



Corporate Governance team

Redland City Council

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Redlands2030 comments on draft Corporate Plan 2015-2020

Redlands2030 appreciates the opportunity to comment on Council's draft Corporate Plan 2015-2020.

We are very concerned that the draft plan lacks any clear and measurable targets. Put simply, the Council could do nothing more than it's doing right now and five years later there would be no basis for assessing Council's lack of progress in achieving the outcomes of the Redlands 2030 Community Plan. The draft plan should be amended to include a much stronger commitment to achieving progress towards the Community Plan's outcomes.

We have reviewed the draft Corporate Plan 2015-2020 and compared it carefully with its predecessor the Corporate Plan 2010-2015. This comparison was the subject of a post on the Redlands2030 website titled [New Redland City Corporate Plan lacks focus](#). We request that you regard this post as part of our comments on the draft Corporate Plan 2015-2020.

We have undertaken a [detailed comparison](#) of the two plans which shows how the draft new plan has been dumbed down to the point where it is a plan in name only. Please also consider this detailed comparison to be part of our comments on the draft plan.

The lack of specific strategies, actions and measurable indicators is a chronic problem in the draft corporate plan. Redlands2030 attaches discussion about two issues by way of example.

However, it is our contention that the draft plan requires a thorough review to ensure that the Redlands community has visibility of specific and measurable activities that the Council will do to achieve the community's expectations as set out in the Redlands 2030 Community Plan.

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Example 1 - Koalas

The long term 2030 Community Plan adopted in 2010 included a target:

Halt the decline in koala numbers then increase to maintain a population of 5,000 by 2014. (p13)

The 2010-2015 Corporate Plan says that Council will:

Stop the decline in population of the koala and other species at risk through advocacy, protecting and restoring vital habitat and increasing community engagement and action.

A key performance indicator in the 2010-15 plan is “koala population”.

The draft 2015-20 plan includes an “outcome” worded as follows:

Threatened species are maintained and protected, including the vulnerable koala species.

The draft new corporate plan has no measurable indicator for the population of koalas.

Instead the plan includes under a heading **Did you know:**
Redland City has Australia’s largest population of urban koalas.

This may be true at present, but the plan contains no strategies or measures that could give anyone confidence that this will still be the case in 2020.

The draft Corporate Plan 2015-2020 should include specific strategies to reverse the decline in koala numbers in Redland City. It should include a specific indicator based on koala numbers and/or koala habitat.

Example 2 - Balance between Urban, Rural and Open space Land Use

The long term 2030 Community Plan adopted in 2010 included a target:

The urban footprint as defined by the South-East Queensland Regional Plan is not extended into rural or agricultural areas. (p 39)

The 2010-2015 Corporate Plan included strategies like:

5.2 Manage population growth in a compact settlement pattern, having defined the sustainable carrying capacity of the city and limits to population growth

5.7 Support a sustainable future for rural areas by developing and implementing a rural strategy that recognises the city's heritage, economic, environmental and scenic values and promotes sustainable rural industries and activities

Performance targets in the current draft plan include:

- *percentage of land used as productive farmland*
- *total area of open space within the city per head of population*

The draft 2015-20 plan contains no strategies , “outcomes” or measures that task Council with maintaining the communities expectations (as set out in the 2030 Community Plan) for a balance between urban and rural land use in the Redlands.

Instead the document contains a number of current assumptions and facts. Under the **Did you know** section it says:

- *Future population growth will be **primarily** accommodated within the urban footprint identified in the 2009-2031 South East Queensland Regional Plan.*
- *The urban footprint covers 26% of the city (51% of the mainland).*

These “did you know” statements are quite meaningless in the context of a document that is supposed to guide Council's activities over the next five years.

The draft Corporate Plan 2015-2020 should clearly reaffirm that Council will act to ensure that Redlands urban footprint as defined by the 2009 South-East Queensland Regional Plan is not extended into rural or agricultural areas.