

Whitsunday Regional Council Local Recovery Plan



Most of the Whitsunday region is *Back in Business* and on the way to getting *Back to Normal*. Recovery operations are transitioning to Business as Usual. We are supporting our community at this stage to return operations *Back to Normal*. In key areas, where cost effective, we are seeking to increase resilience and make the community *Stronger than Before*. In key selected cases, we are seeking to bring forward iconic initiatives to renew elements of the region, making it *Better than Ever*.

Values

- **Accountability** – being open, diligent and ethical in our decisions and actions.
- **Unity** – working together to get things done.
- **Trust** – in our team mates, our service partners and our customers.
- **Community** – building pride, strength and confidence amongst our region, residents and ratepayers.
- **Continuous improvement** – always looking for solutions and ways to do things better.

Local Recovery Group

- Established 3 April 2017.
- Chaired by Deputy Mayor – Cr John Collins.
- Four sub-groups: Human and Social • Economic • Environment • Infrastructure (combine Building, Roads and Transport).
- Key Stakeholders: Community groups, non-government organisations/agencies, local businesses (Growers, Commerce and Tourism), Federal and State authorities and other connected parties.
- Themes for Recovery: There are four themes that link to the phases within the Lines of Recovery. These themes are:
 - **Responded** – Counter Disaster Operations. Protection of life, community safety and emergent works.
 - **Restored** – Back in Business. Getting the community functioning again and eventually Back to Normal.
 - **Resilient** – Stronger than Before. Increasing the resilience of infrastructure, lowering community risk and enhancing future disaster response.
 - **Renewed** – Better than Ever. Taking the opportunity to bring a smarter future forward, realise community aspirations and strengthen the regional economy.

*Transition from formal recovery operations on 30th April 2019 yet still supporting our communities in on-going recovery.



Mayor:
Andrew Willcox



LRG Chair:
Cr. John Collins



Acting CEO:
Bruce Davidson

RECOVERY NARRATIVE

DAMAGE AND IMPACTS

Human Social

- Community Education, Resilience and Recovery events held
- \$7040773.00 in Immediate Hardship and Essential Services Grants.
- 172 SAG eligible applications processed in the region.
- 9157 Indicative people affected through Emergency relief.
- Key Emergency Service Providers' emergency funding to support the Whitsundays i.e.; Red Cross, Salvation, Volunteers Whitsundays.
- Funding for Community Development Officer Recovery for 2 years.
- Mental Health and Well-being resilience sessions held for coping mechanisms.

Economic

- Agricultural production losses of more than \$100 million.
- Sugar exports are also expected to decline in 2017-19, current projections are around \$300 million of losses.
- Estimate of industry impacts Mackay-Whitsunday -\$304,100,000
- Lost about \$2 million a day while the tourism sector was not operational.
- 76841 insurance claims processed for the TC Debbie – 22% being in the Whitsunday Region.

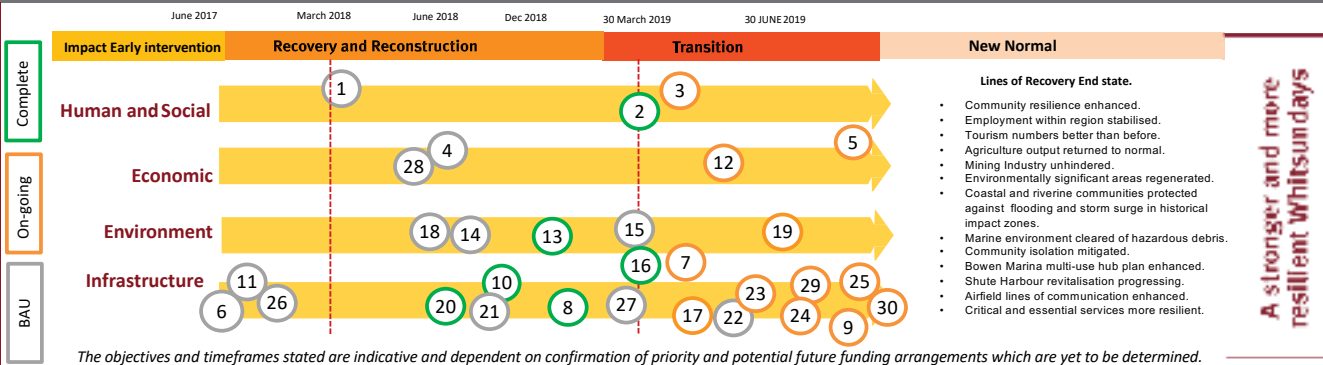
Environmental

- Clean up of Whitehaven Beach carried out by Qld Parks and Wildlife
- Cyclone Debbie Bushfire Taskforce operational
- Revegetation and bush fire Plan in locations carried out.
- Sand replenishes; Shingly Beach has received 1000m³, Airlie Beach has received 1250m³ and Beacons Beach is currently receiving 4,000m³.
- Approx. 95 marine vessels were damaged by Cyclone Debbie. 10 vessels damaged yet to be salvaged.
- Canopy of the rainforest on hills regrowing, but has not yet achieved a ground projection cover to that which was present before Cyclone Debbie.
- Fluvial geomorphologists and river engineers to investigate urban creeks for erosion
- 7,289.47 Tonnes of "disaster management" waste to the landfills
- 3,545.42 Tonnes of "disaster management" waste diverted from landfill e.g. mulch and bailed up metal.
- 300,000 cubic metres of green waste turned to mulch for residents and businesses to access

Infrastructure (Building, Roads and Transport)

- Insurance claims for our 1912 parks and gardens assets damaged underway.
- Hamilton Island BAU, Daydream Island rebuild complete, Hayman Island expected reopening in July 2019.
- Iconic community assets received funding and planning underway
- Damage to bridges, culverts, roads, shade sails, park Soft-fall, rock walls repairs proceeding nearing completion.
- Demolition stage of the \$22 million Shute Harbour Restoration complete
- Andromache Bridge - Replace existing timber bridge with new concrete bridge nearing completion
- Inverdon Bridge - Replace existing bridge nearing completion
- Funding received for Shute Harbour Revitalisation, Proserpine Entertainment Centre and Proserpine Administration Building and Disaster Coordination Centre

LINES OF RECOVERY



A stronger and more resilient Whitsundays

LOCAL RECOVERY OBJECTIVES

1. Community support mechanisms implemented and planning for medium to long term Recovery (Resilient). BAU
2. Community funding for support mechanisms such as free general and financial counselling and two Community Development Officers through 'Cat C' Funding (Responded, Resilient). Complete
3. Private properties repaired (Restored). On-going – Insurance Challenges
4. Tourism advertising campaign (Responded, Restored). BAU
5. Bowen's 360 on Flagstaff Hill repaired (Renewed). On-going
6. Collinsville Motor Park/Speedway repair and redevelopment (Renewed). BAU
7. Insurance claims processed for all our Parks and Gardens and various Council Assets (Responded and Renewed). On-going
8. Funding Application for a purpose-built Local Disaster Coordination Centre, Community Resilience and Innovations Hub submitted (Resilient, Renewed). Complete
9. New Proserpine Administration Building & Local Disaster Coordination Centre Built (Renewed) On-going
10. Bowen Administration building repair works (restored) Complete
11. Review of large vessel landing options (Resilient). BAU
12. Commercial properties repaired (Restored). On-going
13. Restore and Replenish various beaches (Renewed). Complete BAU
14. Hazardous Bushfire Mitigation (Resilient). BAU
15. Removal of remaining marine vessels (Responded). BAU
16. Beach sand replenishment program for the high profile tourist beaches (Renewed). Complete
17. Sand replacement 1000m³ to Bowen Foreshore Beach (Renewed). On-going
18. Investigate Cannonvale landslips and large landslip within Conway National Park. Complete BAU
19. Beaches where marine turtles maybe nesting will receive additional beach sand (Restored) On-going
20. Don River Reibels bank stabilised, restored and protected (Resilient). Complete
21. Bruce Highway and Shute Harbour Road made more resilient (Resilient). BAU
22. Critical infrastructure (energy supply) assured and resilience improved (Resilient). BAU
23. Wilson and Conway Beaches protected (Resilient). On-going
24. Bowen front beach rock wall repair and improvement (Resilient) On-going
25. Shute Harbour revitalisation project and rock wall rebuild (Renewed). On-going
26. Airlie Beach and Cannonvale Water and sewer facilities increased resilience for (Renewed). BAU
27. Whitsunday Coast Airport runway and terminal made more resilient and improved (Renewed). Complete BAU
28. Bowen Marina multi-use redevelopment (Renewed). BAU
29. Airlie Foreshore masterplan and project completion (Renewed). On-going
30. Proserpine Entertainment Centre (Renewed) On-going
31. Communication to inform of Whitsunday Disaster Recovery Group – stand down from formal recovery to transitioning to 'New Normal'

This local recovery plan has been endorsed by Whitsunday Regional Council for public release.

This is a live document managed by the Whitsunday Regional Council and is correct as at 15/05/2019. The Whitsunday Local Recovery Plan can be accessed at www.whitsunday.qld.gov.au