



Sean Dillon MP

Member for Gregory

October 2, 2025

Embargoed – Thursday, October 2

A FRESH START FOR QUEENSLAND Gregory small businesses to benefit from safer precincts

- Gregory small and family businesses are set to benefit from crime prevention measures to make small business precincts safer.
- More than \$885,000 was awarded to Barcaldine Regional Council and Woorabinda Aboriginal Shire Council to fund critical safety infrastructure such as CCTV safety networks and lockable perimeter fencing.
- Crime prevention measures will be implemented at Aramac, Barcaldine and Woorabinda
- Funding is the first round of the \$40 million Secure Communities Partnership Program, delivered by the Crisafulli Government.

Small and family businesses in Gregory will benefit from a \$885,000 investment in critical crime prevention measures to deter criminal activity in their business precincts.

Barcaldine Regional Council was successful in obtaining two grants, while Woorabinda Aboriginal Shire Council also received two grants delivered through Round 1 of the Crisafulli Government's \$40 million Secure Communities Partnership Program.

The funding will be used by the Councils to implement CCTV safety networks, LED solar streetlights, strategic landscaping and lockable perimeter fencing at Aramac, Barcaldine and Woorabinda to protect small and family businesses from criminal activity.

Minister for Small and Family Business, Steve Minnikin highlighted the importance of the program in supporting Queensland's small business community.

"Small businesses underpin our economy, and we're proud to support them in return," Minister Minnikin said.

"For a small business owner, the cost of crime against their business cannot be understated.

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“Through the \$40 million Secure Communities Partnership Program, we are working to deliver practical, on the ground solutions that deter crime and create safer, more welcoming business areas.

“This funding is about making sure that we are safeguarding the livelihoods of small and family business owners so they can keep doing what they do best.”

Member for Gregory Sean Dillon said enhanced security measures in Gregory small business precincts was a major win for the region.

“This funding is a game-changer for our region’s small and family business community, offering greater defence mechanisms to keep crime at bay,” Mr Dillon said.

“The impact of crime against a family-owned or small business bears a significant financial strain and emotional toll.”

Round 2 of the Secure Communities Partnership Program will be launched before the end of the year and allow eligible small businesses to apply directly for funding to implement crime prevention measures.”

To sign up to be notified of Round 2 opening, or see a full list of approved projects for Round 1, visit business.qld.gov.au

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Successful Projects

Local Government – Barcaldine Regional Council
Project – Aramac Town Centre CCTV Safety Network
Funding – \$171,953

Project Description

Installation of a modern CCTV network along Gordon Street, Aramac's main commercial and civic hub, to improve public safety, deter crime, and support Queensland Police Service efforts. High-resolution cameras with licence plate recognition will be installed at four Ergon poles, Aramac Memorial Park, the

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swimming pool, and recreational facilities, covering key public and business areas. This initiative, developed in consultation with QPS and local stakeholders, aims to address 57 recorded offences over the past two years and enhance community safety, business confidence, and visitor amenity.

Local Government – Barcaldine Regional Council

Project – Barcaldine Town Centre CCTV Safety Network

Funding – \$263,941

Project Description

Installation of a new CCTV network along Oak Street, the town's main commercial and civic corridor, to enhance public safety, deter crime, and support Queensland Police Service efforts. Nine CCTV-equipped Ergon poles with multi-head and licence plate recognition cameras will provide 360-degree coverage of intersections, shopfronts, and pedestrian areas between Pine and Box Streets. This system, endorsed by local police, will address 154 recorded offences in the area since 2023, improving visibility, response times, and community safety.

Local Government – Woorabinda Aboriginal Shire Council

Project – Woorabinda Secure Community Project

Funding – \$398,968.58

Project Description

Woorabinda Council will install LED solar streetlights, access-controlled CCTV, and strategic landscaping along Munns Drive and Carbine Street to enhance safety around the business precinct, Council offices, and nearby assets. With new businesses like Foodworks and Fair Dinkum Meats operating in the area, these upgrades aim to deter crime, improve visibility, and support community confidence. The project aligns with Council's Corporate Plan and has been developed in consultation with the community and Police to address local safety concerns and support economic growth.

Local Government – Woorabinda Aboriginal Shire Council

Project – Lockable Perimeter Fencing for Boongara Radio Station

Funding – \$50,600

Project Description

Woorabinda Council will use funding to install 1.8m high perimeter fencing around the Boongara Radio Station on Carbine Street to prevent vandalism and unlawful entry.

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As a critical community asset and part of the Black Star network, the station supports local broadcasting and emergency communications. This project will enhance safety for staff and volunteers, enable the station to reopen for evening programs, and strengthen community confidence, aligning with Council's draft Community Safety Plan.

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