

FNQ RRTG Technical Committee

Minutes

Meeting No	144
Meeting Name	FNQ RRTG Technical Committee Meeting
Date	24 April 2026
Time	10:00am
Venue	Committee Room, Level 3, Cairns Regional Council, Spence Street, Cairns

Representatives

Name	Organisation
Travis Mitchell	Cairns Regional Council
Luke McAvoy <i>via teleconference</i>	Cassowary Coast Regional Council
Khubaib Khan (Chair)	Cook Shire Council
George Coxhead	Croydon Shire Council
Dan Dixon <i>via teleconference</i>	Croydon Shire Council
Kiani Berzinski	Douglas Shire Council
Alan Clark <i>via teleconference</i>	Etheridge Shire Council
Kaer Whitnell	Mareeba Shire Council
Nick Lennon	Wujal Wujal Aboriginal Shire Council
John Gillespie	DTMR – Indigenous & LG Relations, Far North District
Amanda Hancock	Technical Coordinator, FNQROC

Observers

Name	Organisation
Natalee Jennings <i>via teleconference</i>	DTMR (RAPT)
Kirston Knight	DTMR (RAPT)
Jarrold Hellmuth	LGAQ

Apologies

Name	Organisation
Nikita Taifalos	Cassowary Coast Regional Council
Shane Savich	Tablelands Regional Council
Sam Bann	Yarrabah Aboriginal Shire Council
Michael Geoghegan	Yarrabah Aboriginal Shire Council

1. Welcome and introduction.

2. Apologies

Apologies noted.

3. Confirmation of Previous Minutes

3.1. Meeting No. 143 held 29 January 2026

3.2. Business Arising from Previous Minutes 29 January 2026

Item	Action	Responsible Party	Status
135.2	Councils to provide Shepherds with details of their finance staff to be set up in the new PMT.	Croydon SC & WWASC	Complete
138.7	<p>Amanda to gather existing council data on annual maintenance costs for gravel roads, reseals and curb and channel etc with a view to determining pre-agreed figures for input into the Program Management Tool. Email dated 25 March 2025 circulated requesting information regarding council's annual maintenance costs and sent again on 29 April 2025. Travis Mitchell to review and provide some suggested figures to the RRTG TC to consider.</p> <p>Update 14.12.25: Amanda advised that it appears that the information entered in the Base Case and the Project Case section of the BCA does not impact the score. Amanda to investigate further with Shepherd Services and advise. In the meantime, Travis advised that he is in the process of gathering data to provide some suggested guidance around this action.</p> <p>Update 29.01.26 - Query raised with Shepherds by email on 17 December – currently awaiting a response</p>	Amanda Hancock, FNQROC	Rescinded. See Item 6
140.4	<p>Travis Mitchell to share overview of CRC crumb rubber trials with the RRTG TC.</p> <p>Update 14.12.25: Travis advised that he had not yet had the opportunity to go to site to take photographs etc but does plan to do so. Amanda advised that there was a section in the Road Treatment Good Practice Guide that provides guidance on the use of crumb</p>	All Councils	Rescinded. See Item 7

	<p>rubber which would form the basis of further discussion.</p> <p>Update: Email circulated on 2 December 2025 from Bhakti Devi, FNQROC Regional Waste Management Plan Coordinator with a brief survey exploring the use of recycled materials. Councils encouraged to respond if they have not already done so.</p>		
142.4	<p>Councils to provide Phil Hunt, Road Engineering Services with the length and total area of their asphalt and bitumen road network if they have not already done so.</p> <p>Update 29.01.26: Road information provided by DSC, MSC, TRC and YASC to date. Draft guide provided by Phil Hunt from Road Engineering Services and at the last meeting Travis Mitchell, CRC and Khubaib Khan, CSC agreed to work with Phil to finalise the report. CRC trialling the document and CSC to review and consider doing likewise. Meeting with Phil Hunt scheduled for 18 March. Project must be completed by the EOFY to ensure SCDF funding.</p>	All Councils	Complete. See Item 7
142.6	Jarrold Hellmuth, LGAQ to share copies of LGAQ's to the RIA to reduce the open road default limit and National Road Safety Strategy.	Jarrold Hellmuth, LGAQ	Outstanding
143.1	Amanda to liaise with Shepherds to develop the PMT to remove State projects from 10% limit calculations where limits do not apply.	Amanda Hancock, FNQROC	Complete
143.2	Amanda to liaise with Shepherds to develop the PMT to remove projects on Indigenous Significant Local Roads (SLRs) from the 20% non-LRRS limit.	Amanda Hancock, FNQROC	Complete
143.3	Councils to review their LRRS network and identify new projects suitable for inclusion in the 28/29 and 29/30 indicative programs	All Councils	Ongoing
143.4	Seek RRTG endorsement of the updated 2025/26 – 2027 works program.	Amanda Hancock, FNQROC	Rescinded
143.5	Seek RRTG endorsement of the proposed Banked Projects for 25/26 and 26/27.	Amanda Hancock, FNQROC	Rescinded
143.6	Amanda to circulate the draft updated FNQ RRTG Program Development and Management Process for councils to review. Councils to review and confirm their agreement or otherwise to Amanda.	Amanda Hancock, FNQROC & All Councils	Complete. See Item 6
143.7	Mareeba Shire Council to provide information regarding community development since 2008 to support its application for Oak Forest Road to be reinstated as a LRRS road.	Kael Whitnell, MSC	Complete
143.8	RRTG TC to recommend to the RRTG Oak Forest Road and Tinaroo Creek Road for inclusion in the LRRS network.	Amanda Hancock, FNQROC	Complete
143.9	Amanda to investigate Bridge Inspection training options and associated SCDF application.	Amanda Hancock, FNQROC	Complete

143.10	John Gillespie, TMR to investigate previous State funded LG asset data collection arrangements and the potential for reinstatement.	John Gillespie, TMR	Complete – See Item 10
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3.3. Minutes of Program Workshop held 24 February 2026

3.4. Business Arising from Program Workshop held 24 February 2026

Item	Action	Responsible Party	Status
1.	Seek RRTG endorsement of the updated 25/26 – 27/28 program at the RRTG meeting on Thursday 5 March 2026.	Amanda Hancock, FNQROC	Complete
2.	Seek RRTG endorsement of the proposed Banked Projects for 25/26 and 26/27	Amanda Hancock, FNQROC	Complete
3.	Submit SCDF applications for Level 1 & Level 2 Bridge Inspection Training and Procurement & Contract Management Training.	Amanda Hancock, FNQROC	Complete
4.	RRTG TC meeting scheduled for 13 March 2026 to be cancelled.	Amanda Hancock, FNQROC	Complete

4. Confirmation of Previous Minutes – RRTG

4.1. Minutes of Meeting No. 87 – 5 March 2026

4.2. Business Arising from Previous Minutes – 5 March 2026

Action Item No.	ACTION	Responsible Person(s)	Status
530	RRTG TC to progress advocacy for State funding for Asset Condition Assessments on Local Government LRRS roads.	Ms Hancock, FNQROC	In Progress
541.1	RRTG Coordinator to circulate link to the current Regional Road Investment Strategy.	Ms Hancock, FNQROC	Complete
547	TMR to advise if the business case for the McLeod River Bridge can be shared with Cook Shire Council.	Ms Dutton, TMR	Outstanding

5. Program

5.1. 2025-26 Program

Amanda advised:

- The recent Q3 TIDS expenditure figures showed just 17% expenditure against the state average of 52%.
- However, TMR have since advised that the expenditure is more like 63% with several claims currently unpaid due to issues with the provision of PO's.
- It is still vital to ensure all projects are on track to be completed, fully expended and claimed by the EOFY.
- Recent update from councils regarding the status of each of their 25/26 program is below.

Council	Project ID	Road Name	Project Type	TIDS	Status
Cairns Regional Council	287	Abbott Street	Renew footpath	\$ 200,000.00	May not spend by the EOFY. Site outside nightmarket so lots of stakeholder challenges causing delay. Full amount may not be spent.
Cassowary Coast Regional Council	356	El Arish - Mission Beach Road	Road Renew Pavement	\$ 147,740.00	Practically Complete - in discussions regarding final claim
	299	Ety Bay Bridge	Replace existing single lane bridge	\$ 667,500.00	Construction Underway - 25% Progress
	317	Flying Fish Point Road	Replace culvert	\$ 21,350.00	Construction Underway - 95% Progress
Cook Shire Council	370	Charles Street	Form road shoulder, seal, new K&C	\$ 125,000.00	Works largely complete with minor flood repairs, road furniture and line marking remaining. 0% claimed; full claim expected within 1-2 months.
	187	Home Rule Road	Stabilisation & seal	\$ 139,453.00	Project completed under additional funding streams. Currently 0% claimed; full claim expected within the next month.
Croydon Shire Council	374	Croydon-Richmond Road	Seal	\$ 395,000.00	Quotes received. On track for completion 30/6/26 - George will provide further detail at meeting
District - Far North	440	NA	TMR Management Fee	\$ 152,064.00	100% claimed
Douglas Shire Council	550	Cape Tribulation Road	Landside Infrastructure	\$ 1,194,949.00	Awaiting final IFC design, mobilisation to site pending. Delays due to ongoing wet weather and flood event damaging existing ferry. Likely to claim June 2026. \$472,193.62 TIDS currently spent.
Etheridge Shire Council	400	Forsyth - Einasleigh Road	Seal	\$ 216,828.00	100% claimed
Mareeba Shire Council	578	Leedingham Creek Road	Widen & seal	\$ 1,387,500.00	Works recommenced onsite. Current spend at \$1.7M, need to hit \$2.8M to claim TIDS portion. Forecasted to meet expenditure by EOFY. Unable to claim as no PO provided.
	254	Leedingham Creek Road	Widen & seal	\$ 300,000.00	Works recommenced onsite. Current spend at \$2.3M, need to hit \$3M to claim TIDS portion. Forecasted to be complete by EOFY. Unable to claim as no PO provided.
	264	Tinaroo Creek Road	New alignment	\$ 123,835.00	Works to commence onsite early May. Expect TIDS threshold to be expended in firm claim. Unable to claim as no PO provided.
	236	Walsh Creek	Existing alignment upgrade	\$ 284,559.00	Works commenced onsite. Expect TIDS threshold to be expended in first Claim. Unable to claim as no PO provided.
Tablelands Regional Council	484	Danbulla Forest Drive	Gravel resheet	\$ 63,473.00	100% submitted to TMR - awaiting payment
	486	Silver Valley Road	Replacement bridge	\$ 292,780.00	On track for TIDS expenditure complete before 30 June 2026
	408	Sluice Creek Road	Drainage - concrete causeway	\$ 300,000.00	100% submitted to TMR - awaiting payment
	490	Tully Falls Road	Gravel resheet	\$ 8,525.00	TMR report is \$8,463 and 100% submitted to TMR - awaiting payment
	488	Tully Falls Road	Gravel resheet	\$ 62,003.00	100% submitted to TMR - awaiting payment

Cairns Regional Council

ID287 – Abbott Street – LRRS – Renew 70m length of footpath, full width at frontages 54-62 to current CBD standards. Project will unlikely not be fully expended by the EOFY. Reduction in TIDS funding by \$100,000 to ensure it can be claimed this year. Project balance moved to 26/27 to be allocated funding should it become available. \$100,000 released for reallocation in 25/26.

Tablelands Regional Council

ID490 – Tully Falls Road – LRRS – Gravel Resheet. Project finalised and final claim will be for \$8,463 as opposed to \$8,525. \$62 released for reallocation in 25/26.

Cassowary Coast Regional Council

ID355 – El Arish – Mission Beach Road – State LRRS – Road renewal pavement, kerb & channel, pathways and stormwater. Part of Mission Beach revitalisation project. Federal funding reduced. Project TIDS funded in 24/25 but significant overspend by council which TMR confirmed can be carried into 25/26. Project costs updated. \$100,062 allocated as available and highest priority project seeking funding. Remaining TID's shortfall of \$629,474 may be claimed if funding available. Project to be added to list of Banked Projects for 25/26.

Banked Projects

Current Banked Projects approved at the last RRTG are as follows:

Year	Council	Project ID	Road Name	Description	Priority Score	TIDS
25/26	Mareeba Shire Council	ID264	Tinaroo Creek Road	Roadworks (sealed) - New Alignment	24%	\$208,665
	Yarrabah Aboriginal Shire Council	ID418	Museum Road	Realignment of road and construction of 67 sealed car parks & footpath	10%	\$230,159
	Cassowary Coast Regional Council	ID327	Wall Road	Replace 3/600 RCPs	5%	\$48,500
	Cassowary Coast Regional Council	ID353	Warraunullen Road	Replace 1/9000 RRJ RCP	5%	\$12,500
26/27	Cassowary Coast Regional Council	ID556	Butler Street	Design & construct intersection upgrade and asphalt overlay	24%	\$11,274
	Cassowary Coast Regional Council	ID291	North Davidson Road	Replace 1050 RCP	5%	\$22,500
	Cassowary Coast Regional Council	ID334	North Davidson Road	Replace 3/750 RCPs	5%	\$130,000
	Cassowary Coast Regional Council	ID344	Pullom Road	Replace 2/750 RRJ RCPs	5%	\$13,500

Yarrabah Aboriginal Shire Council have since advised that they wish to withdraw ID418 Museum Road.

Mareeba Shire Council have added a gravel resheet projects that they would like to propose as potential banked projects should funding become available.

Updated proposed banked projects for 25/26 as follows:

Year	Council	Project ID	Road Name	Description	Priority Score	TIDS
25/26	Cassowary Coast Regional Council	ID355	El-Arish – Mission Beach Road	Road renewal pavement, kerb & channel, pathways and stormwater. Part of Mission Beach revitalisation project.	34%	\$629,474
	Mareeba Shire Council	ID264	Tinaroo Creek Road	Roadworks (sealed) – New Alignment	24%	\$208,665
		ID638	Tinaroo Creek Road	Gravel resheet	5%	\$70,000
	Cassowary Coast Regional Council	ID327	Wall Road	Replace 3/600 RCPs	5%	\$48,500
	Cassowary Coast Regional Council	ID353	Warraunullen Road	Replace 1/9000 RRJ RCP	5%	\$12,500

Action Item 144.1 Seek RRTG endorsement of the updated proposed Banked Projects for 25/26.

5.2. New Projects

In addition to the new banked project proposed by Mareeba Shire Council, 3 new projects were admitted to the program to be allocated funding. These projects were as follows:

Douglas Shire Council

ID620 – Forest Creek Road – non-LRRS – Upgrade if Forest Creek culvert from corrugated iron pipes to RCBCs.

ID621 – Toll Gate Road – non-LRRS – Road and drainage upgrades to Toll Gate Road.

Mareeba Shire Council

ID632 – Oak Forest Road – LRRS – Resurfacing of approach for Barron River Bridge crossing on Oak Forest Road – replaces ID405 – See Item 5.4.

The following potential new projects have recently been removed from the program as councils decided not to proceed:

Etheridge Shire Council

ID609 – Kidston Road – LRRS - Reconstruction and sealing works.

ID611 – Kidston Road – LRRS - Reconstruction and sealing works.

Wujal Wujal Aboriginal Shire Council

ID560 – Douglas Street and Kotzur Street, Heorlein Street and Kotzur Street – Upgrade 2 major intersections

ID561 – Yalanji and Douglas Street, Hartwig and Keim Street etc. – Improved safety with line markings and crossings are various roads.

Wujal Wujal Aboriginal Shire Council's 25/26 Standard allocation of \$45,016 to be allocated to the following project:

ID636 – Douglas Street and Rossville/Bloomfield Road – Install signage and councils existing township entry to reduce speed and manage traffic coming into the community.

5.3. 2026-27 and 2027/28

The funding for these years is fully allocated. Councils encouraged to review the projects to ensure they still wish to proceed and to notify if any proposed changes.

5.4. 2028-29 and 2029-30

Mareeba Shire Council

ID405 – Oak Forest Road – Barron River Bridge and approaches. Bridge replacement. Project withdrawn due to a change in scope. \$841,512 released in 28/29 to be reallocated.

Councils encouraged to submit new projects for admission into the program and the allocation of funding in these outer years.

The indicative program for 28/29 and 29/30 to be reviewed at the next meeting.

ACTION ITEM 144.2 Seek RRTG endorsement of the updated 2025-26 – 2027-28 works program.

6. FNQ RRTG – Program Development and Management Process

- The current Program Development and Management process was discussed, noting that the FNQ RRTG is among the few RRTGs, if not the only RRTG, allocating funding through a structured project prioritisation process aligned with the original intent of the Road and Transport Alliance.
- Whilst some RRTGs use an annual allocation model, most of the committee supported continuing with the existing approach.
- It was agreed, however, that the Business Case Analysis (BCA) component is not operating as effectively as intended and should be refined as a priority.

ACTION ITEM 144.3 Review and refine the Business Case Analysis (BCA) component of the Program Management Tool (PMT) to be refined to improve its effectiveness with the project prioritisation framework.

7. Road Treatment Study

- An online meeting took place on 22 April 2026 with Phil Hunt, Road Engineering Services and representatives from Cairns Regional Council, Cassowary Coast Regional Council and Cook Shire Council, who have all reviewed the draft Guide and provided positive feedback regarding its content and application together with some additional checklists provided at request of Cairns Regional Council.
- Phil Hunt is now in the process of making the final changes before the final draft is provided.
- FNQROC will be assisting regarding Guide 06 regarding Whole of Life Costs and environmental outcomes for various binder types, including crumb rubber.
- The report must be completed by the EOFY to ensure the Statewide Capability Development Fund (SCDF) funding can be acquitted.
- It was suggested that once the Guide has been endorsed it would be beneficial to perhaps ask Phil Hunt to provide some training on its use, which could potentially be supported by SCDF funding.

8. Capability Agreement & Action Plan

- The current Capability Agreement & Action Plan was discussed and updated.
- Seal design training was suggested which will be added to the plan.
- Collective licencing for Australian Standards was also proposed.

ACTION ITEM 144.4 FNQROC to update Capability Agreement & Action Plan to include Seal Design training.

ACTION ITEM 144.5 FNQROC to Investigate feasibility of collective licencing for Australian Standards.

9. Regional Road Investment Strategy (RRIS)

- The RRTG endorsed the RRTG TC's recommendation to update the Regional Road Investment Strategy (RRIS) at their meeting on 5 March 2026 with 50% funding to be sought via the SCDF and if unsuccessful, the Transport and Infrastructure Development Scheme (TIDS).
- The FNQROC Board further endorsed the RRTG's request to support the update and commit to funding 50% to a maximum of \$75,000.
- The FNQROC Board will be seeking support from the Minister for Transport and Main Roads of Queensland, Brent Mickelberg for TMR to actively work with councils to update the RRIS enabling a one network approach.

10. TMR State Network Assessment

- At the last meeting John Gillespie, was asked to investigate previous State funded asset data collection arrangements and the potential for reinstatement.
- John has approached TMR's Strategic Asset Management team in Brisbane who advised that under TMR's contract with NTRO, there is no ability to include local council roads in the iPAVE assessment. Councils would need to negotiate their own contract with NTRO.
- Amanda advised that she had since raised the matter with Tanya Lindenberg, LG Partnerships and was awaiting a response.

11. TMR RAPT Update, LG Partnerships, TMR Roads and Transport Alliance (RTA) TIDS

- Statewide TIDS expenditure as at the end of the third quarter was 52%, which is up from 44% as at the end of February.
- The Far North Queensland RRTG's TIDS expenditure as at the end of March was showing at 17%. However, the reported year to date position at the end of the third quarter has been impacted by the roll out of the district's new program system, with actual delivery expenditure not currently reflected.
- The third quarter expenditure reports for 2025-26 have been issued and are available on your RRTG SharePoint page. Expenditure reports will now be provided monthly until the end of the financial year.
- Please ensure any eligible expenditure is submitted to your local TMR district regularly.

Statewide Capability Development Fund (SCDF)

- Each year, \$600,000 in TIDS funding is available through the SCDF to support capability improvement projects aligned with the Alliance's vision and the needs of local government and RRTGs. Applications for 2025-26 closed on 31 January 2026.
- The mid-year program review undertaken in February identified three projects – within Yarrabah and Kowanyama Aboriginal Shire Councils, and Mornington Shire Council – as eligible and capable of delivering additional infrastructure works this financial year, enabling the redistribution of unallocated SCDF funding to these projects.
- We encourage RRTG members to identify and pursue training or capability-building opportunities with applications for funding now being accepted for 2026-27 financial year.

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders TIDS

- Each year, TMR invites eligible councils to submit applications for an annual state-wide funding allocation of \$12.61 million Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander TIDS funding across Queensland.
- Letters were sent out to councils seeking nominations for 2026-27 in November 2025 and applications closed mid-February 2026.
- The program was over-subscribed with 25 nominations received for 12 communities totalling approximately \$43 million.
- The successful projects awarded for 2026/27 will benefit five Aboriginal and Torres Strait Island communities including Wujal Wujal, Iama Island, Lockhart River, Doomadgee, and Yarrabah.

Local Roads of Regional Significant (LRRS) mapping update

- The annual LRRS mapping update has now been completed. Thank you for your input.
- An email was sent to TC Chairs and Tech Coordinators in early April with your RRTG's updated register and PDF map along with a statewide mapping file.
- Any future changes will be added to the LRRS master register as they are received. However, the mapping files will not be updated until the next annual review in March 2027.

Reinforced Concrete Pipes – Registration of three new plants

- On 8 April 2026, the Local Government Partnerships team emailed all Alliance members about three new plants that have been granted registration under TMR's Supplier Registration Scheme: Bridges and Other Products.
- This is in response to the current supply chain pressures and increasing lead times for delivery of reinforced concrete pipes, which is affecting some Queensland councils.
- Procurement from these plants is now permitted under MRTS25: Supply of Steel Reinforced Concrete Pipes.
- MRTS25 requirements remain unchanged for all suppliers (new and existing). A new edition of this Technical Specification is scheduled for release in May 2026.

TMR funding programs

- The School Transport Infrastructure Program (STIP) Tranche 10 funding round is now open. We expect Tranche 10 will remain open until at least 30 June 2026.
- STIP Ideas can be submitted at any time during the year. Submitting the STIP Idea is the first stage of the process before a formal nomination can be developed.
- Eligibility and the submission process is available on [TMR website](#). For assistance, please email STIP@tmr.qld.gov.au or contact your Safer Roads representative, with details available on your RRTG SharePoint site.
- The successful projects from Tranche 9 were announced on 1 April 2026, with formal notifications sent directly to successful schools.

RTA Annual Progress Report

- Now is the time to start thinking about project stories and photos for the next edition of the RTA Annual Progress Report.

- Please feel free to submit those stories and before and after photos as soon as they are ready.
- We will put out a formal request shortly, noting the anticipated deadline will be early July 2026.

12. TMR – Local District Office Update

John Gillespie advised that he would shortly be leaving his role as Manager Indigenous and Local Government Relations, North Queensland and moving to Brisbane to join the LG Partnerships team. Thanks, and best wishes were extended by the committee to John for his support of the region during his time with the district.

- **Forecasting**
Councils requested to please provide realistic forecasting of projects to David Matuschka i.e. considering wet season shut down etc.
- A reminder that final baseline budgets are now due for 2026/27 projects. Please provide as accurate as possible, project commencement and completion dates. (this time next year, baseline forecasting for the following two years will be required).
- Monthly reporting should reflect updated progress and expenditure.

13. LGAQ Update – Jarrod Hellmuth, LGAQ

The following up was delivered by Amanda Hancock in Jarrod's absence:

Transport and Other Legislation (Managing E-Mobility Use and Protecting Our Communities) Amendment Bill

Following the introduction of the Transport and Other Legislation (Managing E-Mobility and Protecting Our Communities) Amendment Bill to parliament, the LGAQ has made a submission to government with several recommendations. Thank you to the councils who provided feedback to inform the submission. The submission recommends the bill:

- Ensures the final framework is targeted and proportionate to e-mobility challenges.
- Avoids unintended impacts to the lawful use of e-mobility activity.
- Targets enforcement hot spots for illegal e-mobility activity
- Investigates opportunities for innovative technology to support safer detection.
- Recognises the infrastructure and financial realities within which councils operate and;
- Provides appropriate State Government support where implementation would otherwise create new burdens for local government.

Several hearings on the Bill will occur this month, and the LGAQ remains in discussion with the Committee on the matters raised within this submission.

Fuel supply challenges

- Several councils are concerned with the continuity of fuel supply for essential council services in the context of current fuel market instability. The LGAQ have been advocating to various ministers on the need for local government to be recognized as an essential service under emergency fuel supply frameworks including Queensland's State Liquid Fuel Supply Act and Federal Liquid Fuel Emergency Act. Without this recognition, councils may face difficulty in maintaining critical community services during periods of fuel disruption.
- In addition, councils are also receiving an increasing number of contractors and suppliers advising that future invoices will include a fuel levy surcharge due to volatility in supply markets. This is being raised by multiple contractors across a range of services including street sweepers, cement suppliers and civil contractors. If GRC are experiencing any challenges in this space, LGAQ would appreciate details.

Safer Local Roads and Infrastructure Program Tranche 5

- The Australian Government's Safer Local Roads and Community Infrastructure Program (SLRIP) Tranche 5 is currently open for applications.

- SLRIP provides funding to address current or emerging road infrastructure needs across Australia, merging the former Bridges Renewal Program and the Heavy Vehicle Safety and Productivity Program.
- Projects funded by the program must align with one of more of the following infrastructure priorities
 - Road Safety
 - Productivity improvements (projects which improve efficiency of supply chains, or connect regions, communities and major gateways, growing economies and communities)
 - Bridge renewal
 - Road resilience (projects which improve the resilience of critical road corridors by upgrading existing road assets that are vulnerable to closure or reduced capacity, and upgrading infrastructure to a higher standard to withstand and recover from disasters)
 - Road sustainability (Use of low or zero emissions building materials, innovative design and construction methodologies that minimise environmental impacts)
 - Heavy vehicle rest areas
- Funding of at least \$200 million per year is available, with a maximum Australian Government contribution of \$5 million per project.
- The Australian Government will contribute up to 80% of the total project cost for projects located in regional and remote areas, and up to 50% of the total project cost for projects located in urban areas.

Applications close on the 30 April 2026. Further information can be found on the SLRIP website [here](#).

Submissions on Queensland's aviation sector

- The LGAQ have made three submissions on aviation challenges for Queensland councils to the following inquiries
 - Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport References Committee Inquiry into the *'State of Australia's aviation sector and its ability to deliver reliable and affordable services to rural, regional and remote communities.'*
 - The Department of Transport and Main Roads's *Regulated Routes Review*
 - Productivity Commission's inquiry into *'Determinants of regional airfares.'* Available [here](#).
- The submissions highlight the role local governments play in sustaining Queensland's regional aviation network, and we thank Cook Shire Council especially for their input and contribution to our submissions. Our submission highlights common challenges including distance, climate, and limited transport alternatives that make air access essential, with local government as the steward of the majority of aviation infrastructure in this region.
- Additional issues include how rising regulatory and security costs, limited revenue capacity, infrastructure renewal backlogs, and constrained funding arrangements are placing on airfare affordability, service reliability, and the long-term sustainability of the aviation sector. The LGAQ has made a series of recommendations aimed at ensuring a more equitable, risk based and predictable policy and funding settings to support regional aviation into the future.

Energy Queensland – Draft Local Council Charter

- Energy Queensland has released a draft Local Council Charter and is seeking feedback to ensure it reflects councils needs and experiences. Several councils have provided feedback on a variety of challenges with Ergon Energy and are encouraged to provide their feedback to ensure these issues are considered as part of the charter development.
- There are some significant changes proposed to the installation of Rate 2 lighting on 80km/h roads and above, with this potentially requiring rate 3 lighting moving forward. Councils are recommended to attend to provide feedback. (I Will chat to Mayor Mitchell separately).
- An email has been circulated including relevant links, with the feedback on the charter due on Friday the 24th of April and a webinar scheduled to be held on Thursday the 30th of April. For any further details, please contact Jarrod Hellmuth via: Jarrod_hellmuth@lgaq.asn.au

14. LGAQ Roads & Transport Advisory Group Update

The LGAQ Roads & Transport Advisory Group, Meeting No. 6 Communique distributed with the minutes.

15. Technical Tour 2026

- It is proposed that the 2026 Technical Tour take place in Cassowary Coast from Wednesday 12 August 2026 to Friday 14 August 2026.
- Site to include Mission Beach revitalisation project which includes a significant TIDS component plus perhaps a visit to the Mourilyan.
- FNQROC to provide information to Cassowary Coast Regional Council to request support for the tour.

Action Item 144.6 FNQROC to provide overview of the Technical Tour and proposed dates to Cassowary Coast Regional Council to seeking approval.

16. Points for noting to the FNQ RRTG or FNQROC Boards.

Seek clarification from TMR regarding its policy and decision-making framework in relation to funded projects and the application of fuel levies outside of fixed-price contracts, including whether any flexibility or exception provision exists.

17. Other Business

17.1. Fuel Price

General discussion on fuel price impacts, with councils noting delays in contract execution and renewals. Whilst new construction contracts include rise and fall provisions, these do not capture associated increases in transport costs (e.g. earthworks)

17.2. RMPC

Jarrod Hellmuth is looking for a representative to join the RMPC working group following David Fletcher's departure.

Jack Parry, Etheridge Shire Council has previously attended. There being no further nominations it was suggested that FNQROC attend along with Jack.

17.3. Oz Airports

Amanda advised that she had received correspondence from OzAirports with details of their services. It was agreed that this would be shared with relevant councils.

18. Next meeting – RRTG 7 May 2026, RRTG TC 12 June 2026

The meeting closed at 1.00pm

ACTION ITEMS OVERLEAF

Actions arising from Meeting 144 – 24 April 2026

Item	Action	Responsible Party
142.6	Jarrold Hellmuth, LGAQ to share copies of LGAQ's to the RIA to reduce the open road default limit and National Road Safety Strategy.	Jarrold Hellmuth, LGAQ
143.3	Councils to review their LRRS network and identify new projects suitable for inclusion in the 28/29 and 29/30 indicative programs	All Councils
144.1	Seek RRTG endorsement of the updated proposed Banked Projects for 25/26.	Amanda Hancock, FNQROC
144.2	Seek RRTG endorsement of the updated 2025-26 – 2027-28 works program.	Amanda Hancock, FNQROC
144.3	Review and refine the Business Case Analysis (BCA) component of the Program Management Tool (PMT) to be refined to improve its effectiveness with the project prioritisation framework.	All Councils
144.4	FNQROC to update the Capabilty Agreement & Action Plan to include Seal Design training.	Amanda Hancock, FNQROC
144.5	FNQROC to Investigate feasibility of collective licencing for Australian Standards.	Amanda Hancock, FNQROC
144.6	FNQROC to provide overview of the Technical Tour and proposed dates to Cassowary Coast Regional Council to seeking approval.	Amanda Hancock, FNQROC