



Longreach Regional Council

Ilfracombe Isisford Longreach Yaraka

Local Disaster Management Plan

Version 5.0




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Introduction

The Longreach Local Disaster Management Plan (LDMP) provides the framework for local disaster management and operations under the Queensland Disaster Management Arrangements (QDMA).

Disaster management planning is focussed on a disaster event which causes serious disruption and impact on a community, whereas an incident causes minimal disruption to the community.

Disaster planning has two components and they provide guidance on:

- Disaster Management which comprises arrangements about managing the potential adverse effects of an event.
- Disaster Operations which are activities, undertaken before, during and after an event to help reduce loss of life, illness or injury, property loss or damage and environmental damage.

Foreword

The Longreach Local Disaster Management Group (LDMG) takes seriously its responsibilities to support the council, local agencies and community to prevent (mitigate), prepare for, respond to and recover from disasters that impact the local area.

Our primary objective is to ensure the local community, organisations and the Council are prepared with appropriate local disaster management arrangements that detail the steps taken to manage the consequences of a disaster on our communities.

We recognise that:

- Disasters can occur at any time - in any place
- It is not practical to attempt to prevent all disasters
- Effective planning will support our capacity to manage disasters
- We require strategies to minimise impacts on the community
- Preparing our community will ensure we respond appropriately
- Empowering our community will assist them to recover.

This Local Disaster Management Plan (LDMP) sets the framework for managing a disaster in a coordinated way and enhances the Council's disaster management and operations capacity across its region.

Mayor of Longreach

Chair

Longreach Local Disaster Management Group

Part 1 - Administration

The following sections provide the governance and administrative requirements for the Local Disaster Management Plan (LDMP).

Authority

The Local Disaster Management Plan has been prepared by the Longreach Local Disaster Management Group and endorsed by the Longreach Regional Council pursuant to Section 57 of the *Disaster Management Act 2003* (the Act).

Endorsement

The Longreach Local Disaster Management Plan has been prepared by the Local Disaster Management Group pursuant to the *Disaster Management Act 2003* and recommended to the Longreach Regional Council for endorsement.

This LDMP has been endorsed by the Longreach Regional Council at a Council meeting held on 27 October 2022.

Mayor

Longreach Regional Council

Date: 27/10/2022

Version Control

The Local Disaster Management Plan is a controlled document. The controller of the document is the Longreach Regional Council Local Disaster Coordinator. Any proposed amendments to this plan should be forwarded in writing to:

Local Disaster Coordinator (LDC)

Longreach Regional Council

PO Box 144

Ilfracombe QLD 4727

assist@longreach.qld.gov.au

The LDMP will have a version control number and date of currency and be marked:

1. Restricted - complete version for approved use by disaster management stakeholders.
2. Public - limited version for access by the public that has confidential information removed.

Version control numbering is listed on the front page of the LDMP and noted at Appendix 1

Accessibility

The public version of the LDMP is available for download from the Council website www.longreach.qld.gov.au. Printed copies of the public version of the LDMP are available at council offices for a service fee.

Copies of the restricted version of LDMP are available upon written request to the Local Disaster Coordinator or their delegate, the Disaster Management Officer.

Amendment Register

Administrative amendments to the LDMP may be approved by the Local Disaster Coordinator. Any changes to the intent of the document is confirmed by the Local Disaster Management Group and recommended to the Longreach Regional Council for endorsement

Amendments to this plan are noted and recorded in the Amendments Register at Appendix 1.

Distribution

The restricted version of the LDMP is distributed according to the Distribution List at Appendix 2.

The public version of the LDMP can be accessed by the community either online or at the Longreach Regional Council office.

Planning Review

The LDMP is a living document and may be amended from time to time in response to the following:

1. Legislative changes
2. Administrative changes
3. Lessons learned from activations, exercises or training activities
4. Hazard and/or Risk changes
5. Community context changes
6. Participation in external reviews (annual IGEM Plan Assessment)

The minimum review periods include, but are not limited to:

1. Amendment because of the above as required
2. Administrative review at least annually
3. Complete review and rewrite every three years

Consultation

In preparation of this plan, members of the Longreach Local Disaster Management Group were consulted and contributed to its development.

Privacy Statement

The information contained herein is collected, stored and managed in accordance with the Information Privacy Principles contained in Schedule 3 of the *Information Privacy Act, 2009*

References

This Plan and its associated Sub-plans and Guidelines are part of the Queensland Disaster Management Arrangements (QDMA) made up of but not limited to:

- Legislation
- Plans
- Policy
- Doctrine
- Standard

For a list of the references utilised in this Plan refer to Appendix 9.

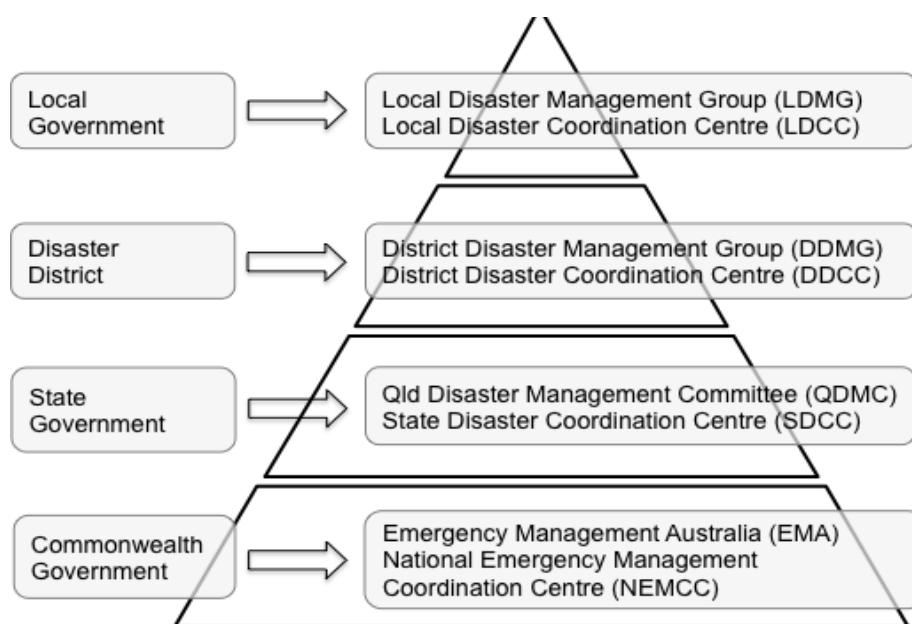
Part 2 - Plan Elements

The Longreach Local Disaster Management Plan has been produced by the Local Disaster Management Group and endorsed by the Longreach Regional Council. The following plan elements underpin the development and review of the LDMP.

Queensland Disaster Management Arrangements

The Longreach LDMG forms part of the Queensland Disaster Management Arrangements (QDMA) that:

- Include local, district and state levels (see diagram below)
- Enable a progressive escalation of support and assistance



Under the *Disaster Management Act 2003*, disaster management in Queensland is based on four principles:

1. A comprehensive approach:
 - Prevention (mitigation)
 - Preparedness
 - Response
 - Recovery
2. An all hazards approach
3. A local disaster management capability
4. Support by the state and district groups to local government

The Standard for Disaster Management in Queensland focuses on outcomes and accountabilities of shared responsibilities that include:

- Managing risk
- Planning and plans
- Community engagement
- Capability integration
- Operations



Scope

The scope of the Longreach Local Disaster Management Plan is bound by the Longreach Regional Council area and other areas where the Local Disaster Management Plan (LDMP) may be activated to support our local communities and disaster management partners.

Purpose

The purpose of the Longreach Local Disaster Management Plan is to prescribe the local disaster management arrangements to support community safety in times of disaster within the Longreach Regional Council area.

Objectives

The objectives of the Longreach Local Disaster Management Plan include:

1. Develop local disaster management arrangements for preventing (mitigating), preparing for, responding to and recovering from disasters that impact the community within the Longreach Regional Council area
2. Identify local resource capacity and capability to support the Longreach Regional Council, disaster management stakeholders and community in a disaster event
3. Develop local capacity and capability to support disaster management operations
4. Support local community recovery

Planning Framework

These arrangements are developed under the Queensland Disaster Management Arrangements.

For a complete listing of local Plans, Sub-plans and Guidelines that support the Local Disaster Management Plan, refer to Appendix 3.

Part 3 – Longreach Local Disaster Management Group

The Longreach Regional Council (LRC) established a Local Disaster Management Group (LDMG) pursuant to Sections 29, 34 & 35 of the Act to perform its role under the Act and advise Council on disaster management related topics.

Terms of Reference

For the Longreach Local Disaster Management Group to function, it requires Terms of Reference (ToR), which are detailed at Appendix 4 Terms of Reference. The ToR provides governance to the LDMG on its functions and obligations.

The Terms of Reference are reviewed annually or as required in line with any legislative or policy change.

Priorities of the Longreach LDMG

The priorities of the LDMG are set by the group annually based on the Queensland Disaster Management Arrangements and local need. The current set of priorities are listed at Appendix 4 Terms of Reference.

Membership

Members of the Longreach LDMG have been appointed by the chairperson pursuant to Regulation 9 of the *Disaster Management Regulations 2014* (the Regulations). Membership is further described in Appendix 4 Terms of Reference.

A guideline for members on Local Disaster Management Groups including templates to nominate new members can be found here: [M.1.030 Local Disaster Management Group \(LDMG\) Responsibilities Manual](#)

The chairperson in appointing members, has selected representatives from agencies representing the Longreach Regional Council area who:

1. Have a key role in responding to disaster or emergency situations
2. Have required qualifications and experience
3. Manage key assets
4. Provide essential community services
5. Can provide liaison officers to ensure succession planning

Chairperson

The Longreach Regional Council has appointed the Mayor as the Chairperson and a Councillor as the Deputy Chairperson of the LDMG. They have voting rights.

The Chairperson has the following functions (S.34A of the Act):

- Manage and coordinate the business of the group
- Ensure, as far as practicable, that the group performs its functions
- Report regularly to the relevant district group, and the Chief Executive of the department, about the performance by the local group of its functions

Local Disaster Coordinator

The Chairperson of the LDMG will consult with the Chief Executive Officer to select a council employee to appoint as the Local Disaster Coordinator (LDC).

The Chairperson of the Longreach LDMG has consulted and appointed the Chief Executive Officer of Council as the LDC. The LDC has voting rights.

The LDC has the following functions (S.36 of the Act):

- Coordinate disaster operations for the LDMG
- Report regularly to the LDMG about disaster operations
- Ensure, as far as practicable, that any strategic decisions of the LDMG about disaster operations are implemented

Members

The membership of the LDMG will be made up of members who have voting rights. This membership will be reviewed annually by the Chairperson, Local Disaster Coordinator and the Longreach District Disaster Coordinator (Queensland Police Service).

The Commissioner of the Queensland Fire and Emergency Services (QFES) will be advised of the membership of the group and any changes pursuant to Section 37 of the Act.

Advisors

The LDMG may seek the assistance of individuals or organisations where specialist or community related information is required. These persons sit as advisors to the group. They are non-voting members.

Support Agencies

These are identified agencies or organisations that may be consulted due to their subject matter expertise but are not required to attend meetings regularly. They are invited guests with no voting rights.

Sub-groups

The LDMG may form subgroups in response to a need. The LDMG will provide authority and direction on the tasks they may undertake, the more common being risk management, disaster management planning or recovery. The subgroups may:

- Determine their own Terms of Reference
- Report and advise the LDMG on the subject they are working on according to agreed times
- Subgroups may be ongoing or established for a set time

Roles and Responsibilities

Local roles and responsibilities of disaster management stakeholders align with those contained within the State Disaster Management Plan (SDMP).

A listing of stakeholders who engage with the Longreach LDMG can be found at Appendix 6.

Part 4 - Risk Management

The LDMG recognises the importance of risk assessment and the development of risk mitigation strategies based on sound disaster risk management processes. The LDMG is committed to implementing the concepts and principles detailed in the accepted Risk Management Standard ISO 31000.

Community Context

The iconic Longreach region in Central Western Queensland is situated 700 kilometres west of Rockhampton. The Longreach Regional Council covers an area of 40,638 square kilometres and encompasses the outback townships of Longreach, Ilfracombe, Isisford and Yaraka. The Longreach Regional Council shares a border with five (5) other councils – Winton Shire Council, Barcoo Shire Council, Quilpie Shire Council, Blackall-Tambo Regional Council and Barcaldine Regional Council. The Region of Councils regularly partner with each other in a number of areas including the provision of council to council assistance during disaster events.

The Thomson and Barcoo Rivers flow through the region and serve not only as important environmental habitats and town water sources, but as recreation areas for locals and visitors alike. During periods of rain, many roads in the area quickly become impassable and most towns experience periods of road isolation due to this.

The topography of the area is typically undulating countryside with rolling black soil downs the principle feature. The south-eastern part of the Council area is mainly rugged with steep cliffs and many inaccessible areas.

The population of Longreach Regional Council is 4,300 with most of the population living in Longreach, Ilfracombe and Isisford and the balance living in Yaraka and on rural properties throughout the area.

Key vulnerabilities / resiliencies:

- Longreach (town) in particular has a significant visitor/tourist population at different times of the year. This brings important financial support to the town but few of these tourists are aware of the disaster potential in the areas they are visiting or travelling through;
- Longreach has considerable latent capacity to support itself, other towns in the Council area and isolated properties during most disaster events;
- Many communities and rural properties are subject to extended periods of isolation by road;
- Most of the other towns in the area have small populations with a strong sense of community. People are generally well-known to each other which raises inherent resilience factors for these communities; and
- Most residents on remote properties are aware of their unique risks and make seasonal preparations for reasonably predictable events.



Climate and weather:

Longreach Regional Council has a sub-tropical continental climate. In general, winter days are warm and sunny and nights are cold. Summer days tend to be hot and nights warm. Summer weather is influenced by a semi-permanent trough that lies roughly north-south through the interior of the state.

The trough is normally the boundary between relatively moist air to the east and dry air to the west. Generally, it is most active during spring and summer months. The position of the trough fluctuates diurnally due to vertical mixing and from day to day due to interaction with broad scale synoptic influences. The trough often triggers convection with showers and thunderstorms on its eastern side.

Longreach has dominant summer rainfall. The average annual rainfall is nearly 450mm.

Average maximum temperatures are 36-37 degrees during summer and 23-26 degrees during winter. Minimum overnight temperatures are 22-23 degrees during the summer months and 7-8 degrees during winter.

Strong winds are rare and are normally gusts associated with thunderstorms during late spring or summer.

Thunder is reported on average 23 days per year with most reports occurring from late spring through summer to early autumn. Longreach reports fog 1-2 times each year on average and frosts about 8 times each year. Maximum temperatures can reach the low to mid 40's from mid-spring through summer into autumn. Minimum overnight temperatures below freezing are relatively common during winter.

The Thomson River and its tributaries flow in a general southerly direction and have towns including Longreach and Muttaborra along its banks. The Barcoo River flows in a general westerly direction and has centres such as Isisford, Blackall, Barcaldine and Tambo in its catchment. Records of large floods in the area extend back as far as the late 19th century, with the most significant episodes of flooding occurring in 1893, 1906, 1949, 1955, 1963, 1974, 1990 and 2000.

The impacts of climate change on the region and its weather are mostly unknown at this time. Care has to be taken in “universal assumptions” about climate change impacts on local weather patterns.

The anticipated stronger and wetter seasonal cyclonic activity further to the north is expected to have flow-on impacts in the Longreach area during the summer months.

Industry overview:

The economy of the Longreach Region is based on rural agricultural enterprises, light industry, professional service sector (including government, health, education and finance) and tourism. Council places considerable emphasis on maintaining current industry and growing economic opportunities for the area.

Industries include: saleyards, tourism, showgrounds, livestock, stables precinct, wild game harvesting.

Hazard Identification

Whilst all hazards were considered in the development of this Plan, hazards that have been identified below are those with a reasonably foreseeable chance of impacting on the area, or those with historical data to support considerations:

- Flooding – most of the LRC has a long history of flood events with potential to cause anything from mild disruption to serious damage to property, environment and economy;
- Severe Storms – the LRC area is subject to seasonal storm periods that can often include damaging winds, hail or torrential rain;
- Transport Incidents (Motor Vehicle) – vehicle accidents have occurred in the LRC. These have included accidents with other vehicles, animals and property assets and have resulted in the loss of lives (usually controlled entirely by QPS);
- Transport Incidents (Heavy Motor Vehicle) – heavy vehicle accidents have occurred in the LRC. These have included Hazmat incidents and have resulted in the loss of lives. There are particular concerns regarding the potential for these incidents in the residential areas near the highways (usually controlled entirely by QPS and QFES);
- Transport Incidents (Aircraft) – regular scheduled domestic flights, charter and private aircraft use the Longreach airport. The Isisford, Ilfracombe and Yaraka strips are only used for charter or private aircraft and RFDS and are all weather strips;
- Urban Fire – each town within LRC has had urban fire events. They have been recorded at various times of the year and are not seasonal;
- Rural Fire – rural fires affecting property and grazing areas occur from time to time during the dry season;
- Water Supply Contamination – domestic water services in all towns are subject to potential contamination by natural, accidental or malicious events;
- Animal Disease/Exotic Animal Disease – diseases of animals affecting production, safety for consumption or livestock. There have been historical events of animal disease outbreaks affecting both domestic and wild animals;
- Pandemics – pandemics are highly contagious viruses that are easily spread and can cause severe illness and even loss of life. This includes Covid-19 which is a pandemic that is long-lasting and has caused widespread disruption, concern and uncertainty in the community.

Land Use Planning:

A key aspect of Council preventative measures is to manage land use activities. Under the *Longreach Regional Planning Scheme 2015* provisions apply to the assessment of development, particularly associated with flood and bushfire components of the *State Planning Policy*.

The planning scheme recognises that development must meet community expectations and needs, particularly those which contribute to the health and safety of people, by describing performance criteria which require a preventative approach to disaster risks within the Region. Performance criteria include the requirement that development:

- Is separated from natural features such as ridge lines and watercourses;

- Is appropriately provisioned with infrastructure (roads, water, sewer, telecommunications, power);
- Is not adversely impacted on by flooding, bushfire and landslides; and
- Complies with minimum design and construction standards, including building safely.

Such measures assist in the prevention of unsuitable land uses which do not take into account the potential disaster risks, resulting in adverse consequences.

Risk Assessment

The Longreach LDMG undertook a risk management process aligned to the Risk Management Standard ISO 31000 – 2009. The Risk Register and matrix along with the listings of Critical Infrastructure and Essential Services can be found at Appendix 5 Risk Register.

Risk Treatment (Mitigation Strategies)

The LDMG is committed to identifying risk treatment including mitigation works, preparations for response and management of residual risks within their area of responsibility. Longreach Regional Council will seek to make appropriately responsible allocations to approved mitigation works.

The LDMG will identify responsible agencies and lobby for mitigation activities, response preparations and management of residual risks that are outside the area of responsibility of Longreach Regional Council, but where non-action is likely to result in an adverse impact on the community of LRC.

It is recognised that limited options to physically mitigate against natural hazards exist in the Longreach Regional Council area. Most of the risk treatments will therefore be identified to prepare the community, local disaster management system, Council, other agencies and linkages to support agencies for response, recovery and management of residual risks.

Mitigation Strategies

Risk	Treatment Strategy	Priority	Responsible <i>(Agency)</i>	Consequential Actions	Implementation <i>(Timeframe)</i>	Performance Measures (Reporting, Monitoring)
Flooding	Monitoring upstream water flows to enable preparedness for warning of upcoming events and advising of severity	High	LRC BOM	This monitoring will provide up to date information to residents to assist them to prepare for a flood event.	Regularly during and after rainfall events	Reports to Council
Severe weather	Cleaning backyards, removing rubbish/debris. Removing trees near power lines.	Medium	LRC Ergon	These actions remove the risk of injury or further damage from flying articles or trees falling on power lines.	Annual	Reports to Council
Bushfire	Reducing fuel load on Landsborough Highway and local roads	High	LRC DTMR QFES	These actions reduce the risk of bushfires crossing the Highway and local roads	Regularly after rainfall events	Reports to Council
Drought	Provide psychological assistance to drought affected members of the Shire	High	LRC Queensland Health Mental health providers WQ Drought Committee	LRC to provide assistance as requested from agencies	Ongoing	Reports to Council

Risk	Treatment Strategy	Priority	Responsible <i>(Agency)</i>	Consequential Actions	Implementation <i>(Timeframe)</i>	Performance Measures <i>(Reporting, Monitoring)</i>
Heatwave	Ensure that Council swimming pools are available during times of extreme heat to provide relief	Medium	LRC BOM Queensland Health	LRC to provide assistance to Queensland Health as requested	During a declared heatwave event	Reports to Council
Vector Outbreak	Council to undertake year round monitoring for vector outbreak	Medium	LRC DAF	LRC to monitor mosquito levels around suspect areas and undertake periodic treatment in these areas and provide public health notices. DAF to monitor locust and grasshopper infestations.	Ongoing	Reports to Council
Pandemic	Council will support a public health vaccination program	Medium	Queensland Health	LRC to provide facilities where public health vaccination programs can be conducted.	As required	Reports to Council
Vulnerable Persons	Council investigate with the Longreach Hospital and Longreach District Health Services a “Vulnerable Persons Register” and “Evacuation Plan”.	Medium	Queensland Health Providers of health care for vulnerable persons	Council requests information to be managed by Longreach Hospital DON.	Ongoing	Reports to Council

Hazard Specific Arrangements

A number of incidents will be specifically planned by specialist agencies where expert advice is required. Hazard specific plans address the hazard actions across all PPRR phases. Those plans include information on how the QDMA links with the hazard specific arrangements and how the LDMG will support the primary agency to manage that event.

Human and/or animal disease epidemic or pandemic has significant potential to impact across the region, especially in smaller towns where resources to identify, treat and care for those affected may be limited.

Agency specific coordination centres may be established in addition to the local, district and State coordination centres. Internal procedures including the passage of information and resources may be managed using different processes. Where this occurs the primary agency will inform the SDCC and is responsible for ensuring these arrangements are coordinated. Primary agencies have a role in ensuring hazard specific plans link to corresponding national hazard specific plans and arrangements and that appropriate communication and relationships with counterparts at the national level are maintained.

Hazard specific plans include, but are not limited to:

Hazard	Primary Agency	State National Plans
Animal and plant disease	Department of Agriculture & Fisheries	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Australian Veterinary Emergency Plan (ausvetplan) ▪ Australian Aquatic Veterinary Emergency Plan ▪ Australian Emergency Plant Pest Response Plan ▪ Biosecurity Emergency Management - Response Planning Guide
Biological (human related)	Queensland Health	State of Queensland Multi-Agency Response to Chemical, Biological and Radiological Incidents
Bushfire	Queensland Fire & Emergency Services	Wildfire Mitigation and Readiness Plans (Regional)
Chemical	Queensland Fire & Emergency Services	State of Queensland Multi-Agency Response to Chemical, Biological, Radiological Incidents
Pandemic	Queensland Health	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Queensland Pandemic Influenza Plan ▪ National Action Plan for Human Influenza Pandemic
Radiological	Queensland Health	State of Queensland Multi-Agency Response to Chemical Biological and Radiological Incidents
Terrorism	Queensland Police Service	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Queensland Counter-Terrorism Plan ▪ National Counter-Terrorism Plan



Residual Risk Management

Residual Risk refers to the level of risk remaining after implementation of a risk treatment.

The LDMG is not directly responsible for the management of residual risk that is identified as the responsibility of an agency/organisation. Each agency is required to address residual risks in its area of responsibility through the development of its own internal management and planning processes.

The LDMG Chairperson may seek assurance or confirmation that this planning and capacity development has been undertaken by responsible agencies.

For residual risks with no clearly established responsible agency, or where the residual risk is not being appropriately managed, or where the residual risk remains an unacceptable risk to the community, the LDMG should develop mitigation strategies.

Residual risks identified as the responsibility of Council will be communicated to the LDMG and managed by council through the development of the local response and recovery arrangements and appropriate support activities. Where council's capacity to deal with a residual risk that fall within its responsibility, requests for additional assistance may be directed to the DDMG.

Part 5 - Preparedness

The Longreach Regional Council and its Local Disaster Management Group undertakes preparedness activities throughout the year to promote community safety and resilience. The LDMG does this through a variety of strategies in partnership with its disaster management partners.

Operational Planning

These arrangements are developed under the Queensland Disaster Management Arrangements. The objectives of the LDMG operational planning arrangements are to:

- Ensure the safety of the community;
- Ensure the provision of appropriate response and/or recovery support to affected communities;
- Facilitate and support the restoration of essential community services and infrastructure;
- Support and locally lead the recovery of the community from the disaster.

A listing of Subplans, Guidelines and strategies can be found at Appendix 3.

Agency Role and Responsibilities

Agency role and responsibilities can be found in detail at Appendix 6. Their listed role and responsibilities are based on what they are required to provide in support of the LDMG from a Local, District or State level subject to the disaster type. The LDMG supports agency preparedness activities.

Community Engagement

The Longreach LDMG seeks to engage with the local community to facilitate a 'Shared Responsibility' approach to disaster management.

The LDMG is guided by the International Association of Public Participation (IAP2) Spectrum when engaging with the community. The Spectrum provides a level of engagement depending on the outcome and includes:


- Inform
- Consult
- Involve
- Collaborate
- Empower

The way the Longreach LDMG communicates with the community and its stakeholders is detailed in the Communications Sub-plan.

Community Resilience

The Queensland Strategy for Disaster Resilience is underpinned by four key objectives:

- Queenslanders understand their disaster risk
- Strengthened disaster risk management
- Queenslanders are invested in disaster risk reduction
- There is continuous improvement in disaster preparedness, response and recovery.



The Strategy provides an overarching framework to empower Queenslanders to factor in resilience measures and activities as they anticipate, respond and adapt to changing circumstances.

Further detail can be obtained from the Queensland Strategy for Disaster Resilience 2017.

Training

Disaster management training is the responsibility of the member agency and the individuals on the LDMG. The Queensland Fire and Emergency Service (QFES) delivers the training through the State Disaster Management Training Framework.

The Local Disaster Coordinator of the Longreach LDMG will liaise with the QFES Emergency Management Coordinator (EMC) for the Longreach District to identify training needs and deliver training to LDMG members and others to build capacity and capability to undertake their responsibilities in disaster management.

For further support, the contact details for the QFES EMC are listed in the Contact Directory at Appendix 7.

Exercise Management

Developing an exercise management program has the benefit of:

- training personnel
- reviewing plans
- testing the effectiveness of plans and resources

The exercise format can be one or a combination of the following:

- Discussion – hypothetical – agency presentation
- Desk-top
- Functional
- Field

An exercise management program to review the Local Disaster Management Arrangements will be determined by the Longreach LDMG or Subgroup set up for the purpose.

An exercise management program to review the Longreach Local Disaster Management Arrangements includes but is not limited to:

- A need is identified to test a plan or part of a plan from the Local Disaster Management Arrangements at least annually is facilitated by the Longreach LDMG
- If the Local Disaster Management Arrangements have been activated fully at least once in a calendar year, it may be decided not to proceed with the annual exercise
- The Longreach LDMG participates in neighbouring LDMG or DDMG exercises in a calendar year where the arrangements are activated, then the annual exercise may not be required

The Local Disaster Coordinator will seek the assistance of the QFES Emergency Management Coordinator to assist in facilitating the exercise management program along with the Disaster Management Coordinator (DMC) and the Executive Officer of the DDMG.

Part 6 - Prevention

The Longreach Regional Council and its Local Disaster Management Group identify hazards and potential mitigation strategies to implement that will alleviate the consequences of a disaster on the community.

Community Education

The Longreach Regional Council and its LDMG contributes to the resilience of their community through Community Education by the supply of relevant disaster management information, specific hazard/risk management tools for the community and hazard/risk awareness activities, including:

- Regular disaster management information as part of the council newsletter to residents
- Signage of known risks (where appropriate) to ensure greater community awareness
- Specific disaster management news, information, tools or resources through council service centres, rates notices and other community resources.
- Regular broadcasts on local radio
- Door knocking campaigns
- Connecting to the community via multi-media (i.e. Website and Facebook)
- Newsletters to each community prior to storm season and distributed on Facebook
- Distribute information from Get Ready website as reminders to communities
- Community information sessions for pre-season awareness
- Distribution of Be Ready Central West Flip Books

<https://www.longreach.qld.gov.au/downloads/file/825/get-ready-central-west-flip-book>

Further detail on how community education may be facilitated is found in the Communications Sub-plan.

Hazard Specific Arrangement

The Longreach LDMG through its risk management process may identify a need or collaborate with a hazard management agency to develop a local hazard specific plan.

The LDMG has developed local hazard specific plans for:

Pandemic

The Longreach LDMG worked with Queensland Health and Queensland Police to develop a local Pandemic Sub-plan. Refer to Pandemic Sub-plan.

Part 7 - Response

During a disaster, Council provides initial support to the affected community until its resources are fully committed. Additional support from the state, and ultimately the Commonwealth Government may be requested if needed. In accordance with section 4A(c) of the Act, Local Government is the frontline of disaster management and primarily responsible for managing events in their local government area. The Longreach LDMG is ideally suited to manage disaster events at the community level, based on its understanding of local social, environmental and economic issues as well as knowledge of the Shire's infrastructure.

Disaster Declaration

Where there is a requirement for a person or a class of persons to exercise the additional powers available under the provisions of the *Disaster Management Act 2003* (section 64), the District Disaster Coordinator (DDC) may, with the approval of the Minister, declare a disaster situation for the Disaster District or a part of the Disaster District. The District Disaster Coordinator should take reasonable steps to consult with Council prior to any declaration.

There is also provision for the Premier of Queensland and the Minister for Emergency Services to declare a Disaster Situation for the State or a part of the State.

The Chairperson of the State Disaster Management Group or the District Disaster Coordinator only, may authorise the exercise of additional powers.

In declaring a disaster situation, the DDC is to be satisfied that a disaster has happened, is happening or is likely to happen and it will be necessary, or reasonably likely to be necessary, to exercise declared disaster powers to prevent or minimise the loss of human life, illness or injury to humans, property loss or damage, or damaging to the environment. The LDC will ensure that information to the DDC is regular and consistent with the seriousness of an event so that an informed decision can be made.

Communication

The LDMG will coordinate effective collection, monitoring, management and dissemination of accurate, useful and timely information and warnings to the public before, during and after disaster events.


The principal responsibility for the release of this information through the media and other agencies rests with the Chairperson or their delegate.

Refer to the Longreach Regional Council Communications Sub-plan for further detail.

Activation

The LDMG can be activated in the following circumstances:

- By the Chairperson of the LDMG (or delegate) on receipt of information regarding an actual, imminent or likely disaster event that has potential to significantly impact one or more communities in the Longreach Regional Council area; or
- By the Chairperson of the LDMG (or delegate) on receipt of request from the District Disaster Coordinator in response to an actual, imminent or likely disaster event; or
- By the Chairperson of the LDMG (or delegate) on receipt of request from an emergency management agency with combat responsibility for a disaster event.



Activation does not necessarily mean the convening of disaster management groups. Initially, it may be for the provision of information to group members as required.

Refer to the Activation Guideline for more information.

Escalation

The LDMG is activated according to an escalation model based on the following levels:

1. Alert
2. Lean Forward
3. Stand Up
4. Stand Down

The movement through this table may not be sequential depending on circumstances. Refer to the Activation Guideline for more detail.

Triggers to escalate the level of response from Local to District and/or State include but are not limited to:

- Local resources are exhausted
- Level of expertise and/or asset requirements are beyond local capacity and capability
- Complex and multiple events affecting the area

Local Disaster Coordination Centre

The Longreach LDMG is responsible for local disaster coordination during a disaster event. Disaster coordination is facilitated through the establishment of a primary Local Disaster Coordination Centre. Other facilities may be identified to support coordination as required.

The primary Local Disaster Coordination Control Centre is located at the Fairmount Room, Longreach Regional Council, 96a Eagle Street, Longreach. The secondary LDCC is located at Longreach Regional Council Works Depot, Kite Street, Longreach.

Refer to the Disaster Coordination Centre Guideline for further detail on location, setup and management of the local disaster coordination centre.

Warnings and Alerts

Warnings and Alerts are issued by the responsible agency and the Longreach LDMG facilitates the dissemination of these warnings and alerts as required to the local community. Refer to the Public Information and Warnings Sub-plan for further detail.

Warnings and Alerts may include but are not limited to:

- Bureau of Meteorology, issuing severe weather and flood warnings
- Emergency Alert issued by the Queensland Fire and Emergency Services with input from LDMGs and the DDMG. Refer to Queensland Emergency Alert Guidelines
- Standard Emergency Warning Signal (SEWS) issued where life and/or property is threatened by a disaster
- Australian Warning System, a consistent standard warning information system across five key hazards used nationally.

The LDMG may issue disaster messaging to keep the local community informed of the situation. Refer to the Communications Sub-plan for further detail.

Resource Management

Whilst the Longreach Local Disaster Management Group has available the combined resources of its member agencies for use in a disaster event, there will be times when the resources will be insufficient.

Where the LDMG requires logistics support and/or resources to meet operational requirements that are beyond local capacity and capability, the LDMG may formally seek assistance through a:

- Request for Assistance forwarded to the DDC.
- Personnel or logistics may be available through council to council arrangements.
- In all circumstances where additional logistics are required, the DDC will be informed.

Refer to the Resource Management Guideline for further detail.

Financial Management

Initially, Council and each agency is responsible for their own financial management when engaged in disaster management activities according to their role and responsibilities.

The Longreach Regional Council has their own internal system for the financial management of resources it is responsible for and activities undertaken where they may attract funding support.

The Longreach LDMG through Council will ensure a correct collation of expenditure during a disaster event is compiled.

Refer to the Financial Management Guideline for further detail.

Disaster Reporting

Situation Reports will be submitted at intervals as determined by the LDC from the member agencies to ensure the Disaster Coordination Centre has complete situational awareness.

LDMG Situation Reports will be submitted on a regular basis to the DDC, Longreach. Such reports will be required at times stipulated by the DDC Longreach, and will be in the format as prescribed in the Local Disaster Coordination Centre Guideline.

- The review of operational activities undertaken during a disaster is a key component in ensuring capability development and the continuous improvement of disaster management arrangements.
- Post-disaster reviews are conducted to:
- Assess disaster operations undertaken including actions, decisions or processes;
- Document processes that worked well for use in the next operation and disaster management planning
- Assess capability and consider where additional training and/or exercises may enhance capacity

Evacuation

Evacuation is a strategy that may be employed for the safety of the community. It is based on the:

- Decision to evacuate
- Warning to evacuate
- Withdrawal of people

- Shelter of people
- Return of people

Evacuation is a general term used when managing a community that needs to be removed from a potential hazard or threat. Other types of evacuation include:

- Voluntary evacuation, where the community is requested to leave an area by their own means without much assistance
- Directed evacuation, where the community is directed to leave (under a Disaster declaration which is managed by Police)
- The LDMG manages evacuations within their area of responsibility

The Longreach LDMG has developed an Evacuation Sub-plan that provides the detail to facilitate an evacuation.

Evacuation Centre Management

Evacuation Centres have been identified by the Longreach LDMG for use should the community require evacuation or a central facility together during a disaster event.

The identified facilities and management process are contained in the Evacuation Centre Management Guideline.

Resupply

The Longreach LDMG is responsible for the management of the resupply of essential items to isolated communities and rural properties.

State approved resupply operations may involve watercraft, fixed wing or rotary wing aircraft. The delivery of supplies by these means is designed to ensure the isolated properties or communities are not financially disadvantaged in ordering essential supplies. They may still pay for the supplies, but the transportation costs are managed through state funding.

Refer to Resupply Sub-plan for further detail.

PART 8 - Recovery

The Longreach Regional Council and its Local Disaster Management Group undertake recovery activities and supports partnering agencies in providing recovery services to the community.

Recovery Functions

Disaster recovery is the coordinated process of supporting affected individuals and communities in the reconstruction of the physical infrastructure, restoration of the economy and of the environment and support for the emotional, social and physical well-being of those affected.

Disaster recovery is a complex and usually a long process that requires a range of services from various government and non-government organisations who contribute to the support of the community across the five functional areas of recovery:

1. Human and Social

Focuses on supporting the emotional, social, physical and psychological health and wellbeing of individuals, families and communities.

2. Economic

Focuses on rectifying the direct and indirect impacts on the economy.

3. Roads and Transport

Focuses on rectifying the effects on transport networks including road, rail, aviation and maritime networks that result in difficulty accessing communities and disruption to critical supply chains.

4. Building

Focuses on rectifying damage and disruption which inhibits the capacity of essential services and the building sector

5. Environment

Focuses on rectifying the impacts on the natural environment either directly or through secondary impacts that include loss of flora and fauna, air and water quality, land degradation and cultural and built heritage listed places

The Longreach Regional Council through the LDMG has developed the Longreach Regional Council Recovery Sub-plan December 2021. The Recovery Sub-plan provides greater detail on how recovery will be implemented within the Longreach Regional Council area.

Vulnerable Persons

The LDMG acknowledges that there are vulnerable people in the community and people can become vulnerable due to a disaster impact. The LDMG has limited capacity to manage vulnerable persons and will rely on working with partner stakeholders who have responsibility in this area and through support from the District Disaster Management Group.

Offers of Assistance

In disaster operations and management, the LDMG may receive offers of assistance but may not have the capacity to manage all offers depending on their nature. One way the LDMG will manage offers is through GIVIT under the Queensland Policy for Offers of Assistance and Guideline.

The Queensland Government through the Queensland Reconstruction Authority (QRA) has partnered with GIVIT to provide a mechanism to match donations with community need.



Animals in Disasters

The LDMG recognises that animals both domestic and commercial are impacted by a disaster. The LDMG will liaise with the Longreach Regional Council Local Laws and Rural Lands team and the Department of Agriculture and Fisheries to facilitate support for impacted animals. Where this will exceed local capacity, assistance will be sought through the District Disaster Coordinator.

Spontaneous Volunteers

Volunteers play a key role in local disaster management response and recovery. Spontaneous volunteers may present during a disaster event. Whilst limited in the Longreach Regional Council area, the LDMG through Council does not have capacity to manage spontaneous volunteers and would seek assistance from the District Disaster Management Group through Volunteering Queensland to provide support with this.

Impact Assessments

Impact assessments inform the disaster management approach and may be undertaken by various agencies due to their role and responsibility. The Longreach Local Disaster Management Group is required to undertake their own impact assessments where Council has responsibility but also to liaise with other agencies to collect and collate information to develop an overview of the impact of the disaster on the community to inform disaster management, not only in recovery but also response, preparedness and prevention (mitigation) as applicable.

Further detail on how impact assessments are managed can be found in the Longreach Regional Council Impact Assessment Sub-plan September 2017.

Appendix 1 - Amendment Register

Version	Amendment	Author	Date accepted by LDMG	Date adopted by Council
1.1	LDMP written		13 June 2013	19 September 2013
2.0	Minor update		20 September 2016	24 October 2016
2.1	Minor update		30 October 2017	16 November 2017
3.0	Minor update		8 November 2019	21 November 2017
4.0	Minor Update		18 November 2020	18 November 2020
5.0	Full rewrite	Craig Neuendorf Phil Kuhne	6 September 2022	27 October 2022

Appendix 2 – Distribution List

Organisation / Agency	Officer (copies)
Longreach Regional Council	Mayor, Chair of the LDMG (1) Local Disaster Coordinator, Longreach LDMG (1) Disaster Management Coordinator (1)
SES	Longreach SES (1)
Queensland Fire and Emergency Services	Emergency Management Coordinator – Longreach (1) Inspector, Fire & Rescue, Longreach (1) Captain, Longreach Fire & Rescue (1)
Queensland Police	Officer in Charge, Longreach (1)
	DDC – Longreach (1)
Queensland Ambulance Service	Officer in Charge, Longreach (1)
Queensland Health	Director of Nursing, Longreach Hospital (1)

Appendix 3 – Longreach Disaster Management Planning Framework

The Longreach Disaster Management Planning Framework has been developed to guide local disaster management planning and comprises:

Plans

- Longreach Local Disaster Management Plan (LDMP) V.5.0 July 2022
- Longreach Regional Council Business Continuity Plan January 2022
- Central West Regional Resilience Strategy January 2020
- Longreach Regional Council Public Health Plan

Sub-plans - Support

- Longreach Regional Council Recovery Sub-plan December 2021
- Longreach Disaster Management Communications Sub-plan
- Longreach Local Evacuation Sub-plan
- Longreach Local Resupply Sub-plan

Sub-plans – Hazard Specific

- Longreach Local Pandemic Sub-plan

Guidelines

- Local Activation Guideline
- Local Disaster Coordination Centre Guideline
- Local Evacuation Centre Management Guideline
- Public Information and Warnings Guideline
- Local Resource Management Guideline
- Local Financial Management Guideline
- Local Impact Assessment Guideline

Community Information Documents

- Community Disaster Management Flip Book
- <https://www.longreach.qld.gov.au/downloads/file/825/get-ready-central-west-flip-book>

Notes

- The Longreach LDMG will review their suite of disaster management plans annually to determine if they have an appropriate level of plans and guidelines in place to support local disaster management activities
- Generally, plans and sub-plans will be provided in a restricted and public version
- Generally, guidelines may only be developed as a restricted version as they are an internal management document containing confidential information

Appendix 4 – Longreach Local Disaster Management (LDMG) Terms of Reference

Establishment

The Local Disaster Management Group (LDMG) is established under Section 29 of the *Disaster Management Act 2003* (the Act).

Role

The local government, through the LDMG, retains primary responsibility for managing disaster events contained within their local government area. (S.4A(c) of the Act)

Functions

The LDMG has the following functions (S.30 of the Act):

- To ensure that disaster management and disaster operations in the area are consistent with the State group’s strategic policy framework for disaster management for the State;
- To develop effective disaster management, and regularly review and assess the disaster management;
- To help the local government for its area to prepare a local disaster management plan;
- To identify and provide advice to the relevant district group about support services required by the local group to facilitate disaster management and disaster operations in the area;
- To ensure the community is aware of ways of mitigating the adverse effects of an event, and preparing for, responding to and recovering from a disaster;
- To manage disaster operations in the area under policies and procedures decided by the State group;
- To provide reports and make recommendations to the relevant district group about matters relating to disaster operations;
- To identify and coordinate the use of resources that may be used for disaster operations in the area;
- To establish and review communications systems in the group, and with the relevant district group and other local groups in the disaster district of the relevant district group, for use when a disaster happens;
- To ensure information about a disaster in the area is promptly given to the relevant district group;
- To perform other functions given to the group under this Act;
- To perform a function incidental to any of the previous functions mentioned.

LDMG Priorities

- Development of function-specific planning groups to support the Local Disaster Management Group;
- Development of a comprehensive hazard and risk assessment for the Longreach Regional Council area;
- Development of a disaster mitigation strategy for the Longreach Regional Council;
- Development of a comprehensive disaster management arrangements suite of documents for the Longreach Regional Council;
- Development and resourcing of primary and secondary disaster coordination centres for the Longreach Regional Council;
- Development of a holistic disaster recovery plan for the Longreach Regional Council;
- Development of an effective disaster preparedness community awareness strategy;
- Develop and maintain effective local community communications strategies;
- Develop and maintain a local disaster management group membership who is appropriately qualified and trained.


Membership

Membership of the Local Disaster Management Group (LDMG) is outlined in the *Disaster Management Regulation 2014* (the Regulation). Appointments under the *Disaster Management Act 2003* (the Act) can be made to a person or by position (see section 24A of the *Acts Interpretation Act 1954*). It is strongly recommended that appointments be made by position which eliminates the need for a new appointment when a change in personnel occurs.

Generally, an LDMG is comprised of:

- Chairperson (must be a councillor) appointed by the relevant local government under section 34 of the Act.
- Deputy Chairperson (recommended to be a councillor) appointed by the relevant local government under section 34 of the Act.
- Local Disaster Coordinator (must be an employee of the local government) appointed by the relevant local government under section 35 of the Act.
- Person nominated by the Commissioner, Queensland Fire and Emergency Services (QFES) appointed by the relevant local government under section 33 of the Act.
- Other persons appointed by the relevant local government under section 33 of the Act, as identified by the local government's functional requirements.

Local group members are appointed under section 33 of the Act. It is suggested that LDMG membership consists of representatives with the necessary expertise or experience and



delegation authority to assist with a comprehensive, all hazards, all agencies approach to disaster management.

Section 14(1) of the Regulation allows a member of a disaster management group, with the approval of the Chairperson, to appoint, by signed notice, another person as their deputy. In identifying and nominating a deputy, a disaster management group member must acknowledge that the nominated person has the necessary expertise or experience to perform the functions associated with membership of the group.

Chairperson and deputy chairperson

The Chairperson and Deputy Chairperson of the LDMG are the persons appointed by the relevant local government for the LDMG. The Chairperson must be a Councillor of that Local Government (S. 34 the Act & Reg. 10).

Functions of chairperson of the LDMG

In accordance with Section 34A of the Act, the chairperson of the LDMG has the following functions-

- (a) To manage and coordinate the business of the group;
- (b) To ensure, as far as practicable, that the group performs its functions;
- (c) To report regularly to the relevant district group, and the Commissioner, QFES, about the performance by the local group of its functions.

Local disaster coordinator

In accordance with Section 35 of the Act-

- (1) The Chairperson of the local group must, after consulting with the Chief Executive Officer, appoint the Chief Executive Officer or an employee of the relevant local government as a Local Disaster Coordinator of the group.
- (2) The Chairperson of the local group may appoint a person mentioned in subsection (1) as a Local Disaster Coordinator of the group only if satisfied the person has the necessary expertise or experience to be a Local Disaster Coordinator.
- (3) The appointment under subsection (2) must be in writing and may only be revoked in writing

Functions of the local disaster coordinator

In accordance with Section 36 of the Act, the local disaster coordinator has the following functions-

- (a) To coordinate disaster operations for the local group;
- (b) To report regularly to the local group about disaster operations;
- (c) To ensure, as far as practicable, that any strategic decisions of the local group about disaster operations are implemented.

Notice about membership of the LDMG

In accordance with Section 37 of the Act, the relevant local government for a local group must, at least once a year, give written notice of the members of the group to the Commissioner, QFES and the District Disaster Coordinator (DDC).

Members

Position	Holder
Chair LDMG	Mayor, Longreach Regional Council
Deputy Chair	Councillor, Longreach Regional Council
Local Disaster Coordinator	Chief Executive Officer, Longreach Regional Council
Deputy Local Disaster Coordinator	Director of Infrastructure Services
Members	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Officer in Charge, Longreach Police Station, Queensland Police Service ▪ Inspector, Fire and Rescue, Queensland Fire & Emergency Services ▪ Local Controller, Longreach Regional Council State Emergency Services ▪ Officer in Charge, Longreach QAS, Queensland Ambulance Service ▪ Director of Nursing, Longreach Hospital

Advisory Members

Advisory Members	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Captain, Longreach Fire and Rescue ▪ Emergency Management Coordinator, Queensland Fire & Emergency Services ▪ Area Director, Rural Operations, Queensland Fire & Emergency Services ▪ Disaster Management Coordinator, Longreach Regional Council ▪ Director of Community & Cultural Services, Longreach Regional Council (Recovery Officer) ▪ Industry Representatives ▪ Representative from Ergon ▪ Representative from Telstra ▪ School Representative ▪ Airport Manager, Longreach, Queensland Airports Limited ▪ Representative from Housing & Public Works
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Member Obligations

- Attend LDMG activities with a full knowledge of their organisations' resources and services and the expectations of their organisation
- Are available and appropriately briefed to actively participate in LDMG activities to ensure that plans, projects and operations use the full potential of their organisation, while recognising any limitations
- Are appropriately positioned within their agency to be able to commit agency resources to LDMG normal business activities
- Have a deputy who is appropriately trained to take on their responsibilities should they be unavailable or to provide additional support during extended operations
- Contribute to Disaster Management Planning for the Local Government area

Meetings

LDMG meetings must be held at least once in every 6 months at the times and places decided by the Chairperson of the group. In addition, the Chairperson of the LDMG must call a meeting if asked in writing by the DDC or if asked in writing by at least one-half of the members of the LDMG (Reg. 12).

The Chairperson of the LDMG is to preside at all meetings of the group at which the Chairperson is present. If the Chairperson is absent from a meeting of the LDMG, the Deputy Chairperson is to preside. If the Chairperson and Deputy Chairperson are both absent from a meeting of the LDMG, the member of the group nominated by the Chairperson is to preside, or if the Chairperson does not nominate a member, the member nominated by the Deputy Chairperson is to preside. If the offices of Chairperson and Deputy Chairperson are vacant, the member of the group chosen by the members present is to preside (Reg. 16).

A quorum for a LDMG meeting is the number equal to one-half of its members for the time being holding office plus one. A LDMG must keep minutes of its meetings (Reg. 13 & 18).

A LDMG may hold meetings or allow members of the group to take part in its meetings, by using any technology that reasonably allows members to hear and take part in discussions as they happen e.g. teleconferencing. A member who takes part in a LDMG using this technology is taken to be present at the meeting (S.38 of the Act & Reg. 17).

Local Disaster Management Plan (LDMP)

A local government must prepare a LDMP for their local government which must include provision for (S.57 of the Act):

- The State group's strategic policy framework for disaster management for the State, and the local government's policies for disaster management;

- The roles and responsibilities of entities involved in disaster operations and disaster management in the area;
- The coordination of disaster operations and activities relating to disaster management performed by the entities;
- Events that are likely to happen in the area;
- Strategies and priorities for disaster management for the area;
- The matters stated in the disaster management guidelines as matters to be included in the LDMP;
- Other matters about disaster management in the area the local government considers appropriate.

The LDMP must be consistent with the disaster management standards and disaster management guidelines. (S.58 the Act)

The LDMG may review or renew its LDMP when the local government considers it appropriate. However, the local government must review the effectiveness of the LDMP at least once a year. (S.59 of the Act)

The LDMP must be available for inspection, free of charge, by members of the public. (S.60 the Act)

Power of delegation

In accordance with Section 143(8) of the Act, the local disaster coordinator may delegate the coordinator's functions under section 36 to an appropriately qualified person.

Local recovery coordinator (LRC)

The LDMG has appointed a LRC to coordinate recovery at the local level. The person appointed should not be the same person appointed as the local disaster coordinator. The LRC has the following functions:

- Liaise regularly with the local disaster coordinator during disaster operations;
- Chair the Local Recovery Group (LRG);
- Liaise with functional lead agency representatives;
- Work with agencies and the community to assist the LDMG to implement their Recovery Sub-Plan and coordinate a recovery strategy during disaster operations.

Appendix 5 - Longreach Disaster Management Risk Register

The Longreach LDMG Risk Register is the summary of a broader Risk Assessment Process that considered the likelihood and consequences of a range of risk in the communities within the Longreach Regional Council geographic area.

The Longreach LDMG Risk Register identifies several treatment options for many of these risks, but many of the treatment options identified have been forwarded to the DDC and/or other agencies for development of a treatment plan.

		Consequence				
		Insignificant	Minor	Moderate	Major	Catastrophic
Likelihood						
CONTROL LEVEL EFFECTIVENESS	Almost Certain	Moderate	High	Extreme	Extreme	Extreme
	Likely	Moderate	High	High	Extreme	Extreme
	Possible	Low	Moderate	High	Extreme	Extreme
	Unlikely	Low	Low	Moderate	High	Extreme
	Rare	Low	Low	Moderate	High	High

Risk Register

Natural Hazard	Most Vulnerable Elements	Natural Disaster Risks	Likelihood	Consequence	Risk Treatment Priority
Severe Weather Thunderstorms, Tornadoes	Buildings constructed prior to 1983 or poorly maintained and/or in exposed locations. Industrial buildings, lifelines.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Serious injury or death from building damage, flying debris, electrocution from fallen power lines. ▪ Widespread building damage. ▪ Loss of power supply has major impact on other lifelines and industry. ▪ Major economic disruption at both local and State levels. ▪ Response and recovery facilities may be inadequate. 	Possible	Moderate	High
Bushfire	Areas indicated on bushfire hazard maps.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Serious injury or death from direct contact or by smoke inhalation. ▪ Building damage in affected area. ▪ Economic disruption. ▪ Danger to road traffic from smoke. ▪ Means of egress may be cut. ▪ Loss of agriculture crops, damage to grazing land and loss of livestock. ▪ Mental health impact on communities. 	Likely	Moderate	High

Natural Hazard	Most Vulnerable Elements	Natural Disaster Risks	Likelihood	Consequence	Risk Treatment Priority
Flood	Areas indicated on flood maps as being below 50 Year or 100 Year ARI maps.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Serious injury or death from drowning. ▪ Building damage in affected area. ▪ Economic disruption, river erosion, sediment to farmland. ▪ Means of egress may be cut – affecting supplies and outside assistance. ▪ Community drift to more Shire centres. 	Likely	Moderate	High
Drought	Agricultural communities and businesses.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Risk to rural economies. ▪ Psychosocial impact to rural communities. ▪ Degradation of the environment. 	Possible	Moderate	High
Heatwave	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Older people ▪ Babies and young children ▪ People with: ▪ Serious mental health ▪ Certain medication ▪ Chronic conditions ▪ Existing temperature from infection ▪ Misuse alcohol or take illicit drugs ▪ Mobility problems Physically active, (manual workers and sportsmen and women)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Increased hospital admissions relating to heat cramps, heat exhaustion, heat stroke, stress, dehydration, or because of heat exacerbating existing conditions. ▪ Increased rates of certain crimes particularly those related to aggressive behaviour such as homicide. ▪ Increased number of work- related incidents and reduced work productivity. ▪ Decreased sports performance. ▪ Strain on critical lifelines because of increased electricity/ water usage. 	Possible	Minor	Moderate

Key Critical Infrastructure

Infrastructure Element	Description	Vulnerabilities	Resiliencies
Power	<p>LRC is well connected to the grid and has emergency generator capacity in critical locations.</p> <p>Many private properties, businesses and individuals also have emergency generation capacity.</p>	<p>Potential for loss of power over an extended period would severely test the capacity for generation.</p>	<p>Emergency power generation capacity exists for essential council services in Longreach, Ilfracombe, Isisford and Yaraka.</p> <p>Rural properties on generators are vulnerable, during prolonged wet weather or flood events.</p>
Reticulated Water	<p>Reticulated water requires treatment before being pumped from Ground Level Reservoirs to Elevated Reservoirs which gravity feed into the reticulation system.</p>	<p>Potential for loss of power for a few hours would test the capacity of the Elevated Reservoirs.</p> <p>Potential for loss of power for a day would test the capacity of the Ground Level Reservoirs.</p> <p>The times stated above are dependent on demand and may be less than indicated.</p>	<p>All systems have a backup generator permanently connected to re-establish power and the function of the treatment plants and pump stations to replenish the reservoirs.</p>

Infrastructure Element	Description	Vulnerabilities	Resiliencies
Sewerage	<p>Longreach has a full sewerage system. Both Isisford and Ilfracombe have domestic septic and Common Effluent Disposal systems.</p> <p>Relies on pump working with elevated reservoirs.</p>	<p>Potential for loss of power for 8-12 hours would result in overflows at the pump stations.</p> <p>The times stated above are dependent on demand and may be less than indicated.</p>	<p>All pump stations have the capacity for generator connection to the pumps and re-establish holding capacity of the pump stations.</p>
Communication	<p>LRC is well connected to communications infrastructure.</p> <p>Telephone, internet and (where available) mobile services have good reliability.</p>	<p>Loss of communications would severely limit ability to relay important safety messages to the community.</p>	<p>Robust systems increase operational capability and ensure ability to keep community informed.</p> <p>Door knocks are the secondary method of communications.</p>

Infrastructure Element	Description	Vulnerabilities	Resiliencies
Transport Road	Sealed bitumen highway (Landsborough Highway) between Longreach/Barcaldine and Longreach/Winton. Sealed bitumen road between Ilfracombe and Isisford and a well maintained gravel road between Isisford and Yaraka. Other areas of the LRC are linked by unsealed roads.	Almost all roads in the area are subject to inundation from riverine flooding. Limited remedial work is practical to eliminate this vulnerability.	Most sealed roads have been engineered to withstand small flooding events. Maintenance and repair activities are scheduled to maximise periods of usage.
Transport Rail	Longreach Railway Station provides passenger and freight services with connections to Winton, Rockhampton and beyond.	Rail link to Winton is subject to flooding in several places. Rail link to the eastern seaboard has a number of points of weakness in the event of major flooding.	Aurizon have contingency and business continuity plans for regional areas where there are known impacts upon rail services.
Transport Air	The Longreach Airport has regular commuter aircraft and comprises a 1900m sealed runway. Other main airstrips in the area include: Ilfracombe - 1100m Isisford - 1350m Yaraka - 1200m	Ilfracombe airstrip cannot be used in wet weather as it is unsealed.	Queensland Airports Ltd have contingency and business continuity plans in place for the Longreach Airport. Ilfracombe, Isisford and Yaraka airports are maintained by LRC. Isisford and Yaraka have sealed airstrips. Ilfracombe has an unsealed airstrip and air traffic can be diverted to Longreach when the Ilfracombe airstrip is closed due to wet weather.

Appendix 6 - Local Agency Disaster Management Role & Responsibilities

Agency	Local Role and Responsibilities
<p>Longreach Regional Council (LRC)</p>	<p>Continuity of Council services and disaster management capacity:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Maintenance of Council functions ▪ Establishment of Local Disaster Management Group <p>Maintenance of normal Council services to the community:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Road Condition Reporting ▪ Road Closures ▪ Water ▪ Sewerage ▪ Refuse disposal ▪ Public health ▪ Animal control ▪ Environmental protection <p>Maintenance of a disaster response capability:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Establish Local Disaster Coordination Centre (LDCC) capacity; ▪ Maintain operational support resources
<p>Local Disaster Management Group (LDMG)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Development of Local Disaster Management Plan ▪ Support and promote public education and/or awareness programs ▪ Support operation of LDCC including identifying sufficient personnel to operate the LDCC ▪ Coordination of support to local response agencies ▪ Initial and on-going impact assessment ▪ Support provision of public information prior to, during and following disaster ▪ Provide advice on authorised evacuation ▪ Support resourcing, staffing and operation of Evacuation Centres ▪ Provide local community support services

Agency	Local Role and Responsibilities
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ QFES (Disaster Management) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Coordinate policy, planning and operational advice and assistance to local disaster managers ▪ Coordinate State and Commonwealth assistance for local disaster management and disaster operations ▪ Coordinate provision of disaster management training ▪ Deploy EMC to support disaster management and operations
<p>QFES (Fire and Rescue)</p>	<p>Maintain QFES functions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Fire control ▪ Fire prevention ▪ Rescue of trapped persons ▪ Specialist Urban Search and Rescue ▪ Assist in pumping out of flooded buildings ▪ Assist in clean-up of flood affected buildings ▪ Management of hazardous material situations (including provisions of Safety Data Sheets)
<p>QFES (Queensland Rural Fire Service)</p>	<p>Maintain QFES functions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Provide control, management and pre-incident planning of fires ▪ Primary agency for bushfires

<p>Queensland Police Service (QPS)</p>	<p>Overall management of Queensland’s disaster management system on behalf of the SDMG</p> <p>Maintain police functions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Preservation of law and order ▪ Prevention of crime ▪ Security of possible crime scenes ▪ Investigation of the criminal aspect of any event ▪ Coronial investigation procedures ▪ Traffic control, including assistance with road closures and maintenance of roadblocks ▪ Crowd management/public safety ▪ Coordination of search and rescue ▪ Security of evacuated areas ▪ Registration of evacuated persons
<p>Queensland Ambulance Service (QAS)</p>	<p>Maintain QAS functions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Triage, assessment, treatment and transportation of injured persons ▪ Provide assistance with medical emergency evacuations ▪ Provision of advice regarding medical special needs sectors of the community



Agency	Local Role and Responsibilities
QFES (State Emergency Service)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Assist community to prepare for, respond to and recover from an event or disaster▪ Support Public Education and Awareness strategies▪ Assist with rescue of trapped or stranded persons▪ Flood boat operations▪ Conduct search operations for missing persons▪ Emergency repair/protection of damaged and/or vulnerable buildings▪ Assistance with debris clearance▪ First Aid▪ Assist Police with Traffic Control activities▪ Short term welfare support to response agencies▪ Assist with impact assessment▪ Assist with establishment and maintenance of communications systems▪ Provide emergency lighting



Agency	Local Role and Responsibilities
<p>Queensland Health (Q-Health)</p>	<p>Maintain Health services:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Coordination of medical resources ▪ Public health advice and warnings to participating agencies and the community ▪ Psychological and counselling services for disaster affected persons ▪ Ongoing medical and health services required during the recovery period to preserve the general health of the community.
<p>Queensland Reconstruction Authority (QRA)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Administer reconstruction activities from a disaster event ▪ Build a more disaster resilient Queensland ▪ Lead agency for recovery
<p>Industry Representatives (eg Ergon, Telstra)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Advise on industry-specific effects of any potential disaster event ▪ Advise on the response assistance that industry can provide via specialist resources, manpower etc ▪ Provide Situation Reports and/or Damage/Impact Reports to the LDMG to ensure appropriate support is provided.

Appendix 8 - Glossary

A comprehensive list of disaster management acronyms and definitions can be found at the following sites:

- Australian Institute of Disaster Resilience (AIDR) – www.knowledge.aidr.org.au/glossary
- Queensland Government Disaster website – www.disaster.qld.gov.au/dmg/Glossary/Pages/default.aspx

A general rule for the use of an acronym within this document is to write out the full name followed by the acronym in brackets, then the acronym is used where appropriate throughout the document

The following is a list of the most common terms and acronyms used in LDMP and its definition.

Term/Acronym	Meaning
BoM	Bureau of Meteorology
LRC	Longreach Regional Council
Coordination	The bringing together of agencies and individuals to ensure effective Disaster Management but does not include the control of agencies and individuals by direction.
DDC	District Disaster Coordinator
DDMG	District Disaster Management Group
Disaster Coordination Centre:	A centre established at local level as a centre of communication and coordination during response and recovery operations.
Disaster Management:	Arrangements about managing the potential adverse effects of an event, including, for example, arrangements for mitigating, preventing, preparing for, responding to and recovering from a disaster.
Disaster Operations:	Activities undertaken before, during or after an event happens to help reduce loss of human life, illness or injury to humans, property loss or damage, or damage to the environment, including for example, activities to mitigate the adverse effects of the event.
Disaster	A disaster is a serious disruption in a community, caused by the impact of an event that requires a significant coordinated response by council, state and other agencies to manage the event and help the community recover from the disruption.

Term/Acronym	Meaning
Evacuation:	The voluntary or involuntary removal of persons or things from a disaster area.
LDCC	Local Disaster Coordination Centre
LDMG	Local Disaster Management Group
LDMP	Local Disaster Management Plan
PPRR	Prevention, Preparedness, Response and Recovery
QAS	Queensland Ambulance Service
QFES	Queensland Fire and Emergency Service
QH	Queensland Health
QPS	Queensland Police Service
Recovery:	The coordinated process of supporting emergency-affected communities in reconstruction of the physical infrastructure and restoration of emotional, social, economic, and physical well-being
Relief	The provision of immediate shelter, life support and human needs of persons affected by, or responding to, an emergency. It includes the establishment, management and provision of services to emergency relief centres
RFS	Rural Fire Service
SES	State Emergency Service
XO	Executive Officer

Appendix 9 – Reference List

Legislation

- Disaster Management Act 2003
- Disaster Management Regulations 2014
- Public Safety Preservation Act 1986
- Police Powers and Responsibilities Act 2000
- Other specific legislation as required e.g. Public Health Act 2005 for Pandemic

Policy

- Disaster Management Strategic Policy Statement (SPS): Articulates the approach, objectives & strategies for disaster management for the State
- Queensland Offers of Assistance Policy

Plans

- State Disaster Management Plan (SDMP)
- Queensland Recovery Plan
- Longreach District Disaster Management Plan

Standards and Assurance

- Emergency Management Assurance Framework (IGEM)
- Standard for Disaster Management in Queensland

Other Doctrine

- National Disaster Recovery Principles
- Queensland Emergency Risk Management Framework
- Queensland Strategy for Disaster Resilience
https://www.qra.qld.gov.au/sites/default/files/2018-10/queensland_strategy_for_disaster_resilience_2017_0.pdf
- Queensland Disaster Management Training Framework

Guidelines

- Prevention, Preparedness, Response & Recovery Disaster Management Guideline
- Queensland Emergency Alert Guidelines
- Queensland Offers of Assistance Guideline
- <https://www.disaster.qld.gov.au/dmg/st/Documents/M1030-LDMG-Responsibilities-Manual.pdf>
- <https://www.disaster.qld.gov.au/dmg/Pages/DM-Guideline.aspx>



Standard

Risk Management Standard ISO 31000-2009

IGEM Standard for Disaster Management

Key links

- www.qra.qld.gov.au
- www.igem.qld.gov.au
- www.recovery.gov.au
- www.disaster.qld.gov.au
- www.qfes.qld.gov.au
- www.givit.org.au
- www.volunteeringqld.org.au



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