



July 2026 to June 2027

Operational Plan

Acknowledgement of Country

Aurukun Shire Council acknowledges the Traditional Country of the Wik, Wik Waya, and Kugu Peoples and recognises that this Country has always been of cultural, spiritual, social, and economic significance to Aboriginal people. We recognise the thousands of generations of continuous culture that have shaped this country and the people on it.

Council also acknowledges all First Peoples, both Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples living in the Aurukun Community and is committed to working closely with all First Peoples communities to advance reconciliation within our region.

Our Vision



SHAPING THE FUTURE

Aurukun is a strong, inclusive, and thriving community, empowered by its cultural connections to family, tradition, and Country, with community leadership at the heart of its future.



Advocacy Priorities



Social infrastructure

More housing, health and community facilities that meet Aurukun's growth



Economic infrastructure

Road upgrades, airport investment, and digital connectivity to support jobs



Cultural protection

Recognising Traditional-Owner decision-making and protecting Country



Community safety

Locally-led approaches to law and order, youth engagement and resilience

About the Operational Plan

The Operation Plan is a major, annual planning document within Council's corporate performance, planning and reporting framework. It outlines the key activities and actions Council will undertake for the financial year in accordance with the adopted Annual Budget.

Together with the Corporate Plan and Annual Budget, it guides Council in delivering outcomes for the Aurukun community.

The Local Government Act 2009 (Qld), along with the Local Government Regulation 2012 (Qld), requires Council to adopt an Operation Plan that shall:

- Be consistent with Council's Annual Budget
- State how Council will progress the implementation of the Corporate Plan
- Manage operational risks

A report is tabled every quarter at Council Ordinary Meetings on the progress of the initiatives within the Operational Plan, with a full report produced at the end of the financial year.

HOW WE MANAGE OPERATIONAL RISKS

There are many risks, threats and opportunities that could potentially affect the achievement of objectives outlined in Council's strategic plans. Council currently has a number of risk management plans in place. Council's Risk Management Policy and the related Enterprise Risk Management Framework will ensure these plans are integrated in order to ensure an enterprise approach to risk management.



HERITAGE

We ensure traditions and history of Country is respected and protected

ACTION	SUCCESS MEASURE	LEAD RESPONSIBILITY	ROLE
1 Support Cultural Practices • Embed Wik Mungkan cultural values and traditional knowledge into engagement, planning, and operations • Implement Community Advisory Group • Establish monthly community yarn sessions	Attendance & Engagement	Office of the CEO	  
2 Grow Indigenous Arts and Cultural Opportunities • Establish a strong Wik & Kugu Arts Centre • Build local cultural induction for Council staff and visiting stakeholders	Transfer of Wik & Kugu Arts Centre Induction program developed and implemented	Community Services	     
3 Growth of Cultural Protection and Preservation • Growth of Indigenous Knowledge Centre library services • Grow IKC provision of heritage and educational learning services • Develop community events that respect and protect cultural traditions	Develop and implement a comprehensive business investment plan	Community Services	   
4 Promote Use of Cultural Ecological Practices • Identify appropriate ecological and economical practices to incorporate into Council processes • Develop a consultative relationship with local Rangers and Traditional Owner groups	Engagement Framework adopted	Technical Services	  

ROLE KEY



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RESILIENCE

Improve health, well-being, and community resilience

ACTION	SUCCESS MEASURE	LEAD RESPONSIBILITY	ROLE
1 Foster Community Development , Cultural Health and Wellbeing initiatives - Develop community development and services strategy - Refresh the inter-agency network/group - Expanding access to the Indigenous Knowledge Centre for the cultural and educational needs of people of all ages	Implementation of Strategy Bi-monthly Inter-Agency meetings	Community Services	    
2 Building Community and Organisational Capacity - Develop a workforce strategy to identify skills gaps and capture mechanisms for addressing - Strengthen cultural recreation, sport, and healthy lifestyle - Strengthening access and opportunity for community engagement in early childhood services, kindergarten, and school.	Cultural Recreation & Sports Strategy & Plan implemented Partnership developed across EC services Pilot Youth-Led Digital Literacy Programs	Community Services & Office of the CEO	    
3 Stakeholder Engagement for the betterment of Aurukun - Develop working relationships with surrounding mining and third-party stakeholders - Explore partnership opportunities that will promote the Vision and Mission of the Council	Regular meetings Development of Partnership Initiatives	Office of the CEO	   
4 Improve Community Wellbeing, Safety, and Natural Disaster/Emergency Resilience Partner with LDMG stakeholders to strengthen community preparedness and ability to respond and recover from disasters and emergencies	Intergrated LDMG Preparedness Plan, Response and Recovery Plans Regular community meetings	Office of the CEO	   

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SUSTAINABILITY

Deliver and maintain infrastructure that meets community needs and protects the environment, while building a strong, diverse, inclusive, and resilient local economy

ACTION	SUCCESS MEASURE	LEAD RESPONSIBILITY	ROLE
1 Planning for the Future of Aurukun - Maintain the Master plan for the sustainable growth and development of Aurukun. - Strengthen Strategic Assets Management Plan - Improve awareness and perception of the region as place of choice to live, work, invest, and visit. - Support and grow investment in Early Years Learning	Adopt Master Plan Adopt Strategic Asset Management Develop and implement Communications Strategy & Plan Develop Plan for Early Years Hub	Corporate Services & Technical Services	
2 Delivery of Essential Services to Community - Ensure security and supply of sewerage and water services to Aurukun - Implement the staged transition to an integrated enterprise software system to modernise operations, enhance financial and asset management capability, and improve service delivery across all departments.	Zero unplanned outages Implementation of enterprise software	Technical Services & Corporate Services	
3 Employment and Training Capability Building - Improve access to local jobs and services - Support capacity building for employment - Improve existing staff housing and develop new housing	Develop and implement Workforce Strategy Partner with stakeholders for Aurukun Workforce Development Initiative Refurbish existing and new staff housing	Office of the CEO	
4 Local Business - Identification of opportunities for establishment and training of residents to own and operate local businesses - Develop a framework to improve engagement with commercial entities	Business programs delivered Framework adopted and implemented	Corporate Services	

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GOVERNANCE

We underpin good governance through transparency, integrity and accountability across the entire organisation

ACTION	SUCCESS MEASURE	LEAD RESPONSIBILITY	ROLE
1 Transparent Decision-Making Establish audit and risk management practices to strengthen governance, oversee internal controls, and provide independent assurance on risk management and financial reporting in alignment with legislative and best practice requirements.	Committee convened with ToR	Office of the CEO	  
2 Develop Communications Strategy and Plan and employ a Communications Officer	Strategy adopted and published	Corporate Services	 
3 Investing in People and Culture - Ensure Council's workforce is managed within a fair and equitable framework to capitalise on flexible workplace efficiency and capability - Develop a People & Culture Plan that supports recruitment, retention, and development of staff and maximises opportunity for local people	Plan adopted and implemented	Office of the CEO	   
4 Organisational Capacity - Provide targeted governance and compliance training to supervisors and managers - Capacity building for local leaders	Attendance & Feedback	Office of the CEO	  

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