



# Corporate Plan

2004/2008

# Index

<b><u>Section</u></b>	<b><u>Page No</u></b>
<b>Shire Overview</b>	<b>2-4</b>
<b>The Organisation</b>	<b>5-6</b>
<b>Corporate planning principles</b>	<b>7</b>
<b>Vision, Mission Statement and Values</b>	<b>8</b>
<b>Issues and Priorities</b>	<b>9</b>
<b>Submission Comments</b>	<b>10-16</b>
<b>Corporate Goals</b>	<b>17</b>
<b>Programs</b>	<b>18-31</b>
<b>Appendix A – Strategic Issues</b>	<b>32-33</b>
<b>Appendix B - Submissions</b>	

## ISIS SHIRE COUNCIL CORPORATE PLAN 2004-2008

### Shire Overview

*The Isis Shire is a picturesque Shire that blends lush agricultural land with historic towns and magnificent Coastal areas. The Shire's administration and retail centre is in the beautiful, historic town of Childers. Most of the main street of Childers is Heritage listed, making it one of Australia's historically significant towns. The Shire is in the centre of the Wide Bay Region, with the National Highway passing through it, creating both a popular tourist destination, as well as a regular stop off point for visitors travelling further north or south.*

*The Shire is supported by a thriving agricultural industry, traditionally based on the production and milling of sugar cane. The Shire has its own local processing Mill, the Isis Central Mill, located just north of the township of Childers. There is also a flourishing and growing rural industry producing sub-tropical fruits such as mangoes and avocados, as well as citrus trees and small crops such as tomatoes and zucchinis. In addition, plantation timber plantings are also increasing, adding to the diversification of agricultural pursuits in the Shire in recent years.*

*The current population of the Shire is in the vicinity of 6,500 people. Isis Shire has in 2000 received the "Keep Australia Beautiful" Tidy Towns Awards with Woodgate Beach picking up the Natural Heritage Award.*

*In 2001 the Shire was recognised by being awarded the Local Government Coates Hire Award "Community of the Year" Special Commendation - Isis Shire.*

*Following the disastrous fire of 23 June 2000, when 15 young backpackers lost their lives in a tragic Hostel blaze, the close-knit community came out in force to comfort the 69 survivors and provide them with support and assistance.*

*Isis Shire Council has redeveloped the site and faithfully restored the building to its former glory of 1902. This is now home to the Visitor Information Centre, Regional Art Gallery and Backpacker Memorial.*

*For this magnificent redevelopment the Isis Shire has received several awards, including the Community Action Award.*

- *National Trust Queensland  
Gold Award for Excellence in Heritage  
Conservation Works awarded to Isis Shire Council  
For redevelopment of Palace Backpackers Hostel -  
Childers*
- *Australian Timber Design Awards  
Recognising Excellent in Timber Design 2003  
awarded to Ken Down Architects  
For Childers Backpackers Memorial Building*
- *Queensland Architectural Award 2003  
Art and Architecture Award  
Awarded to Ken Down Architects and Sam Di  
Mauro for Childers Backpackers Memorial  
Building*
- *Queensland Architectural Award 2003  
Sunshine Coast Regional Commendation  
Awarded to Ken Down Architects  
For Childers Backpackers Memorial Building*

*Childers has become a “stop over” point for thousands of Travellers and since the re-opening of the Palace Memorial Building on 26 October 2002, over 250,000 visitors have enjoyed the new facility. Childers has become the “rest stop” being situated half way between Brisbane and Rockhampton.*

*The announcement in mid 2003 by the State Government of the construction of the Paradise Dam on the Burnett River, west of Childers, gave the Shire the opportunity of an economic boost to the area. Submissions to Walters Group by Isis Shire Council resulted in the Burnett Alliance Camp site being situated in Childers. When construction is fully underway over 300 workers will call the site home for a period of 18 - 24 months. This is a wonderful economic benefit to the Shire.*

*The Isis Shire is currently working on a \$1.5M Streetscape Redevelopment in the CBD. This will include areas for outdoor dining and a timeline with artworks, including sculpture and mosaic areas telling the history of the Shire. Gardens around the dining areas will enhance the streetscape.*

*Over the past 18 months the “Sea Change” phenomenon, which has swept through south east Queensland has certainly altered the demographics of the Shire.*

*Woodgate Beach has seen the greatest change with people from all over Australia moving into the area.*

*Real estate prices have risen dramatically across the Shire as a result of this unprecedented change.*

## The Organisation

*Isis Shire Council is a major service provider and facilitator for residents and is committed to providing quality service across a range of activities.*

*Council currently employs some 80 staff in full time and part time capacities, most of whom live in the Shire, which provides a major economic boost to our area. The Council is committed to retaining its current staffing level, based on the fact that it believes that it provides value for money services at a competitive price in all of our service delivery areas. Council actively also seeks to supplement its service work with private works from both the Government and private sector.*

*Council has been successful in achieving several hundred thousands of dollars worth of work in recent years and utilises the profits for enhanced service delivery to supplement that income derived from rates. Council is committed to the continuous improvement of staff through effective performance management systems and appropriate training and development programs. It has recently finalised the third enterprise bargaining agreement which will further consolidate increased productivity and good industrial relations practice for the next three (3) years.*

*Council embraces and supports the principles of equal employment opportunity and offers employees up to date equipment and facilities that allow it to compete effectively in a market that has been progressively opened to competition.*

*In the changing times brought about through Local Government reform, in particular the implications of the National Competition Policy, Council needs to refocus its efforts and provide more efficient and effective services at the same cost to the residents and ratepayers of Isis Shire by embracing best business practices. In the achievement of this guiding principle, Council believes that:*

- ❖ All Council services offered to the community and within Council's organisation should be competitive in terms of price, reliability and quality;*
- ❖ The provision of works and service delivery should always be approached on the basis of the most practical, economic and beneficial means;*
- ❖ Best practice in all areas of Council should always be the target and should be constantly pursued.*
- ❖ In implementing best business practice, Council will determine the full cost of each activity, subsidise activities where necessary and meet its Community Service Obligations willingly.*

## Corporate Planning Principles

*The Corporate Plan is Council's major planning document and is a statutory requirement of the Local Government Act. It is designed to provide residents, ratepayers and potential investors in the Shire with a clear picture of the direction that Council is taking in service provision and capital works over the next four (4) years.*

*The Corporate Plan is supported by a number of other Council documents and policies, such as Council's Town Plan, FEO Plan and Annual Budget. The review of Council's Corporate Plan is an ongoing process to keep the plan relevant for the Shire and to ensure that the current Council sets a strategic direction which the ratepayers can clearly monitor over the term of their office. It is also important that the Corporate Plan has public input to ensure that Council is receiving information directly from ratepayers and residents that may be vital to making important strategic decisions. The Plan is based on the concepts of:*

- i. Creating a vision for the future of the Shire*
- ii. Clearly identifying what the current issues and strategic direction are that the Council wishes to take*
- iii. Setting corporate goals and strategies that address those issues*
- iv. Provide budgetary allocations as prioritised and realise those goals*
- v. Development of performance management indicators*
- vi. Regular reviews and annual reporting*

## Vision

*A Shire that enjoys a strong sense of identity and community spirit and provides an attractive lifestyle and amenity for residents and visitors alike, while protecting and enhancing the cultural, heritage, agricultural and environmental features of the Shire.*

## Mission

*To provide leadership, direction and management to the community based on effective communication and responsiveness to community needs.*

## Values

1. *Consultation and work with residents;*
2. *Value for money services;*
3. *To cultivate an innovative organisational climate;*
4. *To promote partnerships with private sector and State and Federal Governments to enhance service delivery and infrastructure provision;*
5. *To foster a professional, competent well trained and motivated workforce;*
6. *To recognise the contribution of staff and provide security of employment.*
7. *To maintain the rights of residents through fair, socially just and democratic decision making.*

## Issues and Priorities

*The issues and priorities the Council and community have highlighted change over time, both as projects come to fruition and as social and economic needs shift. This is one of the key reasons why the Corporate Plan must be a living document and be regularly modified.*

*Council following this year's election conducted a workshop on 22 April 2004 to consider current issues and our strategic direction for the next four (4) years. A full list of the issues raised at that workshop is shown as Appendix "A". A précis of the ten most important issues ranked on a scoring system of "1 - 10" is as follows:*

1. Transport Roadworks
2. Water and Sewerage Upgrade
3. Streetscape
4. Swimming Pool
5. Council Complex Development
6. Land Development
7. Parks and Gardens
8. Active Recreation
9. Urban Drainage
10. Aged Care Facilities - Woodgate

*Council also called for public submissions prior to the formulation of the Corporate Plan and received nine (9) submissions which are attached in full as Appendix "B".*

## **COMMENTS ON DRAFT CORPORATE PLAN SUBMISSIONS**

### **1. Submitter: June Robinson**

#### **Preservation of Heritage**

The submitter's comments in relation to Council disregarding the historical nature of Childers are not valid. The most obvious example of the commitment that Council has in this regard is the restoration of the Palace Building following the fire in June 2000. The issue of preservation is one that is aligned with the Town Planning Scheme rather than the Corporate Plan.

#### **Parking in front of St Josephs School**

This issue is an Engineering and maintenance issue and can be considered at Councils Engineering and Works Committee Meeting.

#### **Footpaths**

Council has an ongoing commitment to upgrade footpaths and walkways throughout the Shire and this is reflected in the Draft Corporate Plan.

#### **Making use of green waste**

Council has been endeavouring to arrange for the chipping and mulching of green waste to the Childers Tip and the Transfer Stations once quality control measures are introduced and appropriate contractors can be engaged at a cost effective price.

### **2. Submitter: Woodgate and District Residents Association Inc**

#### **Larger Community Hall with Theatre facilities and expanded Library**

Council is currently undertaking a draft Management Plan for the entire Woodgate Recreational and Community Reserve. It would be appropriate as part of that Management Plan so identify a footprint for a future expansion of the Hall, so that other facilities don't impinge on any proposed expansion.

#### **Boatramp**

This issue has been well canvassed in the last few years and whilst it no doubt has a great deal of community support, it is extremely unlikely that Council will be able to attract State Government Support for this project, both at an economic and environmental level.

#### **Additional BBQ's at Theodolite Creek**

The BBQ areas in Woodgate are well patronised and maintained by the Woodgate Progress Association. Whilst I am sure there is demand in peak holidays times for additional facilities I am not sure that the level of visitation usage of these areas for the balance of the year could justify the additional capital outlay.

### **Completion of existing parks, beautification to foreshore and gardens**

Council has already identified an ongoing commitment to these areas including the management plan for the Community Centre Reserve area.

### **Upgrade of toilets facilities including wheelchair access**

Council has a commitment to ensure wheelchair access and disabled facilities on all new facilities that are built but there are obviously considerable costs associated with the retrofitting of these.

### **Swimming enclosure, more showers/taps for bathers**

Showers and taps have been phased in in a number of areas on the foreshore to cater for swimmers. A swimming enclosure would be a considerable capital item which has not been flagged by Council as a priority at this stage.

### **Upgrade of Cricket net area on Oval**

It would be hard to justify an upgrade of this area given the fact that the usage currently appears to be minimal.

### **BMX bike riding area**

Council could consider the provision of this area as part of the overall Management Plan for the redevelopment of the Community Hall Park area if designed.

### **Chain and plank crossings to be beach to preserve sand areas**

Council has previously considered the formalisation of the beach access points by this type of construction and decided to defer any further consideration until the foreshore Management Plan was in place. It is unclear based on the experience of these types of construction in southern areas whether they actually do achieve the desired result.

### **Maintenance of existing footpaths and walkways**

Council has already showed a commitment to ongoing maintenance and development of these areas.

### **Exercise equipment along walkways**

Council has deferred any consideration of exercise equipment placement until the Foreshore Management Plan is in place.

### **Kerb and Channelling for areas not already done in Woodgate, especially the landward side of the Esplanade**

This item has been raised periodically over many years and has not in the past engendered substantial support. Whether this has changed with recent development and the change in ownership of a number of properties I am not sure.

### **Street numbering/Avenue marking**

This is an issue that can be pursued with local community groups.

### **Extra rubbish bins and cigarette dispensers near picnic tables**

Additional bins are put out on an as required basis during holiday periods. The matter is basically a maintenance matter that can be discussed further with Councils Gardener in Woodgate.

### **More Council Staff at Woodgate**

This is an issue that has been raised over the past two (2) years whether the staffing level at Woodgate is appropriate for the maintenance needed, whilst my opinion is that the staffing level is appropriate at the moment, it also needs to be borne in mind that we are able to bring in additional resources for particular projects or when maintenance levels are particularly high.

### **Undergrounding of remaining overhead powerlines**

Council has previously recognised this as an issue and has commenced discussions with Ergon to access the Community Grant Program however, there is still a substantial financial commitment required from Council to allow this to happen.

### **“Plastic Bag Free” Woodgate and Isis**

This is an environmental issue that Council has not previously considered and I am unsure as to how Council could implement this within its normal regulatory powers on a Shire wide basis.

### **Identification of major Flora in future subdivision areas for protection**

This is essentially a request for a tree preservation order for residential areas. Council has previously shied away from this level of regulatory intervention as it is extremely difficult to police, resource hungry and ultimately the results in my opinion within planned, urban or residential areas are not terribly positive.

3. **Submitter:** Peter Schuh, Max & Patricia Blochliger-Jabs

### **Maintenance of the village atmosphere and resistance against the fragmentation of the township of Childers**

This is a Town Planning issue and not a Corporate Planning one.

### **Maintenance of the historical look of the township along the whole Highway strip**

As above.

**Minimise the impact on the heritage feel of the township of Childers by the presence of businesses (in particular, franchise outlets) by restricting the use of overwhelming signage to attract customers**

As above.

**Investigation process for development applications**

As above.

**Carparking problem**

Council has previously resolved not to introduce timed or metered parking but has it believes the longer term resolution for the issue to provide additional carparking in the Crescent Street redevelopment.

**Further promotion of the township of Childers and Apple Tree Creek as a tourist destination and stopover point**

Council's record in this area is well documented based on the upgrade of the Mainstreet, new toilet facilities and park upgrade. Council is also investigating a major upgrade of the Apple Tree Creek Park in conjunction with Main Roads.

**More conspicuous signage**

Signage upgrades have been flagged once the Mainstreet redevelopment is completed in particular to direct cars and vehicles towing caravans etc to appropriate areas.

**Promotion of Childers to visitors/tourists and local of State Member for Burnett**

Council has already identified the promotion of Childers and the Shire as a key issue for its Corporate Plan. The location of the State Member for Burnett is not an issue for the Council to determine but one for him to make a resolution on.

**Fostering local talent and offer incentives for local representatives to be involved**

I am unsure what this point is.

**Medical services**

The level of medical services and the Doctor of choice is largely governed by State Government Legislation. Councils track record in ensuring a higher level of medical services via the commitment of \$50,000 in the budget last year is demonstration of its commitment in this area.

### **Reticulated town water and sewerage systems demand issues**

Council over the last four (4) years has revised its water and sewerage programs to take into account development and growth areas in particular Woodgate and more recently Buxton.

### **Amalgamation of Howard and Torbanlea into Isis Shire Council**

Council has no plans at present to look at trying and acquiring parts of other Shires and I would think that we would be more concerned as being part of a large scale amalgamation into the City of greater Bundaberg than looking to poach portions of other adjoining Shire areas.

### **Communication with Ratepayers/Monthly Newsletters**

This is an area that Council has previously considered in particular in conjunction with the ChitChat Magazine and a report will be coming to Council on this matter in the next few weeks.

4. **Submitter:** Val Plath

### **Library Services**

Council has made a commitment to review its Library opening hours and services as part of the upcoming budget.

### **Council Newsletter**

See comments in the Schuh, Blochliger-Jabs submission.

### **Heritage Policy- Buildings/trees etc**

This is an issue for Councils Town Plan not Corporate Plan.

### **Heritage Policy - Colour Schemes in Main Street**

See above.

### **Farnsfield Road Upgrade**

Council expended some \$460,000 to upgrade Farnsfield Road last year, there are currently, no plans for major upgrades to this road.

5. **Submitter:** Kath Kendall

### **Recycling Bins**

Recycling has been previously discussed by Council and was not cost effective at that time. Council would need to determine if it wishes to revisit this issue.

## **Council Newsletter**

See comments from Schuh/Blochliker-Jabs submission.

## **Library**

See comments from Plath submission.

## **Heritage Plan**

This is an issue that Council has recently discussed in relation to its town plan and will make a decision as part of the IPA Planning process if it wishes to widen buildings of historical significance.

6. **Submitter:** Isis Community Preschool and Kindergarten

## **Carparking**

The Kindergarten is suggesting that there is an acute shortage of parking in front of the Kindergarten particularly associated with drop off and collection times. They are suggesting that parking be allowed on the old basketball courts and that this would necessitate the construction of a suitable vehicle entry and exit. Carparking is a problem at the Kindergarten and with small children being involved there are safety and visibility issues.

7. **Submitter:** Della Stafford

## **Access to the river for swimmers**

This is an issue that has been raised in the last few years that because of the rocks and steepness accessing the river at Buxton that Council might like to give consideration to a designated swimming area and the creation of a sandy beach by appropriate rock location.

## **Expansion of walking/bicycle tracks**

Mrs Stafford has designated specific areas for extending the walking and bicycle tracks. Council has already resolved that it has an ongoing expansion of walking and bicycle tracks throughout the Shire and no doubt linkages at Buxton will be considered as part of individual budgets.

8. **Submitter:** Childers Choral Society

## **New Performing Arts/Cultural Centre/Community based multipurpose facility**

The Childers Choral Society is proposing a purpose built facility for cultural, arts and musical productions which could accommodate a minimum of 500 people. They are suggesting that the new facility could have multiple uses and that it may be done as a partnership involving community, Council, Education Department, businesses etc.

As an initial step the society is requesting Council arrange for a feasibility study into the possibility of providing this community with a venue that caters for these needs.

**9. Submitter:** Buxton Community Action Association Inc

### **Motorhome Park**

The proposal as outlined by the Association certainly has merit but I am sure it would also engender opposition from certain residents in Buxton. It may be appropriate for Council to float this idea at a future public meeting in Buxton to try and gauge what level of community support it has.

### **Lagoon**

The Association is suggesting a man made salt water lagoon for swimming in Buxton because of the problems that have previously been identified in gaining access to the river. This would be a major capital work entailing a number of Government Departments approvals.

### **Recreation Area**

The Association is asking Council to commit resources to an upgrade of the land that was acquired a couple of years ago from Queensland Rail. Council has identified an upgrade of parks, gardens and recreational areas throughout the Shire as a priority item without specifically mentioning this area.

### **Pontoon**

Council has already made a commitment to the initial feasibility study towards a pontoon, any further commitment would depend on the outcome of these studies.

### **Water and Sewerage**

Council has engaged Cardno MBK to prepare preliminary reports on the provision of water and sewerage for Buxton. The timing of infrastructure would depend on a large number of issues in particular funding and major tourist infrastructure.

### **Burrum River**

As the Association puts out any infrastructure on the river remains largely the property of the State Government and they are basically seeking Council support for any representations they make at that level.

### **Link Road Burrum Heads to Buxton**

This proposal has previously been muted and once again will depend on State Government and private tourist concerns.

## CORPORATE GOALS

*Council's current structure is broken down into seven (7) programs. These are as follows:*

- 1. Corporate Services and General revenue;*
- 2. Transport Services;*
- 3. Community services;*
- 4. Water and Waste Water Management;*
- 5. Town Planning, Economic Development and Tourism;*
- 6. Environmental Management;*
- 7. Recreation and Leisure*

*The overview of each program and their broad objectives are as follows:*

## Program 1

## Corporate Services and General Revenue

### OVERVIEW:

*This program includes the overall management responsibilities of Council and the administrative support of Council and its programs.*

### OBJECTIVES:

- *To ensure Corporate Governance systems that reflect best practice and statutory responsibilities;*
- *To provide timely and accurate information to Council, Council's Management and Staff including information in respect of the Code of Competitive Conduct;*
- *Manage and develop Council's staff in accordance with contemporary human resource practices;*
- *To encourage participation by community and staff in Council's decision making process;*
- *To maintain the rights of residents and ratepayers through fair, socially just and democratic decision making;*
- *To optimise the return on Council's resources and assets;*
- *To provide effective financial management and accounting systems and practices;*
- *To provide core administrative, insurance, legal, secretarial and office services;*
- *To ensure the costing of Council's services complies with the National Competition Policy;*
- *To identify community service obligations as applicable;*
- *Ensure compliance with relevant Council policies and procedures including Council's Revenue Policy, Community Service Obligation Policy, Borrowing Policy and Purchasing Policy.*

- *To develop and enhance information technology solutions to assist Council in achieving its corporate objectives;*
- *To strategically manage Council's finances, including the development of appropriate financial and funding strategies.*

STRATEGIES:

- *To review corporate governance systems and to conduct an in-house audit*
- *To investigate the provision of a purpose built records storage area that meets Queensland State Archives guidelines for records management*
- *To investigate options for upgrading the Council building to provide enhanced facilities for staff and Councillors*
- *Maintain debt at sustainable levels for future funding of community infrastructure*
- *Identifying subsidies where applicable*
- *Meeting Community Service Obligations where necessary;*
- *To develop and implement risk management and asset management plans;*
- *To develop and implement Council's Strategic Information Technology Plan by 30 June 2005 to ensure modern, appropriate and effective technology is used.*

## Program 2

## Transport Services

### OVERVIEW:

*This program includes the development, maintenance and management of transport infrastructure within the Shire. The major activity is the construction and maintenance of the Shire's road and bridge network.*

### OBJECTIVES:

- *To provide and enhance transport infrastructure that allows access to desired locations for all population groups throughout the Shire and facilitates the economic movement of the Shire's produce and natural resources.*
- *To comply with the principles of competitive neutrality in respect of all services provided that Council competes or potentially competes with the private sector.*

### STRATEGIES:

- *To pursue safe, efficient and effective transport systems through the Shire, by upgrading an integrated road network;*
- *To upgrade existing footpaths in town areas and to expand the Shire walkway and bikeway networks;*
- *To pursue the upgrading of transport systems throughout the Shire by sourcing external funds through private works and through Government grants;*
- *To ensure Council has an up to date and cost efficient plant fleet;*
- *To develop appropriate maintenance and design standards for all of Council's roads;*

- *To prepare annual maintenance programs that reflect road conditions and usage for Council's consideration.*
- *Maintain application of the Competitive Code of Conduct to road work operations, and the use and maintenance of plant;*
- *To outsource labour and plant to supplement the Council's workforce when additional funding opportunities arise;*
- *Recognise a non-commercial objective in respect of local road works and treat the value of that service as a community service obligation in accordance with Council policy;*
- *To provide pedestrian access from the Buxton rock wall in a suitable location;*
- *To prepare a Master Plan for depot redevelopment including provision for new SES facilities;*
- *To plan to progressively upgrade storm water drainage infrastructure in urban areas;*
- *To complete Stage 2 of the Childers Streetscape Program;*
- *To facilitate the relocation of the 12<sup>th</sup> Avenue four wheel drive beach access point;*
- *To undertake an external review of the workshop operations;*
- *To review Shire entrance signage.*

### Program 3

### Community Services

#### OVERVIEW:

*Council provides a range of community services, operates a number of community facilities, including the neighbourhood centre and library, as well as contributing to several community based services.*

#### OBJECTIVES:

- *To facilitate the provision of community services which are accessible to all and which meet the social and personal needs of residents.*

#### STRATEGIES:

- *To work co-operatively with Government agencies such as Centrelink, for the provision of services within the Isis Shire;*
- *To promote social justice through encouraging participation of disadvantaged groups in community life;*
- *To promote strong, responsible and safe local communities through strengthening local community networks and enhancing local capacities to respond to community needs;*
- *To promote community well being by working co-operatively with the community and other levels of Government in the planning and facilitation of access to services and facilities;*
- *Investigate methods to better integrate health services within the Shire;*
- *To negotiate Woodgate land acquisition and native title extinguishment with the State Government;*
- *To continue to provide financial assistance and in kind support for community based aged care providers;*

- *To investigate transport options for youth to access recreational and community facilities;*
- *To review library operations and opening hours for Childers and Woodgate.*

## Program 4

## Water and Waste Water Management

### OVERVIEW:

*This program includes the development, maintenance and management of water and sewerage infrastructure within the Shire. Council operates water systems in Childers and Woodgate and a sewerage system in Childers as well as a planned sewerage system for Woodgate. Preliminary studies have also been undertaken for the provision of water and sewerage to Buxton.*

### OBJECTIVES:

- *To provide a reticulated water supply that meets the expectations of the community and satisfies all the statutory requirements for potable water;*
- *To provide a reticulated sewerage scheme for the towns of Childers and Woodgate that meets the expectations of the community and satisfies the licensing requirements for effluent disposal by Development Authorities;*
- *To ensure that all septic installations satisfy statutory requirements and dispose of effluent in an environmentally acceptable and friendly way.*
- *To comply with the principles of competitive neutrality in respect of all water and waste water services provided that Council competes or potentially competes with the private sector.*

### STRATEGIES:

- *To facilitate the design, development and augmentation of the Woodgate Sewerage System;*
- *To ensure that Council has adequate financial plans in place to recoup developer contributions for augmentation works.*

- *Maintain application of the Code of Competitive Conduct to the supply of water and waste water services;*
- *Recognise a non-commercial objective in respect of the supply of water and waste water and treat the value of that service as a community service obligation in accordance with Council policy;*
- *To investigate the provision of a water treatment plant in Childers to augment the existing plant;*
- *To investigate the relocation of the water tower (rear of Caravan Park) to a new location;*
- *To implement the upgrade of the Childers Sewerage Scheme with Virotec technology;*
- *To progress studies and investigation into Buxton water and sewerage augmentation in conjunction with new development;*
- *To upgrade Childers water mains as prioritised by Council.*

OVERVIEW:

*Planning and development involve the strategic allocation of appropriate land uses throughout the shire to ensure compatible development whilst encouraging and supporting economic development.*

OBJECTIVES:

- *To ensure that the use of all land and other physical resources is appropriate and sustainable;*
- *To encourage the proper management, development and conservation of resources;*
- *To facilitate the economic growth of the Shire in a sustainable manner.*

STRATEGIES:

- *To finalise a Shire wide Town Planning Scheme that meets the requirements of the Integrated Planning Act;*
- *To encourage the use by residents of the Development Panel to encourage potential development within the Shire that meets Council's statutory requirements and guidelines.*
- *To ensure the areas of heritage significance within the Shire are appropriately identified and protected;*
- *Actively encourage new business/industry into the Shire by provision of appropriate infrastructure and initiatives where necessary;*
- *Investigate the provision of a new Visitor Information Centre for Woodgate in partnership with the Woodgate Beach Tourism Association;*
- *To actively promote the Shire by implementing marketing and advertising plans including Council's web site;*

- *To acquire land from the State Government for industrial purposes at Woodgate;*
- *To develop Stage 2 of the Childers Industrial Estate;*
- *To undertake preliminary studies into development of the Woodgate Sewerage land site;*
- *To release further stages of Heritage Park according to market demand;*
- *To continue negotiations with Ergon Energy for further funding under the CPP for the undergrounding of power in Woodgate;*
- *To investigate the provision of information signage adjacent to the intra-state bus set down areas;*
- *To facilitate investigations into a regional airport proposal;*
- *To further investigate underground of existing power supply at Woodgate in conjunction with Ergon Energy.*

OVERVIEW:

*Preserving the natural environmental features and character of the Shire by sustainable development is crucial to the long term future of the Shire. This goal is becoming increasingly important as the growth and development in the Shire continues. Council has a major role in this area especially in waste management, pollution control, control of urban run-off, foreshore and estuarine protection and management.*

OBJECTIVES:

- *To preserve a natural environment that is sustainable for future generations to enjoy*
- *Recognise a non-commercial objective in respect of environmental management and treat the value of that service as a community service obligation in accordance with Council policy;*
- *To provide Shire wide waste management facilities that meet all environmental guidelines.*

STRATEGIES:

- *To provide adequate planning and management of foreshore and estuarine areas to protect natural features whilst providing sustainable passive and active recreational opportunities;*
- *To prepare a draft estuarine foreshore management plan for Woodgate for consultation with the community and Government agencies;*
- *Investigate the logistics and economic viability of expanding the domestic waste collection service into rural areas;*
- *To further upgrade Childers Waste Management facility to appropriate statutory standards;*

- *To investigate alternate waste management measures such as recycling, mulching and other environmentally friendly methods.*

## Program 7

## Recreation and Leisure

### OVERVIEW:

*Council has a major role in providing and supporting recreation and leisure opportunities for residents and visitors.*

### OBJECTIVES:

- *To facilitate the provision of enjoyable recreation and cultural facilities for residents and visitors on a socially just basis;*
- *Recognise a non-commercial objective in respect of sport and recreation in the Shire and treat the value of that service as a community service obligation in accordance with Council policy.*

### STRATEGIES:

- *To provide quality local community sports venues through co-operative development of sites throughout the Shire and liaison and support for local sporting bodies;*
- *To enhance and develop the Shire's parks and recreation facilities;*
- *To proceed to Stage 2 of the feasibility study into a new swimming pool complex in Childers;*
- *Maintain application of the Code of Competitive Conduct to Council's sport and recreation services;*
- *To incorporate appropriate passive and active open space areas in the Crescent Street redevelopment including children's' playground;*
- *To investigate the upgrade of the Apple Tree Creek park;*
- *To continue to upgrade the Showgrounds facilities;*
- *Investigate air conditioning of Cultural Centre Annexe;*

- *To work co-operatively with the Buxton Community Action Assoc. Inc. to complete feasibility study into the Buxton Pontoon proposal;*
- *To investigate upgrade of ex Queensland Rail land at Buxton for recreational opportunities;*
- *To investigate the possibility of incorporating a “mobile home” temporary area in future open space development.*

Strategic issue or Capital works

**Aesthetics and Liveability of Town Centre**

- . *underground power*
- . *upgrade footpaths*
- . *parking*
- . *traffic calming No. 1 Highway*
- . *street scaping*

**Planning and Development**

- . *identify land for business*
- . *upgrade planning docs and town plan*
- . *increased commercial and industrial activity*
- . *advertise Council land*

**Financial Stability**

- . *Increase funding Govts*
- . *Debt free*
- . *Rate increases*
- . *Seek amalgamation*

**Improved Sporting and Recreational Facilities**

- . *Shell Park toilets*
- . *Swimming Pool (heated)*
- . *Walkways bikeways*
- . *Skate bowl*
- . *Theodolite Creek Boat Ramp*
- . *Upgrade parks (Caltex Park)*

**Upgrade Sewerage, water supply and waste management**

- . *Buxton, Apple Tree Creek and Cordalba*
- . *Refuse Stations*
- . *Environmental Landfill sites*
- . *Improve garbage recycling*

### **Improved Road Network**

- . *Upgrade of major link roads*
- . *Urban drainage and kerb and channel*
- . *Eliminate all black spots*
- . *Improved work practices and better utilisation of plant*

### **Develop Tourism in the Shire**

- . *Increase multi day events*
- . *Tourism panel*
- . *Tourist info. Board*
- . *Wider promotion of Shire*
- . *Canecutters Hall of Fame*
- . *Sister City and Carbon Credits*
- . *Botanic Gardens*

### **Community Services**

- . *Improved services for frail, aged, disabled*
- . *Formation of youth committee*

### **Infrastructure issues**

- . *Depot redevelopment*
- . *IT upgrade*
- . *Upgrade council admin. facilities*
- . *Upgrade of rural fire trucks*
- . *Upgrade of cemeteries*