



*Image: Barron River,
Cairns, TC Jasper 2023.*

Queensland's Road to Recovery and Resilience

AustStab Conference, 7 August 2024

Jake Ellwood, CEO

Queensland Reconstruction Authority



Acknowledgement of Country



We acknowledge the Aboriginal peoples and Torres Strait Islander peoples as the Traditional Owners and Custodians of this Country.

We recognise and honour their ancient cultures, and their connection to land, sea and community.

We pay our respect to them, their cultures, and to their Elders, past and present.

Image: Rivers and mangroves in front of Hinchinbrook Island (Shutterstock)

Connectivity

Image: The Kacanik Defile, Kosovo



Image: Malacoota, January 2020.



Image: Landslip TC Jasper 2023, Douglas Shire Council.

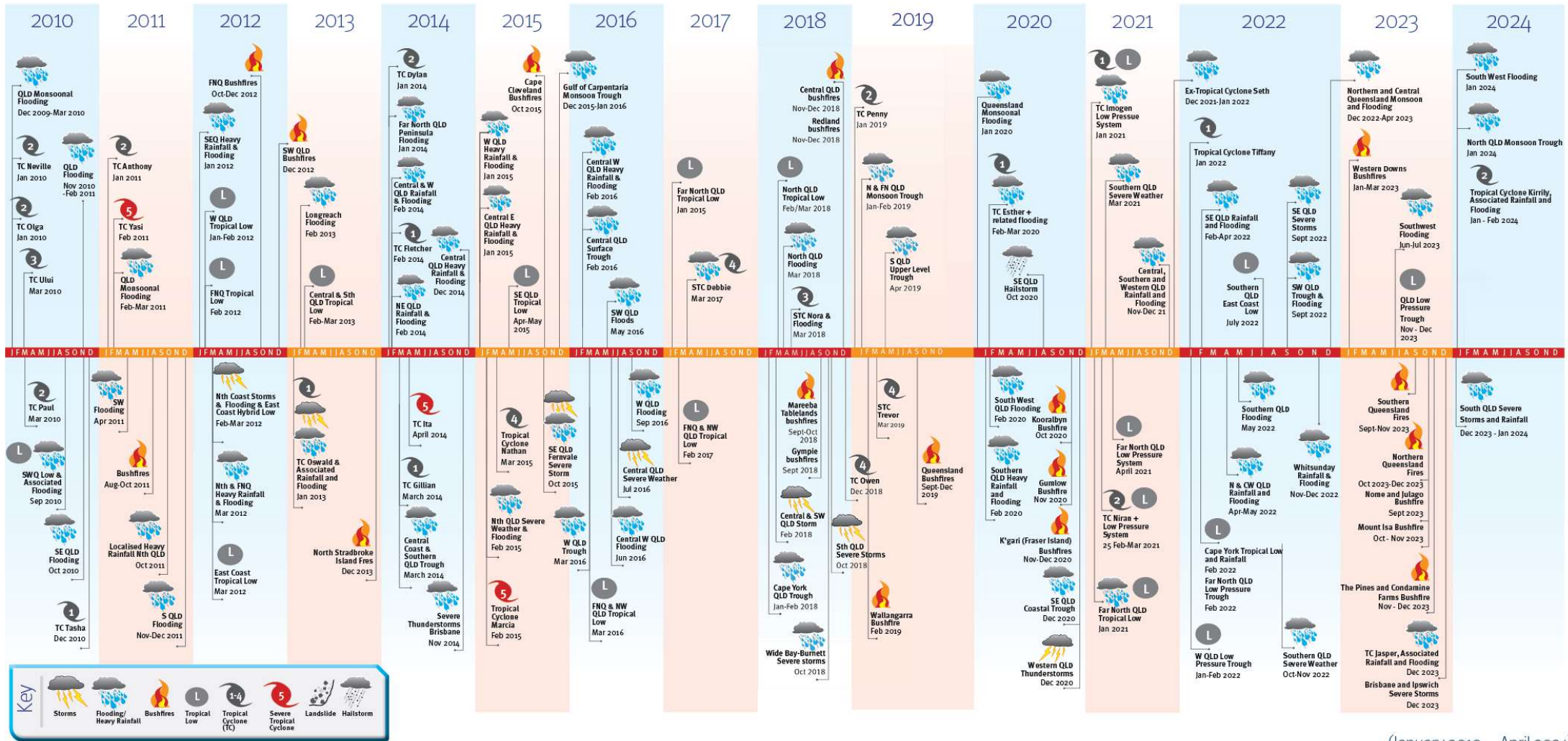


QRA's role

- Lead recovery and resilience on behalf of Queensland Government
- Administer joint Commonwealth / State Disaster Recovery Funding Arrangements

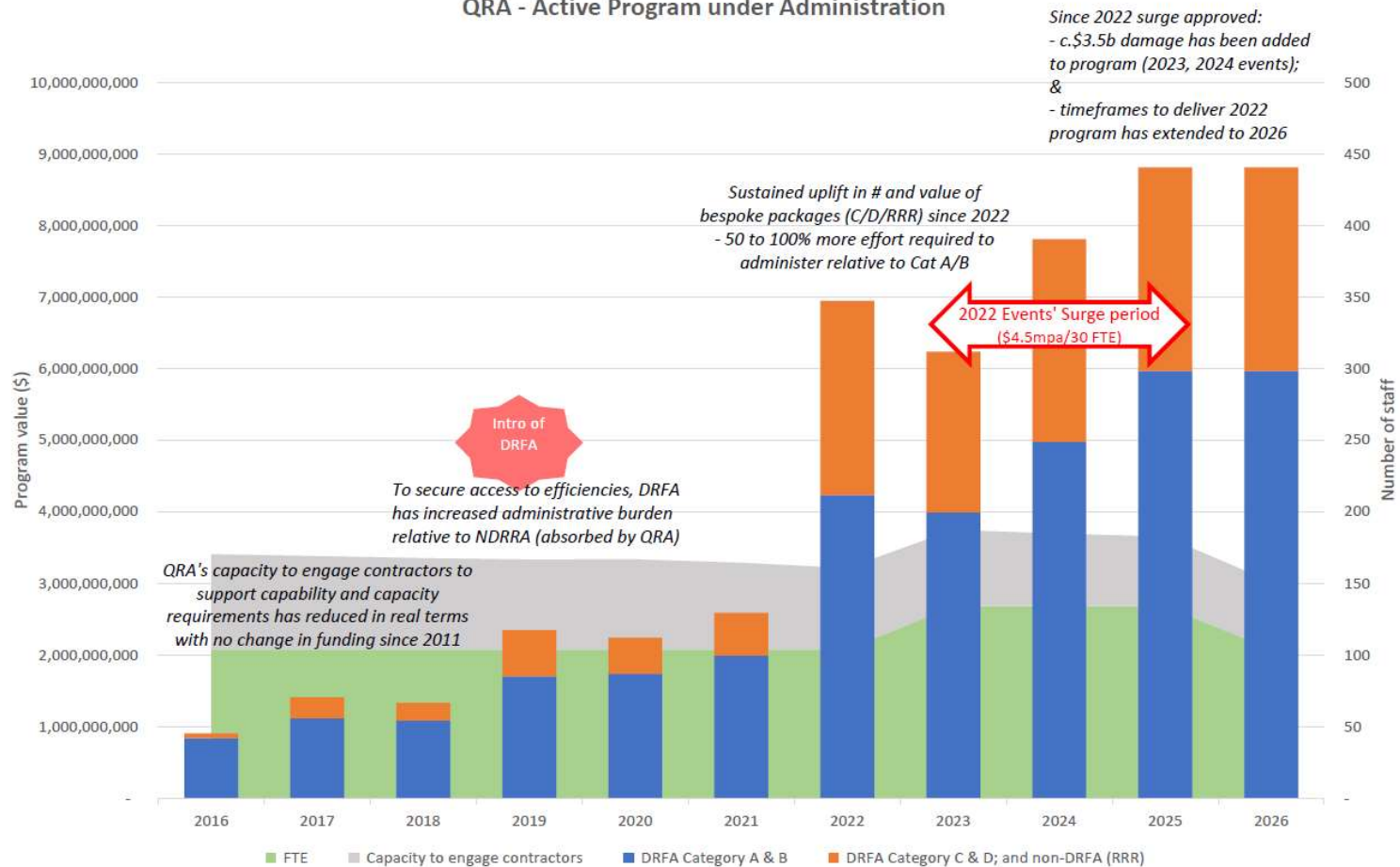


Natural disaster events in Queensland



(January 2010 – April 2024)

QRA - Active Program under Administration



Current statewide program

! 46 events

🏛️ 76 councils with an active program

\$ \$10.8 billion

2019-20

- !** 5 events
- 🏛️** 53 councils
- \$** \$874 million
- 🕒** 30/6/2022
- ✓** 82% complete
(remainder under EOTs)



2020-21

- !** 11 events
- 🏛️** 50 councils
- \$** \$773 million
- 🕒** 30/6/2023
- ✓** 97% complete
(remainder under EOTs)



2021-22

- !** 9 events
- 🏛️** 66 councils
- \$** \$5.1 billion
- 🕒** 30/6/2024
- ✓** 64% complete



2022-23

- !** 8 events
- 🏛️** 57 councils
- \$** \$1.4 billion
- 🕒** 30/6/2025
- ✓** 28% complete



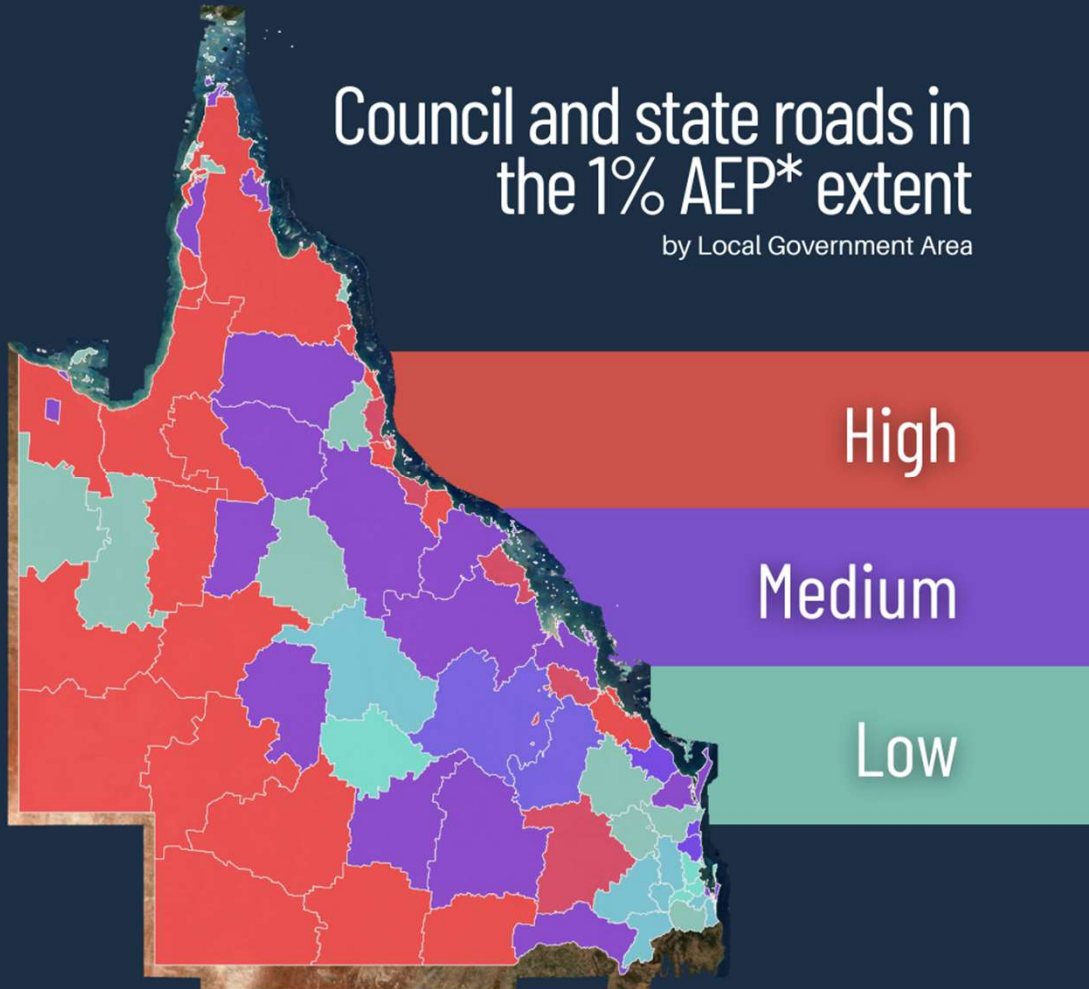
2023-24

- !** 13 events
- 🏛️** 66 councils
- \$** \$2.6 billion
- 🕒** 30/6/2026
- ✓** 5% complete



Council and state roads in the 1% AEP* extent

by Local Government Area



We've shifted from a 'recovery focus' to one with proactive and planned resilience.



Yeppen Floodplain Crossing, Bruce Highway following STC Debbie 2017.



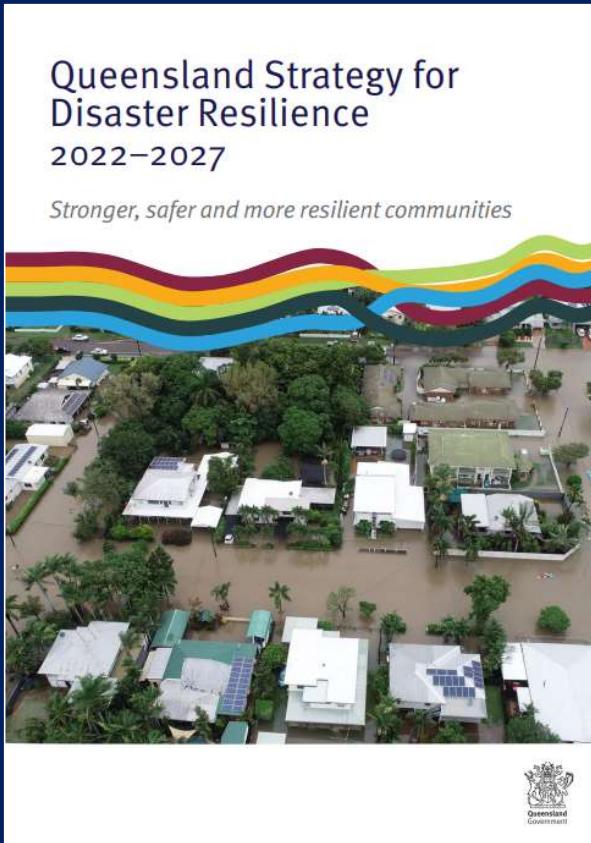
Tablelands Regional Council: Boar Pocket Road betterment



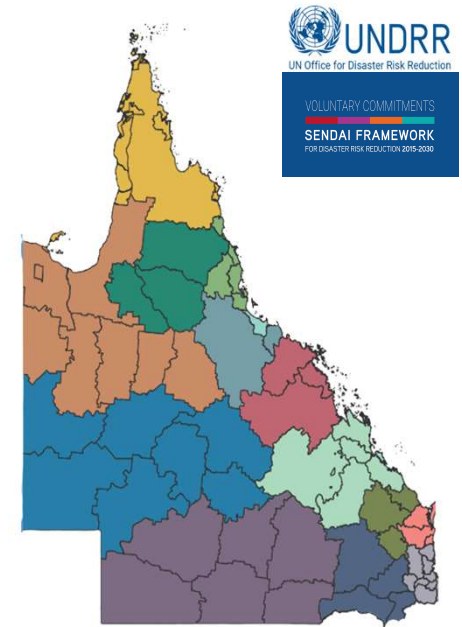
Somerset Regional Council: Diaper Road betterment



Gladstone Regional Council: Turkey Beach Road betterment



- 1** we understand the potential disaster risks we face
- 2** we work together to better manage disaster risk
- 3** we seek new opportunities to reduce disaster risk
- 4** we continually improve how we prepare for, respond to and recover from disasters

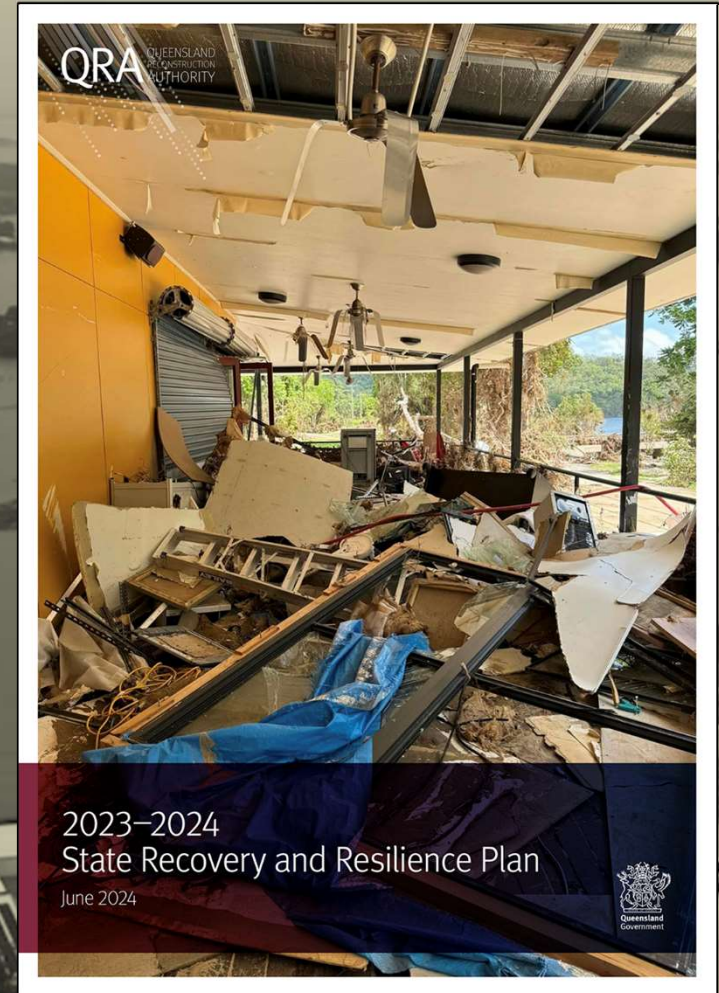


The 2023–24 State Recovery and Resilience Plan (the Plan) covers the 13 disaster events and captures the diversity, breadth and extent of disasters for the entire season.

The Plan takes a long-term view of recovery, using local ideas to identify common themes and inform recovery priorities for communities across the entire state.

This approach allows government departments and agencies to better coordinate, streamline delivery, address complementary issues and realise efficiencies.

www.qra.qld.gov.au/SRRP2023-24



- The DRFA is a joint funding initiative of the Australian and state governments to provide disaster relief and recovery payments and infrastructure restoration to help communities recover from the effects of natural disasters and terrorist acts.
- In Queensland, this program is managed on a whole-of-government basis by the QRA.



Image: Captain Cook Highway TC Jasper 2023

- There are four categories of relief measures under the Queensland Disaster Funding Guidelines:
- Category A and B relief measures are designed to assist those in the community who do not have the resources to provide for their own recovery. This includes:
 1. Counter Disaster Operations
 2. Reconstruction of Essential Public Assets (including Emergency Works and Immediate Reconstruction Works)
 3. Disaster Assistance Loans
 4. Personal Hardship Assistance Scheme measures.
- Following a severe disaster and activation of DRFA Category A and/or B relief measures, special disaster assistance grants (Category C), a Community Recovery Package (Category C) and exceptional circumstances assistance (Category D) may be required to support the recovery of the impacted community.



Image: Casuarina Street, Holloways Beach, Cairns Regional Council, TC Jasper 2023

QRA's Value for Money Strategy was recognised by the World Bank in June 2011 as having potential for international replication in other post-disaster reconstruction programs.

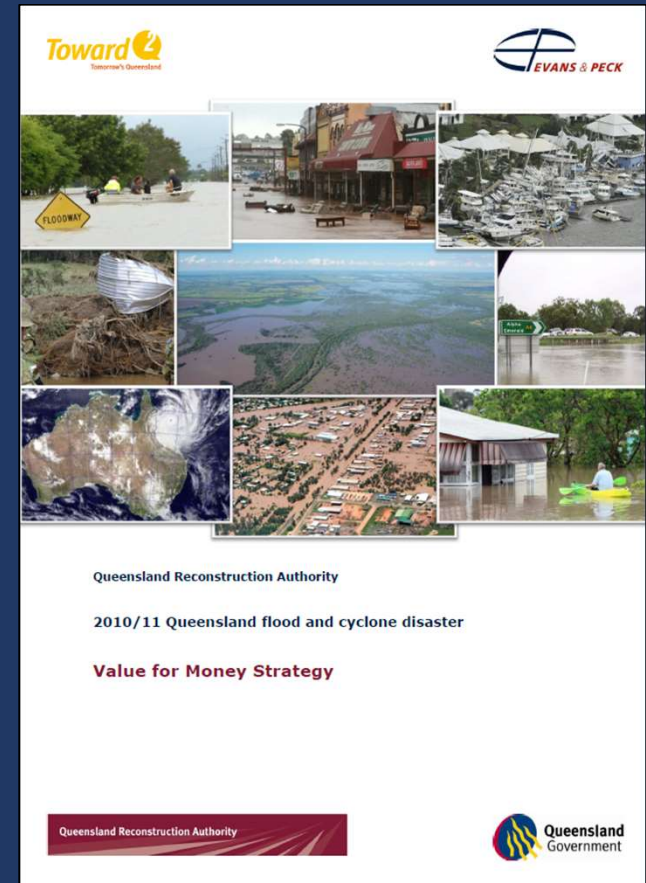
It is based on:

Three principles

1. Transparency
2. Efficiency
3. Effectiveness

Seven strategies

1. Centralised and common reporting structure
2. Risk-based assurance
3. Local prioritisation balanced with whole-of-state considerations
4. Devolution of procurement
5. Transparent accountability
6. Collaborative engagement
7. Establishment of external scope, cost references and review processes



Eligible essential public assets

Transport infrastructure

An asset that is an integral part of a state's infrastructure and associated with:

- ✓ roads and road infrastructure (including footpaths, bike lanes, pedestrian bridges)
- ✓ bridges
- ✓ tunnels
- ✓ culverts
- ✓ other essential or supporting components of the transport infrastructure such as:
 - ✓ retaining structures
 - ✓ road furniture
 - ✓ drainage
- ✓ regional aerodromes/airports operated as eligible undertakings.

Eligibility of marine infrastructure such as boat ramps, jetties and guidance buoys, demonstrated as integral to the normal functioning of coastal and island communities, must be agreed by the Australian Government.

Public infrastructure

An asset that is an integral part of a state's infrastructure and is associated with:

- ✓ public hospitals
- ✓ public schools
- ✓ public housing
- ✓ prisons/correctional facilities
- ✓ police infrastructure
- ✓ fire and emergency services' stations
- ✓ levees
- ✓ state/territory or local government offices
- ✓ stormwater infrastructure
- ✓ water and waste water infrastructure operated as eligible undertakings
- ✓ river height monitoring assets and infrastructure used to inform early flood warnings to communities

Treatment Guide 2020-21



July 2021

Light formation grading

For gravel roads damage as a result of an activated event, a **Light formation grading** is often undertaken during the emergency works period to restore rideability prior to restoration works. Where the road is formed only (not gravelled), and loss of shape and material is minor only, a **Light formation grading** may be appropriate for restoration works to restore shape.

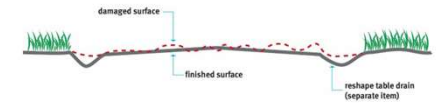


Figure 4 - Light formation grading

Treatment: **USP_LFG**

Unit of measurement: m

Summary: Light trimming by grader of unsealed road surface to restore rideability

Description: Light trimming by grader of the existing roadway to fill holes and other depressions.

Exclusions: Scarifying, compaction, import of water or material, table drain works (separate item)

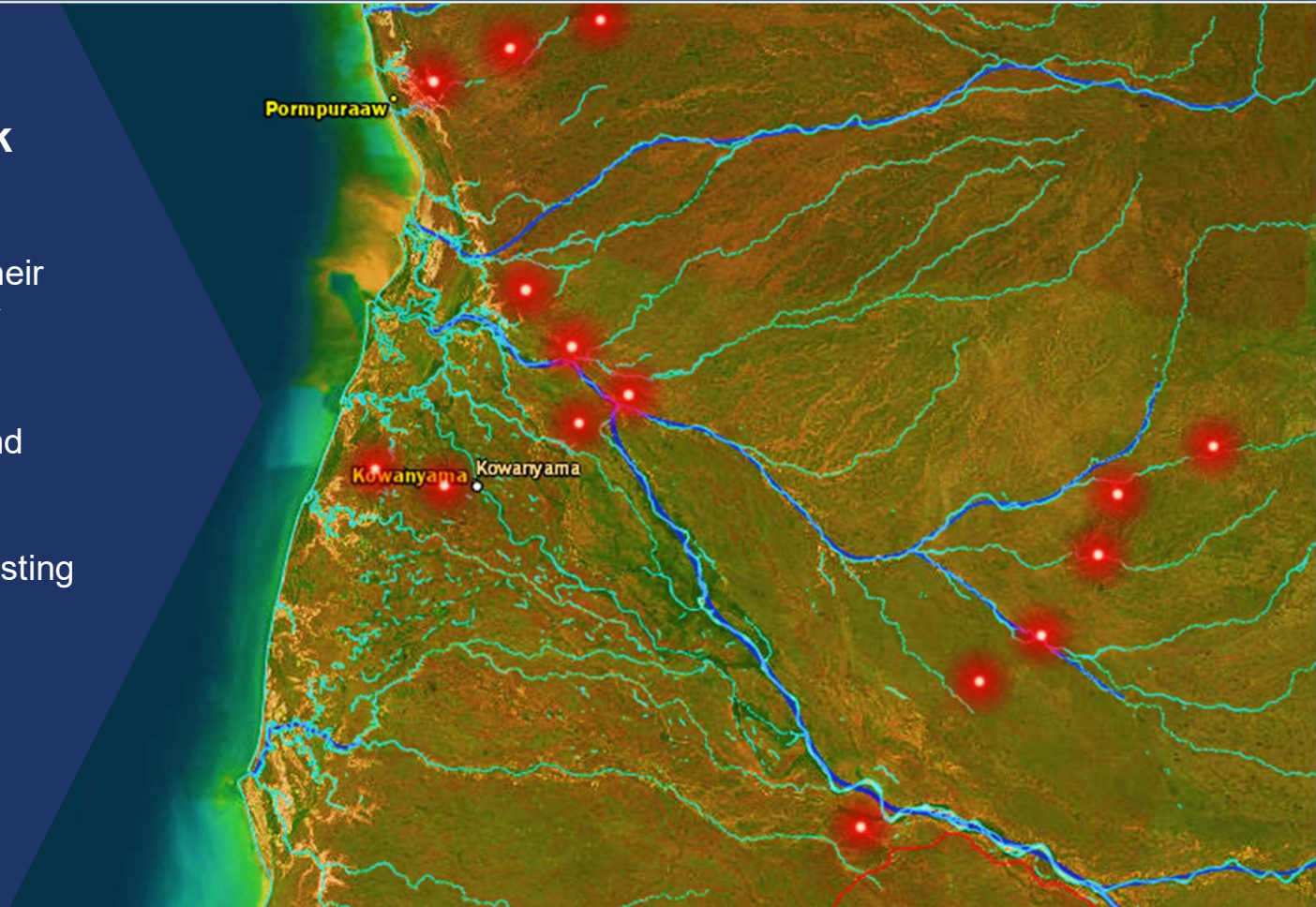
Indicative plant: Grader

Treatment list

Category	Reference	Treatment	Unit
	USP_LFG	Light formation grading	m
	USP_MFG	Medium formation grading	m
	USP_HFG	Heavy formation grading	m
	USP_HFG50	Heavy formation grading incorporating 50mm of imported material	m ³

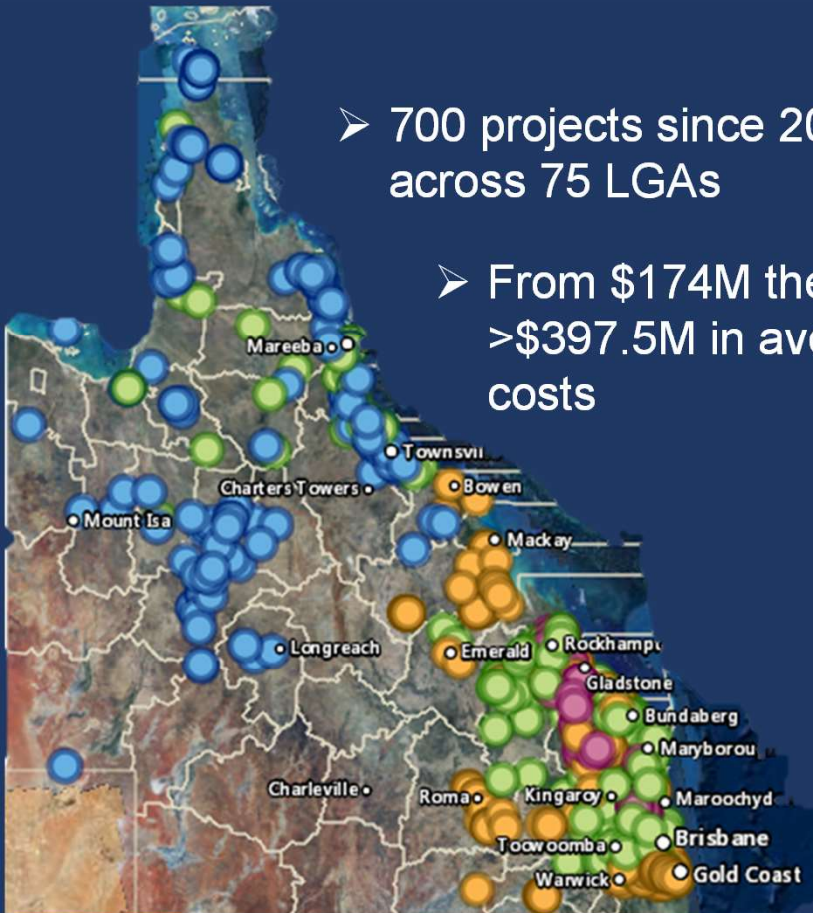
Helping councils to understand risk

- interactive mapping application helping Queensland councils to better understand their risk, costs and repeat damage from disaster events.
- highlights 'hot spots' of our most frequent and costly damage sites.
- informs future planning decisions about investing in stronger, more resilient infrastructure
- free for all Queensland councils



Queensland Betterment Fund

- 700 projects since 2013 across 75 LGAs
- From \$174M there is >\$397.5M in avoided costs



Queensland's Betterment Programs



Gayndah Mundubbera Road damage following Cyclone Oswald 2013

➤ **BEFORE** ➤

qra.qld.gov.au/betterment

Flood Risk Management Program (FRMP) - \$49 million

Flood Risk Management Program (FRMP) Work Packages



Community engagement and education material (WP1)

\$2.35 million for targeted information and education campaigns to enhance the disaster preparedness and resilience of communities.



LiDAR capture and floor level database (WP2)

\$12.4 million for LiDAR capture and dataset processing to form key data underpinning flood studies and risk assessments for identified areas.

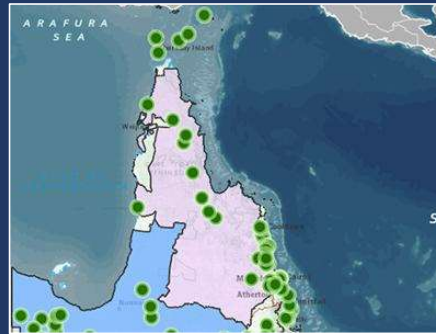


Flood studies, risk assessment and management strategies (WP3)

\$34.25 million for floods studies for river, creek and/or overland flooding, risk assessments and management strategies.

Improvements to Queensland's Flood Warning Infrastructure Network (FWIN)

- In Queensland, FWIN will acquire and remediate approximately 1,000 flood warning sites over the next five years. Ongoing maintenance costs will be shared equally between the Bureau and the Queensland Government.
- The Bureau is collaborating with more than 60 Queensland councils to understand the flood warning network in local communities. This involves identifying high-priority flood warning sites for acquisition and exploring existing maintenance arrangements and standards.



Roads and Transport Functional Recovery and Resilience Group (FRRG)

The Roads and Transport FRRG is chaired by the Director-General of DTMR.

Membership

Membership is dependent on communities and industries affected and the severity of damage as a consequence of the event. Other members may be included as required.

- AgForce
- Aurizon
- Civil Contractors Federation
- Department of Agriculture and Fisheries
- Department of Housing, Local Government, Planning and Public Works
- Department of Resources
- Department of State Development and Infrastructure
- Department of Transport and Main Roads
- Department of the Premier and Cabinet
- Local Government Association of Queensland
- Maritime Safety Queensland
- Queensland Rail
- Queensland Reconstruction Authority
- Queensland Resources Council
- Queensland Trucking Association



Common challenges

1. Delivery and acquittal of a large program
2. Understanding risks
3. Funding for improved resilience



*Image: Palmerston Highway
damage TC Jasper 2023.*

QRA provides a regional liaison service with **Regional Liaison Officers (RLOs)** and a recovery connection service with **Resilience and Recovery Officers (RROs)** for each local government across Queensland, and for relevant state agencies.

www.qra.qld.gov.au/RLO

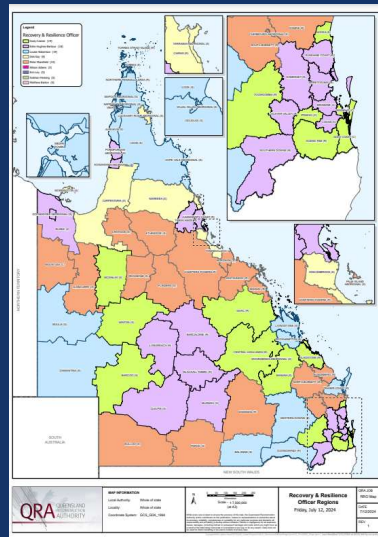
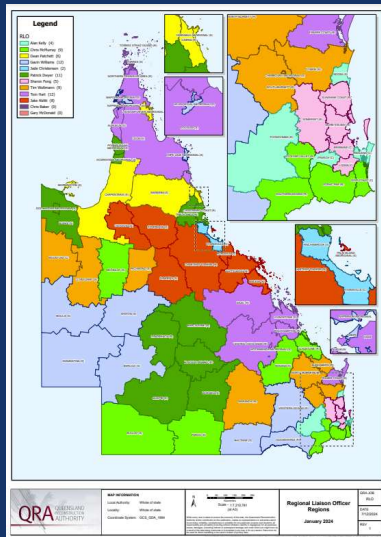


Image: QRA RLOs, Gold Coast Lowry Court 2022

www.qra.qld.gov.au

