

RAPAD Strategic Plan 2018 – 2020

*Proactively shaping and creating a prosperous future for
the RAPAD region of Outback Queensland*

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VISION

A united regional organisation, proactively shaping and creating a prosperous future for the RAPAD region of Outback Queensland.

MISSION

Through collaboration and innovation, support and empower the RAPAD region, its communities and people to realise their potential by:

Strengthening our regional narrative, identity, and diversity through exploring possibilities inclusively,

Developing leadership, skills and strategies to initiate, leverage and make the most of our regional communities capacities and assets,

Generating economic growth and resilience through digital innovation, entrepreneurship and enterprise,

Ensuring collaborative local government service delivery through resourceful and consultative partnerships and governance,

Realising good health and well-being through a world class rural and regional health and aged care system,

Strengthening links, local cooperative relationships and mutuality, with new thinking and working regionally,

Orienting and engaging local to global; creating new possibilities, pathways and partners.

REGIONAL PRIORITY AREAS

Technology
and the Digital
Economy

Infrastructure
and Services

Economic
Development

Health and Well
Being

Regional
Narrative

REGIONAL APPROACH

RAPAD has a regional mandate whereby its decision-making, strategies and actions are guided by seeking an outcome of multi-local government or regional benefit. That decision-making shall consider the economic, environmental, cultural and social factors impacting on the region.

ABOUT US - OUR COMMUNITIES, OUR STRUCTURE

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

Barcaldine

Boulia

Diamantina

Winton

Barcoo

Blackall-Tambo

Longreach

RAPAD will maintain structures to deliver its Vision, Mission and Regional Priority Areas.
RAPAD is:

The peak regional economic development body for the region.

A highly credible and respected local government representative body that proactively leads advocacy on all regional matters affecting its members 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 administration entity for federal and state programs and funding.

An entity capable of adapting to formal and informal partnering and collaboration arrangements that help RAPAD achieve its vision and mission.

RAPAD sets its priorities focused on innovation, creativity, consultation, collaboration and partnerships.

In actioning its priorities, RAPAD identifies the activity level best able to achieve the outcomes sought in the following Regional Priority Areas. These activity levels are detailed below.



Leader
initiate, drive,
facilitate, implement.



Supporter
facilitate, endorse,
encourage, promote.



Monitor
watch and react.

In setting these regional priority areas the RAPAD Board has drawn from extensive research and community consultation initiatives, which commenced in 2015, the most prominent of which are:

1. RAPAD Pathfinder Initiative undertaken by the Regional Australia Institute,
2. Smart Central Western Queensland: A Community Enabled Digital Plan & its associated Community Consultation Report,
3. Pathways to the Future – Synthesis report of community workshops & individual council reports, Professor John Cole OAM, USQ Institute for Resilient Regions,
4. Central West Regional Transport Plan – Stakeholder Workshop Report, Department of Transport and Main Roads,
5. Regional Strategic Financial Review & Workshop – Queensland Treasury Corporation.

REGIONAL PRIORITY AREAS

1. TECHNOLOGY AND THE DIGITAL ECONOMY

Outcome: The digitalisation of the RAPAD region to become a technologically ready region of choice, providing a rich and fulfilling life style and opportunities for business growth and success.

3. ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

3.1 TOURISM

Outcome: The RAPAD region's tourism industry grows and reaches its potential as a global destination.

3.2 AGRICULTURE

Outcome: Grow jobs and achieve improvement in profitability for rural businesses through supporting traditional industries and fostering future agricultural opportunities across the region.

3.3 ENERGY

Outcome: Secure affordable energy supplies particularly focusing on renewable energy opportunities that bring transformative benefit to the RAPAD region.

3.4 INNOVATION AND ENTREPRENEURSHIP

Outcome: Globally connected ecosystems; and provision of hard and soft infrastructure that fosters innovation, creativity and entrepreneurship across the RAPAD region.

2. INFRASTRUCTURE AND SERVICES

2.1 TRANSPORT

Outcome: A transport network that is safe, accessible, affordable and integrated providing regional connectivity and enhanced economic development contributing to the liveability of the region.

2.2 WATER

Outcome: Security for agricultural, industrial and urban water sources recognising the importance of protecting the river systems of the region, and the Great Artesian Basin; together with innovative and collaborative urban waste water and water supply arrangements, which enhance outcomes for local governments, economic development, and the sustainability and liveability of the region.

3.5 INVESTMENT ATTRACTION

Outcome: Actively seeking out and partnering with great companies and people who can make a real difference to our regional economy.

3.6 RESOURCES

Outcome: A resources sector which maximises local jobs and economic benefit to our communities; has limited negative impacts on the region's water and environment, and that all impacts are understood and managed through credible research and communicated through excellent community engagement.

2.3 BIO-SECURITY AND ENVIRONMENT

Outcome: Enhanced environmental outcomes and regional bio-security, through innovation and working collaboratively with federal, state and local governments, key stakeholder groups and landowners.

2.4 EDUCATION AND TRAINING

Outcome: That the region's education, training and skills capability develops to meet current and future needs recognising emerging economic, environmental and social change particularly in relation to disability services, tourism and the digital economy.

2.5 LEADERSHIP AND CAPACITY BUILDING

Outcome: Leading the region to capitalise on current assets and capabilities, to fundamentally transform its social, economic and professional potential.

4. HEALTH AND WELL BEING

4.1 AGED CARE

Outcome: Infrastructure and services that ensure the RAPAD region is a preferred retirement destination.

4.2 HEALTH SERVICES

Outcome: Health services in the RAPAD region that reach world class standards for rural and regional communities.

5. REGIONAL NARRATIVE

Outcome: A regional narrative of 'Team Central West' that embeds and demonstrates the region's vision, values, culture and history, its strengths, and potential; and capacity to attract and support new and expanded investment opportunities.