



**BOARD MEETING
OF
FNQ Regional Organisation of Councils (FNQROC)
No. 166th**

**Thursday 6 June 2024
8.30am to 1.30pm**

**Castaways Resort, Mission Beach
Palms Conference Room**

Microsoft Teams meeting

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Agenda

1. WELCOME & ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF TRADITIONAL OWNERS

2. APOLOGIES

3. BEREAVEMENT/CONDOLENCES

4. CONFIRMATION OF PREVIOUS MINUTES

Confirmation of Minutes of the 165th FNQ Regional Organisation of Councils (FNQROC) Board meeting of 18 April 2024.

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5. BUSINESS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MEETING

5.1. Action items from 18 April 2024 FNQROC Board Meeting

Minute #	Action	Responsible person	Status
3165a	Contact DTMR to organise a Roads Session with FNQROC and Northwest ROC.	A Archie FNQROC	Complete
3165b	DTMR Presentation and Q&A to be scheduled for future FNQROC Board Meeting on; ageing infrastructure including Kuranda Range Bridge.	FNQROC	On-going
3175a	Copyright Risk and Compliance Guide – proposal for regional arrangement to be tabled at next meeting.	FNQROC	On-going
3175b	Finance Managers in each FNQROC Council to forward relevant information for submission into LG Sustainability Inquiry.	All	On-going
3175c	FNQROC to organise a special TEAMS meeting to discuss the FNQROC Disaster Recovery Committee.	FNQROC	Complete

6. BOARD REPORTS (WITH NOTICE)

6.1 B104 - Regional Drought Resilience Plan (RDRP) – Hinterland to Gulf and Wet Tropics. – Flying Minute

Pages 11 - 12

6.2 B105 – Regional Waste Management & Resource Recovery Advisory Group

Amanda Hancock will provide an overview of the Regional Waste Management and Resource Recovery Advisory Group and current proposals from the Department of Environment Science & Innovation.

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6.3 B106 – Regional Strategy and State and Federal Delegation

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7. BOARD REPORTS (WITHOUT NOTICE)

Opportunity for Members to raise reports post agenda publication and before the meeting.

8. FINANCIAL REPORTS

8.1. Financial Status Report

8.2. Financial Budget 2024/25

Pages 18 - 20

9. LGAQ POLICY EXECUTIVE DISCUSSION

9.1. Policy Executive Division 10

Verbal Report

9.2. Lucy Greene LGAQ, Lead Intergovernmental Relations (LGAQ)

LGAQ will provide an overview of LGAQ recent activities per the briefing note circulated prior to meeting. (Appendix 1)

10. GENERAL DISCUSSION

Opportunity for board members to raise items for the board without prior notice to discuss.

11. Information for the Board

11.1. Incoming / Outgoing Correspondence

11.1.1. Incoming

- The Hon Bart Mellish MP – Minister for Transport and Main Roads, Minister for Digital Services – 23 April 2024

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11.1.2. Outgoing

- Nil

11.2. Information Reports

11.2.1. Meetings Attended by FNQROC Executive Officer

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11.2.2. Minutes of FNQROC Advisory Committees

- FNQROC Regional Water Alliance – 10 May 2024
Minutes – *available on the website once finalised*
Next Meeting – To be advised
- FNQ Regional WMRR RRR Plan Implementation Technical Committee #3 – 10 May 2024
Minutes – *available on the website once finalised*
Next Meeting – To be advised
- FNQROC Mountain Bike Forum – 24 May 2024
Minutes – *available on the website once finalised*
Next Meeting – To be advised
- RRTG Technical Committee – 24 May 2024
Minutes – *available on the website once finalised*
Next Meeting – To be advised

- FNQROC Natural Assets Management Advisory Committee (NAMAC) Meeting – 29 May 2024
Minutes – *available on the website once finalised*
Next Meeting – To be advised
- Climate Resilience Technical Committee Meeting #5 (CRTC) – 31 May 2024
Minutes – *available on the website once finalised*
Next Meeting – To be advised

11.2.3. Confidential Meeting Minutes

- FNQROC Regional Collection & Ferrous Metal & ULABs Contract Meeting – 15 May 2024
Minutes – *available on request*
Next Meeting – To be advised
- FNQROC Regional Procurement Meeting #42 – 4 June 2024
Minutes – *available on request*
Next Meeting – To be advised

12. PRESENTATIONS

12.1. Far North Queensland Regional Plan (Department of Housing, Local Government, and Planning. (Ryan Longland)

The Department will provide an overview of the current status of the Far North Queensland Regional Plan.

12.2. FNQROC Strategy Updates

Presentations will be held to inform Current Mayors on the current strategies within FNQROC and currently developing strategies. This should help to inform future discussions on Regional Strategy.

- 12.2.1. CEO
- 12.2.2. Regional Strategic Infrastructure Coordinator
- 12.2.3. Regional Natural Asset Management and Sustainability Coordinator
- 12.2.4. Regional Procurement Coordinator

13. MEETING SCHEDULE

13.1 Next Meeting

Date & Time **Thursday 1 August 2024**

Venue Civic Reception Room, Cairns Regional Council

13.2 FNQROC Board Meeting Dates for 2024

Date	Venue
Thursday 1 August 2024	Cairns
Thursday 3 October 2024	Tablelands Regional Council
Thursday 5 December 2024	Cairns

Minutes of the 165th FNQROC Board Meeting

Meeting No	165
Meeting Name	FNQROC Board Meeting
Date	18 April 2024
Time	2.30pm
Venue	Barlow Park, Cairns

REPRESENTATIVES

Cr Amy Eden, Mayor	Cairns Regional Council
Cr Teresa Millwood, Mayor	Cassowary Coast Regional Council
Cr Robyn Holmes, Mayor	Cook Shire Council
Cr Trevor Pickering, Mayor	Croydon Shire Council (online)
Cr, Roy Zammataro (Proxy)	Douglas Shire Council
Cr Barry Hughes, Mayor	Etheridge Shire Council
Cr Ramon Jayo, Mayor	Hinchinbrook Shire Council (online)
Cr Bruce Gibson, Mayor	Hope Vale Aboriginal Shire Council
Cr Angela Toppin, Mayor	Mareeba Shire Council
Cr Rod Marti, Mayor	Tablelands Regional Council
Cr Alister Gibson, Mayor	Wujal Wujal Aboriginal Shire Council
Cr Michael Sands, (Proxy)	Yarrabah Aboriginal Shire Council

CEOS

Ms Mica Martin, CEO	Cairns Regional Council
Mr Andrew Graffen, CEO	Cassowary Coast Regional Council
Mr Brian Joiner, CEO	Cook Shire Council (online)
Ms Jacqui Cresswell, CEO	Croydon Shire Council (online)
Ms Rachel Brophy, CEO	Douglas Shire Council
Mr Ken Timms, CEO	Etheridge Shire Council
Mr Steve Linnane, CEO	Hope Vale Aboriginal Shire Council (online)
Mr Peter Franks, CEO	Mareeba Shire Council
Mr Gary Rinehart, CEO	Tablelands Regional Council
Mr Richard Wright, CEO	Yarrabah Aboriginal Shire Council

OBSERVERS

Ms Lucy Greene	LGAQ
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INVITED GUESTS

Senator James McGrath	Queensland Senator
Assistant Minister Ali King	Housing, Local Government, Planning and Public Works
Mr Peter Nelson	QBuild (online)
Mr David Lansdell	QBuild
Mr Jan Xanthopoulos	QTC
Mr Tom Gole	QTC
Mr Luke Shelley	BOM
Mr Ian Leckenby	LG Mutual
Mr Nathan Turner	LG Mutual

FNQROC STAFF

Mr Anthony Archie	Chief Executive Officer
Mr Travis Sydes	Natural Asset Management & Sustainability Coordinator
Ms Amanda Hancock	Regional Strategic Infrastructure Coordinator
Ms Paula Power	Executive Support Officer
Ms Maria Anselmo	Climate Resilience Coordinator
Mr Elliott Meelen	Regional Procurement Coordinator

APOLOGIES

Cr Bruce Gibson, Mayor	Hope Vale Aboriginal Shire Council
Cr Daryl Sexton, Mayor	Yarrabah Aboriginal Shire Council
Cr Alister Gibson, Mayor	Wujal Wujal Aboriginal Shire Council
Kiley Hanslow, CEO	Wujal Wujal Aboriginal Shire Council

3161 WELCOME & ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF TRADITIONAL OWNERS

The meeting commenced at 2.30pm

The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting and acknowledged the Traditional Owners of the land on which we met and paid respects to Elders past, present and emerging.

3162 BOARD PRESENTATIONS

3.1 David Lansdell, Chief Construction Manager, Peter Nelson, Director, MMC Strategy and Design, QBuild, Department of Housing, Local Government Planning and Public Works.

QBuild provided an update on prefabricated home factory launch in Carins. A copy of the presentation and contact information has been provided separately.

3.2 Tom Gole, Executive Director, Local Government and Strategic Operations, Advisory Division, Jan Xanthopoulos, Principal, Advisory Division, Queensland Treasury Corporation (QTC)

Mr Gole provided an economic update. A copy of the presentation and contact information will be provided separately.

Assistant Minister King joined the meeting via Teams

Assistant Minister King acknowledged the Community Leaders and commended them for their tireless work and congratulated the Mayor on their appointments.

Acknowledgement was also given to the previous Chair Cr Michael Kerr.

Assistant Minister King addressed the Board and provided an update on her portfolio. Assistant Minister King's contact details have been provided with the minutes.

Discussion from the floor:

- Pilot projects for Inclusion Planning – early stages and haven't established sites. The group was encouraged to contact the Department. Interest in making sure some of those located in regional areas.
- Housing issues – modelling done by institute of Urban Infrastructure. Modelling suggested 53,000 homes. Investment in homes for Queensland \$3b going forward.

Senator James McGrath joined the meeting in person

Senator McGrath introduced himself to the Board and congratulated the Mayors on their appointment.

3.3 Luke Shelley, Flood Warning Infrastructure Network Program, BOM

Mr Shelley provided an update on the Flood Warning Infrastructure Network Program.

A copy of the presentation and the key contact details will be provided with the minutes.

Discussion from the floor:

- Doppler Radar – no coverage.
- Flooding Infrastructure – QRA lead agency for resilience funding and new infrastructure.
- Next round of consultations – dates and times of next workshops
 - Barron River Catchment – Tuesday 30 April 2024
 - Daintree and Mossman River – Wednesday 1 May 2024.

Cr R Marti and G Rinehart, Tablelands Regional Council left the meeting at 4.00pm.

3.4 Ian Leckenby and Nathan Turner, LGM Assets Scheme, LGAQ

Mr Leckenby and Mr Turner provided an overview of the LG Mutual Schemes.

A copy of the PowerPoint presentation will be provided separately.

3.5 Lucy Greene LGAQ, Lead Intergovernmental Relations (LGAQ)

LGAQ provided an overview of LGAQ recent activities per the briefing note circulated prior to meeting. (Appendix 1).

- L Greene is the LGAQ ROC lead for FNQ. Will be present at every FNQROC meeting and is available as a direct contact at LGAQ to support FNQ Mayors and CEOs.
- A comprehensive briefing note (Appendix 1) will be circulated prior to each FNQROC Board meeting.
- Policy Executive elections are coming up with information for all divisions emailed already. A Council resolution must be endorsed for a nomination. If more than one nomination is received it will go to a postal vote in that division.
- Federal Parliamentary Inquiry into Local Government Sustainability. LGAQ is currently putting together its submission and has sent a survey to all council CEOs to provide feedback. This survey will close on 24 April 2024. If there is anything additional to add to the submission, please email Lucy_Greene@lgaq.asn.au. A detailed submission will also be provided from the FNQROC CEO Anthony Archie.
- The LGAQ will be making a submission to ECQ to look into the events of the recent LG elections. Contact Lucy if you have feedback to provide.
- Recently met with Opposition Shadow Police and Shadow Youth Justice Ministers to discuss Action Plan on Youth Crime and motion endorsed by councils on the impact of social media and youth crime.

3163 CONFIRMATION OF PREVIOUS MINUTES

The draft minutes of the 164th FNQ Regional Organisation of Councils (FNQROC) Board meeting of 1 February 2024.

MOVED: Cr Barry Hughes
SECOND: Cr Trevor Pickering

Motion

That the FNQROC Board move that the minutes of the 164th Board Meeting held on 1 February 2024 be confirmed and adopted.

CARRIED

3164 BUSINESS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES

Action items from 1 February 2024 FNQROC Board Meeting

Minute #	Action	Responsible person	Status
3159a	Disaster Exemptions - FNQROC to investigate post disaster exemptions for environmental related regulation – This should include Wet Tropics and Marine Infrastructure, is 1 year enough time. and consider what was allowed post Yasi.	A Archie FNQROC	On-going
3159b	Kuranda and the Ranges - FNQROC to send letter to the new minister and DG TMR. Correspondence should remind of previous requests and the recent event highlighting extreme need for a robust resilient route.	A Archie FNQROC	Complete

3159c	Reseal Types - FNQROC to investigate and seek pricing on a study to understand the whole of life cost pricing for different seal types across our region to better inform decision when procuring.	A Archie FNQROC	Complete
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3159c – FNQROC Procurement Arrangement – pros and cons. Looking at the most effective sealing material to be used in the area.

3165 ADVOCACY

Transparency of Ageing Infrastructure

- A Archie had a discussion with R Hodgman, DTMR - A presentation and Q&A will be scheduled for a future meeting on ageing infrastructure and how the process works. Concerns about Kuranda Range Bridge.
- Concerns at the LGAQ Conference in Gladstone recently. Only afforded 3 questions to the DTMR representative. LGAQ to report back to the Committee and address the Boards concerns.
- Organising a Webinar with DAF and DDG; L Greene to suggest a specific webinar for FNQROC.

Risk of Temporary Fixes on Arterial routes in the region.

- Concerns raised at last board meeting. DTMR have same fears and doing what they can to keep roads open.
- Would like a Roads session with FNQROC and Northwest ROC.

Action: A Archie to contact DTMR to organise a Roads Session with FNQROC an Northwest ROC.

Action: DTMR Presentation and Q&A to be scheduled for future FNQROC Board Meeting on; ageing infrastructure including Kuranda Range Bridge.

Advocacy update from FNQROC Council Members.

- Etheridge Shire Council have been using Department of State Development and Infrastructure to progress and advocate for things like the Gilbert River Bridge and issues with the airport and air service into Georgetown.
- Douglas Shire Council advocating through QRA regarding water.
- New funding package - North Queensland Resilience Funding. Applications close in June. A single FNQROC submission to expediate the process. Cr R Jayo – Hinchinbrook has been transferred to North Queensland ROC for this submission.

3166 STRATEGIC OPERATIONAL PLAN

Summary de-brief of current strategies per area of FNQROC

FNQROC staff will provide an overview of their strategic priorities at the next FNQROC Board meeting on 6 June 2024.

3166 DISCUSSION TOPICS

Nil

3167 CORRESPONDENCE

Incoming – Nil

Outgoing – Minister Meaghan Scanlon, Minister for Housing, Local Government and Planning and Minister for Public Works – 6 March 2024.

Noted

3168 FNQROC POLICY REVIEW

Nil

3169 FNQROC REPORTS AND MOUS

B101 – Regional Digital Development Officer (RDDO)

Noted.

B102 – Regional Drought Resilience Plan (RDRP) – Gulf Hinterland and Wet Tropics.

- **B102a – Drought Pathways and Actions Gulf Hinterland (Mareeba, Etheridge, Croydon)**
- **B102b – Drought Pathways and Actions Wet Tropics (Douglas, Cairns, Cassowary Coast, Tablelands and Hinchinbrook).**

Noted and flying minute to be request upon draft being received by FNQROC.

B103 – Climate Resilience Coordinator position. (confidential)

M Anselmo was asked to leave the room at 4.45pm.

MOVED: Cr Trevor Pickering

SECOND: Cr Barry Hughes

Motion

The Regional Climate Resilience Coordinator contract is extended till 30 September 2025 in line with FNQROC staff contracts, with an option for an extra year delegated to the CEO for execution.

CARRIED

3170 FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Profit and Loss and Balance Sheet – 1 July 2023 to 30 March 2024

MOVED: Cr Trevor Pickering

SECOND: Cr Barry Hughes

Motion

That the profit and Loss and Balance Sheet Reports for the period FY 1 July 2023 to 31 March 2024 be adopted and accepted.

MOVED: Cr Trevor Pickering

SECOND: Cr Barry Hughes

CARRIED

Motion (without report)

MOVED: Cr Barry Hughes

SECOND: Cr Amy Eden

Motion

That A Hancock, Regional Infrastructure Coordinator be added to ANZ Cheque Account as an additional signatory.

CARRIED

3171 ATTENDANCE & MINUTES OF MEETING

Noted

3172 LGAQ POLICY EXECUTIVE DISCUSSION – CR PETER SCOTT

Nothing to report. If any issues, please raise with LGAQ Policy Executive when known.

3173 MINUTES OF ADVISORY COMMITTEES

FNQROC Regional Water Alliance – 9 February 2024

Noted

FNQROC WMRR RRR Plan Implementation Technical Committee Meeting #2 – 9 February 2024

Noted

FNQROC WHS & Wellbeing Committee – 14 February 2024

Noted

FNQROC Regional Mountain Bike Strategy Meeting – 14 February 2024

Noted

FNQROC Animal Technical Committee – 20 February 2024

Noted

RRTG Technical Committee – 23 February 2024

Noted

FNQROC Natural Assets Management Advisory Committee #7 – 1 March 2024

Noted

FNQROC LG Planners Advisory Group – 8 March 2024

Noted

Climate Resilience Technical Committee Meeting #4 – 8 March 2024

Noted

RRTG Technical Committee – 15 March 2024

Noted

Regional Procurement Advisory Committee – 6 February 2024

Noted

RRTG Regional Water Capability Project Stantec Workshop #1 – 19 March 2024

Noted

FNQROC Sewer Relining Contract 23/24 – 27 March 2024

Noted

FNQROC Reseal and Line Markings 23/24 – 28 March 2024

Noted

3175 GENERAL BUSINESS

Copyright Risk and Compliance Guide for Local Government

Copyright Risk and Compliance Guide – Proposing Regional Arrangement. The FNQROC Board did not have time to review and will be carried over to next meeting.

Action: Copyright Risk and Compliance Guide – proposal for regional arrangement to be tabled at next meeting and reforwarded to CEO of each Council.

[Inquiry into local government sustainability – Parliament of Australia](#) – FNQROC Submission.

CEO will put in a submission on LG Sustainability. Information has been received from Mareeba Shire Council. Encourage all Finance Managers to forward information.

Action: Finance Managers in each FNQROC Council to forward relevant information for the submission into LG Sustainability.

FNQROC Information Guide April 2024

[FNQROC Information Guide April 2024](#) is available on the FNQROC website or hard copies available on request.

Disaster Recovery

It was suggested at the last FNQROC Board meeting that FNQROC form a FNQROC Disaster Recovery Committee. After discussions it was decided that a special TEAMS meeting be held to discuss further with all CEO's.

Action: FNQROC to organise a special TEAMS meeting to discuss the FNQROC Disaster Recovery Committee.

Regional Telecommunications Submission to FNQROC

Cassowary Coast Regional Council is requesting that FNQROC and the member Councils make submissions to the Federal Governments 2024 Regional Telecommunication Review and engage in the public consultation process with a focus on the current issues.

MOVED: Cr Teresa Millwood

SECOND: Cr Amy Eden

Motion

The FNQROC CEO will work together with the Cassowary Coast Regional Council CEO to develop and submit a submission to the Federal Government for Regional Telecommunications.

CARRIED

3176 NEXT MEETING

After agreeance by the new Mayor of Cassowary Coast Regional Council, the next meeting will be held in **Tully on Thursday 6 June 2024.**

There being no further business the Chair declared the meeting closed at **4.57pm.**

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Cr Angela Toppin

FNQROC Chair

AGREED ACTION ITEMS

Thursday, 18 April 2024

Minute #	Action	Responsible person
3165a	Contact DTMR to organise a Roads Session with FNQROC and Northwest ROC.	A Archie FNQROC
3165b	DTMR Presentation and Q&A to be scheduled for future FNQROC Board Meeting on; ageing infrastructure including Kuranda Range Bridge.	FNQROC
3175a	Copyright Risk and Compliance Guide – proposal for regional arrangement to be tabled at next meeting.	FNQROC
3175b	Finance Managers in each FNQROC Council to forward relevant information for submission into LG Sustainability Inquiry.	All
3175c	FNQROC to organise a special TEAMS meeting to discuss the FNQROC Disaster Recovery Committee.	FNQROC

Remaining FNQROC Board Meetings for 2024

Date	Venue
Thursday 6 June 2024	Tully
Thursday 1 August 2024	Cairns
Thursday 3 October 2024	Tablelands Regional Council
Thursday 5 December 2024	Cairns

	<p>FNQROC FLYING-MINUTE REPORT</p> <p>DATE 15/05/2024</p>	<p>B104</p>
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DRAFT REGIONAL DROUGHT RESILIENCE PLAN

Author: Anthony Archie, CEO (DM:7417955)

Recommendation:

The board endorses the Draft Regional Drought Resource Plans for Wet Tropics and Gulf Hinterland to proceed to the next stage of review by CSIRO.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

The developed comprehensive draft Regional Drought Resilience Plans (RDRPs) for the Wet Tropics and Gulf Hinterland are at the draft stage and are currently with CSIRO to provide further feedback and review. These drafts, shaped through significant local collaboration and expertise, are prepared to be reviewed and endorsed by the FNQROC Board. This endorsement is crucial under the joint funding arrangement from the Australian Government’s Future Drought Fund and the Queensland Government, facilitated through the Queensland Department of Agriculture and Fisheries and the Rural Economies Centre of Excellence. The drafts aim to enhance regional resilience, focusing on agricultural sustainability and community preparedness for future drought scenarios. A further endorsement will be sought after CSIRO’s review to finalise the plans if the FNQROC are happy with the content.

BACKGROUND:

The Regional Drought Resilience Planning (RDRP) initiative is a collaborative effort aimed at bolstering drought resilience across Queensland, with particular attention to its diverse agricultural landscapes. This planning effort is integrally tied to the Queensland Strategy for Disaster Resilience, ensuring a harmonised approach to disaster and drought resilience. The draft plans for the Wet Tropics and Gulf Hinterland were developed through a consultative process involving FNQROC, NRM organisations, local councils, academic institutions like James Cook University, and various community and industry stakeholders.


The plans are designed to foster social capital, promote community-led planning, and ensure that the strategies implemented are reflective of the specific needs and characteristics of each region. This local co-design has been supported by insights from both traditional and scientific knowledge bases, ensuring a robust, integrative approach to resilience planning. Furthermore, the drafts have been reviewed by the FNQROC Climate Resilience Technical Committee, ensuring alignment with existing or developing local and regional strategic frameworks and adding an extra layer of scrutiny and expert feedback.

In summary, the FNQROC Board’s endorsement of these drafts will be a significant step forward in regional efforts to manage drought risk proactively. This will not only support agricultural sustainability but also enhance the overall socio-economic resilience of the Wet Tropics and Gulf Hinterland communities. The final plans, once refined and endorsed, will play a pivotal role in the proactive management of drought impacts in these regions.

A link to both plans has been attached to the email for this flying minute board report.

ATTACHMENTS

(Links In Email)

	<p>FNQROC MEETING NOTE</p> <p>DATE 06/06/2024</p>	<p>B105</p>
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WASTE MANAGEMENT AND RESOURCE RECOVERY ADVISORY GROUP

Author: Anthony Archie (DM:7421910)

Recommendation:

The terms of reference for the FNQROC Resource Recovery Advisory Committee are reviewed, and participating Councils nominate a representative for the advisory committee.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

FNQROC recently received funding for a Regional Waste Coordinator from the Department of Environment, Science, and Innovation. This long-awaited funding allows the region to progress with the implementation of its Regional Resource Recovery Plan, which was adopted in 2023. With the implementation phase beginning and endorsement from the technical committee, it is now appropriate to re-establish the Waste Management and Resource Recovery Advisory Group. This group, comprising elected officials, who will meet every three to four months to oversee the plan's implementation.

BACKGROUND:

FNQROC has developed the Regional Resource Recovery Plan (RRR Plan), or to be renamed the Regional Waste Management Plan (RWMP), to address the critical issues of waste management and resource recovery across its 11 participating council areas. This plan is a comprehensive framework designed to improve resource recovery, minimise waste generation, and create a circular economy that benefits the region environmentally, socially, and economically.

Key Objectives of the RRR Plan:

- The plan sets ambitious targets to significantly reduce the amount of waste sent to landfills by promoting recycling and reuse.
- Through a series of actions, the plan aims to optimise resource recovery facilities, enhance kerbside collection approaches, and develop alternatives to landfills for residual waste.
- The implementation of the plan is projected to bring economic development, create local jobs, and improve environmental outcomes by reducing carbon emissions and protecting natural resources such as the Great Barrier Reef and the Daintree Rainforest.

Challenges Addressed by the RRR Plan:

- FNQROC councils face challenges such as large transport distances, low economies of scale, and aging infrastructure.

- Changing policies and a lack of local secondary markets hinder effective waste management and resource recovery.

Eight Key Actions of the RRR Plan:

1. Step-change in Customer Engagement: Increase community awareness and participation in recycling and waste reduction.
2. Optimise Regional Servicing Arrangements: Improve waste collection and processing efficiencies across councils.
3. New Transfer Station Facilities and Closure of Facilities with Regulatory or Environmental Issues: Develop new transfer stations and close non-compliant ones to enhance resource recovery.
4. Enhance Kerbside Collection Approach: Expand kerbside recycling and organic waste collection services.
5. Maximise Diversion of Organic Waste from Landfill: Implement initiatives to collect and process organic waste separately.
6. Optimise Regional Network of Resource Recovery Facilities: Develop a network of facilities to improve local processing and reduce transportation costs.
7. Develop a Centralised Resource Recovery Precinct: Establish a hub for processing and re-using waste materials to support regional infrastructure.
8. Develop Alternatives to Landfill for Residual Waste: Explore and implement long-term solutions for residual waste management.

Importance of the Elected Officials Committee:


It is proposed that the re-establishment of an elected officials committee for regional waste is essential for the following reasons:

- Ensuring effective implementation and oversight of the RRR Plan actions.
- Facilitating cooperation among the 11 participating councils to share resources, knowledge, and best practices.
- Securing necessary funding and regulatory support from State and Federal governments to achieve the plan's targets.

This committee will play a crucial role in ensuring the RRR plan is progressing and that there is a commitment from all participating councils to work on this regional problem and opportunity.

ATTACHMENTS

[FNQROC Regional Resource Recovery Plan - Summary](#)
[FNQROC Regional Resource Recovery Plan](#)

	<p>FNQROC MEETING NOTE</p> <p>DATE 06/06/2024</p>	<p>B106</p>
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REGIONAL STRATEGY AND STATE AND FEDERAL DELEGATION

Author: Anthony Archie, CEO (DM:7422360)

Recommendation:

That board:

- a) *meet again in July to confirm the regional priorities for an August Queensland Parliament Delegation; and/or*
- b) *members send a delegation to Queensland State Parliament for the August sitting period 20th to 22nd of August; and/or*
- c) *members send a delegation to the Australian Federal Parliament for the 2 weeks of sitting period in November.*

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

FNQROC recognises the importance of presenting a united front on key regional priorities during delegations. Our success is often attributed to a cohesive and focused list of priorities, distilled to a single top priority when necessary, ensuring clarity and impact in our advocacy efforts. This approach has proven effective, as evidenced by recent inquiries from state and federal treasurers regarding our number one priority. A unified stance on regional issues fosters respect and yields greater long-term benefits, strengthening our influence with policymakers.

Given the new term and the eagerness of elected officials to review and update strategies, FNQROC staff will discuss current and developing strategies, allowing for valuable input from members. This feedback will ensure our advocacy aligns with the latest needs of all member councils.

Following these discussions, we will organise a session to confirm the priorities, creating a cohesive document for the Queensland State Parliament Delegation. Attending the Queensland Parliament during the August sitting period allows us to advocate directly to decision-makers before the election, ensuring our region's needs are prioritised.

Similarly, attending the Federal Parliament in November aligns with budget preparations, allowing us to influence federal funding allocations for Far North Queensland. This proactive engagement enhances our region's prospects and demonstrates our commitment to advancing the interests of our communities through direct federal and state engagement. The delegation will focus on maximising face-to-face time with key ministers and senators over a concentrated two to three-day period.

BACKGROUND:

Regional Priorities

The importance of attending delegations with a united front on key priorities cannot be overstated. FNQROC's success is often attributed to presenting a cohesive and focused list of regional priorities. Having a finite list, distilled to a single top priority if necessary, ensures clarity and impact when engaging with key decision-makers. Recent delegations have highlighted this approach's effectiveness, with treasurers from both state and federal governments specifically inquiring about our number one priority. A unified stance on regional issues that affect most councils demonstrates our collective commitment to the broader interests of Far North Queensland. Even if a particular priority does not directly impact an individual council, supporting the regional view fosters respect and yields greater long-term benefits. This collaborative strategy not only strengthens our advocacy efforts but also enhances our credibility and influence with policymakers.

We are empathetic to the challenges that this is a new term, and many of your elected officials are eager to review and update your respective councils' strategies and priorities. Recognising this, each FNQROC staff member will briefly discuss the current strategies, areas of concern, and strategies in development during our meeting. This will allow you to offer valuable guidance to FNQROC executives on which areas should be prioritised or where additional information is required. Your insights are crucial to ensuring our regional advocacy is aligned with all member councils' latest needs and aspirations, thereby enhancing the effectiveness and relevance of our collective efforts.

Following this, we could organise a brief session, either remotely or in person, to confirm the priorities suggested during today's meeting, with the support of the FNQROC executive team. This would form a document that is taken on the Queensland State Parliament Delegation.

Queensland State Parliament Delegation

Sending a delegation to the Queensland Parliament during the August sitting period, just before the state enters caretaker mode for the upcoming election, presents a strategic opportunity for FNQROC. This timing allows the delegation to advocate directly to key decision-makers while they are still actively engaged in parliamentary duties. By presenting our region's priorities and pressing issues before the election, we can ensure that our needs are top-of-mind for policymakers and candidates alike. This proactive approach enhances our ability to secure commitments and support for regional initiatives, which is crucial for the continued development and prosperity of Far North Queensland. Furthermore, it positions FNQROC as a proactive and influential advocate for our member councils, demonstrating our commitment to advancing the interests of our communities through direct engagement with state leaders.

Australian Federal Parliament Delegation

Sending a delegation to the Federal Parliament during the November two-week sitting period is a strategic move for FNQROC, as it aligns with the crucial phase of Federal budget preparations leading into the formal budget discussions in January. Engaging with federal policymakers at this juncture allows us to present our region's priorities and funding needs while budget allocations are still being shaped. This timing ensures that the unique challenges and opportunities of Far North Queensland are considered in the upcoming federal budget. Additionally, by advocating

during this period, FNQROC can build momentum and foster relationships with key decision-makers, positioning our region favourably for future funding and policy support. It also demonstrates our proactive approach to securing essential resources and highlights our commitment to advancing the well-being and development of our communities through direct federal engagement.

The delegation would not last two weeks; we would attend for two to three days, squeezing as much face-to-face time as we can with Federal Ministers and Senators.

ATTACHMENTS

Nil

Profit and Loss

Far North Queensland Regional Organisation of Councils 30241 For the 10 months ended 30 April 2024

JUL 2023-APR 2024

Trading Income

Climate Resilience: Corporate Greenhouse Gas Inventories	41,985.00
Climate Resilience: Resilience Program	27,000.00
FNQROC: Annual Contribution	599,642.00
FNQROC: Miscellaneous: Staff Christmas Party	349.10
Regional Procurement: Annual Procurement Contribution	25,000.00
RRTG: Annual 2.75% contribution	163,817.97
RRTG: Funding/Subsidies	152,064.00
Water: DESBT Water Services Agreement	30,000.00
Water: Short Term Projects: QWrap Funding	50,000.00
Total Trading Income	1,089,858.07

Gross Profit 1,089,858.07

Other Income

Interest Income	9,563.53
Total Other Income	9,563.53

Operating Expenses

Bank Service Charges	147.94
Climate Resilience: Climate Resilient Councils Program	93,143.27
Climate Resilience: Corporate GHG Inventory	1,500.00
Climate Resilience: Keeping Our Cool Project	1,036.36
FNQROC: Chairs Honorarium	4,500.00
FNQROC: External Meeting Expenses: Registration Fees	5,052.39
FNQROC: External Meeting Expenses: Travel, Accom & Meals	15,045.25
FNQROC: Internal Meeting Expenses: Catering	2,598.06
FNQROC: Internal Meeting Expenses: Miscellaneous	526.81
FNQROC: Mayoral delegations	3,549.54
FNQROC: Mayoral delegations - accommodation, meals, travel expenses	3,430.29
FNQROC: Miscellaneous expenses	3,288.61
FNQROC: Mobile Phone Expenses	1,597.63
FNQROC: Recruitment Services	6,775.00
FNQROC: Salaries	206,154.56
FNQROC: Staff Christmas Party	1,432.65
FNQROC: Stationery & Office Expenses	4,982.87
FNQROC: Stationery & Office Expenses:Website	290.00
FNQROC: Subscription/membership	29,051.94
FNQROC: Training	3,890.91
FNQROC: Uniforms	226.00
FNQROC: Vehicle Expenses	9,420.45
Infrastructure: Mobile Phone Expenses	555.73
Infrastructure: Salaries	125,772.37

Nat Asset: External Meetings: Registration Fees	2,844.63
Nat Asset: External Meetings: Travel, Accom & Meals	515.71
Nat Asset: Internal Meeting Expenses: Catering	1,105.56
Nat Asset: Miscellaneous	1,295.45
Nat Asset: Mobile Phone Expenses	555.73
Nat Asset: Salaries	111,355.10
Nat Asset: Stationery & Office Expenses	1,289.18
Nat Asset: Subscription/membership fees	1,311.88
Nat Asset: Vehicle Expense	5,459.90
Reg Planner/economic development: External Meetings: Travel, Accom & Meals	361.01
Reg Planner/economic development: FNQ Regional Plan consultant	53,336.00
Reg Planner/economic development: Internal Meeting Expenses: Catering	667.27
Reg Planner/economic development: Mobile Phone Expenses	555.73
Reg Planner/economic development: Salaries	85,745.22
Regional Development Manual: External Meetings: Travel, Accom & Meals	188.19
Regional Development Manual: Internal Meeting Expenses: Catering	64.13
Regional Development Manual: Legal Expenses	2,890.46
Regional Development Manual: Stationery & Office Expenses	1,467.36
Regional Procurement: Bitumen Reseal Project	15,460.00
Regional Procurement: Bitumen Reseal Project:Project Coordinator Fees	39,240.00
Regional Procurement: Mobile Phone Expenses	555.74
Regional Procurement: Salaries	94,745.75
Regional Procurement: Sewer Relining - Consultant Fees	69,570.00
RRTG: External Meetings: Travel, Accom & Meals	12.84
RRTG: Internal Meeting Expenses: Catering	340.61
RRTG: Regional Road Trip	1,039.50
Waste: External Meeting Expenses: Registration Fees	27.27
Waste: External Meeting Expenses: Travel, Accom & Meals	1,984.27
Waste: Internal Meeting Expenses: Catering	133.82
Water: External Meeting Expenses: Registration Fees	35.00
Water: External Meeting Expenses: Travel, Accom & Meals	2,378.27
Water: FNQROC Regional Water Capability Plan	47,287.40
Water: Internal Meeting Expenses: Catering	384.36
Total Operating Expenses	1,068,171.97
Net Profit	31,249.63

Balance Sheet

Far North Queensland Regional Organisation of Councils 30241

As at 30 April 2024

30 APR 2024

Assets

Bank

Cheque Account	285,864.96
FNQROC Savings	1,509,583.56
Total Bank	1,795,448.52

Current Assets

Accounts Receivable	11,495.00
Total Current Assets	11,495.00

Total Assets

1,806,943.52

Liabilities

Current Liabilities

Accounts Payable	109,692.34
ANZ Credit Card:FNQROC	9,700.47
GST	(18,716.94)
Payroll Liabilities:AL Payable Current	38,400.48
Payroll Liabilities:LSL Payable Current	21,216.00
Payroll Liabilities:LSL Payable Non-Current	124,584.00
Rounding	(0.20)
Total Current Liabilities	284,876.15

Total Liabilities

284,876.15

Net Assets

1,522,067.37

Equity

Current Year Earnings	31,249.63
Opening Bal Equity	293,928.07
Retained Earnings	1,196,889.67
Total Equity	1,522,067.37



Minister for Transport and Main Roads
Minister for Digital Services

Our ref: MC142492

Your ref: 7317230

23 April 2024

Mr Anthony Archie
Chief Executive Officer
Far North Queensland Regional Organisation of Councils
anthony.archie@cairns.qld.gov.au

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Website www.tmr.qld.gov.au

Dear Mr Archie

I refer to your letter of 8 December 2023 to the former Minister for Transport and Main Roads and Minister for Digital Services, about two proposed options for the Barron River bridge at Kuranda.

I appreciate you have taken the time to provide feedback on the two options presented by the Department of Transport and Main Roads (TMR). I have passed on your feedback to the project team.

I am advised the two proposed highest ranked options are now being investigated in more detail in the business case stage. Feedback from the community and stakeholders who use the bridge every day plays an important part in determining the most suitable solution.

I acknowledge that a safe and reliable crossing over the Barron River at Kuranda is critical for Far North Queensland. I have asked TMR to accelerate the planning study and it is expected to be completed in 2024. While planning is carried out, TMR will continue to monitor the existing bridge via a detailed inspection and monitoring program to ensure the bridge remains safe and operational.

In early 2022, TMR released the outcome of a planning study investigating capacity, safety, and efficiency improvements of transport routes between Cairns and the Northern Tablelands. The study investigated the current issues, future needs, and potential solutions to improve performance. The outcome of the planning is a road map of initiatives and investments to help TMR deliver the right infrastructure at the right time.

While there are clear challenges with the routes between the coast and the Northern Tablelands, none of the existing corridors are operating at capacity. The study shows there is currently no clear technical justification for a major upgrade of existing routes, or construction of a new road along a new alignment. The main challenges identified relate to network resilience, travel reliability and freight access.

I am advised TMR is working with the Australian Government to develop an appropriate scope of works and construction timeframes for the safety and resilience upgrades on Kuranda Range Road.

I am also advised that, in early 2022, the Queensland Government requested the Australian Government to consider including the Kennedy Highway (Cairns – Mareeba), which includes Kuranda Range Road, as part of the National Land Transport Network (NLTN). It should be noted, that declaring a road as NLTN does not guarantee it will attract additional funding, or as a non-NLTN road, preclude it from Australian Government funding.

I trust this information is of assistance.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'B. Mellish', written in a cursive style.

BART MELLISH MP
Minister for Transport and Main Roads
Minister for Digital Services



**Meetings attended by: Anthony Archie, FNQROC Executive Office
For the period: 19 April 2024 to 5 June 2024**

DATE	MEETING DETAILS
19 April 2024	FNQROC Planners Meeting
1 May 2024	Queensland Libraries – RDDO Interviews
8 May 2024	IPEWA Conference – Townsville
10 May 2024	FNQROC Planners Meeting
21 – 24 May 2024	Crankworx
21 May 2024	RACQ – Road Advocacy
24 May 2024	FNQROC Mountain Bike Forum
29 May 2024	Regional Leadership Network Forum
30 May 2024	FNQ Regional Plan – I.C.E Workshop
24 May 2024	FNQROC Mountain Bike Forum
29 May 2024	Regional Leadership Network Forum