



Pormpuraaw Aboriginal Shire Council Community Plan 2011- 2021

Adopted <Adoption date>



An introduction from the CEO

It is my pleasure to provide an introduction to Council's Community Plan.

The plan was prepared in conjunction with the residents and service providers of Pormpuraaw through a range of community engagement activities including focus groups, agency and individual meetings and a community BBQ.

The community plan is more than attending to a statutory requirement; it is a living document that represents the community's aspirations for Pormpuraaw in the long term.

The plan will be reviewed every four years during the term of the current Council to keep abreast of legislative changes and to changing expectations of the community.

This will be done by the community engagement process followed in the lead up to the current plan's preparation and also through consultation with Council's staff and outside government departments who are tasked with meeting the changes to the Local Government environment.

Monitoring of the plan will be done through formal assessments by Council and the CEO of the progress made on the objectives through the Corporate and operational plans every year.

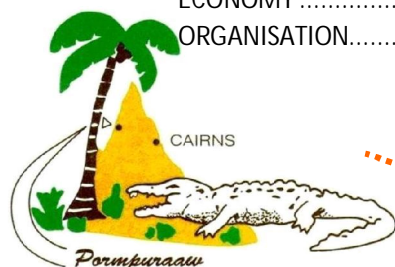
Council and myself encourage as many residents as possible, as well as the government and other external service providers who service Pormpuraaw, to read the plan. In this way we can all work together to achieve the outcomes laid out by our community.

Edward A Natera
Chief Executive Officer



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Our vision

What we are trying to achieve

A strong, engaged community creating a dynamic future.

Our mission

Why we are here

To meet the needs and aspirations of community members by delivering strong leadership together with strategic planning to construct new infrastructure that will deliver improved services and facilities.



Acknowledgements

The Pormpuraaw Aboriginal Shire Council would like to thank the Pormpuraaw community members and all other stakeholders for their contribution to this plan. Your input was highly valued in the development of the Pormpuraaw Long Term Community Plan. Thanks also to our consultants – Flanagan Consulting Group and Strategic Leisure Group for their assistance in drafting this plan.



Details of this plan

The Community plan summaries the expectations of how Pormpuraaw Local Government Area (LGA) should develop over the ten year period 1st July 2011 to 30th June 2021.

The Community Plan details the outcomes and the processes required to achieve the desired outcomes during this period and what Pormpuraaw will be like in 2021.

Preparation process

The Community Plan has been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the draft Local Government (Finance, Plans and Reporting) Regulation 2009. It is consistent with Council's adopted Engagement Policy.

The preparation process started with consultations with community stakeholders. Issues were identified by Council for community consultation. A series of public announcements were posted on Council's notice board in accordance with Pormpuraaw Aboriginal Shire Council's Community Engagement Policy.

Two of the workshops were held in August 2011, however due to changes in staff at Council a consultant was commissioned to finalise the plan. This resulted in some changes to the community consultation process. Consultants visited the community for one week holding meetings, meeting community members, conducting a community BBQ, meeting with service providers and Council staff and councillors. The workshops and meetings covered issues of women's issues, housing, health, justice, governance and environmental management.

The Community BBQ was held on 5 October 2011. This was attended by approximately 10 people, reflecting a very hot day, little time for advertising of the event and uncertainty of the project by Pormpuraaw residents. A number of service providers from with the community attended and it was a good opportunity to share a sandwich and listen to stories about the community in an informal setting. The issues raised at the BBQ and the proposals put forward are incorporated in this plan or handed onto relevant parties for further discussion or action (e.g. sport and recreation activities).

When the Draft Plan was publicly notified and members of the community invited to provide further input in writing or in discussion, to the Mayor, CEO or the consultant no submissions were received. Additionally, Council identified strategies required to implement the plan and the impact on its other long term plans.

The draft Plan was presented to Council for discussion in November 2011; then made available to the community for comment for 2 weeks in November 2011. Comments and amendments were incorporated in the Plan and Council adopted the Community Plan on <adoption date> .



Revision process

Any major review of the plan will only be done in consultation with the community and in accordance with Council's Community Engagement Policy. Minor reviews may be undertaken by Council without reference to the community.

This is a first generation document (no revisions to date). However, this does not mean that Council cannot prepare a new Community Plan to replace this one at any time by following the procedures in the Local Government Act.

The Council may prepare a new Community Plan to replace this one at any time by following the procedure in the Act.

Figure 1: Natural orchids in Pormpuraaw



Figure 2: Sunset on Pormpuraaw Beach



(Photos sourced from Pormpuraaw Council website)



Now and before... .

Pormpuraaw profile

Pormpuraaw is located on the west coast of Cape York, about 500km from the northern tip of Australia, approximately midway between Karumba and Weipa. The LGA is approximately 436,000ha, bordering Kowanyama to the South and Aurukun to the north. The township is situated between the Chapman River (2km to the south) and Mungkun Creek (6km to the north). The community supports 16 Outstations within the LGA.

The settlement at Pormpuraaw (52ha) (previously known as Edward River) was established in 1938 by the Church of England. In 1968 the Department of Community Services and Ethnic Affairs assumed responsibility for management of the settlement. In 1987 perpetual title to Reserve land previously set aside for Aboriginal use was handed over to Pormpuraaw Aboriginal Community Council under the Queensland Government's Deed of Grant of Land in Trust Legislation.

Figure 3 – Site plan of Pormpuraaw



Pormpuraaw Township consists of two neighbourhoods known locally as Mungkan side and Thaayorre side. They are separated by schools, shops, administrative buildings and a number of 'staff' houses. The neighbourhoods originated with the mission settlement and reflect traditional linguistic and territorial affiliations. The majority of residents on Mungkan side (originate from) along, or north, of the Edward River. The Thaayorre side accommodates speakers of Thaayorre, Yir Yoront and other dialects that lie along, or south of, the Edward River.

The neighbourhoods of Pormpuraaw broadly reproduce the geographic distribution of clan estates. The administrative area which separates the two halves is the equivalent of the Edward River which broadly divides the Wik speaking clans from those to the south.

Figure 4 – Looking east to west across the town



(Photos sourced from Pormpuraaw Council website)



Now and before... .

A snapshot of Pormpuraaw

The Queensland Regional Profile for the Pormpuraaw Shire, developed by the Office of Economic and Statistical Research, identifies a population of 698 people in Pormpuraaw as at 30 June 2010.

The Australian Bureau of Statistics 2006 census data identifies that 71.3% of the Pormpuraaw population are indigenous people.

Table 1: Data from the Office of Economic and Statistical Research, Queensland Regional Profile for Pormpuraaw, generated 1 September 2011.

| Description | People | Description | People |
|------------------------------|--------|---------------------------------------|--------|
| Total Persons (2010) | 698 | Dwellings total (2006) | 142 |
| 0-14 | 267 | Businesses by Industry (2008-09) | |
| 15-24 | 68 | Agriculture, Forestry and Fishing | 3 |
| 25-44 | 220 | Construction | 3 |
| 45-64 | 111 | Accommodation and Food Services | 1 |
| 65+ | 32 | Administrative and Support Services | 0 |
| Indigenous population (2006) | | Business by Employment Size (2008-09) | |
| Aboriginal | 498 | Small | 6 |
| Torres Strait Islander | 11 | Medium | 0 |
| Both | 27 | Large | 0 |



Pormpuraaw Aboriginal Shire Council

| Description | People | Description | People |
|---------------------------------|--------|--|--------|
| Family Composition (2006) | | Internet Connection (2006) | |
| Couple family with no children | 30 | No internet connection | 126 |
| Couple family with children | 56 | Broadband | 6 |
| One-parent family | 37 | Dial-up | 8 |
| Employment by occupation (2006) | | Level of Education (2006) | |
| Managers and Professionals | 26 | Did not go to school, or Year 8 or below | 162 |
| Technicians and Trades | 31 | Year 9 or 10 or equivalent | 181 |
| Community and Personal Services | 40 | Year 11 or 12 or equivalent | 85 |
| Clerical and Administration | 17 | Certificate | 48 |
| Sales | 10 | Advanced diploma or diploma | 13 |
| Machinery operators and drivers | 13 | Bachelor degree or higher | 9 |
| Labourers | 113 | | |

Table 2: Pormpuraaw population projections . Data from the Office of Economic and Statistical Research, Queensland Regional Profile for Pormpuraaw, generated 1 September 2011.

| Year | 2011 | 2016 | 2021 |
|----------------------------|------|------|------|
| Population | 691 | 737 | 778 |
| Average annual growth rate | 1.6% | | |
| Current number of houses | 142 | | |
| Proposed New houses | 40 | | |



Echoes from the future... .

Our vision and objectives

In 2021, Pormpuraaw will be characterised by:

- A **population** of about 800 residents
- Preserving and strengthening traditional **values and cultures**
- Respect and care for the **environment and country**
- A focus on continuing **education** for young and old
- Maintaining adequate **social support** networks and services
- Nurturing a **harmonious community** environment
- A community rid of harmful **social temptations**
- Fostering the existence of a **healthy, thriving and supportive** community
- A viable and **productive** place
- A community that **appreciates and rewards** contribution
- Higher levels of **training, employment and business opportunities** for individuals and families
- Approximately 210 good quality, well maintained, **houses** and surrounds, with responsible tenancies
- A **caring community**, particularly caring for the elderly and young people



In our hearts... .

The Issues to be considered

Issues considered are as headed below. They are the ones considered most important by Council and the community and have a material impact and effect upon Council and its operations.

The issues cover the major matters of concern to the community and matters impacting particularly on Council's operations. Not all issues are Council's responsibility, some are governed by State and Commonwealth programs and some will be achieved directly by actions of the community.

Figure 5 – Generations together: Celia Peter finishes the lid for her Ghost Net basket



(Photo provided by Pormpuraaw Arts, Culture and Language Centre)



The way we want to live.....

Community

Community is about Pormpuraaw working on shared beliefs, values, customs, behaviours, diversity and social infrastructure. There is a strong desire to turn Pormpuraaw into a strong and supportive town with cultural, sporting, art and craft activities for all to participate in regularly. Consultation identified that the community as a whole should work together to develop and maintain a strong community spirit.

While there are two traditional and distinct clan groups in Pormpuraaw they live and work together strongly for the good of the whole. Health care and aged care need to be addressed and existing facilities upgraded to cope with increased ageing of the population and population growth.

"All community members should play a role."

Figure 6 – Welcome sign at Pormpuraaw Airport

(Photo provided by Pormpuraaw Arts and Cultural Centre)



MEN'S ISSUES

Porpuraaw is a patriarchal society where men's influence prevails. Wellbeing, security, education, employment and training and activities for the male population are ongoing matters to be addressed. Due to a number of factors over recent generations, low educational standards, high unemployment and a lack of activities in the area has resulted in an increase in men with lots of time on their hands and social issues related to alcohol and gambling. While these issues do not only apply to men in the community, they have significant effect on how they relate to their families and each other and role models they provide.

DESIRED OUTCOMES

- Men gainfully engaged in activities that add value to themselves, their families and the community.
- Men across the community are good role models for children and youth through good examples of empowering themselves and others.
- Problematic issues are identified and rectified within the community with minimal disruption to daily life.
- Families lead healthier lifestyles, address debilitating addictions with a stronger sense of purpose and are self-regulating.
- Cultural knowledge and traditional practices are nurtured within the clan groups and actively passed onto the current and next generations.

1. Increase education, training, employment and/or activities for men to participate in.
2. Continue support for the hard work being expended in assisting men and their families to participate in a variety of programs across the community.
3. Ongoing work, support and advocating for programs of education, training and rehabilitation to eradicate problems of gambling, drinking, drugs and associated domestic issues
4. Planning and implementation of sports, arts and cultural activities specifically for men



WOMEN'S ISSUES

The female population have an important role to play in the community. Females in their middle years are grandmothers and are a source of family bonding. The extended family structure means that more often than not young teenage mothers have a support network within the family. The elderly are a rich source of customary knowledge and role example. Younger girls in and approaching their teenage years are susceptible to teenage pregnancies which may be preventable with more guidance and support from role models such as close family members.

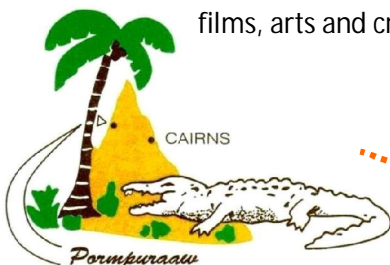
"I feel my children need strong people around them to encourage them, to know they can achieve anything when they put their mind to things."

The last census in 2006 identified 289 females in the community. 10% between 1-4 years, 31% 5-24 years, 55% 25-64 years and 3% over 65 years.

- To be self-sufficient in support services
- To lead healthier lifestyles
- To be free of addictions
- To retain cultural knowledge

STEPS TO ACHIEVE THIS

1. Increase infrastructure to accommodate support workers
2. Increase housing for families
3. Retail outlets to increase range of nutritional food
4. Increase the availability of sporting and recreational activities
5. Program of education and rehabilitation to eradicate problems of gambling, drinking, drugs and petrol sniffing
6. Art Centre and school to lead programs of cultural heritage history and preservation
7. More cultural public activities, e.g. dancing, cultural displays, language and locally produced films, arts and crafts.



HEALTH AND AGED CARE

The community is serviced by a health clinic (administered by Queensland Health in Weipa). It is open 5 days per week and on weekends for emergencies. The Royal Flying Doctor Service (RFDS) provides doctors and trained nurses during the week supported by local health care staff. Emergency cases use the RFDS fly in/fly out service on a regular basis. Specialists like dentists, optometrists and nutritionists visit regularly. There is no maternity facility in Pormpuraaw and expectant mothers travel to Cairns for pre-natal care and for the birth. Health services are provided by Queensland Health and Apunipima Cape York Health Council.

As with other indigenous communities the standard of health in Pormpuraaw is well below that of mainstream communities. There is widespread diabetes and alcohol related issues. Domestic violence, sly grog, petrol sniffing have been issues in the community over a number of years with differing opinions about whether these are reducing or not.

There is little physical exercise taken. The climate may be one factor, however there exists no overall leadership or coordination of activities occurring in the town. Small groups or individuals are trying to improve this however without ongoing, consistent delivery from PCYC, Council and local groups like Pormpur Paanth, the Pormpuraaw United Brothers Sport Club, the two local stores - in partnership - these activities will not endure. Education and awareness of health outcomes could undoubtedly be improved with living skills needed by many in order to provide better role models for healthy living.

Consultation highlighted that the availability of a good range of reasonably priced food in the local supermarket is also a limiting factor to improving healthy lifestyles in the community. Alcohol, gambling and drug related behaviour problems are also an issue.

Council provides services to the aged and infirmed through its Homestead and Community Care Program funded by the State and Federal Government. Pastoral care, meals on wheels and wellbeing services are also provided to approximately 90 clients. A live in aged care facility is not yet available.



- There is a trend towards better health in the community evidenced by improved services and health statistics and increased level of participation in the community.
- Health services are maintained and improved through more regular visitation from a variety of service providers or the provision on permanent services in the community.
- Aged persons in the community are provided a good standard of care with a residential care facility planned and built.
- There are adequate and available support services for staff and service providers in the community to ensure that moving to Pormpuraaw is viable and workable for individuals and families.

STEPS TO ACHIEVE THIS

1. Council to continue to lobby Qld Health for improved services.
2. Establish a broad community approach to the provision of sport, cultural and art activities for the community, including staff of agencies that work a variety of hours.
3. Improvement to services through the following:
 - Increase the amount of staff housing in Pormpuraaw to assist in attracting staff to the health care system, including housing suitable for families.
 - Provide full day child care facilities (currently only half days and only on weekdays).
 - Increase in doctor and dental visits complemented by a wider range of specialist services.
 - Better HACC services and an aged care facility.
4. Improvements to health are achieved through:
 - Programs promoting active and healthy lifestyles.
 - Active sports and recreation participation.
5. Adopt and Implement the Sport and Recreation Plan currently being prepared.
6. Investigate the feasibility of a community swimming pool and kids play (wet) area.



SPORT, CULTURAL AND ART PARTICIPATION

Consultation within the community revealed that Pormpuraaw contains sport, cultural and arts facilities, however for a variety of reasons these are very underutilised by the community. The main issue appears to be the lack of leadership and support for formal positions within the community to coordinate a sport and recreation program in a consistent, well resourced, supported way. Agencies involved in the provision of activities include Council, PCYC, Pormpur Paanth, the Pormpuraaw United Brothers Sports Club and the school. Staffing issues, the level of skills and experience, resources, agency support and community apathy have all played a part in the current situation.

Pormpuraaw has a large multi-sport indoor stadium, a school football ground and covered basketball stadium, a couple of undeveloped parks and Central Park. Issues exist with each of these, however there is the opportunity to plan for active and passive activities in the Sport and Recreation Plan currently being prepared.

DESIRED OUTCOME

- A coordinated sport and recreation service based on strong partnerships and cooperation across the community.
- Investment in skills, facilities and spaces and programs that are required to deliver meaningful sport and recreation opportunities to all sections of the community.
- Pormpuraaw will become an active and healthy community with widespread community involvement in sport and recreation.

STEPS TO ACHIEVE THIS

1. Adopt and implement the Sport and Recreation Plan currently being prepared to activate the community and recognise this area for its broader benefits in health and wellbeing.
2. Develop a Sport and Recreation Policy for Council, clearly stating Council's role in sport and recreation and how this fits in with other roles in the community.
3. Identification of partnerships within and external to the community needed to deliver sport, recreation, art and cultural activities for the community.
4. Invest in current and future infrastructure, resources, parks and reserves.
5. Investigation of possible locations and/or redevelopment of the Art, Culture and Language Centre to create a large, improved facility to include workshop areas, gallery, film production and historic record keeping.



JUSTICE

Pormpuraaw has a Justice Centre where mediation, counselling and sentencing takes place. The Pormpuraaw Community Justice Group's role is to monitor the treatment of offenders, make recommendations to the court about appropriate sentencing, and to encourage measures to reduce crime in the community. Magistrates' visit each month to hear cases submitted by the Local Police.

"Let's walk together side by side to achieve what is best for our community."

The community reaches out to troubled individuals through the Pormpuraaw Justice Group. Troubled youths involved in misdemeanours are mentored to find a pathway in keeping them out of the criminal justice system. Substance and alcohol abuse are most common and efforts are underway to deal with this problem.

The Council is concerned about the level of crime (mainly drug and alcohol fuelled) in the community, particularly where it impacts Council property.

Alcohol control in the community is by the imposition of an Alcohol Management Plan. Pormpuraaw has an incorporated club (Pormpuraaw United Brothers Sport Club) where strict admittance and a ticketing system operate to moderate the intake of alcohol. No 'take-aways' are permitted and only mid strength drinks are sold. Sly grog (bought in from outside the community) still occurs however the opening of the club has decreased this.

Alcohol is known to increase the amount of crime (particularly domestic violence and alcohol related admittance to the health centre) and also increases health risks and creates dependency. It also impacts on employability and the functioning of family units. The existence of the club has seen less drinking at home, less parties and a more settled home life for many children due to adequate sleep.

The consumption of excessive quantities of alcohol and drugs may, in part, result from the limited opportunities for legitimate entertainment in the community. This particularly affects young people.



- Alcohol consumption, dependency is reduced.
- Level of alcohol related crime is reduced, particularly relating to domestic violence and family related matters.
- The Justice Group plays a stronger role in resolving local domestic disputes.
- Diversionary activities are implemented to give residents alternatives and options (e.g. educational opportunities, entertainment, sport, community based counselling, etc.).
- Youth are mentored against anti-social behaviour and role models show them good community values.

STEPS TO ACHIEVE THIS

1. Adopt and implement the Sport and Recreation Plan to address the lack of sport, cultural and arts activities in the Community.
2. Implement the recommendations of the Sport and Recreation Plan over the life of the Plan, including activities for all segments of the community – men, women, youth, aged.
3. Regular meetings of Justice Group and community leaders to discuss and implement ways for the community to be more self-regulating and resilient to anti-social behaviour.
4. Introduce a program of educating parents so they can be role models for their children and behave accordingly.
5. Adopt appropriate Local Laws.



Shaping our surroundings... .

Built environment

To plan for the future development of the Community in ways which actively value the culture and the character of our community and provide access for all.

HOUSING

Pormpuraaw is characterised by flat topography, sandy soils, significant flood prone areas surrounding the community and the two clan group neighbourhoods in the township, the central Park area in the middle and sites of cultural and/or heritage significance which require identification at any proposed development site;

Overcrowding in social housing is prevalent in Pormpuraaw. Council is taking steps to address this with 'plug-ins' (portable accommodation units comprising on bedroom, lounge room and bathroom) having already been placed at the rear of existing premises to accommodate family members. New housing lots in non-flood prone areas and new roads to service 37 new lots have been identified. Funding is coming from the Department of Communities (Program Office). It is planned that 10 new dwellings will be constructed per year to ease demand with four of those being built in 2011/2012. The community will have input into the style, building type, layout and the specification of all new social housing. All new social housing will be offered on a 40 year lease.

Currently the State Government pays for the construction and maintenance of the houses which are managed by Council. They are introducing a new process for managing the houses. This appears to result in the community having a reduced say in the management and allocation of the houses, a significant increase in rents, and a reduced size of the housing made available. The proposed system may not recognise traditional family land occupation and other traditional rights. The proposed State Government allocation method aims to be more structured and transparent.

Figure 7 – One example of new Housing in Pormpuraaw



DESIRED OUTCOMES

- Enough houses should be provided to house the anticipated population of 800 without overcrowding.
- Provision of suitable housing for families with adequate amenities to allow them to live in peace and harmony with each other and to contribute to the social cohesion of the local community.
- Families are given an opportunity through the 40 year lease program to have control and security over their accommodation, to take responsibility for their standard of living and aspirations.
- The town is kept clean and tidy, both public and private lands.
- The needs of families should be recognised in determining house size and allocation.

STEPS TO ACHIEVE THIS

1. The Social Housing Program is to provide 40 new dwellings in Pormpuraaw over the next 10 years, commencing 2011/2012.
2. The houses are provided as an absolute priority to existing community members (including people with a historic association with the community and relatives of existing members).
3. The specific needs of families are recognised in determining house size and allocation. A mix of houses, duplexes, flats, multi-bedroom homes and single bedroom 'plug-in' types of dwelling units for grandparents, singles or couples.
4. Family requirements are to be identified and lease documents prepared in conjunction with the building schedule.
5. The new Planning Scheme is to provide for required new housing and associated infrastructure.



It begins with each of us... .

Natural environment

To ensure that the natural environment is protected in a way that it is not compromised for future generations and that it is managed so as to minimise our impacts on non-renewable resources.

ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT

Pormpuraaw has a dedicated Land and Sea Management operation (PL&SM), re-established in May 2006 after a period of dormancy. This and Pormpuraaw's Traditional Owner Ranger program is a community priority. Major areas of focus are fire management, declared weeds and feral animals, including crocodile management, fisheries management, important plants and animals (biodiversity) including rare and endangered birds, protection of cultural sites and delivery of cultural knowledge, marine debris removal, tourism and visitor management, ranger training. The overall aim is to maintain or improve the sustainability of the natural environment (in relation to activities that constitute community life within changing settlement patterns, natural resources and the landscape, infrastructure and services).

Pormpuraaw includes a significant area which is in its original natural state. This environment needs to be carefully managed by the Council, Pormpuraaw Land & Sea Management (PL & SM), traditional owners and the wider community working in partnership to avoid its destruction by a range of threats including pests and weeds, feral animals, tourist activity, natural disasters, industrial and commercial activities. In 2010 the *"Ngamp inth Wantharr Yumpnhan"* Cultural & Natural Resource Management 2010-2015 was prepared and adopted. It clearly sets out a package of objectives, strategies and actions that are actively being pursued by Rangers and community.

In Pormpuraaw township there are also issues with the cleanliness and tidiness of the town and animals wondering the streets. Consultation revealed an ongoing need to monitor the health of some dogs in town with a number of people seeking a community solution to this problem. Visitor management in relation to shooting and hunting of pastoral animals is also a current concern.



- PL & SM Ranger service and Traditional Owner Ranger program is continuing to be funded and expanded to enable implementation of the Cultural & Natural Resource Management Plan 2010 – 2015; a young rangers programs and getting women involved in bushland management with their knowledge is invaluable.
- The actions of the Natural Resource Management Plan are implemented and the plan is reviewed in 2015.
- Appropriate Local Laws adopted, implemented and regularly reviewed by Council to ensure they remain appropriate and relevant over time.
- The community actively participate in activities related to protecting their environment, improving the healthiness of the town and surrounds.
- The community takes responsibility for the health and wellbeing of their domestic pets.

STEPS TO ACHIEVE THIS

1. Continue to seek and manage funding for environment.
2. Implement and maintain the Natural Resource Management Plan.
3. Conduct survey of Pormpuraaw residents to ascertain community views on appropriate control measures for feral animals.
4. Introduce relevant local laws.
5. Consider methods of controlling horses and dogs in town.
6. Consider short and longer term methods of improving the health of dogs in the community.
7. Education program to achieve tidiness and cleanliness of the town, both public and private lands.
8. Work with stakeholders on Land and Sea issues.
9. Review current visitor management.



Figure 8 – Pompuraaw natural environment

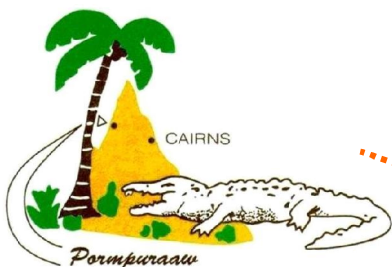


(Photos sourced from Pompuraaw Council website)

Figure 9 – Crocodiles at Edward River Croc Farm



(Photos sourced from Pompuraaw Council website)



Creating our future... .

Economic development and business

To facilitate a local economy that focuses on Pormpuraaw's capacity to generate employment and wealth for social and personal wellbeing.

TRAINING AND EMPLOYMENT

The community depends on an inflow of funds from outside. In part this arises from grants made to the Council or to other community bodies and in part from Centrelink and CDEP payments made to residents. If businesses that generate income from outside the community can be established and developed they will improve the community economy and enable additional services to be made available. They will also provide employment for members of the community and may directly make additional facilities available.

The community wishes to maintain its cultural identity and to avoid the negative impact some businesses could have. Business development which is sympathetic to the culture and environment is therefore preferred.

The Pormpuraaw community identified the need for improved education at all levels, development of local businesses and an increased number of long term employment opportunities.

- New businesses are established and/or developed in Pormpuraaw which generate a substantial inflow of funds to the community.
- Training and employment opportunities for residents are increased.
- New enterprises do not detract from the lifestyle or impact adversely on the environment.
- Proposed possible businesses include: laundromat, DVD store, Indigenous fishing tours, bird watching, crocodile tours, expanded art, culture and language centre, food production, lease contractors' dongas and commercial accommodation.



1. Meet with potential business owners and/or operators in the community to discuss how to make some options happen in partnership.
2. Develop concepts, locations and business plans for suitable new businesses.
3. Develop or encourage businesses under Council control or with appropriate people.
4. Develop eco-tourism options.
5. Monitor the impact of current and proposed mining operations in the region and how these may advantage the community in the longer term.

Figure 10 – Indigenous Rangers working with Land and Sea Management carrying out fencing activities



(Photo sourced from Pormpuraaw Council)

EDUCATION

The Pormpuraaw State School has grades from prep to year seven. High school grades are provided by way of boarding schools in Herberton, Townsville and Ingham. Some teenagers are slipping through the education system where they expelled from one boarding school and not able to enrol into another as their fees are not transferable. Returning to the community these youths are not attaining basic numeracy and literacy levels thereby significantly reducing their ability to undertake training and employment for mainstream jobs. Additional support is needed to enable some children to maintain the pace of school and the culture of living away from home together with expanded locally-based education and training for those returning to the community.

Computer skills across the community are often poor limiting residents capacity to interact with the global world and use this facility to expand their world, skills and learning at all ages. There is a distinct fear of computers and technology due to little exposure and understanding of them. State Libraries and Jobfind, through the Community Development Employment Projects (CDEP) program are conducting programs and training to address this, however attendance rates are generally low.

Adult training and education is provided to some degree through the CDEP program. Consultation revealed training programs targeted at rural activities, literacy, horticulture (community garden, bush tucker, fencing, construction, landscaping) are currently being provided.

Child care is currently provided through the services of Pormpur Paanth. However this is not a full day service, operating only in the mornings, Monday to Friday. Child care for service provider staff (e.g. health care and those working full time) is very difficult and consultation revealed this is a major deterrent to taking up employment in the town. Additional provision for the care and schooling of pre-school children is also needed to ensure they achieve learning readiness for school and to enable the parents to take up employment opportunities.

Cultural and traditional learning in the community was being addressed through the school with elders and parents of students participating in programs with teachers and the younger children. This needs to continue in Pormpuraaw and may be available through work on language DVD's currently being undertaken.

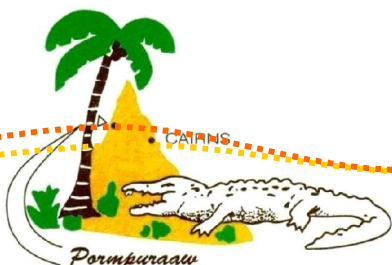
Education in traditional hunting and gathering should also be encouraged through holiday camps and activities for the community, not only the children but for younger adults. The opportunity for such learning is being developed through the bush garden project and the Pormpuraaw Art, Culture and Language Centre.



- Education and learning are valued by the community for the benefits they provide for current and future generations of Pormpuraaw.
- Education is not seen as a threat to the older generation as younger people want to know more about life outside of Pormpuraaw.
- Establish an Early Learning Centre for pre-school aged children.
- For school aged children: make tutoring available, higher participation rates in high school and higher take-up available bursaries.
- For adults: higher basic numeracy/literacy, community based activities that involve learning like arts and crafts, cooking of food from the community garden and fresh food from the store and improved parenting skills.

1. Build and open early learning centre.
2. Men's and Women's groups and P&C to advocate and coordinate improvements.
3. TAFE to establish appropriate adult training courses.
4. Promote available bursary opportunities for children.
5. Create a larger arts, culture and language centre for the community where more residents can learn and express their artistic skills, display and sell items to locals and visitors.

Figure 11 – Community Bush Garden – CDEP program – involving residents in various training programs, school children and living skills education for locals



Taking responsibility...

Organisation

To strengthen the capacity of Council and its people to serve and contribute to the needs of the community, and to pursue positive outcomes in partnership with community, business and government bodies.

"Leaders and the community should come together, get things sorted and make things happen as it is the next generation we should be thinking about."

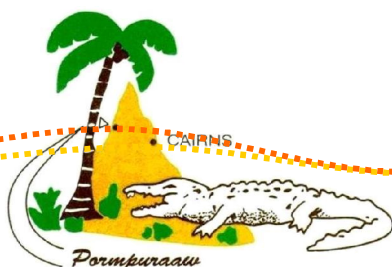
GOVERNANCE

Council is working to improve its capacity to deliver accountable, effective, efficient and sustainable services to the community. Consultation identified that the key issues in Governance are communication, partnerships and empowerment of the community as a whole and vice versa. A lack of funding, reducing debt and a lack of qualified staff to adequately resource the Council are ongoing issues to be resolved by Council over the life of this plan.

The Council is the elected body that is responsible for the good rule and government of the Pormpuraaw Local Government Area (LGA). There are five Councillors and the Mayor, elected in 2008. The next election is March 2012. As well as the individual rights of members of the community, the traditional owners of the land covered by the LGA also have an interest. These groups work together to ensure the area is properly governed and managed and to provide an appropriate and sustainable environment for the community.

The community of Pormpuraaw is a community with a small population; there is a lack of employment opportunity, high unemployment level and low incomes. The Council, in exercising the government of the area has to take into account the special needs and cultural issues affecting the community. It also needs to obtain appropriate funding from outside the community as the community itself is not able to provide for all its needs.

Community buy-in is essential to creating the partnerships that will benefit Pormpuraaw in the long term. Community meetings comprising Council, service providers and the community will be an avenue to work together for everyone's mutual benefit.



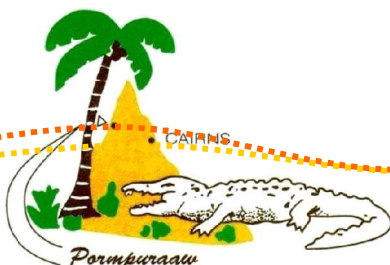
- Strengthening the capacity of Council and its people to serve and contribute to the needs of the community by being:
 - Proactive in achieving benefits for and on behalf of the community.
 - Open, accountable and consultative with all family groups, other residents and service providers.
 - Financially and practically sustainable.
 - A strong advocate for the community in pursuing opportunities for partnerships and funding to benefit the community.

STEPS TO ACHIEVE THIS

1. Recruit new staff to vacant Council positions, especially management level staff.
2. Regular meetings in the community to table matters and work towards cooperative solutions.
3. Investigate and implement methods of engaging with the residents of the community to build their capacity to participate in community life for their own benefit.
4. Regular newsletter to the community.
5. Effectively plan and monitor performance.
6. Develop and meet financial targets.
7. Implement and review our local laws to ensure they are effective and relevant for the community.



Figure 12 – Pormpuraaw Council Building near Central Park



ASSETS AND INFRASTRUCTURE

Assets and Infrastructure includes the physical infrastructure provided by Council such as roads, stormwater drainage, waste sites, recreation facilities, buildings (including but limited to Administration building, Works Depot, Community Hall, Post Office, Library, staff houses, Guest houses, BRACS, SES), parks and various community facilities throughout the community. Consultation identified that the priority areas are around housing, roads, security, system and facility upgrades, sport and recreation facilities (from playgrounds to organised sport facilities). Resourcing of service provision, skills of staff and a review of operations is needed to improve the local community's ability to maintain and upgrade its own assets and infrastructure.

Council has a suite of statutory reporting and monitoring documents that it is required to prepare and these documents are subject to audit. These include: Council's Annual Operation Plan, Long term Financial Plan, Community Plan and Annual Financial Statements.

- Adoption of an Asset Management Strategy which provides a complete picture of Council's and the community's assets.
- Good financial planning for the community which incorporates the costs of assets over their lifetime, current and future.
- An increase in the amount of staff housing available in the community in order to attract staff to Council and various service providers, taking into account the specific needs of those staff.
- Improved security of Council Works Depot and materials to reduce costs associated with criminal activities and loss of equipment.
- The town is well serviced with reliable and sufficient infrastructure to cater for its needs in wet and dry seasons.



1. Adopt and implement the Pormpuraaw Planning Scheme, currently being prepared.
2. Undertake and Skills Audit of Council operations to prepare a plan for future training and employment of staff.
3. Paving of the remainder of the township streets.
4. Seek grant funding from State government for any necessary upgrade and provision of infrastructure systems in the town.
5. Upgrade and extend the rubbish tip.

Figure 13 – Paved roads within Pormpuraaw township



REVENUE RAISING

Council is inevitably financially constrained. It is not able to raise rates due to the nature of land tenure. The rents charged to the tenants are very low, and payment is unreliable.

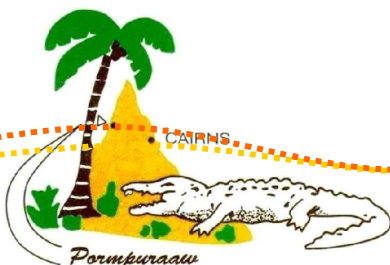
The main income of the Council is State and Federal Government Grants. These tend to be for capital works or specific projects and some need matching contributions from Council. Before accepting a grant Council has to assess the real lifetime cost of the grant-aided project including operating cost and asset maintenance and replacement.

Planning for grant income is problematic. Most grants are only available for a very limited period and can be withdrawn very suddenly. Council can only identify its needs, anticipate sufficient grant income to meet the needs, and hope that government will provide a grant to enable it to carry out the necessary work.

The cost of administering grants and grant aided projects is significant and Council is endeavouring to identify these costs and ensure they are factored into grant applications and acquittals.

- Council has enough revenue to provide the desired services.

1. Prepare Council Financial Plan and budget based on Community and Corporate Plans.
2. Increase effectiveness in obtaining grants.
3. Increase effectiveness in collecting rents and other revenue.
4. Look for other revenue sources as government programs change over time.

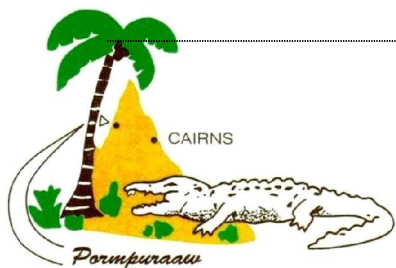


Moving forward...

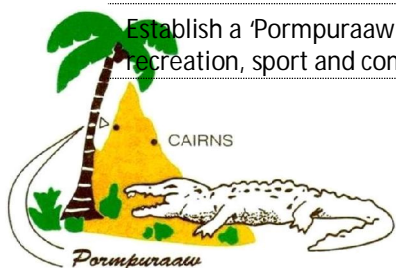
Action plan

COMMUNITY

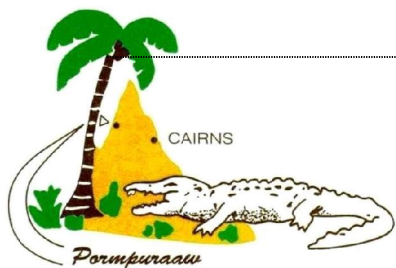
| Actions | Measurement | Leader | Potential Partners |
|--|---|---|--|
| Council employ a Community Development Officer | Employment of officer in 2012 Rollout of various services and actions of community plan | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Council | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Department of Communities |
| Employment of Sport and Recreation Coordinator(s) in the community | Officer employed in 2012 Implementation of Sport and Recreation Plan Actions | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Council • PCYC | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pormpur Paanth • Pormpuraaw United Brothers Sports Club • Police |
| Council actively implement adopted Engagement Policy | Number of community meetings held, inviting all community members to attend Number of newsletters issued, BRACS media and interviews | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Council | |
| Completion of Planning Scheme for LGA | Adoption of plan by end of 2012 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Council | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dept of Communities (Program Office) • DLGP |



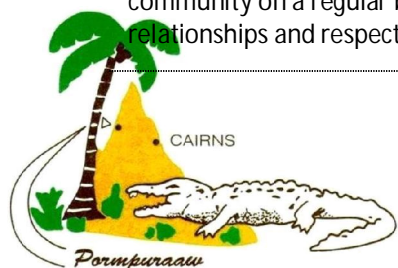
| Actions | Measurement | Leader | Potential Partners |
|--|--|---|--|
| Implement adopted Sport and Recreation Plan | Adopt Plan by end of 2011 Number of community events and activities run each year Annual report on S & R Action Plan | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Council | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pormpur Paanth • Arts, Culture and Language Centre • PCYC |
| Prepare a Council Training, Education, Employment Plan and a Community Health and Wellbeing Plan | Preparation of Plans in 2012 Report on number of actions undertaken each year by Council | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Council | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Land and Sea Management • Pormpur Paanth • PCYC • Queensland Health • CDEP • Centrelink • Justice Group • Rehabilitation Centre • RFDS • Community and Anglican Stores • Community members |
| Council coordinate regular community meetings to discuss and seek solutions on community matters | Number of meetings held and actions undertaken | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Council | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Service Providers • Community Members |
| Establish a 'Pormpuraaw Lifestyle Committee' representing key recreation, sport and community stakeholders to plan a | Committee established in 2012 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Council | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CDEP |



| Actions | Measurement | Leader | Potential Partners |
|---|--|---|---|
| coordinated program of recreation, sport, lifestyle and wellbeing programs for Pormpuraaw. | Number of meetings held Number of actions undertaken or commenced | | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Queensland Government |
| Create a meeting place for individuals and families that is not related to alcohol e.g. Central Park | Ongoing upgrade of Central Park area Removal of vehicular traffic from park Number of community events held in the park per year | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Council | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> PCYC Pormpur Paanth Arts, Culture and Language Centre Pormpuraaw United Brothers Sports Club |
| Continue to support PL&SM in implementation of Cultural and Natural Resource Management Plan, as amended from time to time | Report on visitors to area, programs undertaken | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Council | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> PL & SM CDEP |
| Attract, retain and support volunteers from the community in community based services and programs | Community Development Officer report on number of volunteers per year per program | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Council | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Community members Anglican Church |
| Formulate and implement Aged and Disability Care Plan | Number of clients in program Number of actions undertaken or commenced per year | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Council | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Queensland Health RFDS |
| Resolution of permanent location for Community Garden and expansion of its training and empowerment program for the broader community | Identification of permanent location by March 2012 Garden relocated by June 2012 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> CDEP Council | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> DET Dept of Health Community members |



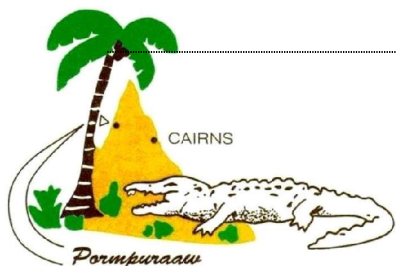
| Actions | Measurement | Leader | Potential Partners |
|---|---|---|---|
| | Expanded program by end of 2012 | | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Community and Anglican Stores |
| Increase child care/early childhood services in town – longer hours, licensing and availability | Centre licensed by end of 2012 Expanded operating hours and associated staffing and resources by end of 2012 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Pormpur Paanth | |
| Council facilitate discussions between school, elders and parents to encourage culturally appropriate content into the school curriculum and other community activities | Community Development Officer conduct meetings throughout 2012 Number of school visits and sessions by elders of the community Number of parents participating in school activities | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Council | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> School Elders DET Parents |
| Investigate options to increase high school attendance (out of community) or provide alternative training to expelled youths | Number of community meetings held in 2012 to discuss issue Report on actions undertaken to address issues ongoing | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> School | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> DET Parents |
| Increase flexible learning opportunities for young mothers. | Report on opportunities created per year | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> DET School | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Cape York Super Sisters |
| Conduct parenting and living skills programs for anyone in the community on a regular basis in areas such as cooking, life skills, relationships and respect. | Number of programs run per year Report on success of programs | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> DET Dept of Health | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Cape York Super Sisters Pormpur Paanth (PACC) - Roworr |



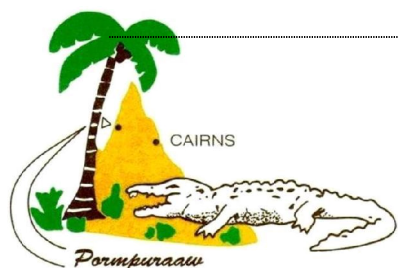
| Actions | Measurement | Leader | Potential Partners |
|--|---|---|--|
| Advocate, support and operate the Community Justice Rehabilitation Centre and Program (Roworr) | Number of clients through Program per year Amount of capital works funding and recurrent program funding provided per year | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pormpur Paanth (PACC) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Justice Group • Dept of Health • Queensland Health • CDEP |

BUILT ENVIRONMENT

| Actions | Measurement | Leader | Potential Partners |
|--|--|---|--|
| Manage and maintain assets in appropriate and efficient manner | Number of breakdowns of equipment per year Budget expended on maintain of assets Report on improvements in operations across Council | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Council | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lessees • Queensland Government |
| Provide responsive service delivery to community (eg garbage collection, water, aged care, sport and recreation) | Number of complaints registered with Council per year Report on responses to complaints | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Council | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Service Providers |
| Increase staff housing for Council and service providers to attract employees to the community | Amount of staff accommodation that is provided across the community per year | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Council | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Service Providers |



| Actions | Measurement | Leader | Potential Partners |
|---|---|--|--|
| Provide fit for purpose housing including single and couple housing, duplexes located within both clan group neighbourhoods | Number and type of houses added to the total housing stock per year | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Council | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Service Providers |
| Continue Social Housing program, seeking funding commitment from State Government | Number of houses built and lots created per year Amount of funding allocated to social housing program per year Number of people on waiting list for housing per year | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Council | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dept of Communities (Program Office) |
| Provision of aged housing in the community with options to expand in the future | Identification of site for aged housing in town in new planning scheme Identification of funding source in 2012 Number of people in respite care | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Council | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Queensland Health • Dept of Communities |
| Plan for future expansion of Pormpuraaw, including provision of infrastructure and services | Identification of land within new Planning Scheme Planning Scheme reflects community needs | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Council | |
| Land and building(s) for the creation of a Mens Shed | Opening of Mens Shed in 2012 Report on activities and programs | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pormpur Paanth | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Council • CDEP |



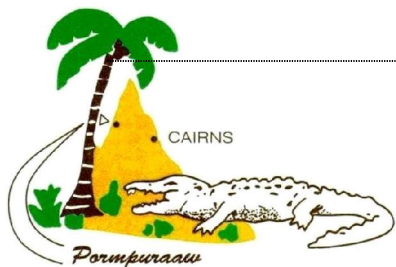
ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT

| Actions | Measurement | Leader | Potential Partners |
|---|---|---|--|
| Implement action plan contained in Natural Resource Management Plan, as amended from time to time | Quarterly reports by Ranger on action plan | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Council • PL&SM | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • DERM |
| Increase registration of dogs and implement Council Animal Management Policy | Number of dogs roaming freely around town Number of dog related injuries, accidents and incidents in town | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Council | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Community members • Vet |
| Conduct community awareness campaign of health implications of rubbish, unused vehicles, dogs | Community Development Officer report on campaign conducted in 2012 Independent assessment of success of campaign | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dept of Health • Council | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Community members • DET • Community and Anglican Store |
| Undertake quarterly kerbside cleanup for community and annual township wide clean up of public and private land | Report on general tidiness of town's public land | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Council | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Community members |

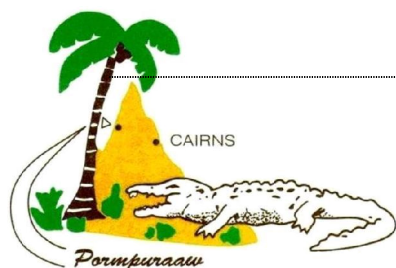


ECONOMY

| Actions | Measurement | Leader | Potential Partners |
|--|--|--|---|
| <p>Prepare and implement Economic Development Plan, including development of tourism opportunities around crocodiles, fishing, cultural heritage, bird watching, camping, privately owned and operated businesses, expanded Pormpuraaw Art, Culture and Language Centre.</p> | <p>Plan coordinated and completed by Community Development Officer/Council in 2012</p> <p>Form Economic Development Community committee to assist with plan preparation and implementation</p> <p>Community response and input on economic development for Pormpuraaw</p> <p>Report on actions undertaken per year</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Council • Pormpuraaw Community Champion | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • DEEDI • Service Providers • Community members |
| <p>Develop an information package for residents interested in starting a business (e.g. tax information, licensing, registration etc.) and access to a network of contacts to support new business</p> | <p>Pack prepared by Community Development Officer/ Council in 2012</p> <p>Number of packs given out per year</p> <p>Number of new business or activities commenced per</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Council | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pormpuraaw Community Champion • DEEDI • Service Providers • Current business owners/managers |



| Actions | Measurement | Leader | Potential Partners |
|---|--|--|--|
| | year Report on operations of businesses each year | | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Community members |
| Commence community markets in Central park on a regular basis as an outlet for local arts and craft, food, furniture, gifts and clothing. | Number of markets per year Number of stalls in market each market per year Report on success of markets | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Council (Community Development officer) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pormpuraaw Paanth • Cape York Super Sisters • Current business owners/managers • Community members |
| Conduct feasibility study into larger, expanded Arts, Culture and Language Centre for the production, storage and display of local items. | Feasibility Study coordinated by Community Development Officer /Council in 2012 Report on findings of study and actions undertaken from study | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Council • Art, Clture and Language Centre | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Skytrans • Commercial Partners • Queensland Tourism • Cairns/Cooktown/Townsville • Tourism • NITV |
| Broaden promotion of Pormpuraaw as a tourism destination – a place for indigenous art, culture, language, the natural environment and its flora and fauna | Inclusion of tourism as a focus in the preparation of the Economic Development Plan Amount of advertising undertaken about Pormpuraaw | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Arts, Culture and Language Centre | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Skytrans • Commercial Partners • Queensland Tourism • Cairns/Cooktown/Townsville • Tourism |

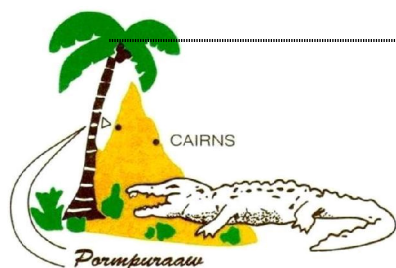


| Actions | Measurement | Leader | Potential Partners |
|--|--|--|--|
| Provision of training and employment with focus on maximizing benefits to the individual and community | Number of persons receiving CentreLink payments Number of CDEP positions Number of Indigenous persons employed in Pormpuraaw Report on training and employment programs across Pormpuraaw | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CDEP • Job Find | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NITV • Council • Centrelink • QBuild • Dept of Communities (Social Housing Program) • DMR (Roads program) • PL&SM – rangers • Dept of Health • PCYC • Pormpur Pannth • Pormpuraaw United Bros Club |



ORGANISATION

| Actions | Measurement | Leader | Potential Partners |
|--|--|-----------|--------------------|
| Council fill vacant positions, particularly management roles and those related to sport and recreation, operations, community development and services | Number of positions filled per year Vacancy rate of positions across Council | • Council | |
| Preparation of Council Corporate Plan, Operational Plan, Long Term Financial Plan and Asset Management Plan having regard to adopted Community Plan | Review and update all plans as statutorily required Plans meet legislative requirements | • Council | |
| Annual reporting to be conducted on all statutory documents, including Community Plan | Annual Report including report on measurements and contents of Long Term Community Plan | • Council | |
| Complete and implement Asset Management Plan including focus on security of assets and potential revenue from plant | Completion of Asset Management Plan in 2012 Annual review and report on items and actions | • Council | |
| Prepare and implement annual Capital Works Program as part of annual Operation Plan | Preparation of Plan in 2012 Annual update and review of Plan | • Council | |



| Actions | Measurement | Leader | Potential Partners |
|--|--|-----------|--------------------|
| Address outstanding audit issues | Number of audit issues | • Council | |
| Adopt and implement relevant local laws based on Queensland Model Local Laws | Annual review and update of local laws | • Council | |
| Improve Information Technology for town | Number of lost business hours per year | • Council | |
| Review and implement Council's Engagement Policy including actions in the Community Plan with focus on range of methods for Council and staff to better connect with the community | Number of community wide meetings per year Report on actions undertaken from community meetings | • Council | |
| Investigate and implement partnerships with adjoining Councils which may benefit both communities through shared resources, joint programs, use of plant and materials | Number of joint activities undertaken with adjoining Councils | • Council | |

