

Minutes - FNQROC Planners Meeting – No.65

Meeting Details

Meeting No	65
Meeting Name	FNQROC Planners Meeting
Date	6 June 2023
Time	10am to 2pm
Venue	Civic Reception Room, Ground Floor, Cairns Regional Council

Attendees

Name	Organisation
Brian Millard	Mareeba Shire Council
Byron Jones	Cassowary Coast Regional Council
Carl Erwin	Mareeba Shire Council
Claire Simmons	Cairns Regional Council
Daniel Horton	Cassowary Coast Regional Council
Deb Wellington	Cairns Regional Council
Ed Johnson	Cairns Regional Council
Fleur Anderson	Cairns Regional Council
Glenys Pilat	Mareeba Shire Council
Kelly Reaston	Tablelands Regional Council
Sean Lisle	Cairns Regional Council
Liz Taylor	Etheridge Shire Council
Teresa Schmidt	Cook Shire Council
Darlene Irvine	FNQROC
Paula Power	FNQROC
Crystal Baker (online)	LGAQ
Linda Brown	DSDLGIP
Brett Nancarrow	DSDILGP
Tony Croke	DSDILGP
Ryan Longland	DSDILGP
Althena Davidson	DSDILGP
Gerhard Visser	DSDSATSIP
Charmain Aldridge	DSDILGP
Martin Reason	DSDILGP

Apologies

Name	Organisation
Nikki Huddy	Yarrabah Shire Council
Dan Lamond	Douglas Shire Council
Dylan Thomas	Cassowary Coast Regional Council
Jenny Elphinstone	Douglas Shire Council
Neil Beck	Douglas Shire Council
Lisa Miller	Cook Shire Council

1. WELCOME & ROUNDTABLE INTRODUCTIONS

D Irvine welcomed and introduced the roundtable. Meeting opened at 10.00am.

2. ACTIONS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES

Minute Number	Action	Responsible Person(s)	Status
64.1	Convene a Regional Biodiversity in Planning Workshop run by PIA in partnership relevant regional stakeholders – N Huddy to initiate conversation with PIA, FNQROC to liaise with Terrain NRM and regional partners. Date to be set after the next FNQ Planners meeting.	PIA FNQROC	Complete
64.2	T Croke to provide further information on regulation amendments.	T Croke	Completed, sent with minutes
64.3	T Croke to provide updates and fact sheets on temporary use license's and currency periods.	T Croke	Completed, sent with minutes
64.4	N Huddy (Planz) to forward 'Assessment of the Tablelands Seasonal Worker Industry Report' provided to TRC in 2016 for comparisons.	N Huddy	Completed, sent with minutes
64.5	D Irvine to share her initial draft with all councils to then input their thoughts regarding expectations of the Regional Plan and current/in development strategies and plans which can help inform it.	D Irvine All Councils	Draft sent with minutes for comments

3. FNQ REGIONAL PLAN – Overview to date

Martin Reason, Will Hyam, Charmain Aldridge, Lynda Brown and Ryan Longland - DSDILGP

FNQ Regional Infrastructure Plan (RIP)

- Identify strategic regional priorities over 20 year horizon
- Identify key enabling infrastructure priorities
- Integrated framework of infrastructure planning responses across Government (up to 10 year outlook)

- Boundaries – integration of Cape York and FNQ Regional Plan boundaries.

5 key social and economic priorities

- A healthy region with livable communities
- A thriving green economy
- A leader in tropical agriculture
- A prosperous marine industry
- A leader in cultural and experiential tourism

Discussion:

- Minerals and aviation critical, these are emerging and expanding industries.
- Queensland New Industry Development Strategy (QNIDS) rolled out state-wide. Associated training and skills building. Upskilling of workers. DAF working in partnership with DESBT. Key initiatives i.e. Marine College.
- Surprised the Space Centre Australia and its future opportunities and impact hasn't been identified. They have just signed a 25sqkm lease near Weipa with a staged approach to their development to 2028.
- High level paper with substantial local government comments. Opportunity for further consultation with local government? Greater prospect of success to have a look at the detail.
- FNQ Regional Plan and FNQ Infrastructure Plan – understanding economic focus of the plan. Local Government wants to see what is in the detail. ie. Hospitals, rail systems, livability, road infrastructure.
- Infrastructure Plan first and end piece Regional Plan as an enabler.
- Discussion regarding the regional infrastructure Plan and concerns held. In the interests of 'setting the scene' for the development of the Regional Plan, the committee requested to view the RIP with submissions incorporated before releasing to the public. Ideally this would be before the first RPC meeting.

65.1 ACTION: M Reason to seek opportunity for the planning committee to review the RIP before release.

FNQ Regional Plan Review

Actions to occur:

- Gazette new Regional Planning Committee (waiting on some councils to respond to invitation to participate in RPC)
- Finalise engagement strategy
- Analyse gaps and opportunities
- Targeted engagement on focus areas
- Regulation can influence but can't control.
- Worked with consultant to create 5 state priorities.
- Reporting – forums every month. Sounding and clearing house.
- Hopeful with structure it will hit highlights. Working together for meaningful change in the regional plan to make a difference to set up for ongoing implementation.

FNQROC expectations

Considered FNQROC Expectations and State Priorities. Proposed Integrated FNQ Regional Plan priorities:

- Regional housing needs
- Regional Economy
- Regional transport & infrastructure
- Regional community & social planning
- Regional environment.

Technical Consortium Overview

- Awarded to **SMEC** consortium, strong evidence to underpin regional needs and gave greatest respect to the expectations document. Key projects in the region including: Lakelands Irrigation Scheme, Cairns and Far North Regional Industry Land Study, Cairns South State Development Area. The consortium includes:
 - **Bull + bear**, and
 - **The Social Strategies Company**- social planning.
- Will deliver a suite of technical documents by the end of the year.

Technical consortium structure is in the presentation.

Key deliverables:

1. Gaps and opportunities – anticipated late July
2. Key focus areas and evidence base – anticipated late August
3. Policy options – anticipated late September

Technical consortium timeframes will align with Articulous engagement schedule.

Will align with proposed technical work streams:

- Regional economy
- Regional housing needs
- Regional transport & infrastructure
- Regional community & social planning
- Regional environment

Points discussed:

- Housing needs – advanced housing projection to inform what housing needs are for this region.
- Market dynamics need to understand and where can influence or not.
- State invested through LGAQ housing plan. Housing action plans feed into regional plan.
- Councils requested that where data is provided to inform the Regional Plan and it is enhanced etc that this is then returned to council for future use.
- Emerging industries – health, housing needs for that workforce.
- Economy – gaps and ops assessment will be delivered against each of the workstreams, making sure to consult and integrate.
- Opportunity to stop in that phase and integrate and how relate to each other.
- FNQ region uniquely constrained and unique opportunities. Transport issues are critical.
- Regional environment – mapping will come to the fore. Strategic environmental areas. ie. World heritage, storm tide etc.

- In terms of engagement of TOs. Housing provisions and economic development opportunities need to be included.
- Qld Energy jobs plan and grid needs to be strategically managed.
- Looking at what is unique to Far North region and keen to understand as a state perspective.
- Land tenure in remote rural communities is critical.

65.2 ACTION: M Reason to speak with DGs on pathways to explore land tenure.

- Need to look at what is in the regional plan that is stifling economic growth.
- Data request – Planning group open to sharing GIS data. Local governments to provide as much data and information as possible. Planners expressed desire to amalgamate this data to share with Councils providing all Councils agree.
- Studies underway for the Cairns Towards 2050 project.

65.3 ACTION: FNQROC Planners to provide data and information to T Croke, DSDILGP by Thursday 15 June 2023.

Proposed workstreams and outputs can be found in the attached presentation given on the day.

Stakeholder engagement strategy

Mary-Ellen Catchpole – Articulous on Engagement Plan

- Feedback on draft strategy. Check in and clarify these documents to help drive engagement program.
- Map and identify those engagement points.
- Clarify the language so it is clear.
- The challenge is that the community doesn't know what it is and how it impacts them. Nervous around the timeframe in program to date.
- Common themes in surveys and stakeholders.
- Community needs to be engaged in the process. Mindful of Local Government elections March 2024.
- Working with SMEC on engaging the group as they develop up policy positions and involved in steps along the way.

65.4 ACTION: D. Irvine through DSDILGP to set up meeting with Articulus and the Consortium as soon as possible.

65.5 ACTION: D. Irvine to set up additional FNQROC Planners meetings so the meetings are fortnightly.

- FNQ Regional Plan expected to be complete by end of December 2023.

Engagement process and timeframes

- Final Engagement Strategy – Mid June
- Engagement Schedule – Mid – late June
- Ongoing engagement from 1 July

M Reason went through the governance framework (flowchart in presentation).

Next Steps

- June to September
 - Technical deliverables
 - Project governance and coordination
 - Regional Planning Committee
 - Inventory State interests
- September to December
 - Technical deliverable (policy options)
 - Develop policy, mapping and actions
 - Regional plan drafting
 - Internal government approvals

4. LGAQ UPDATE

- Housing advocacy/housing strategy. Multiple actions under key topics.
- Local Housing Action Plan Project – state funding to support councils to deliver local housing action plans. Non statutory plans.
- Ideally Local Housing Action Plans will feed into the FNQ Regional Plan.
- State perspective to have conversation at national level.
- 77 local action plans in Queensland. Sits under housing portfolio and the Minister.
- 2 action plans – Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Housing Plan and Queensland Housing and Homelessness Action Plan.
- It gives a direct line to Department of Housing and a commitment to work one on one to implement those actions.
- Land tenure, build to rent, short-term accommodation. All things possible under these plans.
- Timeframes – bespoke project plans for each council and regionally. Done before Local Government elections in March 2024.
- Some councils have action plans already and can build on those plans.
- 6 to 7 key focus areas each council are looking at. 3 actions per focus area. To be workshopped.
- LGAQ have one dedicated full-time Project Manager for housing strategy.
- LGAQ/FNQROC Support for Croydon, Yarrabah, Wujal Wujal and Hope Vale as they don't have the resources.
- Legislation in Parliament into \$10m future fund – pending not passed yet.
- Briefing to councils in late June.

The presentation will be circulated with the minutes.

5. FNQROC UPDATE

5.1 Local Housing Plans – FNQROC Board discussion 1 June 2023

- The FNQROC Board supported the recommendation that we create a short-term technical committee for the Local Housing Action Plans under the LGAQ Local Housing Action Plan Project.

These plans while remaining local will feed into your relevant regional plans (FNQ, Cape or Gulf) as they are developed. These plans provide a pathway for implementing specific, localised housing outcomes with the support of dedicated resources in the State Government. This is where we can identify issues such as tenure, land lock issues, financial (banking), infrastructure, legislation, policy etc which will help unlock the complex housing problems.

The committee discussed the process going forward:

- The first step is for each council to identify their issues around housing (hoping this will occur in the next month)
- we'll then bring this to the regional table and use the collective regional knowledge and experience to unravel the actions which would help resolve these issues.
- Given this is related to elements in the FNQ Regional Plan and is a workstream under the technical consortium it is hoped the consortium can be part and help inform these local action plans.

65.6 ACTION: D Irvine to identify representatives put forward to LGAQ and call a meeting in approximately 1 month to start the local housing action plan development process.

5.2 Waste Strategy – Update

- Waste Strategy – FNQ Regional Resource Recovery Plan endorsed and adopted by the FNQROC Board. The State have another month before we are allowed to release the document publicly. The funding contract states 3 months from DES sign off before we can publicly launch. Currently chasing up a date with the new Minister (Minister Leanne Linard) to launch the plan. A Hancock is working with DES on funding a Program Coordinator.

5.3 FNQROC Development Manual Review

- D Irvine provided an update on the review progress. Will be sending proforma council report and amended version to councils in the next couple of weeks to enable the draft amended plan to go out to public consultation.
- Focus needs to be on easier way to amend the manual.

65.7 ACTION: D. Irvine to find original legal advice regarding the Development Manual and requirement for it to be a planning scheme policy or not.

5.4 FNQROC Federal Delegation

- The next Mayoral delegation to Canberra is scheduled for 31 July to 3 August 2023.

6. GENERAL BUSINESS

- **T Schmidt – Cook Shire Council**
 - Lakeland progressing.

- **K Reaston – Tablelands Regional Council**

- Change of use on disused property. Due diligence on building regulations to get other forms of accommodation is causing issues.

65.8 ACTION: K Reaston to forward paper to FNQROC on ‘workers accommodation’.

Meeting closed at 2.30pm

AGREED ACTION ITEMS

Friday 6 June 2023

Action Number	Action	Responsible Person(s)	Status
65.1	M Reason to seek opportunity for the planning committee to review the RIP before release	M Reason	
65.2	M Reason to speak with DGs on pathways to explore land tenure.	M Reason	
65.3	FNQROC Planners to provide data and information to T Croke, DSDILGP by Thursday 15 June 2023.	All	Email from Tony Croke sent 8 June requesting information
65.4	D. Irvine through DSDILGP to set up meeting with Articulus and the Consortium as soon as possible.	D Irvine	To form part of one of our planners update meetings
65.5	D. Irvine to set up additional FNQROC Planners meetings so the meetings are fortnightly.	D Irvine	Complete
65.6	D Irvine to identify representatives put forward to LGAQ and call a meeting in approximately 1 month to start the local housing action plan development process.	D Irvine	
65.7	D. Irvine to find original legal advice regarding the Development Manual and requirement for it to be a planning scheme policy or not.	D Irvine	Included with minutes
65.8	K Reaston to forward paper to FNQROC on ‘workers accommodation’.	K Reaston	