
Cashflows		(3,986)	(4,139)
Closing balance	14	39,322	43,308

Scenic Rim Regional Council
Notes to the financial statements
For the year ended 30 June 2025

24 Financial instruments and financial risk management

Financial assets and liabilities

Scenic Rim Regional Council has exposure to the following risks arising from financial instruments:

- Market risk
- Credit risk
- Liquidity risk

Financial risk management

Exposure to financial risks is managed in accordance with Council approved policies on financial risk management. These policies focus on managing the volatility of financial markets and seek to minimise potential adverse effects on the financial performance of Council.

Council's Audit and Risk Committee oversees how management monitors compliance with Council's risk management policies and procedures, and reviews the adequacy of the risk managements framework in relation to the risks faced by Council. The Audit and Risk Committee is assisted in its oversight role by internal audit. Internal audit undertakes both regular and ad hoc reviews of risk management controls and procedures, the results of which are reported to the Audit and Risk Committee.

(a) Market risk

Market risk is the risk that changes in market indices, such as interest rates, will affect Council's income or the value of its holdings of financial instruments. Council is exposed to market risk through its investments and borrowings with Queensland Treasury Corporation (QTC) and other financial institutions. The Council has access to a mix of variable and fixed rate funding options through QTC so that interest rate risk exposure can be minimised.

Sensitivity to interest rate movements is shown for variable financial assets and liabilities based on the carrying amount at reporting date.

The following interest rate sensitivity analysis depicts what effect a reasonably possible change in interest rates (assumed to be 1% increase) would have on profit and equity, based on the carrying values at the end of the reporting period. The calculation assumes that the change in interest rates would be held constant over the period.

	Net carrying amount		Profit		Equity	
	2025 \$'000	2024 \$'000	2025 \$'000	2024 \$'000	2025 \$'000	2024 \$'000
Cash and cash equivalents	49,622	48,686	496	487	496	487
Net			496	487	496	487

QTC borrowings are at fixed interest rates and are therefore not subject to interest rate sensitivity.

(b) Credit risk

Credit risk is the risk of financial loss if a counterparty to a financial instrument fails to meet its contractual obligations. These obligations arise principally from the council's investments and receivables.

The carrying amounts of financial assets at the end of the reporting period represent the maximum exposure to credit risk for the Council.

The following table represents the Council's maximum exposure to credit risk:

	2025 \$'000	2024 \$'000
Financial assets		
Cash and cash equivalents	49,622	48,686
Receivables	31,681	28,581
	81,303	77,267

Scenic Rim Regional Council
Notes to the financial statements
For the year ended 30 June 2025

24 Financial instruments and financial risk management (continued)

Cash and cash equivalents

The Council may be exposed to risk through its investments with the Queensland Treasury Corporation (QTC) and deposits held with banks or other financial institutions. The QTC Cash Fund is an asset management portfolio that invests with a wide variety of high credit rating counterparties. Deposits are capital guaranteed. Other investments are held with highly rated/regulated banks and financial institutions and whilst not capital guaranteed, the likelihood of a credit failure is assessed as remote.

Receivables

In the case of rate receivables, the Council has the power to sell the property to recover any defaulted amounts. In effect this power protects the Council against credit risk in the case of these debts.

In other cases, Council assesses the credit risk before providing goods or services and applies normal business credit protection procedures to minimise the risk.

The Council does not require collateral in respect of other receivables. The Council does not have receivables for which no loss allowance is recognised because of collateral.

A summary of the Council's exposure to credit risk for which impairment requirements of AASB9 - *Financial Instruments* have been applied, being for statutory charges (non-rates & charges) and other debtors, are as follows:

	2025	2024
	\$'000	\$'000
Subject to impairment		
Not past due	5,095	4,467
Past due 1-30 days	259	421
Past due 31-60 days	545	232
Past due 61-90 days	3	7
More than 90 days	148	195
Total Gross Carrying Amount	6,050	5,322
Loss Allowance	0	0
	6,050	5,322
Not subject to impairment		
Rates and utility charges	8,078	7,382
GST recoverable	1,335	1,155
Infrastructure charges	1,542	46
Shareholder loan - Urban Utilities	14,676	14,676
Total Gross Carrying Amount	25,631	23,259
	31,681	28,581

(c) Liquidity risk

Liquidity risk refers to the situation where the Council may encounter difficulty in meeting obligations associated with financial liabilities. The Council is exposed to liquidity risk through its trading in the normal course of business and borrowings from Queensland Treasury Corporation for capital works.

The Council's approach to managing liquidity is to ensure, as far as possible, that it will have sufficient liquidity to meet its liabilities when they are due, under both normal and stressed conditions, without incurring unacceptable losses or risking damage to the Council's reputation.

The following table sets out the liquidity risk of financial liabilities held by the Council. It represents the remaining contractual cashflows (principal and interest) of financial liabilities at the end of the reporting period, excluding the impact of netting agreements:

	0 to 1	1 to 5	Over 5	Total	
	year	years	years	contractual	Carrying
	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	cashflow	amount
2025				\$'000	\$'000
Payables	17,064	0	0	17,064	17,064
Loans - QTC	3,372	12,961	30,625	46,958	39,322
	20,436	12,961	30,625	64,022	56,386
2024					
Payables	20,501	0	0	20,501	20,501
Loans - QTC	4,990	13,224	33,734	51,948	43,308
	25,491	13,224	33,734	72,449	63,809

Scenic Rim Regional Council
Notes to the financial statements
For the year ended 30 June 2025

25 Events after the reporting period

There were no material adjusting events after the balance date.

26 National competition policy

(a) Activities to which the code of competitive conduct is applied

The Scenic Rim Regional Council applies the code of competitive conduct to the following activities:

Roads
Building Certifying
Waste Collection

This requires the application of full cost pricing, identifying the cost of community service obligations (CSO's) and eliminating the advantages and disadvantages of public ownership within that activity. Council has not identified any CSO's.

(b) Financial performance of activities subject to code of competitive conduct:

	Roads	Building Certifying	Waste Collection
	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
Revenue for services provided	6,422	542	8,650
Less : Expenditure	6,497	246	5,270
Surplus / (deficit)	(75)	296	3,380

Scenic Rim Regional Council
Notes to the financial statements
For the year ended 30 June 2025

	2025 \$'000	2024 \$'000
27 Transactions with related parties		
(a) Transactions with associates		
Revenue		
Urban Utilities		
Participation return (Note 10)	1,261	1,251
Tax equivalents (Note 3(d))	812	965
Loan interest	666	618
Contract works	100	0
Waste tipping fees	0	21
Sponsorship - Eat Local Month	8	5
	2,847	2,860
Expenditure		
Urban Utilities		
Water and sewerage access and consumption charges	359	345
Maintenance bond - Enterprise Drive Development	0	56
Easement processing fee - Enterprise Drive Development	0	2
Laboratory sampling and analysis - swimming pools	75	65
	434	468
All transactions with Urban Utilities were at arm's length and were in the normal course of Council operations.		
(b) Outstanding balances		
Receivables		
Urban Utilities		
Participation return	630	625
Contract works	100	0
Tax equivalents	0	32
	786	708
Payables		
Urban Utilities		
Tax equivalent overpayment refund	163	0
	163	0
(c) Loans and guarantees to/from related parties		
Urban Utilities		
Shareholder loan (Note 8)	14,676	14,676
No guarantees have been provided.		
(d) Transactions with key management personnel (KMP)		
KMP include the Mayor, Councillors, Council's Chief Executive Officer and some executive management. KMP compensation paid or accrued during the financial year comprises:		
Short-term employee benefits	2,554	2,419
Special payments - ex-gratia payments to former KMP	152	0
Long-term benefits	33	24
Post employment benefits	316	244
	3,055	2,687
Detailed remuneration disclosures are provided in the annual report.		

Scenic Rim Regional Council
Notes to the financial statements
For the year ended 30 June 2025

27 Transactions with related parties (continued)

(e) Transactions with other related parties

		Amount of transactions during year	Outstanding balance (incl commitments)	Provisions for doubtful debts on outstanding balances	Doubtful debts expense recognised
		\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
2025					
Purchase of materials and services from an entity controlled by members of KMP	(i)	21	0	0	0
Payment of a precept and provision of in-kind support to Scenic Rim Rivers Improvement Trust	(ii)	105	0	0	0
Employee expenses for close family members of KMP	(iii)	100	0	0	0
Reimbursement by members of KMP for legal assistance	(v)	13	3	0	0
Payment of settlement agreement and legal costs to member of KMP	(vi)	220	0	0	0
2024					
Purchase of materials and services from an entity controlled by members of KMP	(i)	67	0	0	0
Payment of a precept and provision of in-kind support to Scenic Rim Rivers Improvement Trust	(ii)	104	0	0	0
Employee expenses for close family members of KMP	(iii)	101	0	0	0
Rates and charges on property developments charged to entities controlled by a close family member of KMP	(iv)	69	0	0	0
Reimbursement by members of KMP for legal assistance	(v)	9	11	0	0

(i) Council purchased materials and services from entities that are controlled by members of KMP. All purchases were at arm's length and were in the normal course of Council operations.

(ii) Scenic Rim Rivers Improvement Trust is controlled by members of the KMP and operates under the *River Improvement Trust Act 1940*. Councils contribution assists with riverine maintenance works in the region.

(iii) All close family members of KMP were employed through an arm's length process. They are paid in accordance with the Award for the job they perform. Council employs 427 staff of which only 1 is a close family member of key management personnel (2024: 409 staff employed of which only 1 was a close family member of key management personnel).

(iv) Rates and charges on property developments charged to entities controlled by a close family member of KMP. All transactions were at arm's length and were in the normal course of Council operations.

(v) Reimbursement by members of KMP for legal assistance.

(vi) Payment of settlement agreement and legal costs to member of KMP

(f) Transactions with related parties that have not been disclosed

Most of the entities and people that are related parties of Council live and operate within the Scenic Rim Regional Council area. Therefore, on a regular basis ordinary citizen transactions occur between Council and its related parties. Some examples include:

- Payment of rates and utility charges
- Fees and charges included in Council's Register of Fees and Charges
- Fines and penalties included in Council's Register of Local Laws and Subordinate Local Laws
- Attendance at Council functions which are open to the general public
- Visiting Council facilities which are open to the general public

Council has not included these types of transactions in its disclosure, where they are made on the same terms and conditions available to the general public.

**Scenic Rim Regional Council
Financial Statements**

For the year ended 30 June 2025

Management Certificate
For the year ended 30 June 2025

These general purpose financial statements have been prepared pursuant to sections 176 and 177 of the *Local Government Regulation 2012* (the Regulation) and other prescribed requirements.

In accordance with section 212(5) of the Regulation we certify that:

- (i) the prescribed requirements of the *Local Government Act 2009* and *Local Government Regulation 2012* for the establishment and keeping of accounts have been complied with in all material respects; and
- (ii) the general purpose financial statements as set out on pages 1 to 31, present a true and fair view, in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards, of the Council's transactions for the financial year and financial position at the end of the year.



Mayor, Cr Tom Sharp
Scenic Rim Regional Council
Date: 9 October 2025



Chief Executive Officer, David Keenan
Scenic Rim Regional Council
Date: 9 October 2025



INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

To the Councillors of Scenic Rim Regional Council

Report on the audit of the financial report

Opinion

I have audited the financial report of Scenic Rim Regional Council.

The financial report comprises the statement of financial position as at 30 June 2025, the statement of comprehensive income, statement of changes in equity and statement of cash flows for the year then ended, notes to the financial statements including material accounting policy information and the certificate given by the Mayor and Chief Executive Officer.

In my opinion, the financial report:

- a) gives a true and fair view of the council's financial position as at 30 June 2025, and of its financial performance for the year then ended; and
- b) complies with the *Local Government Act 2009*, the Local Government Regulation 2012 and Australian Accounting Standards.

Basis for opinion

I conducted my audit in accordance with the *Auditor-General Auditing Standards*, which incorporate the Australian Auditing Standards. My responsibilities under those standards are further described in the **Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial report** section of my report.

I am independent of the council in accordance with the ethical requirements of the Accounting Professional and Ethical Standards Board's APES 110 *Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants (including Independence Standards)* (the Code) that are relevant to my audit of the financial report in Australia. I have also fulfilled my other ethical responsibilities in accordance with the Code and the *Auditor-General Auditing Standards*.

I believe that the audit evidence I have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for my opinion.

Other information

The councillors are responsible for the other information.

The other information comprises the information included in the entity's annual report for the year ended 30 June 2025 but does not include the financial report and our auditor's report thereon.

At the date of this auditor's report, the available other information in Scenic Rim Regional Council's annual report for the year ended 30 June 2025 was the current year financial sustainability statement, current year financial sustainability statement - contextual ratios and long-term financial sustainability statement.



My opinion on the financial report does not cover the other information and accordingly I do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon. However, as required by the Local Government Regulation 2012, I have formed a separate opinion on the current year financial sustainability statement.

In connection with my audit of the financial report, my responsibility is to read the other information when it becomes available and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial report and my knowledge obtained in the audit or otherwise appears to be materially misstated.

If, based on the work I have performed, I conclude that there is a material misstatement of this information, I am required to report that fact. I have nothing to report in this regard.

Responsibilities of the councillors for the financial report

The councillors are responsible for the preparation of the financial report that gives a true and fair view in accordance with the *Local Government Act 2009*, the Local Government Regulation 2012 and Australian Accounting Standards, and for such internal control as the councillors determine is necessary to enable the preparation of the financial report that is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

The councillors are also responsible for assessing the council's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters relating to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless it is intended to abolish the council or to otherwise cease operations of the council.

Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial report

My objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial report as a whole is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes my opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with the Australian Auditing Standards will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of this financial report.

A further description of my responsibilities for the audit of the financial report is located at the Auditing and Assurance Standards Board website at:

https://www.auasb.gov.au/auditors_responsibilities/ar4.pdf

This description forms part of my auditor's report.

Report on other legal and regulatory requirements

In accordance with s. 40 of the *Auditor-General Act 2009*, for the year ended 30 June 2025:

- a) I received all the information and explanations I required
- b) I consider that, the prescribed requirements in relation to the establishment and keeping of accounts were complied with in all material respects.

**Prescribed requirements scope**

The prescribed requirements for the establishment and keeping of accounts are contained in the *Local Government Act 2009*, and the Local Government Regulation 2012. The applicable requirements include those for keeping financial records that correctly record and explain the council's transactions and account balances to enable the preparation of a true and fair financial report.

Jacques Coetzee

10 October 2025

Jacques Coetzee
as delegate of the Auditor-General

Queensland Audit Office
Brisbane

Scenic Rim Regional Council
Current Year Financial Sustainability Statement
For the year ended 30 June 2025

Type	Measure	Target (Tier 3)	Actual Current Year	5-Year Average	Council Narrative
Audited Ratios					
Operating Performance	Operating Surplus Ratio	Greater than 0%	-4.0%	-1.8%	Actual current year ratio impacted by lower prepayment of the Financial Assistance Grant, lower share of profits from Urban Utilities and timing with the receipt of Disaster Recovery Funding Arrangements emergency works funding.
	Operating Cash Ratio	Greater than 0%	17.4%	18.7%	Result within Financial Management (Sustainability) Guideline 2024 target range. Actual current year ratio impacted lower prepayment of the Financial Assistance Grant and timing with the receipt of Disaster Recovery Funding Arrangements emergency works funding.
Liquidity	Unrestricted Cash Expense Cover Ratio	Greater than 3 months	4.8	NA	Result within Financial Management (Sustainability) Guideline 2024 target range.
Asset Management	Asset Sustainability Ratio	Greater than 80%	257.4%	166.0%	Result within Financial Management (Sustainability) Guideline 2024 target range. Ratio impacted by Disaster Recovery Funding Arrangements reconstruction works.
	Asset Consumption Ratio	Greater than 60%	70.3%	73.6%	Result within Financial Management (Sustainability) Guideline 2024 target range.
Debt Servicing Capacity	Leverage Ratio	0 - 3 times	1.9	2.3	Result within Financial Management (Sustainability) Guideline 2024 target range. Actual current year ratio impacted by lower prepayment of the Financial Assistance Grant, lower share of profits from Urban Utilities and timing with the receipt of Disaster Recovery Funding Arrangements emergency works funding.

The current year financial sustainability statement is prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Local Government Regulation 2012 and the Financial Management (Sustainability) Guideline 2024. The amounts used to calculate the reported measures are prepared on an accrual basis and are drawn from the council's audited general purpose financial statements for the year ended 30 June 2025.

Certificate of Accuracy
For the year ended 30 June 2025

This current year financial sustainability statement has been prepared pursuant to Section 178 of the *Local Government Regulation 2012* (the regulation).
In accordance with Section 212(5) of the Regulation we certify that this current year financial sustainability statement has been accurately calculated.

Mayor, Cr Tom Sharp
Scenic Rim Regional Council
Date: 9 October 2025

Chief Executive Officer, David Keenan
Scenic Rim Regional Council
Date: 9 October 2025



INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

To the Councillors of Scenic Rim Regional Council

Report on the Current-Year Financial Sustainability Statement

Opinion

I have audited the accompanying current year financial sustainability statement of Scenic Rim Regional Council for the year ended 30 June 2025, comprising the statement, explanatory notes, and the certificate of accuracy given by the Mayor and the Chief Executive Officer.

In accordance with s.212 of the Local Government Regulation 2012, in my opinion, in all material respects, the current year financial sustainability statement of Scenic Rim Regional Council for the year ended 30 June 2025 has been accurately calculated.

Basis of opinion

I conducted my audit in accordance with the *Auditor-General Auditing Standards*, which incorporate the Australian Auditing Standards. My responsibilities under those standards are further described in the *Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the current year financial sustainability statement* section of my report.

I am independent of the council in accordance with the ethical requirements of the Accounting Professional and Ethical Standards Board APES 110 *Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants (including Independence Standards)* (the Code) that are relevant to my audit of the statement in Australia. I have also fulfilled my other ethical responsibilities in accordance with the Code and the *Auditor-General Auditing Standards*.

I believe that the audit evidence I have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for my opinion.

Emphasis of matter – basis of accounting

I draw attention to the note which describes the basis of accounting. The current year financial sustainability statement has been prepared in accordance with the Financial Management (Sustainability) Guideline 2024 for the purpose of fulfilling the council's reporting responsibilities under the Local Government Regulation 2012. As a result, the statement may not be suitable for another purpose. My opinion is not modified in respect of this matter.

Other Information

The councillors are responsible for the other information.

The other information comprises the information included in the entity's annual report for the year ended 30 June 2025 but does not include the financial sustainability statement and our auditor's report thereon.

At the date of this auditor's report, the available other information in Scenic Rim Regional Council's annual report for the year ended 30 June 2025 was the general-purpose financial statements, current-year financial sustainability statement - contextual ratios, and the long-term financial sustainability statement.



My opinion on the current year financial sustainability statement does not cover the other information and accordingly I do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon. However, as required by the Local Government Regulation 2012, I have formed a separate opinion on the general-purpose financial report.

In connection with my audit of the financial sustainability statement, my responsibility is to read the other information when it becomes available and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial sustainability statement and my knowledge obtained in the audit or otherwise appears to be materially misstated.

If, based on the work I have performed, I conclude that there is a material misstatement of this information, I am required to report that fact. I have nothing to report in this regard.

Responsibilities of the councillors for the current year financial sustainability statement

The councillors are responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the current year financial sustainability statement in accordance with the Local Government Regulation 2012. The councillors responsibility also includes such internal control as the councillors determine is necessary to enable the preparation and fair presentation of the statement that is accurately calculated and is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the current year financial sustainability statement

My objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the current year financial sustainability statement as a whole is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes my opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with the Australian Auditing Standards will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of this statement.

My responsibility does not extend to forming an opinion on the appropriateness or relevance of the reported ratios, nor on the council's future sustainability.

As part of an audit in accordance with the Australian Auditing Standards, I exercise professional judgement and maintain professional scepticism throughout the audit. I also:

- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the statement, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for my opinion. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control.
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the council's internal control.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of material accounting policy information used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by the council.



I communicate with the council regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that I identify during my audit.

Jacques Coetzee

10 October 2025

Jacques Coetzee
as delegate of the Auditor-General

Queensland Audit Office
Brisbane

Scenic Rim Regional Council
Current Year Financial Sustainability Statement - Contextual Ratios
For the year ended 30 June 2025

Type	Measure	Target (Tier 3)	Actual Current Year	5-Year Average	Council Narrative
Contextual Ratios (Unaudited)					
Financial Capacity	Council Controlled Revenue	Not Applicable	72.2%	73.5%	Actual current year ratio impacted by lower prepayment of the Financial Assistance Grant, lower share of profits from Urban Utilities and timing with the receipt of Disaster Recovery Funding Arrangements emergency works funding.
	Population Growth	Not Applicable	1.2%	1.2%	Source: Queensland Government population projections (medium series), 2023 edition; Australian Bureau of Statistics, Regional population, 2021
Asset Management	Asset Renewal Funding Ratio	Not Applicable	49.7%	NA	This ratio measures the ability of a council to fund its projected infrastructure asset renewal / replacements in the future.

The current year financial sustainability statement - Contextual Ratios is prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Local Government Regulation 2012 and the Financial Management (Sustainability) Guideline 2024. The amounts used to calculate the reported measures are prepared on an accrual base and are drawn from the council's audited general purpose financial statements for the year ended 30 June 2025.

Certificate of Accuracy
For the year ended 30 June 2025

This current year financial sustainability statement has been prepared pursuant to Section 178 of the Local Government Regulation 2012 (the regulation).
In accordance with Section 212(5) of the Regulation we certify that this current year financial sustainability statement - contextual ratios has been accurately calculated.


Mayor, Cr Tom Sharp
Scenic Rim Regional Council
Date: 9 October 2025


Chief Executive Officer, David Keenan
Scenic Rim Regional Council
Date: 9 October 2025

**Scenic Rim Regional Council
Long Term Financial Sustainability Statement (Unaudited)**
For the year ended 30 June 2025

Type	Measure	Target (Tier 3)	Actuals as at 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
Financial Capacity	Council Controlled Revenue	Not Applicable	72.2%	76.1%	76.5%	77.1%	77.1%	77.4%	77.6%	77.7%	77.7%	77.8%
	Population Growth	Not Applicable	1.2%	1.2%	1.2%	1.2%	1.2%	1.2%	1.2%	1.2%	1.2%	1.2%
Operating Performance	Operating Surplus Ratio	Greater than 0%	-4.0%	-2.0%	-1.4%	-0.1%	0.9%	0.6%	0.7%	0.7%	0.9%	0.9%
	Operating Cash Ratio	Greater than 0%	17.4%	20.2%	20.5%	21.4%	22.3%	22.1%	22.0%	21.9%	22.0%	22.0%
Asset Management	Asset Sustainability Ratio	Greater than 80%	257.4%	76.4%	85.5%	82.7%	83.6%	59.1%	70.8%	71.7%	62.6%	68.7%
	Asset Consumption Ratio	Greater than 60%	70.3%	71.0%	70.6%	70.3%	70.0%	69.7%	69.1%	68.5%	67.9%	67.3%
Debt Servicing Capacity	Leverage Ratio	0 - 3 times	1.9	1.5	1.3	1.1	0.9	0.8	0.7	0.6	0.5	0.5

Scenic Rim Regional Council's Long Term Financial Management Strategy

Council measures revenue and expenditure trends over time as a guide to future requirements and to make decisions about the efficient allocation of resources to ensure the most effective provision of services. Council ensures that its financial management strategy is prudent and that its long term financial forecast shows a sound financial position whilst also being able to meet the community's current and future needs.

Certificate of Accuracy

For the year ended 30 June 2025

This long-term financial sustainability statement has been prepared pursuant to Section 178 of the *Local Government Regulation 2012* (the regulation).

In accordance with Section 212(5) of the Regulation we certify that this long-term financial sustainability statement has been accurately calculated.



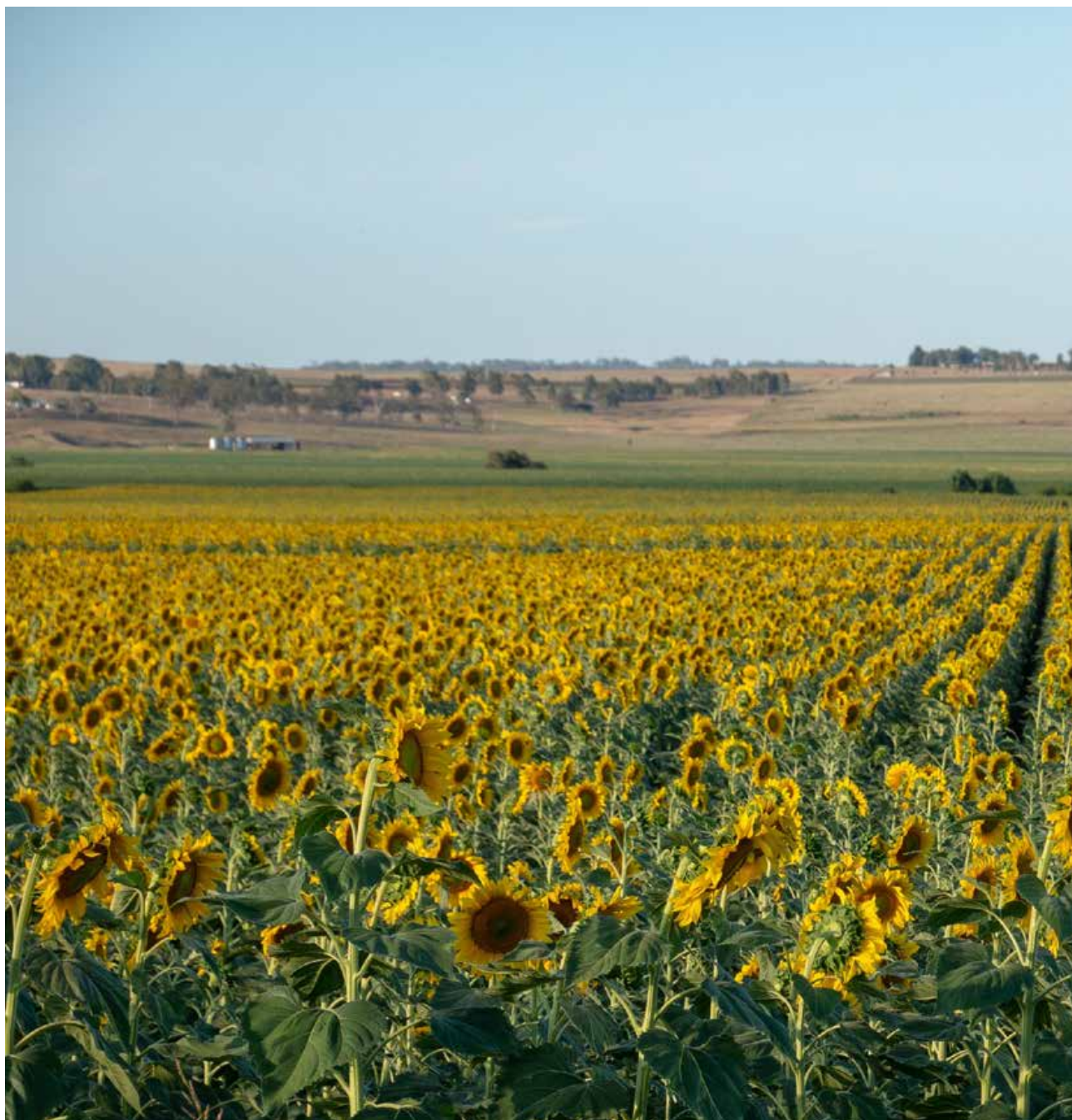
Mayor, Cr Tom Sharp
Scenic Rim Regional Council
Date: 9 October 2025



Chief Executive Officer, David Keenan
Scenic Rim Regional Council
Date: 9 October 2025

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SCENIC RIM

REGIONAL COUNCIL

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11.13 Tamborine Mountain Sports Association Request for Funding

Executive Officer: Director Infrastructure Services

Item Author: Director Infrastructure Services

Attachments: Nil

Councillor Portfolio / Representation

Sport and Recreation - Cr Stephen Moriarty

Local Government Area Division

This report relates to Division 1.

Executive Summary

The Long Road Sports Facility, located on Lot 1 RP185521 is currently managed by the Tamborine Mountain Sports Association Limited (TMSA) under a lease agreement with Council. Council received correspondence from TMSA on 1 October 2025, requesting a meeting with Council to discuss particular matters outlined within the correspondence. A subsequent meeting was held at Council on 16 October 2025 between TMSA and Council representatives. A matter of focus presented by TMSA was operational costs associated with the operation of the Long Road Sports facility and a request for short-term funding and long-term partnership agreement/assistance was presented by TMSA for Council's consideration.

Recommendation

That:

1. Council does not approve the request for financial assistance by Tamborine Mountain Sports Association Limited, towards immediate and future operating costs relating to Long Road Sports facility under the current lease agreement;
2. Council does not fund any expenses incurred by the current lessee, or that the current lessee is obliged to pay, in accordance with the current lease agreement;
3. Council enter into immediate discussions with the Tamborine Mountain Sports Association Limited regarding mutual termination of the lease agreement in accordance with the lease terms;
4. Council advise the community, in due course, of any future actions for the ongoing management and maintenance of the Long Road Sporting Facility; and
5. Council communicate relevant parts of this resolution in writing to the Tamborine Mountain Sports Association Limited.

Previous Council Considerations / Resolutions

At the Ordinary Meeting held on 4 April 2023 (Item 11.2), Council resolved that:

1. Council approve the release of funds previously identified in the 2022-2023 budget up to the value of \$200,000 to the Tamborine Mountain Sports Association Limited, under suitable terms, to undertake infrastructure upgrade, maintenance and capital replacement projects at the Long Road Sports Complex, subject to the Tamborine Mountain Sports Association Limited providing Council with satisfactory documentation (including tax invoices) in relation to the released funds; and
2. In accordance with clause 22.6.3 of the Scenic Rim Regional Council Standing Orders Procedure CM03.01PR.01, Council release this report in the Ordinary Meeting Minutes.

Report / Background

The Long Road Sports Facility, located on Lot 1 RP185521 is currently managed by TMSA under a lease agreement with Council. Council received correspondence from TMSA on 1 October 2025, requesting a meeting with Council to discuss particular matters outlined within the correspondence. A subsequent meeting was held at Council on 16 October 2025 between TMSA and Council representatives. A matter of focus presented by TMSA was operational costs associated with the operation of the Long Road Sports Facility and a request for short and long-term funding assistance was presented by TMSA for Council's consideration.

TMSA have presented Council with correspondence identifying a budget shortfall of \$362,581 for various maintenance and capital expenses relating to the Long Road Sports Facility. In the meeting held between TMSA and Council on 16 October 2025, TMSA requested financial assistance to the value of the identified budget shortfall, being \$362,581, comprised of \$31,753 reimbursement of expenses and \$330,828 for future capital replacement and ongoing maintenance and operating costs, and sought agreement from Council for an ongoing shared financial responsibility for maintenance and operating costs.

Under conditions of the current lease agreement, the lessee:

- a) is nominated as responsible for maintenance of buildings and grounds with the ability to share costs across any member organisations utilising the Premises. The lessee is able to apply for financial assistance with the Lessor, in exceptional circumstances;
- b) is required to provide the Lessor, annually, copies of audited financial statements in relation to the use of the Premises;
- c) shall allow, upon request, an inspection by the Lessor of any records of financial documents, accounting books, receipts, as pertain to the use of the Premises.

A review of Council's records indicate inconsistent provision of annual financial records by TMSA since the inception of the lease. More recently, two requests were issued by Council between September 2024 and November 2024, to TMSA, requesting audited financial information and other relevant information required under the lease agreement. Council was provided with financial statements for the 2022, 2023 and 2024 financial years in October 2025.

A review of Council's operational and capital budget allocations and expenditure for the Long Road Sports Facility since 2020-2021 financial year indicates an expenditure total of \$410,146.49 for varying purposes including building and ground maintenance and design works (excluding carryover for lighting project). Capital budget allocations for 2025-26 financial year includes \$358,787 (including carry-over amount) for lighting upgrade and \$500,000 for waste-water infrastructure upgrade.

Implementation of ongoing annual financial contributions to the TMSA is inconsistent with the current lease conditions for this facility, and is inequitable in relation to similar Council owned or controlled sports and recreation facilities across the Scenic Rim region.

Budget / Financial Implications

There is no operational budget allocation in Council's 2025-26 operational budget for TMSA contribution towards operating expenditure. Any financial contribution would require a budget amendment to be made to recognise any contribution or expenditure that has not been provided for previously.

The TMSA has provided Council with their financial statements from 2021 to 2024 which does show a decreasing cash position over time and that potentially the operations are utilising cash from grant funded related projects to support their current operations.

At the time of writing this report, Council has not yet been provided with a copy the audited financial statements for the year ended June 2025. There remains a concern over the operating position of the association if the financial position has deteriorated further from June 2024.

The Association as a legal entity is covered by the *Corporations Act 2001* and it is required to produce annual financial statements and generally audited statements that are supported by a judgement statement as to the ongoing sustainability of the entity. This has not been provided.

There are genuine concerns as to whether the Association is trading solvently based on the historical cash position and the commitments tied to external funding for projects already approved but yet to be completed.

It is noted that the Annual General Meeting which is required under the *Corporations Act 2001* has been postponed and that the Directors may remain unchanged which is of concern given the current information available on the financial status of the entity.

Council must also be conscious of making any contributions that are not constrained to particular outcomes. Any such financial support could be considered an ex-gratia payment which has been the subject of recent Queensland Audit Office commentary requiring Councils to have a policy to cover such matters. Council Officers are in the process of drafting such a policy for future guidance but no such policy exists at this time.

The request for financial assistance in its current form does not conform to current policy or guidance and is not provided for within the current budgeted operational deficit which when adopted by Council was approximately \$2.3M. There would need to further operational savings identified or current services adjusted for consideration to be given to this request.

Strategic Implications*Corporate Plan 2025-2030*

Council's Corporate Plan 2025-2030 outlines the organisation's Vision, Mission and Values. Council's Values are Service, Resilience, Respect, Commitment.

Strategic Goal: Sport and Recreation

Guiding Principle: Operational Efficiency

Legal / Statutory Implications

Not applicable.

Risks**Strategic Risks**

The following Level 1 and Level 2 (strategic) risks are relevant to the matters considered in this report:

CR1 Financial Sustainability - Council may be unable to maintain its financial and infrastructure capital over the long term.

Risk Summary

Category	Explanation
Financial/Economic No allocated budget.	Provision of financial assistance by Council, without confidence of effective governance of the facility presents a risk to Council.
Reputation, Community & Civic Leadership Community expectations.	Expectations of Council by the community and users of the facility unknown and may conflict with resolution.

Human Rights Implications

No human rights have been impacted by any actions recommended in this report.

Consultation

Direct consultation has occurred between Tamborine Mountains Sports Association Limited and Council in relation to the contents of the report, by way of email correspondence and face-to-face meetings.

Conclusion

During a meeting held on 16 October 2025, TMSA made a request to Council for immediate financial assistance to cover a budget shortfall of \$362,581, comprised of \$31,753 reimbursement of expenses and \$330,828 (including the request for immediate funding of \$50,700 requested by email on 20 October 2025) for future capital replacement and ongoing maintenance and operating costs associated with the management of the Long Road Sports Complex.

Council has contributed operational and capital budget towards various infrastructure and maintenance requirements at the Facility over time, but does not have current operational budget funds to assist TMSA with their budget shortfall. Council is not currently in a position to commit future and ongoing funding under the TMSA lease agreement.

OptionsOption 1

That:

1. Council does not approve the request for financial assistance by Tamborine Mountain Sports Association Limited, towards immediate and future operating costs relating to Long Road Sports facility under the current lease agreement;
2. Council does not fund any expenses incurred by the current lessee, or that the current lessee is obliged to pay, in accordance with the current lease agreement;
3. Council enter into immediate discussions with the Tamborine Mountain Sports Association Limited regarding mutual termination of the lease agreement in accordance with the lease terms;
4. Council advise the community, in due course, of any future actions for the ongoing management and maintenance of the Long Road Sporting Facility; and
5. Council communicate relevant parts of this resolution in writing to the Tamborine Mountain Sports Association Limited.

Option 2

That Council approve the request for financial assistance by Tamborine Mountain Sports Association Limited, for the budget shortfall of \$362,581 for immediate and future operating costs relating to Long Road Sports facility, under the current lease agreement.