

Rockhampton Regional Council Local Recovery Plan



The recovery objectives of the flood event resulting from Ex-Severe Tropical Cyclone Debbie are: to identify appropriate recovery measures; allocate responsibility for actions and tasks to Council and key agencies; and establish timeframes for actions.

RECOVERY NARRATIVE

Values

- Councillors and staff of Rockhampton Regional Council (RRC) are committed to creating a great Council that is efficient, flexible and focused in the delivery of services for our community.
- Our values and behaviours are: Accountability; Customer Focus; People Development; One Team; and Continuous Improvement.

Local Recovery Group

- Activated 3 April 2017.
- Chaired by Mayor, Cr Margaret Strelow.
- Coverage over all lines of recovery: Human and Social • Economic • Environment • Infrastructure (Building Recovery and Roads and Transport).
- The Local Recovery Plan for Flood Event Resulting from Tropical Cyclone Debbie has been developed.
- Primary line of recovery is Infrastructure, with the major focus on continued flood mitigation strategy for North and South Rockhampton.
- Key stakeholders include: Department of Human Services (Cwth), Department of Communities, Child Safety and Disability Services, Queensland Fire and Emergency Services, Queensland Police Service, Department of Agriculture and Fisheries, Workplace Health and Safety, Department of Housing and Public Works, Department of Justice and Attorney-General, Salvation Army, OzCare, Anglicare Central Queensland, UnitingCare Community, Multicultural Development Association, Red Cross, and St Vincent de Paul.

Mayor & RRG Chair:
Cr Margaret Strelow



CEO:
Mr Evan Pardon



DAMAGE AND IMPACTS

Human and Social

- Rockhampton community endured the initial rain event as a direct result of ex-STC Debbie and then the major flooding, with the Fitzroy River peaking on 6 April 2017 at 8.9m.
- Approximately 1,500 homes impacted, with approx 315 sustaining damage.
- Flooding in low lying areas including, but not limited to, Depot Hill, Port Curtis, Berserker, Park Avenue and Pink Lily.
- 42 local parks, sporting grounds, including Callaghan Park Racecourse, inundated and closed.
- Some sporting fixtures suspended for approximately six weeks.
- Evacuation centre established with minimal uptake of services.

Economic

- Small businesses impacted due to flooding and redirection of road traffic in the areas of Gladstone Rd, Lower Dawson Rd and Lakes Creek Rd.
- Airport closure from 4 to 13 April 2017 affecting airport and associated small businesses.
- Tourism numbers impacted over the Easter holiday period, with a high number of cancellations of hotel rooms, caravan and camp sites.
- Indirect business reduction in central business district of Rockhampton.
- Numerous small businesses, rural producers, Teys and JBS Meatworks & Hastings Deering impacted.

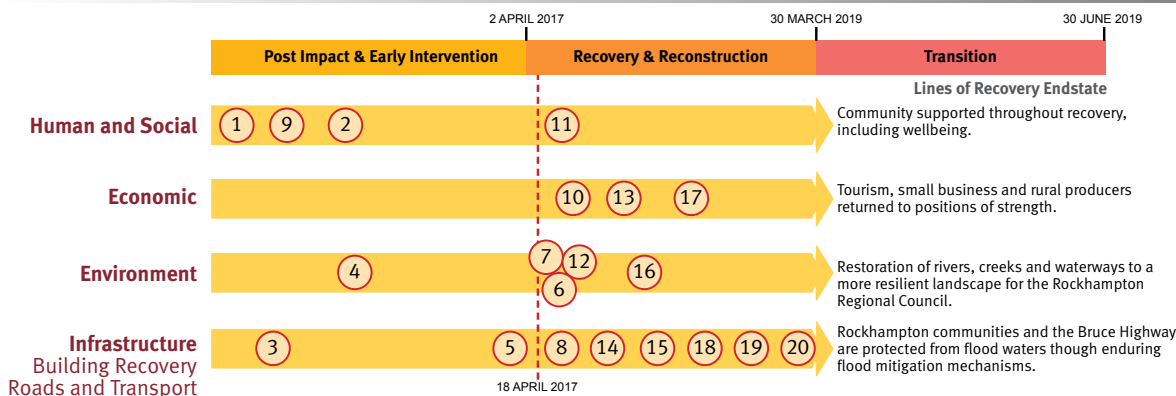
Environment

- Silt and mud covered streets and parks.
- A significant amount of green and hard waste generated – continuing to be assessed.
- Erosion primarily on Fitzroy River with the caravan park, Sir Raymond Huish Drive, Wharf Street, Bowlin Road and Moores Creek requiring further assessment.
- Sewage release to mitigate overflow at plant.
- Inundation in Depot Hill, Pink Lily, Airport and other low lying areas.
- Further landslips on Pilbeam Drive, Mount Archer.

Infrastructure (Building, Roads and Transport)

- Inundation and damage to Rockhampton Airport runway/apron-closed for 10 days.
- Power isolated to flood inundated areas (proactively).
- Bruce Highway closed for five days.
- Rural roads damaged – still under assessment.
- Multiple road closures during flood event.
- North Rockhampton Stage 1 temporary levees were effective in reducing infrastructure damage with future improvements identified.

LINES OF RECOVERY



A stronger and more resilient Rockhampton

LOCAL RECOVERY OBJECTIVES

1. Establish an evacuation centre at Robert Schwarten Pavilion (Showgrounds).
2. In partnership with the relevant agencies, provide access to support services.
3. Essential services (primarily power and road access) restored to affected areas.
4. Green and hard waste removal and management.
5. Provide shuttle bus service between Gladstone and Rockhampton airports during closure.
6. Cleaning and removal of flood water silt, mud and debris.
7. Fitzroy River parks and pathways cleared, cleaned and reopened.
8. Public carparks cleaned and reopened.
9. Community Recovery Hub established at the Showgrounds.
10. Economic assessment completed and full impact known.
11. Facilitate and coordinate community events including ANZAC Day services, the River Festival and race days.
12. Cleaning and clearing of sporting fields to resume sporting fixtures.
13. Work in partnership with the local Chamber of Commerce to assess small business impact and relevant business continuity strategies.
14. Assessment and prioritisation of impacted roads and bridges at local and state level.
15. Survey and rectification of Rockhampton Airport runway/apron.
16. Erosion assessment along the Fitzroy River and subsequent rectification.
17. Support the recovery of businesses and enhance the resilience of the Rockhampton economy.
18. Sporting and community clubs implement disaster recovery assistance.
19. South Rockhampton flood mitigation (flood levee) – protection of Depot Hill, Port Curtis, Rockhampton CBD and Bruce Highway with a combination of permanent and temporary levees as assessed.
20. Review and implement (where applicable) other mitigation projects as per Flood Management Strategy.

This Plan has been endorsed for public release.

This is a live document managed by the Rockhampton Regional Council and is correct as at 18 April 2017. The Rockhampton Local Recovery Plan can be accessed at www.rockhampton.qld.gov.au