



Recovery Plan

2024 Ex-Tropical Cyclone Kirrily Associated
Rainfall Event

About the community

The City of Moreton Bay is a diverse area, spanning more than 2,045 square kilometres which includes rural townships and urban centres to coastal villages and thriving business precincts.

Located between Brisbane City and the Sunshine Coast, Moreton Bay is one of Australia's fastest growing cities. The population estimate as of June 2023 was 510,104¹. City of Moreton Bay has a strong and connected community that enjoys the benefits of proximity to the Brisbane CBD. The region offers pristine environmental areas, vibrant entertainment options and thriving cultural and community hubs.

About the event

Following ex-Tropical Cyclone Kirrily making landfall around Townsville on 26 January 2024, a tropical low formed which swept south delivering thunderstorms and intense rainfall across South East Queensland. On Tuesday, 30 January 2024 as a result of related severe weather, pockets of City of Moreton Bay experienced localised flash flooding. The impacts of this widespread rainfall were felt swiftly, with some areas reporting >200mm in <3hrs and other areas receiving around 300mm over a 24h period.



Flood damage at Branch Creek Road, Clear Mountain 2024

The following table provides an understanding of some of the actions which took place in the immediate lead up to and following the disaster.

¹ [Estimated Resident Population \(ERP\) | City of Moreton Bay | Community profile](#)

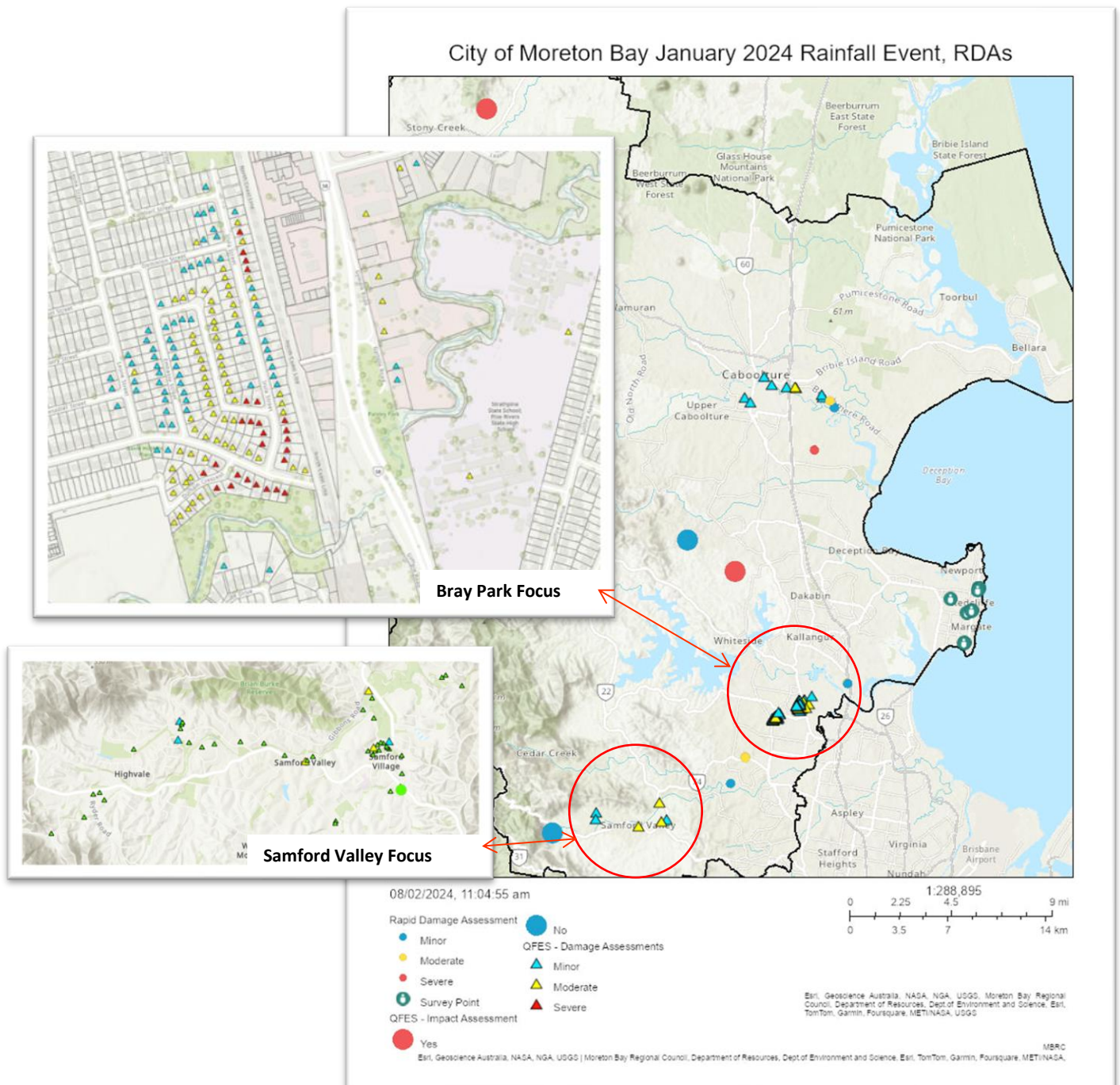
Event Timeline

Date	Mon 22/1	Tues 23/1	Wed 24/1	Thurs 25/1	Fri 26/1	Sat 27/1	Sun 28/1	Mon 29/1	Tues 30/1	Wed 31/1	Thurs 1/2	Fri 2/2
Rainfall	4mm (24hr) Bellthorpe	6mm (24hrs) Bellthorpe	3mm (24hrs) Deception Bay	0mm	1mm (24hrs) Caboolture	0mm	76mm (24hrs) Eatons Hill TM	31mm (24hrs) Lake Manchester	296mm (24hrs) Caboolture 325mm (24hrs) Samford 235mm (3hrs) - Samford 178mm (3hrs) Wamuran	6mm (24hrs) Browns Creek Rd AL	2mm (24hrs) Toorbul	0mm
LDMG	ALERT	ALERT	ALERT	ALERT	ALERT	ALERT	ALERT	ALERT	STAND UP	STAND UP	ALERT	ALERT
Actions	1 Moreton Alert (MA) issued: Advice - Severe Weather Warning		First SitRep issued 1135hrs All sandbag stations open at 0900hrs 2 VMS boards deployed - not activated Evac Centre availability reviewed - no action Riding for the Disabled confirmed no horses on site	Asset Maintenance staff rostered on-call for Sunday (anticipating potential rainfall, paired with long weekend)			2 MAs issued: 1 x Advice - Flood Warning (lvl 1) 1 x W&A - Flood Warning (lvl 2) Energex: 196 customers impacted at 1200hrs	2 MAs issued: 1 x Advice - BOM Flood Watch 1 1 x Advice - Severe Weather Warning Places of Refuge: open	52 MAs issued: 22 x Advice - Flood Warning (lvl 1) 1 x North Pine Dam 18 x W&A - Flood Warning (lvl 2) 10 x W&A - Flood Warning (lvl 3) 1 x W&A - Severe Weather Warning 1 x EW - Flood Warning (lvl 4) Places of Refuge: open Evacuation Centres 6 open 1230hrs Road closures 5 at 0500hrs 75 at 1000hrs 84 at 1730hrs SES RFAs 22 tasks at 0400hrs 81 at 1200hrs (cumulative 29/1) Energex 241 customers impacted at 1155hrs 558 customers impacted at 1730hrs QSEC 6 horses stabled Call Centre extended hours 177 related inbound calls, 126 outbound welfare calls made (47 successful)	Places of Refuge closed Evacuation Centres: all 6 closed at 0600hrs Road closures 23 at 1700hrs SES RFAs 140 tasks at 1700hrs (cumulative 29/1) Energex 13 customers impacted at 1700hrs QSEC 8 horses stabled Call Centre 51 related inbound calls; 24 outbound welfare calls made (11 successful)	Road closures 12 at 1200hrs SES RFAs 140 tasks at 1700hrs (cumulative 29/1) 22 washouts complete Energex 13 customers impacted at 1200hrs QSEC 8 horses stabled Call Centre 59 related inbound calls Waste Levies waved for flood waste disposal Skips bins available by request FINAL SitRep issued 1200hrs	

Damage assessments

Rapid Damage Assessments (RDA) were conducted by Council and Queensland Fire and Emergency Service (QFES), as at 6 February 2024:

- City of Moreton Bay assessments conducted - 93
- QFES assessments conducted - 445
- RDA outcomes:
 - Minor damage 103
 - Moderate damage 97
 - Severe damage 27



Event impacts

The rainfall event impacts were concentrated in three areas (as per damage assessment illustration):

- Bray Park -most significant property damage and loss
- Samford Valley -moderate damage to property
- Caboolture -highest instance of impact to residents currently experiencing homelessness

Broader impacts across the region include:

- Loss of power to less than 600 residences (peaked at 558 customers impacted at 1730hrs Tuesday, 30 January 2024)
- Closure of numerous major roads including Bruce and D'Aguilar Highways
- Closure of 84 roads at peak of event (76 Council roads, 8 TMR at 1730hrs 30 January 2024)
- There were six people in two of the six open Evacuation Centres at the peak of the event -three isolated due to road closures, three persons experiencing homelessness (PEH)
- SES attendance at 140 properties for flooding, structural damage and trees down
- CMB Call Centre 318 inbound calls (30 January - 2 February 2024), and 150 outbound welfare checks attempted (58 successful)
- Social impacts predominantly associated with loss of possessions and displacement of persons experiencing homelessness, financial stress, and exacerbation of pre-existing mental health conditions
- Community angst at reoccurring flooding in some areas
- Limited economic impacts, predominantly experienced by food producers who reported crop damage, cattle displacement and limited livestock losses



Cash Crossing, Eatons Hill 2024



Glenwood Drive, Morayfield 2024

Moreton Recovery Group (MRG)

Chair - Councillor Matt Constance.

Moreton Recovery Coordinator - Bill Halpin, Director Community and Environmental Services, City of Moreton Bay

Membership:

- City of Moreton Bay
- Department of Treaty, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Partnerships, Communities and the Arts
- Department of Environment, Science and Innovation
- Department of Housing, Local Government, Planning and Public Works
- Department of Transport and Main Roads
- Queensland Fire and Emergency Services
- Queensland Police Service
- Queensland Reconstruction Authority

Activation

The Local Disaster Management Group (LDMG) transitioned to ‘Stand-up’ on Tuesday, 30 January 2024. The LDMG reverted to ‘Alert’ level at 4pm Thursday, 1 February 2024.

The Moreton Recovery Group (MRG) was activated on Wednesday, 31 January 2024 with the Recovery Coordinator directly engaging each Sub-group Chair to discuss recovery needs of their portfolio. With minimal environmental impacts, limited disruption or loss to local business, and no major damage to infrastructure, only the Human and Social Sub-Group was stood-up.

The Human and Social Sub-Group Chair, formally met with the Sub-Group and the Advisory and Intel Group to connect with stakeholders and enhance two-way sharing of information to best support residents impacted by the disaster. The intelligence shared via these Groups, captured via rapid damage assessments, resident calls to Customer Service and correspondence received via the LDCC has informed this Recovery Plan and key recovery actions.

Response, Relief, Recovery, Resilience objectives and timeframes

Phase	Timeframe	Objective
Response	Monday 29 January to Friday 2 February	Ensure community safety and meet immediate support needs
Immediate	3 months 2 February to 2 May	Ensure the ongoing support needs and well-being of the community are addressed through relief measures Emergency repairs and community engagement
Short Term	3 to 6 months	Re-establishment, rehabilitation and reconstruction
Long Term	6 months	Delivery of longer-term recovery efforts
Resilience	Ongoing	Embed learnings to ensure the region is better prepared for future disaster impacts

Recovery objectives

Human and Social

While rapid damage assessments reported minimal physical damage and property loss for residents across impacted areas, the psychological impact on residents is far more challenging to quantify. MRG stakeholders reported an immediate spike in presentations to services, mainly in relation to:

- Mental health: heightened anxiety pre-event and helplessness post-event.
- Domestic and family violence: increased requests for assistance within 24hrs of the rainfall peak - not in line with previous trends of the spike taking 5-10 days post-peak.
- High presentation of people experiencing homelessness (PEH): loss of property (often hidden in outdoor locations), displacement of usual sleep locations (outdoors), overwhelm at situation and fear of ‘what next’ in relation to future weather events.

A number of stakeholders also reported interruptions to their service delivery, predominantly due to staff being unable to attend due to road closures.

This intelligence was shared with the Department of Treaty, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Partnerships, Communities and the Arts, tasked with establishing a Recovery Hub to support those impacted.

Environment

Moreton Recovery Environment Sub-group manages and coordinates natural environment and public health recovery actions, including:

- issues of pollution;
- public and environmental health impacts associated with food businesses and industry;
- long term impacts to water supply and quality;
- communicable disease impacts, including vector management; and
- impacts to wildlife and natural areas (including riparian zone impacts).

In response to the January 2024 weather event, which involved significant rainfall across the region (particularly in the south-west) and associated flooding, the Moreton Recovery Group (Environment - Natural and Public Health) was not required to stand up and activate.

This was primarily due to the public health/environmental health impacts being localised and/or managed promptly as part of the disaster response actions. Additionally, the environmental/natural estate impacts were general, with riparian zones mostly affected along with minor impacts to recreation and fire trails. The impacts to these areas will either resolve over time (i.e. under natural conditions) or with targeted effort via standard 'business as usual' (BAU) programs such as Bushcare, recreation trail maintenance and/or fire trail and management activities. Some specific riparian areas and recreation/fire trails, such as those in Samford Valley, sustained significant damage and medium to long term actions as part of BAU programs will assist to address these matters over time.

Infrastructure

The impact on CMB infrastructure, while extensive, was manageable under 'Business as Usual'. Asset Maintenance engaged alternate on-call teams to facilitate 24-hour operations during the event for the monitoring of flood impacted roads and damaged road repairs/make safe.

Following the event, the Asset Maintenance response included:

- damaged road repairs
- public space/grounds debris removal,
- park infrastructure repairs,
- drainage maintenance/repairs,
- damaged building repairs and the
- provision of assistance to flood impacted residents including kerb-side clean-ups and arranging skip bins.



Bray Park, 2024

Economic

The impact of the significant rainfall across the region from the January 2024 weather event and associated flooding did not require the Economic Recovery Sub-Group to activate and stand up.

Recovery actions

Human and Social

Understanding the needs of our residents and the community services they engage with, Council has tabled an engaging schedule of recovery actions to be commenced as soon as practical.

MENTAL HEALTH			
Action	Date	Cohort	Lead
Event debrief Face-to-face and digital surveys	Various dates in February	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Disaster Management staff Local Disaster Coordination Centre staff Local Disaster Management Group Customer Service Rapid damage assessment teams Operational staff Places of Refuge library staff Evacuation Centre staff 	Disaster Management, Training and Development Officer (TDO)
Stakeholder connection Virtual and face-to-face meetings, digital sharing	Fortnightly meetings during immediate recovery, then monthly	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> H&S and A&I stakeholders 	Community Services, Sport and Recreation, Community Development Coordinator (CDC) Disaster Management, Community Resilience and Recovery Officer (CRRO)
Mental Health First Aid training Two days face-to-face	TBA	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Community Development and Disaster Management staff Evacuation Centre staff Community Disaster Management Team volunteers Human and Social, Advisory and Intel stakeholders 	CRRO/TDO
Psychological First Aid training Three hours face-to-face, or online	TBA	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Community Development and Disaster Management staff Library staff - Places of Refuge Evacuation Centre staff Community Disaster Management Team volunteers 	CRRO/TDO
DOMESTIC AND FAMILY VIOLENCE			
Stakeholder connection Virtual and face-to-face meetings, digital sharing	Fortnightly meetings during immediate recovery, then via existing workflows	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Human and Social stakeholders Advisory and Intel stakeholders 	CDC

HOMELESSNESS			
Homelessness Awareness Training	Ongoing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Community Development and Disaster Management staff Library staff - Places of Refuge Evacuation Centre staff Community Disaster Management Team volunteers Human and Social, Advisory and Intel stakeholders 	CRRO/TDO
Stakeholder connection Virtual and face-to-face meetings, digital sharing	Fortnightly meetings during immediate recovery, then via existing workflows	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Human and Social stakeholders Advisory and Intel stakeholders 	CDC
BUSINESS CONTINUITY			
Action	Date	Cohort	Lead
Business Continuity Planning workshop series Two face-to-face workshops	1 May and 29 May	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Human and Social stakeholders Advisory and Intel stakeholders 	CRRO
Desktop Business continuity Exercise Half-day face-to-face	June	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Participants of the BCP workshops 	CRRO/TDO

Council's Human and Social recovery actions remain organic and will continue to evolve in line with the dynamic needs of our community.

Environment

The 2024 event has reinforced the requirement to enhance environment recovery actions including:

- Revising and updating communication protocols and contacts for members of the recovery group
- Designation of initial waste management assessments to disaster response and infrastructure recovery group in the first instance (e.g., skip bins, temporary waste collection locations) with support from the environment recovery group (in particular DESI contacts), as necessary.
- Internal communication and establishment of a coordinated natural environment damage assessment tool, in liaison with a cross section of Council departments including Environmental Services, Fire Management Team and Operations Team (i.e., Natural Areas teams, Recreation Trails teams).
- Coordinated use of technology available to CMB teams (i.e., drones) to support on-ground damage assessments and subsequent lodgement of funding requests for targeted recovery works.
- Establishment of a 'baseline' natural environment and riparian assessment, in liaison with Environmental Sustainability Policy and Planning team (currently underway as part of Environment Sustainability Strategy actions), to support funding requests for targeted recovery works. This will enable a comparison of the baseline versus event impacts and will inform future priority recovery actions.

Summary of environmental recovery actions in response to this event includes:

Recovery Response Timeline	Key Issues
Immediate Recovery Response (week 1)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> (i) Assessment and initial response to businesses impacted by the event (Food Businesses, Environmentally Relevant Activities (ERA's), other impacted businesses with potential for pollution), in liaison with the Economic Recovery Group. (ii) Removal of machinery and other bulk or hazardous items from flood plain/riparian areas, where possible. (iii) Commencement of damage assessments (key environmental areas, Bushcare sites, recreation trails, fire breaks, fodder plantations and recent habitat plantings). (iv) Deceased animals in riparian areas/ivers - removal where possible.
Medium Term Recovery Response (week 2 and 3)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> (i) Further identification and removal of deceased animals in riparian areas/ivers, where possible. Direct communication to adjacent/impacted residents in situations where removal unsafe/not possible. (ii) Ongoing assessment of environmental damage and identification of priority recovery actions, including coordination of clean ups and 'make safe' works, where required.
Long Term Recovery Response (week 4 and ongoing)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> (i) Periodic assessment of riparian and other key environmental areas to assess natural recovery and/or options for supplementary works to stabilise areas to support resilience against future events. (ii) Liaison with internal Council departments to review Environment Recovery planning and response documents, including damage assessment forms and coordination of data inputs and use of drones.

Infrastructure

Significant repair projects include:

Roads, Drains, Footpaths, Erosion and Landslips

- Four Mile Creek, Lawnton Reserve - undermine repairs to footpaths and guard rail reconstruction.
- Dobson Road, Clear Mountain - repairs to recent REPA project - rock protection of bank and drain.
- Basin Rd, Wamuran Basin - Asphalt reinstatement of road due to surface being washed away.
- Campbells Pocket Road, Wamuran - various erosion gullies and landslip repairs.
- Goat Track, Highvale - flood damage to road and ongoing retention works to slips.
- Old Gympie Rd Elimbah (6 Mile Creek) - culvert erosion/headwall repairs and bank stabilisation works.
- Youngs Crossing Road, Joyner - banks stabilisation works and path/handrail reconstruction.
- Curlew Road, Samford - road edge scour and slip into South Pine River.
- Ron Thomasson Park, Lawnton - walkways undermined, creekbank stabilisation works and pedestrian bridge damage.
- Buranda Road, Clear Mountain - Culvert repairs, road surfacing and guard rail reinstatement
- Branch Creek Rd, Clear Mountain - road undermine and creek bank collapse - large works with ICC for temporary protection measures and road reopening.
- Mt Brisbane Rd, Mt Pleasant - Pavement damage.
- Ira Buckby Rd West, Cashmere - Major scour & damage to guardrail.
- Heather Anne Drive, Draper - Pavement damage.
- McNamara Rd, Rocksberg - Pavement damage.
- Old North Cres, Bray Park - Pavement damage.
- Westbourne Drive, Wights Mountain - Major washout of downstream apron on culvert system, scour of guardrail.

Parks

- Vegetation and debris clean ups have occurred in a majority of low-lying parks.
- Pine rivers park and Centenary lakes requiring the most resources, ongoing works are scheduled and underway along 4-mile creek and cabbage tree creek.
- The Fire trails and recreation trails have been affected regionally with the South requiring approx. 200k worth of repairs.

Parks Infrastructure

- 42 flood related jobs recorded, yet to finalise.
- One job has been delayed due the ongoing rain affecting machinery site access.
- Delay in parts for the pump at Centenary Lakes which are due to be installed week ending 5 April 2024.
- All other Play, Fitness and DOLA (Dog Off Leash Areas) cleanups including Softfall reinstatement have been completed.

Building and Facilities

- Out of 41 flood related Jobs, there are 4 remaining. These are at Centenary lakes (on hold on advice from Sports and Recreation).
- All other works have been completed and consisted of electrical and structural repairs to our buildings, due to water ingress.

Economic

The most significant impact to business was felt in Beachmere due to the extended closure of Beachmere Road. The Economic Subgroup have had VMS signs out on Bribie Island Road directing people to Beachmere and to #supportlocalbusiness however the permit for the signs has ended and the signs have been removed as of Tuesday 2 April 2024.

- 10 x Corflute signs were put up around Beachmere and Ningi - "Support Beachmere - Support local business".
 - These signs are in the process of being removed as they have now reached the maximum allowed time frame.
- Outdoor banners (4m x 1m banners) have been created and will go up on 3 community banner poles.
 - Caboolture - Centenary Lakes - 8 April 2024 to 21 April 2024 (No extension available)
 - Ningi - Theo Green Park - 8 April 2024 to 12 May 2024
 - Beachmere - 8 April 2024 to 12 May 2024
- Radio adverts are being coordinated for 101.5fm station.
 - "Get Back to Beachmere, Support Local Business - enjoy bonny Beachmere" campaign.
 - The campaign is hopefully starting as of 8 April 2024 depending on approvals of radio scripting.
 - We hope to also include some interviews on the radio through the month of April via local businesses and business groups (B.A.N.G).

In addition, the Sub-group is also looking at two Moreton Money events at Beachmere.

- 27 and 28 April for Pay it Forward activation.
- Mother's Day in the park which will include a radio broadcast and engagement with local business places for activities and food/takeaway hampers for the live music in the park.

Resilience

The City of Moreton Bay is committed to continuing to strengthen the resilience of the community so it is well placed to deal with the increasing prevalence of natural disasters. Council will continue to embed disaster risk reduction into decision making and will establish a data-led approach to natural hazard risk mitigation. A key objective of this approach will be delivering a supporting public education program to build community resilience.

