2023/2024 Mackay Local Disaster **Management Group**

Local Disaster Management Plan

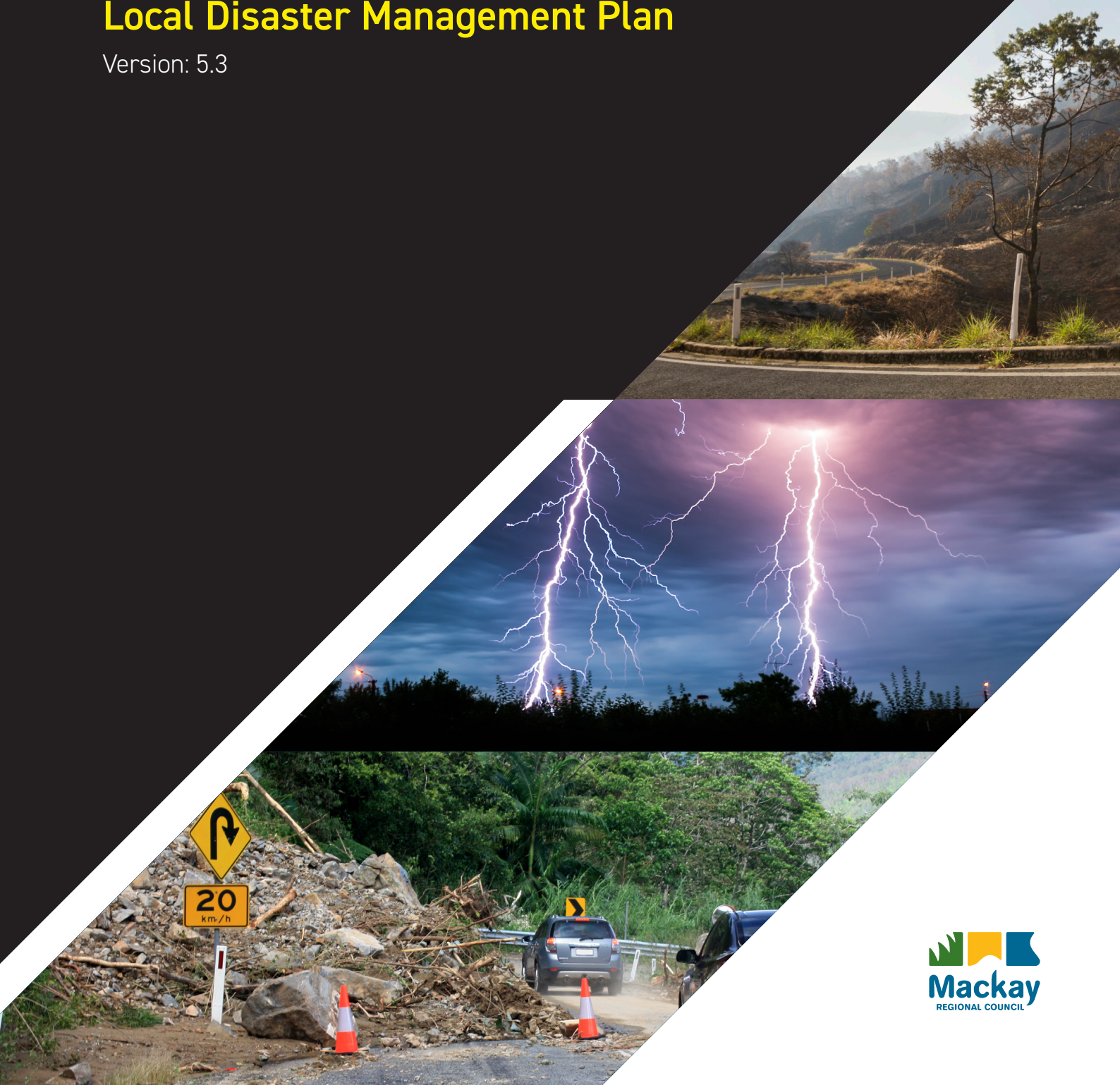Version: 5.3

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1. APPROVAL OF PLAN

This Local Disaster Management Plan has been prepared by the Mackay Local Disaster Management group on behalf of Mackay Regional Council as required under *Section 57 of the Disaster Management Act 2003* (the Act).

In accordance with *Section 80(1)(b)* of the Act, approval has been given to this plan by the Mackay Regional Council on __October 25, 2023__ when the plan was adopted by resolution __ORD-2023-272__

DocuSigned by:

Jason Devitt

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1/11/2023

Jason Devitt

Local Disaster Coordinator

Date

DocuSigned by:

Greg Williamson

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1/11/2023

Cr. Gregory Williamson

Chairperson

Mackay Local Disaster Management Group

Date

2. REVIEW AND RENEW PLAN

This plan will be reviewed or renewed at least once annually as per *Section 59* of the Act with relevant amendments made and distributed.

In accordance with *Section 59(2)* of the Act, the effectiveness of the plan must be reviewed at least once a year. This may take the form of a disaster management exercise or in the event of the activation of the Local Disaster Management Group (LDMG) in response to an emergency.

3. DOCUMENT CONTROL

3.1 Amendment Control

Mackay Local Disaster Management Plan version history

VERSION	DATE	COMMENTS
1.0	November 2011	First Edition
2.0	October 2012	Reviewed and Updated
3.0	May 2016	Reviewed and Updated
4.0	August 2016	Reviewed and Updated
4.1	November 2017	Review and updated
5.0	January 2020	Full review and update
5.1	September 2021	Review and updated
5.2	August 2022	Review and updated
5.3	August 2023	Review and updated

3.2 Amendment Register

The current version of the Mackay LDMP is: Version 5.3 - August 2023.

Mackay Regional Council welcomes feedback from residents, visitors, and others regarding this disaster management plan. Feedback, recommendations, and proposals to amend this plan should be forwarded to:

By mail: The Chief Executive Officer
              Attention: Emergency Management Program
              Mackay Regional Council
              PO Box 41
              MACKAY QLD 4740

In person: At the nearest Mackay Regional Council Client Service Centre.
              A list of the centres can be found at; *mackay.qld.gov.au/contact/contact_council*

By email: emteam@mackay.qld.gov.au

Amendments to the plan must be endorsed by the Mackay LDMG and approved by Mackay Regional Council, under the provisions of the Act, before they can be implemented.

Once approved by council, new and amended versions of the plan will be registered in the Amendment Record along the new version number. For minor and/or administrative amendments, only the number after the decimal point will change. For amendments incorporating significant change or rewrite, the primary version number will change.

Changes to contact details, position names or titles are considered only minor amendments and are not required to be endorsed by the LDMG or council.

4. DISTRIBUTION LIST

POSITION	COPY
LDMG Chair/Deputy	Electronic or Hard Copy
Local Disaster Coordinator	Electronic or Hard Copy
LDMG Executive Group	Electronic Copy
LDMG Members	Electronic Copy
LDMG Advisory Members	Electronic Copy
Mackay Regional Council Website	Uploaded to website
DDMG DDC/XO	Electronic Copy

This plan, excluding the confidential annexes and supporting documents, is available for public viewing online at *www.mackay.qld.gov.au* and can be downloaded from this website in read only portable document format (PDF).

Printed copies of the plan, excluding the confidential annexes and supporting documents, are available for viewing at Council Client Service Centres. A list of these Centres can be viewed online at *www.mackay.qld.gov.au/contact/contact_council*

Printed copies of the plan, excluding the confidential annexes and supporting documents, are available for purchase at cost recovery, and may be ordered through:

Mail: The Chief Executive Officer
                 Attention: Emergency Management Program
                 Mackay Regional Council
                 PO Box 41
                 MACKAY QLD 4740

4.1 Information Management and Information Privacy

Recipients of this plan must take all reasonable steps to ensure that operational information is adequately safeguarded, and that the confidentiality of operational information is maintained.

Operational information, including contact lists, must be stored securely, and protected against unauthorised access, use, modification, disclosure, or misuse.

Recipients must not intentionally access files, registers or any other document that contains operational information unless it is necessary for their duties. Where access is necessary for work purposes, recipients must not disclose operational information to an unauthorised person.

Recipients must ensure that documents or files containing operational information are not left where unauthorised persons can access the information.

5. ADMINISTRATION AND GOVERNANCE

5.1 Authority to plan

This plan has been prepared by the LDMG for the Mackay Regional Council under the provisions of *Section 57(1)* of the Act.

5.2 Responsibilities under the plan

Effective management of any disaster relies on strong coordination arrangements, consultative decision making, collaboration and a shared responsibility which is achieved through supporting relationships, trust and teamwork between individuals, agencies, and the community.

For the purposes of this plan a 'disaster' is defined as a serious disruption in a community caused by the impact of an event that requires a significant coordinated response by the state and other entities to help the community recover from the disruption. A serious disruption is defined as:

- Loss of human life or illness or injury to humans, or
- Widespread or severe property loss or damage, or
- Widespread or severe damage to the environment.

In accordance with *Section 30(f)* of the Act, the Mackay LDMG is responsible for managing disaster operations within the Mackay Region under the policies and procedures defined by the Queensland Disaster Management Committee (QDMC).

Under *Section 34A* of the Act, the Chairperson is responsible for managing the business of the group and to ensure, as far as practicable, that the group performs its functions, and to report regularly to the relevant district group and the Chief Executive of the department about the performance of the local group of its functions.

Under *Section 36* of the Act, the Local Disaster Coordinator has the functions of coordinating disaster operations for the local group, reporting regularly to the local group about disaster operations and to ensure as far as practicable that any strategic decisions of the local group about disaster operations are implemented.

While there are no specific powers granted to the Chairperson under the Act, it is the responsibility both of this position and the council to prepare and make available its resources in the event of a disaster. Additionally, external agencies will also make available their resources as referenced within the LDMG roles and responsibilities summary within this plan.

5.3 Purpose of the plan

The purpose of the LDMP is to detail the arrangements for the coordination and management of operations and resources and to minimise adverse impacts that threaten the safety of our community prior to, during and after a disaster event. This disaster management plan adopts a comprehensive, all hazards, all agencies approach to disaster management.

5.4 Objectives of the plan

The overall objective of this plan is to outline the disaster management arrangements for the Mackay Regional Council area. This plan ensures a clear direction of disaster management priorities, resource allocation and accountability, supported through sound business continuity, performance management reporting and corporate risk management processes.

The individual objectives of this plan are:

Prevention

• Increase adherence to and introduction of systems and regulations that reduce disaster risks.

• Investigate and implement strategies and initiatives to eliminate or reduce the impact of the effects of hazards on the community using emergency risk management processes.

Preparedness

• To increase community safety and resilience through public awareness, information and education to encourage an all agency, all hazards approach to disaster management within the region.

• To identify resources and initiatives to maximise the region's disaster response capability.

• Develop continuity plans to address response and recovery issues.

• To enhance the capability of disaster management agencies by encouraging participation in training and exercises, equipment acquisition programs and the building of relationships.

Response

• To ensure activities undertaken before, during or after an event happens to reduce loss of human life, illness or injury to humans, property loss or damage, or damage to the environment, including, for example, activities to mitigate the adverse effects of the event.

• To consider support to communities, other than Mackay, who may be impacted by a disaster, within the broader arrangements of the QDMA.

Recovery

• To ensure that the recovery priorities of our community are identified and met across the functional areas of economy, environment, human and social, building and transport.

• To ensure that recovery operations contribute to an increase in community resilience.

5.5 Compliance of the plan

Mackay Regional Council is committed to ensuring that the region's disaster management arrangements comply with the provisions of the Act.

Mackay Regional Council has ensured that this LDMP is consistent with the Queensland Prevention, Preparedness, Response and Recovery Disaster Management Guideline 2018 and is consistent with the Queensland State Disaster Management Plan, Mackay District Disaster Management Plan, and any threat-specific and functional policies, plans and guidelines issued by government agencies.

This LDMP is supported by various sub plans to support specific functional areas of responsibility of disaster management.

5.6 Strategic Policy Statement

This plan has been specifically developed to align to the Queensland Disaster Management 2016 Strategic Policy Statement, which is available for viewing online at:

https://www.disaster.qld.gov.au/__data/assets/pdf_file/0019/347401/Strategic-Policy-Statement.pdf

5.7 Emergency Management Assurance Framework

This plan aligns with the principles, standards and assurance activities found in the EMAF, available online at:
www.igem.qld.gov.au/assurance-framework

5.8 Integration with council's Corporate Plan

Within the Mackay Regional Council's Corporate Plan 2022 - 2027, council has committed to creating a safe, connected and resilient community as part of its commitment to community and environment, where council will continue to prepare and enable our community to withstand, adapt and recover from future challenges.

The Corporate Plan is available to view online at
www.mackay.qld.gov.au/about_council/your_council/corporateplan

6. LOCAL DISASTER MANAGEMENT GROUP

6.1 Queensland Disaster Management Arrangements

The Mackay LDMG is part of Queensland's tiered disaster management arrangements, which comprises local, district, and state levels as shown below. These disaster management arrangements enable a progressive escalation of support and assistance through each tier as required.

National Arrangements

State Arrangements

Local Government

Local

Local Disaster Management Group

Local Disaster Coordination Centre

District Disaster Management Group

District

District Disaster Coordination Centre

State Government

Queensland Disaster Management Committee

State

State Disaster Coordination Centre

Australian Government

Attorney-General's Department

Australian Government Crisis Coordination Centre

6.2 Establishment

Under *Section 29* of the Act, the council has established the Mackay Regional Council Local Disaster Management Group.

6.3 Membership

The following members form the Executive Group for the Mackay LDMG.

POSITION
Mayor
Deputy Mayor
Councillor
Councillor
Mackay Regional Council Director Engineering and Commercial Infrastructure
Mackay Regional Council Director Development Services
Mackay Regional Council Director Client and Customer Services
Mackay Regional Council Emergency Management Coordinator
Mackay Regional Council Director Organisational Services

The following members form the Mackay LDMG.

POSITION	ROLE
Mayor	Chairperson
Deputy Mayor	Deputy Chairperson
Council Director Engineering and Commercial Infrastructure	Local Disaster Coordinator
Council Director Organisational Services	Deputy Local Disaster Coordinator
Council Director Community and Client Services	Local Recovery Coordinator
Council Director Development Services	Deputy Local Recovery Coordinator
Council Emergency Management Coordinator	Core Member
Councillor	Core Member
Councillor	Core Member
Council Manager Corporate Communications and Marketing	Core Member
Mackay State Emergency Service Local Controller	Core Member
Queensland Police Service	Core Member
Queensland Fire and Emergency Services	Core Member
Queensland Ambulance Service	Core Member

The following members are Advisory members of the Mackay LDMG.

POSITION	ROLE
Australian Red Cross	Advisor
Queensland Fire and Emergency Services Emergency Management Coordinator	Advisor
Department of Treaty, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Partnerships, Communities and the Arts	Advisor
Department of Education	Advisor
Queensland Fire and Emergency Services Rural Operations	Advisor
Ergon Energy	Advisor
Mackay Airport	Advisor
Mackay Health and Hospital Services	Advisor
Council Water and Waste Services	Advisor
Council Community Lifestyle	Advisor
Maritime Safety Queensland	Advisor
Northern Queensland Primary Health Network	Advisor
North Queensland Bulk Ports	Advisor
Optus	Advisor
NBN Co	Advisor
Department of Transport and Main Roads	Advisor
Sunwater	Advisor
The Salvation Army	Advisor
Queensland Parks and Wildlife Service and Partnerships	Advisor

The following members are Observers members of the Mackay LDMG.

POSITION	ROLE
Aurizon	Observer
RACQ CQ Rescue	Observer
Councillor	Observer
Volunteer Marine Rescue	Observer

6.3.1 Chairperson

In accordance with *Section 34* of the Act, there is to be a Chairperson appointed to the local group appointed by council. *Section 34A* of the Act outlines the functions of Chairperson of a local group:

• To manage the business of the group.

• To ensure, as far as practicable, that the group performs its functions.

• To report regularly to the relevant district group, and the chief executive of the department.
 about the performance by the local group of its functions.

The Chairperson of the LDMG is the Mayor of Mackay Regional Council.

6.3.2 Deputy Chairperson

Under *Section 34* of the Act, council appoints a Deputy Chairperson to assist or act as the Chairperson as required. The Deputy Chairperson is the Deputy Mayor of Mackay Regional Council.

6.3.3 Local Disaster Coordinator

Under *Section 35* of the Act, the Chairperson of the LDMG, after consultation with the Chief Executive, appoints a Local Disaster Coordinator (LDC) for the group. In accordance with *Section 36* of the Act, the LDC has the following functions:

• Coordinate the disaster operations for the local group.

• Report regularly to the local group about disaster operations.

• To ensure, as far as practicable, that any strategic decisions of the local group about disaster operations are
 implemented.

Mackay Regional Council Director of Engineering and Commercial Infrastructure is the appointed LDC for the Mackay LDMG.

6.3.4 Deputy Local Disaster Coordinator

In addition to the positions required under the Act, council appoints persons as Deputy LDCs to ensure that the group has enough capacity to conduct and maintain 24-hour operations for extended periods. A Deputy LDC assumes the full responsibilities and authorisations of a LDC while undertaking the LDC role.

Council has appointed the following personnel as Deputy LDCs:

• Director Organisational Services, Mackay Regional Council

6.3.5 Local Disaster Management Group Core Members

In accordance with *Section 33* of the Act, the local group consists of the persons prescribed by a regulation to be members of the group. Along with the Chairperson and Deputy Chairperson of the group, council appoints persons as members of the LDMG provided they have the necessary expertise or experience to assist the group to undertake its functions. Membership of the LDMG shall mean and include any person acting in the capacity of any of the appointed members.

Current membership is as per *Section 6.3* of this Plan.

In accordance with *Section 37* of the Act, at least once a year the LDC will provide the Chief Executive (Commissioner, Queensland Fire and Emergency Services) and the Mackay District Disaster Coordinator with an updated membership list.

6.3.6 Local Disaster Management Group Advisors

In addition to its core members, the LDMG may invite participants from a range of entities, such as industry and community organisations to participate in the business of the group in an advisory capacity, as required.

While advisor input is considered by members in their decision making, meeting resolutions will only be carried by member consensus and advisors will not be included in the calculation of a quorum. While involved with the business of the group, these people will receive minutes and activation alerts issued during an event.

Current membership is as per Section 6.3 of this Plan.

6.4 Functions of the group

In accordance with *Section 30* of the Act, this group has the following functions:

(a) To ensure that disaster management and disaster operations in the Mackay Local Government Area are consistent with the State group's strategic policy framework for disaster management for the State.

(b) To develop effective disaster management, and regularly review and assess the disaster management.

(c) To help the council prepare a local disaster management plan.

(d) To identify and provide advice to the District Disaster Management Group about support services required by the local group to facilitate disaster management and disaster operations within our Local Government Area.

(e) To ensure the Mackay community is aware of ways of mitigating the adverse effects of an event, and preparing for, responding to and recovering from a disaster.

(f) To manage disaster operations in the Mackay Local Government Area under policies and procedures decided by the state group.

(g) To provide reports and make recommendations to the District Disaster Management Group about matters relating to disaster operations.

(h) To identify, and coordinate the use of resources that may be used for disaster operations in the Mackay Local Government Area.

(i) To establish and review communications systems in the group, and with the Mackay District Disaster Management Group, for use in disaster management operations.

(j) To ensure information about a disaster in the Mackay Local Government Area is promptly given to the Mackay District Disaster Management Group.

(k) To perform other functions given to the group under the Disaster Management Act 2003.

(l) To perform a function incidental to a function mentioned in items (a) to (k).

6.5 Roles and Responsibilities

The LDMG recognises that agencies listed in this section have various disaster management responsibilities. Other departments and agencies not listed may also be involved to support response and/or recovery activities, as required.

Whilst the responsibilities are current at the time of publication of this plan, it is acknowledged that State Government departmental changes may alter these responsibilities.

ORGANISATION	ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES
Local Disaster Management Group	Functions as allocated to the group. Disaster management and support to agencies. The collection, collation, evaluation, and dissemination of information relating to the current and predicted status of the disaster. The coordination of assessment activities to determine the impact of a disaster. The acquisition and provision of human and physical resources, facilities, services, and materials. The making of local policy level decisions, where required, if existing arrangements are not enough to support the disaster response. The briefing of elected and appointed officials on disaster related issues in the local area. The various reporting of summary information to provide situational awareness to all involved in coordination and support activities. The management of public information among agencies and other coordination groups to ensure consistency in messages.
Local Recovery Group	The provision of immediate and short-term relief and recovery provisions for persons who may be threatened, distressed, disadvantaged, homeless, evacuated or otherwise affected because of a disaster event. The coordination of activities beyond immediate welfare support and includes physical repair and reconstruction, personal rehabilitation.
Mackay Regional Council	Responsibilities as documented within the Act. Ensure continuity of essential local government services during events. Appoint a Liaison Officer to maintain communication between Council and Local Disaster Coordination Centre (LDCC). Request and provide assistance through the local group as required during disaster operations. Provide support to the DDMG with performing the functions of the local group.
Department of Agriculture and Fisheries	Functional Lead Agency for the containment and eradication of animal and plant diseases. Coordinate efforts to prevent, respond to, and recover from plant and animal pests and diseases and invasive plants and animals. Provide advice on livestock welfare. Collaborate with stakeholders with shared responsibilities and other organisations to facilitate prevention, preparedness, response and recovery strategies and priorities for animal welfare management within a community. Provide advice in relation to agriculture, fisheries, and forestry disaster impacts. Coordinate destruction of stock or crops in an emergency pest / disease situation. Administer DRFA relief measures including agriculture industry recovery operations as required. Lead the reporting on the disaster impact assessments on the agricultural sector, including economic losses and expected recovery. Report on the possible impact seasonal conditions and climate events will have on the agricultural sector.

ORGANISATION	ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES
Department of Agriculture and Fisheries	Coordinate the Agriculture Coordination Group with agricultural industry groups to provide information about the effect that a disaster event has on the agriculture, fisheries and forestry industries and the issues that individuals and businesses are facing in responding to and recovering from a disaster event.
	Engage with industry on preparedness for climate risks and aid with economic recovery.
	Assist agriculture and fishery industries in prevention and preparedness though normal business operations and service provision to industry and the communities.
	Participate in DDMGs.
Department of Treaty, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Partnerships, Communities and the Arts	Functional Lead Agency for human and social recovery.
	Advice and State Government human and social resources in support of LDMG-led recovery processes.
	Coordination and collaboration between agencies engaged in human and social recovery at a district and state level.
	Service delivery to disaster-affected people through triage assessment, outreach services and recovery hubs.
	Financial assistance to disaster-impacted people through:
	- Emergency Hardship Assistance Grants.
	- Essential Services Hardship Assistance Grants.
	- Essential Household Contents Grants.
	- Structural Assistance Grants.
	- Essential Services Safety and Reconnection Scheme.
	Information, advice, referral, counselling, and personal support through arrangements with partner agencies.
	The management of Smart Service Queensland and the associated telephony systems on behalf of a number of government departments such as SES and the Community Recovery Hotline.
	The Housing and Homelessness Services offerings from the Department provides:
	• Housing assistance and homelessness support services to Queenslanders most in need, for the duration of their need.
	• Quality frontline services and safe, caring and connected communities. We do this by providing secure housing options and help for people to get access to and remain in private rental homes, or to find a home with one of the social housing organisations across Queensland.
	• Queenslanders in need with social and private housing assistance, remote Indigenous housing, homelessness support services and crisis accommodation though direct service delivery and arrangements with funded service providers.
Department of Education	Maintain the safety and wellbeing of students, staff and volunteers who work or participate in DoE schools, institutions, and workplaces.
	Ensure that all state schools, regional offices, and other workplaces have a documented emergency response plan.
	Ensure that all DoE regional offices and key workplaces have a tested business continuity plan.
	Ensure that DoE is prepared to respond to and recover from, disasters and emergencies.
	Facilitate the return of affected state schools to normal operations as soon as safe and practicable following an event.
	Facilitate the transition of DoE facilities to cyclone shelters, places of refuge and evacuation centres as required or directed (maintenance commitments for places of refuge and evacuation centres and other additional information can be found at https://qed.qld.gov.au/emergency-management).
	Contribute to the state-wide response to disasters and emergencies as required.
	Provide workplace health and safety advice, information, and awareness about electrical, chemical, asbestos, and general safety matters in the lead up to, during and following cyclones, storms, floods, and other disasters.

ORGANISATION	ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES
Department of Natural Resources, Mines and Energy	Regulate the operation of energy and water supply industries. Responsible for maintaining and developing a readiness for energy and water supply emergencies, regardless of the hazard type (all hazards). These energy emergency supply responsibilities cover the electricity, liquid fuels and natural gas sectors, and involves: – Develop and implement energy policies and plans to improve the protection and resilience of Queensland energy systems. – Develop the capability to coordinate action to mitigate against energy supply deficiencies during any emergency event (including a terrorist incident). – Facilitate actions within, and across, the energy sectors in response to an emergency event. The Department's water emergency responsibilities include: – Ensure emergency action plans are in place for referable dams to ensure appropriate action is taken in the event of incidents or failures of the dams. – Exercise dam safety emergency powers if needed to minimize the risk of failure of a dam or to minimise the consequences of failure. – Oversight of drinking water and recycled water incident management.
Department of Environment and Science	Functional Lead Agency for the environmental recovery. Provide oiled wildlife response, traditional owner liaison, environmental and shoreline assessments and waste management advice and approvals for ship-sourced pollution at sea. Provide information and advice with respect to regulated (tailings, contaminated water) dam locations, and coordinate expert advice on regulated dam safety and integrity. Provide expert environmental advice in disasters. Provide for the safety of national parks and agency owned recreational centre users including issuing warnings in extreme conditions, closing areas where necessary and coordinating evacuations with QPS. Provide advice on the management of national parks and expert knowledge of national parks to responding agencies. Lead firefighting on the protected areas and state forest where there is no threat to life or property.
Department of State Development, Manufacturing Infrastructure and Planning	Functional Lead Agency for economic recovery. Advise the LDMG, request and provide assistance through the local group, as required, during disaster operations.
Department of Transport and Main Roads	Functional Lead Agency for transport systems. Functional Lead Agency of roads and transport recovery. Maritime Safety Queensland (MSQ) is the Functional Lead Agency for ship-sourced pollution where it impacts, or is likely to impact, on Queensland Coastal Waters. MSQ Regional Harbour Master has the authority to close all ports and restrict all vessel movements within the port boundaries and state waters for severe weather events. Provide information and advice on the impact of disruptive events on road, rail, aviation, and maritime infrastructure as it affects the transport system. Enable an accessible transport system through reinstating road, rail, and maritime infrastructure. Assist with the safe movement of people as a result of mass evacuation of a disaster affected community. Ensure the capability of logistics related industries are appropriately applied to disaster response and recovery activities.
Energy Queensland (Ergon Energy)	Maintenance and/or restoration of electrical power supply. Advise the LDMG and the public in relation to electrical power issues, including safety advice for consumers. Request and provide assistance through the local group, as required, during disaster operations.

ORGANISATION	ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES
Queensland Police Service	Functional Lead Agency responsible for terrorism response, crash and search and rescue. Provide executive support to the QDMC. Preserve peace and good order. Prevent crime. Management of crime scenes and potential crime scenes. Provision of disaster victim identification capability. Conduct investigation pursuant to the Coroners Act. Provide for the effective regulation of traffic. Coordinate evacuation operations. Control and coordinate search and rescue operations. Manage the registration of evacuees and associated inquiries in conjunction with the Australia Red Cross. Provide security for damaged or evacuated premises. Respond to and investigate traffic, rail, and air incidents. Coordinate the review and renewal of the SDMP. Command the SDCC on activation. Command the SDCC capabilities of operations and intelligence on activation. Advise the LDMG, request and provide assistance through the local group as required during disaster operations.
Mackay Health and Hospital Services	Lead agency for the response functions of public health, mental health, medical services, and mass casualty management. Primary agency for heatwave, pandemic influenza, biological and radiological incidents. Develop health-focused disaster and emergency preparedness, response, and recovery plans within the local context. Develop and maintain disaster and emergency health response capability and capacity within the local area. Implement business continuity plans and arrangements to maintain health services during disasters and emergencies. Work across the local and district health sector including aged care facilities, private facilities, primary health, and community care providers to ensure 'whole of health' arrangements are in place. Provide local health disaster and emergency incident information to the public and disaster. management stakeholders and develop and disseminate public health messaging. Provide a local clinical response to mass casualty management (with QAS). Provide recovery mental health support to affected communities (with DCDSS). Provide Public health and environmental health advice and support to local governments and affected communities and industries. Provide environmental health risk assessment advice to other agencies, local government, and industries. Provide local communicable disease surveillance and response arrangements.
Queensland Ambulance Service	Provide, operate, and maintain ambulance services. Access, assess, treat, and transport sick and/or injured persons. Protect persons from injury or death, during rescue and other related activities. Coordinate all volunteer first aid groups during major emergencies and disasters. Provide and support temporary health infrastructure where required. Participate in search and rescue, evacuation, and victim reception operations. Participate in health facility evacuations. Collaborate with Queensland Health in mass casualty management systems. Provide disaster, urban search and rescue, chemical hazard, biological and radiological operations support with specialist logistics and specialist paramedics.

ORGANISATION	ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES
Tele-communication providers (Optus/Telstra/NBN/Vodaphone)	Telephone and internet communication restorations. Provision of communications facilities. Advise the LDMG, request and provide assistance through the local group as required during disaster operations.
Queensland Fire and Emergency Services	Functional Lead Agency for structural, bushfire and chemical / hazmat incidents. Provide advice, chemical analysis, and atmospheric monitoring at relevant incidents. Provide mass and technical decontamination capability. Provide rescue and search functions and perform other operations to help and protect injured persons from danger or potential danger. Distribute and develop warnings to disaster management stakeholders and communities. Facilitate and authorise Emergency Alert campaigns and SEWS to provide advice and warnings to communities affected by disasters and emergency situations (when the functional lead agency). Prepare guidelines to inform local governments and district and state groups of disaster management related matters. Establish and maintain arrangements between the state and the Commonwealth about matters relating to effective disaster management. Ensure disaster management and disaster operations are consistent between plans, policies, standards and guidelines. Ensure that persons performing functions under the Disaster Management Act 2003 in relation to disaster operations are appropriately trained. Provide advice and support to the state group and local and district groups in relation to disaster management and disaster operations. Ensure the collaborative development of the Queensland Emergency Risk Management Framework and the state-wide risk assessment. Ensure the SDCC is maintained to a state of operational readiness. Maintain situational awareness and reporting capability and capacity through the SDCC Watch Desk. Lead the planning and logistics capabilities in the SDCC and support the staffing models of other capabilities. Emergency supply acquisition and management of supplies and services in support of disaster operations. Resupply of essential goods (food and basic commodities) to temporarily isolated communities, properties, and individuals. Ensure the capability and capacity of Disaster Assistance Response Teams (DART) to assist communities affected by disasters or emergency situations. Undertake damage assessment function (residential and commercial structures) as soon as practical post disaster/emergency situation and provide findings to disaster management stakeholders.

ORGANISATION	ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES
Queensland Reconstruction Authority	Administer DRFA relief measures. When requested, support the QFES with rapid damage assessments of housing in disaster impacted areas. Undertake damage assessments of public infrastructure in collaboration with local governments. Liaise with local governments and state agencies to gather information to ensure DRFA disaster activations meet Commonwealth Government criteria.
State Emergency Service	Assistance to the community for non-life threatening emergency situations during floods, storms or other similar events. Support to other agencies in the areas of: - Vertical rescue. - Flood boat rescue. - Urban, rural and evacuation searches. - Emergency traffic management. - Agency support. - Incident management. - Community education.

6.6 Meetings and Quorum

In accordance to the *Disaster Management Regulation 2014,* the members of the LDMG must meet at least once in every six months at the times and places decided by the Chairperson of the group.

Under *Section 13 Disaster Management Regulation 2014*, a quorum for the group is set at one half of the number of members plus one or, if one half of the number of members is not a whole number, the next highest whole number.

There are provisions for members to appoint a proxy member as prescribed under *Section 14 Disaster Management Regulation 2014:*

1) A member of a disaster management group may, with the approval of the Chairperson of the group, appoint by signed notice another person as his or her deputy.

2) The Deputy may attend a group meeting in the member's absence and exercise the member's functions and powers under this Act at the meeting.

3) A Deputy attending a group meeting is to be counted in deciding if there is a quorum for the meeting.

The following details of actions taken, and issues discussed by the LDMG are distributed to Core, Advisory members and Observers of the LDMG:

• Meeting minutes.

• Meeting schedules.

• Meeting agendas.

• Agency reports on emergency risk management and mitigation initiatives/strategies (eg disaster management studies), training, planning and other relevant disaster management activities.

6.7 Training and Exercising of Members and Others

In accordance with *Section 33(2)(b)* of the Act, all members of the LDMG are to ensure they have the qualifications and experiences to be a member of the LDMG group. The training offered to LDMG members will align to the Queensland Disaster Management Training Framework.

Disaster management training and exercises develop the capability of all agencies with a role in disaster management through the acquisition and testing of knowledge, skills, and competencies.

Exercises are controlled, objective-driven activities used for testing, practising or evaluating processes or capabilities. It involves the development and enactment of scenarios to evaluate the effectiveness of plans and is key to good governance and assurance. It also affords the opportunity to capture the lessons identified from exercises to ensure the continuous improvement of the plan, the system and the messages to ultimately increase community resilience.

6.8 Reporting

Agency representatives will provide agency specific information relative to disaster management to the local group for routine and disaster operations.

6.8.1 Routine Business Reporting

- Changes in details for agency contact arrangements.

- Submission of agency reports (written or verbal), in accordance with the State's reporting template, for meetings of the LDMG, summarising:
  - o   Agency Status.
  - o   Agency Operations or Mitigation Undertaken.
  - o   Agency Disaster Management Training.
  - o   Agency Risks/Gaps.
  - o   Any Other Matters.

6.8.2 Disaster Operations Reporting

- Changes for LDMG members, agency representatives, advisors and/or invitees contact information.
- Summary information regarding agency planning and preparation strategies.
- Impact assessment information relative to the agency's infrastructure and core business activities, including community impacts.
- Agency resource availability, deployments (in and out of area), requirements, offers of support.
- Short, medium and long-term issues arising from disaster operations including recovery operations.
- Situation reports (SITREPS) summarising the current and forecast hazard analysis, community impacts and strategies being undertaken to manage the disaster operation.

7. DISTRICT DISASTER MANAGEMENT GROUP

Established under *Section 22* of the Act, District Groups comprise of representatives from regionally based Queensland government agencies which can provide and coordinate whole of government support and resource gap assistance to communities.

The District Group performs a support function within the disaster management arrangements by providing support and assistance to the LDMG, when requested by the local group. In accordance with *Section 23* of the Act, the District Group carries out a number of functions relating to disaster management. The primary functions are to:

- Ensure the disaster management and disaster operations in the Disaster District are consistent with the State Group's strategic policy framework for disaster management for the state.

- Develop effective disaster management for the district, including a district disaster management plan and to regularly review and assess disaster management arrangements.

- Ensure the community is aware of ways of mitigating the adverse effects of an event, and preparing for, responding to and recovering from a disaster.

The Mackay Disaster District encompasses the Mackay, Whitsunday, and Isaac Local Government Areas.

8. QUEENSLAND DISASTER MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

The Queensland Disaster Management Committee (QDMC) is established under *Section 17* of the Act and is the peak disaster management policy and decision-making body in Queensland, directly responsible for outcomes to the Premier. Under the Act, the main functions of the State Group are to:

- Develop a strategic policy framework for disaster management for the state.

- Ensure an effective disaster management system is developed and implemented for the state.

- Ensure effective arrangements between the State and the Australian Governments on matters relating to effective disaster management are established and maintained.

- Identify resources within and outside the state that may be used for disaster response operations.

- Provide reports and make recommendations to the Minister about matters relating to disaster management and disaster operations.

- Prepare a State Disaster Management Plan (SDMP).

9. NATIONAL EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY

At an Australian Government level, the National Emergency Management Agency is the responsible agency for coordinating assistance to states and territories.

Further information on disaster management arrangements at the Australian Government level is available in the SDMP and can be found at www.disaster.qld.gov.au.

10. DESCRIPTION OF THE POPULATION AND ENVIRONMENT

10.1 Geography and Topography

10.1.1 Geography

The map below shows the local government area represented by the Mackay Regional Council.

The Mackay region forms part of the Mackay Disaster District and is bound by the local governments of Isaac and Whitsunday Regional Councils. The total land area is 761,329.6 hectares, with 106,638 hectares of that area protected.
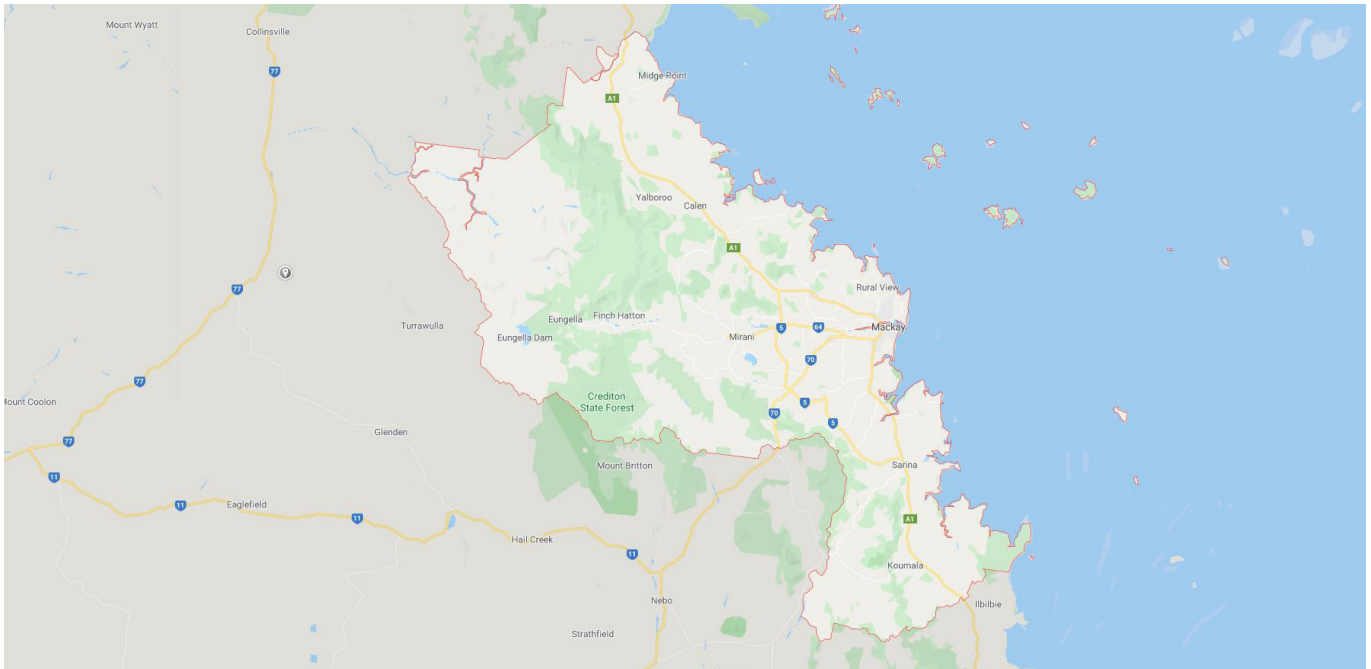
10.1.2 Topography

Most of the populated Mackay region is low lying, having an average elevation of less than 10 metres AHD (Australian Height Datum) adjacent to the coast, leading westward to the Connors, Clarke, and Broken River ranges, the latter supporting the community of Eungella with a sprinkling of mountainous peaks throughout the remainder. These ranges separate the upper range area where beef and dairy cattle are the main industry and the lower coastal rich soils where sugar cane growing is the main primary industry.

The significant topographical feature is the Pioneer River which is fed from a 1500 square kilometre catchment in the Pioneer Valley and includes the major tributary of Cattle Creek and discharges to the Pacific Ocean via a path through the centre of Mackay. Distribution of sand sediments discharging at the river mouth extend some 2.5 km offshore, south to Bakers Creek and north to Slade Bay.

Tide variation at Mackay is 6.58 metres, 150 km north of Broadsound which receives the highest tide on the east coast of Australia at 9.00 metres. A section of south-east Mackay residential area can be subject to tide inundation, being up to 300 millimetres below Highest Astronomical Tide and rises to approximately 11.00 metres AHD at the Mackay Base Hospital.

As well as the Pioneer River, the region comprises other rivers and streams such as the O'Connell River, Bakers Creek, Sandy Creek, Alligator Creek and Plane Creek which passes through the township of Sarina with numerous other small streams discharging to the coast.

A system of earth and block wall levees have been installed along either side of the Pioneer River. As well, levees have been installed at Finch Hatton to protect the township from flooding in Cattle Creek.

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10.2 Climate and Weather

A subtropical weather pattern historically of hot/wet summers and mild/dry winters produces an average temperature of 24°C which makes an ideal location for attracting tourists and permanent residents. Temperature range in winter is between 5°C and 22°C and summer 23°C to 38°C with atmospheric conditions generally very humid.

Rainfall is seasonal, with the heaviest falls occurring during the summer months, November to April, extreme rainfall events are usually associated with tropical cyclones/lows. The Mackay region comes under the influence of tropical cyclones, on average, once every two years, though direct hit coastal crossings are not common.
The average yearly rainfall for Mackay is 1548mm.

We are responsible and active custodians of our natural environment, with future targets and commitments aimed at driving us towards a cleaner, greener, and more sustainable region. Climate change will continue to be a consideration in forward planning, and we will continue to implement sustainability initiatives in council operations.

10.3 Population and Society

KEY STATISTICS	YEAR	REGION
Estimated resident population	2022	125,162
Working age population (aged 15-64 years)	2021	79,810 (64.8%)
Estimated resident Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander population	2021	7507
Persons born overseas	2021	14,442
Persons with a disability	2018	21,400 (18.5%)
Persons with a profound or severe core activity limitation	2018	5902 (5.1%)
Age pensioners	2022	10,643
Total households	2021	42,964
Lone person households	2021	10,278 (23.5%)
Average household size	2021	2.6 persons
Total families	2021	32,126
Persons aged 15 years and over who completed year 12 or equivalent	2021	45.2%
Median total income (excl. Government pensions and allowances)	2019	58,541
Passenger vehicles (no.)	2020	62,823
Volunteers aged 15 years and over	2021	13%
Internet access from dwelling	2016	80.9%

Further demographic details can be found at Australian Bureau of Statistics, Region summary: Mackay
https://dbr.abs.gov.au/region.html?lyr=lga&rgn=34770

10.4 Economy and employment

Further economy and industry details can be found at Australian Bureau of Statistics, Region summary: Mackay
https://dbr.abs.gov.au/region.html?lyr=lga&rgn=34770

DESCRIPTION	YEAR	REGION
Number of jobs	2020	47,975
Annual economic output	2020	$17.2 billion
Total number of businesses	2022	10,343
Agriculture, forestry, and fishing businesses	2022	2005
Construction businesses	2022	1629
Rental, hiring and real estate services businesses	2022	1115
Persons aged 15 years and over who are employed	2021	58,955
Persons aged 15 years and over who are unemployed	2016	4966
Proportion of employed persons – Mining	2021	12.14%
Proportion of employed persons – Health and Social Assistance	2021	13.3%
Proportion of employed persons – Construction	2021	8.1%
Dwelling building approvals	2020	350
Houses – median sale price	2020	$370,000

10.5 Community Capacity

During disaster events, council has a significant response and recovery capacity, which includes:

- Employment of approximately 1200 personnel including:
    - o   Three Emergency Management staff.
    - o   Two Temporary Disaster Risk Reduction officers.
    - o   One SES Local Controller.

- A separate levy is collected to provide for the provision of emergency response facilities, supply of equipment and provide monies to undertake disaster mitigation works.

The following emergency services maintain stations within the region:
- Queensland Ambulance Service.
- Queensland Fire and Emergency Services.
- Queensland Police Service.

There are numerous volunteer organisations that contribute to the region's disaster management arrangements including:
- State Emergency Service (SES).
- Rural Fire Service Queensland.
- Queensland Surf Lifesaving Clubs.
- Volunteer Marine Rescue.
- St John Ambulance.
- RACQ CQ Rescue.
- Australian Red Cross.

Community service organisations also provide a contribution to disaster management arrangements:
- Australian Red Cross.
- Lifeline.
- RSPCA.
- Salvation Army.
- St Vincent de Paul Society.
- Meals on Wheels.
- Community Service Clubs.
- North Queensland Primary Health Network.

Mackay Regional Council maintains a network of volunteer Emergency Liaison Officers (ELO) in localities throughout the region that can become isolated during severe weather events. The ELOs provide local intelligence that can assist in maintaining situational awareness during an emergency.

ELOs are currently operating at Midge Point, Seaforth, Eungella, Middle Creek Dam, Koumala, Bloomsbury, Crediton and Laguna Quays.

Residents interest in finding out more about the ELO program can email emteam@mackay.qld.gov.au

The Mackay region is home to 26 locality-based progress associations and/or hall committees that work to strengthen their communities. Many take an active role in enhancing local disaster resilience and leading community recovery.

In addition to maintaining a strong volunteer capacity, the Mackay LDMG encourages residents of the community to be self-reliant for at least three days during disaster events.

10.6 Major Industry

10.6.1 Business Sector

Industry of employment as proportion of employed persons, according to the 2016 Census.

SECTOR	%
Agriculture, forestry, and fishing	2.8%
Mining	12.1%
Manufacturing	6.1%
Electricity, gas water and waste services	1%
Construction	8.1%
Wholesale trade	3.8%
Retail trade	9.2%
Accommodation and food services	5.9%
Transport, postal and warehousing	5.9%
Information media and telecommunications	0.3%
Financial and insurance services	1.1%
Rental, hiring and real estate services	1.4%
Professional, scientific, and technical services	4.2%
Administrative and support services	3.2%
Public administration and safety	4%
Education and training	7.3%
Health care and social assistance	13.3%
Arts and recreation services	0.7%
Other services	5%
Industry of employment - inadequately described or not stated	4.5%
Total persons employed	58,955

The Mackay region has several major business and shopping precincts, which are supported by restaurants and extensive clusters of high density living.

Major shopping centres in the Mackay region include:

- Caneland Central, Mangrove Road, Mackay.

- Mount Pleasant Shopping Centre, Phillip Street, Mount Pleasant.

- Northern Beaches Shopping Complex, Eimeo Road, Rural View.

- Sydney Street Markets, Sydney Street, Mackay.

- Parkside Plaza Mackay, Bridge Road, West Mackay.

- Ooralea Shopping Centre, Boundary Road, Ooralea.

- Walkerston Shopping Centre, Creek Street, Walkerston.

- Sarina Shopping Centre, Sarina Beach Road, Sarina.

- Marian Town Centre, Anzac Avenue, Marian.

- Andergrove Village, Oak Street, Andergrove.

10.6.2 Industrial Sector

There are numerous industrial areas throughout the region, including but not limited to mining, manufacturing and agricultural. Major industrial sites include:

- Paget.
- Mackay Harbour.
- Glenella.
- Slade Point.
- Hay Point.
- Sugar mill sites at Racecourse, Marian, Sarina, Farleigh and Pleystowe.

10.6.3 Tourism Sector

The Mackay Region is a regional, state and national tourism hub with tourism being economically significant at all levels. This temporary population needs to be considered in planning for natural disasters, and to ensure that means of rapidly raising their awareness and preparedness in the event of a natural disaster is included in disaster risk planning.

10.7 Education

10.7.1 Schools

The Mackay region has numerous schools, private and public, that offer educational services to young people.

SCHOOL TYPE	STATE	NON-STATE	TOTAL
Primary	35	8	43
Secondary/combined	7	6	13
Special schools	1	1	2
Early Childhood			21
Total	43	15	79

Source: https://schoolsdirectory.eq.edu.au/

10.7.2 Higher Education

Mackay is host to three providers of higher education:

- JCU Mater Clinical Training Centre, Willets Road, North Mackay.
- CQ University Mackay City, Sydney Sreet, Mackay.
- CQ University Mackay Ooralea, Boundary Road, Ooralea.

10.8 Sport and Recreation

The Mackay Region has numerous sporting and recreation facilities, including:

- Mackay Aquatic and Recreation Complex (Mackay ARC), Boundary Road, Mackay.

- Sugar Bowl Mackay, Norris Road Park Access, North Mackay.

- BB Print Stadium, Bridge Road, Mackay.

- Mackay Multi Sports Stadium, Bridge Road, Mackay.

- Pioneer Swim Centre, Malcomson Street, North Mackay.

- Memorial Swim Centre, Milton Street, Mackay.

- Mirani Swim Centre, Caroline Street, Mirani.

- Sarina Swim Centre, Anzac Street, Sarina.

- Bluewater Lagoon, River Street, Mackay.

- Mackay Turf Club, Peak Downs Highway, Ooralea.

- Mackay Showgrounds Equestrian Facility.

There are numerous smaller sporting facilities and fields and community centres located across the region.

10.9 Major Events

The Mackay region plays host to many high-profile events.

Major events for the region can pose challenges for evacuation and people management during disaster events. Regular annual events for the region include (but are not limited to):

• Mackay / Pioneer Valley / Sarina Shows.

• Mackay Festival of Arts including the Wisely Wine and Food Day.

• Global Grooves Multicultural Festival.

• Mackay Marina Run and Twilight Run.

• New Year's Eve Festivities.

• ANZAC Day.

• Sports Expo.

• Motorcycle Beach Races.

• Rumble on the Reef.

• Numerous sporting and cultural events throughout the year.

11. CRITICAL INFRASTRUCTURE

11.1 Emergency Services

The Mackay region is serviced by the following emergency services:

- Queensland Fire and Emergency Services (Urban, Rural and State Emergency Service).
- Queensland Ambulance Service.
- Queensland Police Service.

11.2 Medical Facilities

The Mackay region is serviced by the following medical facilities:

- Mackay Base Hospital.
- Mater Private Hospital Mackay.
- Sarina Hospital and Primary Health Care Centre.
- Mackay Private Hospital.
- Extensive number of medical centres, day surgery and other specialist centres throughout the region.

11.3 Government Buildings and Facilities

The Australian Government, Queensland Government and Mackay Regional Council provide a number of buildings throughout the district to cater for local communities social and welfare needs.

11.4 Major Roads

The Mackay region is heavily reliant on its transportation links to the rest of the country. Major road links include:

- To the south, the Bruce Highway to Brisbane (970 km) and beyond, north to Cairns (735 km) and beyond and to the southwest.
- The Peak Downs Highway to Clermont (274 km) with links to Rockhampton and Brisbane.

These main roads are subject to flooding during the wet season and can cause serious disruption of supplies and services.

11.5 Rail

A rail link south to Brisbane and north to Cairns provide regular passenger and freight services. The freight yards and Railway Station are located in the suburb of Paget and the coal ports of Hay Point and Dalrymple Bay (30 km to the south) are serviced by a heavy rail system to the hinterland coal mines and maintained through the Jilalan Rail Facility south of Sarina. An extensive network of cane tram lines also exists throughout the district.

11.6 Airport

A commercial airport, located adjacent ro the mouth of Bakers Creek in south Mackay, caters for regular domestic services. There are also a number of smaller aerodromes located around the region.

11.7 Seaport

The Port of Mackay at Mackay Harbour provides berths for general cargo, containers, bulk grain, tankers discharging both oil and LP Gas and a bulk sugar terminal. The Port of Hay Point (including Dalrymple Bay and Hay Point coal terminals) service coal mines in the Bowen Basin, Central Queensland, and are connected via rail.

A commercial fishing base and a marina catering for charter vessels and other small craft are also located within the harbour. Some fishing vessels and pleasure craft use moorings in the Pioneer River below Forgan Bridge.

12. ESSENTIAL SERVICES

12.1 Water supply and dams

12.1.1 Referable Dams

The safety of water dams in Queensland is regulated under the Water Supply (Safety and Reliability) Act 2008 (the Act). Under the Act, the chief executive of the Department of Natural Resources, Mines and Energy is responsible for the regulation of referable dams in Queensland. A Referable Dam is defined as a dam which, after assessment, states the population at risk is two or more persons.

Mackay has five Referable Dams within its LGA:

DAM	DETAILS
Middle Creek Dam	Located at Middle Creek Road, Sarina. Surface area of 17.5 ha. Catchment area of 7.4km^2. Full supply capacity of 1120 million litres. Managed by Mackay Regional Council.
Teemburra Dam	Located approximately 53km West of Mackay. Purpose is to supply irrigation water to sugarcane farms in the Pioneer Valley. The dam also supplies water to town water supply and industrial users. Surface area of 1,040 ha. Catchment area of 67.45km^2. Full supply capacity of 147,600 million litres. Managed by Sunwater.
Eungella Dam	Located on Broken River, approximately 72km west of Eton. Purpose is to supply water for mining and irrigation to the surrounding areas. Surface area of 848 ha. Catchment area of 142.0km^2. Full supply capacity of 112,400 million litres. Managed by Sunwater.
Kinchant Dam	Located approximately 30km southwest of Mackay. Purpose is to supply irrigation water to the Eton irrigation area. Surface area of 920 ha. Catchment area of 30.84km^2. Full supply capacity of 65,875 million litres. Managed by Sunwater.
Andrew Deguara Holding P/L	Private dam.

Further information on Referable Dams can be found at:
https://www.business.qld.gov.au/industries/mining-energy-water/water/industry-infrastructure/dams/safety-guidelines-requirements/referable#:~:text=A%20dam%20is%20referable%20if,the%20dam%20was%20to%20fail

12.1.2 Water Supply

Mackay's water supply is drawn largely from the Dumbleton Weir on the Pioneer River. The low concrete weir is located at Dumbleton Rocks and marks the limit of tidal influence on the Pioneer River, about 10 kms upstream. Water is also drawn from underground bores, between Mackay and Dumbleton Rocks.

Walkerston and Seaforth draw treated water from the Nebo Road Water Treatment Plant via rising mains, whilst other smaller townships rely on dams and underground bores to supply to treatment plants prior to reticulation.
The construction of a rising main to Sarina provides for Nebo Road treated water to be supplied to the township.

12.1.3 Electricity

Power supply to the region is drawn from the state grid via power stations at Stanwell (near Rockhampton) and Gladstone, situated 400 km and 500 km south of Mackay. Power distribution within the Mackay region is managed by Ergon Energy, which is a division of Energy Queensland.

12.1.4 Gas Supply

There is no underground reticulated gas supply in the Mackay region; however bottled gas is readily available from local distributors.

12.1.5 Sewerage

Sewerage treatment plants and sewage reticulation is installed in each of the towns of Mackay, Sarina, Walkerston, Mirani and Marian, whilst other communities within the region are supported by septic tank systems. In the event of loss of electricity power for an extended time, a planned generator backup is in place to minimise disruption and contamination that could arise.

12.1.6 Telecommunications

The Mackay region is serviced by a modern telecommunications network with services provided by Telstra, Optus, NBN and other providers with both landline and mobile services available. Copper cable network still exists with the majority of the trunk main network consisting of fibre optic cable. There are also dedicated telecommunications networks in the area for Police and Emergency Services.

A network of mobile towers has been installed throughout the region that provides a 3G/4G network. Major radio towers are located on Mount Blackwood and Black Mountain catering for radio broadcast and VHF and UHF service.

13. HAZARDOUS SITES

Hazardous sites are located in the region but not in residential areas. Fuel oils such as diesel, petroleum and aviation fuels are stored at the Mackay Harbour and a Nitropril bulk storage facility is located at the harbour industrial site well away from fuel tanks. Both fuel and Nitropril are transported through the city enroute to the hinterland coal mines by means of road transport and rail.

Other hazardous chemicals and products are stored at many of the main industrial precinct facilities in south Mackay and Sarina for use in the production and maintenance of many industrial products, however all come under a strict licensing and QFES registration where required.

14. PREVENTION

The LDMG is committed to reducing disaster risks wherever possible, by reducing the likelihood and/or consequence of disaster events. The following strategies are promoted by the group to reduce disaster risk to the community.

14.1 Hazards

A number of natural and non-natural hazards, that have the potential to impact the Mackay region, have been considered, as summarised below.

NATURAL HAZARD	NON-NATURAL HAZARD
Meteorological	Human Caused
Cyclone	Major Transport Infrastructure Outage
Flood	Terrorist Incident
Storm Tide	Marine Oil Spill
Bushfire	Arson
Severe Storm	Sabotage of Essential Services
Heatwave	Severe Civil Unrest
Drought	Bombing
Geological	Supply Chain Failure
Earthquake	Infrastructure
Landslide	Building Collapse
Tsunami	Failure of Essential Infrastructure
Biological	Hazardous Materials Incident
Human Epidemic	Bridge Collapse
Animal and Plant disease	Dam Failure
Insect or Vermin Plague	Industrial Accident

14.1.1 COVID-19

The Mackay LDMG acknowledges the COVID-19 pandemic presents a hazard that continues to threaten the region. As such, it is considered as part of ongoing planning and preparedness processes, for example additional infection control as part of evacuation centre management.

14.2 Risk Assessment

The hazards detailed above are routinely considered as part of ongoing risk assessment activities. Mackay Regional Council and partner agencies continue to develop a detailed risk assessment of the hazard events considered most likely to impact the Mackay region. The events assessed will be confirmed based on historical events and emerging risks.

In order to ensure a contemporary and consistent methodology, council has adopted the process of the Queensland Emergency Risk Management Framework.

The outcomes of the risk assessment inform the basis of this plan and associated sub plans. The risk assessment documentation is provided to the LDMG and partner agencies in order to assist them in the formation of their own respective operational and response plans.

In summary, the risk assessment process examines the risk of the hazard seriously disrupting the community and requiring a significant coordinated response by the LDMG. The process specifically considers the following:

- The hazard.
- The exposed elements.
- Treatment options.
- Capability and capacity of the local government and partner agencies to respond.
- Residual risk rating.

After identification of any residual risk, it is imperative to communicate with the relevant stakeholders the intended strategies that will be employed to either:

- Accept the risk.
- Treat the risk.
- Manage the risk.

Communicating gaps in capacity that may lead to residual risk ensures those either accepting the management of the residual risk or looking to share the residual risk can clearly plan to address the identified gaps.

Any plans or strategies developed to manage residual risk will need to be complementary between the relevant agencies at each level within the QDMA.

14.3 Risk Treatment

Risk treatment strategies aim to determine and implement the most appropriate actions to treat (control or mitigate) the identified risk. These actions typically comprise both short- and longer-term strategies to address immediate impacts and the resultant ongoing issues.

The LDMG regularly review the risks associated with the identified hazards to the region and has in place plans to mitigate or reduce impacts to the community.

14.4 Compliance with Legislation, Regulations and Standards

The LDMG is committed to implementing and promoting knowledge and awareness within the group's members in respect to their applicable legislation/s.

The various acts, regulations and standards include provisions which work to reduce the risks associated with disasters and have been considered in the preparation of this LDMP.

14.5 Building Codes and Building-use Regulations and Standards

Buildings and structures within the Mackay Regional Council jurisdiction are approved by registered Building Certifiers and regulated by relevant Local, State and Federal agencies as authorised by legislation, to ensure compliance with Australian building codes, regulations and standards.

Under the National Construction Code of Australia, areas of Australia are categorised according to the probability of being subject to cyclonic conditions. The Mackay region is recognised under legislation to be in a Wind Region C Tropical Cyclone Area. As such, all building applications are assessed to ensure they comply with legislation.

14.6 Land-use Planning

Managing land use is a key strategy to reducing disaster risks within the Mackay region. Through land-use planning, the potential for displacement, damage and disruption to communities can be reduced.

Council has prepared and maintains the Mackay Region Planning Scheme 2017 (Planning Scheme).
The Mackay Planning Scheme can be located at *www.mackay.qld.gov.au/business/planning_and_development/planning_schemes_and_strategic_planning*

The Planning Scheme is an evolving document and includes plans, reference for land use management, codes for development and requirements pertaining to the assessment of proposed developments.

As such, the Planning Scheme contributes to disaster risk reduction within identified hazard-prone/constraint areas. In particular, it maps land subject to:
- Potential bushfire hazard areas.
- Coastal erosion.
- Landslide hazard.
- Flood hazard.
- Storm tide inundation.

15. PREPAREDNESS

15.1 Local Plans

The LDMG recognises the importance of planning for disaster events and actively promotes this amongst the region's disaster management agencies.

When preparing disaster plans, the LDMG will:
- Utilise risk management principles specified in the Queensland Emergency Risk Management Framework, AS/NZ ISO 31000, and the National Emergency Risk Assessment Guidelines.
- Adopt a comprehensive, all agency approach to disaster management.
- Consider community preparedness.
- Consult extensively with lead and supporting agencies and community stakeholders as appropriate.

15.2 Operational Sub Plans

Sub plans detailing the coordination and support arrangements for the LDMG are held by council's Emergency Management Program and include:
- LDMG Activation Sub Plan.
- LDCC Operations Sub Plan.
- Evacuation Sub Plan.
- Evacuation/Cyclone Centre Sub Plan.
- Public Information and Warnings Sub Plan.
- Local Recovery Sub Plan.
- Pandemic Sub Plan.
- Resupply Sub Plan.

15.3 Functional Lead Agency Plans

The LDMG expects that Functional Lead Agencies will prepare and maintain written disaster plans to:

• Manage hazards for which they are responsible

• Manage the delivery of disaster management functions for which they are responsible.

Identified hazards, Functional Lead Agencies and relevant plans as outlined in the SDMP are as follows:

HAZARD	PLAN	FUNCTIONAL LEAD AGENCY
Animal and plant disease	Australian Veterinary Emergency Plan. Australian Aquatic Veterinary Emergency Plan. Australian Emergency Plant Pest Response Plan. Biosecurity Emergency Operations Manual.	Department of Agriculture and Fisheries
Biological (human related)	State of Queensland Multi Agency Response to Chemical, Biological and Radiological Incidents.	Queensland Health
Radiological	State of Queensland Multi Agency Response to Chemical, Biological and Radiological Incidents.	Queensland Health
Bushfire	Wildfire Mitigation and Readiness Plans.	Queensland Fire and Emergency Services
Chemical	State of Queensland Multi Agency Response to Chemical, Biological and Radiological Incidents.	Queensland Fire and Emergency Services
Heatwave	Heatwave Response Plan.	Queensland Health
Pandemic	Pandemic Influenza Plan.	Queensland Health
Ship Sourced Pollution	Queensland Coastal Contingency Action Plan.	Maritime Safety Queensland
Terrorism	Queensland Counter Terrorism Plan.	Queensland Police Service

15.4 Community Emergency Plans

The LDMG encourages community groups, businesses, developers, and others, to prepare emergency and business continuity plans. The group especially encourages organisations that care for vulnerable sectors of the community to prepare emergency plans in consultation with the appropriate agency.

15.5 Community Awareness and Education

Under *Section 30(e)* of the Act, the LDMG is to ensure that the Mackay community is aware of ways of mitigating the adverse effects of a disaster event, and preparing for, responding to, and recovering from a disaster. Community awareness and education is the process by which the community is made aware of identified threats and the means by which they, at an individual, business or household level, can mitigate the possible effects. This may be in the form of seminars, brochures, media releases for example.

The LDMG maintains a coordinated approach to community awareness and education, by way of:

• Increasing community awareness about disaster preparation and disaster warning systems through effective communication strategies and education programs.

• Implementing effective strategies that will lead to behavioural change and community action by the community towards improved disaster preparedness.

• Increasing community knowledge of Queensland's disaster management arrangements.

• Advocating for increases in state and federal government funding towards local disaster management community awareness and education initiatives.

- Enhancing accessibility of disaster information available to the community through an established ELO program.
- Increasing knowledge of relevant emergency telephone numbers and the role each agency plays in a disaster event.
- Develop working relationships between Mackay's disaster management agencies.

Under this approach, community awareness and education programs will be regularly conducted by LDMG agencies. Community awareness and education strategies adopted by the group include:

- Publications explaining disaster preparedness and emergency procedures (eg Emergency Action Guide).
- Participation in the annual Cyclone Saturday event at Caneland Central.
- Promotion of the Emergency Dashboard website as the one-stop-shop for emergency news and information. This website can be accessed via disaster.mackay.qld.gov.au.
- Involvement in Business Continuity Planning educational sessions.
- Actively promote awareness and support of the SES Recruitment Campaign.

15.6 Community Situational Awareness

Residents are encouraged to monitor weather, warnings, and other public information platforms to maintain awareness of emergency situations and potential threats. Council maintains the Emergency Dashboard (disaster.mackay.qld.gov.au) to provide a single source of emergency information.

Council currently maintains a network of seven flood monitoring cameras on roads with existing river gauge infrastructure. Images taken are uploaded to the Emergency Dashboard every 30 minutes. The cameras allow for residents and first responders to plan for evacuation if required.

Council maintains a network of 49 rain and river gauges within the Mackay LGA which provide real-time rainfall and river height information (disaster.mackay.qld.gov.au). Council recently undertook a review of the river gauges to determine the minor, moderate and major flood classification levels at those sites. This allows for an awareness of the impacts to those locations during a major rain event.

15.7 Disability Inclusive Disaster Risk Reduction

Council is introducing Disability Inclusive Disaster Risk Reduction practices and education such as Person-Centred Emergency Preparedness (P-CEP) to enhance the disaster resilience of people with disability and the people who care for them. P-CEP provides the tools and guidance for people with disability to develop emergency plans that are tailored to their individual support needs, so they can maintain their safety and wellbeing in an emergency. More information can be found at *mackay.qld.gov.au/pcep.*

15.8 Community Recovery and Disaster Resilience

In recent years the Mackay region has benefited from additional funding and resources to assist communities impacted by Severe Tropical Cyclone Debbie (2017 – Sarina Range, Eton, Koumala, Midge Point) and the CQ Bushfires (2018 – Eungella, Finch Hatton, Bloomsbury, Sarina Beach, Campwin Beach). Recovery work has focused on building local capacity and resilience to lead activities that assist communities to recovery and prepare for future events. This has included skills development in the follow areas:

- Basic counselling skills.
- First Aid.
- Leading community arts processes for creative recovery activities.
- Business continuity planning.

Recovery funding has enabled impacted communities to enhance local infrastructure, such as purchasing generators, emergency communications equipment, and undertaking upgrades to community halls.

16. RESPONSE

The principal purpose of disaster response is the preservation of life, property and the environment.

Response is defined as the "actions taken in anticipation of, during, and immediately after an emergency (disaster event) to ensure that its effects are minimised and that people affected are given immediate relief and support" (Emergency Management Australia, 2004).

Under *Section 30* of the Act, the LDMG is responsible for:

• Managing disaster operations in the Mackay region under policies and procedures decided by the QDMC, noting that:

    o   An agency may be nominated with responsibility for a specific hazard.

    o   The agency understands the requirements for identification of risks and developing hazard specific plans.

    o   The LDMG's role is coordination and support with information and resources.

• Identifying and coordinating the use of resources that may be used for disaster operations in the area.

Section 15 of the Act defines disaster operations as activities undertaken to help reduce loss of human life, illness or injury to humans, property loss or damage, or damage to the environment.

The LDMG recognises that the response to a disaster event:

• Incorporates all those actions that help reduce loss of human life, illness or injury to humans, property loss or damage, or damage to the environment, in a particular and specific disaster event.

• May commence prior to the impact of an event, if advance warning is given and known.

• Concludes once the risks of loss of human life, illness or injury, property loss or damage, or damage to the environment are reduced to an acceptable level.

In order to be effective during operations, LDMG members are to:

• Ensure that a liaison officer for their agency is present at the LDCC as the liaison point of contact (if required), and ensure plans are in place for continuity of agency representation in the LDCC during extended operations.

• When possible, assess the likelihood of extended operations and the possible need to implement LDMG member relief arrangements.

• Ensure that a suitably trained, experienced and duly authorised liaison officer for their agency is present at the LDCC as the liaison point of contact (if required).

• Maintain a close liaison with all members of the LDMG including participating in briefings/meetings of the LDMG.

During disaster events, LDMG meetings will be conducted in accordance with the needs for the group to assemble to strategically plan for the management of the disaster.

16.1 Event Coordination

Based on the definition of a disaster in *Section 13 (1)* of the Act, activation of the LDMG will be in response to an event or threat that has caused, or is likely to cause, serious disruption in the community or event that requires a significant coordinated response to help the community recover from the event.

Council has provided a primary LDCC facility located at the Sir Albert Abbott Administration Building, Civic Centre, 73 Gordon Street, Mackay. Should the primary LDCC facility become inoperative, an alternate centre may be established in the Jubilee Community Centre and other council owned facilities.

The activation and operation of the centre is the responsibility of the LDC who shall ensure staffing of the centre is adequate, fully trained and available as required.

Activation or escalation of an activation of the LDMG will be by way of a general consensus of the LDMG Executive Group based off any credible intelligence known at that time assessed against pre-determined triggers.

Each member of the LDMG must ensure that their agency establishes a capacity to coordinate their agency's resources and actions and to provide a suitably trained, experienced and duly authorised liaison officer to the LDCC on request.

During a disaster, several agencies may be in operation at the same time. For example, a disaster may involve the management of a number of threats, and the delivery of a number of disaster management functions (such as evacuation centre management or public health). The LDMG's role in coordination is about ensuring all agencies have the resources and information needed to carry out their agreed roles. Coordination operates horizontally across agencies but does not extend to the control of threats or functions, or to the command of agency resources.

16.2 LDMG Activation Levels

Activation of the LDMG has been based on the levels of activation in accordance with the SDMP.

| LEVEL OF ACTIVATION	DEFINITION
Alert	A heightened level of vigilance and preparedness due to the possibility of an event in the area of responsibility. Some action may be required, and the situation should be monitored by staff capable of assessing and preparing for the potential hazard.
Lean Forward	An operational state characterised by a heightened level of situational awareness of a disaster event (either current or impending), and a state of operational readiness. The LDCC is on standby – prepared but not activated.
Stand Up	Resources are mobilised, personnel are activated, and operational activities commenced. The LDCC is activated.
Stand Down	Transition from responding to back to normal core business operations. The event no longer requires a coordinated response.

Upon the directive to Stand Up, the LDCC is activated and staffed on a rotational basis with appropriately trained council personnel and liaison officers from external agencies. External agency liaison officers provide a single point of contact between the LDCC and their parent agency when required.

The Mackay LDMG is committed to providing a robust and efficient disaster management framework that enables a seamless integration of activities, a coordinated multi-agency response to any disaster event, and is operated under five key principles:

- Ensuring that there is a unity of control by having only one LDC responsible at any one time for the coordination of the operations.
- Maintaining a satisfactory span of control level to ensure that personnel or functional areas don't get overwhelmed
- Establishing functional management areas for coordination, planning, intelligence, operations, logistics, finance and public information.
- Maintain a consultative management approach where the LDC, in consultation with the other LDCC functional areas, determines the desired outcomes of the event.
- Adopt a flexible and scalable, all-hazards approach across the full spectrum of the event.

16.3 LDCC Structure

The LDCC structure provides a scalable approach to staff, roles and resources based on the nature, complexity and size of the event. The LDCC operates under the following structure:
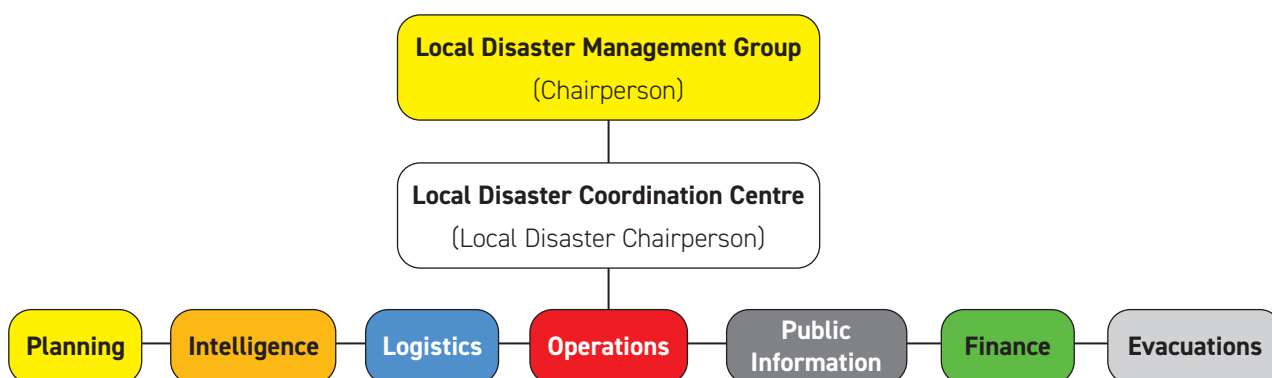
Under this structure, the LDCC can maintain the ability to,

- Effectively receive and manage information.
- Efficiently coordinate local resources and information.
- Identify and allocate tasks to agencies as needed in a timely manner.
- Pass information and requests for assistance to the DDMG.

16.4   Hazard Specific Arrangements

This disaster management plan is based on the all-hazards, all-agencies approach, which recognises that counter measures may vary with specific hazards. Each type of event will have its own special requirements.

Functional Lead Agency status is usually bestowed by legislation, common law, regulations, or by agreement of the LDMG.

When the LDMG is activated, the LDMG is responsible for the overall management of the disaster event in support of the Functional Lead Agency.

16.4.1 Functional Lead Agency

A Functional Lead Agency is the agency in overall control of the response function when this plan is activated. For example, when an evacuation centre is required, Mackay Regional Council is the Functional Lead Agency for this function and will control all agencies that are contributing to evacuation centre management. This may include giving directions and tasks to supporting agencies and opening and allowing access to centres.

A Functional Lead Agency will be supported by other agencies that have agreed roles to support the delivery of the disaster management function. For example, in the management of evacuation shelters/emergency shelters, Mackay Regional Council is assisted by several agencies.

HAZARD	LEAD FUNCTIONAL AGENCY
Accident aircraft – on airport	Queensland Police Service
Accident aircraft – off airport	Queensland Police Service
Accident – traffic (road, rail, marine)	Queensland Police Service
Building collapse – major	Queensland Fire and Emergency Services
Bushfire	Queensland Fire and Emergency Services
Dam failure	Dam Managers
Earthquake	Mackay Regional Council (supported by LDMG)
Exotic diseases – flora and fauna	Agriculture and Fisheries
Fire – major building	Queensland Fire and Emergency Services
Flood	Mackay Regional Council
Hazardous material/gas accidents	Queensland Fire and Emergency Services
Heatwave	Queensland Health
Power	Ergon Energy
Water/sewer	Mackay Regional Council
Landslide	Mackay Regional Council (supported by LDMG)
Oil spill – at sea	Marine Safety Queensland
Oil spill – on land	Queensland Fire and Emergency Services
Public health epidemic/pandemic	Queensland Health
Severe weather (eg cyclone, storms, storm surge)	Mackay Regional Council (supported by LDMG)
Terrorism	Queensland Police Service
Tsunami	Mackay Regional Council (supported by LDMG)

16.4.2 Functional Support Agency

A support agency supports the Functional Lead Agency in the delivery of a disaster management function through actions or the provision of personnel and equipment. The agreed roles and responsibilities of response and recovery agencies are outlined below.

While under the control of a Functional Lead Agency, support agencies retain responsibility for commanding their resources and ensuring that their own standard operating procedures are correctly implemented.

COORDINATION AND SUPPORT – FUNCTIONAL SUPPORT	
Volunteering and Donations	Council via GIVIT and Community Groups
Finance Management	Agencies individually responsible
Resupply	Queensland Fire and Emergency Services
Recovery	Activated recovery groups
Solid Waste	Mackay Regional Council
Logistics	Mackay Regional Council
Public Works	Department Housing and Public Works
Public Information	Hazard Functional Lead Agency
Public Health	Queensland Health
Impact Assessment	Council/QFES/QRA
Evacuation	QPS/QFES/SES
Evacuation Centre Management	Australian Red Cross/Council
Animal Emergency	Council/RSPCA
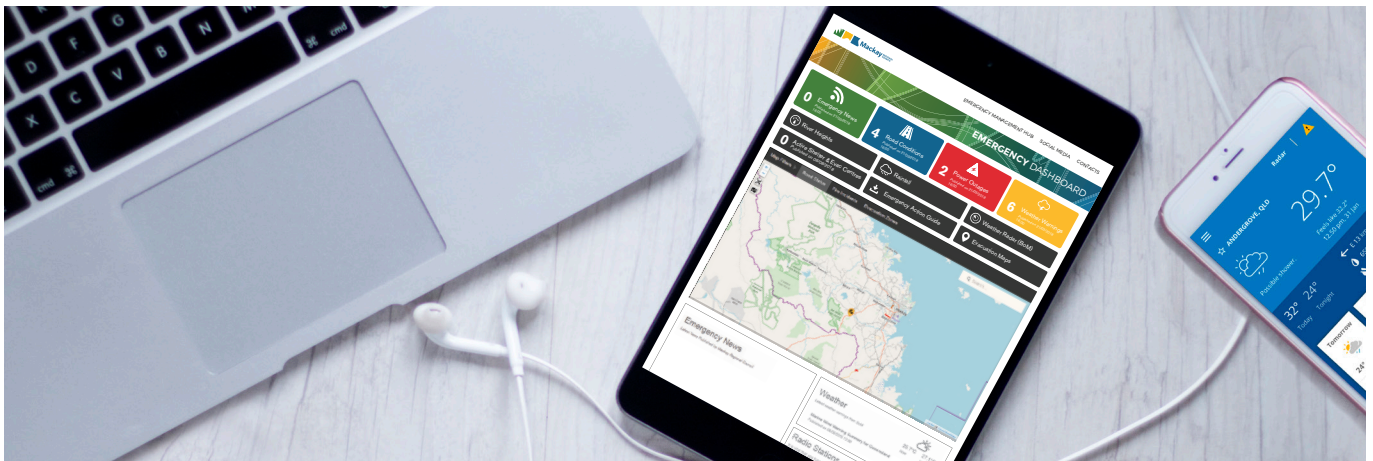
16.5   Public Warning Systems

Under *Section 30* of the Act, the LDMG is responsible for ensuring the community is aware of ways of mitigating the impacts of an event, preparing for an event, responding to, and recovering from, the event. This involves raising awareness of identified threats and the means by which the public should respond at an individual and/or household level, and may include warnings and directions, as provided by Functional Lead Agencies for warnings relating to the particular hazard.

Once the LDMG has activated, the chairperson of the LDMG will ordinarily be the primary spokesperson of disaster-related information in conjunction with Functional Lead Agency liaison officer.

The LDMG maintains a Public Information Sub Plan to support the dissemination of information to the public.

16.6 Concept of Operations for Response

16.6.1 Communications

Communication during disasters is demanding and involves high levels of uncertainty and necessity for rapid decision making and response under increased time pressure, high demand for information and resource constraints.

The LDMG, emergency services and council have identified resources available for the provision of communicating and distributing information on hazard awareness, household preparedness and emergency planning information about events and recommended actions. Where possible, mitigation strategies have been put in place to minimise the vulnerability of these assets to hazards. The LDMG works closely with other entities and agencies with responsibility for public information.

The Mackay Emergency Dashboard, broadcast radio, social media and live television interviews will be the primary mediums to disseminate warnings and advices. Information obtained from the monitoring of media and social networks will contribute to intelligence briefs.

Manual distribution of information brochures and handouts will commence and, if required, this material will be made available in languages other than English through translation services.

If power and telecommunications are lost, respective agencies will communicate through two-way radio networks. Council maintains a cache of spare radios for this purpose.

It is the role of the LDCC to coordinate information between the public, emergency services, non-government agencies, governments, businesses, community and volunteer groups to provide situational awareness and enhance interoperability.

Various methods and tools are used to coordinate and circulate information, such as:

Situational Reports	Agency Reports	Emergency Dashboard
BoM Advices and Warnings	Requests for Assistance	Logs
Face to face	Minutes of Meetings	Teleconferencing
Radio	Email / SMS	Social Media / Internet
Newspapers	Television	Leaflets
Public Meetings	Posters / Notices	
Landlines and Mobiles	Damage Impact Assessments	

16.6.2 Issue of Warnings

In the event of a potential disaster situation, a warning may be issued by any agency that maintains monitoring devices, including the Bureau of Meteorology, MRC, QPS, QFES and/or any of the emergency services.

In addition to the provision of these warnings to the public, all warnings should be directed to council's Emergency Management Program who will advise the LDMG Executive Group and where directed, members of the group as appropriate.

For disaster events, the majority of warnings can be received via the Emergency Dashboard, email, text message, media outlets and if the risk is substantial and imminent, by telephone. These warnings are received by the LDMG members and relevant council staff. If a weather forecast shows the potential for a hazard to develop eg a tropical cyclone, the situation is monitored closely by the nominated LDMG members.

Dependent on the risk (likelihood of the event impacting the community and consequence if it does), the LDMG may activate, and the details of the forecast or warning will be disseminated to all the LDMG members. Additionally, all media outlets will be notified according to the Public Information and Warnings Sub Plan to distribute the information to the community.

16.6.3 Standard Emergency Warning System (SEWS)

The SEWS is intended for use as an alert signal to be played on public media to draw listeners' attention to an emergency warning. It is meant to attract listeners' attention to the fact that they should take notice of the emergency message.

Responsibility for the management of the SEWS in Queensland rests with the Commissioner QFES in conjunction with the Queensland Regional Director of the Bureau of Meteorology for meteorological purposes.

The LDMG have pre-prepared emergency alert templates for hazard specific threats and locations available to authorised LDMG members.

16.6.4 Australian Warning System (AWS)

The AWS is a national approach to information and warnings for hazards like bushfire, flood, storm, cyclone, extreme heat and severe weather. The AWS aims to provide consistent warnings to communities so that people know what to do when they see a warning level. There are three warning levels:

Advice (Yellow): An incident has started. There is no immediate danger. Stay up to date in case the situation changes.

Watch and Act (Orange): There is a heightened level of threat. Conditions are changing and you need to start taking action now to protect you and your family.

Emergency Warning (Red): An Emergency Warning is the highest level of warning. You may be in danger and need to take action immediately. Any delay now puts your life at risk.
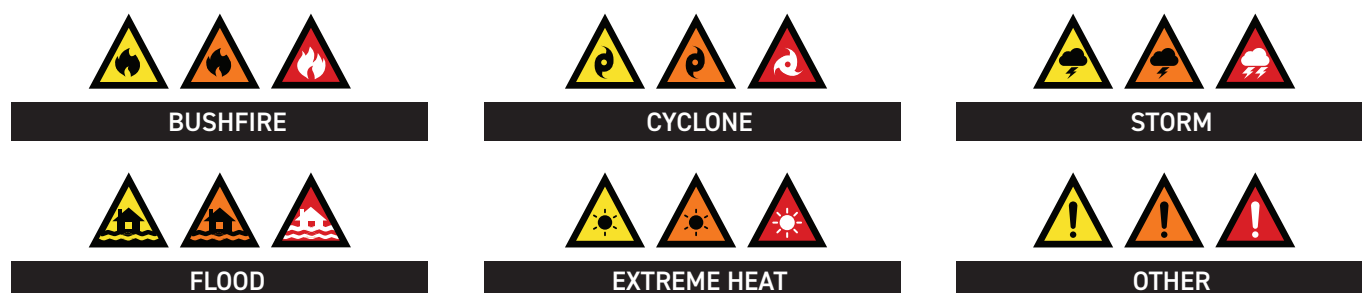
Each warning level has a set of action statements to give the community clearer advice about what to do. Calls to Action can be used flexibly across all three warning levels depending on the hazard. An example is below:

ADVICE	WATCH AND ACT	EMERGENCY WARNINGS
Prepare now	Prepare to leave/evacuate	Leave/evacuate (immediately, by am/pm/hazard timing)
Stay informed	Leave/evacuate now (if you are not prepared)	Seek/take shelter now
Monitor conditions	Prepare to take shelter	Shelter indoors now
Stay informed/threat is reduced	Move/stay indoors	Too late/dangerous to leave
Avoid the area	Stay near shelter	
Return with caution	Walk two or more streets back	
Avoid smoke	Monitor conditions as they are changing	
	Be aware of ember attacks	

These warnings and calls to action will be issued in conjunction with Functional Lead Agency hazard warning through standard public communication procedures. Further information on the AWS can be found at https://www.australianwarningsystem.com.au.

16.7　Financial Considerations

All agencies are responsible for meeting and recording their own operational expenses incurred during a disaster event, and for claiming reimbursement of any expenses allowed under the State Disaster Relief Arrangements (SDRA) and the Disaster Recovery Funding Arrangements (DRFA), if activated. Details of these programs can be found at https://www.qra.qld.gov.au/

16.8　Impact Assessments

There are primarily two types of damage assessments.

• Rapid Damage Assessment.

• Comprehensive Assessment.

A Rapid Damage Assessment examines the ways in which an event has affected the community immediately after the event. This assessment will provide initial and often unconfirmed indicative information. The information collected is used to provide an assessment of the potential overall impact of the event and to set initial priorities.

Comprehensive damage assessment will commence as soon as possible following an event to accurately establish the impact of an event. Response and recovery agencies will undertake detailed impact assessments relating to their area of jurisdiction and will submit Situation Reports to the LDMG through the LDCC. Depending on need, the LDMG may coordinate the formation and operation of multiagency damage assessment teams to systematically collect and analyse impact assessment data.

16.9　Accessing Support and Allocation of Resources

Requests for support may come from Functional Lead Agencies, supporting agencies or the community. The LDC will maintain regular communications with the DDC during disaster events on the local resourcing status. Communication will also be maintained with local governments that share a boundary with Mackay.

Any requests for assistance that are not able to be found within local resources will be the subject of a request for assistance to the DDC. These requests must be endorsed by the LDC prior to the submission to the DDC. Requests passed to a DDC will be registered and monitored in accordance with the standard operating procedures of the LDCC along with information about goods and/or services received as a result of these requests for assistance.

In the event that the request for assistance cannot be actioned by the DDC, the DDC will request assistance through the Chairperson of the QDMC.

16.10　Disaster Declaration

Section 64 of the Act makes provision for the declaration of a disaster situation by the DDC, with the approval of the Minister, for a district or a part of a district, or by the Premier and the Minister for the State or a part of the State. A declaration may be made if the person/s responsible for making it are satisfied that a disaster has happened, is happening or is likely to happen and it will be necessary, or reasonably likely to be necessary, to exercise declared disaster powers to prevent or minimise the loss of human life, illness or injury to humans, property loss or damage, or damage to the environment.
A Declaration of a Disaster Situation may be requested by the LDMG, for example, where there is an identified need to undertake a managed evacuation.

When a Declaration of a Disaster Situation is enacted, the chairperson and LDC will continue to align local strategies and arrangements with the DDC to ensure the appropriate utilisation of the powers within the local disaster management arrangements.

16.11 Resupply

Communities or individuals can become temporarily isolated which can cause significant hardship due to a depletion of their normal sources of food and basic commodities.

LDMG resupply arrangements are developed in accordance with the Queensland Resupply Guidelines and will be escalated to the QFES if the resupply exceeds local capacity.

17. RECOVERY

The primary aim of recovery is to assist disaster affected communities to regain appropriate and acceptable levels of functioning both initially and in the long term. It is important that any assistance provided, empowers the community to assist with their own recovery and does not take away individual autonomy. Recovery planning and activities should provide the impacted community opportunities to develop better capability and mitigation measures for future events.

The recovery phase should commence alongside the response phase, and due to the complex nature of rebuilding communities, the recovery phase may continue well after the response to a disaster event has concluded. In some cases, this may be several years. The Act includes provision for the Chairperson of the State group to appoint a State Recovery Coordinator (SRC). The functions of a SRC are as follows:

- To coordinate the disaster operations for the state group.
- To report regularly to the state group about disaster recovery operations.
- To ensure, as far as reasonably practicable, that any strategic decisions of the state group about disaster recovery operations are implemented.
- To provide strategic advice on disaster recovery operations to government agencies performing disaster recovery operations.

At the local level, council's Local Recovery Group has appointed the Director of Community and Client Services, Mackay Regional Council, as the Local Recovery Coordinator with responsibility for coordinating recovery of the Mackay region, in conjunction with various state and local agencies, following a disaster event.

The Local Recovery Group will aim to:

- Ensure accurate and timely assessments of damage and recovery needs.
- Ensure essential infrastructure and essential services are returned to normal operations as soon as possible.
- Facilitate provision of welfare and assistance to residents and visitors in a fair and equitable manner that assists them to assist themselves.
- Encourage the business community to resume trading as soon as possible by implementing business continuity plans.
- Facilitate the rehabilitation of the environment wherever possible.
- Identify opportunities during recovery to enhance the sustainability, safety and resilience of the community.
- Align local recovery planning and arrangements with the State Plans and Recovery Guidelines.

The Local Recovery Group will organise its approach to recovery into four interdependent components:

- Human and social recovery
  - relates to the emotional, social, physical and psychological health and wellbeing of individuals, families and communities following a disaster.
- Building and infrastructure recovery
  - relates to the built environment and transport networks including capacity of essential services, building sector and reduced access to communities through disruption to critical supply chains.
- Economic recovery
  - relates to the direct and indirect impact on the economy, including the loss of local industry, employment opportunities and reduction in cash flow for businesses.
- Environmental recovery
  - relates to the potential impacts to the environment such as damage or loss of flora and fauna, reduced water quality and land contamination.

18. ABBREVIATIONS AND DEFINITIONS

ABC	Australian Broadcasting Corporation
AHD	Above Height Datum
BoM	Australian Bureau of Meteorology
Cr	Councillor
Council	Mackay Regional Council
DDC	District Disaster Coordinator
DDCC	District Disaster Coordination Centre
DDMG	District Disaster Management Group
DDMP	District Disaster Management Plan
DES	Department of Environment and Science
DoE	Department of Education
DNRME	Department of Natural Resources, Mines and Energy
Disaster Management (DM)	The arrangements for managing adverse effects of an event
Disaster Recovery Operations	Restoring and Rebuilding capacity following a disaster
DRFA	Disaster Recovery Funding Arrangements
DCHSS	Department of Communities, Housing, and Digital Economy
DTMR	Department Transport and Main Roads
EA	Emergency Alert
EMAF	Emergency Management Assurance Framework
IGEM	Inspector General Emergency Management
LDC	Local Disaster Coordinator
LDCC	Local Disaster Coordination Centre
LDMG	Local Disaster Management Group
LDMP	Local Disaster Management Plan
LGA	Local Government Area
LRC	Local Recovery Coordinator
LRG	Local Recovery Group
MRC	Mackay Regional Council
MSQ	Marine Safety Queensland
P-CEP	Person-Centred Emergency Preparedness
PPRR	Prevention, Preparedness, Response and Recovery
QAS	Queensland Ambulance Service
QDMA	Queensland Disaster Management Arrangements
QDMC	Queensland Disaster Management Committee
QDMTF	Queensland Disaster Management Training Framework

QERMF	Queensland Emergency Risk Management Framework
QFES	Queensland Fire and Emergency Services
QLD	Queensland
QPS	Queensland Police Service
RSPCA	Royal Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals
SDC	State Disaster Coordinator
SDRA	State Disaster Management Plan
SES	State Emergency Service
SEWS	Standard Emergency Warning Signal
SITREP	Situation Report
SRC	State Recovery Coordinator
UHF	Ultra High Frequency
VHF	Very High Frequency

Mackay Local Disaster **Management Group**

Local Disaster Management Plan