

Minutes - FNQROC Planners Meeting – No.70

Meeting Details

Meeting No	70
Meeting Name	FNQROC Planners Meeting
Date	8 September 2023
Time	10am to 2.00pm
Venue	Committee Room, Level 3, Cairns Regional Council / Teams

Attendees

Name	Organisation
Deb Wellington	Cairns Regional Council
Byron Jones	Cassowary Coast Regional Council
Daniel Horton	Cassowary Coast Regional Council
Belinda Jones	Cook Shire Council (Consultant Planner)
Jenny Elphinstone	Douglas Shire Council
Ken Timms	Ethridge Shire Council
Liz Taylor	Etheridge Shire Council (Consultant Planner)
Brian Millard	Mareeba Shire Council
Carl Ewin	Mareeba Shire Council
Sean Lisle	Tablelands Regional Council
Brett Nancarrow	DSDILGP
Tony Croke	DSDILGP
Ryan Longland	DSDILGP
Lynda Brown	DSDILGP
Martin Reason	DSDILGP (online)
Jasmine Divall	DSDILGP (online)
Gerhardt Visser	DTATSIPCA
Paula Power	FNQROC
Anthony Archie	FNQROC
Nick Tzannes	LGAQ
Martin Klopper	SMEC
Kelly Reaston	Up North
Tony O'Malley	WTMA

Apologies

Name	Organisation
Fleur Anderson	Cairns Regional Council
Ed Johnson	Cairns Regional Council
Crystal Baker	LGAQ

1. WELCOME & ROUNDTABLE INTRODUCTIONS

Meeting opened at 10.05am.

2. LGAQ UPDATE

Nick Tzannes, LGAQ

State Code 23: Wind farm development and associated Planning Guidance:

Nick thanked those councils who provided feedback.

LGAQ submission overall supported the strengthening of the code ie:

- stronger consideration of impacts on threatened species,
- environmental values
- natural drainage lines and watercourses,
- transport networks
- social impacts of workforce accommodation on surrounding communities and townships
- broader regulatory reform needed in relation to renewable energy developments i.e. engagement, consultation and notification.
- LGAQ will continue to engage with DSDILGP on this matter.

UQ Report – A review of the Impacts of Short-Term Rental Accommodation in Queensland.

- LGAQ provided feedback as a member of the Industry Reference Group
- Overall support for the 2 recommendations
 - Implementation of a STRA registration system
 - No state-wide approach to the regulation of properties used for STRA, recognising local governments as best placed to make decisions.
 - Lack of accurate data meant that it was difficult to accurately evaluate the economic impacts of short-term rental accommodation in any meaningful way.
 - LGAQ will be continuing to engage with DSDILGP.

2023 LGAQ Annual Conference upcoming

- To be held 16-18 October 2023 in Gladstone
- LGAQ received a significant number of motions for debate.
- Currently reviewing and finalising these in consultation with councils.
- Preliminary agenda can be published later this month.
- A summary to be provided once the motion review process is complete & preliminary agenda released.

Upcoming submissions

- **National Housing and Homelessness Plan Issues Paper** – consultation ends Friday 20 October 2023
- Send feedback through LGAQ by 6 October 2023.
- The **National Housing and Homelessness Plan Issue Paper** consultation period has been extended until 20 October. Please send any feedback through to LGAQ by 6 October 2023.

- The FNQROC Planners Group asked for a copy of the Windfarm Presentation. The [link](#) will be provided with the minutes.

Action: N Tzannes to forward summary consultation paper on planning legislative amendments once available.

3. CONFLICT OF INTEREST

Nil

4. ACTIONS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES

Minutes of Meeting No. 69, 4 August 2023 were not confirmed and will carry over to the next meeting.

Minute Number	Action	Responsible Person(s)	Status
69.1	Can the councils send through details of areas that need further work from the workshop. To be forwarded to K Reason kelly@upnorthgroup.com by Wednesday 09 August 2023.	K Reaston All Councils	Complete
69.2	Workshops - K Reaston to provide key users.	K Reaston	Complete
69.3	Blacklash will be providing consultation – DSDILGP to confirm when that consultation will be and advise the Planners Group.	DSDILGP	Confirm at next meeting
69.4	DSDILGP and K Reaston to look into having onsite only workshops rather than online.	DSDILGP K Reaston	Complete
69.5	Natural Hazards - SPP information to be provided by DSDILGP.	DSDILGP	Confirm at next meeting
69.6	DSDILGP and K Reaston to send out the screen details on the SEQ Regional Plan (Shaping SEQ 2023) and also provide to M Anselmo and T Sydes from FNQROC.	DSDILGP K Reaston	Complete
69.7	Councils to provide details of areas of concerns with the changes to the Planning Regulations SOP. B Nancarrow can look into this and provide feedback or organise a session to discuss with a group.	B Nancarrow DSDILGP	Confirm at next meeting

5. WORKSHOP DISCUSSION

What worked and what didn't work – DSDILGP.

A robust discussion with all council areas highlighted the positives and the challenges that they have faced with the previous regional plan.

- Regional Land Use Pattern Feedback – Cairns Regional Council.

Action: D Wellington to send through high level comments on Regional Land Use Pattern.

What worked well in the current plan:

- Detailed Policies, while intricate, the policies provided a comprehensive framework at the time of their establishment.
- The importance of regional air services for healthcare, education, and other essential services is recognised.
- Recognition of the Tablelands as an area of national agricultural significance is positive.

What didn't work well in the current plan:

- The plan falls short in discussing climate change and its impact on reef conservation, calling for more focused studies on storm tides.
- The divergence between officers' and political stances on agricultural land use creates ongoing conflict.
- Small communities such as in the Cassowary Coast region are restricted from growth due to constraints imposed by the current 'urban footprint', hindering rural residential zonings and growth.
- There's a need for greater collaboration between state agencies and local authorities to identify areas for change with Land use and Mapping.
- The plan should more effectively differentiate between the needs of individual towns and assess the implications of doing so.
- Etheridge Shire Council has concerns about how well the council is represented in the FNQ Regional Plan.
- Kuranda Range issue, despite being in the urban footprint, there are no incentives for development in this area.
- The aging population in rural areas, specifically Tablelands was raised. The plan lacks initiatives for urban renewal despite the area's growing and aging population.
- The risk of urban heat has not been adequately addressed in the plan in conjunction with the State Planning Policy.
- More details on Wet Tropics Biodiversity need. Recent information warrants the designation of the region as a priority place, necessitating support beyond local government capacity.

Other general suggestion for improvements:

- Reef 2050 and Infrastructure causing possible concern. Sewerage plant upgrades in the Tablelands may be crucial but are currently unclear or restricted within the Reef 2050 framework.
- Wujal Wujal and Yarrabah Housing: Additional lands in these areas should be identified for housing needs and included in planning maps.

Preliminary findings from the Gap Analysis - DSDILGP

Regional Economic Cluster – Bull and Bear

- Should councils be regularly reviewing schemes every couple of years? There is a risk of having a more dynamic plan. Most councils don't have strategic planning and assessment resources.
- Bull and Bear working draft document - concerns around the Regional Economic Cluster work and the methodology of the data. On first reflection of the document felt it needed further context, background, maybe disclaimers.
- It was agreed that DSDILGP should revisit the sub-regional narratives in the FNQ Region (including the addition of Cook and Etheridge) to ensure each council has an opportunity to be clear about their role within, and outside of FNQ.
- A copy of DSDILGP presentation will be sent with the minutes.

6. GENERAL BUSINESS

- Wind Farm code and land use issues are complex during application process.

Action: Priority agriculture areas – guideline diversity in rural precincts. To be put on the agenda for a future FNQROC Planners meeting.

7. NEXT MEETING

Friday 29 September 2023, Committee Room, Cairns Regional Council.

Agreed Action Items - Friday 8 September 2023

Minute Number	Action	Responsible Person(s)	Status
69.3	Blacklash will be providing consultation – DSDILGP to confirm when that consultation will be and advise the Planners Group.	DSDILGP	Confirm at next meeting
69.5	Natural Hazards - SPP information to be provided by DSDILGP.	DSDILGP	Confirm at next meeting
69.7	Councils to provide details of areas of concerns with the changes to the Planning Regulations SOP. B Nancarrow can look into this and provide feedback or organise a session to discuss with a group.	B Nancarrow DSDILGP	Confirm at next meeting
70.1	N Tzannes to forward summary of consultation paper on planning legislative amendments once available.	N Tzannes LGAQ	
70.2	D Wellington to send through high level comments on the Regional Land Use Pattern.	D Wellington CRC	
70.3	P Power to include on future agenda – Priority agriculture areas – guideline diversity in rural precincts.	P Power FNQROC	