

Resilience Tour

During October and November 2022, we held workshops with community members across the Shire as a first step in creating Resilience Scorecards. The purpose of the Community Resilience Scorecard Project is to support people, communities, organisations and businesses to understand their risks and role, and encourage resilience actions to improve community outcomes after natural hazards.

What did we learn?

Some of the insights we heard were:

- the business community has grown resilient over the course of Covid-19 – they have learned so much about staying operational
- the adaptability of businesses to continue operation during periods of really hot weather is tested in our outdoor lifestyle
- external factors like housing market pressures impact business workforces and the ability to employ staff, which sometimes leads to owners working very long hours
- the lack of printed news is impacting community connection and cohesion
- there are challenges with media messaging during times of disaster anywhere in North Queensland
- isolation and access disruption in the Shire impacts the ability of staff to travel to their place of work
- the Chamber of Commerce has been impacted in recent times with lower membership, leading to a loss of cohesion for business

During the workshop we learned that that not all traders feel the same about natural hazards. Some knew the weather throws curve balls and were only nervous about the 'big one'. Old-timers said that 'with experience comes preparedness'. Attendees felt that the business community is resilient, but there are things we can be doing differently as a sector to prepare for natural hazards.

Next steps

The scorecards are being drafted and will include the stories shared at the workshops. The scorecards will inform updates to the Douglas Local Disaster Management Plan.

What if I missed the first round of workshops?

If you were unable to attend our 2022 workshops and can add to what we learned, please email disaster@douglas.qld.gov.au.

A second round of engagement to present the draft scorecards is planned for April/May 2023. Please register contact details disaster@douglas.qld.gov.au if you would like to be informed about the dates.

For more information, please visit Council's website (scan the QR code or douglas.qld.gov.au/douglas-community-disaster-resilience-strategy) to learn more about the Community Resilience Scorecards project or call 1800 026 318

