

# Rivers to Reef Climate Resilient Alliance

<b>Meeting No</b>	1
<b>Meeting Name</b>	Rivers to Reef Climate Resilient Alliance (RRCRA) Executive
<b>Date</b>	28 January 2022
<b>Time</b>	10:00am – 1:00pm
<b>Venue</b>	Virtually – via Teams Meeting – MSC, YASC Barlow Park Corporate Room – TRC, CRC, FNQROC

## EXECUTIVE MEMBERS

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<b>CO CHAIR</b>	Cr Dave Bilney	Tablelands Regional Council
<b>CO CHAIR</b>	Cr Lenore Wyatt	Mareeba Shire Council
	Cr Ross Andrews, Mayor	Yarrabah Aboriginal Shire Council
	Cr Amy Eden	Cairns Regional Council
	Tudor Tanase, Manager Planning and Environment	Tablelands Regional Council
	Glenda Kirk, Director Infrastructure Services	Mareeba Shire Council
	Leon Yeatman, Chief Executive Officer	Yarrabah Aboriginal Shire Council
	Ed Johnson, Director Planning, Growth & Sustainability	Cairns Regional Council

## TECHNICAL WORKING GROUP

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	Scott Morrison, Coordinator Natural Resource Management	Tablelands Regional Council
<b>PROJECT TEAM</b>	Travis Sydes, Natural Assets and Sustainability Coordinator	Far North Queensland Regional Organisation of Councils
<b>SECRETARY</b>	Michelle O'Loughlin, Climate Resilient Alliance Coordinator	Far North Queensland Regional Organisation of Councils

## 01 WELCOME & ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF TRADITIONAL OWNERS

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The meeting commenced at 10:10am.

M. O'Loughlin welcomed everyone to the meeting and acknowledged the Traditional Owners of the land on which we meet today and paid respects to Elders past, present and emerging.

The National First Peoples Gathering on Climate Change 2021 Statement was also acknowledged.

## 02 APOLOGIES

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<b>PROJECT TEAM</b>	Sophie Barrett, Coordinator Sustainability & Climate Change	Cairns Regional Council
	Keely MacMillan, Technical Advisor Quality Assurance and Environment	Mareeba Shire Council

## 03 CONFIRMATION OF PREVIOUS MINUTES

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N/A

## 04 MINUTES & RECOMMENDATIONS

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- A workshop session was held from 10:10 until 12:25. It provided an overview of the pilot, context, and examples of related alliances. This was followed by a discussion on climate resilience in the region:

### Regional challenges

- a. Land use planning – inheriting unsustainable design and development in hazard zones, need for a new Regional Plan, accelerating population growth and competing land uses, such as large-scale renewable energy projects with high biodiversity values.
- b. Transport – public transport and active transport networks
- c. Barriers to uptake - compounding issues re. low SEIFA populations, council budgets re. resourcing levels and competing important priorities
- d. Climate impacts on natural assets and waste management challenges
- e. Diversity and size of councils

### Regional strengths

- a. Enviale location - natural assets and lifestyle, legacy of caring for Country
- b. Community values and heritage
- c. Skills base – technical and traditional
- d. Aligned sectors - agriculture, tourism, renewable energy, science, NRM, education & training
- e. Mature disaster management arrangements
- f. Successful collaboration through FNQROC

Cr's introduced opportunities to improve education with a campaign of consistent messaging regarding council and community-led climate action across the region. Other interest areas were 'betterment' for resilient infrastructure, consistent measurement of progress and consideration of agriculture as a key sector for several councils.

- The TWG's proposed vision, mission and objectives were refined to finalise the Terms of Reference (DM# 6734793).

<p><b>Terms of Reference</b></p> <p><b>Recommendation 1.1 –</b></p> <p><i>RRCRA Executive provide in principle adoption of the Terms of Reference.</i></p>	<p><i>Terms of Reference to be updated and circulated for signing.</i></p>
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- The draft Action Plan (DM# 6774873) was introduced, and 22 actions prioritised by each council to guide the focus of the Alliance. In order, the results were:

Mitigation and transition themes – next 5 months

1. Onsite solar (M.2)
2. Energy and emissions monitoring (M.1)
3. Carbon and ecosystems accounting (T.2)

Next 2 years:

1. Energy and emissions monitoring (M.1)
2. Smart Green Economy (T.1)
3. Efficient public lighting (M.3), Power Purchase Agreement feasibility (M.4)
4. Low carbon procurement (M.5)
5. Low carbon, climate ready housing (M.9)
6. Council EV fleet transition (M.8)

Adaptation and community of practice themes – next 5 months

1. Regional Climate Risks - support awareness (A.1)
2. Regional monitoring (A.7)
3. Cooling our built environment (A.4), Flood mapping (A.8)
4. Heat event management responses (A.3), Disaster management for natural assets (A.6), Support councils' climate risk governance (G.1), Inspiring regional climate action (G.2)

Next 2 years

1. Regional Climate Risk Strategy (A.1)
2. Cooling our built environment (A.4)
3. Disaster management for natural assets (A.6)

<p><b>Action Plan</b></p> <p><b>Recommendation 1.2 –</b></p> <p><i>RRCRA Executive provide in principle adoption of action priorities.</i></p>	<p><i>Action Plan timelines as per Executive priorities to be updated and circulated for final comment.</i></p>
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- There was a discussion on how the Alliance could support leadership, influence or advocacy. Crs requested “one story – collective advocacy” and assistance in developing the “literacy of elected members, so advocacy and education can permeate through budget discussions and wider council decision making”.
- An initial motion was called for by T.Sydes:

<p><b>Nomination of Chair</b></p>	
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**Recommendation 1.3 –**

*A Chair be nominated for the RRCRA Executive.*

*Cr Bilney and Cr Wyatt nominated as Chair; given the duration of the pilot project it was agreed that a Co-Chair arrangement was preferable.*

**MOVED: Cr Eden SECOND: Cr Andrews**

**CARRIED**

## **05 UPDATE FROM LGAQ CLIMATE ADVISORY GROUP**

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N/A

## **06 GENERAL BUSINESS**

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- Potential pathways for sustainable funding and resourcing for the Alliance was discussed. An options report from FNQROC will be provided at the next Executive meeting.

## **07 POINTS FOR NOTING TO FNQROC BOARD**

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N/A

## **08 NEXT RRCRA EXECUTIVE MEETING NO. 2**

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- 29 April 2022

## **09 CONCLUSION**

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M. O'Loughlin thanked members for their contribution. There being no further business, the meeting was closed at 12:25.

## AGREED ACTION ITEMS

28 January 2021

Minute Number	Action	Owner	Status
1.1	1. Update TOR with agreed wording and circulate for signing 2. Sign and return TOR	1. FNQROC 2. Alliance Councils	COMPLETE
1.2	1. Update Action Plan timelines as per Executive priorities. 2. Circulate and provide for final comment. 3. Collate and publish approved action plan.	1. FNQROC 2. Alliance Councils 3. FNQROC	COMPLETE
1.3	Draft Alliance funding and resourcing options report.	FNQROC	IN PROGRESS



Cr Dave Bilney

Rivers to Reef Climate Resilient Councils Alliance Co- Chair