7.12. QUARTERLY REPORT INFRASTRUCURE RECOVERY Q1

REPORT AUTHOR Manager Infrastructure Recovery

EXECUTIVE General Manager Infrastructure

DEPARTMENT Infrastructure

TEAM Infrastructure Recovery

DATE 24 November 2026

RECOMMENDATION

That Council notes the progress of the DRFA and Water program for the Quarter 1 period July to September 2026.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This report provides Council with an update on the Infrastructure Recovery Unit's progress for Quarter 1 (Q1) of the 2026/27 financial year.

The Unit continues to oversee two significant recovery programs: the Disaster Recovery Funding Arrangements (DRFA) Civil Infrastructure Program and the Queensland Reconstruction Authority (QRA) and Water Infrastructure for Sustainable and Efficient Regions (WISER) Water Infrastructure Program.

Throughout Q1, the Civil Infrastructure Program maintained delivery of key road, bridge, landslip and associated recovery works, while also completed the submissions for the asset damage arising from the 2026 activation event. The approved Reconstruction of Essential Public Assets (REPA) scope remains broadly on track, supported by approved extensions where required.

The Water Infrastructure Program continued to progress from planning into design, procurement and construction readiness. Funding approvals have been secured through QRA and WISER, with current activities focused on confirming project scopes, advancing design development, progressing tender processes, and establishing delivery strategies across the approved program. The unit also secured an extension for the program from QRA until 30th June 2028.

The unit also engaged Peak Services through an open market procurement process to provide specialist procurement support, strengthen compliance, and ensure consistency in procurement practices across the team's activities.

Key program risks continue to include adverse weather conditions, delivery timeframe constraints, market pricing volatility, cultural heritage requirements and project-specific challenges.

PREVIOUS COUNCIL CONSIDERATIONS / RESOLUTIONS

Infrastructure Recovery Report Quarter 4 2025/26 Financial Year.

REPORT/BACKGROUND

The first quarter of the financial year saw the Infrastructure Recovery team continue to support the community through the delivery of 2023 events major projects such as Noah Creek, Noah Range, Taylors Crossing, China Camp Road Slips whilst focusing on QRA submissions for the recent 2026 event. The key projects such as Lees Bridge and CTBR Slips completed and reached Practical Completion, and the final acquittals submitted to QRA to close out.

Quarter 1 also represented a significant period of progress for the QRA/WISER Water Infrastructure Program, with scope development and prioritisation activities focused on supporting value-for-money outcomes and improved infrastructure resilience. Several projects have now commenced design review and procurement planning, with these activities continuing into the second quarter of 2026/27 financial year. Request for Tenders (RFT's) released in the market for key projects such as Whyanbeel Water Main Upgrade, and the Daintree Contingency Bore.

The DRFA Civil Infrastructure Program also achieved strong progress during the quarter. However, ongoing and unseasonal wet weather has affected the delivery of several projects. While the broader program remains within approved funding timeframes, individual project programs are being actively reviewed and sequenced to recover lost time where practicable and manage emerging delivery risks.

DRFA Civil Infrastructure Program

The Civil Infrastructure Program encompasses Council's road, bridge, landslip, culvert and associated civil infrastructure restoration works arising from disaster events.

The program continued to progress during Q1, while the delivery team also focused on QRA Submissions for new damage associated with the 2026 activation event.

The current DRFA civil program includes remaining Tropical Cyclone Jasper works, January 2025 Monsoon works, 2026 Monsoon activities, and approved betterment projects.

Key activities and developments undertaken during the quarter are outlined below:

1. Noah Creek Bridge and Temporary Bypass

Despite challenges associated with unseasonal weather conditions and transportation constraints due to existing infrastructure limitations, the Noah Creek Bridge project achieved several important construction milestones.

During the quarter, the construction team successfully completed the installation of all bridge piles, in parallel, the team undertook a trial assembly of the bridge components at Drumsara, setting up a mock bridge structure to verify the alignment and fitment of the precast units. This proactive approach helped identify and address potential installation challenges before transporting the components to the site. All precast headstocks and deck units were also pressure cleaned in preparation for installation, and the team successfully installed the headstocks at the northern abutment, Pier 1 and Pier 2.

Over the next four weeks, construction activities will focus on achieving several critical milestones installation of the remaining headstock, placement of all precast deck units across

the three bridge spans, installation of precast abutment and wing wall components, and construction of the cast in-situ kerbs along the bridge deck. The team will also remove the temporary piling platform and associated pipes beneath the new bridge and commence preparations for construction of the relieving slabs.

Following completion of these activities, the construction team will progressively move into the bridge approach works.

With the wet season approaching, maintaining reliable access for the local community remains a key priority. Should significant rainfall make the temporary bypass impassable, Council will work with the contractor to explore the possibility of providing temporary access across the new bridge, subject to construction progress and appropriate safety assessments.

Overall, the project continues to progress positively despite the logistical and weather-related challenges, with the construction team focused on completing the key bridge components ahead of the wet season and minimising potential disruptions to the community.

2. Noah Range Slip Restoration

The Noah Range Slip Restoration project has progressed into the next stage of construction following the identification of additional slope instability beneath the existing roadway and the development of the required remediation solution.

Construction of the cast in-situ piles is now underway. These works form a key part of the additional remediation required to address the underlying slope of instability and support the long-term stability of the roadway.

With the wet season approaching, it is unlikely that all piling works will be completed beforehand. The contractor is managing this risk by adopting a controlled construction approach, with only those pile excavations that can be completed within 24 hours being opened. This will help minimise exposure to adverse weather conditions and reduce construction risks during the wet season.

A significant positive development during the quarter was the receipt of funding approval from the Queensland Reconstruction Authority (QRA), confirming the eligibility of the additional remediation scope identified following the geotechnical investigations. This provides greater funding certainty for the project and supports the delivery of revised remediation works.

The project continues to be closely monitored, with a focus on progressing construction safely through the approaching wet season and working towards the revised completion date of June 2027.

3. Taylors Crossing

The Taylors Crossing project has achieved approximately 50% construction completion, following the resolution of earlier site challenges and approval of additional funding from QRA.

To prioritise progress on other critical projects ahead of the wet season, the contractor's resources have been temporarily redeployed to the Noah Creek Bridge and Noah Range Slip Restoration projects. This strategic allocation of resources is intended to accelerate key construction activities across the broader program and minimise potential wet season impacts.

The contractor is expected to remobilise to Taylors Crossing following completion of the priority works at Noah Range.

Despite this temporary change in resource allocation, Taylors Crossing remains on track for completion by June 2027, in line with the approved project extension.

4. Lees Bridge

The Lees Bridge project has successfully reached Practical Completion, marking an important milestone in the delivery of the bridge restoration works.

Council has also completed the physical works on site, pending final acquittals to occur early in 2027 as part of the contractual close out.

The completion of Lees Bridge represents another positive outcome under Council's disaster recovery program, restoring critical infrastructure and improving long-term connectivity and resilience for the local community.

5. Alexandra Range Landslips

Planning and procurement activities continue for the remaining Alexandra Range works. The current indicative program identifies construction extending into 2027, with approval received for the relevant package.

6. Cape Tribulation Bloomfield Road Landslips

The Cape Tribulation Bloomfield Road Landslips project has been successfully completed, with restoration works finalised across all 11 landslip sites, including the associated works at Spurwood Road.

The completion of these works marks another significant milestone in Council's disaster recovery program, restoring critical road infrastructure and improving the safety, resilience and reliability of the road network for local communities and visitors.

7. China Camp Road Slips (Wujal Wujal)

Construction works on the China Camp Road Landslip Restoration project are progressing well, with HEH Civil achieving several key milestones across the five restoration sites.

To date, all downslope soil nails have been installed, and construction of the no-fines concrete walls at CCR01, CCR02 and CCR03/04 has been completed. Guardrail footings have also been installed at CCR01 and CCR02, while upslope descaling works have been completed at three of the five sites.

Over the coming weeks, the contractor will focus on progressing the remaining slope stabilisation and road safety works, with several activities targeted for completion before the end of November 2026. Jute matting will also be installed on the upslope areas where descaling has been completed to support erosion control and slope rehabilitation.

Council has also submitted a variation of approximately $2 million to the Queensland Reconstruction Authority (QRA) for additional upslope stabilisation works identified during construction. The variation is currently under QRA for review of funding eligibility and approval. Council will continue working with QRA to progress the assessment, with further updates to be provided through the next quarterly report and Ordinary Council Meeting (OCM) reports.

Overall, the project continues to make positive progress, with construction activities being coordinated across the various sites to advance the restoration works ahead of the approaching wet season.

7. Unsealed Roads Packages

Reconstruction work on the unsealed road networks was substantially completed prior to the 2025/26 wet season.

All unsealed roads in the Shire sustained damage during the latest DRFA activated events.

As a result of this new damage, Council has been activated for REPA funding. Further details are provided below.

8. January 2025 Monsoon Event Funding

The activation of DRFA Funding for the monsoon event in January 2025 now sees that all four (4) submissions have been approved.

These works include:

- Repairs to Woobadda Bridge
- Repairs on the sealed road network (Stabilisation and bitumen sealing)
- Alexandra Range – Slip Repairs
- Unsealed road work (Gravel and Grading) on the CTBR and Creb Track

Planning and designs for the above works have been completed, with Tenders programmed to be released early in the new year. All works are scheduled for completion by June 2027.

9. QRA/WISER Water Infrastructure Program

The Water Infrastructure Program is being delivered through a combination of QRA-funded recovery works and WISER-funded infrastructure projects.

The approved QRA Water Program comprises 16 projects with approximately $46.73 million in approved funding, while the WISER program includes approved funding of approximately $16.358 million.

During Q1, activities focused on finalising project plans, confirming scopes, progressing design, Request for Tenders (RFT) in market, and preparing projects for procurement and construction.

10. Program Delivery and Timeframes

The QRA-funded water program has now received formal approval for an extension of the funding deadline from 30 June 2027 to **30 June 2028**.

This is a significant positive development for the program, providing greater certainty and additional time to deliver the remaining projects, particularly considering the construction challenges and reduced working opportunities during the wet season.

The delivery team will continue to review and optimise project schedules, procurement strategies, and delivery methodologies to make effective use of the extended timeframe and ensure the program progresses towards completion by the revised deadline.

10.1 Mossman River Intake and Raw Water Storage

The Mossman River Intake and Raw Water Storage projects have progressed significantly during the reporting period, with commercial negotiations now finalised with the shortlisted contractor, HEH Civil.

Following further investigations, several challenges were identified with the originally proposed Drumsara site. The project delivery team has proactively identified alternative locations, and

Council's Property team is progressing the necessary due diligence and land acquisition processes to secure a suitable site.

The overall program remains on track for completion by June 2028, in line with the recently approved QRA funding extension.

Overall, both projects continue to progress positively, with the immediate focus on finalising Council approvals, investigating options for more suitable land, and progressing the projects towards construction.

10.2 Water and Wastewater Infrastructure Projects

Planning, investigation, design and procurement activities are progressing across the broader QRA and WISER-funded water and wastewater infrastructure program, with scope development and prioritisation activities focused on supporting value-for-money outcomes and improved infrastructure resilience.

Several projects have now commenced design review, technical investigations and procurement planning, with these activities continuing into the 2026/2027 financial year. The program is progressing through the scope of firming, design development, procurement and construction planning, supported by approved QRA and WISER funding.

Current projects include:

1. Whyanbeel Water Main
2. Wonga Reservoir Refurbishment and Recommissioning
3. Daintree Village Water Supply Upgrade – Contingency Bore
4. Whyanbeel Treatment Plant – Reliability Improvements
5. Whyanbeel Water Supply – Contingency Bore
6. Mossman WTP – Installation of Ultraspin Solids Separator
7. Mossman WTP – Reliability Improvement Works
8. Replacement of Aerial Crossings with Underbores
9. Rex Creek Intake and Marr Creek
10. Little Falls Creek Slip Stabilisation
11. Water and Wastewater Condition Assessment Program
12. Cooya Beach Reservoir Refurbishment
13. Water and Sewerage – Actual Costs
14. Watermains-District Metering and Pressure Management
15. Critical Watermain Replacements
16. Water Supply and Sewerage Infrastructure Planning

The final scope and delivery pathway for the projects listed above will be determined through Council’s value-for-money and prioritisation process. Depending on technical feasibility, project benefits, risk, cost estimates and available funding, some projects may progress through to full delivery, while others may be limited to investigation, design and cost estimation where further delivery is not considered viable or cannot be accommodated within the approved funding allocation.

High-priority projects that demonstrate strong value for money and provide the greatest community benefit; improved infrastructure resilience and continuity of essential services will take precedence within the available funding envelope.

Lower-priority projects will be progressed to an appropriate level of investigation and design, subject to available funding and the outcomes of the prioritisation process.

FINANCIAL AND RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS

Nil for Q1 report.

RISK MANAGEMENT IMPLICATIONS

The key risks currently being actively managed across the two programs include:

- adverse weather and limited dry-season construction windows;
- project and funding delivery deadlines;
- budget escalation and market pricing;
- approval requirements;
- procurement timeframes;
- construction and public safety;
- additional damage from subsequent disaster events; and
- project-specific technical and contractual matters.

Within the Civil Infrastructure Program, Noah Range remains the principal project-level risk, with both budget and program impacts arising from the newly identified failure zone.

Risk mitigation strategies are being actively implemented and escalated through the appropriate governance arrangements where required.

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPLICATIONS

Environmental requirements are being managed on a project-by-project basis through existing approvals, project environmental management requirements, and relevant regulatory processes.

No material environmental compliance issues were reported for either program during the reporting period.

SOCIAL IMPLICATIONS

The programs are focused on restoring and improving critical community infrastructure and maintaining safe and reliable access and essential services.

Temporary traffic restrictions and extended construction periods, particularly at Noah Range and Noah Creek, may continue to affect the community. Council will continue providing appropriate project and traffic management communications.

CORPORATE AND OPERATIONAL PLAN

This report has been prepared in accordance with the following:

Corporate Plan 2025-2030 Initiatives:

Theme 4 - Recovery and Resilience
To partner with community to build resilience against natural disasters creating a strong sense of social capital.

4.2 - *Deliver infrastructure asset restoration and betterment.*

Operational Plan 2026-2027 Actions:

4.2.2 - Completion of 2023 DRFA Betterment Works – TC Jasper.

LEGISLATION AND POLICY

- *Local Government Act 2009*
- *Local Government Regulation 2012*
- Procurement Policy

CONSULTATION

Internal Consultation:

- Infrastructure Recovery
- Water and Wastewater
- Infrastructure
- Finance
- Senior Leadership Team
- Executive Leadership Team

External Consultation:

- Queensland Reconstruction Authority
- WISER program representatives

Ongoing community engagement also includes the Daintree Coast Community Reference Group meetings and regular community newsletters, which provide updates on project progress, access arrangements, emerging issues and upcoming works across the Infrastructure Recovery Program.

CONCLUSION

The Infrastructure Recovery Department continues to progress two substantial infrastructure programs across civil recovery and water infrastructure.

The DRFA Civil Infrastructure Program continues to advance major road, bridge, and landslip restoration projects while responding to additional damage associated with the 2026 event. The principal delivery challenges remain in Noah Range, adverse weather and management of project-specific time and cost risks.

The QRA/WISER Water Infrastructure Program has progressed from planning and assessment into design, procurement and construction-readiness across a broad portfolio of water infrastructure projects. The principal program risks relate to funding timeframes and current market pricing.

Overall, both programs remain actively managed, with delivery strategies, risk mitigation and funding engagement continuing to support Council's objective of restoring and improving resilient infrastructure for the community.

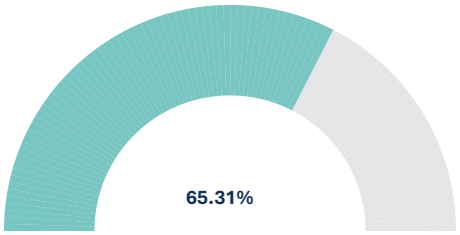
ATTACHMENTS

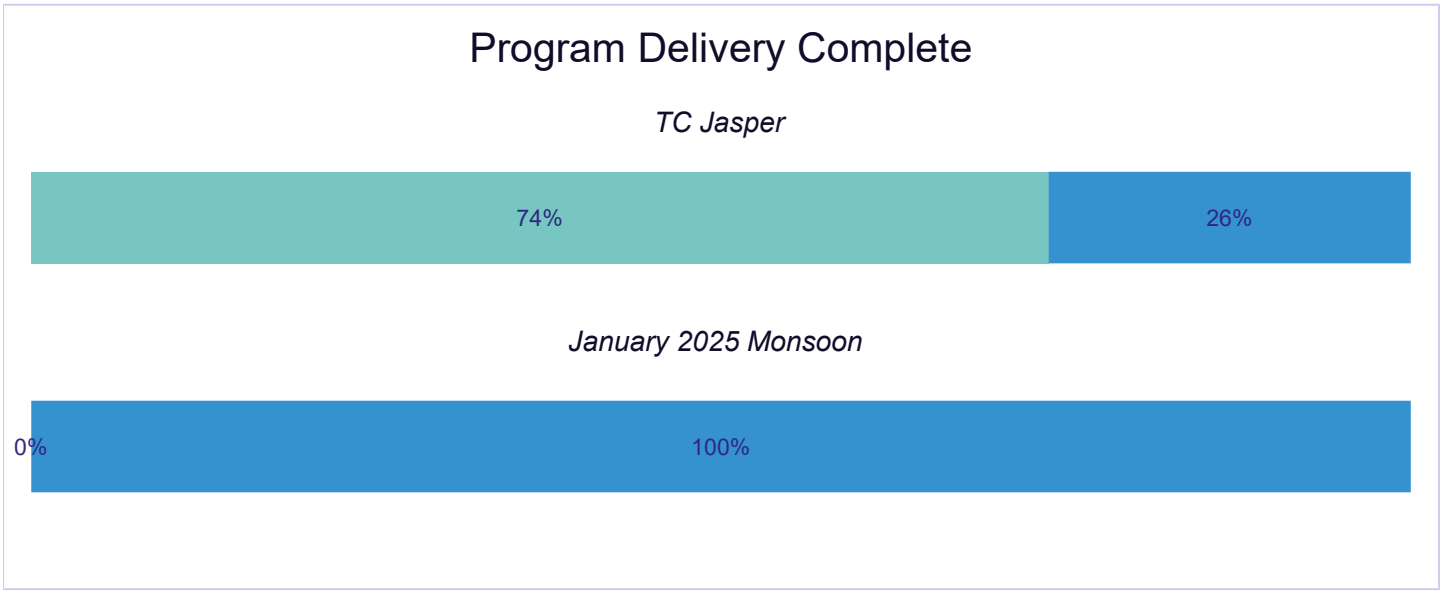
1. DRFA Civil Program Quarterly Summary Q 1 26-27 [**7.12.1** - 2 pages]
2. Water Program Quarterly Summary Q 1 26-27 [**7.12.2** - 2 pages]

DOUGLAS SHIRE COUNCIL

Event	EST Total Funding	Total Committed	Remaining Budget
TC Jasper	$ 162,573,520.57	$ 139,044,138.01	$ 23,529,382.56
January 2025 Monsoon	$ 2,187,486.11	$ 374,259.49	$ 1,813,226.62

Percentage of Funding Received to Date





Note:

1. The 'Percentage of Funding Received to Date' incorporates all funding related to both events.
2. The funding received will lag behind the program delivery as funding can only be claimed after works are completed once the initial 30% of project payment is exhausted.
3. The above 'Program Delivery Complete' has changed from the previous report to better represent the delivery of the programmed works.

DOUGLAS SHIRE COUNCIL

DRFA REPA Contracts (Jasper)

Contract No	Description	Contract Value	Award Date	Construction Start	Construction Complete (%)
2024-6372	Unsealed Roads - South of Daintree	$ 2,950,619.78	13/08/2024	30/09/2024	100%
2024-6371	Unsealed Roads - Daintree to Cape Tribulation	$ 4,325,344.84	9/08/2024	25/10/2024	100%
2024-087	Unsealed Roads - 10 Mile/ ZigZag /China Camp	$ 5,227,108.71	15/04/2025	28/07/2025	100%
2024-088	Unsealed Roads - Banabilla, Idriess, Evergreen	$ 675,087.85	15/04/2025	28/07/2025	100%
2024-6544	Unsealed Roads - CTBR	$ 3,556,943.32	10/04/2025	28/07/2025	100%
2024-6344...	Landslips - Alexandra Range 1, 2, 3	$ 3,872,418.00	5/04/2024	19/04/2024	100%
2024-089	Landslips - Alexandra Range 8a, 9, 10, 11	$ 2,028,139.00	23/09/2024	26/11/2024	100%
2024-090	Landslips - Alexandra Range 3b, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 21, 22	$ 6,280,875.90	11/10/2024	26/11/2024	100%
2024-081	Landslips - Noah Range Slip Descaling	$ 16,383,375.00	18/09/2024	24/09/2024	80%
2024-091	Landslips - South of Daintree	$ 10,812,768.80	10/04/2025	18/08/2025	100%
2024-6558	Landslips - Cape Tribulation Bloomfield Road	$ 13,776,985.10	10/04/2025	16/06/2025	100%
2025-020	Landslips - China Camp Road	$9,529,225.62	18/03/2026	16/06/2026	60%
2025-018	Noah Creek Bridge	$ 8,485,689.63	19/08/2025	21/04/2026	70%
2024-094	Lees Bridge & Taylors Crossing	$ 6,688,996.74	12/05/2025	30/06/2025	65%
2024-108	Concrete Roads - Cape Tribulation Bloomfield Road	$ 872,828.93	10/04/2025	25/07/2025	100%
2024-6542	Mossman Gorge Road	$ 796,447.00	7/11/2024	19/11/2024	100%
	Betterment - Donovans to Bloomfield River	In Development	-	-	0%
	Betterment - Collins Creek	In Development	-	-	0%
	Betterment - Forest Creek Road	In Development	-	-	0%
	Betterment -Whyanbeel	In Development	-	-	0%

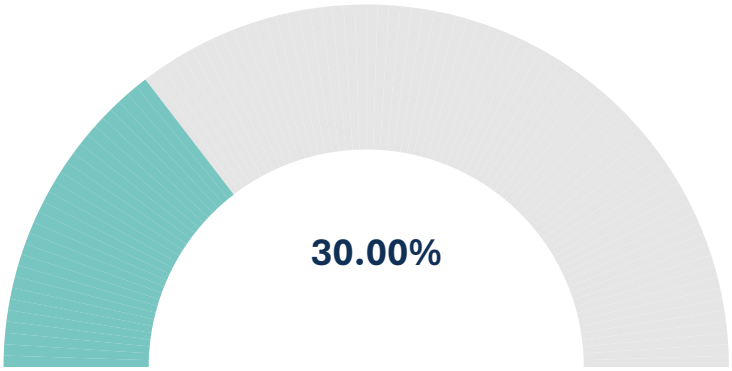
DRFA REPA Contracts (2025 Monsoon)

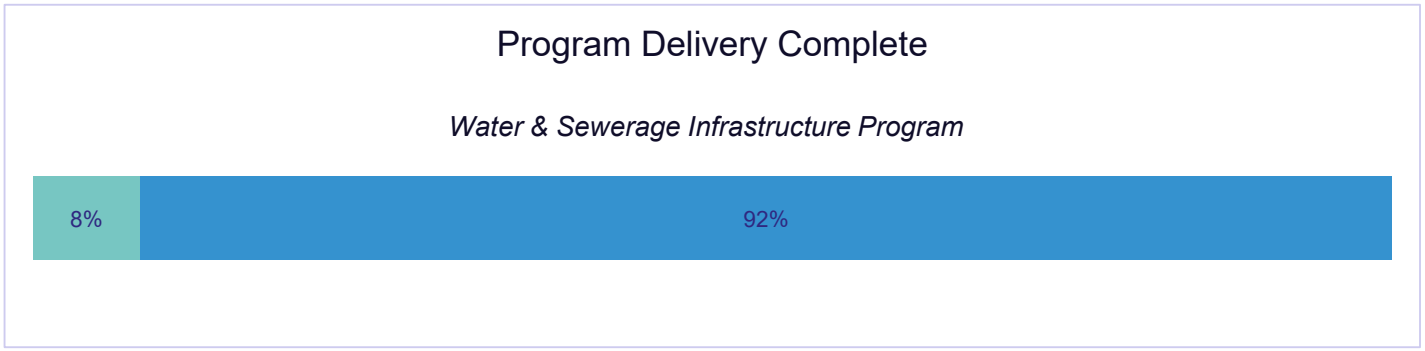
Contract No	Description	Contract Value	Award Date	Construction Start	Construction Complete (%)
2025-019	Douglas Shire Area Sealed Roads	Tender Document Stage	-	-	0%
2025-021	Woobadda Bridge	Tender Document Stage	-	-	0%
	Unsealed Roads - Creb Track and CTBR	Tender Document Stage	-	-	0%
	Landslips - Cape Tribulation Road - AR26	Tender Document Stage	-	-	0%

DOUGLAS SHIRE COUNCIL

Water & Sewerage Infrastructure Program	EST Total Funding	Total Committed	Remaining Budget
	$ 46,730,198.90	$ 5,345,022.85	$ 41,385,176.05

Percentage of Funding Received to Date





Note:

The funding received will lag behind the program delivery as funding can only be claimed after works are completed once the initial 30% of project payment is exhausted.

DOUGLAS SHIRE COUNCIL

Water & Sewerage Infrastructure Program Contracts

Contract No	Description	Contract Value	Award Date	Construction Start	Construction Complete (%)
2027-007	Whyanbeel Main Replacement	Out to Tender			0%
	Wonga Reservoir - Refurbishment and Recommissioning	In Development			0%
2027-035	Daintree Village Water Supply - Contingency Bore	Stage 1 - Out to Tender			0%
	Whyanbeel WTP - Reliability Improvements	In Development			0%
	Whyanbeel Water Supply - Contingency Bore	In Development			0%
	Mossman WTP - Installation of Ultraspin Solids Separator	In Development			0%
	Mossman WTP - Reliability Improvement Works	In Development			0%
2027-032	Replace Water Articulation Aerial Crossings with Underbores	In Development			0%
2027-042	Rex Creek Intake and Marr Creek Scour	In Development			67%
	Little Falls Creek Slip Stabilisation	In Development			0%
2027-025	Water and Sewerage Condition Assessment Program	In Development			0%
CN6438	Cooya Beach Reservoir Refurbishment	$4,793,995.80	20/10/2026		0%
2025-6536	Mossman Raw Water Storage (+ MRI Project with WISER)	$20,834,623.00			0%
CN6212	Watermains - District Metering and Pressure Management	In Progress			60%
	Critical Water Mains Replacement	In Development			0%
	Operational Water Supply and Sewerage Infrastructure Planning	In Development			0%