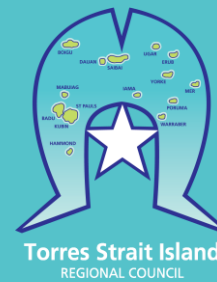


Torres Strait Island Regional Council Local Monsoon Trough Recovery Plan

North & Far North Queensland Monsoon Trough, 25 January - 14 February 2019

Endorsed by Mayor on 25 June 2019, Council to consider 25 June 2019



Mayor
Fred Gela



CEO
Bruce Ranga

Recovery narrative

Recovery narrative

The Torres Strait Island Regional Council's (TSIRC) local government area is the largest of the two shires that exist within the Torres Strait Region, both shires sit within 200km between the tip of Cape York Peninsula and Papua New Guinea.

TSIRC has jurisdictional responsibilities for 15 Island Communities services, 5,000 constituents, across 42,000km² of water, and an international border which is managed via a treaty with Papua New Guinea. Our communities of Arkai, Badu, Boigu, Dauan, Erub, lama, Kirirri, Mabuag, Masig, Mer, Poruma, Saibai, Ugar, Warraber and Wug, are grouped by five clusters, represented by the five points of the star in our logo, and flag.

The clusters are:

- Gudaw Maluligal Nation of the Top Western Islands
- Maluligal Nation of the Western Islands
- Kemer Kemer Meriam Nation of the Eastern Islands
- Kulkalgal Nation of the Central Islands
- Kaiwalagal Kaurareg Aboriginal Nation of the Inner Islands

Our region, known in language as Zenadh Kes, is the home of two traditional languages and six dialects:

- Meriam Mir – Mer dialect and Erub dialect
- Kala Lagaw Ya – Kulkalgau Ya, Kalaw Kawaw Ya, Kawrareg dialect and Mabuyag dialect

As the largest council in the Torres Strait we represent the outer islands; providing a wide range of services across our communities in addition to the delivery of services such as waste management, water and roads, we also manage 11 airstrips and 15 marine facilities, 900 social houses, 15 fuel outlets, cultural centres, art centres, Indigenous Knowledge Centres, accommodation and a range of community services including child care and home support.

TSIRC is invested in the social, environmental, economic and cultural development of our region through our advocacy and our mission to improve our community's liveability in all we do.

Council's vision: For our Communities and Council to be autonomous, prosperous, and sustainable.

Council's mission: To improve our community's liveability in all we do.

Council values

- Respect – We have **respect** for each other and the **communities** we serve
- Courage – We are **courageous** leaders, who think **innovatively**
- Accountability – We are **accountable** and **responsive** to our communities
- Resilience – We are builders of a **sustainable** and **resilient** region
- One – We are **one team** who achieves together

Local Recovery Group

Established: 2009
Chaired by: Cr. Fred Gela, Mayor (Co-Chair, TS LDMG)

Lines of Recovery

Human and Social, Economic, Environment, Building, Roads and Transport.

Key stakeholders

Torres Strait Island Regional Council, Traditional Owners/PBC's, Spiritual Leaders, Torres Strait Region Community Members, Ergon, Sea Swift, CEQ, Local Building & Associated Sub-Contractors, Island & Cape Store, Private Retail Operators, PHC and Peddell's Ferry

Recovery themes

1. Response: ensure community safety
2. Rebuilding: bring the community forward to a new normal
3. Restoration: working together to repair and re-establish community linkages across the lines of recovery
4. Resilience: embed the principle in all activities to mitigate, improve and build betterment for the community

Recovery objectives

1. Warning systems placed on all islands
2. *Connected Islands Strategy* developed and implemented
3. Increase tourism opportunities
4. Increase in installation of fit for purpose jetties and berthing dolphins
5. Better communication amongst islands through installation of additional telecommunication towers on designated islands
6. Advocacy for increased accessibility to various freight providers
7. Supporting immediate basic needs of impacted people
8. Essential services – power, water, waste restored
9. Timely service delivery for restoration of impacted assets
10. Acknowledgement of climate change and the associated impacts on local communities
11. Clean up and restore coastal areas (erosion)

Recovery objectives

Damage and impacts

Damage and impacts

Human and Social

- Community wellbeing – shortage of fruit, vegetables and dairy supplies at Masig (Yorke Island) due to supply barge not being able to land.
- Community wellbeing – inability to access traditional food sources due to no fuel for locally owned boats.
- Community health – inability to access water on Hammond Island due to filtration plant on Horn Island being damaged.
- Community health – shortage of medical supplies at lama.
- Wellbeing – vulnerable persons identified.
- Community wellbeing – feeling of isolation, unable to attend funerals and participate in sorry business.
- Isolation – unable to travel to other islands for work due to ferry services not operating and no fuel for locally owned boats.
- Isolation – children unable to go to school as ferry services not operating and no fuel for locally owned boats.
- Community wellbeing – no fuel to operate power, thus no power to provide water.

Economic

- Sea Swift unable to land at Masig (Yorke Island) due to damaged dolphins – no restocking of fuel and food supplies.
- Loss of incomes/profits to small businesses on Masig (Yorke Island) – Sea Swift not being able to land due to damaged dolphins, thus no restocking of fuel and food supplies.
- Loss of incomes/profits to small businesses on Ugar (Stephen Island) – no ULP stocks.
- Loss of incomes to community members on Ugar (Stephen Island) – not being able to leave island for work – no ULP stocks.
- Increased cost of living – having to spend more money on food as access to traditional food sources impacted.
- Loss of incomes/profits – no fuel, unable to go fishing.
- Loss of incomes/profits to commercial fishing / cray diving businesses – no ULP stocks.

Environment

- Severe beach erosion adjacent to workshop area on Masig (Yorke Island). Sandbagging washed away with king tides and windy conditions.
- Beach erosion at Poruma Island along northern and western side of island due to tidal swell and winds.
- Erosion at Yam Island.

Building

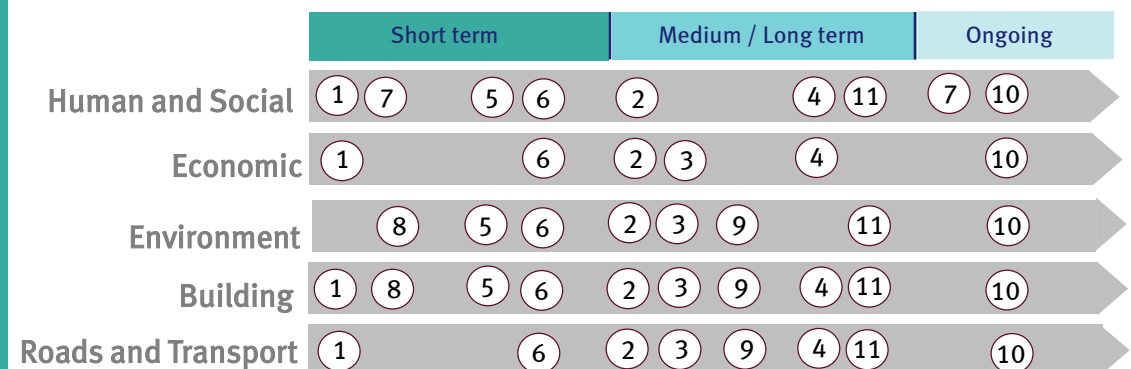
- Mechanical workshop slab was undermined and has failed due to erosion.
- Roof loss at medical centre.
- Water breaking over sea wall caused inundation and damage to the wall.
- Damage to fishing factory on Yam Island.
- Power outage on Mer Island.
- Single house power outage on Poruma Island.
- TSIRC facility experiencing power issues at Erub Island.
- Overcast weather affected mobile 3G signal/coverage throughout the top Western part of Torres Straits.
- No power to single house at Poruma.

Roads and Transport

- Sea Swift unable to land at Masig (Yorke Island) due to damaged dolphins and jetty.
- Peddell's Ferry not operating between Thursday Island and Seisia.
- Small fixed wing charter flights and helicopter flights and Skytrans flights ex Horn Island cancelled due to weather.
- Ferry services between Horn and Thursday Islands running restricted services.
- Bus service not operating.

Recovery timeline

Recovery timeline



Community map

The map displays the following divisions and their respective council members:

- Division 1 - BOIGU (Saboia Is.)**: Cr Dimas Toby (e: cr.dimas.toby@tsirc.qld.gov.au, 07 4083 2002)
- Division 2 - DAUAN**: Cr Torenzo Elisala (e: cr.torenzo.elisala@tsirc.qld.gov.au, 07 4083 2205)
- Division 3 - SAIBAI**: Cr Keri Akiba (e: cr.akeriakiba@tsirc.qld.gov.au, 07 4083 2801)
- Division 4 - MABUIAG (Mulgrave Is.)**: Cr Keith Fell (e: cr.keith.fell@tsirc.qld.gov.au, 07 4083 2504)
- Division 5 - BADU**: Cr Laurie Nona (e: cr.laurie.nona@tsirc.qld.gov.au, 07 4083 2100)
- Division 6 - ARKAI**: Cr David Bosun (e: cr.david.bosun@tsirc.qld.gov.au, 07 4083 2400)
- Division 7 - WUG (St Pauls Community)**: Cr John Levi (e: cr.john.levi@tsirc.qld.gov.au, 07 4083 2901)
- Division 8 - KIRIRRI (Hammond Is.)**: Cr Mario Sabatino (e: cr.mario.sabatino@tsirc.qld.gov.au, 07 4048 6009)
- Division 9 - IAMA (Gazout Is.)**: Cr Getano Lui Uhe (Deputy Mayor, e: cr.getano.lui@tsirc.qld.gov.au, 07 4083 2659)
- Division 10 - WARRABER (Sue Is.)**: Cr Clara Tamu (e: cr.clara.tamu@tsirc.qld.gov.au, 07 4083 2552)
- Division 11 - PORUMA (Gazout Is.)**: Cr Francis Pearson (e: cr.francis.pearson@tsirc.qld.gov.au, 07 4083 2703)
- Division 12 - MASIG (Murray Is.)**: Cr Ted Nai (e: cr.ted.nai@tsirc.qld.gov.au, 07 4083 2751)
- Division 13 - UGAR (Stephon Is.)**: Cr Rocky Stephan (e: cr.rocky.stephan@tsirc.qld.gov.au, 07 4083 2452)
- Division 14 - ERUB (Dumley Is.)**: Cr Patrick Thaiday (e: cr.patrick.thaiday@tsirc.qld.gov.au, 07 4083 2302)
- Division 15 - MER**: Cr Bob Kaigey (e: cr.bob.kaigey@tsirc.qld.gov.au, 07 4083 2602)

HEAD OFFICE & GENERAL ENQUIRES
 Lot 12 Francis Rd, Hammond Island, QLD 4875
 ph: 07 4034 5700 | f: 07 4043 5750
 e: corporate.affairs@tsirc.qld.gov.au

OTHER OFFICES

WAIBENE (T) Victoria Parade, Thursday Island, QLD 4875	CAIRNS 14/3, 11/1 - 1/15 Grafton St Cairns, QLD 4870
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Key Staff:

- Jan Pool - Chief Operating Officer, Kiriri Office (ph: 07 4048 6203, mb: 0400 736 355, e: jan.pool@tsirc.qld.gov.au)
- Jaydip Sengupta - Chief Financial Officer, Cairns Office (ph: 07 4034 5703, mb: 0488 759 873, e: jaydip.sengupta@tsirc.qld.gov.au)
- Cr Fred Gela - MAYOR, Kiriri Office (mayor@tsirc.qld.gov.au)
- Bruce Range - CEO, Waibene Office (bruce.range@tsirc.qld.gov.au)
- Ursula Nai - Senior Executive Assistant (ph: 07 4034 5775, e: ursula.nai@tsirc.qld.gov.au)

Activations for Disaster Recovery Funding Assistance

For details of activations and assistance measures visit www.qra.qld.gov.au/activations

Disaster relief measure

- Personal Hardship Assistance Scheme (PHAS)
- Counter Disaster Operations
- Reconstruction of Essential Public Assets

Activation date

- 19/02/2019
- 18/02/2019
- 18/02/2019

Recovery tasks

- Provision of emergency hardship payments.
- Access to power, water and waste provided.
- Repair of erosion.
- Scope and design warning system for all islands.
- Apply for all relevant funding to complete recovery objectives.
- Identify alternative freight providers.
- Clean up of coastal areas.
- Advocate on Climate Change impacts.
- Scope and design appropriate jetties.
- Scope and obtain berthing dolphins.
- Educate the community on the *Connected Island Strategy*.
- Scope and plan a tourism strategy.

Measures of success

Human and Social

- Residents provided with immediate needs.
- Residents understand warning system and required actions.
- Variety of freight providers support the Islands.
- Essential services restored.
- Improved communications between Islands.

Economic

- Development and implementation of tourism strategy.
- Implementation of the *Connected Islands Strategy*.
- Increased number of tourists.
- Variety of freight providers supporting the Islands.
- Essential services restored.

Environment

- Coastal areas restored.
- Repair of erosion impacts.
- Climate change impacts acknowledged.

Building

- Installation and implementation of a warning system.
- Increase in the number of working jetties and berthing dolphins.
- Installation of telecommunication towers on designated islands.
- Assets to support *Connected Islands Strategy* identified.
- Essential services restored.
- Assets to support the Tourism Strategy identified.

Roads and Transport

- Assets for freight providers supporting the Islands identified.
- New assets are reflective of Climate Change impacts.