

# FNQR Regional Waste Management Plan (RWMP) Implementation Technical Committee

## Minutes

<b>Meeting No</b>	6
<b>Meeting Name</b>	FNQROC Regional Waste Management Plan (RWMP) Technical Committee
<b>Date</b>	19 <sup>th</sup> Sept 2025
<b>Time</b>	9.30 am- 2.30 pm
<b>Venue</b>	Kingsford Room. Spence St Office of Cairns Regional Council

### ATTENDANCE

Name	Organisation
Steve Cosatto	Cairns Shire Council
Amy McGillan & Troy Conlan	Cassowary Coast Regional Council
Kristina Davidson	Cook Shire Council
Jacqui Cresswell & Henry Mascarenhas	Croydon Shire Council
Tim O'Brien & Emma Egel	Douglas Shire Council
Raju Ranjit	Etheridge Shire Council
Onesimo Mukodi	Hope Vale Shire Council
Morris Hamil & Emma Taylor	Mareeba Shire Council
Charles Dyer	Tablelands Regional Council
Bhakti Devi (Meeting Convenor & Facilitator)	FNQROC

### 1. APOLOGIES

Name	Organisation
Kiley Hounslow	Wujal Wujal Aboriginal Shire Council
Sam Bann	Yarrabah Aboriginal Shire Council

## 2. LGIS REGIONAL EBCI COORDINATOR FUNDING – UPDATE & NEXT STEPS

It was agreed and resolved that:

- The EBCI Coordinator funding option presents several limitations, including additional administrative burden, potential loss of time pending the grant agreement process, and restricted funding of \$100,000 per annum, which may only support a limited coordination role.
- Regional waste education and behaviour change communication remain key actions under the FNQROC Regional Waste Management Plan. Therefore, prior to proceeding with the corrected version of the EBCI Funding application, an alternative proposal be considered to support member councils in establishing or enhancing forward schedules of waste education and behaviour change activities, particularly for councils that do not currently have such programs in place.
- The Regional Waste Management Coordinator will discuss the matter with the FNQROC CEO and report back with recommendations on the preferred way forward.

### Update on developments since the RWMP Meeting

- Following a discussion with FNQROC CEO, RWMP Coordinator of FNQROC consulted the Councils on an alternate proposal to EBCI Funding which involved RWMP Coordinator facilitating development of a forward-looking schedule of waste and education behaviour change activities, facilitate consistent waste education across all councils and coordinate knowledge & resource sharing between councils to help them deliver the activities.
- Most councils did not support the idea of EBCI Funding option.
- As a result, DETSI LGIS Funding team would be notified about the decision to withdraw FNQROC's EBCI Funding application.

## 3. 1-3 YEAR RWMP IMPLEMENTATION ACTION PLAN –NEXT STEPS

RWMP Actions (Relevant for 1-3 Year)	Current Status	Action
<u>Action 1</u> Step-change in customer engagement		
1.a Regional Waste Education & Behaviour Change Plan.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• EBCI Funding application submitted</li> <li>• Feedback received from EBCI evaluation team.</li> <li>• <u>Follow on since RWMP TC Meeting Refer to Section 2 for details</u></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• RWMP Coordinator to come up with way forward after consultation with CEO in consideration of the inputs of RWMP TC members on EBCI Funding application feedback.</li> <li>• <u>Follow on since RWMP TC Meeting Refer to Section 2 for details</u></li> </ul>
1.b Waste Data Enhancement Capability	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• An excel based assessment tool has been developed &amp; forwarded to Councils</li> <li>• CRC, CSC, YASC and DSC have taken the assessment</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Other councils to take the assessment</li> <li>• RWMP Coordinator to prepare a gap analysis report based on the assessments of Councils</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Awaiting other councils to take the assessment and submit to FNQROC</li> </ul>	
<p><u>Action 2</u> Optimise regional servicing arrangements</p> <p><u>Action 6</u> Optimise regional network of resource recovery facilities</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>No update</li> </ul> <p><u>Follow on since RWMP TC Meeting</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>BOOST Funding available for doing business case studies that can fund infrastructure in second round. Could be potentially applied to business case relating to Mattresses, Tyres, C&amp;D Waste, Green waste identified in RWMP as Priority waste streams by FNQROC Councils</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>RWMP Coordinator to draft scope of work for Business case study and identify potential partner for the funding application proposal.</li> </ul>
<p><u>Action 3</u> New transfer station facilities and closure of facilities with regulatory or environmental issues</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>No update</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Councils to send to RWMP Coordinator tender specifications &amp; vendors names for waste infrastructure related recently completed tendering process.</li> <li>RWMP Coordinator to create a shared folder to make the resources available to member Councils.</li> </ul>
<p><u>Action 4</u> Enhance kerbside collection approach</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>No update</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>No update</li> </ul>
<p><u>Action 5</u> Maximise diversion of organic waste from landfill</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The FOGO bin roll out and enhancement to organic waste processing has been put on backburner by CRC until PFAS guidelines have been confirmed</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>No update</li> </ul>

#### 4. LGAQ UPDATE & BOOST FUNDING GUIDELINES – QUESTIONS

- Tamarah Moore (LGAQ) provided an overview of Resource Recovery BOOST Funding Guidelines that were released on Fri 12<sup>th</sup> September.
- She also informed about the info sessions that were being planned for Councils to attend before the grant application form is released on Mon 13<sup>th</sup> Oct
- Members raised the following Qs in relation to the funding
  - Q1: *Can in-kind contributions include those listed under the section on ineligible expenses?*
  - Q2: *Will applications be considered if a project is pending council resolution?*

##### Update on developments since the RWMP Meeting

- Tamarah has followed up with DETSI on the above questions and has shared the following response that was received.

*Q1: Can in-kind contributions include those listed under the section on ineligible expenses?*

A1: Yes, as long as the costs relate directly to delivery of the project. Section 5.3 of the Program guidelines outline the minimum applicant contribution to a project and the contribution table

outlines the minimum contribution to project costs. This can be read as the contribution towards both eligible and ineligible project costs.

*Q2: Will applications be considered if a project is pending council resolution?*

A2: During the application stage for the Local Government Battery Collection Program, which was open earlier this year, several councils advised that they would not be able to provide council approval by the application close date. To alleviate this issue, we provided a four week period after applications closed where the council endorsement could be provided. We have applied the same process to the Resource Recovery Boost Fund. This is captured in the key dates table (under application close dates) on page 5 of the guideline.