

6.12. QUARTERLY UPDATE DRFA PROGRAM

REPORT AUTHOR	Infrastructure Recovery – DRFA Program Lead
MANAGER	Chief Engineer TC Jasper Infrastructure and Recovery
DEPARTMENT	Infrastructure Recovery

RECOMMENDATION

That Council receive and note the Disaster Recovery Funding Arrangements – Reconstruction of Essential Public Assets Report Quarter 1 2025.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This report provides an update on the progress of projects under the Disaster Recovery Funding Arrangements (DRFA) - Restoration of Essential Public Assets (REPA) program for Q1 2025. Significant activities during this period included advancing the restoration of critical infrastructure, assessments of tender submissions to ensure project risks are addressed, value for money and quality outcomes, and the submission of detailed funding requests under both REPA and Betterment. A large volume of procurement activities were completed within this quarter, ensuring that the program is poised to proceed immediately after the wet season. The reporting period experienced significant rain fall events, all projects' sites held up exceptionally well.

COMMENTS

Key Highlights:

- **REPA Submissions:** All REPA submissions for the period were completed prior to the March 31 deadline, totalling 24 submissions valued at \$198 million. Of these, 19 submissions are now approved, securing \$168 million in funding.
- **Betterment Submissions:** 12 Betterment submissions were made, totalling \$28.6 million, and feedback is currently awaited on these requests.
- **January Rainfall Event:** Late January saw significant rainfall, triggering two new landslips south of Noah Range that blocked the road. Thanks to our proactive preparations and quick mobilization, the road was cleared and reopened in less than 12 hours, minimizing disruption.
- **Alexandra Range Slip Repairs:** Additional scope was approved for three new slip sites on Alexandra Range, expanding the repair efforts to further improve road stability.
- **Noah Creek Bridge:** The design for Noah Creek Bridge has been finalized, and cultural heritage approvals have been successfully gained, enabling progress on the next phases of the project.

Risks/Opportunities:

- **Wet Weather Delays:** The ongoing wet season presents a potential risk to the program's progress, with rain events causing disruptions and delays in on-ground works.
- **Water Resilience Funding:** Guidelines have been released, and DSC is preparing its submissions.

Conclusion: With the level of procurement activities completed, we expect a significant amount of work to occur following the Easter holidays, keeping the program on track. The local community remains well-informed and supportive, and local contractors have consistently performed at a high standard.

SUSTAINABILITY IMPLICATIONS

Economic:	The Cyclone Jasper Disaster Event may have a negative impact on the economic sustainability of Douglas Shire Council and may impact sustainability ratios. This will be closely managed by Council and mitigated where possible.
Environmental:	Nil impact from the approvals in this report as works have already occurred.
Social:	Nil impact from the approvals in this report as works have already occurred.

CORPORATE/OPERATIONAL PLAN, POLICY REFERENCE

This report has been prepared in accordance with the following:

Corporate Plan 2019-2024 Initiatives:

Theme 5 - Robust Governance and Efficient Service Delivery

Strong governance and financial management are the foundations of the way in which Council will conduct its business and implement the initiatives of the Corporate Plan.

Goal 1 - *We will conduct Council business in an open and transparent manner with strong oversight and open reporting.*

Goal 3 - *We will make sound financial decisions by ensuring robust strategic planning, financial management and reporting.*

Goal 4 - *We will work with our communities to ensure they are informed, empowered and supported so that they are resilient to the impacts of disaster events. Through our leadership and capabilities we will plan, prepare, respond and recover from events so as to minimise the impact on people, property, the environment, and our economic stability.*

Operational Plan 2024-2025 Actions:

New project arisen during the financial year.

COUNCIL'S ROLE

Council can play a number of different roles in certain circumstances and it is important to be clear about which role is appropriate for a specific purpose or circumstance. The implementation of actions will be a collective effort and Council's involvement will vary from information only through to full responsibility for delivery.

The following areas outline where Council has a clear responsibility to act:

Advocate	Council makes representation on behalf of the community on important issues, funding opportunities, projects and programs. Council will use its influence to seek the best outcomes for the community.
Regulator	Council has a number of statutory obligations detailed in numerous regulations and legislative Acts. Council also makes local laws to ensure that the Shire is well governed. In fulfilling its role as regulator, Council will utilise an outcomes based approach that balances the needs of the community with social and natural justice.
Service Provider	Council provides many services to the community from roads and waste services to libraries and recreational facilities. Services evolve over time and it is the Council's mission to ensure that these services are appropriate, delivered efficiently, and designed with the customer at the centre.

CONSULTATION

Internal:	DRFA Team, Finance Team, Management Team
External:	Queensland Reconstruction Authority, Community Road Reference Group

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

The retrospective approval of disaster expenditure will fall within the “inform” category of Council's Community Engagement Framework.

ATTACHMENTS

1. Jan- Mar 25 Quarterly Report [**6.12.1** - 1 page]

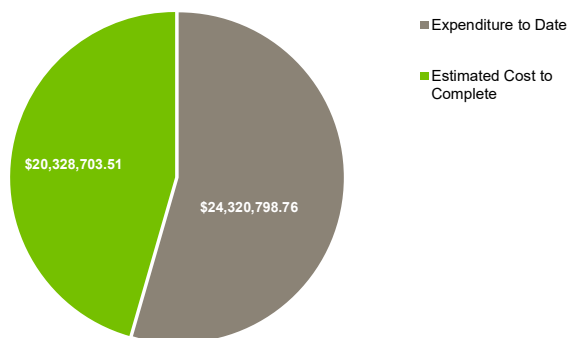


Current As At 25/03/2025

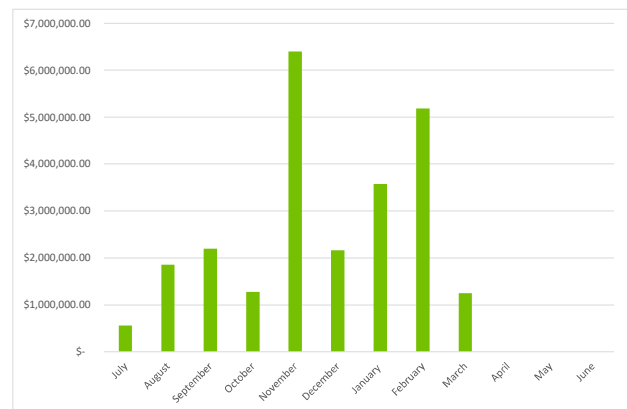
Infrastructure Recovery Program

QRA Payments to Date
\$24,460,972.17Actuals + Commitments
\$44,789,675.68Percentage Complete by Cost
55%Council Funding Contribution
\$0Forecast Completion Date
2026Approved Funding
\$143,275,090.03

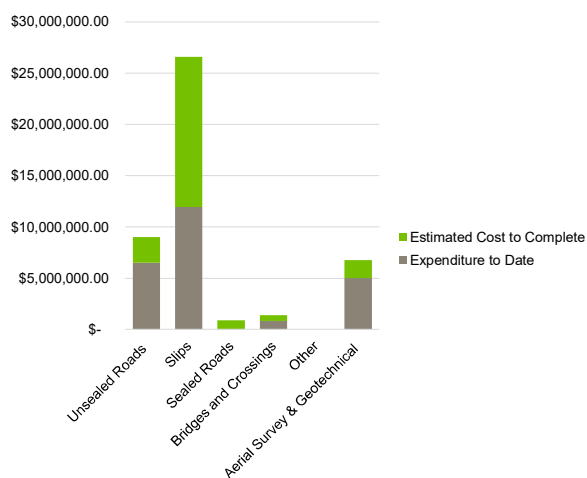
Financial Status



Actuals Monthly Expenditure Status



Expenditure by Treatment



Main Contracts Completion

