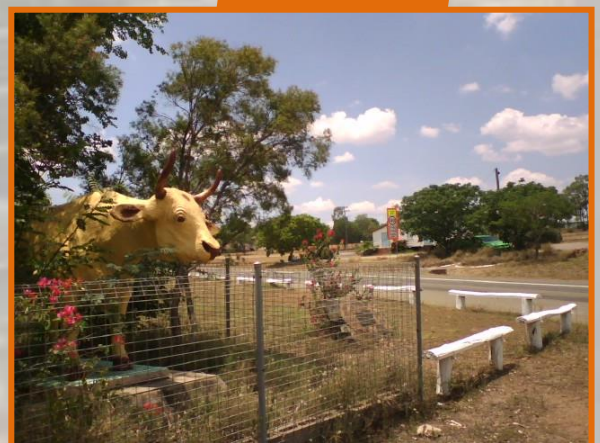




Banana & District 2017/2027 Place Based Plan



The Banana & District Place Based Plan is a controlled document.
 Please visit the Banana Shire Website at <http://www.banana.qld.gov.au/index.php/71>
 and ensure you have the latest copy prior to using or referencing the document.

AMENDMENT		DETAILS OF AMENDMENT	AMENDED BY
No.	Date		*Initials/Date
Draft 9	16/09/2011	Final Draft	
Final	23/11/2011	Endorsed by Council	PJC - 23/11/2011
Reviewed	30/04/2013	Phill Casey & Melinda Petty	
Draft	07/10/2013		PJC - 07/10/2013
Reviewed	26/10/2016	Phillip Casey	
Draft	27/10/2016		PJC – 27/10/2016
Final	24/05/2017	Endorsed by Council	

DISCLAIMER

The information that has been collected and entered into this document reflects the input from community members from Biloela and the Banana Shire. In adopting this plan the Banana Shire Council does not commit to completing all or any of the mentioned projects. It does however commit to working with the community and within its fiscal management systems to create sustainable communities of the future.

The following planning document was developed on behalf of the Banana Shire Council by Economic Development Services – Central Queensland.

© Banana Shire Council 2017

Contents

Introduction	4
PURPOSE	4
METHODOLOGY	4
STRUCTURE OF DOCUMENT	4
LOCATION	5
HISTORY	5
DESCRIPTION	5
EXECUTIVE SUMMARY OF KEY CENSUS RESULTS	5
Social Infrastructure	5
GOVERNMENT SERVICES	5
EDUCATION	5
COMMUNITY HEALTH & WELFARE SERVICES	5
THE ARTS	5
SPORT & RECREATION	5
RELIGION	5
SERVICE GROUPS	5
Achievements of Banana	6
RECOGNISED COMMUNITY ACHIEVEMENTS AND ASSETS	6
Future Directions	6
COMMUNITY IDENTITY & VISION	6
COMMUNITY PLAN	6
Tourism and Aesthetics	6
Water	6
Infrastructure and Facilities	6
Roads	7
School	7
Disaster Recovery	7
COMMUNITY PLANNING ENGAGEMENT AND FUTURE PLANNING	8
ACTION PLANS	9

Introduction

PURPOSE

This Place Based Plan is intended to help the community, elected representatives, service providers and government agencies better understand the diverse nature of the individual towns that make up the Banana Shire and the possible social, economic and environmental issues they may face now and in the future. Also, this plan aims to develop a long-term strategy for the growth and development of the Banana Shire. This growth and development will be considered in a wide range of areas that are mentioned in this document. These areas such as Arts, Sports and Youth are considered to be integral to the development of the shire and its occupants.

METHODOLOGY

The Banana Shire Council has identified that a “Place Based” Community Plan is required in each of the Shire’s twelve towns. This will allow us to develop a positive trend regarding population growth as well as fulfilling the potential of the individual community’s economic and social future.

From the development of the “Place Based” plans the Banana Shire Strategic Community Plan will be developed.

In summation, the consultation process will include:

- Gathering of and referral to available ABS statistics;
- Discussion of related issues and policy with Government Departments and key stakeholder representatives;
- Meetings with representatives from regional organisations that have economic development roles;
- Attendance at meetings, networking or speaking to local leaders and community groups;
- Research/referral to a variety of historical literature;
- Research/referral to a variety of regional strategic planning/consultancies currently in progress;

- Community Engagement processes with residents in the Shire;
- Related Internet Search.

STRUCTURE OF DOCUMENT

This document is structured into several discrete parts which are:

- Section 1 – This section provides a general introduction to the document
- Section 2 – Town Overview
- Section 3 – Social Profile
- Section 4 – Achievements of Banana
- Section 5 – Future Direction



LOCATION

The small rural township of Banana is located on the intersection of the Dawson and Leichhardt Highways 45kms west of Biloela, 150kms south of Rockhampton and 582kms northwest of Brisbane.

Please refer to the RACQ Trip Planner [http://www.racq.com.au/travel/Maps and Directions/trip_planner](http://www.racq.com.au/travel/Maps_and_Directions/trip_planner)

HISTORY

The town of Banana derives its name from the days when cattle were valuable for hides and tallow. Herds were wild and difficult to handle. Yards were few and small. Stockmen used working bullocks as decoys to lead the wild cattle to pens. One renowned decoy was a huge dun coloured bullock named 'Banana'. After Banana's death, his body was taken to a nearby gully that became known as 'Banana's Gully'.

When a town developed in the vicinity, it took the name of the gully and when the first Council sat there in 1880 the Shire was named after the town.

DESCRIPTION

Banana (one of twelve towns in the Shire) is located on the junction of the Dawson and Leichhardt Highways. Banana is a small historic town and the people are friendly and offer visitors and newcomers country hospitality.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY OF KEY CENSUS RESULTS

In the 2011 Census, there were 377 people in Banana and Environs of these 54.9% were male and 45.1% were female. Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people made up 6.9% of the population compared with 2.3% Indigenous persons in Australia.

Detailed census data is available via the ABS and Queensland State Government OSER.

www.abs.gov.au

www.oser.qld.gov.au

Social Infrastructure

Visit the following link and enter the town name for an up to date list and contact details of organisations and community groups. www.mycommunitydirectory.com.au/Queensland/Banana

GOVERNMENT SERVICES

The community of Banana is home to a collection of dedicated Government Services:

- Banana No.1 Rural Fire
- Banana No.2 Rural Fire
- Banana Shire Mobile Library Service

EDUCATION

The town of Banana hosts a small, close knit educational community:

- Banana State Primary School
- Banana State Primary School P&C Association

COMMUNITY HEALTH & WELFARE SERVICES

The Banana community's health and welfare requirements are delivered via Moura and Biloela.

To find contact details and addresses of available health services visit the following link: <http://www.nhsd.com.au/>

THE ARTS

The arts in Banana are represented by Banana Patch, a local sewing group.

SPORT & RECREATION

Sports and recreational activities in Banana are supported by:

- Banana Sports Committee Inc.
- Callide Dawson Model Aero Club

RELIGION

The spiritual needs of the Banana community are met by the local Uniting Church which regularly holds services.

SERVICE GROUPS

Banana is home to a dedicated group that focuses on supporting and serving the Banana community:

- Banana and District Community Association Inc
- Banana Playgroup

Achievements of Banana

RECOGNISED COMMUNITY ACHIEVEMENTS AND ASSETS

Assets

- Hotel/Motel/Caravan Park
- Junction for 3 highways
- School
- Sutherland Hall
- Sports Reserve
- Opportunity Park

Cultural & Heritage Assets

- Banana Bull & Park
- “Welda” Bull at School
- Historic marker, from which all distances in the Shire were derived, located in the main street near the Caravan Park.

Social Assets

- People working together

Future Directions

COMMUNITY IDENTITY & VISION

Vision for Banana

Banana is a residential community that supports the promotion of its town as an affordable and safe place to live, while providing services to the surrounding rural industries. Banana sees opportunities in attracting light industry to the town and residents identify with the opportunities to build on the heavy transport service sector and tourism.

Banana Community Identity

The Banana community is a small and safe place where people can enjoy their chosen lifestyle and where the community prides itself on its ability to work together for the greater good.

The area boasts a prime tourism location at the junction of 3 major highways as well as maintaining assets such as accommodation through the Hotel/Motel and Caravan Park.

The town is home to public assets such as the Sutherland Hall and the local Sports Reserve. Banana is also home to a Primary School.

COMMUNITY PLAN

Tourism and Aesthetics

Due to the location of Banana, tourism is an industry that has great potential for the community. It is suggested that various upgrades be undertaken to achieve this such as:

- Continue to upgrade the current Opportunity Park
- Improve the aesthetics of the town's entrances
- Showcase the history of the area
- Upgrade current caravan rest stop
- Create a free caravan camping area
- Add information on entrance sign into Banana regarding population, history and similar information
- Develop an historical site on the Shire's first survey marker
- Repair or replace the Banana Bull

These actions would improve the overall feel of the area for tourists which would assist in the promotion of Banana via word of mouth.

Water

As water is vital to the area investigation into the installation of town water to all areas of the township is needed.

Infrastructure and Facilities

To improve the infrastructure and services of the Banana area there are various steps that could be undertaken such as:

- Improve the condition of the local roads
- Bitumen, kerbing and channelling of local streets
- Develop current and install new footpaths and walkways
- Investigate and install waste oil collection point at the dump
- Repair and reopen local cemetery

- Develop an improved house numbering system in town. It is very confusing the way it is.
- Improve signage coming into town

Opportunity Park

- Maintain current toilets and add toilets to Opportunity Park with disability access
- Continue to develop Opportunity Park
- Invest in a Mobile Skate Park that can be used by the smaller communities

Sutherland Hall

- Facility upgrades including restumping and replacing the roof



Roads

The intersection of the Dawson & Leichhardt Highways in Banana is of concern to the community. The drainage for the intersection was not completed and is dangerous.

Speeding through town needs to be addressed with possible solutions being fixed speed cameras or higher police presence.

Other concerns and desired actions raised by the community regarding the use of local roads are:

- Investigate adding a larger 80k sign on the entrance from Moura

- Investigate the extension of the 60km zone and make the related sign bigger

School

The local Primary School in Banana is an important community asset. While being dependant on the population of Banana, and therefore local industry and facilities, the school also provides employment to locals.

One of the key focuses for the school is developing a greater connection with the community. Currently the local playgroup accesses the school's facilities. The school's planned development of a new playground would benefit both the school and the community.

Digital access to learning environments is a key factor in the school due to its remoteness. This results in a greater need for effective internet access.

Disaster Recovery

An evaluation of the strategic position of Banana needs to be carried out to ensure that Banana has the resources to assist travellers and residents to access emergency supplies, bedding etc.

Road closure signs need to be accessed by appropriately trained residents during emergencies.

COMMUNITY PLANNING ENGAGEMENT AND FUTURE PLANNING

The ongoing process of updating and ensuring that the community owns the community plan will be undertaken following the timeline below.

Planning Chart



ACTION PLANS

<i>Tourism</i>	Activity/ Task	Council's Role	Stakeholders
Work with Banana Shire Council to improve facilities and promotion to encourage tourism	Continue the design work on the Opportunity Park in consultation with the Banana Shire Council	Partner Provider	Banana and District Community Assoc Inc Banana Shire Council
	Investigate the setting up of a RV friendly area at the Race Course	Advocate	Banana and District Community Assoc Inc
	Showcase the history of the area	Advocate	Banana and District Community Assoc Inc
	Improve overall aesthetics of the town especially the entrances	Partner	Banana and District Community Assoc Inc Banana Shire Council
	Add Information to entrance sign into Banana regarding population, history and similar information	Provider Partner	Banana and District Community Assoc Inc Banana Shire Council

<i>Roads</i>	Activity/ Task	Council's Role	Stakeholders
Develop solutions that will prevent potential problems	Address traffic safety including speeding near school Consider the installation of a traffic camera and increased police presence	Advocate	Banana Shire Council TMR QPS
	Improve the drainage, foot path and safety rail at the main intersection	Advocate	Banana State School TMR
	Maintain the line marking in Charles Street (beside the Service Station)	Provider	Banana Shire Council
	Seal Banana streets	Provider	Banana Shire Council
	Redevelop the Baralaba Intersection	Advocate	Banana Shire Council
	Install flood signage on Barfield Road	Provider	Banana Shire Council

Population Attraction	Activity/ Task	Council's Role	Stakeholders
Work with local industries and business to build Banana's population	Work with Dawson Mine (Moura), Cockatoo Mine (Baralaba) and Real Estate business to consider Banana as a place to live	Advocate	Banana and District Community Assoc. Inc.

Infrastructure & Facilities	Activity/ Task	Council's Role	Stakeholders
Continue the development of appropriate infrastructure and facilities	Continue channelling and kerbing	Provider	Banana Shire Council
	Facilitate the increase of community aesthetics via increased mowing and slashing	Partner Provider	Banana and District Community Assoc Inc Banana Shire Council
	Investigate what is viewed as a priority by the people of the community and create partnerships with stakeholders to achieve identified outcomes	Advocate Partner	Banana and District Community Assoc Inc
	Continue the development of the Opportunity Park including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Extension of the current sealed carpark Installation of toilets with disability access 	Provider Partner Advocate	Banana and District Community Assoc Inc
	Waste oil collection point at dump	Provider	Banana Shire Council
	Develop an improved house numbering system in town	Provider	Banana Shire Council
	Develop disaster recovery plan and train locals where appropriate	Provider/Partner	Banana Shire Council & QRFS
	Place more rubbish bins within the main area of town for travellers	Provider	Banana Shire Council
	Provide town water to the rest of the town	Provider	Banana Shire Council

	Increase the size of the truck parking	Partner Provider	Banana Shire Council Business Owner
	Improve the drainage in town	Provider	Banana Shire Council
	Repair and reopen cemetery	Provider	Banana Shire Council
	Investigate wash down facilities	Provider	Banana Shire Council