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The Woodanilling Way

Shire of Woodanilling

Strategic Community Plan 2025 - 2035

Corporate Business Plan 2024/25 - 2027/28



Shire of
Woodanilling



The Woodanilling Way

The Woodanilling Way is the Shire's Plan for the Future under section 5.56 (1) of the Local Government Act 1995.

The Strategic Community Plan outlines the community's long term (10+ years) vision, values, aspirations and priorities, with reference to other local government plans, information and resourcing capabilities. The Strategic Community Plan will be supported by the Shire's Corporate Business Plan which details the services, programs and projects to be delivered over the next 4 years to address the strategic priorities.

The Woodanilling Way is more than just a motto. It is a way of living that captures the essence of our small but vibrant community, where every voice is heard, and everyone has a role to play in shaping our shared future.

CONTENTS

Developing The Woodanilling Way	Page 7	The Woodanilling Way	Page 10
Visiting Woodanilling	Page 8	Strategic Pillars and Actions	Page 11
Message from the Shire President	Page 3	Pillar 1 - Social	Page 12
Vision and values	Page 4	Pillar 2 – Environment	Page 14
Integrated Framework: About this plan	Page 5	Pillar 3 – Civic Leadership	Page 16
About Woodanilling: Statistics and Facts	Page 6	Pillar 4 - Economic	Page 18
Woodanilling Great Southern Treasures Tourism	Page 9		

Message from the Shire President

It is my great pleasure to present the Shire of Woodanilling's Strategic and Corporate Business Plans titled: 'The Woodanilling Way'.

This plan outlines our commitment to focus on the needs and aspirations of our community whilst operating with a high level of trust and integrity.

This Plan shares our vision and objectives for the next ten years, aligned with the feedback we received during the public consultation period.

I thank the local community for their ongoing input. We are grateful for all the submissions and feedback that we received during this process and are excited now to share with you what was presented.

We understand the value of our rural heritage, but we're also looking ahead to make sure the Shire continues to grow and support the needs of our residents. One of our main focuses is making sure our infrastructure, including our road network, parks, and community facilities are maintained to a high standard and improved where needed. It's important to us that people have access to good quality amenities, whether that's our local sports areas, playgrounds, or public buildings.

Another area we're concentrating on is ensuring Woodanilling is set up to attract a sustainable level of new residents and businesses.

We are conscious of ensuring that the Shire of Woodanilling remains independent with a sustainable rate base and a vibrant community.

But a community isn't just about facilities and businesses. It is about people. That's why we're also focused on building a sense of community, through events, activities, and support services that bring people together. These are the things that make Woodanilling truly a special place.

Looking forward, our goal is to continue developing Woodanilling in a way that respects its history, but also embraces change and new opportunities. With your support, we can make sure the Shire remains a great place to live for many years to come.

Thank you for being a part of our community.

Cr Dale Douglas
Shire President



The Shire of Woodanilling Vision for 2035

In 2035 the Shire of Woodanilling will be a Shire that is energetic and progressive with a strong connection to its community and environment. It will be a Shire that embraces its independence and encourages the sustainable development of the natural environment through ways that value the cultural heritage and sense of place provided by living in Woodanilling.

Fairness

Treat everyone equally and impartially.

Positivity

Create a positive and optimistic environment.

Integrity

Be honest, transparent, and accountable in all actions.

Our Values

Collaboration

Promote open dialogue and resolve conflicts constructively.

Respect

Value the rights, opinions, and contributions of others.

Inclusivity

Ensure everyone in the community is heard and valued.

Integrated Planning Framework

About this Plan

The Integrated Planning Framework is designed to ensure that the Shire of Woodanilling's strategic goals are achieved through coordinated planning and resource management. The framework guides how the Shire operates and delivers services, making sure that we meet the needs of our community now and in the future. It is built around two main documents: the Strategic Community Plan (SCP) and the Corporate Business Plan (CBP).

The Strategic Community Plan sets the long-term direction for the Shire, outlining the goals and priorities for the next 10 years. This plan is based on feedback from community engagement activities, ensuring that it reflects local aspirations and is responsive to changing needs. For example, community members were invited to provide input through surveys, workshops, and public forums, which have helped shape the vision for a vibrant, sustainable Woodanilling.

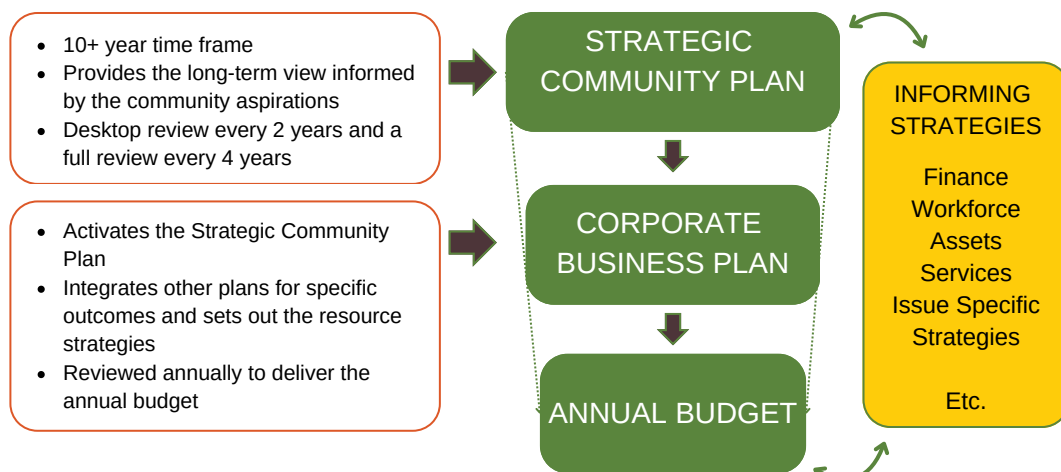
The Corporate Business Plan turns these high-level goals into detailed actions and projects for the next four years.

Through the Long-Term Financial Plan, it includes the resources, timelines, and responsibilities for each initiative, ensuring that the Shire has a practical roadmap for delivering its services. This plan is further supported and resourced by the Shire's Workforce Plan and Asset Management Plan. This ensures we have the resources and infrastructure to support our vision.

By linking strategic planning with day-to-day operations, the Integrated Planning Framework helps the Shire make informed decisions, allocate resources wisely, and measure our progress over time. This approach supports transparent and accountable governance, ensuring that we stay on track to achieve our community's goals.

The Shire of Woodanilling is committed to continually engaging with the community and reviewing these plans to keep them relevant and effective. With this framework, we aim to create a Shire that not only preserves its unique character but also grows and adapts to meet the needs of future generations.

Integrated Planning Framework Mapped



About Woodanilling Statistics and Facts



The Shire of Woodanilling is located in the Great Southern region of Western Australia, approximately 254 km south-east of Perth and 30 km north-west of Katanning. A small, close-knit population of around 450 residents. The region's economy is primarily based on agriculture, including sheep and grain production.

Woodanilling has a strong sense of pride and place with many active groups and volunteers contributing to our community and way of life.



448

resident population

47

median age

49.3% / 50.7%

male / female

120+

Bush Fire Volunteers

Community Sites

- Lake Queerearrup
- Centenary Park
- Martup Pool
- Kenmare Hall
- King Rock
- Recreation Centre
- Town Hall
- Round Pool



85km

Length of sealed roads

454km

Length of Gravel Roads

>\$1.5M

Annual Roads Program 24/25FY

3

Historic Timber Bridges



397

Total number of Rateable Properties

172

Number of Households

2.5

Average persons per household

69.5%

Own their home outright or with a mortgage



1,126 km²

square kms - Which is twice the size of Singapore

0.40

population density



60.8%

In the Labour Force

2.8%

Unemployment Rate

\$1,041

Median weekly household income

240

Number of Garbage Services Provided

Top 3 Industries by Output

1. Agriculture
2. Manufacturing
3. Construction

Developing The Woodanilling Way

Community Engagement

The Community Engagement process for the Shire of Woodanilling was designed to be inclusive and thorough, ensuring every voice had an opportunity to shape the Strategic Community Plan. The Shire used a variety of methods to gather input, starting with community surveys distributed to residents and businesses. These surveys set the foundation by highlighting key concerns and aspirations, which were then discussed in greater detail during public forums and community events.

One of the most successful engagement efforts was the "Woodanilling Meet and Greet", where many of the Woodanilling residents completed a survey, providing feedback on what they felt should be the Shire's main priorities moving forward. This event, along with additional input sessions like the community workshop, demonstrated the community's willingness to be involved in shaping their Shire's future. As a result, the Shire received diverse perspectives, from small business owners and farmers to families and retirees, which helped create a comprehensive plan that genuinely reflects the community's aspirations.

The engagement findings pointed to several key themes: improving local amenities, preserving the Shire's rural lifestyle, and addressing infrastructure needs. Residents also emphasized the importance of supporting economic growth while protecting the Shire's natural environment. This feedback was used to set strategic priorities that focus on balanced development, enhancing local services, and maintaining a strong sense of community spirit.

Key Engagement Methods

- **Community Surveys:** This early stage of engagement helped identify initial themes and areas of concern.
- **Local Events:** These events were crucial in reaching a broad audience, including those who might not typically attend formal meetings.
- **Feedback Review and Integration:** This process ensured that every piece of feedback was considered in shaping the plan.

Key Themes Identified

- Community Facilities and Services.
- Roads and Infrastructure.
- Economic Development.
- Environmental and Heritage Conservation.

The Shire is committed to ongoing engagement to keep the plan relevant and responsive. Moving forward, regular updates, follow-up surveys, and community events will be used to track progress and gather new insights. This approach ensures that the community remains at the heart of decision-making, creating a strong partnership between the Shire and its residents.

Through this comprehensive engagement process, the Shire of Woodanilling has developed a Strategic Community Plan that is truly owned by the people it serves, reflecting a shared vision for a vibrant and sustainable future articulated through the following Four Pillars:

1. **Social**
2. **Environment**
3. **Civic Leadership**
4. **Economic**

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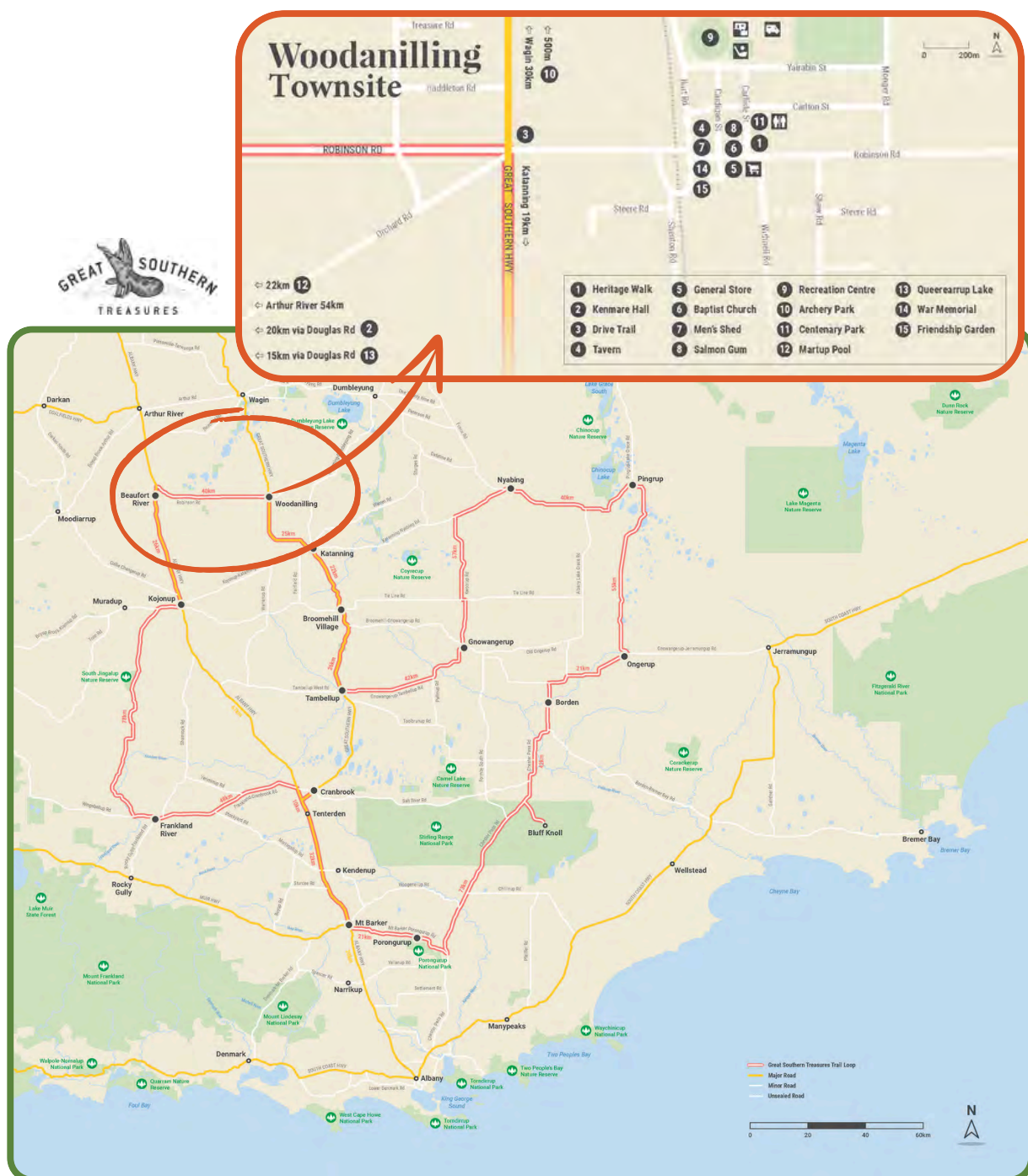
Visiting Woodanilling



Woodanilling Great Southern Treasures Tourism

The town of Woodanilling was first gazetted in 1892, not far from the watering hole called Round Pool. Woodanilling is a Noongar Aboriginal word meaning place of little fishes. The first settlers came to the area looking for pastures on which to graze their sheep. Later, cutters poured into the district and decimated the sandalwood tree population.

In 1904 the railway station was the freight leader for the region, transporting mallet bark, sandalwood, grain, wool and goods for the local shops and businesses on steam trains. In the early 1900s, 800 people lived in the Shire, and the townsite boasted general stores, hotel, banks, hospital, road board, post office, bakery, blacksmith's shop and brickworks.



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Strategic Pillars and Actions

Strategic Community Plan Pillar 1: Social



The Social Pillar aims to foster a connected, inclusive community with access to quality services, facilities, and social opportunities. Key focus areas include:

- Community Wellbeing: Health, safety, and the maintenance of parks and recreational spaces.
- Cultural and Community Engagement: Supporting events and programs to celebrate heritage and strengthen community identity.
- Youth and Family Development: Providing educational and recreational opportunities for young people and families.
- Aged and Disability Support: Promoting inclusivity through accessible services and resources.
- Community Safety and Emergency Services: Enhancing public safety, supporting local emergency services, and increasing preparedness.
- Social Inclusion and Equity: Ensuring equitable access to services for all residents.

Strategic Community Plan Pillar 3: Civic Leadership



The Civic Leadership Pillar of the Shire of Woodanilling emphasizes strong governance, transparency, and community trust. Key areas of focus include:

- Good Governance: Upholding ethical standards, clear policies, and sound financial management.
- Community Engagement: Involving residents in decision-making through consultations and open communication.
- Leadership Development: Training Councillors, staff and community to achieve strategic goals.
- Strategic Planning and Accountability: Aligning actions with the community's vision and adapting to changing needs through regular reviews.

Strategic Community Plan Pillar 2: Environment



The Environment Pillar focuses on protecting natural and built environments, promoting sustainable land use, and encouraging responsible environmental management. Key priorities include:

- Land and Natural Resource Management: Partnering with local groups to support sustainable farming, control erosion, and manage salinity.
- Waste Management: Reducing waste, encouraging recycling, and maintaining clean public spaces.
- Water Conservation: Protecting water resources, ensuring sustainable usage, and restoring waterways and wetlands.
- Environmental Conservation: Safeguarding biodiversity through tree planting, habitat restoration, and weed control.
- Climate Adaptation: Addressing climate change impacts on the community, agriculture, and infrastructure.

Strategic Community Plan Pillar 4: Economic



The Economic Pillar of the Shire of Woodanilling focuses on building a diverse, sustainable economy that benefits residents and businesses. Key priorities include:

- Business Support and Development: Providing resources, promoting entrepreneurship, and encouraging new ventures.
- Tourism Growth: Leveraging natural and heritage assets to attract visitors and boost economic activity.
- Infrastructure Improvement: Maintaining essential services and transport networks to attract investment.
- Agricultural Innovation: Supporting sustainable farming and helping primary industries adapt to changing conditions.



Strategic Community Plan Pillar 1: Social



The Social Pillar for the Shire of Woodanilling focuses on creating a connected and supportive community where residents have access to quality services, well-maintained facilities, and opportunities for social engagement. This plan covers key areas such as community wellbeing, cultural engagement, youth and family support, and accessibility for elderly and disabled residents.

The Shire prioritises Community Wellbeing through health and safety initiatives and upholds Community Facilities and Services by maintaining parks, halls, and recreational spaces.

It encourages Community Engagement by supporting local events and programs and aims to celebrate the Shire's heritage and build a strong sense of identity. Youth and Family Development includes activities and programs that create opportunities for young people and families, supporting education, recreation, and personal growth.

Aged and Disability Support reflects the Shire's commitment to inclusivity, providing services and accessible resources.

Ensuring public safety is a key focus under Community Safety and Emergency Services, which includes supporting local emergency services, improving safety awareness, and preparing the community for emergencies. Social Inclusion and Equity ensures that all residents, regardless of background or ability, have access to services and opportunities, creating an inclusive and welcoming environment.

Through ongoing engagement and evaluation, the Shire aims to adapt its approach to meet evolving community needs, maintaining a strong and cohesive community.

Corporate Business Plan Actions

2024/25 - 2027/28 Pillar 1: Social



GOAL 1: A safe and inclusive community for all ages

#	PRIORITY PROJECTS	OUR ROLE	24/25	25/26	26/27	27/28
1.1	Deliver and support events and social activities.	Deliver & Partner	✓	✓	✓	✓
1.2	Deliver upgrades to Centenary Park in Woodanilling	Deliver	✓			
1.3	Investigate demand for 'before and after school care'	Partner		✓		
1.4	Support the Woodanilling Town Team to become an active community group in the Shire	Partner	✓	✓	✓	✓
1.5	Work with Police to attract funding for CCTV	Advocate	✓	✓	✓	✓
1.6	Finalise the Woodanilling Cemetary Plan	Deliver	✓	✓	✓	✓

GOAL 2: Local access to health and education services

#	PRIORITY PROJECTS	OUR ROLE	24/25	25/26	26/27	27/28
2.1	Support local and regional health services	Advocate	✓	✓	✓	✓
2.2	Support events that benefit our community wellbeing, foster participation and volunteering	Partner	✓	✓	✓	✓
2.3	Advocate for the Woodanilling Primary School and engage regularly with the Principal	Advocate	✓	✓	✓	✓

GOAL 3. Active and healthy community

#	PRIORITY PROJECTS	OUR ROLE	24/25	25/26	26/27	27/28
3.1	Partner with the Woodanilling sporting community to attract funding to upgrade oval lighting	Partner		✓	✓	✓
3.2	Provide support towards regional recreational facilities	Partner	✓	✓	✓	✓
3.3	Investigate conversion of tennis court to multipurpose courts	Deliver		✓		
3.4	Investigate the feasibility of water capture and storage for the development of Queerearrup Lake	Advocate		✓	✓	✓
3.5	Support the sponsorship of local athletes	Partner	✓	✓	✓	✓
3.6	Work with the community to develop social outlets in the Shire	Deliver / Partner	✓	✓	✓	✓
3.7	Apply for external funding to establish local trails	Deliver			✓	✓

GOAL 4: Mitigate the impact of natural events

#	PRIORITY PROJECTS	OUR ROLE	24/25	25/26	26/27	27/28
4.1	Support the training and leadership development of local emergency service volunteers	Deliver / Partner	✓	✓	✓	✓
4.2	Improve community awareness of fire preparedness and response	Deliver / Partner	✓	✓	✓	✓
4.3	Conduct fire hazard mitigation (including fire breaks) and equipment inspections	Deliver / Partner	✓	✓	✓	✓
4.4	Update and deliver Council's Fire Management Plan - Apply for grant funding where possible	Deliver / Partner	✓	✓	✓	✓

Strategic Community Plan

Pillar 2: Environment



The Environment Pillar for the Shire of Woodanilling focuses on protecting and enhancing the natural and built environment, ensuring sustainable land use, and promoting responsible environmental management. The Shire aims to balance development with conservation by implementing strategies for natural resources, waste management, and water resource protection.

Land and Natural Resource Management involves collaborating with local groups to promote sustainable and healthy farming practices, control erosion, and manage salinity. Waste Management focuses on reducing waste, promoting recycling, and maintaining clean public spaces. Water Conservation prioritises protecting local water resources, ensuring sustainable water use, and supporting initiatives to restore natural waterways and wetlands.

The Shire values its unique landscapes and aims to safeguard its biodiversity through Environmental Conservation programs, such as tree planting, habitat restoration, and weed control. Climate Adaptation is also a key priority, with the Shire implementing strategies to address the impacts of climate change on the community, agriculture, and infrastructure.

Through these actions, the Shire aims to create a resilient environment that supports both current and future generations. Ongoing Community Engagement will play a vital role in raising awareness and encouraging residents to adopt sustainable practices. This commitment to environmental sustainability ensures that the Shire's natural assets are preserved and cherished for years to come.

Corporate Business Plan Actions

2024/25 - 2027/28 Pillar 2: Environment



GOAL 5. Care and protect our natural environment

#	PRIORITY PROJECTS	OUR ROLE	24/25	25/26	26/27	27/28
5.1	Restore and protect our landscape and remnant bushland	Deliver / Partner	✓	✓	✓	✓
5.2	Improve waste management including implementation of Landfill review recommendations and investigate long term management options	Deliver / Partner	✓	✓	✓	✓
5.3	Implement improved recycling practices through Council led initiatives and community education	Deliver / Partner	✓	✓	✓	✓
5.4	Contribute to climate related projects with the Great Southern Alliance	Deliver / Partner	✓	✓	✓	✓
5.5	Support Natural Resource Management programs in the Shire	Deliver / Partner	✓	✓	✓	✓

GOAL 6: Sustainable and efficient use of natural resources

#	PRIORITY PROJECTS	OUR ROLE	24/25	25/26	26/27	27/28
6.1	Investigate alternative energy efficient systems for Shire facilities	Deliver / Partner	✓	✓	✓	✓
6.2	Prepare for renewable energy projects in the Shire	Deliver / Partner	✓	✓	✓	✓
6.3	Water Security - Continue working with DWER on water security projects	Deliver / Partner	✓	✓	✓	✓





Strategic Community Plan Pillar 3: Civic Leadership



The Civic Leadership Pillar of the Shire of Woodanilling focuses on promoting strong, transparent governance and effective decision-making. The Shire is committed to fostering trust and engagement between the Council and the community by being open, accountable, and inclusive in all its operations.

Good Governance involves upholding clear policies, ethical standards, and sound financial management. Community Engagement is central, with the Shire seeking to involve residents in decision-making through consultations and regular communication. Leadership Development focuses on training and supporting Councillors and staff to effectively lead and implement strategic goals.

Strategic Planning and Accountability ensures that all plans and actions align with the community's long-term vision, allowing the Shire to respond flexibly to challenges and opportunities. Regular reviews of policies and initiatives will be conducted to adapt to changing needs, ensuring the Shire remains proactive and responsive in its leadership.

This commitment to strong civic leadership aims to build a resilient and inclusive community where the voices of residents are heard, and the Shire operates with integrity and transparency. Through effective leadership, the Shire of Woodanilling strives to maintain high standards of service, create a positive environment for development, and support community wellbeing.

Corporate Business Plan Actions 2024/25 - 2027/28 Pillar 3: Civic Leadership



GOAL 7. Deliver a high standard of service for our community

#	PRIORITY PROJECTS	OUR ROLE	24/25	25/26	26/27	27/28
7.1	Review and update the Workforce Plan	Deliver	✓	✓	✓	✓
7.2	Invest in new technology to improve our service efficiency and effectiveness	Deliver	✓	✓	✓	✓
7.3	Ongoing provision made for staff development	Deliver	✓	✓	✓	✓
7.4	Develop a renewed customer service charter	Deliver		✓		

GOAL 8: Accountable and compliant governance

#	PRIORITY PROJECTS	OUR ROLE	24/25	25/26	26/27	27/28
8.1	Maintain compliance with the Local Government Act 1995 and associated regulations	Deliver	✓	✓	✓	✓
8.2	Resolve the Audit Log findings from regulation 5 & 17 reviews	Deliver	✓	✓		
8.3	Review and prepare relevant Local Laws	Deliver	✓	✓		
8.4	Conduct annual reviews of Council Policies & Delegations	Deliver	✓	✓	✓	✓
8.5	Develop and maintain a Long Term Financial Plan	Deliver	✓	✓	✓	✓

GOAL 9: Enhance Strong Civic Leadership

#	PRIORITY PROJECTS	OUR ROLE	24/25	25/26	26/27	27/28
9.1	Elected members complete required training	Deliver	✓	✓	✓	✓
9.2	Council is supported with a resource to ensure high level of compliance and to build capacity	Deliver	✓	✓	✓	✓
9.3	Foster training and development opportunities for current and future community leaders	Deliver / Partner	✓	✓	✓	✓





Strategic Community Plan

Pillar 4: Economic



The Economic Pillar for the Shire of Woodanilling focuses on fostering a diverse and sustainable local economy that supports both residents and businesses. The Shire aims to create an environment where businesses can grow and new opportunities can flourish.

The Shire of Woodanilling is fundamentally an agriculturally based economy. One of the fundamental roles of Council is to maintain the ability of our producers to transport goods to and from their properties on a well maintained road network. Council and the community place a high importance on this role and as such it will continue to be a key focus for the Shire.

Infrastructure Improvement supports economic growth by ensuring that essential services and transport networks are well-maintained, making the Shire an attractive place for investment. The Shire also prioritises Agricultural Innovation, promoting sustainable farming practices and helping primary industries adapt to changing conditions.

Business Support and Development involves providing resources and guidance to local enterprises, promoting new ventures, and encouraging entrepreneurship.

Tourism Growth is another focus, leveraging the Shire's natural and heritage assets to attract visitors and stimulate economic activity.

Land use planning is also a key function of the Shire. It is paramount that we get our Planning Scheme and approach to new development right to ensure the community maintains its historic charm through periods of growth.

Through strategic planning and collaboration, the Shire aims to build a resilient economy that provides jobs, supports local businesses, and offers a high quality of life for all residents. This will help ensure that the community continues to thrive while maintaining its unique rural character.

Corporate Business Plan Actions

2024/25 - 2027/28 Pillar 4: Economic



GOAL 10. A transport network that responds to the accessibility and connectivity needs of industry and community

#	PRIORITY PROJECTS	OUR ROLE	24/25	25/26	26/27	27/28
10.1	Develop, deliver and regularly review a 10-year Road Asset Plan that includes roads, verges, drains and culverts	Deliver	✓	✓	✓	✓
10.2	Pursue and deliver Regional Road Group initiatives	Deliver / Advocate	✓	✓	✓	✓
10.3	Investigate the transfer of ownership/responsibility of Robinson Road West and/or seek additional funding to upgrade (major freight route).	Advocate / Deliver	✓	✓	✓	✓
10.4	Develop and implement an accessible network of pathways in the Shire	Deliver		✓	✓	✓

GOAL 11. Local economic growth is supported by essential services and robust infrastructure

#	PRIORITY PROJECTS	OUR ROLE	24/25	25/26	26/27	27/28
11.1	Implement the 4WDL Housing Strategy	Deliver / Partner	✓	✓	✓	✓
11.2	Investigate additional accommodation options, matched with demand (aged care, social, key worker)	Deliver / Partner	✓	✓	✓	✓
11.3	Investigate alternative uses of the Woodanilling CBH Infrastructure	Deliver / Partner		✓	✓	
11.4	Investigate development of residential/semi-rural land development	Deliver / Partner		✓		✓
11.5	Undertake review of Town Planning Scheme and preparation of Land Use Strategies	Deliver / Partner	✓	✓		
11.6	Advocate for reliable, high-speed mobile and internet access across the Shire	Advocate	✓	✓	✓	✓
11.7	Develop, deliver and regularly review a 10-year Community Assets and Facilities Plan	Deliver	✓	✓	✓	✓
11.8	Develop, deliver and regularly review a 10-year Plant and Equipment Plan	Deliver	✓	✓	✓	✓

GOAL 12. Grow the visitor and tourism industry

#	PRIORITY PROJECTS	OUR ROLE	24/25	25/26	26/27	27/28
12.1	Participate in Tourism Initiatives with Great Southern Treasures and 4WDL	Deliver / Partner	✓	✓	✓	✓
12.2	Collaborate with the Woodanilling Town Team to improve Shire and aesthetics in a coordinated manner	Deliver	✓	✓	✓	✓
12.3	Preserve heritage buildings and sites under Council's ownership	Deliver / Partner	✓	✓	✓	✓

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The Shire of Woodanilling acknowledges the Traditional Owners, Custodians, and Elders past and present.

We acknowledge the stories, traditions and living cultures of Aboriginal peoples on this land and commit to protect and maintain this important heritage.

