

3.5. THORNTON PEAK RURAL FIRE BRIGADE - SPECIAL CHARGE 2026 - 2027

REPORT AUTHOR	Interim Chief Financial Officer
MANAGER	General Manager Corporate and Communities
DEPARTMENT	Corporate and Communities
DATE	16 June 2026

RECOMMENDATION

In accordance with s94 of the Local Government Act 2009 and s94 of the Local Government Regulation 2012 Council make and levy a special charge to be known as the (Thornton Peak Rural Fire Brigade Special Charge) of \$8.00 (per assessment) on all rateable land to which the overall plan applies, to fund the ongoing provision and maintenance of rural firefighting equipment for, and the operations of, the Thornton Peak Rural Fire Brigade

- 1. The overall plan for the Thornton Peak Rural Fire Brigade Special Charge is as follows:**
 - a. The service, facility or activity for which the plan is made is the ongoing provision and maintenance of rural firefighting equipment for, and the operations of, the Thornton Peak Rural Fire Brigade.**
 - b. The rateable land to which the plan applies is delineated in orange on the map named Thornton Peak Rural Fire Brigade.**
 - c. The estimated cost of carrying out the overall plan is \$3,743.**
 - d. The estimated time for carrying out the overall plan is one (1) year ending on 30 June 2027.**
- 2. All rateable land (or its occupier) within the area delineated in orange on the map named Thornton Peak Rural Fire Brigade specially benefits from the service, facility or activity funded by the special charge because each such parcel is within the area for which the brigade is in charge of firefighting and fire prevention under the *Fire Services Act 1990*. Further, the fire emergency response capability that is provided by the brigade would be substantially diminished if it did not receive the funding provided by Council as a direct consequence of the levying of the special charge.**
- 3. The special charge for the 2026/27FY is to be levied by two (2) half year levies.**
- 4. In accordance with the requirements, all Rural Fire Levy revenue will be remitted to the Queensland Fire Department to be held on behalf of relevant Rural Fire Brigade.**

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The intent of this report is to enable Council to make and levy a special charge in 2026/27FY (to be known as the Thornton Peak Rural Fire Brigade Special Charge) of \$8.00 (per assessment) on all rateable land to which the overall plan applies, to fund the ongoing provision and maintenance of rural firefighting equipment for, and the operations of, the Thornton Peak Rural Fire Brigade.

PREVIOUS COUNCIL CONSIDERATIONS / RESOLUTIONS

At the Special Council Meeting dated 1 July 2025, for the 2025/26FY Council make a special charge (to be known as the Thornton Peak Rural Fire Brigade Special Charge) of \$8.00 (per assessment) on all rateable land to which the overall plan applies, to fund the ongoing provision and maintenance of rural firefighting equipment for, and the operations of, the Thornton Peak Rural Fire Brigade.

REPORT/BACKGROUND

Under *s152ZD of the Fire Services Act 1990*, local government may make and levy certain rates or charges and contribute amounts raised to rural fire brigades.

s94 of the Local Government Act 2009 and *s94 of the Local Government Regulation 2012*, gives Council the power to levy special rates or charges.

FINANCIAL AND RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS

Council will levy a special charge to be known as the (Thornton Peak Rural Fire Brigade Special Charge) of \$8.00 (per assessment) on all rateable land to which the overall plan applies, to fund the ongoing provision and maintenance of rural firefighting equipment for, and the operations of, the Thornton Peak Rural Fire Brigade.

The estimated cost of carrying out the overall plan is \$3,743.

RISK MANAGEMENT IMPLICATIONS

There are no risk management implications.

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPLICATIONS

Without a funded rural fire brigade, the environment would be at greater risk of fire damage.

SOCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Without a funded rural fire brigade, residents would be at greater risk of fire damage to their properties, slower emergency response times, and limited local community protection during bushfires.

CORPORATE AND OPERATIONAL PLAN

This report has been prepared in accordance with the following:

Corporate Plan 2025-2030 Initiatives:

Theme 1 - Liveability

To deliver community activities to promote safe, healthy, inclusive and socially engaged communities with an environmental conscious.

1.1 - Deliver community initiatives that support healthy, inclusive and socially engaged communities.

Theme 2 - Prosperity

Council plans, builds and maintains the infrastructure required to improve our lifestyle and promote economic growth, working actively to support local businesses.

2.2 - Support local business through local procurement.

Theme 3 - Service Delivery

We deliver Council services effectively and efficiently to meet community expectations, focusing on the wellbeing of both the community and our employees.

3.1 - Deliver the Corporate Plan, Operational Plan and Budget.

Operational Plan 2025-2026 Actions:

Legislative requirement.

LEGISLATION AND POLICY

- *Fire Services Act 1990*
- *Local Government Act 2009*
- *Local Government Regulation 2012*

CONSULTATION

Internal Consultation:

- Rates Team
- Finance Team

External Consultation:

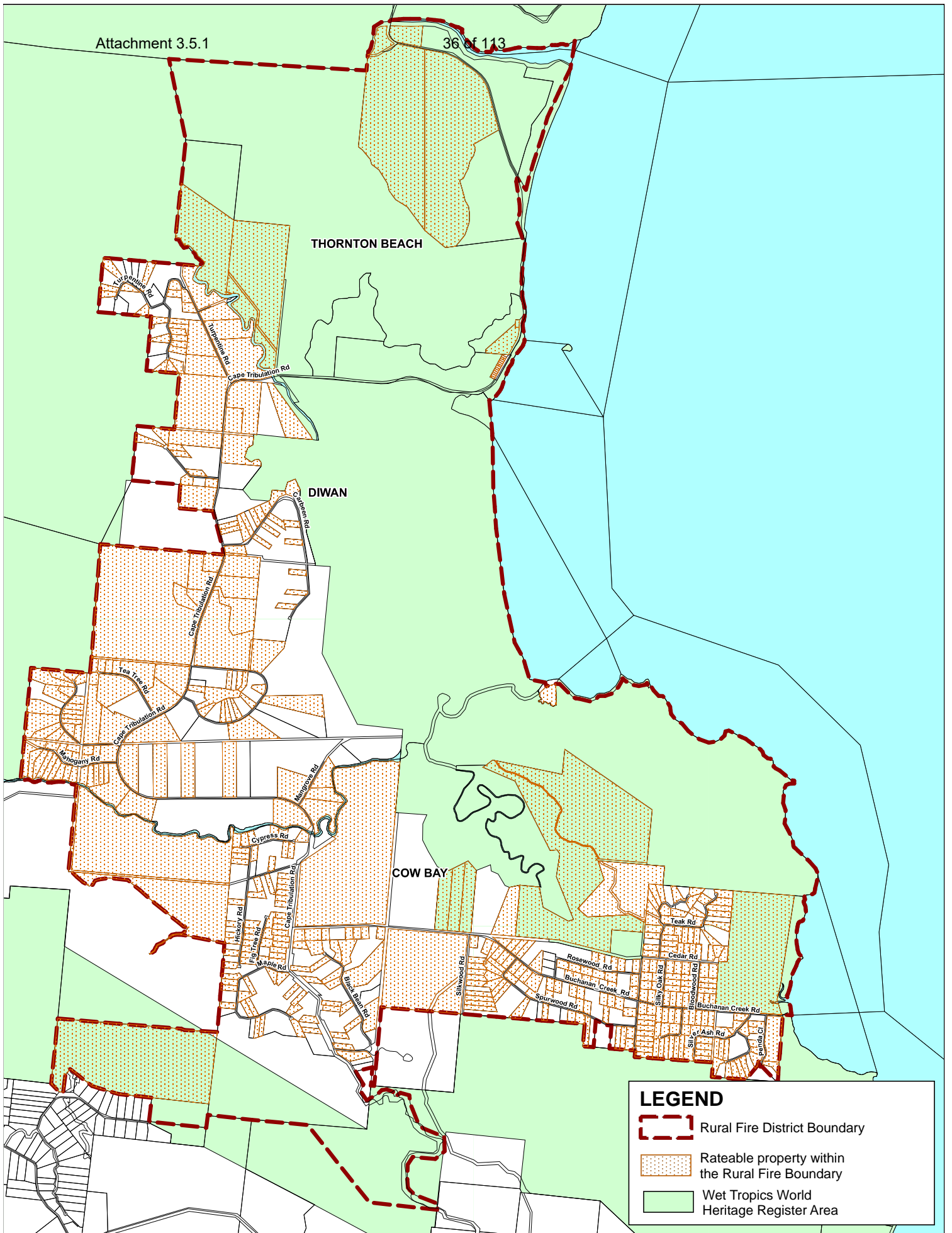
- Thornton Peak Rural Fire Brigade

CONCLUSION




In accordance with s94 of the *Local Government Act 2009* and s94 of the *Local Government Regulation 2012* Council make and levy a special charge to be known as the (Thornton Peak Rural Fire Brigade Special Charge) of \$8.00 (per assessment) on all rateable land to which the overall plan applies, to fund the ongoing provision and maintenance of rural firefighting equipment for, and the operations of, the Thornton Peak Rural Fire Brigade

ATTACHMENTS

1. Rural fire_-_map Thornton Peak [3.5.1 - 1 page]



LEGEND

-  Rural Fire District Boundary
-  Rateable property within the Rural Fire Boundary
-  Wet Tropics World Heritage Register Area

THORNTON PEAK RURAL FIRE BRIGADE



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Scale
1cm = 0.50 km at A4
Map Grid of Australia
Zone 55 (GDA94)

