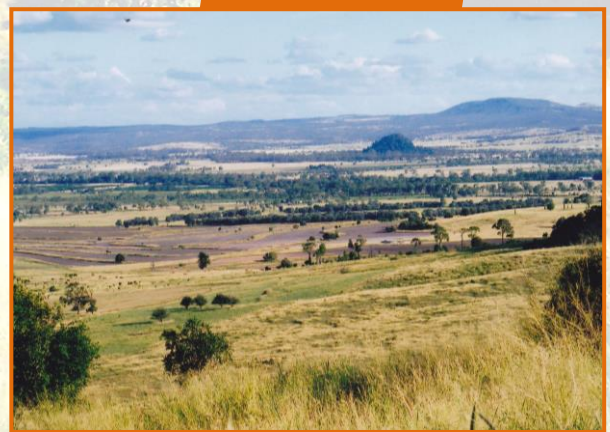




Thangool & District 2017/2027 Place Based Plan



The Thangool & 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
Final		Endorsed By Council	
Reviewed	17/11/2016	Phillip Casey	
Draft	24/11/2016	Phillip Casey	
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.

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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 integral to the development of the shire and its occupants.

METHODOLOGY

The Banana Shire Council has identified that a “Place Based” 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:

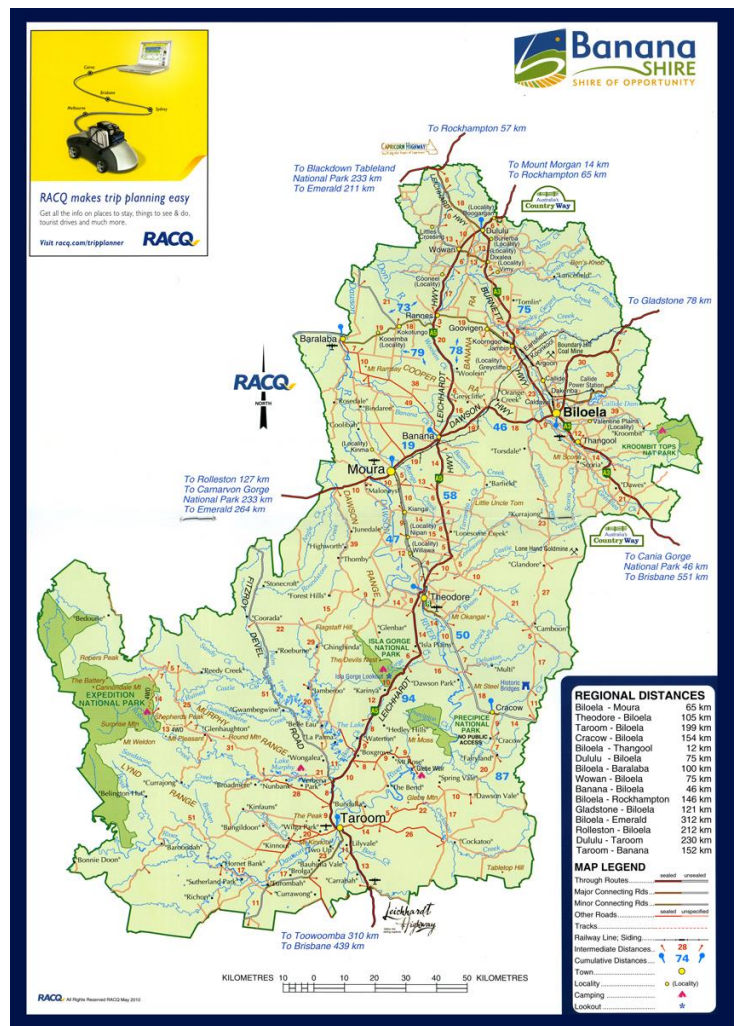
- Gathering of and referral to available ABS statistics
- Discussion of related issues and policy with Government Departments and key stakeholder representatives
- Meetings with representatives from regional organisations that have economic development roles
- Attendance at meetings, networking or speaking 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 a number of 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 Thangool
- Section 5 – Future Directions



LOCATION

The town of Thangool is located 12km South of Biloela, 153km South of Rockhampton and 577km North-West of Brisbane.

Please refer to the RACQ Trip Planner http://www.racq.com.au/travel/Maps_and_Directions/trip_planner

HISTORY

Originally part of the large **Prairie Run** Thangool was named in 1924 with the name being a derivative of the aboriginal word “tangoor”, meaning possum.

The town was surveyed in 1925 and shops were established soon after. The Callide Valley railway line was extended to Thangool before its final extension to Lawgi in 1931. A cotton boom in the 1930’s allowed the town to support two hotels, two butchers, two bakers, a picture theatre, a cordial factory, a blacksmith and a bank. A district aerodrome was laid out on the showgrounds in 1938 and now serves as the Shire’s main Airport.

The Thangool Racecourse is one of the largest racecourses in the area and holds several meetings a year including the annual Thangool Cup. The Thangool Racecourse racing fraternity have helped put Thangool on the sporting map. The Mount Scoria Conservation Park is located 10 kilometres South of Thangool and is home to one of only three known formations of its kind in the world.

DESCRIPTION

Thangool is best known for its aerodrome, race track and proximity to Mt Scoria. With daily flights to and from Brisbane, Thangool is the gateway to the Callide Valley. The Thangool Race Course is the main track in the Shire, the fourth largest in the central region and holds regular meetings.

Thangool has diversity in local small businesses including a service station, hotel, cabin accommodation (Kariboe Cottages) Post Office, two licensed carpenters, backhoe and truck hire, aircraft refuelling, welding and prefabrication, environmental clean-up business, concrete batching plant, bus and charter service and squab processors.

The average annual rainfall of the area is 700mm (28 inches), but tends to be erratic in distribution. However, when seasonal conditions are favourable, excellent yields of all grain crops are harvested. The most important dry land (rain grown) crops are sorghum, chickpeas and wheat although cotton, sunflower, barley and mung beans are also grown. The principal irrigated crops are cotton, lucerne, sorghum, chickpeas, wheat and beans (both navy and French). Herb production for the food service industry is also a new Queensland Industry that was developed by Thangool farmers. Herbs from the CD Herb members are exported throughout the world. Most of the herbs are supplied for Gourmet Garden products.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY OF KEY CENSUS RESULTS

In the 2011 Census, there were 296 people in Thangool (L) (Urban Centres and Localities) of these 48.6% were male and 51.4% were female. Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people made up 1.4% of the population.

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

Thangool boasts a variety of services:

- Australia Post
- Biloela/Thangool Airport
- Queensland Fire & Rescue and Rural Fire Service - Thangool Station

EDUCATION

Thangool receives all Education Queensland services through Thangool State School.

The school is effectively supported by Thangool State School P&C Association

Private education and high schools can be accessed in Biloela through daily bus services.

COMMUNITY HEALTH & WELFARE SERVICES

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

The health and welfare of the Thangool Community is supported by:

- Community Health services which include in-home outreach options
- Blue Care home nursing services
- Anglicare home visits and social support services
- Chaplaincy program

ARTS

For those who appreciate the performing arts, the Thangool Amateur Players & Singers Inc. regularly performs to the delight of the community. Thangool also hosts the Christmas Fair & Markets annually. These events attract people from the surrounding areas as well as local residents.

SPORT & RECREATION

Thangool and district is the proud home of a variety of sporting and recreational clubs:

- Dawes Hall Recreation Club Inc
- Lawgi Hall Association Inc
- Lawgi Indoor Bowls
- Thangool Race Club Inc
- Thangool Tennis Courts
- Thangool Cricket Pitch
- Yoga
- Thangool Inc

RELIGION

The spiritual needs of Thangool and the surrounding area are well catered for by the local religious organisations:

- St. Andrew Anglican Church
- St. Andrew's Ladies Guild
- Living Word Fellowship

SERVICE GROUPS

Local service groups include:

- Thangool Inc
- Playgroup Qld

Achievements of Thangool

RECOGNISED COMMUNITY ACHIEVEMENTS

People

- Friendly
- People and family connections
- Acceptance
- Honesty

Services

- Rural lifestyle with services nearby
- School
- Accessible Locality
- Career goals are achievable
- Urban & Rural fire brigade

Community

- Working together as one community
- Support of the community
- Safe environment
- Small and personal
- Caring community
- Peaceful

Infrastructure

- Thangool & District Memorial Park
- Geoff Webb Memorial Garden
- Thangool Recreation Reserve and Hall
- Parks and gardens are well maintained, making Thangool a clean and pretty town

Future Directions

COMMUNITY IDENTITY & VISION

Today: Thangool, home of the possum, is a community of immense pride celebrating the services provided by Thangool Inc., Thangool Race Club, Thangool Airport and the businesses in and around the community.

Future: The Thangool community is working towards the continued development of the community including:

- residential growth
- development of the Thangool airport as an aero-industrial precinct
- continued development of Thangool State School
- seeking opportunities for vacant business land and buildings

COMMUNITY PLAN

Infrastructure & Facilities

There is an opportunity for attracting new families, encouraging the retention of current residents and increasing the number of tourists that stop in the area through the continual improvement of current facilities as well as adding new infrastructure and amenities.

Housing

Housing and accommodation play an important part in the future expansion of the area. As such it is recommended that assistance is offered where possible by Council and Community groups to help in the development of housing and accommodation in Thangool.

Parks and Gardens

There are several priorities for current infrastructure in the Thangool area:

- Developing the gardens along the Main Road
- The continued improvement of the Memorial Park and Geoff Webb Memorial Garden
- Upgrade lighting in and around the Parks and Gardens

Public Facilities

The addition of walking pathways and footpaths around town would be of benefit to the community and these pathways could possibly lead further out of town and around the race course.

Other upgrades to the town's facilities could include:

- The addition of a half-court in the Memorial Park
- Repair and upgrade the Ramsay Street footpath
- Construction of new QCWA duplexes in Britten Street for the ageing population
- Maintain transfer station 24hrs
- Develop walkways
- Maintain current mowing contract
- Install street light at Airport entrance

Recreation Reserve

The continual improvement of the Thangool Recreation Reserve would include:

- The sealing of the Recreation Reserve car park making the area more practical in wet weather
- Refurbishment of awning
- Upgrading of the cricket pitch

Also, an opportunity exists for the school and Recreation Reserve to facilitate the showing of movies in a manner like cinemas.

Tourism

The local tourist attraction of Mt Scoria has great potential. Being one of only three geological forms of its kind in the world, Mt Scoria has great potential as a tourist attraction in the area. To utilise this, further development and promotion needs to be undertaken including allowing camping under National Parks guidelines.

It has been expressed by members of the Thangool community that they wish the Thangool Airport to continue to be the major passenger airport in the Banana Shire.

The Thangool Race Club holds the Thangool Cup and seven race meetings annually which draws large crowds from surrounding communities in and outside of the Shire.

School

There exists within the town an opportunity to improve the safety of local children and youth through the development of improved road crossings. Areas that require attention are the crossing near the Hotel Thangool and the Airport intersection crossing. Both areas could have infrastructure developed to ensure they are used safely such as barrier fencing and signage.

The School also needs flood mitigation infrastructure to protect the low-lying buildings.

Drainage

The community requests that both the condition and design of the roads and the condition of the local kerb and channelling be addressed in a five-year planning process. Examples of this are the kerbing outside of Hotel Thangool, Stanley and Lesley Streets.

Industry

As a domiciliary community for both local industry and businesses in Biloela, the issue of industry is not a high priority as it is in many other communities. However, the continued development of Thangool Aerodrome will bring the opportunity of aero based industries as well as benefiting the tourism of the entire Shire.



Roads

The continued upgrade of the Burnett Highway to Thangool is a priority as is the sealing of all bus routes. The rural area around Thangool is closely settled due to the size of the properties. To maintain and encourage continued growth of families, good quality access needs to be maintained. The bridge over Kariboe Creek needs to be raised by 2m and widened to two lanes. Although this will not flood proof the bridge it will allow access earlier during floods.

Installation of highly visible speed signs and road marking are requested on the Burnett Highway due to the number of children that cross the highway to and from school. Signs like those being used in the North Burnett Region Council area are requested.

Telecommunications

The current development of NBN to replace copper wire services has been raised as a major issue within the district. There are serious concerns that the NBN will not be able to match the current services provided as the tower was constructed in an area that restricts access to the majority of Thangool and District residents.

Due to a push from the Government away from two-way radio systems to mobile phones, a mobile phone tower is required at Lawgi to service the Burnett Highway and the closely settled farming district. This tower could be used to extend the NBN coverage over the southern end of the Callide Valley, Lawgi and Dawes Districts.

All mobile towers need to be fitted with back-up generators or solar system to ensure that mobile service is maintained during natural disasters and power outages.

Currently Thangool residents are unable to get local regional TV stations, this impacts on news and weather services.

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

Infrastructure and Facilities	Activity/ Task	Council's Role	Stakeholders
Continue the partnership between the community and Council in developing community infrastructure	Continue the improvement of general aesthetics and the availability of public facilities in town including garden along the highway and the continuation of the town maintenance contribution	Partner	Thangool Inc Banana Shire Council
	Upgrade and maintain visitor facilities, parks, gardens and the public buildings in town	Partner	Thangool Inc Banana Shire Council
	Complete the development of the QCWA Cottages	Advocate	QCWA Thangool Inc
	Continue the development of walkways and bikeways in and around the town	Provider	Thangool Inc Banana Shire Council
	Continue to develop the Recreation Reserve including sealing the car park and the upgrade of the Cricket pitch	Advocate	Thangool Inc Banana Shire Council
	Complete and upgrade the kerbing along the Burnett Highway, Ramsay, Stanley and Lesley Streets, repair the Ramsay Street footpath	Provider	Banana Shire Council
	Install a street light at the Airport entrance	Provider	Banana Shire Council
	Maintain support to the Thangool Race Club to ensure that the Thangool Race Course receive sufficient meetings to be sustainable	Advocate	Qld Racing Thangool Race Club
	Maintain the transfer station ensuring that it is kept open 24 hrs	Partner Provider	Banana Shire Council
Development of a half court and slab to be used by mobile skate park equipment within the memorial park precinct	Partner Provider	Banana Shire Council Thangool Inc	

Industry & Business	Activity/ Task	Council's Role	Stakeholders
Develop partnerships between Banana Shire Council, the community and industry stakeholders to ensure the future of industry in the area	Encouraging industry development through the development of the Thangool Airport as an airpark	Provider	Banana Shire Council
	Encourage the development of vacant buildings and land along Ramsay Street		

Tourism	Activity/ Task	Council's Role	Stakeholders
Mt Scoria is Thangool's greatest "Tourist Attraction", however changing fortunes in the Qld Government has meant constant changes to the way that the area can be used by tourists The Race Course and Airport are critical infrastructure for tourism	Continue the development of Mt Scoria as a major tourist attraction including National Park style camping	Advocate	Thangool Inc Banana Shire Council National Parks
	Upgrade signage to Mt Scoria	Partner Provider	Thangool Inc Banana Shire Council
	Maintain support to the Thangool Race Club to ensure that Thangool Race Course receives sufficient meetings to be sustainable	Advocate	Qld Racing Thangool Race Club
	Continue the development of the Thangool Racecourse as a premium country racing facility	Advocate	Thangool Race Club
	Continue the development of Thangool Airport as a centre for light aircraft	Provider Partner	Thangool Inc Banana Shire Council