

Charters Towers



The **Charters Towers** Regional Council Local Government Area covers a total area of 68,571.2 square kilometres with the majority of the population and economy centred in the historic gold mining city of **Charters Towers**.

Boasting significant agriculture and resources activity the **Charters Towers** Local Government Area recorded an estimated resident population of 12,491 persons as at 30 June 2013.

A 90-minute drive south west of Townsville on the Flinders Highway the city of **Charters Towers** is easily accessible to travellers from Townsville and Mount Isa and also provides access to Greenvale in the north and Clermont to the south along the sealed Gregory Developmental Road.

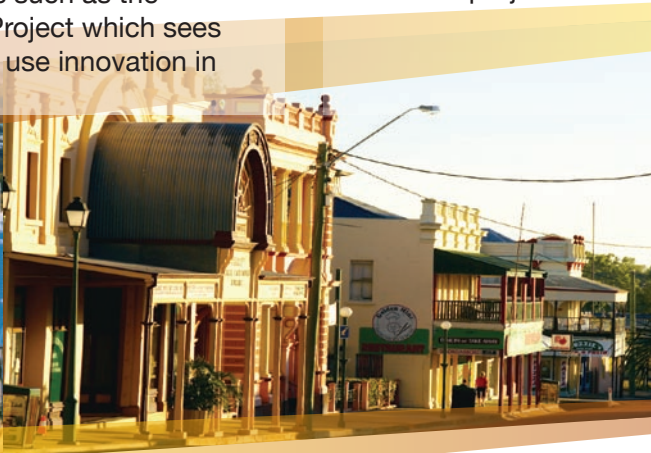
Beef production is a major economic activity in the region with the mining, tourism and education and research industries also prominent.

Opportunities for future growth in the **Charters Towers** region encompass a meat processing facility to value add to the abundant agricultural commodity, irrigated agriculture; with an abundance of water and arable land available and renewable energy projects such as the Solar Utility and Data Centre Project which sees Council proactively seeking to use innovation in



the area of renewable energy and knowledge/digital economy for the purpose of developing a solar utility capable of power generation for new industrial and commercial projects.

Other opportunities are expected as a result of increased interest in the area of food and fodder production along the upper Burdekin River as well the potential for a large-scale sugar and ethanol project.



CHARTERS TOWERS REGIONAL COUNCIL

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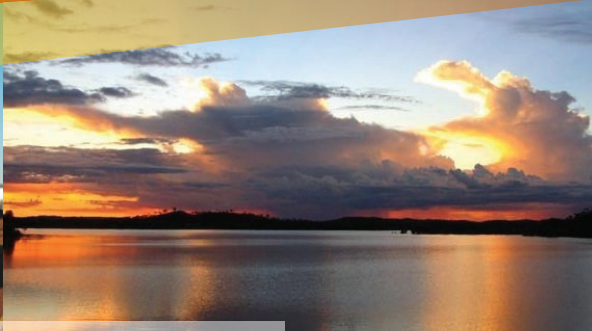
CHARTERS TOWERS
REGIONAL COUNCIL



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Cloncurry Shire



Cloncurry is a rural town, with rich mining and pastoral industries and a strategic location within the North West Minerals Province.

Nestled on the banks of the Cloncurry River, **Cloncurry** is located 700 kilometres west of Townsville, 120 kilometres east of Mount Isa and 400 kilometres south of the Gulf of Carpentaria.

A significant contributor of mining royalties from the North West, **Cloncurry** is harnessing unprecedented growth in the mining sector. With an established pastoral industry and strong transport infrastructure **Cloncurry** is a prime candidate in the North West for future growth.

With easy access to major transport routes, the Shire is a strategic link between Brisbane/Sydney to Darwin and beyond. Accessible by road, rail and air **Cloncurry** is a vital link in the Mount Isa Rail Corridor connecting mining, agricultural and broader regional activity in Queensland's North West to the Townsville Port.

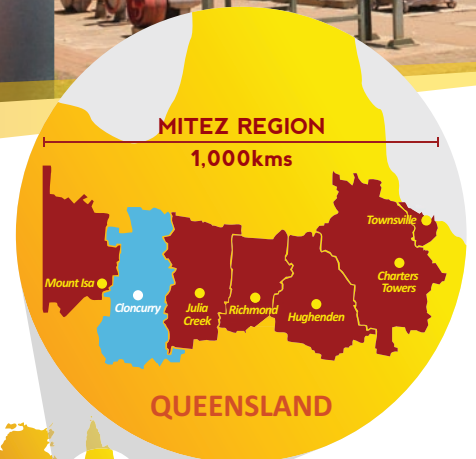
With a population of approximately 3,800 **Cloncurry** provides residents and surrounding properties access to a wide range of essential and specialist health, hospital and medical facilities, education and family services and community facilities.

Cloncurry Shire's economy is built upon strengths in the transport, agriculture, tourism and mining industries, with diverse infrastructure strategically planned to attract and support development.



With a strong business environment and land available for a wide variety of commercial and industrial uses Cloncurry harnesses room for growing business.

Future opportunities include a number of new mines including gold, copper, zinc, and rare earth elements that will be mined, processed and transported to markets from Cloncurry. With an abundance of mineral resources, access to electricity generation and water supplies there is tremendous capacity for industries to grow and provide a secure future for the town.



CLONCURRY SHIRE COUNCIL

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Flinders Shire



The **Flinders Shire** covers an area of 41,632 square kilometres in the heart of North West Queensland .

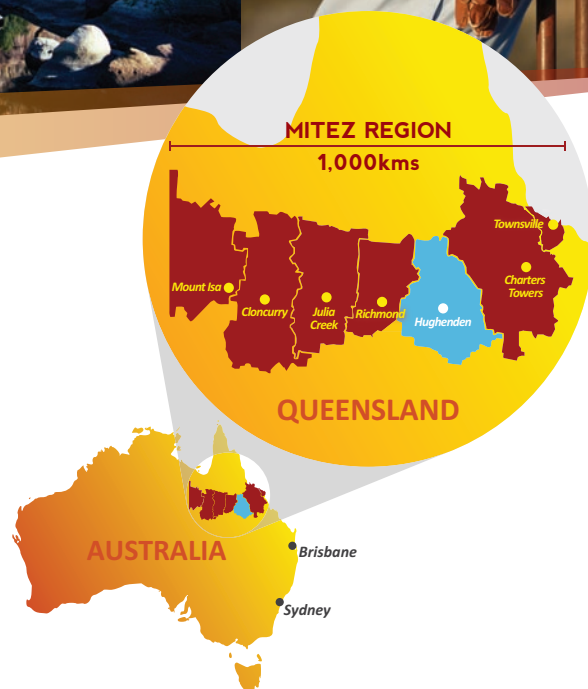
With Hughenden the main business centre for the Shire the smaller communities of Prairie, Torrens Creek and Stamford are also included within its footprint.

Hughenden, the epicentre of the Shire is located on the crossroad of the Flinders Highway and the inland Hann Highway, linking Cairns to Melbourne. Just 383 kilometres west of Townsville and 1,566 kilometres north west of Brisbane Hughenden is a hub for many tourists and travellers, accessible by regular rail, bus and air transport links.

The **Flinders Shire** is predominantly a grazing area, with emerging irrigation pockets. The major industry for the Shire is irrigated agriculture and beef cattle production with the Shire harnessing over 100 rural grazing properties and a gross value of agricultural production of \$73.5m.

Future planning and developments for the **Flinders Shire** centre around the energy, resource and agriculture sectors. With one of the largest coal basins in the world (the 16,500 square kilometre Galilee Basin) running directly through the **Flinders Shire** region several companies are currently investigating new coal projects throughout the region.

Steps are also currently underway to develop the large irrigated agricultural precinct known as the Flinders River Ag Precinct (FRAP); capturing water from the artesian basin and the Flinders River. Including the development of sustainable irrigated agriculture in an area of land along the Flinders River between Hughenden and Julia Creek, the project boasts some of the best farming soil in Queensland, access to a reliable water source, affordable land and low development costs.



An opportunity has further been identified for an abattoir facility in the Flinders region, with a report issued by the Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry identifying Hughenden to have the largest potential cattle supply of locations along the tick line; teamed with accessible and affordable land, water and power, reasonable population and public services, local producer support, access to a good labour force and with five roads feeding in to the town.

The attractive township of Hughenden, has well established businesses and services, a number of schools, affordable housing and most of the facilities expected by families looking for a comfortable country lifestyle.



FLINDERS SHIRE COUNCIL

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McKinlay Shire



McKinlay Shire is the gateway to the Gulf of Carpentaria. The Shire spans some 41,000 square kilometres and embraces the townships of Julia Creek and Nelia on the Flinders Highway and McKinlay and Kynuna on the Matilda Highway. Julia Creek is the main township and is located approximately 650 kilometres west of Townsville and 225 kilometres east of Mount Isa.

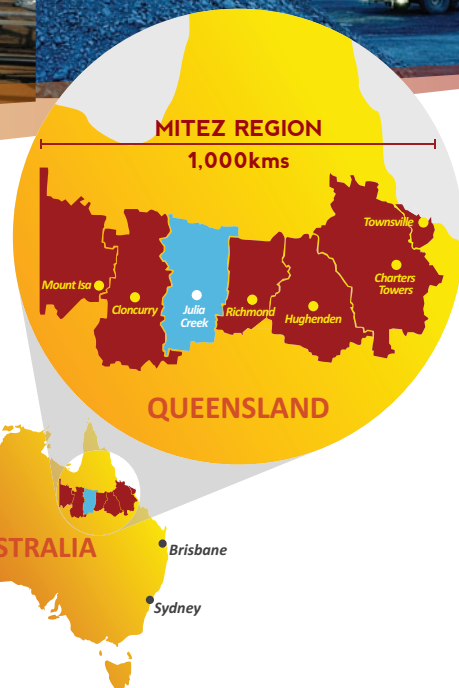
A rural and regional Shire, McKinlay is home to a population of 1,000 and a productive and innovative pastoral industry, the world's richest single mine producer of silver, lead and zinc BHP Billiton Cannington Mine as well as the Eloise Copper Mine.

The world's largest natural aquifer, the Great Artesian Basin, underpins and supports the community and the diversity of the rich grazing lands and unique animal life that the Shire has to offer.

McKinlay Shire has a proud history, industry and is a close family community. A well connected and strong community, **McKinlay Shire** supports a growing population to meet the key thresholds for social, health, education and commercial services, underpinned by a sustainable, diversified rural economy. The community welcomes new industries that contribute to its overall vision and sustainability.

Opportunities for future development exist in irrigated agriculture, fodder production, feedlots and exploiting the Shire's significant shale oil deposits. With one of Queensland's great icon events, the Dirt and Dust Festival, being held annually at Julia Creek, tourism is fast becoming a major industry in the Shire.

Events in the Shire are driven by the spirit and passion of local communities and contribute to the social calendar of events in Queensland's Outback.



MCKINLAY SHIRE COUNCIL

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www.mitez.com.au

Mount Isa City



The city of **Mount Isa** is one of the more remote local government areas in Queensland. It lies in the heart of the North West Mineral Province, one of the world's richest mineral resources; adjoining the border of the Northern Territory.

Mount Isa is located approximately 1,826 kilometres from Brisbane, the capital of Queensland, and 883 kilometres from the nearest major city and port of Townsville. Covering an area of over 43,310 square kilometres (including the township of Camooweal), **Mount Isa** is the second largest city (geographically) in Australia to Kalgoorlie-Boulder.

Shaped by its remote, rural location and rich mineral bounty, **Mount Isa** harnesses a long standing mining heritage. Celebrating its 90th year in 2013, a feat unique among mining towns nationwide, Mount Isa has grown from Australia's first 'company town' into one of the largest and most important industrial powerhouses in the nation and is the capital of the world-class Carpentaria Minerals Province.

Demonstrating a strong sense of identity and community, with a population of approximately 23,000 and a diverse, multicultural population of over fifty nationalities, **Mount Isa** is the administrative, commercial, and industrial centre of North West Queensland and centre for health, public administration and community services.

Industry in the city is based around Glenore's Mount Isa Mines, one of the world's top ten producers of lead, copper, silver and zinc and one of the top two largest copper mining and smelter operations in the country.

Cattle grazing and tourism are other major industries of note, with the region producing some of the country's best beef. Other major components of the **Mount**



Isa economy include mineral processing, tourism and agriculture. The overall population growth and economic advancement of this unique community is additionally supported by smaller mining companies, a diverse service network, transport operations, retail industries, electricity, gas, water and waste services; and education and training.

Future opportunities include a number of new mines including uranium, phosphate and rare earth elements that will be mined, processed and transported to markets from **Mount Isa**. With an abundance of mineral resources, electricity generation and water supplies as well as a gas pipeline to the city, there is tremendous capacity for industries to grow and provide a secure future for the city.



MOUNT ISA CITY COUNCIL

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Richmond Shire



The Shire of **Richmond** comprises approximately 26,000 square kilometres in the heart of Queensland. Predominantly agricultural country, the Shire has gained prestige for its dinosaur fossil discoveries, commonly referred to as the Fossil Capital of Australia. With a population of 827 **Richmond Shire** harnesses a bustling tourism industry centred around a strong agricultural sector.

Situated on the south bank of the Flinders River, the township of **Richmond** is the Shire's central hub, located 1,432 kilometres north west of Brisbane and approximately 500 kilometres west of Townsville.

The town itself is a vital hub for the area and is easily accessible by air, train and road, including thrice-weekly flights between Townsville, Richmond and Mount Isa. The town features cool grassy parks that entice the passer-by to stay a while, and the large recreational Lake Fred Tritton is much-prized for fishing, water-skiing and kayaking, as well as a walk through the near-by Bush Tucker Garden.

Richmond has won a number of awards such as the Queensland Tidy Town award as well as national environmental awards for its tourism and community projects making it one of the



Outback's most attractive small towns and a great place to raise a family.

Beef cattle, irrigated agriculture, dryland farming and gold mining are the main industries in the Shire. A 'shovel ready' project, promoted by Richmond Shire is the O'Connell Creek Off-stream Water Storage Facility, a major investment opportunity that would pave the way forward for future growth.



RICHMOND SHIRE COUNCIL

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Townsville City



Townsville; widely regarded as the capital of North Queensland is the largest city in North Australia with the local government area covering 3,736 square kilometres. Located about halfway between the tip of Cape York and Brisbane Townsville is one of the fastest growing cities in the state of Queensland in terms of population with an estimated resident population of 189,238 as of 30 June 2013.

The Townsville region encompasses a major urban coastal area, a restricted rural area, mountain ranges, a major offshore island (Magnetic Island) and a number of smaller islands and rock shoals including Herald and Rattlesnake Islands.

Townsville has capitalised on its low level terrain and relatively low tropical rainfall to provide an efficient access route and service centre for North Queensland. Townsville provides the northern link for state and federal governments, as well as for private enterprise in primary and secondary industries, mining, commerce, retail and community and cultural services.

Townsville's economy has displayed a strong and stable performance over the past decade. Factors contributing to this are strong population growth, significant new public sector investment, the growing role of Townsville as a public and private sector regional service centre and the city's diversified economy with strengths in mining services, mineral processing, international tropical marine research, defence, education and tourism.

Together, Queensland Rail and the Port of Townsville provide a transport hub for the region's mining and

agricultural industries, as well as for locally-based Glencore Copper Refinery, Sun Metals Zinc Refinery, Queensland Nickel and the Queensland Sugar Corporation Distribution Centre.

A major service centre and the main centre for government administration outside Brisbane Townsville also boasts a number of research institutions such as James Cook University, the Australian Institute of Marine Science, the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority, Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry and the CSIRO. The city's large Australian Defence Force community, due to army and airforce bases, also influence the local economy.



TOWNSVILLE CITY COUNCIL

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