

**QUEENSLAND RECONSTRUCTION AUTHORITY**

# **Monthly Report**

**December 2013**

A decorative graphic in the bottom right corner of the page, consisting of several overlapping, radiating lines in various shades of maroon and red, creating a sense of motion and depth.

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*Message from the Chief Executive Officer*

Major General Richard Wilson AO  
Chairman  
Queensland Reconstruction Authority

Dear Major General Wilson

It is with pleasure that I present the December 2013 Monthly Report – the 34th report to the Board of the Queensland Reconstruction Authority (the Authority).

The Authority was established under the *Queensland Reconstruction Authority Act 2011* following the unprecedented natural disasters which struck Queensland over the summer months of 2010-11. The Authority is charged with managing and coordinating the Government's program of infrastructure renewal and recovery within disaster-affected communities, with a focus on working with our State and local government partners to deliver best practice expenditure of public reconstruction funds.

Following the widespread damage caused by ex-Tropical Cyclone Oswald in early 2013, the jurisdiction of the Authority was expanded by the *Queensland Reconstruction Authority Amendment Bill 2013* to cover this and other disaster events which occurred in the 2013 disaster event period, provide the Authority with a stronger focus on community resilience and extend the term of the Authority until 30 June 2015.

The Authority continues to monitor the progress of reconstruction and provide the resourcing and support necessary to build the momentum of reconstruction and enhance the resilience of communities for potential disasters. Whilst maintaining focus on the entire program, the Authority's current priorities are on progressing the remaining program of works from the 2011 and 2012 disaster periods, fast-track the progress to reconstruction works from the recent 2013 events and assisting councils and State agencies close out their completed works for the 2010 disaster period.

The December report provides an update on the progress of the \$13.96 billion program of works managed by the Authority. As at 1 December 2013:

- an additional \$147 million in submissions have been received by the Authority since last month
- an additional \$460 million has been processed by the Authority since last month
- a cumulative value of \$10.0 billion of the \$13.96 billion works program has been reported to the Authority as being in progress or delivered by delivery agents as at 31 October 2013.

The December report also provides an update on the \$80 million jointly funded program for Betterment projects open to LGAs affected by the 2013 events. The Betterment fund was announced in February 2013 for the restoration or replacement of essential public assets to a more disaster resilient standard than their pre-disaster standard. To 30 November 2013, 179 projects with a Betterment fund component of \$60 million have been approved. The December report profiles a recently approved Betterment project for Toowoomba Regional Council - Kingsthorpe Haden Road Bridge. The December report also tracks the progress of two Betterment projects which have recently commenced works - Gayndah Water Supply Intake Station and One Mile Bridge, Ipswich.

The report also provides an update on the progress of the five functional recovery groups established in February 2013 under the Queensland 2013 Flood Recovery Plan (Recovery Plan) in response to the damage impacts of Tropical Cyclone Oswald.

I commend the report to you and recommend its release to the Minister and the public pursuant to Section 41 of the *Queensland Reconstruction Authority Act 2011*.

Yours sincerely



Graeme Newton  
Chief Executive Officer  
Queensland Reconstruction Authority

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**Section one:**  
**Introduction**



# 1.0 Introduction

## 1.1 Background

Queensland has been struck by a series of unprecedented natural disasters in recent years. Between November 2010 and April 2011, extensive flooding caused by periods of extremely heavy rainfall, destruction caused by a number of storm cells including Cyclones Tasha, Anthony and Severe Tropical Cyclone Yasi and subsequent monsoonal flooding, resulted in all of Queensland being declared as disaster affected.

On 21 February 2011 in response to the 2011 disaster events, the Queensland Government established the Queensland Reconstruction Authority (the Authority) under the *Queensland Reconstruction Act 2011*. The Authority's role was subsequently extended to cover historical and continuing disaster events in Queensland and, on 26 September 2012, the State Government announced the initial extension of the term of the Authority's operations to June 2014.

The Authority has since been given responsibility to administer Natural Disaster Relief and Recovery Arrangements (NDRRA) for the large scale natural disaster caused by Tropical Cyclone Oswald in late January 2013 and additional events which have occurred in the 2013 disaster event period. The *Queensland Reconstruction Authority Amendment Bill 2013* was passed on 14 February 2013 to expand the jurisdiction of the Authority to include these recent events, provide the Authority with a stronger focus on community resilience and extend the term of the Authority to 30 June 2015.

## 1.2 Purpose

The Authority's mission is **to reconnect, rebuild and improve Queensland communities and its economy.**

The Authority is charged with managing and coordinating the Government's program of infrastructure renewal and recovery within disaster-affected communities, with a focus on working with our State and local government partners to deliver best practice expenditure of public reconstruction funds.

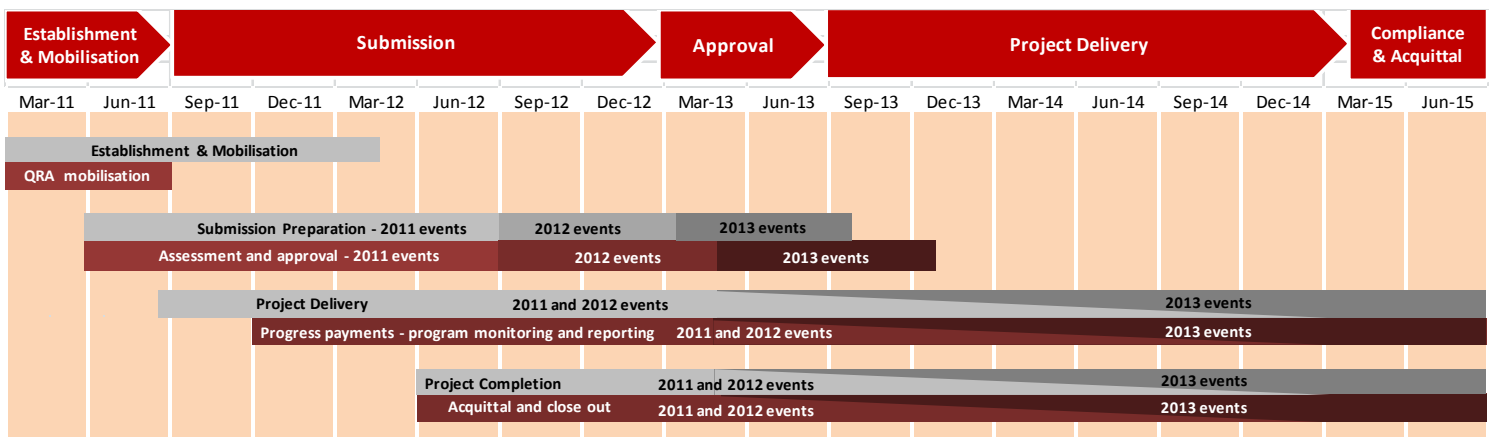
The Authority operates with reference to recovery and reconstruction plans established by the State in response to the 2011 disaster events and more recently following Tropical Cyclone Oswald. The Queensland 2013 Flood Recovery Plan (Recovery Plan), approved on 25 February 2013, provides strategic guidance for the coordination and management of recovery, reconstruction and community resilience activities undertaken across the State after Tropical Cyclone Oswald.

Five functional recovery groups have been established under the Recovery Plan to manage and coordinate recovery initiatives across impacted regions. The Authority provides support to, and reports on progress of the groups against their key tasks with decentralised responsibility for delivery across responsible agencies for each functional recovery group. The functional recovery groups follow from the lines of reconstruction established following the 2011 disaster events, the key tasks of which are now substantially complete.

## 1.3 Timing

The Authority's priorities are currently assisting councils and State agencies to progress their remaining program of works from the 2011 and 2012 disaster periods, with the bulk of the reconstruction work occurring prior to June 2014. Concurrently, the Authority is focused on accelerating the submission and application approval process for the recent 2013 events with a view to fast-tracking the 2013 program of works into project delivery phase as soon as practicable.

With the period to deliver works for the 2010 disaster period now complete (at 30 June 2013), the Authority is assisting delivery agents with the reporting of final expenditure and close out of the completed program of works for 2010 events.



**Section two:**  
**Disaster Assistance**

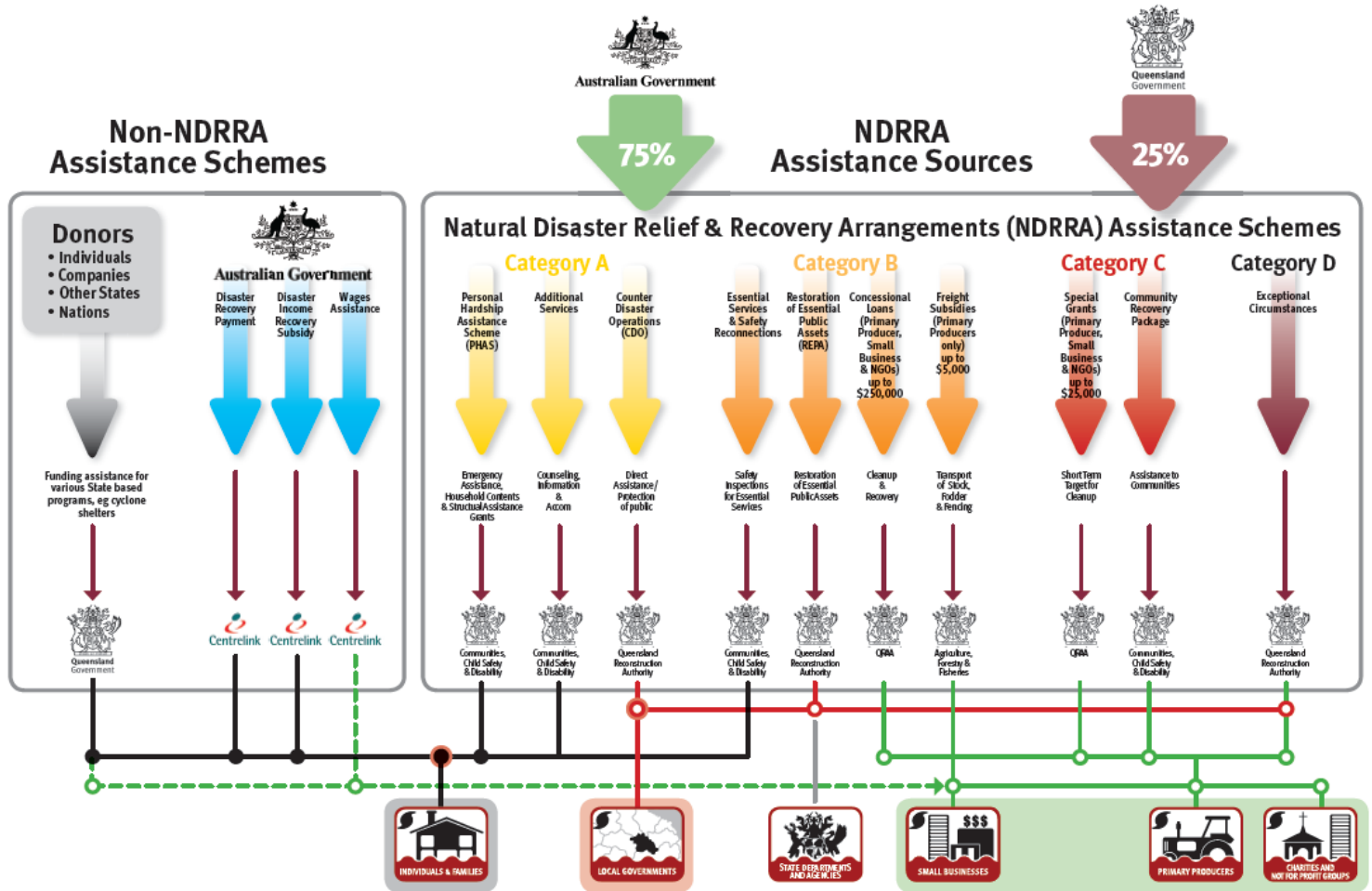


## 2.0 Disaster Assistance

### 2.1 Queensland Disaster Assistance Framework

The available Queensland Disaster Assistance schemes are separated between NDRRA (jointly funded by the Commonwealth and State governments) and Non-NDRRA funding schemes. The diagram below indicates the different elements of assistance available and how each element operates.

Figure 2.1.1 Queensland Disaster Assistance Framework



Whilst elements of the assistance schemes are delivered by other State agencies, all of the NDRRA assistance sources (and elements of the non-NDRRA assistance schemes) are administered by the Authority for historical and continuing disaster events in Queensland.

#### Disaster events managed by the Authority

The list of the activated disaster events managed by the Authority are set out in **Section 3.1** and can also be found on [www.disaster.qld.gov.au](http://www.disaster.qld.gov.au).

This report includes references to event periods described as follows:

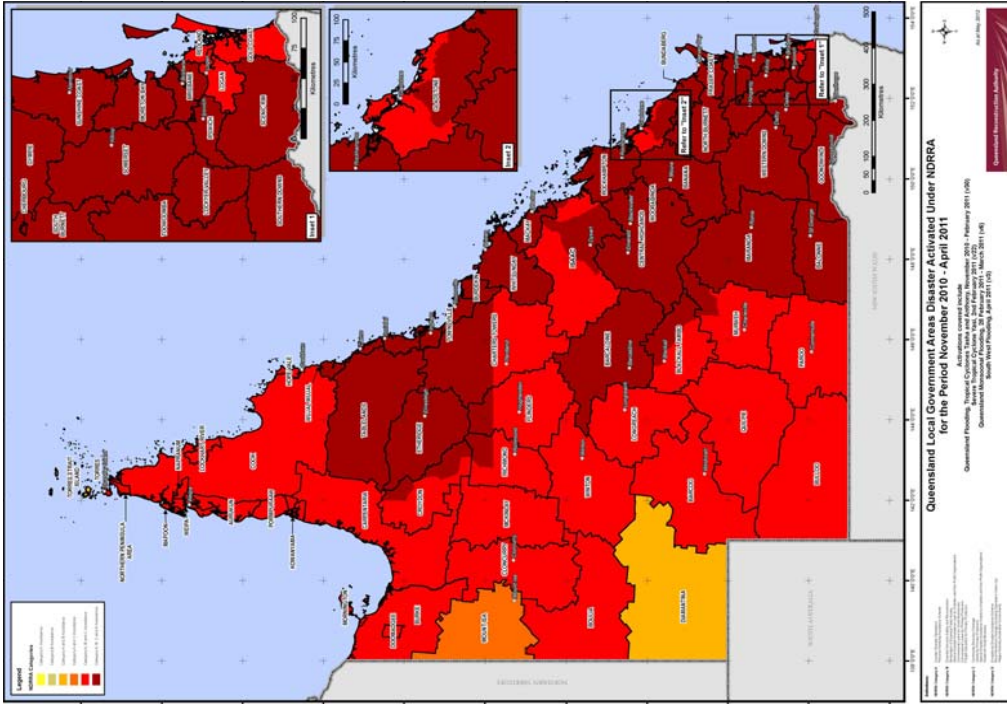
- **2013 events:** Activated disaster events managed by the Authority which occurred in the financial year ended **30 June 2013**, including Tropical Cyclone Oswald and associated rainfall and flooding (January 2013)
- **2012 events:** Activated disaster events managed by the Authority which occurred in the financial year ended **30 June 2012**
- **2011 events:** Activated disaster events managed by the Authority which occurred in the financial year ended **30 June 2011**, including Tropical Cyclone Yasi and Queensland flooding (November 2010 to February 2011)
- **2009-2010 events:** Activated disaster events managed by the Authority which occurred prior to 30 June 2010
- **Combined Program:** relates to all the activated disaster event programs managed by the Authority.



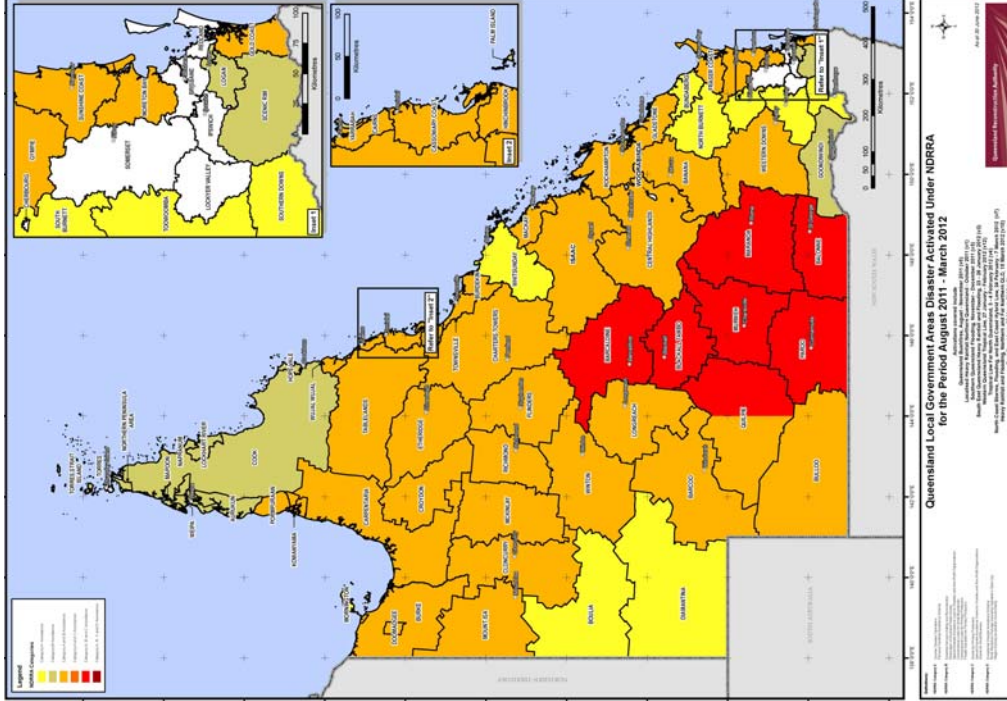
## 2.2 Disaster assistance by event period

The maps below show the LGAs activated for relief measures under NDRRA for each event period managed by the Authority under the Queensland Disaster Assistance Framework.

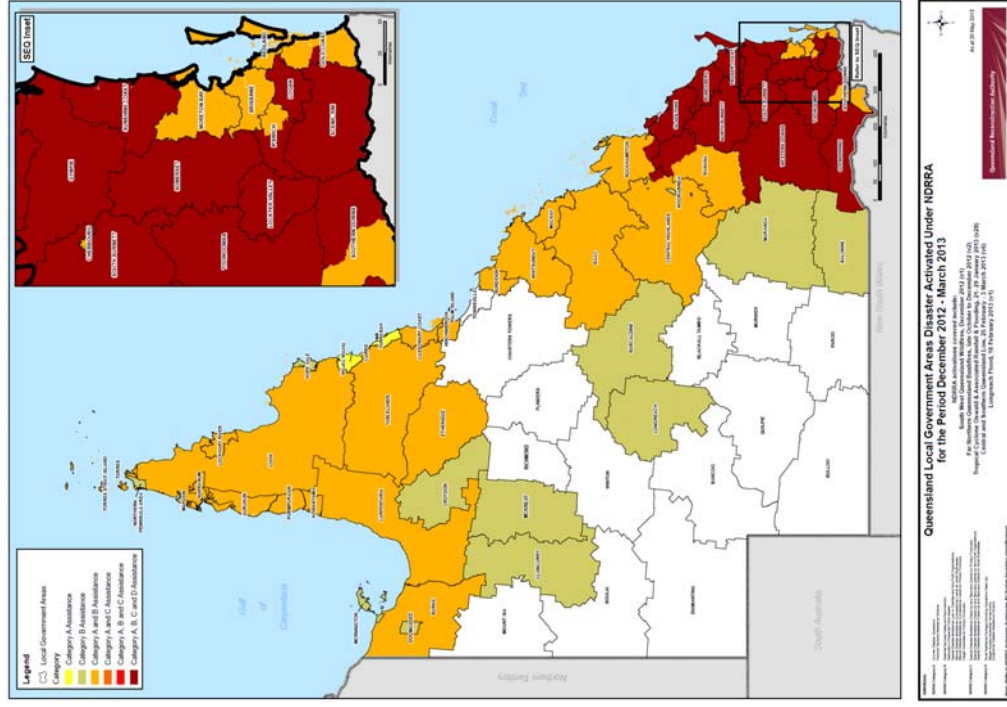
Map 1 - LGAs disaster activated under NDRRA for 2011 events



Map 2 - LGAs disaster activated under NDRRA for 2012 events



Map 3 - LGAs disaster activated under NDRRA for 2013 events



\* Different funding periods exist for each Category type.

## 2.3 Additional assistance measures

The State Government in conjunction with the Commonwealth have activated a range of jointly-funded Category C, Category D and other relief measures to alleviate distress due to the impact of Tropical Cyclone Oswald and the 2011 events. The measures are summarised below:

### 2.3.1 Betterment fund

On 8 February 2013, the Queensland Government signed the National Partnership Agreement (NPA) with the Commonwealth Government which recognised the need for a more streamlined process for the approval of Betterment funding. The Queensland Government announced a \$40 million commitment to Betterment funding which will match the Commonwealth Government contribution, resulting in the establishment of the \$80 million Betterment Fund.

Correspondence was received from the Commonwealth in August 2013 agreeing to the extension of the Betterment fund beyond its original coverage of LGAs declared for NDRRA assistance for Tropical Cyclone Oswald to also cover LGAs declared for the two additional disaster events that occurred after Oswald through to June 2013 (Longreach Flood (18 February 2013) and Central and Southern Queensland Low (25 February to 5 March 2013)). The Betterment fund is available for the restoration or replacement of essential public assets to a more disaster resilient standard than their pre-disaster standard. The intent of betterment is to increase the resilience of communities to natural disasters, while at the same time reducing future expenditure on asset restoration, reducing incidents, injuries and fatalities and improving asset utility during and after natural disasters.

Where a damaged asset is approved as a betterment project, the normal cost of restoring or replacing the asset to its pre-disaster standard will continue to be funded under Category B of NDRRA assistance and the incremental cost to 'better' the asset to a more disaster-resilient standard will be financed from the Betterment fund. The status of the Betterment fund and profiles of recent approved Betterment projects is set out in Section 4.6 of this report.

### 2.3.2 Other assistance measures

#### Tropical Cyclone Oswald

- **Community Recovery Package - \$5 million** - Funding for community development officers in the hardest hit communities of Bundaberg and North Burnett, support for mental health services and a flexible fund that assists communities to implement engagement and development activities.
- **Clean Up and Recovery program - \$10 million** - Program to assist primary producers to clear debris and restore fencing in the worst affected areas; to maintain workers while income generating activities are reduced and to clear debris from watercourse that poses a hazard to downstream infrastructure and activities.
- **Industry Recovery Officers - \$1.5 million** - Placement of Industry Recovery Officers to assist business and primary producers recover from flooding.
- **Enhanced concessional loans and grants** - Loans of up to \$650,000 (with a grant component of up to \$50,000) are available to applicants that have suffered extreme damage such that the existing concessional loan and recovery grants under NDRRA category B and C are insufficient to support recovery.
- **Environmental Recovery program - \$10 million\*** - Program to fund existing programs to conduct flood specific clean up and soil conservation work following the 2013 flooding.
- **Rural Financial Counselling Services - \$1.5 million\*** - Provision of financial planning advice for rural businesses and primary producers to assist in the recovery of local economies following the disaster.
- **Other measures - \$4.9 million** to fund dredging works to restore Bundaberg Port to its pre-2013 flood clearance depths.

#### 2011 events

- **Queensland Local Council Package - \$315 million** - Funding to help local councils repair utilities and infrastructure, and support their efforts in recovering from the floods and Cyclone Yasi. The package comprises two components: \$265 million to fast-track the repair of damaged infrastructure, including the Strengthening Grantham project, Brisbane ferry terminals and Riverwalk; and \$50 million to contribute to regional and remote councils employing people to perform important clean-up and repair work.
- **Cassowary Coast Support Package - \$15 million** - Funding to restore vital council infrastructure and restore natural vegetation and beach damage in the Cassowary Coast region. Specifically, the Support Package provides for the repair of Dunk Island Jetty, the repair of Clump Point Jetty and the restoration of Cardwell beach foreshore and its natural vegetation.
- **Exceptional Disaster Assistance Scheme** - Concessional interest loans of up to \$650,000, with grant component of up to \$50,000, to eligible businesses, primary producers and not-for-profit organisations that suffered extreme damage.

In addition, the State Government and Commonwealth have agreed to an extended Day Labour Trial, which enables councils to deliver restoration works with their own workforce on condition that they provide evidence of savings in both time and cost.

\* Non-NDRRA measures funded 50% by the State and 50% by the Commonwealth; Commonwealth share is being delivered directly through existing Commonwealth programs.

## **Section three: Framing the Challenge**



## 3.0 Framing the Challenge

### 3.1 Events managed by the Authority

The Authority has responsibility to administer NDRRA relief measures for historical and continuing disaster events in Queensland.

The Authority currently manages and coordinates the infrastructure reconstruction and recovery for 18 disaster events activated for NDRRA relief measures since the Authority's establishment in February 2011 and the remaining program of works for an additional 16 disaster events which occurred prior to the Authority's establishment.

#### 2013 events:

- South West Queensland Wildfires, 21 December 2012
- Far Northern Queensland Bushfires, late October - December 2012
- Tropical Cyclone Oswald and Associated Rainfall and Flooding, 21-29 January 2013 \*
- Longreach Flood, 18 February 2013 #
- Central and Southern Queensland Low, 25 February - 5 March 2013 #

#### 2012 events:

- Queensland Bushfires, August to October 2011
- Localised Heavy Rainfall Northern Queensland, October 2011 \*
- Southern Queensland Flooding, November to December 2011 \*
- South East Queensland Heavy Rainfall and flooding, 23- 26 January 2012 \*
- Western Queensland Tropical Low, 27 January to February 2012 \*
- Far Northern Queensland Tropical Low, 3-4 February 2012 \*
- North Coast Queensland Storms and flooding and East Coast Hybrid Low, 24 February - 7 March 2012 \*
- Northern and Far Northern Queensland Heavy Rainfall & flooding, 15 March 2012 \*
- East Coast Low, 22 March 2012 \*

#### 2011 events:

- Queensland Flooding and Tropical Cyclones Tasha and Anthony, November 2010 to February 2011\*
- Severe Tropical Cyclone Yasi on 2 February 2011\*
- Queensland Monsoonal Flooding Event, 8 February 2011\*
- South West Flooding, April 2011\*

#### 2007-2010 natural disaster events managed by the Authority that have open submissions for damage:

- South East and North Coast Queensland East Coast Low, August 2007
- South West Queensland storms and flooding, 23-30 November 2007
- Central Western Queensland storms and flooding, 22-30 December 2007
- South East Queensland East Coast Low, 27 December 2007 - 7 January 2008
- Queensland Monsoonal flooding, January 2008
- Queensland Monsoonal flooding, February March 2008
- South West Queensland flooding, June 2008
- Queensland storms and associated flooding, 16-22 November 2008
- Queensland Monsoonal flooding and Tropical Cyclone Charlotte and Ellie, January - February 2009
- South East Queensland Low, May 2009
- Queensland Bushfires, September – October 2009
- South West Flooding, 20 – 25 November 2009
- Northern, Central and South West Queensland Flooding, 22 December 2009 to 8 January 2010
- Queensland Monsoonal Flooding and Tropical Cyclones Olga, Neville, Ului and Paul, January to April 2010
- South West Queensland Low and Associated Flooding, September 2010
- 2010 South East Queensland Flooding, 9-12 October 2010.

\* Events covered under the National Partnership Agreement for Natural Disaster Recovery and Reconstruction (NPA) between the State and Commonwealth Government signed 8 February 2013 (NPA Events).

# Pending agreement to extend the NPA to include two additional 2013 events - Longreach Floods, 18 February 2013 and Central and Southern Queensland Low, 25 February - 5 March 2013.

### 3.2 Queensland 2013 Flood Recovery Plan

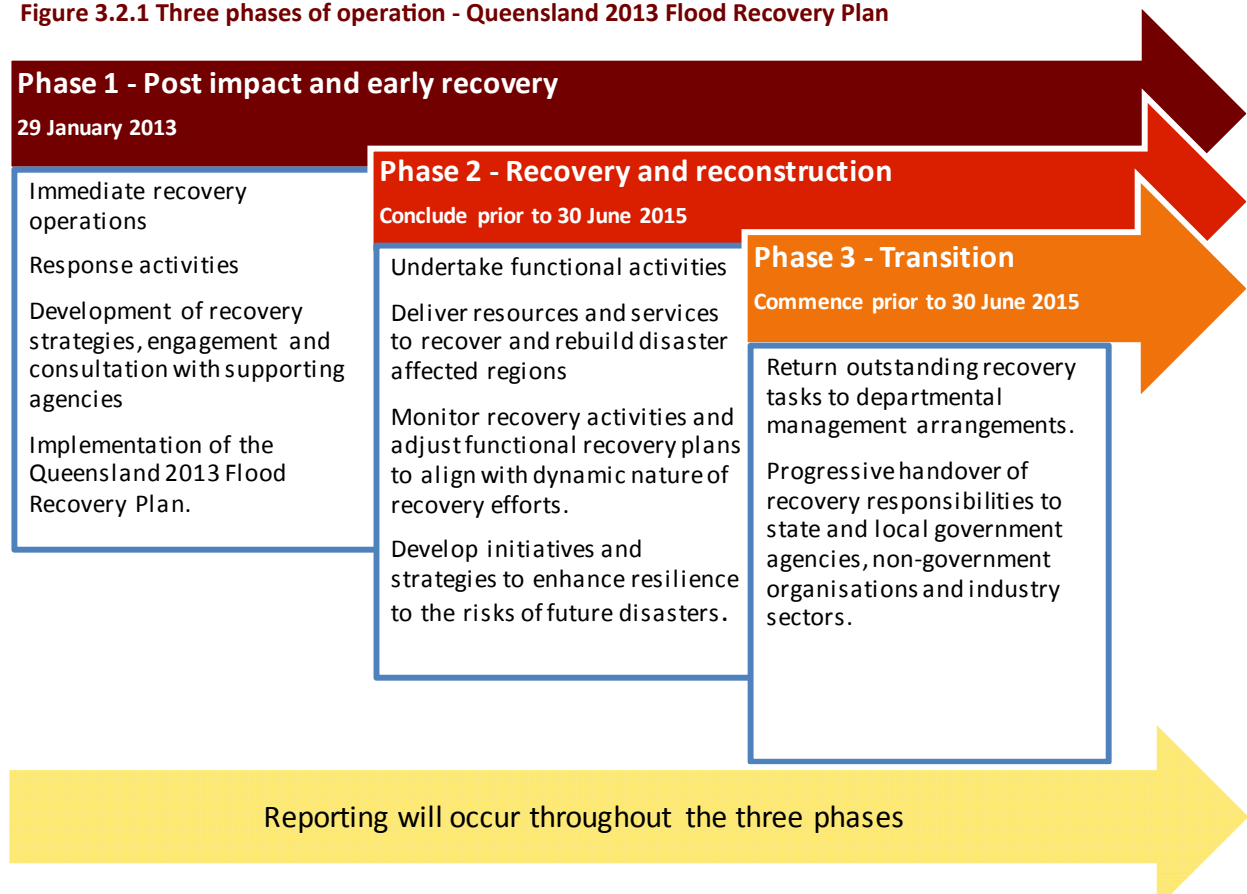
The Recovery Plan has been prepared to set the framework for the recovery from the flood and damage impacts of Tropical Cyclone Oswald. The aim of the plan is to assist affected communities to get back on their feet as quickly as possible while ensuring the effective and efficient employment of limited resources.

The Recovery Plan establishes the context for recovery at the State and local levels of government through setting the governance framework and providing strategic guidance for the coordination and management of recovery, reconstruction and community resilience activities of those areas impacted by Tropical Cyclone Oswald.

The Recovery Plan also sets the context for improved enhancement of resilience and aims to improve the State's ability to withstand, and bounce back from, future natural disaster events.

The plan coordinates the prioritisation and alignment of resources from multiple sources to support the broad range of recovery activities. These activities are being undertaken across three phases as set out in **Figure 3.2.1**.

**Figure 3.2.1 Three phases of operation - Queensland 2013 Flood Recovery Plan**



The Recovery Plan also establishes the structure for recovery activities from Tropical Cyclone Oswald.

Disaster Recovery Coordinators (DRC) have been appointed to coordinate disaster recovery efforts within the regions most impacted by Tropical Cyclone Oswald:

- Bundaberg/North Burnett Region - Kevin Guteridge appointed in October 2013 to replace Deputy Commissioner Brett Pointing APM
- Northern Queensland Region - Don Cousins
- Southern Queensland Region - Don Cousins appointed in October 2013 as an expansion of his role as DRC Northern Queensland Region to replace Bill Mellor.

The composition of the three regions is set out in **Appendix B**.

Functional recovery groups, led by relevant State agencies, have also been established to effectively manage and coordinate recovery initiatives across impacted regions. The roles and responsibilities of each functional recovery group, together with the key performance metrics used to measure the rate of recovery progress, are set out in the Recovery Plan and summarised in **Section 3.3**.

The Authority provides support to the DRCs and reports on progress of the functional recovery groups against their key tasks.

### 3.3 Functional Recovery Groups

The Recovery Plan provides a broad overview of each functional recovery group's roles and responsibilities and sets out the key performance metrics used to measure each group's progress.

An update on the progress of the functional recovery group against their key performance metrics is set out in this section of the report.

#### 3.3.1 Human and social

The Human and Social functional recovery group coordinates the efficient and effective delivery of human and social recovery activities. These activities include the provision of financial assistance and personal support services for individuals, families and communities.

The status of the key metrics being monitored by the Human and Social Recovery Group in relation to the recovery from Tropical Cyclone Oswald has been reported by the group at 30 November 2013 as follows:

Human and social	Metric	Status
1. All Essential Household Contents Grant (EHCG) applications assessed and paid when eligible	Number of grant applications	4,625
	Number of grant applications assessed	4,625
	Number of grant applications assessed as payable and paid	3,541
2. All Structural Assistance Grant (SAG) applications assessed	Number of grant applications	726
	Number of grant applications under assessment or awaiting additional information	20
	Number of grant applications assessed as payable and paid	363
3. All Essential Services Safety and Reconnection Scheme Grant (ESSRSG) applications paid when eligible	Number of grant applications	416
	Number of grant applications under assessment or awaiting additional information	20
	Number of grant applications assessed as payable	254
	Number of grants paid	254
4. Communities are supported by additional 'counselling, other' services	Number of new clients receiving support from NDRRA funded services	48
	Number of hours of service provision by NDRRA funded services	723
5. All displaced households seeking housing assistance are assessed for housing need and referred to appropriate housing services.	Number of displaced households seeking housing assistance	652
	Number of households assisted	652
	Number of applications under assessment	0

#### Personal Hardship Assistance Schemes (PHAS)

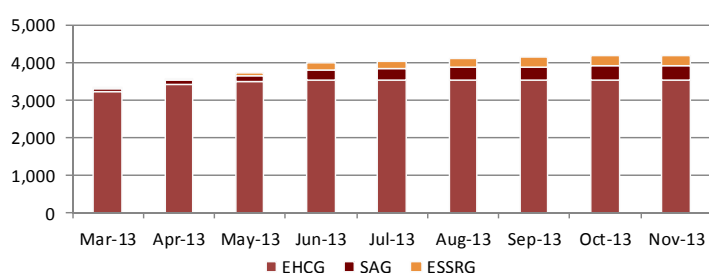
PHAS comprises EHCG, SAG and ESSRG.

At 30 November 2013, 5,767 applications have been received across the three categories of PHAS. Of these, 4,158 have been assessed as payable and paid (refer **Figure 3.3.1.1**) and 40 are under assessment or unable to be processed until supporting documentation is received from the applicant.

All EHCG applications received have now been assessed and paid, where eligible. During November, one EHCG application was paid that was previously ineligible.

During November 2013, 11 SAG and 19 ESSRG applications were paid. The process for finalising SAG and ESSRG grants requires site inspection by community recovery officers or qualified tradespeople prior to payment.

**Figure 3.3.1.1 Number of PHAS applications assessed as payable**



#### Counselling and other services

The Personal Support and Community Development programs, part of the \$5 million Community Recovery Package, commenced in July 2013. North Burnett and Bundaberg Regional Councils have community development officers in place and UnitingCare Community has commenced service delivery.

Since July 2013, 1640 hours of hours of service has been delivered to 333 clients. Of this, 48 new clients were seen and 723 hours of service was provided in November 2013.

#### Displaced households

Housing service centres have now returned to normal business activities following completion of this recovery initiative.

As part of the initiative, 652 displaced households were provided with housing assistance, of which 280 households were assisted into temporary accommodation and the remaining 372 requests were met through other means (alternate housing solution found, returned to own home, insurance company assisting). No requests are outstanding.

(Source: DLGCR at 30 November 2013)

### 3.3.2 Economic

The Economic recovery group coordinates the efficient and effective planning and implementation of economic recovery activities. These activities include advice on the economic impacts of current disaster events and the group also provides information on the needs of local government and industry in responding to the events and getting the economy back to full production.

The status of the key metrics being monitored by the Economic Recovery Group in relation to the recovery from Tropical Cyclone Oswald has been reported by the group at 30 November 2013 as follows:

Economic	Metric	Status
1. Coal exports (Coal Export Tonnage)	Data is sourced from the monthly Queensland Coal Transport Report. This report provides an overview of Queensland coal exports and coal transport system performance.	Queensland coal export for the 4 months to October 2013 totalled 68.6Mt, an increase of 23.4% over the same period in 2012. To 30 June 2013, 2012-13 coal exports totalled 180.2Mt, a 9% increase on the same period in 2011-12. This is a state-wide measure and so can only be used as a broad indicator of overall health of the economy, rather than reflecting the recovery of specific regional industries. However, the current figures can be considered to represent a solid recovery.
2. NDRRA Financial assistance	Categories and a amount of funding approved	Range of Category C and Category D measures activated to alleviate distress due to the impact of Tropical Cyclone Oswald - see <b>Section 2.3</b> . - <b>Cat B loan approvals:</b> \$3.61m to 39 primary producers; and \$0.41m to 6 small business - <b>Cat C grant approvals:</b> \$10.39m to 851 small businesses; \$53.00m to 4032 primary producers; and \$1.91m to 136 non-profit organisations - <b>Cat D loan-grant approvals:</b> \$11.82m to 41 primary producers; \$2.27m to 4 businesses; and \$1.66m to 4 small businesses. See <b>Figure 3.3.2.1</b>

#### Economic Recovery Initiatives

The Local Government Traineeship Strategy, being delivered by the Local Government Association of Queensland, is underway with 25 affected councils allocated 120 traineeship positions. To date, 43 trainees are undertaking the program across 15 councils, an increase of nine trainees during November. A profile of the Local Government Traineeship Strategy is provided on the following page.

The Economic Impact Assessment Report of the floods was formally adopted by both Bundaberg and North Burnett Regional Councils in November 2013.

Mentoring for Recovery workshops are now complete. Workshops were held in Gympie, Bundaberg, Fraser Coast, North Burnett, Mundubbera and Gayndah, addressing issues with insurance, effects on community confidence, lack of visitors, road work delays and freight deliveries. An extra workshop was held in the Southern Downs for three businesses. The session addressed a range of issues including insurance, site relocations, lease arrangements without adequate insurance, identifying issues raised related to three floods in two years, lack of consumer confidence and reduction in passing trade. All attendees received an action plan and will receive ongoing support to help them follow through on the actions.

Stage three of dredging at the Bundaberg Port in the inner reach, departure channel and swing basin commenced on 14 October and is expected to continue until December 2013. The completion of Stage two dredging has allowed larger bulk haulage vessels to recommence direct export of sugar from the Port of Bundaberg.

#### Primary producers, rural and small businesses

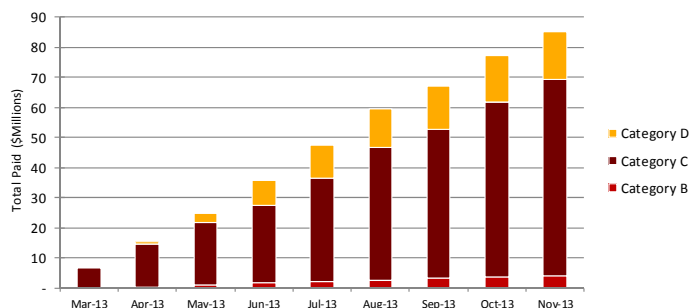
Under NDRRA Category D measures, 18 full-time Industry Recovery Officers (IRO) are operating as the primary point of contact for farmers and small businesses to access government assistance programs and services.

NDRRA Category B, C and D grants and loans worth \$85.1 million have been provided to 4112 primary producers, 865 business and small businesses and 136 non-profit organisations. Of this, \$7.7 million was paid in November to 213 applicants. Application dates for these loans and grants has been extended to 29 November 2013. Refer **Figure 3.3.2.1**.

As at 30 November 2013, year to date spend for on-farm productivity and environmental recovery contracts has been \$5.7 million and \$2.9 million respectively, including:

- advice and assistance on soil conservation to 154 properties
- 2.5km of streambank has been stabilised through engineering works and debris removed from 52.3ha in the Bundaberg and Burnett area including 8 stranded boats and 10 pontoons in the Burnett River
- 2.2km of stream bank was stabilised in the Lockyer Fassifern area through engineering works and 1874kg of debris removed from 11.2ha of riparian areas in the Darling Downs.

Figure 3.3.2.1 NDRRA grants and loans approved –Tropical Cyclone Oswald



(Source: DLGCR at 30 November 2013)

### 3.3.2 Economic (continued)

#### Economic Recovery Group Initiatives example Local Government Traineeship Strategy

The Local Government Traineeships Program (LGT) forms part of the Queensland Government's efforts to recover from and build up resilience to natural disasters. Part of the Queensland Government's Government and Industry Skilling Response package for communities impacted by ex-Tropical Cyclone Oswald, the \$1.92 million program provides 120 new traineeship opportunities across affected local councils.

Trainees will receive employment for 12 months, a nationally recognised qualification, and the opportunity to participate in the redevelopment of their community. Upon completion, participants will have learnt new and transferable skills, gained experience and confidence, and played a role in Queensland's rebuilding effort. It will also encourage local residents to stay in their affected communities and contribute to local businesses.

Specifically, the program provides immediate job opportunities, boosts initial recovery efforts, encourages people to enter into skills-based training, keeps Queenslanders earning and learning through the rebuilding effort and guarantees a pool of skilled workers is available as the economy recovers. The program is targeted toward helping local people in affected communities including young people aged 15-24 years and recently displaced workers.

The program provides a combination of immediate job opportunities for local residents and training across various stages of local recovery. Priority is given to those occupations that support the local council's rebuilding efforts. This can range from trainees undertaking work directly associated with the recovery, for example, parks, community infrastructure clean-up/restoration, or undertake council tasks that enable other council labour to focus on the recovery efforts.

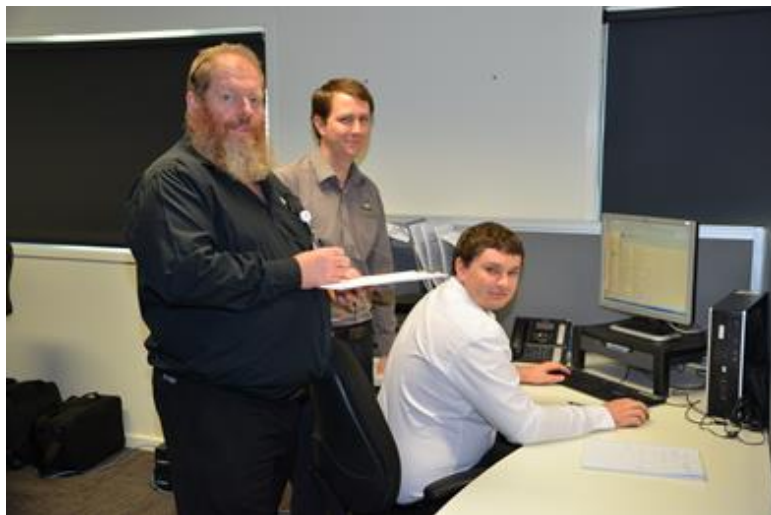
#### LGT Program in action at Banana Shire Council

Banana Shire Council is one of the 25 councils across Queensland currently participating in the LGT Program. The council needed a helping hand in their IT department following three major flood events early in 2013. Council considered that this would be an ideal opportunity to support a young person into a traineeship in a field they are truly motivated to work in.

Patrick Smith was chosen for the position after Council advertised for seven traineeship positions, with an IT traineeship being one of these. At the end of Patrick's traineeship, he will have successfully completed a Certificate III in Information, Digital Media and Technology.

On the job-training as well as formal training (through CQ TAFE) during the traineeship has already commenced with Patrick completing Guardian Training (system used during flood events) and following this setting up multi laptops for a mock disaster management exercise that took place at Banana Shire Emergency Management Centre in Biloela on 5 December 2013.

Patrick commenced his traineeship almost a month ago and already IT staff have been receiving great comments from internal customers about his positive attitude, customer service and overall commitment to his job. Council is very pleased to have Patrick on board and appreciative that funding was made available to ensure this initiative was to take place.



Above: Trainee Patrick Smith (right) with Banana Shire Council ICT officers, Patrick Burke (left) and Jacob Godwell (middle), who are working with and mentoring Patrick as part of his traineeship.



### 3.3.3 Environment

The Environment recovery group coordinates the efficient and effective planning and implementation of environment recovery activities. These activities include advice on the measures required to achieve environmental recovery and to monitor and provide advice on current and potential environmental and cultural heritage issues. It also facilitates information exchange and maximises efficient allocation of resources towards recovery. A key focus is to progress strategies to reduce future impacts on the natural environment, in both urban and rural landscapes, focussing on long term resilience and sustainability.

The status of the key metrics being monitored by the Environment Recovery Group in relation to the recovery from Tropical Cyclone Oswald has been reported by the group at 30 November 2013 as follows:

Environment	Metric	Status
1. National parks	National parks affected by this event to re-open for conservation management	266 (45%) affected 266 (100%) recovered or partially opened
2. Sewage treatment and water supply	Sewage treatment plants (STP) and water treatment plants (WTP) affected by this event return to compliance with their relevant environmental authorities	<b>Recovery complete</b> 122 affected 122 recovered
3. Mining operations	Mining operations affected by this event return to compliance with their relevant environmental authorities.	<b>Recovery complete</b> 35 have conducted mine water releases 35 have returned to compliance*

\* returned to compliance with their relevant environmental authority regarding water releases.

#### 1. National parks

266 (45%) of Queensland's national parks, conservation parks, state forests and resource reserves have been affected by the Tropical Cyclone Oswald event. Of these, 124 were subject to closure.

The current estimation of damage costs to national parks is \$6.275 million.

Of the 266 protected areas affected by the event, 258 (97%) have been recovered and the remaining eight (3%) protected areas have been partially opened. Refer **Figure 3.3.3.1**

One protected area, Glen Rock State Forest, is partly closed due to external local government road closures preventing access into the area. Queensland Parks and Wildlife Service staff are continuing to liaise with the Lockyer Valley Regional Council to determine the completion time for road repairs for road repairs. In the interim, some access was granted in October 2013, with Glen Rock State Forest Rangers constructing a temporary diversion around flood damaged sections of the public road. This has made the campground and day use area accessible by high clearance four wheel drive vehicles in dry weather conditions until the public road is reinstated.

Damage to a number of other protected areas has been repaired, however they are now subject to beach erosion or wet season access restrictions which is an annual occurrence in the affected areas.

#### 2. Sewage treatment and water supply

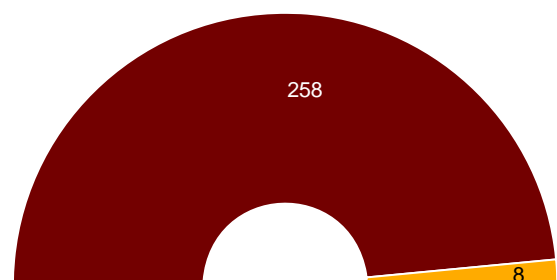
All 122 sewage treatment plants, water treatment plants and sewage pump stations affected by the Tropical Cyclone Oswald event have now been recovered.

#### 3. Mining operations

35 Queensland mines have conducted mine water releases as a result of the Tropical Cyclone Oswald event, comprising 28 of the 45 coal mines in the Fitzroy Basin, one mine in the Burdekin and six mines in southern Queensland.

All mining operations have reverted back to operating under their environmental authorities.

Figure 3.3.3.1 Affected national parks



■ National Parks recovered      ■ National Parks partially open

(Source: DLGCR at 30 November 2013)

### 3.3.4 Building

The Building recovery group coordinates the efficient and effective information exchange, issues identification and resolution between government agencies, building industry and insurance providers to ensure the efficient and prioritised use of available resources.

The status of the key metrics being monitored by the Building Recovery Group in relation to the recovery from Tropical Cyclone Oswald has been reported by the group at 30 November 2013 as follows:

Building	Metric	Status
1. Provision of immediate and longer-term temporary accommodation	Timely procurement of adequate numbers of accommodation units	On track see below
	Number of displaced households seeking housing assistance	On track see below
	Number of households assisted into temporary accommodation	On track see below
2. Provision of assistance and advice to building client agencies to support the repair and restoration of State public buildings	Number of significantly affected State public buildings and extent of damage <sup>1</sup>	99
	Number of significantly affected State public buildings repaired/restored to service <sup>2</sup>	99
	Significantly affected State public buildings with repairs in progress	5
3. Provision of building advice and information to support the community in its recovery	Building Services Authority (BSA) website updated with factsheets relevant to natural disaster recovery	On track see below
	Regular status updates by Industry Associations to Building Recovery Group (BRG) Sub Committee	Complete. No further activity required
4. Provision of advice to the recovery supply chain including contractors, subcontractors and material suppliers	Regular status updates by Industry Associations to BRG Sub Committee	Complete. No further activity required
5. Participation in future planning forums and discussion panels	Regular status updates by Industry Associations to BRG Sub Committee	Complete. No further activity required

<sup>1</sup> Significantly affected is defined as water 100mm over the floor level or serious structural damage and loss to related assets.

<sup>2</sup> Data provided refers to significantly affected public buildings which include schools and early childhood centres; ambulance, police and fire stations; hospitals; government employee accommodation and social housing.

#### Provision of immediate and longer-term temporary accommodation

As set out in Section 3.3.1, 652 displaced households were provided with housing assistance. Housing service centres have now returned to normal business activities following completion of this recovery initiative.

Immediate accommodation provided consisted of two fully serviced camps (340 beds) established in January 2013. Both camps were closed by 13 March 2013.

Longer term temporary accommodation (approximately 6 to 12 months) was established in the first weeks of the flood event in Bundaberg (77 beds), Mundubbera (58 beds) and Gayndah (22 beds).

All residents temporarily housed at Bundaberg have now been rehoused and modular units removed.

All four remaining households in temporary housing in North Burnett (Mundubbera and Gayndah) have an exit strategy in place, which may include returning to a private home, returning to private rentals, or working with RentConnect to find rental accommodation.

#### Provision of assistance and advice to building client agencies

There were 99 State public buildings significantly affected by Tropical Cyclone Oswald and all were restored to service (are operational or operating from temporary accommodation) by March 2013.

Five remaining public buildings, all Queensland Health, continue to have repairs in progress or are awaiting repair.

#### Provision of building and other advice to the community and recovery supply chain

The BRG Sub-Committee has been stood down following substantial completion of its key tasks. Activities of the BSA have largely returned to business as usual with requests for information, guidance or support now channelled to relevant staff members within BSA for action.

The Community Rebuild Project, which assists vulnerable residents in the Bundaberg/North Burnett region to repair their flood damaged homes to a safe and habitable state, has finalised the rebuild of 33 clients in Bundaberg and the North Burnett to date. Approximately 80 vulnerable households were identified at the commencement of the program in August 2013 which has now increased to around 95.

### 3.3.5 Roads and transport

The Roads and Transport recovery group coordinates the efficient and effective delivery of road and transport recovery activities. The Department of Transport and Main Roads (DTMR) is responsible for delivering the state-controlled roads and transport response, recovery and reconstruction and is engaging directly with industry and the community on the reconstruction phases following the natural disaster.

The status of the key metrics being monitored by the Roads and Transport Recovery Group in relation to the recovery from the events of early 2013 has been reported by the group at 31 October 2013 as follows:

Roads and Transport	Metric	Status
1. Damaged state-controlled roads to be reconstructed (kms)	Total length of damaged roads (kms)	630 km
	Total length of damaged roads reconstructed (kms)	96 km
	Total length of damaged roads under reconstruction (kms)	51 km
2. Kms of rail line Impacted/damaged rail line	Total length of impacted/damaged lines (kms & %)	3,100 kms (43%)
	Total length of impacted/damaged rail line recovered (kms)	Recovery complete 3,100 kms

#### 1. Damaged State controlled roads

The status of DTMR's recovery and reconstruction program (inclusive of 2010 to 2013 event works) is discussed in further detail in **Section 5.2 Progress of State-controlled roads and highways**.

DTMR has completed its road recovery phase, clearing, repairing and reopening 5,544km of state controlled roads affected by the three natural disaster events of early 2013.

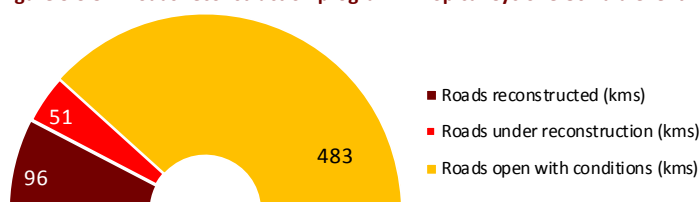
DTMR plans to reconstruct 630km of roads damaged by Tropical Cyclone Oswald. The program has increased by 10km since the last report following revision of DTMR's Transport Network Reconstruction Program (TNRP) during October.

As at 31 October 2013, reconstruction of 96 km of roads has been completed and an additional 51km was under construction - refer **Figure 3.3.5.1**.

During the month, 61km of roads were completed and the net distance of roads under reconstruction increased by 14km. In addition to completing additional road length, DTMR commenced work on another location requiring earthworks and batter reconstruction during the month.

DTMR also progressed the procurement of works arising from the 2013 events. \$88 million of works are in delivery, \$132 million are nearing contract award and \$285 million of contracts are out to tender to 31 October 2013.

Figure 3.3.5.1 Roads reconstruction program—Tropical Cyclone Oswald event



#### Key reconstruction works complete

- **Tallon Bridge** on the Isis Highway in Bundaberg was fully reconstructed within three weeks of the flooding event and access restored for all traffic.
- **Neerkol Creek Bridge** 30km west of Rockhampton on the Capricorn Highway was reopened within days of the event.

#### Key reconstruction works underway

- **Burnett Highway, Mt Morgan Range** - reconstruction works following 35 cut/fill slips started in May 2013 and NDRRA and complementary works are scheduled for completion in April 2014, weather permitting.
- **Mt Sylvia Road, Lockyer Valley** - reconstruction works commenced in July 2013 and are scheduled for completion by July 2014, weather permitting. Construction of two permanent floodways is complete and traffic has been moved onto sidetracks while additional permanent floodways are delivered.
- **Warrego Highway, Jondaryan to Dalby** - pavement testing is complete and detailed designs are out to tender following pavement failures as a result of the 2013 events. Construction is planned to be complete by December 2014, weather permitting.
- **Burnett Highway, Ban Ban Springs to Monto** - interim recovery works have returned the full road to normal operating conditions. Designs are completed and works are out to tender ahead of reconstruction work scheduled in early 2014.
- **Bruce Highway, Maryborough to Gin Gin** - recovery works have returned the full road to normal operating conditions. Pavement reconstruction works are near completion and early works for access to the bridge are underway prior to reconstruction works on the embankment slip under the Tim Fischer bridge commencing in early 2014.

(Source: DLGCR at 30 November 2013)

**Section four:**

# **Program Status**



## 4.0 Program Status

### 4.1 Recent developments

Since the last report, there have been no additional disaster event activations declared for NDRRA financial assistance.

With a deadline of 30 June 2013 for delivery agents to incur NDRRA-eligible expenditure on works arising from the 2010 disaster period, the Authority was active in the period leading up to this date assisting delivery agents with residual 2010 works complete their programs. With this period now passed, delivery agents are focused on delivery of the remaining program of works.

### 4.2 Combined program status

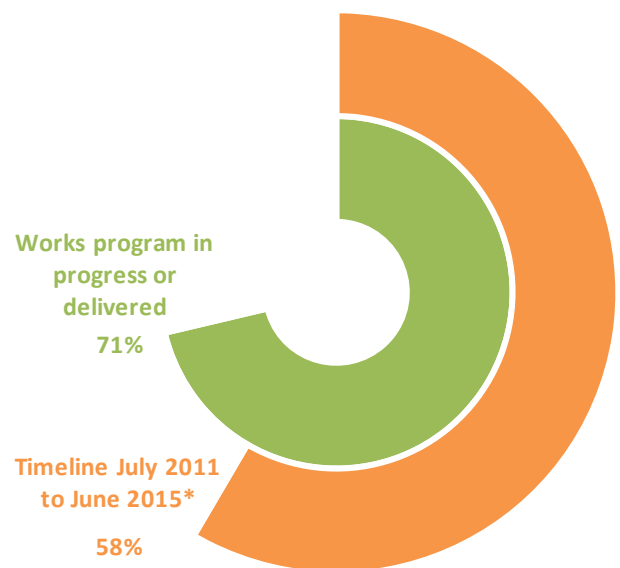
Following completion of the Authority's regular quarterly review process at September 2013, the program of works for all events actively managed by the Authority (2009 to 2013) is estimated to be \$13.96 billion.

The estimated cost of the damage from the 2013 events is more than \$2.4 billion and the cost of the 2011 and 2012 events are estimated to be \$6.9 billion and \$1.9 billion respectively. Ahead of reporting of final expenditure and close out of the relevant programs, the final cost of works for the 2009 and 2010 events managed by the Authority is estimated to be \$2.7 billion.

Since the last report, the combined program of works for all events managed by the Authority has progressed as follows:

- a cumulative value of \$15.7 billion in submissions have been received by the Authority to 1 December 2013, representing an increase of \$147 million since last month
- a cumulative total of \$13.5 billion has been processed by the Authority to 1 December 2013 representing an increase of \$460 million since last month
- a cumulative value of \$10.0 billion of the \$13.96 billion works program has been reported to the Authority as being in progress or delivered by delivery agents as at 31 October 2013
- funding acquitted for individuals, small business, primary producers and non-profit organisations amounts to \$522.8 million.

**Figure 4.2.1 Combined program progress**



### 4.3 Looking forward

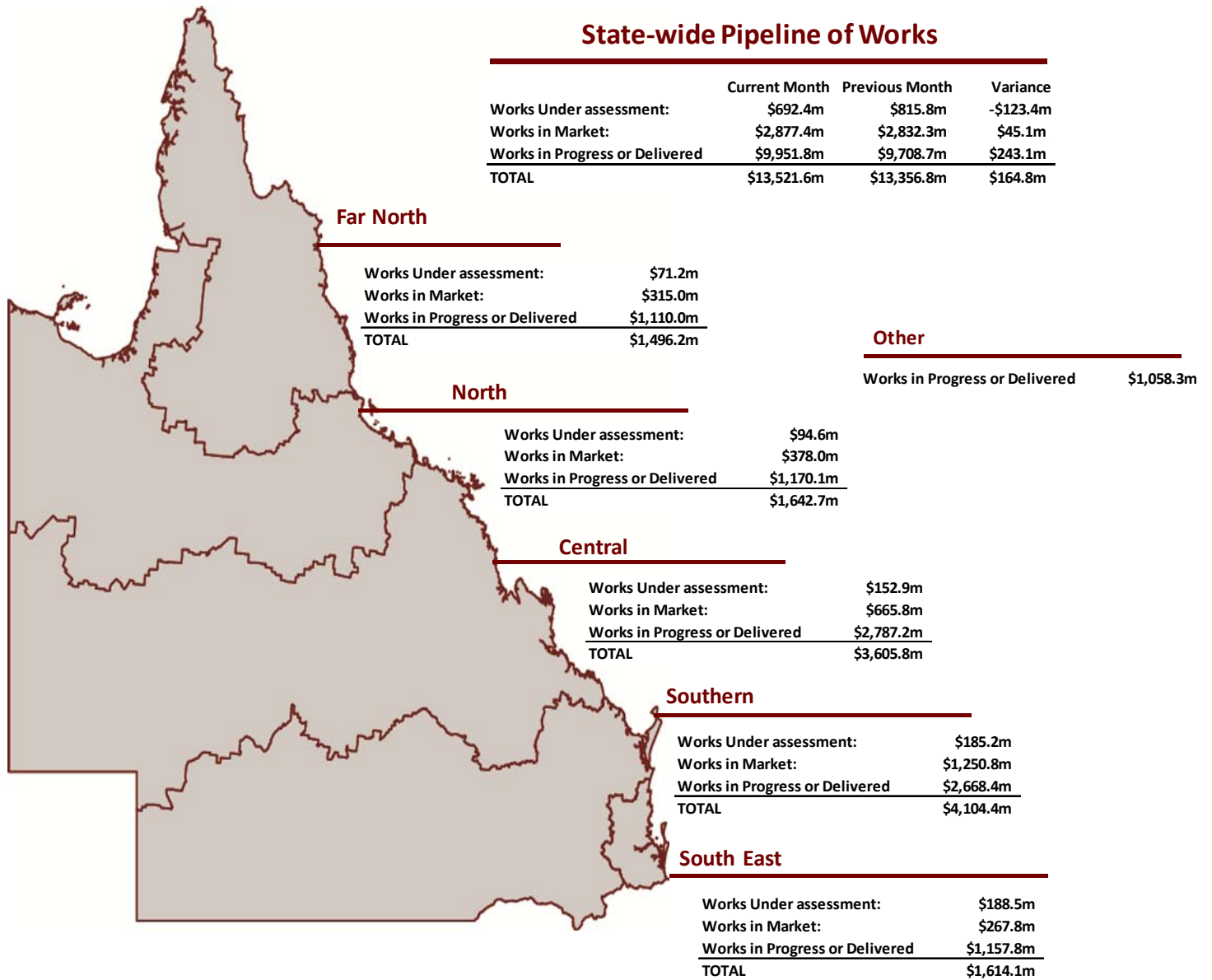
The Authority's priorities are focused on assisting councils and State agencies to progress their remaining program of works from the 2011 and 2012 disaster periods, with the bulk of the reconstruction work occurring prior to June 2014. Concurrently, the Authority is focused on accelerating the submission and application approval process for the recent 2013 events with a view to fast-tracking the 2013 program of works into project delivery phase as soon as practicable.

As the period to deliver works for the 2010 disaster period concluded on 30 June 2013, the Authority is assisting delivery agents with the reporting of final expenditure and close out of the completed program of works for 2010 events.

\* Proportion of allowable time passed for delivery of total program since 1 July 2011 (following Authority's establishment) to data reporting date

## 4.4 State-wide pipeline of works

The Pipeline of works for all events actively managed by the Authority (2009 to 2013) has an estimated program value of \$13.96 billion, the status of which is set out below.



### Note:

1. Works Under Assessment and Works in Market represents data as at 31 October 2013 (DTMR) and 1 December 2013 (LGAs and Other). Works in Progress or Delivered represents spend by delivery agents to 31 October 2013 as reported to the Authority at 1 December 2013. Additional works have been conducted but are yet to be reported to the Authority
2. Other encompasses SDAs other than DTMR as well as the 2011 and 2013 Other Assistance.

### Pipeline of Works Definitions

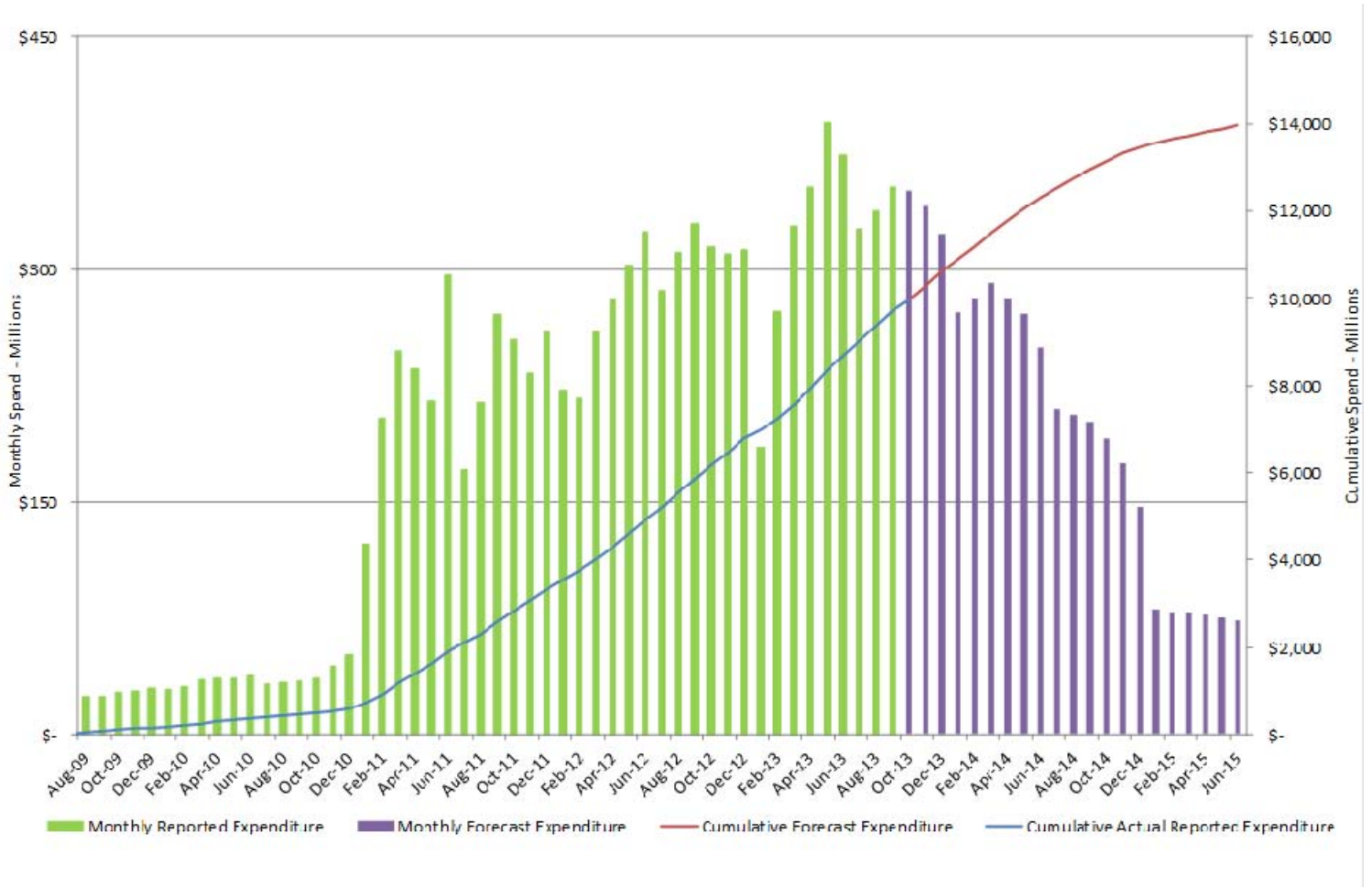
Stage	Description
Works under Assessment	Applications for packages which are currently under assessment by the Authority or are awaiting additional information from the applicant.
Works In Market	Estimate of spend remaining on works in progress and packages which have been approved by the Authority and are in the tender or contract process.
Works in Progress or Delivered	Expenditure as reported to the Authority on packages in progress or delivered.

Source: DTMR at 31 October 2013; and the Authority at 1 December 2013

## 4.5 Program of works expenditure

The figures below represents the monthly reported expenditure and estimated costs on a combined basis for all events managed by the Authority.

**Figure 4.5.1 Combined Program of Works—monthly expenditure**



Source: the Authority - cumulative expenditure by delivery agents to 31 October 2013 as reported to the Authority at 1 December 2013; and program estimates per 30 September 2013 NDRRA Review

## 4.6 Betterment fund status

The \$80 million Betterment fund is a Category D relief measure available to LGAs that have been declared for NDRRA assistance for the flood, storm and cyclone disaster events that occurred in Queensland in early 2013 for the restoration or replacement of essential public assets to a more disaster resilient standard than their pre-disaster standard.

### Status

The Betterment Fund was announced in February 2013 following Tropical Cyclone Oswald which caused damage to many of the assets which had been repeatedly damaged and restored from earlier disaster events. Correspondence was received from the Commonwealth in August 2013 agreeing to an extension of the Betterment fund to also cover LGAs declared for the two additional disaster events that occurred after Oswald through to June 2013 - Longreach Flood (18 February 2013) and Central and Southern Queensland Low (25 February to 5 March 2013).

Expressions of Interest (EOI) were received by the Authority from 48 councils with approximately \$1 billion worth of Betterment projects to improve the resilience of infrastructure to natural disasters. Under the Betterment Framework, in addition to the normal NDRRA submission assessment process, the Authority considered the financial and non-financial benefits of the betterment proposal such as possible prior damage, loss of availability and its impact on economic or social factors of the community.

As at 30 November 2013, 179 projects with a Betterment component have been approved. These projects have an estimated total cost of approximately \$120 million, which includes \$60 million in Betterment funding and Council contributions of \$10 million.

Of these, 39 projects with a Betterment Fund component of \$22 million were approved in November 2013 including:

- Linkes Road and McCanns Road, Banana Shire Council
- Monduran Dam Access, Wonbah Road and Gaeta Road, Bundaberg Regional Council
- Mitchell River Crossing, Carpentaria Shire Council
- Ellerbeck Road, Fishers Creek Road and Schumann Road, Cassowary Coast Regional Council
- Richmond Road, Croydon Shire Council
- Access road to Reservoir and Small Bay Road, Palm Island Aboriginal Shire Council
- Kengoon Road and Tamrookum Church Road, Scenic Rim Regional Council
- nine betterment projects for Somerset Regional Council, including Kropps Bridge, Mt Kilcoy Road, Wunulla Lane Bridge, Scrub Creek Road Bridge, Toogoolawah Pedestrian Bridge and Gerald Ryan Bridge
- Kingaroy Trunk Sewer (River Rd), South Burnett Regional Council
- North Branch Road, Southern Downs Regional Council
- Ootan Road, Tablelands Regional Council
- 13 betterment projects for Toowoomba Regional Council, including Kingsthorpe Haden Road, Nukku Road, Western Creek-Bulli Creek Rd and Clifton Pittsworth Road.

A profile of Toowoomba Regional Council's Kingsthorpe Haden Road Bridge Betterment project is provided over the page.

The focus on Betterment is progressively shifting towards project delivery phase. To date, works have commenced on a number of approved Betterment projects, including the Gayndah Water Intake Station and One Mile Bridge, Ipswich (the status of which is provided in Section 4.7).



Above: damage to Gaeta Road (top) and Wonbah Road (above), Bundaberg Regional Council



Above: damage to the Mitchell River Crossing on Strathleven Road at Gamboola, a Tablelands Regional Council betterment project



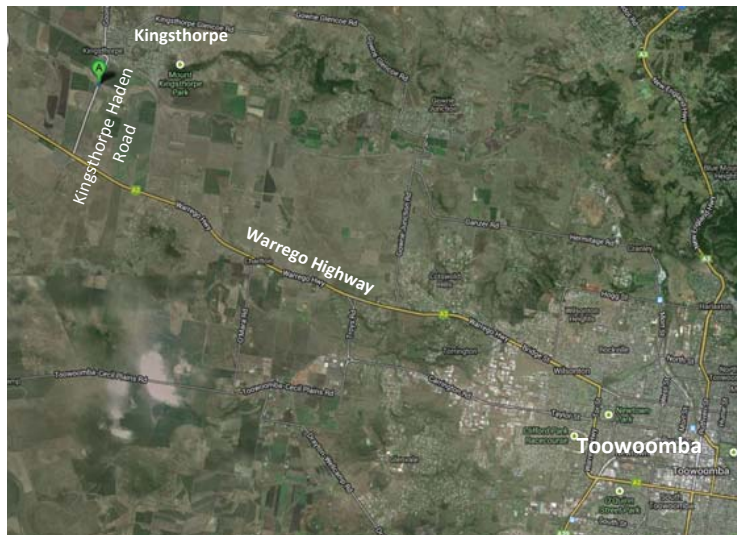
## 4.6 Betterment fund status (continued)

### Feature betterment project: Toowoomba Regional Council - Kingthorpe Haden Road Bridge

Kingthorpe Haden Road is the main route between the Warrego Highway and Kingthorpe, a large regional town with a population of 15,000, midway between Toowoomba and Oakey.

Kingthorpe Haden Road supports a thriving community of primary producers and is an important freight link for the region and a school bus route. The road is a main route from Toowoomba to Haden, Goombungee and the rural/primary producer communities and road network to the north.

The bridge across Gowrie Creek was impacted by flooding in 2011 and again in 2013. In the 2013 floods, high velocity water overtopping the road caused damage to the causeway at the Betterment site. The discharge aprons were undermined and fractured in multiple locations and the embankments on the approaches were heavily scoured while the guardrails sustained significant damage. Inundation, damage and works to make the road trafficable caused Kingthorpe Haden road to be closed for a number of days, during which time the community was forced to use an alternative road that is similarly exposed to flooding risk, which added 15km to the total travel distance.



Left: location of Kingthorpe Haden Road, linking Warrego Highway to Kingthorpe

Under the Betterment project, Council plans to replace the six cell culvert bridge with a more resilient concrete two span bridge, raise the approach road levels to increase flow capacity, and install additional culverts on the northern approach to the bridge to mitigate effects to upstream water levels.

The Betterment project is expected to contribute to increased flood immunity and resilience of the entire Kingthorpe Haden Road. The project will improve utility and access of the road, mitigating safety risks and allowing the community to access work, school, supplies and medical/emergency services during and after major rainfall and flooding. It is also expected to allow primary producers to send their produce to markets and reduce future restoration costs associated with flood damage.

The total project is estimated to cost \$3.7 million with almost \$2.0 million funded through the Betterment Fund. Council is contributing \$1.3 million to the project.



Debris build-up impacting culvert flow-through.



Undermined and fractured discharge aprons.



Debris build-up and scouring of the approaches.

## 4.7 Iconic projects in reconstructing Queensland\*

Project	Value (\$m)	Description	Status
<b>BCC Riverwalk (Cat D)</b>	\$72.0	<p>The Brisbane Riverwalk was a unique pedestrian and bicycle path which linked the city's CBD with the inner suburb of New Farm. It also provided a direct link with tertiary education, entertainment, recreation, commercial, community and residential precincts in the inner city.</p> <p>The floating infrastructure was destroyed by the January 2011 floods and the whole structure was subsequently removed.</p> <p>Following detailed public consultation, the Brisbane City Council decided to replace the previously floating walkway with a fixed, jetty-like 850 metre long structure between New Farm and the CBD. The Riverwalk deck will be approximately 3.4 metres above the average high tide level, high enough to minimise corrosion caused by salt water.</p> <p>The walkway's 37 piles will be anchored into the riverbed, providing the structure with a strong, more flood-resilient foundation. It will feature 24 hour lighting, separate pedestrian and cyclist paths and shaded rest areas. The design also included a rotating opening span to allow for the passage of vessels to and from moorings.</p> <p>Funding for the project is being provided through special (Category D) funding under NDRRA arrangements.</p>	<p>The tender to rebuild the Riverwalk was awarded to the John Holland Construction Group in April 2013.</p> <p>Piling works commenced in late July 2013 with a 55m-long barge mobilised in the Brisbane River carrying a 280-tonne crane and a piling rig.</p> <p>Since works commenced, nine piles have been poured and five concrete girders have been cast on-site at the works compound beneath the Story Bridge. Installation of balustrades on the pre-cast girders and construction of a temporary dock to move completed girders onto barges has started. Construction has also commenced of the north abutment at the Howard Smith Wharf end and geotechnical investigations are underway at the Merthyr Road end. Other works underway include water quality testing and establishment of survey controls.</p> <p>Completion of the Riverwalk is expected in mid-2014, weather permitting.</p>



Above: View from the end of the Howard Smith Wharves site (top); balustrade being installed on the pre-cast girders stored on the site (bottom left); and work underway on the northern abutment at the Howard Smith Wharves end (bottom right)

(Courtesy: Brisbane City Council)

\* Iconic projects represent projects that may be complex or of great significance to the local community.

## 4.7 Iconic projects in reconstructing Queensland (continued)

Project	Value (\$m)	Description	Status
<b>Gayndah Water Supply Intake Station</b>  <b>(Cat B and Cat D - Betterment)</b>	\$3.9	<p>The Gayndah Water Supply Intake Station on the Burnett River provides the town's only water supply and supports a population of approximately 2000, as well as local primary industries.</p> <p>The pumping station was rebuilt after being severely damaged in 2011; only to have the new jetty, raw water intakes, pumps and water discharge main destroyed by the floods of early 2013.</p> <p>The pumping station is being rebuilt and improved through a combination of Category B NDRRA funding (for the cost of reconstructing the damaged station), Category D Betterment funding (for the incremental cost of betterment works) and council contribution. The betterment package includes a new submersible-style pumping station, a water intake upstream of the weir and a new raw water main to the water treatment plant.</p> <p>Making this piece of infrastructure more flood resilient will help secure Gayndah's water supply and improve the efficiency and reliability of this important piece of community infrastructure in the case of extreme weather.</p>	<p>Works commenced on the first of two stages of betterment works for the Gayndah Water Supply Intake Station in mid-November 2013. The first stage, being delivered by Doval Constructions Pty Ltd, involves installation of a new main pipeline from the proposed water intake structure at Claude Wharton Weir. Completion of Stage 1 is expected in December 2013.</p> <p>Stage two works to construct the pump station at the Claude Wharton Weir are expected to go to tender in December 2013 with works to commence in January 2014 and be complete in June 2014. Design of the pump station is currently being finalised.</p>
<div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between;"> <div style="width: 45%;">  </div> <div style="width: 45%;"> <p><i>Left: Damage to Gayndah Water Supply Intake Station resulting from the 2013 flood event.</i></p> </div> </div>			
<div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between;"> <div style="width: 45%;">  </div> <div style="width: 45%;"> <p><i>Right: Works underway installing new pipeline, November 2013</i></p> </div> </div>			
<b>One Mile Bridge, Ipswich</b>  <b>(Cat B and Cat D - Betterment)</b>	\$3.9	<p>One Mile Bridge across the Bremer River is a four span concrete bridge that provides critical community and social access for Ipswich City residents. The bridge has traffic volumes in excess of 20,000 vehicles per day and provides secondary access to the RAAF base at Amberley. It is the key transport link for the central to western areas of the city and when closed, has major flow-on impacts on local roads and the Warrego Highway.</p> <p>The bridge was damaged by flood events in 2009, 2011 and again in 2013. The January 2013 event caused embankment scouring, undermining of the bridge's wing-walls, pavement scouring and damage to kerbs, barriers, and drainage systems.</p> <p>Given its importance and susceptibility to damage, the bridge has been approved for Category D Betterment funding. The betterment package includes the construction of new cross drainage culverts, replacing the existing bitumen with a concrete pavement, embankment protection, extension of rock pitching for the bridge's southern abutment and concrete protection for verges. The cost of construction is funded through a combination of Category B NDRRA funding, Betterment funding and Council contribution.</p>	<p>Abergeldie Contractors Pty Ltd were awarded the contract to undertake the works and started construction in mid-October 2013. Works are expected to be completed in February 2014.</p>
<div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between;"> <div style="width: 45%;">  </div> <div style="width: 45%;">  </div> </div> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Right flood damage to One Mile Bridge, Ipswich (top); and reconstruction works underway - November 2013 (bottom)</i></p>			

#### 4.7 Iconic projects in reconstructing Queensland (continued)

Project	Value (\$m)	Description	Status
<b>Palm Island seawall</b>	\$12.3	<p>The Palm Island foreshore provides the focal point for the island's community. It is the location of culturally significant landmarks and memorials as well as the island's community facilities.</p> <p>The seawall in Challenger Bay protects the foreshore and Palm Island coastline through providing wave dissipation and erosion mitigation. Damage to the seawall occurred as a result of Cyclone Yasi in February 2011. The reconstruction project involves reconstruction of 1.3km of seawall.</p>	<p>Following receipt of final development approvals in October 2013, the project commenced in November with the transfer of equipment to site from Townsville and Cairns via barge and construction of the initial 30 metres of seawall completed.</p> <p>The works are being delivered by Koppin Developments, a Cairns-based construction company.</p> <p>Completion is expected in early 2014.</p>
<b>Riverside Park, Karalee</b>	\$2.3	<p>Located on Settler Way, Karalee, Riverside Park lies along the Brisbane River and is a popular picnic and recreational area near the junction of the Brisbane and Bremer rivers and close to Ipswich CBD. The Park has a boat ramp facility and a complex of structures and open amenity areas including car parks, seating and shelter structures and playground.</p> <p>The flood event in early January 2011 inundated the park up to nearly 20 metres of water and destroyed almost the entire lower level of the park, including the car park area, infrastructure, shelters, playground and ancillary park equipment. The built assets and developed vegetation on the lower level of the park were effectively swept away by the flood. The park was further damaged as a result of Tropical Cyclone Oswald in January 2013.</p>	<p>Work has begun to restore Riverside Park at Karalee following a design phase, public consultation and awarding of the tender.</p> <p>The tender was awarded to Digit Landscapes in September 2013 and preliminary works commenced in October. Works undertaken to date include excavation for the boat ramp.</p> <p>Works are expected to be completed in January 2014, weather permitting.</p>



Construction works underway at Riverside Park, Karalee - November 2013

## 4.7 Iconic projects in reconstructing Queensland (continued)

Project	Value (\$m)	Description	Status
<b>Grigor Bridge, Conondale</b>	\$4.5	<p>The Grigor Bridge is a major crossing of the Mary River on the Maleny-Kenilworth Road near Conondale, in the Sunshine Coast hinterland. The original single-lane timber Grigor Bridge was built in 1929 and was extensively damaged during flooding in October 2010 and again in January 2011.</p> <p>The total project comprises \$4.5 million of NDRRA funding representing the estimated cost of replacing the original structure, and more than \$5 million additional complementary funding for an additional land and raising the bridge plus associated costs of embankments and culverts. The complementary works are intended to improve flood immunity, safety and traffic capacity.</p> <p>Construction activity in the river is scheduled to accommodate the breeding cycles of a number of iconic species found in the Mary River including the Mary River Turtle and Mary River Cod.</p>	<p>Construction of the new bridge started in March 2013.</p> <p>During November 2013 all of the new bridge deck was poured with the exception of the kerbs, which will be done before Christmas.</p> <p>Earthworks on the abutments are continuing and the first pavement layer should be in place before Christmas, weather permitting.</p> <p>The project is on track for completion by June 2014.</p>



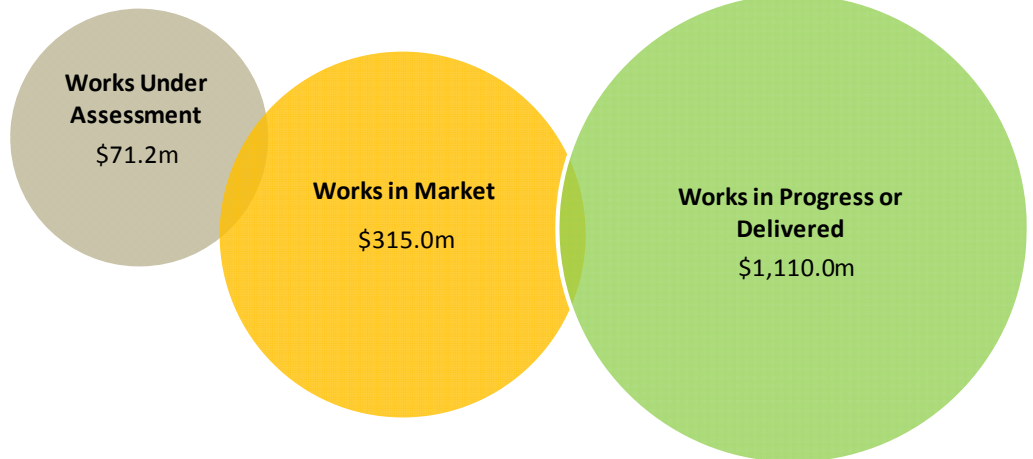
Above: Grigor Bridge new concrete deck, November 2013

## **Section five: Progress Reports**



## 5.1 Progress of LGAs and DTMR by region (See Appendix A LGA by region map)

### 5.1.1 Far North Queensland



*Program status summary - Far North Queensland*

#### Case example: Cook Shire Council Battlecamp Road, Laura

Battle Camp Road is located northwest of the outskirts of Laura township and approximately 145 kilometres west of Cooktown. The road runs parallel to the Laura River and provides an access route from Cooktown to Laura passing through and providing access to Lakefield National Park and the historic Old Laura Homestead, one of the oldest cattle properties on Cape York. Laura is also known for its ancient aboriginal rock art caves.

The road was damaged in March 2012 as a result of monsoonal flooding which impacted Northern and Far North Queensland. Floodwater over the road washed away the surface and resulted in significant scouring of the road.

Restoration works required included road reprofiling, reinstatement of drains and gravel resheeting.

The total cost of NDRRA works is estimated to be approximately \$910,000. Additional complimentary funding was received from the State through the Transport Infrastructure Development Scheme (TIDS) and the Federal Government's Road to Recovery (R2R) fund for sealing of the approaches to causeways in some sections.

Works to Battlecamp Road commenced May 2013 with completion of works expected in December 2013.

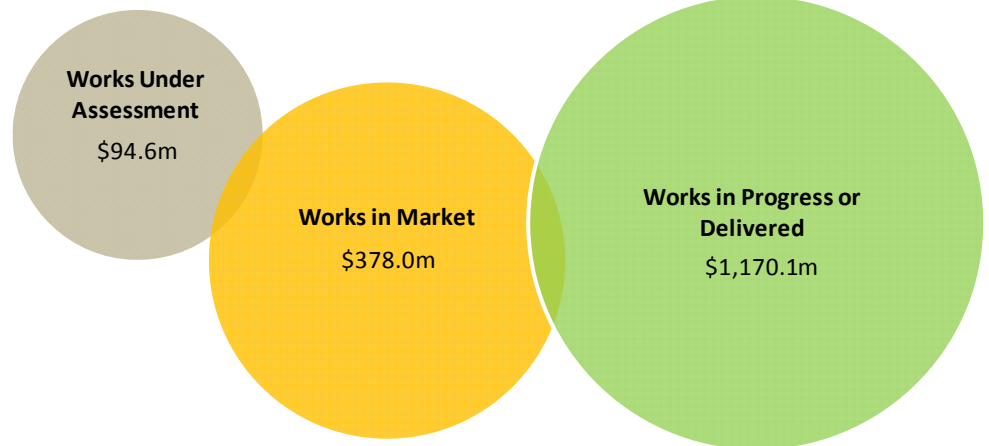


*Above: damage to Battlecamp Road, Laura*

*Left: following completion of works to Battlecamp Road*

## 5.1 Progress of LGAs and DTMR by region (See Appendix A LGA by region map)

### 5.1.2 North Queensland



Program status summary - North Queensland

### Case example: Townsville Shire Council Nearing completion of five year program of reconstruction works

Townsville, a major regional city with over 190,000 residents, a major port, rail hub and over 1,600km of road network, suffered from severe wet weather for five wet seasons in a row – 2008, 2009, 2010, 2011 and 2012. Most notably in 2011, Townsville was hit with 145km gale force winds and torrential rain when Tropical Cyclone Yasi ripped through northern Queensland. Almost 12 months later, Townsville was hit again by a tornado devastating a corridor of five suburbs with house destroying winds and rain.

The five years of heavy wet seasons had a heavy toll on the city's infrastructure with Council's total program of NDRRA works to repair roads, bridges, parks and other infrastructure estimated at more than \$200 million. In this time, major reconstruction works completed include:

- Barton Street – a local road which was washed away due to torrential rains in 2012
- Horseshoe Bay boat ramp – a boat ramp on Magnetic Island providing water access for the community and essential services which was destroyed by extreme king tides, storm surge and heavy rains associated with Tropical Cyclone Yasi
- Dalrymple Road – a major arterial road requiring repairs to sections to restore its integrity and which represents one of the final NDRRA projects for Council. Completion of this project is expected in December 2013.

By contracting a Delivery Agent for the last three events (2010, 2011, 2012), Council has been able to manage the repair works efficiently and within required timeframes. Engineering Services Executive Manager, Brenden Quabba, won the Procurement Professional of the Year (2011), an award from Local Buy\* for this innovative approach to managing and delivering the works. Mr Quabba stated 'the success in working with the QRA came from treating the QRA as a partner in the process rather than an approval authority.'

*Top right: damage to (top), and during reconstruction works (below) - Barton Street*

*Below right: damage to (top), and following completion of works (below) - Horseshoe Bay boat ramp*

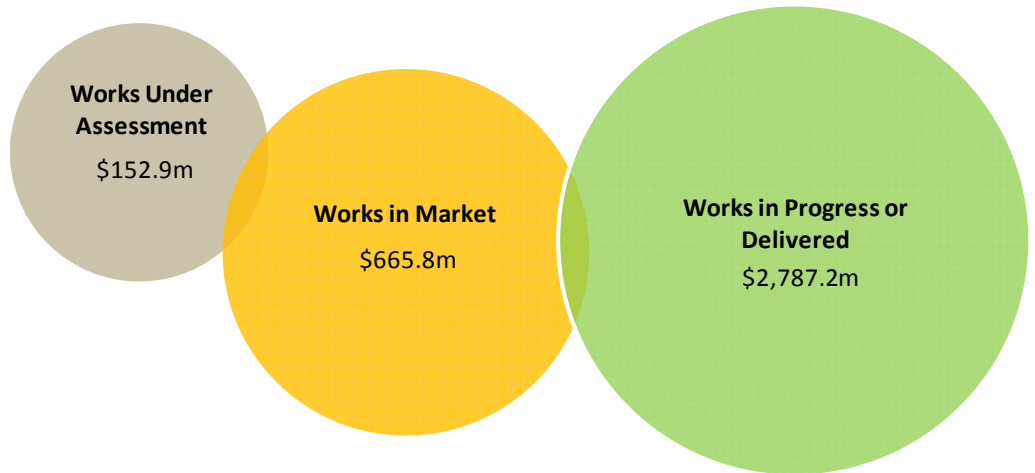
\* Local Buy is the Local Government Association of Queensland procurement services company.





## 5.1 Progress of LGAs and DTMR by region (See Appendix A LGA by region map)

### 5.1.3 Central Queensland



*Program status summary - Central Queensland*

### Case example: Barcaldine Shire Council Portwine Road

The Barcaldine region is located in central west Queensland approximately 440km west of Rockhampton. The region is one of the largest cattle producing regions in Central Western Queensland and also has a productive sheep, wool and macropod harvesting industry with the prospect of mining.

The Portwine Road is a rural arterial/collector road located in the eastern quadrant of the shire. The road connects the Capricorn Highway between the townships of Alpha and Emerald to the local community around Star Downs Road and also provides access to Aberleigh Road.

The road was damaged by the flood events of 2011 which impacted access for the local community and required various repairs including pavement repairs, replacement of gravel, grading and repairs to a concrete floodway.

The scope of reconstruction works included removal of silt at the road and floodway, desilting of the culvert and removal of debris, repair of protection with rock and cement grout, repair of the concrete structure, replacement of gravel, grading, surface corrections and pavement repairs.

The works cost \$1.4 million and were completed by June 2013. Additional complementary works were funded by Barcaldine Regional Council to seal an approximately 5km section that overlaps some flood damage areas.



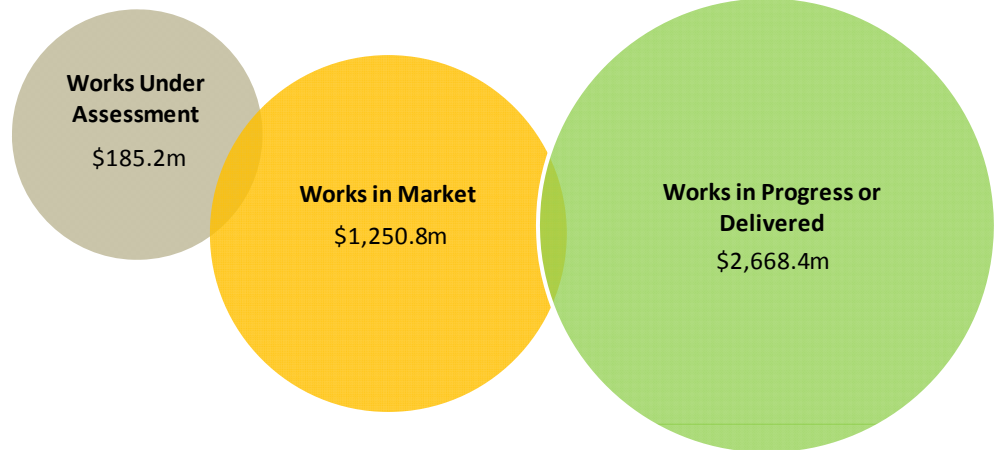
*Above: Following completion of works to sections of Portwine Road*



*Left: examples of damage to sections of Portwine Road*

## 5.1 Progress of LGAs and DTMR by region (See Appendix A LGA by region map)

### 5.1.4 Southern Queensland



*Program status summary - Southern Queensland*

#### Case example: Bundaberg Shire Council Mariners Way

Bundaberg was one of the regions most heavily impacted by the Australia Day 2013 floods associated with Tropical Cyclone Oswald. After fast running water eroded the embankment on Mariners Way in North Bundaberg, Bundaberg Regional Council secured NDRRA funding to reconstruct the road which was destroyed.

Working closely with the Authority, Council was able to get these essential works for the community underway and completed in a prompt manner through fast-tracking the submission and approval phase of the project. Through this collaborative process, Council was able to start construction ahead of lodging its NDRRA submission and received approval for the works in a short-time once lodged in mid-February 2013.

Council and its contractors commenced night work within days of getting access to Mariners Way, followed by day work which saw the initial reconstruction stage of the project completed on 28 March 2013. Council undertook the initial night works to maintain the safety and efficiency of the works as day work would have been hampered by the general residential clean-up that surrounded this area.

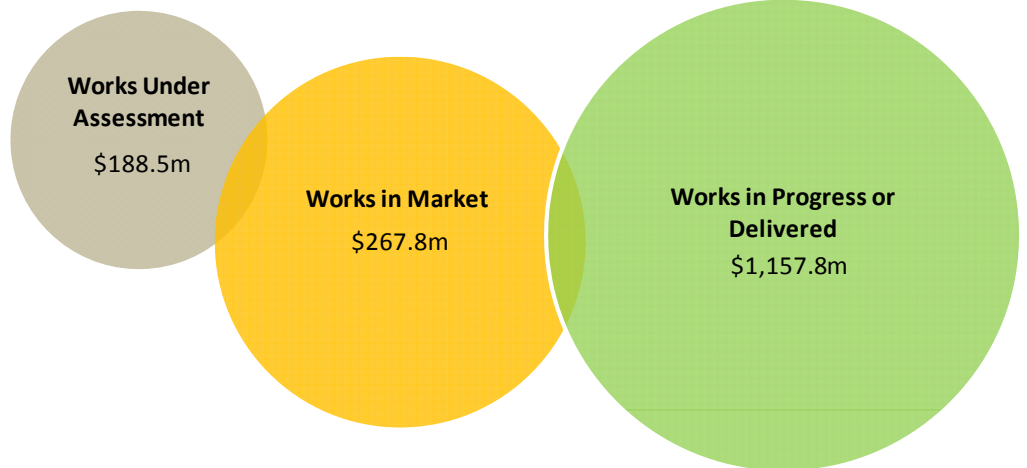
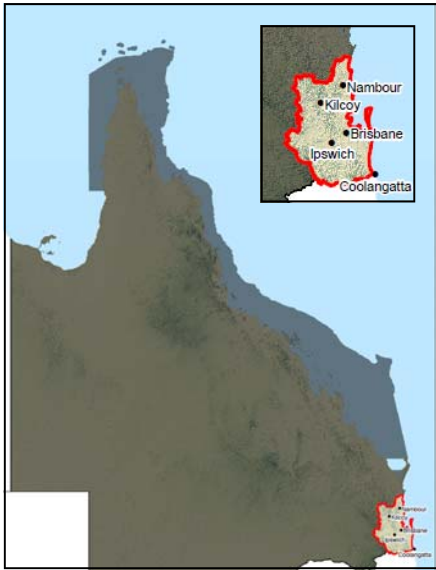
The Mariners Way works were completed in mid-August 2013 following reinstatement of street lighting and site remediation, including fencing, at a total cost of approximately \$435,000.



*Damage (left and centre) and works following completion (right) on Mariners Way, Bundaberg*

## 5.1 Progress of LGAs and DTMR by region (See Appendix A LGA by region map)

### 5.1.5 South East Queensland



Program status summary - South East Queensland

### Case example: Lockyer Valley Regional Council Woodlands Road, Gatton

The extreme flooding that hit the Lockyer Valley region in December 2010 and January 2011 saw the region experience a significant loss of life, property and public assets and the subsequent restoration effort from the flood event is the largest recovery response in the region's history.

Woodlands Road, Gatton was just one of the roads that suffered extensive damage in the disaster event. The road is an important local arterial road that connects the township of Gatton to the residential communities, businesses and primary producers situated to the south of the town between Gatton and Laidley.

Flood restoration works on the road were extensive and included the clearing of table drains, replacement of pipes, head walls and extensive pavement repairs.

Work on Woodlands Road is substantially complete with only final bitumen seals and line marking remaining. The project is on track to be delivered on time and under budget with the final cost for NDRRA restoration works expected to be approximately \$785,000.

Complementary funding of \$480,000 was also received for the flood restoration project to improve safety on a dangerous bend. The complementary works were jointly funded by the State and Council through the Transport Infrastructure Development Scheme (TIDS).



Left: damage to Woodlands Road, including scouring of the road shoulder and pavement rutting



Above: Works nearing completion—November 2013

## 5.2 Progress of State-controlled roads and highways

DTMR's Transport Network Reconstruction Program (TNRP) manages the recovery and reconstruction of Queensland's integrated transport system to reconnect Queensland communities and economies following the damage from natural disaster events in 2010, 2011, 2012 and 2013. The transport system includes state-controlled roads, ports, navigation aids and the rail network.

### The current state of activity:

**Roads** – \$3.8 billion of projects have been completed for both recovery and reconstruction works (excluding maritime infrastructure) for works resulting from the disaster periods of 2010 to 2013 and \$1.9 billion of reconstruction works are currently underway. Following a complete revision of DTMR's TNRP undertaken in October 2013, DTMR's total reconstruction program has been revised downwards by 94km. Of the revised 8,732km of roads which DTMR plans to reconstruct following damage from these natural disaster events, 6,310km had been reconstructed by 31 October 2013. A further 1,117km of road is under construction on active works contracts. *See Figure 5.2.1 and TNRP Summary map.*

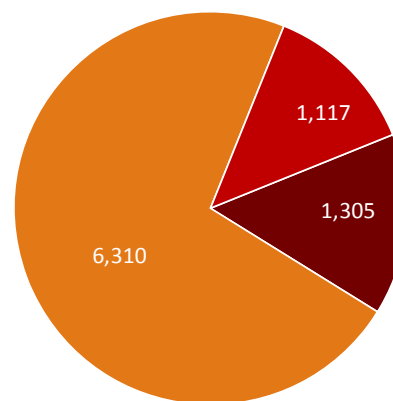
- **Rail** – 3,100km (43%) of Queensland Rail lines were closed or had limited access due to the natural disaster events in early 2013, and all have been recovered and services resumed.
- **Maritime** – repairs have been required to navigation aids, jetties and other boating infrastructure following natural disasters from 2010 to 2013. The events of 2013 affected seven ports (all of which have since been reopened without restriction) and damaged or destroyed 348 aids to navigation, of which 280 have since been recovered and 19 temporarily fixed.

### Key achievements:

- During October 2013, DTMR expended approximately \$180 million on reconstruction works across the State arising from natural disaster events between 2011 and 2013. The cumulative spend on reconstruction of the transport network to 31 October 2013 is \$4.9 billion for works resulting from the 2010 to 2013 disaster periods.
- There was 391km of damaged roads reconstructed in October 2013 bringing the total reconstructed since the program commenced to 6,310km of the total damaged.
- Construction commenced on 45 projects valued at \$131 million in October 2013 including works on the Mount Morgan Range in Central Queensland, Mitchell Highway, Bulloo Developmental Road, Gordonvale-Atherton Road in Far North Queensland, Marlborough-Sarina Road in the Mackay/Whitsunday region and Landsborough-Maleny Road and Ipswich-Boonah Road in South-East Queensland.
- In Central Queensland 12 contracts valued at over \$36 million were committed to in October for 2012 event works in the Barcoo Shire, and work in the Blackall-Tambo and Barcaldine regions and one principal supply contract for gravel. In addition, further rehabilitation works on Ridgeland Road, the Dawson Highway and the Mt Morgan Range, as well as sealing works on the Dawson and Burnett Highways and slope rehabilitation works on the Gladstone-Monto Road were awarded in October 2013.
- Two contracts valued at over \$20 million were awarded in the Downs South West region during October; one for pavement repairs on Mt Sylvia Road and another for works on the Mitchell Highway (Barringun to Cunnamulla), (Cunnamulla to Charleville) and the Bulloo Developmental Road (Cunnamulla to Thargomindah).
- A total of 49 projects with a value of \$43.5 million were awarded in October in the Far North Queensland region at a saving of more than \$13 million to the pre-tender value for the same scope of works.

*Right: pavement reconstruction works underway, Bruce Highway - October 2013*

**Fig.5.2.1 Roads damaged/reconstructed - 2010 to 2013 events**

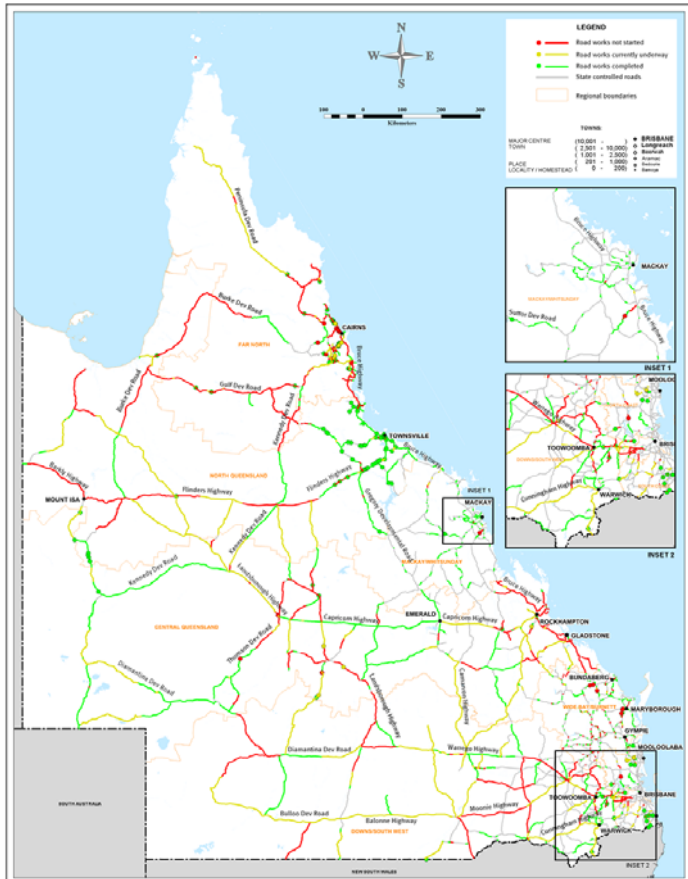


- Roads (km) to be reconstructed - works yet to commence
- Roads reconstructed (km)
- Roads under construction (km)

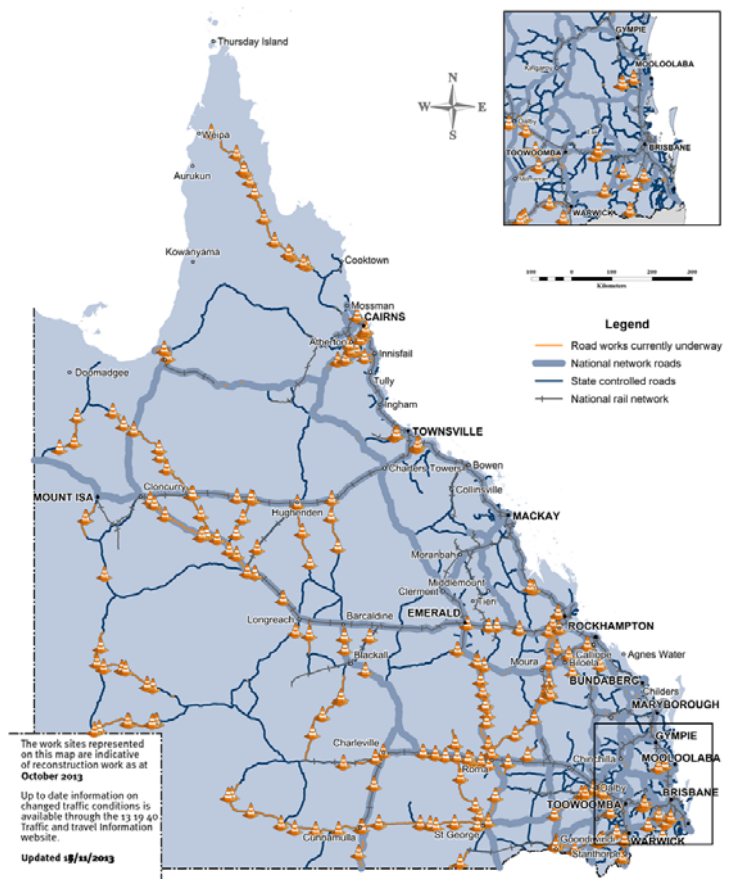


(Source: DTMR 31 October 2013)

**Fig.5.2.2 TNRP summary of reconstruction works to date - October 2013**



**Fig 5.2.3 TNRP reconstruction work sites - October 2013**



(Source: DTMR 31 October 2013)



Above: in-situ pavement stabilization, Landsborough Highway (Winton to Kynuna) - October 2013



Above: Formation profiler, Bruce Highway (Bowen to Ayr) at Seymour River - October 2013

## 5.3 Communications

The Authority is focused on building stakeholder confidence in the reconstruction by ensuring consistent and regular communication of public information.

### 5.3.1 Communicating progress

#### Media analysis

There has been a total of 387 media items from 1 to 30 November (182 print – 63.4%, 21 TV – 7.3%, 83 radio – 28.9%), which reached a cumulative audience of over 6.4 million people, with the focus this month being on council recovery and Betterment funding for those regions hardest hit by the 2013 event.

November media coverage saw mentions for regions recovering and rebuilding from natural disasters across Queensland. There was a large amount of coverage of the opening of the reconstructed Cardwell foreshore, including the Dunk Island and Clump Point jetties, in The Innisfail Advocate, The Tully Times, The Cairns Post, Townsville Bulletin and ABC regional TV and Radio.

The Betterment Fund received coverage for projects such as the delivery of works on the first Betterment project to be approved – the Gayndah water intake station for North Burnett Regional Council. There was also coverage of Betterment projects for Toowoomba, Cassowary Coast, Etheridge, Somerset, Scenic Rim, and Lockyer Valley, with articles appearing in regional media including the Toowoomba Chronicle, The Innisfail Advocate, Bowen Independent, Warwick Daily News, North Queensland Register, Tamborine Times, Beaudesert Times, Queensland Times, WIN Mackay, ABC Capricornia, and Rockhampton Morning Bulletin. Additionally, coverage appeared of NDRRA restoration works in Whitsunday, Western Downs, Scenic Rim, Ipswich, Lockyer Valley, Toowoomba, Southern Downs, Gladstone, and Brisbane.

#### Engagement activities

**Authority Chairman, Major General Richard Wilson**, attended the community event to mark the official opening of Cassowary Coast Regional Council’s Cardwell foreshore project and Clump Point and Dunk Island Jetty projects (Category D NDRRA projects) on Saturday 9 November 2013.

In November, the **Minister for Local Government, Community Recovery and Resilience David Crisafulli** visited Toowoomba as part of Community Cabinet in the region, and also toured the Gold Coast City Council’s Disaster Management Centre to learn more about local preparations ahead of the approaching storm season.

#### Communications

There are a number of methods available to the public to communicate with the Authority.

The Authority’s website provides information to the public and continues to be enhanced with ongoing updates, including information about Betterment projects. There have been a large number of visits to the website since it was launched on 18 February 2011.

At 30 November 2013, total website visits amounted to 374, 779 - an increase of 2.8% since last month. *(See Figure 5.3.1)*

In November, the Authority received an additional 46 calls to its dedicated hotline and 349 additional pieces of written correspondence were received. *(See Figure 5.3.2)*

Fig. 5.3.1 Website traffic

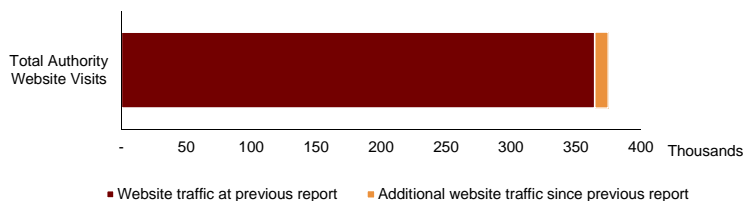
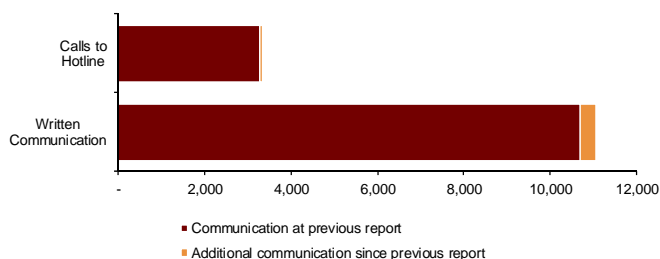


Fig. 5.3.2 Communications



(Source: the Authority at 30 November 2013)

5.3.2 Media reports

# New supply in pipeline

**Brandon Livesay**  
brandon.livesay@thechronicle.com.au

THE water supply at Gayndah will be drastically improved by the end of the year.

Work is underway to relocate the water intake above Claude Wharton Weir as part of the State Government's Betterment Funding. A pipeline several kilometres in length will be installed from the weir to the town's reservoir by December 16. The water intake work is up for tender and the council is hoping work will commence after Christmas.

Mayor Don Waugh said the relocation of the town's water intake was the first Betterment

Funding approval issued in Queensland and would safeguard Gayndah's water in future floods.

"We had to show definitely that it would be above any future flood levels," Cr Waugh said.

"We'll be able to pump water straight in to the reservoir if anything happens."

The current water intake sits downstream from the weir and was destroyed during the January flood.

Queensland Community Recovery Minister, David Crisafulli, said to replace the existing infrastructure would have cost \$2 million.

"Why should we be forcing council to replace it in the same location for \$2 million when it could disappear down the river

again the next time there is a flood?," he said.

"For an extra million we can safeguard against future events," Cr Waugh said there were additional benefits in moving the water intake above the weir.

"The intake would be in the weir so there would be no reason to release extra water for the town water (in times of drought). We're hoping that we'll get better quality water as well."

**“We had to show definitely that it would be above any future flood levels”**



NEW SUPPLY: Gayndah's town water will be sourced from above Claude Wharton weir. PHOTO: BRANDON LIVESAY

# \$6.3 million to boost Oswald repairs

DISASTER restoration projects totalling almost \$6.3 million will be rolled out across the Scenic Rim after the council signed off on three construction contracts at a special sitting.

The projects form part of the council's 2013 recovery program arising from the impact of ex-Tropical Cyclone Oswald earlier this year and subsequent weather events in February and March.

Mayor John Brent said yesterday the cost of delivering restoration works arising from that was expected to exceed \$75 million.

"The contracts we have awarded today represent a significant step towards repairing the damage caused by ex-Tropical Cyclone Oswald, the third disaster to strike the region in as many years," Cr Brent said.

Narie Pty Ltd was awarded \$5.726 million to restore 57 sections of road and culverts in the western parts of the Scenic Rim.

RDS Roadworks was awarded \$347,480 to build retaining walls along the Head Rd at Carneys Creek. RDS was also awarded \$204,875 to build a retaining wall on Illilbah Rd where landslips also caused problems earlier this year.

Central and North Burnett Times, 28 November 2013

Queensland Times, 13 November 2013

# FIX: Premier pledges to end Kingsthorpe's frustration Flood upgrades the 'real deal'

Gen Kennedy  
gen.kennedy@thechronicle.com.au

THE frustration of being cut off during heavy rain will end for Kingsthorpe residents, the Queensland Premier promised yesterday.

Campbell Newman, speaking in Toowoomba after a cabinet meeting at City Hall, announced \$8 million in betterment funding for flood upgrades to roads in the region.

Toowoomba Regional Council will contribute about \$2.3 million to the project.

A new bridge will be built over Gowrie Creek on Kingshorpe Haden Rd at a cost of about \$3 million, while culverts will be upgraded on Greenwattle St and Nukku Rd.

"In this project, there are some that were damaged in 2010, 2011 and 2013. Surely that is madness."

Disability Services Minister Tracy Davis used cabinet's processes in Toowoomba to announce a

**David Crisafulli:** What this is is a fund to take things to the next level, to not just go through the same motions time and time again. Not to replace the same things to the same standard.

\$350,000 grant to help local service provider Assent Services expand its premises.

Ms Davis opened the renovated Hill St facility, which caters for 145 disability clients.

The Premier continued his crowd-pleasing praise of Toowoomba as "Australia's finest inland city" at the opening of the new FX Gardner & Sons offices.

- ROAD UPGRADES**
- Kingsthorpe Haden
  - Pipeline Rd
  - Leslie Bridge Rd
  - Iron Bark Dve
  - Ravenbourne Dip Rd
  - Glennvale Rd
  - Trapp Rd
  - McCreery Rd
  - Coopers Rd
  - Greenwattle St and Nukku Rd
  - Paddy Creek floodway
  - Kingsthorpe Creek Rd
  - Hodgson Creek Bridge on the Clifton Pittsworth Rd

Toowoomba Chronicle, 26 November 2013

# \$8m flood funding for Toowoomba

THE frustration of being cut-off during heavy rain will end for Kingsthorpe residents, the Queensland Premier promised yesterday.

Speaking in Toowoomba after a cabinet meeting at City Hall, Campbell Newman announced \$8 million in betterment funding for flood upgrades to roads in the region.

Toowoomba Regional Council will contribute about \$2.3 million to the project.

A new bridge will be built over Gowrie Creek on Kingshorpe Haden Rd at a cost of \$3 million, while culverts will be upgraded on Greenwattle St and Nukku Rd.

Local Government Minister David Crisafulli said the new infrastructure would be "the real deal".

Warwick Daily News, 26 November 2013

# Work crews ready to repair flood damage

FLOOD restoration works around the Laidley and Hatton Vale area will begin shortly.

Work crews will focus on Fairway Drive, Hatton Vale and Alexander St in Laidley.

Works will begin late this month in Hatton Vale and early November in Laidley.

Restoration works are approved by the Queensland Reconstruction Authority and are delivered under the Natural Disaster Relief and Recovery Arrangements, a joint Federal and State Government initiative.

For more information on the flood restoration effort, visit [www.lockyervalley.qld.gov.au](http://www.lockyervalley.qld.gov.au) or contact 1300 005 872.

Queensland Times, 1 November 2013

# A great day for the region

JOHN HUGHES

THE \$40 million Reconstructing Cardwell project was officially opened on Saturday.

Adding to the day's celebrations was the official opening of the jetties at Clump Point and Dunk Island.

The work at Cardwell, Clump Point and Dunk Island represents \$45.5 million in funds from the Natural Disaster Relief and Recovery Arrangements provided in the aftermath of Cyclone Yasi.

The transformation at Cardwell is remarkable, especially for those who saw what Yasi did to the town in February 2011.

A big crowd turned out at Cardwell in beautiful weather to enjoy what the reconstruction has brought to the town, and also for all the fun and festivities put on for the opening.

Casowary Coast Mayor Bill Shannon declared the day a success - and a major Cyclone Yasi milestone.

He said it was wonderful to see the crowd enjoying the end results of the region's most significant cyclone recovery project.

The new Cardwell foreshore, a partnership project with the Department of Transport and Main Roads, has been one of the biggest capital works projects undertaken by the Casowary Coast Regional Council, Councillor Shannon said.

"The foreshore provides relaxation areas, exercise areas, playground areas and picnic areas.

There are coastal walk and bikeways, viewing platforms, playgrounds, public art, an outdoor performance area, the refurbished jetty, historic and cultural features."

"Cardwell boasts the only stretch of national highway on Queensland's east coast that directly follows the coast.

"This new look foreshore complements the town's natural assets and sets it up not just as a place to break up the drive but as a destination in its own right.

He thanked Cardwell residents for their resilience, and the State and Federal Government for significant contributions to the project, saying the Cardwell foreshore was proof that out of adversity can come opportunity.

Reconstructing Cardwell also includes a

rock protection wall and the reconstructed Bruce Highway (Victoria Street) through Cardwell.

Police officers at Cardwell for the official opening included Cr Shannon, State Member for Hinchinbrook Andrew Cripps, Senator Ian Macdonald and Federal Member for Kennedy Bob Katter.

Mr Katter almost missed the speeches but arrived in time to remind the crowd of his own work in securing funding for Cardwell and the reconstruction of the town.

Mr Katter also indicated he was still getting over the federal election where a substantial swing away from him was recorded.

It possibly also rankled that the names on the commemorative plaque mentioned had having performed well in the election were those of Mr Cripps and Senator Macdonald.

Such, apparently, is the price paid when you are on the political outer.

Mr Cripps and Senator Macdonald were also recorded as officially opening the jetties, with Mr Katter again excluded from official recognition.

The two new concrete jetties replaced wooden-decked jetties that were badly damaged by Cyclone Yasi. Point Jetty, at Mission Beach, is now double its original width, at five metres.

The greater width allows for authorised vehicle access, for pedestrians and future modifications or additions," Cr Shannon said.

"A six-metre-wide section at the end of the jetty accommodates stairs and landings and a shade structure."

Council's Tourism portfolio holder Cr Alistair Pike has welcomed the opening of both jetties.

"It's great to see Clump Point Jetty operational, and being used already," Cr Pike said.

"Into the future we are hoping to attract more reef and island operators to help with the ongoing tourism rebuild in this region."

The Mission Beach and Dunk Island replacement jetties are part of Casowary Coast Regional Council's \$145.4 million cyclone recovery program.

Tully Times, 14 November 2013

# Cardwell back in business

CARDWELL is, once again, a bustling seaside village, thanks to a \$40 million makeover launched earlier this week.

The Reconstructing Cardwell project has delivered a safe, reliable and more efficient road for motorists, pedestrians, cyclists and transport operators.

Speaking on-site, Queensland Senator Ian Macdonald said the investment by local, state and Australian governments would build a stronger, tougher Cardwell.

"Since August 2011, this small town has seen an influx of engineers, contractors and subcontractors to assist with Cardwell's recovery process, which has helped support the town's local economy," Mr Macdonald said.

resident in the face of potential natural disasters and better aligned with the community's vision," Mr Truss said.

"The Reconstructing Cardwell project has delivered a safe, reliable and more efficient road for motorists, pedestrians, cyclists and transport operators."

"We love the new foreshore and so do all our customers," she said. "All our guests love walking down the pathways and are out enjoying the new play areas for the kids."

Ms Crisp said she was fully booked for Christmas and hoped the renewed positivity around town continued to drive local tourism and the economy.

"Next year, for our tourism season, the whole town will benefit from the changes, especially with everything that's going on with 150 years celebrations," she said.

"The face of Cardwell has been changed with the reconstruction of the Bruce Highway through the town, the reconstruction of a rock wall and the redevelopment of almost 5kilo-metres of the foreshore."

Queensland Natural Resources and Mines Minister Andrew Cripps welcomed the opening of the project on behalf of Premier Campbell Newman.

"Completion of these works delivers critical local infrastructure to the local residents of Cardwell and the travelling public; to reconnect and rebuild the community and support vital industries, such as tourism," Mr Cripps said.

"I am pleased to be here to witness this historic event and see this beautiful seaside village in better shape than ever."

North Queensland Register, 14 November 2013

# The Somerset, 20 November 2013



Picture: Deb Frecklington and Sean Chot earlier in the year with Mayor Goeme Lettman and Minister for Energy and Water Mark McAuliffe.

# 2013 NDRRA flood recovery to kick off at Greenmount

Damage from the 2013 Australia Day flooding event is set to be corrected by Toowoomba Regional Council (TRC) in the coming months, with the Natural Disaster Relief and Recovery Arrangements (NDRRA) program set to begin in Greenmount.

Following an extensive assessment, submission and works tender process, the reconstruction of about 50 flood impacted roads will start on November 18, weather permitting.

TRC Infrastructure Services committee chair Cr Carol Taylor said Greenmount was the first of eight packages approved for funding.

Cr Taylor said works, which included gravel re-sheeting, debris and silt removal, pavement reconstruction, excavation and concrete works were expected to be completed by the end of March 2014, weather permitting.

"I'm pleased to see Council's Construction and Maintenance South crews will deliver the Greenmount area works," Cr Taylor said.

These roads are in addition to TRC's normal construction and maintenance program and are being funded through the NDRRA flood recovery program.

The \$40 million project follows the completion of the 2010/2011 NDRRA Program.

Council urges motorists to take care when travelling near construction sites and to obey all signage.

On Our Selection News, 14 November 2013

# Tide turning for Cardwell

RACHEL RILEY  
rachel.riley@news.com.au

CARDWELL businesses have had one of their biggest trading days of the year, with the official opening of the refurbished foreshore signalling a positive change in the tide for the local economy.

Retail outlets, cafes and restaurants were overflowing with customers with business owners finally able to reap the rewards of what has been a difficult two-and-a-half year recovery from Cyclone Yasi.

Cardwell Chamber of Commerce president Lindsay Hallam said the official reopening was sure to draw a crowd, but the turnout and support for the town shown on Saturday exceeded many expectations.

"The last two and a half years have been extremely difficult on Cardwell, especially business-

es, because of all the disruptions," he said.

"So to get the positive coverage we got on Saturday has been an instant boost to the town and, as a community, we recognise that we have turned over a new page."

Mr Hallam said from the point of view of continuing and passing trade, the redevelopment also would allow residents and tourists to take advantage of better facilities.

"The foreshore adds a new dimension and is great for those who want to come and visit and holiday in a coastal town," he said.

"We have excellent fish-

**We recognise that we have turned over a new page**

Lindsay Hallam

Herbert River Express, 16 November 2013

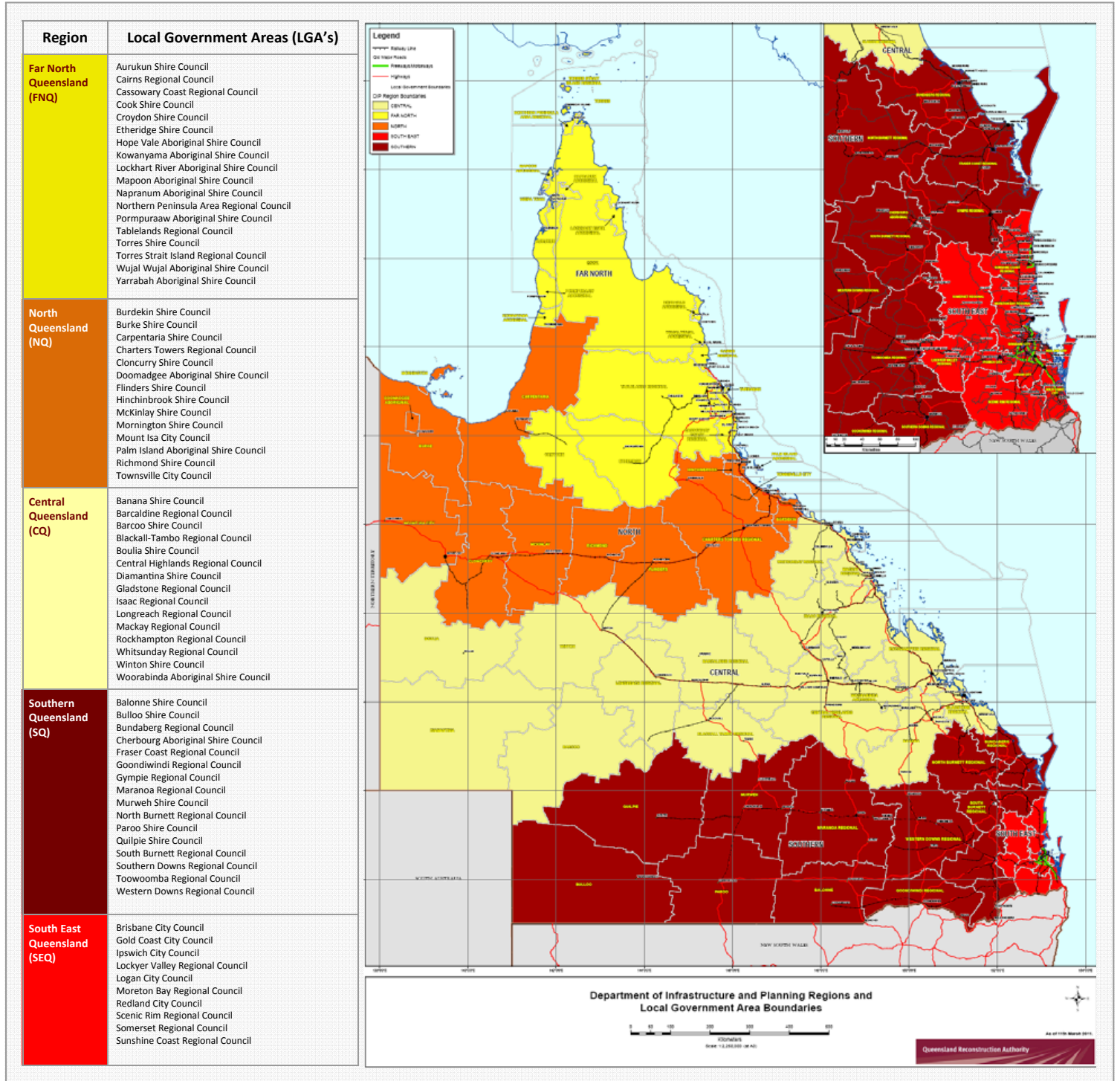
[www.qldreconstruction.org.au](http://www.qldreconstruction.org.au)

Monthly Report - December 2013

# Appendices

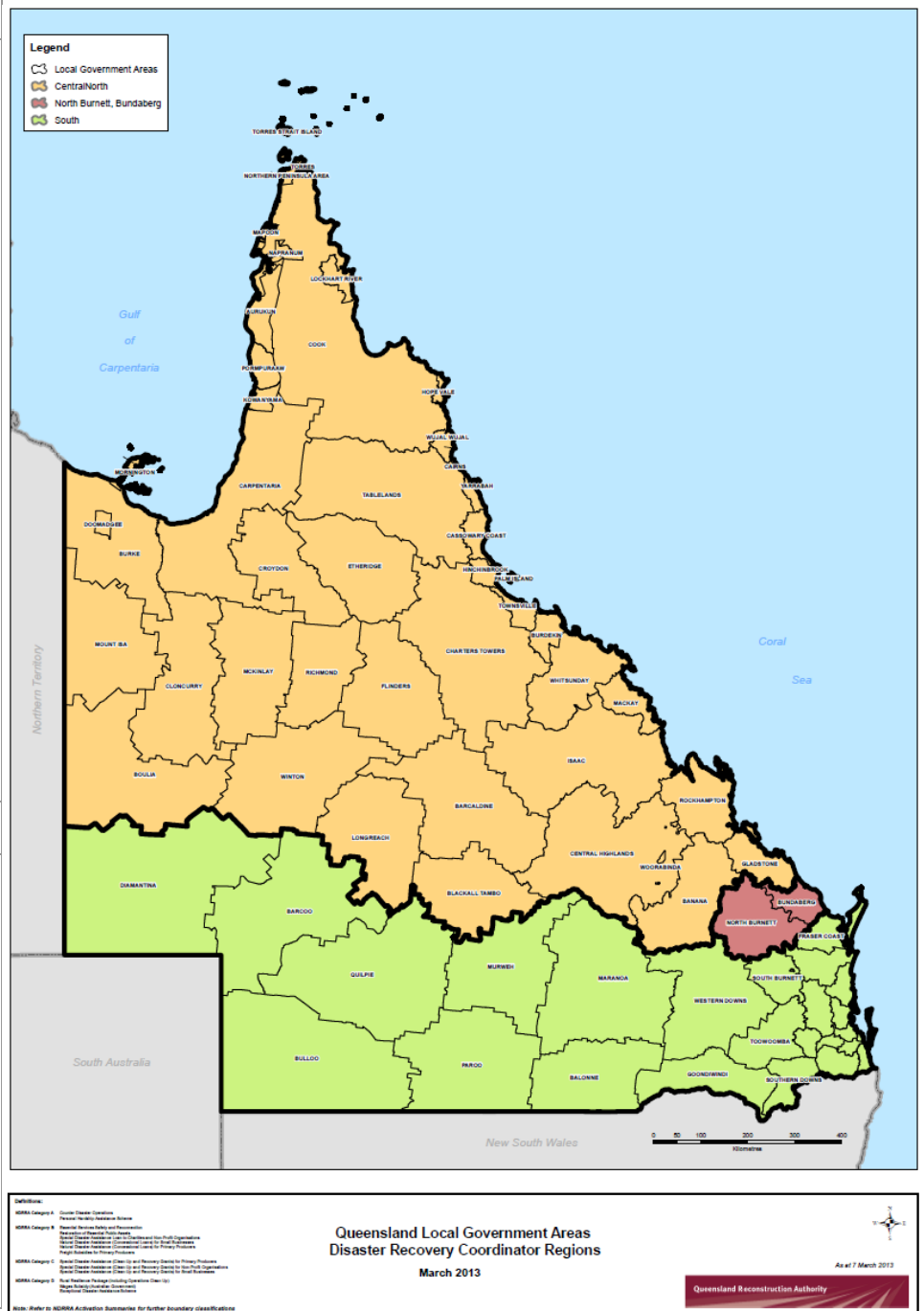


# Appendix A: Local Government Areas by Region



## Appendix B: Disaster Recovery Coordinator Regions - Tropical Cyclone Oswald

Region	Local Government Areas (LGA's)	
Northern Queensland	Aurukun Shire Council	
	Banana Shire Council	
	Barcaldine Regional Council	
	Blackall-Tambo Regional Council	
	Boulia Shire Council	
	Burdekin Shire Council	
	Burke Shire Council	
	Carpentaria Shire Council	
	Cairns Regional Council	
	Cassowary Coast Regional Council	
	Central Highlands Regional Council	
	Charters Towers Regional Council	
	Cloncurry Shire Council	
	Cook Shire Council	
	Croydon Shire Council	
	Doomadgee Aboriginal Shire Council	
	Etheridge Shire Council	
	Flinders Shire Council	
	Gladstone Regional Council	
	Hinchinbrook Shire Council	
	Hope Vale Aboriginal Shire Council	
	Isaac Regional Council	
	Kowanyama Aboriginal Shire Council	
	Lockhart River Aboriginal Shire Council	
	Longreach Regional Council	
	Mackay Regional Council	
	Mapoon Aboriginal Shire Council	
	McKinlay Shire Council	
	Morrington Shire Council	
	Mount Isa City Council	
	Napranum Aboriginal Shire Council	
	Northern Peninsula Area Regional Council	
	Palm Island Aboriginal Shire Council	
	Pormpuraaw Aboriginal Shire Council	
	Richmond Shire Council	
	Rockhampton Regional Council	
	Tablelands Regional Council	
	Torres Shire Council	
	Torres Strait Island Regional Council	
	Townsville City Council	
	Whitsunday Regional Council	
	Winton Shire Council	
	Woorabinda Aboriginal Shire Council	
	Wujal Wujal Aboriginal Shire Council	
	Yarrabah Aboriginal Shire Council	
	Bundaberg/ North Burnett	Bundaberg Regional Council
		North Burnett Regional Council
Southern Queensland	Balonne Shire Council	
	Brisbane City Council	
	Bulloo Shire Council	
	Barcoo Shire Council	
	Cherbourg Aboriginal Shire Council	
	Diamantina Shire Council	
	Fraser Coast Regional Council	
	Gold Coast City Council	
	Goondiwindi Regional Council	
	Gympie Regional Council	
	Ipswich City Council	
	Lockyer Valley Regional Council	
	Logan City Council	
	Maranoa Regional Council	
	Moreton Bay Regional Council	
	Murweh Shire Council	
	Paroo Shire Council	
	Quilpie Shire Council	
	Redland City Council	
	Scenic Rim Regional Council	
	Somerset Regional Council	
	South Burnett Regional Council	
	Southern Downs Regional Council	
	Sunshine Coast Regional Council	
	Toowoomba Regional Council	
	Western Downs Regional Council	





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