

2025-27 Community Scorecard ACTION PLAN



Local Roads and Bridges

	Action / Project	Outcome (how does it align with community priorities)	Timeline	Lead	Measure
OPERATIONAL PLAN INITIATIVES	Development of new Local Governments Infrastructure Plan (LGIP) (OP26-21)	Developing a new Local Government Infrastructure Plan will improve alignment with Council's planning scheme and strategic priorities, enhance infrastructure cost estimates, address current inconsistencies, and increase transparency and efficiency in delivering shared trunk infrastructure.	Jun-26	Governance Coordinator Manager Planning and Environment Director Infrastructure	
	Ida St. and May St. Intersection Treatment (OP26-10)	Improved road signage and linemarking for road users and pedestrians safety	Jun-26	Manager Engineering	Currently in planning phase.
	Ayton Drainage Rectification (OP26-26)	Upgraded storm water infrastructure including cleaning of Northern side open drains and installation of new kerb and channel on the Southern side will reduce flooding on Third St and East St. and also improve road safety and reduce potholes forming.	Jun-26	Manager Engineering	Currently in construction phase.
	Lakeland Stormwater drains cleaning project (OP26-17)	Fewer flood related disruptions, and the improved waterflow will help maintain the integrity of road surfaces and private access.	Complete FY 25-27	Manager Engineering	Currently in planning phase.
SC1	Develop and implement a whole-of-Council Advocacy Plan that reflects the five Scorecard priority areas, supports evidence-based advocacy for state and federal investment, and ensures alignment with Council's operational and corporate planning frameworks.	This will provide a clear, coordinated approach to advocating for community needs across all priority areas, resulting in stronger partnerships, increased funding success, and improved community outcomes.	Feb-26	Office of the CEO with Manager Comms & Engagement	Strategy endorsed by ELT and Council by end January 2026 Advocacy priorities identified and mapped to Scorecard priorities Number of submissions, meetings, and partnerships advanced annually Funding or policy wins aligned to Strategy (tracked annually)
SC2	Comms campaign to promote Snap-Send-Solve	Improved the reporting and response time for pothole maintenance, supporting safer and more efficient local roads	Launch Feb 2026	Comms	Campaign reach + increase in reports received via Snap-Send-Solve
SC3	Road Ahead: Monthly Works Update in CYW and online	Publishing monthly road work schedules in the newspaper improves transparency and helps residents plan ahead, supporting community confidence	Monthly - commencing Oct 2025	Manager Comms Manager Engineering DRFA &	Monthly updates on Council website and shared/promoted across Council channels.
SC4	Strathgordon Rd Causeway Replacement and Seal (Ch. 15.9 to 17.8km).	Replacement of old deteriorated Coleman River culvert crossing on Strathgordon Road with new and raised crossing, that will significantly improve allweather access and safety of all road users including heavy freight. The works align with community priorities of improving local road infrastructure for safety, all weather accessibility and deteriorated assets management.	Jun-26	Manager Engineering	Construction in progress.
SC5	Packers Overflow Ck. Deck replacement, Portland Roads Road	Replacement of old deteriorated bridge deck at Packers Overflow Ck., which will improve the road users safety and ensure continued access to the remote community of Portland Roads Road. It aligns with community priority of minimising the risk of wet season cut-off and isolation, and improved asset management of bridges and culverts on remote roads.	Dec-26	Manager Engineering	Construction in progress.

SC6	Homerule Road, Drainage Upgrade works	Installation of new culverts and causeways will improve the all weather access through problematic crossings.	Jun-26	Manager Engineering	Culvert works completed and planning for bitumen sealing of approaches.
SC7	Russel Ck. Bridge Deck Replacement	Replacement of old deteriorated bridge deck on Russel Ck. bridge on Bloomfield Road, which will improve safety of the road users. The works align with community priorities of improving local road infrastructure for safety and accessibility and proactive assets maintenance and management.	Jul-27	Manager Engineering	Currently in planning phase.
SC8	Charles St. Shoulder Sealing, School to Pool, Cooktown	Address drainage and erosion issues by constructing a new kerb and channel and upgrading the shoulder to seal, which will improve access and parking to local facilities and services, aligning with community priorities.	Jun-26	Manager Engineering	Construction in progress.
SC9	Davies Hill Concrete Replacement, Bloomfield Road	Replacement of old deteriorated section of concrete pavement on Bloomfield Road, and install a safety barrier for heavy vehicles. The works align with community priorities of improving local road infrastructure for safety and accessibility.	Jun-26	Manager Engineering	Currently in procurement phase.
SC10	Cameron Ck. Road, upgrade to seal	Construction of large culverts and causeways to address the drainage issues and upgrading the road to seal to improve the all weather access and road users' safety. It aligns with community priorities to upgrade and seal the local roads in and around Cooktown.	Jun-26	Manager Engineering	Drainage works completed, road works currently in progress.
SC11	St. George Bridge Replacement, Kimba Road	Replacement of old flood damaged bridge on Kimba Road, which bring the bridge to lastet Australian Standards and will significantly improve safety of all road users including heavy freight. The works align with community priorities of improving local road infrastructure for safety, all weather accessibility and deteriorated assets management.	Jun-26	Manager Engineering	Currently in procurement phase.
SC12	Culverts and Causeway upgrade on Bloomfield Road	Complete replacement and upgrade of three major creek crossings by installation of new culverts and causeways on Olusfsen Ck., Platypus Ck. and Gap Ck. The works align with community priorities of improving local road infrastructure for safety, all weather accessibility and deteriorated assets management on Bloomfield Road.	Jun-26	Manager Engineering	Construction in progress.
SC13	Reconstruction of Damaged Road, Bloomfield Road	Reconstruction and upgrade of multiple sections of Bloomfield Road to seal. The works align with community priorities of improving local road infrastructure for safety, all weather accessibility and deteriorated assets management on Bloomfield Road.	Jul-26	Manager Engineering	Construction in progress.
SC14	Annual DRFA patching, reconstruction and pothole repairs (Sealed Roads), Cook Shire	Works align with community priorities of maintenance of sealed roads throughout the Cook Shire network.	Annual Program	Manager DRFA Works	Annual repair and maintenance
SC15	Annual DRFA resheeting, regrading and repairs (Unsealed and Gravel Roads including drainage), Cook Shire	Works align with community priorities of maintenance of unsealed and gravel roads throughout the Cook Shire network.	Annual Program	Manager DRFA Works	Annual repair and maintenance
SC16	Sealing and Resealing program, Cook Shire	Works align with community priorities of proactive asset management of road infrastructure and sealing of local streets network around Cooktown and other major population centers.	Draft Proposal	Manager Engineering	Currently in planning phase, subject to funds.

SC17	Structural Condition Assessment Program (culverts, causeways and bridges), Cook Shire	Works align with community priorities of proactive asset management of culverts, causeways and bridges infrastructure, and advocate for upgrading these critical infrastructures throughout the Cook Shire to prevent the isolation and extended cut-off periods post wet season.	Draft Proposal	Manager Engineering	Currently in planning phase, subject to funds.
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Housing (Council's role in supply)

	Action	Outcome (how does it align with community priorities)	Timeline	Lead	Measure
SC1	Develop and implement a whole-of-Council Advocacy Strategy that reflects the five Scorecard priority areas, supports evidence-based advocacy for state and federal investment, and ensures alignment with Council's operational and corporate planning frameworks.	This will provide a clear, coordinated approach to advocating for community needs across all priority areas, resulting in stronger partnerships, increased funding success, and improved community outcomes.	Feb-26	Office of the CEO with Manager Comms & Engagement	Strategy endorsed by ELT and Council at January Council meeting Advocacy priorities identified and mapped to Scorecard priorities Number of submissions, meetings, and partnerships advanced annually Funding or policy wins aligned to Strategy (tracked annually)
SC18	Cooktown & Surrounds Masterplan	Will identify land available for housing and development	Jun-27	Manager, Planning & Environment	Completion of Masterplan
SC19	Detailed design of Lakeland trunk infrastructure	Provides detailed plan to support future growth of Lakeland by addressing key infrastructure upgrades to water, waste etc	Jun-26	Director, Infrastructure	Design complete
SC20	Extending the Residential Housing Incentive Scheme	Encourage new builds, subdivisions, and multi-dwelling developments across the Shire by reducing upfront costs for developers and property owners	Dec-25	Manager, Planning & Environment	
SC21	Advocate to the Queensland Government for the introduction of rent-to-buy home ownership pathways for State Government employees based in Cook Shire, to encourage long-term retention of skilled professionals.	Providing rent-to-buy opportunities can improve housing stability, help retain essential workers (especially in health, education, and law enforcement), and increase long-term population stability across the region.	Mar-27	Mayor / CEO / COO	# of formal advocacy efforts or meetings held with State Gov Agencies Progress toward policy consideration or pilot program implementation Retention rate of State-employed professionals in housing stress categories
SC22	Continue implementing and monitoring the Cook Shire Local Housing Action Plan (LHAP) to guide targeted interventions that address housing affordability, supply, diversity, and accessibility across the Shire.	The LHAP drives coordinated, practical efforts to unlock housing opportunities, support future population growth, attract workforce, and reduce pressure on housing availability for residents, workers, and vulnerable groups.	Mar-27	Coordinator, Governance	% LHAP actions progressed each quarter # of new housing lots or dwellings approved or delivered as a result of LHAP initiatives

Aged Care and Accommodation

	Action	Outcome (how does it align with community priorities)	Timeline	Lead	Measure
OPERATIONAL PLAN INITIATIVES	Free dumping days to include free pick up for Seniors (OP26-5)	Annual initiative to include free pick-up for seniors during Free Dumping Days improved accessibility and support for older residents, helping them maintain safe and healthy living environments.	Completed by December 2025	Coordinator, Waste Services	Budget fully utilised for collections and positive feedback from the community
	Regional Aged Care (OP26-7)	Advocate and plan for a Regional Aged Care facility in Cooktown, including resolution of land tenure matters at the identified site.	Mar-27	Office of the CEO/ Manager, Comms and Engagement	Resolution of land tenure matters Media mentions (raising awareness) Successfully securing funding announcement for the project development
SC1	Develop and implement a whole-of-Council Advocacy Strategy that reflects the five Scorecard priority areas, supports evidence-based advocacy for state and federal investment, and ensures alignment with Council's operational and corporate planning frameworks.	This will provide a clear, coordinated approach to advocating for community needs across all priority areas, resulting in stronger partnerships, increased funding success, and improved community outcomes.	Feb-26	Office of the CEO with Manager Comms & Engagement	Strategy endorsed by ELT and Council at January Council meeting Advocacy priorities identified and mapped to Scorecard priorities Number of submissions, meetings, and partnerships advanced annually Funding or policy wins aligned to Strategy (tracked annually)
SC23	Review and Reform Aged Care Unit Application Process	Review and streamline the application and assessment procedures for Cook Shire Council's 12 aged care units to ensure they are transparent, equitable, and prioritise local seniors most in need, improving accessibility and reducing wait times.	Jun-27	Housing Officer	Ensure occupancy rates greater than 90% per year

Community Safety and Crime Prevention

	Action	Outcome (how does it align with community priorities)	Timeline	Lead	Measure
OPERATIONAL PLAN INITIATIVES	Cook Shire Community Safety Enhancement (OP26-8)	Deter crime, increase community confidence, and promote a safer environment for residents and visitors alike.	Jun-26	Chief Operating Officer	Securing funding and deliver project
	Ida St & May St Intersection Pedestrian Safety Improvements (OP-26-10)	Upgrades to the Ida and May Street intersection will improve pedestrian safety—particularly for school children—by enhancing line marking, installing new signage, and maintaining traffic efficiency to reduce near misses and speeding.	Jun-26	Manager Engineering	Works completed
	Animal Desexing Program (OP26-16)	Provision of free/subsidised pet desexing, to manage excessive litters, roaming animals and unwanted pets - making streets safer to walk.	Jun-26	Compliance officer/ Manager Planning & Environment	Number of animals treated and desexed
SC1	Develop and implement a whole-of-Council Advocacy Strategy that reflects the five Scorecard priority areas, supports evidence-based advocacy for state and federal investment, and ensures alignment with Council's operational and corporate planning frameworks.	This will provide a clear, coordinated approach to advocating for community needs across all priority areas, resulting in stronger partnerships, increased funding success, and improved community outcomes.	Feb-26	Office of the CEO with Manager Comms & Engagement	Strategy endorsed by ELT and Council at January Council meeting Advocacy priorities identified and mapped to Scorecard priorities Number of submissions, meetings, and partnerships advanced annually Funding or policy wins aligned to Strategy (tracked annually)
SC24	Regional Impound Facility - Concept Plan	Increase capacity and update Cooktown impound facility to be able to be able to securely impound more animals across the region, taking them off the streets	Jun-26	Manager Biosecurity & Local Laws	Concept Plan drafted
SC25	Support QPS with delivery of Blue Lures Program	Engage with at-risk youth, strengthen community connections and promote positive, crime-prevention-focused engagement between police and young people through recreational fishing	Sep-25	Senior Tourism and Events Officer	Attendance at Event
SC26	Partner with local schools and youth services to deliver nature-based education and wellbeing programs at Cooktown Botanic Gardens, design to positively engage at risk youth, vulnerable families and school groups.	At-risk young people are supported through safe, inclusive, and culturally relevant programs that reduce antisocial behaviour, encourage positive choices, and connect participants with support networks — contributing to early intervention and stronger community safety outcomes.	Ongoing	Curator Botanic Garden	Ongoing Public Engagement program
SC27	Engage with at-risk youth by providing safe spaces to gather and a range of recreational activities, programs and support services for families.	Secure funding under the Youth Development Partnership Fund to employ a Sports and Recreation Officer for one year to inspire youth, lead change, shape the future and engage with at-risk youth.	Complete by October 2	Chief Operating Officer/Events Centre Manager	Employment of Sports and Recreation Officer

SC28	Renaming of duplicated street names and installation of street signs identifying property ranges on segmented, discontinuous streets	Reducing emergency response times by eliminating address confusion and ensuring first responders are dispatched to the correct location.	Dec-25	Governance Coordinator	
SC29	Support and promote annual National Crime Stopppers Day in August	Supporting National Crime Stoppers Day each year reinforces community involvement in crime prevention by promoting anonymous reporting and highlighting how even small pieces of information can help police solve or prevent crimes.	Annually	Manager, Communications & Engagement	Share supplied content across council channels

Health and Community Services

	Action	Outcome (how does it align with community priorities)	Timeline	Lead	Measure
SC1	Develop and implement a whole-of-Council Advocacy Strategy that reflects the five Scorecard priority areas, supports evidence-based advocacy for state and federal investment, and ensures alignment with Council's operational and corporate planning frameworks.	This will provide a clear, coordinated approach to advocating for community needs across all priority areas, resulting in stronger partnerships, increased funding success, and improved community outcomes.	Feb-26	Office of the CEO with Manager Comms & Engagement	Strategy endorsed by ELT and Council at January Council meeting Advocacy priorities identified and mapped to Scorecard priorities Number of submissions, meetings, and partnerships advanced annually Funding or policy wins aligned to Strategy (tracked annually)
SC30	Coen Healthy Dogs, Healthy Communities	The objective is to improve community health outcomes in Coen through the Healthy Dogs, Healthy Communities program by promoting responsible pet ownership, reducing dog-related health risks, and supporting safer, healthier neighbourhoods.	Jun-27	Compliance Officer	No. Animal treated No. impounds No. Registrations
SC31	Sport & Rec funding (Coen and Cooktown)	Encourages active lifestyles, fosters social inclusion, and supports mental and physical health outcomes		Manager, Regional Development	No. programs and events Community feedback
SC32	Maintaining public space for sport and recreation (pools, parks, libraries, Event Centre)	Supports the community's health and wellbeing by providing accessible opportunities for physical activity, social connection, and preventative health.	ongoing	Managers, B&F, P&G, BG, EC and C&L	
SC33	Collaborative campaign to promote Cooktown as a Career Destination for service workers (health, police, education)	Attract and retain more doctors, nurses, police, dentists and teachers to help address service gaps and delays.	Dec-26	Manager, Regional Development	Campaign roll out
SC34	Maintain and promote Cooktown Botanic Gardens and Gallop Botanic Reserve as inclusive, nature-based wellbeing spaces by providing accessible infrastructure, sensory landscaping, and programs that encourage connection, reflection, and emotional recovery.	Community members of all ages regularly use these spaces to reduce stress, improve emotional wellbeing, and connect with others and nature. The Gardens have become vital public assets supporting mental health, social inclusion, and resilience in the Cooktown community.	Ongoing	Curator Botanic Garden	
SC35	Establish fit-for-purpose Disaster Resilience Hubs in each community across the Shire, equipped with backup power, water, and satellite communications to support emergency response and recovery efforts.	Communities across the Shire are better prepared to respond to and recover from natural disasters, with local access to safe, functional hubs that strengthen disaster resilience, communication, and community confidence during emergency events.	Mar-27	Disaster Management Office	Hubs in Rossville, Ayton/Bloomfield, Laura and Coen finalised by March 2027

SC36	Deliver community events in Ayton, Laura, Rossville, Lakeland, Coen and Cooktown	Provides a safe space for the community to come together in a social setting and participate in no or low cost activities for all ages.	Ongoing	Tourism and Events team	Successful delivery of events in each community. Participation and feedback from community members
SC37	Rehabilitate and upgrade the Scenic Rim Hiking Trails at Gallop Botanic Reserve using Sport and Recreation Disaster Recovery Funding to deliver accessible, sustainable walking tracks and associated roadworks built to high safety and environmental standards.	The upgraded trail network provides safe, long-term access to natural spaces, encourages active outdoor recreation, and reduces future maintenance costs through proactive planning and durable construction—supporting health, wellbeing, and tourism benefits for the local community.	Jun-26	Curator Botanic Garden	Rehabilitation/upgrade complete June 26
SC38	Continue delivering diverse and accessible sports and recreational programs through the Cooktown Events Centre, Cooktown Swimming Pool, Coen facilities, and Cook Shire Libraries to support families and promote active lifestyles.	Families and individuals across the Shire have increased access to inclusive, affordable opportunities for physical activity, social connection, and wellbeing — contributing to healthier communities and stronger service support for families.	Ongoing	Manager, Events Centre	No. programs and events Community feedback