



Office of Mayor and CEO

Monthly Review

Period – November & December 2022

OVERVIEW	4
SAFETY	5
1.1. Lead Indicators	5
1.2. Incidents and Injuries	10
KEY INITIATIVES	18
2.1. Summary of key projects and initiatives	18
GOVERNANCE	20
3.1 Workplace Health & Safety	20
3.2 Corporate Performance Planning & Reporting	21
3.3 Enterprise Risk Management.....	21
3.4 Business Continuity	21
3.5 Corporate Governance.....	22
3.6 Internal Audit.....	23
REGIONAL REPRESENTATIVE GROUPS	23
4.1 Greater Whitsunday Council of Mayors (GWCoM).....	23
4.2 Regional Queensland Council of Mayors (RQCoM's).....	24

OVERVIEW

It is with pleasure that I present my first Office of the Mayor and CEO Monthly Review report.

This report is for the Office of the Mayor and CEO (OMCEO) for November and December 2022.

- As at the end of December, Council has reached 4 LTI's with a total of 48 days lost. All incidents and reports of near misses continue to be reviewed of learnings and opportunities.
- The last Council meeting (and briefing) day was 7 December 2022, with meetings, briefings and Council in Community Days now restarting after the Christmas/New Year break.
- The period saw the resignation of Kylie Lamb as Director Organisational Services, with Anthony Bigby Council's Senior Legal Counsel from OMCEO undertaking the Acting role.
- Council received \$5M funding for the replacement of Bells Creek Bridge meaning a full replacement is possible rather than repairs/rehabilitation.



Scott Owen
Chief Executive Officer

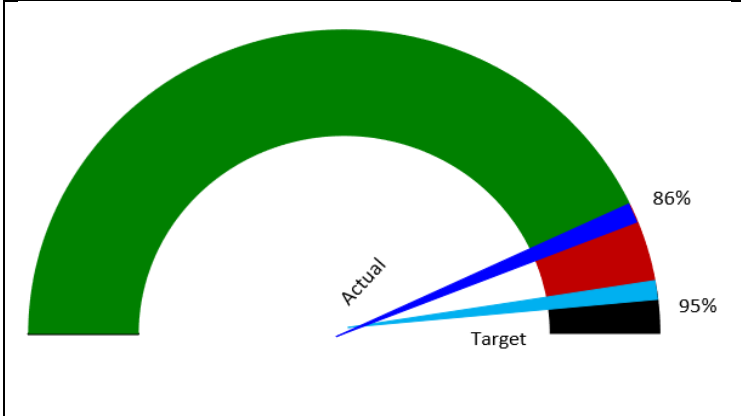
SAFETY

1.1. Lead Indicators

The program-specific data behind the graphs below is shown in section 2.4.

Site Safety Inspections Completed	<p>This graph shows the percentage of scheduled inspections completed on-time in the quarter.</p> <p>At a department-level the results were:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Capital Works: 100% • Community and Client Services: 100% • Development Services: 100% • Engineering and Commercial Infrastructure: 100% • Organisational Services: 100%
	<p>This graph shows the percentage of members of the management team that have undertaken their targeted number of safety interactions.</p> <p>Whilst not recorded here, the layer of management below program managers are continuing to undertake safety interactions, with a target of two per quarter.</p> <p>This is a great result and is a marked improvement on the last quarter</p>
Manager Safety Interactions Undertaken	<p>This graph shows the percentage of MAP items completed in the quarter.</p> <p>Another good result, uncompleted MAPs could be attributed to absences due to annual leave across the business</p>
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Monthly Action Plan (MAP) Completed	

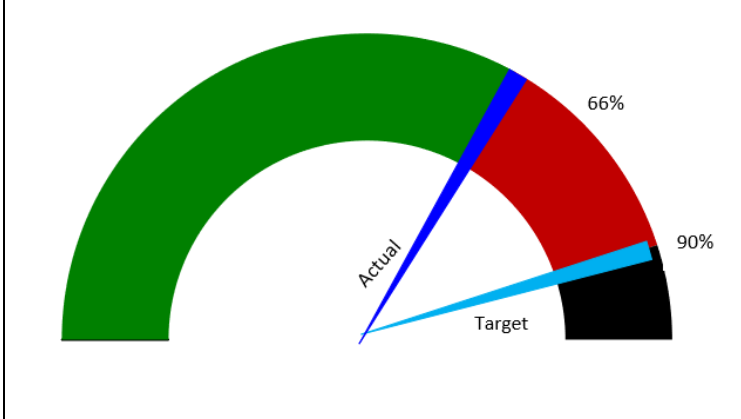
Corrective Actions Completed on Time



Corrective actions are raised following an incident, site safety inspection, hazard report, or as an action from a WHS meeting.

This is above last quarter's result of 79% and is an improvement

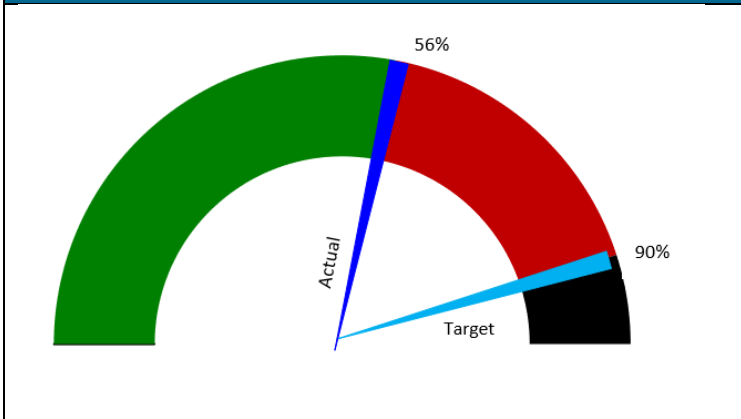
Incidents reported on Time



MRC staff incidents are required to be reported within 30 minutes, and contractor incidents within 60 minutes of occurrence.

Communication and awareness of incident reporting requirements across MRC is continuing.

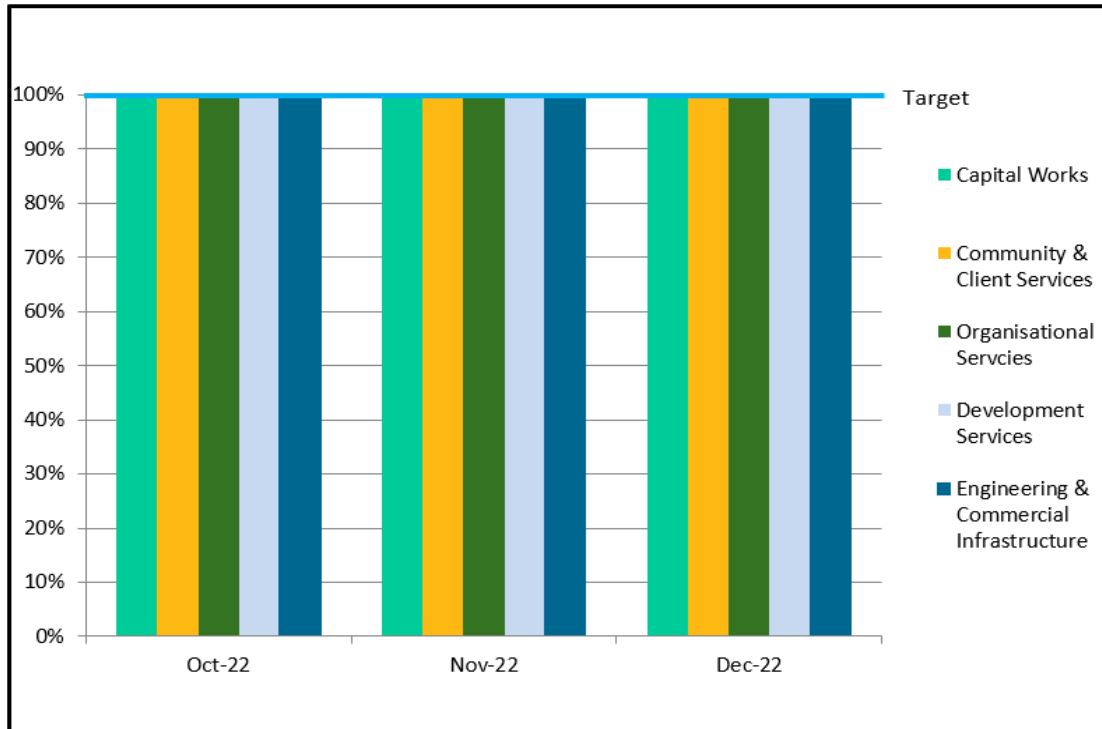
Contractor Spot Checks



This graph shows the percentage of scheduled contractor spot-checks completed in the quarter at 56% and is below our 90% target.

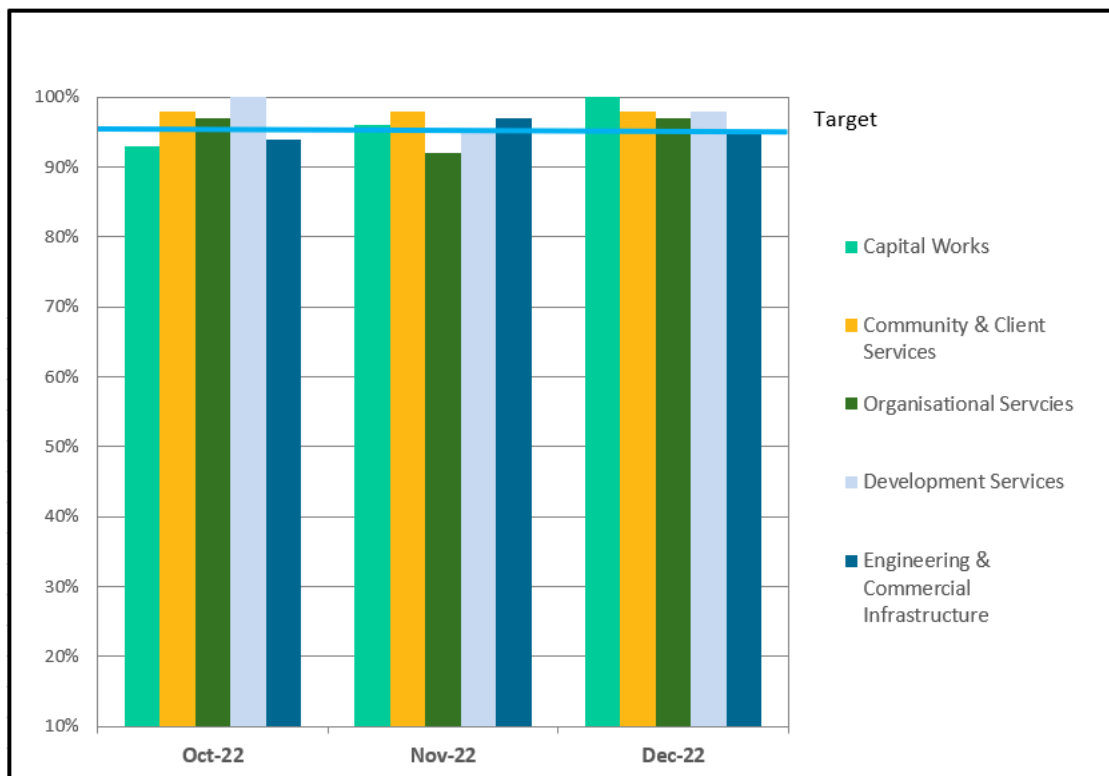
Communication and awareness of contractor spot check requirements across MRC will continue, to ensure future achievement of the 90% target.

Site Safety Inspections Completed



A target of 100% has been set for the completion of scheduled site safety inspections. This graph provides a snapshot of the percentage completed at the end of each month.

Monthly Action Plans Completed



A target of 95% has been set for the completion of monthly action plans. This graph provides a snapshot of the percentage completed at the end of each month.

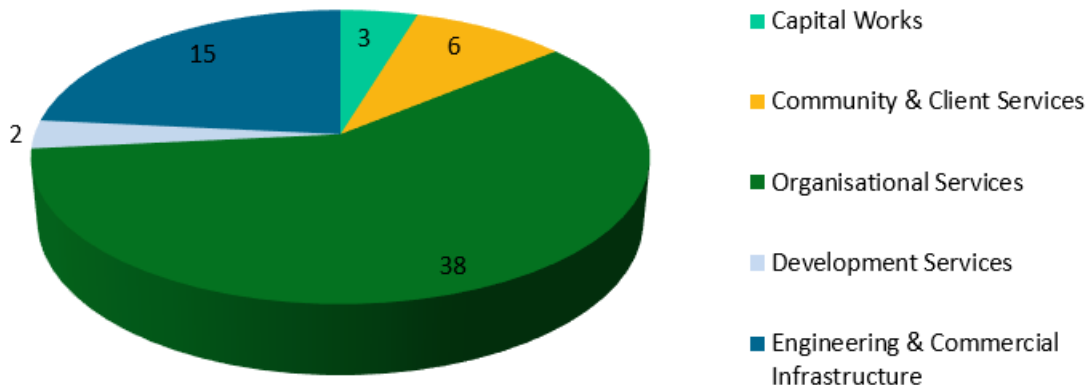
Lead Indicators Break-up by Program

Department / Program		Site Safety Inspections			Manager Safety Interactions			Monthly Action Plan (MAP)	Corrective Actions Completed on time		Incidents reported on time		Contractor Spot Checks	
		% Actual	% Target	% Achv'd	% Actual	% Target	% Achv'd	% Achv'd	Total CA's Due	% of CA's actioned on time	Total # Reported	% reported on time	% Target	% Achv'd
Capital Works	CW Management				4	4	100%	100%						
	Major Projects				6	4	100%	93%	3	100%	3	33%	4	100%
	Field Services	6	6	100%	5	4	100%	93%	9	100%	6	33%	4	25%
	Contract Services				7	4	100%	92%	8	63%	1	0%	6	100%
	Portfolio Management Office				4	4	100%	100%			1	100%		
	Design Services				4	4	100%	100%	1	0%	2	0%		
Total		6	6	100%	30	24	100%	96%	21	81%	13	31%	14	86%
Community & Client Services	CCS Management				4	4	100%	100%	1	100%				
	Corporate Comm				2	2	100%	100%	1	100%	1	100%		
	Community Lifestyle	8	8	100%	2	2	100%	100%	29	100%	14	79%		
	MECC & Events	1	1	100%	4	4	100%	89%	2	100%	8	63%		
	Health & Regulatory Services	1	1	100%	4	4	100%	100%	2	100%	3	67%		
	Emergency Management				3	2	100%	100%						
Total		10	10	100%	19	18	100%	98%	35	100%	26	73%		
Development Services	DEV Management				4	4	100%	100%						
	Development Planning & Engineering				4	4	100%	100%			1	0%		
	Parks	35	35	100%	1	1	100%	100%	18	83%	42	69%	2	100%
	Strategic Planning				5	4	100%	100%						
	Economic Development	1	1	100%	4	4	100%	88%	1	100%	3	100%		
Total		36	36	100%	18	17	100%	98%	19	84%	46	70%	2	100%

Department / Program		Site Safety Inspections			Manager Safety Interactions			Monthly Action Plan (MAP)	Corrective Actions Completed on Time		Incidents reported on time		Contractor Spot Checks	
		% Actual	% Target	% Achv'd	% Actual	% Target	% Achv'd	% Achv'd	Total CA's due	% of CA's actioned on time	Total # reported	% reported on time	% Target	% Achv'd
Engineering & Commercial Infrastructure	ECI Management				14	8	100%	100%	7	86%				
	Transport & Drainage				6	4	100%	100%			1	100%		
	Civil Operations	19	19	100%	4	2	100%	100%	6	83%	30	80%	2	100%
	Waste Services	4	4	100%	4	4	100%	88%	44	100%	10	80%	6	50%
	Water Network	7	7	100%	5	4	100%	93%	10	60%	5	60%	12	8%
	Water & Sewage				5	4	100%	100%						
	Water Treatment	2	2	100%	4	4	100%	89%	13	77%	2	50%	2	100%
	Assets				4	4	100%	92%			1	100%		
Total		32	32	100%	46	34	100%	95%	80	89%	49	78%	22	36%
Organisational Services	ORG Management				4	4	100%	100%	2	100%				
	Finance				4	4	100%	100%						
	Shared Services				5	4	100%	100%	9	67%	1	0%		
	Procurement & Plant	4	4	100%	7	4	100%	87%	17	88%	1	100%		
	Property Services	11	11	100%	7	4	100%	100%	49	69%	12	25%	6	0%
	People & Culture				4	4	100%	88%	2	100%				
	Information Services				5	4	100%	88%	1	100%	1	100%		
	Office of the Mayor & CEO				4	4	100%	100%						
Executive Office/Legal				11	8	100%	97%	27	96%					
Total		15	15	100%	51	40	100%	96%	107	80%	15	33%	6	0%

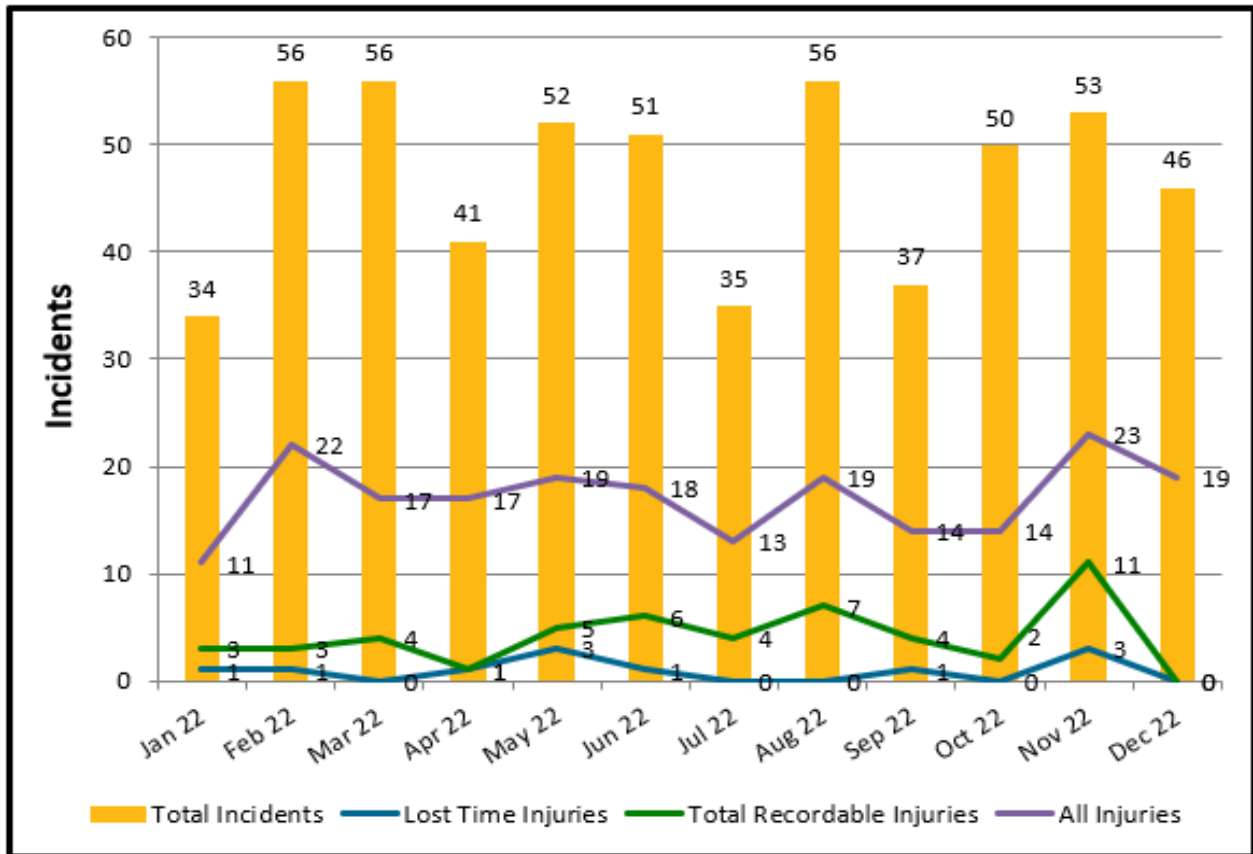
Corrective Action Status Report

Total Active Corrective Actions



Department	Total CAs open	CAs Overdue					% of CA's Overdue
		Total CAs Overdue	< 30 days overdue	30 - 60 days overdue	60-360 days overdue	> 12mths overdue	
Capital Works	3	1	0	1	0	0	33%
Community & Client Services	6	0	0	0	0	0	0%
Organisational Services	38	18	7	8	3	0	47%
Development Services	2	0	0	0	0	0	0%
Engineering & Commercial Infrastructure	15	5	2	2	1	0	33%
Mackay Regional Council	64	24	9	11	4	0	38%

1.2 Incidents and Injuries



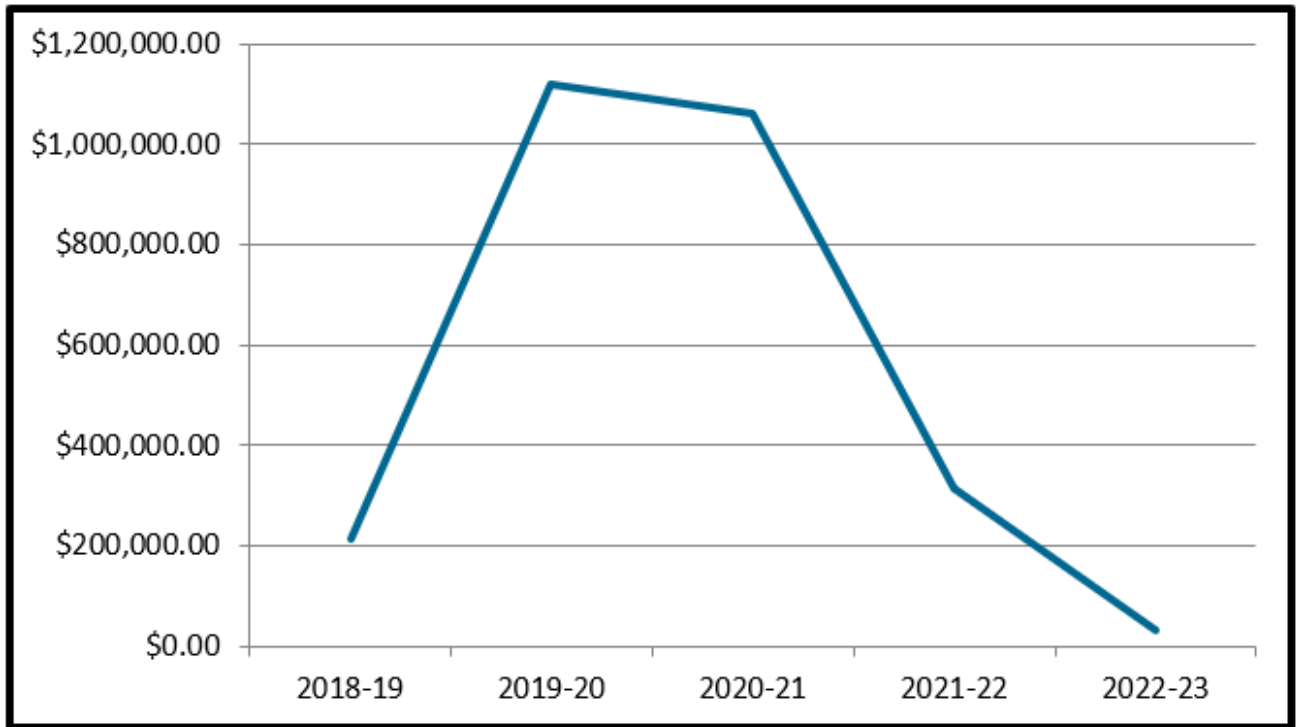
The following injuries to MRC employees were reported during December:

First Aid Injuries and Non-Treatment Injuries:

- FAI – Using force to undo bolts and felt strain in hand.
- FAI – Stone flicked up while whipper snipping and hit finger, causing small cut.
- FAI – Received severe sunburn to top of head, through straw hat.
- FAI – While walking past stored tables, table has fallen and landed on toe, causing bruising. Closed in shoes were worn.
- FAI – Walking downstairs, became distracted and mis-stepped causing a rolled ankle
- FAI – Tripped over incorrectly placed grease trap lid, injuring head, and leg.
- NTI – NSM became aggressive, swearing at staff.
- NTI – Received suspected electric/ static shock when using photocopier.
- NTI – NSM became abusive towards 2 staff members and knocked over displays when exiting building
- NTI – Two teenage boys escorted from library due to unacceptable behaviour- bumping staff member.
- NTI – Received abusive phone call from NSM.
- NTI – Felt twinge in knee, on rising from seated position.
- NTI – Tripped on cement ledge and fell, grazing hands.
- NTI – While cutting branches, branch has become caught on another tilting unexpectedly and hitting thumb.
- NTI – Whipper snipping throughout the day, felt hot and suffered headaches after work and throughout the night. Suspected heat illness.
- NTI – Reported symptoms of heat stress after whipper snipping.
- NTI – Staff member received distressing phone call from NSM.
- NTI - While walking to meeting, twisted ankle on uneven ground.

Each incident is investigated, and appropriate corrective measures implemented to reduce future risks.

Workers Compensation Claims Costs



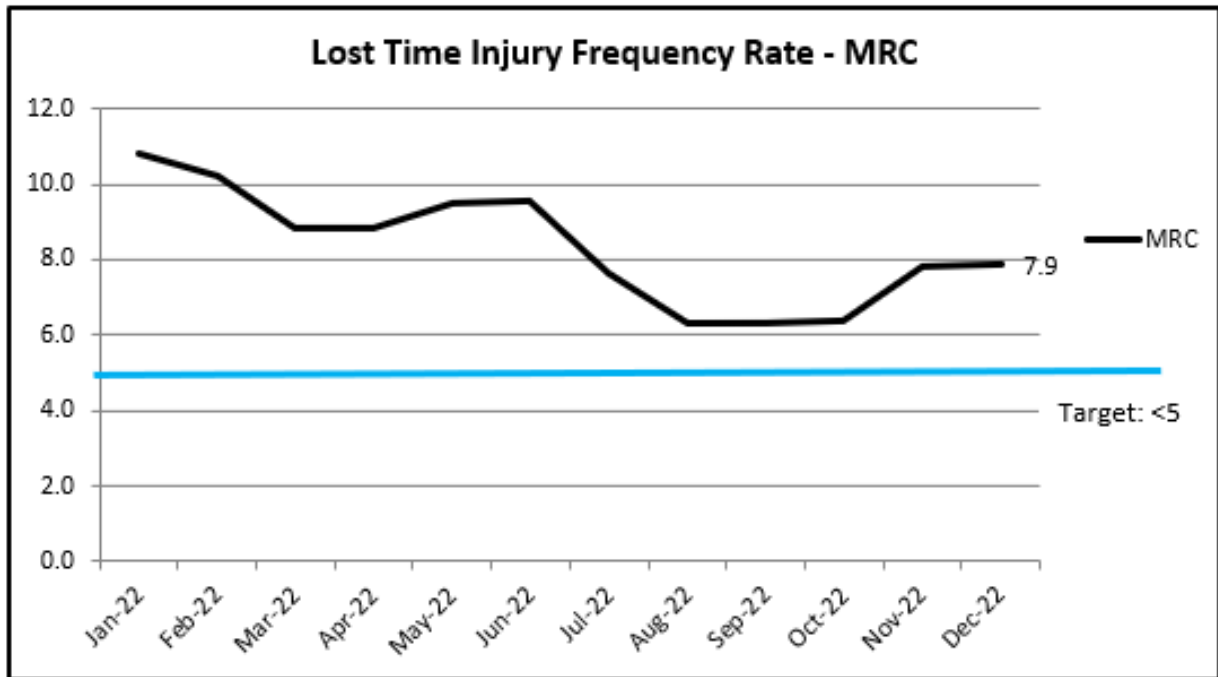
This graph depicts the total worker's compensation claim costs over the last five years.

Claim costs are payments made in relation to accepted claims. This includes compensation payouts, medical costs and expenses relating to claims.

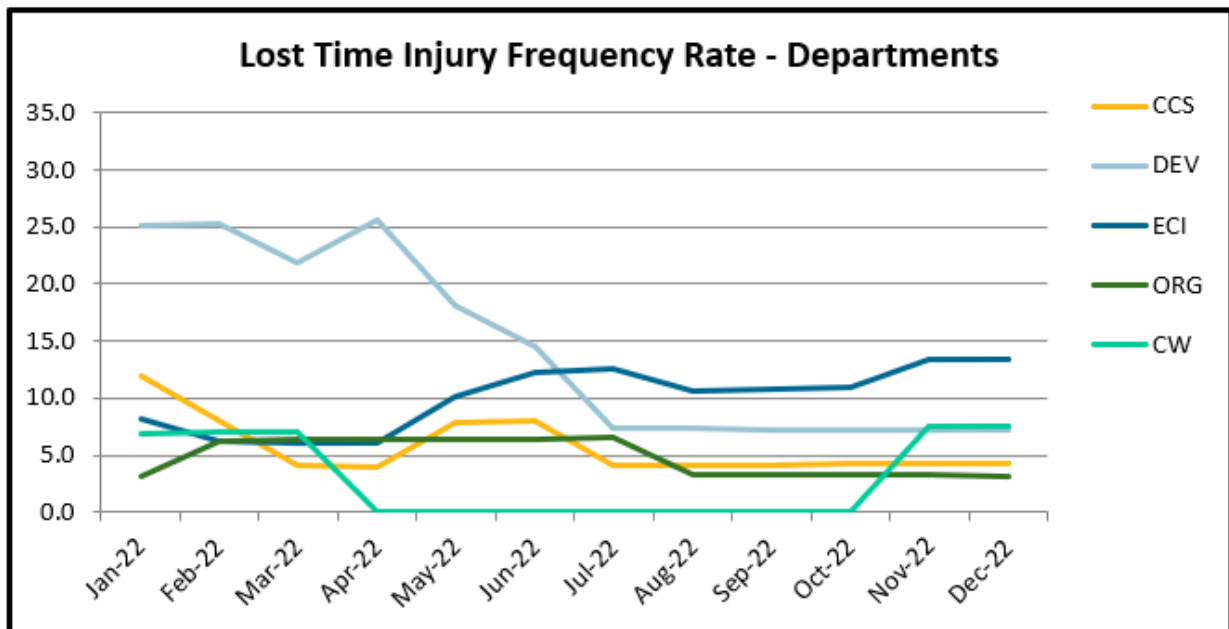
The costs of claims are a factor in determine MRC's workers compensation premium.

As can be seen from the graph the WC costs are steadily decreasing

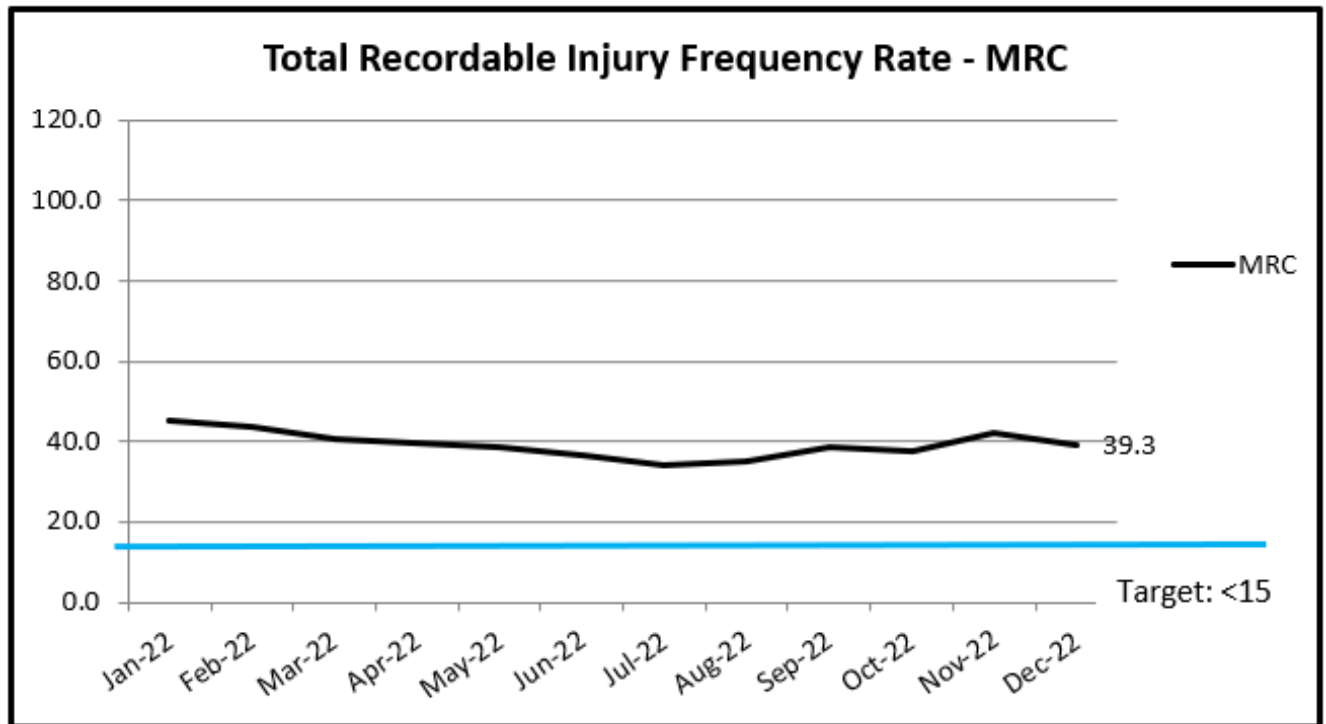
Injury Frequency Rates 12 month rolling average



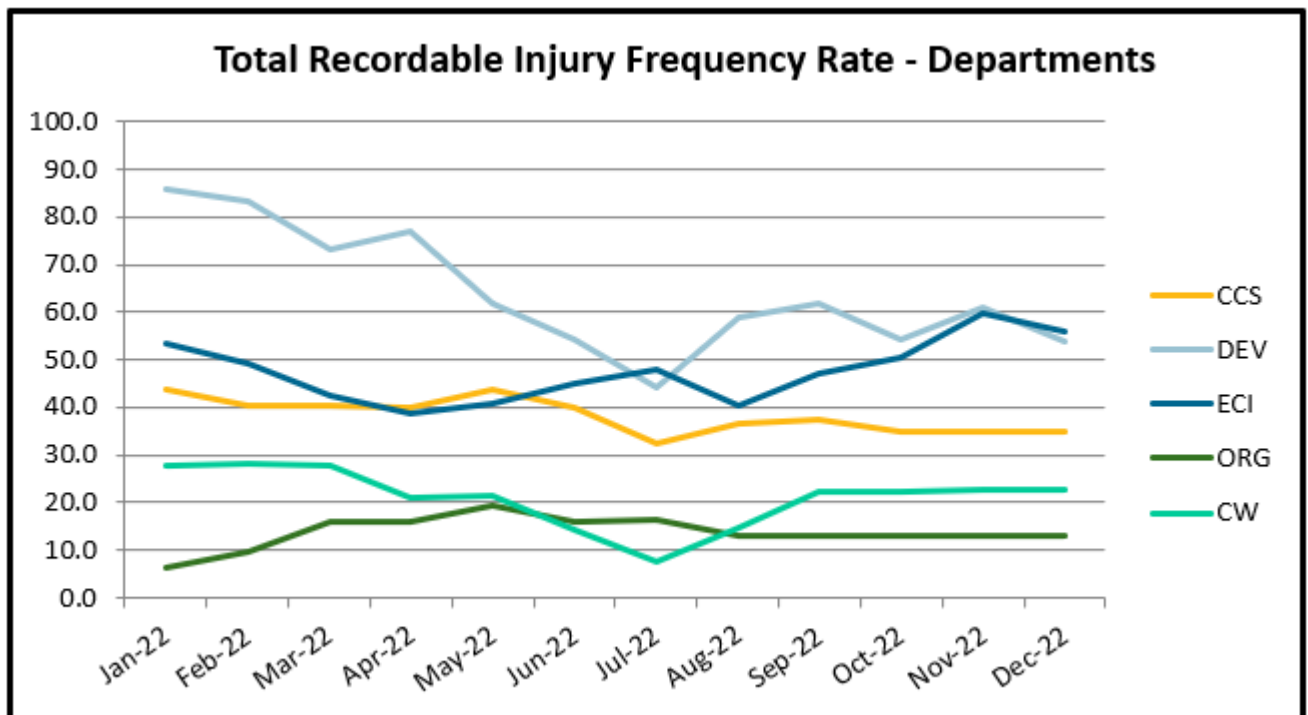
The MRC wide LTI frequency rate is currently 7.9, higher than our target of 5.



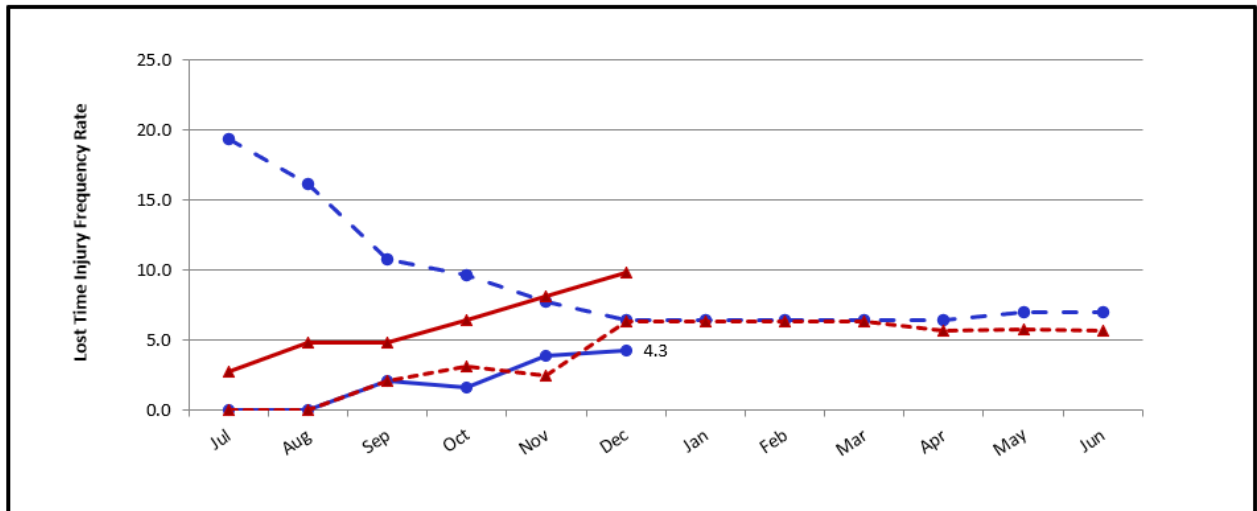
Total Recordable Injury Frequency rate



The MRC wide TRIFR frequency rate is currently 39.3, higher than our target of 15.



Lost Time Injury Frequency Rate Comparison



Legend

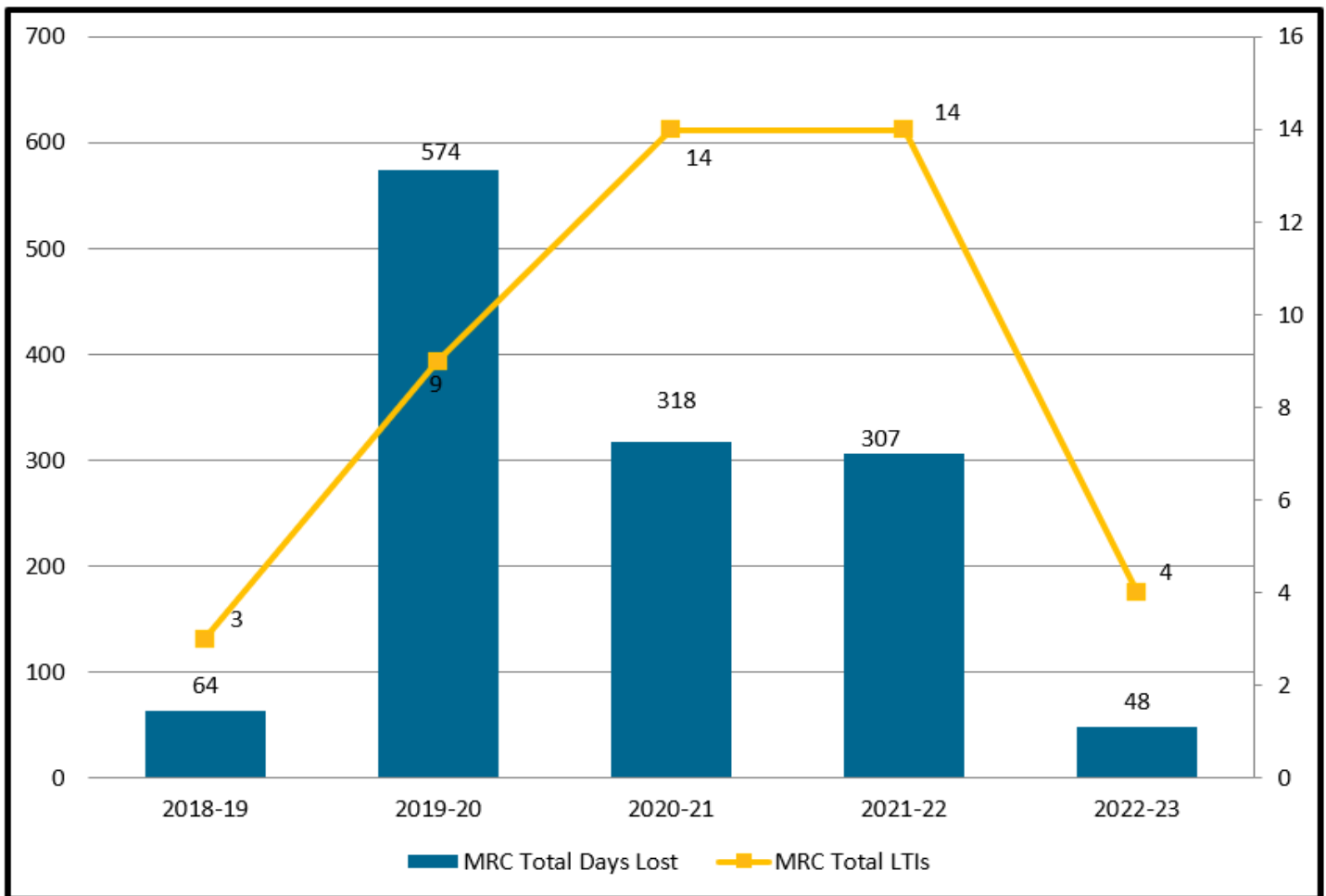
MRC	This year	
	Last year	

All Group E Councils	This year	
	Last year	

This data is provided by MRC’s workers’ compensation insurer LGW and shows the cumulative LTI frequency rate over the course of the current financial year, compared to similar sized local governments (Group E councils).

MRC has recorded four LTIs. This has resulted in a LTI frequency rate of 4.3 which is below the *All-Group E Councils* rate of 9.8.

Lost Time Injuries and Days Lost



Department	2017-18		2018-19		2019-20		2020-21		2021-22		2022-23	
	LTI	Days Lost	LTI	Days Lost	LTI	Days Lost	LTI	Days Lost	LTI	Days Lost	LTI	Days Lost
Capital Works							1	10			1	23
Community & Client Services	1	1	1	18	1	3	2	14	2	31		
Organisational Services	2	25							2	139		
Development Services	1	13	1	33	4	154	6	146	4	16	1	20
Engineering & Commercial Infrastructure	6	83	1	13	4	417	5	148	6	121	2	5
Mackay Regional Council	10	122	3	64	9	574	14	318	14	307	4	48

For the 2022-23 period, there have been four lost time injuries recorded:

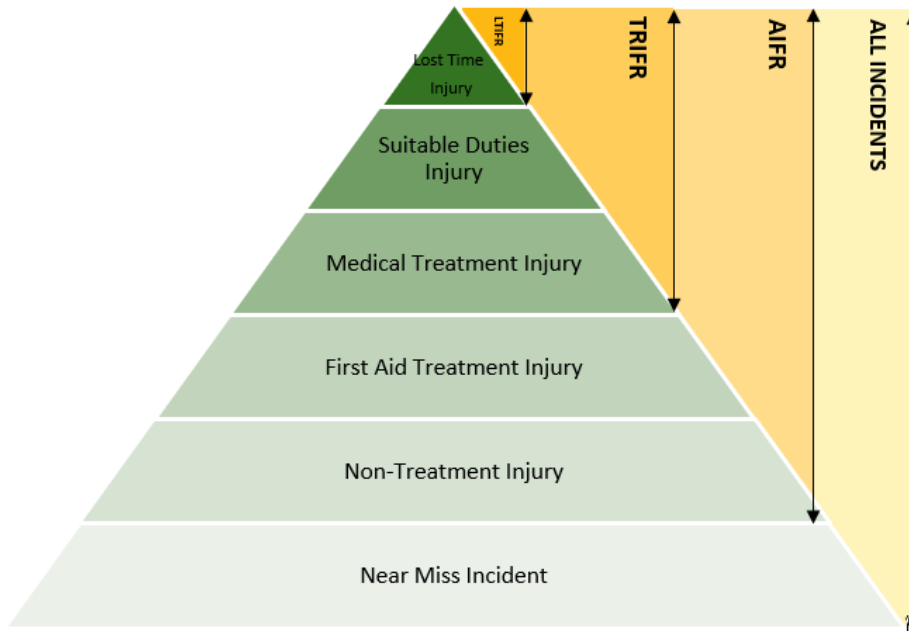
1. While attending mountain bike related conference, worker has fallen from bike, injuring hand. Resulting in 23 days lost as they recover.
2. While inspecting drain, dogs have rushed from property, causing inspector to trip and fall, injuring their arm and hands. One day was lost as they recovered.
3. Driver lost control of utility on unsealed road and vehicle rolled, resulting in fractured ribs. Four days have been lost as they recover.
4. Worker suffered psychological injury; 20 days have been lost as they recover.

WHS Incident Summary

Department / Program		Incident Data (1 st Quarter)						Incident History 2022-23 financial year (YTD)							
		LTI	TRI	All Injury	Near Miss	AD	NSM	Total Incidents	LTI	TRI	All Injury	Near Miss	AD	NSM	Total Incidents
Capital Works	CW Management														
	Major Projects	1	1	1			2	3	1	1	1			4	5
	Field Services			1		4	1	6		2	5	1	9	2	17
	Contract Services						1	1				1		4	5
	Portfolio Management				1			1				1			1
	Design Services			2				2			2				2
Total		1	1	4	1	4	4	13	1	3	8	3	9	10	30
Community & Client Services	CCS Management														
	Corporate Comm.			1				1			1				1
	Community Lifestyle		1	8	1		5	14		2	10	2		17	29
	MECC & Events			4			4	8		2	9	2		6	17
	Health & Reg			2		1		3			7	1	2		10
	Emergency mgmt													1	1
Total			1	15	1	1	9	26		4	27	5	2	24	58
Development Services	DEV Management										1				1
	Dev Plng & Eng			1				1			1				1
	Parks		4	21	2	18	1	42	1	11	37	4	27	4	72
	Strategic Planning										1				1
	Economic Dev						2	2						3	3
Total			4	22	2	18	3	45	1	11	40	5	27	7	79
Engineering & Commercial Infrastructure	ECI Management														
	Tran Drain Infra Plng		1	1				1		1	1				1
	Civil Operations	2	4	7	3	17	3	30	2	5	13	4	28	7	52
	Waste Services			1			9	10			3			16	19
	Water Network		2	2	2	1		5		4	5	3	2	1	11
	Water & Sew Infra Pl														
	Water Treatment			2				2		2	4			1	5
	Assets Management			1				1			1				1
Total		2	7	14	5	18	12	49	2	12	27	7	30	25	89
Organisational Services	ORG Management														
	Financial Services														
	Shared Services				1			1				1			1
	Procurement & Plant				1			1				1		1	2
	Property Services			1			11	12			1			13	14
	People & Culture											1			1
	Information Services						1	1						1	1
	Executive Office											1			1
	Office Mayor & CEO														
Total				1	2		12	15			1	4		15	20

DEFINITIONS

Incident Hierarchy



Incident Definitions

Incident	Any unplanned event resulting in or having a potential for injury or ill health.
Lost Time Injury (LTI)	A work injury that results in a fatality, or an inability to work at least one full day / shift or part of a day / shift, any time after the day / shift in which the injury occurred. As determined by the treating doctor.
Suitable Duties Injury (SDI)	A work injury that results in an injured worker remaining in the workplace, but not being able to return to their normal duties on the next day or scheduled shift. Work is undertaken, subject to restrictions, as determined by the treating doctor.
Medical Treatment Injury (MTI)	A work injury that results in an injured worker being treated by a qualified health professional e.g., doctor, nurse, physiotherapist.
First Aid Treatment Injury (FAI)	A work injury that results in an injured worker being provided treatment which is normally given by a first aider.
Non-Treatment Injury	A work injury which did not require treatment by a first aider or health professional e.g., doctor.
Near Miss Incident (NM)	An incident that could have or had the potential to cause injury or loss.
Recordable Injury (RI)	Incidents that result in a LTI, SDI and MTI.
Lost time injury frequency rate (LTIFR)	The number of lost-time injuries per million hours worked. Calculated as follows: $\frac{\text{No of LTI} \times 1,000,000}{\text{total hours worked during period}}$
Total Recordable Injury Frequency Rate (TRIFR)	The number of recordable injuries per million hours worked. Calculated as follows: $\frac{\text{No of RI} \times 1,000,000}{\text{total hours worked during period}}$
All Injury Frequency Rate (AIFR)	The sum of RIs and FAIs per million hours worked. Calculated as follows: $\frac{\text{No of injuries} \times 1,000,000}{\text{total hours worked during period}}$
Notifiable Incident	Incidents that are notifiable to Workplace Health and Safety QLD (WHSQ). Includes an incident that results in the death, serious injury, or serious illness of a person, or involves a dangerous incident.

KEY INITIATIVES

2.1. Summary of key projects and initiatives

This section provides a summary of key initiatives linked directly to the Office of the Mayor and CEO for 2022/23.

Councillor Activities

Meetings/Briefings

For the months of November and December, the following Council meetings/briefings were co-ordinated:

- Ordinary Council Meetings – 9 & 23 November and 7 December 2022
- Briefings – 9, 16 & 23 November and 7 December 2022

Details of Council Meeting minutes, and recorded live streaming, are all available on Council's website.

Legal Services

Legal Services is currently working on 312 Matters spread across all Directorates as follows:

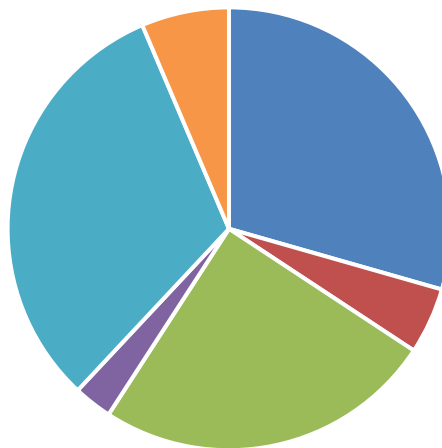
Directorate	Matter Type	No.	No.
Capital Works	Aboriginal/Cultural Heritage	1	38
	Disputes/Litigation	4	
	Drafting/Reviewing	1	
	General Advice	5	
	Land Acquisition	18	
	Leasing/Licencing	8	
	Native Title	1	
CCS	Aboriginal/Cultural Heritage	1	37
	Disputes/Litigation	3	
	Drafting/Reviewing	9	
	Regulatory Compliance & Enforcement (<i>particularly Warrants for overgrown properties and dangerous dogs</i>)	13	
	General Advice	10	
	Leasing/Licencing	1	
Development Services	Disputes/Litigation	3	37
	Infrastructure Agreements	3	
	General Advice	11	
	Land Acquisition/Disposal	2	
	Drafting/Reviewing	15	
	Leasing/Licencing	1	
	Land Tenure	1	
	Native Title	1	
ECI	Land Acquisition	17	70
	Disputes/Litigation	5	
	General Advice	19	
	Infrastructure Agreements	1	
	Drafting/Reviewing	19	

	Land Tenure	2	
	Leasing/Licensing	2	
	Native Title	2	
	Regulatory Compliance & Enforcement	3	
OM&CEO	Aboriginal/ATSI Cultural Heritage	1	36
	Land Acquisition/Conveyancing	1	
	Disputes/Litigation	10	
	Drafting/Reviewing	5	
	General Advice	19	
Organisational Services	Disputes/Litigation	11	94
	General Advice	24	
	Drafting Reviewing	12	
	Investigation	2	
	Land Acquisition/Disposal	5	
	Land Tenure	1	
	Leasing/Licensing	37	
	Native Title	2	
TOTAL CURRENT MATTERS			312

External Fees Paid

Total external legal fees and outlays paid for the financial year to date are \$487,465.00 broken down by Directorate as follows:

Fees Paid Financial Year to Date



- Capital Works \$143,424.00
- Organisational Services \$121,312.00
- Development Services \$154,122.00
- Community & Client Services \$23,634.00
- Engineering & Commercial Infrastructure \$13,749.00
- Office of Mayor & CEO \$31,224.00

External Grant Funding

External funding monies for 2022/23 to 31st December 2022 being actually received by payments to Council is \$6,882,062.83.

The major components received in November and December being:

- Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development and Communication – Roads to Recovery – Pioneer Street \$1,956,590.00
- Department of Transport & Main Roads – Black Spot Program – Sydney/Alfred Street \$251,750.00
- Department of State Development, Infrastructure, Local Government & Planning – Financial Assistance Grant \$180,317.75
- Department of Employment, Small Business and Training – First Start Initiative \$135,000.00
- Department of Transport & Main Roads – LG Cycle Grant – Sydney/River Street Intersection \$226,470.50
- Department of Transport & Main Roads – LG Cycle Grant – Pioneer North Bank Stage 2 Construction \$393,722.25
- Department of State Development, Infrastructure, Local Government & Planning – Mackay Animal Management Centre \$318,625.00*
- State Library of Queensland – Quarterly Contribution \$142,923.75*

*Funds received in December 2022 however reflected in Period 1 (January) due to end of month timing in December.

Successful funding applications during November and December include:

- Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development and Communications – Bells Creek Bridge Replacement \$5,000,000.00
- Department of Children, Youth Justice and Multicultural Affairs – Global Grooves 2023 \$20,000.00
- Department of Employment, Small Business and Training – First Start Initiative \$150,000.00
- Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development, Communications and the Arts – Illuminate 2023 \$45,861.00
- Department of Environment & Science – Grasses Project (weed control) \$50,000.00

GOVERNANCE

3.1 Workplace Health & Safety

- Attended psychological safety master class (WHSQ)
- Undertook several incident investigations
- Coordinated thank you gifts for outgoing safety reps.
- Health and Safety Representative (HSR's) thank you's issued
- Safety committee meetings conducted, and membership updated
- WHS representatives attended LGW psychology master class.
- Undertook several ICAM incident investigations.

3.2 Corporate Performance Planning & Reporting

This month the Operational Plan 2022-2023 first quarter report was Adopted by Council representing positive progress in achieving KPIs this quarter.

Additionally, the 23/24 planning cycle processes and timelines for MRC were endorsed this month by ELT, ensuring appropriate sequencing with the annual budget and workforce planning processes.

Specifically,

- The review and update of the Organisational Strategy and Directorate Plans by ELT early in January.
- Program Plan review and update by Program Managers and their Coordinators taking place January to early March, to then inform the build of the 23/24 Operational Plan.

3.3 Enterprise Risk Management

For the first time this month, a Briefing to Council on Strategic Risk was undertaken giving Councillors visibility of the way in which strategic risks are managed at MRC. Council have agreed that they will be briefed again in future quarters.

This month the annual risk review process continues. This process creates opportunity for the business to refresh on their identified strategic and operational risks, reviewing controls and their effectiveness and also checking in the completeness of risk treatments. Any budget impacts as a result of a specific need for focus on any one existing control and or risk treatment is important at this time of year for capturing in MRC annual budget processes.

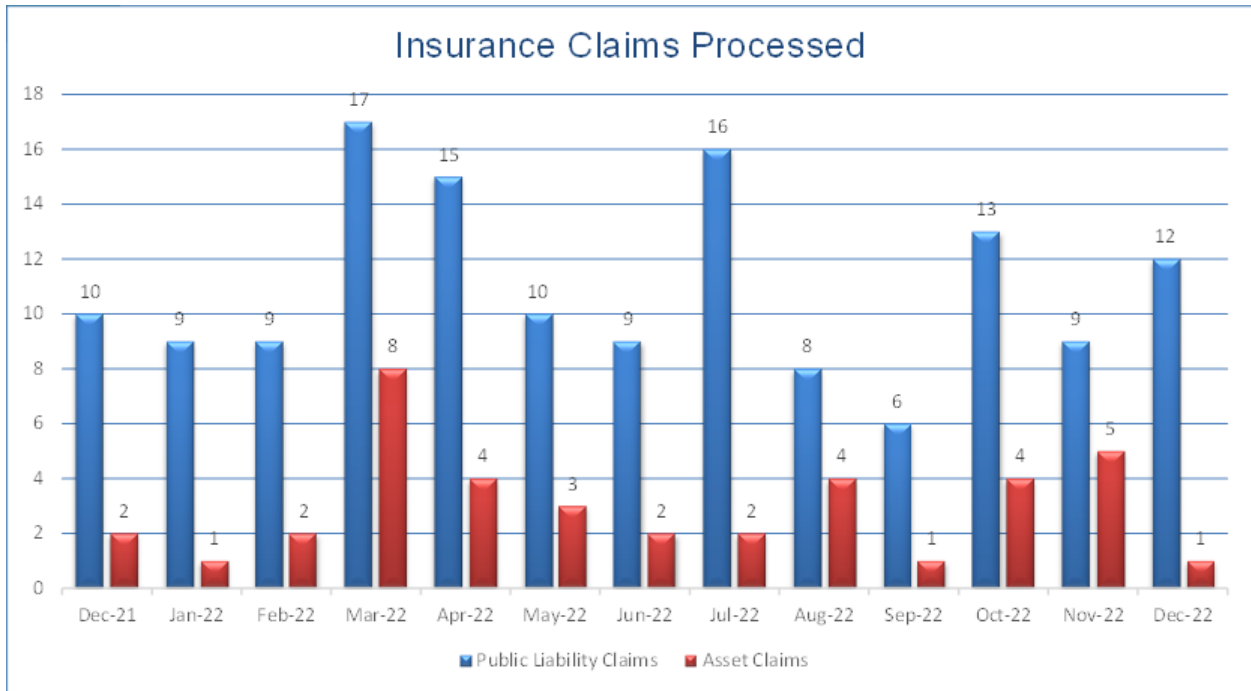
Risk review sessions with the relevant risk owner, subject matter experts and risk treatment owners have been scheduled to commence early in January, extending through till late February 2023.

Risk appetite has been further explored this month with materials prepared for sharing with ELT in readiness to workshop early in January.

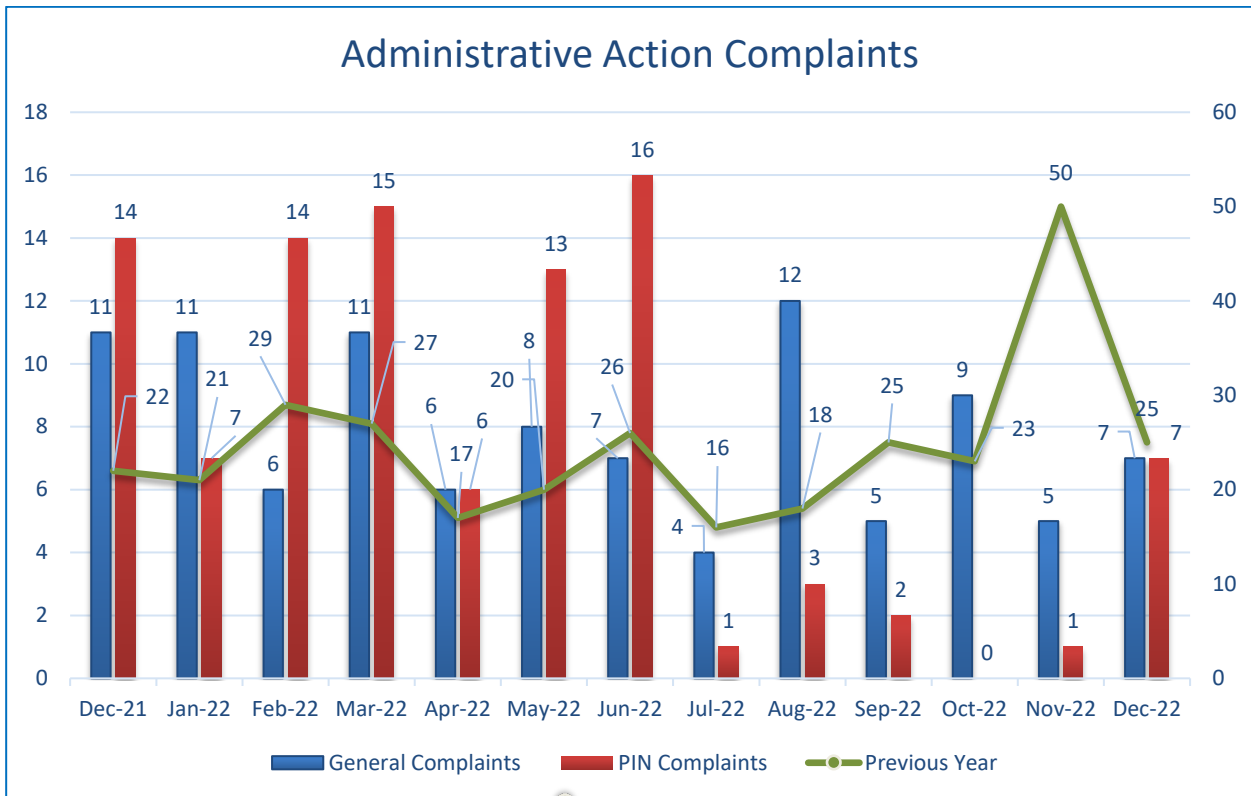
3.4 Business Continuity



Following a business disruption event last month that involved the evacuation and cease work of the entire Administration building for a number of hours, business continuity is at the fore. Debrief exercises have been planned for key stakeholders to complete in January 2023 with a report back to ELT on findings.



3.5 Corporate Governance











*Public Liability Claims (include Personal Injury, Public Liability Plant, Public Liability & Professional Indemnity.
Asset Claims (include Motor Vehicle, Water Damage, Theft, Malicious Damage, Other)*






Right to Information (RTI) Applications Processed in November & December 2022	Documents Requested	Status
4 of 22/23	Documents regarding an Animal Investigation	
5 of 22/23	Documents regarding an Animal Investigation	

 In Progress	 Complete
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3.6 Internal Audit

2022/23 Internal Audit Plan – Progress Update			
Venue Management of MRC Aquatic Facilities (<i>Outsourced</i>)		Information & Communications Technology (ICT) – Cloud Management – (<i>Outsourced</i>)	
Asset Management – Acquisitions – (<i>Outsourced</i>)		Customer Request Management	
Venue Management – The Stadium Operations		Management Requests (<i>ad hoc requests as required</i>)	
Data Analytic Report Development		Follow Up of Previous Internal Audits	
The next Audit Committee is 23 February 2023			

 Review has commenced and is in progress.	 Review is awaiting commencement.	 Review has been completed and has been / to be presented to the Audit Committee
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REGIONAL REPRESENTATIVE GROUPS

4.1 Greater Whitsunday Council of Mayors (GWCoM)

Joint group in conjunction with the Councils of Isaac and Whitsunday.

Membership involves the Mayor and CEO of each of the three (3) Councils, supported by various staff.

A CEO's Group has been established as part of the GWCoM's. The intent of this group is to handle the 'business' matters and look for possible synergies between Councils at CEO level and allowing focus on higher level and strategic issues for the region by the wider group.

The last CEO's Group meeting was held on 4 November 2022 as a precursor to the GWCoM's meeting with discussion on key agenda items.

The latest GWCoM's meeting was held on Thursday 17 November 2022 and attended by the Mayor of Mackay, Mayor of Isaac, Mayor of Whitsunday and the CEO's of Mackay and Isaac with an apology received from the CEO of Whitsunday.

The Assistant Minister for Local Government, Nikki Boyd MP, attended the meeting and discussed:

- Works for Queensland
- Sustainability guidelines
- Skills shortages
- Housing crisis
- Health system

GW3 attended the meeting in order to provide an activity update.

Greater Whitsunday Communities attended the meeting in order to provide an update of their Suicide Prevention Taskforce Project.

Kavney Consulting Pty Ltd and Waste and Resources Management attended the meeting via Teams in order to provide an update on regional waste planning.

A representative of the LGAQ attended the meeting and provided a briefing report including the key topics of –

1. Policy Executive Meeting Update
2. 2022 Annual Conference outcomes
3. Housing Advocacy and Campaign Update
4. The Energy Transformation of Queensland – Queensland's Energy and Jobs Plan
5. Major survey on cost shifting onto Queensland Councils
6. Parliamentary Inquiry into the Office of the Independent Assessment (OIA)
7. Rural and Remote Councils Compact
8. Climate Risk and Resilience Update
9. Natural Resources and Environment Update
10. Water and Wastewater Update
11. Animal Management – targeted review of Animal Management (Cats and Dogs) Act 2008
12. Waste Update
13. Works for Queensland: #BackTo100Mill
14. Regional University Centres
15. Transport and Main Roads/Local Government Cost Share Arrangement Review
16. LGAQ Submissions Update

The next GWCoM's meeting is scheduled for Thursday, 9 February 2023 in Moranbah.

4.2 Regional Queensland Council of Mayors (RQCoM's)

The Regional Queensland Council of Mayors Inc (RQCOMs) is focused on representing and ensuring the whole of Regional Queensland is heard and receives its fair share of recognition.

The following have been adopted by the executive –

Purpose – A Council of Mayors representing Regional Queensland

Mission – Influence Government policy to promote growth in Regional Queensland through investment in infrastructure and social development

Emergency Management Reforms

RQCOM's longstanding calls for the release of the *Independent Review of Queensland Fire and Emergency Services* (the SES Report) culminated in its release in October 2022. Subsequent to this the Chair and members of the Executive met with QPS Deputy Commissioner Gollschewski (the Reform Implementation Taskforce lead). Mayor Williamson reinforced the need for Regional Queensland to be represented on these taskforces.

DC Gollschewski gave an overview of the issues affecting Regional Queensland including:

- the announced changes to disaster management and Emergency Services arrangements, processes around implementation of those changes and impacts on Regional Councils;
- how Regional communities and their Councils can be involved in having input into the restructuring and reform processes; and
- the best timing for RQCOM to arrange a forum for our wider group of Regional Councils (to hear from DC Gollschewski, QFES Commissioner Leach, others relevant).

EV Charging in Regional Queensland

In December 2022 the Chair, Mackay Regional Council CEO and RQCOM EO met with Dr Michael Kane, RACQ's Head of Public Policy (and an expert in the field of EV Infrastructure and Policy) who addressed the subject of *Electric Vehicle Charging for Regional Queensland*:

- what are your Council's options?
- what should Council be doing in preparation?
- EVs and the visitor economy.
- local EVs.
- the Council Fleet and buses.

Focus for 2023

Our executive has agreed on these policies:

- Drive the State's Olympic 2032 position to ensure benefit for all of Qld – not just the SE.
- Do all we can to ensure the State and Federal Governments promote regionalisation.
- Promote access to public health services for all Queenslanders, regardless of location.
- Champion the review of insurance so regional Queensland can access affordable cover.
- Promote education initiatives and pathways on a par with those in the SE Corner.
- Fight for equitable access to digital infrastructure and high-speed broadband.
- Promote a whole-of-government approach to labour shortages, migration, and housing.
- Ensure a compassionate approach to managing the reconciliation process.

RQCOM will actively support the LGAQ in several of their policy areas where these benefit Regional Queensland, but our policies outlined above are unashamedly aligned to the councils of regional Queensland, particularly in those areas that are not on the radar for decision makers in the South East.

Our Executive

Mayor Greg Williamson continues as Chair and the Executive is represented by:

Mayor Greg Williamson (Chair)	Mackay Regional Council
Mayor Jenny Hill (Vice Chair)	Townsville Regional Council
Mayor Bob Manning	Cairns Regional Council
Mayor Frank Beveridge	Charters Towers Regional Council
Mayor Michael Kerr	Douglas Shire Council
Mayor Peter Scott	Cook Shire Council

Upcoming Meeting Dates – 2023

The following meeting schedule has been adopted:

Date of Meeting	Location
Thu 16 Feb 2023, 3 – 5pm	Brisbane
Thu 20 April 2023, 3 – 5pm	Brisbane
Thu 15 Jun 2023, 3 – 5pm	Online / TBC
Thu 10 Aug 2023	TTBC (10am-12noon) or (2 – 4pm)
Tues 17 Oct 2023	Gladstone (7.30am TTBC)
Thu 14 Dec 2023, 3 – 5pm	Brisbane