



**Longreach  
Regional Council**  
Ilfracombe Isisford Longreach Yaraka

**Address all correspondence to:  
Chief Executive Officer  
PO Box 472, Longreach QLD 4730**  
Tel: (07) 4658 4111 | Fax: (07) 4658 4116  
Email: council@longreach.qld.gov.au  
ABN: 16 834 804 112

7 March 2024

Dear Councillors

**Re: Meeting Notice for Council Meeting to be held on 14 March 2024**

Notice is hereby given that the Council Meeting of the Longreach Regional Council will be held in the Council Boardroom, 96 Eagle Street, Longreach on Thursday 14 March 2024 commencing at 9:00am.

Your attendance at this meeting is requested.

Yours faithfully

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Brett Walsh'.

Brett Walsh  
Chief Executive Officer

Enc







# Longreach Regional Council

## Ordinary Meeting Agenda

**Thursday 14 March 2024**

*Civic Centre, 96 Eagle Street, Longreach*

- 1. Opening of Meeting & Acknowledgement of Country**
- 2. Prayer**
- 3. Condolences**
- 4. Leave of Absence**
- 5. Declaration of any Prescribed / Declarable Conflicts of Interest by Councillors**
- 6. Confirmation of Minutes**
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- 7. Mayoral Report**
- 8. Notices of Motion**
- 9. Petitions**
- 10. Deputations**
- 11. Chief Executive Officer's Report**
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- 12. Finance Report**

**LONGREACH REGIONAL COUNCIL  
ORDINARY MEETING AGENDA**

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<b>15.</b>	<b>Late Items</b>	
	Nil for this meeting	
<b>16.</b>	<b>Closed Matters</b>	
	Nil for this meeting	
<b>17.</b>	<b>Closure of Meeting</b>	

***Vision:***

Connecting Council and Community

***Mission:***

Delivering excellent service

**LONGREACH REGIONAL COUNCIL  
ORDINARY MEETING AGENDA**

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- 1. Opening of Meeting & Acknowledgement of Country**
- 2. Prayer – Reverend Rob Flodline, Baptist Church**
- 3. Condolences**
- 4. Leave of Absence**
- 5. Declaration of any Prescribed / Declarable Conflicts of Interest by Councillors**
- 6. Confirmation of Minutes**
  - 6.1 Council - 15 February 2024

# **Longreach Regional Council**



## **Ordinary Meeting**

**Thursday 15 February 2024**



**Minutes of the Longreach Regional Council Ordinary Meeting  
held on Thursday 15 February 2024 at the Ilfracombe Council Chambers**

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**Present**

**Councillors**

Mayor  
Deputy Mayor

Cr AC Rayner  
Cr LJ Nunn  
Cr DJ Bignell  
Cr AJ Emslie  
Cr TM Hatch  
Cr D Paterson

**Officers**

Chief Executive Officer  
Chief Financial Officer  
Director of Works  
Manager of Human Resources, Safety and Wellness  
Manager of Governance and Economy  
Engagement and Communications Coordinator  
Business Support Officer (Finance)

Brett Walsh  
David Wilson  
Andre Pretorius  
Grace Cronin-Jones  
Simon Kuttner  
Sandra Warren  
Sharon Calligaro

**Apologies**

Director of Communities

Karyn Stillwell

**1 Opening of Meeting and Acknowledgement of Country**

The Mayor declared the meeting open at 9:00am

*"We acknowledge the Traditional Owners of the land on which we meet today, and we acknowledge elders past and present."*

**2 Prayer**

Pastor Donna Muston, Uniting Church, opened the meeting with a prayer.

The meeting paid its respects and observed a minutes silence for the passing of community members: William (Bill) Stevens, James (Jimmy) Mill, and Terence (Terry) Marsden – who is acknowledged as a former Council employee.

**3 Consideration of Leave of Absence**

*(Res-2024-02-001)*

*Moved Cr Bignell seconded Cr Hatch*

*That Council accepts an apology from Cr TFB Smith and grants a leave of absence.*

*CARRIED  
6/0*

**Minutes of the Longreach Regional Council Ordinary Meeting  
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**4 Declaration of any Prescribed / Declarable Conflicts of Interest by Councillors**

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**4.1 Declaration of Prescribed Conflicts of Interest on any Item of Business**

Pursuant to section 150EG, 150EH, 150EI, 150EJ, 150EK, 150EL and 150EM of the *Local Government Act 2009*, a Councillor who has a prescribed conflict of interest in a matter must notify Council of the potential benefit or loss, and if applicable, provide the name of the related person and their relationship with them. They may not participate in a decision relating to the matter and must leave the meeting.

*No declarations were made during this point of the meeting.*

**4.2 Declaration of a Declarable Conflict of Interest on any Item of Business**

Pursuant to section 150EN, 150EO, 150EP, 150EQ, 150ER, 150ES and 150ET of the *Local Government Act 2009*, a Councillor who has a declarable conflict of interest in a matter must notify Council of the nature of the interest, if applicable, name of the related person, the relationship to them, and the nature of the interest, and/or the value and date of any gift received.

The Councillor may voluntarily leave the meeting and not participate in a decision relating to the matter or; other Councillors may vote on this matter and decide if;

- (a) the Councillor must leave the meeting and not participate in a decision relating to the matter; or
- (b) the Councillor may remain in the meeting and participate in a decision relating to the matter.

*Cr Hatch declared a declarable conflict of interest in Item 16.1, Outback Queensland Masters Golf Series on the basis that her business may be asked to support the event. Cr Hatch advised that she would leave the meeting for discussion of this matter and not participate in the decision relating to it.*

**5 Confirmation of Minutes**

Consideration of the minutes of the meeting held on Thursday 25 January 2024

*(Res-2024-02-002)*

*Moved Cr Emslie seconded Cr Nunn*

*That Council confirms the Minutes of the Council meeting held on Thursday 25 January 2024.*

CARRIED  
6/0

**6 Mayoral Report**

Consideration of the Mayor's report for February.

*(Res-2024-02-003)*

*Moved Cr Paterson seconded Cr Emslie*

*That Council receives the Mayoral Report, as presented.*

CARRIED  
6/0

**Minutes of the Longreach Regional Council Ordinary Meeting  
held on Thursday 15 February 2024 at the Ilfracombe Council Chambers**

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**7 Councillor Requests**

Nil

**8 Notices of Motion**

Nil

**9 Petitions**

Nil

**10 Deputations**

Nil

**11 Reception and Consideration of the Chief Executive Officer's Report**

Consideration was given to the Chief Executive Officer's Report

**11.1 Councillor Information Correspondence**

From the Chief Executive Officer, tabling a list of significant and relevant correspondence for Councillors and public information.

*(Res-2024-02-004)*

*Moved Cr Hatch seconded Cr Bignell*

*That Council receives the Councillor Information Correspondence Report, as presented.*

CARRIED  
6/0

**11.2 Australian Local Government Association (ALGA) 2024 National General Assembly, Australian Council of Local Government**

Consideration of an invitation to submit motions to ALGA's 2024 National General Assembly, and an invitation to attend the Australian Council of Local Government.

*(Res-2024-02-005)*

*Moved Cr Nunn seconded Cr Emslie*

*That Council:*

- 1. Receives the Australian Local Government Association (ALGA) National General Assembly 2024 discussion paper; and,*
- 2. Approves for the Mayor, Chief Executive Officer, and Councillor/s to attend the Australian Local Government Association (ALGA) National General Assembly and associated meetings scheduled for 2-4 July 2024, and the Australian Council of Local Government on 5 July 2024.*

CARRIED  
6/0

**Minutes of the Longreach Regional Council Ordinary Meeting  
held on Thursday 15 February 2024 at the Ilfracombe Council Chambers**

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**11.3 Workplace Health and Safety Report – January 2024**

This report provides a summary of Council’s health and safety performance as at 31 January 2024, highlighting issues, risks and opportunities impacting on employee health and safety in the workplace.

*(Res-2024-02-006)*

*Moved Cr Paterson seconded Cr Bignell*

*That Council receives the Workplace Health and Safety Update for January 2024, as presented.*

CARRIED  
6/0

**11.4 Information Report - Planning & Development**

This report provides an update on Development Services that has occurred during the month of January 2024.

*(Res-2024-02-007)*

*Moved Cr Hatch seconded Cr Emslie*

*That Council receives the Planning and Development information report, as presented.*

CARRIED  
6/0

The meeting adjourned for Morning Tea at 10:31am.

The meeting resumed at 10:59am with all present prior to the adjournment in attendance.

**11.5 Information Report - Governance**

This report provides an update on a range of activities that have occurred over the previous month for the Governance Directorate.

*(Res-2024-02-008)*

*Moved Cr Nunn seconded Cr Paterson*

*That Council receives the Governance information report, as presented.*

CARRIED  
6/0

**12 Reception and Consideration of the Chief Financial Officer’s Report**

Consideration was given to the Chief Financial Officer’s Report

**12.1 Monthly Financial Statements**

Consideration of the financial statements for the period ending 31 January 2024.

*(Res-2024-02-009)*

*Moved Cr Emslie seconded Cr Bignell*

*That Council receives the monthly financial statements for the period ending 31 January 2024, as presented.*

CARRIED  
6/0

**Minutes of the Longreach Regional Council Ordinary Meeting  
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**12.2 Information Report - Finance**

This report provides an update on a range of activities that has occurred during the month of January 2024 for the Finance Directorate.

(Res-2024-02-010)

Moved Cr Hatch seconded Cr Paterson

That Council receives the Finance information report, as presented.

CARRIED  
6/0

**13 Reception and Consideration of the Director of Communities' Report**

Consideration was given to the Director of Communities' Report

**13.1 Sponsorship - Somerset Storyfest Ltd**

Consideration for Sponsorship application received for the month of February, in accordance with Council's Sponsorship Policy No. 11.07.

(Res-2024-02-011)

Moved Cr Hatch seconded Cr Nunn

That Council approves the allocation of funds from the **2023/2024 Sponsorship budget** as contained in the following table, in accordance with the Sponsorship Policy No 11.07:

<b>Organisation</b>	<b>Event/Project Activity</b>	<b>Event Date</b>	<b>Grant Approved</b>
Somerset Storyfest Ltd	Storyfest Out West	4-6 September 2024	<b>In-Kind \$7,419.00</b>
		<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$7,419.00</b>

CARRIED  
6/0

**13.2 Sponsorship - Opera Queensland**

Consideration for Sponsorship application received for the month of February, in accordance with Council's Sponsorship Policy No. 11.07.

(Res-2024-02-012)

Moved Cr Paterson seconded Cr Hatch

That Council approves the allocation of funds from the **2023/2024 Sponsorship budget** as contained in the following table, in accordance with the Sponsorship Policy No 11.07:

<b>Organisation</b>	<b>Event/Project Activity</b>	<b>Event Date</b>	<b>Grant Approved</b>
Opera Queensland	Festival of Outback Opera	14-20 May 2024	<b>Financial \$1,200.00 In-Kind \$2,987.70</b>
		<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$4,187.70</b>

CARRIED  
6/0

**Minutes of the Longreach Regional Council Ordinary Meeting  
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**13.3 Information Report - Communities**

This report provides an update on a range of activities that has occurred during the month of January for the Community Services Department.

*(Res-2024-02-013)*

*Moved Cr Emslie seconded Cr Bignell*

*That Council receives the Community Services information report, as presented.*

*CARRIED  
6/0*

**14 Reception and Consideration of the Director of Works Report**

Consideration was given to the Director of Works Report

**14.1 Information Report - Works**

This report provides an update on a range of activities that has occurred during the month of January 2024 for the Works Directorate.

*(Res-2024-02-014)*

*Moved Cr Nunn seconded Cr Emslie*

*That Council receives the Works Information Report, as presented.*

*CARRIED  
6/0*

**Minutes of the Longreach Regional Council Ordinary Meeting  
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**15      Late Items**

**15.1      Special Meeting - Land and Pest Management Advisory Committee  
Recommendations - 09 February 2024**

Consideration of the recommendations of the Land and Pest Management Advisory Committee (LPMAC) Special Meeting held on 9 February 2024.

*(Res-2024-02-015)*

*Moved Cr Hatch seconded Cr Paterson*

*That Council receives the recommendation from the Land and Pest Management Advisory Committee, and agrees to invite the relevant Queensland Government Ministers to a meeting to discuss the following specific concerns relating to the management of State-owned National Parks:*

- Feral animal control – the opportunity for strategic and tactical control, including trapping and baiting of wild dogs and pigs;*
- Existing water facilities – maintain existing arrangements, and work with adjoining landholders to ensure continuation of water supply and access to existing bores;*
- Fire management – maintain access roads within the parks for fire breaks and strategic burning;*
- Fence maintenance – maintain fencing through negotiation with the neighbouring landholders, in accordance with Department of Environment and Science - Good Neighbour Policy – Stock Management and Fencing section;*
- Exclusion fence maintenance - recognition of existing exclusion fencing and consideration of further exclusion fencing in negotiation with adjoining landholders;*
- Permanent on-site management – engagement of on-site staff to manage and protect the land;*
- Good neighbour policy – compliance with the principles of the Department of Environment and Science – Good Neighbour Policy;*
- Biosecurity obligations – collaboration with and acknowledgement of regional biosecurity strategies; and,*
- Grazing industry viability - a commitment for the management of State-owned lands, that will ensure protection and viability of the grazing industry within the Longreach Regional Council region.*

*CARRIED  
6/0*

**Attendance:** Councillor Hatch left the Meeting at 12:17pm.

**Minutes of the Longreach Regional Council Ordinary Meeting  
held on Thursday 15 February 2024 at the Ilfracombe Council Chambers**

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**16 Closed Matters**

*(Res-2024-02-016)*

*Moved Cr Emslie seconded Cr Nunn*

*That pursuant to section 254J(1) of the Local Government Regulation 2012 the meeting be closed to discuss the following matter, which is considered confidential in accordance with section 254J(3)(g) of the Local Government Regulation 2012, as it contains information relating to negotiations relating to a commercial matter involving the Council for which a public discussion would be likely to prejudice the interests of the council.*

*CARRIED*

*5/0*

*Councillors Rayner, Nunn, Bignell, Emslie, and Paterson voted for the motion*

*The meeting closed at 12.17pm.*

*(Res-2024-02-017)*

*Moved Cr Emslie seconded Cr Bignell*

*That Council moves out of closed session.*

*CARRIED*

*5/0*

*Councillors Rayner, Nunn, Bignell, Emslie, and Paterson voted for the motion*

*The meeting re-opened at 12.27pm.*

**16.1 Outback Queensland Masters Golf Series**

This report considers a request from Golf Australia (GA) that Council commit to investing in the 2025 Outback Queensland Masters Golf Series, comprising of a direct financial contribution and additional costs for equipment hire. GA are requesting that discussions are kept confidential at this point, as well as the financial information that is provided to support their application.

**Recommendation:**

*That Council commits to the allocation of funds from the 2025 Sponsorship budget as contained in the following table, in accordance with the Sponsorship Policy No 11.07:*

<b>Organisation</b>	<b>Event/Project Activity</b>	<b>Event Date</b>	<b>Grant Recommended</b>
Golf Australia	Outback Queensland Masters Golf Series	11-14 July 2025	Financial contribution of \$22,000 Equipment Hire \$3,000
		TOTAL	\$25,000

*THE MOTION LAPSED FOR WANT OF A MOVER*

**Attendance:** Councillor Hatch returned to the Meeting at 12:28 pm.

**17 Closure of Meeting**

There being no further business, the meeting was closed at 12:39pm



**Minutes of the Longreach Regional Council Ordinary Meeting  
held on Thursday 15 February 2024 at the Ilfracombe Council Chambers**

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**Minutes Certificate**

These minutes are unconfirmed.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Cr A Rayner  
Mayor

\_\_\_\_\_  
Brett Walsh  
Chief Executive Officer

**LONGREACH REGIONAL COUNCIL  
ORDINARY MEETING AGENDA**

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**7. Mayoral Report**

The Mayor attended meetings and engagements in the time since the last Council meeting, including but not limited to:

- Mayor attended the Longreach State High School Investiture ceremony and presented School Leaders with their badges.
- Mayor attended zoom meeting with UQ staff re road show to Western Qld
- Mayor and CEO met with JCU Vice Chancellor and Chancellor to discuss LRC Clinical student host program and JCU courses.
- Mayor /CEO and councillors hosted Water Connections Tour with delegates from State and Federal government departments
- Mayor hosted visit from Qld Small Business Commissioner on a regional road show to small businesses in Longreach and Ilfracombe. Return visit scheduled for April to Isisford and Longreach. Pilot trial placement of a Small business supports officer to be hosted by RAPAD in Longreach
- Mayor chaired RAPAD Board meetings in Barcaldine
- Mayor chaired meeting with Minister Linard, DG and DDG Environment and Science re acquisition of large rural properties for National Parks. Policy discussed to reverse impact of loss of revenue for local communities and reduce adverse potential impact on neighbouring rural properties
- Mayor flew with delegation to Hughenden to inspect solar farm and wind turbine farm at the Kennedy Energy Park.
- Mayor participated in Clean up Australia Day
- Mayor attended Meet the councillor nominees at Longreach Bowls club
- Mayor carried out media interviews

***Recommendation:***

*That Council receives the Mayoral Report, as presented.*

**8. Notices of Motion**

None Received At Time of Agenda Preparation.

**9. Petitions**

None Received At Time of Agenda Preparation.

**10. Deputations**

None Received At Time of Agenda Preparation.

## **11. CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER'S REPORT**

### **11.1 - Councillor Information Correspondence**

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#### **11. Chief Executive Officer's Report**

##### **11.1 Councillor Information Correspondence**

From the Chief Executive Officer, tabling a list of significant and relevant correspondence for Councillors and public information.

The following correspondence has been received up to 6 March 2024:

1. Opening of the Isisford Weir
2. Hon Glenn Butcher RE Longreach Water Case
3. Mr Jarrod Cowley-Grimmond, A Deputy Director-General, Water Resource Management
4. Australia Day Awards Program 2024
5. Water thank you Longreach Water Connections Tour February 2024
6. EMA - 24 - 01 - 2024 - Carbon Credits Consultation Paper January 2024
7. EMA - 24 - 01 - 2024 - Correspondence from Queensland Treasury
8. EMA 19 - 02 - 2024 - Local Government Annual Report Operational Highlights - Biosecurity Queensland 2022-23
9. EMA - 29 - 02 - 2024 - Director - General, Department of Premier and Cabinet - Australian of the Year 2025
10. EMA - 29 - 02 - 2024 - Additional Qantas flights between Brisbane and Longreach
11. EMA - 04 - 03 - 2024 - LongreachRegionalCouncil-RADF-2024-28
12. EMA - 07 - 03 - 2024 - Letter of Thanks - Steven Miles MP

#### **Appendices**

1. LET - 13 - 12 - 2023 - Opening of the Isisford Weir [↓](#)
2. LET - 15 - 02 - 2024 - Hon Glenn Butcher RE Longreach Water Case [↓](#)
3. LET - 15 - 02 - 2024 - Mr Jarrod Cowley-Grimmond, A Deputy Director-General, Water Resource Management [↓](#)
4. LET - 28 - 02 - 2024 - Australia Day Awards Program 2024 [↓](#)
5. LET - 29 - 02 - 2024 - Water thank you Longreach Water Connections Tour February 2024 [↓](#)
6. EMA - 24 - 01 - 2024 - Carbon Credits Consultation Paper January 2024 [↓](#)
7. EMA - 24 - 01 - 2024 - Correspondence from Queensland Treasury [↓](#)
8. EMA 19 - 02 - 2024 - Local Government Annual Report Operational Highlights - Biosecurity Queensland 2022-23 [↓](#)
9. EMA - 29 - 02 - 2024 - Director - General, Department of Premier and Cabinet - Australian of the Year 2025 [↓](#)
10. EMA - 29 - 02 - 2024 - Additional Qantas flights between Brisbane and Longreach [↓](#)
11. EMA - 04 - 03 - 2024 - LongreachRegionalCouncil-RADF-2024-28 [↓](#)

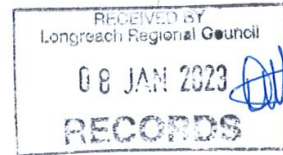
**11. CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER'S REPORT**  
**11.1 - Councillor Information Correspondence**

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- 12.EMA - 04 - 03 - 2024 - Regional Arts Development Fund 2024-25 to 2027-28 Guidelines [↓](#)
- 13.EMA - 07 - 03 - 2024 - Letter of Thanks - Steven Miles MP [↓](#)

***Recommendation:***

*That Council receives the Councillor Information Correspondence Report, as presented.*



**ISISFORD INDUSTRY RECREATION AND DEVELOPMENT  
ASSOCIATION INC.**

*President: Jocelyn Avery  
Secretary/Treasurer: Julianne Fawcner*

Cr Tony Rayner  
Mayor  
Longreach Regional Council  
96 Eagle St  
Longreach QLD 4730

**Re: Opening of the Isisford Weir.**

Dear Tony

I am writing to you on behalf of the Isisford Industry Recreation and Development Association INC and the Isisford Community.

I would like to express our disappointment in not having the opportunity to attend the historical opening of the Isisford weir on Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> December 2023.

If your communication person had notified the Isisford Branch Office staff they would have let most people know in time to attend the opening.

I would appreciate if you would convey our disappointment at your next council meeting.

Yours sincerely

Jocelyn Avery  
President

Isisford Industry Recreational and Development Association  
24 Emmet Blackall Rd  
Isisford QLD 4731

December 13, 2023

M: 0427465755



Hon Glenn Butcher MP  
Minister for Regional Development and Manufacturing  
Minister for Water

Our ref: CTS 02369/24

15 February 2024

Councillor Tony Rayner  
Mayor  
Longreach Regional Council  
PO Box 144  
IIFRACOMBE QLD 4727

mayor@longreach.qld.gov.au

1 William Street  
Brisbane QLD 4000  
GPO Box 2247 Brisbane  
Queensland 4001 Australia  
**Telephone +617 3035 6170**  
**Email regionaldevelopment@ministerial.qld.gov.au**  
**ABN 51 242 471 577**

Dear Councillor Rayner

Thank you for your email of 6 February 2024 providing a copy of Longreach Regional Council's (Council) Longreach Water Security Business Case.

The Department of Regional Development, Manufacturing and Water (the department) is pleased to continue to work with Council on this important water security initiative for the community of Longreach.

I have asked the department to review Council's business case and the department will be in touch to discuss the next steps and if there are any areas where additional clarification or information is required.

If you have any questions, please contact Ms Frances Stewart, Chief of Staff on 3035 6170 or email frances.stewart@ministerial.qld.gov.au.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Glenn Butcher".

**GLENN BUTCHER MP**  
**Minister for Regional Development and Manufacturing**  
**Minister for Water**

Our ref: CTS 01192/24



Mr Dirk Dowling  
CEO  
Longreach Regional Council  
PO Box 144  
ILFRACOMBE QLD 4727

Department of  
**Regional Development,  
Manufacturing and Water**

Email: [assist@longreach.qld.gov.au](mailto:assist@longreach.qld.gov.au)

Dear Mr Dowling

On 23 June and 5 October 2023, Ms Linda Dobe, Acting Director-General, Department of Regional Development, Manufacturing and Water (the department) wrote to you about the Queensland Government's \$2.6 million commitment to undertake an Urban Water Risk Assessment (UWRA). The aim of the project is to better understand drinking water and water security risks across remote and regional communities.

The project is being run in two stages; Stage 1 is an initial high-level desk top scan of service providers outside South East Queensland. Stage 2 is a more detailed assessment that will provide a better understanding of the risks and vulnerabilities faced by remote and regional providers and is due for completion in June 2024. I'm pleased to announce we are now approaching the end of Stage 1 and we are looking forward to your continued support and engagement in Stage 2.

The department is leading this work and your input is critical to the project's success. The department will liaise with your organisation's contact (who has been cc'd into this correspondence) following the Council elections to validate and verify initial results from the desk top scan and learn about any work you may already have underway to address known risks.

If you would like further information, please contact Ms Michelle Bordinon, A/Executive Director, Strategic Water Initiatives in the department on 0437 943 722 or email [urbanwaterrisk@rdmw.qld.gov.au](mailto:urbanwaterrisk@rdmw.qld.gov.au), who will be pleased to assist.

Yours sincerely

Jarrod Cowley-Grimmond  
**Acting Deputy Director-General  
Water Resource Management**

Cc: [assets@longreach.qld.gov.au](mailto:assets@longreach.qld.gov.au)

1 William Street  
Brisbane QLD 4000  
GPO Box 2247 Brisbane  
Queensland 4001 Australia  
**Telephone** 13 QGOV (13 74 68)  
**Website** [www.rdmw.qld.gov.au](http://www.rdmw.qld.gov.au)  
**ABN** 51 242 471 577



Premier of Queensland

For reply please quote: *E&E/CF – TF/23/15010 – DOC/23/208378*

28 February 2024

Councillor Anthony Rayner  
Mayor  
Longreach Regional Council  
mayor@longreach.qld.gov.au

1 William Street Brisbane  
PO Box 15185 City East  
Queensland 4002 Australia  
Telephone +61 7 3719 7000  
Email [ThePremier@premiers.qld.gov.au](mailto:ThePremier@premiers.qld.gov.au)  
Website [www.thepremier.qld.gov.au](http://www.thepremier.qld.gov.au)

Dear Councillor Rayner

Thank you for your participation in the 2024 Australia Day celebrations through the Australia Day Ambassador Program (the Program) and Great Australian Bites (GAB).

**Australia Day Ambassador Program.**

This Australia Day, 32 Ambassadors were hosted across Queensland and shared their stories and words of inspiration. Your generous hospitality in hosting an Ambassador is greatly appreciated, and I trust that your community and Ambassador enjoyed the celebrations.

**Great Australian Bites**

I would like to congratulate the Longreach Regional Council (the Council) on delivering a successful event and I hope you were able to enjoy the festivities and celebrate with your community.

I thank the Council for the support and willingness to incorporate our valued Australia Day celebrations into your schedule of events. The Program and GAB would not be successful without the commitment from local councils across the State, and I would like to acknowledge the efforts of Mr Brendon Harvey from within your Council in facilitating Council's involvement.

Should you have any questions or feedback about the Program or GAB, or would like to recommend a Queenslander as an Australia Day Ambassador for future years, please contact Events and Engagement, Department of the Premier and Cabinet, by email to [australiaday@premiers.qld.gov.au](mailto:australiaday@premiers.qld.gov.au) or on telephone (07) 3003 9200.

Again, thank you for your continued support and we look forward to your involvement in future years.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "S Miles", written in a cursive style.

**STEVEN MILES MP  
PREMIER OF QUEENSLAND**





29 February 2024

Brett Walsh  
Chief Executive Officer  
Longreach Regional Council  
PO Box 472  
Longreach QLD 4730

Via email: [ceo@longreach.qld.gov.au](mailto:ceo@longreach.qld.gov.au)

Dear Mr Walsh

**Re: Thank you for hosting the Water Connections Tour**

On behalf of the Queensland Water Directorate (*qldwater*) I would like to extend my personal gratitude for hosting delegates from the Water Connections Tour on Thursday 22 February.

As the central advisory and advocacy body, working with our members to provide safe, secure and sustainable urban water to Queensland communities, we were privileged to assist the Department of Regional Development, Manufacturing and Water in developing the Tour.

We understand that the State is already working with Longreach on a funding bid to the Australian Government based on the recently completed Business Case and we wish the council all the best with that endeavour.

Please do not hesitate to contact either David or myself ([gdavis@qldwater.com.au](mailto:gdavis@qldwater.com.au)/mobile 0450 296 240 and [dwiskar@qldwater.com.au](mailto:dwiskar@qldwater.com.au) /mobile 0417 720 211) if we can be of any assistance.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads 'gdavis'.

Dr Georgina Davis  
Chief Executive Officer

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an initiative of  
Institute of Public Works Engineering Australasia, Queensland  
Local Government Association of Queensland  
Local Government Managers Australia  
Australian Water Association

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Queensland  
 IPWEA  
INSTITUTE OF PUBLIC WORKS  
ENGINEERING AUSTRALASIA

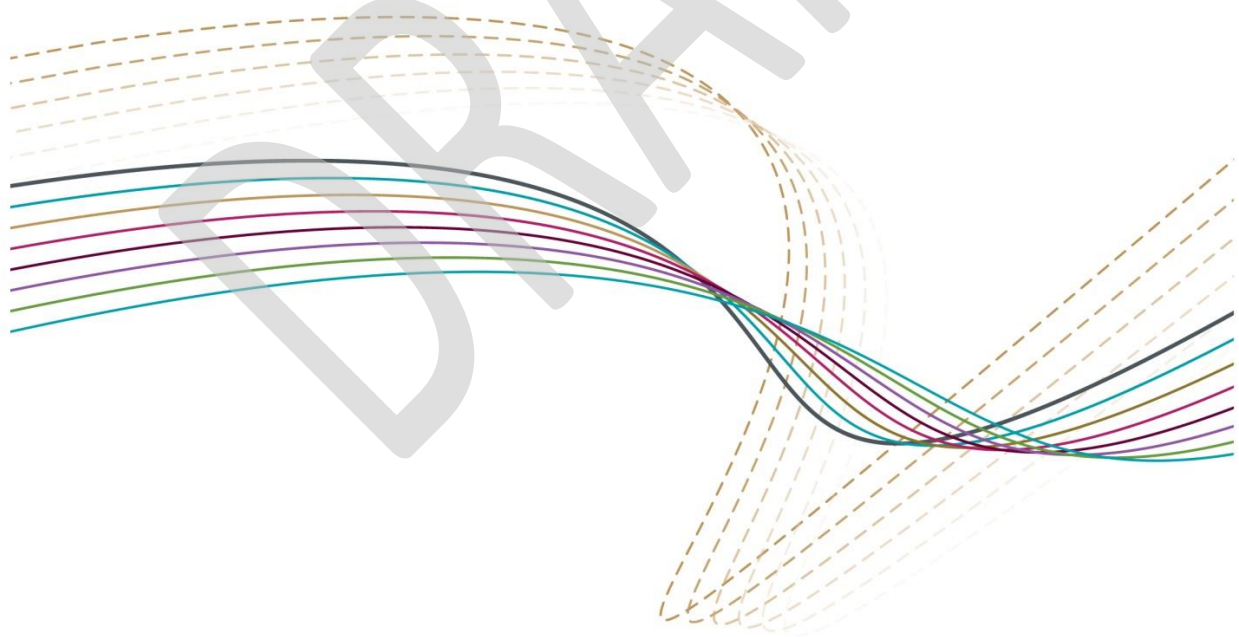
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QUEENSLAND TREASURY

# Queensland Government Carbon Credits Policy

Consultation Paper

January 2024





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# 1.0 Introduction

## 1.1 Purpose of this Discussion Paper

As Queensland and other jurisdictions move towards a low carbon future, carbon credits<sup>1</sup> are being increasingly used to help generate revenue, deliver environmental outcomes and to meet emissions targets. In particular, carbon credits will likely be required to offset hard to abate emissions.

There are risks involved in the management and use of carbon credits, particularly around the allocation of capital resources to achieve environmental and stakeholder outcomes while managing financial, reputational, and legal compliance risks.

The purpose of this discussion paper is to seek feedback from Queensland Government Entities on the opportunities and challenges in implementing the proposed Queensland Government Carbon Credits policy across controlled and non-controlled Queensland Government Entities (see definition in section 2.1.1 below).

Queensland Government Entities are invited to respond to the proposed policy questions and to comment on any issues identified in this paper by **23 February 2024**.

The policy positions outlined in this paper are provided for consultation purposes only and are not currently government policy.

## 1.2 Current Environment

The carbon credit market is expanding rapidly with varying degrees of regulation depending on the registry and country of issue, the type of carbon reduction achieved, and the level of assurance undertaken on verification.

Increasing use of carbon credits, without a robust governance framework to guide their use, generates financial, compliance and reputational risks. Whilst market-based mechanisms, such as carbon credits, can be used by an agency to meet its needs, the offsets themselves contain inherent risk as not all offsets are recognised for compliance purposes by regulators and stakeholders. This risk is generated by the different requirements of registries or credit issuers.

A certifying or regulatory authority may deem an offset credit ineligible for use in a compliance program if the project developer or the product purchaser cannot demonstrate the emission reduction claim is accurate and credible.

On 22 August 2022, the then Under Treasurer wrote to Directors-General requesting agencies to seek approval for dealings with carbon credits. The interim arrangement is in place for Queensland Treasury to manage key financial risks until such time as a more structured and considered framework could be established.

## 1.3 The case for change

The *Statutory Bodies Financial Arrangements Act 1982* (SBFA) and the *Financial Accountability Act 2009* (FA) together with other components of the existing financial and reporting framework do not readily support dealings with carbon credits and need to be updated to provide an appropriate risk framework for purchase and use of carbon credits.

From a risk management and internal control perspective, there is a need for clarity in the Financial Accountability Handbook (FA Handbook, made under the *Financial and Performance Management Standard 2019*) to provide guidance to statutory bodies and departments wishing to invest in or enter transactions for carbon credit products.

The proposed policy framework outlined for consideration will support the management of the financial risks for Queensland Government Entities associated with offsets.

The benefits of the proposed policy framework are:

- Risk management – Application of this framework will address the management of financial and reputational risks associated with dealing in carbon credits.

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<sup>1</sup> Carbon credits are measurable, verifiable reductions in carbon emissions.

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- Process improvement – This will enable further transparency and consistency across Queensland Government Entities of the type of carbon credit products being invested in and the whole of government (WoG) reporting on the use of carbon credits.
- Strategy Execution – Better execution of emissions reduction strategies through consistent application of a standardised and robust framework across Queensland Government Entities.
- Economies of scale – Simplification of reporting and promotion of efficiency and economies of scale through QTC enacting a program of acquiring and extinguishing credits at a WoG level.

### 1.4 Proposed policy framework scope

#### 1.4.1 In-Scope

This framework will include policy positions and guidance on the following:

- The types of carbon credits that may be used by entities including place of origin/locality.
- The delegated authority to deal carbon credits on behalf of the Queensland Government Entities and the relevant approval and reporting processes required.
- Applicability of framework to relevant specific entities i.e. Controlled versus non-Controlled Entities.
- Reporting requirements associated with carbon emissions at an entity level.
- The determination of carbon credit quantities to be purchased and associated approval processes to offset residual emissions.
- Legislative amendments to the FA and SBFA Acts and their related subordinate legislation and associated handbooks.
- Specific guidance for Government Owned Corporations (GOCs).
- Transition processes for entities already undertaking carbon offset programs to enable compliance with policy framework.

#### 1.4.2 Out of scope

- Greenhouse Gas Calculation Methodology: The calculation methodology used to determine the amount of greenhouse emissions gases generated or the use of carbon credits to offset will be considered by a separate, complementary policy.
- Emissions Reduction Methodology: The State is aiming to meet the majority of its emissions reduction targets through avoidance and the direct reduction of Green House Gas (GHG) emissions at source. The actions and activities which may be undertaken reduce residual carbon emissions will be developed by a separate, complementary policy.
- Co-benefits: Co-benefits are the additional positive environmental, socio-economic and First Nations outcomes delivered by carbon farming projects. Additional costs associated with the investment in these projects (over and above the cost of carbon credits) due to co-benefits outcomes will require demonstrated policy and financial merit and form part of a specific project/program approval. Further policy work will be undertaken separately to this policy to guide the assessment of the co-benefits including the determination of who will pay for any co-benefits.
- Primary Market Acquisition for broader policy purposes: Carbon sequestration or abatement project development (i.e. acquisition) Acquisition via the primary market is not prohibited by Queensland Government Entities, for example acquisition as part of projects on protected area estate. However, if pursued as a significant procurement strategy rather than for broader policy reasons, the Government would need to develop its capability further along with governance arrangements to support the centralised acquisition of offsets via the primary market. This will include policy work to consider merits, options and resourcing.

For further information on the above, refer to FAQs at the end of this paper.

### 1.5 Consultation feedback

To reduce the risk of unintended consequences from implementation of the proposed policy, feedback from all Queensland Government Entities is sought on any perceived challenges with implementing the proposed policy

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options. Feedback received will be considered as part of developing the government's finalised policy position. All government agencies, particularly those impacted will be kept informed as this policy is developed.

All enquiries and responses should be emailed to Lachlan Whitta, Manager – Balance Sheet and Sustainable Finance on [lachlan.whitta@treasury.qld.gov.au](mailto:lachlan.whitta@treasury.qld.gov.au) and Nishanthi Wijeratne – Senior Treasury Analyst on [nswije@treasury.qld.gov.au](mailto:nswije@treasury.qld.gov.au) by **23 February 2024**.

## 2.0 Issues

### 2.1 Scope

#### 2.1.1 Government Entities in Scope

The proposed policy will impact Queensland Government Entities defined as follows:

- Controlled entities - Those entities listed in Report of State Finances, Controlled Entities<sup>2</sup> note. Generally, these entities are:
  - Departments
  - Government Owned Corporations (GOCs)
  - Statutory bodies
- Non-Controlled entities:
  - Local governments
  - Universities
  - Grammar schools

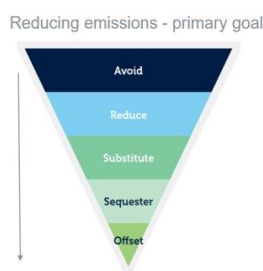
### 2.2 Proposed Policy Settings

Climate change is a material sustainability risk to the State. In response, the government has set emissions reduction targets and is implementing a program of actions to reduce emissions.

Under *Queensland Government Climate Action Plan 2030* the Government has set emissions reduction targets for the State, including:

- 75% emissions reduction below 2005 levels by 2035,
- Zero net emissions by 2050.

Only offsetting activities which physically takes place in Queensland count towards Queensland's 2030 and 2050 emissions reduction targets.



The State is aiming to meet these emissions reduction targets through avoidance and the direct reduction of CO<sub>2</sub> emissions at source. This approach follows the hierarchy of most preferred carbon abatement options:

- Avoid (do not undertake the activity)
- Reduce (directly cut emissions)
- Substitute (use an alternative)
- Sequester (direct carbon removal)
- Offset (includes use of carbon credits)

<sup>2</sup> <https://www.treasury.qld.gov.au/resource/report-state-finances/>

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Carbon offsets are measurable, verifiable reductions in carbon emissions, often traded as carbon credits. In the Australian context, an Australian Carbon Credit Units (ACCU) is the abatement of one ton of carbon (or equivalent) sequestered or avoided (CO<sub>2</sub>-e). These units are “surrendered” to the Clean Energy Regulator, which represents the act of carbon offsetting. The Clean Energy Regulator is an Australian Federal Government scheme responsible for developing ACCU project methodologies.

There are key risks involved in the use and management of carbon credits, particularly:

- the best allocation of resources to achieve desired outcomes.
- reputational risks with demonstrating genuine steps to reduce emissions prior to the use of carbon credits and if the credits used achieve real abatement.
- legal compliance risks associated with demonstrating how targets are achieved and external reporting.
- financial risks from investing capital in a market based financial product.

As with any financial product<sup>3</sup>, ACCUs can carry their own significant risks. It is expected that all entities will review and expand their financial policies and internal controls to include use of carbon credits and how key risks will be effectively managed. To support this, Queensland Treasury will prepare a best practice guide to assist agencies develop processes and capacity to manage carbon credit use.

### 2.2.1 Dealings in Carbon Credit Products

The carbon credit market is broad and expanding rapidly with mixed levels of regulation depending on the registry and country of issue, the type of carbon reduction achieved and the levels of verification. Each type of carbon credit has inherent risk as not all offsets are recognised for compliance purposes by regulators and stakeholders. This presents a significant compliance risk for agencies and government, and appropriate due diligence is required to determine an acceptable product for dealings by government agencies.

To manage the financial, reputational and compliance risks associated with the acquisition and use of carbon credits, it is proposed that only approved credits be purchased by government agencies with a list of approved carbon credits maintained as part of appropriate subordinate legislation and updated as required through regulation by the Treasurer.

A carbon credit has been defined in *Australian Sustainability Reporting Standard 2: Climate-related Financial Disclosures* as:

*An emissions unit that is issued by a carbon crediting programme and represents an emission reduction or removal of greenhouse gases. Carbon credits are uniquely serialised, issued, tracked and cancelled by means of an electronic registry or otherwise are recognised under the Australian Carbon Credit Unit Scheme.*

In the first instance, it is proposed that only ACCUs be approved for use by Queensland Government entities. The inclusion of other credits in the list of approved credits will be considered following detailed due diligence.

ACCUs have a well-developed and transparent regulatory framework that is necessary to manage legal, compliance and reputational risks. Additionally, ACCUs align with the *2016 Paris Agreement* (Paris Agreement) and associated targets supporting Paris based commitments.

Use of international offsets such as Certified Emission Reductions (CERs<sup>4</sup>) by government agencies do not align with international commitments under the Paris Agreement and do not support the achievement of state emissions targets. The Paris Agreement rules prevent carry-over of old units from the Kyoto Protocol era to meet Paris era targets, with few exceptions.

Many CER projects do not technically abate or sequester carbon, for example making payments to property owners to not clear forests, swapping stoves in developing countries from coal to gas. In addition, the Kyoto protocol recognises payments to wind and solar projects as substituting coal fired power stations, with these power stations then selling the green power leading to a level of double counting.

<sup>3</sup> As under Section 764A(1)(ka) of the *Corporations Act 2001*, and section 12BAA(7)(l) of the *Australian Securities and Investments Commission Act 2001*.

<sup>4</sup> Certified Emission Reductions – issued for projects registered under the Clean Development Mechanism established under the 1997 Kyoto Protocol. The 2016 Paris agreement rules prevent carry over of old units from the Kyoto Protocol era to meet Paris 2016 targets.

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<b>PROPOSED POLICY POSITION</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. All dealings will be in approved carbon credits.</li> <li>2. Only ACCUs be approved for use by Queensland Government Entities in the first instance with other credits to be considered only following detailed due diligence.</li> </ol>
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### 2.2.2 Application of Policy to Departments

For departments, carbon credits will be managed in a whole of government (WoG) approach via an acquisition / extinguishing program approved by CBRC at an aggregate level.

Departments can support or fund third parties seeking to create approved carbon credits or undertake development activities that create carbon credits if this is part of achieving broader policy objectives and an approved program. However, departments are not to surrender or sell any carbon credits independently, instead credits will contribute to the WoG program.

<b>PROPOSED POLICY POSITION</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>3. Department offsetting through carbon credits will be managed at a WoG level.</li> <li>4. This will be conducted via an acquisition and extinguishing program to be approved by CBRC.</li> <li>5. If there are sound policy reasons, for example co benefits, departments can support, or fund third parties seeking to create approved carbon credits or undertake development activities that create carbon credits as part of an approved program.</li> <li>6. Departments will not surrender or sell carbon credits acquired for broader policy purposes with any credits received contributing to the WoG program.</li> </ol>
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<b>Question</b>	<i>Does your department foresee any impediments with complying the above proposed policy position? If so, please provide details.</i>
<b>A</b>	

### 2.2.3 Application of Policy to GOCs and Statutory Bodies

Statutory bodies and GOCs can purchase, create, or support/fund third parties wishing to create (if relevant) approved carbon credits as part of a responsible Minister or shareholding Minister approved program.

GOCs and statutory bodies can also seek exemptions to the policy where tailored arrangements are required (e.g. joint venture contracts).

Any use of carbon credits by Queensland Government agencies should help support the Queensland government's progress towards its whole-of-state targets. Accordingly, it is proposed that controlled entities must make all reasonable endeavours to procure, create or support creation of carbon credits domiciled in Queensland.

For all agencies, QTC will be the exclusive agent for all dealings in the secondary market. This leverages QTC strong financial expertise, simplifies reporting and promotes efficiencies with a WoG approach to allocation.

It is expected a GOC's or statutory body's financial policies will be reviewed and expanded to include the use of credits and how key risks of this financial product will be effectively managed.

<b>PROPOSED POLICY POSITION</b>	7. Statutory bodies and GOCs can purchase, create, or support/fund third parties wishing to create (if relevant) <u>approved</u> credits as part of a responsible Minister or shareholding Minister approved program.
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	<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>8. GOCs and Statutory Bodies can also seek exemptions to the policy where tailored arrangements are required (e.g. joint venture contracts).</li><li>9. Statutory bodies and GOCs are to arrange purchasing, sale or extinguishment of carbon credits via QTC.</li><li>10. Statutory bodies and GOCs are to make all reasonable endeavours to procure carbon credits from projects domiciled in Queensland.</li><li>11. QTC will be the exclusive agent for all dealings in the secondary market. However Statutory Bodies can seek exemptions where specialist arrangements are required .</li></ol>
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<b>Question B</b>	<i>Does your statutory body/GOCs foresee any impediments with complying the above proposed policy position? If so, please provide details.</i>
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### 2.2.4 Application of Policy to Local Government, Universities and Grammar School Entities

Local governments, universities and grammar schools and any other non-controlled entity can purchase, create or support/fund third parties wishing to create approved carbon credits.

Given the independence of local government, universities and grammar school entities (and limited levels of government financial support provided to these entities), it is proposed that the use of carbon credits made in Queensland are strongly encouraged, but not mandated.

It is expected a non-controlled statutory body's financial policies will be reviewed and expanded to include the use of credits and how key risks of this financial product will be effectively managed.

<b>PROPOSED POLICY POSITION</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>12. Local governments, universities, grammar schools and other non-controlled entities can purchase, create or support/fund third parties wishing to create approved carbon credits.</li><li>13. Secondary market engagement for purchasing, sale or extinguishment of carbon credits will be undertaken via QTC unless otherwise approved.</li><li>14. For Local government, universities and grammar schools and other non-controlled entities, use of carbon credits made in Queensland are strongly encouraged, but not mandated</li></ol>
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<b>Question C</b>	<i>Does your local government, university, grammar school or non-controlled entity foresee any impediments with complying the above proposed policy position? If so, please provide details.</i>
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## 2.3 Timing of Change & Implementation

### 2.3.1 Departments, Statutory Bodies and GOCs

It is envisaged that all entities will transition to the policy framework by 1 July 2025, upon enactment of legislative changes, however, it is recommended that all controlled entities adopt the policy as soon as practicable.

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<b>PROPOSED POLICY POSITION</b>	<p>15. It is recommended that all controlled entities implement the policy framework as soon as practicable.</p> <p>16. Local governments, universities, grammar schools and other non-controlled entities will transition to the policy framework by 1 July 2025</p> <p>17. Legislative framework to take effect from 1 July 2025.</p>
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<b>Question D</b>	<i>Do you foresee any issues implementing the policy within your entity per the proposed dates? If so, please provide details.</i>
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## 2.4 Implementation - Treasury

### 2.4.1 Legislation Changes & Guidance

Necessary amendments will be made to the SBFA and FA Acts and relevant subordinate legislation to recognise and recognise and support Queensland Entities to deal with carbon credits and establish a risk framework for the management of these products.

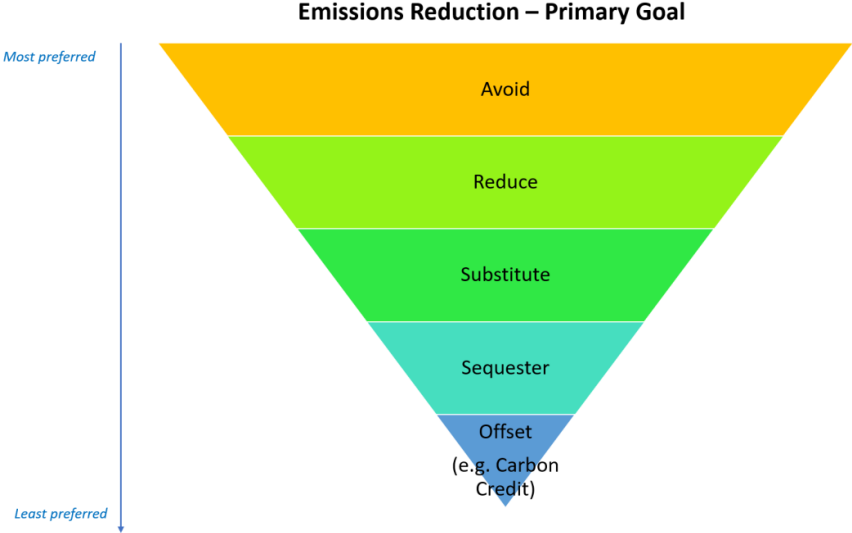
Queensland Treasury and QTC will prepare guidance materials for local governments, GOCs, universities and statutory bodies on managing financial risks along with a supporting communications strategy and amendments to Financial Accountability Handbooks.

## 2.5 Related Material

- [IFRS Sustainability Disclosure Standards](#) – for general reference purposes
- [Greenhouse Gas Protocol](#)
- [AASB Exposure Draft ED SR1 Australian Sustainability Reporting Standards – Disclosure of Climate-related Financial Information \(aasb.gov.au\)](#) – pending approval in 2024
- [Climate-related financial disclosure: exposure draft legislation | Treasury.gov.au](#) – pending approval in 2024

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## Attachment 1 – Frequently Asked Questions

<p>1. What are Queensland's current whole-of-state emissions reduction targets?</p>	<p>The Queensland Climate Action Plan 2030 outlines the state's investments and actions to reach its emissions and renewable targets, create jobs and drive economic growth. The emissions reduction targets for the State are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 75% reduction in emissions below 2005 levels by 2035</li> <li>• Zero Net emissions by 2050.</li> </ul> <p>Only emission reduction activities which physically take place in Queensland count towards Queensland's 2030 and 2050 emissions reduction targets.</p> <p>Further details on proposed WoG Operational Emissions Targets are currently being developed.</p>
<p>2. How will carbon emissions be measured?</p>	<p>Queensland's progress on its emissions reduction targets is based on the State and Territory Greenhouse Gas Inventories prepared by the Australian Government.</p> <p>This calculation methodology only recognises actual emissions within each region and does not provide for or recognise transfers between regions or internationally.</p> <p>The calculation methodology outlined in the Greenhouse House Gas (GHG) National Accounts. Refer to <a href="#">Tracking and reporting greenhouse gas emissions - DCCFEW</a></p> <p>Only projects undertaken within Queensland contribute toward Queensland achieving its targets, even if the credits are sold to another party in another jurisdiction. Refer <a href="https://ageis.climatechange.gov.au/">https://ageis.climatechange.gov.au/</a></p>
<p>3. How will Green House Gas (GHG) emissions be managed overall by the Queensland Government?</p>	<p>The <a href="#">Queensland Sustainability Report</a> endeavours to support the government's journey towards a sustainable and resilient future. This report provides information on the government's overall approach to managing sustainability risks.</p> <p>With respect to GHG, reducing emissions is the primary goal with the following actions to be considered prior to pursuing offsetting and the use of carbon credits to address residual emissions.</p> <div style="text-align: center;"> <p><b>Emissions Reduction – Primary Goal</b></p>  </div>

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4. How will carbon credits be managed at a WoG level?	<p>Refer to section 2.4.</p> <p>QT and QTC will monitor the ACCU market and its capacity to supply expected requirements in the same way QT manages government’s borrowing requirements.</p>
5. What and how will carbon emissions be reported?	<p>The Queensland Government framework which encompasses the “carbon management plans” for each department is still being developed.</p> <p>For all agencies, as a minimum and in line with Australian regulatory financial reporting standards due to be finalised in 2024, the scope 1 and 2 emissions (and scope 3 emissions where appropriate) will need to be reported.</p> <p>It is anticipated that further detail, such as emissions by sectors in which is already being captured, will continue to be collected.</p>
6. What type of carbon credits can Queensland Government purchase?	Refer to section 2.2.
7. What carbon credits can be used to meet government targets?	Refer to section 2.2.
8. Who will buy and sell carbon credits on behalf of government?	<p>Refer to section 2.2.</p> <p>The acquisition and extinguishing carbon credits program will be managed at a WoG level for Departments in aggregate based on residual emissions (i.e. not at a departmental level). This approach maintains the integrity the management of emissions from a WoG perspective resulting in no adverse outcomes in the event of machinery of government changes.</p> <p>Statutory bodies and GOCs will manage their own dealings in carbon credits in consultation with QTC and responsible / shareholding Ministers’ department officers.</p>
9. What are co-benefits and how will this be considered, particularly if there are cost implications?	Co-benefits of a specific project/program will require demonstrated policy and financial merit (including any additional costs) to be demonstrated and be approved by CBRC and/or cabinet as part of the policy objective of the co-benefits.
10. Can an agency acquire carbon credits from the primary market?	The State of Queensland has natural advantages in developing projects and accordingly acquisition via the primary market is not excluded if there are significant benefits for doing so. In this instance, relevant CBRC or Cabinet approval would need to be sought prior to entering into any primary market project development/acquisitions.
11. What happens if there aren’t enough ACCUs in the market to offset the government’s residual emissions and meet its targets?	<p>QT and QTC will monitor the ACCU market and its capacity to supply expected requirements in the same way QT manages government’s borrowing requirements.</p> <p>A program of acquisition and surrendering of ACCUs is not anticipated to be needed until beyond 2030, in alignment with government target setting, allowing time for the market to mature.</p> <p>The government’s acquisition program is not expected to be significant with other abatement options likely to be preferentially pursued.</p>

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### Attachment 2 – Proposed policy positions

Section	#	Proposal
2.2.1	1.	All dealings will be in approved carbon credits.
2.2.1	2.	Only ACCUs be approved for use by Queensland Government Entities in the first instance, with other credits to be considered only following detailed due diligence.
2.2.2	3.	Department offsetting through carbon credits will be managed at a WoG level.
2.2.2	4.	This will be conducted via an acquisition and extinguishing program to be approved by CBRC
2.2.2	5.	If there are sound policy reasons, for example co benefits, departments can support, or fund third parties seeking to create approved carbon credits or undertake development activities that create carbon credits as part of an approved program.
2.2.2	6.	Departments will not surrender or sell carbon credits acquired for broader policy purposes with any credits received contributing to the WoG program.
2.2.3	7.	Statutory bodies and GOCs can purchase, create, or support/fund third parties wishing to create (if relevant) <u>approved</u> credits as part of a responsible Minister or shareholding Minister approved program
2.2.3	8.	GOCs and Statutory Bodies can also seek exemptions to the policy where tailored arrangements are required (e.g. joint venture contracts).
2.2.3	9.	Statutory bodies and GOCs are to arrange purchasing, sale or extinguishment of carbon credits via QTC.
2.2.3	10.	Statutory bodies and GOCs are to make reasonable endeavours to procure carbon credits from projects domiciled in Queensland.
2.2.4	11.	QTC will be the exclusive agent for all dealings in the secondary market. However Statutory Bodies and GOCs can seek exemptions where specialist arrangements are required.
2.2.4	12.	Local governments, universities, grammar schools and other non-controlled entities can purchase, create or support/fund third parties wishing to create approved carbon credits.
2.2.4	13.	Secondary market engagement for purchasing, sale or extinguishment of carbon credits will be undertaken via QTC unless otherwise approved.
2.2.4	14.	For Local government, universities and grammar schools and other non-controlled entities carbon credits made in Queensland are strongly encouraged, but not mandated
2.3.1	15.	It is recommended that all controlled entities implement the policy framework as soon as practicable.
2.3.1	16.	Local government, universities and grammar schools and other non-controlled entities will transition to the policy framework by 1 July 2025
2.3.1	17.	All entities will implement the policy framework by 1 July 2025.

## Attachment 3 – Glossary

Terms, abbreviations, and acronyms used in this document are defined in the below table.

Table 1.1 - Definitions

Terms, abbreviations and acronyms	Definition
ACCUs	Australian Carbon Credit Unit. An ACCU is a unit issued to a person by Clean Energy Regulator with records maintained in the Australian National Registry of Emissions Units. Each ACCU issued represents one tonne of carbon dioxide equivalent (tCO <sub>2</sub> -e) stored or avoided by a project.
Carbon Credit	Carbon credits are measurable, verifiable reductions in carbon emissions
CBRC	Cabinet Budget Review Committee
CERs	Certified Emission Reductions CERs are issued for projects registered under the Clean Development Mechanism established under the 1997 Kyoto Protocol. The 2016 Paris agreement rules prevent carry over of old units from the Kyoto Protocol era to meet Paris 2016 targets.
Controlled Entity	Those entities listed in Report of State Finances, Controlled Entities note. These are defined as: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Net operating result in excess of \$5 million or</li> <li>• Net assets in excess of \$100 million</li> </ul> These entities are generally departments, most statutory bodies and GOCs.
Departments	As defined in Section 8 of the <i>Financial Accountability Act 2009</i> .
GOCs	Government Owned Corporations
Non-Controlled Entity	Those entities not listed in Report of State Finances, Controlled Entities note These entities are local government and universities.
QT	Queensland Treasury
QTC	Queensland Treasury Corporation
WoG	Whole of Government

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Queensland Treasury

Our Ref: 04064-2023

Mr Scott Mason  
Acting Chief Executive Officer  
Longreach Regional Council  
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Dear Mr Mason

The increasing use of carbon credits across the Queensland Government and related entities requires consideration of whether current governance and execution processes provide an appropriately robust framework to guide the use of carbon credits. There needs to be confidence the framework applied ensures any potential financial, compliance and reputational risks are being effectively managed.

Please find enclosed a consultation paper detailing a proposed policy position and regulatory amendments in relation to use of carbon credits. It would be appreciated if feedback is provided in response to the questions posed in the consultation paper to assist in properly identifying agency impacts of the proposed policy and ensure there are no negative unintended consequences of its application.

Queensland Treasury will host information session/s in early February 2024 to discuss its policy position. These sessions will be held in person at 1 William Street, Brisbane, 4000 and via Teams. Please email Ms Wijeratne by **Tuesday 6 February 2024** with details of attendees interested in attending and if attendance will be in person or via Teams as in person capacity is limited.

- If you are *Department or Statutory Body*, a dedicated session will be held on Monday, **12 February 2024** at 3.30pm.
- If you are a *Government Owned Corporation*, a dedicated session will be held on **Monday 19 February 2024** at 2pm.

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ABN 90 856 020 239



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Responses are sought by agencies by **Friday 23 February 2024** and should be emailed to:

- Mr Lachlan Whitta, Manager, Balance Sheet Management, Queensland Treasury, at [lachlan.whitta@treasury.qld.gov.au](mailto:lachlan.whitta@treasury.qld.gov.au)
- Ms Nishanthi Wijeratne, Senior Treasury Analyst, Queensland Treasury, at [nswije@treasury.qld.gov.au](mailto:nswije@treasury.qld.gov.au).

If you require any further information, please contact Mr Whitta, on 0409 154 442 or by email at [lachlan.whitta@treasury.qld.gov.au](mailto:lachlan.whitta@treasury.qld.gov.au).

Yours sincerely



Michael Carey  
**Under Treasurer**

24 / 01 / 2024

Encl. (1)



# Local Government Annual Report

Operational Highlights – Biosecurity Queensland  
2022 – 2023



This publication has been compiled by Biosecurity Queensland, Department of Agriculture and Fisheries

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*The Department of Agriculture and Fisheries proudly acknowledges all First Nations peoples (Aboriginal peoples and Torres Strait Islanders) and the Traditional Owners and Custodians of the country on which we live and work. We acknowledge their continuing connection to land, waters and culture and commit to ongoing reconciliation. We pay our respect to their Elders past, present and emerging.*

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### Introduction

Invasive plants and animals have significant environmental, economic and social impacts. Management of invasive species requires participation from all levels of government, industry and the community. Collaborative partnerships allow for sharing knowledge, skills and resources and are critical in reducing the negative impacts of invasive plants and animals.

Biosecurity Queensland, as part of the Department of Agriculture and Fisheries (DAF), works in partnership with many other groups including local governments, State and federal government agencies, industries, community and Indigenous groups to prevent or minimise the impacts of invasive species on Queensland's human health, social amenity, economy and environment.

Queensland has one of the most ambitious invasive species management objectives nationally, with:

- 35 invasive species having been eradicated to date, and
- 37 invasive species being managed towards eradication.

DAF supports local governments and communities through its investment in invasive plant and animal management, policy, research and operational services. Biosecurity Queensland undertakes strategic actions to:

- prevent the entry, spread and establishment of new invasive species,
- respond to new incursions and eradicate these where it is feasible to do so,
- enhance the capacity and capability of local governments to manage the impacts of established invasive plants and animals in Queensland.



*Dr Wayne Vogler discusses the management of invasive grasses with local government officers during an Invasive Grass Masterclass at Gatton.*

Funding for the operational component of the Invasive Plants and Animals Program (IP&A) is primarily provided from the State (80%) and supported by the Land Protection Fund (20%). The Land Protection Fund is a system of payments collected from landowners by local governments on behalf of the State in accordance with the *Biosecurity Act 2014*. Components of the Land Protection Fund that support invasive plant and animal management in Queensland include:

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- Wild Dog Barrier Fence – contributions from landowners in nine local governments and matched by the state. This pays for inspections, maintenance and repair of the Wild Dog Barrier Fence.
- Darling Downs-Moreton Rabbit Board – contributions from landowners in eight local governments within the board district. This pays for the operations of the Darling Downs-Moreton Rabbit Board, including maintaining the rabbit fence and controlling rabbits inside the protected area.
- Plague Pest Contingency Fund – contributions from landowners in 19 local governments that enables Biosecurity Queensland to undertake strategic surveillance and control targeted at the prevention of locust outbreaks in key cropping areas of Queensland. The fund is capped at \$500,000 and is only collected when the contingency fund is under this ceiling (not applicable in 2022-23).
- Research and on-ground – contributions from landowners in all local governments. These funds are used to undertake activities that help local governments manage invasive plants and animals. This includes funding the applied invasive species research undertaken by the IP&A Science team, education and training programs about invasive species, and actions to prevent and eradicate invasive species in Queensland.

This report outlines the operational activities of the Invasive Plants and Animals program of Biosecurity Queensland that was partially funded by the 'on-ground' component of the Land Protection Fund for the 2022-23 financial year. Key achievements include:

- 15 exotic animals detected and seized from illegal keeping.
- Thousands of prohibited illegally kept invasive plants seized and destroyed to prevent spread.
- 37 invasive species eradication projects being managed across Queensland.
- 23 workshops delivered to local government officers to build their skills in managing invasive species.



*Left: Local government officers get experience in identifying locusts during locust management training in Charleville. This training was delivered as a series of five workshops across Central and Southern Queensland. Right: Biosecurity Queensland requested assistance from the Department of Transport and Main Roads to temporarily close several lanes of the M1 Pacific Motorway at Coomera to control a high-risk prickly bush detected growing in the median strip. The operation involved a large number of vehicles, including a bump truck, and was conducted at night to minimise the disruption to motorists.*

### Prevention and early detection

Australia is well served by strong National and State legislative restrictions on the importation, possession and sale of potentially invasive plants and animals. In addition to enforcing these regulations, Biosecurity Queensland conducts activities to prevent, detect and eradicate some of the world's most destructive invasive pests.

The *Biosecurity Act 2014* (the Act) regulates how invasive species can be dealt with in Queensland. Regulation and enforcement of the Act related to the illegal possession and sale of invasive species in Queensland encompasses many activities, including the ongoing regulation of online sales platforms such as Facebook Marketplace and Gumtree, inspections of local markets and businesses, and undertaking investigations into allegations of illegal keeping of prohibited plants and animals. Biosecurity officers also educate stakeholders and the public about biosecurity risks, and how to mitigate these risks to prevent biosecurity events from occurring.

The legislative restrictions aimed at preventing the introduction of invasive species are supported by surveillance efforts to detect any incursions as early as possible. Early detection is critical in preventing the establishment of new invasive species. If invasive species are allowed to establish, they can quickly form robust and widespread populations that are not feasible to eradicate. Preventative surveillance uses planned, systematic and well-researched approaches that incorporate pest risk assessment and pathway analysis to detect new incursions. Preventative surveillance is achieved by:

- Active surveillance for invasive species not known to be present in Queensland, but which are assessed to be a high risk of introduction. The species and locations targeted for surveillance is based on an assessment of the pathways for introduction, the species being detected at the national border, and the suitability of Queensland's climate for invasive species to establish.
- Supporting surveillance by other groups. Biosecurity Queensland supports local government, community and Indigenous groups to detect and report high-risk invasive species. The Weed Spotters Network of over 1800 volunteers is a highly successful example of this. The iNaturalist social media network includes an automated species identification tool which enables naturalists, citizen scientists and biologists to assist with the identification of species and is emerging as a key surveillance technique, providing Biosecurity Queensland with valuable data on the presence of high-risk invasive species.

As the population of Queensland continues to grow, the number of compliance cases being investigated by biosecurity officers has also continued to rise. Biosecurity officers have increased monitoring of social media platforms to detect the illegal online sale of regulated invasive plants. Illegal online sales contributed to half of all of the cases investigated during the 2022-23 financial year.

Biosecurity Queensland have continued to lead the response to illegal sales of regulated invasive species on social media platforms. Biosecurity Queensland have partnered with the federal Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry (DAFF) to develop a procedure to have posts where offences are detected on Facebook and Instagram removed by Meta. This process has assisted with preventing the illegal sale and distribution of invasive plants. All Australian State and Territory biosecurity agencies now have access to this process.



### Exotic animal surveillance and investigations

There is no single method available for detecting all exotic reptile species, as they occur in a range of aquatic and terrestrial habitats. In the past decade, multiple exotic animal species such as corn snakes (*Pantherophis guttatus*), boa constrictors (*Boa constrictor*), Burmese pythons (*Python bivittatus*), spotted pond turtle (*Geoclemys hamiltonii*), star tortoise (*Geochelone elegans*) and red eared slider turtles (*Trachemys scripta elegans*) have been detected or intercepted in Queensland.

Biosecurity Queensland works to prevent these, and many other species, from becoming established in Queensland by investigating reports of illegal keeping of exotic pets and undertaking surveillance for high-risk invasive animal species. The most likely pathway for introduction of exotic species into Queensland's environment is the dumping of illegally kept pets into bushland or waterbodies close to residential areas.



*This Boa constrictor was detected at large near Airlie Beach and seized by biosecurity officers.*

### Exotic turtle surveillance

Biosecurity officers are able to exploit the ectothermic (body temperature that varies with their environment) characteristics of aquatic exotic turtles by deploying surveillance platforms at high-risk sites. The surveillance platforms provide a safe location for turtles to bask, images of which are collected and reviewed to identify the species present.

In 2022-23, surveillance platforms were deployed in four high-risk waterways in North Queensland: Kingfisher Lagoon in Townsville, the old Cooktown town reservoir, Lake Placid in Cairns and Cairns Centenary Lakes. Turtle surveillance platforms were deployed at these sites for a total of 639 days with no exotic species detected.



Left: James Cook University assisted with the construction of surveillance platforms, which need to be able to survive use by large reptiles (right).

This preventative surveillance project provided an avenue for engagement and collaboration with education institutions. In Townsville, James Cook University assisted with deployment of the surveillance platforms and analysis of the footage. In Cairns, the Newman Catholic College's high-performance class studies aquatic biosecurity and assisted in reviewing and improving platform design and building additional platforms. This assistance not only provided an educational opportunity for students, but also allowed for the expansion of the surveillance program and minimising the time for decontamination, which is required to reduce the risks of weed seed spread when moving equipment between catchments.

Surveillance for exotic turtles commenced in Central Queensland in early 2023. Visual surveillance using a spotting scope has been implemented at locations where there is a risk of theft. Sites surveyed include the Gooseponds, Glenella Northview Park, Kerrisdale Estate Pond, Blacks Beach constructed wetlands in Mackay and Mullers Lagoon in Bowen. Surveillance has been expanded to include the use of a surveillance platform, with the first platform deployed at Mullers Lagoon. To date, no exotic turtles have been detected.

### Asian black spined toad surveillance

Asian black spined toads (*Duttaphrynus melanostictus*) are a high priority surveillance target in Queensland. If they naturalise, they are likely to have impacts comparable to those of the cane toad. While not known to occur in Australia, the species is present in closely neighbouring countries, such as Indonesia, East Timor and Papua New Guinea and pose a serious risk to Queensland.

Biosecurity officers collaborated with Ports North to undertake surveillance for Asian black spined toads using acoustic call and lure traps. The Cairns Port was selected as a high-risk potential pathway in consideration of the increased shipping traffic from South-East Asia associated with the arrival of wind turbine components. Six traps were deployed for the majority of the year, with no Asian black spined toads detected.

A secondary benefit of the Cairns trapping program was the capture of more than 20 cane toads (*Bufo marinus*), a significant decline compared to 2021-22. These captures supplement efforts by the Far Northern Biosecurity Initiative who have deployed cane toad-specific traps to prevent stowaways

reaching toad-free islands of the Torres Strait. It also reduces the likelihood of stowaways hitching a ride to islands in the Great Barrier Reef and the Pacific.

In Central Queensland, surveillance for Asian black spined toads was conducted near the Port of Mackay, Port of Hay Point and Rockhampton airport. These sites were chosen due to their proximity to fresh water and the perceived risk of Asian black spined toad introduction, with all sites receiving goods from overseas. Trapping was conducted in collaboration with North Queensland Bulk Ports and other landholders. Traps were deployed for a total of 74 trap nights with no Asian black spined toads detected.

The absence of Asian black spined toad detections provides a level of confidence that this species is not currently present within the state and demonstrates the importance of preventative surveillance and early detection to facilitate eradication if an incursion is discovered. Additional research is underway to investigate the effectiveness of a range of additional Asian black spined toad calls for incorporation within the traps as an acoustic playlist.



*Left: An Asian black spined toad trap at Cairns Port. Right: A biosecurity officer surveys for invasive ants at a marina in Central Queensland.*

### **Invasive ant surveillance**

With a history of incursions, known pathways and potential entry points, Biosecurity Queensland has implemented a surveillance project for priority invasive ants in North and Central Queensland. Sentinel sites have been identified for periodic surveillance based on pathways involving international shipping, military and cargo movement, global yachting, and links with other known sites of infestation in Queensland. Target species include tropical fire ants, yellow crazy ants, electric ants, red imported fire ants and browsing ants. Other priority targets are listed in the National Invasive Ant Biosecurity Plan 2018-28.

North Queensland has been heavily impacted by invasive ant species, with yellow crazy ants being managed to protect the Wet Tropics World Heritage Rainforest, and electric ants currently managed by DAF's National Electric Ant Eradication Program. During the 2022-23 financial year, invasive ant surveillance was conducted at the Cairns and Townsville Ports. Surveillance for unwanted intrastate hitchhikers was conducted at waste transfer and refuse sites, caravan parks and shipping depots. Domestic tourism, especially into the western and northern part of the state has heightened the risk of invasive ants being transported to previously low-risk areas.

Biosecurity officers in North Queensland coordinate and conduct surveillance activities in partnership with local government officers to build their capacity to monitor council-operated waste transfer and refuse sites. Biosecurity officers also hosted James Cook University work placement students, who were trained and then conducted invasive ant surveillance around the Townsville university campus.

A further 68 surveys were conducted in Central Queensland, involving 39 sentinel and 12 community-reported sites. This included seven council depots or set-down areas, seven marinas, five sites at Shoalwater Bay Training Area and Woolcock Barracks in Rockhampton, five landfill or waste transfer sites, and the Port of Mackay. Survey transects totalled 46.7 km with 3,546 lures used. Assistance in conducting surveys was provided by local governments, Department of Defence and port officers.



Left: A biosecurity officer inspects a lure for the presence of ants during invasive ant surveillance at Port of Mackay. Right: Participants examine invasive ants at the tramp ant workshop.

There were no detections of target species, however the established invasive species Singapore ants (*Trichomyrmex destructor*) and African big-headed ants (*Pheidole megacephala*) were detected at multiple sites. Such detections may be considered by stakeholders for extirpation (localised eradication) or asset protection where this is feasible. Biosecurity officers have also assisted Department of Defence with invasive ant control programs at Shoalwater Bay Training Area where military facilities and assets were at risk of impact.

Biosecurity Queensland continue to support Whitsunday Regional Council in managing five yellow crazy ant infestations. Support has included invasive ant identification, delimitation assistance at Shute Harbour, participation in meetings and providing specialist technical advice.

To enhance regional capacity for priority invasive ant detection, biosecurity officers coordinated three training workshops for stakeholders. This included delivery of a tramp ant workshop as a collaboration between Biosecurity Queensland and Reef Catchments NRM. One workshop was held in Mackay with 21 participants, and two workshops were run for 38 Queensland Parks and Wildlife Service (QPWS) officers from the Mackay-Whitsunday and Rockhampton Districts. Training sessions raised awareness of invasive ants and provided participants with the necessary skills to conduct surveillance.

### Exotic animal investigations

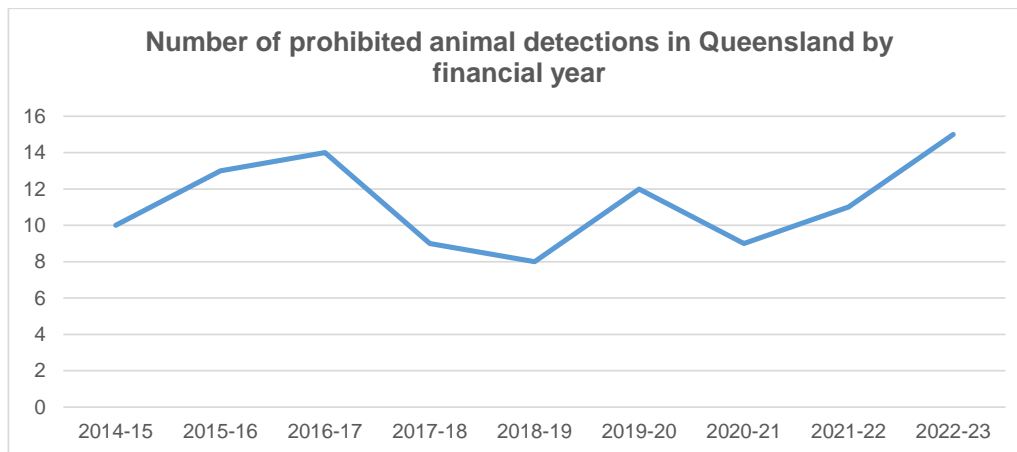
Illegal wildlife crime poses a serious biosecurity risk to Queensland. Exotic animals may be illegally smuggled into Australia and can carry exotic diseases that could devastate our economy and environment. These animals are also often highly invasive, and many species have formed invasive

populations overseas. A total of 15 prohibited invasive animals were detected in Queensland this year, all associated with illegal keeping. This is the highest number of animals seized in a year on record.

The first *Boa constrictor* to be detected in Central Queensland was seized in 2023. The snake, a 1.95-metre-long male, was found at large near Airlie Beach. Native to North, Central and South America, boa constrictors are a large python species that may impact the environment through preying on small mammals, birds, amphibians, and other reptiles.

A second *Boa constrictor* was seized in South-East Queensland. As a result of pathology testing, the snake was identified to be infected with Cryptococcosis. Cryptococcosis is a serious fungal disease that affects a broad range of animal species globally, from single-celled amoeba to large marine mammals. This includes a wide diversity of wildlife species, small companion animals, horses, production animals and humans.

Cryptococcosis, which appears to be acquired by the inhalation of yeasts from the environment, often manifests as skin and soft tissue infections, rhinosinusitis, pneumonia, and meningoencephalitis. It is impossible to determine if the snake acquired the disease in Australia or elsewhere, however it highlights the exotic disease risk posed by the illegal transnational wildlife trade.



Another serious case involved the detection of a juvenile African hedgehog (*Atelerix albiventris*) at large in a Gold Coast suburb. This is the first detection of an African hedgehog in Queensland. African hedgehogs belong to the Erinaceidae family. This family includes the European hedgehog (*Erinaceus europaeus*), which has established feral populations in New Zealand and some Scottish islands. Once established in a new environment, hedgehogs impact native species due to their voracious, omnivorous appetite. Hedgehogs negatively affect insects, snails, lizards and ground-nesting birds, particularly shore birds, as hedgehogs raid their nests and eat the eggs and chicks.

Hedgehogs also have the potential to seriously damage the Australian economy due to their ability to harbour exotic animal diseases such as foot and mouth disease and rabies. Other endemic diseases carried by hedgehogs include salmonella, Q-fever and toxoplasmosis, all of which are capable of being transmitted to humans.



*Left: Hedgehogs are popular pets overseas, but they pose serious risks to Australia's agricultural and environmental systems. Right: Two ferrets seized in Warwick.*

Three ferrets were detected being illegally kept in Warwick and seized during a joint operation with Southern Downs Regional Council. Ferrets are legal to possess in most states but are prohibited in Queensland and the Northern Territory. As such, ferrets are one of the more commonly kept illegal pets. Ferrets have several attributes indicating the potential to become an invasive pest in Queensland. The species is climatically matched to cooler south-east areas of Queensland, is an opportunistic predator presenting serious impacts to native species, can suffer from a number of diseases, parasites and viruses of economic importance to Queensland, such as rabies and bovine tuberculosis, and can inflict severe bites which may require medical attention.

Regular engagement is continuing with real estate agents across South-East Queensland as part of investigations into the illegal keeping of regulated animals, particularly exotic reptiles. Engagement with property managers of rentals includes providing information on the identification and reporting of high-risk animals, as well as using available legislative powers to obtain admissible evidence to support enforcement actions.

### **Invasive plant surveillance and investigations**

The majority of weed infestations affecting Queensland are the result of escaped ornamental plants. Detecting and destroying high-risk invasive ornamentals is a priority to prevent the establishment of new invasive species in Queensland. Invasive cacti pose one of the greatest threats to Queensland's agricultural and environmental systems. Cacti are well suited to much of the environment and can spread rapidly across the landscape. Tropical soda apple is another species of concern. It is well established in northern New South Wales (NSW) and all detections in Queensland are associated with the movement of cattle from northern NSW into Queensland.

### **High risk weed pathway surveillance**

The risk of interstate movement of invasive plants has been assessed to identify species that have high invasive potential if introduced into Queensland, and the dispersal pathways by which these species would be most likely to enter the state. This process leads to a more effective understanding of species-specific population development and the most appropriate methods to respond effectively to new incursions. Historical records from the Queensland Herbarium also enable Biosecurity Queensland to monitor areas of previous infestations to ensure that re-establishment has not occurred.

Biosecurity Queensland has partnered with local governments to undertake surveillance of these pathways and historical infestation sites including saleyards, dumps, town commons, camping areas, farmer markets, roadside rest areas and stock routes.

Sentinel sites have been established to monitor areas of previous infestation to ensure reinfestation has not occurred. Inspections were conducted across southern Queensland, targeting a range of high-risk species including tropical soda apple, karroo thorn, pencil cactus, bunny ears cactus, sulphur cactus and Hudson pear.



Left: A rest area at Mount Moffatt, assessed as at risk of new weed incursions due to regular use by interstate visitors. Right: Inspecting for karroo thorn.

### Spiked pepper surveillance

Spiked pepper (*Piper aduncum*) is a quick-growing, small tree native to South and Central America and has been identified as a high priority surveillance target for Queensland. It is a significant weed in Papua New Guinea and other Pacific and South-East Asian countries. It is not known to occur in Queensland but has the potential to become a serious invasive plant. Being a pioneer species, it will readily invade disturbed habitats, forest margins, roadsides, waterways, and pastures.

To enable early detection of spiked pepper, sentinel sites have been established, recognising flying foxes (fruit bats) as a likely seed spread vector. If plants are present within the foraging range of bats, it is probable that seedlings will germinate under roosts. Twenty-five roosts have been identified as sentinel sites, with 15 of these surveyed by biosecurity officers in 2022-23. There were no detections.

Biosecurity Queensland has developed a state-wide surveillance plan for spiked pepper. This has further examined invasion vectors and pathways including the possibility of historical plantings and potential for movement of seed from Papua New Guinea to Torres Strait.

### Cactus compliance project

Invasive cacti pose a well-recognised biosecurity risk to Queensland. The first record of prickly pear (*Opuntia stricta*) was from Parramatta in the 1830s. Prickly pear was grown as a hedge around houses and sheds and moved across NSW and Queensland. By 1870, prickly pear was recorded as growing as a hedge in Blackall, and the first prickly pears were recorded in Rockhampton.

One hundred and fifty years later, surveillance for regulated cacti was completed across Central Queensland, targeting town boundaries, stock routes and town commons. Fifty-four surveys were conducted covering a total of 1,800 ha and 126 km of transects inspected. In addition, biosecurity officers monitor online trading platforms, roadside stalls and community markets for regulated weeds.

Biosecurity officers completed 39 investigations into the illegal keeping and selling of regulated invasive cacti in Central Queensland. These investigations resulted in the seizure and destruction of 145 individual cacti. The most commonly encountered regulated cactus was bunny ears cactus (*Opuntia microdasys*). Twenty-eight bunny ears were seized in Rockhampton being illegally advertised for sale on Facebook Marketplace. A further 26 bunny ears were seized during investigations in Yeppoon, Theodore, The Willows, Mackay, and Sarina.

There were three investigations into prohibited cactus species, resulting in the seizure of seven blind cacti (*Opuntia rufida*) in Mackay and Rockhampton, and one Engelmann's cactus (*Opuntia engelmannii*) in Rockhampton. All plants were seized and destroyed by deep burial or incineration. Other cacti species seized included Eve's pin cactus (*Austrocylindropuntia subulata*), velvety tree pear (*Opuntia tomentosa*), coral cactus (*Cylindropuntia fulgida*), drooping tree pear (*Opuntia monacantha*), Hudson pear (*Cylindropuntia tunicata*) and the notorious prickly pear (*Opuntia stricta*).



Left: A prohibited blind cactus (*Opuntia rufida*). Right: A prohibited Engelmann's prickly pear (*Opuntia engelmannii*). Both of these cacti were being illegally kept as garden ornamentals.

Biosecurity officers partnered with multiple local governments across North Queensland to undertake an awareness campaign targeting cacti species that are classified as prohibited or restricted matter under the Act. The aim of the campaign was to raise awareness with plant traders of the risks of invasive plants and the legislation governing them. Engagement with traders has been documented to support any future enforcement action in the case of non-compliance.

A Carpentaria Shire Rural Lands Officer identified a cactus in Karumba and reported this to Biosecurity Queensland, with the identification confirmed as Engelmann's cactus (*Opuntia engelmannii*), a prohibited species under the Act. The officer recorded the location and assisted with the safe removal and destruction of the plant by deep burial. This is the second plant found in Karumba.



Active surveillance for prohibited cacti in South-East Queensland targeted regional towns where there is a risk of illegally kept ornamental cacti escaping gardens into bush or agricultural lands. Surveillance was undertaken across the Wide Bay-Burnett and Scenic Rim regions, with a total of 12 towns being inspected. Regulated cacti were detected in Apple Tree Creek, Urangan and Tinana, with all cacti detected being seized and removed.



*Biosecurity officers seize and remove regulated cacti from a backyard greenhouse being used to illegally propagate plants for sale.*

Biosecurity officers made the largest seizure of cacti in Queensland to date, with 2823 regulated cacti removed from a property on the Sunshine Coast. The majority of these plants were bunny ears (*Opuntia microdasys*) being propagated and mass planted in geometric ornamental gardens, and also offered for sale. Of particular concern, bunny ears cactus is not established anywhere in Queensland, but is now the most frequently detected species being illegally kept. This poses a high risk of this cactus becoming an established invasive species. The owner was fined for illegally keeping invasive plants.

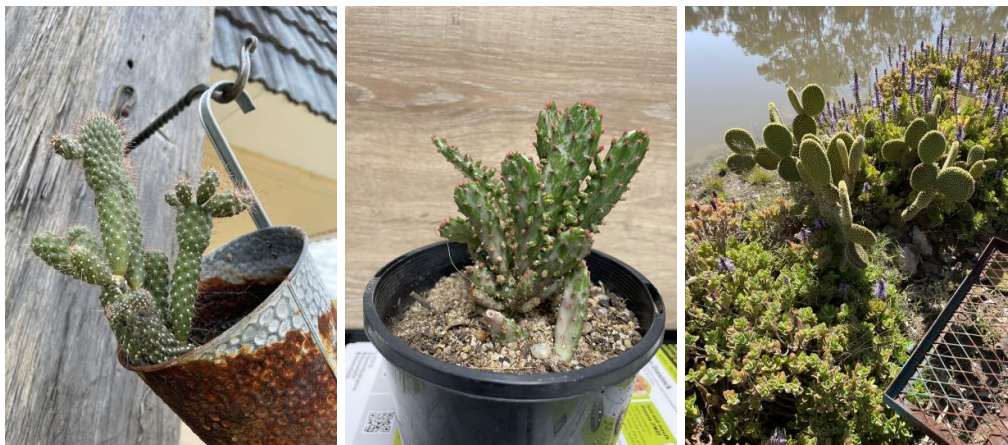


*Biosecurity and Logan City Council Officers inspect a Florida Beach prickly pear in Waterford West.*

A previously unrecorded prohibited invasive species, Florida Beach prickly pear (*Opuntia keyensis*) was detected being illegally kept in a Logan suburb. Eight of these cacti were seized, along with 386 other regulated cacti being propagated for sale, during a joint Biosecurity Queensland and Logan City Council operation. The owner issued with a fine.

During the Queensland Garden Expo held annually in Nambour, a Victorian-based vendor was detected illegally selling various species of restricted cacti. The cacti were seized and the vendor fined. In total, biosecurity officers investigated 87 reports of people illegally keeping or illegally selling cacti in South-East Queensland during the financial year.

Biosecurity officers have partnered with Western Downs and Toowoomba Regional Councils to seize high-risk invasive cactus species from collections and ornamental plantings in rural and semi-rural settings in Miles, Tara and Toowoomba. Illegal keeping of regulated invasive cacti in these settings poses a high risk of these cacti escaping gardens and becoming new invasive species. Many people remain unaware of the risks posed by invasive plants and animals and the regulations that apply. The illegal sale, trade and gifting of cacti facilitates the further spread of these invasive weeds across Queensland and other States and Territories.



*A few of the illegally kept invasive cacti seized from across Southern Queensland.*

### Community engagement

To improve community awareness of high-risk invasive species, Biosecurity Queensland has undertaken proactive and targeted engagement with key community groups. Biosecurity officers work to educate these groups about the risks and legislative obligations for regulated invasive weeds and animals in Queensland, providing information packs and identification material.

Some of the groups engaged include representatives of communities where invasive species are cultivated and traded for cultural purposes. Other groups engaged include managers of weekend markets; real estate agents and contracted utility maintenance personnel who deal with rental properties. Biosecurity Queensland is working to build awareness of invasive species with officers from Queensland Police and other law enforcement agencies who investigate matters where there is potential for the illegal keeping of exotic animals to be detected.

Cha-om (*Senegalia insuavis*), soap pod (*Senegalia rugata*), water mimosa (*Neptunia plena* and *Neptunia oleracea*) and limnocharis (*Limnocharis flava*) continue to be detected in small scale production for consumption by some South-East Asian community groups. In 2023, the National Tropical Weeds Eradication Program ran a sponsored social media campaign in addition to posts on the Biosecurity Queensland Page. The campaign targeted people with an interest in gardening and Asian cooking, and expatriates, urging everyone to report these weeds. The campaign reached just

under 300,000 people. This was in addition to several awareness activities undertaken at markets in Townsville and Cairns to provide extension material in relation to all four species.

Authorised officers from Biosecurity Queensland and Logan City Council attended a cultural event at a Buddharam in Logan in response to an invitation by the event organisers. The invitation was extended to provide awareness of regulated plants used within the Cambodian community for culinary purposes, specifically limnocharis and cha-om. All of the local food vendors and plant sellers at the event were spoken to and provided awareness material. A translator was hired to assist for the day, which allowed officers to effectively engage with people from non-English speaking backgrounds. The translator also advised officers on cultural etiquette when interacting with members of the Cambodian community.



*Left: Biosecurity officers engage with food vendors assisted by an interpreter during a Cambodian Buddharam in Logan. Right: A biosecurity officer checks a local vendor for cha-om in Cairns.*

Biosecurity officers have continued to work with managers of community weekend markets to reduce the likelihood of invasive species being sold. These events provide opportunities for people to illegally sell invasive species, particularly regulated weeds. Biosecurity officers partner with local governments across Queensland to prevent these sales from occurring. This year, 11 local markets in four South-East Queensland local government areas have been engaged to assist with the prevention and detection of regulated plants being sold.

### **Freshwater pest fish prevention**

Preventing the introduction of high-risk aquatic species and stopping naturalisation in Queensland's waterways continues to be the focus of Biosecurity Queensland's freshwater pest fish activities. Preventing introduction is far more efficient and feasible than attempting to control pest fish species once they have established wild populations. Queensland has the highest diversity of freshwater fish in Australia and has a significant fish hatchery industry worth almost five million dollars. However, both our native fish biodiversity and freshwater fishery industries are under threat from the presence of exotic invasive fish. The most common of these are tilapia, carp and gambusia.

In Queensland, tilapia have successfully established in 27 of Queensland's 76 catchments, including all of the east coast catchments and several other catchments. There are also many other exotic species which pose a threat to Queensland waters.

This is a significant problem in the fish hatchery business, where ensuring fingerling supplies are free of invasive pest species is vital for market access, particularly for sales interstate. Fisheries Queensland and Biosecurity Queensland have conducted joint site visits to five fish hatcheries to ensure adequate controls are in place to prevent pest fish contaminating brood stock facilities.



*Left: A female tilapia with eggs in the mouth. Tilapia are a mouth brooder, which significantly enhances their survivability in the wild. Right: Native fingerlings pictured at a fish hatchery.*

The inspections focussed on the risks posed by tilapia, as hatcheries can supply fingerlings into the Murray-Darling catchment, which is currently free of tilapia. The inspectors provided advice to hatchery managers on improving biosecurity measures to prevent any incursions into hatchery facilities, particularly during flood events.

Freshwater fish stocking groups are key partners for extending information and awareness of pest fish issues, as well as coordinating pest fish-related events. Biosecurity officers enhanced this collaboration through participation in the Queensland Freshwater Fish Stocking Workshop in Mackay. A presentation on pest fish management in Queensland provided an overview of current legislation, major pest fish species and their distribution, management approaches, and the operational role of Biosecurity Queensland. Councils are encouraged to work with their local freshwater fish stocking group when considering any stocking activity. It is crucial that appropriate species are stocked and that a stocking plan is in place prior.

Other early intervention and education projects to raise awareness of invasive fish issues, particularly the illegal dumping of aquarium contents, have been conducted by engaging several pet fish retailers in North Queensland to promote biosecurity extension material. Pet fish retailers agreed to display awareness material and are incentivised through access to free multi-use plastic bags. Produced by Biosecurity Queensland, the bags are branded with awareness information regarding the illegal dumping of aquarium contents and the risks posed to native fish and the environment. Some pet fish retailers in Queensland assist by permitting the return of fish that are no longer wanted by their owners, therefore providing a viable and more beneficial option to dumping in local waterways.

### Response

Queensland has an enviable record of successfully eradicating invasive species. Thirty-five invasive species are recorded as being successfully eradicated to date. The table on the following page lists the species eradicated and currently being managed towards eradication.

Where a new regulated invasive species is reported or detected, Biosecurity Queensland conducts a response to determine if the species can be eradicated from the state. Eradication is highly desirable, but very difficult to achieve. The invasive species targeted for eradication are determined by the feasibility of eradication, not on the regulatory status of the species.

Biosecurity Queensland carefully selects eradication targets using a process of evidence-based risk management to ensure that public funds are spent wisely on species that have the greatest potential to cause impacts within Queensland. The assessment of feasibility of eradication considers the density and distribution of the species, which may require extensive delimitation surveillance, the efficacy of available control options, and the resources available to support eradication efforts. Biosecurity Queensland pursues eradication in partnership with local governments and other stakeholders including landholders, community and Indigenous groups.

Once the decision to pursue eradication is made, the eradication process is divided into two phases:

1. Control phase – all individuals of the species are detected and destroyed to prevent population recruitment.
2. Proof of freedom phase – scheduled surveillance is completed to ensure all species have been destroyed. The timeframe for this phase is species dependent, and for weed species is required until the soil seedbank is no longer viable. This phase ends when there have been no detections for a specified number of years.

There are often multiple, discrete sites of infestation for each species. Once a site completes the proof of freedom phase, it is declared extirpated (locally eradicated). Once all known sites in Queensland have been declared extirpated, the species can be declared eradicated from Queensland.

There are currently 37 species targeted for eradication from Queensland. Six of these species are being managed under nationally cost-shared eradication programs. Land protection funds are not used for these projects. These projects are not covered further in this report.

Nineteen species are in the proof of freedom phase. Many of these species including Aaron's beard cactus, Engelmann's prickly pear, fever tree, Madras thorn, paperbark thorn, violet prickly pear and wheel cactus have only ever been detected in illegal keeping. Sites where these species have been detected are inspected annually during the proof of freedom phase to ensure there is no regrowth or germination from seed until the eradication process is complete and the site can be declared extirpated.

A further eleven species are in the control phase and are subject to routine surveillance and control. A summary of the progress towards eradication for the major projects is included in the following sections.

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Invasive species eradicated from Queensland	
1. Anchored water hyacinth ( <i>Eichhornia azurea</i> )	18. Knobthorn ( <i>Senegalia nigrescens</i> )
2. American corn snake ( <i>Pantherophis guttatus</i> )	19. Leopard gecko ( <i>Eublepharis macularius</i> )
3. Asian box turtle ( <i>Cuora amboinensis</i> )	20. Marmoset ( <i>Callithrix jacchus</i> )
4. Boa constrictor ( <i>Boa constrictor</i> )	21. Mexican bean tree ( <i>Cecropia pachystachya</i> )
5. Black willow ( <i>Salix nigra</i> )	22. Miconia ( <i>Miconia cionotricha</i> )
6. Burmese python ( <i>Python bivittatus</i> )	23. Mexican feather grass ( <i>Nassella tenuissima</i> )
7. Californian kingsnake ( <i>Lampropeltis getula</i> )	24. Panther chameleon ( <i>Furcifer pardalis</i> )
8. Catechu ( <i>Senegalia catechu</i> )	25. Red-flowering prickly pear ( <i>Opuntia elatior</i> )
9. Chinchilla ( <i>Chinchilla lanigera</i> )	26. Red sesbania ( <i>Sesbania punicea</i> )
10. Chinese stripe neck turtle ( <i>Mauremys sinensis</i> )	27. Russian tortoise ( <i>Agrionemys horsfieldii</i> )
11. Coastal silver oak ( <i>Brachylaena discolor</i> )	28. Saw-scaled viper ( <i>Echis carinatus</i> )
12. Ferret ( <i>Mustela putorius</i> )	29. Smooth mesquite ( <i>Prosopis laevigata</i> )
13. Five-striped palm squirrel ( <i>Funambulus pennantii</i> )	30. Splendid thorn ( <i>Vachellia robusta</i> )
14. Green iguana ( <i>Iguana iguana</i> )	31. Spotted pond turtle ( <i>Geoclemys hamiltonii</i> )
15. Hermann's tortoise ( <i>Testudo hermanni</i> )	32. Star tortoise ( <i>Geochelone elegans</i> )
16. Horsetails ( <i>Equisetum hymale</i> )	33. Veiled chameleon ( <i>Chamaeleo calypttratus</i> )
17. Java pipistrelle ( <i>Pipistrellus javanicus</i> )	34. White-lipped pit viper ( <i>Trimeresurus albolabris</i> )
	35. White willow ( <i>Salix alba</i> )
Invasive species currently being eradicated from Queensland – proof of freedom phase	
1. Aaron's beard cactus ( <i>Opuntia leucotricha</i> )	10. <i>Mimosa pigra</i>
2. Bitterweed ( <i>Helenium amarum</i> )	11. Monkey thorn ( <i>Senegalia galpinii</i> )
3. Gorse ( <i>Ulex europaeus</i> )	12. <i>Opuntia puberula</i>
4. Grey willow ( <i>Salix cinerea</i> )	13. Paperbark thorn ( <i>Vachellia sieberiana</i> )
5. Engelmann's prickly pear ( <i>Opuntia engelmannii</i> )	14. Pencil cactus ( <i>Cylindropuntia leptocaulis</i> )
6. Fever tree ( <i>Vachellia xanthophloea</i> )	15. Soap pod wattle ( <i>Senegalia rugata</i> )
7. Grey-haired acacia ( <i>Vachellia gerrardii</i> )	16. Squalida ( <i>Chromolaena squalida</i> )
8. Karroo thorn ( <i>Vachellia karroo</i> )	17. Umbrella thorn ( <i>Vachellia tortilis</i> )
9. Madras thorn ( <i>Pithecellobium dulce</i> )	18. Violet prickly pear ( <i>Opuntia gosseliniana</i> )
	19. Wheel cactus ( <i>Opuntia robusta</i> )
Invasive species currently being eradicated from Queensland – control phase	
20. Bitou bush ( <i>Chrysanthemoides monilifera</i> )	Nationally cost-shared eradication projects:
21. Badhara bush ( <i>Gmelina elliptica</i> )	31. Limnocharis ( <i>Limnocharis flava</i> )
22. Cha-om ( <i>Senegalia insuavis</i> )	32. Miconia ( <i>Miconia calvescens</i> )
23. White ball acacia ( <i>Acaciella angustissima</i> )	33. Miconia ( <i>Miconia nervosa</i> )
24. Jumping cholla ( <i>Cylindropuntia prolifera</i> )	34. Miconia ( <i>Miconia racemosa</i> )
25. Mexican bean tree ( <i>Cecropia peltata</i> )	35. Mikania ( <i>Mikania micrantha</i> )
26. Mexican bean tree ( <i>Cecropia palmata</i> )	36. Red witchweed ( <i>Striga asiatica</i> )
27. Tropical soda apple ( <i>Solanum viarum</i> )	37. Electric ants ( <i>Wasmannia auropunctata</i> )
28. Red-eared slider turtle ( <i>Trachemys scripta elegans</i> )	(nationally cost-shared projects are not funded by the Land Protection Fund).
29. Riverina pear ( <i>Opuntia elata</i> )	
30. Sulphur cactus ( <i>Opuntia sulphurea</i> )	

### Bitou bush eradication project

Biosecurity Queensland continues to coordinate Queensland's bitou bush eradication project in partnership with traditional owners, local and State governments, community groups and private companies. Historically there have been detections of bitou bush (*Chrysanthemoides monilifera* sub-species *rotundata*) in coastal environments from Hervey Bay to the Queensland – NSW border.

In addition to mainland coastal areas, surveillance is conducted on offshore islands including South Stradbroke Island, Minjerribah (North Stradbroke Island), Southern Moreton Bay islands, Mulgumpin (Moreton Island) and K'gari (Fraser Island). Bitou bush, a native of South Africa, can outcompete and smother native coastal dune vegetation. Infestations in Queensland have been dramatically reduced since 1981 when the eradication program commenced. Multi-agency surveillance teams are now locating, mapping and controlling a handful of isolated plants over the entire project area.



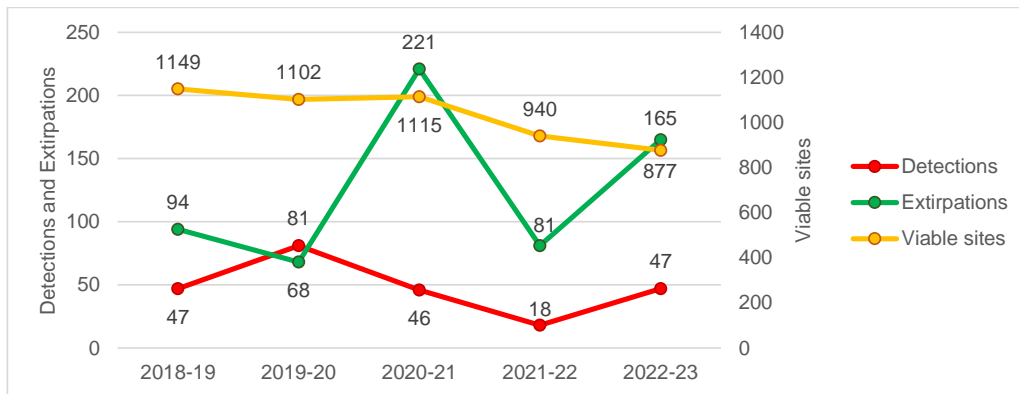
*Left: A mature bitou bush displaying the key diagnostic features of web on the leaves and bright yellow daisy-like flowers. Right: an emergent seedling.*

Forty-seven active sites were detected and controlled in the reporting period, representing less than 5% of the 959 site inspections completed by project partners. Most detections were the result of seed germination at locations previously supporting bitou bush. Many recently active sites were inspected twice during the reporting period to detect and control any seedlings prior to plants reaching maturity.

Areas of K'gari and Noosa National Park were surveyed twice, with no detections at either location. This marks the third consecutive year there have been no detections at K'gari, which gives confidence the program is well on track to eradicating this coastal invader from the World Heritage site. QPWS are leading the project in the northern area, using both their own staff and experienced contractors with excellent results.

Multi-agency surveillance teams at Minjerribah are well supported with staff attending from Quandamooka Yoolaburrabee Aboriginal Cooperation (QYAC), QPWS, Redland City Council, SEQ Water, Sibelco, Biosecurity Queensland and Department of Resources. Minjerribah continues to support the largest number of viable sites in Queensland, however this number continues to decline annually due to regular surveillance and control to deplete the soil seedbank.

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*This graph shows the annual number of detections of bitou bush in Queensland versus the number of sites which have been extirpated, along with the total number of viable sites remaining.*

Viable sites at South Stradbroke and Woogoompah Islands were inspected twice this financial year, which proved effective in detecting and controlling seedlings. Monitoring will continue to be conducted twice annually at these sites for the next few years to ensure any seedlings are detected and destroyed before being able to flower and seed.

City of Gold Coast Council have increased proactive surveillance in areas identified to be at risk of invasion. The increase in surveillance at the southern end of the project area, combined with City of Gold Coast Council's monitoring of remaining viable sites, helps to protect Queensland's southern coastline from reinvasion from NSW.



*Left: A biosecurity officer physically removes a bitou bush detected on Minjerribah. Right: A multi-agency surveillance team searches for bitou bush in thick scrub on Minjerribah.*

To further protect Queensland from seed introduction from NSW infestations, Biosecurity Queensland has representation on the Bitou Bush Biosecurity Zone Management Group. The group coordinates management of bitou bush infestations in the bitou bush northern containment zone located between Byron Bay and the Queensland border. Bitou bush infestations in coastal areas within this zone are suppressed, reducing the risk of seeds being moved north into Queensland by birds or ocean currents.



### Cha-om eradication project

In addition to the efforts of biosecurity officers to detect and remove cha-om (*Senegalia insuavis*) from illegal keeping, control of two infestations in the Mena Creek area near Innisfail continued during 2022-23. Several historic cha-om infestation sites were inspected with no recruitment of seedlings or regrowth detected. The majority of these historical sites were associated with small scale production of cha-om for cultural cooking.



Left: A large cha-om plant detected in Cooktown. Right: A good example of a cha-om plant being illegally kept for use as a vegetable.

Cha-om and water mimosa continue to be detected in Cape York, and a property containing both species was identified by a biosecurity officer in Cook Shire. The owner was issued with a biosecurity order to destroy the plants. Three additional properties with cultivated cha-om plants were detected in Weipa by the federal Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry.

### Jumping cholla eradication project

Jumping cholla (*Cylindropuntia prolifera*) is native to California and Mexico and is a highly invasive cactus that presents a risk to agricultural productivity and the environment. Infestations of jumping cholla occur near Longreach, Stonehenge, Barcaldine and Winton, with Biosecurity Queensland supporting local governments and landholders to undertake surveillance and control of these infestations.

An infestation at a property 25 km east of Barcaldine was first detected in September 2022. Preliminary delimitation of an area of 700 ha resulted in over 500 plants being detected and treated with herbicide. Surveillance and control have continued, with 25 plants detected and treated in April 2023. Additionally, the biocontrol agent cochineal mealy bug (*Dactylopius tomentosus*) was introduced to the core infestation. The source of this infestation is likely to have been from adjacent infestations on the Jericho

– Barcaldine Stock Route. The latter infestation is also under active management by local government with assistance from biosecurity officers.



*Left: A map showing the jumping cholla infestation on the Barcaldine – Jericho Stock route and adjacent property. Right: Jumping cholla infested with cochineal mealy bug ready for release.*

Biosecurity Queensland has provided support to the Longreach Regional and Barcoo Shire Councils strategic control projects for jumping cholla. This included an activity to detect the cactus in areas not accessible by vehicles. Any cacti detected were treated with herbicides. To complement this activity, cochineal mealy bug was released in other infestations. The cochineal mealy bug has become well established in the Longreach area since it was first released. It is hoped the combination of herbicide control and biocontrol will effectively contain jumping cholla.

In December 2022, biosecurity officers and the Central West Regional Pest Planning Group (CWRPPG) supported Winton Shire Council officers to undertake surveillance at an old landfill site at a property 95 km southwest of Winton. Cactus specimens were collected and subsequently confirmed as jumping cholla by the Queensland Herbarium. A CWRPPG-led taskforce is planning to undertake surveillance and control.



*Left: A biosecurity officer spraying jumping cholla on the Jericho – Barcaldine Stock Route. Right: Dead jumping cholla following successful herbicide treatment.*

### Madras thorn eradication project

Madras thorn (*Pithecellobium dulce*) was first introduced into Queensland in the 1980s. It is a fast-growing tree planted as an ornamental and is also used for bonsai. Uncontrolled populations can form dense thickets and out-compete native vegetation and pasture. Detections of Madras thorn in North Queensland have been restricted to Cairns, Innisfail and Mareeba.

This year a QPWS officer reported a potential sighting in Cairns, which was later confirmed by Biosecurity Queensland. The landowner organised the immediate removal of the plants under an incentive-based approach, where the owner is responsible for control and biosecurity officers organise disposal at an approved refuse site. There have been 27 detections of Madras thorn in North Queensland in the past five years, all of which have been destroyed. A further three sites in South-East Queensland are all now in the proof of freedom phase. These sites were inspected with no further detections.

### Mexican bean tree eradication project

There are more than 60 species within the genus *Cecropia*. Of these 60 species, 57 are declared as prohibited matter under the Act, and the remaining three (*Cecropia pachystachya*, *C. palmata* and *C. peltata*) are declared as restricted matter. Mexican bean trees threaten ecologically significant rainforest areas, readily forming invasive wild populations that replace native plant species. Areas under threat include World Heritage listed tropical and subtropical rainforests and, if left unchecked, Mexican bean trees could become a major weed, posing a serious threat to remnant areas of tropical and sub-tropical rainforest and riparian habitat.



Both the leaf shape (left) and flowers (right) of Mexican bean trees are distinctive.

Knowledge on the species' biology and dispersal architecture allows us to better target surveillance around known mature female trees. Mexican bean trees are dioecious, meaning viable seeds can only

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be successfully produced where mature male and female trees are both present. When a Mexican bean tree is detected, the sex of the tree is recorded, and the age is estimated based on the number of growth rings. This information assists in determining if the tree has reached maturity and if the tree is likely to have pollinated or produce viable seed. Surveillance regimes can then be optimised to prioritise the highest risk sites.

As Mexican bean trees are ornamentals, community engagement remains a key component of the project. Biosecurity Queensland has several online resources available, including publications detailing key identifying features. Mexican bean trees are regularly featured in Weedspotter newsletters to promote awareness and reporting through the Weedspotter network. Mexican bean trees have been highlighted on Biosecurity Queensland's Facebook page, with a recent post receiving over 15,000 views. The detection of any Mexican bean trees still present in Queensland is critical to the success of the project.

Three species of Mexican bean tree have been identified in North Queensland and all are targeted for eradication. As a canopy-emerging rainforest pioneer with large unique-shaped leaves, aerial surveillance is an ideal surveillance tool for detecting Mexican bean trees. Prior to two disastrous aircraft accidents, aerial surveillance was undertaken using helicopters. Since then, Biosecurity Queensland has adopted the use of remotely piloted aircraft (RPAs), commonly known as drones, and has built an impressive surveillance capability while ensuring compliance with CASA regulations.



*Biosecurity officers use remotely piloted aircraft to survey Silkwood rainforest for Mexican bean trees.*

In 2022-23, the procurement of additional, more capable RPAs with longer flight times and enhanced payloads has provided greater coverage and higher resolution imagery. Biosecurity officers have upgraded their airframe weight ratings and, with the assistance of DAF's Chief Pilot, have initiated a process to include extended visual line of sight (EVLLOS) and beyond visual line of sight (BVLOS) operations to facilitate surveillance over inhospitable terrain.

The number of Mexican bean tree infestations in North Queensland remains eleven, with no new sites detected. On-ground activities are conducted by a range of stakeholders including Biosecurity Queensland, National Tropical Weeds Eradication Program, QPWS and local governments including Douglas Shire Council, Cairns Regional Council and Cassowary Coast Regional Council.

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	Local Government Area	Species	Location	Phase
1	Douglas Shire	<i>C. palmata</i>	Whyanbeel	Proof of freedom
2	Cairns Regional	<i>C. palmata</i>	Clifton beach	Proof of freedom
3	Cairns Regional	<i>C. palmata</i>	Yorkey's knob	Proof of freedom
4	Cairns Regional	<i>C. palmata</i>	Cairns City	Extirpated
5	Cairns Regional	<i>C. pachystachya</i>	Botanical Gardens	Extirpated
6	Cassowary Coast/Cairns	<i>C. peltata</i>	Garradunga	Control
7	Cassowary Coast Regional	<i>C. peltata</i>	South Innisfail	Control
8	Cassowary Coast Regional	<i>C. peltata</i>	Silkwood	Control
9	Cassowary Coast Regional	<i>C. peltata</i>	El Arish	Control
10	Cassowary Coast Regional	<i>C. peltata</i>	Mariah Creek	Control
11	Cassowary Coast Regional	<i>C. peltata</i>	South Mission	Control

*A summary of the status of the eleven Mexican bean tree infestations in North Queensland.*

The Clifton Beach infestation continues to track towards eradication, with only one mature and three immature plants detected in 2022-23. The sex and age of the plants detected indicates that no reproduction has occurred in the last five years. The objective to complete a round of surveillance was met (one round takes three years, covers 575 ha and equates to 240 person days in the field), and a new round was initiated. The search area includes private, council, park estate and is Djabugay Bulmba country. The nil tenure and collaborative approach between the four key agencies of Cairns Regional Council, QPWS, Bulmba Rangers and Biosecurity Queensland is key to the successful management of this infestation.

Eradication activities at Silkwood continue to progress, mainly utilising RPAs to undertake survey with biosecurity officers reviewing the images and then trekking to these detections to undertake control. Over 370 ha were surveyed during 2022-23. More than 50 plants were controlled during this reporting period, however only 11 were mature and therefore capable of reproductive events. The introduction of a more powerful RPA should enable biosecurity officers to fully delimit this infestation, which will then allow some predictions regarding the potential eradication date.

During the 2022-23 financial year, on-ground surveillance was undertaken at Garradunga, completing a full round of surveillance that had commenced and continued in previous years. Eleven *Cecropia* plants were detected and controlled, providing additional confidence that this infestation is declining, not expanding. On-ground effort was provided by Biosecurity Queensland, Cairns Regional Council, QPWS and Mamu Rangers. RPA surveillance is planned for the Garradunga area to further ensure progress towards eradication.

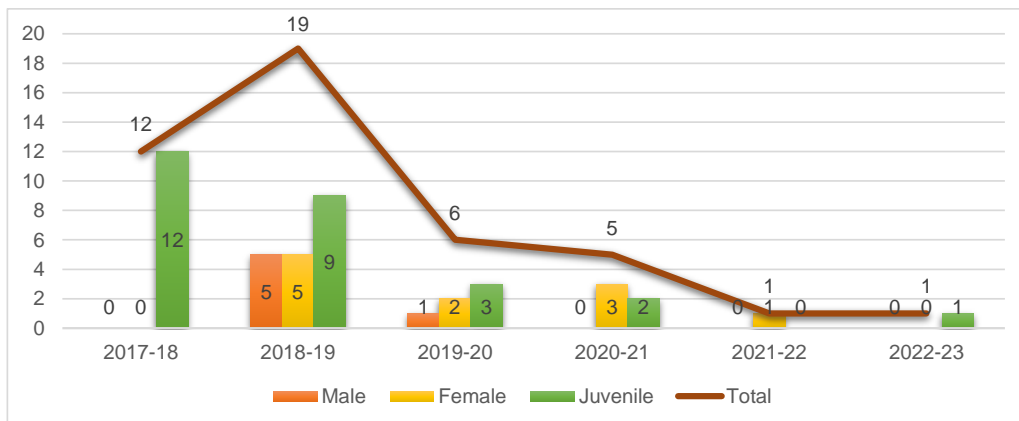
At Maria Creek, biosecurity officers partnered with QPWS to undertake ground surveillance of Clump Mountain National Park, with over 100 ha completed. Two mature Mexican bean trees were detected and treated, with further surveillance of private land scheduled for the 2023-24 financial year.

There have been five recorded detections of Mexican bean trees in Central Queensland at The Leap, Marian, Mount Julian, Conway and Rockhampton. Records indicate all of the these were single plants, reducing the possibility of seed production. Biosecurity and local government officers inspected three of these sites during the financial year with no detections. Additionally, flying foxes are a known vector for spread, and 15 flying fox roosts were surveyed by biosecurity officers with no detections.



A joint team from Biosecurity Queensland, Cairns Regional Council, QPWS and Mamu Rangers undertake surveillance and control of Mexican bean trees at Garradunga.

There are currently 26 sites in South-East Queensland where Mexican bean trees have been detected. Biosecurity Queensland coordinates the South-East Queensland component of the eradication project in partnership with the City of Gold Coast Council, Sunshine Coast Council, Scenic Rim Regional Council, Noosa Shire Council and the Queensland Herbarium.



Mexican bean tree detections in South-East Queensland from 2017-18 to 2022-23.

Biosecurity officers, local governments and landowners have destroyed all known plants and continue to undertake surveillance to confirm the eradication of these infestations. In the 2022-23 financial year,

seven sites across the City of Gold Coast area have been declared extirpated following nine years of surveillance. This is in addition to the first site to have achieved extirpation last year, for a total of eight sites which have been declared extirpated across South-East Queensland to date.

Extensive delimitation and proof of freedom surveillance was completed by biosecurity and local government officers this year, with a single juvenile Mexican bean tree detected. This is an excellent result and provides confidence that the eradication project is on track across all remaining sites.

### ***Mimosa pigra* eradication project**

*Mimosa pigra* is an aggressive invasive species, particularly on floodplains where it can form dense monocultures, significantly impacting wetland ecosystems, affecting grazing production and restricting social and cultural land use. The only known infestation of *Mimosa pigra* in Queensland occurs at Peter Faust Dam, 25 km west of Proserpine. *Mimosa pigra* was first detected in 2001, with Biosecurity Queensland immediately initiating an eradication project. While the mature plants were quickly destroyed, a substantial number of seedlings continued to germinate as the dam water level receded. In 2002, seedling abundance within the core control zone averaged 23,125 seedlings per hectare.

A full-time biosecurity officer leads this response with support from other biosecurity and local government officers. The current objective is to detect immature plants prior to flowering and seed set and progressively deplete the long-lived soil seedbank. Surveillance is conducted in side-by-side vehicles with location data recorded for any plants found. There were 20 detections of *Mimosa pigra*, all being immature, non-seeding plants. All the plants detected in section four are likely a direct result of seeds originating from a mature *Mimosa pigra* plant detected in August 2020. These seeds have washed downstream from this site when the creek has flowed.

Preventative surveillance of other at-risk impoundments has continued, with Teemburra Dam surveyed by biosecurity officers in collaboration with Mackay Regional Council in June 2023. No *Mimosa pigra* was detected during this survey.



Left: Physical removal of two immature *Mimosa pigra* plants detected at Peter Faust Dam. Right: Surveillance for *Mimosa pigra* at Teemburra Dam near Mackay.

### **Red-eared slider turtle eradication project**

Red-eared slider turtles were first detected in Queensland in January 2004 in the Moreton Bay region. Following extensive control work, all populations were believed to have been eradicated. Forty-seven red eared slider turtles have been detected and seized in Queensland since the eradication project ended in 2007, associated either with illegal keeping or detected at large.

Surveillance for red eared slider turtles is conducted using the same surveillance platforms used for exotic turtle surveillance across Queensland. Surveillance platforms used for red eared slider turtle surveillance are also fitted with a fixed aluminium strip on each side to allow DNA swabs to be collected. The swabs are analysed to detect any red eared slider turtles that may have used the platforms but were not captured on camera.

Biosecurity Queensland schedules surveillance of historic locations where red eared slider turtles have been detected at large. Each site requires five surveillance platforms to be deployed in waterbodies in a 500-metre radius of where a detection occurred. Surveillance platforms are deployed for a six-week period. Surveillance of three locations was completed this year, at Narangba and Morayfield in the Moreton Bay region, and at Neerdie in the Gympie region. There were no detections.

### Burpengary response

In 2018, surveillance platforms were deployed in Burpengary as part of ongoing proactive surveillance for exotic turtles. Red eared slider turtles were detected in two separate but adjacent dams. Following this detection, Biosecurity Queensland initiated a response in partnership with Moreton Bay Regional Council, with seven individual red eared slider turtles being captured and removed to date.

There is currently a single red eared slider turtle known to remain at Burpengary. Nicknamed "Slick", the turtle was last detected in November 2022. Since then, Slick has not been detected on either of the permanent monitoring platforms, nor has he been detected from DNA swabbing.

Three trapping operations were conducted at Burpengary to try and capture Slick without success. Surveillance has been expanded to include nearby dams to try to determine if the animal has moved. Surveillance of an adjacent property was completed in March 2023 with no detections. Monitoring will continue in other neighbouring waterbodies to attempt to relocate the turtle.

### Robina response

Note: The red eared slider turtle response in Robina was funded by the Queensland Government. Land Protection Funds were not used for this response.



*Left: Biosecurity officers with a red eared slider turtle captured during the response. Right: A biosecurity officer prepares a cathedral trap for deployment into West Lake, Robina.*

Highlighting the risk that Queensland faces from the illegal keeping of exotic animals, a new incursion of red-eared slider turtles was detected in November 2022. A mature male red eared slider turtle was captured during the annual Tilapia Busters day at West Lake, Robina on the Gold Coast. An emergency response was initiated by Biosecurity Queensland in partnership with City of Gold Coast Council to delimit and eradicate the infestation.



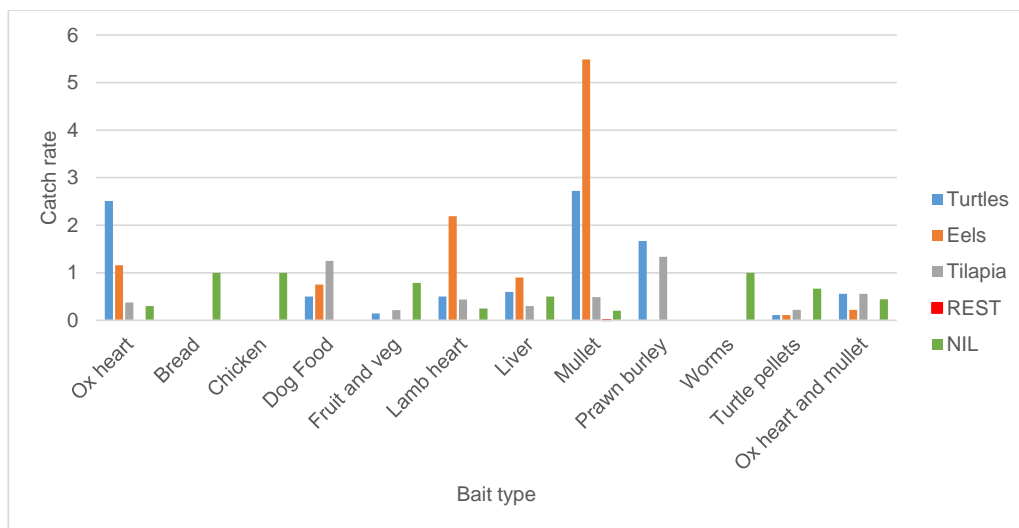
Trapping commenced in November 2022 and continued until the end of March 2023, for a total of 426 trap days. A red eared slider turtle was captured at the same location where the first turtle was captured. A necropsy confirmed the turtle to be a female with eggs developing that would have been laid in the near future. The necropsy also confirmed she had previously laid eggs.

Trapping was supplemented by the construction and deployment of ten surveillance platforms in November 2022. A total of 284,132 images were recorded and reviewed over the period of the response with no detections of red eared slider turtles. DNA analysis was also used for surveillance, with 30 DNA samples collected and sent to the University of Canberra for analysis. No red eared slider turtle DNA was detected in any of the samples.

Engaging the community was a critical part of the project. Facebook posts and media releases were issued to raise public awareness of the response, along with radio interviews and news stories. One Facebook post was the top DAF post for November, reaching 65,050 people. A0-size corflute warning signs were deployed around West Lake, and new awareness posters were developed and placed in businesses around Robina.

A door knock of the area surrounding West Lake asked residents to report any sightings of red eared slider turtles and provided residents with a fact sheet to aid in identification. Most residents were aware of the response, having seen information on posted signage, news stories or via Facebook. A total of 396 homes were visited and 197 residents directly engaged.

During the Robina response, large numbers of eels were being captured, creating several issues for the response team. Mullet has been used as bait to trap turtles for many years and has proven highly effective. At Robina, mullet continued to be an effective bait type for trapping turtles but was also highly attractive to native eels. More eels were being trapped than turtles, and the large numbers of eels being trapped was causing manual handling issues and damaging trapping equipment.



*This graph shows the results of the bait trial. Ox heart proved to be the best compromise between maximising the turtle catch rate while minimising the eel catch.*

To reduce the number of eels trapped while maintaining the turtle trap rate, a trial of different bait types was developed. Bait types trialled included fruit and vegetables, sheep and ox hearts, burley, and dog food amongst many other things. An analysis of nearly 900 lines of data showed ox heart was the best

compromise between maintaining turtle captures while minimising eel captures. Information from the bait trial will be used to guide future trapping programs.

During the five months of the response, a total of 2492 eels, 2027 native turtles and 425 tilapia were trapped, along with a single red eared slider turtle. The native eels and turtles were safely released and the tilapia humanely euthanised. Surveillance operations are continuing to ensure there are no more exotic turtles present in West Lake.

### Squalida eradication project

Squalida (*Chromolaena squalida*) was rediscovered in 2020 at Warrami, and since then biosecurity officers have been leading the effort to eradicate the species. There were no detections of this species during surveillance completed in the 2022-23 financial year. There have not been any reproductive events at this site since early 2020, and no detections since late 2021.

### Tropical soda apple eradication project

Biosecurity Queensland has continued surveillance and control of tropical soda apple (*Solanum viarum*) at two recorded infestation sites in Coominya and Ebenezer. Warm and wet conditions through the summer of 2022-23 have been favourable for germination and emergence. A total of 43 plants were detected at Ebenezer. Thirty plants were detected during summer, with the remaining 13 detected during autumn surveillance. The cool, dry conditions in late autumn and winter 2023 have resulted in plants being in poor health when detected.

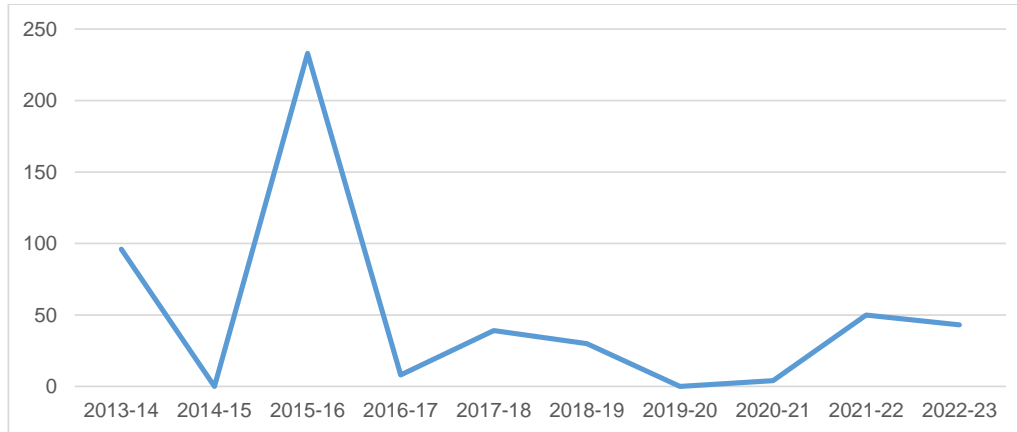
Overall, tropical soda apple detections have declined slightly at the Ebenezer site. The effectiveness of surveillance is being assisted by the property manager who is now slashing the area, improving the detection of germinating plants during inspections.



*Left: A biosecurity officer removes a small, mature tropical soda apple plant at Ebenezer. Right: Tropical soda apple can be difficult to detect amongst other vegetation. Slashing by the property manager is improving the ability of officers to detect plants.*

A single inspection was undertaken at Coominya resulting in the detection of two tropical soda apple plants. Both plants were located within a drain from a washdown area for cattle trucks and believed to be associated with the transport of cattle from NSW, and not with the historic infestation at this property. While no new plants were detected within the historic infestation areas on this property, monitoring of this location will continue as sentinel surveillance for tropical soda apple and other priority species including prickly bushes.

Biosecurity officers continue to investigate public reports of tropical soda apple, with ten reports received across Southern Queensland. All reports received have been determined to be misidentification of other Solanum species, with the majority determined to be giant devil's fig (*Solanum chrysotrichum*).



Tropical soda apple detections at Ebenezer from 2013-14 to 2022-23.

### White ball acacia eradication project

White ball acacia (*Acaciella angustissima*) was planted at agricultural trial sites throughout Queensland in the 1970s and 1980s to investigate its potential as a forage legume. It has subsequently spread by water, machinery and animal movements, having the potential to become a widespread and abundant invasive pest over much of Queensland. Biosecurity Queensland is leading the eradication project in partnership with landholders and other stakeholders to achieve effective control outcomes. There are six infestations in North Queensland currently being managed.

At Walkamin Research Station south of Mareeba, biosecurity officers assisted research station staff with two rounds of surveillance. The first targeted a 50m buffer around each previous detection site and the second was a full delimitation survey of the entire property. Each detection site (including a five-metre buffer) was treated using herbicide to clear the grass, followed by a granular herbicide applied as a pre-emergent treatment. These two treatments were effective, with surveillance being significantly improved by the removal of the grass and recruitment of white ball acacia being significantly reduced.

The property manager of the Southedge site north of Mareeba continues to slash the core infestation area quarterly, preventing the white ball acacia present from seeding. Two rounds of surveillance were undertaken, one targeting a 50m buffer around each detection and the second being a full survey of the entire property, completed with the assistance of both Mareeba Shire Council and SunWater.

A new site of infestation at Rocky Creek, Tolga was discovered by Department of Resources staff carrying out routine Gamba grass control on a parcel of unallocated state land in December 2022. Initial delimitation indicates this is an isolated infestation. An initial round of surveillance and control was completed in early 2023 with assistance from Tablelands Regional Council and Department of Resources, with the goal of halting seed production as soon as possible. Engagement activities and delimitation surveillance of neighbouring properties, along with further control, are planned for 2023-24.

The largest white ball acacia infestation in North Queensland is at Calcium near Townsville around the CSIRO Lansdown Research Station. The infested area has not changed significantly from 2021-22 (approximately 460 ha), although the number of detections has reduced significantly. The core area of infestation was surveyed three times during 2022-23, with fewer than 50 seedlings detected. This is a significant improvement from 2021-22, when approximately 400 plants were detected and treated. Progress toward eradication continues with all stakeholders contributing to the project, including the use of fire to increase access and promote germination.



*Left: A biosecurity officer records the detection of white ball acacia. Right: A white ball acacia in flower.*

A new infestation of white ball acacia was identified at Hervey Range near Townsville in 2021. Initial surveillance and control operations detected and treated approximately 350 plants. In 2022-23, Biosecurity Queensland, in collaboration with local government officers and the landowner, completed follow up control, detecting and treating approximately 80 seedlings covering 0.7 ha in total.

Tracing work identified legume fodder species sourced from CSIRO Lansdown were spread across sections of the property approximately 30 years ago, confirming a direct link between this infestation and the Calcium infestation. Two other sites at Nome and Douglas continued to be monitored in 2022-23, with no plants being detected at either site.

In early 2023, an infestation of white ball acacia was reported at Parkhurst, Rockhampton. This was found to be a former agricultural trial site that has gone undetected due to the presence of extensive stands of the visually similar leucaena. Delimitation surveillance determined the infested area to be approximately 2.5 ha. Outlier plants have been chemically controlled, with mechanical control of the main infestation planned for 2023-24. Biosecurity Queensland continues to work towards integrated management of all white ball acacia infestations in collaboration with the relevant land managers.

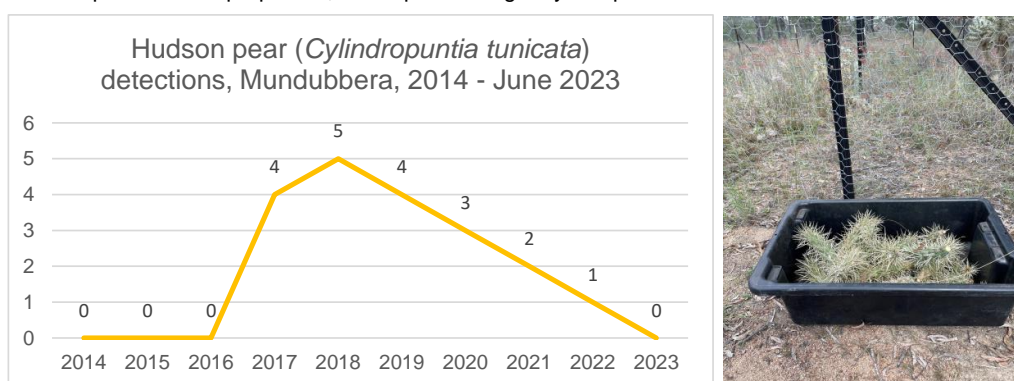
## Strategic management

### Hudson pear control project

Hudson pear (*Cylindropuntia tunicata* and *Cylindropuntia pallida*) has the most serious impacts of any of the invasive cacti currently established in Queensland. Hudson pear can limit the use of land and impact on human and animal health. It can degrade grazing land and cause a significant reduction in property returns in heavily infested areas, such as experienced at Lighting Ridge in NSW.

There are numerous Hudson pear infestations in Queensland, and the two species are now well established and beyond eradication. Biosecurity officers in North Queensland assist with the long-term management of invasive cacti infestations in strategic areas, including Hudson pear on multiple grazing stations in the Flinders Shire Council area. Investigations revealed that in all cases the source of Hudson pear spread was from the local refuse tip. Officers worked with three station owners to control Hudson pear. More surveillance is being carried out across north-west Queensland to raise awareness and detect and manage invasive cacti.

Biosecurity Queensland have continued to support the control of two Hudson pear infestations in the Wide Bay – Burnett region to prevent further spread. A Hudson pear infestation near Mundubbera is now into the 17th year of control, with no cacti detected during two joint inspections led by North Burnett Regional Council. The second Hudson pear site at Wilkesdale, north-west of Kingaroy, is being monitored and regular contact is made with landholders. Landholders are actively managing the Hudson pear on their properties, and report finding very few plants.



Left: There has been a gradual decline in detections of Hudson pear at Mundubbera, but ongoing vigilance is required. Right: Hudson pear infested with biocontrol agent is collected from the enclosure at Wilkesdale for redistribution to other infestations in Queensland.

Twelve small Hudson pear were detected during surveillance activities led by South Burnett Regional Council officers on a property in the core infestation area. This property was infested with a significant number of large plants during initial control activities completed in 2020. It is now becoming more difficult to detect the plants, owing to the drop in numbers and the small size of the remaining cacti.

A dedicated biological control agent enclosure was constructed at Wilkesdale in 2020 to assist with the establishment of a biocontrol agent, the cochineal mealy bug (*Dactylopius tomentosus*). This enclosure is being maintained and supported by a colony at the Kingaroy Research Station. Inspections have confirmed the biological control agent is active and proving to be effective. The agent has visibly reduced the vigour of larger plants and killed some of the smaller plants within the enclosure.

### Biocontrol agent monitoring and distribution

Biological control involves the use of exotic insects and pathogens to reduce the vigour, size, and competitiveness of target invasive weeds. While biocontrol agents often spread naturally after release, this process can be facilitated to ensure biocontrol agents establish in geographically isolated weed infestations. Biosecurity officers, scientists and local government officers have continued to propagate and distribute biological control agents for various cacti and other weeds.

Biocontrol agents for harrisia cactus have been collected from field sites at Emerald and released at sites across Central Queensland. Collection of both healthy and infected harrisia cactus samples to support ongoing science projects remains a priority, as does the cross-regional distribution of control agents. Cochineal mealy bug was collected and distributed for tiger pear (*Opuntia aurantiaca*) at Rolleston, Barcaldine, and Jericho. Cochineal mealy bug was also collected for distribution for coral cactus (*Cylindropuntia fulgida*) at Barcaldine and Tambo commons. Samples of cochineal mealy bug were collected from Westwood pear in the Theodore area to support ongoing research and for establishment at sites in the North Burnett region.



Left: Biosecurity officers collect biocontrol agents in Theodore for re-release and to assist with research into the distribution of biocontrol agents across Queensland. Right: Officers from Biosecurity Queensland and Central Highlands Regional Council collect parthenium infected with summer rust.

At Flametree near Airlie Beach, cochineal mealy bug was introduced to a large infestation of drooping tree pear (*Opuntia monacantha*), though establishment at this site was poor, possibly due to unfavourable site conditions. Cochineal mealy bug was also introduced to a drooping tree pear infestation at Slade Point, with monitoring to occur later in the year to assess establishment. Cochineal mealy bug was re-introduced into a drooping tree pear infestation at King's Beach in Bowen where it had already decimated the majority of the infestation. The site is continuing to be monitored by North Queensland Dry Tropics.

In response to widespread parthenium germination across the Central Highlands, biosecurity and Central Highlands Regional Council officers conducted surveillance for the summer rust and other biological control agents for field collection and distribution. Infestations of the summer rust and stem-galling moth were found and distributed across the region, although unlike the previous year, the Mexican beetle (*Zygogramma bicolorata*) was not found.

### North Queensland water mimosa control project

Water mimosa (*Neptunia oleracea*) poses a threat to Queensland's waterways and wetlands. There are several historical water mimosa sites in North Region, with three being monitored and four sites extirpated. In 2022-23, one new detection was identified and controlled by the landholder in Cooktown. The plant was being grown as an ingredient for traditional cooking.

Biosecurity and local government officers undertook routine monitoring at two sites in the Burdekin area. A single detection was recorded at one of these sites. Burdekin Shire Council officers controlled the infestation at the site and will continue routine surveillance to ensure no regrowth occurs.

Preliminary investigations into the use of RPA imagery to identify water mimosa were undertaken in the Burdekin region. Results indicated that this method may have some application in identifying patches of water mimosa in aquatic environments, particularly where access to these areas is limited. More work is planned in collaboration with the local government to further develop this technology.

### Central Queensland Siam weed surveillance

Siam weed (*Chromolaena odorata*) is well established in parts of North Queensland, with the only known incursion in Central Queensland being detected at Shoalwater Bay Training Area in 2013. To detect any spread into Central Queensland as early as possible, biosecurity officers worked with local governments, Department of Transport and Main Roads, Department of Defence and QPWS to identify potential spread pathways and priority areas for surveillance. High priority areas from Bowen to Gladstone were surveyed, including 514 km of roadsides, 46 rest areas and seven high-use camping areas with no detections.

A biosecurity officer from North Queensland represents DAF on the National Siam Weed Working Group. This group was formed in response to the detection of Siam weed in the Northern Territory and currently includes representatives from the Federal Government and Queensland, Northern Territory and Western Australian governments. Biosecurity Queensland continues to assist and provide advice to the Northern Territory Government in managing Siam weed.

### Invasive grass taskforce

Biosecurity officers assisted Cook Shire Council and Cape York NRM with the Cooktown Gamba Grass Taskforce, providing specialist skills in spatial data management and mapping. The week-long taskforce activity at Cooktown resulted in 25 participants contributing over 100 person days to gamba grass surveillance and control. Participants represented Cook, Mareeba, Tablelands, Hinchinbrook and Douglas local governments, as well as QPWS, Cape York NRM and Aboriginal Land and Sea Rangers.

### Paper mulberry control project

Paper mulberry (*Broussonetia papyrifera*) was detected at Upper Daradgee in the Cassowary Coast Regional Council area in July 2011. While not a prohibited or restricted invasive plant under the Act, paper mulberry is known to be highly invasive and is often confused with Mexican bean tree. As this is the only known infestation outside of South-East Queensland, biosecurity officers are leading a project in partnership with landholders to protect the Cassowary Coast and Wet Tropics World Heritage Authority areas from this weed. The project is progressing well, with a single paper mulberry seedling being detected in 2022-23, and no mature plants having been detected since 2016.

### Cunnamulla water lettuce control

Water lettuce is a free-floating aquatic weed found in tropical countries worldwide and was introduced to Australia as an aquarium and water-garden plant. It is widely established in coastal Queensland, but uncommon in western catchments.

Water lettuce was first detected at Cunnamulla approximately 20 years ago and had been under control until good seasons, regular flows and constant nutrient availability spread the infestation. The control of water lettuce in the Murray Darling Basin is a priority.

Biosecurity officers assisted Paroo Shire Council to control the infestation by sourcing and maintaining populations of the biological control agent water lettuce weevil (*Neohydromonus affinis*). Biosecurity officers also assisted by providing advice to Sunwater on their responsibilities for water lettuce management under the Act and working with all parties to ensure cooperation and collaboration. The priority is to engage all stakeholders and ensure the infestation is adequately managed to reduce the risk of spread.



Left: Containment of water lettuce at the Allan Tannock Weir, Cunnamulla. Right: An officer from Paroo Shire Council with an individual water lettuce plant on the Warrego River.

### Education, awareness, and capacity building

#### Cactus masterclasses

Due to cacti being highly invasive, there are strict biosecurity laws regulating the possession, propagation, and distribution of various invasive cactus species. Biosecurity and local government officers enforce compliance with the Act, which has resulted in the seizure of thousands of regulated cacti across Queensland and fines being issued. With hundreds of individual species being regulated, and the abundance of cacti growing on private properties, available for purchase at markets, nurseries, roadside stalls and on social media, training in the identification of regulated cacti is essential.

Biosecurity Queensland partnered with botanists from the Department of Environment and Science to deliver cactus masterclasses to enhance regional capacity for the early detections of invasive cacti



species. The training provided participants with invasive cacti identifications skills, current research, and management knowledge to enhance regional surveillance and compliance programs.

Three cactus masterclasses were delivered to stakeholders in Mirani, Rockhampton and Toowoomba. Fifty-six people attended the two workshops in Central Queensland, with participants from local government, QPWS, Department of Defence, NRM and Landcare groups. The Toowoomba cactus masterclass was conducted in partnership with Toowoomba Regional Council, with a further 25 local government officers attending.



*Left: A biosecurity officer presents at the cactus masterclass Rockhampton. Right: Dr Paul Forster discusses the worldwide distribution of cacti at the Toowoomba cactus masterclass.*

### **Invasive grass masterclasses**

With the threat from invasive grasses such as giant rats tail grass being exacerbated by shortages of the herbicide flupropanate, invasive grass control has become a major issue for local governments. Local governments have been working to develop new techniques to assist landholders to manage invasive grasses in the context of meeting their general biosecurity obligations under the Act.

To assist, Principal Scientist Dr Wayne Vogler from the Tropical Weeds Research Facility at Charters Towers travelled to South-East Queensland to deliver a series of four Invasive Grass Masterclasses at Nambour, Woolooga, Cleveland and Gatton.



*Left: Dr Vogler discusses invasive grass biology with Gympie Regional Council officers. Right: Dr Vogler presents at the Invasive Grass Masterclass at Nambour.*

The topics delivered in the masterclass included grass anatomy and growth habits and their importance for management, biosecurity risk reduction, impact minimisation strategies and choosing the “least-worst” option. The masterclasses included a field component which gave an opportunity for an interactive discussion of potential management strategies for significant invasive grasses relevant to

local regions. Eighty-four local and State government officers representing 14 local governments attended one of the four Invasive Grass Masterclasses.

### Emerging threats workshop

Biosecurity officers presented at the Emerging Threats workshop, hosted by Reef Catchments NRM in Bloomsbury. The workshop aimed to bring the emerging biosecurity risks that Mackay, Whitsunday and Isaac local government areas face to the forefront of local stakeholder's minds with high-risk weed and animal species identified for stakeholders to be on the lookout for. The 25 attendees were also put through their paces with a facilitated activity to discuss biosecurity issues and solutions.



*Left: A Biosecurity officer presenting information on high-risk weed threats at the Emerging Threats workshop in Bloomsbury. Right: A Biosecurity officer delivers training at Gatton to revise key concepts of the Biosecurity Act 2014.*

### Biosecurity Act workshops

Biosecurity officers developed and delivered a series of Biosecurity Act workshops to build the skills and knowledge of Queensland local government authorised officers required to regulate the Act. The Act has been in force since 2016 and there is now a good understanding of how it operates, however most local government officers have not received training in the Act since it was introduced.

Local governments form a significant and important part of Queensland's biosecurity system. Every local government is required to have a biosecurity plan and ensure landowners are complying with their obligations to manage invasive species under the Act. The training delivered in the workshops was designed to be relevant to authorised officers who are dealing with the public on a daily basis. The one-day workshops refreshed the knowledge and skills of officers, as well as building upon existing knowledge to provide clear regulatory processes and tools.

The workshops provided information on the biosecurity functions of local government and how biosecurity plans are developed to assist with the effective regulation of the Act in local government areas. The training also included revision of invasive biosecurity matter; offence provisions; authorisations; and limitations of local government responsibility under the Act. A total of 103 authorised officers from 16 local governments across South-East Queensland attended the training.

The seven workshops were delivered at Kingaroy, Nambour (two workshops), Maryborough, Gatton, Beaudesert and Capalaba. Pre- and post-workshop feedback was provided by attendees to determine the effectiveness of the training, which showed an increase of over 20% in knowledge and confidence in applying the Act after participating in the workshops.

A further two workshops were delivered in Rockhampton and Longreach. These workshops focussed on the responsibilities of authorised officers, the importance of planning and conducting basic entry and

seizure. The workshops provided opportunities for interaction and raised numerous questions regarding compliance situations, procedures, and legislative requirements.

Five local governments consisting of Rockhampton, Livingstone, Gladstone, Banana, and Central Highlands were represented at the Rockhampton workshop, with 19 officers in attendance. The Longreach workshop attracted 11 participants from Longreach, Winton, Blackall-Tambo, Barcaldine, and Boulia councils.

### Certificate IV in government investigations

Biosecurity Queensland hosted the delivery of a two-week Certificate IV Government Investigations course in Cairns. The course was delivered to build the compliance skills of officers required to regulate and enforce the *Biosecurity Act 2014*. The training was contextualised to the Act and the competency units delivered were selected to be as relevant as possible to the work undertaken by authorised officers in Queensland. Fifteen authorised officers attended, including representatives from the Douglas, Cairns, Hinchinbrook, Tablelands, Mareeba and Mount Isa local governments.



*Left: A biosecurity officer gives a pre-start briefing prior to making entry to a property as part of a scenario during the course. Right: Participants discuss investigation options during the course.*

Participants gained a thorough understanding of how to undertake an investigation, including preparing a full brief of evidence to support compliance action if offences under the Act are detected. As the need to regulate and enforce the Act becomes a larger part of the workload of biosecurity agencies and local governments, these skills can be applied with greater confidence to protect Queensland's agricultural systems and natural resources.

### Supporting local government biosecurity planning and regional coordination

Local government biosecurity plans are a fundamental part of Queensland's biosecurity system, and the Act requires every local government in Queensland develop a biosecurity plan for their area. Biosecurity plans allow local governments and stakeholders to assess the risks posed by regulated invasive species (known as invasive biosecurity matter under the Act), and then determine the reasonable and practical actions landowners need to take to prevent or mitigate the risks. Resources can then be prioritised at a regional level to ensure efforts to control and manage invasive species result in tangible outcomes.

Biosecurity Queensland actively supports regional biosecurity working groups, such as Regional Organisation of Councils, through the provision of information, including legislative and technical advice, and facilitation. Biosecurity officers attended the Local Government Association of Queensland Natural Resource Management Forum in Charleville and presented on invasive species management, as well as providing an update on Biosecurity Queensland's emergency animal disease preparedness program. The forums provide stakeholders with an opportunity to highlight achievements, disseminate knowledge and hear from a range of presenters on topics related to natural resource management.



*Left: A biosecurity officer presents to producers at a field day in Charleville. Right: A Biosecurity officer presents on invasive plant and animal management at the LGAQ NRM forum in Charleville.*

In addition to supporting local government planning processes, biosecurity officers conduct awareness campaigns targeting people involved with activities that would regularly bring them into contact with restricted and prohibited plants and animals. This includes cross-jurisdictional agencies such as law enforcement and local government local laws staff. Information provided focuses on the general biosecurity obligation, roles and responsibilities of stakeholders when dealing with biosecurity matter, tools for identifying invasive species, and restrictions under the Act to regulate the supply and trade of invasive species. As an example, biosecurity officers worked with local government pest management staff to visit markets, nurseries, garden centres, veterinarians and local police stations in the Toowoomba, Western Downs, Maranoa, Murweh, Paroo, Bulloo and Quilpie regions.

### **New online resource for velvety tree pear**

Velvety tree pear (*Opuntia tomentosa*) is an upright, drought tolerant cactus that rapidly invades pastures and natural areas and overwhelms native vegetation. Dense infestations can also impede access and reduce stock-carrying capacity. The spines can cause injury to stock, humans and native animals, reducing or preventing grazing activities and productivity. Velvety tree pear is a major established and widespread invasive species across Southern Queensland.

Biosecurity Queensland have collaborated with Toowoomba Regional Council and Southern Queensland Landscapes to produce a YouTube video on the identification and legislative requirements for managing velvety tree pear under the general biosecurity obligation. The main focus was the range of control options including mulching, stem injection and foliar spraying.

The development of the educational video was possible as a result of funding from the Queensland Government's Natural Resource Investment Program, which aims to improve the condition of grazing

land, vegetation, wetlands and reef water quality. The Natural Resource Investment Program also recognises the importance of engaging and supporting people in regional Queensland and building science capabilities and knowledge. The video can be seen [here](#).



*A Biosecurity officer (left) and Toowoomba Regional Council officer (right) during the filming of the YouTube video on velvety tree pear management.*

### **WeedScan workshop**

Staff from Biosecurity Queensland, local governments and NRM groups from across Southern Queensland attended a training workshop on WeedScan in Toowoomba to evaluate and test the newly developed WeedScan identification tool. The CSIRO, Centre for Invasive Species Solutions and NSW DPI developed the tool with the support of all states and territories to facilitate identification of invasive weed species.

This training was a follow-up to the WeedScan consultation workshop which was held in 2022. WeedScan is a website and smartphone app that can identify, record, and coordinate management of priority weeds across Australia. The workshop demonstrated how to use the tool to record priority weeds and be notified of posts of relevant priority weeds in particular regions.

Landholders, community groups, local and state government officers and other stakeholders will be able to create, view and share records to improve identification and control operations. Positive identification of prohibited and restricted species will be flagged with the relevant states and territories to ensure appropriate and timely action is taken.



*The WeedScan training workshop in Toowoomba.*

### Locust surveillance and management

#### Locust surveillance

Another role of Biosecurity Queensland is to monitor populations of the three economically important locust species, Australian plague locust (*Chortoicetes terminifera*), migratory locust (*Locusta migratoria*) and spur-throated locust (*Austracris guttulosa*). These locusts are native species but can have a significant impact on agricultural production. Locust nymph bands can extend for kilometres, and swarms of millions of locusts can consume several tonnes of plant material each day. Biosecurity officers undertake surveillance to detect any locust population increases that could lead to locust outbreaks in the strategic cropping areas of Central and Southern Queensland.

Biosecurity officers also provide technical advice to local governments and landholders on the control of locusts and may undertake strategic aerial control of locusts where there is a significant risk to strategic cropping lands from locust migration. Good rainfall is a prerequisite for locust population growth. Favourable seasonal conditions across the grain growing areas of Queensland in 2022 made locust surveillance a priority.



*Left: A biosecurity officer identifies a locust as part of surveillance conducted across Central Queensland. Right: Locust surveillance in the Maranoa Regional Council area.*

In response to the widespread and ongoing rainfall across the central and southern parts of Queensland during 2022 and early 2023, intensive locust surveillance was initiated to ensure any population increases were detected early to allow timely intervention if required.

In Central Queensland, surveillance was completed across the Central Highlands and Capricornia regions, including the Arcadia Valley, Dawson-Callide, Bauhinia, Capella and Kilcummin districts. Surveillance was also completed in the migration corridors in Central-Western Queensland from Alpha to Augathella. Isolated to low numerous densities of locust were found throughout the surveillance zone.

In Southern Queensland, surveillance was completed across the Warrego, Maranoa, Darling Downs Granite Belt, including St George, Dirranbandi, Bollon, Goondiwindi, Meandarra, Cunnamulla, Roma, Dalby, and Wandoan districts. Very low densities of locusts were found across the surveillance zone.

Due to the favourable seasonal conditions, surveillance was extended in the south-east of the state to include the North and South Burnett regions. While only low numbers of locusts were found in this survey area, it greatly increased confidence knowing the eastern flank of the strategic cropping area was secure.

### Locust management training

Biosecurity officers conducted a series of locust identification and management workshops across Central and Southern Queensland. These workshops were developed to increase the skills of local government officers in identifying locust species, assessing densities, and managing locusts by conducting control on council-controlled lands. Workshops were rolled out in Charleville, Roma, Rockhampton, Dalby, and Toowoomba, with a total of 30 local government officers being trained.



*Left: Local government officers discuss locust management at Charleville. Right: Practical training in roadside locust surveillance during the workshop conducted at Toowoomba.*

### Conclusion

The breadth of work described in this report demonstrates the challenge Queensland faces from invasive species. The close partnerships between local, state and federal governments, community and Indigenous groups are fundamental to the effective management of invasive species impacts.

Biosecurity Queensland remains committed to preventing the establishment of new regulated invasive species in Queensland, leading the efforts to prevent introduction through maintenance and enforcement of strong legislative restrictions on the importation, trade, and possession of invasive species. Biosecurity Queensland are leading the efforts to eradicate 37 invasive species in partnership with many stakeholders. Achieving eradication is important, as it ensures future impacts from the species are prevented, and also protects the investments made by all stakeholders through the long process of detecting and controlling a species until eradication can be declared.

Biosecurity Queensland continues to support the management of widespread established species by supporting local government and regional groups with advice, training, policy, legislation and world-class research.



For reply please quote: *E&E/AL – TF/23/15010 – DOC/24/26014*

Mr Brett Walsh  
Acting Chief Executive Officer  
Longreach Regional Council

Dear Mr Walsh

The Australian of the Year Awards is a prestigious program celebrating the significant achievements and contributions of extraordinary Australians who are making a positive difference within their community and across the nation.

On 25 January 2024, two Queenslanders, Ms Emma McKeon AM and Mr David Elliott OAM, were recognised on the national stage as the 2024 Young Australian of the Year and 2024 Local Hero, respectively. It was fantastic to see two of Queensland's own, recognised across the country for their contributions to our State and nation.

I understand your council recognises outstanding citizens through your annual community awards programs. Ms McKeon and Mr Elliott were previously recognised through similar programs by their



## 11.1 - Councillor Information Correspondence --Appendix 9

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respective councils, Gold Coast City Council and Winton Shire Council, for their impact on the local community.

To help celebrate your outstanding constituents, I encourage you to connect them and their nominators with the 2025 Australian of the Year Awards program.

Nominations can be made across the following four categories:

- Australian of the Year
- Senior Australian of the Year (those aged 65 years or over)
- Young Australian of the Year (those aged between 16 to 30 years)
- Local Hero.

Queensland recipients will be announced in November 2024 and will progress to the national awards held in Canberra on the eve of Australia Day 2025.

To read about past recipients, or for further information on how to nominate, please visit the website at [www.australianoftheyear.org.au](http://www.australianoftheyear.org.au). Nominations close in July 2024.

Should you have any questions regarding this year's program, please contact me or Ms Alice Lane, Project Coordinator, Events and Engagement, Department of the Premier and Cabinet, by email at [australiaday@premiers.qld.gov.au](mailto:australiaday@premiers.qld.gov.au) or on telephone (07) 3003 9200.

Yours sincerely



Mike Kaiser  
**Director-General**

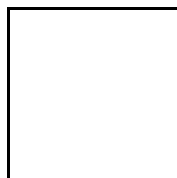
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[www.premiers.qld.gov.au](http://www.premiers.qld.gov.au) | Email : [DPC.correspondence@premiers.qld.gov.au](mailto:DPC.correspondence@premiers.qld.gov.au) | Tel: 13 QGOV (13 74 68)

This email was sent by Executive Correspondence Unit, PO Box 15185, CITY EAST QLD 4002 to [ceo@longreach.qld.gov.au](mailto:ceo@longreach.qld.gov.au)

[Unsubscribe](#)



Hello Brett and thanks for taking my call earlier

We would be grateful if you could let your community members know that to support the 2024 Opera in the Outback event and also the local community members, we have put on 2 additional flight services as follows:

- 14 May Brisbane to Longreach departure 1000
- 14 May Longreach to Brisbane departing 1245
  
- 19 May Brisbane to Longreach departure 1000
- 19 May Longreach to Brisbane departing 1245

For bookings and fare enquiries please visit [Flight Bookings - Select Flights \(qantas.com\)](https://www.qantas.com/flight-bookings)

Fares from \$259

These flights are operated in partnership with the Queensland State Government

Any questions – please let me know

Kind regards

Adam

Adam Humphries  
Regional Sales and Development Manager, Queensland  
Qantas Airways Limited  
100 Creek Street, Brisbane 4000  
PO Box 766, Brisbane QLD 4001  
P: +61 419 889133  
e-mail: [adam.humphries@qantas.com.au](mailto:adam.humphries@qantas.com.au)  
[qantas.com](https://www.qantas.com) | [facebook.com/qantas](https://www.facebook.com/qantas) | [twitter @qantas](https://twitter.com/qantas) | [youtube.com/qantas](https://www.youtube.com/qantas)



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Queensland  
Government

Department of  
**Treaty, Aboriginal and  
Torres Strait Islander Partnerships,  
Communities and the Arts**

Ref: ACT24/731

Mr Brett Walsh  
Chief Executive Officer  
Longreach Regional Council  
PO Box 144  
ILFRACOMBE QLD 4727

Email: ceo@longreach.qld.gov.au  
CC: dccc@longreach.qld.gov.au

Dear Mr Walsh

I am writing to inform you that the Regional Arts Development Fund (RADF) 2024 – 2028 will open today, Monday 4 March, and to advise of program changes being implemented following Arts Queensland's review of the Fund.

In April 2022, Ms Clare O'Connor, Director-General of the then Department of Communities, Housing and Digital Economy wrote to your council initiating Arts Queensland's review of RADF. The review sought to reform and enhance delivery of the RADF initiatives by streamlining program administration with multi-year agreements, supporting strategic initiatives, and improving alignment with the State Government's *Creative Together 2020-2030* priorities with local objectives.

Accordingly, Arts Queensland has undertaken a program evaluation, explored opportunities for program efficiency and considered strategies to enhance a continued partnership between State and Local Government.

In the spirit of partnership, in 2023 Arts Queensland consulted regularly with staff at all levels of RADF's 59 partnering councils, so that your views and experience could be considered in developing a renewed approach.

Responding to this review and consultation, Arts Queensland is pleased to confirm that a renewed RADF will be rolling out from 2024-25, implementing the following key changes:

- four-year funding agreements to provide surety of ongoing investment, offered as 2+2 year contracts including a review of KPOs and consideration of population growth on investment levels after year two
- alignment of program to financial year to support council budget and delivery cycles
- simplified guidelines and administrative processes
- reduced reporting
- alignment to *Creative Together 2020-2030* priorities

Department of  
**Treaty, Aboriginal and  
Torres Strait Islander Partnerships,  
Communities and the Arts**

## 11.1 - Councillor Information Correspondence --Appendix 11

---

RADF 2024-25 to 2027-28 will open for submissions from councils today, Monday 4 March, and close on Thursday 2 May. Your council RADF Officer has been provided with information outlining how to apply and access more information.

Arts Queensland will provide a copy of the new multi-year contract to councils for review and comment prior to issuing final contracts for commencement on 1 July 2024.

Arts Queensland will continue to work to support RADF Officers through providing specific information to assist in the development and evaluation of local community arts grants and council initiatives.

Brett, we look forward to continuing to deepen the partnership between Arts Queensland and Longreach Regional Council through this renewed RADF program.

If you have any questions about RADF 2024-25 to 2027-28 please contact Julie Beveridge Senior Manager, Partnerships and Investment, on 3403 4065 or email [juliem.beveridge@arts.qld.gov.au](mailto:juliem.beveridge@arts.qld.gov.au).

Yours sincerely



Fiona Forrest  
**A/Director**  
**Partnerships and Investment**  
**Arts Queensland**  
04/03/2024

*Enc. 1. RADF 2024-25 to 2027-28 Guidelines*

### Regional Arts Development Fund - Guidelines

Established in 1991, the Regional Arts Development Fund (RADF) promotes the role and value of arts, culture and heritage as key drivers of diverse and inclusive communities and strong regions. Delivered in partnership with local government, RADF is a multi-year program of co-investment in local arts and cultural priorities across Queensland, as determined by local communities.

RADF delivers quality arts and cultural experiences, and aligns to [Grow 2022-2026](#), the second action plan for [Creative Together 2020-2030](#).

#### Program objectives

---

RADF drives social change and strengthens communities through community grants programs and council-led initiatives that:

- increase access to arts and cultural experiences in regional Queensland
- grow employment and capacity building opportunities for artists across regional Queensland
- deliver against local arts and cultural priorities and promote the value of arts, culture and heritage.

#### What RADF investment can be used for

---

RADF investment supports programs delivered by the council including:

##### Council projects

- council-initiated or council-led arts and cultural activities, projects and events
- council-initiated professional development opportunities for local artists and arts workers (such as mentorships, incubator programs and provision of space or services)
- other activities such as RADF committee training, marketing and promotion.

##### Local grants programs (open or specifically targeted)

- grants for artists or arts and cultural workers for professional development activities, new work or projects
- grants for professional organisations and community groups for arts and cultural activities, projects or events

Councils determine the best use of RADF investment from the Fund to achieve the objectives of the Fund, in ways most relevant to their local communities. In developing their program, councils may consider:

- if local arts community grants programs, council-led arts initiatives, or a combination of both, will best meet local needs and demand
- if RADF investment is best spread across a range of smaller activities, or directed to a larger scale initiative that will make a substantial contribution to local arts and cultural priorities
- opportunities to collaborate with neighbouring councils to address shared priorities (such as enhancing liveability or cultural tourism)
- opportunities to leverage investment to attract partners for larger projects such as cultural infrastructure, significant events, public art or place-making activities.

### Investment Tiers

Eligible local councils can submit a proposal for investment guided by the population and co-investment tiers below:

RADF Tier	Population	\$ % Arts Qld	\$ % Council	Arts Qld max investment
1	0 to 5,000	90	10	\$26,250
2	5,001 to 25,000	70	30	\$31,500
3	25,001 to 50,000	60	40	\$42,000
4	50,001 to 200,000	50	50	\$52,250
5	200,000 +	40	60	\$105,000

Councils may consider submitting a proposal for investment above their population tier's maximum amount or ratio (up to a maximum of \$120,000) where they can provide strong justification, including:

- their financial contribution is at a higher level than the defined % ratios, or they have secured partners who are investing in their local RADF program
- they can demonstrate capacity for exceptional delivery of RADF objectives
- they can demonstrate strong achievement of all assessment criteria.

### Eligibility

To be eligible, councils must:

- have an active Australian Business Number (ABN) that is in the name of the council
- have satisfied the reporting requirements of any previous Arts Queensland funding
- be one of the 59 [eligible Queensland local councils](#).

### Eligible and ineligible costs

In addition to the items listed in the [General Funding Guidelines](#):

- you **can** include costs towards delivery of:
  - community grants programs
  - council-led initiatives
- you **cannot** include:
  - agents' fees or management fees for participating artists
  - equipment purchases or digital upgrades
  - rent, utilities and standard council operating costs
  - expenses associated with council staff involved in RADF activities, including fees or wages, travel, accommodation and living-away-from-home allowances.

### Arts Queensland RADF investment decisions

Arts Queensland considers proposals for RADF investment via a competitive process. Demand for investment is high, and moderation of proposals aims to ensure balance across areas such as geographic region, art forms, target groups and Queensland Government priorities.

In addition to a council's ability to meet the assessment criteria (set out below), the following elements will also be considered:

- the diverse nature of Queensland communities  
broader Queensland and local council priorities pertaining to the importance of industry development and community within a region.

Proposals that seek Arts Queensland funding and confirm council co-investment in accordance with the relevant population tier will be reviewed by Arts Queensland.

## 11.1 - Councillor Information Correspondence --Appendix 12

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Proposals that request Arts Queensland funding above the relevant population tier will be assessed and moderated by the Fund Assessment Panel.

All funding recommendations are approved by the Director-General.

Please note:

- as part of the assessment process, additional information may be requested.
- councils must not assume they will receive the amount of investment requested or enter into commitments based on that assumption before receiving formal notification of the outcome of their proposal. Nor should councils assume that they will receive the same level of funding again in the future.

### Assessment Criteria

---

The Fund Assessment Panel will assess applications against the following criteria, which align with the [General Funding Guidelines](#) criteria:

#### **High quality**

- produces or contributes to high-quality arts and cultural initiatives for local communities
- proven capacity to effectively support and deliver arts and cultural services
- evidence of delivery against local arts and cultural priorities.

#### **Strong impact**

- creates new employment opportunities and skills development for artists and arts workers in Queensland
- builds new audiences and markets and reputation for Queensland arts and cultures
- demonstrates community demand and stakeholder involvement in RADF priority setting, decision making and evaluation
- where applicable, demonstrates support for activities that involve Aboriginal people and Torres Strait Islander people, including adhering to cultural protocols
- helps deliver government priorities including alignment to *Creative Together* and the principles of the [Cultural Engagement Framework](#).

#### **Sustainable value**

- demonstrates value for money
- demonstrates sound governance, and ethical business practices, including paying amounts not less than industry award rates, recommended or agreed minimum rates
- proposed activity has a strong delivery plan, including understanding potential risks and their management.

### Submitting your proposal

---

Councils can submit their proposal, budget, support materials, and appropriate cultural permissions, through SmartyGrants.

Arts Queensland will provide a unique link to all 59 eligible councils on 4 March 2024.

Councils must submit their proposal by RADF closing date and time listed below.

Open	Close	Notification	Activity Start Date
4 March 2024	12pm, 2 May 2024	June 2024	From 1 July 2024

**For support** with technical issues related to the online submission, please contact an Arts Queensland Grants Officer by telephone (07) 3034 4016 or toll-free 1800 175 531 or email [investment@arts.qld.gov.au](mailto:investment@arts.qld.gov.au).

**Note:** Arts Queensland reserves the right to modify the Fund Guidelines at any time. Applicants will be notified of changes.



Premier of Queensland

For reply please quote: *EPP/NL – TF/24/2427 – DOC/24/39765*

06 March 2024

Councillor Tony Rayner  
Mayor  
Longreach Regional Council  
mayor@longreach.qld.gov.au

Dear Councillor Rayner

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Tony".

Thank you for your email of 7 February 2024 regarding the Longreach Water Security Business Case (Business Case).

I appreciate being provided with a copy of the Business Case.

It is noted and appropriate that a copy was provided to the Honourable Glenn Butcher MP, Minister for Regional Development and Manufacturing and Minister for Water, as this matter falls within his portfolio responsibilities.

The Business Case will be reviewed by the Department of Regional Development, Manufacturing and Water and they will contact the Longreach Regional Council to discuss next steps and advise if any additional information is required.

I look forward to continuing to work with the Longreach Regional Council to ensure long term water security for the Longreach community.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to be "Steven Miles".

**STEVEN MILES MP  
PREMIER OF QUEENSLAND**

1 William Street Brisbane  
PO Box 15185 City East  
Queensland 4002 Australia  
Telephone +61 7 3719 7000  
Email [ThePremier@premiers.qld.gov.au](mailto:ThePremier@premiers.qld.gov.au)  
Website [www.thepremier.qld.gov.au](http://www.thepremier.qld.gov.au)



## 11. CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER'S REPORT

### 11.2 - Referral Agency Assessment Application (Alternative Siting Assessment) - 55 Galah Street, Longreach.

#### 11.2 Referral Agency Assessment Application (Alternative Siting Assessment) - 55 Galah Street, Longreach.

Consideration of a Referral Agency Assessment Application for an alternative siting assessment lodged with Council on February 29 2024, for a carport to be positioned on land located at 55 Galah Street, Longreach and described as Lot 8 on L35710.

#### Council Action

Deliver

#### Applicable Legislation

*Building Act 1975*

*Planning Act 2016*

*Planning Regulation 2017*

*Queensland Development Code*

#### Policy Considerations

Nil

#### Corporate and Operational Plan Considerations

OUR COMMUNITY	
	Corporate Plan Outcome
1.1	Council infrastructure and services support liveability and community amenity.

#### Budget Considerations

Nil

#### Previous Council Resolutions related to this Matter

Nil

#### Officer Comment

**Responsible Officer/s:** *Emily O'Hanlon, Business Support Officer*  
*Jason Burger, Consultant Building Certifier*

#### Background:

The applicant has requested to position the proposed 13.5m long (over 9 metres in length) open carport within 1.5m setback from the side neighbouring boundary. The information provided within the application locates the proposed structure to be built with a .5 metre setback from the southern neighbouring side boundary.

## 11. CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER'S REPORT

### 11.2 - Referral Agency Assessment Application (Alternative Siting Assessment) - 55 Galah Street, Longreach.

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**Issue:**

The proposed structure setback is not in line with the requirements of the Queensland Development Code, hence the reason for the application being referred to Council for consideration.

**Risk Management Factors:**

This matter has been assessed using Council's Risk Matrix to decide the likelihood and consequence of any risk to Council:

Likelihood:	Rare
Consequence:	Minor
Rating:	Low (2/25)

**Community Consultation:**

N/A

**Environmental Management Factors:**

N/A

**11. CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER'S REPORT**  
**11.2 - Referral Agency Assessment Application (Alternative Siting Assessment) - 55**  
**Galah Street, Longreach.**

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**Other Comments:**

The application has been assessed by Jason Burger, Council's Consultant Building Certifier who has recommended that Council approve the proposed structure location based on the following:

- The proposed reduced setback of .5 metre setback from the side boundary in lieu of the required 1.5 metre setback would have little effect on the surrounding properties and roadways.
- Similar structures within Galah Street have similar or lesser side boundary setbacks than the proposed carport.
- The proposed carport is located a long distance from the neighbouring house.
- The proposed carport is located to ensure clear access is maintained to Council's sewer.

**Appendices**

1. Siting Variation Assessment Report - Building Certifier 2.03.24 [↓](#)

**Recommendation:**

*That Council approves the siting variation of a carport with a .5 metre setback from the side boundary at 55 Galah Street, Longreach, and formally described as Lot 8 on L35710, pursuant to section 32 and 33 of the Building Act 1975, Planning Act 2016 and schedule 9, table 3 of the Planning Regulations 2017.*

**11.2 - Referral Agency Assessment Application (Alternative Siting Assessment) - 55 Galah Street, Longreach. --Appendix 1**

**SITING VARIATION ASSESSMENT SHEET**  
For Single Residential Use

Address	<u>55 Galah Street, Longreach Qld</u>	Lot / Plan No:	<u>Lot 8 on L35710</u>
Contact Person	_____	Contact Number	_____
DA Number	<u>23/24-046</u>		

Relevant Residential Code issues for consideration			Comments/Likely Impact
	Yes	No	
Does the proposal maintain residential amenity both internal and external to the site?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Does the proposal meet the accommodation and associated needs of one family?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Does the proposal provide for physical access and connection to a constructed road?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Galah Street
Is the maximum height of a building or structure higher than 8.5 metres?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Is the area covered by buildings or roofed structures greater than 50% of the lot?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Does the proposal provide adequate provision for recreational space?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Are the location and design of car parking provision appropriate?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Is the proposal sited, designed and constructed in a manner which does not cause a nuisance or disturbance to the occupiers or users of nearby land, particularly nearby residents?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Does the proposal adversely affect the visual character and aesthetics of the nearby area?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Is the proposal compatible with the physical characteristics of the site and its surrounds?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Is the height of the proposed buildings or structures compatible with the physical characteristics of the site and its surrounds?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Is the proposed buildings or structures sited and designed to provide:			
- Space around buildings and structures?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
- Access to natural light and ventilation?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
- Provision for privacy?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Will the proposal affect any existing approved pool fence?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Will the proposal comply with the "Deemed to Satisfy" provisions of the BSA for fire separation?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Does the proposal require Build Over/Near Council infrastructure approval?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Does the proposal encroach into a registered easement?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	

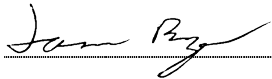
Form No: GBA-SF164

Issue Date: July 2019

**11.2 - Referral Agency Assessment Application (Alternative Siting Assessment) - 55 Galah Street, Longreach. --Appendix 1**

Relevant Residential Code issues for consideration	Yes	No	Comments/Likely Impact
Is the proposal shed near and Urban Stormwater Flow Path?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Is a statement required from the owners of the adjoining properties?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No effect on neighbours dwelling.
Are further grounds for consideration of the proposal required from the applicant?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	

Summary		
Proposed carport would have no impact on neighbouring properties.		
Can approval be issued? Recommendation:	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>

Inspector's Name	<u>Jason Burger</u>	Contact Number	<u>0438 605 811</u>	Date	<u>04/03/2024</u>
Signature					

**11. CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER'S REPORT**  
**11.3 - Monthly Workplace Health and Safety Report - February 2024**

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**11.3 Monthly Workplace Health and Safety Report - February 2024**

This report provides a summary of Council's health and safety performance as at 29 February 2024, highlighting issues, risks and opportunities impacting on employee health and safety in the workplace.

**Council Action**

Recognise

**Applicable Legislation**

*Local Government Act 2009*

*Local Government Regulation 2012*

*Workplace Health and Safety Act 2011*

*Workplace Health and Safety Regulations 2011*

**Policy Considerations**

Workplace Health and Safety Policy No 10.2

**Corporate and Operational Plan Considerations**

OUR LEADERSHIP	
	Corporate Plan Outcome
5.1	Council will have a values driven culture.

**Budget Considerations**

Operational expenses YTD for Workplace Health and Safety are within current budget parameters.

**Previous Council Resolutions related to this Matter**

Nil

**Officer Comment**

**Responsible Officer/s:** *Grace Cronin-Jones, Manager of Human Resources, Safety and Wellness*

**Background:**

The Safety Team provides a monthly update report of Council's health and safety performance.

**Safety Team Updates**

- On team member returned from Maternity Leave on 6 February 2024 and will be working part-time. They will take the lead in driving our Safety Management System document development and addressing audit actions. The relieving officer will remain with Council until February 2025 on a 12-month contract and be the lead for the Safety Team in coordinating and prioritise the day to day activities for the team. They are also working through a large internal audit program assessing Critical Risks which is approximately 45% complete. A project plan for system improvements will be

## 11. CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER'S REPORT

### 11.3 - Monthly Workplace Health and Safety Report - February 2024

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developed from the findings of this audit and this project will be named: Safety365. (Note: a presentation of key finding of the audit will be made to Councillor in either May or June 2024)

- Consultation and engagement with staff is on-going with the Team looking at implementing regular site visits to engage with teams on up-coming procedure developments and changes. Further the Team are looking to establish a number of working groups to address current identified gaps in system processes, with an aim to find solutions that also lead to efficiency gains for the organisation. The work group will be focused on how compliance testing and inspections are managed across all functions of Council.
- The overall HR, Safety and Wellness Team also meet on a regular basis and at the commencement of the 2024 year met to reflect on 2023 and plan for 2024. The team also established a clear team Mission and Vision that link to the Corporate Plan outcome of have a Value's driven culture.
  - **Vision:**  
To foster a supportive and efficient work environment that enhances safety, individual growth, and collective well-being.
  - **Mission:**  
To drive positive change through proactive collaboration and partnership.
- The team will also be participating in the 'Leading Change in Action' Program with SeeChange Consulting which will:
  - Equip us with a better understanding of Change Management
  - Provide us with tools and templates for planning for and managing change; and
  - Improve our skills, knowledge and experience to become Change Leaders.

#### **Incident Reporting Summary for February 2024**

Throughout the month of February there were no reported incidents resulting in personal injury, with five reports of property damage resulting in minor windscreen/glass damage. There were three near miss reports with two snake sightings at the Childcare Centre.

The remaining near miss, involved an incident at the Ilfracombe Council Office, which highlighted critical areas for improvement in our asbestos management and contractor oversight processes. While no injuries were reported, the incident highlights the importance of adhering to safety protocols to protect both staff and contractors from potential health risks associated with asbestos exposure.

The below graph depicts the incident to injury ratio YTD

**11. CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER'S REPORT**  
**11.3 - Monthly Workplace Health and Safety Report - February 2024**

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**Risk Management Factors:**

This matter has been assessed using Council's Risk Matrix to decide the likelihood and consequence of any risk to Council:

Likelihood: Possible  
Consequence: Minor  
Rating: M6

Risk rating is applicable to the information provided within the Council report and is not intended to be an overarching risk rating of Council Safety Management Systems. Risks assessments continue to be utilised across Council's work environments to ensure that suitable controls for hazards are identified and implemented.

**Community Consultation:**

N/A

**Environmental Management Factors:**

N/A

**Other Comments:**

Nil

**Recommendation:**

*That Council receives the Workplace Health and Safety Update for February 2024, as presented.*



**11. CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER'S REPORT**  
**11.4 - Information Report - Planning and Development**

---

**11.4 Information Report - Planning and Development**

This report provides an update on Development Services that has occurred during the month of February 2024.

**Council Action**

Deliver

**Applicable Legislation**

*Local Government Act 2009*

*Local Government Regulation 2012*

**Policy Considerations**

N/A

**Corporate and Operational Plan Considerations**

OUR COMMUNITY	
	Corporate Plan Outcome
1.1	Council infrastructure and services support liveability and community amenity.
OUR ECONOMY	
	Corporate Plan Outcome
2.2	Council infrastructure and services support local industries and growth opportunities.
OUR LEADERSHIP	
	Corporate Plan Outcome
5.2	Informed and considered decision making based on effective governance practices.

**Budget Considerations**

Nil

**Previous Council Resolutions related to this Matter**

Nil

**Officer Comment**

**Responsible Officer/s:**

*Emily O'Hanlon, Business Support Officer*

*Simon Kuttner, Manager of Governance and Economy*

**Background:**

This information report provides a monthly update on the planning services that Council provides to support planning and development activity across the local government area.

**11. CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER'S REPORT**  
**11.4 - Information Report - Planning and Development**

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**Issue:**

**1. Development Assessment**

No new applications have been received by Council since the last monthly report. There are no applications currently under assessment.

**2. General Planning Services, Enquiries And Advice**

**2.1 Customer Requests**

The following customer requests have been received and responded to over the past month:

<b>Planning Enquiries</b>			
<b>Date received</b>	<b>Customer Details</b>	<b>Details of Enquiry</b>	<b>Status</b>
07/02/24	Landowner	<p><u>Request</u> Council received a request regarding subdividing an existing lot.</p> <p><u>Advice</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The site is in the Low density residential zone</li> <li>• The site is affected by the flood overly (significant)</li> <li>• Reconfiguring a lot where affected by flooding is subject to Impact assessment</li> <li>• Impact assessment is subject to public notification (15 business days) and third party appeal rights</li> <li>• Although affected by flooding, subdivision is still possible as the site is outside the high and extreme flood designations</li> <li>• In the Low density residential zone the minimum lot size is 400m<sup>2</sup> with a 10m road frontage.</li> <li>• An application would take anywhere from 3-6 months.</li> </ul>	Closed
7/02/24	Potential purchaser	<p><u>Request</u> Council received a request regarding establishing dog boarding kennels.</p> <p><u>Advice</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The site is in the Centre zone</li> <li>• Dog boarding kennels are defined as</li> </ul>	Closed

**11. CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER'S REPORT**  
**11.4 - Information Report - Planning and Development**

<b>Planning Enquiries</b>			
<b>Date received</b>	<b>Customer Details</b>	<b>Details of Enquiry</b>	<b>Status</b>
		<p>Animal keeping under the planning scheme</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Animal keeping would not be supportable in the Centre zone</li> <li>• Animal keeping would only generally be expected in the Industry investigation and Rural zones, where it would be accepted development.</li> </ul>	
07/02/2024	Potential purchaser	<p><u>Request</u> Council received a request regarding establishing an Air services use.</p> <p><u>Advice</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The site is in Industry investigation zone</li> <li>• Air services is subject to Impact assessment in the Industry investigation zone</li> <li>• Although impact assessable there may be some merit in the proposal as the site is a significant distance from any sensitive uses, the closest use (tourist accommodation) being about 1.5km to the east</li> <li>• The local government purpose of the industry investigation zone code is to protect land for the future development of regionally significant industries, including transport and logistics, mining and related industries and other medium and heavy industries, while land use and infrastructure planning investigations are undertaken</li> <li>• The use appears to be consistent with the purpose of the zone as it would provide for both transport and logistic services</li> <li>• Impact assessment is the highest level of assessment and subject to public notification and third party appeal rights</li> <li>• An Impact assessable application is assessable against the planning</li> </ul>	Closed

**11. CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER'S REPORT**  
**11.4 - Information Report - Planning and Development**

<b>Planning Enquiries</b>			
<b>Date received</b>	<b>Customer Details</b>	<b>Details of Enquiry</b>	<b>Status</b>
		<p>scheme (including strategic framework)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>It is recommended that a town planner is engaged to assist with any development application.</li> </ul>	
20/02/2024	Business owner	<p><u>Request</u> Council received a request about building a shed on the site of an existing business.</p> <p><u>Advice</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The site is in the Industrial zone</li> <li>The site contains an existing business</li> <li>The shed will be used for ancillary storage</li> <li>The shed is considered to be building work only</li> <li>The building work is not assessable against the planning scheme and therefore does not require a development approval</li> <li>A building approval will still be required.</li> </ul>	Closed
27/02/2024	Land owner	<p><u>Request</u> Council received a request about establishing worker's accommodation.</p> <p><u>Advice</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The site is in the Low density residential zone</li> <li>The proposal would be defined as Non-resident workforce accommodation</li> <li>Non-resident workforce accommodation is subject to Impact assessment in the Low density residential zone</li> <li>Although Impact assessable, overall outcome 3(d) of the Low density residential zone code does envisage the use, 'Non-resident workforce accommodation may be acceptable where they are of a scale and design</li> </ul>	Closed

**11. CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER'S REPORT**  
**11.4 - Information Report - Planning and Development**

<b>Planning Enquiries</b>			
<b>Date received</b>	<b>Customer Details</b>	<b>Details of Enquiry</b>	<b>Status</b>
		<p>that is compatible with the low density local character'</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The scale of development would need to be of a scale that would not impact amenity of surrounding residential uses</li> <li>• If a larger scale was proposed then the development should be located in the Medium density residential zone.</li> </ul>	
27/02/2024	State government entity	<p><u>Request</u> Council received a request regarding existing use rights.</p> <p><u>Advice</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The site is in the Community facilities zone</li> <li>• The site has been used since 1985</li> <li>• The first planning scheme for Longreach came into effect in 1993</li> <li>• The 1993 planning scheme included a provision that allows uses established before 1993 can continue to operate at the same scale and intensity without needing a development approval</li> <li>• Extensions or upgrades to the use may need a further development approval.</li> </ul>	Closed
<b>Planning And Development Certificates</b>			
<b>Date Received</b>	<b>Customer Details</b>	<b>Type</b>	<b>Status</b>
Nil			
<b>Exemption Certificates</b>			
Nil			
<b>Survey Plan Endorsement</b>			
Nil			

**Development Applications Received**

<b>Application Type</b>	<b>February</b>	<b>YTD</b>
Building (Council Certifier)	3	21
Building (Private Certifier)	0	9

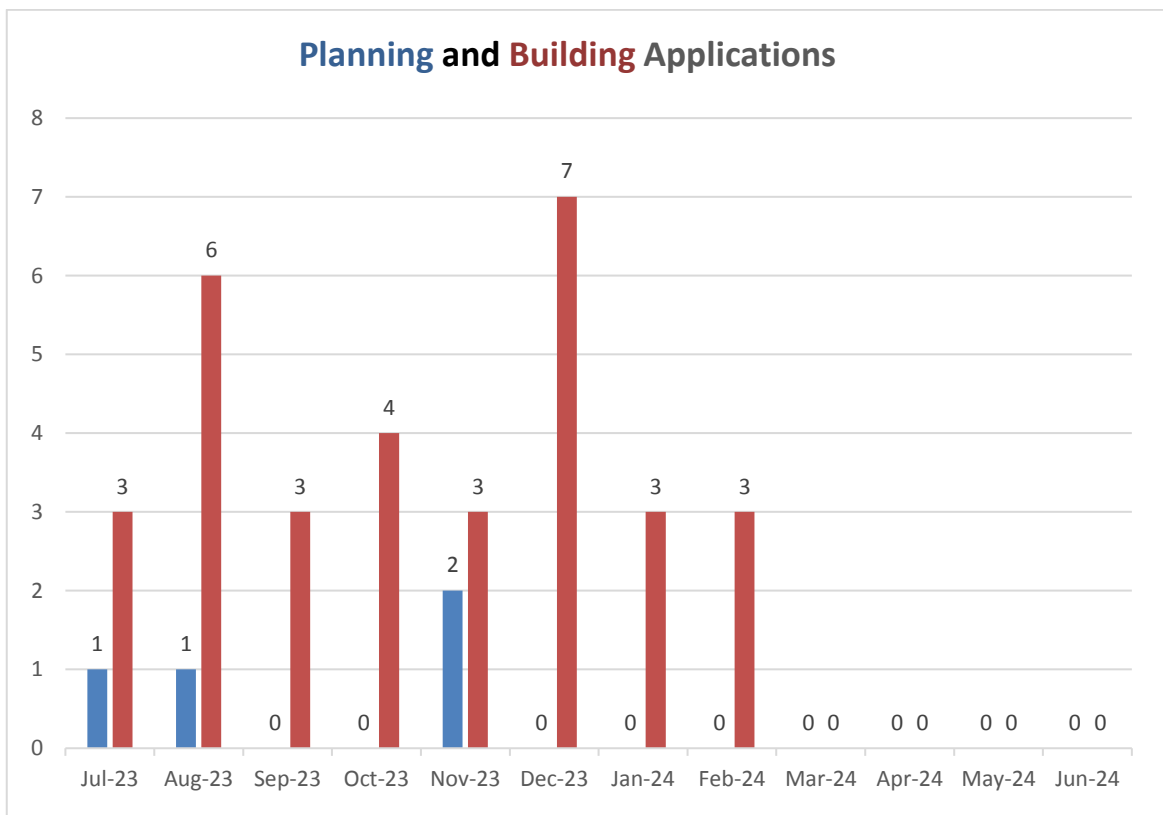
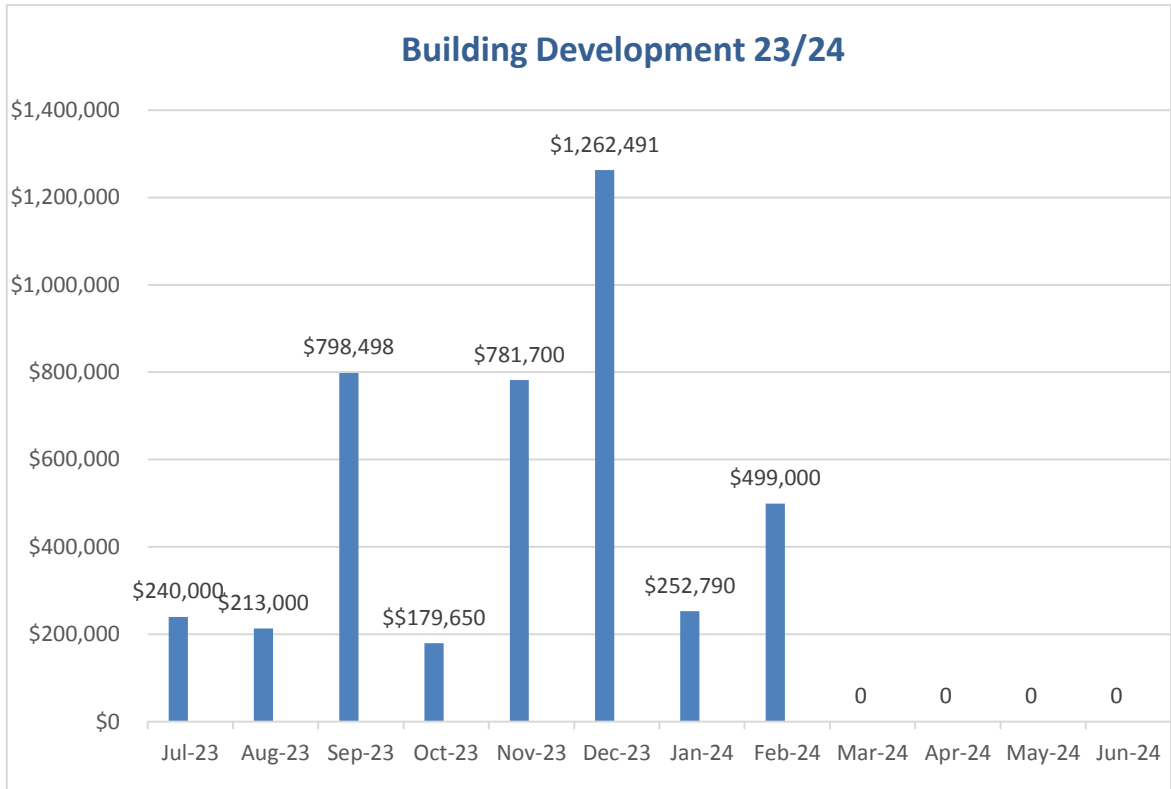
**11. CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER'S REPORT**  
**11.4 - Information Report - Planning and Development**

Certificate of Classification	0	1
Change of Classification	0	0
Endorsement of Survey Plan	0	0
Exemption Certificate	0	2
Material Change of Use	0	0
Minor Change (MCU)	0	0
Minor Change (Op Works)	0	0
Building Work (Assessable)	0	0
Operational Works	0	0
Plumbing & Drainage	0	12
Reconfiguration of a Lot	0	2
Siting Variation	1	4
Building Record Searches/ Planning Certificates	1	13
Operational Works - Bore	0	3
<b>Total</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>67</b>

**Project Value of Building Applications**

Date	Development Type	Development Details	Value of Work	Location
Carried forward			\$3,666,271	
20/02/2024	Building	Shade Structure	\$41,000	Longreach
22/02/2024	Building	Multi-purpose Structure	\$450,000	Ilfracombe
28/02/2024	Building	Carport	\$8,000	Longreach
<b>February</b>			<b>\$499,000</b>	
<b>Total</b>		<b>Total Development for '23/'24 Year</b>	<b>\$4,165,271</b>	

**11. CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER'S REPORT**  
**11.4 - Information Report - Planning and Development**



**11. CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER'S REPORT**  
**11.4 - Information Report - Planning and Development**

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**2.2 Longreach Regional Council Planning Scheme – Proposed Major Amendment Project**

Reel Planning has been engaged to assist Council to undertake a proposed major amendment to the *Longreach Regional Council Planning Scheme 2015*.

On 13 November 2023, Reel Planning on behalf of Council submitted a notice to the Planning Minister to request approval to adopt the major amendment.

On 30 January 2024 the Planning Minister advised Council that the proposed amendment meets the relevant requirements and that the Council may now adopt the proposed amendment.

The next step for Council is to resolve to adopt the proposed amendment, however this step cannot occur whilst Council is in the caretaker period.

**Risk Management Factors:**

This matter has been assessed using Council's Risk Matrix to decide the likelihood and consequence of any risk to Council:

Likelihood:	Rare
Consequence:	Insignificant
Rating:	Low (1/25)

**Community Consultation:**

N/A

**Environmental Management Factors:**

N/A

**Other Comments:**

Nil

**Recommendation:**

*That Council receives the Planning and Development information report, as presented.*



**11. CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER'S REPORT**  
**11.5 - Information Report - Governance**

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**11.5 Information Report - Governance**

This report provides an update on a range of activities that have occurred over the previous month for the Governance Directorate..

**Council Action**

Recognise  
Deliver

**Applicable Legislation**

*Local Government Act 2009*  
*Local Government Regulation 2012*

**Policy Considerations**

Nil

**Corporate and Operational Plan Considerations**

OUR LEADERSHIP	
Corporate Plan Outcome	
5.2	Informed and considered decision making based on effective governance practices

**Budget Considerations**

Nil

**Previous Council Resolutions related to this Matter**

Nil

**Officer Comment**

**Responsible Officer/s:** *Brett Walsh, Chief Executive Officer*

**Background:**

Officers provide an information update to Council on a monthly basis to outline achievements, challenges and statistical information for the various functional areas of Council.

**Issue:**

**Chief Executive Officer Update**

Following is a summary of activities undertaken for the period to 7 March 2024:

**Strategic Leadership**

- Attend monthly RAPAD meeting (Barcaldine)
- Attend monthly CEOs of the West (COWS) meeting (zoom)
- Attend LGMA CEO Forum (Brisbane)
- Attend QTC Economic Update (Zoom)
- Host the Water Connections Tour of Longreach re funding for weirs
- Prepare induction program for new Council

## 11. CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER'S REPORT

### 11.5 - Information Report - Governance

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#### **Operational Management**

- Assist the Department of Water prepare the funding application for the Longreach Water Security For Growth project
- Receive initial response from the Department of Planning re Regional Interests Development Application (RIDA) for the Thomson River Weirs
- Pursue negotiations re Starlight's Lookout land tenure

#### **Financial Management**

- Meet with the external auditor re planning for 2024 audit of financial statements
- Continue negotiations of tender for sale of Lot 201
- Attend budget workshop with senior leadership team
- Identify grant opportunities for the Disaster Resilience Fund
- Identify grant opportunities for pathways funding

#### **Workforce Capability**

- Attend leadership training for managers and supervisors
- Share results from culture survey with employees

#### **Stakeholder Engagement**

- Meet with Telstra representative re closure of 3G
- Meet with NBN representative re future upgrades in the region
- Meet with District Director of Transport & Main Roads, re future projects
- Attend Clean up Australia Day in Longreach
- Meet with the organiser of Outback Trailblazer
- Meet with Qld Helicopters re future plans
- Meet with Ergon Energy re roundabouts
- Meet with Ergon Energy re power outages
- Meet with landholders of Coolibah Estate re access to town water
- Meet with the Qld Small Business Commissioner
- Meet with Chancellor and Vice-Chancellor of James Cook University

#### **Risk Management**

- Attend Public Interest Disclosure training

**11. CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER'S REPORT**  
**11.5 - Information Report - Governance**

**Calendar of Council Events**

<b>March 2024</b>			
13 Wednesday 9.00am-4.00pm	Budget Workshop	Fairmount Room, Longreach Civic Centre	Councillors Executive Leadership Team Managers
14 Thursday 9.00am-12.00pm	Ordinary Council Meeting	Council Chambers, Longreach Civic Centre	Councillors Executive Leadership Team Open to the public
16 Saturday	LG Election	Postal Vote	
26 Tuesday	LG Election	Last day for postal votes	
28 Thursday	Post-Election Meeting Councillor	Council Chambers, Longreach Civic Centre	Councillors Executive Leadership Team Open to the public
29 Friday	Good Friday		
<b>April 2024</b>			
1 Monday	Easter Monday		
10 Wednesday 9.00am-4.00pm	Briefing Session	Fairmount Room, Longreach Civic Centre	Councillors Executive Leadership Team
11 Thursday 9.00am-12.00pm	Ordinary Council Meeting	Council Chambers, Longreach Civic Centre	Councillors Executive Leadership Team Open to the public
19 Friday	Budget Workshop	Fairmount Room, Longreach Civic Centre	Councillors Executive Leadership Team Managers
25 Thursday	ANZAC Day		
27 Saturday 10am – 12pm	Longreach Community Forum	Longreach Library	Public Event
27 Saturday 2pm – 4pm	Ilfracombe Community Forum	Ilfracombe Recreational Centre	Public Event
30 Tuesday 1pm – 2pm	Yaraka Community Forum	Yaraka Town Hall	Public Event
30 Tuesday 5:30pm – 7:30pm	Isisford Community Forum	Isisford Town Hall	Public Event

**Economic/Consumer Spending Data (Spendmapp)**

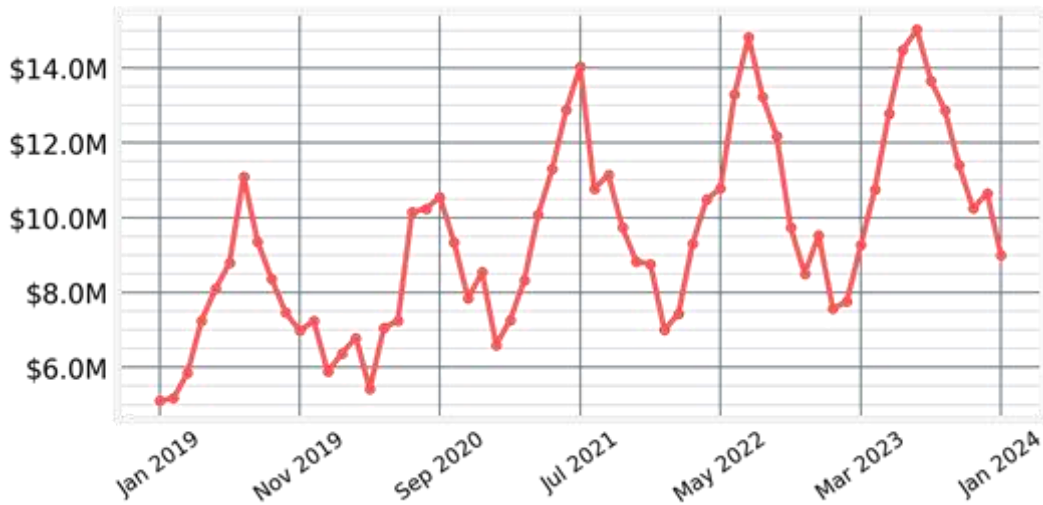
February data has not yet been released. Presented here is data for January 2024:

Total Local Spend was \$9.0M. This is a 18.87% increase from the same time last year.  
Resident Local Spend was \$6.6M. This is a 20.87% increase from the same time last year.  
Visitor Local Spend was \$2.4M. This is a 13.82% increase from the same time last year.  
Resident Escape Spend was \$6.2M. This is a 11.71% increase from the same time last year.

Total Local Spend

**11. CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER'S REPORT**  
**11.5 - Information Report - Governance**

The total amount spent with merchants within the Longreach Regional Council LGA.



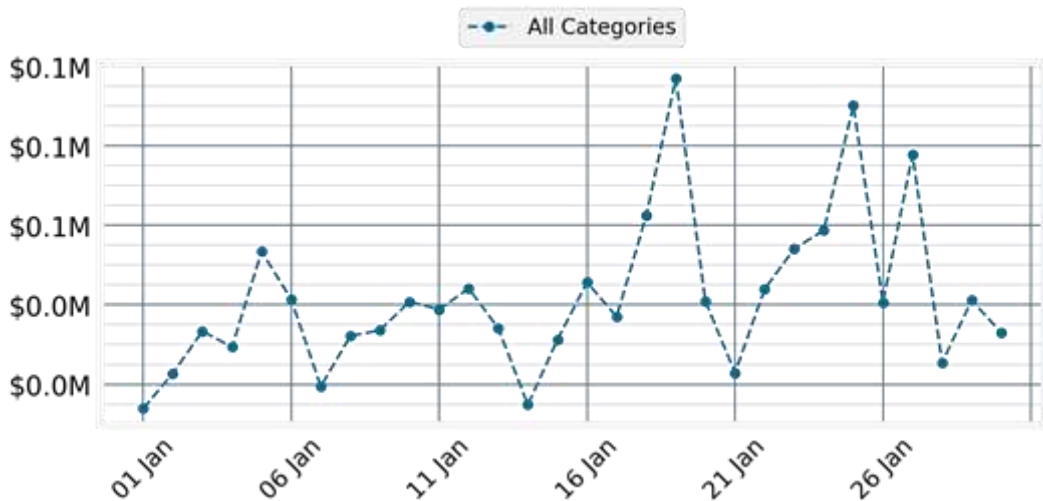
The Top 3 Suburbs by Resident Escape Spend for January 2024

Resident Escape Spend by destination Suburbs (i.e. where the spending goes to):

- Emerald: \$470k
- West Rockhampton: \$310k
- Barcaldine: \$200k

Night Time Economy for January 2024

The biggest spending night of the month of January 2024 was Friday 19 January.



**11. CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER'S REPORT**  
**11.5 - Information Report - Governance**

**Human Resources**

**Staffing Levels as at 29 February 2024**

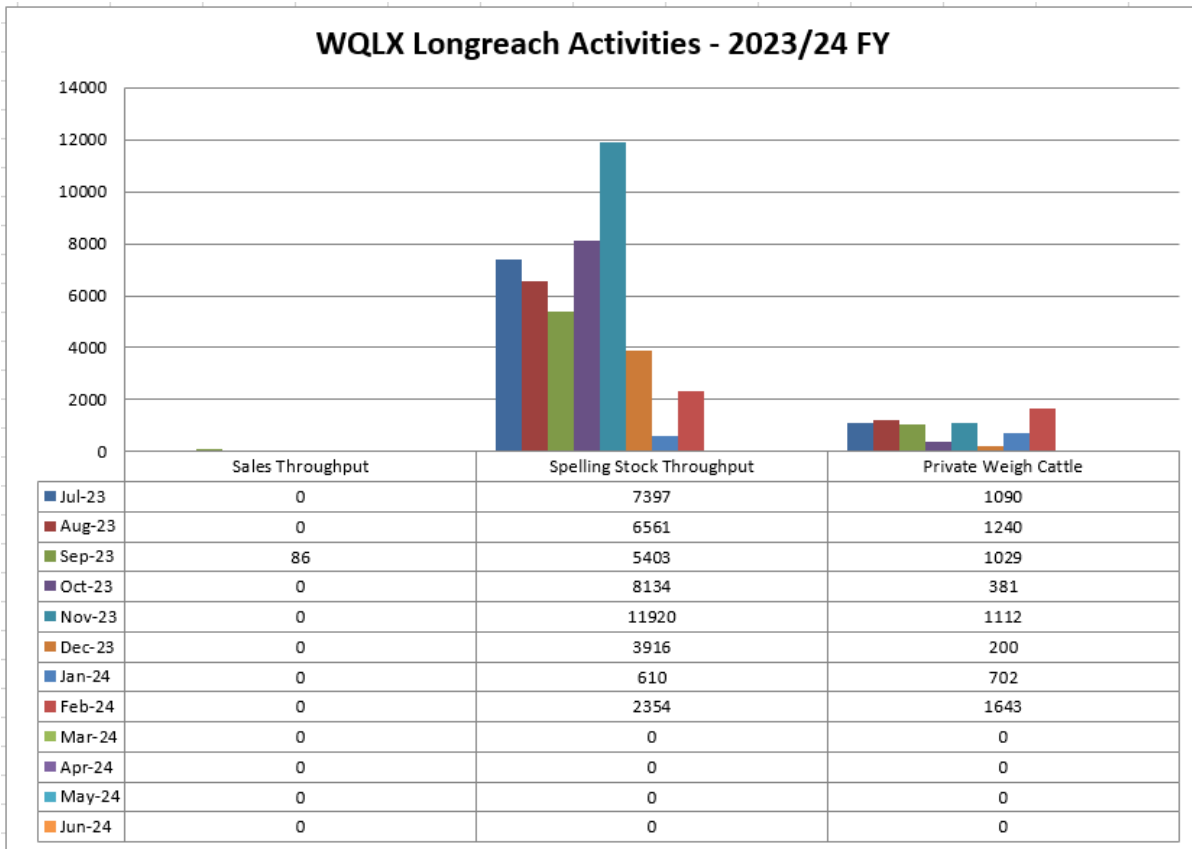
ALL Employees FTE	Operational	Admin/ Supervisors	Contract	Total	Last Month	30/06/2023
Full Time	78.0	53.0	13.0	144	146	145.0
Permanent Part Time	3.84	3.96	0.83	8.63	7.16	7.7
Contracted Staff (Consultants)	-	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Total Permanent Employees</b>	<b>81.84</b>	<b>56.96</b>	<b>13.83</b>	<b>152.63</b>	<b>153.16</b>	<b>152.7</b>
Temporary Full Time	2.0	4.0	-	<b>6.0</b>	<b>4.0</b>	<b>5.0</b>
Temporary Part Time	-	0.69	-	<b>0.69</b>	<b>0.69</b>	-
Apprentices - Trades	3.0	-	-	<b>3.0</b>	<b>3.0</b>	<b>3.0</b>
Traineeships	-	3.0	-	<b>3.0</b>	<b>3.0</b>	-
Casual Staff	2.08	1.64	-	<b>3.72</b>	<b>2.21</b>	<b>4.1</b>
<b>Total Temporary Employees</b>	<b>7.08</b>	<b>9.33</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>16.41</b>	<b>12.9</b>	<b>12.1</b>
<b>Total Current Employees FTE</b>	<b>88.92</b>	<b>66.29</b>	<b>13.83</b>	<b>169.04</b>	<b>166.06</b>	<b>164.8</b>
Current Vacant Positions	12	3.0	-	<b>15.0</b>	<b>15.0</b>	<b>13.0</b>
<b>Complement FTE</b>				<b>184.04</b>	<b>181.06</b>	<b>177.8</b>

**Vacancies:**

BSO - Regulatory Services  
 BSO Works  
 Tech Officer  
 Assist Director Childcare  
 (Childcare Assistant)  
 PT Assistant Educator (22.5hrs/week) 12 mths  
 Cas Assistant  
 Plumber  
 Plumber Labourer  
 Plant Operator  
 Temp 12 months (Plant Operator) Loader  
 Plant Operator/Labourer Sealed Network  
 Plant Operator/Labourer Isisford  
 Building Maintenance Officer 12 Mths  
 Horticulture & Maint Officer Ilfracombe

**11. CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER'S REPORT**  
**11.5 - Information Report - Governance**

**Saleyards – Throughput Figures**



**Regulatory Services – Compliance**

Throughout February, Regulatory Services Compliance Officers continued with routine tasks, including town patrols, monitoring illegal water use, overgrown vegetation, feral animal control, abandoned vehicles, pest weed spraying and various animal related non-compliances. All Longreach Regional Council townships were on Level 1 Water Restrictions during January, allowing sprinkler use between 6:00am-9:00am and 5:00pm-8:00pm daily for residential use.

The main points of interest for February were:

1. The total number of animals impounded during February was 14, being 12 dogs and 2 cats. 7 dogs were found wandering at large in a public place, 2 dogs were found at a private place and handed in to Council, and 3 dogs were surrendered by the owner. 2 cats were trapped in Council-issued traps at private property and presented as possibly domesticated.
2. With the warm weather, Officers closely monitored excessive watering and watering outside of approved hours. The occurrence of illegal watering reports was down on previous months, with 4 residential properties being issued notices. There were a few occasions of excessive watering also, which is deemed as watering within the allowed times, but more than is required as water runs off into gutters, sometimes running for multiple blocks.

**11. CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER'S REPORT**  
**11.5 - Information Report - Governance**

3. To end February, the following statistics were determined:
- Registration renewal rate: ~66.34% (previous registration period ended 15/08/2023, dogs which have been updated as deceased/transferred out/cancelled have been removed for this renewal rate calculation)
  - Total dogs registered across Region for 2023/2024 rego period: 681 dogs
  - Dogs with registration expired 2023/2022/2021/2020, not renewed or updated (excluding cancelled/deceased/transferred registrations): 272
  - New registrations for dogs within current rego period (since 15/08/2023): 145 dogs
  - Microchipping rate across Region (details on LRC file, active registrations only):
    - Longreach ~79.1%
    - Ilfracombe ~79.5%
    - Isisford ~68.57%
    - Yaraka 100%
    - Total average across region = 81.79%
  - Total animals impounded YTD 2024: 22

**Regulatory Services Tasks Completed – February 2024**

<b>Animals</b>	<b>88</b>	<b>Water</b>	<b>41</b>
Dogs Impounded	12	Watering / Sprinkler Patrols	32
Domestic Cats Impounded	2	Illegal Water Usage – Residential	4
Pound Releases	7	Illegal Water Usage – Business/Public	0
Animals Euthanised – unclaimed/abandoned	2	Water Leaks Reported/Observed	0
Animals Euthanised – surrendered	4	Water Exemption Applications/Permits	1
Animals Rehomed	0	Notices / Fines Issued	4
Feral Cats Trapped and Euthanised	6	<b>Property</b>	<b>111</b>
Dog Attacks / Investigations	0	Town Common Patrols	9
Dogs Involved in Attacks	0	Common Gates Open / Damaged	2
Dog Traps Issued	1	Town Patrols – Longreach	25
Cat Traps Issued	8	Town Patrols – Ilfracombe	17
Wandering Dogs (not impounded)	15	Town Patrols – Isisford	1
Wandering Animals Reported / Impounded (other than dogs)	2	Town Patrols – Yaraka	1
Wandering Animal Posts on FB – not reported to Council (minimum)	17	Camping / Apex Park / River Patrols	9
Barking Dogs Reported	3	Overgrown / Unsightly Reports (initial + follow up) (private + LRC-controlled)	40
Animal Inspections – Extra dogs/cats, adequate housing,	1	Overgrown / Unsightly Notices Issued (unattended, falling within follow-up)	7

**11. CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER'S REPORT**  
**11.5 - Information Report - Governance**

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insecure enclosure, compliance checks		timeframes)	
Assist with Animal Welfare	1	Notices / Fines Issued	0
Notices / Fines Issued	7	<b>Other</b>	<b>73</b>
<b>Vehicles</b>	<b>4</b>	Customer Service Requests	28
Abandoned Vehicles "Tagged Out"	1	Equipment Maintenance	2
Vehicles Impounded / Processed	2	After Hours Call Out	2
Impounded Vehicle Release	1	Impound Facility Maintenance	9
<b>Environmental Health</b>	<b>2</b>	Illegal Dumping / Littering	32
Complaints/Queries Received	2	Pest Weed Spraying by LLO	0
Food Business Inspections Conducted	0		
		<b>Total</b>	<b>319</b>

**Regulatory Services – Environmental Health**

Various food safety-related queries were received and advice was provided. Main queries involved signage placement, street permits, mobile food business licencing, and food safety matters. Contractor EHO is shared between RAPAD Councils, and is in on-boarding phase, determining the needs of each Council for moving forward.

**Regulatory Services – Rural Lands**

**Town Commons**

All four town Commons are being used for Agistment – horses only on Longreach Common, cattle and horses on Ilfracombe Common, cattle only on Isisford and Yarka Commons

**Stock Routes & Reserves**

There were no travelling stock permits granted throughout the month, however there is some interest for coming months.

**Permit to Occupy (PTO)**

There was one PTO received for the month, being a re-application to replace a deceased permit holder.

**Water Facilities (WF)**

Two water facility inspections were completed. Funded capital works projects are ongoing (Five in total, one completed).

**Pest Weeds**

Continual rains will delay/slow down pest weed spraying programs, as well as increase the spread and density of pest weeds



**11. CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER'S REPORT**  
**11.5 - Information Report - Governance**

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*Main spraying projects for February:*

- Town Commons and areas on outskirts of towns
- Sticky Florestina around Ilfracombe and along roadsides
- Highway on either side of Longreach
- Crossmoor, Additional Area, Glendulloch, Amor Downs and Cramsie-Muttaborra Roads
- Parkinsonia around Barcoo River

**Pest Animals**

*Wild Dog / Feral Cat Bounties – Year to Date*

Division	Scalp Bounty - Dog	Contract Dog Trapper	Scalp Bounty - Cat
	23/24 YTD	23/24 YTD	23/24 YTD
1	43	0	0
2	0	8	0
3	93	0	0
4	49	0	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>185</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>0</b>

Summary of main tasks / issues completed by Rural Lands department during the month:

- Pest weed spraying as required
- Facility maintenance and vegetation management
- Town common fencing
- Assisting other RAPAD Councils with problematic travelling stock
- After-hours on-call roster, shared with Compliance Officers

**Risk Management Factors:**

This matter has been assessed using Council’s Risk Matrix to decide the likelihood and consequence of any risk to Council:

Likelihood: Rare  
 Consequence: Insignificant  
 Rating: Low (1/25)

Low risk, information report only.

**Community Consultation:**

Nil

**Environmental Management Factors:**

Nil

**Other Comments:**

Nil

**Recommendation:**

*That Council receives the Governance information report, as presented.*

## 12. FINANCE REPORT

### 12.1 - Monthly Financial Statements

#### 12. Finance Report

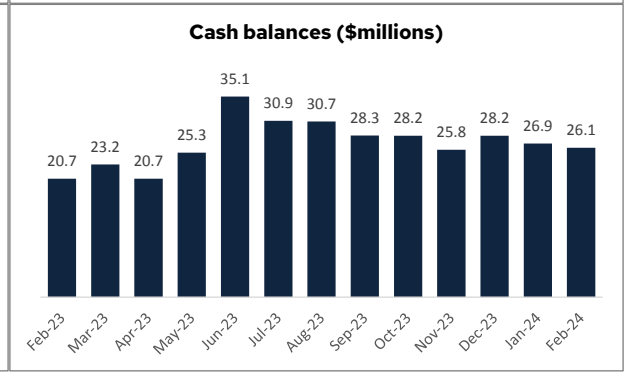
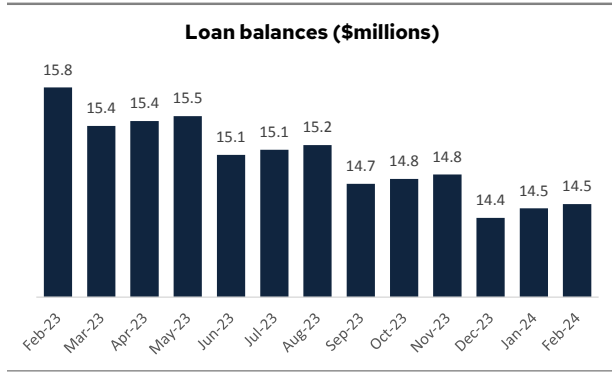
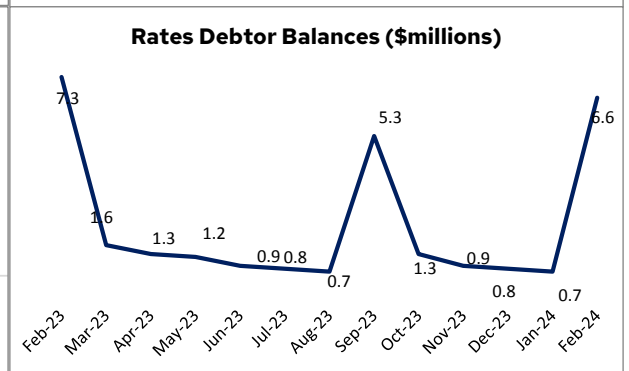
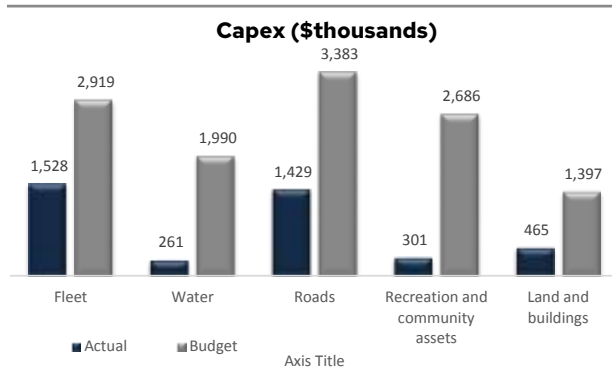
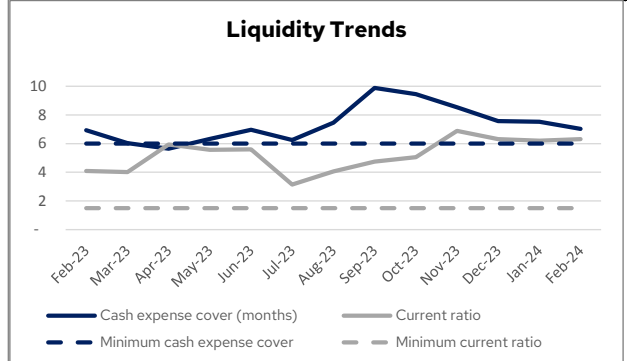
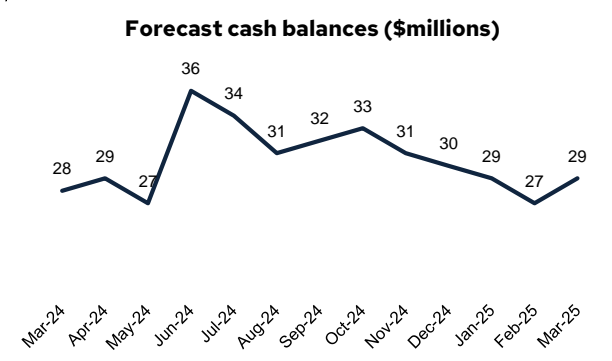
##### 12.1 Monthly Financial Statements

Consideration of the financial statements for the period ending 29 February 2024:

### Longreach Regional Council Financial Dashboard

for the month ending Feb 2024  
(all amounts in \$millions)

Income statement	YTD	Budget YTD	Variance	Last YTD	Variance
Revenue	\$31.7	\$30.8	\$0.9	\$32.8	(\$1.1)
Expenses	\$33.8	\$35.5	\$1.7	\$31.5	(\$2.3)
Net result	(\$2.1)	(\$4.7)	\$2.6	\$1.3	(\$3.4)
Balance sheet	Feb 2024	Jun 2023	Movement	Last YTD	Movement
Total assets	\$411.4	\$418.8	(\$7.5)	\$383.8	\$27.5
Total liabilities	\$21.5	\$26.5	\$5.0	\$24.2	\$2.7
Total equity	\$389.9	\$392.0	(\$2.1)	\$359.6	\$30.3
Cash flow	YTD	Last YTD	Movement	Cash expense cover	
Operating cash flow	(\$5.9)	(\$9.2)	\$3.3	7 months	
Capex	(\$4.0)	(\$6.1)	(\$2.0)	Current ratio	
Other investing cash flow	\$1.6	\$4.1	(\$2.5)	6:1	
Loan repayments	(\$0.6)	(\$2.2)	\$1.5	Unrestricted Cash Balance	
Net cash flow	(\$8.9)	(\$13.4)	\$4.4	\$25.3	



## **12. FINANCE REPORT**

### **12.1 - Monthly Financial Statements**

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#### **Financial performance**

- Council has operated better than budget for the Year To Date (YTD) and worse than last YTD. The difference to last YTD was expected due to lower grant income and the accumulated high cost increases from the last few years.
- Expenses are being managed within budget with only a few programs exceeding their YTD expense budget.
- Overall financial performance is sound. The YTD loss will be reversed with the receipt of the Financial Assistance Grant in June.

#### **Financial position**

- Total assets have decreased since the beginning of the financial year with a decrease in cash and because capital expenditure has been less than depreciation.
- Debtor balances have increased with the rates issue from the 22<sup>nd</sup> of February. These balances will reduce as the due date falls on the 22<sup>nd</sup> of March.
- Total liabilities have decreased since 1 July due to a reduction in contract liabilities and as loan repayments are made.
- Total equity has decreased since 1 July due to the reduction in total assets.
- Overall, Council's financial position has declined but is expected to improve in the second half of the year with the receipt of the Financial Assistance Grant and as capital expenditure is made.

#### **Cash flow**

- Closing cash balance was \$26.3 million (\$25.3 million unrestricted).
- Operating cash flow was (\$5.9) million, which is a better result than the same period last YTD. Included in February's operating cash flow was the receipt of \$1.0 million of flood damage funding that was retained at the end of the 2021 program.
- Capital expenditure is lower than last YTD and still behind the full year budget.
- Loan repayments are lower than last year because last year included the early repayment of \$1.6 million of unutilised LWDEFS loan money.
- Net cash flow is better than last YTD, due to the lower capex, better operating cash flow and lower loan repayments.
- The forecast cash balances are expected to remain steady until the forecast 75% prepayment of the FAG in June.

#### **Liquidity**

- Council maintains 7 months of cash expense cover.
- Current ratio is 6:1 (\$6 of current assets to every \$1 of current liabilities).
- Short and long term forecasts indicate that Council will remain in a sound financial position.
  
- Council holds \$12 million in two term deposits to increase its return on investment, illustrated in the table below:

**12. FINANCE REPORT**  
**12.1 - Monthly Financial Statements**

<b>Term Deposit</b>	<b>Maturity date</b>	<b>Rate</b>
\$8,000,000	5/07/2024	5.63%
\$4,000,000	12/08/2024	5.06%

**Debtors**

- With issuing of rates occurring at the end of February there is a large total amount of rates current. There is \$113k of unpaid rates (50 ratepayers) that are over 1-year old (less than 1% of total rates revenue).

	<b>Current</b>	<b>1 year</b>	<b>2 years</b>	<b>3 years</b>
Outstanding rates	\$6,296,729	\$172,964	\$55,277	\$57,849
Number of assessments		50	23	14

**Risks**

- The main risks to Council's short term financial performance, position and cash flow are:

<b>Risk</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Treatment</b>	<b>Rating</b>
Change in timing and amount of Financial Assistance Grant.	There is a change to the methodology used by the Commonwealth to prepay the Financial Assistance Grants. If the prepayment is discontinued or the amount changes, it will impact the financial result and cash position.	Maintain a cash balance large enough that Council will be able to continue providing services until the FY24 grant payments are received. Maintain forecasting and prepare to be flexible in how Council operates.	This risk has materialized in FY23. There remains material uncertainty over the FAG timing and amount for FY24, however council has sufficient funds on hand to adapt to any short-term shortfall.
Project related grant income is not realized.  Reputational damage with funding bodies.	If projects are not completed within the timeframes according to the grant conditions, grant income may not be realized.	Improve project reporting and risk assessments. Improve cross-functional communications across project teams, grant administration and procurement.	Likelihood – Possible  Consequence – Major (capital grant income is a significant part of Council's ability to fund capex)  Rating – High
Availability of grant funding and contract work reduces funding to sustain Council operations.	Council has relied on a number of years of consistent external funding from flood damage works and TMR works. When this funding decreases, it will impact Council's financial result and cash position.	Examine services, assets and business processes to reduce fixed costs in Council so that it becomes more adaptable and resilient. Diversify Council's revenue sources.	Likelihood – Almost certain. Both funding sources will not be available in FY26.  Consequences – Moderate if the reductions impact a single year. Major if the reductions impact several consecutive years.

**12. FINANCE REPORT**  
**12.1 - Monthly Financial Statements**

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			Rating – High to Extreme
Costs continue to increase rapidly placing pressure on Council’s ability to sustainably provide services.	The cost of wages, goods and services, particularly construction materials continue to increase at a higher rate than previously experienced, increasing the cost of providing services and maintaining assets.	Prioritise services and projects to allocate limited resources to the most important community areas.  Maintain reporting and forecasting to identify issues and where necessary, revise budgets.	Likelihood – Almost certain  Consequence – Moderate  Rating – High

**Appendices**

1. Financial Statements 29.02.2024 [↓](#)
2. Directors Reports 29.02.24 [↓](#)
3. Capital 29.02 [↓](#)
4. Grants Report [↓](#)

**Recommendation:**

*That Council receives the monthly financial statements for the period ending 29 February 2024, as presented.*

## 12.1 - Monthly Financial Statements --Appendix 1

Statement of financial performance	YTD Actual	YTD Budget	Last YTD	Full year budget	Adjusted for FAG timing scenario
	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
<b>Revenue</b>					
Rates, levies and charges	12,670	12,440	12,118	12,151	12,151
Fees and charges	1,491	1,725	1,342	2,595	2,595
Recoverable works income	4,551	4,886	4,069	7,329	7,329
Other revenue	1,223	736	914	1,104	1,104
Operating grants, subsidies and contributions	9,786	8,252	10,596	24,666	13,766
Capital grants, subsidies and income	1,868	2,682	3,318	5,069	5,069
Profit on sale of assets	150	80	469	640	640
<b>Total revenue</b>	<b>31,738</b>	<b>30,801</b>	<b>32,826</b>	<b>53,553</b>	<b>42,654</b>
<b>Expenses</b>					
Employee expenses	10,752	11,522	9,103	17,283	17,283
Materials and services	16,651	17,936	16,555	26,608	26,608
Finance expenses	496	434	511	650	650
Depreciation	5,938	5,609	5,347	8,559	8,559
Other expenses	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Total expenses</b>	<b>33,836</b>	<b>35,500</b>	<b>31,516</b>	<b>53,100</b>	<b>53,100</b>
<b>Net surplus or (deficit)</b>	<b>(2,098)</b>	<b>(4,699)</b>	<b>1,311</b>	<b>453</b>	<b>(10,447)</b>

Statement of financial position	YTD Actual	Actual June	Full year budget	Adjusted for FAG timing scenario
	\$'000	2023	\$'000	\$'000
<b>Current assets</b>				
Cash and cash equivalents	26,146	35,079	29,659	18,759
Current trade and other receivables	10,343	6,238	3,573	3,573
Inventories	1,112	1,092	593	593
<b>Non-current assets</b>				
Trade and other receivables	11,075	11,075	10,433	10,433
Property, plant and equipment	362,688	365,359	372,390	372,390
Other non-current assets	-	-	-	-
<b>Total assets</b>	<b>411,363</b>	<b>418,843</b>	<b>416,648</b>	<b>405,748</b>
<b>Current liabilities</b>				
Trade and other payables	1,549	5,958	2,066	2,066
Current borrowings	1,292	1,292	1,357	1,357
Current provisions	3,099	3,174	3,252	3,252
<b>Non-current liabilities</b>				
Borrowings	13,226	13,764	12,411	12,411
Provisions	2,317	2,315	2,583	2,583
<b>Total liabilities</b>	<b>21,483</b>	<b>26,503</b>	<b>21,669</b>	<b>21,668</b>
<b>Net community assets</b>	<b>389,880</b>	<b>392,340</b>	<b>394,980</b>	<b>384,080</b>
<b>Community equity</b>				
Asset revaluation reserve	174,368	172,692	177,323	177,323
Retained surplus	215,513	219,287	217,657	206,757
<b>Total community equity</b>	<b>389,880</b>	<b>391,979</b>	<b>394,980</b>	<b>384,080</b>

## 12.1 - Monthly Financial Statements --Appendix 1

<b>Statement of cash flows</b>	<b>YTD Actual</b>	<b>Full year budget</b>
	<b>\$'000</b>	<b>\$'000</b>
<b>Cash flows from operating activities</b>		
Receipts from ratepayers and customers	15,830	23,272
Receipts from grants	7,466	25,903
Payments to employees	(10,825)	(17,283)
Payments to suppliers	(17,945)	(28,521)
Interest paid	(390)	(620)
<b>Net cash inflow/(outflow) from operating activities</b>	<b>(5,864)</b>	<b>2,751</b>
<b>Cash flows from Investing activities</b>		
Receipts from capital grants	1,467	5,479
Receipts from sale of assets	150	640
Payments for capital expenditure	(4,043)	(12,995)
<b>Net cash inflow/(outflow) from investing activities</b>	<b>(2,426)</b>	<b>(6,876)</b>
<b>Cash flows from financing activities</b>		
Loan repayments	(644)	(1,295)
<b>Net cash outflows from financing activities</b>	<b>(644)</b>	<b>(1,295)</b>
<b>Net cash inflow/(outflow)</b>	<b>(8,934)</b>	<b>(5,420)</b>
Opening cash balance	35,079	35,079
<b>Closing cash balance</b>	<b>26,146</b>	<b>29,659</b>

<b>Statement of changes in equity</b>	<b>YTD Actual</b>	<b>Full year budget</b>
	<b>\$'000</b>	<b>\$'000</b>
<b>Accumulated surplus</b>		
Opening balance	219,286	204,297
Recognise land sold in prior years	-	-
Net profit or (loss)	(2,098)	408
<b>Closing accumulated surplus</b>	<b>217,189</b>	<b>204,705</b>
<b>Asset revaluation reserve</b>		
Opening balance	172,692	150,095
Other comprehensive income	-	2,955
<b>Closing asset revaluation reserve</b>	<b>172,692</b>	<b>153,050</b>
<b>Total community equity</b>	<b>389,880</b>	<b>357,755</b>





12.1 - Monthly Financial Statements --Appendix 2

Program	Revenue		Expenses		Net result	
	YTD	Budget YTD	YTD	Budget YTD	YTD	Budget full year
<b>Community Services</b>						
Child Care	1,600	1,593	(1,665)	(1,812)	(65)	(219)
Community development and events	28	-	(302)	(241)	(274)	(241)
Donations and sponsorship	-	-	(82)	(108)	(82)	(108)
RADF	1	-	(51)	(38)	(50)	(38)
Community administration	13	-	(1,014)	(909)	(1,001)	(909)
Libraries	13	-	(125)	(129)	(112)	(129)
Community centres and halls	14	23	(201)	(236)	(187)	(213)
Public conveniences	8	5	(108)	(162)	(100)	(157)
Council housing	36	50	(163)	(154)	(127)	(104)
Showgrounds and sporting facilities	26	40	(523)	(500)	(497)	(460)
Cemeteries	108	87	(172)	(239)	(64)	(152)
Parks and gardens	27	-	(1,266)	(1,709)	(1,239)	(1,709)
Swimming pools	5	5	(818)	(791)	(813)	(785)
Tourism, museums and VIC	112	89	(660)	(627)	(547)	(801)
<b>Total Community Services</b>	<b>1,992</b>	<b>1,892</b>	<b>(7,149)</b>	<b>(7,653)</b>	<b>(5,158)</b>	<b>(8,476)</b>
<b>Financial Services</b>						
Insurance	-	-	(715)	(691)	(715)	(691)
Finance	1,136	886	(1,086)	(1,000)	50	(114)
Asset management	-	-	(66)	(232)	(66)	(232)
Rates	5,858	5,967	(114)	(94)	5,744	5,858
LWDEFS	785	475	(264)	(265)	521	77
Internal recharges	10	-	(282)	(272)	(272)	(272)
Corporate administration	-	-	(209)	(187)	(209)	(187)
IT	55	-	(964)	(1,220)	(908)	(1,220)
Land, leased out assets and commercial businesses	129	132	(300)	(562)	(172)	(430)
<b>Total Financial Services</b>	<b>7,972</b>	<b>7,460</b>	<b>(4,000)</b>	<b>(4,251)</b>	<b>3,972</b>	<b>3,194</b>
<b>Total Council Operating Result</b>	<b>29,721</b>	<b>28,119</b>	<b>(33,836)</b>	<b>(35,500)</b>	<b>(4,108)</b>	<b>(7,396)</b>

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**Notes to the program report**

- 1 - Disaster Management income will come in throughout the year, Regional Coordination subscription paid for full year.
- 2- Economic yearly subscription paid.
- 3- Reserves upgrades funding to come in.
- 4- Development Services high due to town planning expenses.
- 5- Final Claim for 2011 Flood Damage came in difference is ineligible costs.
- 6- Flood Damage and Contract works ahead of schedule.
- 7- Weirs Project is in this cost which is near complete.
- 8- Christmas Events and school holidays expenses in this period this will slow down.
- 9-RADF carry over projects from the previous year expended.
- 10- Debt recovery cost offset against rates

## 12.1 - Monthly Financial Statements --Appendix 3

Infrastructure	.Current Budget	.Actual Cost YTD	
23.24 Raising Thomson River Weirs- Initial Construction	400,000	-	
23/24 Bailey Street Gravel	96,000	36,335	
23/24 Chlidcare Footpath	105,000	-	
23/24 Concrete Slab For Wtp Generator / Chlorine Area	35,000	30,314	
23/24 Corella Lane Pave And Seal	125,000	4,050	
23/24 Electrical Swtichboards Upgrade At Murray Mcmillan Dam	25,000	151	
23/24 Exclusion Fencing Of Town Raw Water Storage (Dams)	30,000	10,618	
23/24 Isisford- Bimerah Road Gravel Re-Sheet	225,000	80,652	
23/24 Local Laws Buggy	30,000	-	
23/24 Pave And Seal Turn Around At Ior Fuel Pod (Lrci4)	148,000	-	
23/24 Replacment Of Elevated Reservoir & Stand At Wtp	500,000	-	
23/24 River Reading Arno Crossing	18,000	-	
23/24 Rural Property Signs Upgrade Stage 1 (Lrci4)	100,000	-	
23/24 Rural Road Signs Upgrade (LRCI4)	150,000	70,086	
23/24 Stip Funded Project	270,000	1,440	
23/24 Tids Drainage Upgrade Bustard/Crow Land, Bustard Cassowary	50,000	58,878	
23/24 Tids Isisford Rebhab & New Kerb St Mary'S Street	200,000	241,873	
Dsdilgp Grant 21-22 Isisford Weir Replacement	-	53,843	
FLEET MANAGEMENT- Capital Works Plant & Equipment	2,880,692	1,479,295	
LGSP Longreach Sewer Relining	300,000	-	
LggsP Longreach Water Mains Replacement	700,000	40,264	
Ptiip 23/24 Ilfracombe (East) Bus Stop	33,800	1,178	
Ptiip 23/24 Ilfracombe (West) Bus Stop	41,400	950	
Ptiip 23/24 Longreach Bus Stop	41,100	26,062	
R2R 23/24 All Areas Grid Renewal	225,000	113,076	
R2R 23/24 Bogewong Alroy Road (Replace Concrete Floodway)	75,000	74,558	
R2R 23/24 Bude Road Gravel Re-Sheet	75,000	78,561	
R2R 23/24 Crossmoor Road Gravel Re-Sheet	359,688	362,769	
R2R 23/24 Rehabilitate Road To Weed Washdown Facility	95,000	17,943	
R2R 23/24 Town Street Reseal	450,000	5,950	
Race Horse Training Pool	15,000	-	
Stonehenge River Road- Prep & Reseal 4 Mile Creek	85,000	77,371	
Tids 23/24 Silsoe Road Reseal	100,000	108,481	
Tids 23/24 Stonhenge River Road Reseal	100,000	72,806	
W4Q 21-24 Water Mains Replacement Stage 2 Isisford	-	82,386	
W4Q Covid Ilfracombe Wtp Automation	-	320	
W4Q Covid Isisford Wtp Upgrade	140,000	35,862	
Electronic Readers for Fuel Bowsers	35,000	-	
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>8,258,680</b>	<b>3,170,336</b>	<b>38%</b>
<b>Communities and Project Management</b>	<b>Current Budget.</b>	<b>Actual Cost YTD.</b>	
22.23 New Executive Housing.	650,000	491,548	
23/24 Apex Park - Instal 2 New Shade Structures Over Existing Chairs	30,000	-	
23/24 Apex Park - New Bar Bench On Water Side Off Main Shed	30,000	4,246	
23/24 Beersheba Park Shade Structure Lrci4	55,000	41,167	
23/24 Build New Multipurpose Court (Lrci4)	500,000	128,587	
23/24 Civic Centre Shade Structure	200,000	15,600	
23/24 Construct New Kitchen And Dining Area At Wave Structure	700,000	-	
23/24 Longreach Swimming Pool Mower	8,000	-	
23/24 Pool Pump Isisford	10,000	41,165	
23/24 Refit Back Of Library Into Disaster Management Centre	820,000	-	
23/24 Repair Obic Wall (Lrci4)	100,000	664	
23/24 Restump House Jarley Street Yaraka	50,000	-	
23/24 Ses Support Grant - Longreach Ses Flood Boat Shed	96,836	58,773	
23/24 Squash Courts Upgrade Longreach (sport &rec)	370,000	-	
Longreach Administration Building Air Conditioning Replacement	350,000	12,878	
LRCI P4 Eagle Street Improve Swan Street 23/24	200,000	888	
LRCI P3 New planting, irrigation, turf, shade structure, seating and path	-	26,000	
LRCI P3 Eagle Street Beautification 22.23	-	5,540	
23/24 Chlorinators Longreach Wading Pool	-	32,753	
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>4,169,836</b>	<b>859,810</b>	<b>21%</b>

## Grant/s Information

(current as of Friday, 01 March 2024)

### Completed Grants

The below table outlines those grants that were active as at, or since 01 July 2023, and have now been finalised.

Grant Number	Name	Title	Subsidy Amount	Income received	Remaining Income	Grant Start Date	Grant End Date
GC2023192	DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION AND TRAINING	ECEC - Kindy Uplift Program 2023	\$ 3,084	\$ 3,084	\$ -	28/03/2023	31/12/2023
GC2023247	DEPARTMENT OF PREMIER AND CABINET -OFFICE FOR RURAL & REGIONAL QLD (ORRQ)	Great Australian Bites 2024	\$ 16,000	\$ 16,000	\$ -	15/12/2023	30/06/2024
GC2023202	DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORT & MAIN ROADS	TIDS - CN-21356 2023/2024 Transport Infrastructure Development Scheme	\$ 225,000	\$ 225,000	\$ -	01/07/2023	30/06/2024
GC2023232	QUEENSLAND FIRE & EMERGENCY SERVICES	SES - QFES Annual Subsidy 2023/2024	\$ 19,646	\$ 19,646	\$ -	15/09/2023	30/06/2024
GC2020096	QUEENSLAND RECONSTRUCTION AUTHORITY	DRFA NDRRA 2019/20 - LRC.0017.1920E.REC	\$ 11,880,409	\$ 11,880,409	\$ -	19/11/2020	21/08/2023
GC2021129	QUEENSLAND RECONSTRUCTION AUTHORITY	DRFA NDRRA 2021/2023 - LRC.0019.2021F.REC	\$ 10,153,360	\$ 10,153,360	\$ -	12/08/2021	30/06/2024
GC2023236	STATE LIBRARY OF QLD	SLQ - Service Development Subsidy 2023-2024	\$ 8,775	\$ 8,775	\$ -	29/09/2023	30/06/2024
GC2023237	STATE LIBRARY OF QLD	SLQ - First 5 Forever Subsidy 2023-2024	\$ 4,607	\$ 4,607	\$ -	29/09/2023	30/06/2024
<b>Total</b>			<b>\$ 22,310,881</b>	<b>\$ 22,310,881</b>	<b>\$ -</b>		

### Lodged Grants

The below table provides a list of grant opportunities that have been applied for. At time of writing, the outcome of these grants has not been determined.

Grant Number	Name	Title	Subsidy Amount	Income received	Remaining Income	Grant Start Date	Grant End Date
GC2023211	DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING & PUBLIC WORKS	MIIFF_Longreach Aquatic Centre Solar Project	\$ 415,000	\$ -	\$ 415,000	23/09/2023	16/11/2023
GC2023242	DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING & PUBLIC WORKS	Building Bush Tourism_Machinery Mile Toilet Block Replacement	\$ 190,825	\$ -	\$ 190,825	30/11/2023	01/02/2024
GC2024248	DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING & PUBLIC WORKS	Access Tourism - Powerhouse Accessibility	\$ 250,000	\$ -	\$ 250,000	01/12/2023	30/06/2024
GC2023208	DEPARTMENT OF INFRASTRUCTURE & REGIONAL	Growing Regions Program - FY24	\$ 4,511,344	\$ -	\$ 4,511,344	05/07/2023	17/01/2024
GC2023229	DEPARTMENT OF PREMIER AND CABINET -OFFICE FOR RURAL & REGIONAL QLD (ORRQ)	Queensland Remembers - Regional Monument Refurbishment	\$ 16,200	\$ -	\$ 16,200	23/08/2023	03/10/2023
GC2023180	DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORT & MAIN ROADS	STIP - Longreach State High School - Parking & Drop-off Area	\$ 450,000	\$ -	\$ 450,000	12/09/2022	30/06/2024
GC2023246	DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORT & MAIN ROADS	Cycling Network Local Government 2024-25	\$ 56,250	\$ -	\$ 56,250	15/12/2023	30/06/2025
GC2023235	QUEENSLAND FIRE & EMERGENCY SERVICES	SES_Support Grant - Isisford SES Training Room	\$ 67,282	\$ -	\$ 67,282	04/10/2023	30/11/2023
GC2023234	QUEENSLAND RECONSTRUCTION AUTHORITY	QRRRF_Rural Property Address Signs	\$ 725,000	\$ -	\$ 725,000	18/09/2023	20/12/2023
GC2023194	QUEENSLAND TREASURY	HIF - Teal Street Development 2023	\$ 4,567,030	\$ -	\$ 4,567,030	01/09/2023	30/10/2025
<b>Total</b>			<b>\$ 11,248,930</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ 11,248,930</b>		

### Approved Grants

Outlined below are all grants that are currently active in the SynergySoft system. The below includes multi-year funding rounds, where income will be received at agreed milestones and/or scheduled dates until the completion dates.

Grant Number	Name	Title	Subsidy Amount	Income received	Remaining Income	Grant Start Date	Grant End Date
GC2023193	Department of Agriculture & Fisheries	QCFG - Queensland Community Fishing Grants 2023	\$ 5,000	\$ 5,000	\$ -	27/04/2023	01/07/2024
GC2021119	DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION AND TRAINING	CCCF Round 3 2021/2024 - Sustainability Support - 4-G9703A3/4-G8QDY06/4-G8XYQBB	\$ 870,000	\$ 750,000	\$ 120,000	01/07/2021	30/06/2024
GC2023184	DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION AND TRAINING	QKFS_Longreach Kindergarten Service_01 January 2023 to 31 December 2023	\$ 52,648	\$ 52,648	\$ -	01/01/2023	31/12/2023
GC2023204	DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION AND TRAINING	Professional Development & Paid Practicum Subsidy - FY24	\$ 13,680	\$ -	\$ 13,680	01/07/2023	30/06/2024
GC2023185	DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING & PUBLIC WORKS	MIP1 - Longreach Squash Courts Upgrade	\$ 328,692	\$ 164,346	\$ 164,346	28/06/2023	31/12/2024
GC2024249	DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING & PUBLIC WORKS	Access Starter - Visitor Information Application	\$ 5,000	\$ 5,000	\$ -	17/01/2024	30/06/2024
GC2019011	DEPARTMENT OF INFRASTRUCTURE & REGIONAL	Roads 2 Recovery 2019/24	\$ 7,177,052	\$ 5,136,317	\$ 2,040,735	30/06/2019	30/06/2024
GC2021142	DEPARTMENT OF INFRASTRUCTURE & REGIONAL	LRCI P3 - 1 LRCH Childcare Playground Replacement	\$ 162,000	\$ 141,786	\$ 20,214	01/01/2021	30/06/2024
GC2022146	DEPARTMENT OF INFRASTRUCTURE & REGIONAL	LRCI P3 - 2 Yarakka Tree Line	\$ 11,000	\$ 9,627	\$ 1,373	01/01/2022	30/06/2024
GC2022147	DEPARTMENT OF INFRASTRUCTURE & REGIONAL	LRCI P3 - 3 Isisford MPC Kiosk Repair	\$ 19,500	\$ 17,067	\$ 2,433	01/01/2022	30/06/2024
GC2022148	DEPARTMENT OF INFRASTRUCTURE & REGIONAL	LRCI P3 - 4 Isisford Park Renovations	\$ 44,500	\$ 38,947	\$ 5,553	01/01/2022	30/06/2024
GC2022149	DEPARTMENT OF INFRASTRUCTURE & REGIONAL	LRCI P3 - 6 ILF Rec Centre Maintenance	\$ 50,000	\$ 43,761	\$ 6,239	01/01/2022	30/06/2024
GC2022150	DEPARTMENT OF INFRASTRUCTURE & REGIONAL	LRCI P3 - 8 LRCH Showgrounds landscaping	\$ 70,000	\$ 61,265	\$ 8,735	01/01/2022	30/06/2024
GC2022151	DEPARTMENT OF INFRASTRUCTURE & REGIONAL	LRCI P3 - 9 LRCH Showground Audio Upgrade	\$ 50,000	\$ 43,761	\$ 6,239	01/01/2022	30/06/2024
GC2022153	DEPARTMENT OF INFRASTRUCTURE & REGIONAL	LRCI P3 - 11 Painting of LRCH Civic Centre	\$ 70,000	\$ 61,265	\$ 8,735	01/01/2022	30/06/2024
GC2022154	DEPARTMENT OF INFRASTRUCTURE & REGIONAL	LRCI P3 - 12 LRCH Edkins Park Ablution Block	\$ 330,000	\$ 288,823	\$ 41,177	01/01/2022	30/06/2024
GC2022155	DEPARTMENT OF INFRASTRUCTURE & REGIONAL	LRCI P3 - 13 LRCH Eagle St Beautification	\$ 60,000	\$ 52,513	\$ 7,487	01/01/2022	30/06/2024
GC2022156	DEPARTMENT OF INFRASTRUCTURE & REGIONAL	LRCI P3 - 14 LRCH Eagle St Landsborough HWY and Pelican St	\$ 775,000	\$ 678,295	\$ 96,705	01/01/2022	30/06/2024
GC2022157	DEPARTMENT OF INFRASTRUCTURE & REGIONAL	LRCI P3 - 15 Isisford Footpaths	\$ 70,000	\$ 61,265	\$ 8,735	01/01/2022	30/06/2024
GC2022159	DEPARTMENT OF INFRASTRUCTURE & REGIONAL	LRCI P3 - 17 Longreach Footpaths	\$ 98,000	\$ 85,772	\$ 12,228	01/01/2022	30/06/2024
GC2022160	DEPARTMENT OF INFRASTRUCTURE & REGIONAL	LRCI P3 - 16 Isisford Airport Road	\$ 335,000	\$ 293,199	\$ 41,801	01/01/2022	30/06/2024
GC2023187	DEPARTMENT OF INFRASTRUCTURE & REGIONAL	LRCI P3 - 18 Longreach Showgrounds Rodeo Arena Resurfacing	\$ 31,000	\$ 27,132	\$ 3,868	21/03/2023	30/06/2024
GC2023188	DEPARTMENT OF INFRASTRUCTURE & REGIONAL	LRCI P3 - 19 Powerhouse Museum Centenary Garden	\$ 25,000	\$ 21,880	\$ 3,120	21/03/2023	30/06/2024
GC2023189	DEPARTMENT OF INFRASTRUCTURE & REGIONAL	LRCI P3 - 20 Wool Pavillion Concreting	\$ 120,000	\$ 105,026	\$ 14,974	21/03/2023	30/06/2024
GC2023190	DEPARTMENT OF INFRASTRUCTURE & REGIONAL	LRCI P3 - 21 Longreach Library Roof Replacement	\$ 71,350	\$ 62,447	\$ 8,903	21/03/2023	30/06/2024
GC2023213	DEPARTMENT OF INFRASTRUCTURE & REGIONAL	LRCI P4_01 Eagle & Swan Street New Crossover & Shelter	\$ 200,000	\$ 80,000	\$ 120,000	17/08/2023	30/06/2024
GC2023214	DEPARTMENT OF INFRASTRUCTURE & REGIONAL	LRCI P4_02 Outer Barcoo Interpretation Centre Wall & Drainage Replacement	\$ 100,000	\$ 40,000	\$ 60,000	17/08/2023	30/06/2024
GC2023215	DEPARTMENT OF INFRASTRUCTURE & REGIONAL	LRCI P4_03 Beersheba Park Shade Structure	\$ 55,000	\$ 22,000	\$ 33,000	17/08/2023	30/06/2024
GC2023216	DEPARTMENT OF INFRASTRUCTURE & REGIONAL	LRCI P4_04 Yarakka IOR Fuel Turn Around	\$ 148,000	\$ 59,200	\$ 88,800	17/08/2023	30/06/2024
GC2023217	DEPARTMENT OF INFRASTRUCTURE & REGIONAL	LRCI P4_05 Ilfracombe Multi-purpose Court	\$ 500,000	\$ 200,000	\$ 300,000	17/08/2023	30/06/2024
GC2023218	DEPARTMENT OF INFRASTRUCTURE & REGIONAL	LRCI P4_06 Apex Park High Bar Installation	\$ 30,000	\$ 12,000	\$ 18,000	17/08/2023	30/06/2024
GC2023219	DEPARTMENT OF INFRASTRUCTURE & REGIONAL	LRCI P4_07 Apex Park Shade Structure Installation	\$ 30,000	\$ 12,000	\$ 18,000	17/08/2023	30/06/2024

12.1 - Monthly Financial Statements --Appendix 4

Grant Number	Name	Title	Subsidy Amount	Income received	Remaining Income	Grant Start Date	Grant End Date
GC2023220	DEPARTMENT OF INFRASTRUCTURE & REGIONAL	LRCI P4_08 Ilfracombe Street Number Replacement	\$ 35,000	\$ 14,000	\$ 21,000	17/08/2023	30/06/2024
GC2023221	DEPARTMENT OF INFRASTRUCTURE & REGIONAL	LRCI P4_09 Longreach Showgrounds Canteen Repair	\$ 30,000	\$ 12,000	\$ 18,000	17/08/2023	30/06/2024
GC2023222	DEPARTMENT OF INFRASTRUCTURE & REGIONAL	LRCI P4_10 Banner Poles (Ilfracombe & Isisford)	\$ 20,000	\$ 8,000	\$ 12,000	17/08/2023	30/06/2024
GC2023223	DEPARTMENT OF INFRASTRUCTURE & REGIONAL	LRCI P4_11 Apex Park Beautification	\$ 37,000	\$ 14,800	\$ 22,200	17/08/2023	30/06/2024
GC2023224	DEPARTMENT OF INFRASTRUCTURE & REGIONAL	LRCI P4_12 Isisford Bin Cage Replacement	\$ 15,000	\$ 4,470	\$ 10,530	17/08/2023	30/06/2024
GC2023225	DEPARTMENT OF INFRASTRUCTURE & REGIONAL	LRCI P4_13 Isisford-Bimerah Gravel Resheet	\$ 225,000	\$ 90,000	\$ 135,000	17/08/2023	30/06/2024
GC2023226	DEPARTMENT OF INFRASTRUCTURE & REGIONAL	LRCI P4_14 Rural Road Signage Upgrade	\$ 150,000	\$ 60,000	\$ 90,000	17/08/2023	30/06/2024
GC2023227	DEPARTMENT OF INFRASTRUCTURE & REGIONAL	LRCI P4_15 Corella Lane Pave & Seal	\$ 125,000	\$ 50,000	\$ 75,000	17/08/2023	30/06/2024
GC2023228	DEPARTMENT OF INFRASTRUCTURE & REGIONAL	LRCI P4_16 Bailey Street Upgrade	\$ 96,000	\$ 38,400	\$ 57,600	17/08/2023	30/06/2024
GC2023233	DEPARTMENT OF INFRASTRUCTURE & REGIONAL	LRCI P4_17 Longreach Childcare Centre Footpath (Galah Street to Childcare Centre)	\$ 93,980	\$ 37,592	\$ 56,388	17/08/2023	30/06/2024
GC2019036	DEPARTMENT OF STATE DEVELOPMENT, LOCAL GOVERNMENT & PLANNING	BoR R4 Long 0056 - Railway Siding Extension	\$ 500,000	\$ 250,000	\$ 250,000	12/12/2019	01/05/2024
GC2021116	DEPARTMENT OF STATE DEVELOPMENT, LOCAL GOVERNMENT & PLANNING	W4Q 2021/2024 - 1/2 ISISFORD Water Mains Replacement - Stage 2	\$ 870,000	\$ 783,000	\$ 87,000	01/07/2021	30/06/2024
GC2021117	DEPARTMENT OF STATE DEVELOPMENT, LOCAL GOVERNMENT & PLANNING	W4Q 2021/2024 - 2/2 LRCH Water Mains Replacement (Highway & Railway) - Stage 2	\$ 250,000	\$ 225,000	\$ 25,000	01/07/2021	30/06/2024
GC2023186	DEPARTMENT OF STATE DEVELOPMENT, LOCAL GOVERNMENT & PLANNING	FAG's - Financial Assistance Grant's 2023/2024 FY	\$ 12,296,832	\$ 12,072,768	\$ 224,064	30/04/2023	30/06/2024
GC2022169	DEPARTMENT OF STATE DEVELOPMENT, LOCAL GOVERNMENT & PLANNING	LGSP 2022/2024 - Water and Sewerage Replacement	\$ 600,000	\$ 163,636	\$ 436,364	01/07/2022	30/06/2024
GC2022175	DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORT & MAIN ROADS	MWPC - CN17474 - 95B Longreach - Jundah Road	\$ 5,117,550	\$ 5,117,550	\$ 0	30/06/2022	22/12/2023
GC2023179	DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORT & MAIN ROADS	STIP - Our Lady's Primary School - Turn around facility	\$ 230,000	\$ 115,000	\$ 115,000	12/09/2022	30/06/2024
GC2023181	DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORT & MAIN ROADS	WLGW-Walking Local Government Grant 2022/2023	\$ 25,000	\$ 25,000	\$ -	30/06/2023	30/06/2024
GC2023238	DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORT & MAIN ROADS	MWPC - GN21072 Gramsie Muttburra Road (Pavement Rehab & Widening)	\$ 1,762,126	\$ 629,724	\$ 1,132,402	30/06/2023	30/06/2024
GC2023199	DEPT OF PREMIER AND CABINET OFFICER FOR RURAL AND REGIONAL QLD	Queensland Day Sponsorship Program 2024	\$ 7,500	\$ 3,750	\$ 3,750	16/02/2024	30/09/2024
GC2024251	Dept. Environment, Science & Innovation	QLD Connects - Seed Funding - FranklyAI project	\$ 55,000	\$ 50,000	\$ 5,000	24/01/2024	30/09/2024
GC2023243	Dept. OF EMPLOYMENT, SMALL BUSINESS & TRAINING	First Start_IT Trainee (2024)	\$ 16,500	\$ 15,000	\$ 1,500	01/12/2023	31/12/2024
GC2023244	Dept. OF EMPLOYMENT, SMALL BUSINESS & TRAINING	First Start_Isisford Trainee (2024)	\$ 16,500	\$ 15,000	\$ 1,500	01/12/2023	31/12/2024
GC2023245	Dept. OF EMPLOYMENT, SMALL BUSINESS & TRAINING	First Start_Communities Trainee (2024)	\$ 16,500	\$ 15,000	\$ 1,500	01/12/2023	31/12/2024
GC2023239	NATIONAL AUSTRALIA DAY COUNCIL LIMITED	NADC_Australia Day 2024	\$ 10,000	\$ 8,000	\$ 2,000	26/10/2023	30/06/2024
GC2022174	QUEENSLAND FIRE & EMERGENCY SERVICES	SES Support - Driving safely for Longreach	\$ 17,597	\$ -	\$ 17,597	01/07/2023	30/06/2024
GC2022176	QUEENSLAND FIRE & EMERGENCY SERVICES	SES Support - Sensor lights for Flood Boat Shed	\$ 3,795	\$ -	\$ 3,795	01/01/2023	30/06/2024
GC2023191	QUEENSLAND FIRE & EMERGENCY SERVICES	SES Support Grant 2022/2023 - Longreach SES New Flood Boat Shed	\$ 80,362	\$ -	\$ 80,362	21/03/2023	30/06/2024
GC2022173	QUEENSLAND RECONSTRUCTION AUTHORITY	QRRRF - 2022-2023 Regional Disaster Management Coordinator	\$ 207,500	\$ 62,250	\$ 145,250	01/01/2023	30/06/2026
GC2023195	QUEENSLAND RECONSTRUCTION AUTHORITY	DRFA - LRC.0025.2122J.REC (21 April to 12 May 2022 events)	\$ 14,930,610	\$ 8,373,760	\$ 6,556,850	09/05/2023	30/06/2024
GC2023197	QUEENSLAND RECONSTRUCTION AUTHORITY	DRFA - LRC.0026.2122B.WPF - WP3 Flood Studies	\$ 103,500	\$ 31,050	\$ 72,450	31/05/2023	30/06/2024
GC2023198	QUEENSLAND RECONSTRUCTION AUTHORITY	GRQ - Get Ready Queensland 2023/24 - LRC.0027.2324A.GQR	\$ 9,700	\$ 8,730	\$ 970	01/07/2023	30/06/2024
GC2023212	QUEENSLAND RECONSTRUCTION AUTHORITY	DRFA - LRC.0023.2122F.REC - Tallundilly Creek Reconstruction	\$ 658,363	\$ 187,665	\$ 470,698	21/08/2023	30/06/2024
GC2022166	Translink Division- Transport Dept	PTIIP - Long Distance Coach Stops Grant	\$ 75,000	\$ 37,500	\$ 37,500	01/06/2022	30/06/2024
<b>Total</b>			<b>\$ 50,594,336</b>	<b>\$ 37,150,988</b>	<b>\$ 13,443,348</b>		

## 12. FINANCE REPORT

### 12.2 - Information Report - Finance

#### 12.2 Information Report - Finance

This report provides an update on a range of activities that has occurred during the month of February 2024 for the Finance Directorate.

#### Council Action

Deliver

#### Applicable Legislation

*Local Government Act 2009*

*Local Government Regulation 2012*

#### Policy Considerations

N/A

#### Corporate and Operational Plan Considerations

OUR SERVICES	
Corporate Plan Outcome	
2.1	Sustainable infrastructure and services that represent value for money, are environmentally responsible, and are responsive to community needs.
OUR FINANCES	
Corporate Plan Outcome	
4.1	Improved financial performance and strategic financial management.
OUR LEADERSHIP	
Corporate Plan Outcome	
5.3	Council delivers a positive customer experience in all service areas.

#### Budget Considerations

Nil

#### Previous Council Resolutions related to this Matter

Nil

#### Officer Comment

**Responsible Officer/s:** *David Wilson, Chief Financial Officer*

#### Background:

Officers are requested to provide an information update to Council on a monthly basis to outline achievements, challenges and statistical information for the various functional areas in Council.

#### Issue:

#### Innovation and Business Improvement

During February the Innovation and Business Improvement Team continued to work through a number of key projects which were identified in the ICT Strategic Plan 2023-

**12. FINANCE REPORT**  
**12.2 - Information Report - Finance**

2025. This includes the first official project kick off meeting with Fourier Technologies on the Azure Migration & Microsoft 365 Upgrade Project. The project is going to be completed in three stages to minimise business impact where possible.

**Public Wi-Fi Usage**

Throughout February the public Wi-Fi network supplied by Longreach Regional Council in Eagle Street and Apex Park saw an average of 163 users per day connect to the network with 692 unique people over this period, for a total use of 703.10GB of data.

**Procurement**

<b>Purchasing Thresholds for Purchase Orders YTD</b>			
<b>Order Value</b>	<b>Amount</b>	<b>Order Value</b>	<b>Value Invoiced</b>
<b>\$100 Under</b>	<b>215</b>	<b>\$ 11,476.52</b>	<b>\$ 9,168.42</b>
<b>\$101-\$5,000</b>	<b>1467</b>	<b>\$ 1,265,981.53</b>	<b>\$ 1,088,496.58</b>
<b>\$5,001 - Under \$15,000</b>	<b>376</b>	<b>\$ 2,421,078.52</b>	<b>\$ 1,994,148.48</b>
<b>\$15,001 - under \$200,000</b>	<b>202</b>	<b>\$ 8,913,871.26</b>	<b>\$ 5,904,768.70</b>
<b>\$200,000 or more</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>\$ 10,218,066.30</b>	<b>\$ 4,108,301.31</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>2277</b>	<b>\$ 22,830,474.13</b>	<b>\$13,104,883.49</b>

The table above shows the number of payments made by purchasing threshold outlined in the procurement policy for 2023/24 financial year and the total amount spent in each threshold.

**2023/2024**

**Contracts Awarded February**

No major contracts were entered into in February during the caretaker period.

**Suppliers with expenditure >\$200,00 YTD 23/24**

<b>Creditor Name</b>	<b>Sum Of Invoice Amount</b>	<b>Purpose</b>
Rayner's Western Hire Pty Ltd	\$ 2,519,238.41	Plant And Labour Hire
Moore Civil & Plant Hire Pty Ltd	\$ 1,102,799.46	Plant And Labour Hire
Tropic Petroleum	\$ 1,074,197.49	Fuel And Lubricants
Jtcox Concrete & Precast Pty Ltd	\$ 795,263.47	Quarry Supplies
Champion Contracting	\$ 751,263.50	Quarry Supplies
George Bourne & Associates	\$ 698,447.66	Engineering Services
Oma Contracting	\$ 606,000.00	Quarry Supplies
Sopharr Pty Ltd T/A Kent Construction	\$ 600,527.90	Construction



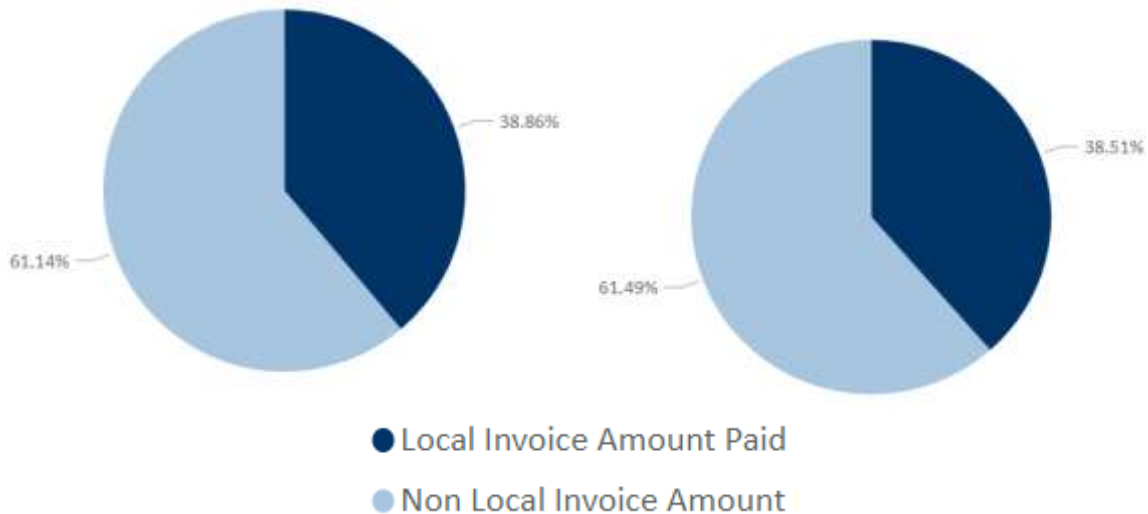
**12. FINANCE REPORT**  
**12.2 - Information Report - Finance**

Ergon Energy Corporation Limited	\$	593,189.36	Power
Boral Resources (Qld) Pty Limited	\$	549,502.17	Quarry Supplies
Central Highlands Auto Pty Ltd	\$	525,138.55	Plant
LGMS	\$	523,712.89	Insurance
Hastings Deering (Australia) L	\$	519,605.59	Plant
Proterra Group	\$	378,146.06	Waste Management
Fulton Hogan Industries Pty Ltd	\$	348,873.99	Quarry Supplies
Midland Pty Ltd	\$	323,139.54	Plant
Western Queensland Livestock Exchange Pty Ltd	\$	301,189.19	Saleyards upgrade
NGH Pty Ltd	\$	300,711.96	Weirs planning
Komatsu Australia Pty Ltd	\$	260,388.32	Plant
Telstra Limited	\$	255,848.15	Telecommunications
Local Government Workcare	\$	248,463.50	Workers Compensation
Wideland Trucks & Equipment Pty Ltd	\$	243,816.13	Plant
Centwest Engineering And Steel Supplies Pty Ltd Tte	\$	224,208.89	Supplies
Leading Roles	\$	215,723.72	Recruitment
Flexihire Pty. Ltd.	\$	212,027.93	Plant Hire

**LOCAL SPEND Vs NON LOCAL SPEND YTD**

**2023/2024**

**2022/2023**



<b>YEAR</b>	<b>LOCAL</b>	<b>NON LOCAL</b>
2023/2024	\$8,204,529.95	12,910,402.96
2022/2023	\$8,847,539.73	14,127,938.46

The graphs outlined above depicts the spend year to date for 2023/2024 financial year and the 2022/2023 financial year comparisons, broken down by local v non local expenditure.

**12. FINANCE REPORT**  
**12.2 - Information Report - Finance**

The definition of a 'local' in the finance system to generate this report was any businesses that have an address of Longreach, Ilfracombe, Isisford or Yaraka compared to other businesses in the finance system.

**Current Quotes and Tenders**

The below table outlines the current quotes and tenders that have either been finalised during this period or that are currently yet to be awarded.

<b>NOVEMBER</b>				
<b>TENDER/RFQ</b>	<b>No.</b>	<b>PLATFORM</b>	<b>RESPONSES</b>	<b>LOCAL Y/N</b>
LRC422023 – Supply Fire & First Aid Services	Public Tender	QTender	1	Not Awarded
<b>DECEMBER</b>				
<b>TENDER/RFQ</b>	<b>No.</b>	<b>PLATFORM</b>	<b>RESPONSES</b>	<b>LOCAL Y/N</b>
VP395029 – Supply & Delivery of Six Light Vehicles	6	Vendor Panel Local Buy Panel	1	Yes
<b>JANUARY</b>				
<b>TENDER/RFQ</b>	<b>No.</b>	<b>PLATFORM</b>	<b>RESPONSES</b>	<b>LOCAL Y/N</b>
LRCQ012024 – Supply & Delivery 7.5T Hoist (4 Column)	4	Email	4	No
VP397433 – Supply & Install Longreach Lioness Park Shade Structure	8	Vendor Panel Pre Qual Panel LRC102021	1	Yes
VP397757 – Tractor Slashing and Brush Cutting (Wet Hire)	8	Vendor Panel Pre Qual Panel LRC102021	1	Yes
<b>FEBRUARY</b>				
<b>TENDER/RFQ</b>	<b>No.</b>	<b>PLATFORM</b>	<b>RESPONSES</b>	<b>LOCAL Y/N</b>
VP400503 – Supply, Cart, Heat and Spray Bitumen	60	Vendor Panel Local Buy Panel	3	N
VP400506 – Supply Pre-Coated Aggregate (X Bin)	6	Vendor Panel Pre-Qual LRC082021	1	Y
VP400249 – Installation of Bulk Signs	3	Vendor Panel Pre-Qual Panel LRC102021	1	Not Awarded

**12. FINANCE REPORT**  
**12.2 - Information Report - Finance**

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**Future Requests for Quote and Tenders**

<b>REQUEST</b>	<b>QUOTE/TENDER</b>
Apex Park Bar Fence and Privacy Screen	QUOTE

**Asset Management**

At present in the Asset Management space we have been busy preparing the new Asset Management Plans for the new budget year.

In the month of February, we finalised testing of the new Asset Management Software package. Pinnacle system is now live and operational for the Building & Communities team. There has been positive feedback from the users. Water & Sewerage data is now being reviewed with above ground assets to be added to the system by March 2023.

Proterra Group reports have been reviewed and all minor issues raised being investigated and added to the 2024 budget where required.

The Fairmont Weir report has not been able to be reviewed due to the water flow over the weir.

Future works & projects

- Stocktake of all plant & equipment (Due by Mar 2024)
- Road Network - assets Inspection and condition reports (Due June 2024)
- Grid Network - assets Inspection and condition reports (Due June 2024)
- Stormwater works – Priority 2 works costing for budget consideration 24/25
- Sewerage Treatment Plant opportunities (Recycled Water)
- Solar System opportunities for Assets

**Risk Management Factors:**

This matter has been assessed using Council’s Risk Matrix to decide the likelihood and consequence of any risk to Council:

Likelihood: Rare

Consequence: Insignificant

Rating: Low (1/25)

Low risk, informational report only.

**Environmental Management Factors:**

Nil

**Other Comments:**

Nil

**Risk Management Factors:**

This matter has been assessed using Council’s Risk Matrix to decide the likelihood and consequence of any risk to Council:

**12. FINANCE REPORT**  
**12.2 - Information Report - Finance**

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Likelihood: Rare  
Consequence: Insignificant  
Rating: Low (1/25)

Low risk, informational report only.

**Environmental Management Factors:**

Nil

**Other Comments:**

Nil

**Recommendation:**

*That Council receives the Finance information report, as presented.*

**13. COMMUNITIES REPORT**  
**13.1 - Community Donations - Individuals**

**13. Communities Report**  
**13.1 Community Donations - Individuals**

Considerations of applications received for the month of March 2024 in accordance with the Community Donation Policy 11.06.

**Council Action**

Partner

**Applicable Legislation**

*Local Government Act 2009*

*Local Government Regulation 2012*

**Policy Considerations**

Community Donation No. 11.06

**Corporate and Operational Plan Considerations**

OUR COMMUNITY	
Corporate Plan Outcome	
1.1	Council infrastructure and services support liveability and community amenity.
1.2	Council recognises cultural heritage and supports inclusion of all peoples.
1.3	The region's natural environment is managed, maintained and protected.

**Budget Considerations**

\$112,000.00 has been committed and allocated to Community Donations YTD.

Category	Total Budget	Budget Committed (not yet paid)	Budget Remaining	Budget required to meet Community Donations for March 2024	Budget remaining for future applications
Community Donations	\$112,000.00	\$0.00	\$49,772.47	\$24,321.00	\$25,451.47

**Previous Council Resolutions related to this Matter**

0 NIL

**Officer Comment**

**Responsible Officer:** Abby Lewis, Customer Service Coordinator

**Approved by:** Karyn Stillwell, Director of Communities

**Background:**

Longreach Regional Council Individual Donations Program received four applications for the month of March 2024.

**13. COMMUNITIES REPORT**  
**13.1 - Community Donations - Individuals**

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- Havana Elliott has been selected to be a part of the Capricorn Netball Academy. This is a training academy to further develop her skills with children in the Central Queensland Region. There are 3 training sessions across 2 locations, these are Rockhampton and Emerald in February, April and July 2024.

<b>Havana Elliott</b>	
<i>Has the recipient applied for funds in the past?</i>	Yes
<i>Has the recipient applied for funds within the 23/24 Financial Year?</i>	Yes
<i>Does the recipient have any outstanding acquittals?</i>	No

<b>Grant Requested</b>	<b>Grant Recommended</b>
<i>Havana Elliott</i> \$500.00	<i>Havana Elliott</i> \$350.00

- Malcolm Strong is a standout musician who demonstrates exceptional talent and unwavering commitment to his craft. Malcolm shares his talents through his involvement in ANZAC Day, Remembrance Day and playing as part of the Longreach Town Band at Community Events. Malcolm is attending the Young Conservatorium Ensemble Program from February – November 2024 in both Wind Ensemble and Brass Ensemble.

<b>Malcolm Strong</b>	
<i>Has the recipient applied for funds in the past?</i>	No
<i>Has the recipient applied for funds within the 23/24 Financial Year?</i>	No
<i>Does the recipient have any outstanding acquittals?</i>	No

<b>Grant Requested</b>	<b>Grant Recommended</b>
<i>Malcolm Strong</i> \$350.00	<i>Malcolm Strong</i> \$350.00

- Tyler Morton has qualified for a once in a lifetime opportunity to attend the Australian Junior High School Rodeo World Finals in Des Moines, Iowa, USA from 23-29 June 2024. Tyler will complete in Barrel Racing and be a part of the Australian Team. Tyler is based at Baratria Station, near Longreach.

<b>Tyler Morton</b>	
<i>Has the recipient applied for funds in the past?</i>	No
<i>Has the recipient applied for funds within the 23/24 Financial Year?</i>	No
<i>Does the recipient have any outstanding acquittals?</i>	No

<b>Grant Requested</b>	<b>Grant Recommended</b>

**13. COMMUNITIES REPORT**  
**13.1 - Community Donations - Individuals**

<i>Tyler Morton</i> <i>\$1,000.00</i>	<i>Tyler Morton</i> <i>\$1,000.00</i>
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**Recommendation:**

*That Council endorses the allocation of funds from the Community Donations Program, in accordance with the Community Donations Policy No. 11.6, as follows:*

<b>Organisation/ Individual</b>	<b>Event/Project Activity</b>	<b>Event Date</b>	<b>Grant Approved</b>
<i>Havana Elliott</i>	<i>Capricorn Netball Academy</i>	<i>February-June 2024</i>	<i>\$350.00</i>
<i>Malcolm Strong</i>	<i>Young Conservatorium Ensemble Program</i>	<i>February-November 2024</i>	<i>\$350.00</i>
<i>Tyler Morton</i>	<i>Australian Junior High School Rodeo World Finals</i>	<i>23-29 June 2024</i>	<i>\$1,000.00</i>
<b>TOTAL</b>			<b><i>\$1,700.00</i></b>

**13. COMMUNITIES REPORT**  
**13.2 - Community Donations - GroWQ Association**

**13.2 Community Donations - GroWQ Association**

Consideration of a Community Donations application received in March in accordance with the Community Donations Policy No. 11.06.

**Council Action**

Partner  
 Deliver

**Applicable Legislation**

*Local Government Act 2009*  
*Local Government Regulation 2012*

**Policy Considerations**

Community Donations Policy No. 11.06

**Corporate and Operational Plan Considerations**

OUR COMMUNITY	
Corporate Plan Outcome	
1.1	Council infrastructure and services support liveability and community amenity.
1.2	Council recognises cultural heritage and supports inclusion of all peoples.
1.3	The region's natural environment is managed, maintained and protected.

**Budget Considerations**

\$112,000.00 has been committed and allocated to Community Donations YTD.

Category	Total Budget	Budget Committed (not yet paid)	Budget Remaining	Budget required to meet Community Donations for March 2024	Budget remaining for future applications
Community Donations	\$112,000.00	\$0.00	\$49,772.47	\$24,321.00	\$25,451.47

**Previous Council Resolutions related to this Matter**

*(Res-2021-03-001)*

*Moved Cr Smith seconded Cr Emslie*

*That Council endorses the allocation of funds from the Sponsorship Program as contained in the following table, in accordance with the Sponsorship Policy No 11.07:*

<i>GroWQ</i>	<i>Networking Event</i>	<i>26 March 2021</i>	<i>\$3,250.00</i>
<i>TOTAL</i>			<i>\$3,250.00</i>



### 13. COMMUNITIES REPORT

#### 13.2 - Community Donations - GroWQ Association

#### Officer Comment

**Responsible Officer:** Abby Lewis, Customer Service Coordinator

**Authorised by:** Karyn Stillwell, Director of Communities

#### Background:

Longreach Regional Council Community Donations program:

- Enhances the community's resilience, wellbeing, sustainability and liveability
- Contributes to vibrant and engaged communities
- Provides community organisations with financial support to meet identified community need and provides benefit to the broader Longreach region communities
- Achieves Council's strategic objectives, as identified in the Corporate Plan.

The aim of programme is to:

- Develop the capacity and sustainability of organisations or innovative programs to meet the needs of members and the community
- Support individuals representing the region by performing, competing or presenting at district, state, national or international competitions, conference or events.
- Support the acquisition or upgrading of facilities and equipment (excluding personal use items).
- Provide donations towards services that deliver improved community services to the Council region.
- Deliver programs and events to engage and entertain a vast variety of community members within the Longreach Regional Council Region.

Community Donations (financial and in-kind support) are offered each financial year. Each Community Group is eligible to apply for a maximum of \$5,000 per financial year. All applications will be assessed against eligibility and assessment criteria as stated in this Policy and the Program Guidelines.

#### Issue:

#### GroWQ Association Inc

GroWQ Innovation Expo	
<i>Has the Community group applied for funds in the past?</i>	Yes
<i>Has the Community Group applied for funds within the 23/24 Financial Year?</i>	No
<i>Does the Community Group have any outstanding acquittals?</i>	No

**13. COMMUNITIES REPORT**  
**13.2 - Community Donations - GroWQ Association**

<i>Has the event/ project been previously funded by Council?</i>	Yes
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GroWQ are hosting an Innovation Expo on 25 and 26 July 2024 at the Longreach Showgrounds. This expo will empower local farmers and businesses to stay competitive and resilient in an ever changing industry. Through the expo, attendees can expect to gain valuable insights into the latest trends and technologies in agriculture as well as connect with potential partners and suppliers. In 2023 there were 180 attendees that attended the Expo. The main goal that GroWQ has is to advance and strengthen the Western Queensland agriculture sector by fostering innovation, knowledge sharing, community building and skill development. This expo is great for those who are in the agriculture industry.

The total grant recommended of \$4,084.30 financial will go towards the cost of:

- AV and equipment costs for the two-day expo.

The total In-Kind recommended of \$915.70 will go towards the cost of:

- Hire of the Wool Pavilion and bar/canteen at the Longreach Showgrounds

The application was reviewed by a panel and scored against the criteria of the Longreach Regional Council's Community Donations Assessment Guidelines. The result was to support the GroWQ Innovation Expo to the value of 100%. All supporting documentation was supplied with their application.

**Appendices**

1. GroWQ ↓

**Recommendation:**

*That Council approves the following allocation of funds from the Community Donations Program in accordance with the Community Donations Policy No. 11.06;*

<i>Organisation/ Name</i>	<i>Event/Activity</i>	<i>Grant Requested</i>	<i>Grant Approved</i>
<i>GroWQ Association Inc</i>	<i>GroWQ Innovation Expo</i>	<i>Financial \$4,084.30 In-Kind \$915.70</i>	<i>Financial \$4,084.30 In-Kind \$915.70</i>
		<i>TOTAL \$5,000.00</i>	<i>TOTAL \$5,000.00</i>



# APPLICATION FORM

## CONTACT INFORMATION

Name: (Group or Organisation)	GroWQ Association Inc
ABN if applicable	34964118052
Contact Person's Name:	Prue Button
Postal Address:	121 Emu St, Longreach Qld 4730
Telephone:	
Mobile:	0428 585 663
Email:	grow@growq.com.au

## EVENT DETAILS

Event Name:	GroWQ Innovation Expo
Event Date:	25th & 26th of July 2024
Description of what Council funds will be used for:  No more than approx 200 words.	In-Kind Support would be to provide - Wool Pavilion - 2 days set up and 1.5 days for the Innovation Expo event - Showgrounds Kitchen - 1 day hire to cater for the event. Financial Support to assist with the expo delivery including AV costs, equipment hire, MC appearance, flights and accom, printing.
Financial Amount Requested:	\$ 5000.00
In-kind Support Requested:	\$ 915.70

## 13.2 - Community Donations - GroWQ Association --Appendix 1



### DETAILED BUDGET BREAKDOWN

INCOME	Amount	EXPENSES	Amount	Tick what is being funded by Council
List any source of income supply i.e other sponsorship, ticket sales, cash contributions, etc.		List any expenses incurred by your organisation for the project or event the application relates to.		
Ticket Sales (if 150pax)	\$ 6,000	Advertising, Printing, Photographer, Videogr	\$ 6,600	
Sponsorship	\$ 20,000	Catering	\$ 10800	
Dinner Ticket Sales (if 80pax)	\$ 4,800	Contractor workers, satchel costs, other ev	\$ 1700	
GroWQ Contribution	\$ 3,585	Equipment Hire, AV Cost (inc setup, take d	\$ 6785	✓
	\$	MC & Speaker Cost x 3	\$ 6100	
	\$	Sponsor obligations & insurance	\$ 2,400	
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$ 34,385</b>	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$ 34,385</b>	
Comments or other details:				
To prepare the budget for the 2024 Innovation Expo we contacted all our larger suppliers for quotes. Otherwise we have estimate expenses based on the actual costs for the 2023 event. Our budget for the 2023 year came in close to budget.				

In-Kind support component	Amount	Other comments
List items and \$ amounts (e.g stage, chairs, tables)		
Please refer to the fees and charges: <a href="http://www.longreach.qld.gov.au/rates-fees-charges/rates-fees-charges-1">www.longreach.qld.gov.au/rates-fees-charges/rates-fees-charges-1</a>		
Wool Pavilion 2 day set up - 23rd & 24th of July	\$ 353.00	Event Day Set up
Wool Pavilion 2 day Event - 25th & 26th of July	\$ 353.00	Event Days
Kitchen/Bar cold room for the event - 25th of July	\$ 209.70	Event Day
	\$	
	\$	
	\$	
	\$	



**ELIGIBILITY ASSESSMENT**

Explain how your event demonstrates strong community or individual benefit, or need of support.

GroWQ's experience in hosting events and promoting sustainable development aligns well with the needs of the agricultural community in Western Queensland. By providing platforms for knowledge exchange and networking, the Expo will empower local farmers and businesses to stay competitive and resilient in an ever-changing industry. Through the Expo, attendees can expect to gain valuable insights into the latest trends and technologies in agriculture, as well as connect with potential partners and suppliers. By fostering collaboration and innovation, GroWQ aims to drive sustainable growth and prosperity in the region. Overall, the Expo is set to bring about positive changes in the agricultural sector in Western Queensland, helping businesses thrive and adapt to the challenges of the future. In 2023 many attendees said the event was inspiring.

Explain how your event will contribute to the Longreach Regional Council community ( eg Economic Development, Tourism, Liveability, wellbeing etc.)

GroWQ's overarching objective is to advance & strengthen the Western Queensland agricultural sector by fostering innovation, knowledge-sharing, community building, and skill development through the GroWQ Innovation Expo 2024. There will also be economic benefits for our community with the logistics of the event - accommodation, food etc for those traveling. (180 attendees in 2023). As well as the suppliers who will be used to help run the event. At this stage we anticipate we would engage 15 plus local businesses and many more indirectly. Overall, the Expo is set to bring about positive changes in the agricultural sector in Western Queensland, helping businesses thrive and adapt to the challenges of the future.

Is your event based within the Longreach Regional Council Area

Yes  No

How many people are expected to attend? (Please indicate)

0-50  51-100  100-200  200 and over

Provide a brief explanation of what type of attendants your event will attract (eg visitors from other towns, key community groups)

The 2023 Innovation Expo, held in Longreach Wool Pavilion, attracted over 180 attendees from Western Queensland and beyond. The one-day event showcased a diverse range of local and traveling presenters, engaging panel discussions, and informative trade displays. Many of the producers will travel to attend and last year some traveled up to 400km to attend. While many of the presenters traveled from interstate and from around the state. There were attendees from many of the key community groups in Western Queensland also.

How do you intend to acknowledge Council's support (if approved) at the event or within the project or activity?

- LRC logo, (i.e. website, flyers, program etc.).
- Promotion via digital marketing - social media.
- Event branding (i.e. banners or signage present and/or handouts available).
- LRC promoted as sponsor via newspaper & radio.
- Opportunity to attend the event to obtain first-hand knowledge.
- Speaking opportunities at one of the events. LRC promoted as sponsor during the event.
- Exhibition space at the event.

Have you sought funding through other avenues for your project/activity (grants, corporate sponsorship, fundraising, etc)?

Yes:  No:

If YES, please provide details?

Rabobank - sponsorship  
 Agritech - sponsorship  
 FRRR - Grant  
 In the process of further sponsorship

## 13.2 - Community Donations - GroWQ Association --Appendix 1



Does the applicant have any Longreach Regional Council funded projects or activities that have not been acquitted in accordance with the relevant Program Policy and Guidelines?

Yes  No

Does the applicant have any Longreach Regional Council funded projects or activities that have not been acquitted in accordance with the relevant Program Policy and Guidelines?

Yes  No

Does the Organisation/Applicant have any overdue debt with Council (excluding organisations with a payment arrangement)?

Yes  No

### SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION CHECKLIST

- Evidence of the event or project (i.e quotes, facilities bookings, etc)\*
- Relevant public liability insurance (if required)
- Booking form/s completed (facility hire and equipment hire)
- A copy of the organisations most recent bank statement (for applications over \$1,000 only)

\*if groups are unable to provide evidence of the event or project due to the dependency of funding or extenuating circumstances, please indicate on the application form. Council may still consider the application based on supplied information (i.e budget).

### DECLARATION BY RECIPIENT

- I certify that to the best of my knowledge, information detailed in this application (and relevant attachments) is true and correct.
- I understand I may be asked to provide the Council with additional information on the funded project.
- I consent to Longreach Regional Council publishing the applicants name in reports and publication statements.

<b>Signature:</b> Note: If you are under the age of 18, your legal guardian must also sign this application	
Date:	27/2/24
Name in full:	Anna Cochrane
Community Group/ Organisation:	GroWQ Association Inc
Position in Group or Organisation: (if applicable)	President

Privacy Collection Statement: Longreach Regional Council is committed to ensuring that your privacy is protected and will take all reasonable steps to ensure that all personal information is secure. Council is collecting your personal or community groups information for the purpose of assessing your application for Community Donations.

**SUBMIT**

## 13. COMMUNITIES REPORT

### 13.3 - Community Donations - Isisford Barcoo Recreational Fishing Association

#### 13.3 Community Donations - Isisford Barcoo Recreational Fishing Association

Consideration of a Community Donations application received in March in accordance with the Community Donations Policy No. 11.06.

#### Council Action

Partner  
Deliver

#### Applicable Legislation

Local Government Act 2009  
Local Government Regulation 2012

#### Policy Considerations

Community Donations Policy No. 11.06

#### Corporate and Operational Plan Considerations

OUR COMMUNITY	
Corporate Plan Outcome	
1.1	Council infrastructure and services support liveability and community amenity.
1.2	Council recognises cultural heritage and supports inclusion of all peoples.
1.3	The region's natural environment is managed, maintained and protected.

#### Budget Considerations

\$112,000.00 has been committed and allocated to Community Donations YTD.

Category	Total Budget	Budget Committed (not yet paid)	Budget Remaining	Budget required to meet Community Donations for March 2024	Budget remaining for future applications
Community Donations	\$112,000.00	\$0.00	\$49,772.47	\$24,321.00	\$25,451.47

#### Previous Council Resolutions related to this Matter

(Res-2023-03-077)

*Moved Cr Smith seconded Cr Emslie*

*That Council endorses the following allocation of funds from the Community Donations Program in accordance with the Community Donations Policy No. 11.07;*

<i>Isisford Barcoo Recreational Fishing Association Inc</i>	<i>Isisford Fishing Competition</i>	\$5,000.00	\$5,000.00	Nil
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## 13. COMMUNITIES REPORT

### 13.3 - Community Donations - Isisford Barcoo Recreational Fishing Association

#### Officer Comment

**Responsible Officer:** Abby Lewis, Customer Service Coordinator

**Authorised by:** Karyn Stillwell, Director of Communities

#### Background:

Longreach Regional Council Community Donations program:

- Enhances the community's resilience, wellbeing, sustainability and liveability
- Contributes to vibrant and engaged communities
- Provides community organisations with financial support to meet identified community need and provides benefit to the broader Longreach region communities
- Achieves Council's strategic objectives, as identified in the Corporate Plan.

The aim of programme is to:

- Develop the capacity and sustainability of organisations or innovative programs to meet the needs of members and the community
- Support individuals representing the region by performing, competing or presenting at district, state, national or international competitions, conference or events.
- Support the acquisition or upgrading of facilities and equipment (excluding personal use items).
- Provide donations towards services that deliver improved community services to the Council region.
- Deliver programs and events to engage and entertain a vast variety of community members within the Longreach Regional Council Region.

Community Donations (financial and in-kind support) are offered each financial year. Each Community Group is eligible to apply for a maximum of \$5,000 per financial year. All applications will be assessed against eligibility and assessment criteria as stated in this Policy and the Program Guidelines.

#### Issue:

#### Isisford Barcoo Recreational Fishing Association

Isisford Barcoo Recreational Fishing Association	
<i>Has the Community group applied for funds in the past?</i>	Yes
<i>Has the Community Group applied for funds within the 23/24 Financial Year?</i>	No
<i>Does the Community Group have any outstanding acquittals?</i>	No



### 13. COMMUNITIES REPORT

#### 13.3 - Community Donations - Isisford Barcoo Recreational Fishing Association

<i>Has the event/ project been previously funded by Council?</i>	Yes
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The annual Isisford Fishing Competition is back for 2024, taking place at Oma Waterhole from 26-28 July 2024. The Isisford Fishing Competition attracts visitors and locals from across the region far and wide, with well over 500 participants and their families attending. There are several sponsors both locally and from away that provide prizes for all ages and categories over the course of the weekend. There are local food stalls and a bar operating during the event as well as market stalls, games and much more. This is a great event for everyone and the Isisford Fishing Comp committee encourage you to come along and enjoy a weekend of fishing, camping and socialising with friends and family.

The total grant recommended of \$5,000.00 financial will go towards the cost of:

- Mobile Shower Hire;
- Mobile Toilet Hire.

The application was reviewed by a panel and scored against the criteria of the Longreach Regional Council's Community Donations Assessment Guidelines. The result was to support the Isisford Barcoo Recreational Fishing Association to the value of 100%. All supporting documentation was supplied with their application.

#### Appendices

1. Isisford Barcoo Recreational Fishing Association ↓

#### **Recommendation:**

*That Council approves the following allocation of funds from the Community Donations Program in accordance with the Community Donations Policy No. 11.06;*

<i>Organisation/ Name</i>	<i>Event/Activity</i>	<i>Grant Requested</i>	<i>Grant Approved</i>
<i>Isisford Barcoo Recreational Fishing Association</i>	<i>Isisford Fishing Competition</i>	<i>Financial \$5,000.00</i>	<i>Financial \$5,000.00</i>
		<i>TOTAL \$5,000.00</i>	<i>TOTAL \$5,000.00</i>

# APPLICATION FORM



### CONTACT INFORMATION

Name: (Group or Organisation)	Isisford Barcoo Recreational Fisng Assoc
ABN if applicable	43150636819
Contact Person's Name:	Lisa Littlewood
Postal Address:	Po Box 4 Isisford Qld 4731
Telephone:	
Mobile:	0427 588 069
Email:	isisfordfishingcomp@gmail.com

### EVENT DETAILS

Event Name:	Isisford Fishing Competition
Event Date:	26-28 July 2024
Description of what Council funds will be used for:  No more than approx 200 words.	Mobile toilet and shower Hire
Financial Amount Requested:	\$ 5000.00
In-kind Support Requested:	\$





**DETAILED BUDGET BREAKDOWN**

<b>INCOME</b> List any source of income supply i.e other sponsorship, ticket sales, cash contributions, etc.	<b>Amount</b>	<b>EXPENSES</b> List any expenses incurred by your organisation for the project or event the application relates to.	<b>Amount</b>	<b>Tick what is being funded by Council</b>
Sponsorship	\$ 10,000	Mobile toilets & showers	\$ 7,000	✓
Auctions	\$ 2,000	Prizes	\$ 7,000	
Raffle	\$ 3,000	Entertainment	\$ 5,000	
Bar	\$ 15,000	Insurance	\$ 2,500	
Merchandise	\$ 7,500	security	\$ 4,000	
Nominations	\$ 10,000	merchandise	\$ 4,500	
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$ 47,500</b>	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$ 30,000</b>	
Comments or other details: Please see income and expenditure attached				

<b>In-Kind support component</b> List items and \$ amounts (e.g stage, chairs, tables) Please refer to the fees and charges: <a href="http://www.longreach.qld.gov.au/rates-fees-charges/rates-fees-charges-1">www.longreach.qld.gov.au/rates-fees-charges/rates-fees-charges-1</a>	<b>Amount</b>	<b>Other comments</b>
	\$	
	\$	
	\$	
	\$	
	\$	
	\$	
	\$	



### ELIGIBILITY ASSESSMENT

Explain how your event demonstrates strong community or individual benefit, or need of support.

We are a small group of volunteers that have been with the Fishing Competition since it started in 2002; we work together to provide this opportunity for everyone to enjoy.

Explain how your event will contribute to the Longreach Regional Council community ( eg Economic Development, Tourism, Liveability, wellbeing etc.)

Our competition encourages visitors to our small town, strengthens the community by boosting our economy, supporting small businesses which then expands out to profit our larger region. We need this opportunity to continue putting Isisford on the map and entice visitors to continue to travel out west, which this has proven each year that tourism is a vital life line to our towns. Over the past few years, our Region ( Central West) has suffered hardship with the ongoing drought conditions; times have been and still are tough for everyone. Events such as these allows that time families and friends to break away amd enjoy a weekend of relaxation, good company and enjoy a spot of fishing

Is your event based within the Longreach Regional Council Area

Yes  No

How many people are expected to attend? (Please indicate)

0-50  51-100  100-200  200 and over

Provide a brief explanation of what type of attendants your event will attract (eg visitors from other towns, key community groups)

The whole weekend is based on being family orientated as well as encouraging fishing enthusiasts to our area. A weekend of meeting new faces and making new friends, Oma Waterhole a place that these people can meet up again year after year.

How do you intend to acknowledge Council's support (if approved) at the event or within the project or activity?

Longreach Regional Council will be recognised on our program, as well as your Logo will be displayed on advertising material website and all social media

Have you sought funding through other avenues for your project/activity (grants, corporate sponsorship, fundraising, etc)?

Yes:  No:

If YES, please provide details?



Does the applicant have any Longreach Regional Council funded projects or activities that have not been acquitted in accordance with the relevant Program Policy and Guidelines?

Yes  No

Does the applicant have any Longreach Regional Council funded projects or activities that have not been acquitted in accordance with the relevant Program Policy and Guidelines?

Yes  No

Does the Organisation/Applicant have any overdue debt with Council (excluding organisations with a payment arrangement)?

Yes  No

**SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION CHECKLIST**

- Evidence of the event or project (i.e quotes, facilities bookings, etc)\*
- Relevant public liability insurance (if required)
- Booking form/s completed (facility hire and equipment hire)
- A copy of the organisations most recent bank statement (for applications over \$1,000 only)

\*if groups are unable to provide evidence of the event or project due to the dependency of funding or extenuating circumstances, please indicate on the application form. Council may still consider the application based on supplied information (i.e budget).

**DECLARATION BY RECIPIENT**

- I certify that to the best of my knowledge, information detailed in this application (and relevant attachments) is true and correct.
- I understand I may be asked to provide the Council with additional information on the funded project.
- I consent to Longreach Regional Council publishing the applicants name in reports and publication statements.

Signature: Note: If you are under the age of 18, your legal guardian must also sign this application	
Date:	16/02/2024
Name in full:	Lisa Littlewood
Community Group/ Organisation:	Isisford Barcoo Recreational Fisng Assoc
Position in Group or Organisation: (if applicable)	Secretary

Privacy Collection Statement: Longreach Regional Council is committed to ensuring that your privacy is protected and will take all reasonable steps to ensure that all personal information is secure. Council is collecting your personal or community groups information for the purpose of assessing your application for Community Donations.

**SUBMIT**

## 13. COMMUNITIES REPORT

### 13.4 - Community Donations - Isisford Sheep and Wool Show

#### 13.4 Community Donations - Isisford Sheep and Wool Show

Consideration of a Community Donations application received in March in accordance with the Community Donations Policy No. 11.06.

#### Council Action

Partner  
Deliver

#### Applicable Legislation

Local Government Act 2009  
Local Government Regulation 2012

#### Policy Considerations

Community Donations Policy No. 11.06

#### Corporate and Operational Plan Considerations

OUR COMMUNITY	
	Corporate Plan Outcome
1.1	Council infrastructure and services support liveability and community amenity.
1.2	Council recognises cultural heritage and supports inclusion of all peoples.
1.3	The region's natural environment is managed, maintained and protected.

#### Budget Considerations

\$112,000.00 has been committed and allocated to Community Donations YTD.

Category	Total Budget	Budget Committed (not yet paid)	Budget Remaining	Budget required to meet Community Donations for March 2024	Budget remaining for future applications
Community Donations	\$112,000.00	\$0.00	\$49,772.47	\$24,321.00	\$25,451.47

#### Previous Council Resolutions related to this Matter

(Res-2023-03-077)

Moved Cr Smith seconded Cr Emslie

That Council endorses the following allocation of funds from the Community Donations Program in accordance with the Community Donations Policy No. 11.07;

<i>Isisford Sheep and Wool Show Association</i>	<i>Isisford Sheep and Wool Show</i>	\$5,000.00	\$5,000.00	Nil
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## 13. COMMUNITIES REPORT

### 13.4 - Community Donations - Isisford Sheep and Wool Show

#### Officer Comment

**Responsible Officer:** Abby Lewis, Customer Service Coordinator

**Authorised by:** Karyn Stillwell, Director of Communities

#### Background:

Longreach Regional Council Community Donations program:

- Enhances the community's resilience, wellbeing, sustainability and liveability
- Contributes to vibrant and engaged communities
- Provides community organisations with financial support to meet identified community need and provides benefit to the broader Longreach region communities
- Achieves Council's strategic objectives, as identified in the Corporate Plan.

The aim of programme is to:

- Develop the capacity and sustainability of organisations or innovative programs to meet the needs of members and the community
- Support individuals representing the region by performing, competing or presenting at district, state, national or international competitions, conference or events.
- Support the acquisition or upgrading of facilities and equipment (excluding personal use items).
- Provide donations towards services that deliver improved community services to the Council region.
- Deliver programs and events to engage and entertain a vast variety of community members within the Longreach Regional Council Region.

Community Donations (financial and in-kind support) are offered each financial year. Each Community Group is eligible to apply for a maximum of \$5,000 per financial year. All applications will be assessed against eligibility and assessment criteria as stated in this Policy and the Program Guidelines.

#### Issue:

#### Isisford Sheep and Wool Show

Isisford Sheep and Wool Show	
<i>Has the Community group applied for funds in the past?</i>	Yes
<i>Has the Community Group applied for funds within the 23/24 Financial Year?</i>	No
<i>Does the Community Group have any outstanding acquittals?</i>	No

### 13. COMMUNITIES REPORT

#### 13.4 - Community Donations - Isisford Sheep and Wool Show

Has the event/ project been previously funded by Council?	Yes
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The Isisford Sheep and Wool Show is an annual event that is held each year in May. This family friendly event takes place at the Isisford Race Course and will be held on Saturday 18 May 2024. The Show attracts around 600 locals and visitors from across the Region. This event provides an opportunity to show off individual hobbies such as sewing, patchwork, wood work, photography, art, metal work and slice making. There is prize money in the Pavilion section for art and photograph. The Sheep and Wool Show also allows local producers to showcase their wool, sheep, goats and cattle. There are market stalls, food vendors, a licensed bar and much more. The Isisford Sheep and Wool Show provides competitors a pride of place being able to exhibit all their skills within their own locality in the Longreach Region. It also allows show goers a reason to have a day out, relax and share their knowledge and skills.

The total grant recommended of \$3,850.00 financial will go towards the cost of:

- Printing of show schedule and advertising;
- Queensland Ambulance Service.

The total In-Kind recommended of \$1,150.00 will go towards the cost of:

- Rubbish Truck;
- Water Truck Hire;
- Cleaning Fees for venue hire.

The application was reviewed by a panel and scored against the criteria of the Longreach Regional Council's Community Donations Assessment Guidelines. The result was to support the Isisford Sheep and Wool Show to the value of 100%. All supporting documentation was supplied with their application.

#### Appendices

1. Isisford Sheep and Wool Show [↓](#)

#### Recommendation:

That Council approves the following allocation of funds from the Community Donations Program in accordance with the Community Donations Policy No. 11.06;

Organisation/ Name	Event/Activity	Grant Requested	Grant Approved
Isisford Sheep and Wool Show	Isisford Sheep and Wool Show 2024	Financial \$3,850.00 In-Kind \$1,150.00	Financial \$3,850.00 In-Kind \$1,150.00
		TOTAL \$5,000.00	TOTAL \$5,000.00





# APPLICATION FORM

## CONTACT INFORMATION

Name: (Group or Organisation)	Isisford Sheep & Wool Show Association Inc
ABN if applicable	15613645206
Contact Person's Name:	Kaye Albrand
Postal Address:	P O Box 7, Isisford Qld 4731
Telephone:	(07) 46 585358
Mobile:	
Email:	sheepshow.isis@bigpond.com

## EVENT DETAILS

Event Name:	Isisford Sheep & Wool Show 2024
Event Date:	18.05.2024
Description of what Council funds will be used for:  No more than approx 200 words.	<p>Council funding will be used to:</p> <p>Aid with the cost of printing the show's schedule which is distributed throughout the region in Longreach, Blackall, Tambo, Stonehenge, Jundah, Ilfracombe, Isisford &amp; Yaraka</p> <p>Aid with the provision of the Queensland Ambulance Service on site from 8.00am to 6.00pm on Show Day</p> <p>For prize money in the pavilion sections of Art &amp; Photography and acknowledged on each of these section's Show Schedule pages, on the Show's web page, in the pavilion area on Show Day and on each prize envelope as being sponsored by the Longreach Regional Council</p> <p>Part of funds required to place an advertisement over the local Radio Station 4LG</p>
Financial Amount Requested:	\$ 3850
In-kind Support Requested:	\$ 1150

### 13.4 - Community Donations - Isisford Sheep and Wool Show --Appendix 1



#### DETAILED BUDGET BREAKDOWN

INCOME List any source of income supply i.e other sponsorship, ticket sales, cash contributions, etc.	Amount	EXPENSES List any expenses incurred by your organisation for the project or event the application relates to.	Amount	Tick what is being funded by Council
Sponsorship	\$ 14000	Printing of Show Schedule	\$ 1060	✓
Show Society Grant	\$ 7509	Queensland Ambulance Service	\$ 1600	✓
Donated Wool Sale	\$ 9036	Ad over Radio Station 4LG (partly only)	\$ 250	✓
Donated Sheep Sale	\$ 2900	Prize money for Art & Photography	\$ 940	✓
Bar Sales	\$ 4000	Entertainment	\$ 7509	
Sundry Income	\$ 1740	Other Expenses	\$ 36600	
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$ 39185</b>	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$ 47959</b>	
Comments or other details:				

In-Kind support component List items and \$ amounts (e.g stage, chairs, tables) Please refer to the fees and charges: <a href="http://www.longreach.qld.gov.au/rates-fees-charges/rates-fees-charges-1">www.longreach.qld.gov.au/rates-fees-charges/rates-fees-charges-1</a>	Amount	Other comments
Cleaner (12 hours - to comply with Covid regulations)	\$ 666	rates obtained Anne Lines LRC Isisford
Rubbish Truck (1 hr - parked at show Friday, collected Monday)	\$ 130	rates obtained Anne Lines LRC Isisford
Water Truck (1½ hours)	\$ 354	rates obtained Anne Lines LRC Isisford
	\$	
	\$	
	\$	
	\$	



**ELIGIBILITY ASSESSMENT**

Explain how your event demonstrates strong community or individual benefit, or need of support.

The show attracts locals and visitors from across the region with some Ram Studs travelling from NSW to exhibit their rams to support our show. It provides an opportunity for locals to show off their individual hobbies such as sewing, patchwork, photography, art, metal work, woodwork etc and demonstrate their skills in horsemanship and dog handling. It also enables local producers to showcase their wool, sheep, goats and cattle. It gives competitors a pride of place in being able to exhibit all these skills within their own sector of the Longreach region. It also gives showgoers a reason to have a day out, relaxing and sharing their knowledge and skills and catching up with neighbours and friends.

Explain how your event will contribute to the Longreach Regional Council community ( eg Economic Development, Tourism, Liveability, wellbeing etc.)

The show committee works as a team with the local community to bring them together to provide a safe & friendly environment in which both locals & visitors can relax & enjoy a day out. We endeavour to promote not only our area but the greater Longreach region by educating show goers in our district's agricultural industry through displays of wool, sheep, goats & cattle. Demonstrations are given for mechanical & blade shearing, butchering & through competitions of sheep dog & horse handling. Our arts & craft pavilion showcases the skills & talents our community members have & the photographic competition gives visitors a look into our unique & scenic locations. All age groups are catered for through competitions & activities throughout the day. We hope that visitors will depart having a better understanding of what drives our community & economy now & into the future.

Is your event based within the Longreach Regional Council Area

Yes  No

How many people are expected to attend? (Please indicate)

0-50  51-100  100-200  200 and over

Provide a brief explanation of what type of attendants your event will attract (eg visitors from other towns, key community groups)

This year the town of Isisford will be celebrating its 150th year therefore we are expecting a larger crowd than usual consisting not only of visitors from most of the central western towns as well as tourists passing through or camping in the surrounding area but also one-time local residents returning to celebrate. We are also expecting agricultural advisory groups and agricultural businesses displaying their wares (farm vehicles, ram breeders, wool agents, agricultural agents) plant nurseries, fashion vendors, arts & craft product vendors as well as services such as Health dealing in mental health, men & women's health, diet etc.

How do you intend to acknowledge Council's support (if approved) at the event or within the project or activity?

Longreach Regional Council will be acknowledged:

- on advertising literature promoting the show
- on a power point presentation viewed over a TV screen which runs throughout the show in the dining area
- on our Major Sponsor's page in our show schedule
- on the Show's Facebook page
- Council's logo on the sponsor's page of the Show's web site
- on prize winner's envelopes acknowledged as sponsored by Longreach Regional Council

Have you sought funding through other avenues for your project/activity (grants, corporate sponsorship, fundraising, etc)?

Yes:  No:

If YES, please provide details?

Funding received through a Show Society Grants Program.

Sponsorship is sort from a variety of businesses and organizations throughout Queensland.

### 13.4 - Community Donations - Isisford Sheep and Wool Show --Appendix 1



Does the applicant have any Longreach Regional Council funded projects or activities that have not been acquitted in accordance with the relevant Program Policy and Guidelines?

Yes  No

Does the applicant have any Longreach Regional Council funded projects or activities that have not been acquitted in accordance with the relevant Program Policy and Guidelines?

Yes  No

Does the Organisation/Applicant have any overdue debt with Council (excluding organisations with a payment arrangement)?

Yes  No

#### SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION CHECKLIST

- Evidence of the event or project (i.e quotes, facilities bookings, etc)\*
- Relevant public liability insurance (if required)
- Booking form/s completed (facility hire and equipment hire)
- A copy of the organisations most recent bank statement (for applications over \$1,000 only)

\*if groups are unable to provide evidence of the event or project due to the dependency of funding or extenuating circumstances, please indicate on the application form. Council may still consider the application based on supplied information (i.e budget).

#### DECLARATION BY RECIPIENT

- I certify that to the best of my knowledge, information detailed in this application (and relevant attachments) is true and correct.
- I understand I may be asked to provide the Council with additional information on the funded project.
- I consent to Longreach Regional Council publishing the applicants name in reports and publication statements.

<b>Signature:</b> Note: If you are under the age of 18, your legal guardian must also sign this application	
Date:	23.02.2024
Name in full:	Kaye Eleizabeth Albrand
Community Group/ Organisation:	Isisford Sheep & Wool Show Association Inc
Position in Group or Organisation: (if applicable)	Secretary

Privacy Collection Statement: Longreach Regional Council is committed to ensuring that your privacy is protected and will take all reasonable steps to ensure that all personal information is secure. Council is collecting your personal or community groups information for the purpose of assessing your application for Community Donations.

**SUBMIT**

## 13. COMMUNITIES REPORT

### 13.5 - Community Donations - Yaraka Gymkhana Association Inc

#### 13.5 Community Donations - Yaraka Gymkhana Association Inc

Consideration of a Community Donations application received in March in accordance with the Community Donations Policy No. 11.06.

#### Council Action

Partner  
Deliver

#### Applicable Legislation

Local Government Act 2009  
Local Government Regulation 2012

#### Policy Considerations

Community Donations Policy No. 11.06

#### Corporate and Operational Plan Considerations

OUR COMMUNITY	
Corporate Plan Outcome	
1.1	Council infrastructure and services support liveability and community amenity.
1.2	Council recognises cultural heritage and supports inclusion of all peoples.
1.3	The region's natural environment is managed, maintained and protected.

#### Budget Considerations

\$112,000.00 has been committed and allocated to Community Donations YTD.

Category	Total Budget	Budget Committed (not yet paid)	Budget Remaining	Budget required to meet Community Donations for March 2024	Budget remaining for future applications
Community Donations	\$112,000.00	\$0.00	\$49,772.47	\$24,321.00	\$25,451.47

#### Previous Council Resolutions related to this Matter

(Res-2023-02-001)

Moved Cr Bignell seconded Cr Hatch

That Council endorses the allocation of funds from the Community Donations Program as contained in the following table, in accordance with the Community Donations Policy No. 11.07;

<i>Yaraka Gymkhana Association Inc</i>	<i>Yaraka Horse and Bike Gymkhana</i>	<i>Financial \$5,000.00</i>	<i>Financial \$5,000.00</i>	<i>Nil</i>
		<i>Total \$5,000.00</i>	<i>Total \$5,000.00</i>	

### 13. COMMUNITIES REPORT

#### 13.5 - Community Donations - Yaraka Gymkhana Association Inc

TOTAL \$5,000.00	TOTAL \$5,000.00
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#### Officer Comment

**Responsible Officer:** Abby Lewis, Customer Service Coordinator

**Authorised by:** Karyn Stillwell, Director of Communities

#### Background:

Longreach Regional Council Community Donations program:

- Enhances the community’s resilience, wellbeing, sustainability and liveability
- Contributes to vibrant and engaged communities
- Provides community organisations with financial support to meet identified community need and provides benefit to the broader Longreach region communities
- Achieves Council’s strategic objectives, as identified in the Corporate Plan.

The aim of programme is to:

- Develop the capacity and sustainability of organisations or innovative programs to meet the needs of members and the community
- Support individuals representing the region by performing, competing or presenting at district, state, national or international competitions, conference or events.
- Support the acquisition or upgrading of facilities and equipment (excluding personal use items).
- Provide donations towards services that deliver improved community services to the Council region.
- Deliver programs and events to engage and entertain a vast variety of community members within the Longreach Regional Council Region.

Community Donations (financial and in-kind support) are offered each financial year. Each Community Group is eligible to apply for a maximum of \$5,000 per financial year. All applications will be assessed against eligibility and assessment criteria as stated in this Policy and the Program Guidelines.

#### Issue:

#### Yaraka Gymkhana Association Inc

Yaraka Horse and Bike Gymkhana Association Inc	
Has the Community group applied for funds in the past?	Yes
Has the Community Group applied for funds within the	No

### 13. COMMUNITIES REPORT

#### 13.5 - Community Donations - Yaraka Gymkhana Association Inc

<i>23/24 Financial Year?</i>	
<i>Does the Community Group have any outstanding acquittals?</i>	No
<i>Has the event/ project been previously funded by Council?</i>	Yes

The Yaraka Horse and Bike Gymkhana is an annual event that is held each year in July. The event takes place at Kiama Park in Yaraka over 2 days where 200+ competitors and spectators from across the Central West, Channel Country and other surrounding regions take part in the event. This year the Yaraka Horse and Bike Gymkhana will be held on the 29 and 30 June 2024. The event offers prizes for competitors, a live band for night time entertainment as well as a bar and auctions. The event attracts more and more people each year as they gain an insight into the skills of both horse and bike riders. The Yaraka Horse and Bike Gymkhana enjoy hosting large events like this as it puts Yaraka on the tourist map.

The total grant recommended of \$4,821.00 financial will go towards the cost of:

- Live Music;
- Queensland Ambulance Service;
- Grader Hire;
- Public Liability Insurance.

The application was reviewed by a panel and scored against the criteria of the Longreach Regional Council's Community Donations Assessment Guidelines. The result was to support the Yaraka Gymkhana Association to the value of 100%. All supporting documentation was supplied with their application.

#### **Appendices**

1. Yaraka Gymkhana Association [↓](#)

#### **Recommendation:**

*That Council approves the following allocation of funds from the Community Donations Program in accordance with the Community Donations Policy No. 11.06;*

<i>Organisation/ Name</i>	<i>Event/Activity</i>	<i>Grant Requested</i>	<i>Grant Approved</i>
<i>Yaraka Gymkhana Association</i>	<i>Yaraka Horse and Bike Gymkhana</i>	<i>Financial \$4,821.00</i>	<i>Financial \$4,821.00</i>
		<i>TOTAL \$4,821.00</i>	<i>TOTAL \$4,821.00</i>



# APPLICATION FORM

## CONTACT INFORMATION

Name: (Group or Organisation)	Yaraka Gymkhana Association Inc
ABN if applicable	11504989719
Contact Person's Name:	Kaye Albrand
Postal Address:	4546 Isisford Yaraka River Road, Isisford Q 4731
Telephone:	(07) 46 585 358
Mobile:	0400611095
Email:	wahroongha@bigpond.com

## EVENT DETAILS

Event Name:	Yaraka Horse & Bike Gymkhana
Event Date:	29th & 30th June 2024
Description of what Council funds will be used for:  No more than approx 200 words.	<p>Council funds will be used for:</p> <p>Queensland Ambulance Service attendance for the two days. Quote attached.</p> <p>Hire of the Longreach Regional Council's grader to grade the peg track. No quote supplied only invoice from last year which should be the same this year. \$275.48 per hour.</p> <p>Live music supplied by Longreach local artist. Quote attached.</p> <p>Public notice sign compulsory to display at the event. Quote attached.</p> <p>Cleaner to do cleaning at event for 3 days to comply with Covid requirements. Quote attached.</p> <p>Part Public Liability Insurance (we have credit to cover the rest of insurance created when gymkhana was cancelled in 2023 due to rain). Quote attached.</p>
Financial Amount Requested:	\$ 4821.00
In-kind Support Requested:	\$ 0





**DETAILED BUDGET BREAKDOWN**

INCOME List any source of income supply i.e other sponsorship, ticket sales, cash contributions, etc.	Amount	EXPENSES List any expenses incurred by your organisation for the project or event the application relates to.	Amount	Tick what is being funded by Council
Sponsorship	\$ 1000	Queensland Ambulance Service	\$ 2549	✓
Nominations (estimate)	\$ 3500	Cleaner	\$ 632	✓
Auction/raffle/stall at event (estimate)	\$ 4000	Live Music	\$ 700	✓
Bar at event (estimate)	\$ 4500	Hlre of Grader	\$ 550	✓
	\$	Public Liability Insurance \$335 + Sign \$55	\$ 390	✓
	\$	Other Expenses	\$ 9526	
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$ 13000</b>	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$ 14347</b>	
Comments or other details:  2023 Gymkhana cancelled due to rain so no donations were given to charities which is the main aim of the gymkhana. \$4449.04 of last year's LRC Community Grant was returned to council unused. \$550.96 was claimed for the grading of the peg track as this work had already been carried out.				

In-Kind support component List items and \$ amounts (e.g stage, chairs, tables) Please refer to the fees and charges: <a href="http://www.longreach.qld.gov.au/rates-fees-charges/rates-fees-charges-1">www.longreach.qld.gov.au/rates-fees-charges/rates-fees-charges-1</a>	Amount	Other comments
	\$	
	\$	
	\$	
	\$	
	\$	
	\$	
	\$	
	\$	



**ELIGIBILITY ASSESSMENT**

Explain how your event demonstrates strong community or individual benefit, or need of support.

The running of the Gymkhana involves all community members coming together to plan & work to make a successful fund-raising event. Working bees are well attended where people catch up with each other, share knowledge and problems both with property management as well as health and wellbeing issues. Small donations are given to local non-profit organizations from proceeds from the weekend with a larger percentage donated to the Royal Flying Doctors Service which is the community's one & only medical providers. The idea of giving back something to such a needy cause tends to bring a community together.

Explain how your event will contribute to the Longreach Regional Council community ( eg Economic Development, Tourism, Liveability, wellbeing etc.)

The small, vibrant Yaraka community work together to host this much loved family event attracting competitors from across the western region as well as tourists who find the friendly atmosphere a welcoming experience while gaining an insight into the skills of both horse & bike riders. The team penning in particular shows how teamwork combined with horsemanship can produce a successful result. The Yaraka Gymkhana goes a long way in putting Yaraka on the tourist map. Where possible all supplies are sourced within the Longreach region. There are strict safety rules which are enforced & also recycling collection points in place to lessen the waste dumped from this kind of event.

Is your event based within the Longreach Regional Council Area

Yes  No

How many people are expected to attend? (Please indicate)

0-50  51-100  100-200  200 and over

Provide a brief explanation of what type of attendants your event will attract (eg visitors from other towns, key community groups)

The Gymkhana attracts 200+ competitors & spectators from across the central west, channel country & other parts of the state & for some it is a once a year get together. It also attracts tourists eager to learn about skills & teamwork involved in these horse & motorbike handling events. Held in the school holidays it provides a meeting place for isolated families with boarding school & DE kids to get together, compete, camp out & socialize in a friendly & relaxed environment.

How do you intend to acknowledge Council's support (if approved) at the event or within the project or activity?

LRC will be acknowledged on all advertising material (newspaper, flyer, program). As a major sponsor they will have an event named after them. Longreach Regional Council will be acknowledged throughout the day of the Gymkhana over the PA system as well as on a poster displayed in our canteen area.

Have you sought funding through other avenues for your project/activity (grants, corporate sponsorship, fundraising, etc)?

Yes:  No:

If YES, please provide details?

Sponsorship



Does the applicant have any Longreach Regional Council funded projects or activities that have not been acquitted in accordance with the relevant Program Policy and Guidelines?

Yes  No

Does the applicant have any Longreach Regional Council funded projects or activities that have not been acquitted in accordance with the relevant Program Policy and Guidelines?

Yes  No

Does the Organisation/Applicant have any overdue debt with Council (excluding organisations with a payment arrangement)?

Yes  No

### SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION CHECKLIST

- Evidence of the event or project (i.e quotes, facilities bookings, etc)\*
- Relevant public liability insurance (if required)
- Booking form/s completed (facility hire and equipment hire)
- A copy of the organisations most recent bank statement (for applications over \$1,000 only)

\*if groups are unable to provide evidence of the event or project due to the dependency of funding or extenuating circumstances, please indicate on the application form. Council may still consider the application based on supplied information (i.e budget).

### DECLARATION BY RECIPIENT

- I certify that to the best of my knowledge, information detailed in this application (and relevant attachments) is true and correct.
- I understand I may be asked to provide the Council with additional information on the funded project.
- I consent to Longreach Regional Council publishing the applicants name in reports and publication statements.

Signature: Note: If you are under the age of 18, your legal guardian must also sign this application	
Date:	5.02.2024
Name in full:	Kaye Elizabeth Albrand
Community Group/ Organisation:	Yaraka Gymkhana Association Inc
Position in Group or Organisation: (if applicable)	Secretary

Privacy Collection Statement: Longreach Regional Council is committed to ensuring that your privacy is protected and will take all reasonable steps to ensure that all personal information is secure. Council is collecting your personal or community groups information for the purpose of assessing your application for Community Donations.

**SUBMIT**

## 13. COMMUNITIES REPORT

### 13.6 - Community Donations - Yaraka Sports and Progress Association

#### 13.6 Community Donations - Yaraka Sports and Progress Association

Consideration of a Community Donations application received in March in accordance with the Community Donations Policy No. 11.06.

#### Council Action

Partner  
Deliver

#### Applicable Legislation

Local Government Act 2009  
Local Government Regulation 2012

#### Policy Considerations

Community Donations Policy No. 11.06

#### Corporate and Operational Plan Considerations

OUR COMMUNITY	
Corporate Plan Outcome	
1.1	Council infrastructure and services support liveability and community amenity.
1.2	Council recognises cultural heritage and supports inclusion of all peoples.
1.3	The region's natural environment is managed, maintained and protected.

#### Budget Considerations

\$112,000.00 has been committed and allocated to Community Donations YTD.

Category	Total Budget	Budget Committed (not yet paid)	Budget Remaining	Budget required to meet Community Donations for March 2024	Budget remaining for future applications
Community Donations	\$112,000.00	\$0.00	\$49,772.47	\$24,321.00	\$25,451.47

#### Previous Council Resolutions related to this Matter

(Res-2023-08-227)

Moved Cr Hatch seconded Cr Paterson

That Council endorses the following allocation of funds from the Community Donations Program in accordance with the Community Donations Policy No. 11.06;

Yaraka Sports and Progress Association Inc	Melbourne Cup Luncheon	Financial \$2,240.00	Financial \$2,240.00
		TOTAL \$2,240.00	TOTAL \$2,240.00

### 13. COMMUNITIES REPORT

#### 13.6 - Community Donations - Yaraka Sports and Progress Association

##### Officer Comment

**Responsible Officer:** Abby Lewis, Customer Service Coordinator

**Authorised by:** Karyn Stillwell, Director of Communities

##### Background:

Longreach Regional Council Community Donations program:

- Enhances the community's resilience, wellbeing, sustainability and liveability
- Contributes to vibrant and engaged communities
- Provides community organisations with financial support to meet identified community need and provides benefit to the broader Longreach region communities
- Achieves Council's strategic objectives, as identified in the Corporate Plan.

The aim of programme is to:

- Develop the capacity and sustainability of organisations or innovative programs to meet the needs of members and the community
- Support individuals representing the region by performing, competing or presenting at district, state, national or international competitions, conference or events.
- Support the acquisition or upgrading of facilities and equipment (excluding personal use items).
- Provide donations towards services that deliver improved community services to the Council region.
- Deliver programs and events to engage and entertain a vast variety of community members within the Longreach Regional Council Region.

Community Donations (financial and in-kind support) are offered each financial year. Each Community Group is eligible to apply for a maximum of \$5,000 per financial year. All applications will be assessed against eligibility and assessment criteria as stated in this Policy and the Program Guidelines.

##### Issue:

##### Yaraka Sports and Progress Association

Restoration of Old Photos	
<i>Has the Community group applied for funds in the past?</i>	Yes
<i>Has the Community Group applied for funds within the 23/24 Financial Year?</i>	Yes

### 13. COMMUNITIES REPORT

#### 13.6 - Community Donations - Yaraka Sports and Progress Association

<i>Does the Community Group have any outstanding acquittals?</i>	<i>No</i>
<i>Has the event/ project been previously funded by Council?</i>	<i>No</i>

The Yaraka Sports and Progress Association are seeking funds to restore old black and white photos that will be displayed in the Yaraka Hall. Currently there are some photos hanging in the back of the Yaraka Hall for locals and visitors to enjoy. There are still more photos that need to be restored to be placed with the rest of them.

Funds are also needed for a plaque to be assembled at the old boarding house where drovers and contractors 'sat out' in summer when stock work was quiet. The boarding house sits on the outskirts of Yaraka. A plaque would be ideal to be placed at this location to tell the story of the boarding house so locals and visitors can understand the history of our Region.

The total grant recommended of \$2,800.00 financial will go towards the cost of:

- Restoration of old photos
- Plaque for the Boarding House

The application was reviewed by a panel and scored against the criteria of the Longreach Regional Council's Community Donations Assessment Guidelines. The result was to support the Yaraka Sports and Progress Association to the value of 100%. All supporting documentation was supplied with their application.

**Recommendation:**

*That Council approves the following allocation of funds from the Community Donations Program in accordance with the Community Donations Policy No. 11.06;*

<i>Organisation/ Name</i>	<i>Event/Activity</i>	<i>Grant Requested</i>	<i>Grant Approved</i>
<i>Yaraka Sports and Progress Association</i>	<i>Restoration of Old Photos</i>	<i>Financial \$2,800.00</i>	<i>Financial \$2,800.00</i>
		<i>TOTAL \$2,800.00</i>	<i>TOTAL \$2,800.00</i>

**13. COMMUNITIES REPORT**  
**13.7 - Information Report - Community Services**

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**13.7 Information Report - Community Services**

This report provides an update on the range of activities that have occurred during the month of February for the Community Services Department.

**Council Action**

Deliver

**Applicable Legislation**

Local Government Act 2009

Local Government Regulation 2012

**Policy Considerations**

n/a

**Corporate and Operational Plan Considerations**

OUR COMMUNITY	
	Corporate Plan Outcome
1.1	Council infrastructure and services support liveability and community amenity.
1.2	Council recognises cultural heritage and supports inclusion of all peoples.
1.3	The region's natural environment is managed, maintained and protected.

OUR LEADERSHIP	
	Corporate Plan Outcome
5.2	Informed and considered decision making based on effective governance practices

**Budget Considerations**

As per approved 2023/24 budget

**Previous Council Resolutions related to this Matter**

Nil

**Officer Comment**

**Responsible Officer/s:** *Community Services Officers*

**Background:**

Officers are requested to provide an information update to Council on a monthly basis to outline achievements, challenges and statistical information for the various functional areas in Council.

**13. COMMUNITIES REPORT**  
**13.7 - Information Report - Community Services**

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**Library Services**

As of February 2024, the Library has increased its opening hours and is now open from 9am to 5pm, with closure from 1 – 2pm for staff lunch break. This has resulted in an increase of locals and visitors alike, and staff have received many positive comments. The library is always busy on a Saturday morning as residents come into town and First 5 continues to have high patronage. The library has always been a first port of call for our community, especially for those new families to the region who come together and meet new people.

There were several meetings held in the Library meeting room during February which was great to see not only internal staff use the room, but also external organisations and regulars such as the Handycraft group every Thursday morning. Moving forward we aim to hold more meetings and utilise the space more often as it is a great facility.

**Library Statistics (YTD)**

	Longreach		Ilfracombe		Isisford	
	February	YTD	February	YTD	February	YTD
Loans	410	3,339	14	158	2	186
New Members	18	80	0	2	0	0

**Swimming Pools**

Below are the pool usage statistics for February – note that due to timing of this month’s report the Longreach Pool statistics and February overview will be provided in next month’s report.

	Longreach		Ilfracombe		Isisford		Yaraka	
	Feb	YTD	Feb	YTD	Feb	YTD	Feb	YTD
<b>Adults</b>		6098	88	2646	54	242	5	75
<b>Children</b>		7145	54	1001	25	163	6	72

**Childcare Services**

**Spotlight on February**

- Our 2024 bookings are still fluctuating on a daily basis with requests for booking changes and additional casual days occurring almost daily. Our ability to cater for these booking changes and casual days is limited due to our current staffing situation as we recruit for additional Educators. We are also still awaiting approval for our increased licenced capacity application which will allow us more flexibility when it comes to our bookings as some days, we are pushing the 100 children limit



## **13. COMMUNITIES REPORT**

### **13.7 - Information Report - Community Services**

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and this is preventing us from taking additional children. We are hopeful this won't be for too much longer.

- Additionally, we are still awaiting approval for our Additional Educator funding through Inclusion Support for a child with a diagnosed disability. Once approved, we will be able to appoint an Educator for the purpose of being able to further support this child in our care environment.
- The application for our major CCCF funding is well underway after the round was released this month. This funding opportunity is our primary funding source, offering a maximum of \$200,000 per year for two years in a Sustainability grant and a maximum of \$150,000 per year over two years for a Capital grant (with a portion of Council contribution). Our service relies heavily on this funding and a quick 4-week turnaround for the application to be submitted has meant that several internal stakeholders within LRC have assisted with data to inform the application, requiring a big team effort.
- The year has been off to a wonderful start and all Educators are providing engaging and inviting experiences for the children in their rooms. We've had some positive feedback from our families as well as some constructive feedback that our team has been able to reflect upon to improve our practices. Our continuous improvement is important to us and we are constantly striving to ensure our children, families and Educators are happy to attend our Service.
- Our new Childcare Centre website is under construction and will be going live in March. It has been a big process but will be wonderful to have this as an avenue for people living away who are potentially moving to Longreach to access our Service information and get a feel for what we do and what we offer.

### **Horticulture and Community Facilities**

#### **Tree Trimming Requests**

In response to the escalating demand for tree trimming and removal services, the Council is proactively addressing the surge in requests by introducing a streamlined system. The growing number of inquiries underscores the community's awareness of the importance of proper tree maintenance and the Council's commitment to ensuring the safety and aesthetics of our green spaces.

The new process involves a formal request to Council (using a customised form) which aims to enhance efficiency in handling requests, enabling a more organized and prompt response to citizen concerns. By implementing this strategic approach, the Council seeks to optimize resource allocation, minimize response times, and foster a more transparent and accessible avenue for residents to address their tree-related needs.

#### **Asset Management System**

The Facilities Team has fully embraced the recent adoption and implementation of Council's new asset management system (Pinnacle). This cutting-edge system represents a significant leap forward in our ability to effectively manage and maintain the

### 13. COMMUNITIES REPORT

#### 13.7 - Information Report - Community Services

myriad assets under our management. This marks a significant milestone in our ongoing efforts to elevate the standard of facility management and underscores our commitment to operational excellence.

The transition to this advanced technology is a strategic move aimed at enhancing operational efficiency and optimizing resource allocation. By centralizing asset data and streamlining maintenance processes, the team is poised to achieve a higher level of precision in tracking the lifecycle of our facilities, equipment, and infrastructure.

#### Facility Usage

The following community facilities were utilised in February –

Longreach Showgrounds	Heart Bus Australia, Senior Rugby League, Junior & Senior Cricket, Fitness Group, LSODE footy clinic, Stabling of horses
Longreach Civic Centre	Local Government Electoral Commission, Youth Council Retreat
Isisford Hall	Church Service
Ilfracombe Rec Centre	Open to community during Power Outages, Craft Ladies, Darts group

#### Water Tower Lights

The water tower lights were lit up in specific colours for the following occasions –

4-10 February	Feeding Tube Awareness Week	Purple
14 February	Valentine's Day	Red

#### Funeral Services

<b>Longreach Cemetery Funeral Figures Feb 2024</b>	
<b>Funeral Type</b>	
<i>Church &amp; Graveside Funeral</i>	
<i>Church Service Only</i>	
<i>Graveside Funeral</i>	2
<i>LRC Graveside Set up ONLY</i>	
<i>Memorial Service</i>	
<i>Cremation</i>	1
<i>Internment of Ashes -Private Family</i>	
<i>Plaques arranged by LRC</i>	1
<i>Undertakers Services Only</i>	

## **13. COMMUNITIES REPORT**

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#### **Communications Activity – Statistics for February 2023**

##### **Website:**

- 7,772 sessions (7,379 in January)
- 16,675 page views (14,203 in January)
- After the Home landing page, the most popular pages are
  - Current-vacancies
  - 'Whats', 'Whats on' (Events pages)
  - Roads
  - Elections
  - Elected Members
- Most people have found the website through an organic search, such as Google
- 62% of people use desktop as a device, followed by 36% mobile devices
- See attachments for the data

##### **Facebook (see attachments for latest data):**

- 3,862 followers (3,800 followers in January), 67,4% of our followers are women
- 25 posts in total between 1-28 February 2024
- Post topics – Main ones were Youth Retreat, Rates, upcoming events and newbie packets

##### **ILLY:**

In February we have distributed ILLY to 2,320 households in the region. For the next edition in March the focus will be on our Youth with an introduction of the Youth Councillors and a recap of the Youth Leadership Retreat facilitated by Will and Bonnie. Moreover, we will talk about the upcoming Community Forums and some infrastructure projects for the region next to our monthly reoccurring parts like minutes in a minute, upcoming events and the Mayor's Column which will Brett's Briefing one last time before we have an elected Council again.

#### **Community Development**

##### **Youth Leadership Retreat (Feb 17 – 18)**

The Youth Leadership Retreat with facilitator Wil Massara, (founder of Youth Leadership Academy), and his colleague Bonnie were a huge success. We had 12 kids participating in the program with 3 travelling each day from Winton to Longreach. The youth started on Saturday morning with no expectations but over the weekend they worked on a variety of topics. They defined leadership and what self and service leadership looks like. Communication and how to talk to peers but also with the community was a big topic.

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They worked in groups on projects they would like to see coming to live in their communities and already working on solutions how they can be achieved. A variety of games and activities tested the attendee's patient, frustration levels, and other skills they have talked/learned about, but overall they helped each of them grow. At the end of the weekend, the facilitators were friends, the room was covered in post-it notes and everybody had pushed themselves out of their comfort zone gaining confidence, knowledge and experience.

Everybody filled out a feedback form at the end and each and all would recommend the program to other students and schools. They all feel more adequately prepared to lead and through the explored concepts were relevant to their life's. Will and Bonnie would love to come back to facilitate a Youth Summit in Longreach working with surrounding Councils in the area to give more students a chance to grow but also to meet other youth from the region to share experiences.

Please see the results from the Feedback form attached.



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#### **Youth Leadership Retreat (Feb 17 – 18)**

##### **Grant Application: Active women and girls**

Through the Queensland Government we applied for a \$25,000 grant through the Active Women and Girls Program. Our aim to deliver a 3-month program targeting High School students and young females focusing on the following components – fitness, self-defence, nutrition and well-being. We should know the outcome of this application in the coming months.

##### **Community Forums**

This year's Community Forums will be held on the following dates:

- Sat April 27th – Longreach and Ilfracombe
- Tues April 30th – Isisford and Yaraka

This year we are going to try a different format in our goal to reach as many of our community members and visitors as possible in 2024. The format of the events will focus on initiating conversations (World Café style) and feedback on a number of focus areas for Council, including Children & Youth, Business and Tourism, Arts, Culture and Recreation, and Infrastructure (Roads, water & Waste). We will also have a separate area at each forum to show people how to log a Customer Service Request through our existing channels. Further details to follow in the next ILLY newsletter, Council website and Facebook.

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**Upcoming events March 2024 (longreach.qld.gov.au/events)**

<b>March 2024</b>			
Friday 1 March 8.30 – 12.00	Repurposing used service uniforms	Edgley Hall	Everybody welcome, repurposing service uniforms to turn into clothes for disadvantaged children.
Sunday 3 March 8.00 – 12.00	Clean-up Australia Day	Apex Park	Not-for-profit groups can participate in the “Battle of Trash”.
Friday 8 March 9.00 – 13.00	International Women’s Day	Qantas Park	Celebrating the Women in our region with a cuppa, chat and some craft.
Friday 8 March 10.00 – 11.00	International Women’s Day	Whitman’s Cafe	Celebrating the Women in our region with a morning tea and a cuppa.
Wednesday 13 March 8.00 – 16.00	Western QLD Grazing – Studies & Solutions for the future	RM Williams Cottage, Australian Stockman’s Hall of Fame	Register via <a href="http://www.trybooking.com/CPHAST">www.trybooking.com/CPHAST</a>
Thursday 14 March All day	Financial information service and aged care specialist visit	Centrelink building, 96 Galah Street Longreach	Only via appointment 1800227475
Friday 16 March – 22 September Daily	Yayoi Kusama’s: The spirits of the pumpkin descended into the heavens – Exhibition	Qantas Founders Museum	Free entry to exhibition
Tuesday 19 March 9.30 – 16.30	Responding well to people with ‘Challenging Behaviour’ and its messages	Birdcage Hotel	\$50 for people with a disability and family members, \$150 for workers and professionals. Tracey Foley P: 0738442211 M: <a href="mailto:tracey.foley@cru.org.au">tracey.foley@cru.org.au</a>
Friday 22 March 13.00 – 22.00	Fleece Forward Forum	The Drovers Place, Australian Stockman’s Hall of Fame	Prices vary depending part attending. Millie Sheales P: 0428 102 841 M: <a href="mailto:millie.sheales@daf.qld.gov.au">millie.sheales@daf.qld.gov.au</a>
Saturday 23 March 8.00 – 11.00	Easter	Edkins Park	Morning for the whole family with Easter bunny, craft, entertainment and lots more.

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#### **Project Management Update**

The latest exciting addition to recreational facilities in Longreach is the installation of a new shade structure, picnic table and drinking fountain at Beersheba Place. The shelter is located at the gathering point for the increasingly popular Old Thomson River Road parkrun. Parkrun occurs every Saturday at 7am for a fun 5km community event. Big thanks to Council's dedicated Project Manager Joel Perry for his dedication and tenacity at getting projects delivered for our Community.



**Beersheba Place**

See attachments for an overview on all projects and dashboards for large projects of:

- Longreach Squash Court Upgrade
- Ilfracombe Multi-Purpose Court
- Apex Park Beautification
- Eagle and Swan Street Beautification

#### **After Hours Message Centre - February 2024**

<b>Incoming Calls Received</b>	<b>No. of Hang Ups</b>	<b>Total</b>
23	78	101

During the month of February 2024 there were 23 after hours' calls received. The calls were related to the following sections of Council:

<b>Category</b>	<b>Number Of Calls</b>
Water and Sewerage	3
Rural Lands	1
Local Laws/Animal Management	6
Facilities	3
Tourism/VIC	5

### 13. COMMUNITIES REPORT

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Roads	1
Other	4

#### Customer Requests

A total of **151 Customer Service Requests** were received for the month of February 2024. Of these requests **111 were completed** within the same month.

Completed	Progress	Outstanding	Total
111	20	20	151



#### Tourism Update

During February Longreach Region attended the Moreton Bay Expo 2024. Although Friday ended up being a washout by lunch time staff still managed to see 1117 people through our stand over the 2 days. This number is up 257 visitors more than 2023. Outback Qld Tourism Association (OQTA) launched the 2024 Outback Season in a new format. Outback operators and regions were given the opportunity to present at Tourism and Events Qld (TEQ) headquarters. This was a great opportunity for Council to present region updates to the rest of our Outback neighbours but more importantly, allowed face to face presentation's to the TEQ CEO and key TEQ marketing staff. Longreach Region was one of the 23 operators that gave a 3 minute presentation at this event.

Following this session OQTA launched their 2024 season and the Outback Queensland Travellers Guide to Outback operators and Media. This was an opportunity to forge relationships with media personnel for potential media famils direct. The Outback Travellers guide is highly anticipated for its cover photo, this year features a photograph of two brolgas dancing between Ilfracombe and Longreach taken by Roxanne Weston from Windorah.

The Longreach Region Visitor Guide went to print and is now being distributed to Explore Centres throughout Queensland and Northern NSW. This year's visitor guide follows the theme of celebrating the individuals who make our region what it is. It highlights the characters behind the experiences that shape our region. There have been major changes to the style and layout and has received positive reactions from readers so far. The



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Powerhouse Museum has had its pre-season clean ready for opening in March. The Longreach Region Explore Centre is looking forward to a great season ahead.

**Longreach Region Explore Centre Visitor Statistics February 2024**

<b>Dec 2023</b>	<b>Jan 2024</b>	<b>Feb 2024</b>	<b>2023/2024 YTD</b>	<b>2022/2023 total</b>
152	151	169	13,320	21,948

Bookings made by information centre staff on behalf of Operators for the month of February were to the value of \$11,711.00

<b>Information Requests 2023-2024</b>	<b>February 2024</b>	<b>2023 -2024 YTD</b>
Phone calls	85	662
Emails	24	300
General Information over the Counter	169	11409
Information packs posted	36	188
Phone Bookings	21	133
Over the Counter Bookings	0	1714

**Longreach Powerhouse and Historical Museum** Statistics (financial year) 2023-24:

<b>Dec 2023</b>	<b>Jan 2023</b>	<b>Feb 2024</b>	<b>2023/2024 YTD</b>	<b>2022/2023 total</b>
24	Closed	Closed	3143	4205

**Longreach Regional Council Approved Camping Areas (financial year) 2023-2024:**

<b>Location</b>	<b>Dec/Jan 2023/24 Vans</b>	<b>Feb 2024 Vans</b>	<b>2023 -2024 YTD Vans</b>
Apex Park	27	6	4595
Emergency Camping Passes	0	0	80
Barcoo Weir/Oma Waterhole	0	1	1857
Isisford Emergency Passes	0	0	82
Yaraka	0	0	363








**Experience Longreach Website** had 4,400 page views for the month of February 2024

**Social Media Report**

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While Facebook reach is down from January, February 2024 has still packed a punch with the monthly organic reach averaging higher than other months over the last 12 months besides January. (Organic social media content is any free content shared on social media profiles including posts, videos, stories and more. This content can be seen by a portion of your followers, people who are following any hashtags you use and the followers of anyone who shares your post)

## Facebook Top Posts - February

Title	Date published <sup>11</sup>	Reach <sup>11</sup> ↓	Likes and reactions <sup>11</sup>	Comments <sup>11</sup>
 Embark on a journey through the heart of Australian ... — Experience Longreach Region	9 February 10:00	14.8K Reach	113 Reactions	3 Comments
 The Wellshot Hotel, where every pint comes with a si... — Experience Longreach Region	14 February 09:00	4.5K Reach	118 Reactions	9 Comments
  Soothe the mind, body and soul on the outbac... — Experience Longreach Region	1 March 11:00	2.5K Reach	46 Reactions	5 Comments
 Experience REAL Outback — Experience Longreach Region	23 February 17:38	2.4K Reach	24 Reactions	1 Comments
  Reel in the charm of Isisford with a visit to the Big ... — Experience Longreach Region	28 February 07:00	2.3K Reach	47 Reactions	1 Comments

## 13. COMMUNITIES REPORT






### 13.7 - Information Report - Community Services



January 2024 had the 3 top-performing organic posts in the last 12 months.

June 2023 had a reach of over 613K due to ads, with an organic reach of 20K.

## Instagram Top Posts - February

Title	Date published <sup>1</sup>	Reach <sup>2</sup> ↓	Likes and reactions <sup>3</sup>	Comments <sup>4</sup>
 Get real in #LongreachQueensland 🍷 Real character... experiencelongreach	23 February 06:00	556 Reach	40 Likes	0 Comments
 The Wellshot Hotel, where every pint comes with a st... experiencelongreach	14 February 09:00	497 Reach	60 Likes	0 Comments
 Reel in the charm of Isisford with a visit to the Big ... experiencelongreach	28 February 07:00	480 Reach	37 Likes	0 Comments
 Another day, another epic sunset on the Thomson 🌅 ... experiencelongreach	20 February 17:37	464 Reach	94 Likes	4 Comments
 Embark on a journey through the heart of Australian ... experiencelongreach	9 February 10:00	374 Reach	61 Likes	0 Comments

**13. COMMUNITIES REPORT**  
**13.7 - Information Report - Community Services**

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**Strategy and planning**

The Communities team are also working on a number of other initiatives and projects such as:

Walking Network Plan (grant funded)	In progress	Staff are working with CPR group to develop a walking network plan for Longreach. This work will be done in-conjunction with the Infrastructure team who are working on a grant application (for design work only) for a Cycling Network. Community engagement is part of the project.
Finalisation of facility concept plans	In progress	Isisford Racecourse Concept Plan – this has been worked on with user groups. The final version of the concept is being finalised and will come to Council for endorsement in April 2024. Actions/projects in the concept plan are subject to availability of future grant funding.
Ilfracombe Heritage Strategy	In progress	The basis of this project is to investigate how to optimise the heritage buildings/collections in Ilfracombe, and create improved visitor experiences. GBA Consulting Engineers have been engaged to do some significance assessment reports on the collections and provide strategic advice to Council on how to manage these assets. They will build on previous work that has been done to date. Grant applications are being sought to progress this work – a grant application has been submitted for an upgrade of the Machinery Mile public toilets.
Tree and Greening project	In progress	Actions resulting from the horticulture specialist’s report are being worked through and integrated into the relevant team’s work programme. Procurement for trees is underway, with additional funding being sought for these activities in FY 24/25
Reconciliation Action Plan	Not yet started - a budget bid is being prepared for additional funding in FY24/25	
Destination Management Plan (with Governance team)	Planning underway	
Community Engagement Policy	Planning underway – a budget bid is being prepared for additional funding in FY24/25	
Development of a Customer Experience Strategy	Planning underway – review of customer charter is underway	

**Risk Management Factors:**

This matter has been assessed using Council’s Risk Matrix to decide the likelihood and consequence of any risk to Council:

Likelihood: Rare

**13. COMMUNITIES REPORT**  
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Consequence: Insignificant

Rating: Low (1/25)

<<description>>

**Environmental Management Factors:**

Nil

**Other Comments:**

Nil

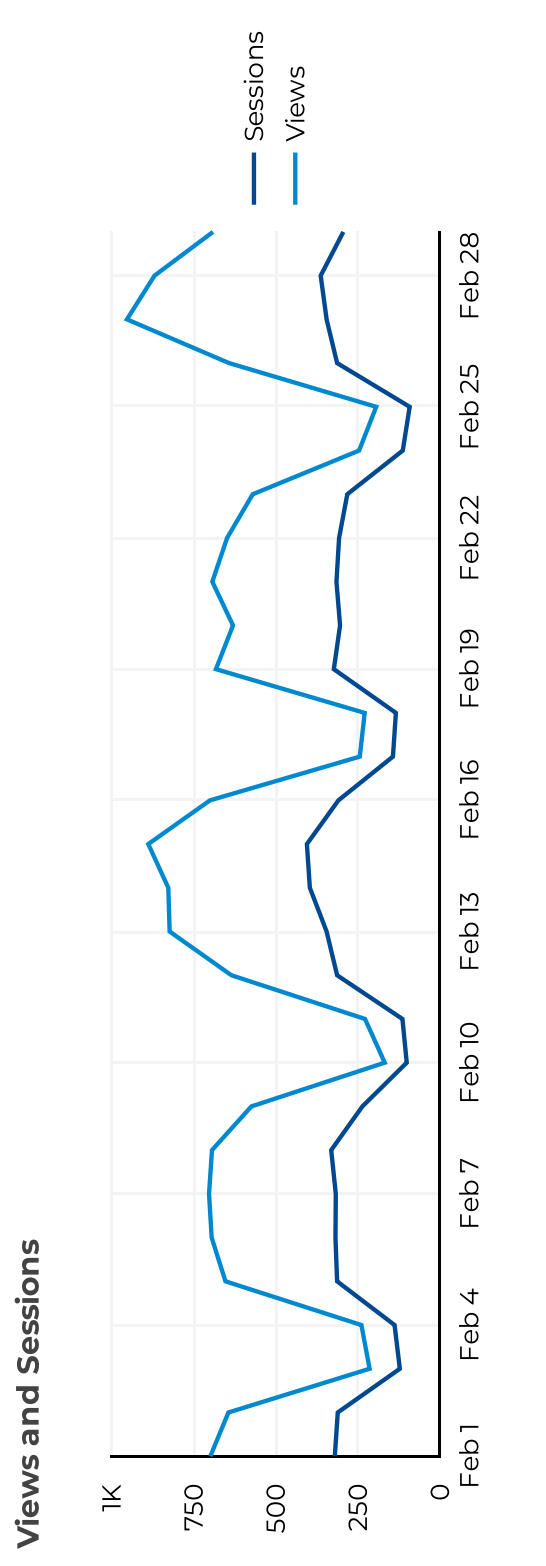
**Appendices**

1. Website Statistics February ↴
2. Facebook Followers February ↴
3. Facebook reach February ↴
4. Facebook visits February ↴
5. Youth retreat feedback forms February ↴
6. 23.24 Projects Dashboard ↴
7. 23.24 Main Projects Dashboard ↴

**Recommendation:**

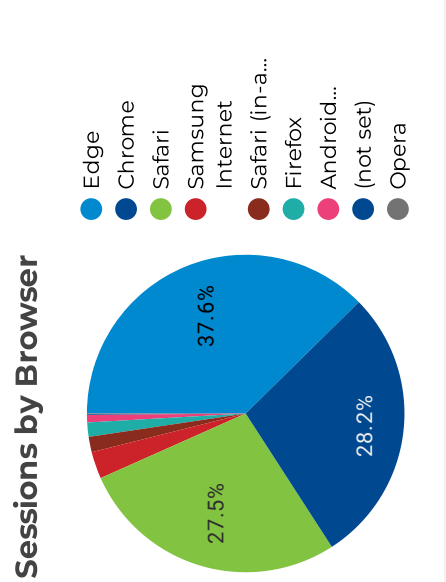
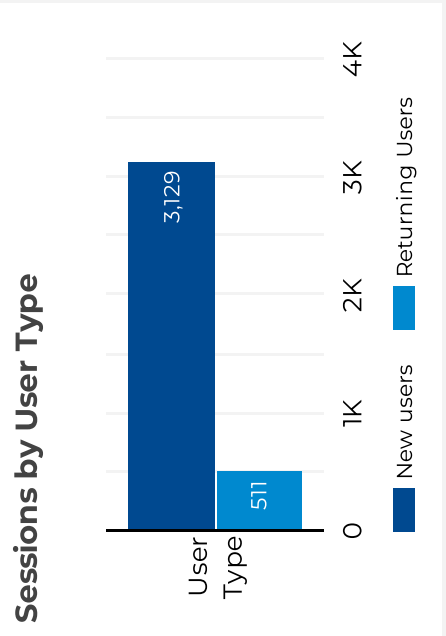
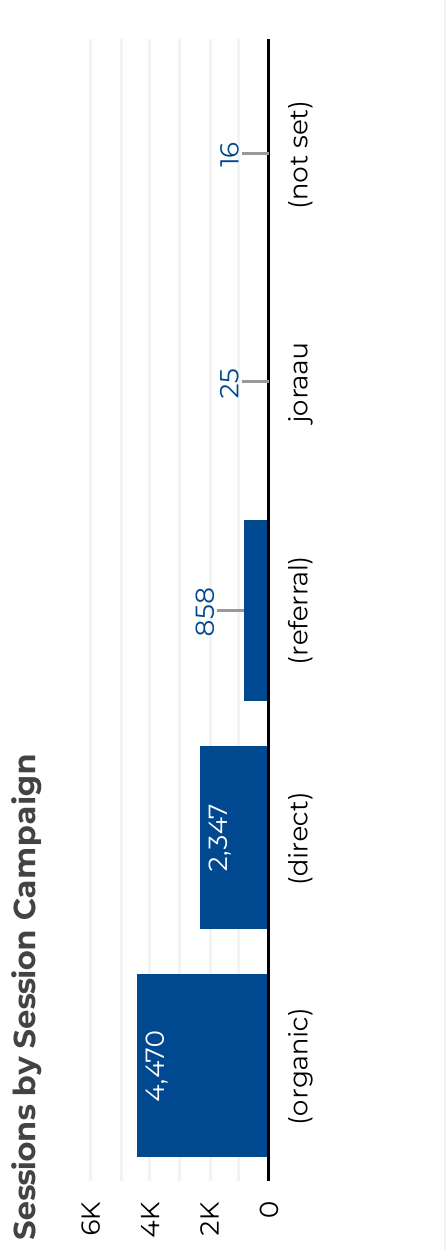
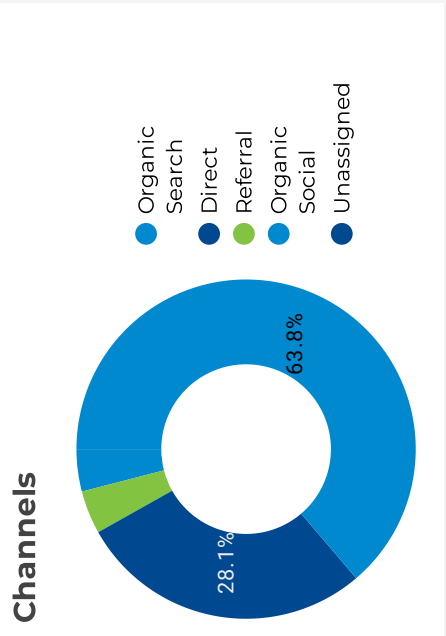
*That Council receives the Community Services Information Report for February 2024, as presented.*

Sessions	7,772
Views	16,675
Views / Session	2.15



### Top 10 Pages

Rank	Page path	Views
1.	/	6,647
2.	/current-vacancies	994
3.	/whats	869
4.	/careers	751
5.	/roads	431
6.	/elections	408
7.	/site-search/results/	374
8.	/elected-members	302
9.	/whats-on	292
10.	/council	201

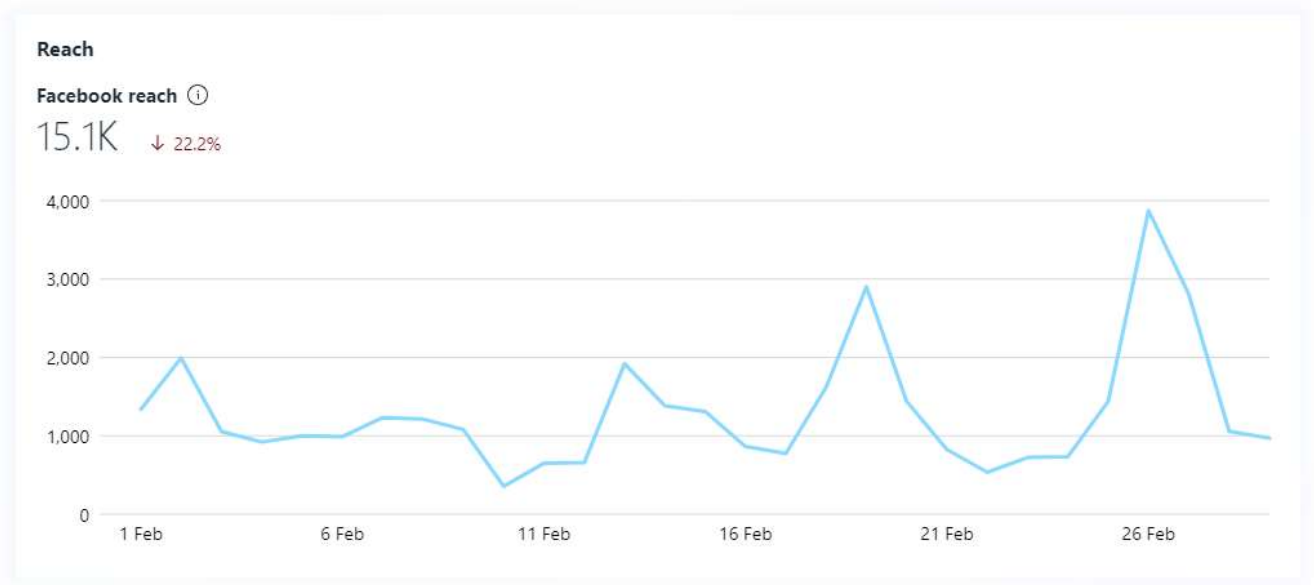


### Top 10 Referral Sources

Rank	Session source	Sessions	Views
1.	google	4,105	9,106
2.	(direct)	2,347	4,374
3.	galaxy.lgaq.digital	342	1,200
4.	bing	330	853
5.	m.facebook.com	105	151
6.	lrc.infoxpert.edrms	104	275
7.	lm.facebook.com	49	113
8.	experiencelongrea...	36	125
9.	jorrau	25	32
10.	barcaldinerc.qld.g...	23	26

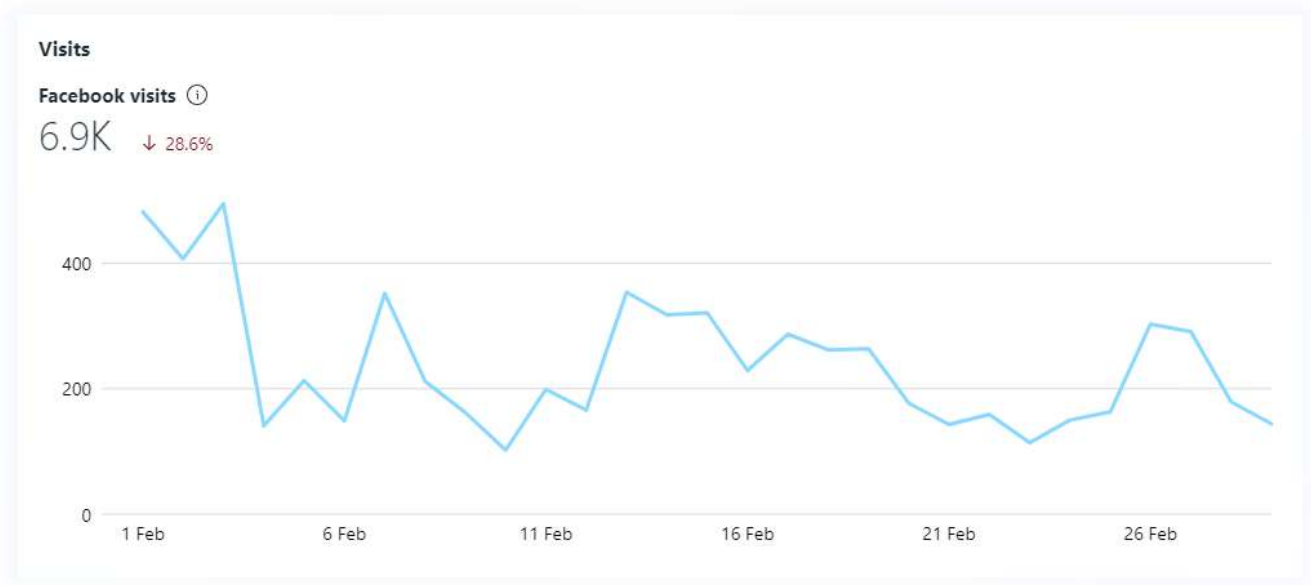


### 13.7 - Information Report - Community Services --Appendix 3





## 13.7 - Information Report - Community Services --Appendix 4





# Longreach Youth Retreat

Proudly Facilitated by Youth Leadership Academy Australia

I feel more adequately prepared to lead myself, my school and my community

Yes

100%

I felt the concepts explored today were relevant to my life.

Yes

100%

Il feel more connected with my peers after the program.

Yes

90.9%

I feel able to create a change within my school and community

Yes

90.9%

I would recommend this program to other students and schools.

Yes

100%

Overall how would you rate the program?



8.8/10

What was great about the program?

- I got to know my fellow youth councils.
- The people it help with breaking out of your comfort zone.
- This program was amazing, I would use this.
- Bringing people out of their comfort zone.

Favourite thing you learned?

- Learning how to communicate properly.
- How to overcome challenges in life.
- Dinosaur high-five.

How could this program be improved?

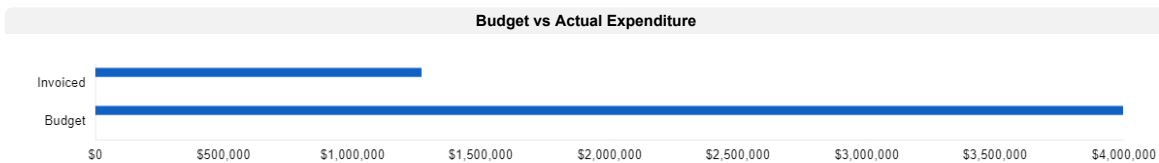
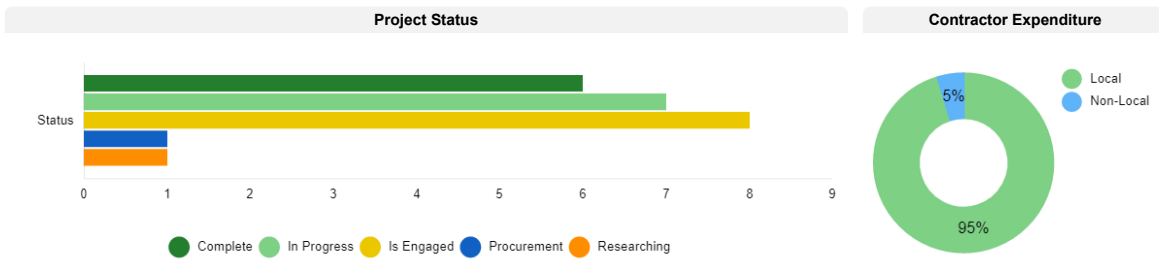
- Nothing, best program I have been in.
- The sitting on the laps on day one. It should've been on the second day.
- More people.

What is the one takeaway you will take forward from this program?

- That communication is key.
- Leadership, ownership, apology and communication.
- To look towards my goals.

## 13.7 - Information Report - Community Services --Appendix 6

23.24 Project Status - Council				
Project	Description	Progress	Status	Funded By
Longreach Executive House Construction	An additional house for Council executive staff.		Complete	Longreach Regional Council
Longreach Eagle Street Beautification - 22/23	Additional plant and refurb centre median in front of glasson house.		Complete	Local Roads and Community Infrastructure Program
Longreach Showground Electrical conduits	Relay conduits of east side of oval to compliant standards.		Complete	Longreach Regional Council
Longreach Powerhouse Museum Centenary Garden Beautification	Install a new sensory garden.		Complete	Local Roads and Community Infrastructure Program
Longreach Apex Park old tower disposal	Remove redundant water tower.		Complete	Local Roads and Community Infrastructure Program
Longreach VIC painting	Painting of the Longreach VIC.	Painting complete. New signage has been ordered.	Complete	Longreach Regional Council
Longreach Administration Building Air Con Replacement	New air-con units and ductwork for the Longreach Admin building.	Contractor engaged and materials being ordered. Work started in January on upgrading the ductwork to improve the airflow. Unit replacements are now scheduled to start March. Delay with manufacturer.	In Progress	Longreach Regional Council
Longreach SES New Flood Boat Shed	Install new powered 12m by 7m shed on SES block on Minor Road.	Electrical install scheduled to start in March 2024. Delay as neighboring shed was damaged in a storm and requires to be fixed to run power through. The insurance claim process is now approved.	In Progress	Longreach Regional Council SES Support Grant
Ilfacombe Multi-purpose court	Construct a new multi-purpose court in Ilfracombe next to the rec centre. Allow the existing rec centre facilities to be utilised more as the area becomes the sporting hub of Ilfracombe.	Concrete pad preparation now complete.	In Progress	Local Roads and Community Infrastructure Program
Longreach Beersheba Place - Shade Structure	Install 5x5m shade structure, drinking fountain and picnic table.	Structure completed. Plumbing issues identified to be resolved.	In Progress	Local Roads and Community Infrastructure Program
Longreach Apex Park fence upgrades	Upgrade fence with additional rails and fresh paint.	Existing fence in progress of being upgraded.	In Progress	Local Roads and Community Infrastructure Program
Longreach Apex Park bar bench & privacy screen	New bar bench underneath existing open shed frame facing the river.	Scheduled to be installed in March.	In Progress	Local Roads and Community Infrastructure Program
Longreach Bar and Canteen upgrade	Bring bar and canteen to modern compliance standards.	Exhaust fan and new oven/stove have been installed. Plumbing and electrical upgrades engaged to be completed prior to footy season.	In Progress	Local Roads and Community Infrastructure Program
Longreach - Civic Centre Shade	Replace damaged shade with a barrel vault fabric structure.	Contractor completed. Work to be completed this financial year.	Is Engaged	Longreach Regional Council
Longreach Squash Court Upgrade	Construct a new clubhouse area onto the existing facility and resurface squash courts walls.	Work to commence in mid-year.	Is Engaged	Longreach Regional Council Minor Infrastructure Program
Isisford OBIC Rat Wall	Install rat walls, additional downpipes and drainage to divert water away from building's foundations.	Worked scheduled to commence March. Delay due to weather. Communications with plumber and concreter have been ongoing.	Is Engaged	Local Roads and Community Infrastructure Program
Longreach Eagle Street Improve Swan/Eagle Street 23/24	Install a garden bed to replace the existing turning section between the Swan Street toilet and the Eagle Street roundabout. Beautify the existing toilet block with a mural.	Garden bed construction has been scoped. Fabrication in progress for the centre median shelter in front of Glasson House.	Is Engaged	Local Roads and Community Infrastructure Program
Longreach Apex Park - Install 2 new shade structures over existing chairs	Install 2 3x3m shade structures.	Structures ordered. Install scheduled in March/April.	Is Engaged	Local Roads and Community Infrastructure Program
Longreach Cemetery Plinth Repairs	Relay concrete sections that are cracking. New concrete will be in 2m slabs, designed to reduce risk of future cracking.	Contractor engaged.	Is Engaged	Longreach Regional Council
Longreach Childcare Fence Replacement	New external and internal fencing throughout childcare.	All work scheduled to be completed over multiple weekends, outside of opening times.	Is Engaged	Longreach Regional Council
Longreach Lioness Park Shade	Two shade structures fully covering main playground and swings.	To be completed by end of financial year.	Is Engaged	Longreach Regional Council
Longreach Council Chambers Upgrade	Upgrade existing room with modern IT infrastructure, more space and larger table.	Scope completed, contractors being engaged.	Procurement	Longreach Regional Council
Ilfacombe Post Office Relocation	Upgrade Ilfracombe Council building to incorporate postal services, visitor information, library council services and meeting rooms.	Design in progress regarding the fitout. Budget scoping in progress.	Researching	Longreach Regional Council
Longreach Disaster Centre Construction	Upgrade space behind the library to serve as the Disaster Coordination Centre and meeting space.	Scoping in progress.	Researching	Longreach Regional Council





Project: Longreach Squash Court Upgrade		Status	Engaged	1/3/24	
<b>Purpose:</b>	Construct a new clubhouse area onto the existing facility and resurface squash courts walls. This will ensure safe and cost-effective operation of the site, accommodate additional community level activities, increase participation and improve the quality of the participant experience.	<b>Recent Deliverables</b>	Meeting with Longreach squash was completed.	<b>Milestones, Tasks, Outcomes to deliver next period</b>	
<b>Project Team:</b>	Executive Sponsor: Karyn Stillwell Department Sponsor: Debbie Hall Project Manager: Joel Perry		Provide project update to Department Sponsor.	Provide project update to Department Sponsor.	
<b>Funding Source:</b>	Total current project budget is \$365,214, comprised of \$328,692 from the Department of Tourism, Innovation and Sport (Minor Infrastructure Program) and a further \$36,522 commitment from Council.				
<b>Key Stakeholders:</b>	Longreach residents and ratepayers, Longreach Regional Council and Longreach Squash.				
<b>Budget</b> <p>■ Total spend to date ■ Council Funding ■ Minor Infrastructure Program</p>		<b>Risks</b>	<b>Previous status</b>	<b>Current status</b>	<b>Status Description</b>
		Overall			Main focus awarding contract and confirming delivery timeframe for minimal disruption to squash playing seasons.
		Time			Work aimed to start early/mid 2024 which will disrupt playing season.
		Budget			Scope marginally over budget.
		Scope			Specifications and design with Architect has been completed.
		Communication			General updates provided to stakeholders on project progress.



<p><b>Project:</b> Ifracombe Multi-Purpose Court</p>		<p><b>Status:</b> In Progress</p>		<p>1/3/24</p>																								
<p><b>Purpose:</b> Construct a new multi-purpose court in Ifracombe next to the rec centre. Allow the existing rec centre facilities to be utilised more as the area becomes the sporting hub of Ifracombe.</p>		<p><b>Recent Deliverables</b></p> <p>Concrete slab preparation completed.</p>		<p><b>Milestones, Tasks, Outcomes to deliver next period</b></p> <p>Concrete slab and footings to be completed.</p>																								
<p><b>Project Team:</b> Executive Sponsor: Karyn Stillwell Project Manager: Joel Perry</p>		<p>Structure fabrication in progress offsite.</p>		<p>Structure fabrication to be completed and delivered onsite for install commencement.</p>																								
<p><b>Funding Source:</b> Total current project budget is \$500,000, funded from the Local Roads and Community Infrastructure (LRCI) program.</p>																												
<p><b>Key Stakeholders:</b> Ifracombe residents and ratepayers, Longreach Regional Council, Ifracombe District &amp; Progress Association (LDPA) and Sport and Rec</p>																												
<p><b>Budget</b></p> <table border="1"> <caption>Budget Breakdown</caption> <thead> <tr> <th>Category</th> <th>Amount</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Total spend to date</td> <td>~\$150,000</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Council Funding</td> <td>~\$50,000</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Minor Infrastructure Program</td> <td>~\$100,000</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>					Category	Amount	Total spend to date	~\$150,000	Council Funding	~\$50,000	Minor Infrastructure Program	~\$100,000																
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Council Funding	~\$50,000																											
Minor Infrastructure Program	~\$100,000																											
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**Project:** Apex Park Beautification

**Status:** In Progress

**1/3/24**

**Recent Deliverables**

Fencing progress continues with new rails and posts installed.

Bar-bench and privacy screen have been fabricated.

**Milestones, Tasks, Outcomes to deliver next period**

Shade structures to arrive.

Bar bench and privacy screen to be installed.

**Purpose:** Remove old water tower; upgrade fence; install bar bench and install shade structures.

**Project Team:** Executive Sponsor: Karyn Stillwell  
Project Manager: Joel Perry

**Funding Source:** Total current project budget is \$85,000, comprised of \$54,000 from the Local Roads and Community Infrastructure (LRCI) Program and a further \$31,000 commitment from Council.

**Key Stakeholders:** Longreach residents, ratepayers and Longreach Regional Council.

**Budget**

Category	Amount
Total spend to date	~\$10,000
Project Budget	\$85,000

■ Total spend to date ■ Minor Infrastructure Program

**Risks**

Risks	Previous status	Current status	Status Description
Overall	Green	Green	Main focus on scheduling delivery timeframe to ensure all work is completed prior to 2024 tourism season.
Time	Green	Green	On track to be finished prior to tourism season.
Budget	Green	Green	Nil risk.
Scope	Green	Green	Nil risk.
Communication	Green	Green	General updates provided to stakeholders on project progress.

**Timeline**

Mar-23 Apr-23 May-23 Jun-23 Jul-23 Aug-23 Sep-23 Oct-23 Nov-23 Dec-23 Jan-24 Feb-24 Mar-24 Apr-24 May-24 Jun-24 Jul-24

Planning Procurement Project completion

Confirm Scope Commence work



<b>Project:</b> Eagle and Swan Street Beautification	<b>Status</b>	<b>In Progress</b>	<b>1/3/24</b>
<p><b>Purpose:</b> To improve the streetscape area around the Swan Street toilet block.</p> <p><b>Project Team:</b> Executive Sponsor: Karyn Stillwell Project Manager: Joel Perry</p> <p><b>Funding Source:</b> Total current project budget is \$200,000, funded from the Local Roads and Community Infrastructure (LRCI) Program.</p> <p><b>Key Stakeholders:</b> Longreach residents and ratepayers and Longreach Regional Council.</p>	<p><b>Recent Deliverables</b></p> <p>Fabrication of shade structure materials for in front of Glasson House in progress.</p> <p>Contract engaged for garden bed construction.</p> <p>Mural on the Swan street toilet block in progress.</p>	<p><b>Milestones, Tasks, Outcomes to deliver next period</b></p> <p>Mural design to be confirmed.</p> <p>Fabrication of shade structure materials for in front of Glasson House to be completed.</p>	

Risks	Previous status	Current status	Status Description
Overall	Green	Green	Main focus on confirming scope and scheduling delivery timeframe.
Time	Green	Yellow	Delays occurred due to qualified contractor availability. Current risk of new shade structure install occurring early in tourism season.
Budget	Green	Green	Finalising the design/scope currently in progress to limit budget overrun risk.
Scope	Green	Green	Currently finalising scope with engagements with community to be completed.
Communication	Green	Green	General updates provided to stakeholders on project progress.

**Budget**

Category	Amount
Total spend to date	\$30,000
Project Budget	\$200,000
Council Funding	\$10,000
Minor Infrastructure Program	\$20,000

**Timeline**

Timeline markers: Mar-23, Apr-23, May-23, Jun-23, Jul-23, Aug-23, Sep-23, Oct-23, Nov-23, Dec-23, Jan-24, Feb-24, Mar-24, Apr-24, May-24, Jun-24, Jul-24.

Key events: Planning (Aug-23), Confirm Scope (Oct-23), Procurement (Nov-23), Project completion (Apr-24 to Jul-24).

**14. WORKS REPORT**  
**14.1 - Information Report - Works**

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**14. Works Report**

**14.1 Information Report - Works**

This report provides an update on a range of activities that has occurred during the month of March 2024 for the Works Directorate.

**Council Action**

Deliver

**Applicable Legislation**

*Local Government Act 2009*

*Local Government Regulation 2012*

**Policy Considerations**

n/a

**Corporate and Operational Plan Considerations**

OUR COMMUNITY	
Corporate Plan Outcome	
1.1	Council infrastructure and services support liveability and community amenity.
1.2	Council recognises cultural heritage and supports inclusion of all peoples.
1.3	The region's natural environment is managed, maintained and protected.

OUR LEADERSHIP	
Corporate Plan Outcome	
5.2	Informed and considered decision making based on effective governance practices

**Budget Considerations**

As per approved 2023/24 budget.

**Previous Council Resolutions related to this Matter**

Nil

**Officer Comment**

**Responsible Officer/s:** *Andre Pretorius, Director of Works*  
*Guy Goodman, Manager of Operations*  
*Ajith Samarasekera, Manager Fleet & Workshops*



**Background:**

Officers are requested to provide an information update to Council on a monthly basis to outline achievements, challenges and statistical information for the various functional areas in Council.



**14. WORKS REPORT**  
**14.1 - Information Report - Works**

**Manager of Operations Update - Current projects underway**

Project		% completed	Budget	Spent to date	Comments
<b>R2R Projects</b>					
Rehabilitate road to weed wash-down facility	Road Rehabilitation	30%	\$ 95,000.00	\$ 18,000.00	<p>Project to commence in February 2024. Sub base mixed and compacted. Base carted, mixed and compacted. Seal programmed for end of March.</p> 
All areas grid replacement	Install Grids	80%	\$ 225,000.00	\$ 118,000.00	<p>Project started late January.            2 x grids installed on the Darr – Yanburra Road            1 x grid installed on the Morella Road            1 x grid removed on the Morella Road            3 x grids installed on the Stonehenge River Road            1 x grid removed on the Glenlock Road            Tender sent for supply of 10 x 4 metre grids.            Currently evaluating tenders.</p> 
Longreach	Prep and 10mm reseal in Town Streets	5%	\$ 450,000.00	\$ 10,000.00	Prep work commenced in March 2024.

Project	% completed	Budget	Spent to date	Comments
<b>TIDS Projects</b>				
				TBC once feedback has been obtained from TMR.

**14. WORKS REPORT**  
**14.1 - Information Report - Works**

Project		% completed	Budget	Spent to date	Comments
<b>NDRRA Projects 2022 Event</b>					
Isisford-Bimerah Road	Medium formation grade	80%	\$ 190,000.00	\$ 125,000.00	Project started in September 2023.
Campsie Access Road	Medium formation grade	85%	\$ 290,000.00	\$ 80,000.00	Project started in January 2024.
Arundel Road	Medium formation grade	100%	\$ 108,000.00	\$ 100,000.00	Project started in May 2023. Completed.
Yambacollie Road	Medium formation grade	100%	\$ 187,000.00	\$ 90,000.00	Project started in January 2024. Completed.
Bogewong Road	Medium formation grade	35%	\$ 625,000.00	\$ 250,000.00	Project started in May 2023.
Withywine Noonbah Road	Medium formation grade	60%	\$ 223,000.00	\$ 160,000.00	Project started in November 2023.
Crossmoor Road	Medium formation grade	100%	\$ 170,000.00	\$ 168,000.00	Project started in May 2023. Completed.
Vergemont Road	Heavy formation grade	45%	\$ 1,140,000.00	\$ 275,000.00	Project started in November 2023.
Hazelwood Whisky	Medium formation grade	95%	\$ 350,000.00	\$ 347,000.00	Project started in January 2024.
Stonehenge River Road	Medium formation grade	95%	\$ 635,000.00	\$ 530,000.00	Project started in July 2023.

Yaraka-Bimerah Road	Medium formation grade	90%	\$ 186,000.00	\$ 140,000.00	Project started in December 2023.
Starlights Lookout Road	Medium formation grade	75%	\$ 191,000.00	\$ 100,000.00	Project started in December 2023.
Fermoy Road	Gravel resheet	20%	\$ 150,000.00	\$ 40,000.00	Project started in March 2024.

Project		% completed	Budget	Spent to date	Comments
<b>MWPC</b>					
Longreach – Jundah road	Pave and seal, culvert upgrade	95%	\$ 5,100,000.00	\$ 4,620,127.00	Concrete works have commenced. Concrete culverts are being delivered to site. Surveying completed. Crews have commenced works on detours. 2km of sub base completed. Two replacement culvert structures completed. Variation in culvert pricing,

**14. WORKS REPORT**  
**14.1 - Information Report - Works**

					waiting on reply from Main Roads. Rain has delayed project. Culvert variation authorised. Assessed and awarded culvert tenders. Variation culverts installed. Mixing last section of sub-base. Carting of base material commenced. Base course completed. First seal completed. Grid installed. Waiting on time-frame to complete final seal. Final seal to be completed March 2024.
Cramsie-Muttaborra Road	Pave and seal, widening	50%	\$ 2,000,000.00	\$ 457,000.00	Detour started in November 2023. 1 km of sub base completed, currently carting in base course. First 1km seal completed prior to Christmas shut down. Detour constructed for second section. Sub base trimmed and compacted. Currently carting in base course.
Project		% completed	Budget	Spent to date	Comments
<b>Town Streets Projects</b>					
Street Maintenance	Pot Hole Patching				Ongoing
Longreach	Corella Lane pave and seal	20%	\$ 125,000.00	\$ 24,000.00	Concrete invert installed end of 2023. Pave and seal works to commence April 2024.
Project		% completed	Budget	Spent to date	Comments
<b>RMPC Projects</b>					
Landsborough Highway	Bulk guidepost installation project	0%	\$ 54,000.00	\$ 0.00	Project to commence in March 2024.
Isisford	Town entry treatments	0%	\$ 30,000.00	\$ 0.00	Project to commence in April 2024. Signage ordered.
Isisford-Blackall Road	Bulk sign replacement	0%	\$ 143,231.00	\$ 0.00	Project to commence in April 2024.
Project		% completed	Budget	Spent to date	Comments
<b>LRCI4 Projects</b>					
All Areas	Rural Road Signage Upgrade	60%	\$ 150,000.00	\$ 72,000.00	Data pickup has been completed. Signage tenders have been assessed and awarded tenders. Signage delivered. Installation commenced October.
Isisford / Yaraka Area	Rural Property Signage	15%	\$ 100,000.00	\$ 10,000.00	Project to commence in July 2023. Correspondence/emails sent out to property owners to confirm details. Reviewing data.

**14. WORKS REPORT**  
**14.1 - Information Report - Works**

	Upgrade				Aim to place orders before Christmas close down. Signs to be delivered from supplier in March. Installation to follow in April.
Yaraka	Pave & Seal around IOR Fuel Pod	0%	\$ 148,000.00	\$ 0.00	Project scoped in July 2023. Project to commence in April 2024.
Isisford – Bimerah Road	Gravel Resheet	35%	\$ 225,000.00	\$ 80,000.00	Project to commence in August 2023. Chainages for gravel have been determined. Gravel currently being stockpiled. Carting gravel to commence in late October. 50% gravel carted, project on hold due to rain. Carting material commenced in early March.
Baileys Street	Gravel Resheet	95%	\$ 96,000.00	\$ 46,000.00	Project started in January 2024. Material carted to site. Material mixed, trimmed and compacted.



<b>Grants &amp; Funding Projects</b>			
<b>Project</b>	<b>Location</b>	<b>% Completed</b>	<b>Comments</b>
Passenger Transport Infrastructure Investment Program			
	Ilfracombe	5%	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Works to commence in 2024.</li> <li>• Installation of footpath to shelter to commence in April 2024.</li> </ul>
School Transport Infrastructure Program	Our Lady's	10%	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Carpark design – final drawings being reviewed.</li> <li>• Site works scheduled for 2024.</li> <li>• Project has been granted extension to 30<sup>th</sup> June 2025.</li> </ul>
	LSHS	5%	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Agreement negotiations are progressing.</li> </ul>

**14. WORKS REPORT**  
**14.1 - Information Report - Works**

			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Site works scheduled for 2024.</li> <li>• Project has been granted extension to 30<sup>th</sup> June 2025.</li> </ul>
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**Maintenance Graders Locations**

Note – All available maintenance graders will be working on formation grading projects for the 2022 flood damage in conjunction with normal maintenance grading programme.

**Water & Waste Update**

**Current projects and operational undertakings underway for 2023/2024**

<b>Water &amp; Sewer Projects</b>			
<b>Project</b>	<b>Location</b>	<b>% Completed</b>	<b>Comments</b>
Water Mains Replacement	Longreach	25%	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Tender evaluation completed. Not awarded.</li> <li>• Direct negotiations in progress under a revised scope.</li> <li>• Tender has been awarded. Works to commence March 2024.</li> <li>• Works to commence Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> March.</li> </ul>
WTP ELR Replacement/Repair	Ilfracombe	10%	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Preliminary structural assessment report has been received. Investigation options for the replacement of the tank.</li> <li>• Works to be carried over to next FY.</li> </ul>
Exclusion fencing at Yaraka Town Dam	Yaraka	15%	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Works scheduled to commence early 2024, pending weather conditions.</li> <li>• Fencing materials have arrived.</li> <li>• Works to commence early April.</li> </ul>
Digital Water Meter Trial	Ilfracombe	25%	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Works program scheduled for Q2 2024. Trial planned to commence with communications install and staged rollout of meters.</li> <li>• Ongoing planning with internal and external parties.</li> <li>• Materials have arrived. Local contractor to perform installation of aerials etc.</li> </ul>
Refurbishment of Murray, Shannon & Isisford Dam Pumps	Ilfracombe & Isisford	80%	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Pipework, floats and cabling will be installed during warmer weather conditions.</li> <li>• Pad has been installed at Murray Dam for safe access.</li> <li>• Remainder of work to be completed by end of March.</li> </ul>
Upgrade to Murray McMillan Dam Switchboard	Ilfracombe	-	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Project on hold. To be reviewed during the 24/25 budgeting process.</li> </ul>
Isisford CED Ponds Repairs	Isisford	95%	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Site assessment has been undertaken. Works are programmed for early 2024. Removal of vegetation in progress.</li> <li>• Pond completed. Fencing repaired.</li> </ul>
DRFA Flood Risk Management Program	Longreach	30%	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Community Flood Action Plan feedback period has concluded. 1 x submission was received with the suggestion of a levy bank along Watyakan</li> </ul>

**14. WORKS REPORT**  
**14.1 - Information Report - Works**

			<p>Creek from near the Kangaroo Meat Works to the Thomson Development Road Bypass to help protect the southern areas of town from future flooding.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Procurement process for the Longreach Flood Study to commence in early 2024.</li> <li>QRA has granted an extension for the program until 30/06/2026.</li> </ul>
Reservoir Cleaning (RAPADWSA Project)	All Sites	70%	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Works have been completed at Ilfracombe. Contractor will return to finish cleaning at Isisford and Longreach in early 2024.</li> </ul>
Mains Scouring (RAPADWSA Project)	All Sites	80%	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Contractor has been completed works at Ilfracombe, Isisford and Yaraka.</li> <li>Longreach to be completed early 2024.</li> <li>Works commenced Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> March.</li> </ul>
Flood Gauge Camera Arno Crossing Barcoo River	Yaraka	20%	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Installation delayed due to rain and delays from supplier. Tipping expected poles for the cameras expected to arrive at end of March 2024.</li> </ul>

**Water & Sewerage**

<b>Water Operations</b>
<p>All Sites - Water Treatment &amp; Network - General Update</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Weir and Dam levels at all sites are shown in Table 1 below.</li> <li>Routine water network maintenance undertaken and Customer Service Requests responded to as required across all sites.</li> <li>Review of the DWQMP is in progress. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Workshop with operators planned on 12 March 2024.</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p>Longreach Water Treatment &amp; Network</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>WTP operating as normal.</li> </ul> <p>Ilfracombe Water Treatment &amp; Network</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ilfracombe WTP &amp; RO Plant – operating as normal.</li> </ul> <p>Isisford Water Treatment &amp; Network</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Isisford WTP – operating as normal.</li> </ul> <p>Yaraka Water Treatment &amp; Network</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Yaraka WTP – operating as normal.</li> </ul>
<b>Sewerage Operations</b>
<p>Longreach Pump Stations &amp; STP</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Routine maintenance undertaken as required.</li> </ul> <p>Ilfracombe Pump Stations &amp; CED Ponds</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Routine maintenance undertaken as required.</li> </ul> <p>Isisford Pump Station &amp; CED Ponds</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Routine maintenance undertaken as required.</li> </ul>

**Table 1 – Estimated Current Weir/ Dam Levels** (~ approximate level)

Dam	Approx. Current	Approx. % Full	DMP Height	Comments
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**14. WORKS REPORT**  
**14.1 - Information Report - Works**

	<b>Level (m)</b>		<b>Full</b>	
Longreach Town Weirs	1.43m	114%	1.3m	Recent rainfall in the catchment has filled the Thomson River.
Shannon Dam	13.5m	90%	14.5m	Water is regularly pumped from Murray McMillan to keep Shannon Dam at full levels.
Murray MacMillan Dam	~6.8m	60%	10.3m	Recent rainfall in the catchment has increased dam level.
Isisford Dam	~9m	94.5%	11m	Pumping of water from the Barcoo River has increased dam level.
Isisford Weir	1.3m	100%	1.3m	
Yaraka North Dam	12.5m	100%	12.5m	Recent rainfall has filled the dam.
Yaraka South Dam	12.5m	100%	12.5m	Recent rainfall has filled the dam.

<b>Waste Projects</b>			
<b>Project</b>	<b>Location</b>	<b>% Completed</b>	<b>Comments</b>
Land Parcels	Longreach	80%	• Ongoing communication with DoR in relations to extension the Longreach Landfill to the west.

**Waste Management**

<b>Waste Facilities Update</b>
<p>Longreach Waste Facility</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 6 monthly hazard inspections completed. Noted large amount of tyres, construction and scrap metal waste.</li> <li>• Proterra are continuing to recruit for an additional operational team member. Staff from other locations are currently filling in personnel gaps.</li> <li>• Met with Proterra representatives in December to discuss operations and various opportunities for regional recycling options.</li> </ul> <p>Ilfracombe Waste Facility</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Contractor is conducting routine cleaning of the facility.</li> </ul> <p>Isisford Waste Facility</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Contractor conducting twice weekly covering of general waste.</li> </ul> <p>Yaraka Waste Facility</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Contractor conducting regular covering of general waste.</li> </ul>



**Plant & Fleet Update**

**Current projects and operational undertakings underway for 2023/2024**

**Plant & Fleet**

<b>Project</b>	<b>Task</b>	<b>Comment</b>
Plant Replacement	Plant Procurement and Disposal	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The following plant have been ordered and are awaiting delivery</li> <li>• 2 x Kenworth Trucks – due Jul/Aug 2024</li> <li>• Hearse – due April/May 2024.</li> <li>• 6 x Toyota utility vehicles – due Jun 2024</li> <li>• 1 x Caterpillar 150 M grader – due Apr 2024.</li> </ul>

**14. WORKS REPORT**  
**14.1 - Information Report - Works**

Project	Task	Comment
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Also to note: Council took delivery of a new Caterpillar 20 T Smooth Drum roller replacing a 2014 roller. Photograph shows Council staff after the inductions.</li> </ul> 
Plant Utilisation	Plant Utilisation data from NAVMAN for Prime Movers, Graders & Loaders	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Navman Plant Utilisation Report for Prime Movers &amp; Heavy Plant December 2023 – February 2024 is attached.</li> <li>Utilisation has picked up from the January 2024 data as the Works crews get momentum in their operations.</li> </ul>
Workshop Operations	General Update	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>In this reporting period the workshop apprentices were away at TAFE attending compulsory training on their theory modules.</li> <li>Both workshops have settled down to a steady flow of work coming through with all hands on deck.</li> <li>The Isisford workshop has enhanced its repair capability with a new 4 column wireless controlled hoist capable of lifting up to 30 T.</li> </ul> 
Radio Communications and Vehicle Telematics	Working Group	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Currently 2-way communication is through Citizen Band (CB) UHF radios transmitted through several CB repeaters around Council's area of operations. The quality and capacity of these transmissions are extremely limited. Vehicle telematics is provided by Navman, cellular and satellite coverage. Navman will migrate from 3G to a 4G network in July 2024 and Council's current Navman system including all hardware will become obsolete.</li> <li>Consequently a special Working Group was formed to determine the future of Radio Communications and Vehicle Telematics for Council. The Group had its first meeting on 29 February 2024 to develop its terms of reference.</li> </ul>



**14. WORKS REPORT**  
**14.1 - Information Report - Works**

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<b>Project</b>	<b>Task</b>	<b>Comment</b>
New Fleet Management Information System (FMIS)	Implement	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>The project is progressing to an expected GO LIVE date of 18 April 2024</li></ul>

**Risk Management Factors:**

This matter has been assessed using Council's Risk Matrix to decide the likelihood and consequence of any risk to Council:

Likelihood: Rare  
Consequence: Insignificant  
Rating: Low (1/25)  
Low risk, informational report only.

**Environmental Management Factors:**

Nil

**Other Comments:**

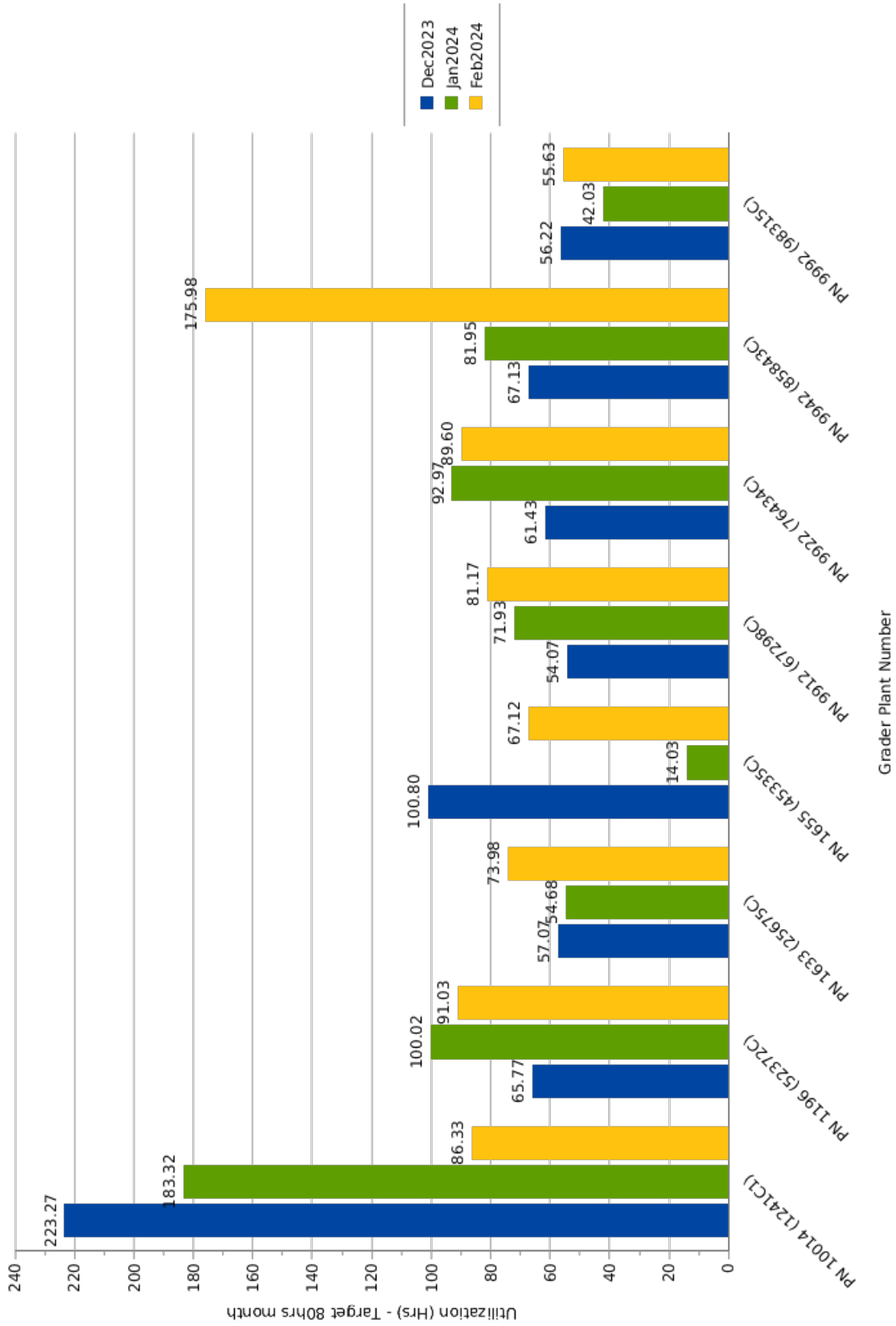
**Appendices**

1. Plant Utilisation Dec - Feb 2024 ↓

**Recommendation:**

*That Council receive the Works Information Report for February 2024, as presented.*

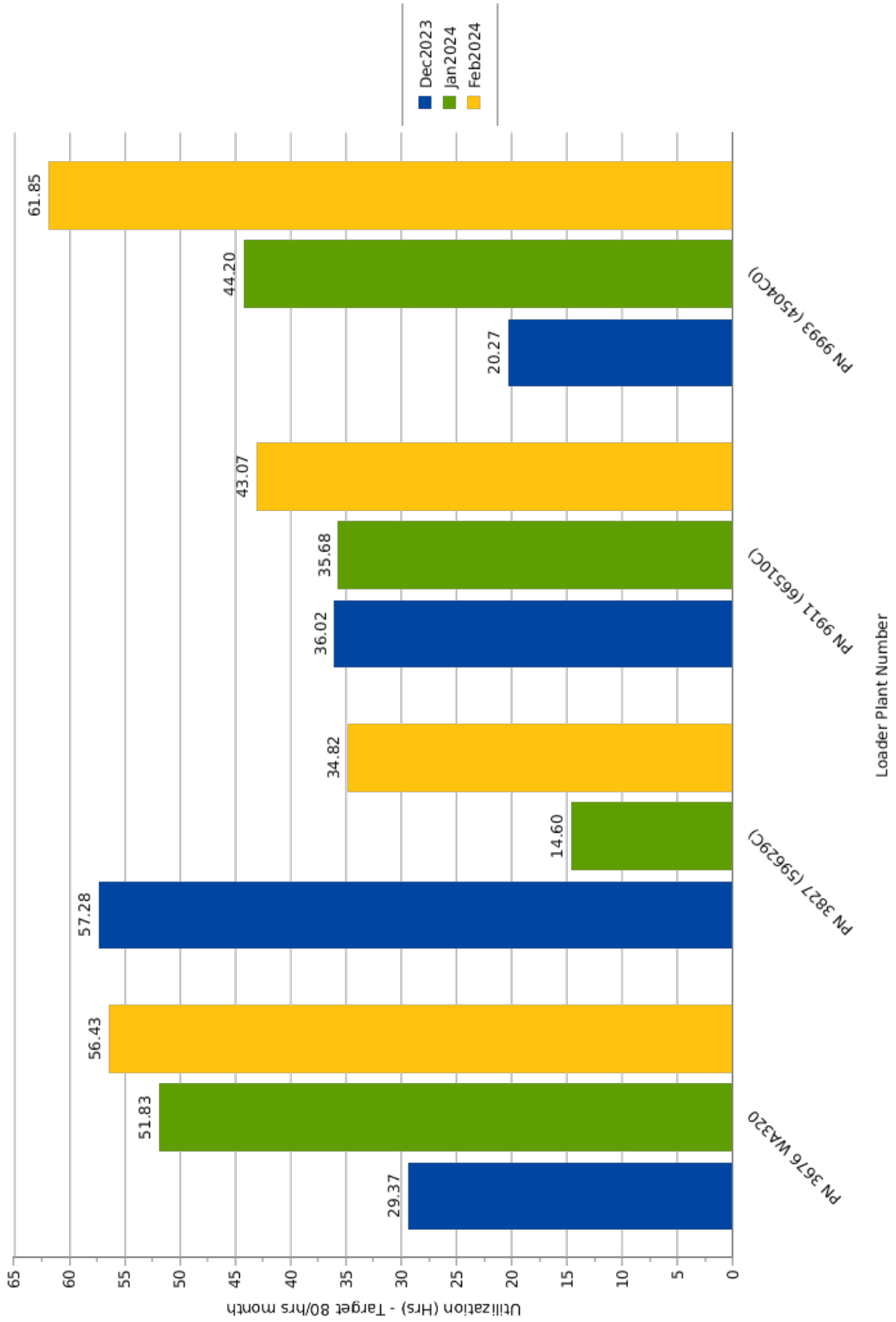
Grader Utilisation



Grader Utilisation

Grader Plant Number	Month	Utilization (Hrs) - Target 80hrs month
PN 10014 (1241C1)	Dec2023	223.27
	Jan2024	183.32
	Feb2024	86.33
PN 1196 (52372C)	Dec2023	65.77
	Jan2024	100.02
	Feb2024	91.03
PN 1633 (25675C)	Dec2023	57.07
	Jan2024	54.68
	Feb2024	73.98
PN 1655 (45335C)	Dec2023	100.80
	Jan2024	14.03
	Feb2024	67.12
PN 9912 (67298C)	Dec2023	54.07
	Jan2024	71.93
	Feb2024	81.17
PN 9922 (76434C)	Dec2023	61.43
	Jan2024	92.97
	Feb2024	89.60
PN 9942 (85843C)	Dec2023	67.13
	Jan2024	81.95
	Feb2024	175.98
PN 9992 (98315C)	Dec2023	56.22
	Jan2024	42.03
	Feb2024	55.63

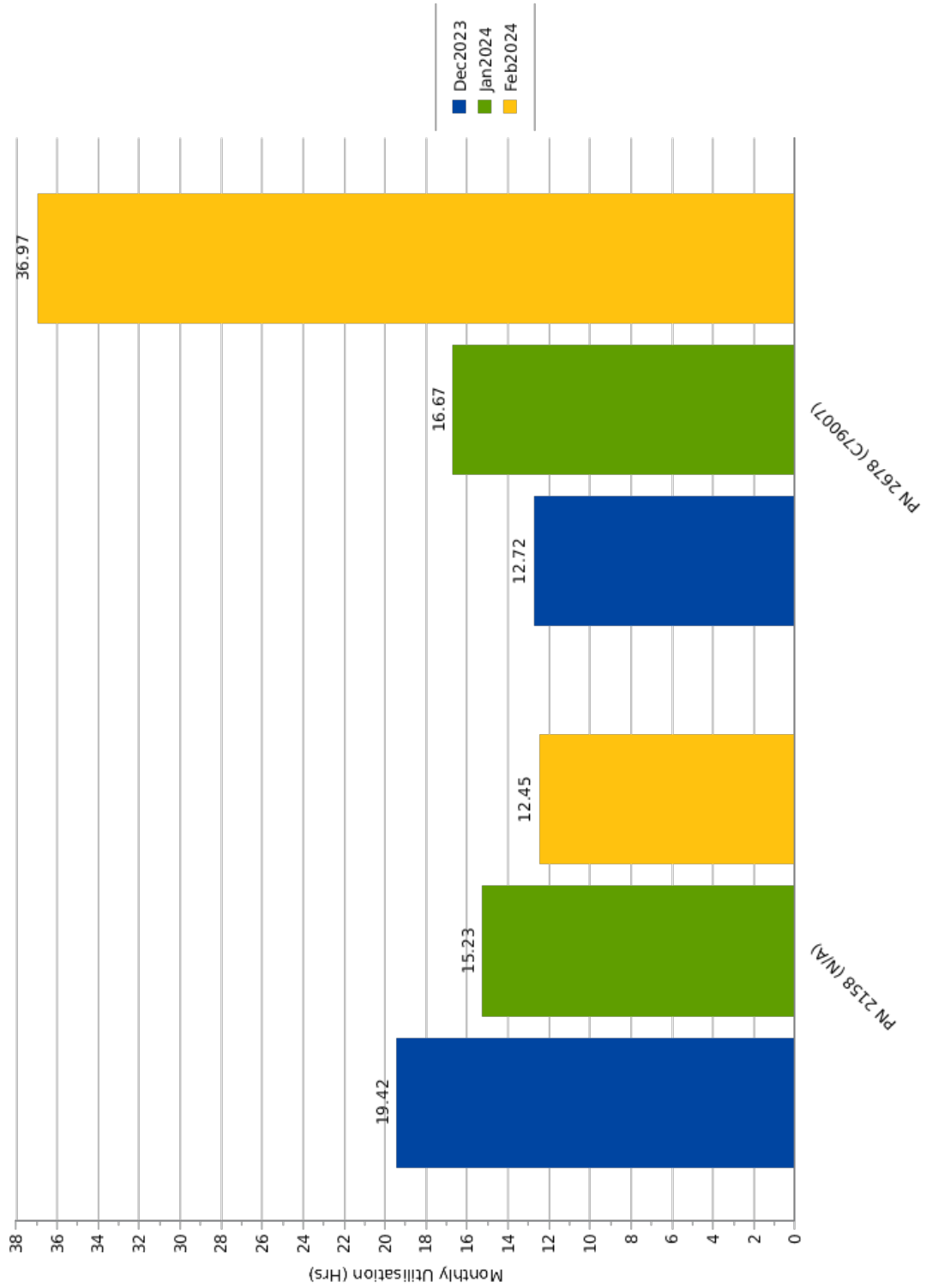
Loader Utilisation



Loader Utilisation

Loader Plant Number	Month	Utilization (Hrs) - Target 80/hrs month
PN 3676 WA320	Dec2023	29.37
	Jan2024	51.83
	Feb2024	56.43
PN 3827 (59629C)	Dec2023	57.28
	Jan2024	14.60
	Feb2024	34.82
PN 9911 (66510C)	Dec2023	36.02
	Jan2024	35.68
	Feb2024	43.07
PN 9993 (4504C0)	Dec2023	20.27
	Jan2024	44.20
	Feb2024	61.85

Stabiliser & Scraper Utilisation

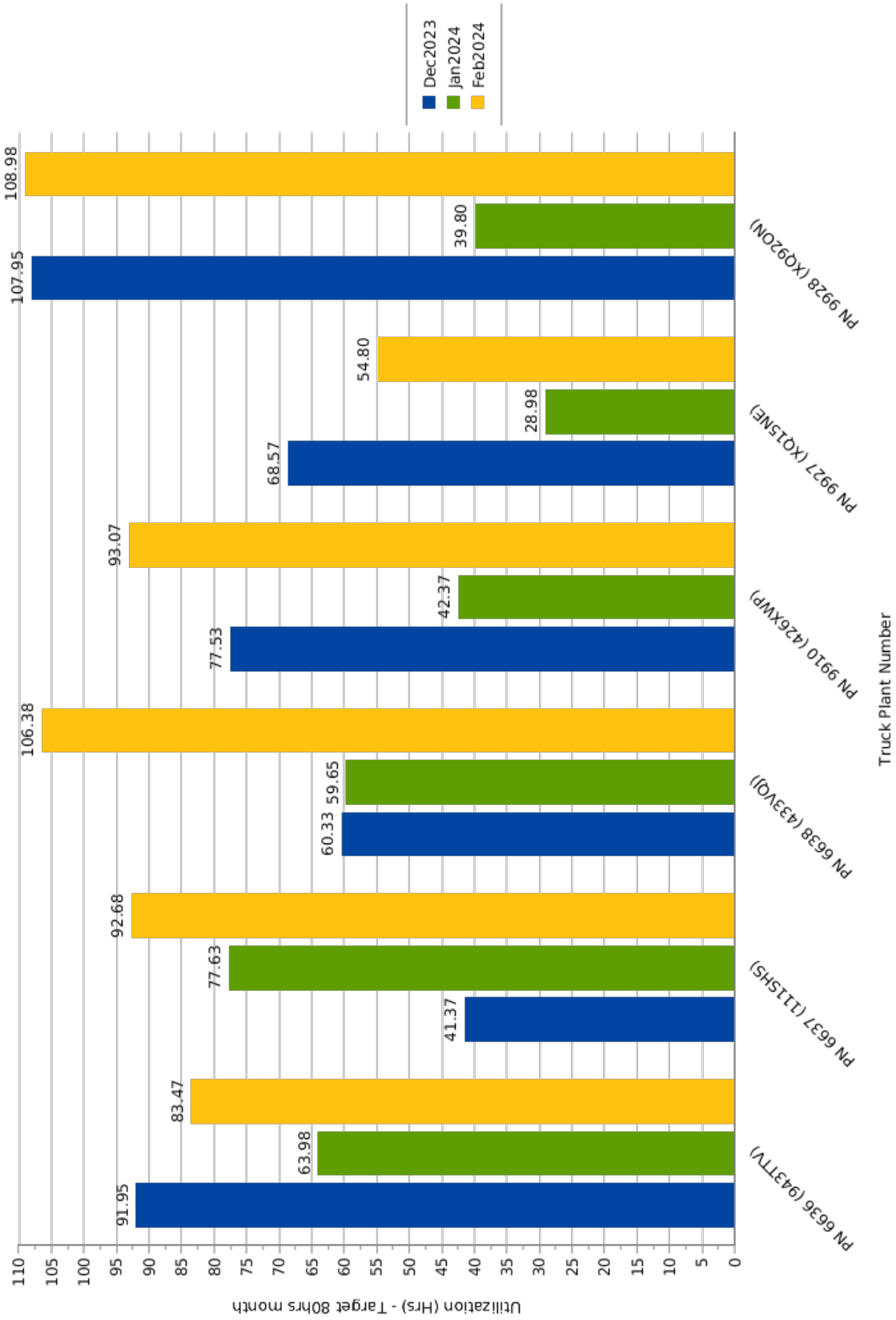


Stabiliser PN #2678 - Scraper PN # 2158

Stabiliser & Scraper Utilisation

	Month		
	Dec2023	Jan2024	
Stabiliser PN #2678 - Scraper PN #2158	Monthly Utilisation (Hrs)	Monthly Utilisation (Hrs)	Feb2024 Monthly Utilisation (Hrs)
PN 2158 (N/A)	19.42	15.23	12.45
PN 2678 (C79007)	12.72	16.67	36.97

Truck Utilisation





Truck Utilisation

	Truck Plant Number					
	PN 6636 (943TTV)	PN 6637 (111SHS)	PN 6638 (433VQJ)	PN 9910 (426XWP)	PN 9927 (XQ15NE)	PN 9928 (XQ92ON)
Month	Utilization (Hrs) - Target 80hrs month	Utilization (Hrs) - Target 80hrs month	Utilization (Hrs) - Target 80hrs month	Utilization (Hrs) - Target 80hrs month	Utilization (Hrs) - Target 80hrs month	Utilization (Hrs) - Target 80hrs month
Dec2023	91.95	41.37	60.33	77.53	68.57	107.95
Jan2024	63.98	77.63	59.65	42.37	28.98	39.80
Feb2024	83.47	92.68	106.38	93.07	54.80	108.98

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**15. Late Items**

Nil for this meeting

**16. Closed Matters**

Nil for this meeting

**17. Closure of Meeting**

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**Local Government Act 2009 – Principles**

Local government is required to adhere to the following high level principles contained in *section 4 of the Local Government Act*:

The **local government principles** are:

- (a) Transparent and effective processes, and decision-making in the public interest; and
- (b) Sustainable development and management of assets and infrastructure, and delivery of effective services; and
- (c) Democratic representation, social inclusion and meaningful community engagement; and
- (d) Good governance of, and by, local government; and
- (e) Ethical and legal behaviour of councillors and local government employees.

**Decisions, Based On Recommendations, Provide For The Following Council Actions:**

**Recognise** There is an issue and Council recognises that but usually can't do much about it. Financial cost (no cost).

**Advocate** Council will take up the issue on behalf of the community and usually get someone else to do something about it (some cost/minimal cost).

**Partner** Council partners with another organisation/agency to jointly do something about the issue (half cost).

**Deliver** Council is the deliverer of the program/solution, usually funds it etc. This is normally a standard Council responsibility in service delivery (full cost).

Council's risk management processes are based around the following principles:

**Risk Identification:** Identify and prioritise reasonably foreseeable risks associated with activities, using the agreed risk methodology.

**Risk Evaluation:** Evaluate those risks using the agreed Council criteria.

**Risk Treatment / Mitigation:** Develop mitigation plans for risk areas where the residual risk is greater than our tolerable risk levels.

**Risk Monitoring and Reporting:** Report risk management activities and risk specific information in accordance with the risk protocols.

The Risk Matrix below is used to assess the likelihood and consequence of any risk to Council, to then identify any necessary treatment actions. This matrix will also be used to assess any risk identified in Council's reports:

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Likelihood	Consequence				
	Insignificant 1	Minor 2	Moderate 3	Major 4	Catastrophic 5
<b>Almost Certain 5</b>	Medium 5	High 10	High 15	Extreme 20	Extreme 25
<b>Likely 4</b>	Medium 4	Medium 8	High 12	High 16	Extreme 20
<b>Possible 3</b>	Low 3	Medium 6	Medium 9	High 12	High 15
<b>Unlikely 2</b>	Low 2	Low 4	Medium 6	Medium 8	High 10
<b>Rare 1</b>	Low 1	Low 2	Medium 3	Medium 4	Medium 5