

# Local plan for Amby

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

Amby and district is a community oriented around Amby town on the Warrego Highway between Roma and Mitchell. The town and surrounding district has a strong sense of Indigenous and European settlement culture and history. Amby town previously provided convenience services to the surrounding district and highway and railway travellers. The local hotel was a well-known watering hole until its recent closure.

Residents of the district access most of their services from Roma or Mitchell, including education and health. District sustainability rests on agricultural industries, mainly grains and livestock and quarrying.

Long term town employment will depend upon the nearby quarry and the convenience services and hotel reopening and their capacity to encourage travellers to stop. The local school closed in 1997 and education is now provided in Mitchell.

Amby town is the social hub for the district. Features of Amby are its hall, playground, heritage park, park gates, war memorial, scar trees display, golf course, tennis courts, railway and the grave of an unknown soldier.

The fate of quarrying in Amby is indicative of the re-invention and innovation required for local sustainability. Springhill Country Craft Retreat is a relatively new major contributor to the regional craft industry.

Many of the broader aims for the Amby local community are set out in the Maranoa- wide objectives contained in the Maranoa Economic and Community Plan. This Amby local plan documents those local objectives which are specific to the Amby and district community. 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	<b>Together, we will continue to ensure that the Amby and district community, as part of the Maranoa region, is well known for its friendly, relaxed and welcoming community spirit and where every resident is a valued respected member of the community</b>
<p>To achieve these aims, the Amby and district community support the Community Life objectives in the Maranoa Economic and Community Plan.</p> <p>Specific Community Life objectives for the Amby and district community are set out below:</p>	
1.1.1	Amby Hall and surrounding recreation facilities and, golf club continue to be the focus of local community activities.
1.1.2	Events such as Anzac Day and Remembrance Day continue to be a highlight of Amby and district community activities
1.1.3	Amby Golf Club activities are used as opportunities for wider social engagement between residents and visitors in Amby
1.1.4	Amby and district community members continue to engage in events in Roma, Mitchell and elsewhere as part of the Maranoa community
1.2	<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>

To achieve these aims, the Amby and district communities supports 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 and high care accommodation services are in Roma:

1.2.1	Council and the Amby and district community review disabled or mobility restricted access to the hall, recreation and tourist facilities and other key areas of Amby
1.2.2	Service providers, the Amby and district community and Council review aged care services in Amby to achieve greatest efficiencies for aged care service delivery in Amby and partnerships for aged care in Mitchell and Roma.
1.3	<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>

To achieve these aims, the Amby and district community 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 Amby and district community are set out below, acknowledging that most activities and education services are in Roma:

1.3.1	Amby and district community continues to integrate and mentor young people in local Amby organisations
1.3.2	Amby and district community continues to provide opportunities for young people to actively participate and have roles and responsibilities in local community event
1.3.3	The Amby Hall and surrounding recreation area continue to be enhanced as spaces that welcome and engage children and young people
1.4	<b>Together, we will continue to ensure that the Amby and district community, 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>

To achieve these aims, the “Community Life” objectives for arts and culture in the Maranoa-wide Arts and Culture Strategy and the Maranoa-wide Community Plan.

Specific “Community Life” objectives for arts and culture in the Amby and district community are set out below, acknowledging that most activities are in Roma and other, larger regional towns

<b>1.4.1</b>	The heritage and cultural precincts, defined by the Amby Heritage Park and community hall, railway, cemetery, hotel, scar trees continues to be progressively enhanced.
<b>1.4.2</b>	The Amby hall continues to be maintained as a sustainable centralised community hub, providing spaces for learning, skill development, cultural activities and exhibitions
<b>1.4.3</b>	The Amby and district community continues to present and participate in festivals and community events in Amby and other places
<b>1.4.4</b>	Enhance existing heritage and cultural trails in the Amby district and strengthen their linkages to other trails
<b>1.4.5</b>	The Amby and district community 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.

# 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 Amby and district community support the “Active Healthy Community” objectives in the Maranoa Economic and Community Plan.

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

**2.1.1** The Amby and district community support the enhancement of Roma as the regional hub for healthcare services, including dental, mental health, general, allied and specialist services.

**2.1.2** The Amby and district communities support the enhancement of Mitchell Hospital and its allied health services as important and accessible local health services.

**2.1.3** The Amby town will continue to enhance its appearance and lifestyle to offer an alternative living options and a pleasant venue for socialising for health professionals in nearby Roma

**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 Amby and district community 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 Amby and district community are set out below, acknowledging that most sport and recreation activities are in Roma and larger towns in the Maranoa region

**2.2.1** Council, the Amby and district community and the regional community need to ensure the development of integrated management plans for sports precincts across the Maranoa takes account of the needs of smaller regional communities like Amby

**2.2.2** The Amby and district community ensures that its sport and recreation organisations, facilities and events are included in regional organisation lists and event calendars

**2.2.3** Council and the Amby and district community define and develop a network of walking and cycling paths for Amby residents which will also serve as heritage and tourist walks

# Naturally Sustainable Environment

## What we want to achieve...

**3.1**

**As part of the Maranoa regional community, the Amby and district community will continue to strive to conserve, restore and enhance the Maranoa's natural environment and assets by engaging and empowering residents, businesses and industry to proactively seek out opportunities to reduce our ecological footprint at local level.**

To achieve these aims, the Amby and district community 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 Amby and district community are set out below, acknowledging that many environmental activities contribute to larger regional, state, national and global plans:

**3.1.1**

The Amby and district community uses the Connected Futures community planning hub flood hazard mapping as a tool for helping the community consider flooding prevention and/or damage mitigation strategies

**3.1.2**

Natural environment interpretive signs are incorporated on walking trails in the Amby town and district

**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 Amby and district community, in conjunction with Council, government agencies and business, will continue to seek to provide a diverse and balanced supply of accommodation options which meet the lifecycle needs of existing and potential residents and where housing needs are met in safe, liveable, affordable, well planned and sustainable neighbourhoods**

To achieve these aims, the Amby and district community 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 Amby and district community are set out below, acknowledging that housing supply in Amby is affected by the housing supply in Roma and wider economic, social and environmental considerations

4.1.1

Council and the Amby and district community assess housing supply and other accommodation in Amby.

4.1.2

Council and the Amby and district community review the local place-making strategy for Amby and consider initiatives that encourage the beautification and landscaping in Amby

4.1.3

In conjunction with the "Active Community" objective for trails, Council and the Amby and district 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

4.2

**Together, the Amby and district community, Council and government agencies will continue to maintain and enhance public facilities and infrastructure which enhance the liveability of Amby, as part of the Maranoa, so that the facilities and infrastructure are well utilised and service the existing and future needs of all residents in a balanced, timely, well planned and cost efficient manner.**

To achieve these aims, the Amby and district community 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

Specific "Public Facilities and Infrastructure" objectives for the Amby and district community are set out below, acknowledging that the availability of facilities and infrastructure in Amby is influenced by the supply across the Maranoa region and wider economic, social and environmental considerations

4.2.1

Improvements be made to the Amby town water supply to provide water which is suitable for drinking, does not unduly affect water system fittings and appliances and does not harm gardens.



# Maranoa on the move

## What we want to achieve...

5.1

**Together, the Amby and district community, as part of the Maranoa regional community will continue to strive to provide the all regional communities with safe, accessible, reliable, sustainable, cost effective and affordable transport systems that are well connected and enables the efficient movement of people and products throughout the Maranoa and successfully integrates into regional, state and national transport network systems**

To achieve these aims, the Amby and district community 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 Amby and district community are set out below, acknowledging that the availability of transport infrastructure and services in Amby is closely linked to those across the Maranoa region, Queensland and Australia

5.1.1

The Amby and district community support the further exploration by the Maranoa regional community, Council and business of alternative Uber-type flexible, affordable transport options for places like the Amby district

5.1.2

Seek creation of safer, more comfortable locations for children and other bus users in Amby.

5.1.3

Review parking opportunities for heavy vehicles, caravans and motorhomes in Amby.

5.1.4

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 Amby and district community will continue to work with the Maranoa regional community to enhance learning and skill development pathways which are innovative, locally accessible to all residents, address regional skill deficits and encourage investment in a person's capacity to prosper and contribute throughout life.**

To achieve these aims, the Amby and district community 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 Amby and district community are set out below, acknowledging that Roma is the education and training hub for the Maranoa region

6.1.1

Provide Amby and district community support for 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 Amby and district community participation in workshops to assist and support small business owners and potential owners.

6.1.3

Encourage Amby and district community 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 Amby and district community 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 Amby and district community provides support to 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 Amby and district community will continue to work with the Maranoa regional community to enhance a smart economy which fosters innovation and sustainable growth and is characterised by diverse and adaptable industry, business and commercial sectors which are underpinned by a highly skilled and energetic labour force**

To achieve these aims, the Amby and district community 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 Amby and district community are set out below:

<b>6.2.1</b>	Provide Amby and district community support for 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 Amby benefits accordingly
<b>6.2.2</b>	The Amby and district community promotes and encourages the benefits of professional development for individuals and the advantages of high service standards and customer focus within a business.
<b>6.2.3</b>	Encourage and promote the benefits of partnerships and collaborations within the Amby and district community and with the wider regional communities, especially Roma.
<b>6.2.4</b>	Provide Amby and district community support to further enhancement of the Roma CBD and Mitchell CBD as lively, easily accessible, safe, well designed retail, hospitality and commercial precincts which helps serve the Amby and district community
<b>6.2.5</b>	Encourage creative and ongoing re-invention of businesses enterprises in the Amby town and district, especially the quarry industries and convenience and hospitality services.
<b>6.2.6</b>	Encourage Amby and district community and local business use of the “Connected Futures” local community planning hub as a tool for business and the community
<b>6.3</b>	<b>The Amby and district community 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 Amby and district community 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 Amby and district community are set out below:

<b>6.3.1</b>	Continue Amby and district community 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.
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6.3.2	Amby residents and visitors have access to a 24hour telephone and internet access point in the town of Amby.
6.3.3	Continue Amby and district community support for the role of the Mitchell and Roma Libraries and schools as key providers and facilitators of techno-literacy, offering public internet access, accessibility to technical devices, e-books and audio items
6.4	<b>Together we will have a visitor economy where Amby is a key partner in making the Maranoa a prominent destination for outback tourists, events and visitor experiences</b>

To achieve these aims, the Amby and district community 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 Amby and district community are set out below:

6.4.1	Amby Heritage Park, hall and surrounds continue to be enhanced as an attraction in Amby, including possible serving of refreshments and hosting of stop-overs for bus tours.
6.4.2	Amby Heritage Park and hall incorporate visitor information services, primarily oriented towards the local district and the journey between Roma and Mitchell
6.4.3	Amby scar trees site continue to be enhanced as an attraction in Amby, especially by improving access, parking and signage.
6.4.4	Explore development of camping and caravanning facilities options for Amby and possibility of a dump point.
6.4.5	Explore ways to show visitors the former Amby when it boasted a larger population and was a focal centre for district sports
6.4.6	Enhance existing walking, cycling and drive trails and development of new trails to provide quality pathways for tourists to explore the history and natural environment of Amby and district.
6.4.7	Develop a unique Amby product, for example, basalt rock item

<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 in Amby town and around the district and representing Amby as a feature on the Maranoa drive trails
<b>6.4.9</b>	Amby representatives become part of the Maranoa network of visitor economy organisations which seek agreement across the Maranoa about regional branding and the sharing of stories between communities
<b>6.4.10</b>	Comprehensive tourism plan to be developed for Amby in the context of the Maranoa region
<b>6.4.11</b>	Installation of electronic sign boards along roads in Amby to provide current information about events and services
<b>6.4.12</b>	Enhanced communication with local businesses and the community about the importance of their roles in the visitor economy
<b>6.4.13</b>	Encourage local businesses and residents to consider promoting tourist opportunities to their visitors (especially in advance of their visits)
<b>6.4.14</b>	Development and delivery of educational tourism opportunities relating to local industries to expand visitor experiences and engage the local community.

# Progressive, inclusive and strong local leadership

## What we want to achieve...

**7.1**

**Together, the Amby and district community, 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 Amby and district community 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 Amby and district community are set out below:

**7.1.1**

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