



FNQROC BOARD MEETING

MINUTES

Meeting No.	
Meeting	FNQROC Board / QRA Presentation
Date	11 May 2020
Time	10:30am
Venue	Via GO TO MEETING (Video / Tele Conference)
Meeting Objective	Queensland Reconstruction Authority (QRA) to outline how they can support LGAs in the development of Local Recovery Plans

ATTENDEES

COUNCIL	ATTENDEE	TITLE
CAIRNS	Cr Bob Manning	Mayor
	Mr John Andrejic	CEO
CARPENTARIA	Cr Jack Bawden	Mayor
	Mr Mark Crawley	CEO
CASSOWARY	Cr Mark Nolan	Mayor
	Mr James Gott	CEO
COOK	Cr Peter Scott	Mayor
	Mr Lawrence Booth	Director, Economy and Innovation
CROYDON	Cr Trevor Pickering	Mayor
	Mr Bill Kerwin	CEO
DOUGLAS	Cr Michael Kerr	Mayor
	Mr Mark Stoermer	CEO
ETHERIDGE	Cr Barry Hughes	Mayor
	Mr David Munroe	CEO
HINCHINBROOK	Cr Ramon Jayo	Mayor
HOPE VALE	Mr Mark Kelleher	CEO
MAREEBA	Cr Angela Toppin	Mayor
	Mr Peter Franks	CEO
TABLELANDS	Ms Nicole van Beuningen	Senior Executive Officer
WUJAL WUJAL	Mr Steve Wilton	CEO
YARRABAH	Cr Ross Andrews	Mayor
	Mr Leon Yeatman	CEO

ORGANISATION	ATTENDEE	TITLE
QRA	Alexandra Marsh	Manager, Recovery Operations & Capability Dev.
	Kirsty Beavington	Policy Program Manager
FNQROC	Darlene Irvine	Executive Officer
	Linda Richardson	Executive Coordinator
	Lachlan Rankine	Infrastructure and Asset Management
	Amanda Hancock	Procurement Coordinator
	Travis Sydes	Natural Asset Management & Sustainability

1. Welcome

Cr Peter Scott, Deputy Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting and handed the meeting over to D Irvine to introduce Alexandra Marsh and Kirsty Beavington from QRA to provide a presentation to the board.

2. Queensland Reconstruction Authority (QRA) Presentation

Alexandra Marsh (QRA) provided a presentation to the board talking through the development of a State Recovery Plan outline and the assistance they can provide councils and the region.

Key Presentation Points included:

- Overview of **natural** Recovery Governance Arrangements noting the feed from LDMG, DDMG to State Disaster Management Committee, through to State/Federal Governments. It was noted that as a result of COVID-19 an additional recovery function of Justice has been included.
- QRA has a team of five (5) Staff working in the recovery planning, with four (4) members allocated to the FNQROC region. The team can provide assistance via the provision on templates to capture impacts, impact assessment and recovery outcomes; delivery of workshops to help facilitate the capture of impacts, impact assessments and recovery outcomes (currently restricted to online delivery until travel restrictions are lifted); Assistance with the development of event specific Recovery Plans.
- Example of Recovery Action Table template, noting this is a working document that is used to develop the final planning document;
- The State Recovery Plan would usually sit with QRA, however in the current situation, who will have responsibility the State Recovery Plan is still to be finalised.
- It was noted that if a council participates in the Regional Recovery Plan, it does not mean that a council must have a Local Recovery Plan (or vice versa);
- it was noted that not every LGA will feel the need to develop a local Recovery Plan, but QRA are here to assist those councils who do have the requirement;
- The QRA team has been split across the FNQROC Councils and serviced by:
 1. **Cairns, Cook, Croydon, Etheridge, Douglas, Hope Vale and Wujal Wujal**
Alexandra Marsh | 0467 719 022 | Alexandra.marsh@qra.qld.gov.au
 2. **Hinchinbrook and Yarrabah**
Kirsty Beavington | 0417 644 595 | Kirsty.beavington@qra.qld.gov.au
 3. **Carpentaria, Mareeba and Tablelands**
Jade Moorby | 0400 682 069 | jade.moorby@qra.qld.gov.au
 4. **Cassowary Coast**
Nathan Peake | 0417 211 265 | Nathan.peake@qra.qld.gov.au

The Deputy Chair opened up for questions from the floor.

ROUNDTABLE Q&A SUMMARY	
Question 1	Noting that Cook, Wujal Wujal and Douglas have been working collaboratively through COVID-19, particularly in relation to Biosecurity issue, S Wilton (Wujal) asked if those councils would be best working together or looking at individual plans?
Response 1	Cr Scott (Cook) felt it was essential to start together and move forward together and intended to engage with the new Mayors to progress. S Wilton agreed and A Marsh (QRA) offered assistance to develop.
Question 2	D Irvine (FNQROC) enquired as to completion timelines for Local Recovery Plans for inclusion in the State Recovery Plan.
Response 2	<p>A Marsh (QRA) reiterated that whilst it is still unclear if local plans would be included in the State Plan, there is an understanding that before the plan is released, an Economic Recovery Strategy is due to be released at the end of July. Therefore, if councils have <i>'Impacts and Recovery Objectives'</i> that they would like to see included in the strategy it is suggested this information be available by end of June 2020, with Recovery Plans finalised by September 2020.</p> <p>QRA understands that LG needs to lead recovery and it is important to work within the timeframes reflective of individual communities. In the past QRA have demonstrated flexibility with timelines (ie Monsoon Trough Recovery Plan enabled amendments be incorporated as council plans were finalised and prior to Cabinet endorsement).</p> <p>Caveat - That approach would apply if QRA coordinating plan, but may not if another agency takes responsibility.</p>
Question 3	L Yeatman (Yarrabah) raised an issue around the current restrictions relating to the Biosecurity arrangements and the impact on community. Any discussion, how that particular instrument is likely to be captured in that process and the duration, so that the normality of recovery can be applied, without becoming an impediment to the community in the long term.
Response 3	<p>A Marsh advised in terms of Biosecurity rulings she has no visibility, however from a recovery perspective there may be some initial impacts that you can assess. The local Recovery Plans are 'living documents' and can be amended as other impacts arise due to the lifting of Biosecurity restrictions.</p> <p>Cr Scott noted that Cook Shire was putting pressure on the office of Hon Warren Entsch MP, Member for Leichhardt as to timeframes for lifting restrictions. May be contingent upon the development of Economic Recovery Plan.</p>
Question 4	Cr Jayo queried if the templates produced were COVID-19 specific, as the online versions seem to be generic.
Response 4	K Beavington confirmed that is correct and a full suite to be provided to FNQROC for circulation, as well as direct follow up with Hinchinbrook Shire by QRA to support.
Question 5	Cr Scott noted that TMR were undertaking works in the Cairns region and it was equally important to have works commence in the Cape region, particularly ahead of the wet season. Including the easing of Biosecurity legislation for this essential activity.
Response 5	K Beavington confirmed that TMR are currently looking at what works can be rolled out early and conscious of EOFY funding timelines, with State/Commonwealth discussions re extensions if required.

To understand which FNQROC Councils may require assistance, A Marsh asked if any councils at this stage did not see the need for a Local Recovery Plan, noting that councils were able to develop plans down the track if they changed their mind.

- Croydon Shire advised no direct impact, no need to develop a plan;
- Hope Vale Aboriginal Shire Council still undecided if a plan will be required as assesses current impact;
- Yarrabah are taking a collaborate approach with agencies and therefore unsure if localised plan required but was undertaking preparatory paperwork at this stage.

ACTION: QRA to provide the full suite of COVID-19 specific templates to D Irvine for board circulation

3. General Business

D Irvine raised an issue, which had come to her attention today, relating to the intent that special powers be transferred to councils for the enforcement of social distancing. This is not a role council's want or have the resources for. There was general agreement and D Irvine advised she would investigate further and advice would be shared with the board.

ACTION: D Irvine to investigate further in relation to special powers for the enforcement of social distancing and report back to the board.

4. Meeting Close

The Deputy Chair thanked QRA for the presentation and closed the meeting at 11:13 am.

ACTION ITEMS:

	AGREED ACTION	RESPONSIBLE	STATUS
Action 1	K Beavington to provide the full suite of COVID-19 specific templates to D Irvine for circulation	K Beavington D Irvine	Complete
Action 2	D Irvine to investigate further in relation to special powers for the enforcement of social distancing and report back to the board	D Irvine	In progress