



REMOTE AREA PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT BOARD

STRATEGIC PLAN 2022 - 2025



Our Vision for 2025

A united organisation, with a powerful voice for our region and capacity to deliver initiatives that shape and create a prosperous future for the RAPAD region of Outback Queensland.

Our Mission

To support and empower the RAPAD region, its communities and people to realise their economic and social potential by:

- › Strengthening and promoting our regional narrative, identity, diversity and cooperative relationships.
- › Facilitating growth and diversification of our local economy, including encouraging innovation, entrepreneurship and enterprise.
- › Powerful advocacy to government and private investors to address service and infrastructure needs, including health and aged care services
- › Providing targeted education, training and development to address employment needs of the community.
- › Partnering with other levels of Government to deliver programs, projects and services.
- › Improving the delivery of local government services through resourceful and consultative partnerships and governance.

Acknowledgement

On behalf of the Board of RAPAD I would like to acknowledge the traditional owners of the lands of Central Western Queensland on which we operate. We pay respect to Elders past, present and future and value the traditions, cultures and aspirations of the First Australians of this land. We acknowledge and hold in great significance the valuable contribution that Traditional Owners have made and continue to make within the region communities. RAPAD will overlay the interests of our CWQ first nations people in the implementation of this strategic plan.

Key Priorities



A Economic Development

Increased Recognition of "Team Central West"

RAPAD will lead the marketing of the regional narrative of 'Team Central West' to achieve improved brand recognition from investment stakeholders.

Growth in Tourism

RAPAD will be a lead advocate for the CWQ tourism industry to support its sustainable growth and economic returns to the region.

Increased Profitability and New Opportunities for Rural Businesses

RAPAD will lead the support provided to traditional industries to increase business profitability and the identification of future agricultural opportunities.

Affordable Energy

RAPAD will lead regional efforts to secure affordable traditional and renewable energy supplies, including continuing to provide support for the proposed Barcaldine Renewable Energy Zone as a high priority.

Increased Investment Attraction

RAPAD will lead by marketing, attracting and seeking out great companies and people to bring new investments to our regional economy. RAPAD will continue to support the Blackall Wool Handling Facility.

Establish a Sustainable Resources Sector / Net Zero

RAPAD will both lead and support councils with the engagement, of the resources sector, and in net zero policy, with a view to maximising local jobs and economic benefit to our communities, while ensuring the resources sector has limited negative impacts on the regions natural environment.

Growth in arts and culture

RAPAD will be the lead advocate to government and industry groups on behalf of the CWQ arts and culture sectors to support growth in these sectors.

2032 Summer Olympics

RAPAD will be the lead advocate to support new investment and growth into our regional economy.



B Infrastructure and Built Environments

Improved Availability and Diversity of Quality Housing

RAPAD will lead in the delivery of improvements to the availability and diversity of quality housing stock, addressing a key barrier to growing the economic and social potential of the RAPAD Region. RAPAD will work in collaboration with Queensland Government and WQAC members to improve the availability, diversity and quality of housing in rural and remote Queensland.

Improvements to the Transport Network

Through participation in the Outback Regional Roads and Transport Group, RAPAD will continue to contribute to improving the transport infrastructure, ensuring the network is safe, accessible, affordable and integrated.

Improvements to Water Supply and Security

RAPAD will participate in the Outback Regional Water Alliance, contributing to improvements in security for agricultural, industrial and urban water sources. RAPAD will support Councils adopt innovative and collaborative urban waste water and water supply arrangements.



E Improving Local Government Services

RAPAD will lead collaboration and shared opportunities to improve the efficiency, effectiveness and financial sustainability of local government members and their services including being an active participant in the WQAC and a proactive partner with LGAQ.



C Innovation and Capability Development

Digitalisation of the RAPAD Region

RAPAD will lead in the development of our region as a technologically ready area of choice. RAPAD will continue to provide leadership through the Smart Central Western Queensland Strategy and advocate for the continuation of the Advanced Regional Innovation Program or similar.

Enhanced Innovation and Entrepreneurship

RAPAD will lead the provision of hard and soft infrastructure that fosters innovation, creativity and entrepreneurship across the RAPAD region.

Provision of Training and Development

RAPAD will lead the region's education, training and skills capability development to meet current and future employment needs and capacity to recognise and exploit economic opportunities. RAPAD Skilling will continue to be an important service delivered, as will RAPAD Employment Services Queensland and continuation of the Queensland Government's Regional Skills Investment Strategy or similar programs.



D Community Services and Environment

Enhanced Bio-security and Environment

RAPAD will enhance environmental outcomes and regional bio-security through supporting innovation and leading the collaboration with federal, state and local governments, key stakeholder groups and landowners.

A Preferred Retirement Destination

RAPAD will support the councils through advocacy and engagement with federal, state and commercial providers, enabling the RAPAD region to be a preferred retirement destination.

World Class Rural Health Services

RAPAD will advocate, and support councils to, ensuring health services in the RAPAD region reach world class standards for rural and regional communities.

Resilience

RAPAD will support councils to improve planning for disaster management and opportunities to improve the resilience of the community to the impact of disasters.



Flexible and Differing Roles of RAPAD

To achieve direct level of activity, RAPAD may undertake one of the following roles:

1

Leader - initiate, fund, drive, agitate, facilitate, implement and/or deliver.

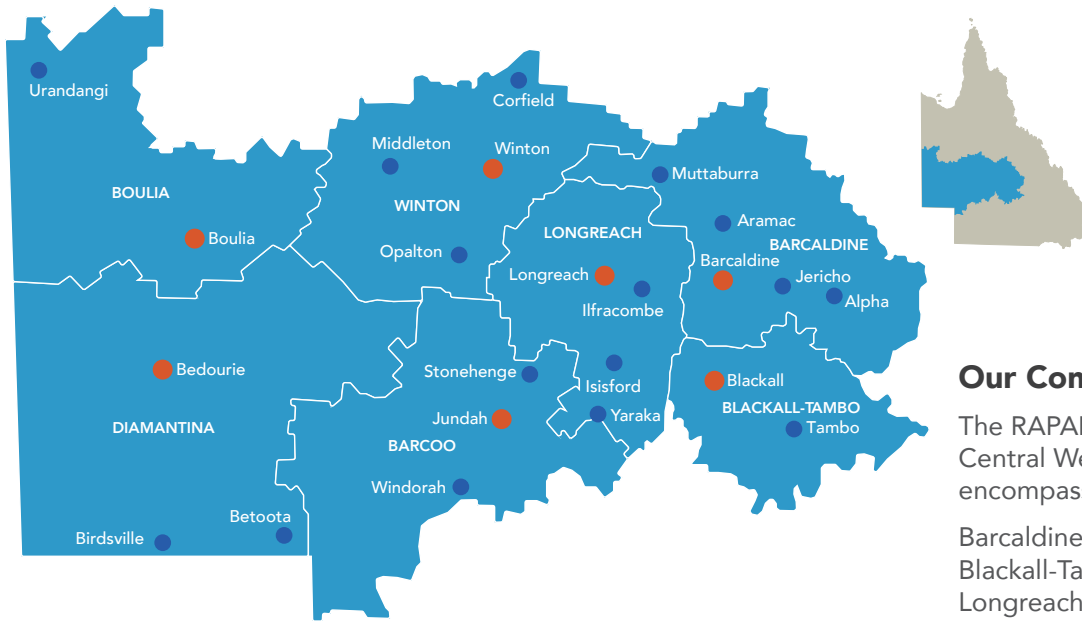
2

Supporter - advocate, promote, endorse, advocate and encourage.

3

Monitor - RAPAD will watch with interest and react if required.

ABOUT RAPAD



Our Communities

The RAPAD Region, which is Central Western Queensland, encompasses the council areas of:

Barcaldine, Barcoo, Boulia, Blackall-Tambo, Diamantina, Longreach, Winton.

Our History

RAPAD has a very proud history dating back to the formation of the company in 1992. Over the past thirty (30) years the organisation has developed a strong reputation across all levels of government and settings as a powerful voice for region and a trusted and reliable partner in delivery of programs, projects and initiatives.

Key to our successful history has been the collaborative leadership of the Board and Chief Executive Officer, strong and passionate advocacy for the region and the willingness of the Board to innovate and pursue opportunities to grow the capacity and effectiveness of the organisation.

Our Corporate Structure

RAPAD is a not-for-profit company with the participating Councils as members of the company. The company is governed by a Board of Directors, with each of the Council (members) eligible to nominate one representative as a Director of the company. The Board must govern and act in compliance with the Constitution for the organisation. Subsidiary companies are established by RAPAD to pursue major commercial initiatives. Currently RAPAD has one subsidiary company being RAPAD Employment Services Queensland Pty Ltd.

Our Reputation

RAPAD has developed a strongly shared reputation as being:

- The peak regional economic development body for the region,
- A highly credible and respected local government representative body with a powerful voice for all regional matters affecting the RAPAD Councils and their communities,
- An Australian Skills Quality Authority Registered Training Organisation through RAPAD Skilling,
- A professional, credible and proactive partner to federal, state and local governments, the Local Government Association of Queensland, and industry associations,
- A credible and respected organisation with capacity to deliver federal and state programs and grant funding,
- An entity capable of adapting to formal and informal partnering and collaboration arrangements that help RAPAD achieve its vision and mission.

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