



DOUGLAS SHIRE COUNCIL ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING

AGENDA

ENSURING EXCELLENCE IN GOVERNANCE
ACCOUNTABLE AND TRANSPARENT DECISION-MAKING
ENGAGING, PLANNING, PARTNERING
CELEBRATING OUR COMMUNITIES

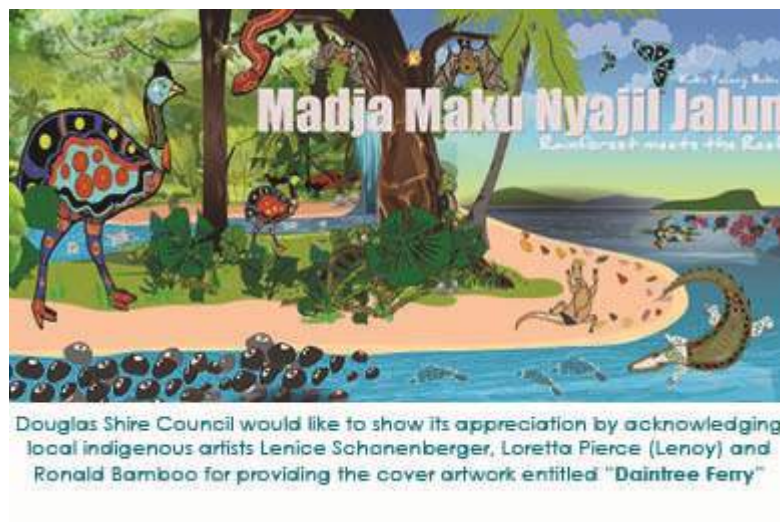
DOUGLAS
SHIRE COUNCIL

PLEASE NOTE:

Members of the Public are advised that recommendations to Council contained within this Agenda and decisions arising from the Council meeting can be subject to alteration.

Applicants and other interested parties should refrain from taking any action until such time as written advice is received confirming Council's decision with respect to any particular issue.

A copy of the confirmed minutes with the meeting resolutions will be available on Councils website www.douglas.qld.gov.au.





An **Ordinary Meeting** of the Douglas Shire Council will be held on **Tuesday, 20 June 2017 10.00a.m.** at the Council Chambers, 64-66 Front Street, Mossman, and the attendance of each Councillor is requested.

AGENDA

'ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY'

'I would like to acknowledge the Kuku Yalanji people who are the Traditional Custodians of the Land. I would also like to pay respect to their Elders both past and present and extend that respect to other Indigenous Australians who are present'.

1. Attendance and Apologies
2. Conflict of Interest
3. Mayoral Minutes
4. Confirmation of Minutes from the Ordinary Meeting held Tuesday 30 May 2017
5. Agenda Items as Listed
6. Notices of Motion
7. Urgent Business
8. Petitions
9. Closed Session

NEXT ORDINARY MEETING – TUESDAY, 11 JULY 2017

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Linda Corder".

CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

**DOUGLAS SHIRE COUNCIL
ORDINARY MEETING
TUESDAY, 20 JUNE 2017
10:00AM
TABLE OF CONTENTS**

5.1.	SURF LIFE SAVING SERVICE CONTRACT	5
5.2.	APPLICATION FOR PERMANENT ROAD CLOSURE OVER UNNAMED ROAD RESERVE ADJOINING LOT 1 ON SP243347 CAPTAIN COOK HIGHWAY WANGETTI (TURTLE COVE RESORT).....	10
5.3.	DOMESTIC VIOLENCE REFUGE FUNCTIONAL BRIEF	15
5.4.	UTILISATION OF TEAMSTERS PARK PROJECT 2017	55
5.5.	DOUGLAS RECREATIONAL VEHICLE STRATEGY 2017- 2021	72
5.6.	WET TROPICS MANAGEMENT PLAN REVIEW SUBMISSION	97
5.7.	PROPOSED PLANNING SCHEME SUBMISSIONS AUDIT	132
5.8.	2017-2018 FEES AND CHARGES-DEVELOPMENT ASSESSMENT- SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITIES	224
5.9.	CORPORATE SUSTAINABILITY STRATEGY	237
5.10.	CEO REPORT MARCH - MAY 2017	254

5.1. SURF LIFE SAVING SERVICE CONTRACT

REPORT AUTHOR(S)
GENERAL MANAGER
DEPARTMENT

Michael Kriedemann, Manager Infrastructure Services
Nicholas Wellwood, General Manager Operations
Infrastructure Services

RECOMMENDATION

That Council:

- 1. resolves in accordance with section 235 of the *Local Government Regulation 2012* that the Council's register of sole source suppliers be extended to include:**
 - **Surf Life Saving Queensland (ABN: 27 360 485 381)**
- 2. delegates authority to the Chief Executive Officer in accordance with *Local Government Act 2009* to negotiate, finalise and execute any and all matters in relation to this contractual arrangement.**

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

It is a requirement of the *Local Government Regulation 2012* (Regulation) to invite written quotations or tenders where the carrying out of works or the supply of goods or services involves a cost greater than \$15,000 or \$200,000 respectively. Additionally, Council's Procurement Policy contains provisions regarding the obtaining of quotes for amounts less than \$15,000.

The Regulation acknowledges that there are instances when it will not always be possible to meet this requirement and provides for a number of exceptions to manage these instances. One of these exceptions is sole source suppliers where it has been identified that they are a key supplier, who are the only reasonable option, from which Council can obtain goods and services.

A further sole source supplier has been identified and a resolution of Council is sought to add this supplier to the register adopted by Council on 13 October 2015.

Since 1930 Surf Life Saving Queensland has worked for and on behalf of the community of Queensland to ensure the beaches and lagoons continue to be recognised as a safe and enjoyable major tourist destination for user groups. Surf Life Saving Queensland has developed a "total service" principle providing the most efficient and effective service to the community. This is achieved through the coordinated delivery of all of the following:

- Professional Aquatic Safety Services (Lifeguards);
- Lifesaving Patrols (Surf Life Saving Clubs);
- Lifesaving Operations Support Services (Varies within regions);
- Community Education (public, schools, tourists and community groups);
- Liaison with Stakeholders (Emergency Services, Community Groups etc.); and
- Research and Development Programs (lifesaving equipment, technology).

The current lifeguard contract with Surf Life Saving Queensland (SLSQ) expires 30 June 2017. A quote has been received from SLSQ to provide lifeguard services for the next 3 years (2017/2018, 2018/2019 and 2019/2020).

The quote for the 2017/2018 year is \$184,516.82 excl. GST and will rise/fall in subsequent years in line with the contractual arrangements. The approximate cost over the 3 year contract period will be \$553,550 excl. GST.

BACKGROUND

The legislative requirement for a sole source supplier requires Council to be satisfied that the supplier is the only supplier that can reasonably provide the required goods or services. The emphasis is on the word "reasonably" and advice from the Department of Infrastructure, Local Government and Planning is that this should be interpreted on a regional and operational basis.

Regional basis interpretation:

- There is only one supplier in the rate paying or immediate region of Council and they are considered to be providing a competitive service, then they can be deemed a reasonable sole source of supply.

Operational basis interpretation:

- The purchase of goods and services from a sole source to support existing assets in an original equipment manufacturer (OEM) or associated systems (AS) type situation may also be deemed a reasonable sole source of supply.

COMMENT

Since 1930 Surf Life Saving Queensland has worked for and on behalf of the community of Queensland to ensure the beaches and lagoons continue to be recognised as a safe and enjoyable major tourist destination for user groups. Surf Life Saving Queensland has developed a "total service" principle providing the most efficient and effective service to the community. This is achieved through the coordinated delivery of all of the following:

- Professional Aquatic Safety Services (Lifeguards);
- Lifesaving Patrols (Surf Life Saving Clubs);
- Lifesaving Operations Support Services (Varies within regions);
- Community Education (public, schools, tourists and community groups);
- Liaison with Stakeholders (Emergency Services, Community Groups etc.); and
- Research and Development Programs (lifesaving equipment, technology).

Staffs have now identified a further supplier to be included onto the Register of Sole Source Suppliers. Details of the supplier, the products they provide and the rationale to be added as a sole source supplier follow:

Supplier	Product	Rationale
Surf Life Saving Queensland (ABN: 27 360 485 381)	Professional Aquatic Safety Services (Lifeguards) Lifesaving Patrols (Surf Life Saving Clubs) Lifesaving Operations Support Services (Varies within regions) Community Education (public, schools, tourists and community groups) Liaison with Stakeholders (Emergency Services, Community Groups etc.) Research and Development Programs (lifesaving equipment, technology).	Surf Life Saving Queensland has developed a "total service" principle providing the most efficient and effective service to the community.

For the reasons provided above, staff are satisfied that legislative requirements for these suppliers to be registered as sole source suppliers have been met.

PROPOSAL

That Council:

1. resolves in accordance with section 235 of the *Local Government Regulation 2012* that the Council's register of sole source suppliers be extended to include:
 - Surf Life Saving Queensland (ABN: 27 360 485 381)
2. delegates authority to the Chief Executive Officer in accordance with *Local Government Act 2009* to negotiate, finalise and execute any and all matters in relation to this contractual arrangement.

FINANCIAL/RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS

The purchase of materials and services in the 2017/2018 financial year is budgeted annually with suppliers engaged on an as required basis for delivery of both operational and capital program delivery. The register of sole source suppliers' process will improve the use of Council's resources.

YEAR ONE 2017/2018				
Beach	No. of Lifeguards	Service Duration	Hours of Operation	Cost
Four Mile Beach, Port Douglas	1	All Year Round 365 Days	Stinger Season (1 Nov– 31 May) weekdays, weekends, public holidays and school holidays 1 Nov-30 Apr 9 hours per day - 9.00am to 6.00pm	\$157,000.38 Excl. GST
	2	June July School Holidays	1 May-31 May 8 hours per day - 9.00am to 5.00pm Low Risk Stinger Season (usually 1 Jun–31 Oct) weekdays, weekends, public holidays and school holidays 8 hours per day - 9.00am to 5.00pm	
Note: Sundays + Public Holidays (9am–5pm) are covered by the Port Douglas Surf Life Saving Club from Jul to Nov and Apr to Jun.				
TOTAL COST Year 1				\$172,700.42 Incl. GST

YEAR ONE 2017/2018				
Beach	No. of Lifeguards	Service Duration	Hours of Operation	Cost
Four Mile Beach, Port Douglas (Priority 1)	2 nd lifeguard	Christmas School Holidays 09/12/2017 – 21/01/2018	Monday – Sunday 9am – 6pm	\$18,739.98 Excl. GST
Total Cost Year 1				\$20,613.98 Incl. GST

YEAR ONE 2017/2018				
Beach	No. of Lifeguards	Service Duration	Hours of Operation	Cost
Four Mile Beach, Port Douglas (Priority 2)	2 nd lifeguard	September School Holidays 16/09/2017 – 1/10/2017 Easter School Holidays 30/03/2018 – 15/04/2018	Monday – Sunday 9am – 5pm Monday – Sunday 9am – 5pm	\$8,776.46 Excl. GST
Note: Sundays + Public Holidays (9am–5pm) are covered by the Port Douglas Surf Life Saving Club from Jul to Nov and Apr to Jun.				
Total Cost Year 1				\$9,654.11 Incl. GST

The current lifeguard contract with Surf Life Saving Queensland (SLSQ) expires 30 June 2017. A quote has been received from SLSQ to provide lifeguard services for the next 3 years (2017/2018, 2018/2019 and 2019/2020).

The quote for the 2017/2018 year is \$184,516.82 excl. GST and will rise/fall in subsequent years in line with the contractual arrangements. The approximate cost over the 3 year contract period will be \$553,550 excl. GST.

The quote for 2017/2018 includes the following:

- One lifeguard on duty 365 days of the year;
- A second lifeguard on duty during the June / July School Holidays;
- A second lifeguard on duty during the Christmas School Holidays;
- A second lifeguard on duty during the September School Holidays; and
- A second lifeguard on duty during the Easter School Holidays.

Infrastructure Services has allocated funds in the draft 2017/2018 Operational Budget to cover the cost of this service contract. Subsequent Operational Budgets will need to reflect this 3 year contract.

RISK MANAGEMENT IMPLICATIONS

This register of sole source suppliers does not commit Council to any financial expenditure terms and meets all legislative requirements. Council considers and adopts its annual budgets separately.

SUSTAINABILITY IMPLICATIONS

Economic: Undertaking a process by which the suppliers are identified as a sole source supplier allows suppliers to be directly engaged saving both time and expense for Council and suppliers.

Environmental: Suppliers will be required to work in compliance with Council's environmental plans and policies.

Social: Ensure the beaches and lagoons continue to be recognised as a safe and enjoyable major tourist destination for user groups

CORPORATE/OPERATIONAL PLAN, POLICY REFERENCE

This report has been prepared in accordance with the following:

Corporate Plan 2014-2019 Initiatives:

Theme 2 - Building a Sustainable Economic Base

2.1.3 - Provide information sessions regarding the "preferred supplier" application process to support local business.

2.2.3 - Encourage business activity and investments by removing unnecessary bureaucratic processes.

2.2.4 - Promote and support - 'Buy Local'.

Theme 5 - Governance

5.1.3 - Monitor and regularly review procurement practices to ensure legislative compliance and "value for money".

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:

Regulator	Meeting the responsibilities associated with regulating activities through legislation or local law.
------------------	--

CONSULTATION

Internal:	Consultation has occurred with officers across the relevant departments
------------------	---

External:	Nil
------------------	-----

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

No specific community engagement has been completed relating to the sole source supplier status for Surf Life Saving Queensland (SLSQ). SLSQ has been providing this service for Council for many years and has performed well for Council and the community.

ATTACHMENTS

Nil

5.2. APPLICATION FOR PERMANENT ROAD CLOSURE OVER UNNAMED ROAD RESERVE ADJOINING LOT 1 ON SP243347 CAPTAIN COOK HIGHWAY WANGETTI (TURTLE COVE RESORT)

REPORT AUTHOR(S)
GENERAL MANAGER
DEPARTMENT

Graham Busby, Property Officer
Darryl Crees, General Manager Corporate Services
Governance

RECOMMENDATION

That Council:

- 1. advises the Department of Natural Resources and Mines that:**
 - a. Council objects to the proposed application for permanent road closure over part of unnamed road reserve adjoining Lot 1 on SP243347, Captain Cook Highway Wangetti and shown as Lot 1 on drawing TSV17083 for the following reasons:**
 - i. The subject land is within the Word Heritage Area and Environs Locality and included in a Conservation Planning Area under the current scheme and a Conservation Zone under the proposed Douglas Shire Planning Scheme. The intention of the Conservation Planning Area is that any use of land in private ownership does not affect the environmental, habitat, conservation or scenic values of that land or surrounding areas. The 'Minimum Areas and Dimensions of Lots for Each Planning Area' Table in the Lot Reconfiguration Code specifies for the World Heritage Areas and Environs Locality, that lots are "*as existing with no further reconfiguration*". Closing the road to expand freehold land in this location, even if amalgamated with Lot 1 on SP243347, would be contrary to this planning provision. From a planning perspective, the road closure application is not supported.**
 - ii. The land is also mapped as Coastal Hazard Area – Erosion Prone Area under the State's Interactive Planning mapping System. The land is not suitable for conversion from road reserve to freehold tenure as it may prompt future applications to defend the land from coastal processes such as beach erosion.**
 - b. that, should the Department of Natural Resources and Mines approve the proposed permanent road closure, all costs associated with the road closure be paid by the applicant.**
- 2. delegates authority to the Chief Executive Officer, in accordance with section 257 of the *Local Government Act 2009*, to finalise all matters associated with this matter.**

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

A request has been received from the Department of Natural Resources and Mines (DNRM) for Council's views in relation to a proposed permanent road closure over part of an unnamed road reserve, within Permit to Occupy described as Lot A on AP21575, adjoining Lot 1 on SP243347 Captain Cook Highway, Wangetti.

At the Ordinary Meeting of Council held on 13 December 2016, Council resolved to execute a form Part C as road manager in relation to the proposed permanent road closure, so the application could be lodged with the DNRM. The application has now been lodged and it has referred to Council for comment.

Following internal Council departmental consultation, it is recommended that Council advises the DNRM that it objects to the proposed permanent road closure.

BACKGROUND

In November 2016 Council received a request to execute as road manager, a Form C 'Statement in relation to an application under the *Land Act 1994* over State land' for the proposed permanent road closure of part of an unnamed road reserve within Permit to Occupy described as Lot A on AP21575, adjoining Lot 1 on SP243347 Captain Cook Highway, Wangetti. The subject land is shown as Lot 1 on the attached drawing TSV17083. Council resolved to execute the Form C at the Ordinary Meeting held on 13 December 2016.

Council is now requested to provide its views in relation to the proposed permanent road closure as the application has recently been lodged with the DNRM.

COMMENT

It is highly unlikely that the section of unnamed road reserve totaling an area of approximately 1960m², which is represented by Lot 1 on attached drawing TSV17083 will be needed for road purposes in the future. However following internal consultation, the proposed permanent road closure at this location is not supported due to planning concerns as documented below.

"The land subject to the proposal to close road is associated with a small resort constructed on Lot 1 SP243347. The resort dates back to approvals in the early 1980's with subsequent additions in the late 1990's under the former Resort Business Zone that applied to the site. The area under the current permit to occupy is used for facilities associated with the resort (walking, lighting, volley ball court, etc.)."

The land is included in the Conservation Planning Area in the current Douglas Shire Planning Scheme and this is carried through as Conservation Zone in the proposed Douglas Shire Planning Scheme. The intention of the Conservation Planning Area is that any use of land in private ownership does not effect the environmental, habitat, conservation or scenic values of that land or surrounding areas. The 'Minimum Areas and Dimensions of Lots for Each Planning Area' Table in the Lot Reconfiguration Code specifies for the World Heritage Areas and Environs Locality that lots are "as existing with no further reconfiguration". Closing the road to expand freehold land in this location, even if amalgamated with Lot 1 on SP243347, would be contrary to this planning provision. From a planning perspective, the road closure application is not supported.

The land is also mapped as Coastal Hazard Area – Erosion Prone Area under the State's Interactive Planning Mapping System. The land is not suitable for conversion from road reserve to freehold tenure as it may prompt future applications to defend the land from coastal processes such as beach erosion."

PROPOSAL

The area under the current permit to occupy is used for facilities associated with the resort (walkway, lighting, volley ball court). The applicant has indicated to DNRM, that the intent of the application is to formalise tenure of these facilities and if approved, the land would then be amalgamated with Lot 1 on SP243347.

Upon taking into consideration internal comment which has been received from Sustainable Communities, it is recommended that Council advises DNRM that it objects to the proposed permanent road closure, based upon the reasons contained within the recommendation of this report.

FINANCIAL/RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS

There will be no cost to Council if the road closure is approved. Council will not receive any financial compensation from the State, if the road closure is approved and the land is amalgamated with the adjoining Lot 1 on SP243347.

RISK MANAGEMENT IMPLICATIONS

If the proposed road closure is approved and the land is amalgamated with the adjoining lot, should there be coastal erosion, Council will be at risk of receiving claims for remedial work associated with this beach erosion.

SUSTAINABILITY IMPLICATIONS

Economic: There are no economic sustainability implications in regard to the proposal.

Environmental: Possible sea level rises and erosion issues may impact upon future use of the subject land.

Social: There are no social sustainability implications in regard to the proposal.

CORPORATE/OPERATIONAL PLAN, POLICY REFERENCE

This report has been prepared in accordance with the following:

Corporate Plan 2014-2019 Initiatives:

Theme 5 – Governance

5.2.1 - Provide Councillors and community with accurate, unbiased and factual reporting to enable accountable and transparent decision-making.

Operational Plan 2015-2016 Actions:

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:

Asset-Owner Meeting the responsibilities associated with owning or being the custodian of assets such as infrastructure.

CONSULTATION

Internal: Internal consultation was undertaken with comment sought from the following areas:

Manager Finance
Manager Governance
Manager Infrastructure
Coordinator Water & Wastewater Operations
Manager Sustainable Communities
Executive Officer/Strategy & Policy Coordinator

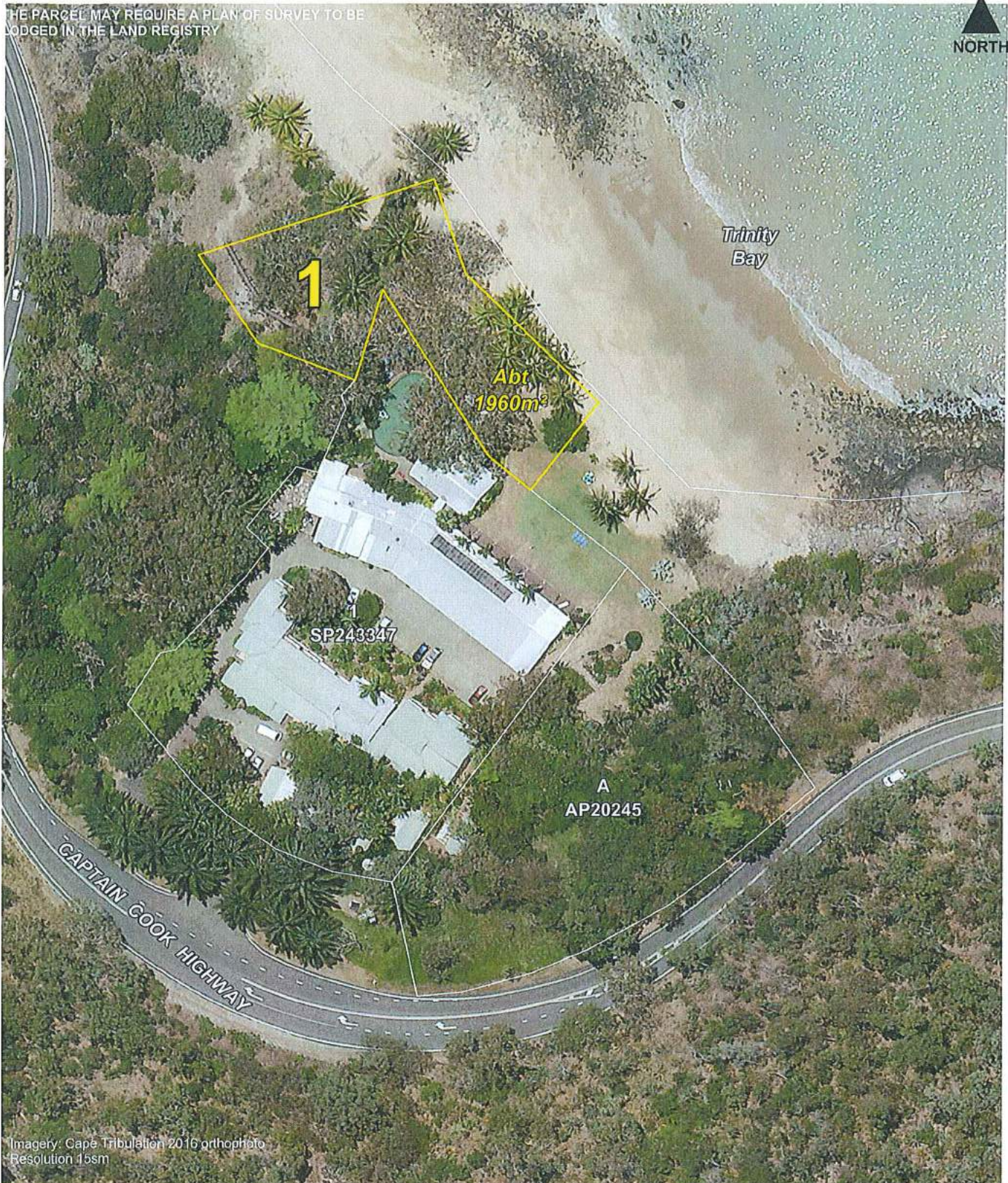
External: Department of natural Resources & Mines

ATTACHMENTS

1. Drawing TS V 17083 **[5.2.1]**

THE PARCEL MAY REQUIRE A PLAN OF SURVEY TO BE
LODGED IN THE LAND REGISTRY

NORTH



Imagery: Cape Tribulation 2016 orthophoto
Resolution 15cm

Scale: 1:750

0 15 30 45 60 75 Metres

0 50 mm 100 mm 150 mm

Notings Data Base reference:
17N477



Prepared by:
SPATIAL INFORMATION
SERVICES NORTH
(TOWNSVILLE OFFICE)
NORTH REGION

9th Floor Verde Building
445 Flinders Street
Townsville Q 4810

© The State of Queensland
(Dept of Natural Resources & Mines) 2017

Plan of Lot 1

Proposed Permanent Road Closure
Over part of Captain Cook Highway adjacent to
Lot 1 on SP243347
Cancelling Lot A on AP21575

LOCALITY : WANGETTI

LOCAL AUTH : DOUGLAS SC

File Ref : eLVAS 2017/000455

Prepared by: Bill Sales

Date: 28/04/2017

Compiled from the DCDB extracted April 2017 & AP21575

Ordinary Council Meeting - 20 June 2017

DRAWING

NOTE: Original size A3

TSV17083

Ortho

5.3. DOMESTIC VIOLENCE REFUGE FUNCTIONAL BRIEF

REPORT AUTHOR: Lisa Golding, Community & Economic Development Project Officer
TEAM LEADER: Kerrie Hawkes, Executive Officer
DEPARTMENT: CEO Unit - Connected Communities

RECOMMENDATION

That Council:

- 1. notes the extensive consultation and community support underpinning the recommendations in this Domestic and Family Violence Refuge Functional Brief; and**
- 2. adopts the Brief which sets out a proposal for the facility and operational requirements suitable for supported accommodation needed to fill a gap in services for vulnerable members of the Douglas Shire; and**
- 3. resolves to use this document to advocate to State and Federal governments for a purpose built Domestic and Family Violence Refuge for Douglas Shire as recommended therein.**

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Repeated evidence of the need for a domestic and family violence refuge to be located in the Douglas Shire impelled the inclusion of initiative 1.2.1 in Council's Operational Plan 2016-17: 'In partnership with relevant state agencies develop a functional brief for the establishment of a domestic violence refuge' to provide the missing link between an often discussed gap in support for vulnerable people and the ability to deliver long-term, successful outcomes for women and their children escaping domestic and family violence in Douglas.

Pursuant to this initiative, this functional brief sets out the gaps in current support service delivery to victims of domestic and family violence, and identifies the model of facility required to best address the absence of a crisis shelter or refuge in the Douglas Shire.

The design detail provided herein will be used to pursue funding and operational partnerships with State and Federal Governments and can be utilised to inform further concept planning and facility design.

BACKGROUND

The Douglas Shire has among Queensland's highest rates of reported domestic and family violence, second only to Mt Isa, but has no crisis or transitional accommodation options to assist victims and their children. Douglas also has a high proportion of populations vulnerable to barriers restricting access to existing support services: a high percentage of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander residents; small, discrete 'rural and remote' population centres; a lack of affordable public transport, affordable housing, and specialist domestic violence services. Without appropriate, long-term accommodation and support most women trying to break the cycle will return to their abuser.

Domestic and family violence has long-term and far-reaching consequences. Women who experience domestic violence face poor overall physical and psychological health and wellbeing outcomes, and children who witness family violence are subject to psychological and behavioural impacts, health and socioeconomic impacts, and the intergenerational transmission of violence and re-victimisation. The effects of domestic and family violence then reverberate through the whole community.

Police and community service providers in Douglas work conscientiously and collaboratively to assist women and their children escaping violence but are compelled by a lack of alternatives to place victims temporarily in motels or refer them to refuges in Cairns where demand for supported accommodation consistently outstrips supply and which necessitates victims leaving their support networks, their jobs and their children's schools.

This service model is inadequate and ineffective at affecting long-term change against a complex and pervasive social problem.

COMMENT

The functional brief is a key element in the successful outcome of a capital works project. It should establish the optimum solution for the requirements, and outline the scope of functions and activities to be accommodated.

Domestic and family violence is the most common cause of homelessness among women in Australia but the type of facility provided to victims escaping violence is just as important as having a roof overhead. Perpetrators of family violence control their victims over extended periods, affecting their autonomy, ability to make decisions, self-esteem and identity. A domestic and family violence refuge should provide an environment that helps victims develop or regain the life-skills and independence necessary to break the cycle and move past their traumatic experiences. A well-designed facility will create an environment for residents which is empowering, facilitating the development of personal life-skills and creating a strong foundation for the operational elements of domestic and family violence support services.

This functional brief was developed to detail the model of refuge best suited to the needs of the Douglas Shire both financially and in client outcomes, after consultation with Queensland Police Service and representatives of local government and non-government service providers, specialist domestic violence services in the region, and research into Australian and international best practice domestic and family violence accommodation responses.

The process of agency consultation determined that the priority target groups for the facility should be families with several children, rural and remote women, and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander women. It is noted in the brief that these are not the only groups to suffer domestic and family violence in the region: service providers advised that they also dealt with male victims of spousal abuse, and unaccompanied teens made homeless by family violence. The populations that constitute the majority of local victims and those most vulnerable to barriers to breaking the cycle of violence are those targeted as priorities in this project.

The model of refuge identified as the most appropriate through this process to address the needs of the Douglas Shire is a cluster of three self-contained, co-located units. A cluster model offers flexibility in a region of small, disparate populations and provides the ability for longer tenancies than in a crisis shelter, enhancing the development of independence and living skills necessary for the long-term recovery of residents.

PROPOSAL

The design detail provided herein will be used to advocate for funding and operational partnerships with State and Federal Governments and can be utilised to inform further concept planning and facility design.

FINANCIAL/RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS

There are no resource implications for Council arising from this brief. Council's role in this project is to advocate for the delivery of a suitable accommodation facility to fill identified gaps in services.

RISK MANAGEMENT IMPLICATIONS

There is no risk to Council emanating from this report but, with one Australian woman killed by her current or former partner every week, the risks to the community of not providing best practice responses to women and their children escaping from domestic and family violence are greater than the risks associated with installing a domestic violence refuge in the shire.

The operational risks associated with a refuge for women and their children escaping violence will be ameliorated through incorporating best practice measures throughout the design and implementation phases of the facility and service.

SUSTAINABILITY IMPLICATIONS

Economic: Domestic and family violence is estimated to cost Queensland \$3 billion a year. Facilitating the provision of best practice services to assist vulnerable residents will lessen this impost on the community.

Environmental: Providing resources locally will require less travel from people needing to access accommodation and support services from other regions.

Social: The social implications of domestic and family violence include negative psychological and behavioural, health and socio-economic outcomes, and impact upon victims, perpetrators, their children and the wider community. Ensuring best practice support services provide an environment that helps victims break free of a cycle of violence contributes to greater wellbeing for victims and the community.

CORPORATE/OPERATIONAL PLAN, POLICY REFERENCE

This report has been prepared in accordance with the following:

Corporate Plan 2014-2019 Initiatives:

Theme 1 - Celebrating Our Communities

- 1.2.1 - Advocate for state and federally funded services in identified areas of need.*
- 1.2.4 - Network, advocate and partner with stakeholders to achieve positive outcomes.*
- 1.3.1 - Take a proactive role in supporting the provision of improved facilities and services directed at assisting and caring for vulnerable groups in our communities.*

Theme 4 - Engage, Plan, Partner

- 4.2.2 - Provide leadership to secure beneficial social, environmental and economic outcomes for the Shire.*

4.2.3 - Work with regional, state, national and international stakeholders to promote beneficial partnerships to support strong, resilient and sustainable communities.

Operational Plan 2016-2017 Actions:

1.2.1 - In partnership with relevant state agencies develop a functional brief for the establishment of a domestic violence refuge.

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:

Facilitator Bringing people together to develop solutions to problems

CONSULTATION

Internal: Consultation with Mayor and Councillors was undertaken at a workshop on Tuesday 16 May 2017.

External: This Functional Brief has been prepared with input from:

- Interviews with Queensland Police Service and representatives of government and non-government agencies responding to domestic and family violence in the Douglas Shire
 - Apunapima
 - Bamanga Bubu Ngadimunku
 - Douglas Shire Community Services Association
 - Energy and Water Ombudsman
 - Goobidi: Jawalkunna Family Services
 - Mossman District Hospital
 - Mossman Elders Justice Group
 - Mossman Gorge Wellbeing Centre
 - Mossman Police
 - Mossman Youth Centre
 - Port Douglas Community Service Network
 - Port Douglas Police
 - Uniting Care Community Family Support Services
- Interviews with specialist domestic and family violence service providers involved with domestic violence refuges and crisis accommodation in Far North Queensland
 - Cairns Regional Domestic Violence Service
 - Department of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Partnerships
 - Department of Communities, Child Safety and Disability Services
 - Innisfail Youth and Family Care
 - Tablelands Women's Centre
 - Women's Centre Cairns
- Literature search of Australian and international best practice domestic and family violence accommodation response
- Workshop with Department of Communities, Child Safety and Disability Support, and Douglas service providers comparing models of accommodation currently funded by the Department

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Due to the specialised and operational nature of the input sought for the development of the Functional Brief, consultation with the wider community was not sought. This proposal will fall within the 'inform' category of Council's Community Engagement Framework.

ATTACHMENTS

1. Domestic Violence Refuge Functional Brief **[5.3.1]**

DOMESTIC AND FAMILY VIOLENCE REFUGE

Functional Brief

For the establishment of a supported accommodation refuge for women and their children escaping domestic and family violence in the Douglas Shire in partnership with relevant State agencies and local service providers.

1 June 2017



Engaging, Planning, Partnering
Muruku Kirraji – Eastern Kuku Yalanji
Nganyji pina ngunda-lum ... Ma:lnyjirri-yngku – Yirrganydji

Domestic and Family Violence Refuge

Functional Brief

Contents

1. Executive Summary	3
2. Introduction.....	4
2.1. Purpose of the functional design brief	4
2.2. Overview of the project	4
3. Project Background	4
3.1. Domestic and family violence in the Douglas Shire	4
3.2. Current service response	5
3.3. Vision for the project	5
3.4. Project objectives	6
4. Project Scope and Context	6
4.1. Domestic and Family Violence definition	6
4.2. Victims of domestic and family violence	6
4.2.1. Target Groups	7
4.2.2. Groups identified as needing a different model of assistance	7
4.3. Methodology	8
5. Strategic Policy and Direction	8
5.1. National context	8
5.2. Queensland Government	8
6. Options for Domestic Violence Refuge and Crisis Accommodation	9
6.1. 'Safe at Home' models	9
6.2. Communal Shared Living	9
6.3. Cluster Model	10
6.4. Dispersed	11
6.5. Safe House	11
7. Recommended Facility Profile for Douglas Shire.....	11
7.1. Client demographics and specific needs in consideration	12
7.1.1. Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander women	12
7.1.2. Older women and rural women.....	12
7.1.3. Women with children	12
7.1.4. Tourists and travellers	12

7.2.	Activity projections	13
7.2.1.	Bed and bed equivalent projections	13
7.2.2.	Length of stay	14
7.3.	Location	14
7.3.1.	Secret urban location.....	14
7.3.2.	Remote area	14
7.3.3.	Open suburban location	15
7.4.	Summary of staffing requirements	15
8.	Key Design Requirements	15
8.1.	Facility design objectives	15
8.2.	Operational principles and design	16
8.3.	Resident environment / unit configurations	16
8.3.1.	Bedrooms.....	18
8.3.2.	Kitchen	19
8.3.3.	Family Space	20
8.3.4.	Outside.....	21
8.3.5.	Bathroom	21
8.3.6.	Laundry facilities	21
8.4.	Staff environment.....	21
8.5.	Communal areas and shared space	22
8.5.1.	Interior	22
8.5.2.	Outside.....	23
8.6.	Amenity	24
8.7.	Security	26
8.8.	Equity of access	27
8.8.1.	People with Disabilities.....	27
8.8.2.	Older Women	27
8.8.3.	Women with complex needs including mental health or substance abuse problems	27
8.8.4.	Equitable Access	27
8.8.5.	Culturally appropriate safe space	28
8.9.	Storage Facilities.....	28
8.10.	Future proofing and flexibility	29
9.	Operational Considerations	29
9.1.	Admissions, Access and Hours of Operation	29
9.2.	Building maintenance services	29

9.3. Linen/crockery	29
9.4. Pets	29
10. Relationships and interdependencies with external agencies.....	29
11. Conclusion – Next Steps	30
12. References	31
13. Appendices	32
Consultations with Key Douglas Service Providers	32

1. Executive Summary

Domestic and family violence is a canker that infects us all: victims, responders, perpetrators and community. Its victims are old, young, rich, poor, black, white, women, children and men. Its effects are felt long after the violence occurs. Women who experience domestic and family violence face poor overall physical and psychological health and wellbeing outcomes including increased risk of Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder, substance misuse, homelessness and suicide. Children who witness family violence are subject to psychological and behavioural impacts, health and socioeconomic impacts, and the intergenerational transmission of violence and re-victimisation. This project was undertaken against a backdrop in which one Australian woman is killed every week by her current or former partner, where the number of domestic violence incidents reported in Queensland is increasing annually, and where high profile and tragic occurrences are in the media nearly every week.

The Douglas Shire has one of the State's highest rates of reported domestic and family violence coupled with a high proportion of the population especially vulnerable to barriers restricting access to support services. Douglas has a high percentage of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander residents. The region consists of small, discrete 'rural and remote' population centres, has a lack of affordable public transport, affordable housing, specialist domestic violence services and no crisis accommodation. The response for women escaping domestic violence is a referral to agencies in Cairns where demand for supported accommodation consistently outstrips supply. One half of all victims seeking shelter in Australia are turned away because of a lack of available refuge beds, and without access to safe and secure accommodation many victims of domestic and family violence will return to their abusers.

As important as having a roof overhead, is the type of accommodation service provided to victims escaping domestic and family violence. Perpetrators of family violence control their victims over extended periods, affecting their autonomy, ability to make decisions, self-esteem and identity. A domestic and family violence refuge should provide an environment that helps victims develop or regain the life-skills and independence necessary to break the cycle and move past their traumatic experiences.

The Douglas Shire requires a facility to provide crisis and supported accommodation services to women and their children escaping domestic and family violence. The current practice of service organisations referring victims to refuges in Cairns or attempting to temporarily place victims in unsupported accommodation in motels, is inadequate and ineffectual. This Brief sets out the gaps in current service delivery and identifies the model of facility required to best address the absence of domestic and family violence refuge in the region.

2. Introduction

“Each and every Queenslanders has the right to feel safe, and be safe, especially in their own home. Domestic and family violence is a violation of this basic human right.” Queensland Says: Not Now, Not Ever. Domestic and Family Violence Prevention Strategy 2016 – 2026.

2.1. Purpose of the functional design brief

This functional brief sets out the infrastructure requirements and service considerations of a Domestic and Family Violence Refuge to service the needs of women and their children escaping domestic and family violence in the Douglas Shire.

The design detail provided in this brief will be used to inform concept planning and facility design. It will also be used in the development of the project’s business case documents and to advocate for full or part funding of the project.

2.2. Overview of the project

The following report provides:

- Evidenced need for a crisis accommodation response to domestic and family violence in the region
- Alignment with existing government policies and priorities
- The best practice model for a shelter to suit the needs of this region
- Design and operational requirements for the facility

3. Project Background

The Douglas Shire covers an area of 2,445 km² from Cairns Regional Council and Ellis Beach in the south to Wujal Wujal and the Cook Shire in the north. Douglas Shire has an estimated population of 11,661 residents as at 30 June 2015; 70 per cent of whom live in the two population centres of Port Douglas and Mossman, with other urban populations in Wonga, Newell and Cooya Beaches. Douglas is a decentralised region with communities scattered along the 100 km stretch of coast road and rainforest or tucked into small rural townships. Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people compose 8.5 per cent of the community compared to 3.6 per cent of the overall Queensland population. The Douglas Shire has a slightly older population than the State in general and a higher proportion of families with young children.

The Australian Bureau of Statistics classifies 93.7 per cent of the Douglas population as ‘Outer Regional’ and the remainder as ‘Remote’ or ‘Very Remote’ according to the Accessibility/Remoteness Index of Australia classification. Women in rural and remote areas face greater challenges in reporting violence and seeking support including tyranny of distance, isolation, a lack of transport, financial insecurity, fears about confidentiality and a lack of services within the area, especially in affordable housing options. Where there are no accommodation options, women are more likely to remain trapped in violent situations.

3.1. Domestic and family violence in the Douglas Shire

The Douglas Shire has high rates of reported domestic and family violence. In 2013-14 rates of domestic violence applications per 100,000 persons in the Far North Queensland region were 946, second in the State after Mt Isa, and 190 applications higher than the third region, Capricornia.¹

¹ Special Taskforce Queensland. 2015. Not Now, Not Ever.

Far North Police Data ²		DV Applications				Contravene DFVPO Occurrence Count	
Rank by highest % per population of DV Applications		Population at 2011 Census	2014-15	2015-16	% per population	2014-15	2015-16
12	Mossman	1732	69	64	3.70 %	49	60
36	Port Douglas	3205	25	28	0.87 %	23	18

This data does not come close to representing the true extent of the problem as much of domestic and family violence occurs in private and goes unreported.

3.2. Current service response

There are currently no emergency or crisis accommodation facilities and a lack of affordable housing in the Douglas Shire. The current response for victims escaping domestic and family violence is to refer them to a shelter in Cairns or to arrange a motel in the short-term.

Dependence upon refuge space in Cairns is not adequate or appropriate for the needs of women and their children as:

- Cairns often lacks enough refuge space for their own needs
- Transporting people to Cairns requires time and resources lacking in Douglas
- Victims are required (and often reluctant) to leave their support networks, schools, jobs

It's too far from their supports and community or it's too hard to get there. As soon as they find out it's in Cairns, they're just not interested.³

"[T]he practice of placing women and children escaping violence in hotels, motels or caravan parks because there are no available refuge beds, verges on system neglect."⁴ Without access to support services or longer term accommodation, it is very difficult for victims of domestic and family violence to break the cycle of violence.

Service provider concern about the lack of facilities caused a group of agencies led by the Port Douglas police to instigate a committee, DVEAF (Domestic Violence Emergency Accommodation Fund), to raise donations to fund emergency motel accommodation for victims of domestic and family violence. Reliance on donations is not a sustainable response to the accommodation needs of women and their children escaping domestic and family violence.

We recently worked together with Mossman Community Centre to help a woman in her 60s move into shared accommodation with five other people. All the long-term support we could give her is unfunded: clothing, food, toiletries, referrals to legal advice, volunteers giving her English lessons as English is a second language, cooking lessons, going to CWA for socialisation and sewing. The Neighbourhood Centre does unfunded stuff because, how can you not?⁵

3.3. Vision for the project

To achieve a facility with the capacity to provide emergency and transitional accommodation for women and their children escaping domestic and family violence in the Douglas Shire with specialist support

² Statistics provided by the Department of Communities, Child Safety and Disability Services

³ Port Douglas Police

⁴ Weeks and Oberin 2004. Women's Refuges, Shelters, Outreach and Support Service

⁵ Port Douglas Neighbourhood Centre

services and links to the broader service providers in the region, to negate the need for victims of violence to choose between leaving the region or staying with violence.

3.4. Project objectives

- Demonstrate the need for a domestic and family violence refuge to cater for residents of the Douglas region
- Identify the most appropriate model of domestic and family violence refuge for the Douglas Shire
- Detail the design requirements and support service considerations necessary to deliver such a resource

4. Project Scope and Context

The purview of this project was to:

- Examine the
 - Extent and specifics of domestic and family violence, and organisational response to support victims, in the Douglas Shire
 - Potential of various models of domestic violence refuge to address the crisis accommodation needs of the Douglas Shire
- Develop a Brief
 - Describing the infrastructure design requirements of a best practice, fit for purpose, facility
 - Detailing the evidence of need and justification for described model of refuge to be employed in the development of a business case and advocacy for funding contributions for the implementation of the project

4.1. Domestic and Family Violence definition

Domestic and family violence occurs when one person in an intimate personal, family or informal carer relationship employs an ongoing pattern of violence or abuse to maintain power and control over the other person.

Under the Domestic and Family Violence Protection Act 2012 (Qld), intimate personal relationships include married and de facto spouses; parents of a child; people who are, or were engaged; and people in couple relationships, including same-sex couples. Family relationships exist between two people who are related by either blood or marriage, including extended or kinship relationships where a person is regarded as a relative. Informal care relationships exist where one person is or was dependent on another person for help with essential daily tasks, where care is provided other than on a commercial basis.

The Act defines the conduct of domestic violence as including physical, sexual, emotional, psychological, and economic abuse or any other threatening, coercive, or controlling behaviour which causes the victim to fear for their safety or wellbeing, or that of someone else.

4.2. Victims of domestic and family violence

Although domestic and family violence can occur within any form of relationship and towards any person regardless of personal, cultural or economic standing, individuals belonging to certain groups are more vulnerable than others.

Men can be and are victims of violence and coercive control but statistics tells us that the majority of sexual, physical and emotional abuse is committed by men against women and understanding the gendered nature of domestic and family violence is vital in designing and delivering an effective response.⁶

Aboriginals and Torres Strait Islanders, people from culturally and linguistically diverse (CALD) backgrounds, the elderly, people with a disability, people in rural and remote communities, people who identify as lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender or intersex (LGBTI), and children “are all at significantly higher risk from the incidences and impacts of domestic and family violence.”⁷ People from these groups may experience violence in a different way to others and face additional challenges when attempting to get protection and support.

Other groups also face extra challenges accessing services: women with substance abuse or mental health issues, grandparents who parent children of violent partnerships, families with pets and women with several, or older male, children.

While incorporating best practice elements pertinent to the majority of these populations, this project targeted those groups which most frequently come to the attention of local agencies as needing assistance and most vulnerable to barriers blocking access to services necessary to escape the cycle of domestic and family violence.

4.2.1. Target Groups

- Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander women
 - Experience high rates of domestic and family violence and constitute the majority, but by no means all, of victims of domestic and family violence seen by police in Mossman
- Non-Indigenous women
 - Service providers report male victims of domestic violence but the vast majority are women
- Families with children
 - Most of these women have children with them when seeking assistance, often more than three
- All locations in Douglas are considered ‘rural’ or ‘remote’
 - Presents additional challenges to accessing services

4.2.2. Groups identified as needing a different model of assistance

- The majority of reports of domestic violence from the Port Douglas area involve couples holidaying in the town from elsewhere
 - Temporary, emergency accommodation is generally procured from Accommodation Providers in Port Douglas
 - Further assistance is best offered and received in their place of permanent residence
 - Not a priority target group of this project as immediate crisis accommodation needs can be met through the existing response model: process improvements are currently being expedited by Port Douglas police and service providers
- Douglas services reported several unaccompanied minors homeless from escaping family violence

⁶ 2012 Australian Bureau of Statistics Personal Safety Survey. Queensland Government 2016. DFV Prevention Strategy.

⁷ Special Taskforce Queensland. 2015. Not Now, Not Ever.

- It is acknowledged that unaccompanied minors are a very vulnerable group for whom gaps in services in this region should be further investigated

4.3. Methodology

This brief uses an evidence-based methodology to explore options for a best practice model of refuge to suit the needs of the Douglas Shire both financially and in outcomes for victims and the broader community.

- Interviews with Queensland Police Service and representatives of government and non-government agencies responding to domestic and family violence in the Douglas Shire
- Interviews with specialist domestic and family violence service providers involved with domestic violence refuges and crisis accommodation in Far North Queensland
- Literature search of Australian and international best practice domestic and family violence accommodation response
- Workshop with Department of Communities, Child Safety and Disability Support, and Douglas service providers comparing models of accommodation currently funded by the Department

Due to the vulnerable state of domestic and family violence service recipients, it was not possible to interview past or current residents of refuges and this research relies on input from service providers and precedent studies.

It is not within the scope of this report to consider strategies for the prevention of domestic and family violence or strategies for early intervention responses. The report notes that the vast majority of women affected by domestic and family violence do not access crisis accommodation but “make their own way through the trauma of the violence and the housing system, or stay with friends or relatives.”⁸

See appendix for a list of consultations with key stakeholders.

5. Strategic Policy and Direction

5.1. National context

Improving the way we respond to domestic and family violence is a prominent theme in our national discourse with one Australian woman killed every week by her current or former partner and high profile criminal trials appearing regularly on our nightly news.

- The National Plan to Reduce Violence against Women and their Children 2010 – 2022 was endorsed by COAG and targets both domestic and family violence and sexual assault.
- The White Ribbon campaign, Australia’s CEO Challenge, the naming of Rosie Batty as Australian of the Year in 2015 all contribute to the momentum for culture change to keep women and their children safe from domestic and family violence.

5.2. Queensland Government

Since the Queensland Child and Family Reform initiatives developed in response to the Child Protection Commission of Inquiry in 2013, Queensland has focussed on improving responses for children and their families affected by domestic and family violence.⁹

⁸ Tully, Faulkner, Cutler and Slatter 2008. Women, DFV and Homelessness.

⁹ Queensland Government 2016. DFV Prevention Strategy.

- Beginning in 2014, nine Regional Child and Family Committees have been established to “monitor and implement domestic and family violence reforms at the local level”
- The Special Taskforce on Domestic and Family Violence in Queensland released its report ‘Not Now, Not Ever: Putting and End to Domestic and Family Violence in Queensland’ in 2015, with 140 recommendations for government
- ‘Queensland says: Not Now, Not Ever.’ Domestic and Family Violence Prevention Strategy 2016-2026 aims, among other things, “to recognise the victim’s perspective, prioritise their safety and reduce the onus on them to take action or to leave”¹⁰

There have been a range of reforms in Queensland domestic and family violence policies and procedures since the Bryce Report including an increased localisation of services and investment in regional areas including perpetrator programs in Cape York; the Local Support Coordination Initiative and the planned 2017-18 roll out of High Risk Teams in Cairns as part of an integrated response.

6. Options for Domestic Violence Refuge and Crisis Accommodation

Domestic and family violence is the most common cause of homelessness among women and is a widespread and increasing problem. Domestic violence related homelessness is different from other forms of homelessness because many women return to the perpetrator, cycling in and out of homelessness and crisis accommodation as they try to rebuild their relationship with their partner. Women who escape from domestic and family violence may also not have the life-skills to sustain a tenancy in the private market without sustained supports.

For the purpose of this brief, the following models of crisis accommodation have been examined for the Douglas Shire:

6.1. ‘Safe at Home’ models

To increase security and implement processes to allow the removal of the perpetrator and for the victim and her children to remain at home is the ideal model of response but only practical in a limited number of individual situations.

6.2. Communal Shared Living

A residential house divided into self-contained apartments or one bedroom per family, with or without ensuites, with shared lounge, kitchen, bathroom and laundry; staff office within or attached.

- High security facilities; often with undisclosed address.
- Considered particularly desirable for sole women with drug/alcohol or mental health issues or young women, to assist in breaking down isolation.¹¹ Suitable for women at high risk of further violence
- Unable to accommodate women with several children or male children over 12; women have been asked to split up their children or leave a child in care
- Police in the Douglas Shire expressed concern about the potential for conflict within a refuge between cohabiting residents and/or families.

¹⁰ Queensland Government 2017. End Domestic and Family Violence.

¹¹ Weeks and Oberin 2004. Women’s Refuges, Shelters, Outreach and Support Service.

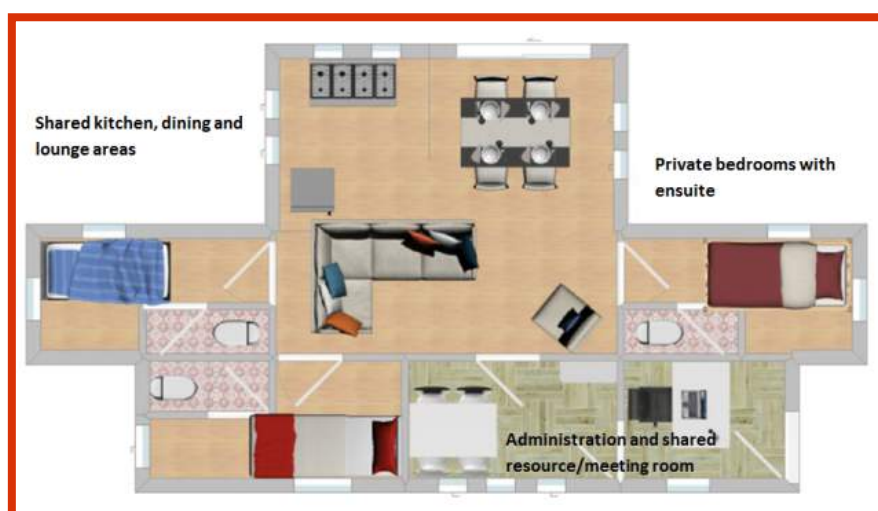


Figure 1: Plan of a communal refuge. Separate bedrooms with ensuites or shared bathrooms and shared kitchen and lounge facilities. Admin and resource room attached.

- The Australian Government, Office for Women's report of 2004, and the recent Victorian Royal Commission into Family Violence, recommended moving to alternative models of crisis accommodation such as cluster or independent units as the communal model may further traumatise victims by forcing women who are already fragile into tightly regulated shared environments.

6.3. Cluster Model

Fully self-contained units co-located on one block of land with an administrative/resource hub. Office can be onsite or a shopfront elsewhere.

- Vary from studio flats to 2-3 bedroom units
- Extra space for families allows more privacy and "a better quality of life at this difficult time"¹².
- Self-contained units allow more natural family behaviours and the development of self-sufficiency skills
- Cluster and dispersed models have more flexibility to respond to needs of individual women and their children: older male children; women with complex needs; pets

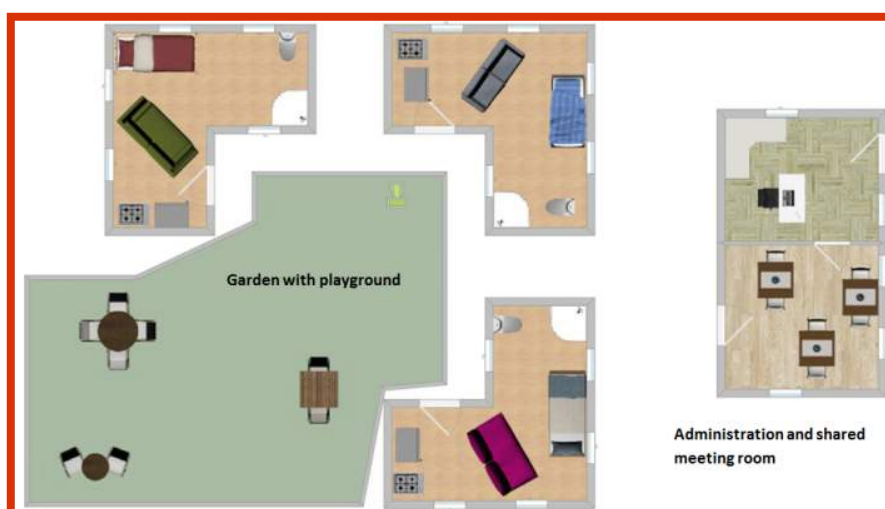


Figure 2: Cluster Model. Self-contained units with Admin and shared meeting room; communal outdoor space.

¹² Weeks and Oberin 2004. Women's Refuges, Shelters, Outreach and Support Service.

- Regions with larger populations may have mixed facilities: a communal refuge and self-contained units co-located or separate sites.

6.4. Dispersed

Dispersed houses and / or units distributed throughout the community: administration from shopfront elsewhere.

- Increased flexibility about how the properties are used: can change according to need
 - Provides stable accommodation for a family from crisis intake to transitional housing. The property function changes with the addition of a lease, rather than the woman having to relocate again
- No dedicated infrastructure required. Properties can be purchased or leased through private market

6.5. Safe House

“Safe houses’ in the Australian context refers to the Indigenous concept of a ‘place where women can go before or after crisis, and stay for a time, without actually “leaving” their partner’”.¹³

- Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander women are, by no means, the only victims of domestic and family violence in the Douglas Shire
- Only offer short term respite and, if longer term services are required and not available in the region, Aboriginal women still need to leave town and their community and supports
- Lack of privacy and security as safe houses must be located within the community
- Must be linked to an existing organisation offering support services

An alternative for Emergency Safe Spaces may be developed in locations like motels, churches or medical centres to provide temporary physical protection and accommodation to women, and should be linked with longer-term support services.

7. Recommended Facility Profile for Douglas Shire

Option 1: A cluster facility of three fully self-contained, co-located units with common spaces.

Option 2: Dispersed model of three fully self-contained house/units.

A model with great flexibility is needed in a region with small but disparate population groups. The numbers in Douglas are not high but a refuge will need to respond to very different target populations. While most commonly associated with intimate partner violence, shelters may also provide safe accommodation and services for women escaping other forms of physical, emotional, sexual and economic violence and this proposed facility will be the only crisis accommodation in the region.

Independent supported accommodation units offer women escaping domestic and family violence greater privacy, reduced noise and less embarrassment than communal living. Privacy offers women quiet time and the ability to set boundaries. Women feel secure and in control away from being constantly watched. Independent units allow a refuge to operate with fewer rules which allows women to regain control of their lives and make their own decisions.

Security and support services are easier to provide in a cluster than in a dispersed model.

¹³ Weeks and Oberin 2004 in Tually, Faulkner, Cutler and Slatter 2008. Women, DFV and Homelessness.

7.1. Client demographics and specific needs in consideration

7.1.1. Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander women

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander families comprise nearly 9 per cent of the population of the Douglas Shire. Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander women experience high rates of domestic and family violence and face specific barriers seeking help and accessing appropriate services to break the cycle of violence.

- Normalisation of violence from high rates of domestic and family violence and the role of intergenerational trauma and fear of ‘payback’ if they report
- Situational factors of poverty, unemployment and drug and alcohol use
- Language barriers, lack of culturally responsive services, limited knowledge and understanding of Queensland laws, and distrust of police and government authorities
 - Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander women are overrepresented among users of homelessness services but usually stay in crisis accommodation for much shorter periods of time than other cultural groups. Crisis accommodation is used for time out or respite or as a means of avoiding known peaks in family violence
- Reluctance to leave community land and support networks
 - Police and local services reported a reluctance or outright refusal from Aboriginal women to be transferred to a refuge in Cairns

Last year the Elders and Shelly helped a young woman in vicious DV cycle escape to Cairns. We were in contact with her every day but we knew she would end up back here because this is where all her supports are. Sure enough, she is now back living in the same situation.¹⁴

7.1.2. Older women and rural women

Older women and rural women are less likely to report abuse because of shame and a culture of ‘suffering in silence’. A modern refuge should not look or feel like a refuge.

7.1.3. Women with children

More than half of women with domestic violence related homelessness who present to services have children with them but there is a lack of services with the capacity to cater for:

- Women with several children or boys over the age of 12 years old
- Women trying to regain custody of their children who may not be eligible for a family refuge but need to prove they can adequately accommodate their children
- Young women with children can face extra challenges. Many have experienced lifelong abuse and may lack reliable family networks, parenting and life skills.

“Losing children to the welfare system is a major concern for many women affected by domestic and family violence.”¹⁵

7.1.4. Tourists and travellers

Police reported that the majority of domestic violence incidents in Port Douglas occur between couples holidaying in the region without the local support networks to provide emergency accommodation.

¹⁴ Mossman Elders Justice Group

¹⁵ Tually, Faulkner, Cutler and Slatter 2008. Women, DFV and Homelessness.

Police reported that several incidents involved people of culturally and linguistically diverse (CALD) populations but these were mainly European English-speakers.

- Accommodation providers may be able to relocate the victim within the facility.
 - Requires facility with 24 hour reception
 - Requires vacant room
 - Large enough to provide a discreet location away from the perpetrator
- Require emergency accommodation only; return to place of permanent residence for longer-term assistance

7.2. Activity projections

7.2.1. Bed and bed equivalent projections

Bed requirements for the facility were calculated using population benchmarks from similar regional locations with domestic violence accommodation services and statistical data from Douglas police and service providers on women seeking accommodation assistance to escape from domestic and family violence.

Based on the projected demand for services, Douglas would require crisis accommodation for up to three women and their children concurrently.

Family apartments with bedroom arrangements which can be expanded and contracted to suit the size of a family, can be adapted to provide accommodation to both women with several children and single women without leaving space unused and thereby reducing the capacity of a shelter.



Figure 3: Facility design enabling flexible bed capacity within a communal setting.¹⁶

¹⁶ Image from: Matijevic and Riddel. Architecture against Domestic Violence.



Figure 4: Flexible furniture and furnishing options allow accommodation of extra children.¹⁷

7.2.2. Length of stay

For women unable to stay at home, a continuum of housing and support is required from crisis tipping point and response to safe and affordable permanent accommodation.

The permitted and expected length of stay should take into account:

- Immediate need for safety for a woman and her children escaping domestic and family violence
- Support necessary for a woman to develop the life-skills (manage finances, household, employment) and capability (trauma recovery) necessary to break out of the cycle of domestic and family violence
- Availability of stable and appropriate long-term accommodation into which she can transition and the importance of minimising the number of times women and their children (changing schools, leaving support networks) must move before they are permanently housed
 - The Douglas Shire has an identified lack of transitional, public, and affordable private housing options

The crisis shelter model does not offer a long-term solution for recovery. Traditionally refuges were designed for stays of up to a couple of months but a lack of exit options has affected the flow and speed of movement through and out of refuges and transitional housing. After crisis accommodation a woman must go back through the trauma of moving to transitional housing. This is when most victims will choose to return to the familiar violence of their abuser rather than face the unknown. The continuum of support must include a pathway into permanent, safe and affordable accommodation. “Lack of second-stage shelter facilities forces a significant percentage of women who have escaped domestic violence to return to their homes and violent situations.”¹⁸

Police and service providers in the Douglas Shire rely heavily on the Mossman hospital and motels to provide immediate ‘place of safety’ accommodation for women escaping domestic and family violence. Services are in the process of formalising arrangements with motels for accommodation for one or two nights.

Self-contained units provide the flexibility to cater for women who need short-term crisis accommodation and for those who may need longer to secure appropriate permanent accommodation.

¹⁷ Images from: Supermami.net and 2.bp.blogspot.com curtain-room-divider-ideas- with-traditional-nursery-beds

¹⁸ Gierman and Liska et al 2013. Shelter for Women and Girls at Risk.

Our clients are already on the waiting list for housing which takes weeks or months already. Sometimes they are not even on Centrelink so have absolutely no income and no ID. It takes several weeks to set them up with birth certificates.¹⁹

7.3. Location

Several location options were considered in discussions with local police and service providers.

7.3.1. Secret urban location

Used in high security facilities to protect residents from their perpetrators

Not a viable option for the Douglas Shire where the largest urban area has a population of 3,500 people

7.3.2. Remote area

Considered more difficult for perpetrators, especially in the heat of the moment, to access

Several areas were suggested from the very remote Wawu Dimbi, to Rocky Point, and the industrial area of Craiglie just outside of Port Douglas

Requires women to move away from support networks and may be difficult for women to access schools, job, services, especially considering the dearth of affordable public transport options in the Douglas Shire.

7.3.3. Open suburban location

Newer models of domestic violence refuge are less concerned about an undisclosed or inaccessible location, especially in rural areas such as services in the Tablelands and Cassowary Coast. Forgoing the secret location facilitates community involvement and support for the program and individual residents. Feeling a part of a community can promote healing, especially for children.

“... [A] highly visible refuge in a rural area that advertised on local television and accepted women who just turned up at the door. This service pointed out that 70% of their referrals were after-hours, and it was their high visibility that protected them because of community and police support.”²⁰

- If a woman escaping domestic and family violence is considered at high risk of further violence, police and service providers would continue to refer her to a refuge in Cairns or out of the region

Mossman is considered more appropriate to situate an accommodation facility for women and their children as it is closer to family, supports and services for victims in the majority of reported domestic and family violence incidents.

Considerations to be taken into account when finalising location:

- Access to groceries, schools, appointments
- Access to community and recreational facilities
- Is the area pedestrian friendly?
- Will the neighbourhood feel safe, especially for women walking?

¹⁹ Mossman Elders Justice Group

²⁰ Weeks and Oberin 2004. Women's Refuges, Shelters, Outreach and Support Service.

7.4. Summary of staffing requirements

A service model of medium term accommodation encouraging the development of independence and life-skills requires only on-call staff to handle after hours intake and admission, and support-services staff to provide outreach to residents.

8. Key Design Requirements

8.1. Facility design objectives

The key design objectives for this facility are:

- Safe, empowering, resident-centred accommodation
- Equity of access
- Facilitation of best practice models of care
- Minimise the need for rules and restrictions on resident behaviour
- A spatial environment that is contemporary, flexible and adaptable to individual needs

8.2. Operational principles and design

Facility objectives are to provide for the immediate safety of women and their children escaping domestic and family violence, enable time and room for support services for women to develop the capacity/life-skills to break the cycle of abuse and transition to longer-term housing. The principles that underpin these objectives are:

- The physical environment must facilitate
 - A variety of spaces for different resident needs
 - Home-like atmosphere for residents
 - Privacy for families inside and out
 - Independence and control regarding normal activities of daily living
 - Empowerment and identity formation
 - Communal areas to allow for social interaction and support
 - Connectivity to natural environment
 - 'Spiritual' spaces
- Design features that facilitate safe and equitable access for people with disabilities and complex needs
- Design that maximises use of positive elements related to natural light, colour, access to fresh air
- Access to visual arts and music

8.3. Resident environment / unit configurations

"Disenfranchisement from home occurs long before women leave."²¹ Victims of domestic violence do not only need somewhere safe to stay, they may need assistance to rebuild/develop the life-skills to be able to maintain a tenancy on their own. One aspect of this is the need to transcend the physical definition of home to recognise the spiritual and emotional meanings of home.

Residential units will be fully self-contained and enable independence in activities of daily living. Unit design will facilitate resident privacy and dignity; enable residents to feel in control of their environment, precipitate focus and relaxation.

²¹ Tully, Faulkner, Cutler and Slatter 2008. Women, DFV and Homelessness.

Unit configuration should include:



Figure 5: Open plan kitchen and living space with good sight lines of outdoor play areas

- Open plan and good sight lines
 - Allow residents to feel comfortable and aware of their surroundings to counteract concerns about their own and their children's safety
 - Increase ease of navigation
 - Facilitate supervision of children by women who may be very protective and reluctant to leave children alone, without having to be in the same physical space
- Use of natural light and views of nature to increase wellbeing



Figure 6: Views of nature improve wellbeing outcomes. Design can make the most of natural light.²²

- Design will maximize daylight with windows/skylights to build connectivity between inside and outside, while maintaining feelings of security
- Adjustable blinds to provide resident control of light and visibility
- Linoleum floors instead of carpet
- Blinds instead of curtains
- Noise-reducing finishes reduce stress and improve sleep

²² Images from: <http://www.liveinbushey.com/39/> and <https://hometriangle.com/add-more-natural-light>

- Appropriate lighting reduces depression and increases overall wellbeing
 - Subdued in quiet spaces
 - Not dim in lively spaces
- Child safety features such as power point covers
- Furniture should look residential rather than institutional
 - Include cushions, book cases and other home-like touches



Figure 7: Home-like and comforting touches to a Shelter; use of throw cushions art to make a room look comforting.²³

- Opportunities to personalise space to encourage residents to express or form an identity away from their abuser
 - Doors and living spaces can be personalised with notice boards or black boards
 - Bedroom door signs
 - Spaces for residents to place meaningful objects: e.g. bedside tables, occasional tables, shelves



Figure 8: Shelves and blackboard allow families to add personal touches. Corkboards don't have to look like office furniture.²⁴

- Safe and inviting spaces for children of various ages
 - Children who have experienced domestic and family violence are often vulnerable and may require quiet areas for solitary activities within their play

²³ Images from: Amarillo Globe News and <https://www.houzz.com.au/pro/rikkisnyder/rikki-snyder?irs=US>

²⁴ Images from <https://ww2.kqed.org/bayareabites/farm-burger-play-area1920> and <http://www.laurenliess.com/pure-style-home/womens-shelter-makeover>

- Zones for various activities can all both play and quiet times
- Different sized furniture and a variety of equipment to suit children of various ages

8.3.1. Bedrooms

Units will be designed with two bedroom capacity to allow space for a woman and two children as standard and include the furnishings to accommodate extra children as necessary e.g. bunk and fold-out beds.

- Bedside tables and lamps to encourage feeling comfortable and relaxed
- Wardrobes for storage of clothes and personal belongings
- Power points should be plentiful to enable charging of electronic devices
- Bedrooms should allow space for personalisation e.g. display spaces for artwork, to assist residents to (re)develop personal identity
- Children's bedrooms will include a desk to encourage goal-setting and decision making
- Bedroom design should create feelings of safety and security: personal rooms should be lockable to allow residents to feel in control of their environment



Figure 9: Children's bedrooms should feel inviting and personal while allowing room for several children²⁵

8.3.2. Kitchen

A kitchen is an important place for people learning or rebuilding independence. Kitchens are places of decision making and where individual preferences and cultural or religious traditions may be enacted. Kitchens are also places about family and routine: deciding what a family eats and when.

Kitchens will be designed to encourage and enable collaboration and sharing

- Floor and bench space for more than one person at a time without congestion, to facilitate parent/child bonding
- Fully supplied with basic, quality appliances
- Open plan to allow communication with, and supervision of, children
- Storage for plenty of food. A stocked pantry reduces feelings of scarcity and encourages homeliness
- Several power points to allow for individual configuration

²⁵ Images from: Katrina Rutledge Interior Design and msexta.com luxury furniture



Figure 10: Open plan kitchen allows parental supervision of both yard and living room. Utilising both bench and dining tables gives extra separate spaces.²⁶

8.3.3. Family Space

- Units should be open plan to encourage communication but furnished to provide spaces for private time
 - Open plan allows visibility making supervision of children easier and encouraging feelings of safety in both children and mother
- Dining table and chairs to allow a family to eat, share and play together. Reclaiming meal time as a family time can assist healing and bring normalcy to a child's life
- Lounge space should facilitate quiet space for relaxation, reading with nooks, separate sitting areas or room dividers
 - Encourage parent/child bonding
 - Study/homework
 - Separate space for teens or children. Often those who have experienced abuse can become overwhelmed in groups
 - Quiet spaces are beneficial for women attempting to make large decisions or set life goals



Figure 11: Different spaces for different ages or activities can be provided in innovative ways.²⁷

- Furniture should
 - be flexible/adaptable: tables that can be separated and lounge chairs instead of long couches
 - provide a sense of comfort and control

²⁶ Images from: decoratingideas.adrienpetrucci.com and Nedgis.com.

²⁷ Images from: Better Homes and Gardens, www.yourkids closet.com/ikea-family-room and Planos Low-cost

- be durable so it remains in good condition and alleviates parental concern about damage

8.3.4. Outside

Design will ensure a balance of spaces for exercise and relaxing; to suit varying ages and activities. Reduce anxiety and stress by creating a multi-sensory environment.

- Garden and path design to encourage play by children
 - 'Purposeful movement experiences' i.e. paths instead of square of concrete
 - Connections to nature
- Ground markings and landscaping can be used to differentiate areas for play, sport, gardening or relaxing, and to differentiate between private and shared space
- Shelters or shade cloths to be included to allow outdoor use year round
- Screened from the street and surrounding buildings



Figure 12: Landscaping used to delineate separate activities, with purposeful movement, child friendly paths and spaces²⁸

8.3.5. Bathroom

Each unit will contain a fully self-contained bathroom.

A private bathroom

- Supports parental regimes including getting ready for school or bed
- Is very important for people recovering independence and control

8.3.6. Laundry facilities

Each unit will include a self-contained laundry

- A well appointed laundry is important for families with young children. Residents may be washing every day
- Will allow supervision of children while doing laundry
- For program sustainability, laundry machines will be water and energy efficient

8.4. Staff environment

Onsite staff facilities are not integral to this model of supported accommodation. Support staff can be co-located or provided by an existing service provider.

Secure office/storage space will be required to maintain client confidentiality and privacy of communication with residents and guarantee integrity of secure record storage systems.

²⁸ Images from: earthscape design and build, letthechildrenplay.net and playathometeacher.com

If support staff are located off-site, they will be required to undertake 'home' visits to residential units, design of which will need to consider appropriate space for support staff/resident interaction: separate rooms/play space to allow mothers to talk without children present; acoustically and visually separated space for private conversations and consultations.

8.5. Communal areas and shared space

A community meeting room or outdoor gathering space open to the public enables residents to gather with family and friends; reconnect with community to break the isolation of abuse. Interaction with the wider community helps remove stigma, provides neighbourhood surveillance and builds connections with residents.

- The placement of a community accessible space should maintain the privacy and security of the residential units: be part of the complex but visually and physically separate

Units should face internally onto a common space to promote a community environment among residents.



Figure 13: Units grouped around shared space builds community.²⁹

8.5.1. Interior

- Service design will incorporate space for the provision of programs of activities e.g. arts and crafts, therapy sessions, education
- A communal space allows residents to socialise and find support from each other without sacrificing privacy
- Library and information nooks to allow residents access to information in relative privacy
 - Include books and information for adults and children
 - Ability to borrow and leave books for others: encourages choice and identify formation
- Modular furniture allow for flexible usage of a space for communal and private activities

²⁹ Images from: Charles Young Aged Care Allity.com.au and Hawksbury Gardens Aged Care Facility



Figure 14: Modular furniture accommodates those who want company and those who want solitude³⁰

8.5.2. Outside

- Landscaping to include both private and group areas



Figure 15: Landscaping spaces for a variety of activities.³¹

- Children's area with play equipment and seating
- Table and chairs in garden with spaces to encourage sitting and congregating
- Gardens to incorporate herbs or fruit trees to encourage feelings of control, self-sufficiency and connection to nature

Design will allow residents to see into communal areas to ascertain who is already there before entering.

³⁰ Images from: <http://www.kmsdc.org/images/patio-furniture> and <http://www.btooffice.co.uk/boardroom-furniture/modular-tables>

³¹ Images from: Earthscape Design and Build and www.designrulz.com/modern-pergola-designs



Figure 16: Innovative design and CPTED principles allow vision into a space while retaining privacy³²

8.6. Amenity

An environment where people feel acknowledged and welcomed facilitates healing. Partnering with local organisations to create and maintain outdoor spaces is a cost-effective way of increasing amenity and community investment in the well-being of residents.

- Design will incorporate colours, imagery and references that are positive and welcoming
 - Bright colours and interesting shapes



Figure 17: Use of bright colours and art to create uplifting space without great expense.³³

- Interiors will be uplifting and feel like a home rather than an institution
 - Make use of natural light
 - Well maintained and adequate furnishings
 - Appropriate lighting

³² Images from: Katrina Rutledge and <http://behbg.com/idea/crime-prevention-through-environmental-design/>

³³ Images from: Downtown Women's Shelter photo by Bethany Neuart



Figure 18: Art and colour can be anywhere.³⁴

- Include art and decoration
 - Art can communicate welcome and affirm the values of the services provided
 - A resident of the YWCA Pierce County: "... we should start making shelters beautiful; because when it's beautiful like that it does something to you ... It does something wonderful to see all this beautyfulness."³⁵

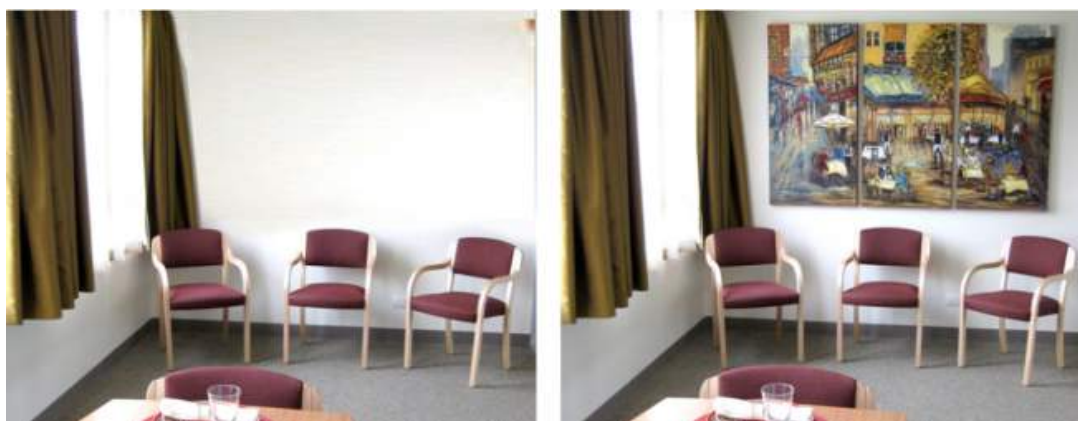


Figure 19: Even the most functional room can feel less institutional with the addition of art³⁶

- The site will feel friendly and relaxing due to
 - being well maintained
 - green and healthy garden areas
 - brightly decorated with e.g. mirrors, mosaic tiles, wind chimes

³⁴ Images from: Lincoln Barbour and <http://www.bendigoadvertiser.com.au/story/4581326>

³⁵ Goodyear 2013. Fighting Domestic Violence with Architecture.

³⁶ Images from: <http://www.innovativeart.com.au/art-for-aged-care/>



Figure 20: Mosaics and murals can include cultural references as well as creating a warm, multi-sensory environment.³⁷

- Children will be well catered for with child-friendly and well resourced play areas
- Security features will be designed to make residents feel safe not imprisoned
 - Modern fence instead of wall
 - Windows safety screened instead of grilles or grills to incorporate art

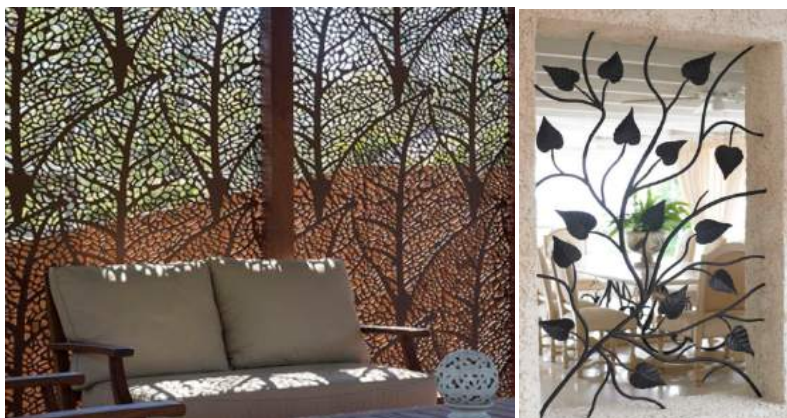


Figure 21: Even window grills no longer have to look like bars³⁸

8.7. Security

Refuges must be able to keep residents safe from potential retaliation by perpetrators. Design will support resident safety and feelings of safety by considering:

- Physical security
 - Single, secure entry point
 - Clearly defined boundaries between the shelter and surrounding community with limited visibility into the interior
 - No ground floor windows to directly overlook the street
 - Perimeter fencing
 - Landscaping according to Crime Prevention through Environmental Design principles
 - Lockable windows with screens
- Electronic security
 - Access through keypads/fobs is more secure than keys

³⁷ Images from: Pierce Country Refuge and <http://www.surfgardenstudio.com/curriculum-vitae>

³⁸ Images from: decorativescreensdirect.com and jennyblanc.com

- Alarms/panic buttons
- CCTV
- Sensor lighting
- Telephone strategies
 - Contact telephones in each unit
- Access
 - Off street, gated and discreet car parking so passers-by are unable to identify cars parked at facility
 - Excellent visibility and lines of sight on access paths and approaches; no areas where a person could hide
- Police support
 - Ease of contact: duress alarms
 - Arrangement for quick response
 - Especially while attending court
- Safety policies, planning and procedures
 - Screening and risk assessment at intake undertaken by skilled workers (DV Connect)
 - Keeping administration separate from residences
 - Occupational and safety audits

8.8. Equity of access

Domestic and family violence refuges need to be accessible to people from across the entire community. Design should specifically address both physical and psychological ease of access for people who are in crisis and may be less able to easily negotiate organisations and facilities.

8.8.1. People with Disabilities

3.9 per cent of the Douglas population has a 'profound or severe' disability according to the Australian Bureau of Statistics. People with disabilities experience domestic and family violence at much higher rates than those without disabilities and also face barriers to seeking help, including physical and economic dependence on the perpetrator.

Access to support services, refuges and the private rental market is limited for women who need assistance with communication, aspects of self-care, aids and appliances, or require modifications to their home.

8.8.2. Older Women

Barriers for older women accessing help include physical disability, diminished cognitive functioning, lack of awareness that their experience amounts to abuse and social isolation.

8.8.3. Women with complex needs including mental health or substance abuse problems

Refuges often lack facilities to cater for complex health needs.

8.8.4. Equitable Access

To ensure equitable access for all women and their children escaping domestic and family violence

- Facility design will comply with The Disability Discrimination Act 1992 and appropriate Australian Standards
- Units and communal spaces will be fully accessible for people with mobility limitations e.g.
 - No steps or stairs
 - Wheelchair and Walker accessible ensembles and doorways

- Policies and procedures will be implemented to ensure appropriate referral and partnership with support services as necessary for aged and disability service providers, alcohol and drug services, mental health services.



Figure 22: All design features should be accessible and doesn't have to look institutional³⁹

8.8.5. Culturally appropriate safe space

Domestic and family violence is “destructive to the spiritual, social, economic, physical health and cultural identity” of victims.⁴⁰ It is imperative that the facility be seen as welcoming and appropriate for people of diverse cultures and identities.

Women from some populations are especially reluctant to report violence or seek assistance from services

- Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander women face a normalisation of violence in some communities as well as fear and distrust of police and ‘government’ services
- Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender and Intersex (LGBTI) victims may fear being ‘outed’ or experiences of discrimination, feeling unwelcome or other unhelpful service responses
- People from some Culturally and Linguistically Diverse (CALD) populations face language barriers and cultural expectations of relationships

The facility will encourage a sense of welcome and belonging by

- Design and decoration will incorporate culturally relevant imagery and references
- Take into account cultural and religious needs as practicable
- Support staff will be proficient in offering cross-cultural and inclusive support

8.9. Storage Facilities

Refuges do not have space to store furniture or large personal effects but, for people to begin to rebuild lives and identities, it is important that they are able to keep personal belongings with them. Families with children, if they are to maintain or regain ‘normal’ activities of daily living e.g. attending school, may require personal belongings including strollers, bicycles etc.

Self-contained units will need to incorporate storage space

- Built-in wardrobes
- Outdoor lockable storage spaces as practicable

³⁹ Images from: Image from Fisheye9.com and backhomesafely.com

⁴⁰ Tully, Faulkner, Cutler and Slatter 2008. Women, DFV and Homelessness.

8.10. Future proofing and flexibility

The population of the Douglas Shire is projected to be 14,796 persons as at 30 June 2036 at an increase of 1.1 per cent per year over 25 years. This is a slower increase than the 1.7% projected for Queensland overall. Douglas has a slightly older population than the Queensland average.

Predicted population changes, future need, and changes to 'best practice' service delivery will need to be considered in service and facility design. A cluster model of self-contained units incorporates flexibility of use.

9. Operational Considerations

"In terms of interventionist strategies, it is imperative that accommodation and the range of support services required by women affected by domestic and family violence (counselling, health care, therapeutic services and income support) are well integrated, individualised, ongoing and open-ended."⁴¹

9.1. Admissions, Access and Hours of Operation

- Intake interviewing to be conducted by DV Connect
- Admissions and discharges by on-call staff
- Continue and formalise the current process to utilising motels through Queensland Police Service for after hours emergency place of safety

9.2. Building maintenance services

Maintenance and repairs will need to be considered in service funding agreements

9.3. Linen/crockery

- Units will need to be furnished with basic supplies of linen and crockery
- Existing domestic and family violence supported accommodation services provide these through either funding or donations

9.4. Pets

"It's been known for a long time in the family violence services sector that harm to pets is one of the critical tactics that the perpetrator can use and it often means that women find it difficult to leave the relationship knowing their pets are likely to be harmed if they do."⁴²

- Operational consideration will have to be given to pets. It may be necessary for a service to
 - Assist with finding foster accommodation for pets
 - Allow small pets in a unit on a case by case basis

The RSPCA through their Pets in Crisis program can assist with pet fostering after a referral from DV Connect.

10. Relationships and interdependencies with external agencies

"Two types of assistance are clearly critical in terms of supporting women affected by domestic and family violence:

- Provision of safe, secure and affordable housing; and

⁴¹ Tually, Faulkner, Cutler and Slatter 2008. Women, DFV and Homelessness.

⁴² Annette Gillespie from Safe Steps in Lusted, Peter. 2017. Domestic violence pet shelter program.

- Provision of a continuum of individualised and open-ended support, including outreach services, that wraps around women and their children in a range of areas (therapy, health, life skills, housing assistance et cetera) for as long as they need it.”⁴³

Services may need to include, but not be limited to:

- Medical treatment for immediate and long-term consequences of violence
- Counselling and therapeutic supports to develop survivor understanding of the dynamics associated with abuse and leaving situations of violence, as well as assistance to overcome the traumatic affects of it
- Financial and economic assistance to address difficulties resulting from perpetrators control of finances or economic opportunities
- Legal assistance
- Long-term housing support
- Educational and recreational programs

To enable provision of appropriate and effective services to a diverse range of client groups it will be critical for the service to work closely with all government and non-government organisations providing services in the Douglas Shire.

The nature of functional relationships may consist of funding partnerships or Memoranda of Understanding or less formal models of cooperation and referral.

11. Conclusion – Next Steps

The Douglas Shire has among Queensland’s highest rates of domestic and family violence yet lacks any crisis or transitional accommodation options for victims trying to break the cycle. Police and community service providers work conscientiously and collaboratively to assist women and their children escaping violence but are compelled to send victims to motels or refer vulnerable people away from their support systems to access assistance in the nearest regional city. This service model is inadequate and ineffective at affecting long-term change against a complex and pervasive social problem.

The recognition of the importance of a localised, tailored, flexible and integrated service response has been integral to the direction of Queensland practice since the Special Taskforce into Domestic and Family Violence reported in 2015. “A one-size-fits-all approach ... will not work. Challenges faced by victims and service providers in rural and remote communities are significantly different from those faced by victims in metropolitan communities, which in turn differ from those in Indigenous communities and culturally and linguistically diverse communities. Integrated, holistic and timely responses to domestic and family violence are needed, tailored to the specific needs of each of these communities.”⁴⁴

The facility proposed, and infrastructure and service design recommended, to fill this identified gap in supported crisis accommodation in Douglas has been developed from a review of precedent studies and relevant literature, and in-depth consultation with both local and specialist domestic and family violence service providers to contribute more than ‘just’ a safe place for women who are at risk of violence. To give victims a chance to transcend the experience of their trauma it is necessary to provide services to help empower them to rebuild and develop the life-skills to become independent and not return to violence.

⁴³ Tully, Faulkner, Cutler and Slatter 2008. Women, DFV and Homelessness.

⁴⁴ Special Taskforce Queensland. 2015. Not Now, Not Ever.

The connection between the built environment and the emotional wellbeing and recovery trajectory of residents of a domestic violence refuge is an important component of assisting victims to develop the skills needed to break this cycle of violence. A well-designed facility will create an empowering environment for residents, facilitating the development of personal identity, goal-setting and decision making; creating a strong foundation for the operational elements of domestic and family violence support services.

The Douglas Shire Council is committed to ensuring the provision of best practice support services for women and their children escaping domestic and family violence. The detail gained from this research and provided in this brief will be used to inform further concept planning and facility design to fill this identified gap in services. The next stage in the consummation of this project will be to utilise this information to develop business case documents and buttress collaborative links with local and specialist service providers and to advocate for State and Federal economic and service delivery partnership in the implementation of a facility to provide emergency and transitional domestic and family violence refuge accommodation in the Douglas Shire, to negate the need for victims of violence to choose between leaving the region or staying with violence.

12. References

Australian Bureau of Statistics. Accessed March 2017. <http://statistics.qgso.qld.gov.au/>

Building Dignity. 2012. *Design Strategies for Domestic Violence Shelter*. Accessed March 2017. <http://buildingdignity.wscadv.org/site-design/>

Bullen, Jane. 2015. "The evidence supports specialist refuges for domestic violence". *The Conversation*. 18 February, 2015. <http://theconversation.com/the-evidence-supports-specialist-refuges-for-domestic-violence-37066>

Burke, Gail 2017. "Domestic violence laws: Alleged offenders have to prove why they should get bail" *Australian Broadcasting Corporation News*. Updated 23 March 2017. <http://www.abc.net.au/news/2017-03-23/domestic-violence-laws-alleged-offenders-prove-bail-new-laws/8379052>

DV Connect. 2015 – 2017. About Women's Refuges. Accessed March 2017. <http://www.dvconnect.org/womensline/about-womens-refuges/>

Gierman, Tracy and Arla Liska et al 2013. "Shelter for Women and Girls at Risk of or Survivors of Violence", *Shelter Module March 2013*. Canadian Network of Women's Shelters and Transition Houses.

Goodyear, Sarah. 2013. "Fighting Domestic Violence with Architecture and Design." *Citylab, The Atlantic*. 25 March 2013. <http://www.citylab.com/housing/2013/03/fighting-domestic-violence-architecture-and-design/5076/>

Queensland Government. 2016. *Queensland Says: Not Now, Not Ever. Domestic and Family Violence Prevention Strategy 2016 – 2026*. <https://www.communities.qld.gov.au/resources/gateway/campaigns/end-violence/dfv-prevention-strategy.pdf>

Queensland Government. 2017. "Special Taskforce" *End Domestic and Family Violence*. Last reviewed 14 February 2017. <https://www.communities.qld.gov.au/gateway/end-domestic-family-violence/about/special-taskforce>

Lusted, Peter. 2017. "'Life-saving' Victorian domestic violence pet shelter program struggling to meet high demand." *Australian Broadcasting Corporation News*. 31 March 2017. <http://www.abc.net.au/news/2017-02-28/domestic-violence-pet-shelter-program-struggling-to-meet-demand/8308606>

Matijevic, Ana and Shelby Riddell. 2014. *Architecture against Domestic Violence: how design protects and rehabilitates survivors of domestic abuse*. Thesis Book.
https://issuu.com/axm4926/docs/riddellmatijevic_thesisbook

Rutledge, Katrina. 2015. "M.F.A. Thesis Project." *Katrina Rutledge Interior Design*. Accessed March 2017.
<https://katrinarutledge.carbonmade.com/projects/5465756#7>

Rutledge 2015. *Rules, Restrictions and Resident Empowerment in Domestic Violence Shelter Design: An Exploration and Response*. Florida State University Libraries.
<http://diginole.lib.fsu.edu/islandora/object/fsu:253132/datastream/PDF/view>

Special Taskforce on Domestic and Family Violence in Queensland. 2015. *Not Now, Not Ever: Putting an End to Domestic and Family Violence in Queensland*.
<https://www.communities.qld.gov.au/resources/gateway/campaigns/end-violence/about/special-taskforce/dfv-report-vol-one.pdf>

Tually, Dr Selina, Dr Debbie Faulkner, Ms Cecile Cutler and Assoc Prof Michele Slatter. 2008. *Women, Domestic and Family Violence and Homelessness: A Synthesis Report*. Flinders Institute for Housing, Urban and Regional Research, Flinders University. Prepared for the Office for Women Department of Families, Housing, Community Services and Indigenous Affairs.

United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women. 2012. "Layout and Design", *Virtual Knowledge Centre to End Violence against Women and Girls*.
<http://www.endvawnow.org/en/articles/1383-layout-and-design.html>

Weeks, Wendy and Julie Oberin. 2004. *Women's Refuges, Shelters, Outreach and Support Services in Australia. From Sydney Squat to Complex Services Challenging Domestic and Family Violence*. Wesnet, Australian Government, Department of Family and Community Services Office for Women.

13. Appendix:

Consultations with Key Douglas Service Providers

Douglas service	Relevant services offered	Key comments and concerns
Apunapima	Health Services. Will be taking over the Gorge Wellbeing Centre May 2017.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Violence against grandparents and between siblings A model with longer term intervention to break the cycle
Bamanga Bubu Ngadimunku	Mossman Gorge housing services	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Cooktown model has components we could borrow
Energy and Water Ombudsman	Assists people with bills, connection problems, rebates and assistance programs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Often see people with problems paying after a default by the Ex
Goobidi: Jawalkunna Family Services	Has DV funding; runs a men's group; provides transport to get people to	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Two separate needs: crisis accommodation and longer-term transitional housing. People need a place to just rest but also need longer-term

	Cairns.	assistance otherwise the kids will keep living on the streets.
Mossman District Hospital		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Often have women turn up at the hospital to escape their abuser Police utilise the hospital as emergency accommodation for DV victims
Mossman Elders Justice Group	In 2017 has been allocated 3 year's DV funding to run programs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Want to start a 'one stop shop' Offender programs are a priority. There is nowhere to send people who are busted for breaking DV orders. Police have nowhere to refer men except to the Men's Helpline It can be overwhelming for victims to even travel to Cairns for an appointment: there is no one to support them down there. Often deal with homeless teens escaping DFV Lots of elder abuse in this community
Mossman Gorge Wellbeing Centre	Counselling; Men's Group; Case Management	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> There is nothing local so the Wellbeing Centre has to keep ringing around to get them somewhere in Cairns. Have to try to get them vouchers from Mossman Community Centre
Mossman Police		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mossman and Port are definitely in need of a refuge because when it raises its head, there is nowhere to send them. Often when police phone a shelter in Cairns, they are full Most of the police work in Mossman involves DFV
Mossman Support Services	2 year funding for a DV Counsellor beginning Jan 2017	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> If people are trying to escape dv, what's the point of keeping them in a refuge in Mossman because then you need to find them permanent housing
Mossman Youth Centre		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> See young people homeless because of family violence
Port Douglas Neighbourhood Centre	Emergency Relief Funding. Family Support Programs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Every week PDNC has clients present with DV Motels are not a suitable response. Women don't get the support services they need and can't afford to stay in a motel and often return to their abuser.
Port Douglas Police		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> In 2016 began DVEAF not-for-profit to raise funds for emergency accommodation for DV victims Victims won't go to a shelter in Cairns because it is too far from community and supports or it's too hard to get there Use of a motel requires 24 hour reception and room availability but still has no security
UCC Family Support Services	Family Support Services Counselling	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Part of the reason victims are reluctant to leave DV situations is they have nowhere to go. If they can stay in refuge longer-term, victims are empowered to get their belongings and arrange something more than a 'quick fix' respite.

Regional Domestic Violence Service Providers		
Department of Communities, Child Safety and Disability Services	Funds State Government DFV services.	Workshop with Douglas service providers on models of DV Shelter

Department of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Partnerships	Liaising with Coen Women's Group, Department of Communities and Department of Housing about a DV refuge in Coen
Tablelands Women's Centre	8 Units of DV support accommodation in Atherton
Women's Centre Cairns	Services in Cairns and Atherton
Cairns Regional Domestic Violence Service	Services in Cairns
Innisfail Youth and Family Care	One house and one duplex

5.4. UTILISATION OF TEAMSTERS PARK PROJECT 2017

REPORT AUTHOR(S): Nicole Findlay, Research & Project Officer
TEAM LEADER: Kerrie Hawkes, Executive Officer
DEPARTMENT: CEO Unit - Connected Communities

RECOMMENDATION

That Council:

1. **Adopts the content of the Teamsters Park Utilisation Project; and**
2. **Delegates authority to the Mayor and Chief Executive Officer in accordance with the Local Government Act 2009 to progress the options identified.**

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

In accordance with the 2016-2017 Operational Plan initiative 2.3.1, officers were requested to develop a strategy to increase the utilisation of Teamsters Park and present the strategy to Council with recommendations for potential use and improvements of the reserve to enhance its unique qualities as a rest stop area with a design applicable to the location.

BACKGROUND

Queensland roads are the lifeblood of communities. Roadside rest areas or stopping places are designated spaces on highways and roads where drivers and passengers can take breaks to reduce driver fatigue. When suitably located they also play an important role in maximising the drive tourism experience and the economic benefit to surrounding towns.

The drive tourism market plays a significant role for tourism in the Douglas region. In 2015, Department of Transport Main Roads conducted road travel counts along the Captain Cook Highway with a yearly average of 8,194 vehicles passing Teamsters Park per day. Approximately 6,610 vehicles travel in one direction past the reserve and 4,009 vehicles of these do not return past this point thus venturing off into other areas of the region. 24.45% make a return trip and 9.46% are heavy vehicles.

National Geographic April 2017 recognised the drive along Captain Cook Highway as "one of the best in North Queensland". As part of The Captain Cook Highway Strategic Plan 2015, Executive Summary (2.), 'Stopping Places & Signage', Douglas Shire Council was recommended to investigate the feasibility of a visitor information centre at Teamsters Park. The Plan aims to strategise the development and presentation of the coastal road between Cairns and the Daintree River. Currently, the only official stopping place along the highway is Rex Lookout.

The Department of Natural Resources and Mines has given Council "in principle" support for the State Government owned, Willie-Pye Memorial Teamsters Park to go ahead with the Utilisation Project as a rest stop area.

COMMENT

Roadside rest areas provide opportunity to deliver interpretative signage and supporting infrastructure.

The aim of the Teamsters Park Utilisation Project is to upgrade amenities and facilities to a standard design that ensures a comfortable, rest destination for tourists, long distance travellers and our Shire locals who frequently use the reserve for regular sporting events.

Goal 1: Marketing tool as an economic support to promote tourism for the Region.

Goal 2: Access to visitor information.

Goal 3: Encourage and support driver safety and fatigue management

Goal 4: Provide facilities to enhance the drive experience.

Goal 5: Endorse the Shire's environmental awareness as a 'green' rest stop.

PROPOSAL

It is proposed the Utilisation of Teamsters Park Project is adopted by Council as a staged process for the upgrade of the reserve as a roadside rest stop area.

FINANCIAL/RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS

The Utilisation of Teamsters Park Project will be progressed through securing grant funding and/ or as capital works and operational budgeting allows.

RISK MANAGEMENT IMPLICATIONS

There is a risk that the recommendations of the project will not proceed due to lack of funding support. This will be mitigated by ensuring all possible funding opportunities are explored and applied for where appropriate.

SUSTAINABILITY IMPLICATIONS

Economic:

As the gateway to the Douglas Shire, this re-development will support the local economic activity and endeavour to increase the Shire's visitor expenditure. The Queensland Drive Tourism Strategy 2013 researched 950,000 domestic and 360,000 international visitors tour Queensland Roads annually.

The Captain Cook Highway Strategic Plan (Final report) 2015 noted Port Douglas having 15% of TNQ visitor with approximately 332,000 per annum and international visitors are considered the key user group for a stopping place.

Environmental:

Emphasis has been placed on this reserve as a 'green' rest stop to have access to facilities such as 'waste and recycle' bins and a proposed black water dump point to dispose of litter and waste responsibly.

These points are in line with the Waste Reduction & Recycling Plan 2016 and Council's Corporate Plan 3.1.4, promoting 'zero tolerance for littering'.

Utilising solar panels where possible as an alternative source of power, will show commitment in reducing greenhouse omissions.

The installation and introduction of an Electric Car Re-Charge Station to the Shire would reflect Council's contribution to the support and progress of sustainability.

Social:

The enhancement of Teamsters Park as a rest stop area will assist to support the perception and expectations of visitors and drivers for the Douglas region as a welcoming destination which caters for tourist market needs. This initiative will help to establish a positive reputation potentially having the ability to increase returning visitor numbers.

As the 'green' rest stop along the Captain Cook Highway opportunities have been recognised to partake in the marketing campaign for the 'Great Barrier Drive' initiative by TPDD.

CORPORATE/OPERATIONAL PLAN, POLICY REFERENCE

This report has been prepared in accordance with the following:

Corporate Plan 2016-2017 Initiatives:**Theme 2 – Building a Sustainable Economic Base**

2.3.1 Develop strategy to increase the utilisation of Teamsters Park.

2.4.1 Economic Development Strategy.

Theme 3 – Improve Environmental Performance

3.1.2 Development of the Sustainable Strategy incorporating targets for reducing Council's carbon footprint.

Operational Plan 2016-2017 Actions:

CEO Unit - Report to Council for adoption with recommendations of possible uses and improvements to the location.

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.

Asset Owner	Meeting the responsibilities associated with owning or being the custodian of assets such as infrastructure
Fully-Responsible	Funding the full cost of a program or activity
Information Provider	Bringing people together to develop solutions to problems

CONSULTATION

Internal: Broad consultation was undertaken in the development of the Project:

- CEO Unit
- Development & Assessment Coordination
- Governance
- Infrastructure
- Public Spaces
- Councilor Workshop 16 May

External:

- Queensland Department of State Government
- Department of Natural Resources & Mines
- Department of Transport Main Roads
- Tourism Queensland
- Tourism & Events Queensland
- Tourism Port Douglas Daintree
- Touchscreen solutions, NSW
- Jennoli Art, NSW (local tile artist)
- EVE Australia, NSW (Electric car chargers)

ATTACHMENTS

1. Teamsters Park Strategy **[5.4.1]**

TEAMSTERS PARK UTILISATION PROJECT

Increase the utilisation of Teamsters Park

Possibilities

Table of Contents

1.	Situation Analysis.....	1
1.1.	Background.....	1
1.2.	Aim	1
1.3.	Scope	2
2.	Budget	2
3.	Current Facilities	3
4.	Options to Achieve Aims.....	3
4.1.	Upgrade Amenities	3
4.2.	Picnic tables.....	4
4.3.	BBQs	5
4.4.	Visitor Information Options.....	6
4.5.	Waste Disposal	8
4.6.	RV Dump Point	9
4.7.	Children Entertainment	9
4.8.	Renovate the Bird Watching Hut.....	10
4.9.	Drinking Water Fountain	10
4.10.	Electric Car Charge Station	10
4.11.	Solar Power	10
5.	Next Procedure	11

1. Situation Analysis

1.1. Background

In 1877, Christie Palmerston discovered the route from the Tablelands to Craigie - the 'Packers & Teamsters Village'. This route is notoriously known as the 'Bump Track'. 'Teamsters Memorial' was established at this location in 1977 and pays tribute to those who braved the old 'Bump Track' including drivers, horses and bullocks, packers and travellers.

Teamsters Park is situated at the entrance to Port Douglas on the Captain Cook Highway at Craigie. Located on the left when approaching from the south, the park designates the 'gateway' to the Shire.

In 2015, Department of Transport Main Roads conducted road travel counts on the Captain Cook Highway with a yearly average of 8,194 vehicles passing Teamsters Park per day. Approximately 6,610 vehicles travel in one direction past the reserve and 60.66% (4,009 vehicles) of these do not return past this point thus venturing off into other areas of the region. 24.45% make a return trip and 9.46% are heavy vehicles.

The 2015 Captain Cook Highway Strategic Plan Final Report, Executive Summary, 'Stopping Places & Signage' recommended Douglas Shire Council investigate the feasibility of a visitor information centre at Teamsters Park

The Council Operational Plan of 2016-2017, recognised and identified as part of its initiative to *increase opportunities to promote the Shire as a destination of choice*, to develop a strategy to increase the utilisation of Teamsters Park. (G3 2.3.1).

In 2016, Council upgraded the pathway around the wetlands and towards the 'Bump Track' including a bridge. The path is compacted dirt with edging to avoid the path becoming uneven and unsafe when wet. This path provides clear access both to and from the park for recreational users.

A vast array of wildlife inhabits the wetlands which includes sightings of a crocodile. Safety is a priority for any recommendations provided.

1.2. Aim

- Enhance and draw attention to Teamsters Park reserve as the 'Douglas Shire Green Rest Stop'.
- Identify uses of Teamsters Park.
- Improve the overall gateway to Douglas Shire.
- Provide tourist information and locations of the area.
- Encourage interest in the Memorial and proposed pieces of historical interest.
- Reserve to become a marketing tool to promote tourism within the whole Shire.
- Enhance and provide visitors with beneficial and practical facilities.
- Encourage driver-safety and fatigue management.
- Provide a comfortable rest stop for locals and tourists using the 'Bump Track'.
- Enhance the tourism self-drive experience to encourage the drive beyond anticipated destinations.

1.3. Scope

Table The target audience has been identified as the following:

Table 1. Target Groups

Group	Objectives
Visitors	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Enhance the Douglas Shire experience. Provide tourists with information of the area to enable planning of their time in the Shire.
Locals	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Encourage locals to utilise the park facilities. Establish a sense of pride in the community.
Tour Groups	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Educate agents on what is available in the area. Provide comfortable rest stop. Allow groups to identify other tourist opportunities in the area.
RV Drivers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provide amenities. Encourage drivers to stop and rest at this location.

2. Budget

The budget would be estimated based on the following:

- Infrastructure Surveys.
- Concept Plan.
- Project Management.
- Contingency Plan.
- Accessible toilet block.
- Educational game.
- Drinking fountain.
- Replace 3 x sheltered picnic tables and install an undercover BBQ with 2 x picnic tables
- 'Waste and recycle' bin.
- Waste dump point.
- Electric car charge (free standing).
- Touchscreen Information Kiosk (free standing).
- Renovate bird watching hut.
- Signage:
 - Interpretive signs
 - Wildlife plaques
 - Electric car charge sign
 - Crocodile education signs
- Parking bays including one specifically designated for the electric car charger and a couple on Boar Street for RVs at the Dump Point.
- Pathway upgrade
- Revitalise wetlands and woodland surrounds.
- Solar power installation.

3. Current Facilities

- 1 Toilet block – 2 toilets in ladies; 1 toilet and 1 urinal in men's.
- 2 uncovered picnic tables.
- 4 cement picnic tables under cover.
- Large grassed area at the back of the park.
- Walking path from car park to wetlands and 'Bump Track'.
- 1 covered wooden picnic table at wetlands.
- Wooden bird watching hut.

4. Options to Achieve Aims

- Upgrade amenities.
- Replace 3 x sheltered picnic tables and install an undercover BBQ with 2 x picnic tables
- Interpretive signage including environmental and safety information.
- Wildlife/bird species plaques.
- Large information map of the Douglas Shire.
- Renovate bird watching hut.
- Revitalise the wetlands
 - Audit of bird species
 - Wetland information board
 - Croc/swimming warning signs (unless croc is removed)
 - Fencing off lake
 - Beautification of lake, wetlands and natural woodland
 - Upgrade of pathway adjacent to lake and bird watch hut
- Electric car charger.
- Dump point for RVs.
- 'Waste & Recycle'
- Play area.
- Drinking fountain.
- Effective signage from pull-in road.
- Parking bays (including one designated for the electric car charger and dump point).
- Solar power installation.

4.1. Upgrade Amenities

Figure 1. Current Toilet Block



There is currently one toilet block with a male toilet and separate trough and two female toilets. The toilet block does not cater for accessibility as there is no path from the parking area to the amenities, where there are two small steps at the entrance to both the male and female facilities.

Option

1. Remove the current amenities and replace with amenities that consist of two unisex toilets and one disabled including a fold-down baby change table allowing for wheelchair accessibility. This concept appears to be working well at the Daintree Gateway. The amenities block would have a similar modern design to those already located throughout the Shire.

Figure 1.



Figure 2.



4.2. Picnic tables

Figure 1. Current tables



Figure 2.



Currently, there are three outdoor bench picnic tables and four cement picnic tables under the one shelter. The sheltered tables are quite awkward to access as they are placed very close to the walls. None of the picnic tables are accessible.

Options

1. Remove and replace current undercover picnic tables and including the picnic tables to create more room for parking.
2. Install a dual undercover BBQ with two picnic tables.

Figure 1. Picnic Table Option



4.3. BBQs

Facilities in Teamsters Park are restricted to picnic tables. Installing BBQ facilities would provide those travelling through an opportunity to 'rest and revive' before continuing on their journey.

Options

1. Install a dual undercover BBQ and two picnic tables. The BBQs would be installed close to an electrical power source.
2. Install a tap close to the BBQ to allow for easy access to water once BBQs have been used.

Figure1. BBQ Options



Figure 2.



4.4. Visitor Information Options

Information centres are a wealth of local knowledge and provide visitors with a range of services and access to attractions and information. An information kiosk in the park opens up a variety of options to tourists and gives them an insight into the Shire.

Options

1. Touch Screen Kiosks

Touch screen information kiosks are already in use in a locations and do not require an officer to be present. Mixed forms of imagery, text and videos can be uploaded onto the kiosk and the user is able to navigate through its content 24 hours a day.

Utilising a small space, the kiosk could be installed under shelter allowing for added protection from the elements. They generally have an auto-dimming system allowing for use in direct sunlight. Kiosks are secure and designed to withstand vandalism and applied with an anti-graffiti powder coating.

Figure 1. Touchscreen Kiosks



Figure 2.



Touchscreen kiosks have the ability to incorporate a GSM modem for connection - Council would supply the 4G SIM and cover the data cost. Most popular amongst Councils is in-house management using web-based content - nominated pages can be pulled from the website and regularly updated. There are a number of ways content can be managed or triggered.

Visitors will be able to access local weather and directions to local businesses or partner tourism organisations. This system would allow for direct access to Council website and the Events Calendar which would increase the economic impact in the Shire.

This is a low, on-going cost solution to Council for providing current information to the user.

2. Information Boards

The information boards would be themed similar to those already installed at the Daintree Gateway. This information displayed would feature the whole Shire therefore limiting the amount of content.

Information Board Options

Figure1. Information Board Options



Figure 2.

Figure 3.



Figure 4.



2.1 Native Wildlife Plaques

Small wildlife species information plaques on pedestals would be sporadically placed around the park and wetland area as points of interest for visitors.

3. Manned Information Centre

A manned information centre was recommended as part of the Captain Cook Highway Strategic Plan, Final Report (2015) however, this is not a feasible option to Council due to the significant costs associated with construction, on going operational and maintenance costs and depreciation.



Figure 1. Manned Information Centre

4.5. Waste Disposal

An unnecessary amount of illegal dumping can occur at Teamsters Park as the wheelie bins allow people to dump large bags of mixed rubbish. Once the bins are full the overflow is placed on the ground beside the bins, along with TV's, boxes, etc. The aim is to promote 'zero tolerance to littering' in line with the 2016/2017 Corporate Plan, 2016 RV Strategy and Economic Development Strategy 2017 and Waste Reduction & Recycling Plan 2016 as a 'green' rest stop area.

Options

1. Install similar waste and recycle bins already in use at Cape Tribulation. These bins have reduced the amount of illegal dumping in Cape Tribulation. They are contained and easily cleaned, limit the size of rubbish placed and allow for waste to be sorted from recycling.
2. There is also the opportunity to fit a perspex display case on the side of bins to be used for promotion or imagery. Eg. Disaster information, Council messages or Council events.



Figure 1.. Waste & Recycle Bins

4.6. RV Dump Point

There are no public RV waste Dump Points for black waste in Port Douglas. Investigation has been undertaken to use the current location of the CL 2 Sewer Pump and integrate it with the installation of an RV Dump Point.



Figure 1 RV Dump Point

4.7. Children Entertainment

1. Educational Game

An educational game in the park allows children to expel energy whilst learning about a subject on the local area. An instruction board is placed at the start of approximately 30 staggered tiles. The game would follow a subject native to this area. Children would be able to follow the path learning about different aspects of the topic. eg. Crocodile lifecycle - mother laying eggs, hatching, diet, predators, habitat, history of the area etc. There is the option of this being a Council initiated RADF project. On going costs for this would be minimal and the tiles would be set into the ground for easy maintenance.

Figure 1. Educational Tile Game



Figure 2.



4.8. Renovate the Bird Watching Hut

Renovate the wooden bird watching hut close to the wetland area. Again, there is a possibility of giving schools the opportunity to participate and produce a frame of local bird life species artwork inside the hut.

Figure 1. Bird Watching Huts



4.9. Drinking Water Fountain

Install a water drinking station close to the picnic tables/BBQ area and the play area and one close to the 'Bump Track'. Style to be kept in line, with those provided in other 'open spaces' areas such as the Port Douglas Esplanade.

4.10. Electric Car Charge Station

E-mobility is becoming increasingly popular and TPDD is looking to promote the use of electric cars in the Shire. QT Resorts have installed Car Chargers in all locations including Port Douglas as part of their 'Green Strategy' to reduce 'greenhouse' emissions. Designs have expanded to cater for most leading car brands; Tesla, Nissan, BMW, Hyundai, Mitsubishi etc. There is an option for single or double charging ports from the charging stand.

Figure 1 Electric Car Charge Station



Figure 2. Allocated Car Park for Charge Station



4.11. Solar Power

Utilising solar panels where possible as an alternative source of power, will assist Council to express its participation in reducing greenhouse pollutants with an environmentally responsible image.

Council have installed solar power at designated areas of the Esplanade at Port Douglas. Other areas around the Shire include the Council Administration Building. This is environmentally friendly and cost effective to Council. Solar panel stands are strategically placed around picnic and BBQ tables, benches, on top of information plaques/boards and shelters. The panels are approximately \$1,000 per light and installation is simple.

5. Next Procedure

Stage 2 of the project would be to:

- Secure funding.
- Conduct a detailed survey of the site's contours and natural features, to identify the underground infrastructure, i.e. fibre optic cables, electrical sources, water, dump point – location to sewer, drainage etc.
- Draft a Concept Plan pinpointing effective location of infrastructures, picnic shelters, amenity building etc. ensuring the layout is natural and visually appealing.
- Sketch floor plans and elevations of the amenity building.
- Local drainage investigations to determine stormwater discharge/outlet conditions.
- Examine the current waste-dump point to ascertain effective standard of operation.
- Ascertain suitable access from Captain Cook Highway following liaison with the Department of Transport and Main Roads.
- Full investigation into the proposed services and associated costs – water, power, gas, internet and data access.
- Draw up a landscape plan to revive natural woodland and revitalisation of wetlands, including pathways to and around the lake taking into account the appearance of the rest area facilities and woodland surrounds when viewed from Captain Cook Highway.
- Plan the renovation for the current bird watching hut.
- Survey of bird species and install signage inside the hut of species for easy reference for users.

5.5. DOUGLAS RECREATIONAL VEHICLE STRATEGY 2017- 2021

REPORT AUTHOR(S): Brendan Leishman, Senior Community & Economic Development Officer
GENERAL MANAGER: Kerrie Hawkes, Executive Officer
DEPARTMENT: CEO Unit - Connected Communities

RECOMMENDATION

That Council:

- 1. Adopts the content of the Douglas Recreational Vehicle Strategy 2017-2021;**
 - 2. Delegates authority to the Mayor and Chief Executive Officer in accordance with the Local Government Act 2009 in relation to administering the Strategy.**
-

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

As part of the 2016/17 Operational Plan the CEO Unit was to develop a Recreational Vehicles (RV) Strategy based on a RV Discussion Paper adopted by Council in June 2016.

The Douglas RV Strategy is to provide Council with a coordinated approach to improving facilities that help cater to the needs and improve the experience of the RV traveller while visiting the Douglas region. Many local Government areas in Australia and New Zealand, as part of tourism and economic strategies have identified the need to support and enhance facilities to attract, maintain and grow their share of the RV traveller market.

BACKGROUND

The RV and caravan travel market continues to grow in Australia with caravan and campervan registrations increasing by 4.9%. As of the 31 January 2016 there was a national total of 554 344 registered caravans and 60 957 campervans within Australia.

The RV tourism market plays an important role in the Queensland and Douglas Shire's regional economy. The Queensland Government's *Queensland drive tourism strategy 2013-2015* sought to encourage more travellers to take a driving holiday in Queensland; and contribute to the State Government's overall goal of doubling the overnight visitor expenditure in Queensland from \$15billion to \$30billion per annum by 2020.

The Douglas RV Friendly Strategy has been developed by Council in order to provide a strategic and coordinated approach to managing and providing information services and facilities to meet the needs and requirements of the RV traveller market.

The Strategy has been developed based on findings contained within a Discussion Paper - 'Considerations for developing a Douglas RV Friendly Strategy' adopted by Council in June 2016.

This strategy will assist to improve the RV visitor experience to the region; help inform and support the increasing number of RV travellers to access services and facilities; and seek to improve the profile of the region within RV traveller networks.

COMMENT

In maintaining and growing the RV traveller market within the Douglas region there will be benefits from having a coordinated and strategic implementation plan that will provide a clear pathway in delivering the facilities and access to services required and expected by this sector of the self-drive market.

The primary purpose of the RV Strategy is to:

- Improve/ enhance the RV traveller's experience while visiting the Douglas region through the provision of facilities, services and ready access information.
- Maintain and increase RV visitation rates and periods of time spent within a region
- Support local/ regional economic growth by providing infrastructure and provisions to support RV travellers
- Manage and mitigate impact of RV travellers on local community and environment

PROPOSAL

It is proposed for Council to adopt the contents of the Douglas RV Strategy 2017 – 2021.

FINANCIAL/RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS

It is proposed that associated costs with addressing the actions contained within the Douglas RV Strategy will be provided for in the Annual Budgets and Operational Plans over the next four financial years as resources and capabilities allow.

RISK MANAGEMENT IMPLICATIONS

To assist in managing community expectations, the timelines for the actions in the strategy will be staged over the next four years under Council's Operational and Capital Works Plans when resources and capabilities allow.

The Strategy will be reviewed against the key performance indicators annually and reported to Council to monitor progress and relevance.

SUSTAINABILITY IMPLICATIONS

Economic: A Douglas RV Strategy will help ensure that the Shire is prepared and competitive to maintain and increase its potential share of the growing RV traveller market.

Environmental: A Douglas RV Strategy has an emphasis on RV travellers having access to information and facilities which will reduce the impact by RV travellers on the natural and built environments. Access to information of suitable and facilities such as dump points are key to allowing the RV travellers to dispose of their waste responsibly.

Social: A strategic and coordinated approach to RVs within the region will help further develop a positive profile of the region as a RV friendly destination. This potentially has the ability to increase first time and returning visitor numbers; and to encourage all visitors to spend longer periods within the region.

CORPORATE/OPERATIONAL PLAN, POLICY REFERENCE

This report has been prepared in accordance with the following:

Corporate Plan 2014-2019 Initiatives:

Theme 2 - Building a Sustainable Economic Base

2.1.1 - Develop management plans for all Council assets and adequately resource their implementation.

2.1.4 - Identify, resource and implement opportunities for engagement in the digital economy.

2.2.1 - Develop business initiatives to support commercial development and investment within the Shire.

2.2.5 - Expand tourism and agricultural business opportunities and benefits through collaborative planning and promotion.

2.3.3 - Support and explore appropriate commercial uses of Council - controlled land, adding to the visitor experience and supporting the local economy.

Theme 3 - Improve Environmental Performance

3.1.4 - Promote a culture within our communities of “zero tolerance to littering” and introduce an educational, regulatory and enforcement regime to underpin it.

3.1.5 - Investigate opportunities for improved recycling and re-use of waste deposited at landfill sites.

Theme 4 - Engage, Plan, Partner

4.1.1 - Explore and utilise a comprehensive variety of media, including digital, to inform, engage and educate.

4.1.2 - Undertake community engagement activities that are clearly identified and are appropriate in relation to the project.

4.2.2 - Provide leadership to secure beneficial social, environmental and economic outcomes for the Shire.

Theme 5 - Governance

5.1.1 - Establish and develop long term financial, resource and infrastructure planning to ensure ongoing capacity to fund operations and capital works programs.

5.2.2 - Implement adopted policies and guidelines to ensure consistency in administrative management which also encourages innovation in Council operations.

Operational Plan 2015-2016 Actions:

2.3.2 - Adoption of the RV Strategy – Stage 2.

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:

Facilitator	Bringing people together to develop solutions to problems
Fully-Responsible	Funding the full cost of a program or activity
Part-Funder	Sharing the cost of a program or activity with other organisations.

CONSULTATION

Internal:

- Sustainable Communities – Resource Management
- Environmental Health & Regulatory Services
- Governance – Property
- Infrastructure – Civil Works
- Councillor Workshop conducted on the 16 May 2017

External:

- Caravanning Queensland
- Tourism Port Douglas Daintree
- Wonga Beach Caravan Park

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

The RV strategy is primarily operational in its focus with no significant implications to caravan parks or camping ground operators or the broader community it is recommended that community engagement on the strategy will be to 'inform' the community of Council's intention to adopt and implement priority actions.

ATTACHMENTS

1. Douglas Recreational Vehicle (R V) Strategy 2017 - 2021 **[5.5.1]**

DOUGLAS RECREATIONAL VEHICLE (RV) STRATEGY 2017 - 2021

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Introduction	1
Alignment with Corporate Plan	1
Relevant Council documents and policies	2
Strategy Focus.....	2
Key Priority Action Areas	3
1. Designated parking and signage	3
2. Provision of Dump-Points and Waste Management.....	4
3. Directional Signage to appropriate Camping Areas facilities	4
4. Potable Water.....	5
5. Rest Areas.....	5
6. Overflow Camping.....	6
7. Non-commercial Camping.....	7
8. RV Programs.....	9
9. Access to Information.....	11
10. Promotional Opportunities.....	11
11. Wonga Beach Caravan Park.....	12
Key Performance Indicators	14
Reference Information:	19

INTRODUCTION

The RV and caravan travel market continues to grow in Australia with caravan and campervan registrations increasing by 4.9% from 2015 to 2016. As of the 31 January 2016 there was a national total of 554 344 registered caravans and 60 957 campervans¹ within Australia.

The RV tourism market plays an important role in the Queensland and Douglas Shire's regional economy. The Queensland Government's *Queensland drive tourism strategy 2013–2015* sought to encourage more travellers to take a driving holiday in Queensland; and contribute to the State Government's overall goal of doubling the overnight visitor expenditure in Queensland from \$15billion to \$30billion per annum by 2020.

The Douglas Recreational Vehicle (RV) Strategy has been developed by Council in order to provide a strategic and coordinated approach to managing and providing information services and facilities to meet the needs and requirements of the RV traveller market.

This strategy will assist to improve the visitor experience to the region; help inform and support the increasing number of RV travellers to access services and facilities; and enhance the profile of the region within RV traveller networks.

What are recreational vehicles?

Recreational Vehicles (RV's) include vehicles used by the travelling public such as motor homes, ridged vehicles, camper vans, caravan and trailers.

Improving the region's facilities and services which cater to RV travellers will help contribute to enhancing their experience while visiting the region and will also help to support the Douglas economy. It is important that as the number of RV travellers who take to the roads increases and the many who will visit our region that the potential impacts to the environment are minimised and managed responsibly.

The Douglas RV Strategy has captured and complements initiatives and processes already being undertaken by Council; as well as identifying strategic actions and infrastructure for future investigation and implementation.

ALIGNMENT WITH CORPORATE PLAN

The Douglas RV Strategy provides a considered framework for addressing the needs and requirements of RV travellers and in doing so aligns with relevant goals detailed in Council's Corporate Plan 2014 – 2019.

Theme 2 - Building a Sustainable Economic Base

¹ Caravan and Campervan Data Report 2016

- 2.1.1 - Develop management plans for all Council assets and adequately resource their implementation.
- 2.1.4 – Identify, resource and implement opportunities for engagement in the digital economy.
- 2.2.1 - Develop business initiatives to support commercial development and investment within the Shire.
- 2.2.5 - Expand tourism and agricultural business opportunities and benefits through collaborative planning and promotion.
- 2.3.3 - Support and explore appropriate commercial uses of Council - controlled land, adding to the visitor experience and supporting the local economy.

Theme 3 - Improve Environmental Performance

- 3.1.4 - Promote a culture within our communities of “zero tolerance to littering” and introduce an educational, regulatory and enforcement regime to underpin it.
- 3.1.5 - Investigate opportunities for improved recycling and re-use of waste deposited at landfill sites.

Theme 4 - Engage, Plan, Partner

- 4.1.1 - Explore and utilise a comprehensive variety of media, including digital, to inform, engage and educate.
- 4.1.2 - Undertake community engagement activities that are clearly identified and are appropriate in relation to the project.
- 4.2.2 - Provide leadership to secure beneficial social, environmental and economic outcomes for the Shire.

Theme 5 - Governance

- 5.1.1 - Establish and develop long term financial, resource and infrastructure planning to ensure ongoing capacity to fund operations and capital works programs.
- 5.2.2 - Implement adopted policies and guidelines to ensure consistency in administrative management which also encourages innovation in Council operations.

RELEVANT COUNCIL DOCUMENTS AND POLICIES

- Economic Development Strategy 2017 - 2021
- Douglas RV Strategy Discussion Paper – June 2016
- Douglas Shire Council Operational Plan – 2016/17
- Illegal Dumping Strategy
- Information Sheet – Camping in the Douglas Shire

STRATEGY FOCUS

The Douglas RV Strategy identifies Key Priority Actions which aims to improve and provide access to facilities and services; protect the environment and improve access to important and relevant information for RV Travellers.

KEY PRIORITY ACTION AREAS

1. Designated parking and signage

Locations such as Port Douglas, Mossman and Daintree Village have been identified as priority areas to improve access to parking facilities for RVs and long vehicles (e.g. cars towing caravans) to improve access to town shopping precincts and attractions. Additional RV parking locations within the Shire will also be considered as part of ongoing improvements and maintenance of traffic management facilities.

In conjunction with the provision of parking facilities directional signage will be installed to assist RV travellers to access parking and other specific RV facilities such as dump-point locations; as well as suitably positioned information signage to help inform RV travellers of regional attractions, camping options and information.



(Examples only)

Port Douglas – Wharf Street Car Park

It is proposed that improvements will be made to the Wharf Street car park by way of new line marking designated for RVs and long vehicles. Directional signage located on Port Douglas Road will direct RV and long vehicles via Mowbray Street to better access parking.

Considered for this area also is information signage on local facilities, safety information and camping options.

Port Douglas – Future additional RV Parking

During busy times such as Port Douglas Market day in conjunction with fishers (with boat trailers); and/ or when other significant public and community events are taking place designated parking for RVs is limited. It is proposed that Council undertake a scoping exercise to investigate the feasibility of establishing a new overflow car park in Mowbray Street which could accommodate additional off road RV parking spaces.

Mossman – Parking and Dump Point Signage

Presently in Mossman RV and long vehicle parking is available adjacent to Bubu Kinkari/ George Davis Park in Foxton Avenue. The installation of directional signage in Front Street (north bound) will help prepare RV travellers in advanced to access parking and rest stop facilities. Line marking will also be undertaken to assist with long vehicle parking.

The car park area of the Mossman Riverside Leisure Park located in Park Street; Mossman currently provides the only free, public dump-point in the Douglas region. Presently no directional signage is provided to assist RV travellers in accessing this facility. Any future proposed dump-point facilities provided by Council in the Douglas region will include directional signage.



(Examples only)

Daintree Village – Access to Parking

Directional signage to park will be installed in Daintree Village to direct RVs and long vehicles to the lower car park area situated at the bottom of Stewart St near boat ramp.

2. Provision of Dump-Points and Waste Management

Presently within the Douglas Shire only one public RV dump-point facility is available which is located in the car park of the Mossman Riverside Leisure Park, Mossman. It is proposed Council will identify two additional locations within the Shire where dump-points can be installed in the future.

Consideration will be given to locating a dump-point as part of the implementation of a future master plan and upgrade of Teamsters Park, Craiglie. The other proposed location for a future dump-point will be based on the assessment by Council Officers of suitable locations; and current and future facilities north of the Daintree River.

3. Directional Signage to appropriate Camping Areas facilities

To assist RV travellers in locating appropriate camping locations it is proposed that directional signage will be installed throughout the region to direct travellers to commercial caravan parks and camping grounds. Council does not provide free or low cost overnight parking/ camping within the Douglas Shire. Camping which is not within a commercial establishment or is not authorised by Council is not permitted. Presently there are 15 commercial operators within the region which provide approximately 890 camping sites for

RVs, caravans and tents. Presently all commercial operators provide a range of camping options which are in close proximity to townships and locations such as Port Douglas, Mowbray, Mossman, Daintree Village, Wonga Beach, Newell Beach, Cape Kimberley and Cape Tribulation.

A regional audit of directional signage to commercial caravan parks and camping grounds will be undertaken to assess the signage required. The implementation of directional signage which will assist RV travellers locate and access commercial operators will also help support Council's efforts to best manage illegal camping within the region.



(Examples only)

4. Potable Water

It is proposed where possible, that RVs have access to safe and fresh drinking water at key rest stop areas. Appropriate signage (and online information) will assist RV travellers in locating and accessing these facilities.

Additional potable water locations within the Shire will also be considered and identified as part of ongoing improvements and maintenance of Council open space facilities.



(Examples only)

5. Rest Areas

The provision of rest areas for motorists is recognised as an integral part of a holistic approach to the management of driver fatigue on Queensland roads. Fatigue is recognised as one of the major contributors to the road toll across the country. The Douglas Shire already provides a number of rest areas which provides motorists with varying levels of facilities and amenities.

In assessing the rest areas across the Douglas region the most significant or prominent rest areas in the Douglas Shire include:

- Teamsters Park, Craiglie – Captain Cook Highway
- Bubu Kinkari/ George Davis Park, Foxton Avenue – Mossman
- Daintree Gateway, Cape Tribulation Road – Lower Daintree (Daintree Ferry)

Teamsters Park - Future Plans

Teamsters Park - Craiglie is a popular rest area for self drive visitors arriving in the Douglas region. Council considers this facility important for the RV and self-drive tourist market entering the region. It is proposed to develop a master plan for this facility. The *Best Practice Guide for Roadside Rest Areas in Queensland* provide local governments with a matrix of desired standards and facilities for rest areas based on the average annual daily traffic (AADT).

Teamsters Park has the potential to be transformed into a 'gateway', which can best support RV travellers and other visitors with information and appropriate facilities.

Bubu Kinkari/ George Davis Park – Future Plans

This location under the iconic Raintrees in Mossman provides an ideal spot for RV travellers to stop and take a walk up the main street. Currently there is adequate parking for RVs and long vehicles. As mentioned above (in Designated Parking and Signage) improvements will be made in relation to line marking and directional signage promoting the available parking for RVs/ long vehicles; and the nearby free Council Dump point.

Daintree Gateway – Future Plans

The Daintree Gateway Project has already seen major improvements to infrastructure especially within the area identified as the *Western Precinct*. This has included the installation of new toilet facilities, landscaping and interpretive signage. The soon to be completed sealing of the drive way and car park areas with concrete will greatly improve access and environmental impact of RV and other self drive travellers. It is proposed that this area will in the future have a Wi-Fi hotspot installed which will assist travellers in accessing relevant information about the region.

Future infrastructure for road travellers will be considered for the northern side of the Daintree River ferry crossing as resources and funding permit.

6. Overflow Camping

Within the Douglas Shire anecdotal evidence suggests it is extremely unlikely that 100% peak capacity is reached by all 15 commercial operating caravan /holiday parks at any one time. Council in 2015 to better support the strong demand for camping sites within the region approved an overflow area operated by a commercial operator which can accommodate 50 camping sites. Figures indicate that there are a combined total of approximately 890 caravan/ RV sites (powered and unpowered) within the region.

Also supporting the future demand of camping sites in the Douglas region as at March 2016 there had been:

- a pre-lodgement enquiry from the developers of the proposed new 57 site caravan park off the Captain Cook Highway in Mowbray which has received in-principle support from Council subject to further detailed investigations; and
- a development application for a proposed 20 site campground to be located at the Mossman Golf Club.

It is also proposed under the *Draft Douglas Planning Scheme – Rural Activities Code* that rural landholders on properties of at least 10 hectares can operate a small scale Tourist Park for self-contained RV vehicles only. As a self-assessable development if the landholder is able to meet all the acceptable outcomes of the Planning Scheme this would allow property owners to accommodate up to three (3) self-contained RVs at any one time for a maximum period of (3) days per vehicle.

What are self-contained recreational vehicles?

Self-contained RV is defined as a self-contained vehicle that has internal cooking facilities as well as a toilet, shower and sleeping facilities; plus water tanks sufficient for 24 - 48 hours use by the occupants for drinking and other purposes; as well holding tanks for grey and black water.

Overflow facilities are a contingency plan to support the business community, including caravan and tourist park owners. It would also help to ensure that as many as possible RV tourists are able to experience the Douglas area without impacting on the health and safety of the permanent and travelling community, and helping to protect the environment.

Council will engage with commercial caravan and holiday park operators to ascertain the need for an additional RV overflow facility within the Douglas Region. It is proposed to undertake a survey with caravan park and holiday park operators within the region to identify a need or priority for establishing such a facility.

It should be noted that Coronation Park/Mossman Show Grounds has provisional approval from the Queensland Government to permit RVs to use this area for overnight stays. Activation of such a facility would require the appropriate engagement with commercial operators to identify if there is a need for such an overflow facility. Also careful consideration should be given to the ability of Council to implement regulations/ compliance and administration of such a facility.

The Caravan Parks Association of Queensland Overflow Policy provides a framework to aid both commercial caravan, holiday parks and Councils, by facilitating a system of referral for overflow clients to other commercial operators or local showgrounds at times when Commercial Parks within the immediate area are full and no longer can accommodate additional clients.

It is important that Douglas is prepared and competitive as a destination which can cater for the possibility of an influx of RV vehicles into the Douglas region during one-off events such as RV rallies; or during periods of peak demand. It provides the opportunity for special arrangements to be made in consultation with commercial operators and event organisers to ensure that suitable facilities are provided.

7. Non-commercial Camping

Currently within the Douglas region any camping not within a commercial caravan park or camping ground is not permitted. Significant resources are invested by Council to best manage the environmental impact and community concerns in relation to illegal camping.

A number of Councils and community organisations throughout Australia have established low cost camping facilities for RV travellers and specifically for self-contained RVs only. There have been varying levels of success and acceptance by communities of these trials, with challenges that include:

- collection and administration of camping fees;
- monitoring compliance of campers who stay longer then permitted;
- monitoring compliance of self-contained RV only camping areas;
- maintenance and waste management
- adverse feedback from commercial operators; and
- environmental damage e.g. camp fires, litter.

Caravanning Queensland and the *Queensland Camping Options Tool Kit: A Guide for Local Government in Developing Camping Options-2014* highlights that any non-commercial camping operation undertaken by a Local Government needs to function under the 'competitive neutrality principals' (CNP). In providing an overnight non-commercial RV camping service, Councils are required to appropriately apply the CNPs and should adopt what is known as a 'full cost attribution' model in determining the cost of providing that service. This means Councils must charge a price for the service that reflects the actual costs incurred, as well as those costs that the Council would have incurred if it had been a private operator.

Caravanning Queensland and the *Queensland Camping Options Tool Kit: A Guide for Local Government in Developing Camping Options-2014* also recommends that careful consideration should be given to the location of non-commercial camping facilities. They recommend that non-commercial camping facilities should not disadvantage existing commercial operators and therefore should not be located in close proximity.

There are significant aspects of the RV travel market which seek and expect access to low cost camping options. The Campervan and Motorhome Club of Australia (CMCA) are supportive advocates for access to free/low cost camping sites. They recognise that one of the great advantages of travelling in a self-contained vehicle is having the luxury to be able to stop at remote and regional locations, with little or no facilities for short stays.

The CMCA actively seek to secure the opportunities for non-commercial camping for their members and have established a code of conduct titled the Leave No Trace® Program, which was introduced in 1994. This program demonstrates to all levels of governments that self-contained vehicles do not necessarily have a negative impact on the environment, even if the campsite does not have any facilities. Under the Leave No Trace program, RV travellers adhere to strict guidelines relating to the vehicle's capacity for holding fresh, grey and black water allowing Councils to consider giving access to controlled areas for self-contained RVs.

It should be noted that Coronation Park/ Mossman Show Grounds and Teamsters Park, Craiglie has provisional approval from the Queensland Government to use these areas for overnight stays. Both facilities are in close proximity to commercial operations, therefore this strategy will not consider activation of such facilities at this time for non-commercial camping.

With the current number of commercial operators and future commercial operators in the Douglas Shire; and the possibility of the future Douglas Planning Scheme allowing rural landholders on working properties of at least 10 hectares being able to operate a small scale Tourist Park for up to 3 self-contained RV vehicles, it is presently not warranted or feasible for Council to consider establishing low cost non-commercial camping facilities. Other important considerations include extra Council resources to monitor compliance in regards to non-commercial camping, and the ability to implement and administer camping fees.

In the future if the need or demand warrants the establishment and access to low cost non-commercial camping facilities, in the first instance commercial operators can be encouraged to provide such facilities and services for the region. Alternatively, if Council in the future were to meet the market need in the provision of low cost camping facilities, this could be done on a cost-benefit analysis and consideration given as to how such facilities could transition to be being run by a private-sector provider or community organisation.

8. RV Programs

‘Community Welcomes Recreational Vehicles’ Signage Program

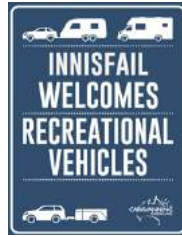
The ‘Community Welcomes Recreational Vehicles’ brand is supported nationally by the caravan and camping industry as a program promoting towns, destinations and regions as places that actively encourage RV travellers to visit them. Caravanning Queensland is the peak state caravan and camping organisation which promotes this signage program, and represents approximately 350 holiday parks and tourism members. This signage program is a community focused signage program to encourage caravan and camping visitors to spend time in a region and help draw attention to the facilities and service available to them locally while they travel through a particular area.

Adoption of the ‘Community Welcomes Recreational Vehicles’ branding by a Local Government Area will make the community eligible for inclusion in all marketing activities and promotion of the program both by Caravanning Queensland and nationally by all other state associations. Specifically Caravanning Queensland is able to achieve this through advertising and editorial in various print publications and other media outlets, promoted at Caravanning Queensland’s annual Caravan and Camping Show and at similar shows interstate, in the annual Caravan Parks and Touring Accommodation Guide (250 000 distribution) and via their website (www.caravanqld.com.au).

The website www.communitywelcomesrv.com.au hosts a listing of all the towns, regions and communities that carry the ‘Communities Welcomes Recreational Vehicles’ brand that will be promoted by the national and state associations. The combined national marketing by the industry is over \$7 million annually with the Caravan Industry Association Australia alone having a digital consumer contact of over 350 000 per annum on a regular basis.

For a particular community to be eligible for this signage program there are three (3) criteria which need to be met, these include:

- Provides easily accessible long vehicle parking within the town centre
- Has directional signage to the local information/ Visitor centre (if there is one)
- If there is a commercial Caravan park in the Community, the Local Government Area does not provide free overnight parking/ Camping within the town centre or town boundary



Campervan and Motorhome Club of Australia

The Campervan and Motorhome Club of Australia (CMCA) is the largest RV Club of its type in the Southern Hemisphere with approximately 60 000 members. As a not-for-profit organisation they provide a range of services as well as perform as an advocacy agent on behalf of their membership. Most of their club's membership is comprised of owners/ travellers using self-contained RVs. They have two programs called the *RV Friendly Town™* and *RV Friendly Destination™* which is primarily targeted at Local Governments to join. To be eligible for these programs there are a number of prescribed criteria which need to be met:

RV Friendly Town™ Essential:

- Provision of appropriate parking within the town centre with access to general shopping area from groceries and fresh produce.
- Provision of short term, low cost parking (24/48 hours) for self-contained RVs as close as possible to the CBD.
- Access to potable water
- Access to a free dump point at an appropriate location

RV Friendly Town™ Desirable:

- Provision of long term parking for self-contained RVs
- Access to medical facilities
- Access to pharmacy or a procedure to obtain pharmaceutical products
- Visitor Information Centre (VIC) with appropriate parking facilities
- VIC to provide map showing essential facilities, such as short and long term parking areas, dump point and potable water
- RV Friendly Town™ signs to be erected within the town precinct

RV Friendly Destination™ Essential:

- Provision of short term low cost overnight parking (24/48hours) for self-contained RVs
- The parking area needs to be on a solid, level surface
- There must be enough room for large vehicles to manoeuvre

RV Friendly Destination™ Desirable:

- Waste water dump point
- Potable Water
- Longer term parking

Presently camping not within a commercial caravan park or camping ground is not permitted within the Douglas Shire. It is currently not proposed or feasible that Council will establish any non-commercial low cost parking for RVs within the region. This is because the establishment of such appropriate parking facilities would be nearby to commercial operators

who are broadly dispersed across the region; and the ability of Council to administer fees onsite and monitor compliance daily (365 days per year).

9. Access to Information

RV travellers and visitors require access to accurate, up-to-date and practical information on regional services and facilities which is readily available before and after they arrive within the region.

Council Website

Council will develop, manage and keep up to date online information relating to camping options within the region. Information will include regulations relating to camping within the region; responsible disposal of sewage and litter; maps of Dump Point locations; links to State managed and operated camping sites; and commercial operator sites.

Council will promote the website through links via visitor information websites including camping, RV Camper rental and backpacker/ camper websites.

Print Material

A resource which will list the camping options within the Douglas region will be produced and distributed to RV Travellers within the region who may be camping illegally. Information will include rules relating to camping within the region; general safety information; responsible disposal of sewage and litter; Dump point locations; links to State managed and operated camping sites; and commercial operator sites.

Signage

Signage will be developed to assist RV Travellers with access to appropriate services and facilities, general safety, camping regulations and Council's website. Signage will be located in key locations where RV Travellers frequent and stop e.g. public amenities buildings in rest stop areas or RV parking areas.

10. Promotional Opportunities

There are several mediums available for marketing and promoting facilities and attractions to entice RV travellers who are researching potential holiday destinations. It is important that Council work closely with Tourism Port Douglas Daintree (TPDD) to ensure Council complements the strategies being undertaken by TPDD to reach the self-drive tourist market.

Caravanning Queensland

Council currently has no affiliation or membership with any relevant associations or organisations representing Caravan Parks or that conduct direct marketing to the Caravan/ RV travellers. Caravanning Queensland is the peak organisation for the State representing Caravan Parks and the Caravan and RV industry and manufacturers. A number of Local Governments in Queensland are taking advantage of being an associate member of Caravanning Queensland such as Cassowary Coast Council and Barcoo Shire Council. Local Governments and other organisations under the associate membership receive benefits which include:

- promoting the Local Government Area region on their website under the Holiday destinations
- Promoting attractions/ events via brochures distribution at all trade shows
- TV appearances via national television programs endorsing drive tourism e.g. *Creek to Coast*
- A linked listing in both digital formats of their *Queensland Caravan Parks and Touring Accommodation Directory* (250 000 copies)
- A quarterly newsletter (March, June September, December) in which Council would be listed
- Communication via a monthly eNews Blast
- The opportunity to advertised in the *Queensland Caravan Parks and Touring Accommodation Directory* at a discounted rate
- Regular divisional meetings to network and develop business partnerships
- There is the opportunity to promote the region by providing prizes and promotional activities for park members and delegates attending the State Conference

Council will become an Associate Membership of Caravanning Queensland.

Print Publications

There are a number of caravanning publications and e-magazines available in Australia. Foremost amongst these are the Caravanning Australia Magazine which is published on a quarterly basis. Also the annual *Queensland Caravan Parks and Touring Accommodation Directory* which is produced by Caravanning Queensland and has a print run of 250 000 copies and reaches in excess of 500 000 travellers. As an Associate Member of Caravanning Queensland, Council's details including website would be listed in their publication, and the ability to advertise at a special member's rate.

11. Wonga Beach Caravan Park

Council is responsible for all operating costs and maintenance and receives income derived from the Wonga Beach Caravan Park facility. A formal Caretaking Agreement is in place for Wonga Beach Caravan Park. The Caretaker is responsible for the day to day running and cleanliness of the facility.

Capital Works

In meeting caravan and RV customer's expectations and needs Council will look to make improvements to the Wonga Beach facility. A medium – long term staged upgrades to improve the safety, amenities and presentation of the facility will be implemented as resources allow.

In seeking to attract and grow the RV traveller market to the region the Wonga Beach Caravan Park facility can provide an exemplary and positive representation of RV and caravan facilities for the region.

Improved caravan park facilities further ensure customer satisfaction and return visitations. Satisfied customers also share positive reviews on websites such as

[Tripadvisor](#) and other caravan and camping website which are a valuable form of free marketing for attracting and growing the business and the RV market to the region.

Website

Presently the Wonga Beach Caravan Park does not have its own dedicated website for travellers to obtain up to date and relevant information on the facility or the ability to conduct online bookings. A dedicated webpage which provides general information on the Wonga Beach Caravan Park is provided via <http://www.daintree.info/wongabeachcaravanpark.html>. This page provides basic information on the Wonga Beach Caravan park facility.

“The Internet is the core starting point for consumers when researching holidays. 69% expect online booking facilities....”

Consumer Research

Report 2011 – Caravanning and Holiday Parks Industry

Council will investigate the feasibility of establishing a website to assist RV and caravan travellers with park information, regional attractions, general camping and safety information, referral to other commercial regional operators; and online bookings system.

KEY PERFORMANCE INDICATORS

Unless specified, actions will be staged over the four years by incorporating into Council's annual Operational and Capital Works plans:

Designated parking and signage		
Action	Responsibility	Key Performance Indicator
Port Douglas – Wharf Street Car Park Installation of directional signage to access RV parking from Port Douglas Road via Mowbray Street. Improve line marking to designate RV and long vehicle car parking. Develop and install information signage on local facilities (including dump point locations), safety information and camping options for the Douglas region.	Infrastructure/ Civil Works Infrastructure/ Civil Works Regulatory Services	Directional signage installed to assist travellers with access to RV and long vehicle parking. Line marking completed to improve access to designated parking for RV and long vehicles. Information signage installed in key areas throughout the Shire that target RV travellers.
Port Douglas – Future additional RV Parking Undertake a scoping exercise to investigate the feasibility of establishing a new overflow car park in Mowbray Street that is able to accommodate RVs.	Infrastructure/ Civil Works	A feasibility report into the establishment of a Mowbray Street car park facility which is able to accommodate RV vehicles.
Mossman, Foxton Avenue – Parking and Dump Point Signage Installation of directional signage to access RV parking off Foxton Avenue located near Bubu Kin Kari/ George Davis Park.	Infrastructure/ Civil Works	Directional signage installed to assist travellers with access to RV and long vehicle parking.

Renew line marking for long vehicles.	Infrastructure/Civil Works	Line marking for long vehicles completed.
Installation of directional signage to improve access public Dump Point located in car park area of Mossman Leisure Park.	Infrastructure/ Civil Works	Directional signage installed to assist travellers with access to Dump Point.
Provision of Dump-Points		
Action	Responsibility	Key Performance Indicator
Investigate locations for additional Dump Points within the region. One to the North and one to the South of the Daintree River.	Water & Wastewater	Provide options of suitable locations for at the installation of at least two additional Dump Points within the Shire.
Installation of additional Dump Points within the region as resources permit.	Water & Wastewater	Two additional Dump Points installed within the region.
Investigate the feasibility to upgrade the Mossman Dump Point facility.	Water & Wastewater	Report on the resources required to upgrade Mossman Dump Point facility.
Upgrade Mossman Dump Point facility as resources permit.	Water & Waste Water	Upgrade to Mossman Dump Point facility completed.
Directional Signage to appropriate Camping Areas facilities		
Action	Responsibility	Key Performance Indicator
Investigate the feasibility and logistics of providing directional signage to caravan park and camping facilities throughout the Shire.	Regulatory Services Infrastructure/ Civil Works	A completed survey into the provision of directional signage to assist RV Travellers locate and access caravan parks and camping grounds within the Shire The installation of directional signage throughout the region to assist RV Travellers in locating caravan parks and camping grounds.

Potable Water		
Action	Responsibility	Key Performance Indicator
Access to Water Identify suitable locations where RV travellers are able to access potable water.	Water & Waste Water Open Spaces	Accessible potable water locations identified with signage.
Rest Areas		
Action	Responsibility	Key Performance Indicator
Teamsters Park - Future Plans <i>As part of Council's Operational Plan for 2016/17 Council is to investigate a strategy to increase utilisation of Teamsters Park. Dependant on Council's decision on this strategy:</i> Implement strategies (maintenance and capital works) which increase utilisation of Teamsters Park especially as they relate to improving the facilities for RV travellers as resources allow.	Infrastructure Open Spaces	Annual report on maintenance and capital works undertaken on Teamsters Park.
Daintree Gateway – Future Plans Implement staged upgrades of the Daintree Gateway as resources permit.	Infrastructure Open Spaces	Annual report on maintenance and capital works undertaken on Daintree Gateway.
Overflow Camping		
Action	Responsibility	Key Performance Indicator
Survey Undertake a survey with Commercial Caravan Park and Camping Ground Operators to ascertain need for establishing an Overflow Camping area for the Douglas region at times of peak demand.	CEO Unit	Survey completed

RV Programs		
Action	Responsibility	Key Performance Indicator
Community Welcomes RVs Program Council to participate in the 'Community Welcomes Recreational Vehicles' program which is facilitated by Caravanning Queensland.	CEO Unit	Formally achieve membership of the 'Community Welcomes Recreational Vehicles' program. Installation of Community Welcomes RV signage.
Access to Information		
Action	Responsibility	Key Performance Indicator
Council Website Council will develop, manage and keep up to date online information relating to camping options within the region and other associated information.	CEO Unit Regulatory Services	Monthly or as required update of camping and RV information on Council website.
Print Material Council will produce a printed resource which will provide RV travellers with camping options and other associated general information that will assist them whilst visiting within the region.	Regulatory Services	Printed resource/ brochure developed. Printed resource/ brochures disseminated to RV Travellers.
Signage Signage will be developed to assist RV travellers with access to appropriate services and facilities, general safety, camping regulations and Council's website. Signage will be located in key locations where RV Travellers frequent and stop e.g. public amenities buildings in rest stop areas or RV park areas.	Regulatory Services	Signage developed and installed.

Promotional Opportunities		
Action	Responsibility	Key Performance Indicator
Caravanning Queensland Council will become an associate member of Caravanning Queensland. Membership will provide benefits and opportunities which will help to promote the Douglas region within with RV and Caravanning networks in Queensland and Nationally.	CEO Unit	Council will achieve associate membership with Caravanning Queensland. Douglas region will be profiled and promoted via Caravanning Queensland.
Wonga Beach Caravan Park		
Action	Responsibility	Key Performance Indicator
Capital Works and Website Council will identify and undertake general maintenance and capital works on the Wonga Beach Caravan Park facility as resources permit. Council will investigate the feasibility of establishing a website to assist RV travelers with Wonga Beach Caravan Park information, regional attractions and facilities; and online bookings system.	Property Infrastructure CEO Unit Property	Annual report on maintenance and capital works undertaken on Wonga Beach Caravan Park Facility. A report providing detail of the development and ongoing maintenance costs associated with a website.

REFERENCE INFORMATION:

A guideline for the management of camping areas in South Australia, South Australia Parks – March 2014

Best practice guide for roadside rest areas in Queensland, Queensland Government - 2014

Cairns Regional Council Caravan and Camping Business Plan – 2012

Cairns RV Strategy 2013 – Cairns Regional Council

Caravan and Campervan Data Report 2015 – Caravan Industry Association of Australia – December 2015

Caravan, RV & Accommodation Industry of Australia – Economic Benefit Report – Spending Patterns of Commercial Campers and Non-Commercial Campers – May 2013

[Cooktown Shire Council - RV Rest Area Trial April – November 2013 – Prezi \(Presentation\)](#)

Freedom Camping in the Queenstown Lakes District – Queenstown Lakes District Council, New Zealand

Queensland Camping Options Tool Kit: A Guide for Local Government in Developing Camping Options-2014

Queensland Drive Tourism Strategy 2013–2015

Recreational Vehicle (RV) Friendly City- Implications and Considerations – Independent Report for Geelong Otway Tourism – April 2013

Recreational Vehicle Strategy Friendly Strategy – December 2015 (DRAFT) – Moira Shire Council

Recreational Vehicle RV Strategy 2014 – South Gippsland Shire Council

Rest Areas and Stopping Places – Location, Design and Facilities - Queensland Government, Department of Transport and Main Roads – March 2014

The Provision of Council Recreational Vehicle Camping Services – Fact Sheet – May 2012 – Tasmanian Government, Division of Local Government, Security and Emergency Management Department of Premier and Cabinet

5.6. WET TROPICS MANAGEMENT PLAN REVIEW SUBMISSION

REPORT AUTHOR(S)	Paul Hoyer, Manager Sustainable Communities Nicola Learmond, Sustainability Officer
GENERAL MANAGER	Nicholas Wellwood, General Manager Operations
DEPARTMENT	Sustainable Communities

RECOMMENDATION

That Council resolves to support and submit the attached Wet Tropics Management Plan Review Submission to the Wet Tropics Management Authority.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Wet Tropics Management Authority has invited Douglas Shire Council to provide a submission regarding the Wet Tropics Management Plan Review.

BACKGROUND

The Wet Tropics Management Plan 1998 (the Current Plan) is Queensland law and applies only to areas within the Wet Tropics World Heritage Area. The purpose of the Current Plan is to help protect World Heritage values, these are natural heritage values as described in the World Heritage listing and relate to ecological, biological, evolutionary and scenic landscape values. It includes land use controls through the regulation of a range of activities which have the potential to impact on World Heritage values or the enjoyment of those values.

There are five groups of activities regulated under the Current Plan:

1. Disturbance to native plants, waterways and earth – e.g. excavation, dams and diverting water.
2. Control of introduced animals and environmental weeds – e.g. specification of undesirable plants and animals as defined by the Current Plan.
3. Waste disposal.
4. Building and maintenance of structures and roads.
5. Operation of motorised vehicles, boats and aircraft – e.g. motor vehicles, motor boats and commercial flights below 1000ft.

Zoning Maps

The current Plan divides the World Heritage Area into four zones which are managed for different purposes. The four zones are:

1. **Zone A – most pristine, most remote, least disturbed**
Land of high integrity, remote from disturbances by activities associated with modern technological society with no obvious management presence. To qualify for Zone A land must:
 - Be at least 500 meters from all roads, cableways, power lines, towers, mines, quarries and other structures; and
 - Be at least 700 meters from clearings; and
 - Include a minimum area of 150 hectares of undisturbed habitat; and
 - Have no obvious signs of disturbance in the last 40 years (such as logging).

The management purpose is to protect the integrity of land and if disturbed to restore it to its natural state.

2. **Zone B – largely pristine, less remote, often with some disturbances of World Heritage values**

Land that is mostly of high integrity but not necessarily remote from disturbance. Land may be undergoing recovery or rehabilitation towards its natural state. The management purpose is to protect and enhance the integrity of land and if disturbed to restore the land to its natural state and include it within Zone A once it is sufficiently recovered or rehabilitated.

3. **Zone C – land associated with community services infrastructure**

Land on or adjacent to land where there is a disturbance associated with community services infrastructure, such as visitor facilities, roads and electricity supply. Management presence may be obvious in this zone to ensure any adverse impact of activities carried out has a minimal impact on the area.

4. **Zone D – land associated with existing or potential visitor facilities**

Land which has or has plans to be developed to include facilities to enable visitors to appreciate and enjoy the Wet Tropics area. Land will mostly be natural, with visitor facilities integrated into the surrounding landscape and management presence may be obvious.



In general, more stringent restrictions apply in Zone A followed by Zone B, for example new infrastructure is generally prohibited in Zones A and B.

Road Classification

The Current Plan classifies roads within the World Heritage Area, these are:

- Highways
- Local access roads
- Presentation (unrestricted) roads
- Presentation (restricted) roads
- Management roads

Road classification aims to reflect the needs of land managers, infrastructure agencies, visitors, the tourism industry, researchers and the community.

Classifications aim to take into account the potential impact of road access use on the integrity of the World Heritage Area. A permit is required for use of motor vehicles on presentation (restricted) roads and management roads.

Wet Tropics Permits

The Current Plan uses a permit system to regulate the five groups of activities (defined above). However, there are some situations where the need for a permit is waived, these include:

- Activities for the protection of life and urgent protection of property, or urgent control of fire or other natural disaster.
- Activities causing no more than minor and inconsequential impacts.

The Current Plan does not give the right to undertake an activity otherwise regulated under another law. Permit applications are categorised into three types, these are:

- Activities already regulated by Queensland Parks and Wildlife Services (QPWS).
- Development applications controlled by Local Government.
If there is any inconsistency between the Wet Tropics Management Plan and a Local Government Planning Scheme, the Current Plan prevails. Therefore a local authority must not give approval for any development that is inconsistent with the relevant Plan. Notably, the Current Plan does allow for special provisions for a local government to apply for amendments to zoning maps where it involves provision of essential community infrastructure (usually a request change from Zone B to Zone C).
- All other situations.

Special Management Agreements

The Current Plan allows for the creation of special management agreements, these allow for variations to the standard Wet Tropics land use controls. These are created where evidence suggests the activity will result in a positive contribution towards achieving the primary goal, i.e. protection, conservation, rehabilitation, presentation of World Heritage values.

Native Title and Aboriginal Interests

The Current Plan applies to native title holders in a way that does not cause them to be in a more disadvantageous position at law than if they held freehold title. The Current Plan does not constrain the operation of Commonwealth or State native title laws.

COMMENT

The Wet Tropics Management Authority (WTMA) is reviewing the Current Plan. A review of the Plan is required by legislation every ten years. The review consists of two rounds of public consultation, with round one concluding on 30 June 2017. WTMA is proposing a range of changes and options for how the Current Plan works, the Wet Tropics Management Plan Review document sets out the proposed changes (**Attachment One**).

The Rainforest Aboriginal Fact Sheet (**Attachment Two**) focuses on the proposed changes relevant to Rainforest Aboriginal people.

Among the proposed changes there are significant alterations to the zoned areas, WTMA has released mapping showing the Existing Zoning for the northern area of the Wet Tropics (**Attachment Three**) and the Proposed Zoning (**Attachment Four**).

The Wet Tropics Management Plan Review document and the proposed zoning show additional changes to those outlined in the Review document, therefore Council's submission incorporates potential issues as shown from the zoning map changes.

WTMA proposes seven key changes to the Current Plan, these are:

1. The Wet Tropics Zoning System
2. Changes to Zone D visitor sites
3. Roads in the World Heritage Area
4. Community services infrastructure
5. Recognising Rainforest Aboriginal tradition
6. Activities allowed under permit
7. Undesirable plants and animals

The proposed changes will have an impact on Douglas Shire; however the full extent of these changes may not become apparent until a draft Plan is released.

Based on the available data to date, the key concerns and notable changes for Douglas Shire have been outlined in the Wet Tropics Management Plan Review Submission (**Attachment Five**).

PROPOSAL

That Council resolves to support and submit the attached Wet Tropics Management Plan Review Submission to the Wet Tropic Management Authority.

FINANCIAL/RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS

None at this stage

SUSTAINABILITY IMPLICATIONS

- | | |
|-----------------------|--|
| Economic: | The proposed changes to the Current Plan appear to impose further restrictions on Council, land owners and business owners. Permits may be required to continue some existing activities, e.g. maintaining existing tracks and access roads. |
| Environmental: | The proposed changes to the Current Plan aim to protect the Wet Tropics World Heritage Area through stronger land use controls and regulation of activities. |
| Social: | The proposed changes to the Current Plan appear to restrict the use of some tracks currently used for recreational activities by Douglas residents and visitors; and restrict access to a local access road for a residential area. |

CORPORATE/OPERATIONAL PLAN, POLICY REFERENCE

This report has been prepared in accordance with the following:

Corporate Plan 2014-2019 Initiatives:

Theme 4 - Engage, Plan, Partner

4.2.3 - Work with regional, state, national and international stakeholders to promote beneficial partnerships to support strong, resilient and sustainable communities.

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 Supporting communities and groups by advocating for certain actions from other organisations (usually other levels of government)

CONSULTATION

Internal: Consultation has taken place with the Sustainability, Development and Assessment; and Infrastructure Teams.

External: Nil

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

No community engagement has occurred at this stage. The ability to submit a submission is available to all.

ATTACHMENTS

1. Wet Tropics Management Plan Review document **[5.6.1]**
2. Rainforest Aboriginal Fact Sheet **[5.6.2]**
3. Existing Zoning for Northern Area **[5.6.3]**
4. Proposed Zoning for Northern Area **[5.6.4]**
5. Douglas Submission to WTMA June 2017 **[5.6.5]**

Wet Tropics Management Plan REVIEW



**WET
TROPICS**
MANAGEMENT AUTHORITY



Have your say!

The Wet Tropics Management Authority wants to hear your ideas about how we can improve the management of the World Heritage Area.

What's inside?

AN IMPROVED ZONING SYSTEM : CHANGES TO ZONE D VISITOR SITES : ROADS AND ACCESS :
COMMUNITY INFRASTRUCTURE : RECOGNISING RAINFOREST ABORIGINAL TRADITION :
ACTIVITIES ALLOWED UNDER PERMIT : UNDESIRABLE PLANTS AND ANIMALS :

See back page for how to make a submission and obtain more information.

Ordinary Council Meeting - 20 June 2017

Chair's message



Each year more than five million visitors step foot in the Wet Tropics World Heritage Area and walk away with a sense of wonder and appreciation. And why wouldn't they? It has been named as the second most irreplaceable world heritage property on earth.

Our World Heritage Area traverses almost 450km of superb north Queensland coastline spanning almost 900,000 hectares. While mostly rainforest, the Area also features diverse habitats including open forests, woodlands, wetlands and mangroves. Sheltered within those areas are more than 4000 species of plants and over 700 species of vertebrate animals. In all, the Wet Tropics World Heritage Area boasts Australia's greatest diversity of plants and animals within an area that covers just 0.12 per cent of the continent.

On the traditional lands of the Rainforest Aboriginal peoples, it is a vibrant living cultural landscape, rich with stories handed down over generations spanning at least 40,000 years. The Area is also a highly valued place where communities live, work and recreate.

We are all entrusted with an international obligation to protect, conserve, present, rehabilitate and transmit to future generations the Wet Tropics of Queensland World Heritage Area. The *Wet Tropics Management Plan 1998* is a statutory instrument that sets out the framework to deliver that obligation.

Every 10 years the Wet Tropics Management Authority is assigned responsibility for reviewing the Plan. This review is being undertaken in collaboration with all levels of government, Rainforest Aboriginal people, landholders, industry and the broader community. There are many things to consider within the Plan. Most importantly, we need you.

Inside this brochure is a summary of proposed changes that respond to issues raised by land managers and communities, with a view to improved and less complex management. We want your ideas, feedback and any suggestions you may have.

Your thoughts on how to better manage the Wet Tropics can be shared by completing a submission, as outlined on the back of this brochure. The Authority looks forward to taking on board your feedback and presenting an amended Plan for a second round of consultation in early 2018.

Leslie Shirreffs ~ CHAIR

WET TROPICS MANAGEMENT AUTHORITY



The Wet Tropics Plan Review

What is the Plan?

The *Wet Tropics World Heritage Protection and Management Act 1993* (the Act) ensures that Australia's obligation under the World Heritage Convention is met regarding the protection and management of the Wet Tropics World Heritage Area. The *Wet Tropics Management Plan 1998* (the Plan) is subordinate legislation under the Act. The Plan protects the Wet Tropics World Heritage Area through a zoning scheme and permit system. It regulates activities which may have an impact on World Heritage values and integrity. These activities are primarily those which may affect ecosystems, vegetation, soils, waterways and scenic values.

Why do we need a review?

A review of the Plan is required by law every ten years. The review is an opportunity to seek the community's views and update it to better reflect current land management practices and changes in community attitudes. While the Plan is a regulatory instrument, in practice the Authority works cooperatively with its many partners to manage the World Heritage Area and protect World Heritage values. Our partners include Australian, Queensland and local government agencies, Rainforest Aboriginal people, landholders and neighbours, industry, researchers, tourism and recreation groups, the conservation sector and the broader community. We will be asking all these groups how they think we can improve the Wet Tropics Management Plan.

The review process

The review process requires two rounds of public consultation and is expected to be completed in 2018. This brochure outlines some of the proposals for changes to the Plan and invites submissions in this first round of consultation (*see back page*). The Authority will consider all submissions before preparing a draft amendment Plan (draft legislation) for the second round of consultation expected early in 2018.

Other legislation

It is important to note that there are a range of Australian and Queensland laws that help to protect and conserve the Wet Tropics World Heritage Area. For example, Australia's *Environmental Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* controls activities which may have a significant impact on the Area, and Queensland's *Nature Conservation Act 1992* regulates activities on National Parks and activities that affect native wildlife.



May - June
2017

UNDERTAKE FIRST
FORMAL ROUND OF
CONSULTATION
GATHER IDEAS AND
SUGGESTIONS

July 2017-
January 2018

PREPARE DRAFT
AMENDMENT PLAN
(LEGISLATION AND
MAPPING)

February -
March 2018

UNDERTAKE SECOND
FORMAL ROUND
OF CONSULTATION
ON THE PROPOSED
AMENDMENT PLAN

April - May
2018

COLLATE FORMAL
SUBMISSIONS AND
PREPARE FINAL
AMENDMENT PLAN

June 2018

SEEK APPROVAL OF
FINAL MANAGEMENT
PLAN THROUGH
MINISTERIAL
FORUM AND THE
QUEENSLAND
GOVERNMENT

The Wet Tropics zoning system

The current zoning maps depict four zones (A, B, C & D) which reflect varying degrees of ecological integrity and different management purposes. All zones are managed to protect, conserve and rehabilitate natural values and to ensure there are minimal impacts.

- Zones A and B make up the majority of the World Heritage Area. They comprise lands of high ecological integrity and are managed primarily for conservation and rehabilitation. Zone B designates those areas which were considered to be recovering from past disturbances such as logging.
- Zone B is managed similarly to zone A. However, under Schedule 1, local governments can apply for a rezoning from zone B to zone C for community services infrastructure. Schedule 1 also includes specific review and appeal provisions for local government applications.
- Zone C primarily accommodates community services infrastructure. This includes roads, powerlines, towers, pipelines, cableways, railways and dams.
- Zone D accommodates sites which have existing, or potential for, developed visitor facilities (*see pages 6 and 7 for more information*).

- It is proposed Zone B be retained adjacent to designated community services infrastructure such as roads and powerlines. The zone would extend 500m from the centreline of the linear infrastructure. Retaining zone B will continue to enable flexibility for local governments to seek approval for provision of future community infrastructure needs.
- Several Rainforest Aboriginal groups have previously expressed concern over the proposed change from zone B to zone A on their lands. As a result, it is proposed that designated areas around Wujal Wujal, Buddabadoo and Mona Mona remain as zone B.
- Definitions for zones A and B would be amended to recognise that traditional land management practices are appropriate in all zones.
- Zone C would generally comprise of lands within 50m of linear infrastructure such as powerlines, roads and railways, and some major infrastructure sites such as dams and towers. It is also proposed that zone C would include selected areas of cleared land which have existing use rights or clearings identified as potential sites for community services infrastructure, tourism facilities or other activities.
- Zone D visitor sites would be designated as a circle of 75m radius or as a larger site footprint where necessary.

Proposed changes

The Authority proposes to amend the zoning system to better reflect the management intent for each zone. More specifically:

- The current zoning scheme includes large areas of zone B, described as land of high integrity but still recovering for past disturbances. However, as much of this land has now substantially recovered from past disturbances, it is proposed that it be reclassified as zone A. This proposed reclassification is in keeping with current Plan requirements that zone B land be reclassified to zone A once it has been sufficiently recovered or rehabilitated. This proposed reclassification would result in an increase from 52% to 93% of the Area being zone A.

Have your say!

What are your views on the following:

Do you agree with incorporating recovered areas from zone B into zone A?

What are your views about defining zone B as a 500m buffer around existing infrastructure?

Do you support the inclusion of some existing clearings in zone C as potential sites for visitor infrastructure, or community services infrastructure?











EXAMPLE OF PROPOSED ZONING SCHEME

Note standardised and simplified approach to generating zones consistent with management intent.



LEGEND

ZONES	 ZONE A	 ZONE B	 ZONE C	 ZONE D
ROADS	 HIGHWAY	 PRESENTATION		
INFRASTRUCTURE	 POWERLINE	 TOWER		

Changes to zone D visitor sites

Zone D contains lands where there are a range of developed visitor facilities or the potential for further development of visitor facilities over the life of the Plan. Developed visitor facilities may include a range of infrastructure such as carparks, toilet blocks, constructed walkways, picnic and camping areas, lookouts, boat ramps, visitor information and warning signs.

It is important to note that many less developed sites do not require a zone D designation because of the minimal infrastructure required. For example, a trailhead may have limited infrastructure, such as a small carpark area with some signs which can continue to be maintained without a zone D classification.

Proposed changes

It also proposed to add some zone D visitor sites to the zoning maps to recognise existing sites with developed visitor facilities, and some where visitor facilities may be proposed over the life of the Plan (*see map*).

It is proposed to remove some zone D sites from the zoning maps because it is intended that they remain in a natural state without developed visitor facilities.

The total number of zone D sites identified for existing or proposed developed visitor facilities would change from 94 to 81. Please note that there is no intention to close down any existing visitor facilities.

Have your say!

What are your views on the following:

Can you suggest any additional sites that may require a zone D for more developed visitor facilities?

What do you think about the proposal to remove the zone D classification from the sites listed on the map?

Do you support the addition of zone D sites where visitor facilities may be proposed in future?

Ordinary Council Meeting - 26 June 2017



LAKE EACHAM

EXISTING ZONE D FOR DEVELOPED VISITOR FACILITIES



BIG CRYSTAL CREEK

EXISTING ZONE D FOR DEVELOPED VISITOR FACILITIES



EMMAGEN CREEK

PROPOSED ZONE D FOR POTENTIAL VISITOR FACILITIES



WANGETTI BEACH (SOUTH)

PROPOSED ZONE D FOR POTENTIAL VISITOR FACILITIES



KAWAY

ZONE D TO BE REMOVED, NO VISITOR FACILITIES PROPOSED

Location of proposed changes to zone D sites and road classifications



Roads in the World Heritage Area

The current zoning maps depict a range of road classifications for use by motorised vehicles within the Wet Tropics World Heritage Area. These include:

- Highways
- Local access roads
- Presentation (unrestricted) roads
- Presentation (restricted) roads
- Management roads

A Wet Tropics permit is required for use of motor vehicles only on presentation (restricted) roads and management roads.

Road classifications reflect the needs of land managers, infrastructure agencies, visitors, the tourism industry, researchers and the community. Classifications take into account the potential impacts of road access and use on the integrity of the World Heritage Area.

Unfortunately, the condition of some of the presentation and management roads depicted on zoning maps has deteriorated over the past 20 years during the life of the current Plan. Some of these were old logging roads which have become overgrown, eroded and unsafe due to lack of maintenance. It is proposed that the Plan will not recognise these as 'roads' as they are no longer required for motor vehicle use. However, other roads currently in disuse would be retained on the zoning maps to retain their potential for use in presentation or management. There are also several old forestry roads which are now used as walking or mountain bike tracks.

Proposed changes

The Authority proposes the following changes to road classifications:

- A few presentation (restricted) roads through upland rainforest areas (about 64km) would retain their current designation and still require a permit (where a sign is in place stating a permit is required). These roads are the Mount Lewis Road (past the Bluefinch site), the Tinaroo Range network (Kauri Creek and

Mount Edith Roads) and Shoteel Creek Road (from the Figtree to the start of the Cairns Water track).

- Benhams Track and Valley Road near Paluma Dam could become open for use as a presentation restricted road pending agreements to manage access.
- All remaining presentation (unrestricted) roads would be designated simply as presentation roads. The remaining presentation (restricted) roads would also be re-designated as presentation roads. This would result in the total length of presentation roads increasing from 230km to 400km. Presentation roads may be gated and closed seasonally for safety or maintenance reasons.
- Operation of a vehicle on a management road is currently restricted to use for natural heritage management, scientific research, and maintaining community services infrastructure. These purposes would be expanded to include 'for the purpose of cultural heritage management.'
- Mapping of some management roads will be updated to reflect current use and needs of infrastructure providers.

Have your say!

What are your views on the following:

Do you agree with the proposals to change road classifications in the table opposite?

Are there any roads you think need to be opened or closed to motor vehicles within the Wet Tropics World Heritage Area?

Do you agree that a permit should still be required for the presentation (restricted) roads listed above?

Are you happy with the criteria for use of motor vehicles on management roads?



TABLE 1: Proposed changes to road classifications *Note: It is proposed that all other roads retain the classification in the current Plan zoning maps.*

Roads NORTH TO SOUTH	Current classification	Proposed classification	Reasons
Bump Track	Presentation [RESTRICTED]	No classification Not recognised as a 'road'	In use as a walking and mountain biking track
East Black Mountain Road	Presentation [RESTRICTED]	No classification	In use as a walking and mountain bike track
Lamb Range Track	Presentation [RESTRICTED]	No classification	In use as a walking track
Drovers Track	Not shown on maps	Presentation	Create loop with East Hills track
H Road	Management	No classification	Proposed use as a walking and mountain biking track
Culpa Road	Presentation Restricted	No classification	No longer in use due to safety issues and extent of deterioration
Red Road	Local access	No classification	A section of this road not trafficable (propose to substitute Nitchiga Creek Road as alternative access)
Nitchiga Creek Road	Management	Presentation	Seasonal access through to Red Road
Kennedy Falls Track	Presentation [RESTRICTED]	No classification	No motor vehicle use requirement identified
Benhams Track/Valley Road	Management	Presentation Restricted	Tourism opportunities subject to permit and road management
Bluewater Road [PART]	Presentation [RESTRICTED]	No classification	No motor vehicle use requirement identified; proposal to close road beyond gate at old forestry camp visitor site

TABLE 2: Summary of changes to distances available for motor vehicle use on presentation and management roads

Road class	Current length(km)	Proposed length (km)
Presentation	230	400
Presentation [RESTRICTED]	244	68
Management	342	297



Community services infrastructure

Community services infrastructure in the World Heritage Area is specifically addressed in various sections of the Plan. Such infrastructure includes dams, roads, communication towers, powerlines, pipelines, railways, and cableways. Zone C is designed to cater for the needs of community services infrastructure and Schedule 1 of the Plan provides a process for local government to apply to rezone from zone B to zone C for essential community services infrastructure. Schedule 1 also includes specific review and appeal provisions for local government applications. Maintenance and construction of such infrastructure and potential impacts on World Heritage values are managed under the permit system.

- Section 39 would be amended to allow a permit to be issued to carry out an activity necessary to prepare an Environmental Impact Statement in any zone (not just for local governments in zone B under Schedule 1).
- Zone B will now comprise a 500m buffer zone around existing community services infrastructure (see zoning pages). This will continue to enable flexibility under Schedule 1 for local governments to seek approval for provision of future community infrastructure needs

The current zone B for Aboriginal lands at Wujal Wujal, Yarrabah and Mona Mona will be maintained to allow for potential community development.

Proposed changes

The proposed amendments which may affect applications to build or maintain community services infrastructure are listed below:

- Section 65 of the Plan would be amended to apply to all community services infrastructure, not just roads. Section 65 currently prescribes some additional permit requirements for roadworks. To summarise, this proposed amendment would include requirements that any building or upgrading of community services infrastructure:
 1. would not have a net adverse impact on the natural integrity or there is no prudent and feasible alternative.
 2. must be confined to 'land already cleared or degraded' as much as possible.
 3. warrants canopy clearing only for reasons of public safety or provision of a community service.
- Section 65 would also be amended so that it only applies to building and upgrades of community services infrastructure and would not apply to general maintenance works.



Have your say!

What are your views on the following:

Do you agree that all permit applications for building or upgrading community services infrastructure—not just roads—should be assessed against the requirements of section 65?

Do you know of any future need for essential community services infrastructure within the Wet Tropics World Heritage Area?

Do you support a 500m zone B buffer around existing community services infrastructure?

Recognising Rainforest Aboriginal tradition

The preamble to the *Wet Tropics World Heritage Protection and Management Act 1993* acknowledges the significant contribution that Aboriginal people make to the management of cultural and natural heritage within the Area. The legislation states that the Authority must have regard to Aboriginal tradition and 'liaise, and cooperate, with Aboriginal people particularly concerned with the land'.

Proposed changes

The following proposed changes to the Plan are designed to enhance recognition of Aboriginal tradition and the significant role that Rainforest Aboriginal people play in cultural and natural heritage management within the World Heritage Area:

- Add a preliminary section to recognise that the Plan must have regard to Aboriginal tradition and acknowledge Rainforest Aboriginal people as the traditional custodians of the Wet Tropics landscape.
- Amend definitions of all zones (page 4) to recognise that traditional Rainforest Aboriginal land management practices are appropriate in all zones.
- Provide for the use of motor vehicles on management roads for cultural heritage management.
- Amend sections dealing with Cooperative Management Agreements to be specific about potential use to enable social and economic development opportunities for Rainforest Aboriginal groups. Agreements provide the Authority with a way to vary the zoning maps and permit system, so long as the agreement contributes to the Primary Goal – to protect, conserve, rehabilitate, present and transmit to future generations the World Heritage Area.
- Amend section 23 to clarify that native title rights prescribed under section 211 of the Commonwealth Native Title Act are not affected.
- Amend section 33(b), which states that a permit may be issued for activities allowed under Native Title, to clarify that a permit is not required to exercise a native title right under s211 of the Native Title Act.

Ordinary Council Meeting - 20 June 2017

The Authority will be consulting with Rainforest Aboriginal people on potential amendments to enable recognition of Indigenous plans for management of their country as Cooperative Management Agreements. Plan amendments will also allow the Authority to develop clear guidelines for making decisions about Cooperative Management Agreements.

The Authority will also consider adding potential visitor sites and existing access roads and management roads where proposed by Rainforest Aboriginal people for managing their country.

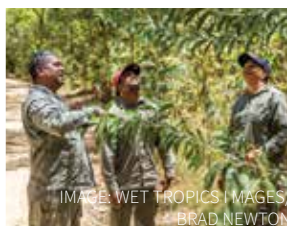


IMAGE: WET TROPICS IMAGES/BRAD NEWTON



IMAGE: WET TROPICS IMAGES/BRAD NEWTON



Have your say!

What are your views on the following:

What are your views about the recognition of traditional Aboriginal land management practices in all zones?

Do you support the use of management roads for cultural heritage management?

What criteria should be in the guidelines for making decisions about Cooperative Management Agreements?

Do you have more suggestions about how the Plan can be improved to support Rainforest Aboriginal involvement in World Heritage management?

Activities allowed under permit

The Plan regulates a range of activities which may have an impact on the natural values and integrity of the World Heritage Area. Regulated activities include destruction of vegetation, interference with watercourses or earth, building and maintaining roads and other structures, disposing of waste, and keeping or moving undesirable plants and animals. Regulations may also apply to those activities which can affect people's use and enjoyment of the area. These activities may include operating motorised vehicles and aircraft and activities which affect scenic values. Section 33 allows some of these activities to be carried out under a permit.

Note: The Plan does not directly regulate activities which may have an adverse impact on native animals – these impacts are regulated under the *Nature Conservation Act 1992*.

Proposed changes

Activities under a Wet Tropics permit.

The following activities are currently prohibited; however, the Authority is proposing to amend the Plan such that a permit may be issued to undertake these activities:

- To destroy native vegetation to improve presentation – at a lookout for example.
- To destroy native vegetation to help conservation – for example, cutting down vegetation to assist fire management or post-cyclone habitat restoration through vine removal.
- To use a motor vehicle for conservation management or maintaining a walking track.

Regulated activities under a permit

The activities below are currently not regulated and the Authority is proposing to regulate them under a permit:

- To translocate and release a fish or crustacean into the Area outside its natural range (*see page 14*).

- To subdivide a lot within the Wet Tropics World Heritage Area. Subdivision of a lot is already regulated under Queensland planning legislation and decided by local governments. However, the Authority wishes to regulate the potential impacts of subdivision where it could result in impacts from additional houses, fences and domestic activities within the Area.

Options for regulating motorised aircraft

The Plan currently requires a permit to fly a motorised aircraft for commercial purposes less than 1000 feet above ground (apart from taking off and landing or for safety purposes). This permit was primarily introduced to be able to control the potential impacts of noise and other adverse effects on visitors, wildlife and vegetation. The Authority is considering various options regarding motorised aircraft:

- To regulate landing of all motorised aircraft under a permit.
- To regulate flying of motorised aircraft below 1000 feet.
- To not regulate motorised aircraft and rely on regulations under the *Nature Conservation Act 1992* regarding landing and flying below 1500 feet in designated areas.
- To exempt small drones from any regulation under the Plan.

Domestic activities

The Plan also allows certain domestic activities under a permit on private land or native title land (sections 35 and 63). Landholders and native title holders are allowed to build a house, create access to the house, create gardens and orchards and extract water. The Authority proposes to also allow infrastructure for domestic electricity, water supply and communications under a permit. The permit may be issued with conditions to minimise any impacts on World Heritage values.



HOUSE AND GARDEN WITHIN THE AREA

Offsets

An environmental offset is an action that compensates for any unavoidable adverse impacts of a development. Offsets are generally a 'last resort' option for addressing residual impacts of development, after efforts have been undertaken to avoid, minimise and mitigate impacts. They seek to ensure that a development has 'no net adverse impact' by providing environmental benefits or gain elsewhere. Environmental and scenic offsets would preferably be within the Area, or located outside where they contribute to World Heritage values. Offsets cannot be used to gain approval for an activity that would not otherwise be approved.

Proposed changes

Section 51 allows a permit to be issued with conditions to 'prevent minimise or monitor any adverse impact' on natural integrity. The Authority is considering whether to amend the Plan to also allow the issue of permit conditions to offset any remaining adverse impact.



VEGETATION CLEARING FOR A SCENIC LOOKOUT

Have your say!

What are your views on the following:

Should the Plan regulate subdivision of a lot in the World Heritage Area?

Should the Plan regulate landing of motorised aircraft or aircraft flying low?

If so, what criteria should be used to assess permit conditions for landing in or flying low over the Area?

Should permit conditions be allowed to include offset requirements for any remaining adverse impacts?

Are there other ways to deal with low risk activities that would have no more than minor and inconsequential impacts on World Heritage values – such as through self-assessable guidelines?

Mining ~ an allowed activity

Mining is currently allowed under the Plan where a licence, permit or other authority has been granted under the *Mineral Resources Act 1989*. During previous consultation, the mining industry has indicated that it would support a ban on mining within the Wet Tropics World Heritage Area. However, prohibition of mining would also require an amendment to the *Wet Tropics World Heritage Protection and Management Act 1993*. Within the World Heritage Area, there are currently two mining leases (343ha) and three exploration permits (3,845ha) under the *Mineral Resources Act 1989*.

Have your say!

What are your views on the following:

Should the Authority seek to phase out mining licences, permits and other mining authorities in the Wet Tropics World Heritage Area?

Undesirable plants and animals

The Plan regulates the keeping and movement of undesirable plants and animals. These are plants and animals which are considered a threat to the World Heritage values, particularly if they are allowed to become established. Undesirable plants and animals are defined as those listed in Schedule 2 of the Plan, as well as prohibited wildlife under the *Nature Conservation Act 1992* and declared plants in Queensland.

Proposed changes

Several updates and changes are proposed to the lists of undesirable plants and animals:

- The list of undesirable plants would be updated to reflect the large influx of environmental weeds into the Wet Tropics over the past 20 years. Not every weed would be included, but the list would incorporate the more invasive weeds which are a threat to intact Wet Tropics ecosystems.
- A small number of undesirable animals and invertebrates may also need to be added.
- The definition of undesirable plants and animals would be updated to incorporate prohibited and restricted plants and animals under the *Biosecurity Act 2014*.
- The Authority proposes to create a separate regulation for undesirable animals and plants so that the lists can be more easily updated without requiring a lengthy Plan amendment process.

Other animal and plant regulations

The Authority attempts to balance the social and economic benefits of keeping or moving some non-native and native plants and animals against their potential impacts on the World Heritage Area. The following changes are proposed to address the circumstances when certain animals and plants may be allowed within the World Heritage Area.

- Undesirable animals may currently be kept outside of rainforest on private or native title lands. The amended Plan would not allow undesirable animals to be kept anywhere in the World Heritage Area, with the exception of cattle, dogs, cats and honey bees.
- Cats and dogs must be kept in a way that prevents them threatening native wildlife. If a residence is in the rainforest, a cat or dog would be allowed, as long as it is kept within the enclosed land around the residence.
- The amended Plan would only allow grazing of cattle outside of rainforest to continue. Other undesirable animals could no longer be grazed.



Ordinary Council Meeting - 20 June 2017



IMAGE: © JURGEN FREUND



IMAGE: ©DAF



IMAGE: ©QUEENSLAND GOVERNMENT



IMAGE: ©CHRIS ROACH QPWS

- The translocation and release of native fish and crustaceans beyond their natural range would be regulated under the amended Plan (this is also regulated under the *Fisheries Act 1994*). This practice has been undertaken officially in several dams and waterways for recreational fishing and is commonly referred to as fishstocking.
- The use of working dogs for tasks such as cattle dogs for mustering or sniffer dogs for locating invasive ants would be allowed under a permit.
- New proposals for commercial cultivation of all non-native plant species (which may not be listed as undesirable) would be prohibited.
- The amended Plan may allow walking of dogs on a leash within the World Heritage Area in specified areas where there are no feasible alternatives for the local community and no impacts on World Heritage values.

Have your say!

What are your views on the following:

Should the Plan regulate translocation and release of large predatory fish such as barramundi and sooty grunter into dams and waterways within the Area, outside their natural range?

Should residents be able to keep a dog or cat if their house is located in a rainforest?

Should people be allowed to walk a dog on a lead in certain designated areas where there are no feasible alternatives for the local community?

Should cattle grazing outside of rainforest be regulated under the Plan?

Do you agree with prohibiting animals such as deer, goats and pigs from being kept in the World Heritage Area?

The Wet Tropics Management Plan 1998 REVIEW

Have your say!

Submissions close Friday 30 June 2017

How to make a submission

The Authority invites you to provide comments and suggestions on the changes being considered as part of this first phase of the Plan review (*see page 3 for details on the review process*). Your comments will help the Authority gain a better understanding of community views on proposed changes to the Plan. The comments you provide will be carefully analysed and considered when the Authority prepares a draft amendment Plan. The draft amendment Plan will be released for final comment in 2018. Formal submissions must be in writing.

Submissions can be provided in one of the following ways:

Online:

www.wettropics.gov.au/wet-tropics-plan-review

Written submission:

Wet Tropics Management Authority
PO Box 2050, Cairns 4870

Email: wettropics@wtma.qld.gov.au

Where can I find out more about the plan?

Wet Tropics website:

www.wettropics.gov.au/wet-tropics-plan-review

Here you can find copies of the relevant legislation, information sheets and links to interactive mapping of the Wet Tropics zoning maps.

Wet Tropics Management Authority:

The Authority has hard copy zoning maps and information brochures.

Local government offices:

Hard copy zoning maps and information brochures will be available at all local government offices.

Contacts

Wet Tropics Management Authority

Cairns Port Authority Building
Corner Grafton and Hartley Streets, Cairns

Campbell Clarke 4241 0531
campbell.clarke@wtma.qld.gov.au

Lorraine Briggs 4241 0520
lorraine.briggs@wtma.qld.gov.au

Contractors assisting with community sector submissions:

Tourism sector: Alliance for Sustainable Tourism
Email: alliance@ttnq.org.au

Conservation sector:
Cairns and Far North Environment Centre (CAFNEC)
Email: president@cafnecc.org.au

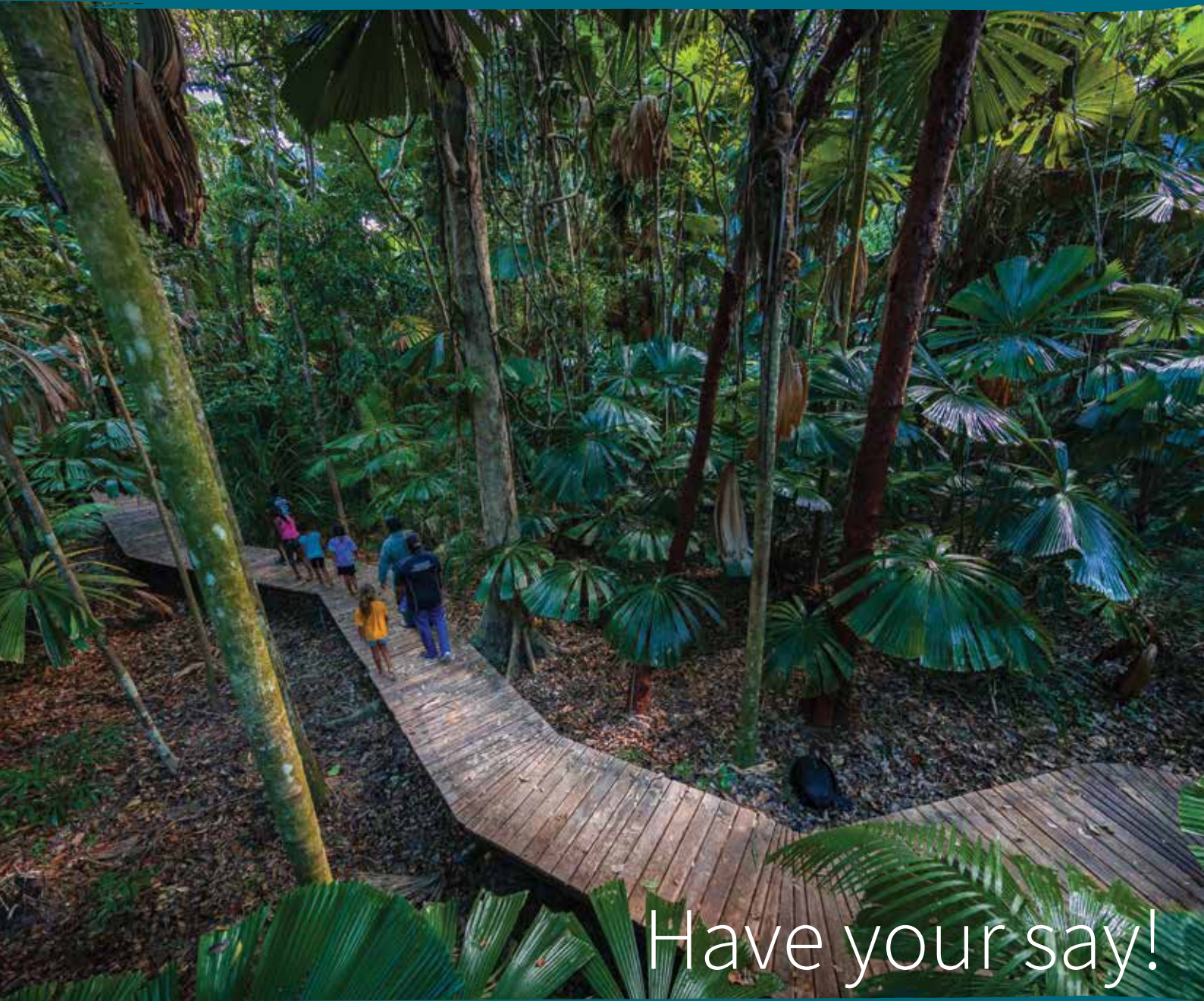
Rainforest Aboriginal people: BioCultural ConneXions
Email: bruc3anthr0@gmail.com



WET TROPICS
MANAGEMENT AUTHORITY



Wet Tropics Management Plan REVIEW



Have your say!

The Wet Tropics Management Authority is reviewing its statutory management plan.

The Authority is seeking the views of Rainforest Aboriginal people about how best to promote recognition of Aboriginal tradition and the significant role that Rainforest Aboriginal people play in cultural and natural heritage management within the World Heritage Area.

The Wet Tropics landscape we value so much today is the result of the stewardship of the Rainforest Aboriginal people who have been present since time immemorial.



**WET
TROPICS**
MANAGEMENT AUTHORITY



See back page for how to make a submission and obtain more information.

Ordinary Council Meeting - 20 June 2017



Wet Tropics World Heritage Area listing

The World Heritage Area was declared in December 1988. The listing recognised natural values such as:

- The diversity and evolutionary importance of the Area's plants, animals and ecosystems.
- The high proportion of plants and animals found nowhere else in the world.
- Significant habitats for conservation of biodiversity, including threatened animals and plants.
- Exceptional natural beauty.

In 2012, Rainforest Aboriginal people successfully achieved a National Heritage Listing of Indigenous cultural values in the Wet Tropics. The listing recognises Rainforest Aboriginal heritage is unique to the Wet Tropics and is a remarkable and continuous connection with a tropical rainforest environment.

How does the Plan work?

The Wet Tropics Management Plan came into operation in 1998. The Plan regulates activities that may have an impact on the natural values of the Wet Tropics World Heritage Area. The Plan includes:

- Zoning maps to designate areas for conservation, infrastructure and visitor sites. They also define road classifications for the use of motorised vehicles.
- A permit system which allows the Authority to assess the potential impact of regulated activities and provides opportunities for Rainforest Aboriginal people to advise the Authority on relevant cultural considerations.

We acknowledge Rainforest Aboriginal people as the traditional custodians of the Wet Tropics World Heritage Area and recognise their connection to this cultural landscape. We pay our respects to Elders past, present and future.

How could the Plan be improved?

Overall, we are looking for ways the Plan could better recognise Rainforest Aboriginal traditions and the contributions of Rainforest Aboriginal people to the past and future management of the World Heritage Area. Specifically, it is proposed that the Plan could:

- Add a preliminary section to recognise that the Plan must have regard to Aboriginal tradition and to acknowledge Rainforest Aboriginal people as the traditional custodians of the Wet Tropics landscape.
- Amend definitions of all zones (section 6) to recognize traditional Rainforest Aboriginal land management practices are appropriate in all zones.
- Provide for the use of motor vehicles on management roads for cultural heritage management.
- Amend the sections dealing with Cooperative Management Agreements to be more specific about potential use to enable social and economic development for Rainforest Aboriginal groups. These agreements allow the Authority to vary the zoning maps and permit system in the Plan, so long as the agreement contributes to the Primary Goal – to protect, conserve, rehabilitate, present and transmit to future generations the World Heritage Area.
- Investigate opportunities to amend the Plan to enable the recognition of Indigenous plans for management of their country as Cooperative Management Agreements. Plan amendments could also allow the Authority to develop guidelines for making decisions about Cooperative Management Agreements.
- Amend section 23 to clarify that the Plan does not affect Native Title rights prescribed under section 211 of the *Native Title Act 1993* (Cth).
- Amend section 33(b), which states that a permit may be issued for activities allowed under Native Title, to clarify that a permit is not required to exercise a native title right under s211 of the *Native Title Act 1993*.
- Consider adding potential visitor sites and existing access roads and management roads to the Plan where proposed by Rainforest Aboriginal people for managing their country.

Guidelines for consultation and decision making

The Plan provides for guidelines to be developed about how to best consult and make decisions about permit applications.

It is proposed to update the permit assessment (section 62) guideline for Rainforest Aboriginal consultation to ensure the Authority has appropriate regard for Native Title rights, Aboriginal tradition and free, prior, informed consent processes.

It also proposed to create a new section to allow guidelines to be developed to facilitate Indigenous land management plans to be recognised as cooperative management agreements (sections 40-43). These guidelines would help the Authority and Rainforest Aboriginal people to work together to develop suitable management plans for living on country and to avoid or minimise impacts on the World Heritage Area.

Protection of cultural heritage in the Wet Tropics World Heritage Area

- The *Queensland Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Act 2003* is the primary legislation for protection of Rainforest Aboriginal cultural sites and heritage. Some Rainforest Aboriginal Groups are registered as Cultural Heritage Bodies which means they are the first point of contact for cultural heritage matters.
- The *Environmental Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* includes provisions to ensure effective management of listed cultural values and protection against activities that may have a significant impact on these values.

The Plan review requires two rounds of public consultation of at least 40 days each for the community to make submissions. The proposed amendments then go to the Wet Tropics Ministerial Forum and the Queensland Government for approval.

Phase 1 consultation (2 May to 30 June 2017)

- The purpose of this phase is to gather ideas and suggestions from landholders, Traditional custodians, Native Title holders, stakeholders and the broader community about how the Plan could be improved.
- The Authority will contact Registered Native Title Body Corporates (RNTBCs) and Prescribed Bodies Corporates (PBCs) to plan formal and informal meetings with Rainforest Aboriginal people during this period.
- Rainforest Aboriginal groups and individuals are encouraged to make a formal submission during this process.
- To assist Rainforest Aboriginal people to make a formal submission, a contractor, BioCultural ConneXions has been appointed.

Plan preparation (July 2017 to January 2018)

- The Authority considers all submissions and prepares a draft amendment Plan.

Phase 2 consultation (February to May 2018)

- The purpose of this phase is to seek comments on the draft amendment Plan and zoning maps.
- As in phase 1, the Authority will meet with Rainforest Aboriginal people to seek comments and submissions.

Legislative approval (June 2018)

- The Authority will prepare the final amendment Plan for approval by the Wet Tropics Ministerial Forum and the Queensland Government.

Online:

www.wettropics.gov.au/wet-tropics-plan-review

Written submission:

Wet Tropics Management Authority
PO Box 2050, Cairns 4870

Email: wettropics@wtma.qld.gov.au

More information

See the Plan review brochure on our website
www.wettropics.gov.au/wet-tropics-plan-review
for detailed information and interactive zoning maps.

Visit your local council office to see hard copies of the zoning maps and a 16 page brochure.

Contacts

Wet Tropics Management Authority

Cairns Port Authority Building

Corner Grafton and Hartley Streets, Cairns

If you wish to know more about the Plan review process or if you would like us to come and meet with you directly, please contact staff at the Authority:

To organise a meeting:

Eli Taylor 4241 0505
eli.taylor@wtma.qld.gov.au

Alicia Haines 4241 0510
alicia.haines@wtma.qld.gov.au

To ask about proposed changes to the Plan:

Campbell Clarke 4241 0531
campbell.clarke@wtma.qld.gov.au

Lorraine Briggs 4241 0520
lorraine.briggs@wtma.qld.gov.au

To contribute to a Rainforest Aboriginal submission:

BioCultural ConneXions
Email: bruc3anthr0@gmail.com





WET TROPICS PLAN REVIEW

PUBLIC CONSULTATION MAP
Existing Zoning
(Northern)

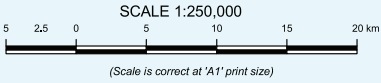
Edition 2.0 - 23 January 2009

NOTE:
This map is for the use on the Wet Tropics Plan Review project only. It should be read in association with the Wet Tropics Plan Review Information booklet - February 2009, and should not be used for any other purpose.

Every effort has been made to ensure the accuracy of the information contained in these zoning maps at the time of preparation.

The location of the zone boundaries on the northern and southern zoning maps are indicative only for general information purposes. The Zone C width and Zone D size have been exaggerated.

Access to activities within this Area may also be controlled under other laws. Intending users of this area should check with land owners or relevant government land management offices.



CROWN COPYRIGHT RESERVED



Legend

- Town
 - Quarry
 - Water supply
 - Tower
 - Powerline
 - Cableway
 - Pipeline
 - River
 - Water body
 - Wet Tropics World Heritage Area boundary
 - Built Up Areas
 - Road Class
 - Highway
 - Local Access
 - Presentation
 - Presentation (restricted)
 - Management
 - Road outside the Wet Tropics WHA
 - Wet Tropics Plan Zone
 - Zone A
 - Zone B
 - Zone C
 - Zone D
- Note:
Information outside the World Heritage Area is indicative only.
Many facilities and features are not shown.
Map reference: J4544Output\FinalMap\pnh_exist.pdf

PUBLIC CONSULTATION MAP Proposed Zoning (Northern)

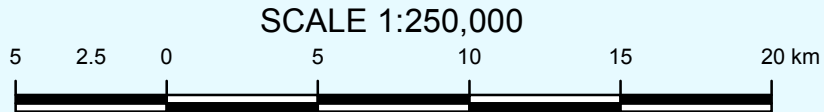
Edition 2.0 - 3 March 2017

NOTE:
This map is for the use on the Wet Tropics Plan Review project only. It should be read in association with the Wet Tropics Plan Review Information booklet - March 2017, and should not be used for any other purpose.

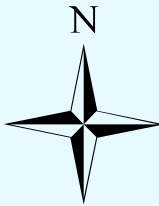
Every effort has been made to ensure the accuracy of the information contained in these zoning maps at the time of preparation.

The location of the zone boundaries on the northern and southern zoning maps are indicative only for general information purposes. The Zone C width and Zone D size have been exaggerated.

Access to activities within this Area may also be controlled under other laws. Intending users of this area should check with land owners or relevant government land management offices.



CROWN COPYRIGHT RESERVED



Coral Sea

SOUTH

PACIFIC

OCEAN

Legend

- Town
- River
- Water body
- Quarry
- W Water supply
- T Tower
- Cableway
- Powerline
- Pipeline

LegendProp

- Highway
- Local Access
- Presentation (unrestricted)
- Presentation (restricted)
- Management road
- Road outside WHA
- Wet Tropics World Heritage Area boundary
- Built Up Areas

Wet Tropics Plan Zone

- Zone A
- Zone B
- Zone C
- Zone D

Note:
Information outside the World Heritage Area is indicative only. Many facilities and features are not shown.

Map reference: J5184/Output/FinalMap

th_proposed.pdf

Cutting Line

WET TROPICS MANAGEMENT PLAN REVIEW

*A submission to the Wet
Tropics Management
Association*

20 June 2017

DOUGLAS **SHIRE**
COUNCIL

*Improving Environmental Performance
Ngaral Kulji Bubungu - Eastern Kuku Yalanji
Pulmpa dakit jarral-a-kaling - Yirrganydji*

Ordinary Council Meeting - 20 June 2017

Table of Contents

Introduction.....	1
Submission Questions	1
The Wet Tropics Zoning System	1
Changes to Zone D Visitor Sites.....	2
Roads in the World Heritage Area.....	2
Community Services Infrastructure.....	4
Recognising Rainforest Aboriginal tradition.....	5
Activities Allowed Under Permit	5
Undesirable Plants and Animals.....	6
Additional Information	7

Introduction

The Douglas region is comprised of World Heritage listed areas of natural beauty, ancient and complex ecosystems and is renowned for the biodiversity of its flora and fauna. The rainforests of the Wet Tropics and the reefs and waters of the Great Barrier Reef (GBR) support a strong economy, with 1.2 million tourists visiting the Shire every year. Douglas Shire Council (Douglas) is committed to protecting the Wet Tropic World Heritage values, whilst also promoting positive economic and social outcomes.

Submission Questions

The Wet Tropics Zoning System

1. Do you agree with incorporating recovered areas from Zone B into Zone A?

Under the proposed zoning system a large amount of Zone B land will be reclassified as Zone A. Whilst this is consistent with the Current Plan's position that Zone B land should be reclassified as Zone A once it has been sufficiently recovered or rehabilitated, there are concerns for Douglas. The reclassification has the potential to significantly interfere with the Return to Country aspirations of traditional owners, particularly in the China Camp (Buru) area of Douglas Shire. The initiative to retain Zone B land in Douglas Shire in close proximity to Wujal Wujal is supported, however the Zone B land needs to be expanded to correlate with the proposed precincts in the Return to Country Local Plan. Much of this land is not rainforest and has been used for a variety of purposes in the past, including grazing and mining. Greater consistency from WTMA is needed to ensure the initiatives contained in the Douglas Shire Proposed Planning Scheme and its proposed Return to Country Local Plan are not diminished through the proposed changes to the zones. In addition, the proposed zoning also has the potential to prevent the establishment of new infrastructure (such as the Wangetti Trail and extensions to the Council's drinking water pipe network) and appears to prevent the maintenance of existing tracks and infrastructure. It would also preclude the addition of new facilities (such as visitor sites and toilets) to support existing tracks and infrastructure.

There is a clear need for recreational (walking and mountain biking) trails and tracks to be mapped and defined in the scheme and maintenance around those tracks permitted to continue. This also needs to accommodate the development of future trails such as the concept of the Wangetti Trail and also the potential reopening of the old aboriginal walking tracks and *highways* that are prevalent throughout the Douglas area and surrounds.

2. What are your views about defining Zone B as a 500m buffer around existing infrastructure?

Douglas is supportive of extending the definition of Zone B to include a 500 meter buffer around existing infrastructure.

3. Do you support the inclusions of some existing clearings in Zone C as potential sites for visitor infrastructure, or community services infrastructure?

Douglas is supportive of incorporating some existing clearings in Zone C as potential sites for infrastructure. This view is based on the infrastructure location in the clearings as being 'fit for purpose'.

Changes to Zone D Visitor Sites

4. Can you suggest any additional sites that may require a Zone D for more developed visitor facilities?

In the Douglas Shire there is a need to identify additional Zone D areas to accommodate potential future visitor facilities in the Buru (China Camp) area and along the proposed Wangetti Trail. Douglas can provide further information, such as GIS overlays for this concept infrastructure.

5. What do you think about the proposal to remove the Zone D classification from the sites listed on the map?

No comment at this stage as further investigation is required.

6. Do you support the addition of Zone D sites where visitor facilities may be proposed in future?

Douglas agrees with the six additional Zone D sites which are located within the Douglas Shire. These being: Woobadda River Crossing, Roaring Meg, Emmagen Creek, Alexandra Range Lookout, Hartley's Crocodile Adventures and Wangetti Beach (South).

Roads in the World Heritage Area

7. Do you agree with the proposals to change road classifications in the table (*as identified in the Wet Tropics Management Plan Review document*)?

The information provided to date on road classifications is unclear and further clarification is required from WTMA, including proper definitions for each of the road classifications. The Proposed Zoning maps show additional changes to those identified in the Review document Table. Table One below represents Douglas' current position based on the proposed zoning mapping covering the Douglas Shire.

Table One – Road Classification in Douglas Shire

Road	Current Classification	Proposed Classification	Douglas Comment
Bump Track	Presentation (restricted)	Not shown and area becomes Zone A	The proposed mapping shows the Bump Track moving to Zone A. This indicates that there will be no management and the track would ultimately disappear to the rainforest. This is an integral track for recreational activities (hiking, trail running and mountain biking) for Douglas residents and visitors. Douglas therefore recommends that a new classification of road is created on the maps identified as 'Trails'. The definition of a Trail should allow for recreational use (hiking, trail running and mountain biking) and for track maintenance and vehicle access for sporting events.
East Black Mountain Road	Presentation (restricted)	Not shown and area becomes Zone A	The mapping shows the Twin Bridges Track moving to Zone A. This indicates that there will be no management and so the track would ultimately disappear to the rainforest. This is an integral track for recreational activities (hiking, trail running and mountain biking) for Douglas residents and visitors. Douglas therefore recommends that a new classification of road is created on the maps identified as 'Trails'. The definition of a Trail should allow for recreational use (hiking, trail running and mountain biking), for track maintenance and vehicle access for sporting events.
CREB Track – local access to residential area	Presentation (non restriction)	No classification (not recognised as a road)	Located at Daintree River Crossing area of the CREB Track, this road is an important track for local access to a residential area. Douglas is not in favour of the proposed change and recommends that it remains as a 'Presentation (non restriction) road'.
Zig Zag Track	Shown as powerline and Zone C	Not shown and area becomes Zone A	The Zig Zag Track is an important existing track for access to properties and is used for recreational activities (hiking, trail running and mountain biking). The track also has the potential to be expanded as part of the economic development plan for the Wujal Wujal/China Camp areas. Douglas therefore recommends that the Zig Zag Track is classified as a 'Presentation (restricted) road'.
Proposed Wangetti Trail	n/a	Shown as Zone A	The proposed Wangetti Trail should be recognised in the proposed mapping. The track will be used for recreational activities (hiking, trail running and mountain biking). Douglas therefore recommends that a new classification of road is created on the maps identified as 'Trails'. The definition of a Trail should allow for recreational use (hiking, trail running and mountain biking), for track maintenance and vehicle access for sporting events.

8. Are there any roads you think need to be opened or closed to motor vehicles within the Wet Tropics World Heritage Area?

Refer to Table One above.

9. Do you agree that a permit should still be required for the presentation (restricted) roads listed above?

Douglas agrees that a permit should still be required for the presentation (restricted) roads.

10. Are you happy with the criteria for use of motor vehicles on management roads?

Douglas is happy in principle with the criteria for the use of motor vehicles on management roads, however the criteria needs to continue to support sporting event requirements. This includes running and cycling events which are often held on management roads, e.g. the Twin Bridges, Bump Track and Lemon Track.

Community Services Infrastructure

11. Do you agree that all permit applications for building or upgrading community services infrastructure – not just roads – should be assessed against the requirements of section 65?

Douglas is not supportive of this change as it has the potential to interfere with Douglas' ability to provide essential services, such as water. This would put additional constraints on local government resources, particularly around the required permits for maintaining essential community infrastructures.

12. Do you know of any future need for essential community services infrastructure within the Wet Tropics World Heritage Area?

Existing water infrastructure is not mapped on the existing or proposed zoning maps correctly. Whilst water intakes are identified in Mossman, Daintree and Whyanbeel, the pipes are not currently mapped and are shown as Zone A in the proposed mapping. Douglas therefore recommends that the water pipe infrastructure is appropriately identified and will provide further information, such as GIS overlays on request.

There may be future infrastructure requirements in areas identified under the Return to Country Plans included in the proposed Douglas Shire Planning Scheme.

13. Do you support a 500m Zone B buffer around existing community services infrastructure?

Douglas does not see an issue with the proposed 500m Zone B buffer zones.

Recognising Rainforest Aboriginal tradition

14. What are your views about the recognition of traditional Aboriginal land management practices in all zones?

Douglas is supportive of the proposed changes in principles relating to recognising Rainforest Aboriginal traditions; however the proposed mapping does not support the Return to Country aspirations for Aboriginal peoples return, nor the facilitation of economic development to support those aspirations.

15. Do you support the use of management roads for cultural heritage management?

Douglas is supportive of this proposal.

16. What criteria should be in the guidelines for making decisions about Cooperative Management Agreements?

Refer to Question 17.

17. Do you have more suggestions about how the Plan can be improved to support Rainforest Aboriginal involvement in World Heritage management?

The initiatives to retain Zone B land in Douglas Shire close to Wujal Wujal is supported by Douglas, however, the Zone B land needs to be expanded to correlate with the proposed precincts in the Return to Country Local Plan, as defined in the proposed Douglas Shire Planning Scheme. Much of this land is not rainforest and has been used for a variety of purposes in the past, including grazing and mining. Whilst Douglas is supportive in principle of the proposals around Rainforest Aboriginals further liaison is needed in developing the draft amendment Plan to ensure WTMA, Traditional Owners and Douglas Shire Council's planning objectives can be properly implemented.

Activities Allowed Under Permit

18. Should the Plan regulate subdivision of a lot in the World Heritage Area?

The Douglas Local Planning Scheme should regulate the subdivision of a lot in the World Heritage Area and WTMA should be a referral agency.

19. Should the Plan regulate landing of motorised aircraft or aircraft flying low?

Douglas has no comment on this issue.

20. If so, what criteria should be used to assess permit conditions for landing in or flying low over the Area?

Not applicable.

21. Should permit conditions be allowed to include offset requirements for any remaining adverse impacts?

Douglas is supportive of including offsets as a last resort.

22. Are there other ways to deal with low risk activities that would have no more than minor and inconsequential impacts on World Heritage values – such as thorough self-assessable guidelines?

Douglas believes the status quo should remain around the existing minor and inconsequential activities as defined in the Current Plan.

23. Should the Authority seek to phase out mining licences, permits and other mining authorities in the Wet Tropics World Heritage Area?

Douglas is supportive of phasing out mining licences, permits and other mining authorities in the Wet Tropics World Heritage Area.

Undesirable Plants and Animals

24. Should the Plan regulate translocation and release of large predatory fish such as barramundi and sooty grunter into dams and waterways within the Area, outside their natural range?

Douglas is supportive of this proposal.

25. Should residents be able to keep a dog or cat if their house is located in a rainforest?

This is a matter for the relevant Local Governments to determine under Local Laws and Local Planning Schemes.

26. Should people be allowed to walk a dog on a lead in certain designated areas where there are no feasible alternatives for the local community?

Douglas is supportive of this concept to ensure the welfare of dogs is accommodated.

27. Should cattle grazing outside of rainforest be regulated under the Plan?

Douglas is supportive of further regulation in this area.

28. Do you agree with prohibiting animals such as deer, goats and pigs from being kept in the World Heritage Area?

Douglas is supportive of further regulation in this area.

Additional Information

For further information on this submission please contact:

Paul Hoyer
Manager Sustainable Communities
Douglas Shire Council
Paul.Hoyer@douglas.qld.gov.au
07 4099 9473

5.7. PROPOSED PLANNING SCHEME SUBMISSIONS AUDIT

REPORT AUTHOR(S): Simon Clarke, Planning Coordinator
GENERAL MANAGER: Nick Wellwood, General Manager Operations
DEPARTMENT: Development Assessment and Coordination

RECOMMENDATION

That Council notes the findings of the Proposed Planning Scheme Audit and adjusts its records accordingly to reflect the reconciliation of the number of submissions received in response to community consultation.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

As the proposed planning scheme advances toward its final stages before adoption, a number of project closure tasks are being undertaken. One project closure task is to inform all submitters to the proposed planning scheme about how their submissions have been addressed as part of the overall planning scheme development process.

In performing this particular task, the number of submissions lodged in relation to community consultation has been audited and an administrative error has been detected. The purpose of this report is to address this anomaly and to adjust Council's records accordingly.

SUBMISSIONS

The proposed Douglas Shire Planning Scheme (*'the proposed planning scheme'*) has completed its statutory requirement to undertake community consultation. At its Ordinary Committee Meeting held on 26 April 2017, it was reported that 615 submissions were received in response to community consultation, of which 573 were properly-made submissions. A Submission Review Report was also attached to that report.

Due to a subsequent audit of the records an administrative error was discovered and the final reconciliation of the submissions is that a total of 686 submissions were received, of which, 642 were 'properly made submissions'.

The anomaly accounts for the following:

- 86 submissions in support of a retirement village in Port Douglas (Proforma letters);
- 25 submissions opposing a retirement village in Port Douglas (Proforma letters);
- 2 submissions opposing a retirement village in Port Douglas (Unique submissions);
- 3 submissions in support of a Special Entertainment Precinct in Port Douglas.

It should be noted that the 2 unique submissions opposing the retirement village in Port Douglas raise no new issues that have not already been addressed in the Submission Review Report.

Another anomaly detected relates to several submissions counting as extra submissions where they raise concerns over two or three issues, not just one. This finds that 43 extra submissions were counted in the earlier report, and accounts for the final tally of 686 submissions in total (642 properly made).

COMMENT

The additional submissions do not raise any new matters that were not already addressed in the original reporting to Council and would not have altered the officer's recommendation to Council to refer the planning scheme to the State Government for its final review. The planning scheme has now been amended to reflect all of the recommendations contained within the submission review and has been developed into presentation format and is ready to refer to the Minister. However, prior to referral to the Minister, it is important that the findings of the submission audit be reported to Council to ensure that Council's records accurately reflect the final submission count.

FINANCIAL/RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS

Budget has been allocated for the further development of the planning scheme in the 2016/2017 financial period.

RISK MANAGEMENT IMPLICATIONS

There is significant risk associated with not providing full reconciliation of the audit findings. A review of Council's processes regarding collation of submissions will follow, potentially recommending that electronic folders associated with community consultation only contain the actual submissions received, and no other Council records (e.g. internal emails).

SUSTAINABILITY IMPLICATIONS

Economic: The proposed planning scheme has significant implications for the future economic prosperity of the Shire

Environmental: The proposed planning scheme has significant implications for the future environmental sustainability of the Shire

Social: The proposed planning scheme has implications for the future social and community development in the Shire

CORPORATE/OPERATIONAL PLAN, POLICY REFERENCE

This report has been prepared in accordance with the following:

Corporate Plan 2014-2019 Initiatives:

Theme 3 – Improve Environmental Performance

3.1.1 Undertake a review of the Douglas Shire Planning Scheme acknowledging the impacts of climate change so that Council and our communities can respond.

Operational Plan 2015-2016 Actions:

On-going activities

Ensuring compliance with relevant State legislation, Council Local Laws and the Douglas Shire Planning Scheme.

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.

CONSULTATION

Internal: Nil

External: Nil

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

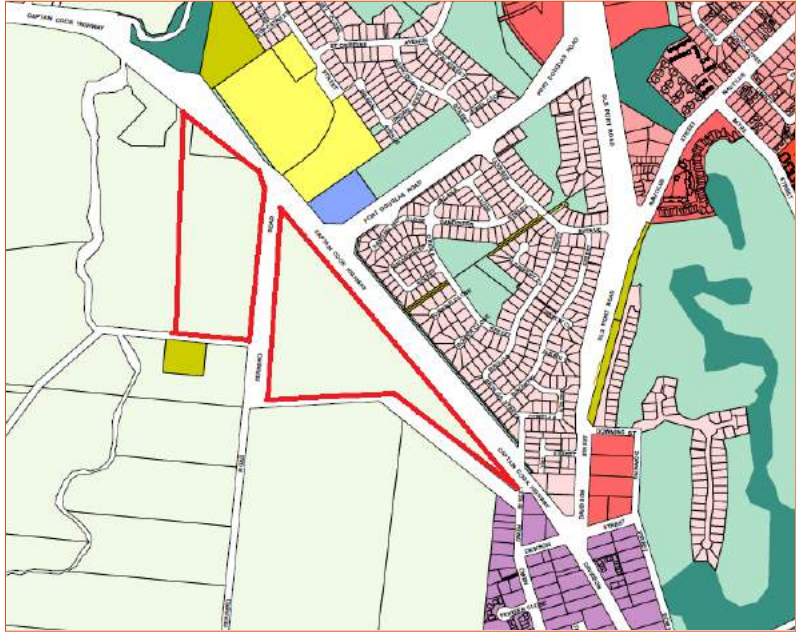
Community engagement was completed in the second half of 2016 in accordance with the requirements of the *Sustainable Planning Act 2009*.

ATTACHMENTS

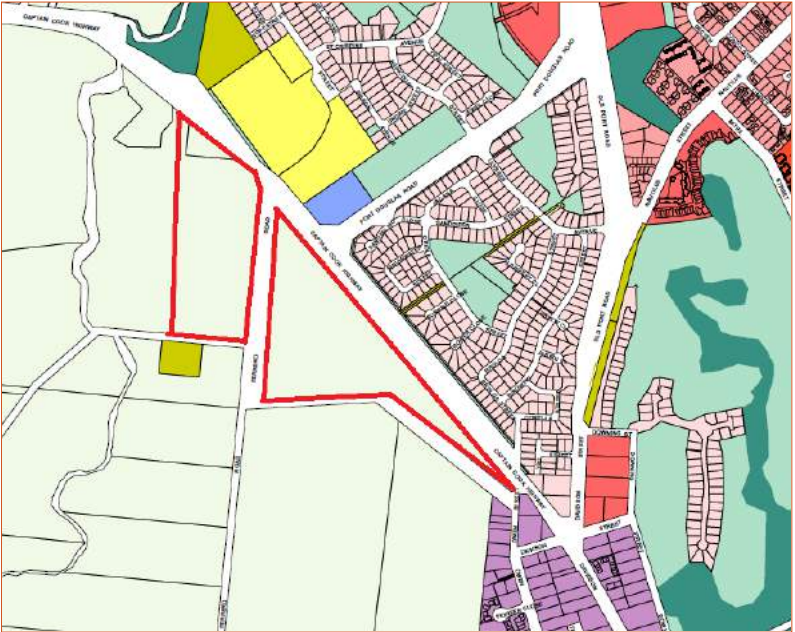
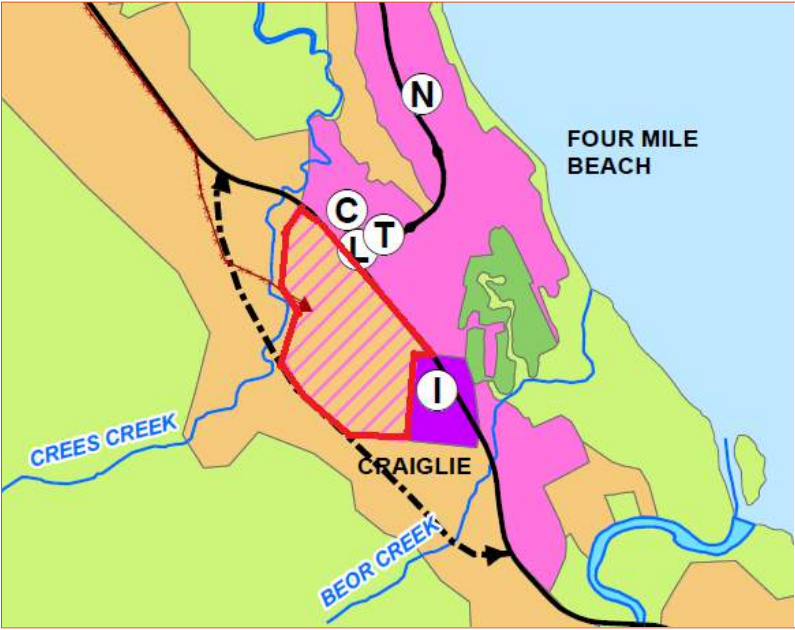
1. Attachment 1 - Submission Review Report **[5.7.1]**

Submission Review Report (as amended 15 June 2017) Doc # 793577

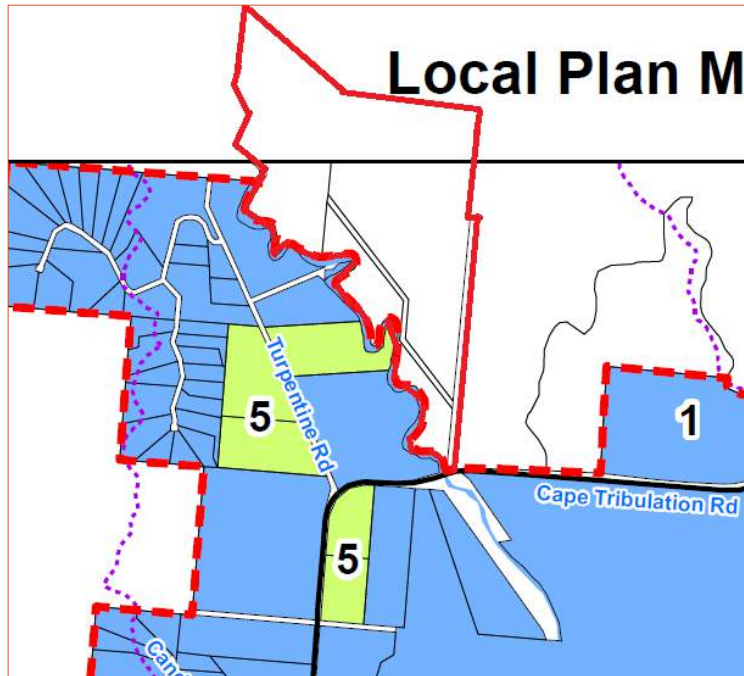
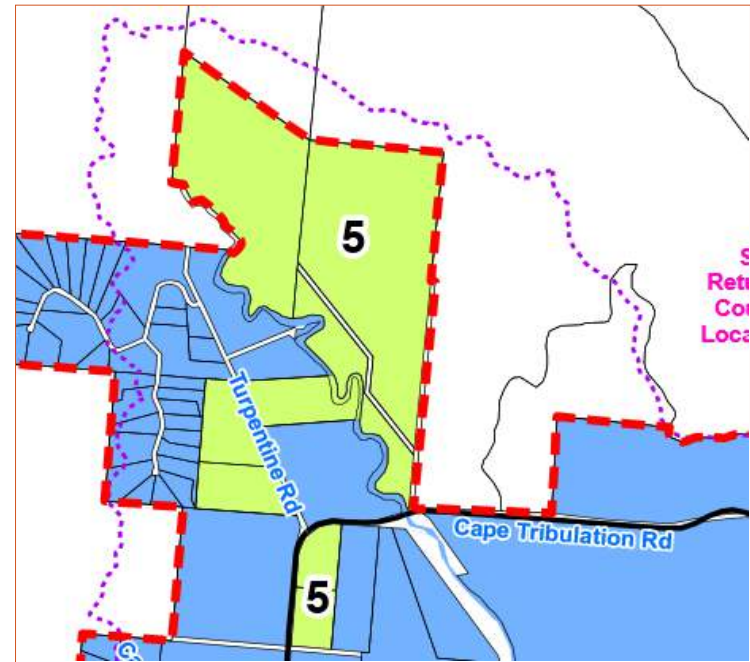
Response to submissions on the proposed Douglas Shire Planning Scheme (Statutory Consultation 8 August 2016 – 30 September 2016)

No.	Property/Location	Grounds	Part Number	Planning commentary	Action
1, 3, 5-7, 9, 14-18, 20, 26, 28-34, 67-69, 71, 73-76, 78-79, 81, 83-84, 89-97, 110, 118, 120, 122-123, 125, 130, 241-338, 371-372, 378, 380, 390, 392b, 411, 416-417, 453-459, 461-465, 468-476, 478-480, 482-491, 493-494, 496-527, 529-531, 533-534, 536-538, 540-561, 563,565, 567-575, 577-585, 587-590, 592-600, 604, 613, 619-704	L1 RP726242, L84 SR396 Ferrero Road, Craiglie	<p>The submitters are requesting that Council zone the land to allow a Retirement Facility to be developed. Their support is on the basis of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> providing additional living options to remain close to relatives and family in Douglas Shire; the retirement community will provide enhanced employment opportunities and reduce reliance on the tourism industry; the project will inject \$40 million in the Shire's economy; the site has not been used for rural purposes for many years and is close to the developed area in Craiglie; the site is not prone to storm surge or flooding as is the case with most of the rest of Port Douglas; the site is cleared and has a nice aspect; access is just off the highway and close to water, sewer and power connections; future residents can walk to shops, churches and buses, and is close to Port Douglas and the Mossman hospital; development can be completed on the site with a focus on sustainability; the community will provide good quality affordable retirement housing; the villas will be designed by locals for locals using local products and services 	Part 6, Schedule 2	<p>There is no particular zone that purely caters for a retirement village so it is not possible to zone land for a retirement village.</p> <p>It is not good contemporary planning practice to open up land for development without the appropriate investigations that take into account, amongst other things, constraints, infrastructure servicing and capacity requirements, flooding and drainage studies and sequencing in the form of a comprehensive structure plan. The land is proposed to be included in a Residential Investigation Area in the Strategic Framework to facilitate this process. Land should not be zoned in advance of completion of this process.</p> <p>There is land that is already zoned within Port Douglas that can cater for retirement village purposes without the need to include the land on the western side of the Captain Cook Highway in an urban zone at this point in time.</p>  <p>(Note: more details are provided in the planning commentary at submission 107)</p>	<p>No change to proposed planning scheme designations (Residential Investigation Area in the Strategic Framework).</p> <p>(Note: Submission 107 is the submission lodged by the retirement village proponent and the submission is addressed separately at the response to 107).</p>



No.	Property/Location	Grounds	Part Number	Planning commentary	Action
		<p>wherever possible;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> there are no options for retirement with potential RV camping storage; there will be a choice of property ownership and rental options; the Mossman retirement village will not be large enough and the project will complement the Mossman facility and not compete with it; chances for this type of development need to be provided for this type of development to occur. <p>(Note: Submission 107 is the substantial submission lodged by the retirement village proponent).</p>			
2, 4,	Port Douglas	The submitters support the entertainment precinct as proposed in the planning scheme	Part 7	Support is noted.	No change.
8, 10, 36-66, 85-86, 98, 101, 103-106, 112, 132, 197-200, 202, 204-219, 230-237, 351, 376, 389, 412-413, 434-436, 439, 442-446, 450, 616-618	Port Douglas	The submitters support a Special Entertainment Precinct for Port Douglas and the development of a Local Law to support the Special Entertainment Precinct in order for Council to have control and management of live music in the Shire's live entertainment venues. This will raise the profile of Port Douglas as a live music entertainment destination.	Part 7	<p>A report into Special Entertainment Precincts is appended as Attachment 1. While the planning scheme recognises, in particular, Port Douglas as an area of lively activity and that this liveliness contributes significantly to its vibrant tourist-town amenity, it does not contemplate introducing a Special Entertainment Precinct that would transfer a significant amount of resourcing and management responsibilities to Council.</p> <p>It is important to note that introducing a Special Entertainment Precinct to the proposed planning scheme at this stage will be considered a significant policy change and it will result in the need to recommence public notification of the proposed planning scheme.</p> <p>If Council is of the mind to resource and manage a Special Entertainment Precinct, it is recommended that such Special Entertainment Precinct form part of a downstream planning scheme amendment which will be appropriately notified in due course. This will assist in avoiding any further delay in finalising the current proposed planning scheme.</p>	No change.
21, 70, 80, 82, 87, 100, 111, 113-115, 117, 126-128,	L1 RP726242, L84 SR396 Ferrero Road and the western side of the Captain Cook Highway (generally),	These submissions collectively raise opposition to zoning land on the western side of the Captain Cook Highway in Craiglie and, in most cases, removing the Residential Investigation Areas in the planning scheme or no	Part 3, Part 6, Schedule 2	<p>These submissions, in varying degrees, oppose zoning of the land on the western side of the Captain Cook Highway for a retirement village, through to removing the Residential Investigation Area and supporting maintenance of the current defined urban edge.</p> <p>As discussed previously, there is no 'retirement village' zone that can be applied to the site to facilitate a retirement village on the land. The land</p>	No change.



No.	Property/Location	Grounds	Part Number	Planning commentary	Action
203, 204-219, 351, 374, 381, 386-388, 397, 400-402, 406-407, 410, 414, 421, 430, 440, 446, 450, 460, 466- 467,477, 528, 532, 539, 562, 566, 576, 586, 591, 602, 705-731	Craiglie	supporting altering the urban footprint.		<p>will, therefore, remain in the Rural Zone. However, it is recommended that the Strategic Framework designation of Residential Investigation Area be kept as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">○ it is not a final commitment to urban development on this side of the highway;○ it is not a full commitment to development on this side of the highway;○ it provides a logical opportunity to off-set some loss of designated urban land in areas which are less desirable for urban development;○ it provides a planning mechanism to pre-empt presumptive applications for spot-urban zonings and thereby counters piece-meal urban development. <div></div> <div></div>	



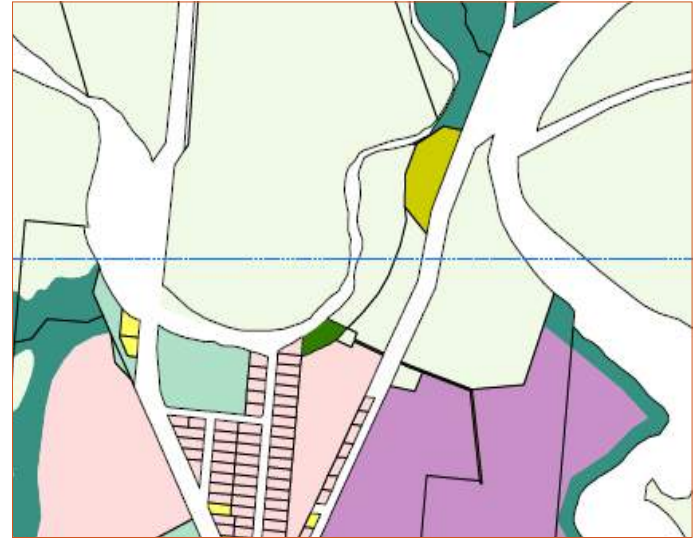
No.	Property/Location	Grounds	Part Number	Planning commentary	Action
11	Various Daintree locations	<p>The submitter indicates that:</p> <p>a. Listing the Daintree Ferry as a Place of Significance in Planning Scheme Policy SC6.11 establishes a policy of re-directing tourism to areas south of the Daintree River, with an injurious effect on the conservation economy that is of critical importance to areas between the Daintree and Bloomfield Rivers.</p> <p>b. Diwan Place of Significance – property description 7: Blue Hole is described as a reserve off Turpentine Creek Road. The site of significance registered under the provisions of the Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Act 2003 – CN53 is not constrained to the reserve, and includes the watercourse and banks beyond to the north of Cooper Creek. The significance of the site must not be limited to the arbitrary reserve.</p> <p>c. Those parts of the Shire located within the Wet Tropics and Great Barrier Reef World Heritage areas and other areas of environmental significance, in particular the Southern Cassowary and its habitat, are neither protected, preserved, nor are dog by-laws adequate or enforced. An estimated 60,000 strong feral pig population within the Wet Tropics World Heritage area has grown an enthusiastic feral pig hunting fraternity that illegally release purpose-bred dogs in the World Heritage rainforest killing more than just pigs. The only way, and by implication,</p>	Schedule 2, Schedule 6, Part 3	<p>a. The Daintree Ferry is listed in the current Planning Scheme Policy No 4 as a Cultural Heritage and Valuable Site, and this has been carried forward into the proposed planning scheme. A Land Use Strategy (3.7.7.2) contained in the Strategic Framework nominates a review of the Douglas Heritage Study that was commissioned by Cairns Regional Council prior to adding or removing listings. The Daintree Ferry may or may not be amended following this review.</p> <p>b. It is agreed that the reserve off Turpentine Creek Road is an inadequate description of the Blue Hole’s cultural and heritage significance. The description is recommended to be amended by adding appropriate words and reflecting the comment (exact location to be determined) as marked in the submission at 408 from the Douglas Shire Heritage society.</p> <p>c. It is agreed that that the feral pig / dog population is a significant menace and a huge threat to the region’s biodiversity. Strategic Framework Theme 2 – Environment and landscape values recognises this in 3.5.3 Element – Biodiversity 3.5.3.1 (6). This statement could be strengthened. However, it should be noted that many natural resource programs operate outside the scope of what a planning scheme can actually achieve.</p>	<p>a. No change. However, the listing is due to be reviewed as part of a land use strategy contained in the Strategic Framework (3.7.7.2).</p> <p>b. SC6.11 Planning Scheme Policy – Places of Significance Table 1: Places of Significance to be amended as follows:</p> <p><u>Property Description</u> Reserve off Turpentine Road, <u>including Blue Hole, the watercourse and banks beyond, to the north of Cooper Creek (extent to be determined).</u></p> <p>c. Strategic Framework Theme 2 – Environment and landscape values 3.5.3 Element – Biodiversity 3.5.3.1 (6) to be strengthened as follows:</p> <p>Weeds and pests, <u>in particular feral pigs and purpose-bred wild hunting dogs</u>, are a significant threat to the region’s biodiversity conservation values.</p>

No.	Property/Location	Grounds	Part Number	Planning commentary	Action
		<p>Douglas Shire through its planning scheme can assist the cassowary population, is to remove pigs and dogs from cassowary habitat.</p> <p>d. The proposed planning scheme perpetuates discrimination against the Daintree River – Bloomfield River area of the shire with the provision supporting ‘a limited number of low-intensity tourist accommodation facilities in the Conservation areas south of the Daintree River where the development of bed and breakfast, cabin, homestead / farm stay accommodation and other low-impact tourism development is encouraged in appropriate locations’.</p> <p>e. As the costs of protection of the World Heritage values rightfully belongs to Australia, and as the existing excision of the area between the Daintree River and the Bloomfield River from Ergon’s distribution area was formalised by the Queensland State Government on behalf of the people of Queensland, the costs of the alternative supply arrangements (stand alone) should be covered by both Australia and also Queensland, beyond the costs of consumption at nationalised equalised tariffs.</p> <p>f. Lot 52 on SR537 and Lot 51 on SR767 are freehold land that should be part of the Settlement Areas North of the Daintree Local Plan, as is a freehold property at Noah Creek.</p>		<p>d. The use of the words south of the Daintree River is discriminatory and should be deleted. It is not the intention to rule of low intensity tourist accommodation facilities north of the Daintree River, and this is not the intent provided for elsewhere in the planning scheme.</p> <p>e. Alternative means of power provision is advocated in the strategic framework. However, Council is not able to commit to energy provision as it is ultimately within the mandate of the State and Federal Government. The provision of rebates / subsidies is beyond the scope of the planning scheme to address.</p> <p>f. It is agreed that Lots 51 and 52 would be better included within the Settlement Areas North of the Daintree River Local Plan (to be renamed the ‘Cape Tribulation and Daintree Coast Local Plan’) to which they directly adjoin. This land is used for small scale agriculture and tourist treks/trails. Precinct 5 – Low Impact Rural Production and Tourism Enterprise is the appropriate designation.</p>	<p>d. Delete the following words from 3.8.3.1 of the Strategic Framework:</p> <p>‘a limited number of low-intensity tourist accommodation facilities in the Conservation areas south of the Daintree River where it is designed to integrate with its setting (e.g. Similar to Silky Oaks Resort in Mossman)’.</p> <p>e. No change.</p> <p>f. Expand Local Plan (LMP-007) and include an expanded area within Precinct 5 – Low Impact Rural Production and Tourism Enterprise (see below). No change to the land a Noah Creek.</p>
					

No.	Property/Location	Grounds	Part Number	Planning commentary	Action
12, 396	Daintree River – Bloomfield River generally	<p>a. The submitter states that <i>“there is only one logical rational viable way to stop all the polluting generators that convert three million litres of fuel per year in to 7000 tonnes of CO2 blowing in to the rainforest and that is a grid, so power can be produced outside this environmentally sensitive area. Any attempt to use standalone renewables inside the rainforest has huge environmental impacts. If Council is serious about doing something meaningful to combat climate change with reduced carbon emissions then a grid in the Daintree should be a priority.”</i></p> <p><i>“Currently, the massive problem of pollution and energy poverty does not even feature in the proposed new DSC planning scheme. The only mention is that any proposals for power supply have to consider the environment.”</i></p> <p>b. The submitter’s second submission reiterates most of the information from the first, but adds that the following statement needs to be included in the proposed planning scheme:</p> <p><i>“provide adequate services and facilities for settlement areas and an appropriate level of economic opportunity for local residents.”</i></p>	Part 3	<p>a. The statement at 3.9.2.1(4) in the Strategic Framework is Council’s stated policy position with respect to the power issue north of the Daintree River. The submitter wants the issue of power generation via generators and the conflict with the sensitive environment in the area to be recognised in the scheme. There is no problem in identifying the problem. However, ultimately power generation to areas north of the Daintree River is very broadly beyond the scope of the planning scheme to address.</p> <p>b. The addition of the extra words is supported.</p>	<p>a. The statement at 3.9.2.1(4) in the Strategic Framework be supplemented as follows: <u>‘The paradox of polluting fuel-based power generation and the pristine World Heritage setting of the Daintree rainforests, north of the Daintree River is acknowledged.</u> Proposals to extend electricity supply to properties north of the Daintree River take into account the sensitive environmental characteristics of the area, the fact that it is an area that is largely of world heritage significance and the climatic risks impacting the area such as cyclones and other weather events, all of which will influence decisions about the nature and scale of the electricity supply infrastructure that may be provided.’</p> <p>b. Add to the following words to purpose statement for the Cape Tribulation and Daintree Coast Local Plan at 7.2.5.3(2) {note: now located at 7.2.1.3.(2)}:</p> <p><u>‘e. adequate service and facilities for settlement areas and an appropriate level of economic opportunity for local residents are provided.’</u></p>
13	n/a	The submitter requests that within the proposed Low Density Residential Zone that the minimum lot size be reduced to 400m ² –	Part 6	The current planning scheme includes two residential planning areas. The proposed planning scheme includes three zones. The additional zone is the Low-medium density residential zone. The proposed Low-medium density residential zone caters for infill housing referred to by the submitter by	No change.

No.	Property/Location	Grounds	Part Number	Planning commentary	Action
		500m ² rather than current proposal which retains the 800m ² x 20m frontage minimum performance outcome. This will cater for sustainable in-fill housing utilising existing infrastructure and services.		providing minimum lots size of 450m ² and minimum frontage of 15m. It should be noted that the new minimum lot size in the Low density residential zone is 600m ² .	
19	L40 CP891904	The submitter requests that L40 CP891904 located at 2529 Bloomfield River Esplanade, Degarra remain within the Rural Zone, as per the current planning scheme, as the land has been used for Rural purposes for 34 years and it is expected that bona fide rural activities will continue into the future.	Schedule 2	<p>A number of larger properties being used for Rural Production purposes were recommended to be converted to the Environmental Management Zone during the period of amalgamation with Cairns. Following de-amalgamation, most of these properties were reconsidered for conversion back to Rural Zone to reflect existing land use activities. However a couple of areas were missed in this reconversion process (most notably in the Kimberly area and Degarra area, north of the Daintree River. No planning concerns are raised in retaining this particular lot in the Rural Zone.</p> 	<p>Amend the Zone mapping in Schedule 2 to include L40 CP891904 in the Rural Zone.</p> 
22	n/a	<p>The submitter advocates:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> against conversion of rural land to hobby farms as they do not add any value to the area; a cat curfew to protect native wildlife. 	n/a	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> The planning scheme does not permit the further fragmentation of agricultural (Rural zoned land) below 40 hectares in lot size. Thereby preventing the proliferation of small hobby sized farms. The implementation of a cat curfew is beyond the scope of the planning scheme to address. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> No change. No change.


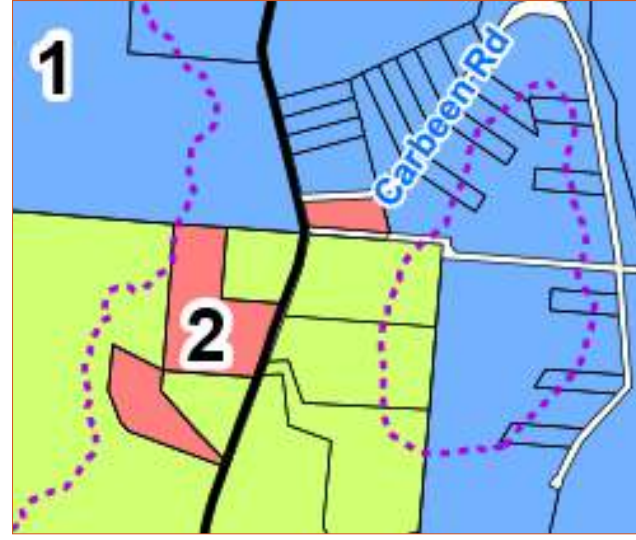
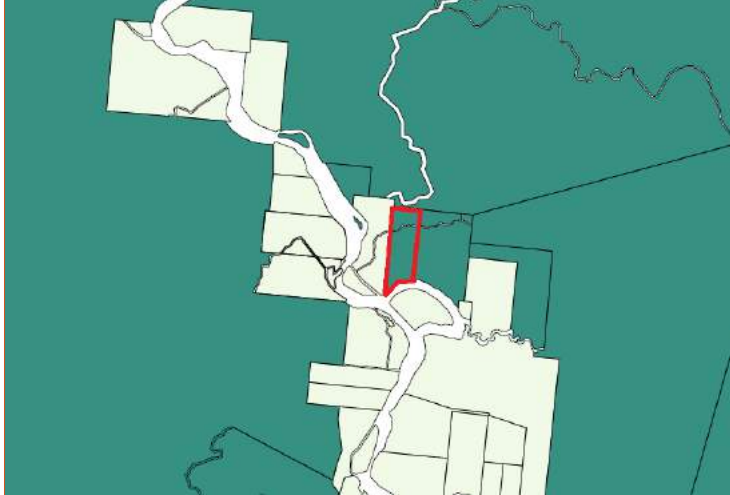

No.	Property/Location	Grounds	Part Number	Planning commentary	Action
23	L29 RP706250	The submitter requests that L29 RP706250 be returned to the equivalent proposed Residential Low Density Zone under the Planning Scheme, rather than the Environmental Management Zone. The owner has expended considerable financial and physical effort to restore the riparian banks of the North Mossman River.	Schedule 2	<p>L29 RP706250 adjoins the North Mossman River and is heavily constrained by Overlay Mapping (inc. Flooding and Storm Tide Inundation, Landscape Values Overlay and the Natural Areas Overlay). This mapping will impose restrictions on the use of the land that would be likely to preclude the use of the land for residential purposes, despite the zoning. Overlays over-ride zones in the hierarchy of planning assessment.</p> 	<p>Amend the Zone mapping in Schedule 2 to include L29 RP706250 in the Low density residential zone.</p> 
24, 25	Daintree River – Bloomfield River generally	The submitter requests a remote area power system rebate to be made available to business and private applicants as power is not proposed under section 3.9.2.1(4) of the Strategic Framework.	Part 3	<p>Alternative means of power provision is advocated in the strategic framework. However, Council is not able to commit to energy provision as it is ultimately within the mandate of the State and Federal Government. The provision of rebates / subsidies is beyond the scope of the planning scheme to address.</p>	No change.
27, 433, 448, 535	L7 SP188709	<p>The submitters request that L7 SP188709 be included in the Low Density Residential Zone rather than the Rural Planning Zone on the basis that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> the site represents a logical extension of the housing supply at Rocky Point and is appropriately located in terms of infrastructure, services and utilities. The current rural zoning of the land is not sustainable. Supports State Government Policy Objectives (i.e. Doubling the population of 		<p>L7 SP188709 is not a logical extension of any Low density residential zone. The area is not characterised by suburban residential development (i.e. 600m² lots). The land is not serviced in terms of water and sewer infrastructure.</p> <p>The sustainability of the Rural zone, in many parts of the Shire, is often raised as a reason to rezone land for development. However, it is not a valid reason to change a rural setting into a suburban setting.</p> <p>The nominated State Planning Objectives are more than adequately catered for elsewhere in the Shire under the proposed planning scheme. The proposed zoning change is contrary to the State Government's Far North Queensland Regional Plan 2009-2031 which includes this land as part of the Regional Landscape and Rural Production Area.</p> <p>There is more than an adequate supply of Rural Residential lots approved for development in the Shire (most notably at the northern end of Wonga Beach)</p>	No change

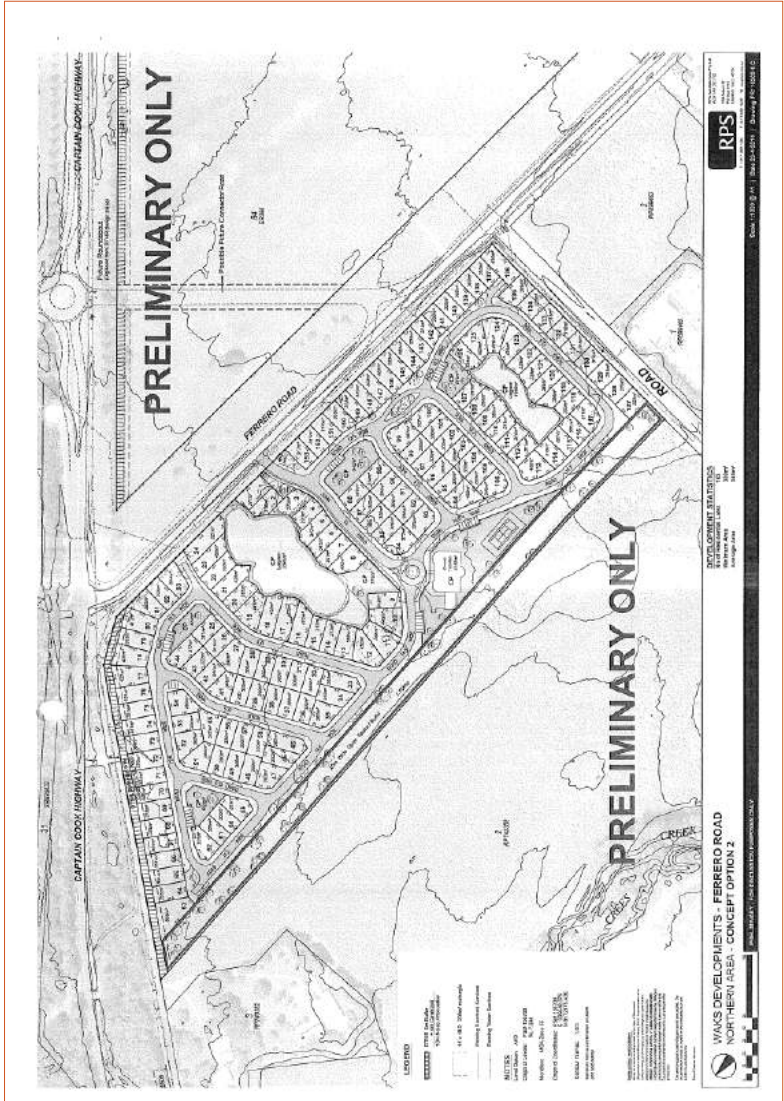
No.	Property/Location	Grounds	Part Number	Planning commentary	Action
		regions outside South East Queensland – Locating land for housing development and redevelopment in areas that are accessible and well connected to services, employment and infrastructure – facilitating a diverse range of housing options etc.)		(See site location on next page) 	
35	L25 RP800895	The submitter requests that L25 RP800895 be returned to the Rural Zone from the proposed Environmental Management Zone. The owner has applied to combine Lot 21 with adjoining Lot 25 which is proposed to be in the Rural Zone.	Schedule 2	Lot 25 adjoins the North Mossman River and is heavily constrained by Overlay Mapping (inc. Flooding and Storm Tide Inundation, Landscape Values Overlay and the Natural Areas Overlay). This mapping will impose restrictions on the use of the land that are equivalent to those that would apply under the Environmental Management Zone. 	Amend the Zone mapping in Schedule 2 to include L25 on RP800895 in the Rural Zone. 
72, 99, 124, 199-200, 202, 204-219, 351, 389, 412, 446, 450	Various	The submitter requests the following: a. Review the planning scheme at least every two years b. Review the scheme in 2017 in conjunction with any amendments required to comply with the <i>Planning Act</i>	Various	a. A review of the planning scheme every two years is a matter for Council to determine. However, it is anticipated through the life of the planning scheme there will be a series of planned amendments necessary to keep the planning scheme contemporary. b. The <i>Planning Act 2016</i> is expected to commence 3 July 2017. At this time, Council will have the choice to align its planning scheme with the new Act. It is recommended that Council complete this Sustainable Planning Act compliant scheme (notionally in the first half of 2017) and then, make any necessary amendments to make the	a. Noted. No change. b. Noted. No change.

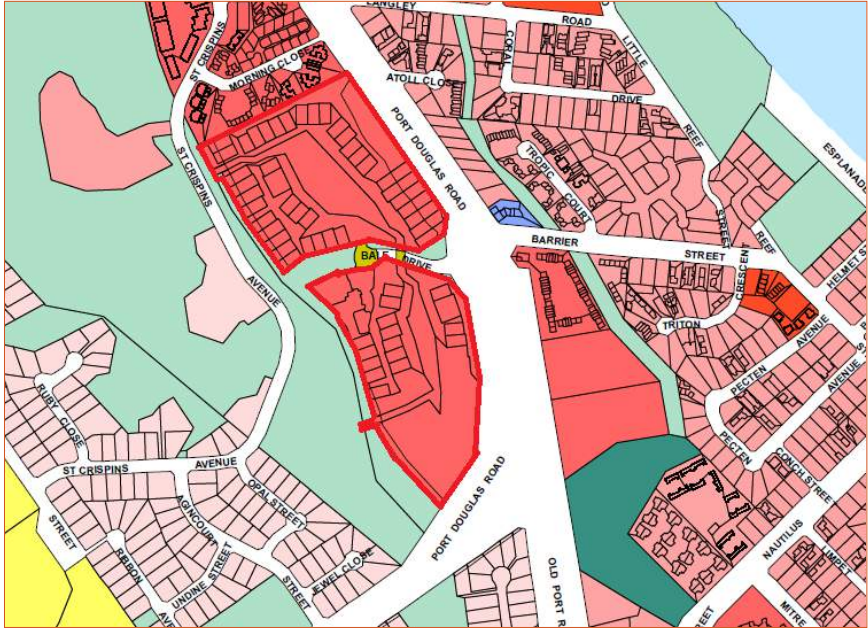

No.	Property/Location	Grounds	Part Number	Planning commentary	Action
		<p>2016.</p> <p>c. Ensure adequate resourcing of the planning scheme, particularly having regard to signage, landscaping and vegetation clearing.</p> <p>d. Include a precautionary principle in the scheme.</p> <p>e. Include a predicted sea level / shoreline retreat map in the Overlay Maps.</p> <p>f. Develop and include a policy or a framework for retreat from rising sea level.</p> <p>g. Complete work on identified Land Use Strategies within 12 months.</p> <p>h. Add new land use strategies applicable to the Daintree Coast and Cape Tribulation Local Plan, and complete work on these within 12 months:</p> <p>i. a scheme for 'buy back' of properties on roads which are servicing only a small number of houses;</p> <p>ii. opposing mains power and supporting alternative sources including local area green grids.</p> <p>i. Maintain the existing urban footprint.</p> <p>j. Remove investigation areas from the Strategic Framework Map near Craiglie until relevant land use strategies have been considered, specifically climate adaption strategies.</p>		<p>scheme <i>Planning Act 2016</i> compliant later in 2017.</p> <p>c. The need to adequately resource compliance of the planning scheme is noted and is a matter for Council's budgeting processes.</p> <p>d. The <i>Integrated Planning Act 1997</i> included a precautionary principle. The precautionary principle is one of the most important foundations of ecologically sustainable development. It is a common sense principle requiring that a lack of scientific certainty should not be used to postpone measures to prevent serious or irreversible harm to the environment. There is no objection to the concept of introducing this principle into the planning scheme.</p> <p>e. Council is currently undertaking work associated with the Climate Hazard Adaption Strategy Program (CHAS) which is specifically aimed at examining the best ways and means to tackle the risk of sea-level rise/retreat strategies. Council is therefore moving forward with the recommended land use strategies highlighted in the scheme and these may form part of a future planning scheme amendment.</p> <p>f. As per e. above.</p> <p>g. All land use strategies will be subject to resourcing/budget management/prioritisation. The strategies range consist of a wide range of activities, often requiring the need to use outside resources. It is not likely that a 12-month timeframe is realistic. However, the need for extra work to complement the planning scheme has been highlighted for future attention.</p> <p>h. Council has limited capacity to 'buy back' properties in the Daintree Coast and Cape Tribulation Local Plan area despite the merits of the proposal. The strategic framework includes Council's policy regarding power supply North of the Daintree River.</p> <p>i. The 2006 Planning Scheme does not contain an Urban Footprint. The Far North Queensland Regional Plan 2009-2031 contains the Urban Footprint and the proposed planning scheme does not change this footprint. However, the proposed planning scheme includes a Residential Investigation Area that is outside the existing FNQ Regional Plan Urban footprint. The purpose of the Residential Investigation is to evaluate whether the land is suitable for conversion to urban purposes. Part of the reason for allocating the land in this way is to cater for some of the urban footprint that is a retreat from coastal hazard areas (areas close to the Mowbray River mouth).</p> <p>j. A climate adaption strategy will rely, to some degree, on the availability of land that is not subject to coastal hazards in order to provide an area to cater for climate adaption strategies. However, it is noted in the scheme that such land is not likely to be required until late in the life of the planning scheme: if not, after it.</p>	<p>c. Noted. No change.</p> <p>d. Include a 'precautionary principle' provision into the planning scheme at Part 1.7.3 as follows:</p> <p><u>1.7.3 Precautionary principle</u></p> <p><u>(1) Decision making processes associated with this planning scheme apply the precautionary principle to land use and development.</u></p> <p><u>(2) For the purposes of 1.7.3(1), the precautionary principle is the principle that lack of scientific certainty should not be a reason for postponing a measure to prevent degradation of the environment if there are threats of serious or irreversible environmental damage.</u></p> <p>e. No change. Noting Council's current work in the Climate Hazard Adaption Strategy Program (CHAS) and 'back-zoning' retreat of land currently included in a Residential planning area in Craiglie (near the Mowbray River).</p> <p>f. As per e. above.</p> <p>g. Noted. No change.</p> <p>h. No change.</p> <p>i. No change.</p> <p>j. No change.</p>

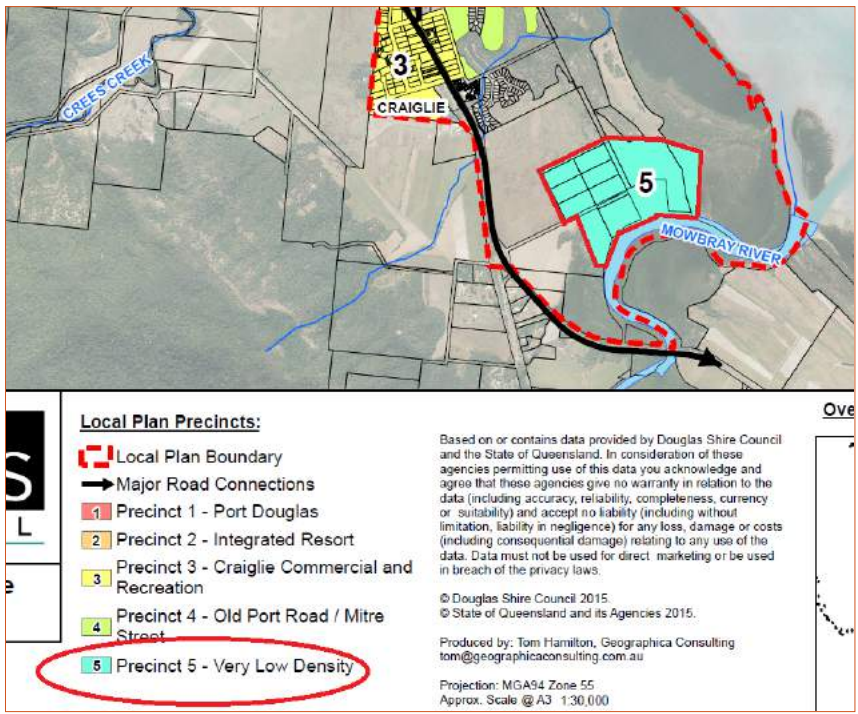
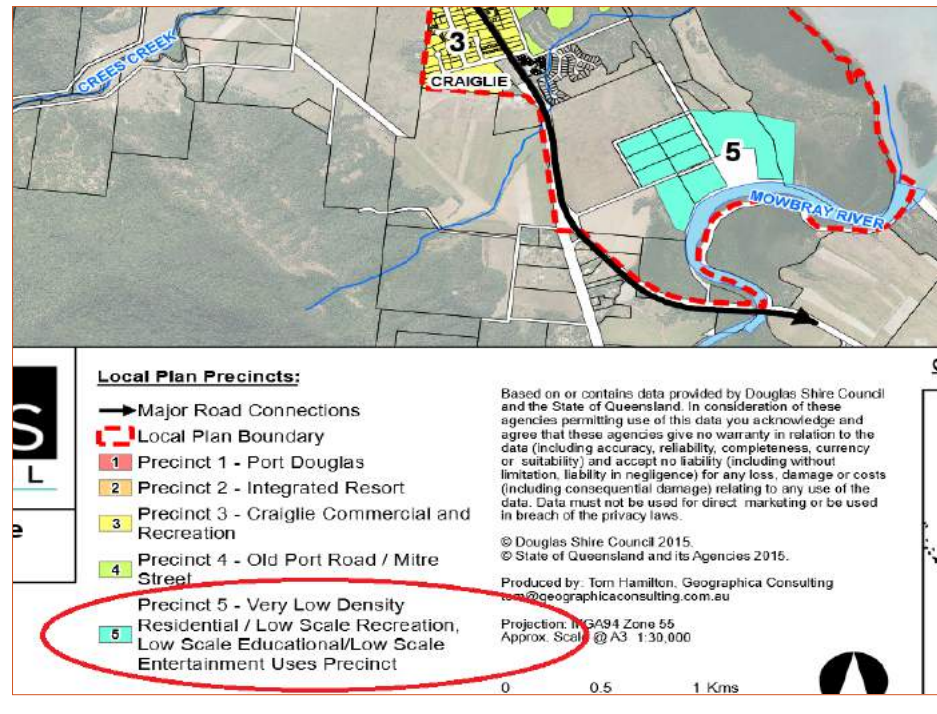
No.	Property/Location	Grounds	Part Number	Planning commentary	Action
		<p>k. Do not approve rezoning or development at Ferrero Road.</p> <p>l. Remove Transport Investigation Corridor shown on Strategic Framework Map 2 near Craiglie, west of the highway.</p> <p>m. Develop and include a policy for sustainable development including sustainable building design.</p> <p>n. Lobby for amendment to the new Planning Act to allow Councils to make requirements above and beyond the standards in the Building Act.</p> <p>o. Resolve the tension between the Crime Prevention Policy and the Landscaping Policy.</p> <p>p. Including a stronger emphasis on endemic and native planting in Port Douglas and a restriction to only endemic in the Cape Tribulation/Daintree Coast area:</p> <p>i. amend the Port Douglas / Craiglie local plan code to require that landscaping achieves 60% screening of buildings within 5 years. Its purpose should be to hide development behind a screen of endemic species.</p> <p>ii. amend the Settlement Areas North of the Daintree River Local Plan, Performance Outcome PO 7, to replace 'native landscape character' with 'endemic landscape character'.</p>		<p>k. The proposed planning scheme does not approve rezoning or development at Ferrero Road.</p> <p>l. It would be unwise to remove reference to a Transport Investigation Corridor in light of the Residential Investigation Area designation. It is a very important consideration in determining whether land in this area is suitable for further development.</p> <p>m. The concept of including sustainability guidelines is supported. However, Council cannot mandate sustainability in design via a planning scheme. These are addressed in the Building Codes. However, there is no opposition to Council acting as an advocate for sustainable design and developing policies and promotional material to support such policies. However, at this stage this work is outside the scope of the proposed planning scheme review.</p> <p>n. As per m. above, the State sets the rules with regard to what the planning scheme can regulate and what can only be regulated by the Building Codes. There is no opposition to the concept of advocating greater control with the State Government. However, at this stage this work is outside the scope of the proposed planning scheme review.</p> <p>o. The tension arises due to the policy requirements that suggest maintenance of sight-lines for surveillance and the landscaping code that encourages dense, lush landscaping. It is possible for both elements to co-exist. However, the purpose of the Crime Prevention through Environmental Design (CPTED) Planning Scheme Policy can be adjusted to favour landscaping.</p> <p>p. The landscaping requirements would be strengthened to provide more support to local character by incorporating the suggested changes to the landscaping requirements contained within both codes.</p>	<p>k. No change.</p> <p>l. No change.</p> <p>m. No change.</p> <p>n. No change.</p> <p>o. Add the following at SC6.3.1 of Schedule 6 SC6.3 Planning Scheme Policy – Crime prevention through Environmental Design (CPTED):</p> <p><u>“(f) ensure that the requirements of the Landscaping code, which promotes dense, lush landscape planting, are not compromised by the guidelines contained within this policy.”</u></p> <p>p. Add the following to AO4 in Table 4.2.4.4.a (now 7.4.2.4.4.a) in the Port Douglas / Craiglie Local Plan Code:</p> <p>Landscaping incorporates the requirements of Planning scheme policy SC6.7 – Landscaping, <u>in particular landscaping should be capable of achieving a 60% screening of development within 5 years and predominantly consists of endemic vegetation.</u></p> <p>Amend Table 7.2.1.10.a in the Cape Tribulation and Daintree Coast Local Plan at PO7 as follows:</p> <p>Landscaping of the development ensures that the <u>native endemic</u> character of the local area is dominant.</p>


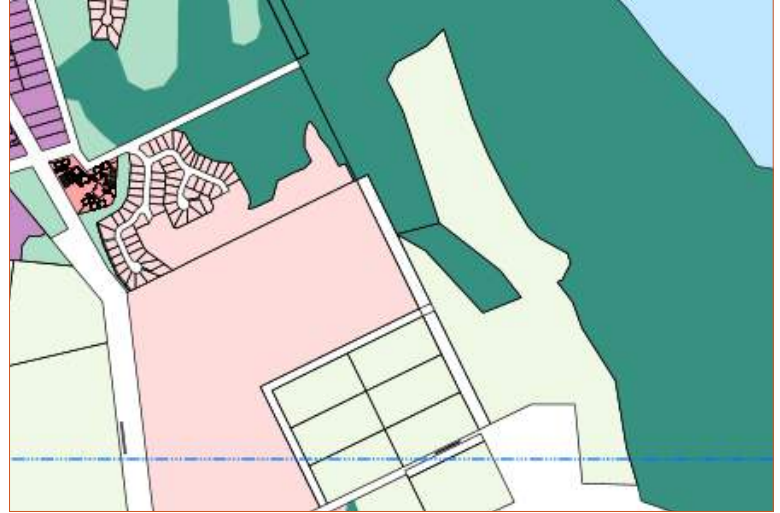
No.	Property/Location	Grounds	Part Number	Planning commentary	Action
		<p>q. Restrict landscaping of public land across the Shire to endemic only.</p> <p>r. Develop and include a Master Plan for Craiglie.</p> <p>s. Include a greater focus on water sensitive urban design, including detention basins that trap sediment and nutrient, gross litter traps the rehabilitation of waterways and ensuring connectivity for fish passage in the design of waterway crossings and other in-stream construction.</p> <p>t. Change the Live Entertainment Precinct to Special Entertainment Precinct on the Port Douglas Sub Precincts Local Plan Precincts Map and support with Local Laws.</p> <p>u. Amend the Port Douglas/Craiglie local plan to focus on the vernacular rather than a generic manufactured tropical image.</p> <p>Each point above is supported with further explanation in the submission.</p>		<p>q. The intent here is understood and is generally supported. However, it may not be practical to restrict landscaping to endemic species only on Council land. The planning scheme is not the place for this sort of policy.</p> <p>r. The need to develop a master plan for Criaglie, as the entry point to Port Douglas, has merits. However, it is out of scope for the current planning scheme project.</p> <p>s. It is agreed that the planning scheme could be strengthened by including water sensitive urban design measures. However, it should be noted that such measures are included within the FNQROC Development Manual which is a Policy that is attached to the planning scheme. This is a matter which could be reviewed as a future amendment subject to resourcing the appropriate expertise to provide the necessary input.</p> <p>t. This matter has been addressed at 8 herein.</p> <p>u. 'Vernacular' refers to a particular style of architecture rather than landscaping and urban design. A tropical vernacular (architecture) is an easily understood and documented term. It is agreed that homogenous architectural design that can be found anywhere should not be promoted in developments that are triggered by the planning scheme. However, many dwelling houses in most residential developments do not trigger any requirement for a planning approval and are prevented from triggering planning approvals by the <i>Sustainable Planning Regulation Schedule 4 – Development that can not be declared development of a particular type</i>. Effectively, Council has no power to enforce a tropical vernacular for all development in the Shire.</p>	<p>q. No change.</p> <p>r. No change. However, the idea of developing a Master Plan for Craiglie has merit for future work.</p> <p>s. No change. Future work to be considered.</p> <p>t. No change.</p> <p>u. No change.</p>
77	L1 RP739800	The submitter requests that L1 RP739800 located at Cape Tribulation Road, Diwan be included in the Low Impact Rural Production and Tourism Enterprise Precinct to reflect the current designation as Rainforest Tourism Precinct in the current planning scheme.	Schedule 2	<p>The land is currently included in the Rainforest Tourism Precinct and was recently purchased for this purpose. There are no significant issues raised in maintaining the current / equivalent precinct under the Local Plan.</p> <p>(Mapping is on the next page)</p>	Amend Local Plan Map to include L1 RP739800 within the 'Low Impact Rural Production and Tourism Enterprise Precinct'.

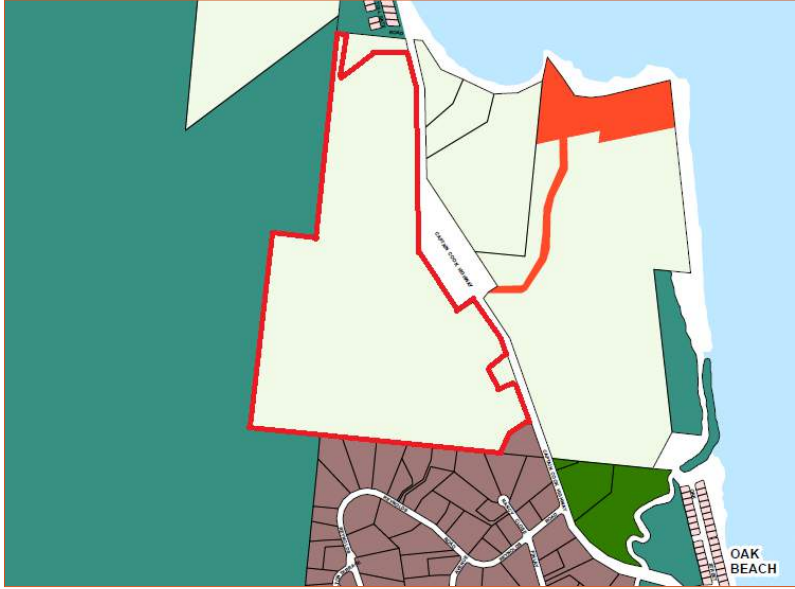
No.	Property/Location	Grounds	Part Number	Planning commentary	Action
					
88	L267 BK15769	The submitter requests review of the zoning of land at L267 BK15769 which is shown as Conservation Zone. However, the land is cleared and used for the grazing of cattle and should be included in the Rural Zone.	Schedule 2	<p>Examination of aerial photography reveals that the land is being used for cattle grazing / rural purposes. It is current included in the Rural Planning Area. There are no issues raised in return the land to a Rural Zone as requested.</p> 	<p>Amend the zone from a Conservation Zone to a Rural Zone.</p> 
102	n/a	This submission is lodged on behalf of Ergon Energy and is supportive of Douglas Shire Council taking on board matters raised at State Interest Review. Ergon advocates for an Electricity Infrastructure Overlay and associated Code.	Schedule 2	<p>Review of other planning schemes in Queensland does not reveal widespread use of Electricity Infrastructure Overlay Codes: the main purpose of which is to protect electricity easements from inappropriate development. It is considered that the easements are sufficient to achieve this purpose without the need for a special overlay code.</p>	No change.



No.	Property/Location	Grounds	Part Number	Planning commentary	Action
107	L1 RP726242, L84 SR396 Ferrero Road, Craiglie	<p>This submission is the substantial submission lodged by the proponent of the proposed retirement village advocated for the west of the Captain Cook Highway in Craiglie. The submitter is seeking:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Inclusion of the land in the 'Urban' designation in the Strategic Framework. Extend the Port Douglas – Craiglie Local Plan to include the land within a new precinct that specifically permits or recognises use for a Retirement facility. Amend the Rural Zone to an Urban Zoning (L1) and Emerging Community Zone (Lot 84). Change the level of assessment for Community facilities zone to code assessable in the Table of Assessment. 	Part 3, Part 5, Part 6, Part 7, Part 9, Schedule 2	<p>a. It is not appropriate to include land within an urban designation without undertaking investigations into developing a comprehensive structure plan that takes into account, amongst other things, constraints, infrastructure servicing and capacity requirements, flooding and drainage studies and sequencing. For example, L1 is adjacent to a substantial electrical sub-station that may impose a significant constraint on the distribution of residential living on the land. This aspect is not mentioned in the submission.</p> <p>A comprehensive structure plan needs to be developed that delivers an integrated, well-connected residential community with a mix of housing types, distribution of open space, other appropriate land uses and road patterns. This will involve more than just consideration of L1 and L84, but the broader Residential Investigation Area more generally.</p> <p>Despite the submitter's representations, that there is a lack of land suitable for retirement village purposes, there is land within the existing urban designation in Port Douglas that is available for use as a retirement facility without the need to include land on the western side of the Captain Cook Highway (albeit none greater than 3ha in area).</p> <p>Examples can be found at:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ L3 & L4 SP729037 ○ L1, L2 and L6 C2253 ○ L49, L50 SP161464, L41, L42 RP747344 ○ L1 SP150468 <p>b. As per a. above.</p> <p>c. There is no urban zone that caters purely for Retirement facility purposes. The Emerging Community Zone is not used in the proposed Douglas Shire Planning Scheme.</p> <p>d. The Community facilities zone is broadly intended to cater for a wide range of community uses. The development envisaged by the proponent is essentially a subdivision for older 'over-50' people.</p> <p>For convenience the QPP definition of Retirement Facility is reproduced below:</p> <p><i>"A residential use of premises for an integrated community and specifically built and designed for older people.</i></p> <p><i>The use includes independent living units and may include serviced units where residents require support with health care and daily living needs.</i></p> <p><i>The use may also include a manager's residence and office, food and drink outlet, amenity buildings, communal facilities and accommodation for staff."</i></p>	<p>a. No change. Retain the land as Residential Investigation Area on the Strategic Framework Map.</p> <p>b. No change.</p> <p>c. No change. Retain the Rural Zone.</p> <p>d. No change.</p> <p>e. No change.</p> <p><u>Retirement Preliminary Concept</u></p> 

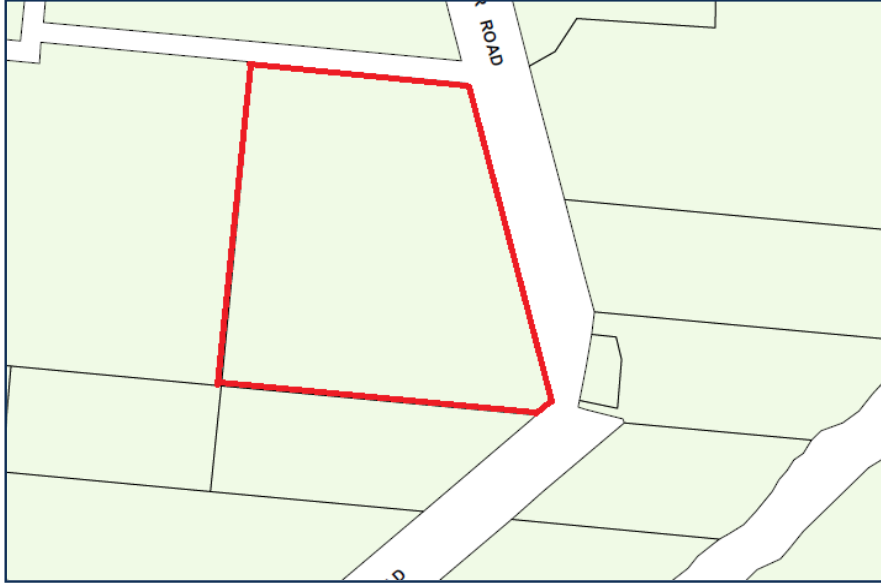
No.	Property/Location	Grounds	Part Number	Planning commentary	Action
		e. Ensure development codes do not contain overly restrictive requirements.		<p>The plans provided by the proponent (shown opposite) do not provide any high care or more intensive support facilities, or much in the way of communal facilities. It provides little in way of appearance and facilities that a small-lot community title subdivision would not provide.</p> <p>Large-scale development such as the one envisaged by the proponent should not be Code assessable. Council and the community should have the ability to carefully assess projects of this nature to ensure that the type of development is appropriate for Douglas Shire, and where necessary, provide an ability to refuse inappropriate development proposals.</p> <p>e. No overly restrictive requirements are nominated in the submission. Applications for development, including Retirement facilities, are assessed on their merits.</p>	
108	L904 on SP16909, Lots 1-41 SP165910, Lots 42-46 and 62-73 on SP165911 (and all associated common property lots for the Niramaya Resort) & L906 SP277141, 1 Bale Drive, Port Douglas	<p>The submitter request that L906 SP277141 be:</p> <p>a. included within the Tourist Accommodation zone to recognize accommodation in self contained villas in addition to permanent occupation.</p> <p>b. Creation of a precinct under the Local Plan to recognise more intensive accommodation to complement the existing lower scale accommodation undertaken within the northern portion of the development.</p> <p>c. Enable short term accommodation to occur as a 'code assessable' land use in the Tourist Accommodation zone.</p> <p>d. Ensure development codes do not contain overly restrictive requirements.</p>	Part 6, Part 9, Schedule 2	<p>a. The land has been developed as a luxury spa resort catering for tourists. No issues are raised in including the land known as Niramaya within the Tourist Accommodation Zone (i.e. not just Lot 906).</p> <p>b. There is no need to create a precinct under the local plan given that the land is to be included within a compatible zone.</p> <p>c. Larger development should not be code assessable. Council and the community should have the ability to carefully assess projects of this nature to ensure that the type of development is appropriate for Douglas Shire, and where necessary, provide an ability to refuse inappropriate development proposals.</p> <p>d. No overly restrictive requirements are nominated in the submission. Applications for development, including tourist resorts, are assessed on their merits.</p> 	<p>a. Include L904 on SP16909, Lots 1-41 SP165910, Lots 42-46 and 62-73 on SP165911 (and all associated common property lots for the Niramaya Resort) & L906 SP277141 within the Tourist Accommodation Zone.</p> <p>b. No change.</p> <p>c. No change.</p> <p>d. No change.</p> 


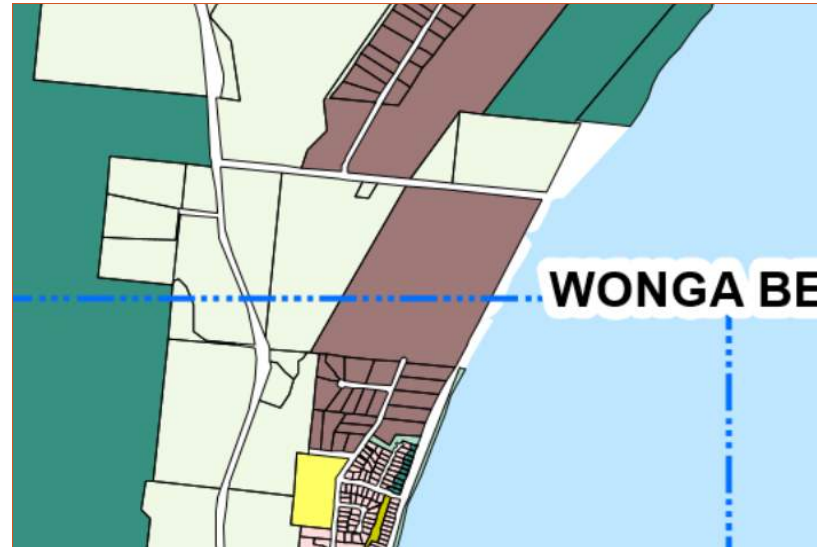
No.	Property/Location	Grounds	Part Number	Planning commentary	Action
109	L1-6 C2254, L87 SR370, L90 SR678	<p>The submitter requests that L1-6 C2254, L87 SR370 and Lot 90 SR678:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> be included in the Urban designation on the Strategic Framework map. alter the Very Low Density Precinct Designation in the Local plan to permit more intensive residential use and/or provide an appropriate precinct designation for suitable recreation, education and /or outdoor sporting and entertainment (low scale). 		<ol style="list-style-type: none"> The land is low lying, affected by Erosion Prone and Coastal Management Areas and is broadly affected by storm tide flooding. It is not appropriate to maintain an Urban designation on those parts of the land that are affected by these constraints. It is not appropriate to include the land within the Local Plan for a more intensive residential use given the fact that the land is broadly affected by storm tide flooding. The applicant requests an alternative precinct designation for suitable recreation, education and/or low-scale entertainment use as an alternative to residential uses. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> No change. No change for more intensive residential use. However, low key recreational, educational or low scale entertainment uses could be considered on this land. The precinct is recommended for adjustment to recognise this opportunity. <p>Rename Precinct 5 in the Port Douglas / Craiglie Local Plan to be Precinct 5 – Very Low Density Residential / Low Scale Recreation, Low Scale Educational/Low Scale Entertainment Uses Precinct</p>  <p>Amend corresponding references in the text to the Local plan to reflect the name change.</p> <p>Amend 7.2.3.3 (15) Purpose of Precinct 5 of the Port Douglas / Craiglie Local Plan as follows:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> residential accommodation development does not exceed a maximum of 8.5 metres in building height; minimum lot sizes exceed 2 hectares; <u>very low scale and intensity recreation/very low scale and intensity educational/and very low scale and intensity entertainment uses may be appropriate for the land. However, permanent structures are not appropriate in areas of the precinct subject to erosion and other flooding constraints.</u>

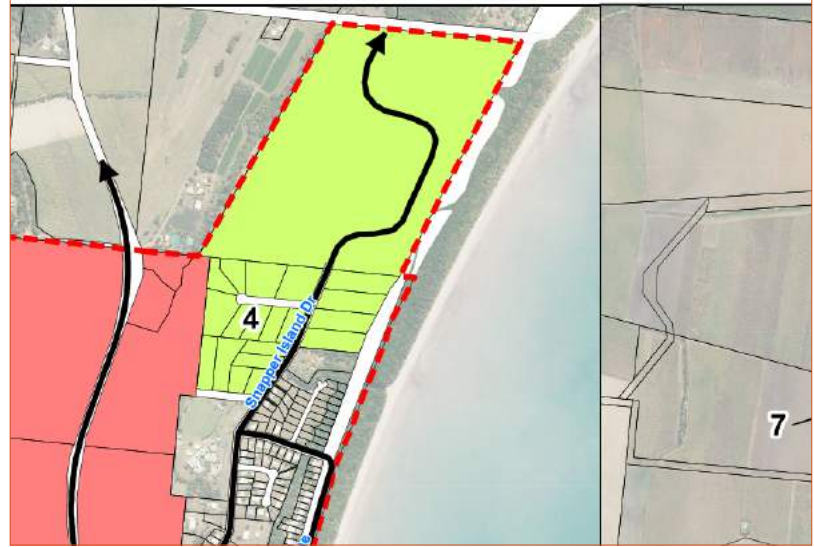
No.	Property/Location	Grounds	Part Number	Planning commentary	Action
		<p>c. revert the zoning of the land to an Urban zone. The submitter believes the proposed Rural Zone (L1-6 and L87) and the proposed Conservation Zone (L90) will lead to detrimental impact on land use opportunities and value of the site.</p> <p>d. allow 'dwelling house' to be self-assessable development particularly where on land not impacted by erosion prone area mapping. The Coastal processes and Flood and Storm Tide Inundation Overlays convert 'dwelling houses' to code assessable development, even in Residential zones.</p> <p>e. Ensure development codes do not contain overly restrictive requirements.</p>		<p>c. Those parts of the land affected by Erosion Prone and Coastal Management Areas and broadly affected by storm tide flooding are not appropriate for an urban zoning. It is, however, agreed that the current farming undertaken on Lot 90 may be hindered by the proposed Conservation Zone on those parts of the land. A Rural Zone is therefore more appropriate.</p>  <p>d. The Coastal Zone sub-category is extremely broad and covers land well distant from the foreshore including many residential zones. Raising the level assessment across such a broad area adds no value to the planning process and will trigger many simple applications for dwelling houses as a planning application.</p> <p>e. No overly restrictive requirements are nominated in the submission. Applications for development are assessed on their merits.</p>	<p>c. Amend those parts of Lot 90 that are actively used for sugar cultivation to be included within the Rural Zone.</p>  <p>d. Amend the Coastal Processes Overlay to remove the Coastal Zone sub-category from the application of the code and the mapping.</p> <p>e. No change.</p>
116	L10 SP121808 Captain Cook Highway, Oak Beach	<p>The submitter requests that the Rural Zone be amended to the Rural Residential Zone for the following reasons:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The productive area on the land, at approximately 40 hectares, is not viable for sugar cane production; ○ The land is isolated and distant to the Mossman Mill ○ The land is surrounded by non-rural uses; ○ The visual amenity of the area would be improved with Rural Residential use; ○ The environment would be improved, particularly run-off into the Great Barrier Reef 	Schedule 2	<p>There is very little evidence-based material contained within the submission that would justify conversion of this land from a rural land use (sugar cane cultivation) to rural residential purposes.</p> <p>Clearly the land is cultivating healthy sugar. The allotment, while being isolated from other sugar production areas, is not the most distant to the Mossman Mill. Further, the scenic amenity study commissioned for the planning scheme places high scenic amenity values on the combination of sugar fields and sweeping views to the mountainous ranges as a backdrop. This land serves this function at Oak Beach and the visual amenity would arguably be reduced if converted to Rural Residential lots. There is no evidence that a Rural Residential development would be better for the Great Barrier Reef. There is more than adequate supply of Rural Residential lifestyle lots in Douglas Shire and there is not a very obvious decline in the sugar industry that would justify rezoning to a Rural Residential Zone. As an alternative to sugar cultivation, the land could be used for other agricultural purposes. For example, a substantial portion of the nearby Thala Beach Resort is devoted to a Coconut Plantation.</p>	No change.

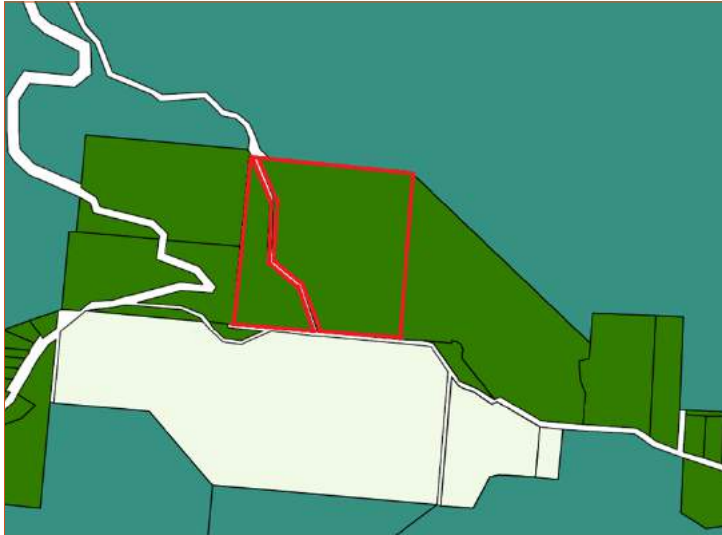
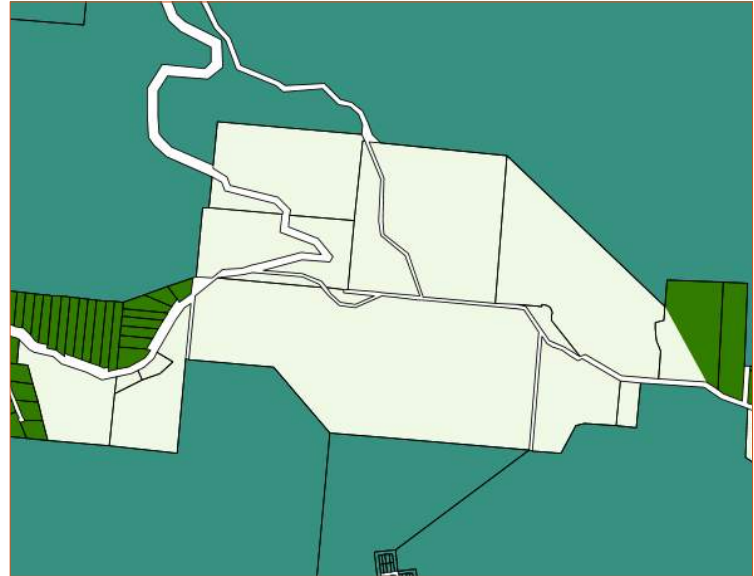
No.	Property/Location	Grounds	Part Number	Planning commentary	Action
		<p>with a Rural Residential use;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Lack of Rural Residential lots in the Shire leading to lack of housing diversity, ○ Very obvious decline in the sugar industry. 		<p>Further, the land is not part of the Rural Living Area under the Far North Queensland Regional Plan 2009-2031.</p> 	
119	L401-405 C2251 Davidson, Downing and Dickson Roads, Port Douglas	The submitter objects to the allotments being included in the Medium Density Residential Zone as they are the only Medium Density Residential Zone in what is otherwise a Low Density Zoned Area.	Schedule 2	The land is currently part of the Residential 2 planning area. The provisions that currently apply to the land under the current planning scheme have been carried directly across to the proposed planning scheme in the form of the Medium density residential zone. The land is separate from adjoining areas, being surrounded by road reserve on all sides and the allotments are of sufficient size to adequately contain a medium density development.	No change
121	n/a	This submission cross-references Douglas Shire Council's Climate Change submission to the Department of Environment and Heritage Protection.	Part 3	The content of the submission is consistent with the thrust of the planning scheme to the extent that the planning scheme is capable of being influential with respect to climate change policy.	No change is necessary.
129, 133, 137-195, 129, 220-222, 339-350, 352-370, 383-384, 392a, 399, 403, 405, 419, 424	Lots fronting Murphy Street that back onto the commercial area in Macrossan Street, Port Douglas.	<p>The submitters request the land be included within the Low-medium density residential zone on the basis that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The strip of land is the only strip north of the intersection of Port Douglas Road and Old Port Road included within the Low density residential zone; ○ Land has been included elsewhere in Port Douglas to reflect the typical form of, and the amenity expectations, of low scale residential development; 	Schedule 2	The introduction of a Low-medium density residential zone to the proposed planning scheme allows the opportunity to consider multi-unit house development at a lower scale than that which is permitted in either the Medium density residential or Tourist accommodation zones. Accordingly there is no objection to amending the zoning along the southern side of Murphy Street to better reflect the form of development that exists along the southern side of the street.	Amend the zoning of land on the southern side of Murphy Street for inclusion in the Low-medium density residential zone.

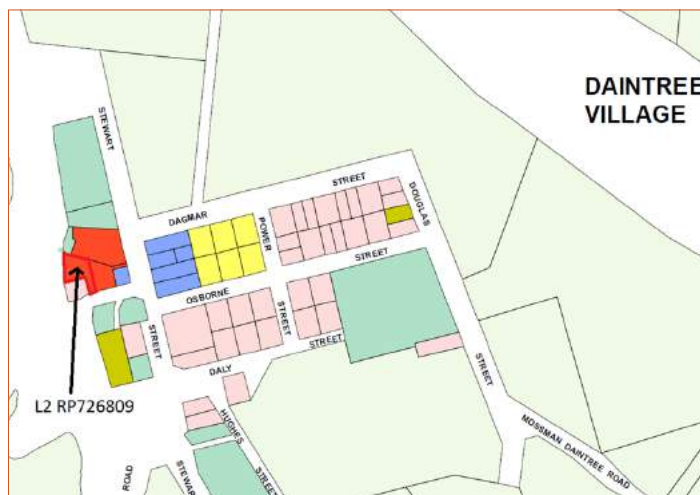

No.	Property/Location	Grounds	Part Number	Planning commentary	Action
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The land is not characterised by development consistent with the Low density residential zone: the majority being developed for tourist accommodation and multiple dwellings. ○ The Low-medium density residential zone provides a greater choice and mix of residential development forms that is a better fit for the location backing onto the commercial areas of Port Douglas. ○ Inclusion in the Low-medium density residential zone provides a good transition from the commercial areas in Macrossan Street across to the low density housing on Flagstaff Hill. ○ Land included on the southern side of Murphy Street is generally not subject to constraints that would preclude inclusion of land in the Low-medium density residential zone. <p>The scale of development, in terms of building bulk, is not likely to be substantially different as compared to that which may be achieved in the Low density residential zone. It is of particular note that the maximum building height in the Low-medium density residential Zone will remain at 8.5 metres and 2 storeys in height. Therefore, building bulk permitted in the Low-medium density residential zone is not expected to have any greater visual impacts that may arise from development in the Low density residential zone.</p>			

No.	Property/Location	Grounds	Part Number	Planning commentary	Action
131	Daintree River – Bloomfield River generally	The submitter requests that properties north of the Daintree River which are provided with electricity supplies from stand-alone remote power systems (RAPS) should be subsidised by the relevant government bodies until such time as a grid is installed.	Part 3	Alternative means of power provision is advocated in the strategic framework. However, Council is not able to commit to energy provision as it is ultimately within the mandate of the State and Federal Government. The provision of rebates / subsidies is beyond the scope of the planning scheme to address.	No change.
134	n/a	The submitter requests that 3 storeys be an Acceptable Outcome in the Residential 1 and Residential 2 zones.	Part 6	The Low density residential zone and the Medium-low density residential zone are intended to have a low-rise character. The building height in these two zones, being kept at 2 storeys, as an acceptable outcome is therefore appropriate. Housing exceeding 2 storeys will need to address the performance outcomes in the code to demonstrate compliance, if it is considered to be an appropriate development proposition within these zones.	No change
135	L16 SP192603	<p>The submitter requests that for L16 SP192603:</p> <p>a. The cleared areas on the site be included within the Tourist Accommodation Zone.</p> <p>b. Provide flexibility in the Tables of Assessment applicable to the land for more Self-assessable and Code assessable development. Include inconsistent uses in the Tables of Assessment.</p> <p>c. Remove Tourist Park (Small Scale) from Rural Activities in the Rural Zone Table of Assessment given the proliferation of Rural zoned lots in the Shire and the impact of existing approved accommodation providers for camping and vans.</p> <p>d. Ensure relevant codes applicable to the site do not contain overly restrictive requirements:</p> <p>i. Amend AO2.1 and AO2.2 within the Relocatable home park and tourist park code to remove density specifications of 120m² for</p>	Part 5, Part 9, Schedule 2,	<p>a. The land is in the Regional Landscape and Rural Production Area in the State Government's Far North Queensland Regional Plan 2009-2031. It is not appropriate to include land in this designation with an urban zoning. This will make the land available for full urban development.</p>  <p>b. No examples are provided of the types of change required to the Table of Assessment to create more flexible land use options for the land (i.e. in the Rural Zone).</p> <p>c. It is not anticipated that there will be an unacceptable proliferation of rural based small scale Tourist Parks following introduction of the scheme (There has been little interest to date).</p> <p>d.</p> <p>i. The density provisions are Acceptable Outcomes that can be varied by Performance Outcomes. The Acceptable Outcomes are carried across from the current planning scheme. These standards may be appropriate for relocatable home parks. No change is recommended to the</p>	<p>a. No change.</p> <p>b. No change.</p> <p>c. No change</p> <p>d.i. No change to AO2.1 or AO2.2. However, amend PO2 within Table 9.3.15.3a of the Relocatable home park and short term accommodation code as follows:</p> <p>PO2 Individual sites provide a range of sizes to accommodate variations in relocatable homes, caravans, annexes and tents with a high level of convenience and privacy for occupants, <u>while also taking into account physical site constraints that may in certain circumstances warrant either more intense or less intense development standards.</u></p>

No.	Property/Location	Grounds	Part Number	Planning commentary	Action
		<p>van sites and 50m² for camping sites is a significant inhibitor to the efficient and effective use of available site area.</p> <p>ii. AO9.1, AO9.2 and AO9.5 provide confirmation of the number of amenities (toilets and showers). Requirements are excessive and are not dealt with when compared to other FNQ local government requirements (examples provided).</p>		<p>Acceptable Outcomes. However, the Performance Outcome should be amended to address the submitter's concern (i.e. physical site constraints).</p> <p>d. ii. As per d.i. above, these standards are Acceptable Outcomes that can be varied by Performance Outcomes. They have been carried across from the current planning scheme.</p>	d.ii. No change.
136	L2 RP724386 and L516 PTD2094, 69-71 Murphy Street, Port Douglas	The submitter supports the inclusion of the land within the Tourist accommodation zone as proposed in the planning scheme.	Schedule 2	Support for the proposed Tourist accommodation zone is noted.	Support noted. No change necessary.
196	Lot 51 SP155078, Snapper Island Drive / Vixies Road, Wonga Beach	The submitter objects to the inclusion of the land in the Rural Zone in the proposed planning scheme given that the land has achieved development approvals for Rural Residential development consisting of 2,000m ² – 4,000m ² lot sizes. The submitter requests that the land be included within the appropriate designations on the Strategic Framework mapping, be included in the Coastal Communities Local Plan and be provided with a zoning that reflects the approval.	Schedule 2	<p>The land has achieved development approvals for subdivision. Stage 1 has achieved operational works approval. It is not likely that the approval will be allowed to lapse and it makes sense to include the land in an appropriate zone now to reflect these approvals, rather than establish small lots with an inappropriate underlying Rural Zone that will facilitate potentially incompatible rural land uses.</p> <p>There is no need to adjust the strategic framework mapping as it does not reflect Rural Residential areas in any case.</p> 	<p>a. Include the land in a Rural Residential Zone.</p> 

No.	Property/Location	Grounds	Part Number	Planning commentary	Action
					<p>b. Include the land in Precinct 4 in the Coastal Communities Local Plan.</p>  <p>c. There is no need to change Strategic Framework mapping.</p>
201	n/a	The submitter writes in support of provision PO7 in Table 6.2.10.3.a in the Rural Zone Code which provides for the reconfiguration of rural zoned land which has been divided by a gazetted road in existence prior to 9 May 2008.	Part 6	No comment is necessary. However, it is proposed to remove this provision (see submission 606 i. for planning commentary)	It is proposed to remove this provision from the code despite the submitter's support for it (see submission 606 i.)
223	n/a	The submitter is interested in acquiring the former basket ball courts at the Mossman Showgrounds for use as part of the local Gymnastic Club.	n/a	The request to acquire land in the Showgrounds is not a planning scheme consideration.	No change.

No.	Property/Location	Grounds	Part Number	Planning commentary	Action
224	L89 BS7 111R Cape Kimberley Road, Kimberley	The submitter requests that land located at L89 BS7 be returned to the Rural Zone from the proposed Environmental Management Zone as the land has been actively farmed since the early 1900s and continues to be used for agricultural purposes.	Schedule 2	<p>A number of larger properties being used for Rural Production purposes were recommended to be converted to the Environmental Management Zone during the period of amalgamation with Cairns. Following de-amalgamation, most of these properties were reconsidered for conversion back to Rural Zone to reflect existing land use activities. However, a couple of areas were missed in this reconversion process (most notably in the Kimberly area and Degarra area, north of the Daintree River). No planning concerns are raised in retaining this land in the Rural Zone.</p> 	<p>Change to the Rural Zone.</p> 
225	n/a	The submitter requests that mains power supply be kept out of areas north of the Daintree River.	Part 3	The submission is consistent with Council's policy statement with respect to energy supply which is contained within Section 3.9.2.1(4) of the Strategic Framework. Alternative means of power provision is advocated in the strategic framework.	No change.
226, 447, 451	n/a	<p>The submitter raises the following concerns:</p> <p>a. The Inconsistent Use Table for the Conservation Zone needs to be amended to remove Health Care Facilities (and make Code Assessable in Precinct 4: Low Impact Community Purpose Precinct) and remove Renewable Energy Facility and Major Electricity Infrastructure (and make Impact Assessable) to be assessed on merits based on advances in technology. (submitters 226, 447 and 451)</p> <p>b. Dwelling house code (and planning scheme generally) should not place a ban on shipping containers because shipping container design is</p>	<p>a. Part 6</p> <p>b. Part 9</p>	<p>a. It is considered reasonable to accept the requested changes on a 'merits' basis as suggested in the submission. It makes sense to make Health Care Facilities, a code assessable use in the Low Impact Community Purpose Precinct.</p> <p>b. It is agreed that shipping containers can be designed to have a high aesthetic standard and it is also accepted that shipping containers offer an alternative form of shelter in extreme cyclonic conditions. The out-right ban that is contained in the Dwelling house Code can be removed, along with associated adjustments elsewhere in the scheme.</p>	<p>a. Remove Health Care Facilities, Renewable Energy Facility and Major Electricity Infrastructure from the Inconsistent Use Table in the Conservation Zone and make Code assessable, Impact Assessable and Impact Assessable in Precinct 4 respectively.</p> <p>b. Remove the out-right ban on shipping containers to enable use as alternative dwelling design and cyclone shelter purposes.</p>

No.	Property/Location	Grounds	Part Number	Planning commentary	Action
		becoming an increasingly viable alternative form of living with an ability to be transformed into pleasing designs, and shipping containers are used as cyclone shelters particularly in more remote areas of the shire, including north of the Daintree River (submitter 226 only)			
227	n/a	The submitter requests a review of the minimum Acceptable Outcome for RV Camping in the Rural Zone being set at 10 hectares. The submission uses acres instead of hectares and suggests that a minimum of 2 acres of cleared land is suitable for per RV vehicle (i.e. 1 per 8093m ²).	Part 9	<p>The proposed measure of 10 hectares is an acceptable outcome for a self-assessable use. This does not preclude an ability to apply via Code Assessment for land that is less than 10 hectares. The planning scheme is not written to provide a sliding scale of land area per van.</p> <p>Douglas Shire has many Rural Zoned lots that are significantly less than 10 hectares in size. 10 hectares was chosen as it was considered that this would provide sufficient room to permit on-going rural land use activity in conjunction with RV accommodation, while permitting adequate setbacks to adjoining properties.</p>	No change.
228	L2 RP726809 8 Stewart Creek Road, Daintree	The submitter request that the land be included in the Residential Zone as it has an approved private residence on the property since 1991. The submitter wants the Commercial planning area removed (Note: Proposed Planning Scheme indicated a Tourist Accommodation Zone).	Schedule 2	<p>There is no particular planning reason why the submitter's request could not be agreed to. The change will effectively be a 'back-zoning'.</p> 	<p>Change the zone from 'Tourist Accommodation' to 'Low Density Residential' Zone.</p> 
229	L7 RP738897 37R Nicole Drive, Cape Tribulation	The submitter is concerned that the increase in setbacks from 10 metres to 20 metres to waterway corridors will severely impact on plans to establish an eco-friendly house on the land due to a number of non-permanent watercourses that affect the property.	Part 8	<p>Part 8.2.8 of the proposed planning scheme is the Natural areas overlay code. The setback to waterway corridors in non-urban areas is increased from 10 to 20 metres in the proposed planning scheme.</p> <p>The 10 metre standard has applied for over a decade in areas such as those north of the Daintree River for dwelling houses. This long standing provision can be adjusted for dwelling houses only, as suggested.</p>	<p>Amend Table 8.2.7.3.b in the Natural areas overlay code as follows:</p> <p>In Other areas,</p> <p><u>For a dwelling house, 10 metres measured perpendicular from the top of the high bank. For all other development, 20 metres measured perpendicular from the top of the high bank.</u></p>

No.	Property/Location	Grounds	Part Number	Planning commentary	Action
238	Various	<p>The submitter raises concerns with:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. proposed Section 1.7.3 Declaration for Amenity and Aesthetics Referral Assessment as it captures all development in seven (7) out of the fourteen (14) proposed zones in the planning scheme raising referral of a large volume of self-assessable developments to Council for assessment. b. Overlay mapping provided for inclusion in the proposed planning scheme by the State is inaccurate and will capture relatively minor building work, thereby unnecessarily elevating levels of assessment. The Bushfire hazard overlay code mapping is cited as an example. c. The assessment tables should be amended so as not to increase the level of assessment of single residential buildings and outbuildings. d. The Overlay Codes are too onerous (requiring max 60m driveway, water tanks to be non-flammable or below ground, requiring hardstand for 15 tonne truck) in the Bushfire hazard overlay code. e. Mapping in the Natural Areas Overlay Code is inaccurate and will raise levels of assessment for simple applications. 	Part 1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. It is agreed that Section 1.7.3 raises a significant volume of self-assessable development for assessment by Council adding unnecessarily to the development process without adding any particular value. Section 1.7.3 is to be removed and the Tables of Assessment will act as the determiner of assessment levels for each development type. b. The proposed Planning Act introduces the concept of an 'Exemption Certificate' (section 46). The purpose of an Exemption Certificate is to deal with the circumstances that the submitter describes (i.e. error in overlay mapping). The Exemption Certificate can be issued by local government where the matter is purely a local government matter, or where all referral agencies have agreed to issue an exemption certificate. There is therefore no need to amend the planning scheme or its mapping to cater for this circumstance as the proposed planning scheme will be introduced after the introduction of the new Planning Act. c. The circumstances applicable in response to b. herein apply to the submitter's concerns. d. The acceptable measure is quite modest. It is agreed that the 60 metres could be increased to 100 metres to avoid a significant volume of low-risk development applications being triggered. In addition, a hard stand should only be triggered by non-residential development to ensure unnecessary and very costly requirements are not imposed on home owners. e. The circumstances applicable in response to b. herein apply to the submitter's concerns. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Section 1.7.3 is to be deleted. b. No change is necessary. c. No change is necessary. d. Increase the length of driveway, as an acceptable outcome in the Bushfire Hazard Code from 60m to 100m, and make the requirement for hard stand area for medium rigid vehicle (15 tonne fire appliance applicable to non-residential development only). e. No change is necessary.

No.	Property/Location	Grounds	Part Number	Planning commentary	Action
		<p>f. Coastal Environment Overlay is too broad across the Shire and will trigger too many unnecessary development applications.</p> <p>g. AO2 of the Low Density Residential Zone duplicates the requirements of the Queensland Development Code with respect to 50% site coverage and should be removed to avoid duplication.</p> <p>h. The Infrastructure Works Codes stipulated water tanks for properties not connected to the reticulated supply of 30,000 litre capacity. The Bushfire Hazard Code stipulates 10,000 litres which is still considered excessive. Either 5,000 or 7,000 litres is a more standard requirement and any excess capacity should be up to the individual home owner.</p> <p>i. Remove setback standards in the Dwelling House Code as they are an unnecessary duplication of the Queensland Development Code.</p>		<p>f. Agreed. The Coastal Zone in the Coastal Environment Overlay covers land well away from the Coast.</p> <p>g. Agreed. There is duplication and the provision in the Code should be removed.</p> <p>h. A review of the Tablelands Regional Council Bushfire Hazard Code reveals that 10,000 litre water storage capacity is required for fire fighting purposes and this can be split between tanks, accessible swimming pools, dams etc.</p> <p>i. Agreed. There is duplication and the provision in the Code should be removed.</p>	<p>f. The Coastal Zone in the Coastal Environment Overlay is to be removed from the Mapping in Schedule 2.</p> <p>g. Remove PO2 and AO2 from the Low Density Residential Zone Code.</p> <p>h. Amend both the Infrastructure Works Code and the Bushfire hazard Code to be consistent and adopt consistent provisions that replicate those used within the Tablelands Regional Council Planning Scheme.</p> <p>i. Remove AO3.2 from the Dwelling House Code.</p>
239	Various	<p>The submitter raises a variety of issues in relation to the scheme including:</p> <p>a. Council is requested to provide mapping for the Scheme in an online platform, enabling simple property reports to be generated for improved clarity and usability on finalisation of the Scheme.</p> <p>b. Council is requested to provide greater clarity with strategic framework designations affecting different sites either through online mapping or provision</p>	The Whole of the Scheme	<p>a. The final mapping will be available on-line in a format that meets the resources available to a small Council. At this point in time, an on-line platform is envisaged.</p> <p>b. The Strategic Framework maps overall general planning intent for the Shire. They are not intended to be interpreted on a lot by lot basis and to do so is an incorrect interpretation of how to read strategic framework mapping.</p>	<p>a. At this stage an on-line platform is envisaged upon commencement of the planning scheme.</p> <p>b. No change.</p>

No.	Property/Location	Grounds	Part Number	Planning commentary	Action
		<p>of property based number of PDF maps.</p> <p>c. The Mossman Industry Investigation Area as mapped is included within an Industry Zone on the relevant Zoning maps, where as the Residential Investigation Areas are not. Council is requested to include the Residential Investigation Areas in a Residential Zone or similar.</p> <p>d. An issue is raised with the development of a Planning Scheme Policy on Local Environmental offsets as a Land Use Strategy in the Strategic Framework. There is concern that this may be a duplication of National and State Offset Policies.</p> <p>e. Clarification on the strategic intent for erosion prone areas that are already developed as urban zoned land is sought.</p> <p>f. The Strategic Framework confirms an intent for “older off-premises advertising devices” that are dilapidated are removed rather than replaced. Council is requested to clarify this statement, particularly insofar as it may be taken to impact on existing lawful use rights permitting continued use and maintenance of such devices.</p> <p>g. Section 3.6.4.1(2) requires extractive industry to be undertaken in a manner that does not detrimentally impact on community well-being or the Shire’s ecological, landscape, scenic amenity and rural production values.</p>		<p>c. The Mossman Industry Investigation Area is already included within the Industry Zone under the current scheme. The purpose of using the Industrial Investigation Area is to ensure that comprehensive studies are undertaken to ensure appropriate outcomes for this area, rather than piecemeal ad-hoc subdivisions. There is no relationship with the other Residential Investigation Areas in this instance and it was never the intention to back-zone the Mossman Industrial Investigation Area as part of preparing the new scheme.</p> <p>d. Mapping of Matters of Local Environmental Significance is required prior to any policy being put in place by Council. Being a Local Policy, the offsets would need to apply to matters of Local Environmental Significance to avoid the duplication between the Commonwealth and the State. This is detail that can be managed through future work.</p> <p>e. Council is currently developing a Coastal Hazard Adaption Strategy. The findings of this Strategy will inform future planning scheme amendments with regard to strategies in various parts of the Shire.</p> <p>f. Nothing in the statement in the Strategic Framework suggests that signs cannot be maintained. However, off-premises signs that have not been maintained and are in a state of dilapidation are removed as a policy of Council, rather than being replaced.</p> <p>g. Section 3.6.4.1.(2) is a strategic statement of intent and it is considered appropriate for a shire like Douglas that seeks to preserve its highly valued amenity to ensure that extractive industries do not impact on community well-being or the Shire’s ecological, landscape, scenic amenity and rural production values.</p>	<p>c. No change.</p> <p>d. No change.</p> <p>e. No change.</p> <p>f. No change.</p> <p>g. No change.</p>

No.	Property/Location	Grounds	Part Number	Planning commentary	Action
		<p>Council is requested to delete this section or amend the section to reference more specifically shire-wide elements to be considered.</p> <p>h. Council is requested to provide for cropping as exempt development in the Rural Zone to reduce or remove potential regulatory burdens on agricultural producers in the Shire. Overlays may elevate levels of assessment to Code.</p> <p>i. Council is requested to include "Impact Inconsistent" development on the relevant Table of Assessment rather than including these in the relevant Zone Code.</p> <p>j. Council is requested to permit "Retirement Facility to occur as Code Assessment in the Community Facilities Zone.</p> <p>k. Alter Tables of Assessment for the Residential Zones, the Rural Zone to remove the requirement for Code Assessment for Dwelling Houses where a site is affected by Coastal Processes, Natural Areas or Flooding and Storm Tide Inundation Overlays. Self assessment with appropriate codes is considered more appropriate.</p> <p>l. Remove reference to all land use codes in the Tables of Assessment for improved useability (less complexity). Council is requested to instead reference "land use code" or similar, directing Scheme users to the land use code section in the scheme.</p>		<p>h. It is not appropriate to reduce the level of assessment for cropping to exempt in the Rural Zone. The use is self-assessable when in conformity with the self assessable provisions of the code. A blanket exemption could lead to widespread and inappropriate land clearing. There is no change of use within the Rural Activities category when grazing changes to cropping and vice versa.</p> <p>The proposed Planning Act introduces the concept of an 'Exemption Certificate' (section 46). The purpose of an Exemption Certificate is to deal with the circumstances that the submitter describes (i.e. error in overlay mapping). The Exemption Certificate can be issued by local government where the matter is purely a local government matter, or where all referral agencies have agreed to issue an exemption certificate.</p> <p>i. Impact Inconsistent Uses are included in the Table of Zones. The Tables of Zones are already sizeable and therefore greater clarity is provided by including in lists of Inconsistent uses in each Zone Code.</p> <p>j. There is no planning objection to including Retirement Facility as Code assessable development in the Community Facilities Zone.</p> <p>K. It is agreed that the inclusion of Code Assessment for all Dwelling Houses in all of these Zones would add an unnecessary regulatory requirement across a wide area of the Shire which would be unnecessary where dwelling houses are compliant with the Code.</p> <p>l. It is a requirement under QPP to identify all the applicable Codes in Part 5 of the Planning Scheme. Nonetheless only the codes that are applicable to each zone are identified in the Table which makes the Tables very easy to interpret.</p>	<p>h. No change.</p> <p>i. No change.</p> <p>j. Include Retirement facility as a Code Assessable development in the Table of Assessment for the Community Facilities Zone.</p> <p>k. Remove the mandatory requirement for Dwelling Houses to be Code Assessable where affected by the Coastal Processes, Natural Areas or Flooding and Storm Tide Inundation Overlays in the Residential and Rural Zones.</p> <p>l. No change.</p>

No.	Property/Location	Grounds	Part Number	Planning commentary	Action
		<p>m. Amend all Tables of Assessment to permit 'Building Work' in residential/urban zones to occur as 'exempt' development where not associated with a material change of use. This will remove any unintended consequences or requirement for application for minor building work on appropriately zoned sites, already regulated by the Building Act or the Queensland Development Code.</p> <p>n. Council is requested to remove 'Winery' from the list of inconsistent uses in the Industry Zone.</p> <p>o. Council is requested to remove/amend the statement at AO3 in the Rural Zone Code and AO4 in the Rural Residential Zone Code which states 'White and shining metallic finishes are avoided on external surfaces of buildings to permit the use of roofing material (including corrugated iron and the like).</p> <p>p. Within the Rural Residential Zone Code, AO3.1 and AO3.2 provide limits for the maximum building footprint (including out buildings) on lots in that zone. Council is requested to reconsider these requirements, or rather, maintain a maximum site coverage as % limit, given the range of lot sizes in the zone.</p>		<p>m. Minor Building Work is defined in the Queensland Planning Provisions and is a mandatory definition in the planning scheme. Providing Building Work as Exempt Development is too extreme an approach.</p> <p>n. There is no planning objection to the idea of removing 'Winery' from the list of Inconsistent Uses in the Industry Zone.</p> <p>o. The provision is 'an avoidance': not a prohibition. Farm sheds can still be built in corrugated iron provided it is not white and capable of casting eye-catching specular rays. There is nothing unusual about this planning scheme provision either in Douglas Shire or other planning schemes elsewhere in the State.</p> <p>p. The limitation to a maximum footprint is a provision that exists in the current 2006 planning scheme. It has operated within the scheme for the past 10 years without presenting any undue difficulties. The use of a % limit according to lot size, is even more problematic, given that many small lots exist in the Rural Residential Zone.</p>	<p>m. No change.</p> <p>n. Remove Winery from the Table of Inconsistent Uses in the Industry Zone (Table 6.2.5.3.b).</p> <p>o. No change.</p> <p>p. No change.</p>

No.	Property/Location	Grounds	Part Number	Planning commentary	Action
		<p>q. Council is requested to consider more extensive use of Local Plans to lower levels of assessment and/or regulatory requirements for appropriate development within various Local Plan areas.</p> <p>r. Various amendments to Overlays have been requested including mapping and self-assessable provisions.</p> <p>s. Remove the Dwelling House Character Overlay and Associated Code from the scheme. It is not clear what the purpose of the Code is and other elements are covered elsewhere in the scheme (heights and setbacks etc...)</p> <p>t. The Flood and storm tide hazard overlay does not contain any self-assessable provisions. This will trigger unnecessary code assessable development applications for all land affected by the overlay.</p> <p>u. The Hillslopes Overlay Code AO2.7 and AO2.8 appear to contain two similar requirements. Deletion of AO2.8(a) may be appropriate.</p> <p>v. The Landscape values overlay code does not have any self assessable provisions and therefore should not apply to self-assessable development in the Tables of Assessment.</p>		<p>q. Any variation in the levels of assessment facilitated via a Local Plan has been selected at an appropriate level according to each local plan. The philosophy of lowering levels of assessment to the lowest they can be (Cairns Regional Council's approach) is not appropriate for a small Shire like Douglas Shire where it is very important to maintain those aspects that make the Shire a special place.</p> <p>r. Issues associated with the Overlays are discussed at 238b. and f. herein.</p> <p>s. The original intention of the Dwelling House Overlay Code was to ensure that provisions relating to heights and setbacks are recognised in the Residential Zones. Presently, Schedule 4 of the <i>Sustainable Planning Regulation 2009</i> identifies 'Development that can not be declared development of a particular type, Act section 232(2)' and there was concern that this provision would enable development for dwelling houses to avoid the self-assessable provisions of the planning scheme in the absence of an overlay within the scheme. Careful review of Schedule 4 reveals that original interpretation of this provision is incorrect. The provision is intended to prevent planning schemes from making houses in residential zones either code or impact assessable development when there was no reason to do so (i.e. because of an Overlay issue). The Dwelling House Overlay Code should be removed as it will trigger many unnecessary development applications to Council which are currently regulated via Council role as a Concurrence Agency, when necessary.</p> <p>t. It is agreed that the Flood and storm tide hazard overlay requires self-assessable provisions to ensure that necessary development applications are triggered.</p> <p>u. It is agreed that AO2.8(a) is a duplication (refers to use of colours).</p> <p>v. It is agreed that the Landscape values overlay code does not have any self assessable provisions and therefore should not apply to self-assessable development in the Tables of Assessment.</p>	<p>q. No change.</p> <p>r. The recommendations contained in the response at 238 herein, apply.</p> <p>s. Remove the Residential Character Overlay Mapping and its associated code from Part 5 Tables of Assessment, Part 8 Overlay Codes and Schedule 2 Mapping.</p> <p>t. Add self assessable code provisions to the Flood and storm tide hazard overlay code as follows:</p> <p><u>PO1</u> <u>Development is located and designed to:</u> (a) <u>ensure the safety of all persons;</u> (b) <u>minimise damage to the development and contents of buildings;</u> (c) <u>provide suitable amenity;</u> (d) <u>minimise disruption to residents, recovery time, and rebuilding or restoration costs after inundation events.</u></p> <p><u>AO1.1</u> <u>Development is sited on parts of the land that is not within the Defined inundation event area as shown on the Flood and Storm tide hazards overlay maps contained in Schedule 2;</u></p> <p><u>or</u></p> <p><u>AO1.2</u> <u>Development is designed to provide immunity to the Defined Inundation Event as outlined within Table 8.2.4.3.b plus a freeboard of 300mm.</u></p> <p>u. Delete the following from AO2.8 in the Hillslopes Overlay Code:</p> <p>(a) do not result in the use of a single colour on large surface areas or broad expanses;</p> <p>v. Amend the Tables of Assessment to ensure that the Landscape values overlay code does not apply to self-assessable development.</p>



No.	Property/Location	Grounds	Part Number	Planning commentary	Action
		<p>w. The Natural areas overlay code does not have any self assessable provisions and therefore should not apply to self-assessable development in the Tables of Assessment.</p> <p>x. Amend the Natural Areas Overlay Code to provide a simple process for ground-truthing mapping accuracy as a consultative process between Council and landowners.</p> <p>y. Amend the buffer distances in the Natural Areas Overlay Code (AO3.1) as in certain instances application of these buffer distances would render existing or alternative reuse of sites (including rural sites) impossible.</p> <p>z. Caretaker's Accommodation Code:</p> <p>i. Increase AO1 GFA limit to 180m² or 200m²;</p> <p>ii. In AO4 remove the requirement that the Caretaker's Accommodation and the primary dwelling are within 100m of each other.</p> <p>aa. The Child Care Centre Code refers to 'no access to a local road'. There are no 'local roads' on the Transport Network Overlay Maps.</p>		<p>w. It is agreed that the Natural areas overlay code does not have any self assessable provisions and therefore should not apply to self-assessable development in the Tables of Assessment.</p> <p>x. The proposed Planning Act introduces the concept of an 'Exemption Certificate' (section 46). The purpose of an Exemption Certificate is to deal with the circumstances that the submitter describes (i.e. error in overlay mapping). The Exemption Certificate can be issued by local government where the matter is purely a local government matter, or where all referral agencies have agreed to issue an exemption certificate. There is therefore no need to amend the planning scheme or its mapping to cater for this circumstance as the proposed planning scheme will be introduced after the introduction of the new Planning Act.</p> <p>y. The buffer distance at AO3.1 for wetlands is 200m. It is agreed that this distance is potentially a significant impediment. Review of other Far North Queensland Planning Schemes reveals that 100m is a common standard.</p> <p>z. i. The provision (GFA 120m²) is only an Acceptable Outcome for self-assessable development. If larger caretaker's accommodation is proposed a Code Assessable application will be triggered and assessed on its merits. It is not intended that Caretaker's Accommodation take on the characteristics of a dwelling house. This has caused planning problems in the past.</p> <p>z. ii. It is agreed that 100m limitation on the distance between the Caretaker's accommodation and the primary dwelling is arbitrary and may not result in appropriate site outcomes, and/or capacity to improve security on larger sites by placement of the main dwelling and Caretaker's accommodation in different locations. However, there have been circumstances where Caretaker's accommodation has been placed so far away from the primary dwelling that it no longer serves the purpose of a caretaking function. An increase from 100m to 500m is therefore recommended.</p> <p>aa. It is agreed that 'Local Road' should be 'Access Road' in AO2 of the Child Care Centre Code.</p>	<p>w. Amend the Tables of Assessment to ensure that the Natural areas overlay code does not apply to self-assessable development.</p> <p>x. No change.</p> <p>y. Amend AO3.1 buffers distances to wetlands located outside Urban Areas in the Natural Areas Overlay Code from 200m to 100m.</p> <p>z. i. No change.</p> <p>ii. Amend the distance in the Acceptable Outcome (AO4) in the Caretaker's Accommodation Code from 100m to 500m.</p> <p>aa. Amend AO2 in the Child Care Centre Code to refer to 'Access Road' rather than 'Local Road'.</p>



No.	Property/Location	Grounds	Part Number	Planning commentary	Action
		<p>bb. AO1 of the Dual Occupancy Code requires sites to be a minimum of 1000m². Council is requested to remove this requirement and instead provide for Dual Occupancy on sites of appropriate size and / or design to ensure that residents are provided with high levels of amenity and functionality.</p> <p>cc. AO12.1 in the Dual Occupancy Code incorporates a note requiring work on dilapidated houses if a dual occupancy is proposed. Council is requested to reconsider or clarify this requirement which may result in subjective analysis and inconsistent outcomes.</p> <p>dd. AO1 in the Dwelling House Code limits a secondary dwelling to 80m² in size. While this requirement may be appropriate in urban areas, in the Rural Zone larger secondary dwellings are reasonable, and could assist in providing broader family or generational use of larger Rural lots. Council is requested to permit 200m² for secondary dwelling in the Rural Zone and to remove the requirement that both the primary and the secondary dwelling conform to the definition of household.</p>		<p>bb. The 1000m² Acceptable Outcome is a Douglas Shire standard that relates to providing adequate landscaping space for dual occupancy developments and to ensure that dual occupancy development fits into the streetscape character, rather than an amenity / functionality standard for future dual occupancy residents.</p> <p>cc. The note in the Dual Occupancy Code is very clear. Where an additional dwelling is proposed on a site that already contains an older dwelling, then the development must have regard to the exiting dwelling, its appearance and functionality. The intention here is to prevent new dwellings being squeezed into sites inappropriately and to upgrade the existing dwelling where the existing dwelling is not in a fit condition to take on the role as a new dual occupancy dwelling unit.</p> <p>dd. The purpose of the secondary dwelling code is to facilitate relative's accommodation. It is not intended to facilitate general densification everywhere (including the Rural Zone). As Acceptable Outcomes, the provisions are considered reasonable.</p>	<p>bb. No change.</p> <p>cc. No change.</p> <p>dd. No change.</p>

No.	Property/Location	Grounds	Part Number	Planning commentary	Action
		<p>ee. The Relocatable Home Park and Tourist Park Code contains a number of requirements related to sizes of sites, setbacks, and facilities for patrons and the like. Council is requested to consider removal of these requirements, permitting site based assessment to be undertaken.</p> <p>ff. The Rural Activities Code provides at AO3 for maximum roofed areas for all rural related buildings and structures to not exceed 2000m². Council is requested to remove this requirement, which may be perceived as discouraging or limiting opportunities for appropriate rural land uses involving greenhouses or shade structures, including intensive horticulture.</p> <p>gg. AO10.4 of the Rural Activities Code applicable to Roadside Stalls requires car parking and access to be sealed. Council is requested to reconsider or remove this requirement or alternatively permit management of potential nuisances by installation of a more efficient gravel finish.</p> <p>hh. The Environmental Performance Code is nominated as applicable to a range of self assessable development, but does not have any self-assessable provisions. Council is requested to remove the Code from its application to self assessable development.</p>		<p>ee. There is nothing wrong with setting out some basic minimum standards for the development of caravan parks, rather than leaving everything to site based assessments. Not all caravan parks are operated with the best of intentions in terms of accommodation. The basic standards are Acceptable Outcomes. Site based alternative solutions are Performance Outcomes.</p> <p>ff. The 2000m² limit is an acceptable solution and is intended to provide some control over the scale of buildings and structures in the Rural Zone in terms of scenic amenity. Larger structures are possible via Code Assessable development applications, which will then be assessed on their merits.</p> <p>gg. The request to remove the requirement to seal car parking and access to roadside stalls is reasonable in a Rural context. AO10.4 of the Rural Activities Code can be amended as suggested.</p> <p>hh. The Environmental Performance Code contains self-assessable provisions for every single requirement in the Acceptable Outcomes column. It is agreed that the Acceptable Outcomes within this Code are more than 'tick and flick' provisions. However it is important that they apply as they manage the source of many environmental nuisances.</p>	<p>ee. No change.</p> <p>ff. No change.</p> <p>gg. Amend A10.4 of the Rural activities code as follows: "Car parking, access and manoeuvring areas are sealed <u>and/or otherwise surfaced with suitably draining gravel</u>, to minimise nuisances associated with dust or mud."</p> <p>hh. No change.</p>


No.	Property/Location	Grounds	Part Number	Planning commentary	Action
		<p>ii. Self assessable limits in the Filling and Excavation Code may be considered to affect the undertaking of appropriate Rural activities within the Rural zone. Council is request to remove the application of the code from Rural Activities (given earthworks undertaken in association with seasonal activities and potential crop rotation or similar activities on larger parcels).</p> <p>jj. The Infrastructure Works Code applies to self assessable development. A number of these requirements, including footpaths (AO1.1), separation between residential crossovers and street trees (AO2.3) and connection to urban stormwater system may result in appropriate development being lifted to “code assessment” on sites outside the urban footprint, or within older areas of Mosman and Port Douglas. Council is request to remove such requirements from application to self assessable development and/or revise the requirements to provide for alternative arrangements in older or rural areas.</p>		<p>ii. Bona-fide rural activities accommodate usual, seasonal activities such as soil conditioning, tilling, topsoiling etc. as a self assessable use. However, removing applicability in the Rural Zone would permit broad-scale filling of Rural land which may consist of inappropriate materials. Council has recently received enquiries for the filling of rural zoned sites of this nature which are beyond usual and customary rural activities.</p> <p>jj. It is agreed that the Infrastructure Works Code requirements should not apply to all self assessable development. The Tables of Assessment will be reviewed to remove this requirement. In addition AO2.3 relating to Residential Crossover requirements and distances to street trees is impractical (3 metres) and will trigger Code Assessable applications.</p>	<p>ii. No change.</p> <p>jj. The Tables of Assessment are to be reviewed to remove appropriate self assessable development from assessment against the Infrastructure Works Code. Residential Cross-Over provisions (PO2 and associated AOs are to be deleted).</p>

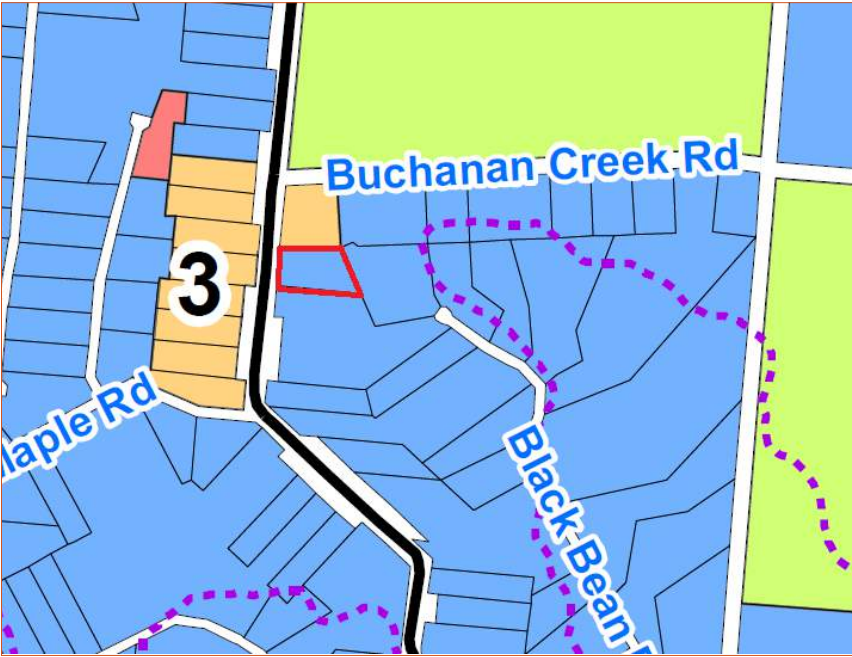

No.	Property/Location	Grounds	Part Number	Planning commentary	Action
		<p>kk. The Reconfiguration of a Lot Code (PO8) requires preparation of a Structure Plan including development in an Urban zoned area. Council is requested to reconsider these requirements, noting that 'structure planning' is generally undertaken in association with preparation of proposal plans, rather than a separate step in the development process.</p> <p>ll. Within the Vegetation Management Code AO1.6 references 'permit for removal of vegetation granted under a local law'. It understood that damage to vegetation is unable to be regulated by a local law.</p> <p>mm. The Vegetation management Code seems to remove a number of clearing options not requiring approval pursuant to that Code. Council is requested to reconsider and ensure that appropriate management and maintenance activities involving vegetation, even in urban zones, are not unintentionally captured for assessment.</p>		<p>kk. There is a need to provide integration between adjoining developments in preparing subdivision proposals. The purpose of a structure plan is to ensure that neighbourhood design, block and lot layout, street network and location and provision of open space recognises previous planning for the area and its surroundings and integrates appropriately.</p> <p>ll. It is agreed that the reference to permits obtained under local law should not be included within a planning scheme code, as it establishes an alternative approval process to the <i>Sustainable Planning Act 2009</i>, which is not lawful.</p> <p>mm. It is agreed that the Vegetation Management Code removes a number of clearing options not requiring approval pursuant to that Code. The current code as drafted is far too liberal in its approach to self-assessable vegetation 'management' and has resulted in unintended outcomes in practice.</p>	<p>kk. No change.</p> <p>ll. Remove reference to the Local Law from AO1.5 of the Vegetation Management Code.</p> <p>mm.No change.</p>



No.	Property/Location	Grounds	Part Number	Planning commentary	Action
240	L194 RP747071	<p>The submitter requests that the land be included in the Tourism Zone, instead of the Recreation and Open Space Zone to better reflect the Wildlife Habitat tourism activities on the land. The land is recognised in the Strategic Framework mapping as a Tourism node and the development on the land better fits the Tourism Zone. Consequentially, it has been suggested that a minor amendment to the Tourism Zone Code to protect nearby residential amenity would be appropriate [Overall Outcome 6.2.13(3) (g)] and the ‘Animal Keeping’ be removed from the Inconsistent Use Table in the Tourism Zone Code to permit the keeping of animals (i.e. a zoo).</p>	Schedule 2, Part 6	<p>It is agreed that the current Wildlife Habitat operates as a Tourism attraction and that the land is not characterised by open space or recreational land. The change to the zone to Tourism Zone is supported, along with the consequential changes to protect nearby residential amenity and to recognise animal keeping as part of a tourism land use activity.</p> 	<p>Change the Recreation and Open Space Zone to the Tourism Zone</p>  <p>Amend Overall Outcome 6.2.13.2 (3) (g) as follows:</p> <p>(g) Development minimises impacts such as traffic, noise, dust, odour and lighting particularly on residential areas.</p> <p>Delete ‘Animal Keeping’ from the Table 6.2.13.3.b Inconsistent uses within the Tourism zone.</p>

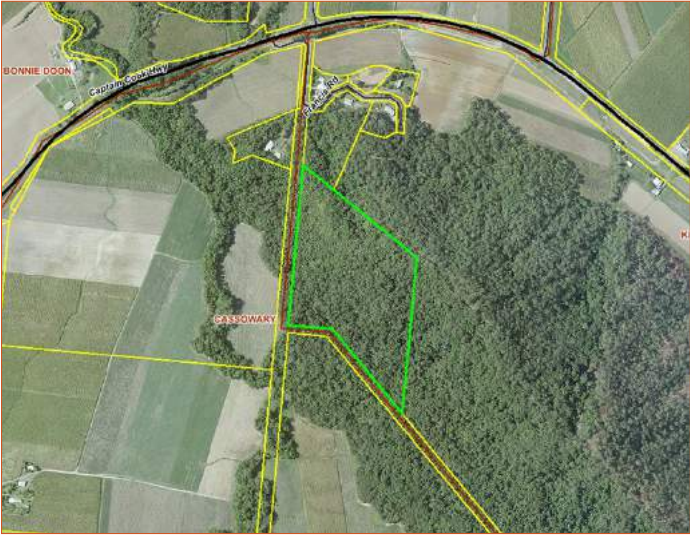
No.	Property/Location	Grounds	Part Number	Planning commentary	Action
373	L4 & L5 RP738897	<p>The submitter requests that land at L5 RP738897 be included with Precinct 5 – Low Impact Rural Production and Tourism Enterprise Precinct within the Settlement Areas North of the Daintree River Local Plan to better align with the current land use of rural production and nature based tourism activities collectively conducted on Lot 5 (and adjoining Lot 4).</p> <p>A consequential amendment is requested to make Nature based tourism a Code assessable land use activity in within Precinct 5, where on land greater than 8 hectares. However, no particular reason is provided in support of this particular change.</p>	Schedule 2, Part 5	<p>The proposed amendment is supported to recognise the existing operations conducted on the land and to permit the on-going operation of these uses.</p> <p>Nature based tourism is already a Code Assessable use in Precinct 5 of the Local Plan. It is not clear why an additional restriction is suggested to be applied (i.e. the 8 hectare minimum lot size). No change is recommended with respect to this suggestion.</p>  <p>No change to the Table of Assessment.</p>	<p>Change Precinct 2 – Low Impact Residential Precinct to Precinct 5 – Low Impact Rural Production and Tourism Enterprise Precinct.</p> 
375	Various	<p>The submitter has a series of issues relating to Industry land use activity promoted within the proposed scheme, including the following concerns:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Review the planning scheme to ensure it appropriately reflects State Planning Policy: Development and Construction and Emissions and Hazardous Activities. Adopt a High Impact Industry Zone. Maintain code assessable provisions for High Impact Industry in an Industry zone. Introduce an Industrial Amenity Overlay to protect key industrial land. 		<ol style="list-style-type: none"> The planning scheme has undergone State Review, including examination of the SPP. A High Impact Industry Zone cannot be adopted without introducing a Medium Impact Industry Zone and a Low Impact Industry Zone. Douglas Shire does not have the complexity within its Industry areas to warrant three separate zones. In line with Douglas Shire's character, Douglas is not seen as a High Impact Industry area. Part of the problem in the older parts of the Shire (i.e. Mossman) is that housing exists close to Industry areas. The establishment of High Industry land use activity should be subject to careful consideration in Douglas Shire due to proximity of residential development to many industry areas in the Shire. Little utility is seen in introducing an additional reverse amenity overlay to the Douglas Shire Planning Scheme given the smaller scale nature of the Shire's Industrial areas. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> No change. No change. No change. No change.


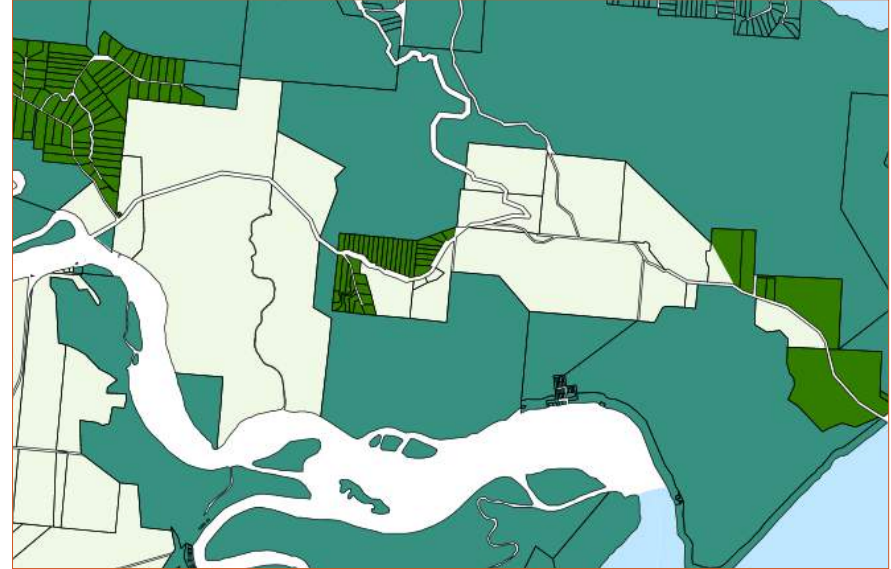
No.	Property/Location	Grounds	Part Number	Planning commentary	Action
		<p>e. Apply impact assessment provisions to sensitive and incompatible land use activities within buffer or separation distances.</p> <p>f. Amend the Level of Assessment Table for the Industry Zone to include High Impact Industry (where a temporary use) as exempt development. The example provided is 'Mobile and Temporary crushing, screening, concrete batching and asphalt manufacturing'.</p> <p>g. Building height / structure heights should permit greater than 8.5 metres in height in the Mossman Local Plan Code.</p> <p>h. The draft planning scheme has inappropriately located the Boral site within the Mossman South Industry Precinct under the Mossman Local Plan which is intended to support service and low impact industry uses only.</p>		<p>e. See d. above.</p> <p>f. It is not good planning practice to allow High Impact Industry as exempt development, even if it is only temporary. Temporary is too difficult to clearly define in an industrial context.</p> <p>g. It is agreed that the Mossman Local Plan Code produces an anomaly between the heights of buildings permitted in the industry zone and the heights of buildings stipulated in the code (10m and 8.5m respectively). Heights are better prescribed in each zone rather than in the Local Plan code. Ten metres is an acceptable outcome in the code. It does not preclude higher buildings on structures on a merits consideration basis.</p> <p>h. Due to the Mossman Industry South Precinct proximity to sensitive land uses, it is appropriate that, in the exact words from the scheme that "low impact industry uses are the predominant form of industry within the Mossman South industry precinct". It does not say 'only'. These provisions exist in the current planning scheme and the Boral site, within this particular estate, is an existing use.</p>	<p>e. No change.</p> <p>f. No change.</p> <p>g. The height anomaly in the Mossman Local Plan Code should be removed by amending AO1 in the Table 7.2.3.4.a of the Mossman Local Plan Code as follows: 'Buildings and structures are not more than 8.5 metres in height, <u>except where included in the Industry zone where buildings and structures are not more than 10 metres in height.</u>'</p> <p>h. No change.</p>
377	L9 SR693	<p>The submitters request that the land at the end of Camelot Drive occupied by Jungle Surfing Canopy Tours be included within either Precinct 5 or 6 under the Daintree Coast – Cape Tribulation Local Plan to recognise the tourism venture on the land.</p> <p>The submitters also advocate for Council to 'actively support and pursue' further investigation into remote area power supply for properties north of the Daintree River.</p>	Schedule 2, Strategic Framework	<p>The presence of Jungle Surfing Canopy Tours is acknowledged. It continues to operate with a valid development permit. However, the submission is a third party request to change planning provisions on someone else's land. In these circumstances, a change to the precinct is not supported.</p> <p>Council's position on the provision of power to areas north of the Daintree River is stated in the Strategic Framework. Some additional wording has been suggested to acknowledge the anomaly of environmental protection in the Daintree and the generators that create pollution (see 12 herein).</p> <p>The planning scheme in-itself will not make remote area electricity generation happen and it would be unwise to write this into a planning scheme (say, as a Land Use Strategy) as it will commit this Council and future Councils to pursuing the matter for which it has little influence, other than an advocacy role. Nonetheless, investigation into remote area electricity generation is a sensible concept, particularly in areas such as Cape Tribulation, where there is a hub of tourist activity.</p>	No change.

No.	Property/Location	Grounds	Part Number	Planning commentary	Action
379	Various – North of the Daintree River Issues	<p>The submitter raises various matters associated with living north of the Daintree River including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. a clean power, being underground grid, is provided; b. Council should work at providing improved ferry crossing during peak traffic / holiday times – 2 ferries; c. Council should concentrate on eliminating wild pigs that are so destructive to the environment, with pig hunting using dogs not being the right method. 	Strategic Framework	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Council's position on the provision of power north of the Daintree River is stated in the Strategic Framework. The provision of underground power is beyond the capacity of Council to achieve and has no ability to deliver. b. The number of ferries and ferry operations are not a matter that can be addressed in a planning scheme; c. The issue of feral pigs and wild dogs is acknowledged and suggested amendments to the scheme have been made in association with submission 11c herein. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. No change. b. No change. c. The changes at submission 11c are recommended.
382	Lot 10 CP851634 Captain Cook Highway, Wangetti	The submitter supports the inclusion of the Hartley's Crocodile Adventures land at Wangetti in the proposed Tourism Zone as it will support their ventures which include both the crocodile farming and tourist activities on the land.	Schedule 2	<p>Support for the Tourism Zone at this location is noted.</p> 	No change.

No.	Property/Location	Grounds	Part Number	Planning commentary	Action
385	L458 RP738178	<p>The submitter requests that land at L458 RP738178 be included within Precinct 3 – Low Impact Commercial Precinct within the Settlement Areas North of the Daintree River Local Plan to better align with the current land use of the Cow Bay Hotel.</p> <p>The submitter consequently also requests that High Landscape Values classification on the Scenic Amenity Overlay be removed given that the site is developed as a hotel.</p>	Schedule 2	<p>The change from the current Rainforest Commercial Precinct to General Conservation is recognised as being a mapping mistake. The land is developed as the Cow Bay Hotel and the General Conservation Precinct designation would not reflect current land use activity on the land.</p>  <p>No change is recommended to the Scenic Amenity Overlay. A sensible interpretation of the Scenic Amenity Overlay would clearly need to take into account current land use activity on the land and this would be weighted accordingly in any future development proposals on the land.</p>	<p>Change Precinct 1 – General Conservation Precinct to Precinct 3 – Low Impact Commercial Precinct</p>  <p>No change to the Scenic Amenity Overlay is proposed.</p>



No.	Property/Location	Grounds	Part Number	Planning commentary	Action
391, 451	Various properties south of the Alexandra Range/north of the Daintree River	Zone Map ZM 008 proposes to change several larger lots to the Environmental Management Zone. This is inappropriate because many of these larger properties have been used for active rural pursuits for many years. The economic sustainability north of the river is critical for the survival of the community and tourism experience, and all opportunities to preserve or encourage employment activity north of the river should be maintained. The submitter requests that all lots 10 hectares and greater between the Alexandra Range and the Daintree River be returned to the Rural Zone.	Schedule 2	<p>A number of larger properties being used for Rural Production purposes were recommended to be converted to the Environmental Management Zone during the period of amalgamation with Cairns. Following de-amalgamation, most of these properties were reconsidered for conversion back to Rural Zone to reflect existing land use activities. However a couple of areas were missed in this reconversion process (most notably in the Kimberly area and Degarra area, north of the Daintree River). No planning concerns are raised in returning this land in the Rural Zone – provided that it is 10 hectares or greater in area.</p> 	<p>Return lots 10 hectares or greater to the Rural Zone, where they were originally within a Rural Zone under the current planning scheme in the area as shown below.</p> <p>Note: Other submitters in this area have requested a similar change.</p> 
393	Blue Hole, Diwan	The submitter questions the wisdom of listing Blue Hole within SC6.11 Planning Scheme Policy Places of Significance as the Traditional Owners prefer not to draw attention to the location and there are many other places of significance to our indigenous community and having just one listed in the planning scheme appears to be odd.	Schedule 2	<p>Blue Hole is one of the better known Places of Significance to Traditional Owners north of the Daintree River. It is included in the 2006 Planning Scheme and it may appear to be an odd action to remove it in the proposed scheme (i.e. may give the impression that places are no longer of significance if they are removed).</p>	No change.

No.	Property/Location	Grounds	Part Number	Planning commentary	Action
394	L5 NR76 Francis Road, Cassowary	<p>The submitter owns a block of land which has access to unconstructed section of Francis Road which has no practical means of road access. The submitter is of the view that Douglas Shire Council has severely constrained the land with a quasi-conservation category, The submitter wishes to subdivide the land into two in order to afford to build and enjoy their land. Part of the complaint involves the payment of rates for many years without any delivery of Council services.</p>	Schedule 2	<p>The land is not part of the Conservation Zone, it is part of the Rural Zone. The minimum performance outcome for subdivision in the Rural Zone is 40 hectares. L5 is 27 hectares and therefore substantially smaller than the minimum performance outcome for the Zone.</p> <p>Creating additional lots on land that currently has no practical means of road access is counter intuitive. The proposed planning scheme does not create the problem as the land is included within the Rural planning area under the current planning scheme.</p> <p>Payment of rates does not justify a right to subdivide land under a planning scheme and should be dealt with as a separate issue.</p> 	No change.

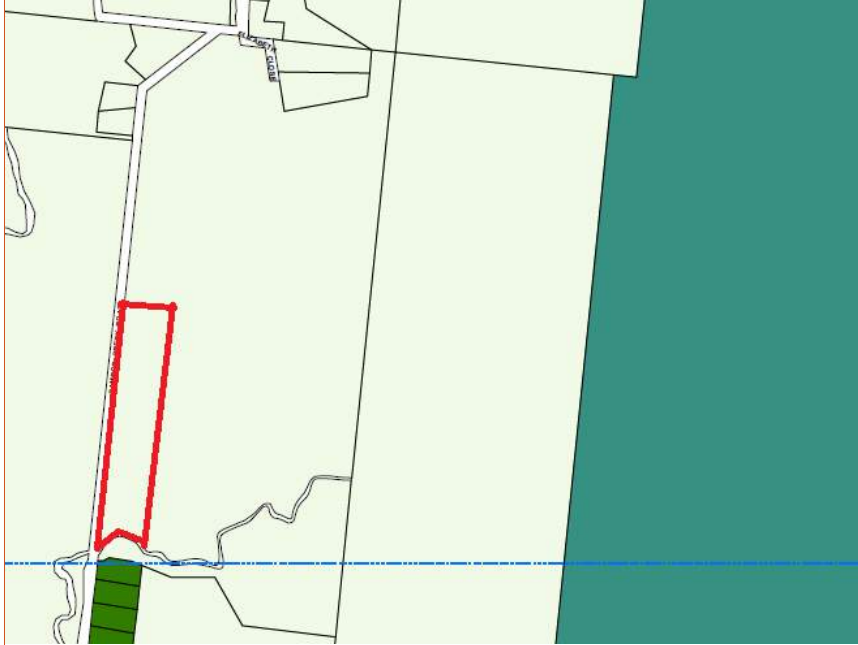
No.	Property/Location	Grounds	Part Number	Planning commentary	Action
395	L82 RP905261	The submitter requests that land located at L82 RP905261 be returned to the Rural Zone from the proposed Environmental Management Zone as the land has been actively farmed since the early 1900s and continues to be used for agricultural purposes.	Schedule 2	<p>A number of larger properties being used for Rural Production purposes were recommended to be converted to the Environmental Management Zone during the period of amalgamation with Cairns. Following de-amalgamation, most of these properties were reconsidered for conversion back to Rural Zone to reflect existing land use activities. However a couple of areas were missed in this reconversion process (most notably in the Kimberly area and Degarra area, north of the Daintree River). No planning concerns are raised in retaining this land in the Rural Zone.</p> 	<p>Change to the Rural Zone.</p> 
398	North of the Daintree River	<p>No mains power north of the Daintree River is contrary to the intent of:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> ensuring the region's atmosphere remains clean and green; supporting a diverse and thriving economy; providing opportunities that ensure that everyone is able to participate, live, work and benefit in the healthy cohesive environment that the Shire promotes. 	Part 3	<p>Alternative means of power provision is advocated in the strategic framework. However, Council is not able to commit to energy provision as it is ultimately within the mandate of the State and Federal Government. The provision of rebates / subsidies is beyond the scope of the planning scheme to address.</p>	No change.
404	L32 Ironbark Road, Diwan	The submitter supports the thrust of the proposed planning scheme provided that they are able to continue to periodically harvest selected rainforest timber from their property for cabinet making activity (approved in 1985). Any harvested vegetation is replaced with the same or similar seedlings	n/a	The proposed planning scheme does not remove existing land use rights.	No change necessary.

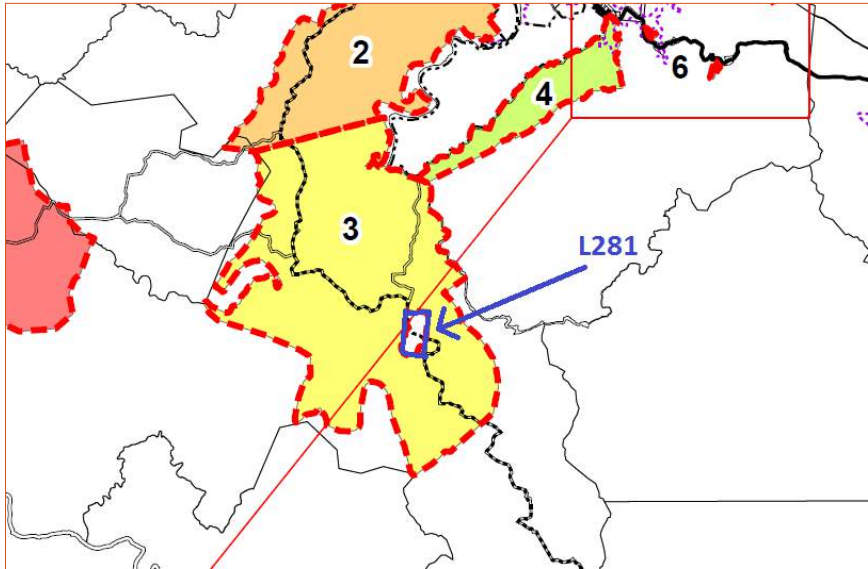
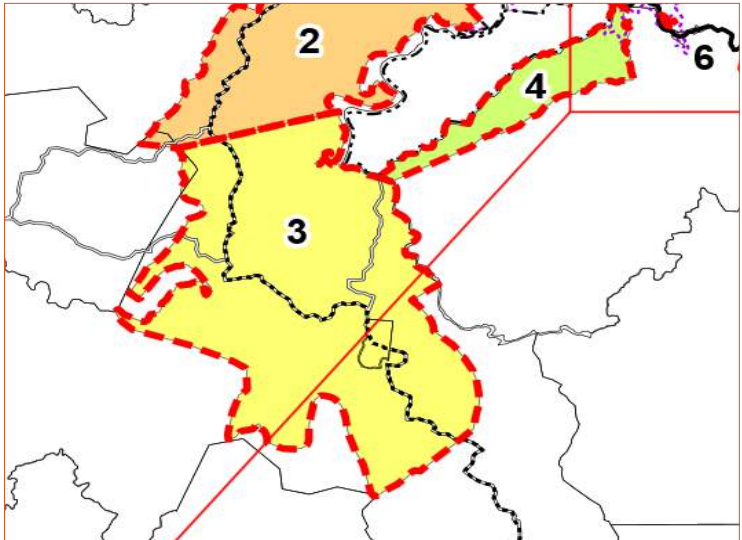
No.	Property/Location	Grounds	Part Number	Planning commentary	Action
		on a rotational basis.			
408	Various	The submitter provides a comprehensive report into the Places of Significance Planning Scheme Policy including corrections and suggestions for inclusions.	Schedule 6	The suggested amendments strengthen the Places of Significance Planning Scheme Policy by removing incorrect place names and clarifying accurate locations. The body of work is comprehensive and there is no objection to making corrections. Additions are only recommended where they involve land under local government control. Other private land recommended for inclusion is a matter for future work and consultation.	Corrections to the mapping and place names contained within the Places of Significance Overlay and associated Planning Scheme Policy. Addition of the government controlled suggestions only.
415	North of the Daintree River	Remove references to on-site or individual property basis of power and power generation in areas north of the Daintree. Individual power generators are not good for the environment and another solution needs to be found.	Strategic Framework	There are no references in the planning scheme regarding individual power provision on a property basis. Alternative means of power provision is advocated in the strategic framework. However, Council is not able to commit to energy provision as it is ultimately within the mandate of the State and Federal Government. The provision of rebates / subsidies is beyond the scope of the planning scheme to address.	No change.
418	n/a	The submitter advocates for an integrated public transport system from Mossman to Cairns (via Port Douglas) as the private bus shuttle system is too orientated towards tourists, is too expensive, too slow and too irregular.	Part 3	The intention to create a public transport system for Douglas Shire as suggested has merit. However, the planning scheme is not the mechanism to fund and implement such a transport network.	No change.
420	n/a	The submitter advocates for a public swimming pool near the football oval in Port Douglas.	n/a	The intention to create a public swimming pool in Port Douglas may have merit. However, the planning scheme is not the mechanism to fund and implement such a community facility. Nonetheless the land at this location is appropriately zoned to accommodate the suggested land use activity should the need arise.	No change.
422	Daintree River – Bloomfield River generally	<p>a. The submitter points out that the following statement needs to be reinstated in the proposed planning scheme:</p> <p><i>“provide adequate services and facilities for settlement areas and an appropriate level of economic opportunity for local residents.”</i></p> <p>b. The submitter is also critical of the planning scheme for being too orientated towards the Port Douglas community and provides little in the way of opportunity for the Daintree community.</p> <p>c. The submitter also advocates for the Daintree community to be connected to the electricity grid.</p>		<p>a. The addition of the extra words is supported.</p> <p>b. The addition of the words suggested in response to a. above will assist in addressing the submitter’s concerns about a lack of economic opportunity for the Daintree community.</p> <p>c. The statement at 3.9.2.1(4) in the Strategic Framework is Council’s stated policy position with respect to the power issue north of the Daintree River. However, ultimately power generation to areas north of the Daintree River is beyond the scope of the planning scheme to address.</p>	<p>a. Add to the following words to purpose statement for the Cape Tribulation and Daintree Coast Local Plan at 7.2.5.3(2) {now 7.2.1.3(2)}:</p> <p><u>‘e. adequate service and facilities for settlement areas and an appropriate level of economic opportunity for local residents are provided.’</u></p> <p>b. As per a. above.</p> <p>c. No change (However, the proposed change at submission 12a. should be noted as it is also relevant to this particular submission).</p>

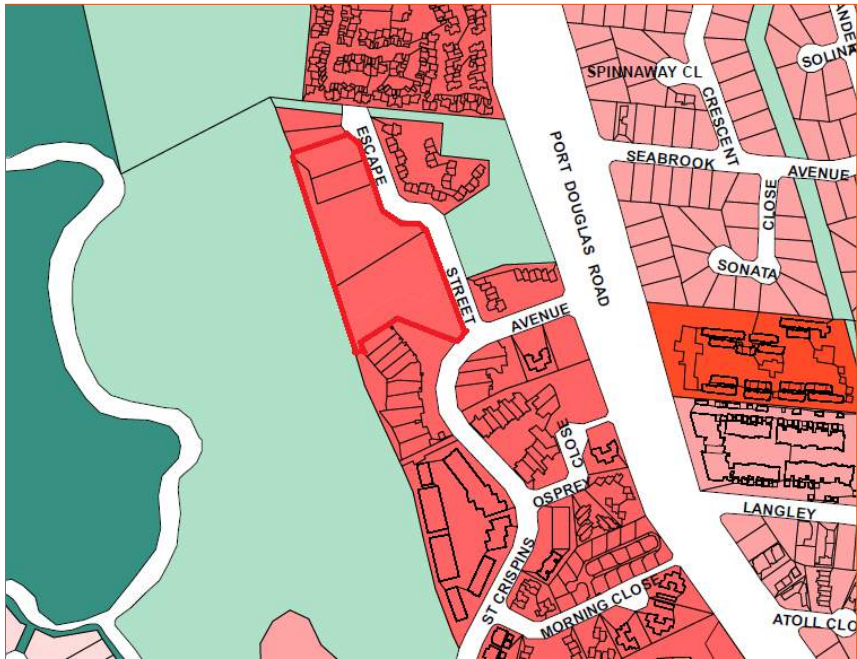

No.	Property/Location	Grounds	Part Number	Planning commentary	Action
425	L31 SP121816	This submission relates to the proposed Botanic Garden Mossman. The submitter notes some inconsistencies with the proposed Botanic Garden Master Plan and the proposed planning scheme, but does not identify specifically what these inconsistencies are.	Part 7	<p>The Botanic Garden proposed for Mossman is recognised in the Mossman Local Plan – Precinct 2 Foxtan Road.</p> <p><i>(5)(a) development occurs that is compatible with the establishment of a botanical garden, including a range of ancillary tourist facilities (not tourist accommodation) educational facilities and research facilities.</i></p> <p>It is noted that the underlying zoning in the Low Density Residential Zone. Table 6.2.6.3.b – Inconsistent uses within the Low density residential zone nominates “Tourist Attraction” as an inconsistent use. To ensure an anomaly is not established between the Local Plan and the underlying zone, it is recommended that ‘Tourist Attraction’ be removed from the inconsistent use table for the Low density residential zone.</p>	Remove ‘Tourist attraction’ from the list of inconsistent uses in the Low density residential zone.
426	n/a	The submitter wants to leave the planning scheme unchanged as it this will stop developers from ‘doing as they please’.	n/a	It is a requirement to change the planning scheme in accordance with the State planning legislation. Careful consideration has been given to changes to be implemented to ensure that developers don’t do ‘just as they please’.	No change.
427	Lot 112 N157666 and Lot 51 SR72 Syndicate Road, Miallo (and various other matters)	<p>a. The submitter wants to establish health, luxury, retirement village, luxury hotels in an upmarket atmosphere.</p> <p>b. Provide more walking tracks.</p> <p>c. Introduce light-weight architecture.</p> <p>d. Restrict building heights around waterfronts.</p> <p>e. Strictly no highway development.</p> <p>f. Sugar mill needs to control its unacceptable pollution.</p>	Various	<p>a. The land is included in the Rural Zone which is consistent with the State Government’s Far North Queensland Regional Plan 2009-2031 which includes this land as part of the Regional Landscape and Rural Production Area. The Rural Zone is not intended for retirement village living. However opportunities for small scale economic opportunities are facilitated through the Rural Activities code within the scheme.</p> <p>b.– e. The general comments are noted and the planning scheme addresses these matters in a variety of ways.</p> <p>f. The planning scheme does not regulate stack emissions from the Mossman sugar mill.</p>	a - f. No change
428	L115 SR632, L96 SP134234, L123 SP134234 & L2 SP262338 Wharf Street and Spinnaker Close, Port Douglas	<p>The submitter raises a number of issues relating to the land, more generally described as being part of Sub-precinct 1c – Waterfront South in the Port Douglas / Craiglie Local Plan, aimed at recognising existing uses and facilitating future use by:</p> <p>a. Proposing an alternative zoning to the Industry Zone (i.e. Waterfront and Marine Industry) for the lots off</p>	Schedule 2, Part 5, Part 6	<p>a. The proposed planning scheme does not propose the Level 2 suite of zones for the Industry Zones. One level of Industry Zoning is more than adequate for a Douglas Shire’s needs. Other suggestions regarding levels of assessment and inconsistent use tables statements will address the concern raised by the submitter.</p>	a. No change.


No.	Property/Location	Grounds	Part Number	Planning commentary	Action
		<p>Spinnaker Close;</p> <p>b. Proposing an alternative zoning to Recreation and Open Space for the area of cleared land in Lot 2 occupied by the Outrigger Canoe Club (i.e. an Industry Zone akin to the other lots off Spinnaker Close);</p> <p>c. Proposing an alternative zoning to Recreation and Open Space in Lot 2 between Spinnaker Close and the lots off Port Street (i.e. an Industry Investigation Zone);</p> <p>d. Proposing an amendment to the Tables of Assessment for the Industry Zone to include marine orientated uses as code assessable in Sub-precinct 1c – Waterfront South, rather than Impact assessable. Specific uses mentioned are Port Services, Landing, Marine Industry, Parking Station and Shop (<250m² GFA).</p> <p>e. As a consequence of d. above, remove 'Landing' from the Table of Inconsistent Uses within the Industry Zone and remove 'Parking Station' and 'Shop' from the Inconsistent Uses for Sub-precinct 1c – Waterfront South.</p> <p>f. Amend the Overall Outcomes for the Industry Zone Code to include the following:</p> <p>"f. Landing, Parking Station, Port Services and Shop (<250m² GFA) uses are facilitated in Sub-precinct 1c – Waterfront South sub-precinct of Precinct 1 – Port Douglas Precinct in the Port</p>		<p>b. It is agreed that the land occupied by the Outrigger Canoe Club would be better placed within the Industry Zone to be akin with the zoning of the other lots off Spinnaker Close.</p>  <p>c. As per the comments in a. herein, the proposed planning scheme does not propose the Level 2 suite of zones for the Industry Zones. It is not proposed to include the land in an Industry Zone as the land is heavily constrained in terms of environmental constraints. The Local Plan does, however, acknowledge that there may be the possibility of some of this land being utilised for marine orientated uses in the future should the need arise through the inclusion of the land within Sub-precinct 1c – Waterfront South.</p> <p>d. It is agreed that the nominated uses should be Code Assessable with the exception of Shop (<250m² GFA). It is presumed that the Shop relates to the potential for a small scale 'direct to the market' sale of fish on L96. However, an unintended effect of this provision is to facilitate 250m² GFA of a Shop use on each lot within the Sub-precinct.</p> <p>e. It is agreed that the Inconsistent Use Tables should be amended to reflect the anomalies identified with the exception of 'Shop' for the reasons identified in d. above.</p> <p>f. The addition of extra words to the Industry Zone specific to Sub-precinct 1c – Waterfront South is probably an unnecessary and perhaps unnecessary detail that does not add anything more to the understanding of the purpose of the Industry Zone that cannot otherwise be gleaned from the purpose statements in Sub-precinct 1c – Waterfront South. The Local Plan Code over-rides the provisions in the Zone Code in any case.</p>	<p>b. Amend part of the zoning in L2 SP262338 for inclusion in the Industry Zone.</p>  <p>c. No change.</p> <p>d. Amended the Table of Assessment for the Industry Zone to permit Port Services, Landing, Marine Industry and Parking Station as Code Assessable uses in Sub-precinct 1c – Waterfront South of the Port Douglas / Craiglie Local Plan only.</p> <p>e. Remove 'Landing' from Table 6.2.5.3.b Inconsistent Uses in the Industry Zone and remove 'Parking Station' from Table 7.2.4.4.c Inconsistent Uses in Sub-precinct 1c – Waterfront South (Port Douglas / Craiglie Local Plan).</p> <p>f. No change.</p> <p>g. No change.</p>


No.	Property/Location	Grounds	Part Number	Planning commentary	Action
		<p>Douglas / Craiglie Local Plan.”</p> <p>g. Amend the Overall Outcomes for Sub-precinct 1c – Waterfront South to include the following:</p> <p>“d. Landing, Parking Station, Port Services and Shop uses are restricted to the northern portion of the sub-precinct (i.e. Spinnaker Close) and are to only be established when operated in conjunction with marine-based use or are to provide a benefit to the public.”</p>		<p>g. It is not clear why the restriction is proposed to confine these particular uses to the lots off Spinnaker Close. Landing, Parking Station and Port Services are similarly appropriate uses off Port Street.</p>	
429	n/a	<p>The submitter objects to the RV provisions in the Rural Activities Code because:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ support for this policy will come at the expense of businesses already engaged in providing camping facilities. ○ vans are rarely self-contained and usually rely on some infrastructure services that will need to be monitored by Council officers. ○ the term ‘a few vans’ is too vague; ○ existing businesses have capacity to accommodate additional campers and the policy will not alleviate free-campers from illegally camping at the beach; ○ the policy to permit RV camping on Rural properties has not been well-thought through and has been without consultation with legitimate/regulated/ approved camping services. 	Part 9	<p>The submission appears to be a criticism of a media release rather than an appraisal of the Rural Activities Code, which contains the code and the more specific code details that outline the self-assessable provisions in the Rural Zone (i.e. does not use the words ‘a few vans’). It is agreed that the proposal will not remove the problem of illegal camping. However, it will provide an alternative.</p> <p>Concerns are expressed here (and other submissions) that the proposal has the potential to hurt legitimate businesses that operate camping facilities. It is possible to impose a further limitation providing for separation between existing lawfully establish caravan parks (i.e. 3 kilometres by road, for example). However, it believed that the restrictions already applied within the Code will prevent a proliferation of small scale tourist parks throughout the Shire.</p>	No change.

No.	Property/Location	Grounds	Part Number	Planning commentary	Action
431	L3 RP720296 Junction Road, Mossman	<p>The submitter observes that the level of assessment for a dwelling house is raised from self-assessable to code assessable where affected by the Coastal Processes Overlay.</p> <p>It is suggested that the Coastal Processes Overlay be amended to remove the Coastal Zone sub-category from the application of the code and the mapping to alleviate this problem.</p>	Part 8	The Coastal Zone sub-category is extremely broad and covers land well distant from the foreshore including many residential zones. Raising the level assessment across such a broad area adds no value to the planning process and will trigger many simple applications for dwelling houses as a planning application.	Amend the Coastal Processes Overlay to remove the Coastal Zone sub-category from the application of the code and the mapping.
432	Part of L3 SP204463 Bamboo Creek Road, Miallo	The submitter wishes to include further land, proposed to be part of the Rural Zone, to be included within the Rural Residential Zone to act a logical extension of land to the south that was subdivided into Rural Residential lots under a previous planning scheme.	Schedule 2	<p>The land is part of the Regional Landscape and Rural Production Area under the Far North Queensland Regional Plan 2009-2031 and is therefore not available Rural Residential expansion.</p> 	No change.
437	L2 RP7390976 Endeavour Street, Port Douglas	The submitter wishes to exclude part of Lot 2 RP7390976 from the Community Facilities Zone and include it in the Low Density Residential Zone in order to create three new residential lots fronting Endeavour Street, which is currently a vacant portion of church land.	Schedule 2	<p>The site is currently included in the Community and Recreational Facilities Planning area and this has been carried across into the proposed planning scheme. The planning scheme encourages re-use of Community Facilities zoned land for other Community Facilities in the event that it is seen to be surplus to a specific community use.</p> <p>It may be that the land is suitable for residential purposes as described in the submission. However, there are means within the legislation to achieve residential purposes, if deemed appropriate.</p>	No change.

No.	Property/Location	Grounds	Part Number	Planning commentary	Action
438	L281 BK15777	<p>The submitter requests that the planning scheme be amended in various sections to facilitate a proposal to establish tourist accommodation, camping grounds, information tours and a helipad on land located at L281 BK15777 (China Camp).</p> <p>The specific requests involve:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Recognise the site as a Tourism Node on the Strategic Framework map. Amend Strategic Framework statements under Section Element – Tourism 3.8.3 to facilitate tourist accommodation on the CREB Track. Amend the Settlement Areas North of Daintree River Local Plan to include L281 in Precinct 5 – Low impact rural production and tourist enterprise precinct. Amend the Tables of Assessment to make Nature Based Tourism Code Assessable in Precinct 5, where located on the CREB Track. 	Part 3, Part 5, Schedule 2	<p>The submitter is mistakenly of the belief that the land is part of the Settlement Areas North of the Daintree River Local Plan. So amendments that include this land in a Precinct that does not apply to the land is not possible.</p> <p>It is not appropriate to designate land as a Tourism node in the Strategic Framework without any understanding of the nature of the proposed tourism activity envisaged.</p> <p>The land is surrounded by Precinct 3 – Buru Precinct which is part of the Return to Country Local Plan (although this lot is not part of the Return to Country Local Plan).</p> <p>It is considered more appropriate to adopt a change that includes the land in Precinct 3 – Buru Precinct and within the proposed Return to Country Local Plan. On-going work in developing the Return to Country Local Plan can examine, and where appropriate, facilitate Nature Based Tourism activities on this land.</p> 	<p>Change the Return to Country Local Plan to include Lot 281 within the Local Plan as part of Precinct 3 – Buru Precinct.</p> 

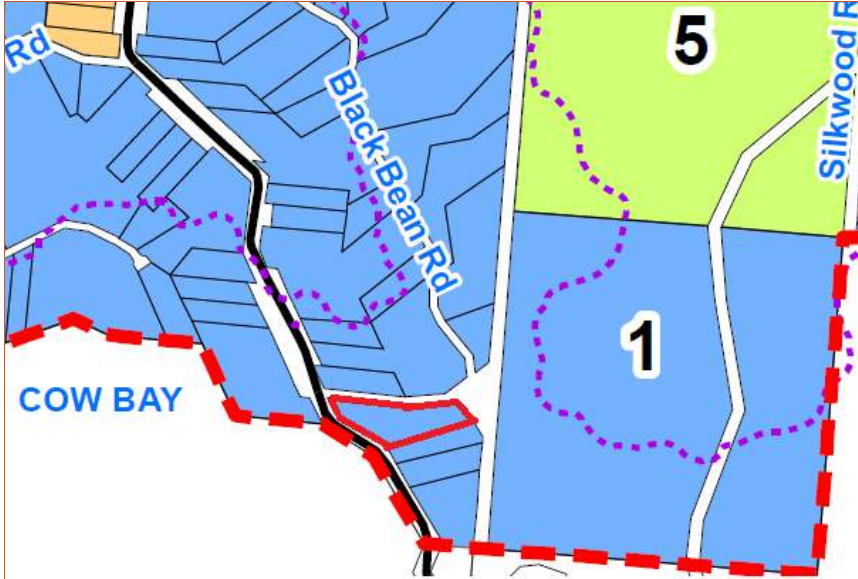
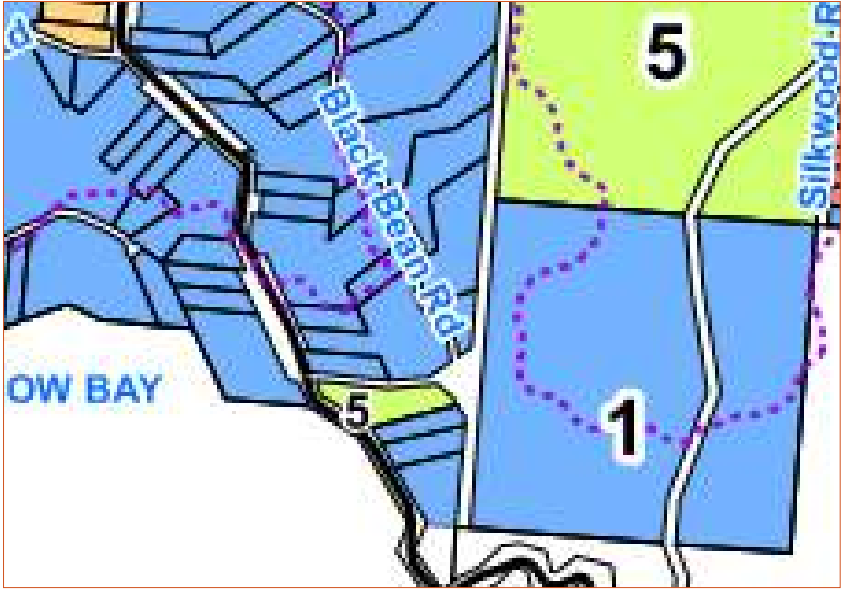
No.	Property/Location	Grounds	Part Number	Planning commentary	Action
441, 611	L49-51 SP161464 and L41-42 RP747344 Escape Close, Port Douglas	The submitter contends that the land is better suited to the Tourist Accommodation Zone rather than the Medium Density Residential Zone to provide the owner freedom to tailor a development proposal that is a bridge between multiple types of residential development and the existing tourist infrastructure of the Bally Hooley train station. The Tourist Accommodation Zone will also eliminate anomalies of the existing Tourist Attraction (the Saint Crispins Bally Hooley Station) from being an inconsistent use in the Zone. It is also noted that the planning provisions for development in the Tourist Accommodation Zone are also very similar to those in the Medium Density Residential Zone in terms of building bulk, scale and other planning code provisions.	Schedule 2	<p>The site is located in position that would make it suitable for tourist accommodation (station, lake, overlooking the golf course). The planning provisions in terms of building bulk, scale and height between the Medium Density Residential Zone and the Tourist Accommodation Zone are fundamentally similar. No planning problems are foreseen with the requested change.</p> 	<p>Change L49-51 SP161464 and L41-42 RP747344 to the Tourist Accommodation Zone.</p> 

No.	Property/Location	Grounds	Part Number	Planning commentary	Action
449	L5 RP717702	The submitter requests that part of L5 RP717702 located at Marine Parade, Newell change from the Rural Zone to the Low Density Residential Zone to marry up with the proposed change to the Residential Low Density Zone to the north (part of L51 SP168537) and that such an extension is a more logical extension of the urban area at Newell Beach than the land to the north in terms of equity.	Schedule 2	<p>To offset the loss of land allocated for Low Density Residential development close to the Waterfront in Newell (north of Phillips Street) due to proximity to storm tide and flooding hazards, L51 SP168537 was selected as a logical continuation of the existing road pattern that runs off Coulthard Close and back around to Marine Parade, at Pacific Street. It directly adjoins land developed as residential lots.</p> <p>Conversely, L5 access is via a small section of road reserve to the south and not via Pacific Street. Therefore, L5 is not as logical as L51 in terms of an urban expansion consisting of newer housing stock, that will match the character of Coulthard Close.</p> <p>Sufficient land is available in Lot 51 to cater for the offset of loss of residential land north of Phillips Street.</p> 	No change.

No.	Property/Location	Grounds	Part Number	Planning commentary	Action
452	L2 RP718188	The submitter requests that L2 RP718188 located at Cooya Beach Road, Bonnie Doon be included in the Strategic Framework as a Residential Investigation Area on the basis that the land is a logical extension of the residential estate being developed at Cooya Beach, is not subject to constraints that would preclude its development for residential purposes and would appear to be a popular location for residential living option for residents that are likely to be employed in the tourist accommodation and service industries provided at Port Douglas.	Schedule 2	<p>The submitter asserts that the land was designated for Urban Purposes in the 1996 Planning Scheme. However, due to the loss of a Strategic Plan Map in the 2006 Planning Scheme the Urban Purposes designation was lost.</p> <p>This assertion is not correct as the 1996 Strategic Plan Map shows the land as Productive Rural Area, the land was included within the Rural (Agriculture) Zone and Agriculture in Development Control Plan No 4 (DCP 4). In addition, DCP4 stated that 'Land in this designation is intended to be retained in a form suitable for cultivation. Rezoning from the Rural (Agriculture) Zone or any further subdivision will therefore not be supported by Council.</p> <p>It is true that a Primary School was nominated in DCP4 on the land at the north eastern corner of the site and DCP4 states that 4 hectares would be suitable for such purpose. Any proposal to establish a primary school appears to have been abandoned and therefore this site is not considered to be suitable for conversion to urban purposes. This is also reflected in the Far North Queensland Regional Plan 2009-2031.</p> 	No change.
481	Wonga Beach	a. The submission objects to extending Marlin Drive northwards and suggests that road extensions should extend down from Oasis Drive for a variety of reasons.	Part 7	a. This site has development approvals in place that do not provide a road link from Oasis Drive to Marlin Drive. The Marlin Drive community has long opposed providing a link between north and south Wonga and clearly within this submission opposes the idea of extending the road into Precinct 2 from Marlin Drive. Accordingly, the relevant Performance and Acceptable Outcomes in the Code have been amended to make it clear that any future road into Precinct 2 extend from the north (i.e. not from Marlin Drive). A turning circle immediately north of Marlin Drive may be acceptable.	a. Amend PO6 and AO6 in the Coastal Communities Local Plan as follows: PO6 Development avoids a road connection between Oasis Drive and Marlin Drive that would exacerbate traffic volumes or unduly increase traffic hazards, particularly along Marlin Drive and Oleander Drive. <u>Proposals for a road extension into Precinct 2 should be from the north and not from Marlin Drive. A turning circle immediately at the end of Marlin Drive may be acceptable.</u>

No.	Property/Location	Grounds	Part Number	Planning commentary	Action
		<p>b. A retail precinct should be provided in the northern half of Wonga Beach possibly between Vixies Road and Wonga Beach Road.</p> <p>c. An integrated area for sport activities needs to be acquired for sport activities in the northern section of Wonga Beach.</p> <p>d. Sewage treatment needs to happen to protect the reef and the environment. An area needs to allocated or acquired to cater for a stand-alone treatment plant in an area that caters for all of Wonga Beach.</p>		<p>b. There is no need for further retail development in Wonga Beach for the foreseeable future and probably beyond the life of this proposed planning scheme (i.e. 10 years).</p> <p>c. At this stage integrated areas for sport activities are focused in Mossman and Port Douglas. In the short term, there is no need to provide additional facilities in Wonga Beach. However, the idea has merit for future planning in Wonga Beach.</p> <p>d. A Sewage Treatment Plant for Wonga Beach is not in the Capital Works Program and would require a significant financial commitment on behalf of Council to achieve. While it may be desirable in the future to establish such a Plant in the longer term, it would be inappropriate to identify and commit a site in the proposed planning scheme at this point in time.</p>	<p>AO6 A road connection between Oasis Drive and Marlin Drive is not provided. <u>Proposals for a road extension into Precinct 2 should be from the north and not from Marlin Drive. A turning circle immediately at the end of Marlin Drive may be acceptable.</u></p> <p>b. No change.</p> <p>c. No change.</p> <p>d. No change.</p>
495	L146 SR861, Part Lot 126 SR868, Lot 103 SR500, Wharf Street, Port Douglas	<p>The submitter raises concerns with respect to The Reef Marina Site in Port Douglas and seeks to remove planning provisions that protect the fishing industry and the operation of a slipway on the site prior to redevelopment proceeding. Specifically, the following provisions in the Port Douglas / Craiglie Local Plan are targeted for removal:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 7.2.3.3(5)(b)(ii)(C); 7.2.3.3(7)(i); 7.2.3.4, Table 7.2.4.4a – PO and AO49 <p>The submitter relies on the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The relevant provisions are inconsistent with good planning principles; The relevant provisions are inconsistent with the Preliminary Approval; The relevant provisions are inconsistent with the Port Douglas Waterfront Master Plan; The relevant provisions are 	Part 7	<p>The submission was written at a time when the planning strategies contained in the current planning scheme had not been advanced any further than achievement of a Preliminary Approval. The Preliminary Approval was achieved following submission of the draft planning scheme to the State for the State Interest Review. The development proposal for The Reef Marina Site has advanced to a development permit issued by Council for the staged redevelopment of the Reef Marina Site. Many of the concerns raised by the submitter having regard to certain provisions being inconsistent with good planning principles, inconsistencies with preliminary approvals, inconsistencies with the Port Douglas Waterfront Master Plan, inconsistencies with the purpose of the Sustainable Planning Act 2009 and QQP have proven to be without foundation. In fact, Council has maintained control over its planning decisions by issuing the development permit over The Reef Marina Site while continuing to pursue its own important obligations having regard to reorganisation of land use activities and stakeholder management. The Reef Marina has been an effective party in this process.</p> <p>The submitter claims that the insufficient land has been provided within the Industry Zone within Sub-precinct 1c – Waterfront South to enable the provisions of 7.2.3.3(5)(b)(ii)(C) to be effective (i.e. to cater for a reduction of conflicts between land uses without diminishing the marine industry). It is agreed that the available space for marine industries is very limited. However, the land between Spinnaker Close and Port Street is currently mostly included in the Conservation Planning Area. The proposed Planning Scheme amends a zoning to Recreation and Open Space Zone and provides a Local Plan Sub-precinct that facilitates additional marine uses in the future, if required. However, it is not possible to 'zone' the land as Industry at this point in time as the land is subject to significant environmental constraints. 7.2.3.3(5)(b)(ii)(C), as an Overall Outcome, is consistent with the planning principles espoused in the Port Douglas Waterfront Master</p>	No change.


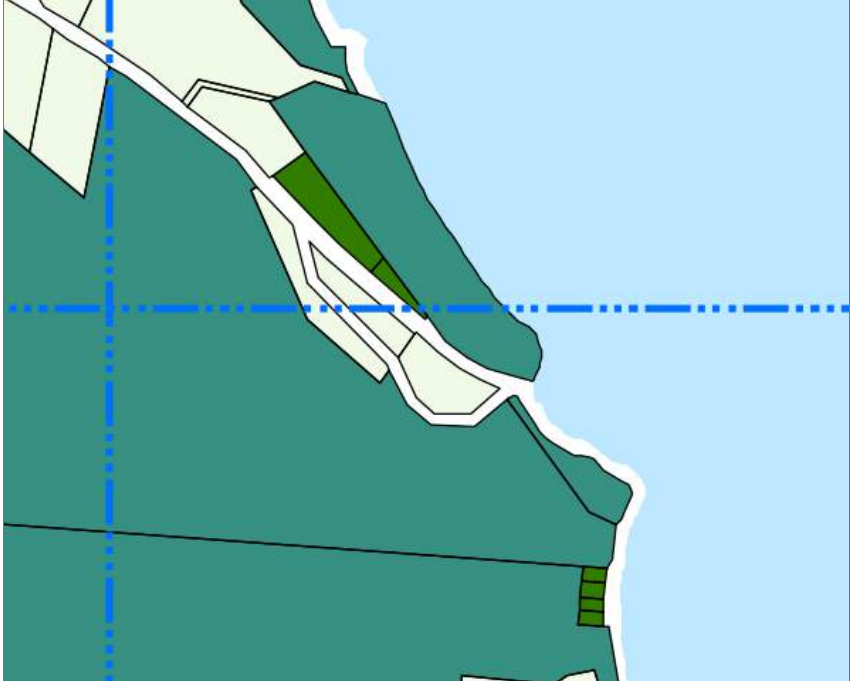

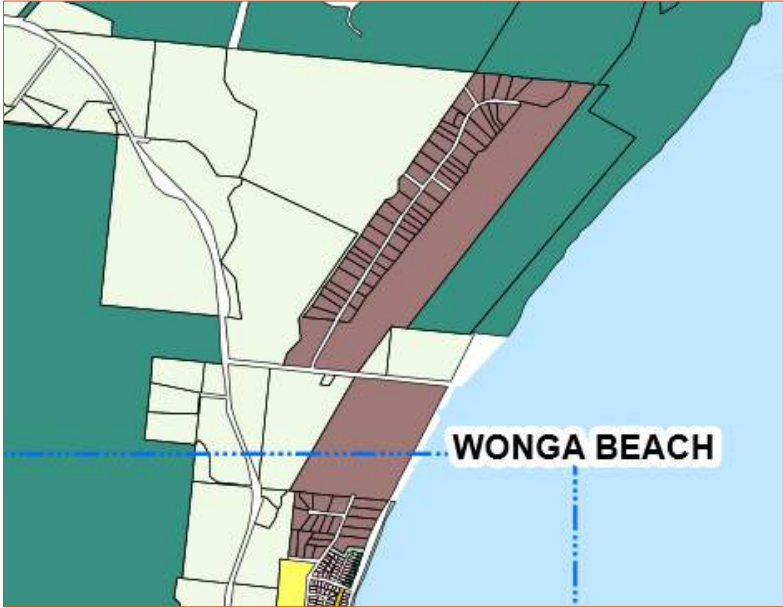
No.	Property/Location	Grounds	Part Number	Planning commentary	Action
		<p>inconsistent with the purpose of the <i>Sustainable Planning Act 2009</i> to achieve ecological sustainability;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The relevant provisions are inconsistent with the Standard Planning Scheme Provisions of the <i>Sustainable Planning Act 2009</i>. ○ The relevant provisions are inconsistent with Council's obligations to maintain control over planning decisions. <p>The submission is accompanied by a legal opinion appended to the submission.</p>		<p>Plan and is acceptable as a planning strategy.</p> <p>Having regard to 7.2.3.3(7)(i) seeks to not relocate the existing marine based industries until stakeholder agreement has been reached between all parties. The stakeholder agreements have been actioned as part of Council's planning strategy for the reorganisation of land uses at the Waterfront. The Reef Marina is actively involved in reaching these agreements as part of the development approval process.</p> <p>In a similar manner, PO49 in Table 7.2.4.4.a has been actioned via the issue of a development permit for The Reef Marina Site. Council has acted reasonably and appropriately in discharging its responsibilities to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (i) pursue it the Port Douglas Waterfront Master Plan and its associated planning strategies; (ii) issue development approvals under the <i>Sustainable Planning Act 2009</i>. <p>No comment is provided with respect to the legal opinion attached to the submission.</p>	
564	Ocean Breeze Estate, Cooya Beach	The submitter observes that the level of assessment for a dwelling house is raised from self-assessable to code assessable where affected by the Flood Hazard Overlay, Coastal Processes Overlay and the Natural Areas Overlay in an estate that has been approved for development at appropriate levels above flooding/storm tide heights and is cleared of vegetation. Various practical measures are suggested to avoid this problem in the Ocean Breeze Estate, and more broadly elsewhere in the Shire.	Part 8 Schedule 2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. The Coastal Zone sub-category is extremely broad and covers land well distant from the foreshore including many residential zones. Raising the level assessment across such a broad area adds no value to the planning process and will trigger many simple applications for dwelling houses as a planning application. b. The Coastal Environment Overlay only allows Community Infrastructure in mapped areas. Some mapped areas are already approved residential estates currently being constructed. Recognising the underlying zoning and intent associated with the zoning will ensure that development can continue to progress unhindered due to the introduction of new overlay mapping. c. Where there is a clear conflict between approved urban development and overlay mapping that does not reflect existing conditions, amendments should be made to ensure that unnecessary planning applications are triggered. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Amend the Coastal Processes Overlay to remove the Coastal Zone sub-category from the application of the code and the mapping. b. Performance Outcome 4 and Acceptable Outcome 4.1 of the Coastal Environment Overlay Code is to be amended to allow for development other than community infrastructure, which reflects the preferred development outcomes in accordance with the zoning of the site. c. Amend the Natural Areas Overlay to remove anomalous constraints (e.g. MSES Regulating Vegetation: intersecting a watercourse) particularly through approved urban developments, such as the Ocean Breeze Estate at Cooya Beach.


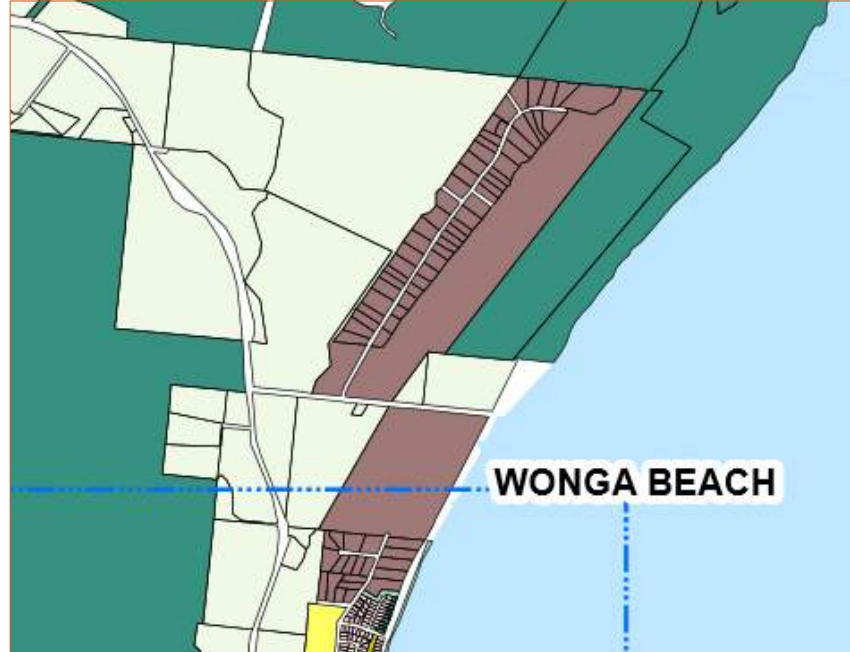
No.	Property/Location	Grounds	Part Number	Planning commentary	Action
601	L439 RP748371, 24 Tulip Oak Road, Cow Bay	The submitter requests that the Daintree Discovery Centre be placed within its own precinct under the Settlement Areas North of the Daintree Local Plan to recognise the uses and potential future uses and expansion of the visitor centre or amend the purpose of Precinct 5 to reflect nature based tourism enterprise and include the land within Precinct 5.	Part 7, Schedule 2	<p>The land should be part of Precinct 5 – Low impact rural production and tourism enterprise precinct in the Cape Tribulation and Daintree Coast Local Plan. The overall outcomes of Precinct 5 should be amended to recognise existing nature based tourism enterprise in addition to the rural based tourism enterprises.</p> 	<p>Include L436 RP748371 in Precinct 5 – Low impact rural production and tourism enterprise precinct in the Cape Tribulation and Daintree Coast Local Plan.</p>  <p>Amend the overall outcomes of Precinct for Precinct 5 by adding the following:</p> <p><u>“(c) facilitate other existing tourism enterprises based on the appreciation of the natural environment.”</u></p>
605	n/a	<p>The submitter has feedback in relation to the Landscaping Code and the Vegetation Management Code as follows:</p> <p>Landscaping Code:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Inclusion of reference to AS4970-2009 Protection of Trees on Development Sites. This ensures that tree protection during (and following) development, and may allow for significant trees within otherwise exempt areas to be retained. Some allowance for assessment of significant trees to be retained in terms of their Safe Useful Life Expectancy” (SULE). For example it may be 	Part 9 Schedule 1	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> It is agreed that the Landscaping Code (and the Landscaping Policy) would be enhanced with inclusion of reference to the Australian Standard. It is agreed that the Landscaping Code would be enhanced with inclusion of reference to the Safe Useful Life Expectancy of Trees. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Amend Table 9.4.6.1.a A03.1 in the Landscaping Code as follows: <p>“Existing vegetation on site is retained and incorporated into site design, wherever possible, <u>in accordance with the methodologies and principles outlined in AS4970-2009 Protection of Trees on Development Sites.</u>”</p> <p>Add the following to SC6.7.6.1.(1) in the Planning Scheme Policy - Landscaping Policy as follows:</p> <p><u>“Tree retention and protection should have regard to the provisions of AS4970-2009 Protection of Trees on Development Sites.”</u></p> Amend Table 9.4.6.1.a in the Landscaping Code by adding: <p><u>“A06.2 Tree maintenance is to have regard to the ‘Safe Useful Life Expectancy’ of trees.</u></p> <p><u>Note: It may be more appropriate to replace trees with a SULE of less than 20 years (as an example) and replace with younger, healthy species.”</u></p>

No.	Property/Location	Grounds	Part Number	Planning commentary	Action
		<p>more appropriate to remove significant trees with a SULE of less than 20 years (as an example), and then replant with healthy species, if this would lead to a more sustainable outcome.</p> <p>Vegetation Management Code:</p> <p>c. Include reference to AS4373-2009 Pruning of Amenity Trees. With reference to the Vegetation Damage definition, add <i>"To prune or impact on vegetation in a way that reduces the structural integrity or health of the vegetation."</i></p> <p>Both of the above Codes:</p> <p>d. Allowance for some exemption with regard to tree size. Removal of trees under 300mm DBH, for example, could be exempt from development application (in areas other than the Conservation Zone).</p> <p>e. Include some reference to acknowledge circumstances where it may be necessary to remove one tree in order to protect an adjacent, more significant tree (where they are grown close to one another).</p> <p>f. Self-assessable removal which does not meet exemptions should be permitted provided the property owner has sought written advice from a Cert V arborist. This would remove the need for development approval in regards to dead / dying / structural unsound trees.</p>		<p>c. It is agreed that the Vegetation Management Code would be enhanced with inclusion of reference to AS4373-2009. The Vegetation Damage definition requires the amendment as suggested by the submitter to ensure that pruning of vegetation is captured by the Code.</p> <p>d. It is not agreed that a blanket exemption from the code can be granted for all vegetation with a 300mm DBH. In the extreme, mangroves could be exempted (although they are likely to be protected by other means, in any case).</p> <p>e. The suggestion to add a provision to allow the removal of one tree to protect another adjacent more significant tree is reasonable addition to the provisions of the Code.</p> <p>f. Providing a self-assessable provision for certification of dead, dying, diseased trees that have been certified by a minimum Certificate V arborist is a sensible suggestion. However, in a practical sense, two business days is too little notice to supply to Council. 7 days notice is recommended as an alternative.</p>	<p>c. Add the following immediately prior to Table 9.4.9.2.a in the Vegetation Management Code:</p> <p><u><i>"Note: All vegetation damage is to have regard to the provisions of AS4373-2009 Pruning of Amenity Trees."</i></u></p> <p>Add the following to the Administrative Definition of Vegetation Damage in Schedule 1:</p> <p><u><i>"Remove, cut down, ring bark, push over, poison or destroy vegetation in any way including such as by burning, flooding or draining, including pruning or impacting on vegetation in any way that may impact on the structural integrity or health or vegetation."</i></u></p> <p>d. No change.</p> <p>e. Add AO1.11 to Table 9.4.9.2.a in the Vegetation Management Code as follows:</p> <p><u><i>"Vegetation damage where it is necessary to remove one tree in order to protect an adjacent more significant tree (where they are growing close to one another)."</i></u></p> <p>f. Add AO1.12 to Table 9.4.9.2.a in the Vegetation Management Code as follows:</p> <p><u><i>"Private property owners may only remove dead, dying, structurally unsound vegetation following receipt of written advice from, at minimum, a fully qualified Certificate V Arborist. A copy of the written advice is to be submitted to Council for its records, a minimum of seven business days prior to the vegetation damage work commencing."</i></u></p>

No.	Property/Location	Grounds	Part Number	Planning commentary	Action
606	n/a	Council officers' submission (including supplementary matters) is attached at Attachment 2.	Whole of Scheme	<p>(Note: Only aspects raised within Council officers' submission that are not addressed by other submitters are reported in this response).</p> <p>a. Section 1.7.5 refers to the Operation of Local Laws. There is no need to refer to Local Laws in this part of the scheme and this is important as the Local Laws are currently under review and will change.</p> <p>b. Recognising that there is a mix of industry and commerce in the industry area at Craiglie will help strengthen the support service nature this area provides to Port Douglas.</p> <p>c. Land exists in certain places that have development approvals that may be acted upon. It makes little sense to restrict those approvals in the strategic framework as there is little likelihood that the approvals will ever be abandoned.</p> <p>d. Review the Tables of Assessment for the Rural Zone to specifically nominate self-assessable development (cropping) and what Council is comfortable nominating as Code Assessment.</p> <p>e. Intensive animal husbandry cannot form part of the Rural Activities land use category as it is not capable of self-assessment.</p> <p>f. Conservation Zone and Rural activities, other than in specific precincts, are impact assessable only. These should be Impact Inconsistent having regard to the fact that this is the highest quality of protected zone.</p> <p>g. Some very small lots exist in the Rural Zone. Rural Activities should have a minimum lots size for self assessable development.</p> <p>h. "All other land uses" in the Tables of Assessment should be "All other land uses, other than those listed as inconsistent uses".</p>	<p>a. Remove 1.7.5 Operation of Local Laws within Local Government Administrative Matters.</p> <p>b. Add the following words to 3.4.4.1 in 3.4 Theme 1 – Settlement Pattern in the Strategic Framework:</p> <p>"The industry area at Craiglie <u>is a mix of commercial service/service industry. However, it</u> will not be promoted as an area suitable for land uses that rely heavily on the highway for exposure to trade/<u>function.</u>"</p> <p>c. Add the following words to Section 3.4.5(2) in 3.4 Theme 1 – Settlement Pattern in the Strategic Framework:</p> <p>"The coastal settlements of Wonga Beach, Newall and Cooya Beach and various other small towns, villages and rural residential land, including land north of the Daintree River, are not intended to grow or increase in density <u>over and above existing zoned land and what current approvals provide.</u>"</p> <p>d. Rural Activities (IF complying with all acceptable outcomes) row has been removed from the Table of Assessment for the Rural Zone. It is not required.</p> <p>e. Remove Intensive animal husbandry from the Rural Activities land use category (definitions and Tables of Assessment Notes) and provide a Code Assessable row in the Table of Assessment.</p> <p>f. Amend the Table of Assessment for the Conservation Zone to make Rural Activities (Impact Inconsistent) where not within a suitable precinct. Also amend the Table of Inconsistent Uses in the Conservation Zone code to reflect this circumstance.</p> <p>g. Amend the Rural Activities Code to include a minimum lots size of 1 hectare as follows:</p> <p><u>"AO1.1 Rural Activities are conducted on premises 1 hectare or greater."</u></p> <p>h. Add the following in all Tables of Assessment where it appears:</p> <p>"All other land uses, <u>other than those listed as inconsistent uses</u>"</p>


No.	Property/Location	Grounds	Part Number	Planning commentary	Action
				<p>i. The Rural Zone Code provides for lots divided by roads to be subdivided. This provision needs to be deleted, as Douglas Shire is characterised by many Rural lots that are divided by gazetted roads. The provision is a carry over from the Planning Regulations associated with the FNQ Regional Plan which were deleted long ago.</p> <p>j. Local Plan Map for Port Douglas - Gateway on legend should be a circle, rather than a square.</p> <p>k. Port Douglas / Craiglie Local Plan - Precinct 3 on the map is labelled commercial and recreation whereas the code states it is Craiglie Commercial and light industry precinct</p> <p>l. Rural Activities Code - Allow short term camping of RVs for 1 week rather than 3 days.</p> <p>m. Advertising devices code needs a review to ensure that stand-alone signage (not a pylon, not a billboard) is still adequately regulated by the planning scheme in line with current practice. Where not associated with the use on the land, these are impact inconsistent.</p> <p>n. Tourist Park code has a 5m setback to boundary but the Rural zone requires a 6m setback from side and rear boundaries.</p> <p>o. Botanic Garden needs an administrative definition. Note the use of a park would require free access / entry.</p> <p>p. Review applicability of Local Plans to self assessable development (e.g. Industry development in the Craiglie Local Plan).</p> <p>q. Remove density provisions in all Residential Zone Codes. These are no longer used and are nominated at far to greater density.</p>	<p>i. Delete the following from PO7 in the the Rural Zone Code:</p> <p>“The minimum lot size is 40 hectares, unless</p> <p>(a) the lot reconfiguration results in no additional lots (e.g. amalgamation, boundary realignments to resolve encroachments); or</p> <p>(b) the reconfiguration is limited to one additional lot to accommodate:</p> <p>(i) Telecommunications facility;</p> <p>(ii) Utility installation; or</p> <p>(c) —the lot reconfiguration divides one lot into two lots where:</p> <p>(i) —the existing lot is severed by a road and the road was gazetted before 9 May 2008;</p> <p>(ii) —the resulting lot boundaries use the gazetted road as the boundary of the division.</p> <p>j.-k. The mapping errors have been amended according to the submission.</p> <p>l. Amend the Rural activities code to provide for 1 week stay, not just 3 days as an Acceptable Self-Assessable Outcome.</p> <p>m. The Advertising Devices Code has been required to be redrafted as the QPP definition for Advertising Devices changed to draw in many other types of Advertising devices, not anticipated by the definition at State Interest Review Stage. This aspect was inadvertently missed during State Interest Review.</p> <p>n. The anomaly has been corrected in the Relocatable Home Park and Tourist Park Code.</p> <p>o. Add the following new definition in the Administrative definitions in Schedule 2 for Botanic Garden:</p> <p><u>“A garden dedicated to the collection, cultivation and display of a wide range of plants usually labelled with their botanical names. It may contain specialist plant collections such as plants from particular parts of the world, and so on. There may be greenhouses, shade-houses. Visitor services might include tours, educational displays, art exhibitions, book rooms, open-air theatrical and musical performances. The land use defined a Tourist Attraction, not Park.”</u></p> <p>p. The Local Plans have been amended to reference both self assessable and assessable development to address this matter.</p> <p>q. Remove all references to ‘persons per hectare’ in each Residential Zone Code.</p>

No.	Property/Location	Grounds	Part Number	Planning commentary	Action
				<p>r. Return L84 SP204459 to the Rural Zone from the Conservation (i.e. do not back zone this land as it may have utility for other purposes and doesn't warrant the high level of protection afforded through the Conservation Zone).</p> 	<p>r. Amend L84 SP204459 from Conservation Zone to Rural Zone.</p> 
607 (Part 1)	L1 SP188690	The submitter requests that the southern portion of L1 SP188690 that fronts on to South Arm Drive be included in the Rural Residential Zone, rather than the Environmental Management Zone to better reflect the land use activity conducted on this part of the land and to match other land in South Arm Drive that is included in the Rural Residential zone.	Schedule 2	<p>It is agreed that this portion of the land would be better suited to the Rural Residential zone. The land was included within the Environmental Management zone in response to a letter of direction from the State Government. However this land is not characterised by the qualities that would make it suitable for inclusion in the Environmental Management Zone.</p> 	<p>Change the southern portion of L1 SP188690 from Environmental Management Zone to Rural Residential Zone.</p> 

No.	Property/Location	Grounds	Part Number	Planning commentary	Action
607 (Part 2)	L32 SP126925	The submitter requests that L32 SP126925 be included in the Rural Residential Zone rather than the Rural Zone to reflect a development permit over the land to develop the land for 72 rural residential lots.	Schedule 2	<p>The land has achieved an approval to be subdivided into Rural Residential lots (issued by Douglas Shire Council in November 2015). It is inappropriate to establish small lots with an inappropriate underlying Rural Zone that may facilitate potentially incompatible rural land uses. Conversion to the Rural Residential Zone is recommended to reflect the approval.</p> 	<p>Change L32 SP126925 (west half) from the Rural Zone to the Rural Residential Zone.</p> 
608	n/a	<p>The Canegrowers Mossman and Mackay Sugar Mossman Mill have made various suggestions to enhance and protect the viability of sugar production and the sugar mill.</p> <p>Other issues that have previously been addressed with respect to the application of Overlays are also raised.</p> <p>An issue is raised with the Rural Activities Code in as much as Rural Farm Sheds and Rural Industry Packing Sheds do not have their own stand-alone self-assessable Code.</p>	Part 3	<p>No issues raised with the enhancements to the planning scheme as suggested from a planning perspective as shown in the adjoining actions.</p> <p>Issues associated with the Overlays are addressed at 238b. and f., herein.</p> <p>With respect to Rural Farm Sheds and Rural Industry Packing Sheds, the self assessable provisions at A1.2, AO2 and AO3 in the Rural Zone Code apply, in the same way as they also apply to the other self-assessable uses contained within the Rural Activities Code.</p>	<p>a. Add the following at 3.4.4.1(2):</p> <p><u>“The Mossman Mill is of critical importance to the prosperity of Mossman. It is intended that land, at and near, to the Mossman Mill will become the consolidated industrial area in Mossman catering for low/medium industrial development. As such, aAn industry investigation area is allocated on the Strategic Framework maps....”</u></p> <p>b. Add the following at 3.5.5.(1):</p> <p><u>“This green frame adds significantly to the Shire’s much admired high scenic amenity. In addition, the sugar cane fields contribute significantly to the Shire’s scenic amenity and sense of place on the plains below the green frame. Great care is required to protect the Shire’s natural and rural settings”</u></p> <p>c. Add the following at 3.6.1.(1):</p> <p><u>“The natural resources of the Shire, such as agricultural land and in particular land suitable for sugar cultivation, forestry, water, fisheries and extractive resources are protected or managed in a sustainable manner to ensure their ecological and economic values are assured.”</u></p>



No.	Property/Location	Grounds	Part Number	Planning commentary	Action
					<p>d. Add the following at 3.6.3.(1):</p> <p>“Primary production is a significant part of the natural resources and landscape value of the Shire. The Shire’s townships and villages rely heavily on their surrounding sugar cultivation, tropical agriculture, horticulture and grazing industries. <u>In particular, the primacy of the sugar cultivation will continue as a dominant rural pursuit in the Shire due to the critical importance of the sugar industry to the Shire.</u> Continued support is necessary...”</p> <p>e. Add the following at 3.6.4.1.(2):</p> <p>“Other extractive industries do not detrimentally impact on community well-being or the Shire’s ecological, landscape, scenic amenity and rural production values, <u>and in particular the sugar industry.</u>”</p> <p>f. Add the following to 3.8.2.(1):</p> <p>“<u>The Mossman Mill, supporting the sugar industry, has been in operation for over 120 years and is the primary economic driver in the Shire. Elsewhere,</u> Douglas Shire is not characterised by a significant industrial base to support its primary economic drivers of tourism and primary production.”</p> <p>g. Add the following to 3.8.4.(1):</p> <p>“Primary production, <u>in particular the dominant sugar industry,</u> and associated manufacturing has always been a significant....”</p> <p>h. Add 3.9.4.(5) as follows:</p> <p>“<u>The cane rail network is an important infrastructure network for the efficient operation of the sugar industry and the mill.</u>”</p> <p>i. Add 3.9.4.1.(8) as follows:</p> <p>“<u>The cane rail network is retained and maintained as a significant infrastructure network for the sugar industry in the Shire.</u>”</p> <p>j. Add the following to 6.2.10.2.(2).(b):</p> <p>“recognise the primacy of rural production, <u>and in particular sugar cultivation,</u> and <u>other</u> farming practices in rural areas;”</p>

No.	Property/Location	Grounds	Part Number	Planning commentary	Action
					<p>k. Add the following to 6.2.5.2.(2):</p> <p><u>“(d) ensure the long term dominance of the Mossman Mill as an industrial activity on Industry zoned land in Mossman will continue to contribute to the development and prosperity of the town;”</u></p> <p><u>“(e) recognise the opportunity to consolidate further industrial development around the Mosman Mill site to create a low /medium impact industry precinct in Mossman.”</u></p> <p>l. Amend both the Coastal Communities Local Plan and the Mossman Local Plan to recognise the sugar industry and the Mossman Mill as follows:</p> <p>Add the following to 7.2.2.3(2):</p> <p><u>“(g) protect parts of the Local Plan Area used for the cultivation of sugar cane from incompatible development, where such land is zoned for continued Rural use.”</u></p> <p>Add the following to 7.2.3.3.(7):</p> <p><u>“(a) the Mossman Mill is located within Precinct 4 and is the catalyst for encouraging and accommodating further industrial development.”</u></p>
609	n/a	The submitter objects to the idea of moderately dark colours for use of exterior paints/cladding on the basis that lighter colours are more appropriate for the tropical climate and choice of colours should be left to individuals to make.	Part 9	<p>The use of dark tones of colours in sensitive settings helps masks the view of development from surrounding areas. Part of the iconic appeal of Douglas Shire is its character of ‘vegetation dominating built-form’. The darker tones help achieve and maintain this outcome.</p> <p>Paints and roofing materials are available in darker tones that achieve the equivalent of lighter tones in terms of thermal reflection.</p>	No change.

No.	Property/Location	Grounds	Part Number	Planning commentary	Action
610	L2 RP89385	The submitter requests that L2 RP893585 be rezoned from the proposed Rural Zone to the Industry Zone for the purposes of establishing a Service Station on the land. The submitter believes that the land has safe highway access to the Captain Cook Highway and Bonnie Doon Road and is well positioned to provide the community, travellers and service providers as the Shire grows.	Part 6	<p>Douglas Shire has service stations on the highway in Craiglie and Mossman, Miallo and Wonga Beach that cater for needs for fuel. Furthermore an additional service station is approved in Craiglie. There is no need to establish a new service station at this location. It has no special attributes that would make it an ideal location for such use. In the contrary, a service station at this location would interfere with the southward scenic vista that extends southward across to Port Douglas from the north. In addition, including the land in an Industrial Zone would facilitate a broad range of other industrial land use activities.</p> 	No change.
612	Tavern/Hotel sites at 7-9 Macrossan Street, Port Douglas and 18-20 Wharf Street Port Douglas (L10 on SP262348 and L1 SP139068)	<p>The submitter requests a change in the proposed level of assessment for a Tavern/Hotel Use from Impact Assessment to Code Assessment in the Centre Zone (Sub-Precinct 1a Town Centre in the Port Douglas / Craiglie Local Plan) on the following grounds:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The intent of the draft planning scheme is to elevate the level of assessment for a Tavern/Hotel use from Code Assessable development to Impact Assessable development for the proposed Centre Zone. ○ It is submitted that the elevation of the level of assessment of this use to Impact Assessable development will impose a level of assessment that is not necessary and unreasonable for the subject sites. ○ Further to the above, it is submitted that the Code 	Part 6	<p>The reasons nominated in the submission are logical and make planning sense for the heart of Port Douglas as described for Sub-precinct 1a and the Live Entertainment Precinct.</p>	<p>The Level of Assessment for a Hotel in the Tables of Assessment are recommended to be adjusted from Impact Assessment to Code Assessment when included with Sub-precinct 1a of Precinct 1 – Town Centre of the Port Douglas/Craiglie Local Plan <u>AND</u> the Live Entertainment Precinct.</p>

No.	Property/Location	Grounds	Part Number	Planning commentary	Action
		<p>Assessable level of assessment is suitable for a Tavern/Hotel use within the central part of Port Douglas and the area encompassed by Sub-precinct 1a – Town Centre and within the Live Entertainment Precinct.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The allocation of an Impact Assessable level of assessment to a Hotel at this location is not consistent with the purpose statements for the Centre Zone or Precinct 1 – Port Douglas, Sub-precinct 1a and Live Entertainment Precinct as part of the draft Port Douglas/Craigie Local Plan. ○ The relevant codes encourage the establishment of uses such as a hotel within the central part of Port Douglas. The inclusion of a hotel within an impact assessable level of assessment is therefore not consistent with the intent of the relevant codes. ○ The establishment or expansion of an existing hotel on the subject sites or other locations generally encompassed by the Centre Zone, Sub-precinct 1a – Town Centre and Live Entertainment Precinct is an appropriate use and should be made Code Assessable Development. 			
614	Mossman-	The submitters request that the		The Overlay Mapping referred to in the submission is provided by the	No change.

No.	Property/Location	Grounds	Part Number	Planning commentary	Action
	Daintree Road at Rocky Point adjacent to the Port Views Estate	speed limit be lowered from 100km adjacent to the estate and than noise barriers be installed to help reduce noise and improve safety.		<p>Department of Transport and Main Roads. In this instance the Department's advice has been sought with respect to this submission and it is as follows:</p> <p><i>"The requirement to include this mapping in planning schemes stems from s246ZA of the Building Act 1975. This requirement is essentially for information purposes only in the planning scheme and as described by DTMR below the requirements associated with the mapping apply only to building applications.</i></p> <p><i>The Purposes of the Queensland Development Manual (QDC) are:</i></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <i>1) The QDC noise categories are produced for new Classes 1-4 buildings to be used in the building applications, where the new buildings must comply with the acoustic treatment requirements of QDC MP4.4.</i> <i>2) The current QDC noise categories have been modelled for the entire state-controlled roads, by considering traffic volumes, traffic compositions, road pavement types, topographical data and barriers if exist.</i> <i>3) The QDC noise categories form an overlay of local government planning scheme. The noise categories cannot be altered by the local government or by the request of the public, unless it is backed up with an acoustic report prepared by a suitably qualified person for a development application.</i> <p><i>If a residence adjacent to State-controlled roads worries about the noise impact from the road, to be eligible for any potential treatments from TMR, the noise level at the most exposed building facades needs to be at least above 68 dB(A) LA10(18h) in accordance with the TMR noise Code of Practice. In this case, the noise level at the most exposed façade of the existing front row dwellings in the subject area is at the lower end of noise category 1 (58 to 63 dB(A)LA10(18h).</i></p> <p><i>TMR has previously reviewed the speed limit along sections of this road and decided to retain the existing speed limits. The Department is happy to review speed limits if circumstances change."</i></p> <p>The provision of acoustic mounding/fencing and speed limits along the road beside the Port Views Estate are a matter for Main Roads, for which Council could be an advocate. However, they are not matter that can be addressed in the planning scheme.</p>	
615	L3 RP741072 3831	The submitter is requesting that	Schedule 2	The anomaly was corrected inside 48 hours of the scheme being placed in	Include Lot 3 RP741072 in Precinct 6 – Low Impact Tourist Accommodation

No.	Property/Location	Grounds	Part Number	Planning commentary	Action
	Cape Tribulation Road, Cape Tribulation	upon review of the planning scheme that the land was included with Precinct 6 - Low Impact Tourism Accommodation under the Daintree Coast - Cape Tribulation Local Plan and had no concerns with the precinct. However, there was an anomaly detected with the hard copy scheme where-in the land was shown as Precinct 1 – General Conservation.		<p>Community Consultation. However, that timing was sufficient to cause the land owner the confusion referenced in the submission. In interests of judicial fairness, it is recommended that the lot be included in Precinct 6 - Low Impact Tourism Accommodation designation.</p> 	<p>under the Daintree Coast – Cape Tribulation Local Plan.</p> 

Attachment 1: Live Entertainment Precinct and Special Entertainment Precinct.

Special Entertainment

1. The term “*Special Entertainment precinct*” is defined by the *Local Government Act 2009* as an area where a local government, not QLD Liquor Licensing, controls noise emissions from entertainment venues through a local law. The term is also found under S112B and S187 of the *Liquor Act 2009* (refer to Appendix 2).
2. Essentially, all noise emissions and impacts are dealt with by the local government under a Local Law and, not by Liquor Licensing. The local government declares a *Special Entertainment Precinct* under a suitable Local Law and this area is reflected in the planning scheme.
3. The local government then issues a permit/license to a premises to emit noise. The level of noise emissions allowed are the responsibility of the local government which would need to have regard to existing residents. In addition, new residential development would be required to attenuate to mitigate the noise resulting from the Council licensed premises and would require a specific code change to the Planning Scheme. Refer to the press release in Appendix 5, when the controls were introduced in 2005. To date only one *Special Entertainment Precinct* exists in Queensland – in Fortitude Valley under Brisbane City Council.
4. The Liquor Act not only refers noise emissions to the local government jurisdiction but also related noise from patrons in the area.
5. The term *Special Entertainment Precinct* is not defined or mentioned in the *Sustainable Planning Act 2009*.

Planning Scheme

6. Where a liquor licence is held and the area is not a “Special Entertainment Precinct”, noise and patron impacts are considered under the *Liquor Act 1992*.
7. Under the *Sustainable Planning Act 2009* entertainment can be provided in the following instances in local planning instruments.
 - Under the current Planning Scheme as part of a *Tavern* use or under a *Restaurant* use – where it is ancillary to the provision of meals, as per the Subsidiary on-premises licence under the *Liquor Act 1992*.
 - Under the proposed planning scheme the State has specified use definitions that must be applied under the Queensland Planning Provisions. The uses that could provide live entertainment are generally those as listed below under proposed planning scheme and correlate to uses under the *Liquor Act 1992*. The proposed Scheme definitions are included in Appendix 1, the uses as described on the Liquor licensing website are included in Appendix 2 and the uses as detailed in the *Liquor Act 1992* are included in Appendix 3.

Current Scheme	Proposed Scheme	Liquor Act
Restaurant	Food & Drink Outlet	Subsidiary on-premises licence
Tavern	Bar (max 60 patrons)	Bar (max 60 patrons)
	Hotel	Commercial Hotel Licence
	Nightclub entertainment facility	Nightclub Licence

8. The categorisation of the use appears to reflect the primary use of the premises. Under the definition in the *Liquor Act 1992*, the use of a subsidiary on-premises licence can include on a limited basis the sale of liquor without a meal and the provision of limited entertainment. The definitions under the *Liquor Act 1992* are more comprehensive than under the Planning Scheme.
9. Under the proposed planning scheme for the Precinct 1 - Port Douglas Town Centre Precinct, there is an area that is identified on the Local Plan Map Sheet – LPM-003 as a *Live Entertainment Precinct*. All of the land in the *Live Entertainment Precinct* is included in the *Centre Zone*. (Note - not all of the land in the *Centre Zone* in Port Douglas is included in the *Live Entertainment Precinct*.) The *Live Entertainment Precinct* includes part of the land that is within Sub-precinct 1a and part of the land that is within Sub-precinct 1b. The Port Douglas / Craiglie Local Plan Code refers the *Live Entertainment Precinct* only in two instances. Under the heading *Sub-precinct 1a – Town Centre sub-precinct* and under the heading *Sub-precinct 1b – Waterfront North sub-precinct*, and both of these are the same, as below:

“In addition to other overall development outcomes, development in the Sub-precinct facilitates the following development outcomes:

... Live Entertainment activities are concentrated within the Live Entertainment Precinct and are subject to the recommendations of a suitably qualified acoustic engineer.”
10. The Scheme does not provide a definition for either “*Live Entertainment Precinct*” or for “*Live Entertainment activities*.” Detail of the exhibited planning scheme maps and assessment table for Port Douglas is included in Appendix 4.
11. None of the four uses where live entertainment can occur as a main or ancillary activity (*Food & Drink Outlet*, *Bar (max 60 patrons)*, *Hotel* or *Nightclub entertainment facility*) are identified as inconsistent uses in the *Centre Zone Code*.
12. The uses of *Bar (max 60 patrons)*, *Hotel* and *Nightclub entertainment facility* are all *impact assessable development* in the *Assessment Table* for the *Centre Zone*. None of these uses has a respective land use code. While these uses require public notification, the wording under the Local Plan for the sub-precincts would support the uses, subject to suitable attenuation and car parking. That is, the impact of the uses being contained to the land, as per the normal planning considerations. Submitters would need to be cognisant that the level of amenity in these sub-precincts would be lower than those areas where *Live Entertainment activities* are not concentrated
13. The use of Food & Drink Outlet is within the defined activity group of Centre Activities. Where the use is to be established in an existing premises, where there is a lawfully established Centre Activity, the use is self-assessable where in compliance with the planning

scheme codes. Otherwise the use is code assessable. It is only where the land adjoins land in another zone, for assessable development that noise attenuation is considered (Part 9-17, AO.53). Any other consideration of noise emissions would fall under the *Liquor Act 1992*.

14. There are no provisions in the proposed planning scheme for residential accommodation for multiple dwelling or short term accommodation to attenuate noise emissions for a *Special Entertainment Precinct*.

Conclusions

15. Should Council seek a *Special Entertainment Precinct* Council would then take on the responsibilities currently undertaken by Liquor Licensing in respect to all noise emission and patron behaviour in the whole of the precinct. This includes the licensing and compliance for existing and proposed premises and will require significant resourcing. Council would need to enact a local law. Council would also need to amend its Planning Scheme, declaring such an area and ensuring new residential development is suitably attenuated to address noise impacts. This may result in a significant increase in the cost of residential development within, and nearby, the precinct.
16. Such a change to the exhibited scheme, at this stage, would be a significant change to the proposed planning scheme that was passed through State interest checks. Such a change would be likely to require formal re-exhibition of the proposed Planning scheme as a significant policy change.
17. The proposed planning scheme gives flexibility to support entertainment where the activity under an associated Liquor Licence. The Scheme expects the concentration of entertainment activities in the Live Entertainment Precinct and require that impact assessable development be accompanied by a suitable acoustic report.
18. To further support live entertainment facilities in the *Live Entertainment Precinct* Council could consider the use of bar to be code assessable, rather than impact, as such a use provides for only 60 patrons.

Appendix 1 – Definitions as per Proposed Planning Scheme

Table SC1.1.2 — Use definitions

Column 1 Use	Column 2 Definition	Column 3 Examples include	Column 4 Does not include the following examples
Bar	<p>Premises used primarily to sell liquor for consumption on the premises and that provides for a maximum capacity to seat sixty persons at any one time.</p> <p>The use may include ancillary sale of food for consumption on the premises and entertainment activities.</p>		Club, hotel, nightclub entertainment facility, tavern.
Food and drink outlet	<p>Premises used for preparation and sale of food and drink to the public for consumption on or off the site.</p> <p>The use may include the ancillary sale of liquor for consumption on site.</p>	Bistro, café, coffee shop, drive through facility, kiosk, milk bar, restaurant, snack bar, take-away, tea room.	Bar, club, hotel, shop, theatre, nightclub entertainment facility.
Hotel	Premises used primarily to sell liquor for consumption.	The use may include short term accommodation, dining and entertainment activities and facilities.	Pub, tavern. Nightclub entertainment facility.
Nightclub entertainment facility	<p>Premises used to provide entertainment, which may include cabaret, dancing and music.</p> <p>The use generally includes the sale of liquor and food for consumption on site.</p>		Club, hotel, tavern, pub, indoor sport and recreation, theatre, concert hall.

Appendix 2 – Uses as Described on the Liquor Licensing Website

Commercial hotel licence

The commercial hotel licence allows you to sell alcohol for consumption either on the premises or on and off the premises. You will need this type of licence to run a hotel or tavern.

Commercial other licence

There are 5 types of commercial other licences:

Subsidiary on-premises licence

You will need a subsidiary on-premises licence when selling liquor for on-premises consumption is a secondary function of your business.

Types of businesses that may require this licence include:

- restaurants
- cafes
- motels
- vessels
- indoor sporting centres
- theatres
- amusement parks
- function centres
- training institutions.

Restaurant and café licensees must provide meals or prepared food (at their licensed premises) as the principal activity of their business.

The provision of meals or prepared food must be demonstrated on a daily basis. This means that:

- the majority of patrons who attend the venue during a day will consume a meal
- the majority of the premises will be set up for dining
- the kitchen will be open up to 1 hour prior to closing the premises and
- there will be enough staff at the premises to prepare and serve meals as required.

Subsidiary off-premises licence

You will need a subsidiary off-premises licence when selling liquor for off-premises consumption is a secondary function of your business.

Types of businesses that may require this licence include florists or businesses that sell gift baskets (although, under some conditions, they may be exempt).

Bar licence

You will need a bar licence when selling liquor for on-premises consumption is the main function of your business.

To qualify for a bar licence your premises must not seat more than 60 patrons.

Industrial canteen licence

You will need an industrial canteen licence when the main function of your business is selling liquor in remote industrial locations to employees and their guests.

Producer/wholesaler licence

You will need a producer/wholesaler licence when the main function of your business is either, or both, of the following:

- production and wholesale sale on the licensed premises of liquor made on the premises
- wholesale sale of liquor (to other licensees) on the licensed premises.

Commercial special facility licence

The commercial special facility licence applies to casinos, airports, convention centres and other tourism businesses, excluding sporting facilities.

Community club licence

The community club licence applies to non-proprietary clubs (e.g. sporting clubs, RSL clubs and ethnic clubs).

Community other licence

The community other licence allows for limited trading periods and applies to non-proprietary clubs that are also incorporated associations (such as charities) or unincorporated associations with an individual to hold the licence on the association's behalf.

Nightclub licence

You will need a nightclub licence when the main function of your business is to provide entertainment. The person presenting the entertainment must be physically present while entertainment is being provided.

Wine licence

There are 2 types of wine licences available under the Wine Industry Act 1994.

Note: Under the Wine Industry Act 1994, an approved wine nominee is required if an individual holds more than 1 licence or if the licensee is an organisation or partnership.

Wine producer licence

A wine producer licence allows the licensee to operate a vineyard or winery.

Wine merchant licence

A wine merchant licence allows the licensee to conduct business that contributes to the Queensland wine industry in a substantial way, such as using Queensland fruit to make wine on another premise, or blending different wines to create a unique wine in the state.

Licence to sell alcohol online

Selling alcohol online from within Queensland

In Queensland, there is no specific licence for directly selling packaged liquor over the internet to the general public. However, the sale of alcohol online is permitted under certain circumstances.

The Liquor Act 1992 and Wine Industry Act 1994 allow for specific licensees to sell alcohol online:

- Commercial hotel licensees or limited commercial special facility licensees can sell retail packaged liquor for consumption off the licensed premises (takeaway liquor) to the general public. This includes online sale.
- Wine producer licensees and wine merchant licensees are permitted to sell wine to the general public for off-premises consumption (takeaway liquor). These sales may be conducted online.

Selling alcohol online from outside of Queensland

Under the Liquor Act 1992 and Wine Industry Act 1994, interstate suppliers can legally sell liquor online to Queenslanders provided that the storage (distribution) and payment for the alcohol sale happens outside of Queensland.

Sellers operating, or proposing to operate, from jurisdictions outside of Queensland should consult with their relevant state regulatory agency.

Appendix 3 - Liquor Act 1992 – Licence types

Liquor Act 1992

Division 2 Commercial hotel licence

59 Principal activity of a business conducted under a commercial hotel licence

- (1) The principal activity of a business conducted under a commercial hotel licence is the sale of liquor for consumption on the licensed premises, or on and off the premises, together with—
 - (a) the provision of meals and accommodation, as required under the licence; and
 - (b) the provision of premises and catering facilities for use by persons genuinely attending a function held on the premises.
- (2) The authority under a commercial hotel licence to sell liquor does not apply unless a business is conducted on the licensed premises with the principal activity as mentioned in subsection (1).
- (3) To remove doubt, it is declared that it is inconsistent with the principal activity of a business conducted under a commercial hotel licence to only sell liquor for consumption off the premises.

60 Authority of commercial hotel licence

- (1) A commercial hotel licence authorises the licensee—
 - (a) to sell liquor on the licensed premises, for consumption on or off the premises, during ordinary trading hours or approved extended trading hours; and
 - (b) to sell liquor on the licensed premises, for consumption on or off the premises, at any time to a resident on the premises; and
 - (c) to sell liquor on the licensed premises, for consumption on the premises, at any time to a guest of a resident on the premises while the guest is in the resident's company; and
 - (d) to sell liquor on premises approved by the commissioner for sale of liquor under authority of the licence, for consumption—
 - (i) off the premises; or
 - (ii) on the premises in the amount and in the circumstances prescribed by regulation.

Note—Premises approved by the commissioner under subsection (1)(d) are detached bottle shops under this Act.

- (2) If the commissioner states in the licence, the authority of a commercial hotel licence extends to the sale of liquor off the licensed premises, for consumption off the premises, while the licensee is catering for a function if—

- (a) the sale is ancillary to the function at the place where the liquor is consumed; and
 - (b) the liquor is sold for consumption by persons genuinely attending the function.
- (3) The authority under subsection (1) or (2) is subject to this Act and the conditions stated in a particular licence.
- (4) Premises approved by the commissioner for sale of liquor under the authority of a commercial hotel licence are part of the licensed premises to which the licence relates.

61 Restrictions on grant of commercial hotel licence

- (1) The commissioner may grant a commercial hotel licence only if the commissioner is satisfied of the following—
- (a) the business to be conducted under the licence on the licensed premises will have the principal activity as mentioned in section 59(1);
 - (b) the business to be conducted under the licence on the licensed premises will have a commercial kitchen and at least 2 of the following facilities—
 - (i) a dining, restaurant, or bistro-style, facility;
 - (ii) self-contained accommodation of at least 3 rooms for letting to travellers;
 - (iii) a function room facility available for hire by members of the public;
 - (c) the licensed premises—
 - (i) have the capacity to seat more than 60 patrons at any one time; and
 - (ii) have toilet facilities for male and female patrons of the business to be conducted under the licence on the premises.
- (2) The commissioner must not grant a commercial hotel licence to a person—
- (a) for premises the commissioner reasonably considers are, or are to be, used primarily as a supermarket; or
 - (b) if the commissioner considers that the sale of liquor proposed to be carried on under authority of the licence would more appropriately be carried on under the authority of a licence of another kind.
- (3) Also, the commissioner must not grant a commercial hotel licence to an incorporated association under the Associations Incorporation Act 1981.

Subdivision 2 Subsidiary on-premises licence

67 Principal activity of a business under a subsidiary on-premises licence

- (1) The principal activity of a business conducted under a subsidiary on-premises licence is the provision of an activity, matter or service to which the sale of liquor for consumption on the licensed premises is a subsidiary aspect.

- (2) The authority under a subsidiary on-premises licence to sell or supply liquor does not apply unless a business is conducted on the licensed premises with the principal activity as mentioned in subsection (1).

67A Principal activity is the provision of meals

- (1) This section applies if the principal activity of a business conducted under a subsidiary on-premises licence is the provision of meals prepared, and served to be eaten, on the licensed premises.
- (2) The authority of the licence is restricted to the following—
- (a) the sale and supply of liquor for consumption on the premises—
 - (i) in association with a consumer eating a meal on the premises; and
 - (ii) to persons on the premises other than in association with the persons eating meals;
 - (b) the sale and supply of 1 opened and 1 unopened bottle of wine for consumption off the premises to each adult consumer eating a meal.
- (3) For subsection (1), a licensee is taken not to be conducting a business on the licensed premises that is consistent with the principal activity of the licence unless—
- (a) for each trading day, most of the patrons of the business on that day consume a meal on the premises; and
 - (b) throughout each trading day, most of the area of the licensed premises is set up with tables and chairs, or another combination of seating and surfaces, that are being used or ready for use by patrons for consuming meals; and
 - (c) there is a kitchen in the licensed premises which is open throughout each trading day other than a period of up to 1 hour before the end of a trading period; and
 - (d) throughout each trading day there are sufficient staff at the licensed premises engaged in, or available to engage in, the preparation and service of meals.
- (4) In this section —
- open, for a kitchen, means being used or available for use for meal preparation.
- trading day, for licensed premises, means—
- (a) if only 1 trading period for the premises starts on a day—that trading period; or
 - (b) if 2 or more trading periods for the premises start on a day—the total of the trading periods.

trading period, for licensed premises, means a continuous period during which the premises are open for business (including a period starting on a day and ending on the following day).

Subdivision 4 Bar licence**70 Principal activity of a business under a bar licence**

- (1) The principal activity of a business conducted under a bar licence is the sale of liquor on the licensed premises having the capacity to seat not more than 60 patrons at any one time.
- (2) The authority under a bar licence to sell or supply liquor does not apply unless a business is conducted on the licensed premises with the principal activity as mentioned in subsection (1).

70A Authority of bar licence

- (1) A bar licence authorises the licensee to sell liquor on the licensed premises for consumption on the premises during ordinary trading hours or approved extended trading hours.
- (2) The authority under subsection (1) is subject to this Act and the conditions stated in a particular licence.

Division 6A Nightclub licence**83A Principal activity of a business under a nightclub licence**

- (1) The principal activity of a business conducted under a nightclub licence is the provision of entertainment on the licensed premises and the sale of liquor for consumption on the licensed premises while the entertainment is provided.
- (2) The authority under a nightclub licence to sell or supply liquor does not apply unless a business is conducted on the licensed premises with the principal activity as mentioned in subsection (1).
- (3) It is consistent with the principal activity of a nightclub licence to sell or supply liquor for consumption on the premises during a relevant period, even though no entertainment is being provided, if the liquor is sold or supplied in association with a consumer eating a meal on the premises.
- (4) However, subsection (3) applies only if the licensee complies with section 67A(3)(b) to (d) as if a reference in that provision to a trading day were a reference to the part of a trading day during a relevant period that the licensee sells or supplies liquor while no entertainment is being provided.
- (5) In this section—
entertainment—
 - (a) means entertainment provided by a person—
 - (i) who is physically present when providing the entertainment; and
 - (ii) whose function is to present the entertainment; and

- (b) does not include entertainment using facilities that do not require a person present to provide the entertainment.

Examples of facilities that do not require a person to be present—

- pool tables
- jukeboxes[s 83B]

relevant period, for premises, means—

- (a) for premises to which an extended trading hours approval applies for trading between 9a.m. and 10a.m.—between 9a.m. and 5p.m.; or
- (b) if paragraph (a) does not apply—between 10a.m. and 5p.m.

83B Authority of nightclub licence

- (1) A nightclub licence authorises the licensee to sell liquor on the licensed premises during ordinary trading hours or approved extended trading hours—
 - (a) for consumption on the premises; and
 - (b) if stated in the licence—for consumption off the licensed premises, subject to section 83D.
- (2) The authority under subsection (1) is subject to this Act and the conditions stated in a particular licence.

83C Restrictions on grant of nightclub licence

- (1) The commissioner may grant a nightclub licence only if the commissioner is satisfied the licensed premises have toilet facilities for male and female patrons of the business to be conducted under the licence on the licensed premises.
- (2) The commissioner must not grant a nightclub licence to a person for a vehicle the commissioner reasonably considers is, or is to be, used primarily to transport persons by road between licensed premises.

83D Restriction on sale of liquor for consumption off premises

- (1) The commissioner may decide that liquor may be sold under the authority of a nightclub licence for consumption off the licensed premises only if the commissioner is satisfied the[s 84] sale of liquor will be made only in the course of the licensee providing catering facilities for functions.
- (2) The authority conferred by a nightclub licence to sell liquor for consumption off the licensed premises is restricted to the sale of liquor—
 - (a) as ancillary to a function that—
 - (i) happens at a place at which the liquor is consumed; and
 - (ii) includes the licensee providing food for the function of sufficient substance as to be ordinarily accepted as a meal for consumption by persons

genuinely attending the function, even though the food may be eaten while standing and without cutlery; and

- (b) for consumption by persons genuinely attending the function.

112B Variation of condition about noise—licensed premises in special entertainment precinct

- (1) This section applies if—
- (a) a licence is subject to a condition (a noise condition) about noise coming from the licensed premises; and
 - (b) the licensed premises are in a special entertainment precinct established by a local government under the *Local Government Act 2009*; and
 - (c) a licence, permit or other authority has been issued for the premises under a local law made by the local government under the *Local Government Act 2009*, including a licence, permit or other authority that has expired or been revoked or cancelled by the local government.
- (2) The noise condition does not apply in relation to noise from amplified music played at the licensed premises.
- (3) To remove any doubt, it is declared that this section no longer applies if the local government—
- (a) revokes the special entertainment precinct; or
 - (b) changes the boundaries of the special entertainment precinct so that the premises are no longer within the precinct's core area under the *Local Government Act 2009*.

187 Abatement of nuisance or dangerous activity

- (1) This section applies if an investigator believes on reasonable grounds that—
- (a) noise coming from licensed premises, or a utility area for licensed premises, is unreasonable noise; or
 - (b) because of activity in or near the licensed premises, there is a danger to persons or property that is likely to be aggravated by the continued supply of liquor in the locality.
- (1A) However, this section does not apply if the noise is from amplified music played at licensed premises—
- (a) in a special entertainment precinct established by a local government under the *Local Government Act 2009*; and
 - (b) for which the local government has issued a licence, permit or other authority under the local law made by the local government under the *Local Government Act 2009*, including licence, permit or other authority that has expired or been revoked or cancelled by the local government.

Appendix 4 – Exhibited Scheme Maps & Assessment Tables

For Port Douglas the exhibited Scheme details the following zoning, local plans and assessment table, relative to the above uses.

Zoning

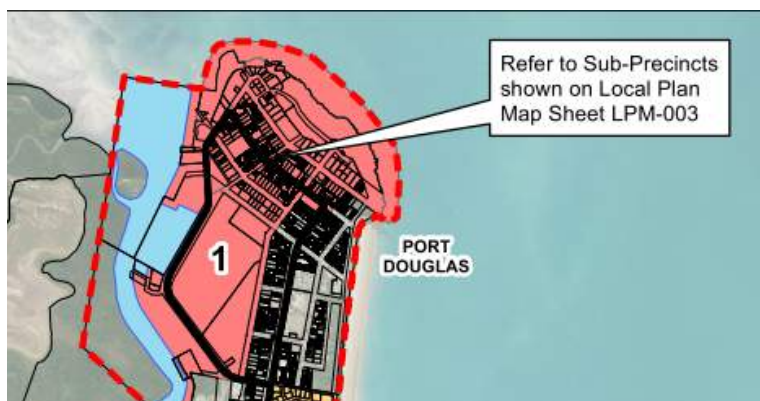


Local Plans

Townscape Plan Map Sheet – TPM-002



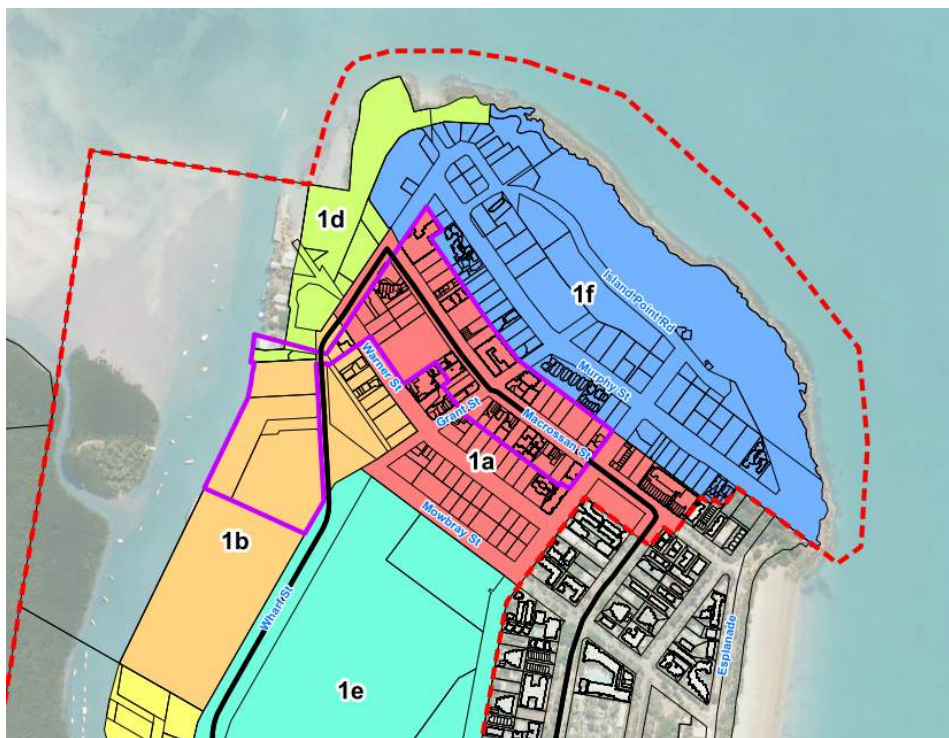
Local Plan Map Sheet - LPM-002



Local Plan Precincts:

- Local Plan Boundary
- Major Road Connections
- Precinct 1 - Port Douglas
- Precinct 2 - Integrated Resort
- Precinct 3 - Craiglie Commercial and Recreation
- Precinct 4 - Old Port Road / Mitre Street
- Precinct 5 - Very Low Density

Local Plan Map Sheet - LPM-003



Local Plan Precincts:

- Major Road Connections
- Precinct 1: Port Douglas Precinct
- Live Entertainment Precinct
- Sub-precinct 1a - Town Centre
- Sub-precinct 1b - Waterfront North
- Sub-precinct 1c - Waterfront South
- Sub-precinct 1d - Limited Development
- Sub-precinct 1e - Community and Recreation
- Sub-precinct 1f - Flagstaff Hill



Table 5.6.a – Centre zone

Column 1 Development	Column 2 Level of assessment	Column 3 Assessment criteria																												Column 4 Notes								
		Douglas Shire Planning Scheme	Centre zone code	Coastal communities local plan code ^a	Mossman local plan code ^a	Port Douglas / Craigie local plan code ^a	Return to Country local plan code ^a	Settlement areas north of the Daintree River local plan code ^a	Acid sulfate soils overlay code ^a	Bushfire hazard overlay code ^a	Coastal environment overlay code ^a	Flood and storm tide hazard overlay code ^a	Hilltopes overlay code ^a	Landscape values overlay code ^a	Natural areas overlay code ^a	Places of significance overlay code ^a	Potential landslide hazard overlay code ^a	Transport network overlay code ^a	Community residence code	Forestry for wood production code	Reconfiguring a lot (subdividing 1 lot into 2 lots) and associated operational works code	Caretaker's accommodation code	Centre activities code	Child care centre code	Dwelling unit code	Home based business code	Telecommunications facility code	Access, parking and servicing code ^a	Advertising devices code ^x	Environmental performance code ^x	Filling and excavation code ^a	Infrastructure works code ^a	Landscaping code ^a	Reconfiguring a lot code ^a	Ship-sourced pollutants reception facilities in marinas code ^h	Vegetation management code ^a		
Material change of use																																						
Caretaker's accommodation	S		a						a		a	a			a	a	a					a						a										
Centre activities ^a	C		a	a	a	a			a		a	a			a	a	a	a					a					a	a	a	a	a	a					
IF contained within an existing building used for a lawfully established Centre activity	S		a																																			
Child care centre	C		a						a		a	a			a	a	a								a				a	a								
Dwelling unit	S		a						a		a	a			a	a	a									a												
Home based business	S		a																																			
Park	E																																					
Substation	C		a	a	a	a			a		a	a			a	a	a																					
Telecommunications facility	C		a	a	a	a			a		a	a			a	a	a																					
Utility installation	C		a	a	a	a			a		a	a			a	a	a																					
All other land uses	I		a																																			
All other land uses identified as inconsistent uses ^g	IU		a																																			
Undefined uses	I		a																																			
Reconfiguring a lot																																						
Reconfiguring a lot	C		a	a	a	a			a		a	a			a	a	a																					
Operational work ^x	C		a	a	a	a			a		a	a			a	a	a																					
IF for advertising devices, being a billboard	I		a																																			
IF for advertising devices, being a projecting sign, pylon sign or illuminated sign, complying with all Acceptable Outcomes	S		a			a																																
IF for filling and excavation	C		a	a	a	a			a		a	a			a	a	a																					
IF for vegetation damage	S		a																																			
IF for works on a Local government road ^{**}	C		a																																			
Building work																																						
Building work	S		a																																			
IF for removal or demolition within the Places of significance overlay	I		a																																			

E

S

C

I

IU

E = Exempt

S = Self Assessable

C = Code Assessable

I = Impact Assessable

IU = Impact Inconsistent

^a Applicable local plan codes are identified by reference to the local plan maps contained in schedule 2.

^a Applicable overlay codes are identified by reference to the overlay maps contained in schedule 2.

^x 'Other development codes' are only applicable to the extent they are relevant to the specific type of application proposed (i.e. if no vegetation damage is proposed, then the Vegetation management code does not apply).

^g Inconsistent uses are identified in the relevant Zone code and within the Local Plan Code for the Port Douglas / Craigie local plan.

^a Centre activities consist of the following uses:

- Adult store
- Club (not requiring a liquor license and less than 100m² GFA)
- Community use
- Food and drink outlet (not providing a drive through facility)
- Function facility
- Health care services
- Office
- Sales office
- Service industry (if less than 100m² GFA)
- Shop, not defined within the Large format retail activities group
- Shopping centre, not defined within the Large format retail activities group

^{**}Operational works on a State-controlled road require approval under the Transport Infrastructure Act 1994 from the Department of Transport and Main Roads.

^a Applicable local plan codes are identified by reference to the local plan maps contained in schedule 2.

^h Applicable overlay codes are identified by reference to the overlay maps contained in schedule 2.

^x 'Other development codes' are only applicable to the extent they are relevant to the specific type of application proposed (i.e. if no vegetation damage is proposed, then the Vegetation management code does not apply).

^g Inconsistent uses are identified in the relevant Zone code and within the Local Plan Code for the Port Douglas / Craigie local plan.

^a Centre activities consist of the following uses:

- Adult store
- Club (not requiring a liquor license and less than 100m² GFA)
- Community use
- Food and drink outlet (not providing a drive through facility)
- Function facility
- Health care services
- Office
- Sales office
- Service industry (if less than 100m² GFA)
- Shop, not defined within the Large format retail activities group
- Shopping centre, not defined within the Large format retail activities group

^{**}Operational works on a State-controlled road require approval under the Transport Infrastructure Act 1994 from the Department of Transport and Main Roads.

E	E = Exempt
S	S = Self Assessable
C	C = Code Assessable
I	I = Impact Assessable
IU	IU = Impact Inconsistent

Appendix 5 Introduction of Special entertainment precincts – press release (State website:

<http://statements.qld.gov.au/Statement/ld/43522>

Media Statements

Media release



Minister for Environment, Local Government, Planning and Women
The Honourable Desley Boyle

New legislation to allow 'special entertainment precincts'

Minister for Environment, Local Government, Planning and Women

The Honourable Desley Boyle

Friday, November 11, 2005

New legislation to allow 'special entertainment precincts'

Councils will be able to declare 'special entertainment precincts', to protect their community's entertainment hub under legislation passed by State Parliament this week.

The legislation change allows councils to declare 'special entertainment precincts' in their communities, where music venues will be given latitude to do what they do best - entertain the public.

Local Government and Planning Minister Desley Boyle encouraged Councils to consider the benefits of taking advantage of the legislation.

"The state's contribution will be substantial.

"Liquor Licensing Inspectors and Police will both enforce this legislation and consult with the community and licensed venues on the implications.

"They will sit down with key stakeholders, community representatives and those councils interested in this opportunity.

"These declared 'special entertainment precincts' will ensure live music and residential living can co-exist.

"In these precincts, new residential developments will have to adhere to stricter noise insulation requirements.

"And the trade-off for existing residents is entertainment venues will be required to adhere to specific noise levels set by council," she said.

"Inner city living is becoming a lifestyle choice for more and more people - the proximity to restaurants, bars and cafes and easy access to the office, making the areas a real drawcard.

"But this trend is impacting on established entertainment areas.

Ms Boyle said: "Brisbane City Council has led the way on 'special entertainment precincts', but other South East Queensland councils have shown interest".

The legislative amendments are: * The Local Government Act 1993 amended to provide the head of power for a council to declare a 'special entertainment precinct' via a local law and amendments to its planning scheme prepared under the Integrated Planning Act 1997. * The Liquor Act 1992 amended to exempt 'special entertainment precincts' from existing noise provisions under the Act; and * Inclusion of a model standard in the Queensland Development Code for the construction of buildings within 'special entertainment precincts'.

The legislative amendments were developed through collaboration between the Liquor Licensing Division of the Department of Tourism, Fair Trading and Wine Industry Development and the Department of Local Government, Planning, Sport and Recreation.

Ends

Media contact: 3227-8819 11 November 2005

Appendix 6 Local Government Act 2009

264 Special entertainment precincts

- (1) This section is about establishing a special entertainment precinct.
- (2) A special entertainment precinct is an area in which—
 - (a) amplified music that is played at premises in the area is regulated by a local law, and not by the Liquor Act 1992; and
 - (b) the requirements about noise attenuation under the Planning Act apply to certain types of development in the area.
- (3) If a local government wants to establish a special entertainment precinct in its local government area, the local government must—
 - (a) amend the local government's planning scheme to identify the special entertainment precinct; and
 - (b) make a local law to regulate noise from amplified music from premises in the special entertainment precinct, in accordance with a permit that is issued for the premises.
- (4) However, a local law under this section does not apply to—[s 265]
 - (a) a major sports facility under the *Major Sports Facilities Act 2001*; or
 - (b) an activity that—
 - (i) is for a major event under the *Major Events Act 2014*; and
 - (ii) is being carried on by, or with the approval of, the major event organiser for the major event.

Attachment 2

Douglas Shire Council Officers' Submission to the proposed Douglas Shire Planning Scheme

Part 1 – About a Planning Scheme

Section 1.7 Local Government Administrative Matters

Section 1.7.3 contains provisions relating to amenity and aesthetics that states that all building work that may have a detrimental impact on amenity and aesthetics will trigger a concurrence agency referral to Council for its assessment. This has the unintended consequence of referring all building works applications to Council for assessment which will consequently impact significantly on the role of private certifiers to assess and determine building applications. Section 1.7.3 needs to be reviewed and if it is deemed to be unnecessary needs to be deleted.

Section 1.7.5 refers to the Operation of Local Laws. Concern is expressed having regard to current practices of Council and how this particular section will impact on resourcing. In particular, aspects relating to advertising devices, shared facility accommodation operations, Temporary entertainment events and temporary homes needs review to ensure consistency with current practice.

Part 3 – Strategic Framework

Section 3.4.3 could be strengthened by adding some words that reflect the commercial services / service industry nature of the Craiglie Industrial area.

Section 3.4.5 could be clarified to ensure that coastal settlements (Wonga Beach, Newell and Cooya Beach) are not intended to grow or increase in density over and above existing zoned land and what current approvals provide.

Part 5 – Tables of Assessment

Review the table of assessment (and the categories of development on the side of the tables) for the various zones to make sure we are not capturing development unintentionally and facilitate either low risk or intended development to take place in certain zones.

A few examples are:-

- The rural zone. Review the tables of assessment to specifically identify particular land uses and nominate as a self assessable (i.e Cropping). Review what is placed in the category of Rural activities to make sure that Council is comfortable nominating as code assessable development. Potentially there is a need to reverse the approach from having to 'demonstrate compliance with the codes in order to be self assessable' to being 'self assessable unless not complying with the

code'. The difference is subtle in theory. However it may make a big difference in the application and functionality of the Planning Scheme.

- Centre Zone – All centre zone uses are code unless within an existing building being lawfully used for a centre activity. Uses like shop, restaurant, office etc... could be self assessable in a Centre zone where they meet the requirements of the various planning codes. The scheme needs to encourage and facilitate development which is anticipated to establish in certain locations. Review the tables of assessment for all zones with this approach.

Clarification required on extend of code required to be complied with for development to be considered self-assessable (e.g. Rural Zone, Rural Activities - states certain uses are self-assessable "where all acceptable measures are achieved." Clarification that only the associated acceptable measures / applicable are necessary to be achieved. It is not clear that you do not need to achieve the whole code or only specific components).

Conservation Zone and Rural Activities - Rural Activities, other than in specific precincts, are impact assessable – should these be impact inconsistent having regard this is the highest quality of protected zone?

Some very small lots are included in the Rural Zone – eg in Mowbray Valley., Rural Activities should require a minimum lot size.

Clarification on Assessment table – 'All other land uses' – consider changing to "all land uses, other than those specifically listed or those identified as inconsistent uses."

Part 6 – Zones

Inconsistent Use Table need scrutiny to ensure that uses that may be deemed consistent are not contained within these Tables. For example, in the Conservation Zone, health care services, renewable energy facility, major electrical infrastructure may be appropriate in certain circumstances.

Clarification that inconsistent uses are different to uses listed as Rural Activities – eg intensive animal husbandry is listed as an inconsistent use, but on the Table it is listed for limited applications for code assessable development. Clarify consistency with uses on the assessment table and the land use code. This would be simpler if the zone code followed the respective Assessment table. Need to check consistency with other zones/tables.

The Rural Zone Code provides for lots divided by roads to be subdivided. This provision needs to be review, and possibly needs to be deleted, as Douglas Shire is characterised by many Rural lots that a divided by gazetted roads. Query whether similar provision should apply to Environmental Management Zone, if this provision is to be kept.

Rural Settlement Zone - Should some of these lots be environmental management – where affected by hillslope or flooding? (e.g. Mowbray Valley, check Rural Settlement lots).

Zone purpose statements – There should be a purpose statement in all zones giving reference to development outcomes being consistent with 'conserving' the Great Barrier Reef.

Part 7 – Local Plans

Waterfront Area and Macrossan Street - Include external master planning documents that were developed by the former Douglas Shire / Cairns Regional Council.

Settlement Areas North of Daintree River - Review and check for consistency of the precinct allocation for consistency with intent of scheme and previous buy back to ensure merit in proposed precinct nominations.

Local Plan Map for Port Douglas - Gateway on legend should be a circle, rather than a square.

Port Douglas / Craiglie Local Plan - Precinct 3 on the map is labelled commercial and recreation whereas the code states it is Craiglie Commercial and light industry precinct – check maps and codes for consistency of descriptions.

Part 8 - Overlays

Review the utility of the 'Dwelling house character overlay' to ensure that unnecessary planning applications are triggered that are adequately managed through current private certification practices and Council's concurrence agency responsibilities.

Level 1 Flood Hazard Mapping and the Coastal Processes Overlay that make up a very significant proportion of the Shire trigger a higher level of assessment than is probably necessary particularly for houses. This needs to be reviewed (particularly for the Residential Zones categories) to ensure that that unnecessary planning applications are triggered that are adequately managed through current private certification practices and Council's concurrence agency responsibilities.

Flood and Stormtide Hazard Overlay Code - PO1 and A01 should apply to all buildings and structures of community importance. No new buildings should be within a flood or stormtide event. Where mapped as being affected then the acceptable outcome would be located above the DFE. For uses that would require extra resources to evacuate then try a higher than 1% occurrence. Allow cropping and other rural uses in the flood/stormtide – this is their risk, but not ancillary rural activities e.g., tourist park (small). Council and emergency groups should not have to utilise resources to evacuate new development. This may require a table of uses for this code. The performance criteria could be a local drainage management plan.

Which code lies above the other in regards to status?

Part 9 – Development Codes

Shipping containers are banned within the Dwelling house code at 9.3.8 . However they are used for storage purposes in some parts of the Shire without any detriment to amenity. This ban needs to be reviewed to qualify the provision or removed if it is deemed unnecessary.

9.3.17 Rural Activities Code - Allow short term camping of RVs for 1 week rather than 3 days – mandatory ability to dump waste appropriately. Consider provision of “ensuite” next to camping spot with appropriate waste – is this a code assessable development.

9.4.5 Infrastructure Works Code needs review, in particular the provisions relating to residential driveway cross-overs. These provisions are covered in the FNQROC Manual. Introducing this provision may unnecessarily raise the level of assessment for a significant range of dwelling house applications that are

adequately managed through current private certification practices and Council's concurrence agency responsibilities.

9.4.9 Vegetation Management Code has inadvertently raised the level of assessment over and above current requirements and certain provisions need adjusting to reflect current practices. The principal intention is to strengthen the code and not weakening the code in undertaking this review.

Consider protecting particular types of trees eg melaleuca rather than height or girth. Register species where removal requires an approval. Consider whether tree protection should be more than a front yard. For example a tree of a certain girth or height of a particular species should also be protected.

9.4.2 Advertising devices code needs a review to ensure that stand-alone signage (not a pylon, not a billboard) is still adequately regulated by the planning scheme in line with current practice. Where not associated with the use on the land, these are impact inconsistent. (e.g., Industry zone, advertising device is self-assessable. Scheme should nominate a proportion of the sign face to be the business – e.g. not 90% XXXX Gold and 10% business).

General

Ensure planning scheme takes into account Douglas Shire Council's submission on Climate Change.

Setbacks - Consider constancy of setback distances. E.g., Tourist Park code has a 5m setback to boundary but the rural zone requires a 6m setback from side and rear boundaries. Check land uses and zone codes and seek consistent or standard setbacks e.g., 6m, 10, 20, or 40m.

Botanic Garden need for an administrative definition - Noted use of tourist attraction is an inconsistent use. A Park would require free access / entry. Concern with impact on residential uses on opposite side of state-declared road. Need to clarify what extent of the group's proposal would be accepted development, what would require an approval and what would not be supported.

Mill Street, Mossman - Change the library, community services and Council land to community facilities zone, change the south side of Mill Street from residential to centre – has a majority of non-residential uses.

Existing use rights and how to read the scheme - Clarify existing use rights – to refer to relevant legislation. e.g., What do you do about a building already within a setback distance and is proposed to be occupied for this purpose. Structure remains consist and has achieved rights but change of land use needs consideration.

Have the chapter heading/ table heading vertically on the outside page edge – for easier reference to the relevant chapter.

Mapping – colours diffuse and difficult copying e.g., rural fades to white and problem between tourist and residential and medium density residential.

Reading the Scheme - The current scheme requires development to consider the purpose, performance Criteria and acceptable solutions as scheme / code outcomes. The proposed Scheme seeks only

compliance with the Acceptable outcomes. This is satisfactory for a self-assessable development but review whether this rationale should still apply for the new scheme for code and impact development all outcomes. That is, check the consistency of the path relationship between the purpose statements, performance criteria and acceptable outcomes. This pathway should be checked for compliance in both directions.

In schedule 1, definitions, list the various types of definitions: use, activity groups, administrative etc.

Secondary Dwellings - Consider the ability for a separate household to occupy the secondary dwelling. This could be an unrelated person or household – the land is shared and cannot be reconfigured separately in any way – even via building format plan. This would provide an income stream to one party and provide a higher density and better use of infrastructure. (e.g. retired or young couple could rent out a smaller house on the land (or rent out the larger house) and gain an income stream to assist with mortgage. This would get people into the housing home ownership stream and make housing more affordable. It would also consolidate development and it is on the basis of sharing land. Compliance as to whether households on land are related is difficult. Provided they are in the single to ownership use should be a tenancy arrangement provided minimum open space / parking are achieved. Need to have a minimum size for a secondary dwelling – otherwise could have 20m² units. Also consider whether there needs to be a minimum size accommodation unit size. Scheme should nominate how many “secondary dwellings” a site can support.

Self-assessable development and applicable codes - Example of industry in an existing building is self assessable in the industry zone, and the assessment table nominated in the local plan to apply, (e.g. Craiglie) but there are no provisions for self assessable development within the code. This is different from say Centre Activities in the Centre zone is code and then self-assessable where in an existing building. Check for consistency for self assessable development in this code and others.

Use latest cadastral base mapping to identify recently approved subdivisions.

Supplementary

Remove density provisions in Zone Codes (i.e. persons per hectare).

Ensure car parking takes into account outdoor dining.

Return L84 SP204459 to the Rural Zone from the Conservation (i.e. don't back zone).

-END-

5.8. 2017-2018 FEES AND CHARGES-DEVELOPMENT ASSESSMENT-SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITIES

REPORT AUTHOR(S) GENERAL MANAGER

Paul Hoyer, Manager Sustainable Communities
Darryl Crees, General Manager Corporate Services
Nicholas Wellwood, General Manager Operations

DEPARTMENT

Sustainable Communities

RECOMMENDATION

That Council:

- 1. Adopts the Schedule of Fees and Charges for the 2017/18 financial year for Development Assessment – Sustainable Communities; and**
- 2. Delegates authority to the Chief Executive Officer in accordance with Section 257 of the Local Government Act 2009 to negotiate fees and charges where circumstances warrant and to make minor administrative amendments to the Schedule.**

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The schedule of fees and charges developed for the 2017/18 financial year strives to achieve an equitable "user pays" system for services provided that will continue to assist Council in becoming a long term, financially sustainable organisation.

The increase to the fees and charges has been contained to 3.90%.

BACKGROUND

In conjunction with the annual budget preparation, Council is required to adopt a schedule of fees and charges to be applied for each financial year. Although the schedule is adopted for the full year, should circumstances warrant new fees can be introduced or fees amended throughout the year.

The Development Assessment fees have been brought before Council at a later date than the other Council fees and charges as officers required information on the new Planning Act 2016 and the associated regulation before a fee schedule could be finalised.

COMMENT

The 2017/18 Schedule of Fees and Charges - Development Assessment has been developed as a "business as usual" set of fees taking into account the commencement of the new Planning Act 2016 on July 3, 2017 and having regard to the need to accommodate the continuance of the Sustainable Planning Act in some circumstances.

Key points taken into consideration in the preparation of the fees are:-

1. All continuing fees have been increased by 3.9%;
2. Section 7.9: Fee has been renamed from "Prelodgement Enquiry (No Report to Council)" to "Informal Prelodgement Enquiry (No Report to Council)" to align with the new Planning Act. No fee applies as per previous years.

3. Section 7.12: "Siting / Discretionary Decisions" has been moved from the Building section of the Fees and Charges to the Development Assessment section.

New Fees:

3. Section 7.1.5: "Formal Prelodgement Enquiry". Applications involving a Formal Prelodgement Enquiry under the Planning Act 2016 shall be charged at 30% of the fee prescribed in the fee schedule.
4. Section 7.9: "Exemption Certificate under the Planning Act 2016". Fee: \$77.95. To align with new Planning Act 2016.

Deletions:

5. Section 7.9: "Prelodgement Enquiry (Report to Council)" has been deleted and is replaced by the new fee "Formal Prelodgement Enquiry" in accordance with the Planning Act 2016.

At a later date in the 2017/18 financial year and on commencement of the proposed Planning Scheme, a complete review of fees and terminology used for the proposed Planning Scheme will be undertaken. This process will simplify the current fee schedule and ensure the fees align with the definitions and terminology used in the proposed Planning Scheme.

PROPOSAL

The Schedule of Fees and Charges for the 2017/18 financial year is presented to Council for adoption. The fees and charges come into effect from 1 July 2017 and reflect a business as usual process, taking into account the new Planning Act 2016.

FINANCIAL/RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS

Fees and Charges are an integral component of Council's revenue stream. Wherever possible, Council aims to recover the cost of providing the service. In other cases, Council subsidises the service in recognition of the broader community interest. Movements in the level of fees over the previous year are balanced against Council's goal of achieving long term financial sustainability.

RISK MANAGEMENT IMPLICATIONS

Obtaining appropriate fees for services provided will assist Council in its long term objective of delivering balanced budgets and mitigate the risk of financial constraints restricting capacity on Council operations.

CORPORATE/OPERATIONAL PLAN, POLICY REFERENCE

This report has been prepared in accordance with the following:

Corporate Plan 2014-2019 Initiatives:

Theme 5 - Governance

5.2.1 - Provide Councillors and community with accurate, unbiased and factual reporting to enable accountable and transparent decision-making.

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:

Fully-Responsible	Funding the full cost of a program or activity
Regulator	Meeting the responsibilities associated with regulating activities through legislation or local law.

CONSULTATION

Internal: Relevant officers, including management staff have been involved in the review of the Schedule of Fees and Charges and the proposed schedule has been subject to workshops with Councillors.

External: Nil

ATTACHMENTS

1. 2017-18 Fees and Charges Final Draft - Development Assessment **[5.8.1]**

DOUGLAS SHIRE COUNCIL - DEVELOPMENT ASSESSMENT - Fees & Charges Schedule 2017 / 2018

Description of Fee, Charge, Penalty plus conditions	Deposit	Unit	Rate incl. GST if applicable	Minimum or Surcharge	Cost Recovery Fee (Y or N)	Legislation & Section	LGA S97 Paragraph
7.1 GENERAL FEE INFORMATION							
7.1.1 Subsidy for Community, Sporting & Religious Organizations							
<i>Any non-profit, volunteer, charitable, community, sporting, religious organisation not in possession of a liquor or gaming licence is eligible for a 50% reduction on development application fees. A request for a reduction in application fees should be made in writing and accompany the application. The request must demonstrate the eligibility of the Applicant as a community, sporting, or religious organisation.</i>							
7.1.2 Waiver of Development Application Charges							
<i>The Manager Sustainable Communities has delegated authority to determine to partially or wholly waive a Development Application Fee where strict Application of the scheduled fee is considered unreasonable for the type or complexity of Application being received.</i>							
7.1.3 Refunds							
<i>If an Application is withdrawn before it is decided by the Assessment Manager, a refund may be given depending on the stage of assessment at the time of withdrawal. The following refunds are applicable:</i>							
<i>Application Stage 90%</i>							
<i>Information and Referral Stage 60%</i>							
<i>Notification Stage 30%</i>							
<i>Decision Stage 10%</i>							
<i>No refund is applicable once a decision has been made by the Assessment Manager.</i>							
7.1.4 Superseded Planning Scheme							
Request for an Application to be considered under a superseded planning scheme (s 95).			953.65		Y	SPA 2009; Planning Act 2016; Planning Reg 2017	97(2)(a)
<i>If an application is approved to be assessed under a superseded Planning Scheme (s 95/96) the application fee for the application to be assessed under the superseded planning scheme shall be accompanied by the fee prescribed in this fee schedule plus an additional 25% of that fee.</i>							
7.1.5 Formal Prelodgement Enquiry							
<i>Applications involving a Formal Prelodgement Enquiry under the Planning Act 2016 shall be charged at 30% of the fee prescribed in this fee schedule.</i>							
7.1.6 Preliminary Approval							
Applications involving a Preliminary Approval is to be accompanied by the fee prescribed in this fee schedule plus 75% of that fee. If the Application is for a masterplan of the development only the additional 75% of the fee shall not apply.			26,850.35		Y	SPA 2009; Planning Act 2016; Planning Reg 2017	97(2)(a)
<i>Applications involving a Preliminary Approval is to attract a fee based on the applicable uses or types of development (including predicted ROL).</i>							
7.1.7 Combined Applications							
<i>The application shall be accompanied by a fee that is the combined total of all applicable fees.</i>							

DOUGLAS SHIRE COUNCIL - DEVELOPMENT ASSESSMENT - Fees & Charges Schedule 2017 / 2018

Description of Fee, Charge, Penalty plus conditions	Deposit	Unit	Rate incl. GST if applicable	Minimum or Surcharge	Cost Recovery Fee (Y or N)	Legislation & Section	LGA S97 Paragraph
7.1.8 Material Change of Use within existing Building							
<i>If an Application involves a Material Change of Use within an existing building and the level of assessment is code assessable, the application shall be discounted by 25%.</i>						SPA 2009; Planning Act 2016; Planning Reg 2017	
7.1.9 Undefined Use							
<i>Where an Application involves a use that is not defined in the applicable planning scheme or is not specifically provided for in the Schedule of Fees the fee will be set as the use deemed most similar by the Manager Sustainable Communities.</i>							
7.1.10 Self-Assessable							
<i>There is no fee for self-assessable development.</i>							
7.1.11 Consultant Costs							
<i>The cost of external consultant's fees for any further assessment or advice required by Council in consideration of any application or submission and/or technical report may be charged to the Applicant. The Applicant will be notified of Council's intent to refer the Application to a consultant following receipt of a response to Information Request (or earlier). If Council elects to recover the cost of the consultant the consultant's costs must be paid prior to the final determination of the Application.</i>							
7.1.12 Cultural Heritage and Valuable Sites							
<i>Where an application for demolition (including partial demolition) or removal of a structure or place identified as a local heritage place within the Planning Scheme.</i>			953.65		Y	SPA 2009; Planning Act 2016; Planning Reg 2017	
<i>Where a development application for building works, other than referred to above, is required solely as a result of the heritage provisions / overlay of the Planning Scheme NO fee shall apply to the Application.</i>							
<i>The Application for an MCU or ROL which triggers the heritage provisions of the Planning Scheme shall be accompanied by a fee as prescribed in this fee schedule that would usually be required to accompany an application of that type.</i>							
7.1.13 Impact Inconsistent Development							
<i>Applications involving uses that are inconsistent uses in their respective planning areas shall be accompanied by the fee prescribed below plus an additional 50% of that fee.</i>							
7.1.14 Gross Floor Area							
<i>Where a fee is calculated based on area (e.g. Industrial uses) the fee is calculated on Gross Floor Area (GFA) as defined by the Planning Scheme. If GFA is not relevant (e.g. some outdoor entertainment uses) the area will be the use area. The use area does not include landscape or car parking areas.</i>							

DOUGLAS SHIRE COUNCIL - DEVELOPMENT ASSESSMENT - Fees & Charges Schedule 2017 / 2018

Description of Fee, Charge, Penalty plus conditions	Deposit	Unit	Rate incl. GST if applicable	Minimum or Surcharge	Cost Recovery Fee (Y or N)	Legislation & Section	LGA S97 Paragraph
7.2 RECONFIGURATION OF A LOT							
Boundary realignment		Application	1,145.30		Y	SPA 2009; Planning Act 2016; Planning Reg 2017	97(2)(a)
Reconfiguration by lease agreement - lease exceeding 10 years		Application	953.65		Y	SPA 2009; Planning Act 2016; Planning Reg 2017	97(2)(a)
Creation of an access easement		Application	953.65		Y	SPA 2009; Planning Act 2016; Planning Reg 2017	97(2)(a)
Reconfiguration of a lot - (Preliminary Approval and Development Permits) Calculate base application fee plus per lot rate. Includes Development Requiring a Compliance Check.		Application	1,365.60		Y	SPA 2009; Planning Act 2016; Planning Reg 2017	97(2)(a)
		Lot	513.05		Y	SPA 2009; Planning Act 2016; Planning Reg 2017	97(2)(a)
<i>Fees apply to the total number of lots created excluding park lots. Any application for a Development Permit for which there is a Preliminary Approval, the fee is 50% of the application fee for Reconfiguring a Lot.</i>							
Amendment of a Planning Scheme Area (e.g. - to include a closed road in a planning area) to be paid with the application for Reconfiguration or Material Change of Use, whichever applies.		Application	1,628.40		Y	SPA 2009; Planning Act 2016; Planning Reg 2017	97(2)(a)
7.3 SIGNING AND DATING SURVEY PLANS (COMPLIANCE ASSESSMENT)							
A) Standard format calculate base application fee plus per lot rate		Application	517.60		Y	SPA 2009; Planning Act 2016; Planning Reg 2017	97(2)(a)
		Lot	95.30		Y	SPA 2009; Planning Act 2016; Planning Reg 2017	97(2)(a)
B) Prior to completion of works calculate base application fee plus per lot rate		Application	4,186.15		Y	SPA 2009; Planning Act 2016; Planning Reg 2017	97(2)(a)
		Lot	95.30		Y	SPA 2009; Planning Act 2016; Planning Reg 2017	97(2)(a)
<i>NOTE: Includes Inspection of completed works and assessment of outstanding works</i>							
C) Building Format/Volumetric Format calculate base application fee plus per lot rate		Application	338.65		Y	SPA 2009; Planning Act 2016; Planning Reg 2017; BCCM 1997	97(2)(a)
		Lot	95.30		Y	SPA 2009; Planning Act 2016; Planning Reg 2017; BCCM 1997	97(2)(a)
D) Notation on Community Management Statement		Application	338.65		Y	BCCM 1997	97(2)(a)
<i>NOTE: This fee is in addition to the charges identified in C) above</i>							
E) Proposed road Closure in Strata - Report to Council		Application	953.65		Y	SPA 2009; Planning Act 2016; Planning Reg 2017; BCCM 1997	97(2)(a)
<i>Re-signing and dating of Survey Plan incurs the relevant fee in A, B, or C above.</i>							
7.4 MATERIAL CHANGE OF USE & MINOR BUILDING WORKS							
<i>Development Permit or Preliminary Approval</i>							
<i>Any application for a Development Permit for which there is a Preliminary Approval, the fee is 50% of the application fee.</i>							

DOUGLAS SHIRE COUNCIL - DEVELOPMENT ASSESSMENT - Fees & Charges Schedule 2017 / 2018

Description of Fee, Charge, Penalty plus conditions	Deposit	Unit	Rate incl. GST if applicable	Minimum or Surcharge	Cost Recovery Fee (Y or N)	Legislation & Section	LGA S97 Paragraph
7.4.1 Residential Type Uses							
House (Code Assessable)		Application	317.95		Y	SPA 2009; Planning Act 2016; Planning Reg 2017; BCCM 1997	97(2)(a)
Caretaker's Residence		Application	953.65		Y	SPA 2009; Planning Act 2016; Planning Reg 2017; BCCM 1997	97(2)(a)
Home Activity / Home Based Business		Application	953.65		Y	SPA 2009; Planning Act 2016; Planning Reg 2017; BCCM 1997	97(2)(a)
Home Industry		Application	1,680.05		Y	SPA 2009; Planning Act 2016; Planning Reg 2017; BCCM 1997	97(2)(a)
Staff Quarters		Application	1,680.05		Y	SPA 2009; Planning Act 2016; Planning Reg 2017; BCCM 1997	97(2)(a)
Outstation / Seasonal Camp		Application	1,680.05		Y	SPA 2009; Planning Act 2016; Planning Reg 2017; BCCM 1997	97(2)(a)
Multi Unit Housing / Holiday accommodation / Short Term accommodation		Application	1,365.60		Y	SPA 2009; Planning Act 2016; Planning Reg 2017; BCCM 1997	97(2)(a)
Each additional unit		Unit	393.65		Y	SPA 2009; Planning Act 2016; Planning Reg 2017; BCCM 1997	97(2)(a)
<i>Note: Maximum fee equivalent to 180 units (\$72,222.60).</i>							
<i>Note: For short term accommodation one (1) unit is equal to one (1) bed (single or double).</i>							
Caravan Park / Camping Ground up to 20 units / sites		Application	6,467.40		Y	SPA 2009; Planning Act 2016; Planning Reg 2017; BCCM 1997	97(2)(a)
Caravan Park / Camping Ground greater than 20 units / sites		Application	9,548.40		Y	SPA 2009; Planning Act 2016; Planning Reg 2017; BCCM 1997	97(2)(a)
Retirement Facility up to 20 units / beds		Application	6,467.40		Y	SPA 2009; Planning Act 2016; Planning Reg 2017; BCCM 1997	97(2)(a)
Retirement Facility greater than 20 units / beds		Application	9,548.40		Y	SPA 2009; Planning Act 2016; Planning Reg 2017; BCCM 1997	97(2)(a)
Special Residential accommodation / Use up to 20 units / beds		Application	6,467.40		Y	SPA 2009; Planning Act 2016; Planning Reg 2017; BCCM 1997	97(2)(a)
Special Residential accommodation / Use greater than 20 units / beds		Application	9,548.40		Y	SPA 2009; Planning Act 2016; Planning Reg 2017; BCCM 1997	97(2)(a)
7.4.2 Commercial & Retail Type Uses							
<i>7.4.2 a. Shopping Facilities; Business Facilities; Restaurant; Display Facilities; Tavern; Service Station; Veterinary Facilities</i>							
Not exceeding 100m ²		Application	1,680.05		Y	SPA 2009; Planning Act 2016; Planning Reg 2017; BCCM 1997	97(2)(a)
For each 100m ² of area or part thereof exceeding 100m ²		Unit	352.35		Y	SPA 2009; Planning Act 2016; Planning Reg 2017; BCCM 1997	97(2)(a)
<i>Note: the above fee applies unless a use specific fee is provided below</i>							

DOUGLAS SHIRE COUNCIL - DEVELOPMENT ASSESSMENT - Fees & Charges Schedule 2017 / 2018

Description of Fee, Charge, Penalty plus conditions	Deposit	Unit	Rate incl. GST if applicable	Minimum or Surcharge	Cost Recovery Fee (Y or N)	Legislation & Section	LGA S97 Paragraph
7.4.2 b. Use Specific Fees							
Child Care Centre up to 75 children		Application	6,467.40		Y	SPA 2009; Planning Act 2016; Planning Reg 2017; BCCM 1997	97(2)(a)
Child Care Centre greater than 75 children		Application	7,773.20		Y	SPA 2009; Planning Act 2016; Planning Reg 2017; BCCM 1997	97(2)(a)
Car Park		Application	6,467.40		Y	SPA 2009; Planning Act 2016; Planning Reg 2017; BCCM 1997	97(2)(a)
Tourist Attraction		Application	9,548.40		Y	SPA 2009; Planning Act 2016; Planning Reg 2017; BCCM 1997	97(2)(a)
Aircraft Landing Facility - Commercial		Application	9,548.40		Y	SPA 2009; Planning Act 2016; Planning Reg 2017; BCCM 1997	97(2)(a)
7.4.3 Industrial Type Uses							
7.4.3 a. Industry Class A; Industry Class B; Service Industry							
Not exceeding 100m ²		Application	1,680.05		Y	SPA 2009; Planning Act 2016; Planning Reg 2017; BCCM 1997	97(2)(a)
For each 100m ² of area or part thereof exceeding 100m ²		Unit	352.35		Y	SPA 2009; Planning Act 2016; Planning Reg 2017; BCCM 1997	97(2)(a)
<i>Note: the above fee applies unless a use specific fee is provided below</i>							
7.4.3 b. Extractive Industry							
Up to one (1) Ha		Application	9,548.40		Y	SPA 2009; Planning Act 2016; Planning Reg 2017; BCCM 1997	97(2)(a)
For each Ha or part thereof exceeding one (1) Ha		Ha	214.70		Y	SPA 2009; Planning Act 2016; Planning Reg 2017; BCCM 1997	97(2)(a)
For temporary and minor extractive operations involving an area no greater than 4000m ² and/or extracting a volume of material no greater than 4000m ³ for a duration of no greater than six (6) months		Application	6,467.40		Y	SPA 2009; Planning Act 2016; Planning Reg 2017; BCCM 1997	97(2)(a)
7.4.4 Rural Type Uses							
Primary Industry		Application	1,680.05		Y	SPA 2009; Planning Act 2016; Planning Reg 2017; BCCM 1997	97(2)(a)
Aquaculture		Application	6,467.40		Y	SPA 2009; Planning Act 2016; Planning Reg 2017; BCCM 1997	97(2)(a)
Intensive Animal Husbandry		Application	6,467.40		Y	SPA 2009; Planning Act 2016; Planning Reg 2017; BCCM 1997	97(2)(a)
Private Forestry		Application	1,680.05		Y	SPA 2009; Planning Act 2016; Planning Reg 2017; BCCM 1997	97(2)(a)
7.4.5 Entertainment & Recreational Type Uses							
7.4.5 a. Indoor Sports & Entertainment							
Not exceeding 100m ²		Application	1,680.05		Y	SPA 2009; Planning Act 2016; Planning Reg 2017; BCCM 1997	97(2)(a)
For each 100m ² of area or part thereof exceeding 100m ² exceeding 100m ²		Unit	352.35		Y	SPA 2009; Planning Act 2016; Planning Reg 2017; BCCM 1997	97(2)(a)

DOUGLAS SHIRE COUNCIL - DEVELOPMENT ASSESSMENT - Fees & Charges Schedule 2017 / 2018

Description of Fee, Charge, Penalty plus conditions	Deposit	Unit	Rate incl. GST if applicable	Minimum or Surcharge	Cost Recovery Fee (Y or N)	Legislation & Section	LGA S97 Paragraph
7.4.5 b Outdoor Sport and Entertainment / Recreation							
Outdoor Sport & Recreation not exceeding 2000m ²		Application	6,467.40		Y	SPA 2009; Planning Act 2016; Planning Reg 2017; BCCM 1997	97(2)(a)
Outdoor Sport & Recreation between 2000m ² and 5000m ²		Application	9,548.40		Y	SPA 2009; Planning Act 2016; Planning Reg 2017; BCCM 1997	97(2)(a)
For every 1000m ² of area or part thereof exceeding 5000m ²		Unit	214.70		Y	SPA 2009; Planning Act 2016; Planning Reg 2017; BCCM 1997	97(2)(a)
7.4.6 Community Type Uses							
7.4.6 a Cemetery & Crematorium; Educational Establishment; Place of Assembly; Health Facility							
Not exceeding 100m ²		Application	1,680.05		Y	SPA 2009; Planning Act 2016; Planning Reg 2017; BCCM 1997	97(2)(a)
For each 100m ² of area or part thereof exceeding 100m ²		Unit	352.35		Y	SPA 2009; Planning Act 2016; Planning Reg 2017; BCCM 1997	97(2)(a)
<i>Note: the above fee applies unless a use specific fee is provided below</i>							
7.4.6 b. Use Specific Fees for Community Type Uses							
Public Utilities & Facilities		Application	9,548.40		Y	SPA 2009; Planning Act 2016; Planning Reg 2017; BCCM 1997	97(2)(a)
Interpretive Facility		Application	6,467.40		Y	SPA 2009; Planning Act 2016; Planning Reg 2017; BCCM 1997	97(2)(a)
Park & Open Space		Application	953.65		Y	SPA 2009; Planning Act 2016; Planning Reg 2017; BCCM 1997	97(2)(a)
7.4.7 Telecommunications							
Telecommunication Facilities		Application	6,467.40		Y	SPA 2009; Planning Act 2016; Planning Reg 2017; BCCM 1997	97(2)(a)
7.4.8 Signage							
Off Premises Advertising Device - per sign		Application	953.65		Y	SPA 2009; Planning Act 2016; Planning Reg 2017; BCCM 1997	97(2)(a)
<i>Note: On Premises Advertising Device, whether or not associated with a Material Change of Use is included in Table 7.6.1</i>							

DOUGLAS SHIRE COUNCIL - DEVELOPMENT ASSESSMENT - Fees & Charges Schedule 2017 / 2018

Description of Fee, Charge, Penalty plus conditions	Deposit	Unit	Rate incl. GST if applicable	Minimum or Surcharge	Cost Recovery Fee (Y or N)	Legislation & Section	LGA S97 Paragraph
7.5 CHANGES OR EXTENSIONS TO DEVELOPMENT APPLICATIONS / APPROVALS							
Change to Development Application prior to Decision Period		Application	953.65		Y	SPA 2009; Planning Act 2016; Planning Reg 2017; BCCM 1997	97(2)(a)
Request for Negotiated Decision Notice - No fee		Application	-		Y	SPA 2009; Planning Act 2016; Planning Reg 2017; BCCM 1997	97(2)(a)
Request to Change Decision Notice (Conditions)		Application	953.65	962.90	Y	SPA 2009; Planning Act 2016; Planning Reg 2017; BCCM 1997	97(2)(a)
<i>NOTE : Charge is 50% of current prescribed fee. Minimum fee \$953.65</i>							
Change of a Consent Order		Application	953.65	962.90	Y	SPA 2009; Planning Act 2016; Planning Reg 2017; BCCM 1997	97(2)(a)
<i>NOTE: Charge is fee prescribed in C) above PLUS all legal costs including GST. Minimum fee \$953.65</i>							
Extension of Relevant Period		Application	953.65	962.90	Y	SPA 2009; Planning Act 2016; Planning Reg 2017; BCCM 1997	97(2)(a)
<i>NOTE : Charge is 35% of current fee - Minimum fee \$953.65</i>							
7.6 OTHER APPLICATIONS							
Compliance Check- Compliance checking for self-assessable applications against the Planning Scheme		Application	345.50		Y	SPA 2009; Planning Act 2016; Planning Reg 2017; BCCM 1997	97(2)(a)
Assessment of Applications for Prescribed Tidal Works		Application	1,680.05		Y	SPA 2009; Planning Act 2016; Planning Reg 2017; BCCM 1997	97(2)(a)
7.6.1 Building or Operational Works assessable against the planning scheme							
Operational Works - Filling or Excavation not associated with Material Change of Use		Application	742.85		Y	SPA 2009; Planning Act 2016; Planning Reg 2017; BCCM 1997	97(2)(a)
Operational Works - Engineering works not associated with Material Change of Use		Application	742.85		Y	SPA 2009; Planning Act 2016; Planning Reg 2017; BCCM 1997	97(2)(a)
<i>NOTE: Charge for the matters above is calculated @ 2.5% of the estimated cost of works. Minimum fee \$742.85</i>							
Operational Works - Placing an Advertising Device on Premises whether or not associated with a Material Change of Use, per sign - On Premises Advertising Device per sign		Application	317.95		Y	SPA 2009; Planning Act 2016; Planning Reg 2017; BCCM 1997	97(2)(a)
Operational Works -Vegetation Clearing / Damage not associated with a Material Change of Use							
1-5 trees		Application	316.75		Y	SPA 2009; Planning Act 2016; Planning Reg 2017; BCCM 1997	97(2)(a)
6-10 trees		Application	883.70		Y	SPA 2009; Planning Act 2016; Planning Reg 2017; BCCM 1997	97(2)(a)
10+ trees		Application	1,623.75	1,639.55	Y	SPA 2009; Planning Act 2016; Planning Reg 2017; BCCM 1997	97(2)(a)
<i>NOTE : For Applications for clearing involving 10 or more trees the charge is calculated @ base rate of \$1,623.75 plus 1.5% of estimated cost to a maximum of \$16,237.50.</i>							
<i>NOTE: Off premises Advertising Device is included in Table 7.4.8</i>							

DOUGLAS SHIRE COUNCIL - DEVELOPMENT ASSESSMENT - Fees & Charges Schedule 2017 / 2018

Description of Fee, Charge, Penalty plus conditions	Deposit	Unit	Rate incl. GST if applicable	Minimum or Surcharge	Cost Recovery Fee (Y or N)	Legislation & Section	LGA S97 Paragraph
7.7 PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT CERTIFICATES AND SEARCHES							
Planning & Development Certificates : Limited		Lot/Certificate	236.50		Y	SPA 2009; Planning Act 2016; Planning Reg 2017; BCCM 1997	97(2)(a) & 97(2)(c)
Planning & Development Certificates : Limited within 2 days		Lot/Certificate	398.25		Y	SPA 2009; Planning Act 2016; Planning Reg 2017; BCCM 1997	97(2)(a) & 97(2)(c)
Planning & Development Certificates : Standard		Lot/Certificate	797.60		Y	SPA 2009; Planning Act 2016; Planning Reg 2017; BCCM 1997	97(2)(a) & 97(2)(c)
Planning & Development Certificates : Full		Lot/Certificate	1,605.45		Y	SPA 2009; Planning Act 2016; Planning Reg 2017; BCCM 1997	97(2)(a) & 97(2)(c)
7.8 PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT DOCUMENT SALES							
7.8.1 Gazetted Planning Scheme - DSC Planning Scheme							
CD copy includes all text and maps		Each	51.75		Y	SPA 2009; Planning Act 2016; Planning Reg 2017; BCCM 1997	97(2)(c)
Hard copy - includes text and maps		Set	673.65		Y	SPA 2009; Planning Act 2016; Planning Reg 2017; BCCM 1997	97(2)(c)
7.8.2 Superseded Planning Schemes							
Superseded DSC Planning Scheme 2006 CD - Includes text and maps		Each	51.75		Y	SPA 2009; Planning Act 2016; Planning Reg 2017; BCCM 1997	97(2)(c)
Superseded DSC Planning Scheme 1996 CD - Includes text and maps		Each	51.75		Y	SPA 2009; Planning Act 2016; Planning Reg 2017; BCCM 1997	97(2)(c)
Copy of Planning Scheme Amendment - CD		Each	51.75		Y	SPA 2009; Planning Act 2016; Planning Reg 2017; BCCM 1997	97(2)(c)
7.8.3 CD Copy of Application / Information							
CD Copy of Application / Information		Each	13.85		Y	SPA 2009; Planning Act 2016; Planning Reg 2017; BCCM 1997	97(2)(c)
7.8.4 Public Notification Signs							
First sign - No charge		Sign	-				
Each additional sign		Sign	52.90		N		
7.9 MISCELLANEOUS							
Informal Prelodgement Enquiry (No Report to Council) - No fee			-				
Letter of Enquiry (e.g. - to determine land use history, but not constituting a Planning Certificate)		Application	284.70		Y	SPA 2009; Planning Act 2016; Planning Reg 2017; BCCM 1997	97(2)(c)
Exemption Certificate under the Planning Act 2016		Application	77.95				
Minimum fee for any matter relating to a Planning Application and requiring a report to be placed before Council		Application	953.65		Y	SPA 2009; Planning Act 2016; Planning Reg 2017; BCCM 1997	97(2)(a)
Infrastructure Agreement		Application	596.75		Y	SPA 2009; Planning Act 2016; Planning Reg 2017; BCCM 1997	97(2)(a)

DOUGLAS SHIRE COUNCIL - DEVELOPMENT ASSESSMENT - Fees & Charges Schedule 2017 / 2018

Description of Fee, Charge, Penalty plus conditions	Deposit	Unit	Rate incl. GST if applicable	Minimum or Surcharge	Cost Recovery Fee (Y or N)	Legislation & Section	LGA S97 Paragraph
7.10 OPERATIONAL WORKS							
7.10.1 Subdivisional Engineering Plans							
Checking of Operational Works including construction monitoring fee		Base fee	3,827.05		Y	SPA 2009; Planning Act 2016; Planning Reg 2017; BCCM 1997	97(2)(e)
		per Lot	513.05		Y	SPA 2009; Planning Act 2016; Planning Reg 2017; BCCM 1997	97(2)(e)
<i>Note: Fees apply to the total number of lots excluding park lots.</i>							
7.10.2 General Operational Works Plans							
Checking of Operational Works engineering drawings (i.e. Road, Bridge, Culvert or other) including construction monitoring fee		Application	2,616.40	2,641.80	Y	SPA 2009; Planning Act 2016; Planning Reg 2017; BCCM 1997	97(2)(e)
<i>NOTE : Charge is calculated @ 1.5% of estimated cost to a minimum of \$2,616.40 and maximum of \$14,913.50.</i>							
On-Street municipal / engineering works 2.5% of the estimated costs of works		Application	764.30	771.75	Y	SPA 2009; Planning Act 2016; Planning Reg 2017; BCCM 1997	97(2)(e)
Domestic Crossover (New Single or Alteration to existing) - No fee		Application	-		Y	LGA 2009	97(2)(a)
Commercial Crossover / Additional or non standard crossover		Application	245.65		Y	LGA 2009	97(2)(a)
Electrical / Lighting Design Reviews		Application	177.95		Y	LGA 2009	97(2)(a)
7.10.3 Secondary Reviews							
Assessment of amended drawings (other than required by Council) where such amendments are not of a minor nature		Application	917.00	925.90	Y	SPA 2009; Planning Act 2016; Planning Reg 2017; BCCM 1997	97(2)(e)
<i>Note: Charge is calculated @ 50% of the original application fee. Minimum fee \$917.00</i>							
Assessment of amended drawings (other than required by Council) where such amendments are of a minor nature		Application	177.95		Y	LGA 2009	97(2)(a)
7.10.4 Construction Fees							
Additional inspection or re-inspection of works		Application	1,914.10		Y	LGA 2009	97(2)(a)
<i>Bonds for outstanding works / site development (payable prior to pre-start returnable on final works acceptance) / early plan sealing - Deemed by Assessment Manager</i>							
<i>NOTE: Early Plan Sealing = 1.5 x cost of uncompleted works. Site Development = 5% of contract price.</i>							

DOUGLAS SHIRE COUNCIL - DEVELOPMENT ASSESSMENT - Fees & Charges Schedule 2017 / 2018

Description of Fee, Charge, Penalty plus conditions	Deposit	Unit	Rate incl. GST if applicable	Minimum or Surcharge	Cost Recovery Fee (Y or N)	Legislation & Section	LGA S97 Paragraph
7.11 LANDSCAPE PLANS							
A) Landscape Plans submitted by Landscape Architect or Landscape Designer listed on Council's Register of Landscape Designers and who will:		Application	260.60		Y	SPA 2009; Planning Act 2016; Planning Reg 2017; BCCM 1997	97(2)(a)
(a) Submit a conforming statement of compliance; and							
(b) Undertake a final inspection; and							
(c) Submit as constructed landscaping plans (where required) all in accordance with the Plan and Development Manual requirements.							
B) Landscaping Plans submitted and not in accordance with 7.11(A) above		Application	617.45		Y	SPA 2009; Planning Act 2016; Planning Reg 2017; BCCM 1997	97(2)(a)
Note: These fees are only payable when the landscape plan is not submitted with the Development Application or subsequent Operational Works Application							
C) Resubmission of a plan as previous plan not of a satisfactory standard or incorporating unsuitable landscaping or generally not in accordance with Development Manual requirements.		Application	617.45		Y	SPA 2009; Planning Act 2016; Planning Reg 2017; BCCM 1997	97(2)(a)
7.12 SITING / DISCRETIONARY DECISIONS							
Discretionary decisions where power is held by the Council to decide modifications or variations of a prescribed requirement for building work							
Approval of the siting of a building or structure under MP 1.1 & 1.2 Queensland Development Code		Item	353.50		Y	BA75	97(2)(a)
Use of a building for residential purposes, other than a building of CLASS 1, 2, 3 OR 4 under Section 119		Item	353.50		Y	BA75	97(2)(a)
7.13 DEVELOPERS CONTRIBUTIONS (INFRASTRUCTURE CHARGES)							
These charges are calculated by Development Assessment in accordance with the planning scheme policy.							

5.9. CORPORATE SUSTAINABILITY STRATEGY

REPORT AUTHOR(S)
GENERAL MANAGER
DEPARTMENT

Nicola Learmond, Sustainability Officer
 Nicholas Wellwood, General Manager Operations
 Sustainable Communities

RECOMMENDATION

That Council adopts the Corporate Sustainability Strategy 2017-2020.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Corporate Sustainability Strategy commits Council to 28 sustainable actions over the next three financial years (July 2017 – June 2020).

BACKGROUND

On 16 March 2017 Council adopted the Corporate Sustainability General Policy (the Policy) which recognises Council's commitment to the protection of the natural environment and the importance of developing and integrating suitable sustainable environmental practices across Council operations. The Policy commits Council to six (6) Environmentally Sustainable Principles, which are:

1. Preserve and restore the natural environment
2. Utilise resources efficiently
3. Protect and enhance biodiversity
4. Monitor and reduce Council's environmental footprint
5. Strengthen Council's resilience to climate change
6. Display strong environmental leadership

The intent of the Corporate Sustainability Strategy (the Strategy) is to present sustainable actions which align with the six Environmentally Sustainable Principles.

COMMENT

The Strategy highlights the importance of the region's natural assets and aims to make Council's operations more sustainable. It proposes that Council undertakes 28 actions over the next three (3) financial years (July 2017-2020). Each action is underpinned by one or more of Council's six adopted Environmental Sustainable Principles. The proposed 28 actions are grouped under the following headings:

1. Climate Change Mitigation
2. Climate Change Adaptation
3. Internal Processes
4. Government Engagement
5. Community Engagement
6. Internal Engagement
7. Reporting

The Strategy will be a dynamic document which will need to be reviewed on a regular basis to account for improved climate science, available information, and changing risks and associated impacts.

PROPOSAL

That Council adopts the Corporate Sustainability Strategy 2017-2020.

FINANCIAL/RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS

The 28 Sustainable Actions will be resourced appropriately within the relevant Operational Plans over the three (3) year period. Council is resourced to undertake the actions attributed to 2017/18, as identified in Appendix Two of the Strategy. Notably, Action 2.2 and 2.3, relating to the Coastal Hazard Adaptation Strategy will be 98% funded by a State grant which was awarded in June 2017.

SUSTAINABILITY IMPLICATIONS

Economic: Council commits to utilising resources efficiently which, over time, should be of economic benefit to Council. Financial implications remain a part of Council's decision making, however environmental sustainability implications must be taken into account in line with the Policy.

Environmental: The adoption of the Strategy will commit Council to 28 Sustainable Actions which aim to protect and preserve the natural environment. Importantly actions to help address climate change are key actions and climate change is a major threat to the flora and fauna of the Wet Tropics, the Great Barrier Reef and coastline in Douglas

Social: The adoption of the Strategy will commit Council to displaying strong environmental leadership to the communities within Douglas, with an overall aim to improve the total quality of life, both now and in the future.

CORPORATE/OPERATIONAL PLAN, POLICY REFERENCE

This report has been prepared in accordance with the following:

Corporate Plan 2014-2019 Initiatives:

Theme 3 - Improve Environmental Performance

3.1.5 - Investigate opportunities for improved recycling and re-use of waste deposited at landfill sites.

3.2.1 - Identify and invest in energy reduction initiatives in Council-owned facilities and in the delivery of services.

Theme 4 - Engage, Plan, Partner

4.1.2 - Undertake community engagement activities that are clearly identified and are appropriate in relation to the project.

4.2.2 - Provide leadership to secure beneficial social, environmental and economic outcomes for the Shire.

Operational Plan 2015-2016 Actions:

3.1.2 - Development of the Sustainability Strategy incorporating targets for reducing Council's carbon footprint.

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	Supporting communities and groups by advocating for certain actions from other organisations (usually other levels of government).
Fully-Responsible	Funding the full cost of a program or activity
Information Provider	Bringing people together to develop solutions to problems.

CONSULTATION

Internal: Cross-departmental consultation has taken place in the development of the Strategy.

External: Nil

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Consultation with the Douglas Communities will take place through various actions outlined within the Strategy.

ATTACHMENTS

1. Corporate Sustainability Strategy 2017-2020 **[5.9.1]**

CORPORATE SUSTAINABILITY STRATEGY

2017-2020

6 June 2017

DOUGLAS **SHIRE**
COUNCIL

*Improving Environmental Performance
Ngaral Kulji Bubungu – Eastern Kuku Yalanji
Pulmpa dakit jarral-a-kaling – Yirrganydji*

Image: Great Barrier Reef

Ordinary Council Meeting - 20 June 2017

Contents

Introduction.....	2
Background.....	2
Great Barrier Reef.....	2
Wet Tropics Bioregion	2
Iconic Fauna and Flora.....	3
Climate Change.....	3
Council's Six Sustainable Principles	4
1. Preserve and Restore the Natural Environment	4
2. Utilise Resources Efficiently.....	4
3. Protect and Enhance Biodiversity.....	5
4. Monitor and Reduce Council's Environmental Footprint.....	5
5. Strengthen Council's Resilience to Climate Change	5
6. Display Strong Environmental Leadership.....	5
Sustainability Strategy Actions	5
1. Climate Change Mitigation	6
2. Climate Change Adaptation.....	6
3. Internal Processes.....	7
4. Government Engagement	7
5. Community Engagement	8
6. Internal Engagement	8
7. Reporting.....	9
Conclusion	9
Appendix One.....	10
Table One: Sustainability Strategy Actions Linked to Council's Six Sustainable Principles	10
Appendix Two.....	11
Table Two: Sustainability Strategy Actions by Financial Year	11
References	12

Introduction

The Douglas region is comprised of World Heritage listed areas of natural beauty, ancient and complex ecosystems and is renowned for the biodiversity of its flora and fauna. The rainforests of the Wet Tropics and the reefs and waters of the Great Barrier Reef (GBR) support a strong economy, with 1.2 million tourists visiting the Shire every year. Council is committed to protecting the natural environment and recognises the importance of developing and integrating suitable sustainable environmental practices across Council operations.

The Corporate Sustainability Strategy 2017-2020 (the Strategy) outlines actions which Council is committed to taking over the next three financial years to make its operations more sustainable. Each action is underpinned by one or more of Council's six adopted Sustainable Principles, which are: 1. Preserve and restore the natural environment; 2. Utilise resources efficiently; 3. Protect and enhance biodiversity; 4. Monitor and reduce Council's environmental footprint; 5. Strengthen Council's resilience to climate change; 6. Display strong environmental leadership.

The Strategy will be a dynamic, integrated and ongoing process which considers activities and decisions in terms of improved climate science, available information, changing risks and associated impacts. The Strategy will be reviewed on a regular basis to account for these changes and allow Council to make informed decisions based on the best available evidence and knowledge.

Background

Our region's world renowned natural assets and environment are critical for biodiversity, cultural tradition, scientific research and maintaining the economic success of the region. However, the GBR, the Wet Tropics bioregion and our native species are under significant pressure from a number of factors, including climate change.

Great Barrier Reef

Stretching more than 2,300 kilometres along the Queensland coast and covering an area of 38,000 square kilometres, the GBR contains the world's largest collection of coral reefs, with 400 types of coral, 1,500 species of fish and 4,000 types of mollusc (invertebrate animals) [UNESCO 2017]. The contribution of the GBR to the Queensland and Australian economy is estimated to be close to \$6 billion a year, generating over 69,000 jobs across the tourism, recreation, commercial fishing, scientific research and management industries [Great Barrier Reef Water Science Taskforce 2016]. Whilst the GBR is located outside of the Douglas Shire it is a key feature of the surrounding natural landscape and is affected by policies and practices within the shire. The GBR is under pressure from a range of sources, including climate change, poor water quality from land-based run-off, impacts from coastal development and direct use, which includes fishing, shipping and port activities. Long term monitoring by the Australian Institute of Marine Science shows the GBR has lost half its coral cover in the past 27 years [AIMS 2017a]. According to the Reef Water Quality Protection Plan 2013 this loss was due to storm damage (48%), crown-of-thorns starfish (42%) and bleaching (10%) [The State of Queensland 2013]. The GBR has experienced mass coral bleaching over two consecutive years (2016 & 2017), which has been a consequence of higher than average water temperatures and lack of cloud cover. Not all bleached coral will die, however corals under extensive periods of stress have less ability to make a full recovery [AIMS 2017b].

Wet Tropics Bioregion

The Wet Tropics bioregion has some of the oldest continuously surviving tropical rainforests on earth [Wet Tropics Management Authority 2016a]. It provides an important record of the ecological and evolutionary

processes that has shaped the flora and fauna of Australia over the past 415 million years [Wet Tropics Management Authority 2016b]. Despite comprising a small proportion of Australia, the bioregion supports the highest biodiversity of any region. Over 2,800 plant species from 221 families are found in the bioregion, with more than 700 species (25%) being endemic to the area [Wet Tropics Management Authority 2016b]. Long term monitoring indicates that the biodiversity of the Wet Tropics is declining, with many species already reduced in both distribution area and population size. This is mainly due to disease, climate change, habitat fragmentation, weeds and feral animals [Wet Tropics Management Authority 2017b]. The number of known weeds in the Wet Tropics bioregion has grown rapidly over the past 50 years to over 500 species. Weeds can invade, disrupt and transform ecosystems, which can severely affect native species. There are a number of feral animals in the bioregion, which include feral pigs, dogs, cattle, cane toads, cats, rats and Indian mynas. Whilst limited data is currently available on the numbers and impact of feral animals, it has been estimated that there are approximately 27,000 feral pigs living in the bioregion. Climate change poses a serious risk to the Wet Tropics, it is predicted that seven frog species, five mammal species, three bird species and three skink species would lose over half their present habitat with only a 1°C temperature increase [Wet Tropics Management Authority 2017c].

Iconic Fauna and Flora

The Douglas Shire and surrounding marine areas are home to many iconic species of fauna and flora, including the southern cassowary, dugongs, fan palms and mangroves.

The southern cassowary is an iconic symbol of the Wet Tropics and is considered a 'keystone species', due to its critical role in dispersing rainforest plant seeds. However Queensland's Wet Tropics cassowary population is in decline. The greatest threat to their survival is the destruction and fragmentation of their habitat, car strikes, dog attacks and possibly disease [Wet Tropics Management Authority 2017c]. The GBR is an important area of habitat for Dugongs as this is one of the few marine protected areas in the world where they are protected. In recent decades there has been a decline in dugong numbers in the GBR. Dugongs are subject to a range of human threats, including entanglement in shark and fishing nets, entanglement in marine debris, loss and degradation of important habitats such as seagrass meadows, hunting and collision with boats [Commonwealth of Australia 2015].

The iconic fan palm (*Licuala ramsayi*) is one of the most distinctive palms in the region. Fan palms grow to a height of over six meters and prefer shady, protected stream banks and areas of poor drainage [Wet Tropics Management Authority 2017e]. The fan palm is a slow growing species and susceptible to habitat fragmentation, hydrology changes and invasions from weeds, such as pond apple (*Annona glabra*) [Wet Tropics Management Authority 2017f]. Mangroves are the collection of salt tolerant plants that are found along coastal areas and up rivers in the tropics and subtropics. Mangrove forests provide shelter and food for a wide range of animals, especially invertebrates and juvenile marine species. They provide a living buffer between the land and the sea, the dense silt amassed by their root systems prevents erosion from their landward side while it also minimises erosion from wave activity on the seaward side [Wet Tropics Management Authority 2017g]. They are also important carbon sinks, storing two to four times the amount of carbon that tropical rainforests can store [ABC Science 2011].

Climate Change

Climate change is a change in the pattern of weather and related changes in oceans, land surfaces and ice sheets, occurring over a period of ten years or longer [Australian Academy of Science 2017]. Warming of the climate system is unequivocal, and since the 1950s there have been noticeable changes on a global scale. The atmosphere and ocean have warmed, the amounts of snow and ice have diminished, and sea level has risen [IPCC 2014]. This is largely the result of increasing anthropogenic (human induced)

greenhouse gas emissions which have increased since the pre-industrial era, driven largely by economic and population growth, and are now higher than ever. This has led to atmospheric concentrations of carbon dioxide, methane and nitrous oxide that are unprecedented in at least the last 800,000 years [IPCC 2014].

At the 21st United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change staged in Paris in December 2015, more than 200 nations, including Australia, accepted unanimously that urgent action is required to reduce global carbon emissions [Queensland Government 2017]. Following the convention Australia ratified the Paris Agreement, a global climate agreement which aims to strengthen the global response to the threat of climate change by keeping a global temperature rise this century well below 2 degrees Celsius above pre-industrial levels; and to pursue efforts to limit the temperature increase even further to 1.5 degrees Celsius [UNFCCC 2017]. The Federal Government plans to reduce carbon emissions by boosting energy productivity, reducing waste, rehabilitating degraded land, increasing renewable energy and driving innovation [Department of the Environment and Energy 2017].

Council's Six Sustainable Principles

Council has adopted six sustainable principles, which are:

1. Preserve and restore the natural environment
2. Utilise resources efficiently
3. Protect and enhance biodiversity
4. Monitor and reduce Council's environmental footprint (*climate change mitigation*)
5. Strengthen Council's resilience to climate change (*climate change adaptation*)
6. Display strong environmental leadership

The sustainable principles are included within the Corporate Sustainability General Policy and are described in detail below.

1. Preserve and Restore the Natural Environment

Council has a duty to preserve the natural environment and to ensure that all operations and works are completed with the least amount of disruption to the environment as practically possible. This is linked to the Intergenerational Equality Principle, where the present generation has a guardian duty to protect the natural environment for future generations. Council acknowledges the importance of environmental restoration activities and has incorporated many of these activities into business as usual operations. Council currently undertakes revegetation projects in optimal locations across the Shire. This can involve the planting of native species to stabilise dunes in erosion prone areas.

2. Utilise Resources Efficiently

Council is committed to utilising resources in an efficient manner. This involves incorporating the Waste Management Hierarchy into Council decision making. The Waste Hierarchy is a guide for prioritising waste management practices with the objective of achieving optimal environmental outcomes. The most preferable option in the hierarchy is to avoid producing the waste in the first place, this is followed by reduce, reuse, recycle, recover, treat and disposal. The Procurement General Policy sets out Council's position on procuring goods and services. Council is committed to obtaining value for money in all purchasing activities whilst advancing economic, social and environmental priorities and commitments.

3. Protect and Enhance Biodiversity

Biodiversity, or biological diversity, is the variety of all life forms. This includes the different animals, plants, micro-organisms and fungi, their genetic diversity and the marine, terrestrial and freshwater ecosystems that they form. Biodiversity is essential to the maintenance of life on earth. It provides the basis for our economic prosperity and social wellbeing, as well as providing ecosystem services such as clean air and water. However, biodiversity is also vulnerable, specifically to habitat degradation, species population decline and potential extinction from threatening processes such as habitat fragmentation and land use changes. Council is committed to protecting and enhancing the biodiversity in the Douglas Shire by ensuring it operates sustainably and through targeted projects, such as weed and pest management.

4. Monitor and Reduce Council's Environmental Footprint

Council is committed to playing its role in the mitigation of climate change by monitoring and reducing its environmental footprint. Council will do this by calculating a carbon footprint baseline. A carbon footprint is the total greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions caused directly and indirectly by an individual, organisation, event or product and is expressed as a carbon dioxide equivalent (CO₂e). A carbon footprint accounts for the six Kyoto GHG emissions, which are: Carbon Dioxide (CO₂), Methane (CH₄), Nitrous Oxide (N₂O), Hydrofluorocarbons (HFCs), Perfluorocarbons (PFCs) and Sulphur Hexafluoride (SF₆) [UNFCCC 2014]. Climate change is one of the biggest threats to the natural environment and it is widely acknowledged that reducing global carbon emissions is critical if we are to save the GBR. Calculating a carbon footprint will help Council to quantify the impact operations have on the natural environment and will provide a benchmark for future reductions. In addition, it will help Council to identify and prioritise effective opportunities to reduce its environmental impact.

5. Strengthen Council's Resilience to Climate Change

Climate projections for Queensland's coastline indicate that by 2100 sea level is likely to rise by 0.8 meters and tropical cyclone activity will shift southwards. Whilst there is predicted to be fewer cyclones, there will be an increase in cyclone and coastal low intensity of up to 10% [QCoast₂₁₀₀ 2016a]. The impact of these climatic changes on the Queensland coast is likely to be extensive and include accelerated coastal erosion, an increase in areas impacted by storm surges and king tides, and lead to the permanent inundation of low lying areas. The Douglas Shire is particularly at risk due to a high proportion of the population and assets being located on low lying land in close proximity to the coast. It is therefore important that Council considers the impact of climate change on the shire and incorporates this into Council's strategic and long-term planning. This will include consideration of any potential financial implications on Council and the community, and alignment with existing governance mechanisms.

6. Display Strong Environmental Leadership

Council has a key role to play in displaying strong environmental leadership. As an elected body, Council responds to the aspirations of the Douglas Shire community to safeguard the long-term environment for future generations while meeting today's needs through policies, programs, partnerships, community engagement and advocacy.

Sustainability Strategy Actions

Council has committed to undertaking 28 actions over the next three financial years with these being underpinned by Council's Six Sustainable Principles (*see Appendix One*). The 28 actions will be undertaken over the 2017/18, 2018/19 and 2019/20 financial year period (*see Appendix Two*) subject to available budget and resources. The actions primarily focus on environmental issues, whilst also considering linkages

across social, financial and cultural objectives. The Strategy aims to capture a number of actions, some of which are cross-departmental; however it does not capture a number of biodiversity, weed and pest management activities, as these are considered in detail in the Pest Management Action Plans. The Strategy outlines the 28 actions under seven headings, which are: 1. Climate Change Mitigation, 2. Climate Change Adaptation, 3. Internal Processes, 4. Government Engagement, 5. Community Engagement, 6. Internal Engagement and 7. Reporting.

1. Climate Change Mitigation

Council is committed to monitoring and reducing its environmental footprint by calculating a carbon footprint covering Council's operations. This will involve calculating a carbon footprint baseline for the financial year 2015/16 covering emissions from a number of sources, such as energy use, waste, water and business travel. Council will verify this carbon footprint either internally or externally before committing to carbon reduction targets, for example an X% reduction by 2025 based on 2015/16 levels. The carbon footprint will help Council understand its most carbon intensive operations and identify and prioritise effective opportunities to reduce its environmental impact. In addition, Council will develop a Climate Change Policy outlining Council's position on mitigating and adapting to climate change. The five sustainability actions linked to Council's carbon footprint have been summarised below:

<i>Climate Change Mitigation Sustainability Actions</i>	
<i>1.1</i>	<i>Calculate Carbon Footprint Baseline</i>
<i>1.2</i>	<i>Verify Carbon Footprint Baseline</i>
<i>1.3</i>	<i>Set Carbon Reduction Targets</i>
<i>1.4</i>	<i>Explore Carbon Reduction Opportunities</i>
<i>1.5</i>	<i>Climate Change Policy</i>

2. Climate Change Adaptation

In 2016 the Queensland Government launched QCoast₂₁₀₀, a program which gives local governments impacted by coastal hazards the framework and funds to develop a Coastal Hazard Adaptation Strategy (CHAS). The CHAS will enable Council to develop a medium to long term coastal management plan addressing projected sea level rises, more intense cyclones and accelerated coastal erosion. In addition, the strategy will include a stakeholder engagement and consultation component, which is crucial for managing expectations around adaptation, disaster management and resilience. The LGAQ Minimum Standards and Guidelines working document provides guidance and minimum requirements for the CHAS [QCoast₂₁₀₀ 2016b]. The Guidelines require Council to work through eight phases, which are:

Phase 1: Plan for life-of-project stakeholder communication and engagement

Phase 2: Scope coastal hazard issues for the area of interest

Phase 3: Identify areas exposed to current and future coastal hazards

Phase 4: Identify key assets potentially impacted

Phase 5: Undertake a risk assessment of key assets in coastal hazard areas

Phase 6: Identify potential adaptation options

Phase 7: Undertake a socio-economic appraisal of adaptation options

Phase 8: Strategy development, implementation and review

Council completed Phases 1 and 2 in the financial year 2016/17 and will continue to progress through the phases as grant funds are released. Whilst undertaking Phase 2 it was identified that there was a need to undertake local erosion mapping for the Douglas Shire, this has therefore been factored into the CHAS. The four sustainability actions linked to the CHAS have been summarised below:

<i>Climate Change Adaptation Sustainability Actions</i>	
2.1	<i>Commission Local Erosion Mapping</i>
2.2	<i>CHAS Program Phases 3-4</i>
2.3	<i>CHAS Program Phases 5-8</i>
2.4	<i>Commence CHAS Implementation</i>

3. Internal Processes

Council is committed to integrating sustainability practices and activities into business as usual operations and work practices by developing a series of departmental specific environmental plans. An overarching Environmental Policy for Council will be developed initially, which will outline the purpose and aims of plans. Departmental plans will follow after extensive consultation and input from the relevant department subject to adequate resources and budget. Council officers are working on a Closure and Post Closure Plan for Killaloe Landfill as the site nears its end of life. This Plan will set out the decommissioning process and will extend for at least thirty years after closure, considering a number of factors such as groundwater and surface water evaluation, and maintenance of vegetation in the area. In addition, Council aims to integrate sustainable principles and practices into all existing management frameworks. It is acknowledged that some management frameworks, such as the Capital Works Scorecard and Procurement General Policy, already consider sustainability principles. The four sustainability actions linked to internal processes have been summarised below:

<i>Internal Processes Sustainability Actions</i>	
3.1	<i>Environmental Policy</i>
3.2	<i>Environmental Plans</i>
3.3	<i>Development of a Closure and Post Closure Plan for Killaloe Landfill</i>
3.4	<i>Integrate Sustainable Principles into Management Frameworks</i>

4. Government Engagement

Council acknowledges its responsibility to engage and work with governmental departments on sustainability related issues. Council is a member of the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority's Reef Guardian Council stewardship program. The Reef Guardian Council program recognises the actions councils take to protect the GBR and provides a forum for information sharing and best practice between councils located in the Reef catchment. Council will continue to be an active member of the Reef Guardian Council Steering Group and the Reef Guardian Council Working Group. Council also prepares two annual reports as part of its Reef Guardian Council membership which are considered under the Sustainability Strategy Action 7 Reporting.

In 2017 Council became a Wet Tropics Healthy Waterways partner. The partnership program is an initiative of the Reef 2050 Long-Term Sustainability Plan and aims to coordinate the pooling of shared water quality monitoring data. The Partnership releases an annual Wet Tropics Pilot Report Card which aims to highlight

the health of the Wet Tropics waterways and the quality of water flowing to the GBR. Council has agreed to expand its current water monitoring, particularly in Dickson Inlet and the Mossman River, to help fill gaps in the current report card. In addition, Council will continue to respond to government department requests for comments on a range of environmental topics, including proposed policy changes and requests for information. The three sustainability actions linked to government engagement have been summarised below:

Government Engagement Sustainability Actions	
4.1	<i>Reef Guardian Council</i>
4.2	<i>Wet Tropics Healthy Waterways Partnership</i>
4.3	<i>State/Agency Submissions on Environmental Topics</i>

5. Community Engagement

Council recognises the strong sustainability aspirations of the Douglas Shire community and endeavours to work with the community on a number of sustainability initiatives. This includes engaging with local community groups, such as the Douglas Local Marine Advisory Committee (Douglas LMAC) and the Douglas Shire Sustainability Group (DSSG). Council will continue to support the 'Plastic Free Douglas' campaign which encourages retailers and shoppers within the shire to voluntarily refrain from using single-use plastic bags. Council supports the Queensland Government's commitment to implement a State-wide ban on retailers issuing light-weight disposable plastic bags by June 2018.

Council will prepare a Douglas Communities Sustainability Strategy, which will include public consultation to capture the community's key sustainability concerns and aspirations. From 2018 Council will support the World Wildlife Fund for Nature's annual event Earth Hour. This event encourages individuals, businesses and organisations to turn off all lights for one hour to highlight the need for global action around climate change. In 2017 3,100 landmarks around the world, including the Sydney Opera House and London's Big Ben which turned off their lights for one hour in support of climate change action [WWF 2017].

Council will facilitate a number of public workshops in the Shire aiming to educate the community on environmental issues and sustainable practices. This could include interactive recycling workshops teaching schools and the Douglas Communities what items can be recycled in the Shire. In addition, Council is committed to engaging with local businesses on sustainability issues, this will require further scoping out, but initially could involve investigating a Local Business Sustainability Award sponsored by Council. The six sustainability actions linked to community engagement have been summarised below:

Community Engagement Sustainability Actions	
5.1	<i>Engage with Local Community Groups</i>
5.2	<i>Plastic Free Douglas</i>
5.3	<i>Douglas Communities Sustainability Strategy</i>
5.4	<i>Participate in Earth Hour</i>
5.5	<i>Public Workshops on Environmental Topics</i>
5.6	<i>Investigate a Local Business Sustainability Award</i>

6. Internal Engagement

Council is committed to operating sustainably and encourages all Council employees to adopt sustainable practices in the workplace. Council aims to do this through a series of internal engagement activities.

Phase one will include the preparation and distribution of a Sustainability E-Newsletter, highlighting sustainable practices in the workplace, myth busters and sustainability activities Council is currently undertaking. It will also include the distribution of Council branded reusable bags to employees to reduce the amount of single-use plastic bags used particularly at lunch-time. Phase two will involve a sustainability section on Council's intranet page which will share information on Council's carbon footprint and sustainability messaging. The two sustainability actions linked to internal engagement have been summarised below:

Internal Engagement Sustainability Actions	
6.1	<i>Internal Engagement Phase 1</i>
6.2	<i>Internal Engagement Phase 2</i>

7. Reporting

Council is committed to reporting on sustainability and environmental action it undertakes. Council's membership of the Reef Guardian Council program requires it to publish an annual Reef Guardian Council Action Plan and an annual Reef Guardian Council Highlights Report. The purpose of the Reef Guardian Council Action Plan is to document council actions and projects that contribute to the health of the GBR. All actions should align with the GBR 2050 Long-Term Sustainability Plan, which has seven overarching themes: ecosystem health, biodiversity, heritage, water quality, community benefits, economic benefits and governance. The annual Reef Guardian Council Highlights Report showcases actions undertaken by councils, promoting best practice and innovative action taken to protect the GBR.

In 2017/18 Council will prepare an annual Carbon Footprint Report which will document emissions released through Council's operations and include Council's carbon reduction commitment targets. In addition, Council will publish a State of Environment Report, documenting all activities Council is undertaking to improve the Douglas Shire environment. This will include biodiversity and biosecurity activities, such as pest and weed management and community education programs. The four sustainability actions linked to reporting have been summarised below:

Reporting Sustainability Actions	
7.1	<i>Reef Guardian Council Action Plan</i>
7.2	<i>Reef Guardian Council Highlights Report</i>
7.3	<i>Carbon Footprint Report</i>
7.4	<i>State of Environment Report</i>

Conclusion

This Strategy outlines the 28 Sustainability Actions which Council has committed to undertaking over the next three financial years. Each action is underpinned by one or more of Council's six adopted Sustainable Principles, which are: 1. Preserve and restore the natural environment; 2. Utilise resources efficiently; 3. Protect and enhance biodiversity; 4. Monitor and reduce Council's environmental footprint; 5. Strengthen Council's resilience to climate change; 6. Display strong environmental leadership. Council recognises the importance of the region's natural assets and is committed to play its role in their protection and long-term sustainability.

Appendix One

Table One: Sustainability Strategy Actions Linked to Council's Six Sustainable Principles

Category	Sustainability Strategy Actions	1	2	3	4	5	6
		Preserve & Restore the Natural Environment	Utilise Resources Efficiently	Protect & Enhance Biodiversity	Monitor & Reduce Council's Environmental Footprint	Strengthen Council's Resilience to Climate Change	Display Strong Environmental Leadership
Climate Change Mitigation	1.1 Calculate Carbon Footprint Baseline				X		
	1.2 Verify Carbon Footprint Baseline				X		
	1.3 Set Carbon Reduction Targets				X		
	1.4 Explore Carbon Reduction Opportunities		X		X		
	1.5 Climate Change Policy	X	X	X	X	X	X
Climate Change Adaptation	2.1 Commission Local Erosion Mapping					X	
	2.2 CHAS Program Phases 3-4					X	
	2.3 CHAS Program Phases 5-8					X	
	2.4 Commence CHAS Implementation					X	X
Internal Processes	3.1 Environmental Policy	X	X	X			X
	3.2 Environmental Plans	X	X	X	X		X
	3.3 Development of a Closure and Post Closure Plan for Killaloe Landfill	X		X	X		
	3.4 Integrate Sustainable Principles into Management Frameworks	X	X	X	X		X
Government Engagement	4.1 Reef Guardian Council	X					X
	4.2 Wet Tropics Healthy Waterways Partnership	X					X
	4.3 State/Agency Submissions on Environmental Topics						X
Community Engagement	5.1 Engage with Local Community Groups	X	X	X			
	5.2 Plastic Free Douglas						X
	5.3 Douglas Communities Sustainability Strategy	X	X	X	X	X	X
	5.4 Participate in Earth Hour						X
	5.5 Public Workshops on Environmental Topics	X	X	X			X
	5.6 Investigate a Local Business Sustainability Award						X
Internal Engagement	6.1 Internal Engagement Phase 1	X	X	X	X		
	6.2 Internal Engagement Phase 2	X	X	X	X		
Reporting	7.1 Reef Guardian Council Action Plan	X		X			X
	7.2 Reef Guardian Council Highlights Report						X
	7.3 Carbon Footprint Report				X		X
	7.4 State of Environment Report						X

Appendix Two

Table Two: Sustainability Strategy Actions by Financial Year

Category	Sustainable Strategy Actions	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20
Climate Change Mitigation	1.1 Calculate Carbon Footprint Baseline	X		
	1.2 Verify Carbon Footprint Baseline	X		
	1.3 Set Carbon Reduction Targets	X		
	1.4 Explore Carbon Reduction Opportunities		X	X
	1.5 Climate Change Policy	X	X	
Climate Change Adaptation	2.1 Commission Local Erosion Mapping	X		
	2.2 CHAS Program Phases 3-4	X		
	2.3 CHAS Program Phases 5-8		X	
	2.4 Commence CHAS Implementation			X
Internal Processes	3.1 Environmental Policy	X		
	3.2 Environmental Plans		X	X
	3.3 Development of a Closure and Post Closure Plan for Killaloe Landfill	X	X	
	3.4 Integrate Sustainable Principles into Management Frameworks		X	X
Government Engagement	4.1 Reef Guardian Council	X	X	X
	4.2 Wet Tropics Healthy Waterways Partnership	X	X	X
	4.3 State/Agency Submissions on Environmental Topics	X	X	X
Community Engagement	5.1 Engage with Local Community Groups	X	X	X
	5.2 Plastic Free Douglas	X	X	X
	5.3 Douglas Communities Sustainability Strategy		X	X
	5.4 Participate in Earth Hour	X	X	X
	5.5 Public Workshops on Environmental Topics		X	
	5.6 Investigate a Local Business Sustainability Award			X
Internal Engagement	6.1 Internal Engagement Phase 1	X		
	6.2 Internal Engagement Phase 2		X	
Reporting	7.1 Reef Guardian Council Action Plan	X	X	X
	7.2 Reef Guardian Council Highlights Report	X	X	X
	7.3 Carbon Footprint Report	X	X	X
	7.4 State of Environment Report		X	X

References

- ABC Science 2011. Mangroves excel at storing carbon. [ONLINE] Available at: <http://www.abc.net.au/science/articles/2011/04/04/3181798.htm> [Accessed 29 May 2017].
- AIMS 2017a. State of the Great Barrier Reef. [ONLINE] Available at: <http://www.aims.gov.au/factsheets> [Accessed 29 May 2017].
- AIMS 2017b. Media Release – Second wave of mass bleaching unfolding on Great Barrier Reef. [ONLINE] Available at: <http://www.aims.gov.au/docs/media/latest-releases> [Accessed 29 May 2017].
- Australian Academy of Science 2017. Climate Change. [ONLINE] Available at: <https://www.science.org.au/learning/general-audience/science-booklets-0/science-climate-change/1-what-climate-change> [Accessed 29 May 2017].
- Commonwealth of Australia 2015. Reef 2050 Long-Term Sustainability Plan. [ONLINE] Available at: <https://www.environment.gov.au/marine/gbr/long-term-sustainability-plan> [Accessed 29 May 2017].
- Department of the Environment and Energy 2017. Climate Change. [ONLINE] Available at: <http://www.environment.gov.au/climate-change> [Accessed 29 May 2017].
- Great Barrier Reef Water Science Taskforce 2016. Final Report. [ONLINE] Available at: <http://www.ehp.qld.gov.au/assets/documents/reef/gbrwst-finalreport-2016.pdf> [Accessed 29 May 2017].
- IPCC 2014 Climate Change 2014 Synthesis Report Summary for Policymakers. [ONLINE] Available at: <https://www.ipcc.ch/report/ar5/syr/> [Accessed 29 May 2017].
- QCoast₂₁₀₀ 2016a. Queensland Local Government Coastal Hazard Adaptation Program. [ONLINE] Available at: http://www.qcoast2100.com.au/documents/6143606/6155749/QCoast2100_Program%20Flyer.pdf [Accessed 29 May 2017].
- QCoast₂₁₀₀ 2016b. Developing a Coastal Hazard Adaptation Strategy: Minimum Standards and Guideline for Queensland Local Governments. [ONLINE] Available at: <http://www.qcoast2100.com.au/documents/6143606/6155749/Minimum%20Standards%20and%20Guideline> [Accessed 29 May 2017].
- Queensland Government 2017. Climate Change Mitigation. [ONLINE] Available at: <https://www.qld.gov.au/environment/climate/mitigating-effects/> [Accessed 29 May 2017].
- The State of Queensland 2013. Reef Water Quality Protection Plan 2013 [ONLINE] Available at: <http://www.reefplan.qld.gov.au/> [Accessed 29 May 2017].
- UNESCO 2017. Great Barrier Reef. [ONLINE] Available at: <http://whc.unesco.org/en/list/154> [Accessed 29 May 2017].
- UNFCCC 2014 Kyoto Protocol. [ONLINE] Available at: http://unfccc.int/kyoto_protocol/items/3145.php [Accessed 29 May 2017].
- UNFCCC 2017. The Paris Agreement. [ONLINE] Available at: http://unfccc.int/paris_agreement/items/9485.php [Accessed 29 May 2017].
- Wet Tropics Management Authority 2016a. Invasive Pests. [ONLINE] Available at: <http://wettropics.gov.au/site/user-assets/docs/invasivepestsbrochure2016lr.pdf> [Accessed 29 May 2017].
- Wet Tropics Management Authority 2016b. State of Wet Tropics Report 2015-2016 [ONLINE] Available at: <http://www.wettropics.gov.au/site/user-assets/docs/sowt2015-16b5-lres.pdf> [Accessed 29 May 2017].
- Wet Tropics Management Authority 2017a. Plants and Animals. [ONLINE] Available at: <http://www.wettropics.gov.au/plants-animals> [Accessed 29 May 2017].

Wet Tropics Management Authority 2017b. Threats to the World Heritage Area. [ONLINE] Available at: <http://wettropics.gov.au/other-threats-to-the-wha> [Accessed 29 May 2017].

Wet Tropics Management Authority 2017c. Threats to the World Heritage Area. [ONLINE] Available at: <http://wettropics.gov.au/climate-change> [Accessed 29 May 2017].

Wet Tropics Management Authority 2017d. Cassowaries. [ONLINE] Available at: <http://www.wettropics.gov.au/cassowaries> [Accessed 29 May 2017].

Wet Tropics Management Authority 2017e. Palms. [ONLINE] Available at: <http://www.wettropics.gov.au/palms> [Accessed 29 May 2017].

Wet Tropics Management Authority 2017f. Palm Leaf Rainforests of the Wet Tropics Bioregion. [ONLINE] Available at: <https://www.wettropics.gov.au/site/user-assets/docs/factsheets/wtmaVMWTB4a5b.pdf> [Accessed 29 May 2017].

Wet Tropics Management Authority 2017g. Mangroves. [ONLINE] Available at: <http://www.wettropics.gov.au/mangroves-info> [Accessed 29 May 2017].

WWF 2017. 2017 Highlights. [ONLINE] Available at: <https://www.earthhour.org/2017-highlights> [Accessed 29 May 2017].

DRAFT

5.10. CEO REPORT MARCH - MAY 2017

REPORT AUTHOR(S) Linda Cardew, Chief Executive Officer
DEPARTMENT Office of the Chief Executive Officer

RECOMMENDATION

That Council receives and notes the Organisational Report Card and the Report from the Chief Executive Officer for the period March – May 2017.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

These reports present an outline of the operational initiatives and progress made by Council's Administration from March – May 2017. As part of the administration's review and continual improvement in the way the business of Council is communicated, a new section, an "Organisational Report Card" has now been developed. On a regular basis, this Report Card will provide a snapshot for Councillors and the community on a selection of operational indicators. As the Report Card is further developed and feedback is received, the data and benchmarks will be refined.

BACKGROUND

This report continues the practice established in early 2014 to provide an overview of the administration's operations to Council on a regular basis. The aim of these reports is to communicate how the administration is managing the diverse activities and challenges arising in the course of Council's business, and to summarise work in progress and the milestones achieved.

As in 2015, 2016 and this year, the administration continues to extend an open invitation to the community to provide feedback, at any time, on any aspect of Council's service delivery, or on broader issues that pertain directly to Council's business. The organisational goal of continual improvement will be always better informed if staff have a greater understanding of the community's observations, and so we welcome and encourage all comments.

PROPOSAL

That Council receives and notes the Organisational Report Card and the Report from the Chief Executive Officer for the period March – May 2017.

FINANCIAL/RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS

Council's operations are conducted in accordance with the 2016-2017 Budget adopted 28 June 2016.

RISK MANAGEMENT IMPLICATIONS

Council's operations have been subjected to an early risk assessment process.

SUSTAINABILITY IMPLICATIONS

Economic: The twin pillars of financial and economic sustainability underpin all Council's operations.

Environmental: Environmental management is a priority consideration in the delivery of all Council operations and services

Social: The diverse communities of Douglas are Council's clients. Council's operations, services and programs are designed and delivered to support the people of Douglas.

CORPORATE/OPERATIONAL PLAN, POLICY REFERENCE

Council's operations are conducted as required by the Local Government Act 2009, and in accordance with all applicable policies and the Douglas Shire Council Operational Plan 2015-2016 adopted 24 June 2015.

Corporate Plan 2014-2019 Initiatives:

Theme 5 - Governance

5.2.1 - Provide Councillors and community with accurate, unbiased and factual reporting to enable accountable and transparent decision-making.

5.3.3 - Develop an organisational culture that embraces new technology and innovative business processes to continually improve performance.

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:

Fully-Responsible Funding the full cost of a program or activity

CONSULTATION

Internal: All Departments of Council have contributed to the development of these reports.

External: Nil.

ATTACHMENTS

10. CEO Report- period March to May 2017 **[5.10.1]**

11. Organisational Report Card (March - May 2017) **[5.10.2]**

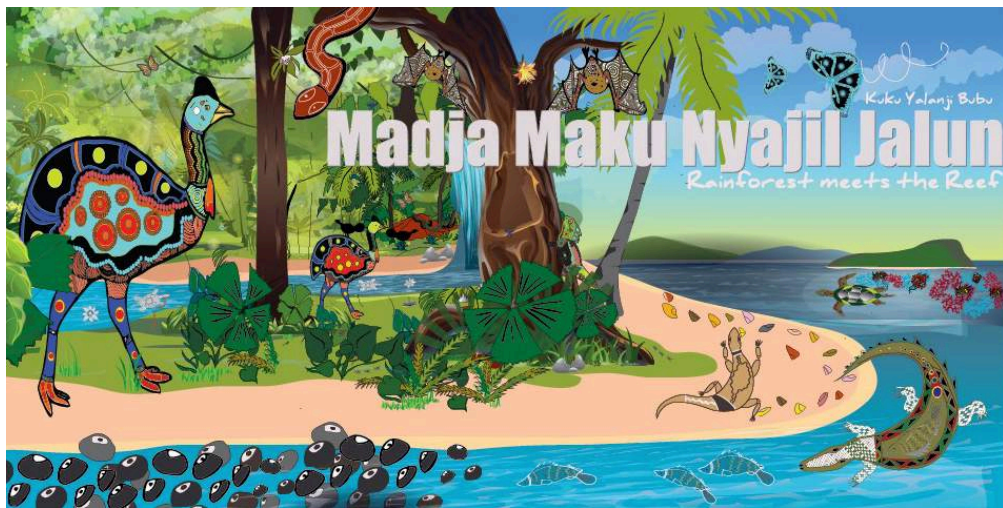
DOUGLAS SHIRE COUNCIL REPORT FROM THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

2016 - 2017

March - May 2017

BUILDING OPPORTUNITIES FOR DIVERSE DOUGLAS
PROVIDING COMMUNITY BENEFITS AND SERVICES
SUPPORTING ECONOMIC GROWTH
PROTECTING THE ENVIRONMENT
ENGAGING WITH OUR COMMUNITIES





Douglas Shire Council would like to show its appreciation by acknowledging local indigenous artists Lenice Schonenberger, Loretta Pierce (Lenoy) and Ronald Bamboo for providing the cover artwork entitled "**Daintree Ferry**"

Contents

CEO UNIT – <i>Connecting Communities</i>	2
Community Partners and Participation.....	3
Events and Programs	6
Economic Development.....	10
Website and Facebook.....	11
Grants	12
CORPORATE SERVICES	13
GOVERNANCE	13
PROCUREMENT	14
FINANCE AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY.....	15
LIBRARY	16
OPERATIONS	18
SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITIES.....	18
INFRASTRUCTURE.....	25
WATER AND WASTEWATER.....	32

CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

Executive officer engagement

The development and strengthening of Council's relationships across the region with other Councils, state agencies and stakeholders is an important responsibility of the Executive Leadership Team.

During this quarter Council's Chief Executive Officer attended Board meetings of the Local Government Managers Australia (QLD) in her capacity as the Director for the Northern Region. At the invitation of the LGMA the CEO also participated on a panel of four CEOs at the LGMA Future Leaders Forum in Cairns, and Council's General Manager Corporate Services participated in a panel of executive advisers at the same Forum. The CEO was also invited to submit an article for *The Journal*, the LGMA publication distributed to Councils and LGMA members across Queensland in May.

In April the CEO was invited by the Local Government Association of Queensland (LGAQ) to join its *Future of Work Advisory Group*, established in 2017 to examine the impact of predicted changes in the local government workplace as a result of developments in technology and the ability of Councils to deliver services when economic conditions are more dynamic, less certain and unpredictable. Douglas is one of just seven Councils invited to participate from across the State.

The CEO and the Coordinator Planning attended the LGMA Awards for Excellence in Local Government at which Douglas Shire Council was a finalist in the Community Shaping Category for Council's *Return to Country Local Planning Scheme*.

At the invitation of the Australian Institute of Management the CEO participated in a panel discussion at the 2017 Leadership Outlook – the Cairns sector of an 18 part roadshow in which AIM discussed high performance with over 1000 managers and leaders all over Australia.

The CEO attended the FNQROC Board meeting in Cairns in April with Mayors and CEOs from the 13 FNQ member Councils.

The General Manager Operations together with Dr Michael Lawrence of Bligh Tanner (as lead author) have been accepted by the Australian Water Association (AWA) to submit a joint paper with on "Health Based Targets, Risk Assessment and the difficult Task of communicating for future options" for the Nth Queensland Conference AWA in Mackay to be held in July. The paper looks at the application of the proposed draft Health Based Target Framework through the existing regulatory requirement to have a risk based management plan and uses a number of Douglas water treatment plants as case studies.

The Douglas ELT invited LGMA to hold its IGNITE Leadership Course in Port Douglas. This three stage program is attended by staff from a number of neighbouring Local Councils.

In April Douglas Shire was invited to host the quarterly meeting of the Queensland Local Government Risk Management Focus Group to be held on 3 and 4 August. This will be attended by 30-40 risk management professionals from Local Governments in North Queensland. The General Manager Corporate Services has been invited to Chair the meeting. The General Manager Operations has been invited to address the same meeting on Asset Management, and another staff member is to give a presentation on Business Continuity Plans.

The Mayor and Deputy Mayor and the Executive team attended the LGAQ Elected Member Update on April in Atherton, with other neighbouring Councils.

On 31 May the Mayor, Deputy Mayor, CEO and Council's Community and Economic Development officer attended the 2017 Queensland Reconciliation Awards at which Douglas Shire Council, in partnership with Jabalbina Yalanji Aboriginal Corporation, received the Highly Commended Award for Council's *Return to Country Local Planning Scheme*.



Jabalbina CEO, Buru community representatives, Jabalbina Board Chair with Mayor Julia Leu and Council's CEO at the Queensland Reconciliation Awards

Together with the Mayor and Deputy Mayor, on 1 June 2017 the CEO, General Manager Corporate Services and Manager Finance appeared in Cairns before the Parliamentary Inquiry into the Long Term Financial Sustainability of Local Government, to further support Council's written submission to the Parliamentary Committee.

Bama Working Group

The BWG continues to be a productive forum for the Council's administration and officers from Indigenous agencies to manage Indigenous operational matters and projects of mutual interest. The March meeting of the BWG included updates on Native Title claims, inclusion of BBN in Councils Register of Preferred Suppliers and consideration of a number of matters at the Gorge Community.

CEO UNIT – *Connecting Communities*

Officers from the CEO Unit – *Connecting Communities*, continue to work with organisations, groups in our diverse communities to achieve social and economical outcomes that are empowering and lasting.

Community Partners and Participation

Marketing and Sponsorship Workshop:

On 14 March 2017 at the Mossman Shire Hall, in partnership with Department of National Parks, Recreation, Sports and Racing, Council helped to deliver a Marketing and Sponsorship Workshop under the Building Active Community Workshops program. This free workshop was attended by five participants representing local community organisations and sporting groups. The workshop provided tips, tools and practical information in attracting new members and gaining sponsorship from businesses and corporate organisations.



Image - Attendees Marketing & Sponsorship workshop 2017

Active Games in the Park

Active Games in the park continues to grow with an increase in participation of over 100% in Port Douglas. We have also seen an increase in parent attendance and under 5's for Port Douglas and a rise in school age girl participation for both Port Douglas and Mossman.

Welcome to Douglas

The Welcome to Douglas on line booklet has proven very popular with new residents to the Shire. Officers recently received this lovely comment from a new resident:

"My wife and I were delighted to have recently settled the purchase of property in the Shire of Douglas. It was with some genuine surprise and pleasure to receive today your welcome letter to the Shire dated the 2nd of May 2017"

Not once in any previous property acquisitions have my wife and I ever received a similar welcome letter. I am obviously unaware of who deserves the credit for the initiative of the warm welcome to new ratepayers but they should be thoroughly extolled. Thank you again for the welcome note."

https://douglas.qld.gov.au/download/community_development/Welcome-to-Douglas-Guide-2017_2.pdf

'Let it Grow' Douglas Garden Awards 2017

With nominations for the Garden Awards opening in the first week of July, Costa Georgiadis has compiled a short video for social media promotion. To view the video go to our facebook page or for more information about the Awards follow <https://douglas.qld.gov.au/community/let-it-grow/>

Domestic and Family Violence Workshop

As part of the development of a Functional Brief for a domestic and family violence refuge to suit the Douglas Shire, Council held a series of interviews with local police and community organisations, and with domestic violence specialists from around the region. The purpose of this engagement was to scope the extent and type of domestic and family violence in Douglas to determine the most beneficial model of crisis and transitional accommodation and support services to pursue to fill the gap. This series of consultations culminated in a workshop run on 30 March in partnership with the Department of Communities, Child Safety and Disability Services to demonstrate the models of crisis accommodation currently funded by the Department. Fifteen organisations were represented at the workshop including Queensland Police, Mossman Hospital and Goobidi.

Community Agency Network (CAN) meetings

Following on from a Council resolution in September 2016 that Council invite the CAN to meet twice per year, on 20 April Council hosted a meeting of the Community Agency Network to discuss matters of mutual interest and maintain open lines of communication.

Participation in National Disability Survey

Douglas Shire Council participated in a survey being undertaken by the University of Technology Sydney on behalf of the National Disability Insurance Agency (NDIA) to investigate the current roles of local governments in supporting the social and economic inclusion of people with a disability, their families and carers.

The specific aims of the project are to:

- Increase knowledge about local government structures, networks and processes that support the social and economic inclusion of people with disability, their families and carers; and
- Identify a delivery framework which can be flexibly adapted to meet the needs of a diverse range of communities and localities.

After completing the online survey Council was contacted by the Senior Researcher in regards to obtaining more detailed information based on the survey responses. It was found that Douglas Shire Council is one of very few Councils in Australia which has made provisions for creating and providing work experience opportunities for people with disabilities.

Council has previously worked with Mossman State High School in providing the opportunity for students with special needs in gaining work experience within Council work areas. The University of Technology was keen to learn more as to how Council was able to implement this initiative within the workplace and provide such valuable opportunities for people with physical and intellectual disabilities.

Developing a State Disability Plan

The Queensland Government is developing a new state disability plan and recently undertook public consultation on the *Towards an all abilities Queensland* consultation paper. Douglas Shire Council provided a formal submission in response to the consultation paper which was noted and supported in a Report to Council on the 24 January 2017.

A forum was held on 27 April in Cairns to discuss the outcomes of consultation and further explore ideas as to how working partnerships could assist to build a more inclusive Queensland and to discuss the proposed directions of the plan.

Key Issues discussed:

- Overview of the submission process and feedback provided
- A platform to provide information and resources to support Councils and organisations to better facilitate and provide more accessible services and facilities
- The reality of remote and regional communities not having the ability to improve accessibility/ equality – lack of resources/ funding
- Introduction of National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS) – Pros & Cons
- Proposed framework of the Draft Disability Plan
 - Priority 1: Personal and Community Relationships
 - Priority 2: Recreation and Tourism
 - Priority 3: Working and Learning
 - Priority 4: Key services
 - Priority 5: Leadership and contribution

Events and Programs

NAIDOC Week Planning

Council supported the Mossman NAIDOC with the convening of five NAIDOC meetings hosted at the Council Chambers. Council provided secretarial support by way of recording and disseminating minutes. This year's NAIDOC theme is *'Our Languages Matter'* with local NAIDOC Celebrations taking place from 10 – 14 July 2017.

Sorry Day

On 26 May Council hosted the annual Sorry Day commemoration ceremony at the Council Chambers. Sorry Day is a day to remember and honour the many Aboriginal people who were forcibly removed as children from their families and taken to institutions, foster homes or into adoption. The Event was attended by approximately 50 people. Students from Mossman State High School raised the flags and delivered extracts from the *'Apology Speech'* delivered by Prime Minister Kevin Rudd in 2008.



Image - Sorry Day commemoration Council Administration Building Mossman.

National Reconciliation Week

Each year National Reconciliation Week is conducted between 27 May – 3 June. This year marks the 50th and 25th anniversary of the 1967 Referendum (27 May 1967) and the High Court ruling on the Mabo Native Title decision (3 June 1992). A display was created in the foyer of the Council Chambers to promote National Reconciliation Week.

On Monday 29 May, Council hosted an event for approximately 20 students from Mossman State High School and St Augustine's which was a discussion and viewing of short films highlighting information on the significance of 1967 Referendum and the Mabo decision.

Carnivale 2017

Carnivale 2017 once again saw a line-up of vibrant international acts entertain the Douglas Shire! With the beautiful Spiegeltent providing the venue for acts like comedian Jeff Green, La Soirée and the traditional longest lunch held in Rex Smeal Park, Carnivale 2017 has been regarded as a success.

With Taste Port Douglas providing the food and wine event of the year, it was felt that having two events with the same focus was not conducive for the Shire and visitors. In the last two years we have seen the format change from a range of events focusing on food and wine, to events that provide a variety of food, entertainment and music. This change to the format is proving very popular with visitors to the Shire which was reflected in that over a third of ticketed sales were sold to Victorians.



Image - Carnivale Beach Day 2017



Image - Carnivale Ferris Wheel 2017



Image - Longest Lunch 2017

Arts Policy and Art Strategy

Council's Arts Policy and Arts Strategy were adopted March 28, and the graphically-designed Arts Strategy has been uploaded to Council's website https://douglas.qld.gov.au/download/publications_reports/arts-strategy-email_spreads.pdf and https://douglas.qld.gov.au/download/policies/Arts-General-Policy_2.pdf, with hardcopies at Council's libraries for reference purposes. The documents also accompanied Council's 2017/18 RADF Funding Bid to Arts Queensland.

Regional Arts Development Fund (RADF) Round

Eligible individuals, organisations and collectives were invited to apply for funding for arts and cultural projects under Council's 2016-17 Regional Arts Development (RADF) Program

comprising a local grants program and public art submissions, which opened March 30. A public information session was held 4 April and applications closed on 26 May 2017.

RADF Liaison Officer Forum

A RADF Liaison Officer (RLO) Forum was organised and hosted by Council, held at Mossman Gorge Centre on May 11. Council RLOs from Cairns, Cassowary, Cook, Mareeba, Tablelands, and Douglas attended, along with a representative from Arts Queensland. The day provided an opportunity to network and information share across the region. Post forum feedback was unanimous in having a forum on a regular basis, whether biannually, or annually. An example of one RLO's feedback: *"Excellent opportunity to meet other RADF officers, exchange ideas and knowledge with RADF officers and Arts Queensland. Good to hear info directly from AQ."*



Image - RADF Liaison Officers attending forum 2017

RADF Public Art - Rex Smeal Park

Douglas Art Base 11 Mill Street, Mossman held a series of free workshops during March and April to create pottery, ceramic and fused glass components to be incorporated into the mosaic on the amenities building at Rex Smeal Park in Port Douglas.

- Saturday 18th March – Pottery workshop with Ellen Terrell. 10am – 1pm. (Local wildlife and flora)
- Tuesday 21st March – Kids leaf decorating workshop with Connie Rossi – 3pm – 5pm
- Tuesday 28th March – Kids Leaf decorating workshop with Connie Rossi – 3pm – 5pm
- Friday 31st March – Ceramics workshop with Liz Showniruk – 9am – 1pm (Rainforest fantasy faces, seeds, butterflies, etc)
- Sunday 2nd April – Glass Fusing workshop with Lil Emmett – 10am – 2pm (Tropical flowers / heliconias, etc)
- Saturday 18th April – Pottery Workshop with Ellen Terrell – 10am – 1pm. (Local wildlife and flora)

The project coordinator also hosted DAB Saturday afternoon Mosaics from 1.30pm – 4.30pm throughout March and April where mosaics were created on tile mesh for incorporation into the main mosaic. Over 110 people aged from 5 to 85 were involved in the project.

Installation of the mosaic commenced in early May, for completion mid to late June (working around Carnivale and various events at the park over the next two months).

The installation is an attraction in itself with visitors photographing the pieces being placed on the toilet block and enquiring when they can see the finished job on the web. Regular updates to Council's Facebook Page inform residents and visitors on the progress of the project.

The Regional Arts Development Fund (RADF) is a Queensland Government and Douglas Shire Council partnership to support local arts and culture in regional Queensland.



Image - Rex Smeal Park amenities building public art project.

Camerata

Queensland's Chamber Orchestra and Council presented Camerata's Greatest (String) Hits 7pm Thursday 4 May 2017 at Mossman Shire Hall with over 150 people attending. The concert presented a program of new Australian Music and great classics providing an enjoyable night out for the whole family. Thank you to all the musicians for a memorable night and for bringing a high-calibre arts experience to residents in regional areas of Queensland; volunteers from Rotary for your assistance; and to everyone who supported the event with your attendance.

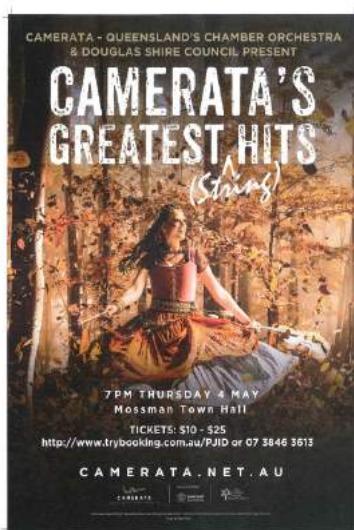


Image - Promotional flyer



Image - Audience enjoying the Camerata Performance.

Anzac Day

More than 3000 people participated in Anzac Day commemorations across the Douglas Shire.

Around 1000 people attended the Anzac Day Dawn Service held at the cenotaph at Council's Mossman Administration Building, with many of these enjoying a Council-sponsored community breakfast prepared by the Mossman SES afterwards.

An Anzac Day dawn service was also held at Cow Bay followed by a Council-sponsored community breakfast attended by approximately 150 people.

The Port Douglas Memorial Anzac Day Parade and Service attracted more than 2000 people of all ages to pay tribute to the men and women who have fought for our freedom.



Image - Mossman Dawn Service



Image - Port Douglas March



Image - Port Douglas laying of wreath

Citizenship Ceremony

Fifteen new citizens were welcomed to the Douglas Shire at a Citizenship Ceremony held at the Mossman Shire Hall on Thursday 18 May.

Our new citizens come from backgrounds as diverse as Northern Ireland, China, Croatia, the UK, the United States, Italy, France, Japan, Sri Lanka, India and New Zealand.

Mayor Julia Leu presided over the ceremony which was also attended by the Hon Mark Furner MP, Queensland Minister for Local Government and Minister for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Partnerships.



Image - New Citizens to Douglas

Economic Development

Advancing Regional Innovation Program Workshop

A workshop was conducted on 27 April in Cairns with stakeholders in relation to the Advance Queensland's Advancing Regional Innovation Program. This program is designed to encourage innovation and entrepreneurship across Queensland and support local economies to create jobs for regional Queenslanders.

The program enables a tailored approach to connecting local efforts, harnessing existing strengths and building capability. The intention is to build 'Hubs' of innovation across the state that reflect the diversity of Queensland's regions, draw people together and boost grassroots activities.

One application was eligible from each region with Cairns and Tablelands taking the lead. Applications consisted of a collaborative action plan (CAP) that outlined a tailored program of activities that responds to the local needs and stage of development of its community.

Activities will include mentoring, capability development, and innovation spaces, to connect entrepreneurs with each other and with industry, and to coordinate local efforts.

The focus or priority areas of the proposed ARIP –CAP include:

- Agriculture
- Mining
- Tourism
- Information Technology (IT) and connectivity

Supporting Business Training and Development

During the March – May period Council actively promoted training and development programs targeting small tourism businesses with the Douglas region. Tourism Tropical North Queensland via the Australian Small Business Advisory Services Program provides opportunities for small tourism business to access professional development opportunities to assist them to establish sustain and grow their businesses.

Supporting the Chamber of Commerce

The Douglas Chamber of Commerce has been supported by Council with promotion and marketing of their initiatives and events via the Council Facebook and website. The Chamber was the successful recipient of funding allocated under the 2016/17 round of the Business Development Fund to assist with the delivery of such a series of events and business development initiatives.

Website and Facebook

Council has increased Facebook activity as it has grown to become the most effective means of communicating with our communities. We now have 3569 Facebook followers.

In the three months from March-May 2017, Council shared 382 Facebook posts which reached 622,930 Facebook users. The average post reached 1631 Facebook users. The top 5 Facebook posts were: Four Mile Beach closed due to croc sighting (17,900 Facebook users); Day bed giveaway at Scrap Shack (6600); Great Barrier Reef Drive voted best in North Qld (5600); Port Douglas pump track update (5500); Road reseal schedule (5300).

Council's website had more than 91,000 pageviews over the quarter from 25,781 unique users, with around 60 per cent of these new users. The top 10 pages were: Daintree Ferry (4693 pageviews); Employment at Council (3599); CREB Track (1831), Bloomfield Track (1823); Contact Us (1711); Community Markets (1653); Fees & Charges (1499); Forms & Permits (1403); Camping Grounds & Caravan Parks (1389); Council Meetings (1362).

Promoting Small Business Digital Technology Programs and Information:

During March and April, via Facebook, Council actively promoted two small business programs and an information source specifically focusing on digital technology . The initiatives promoted included:

- Digital (IT) Strategy for Small Business – encouraging small business to prepare for the digital economy. To have a digital strategy in place for their business. To help them consider keeping up with digital technologies and incorporating them their day-to-day business to assist them to remain competitive in an increasingly digital marketplace.
- Digital Champions – Encouraging small business and broader community to nominate outstanding individuals who operate their own business, are positive role models and who are able to encourage others to be digitally-savvy.
- Small Business Digital Grants Program - The Small Business Digital Grants Program provides small businesses with access to digital technologies and services to enable them to work smarter, engage with the global economy and make the most of online business opportunities arising from digital disruption.

GRANTS

Upcoming Grants

Grant	Provider	Proposed Project	Est. Amount	Closes
Community Sustainability Action – Heritage Conservation	Dept Environment and Heritage Protection	Douglas Arts Based Building	15,000	20/06/2017
Regional Jobs & Investment Packages- Local Infrastructure	Dept Infrastructure & Regional Development	Port Douglas Waterfront Southern Precinct	TBC	31/07/2017

Grants Pending Decisions

Grant	Provider	Project	Amount	Closed
Regional Arts Development Fund	Arts Qld	RADF 2017/2018 funding bid	35,000	28/04/17
Building Better Regions	DIIS	Noah Creek Bridge	1.5 million	28/02/2017
Building Our Regions	State Development	Sludge Handling System Upgrade	740,000	7/04/2017
Bridges Renewal Program	Dept Infrastructure & Regional Development	Diggers Bridge	2.7 million	15/05/2017

Outcomes of Grant Applications

Grant	Provider	Project	Amount	Outcome
QCoast2100	LGAQ	Coastal Hazard Adaptation Strategy (CHAS) Phases 3-8	393,470	Successful

Awards Entered and Outcome

Award	Sponsor	Project	Outcome
Queensland Reconciliation Awards	Premier & Cabinet	Return to Country Local Planning Scheme	Highly Commended
National Awards for Local Government	Dept Infrastructure	Daintree Gateway	Not Shortlisted
National Awards for Local Government	Dept Infrastructure	Enabling Aged Care in Mossman	Not Shortlisted
LGMA Awards in Excellence	LGMA	Return to Country Planning Scheme	Finalist
LGMA Awards in Excellence	LGMA	Go Douglas!	Not Shortlisted

CORPORATE SERVICES

GOVERNANCE

Governance

This quarter the Governance Team has assisted with the preparation of the 2017-18 Operational Plan, and Operational and Capital Budgets. All team members have participated in WH&S Training, Maps training, and the popular lunchtime IT Updates.

The team coordinated the Local Government Managers Australia (LGMA) Ignite Program, a leadership course being held in Port Douglas this year. Eleven Douglas Council Leaders are participating (including three from the Governance Team) along with an equal number of staff from neighbouring Local Councils, and the feedback from staff has been very encouraging.

The team also coordinated a workshop for all Council Leaders to review and unpack the results of the inaugural staff survey. They then met several times to discuss the Governance Team's report and identify key areas for additional investigation and action planning.

The Governance Officer has created a new process for Council Policies this quarter and all updated policies can be viewed on Council's Website. New documents are constantly under development with a draft Transitioning to Retirement Administrative Instruction (AI) and a draft Policy for Domestic Violence and Family Support Leave currently under way. Updates to the delegations registers are also being prepared for Council's consideration. The Governance Officer has processed 5 Right to Information Application requests, lodged our Insurance information for the 2017-2018 premiums, and completed the annual LGM Risk Assessment.

Port Douglas Markets

The Port Douglas Markets have been travelling smoothly with a flyer recently distributed to inform stallholders of the new fees schedule commencing 1 July. The Markets Terms and Conditions are being reviewed along with the application form for our 2017-2018 stall holders.

Human Resources

A continued focus on learning and development has given staff the opportunity to participate over the last few months in specific professional development opportunities with associations such as Engineers Education Australia, LGMA Queensland (Ignite Program and Future Leaders Program) and LGAQ. We had four staff members successfully complete a formal qualification: three with LGAQ in the Diploma Leadership and Management and one with the Queensland University of Technology (QUT) in a Graduate Diploma in Environmental Health (with Distinction). Council recently hosted a block session in the Certificate IV in Water Operations that included participants from Douglas Shire Council and surrounding Councils.

Over the last few months Council has welcomed new staff members in several work areas including Library Services, Frontline Services, Civil Works, Finance and IT and Water and Wastewater.

Workplace Health & Safety

April saw the commencement of a six month secondment to the WH&S team to assist Council embed its Safety Management system. Key areas of focus have been established from an internal systems audit. Tasks for the early phase of the project include a procedural rollout and induction, and review of WH&S training systems.

In May two auditors from Local Government Workcare (LGW) visited Council to help facilitate the induction of all staff into systems and specific work WH&S procedures. This training greatly assisted Council with its auditable benchmarking of WH&S and was well timed to kick start the secondment project.

Records

With changes in staff the role of System Administration for Council's agenda and minutes software has been relocated to the Senior Records Officer's role. The transition has been successfully implemented. Training sessions have been provided to staff in the InfoXpert and DocAssembler software systems.

The Senior Records Officer successfully completed and attained the Certificate IV in TAE Training & Assessment which provides the relevant competencies to conduct training for Staff in Council's software applications.

Property

Works have commenced at the Port Douglas Sports Complex to expend the Work for Queensland grant allocation. Works to be undertaken include external painting and repairs, and the replacement of floor tiles in both change rooms. Staff are preparing contract documents for the tender of the Café at Thornton Beach as the current Permit expires in October. It is expected that tenders will be called in August.

As it has become clear that the Mossman Pool basin is leaking staff have been working to determine the source of the leakages. After several dye and pressure tests of the hydraulic services it has been established that a number of vertical expansion joints have failed will require replacement. These repair works will be undertaken in the winter months as the pool will need to be closed and drained to perform these and other maintenance requirements.

The team continues to deal with ongoing matters such as road openings and closures, changes to leases, use of reserve land, licence agreements for communications facilities, and lease renewals and encroachments.

Front Line Services (FLS) and Organisational Business Support Unit (OBSU)

Due to long term internal Secondments to the Team Leader Frontline role in March, to a vacant role in Governance in April, and to a new role in Planning in May, a recruitment campaign was initiated to secure two new casual team members to accommodate the secondments. We were fortunate to secure two experienced staff who have taken on their new roles seamlessly. With the two teams meeting together weekly a good rapport is building and staff continue to support each other in their day to day duties.

PROCUREMENT

Procurement has been involved in delivering 40 tender/quotations through either the LG Electronic Tender System or Local Buy (Vendor Panel Online System) in this reporting period. Whilst receiving submissions electronically creates administrative efficiencies, this has resulted in a large number of submissions being assessed and evaluated with varying degrees of complexities.

Tenders of notable significance during this reporting period have been:

- Contract 2016 - 149 Port Douglas 20Ml Reservoir,
- Contract 2017 - 009 Pump Track Port Douglas,
- Contract 2017 - 013 Daintree River Ferry Channel Dredging
- Contract 2017- 014 Asset Maintenance - Mossman (Mowing and Ancillary Services),
- Contract 2017- 015 Asset Maintenance - Port Douglas (Mowing and Ancillary Services),
- Contract 2017- 016 Asset Maintenance - Daintree (Mowing and Ancillary Services)
- Contract 2017- 017 Flagstaff Hill Walking Track Stage 1
- Contract 2017- 030 (2015 and 2016 NDRRA Road Restoration Programs)

Procurement has produced a Master Probity Plan that underpins ALL procurement activities. This plan equally applies to Council Officers and Suppliers who are involved in the tendering

process. All Stakeholders and Evaluation panel members sign a specific Procurement Project Probity Plan before projects commence.

Procurement continues working with internal stakeholders collecting information to produce the Forward Procurement Schedule for 2017/18. This schedule will identify most medium and large procurement activities to be delivered over the next twelve months to assist the organisation complete operational and capital projects detailed in the annual budget. The process of developing a Forward Procurement Schedule will continue for future financial years as part of the overall planning strategy in delivering organisational goals and objectives.

In advocating for Douglas on a regional basis, Procurement is currently participating or has participated in:

- Joint tenders (via FNQROC) for
 - Contract 2016-043 Bio Solids,
 - Contract 2017-027 Sodium Hypochlorite , and
 - Contract 2017-027 Liquid Alum
- FNQROC Procurement and Technical Committee forums,
- Local Buy Liaison forum (teleconference)
- Regional Finance Managers forum

The Chief Procurement Officer continues to liaise and work with our local suppliers to assist them to understand how and what they need to do to respond to Councils tender and quotation requests. Procurement also continues to provide tender/quotation submission analysis to suppliers who request feedback of their tender responses.

FINANCE AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

The Queensland Audit Office (QAO) is currently undertaking its interim audit visit to Council to review progress in addressing any outstanding audit issues, review a number of Council's financial processes and review progress towards preparing for end of financial year matters. The final audit will be undertaken in the week commencing 18 September 2017 and final audit certification of Council's annual financial statements is expected by 13 October 2017.

Council's 2017/18 budget preparation process is nearing completion and Councillors have been provided with a final draft of the budget for consideration prior to the proposed budget adoption on 27 June 2017. The budget process occurs over a number of months and has involved input from all key areas of Council and has included many workshops with Councillors to consider the various components of the budget such as the capital works program, fees & charges, rates, materials & services and Council's long term financial forecast. Council's operational plan is also developed and workshopped as part of this process.

Debt recovery processes have continued with the issue of water usage first reminder notices on 10 May 2017, with a due date of 25 May 2017. Water billing notices for water usage during the period February to June 2017 are scheduled to be issued on 27 June 2017. Rates letters of demand were issued on 15 May with 21 days to make payment. Supplementary Rates Levy notices were issued on 30 May 2017 with a due date of 29 June 2017. These notices were for the amendment of charges due to requests (eg additional bins), buildings that have been completed or new allotments created.

Properties previously served with statements of claim (summons) in March that had an outstanding balance of \$3,000 or more and have not since made payment or entered into a payment arrangement with Council have now progressed to the judgement stage.

Work undertaken by the contract Business Analyst engaged to implement a number of IT related improvement recommendations provided by the QAO through their audit process is progressing well and it is envisaged that the majority of the recommendations will be implemented by the end of the financial year.

LIBRARY

For the first time Mossman Library hosted Kids' on Tour *"The Gabori Sisters Gathering by the Sea"* presented by GOMA (Queensland Gallery of Modern Art Children's Art Centre). This was a great opportunity for our community to learn, watch, listen, discover and enjoy the Gabori Sisters whose home is Bentinck Island in the Gulf of Carpentaria.

Through specially designed interactive hands-on making and multimedia activities young visitors (and the not so young) were introduced to the unique and important relationship that Kaiadilt people share with the sea and the creatures who inhabit the waters around the island. Over a three week period approximately 420 people enjoyed the free program.



Image - Interactive Activity GOMA



Image - Craft Session GOMA

"Built to survive : the uncertain journey of a Court House built for Port Douglas 1879" by Local Historian, Noel Weare was launched by Mayor Julia Leu at Mossman Library in March. This well researched book will form an integral part of the Local History Collection.



Image - Mayor at National Heritage



Image - Mayor and Cr Kerr at National Heritage Week

In April, National Heritage Week was celebrated at Mossman Library with a historical walk of the town of Mossman and "Coffee, cake and a bit of conversation".

The theme was immigration and multiculturalism and 29 people came together to chat about where they are from and their life in the Douglas Shire.



Image - National Heritage Week

The Library was successful in obtaining an *Advance Queensland STEM.I.AM grant* which aims to increase the number of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students pursuing STEM (science, technology, engineering, maths) at university through targeted engagement activities for indigenous young people.

An amount of \$12,830 was received and the project will involve working with the Youth Centre and the Mossman High School as well as providing training to teachers and library staff in robotics and coding.

National Simultaneous Storytime was celebrated at Mossman Library on Wednesday 24th May with 27 children and adults enjoying morning tea, "*The cow tripped over the moon*" story and craft. National Simultaneous Storytime is held annually by the Australian Library & Information Association.

Every year a picture book, written and illustrated by an Australian author and illustrator is read simultaneously at 11am in Libraries. By facilitating National Simultaneous Storytime, we aim to promote the value and love of reading and books.



Image - National Simultaneous Story Time

During this period, 23,079 people visited their local library; 258 people joined; 22,954 items were borrowed; 28 inter-library loans were placed; 1,469 people attended library programs/events; 45 people participated in outreach events; 2,244 pc bookings were made and 724 people accessed free Wi-Fi.

OPERATIONS

SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITIES

Planning

At its Ordinary Committee meeting held on 26 April, Council considered the submissions lodged in response to the community consultation for the proposed Planning Scheme. Council received over 600 submissions and amended the proposed planning scheme where it was considered appropriate to do so.

The proposed planning scheme is being completed with these amendments and will be posted on-line mid-June and will also be referred to the State Government for final endorsement.

The planning team is also busy gearing up for the new Planning Act which will come into effect on 3 July 2017.

Development Assessment and Coordination continues to see a steady flow of work with 225 telephone and front counter enquiries and 18 new development applications submitted over the period.

Appeals

No Appeals have been lodged with the Planning and Environment Court for this period.

Local Laws/Environmental Health

News in Brief

- Carnivale Prescribed Activity applications submitted and assessed.
- Special Concession Dog Registration Renewals have been sent out. The current three year registration period expired on 31 March 2017.
- The Guardian software (used for disaster management) will incorporate a dashboard that will include a page for lost/found animals. The program will allow Local Laws Officers to upload photographs and identification details directly to the website and social media pages.
- The region was in cyclone alert at the end of March and the team activated contingencies in case Cyclone Debbie hit the region. Even though the cyclone did not impact the area, it was a good opportunity to revise procedures and strengthen systems.
- A Filming Permit was issued to WTFN Entertainment Pty Ltd to film Network Channel 10's popular series "The Living Room". Chris, Miguel and crew were in the Shire over four (4) days in April.
- An Abandoned Vehicle auction was held at Killaloe Waste Transfer Station on 19 April. Ten(10) vehicles were auctioned, with six (6) sold and four (4) passed in.
- The Department of Agriculture and Fisheries held multiple webinars for Local Laws Officers and Frontline staff to help with the introduction of the new Queensland Dog Breeder Register.
- A full audit of footpath approvals (Outdoor Dining, Goods on Footpath and Portable Advertising) was conducted in Port Douglas.

Illegal Camping

Camping numbers are slowly starting to increase with cooler weather conditions and a number of illegal campers have been issued warnings and moved on. It is expected as we move into the busy tourist season that these numbers may increase significantly. Signage that requires replacement due to theft or damage will occur in the next couple of months.

Dogs and Cassowaries Project

This project is nearing completion with data having been collated from the surveys. To complete the project objective follow up surveys, both face to face and via telephone, with a randomly selected group of residents is to commence. This survey will assess community awareness regarding animal control in the program area.

Eliminate Dengue

The roll out of the project is now considered largely complete and successful. Douglas will now fall under the banner of "periodic monitoring" which will see one off collections across the region every 4-6 months to confirm *Wolbachia* is still present in high levels in the mosquito population.

Penalty Infringement Notices

Infringement Name	March-May	Offence
Parking	1	Stopping at a length of road or in an area to which no parking signs apply.
Local Laws	2	Engaging in a prohibited or restricted activity. 1 x Removing coconut from foreshore. 1 x Moor a vessel exceeding 1 hour & leave vessel unattended. Public wharf at Port Douglas.
Sustainable Planning Act	1	Carrying out assessable development without a permit. Operational Works (Vegetation Damage)

Compliance Notices/Warning Letters

Subject	March-May	Comments if applicable
Breach Notices	60	Outdoor Dining, Goods on Footpath and Portable Advertising not being displayed correctly or without an approval.
Information Notices	19	11 x Compliance/Information Notices for Overgrown/Unsightly Lots 8 x Compliance/Information Notice for pile moorings without/outstanding approvals.
Other	1	Direction Notice (Environmental Protection Act) Light nuisance

Illegal Camping

Subject	March-May	Comments (if applicable)
No. of Illegal campers (pax)	159	
No. of Repeat Offenders	2	

Health Register

	March -May	Comments (if applicable)
New Food Apps received	5	
New Food Licences issued	9	
Food businesses closed	4	
Food business change owner	2	
Temp. food approvals issued	11	Carnivale and notifications from caterers
Pool & Accommodation approvals	6	

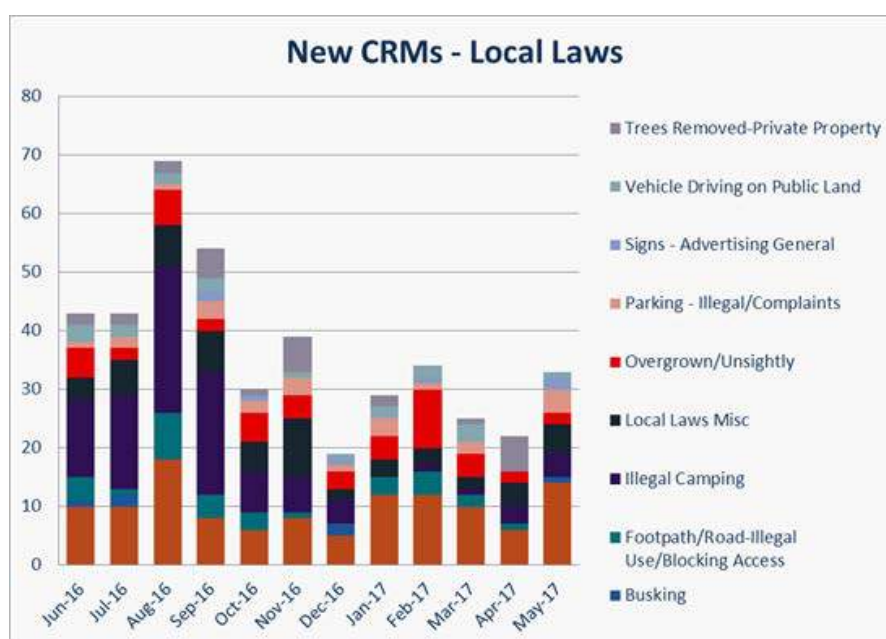
Prescribed Activities

	March-May	Comments (if applicable)
All PA applications received	23	
Approvals issued		
• Temp entertainment	8	Carnivale (Multiple events), Cow Bay Bike Run
• Filming/ photography	7	Lonely Planet, Tourism QLD, The Living Room
• Sports & recreation	2	Coral Coast/Triple R/Ironman, Cycle for Hope
• Other	6	Aircraft landings, Fireworks, temporary fencing

Customer Request Management

CRMs received for the year and up until the end of the reporting period.

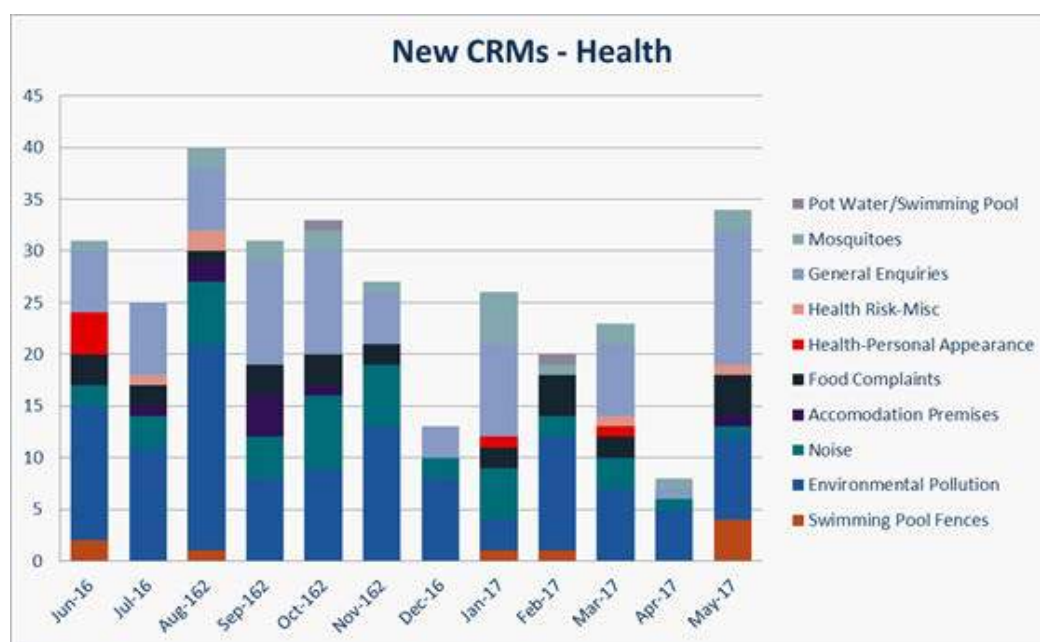
Local Laws



Animal Management



Environmental Health



Resource Management

Approximately 100 tonnes of green waste was received from 430 residents during Council's free green waste period in April 2017. Subsequently 78 tonnes of mulch was given to 286 customers during Council's free mulch period in May 2017.

The following volumes were collected in Council's kerbside collection service during March and April 2017:

- Domestic Waste: approx. 613 tonnes
- Domestic Recycling: approx. 182 tonnes
- Commercial Waste: approx. 290 tonnes
- Commercial Recycling: approx. 23 tonnes

The following volumes were exported from Council's Transfer Stations for recycling in March and April 2017:

- Dry co-mingled recyclables: 11.70 tonnes
- Drummuster Drums: 0.8 tonnes
- Tyres: 130 various sizes

The FNQROC contract for Collection & Removal of Ferrous Metals and ULABs was awarded to the incumbent Contractor, Sims Metal Management.

Interdepartmental cooperation has improved the quality of recycling generated from the Sunday Markets in Port Douglas. This was partly due to the construction of a new wheelie bin enclosure near Market Park to house these bins outside of public view.

Information pamphlets, "Be Wheelie Wise" were developed for distribution to assist residents in placing items in the correct bins.

RECYCLING (YELLOW LID) WHEELIE BIN		WASTE (GREEN LID) WHEELIE BIN			
<p>What you CAN put into the Yellow Recycling Bin</p>					
<p><u>Plastic</u></p>  <p>Plastics ♻️ accepted Empty items and remove the caps or lids (put lids in the Green lid bin) before placing into the Yellow lid bin.</p>	<p><u>Paper and Cardboard</u></p>  <p>Squash or flattened and dispose of food scraps into the Green lid bin before placing into the Yellow lid bin. Waxed cardboard is not recyclable.</p>	<p><u>Waxed cardboard</u></p>  <p>Place into the Green lid bin (or use to plant & propagate seedlings).</p>	<p><u>Polystyrene / Styrofoam</u></p>  <p>Place into the Green lid bin or store & reuse for storage & packing.</p>	<p><u>Aluminium Foil</u></p>  <p>Place into the Green lid bin or store & reuse for storage & packing.</p>	<p><u>Bubble wrap</u></p>  <p>Place into the Green lid bin or store & reuse for storage & packing.</p>
<p><u>Glass</u></p>  <p>Empty items and remove the caps or lids (put lids in the Green lid bin) before placing into the Yellow lid bin.</p>	<p><u>Steel and Aluminum</u></p>  <p>Empty items before placing into the Yellow lid bin.</p>	<p><u>Dirty disposable nappies</u></p>  <p>These items go into the Green lid bin.</p>	<p><u>Garden hose</u></p>  <p>These items go into the Green lid bin.</p>	<p><u>Household food scraps</u></p>  <p>Place into the Green lid bin or a home compost bin.</p>	<p><u>Bottle lids</u></p>  <p>Place into the Green lid bin or use for childrens crafts.</p>
<p>NOTE: Broken glass and soft plastics (plastic bags, cling film etc.) are not recyclable. Putting incorrect items in your Yellow lid bin can make your entire neighbourhood's collection NON-RECYCLABLE!</p>		<p><u>Disposable coffee cups</u></p>  <p>Place into the Green lid bin or use for childrens crafts.</p>	<p><u>Cling film</u></p>  <p>Place into the Green lid bin or drop into collection bins at major supermarkets.</p>	<p><u>Plastic bags</u></p>  <p>Place into the Green lid bin or drop into collection bins at major supermarkets.</p>	<p><u>Broken windows / plate glass or mirrors</u></p>  <p>Place into the Green lid bin or if undamaged please give to a charity shop or drop into the Scrap Shack at Killaloe Transfer Station.</p>
		<p><u>Drinking / wine glasses</u></p>  <p>Place into the Green lid bin or if undamaged please give to a charity shop or drop into the Scrap Shack at Killaloe Transfer Station.</p>	<p><u>Broken ceramics / crockery</u></p>  <p>Place into the Green lid bin or if undamaged please give to a charity shop or drop into the Scrap Shack at Killaloe Transfer Station.</p>	<p><u>Clothing and fabrics</u></p>  <p>Place into the Green lid bin or if undamaged please give to a charity shop or drop into the Scrap Shack at Killaloe Transfer Station.</p>	

Additional public place recycling bins for Port Douglas, Mossman and the Daintree Gateway have been constructed and a photo competition was opened "Love Where You Live" for artwork on the bin enclosures.

Additional photos were selected due to the quality of the entries and will be displayed on existing enclosures around the Shire.

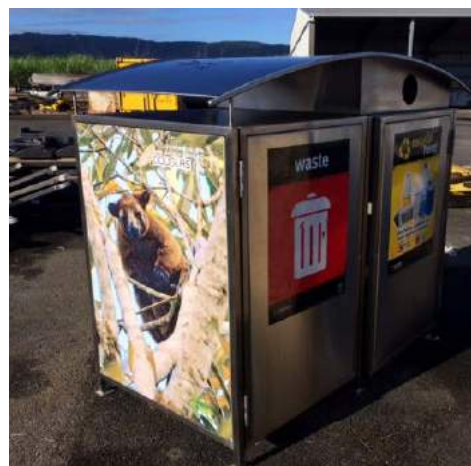


Image – Love Where You Live Photo Competition

Sustainability

The Corporate Sustainability Policy was adopted in March 2017 which commits Douglas to six environmental sustainable principles. These are: Preserve and restore the natural environment; Utilise resources efficiently; Protect and enhance biodiversity; monitor and reduce Council's environmental footprint; Strengthen Council's resilience to climate change; and Display strong environmental leadership.

A submission on the *'Enhancing regulations to ensure clean water for a healthy Great Barrier Reef (GBR) and a prosperous Queensland'* discussion paper was made to the Department of Environment and Heritage Protection. Douglas recognises the economic, environmental and social benefits of broadening and enhancing regulations to enhance the water quality of the GBR, however also highlighted that climate change mitigation strategies will be vital to the ongoing health of the GBR.

Douglas has been successful in securing a grant through the QCoast2100 program to complete the Coastal Hazard Adaptation Strategy (CHAS). This includes funds to commission a local erosion study for the shire. Under the QCoast2100 program Douglas has secured \$447,447 to date for the purpose of developing a medium to long term coastal management plan addressing projected sea level rises, more intense cyclones and accelerated coastal erosion. In addition, the strategy will include a stakeholder engagement and consultation component.

Nicola Learmond, Sustainability Officer was asked to present at the QCoast2100 Knowledge and Information Sharing Forum #2 to share Douglas CHAS journey to date. The Douglas Local Marine Advisory Committee sponsored Nicola Learmond, Sustainability Officer to attend a Coastal Hazard Management Short Course run by Griffith University.

The three-day course held in Brisbane and the Gold Coast included coastal hazard management training on coastal dynamics, the impacts of coastal hazards on settlement, infrastructure and ecosystems.



Image - Working with Douglas LMAC, Newell Beach

Councillors and officers received a face-to-face briefing as part of the Queensland Climate Resilient Councils program.

This is a partnership between LGAQ and the Department of Environment and Heritage Protection which aims to support local governments in Queensland to plan and respond to climate change.

Disaster Management

Cyclone Debbie provided a timely reminder of the impact of cyclones when she bypassed Douglas and caused the activation and potential evacuation of communities along the northern Queensland coast before having a major impact on the Whitsundays area.

In response to Cyclone Debbie the Douglas LDMG was placed on ALERT and preparations for the operation of the Storm Tide Cyclone Shelter and the Local Disaster Coordination Centre were put in place.

In May the Manager Sustainable Communities attended a Disaster Management Officers forum, provided by the Inspector General Emergency Management, in Mackay.

The forum provided an opportunity for officers to share experiences and learning's from Cyclone Debbie, which were many, changes in the disaster management area and potential improvements across the many aspects of disaster management with an emphasis on communications and warnings.

The Department of Science, Information, Technology and Innovation undertook surveys in the Shire in April to establish local landmarks as part of the development of a Storm Tide Warning Response System. The landmarks will assist in providing a visual aspect to potential storm tides when cyclones threaten the Douglas coastline.

Port Douglas - St Mary's by the sea

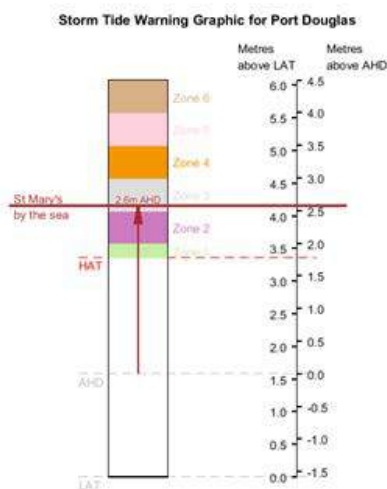


Image -Example of a landmark for St. Mary's

INFRASTRUCTURE

Civil Works

The civil works crews have been busy on a range of projects over the past quarter. Work began on the **Daintree River Car Park** with the team using fibre reinforced concrete eliminating the need for reinforcing steel. Fibre reinforced concrete allows for faster construction techniques and eliminates future corrosion issues in steel reinforcement.

This project is being constructed using Council civil construction crews and is providing an excellent opportunity to hone the experience of the concrete crew whilst effectively engaging the multiple skills of each team member.

The drainage of the site was predetermined by the existing ablution block thus work consisted of excavation of the existing crushed rock pavement, survey set out, installation of a barrier kerb and concrete pavement.

Work is being coordinated with Open Spaces for planting the garden beds that have been created adjacent to the parking areas. Self-contained solar lighting will be installed to illuminate the area. This project is 80% complete in this period and is expected to be completed by the end of June.



Image – Daintree River carpark concrete works

The **Daintree Ferry crossing dredging** was completed over the quarter. Due to constant movement of sand down the Daintree River, the ferry channel requires annual dredging. This occurred in May after a competitive tender. The contractor performed night works using an excavator on the ferry which did not interfere with any ferry operations. A Hydrographic survey was then conducted to confirm the dredging was in accordance with the contractual requirements.

Through FNQROC, a tender for asphalt works was let to Boral for works in the member Council areas. Within Douglas Shire the following streets had significant asphalt overlay works performed:

- Andrews Street, Newell Beach;
- Cooya Beach Road, Cooya;
- Melaleuca Drive, Cooya;
- Marine Parade, Cooya;
- Warner, Murphy, Wharf and Owen Streets, Port Douglas.

The works were successfully performed with significantly more area receiving asphalt at an overall cost saving due to vigilant monitoring from the Team Leader Maintenance.



Image – asphalt works in Owen Street, Port Douglas
 Ordinary Council Meeting - 20 June 2017



Image – completed asphalt work in Melaleuca Drive, Cooya

A significant workload was processed by Civil Works Officers in managing the event approval process for large sporting events occurring within Douglas Shire.

Stakeholder engagement was paramount in educating event managers in the correct development of event management plans and traffic management plans; all of which ensures safety for spectators, participants and manages Council's duty of care in allowing these events to occur within our Shire.

In this period the process for reviewing and approving this process has been refined and is now more efficient allowing a more productive engagement and education process with event organisers. The following events have been reviewed and managed in this period:

- RRR;
- Ironman;
- White Lion challenge;
- Audax Gran Turismo;
- Carnivale;
- ANZAC Day parade;
- Cycle for Hope;
- Bike 4 Burns;
- Port Douglas Ultra marathon and GBR Marathon.

The Civil Works Maintenance and Construction teams continue to integrate extremely well with Asset Edge/Reflect for identifying and managing maintenance defects and accomplishments.

A delegation attended a user group conference in Townsville and has brought back increased enthusiasm in assisting other users gain the most out of this system.

This system is integral to the Road Maintenance Performance Contract Council has with the Department of Transport and Main Roads (DTMR) for managing their asset.

A planned upgrade will make the system more usable and manageable for all users with opportunities for uptake within Open Space to complement the use within Civil.

Disaster Mitigation and Resilience Funding

A contractor was appointed in mid May to undertake 2015 and 2016 NDRRA event repairs. Work has commenced on China Camp Road (80 sites) and are anticipated to complete works in a southerly direction including 10 Mile Road (11 sites), Cape Tribulation Bloomfield Road (2 sites near Wujal Wujal and 10 sites south of Emmagen Creek) and Banibilla Road (2 sites). Works are expected to be completed by August 2017.

Following a review of funding arrangements, the Australian Government has now accepted that some previously ineligible costs for events dating back to 2013 can now be claimed. Council Officers are currently working on making a submission for payment of these costs.

Public and Natural Areas

The pest management team has conducted 1,395 man hours treating 35 hectares of restricted pest plant species during this period. The works include:

- Tobacco weed in the Daintree Lowlands;
- Sicklepod works at Degarra and Chinacamp;
- Hiptage in the Mossman Catchment (\$25,000 funded by Terrain NRM);
- Completed the Oak Beach Coastal Restoration operational initiative;
- Completed Revegetation of Lot 14 Four Mile Beach;
- Commenced Siam weed control.



Image – Crew plant 1,250 plants at Fourmile beach



Image - Contractor on rope treats hiptage over steep bank

A total of 168 feral pigs have been captured and destroyed during this period. Council staff also conducted coordinated vertebrate pesticide (1080) baiting programs to assist local cane farmers in the Bamboo Creek area.

Our council nursery produced a total of 1,425 and supplied 3,955 native plants for revegetation works, community groups and private landholders.

The Port Douglas Pump Track at the Port Douglas Sports Complex has been completed on time and under budget. The project was delivered by local company World Trail.

Soon to be opened, the pump track is an exciting new facility for local residents to enjoy.

Other works completed include:

- BBQ Renewal at Wonga Beach Community Park (CAPEX);
- Public Spaces Super Crew completed Stage 1 of Macrossan Street Port Douglas garden upgrades (Weeding, Trimming, Mulching and vegetation works). Stage 2 to include replanting of several gardens;
- Super Crew completed upgrade of gardens on the Esplanade - Port Douglas;
- Preparation works for Carnivale;
- Trimming / maintenance of > 600 Oil Palms in Port Douglas;
- Coconut tree denutting commenced;
- Revegetation of Port Douglas surf club access;
- In conjunction with the Sheraton Resort staff, stinger warning signs were installed to Sheraton Resort beach accesses;
- Shade Sail Upgrades at Hutchings Park (CAPEX);
- Contract awarded to World Trail to construct Stage 1 of the Flagstaff hill walking trail (CAPEX);
- Vegetation works council administration carpark;
- Replaced gates on George Davis Park due to ongoing vandalism issues;
- Tree replacement program at Mossman Cemetery to complete avenue of flame trees;
- Revegetated illegal clearing at Newell Beach;
- Vegetation maintenance at the Daintree ferry;
- Assisted Mossman Youth Centre in Laser tag event;
- Trial steam weeding works at Whyanbeel; and
- Trial of non toxic weed control (Vinegar and Orange oil) in playgrounds.



Image -Port Douglas Pump Track Construction



Image - Port Douglas Pump Track Construction



Image - Shade Sail Upgrade Hutchings Park

Fleet

The last quarter has been a busy time in fleet services. The renewal of fleet has included the purchase of a new sewer crane truck, tractor for the civil works team, passenger vehicles and delivery of a new forklift for the Mossman Depot and a new tip truck for the civil works crew.

Facilities Management

As the end of the financial year approaches many of the capital projects are nearing completion including the external painting of the Mossman Administration Building, the Mossman Library and the Port Douglas Community Hall. New power outlets have been installed in Dixie Park and Rex Smeal Park, which were used during the recent Carnivale.

New park lighting was also installed at Mossman Leisure Park with the change over to new energy efficient LED light fitting providing better quality light around the facility. Other projects that are also nearing their completion include:

- Fire hoses installation at Wonga Beach Van Park;
- Electrical upgrade at Wonga Beach Van Park;
- Fire hose installation at Mossman Leisure Park;
- LED sign for the Daintree Ferry; and
- Thornton Beach Café refurbishment.

The work for Queensland projects are also progressing well with the Victor Cree's Pavilion lighting and power upgrade being completed in plenty of time for the Mossman Show and approvals being granted for the installation of the new toilet block on the north bank of the Daintree River, which will replace the port-a-loos.



Victor Cree's Pavilion Before upgrade



After Electrical Upgrade



Mossman Van Park Light Pole installation



New Light pole beside old before its removed.



Power upgrade for Dixie & Rex Smeal Park



New Power Box at Dixie Park



New Power outlet – Market Park



New power outlet for Rex Smeal Park

WATER AND WASTEWATER

Water and Wastewater Compliance

Intake levels remained stable with good rain falls continually replenishing the intake stream flows during the March to May 2017 reporting period. In the early part of the reporting period there were a number of raw water turbidity events caused by heavy rains that impacted on plant production, but all reservoir levels remained adequate to meet demand.

Water usage steadily increased towards the latter part of the reporting period typical of seasonal trends and increased activity in Port Douglas.

All tested parameters in drinking water samples during the reporting period were compliant with the ADWG and the Public Health Act. Douglas Shire Council received 3 water quality complaints during this period which were resolved quickly.

Council's Drinking Water Quality Management Plan (DWQMP) was audited during April and the outcome was very positive, with no non-compliance issues being raised.

During the reporting period, all wastewater parameters tested were compliant with licence conditions.

There was a dry weather flow breach on a non wet day at the Mossman WWTP, and a reportable sewer pressure mains incident at Junction Road. Both incidents were reported to the Department of Environment and Heritage Protection.

Training continued for three plant operators currently studying for the Cert III, and Cert IV Water Industry Certificate.

Water Reticulation

General maintenance was carried out during the reporting period on all schemes, and intake, hydrant and valve maintenance continued. Flushing programs were also carried out on all schemes to maintain good residuals at dead end mains.

There were 120 service repairs undertaken during this period, and 5 water main breaks that were repaired. There were also 90 settlement reads and 18 new service installations.

Wastewater

General maintenance was carried out at both WWTP sites during the reporting period. Council received 1 odour complaint related to the pump station at Alchera Drive, Mossman.

There was a blockage call out during Carnivale at Wharf Street, Port Douglas, and there were a few blockages in the pump stations that were cleared quickly without any adverse impacts.

Underground pipe locating works were undertaken in preparation for the new clarifier project at Mossman WWTP. There were 3 manholes raised to the surface in the Mossman scheme.

The UV system was serviced at the Port Douglas WWTP and the SC1 pump station overflow valve was replaced.

Capital Works Program Progress

Installation of the new gas chlorine plants at Mossman WTP and Whyanbeel WTP commenced.



Image - Mossman WTP Concrete Slab Pour – Gas Chlorination Plant Installation

New backwash water filters were installed at Whyanbeel WTP and Daintree WTP and the new device net upgrade at Mossman WTP was successfully completed.

Newell Beach Stage 2 was completed including the installation of 25 new water service connections, 2 new sluice valves and 3 new fire hydrants. Mowbray River Road mains upgrade is almost completed, and the Marr's Creek mains upgrade commenced. Both projects are on track to be completed by mid-June 2017.

Sewer relining and patching of gravity sewer and house connection branches continued from Alchera Drive to Maxwell Street, Mossman. More works were completed on the raising of manholes at various sites.

A new House Connection Branch (HCB) was installed at 16 Sorrento Crescent, Port Douglas in preparation for a new development commencing.



New HCB Installation – 16 Sorrento Crescent, Port Douglas

The Leachate project at the Port Douglas WWTP was almost at completion stage, with the installation of the inlet screening being the final aspect to be undertaken.



Image - Port Douglas Sedimentation Basin – Leachate Project

Automatic gates were installed at both WWTP to increase security at the sites.



Image - Port Douglas Electric Security Gate

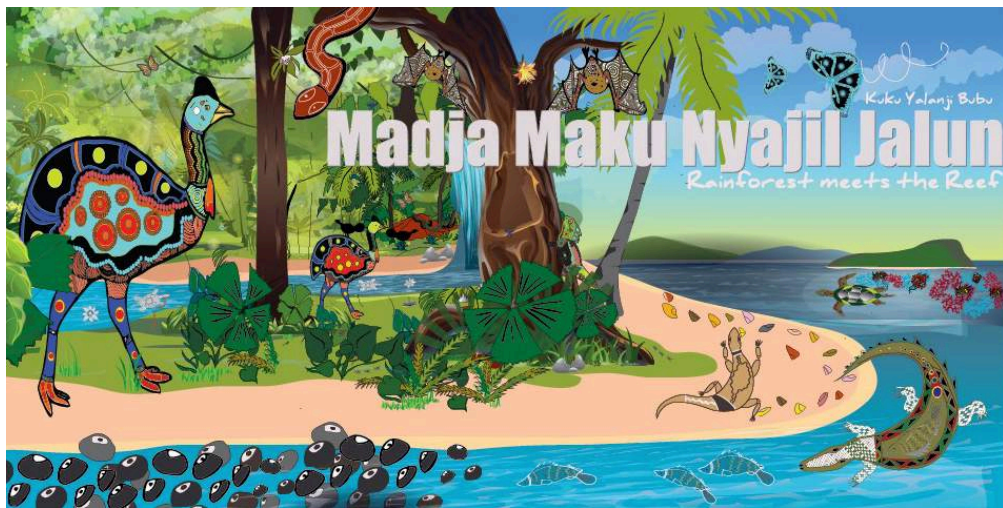
DOUGLAS SHIRE COUNCIL REPORT FROM THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

2016 - 2017

March - May 2017

BUILDING OPPORTUNITIES FOR DIVERSE DOUGLAS
PROVIDING COMMUNITY BENEFITS AND SERVICES
SUPPORTING ECONOMIC GROWTH
PROTECTING THE ENVIRONMENT
ENGAGING WITH OUR COMMUNITIES

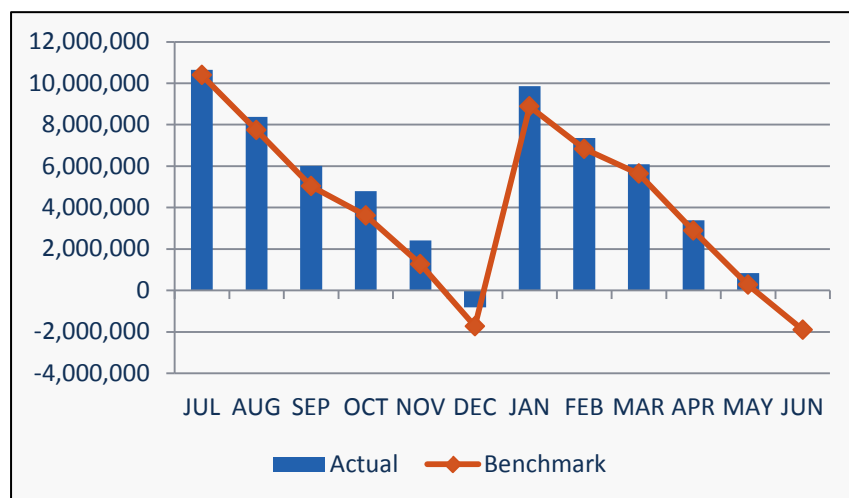




Douglas Shire Council would like to show its appreciation by acknowledging local indigenous artists Lenice Schonenberger, Loretta Pierce (Lenoy) and Ronald Bamboo for providing the cover artwork entitled "**Daintree Ferry**"

1.0 FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE

1.1 Operating Result – Actual vs. Budget

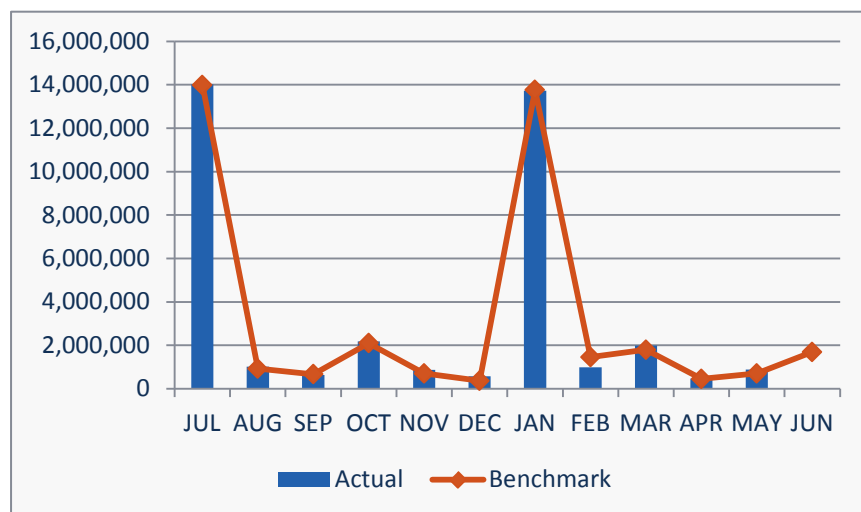


	March	April	May
Benchmark:	5,628,641	2,882,506	267,605
Actual:	6,095,702	3,392,303	830,539
Variance:	467,061	509,797	562,934

Explanatory Notes: This graph displays the actual operating results compared to budget forecasts for each month.

Interpretive Comments: Council adopted a revised budget in February 2017. Actual results compared to budget since that time indicates that operational budget is tracking well.

1.2 Revenue Against Budget

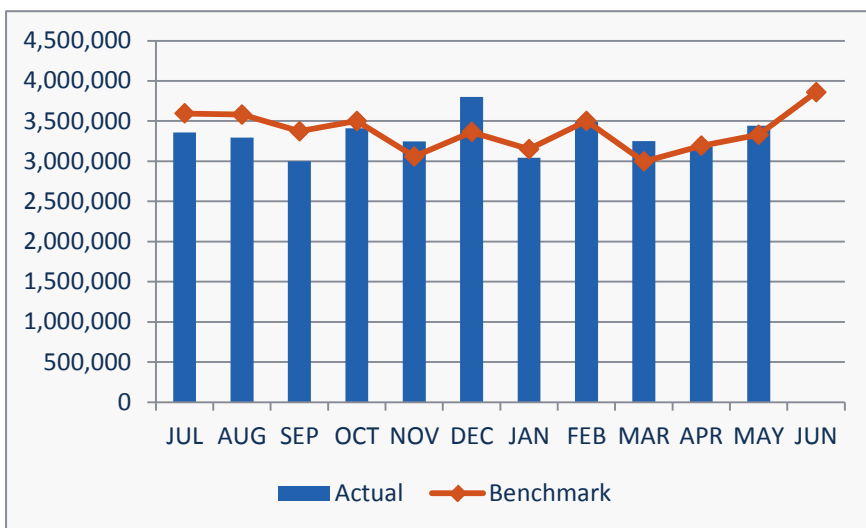


	March	April	May
Benchmark:	1,798,668	452,033	707,662
Actual:	1,991,644	474,423	879,661
Variance:	192,976	22,390	171,999

Explanatory Notes: This graph displays the actual revenue generated compared to budget forecasts for each month.

Interpretive Comments: Revenue received is higher than budget forecast each month and reasons are explained in detail in monthly financial report.

1.3 Expenses Against Budget

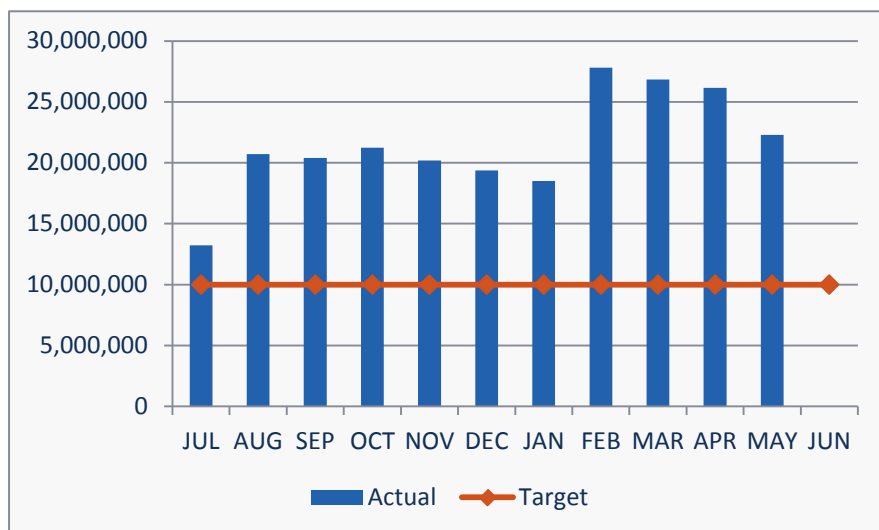


	March	April	May
Benchmark:	2,997,769	3,191,318	3,329,412
Actual:	3,251,422	3,177,813	3,441,425
Variance:	253,653	- 13,505	112,013

Explanatory Notes: This graph displays actual expenditure incurred compared to budget forecasts for each month.

Interpretive Comments: Although two of the last three months actual expenditure incurred was greater than budget forecast, on a year to date perspective expenditure is below budget forecast.

1.4 Capacity to Meet Operational Expenses

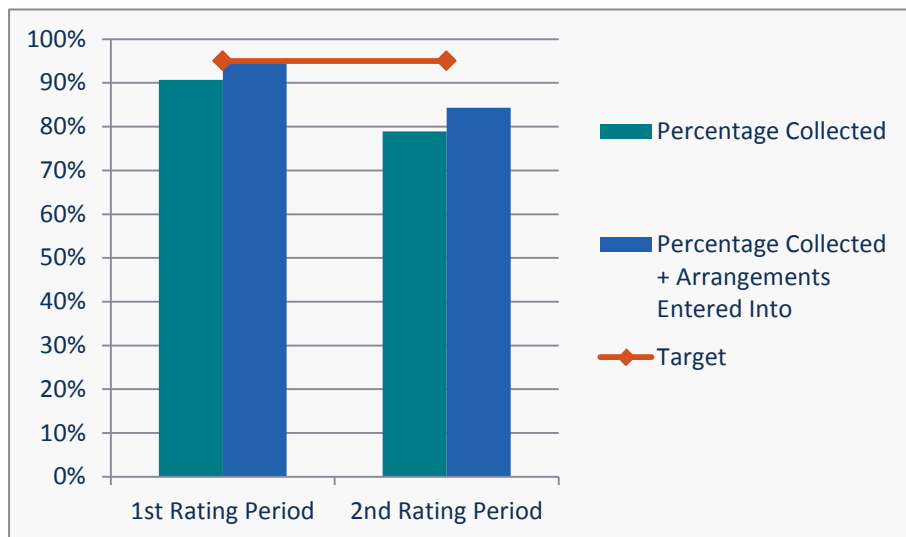


	March	April	May
Target:	9,980,779	9,980,779	9,980,779
Actual:	26,838,696	26,148,375	22,292,111
Variance:	-16,857,917	-16,167,596	-12,311,332

Explanatory Notes: The Queensland Treasury Corporation has a benchmark that Councils should have at least the equivalent of 3 months expenditure held in available cash to have adequate capacity to meet short and medium term financial commitments.

Interpretive Comments: The target set in this graph is 3 months expenditure and actual results of unconstrained cash exceed this target indicating Council is in a strong position to meet its short to medium term financial commitments.

1.5 Rates Collected



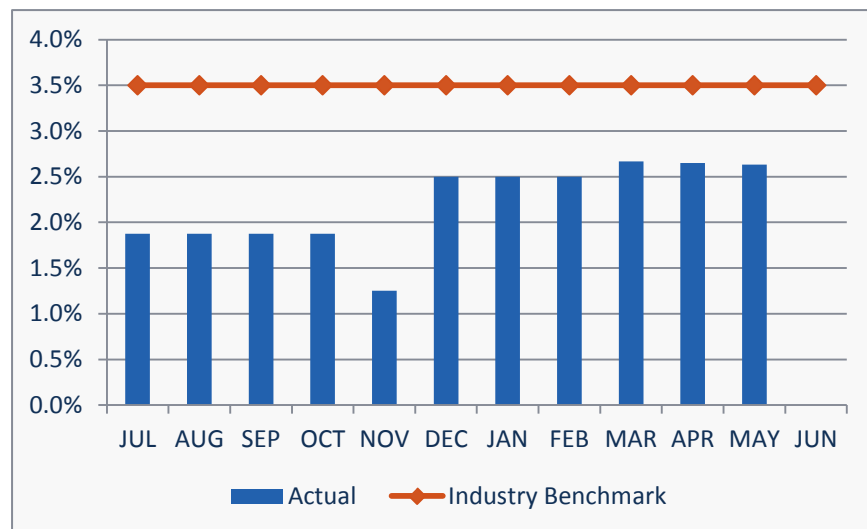
	1 st Rating Period	2 nd Rating Period
Target:	95.00%	95.00%
Percentage Collected:	90.70%	89.55%
Percentage Collected + Arrangements Entered Into:	94.69%	93.96%

Explanatory Notes: Demonstrates the collection rate of Council levies which contribute to approximately 79% of Total Revenue. Target is to have less than 5% of levies outstanding at the end of each six monthly rating period. This graph excludes water consumption charges.

Interpretive Comments: Recovery of outstanding rates is progressing well. Staff continually monitor repayment arrangements and implement corrective action as required.

2.0 HUMAN RESOURCES

2.1 Lost Time – Workplace Injury

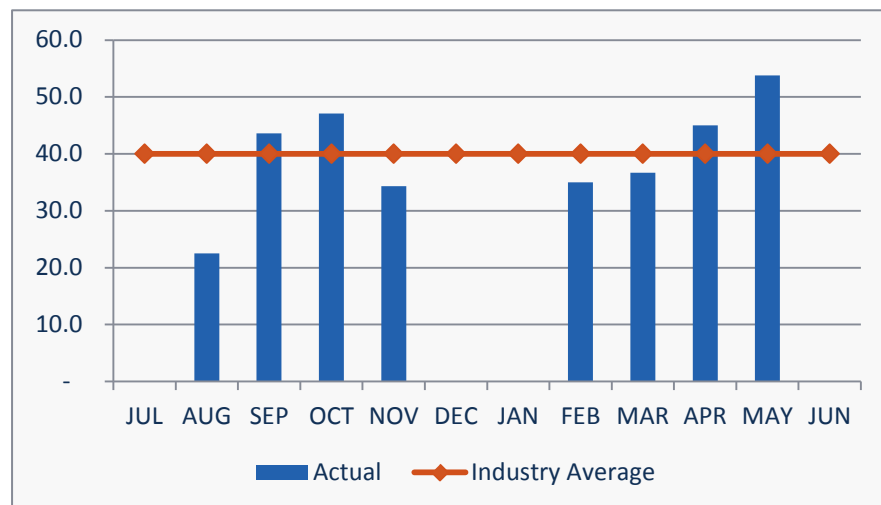


	March	April	May
Industry Benchmark:	3.5%	3.5%	3.5%
Actual:	2.7%	2.6%	2.6%

Explanatory Notes: This ratio is the number of Lost Time Injuries (LTIs) in a year per 100 workers. It is calculated as a twelve month rolling average.

Interpretive Comments: For each of the three twelve month periods in this quarter there were four LTIs. This is below industry average.

2.2 Efficiency of Filling Positions Vacant

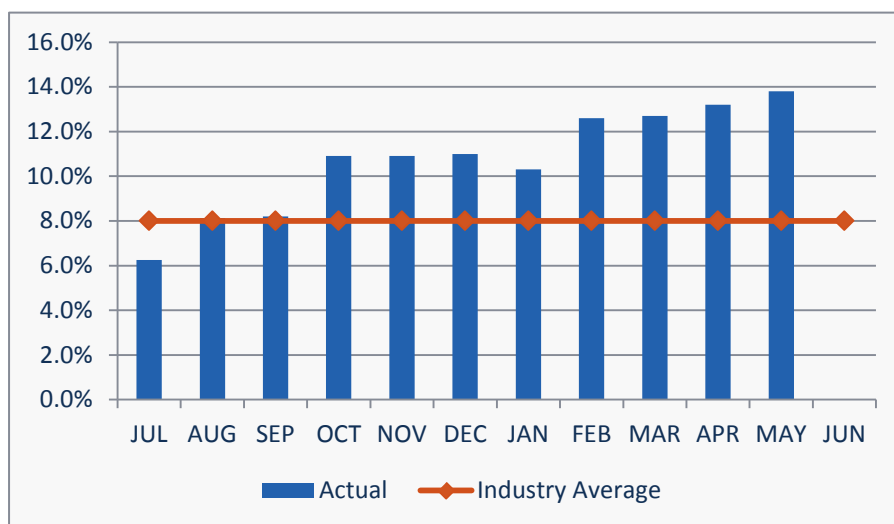


	March	April	May
Maximum:	40	40	40
Actual:	36.67	45	53.8
Variance:	3.33	-5	-13.8

Explanatory Notes: Calculated as the number of working days from advertisement of a role to when an offer is made. Council expects roles to be filled within eight weeks.

Interpretive Comments: Council filled eight roles this quarter with an average turnaround of 45.2 days.

2.3 Monthly Staff Turnover

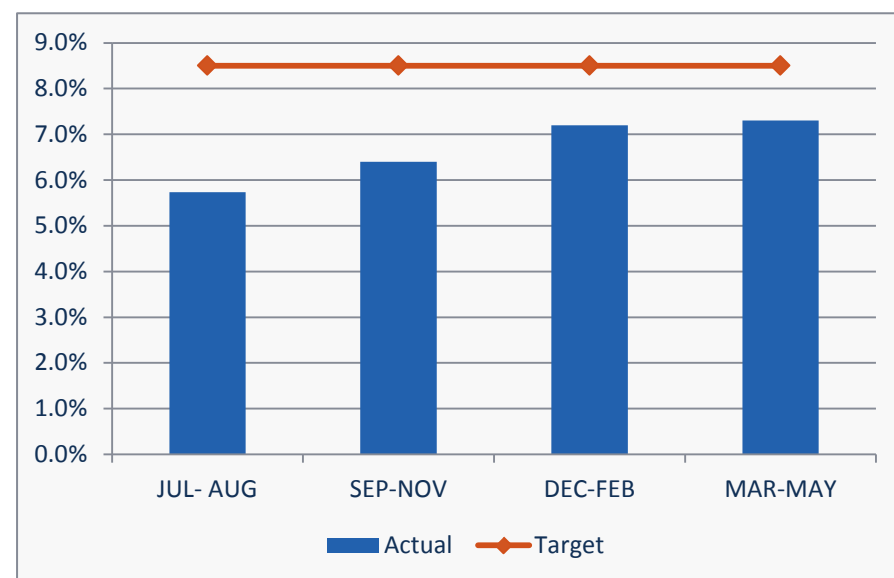


	March	April	May
Maximum:	8.0%	8.0%	8.0%
Actual:	12.7%	13.2%	13.8%
Variance:	-4.7%	-5.2%	-5.8%

Explanatory Notes: This is the number of resignations received as a percentage of total staff. It is calculated as a twelve month rolling average.

Interpretive Comments: At the end of March, 19 employees had left Council in the previous twelve months. This increased to 20 in April and was at 21 by the end of May.

2.4 Workplace Diversity – Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islanders

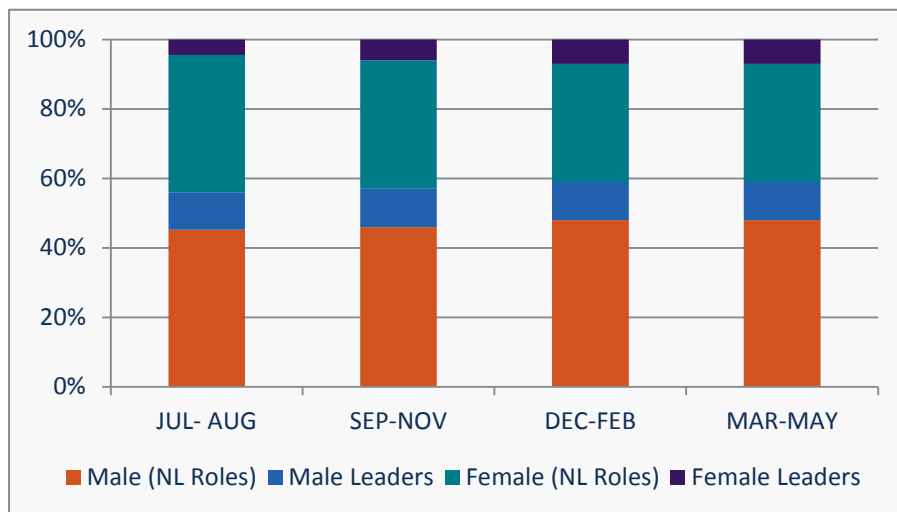


Target:	8.5%
Actual:	7.3%

Explanatory Notes: The number of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander employees as a percentage of total FTE staff numbers. The target is based on the percentage of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders as a percentage of the Shire population, as per the 2011 census results.

Interpretive Comments: In this quarter Council employed an average of eleven Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander staff. This is the same as the previous quarter. There are currently two identified roles under recruitment.

2.5 Workplace Diversity – Males & Females



March-May

Males (NL roles): 48%

Males 11%

Females (NL roles): 34%

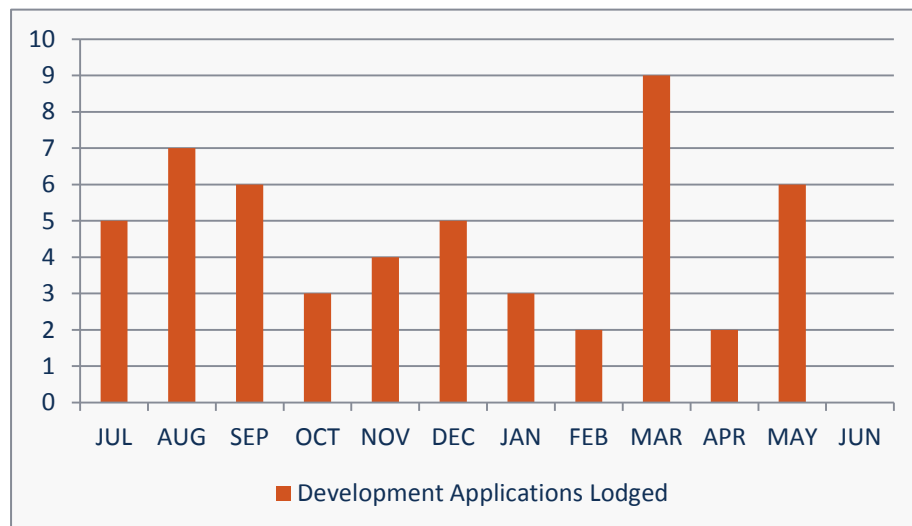
Females: 7%

Explanatory Notes: This graph shows the number of male and female staff expressed as Leaders and Non-Leaders (NL).

Interpretive Comments: In this Quarter Council employed an average of 151 staff - 59% male and 41% female. 17 of the 89 male staff are leaders and 11 of the 62 females staff are leaders.

3.0 SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITIES

3.1 Development Applications Lodged

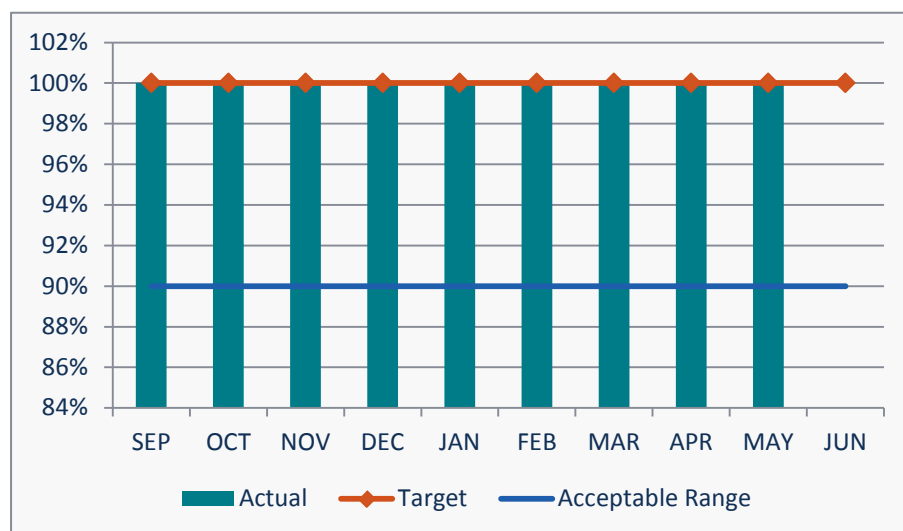


	March	April	May
Actual:	9	2	6

Explanatory Notes: The figures only reflect the number of new Development Applications lodged in the months indicated. It does not include other requests associated with existing applications.

Interpretive Comments: A modest flow of development applications continue to be received consisting of a variety of generally small scale development application types.

3.2 Assessments Completed Within Statutory Timeframe

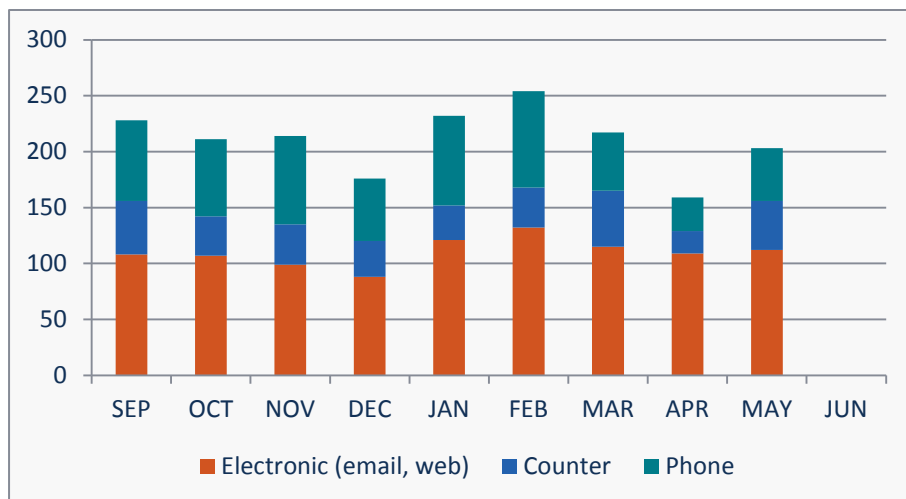


	March	April	May
Target:	100%	100%	100%
Acceptable Range:	90%	90%	90%
Actual:	100%	100%	100%

Explanatory Notes: This figure represents the number of delegated authority development applications approved within statutory timeframes.

Interpretive Comments: 100% of delegated authority development applications were approved within the statutory timeframe

3.3 Development and Assessment Officer Enquiries

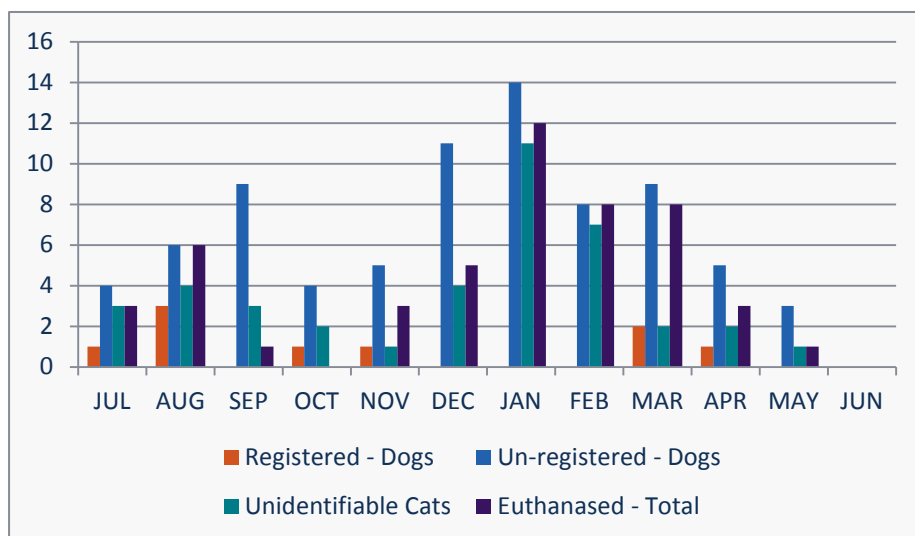


	March	April	May
Electronic:	115	109	112
Counter:	50	20	44
Phone:	52	30	47

Explanatory Notes: This graph provides an indication of the volume of planning enquiries received in electronic, counter enquiry and phone format.

Interpretive Comments: A steady flow of counter and phone enquiries continue to be received in Planning and Coordination.'

3.2 Animal Impoundments

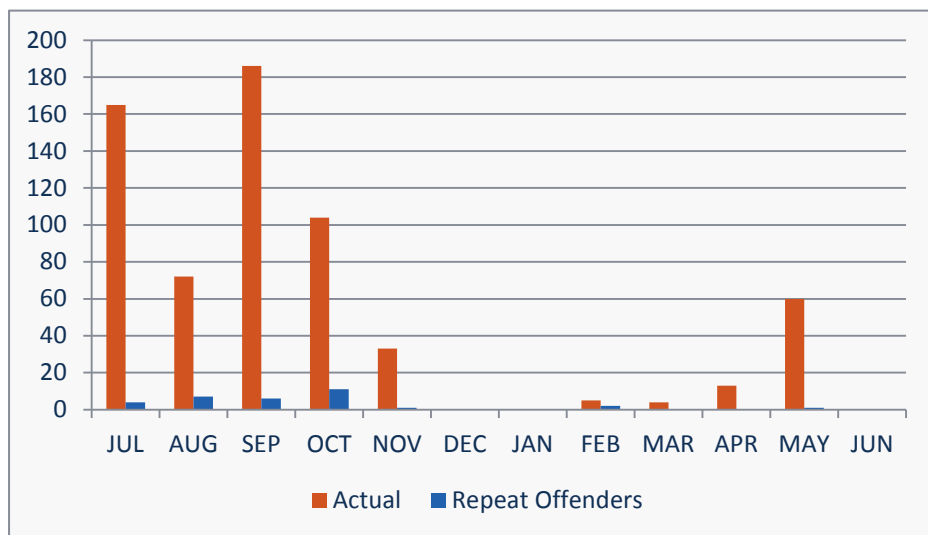


	March	April	May
Registered - Dogs	2	1	0
Un-registered - Dogs	9	5	3
Unidentifiable Cats	2	2	1
Euthanized - Total	8	3	1

Explanatory Notes: The figure represent the numbers of dogs and cats impounded over the period and the number of animals that were not claimed or rehomed and instead were euthanized.

Interpretive Comments: Active patrols in identified areas continue with numbers spearing to stabilise.

3.3 Illegal Camping

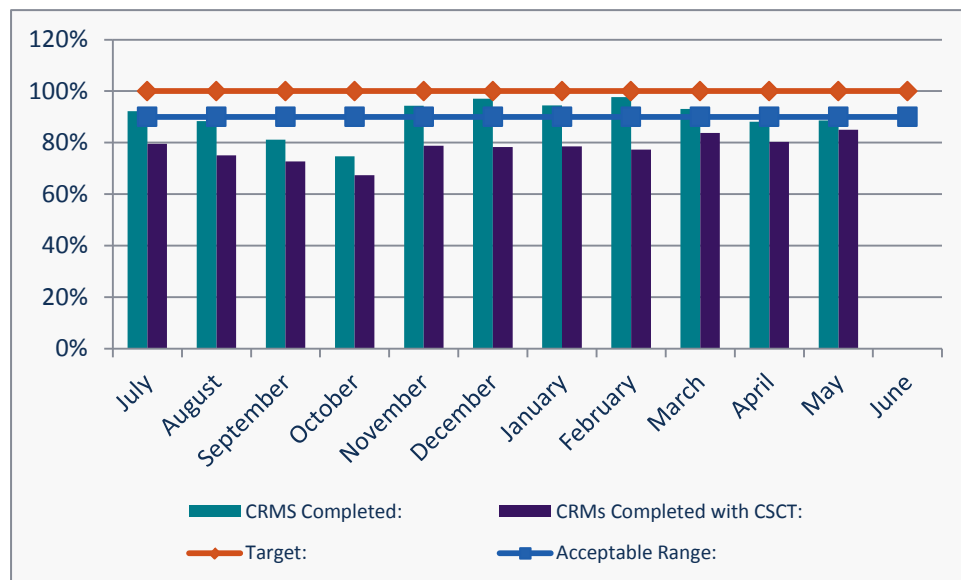


	March	April	May
Actual	0	0	5
Repeat Offenders	0	0	2

Explanatory Notes: The figures give an overall indication of the number of illegal campers that the local laws officers had direct contact with and reflect actual campers rather than vehicle numbers.

Interpretive Comments: The rising figures represented over the period are an indication of the seasonal nature of illegal camping and reflective of the higher numbers of self drive campers through the autumn and winter months.

4.0 CUSTOMER SERVICE



4.1 Customer Request Management (CRM) Records

	March	April	May
Target:	100%	100%	100%
Acceptable Range:	90%	90%	90%
CRMs Completed:	93%	88%	89%
CRMs Completed within CSCT:	84%	80%	85%

Explanatory Notes: In accordance with service standards, all customer requests have accepted timeframes in which these requests are completed. This graph depicts performance against these standards.

Interpretive Comments: Sound performance in this area continues with CRMs responded to within the Customer Service Charter timeframes increasing to almost 85%.

4.2 Top 5 CRMs

The following tables detail the top 5 Customer Requests received by category by month.

March

	Category	Quantity
1.	Planner of the Day	96
2.	Leaking/Broken Service Pipe	33
3.	Trees (street/park)	29
4.	Waste-Residential Repair/Replace	21
5.	Barking Dog	16

May

	Category	Quantity
1.	Planner of the Day	84
2.	Waste-Residential Repair/Replace	51
3.	Trees (street/park)	24
4.	Barking Dog	23
5.	Road Maintenance	19

April

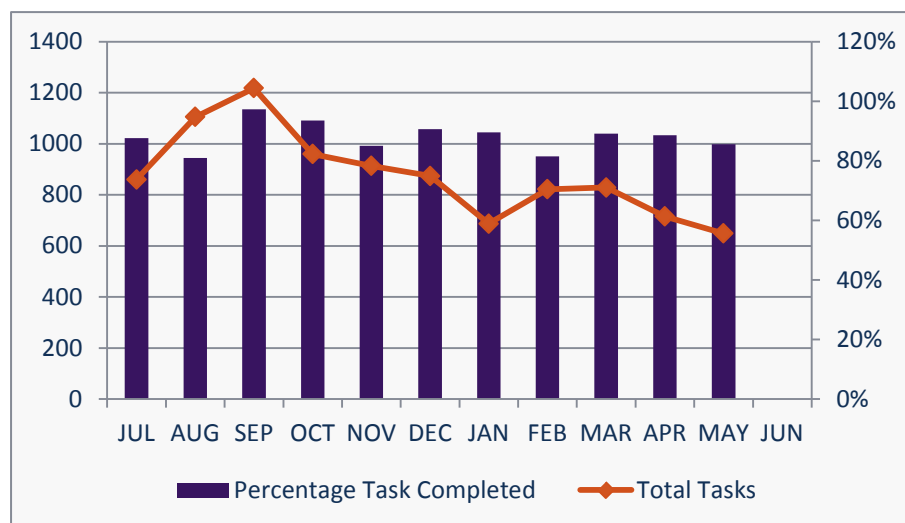
	Category	Quantity
1.	Planner of the Day	45
2.	Trees (street/park)	37
3.	Leaking/Broken Service Pipe	33
4.	Waste-Residential Repair/Replace	16
5.	Waste General - Enquiry	15

4.3 General Customer Enquiries

The following table details the number of telephone calls received to Council's main enquiry number by month.

	March	April	May
enquiries@douglas.qld.gov.au (direct email and via web)	1187	977	1331
Phone Calls to 4099 9444	2749	1967	2401

4.4 Inwards Correspondence Actioned

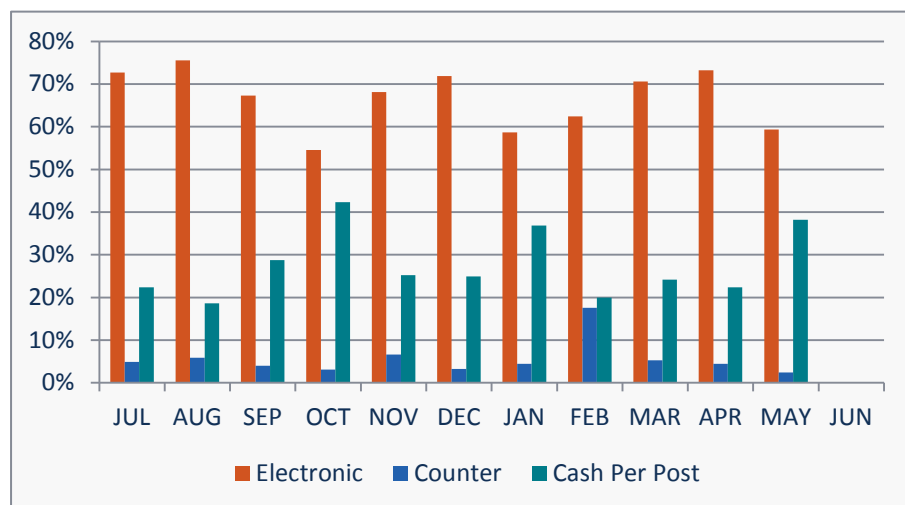


	March	April	May
Total Tasks:	829	715	649
Percentage of Tasks Completed:	89%	89%	86%

Explanatory Notes: This data details the quantity of mail and processed through Council's records management unit received and the percentage of tasks completed within timeframes.

Interpretive Comments: Completion rate of tasks over the last three months have been in the mid to high 80%.

4.5 Rates Payment Methods



	March	April	May
Electronic:	70.6%	73.2%	59.4%
Counter:	5.2%	4.4%	2.4%
Cash Per Post:	24.2%	22.4%	38.2%

Explanatory notes: Graph records the means by which rates and water billing payments are received.

Interpretive Comments: The trends continue to show a higher acceptance of electronic payments as opposed to counter and mail payments.

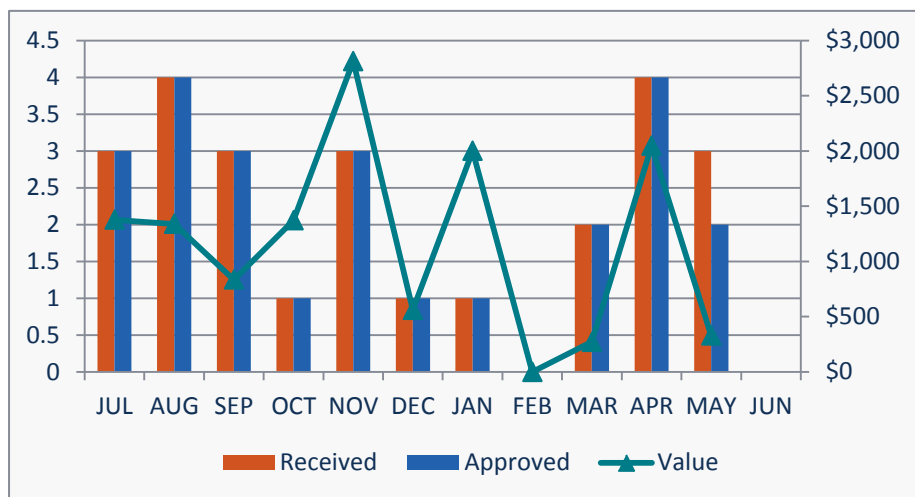
5.0 MEDIA AND COMMUNICATIONS

5.1 Council Communications to Communities

	March	April	May
Website (Page) Views	31,182	28,698	31,212
Facebook Posts	105	106	171
Media Releases	11	1	13
Public Notice Advertising	10	10	12
Community Notice Boards	1	0	0

Explanatory Notes: This table details the various means we use to communicate with our communities.

5.2 Community In-Kind Request



	March	April	May
Received:	2	4	3
Approved:	2	4	2
Value:	\$272.00	\$2047.00	\$330.00

Explanatory Notes: Not for profit organisations are eligible to apply for Council supplied services or venues to a maximum of \$2,000 per financial year.

9.1. AGENDA ITEM 9 - CLOSED SESSION

- 9.1** Prejudicial Matter S275 (1) (H) *Local Government Regulation 2012* - **Land Resumption and Road Opening - Part of Lot 1 on RP746753 Old Forrestry Road Whyanbeel**