

Carpentaria Shire Council Local Monsoon Trough Recovery Plan

North & Far North Queensland Monsoon Trough, 5 January - 14 February 2019

Endorsed by: Carpentaria Shire Council on [insert date]



Mayor
Jack Bawden



CEO
Mark Crawley

Recovery narrative

Carpentaria Shire Council Vision and Overview

Vision

Carpentaria Shire Council's Vision is "Experience Carpentaria Shire great place to live, work, invest and relax". Whether you want to visit Carpentaria Shire, have a specific question about Council's services, or you are thinking about a permanent move we welcome your enquiry and look forward to being of service to you.

Council Overview

Carpentaria Shire is located on the Savannah Way in North Western Queensland in the north-eastern region of the Gulf of Carpentaria, where the Outback meets the Sea. The region is uniquely placed to offer residents and visitors opportunities and experiences in lifestyle, holidays, employment and investment opportunities. Carpentaria Shire has a friendly, laidback lifestyle and is a place where children still ride their bikes down to the river to go fishing after school without parents having to worry as they would in the larger towns and cities.

Carpentaria Shire is the traditional country of the Gukuthaarn, Kukatj and Kurtijar people. The Shire covers an area of approximately 65,000 square kilometres and has a population of approximately 2,200 with the countryside ranging from vast inland plains to mangrove forests, deltas and salt pans along the coastal areas of the Gulf.

Carpentaria Shire has a diverse industry base with agriculture, fishing and tourism and government administration providing the majority of the Shire's income. Normanton is the region's government and administrative centre with much of the Shire's commercial activity coming through Karumba which has an active port based on the export of live cattle to Asia and a substantial fishing industry which targets prawns, barramundi, Spanish Mackerel, salmon and mud crabs. (Gulf Savannah Development) The region offers good infrastructure and facilities with sealed access roads, serviced airports, developed freight routes, primary and secondary schools, medical services, recreation and sporting facilities and the standard infrastructure to be expected in a modern community.

Council values

- Strong leadership – our community has every right to expect leadership that has integrity, unity and consistency.
- Respect and teamwork – we know that we can only achieve great outcomes for our region by working together as a team.
- Good governance – we need to deliver good governance for our region which is based on honesty, openness and transparency of Local Government.
- Pride in our work – we aim to do the best for our community all the time, every time.
- Positive and professional – we are not interested in blame but we want to find the best solutions to problems.
- Informed decision making – we need to make sure that we have the best information available when making decisions
- Realistic Goals – we believe in dreaming with our eyes open and focusing on what is available.

Lines of Recovery

Human and Social, Economic, Environment, Building, Roads and Transport.

Key stakeholders

Lead state government agencies, community groups, non-government organisations/non-government associations, local businesses and trader associations, privately owned livestock and agricultural groups, service providers and other invested parties

Recovery themes

1. Response: ensure community safety.
2. Rebuilding: bring the community forward.
3. Restoration: working together to repair and reestablish community linkages across the lines of recovery.
4. Resilience: embed the principle in all activities to mitigate, improve and build betterment for the community.

Recovery objectives

1. Essential services – power and telecommunications - repaired and restored.
2. Improve resilience to telecommunications tower.
3. Emergency funding (personal hardship etc) – granted / approved.
4. Carcass Disposal Plan for deceased livestock and feral animals developed.
5. Fencing, sheds, pumps, irrigation equipment, water tanks and farming equipment repaired and/or replaced.
6. Key transport routes – priority restoration and improved resilience to the key transport routes for primary producers and resource sectors.
7. Road transport network – completed damage assessment, and developed coordinated restoration and betterment planning for the extensive road transport network for state and local controlled roads.
8. Impact assessments – completed.
9. Investigate options for local records management system, impact assessments and damage assessments.
10. Funding to support recovery and resilience initiatives obtained.
11. Assist small businesses with rebuilding, including developing future resilience strategies
12. Community support – mechanisms implemented.
13. Vector control implemented.
14. Restore confidence in the tourism market.
15. Empower local businesses to improve their resilience to disasters.
16. Enhance recovery governance through the development of a Local recovery Sub-Plan.
17. Enhance capability of Local Disaster Management Group (LDMG).
18. Develop an environmental management program to address issues of mosquitoes, siltation, weeds and seeds.

Damage and impacts

Damage and impacts

Human and Social

- Community wellbeing: psychosocial wellbeing of community members due to loss of livestock, anxiety and fear.
- Community wellbeing: no access to essential supplies, fuel or food due to road closures.
- Community wellbeing: psychosocial wellbeing of primary producers - extreme financial hardship due to loss of livestock after the flooding, following years of drought and the prolonged financial burden
- Community wellbeing – emergency barge required to deliver essential supplies to Karumba due to road flooding and damage

Economic

- Loss of income/profit to primary producers – unable to transport cattle to sales yards/markets due to extensive delays to road repairs
- Loss of income/profits to primary producers due to loss of livestock.
- Loss of income/profits to local services and small businesses: power outages, damage, staff isolation
- Loss of income/profits to livestock companies loss of stock and unable to transport cattle to sales yards/markets due to extensive delays to road repairs.
- Potential impacts on tourism due to road closures.
- Extreme financial hardship for primary producers due to extensive loss of livestock after the flooding, following years of drought and the prolonged financial burden.
- Loss of income/profits to Gulflander train service due to flooding.

Building

- Telecommunication tower disrupted.
- River height monitoring stations damaged.
- Water treatment plant impacted: water intake monitored
- Barge operations at Karumba impacted.
- Bowls and cricket clubs damaged.
- Fencing damaged.
- Sheds, pumps, irrigation equipment, water tanks and farming equipment lost.
- Flood gauges impacted and/or not working.

Environment

- Public health concerns due to influx of mosquitoes
- Public health concerns due to reduced water quality
- Loss and disposal of livestock and feral animals
- Biosecurity concerns due to introduced weed and seeds.
- Potential biosecurity threat due to silt along the river.
- Potential biosecurity threat due to silt in Karumba Port.
- Potential biosecurity threat due to sewerage ponds being under underwater.

Roads and Transport

- Normanton and Karumba townships, outlying areas and key transport routes were isolated for varying lengths of time due to flooding, causeway damage including, but not limited to:
- Little Byno crossing closed.
- Normanton to Burketown Road - received significant damage.
- Burke Development Road closed.
- Dunbar to Kowanyama Road closed.
- Dunbar to Koolatah Road closed.
- Koolatah to Oriners Road closed.
- Delta Downs Road closed.
- Lotus Vale to Sterling Road closed.
- Stirling to Miranda Downs Road closed.
- Glencoe to Miranda Downs Road closed.
- McAllister Road closed.
- 89A Iffley Road/Trenton Road closed.
- Broadwater to Iffley Road closed.
- Road access to pump station affected.
- Normanton to Croydon railway line flooded.

Recovery timeframes

	31/05/2019	31/05/2020	01/02/2021	
	Short term	Medium to long term	Ongoing	
Human and Social	3 8 12	12 10 15 16 17 18		Community supported, including mental and health wellbeing. No communities isolated.
Economic	8 11 12 14	9 10 11 14 15 16 17		Agriculture, mining and small business returned to positions of strength.
Environment	4 8 12 13	12 16 17 18		Restoration of flood impacted areas to a more resilient landscape. Inland and coastal erosion mitigated. Green, hard and animal waste removed.
Building	1 8 2 5 14	9 16 17		Essential services and critical infrastructure made more resilient. Key access routes enhanced to reduce flood impacts.
Roads and Transport	6 8 7	6 7 16 17		All transportation corridors repaired and accessible.

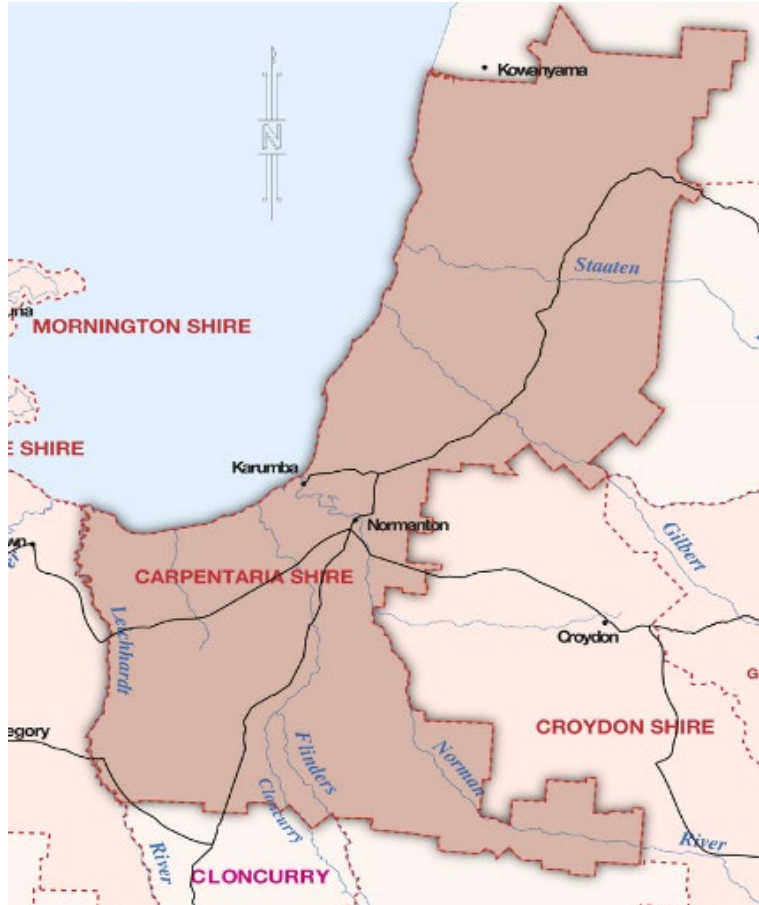
Recovery timeframes

Recovery narrative

Recovery objectives

Carpentaria Shire Council

Map of Carpentaria Shire



Activations for Disaster Recovery Funding Assistance

For details of activations and assistance measures visit www.qra.qld.gov.au/activations

Disaster relief measure

Disaster relief measure	Activation date
• Counter Disaster Operations	05/02/2019
• Reconstruction of Essential Public Assets	05/02/2019
• Disaster Assistance (Small Business) Loans	20/02/2019
• Disaster Assistance (Essential Working Capital) Loans Scheme for Small Business	20/02/2019
• Disaster Assistance (Primary Producers) Loans	13/02/2019
• Disaster Assistance (Essential Working Capital) Loans Scheme for Primary Producers	13/02/2019
• Freight Subsidies for Primary Producers	13/02/2019
• Special Disaster Assistance Recovery Grants for Primary Producers	14/02/2019
• Essential Services Safety and Reconnection Scheme	20/02/2019
• Personal Hardship Assistance Scheme (PHAS)	20/02/2019

Recovery tasks

- Emergency supplies to be provided to community.
- Immediate restoration of power to community.
- Immediate repair of telecommunications tower.
- Immediate repairs to road infrastructure.
- Repair fencing, sheds, pump, irrigation equipment and water tanks.
- Repair river height monitoring stations and flood gauges.
- Source and apply for funding for bowling and cricket clubs.
- Source and apply for funding for flood monitoring cameras- Cat C package.
- Finalise local Recovery Subplan.
- Investigate options with Department of Agriculture and Fisheries regarding obtaining licences to operate SES boats.
- Undertake impact assessments.
- Develop and implement a tourism campaign to support an increase in visitors to Carpentaria Shire Council.
- Dispose of livestock and feral animal carcasses.
- Develop and implement strategies for greater flood resilience.
- Develop and implement weed and seed protection programme.
- Support small businesses to rebuild.
- Complete water quality testing.
- Council and community to support local events to ensure they proceed as planned.

Measures of success

Human and Social

- Community has access to appropriate financial support.
- Emergency supplies have been provided to community.
- Disaster Management Training has been completed.
- Media and communications training has been completed.
- Local Recovery Subplan has been developed and endorsed.
- Local Recovery Coordinator and other recovery positions have been identified and appointed.
- Flood Warning Infrastructure Network workshop has been held.
- Licenses to operate SES boats obtained.
- Community and tourists are involved in community events.
- Strategies for greater flood resilience have been development and implemented.

Economic

- Small businesses are trading at full capacity.
- Increased number of tourists to Normanton and Karumba.
- Festivals and events are held as planned and are well attended.
- Rural properties restocked and returning to working to capacity.
- Livestock restocking as occurred.

Environment

- Future environment risk reduction strategies have been implemented.
- Flinders River Floodplain Investigation Assessment has been completed (Queensland Disaster Resilience Fund project)
- Clean up of silt has occurred.
- Mosquito flogging has been completed
- Future environmental risk reduction strategies implemented.
- Water quality issues have been resolved.
- Disposal of livestock and feral animal carcasses has been completed.

Building

- Essential services- power and telecommunications fully operational.
- Sport and recreational clubs have been repaired and are fully operational.
- Fencing, sheds, pumps, irrigation equipment, water tanks and farming equipment have been repaired and/or replaced.
- Telecommunications tower is repaired and fully operational.
- Flood monitoring cameras have been installed and are fully operational.
- Small cell towers have been installed and are fully operational at Critters Camp, Walkers Bend on Flinders River and Walkers Creek in Karumba (Queensland Disaster Resilience Fund project).
- River height monitoring stations are fully operational.
- Flood gauges are fully operational.

Roads and Transport

- All transportation corridors are open and fully operational
- Betterment planning for road network developed and implemented
- Gulflander train service has resumed normal operating timetable.
- Strategies for greater flood resilience have been developed and implemented.
- Barge has resumed normal operating schedule.

Recovery tasks

Measure of success

Map of Carpentaria Shire

Activations summary