



Burke Shire Local Disaster Management Plan



ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

We acknowledge the traditional custodians of the land in which we work and live, and recognise their continuing connection to land, water, and community. We pay our respects to Elders past, present and emerging including:

- Gangalidda Garawa
- Waanyi

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Council wishes to thank all contributors and stakeholders involved in the development of this document and their ongoing assistance to disaster management in the Burke Shire.

DISCLAIMER

Information contained in this document is based on available information at the time of writing. All figures and diagrams may be subject to change. Some information may have been furnished to Council by other organisations. While reasonable care has been exercised in its preparation, Council or its officers accept no responsibility for any loss occasioned by any person acting or refraining from acting on information or material contained in this document.

CONTACT

The current version of the Burke LDMP is:

Version –

Burke Shire Council welcomes feedback from the residents, visitors, and others regarding this disaster management plan. Feedback, recommendations, and proposals to amend this plan should be forwarded to:

By mail: The Chief Executive Officer
 Attention: Emergency Management
 Burke Shire Council
 PO Box 90
 BURKETOWN QLD 4830

In person: At the Burke Shire Council office

By email: office@burke.qld.gov.au

Amendments to the plan must be endorsed by the Burke LDMG and approved by Burke Shire Council under the provisions of the Act before they can be implemented.

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FOREWORD

Cr Ernie Camp - Burke Shire Mayor and Chair of the Local Disaster Management Group



Burke Shire Council and the Local Disaster Management Group is committed to playing a key role in achieving community safety for residents and visitors.

Burke Shire is no stranger to the impacts of disaster events that have tested individual and community resilience. This was certainly the case with the Monsoonal flooding of February/March last year. This flood event led to very significant and in some cases, record breaking flooding in the Burke Shire Council area and the areas adjoining the local government area. In 2024 there were three smaller floods. These disasters have the potential to significantly disrupt our social networks, our economy, our infrastructure, and our environment. In both 2023 and 2024 there were significant periods the Burke Shire population was isolated and nearly 100 residents were evacuated in 2023 and 60 in 2024.

Significant damage has occurred to roads Infrastructure from these floods (approx. \$350 mill that will span several years). The rural sector ratepayers suffered major impacts affecting infrastructure including buildings (and contents), yards, fencing, waters, loss of livestock and livelihoods. A number of Burketown and Bidunggu residential homes were impacted. A significant downturn in tourism post events, a vital local and regional economic driver, with attractions like Boodjamulla National Park, Adels Grove, and Miyumba camping areas facing extensive damage. The environmental impact on the park's emerald waters and cultural heritage sites is a major cause for concern, with a projected reopening late 2025.

With the increase in frequency and severity of natural disasters around the globe, it is important that our Local Disaster Management Plan (the Plan) provides a comprehensive, consistent, and coordinated approach to disaster management for our Shire. Not only is the Plan an important tool for managing potential disasters, but it also demonstrates a commitment towards enhancing the safety, capacity, and resilience of the Burke Shire community.

This Plan aims to clearly define what is expected from all stakeholders. This includes our communities and individuals as well as agencies with specific roles and responsibilities in disaster management. We rely on our community to act on information provided before, during and after events. This shared responsibility is a vital element in creating disaster resilient communities.

The Burke Shire Local Disaster Management Group strives to safeguard people, property, and the environment from disaster impacts. The group aims to empower and support local communities to manage their disaster risks, respond to events and be more resilient.

I am confident that this Plan provides an excellent framework for our community. The Plan will be reviewed to ensure it remains effective and relevant, reflecting current legislation, changes in the shire's risks and learnings from disaster events.

To remain effective, our LDMP must be a dynamic, risk-based document that is subject to continuous review, ensuring its content reflects current legislation, Burke Shire's risk profile, and learning from disaster events both within and outside of our Shire.

The residents and visitors to our region can feel secure in the fact the agencies that comprise our Burke Shire Local Disaster Management Group are dedicated and capable in their respective fields.

AUTHORISATION OF THE PLAN

This Local Disaster Management Plan has been prepared by the Burke Shire Local Disaster Management group on behalf of Burke Shire Council as required under Section 57 of the Disaster Management Act 2003 (the Act).

In accordance with Section 80(1) (b) of the Act, approval has been given to this plan by the Burke Shire Council on 13 December 2024 when the plan was adopted by resolution 241213.09.

Cr Ernie Camp	Date
Chairperson	
Burke Shire Local Disaster Management Group	

Daniel McKinlay	Date
Local Disaster Coordinator	
Burke Shire Local Disaster Management Group	

1. DOCUMENT CONTROL

1.1 Review and Renew Plan

This plan will be reviewed or renewed at least once annually as per Section 59 of the Act with relevant amendments made and distributed.

In accordance with Section 59(2) of the Act, the effectiveness of the plan must be reviewed at least once a year. This may take the form of a disaster management exercise or in the event of the activation of the Local Disaster Management Group (LDMG) in response to an emergency.

1.2 Amendment Register and Document Control

This plan must reflect the changes in the Burke community; as such it will undergo changes as the community and Shire develops over time.

Changes to this plan are to be submitted to the CEO of the Burke Shire and to the Local Disaster Management Group for inclusion in the plan.

Burke Shire Council welcomes feedback from the residents, visitors, and others regarding this disaster management plan. Feedback, recommendations, and proposals to amend this plan should be forwarded to:

By mail:	The Chief Executive Officer Attention: Emergency Management Program Burke Shire Council PO Box 90 BURKETOWN QLD 4830
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In person:	At the Burke Shire Council Office Musgrave Street, Burketown QLD 4830
By email:	office@burke.qld.gov.au

Amendments to the plan must be endorsed by the Burke LDMG and approved by Burke Shire Council under the provisions of the Act before they can be implemented.

Once approved by Council, new and amended versions of the plan will be registered in the Amendment Record along with the new version number. For minor and/or administrative amendments, only the number after the decimal point will change. For amendments incorporating significant change or rewrite, the primary version number will change.

Changes to contact details, position names or titles are considered only minor amendments and are not required to be endorsed by the LDMG or Council.

Amendment Number	Date	Section Amended	Amended By
1	24.07.2014	References to Disaster Management Act 2003 updated	LDC Philip Keirle
2	24.07.2014	References to Local Government Act 2009 updated	LDC Philip Keirle
3	24.07.2014	Update to membership list	LDC Philip Keirle
4	24.07.2014	Incorporation of new table into Recovery Strategy	LDC Philip Keirle
5	31.08.2015	Update to membership list Update to length of sealed roads Proposed future development	LDC Philip Keirle
6	22.09.2016	Update to membership list	LDC Sharon Daishe
7	14.09.2017	Update membership Meeting section Roles and Responsibilities Definitions Membership Update ABS data Training	LDC Sharon Daishe
8	10.12.2020	Major rewrite.	LDC Dan McKinlay

1.3 Distribution List

Position	Electronic or Hard Copy
LDMG Chair/Deputy	Electronic or Hard Copy
Local Disaster Coordinator	Electronic Copy
LDMG Executive Group	Electronic Copy
LDMG Members	Electronic Copy
Burke Shire Council Website	Updated to Website
DDMG/DDC/XO	Electronic Copy

This plan, excluding the confidential annexes and supporting documents, is available for public viewing online at <https://www.burke.qld.gov.au> and can be downloaded from this website in read only portable document format (PDF).

Printed copies of the plan, excluding the confidential annexes and supporting documents, are available for viewing at Council's main office.

Printed copies of the plan, excluding the confidential annexes and supporting documents, are available for purchase at cost recovery, and may be ordered through:

By mail: The Chief Executive Officer
 Burke Shire Council
 PO Box 90
 BURKETOWN QLD 4830

2. INFORMATION MANAGEMENT AND INFORMATION PRIVACY

Recipients of this plan must take all reasonable steps to ensure that operational information is adequately safeguarded, and that the confidentiality of operational information is maintained.

Operational information, including contact lists, must be stored securely, and protected against unauthorised access, use, modification, disclosure, or misuse.

Recipients must not intentionally access files, registers or any other document that contains operational information unless it is necessary for their duties. Where access is necessary for work purposes, recipients must not disclose operational information to an unauthorised person.

Recipients must ensure that documents or files containing operational information are not left where unauthorised persons can access the information.

2.1 Glossary of Terms

A Disaster Management [glossary of terms and acronyms](#) is published as part of the Prevention Preparedness, Response and Recovery (PPRR) Disaster Management Guideline.

A [Disaster Management Lexicon](#) is also provided by the Office of the Inspector-General Emergency Management (IGEM).

The following acronyms are not contained in the links above but are used by the Local Disaster Management Group in its disaster management arrangements.

Acronym	Meaning
AIDR	Australian Institute for Disaster Resilience
AIIMS	Australasian Inter-service Incident Management System
BCP	Business Continuity Plan
CDO	Counter Disaster Operations
CEO	Chief Executive Officer
DRFA	Disaster Recovery Funding Arrangements (formerly known as NDRRA)
EAP	Emergency Action Plan
GIS	Geographic Information System
IGEM	Inspector-General Emergency Management
IMT	Incident Management Team
LGA	Local Government Area
PPRR	Prevention, Preparedness, Response and Recovery
QDMA	Queensland Disaster Management Arrangements
RFB	Rural Fire Brigade– QFD
RFS	Rural Fire Service – QFD
SMEACS	Situation, Mission, Execution, Administration, Coordination, Safety
WHO	World Health Organisation
XO	Executive Officer, District Disaster Management Group

3. ADMINISTRATION & GOVERNANCE

3.1 Introduction

The Burke Shire experiences periodic natural disasters. While these types of events are not common, we cannot afford to become complacent. The key to effective disaster response and recovery is the resilience of the community and the willingness of people to work together for the benefit of the community.

The Burke Shire through the work of the Local Disaster Management Group will maintain their commitment to effective disaster management for the Shire. To be effective our disaster management planning must be a moving feast, we learn from events in the Shire, and we examine the actions of other Shires to ensure that we improve and adapt to changes such as the expectations of the community and climate change.

This plan is a plan for the community. To be truly effective we must draw on the collective knowledge of the community to develop plans that are suitable and effective. This plan details the arrangements within the BSC local government area to plan and coordinate capability in disaster management and disaster operations.

3.2 Purpose

As legislated in Section 57 of the Act, the purpose of the Plan is to:

- Embed the State group's strategic policy framework for disaster management for the State, and detail Council's policies for disaster management
- Define the roles and responsibilities of entities involved in disaster management
- Detail arrangements for the coordination of disaster operations and activities relating to disaster management performed by the entities involved in disaster management
- Identify the events that are likely to happen in the area
- Identify the strategies and priorities for disaster management for the area

The plan ensures that community risks relating to disaster events or events that affect the wellbeing of the community are identified and effectively managed.

The plan is to detail the arrangements and responsibilities between response agencies, supporting government and non-government organisations.

3.3 Objective

The overall objective of this plan is to maintain the safety of the Burke Shire. The plan seeks to minimise the effects of, coordinate the response to and manage the recovery from a disaster or major emergency affecting the Burke Shire Council area. This is achieved by:

- a) The development, review and assessment of effective disaster management for the local government area including arrangements for mitigating, preventing, preparing for, responding to and recovering from a disaster.
- b) Compliance with the Queensland Disaster Management Committee's (QDMC) Strategic Policy Framework, the State Disaster Management Plan, the Local Disaster Management

Guidelines, and any other Guidelines relevant to local level disaster management and disaster operations;

- c) The roles and responsibilities of entities involved in disaster operations and disaster management in the area;
- d) The coordination of disaster operations and activities relating to disaster management performed by the entities mentioned in paragraph (c);
- e) Events that are likely to happen in the area;
- f) Strategies and priorities for disaster management for the area;
- g) The matters stated in the disaster management guidelines as matters to be included in the plan;
- h) Other matters about disaster management in the area the local government considers appropriate.

The plan will address and provide prevention and preparedness strategies through mitigation and education programs for the local community as well as addressing response and recovery procedures.

The [Disaster Management Act 2003](#) ('Act') and the [Disaster Management Regulation 2014](#) ('Regulation') form the legislative basis for disaster management within all levels of government and Queensland's Disaster Management Arrangements (QDMA)

The preparation of this LDMP and associated sub-plans has been undertaken in accordance with sections 57 and 58 of the Act, to provide for effective disaster management in the BSC area. This LDMP is consistent with [Queensland's Disaster Management Standard](#) and [PPRR Disaster Management Guideline](#).

The authorising environment for disaster management documents is detailed in Table below.

Disaster Management Guideline Authorising Environment

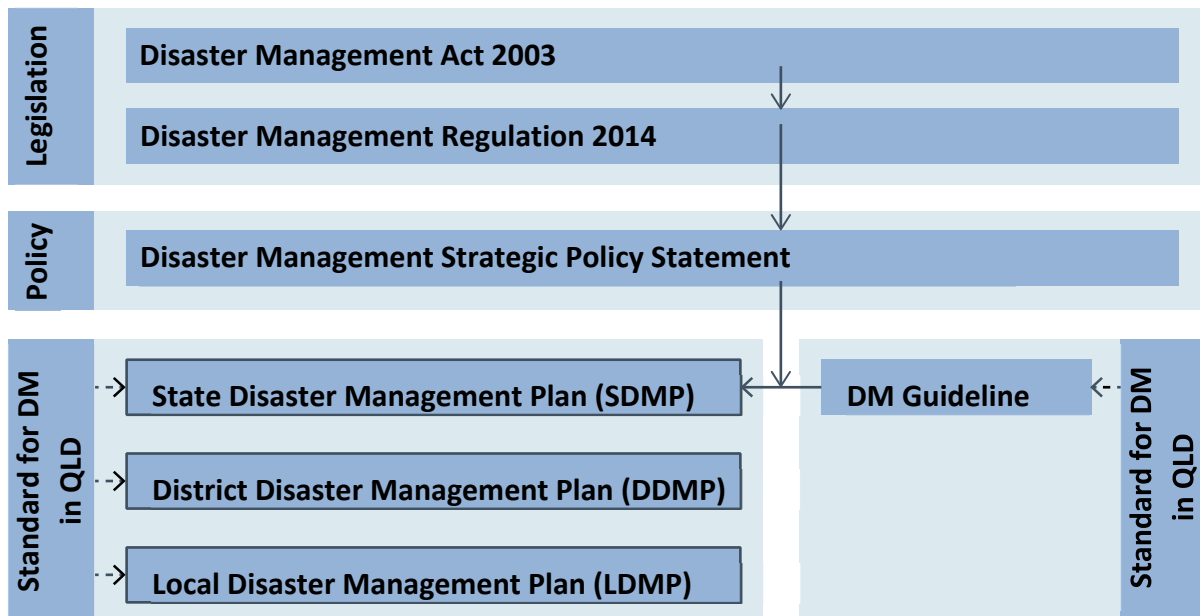


Figure 1: Disaster Management Authorising Environment

3.4 LDMG terms of reference

As per the Local Disaster Management Act 2003.

- Effectively respond to and recover from a disaster or emergency situation.

3.5 Principles of disaster management.

This Plan provides a comprehensive, all-hazards, multi-agency approach to disaster management.

This Plan and disaster management within Queensland follows the four guiding principles outlined in the Act Section 4A:

- Disaster management should be planned across the four phases of prevention, preparedness, response, and recovery (PPRR)
- All events, whether natural or caused by human acts or omissions, should be managed in accordance with the Queensland Disaster Management 2016 Strategic Policy Statement, the Queensland State Disaster Management Plan and any other disaster management guidelines (including the Prevention, Preparedness, Response and Recovery Disaster Management Guideline)
- Local governments should primarily be responsible for managing events in their local government area, maintaining a local disaster management capability; and
- District groups and the state disaster management group should provide local governments with appropriate resources and support to help the local governments carry out disaster operations

3.6 Approach to Disaster Management

In accordance with Section 4A(a) of the Act, disaster management is planned across the following four phases:

Prevention	The taking of preventative measures to reduce the likelihood of an event occurring or, if an event occurs, to reduce the severity of the event.
Preparedness	The taking of preparatory measures to ensure that, if an event occurs, communities, resources and services are able to cope with the effects of the event.
Response	The taking of appropriate measures to respond to an event, including action taken and measures planned in anticipation of, during, and immediately after an event to ensure that its effects are minimised and that persons affected by the event are given immediate relief and support.
Recovery	The taking of appropriate measures to recover from an event, including action taken to support disaster-affected communities in the reconstruction of infrastructure, the restoration of emotional, social, economic and physical wellbeing, and the restoration of the environment.

3.7 Inspector-General Emergency Management

The role of Inspector-General Emergency Management (IGEM) was first established in 2013 following a review of police and community safety. The IGEM role was formalised as a statutory position in 2014.

Key accountabilities for the Office of the IGEM are:

- reviewing and assessing the effectiveness of disaster management arrangements within Queensland
- reviewing and assessing cooperation between entities responsible for disaster management in the state, including whether disaster management systems and procedures employed by those entities are compatible and consistent
- establishing standards for disaster management, reviewing and assessing performance against these standards and regularly reviewing the standards
- monitoring compliance by Queensland government departments with their disaster management responsibilities
- identifying and improving disaster and emergency management capabilities, including volunteer capabilities and opportunities for cooperative partnerships
- reporting to and advising the Minister for Police, Minister for Police and Community Safety about issues relating to these functions.

3.8 Queensland Disaster Management Arrangements (QDMA)

The Queensland Disaster Management Arrangements are based upon arrangements between local government, disaster district, state, and federal government. The arrangements enable a progressive escalation of support and assistance through the four tiers as required.

The arrangements recognise and promote collaboration to ensure comprehensive disaster management.

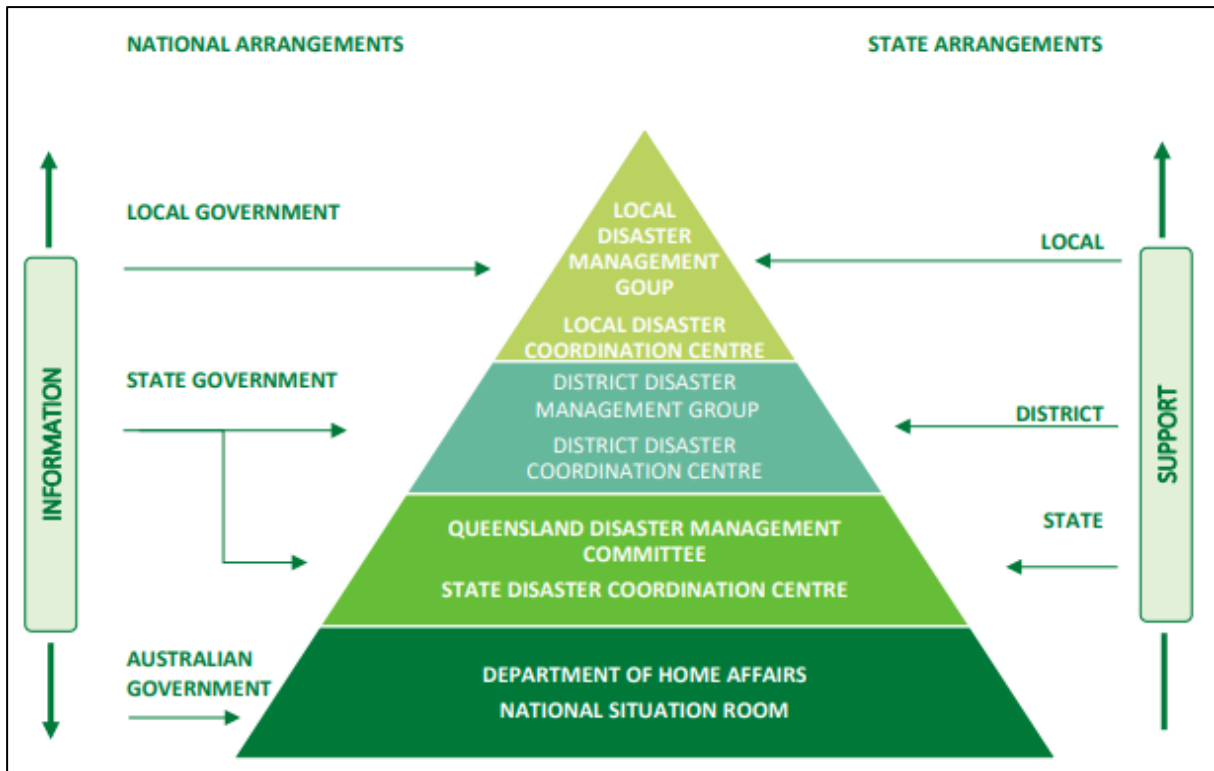


FIGURE 2 - QUEENSLAND DISASTER MANAGEMENT ARRANGEMENTS (QDMA)

Local government underpins the QDMA as a frontline of disaster management and has primary responsibility for managing events in their LGA. BSC is ideally suited to manage disaster events at the community level based on its understanding of local, social, environmental, and economic issues and the regions infrastructure.

During a disaster, the Burke Shire LDMG provides initial support for the affected community. If further support is required, it is requested through the district disaster group to the state level.

If state resources prove inadequate or inappropriate, Australian Government support can be sought through the Department of Home Affairs.

The Queensland Government's Disaster Management website provides further information on the QDMA.

3.9 Local Disaster Management Capability

Local level capability is recognised as the frontline for disaster management, primarily due to the benefits of localised knowledge and networks.

3.10 Support by District & State Groups

The Act establishes a District Disaster Management Group (DDMG) for each of the 22 districts in Queensland, to provide support when required or requested by an LDMG. The BSC LDMG is included in the Mount Isa Disaster District. See the [District Disaster Management Plan](#).

The Queensland Disaster Management Committee (QDMC) provides additional support and assistance when required or requested by a DDMG. The [State Disaster Management Plan](#) (SDMP) provides a framework for response and recovery operations.

3.11 Key Disaster Management Groups in Queensland

Queensland's Disaster Management Arrangements are coordinated by groups at the local, district and state level. The state is comprised of 22 disaster districts and 77 Local Government Areas (LGA), each represented by a group with specific functions – these are detailed below:

Group	Local Disaster Management Group (LDMG)
Formation	<p>A local government must establish an LDMG for the local government's area in accordance with the <i>Disaster Management Act 2003</i>.</p> <p>Local government areas are indicated in Schedule 1 of the <i>Disaster Management regulation 2014</i>.</p>
Members	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • chaired by a councillor of the local government • members may be appointed by the relevant local government • members are to be appointed only if the relevant local government is satisfied the person has the necessary expertise or experience • the LDMG must include at least one person nominated by the Commissioner, Queensland Fire and Emergency Services (QFES).
Functions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chair must appoint a Local Disaster Coordinator (LDC) to manage disaster operations for the area • Chair may appoint a Local Recovery Coordinator (LRC) in consultation with the State Recovery Policy and Planning Coordinator (SRPPC) to manage recovery at the local level, ideally not the same person as the LDC • Chair manages and coordinates the business of the group and ensures it performs its functions • ensure consistency between local disaster management operations and the Queensland Disaster Management 2016 Strategic Policy Statement¹ and other policies and procedures decided by the Queensland Disaster Management Committee (QDMC) • develop effective disaster management, and regularly review and assess disaster management • assist local government to prepare a disaster risk assessment and a Local Disaster Management Plan (LDMP) • identify and coordinate resources for disaster operations in the area • identify and provide advice to the district group about residual risks and support services required by the local group to facilitate disaster management and disaster operations • ensure community awareness about mitigating the adverse effect of an event and preparing for, responding to and recovering from a disaster • establish and review communications to ensure their effectiveness for use when a disaster happens • establish, when necessary, a recovery group.
Communications	<p>To the relevant district group:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • information about a disaster or recommendations on disaster operations • advice on residual risks and support services required by the local group • written notice of group members annually.

District Disaster Management Group (DDMG)	
Group	District Disaster Management Group (DDMG)
Formation	A DDMG must be established for each disaster district. Disaster district areas are detailed in the Disaster Management regulation 2014 ⁷ and shown in Appendix B.
Members	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Chairperson, Deputy Chairperson and Executive Officer, appointed by the Commissioner, Queensland Police Service (QPS) if satisfied each has the necessary expertise members may be appointed by the relevant local government areas within the disaster district representatives of a government department or Hospital and Health Service in, consultation with the department's chief executive and the DDMG Chair.
Functions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ensure consistency of district disaster management and operations with the Queensland Disaster Management 2016 Strategic Policy Statement³ and other policies and decisions made by the QDMC develop effective disaster management, including a District Disaster Risk Assessment and District Disaster Management Plan, and regularly review and assess disaster management activities review and assess the disaster management risk assessments and plans of local groups in the district identify residual risks, make plans, and coordinate resources for disaster operations in the area ensure community awareness about mitigating the adverse effects of an event and preparing for, responding to and recovering from such an event establish and review communications within the district group and with relevant local groups establish, when necessary, a recovery group.
Communications	To the QDMC and relevant local group: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> reports and recommendations relating to disaster management and disaster operations prompt notification about an event or disaster in the district.

Queensland Disaster Management Committee (QDMC)	
Group	Queensland Disaster Management Committee (QDMC)
Formation	The state group, the QDMC, is established under s. 17 of the <i>Disaster Management Act 2003</i> .
Members	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Premier and Minister for the Olympic and Paralympic Games (Chairperson) Deputy Premier, Minister for State Development, Infrastructure, Local Government and Planning and Minister Assisting the Premier on Olympic and Paralympic Games Infrastructure (Deputy Chairperson) Treasurer and Minister for Trade and Investment Minister for Education, Minister for Industrial Relations and Minister for Racing Minister for Police and Corrective Services and Minister for Fire and Emergency Services, Minister for Energy, Renewables and Hydrogen and Minister for Public Works and Procurement, Minister for Communities and Housing, Minister for Digital Economy and Minister for the Art, Minister for Health and Ambulance Services Minister for Regional Development and Manufacturing and Minister for Water Minister for Transport and Main Road

Assisting officials

- Director-General, Department of the Premier and Cabinet
- Director-General, Department of State Development, Infrastructure, Local Government and Planning
- Under Treasurer, Queensland Treasury
- Commissioner, Queensland Ambulance Service
- Commissioner, Queensland Fire and Emergency Services
- Commissioner, Queensland Police Service
- Director-General, Department of Education
- Director-General, Queensland Health
- Chief Health Officer
- Director-General, Department of Transport and Main Roads
- Director-General, Department of Energy and Public Works
- Director-General, Department of Communities, Housing and Digital Economy
- Director-General, Department of Regional Development, Manufacturing and Water

By Invitation

- State Disaster Coordinator
- State Recovery Coordinator

Observers

- Chief Executive Officer, Local Government Association of Queensland
- Inspector-General Emergency Management

Functions

- prepare the State Disaster Management Plan (SDMP)
- develop a strategic policy framework for disaster management
- ensure effective disaster management is developed and implemented for the state
- establish and maintain effective arrangements between the state and the Commonwealth relating to effective disaster management
- identify resources, in and outside the state, that may be used for disaster operations
- coordinate state and Commonwealth assistance for disaster management and disaster operations.

Communications

- The QDMC provides reports and makes recommendations, where appropriate, about matters relating to disaster management and disaster operations.

3.12 Disaster Management Strategic Policy Statement

Disaster management and disaster operations in the Burke Shire local government area are consistent with the [Queensland Disaster Management 2016 Strategic Policy Statement](#).

3.11.1 Objectives

- Strive to safeguard people, property and the environment from disaster impacts
- Empower and support local communities to manage disaster risks, respond to events and be more resilient.

3.11.2 Strategies

To drive an effective disaster management system, we will:

- Ensure disaster operation capabilities are responsive and effective
- Build capacity, skills and knowledge to enable adaptation to changing environments
- Effectively collaborate and share responsibilities for disaster management across all levels of government, industry and communities
- Effectively communicate to engage all stakeholders in disaster management
- Incorporate risk based planning into disaster management decision making

- Continuously improve disaster management through implementation of innovation, research and lessons learned.

The LDMG takes a flexible and scalable approach to disaster management, which reduces the risk and enhances community resilience while ensuring effective response and recovery capabilities.

3.13 Standard for Disaster Management in Queensland

Part 1A of the Act establishes the IGEM and Office of the IGEM. The priority for the Office of the IGEM is to facilitate improvements to Queensland's disaster management arrangements to enable confidence in the system and enhance public safety. The functions of the Office of the IGEM are detailed in section 16C of the Act.

Shared Responsibility	Component
Managing Risk	1. There is a shared understanding of risk for all relevant hazards.
	2. Risk is managed to reduce the impact of disasters on the community.
Planning and Plans	3. There is a shared understanding of how the impact of disasters will be managed and coordinated.
	4. Plans outline and detail how the impact of disasters on the community will be reduced.
Community Engagement	5. Entities proactively and openly engage with communities.
	6. The community makes informed choices about disaster management and acts on them.
Capability Integration	7. Resources are prioritised and shared with those who need them, when they need them.
	8. Entities develop integrated capabilities and shared capacity to reduce the impact of disasters on the community.
Operations	9. Operations minimise the negative impacts of an event on the community and provide the support needed for recovery.
Collaboration and Coordination	10. Entities proactively work together in a cooperative environment to achieve better results for the community.
	11. A collaborative culture exists within disaster management.

3.14 Chief Health Officer Directions

During a public health emergency, the Chief Health Officer can issue Public Health Directions to assist in contain or to respond to, the spread of an 'outbreak' within the community.

The Chief Health Officer may, by notice give any of the following public health directions:

- a direction restricting the movement of persons
- a direction requiring persons to stay at or in a stated place
- a direction requiring persons not to enter or stay at or in a stated place
- a direction restricting contact between persons
- any other direction the Chief Health Officer considers necessary to protect public health.

It's important to note, that should a disaster event such as a flood occur during a declared public health outbreak, that there will be a need to proactively revisit the delegations of authority, existing plans and processes and, if needed, revise them to ensure that Chief Health Officer Directions are being complied with where possible. In all instances, preservation of life and public safety remains the highest priority.

3.15 Disaster Management Strategic Guiding Principles

In accordance with section 4A(b) of the Act, all events, whether natural or caused by human activity, should be managed in accordance with the [Strategic Policy Statement](#), the [State Disaster Management Plan \(SDMP\)](#) and relevant disaster management guidelines. The Act identifies four key principles that guide disaster management in Queensland:

3.16 Comprehensive approach

The comprehensive approach to disaster management comprises the four PPRR phases. This approach ensures a balance between the reduction of risk and the enhancement of community resilience, while ensuring effective response and recovery capabilities.

The four phases of PPRR are not linear nor independent — they overlap and support each other. For example, recovery activities are likely to begin during the response phase and mitigation strategies may be considered during the recovery phase.

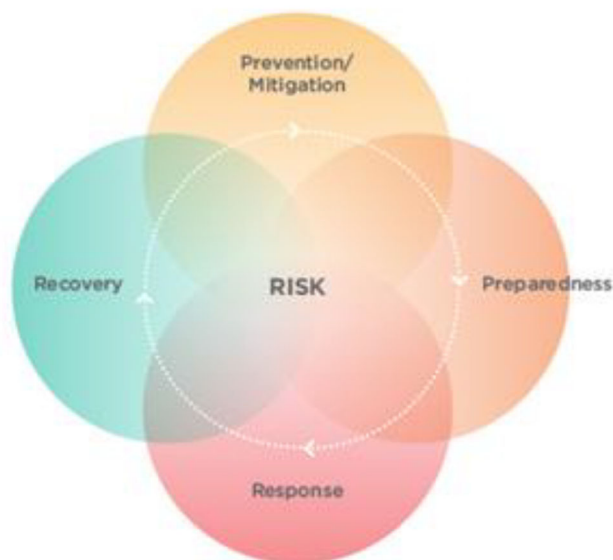


FIGURE 3 - COMPREHENSIVE APPROACH TO DISASTER MANAGEMENT

The all-hazards approach assumes the functions and activities used to manage one event are likely to be applicable to a range of events, whether natural or caused by human activity.

3.17 Disaster Management Activities

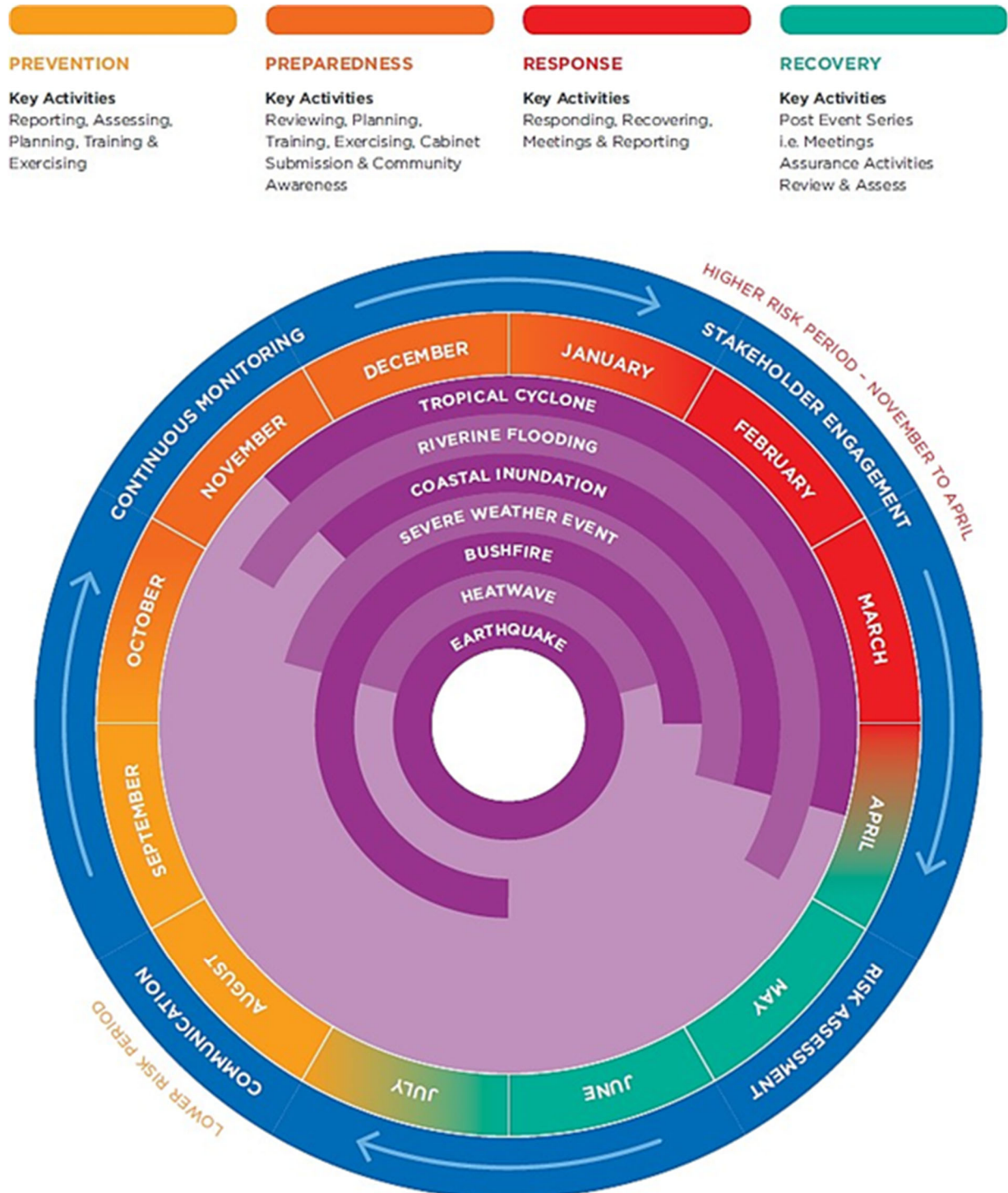


FIGURE 4 - SOURCE: QUEENSLAND STATE DISASTER MANAGEMENT PLAN

4. LOCAL DISASTER MANAGEMENT GROUP

4.1 Functions of the LDMG

<p>Formation</p>	<p>Under the <i>Disaster Management Act 2003</i> (Section 29), a local government must establish a Local Disaster Management Group (LDMG) for the local government area.</p> <p>As per Section 4A(c) of the Act, the local government, through the LDMG, retains primary responsibility for managing disaster events contained within the local government area.</p>
<p>Functions</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • to ensure that disaster management and disaster operations in the area are consistent with the State group's strategic policy framework for disaster management for the State; • to develop effective disaster management, and regularly review and assess the disaster management; • to help the local government for its area to prepare a local disaster management plan; • to identify, and provide advice to the relevant district group about, support services required by the local group to facilitate disaster management and disaster operations in the area; • to ensure the community is aware of ways of mitigating the adverse effects of an event, and preparing for, responding to and recovering from a disaster; • to manage disaster operations in the area under policies and procedures decided by the State group; • to provide reports and make recommendations to the relevant district group about matters relating to disaster operations; • to identify, and coordinate the use of, resources that may be used for disaster operations in the area; • to establish and review communications systems in the group, and with the relevant district group and other local groups in the disaster district of the relevant district group, for use when a disaster happens; • to ensure information about a disaster in the area is promptly given to the relevant district group; • to perform other functions given to the group under this Act; • to perform a function incidental to a function mentioned in paragraphs (a) to (k).

<p>Membership</p>	<p><u>Appointment of Members</u></p> <p>The <i>Queensland Prevention, Preparedness, Response and Recovery Disaster Management Guideline 2018</i> section 2.3.3 states the Local Disaster Management Group members are appointed under section 33 of the Act and should have the necessary expertise or experience and delegated authority to assist with a comprehensive, all- hazards, all-agencies approach to disaster management.</p> <p>The LDMG must consist of the following Members:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chairperson (must be a councillor) appointed by the relevant local government; • Deputy Chairperson (must be a councillor) appointed by the relevant local government; • Local Disaster Coordinator (recommended to be the CEO of the local government or other council employee with relevant expertise and experience to be the LDC) appointed by the Chair of the LDMG after consulting with the Chief Executive (QFES Commissioner); • Other persons appointed by the relevant local government area, incl. council representatives, local emergency services (i.e., Queensland Fire Department, Queensland Police Service, Queensland Ambulance Service and State Emergency Service), non-government organisations, representatives of functional lead agencies and a Local Recovery Coordinator. <p>In addition to the legislated members of the group. The BSCLDMG may appoint members or advisors to ensure adequate capability and capacity for specialist functions of disaster management.</p> <p>Under Section 14 of the <i>Disaster Management Regulation 2014</i>, with the approval of the chairperson, LDMG Members may have an appointed deputy. The nominated person must have the necessary expertise or experience and is appropriately trained to take on their responsibilities, should they be unavailable, or to provide additional support during extended operations.</p> <p>Members and deputies to BSCLDMG members shall be appointed in writing with signed approval from the Chair of the BSCLDMG. As per Section 33 of the Act, and section 9 of the Regulation, and as per Section 37 of the DM Act, the BSCLDMG will provide written notice of the members and deputies of the group to the Chief Executive (Commissioner QFES) & the District Disaster Coordinator at least once a year.</p> <p><u>Accountability and Authority of Members</u></p> <p><i>The principal LDMG Members and Working Group Members and liaison officers from each organisation must have:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The authority to commit their respective organisation to the LDMG's agreed decisions.
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The authority to commit their respective organisation’s resources without having to confer with superiors. • A sound understanding of the Local Disaster Management Plan. <p>The principal LDMG Members and Working Group Members and liaison officers from each organisation shall:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Regularly submit appropriate disaster control or mitigation information to the Local Disaster Coordinator. • Ensure adequate planning and control measures for disaster control are implemented within their own organisation. • Upon activation of the BSCDMG in a disaster, to forward situation reports to the Local Disaster Coordinator at intervals as may be required by him on the activities of the members’ organisations. <p>Absence from the locality of a principal LDMG member, and the possibility of protracted operations, require that a standby representative (i.e., deputy) from each organisation be identified and briefed on the requirements of their roles and responsibilities under the plan.</p>
<p>Responsibilities</p>	<p>In undertaking BSCLDMG responsibilities, members must ensure they:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Attend BSCLDMG activities with a full knowledge of their agency resources and services and the expectations of their agency; • Are available and appropriately briefed to actively participate in BSCLDMG activities to ensure that plans, projects and operations use the full potential of their agency or function, while recognising any limitations; • Are appropriately positioned within their agency to be able to commit agency resources to BSCLDMG normal business activities; and • Attend and complete appropriate disaster management training to ensure an adequate level of understanding of the Queensland Disaster Management Arrangements and Framework.

This table details the membership and responsibilities of the LDMG as appointed in accordance with Sections 33 and 34 of the Act. All members have the necessary expertise or experience to assist the group undertake and meet its legislative requirements. When membership changes, notice is provided to the DDMG. If membership of the Chair or LDC changes, notice is to be provided to the SDCC.

TABLE 3 – LDMG MEMBERSHIP

ROLE	MEMBER/S
Chairperson	The Chair of the Burke Shire LDMG is Mayor,
Deputy Chairperson	The Chair is assisted by Deputy Mayor as Deputy Chair.
Local Disaster Coordinator	The Local Disaster Coordinator is the Chief Executive Officer Under Section 143 (8) of the Act, the local disaster coordinator may delegate the coordinator's functions to an appropriately qualified person.
Members	Representation from CLCAC, BSC, QFD, SES, QPS, QAS, Qld Health
Advisors	Agencies other than Members to provide an advisory role for hazard or threat specific events

4.2 Meetings

s. 39

LDMG meetings must be held at least once in every 6 months at the times and places decided by the Chair; or when asked in writing by the relevant DDC or at least one-half of its members.

s. 40

A quorum for a LDMG meeting is the number equal to one-half of the members plus 1, or, if one-half of the members is not a whole number, the next highest whole number.

s. 40A

A member of a LDMG may, with the approval of the Chairperson, appoint by signed notice another person as his or her deputy. The deputy may attend a meeting in the member's absence and exercise the member's functions and powers under the Act. Deputy Members are to be counted in deciding if there is a quorum for a meeting.

s. 41

The Chairperson is to preside at all LDMG meetings, or in their absence the Deputy Chairperson. If both are absent the meeting must be chaired by a person nominated by the Chairperson, a member nominated by the Deputy Chairperson, or if those offices are vacant, a member of the group chosen by the members present.

There are provisions for members to appoint a proxy member as prescribed under Section 14 Disaster Management Regulation 2014:

- (1) A member of a disaster management group may, with the approval of the chairperson of the group, appoint by signed notice another person as his or her deputy.
- (2) The deputy may attend a group meeting in the member's absence and exercise the member's functions and powers under this Act at the meeting.
- (3) A deputy attending a group meeting is to be counted in deciding if there is a quorum for the meeting

s. 42

Meetings may be held using any technology that reasonably allows members to hear and take part in discussions as they happen. Members who participate in meetings using this technology are taken to be present at the meeting.

s. 43

Minutes must be taken of LDMG meetings

The following details of actions taken, and issues discussed by the LDMG are distributed to Core, Advisory members, and Observers of the LDMG:

- Meeting minutes
- Meeting schedules
- Meeting agendas
- Agency reports on emergency risk management and mitigation initiatives/strategies (e.g. disaster management studies), training, planning and other relevant disaster management activities.

4.3 Local Disaster Management Plan (LDMP)

s. 57

A local government must prepare an LDMP which must include provision for:

- The State group's strategic policy statement for disaster management for the State, and the local government's policies for disaster management.
- The roles and responsibilities of entities involved in disaster operations and disaster management in the area.
- The coordination of disaster operations and activities relating to disaster management performed by the entities.
- Events that are likely to happen in the area.
- Strategies and priorities for disaster management for the area.
- The matters stated in the disaster management guidelines as matters to be included in the plan; and
- Other matters about disaster management in the area the local government considers appropriate.

4.4 LDMG Operational Decision-Making Capabilities.



LDMG Chair and LDC are authorised to make initial operational response coordination decisions on behalf of the full LDMG to initiate the disaster management arrangements and while acting in accordance with LDMG approved plans and procedures. The Chair and LDC have an exclusively operational response coordination function, which will not replace the policy decision-making role of the full LDMG.





4.5 Member and Advisory Roles and Responsibilities of the LDMG.







This table details the membership and responsibilities of the LDMG as appointed in accordance with Sections 33 and 34 of the Act. All members have the necessary expertise or experience to assist the group undertake and meet its legislative requirements. Membership of the group includes any person acting as an appointed member using a [DM13 form](#). When membership changes, notice is provided to the DDMG. If membership of the Chair or LDC changes, notice is to be provided to the SDCC.






The LDMG recognises that agencies listed in this section have various disaster management responsibilities. Other departments and agencies not listed may also be involved to support response and/or recovery activities, as required.






Whilst the responsibilities are current at the time of publication of this plan, it is acknowledged that State Government departmental changes may alter these responsibilities.

AGENCY	POSITION	STATUS	RESPONSIBILITIES
Burke Shire Council 	LDMG Chair – Mayor - Section 10	Member	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To chair LDMG meetings and provide the primary link between the LDMG and BSC. • To manage and coordinate the business of the LDMG. • To ensure the LDMG performs its functions. • To report regularly to the DDMG and the chief executive of the department, about the performance by the LDMG of its functions.
Burke Shire Council 	LDMG Deputy Chair – Deputy Mayor-	Member	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide advice and support to the Chair and LDMG. • To chair LDMG meetings in the absence of the Chair. • To provide a link between the LDMG and BSC • To chair the LDMG Recovery Group when activated.

<p>Burke Shire Council</p> 	<p>Local Disaster Coordinator – CEO Burke Shire Council</p>	<p>Member</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To coordinate disaster operations for the LDMG and report regularly to the LDMG about disaster operations. • To ensure strategic decisions of the LDMG about disaster operations are implemented. • To provide advice and support to the Chair and LDMG. • To activate the LDMP and LDCC when required.
<p>Burke Shire Council</p> 	<p>Deputy Local Disaster Coordinators –</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Director of Engineering • Corporate Services and Governance Manager 	<p>Member</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To undertake the functions of the LDC in the LDC's absence. • Provide advice and support to the Chair, LDC and LDMG.
<p>Carpentaria Land Council Aboriginal Incorporation</p>	<p>A seat for a Gangalidda & Garawa Ranger Coordinator or Head Ranger and a seat for a Ngumari Waanyi Ranger Coordinator or Head Ranger</p>	<p>Member</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Liaison between the agency and the LDMG.
<p>Queensland Police Service (QPS)</p> 	<p>Officer in Charge – Burketown</p>	<p>Member</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Refer to page 70 of the State Disaster Management Plan. • Liaison between the agency and the LDMG.
<p>Queensland Police Service (QPS)</p> 	<p>Emergency Management Coordinator</p>	<p>Member</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Refer to page 70 of the State Disaster Management Plan. • Liaison between the agency and the LDMG. • Provide advice to the LDMG on DM related matters

<p>State Emergency Service</p> 	<p>Area Controller SES</p>	<p>Advisor</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Refer to page 71 of the State Disaster Management Plan. • Liaison between the agency and the LDMG.
<p>Queensland Fire Department</p> 	<p>Area Director RFS</p>	<p>Member</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Refer to page 68 of the State Disaster Management Plan. • Liaison between the agency and the LDMG.
<p>Queensland Ambulance Service (QAS)</p> 	<p>Burketown Health Clinic</p>	<p>Advisor</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Refer to page 67 of the State Disaster Management Plan. • Liaison between the agency and the LDMG
<p>Queensland Health</p> 	<p>Director of Nursing (DON) Burketown Health Clinic</p>	<p>Advisor</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Refer to page 69 of the State Disaster Management Plan. • Liaison between the agency and the LDMG.
<p>Queensland Government Departments</p> 	<p>Department of Women, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Partnerships & Multiculturalism</p>	<p>Advisor</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Refer to page 61 of the State Disaster Management Plan. • Liaison between agency and the LDMG
<p>Queensland Government Departments</p> 	<p>Department of Education</p>	<p>Advisor</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Refer to page 49 of the State Disaster Management Plan. • Liaison between agency and the LDMG.

<p>Queensland Government Departments</p>  <p>Queensland Government</p>	<p>Queensland Reconstruction Authority Liaison Officer</p>	<p>Advisor</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Refer to page 72 & 73 of the State Disaster Management Plan. • Liaison between agency and the LDMG.
<p>Queensland Government Departments</p>  <p>Queensland Government</p>	<p>Department of Environment, Tourism, Science & Innovation</p>	<p>Advisor</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Refer to page 50 & 51 of the State Disaster Management Plan. • Liaison between agency and the LDMG.
<p>Queensland Government Departments</p>  <p>Queensland Government</p>	<p>Department of Transport & Main Roads</p>	<p>Advisor</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Refer to page 60 of the State Disaster Management Plan. • Liaison between agency and the LDMG.
<p>Queensland Government Departments</p>  <p>Queensland Government</p>	<p>Department of Local Government, Water & Volunteers</p>	<p>Advisor</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Refer to page 53 & 54 of the State Disaster Management Plan. • Liaison between agency and the LDMG.
<p>Queensland Government Departments</p>  <p>Queensland Government</p>	<p>Department of State Development, Infrastructure & Planning</p>	<p>Advisor</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Refer to page 59 of the State Disaster Management Plan. • Liaison between agency and the LDMG.

<p>Queensland Government Departments</p> 	<p>Department of Housing & Public Works</p>	<p>Advisor</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Refer to page 53 of the State Disaster Management Plan. • Liaison between agency and the LDMG.
<p>Energy Queensland</p> 	<p>Ergon Energy - Area Operations Manager</p>	<p>Advisor</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Refer to page 62 of the State Disaster Management Plan. • Primary agency for providing, maintaining and restoring power supplies. • Provide advice to the LDMG on power supplies. • Provide safety information to consumers. • Liaison between the agency and the LDMG.
<p>NBN Co</p> 	<p>Community Engagement Manager</p>	<p>Advisor</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Liaison between the agency and the LDMG.
<p>Australia Post</p> 	<p>Post Office Store Burketown</p>	<p>Advisor</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Liaison between the agency and the LDMG.
<p>Mining Representative</p>	<p>Century Mines</p>	<p>Advisor</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Liaison between the agency and the LDMG.
<p>BSC Water & Waste</p>	<p>Manager Water & Waste –</p>	<p>Advisor</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Liaison between the Department and the LDMG in relation to water and waste information.
<p>Australian Red Cross</p> 	<p>Emergency Services Liaison Officer</p>	<p>Advisor</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Refer to page 47 of the State Disaster Management Plan. • Liaison between the agency and the LDMG

GIVIT	LDMG Advisor	Advisor	<p>GIVIT manages offers of goods and services in response to disasters and emergency incidents as defined by the Act. GIVIT also procures goods with monies donated by the public in response to such events.</p> <p>In partnership with the Queensland Government, manage offers of donated goods and services, including corporate offers of assistance, following Queensland disasters.</p> <p>LOCAL RESPONSIBILITIES</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Manage offers of, and requests for, donated goods and services after disasters • Liaison between the agency and the LDMG including attendance at LDMG meetings and situation reporting <p>At the request of the Local Disaster Coordinator or delegate, provide a liaison officer to the LDCC with appropriate delegation and knowledge to commit resources in a disaster management context</p>
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4.6 Training and Exercises

The LDMG works closely with QPS to provide a coordinated program of training from the Queensland Disaster Management Training Framework (QDMTF) that outlines the core training courses and inductions relevant to the key disaster management stakeholders to support the effective performance of their role. Exercises are used to help review the effectiveness of the LDMP. Exercises can take many forms, from simple discussion type exercises to full scale operations.

Following an exercise or disaster the LDMG will ensure debriefing is undertaken and that a post-incident report is developed for BSC, which clearly articulates lessons identified for the future.

4.7 Coordination of disaster operations

Coordination underpins the entire disaster management system. It is defined in the State Disaster Management Plan as:

The bringing together of organisations to ensure effective disaster management before, during and after an event. It is primarily concerned with systematic acquisition and application of resources (people, material, equipment etc.) in accordance with priorities set by disaster management groups. Coordination operates horizontally across organisations and agencies.

Coordination in disaster management is about the effective management of different agencies with a diverse range of expertise, resources, and skills by ensuring that they work together to a common goal and resources are best used for the benefit of the community.

One of the supplementary principles of disaster management is 'coordination, collaboration and consultation'. Effective management of any disaster relies on strong coordination arrangements, consultative decision making, collaboration and shared responsibility achieved through supporting relationships, trust and teamwork between individuals, agencies, and the community.

Following an exercise or disaster the LDMG will ensure debriefing is undertaken and that a post-incident report is developed for BSC, which clearly articulates lessons identified for the future.

4.8 Processes and Timeframes – Internal and External Assessment

The Local Disaster Management Plan will be reviewed every 12 months by the members of the LDMG. The plan will also be reviewed under the following circumstances:

- Following activation of the LDMG in response to events,
- Following significant changes to the planning environment including changes in threats or the community,
- In response to changes in the planning guidelines, or
- In any other circumstance that the Chair believes a review is warranted.

4.9 Continuous Improvement

The LDMG is committed to the practice of continuous improvement that involves disaster management processes and arrangements being regularly evaluated and improved to ensure they remain relevant, efficient, effective and flexible.

4.10 Appointment of a representative to District Group

The Burke Shire CEO and Mayor are appointed as a member of the District Disaster Management Group.

The LDC shall notify the State Disaster Management Group and District Group of the Local group's membership once per annum. Changes to the executive membership will be forwarded to the state and district groups as they occur.

4.11 Administrative responsibilities

The LDC of the local group is responsible for the administrative responsibilities of the group. The following administrative tasks are to be undertaken by the group:

- Keeping of meeting minutes,
- Maintenance of contact list,
- Maintenance of membership lists
- Updating of local plan,
- Registration of correspondence,

- Reporting (as listed), and
- Conduct of meetings

4.12 Authority to activate the Group

The group may be activated by the Chair of the local group should the Chair believe that the activation in response to a threat is significant to warrant activation. The level of activation will be determined by the chair taking into account the likelihood and possible impact of the threat.

The group may be activated by the District Disaster Coordinator (DDC)

Activation of the group will occur independently of activation of NDRRA, the decision to activate will be based on threat rather than financial implications.

Once the group is activated situation reports will be compiled and submitted to the district group at a frequency determined by the district group.

While there may be no requirement for the entire group to be in attendance at the coordination

4.13 Resupply Sub Meeting,

The Chair is to ensure that the entire group is kept informed of the situation and actions of the group.

The group will stand down only after the decision to cease activity has been made from the Chair and the DDC.

Once the group has stood down a final situation report will be compiled and sent to the district group.

4.14 Reporting Requirements

The LDC of the Burke Group is responsible for the administrative and reporting obligations of the group. The following reporting must be undertaken by the group:

Report	Submitted to	Frequency	Format
Meeting Minutes	DDMG/SDMG	Following every meeting	Council Minutes
LDMG Report	DDMG/SDMG	Yearly	Issued by SDMG
LDMG Membership	DDMG/SDMG	Yearly	With above
Situation Reports	DDMG	As negotiated	As issued
Activation Reports	DDMG	As negotiated	Issued by DDMG

5. BURKE SHIRE CONTEXT

5.1 Geography

Burke Shire is situated in the Gulf Savannah region of Northwest Queensland. It is located well into the tropics (Burketown 139 degrees east & 18 degrees south). Burketown is about 5 metres above sea level and the areas to the north, east and west are low lying, with tidal flats and mangroves.

The Burke Shire covers an area of 40,126km² and incorporates the towns of Burketown and Gregory (including Bidunggu. The Shire of Doomadgee is within the bounds of the Burke Shire geographically but not politically. The Shire is bounded by the Northern Territory Border to the west, the Gulf of Carpentaria to the north, Carpentaria Shire to the east, Mount Isa to the south and Cloncurry to the southeast.

The deltas of the Albert, Nicholson, Gregory and Leichhardt Rivers and numerous creeks and inlets provide large areas of wetlands. Estuarine crocodiles are numerous. To the south and southwest, particularly around Lawn Hill and the Shire boundaries towards the Mount Isa City side and the Northern Territory, broken, rugged sandstone hills and escarpments with gorges and steep gullies and cliffs are prominent.

5.2 Climate and Weather

The Shire has a dry tropical climate with an identifiable wet and dry season. The wet season extends through the summer months from November to April, with most rain falling in late December to March. The remaining part of the year from May to October is generally dry with less than 15mm of rain per month. The average annual rainfall for Burketown is 915mm.

Burketown is covered by the Mornington Island radar.

5.3 Population

There is a resident population of around 550 people in the Shire. Burketown has a population of around 200 people. The Shire Communities are diverse, with significant indigenous populations as well as town residents and cattle graziers.

The township of Gregory is located near the Gregory River, about 90 minutes' drive south of Burketown. Gregory has a population of around 50 people, and services the surrounding stations and nearby Aboriginal Community of Bidunggu.

With an area of 40,126km² the Shire has a population density of .01 persons per km².

5.4 Vulnerable People

Elderly and infirmed individuals in the community are minimal; these individuals are known to the care providers.

5.5 Community Preparedness

Residents of the Burke Shire are resilient and accustomed to the regular isolation that accompanies the wet season in the area.

5.6 Industry

Industry is predominantly mining, agriculture and tourism.

5.7 Critical Infrastructure

TABLE 5.7.1 CRITICAL INFRASTRUCTURE / SERVICES SUMMARY

Police Station	New police Station in Burketown opened last year
SES Depots	Burketown and Gregory
Rural Fire Brigades	A modern Rural Fire Truck is located in Burketown
Health Facilities	In-patient facilities served by RDFS once a week .

Electricity Supply	Burketown is powered by a diesel-powered generator. The township of Gregory has no mains power and relies on individual generators. Critical facilities are able to operate from auxiliary power if required.				
Water Supply	Water supply across the Shire varies from treated Dam supply to treated artesian supply. Burketown sources its water from the Nicholson River. Gregory sources its water from the Gregory River.				
Sewerage	Across the Shire there is a mixture of sewage and septic systems.				
Public Buildings, Spaces And Events	The Burke Shire has no areas that would be considered high density.				
Roads	From	To	Road	Surface	KM
	Burketown	Gregory	Wills Development Rd	Sealed (120km)	120
	Gregory	Mount Isa	Gregory/Camooweal Rd & Barkly Hwy	Unsealed (220km) Sealed (121km)	341
	Gregory	Mount Isa	Wills Dev Rd/ Burke Dev Rd (Matilda Hwy) Barkly Hwy	Sealed (446km)	446
	Gregory	Burke and Wills	Wills Dev Rd	Sealed (144km)	144
	Burketown	Normanton	Savannah Way	Unsealed (129km) Sealed (92km)	221
	Burketown	Doomadgee	Savannah Way	Sealed (89km)	89
	Burketown	Hells Gate (NT Border)	Savannah Way	Unsealed (100km) Sealed (128km)	228
Airports	<u>BURKETOWN</u>				
	Airport codes:		BUC and YBKT		
	Type:		Local airport (light traffic)		
	Schedule airline service:		Yes		

Latitude:	-17.748600 17 44.916000 S S17 44 54
Longitude:	139.533997 139 32.039795 E E139 32 02
Field elevation:	21 ft/6 m MSL
Magnetic variation:	5.5°E
4,501 x 98 ft (1,372 x 30 m) — paved — lighted	
<u>GREGORY</u>	
Airport codes:	GGD and YGDS
Type:	Local airport (light traffic)
Schedule airline service:	No
Latitude:	-18.625000 18 37.500000 S S18 37 30
Longitude:	139.233002 139 13.980103 E E139 13 58
Field elevation:	52 ft/16 m MSL
3,871 ft (1,180 m) — paved – lighted	
Lighting is not mains power with no back up.	

5.8 Hazardous Sites

Within the Shire boundaries there is a zinc mine and a pipeline. The mine and the pipeline are not situated close to populated areas. The mine is no longer producing product and has minimal staff on site.

5.9 Public Buildings, Spaces and Events

The Burke Shire has no areas that would be considered high density.

5.10 Proposed Future Development

Future development will be in line with the Burke Shire Council Planning Scheme 2020. Key activities identified for the 2023/2024 Financial Year will involve:

- Wharf Precinct
- Health and Wellbeing Precinct

All planning for this development will necessarily take into account flood assessments and studies.

5.11 Neighbour relationships

The Burke Shire has good working relationships with all neighbouring Shires and the Northern Territory.

5.12 Risk Assessment

In Queensland, the Queensland Emergency Risk Management Framework (QERMF), State Planning Policy 2017 and Queensland's Strategy for Disaster Resilience 2017, in alignment with policies at the National level, National Emergency Risk Assessment Guidelines (NERAG) and the Australian Standard AS/NZS ISO 31000:2018 Risk Management- principles and guidelines all contribute to disaster risk reduction.

Risk Assessment	Burke		
	Likelihood	Consequence	Risk
Cyclone	Probable	Major	Extreme
Storm Tide	Possible	Catastrophic	Extreme
Mass Casualty Transport Accident	Possible	Moderate	High
Marine Oil Spill	Possible	Moderate	Moderate
Exotic Disease	Possible	Moderate	Moderate
Terrorist Activity	Very Unlikely	Minor	Low
Space Debris Re-entry	Improbable	Minor	Low
Chemical/Gas Hazards	Very Unlikely	Major	High
Flooding	Certain	Minor	High
Fire-Urban	Probable	Minor	High
Fire-Rural	Probable	Insignificant	Moderate
	Likelihood	Consequence	Risk

Risk Analysis and evaluation

Risk assessments were undertaken for all hazards identified to have any relevance to the area covered by the plan. The likelihood of each hazard was considered on a monthly basis as supported by Bureau of Meteorology records.

There has been no change in risk in relation to any of the hazards described above.

Risk Treatment

There are several ways to treat risks, including

- Avoid or remove the risk
- Implement strategies to decrease the consequences of the risk
- Implement strategies to decrease the likelihood of the risk
- Share the risk (for example, through insurance)
- Transfer the risk through the identification of ownership and associated responsibility
- Accept and retain the risk through informed decision-making

5.13 Increased Risk from Climate Change

Climate change is 'any change in the climate, lasting for several decades or longer, including changes in temperature, rainfall or wind patterns' and, coupled with increased population growth and urban development, is likely to increase exposure and risks to Queensland communities and infrastructure.

Climate change increases the frequency, distribution, duration, and intensity of weather events, which will expose the community to hotter summers, more intense rainfall, flooding, storms and cyclones. An emphasis on understanding the impacts and preparing for them will be integral to mitigating the risks of climate change.

5.14 Residual Risks

Residual risks are the risks that remain after the LDMG has applied the risk mitigation strategies within their capacity, but those strategies have not sufficiently reduced or eliminated the risk. This list is not exhaustive and further residual risks will emerge as the QERMF is progressed.

Issue	Current Capacity	Residual risk	BSC Assistance
Ability to provide place of refuge or evacuation centre	Capacity exists to manage small evacuations of short duration however LDMG has very limited capacity, staffing and resources for: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • a concurrent event, such as Covid19 • evacuation of large numbers, or an entire community, from or into BSC area • concurrently managing multiple places of refuge or evacuation centres 	Request to DDMG for assistance	Very limited

Issue	Current Capacity	Residual risk	BSC Assistance
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> longer duration evacuation 		
Multiple houses damaged resulting in long-term housing needs	<p>Very limited capacity exists to open evacuation centres or use commercial accommodation for short duration.</p> <p>Very Limited capacity exists for longer-term events where multiple properties have been damaged.</p>	Request to DDMG for assistance	Very limited
Asbestos contamination from damaged buildings	External expertise will be required.	Request to DDMG for assistance	Very limited
Mass-casualty events	<p>Very limited capacity within the shire to respond to events with multiple fatalities or multiple serious injuries. External expertise will be required.</p>	Request to DDMG for assistance	Very limited
Widespread or Sustained Loss of Service	<p>BSC has several fixed and mobile generators to service water, wastewater, coordination centre and evacuation centre. Once capacity is exceeded, assistance will be required.</p> <p>Limited capacity exists to operate a LDCC without internet or new Starlink system as phones will also be impacted.</p> <p>Council has also implemented the new Starlink system and Satellite phones are available for</p>	Request to DDMG for assistance	Very limited

Issue	Current Capacity	Residual risk	BSC Assistance
	communication if mobile network is down.		
Exotic animal diseases	Limited capacity exists and assistance will be required to manage and control outbreaks	Request to DDMG for assistance	Very limited
Various public health risks	Professional external EHO assistance will be required	Request to DDMG for assistance	Very limited
Availability of staff and agencies during response and recovery from an event	BSC has trained several staff in the disaster management operations, but staff numbers are very limited, and some critical roles have no experienced contingency. If agencies are not available to the LDMG, assistance will be required from the DDMG to ensure they are engaged.	Request to DDMG for assistance	Very limited
Business continuity management	Many services will need to be suspended to try and focus efforts on critical functions. Fatigue management will be a major factor affecting BSC operations.	Request to DDMG for assistance	Very limited
Loss of coordination centre	Council has two options-Council Board room in hall or training room in Admin building.	Request to DDMG for assistance	Limited

6. PREVENTION STRATEGY

6.1 Prevention

Prevention includes measures to eliminate, mitigate or reduce the likelihood of a disaster occurring, or the severity should it eventuate.

Hazard mitigation is the action taken in advance of a disaster, aimed at eliminating or reducing the impact on the community, economy, infrastructure, and environment.

The implementation of appropriate and targeted mitigation initiatives can offer more sustainable cost savings and result in a safer, more resilient, and sustainable community.

6.2 Community Capacity-Building

The capacity of a community to respond, restore, and adapt to a disaster is key to its resilience.

Members of the LDMG currently work to build the region's capacity through public information and education programs that increase residents', visitors', and businesses natural hazard risk and awareness.

This includes, but is not limited to:

- Council's Disaster Dashboard
- Council's Flood Information Portal (currently under development)
- Council's website and Facebook pages
- Disaster Management preparedness information on Council website
- Disaster and emergency community awareness brochures displayed and available in Council Offices and Libraries
- Qld State Government Get Ready campaign
- QFD Fire and Bushfire Awareness Program
- BOM Weather Warnings and website material.

Such resources are key to a community's short and long-term planning, decision making and action in and around disasters.

6.3 Land Use Planning

Land use planning in areas exposed to natural hazards can significantly reduce disaster risk, the impact of hazards should they arise, and enhance the resilience of existing and future communities. Regulating the use and development of land is a key strategy to avoid risk to life, property and environment, and reduce damage and disruption to the community.

The Burke Shire Council Planning Scheme 2020 provides a framework under the Sustainable Planning Act 2009 for managing development within the region over the next 20 years. The Planning Scheme uses a series of overlays as a means of influencing development to mitigate or reduce the effects of hazards.

6.4 Building Codes, Regulations and Legislation.

The application of building codes and building use regulations ensures buildings and infrastructure are designed and constructed to standards that reduce the likelihood of damage and injury in an event. Standards and codes should be referred to and enforced, particularly for the design and construction of major infrastructure and components of essential services.

6.5 Design Improvements

Design improvements to infrastructure or services can be engineered to provide a greater level of resilience. They can be applied to new infrastructure, to harden existing infrastructure or when considering betterment works during the reconstruction phase. Ensuring the reliability of critical infrastructure and services supports the communities social and economic wellbeing.

6.6 Continuous Improvement

The practice of continuous improvement involves disaster management processes and arrangements being regularly evaluated and improved to ensure they remain fit for purpose, efficient, effective, and flexible.

6.7 Insurance

In a disaster there is significant impact on the whole community caused by under insured and non-insured properties. It is considered that this is an issue for the insurance industry and the State Government with input from the Local Group through its members.

6.8 Community Preparedness and Capacity-Building.

Disaster resilience can be defined as "a system or community's ability to rapidly accommodate and recover from the impacts of hazards, restore essential structures and desired functionality, and adapt to new circumstance".

Section 30 of the Act requires the LDMG to ensure the community is aware of ways of mitigating the adverse effects of an event and preparing for, responding to and recovering from a disaster.

LDMGs and DDMGs have a joint responsibility to ensure their community is as prepared and resilient for potential events as available resources will allow. It is important to acknowledge that hazards and community characteristics may be similar across local government and media broadcast areas will routinely overlap local government boundaries. In recognition of these facts, LDMGs should identify opportunities for consistent messaging, joint programs and commonalities in conjunction with the relevant DDMG.

The LDMG can also add to community awareness by identifying and consulting on consistencies and inconsistencies across local, district and State boundaries. Local government areas that border on State boundaries may wish to coordinate consistent community awareness programs with their jurisdictional neighbours.

LDMG's should develop a community awareness program targeted at addressing the specific needs of the local communities through:

- community awareness events
- joint projects and opportunities for community engagement: and

- Social marketing projects.

Public information is that information which is passed on to the public prior to, during, and after, a Disaster, such as warnings and directions.

Disaster Management information will be passed to radio and television media for dissemination to the public of as directed by the Controlling Authority. However, where there is insufficient time for this means of dissemination, it will be necessary to inform the public directly and this will become a task for the LDMG.

All outside media inquiries are to be directed to the Chairperson or their delegate.

The Burke Shire Council will ensure that public education material in relation to natural hazard events is available on the Council website on a page specifically dedicated to Local Disaster Management.

Prior to the onset of the traditional wet season additional public education will be undertaken by the State Emergency Service and Queensland Fire and Rescue. The focus of this education will be school aged children.

During flood events the Shire will work closely with media to ensure that the condition of roads in the Shire is widely disseminated, this will assist in reducing the number of persons becoming stranded in the town and on roads in the Shire.

6.8.1 Training

Disaster management training is one of the activities undertaken to maintain or enhance the QDMA.

The Queensland Disaster Management Training Framework (QDMTF) developed by QFES forms the basis of disaster management training in Queensland. QFES delivers the training and maintains records of it using a learning management system. It is their responsibility to ensure LDMG agency representatives are appropriately trained to undertake their role.

It is expected that all Burke Shire LDMG stakeholders will complete the mandatory courses specific to their role within a twelve-month period of commencement in that role.

Each LDMG agency is responsible for ensuring that staff working in an operational environment have received appropriate training, in particular for those roles identified for in the QDMTF.

Council provides training to LDMG agency representatives in the use of the LDCC incident management software. It is expected that LDCC liaison officers undertake relevant training to enable them to complete tasks, provide input to situation reports and access shared information.

6.9 Exercises

The LDMG has the responsibility to conduct disaster management exercises with each individual agency to ensure they have exercised and practiced procedures. QFES will be utilised to facilitate exercises conducted for groups in the disaster management arrangements.

A hot debrief will be conducted immediately following the exercise. The debrief will be conducted in the format of SWOT:

- **S**trengths: characteristics of the team that give it an advantage over others
- **W**eaknesses: are characteristics that place the team at a disadvantage relative to others
- **O**pportunities: external chances to improve performance in the environment
- **T**hreats: external elements in the environment that could cause trouble for the team.

Any issues identified should be noted and recorded against one or more of the P²OST²E categories, depending on your perception of the reason behind the issue identified.

People	roles, responsibilities and accountabilities, skills
Process	includes plans, policies, procedure, processes
Organisation	structure and jurisdiction
Support	infrastructure, facilities, maintenance
Technology	equipment, systems, standards, interoperability, security
Training	capability qualifications/skill levels, identify courses required
Exercise Management	exercise development, structure, management, conduct

6.10 Post Disaster Assessment

Following any operational activity, the LDMG will meet to identify and adopt any lessons that can be learnt from the actions taken during the response to continuously improve the LDMP. The LDMP has been delegated the role of continually reviewing and assessing the effectiveness of disaster management. Immediately following an event an initial HOT debrief will be conducted as detailed in the Exercises heading. A post full post event review will be conducted with the results including any corrective actions to be disseminated to the LDMG members and the XO of the District Group.

Preparedness activities are designed to increase the capability of communities in order to reduce the impact of disasters. Examples of preparedness activities include:

- Developing and implementing community awareness programs
- Developing effective information management and collection of historical data events
- Developing concise and effective community communications methods
- Ensuring that accurate and current plans are in place

The post-debrief process is designed to identify improvements in relation to the conduct of the operation.

The report from the post-event analysis may make recommendations regarding how disaster management is delivered within the QDMA.

6.11 Lessons Management

The Queensland Disaster Management Lessons Management Framework refers to lessons management as the collecting, analysing, disseminating, and applying learning experiences from events, exercises, programs and reviews.

The learnings from exercises and operations are to be consolidated into a recommendations action plan for endorsement and implementation.

Following the Lesson Management process, the Local Group may need to consider issues for resolution or may need to refer an issue to the District Group for advice or resolution.

6.12 Queensland Strategy for Disaster Resilience

Queensland is the most disaster impacted state in Australia. By necessity, Queenslanders are renowned for their resilience and ability to adapt, with a strong community spirit that supports those in need to withstand and recover.

The preparedness and resilience of individuals and communities is a shared responsibility of all sectors, including all levels of government, business, NGOs and individuals. Disaster resilience is significantly increased by proactive planning and preparation for the protection of life, property and environment through an awareness of hazards, associated risks and local disaster management arrangements.

The [Queensland Strategy for Disaster Resilience](#) is the guiding instrument for realizing the vision to make Queensland the most disaster resilient state in Australia and is underpinned by four key objectives:

- Queenslanders understand their disaster risk
- Strengthened disaster risk management
- Queenslanders are invested in disaster risk reduction
- Continuous improvement in disaster preparedness.

6.13 Get Ready Queensland Initiative

The LDMG has undertaken a series of community forums, presentations, displays and community awareness days as part of promoting the annual Get Ready Queensland initiatives. These community engagement programs build resilience in preparation for seasonal hazards (storms, bushfires, floods, etc.) and empower the community to understand their local risks and prepare themselves, their families, homes and businesses. The Get Ready Queensland program promotes three steps to Get Ready:

6.13.1 Understand your risk

Queenslanders are impacted by more natural disasters than anyone else in Australia. Everyone's disaster risk is different as natural hazards are largely determined by location. Other hazards such as pandemic and heatwave can happen to anyone at any time. It's important to know your disaster risks so you can be prepared. Being ready will help reduce the impact of a disaster on yourself, your loved ones, home, family, finances, and business. The first step to being ready is to find out what, when, and where a disaster might happen, how severe it could potentially be, and if you would be affected.

6.13.2 Prepare a Household Emergency Plan

A household emergency plan ensures everyone in the household knows exactly what to do in an emergency. It is designed to keep household members connected and safe in the event you become separated and/or you lose mobile phone connectivity.

You will need to consider the hazards that could affect your home and community. Depending on where you live, there may be some obvious ones like bushfires or severe storms.

Consider also the possible resulting effects of a disaster such as extended power outages, disruption to transport services and the potential for your home and/or community becoming. Think about where you might go if you weren't able to go home, or you had to leave home because of a disaster.

Know where to get information before, during and after a disaster:

- listen to local radio — ABC Radio is the national carrier and there are several local broadcasters depending on your location.
- follow rolling updates on the Disaster Dashboard
- follow BSC on Facebook and Instagram
- watch BoM weather and warning updates.

You might want to involve your neighbours in developing your plan — neighbours who are elderly or have special needs may need your assistance. It is important to take the time to get to know your neighbours so that your community is prepared to help each other. Remember to consider what you will do with your pets and animals.

You can complete your own tailored household emergency and evacuation plan.

6.13.3 Pack an Emergency Pack

Disasters can cause major disruptions to essential services like power and water, and access to supermarkets and pharmacies for crucial supplies. Preparing your household emergency and evacuation kits early is the third step you need to take to Get Ready.

A household emergency kit contains items you may need if you have to stay in your home when essential services have been cut off. An evacuation kit includes the additional items you may need if you have to evacuate your home. These kits should be stored in an easy-to-reach place that is known to all family members.

6.14 Disaster Dashboard

The BSC Disaster Dashboard is a one-stop-shop for weather warnings, road closures, power outages, evacuation centres, helpful contacts and links to useful disaster-related information and social media.

7. DISASTER RESPONSE

The Act defines disaster response as:

The taking of appropriate measures to respond to an event, including action taken and measures planned in anticipation of, during, and immediately after an event to ensure that its effects are minimised and that persons affected by the event are given immediate relief and support".

The principal purpose of emergency response is the preservation of life, property, and the environment.

8. WARNING NOTIFICATION AND DISSEMINATION

LDMG members will receive warning products via a number of means.

The DDC will receive notification directly from the State Disaster Coordination Centre (SDCC) and internally through Queensland Police Service Communication Centres and will ensure the dissemination of warnings to vulnerable LDMGs within the district.

The LDC and a number of agencies will also receive warnings directly from the Bureau of Meteorology (Brisbane). The BSCLDMG will be notified by the LDC and may also receive notification

from internal agency central offices. LDMG members will receive warning products via a number of means including text messaging, email and/or direct phone calls.

Details regarding responsibility for notification processes within LDMG member agencies are detailed in respective agency plans. Agency plans will include detailed contact registers to achieve dissemination of warnings.

The process for the notification and dissemination of warning products is not a function dependent on the activation of the LDMG. It is the responsibility of LDMG Executives and nominated Members, Advisors and Deputies regardless of the status of activation of the LDMG, to ensure that the appropriate persons (as per their respective plans) are notified of this information.

9. ACTIVATION OF LDMG

The Burke Shire has access to the staff and equipment to deal with many events that threaten the Shire. Widespread damage or multiple events would require the resources of the Shire to be supplemented by the district group.

Burke has predominantly activated for flooding in the past. Due to the nature of the flooding, there is a considerable lean forward phase where flooding can be reasonably predicted. In the event of incident with little or no warning and widespread damage (earthquake or severe storm) local emergency response agencies would be quickly overwhelmed. In this case additional resources would be requested from Mount Isa.

During major or prolonged flooding, the LDMG may need to request a resupply of essential good for the Burketown and /or Gregory Downs Township.

The Burke Shire has the capability to manage events that occur in the Shire on a regular basis, these include minor to moderate flooding, fires with minimal structural damage and short duration storms

Larger scale events in the Shire or multiple events would require the support of outside agencies. The Shire has the capacity to effect small scale evacuations however larger scale evacuation with prolonged shelter phases would require assistance from outside of the Shire.

While the Shire has access to a range of services it recognises the limitations within these services. An example of this is lack of a surgical facility in the Shire.

Events that would be beyond the capacity of the Shire would include, but not be limited to:

- Flash flooding of significant dwellings,
- Earthquake with multiple structural failures,
- Exotic animal disease,
- Events that require long term housing for evacuated persons, and
- Events with multiple fatalities or multiple serious injuries.

Timely activation of the LDMG is critical. The LDMG will activate in response to an actual or threatened disaster that will have significant community consequences and requires a coordinated response and/or recovery effort.

The decision to activate is based upon defined triggers and the perceived level of threat.

The authority to activate the LDMG is at the discretion of the LDMG Chair based on the nature and scale of the event. The LDMG Chair will consult with the full membership where time permits.

10.1 Activation Criteria

The local disaster management system, involving the LDMG, may be activated for several reasons. The following decision criteria should be employed. If yes is answered to any of the questions the LDMG should be activated.

- Is there a perceived need relative to an impending hazard that requires multi-agency coordination?
- Has there been a request from a response agency to provide resources and coordination in support of operations?
- Has there has been a request/direction from the DDC to activate the LDMG?
- Has there been a sudden impact that requires involvement of the LDMG in one or more phases of PPRR?

10.2 Notification Process

The LDMG Chair and LDC will maintain situational awareness in relation to events that have the potential to require the activation of the disaster management system. When a decision is made to activate the LDMG, the appropriate activation level will be determined and communicated to LDMG members.

The initial LDMG meeting will be scheduled, and additional meetings where necessary.

The DDC will be advised verbally and in writing that the LDMG has activated.

This LDMP will be automatically invoked and the LDC will invoke associated sub-plans required by the nature and scale of the event.

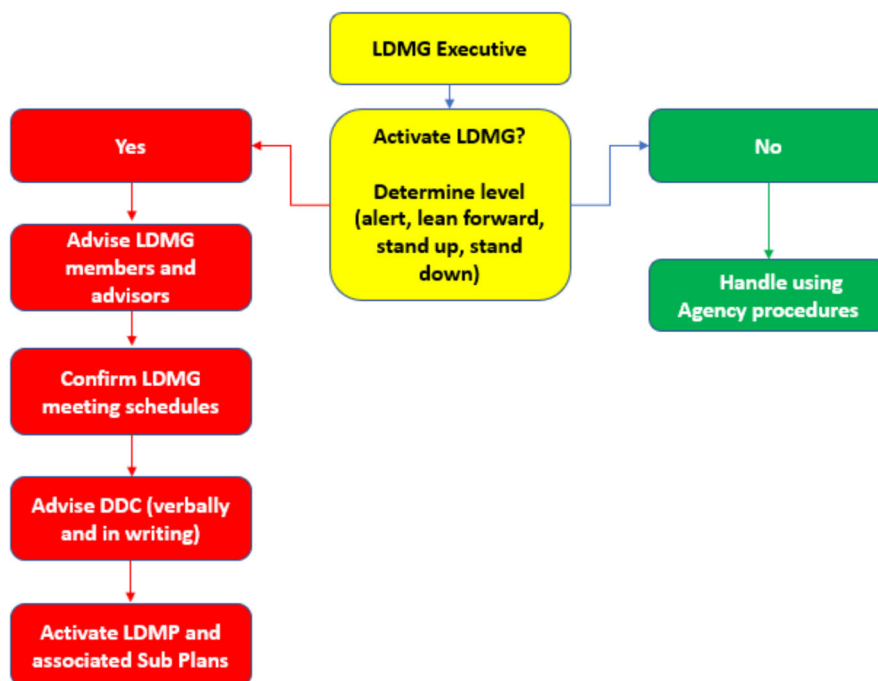


FIGURE 6: NOTIFICATION FLOWCHART

10.3 Activation Levels

	Triggers	Actions	Communications
Alert	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Awareness of a hazard that has been the potential to affect the local government area 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Hazard & risks identified Information sharing with warning agency LDC contacts QFES Initial advice to all stakeholders 	Chair and LDC on mobile remotely
Lean Forward	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> There is a likelihood that threat may affect local government area Threat is quantified but may not yet be imminent Need for public awareness LDMG is now to manage the event 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> QFES and LDC conduct analysis of predictions Chair and LDC on watching brief Confirm level & potential of threat Check all contact details Commence cost capturing Conduct meeting with available LDMG Council staff prepare for operations Determine trigger point to stand up Prepare LDCC for operations Establish regular communications with warning agency First briefing core members of the LDMG LDC advises DDC of lean forward & establishes regular contact Warning orders to response agencies Public information & warning initiated 	Chair, LDC and LDMG members on mobile and monitoring email remotely Ad-hoc reporting

	Triggers	Actions	Communications
Alert	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Awareness of a hazard that has been the potential to affect the local government area 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Hazard & risks identified Information sharing with warning agency LDC contacts QFES Initial advice to all stakeholders 	Chair and LDC on mobile remotely
Lean Forward	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> There is a likelihood that threat may affect local government area Threat is quantified but may not yet be imminent Need for public awareness LDMG is now to manage the event 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> QFES and LDC conduct analysis of predictions Chair and LDC on watching brief Confirm level & potential of threat Check all contact details Commence cost capturing Conduct meeting with available LDMG Council staff prepare for operations Determine trigger point to stand up Prepare LDCC for operations Establish regular communications with warning agency First briefing core members of the LDMG LDC advises DDC of lean forward & establishes regular contact Warning orders to response agencies Public information & warning initiated 	Chair, LDC and LDMG members on mobile and monitoring email remotely Ad-hoc reporting

	Triggers	Actions	Communications
Stand Up	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Threat is imminent • Community will be or has been impacted • Need for coordination in LDCC • Requests for support received by LDMG agencies or to the LDCC • The response requires coordination 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Meeting of LDMG Core Group • LDCC activated • Rosters for LDCC planned implemented • Commence operational plans • Local Government shifts to disaster operations • LDMG takes full control • SOPs activated • Core group of LDMG located in LDCC • Commence SITREPs to DDMG • Distribute contact details • DDMG advised of potential requests for support 	<p>LDCC contact through established land lines and generic email addresses</p> <p>Chair, LDC and LDMG members present at LDCC, on established land lines and / or mobiles, monitoring emails</p>
Stand Down	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No requirement for coordinated response • Community has returned to normal function • Recovery taking place 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Final checks for outstanding requests • Implement plan to transition to recovery • Debrief of staff in LDCC • Debrief with LDMG members • Consolidate financial records • Hand over to Recovery Coordinator for reporting • Return to local government core business • Final situation report sent to DDMG 	<p>LDMG members involved in recovery operations resume standard business and after hours contact arrangements</p>

The movement of disaster management groups through this escalation phase is not necessarily sequential, rather is based on flexibility and adaptability to the location and event. Activation does not necessarily mean the convening of the LDMG, rather the provision of information to group members regarding the risks associated with a pending hazard impact.

In particular, the LDCC is responsible for the:

- Analysis of probable future requirements and forward planning including preliminary investigations to aid the response to potential requests for assistance.

- Implementation of operational decisions of the LDC;
- Advice of additional resources required to the DDMG; and
- Provision of prompt and relevant information to the DDMG concerning any disaster event occurring within their district.

The LDC has overall responsibility for the establishment and operation of the LDCC. The LDC should ensure appropriate levels of staff are identified and trained in operation of the LDCC. LDCC training would form a component of the LDMG training program. To support the operation of the LDCC, Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) should be developed and utilised to inform training.

10.4 Response Priorities

The response phase involves appropriate measures to respond to an event, including action taken and measures planned in anticipation of, during, and immediately after an event to ensure that its effects are minimised, and that people affected by the event are given immediate relief and support.

These priorities apply to any response, in order of priority:

- Preservation of life.
- Protection of critical infrastructure and property.
- Safeguard the economy.
- Protect the environment.

10.5 Response Principles

The LDMG will:

- activate early to prepare and plan for the response and coordination of disaster operations
- work closely with the responsible lead agency and the DDMG to manage and coordinate disaster operations
- provide early and consistent warnings, alerts, and public information
- ensure coordinated disaster operations and response activities
- ensure resources are accessed and used effectively
- provide support to meet community needs
- provide situational reporting.

The LDMG will ensure the responsible lead agency is supported by the disaster management system. The responsible lead agencies for each hazard can be found in the [State Disaster Management Plan](#) (pages 47–78).

10.6 Responsible Lead Agencies

The LDMG will ensure the responsible lead agency is supported by the disaster management system. The responsible lead agencies for each hazard can be found in the [State Disaster Management Plan](#) (pages 47–78).

10.7 SES – partnerships

The SES is a vital part of the QDMA, providing a response capability on behalf of the LDMG to assist communities in times of disaster or emergency situations. State and Local Governments maintain an important partnership in assisting SES volunteers to provide a valuable volunteer emergency service to their local communities.

The functions of the SES are to:

- Perform search and rescue or similar operations.
- Help injured persons or protect persons or property from danger or potential danger; and
- Conduct other activities to help communities prepare for, respond to, and recover from an event or disaster.

The SES also provides valuable assistance to other emergency service agencies in disaster or emergency situations.

The SES Local Controller should ideally be a member of the LDMG and will be able to assist with planning and procedures surrounding activation and operations of SES groups in local government areas.

10.8 Disaster Declaration

In accordance with section 64(1) of the Act, the DDC may, with the Minister's approval, declare a disaster situation for the district, or a part of it, if satisfied that a disaster has happened, is happening or is likely to happen, in the disaster district or it is necessary, or reasonably likely to be necessary, for the DDC or a declared disaster officer to exercise declared disaster powers to prevent or minimise:

- loss of human life
- illness or injury to humans
- property loss or damage
- damage to the environment.

The DDC is to take reasonable steps to consult with every local government in, or partly in, the proposed declared area before declaring a disaster. As outlined in sections 75 to 78 of the Act, the declaration confers extra powers on groups to perform actions, give directions and control movements within the declared area.

The declaration of a disaster situation relates to the situational requirement for additional powers and is not linked to the activation of disaster management groups under the QDMA or the activation of disaster financial assistance arrangements. All three actions are independent processes and are not interlinked or conditional. The declaration of a disaster does not impact the requirements of a local government under the Act to manage disaster operations in their area.

10.9 Activation of the Local Disaster Co-ordination Centre (LDCC)

The multi-agency response to the event is coordinated from the LDCC. The primary LDCC is located at the Coordination Centre in the Burketown Administration Centre.

10.10 Public Information & Warnings

When an event is imminent, it is essential the public are warned of the danger and provided with information and advice on recommended actions. The key objective is to deliver accurate, clear, timely information and advice to the public, so they feel confident, safe, and well informed, and are aware of any recommended actions. Warnings will be consistent with the Australian Warning System. Refer to the Public Information & Warnings Sub Plan for further information.




10.11 Warning Notification and Dissemination

Burke Shire has very good established communications systems to the community and due to the size of the community is very connected to the community in both towns as well as the rural areas.

Burke Shire has adopted the Australian Warnings System and has developed template warnings for flooding, it is not anticipated that warnings will be issued for severe storm as there is very minimal radar coverage of the area and it is unlikely sufficient notice will be given to allow for a warning to be issued.

The use of Emergency Alert is considered minimal due to the small size of the communities therefore pre populated EA campaigns are not considered however can be developed ad-hoc. Coverage of rural properties by EA would be considered negligible due to no mobile coverage.

10.12 Australian Warning System When to Warn: Riverine and Flash Flooding

Level		Actions	Context
Advice		Stay informed	There is confidence that flooding is possible and people need to know where they can go to stay informed about the flooding situation.
		Prepare now for possible flooding	Flooding is likely but evacuation might not be necessary at this stage. People need to get ready to be flooded.
		Return safely (<i>de-escalating</i>)	The flooding has gone down enough for people to go back to their homes and businesses but alerts them to the dangers left behind by the flood.
Watch and Act		Prepare to leave	People are likely to be flooded and they need to get ready to leave for their own safety, either from flooding or extended isolation.
		Move to higher ground	Flooding has started and people in those places need to move to higher ground to be safe. This template will usually apply to a small area (i.e., several streets) rather than a town or whole suburb/s.
		Avoid the area (<i>de-escalating</i>)	The flood has peaked and/or is starting to go down but the area is dangerous and must be avoided. It fills the anxious information void and lets people know they're not alone and the situation is being monitored.
Emergency Warning		Leave by XX:XX (AM or PM)	You are confident that areas will be flooded inside buildings and it would be safer for people in those areas to leave. There is time to move people safely.
		Take shelter now (<i>flash flood template</i>)	Flooding has increased significantly and people in some areas need to do more than find higher ground to be safe.
		Leave immediately	You are confident that areas will be flooded inside buildings very soon. It is safest for people to leave.
		Too dangerous to leave	People who did not 'leave by' or 'leave immediately' are now should stay where they are because all evacuation routes are cut off.

Burke Shire will utilise social media and direct contact to disseminate the AWS products.

10.13 Situation Report (SITREP)

During operational activity the LDMG, through the operation of the LDCC, will be responsible for the preparation and distribution of SITREPs. Situation reports are aimed to capture accurate information from the day's operations through communicating a current and forecast situation during a disaster event.

The LDMG will need to ensure regular and accurate information is received from operational areas to inform operational response, forward planning and the contents of the LDMG SITREP. The production of SITREPs takes time and effort and LDMGS will need to consider the allocation of appropriate staff in the LDCC to compile the SITREP.

If a disaster event requires the activation of a DDCC, the LDMG will be required to develop a SITREP to be forwarded regularly from the LDCC to the DDCC. If an event is contained within a local government area and has not progressed to DDCC activation, the DDMG will still have activated to 'lean forward' level and the DDC may still request LDMG SITREPS to monitor and assess the situation. The nature of the disaster and the involvement of the DDMG will determine the timings, complexity and format of the SITREP for a given event.

10.14 Tasking Log

It is recommended that a tasking log be used during activations to record actions taken and the responsible agency or officer. It is anticipated that the log will be used by the LDC or in larger operations the Tasking or Operations Officer in the LDCC. A tasking log may contain details of:

- The specific operational task to be undertaken
- The date and time of commencement of the task
- The agency and responsible officer to which the task has been delegated
- Relevant contact details
- The date and time of completion of the task
- Actions taken and contextual comments.

The use of a tasking log will ensure that planned operational contingencies have been executed. Tasking logs should be treated as official records and should be stored and archived appropriately to provide information to any post-event review.

10.15 Evacuation

The safety of residents is the primary driver for evacuation. Evacuation carries risks to those being evacuated and emergency personnel managing the evacuation. Consideration must be given to the risks associated with the conduct of any evacuation. Under some circumstances, sheltering in place may provide greater safety for the community. Refer to the Evacuation Sub-Plan for further information.

10.16 Financial Management

Due to the nature of many disaster situations, finance operations will often be conducted with compressed time constraints and other pressures, necessitating the use of non-routine procedures. This in no way lessens the requirement for sound financial management and accountability.

The LDMG should predetermine event-related financial management arrangements to ensure costs are appropriately endorsed and captured from the onset of operations. The LDC, consultation with the LDMG Executive Team, is responsible for establishing and maintaining financial management procedures for the LDCC. Each support agency is responsible for providing their own financial services and support to its response operations relevant to their agency.

10.17 Authority to expend funds.

Each participating agency should predetermine the type and limit of expenditure permitted. (Individual expense and cumulative expense) by their group members without further reference to senior management.

This also includes predetermining management processes for the expeditious financial authorisation of support and relief staff, as may be required. Document management

When an event occurs, each participating agency should immediately begin accounting for personnel and equipment costs relating to disaster operations. Reimbursement is not an automatic process and requires solid evidence of disaster-related expenditure. Care and attention to detail must be taken throughout the disaster operations period to maintain logs, formal records and file copies of all expenditure (including personnel timesheets), in order to provide clear and reasonable accountability and justifications for future audit and potential reimbursement purposes. The LDMG will ensure that expenditure is in line with LG procurement processes.

10.18 Document management

When an event occurs, each participating agency should immediately begin accounting for personnel and equipment costs relating to disaster operations. Reimbursement is not an automatic process and requires solid evidence of disaster-related expenditure. Care and attention to detail must be taken throughout the disaster operations period to maintain logs, formal records and file copies of all expenditure (including personnel timesheets), in order to provide clear and reasonable accountability and justifications for future audit and potential reimbursement purposes. The LDMG will ensure that expenditure is in line with LG procurement processes.

10.19 Public Health

A major disaster may cause significant disruption to the community. Water supplies, sewage treatment, waste disposal, and access to safe food may be compromised.

10.20 Logistics

Timely acquisition and deployment of services and supplies is critical to the efficient response to and recovery from disaster event. When local resources have been exhausted or are inadequate, requests for assistance outside the BSC area are directed to the DDC. External assistance requests are coordinated by the LDC on behalf of the LDMG. Refer to the Logistics Sub-Plan for more information.

10.21 Resilient Communications

A Resilient Communication Sub-Plan details the procedures for invoking an alternative communication system in the event of failure of the landline, mobile and internet networks

10.22 Damage Assessment

Following a disaster, damage assessments will determine the extent of the area affected, the damage to homes, infrastructure and essential services, and the level of hardship being experienced in the community. QFD have responsibility for undertaking damage assessment of structures however all agencies are able to contribute to damage assessments through operational reporting (i.e. dam owners on storage levels, QPS on missing people, Queensland Health on people requiring hospitalisation / medical treatment and BSC on damage to infrastructure).

10.23 Accessing Support and Allocating Resources

Incidents, events, emergencies, and disasters of local or regional scope which can be managed using regional resources are to be coordinated and managed by ICC's and the LDCC.

Requests for support may come from lead agencies, supporting agencies or the community. These requests must be acted on in accordance with the standard operating procedures for Council's LDCC.

Support may be sourced from the following entities:

- Member agencies preferred suppliers as per the list of suppliers held by that agency's procurement unit.
- All emergency service providers both government and non-government agencies.
- Through the agency liaison officers or via the usual member agency procedures.
- The SDCC or the DDC may allocate and push resources forward to the region during an event even though resources have not been requested by the LDC. The staging and reception of these resources will require planning and coordination in conjunction with the LDC.
- Should support as described above, be withdrawn for whatever reason, the agencies should advise the LDC immediately.

Through businesses and community groups for additional resources.

When the LDMG requires logistics support and/or resources to meet operational requirements that are beyond local capacity and capability, it sends a request for assistance to the District Disaster Coordination Centre (DDCC).

At times, administrative boundaries may separate resources from affected communities. In planning, the LDMG considers resources in other local government areas in addition to those available locally.

The LDCC will maintain communication with local governments that share a boundary with the area.

10.24 Disaster Financial Assistance Arrangements

There are two sets of financial arrangements which, if activated by the Minister, provide financial support to Queensland communities impacted by a disaster event through the reimbursement of eligible expenditure:

<https://www.qra.qld.gov.au/funding-programs>

Disaster Recovery Funding arrangements (DRFA)

The DRFA is a joint funding initiative of the Australian and State governments to provide disaster relief and recovery payments and infrastructure restoration to help communities recover from the effects of eligible disaster events. In Queensland, this program is managed on a whole of government basis by the Queensland Reconstruction Authority (QRA).

The Disaster Recovery Funding Arrangements 2018 (Australian Government) outlines the activation process for DRFA and includes a table of relief measures and activation criteria.

State Disaster relief Arrangements (SDRA)

The SDRA is an all-hazards relief program that is 100 per cent State funded and covers natural and nonnatural disasters. The purpose of the SDRA is to address personal hardship and community response needs for disaster events where the DRFA is unable to be activated. SDRA relief measures for Personal Hardship Assistance Scheme and Counter Disaster Operations are the same relief measures that are activated under the DRFA, as detailed above.

The Director-General of the Department of the Premier and Cabinet (supported by QRA) is responsible for activating the SDRA. The Queensland Disaster Funding Guidelines (QDFG) 2021 outlines the activation, eligibility and other requirements for both the DRFA and SDRA within Queensland.

10. RECOVERY STRATEGY

11.1 Definition of Recovery

In accordance with the Queensland Recovery Plan, disaster recovery is defined as the coordinated process of supporting disaster-affected communities' psychosocial (emotional and social), and physical wellbeing; reconstruction of physical infrastructure; and economic and environmental restoration (including regeneration of the natural environment, associated infrastructure and heritage sites and structures, and the management of pollution and contamination).

11.2 Context for Recovery

The need for recovery may arise from a range of natural and non-natural disasters, often providing an opportunity to rebuild a stronger, more resilient community.

Recovery begins shortly after the response phase and the impact has been identified. Recovery can be a long, challenging, and complex process and is often considered the most resource-intensive and protracted element within the PPRR framework.

Recovery is not a retrospective process, but a process that focuses on building a recovered community. While funded recovery programs under the Disaster Recovery Funding Arrangements have a two-year life span, it is recognised that the time it takes for a community to recover will vary based on the impact of the event and the individuals in the community.

11.3 Appointment of Local Recovery Coordinator (LRC)

An appropriately qualified and authorised person has been appointed by the CEO of BSC as the LRC to coordinate and facilitate local recovery operations. The LRC and the LDC liaise regularly to ensure response operations support the recovery effort and the LRC has good situational awareness to

ensure their disaster recovery planning is relevant to the community. Indicative duties of the LRC include:

- liaising with lead agency representatives at the local and district levels
- liaising with the DDMG
- working with identified agencies and the community to develop the event-specific recovery plan
- coordinating short- to medium-term recovery to address immediate effects and develop longer-term measures
- ensuring the event-specific recovery plan addresses functional areas of recovery — human and social,
- economic, environment, building, and roads and transport
- performing the role of conduit between community and government
- developing and implementing strategies for community participation and partnership in the recovery process
- providing advice to the State Government on the needs and responses of affected individuals, community and other sectors
- undertaking a post-operation debrief and providing a final report to the LDMG at the conclusion of recovery operations
- providing or delegating the responsibility for ongoing recovery reporting on the progress of the event specific recovery plan.

11.4 Activation of LDMG Recovery Group

The LDMG will consider the impact of the disaster during the response phase. If the event is of sufficient magnitude, the LDMG may decide to activate its Recovery Group. The Recovery Group is likely to be activated when:

- an event results in significant loss or damage is sustained and impacts the community, economy,
- environment and/or infrastructure
- an event creates significant disruption to the community's connectedness, or overwhelms local resources or the capacity of the community to cope or recover independently
- the LDMG determines has ongoing impacts and requires a coordinated and collaborative multi-agency approach to recovery
- requested to activate by the DDMG.

The LDMG Recovery Group is chaired by a BSC Councillor and is responsible for coordinating recovery activities and ensuring recovery efforts are implemented across the region. A Terms of Reference can be adapted to the specific circumstances of the event.

11.5 Local Levels of Activation for recovery Arrangements

Response Alert	Triggers	Actions	Communications	
Response Lean Forward	Recovery Alert	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Response phase at 'lean forward' level of activation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Appointment of LRC as appropriate ▪ Potential actions and risks identified ▪ Information sharing commences ▪ LRC in contact with LDCC/LDC ▪ Initial advice to all recovery stakeholders 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ LRC and LRG members on mobile remotely
Response Stand Up	Recovery Lean Forward	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Response phase at 'stand up' level of activation ▪ Immediate relief arrangements are required during response phase 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Monitoring of response arrangements ▪ Analysis of hazard impact or potential impact ▪ Relief and recovery planning commences ▪ Deployments for immediate relief commenced by recovery functional agencies 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ LRC and LRG members on mobile and monitoring email remotely ▪ Ad hoc reporting
Response Stand Down	Recovery Stand Up	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Immediate relief arrangements continue ▪ Response phase moves to 'stand down' level of activation. Medium term recovery commences. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ LRG activated at LDCC or alternate location ▪ Recovery plan activated ▪ Deployments for immediate relief response ▪ Action plans for four functions of recovery activated as required ▪ Community information strategy employed ▪ Participate in response debrief ▪ Transition arrangements from 'response and recovery' to 'recovery' activated including handover from LDC to LRC ▪ Action plans for four functions of recovery continue ▪ Community information strategies continue 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ LRC and LRG members present at LDCC or alternate location, on established land lines and/or mobiles, monitoring emails ▪ LRC and LRG members involved in medium term recovery continue as required ▪ Regular reporting to LDMG/LDC

Recovery Stand Down	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ LRG arrangements are finalised. Community returns to normal activities with ongoing support as required. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Consolidate financial records ▪ Reporting requirements finalised ▪ Participate in recovery debrief ▪ Participate in post event debrief ▪ Post event review and evaluation ▪ Long term recovery arrangements transferred to functional lead agencies ▪ Return to core business 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ LRC and LRG members resume standard business and after hours contact arrangements ▪ Functional lead agencies report to LRC/LRG as required
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11.6 Local or District Recovery Group Structure

	Human and Social	Economic	Environment	Building	Roads and Transport
Role	To lead and coordinate planning and implementation of the human-social function of recovery.	To lead and coordinate planning and implementation of the economic function of recovery.	To lead and coordinate planning and implementation of the environmental function of recovery.	To lead and coordinate planning and implementation of the infrastructure function of recovery.	To lead and coordinate planning and implementation of the infrastructure function of recovery
Responsibilities	Coordinate the human-social function of local/district recovery operations.	Coordinate the economic function of local/district recovery operations.	Coordinate the environmental function of local/district recovery operations.	Coordinate the building function of local/district recovery operations.	Coordinate the roads and transport function of local/district recovery operations.
	Liaise with relevant response and recovery bodies and organisations.	Assess and monitor impact on economic viability, key economic assets including employment issues and capacity of local businesses to operate.	Assess event impacts on the environment, ecosystem services, natural resources, and Environmentally Relevant Activities.	Liaise with the Insurance Council of Australia to ensure the declaration of the general insurance industry Catastrophe Coordination Arrangements and to identify nominated ICA representative.	Work with all sectors/stakeholders to determine prioritisation of works
	Work with affected communities and interest groups to support their involvement in the decision-making process.	Facilitate business, industry and regional economic recovery and renewal.	Support and advise on environmental and ESD aspects of clean up and recovery operations.	Coordinate building safety inspection services, secure damaged buildings and structures and coordinate demolition/repair and rebuilding	Work with affected communities and interest groups to support their involvement in the decision making process
	Coordinate the human-social component of recovery, and report to the SRC (when appointed) on long-term recovery.	Develop industry and business recovery plan and implementation strategies in conjunction with local government, relevant State Government agencies, regional economic development organisations and industry bodies.	Coordinate the restoration or betterment of pre-event statutory environmental protections.	Coordinate the assessment of damage to housing stock, commercial and industrial buildings, rural structures, and infrastructure facilities.	Ensure risk reduction is considered in planning for rebuilding and reconstruction.
	Support planning and delivery of individual and community services to assist with recovery including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Personal support and material assistance • Community development • Psychological first aid • Referrals to appropriate specialist services • Accommodation support • Information and referral • Advocacy • Financial assistance 	Facilitate business assistance, access to funds and loans and employer subsidies.	Coordinate the restoration and/or natural recovery of environmental assets.	Work with all sectors/stakeholders to determine prioritisation of works.	
		Where required, facilitate linkages with job providers and employment agencies to source labour, re-establish supply chains and joint marketing activities	Support the assessment and recovery of impacted cultural heritage places and values.	Assist with development of options for temporary accommodation	
		Develop a strategy to maximise use of local resources during clean up and restoration activities.	Support rural recovery Programs to deliver long-term environmental and socio-economic benefits.	Assist with development of a coordinated approach to housing related strategies	

	Human and Social	Economic	Environment	Building	Roads and Transport
		Support small to medium enterprise (e.g., referrals, business assistance).	Support actions to create landscape buffers and increase natural environment resilience to future events.	Coordinate restoration of sporting facilities and public playgrounds.	
		Identify options for improvement or adjustment from current business operations, where required.	Ensure involvement of community and interest groups in the recovery decision-making process.	Work with affected communities and interest groups to support their involvement in the decision making process	
		Assist with contract arrangements, where required.		Ensure risk reduction is considered in planning for rebuilding and reconstruction.	
		Ensure involvement of local business and industry representatives and the community in decision making.			
Supporting Agencies					
Local Government	Community Development Officers	Economic Development Officers	Environment Officers	Local Planning Officers Local Facilities Officers	Local Planning Officers Council engineering staff
State Government	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • DCDSS (Functional lead agency) • DE • QHealth • QPS • QFD • QRA 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • DSDMIP (Functional lead agency) • DCDSS • Queensland Treasury • DAF • DITID • QRA • QRIDA 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • DES (Functional lead agency) • Sunwater • SEQwater • QRA • QHealth 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • DHPW (Functional lead agency) • DCDSS • QRA 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • DTMR (Functional lead agency) • DLGRMA • QRA
Non-government/ Business representatives	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Australian Red Cross • GIVIT • Uniting Care • St Vincent de Paul • Local community and welfare groups • RSPCA (companion animals) • Insurance Council of Australia 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Insurance Council of Australia • Insurance companies • Chamber of commerce • Primary producer groups • Industry representatives • Tourism operators 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Natural Resource Management bodies • Environment and conservation organisations • Wildlife and animal protection organisations • Traditional owners • River Improvement Trusts • Rural and primary producers • Mining industry • Water and waste service providers • Chemical and hazardous substance advisors. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Queensland Building and Construction Commission • Insurance Council of Australia • Utility owners/operators • Private infrastructure owners • Ergon • Energex • Telstra 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Transport operators

11.7 Local Recovery Group Membership

LRG membership will be tailored for each event

Recovery Group Position	Organisation
Chair	BSC Councillor
Local recovery Coordinator	TBA
Secretariat	BSC Executive Support Officer
Core members	Chairs of relevant subgroups
Supporting Members/Advisors	Department of Communities, Housing and Digital Economy Department of State Development, Infrastructure, Local Government and Planning Department of Environment & Science Department of Transport & Main Roads Department of Energy & Public Works

11.8 Functional Lines of Recovery

Depending on the nature of the disaster, one or more of these five functional lines of recovery may be the focus of recovery operations. These State lead agencies will be invited to participate in the LDMG Recovery Group, which will consider the five functional lines of recovery when planning and undertaking recovery operations:

Functional Line of Recovery	Description	State Lead Agency
Human & Social Recovery	Focuses on supporting the emotional, social, physical and psychological health and wellbeing of the community.	Department of Communities, Housing & Digital Economy
Economic Recovery	Focuses on rectifying the direct and indirect impacts on the economy.	Department of State Development, Infrastructure, Local Government & Planning
Building & Assets Recovery	Focuses on rectifying damage and disruption that inhibits the capacity of essential services and the building sector, including housing, accommodation, education and health facilities.	Department of Energy & Public Works
Environmental Recovery	Focuses on rectifying the impacts on the environment as a direct	Department of Environment & Science

	result of a disaster or through a secondary impact or consequence. Impacts to the environment may include damage or loss of flora and fauna, poor air quality, reduced water quality, land degradation and contamination, and cultural and heritage-listed place issues.	
Roads and Transport Recovery	Focuses on rectifying the effects of a disaster on transport networks resulting in difficulty accessing communities and disruption to critical supply chains (both in and out of the impacted area). Restoration of these networks, or the identification of alternatives, is a priority in disaster recovery	Department of Transport & Main Roads

11.9 Recovery Subgroups

Often a disaster will be of such a scale that all functions need to be addressed to effect recovery. To assist with managing capacity and resourcing issues, and to reflect other BSC infrastructure areas, the LDMG Recovery Group may organise the four functional recovery subgroups to address the five lines of recovery:

- human and social
- economic
- infrastructure
- environmental.

The scale of the event and the complexity of the recovery effort will determine which subgroups will be established

11.10 National principles

The LDMG Recovery Groups use the National Principles for Disaster Recovery to guide recovery planning, approach, decision-making and efforts. The principles are:

Principle	Definition
Understand the context	Successful recovery is based on an understanding of the community context, with each community having its own history, values and dynamics.
Recognise complexity	Successful recovery is responsive to the complex and dynamic nature of both emergencies and the community.

Use community -led approaches	Successful recovery is locally led, community-centred, responsive and flexible, engaging with community and supporting them to move forward.
Coordinate activities	Successful recovery requires a planned, coordinated and adaptive approach, between community and partner agencies, based on continuing assessment of impacts and needs.
Communicate effectively	Successful recovery is built on effective communication between the affected community and other partners.
Recognise and build capacity	Successful recovery recognises, supports, and builds on individual, community and organisational capacity and resilience.

11.11 Queensland Government Role & Responsibilities

The [Queensland Recovery Plan](#) (Page 16–20) identifies the role and responsibilities of the DDMG and the following State government stakeholders in recovery operations.

- Queensland Disaster Management Committee (QDMC)
- Minister
- Leadership Board Sub-committee (recovery)
- State Recovery Policy and Planning Coordinator
- State Recovery Coordinator
- State Functional Recovery Groups
- Queensland Reconstruction Authority

11.12 Recovery Phases

The disaster recovery process can generally be categorised into three phases (immediate, short-to-medium and long term).



Figure 10: Phases of recovery

11.12.1 Stage 1 - Immediate Recovery (Post impact Relief & Emergency)

Immediate recovery addresses and supports the immediate needs of individuals, businesses and the community. This phase is challenging as it often coincides with response operations. It is the period after a disaster when initial relief services are offered to the affected community whilst the full recovery framework is established. It is also the period when detailed recovery planning, including damage and needs analysis, is undertaken.

The likely recovery activities conducted during this phase include:

- commencement of impact and needs assessments
- provision of evacuation centres
- provision of assistance to meet basic human needs
- commence restoration of power, water and communication
- distribute emergency funding, shelter, clothing and food
- reopen roads
- provide psychological first aid and personal support

- consider recovery hubs.

11.12.2 Stage 2-Short to Medium Term recovery (Re-establishment, Rehabilitation and reconstruction).

This phase of recovery continues the coordinated process of supporting affected communities in the reconstruction of physical infrastructure, re-establishment of the economy and rehabilitation of the environment. During this phase, support for the emotional, social, and physical wellbeing of those affected continues. The recovery activities at this stage will assist the affected community to return to a state of normality, although the community may experience significant change resulting from the event.

The likely recovery activities conducted during this phase include:

- Impact and needs assessments finalised
- Essential service repaired and restored
- Key transport routes are operational
- Roads repairs underway
- Supply chains are returning to normal
- Schools reopen
- Funding to support recovery identified
- Insurance assessments underway
- Community support mechanisms operational
- Community development programs underway to reunite community
- Environmental restoration and biosecurity programs identified and underway
- Support for business is available
- Development of exit strategies.

11.12.3 Long Term Recovery (Restoration, Rebuilding, Reshaping, and Sustainability)

Long-term recovery is characterised by the ongoing restoration and rebuilding of physical infrastructure, restoration of the economy and of the environment, and reshaping to support the long-term sustainability of recovery measures. During the transition phase, specialist recovery workers leave affected communities and systems start to wind down as normal community development and business as usual processes return. Long term recovery may last several months or years.

The likely recovery activities conducted during this phase include:

- assets are restored, improved and operational
- finalisation of rebuilding phase
- establishment of longer-term psycho-social support strategies
- acknowledgment of event anniversaries
- acknowledgement of key milestones
- implementation of exit strategies

11.13 Event Specific Recovery Plan

The Queensland Reconstruction Authority has developed an event-specific Local Recovery Plan template. See Recovery Planning Templates for the methodology, action plan template and 'plan on a page' Local Recovery Plan template.

The LRC is responsible for working with the LDMG Recovery Group to develop the plan and obtain endorsement from the LDMG and BSC. Following adoption, the plan is made available on the BSC website and promoted to the local community.

11.14 Recovery Hubs

Recovery Hubs Recovery hubs provide a range of services to facilitate recovery including welfare, support, financial and emotional services. They are typically managed by the Department of Communities, Housing and Digital Economy with support from the LDMG if required.

11.15 Evacuation and Evacuation Centre Management.

Burke LDMG has developed a detailed evacuation plan detailing the trigger points and actions required for evacuation of part or all of the populated areas in the Shire. The evacuation plan is located in the SOP folder for the Burke LDCC.

Burke Shire will request bedding and other materials required from District and make them available to any designated shelter.

11.15.1 Evacuation Centre Managers

Burke Shire Council will appoint welfare centre managers for any evacuation centre identified. Local welfare is usually co-ordinated under the auspices of the SES, through a Welfare Officer. The managers will be responsible for welfare arrangements on a daily basis.

11.15.2 Duties of Evacuation Centre Managers

Evacuation Centre Managers will be responsible for the day to day operation of the Evacuation Centre. This will include:

- (1) Organise physical set up and adequate provision of the Evacuation Centre.
- (2) Be responsible for the overall co-ordination of the centre.
- (3) Liaise with LDCC to ensure the adequate provision of food, bedding, volunteers, access to medical treatment and any other needs of evacuees.
- (4) Registration of evacuees (names/address, telephone, next of kin).
- (5) Ensure persons with special needs are given appropriate assistance.
- (6) Ensure adequate feedback to LDCC regarding problems, either in respect of management of the Welfare Centre or special needs of clients.
- (7) Ensure information, i.e., medical, insurance, financial assistance (Govt Dept) etc. is available to all people.
- (8) Ensure adequate records of activities and expenses are maintained.

11.16 LDMG Sub Plans.

Sub Plans have been developed for the Burke Shire for:

- Evacuation Sub Plan,
- Resupply Sub Plan
- Contact List

Appendix 1: Hazards

The risk management record draws heavily on information in the Burke Natural Disaster Risk Management Study. (Refer attachment One)

Storm Tide/Storm Surge

Burketown

The town is located on a remnant of the main channel of the Albert River and represents the most eastward extent of a very flat ridgeline that provides the highest ground on the western bank of the river in this area. A smaller channel bounds the southern side of the town centre, separating it from the airport just to the west where the land is of similar elevation.

In present climate conditions the town begins to become susceptible to storm tide flooding by about the 80-year return period, with the 100-year map showing encroachment into some allotments and becoming isolated from the airport. At the 200-year return period event more than half the town is impacted, with some areas likely requiring evacuation and with the road to the airport almost 1 m in depth. Average duration of flooding above the HAT is of the order of one day for such events.

By the 1,000-year event all but the very centre of town would need access by boat and the 10,000-year event inundates to at least 2m and would likely persist above HAT for about 48hours.

For the projected 2050 climate scenario, the 50-year event resembles the present climate 100-year event, the 100 year resembling the 200 year and so on, reaching at least 2.5m inundation at the 10,000 year event. For the 2100 scenario the 50year pattern resembles the 200-year situation under present climate, with boat access only by the 500year event and the town at least 3m underwater in the 10,000-year event.

Clearly, even in present climate conditions, Burketown will require evacuation with the threat of a 200-year event or greater, representing a 10% chance in any 20-year period, or about a 20% chance in any 50 year period.

Identification and Description of Natural Hazard

All tropical cyclones on or near the coast are capable of producing a storm surge, which can increase coastal water levels for periods of several hours and simultaneously affect over 100 km of coastline (Jelesnianski, 1965; Sobey and others, 1977; Harper, 1999b). When the storm surge is combined with the daily tidal variation, the absolute combined water level reached is called the storm tide. An individual storm surge is measured relative to the mean sea level (MSL) at the time, while storm tide is given as an absolute level such as its height above the Australian Height Datum (AHD). Only the storm tide level can thus be referenced to a specific ground contour value.

Evacuation of low-lying areas prior to storm landfall will be required in some circumstances to help prevent loss of life through drowning. The storm tide will also be capable of causing significant destruction of near-shore buildings and facilities if large ocean swells penetrate the foreshore regions.

Firstly, the storm surge is generated by the combined action of the severe surface winds circulating around the storm centre generating ocean currents, and the decreased atmospheric pressure causing a local rise in sea level (the so-called inverted barometer effect). The strong currents impinging against the coast are normally responsible for the greater proportion of the surge. As shown in Figure 4.5, the surge adds to the expected tide level at the time the storm makes landfall. Also accompanying the surge are the extreme wind-generated ocean waves - a combination of 'swell' and local 'sea' driven before the strong winds. These waves increase in height (shoal) as they approach the shore and as part of the process of wave breaking, a portion of their energy can be transferred to a localised increase in the still-water level. This effect is termed wave setup and, although generally much smaller than the surge, can add 0.5m or more to the surge level at exposed locations. Additionally, waves will run up sloping beaches to finally expend their forward energy

and, when combined with elevated sea levels, this allows them to attack fore-dunes or near-shore structures to cause considerable erosion and/or destruction of property.

The potential magnitude of the surge is affected by many factors, principally the intensity of the tropical cyclone, its size and its forward speed. As the cyclone approaches the coast, the local shape of the coastline and the slope of the undersea bathymetry are particularly significant contributors to the resulting surge height. When the resulting storm tide exceeds the normal range of the daily tide the local beach topography will dictate whether significant coastal inundation will occur.

A storm tide gauge was installed in Burketown in 2014. Previously, the gauge at Mornington Island was considered the most relevant for Burke Shire.

Impacts and effects

A storm tide event has the potential to create major flooding of Burketown. Due to the distance from the open ocean, it is anticipated that there would be minimal if any wave run up. Significant flooding requiring evacuation of the town is possible with an ARI of 1:100.

Flood

Identification and Description of Natural Hazard – Flood

Flooding in the Shire is a regular event. While the level of flooding may not result in damage to infrastructure it more often than not results in the isolation of the towns and rural properties in the Shire. The main river systems in the Shire are not fully understood or mapped to the extent that rivers on the east coast would be. A full flood study has been conducted and the LDMG is aware of the areas that are prone to flooding.

The early March 2023 monsoonal flood had most rivers at highest ever recorded flood levels. There was significant damage across the region as a result.

Vulnerability of People

All areas of the Shire are vulnerable to flooding. People in the Shire are regularly isolated due to flooding and subsequent road inundation. Tourists are prone to becoming stranded while trying to traverse wet roads as many do not appreciate the soil type in the area.

There is a risk that motorists may be swept off the crossings and possibly drowned as many of the crossings are low lying and have minimal indicator markers to show the depth. Where these markers are fitted it is not uncommon for them to be washed away.

The psychological effect of isolation is difficult to gauge as many people are used to this and some state they actually enjoy these periods of time.

Vulnerability of Social Structures

The frequency and duration of isolation has an effect on the social fabric of the Shire. Most residents are accustomed to the isolation that occurs during the wet season but after a prolonged period the disruption to lifestyle may cause frustration. A good example of this is the early March 2023 Monsoonal Flood which cut off Burke Shire and Doomadgee residents for over 3 months.

The inability to travel and for children to attend schools has been the cause of frustration in the past.

Burketown and Gregory function very well during a flood event. The rural properties are often affected to a greater degree with some unable to leave the house due to the level of flood water.

Vulnerability of Buildings

Minor or moderate floods have no effect on the buildings in the Shire as they are all constructed above these levels. Some low-lying pump stations may be damaged.

Major flood levels will inundate houses and businesses in the Shire.

Due to the common nature of flooding the Shire is well prepared for flooding.

Vulnerability of Critical Facilities

All the critical facilities in the Shire are built above flood height.

One area of concern is the location of the water treatment plant. The plant is located some distance from town and is fed from the Burketown power generator. High winds and/or inundation may cause the power poles to fail or fall. There are no spare poles in the town and access to repair or replace poles would be impossible during flooding.

Vulnerability of Local Economic Production and Employment

During a flood event the majority of economic production ceases. Due to isolation cattle cannot be moved and construction tasks are put on hold.

The Century mine continues to operate during floods but at reduced capacity. Due to the inability of trucks to carry supplies to the mine they take the opportunity to conduct maintenance.

Significant flood events, such as 2009, can have an ongoing effect on the Shire in particular the grazing industry. Stock losses and damage to pasture may mean that the property has no income for the entire season.

Normal seasonal flooding has minimal impact on the local economy, rain periods are normally outside of the tourist season and outside of the normal destocking/restocking times.

Cyclone and storm

Identification and Description of Natural Hazard

Burketown is susceptible to both storms and cyclones; Gregory and rural properties will be affected by these events however as the system travels over land it will lose some of its intensity. This section deals predominantly with cyclones, storms will have the same impact relative to their size.

Vulnerability of Lifelines

The roads in the Shire are inundated very early in a flood event and due to the construction of these roads they may remain closed for some time. Even after the roads are opened, they are difficult to traverse for some time due to large wheel ruts and other flood damage.

The airport at Burketown will rarely be unusable due to flooding however the road to the airport is often closed. During a flood event, boats are used to transport people to and from the airport. High clearance vehicles are needed to transport essential goods to the town from the airport following resupply operations.

Vulnerability of People

Death or serious injury may be caused by flying debris. Due to the size of the medical facility in the Shire it would be unable to cope with multiple injuries. The Shire is inaccessible until the winds have decreased, and aircraft are able to access the airstrip.

Vulnerability of Social Structures

Deaths or serious injuries would have a profound effect on the social structure due to the size of the communities. Normal living arrangements would be seriously disrupted, and long-term isolation would follow any significant rain event. The anticipated delays in rebuilding any destroyed buildings due to isolation would have a negative effect on the social structure of the community.

Vulnerability of Buildings

Most buildings in the populated areas would survive a weak cyclone or storm, with an increase in intensity there would be a relative increase in damage. There are no cyclone-rated buildings in the Shire. A higher

category cyclone would damage or destroy a large percentage of the buildings in the coastal areas of the Shire.

Vulnerability of Lifelines

A wet cyclone or storm would render the road impassable for a prolonged period of time. Aside from the direct rainfall, if the system moves south, secondary flooding would be expected following significant falls in the catchment areas (refer to the section on flooding).

The airstrip would normally remain open but inaccessible by road from the town. If the strip is damaged or obstructed by debris, there will be difficulty accessing it with large machinery.

Vulnerability of Critical Facilities

The power supply to the water treatment plant is particularly susceptible to damage due to its isolation and lack of replacement parts in the Shire (poles, cross arms, line).

Council assets, the health clinic, police station and other assets would sustain damage from more intense cyclones. The power generator for the towns would not normally be damaged however due to the supply line being above ground significant damage would be expected. There are no spare power poles or specialised equipment to repair these in the Shire and transporting these items would be extremely difficult.

Vulnerability of Local Economic Production and Employment

As with flooding the normal economic activities of the Shire would be disrupted due to isolation. Rural grazing areas would be unable to function for some time. Damaging winds and flash flooding would lead to extensive stock loss, fence damage and possibly long-term pasture damage.

The extent of disruption would be relative to the size of the event; due to the few areas of economic production in the area recovery would be more rapid than in an area of diverse economic undertakings. The isolation of the Shire would undoubtedly delay, and recovery works that may be required.

Fire

Identification and Description of Natural Hazard – Fire

The risk of fire in the Burke Shire is considered low in the populated areas and medium in the eastern parts of the Shire. This is due to the type of vegetation and topography of the area. The risk may vary depending upon the fuel load present following a wet season, but the flat nature of the Shire would make this unlikely to reach the high category.

Fires in the Shire are normally inaccessible and are often left to burn; the priority is the protection of assets in the Shire.

The cause of fire varies but may be the result of lightning or hazard reduction burns becoming unmanageable.

The populated areas are susceptible to urban fire but due to the distance between houses it is unlikely that these fires would affect more than one or two buildings.

Vulnerability of People

The risk to people from rural fires is considered low. The risk from urban fire is higher due to the lack of structural firefighting capability in the Shire.

Vulnerability of Social Structures

Fire would have a minimal effect on the social structure. Death from urban fire would have an adverse effect on the social structure due to the size of the Shire, any victim of fire would be known to the majority of the Shire including agencies involved in combating the fire.

Vulnerability of Buildings

Many buildings are at a very low risk of being involved in a rural fire. The risk of urban fire is no different from any populated area.

Vulnerability of Lifelines

Minimal risk, some short-term road closures would be expected due to smoke.

Vulnerability of Critical Facilities

Minimal risk to structures and facilities.

Vulnerability of Local Economic Production and Employment

Loss of stock and grazing area is likely. Due to the level of risk the effects on the economic production would be minimal to moderate.

Epidemic and Pandemics**Identification and Description of Natural Hazard – Epidemic and Pandemic**

The risk of an outbreak of disease such as pandemic influenza throughout the population could cause the health system to be taxed to its limits and may involve the isolation and quarantine of a substantial number of people for a protracted period. This has been the case with the Coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic in 2020, which required essential services to activate their respective Business Continuity Plans and mandated the Australian community to implement strict social distancing measures and hygiene protocols. COVID-19 tested local supply arrangements, with basic hygiene items such as toilet paper, tissues, hand sanitiser, hand wash, disinfectant wipes, and face masks

Vulnerability of People

The population of Burke Shire is no less susceptible to pandemic disease than any other area of Queensland. The spread of disease would be higher in the town areas than the rural properties due to the density of population and the reduced social distancing.

Traditionally school children show a higher transmission rate than adults.

Vulnerability of Social Structures

The impact of widespread disease on the social structure of the Shire would be dependent on the strain of virus prevalent in the community. This may range from short term illness to widespread deaths from the disease.

At a minimum it is expected that the community would experience hardship from social distancing measures including:

- Absenteeism from workplace due to illness,
- Requirement to care for ill family,
- Closure of schools requiring parents to care for children,
- Reduction in social events, and
- Care for those quarantined at home unable to access normal facilities.

In the worst case of a disease with a high morbidity rate the impacts on the social structure would be significantly higher. In addition to the items listed above these would include:

- Significant increase in death rate within the Shire,
- Higher admission rates to the health facilities,
- Loss of key staff,

- Periods of grieving from family and friends of deceased,
- General fear in the community, and
- Significant reduction in industry due to staff shortages.

Vulnerability of Buildings

While buildings will not be directly affected there may be a requirement to allocate some facilities to assist the health services in managing the disease.

Vulnerability of Lifelines

The reduction in the available workforce within the Shire would lead to a reduction in the services available to the Shire. While the disease would not directly impact on physical lifelines, reduced staff may lead to maintenance issues and reduced operating capacity of these lifelines.

Business continuity planning would necessitate that reallocation of staff to maintain these essential lifelines.

Vulnerability of Critical Facilities

As per vulnerability of critical lifelines

Vulnerability of Local Economic Production and Employment

The effect of pandemic disease on the local economy is dependent on the virulence and type of virus. In the case of a milder strain of a virus the Shire could expect:

- Increase absenteeism from normal workplaces through illness,
- Parents absent from work due to need to care for children,
- Closure of schools,
- Need to reduce non-essential services,

The effects of a disease with a high morbidity rate may include:

- Closure of businesses due to staff unavailability,
- Significant decrease in staff attendances at work,
- Re allocation of staff to maintain essential services,
- Loss of key staff and skills,
- Reluctance of staff to attend work areas due to fear of infection.

Exotic Disease in Animals

Identification and Description of Natural Hazard – Exotic disease in animals

Hazard Description (extracted from the Aus Vet plan)

Australian agriculture benefits enormously from its freedom from the more devastating disease epidemics that plague livestock industries in other parts of the world. An exotic disease incursion or a serious outbreak of an emerging or endemic disease could cause serious production losses to livestock industries in this country, jeopardise exports of livestock and livestock products and/or have serious public health implications. It is therefore essential that effective contingency plans and competency-assessed, trained personnel are available to counter such diseases.

The Australian Veterinary Emergency Plan (AUSVETPLAN) is a coordinated national response plan for the management and wherever possible, eradication of exotic disease incursions and outbreaks of certain emerging or endemic animal diseases. The term 'emergency animal disease' (EAD) is used in this manual to collectively describe all these disease categories.

General policy

In most cases, where this is applicable and is considered to be cost-effective, the policy for control and eradication of an EAD will be stamping out. This would involve:

- quarantine and/or movement controls.
- destruction and disposal of infected and exposed animals.
- decontamination of infected premises.
- surveillance of susceptible animals; and
- restriction of the activities of certain enterprises.

These measures may be supplemented where necessary (or replaced when stamping out is not appropriate) by one or more of the following options:

- vaccination.
- vector or wild animal control; and
- animal treatment.

Infected and disease-free zones may be established to contain the disease agent and to protect Australia's export trade.

Vulnerability of People

In general individuals are not affected by exotic diseases that effect animals. Restriction on movement of people would be expected but unless the disease develops the ability to pass from animal to human there would be little direct effect on people.

Vulnerability of Social Structures

Burke is a large agricultural area with the main product being beef and the agricultural industry being the largest employer in the Shire. Any outbreak of exotic disease in animal within the Shire would have a direct and significant impact on the social structure of the Shire. Experiences drawn from the foot and mouth outbreak in the United Kingdom show:

- Isolation of property owners and staff unable to leave the infected property,
- 100% stock loss on some properties resulting in unrecoverable losses,
- Individuals being targeted with blame for introduction or spread of disease, and
- Loss of market confidence.

Vulnerability of Buildings

No effect

Vulnerability of Lifelines

No effect

Vulnerability of Critical Facilities

No effect

Vulnerability of Local Economic Production and Employment

The effect of exotic disease in animals on the Burke economy would be significant. The impact on the economy will be dependent on the nature of the disease and the control measures required to contain it. Widespread job losses would be expected in the Burke Shire. Economic losses may extend for some time if there is an embargo on beef from the region because of disease.

The following is an extract from the World Bank on animal disease:

The consequences of animal diseases in domesticated birds and livestock can be complex and generally go well beyond the immediate effects on affected producers. These diseases have numerous impacts, including:

- productivity losses for the livestock sector (e.g., production losses, cost of treatment, market disturbances)
- loss of income from activities using animal resources (in such sectors as agriculture; energy; transportation; tourism)
- loss of well-being of human beings (morbidity and even mortality rates; food safety and quality)
- prevention or control costs (production costs; public expenditure)
- suboptimal use of production potential (animal species, genetics, livestock practices)

Terrorism

Identification and Description of Natural Hazard – Terrorism

Hazard Description (extract from the National Counter-Terrorism Plan)

1. A 'terrorist act' is defined under Australian law as an act or threat, intended to advance a political, ideological, or religious cause by coercing or intimidating an Australian or foreign government or the public, by causing serious harm to people or property, creating a serious risk to the health and safety to the public, or seriously disrupting trade, critical infrastructure or electronic systems. (Criminal Code Act 1995 (Cwlth))

A 'terrorist incident' is a combination of circumstances or conditions which may lead to or result from a terrorist act, and which require preventative and/or responsive action.
2. The nature of terrorism means that its implications may cross jurisdictional boundaries. This, and the range of preventive measures and capabilities that may be required, necessitates that Australia maintain a national, cooperative approach to counter terrorism. Coordination and consultation between jurisdictions is formalised by the Inter-governmental Agreement on Australia's National Counter-Terrorism Arrangements of 24 October 2002 and is managed through the mechanisms outlined in this chapter.
3. The National Counter-Terrorism Alert Advisory System consists of five levels:
 - Not Expected
 - Possible
 - Probable
 - Expected
 - Certain
4. A change to a counter-terrorism alert level may be considered when:
 - the situation is such that it is necessary to adjust community or business/industry sector vigilance or preparedness; or
 - there may be sufficient grounds for declaration of a National Terrorist Situation.

The threat from terrorist activity in the Burke Shire is considered low. The role of the LDMG is to deal with the effects of a terrorism event as it would with any other event affecting the Shire, the role of investigating and preventing a terrorism incident is the role of the Queensland Police Service.

Vulnerability of People

There are very few circumstances or areas in the Burke Shire that require the gathering of many people. One of the intents of a terrorist act is to create fear in the public; the residents of the Shire are no more immune from this than any other area of Queensland.

Vulnerability of Social Structures

Recovery will be planned for and managed in a structured manner. The broad needs created by the impact of a terrorist incident on a community will only be met through a range of services. These may be provided by a variety of both government and non-government organisations.

Local level

The focus of recovery planning and management is on community input. Emergency planning must cater for local conditions and incorporate localised recovery planning to address the five key aspects of recovery.

Local government has responsibilities to provide and maintain physical services relevant to recovery. Most local government authorities also provide a range of human and community services to individuals and the community.

Vulnerability of Buildings

There are few buildings in the Shire that would meet the criteria detailed in the Local Government counter terrorism risk management kit.

Vulnerability of Lifelines

The lifelines of the Burke Shire are considered a low risk of terrorist activity.

Vulnerability of Critical Facilities

The critical facilities are considered at low risk of terrorist activity.

Vulnerability of Local Economic Production and Employment

Whilst there is potential for a terrorist act to disable one of the significant mines in the area thus leading to major job losses the likelihood of this is considered low.

Should the nations alert level increase there would be some delays and increased expense involved to the mining sector in the production and transport of explosives.