

# Local plan for Surat, Wycombe, Teelba and District

This local community plan is a direction-setting document with objectives setting out “what” the district communities, businesses, government agencies and Council propose for Surat, Wycombe, Teelba and District.

Action plans will set out “how” the objectives are to be achieved. They are separate documents. Action plans are prepared when people, organisations, businesses or governments are ready to provide leadership and allocates resources to a project.

The objectives in the local plan are to be read in conjunction with Maranoa region-wide objectives (refer to the Maranoa region-wide strategies for Business & Industry, Tourism, Arts & Culture, Sport & Recreation and community lifestyle in the Maranoa Economic and Community Plan).

Because the objectives in this local plan have community support, the objectives can be used by local organisations and businesses to support applications for grants and other funding.

Adopted on 26 July 2018 by Maranoa Regional Council on behalf of its regional and local communities.  
Council Resolution No. GM/07.2018/01

# Local plan for Surat, Wycombe, Teelba and District

Surat sits on the Balonne River, one hour's drive south of Roma. The district economy rests on livestock (cattle and sheep), kangaroo harvesting and processing, grain and feed production, tourism and petroleum based industries. Features of the district are the Balonne River and outback fishing, riverside parks in Surat, the Cobb & Co Changing Station and aquarium, heritage buildings and places associated with early European and later settlement and its indigenous history and culture. The Warroo Shire Hall is a particularly striking example in Surat of significant regional architecture.

The Surat township is the first community in the Maranoa region visited by tourists travelling from NSW and Victoria along the Carnarvon Highway. The town is the convenience centre, location for education, hospital and medical services and the sport, recreation and cultural hub for the surrounding district. The range of services in Surat reflect its one hour drive distance from Roma, the regional centre of the Maranoa. The town centre and the riverbank areas are very attractive. The local population has a strong sense of its history and there is strong community support and pride in their town.

Government services, game meat processing and the hotel-motel in Surat are the major employers in the Surat township. Government employees are in the school, hospital (and allied health services), aged care and local government. Game meat processing is vulnerable to export market fluctuations and wildlife management issues, including exclusion fencing.

The hall, school and recreational facilities of Teelba create a social hub for district communities. The Wycombe school closed in 2009.

Tourism is a potential growth industry for the town and district. Surat and Yuleba share the honour of being the two towns between which Cobb & Co ran its last horse drawn mail/passenger coach. The huge aquarium in the Cobb & Co Changing Station is a regional feature linked to the outback fishing story that can be told in Surat. The Surat airstrip is an underutilised tourism asset with scope for charter flights in addition to its aeromedical, general aviation and agricultural activity support roles. Agriculture will continue to underpin the district with the sheep component expected to keep increasing with the promotion of exclusion fencing. Timber milling has ceased in Surat but it could reopen under suitable conditions, especially if private cypress pine forestry was encouraged, and vegetation management legislation reviewed. The underlying deep gas and petroleum assets in the Surat are long-term potential development prospects that would contribute significantly to the local economy of the Surat district.

Many of the broader aims for the Surat, Wycombe, Teelba and district local communities are set out in the Maranoa-wide objectives contained in the Maranoa Economic and Community Plan. This district local plan documents those local objectives which are specific to the Surat, Wycombe, Teelba and district local communities. These local objectives provide the framework for local action plans.

## NOTE:

References to the "Maranoa region" in this document refer to the Maranoa Regional Council Area as defined by the Queensland Government.

# OBJECTIVES

What we want to achieve

## Community Life

### What we want to achieve...

1.1

**Together, we will continue to ensure that the Surat, Wycombe, Teelba and district communities, as part of the Maranoa region, are well known for their friendly, relaxed and welcoming community spirit and where every resident is a valued respected member of the community**

To achieve these aims, the Surat, Wycombe, Teelba and district communities support the Community Life objectives in the Maranoa Economic and Community Plan.

Specific Community Life objectives for the Surat, Wycombe, Teelba and district communities are set out below:

1.1.1

The following precincts and places continue to be enhanced as the focal points of local community activities:

1.1.2

Weekly, monthly, annual and seasonal events are well-publicised and continue to be a highlight of Surat, Wycombe, Teelba and district community activities with opportunities for wider social engagement between residents and visitors in the Surat, Wycombe, Teelba and district , notably:

- Australia Day
- ANZAC Day
- Remembrance Day
- NAIDOC week
- Cobb & Co Trail Ride
- Spirit of the River Festival
- Surat Bowls Club events
- Surat Campdraft
- Surat Carols by Candlelight
- Surat Community Christmas Carnival
- Surat Clay Target events
- Surat Cricket Club events
- Surat Fishing Competition
- Surat Hospital Fete
- Surat Lions Fish & Chip Nights
- Surat Pony Club events
- Surat Races
- Surat Riverside Markets
- Surat School awards night and graduation dinner
- Surat School athletics, cross-country and swimming
- Surat Tinsel Trail
- Teelba Tennis Club nights
- Maranoa Charity Rodeo
- Melbourne Cup
- Wallumbilla- Surat-Rugby League Club (3 home games per year in Surat)

1.1.3	<p>Surat, Wycombe, Teelba and district community members continue to engage in events in Surat, Roma, Yuleba, Wallumbilla and elsewhere as part of the regional community and to pursue opportunities to share and integrate their events with the region, particularly:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Participation in the Cobb &amp; Co Festival</li> <li>• Regional bowls tournaments in Yuleba</li> <li>• Wallumbilla - Surat- Rugby League Club</li> </ul>
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1.2	<p><b>Together we will continue to create an environment where our older residents are safe, secure, valued, included and continue to actively participate in community life</b></p>
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To achieve these aims, the Surat, Wycombe, Teelba district communities support the Community Life objectives for older residents in the Maranoa Economic and Community Plan.

Specific Community Life objectives for older residents of the community are set out below, acknowledging that most specialists are in Roma:

1.2.1	<p>Council and the Surat, Wycombe, Teelba district communities review disabled or mobility restricted access to the halls, recreation and tourist facilities and other key areas of Surat, Teelba and districts.</p>
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1.2.2	<p>Surat maintains its capacity to provide independent living aged care accommodation with long term high care to be provided in Roma. In particular, support is maintained for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Waroona Retirement Village</li> <li>• Hunters Lodge</li> <li>• Seniors wing in Surat Hospital MPHS for long stay patients (Qld Health)</li> <li>• Community nursing - Surat Hospital MPHS</li> <li>• Council and specialist social housing organisations provided social housing for low income people</li> <li>• Assistance and respite care through Blue care and Anglicare</li> <li>• Meals on wheels</li> </ul>
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1.3	<p><b>Together, we will continue to create an environment where our children and young people are cared for, safe, actively engaged, and have access to support networks and developmental pathways which will encourage and stimulate them to reach their full potential.</b></p>
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To achieve these aims, the Surat, Wycombe, Teelba and district communities support the Community Life objectives for children and younger people in the Maranoa Economic and Community Plan.

Specific Community Life objectives for children and younger people of the Surat, Wycombe, Teelba and district communities are set out below, acknowledging that some of the significant activities and education services are in Roma:

1.3.1	Surat, Wycombe, Teelba and district communities continues to integrate and mentor young people in local Surat, Wycombe, Teelba and district organisations.
1.3.2	Surat, Wycombe, Teelba and district communities continue to provide opportunities for young people to actively participate and have roles and responsibilities in local community events.
1.3.3	<p>Suitable areas continue to be enhanced as spaces that welcome and engage children and young people, particularly:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Youth Hub</li> <li>• Skate park</li> <li>• BMX track</li> <li>• Riverside parklands</li> <li>• Surat swimming pool</li> <li>• Surat tennis courts</li> <li>• Surat pony club</li> <li>• Surat State School</li> <li>• Teelba State School</li> <li>• Teelba tennis courts</li> <li>• Surat library</li> </ul>
1.4	<p><b>Together, we will continue to ensure that the Surat, Wycombe, Teelba and district communities, as part of the Maranoa region, helps create local and regional communities that are proud of their heritage, culturally dynamic, nurture inspiring artistic expression and stimulate viable creative enterprises.</b></p>

To achieve these aims, the Surat, Wycombe, Teelba and district communities support the “Community Life” objectives for arts and culture in the Maranoa-wide Arts and Culture Strategy and the Maranoa-wide Community Pan.

Specific “Community Life” objectives for arts and culture in the Surat, Wycombe, Teelba and district communities are set out below:

<p><b>1.4.1</b></p>	<p>The heritage and cultural precincts in Surat, Wycombe, Teelba and district, continue to be progressively enhanced, in particular:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Aboriginal Traditional Campsite</li> <li>• Aboriginal Interpretive Shelter</li> <li>• Cobb &amp; Co Changing Station Museum and Aquarium</li> <li>• Surat &amp; Balonne Art Gallery</li> <li>• Surat Post Office</li> <li>• Cluster of buildings in Surat town centre</li> <li>• Balonne River</li> <li>• Surat Riverside parklands and walk</li> <li>• Surat Weir</li> <li>• Surat water treatment system</li> <li>• Surat Lions Park</li> <li>• Warroo Shire Hall</li> <li>• Surat Memorial Park - includes Freedom Tree</li> <li>• Surat RSL Honour Boards - in Shire Hall</li> <li>• Surat RSL building</li> <li>• Surat cemetery</li> <li>• Surat Masonic Lodge</li> <li>• Wycombe school</li> <li>• Surat school and Indigenous murals at the school</li> <li>• Begonia school</li> <li>• Teelba school</li> <li>• Yuleba Creek school</li> <li>• Anglican, Presbyterian, Catholic Churches</li> <li>• Astor Theatre</li> <li>• Kincoora oil and gas field</li> <li>• Cattle and sheep properties</li> <li>• Cobb &amp; Co corduroys</li> <li>• Frogmoor heritage site</li> <li>• Bainbilla Changing Station heritage site</li> <li>• Duffys Camp heritage site</li> <li>• Waldegrave Changing Station heritage site</li> </ul>
<p><b>1.4.2</b></p>	<p>The collection, preservation and presentation of social history of the district is coordinated through the Cobb &amp; Co Changing Station in Surat.</p>
<p><b>1.4.3</b></p>	<p>The following places to be maintained and enhanced as a sustainable centralised community hubs, providing spaces for learning, skill development, cultural activities and exhibitions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Surat library and Cobb &amp; Co Changing Station precinct</li> <li>• Surat District Development Association hub in Burrowes Street Surat.</li> <li>• Surat State School</li> <li>• Teelba State School</li> <li>• Warroo Shire Hall</li> <li>• Surat CWA Hall</li> </ul>

<b>1.4.4</b>	Enhance and extend existing heritage and cultural trails in Surat, Teelba and districts and strengthen their linkages to other trails.
<b>1.4.5</b>	The Surat, Wycombe, Teelba and district communities continue to engage with arts and culture groups in Roma and across the region to strengthen local arts and culture and to enhance the prospects of local commercially viable enterprises.
<b>1.4.6</b>	The Surat, Wycombe, Teelba and district communities continue to support the Regional Arts Development Fund, Council Community Grants and other grants as a vital elements in the nurturing of the arts in regional communities.
<b>1.4.7</b>	The Surat, Wycombe, Teelba and district organisations ensure that their arts and culture organisations, facilities and events are included in regional organisation lists and event calendars and up-to-date.

## Active, Healthy, Community

### What we want to achieve...

2.1

**Together, we will continue to enhance the delivery of a high standard of healthcare which is holistic, innovative and services the needs of all residents locally with an emphasis on preventative health programs**

To achieve these aims, the Surat, Wycombe, Teelba and district communities support the “Active Healthy Community” objectives in the Maranoa Economic and Community Plan.

Specific “Healthy Community” objectives for the Surat, Wycombe, Teelba and district communities are set out below, acknowledging that most health services are in Roma, Toowoomba and Brisbane:

2.1.1

The Surat, Wycombe, Teelba and district communities support the enhancement of Surat Hospital and its allied health services as important and accessible local health services.

2.1.2

The Surat, Wycombe, Teelba and district communities support the enhancement of Roma as the regional hub for healthcare services, including dental, mental health, general, allied and specialist services.

2.1.3

To attract and retain health and other professionals in Surat and Roma, the Surat community and Council will continue to enhance the town’s appearance, district attractions and local lifestyles.

2.2

**Together, we will continue to positively contribute to community wellbeing through the provision of a diverse range of sporting and recreational opportunities, facilities and open spaces for all residents which encourage active lifestyle options and high levels of participation and facility utilisation**

To achieve these aims, the Surat, Wycombe, Teelba and district communities support the “Active Healthy Community” objectives in the Maranoa Economic and Community Plan and the Maranoa-wide Sport and Recreation Strategy

Specific “Active Community” objectives for the Surat, Wycombe, Teelba and district communities are set out below, acknowledging that many major sport and recreation activities are in Roma and other large towns in the Maranoa region:

2.2.1

Council, the Surat, Wycombe, Teelba and district communities and the regional community ensure that the development and implementation of integrated management plans for sports precincts across the Maranoa takes account of the needs of all communities in the Maranoa region.



<p><b>2.2.2</b></p>	<p>Maintenance and enhancement of high grade multi-purpose recreational spaces for young people which are engaging, safe and encourage inter-generational interaction, particularly:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Warroo Sporting Complex</li> <li>• Surat Recreation Oval, tennis and swimming pool precinct</li> <li>• Riverside Walk</li> <li>• Surat Skate Park</li> <li>• (ALSO SEE 1.3.3)</li> </ul>
<p><b>2.2.3</b></p>	<p>Council and the Surat, Wycombe, Teelba and district communities continue to define, develop and improve a network of walking paths for Surat, Wycombe, Teelba and district residents which will also serve as heritage and tourist walks.</p>
<p><b>2.2.4</b></p>	<p>Continue the installation of appropriate directional and facility signage for sporting and recreational facilities</p>
<p><b>2.2.5</b></p>	<p>The Surat, Wycombe, Teelba and district sport and recreation organisations ensure that their organisations, facilities and events are included in regional organisation lists and event calendars.</p>

# Naturally Sustainable Environment

## What we want to achieve...

**3.1**

**The Surat, Wycombe, Teelba district communities will strive to conserve, restore and enhance the Maranoa’s natural environment and assets and proactively seek out opportunities to reduce our ecological footprint at local level.**

To achieve these aims, the Surat, Wycombe, Teelba and district communities support the “Naturally Sustainable Environment” objectives in the Maranoa Economic and Community Plan and the Maranoa-wide Business and Industry Strategy

Specific “Naturally Sustainable Environment” objectives for the Surat, Wycombe, Teelba and district communities are set out below, acknowledging that many environmental activities contribute to larger regional, state, national and global plans:

**3.1.1**

Natural environment interpretive signs are incorporated on walking trails in the Surat, Wycombe, Teelba and district.

**3.1.2**

Upgrade to Surat refuse facility to a transfer station with more environmentally friendly and user friendly design that minimises its impacts on surrounding area.

**3.1.3**

To reduce the impacts of wild dogs on livestock, wild dog measures continue to be implemented, including use of exclusion fencing

**3.1.4**

Parthenium and other high impact weeds continue to be the target of control programs on stock routes and other lands.

## Where we live

### What we want to achieve...

4.1

**Together, the Surat, Wycombe, Teelba and district communities, in conjunction with Council, government agencies and business, will provide accommodation options which meet the lifecycle needs of existing and potential residents in safe, liveable, affordable, well planned and sustainable neighbourhoods**

To achieve these aims, the Surat, Wycombe, Teelba and district communities support the "Housing and Neighbourhood" objectives in the Maranoa Economic and Community Plan, the Maranoa-wide Business and Industry Strategy and the Maranoa Planning Scheme

Specific "Housing and Neighbourhood" objectives for the Surat, Wycombe, Teelba and district communities are set out below, acknowledging that housing supply in Surat, Wycombe, Teelba and district is affected by the housing supply in Roma and wider economic, social and environmental considerations:

4.1.1

Council and the Surat community assess housing supply and other accommodation in Surat (particularly to determine need for additional building lots, accommodation options for industry workers (especially those employed in game meat harvesting and processing) and their families and staged accommodation for older residents).

4.1.2

Aged care accommodation providers, government agencies, Council and the Surat, Wycombe, Teelba and district communities pursue options for maintaining and enhancing aged care accommodation in Surat (including scope for partnership with services in Roma).

4.1.3

Council, DTMR and the Surat community review the local place-making strategy for Surat and develop more detailed place-making plans for Surat (with particular attention to increasing shade, improving footpaths, connecting places and parking for larger vehicles and caravans in Surat).

4.1.4

Council and the Surat community prepare a local place-making plan for Teelba

4.1.5

In conjunction with the "Active Community" objective for trails, Council and the Surat community continue to define, develop and improve a network of walking paths which improve connectivity and accessibility within the town while also serving as heritage and tourist walks.

4.1.6

Link the local place-making plans for Surat and Teelba and the trails networks plans to local heritage, public art and tourism plans.

4.1.7	Local communities and Council use the Connected Futures local community planning tool to document and share local knowledge, options, project information about place-making strategies, trails, facilities and tourism plans.
4.1.8	The Surat, Wycombe, Teelba and district communities use the Connected Futures community planning hub flood hazard mapping as a tool for helping the community consider flooding prevention and/or damage mitigation strategies.
4.2	<b>Together, the Surat, Wycombe, Teelba and district communities, Council and government agencies will continue to maintain and enhance efficient public facilities and infrastructure which supports the liveability of Surat, Wycombe, Teelba and district.</b>
<p>To achieve these aims, the Surat, Wycombe, Teelba and district communities support the “Public Facilities and Infrastructure” objectives in the Maranoa Economic and Community Plan, the Maranoa-wide Business and Industry Strategy and the Maranoa Regional Council Corporate Plan</p> <p>Specific “Public Facilities and Infrastructure” objectives for the Surat, Wycombe, Teelba and district communities are set out below, acknowledging that the availability of facilities and infrastructure in Surat, Wycombe, Teelba and districts is influenced by the supply across the Maranoa region and wider economic, social and environmental considerations:</p>	
4.2.1	Continue implementation of the master plan for the Surat showgrounds
4.2.2	Provision of a sustainable water supply for the Teelba Community Centre.
4.2.3	In conjunction with the reviews of local place- making plans for Surat, trails networks plans and the local tourism plans, identify and prioritise further key public infrastructure improvements (particularly for local halls, shade, footpaths, park facilities, parking and signage).
4.2.4	Local communities and Council use the Connected Futures local community planning tool to document and share local priorities for key public infrastructure improvements.

## Maranoa on the move

### What we want to achieve...

5.1

**Together, the Surat, Wycombe, Teelba and district communities, in conjunction with business, and government, will strive to provide transport systems that are well connected and enable the efficient movement of people and products throughout the Maranoa.**

To achieve these aims, the Surat, Wycombe, Teelba and district communities support the “Maranoa on the Move” transport objectives in the Maranoa Economic and Community Plan, the Maranoa-wide Business and Industry Strategy and the Maranoa Planning Scheme

Specific “Maranoa on the Move” transport objectives for the Surat, Wycombe, Teelba and district communities are set out below, acknowledging that the availability of transport infrastructure and services in Surat, Wycombe, Teelba and district is closely linked to those across the Maranoa region, Queensland and Australia:

5.1.1

The Surat, Wycombe, Teelba and district communities supports the further exploration by the Maranoa regional community, Council and business of alternative Uber-type flexible, affordable transport options for places like the Surat, Wycombe, Teelba and district (which is classed as an unregulated taxi area).

5.1.2

Review footpaths, trails and public facility access to identify and prioritise improvements to assist access by people with disabilities, parents with strollers, older residents and cyclists.

5.1.3

Continue to create safer, more comfortable locations for children and other bus users in the Surat, Wycombe, Teelba and district.

5.1.4

Explore theReview parking opportunities for heavy vehicles, caravans and motorhomes in Surat (for safety and to encourage longer visits).

5.1.5

Manage the district road network so that all local roads are maintained and renewed in accordance with asset management plans that adhere to road standards in accordance with road use.

# Foundations of the future

## What we want to achieve...

6.1

**The Surat, Wycombe, Teelba and district communities will continue to work with the Maranoa regional community, government and business to enhance learning and skill development pathways for all residents.**

To achieve these aims, the Surat, Wycombe, Teelba and district communities support the “Learning and Skills Development” objectives in the Maranoa Economic and Community Plan and the Maranoa-wide Business and Industry Strategy

Specific “Learning and Skills Development” objectives for the Surat, Wycombe, Teelba and district communities are set out below, acknowledging that Roma is the major education and training hub for the Maranoa region:

6.1.1

Provide Surat, Wycombe, Teelba and district communities support to the delivery of workforce capacity building workshops to address skills such as resume writing, interview skills, customer service, workplace etiquette and professional writing.

6.1.2

Encourage Surat, Wycombe, Teelba and district communities’ participation in workshops to assist and support small business owners and potential owners.

6.1.3

Encourage Surat, Wycombe, Teelba and district communities’ participation in guest speaker programs intended to inform, inspire and motivate the local business community and support them with their professional and business development.

6.1.4

The Surat, Wycombe, Teelba and district communities support the development of an education and training hub for Roma to allow students to study externally with the support of a local well-resourced learning centre and provide alternative and flexible pathways for education, training and employment.

6.1.5

The Surat, Wycombe, Teelba and district communities and Council to work together to encourage local businesses and industries around Surat to offer further employment opportunities for local people, including traineeships, apprenticeships and permanent ongoing work.

6.1.6

The Surat, Wycombe, Teelba and district communities provide support and participate in projects and programs which continue to enhance accessibility to information on improved agricultural and grazing practices to support continued industry growth, efficiencies and encourage best practice.

6.2

**The Surat, Wycombe, Teelba and district communities will continue to work with the Maranoa regional community to enhance a smart economy which fosters innovation and sustainable and underpinned by a highly skilled and energetic labour force**

To achieve these aims, the Surat, Wycombe, Teelba and district communities support the “Smart Economy” objectives in the Maranoa Economic and Community Plan and the Maranoa-wide Business and Industry Strategy.

Specific “Smart Economy” objectives for the Surat, Wycombe, Teelba and district communities are set out below:

6.2.1	Provide Surat, Wycombe, Teelba and district communities support strengthening Roma’s role as a strong regional centre which can attract specialised services and people who help support a smarter economy and acknowledging that Surat, Wycombe, Teelba and district benefits accordingly.
6.2.2	The Surat, Wycombe, Teelba and district communities promote and encourage the benefits of professional development for individuals and the advantages of high service standards and customer focus within a business.
6.2.3	Encourage and promote the benefits of partnerships and collaborations within the Surat, Wycombe, Teelba and district communities and with the wider regional communities, especially Yuleba, Surat and Roma.
6.2.4	Provide Surat, Wycombe, Teelba and district communities support to further enhancement of the Roma CBD as a lively, easily accessible, safe, well designed retail, hospitality and commercial precinct which helps serve the Surat, Wycombe, Teelba and district communities.
6.2.5	Encourage creative and ongoing re-invention of businesses enterprises in the Surat, Wycombe, Teelba and district to service the retail, business and personal needs of local residents and visitors, especially for the 24 hour supply of fuel.
6.2.6	Encourage Surat, Wycombe, Teelba and district communities and local business use of the “Connected Futures” local community planning hub as a tool for business and the community.
6.3	<b>The Surat, Wycombe, Teelba and district communities will continue to work with the Maranoa regional community to enhance the region’s ability to communicate globally through reliable contemporary telecommunications technologies and networking systems.</b>

To achieve these aims, the Surat, Wycombe, Teelba and district communities support the “Smart Telecommunications” objectives in the Maranoa Economic and Community Plan and the Maranoa- wide Business and Industry Strategy.

Specific “Smart Telecommunications” objectives for the Surat, Wycombe, Teelba and district communities are set out below:

6.3.1	Continue Surat, Wycombe, Teelba and district communities support for the enhanced provision of information and delivery of initiatives which ensure that local residents, businesses and industry are aware of and have access to contemporary and new technologies, programs and services.
6.3.2	Surat, Wycombe, Teelba and district residents and visitors have access to reliable landline and mobile phone services as well as 24hour public telephone and internet access points in Surat and Teelba.
6.3.3	Continue Surat, Wycombe, Teelba and district communities support for the role of the Surat Library and Surat State as a key local providers and facilitators of techno-literacy, internet access, accessibility to technical devices, e-books and audio items.
6.4	<b>Together we will have a visitor economy where Surat, Wycombe, Teelba and district are key partners in making the Maranoa a prominent destination for outback tourists, events and visitor experiences</b>

To achieve these aims, the Surat, Wycombe, Teelba and district communities support the “Visitor Economy” objectives in the Maranoa Economic and Community Plan, Maranoa-wide Tourism Strategy and the Maranoa-wide Business and Industry Strategy.

Specific “Visitor Economy” objectives for the Surat, Wycombe, Teelba and district communities are set out below:

6.4.1	Surat to be the base for the Cobb & Co Changing Station and outback fishing, stories along with the indigenous cultural stories. The Cobb & Co story to be shared with Yuleba
6.4.2	Cobb & Co Changing Station complex to be enhanced as a major attraction, operating in close association with the Surat visitor information centre
6.4.3	Surat is enhanced as the visitor information centre for visitors entering the Maranoa from NSW and Victoria along the Great Inland Way. It is to be one of the five primary visitor service centres of the Maranoa (others at Injune, Wallumbilla, Mitchell and Roma with supporting information service facilities in Jackson, Yuleba, Muckadilla, Amby and Mungallala)
6.4.4	Surat VIC and Cobb & Co Changing Station complex to act as an attractor and dispersal centre to other parts of the region.
6.4.5	Enhanced integration of recreation, education, visitor and community social facilities is explored as part of the enhancement of the Cobb & Co Changing Station complex



<b>6.4.6</b>	Commercial opportunities potentially provided by the Cobb & Co Changing Station complex, VIC and associated facilities to be pursued where they do not detract from the ability of these facilities to draw visitors
<b>6.4.7</b>	Develop a tourism plan that encompasses Surat, Wycombe, Teelba and St George
<b>6.4.8</b>	Signage, publications and electronic media are used to present visitors with a network of recreation, heritage and tourist trails and experiences around Surat, Begonia, Teelba and Wycombe
<b>6.4.9</b>	Promote the Sunset Way and Great Inland Way as key inter-region tourist routes for Surat and district tourism.
<b>6.4.10</b>	Greater use of electronic sign boards along roads and in the Surat town centre to provide current information about events and services
<b>6.4.11</b>	Progressive upgrading and development of pathways around Surat for walking and cycling to link all major attractions and facilities to the Surat town centre (includes links to the Riverwalk and recreation precincts)
<b>6.4.12</b>	Maranoa network of visitor economy (tourism) organisations is enhanced to seek agreement across the Maranoa about regional branding and the sharing of stories between communities
<b>6.4.13</b>	Integrate Surat into packaging of flights, local transport, events, visitor experiences and accommodation
<b>6.4.14</b>	Explore use of Surat as a drop-off facility for rental cars in conjunction with charter flights and bus tours.
<b>6.4.15</b>	Facilitate international visitor experiences in the Maranoa by using electronic media and multi- language to increase communication with international visitors
<b>6.4.16</b>	Enhanced communication with local businesses and the community about the importance of their roles in the visitor economy
<b>6.4.17</b>	Produce guides for residents to give (or email) to visiting friends and family on things to do in the Maranoa and encourage residents to invite friends and family to the major local events

<b>6.4.18</b>	Encourage local, engineering, farm supply businesses to consider promoting tourist opportunities to their business visitors (especially in advance of their visits)
<b>6.4.19</b>	Encourage local transport, accommodation, and facility providers to provide tourism information to business visitors when they book services
<b>6.4.20</b>	Ensure all accommodation providers and free camp sites have tourist information available
<b>6.4.21</b>	Encourage sport event and function organisers (weddings, birthdays, etc) using Maranoa venues to promote tourism in sport and function information packages and at functions
<b>6.4.22</b>	Development and delivery of educational tourism opportunities relating to local industries to expand visitor experiences and engage the local community.
<b>6.4.23</b>	Develop a unique Surat, Wycombe, Teelba and district product.

## Progressive, inclusive and strong local leadership

### What we want to achieve...

7.1

**Together, the Surat, Wycombe, Teelba and district communities, as part of the Maranoa regional community, will continue to foster a network of community, business and industry organisations which have long term plans combined with innovative and responsive leadership**

To achieve these aims, the Surat, Wycombe, Teelba and district communities support the "Local Leadership" objectives in the Maranoa Economic and Community Plan and the Maranoa Regional Council Corporate Plan

Specific "Local Leadership" objectives for the Surat, Wycombe, Teelba and district communities are set out below:

7.1.1

Local community, industry and business organisations in Surat, Wycombe, Teelba and district adopt long term plans and invest in the skill development of existing and future leaders.

7.1.2

Local community, industry and business organisations in Surat, Wycombe, Teelba and district nurture innovation and responsiveness as part of their corporate culture so as to remain flexible in how their long term plans are achieved.