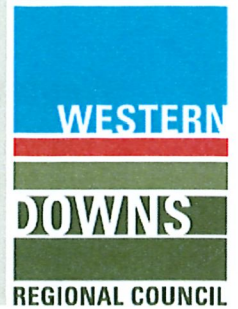
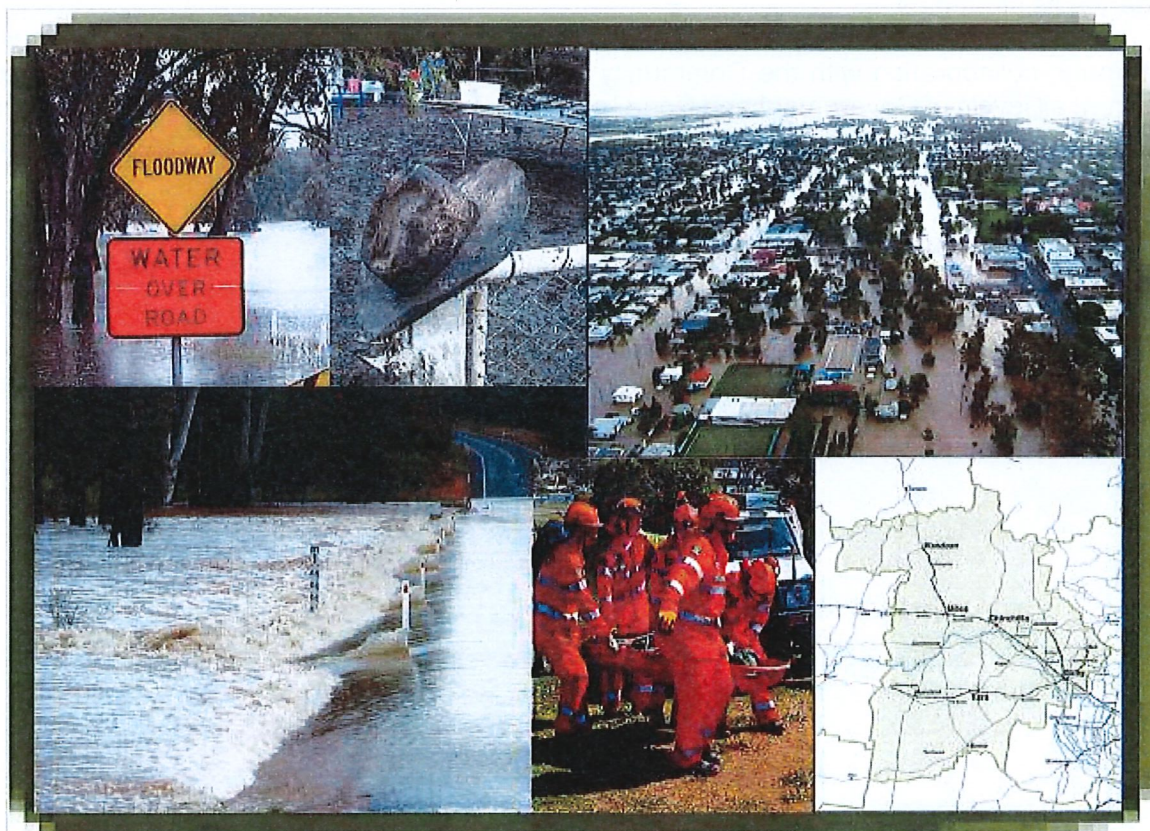


Customer Contact
1300 COUNCIL (1300 268 624)
07 4679 4000
www.wdrc.qld.gov.au

OUR COMMUNITIES | OUR FUTURE



Western Downs Local Disaster Management Plan



Western Downs Local Disaster Management Plan v1.11 September 2021

Western Downs Local Disaster Management Plan

Foreword from Chair of WDLDMG

Western Downs Regional Council has an active Disaster Management philosophy which embraces prevention, preparedness, response and recovery strategies.

The Western Downs Communities know well the effects that a natural disaster can have on people, infrastructure and business. In recent years major floods have been seen across the entire Region. While significant fire events, in recent years and several years earlier, in the Tara district cannot be forgotten. These events see the Community strengthen and work together and as a result, Recovery efforts have been successful.

Engaging our community and ensuring community resilience is a principal objective for the Western Downs Local Disaster Management Group. Our ability to not only prepare for, but stand together to recover from an event, has a direct influence on minimising the effects of an event on our community. We have shown this strength time and time again however the continual improvement of this objective must be the goal.

The Western Downs Local Disaster Management Group aims to assist the Western Downs Regional Council Communities by providing the information and plans to mitigate against adverse effects of a disaster and to coordinate an effective response and recovery.

This plan and its associated sub-plans document the arrangements required under the Queensland Disaster Management Act 2003. The Plan takes a Risk Based and All Hazards Approach when considering its strategies.

Only through collaboration with the Community and members of the Local Disaster Management Group from all levels of Government and Non-Government organisations, can Disaster Management efforts be successful.

Mayor Paul McVeigh
Chair WDLDMG



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Authority to Plan

Western Downs Regional Council has a legislative responsibility to develop a Disaster Management Plan in accordance with Section 57(1) Disaster Management Act 2003.

"s57 Plan for disaster management in local government area

- (1) A local government must prepare a plan (a local disaster management plan) for disaster management in the local government's area.
- (2) The plan must include provision for the following—
 - a) the State group's strategic policy framework for disaster management for the State, and the local government's policies for disaster management;
 - b) the roles and responsibilities of entities involved in disaster operations and disaster management in the area;
 - c) the coordination of disaster operations and activities relating to disaster management performed by the entities mentioned in paragraph (b);
 - d) events that are likely to happen in the area;
 - e) strategies and priorities for disaster management for the area;
 - f) the matters stated in the disaster management guidelines as matters to be included in the plan; and
 - g) other matters about disaster management in the area the local government considers appropriate".

"s58 A local disaster management plan must be consistent with the disaster management standards and disaster management guidelines"

Approval of Plan

This plan has been produced by and with the authority of Western Downs Regional Council pursuant to Section 57, 58 and 61 Disaster Management Act 2003.

The Western Downs Regional Council accepts their roles and responsibilities as described in the Disaster Management Act 2003.

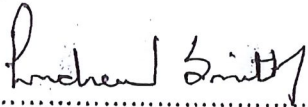
This plan is the result of the co-operative efforts of the Western Downs Local Disaster Management Group after consultation with those agencies and organisations identified therein. This plan will be reviewed in accordance with Section 59 Disaster Management Act 2003.

's59 Reviewing and renewing plan

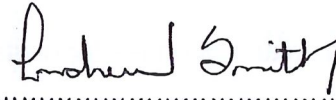
(1) A local government may review, or renew, its local disaster management plan when the local government considers it appropriate.

(2) However, the local government must review the effectiveness of the plan at least once a year.

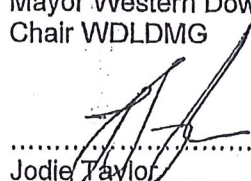
Western Downs Regional Council has adopted this plan by resolution at the General Meeting of Council on 06/05/2015 in accordance with Section 80(1)(b) of the Disaster Management Act 2003 (QLD).



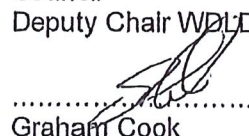
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Cr Paul McVeigh
Mayor Western Downs Regional Council
Chair WDLDMG



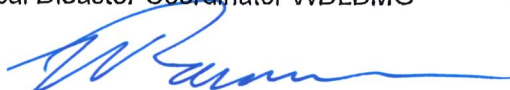
.....
Cr Andrew Smith
Deputy Mayor Western Downs Regional
Council
Deputy Chair WDLDMG



.....
Jodie Taylor
A/Chief Executive Officer
Western Downs Regional Council
Local Disaster Coordinator WDLDMG



.....
Graham Cook
General Manager (Infrastructure Services)
Deputy Local Disaster Coordinator
WDLDMG



.....
Wayne Rasmussen
Inspector
District Disaster Coordinator
Dalby District
Endorsed by DDMG



Amendment Register and Version Control

This document is a controlled document and is not to be altered, amended or changed in any way other than those amendments issued by the Western Downs Local Disaster Management Group. From this, the plan is intended to be a “live” document, open to suggested amendments.

Plans will be amended as follows:

- Proposals for amendment to this plan should be made in writing to;

Local Disaster Coordinator
Western Downs Local Disaster Management Group
PO Box 551
DALBY 4405
- With the exception of minor changes, typographical changes and changes to position titles all suggestions for amendments to the plan will be submitted to the WDLDMG for discussion.
- If not supported a written response will be provided to the submitter.
- When necessary amendments to the plan will be ratified by Council.

Version	Date	Prepared by	Comments
1.5	July 2010	GC Preston	This is the first draft plan for the Western Downs Regional Council
1.6	February 2011	GC Preston	Revised Draft Plan
1.7	March/May 2011	EM Drumm GC Preston	Revised Draft Plan
1.8	September 2012	EM Drumm	Revised Plan
1.9	March 2014	EM Drumm	Revised Plan
1.10	March 2015	EM Drumm	Revised Plan
1.10	September 2016	S Forbes	Internal Effectiveness Review (IGEM Survey)
1.10	September 2017	T Burwood	Internal Effectiveness Review (IGEM Survey)
1.10	September 2018	T.Burwood	Internal Effectiveness Review (IGEM Survey)
1.10	September 2019	T.Burwood	Internal Effectiveness Review (IGEM Survey)
1.10	September 2020	T.Burwood	Internal Review and IGEM Audit
1.10	August 2021	T.Burwood	Internal Effectiveness Review (IGEM Survey)
1.11	September 2021	T Burwood	Revised Plan - Significant Amendments. Alignment with Jandowae Dam EAP.

Distribution List

Refer to Appendix C

The Local Disaster Management Plan (excluding Appendices) is available on the Council website for inspection, free of charge to members of the public.

The Local Disaster Management Plan (including Appendices) is available to all members of the Local Disaster Management Group, via the Disaster Management Portal and all Council employees via Dataworks. A publicly available version can be found at www.wdrc.qld.gov.au.

Definitions

Refer to Appendix D

Abbreviations

Refer to Appendix E

The Disaster Management System in Queensland

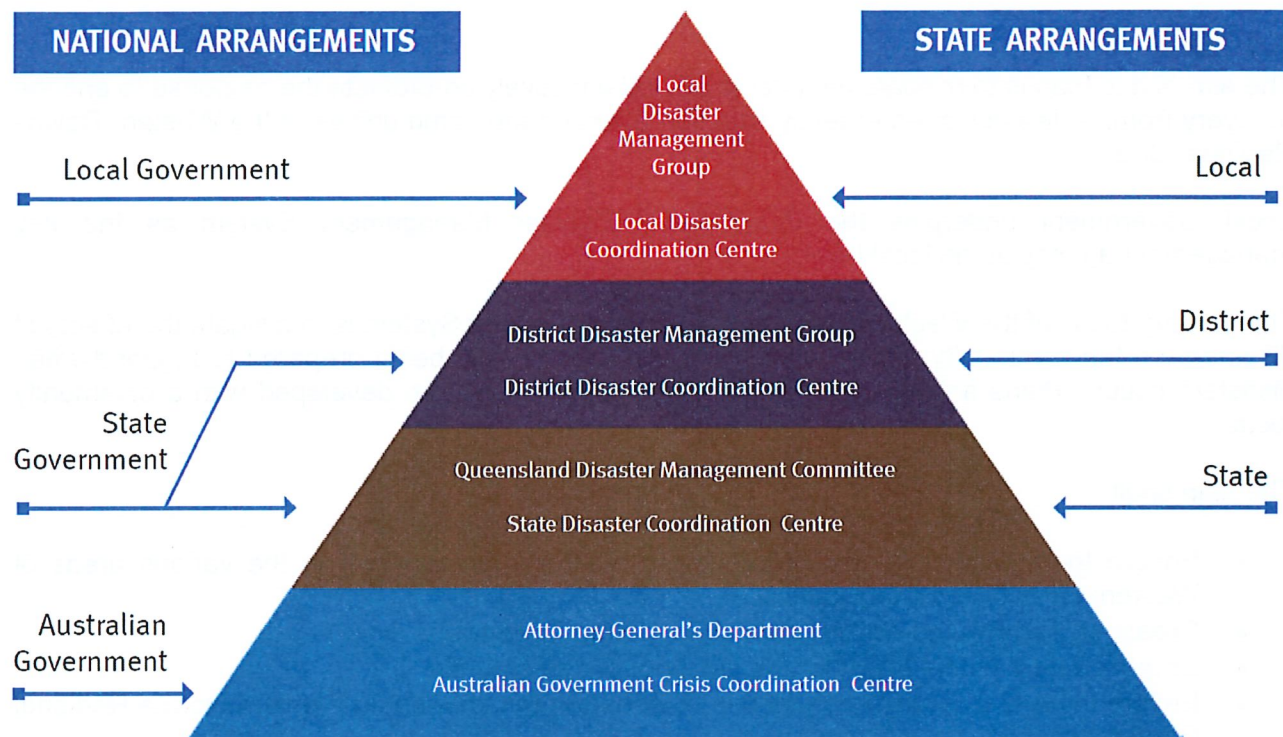


Figure 1: Queensland Disaster Management Structure and Arrangements

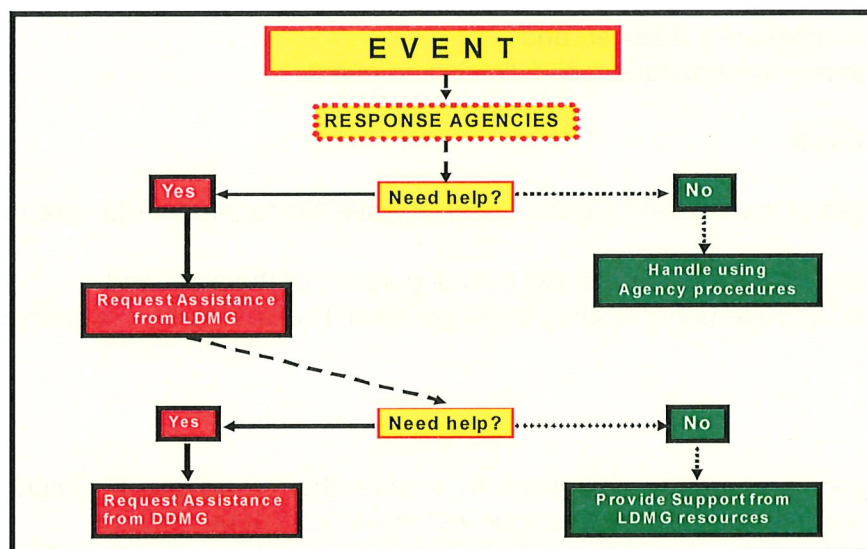


Figure 2: Queensland Disaster Management Arrangements Event Response

1. Introduction

1.1 Aim

The aim of this Plan is to mitigate the effects of; and effectively co-ordinate the response to and the recovery from, a disaster or emergency situation affecting the communities of the Western Downs Regional Council.

Local Government underpins the Queensland Disaster Management System as the key management agency at the local level.

The primary focus of the Western Downs Disaster Management System is to mitigate the effects of disasters on the community wherever possible or practical, and being prepared to respond when disasters occur. Plans and management arrangements have been developed with a community focus.

The plan shall:

- Ensure there is a consistent approach to disaster management in the various areas of Western Downs Regional Council;
- Create an auditing tool for disaster management functions;
- Demonstrate a commitment for the safety of our community;
- Ensure there is a central coordination of disaster management in Western Downs Regional Council districts;
- Provide information, plans and guidelines on effective response and recovery strategies
- Demonstrate mitigation efforts and accountability for the purpose of eligibility for available funding;
- Reduce the impact of a disaster; and
- Reduce community consequences following an event.

1.2 Key Objectives

The broad objectives of the Western Downs Local Disaster Management Plan are to:

- Detail specific objectives to meet the overall purpose of the plan; and
- Include specific statements relating to Preparation, Preparedness, Response and Recovery (PPRR).

Prevention

- The taking of preparatory measures to ensure that, if an event occurs, communities, resources and services are able to cope with the effects of the event;
- Increase adherence to and introduction of systems, procedures and regulations that reduce disaster risks;
- List the studies that have been conducted, provide a short summary and identify other studies which need to be conducted; and
- Ensure the community is aware of methods of mitigating the adverse effects of an event, and preparing for, responding to and recovering from a disaster so as to reduce the impact.

Preparedness

- The taking of preventative measures to reduce the likelihood of an event occurring or, if an event occurs, to reduce the severity of the event;
- Identify and implement risk treatment strategies that have been determined by studies;
- Increase community safety through public awareness, information and education;

- Detail how a multi-agency, all hazards approach will be used by the Western Downs Local Disaster Management Group (WDLDMG) and how some agencies will provide guidance for the group on specific hazards;
- Identify resources to maximize response;
- Establish relationships to increase disaster management capability; and
- Ensure the community is aware of methods of mitigating the adverse effects of an event, and preparing for, responding to and recovering from a disaster so as to reduce the impact.

Response

- The taking of appropriate measures to respond to an event, including action taken and measures planned in anticipation of, during and immediately after an event to ensure that its effects are minimised and that persons affected by the event are given immediate relief and support.
- Ensure there is a centralised local co-ordination of disaster management;
- Try to minimise the impact on the community of a disaster event through good response;
- Assist with the re-establishment of the community as effectively and efficiently as possible;
- Detail the strategic manner in which elements of the WDLDMG will deal with day to day disaster management business and how information shall be communicated on events that impact on the group; and
- Demonstrate a commitment to the safety of the Western Downs Regional Council communities.

Recovery

- The taking of appropriate measures to recover from an event, including action taken to support disaster-affected communities in the reconstruction of infrastructure, the restoration of emotional, social, economic and physical wellbeing, and the restoration of the environment;
- Adequately provide immediate post event assistance and advice to the affected community;
- Ensure the recovery priorities of the community are met;
- Ensure the community is aware of action that can be taken after the impact to assist with a speedy recovery and return to normality;
- To provide advice /or support to the District Recovery Committee and State Disaster Management and Recovery Agencies;
- To reduce the community consequences following an event;
- Ensure a consistent approach to disaster management; and
- Demonstrate a commitment to the safety of the Western Downs Regional Council communities.

1.3 Local Government Policy for Disaster Management

This plan is consistent with the State Disaster Management Group Strategic Policy Framework which focuses on a comprehensive, all hazards approach with all levels of government working in partnership to reduce the effects of disasters.

1.4 Integration with Council's Corporate, Strategic and Operational Planning Processes

Disaster Management is an integral part of Western Downs Regional Council's core business and is referred to in the Corporate Plan and Operational Plan.

Strategic partnerships keep our communities safe and ready to respond to and recover from disasters.

1.5 Western Downs Regional Council Local Disaster Management Group

The Western Downs Local Disaster Management Group has been established in accordance with Section 29 Disaster Management Act 2003 which states:

“s29 Establishment

A local government must establish a Local Disaster Management Group (local group) for the local government's area."

The functions of the Group are set out in Section 30 Disaster Management Act 2003 which states:

“s30 Functions

A local group has the following functions for its area:

- a) 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;
- b) to develop effective disaster management, and regularly review and assess the disaster management;
- c) to help the local government for its area to prepare a local disaster management plan;
- d) 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;
- e) 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;
- f) to manage disaster operations in the area under policies and procedures decided by the State group;
- g) to provide reports and make recommendations to the relevant district group about matters relating to disaster operations;
- h) to identify, and coordinate the use of, resources that may be used for disaster operations in the area;
- i) 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;
- j) to ensure information about a disaster in the area is promptly given to the relevant district group;
- k) to perform other functions given to the group under this Act;
- l) to perform a function incidental to a function mentioned in paragraphs (a) to (k)."

1.6 Membership Details

The Local Disaster Management Group consists of the positions as per **Appendix F** and the relevant persons are appointed in accordance with *Section 33, 34, 34A, 35, 36, 37 Disaster Management Act 2003*. The membership of the Group is to be reviewed annually and member contact details are to be confirmed biennially.

Members (Core and Advisor) of the LDMG include the Chair Person (Mayor, WDRC), Deputy Chair (Deputy Mayor, WDRC), the Local Disaster Coordinator (Chief Executive Officer, WDRC) Deputy Local Disaster Coordinator (General Manager Infrastructure Services), the Local Recovery Coordinator (General Manager Corporate Services) (or their respective delegates), representatives from WDRC relevant Divisions, Queensland Police Service, Queensland Ambulance Services, Queensland Fire and Emergency Services, State Emergency Services, Queensland Health, Department of Communities, Transport and Main Roads, Ergon Energy, Telstra, Red Cross, St John Ambulance and others as required.

Observers and guests may attend the meeting and participate in discussions but do not form part of the Western Downs Local Disaster Management Group or have voting rights.

Any member of the WDLDMG may, with the approval of the chair, appoint by signed notice a deputy to attend the meetings on the member's behalf. The deputy will have the functions and powers under the Disaster Management Act 2003 and the authority to make decisions and commit resources affecting that organisation. Deputy members are to be counted in deciding if there is a quorum.

Refer to **Appendix F** for contact details.

The State Disaster Management Group (SDMG) and the District Disaster Management Group (DDMG) are to be advised in writing annually of membership of the Group under the requirements of Section 37 Disaster Management Act 2003.

Appointment of Local Disaster Coordinator

The chair person must after consulting with the Chief Executive, QFES appoint in writing, the CEO or an employee of the WDRC, as Local Disaster Coordinator and the Deputy Local Disaster Coordinator shall be appointed by Western Downs Regional Council.

The Disaster Management Executive shall have the following membership;

- Chairperson of the Western Downs Local Disaster Management Group;
- Deputy Chairperson;
- Local Disaster Coordinator; and
- Deputy Local Disaster Coordinator.
- Local Disaster Recovery Coordinator

Queensland Fire and Emergency Services

The role of Queensland Fire and Emergency Services (QFES), as Lead Agency with respect to disaster management, is to provide advice and assistance to all agencies and committees within the Queensland disaster management system, and administrative and executive support to the State Disaster Management Group (SDMG).

Meetings

The WDLDMG shall meet as a minimum, twice annually including a meeting to be held prior to the extreme weather season (Section 12 Disaster Management Act 2003), location to be advised by the chair.

A quorum for a meeting of the WDLDMG is the number equal to (a) one-half of its core members plus one, or if one half of the members is not a whole number, the next highest number. The chair is to preside at all LDMG meetings, or in their absence the deputy chair. If both are absent, the meeting must be chaired by a member nominated by the chair/ a member nominated by the deputy chair. Or if those offices are vacant a member of the group chosen by the members present.

Teleconferencing and video conferencing facilities will be used where possible, members who participate using these facilities are taken to be present at the meeting.

Minutes must be taken at LDMG meetings and subsequently distributed for review and acceptance.

Subgroups

The LDMG can authorise the creation of the subgroups, the membership to be determined by the LDMG. Reporting arrangements to be determined by the LDMG.

Reporting Requirements

The WDLDMG shall report its activities to:

- Western Downs Regional Council in an annual report prepared by the Local Disaster Coordinator. The annual report shall be in accordance with the requirements of the Disaster Management Act 2003. Copies of the report shall be forwarded to the DDC and QFES; and

Operational reporting shall be as required during and after an event in accordance with **A.2 Local Disaster Coordination Centre (LDCC) - Operational Plan.**

1.7 Roles and Responsibilities of WDLDMG Members

Refer to **Appendix B** for the Roles and Responsibilities of the WDLDMG members. Refer to **Appendix H** for the Roles and Responsibilities of the Agencies.

1.8 Review and Renew Plan

A review of the plans in accordance with Section 59 Disaster Management Act 2003 is to be conducted by the Local Disaster Coordinator of the WDLDMG subsequent to:

- The performance of the Plan following activation as a result of a disaster;
- Exercises designed to practice or test aspects of the plans;
- Alterations to the roles or responsibilities of any agency involved in the plans;
- Operational procedures that have been changed;
- External disasters or introduction of new technology which suggest a review should be carried out;
- An officer responsible for overseeing a task no longer fills that position;
- Minor changes such as typographical changes and changes to position titles may be made to the plan from time to time; and
- The Plan shall be reviewed annually if other review methods as mentioned above are not undertaken.

1.9 Review of Disaster Management Arrangements

The WDLDMG shall be reviewed annually by a working group from the WDLDMG as follows:

- Working group review and amend as required the main plan;

- Amended plan submitted to WDLDMG for acceptance; and
- Significant amendments to the plan, if changing the use or processes of the plan must be submitted to Council for approval and then forwarded to the DDMG for endorsement

The contact list for WDLDMG and associated groups shall be updated at each WDLDMG meeting.

1.10 Review of Operational Plans

The Operational Plans are to be reviewed by a working group led by the designated responsible agencies as follows:

- Working group review and amend Operational Plans as required;
- Amended plans submitted to WDLDMG for acceptance; and
- Amended plans submitted to Council for approval as part of the main plan

1.11 Local Emergency Coordination Committee

On the 15 March 2008 as part of the Queensland governments reform of local governments (Local Government Reform Implementation Regulation 2008), new local government boundaries came into effect. This reform has had significant impact in the reduction of Local Disaster Management Groups (LDMG) within local government areas.

Local Emergency Coordination Committees (LECC) have been established in line with the Queensland Disaster Management Arrangements, Disaster Management Strategic Policy Framework and the Disaster Management Act 2003.

The purpose of the Local Emergency Coordination Committee is to establish a core group within the local community, who possess the local knowledge/expertise to ensure that disaster management and disaster operations within the local district are managed.

The LECC is the key committee to manage major incidents impacting on a local district and initially manage a disaster in the local area. LECC are ideally placed to provide specific Disaster Management at the community level given its local knowledge/expertise and understanding of social, environmental and economic issues for the local area.

Local Emergency Coordination Committees shall be established at Chinchilla, Miles/Wandoan, Tara and the Bunya Mountains.

The membership for the LECC includes: Chair (Most Senior Local Officer, WDRC), Deputy Chair, Works/Facilities Representative, local representatives from Police, Fire and Emergency Services, Ambulance, SES, and Queensland Health. Other government and non-government agencies may be called upon by the LECC to provide advice and assistance as required.

As a Sub Group of Dalby, a Jandowae group shall be established, with similar membership as the LECCs, to immediately respond to and quickly provide information about an event to the LECC/ LDMG and community.

2. Disaster Risk Management

2.1 Community Context

The following is relevant information and considerations.

Western Downs Regional Council is amongst the highest local government performers in Queensland and Australia. Traversed by major highways astride the headwaters of the Murray-Darling, Western Downs Regional Council is a rural centre invigorating growth through continued agricultural, manufacturing and resource diversification. Western Downs Regional Council is alive with activity.

Western Downs Regional Council has experienced an increase in population, reversing the trend of rural decline. The 2016 Census estimated the residential population of Western Downs Regional Council was 33,444.

A hub of National and State Highway networks radiate in all directions from Dalby Township. These networks include the Warrego Highway to the east to Toowoomba and to the west through Chinchilla and Miles to Roma, the Bunya Highway, to the north and the Moonie Highway to the south-west to Moonie and St George. The Condamine Kogan Road (to the east of Condamine) and the Roma Condamine Road (to the west of Condamine). The Surat Development Road branches off the Moonie Highway at Kumbarilla through Glenmorgan to Surat. The Leichhardt Highway traverses the Region from south to north through Moonie, Condamine, Miles and Wandoan to the north and extends southerly from Moonie to connect with major interstate highways through western New South Wales.

The Dalby Jandowae Road heads north to Mundubbera and then to Wondai.
The Chinchilla Wondai Highway joins up to the Dalby Jandowae road, north of Jandowae.

The Auburn Road heads north from Chinchilla up through the Barakula Forestry to the North Burnett Region.

The Chinchilla Tara Road connects with the Kogan Condamine Road, the Surat Developmental Road, the Tara Kogan Road and the Warrego Highway.

The main east west railway line from Brisbane traverses through Dalby, Chinchilla and Miles to the west.

Geography

A major feature of the entire Western Downs Regional Council is the underlying Surat Basin coalfield. This is being developed by various exploration and development companies for gas extraction, coal seam water use projects, open cut coal mining and underground burning of the coal to produce gas and associated products. Due to the energy infrastructure attracted by these mining and petroleum & gas projects other emergent industries are developing such as wind turbines and solar farms.

Chinchilla District

The Chinchilla District comprises of the previous Shire of Chinchilla and has an area of 8689 square kilometres and the town of Chinchilla is located 300 kilometres northwest of Brisbane and 160 kilometres from Toowoomba.

The major features of the natural environment relevant to natural disaster risk management are the river systems and the regional geology. The topography is generally flat to undulating.

Annually, during the summer months (November-March) flooding can occur in the major waterways; including the Condamine River, Charleys, Wambo, Rocky, Branch and Hellhole Creeks.

Dalby District

The Dalby District is made up of the previous Council areas of the Dalby Town Council and Wambo Shire Council and has an area of 5759 sq.kms. The town of Dalby is located 211 km north west of Brisbane, is 84 km from Toowoomba and is the key centre of the northern Darling Downs, the corporate office is located in Dalby. Altitude is 347 metres above sea level. The topography of the Town and Environs is extremely flat rising in the north with steeper slopes in the north east to the western part of the Bunya Mountains.

The major features of the natural environment relevant to natural disaster risk management are the river systems and the regional geology.

Dalby is located in the floodplain of Myall Creek, an area characterised by low gradients with floodwaters being widespread. Natural drainage lines have been modified by urban and rural residential development.

A large part of the Dalby District is located in the floodplain of the Condamine River and that of its tributaries. These areas are characterised by low gradients with floodwaters being widespread. Natural drainage lines have been modified by farming. The implementation of the Upper Condamine Floodplain Management Plan has been successful in reducing and even reversing drainage modifications resulting from channels, levees and fences.

The soils in the area are also prone to erosion, but changes in farming practices to strip cropping in recent years have significantly reduced this problem.

Creek bed and bank erosion is a typical occurrence, and the previous Wambo Shire River Improvement Trust had limited funds with which to address this and other waterway management issues. The riparian zones along the watercourses provide significant flora and fauna corridors.

Much of the land has been cleared for farming which is dominated by cropping (grains and cotton) and grazing. A coal open cut mine is located at Macalister within the Condamine River floodplain.

Jandowae is situated 50km north of Dalby with a population of 1,047. There are two other small towns in the district – Bell population, 502, and Warra population, 205. The Jandowae district is mostly rural and primary industry. The district is noted for cattle, sheep and pig raising.

The source of flooding comes from Jandowae, Jinghi, Downfall and Cooranga creeks. These creeks arise in the Bunya Mountains and spill out onto the flood plains to the west. Jandowae creek passes through the town of Jandowae and only has 3 – 4 hours warning. The Jandowae Water Supply Dam, which is a Referable Dam by legislation, sits on the Jandowae Creek above the town. As required the impacts of this dam and Disaster response are covered under the Jandowae Water Supply Document Annexure A. In the case of major flooding, Jandowae may be isolated for 24 hours – to the north by Jinghi Creek and to the south by Downfall Creek. At the time of review, the flood warning network is being extended to increase warning times for Jandowae.

The area is subjected to wind and storm damage almost every year, generally between September & February. Some of these storms can be quite intense but usually have only a narrow path.

An assortment of traffic traverses the roads in the Jandowae district. There are 3 main arterial roads namely Dalby-Jandowae Road, Jandowae Connection Road and the Jandowae-Kingaroy Roads. These roads carry an assortment of vehicular traffic including multi-passenger vehicles, e.g. school buses, and articulated vehicles carrying various farming and industrial chemicals as well as general cargo.

The threat of bush fires is not great because such a large part of the area is cultivation. Forestry areas are to the north of Jandowae and can be subject to bush fires, but damage to life & property is low.

The threat of urban fire in Jandowae is considered a low risk due to the strict measures implemented by the local Fire and Rescue Authority. Many of the buildings in the township are of timber construction and in the event of a major outbreak, assistance may be required from Dalby.

Miles - Wandoan District

The Miles - Wandoan District is 11,828 sq. kms and comprises of the previous Council areas of Murilla Shire 6,074 sq.kms and Division Two of the Taroom Shire 5,754 sq. kms.

Miles is located approximately 350 km west of Brisbane, at the crossroads of the Warrego and Leichhardt Highways.

Farming/Agriculture has traditionally formed the main industry in Murilla Shire, however, other industries have emerged in recent years (including bentonite mine and sawmilling, cattle and pig feedlot, tourism and development of the Surat Basin Energy Reserves).

The Condamine River is the main watercourse within the district with several smaller creeks feeding into it. The Miles District is exposed to flood with most towns being isolated periodically due to backwaters from these creeks. The period of isolation increases when the Condamine River floods and consequently the backwaters level also increases.

The northern part of the Miles District comprises of all of Division Two of the previous Taroom Shire and has as its centre the township of Wandoan.

The topography is mainly undulating with the crossing of the Great Dividing Range between Miles and Wandoan.

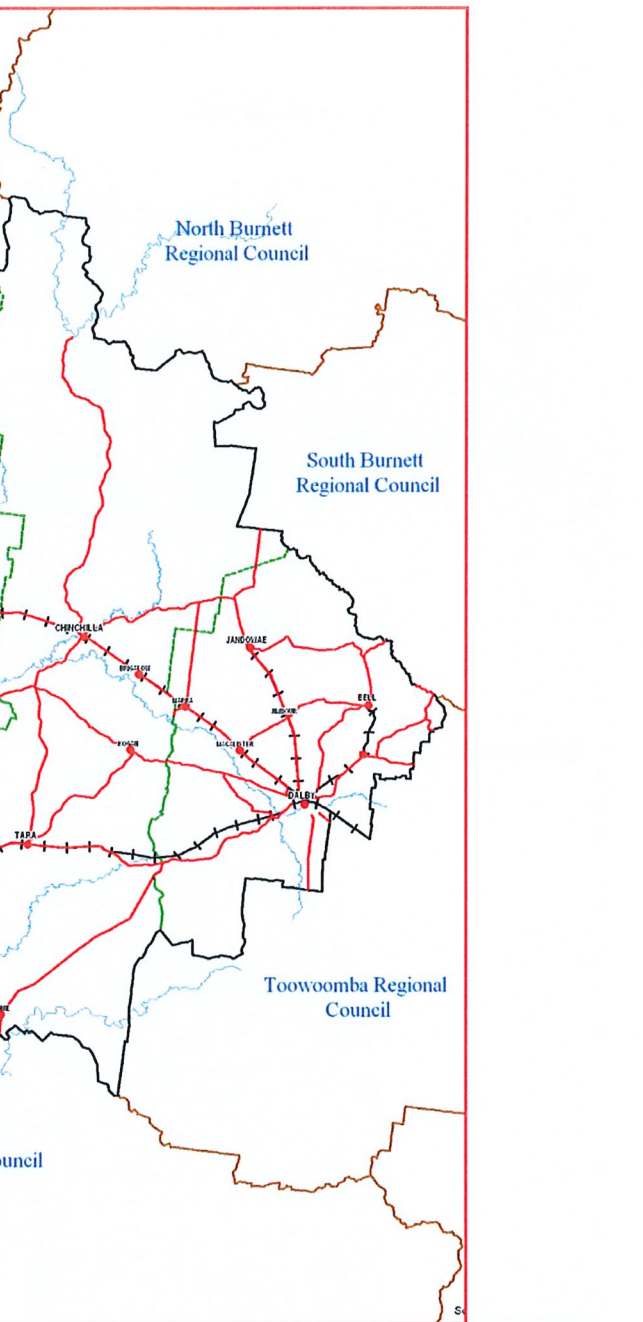
Tara District

The Tara District is 11,661 sq.kms and comprises of the previous Council area of Tara.

Tara District is located on the Western Downs at the headwaters of the Undulla Creek, Moonie River and Weir River Systems. A large Rural Residential Subdivision Area of approximately 2200 lots of principally 12 hectares is situated to the north and north-east of Tara. Significant wildfires are a risk relevant to this area.

The town of Tara has a history of periodic flooding in low lying areas, associated with heavy storm run-off rains. Communities such as Flinton, Meandarra and the Gums, within the District can also be isolated.





Area

Western Downs Regional Council Main Population Areas

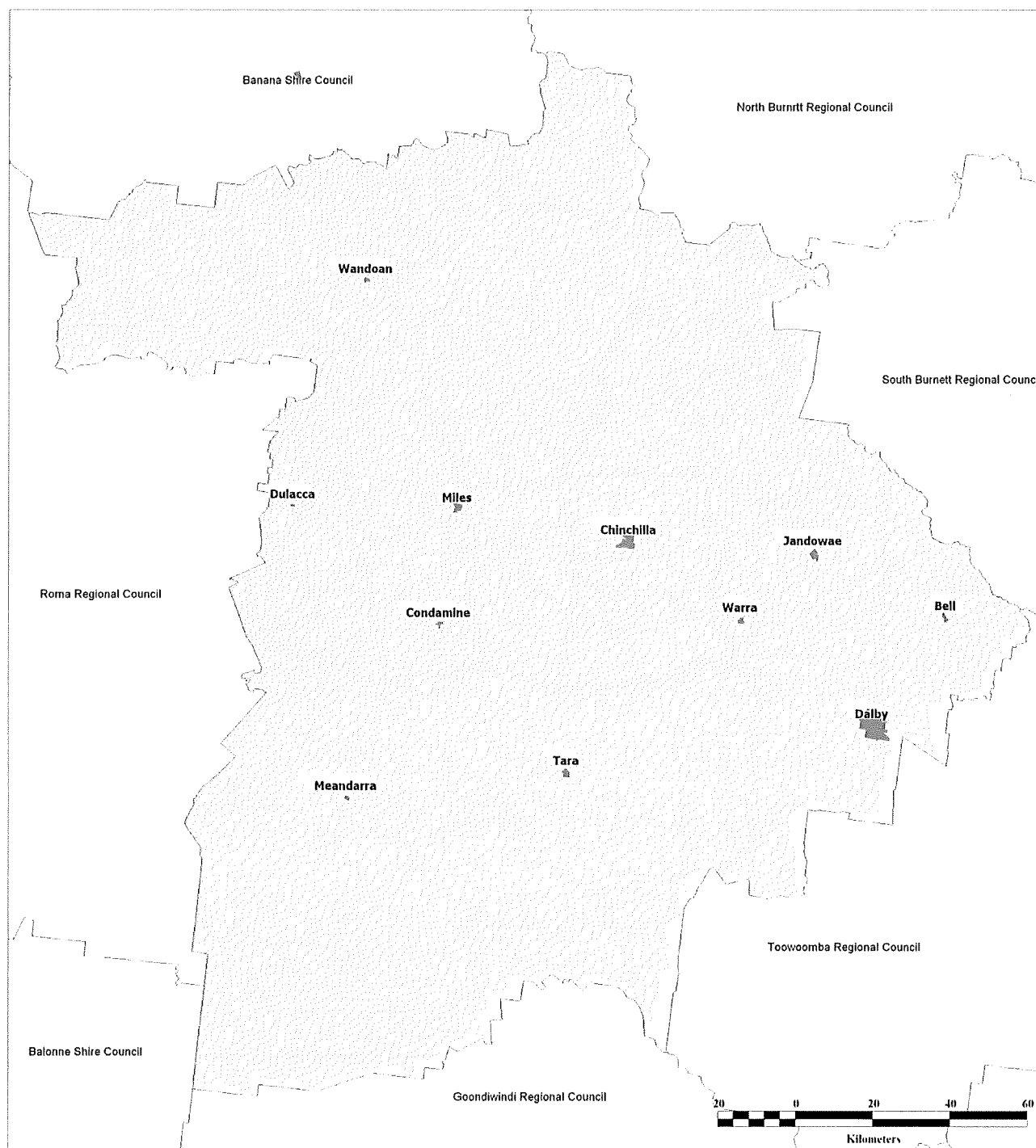


Figure 4: Western Downs Regional Council Main Population Areas

Western Downs Regional Council Locality Map

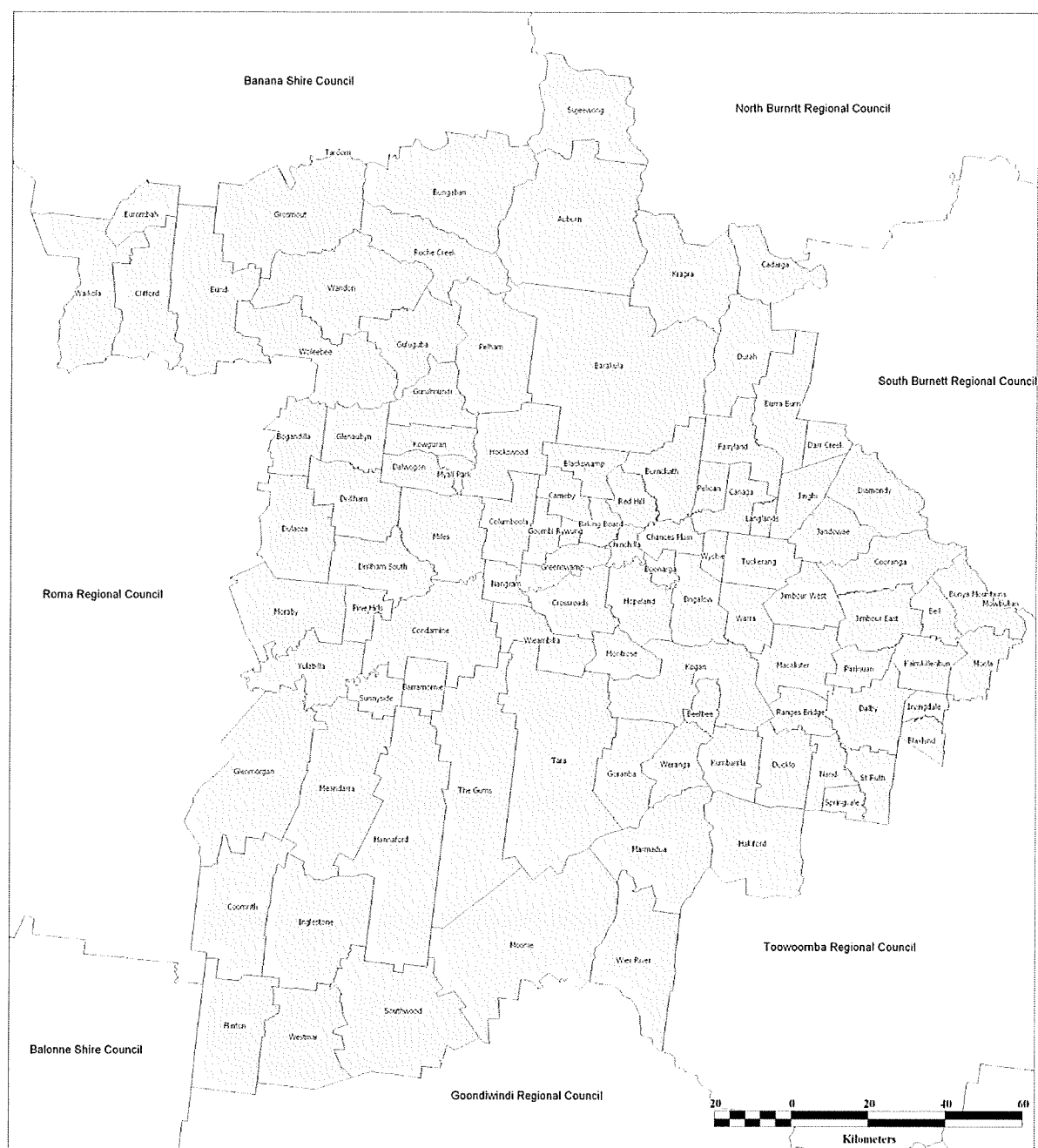


Figure 5: Western Downs Regional Council Locality Map

Climate and Weather

As the Western Downs Regional Council region lies between 220 and 430 km inland from Brisbane at the latitude of 27.2°S, the climate is sub-tropical with most rain falling in the summer months. Whilst the climate influence is predominately southeast and southwest air flow, the area may be impacted occasionally by tropical cyclones passing close to or crossing the coast.

The average annual rainfalls and temperatures are as follows;

DISTRICT	AVERAGE ANNUAL RAINFALL	AVERAGE MAX TEMP	AVERAGE MIN TEMP
Chinchilla	613 mm	25°C	8°C
Dalby	602 mm	27°C	12°C
Miles	648 mm	27°C	12°C
Tara	613 mm	31°C	17°C
Wandoan	672 mm	28°C	13°C

The above are average figures over a number of years and may vary quite significantly from year to year, for example for Dalby with monthly means ranging from 29mm in August to 94mm in December. The highest monthly rainfall recorded is 364mm (February) and the highest annual total is 1,273mm. The lowest monthly rainfall is zero (all months except November, December, and January) and the lowest annual total is 268mm.

The average monthly maximum temperatures for Dalby and environs range between 31.6°C in January to 18.6°C in July.

The average monthly minimum temperatures for Dalby and environs range between 18.8°C in January to 4.4°C in July.

It is not uncommon to experience temperatures down to zero and above 35°C.

Population

The 2016 Census estimated the Western Downs Regional Local Government Area to be 33,444. That is an increase of some 2%.

There was a 8.4% increase in population between 2007 and 2011 which was largely attributed to the growth in the coal seam gas industry and an expansion of the mining generally. Since that time growth has slowed but is still steadily rising with more organic industry growth.

The median age of the WDRC population is 37, which is the same as that for Australia as a whole.

Some 85.8% of the population speak English only - well above the Australian figure of 72.7%. Other languages spoken are quite varied with Filipino (including Tagalog) the next highest after English.

Some 7.1% of the population are aged 4 years or less and a further 15.6% aged 65 or over, giving a total of 22.7% who can be considered potentially to be more vulnerable to natural hazards due to age.

There are also a large number of hotels, motels and caravan parks in the Local Government Area, the variable, itinerate population of which may also be considered vulnerable. [More](#) information can be found by visiting www.wdrc.qld.gov.au and the subsequent Disaster Dashboard on the homepage or navigate directly to <https://disaster.wdrc.qld.gov.au/>.



Chinchilla District

The Chinchilla District population is 8,129 with Chinchilla town having a population of 6,612.

Dalby District

The town of Dalby has an approximate population of 12,719.

Miles District

The Miles District population is 4,064. Miles town has a population of 1,746.

Tara District

The Tara District population is 4,221 with Tara town having a population of 2,297.

An approximate break up for the main population centres is;

TOWN	ESTIMATED POPULATION (2016 Figures)	TOWN	ESTIMATED POPULATION (2016 Figures)
Chinchilla	6612	Flinton	42
Condamine	384	Miles	1746
Westmar	64	Drillham	126
Moonie	189	Dulacca	191
Tara	2297	Macalister	151
The Gums	159	Jimbour	56
Meandarra	262	Jandowae	1047
Glenmorgan	148	Kaimkillenbun	293
Kumbarilla	197	Guluguba	109
Dalby	12719	Wandoan	566
Kogan	190	Bell	502
Warra	205	Brigalow	170

Mining, Exploration and Construction Residential Camps

With the exploration and development of the mining, gas and associated industries there are a number of residential camps established for both exploration and construction purposes. Although the number and scale of these camps is lessening with the main construction works complete Council must keep this learning in mind when dealing with temporary residents that could be at risk.

These camps are of varying size ranging from 200 to 1000 residents. The camps may be established for short or long term and generally do not require Council approval. This is of concern as the numbers of personnel living in isolated camps is not known and would be at threat in the event of a major bushfire. Companies known to be working in the area are engaged and communication on emergency and disaster management planning, preparedness and response is encouraged. The QFRS Fire Managers Group invites company emergency/disaster representatives to be members and has established communication channels. Company emergency/disaster representatives participate in the LECC meetings. While a formal representative of the CSG industry has been appointed to the LDMG and DDMG.



Community Capacity

Businesses in the region have begun to diversify from traditional markets in the agricultural sector into components, parts and services for the energy sector. Agriculture, Forestry & Fishing dominates the economy, representing 22.6% of the Regional Council's \$1.3 billion GRP (2006/07). Despite the region's food processing sector holding competitive advantages over other Queensland and Australian regions in meat, grains and horticultural production, Agriculture declined by over 20% on 2005/06 GRP. Strong growth and development is evident across the region in Electricity, Gas and Water Supply, up 30.3% to \$41.7 million while Professional Services, Transport and Manufacturing also experienced greater than 15% annual growth. The energy resources sector, which comprises coal, coal seam gas, coal seam gas water, ethanol and power station development, has the potential to more than triple the gross regional product.

Almost 10% of the Manufacturing GRP in Queensland is within Western Downs Regional Council, a significant and growing contribution to Queensland's economy. Western Downs Regional Council has industry concentration and therefore net exports of goods and services in the Agriculture, Forestry & Fishing; Mining; Electricity, Gas, Water & Wastes Services and Construction sectors.

Within this growing economy, increased pressures on the labour market are reflected in low unemployment figures. The Western Downs Regional Council unemployment rate for the June Quarter 2008 was 3.1%, lower than Queensland (3.7%) and Australia (4.2%). Employed persons make up over half (53.8%) of the population, increasing in line with projected population growth of 0.8% average annual change.

Within this culture of change, residents in Western Downs Regional Council enjoy the benefits of country living, friendly and active communities. The median house price in the Western Downs Regional Council was \$225,000 in the year to June 2008, an increase of 7.7%. Despite increased median value of 176.3% over the past 5 years, Western Downs Regional Council's median house price is approximately 54.5% below those in the Brisbane metropolitan area and compare favourably with median house prices in Toowoomba, Lockyer Valley, Goondiwindi and South Burnett Regional Council's.

Residential building approvals decreased 52.4% in comparison to the previous year while total value decreased 40.8%. Significantly however, the average value of dwelling approvals for new houses increased 14.7% over the previous year and 53.6% since 2003-04. The total value of residential building approvals in the Western Downs Regional Council in the year to June Quarter 2008 was approximately \$22.6 million.

As the region's economy builds, residents are expected to benefit from the opportunities and development occurring within local communities and industry. Western Downs Regional Council, we are part of the community we serve, working together to provide valued leadership and services to our diverse region.

The Region has two main shopping and business/commercial centres at Dalby and Chinchilla servicing the community. Smaller centres are located at Miles and Tara with the local townships having general stores etc.

The major towns in the Region cater for local needs and contain shopping facilities, Council Customer Service Centres, hospitals, retirement villages, primary and secondary schools, sporting facilities and churches.

Western Downs Regional Council Corporate Office is located at 30 Marble Street, Dalby, Customer Service Centres are located in Chinchilla, (86 Heeney Street), Miles (29 Dawson) and Tara (19 Fry Street).



The Council has four main depots which are located at Dalby (Dalby-Jandowae Road), Chinchilla (cnr. Canaga and Railway St), Miles (Leichhardt Hwy) and Tara (Beardmore St). Smaller depots are located at Condamine, Meandarra, Wandoan, Jandowae, Bell, Parks depot Dalby and a camp at Westmar.

Police Stations are located at Dalby, Bell, Jandowae, Chinchilla, Miles, Wandoan, Tara, and Meandarra. Fire and Rescue Stations are located at Dalby, Chinchilla, Miles, Jandowae, Tara and Meandarra

Broadcast radio and TV services are provided from studios in Toowoomba and Roma, there is a community radio operating in Dalby. Breeze FM and Rebel FM, broadcast from Beaudesert, cover the towns of Miles, Chinchilla and Tara.

The traditional telecommunications system comprises mainly underground cables and telephone exchanges operated by Telstra.

Many of the private UHF and VHF networks such as taxis, police, emergency services, council, etc. operate from local base stations with transmission aerials located at various sites throughout the Region with the main transmission towers at Dalby, Mt. Mowbullen, Jandowae, Chinchilla, Miles, Durabilla, Weranga and Tara.

The Western Downs Regional Council community is not self-sufficient, it depends on outside sources for its food, energy and material requirements. Such dependence imposes limits to the community resilience.

Industry

The Region comprises of rich agricultural land for both crop and meat production.

Crops grown locally include cotton, sorghum, wheat, barley, sunflowers, chickpeas, maize and mung beans. Meat production includes beef, lamb and pork.

The grain receiving depot in Dalby is the largest in Queensland, and Dalby also holds the largest one-day livestock market in Australia.

There are also significant local industrial and agricultural manufacturing facilities in Dalby. There is a growing tourism industry in the region with attractions such as Chinchilla Melon Festival, Delicious and Delightful Festival, Beef Bells and Bottle Trees and local wineries. Coal is mined at Macalister and Miles Cameby Downs a number of other mines are proposed in the region, the largest being proposed by Xstrata at Wandoan. There is a developing industry with the coal seam methane gas and subsequent liquid natural gas with the associated pipeline to Gladstone as well as the Surat Basin Rail Project from Wandoan to Gladstone. A bio refinery is operating in Dalby.

Power stations are located at Braemar (Alinta's Braemar 1, Arrow Energy's Braemar 2 and Origin Energy's Darling Downs Power Stations) and CS Energy's Kogan Creek Power Station. There is a QGC power station at Miles.

Public and Other Major Buildings, Spaces, and Events

Throughout the Region there are a number of public and other major buildings, open spaces, major events etc including:

Public and Other Buildings

Chinchilla District

- Chinchilla Customer Service Centre;
- Chinchilla Police Station;
- Chinchilla Court House;
- Cultural Centre; and
- Aquatic and Fitness Centre.

Dalby District

- Western Downs Regional Council Corporate Office;
- Dalby Cultural Centre (MyALL107);
- Dalby Police Station
- Dalby Court House;
- DAFF Forestry;
- Jandowae Community and Cultural Centre; and
- Dalby PCYC.

Miles District

- Miles Customer Service Centre;
- Dogwood Crossing;
- Miles Leichhardt Centre
- Miles Police Station;
- Miles Historical Village;
- Wandoan Diggers Complex; and
- Wandoan Cultural Centre

Tara District

- Tara Customer Service Centre;
- Tara Police Station;
- Tara Memorial Hall; and
- Tara CWA Building.

Major Public Spaces

Throughout the Region there are a number of major public open spaces as listed below;

Chinchilla District

- Chinchilla Showgrounds;
- Chinchilla Racecourse;
- Chinchilla Recreation Reserve; and
- Chinchilla Football Ground.

Dalby District

- Dalby, Bell and Jandowae Showgrounds;
- Dalby, Bell, Jandowae, and Warra Racecourses;
- Dalby Barley Board Soccer Grounds, Dalby Rugby League Ground and Dalby Union Fields; and
- Thomas Jack Park, Dalby.

Miles District

- Miles and Wandoan Showgrounds;
- Centenary Oval, Miles; and
- Miles and Wandoan Racecourses.

Tara District

- Tara Showgrounds
- Jack Chappel Memorial Oval, Tara;
- Dillon Park, Meandarra;

Local Infrastructure

- Dalby Airport, [2 airstrips, both sealed, aircraft below 5700 kg; used by agriculture sprayers, general aviation, recreation flyers, RDFS and charters; designated as an aircraft landing area];
- Chinchilla Airport [2 airstrips, one sealed, one unsealed; accommodate aircraft to Dornier 228 under concession; used by agriculture sprayers, general aviation, recreational flyers, RDFS and charters; Registered aerodrome];
- Airstrip at Meandarra [1 airstrip graded gravel; probably usable by aircraft below 5700 kg; used by RDFS, general aviation; designated as an aircraft landing area];
- Airstrip at Tara [1 airstrip, sealed, accommodate aircraft to 5700kg; used by general aviation, RDFS and agriculture sprayers; designated aircraft landing area];
- Aerodrome at Miles [1590 metre sealed runway and parking apron, with a PCN of 19 capable of catering for Dash 8 - 400 aircraft, designated a Certified Aerodrome];
- Airstrip at Wandoan [1 airstrip, grass; accommodate single engine aircraft only; used by general aviation; RDFS; designated aircraft landing area];
- Airstrip at Moonie [1 airstrip gravel; accommodate single engine aircraft only; used by general aviation designated aircraft landing area];
- Airstrip at Dulacca [1 airstrip, grass, designated aircraft landing area];
- Dalby, Chinchilla, Tara and Meandarra can be utilized by QFES for water bombing operations.
- Warrego Highway, Bunya Highway, Moonie Highway, Condamine Highway and the Leichhardt Highway;
- Queensland Rail links to the east and west;
- Jimbour Quarry;
- Dalby District has:
 - 2562 km of road network including 984 km of unsealed and 315 km of formation only;
 - 14 road and pedestrian bridges;
 - 46 km of bikeways/footways;
 - 4244 Ha. recreational parks and reserves;
 - 55 km of underground drainage;
 - 21 km lined and unlined drains;
 - 204 km water supply pipelines; and
 - 96 km sewerage pipelines.
- Chinchilla District has:
 - 2485 km of road network including 1717 km of unsealed;
 - 15 road and pedestrian bridges;
 - 26 Ha. recreational parks and reserves;
 - 11 km of underground drainage;
 - 6 km lined and unlined drains;
 - 78 km water supply pipelines; and
 - 47 km sewerage pipelines.

- Miles District has:
 - 1073 km of road network including 611 km of unsealed and 234 km of formation only;
 - 5 road and pedestrian bridges;
 - 11 km of bikeways/footways;
 - 178 Ha. recreational parks and reserves;
 - 3 km of underground drainage;
 - 28 km lined and unlined drains;
 - 34 km water supply pipelines; and
 - 14 km sewerage pipelines
- Tara District has:
 - 2325 km of road network including 1310 km of unsealed and 126 km of formation only;
 - 11 road and pedestrian bridges;
 - 8 km of bikeways/footways;
 - 5 Ha. maintained parks;
 - 4 km of underground drainage;
 - 1 km lined and unlined drains;
 - 26 km water supply pipelines; and
 - 35 km sewerage pipelines.
- Wandoan area has:
 - 923 km of road network including 310 km of unsealed and 350 km of formation only;
 - 14 road and pedestrian bridges;
 - 1 km of bikeways/footways;
 - 88 Ha. recreational parks and reserves;
 - 2.4 km of underground drainage;
 - 2 km lined and unlined drains;
 - 19 km water supply pipelines; and
 - 12 km sewerage pipelines.
- Accommodation
 - There is a complete range of accommodation types available throughout the WDRC area, that could assist in providing emergency accommodation:
 - Motels: Dalby 14; Chinchilla 8; Tara 3; Westmar 1; Miles 3; Condamine 1; Wandoan 1.
 - Hotel/Motels: Dalby 2; Jandowae 1; Chinchilla 1; Tara 2; Moonie 1; Miles 1; Wandoan 1; Glenmorgan 1; Condamine 1
 - Hotels: Dalby 1; Kaimkillenbun 1; Bell 1; Jandowae 2; Tara 1; Meandarra 1; Miles 2; Dulacca 1; Kogan 1; Warra 1
 - B&B/Farm Stays: Dalby 1; Chinchilla 3; Miles 1
 - Caravan Parks: Dalby 2; Kaimkillenbun 1; Bell 1; Jandowae 1; Chinchilla 4; Tara 3; Meandarra 1; Glenmorgan 2; Moonie 1; Coolumbolla 1; Miles 3; Condamine 1; Wandoan 1
 - In addition, there is a wide range of service stations/cafes/stores, take away food outlets throughout the WDRC area. These can be sourced from www.wdrc.qld.gov.au

Essential Services

Electricity Supply

- The main source of electrical power supply is from the Queensland grid, which is supplied primarily from base-load power stations at Swanbank, Tarong, Callide, Stanwell and Gladstone. The power station at Wivenhoe Dam and the Braemar Power stations provide peak load capacity. With additional capacity from NSW Country Energy - Moonie Westmar).
- Powerlink Queensland is the operator of the high voltage transmission lines that supply the area. Ergon Energy is the operator of the reticulation network, which provides power to consumers.
- High voltage power supply (Transmission) Powerlink substations and critical infrastructure to the region which includes the power stations and substations including:
 - Kogan Creek Power Station, Braemar 1 & 2 Power Stations, Tarong Power Station, Condamine Power Station, Darling Downs Power Station within Western Downs
 - Columboola Sub Station, Chinchilla Sub Station, Tarong Sub Station, Western Downs Sub Station, Braemar Sub Station, Bulla Creek Sub Station, Tangkam Sub Station, Middle Ridge Sub Station within Western Downs
- Ergon Energy is responsible for all sub-transmission and all distribution electrical networks in the Western Downs as well as some transmission not owned by Powerlink.

Telecommunications

- The traditional telephone communications system comprises mostly underground cables and telephone exchanges operated by Telstra. Recent additions to the telecommunications infrastructure are a number of mobile telephone towers, which are operated by Telstra, Optus, and other service providers.
- With the emergence of NBN Co a large amount of infrastructure once operated by Telstra will now be operated and maintained by NBN Co.

Water Supply

- The Dalby town water supply includes 14 bores, one weir, a treatment plant, 8.18 km of rising main, two low level reservoirs, one high service pump station, two elevated reservoirs and 168 km of distribution mains;
- Miles town water supply includes 1 bore, 2 weirs on Dogwood Creek (only 1 supplies water to the town supply), a treatment plant, 3.9 km of rising main, 2 low level reservoirs, 1 high service pump station, 1 elevated reservoirs and 17.9 km of distribution mains;
- Chinchilla town water supply includes 2 weirs on Condamine River and Charley's Creek (only 1 supplies town water), a treatment plant, 10.2 km of rising main, 7 low level reservoirs, 2 high service pump stations, 1 elevated reservoir and 58.8 km of distribution mains;
- Tara town water supply includes 2 bores, a treatment plant, 1.7 km of rising main, 1 low level reservoir, 1 high service pump station, 1 elevated reservoir and 10.9 km of distribution mains;
- The Jandowae water supply includes 4 bores, 1 Referrable Dam, 1 treatment plant, 2 low level reservoirs, 2 high service pump stations and 1 elevated reservoir.
- Wara water supply includes 1 bore, 1 dam, 1 weir, 2 low service pump stations, 1 high service pump station, 1 elevated reservoir and 1 treatment plant.
- The township of Bell is supplied by 5 bores, 2 dams, 1 treatment plant, 1 low level reservoir and 1 high service pump station.
- The Condamine water supply includes 1 weir, a treatment plant, 1 low service pump station, 1 high service pump station and 3 low level reservoirs; and
- Wandoan water supply includes 2 bores, 1 water treatment plant, 1 elevated reservoir, 2 low level reservoirs.

Sewerage and Sewerage Treatment

- The wastewater scheme for Dalby town services approximately 3,800 premises through 82 km of gravity sewers, 11 sewerage pump stations, 6.5 km of rising main and the Dalby Recycled Water Plant. The treatment plant currently processes approximately 2 ML/day. The current long term projection is that this flow will not grow above the plant's nominal

capacity of 3 ML/day within the next ten years unless there is a major change in the Town's demographics;

- The wastewater scheme for Chinchilla town services approximately 2,180 premises through 43.3 km of gravity sewers, 7 sewerage pump stations, 4.3 km of rising main and the Chinchilla Wastewater Treatment Plant. The treatment plant currently processes approximately 1.2 ML/day;
- The wastewater scheme for Miles town services approximately 550 premises through 10.7 km of gravity sewers, 9 sewerage pump stations, 3.5 km of rising main and the Miles Wastewater Treatment Plant. The treatment plant currently processes approximately 0.3 ML/day;
- The wastewater scheme for Tara town services approximately 386 premises through 7 km of gravity sewers, 2 sewerage pump station, 3.4 km of rising main and the Tara Wastewater Treatment Plant. The treatment plant currently processes approximately 0.3 ML/day;
- The wastewater scheme for Wandoan includes a wastewater treatment plant processing 0.15ML/day, 5 sewage pump stations and 5km of gravity fed sewers.
- The smaller townships of Jandowae and Meandarra have reticulated sewerage systems. The remaining townships and rural properties having septic tank systems.

Gas Supply

- Reticulated gas supply is available to 75% of the Dalby town area serving approximately 3080 customers. Bottled LPG is used for the rest of the Region.

Waste Facilities

Waste / Landfill Facility	Location	Waste Types	Waste Types not accepted
Bell	Tip Road, Bell	Domestic waste is accepted. This facility accepts some materials for recycling.	Commercial and industrial waste; construction and demolition waste; tyres; asbestos; hot embers or ash; chemicals (powder or liquid); hazardous waste; and liquid waste.
Burri Burri	Burri Burri Creek Road, Burri Burri	Domestic waste is accepted. This facility accepts some materials for recycling.	Commercial and industrial waste; construction and demolition waste; tyres; asbestos; hot embers or ash; chemicals (powder or liquid); hazardous waste; and liquid waste.
Chinchilla Waste & Recycling Centre	Slessar Street, Chinchilla	Domestic waste, construction and demolition waste, commercial and industrial waste is accepted (quantity limits apply). This facility accepts some materials for recycling.	Tyres; asbestos; regulated waste; hot embers or ash; hazardous waste and chemicals (powder or liquid); liquid waste.
Condamine Transfer Station	Wambo Street, Condamine	Domestic waste is accepted. This facility accepts some materials for recycling.	Commercial and industrial waste; construction and demolition waste; tyres; asbestos; hot embers or ash; chemicals (powder or liquid);

Waste / Landfill Facility	Location	Waste Types	Waste Types not accepted
			hazardous waste; and liquid waste.
Dalby Waste & recycling Centre	18765 Warrego Highway, Dalby	Domestic waste, construction and demolition waste, commercial and industrial waste is accepted (quantity limits apply). This facility accepts some materials for recycling.	Tyres; asbestos; regulated waste; hot embers or ash; hazardous waste and chemicals (powder or liquid).
Drillham	Warrego Highway, Drillham	Domestic waste is accepted. This facility accepts some materials for recycling.	Commercial and industrial waste; construction and demolition waste; tyres; asbestos; hot embers or ash; chemicals (powder or liquid); hazardous waste; and liquid waste.
Ducklo	Ducklo-Gulera Road, Ducklo	Domestic waste is accepted. This facility accepts some materials for recycling.	Commercial and industrial waste; construction and demolition waste; tyres; asbestos; hot embers or ash; chemicals (powder or liquid); hazardous waste; and liquid waste.
Dulacca	South Dulacca Road, Dulacca	Domestic waste is accepted. This facility accepts some materials for recycling.	Commercial and industrial waste; construction and demolition waste; tyres; asbestos; hot embers or ash; chemicals (powder or liquid); hazardous waste; and liquid waste.
Glenmorgan	Surat Developmental Road, Glenmorgan	Domestic waste is accepted. This facility accepts some materials for recycling.	Commercial and industrial waste; construction and demolition waste; tyres; asbestos; hot embers or ash; chemicals (powder or liquid); hazardous waste; and liquid waste.
Jandowae (Winfields Road Waste Management Centre)	Winfields Road, Jandowae	Domestic waste, construction and demolition waste, commercial and industrial waste is accepted (quantity limits apply). This facility accepts some materials for recycling.	Tyres; asbestos; regulated waste; hot embers or ash; hazardous waste and chemicals (powder or liquid).

Waste / Landfill Facility	Location	Waste Types	Waste Types not accepted
Kaimkillenbun Transfer station	Towns Road, Kaimkillenbun	Domestic waste is accepted. This facility accepts some materials for recycling.	Construction and demolition waste; tyres; asbestos; hot embers or ash; chemicals (powder or liquid); hazardous waste; and liquid waste.
Kogan Transfer Station	Condamine Highway, Kogan	Domestic waste is accepted. This facility accepts some materials for recycling.	Commercial and industrial waste; construction and demolition waste; tyres; asbestos; hot embers or ash; chemicals (powder or liquid); hazardous waste; and liquid waste.
Meandarra	Meacle Road, Meandarra	Domestic waste, construction and demolition waste, commercial and industrial waste are accepted. This facility accepts some materials for recycling.	Tyres; asbestos; regulated waste; hot ashes and embers; hazardous waste and chemicals (powder or liquid).
Miles Waste & Recycling Centre	Old Cameby Road, Miles	Domestic waste, construction and demolition waste, commercial and industrial waste are accepted (quantity limits apply). This facility accepts some materials for recycling.	Regulated waste; tyres; asbestos; hot ashes and embers; hazardous waste and chemicals (powder or liquid).
Moonie Transfer Station	Moonie Highway, Moonie	Domestic waste is accepted. This facility accepts some materials for recycling.	Bulky waste; commercial and industrial waste; construction and demolition waste; tyres; asbestos; hot embers or ash; chemicals (powder or liquid); hazardous waste; and liquid waste.
Tara	Fry Street, Tara	Domestic waste, construction and demolition waste, commercial and industrial waste are accepted. This facility accepts some materials for recycling.	Regulated waste; tyres; asbestos; hot ashes and embers; hazardous waste and chemicals (powder or liquid).
Wandoan	Tip Road, Wandoan	Domestic waste, construction and demolition waste, commercial and industrial waste are accepted. A limit of 15m3 applies to construction, demolition, commercial and industrial waste disposed in landfill. Please note that greenwaste, timber, concrete	Regulated waste; tyres; asbestos; hot ashes and embers; hazardous waste and chemicals (powder or liquid).

Waste / Landfill Facility	Location	Waste Types	Waste Types not accepted
		and scrap steel will be accepted, subject to the material being free from contamination. This facility accepts some materials for recycling.	
Warra	Warrego Highway, Warra	Domestic waste is accepted. This facility accepts some materials for recycling.	Commercial and industrial waste; construction and demolition waste; tyres; asbestos; hot embers or ash; chemicals (powder or liquid); hazardous waste; and liquid waste.

Critical Facilities

- Health Services
 - Dalby Health Service [Hospital, incl emergency; Clinics (child health, etc.); Allied Health (physio, occ. Health); Mental Health; Community Health; Aged Care];
 - Jandowae Health Services [Hospital inc. Emergency, long stay (nursing home);
 - Chinchilla Health Services [Hospital inc. Emergency, specialists; Community Health; Allied Health (physio, occ. Health); Clinics (Child health etc);
 - Miles Health Services [Hospital (Minor Medical, and day only service); Clinics, Allied Health (physio, occ. Health); Specialists (visiting only); Aged care (Blue Nurses, Meals on Wheels, etc.); Primary Health;
 - Milton House (co-located with the Miles Health Service); 14 beds
 - Tara Health Services [Medical (respite, long stay nursing home); Clinics (Outpatients, dental, etc.); Allied Health [physio, occ. Health]; Community Health; Aged Care (Health and Community Care)];
 - Wandoan Outpatient Clinics (Primary Health Care [doctor twice weekly]; Clinics/Allied health (every 2 weeks); Community health;
- Aged Care
 - Karingal Residential Aged Care facility (on Dalby Hospital campus) 80 beds
 - Ningana Retirement Village Dalby (hostel [low care], independent living, respite care) 40 hostel rooms and 18 independent units
 - Jandowae Nursing Home (in Jandowae Hospital) 5 beds
 - Tarcoola Hostel (Tara) - 33 Beds
 - Taralga Retirement Village Jandowae (independent living and hostel) 22 beds
 - Southern Cross Car Illoura Village Chinchilla (5 levels of care ranging from CACPS to high level (dementia) care - 34 low care beds; 19 higher care beds; 10 secure dementia beds and 3 respite, totalling 66 beds in all. (At any given time, there are usually at least 50 high care residents).
 - Carinya (Miles) - 17 beds
- Queensland Ambulance Service
 - There are QAS stations at seven locations, with the following staff numbers and resources:

Chinchilla

Staff:- 5 officers, comprising of 4 Advance Care Paramedics and 1 Officer in charge who is also an Advanced Care Paramedic.



3 Vehicles comprising of 1 Mercedes Twin Stretcher Unit, 1 Mercedes Single Power Load Stretcher and 1 Toyota 4x4 Landcruiser Single Stretcher Unit.

Shifts are:- 8 days including 7 nights " on call" then 6 days off. These shifts have 2 officers on duty the entire time.

- . Nearest Hospital Chinchilla, Nearest Airport Chinchilla, Helipad Yes at Hospital
 - Dalby 11-2 paramedics on 10 hour afternoon shifts with on call after hours; 5-2 x 2 stretcher units and 3 x single stretcher units. Nearest Hospital Dalby; Nearest Airport Dalby; Helipad Yes at Hospital
 - Jandowae 2-1 paramedic on 10 hour day shifts with on call after hours; 2x 4x4 unit and 1(4x4)x2 stretcher unit. Nearest Hospital Jandowae; Nearest airport Dalby; Helipad Yes at Hospital
 - Miles 2 Paramedics on 8 hour day shifts with on call after hours; 1 x 4x 4 Unit (single stretcher), 1x two stretcher unit and 1 x single stretcher unit; Nearest Hospital Miles; nearest airport Miles; Helipad Yes at Sports Ground. Total establishment staff of 5 (staff work 8 days on, 6 days off).
 - Meandarra 2paramedics back to back (week on/week off) on 10 hour day shift (0800hrs-1800hrs) and after hours coverage paramedics are on call after hours; 2 4x4 single stretcher units; As there is no hospital in Meandarra the QAS Meandarra does have treatment/casualty room service at the station; Nearest Hospitals are Surat, Miles or Tara; Nearest Airport Meandarra; Helipad at Airport and Sports Ground at Dillon Park
 - Tara 3-1 paramedic on 10 hour day shifts with on call after hours; 2 x 4x4 unit with single stretchers; Nearest Hospital Tara; Nearest Airport Tara; Helipad Yes at Sports Ground
 - Wandoan 2-1 paramedic on 10 hour day shifts with on call after hours; 2-1 x 4x4 unit and 1 x two stretcher unit; Nearest Hospital Miles or Taroom; Nearest Airport Wandoan; Helipad No (but could use local sports field)
- State Emergency Services
 - The following are operational strengths of the 7 SES Groups active in the WDRC area in 20 March 2015
 - Chinchilla; 17 active;
 - Dalby; 24 active;
 - Jandowae; 12 active;
 - Condamine; 8 active;
 - Dulacca; 8 active;
 - Miles/Wandoan; 6 active;
 - Tara; 11 active;
 - A full list of capabilities is contained in the latest WDRC SES Capability Report
 - Queensland Police Service
 - Dalby 23 officers
 - Chinchilla 10 officers
 - Jandowae 2 officers
 - Miles 6 officers
 - Wandoan 2 officers
 - Tara 5 officers
 - Meandarra 1 officer
 - Dulacca 1 officer
 - Bell 1 officer.
 - Queensland Fire and Emergency Services
 - There are several QFES stations staffed by auxiliary fire fighter who are 'on call' and not permanent staff, so that the actual numbers available for a specific emergency will vary. Numbers of auxiliary potentially available at each station are:
 - Dalby 21
 - Chinchilla 21
 - Jandowae 12



- Tara 4
- Miles 12
- Meandarra 3
- Wandoan 4
- Plus back up from Toowoomba as required for specialist response and additional resources.
- Rural Fire Brigades:
 - Billabong
 - Braemar
 - Kogan & District
 - Tolmah
 - Weranga
 - Wilkie Creek
 - Weimbilla
 - Not all of these brigades have sheds and/or specific items of firefighting equipment and the QFRS, supported by the LDMG will need to address the issue of staff and resources available at specific locations where the bushfire hazard is the subject of risk treatment plan.

Hazardous Sites

- The Warrego, Bunya, and Moonie Highways and Queensland Rail links to the east and west all carry bulk hazardous substances in a variety of containers;
- There are major hardware stores located in the Region;
- Bulk grain storage silos are located at Dalby, Kaimkillenbun, Jimbour, Miles, Dulacca, Macalister, Ulimaroa - west of Drillham and Jandowae;
- Gas transmission pipeline from Roma to Brisbane and Gas Gate Station;
- CSG Compressor stations and transmission/export lines.
- Numerous gas exploration wells;
- Moonie oilfields;
- INCITEC Storage Depot (anhydrous ammonia), Dalby, Jandowae;
- Major chemical stores (cotton);
- Engine Road hazardous waste site;
- Aerodrome chemical store and contaminated wash down tanks;
- BOC Loading facility at Miles; and
- Gurulmundi Secure Landfill.

2.2 Hazards

The Natural Disaster Risk Assessment - Western Downs Regional Council 2012 has been completed.

The methodology applied followed the National Emergency Risk Assessment Guidelines and utilised a workshop style approach to consolidate local, historical and disaster management knowledge and experience from the members of the Local Disaster Management Group.

Hazards identified included: Hazardous Material Accident; Major Road traffic accident; Stock truck rollover in urban area; Animal and plant diseases; Server storm; Flood; and Prolonged heatwave. For more detail refer to the Report and treatment action plans.

Previous studies available for further reference include:

- The Dalby Natural Disaster Risk Management Report 2006 and Dalby Natural Disaster Mitigation Plan 2006 adopted by the previous Dalby Council in 2006. The Wambo Natural Disaster Risk Management Report 2006 and Wambo Natural Disaster Mitigation Plan 2006 adopted by the previous Wambo Shire Council.



- The Chinchilla Shire Natural Disaster Risk Management Report adopted by the previous Chinchilla Shire Council in 2002.
- The Murilla Shire Natural Disaster Risk Management Report adopted by the previous Murilla Shire Council in 2002.
- The Tara Shire Natural Disaster Risk Management Study and the Natural Disaster Mitigation Study adopted by the previous Tara Shire Council in 2002.

The Western Downs Flood Review and Management Study produced the Western Downs Floodplain Risk Management Study July 2012. This report describes the catchments within the Western Downs area, the potential for events and offers a summary of mitigation strategies that can further be explored.

Other studies and relevant reports are:

- Dalby Flood Mitigation Update Dec. 2002;
- Dalby Council Myall Creek Flood Study June 2007 including a Planning Report;
- Dalby/Wambo Local Disaster Management Plan –2007;
- Western Downs Planning Scheme

The full documents can be viewed by contacting the Local Disaster Coordinator for the WDLDMG on 1300 Council (1300 268 624).

From the recommendations of the Queensland Floods 2010/11 Commission of Inquiry, a referable dam has been identified in the Miles area. The owner of this dam is responsible for its emergency management plans. As required, the Miles LECC has made contact with the dam owner, and maintains an annual LDMG review process with them. A copy of the emergency action plan (EAP) is held by Council.

WDRC also owns and operates a referable Dam in Jandowae. Similarly the EAP is held by Council and an annexure to this document. The EAP has been developed to identify emergency conditions that could endanger the integrity of the Dam and describe procedures to be used in the event of an emergency or disaster. The main focus of the EAP is to provide timely warning and response measures for the Jandowae township and area. For more information see Annexure A.

2.3 Risk Descriptors

Risk Descriptors are as per the National Emergency Risk Assessment Guidelines (NERAG) and Queensland Emergency Risk Management Framework (QERMF).

Vulnerable Sector

The following are the sectors of Western Downs Regional Council that are at risk and are identified in the risk management record:



Impact Category Definitions	
People	Relates to the direct impacts of the emergency on the physical health of people/individuals and emergency services' (i.e. health system) ability to manage Mortality defined as the ratio of deaths in an area to the population of that area; expressed per 1000 per year
Environment	Relates to the impacts of the emergency and its effects on the ecosystem of the area, including fauna and flora
Economy	Relates to the economic impact of the emergency on the governing body as reported in the annual operating statement for the relevant jurisdiction, and industry sectors as defined by the Australian Bureau of Statistics
Public Administration	Relates to the impacts of the emergency on the governing body's ability to govern
Social Setting	Relates to the impacts of the emergency on society and its social fabric, including its cultural heritage, resilience of the community
Infrastructure	Relates to the impacts of the emergency on the area's infrastructure/lifelines/utilities and its ability to service the community Long-term failure = Repairs will take longer than 6 months Mid- to long-term failure = Repairs may be undertaken in 3 to 6 months Mid-term failure = Repairs may be undertaken in 1 to 3 months Short- to mid-term failure = Repairs may be undertaken in 1 week to 1 month Short-term failure = Repairs may be undertaken in less than 1 week

Figure 6: Impact Category Definitions.

Likelihood

The likelihood of the event occurring:

Likelihood Level	Frequency	Average Recurrence Interval	Annual Exceedence Probability
Almost Certain	Once or more per year	< 3 years	> 0.3
Likely	Once per ten years	3 – 30 years	0.031 – 0.3
Possible	Once per hundred years	31 – 300 years	0.0031 – 0.03
Unlikely	Once per thousand years	301 – 3,000 years	0.00031 – 0.003
Rare	Once per ten thousand years	3,001 – 30,000 years	0.000031 – 0.0003
Very Rare	Once per hundred thousand years	30,001 – 300,000 years	0.0000031 – 0.00003
Almost Incredible	Less than once per million years	> 300,000 years	< 0.0000031

Figure 7: Likelihood Definitions

Consequence

The consequence of an event occurring:

Consequence Level	People	Environment	Economy	Public Administration	Social Setting	Infrastructure
Catastrophic	Widespread multiple loss of life (mortality > 1 in ten thousand), health system unable to cope, displacement of people beyond ability to cope	Widespread severe impairment or loss of ecosystem functions across species and landscapes, irrecoverable environmental damage	Unrecoverable financial loss > 3% of the government sector's revenues, asset destruction across industry sectors leading to widespread business failures and loss of employment	Governing body unable to manage the event, disordered public administration without effective functioning, public unrest, media coverage beyond region or jurisdiction	Community unable to support itself, widespread loss of objects of cultural significance, impacts beyond emotional and psychological capacity in all parts of the community	Long-term failure of significant infrastructure and service delivery affecting all parts of the community, ongoing external support at large scale required
Major	Multiple loss of life (mortality > 1 in one hundred thousand), health system over-stressed, large numbers of displaced people (more than 24 hours)	Severe impairment or loss of ecosystem functions affecting many species or landscapes, progressive environmental damage	Financial loss 1-3% of the government sector's revenues requiring major changes in business strategy to (partly) cover loss, significant disruptions across industry sectors leading to multiple business failures and loss of employment	Governing body absorbed with managing the event, public administration struggles to provide merely critical services, loss of public confidence in governance, media coverage beyond region or jurisdiction	Reduced quality of life within community, significant loss or damage to objects of cultural significance, impacts beyond emotional and psychological capacity in large parts of the community	Mid- to long-term failure of significant infrastructure and service delivery affecting large parts of the community, initial external support required
Moderate	Isolated cases of loss of life (mortality > than one in one million), health system operating at maximum capacity, isolated cases of displacement of people (less than 24 hours)	Isolated but significant cases of impairment or loss of ecosystem functions, intensive efforts for recovery required	Financial loss 0.3-1% of the government sector's revenues requiring adjustments to business strategy to cover loss, disruptions to selected industry sectors leading to isolated cases of business failure and multiple loss of employment	Governing body manages the event with considerable diversion from policy, public administration functions limited by focus on critical services, widespread public protests, media coverage within region or jurisdiction	Ongoing reduced services within community, permanent damage to objects of cultural significance, impacts beyond emotional and psychological capacity in some parts of the community	Mid-term failure of (significant) infrastructure and service delivery affecting some parts of the community, widespread inconveniences
Minor	Isolated cases of serious injuries, health system operating within normal parameters	Isolated cases of environmental damage, one-off recovery efforts required	Financial loss 0.1-0.3% of the government sector's revenues requiring activation of reserves to cover loss, disruptions at business level leading to isolated cases of loss of employment	Governing body manages the event under emergency regime, public administration functions with some disturbances, isolated expressions of public concern, media coverage within region or jurisdiction	Isolated and temporary cases of reduced services within community, repairable damage to objects of cultural significance, impacts within emotional and psychological capacity of the community	Isolated cases of short- to mid-term failure of infrastructure and service delivery, localized inconveniences
Insignificant	Near misses or minor injuries, no reliance on health system	Near misses or incidents without environmental damage, no recovery efforts required	Financial loss < 0.1% of the government sector's revenues to be managed within standard financial provisions, inconsequential disruptions at business level	Governing body manages the event within normal parameters, public administration functions without disturbances, public confidence in governance, no media attention	Inconsequential short-term reduction of services, no damages to objects of cultural significance, no adverse emotional and psychological impacts	Inconsequential short-term failure of infrastructure and service delivery, no disruption to the public services

Figure 8: Consequence Definitions

3. Prevention

3.1 Building Codes and Building Use Regulations

In Western Downs Regional Council the following codes and regulations apply:

- Building Code Australia;
- Building Act 1975;
- Building Regulations 2006;
- Building Fire Safety Regulation 2008;
- Body Corporate and Community Management Act 1997;
- Building Units and Group Titles Act 1980;
- Building and Other Legislation Amendment Act;
- Building Services Authority Act 1991;
- Floodplain Management in Australia: best practice principles and guidelines;
- Queensland Development Code; and
- State Planning Policy 1/03 guideline: mitigating the adverse impacts of flood, bushfire and landslide

3.2 Legislation

In addition to the Disaster Management Act 2003 the following Acts are relevant to Western Downs Regional Council Disaster Management:

- Agricultural Chemicals Distribution Control Act 1966;
- Ambulance Service Act 1991;
- Chemical Usage (Agricultural and Veterinary) Control Act 1988;
- Dangerous Goods Safety Management Act 2001;
- Disability Act 2006;
- Environmental Protection Act 1994;
- Exotic Diseases in Animals Act 1981;
- Explosives Act 1999;
- Fire and Emergency Services Act 1990;
- Public Health Act 2005;
- Sustainable Planning Act 2009;
- Land Act 1994;
- Liquid Fuel Supply Act 1984;
- Local Government Act 2009;
- Native Title (Queensland) Act 1993;
- Nature Conservation Act 1992;
- Petroleum Act 1923;
- Public Safety Preservation Act 1986;
- Terrorism (Commonwealth Powers) Act 2002;
- Water Act 2000; and
- Workplace Health and Safety Act 2011

3.3 Public Education

Section 30e Disaster Management Act 2003 requires Local Government to be involved in an education program “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”.

The Western Downs Regional Council is committed to an ongoing public awareness campaign which satisfies the requirements of the Disaster Management Act 2003.

The following are methods and the medium the Western Downs Regional Council intends using to assist with promoting community awareness:

- BoM Weather Warnings;
- The WDLDMG encourages all members of the WDLDMG to provide public education programs in their area of responsibility;
- SES Group Leaders provide lectures to various organisations throughout the region;
- Queensland Fire and Emergency Services presentations;
- Brochures displayed and available in Council Customer Service Centres and Libraries;
- Articles in local newspapers and Council Newsletters;
- Western Downs Regional Council web site and media releases;
- Presentations to vulnerable communities; and
- Presentations to schools and community groups.
- Social Media Campaigns

Refer also to **A.10 – Public Information and Warnings Operational Plan**.

3.4 Insurance Incentives/Disincentives

It is considered this is an issue for the insurance industry with input from the WDLDMG through its members and the State Government. It may be possible to seek sponsorship from insurance companies to assist in education and incentive programs for mitigating the effects of potential hazards.

Some insurance companies require householders to seek assistance from the SES to secure and cover the damaged areas before they will process any insurance claims.

In a disaster there is significant impact on the whole community caused by under insured and non-insured properties.

3.5 Land-Use Management Initiatives

Refer to Western Downs Regional Council Planning Scheme.

3.6 Local Government Counter Terrorism Risk Management Guidelines

The counter-terrorism risk assessment is to be carried out in accordance with the Local Government Counter-terrorism Risk Management Kit and QERMF and the information can be obtained through the District Disaster Coordinator.

4. Preparedness

4.1 Event Coordination

Overall management of the coordinated response is the responsibility of the Local Disaster Coordinator (LDC) of the WDLDMG.

Coordination of the WDLGCC is the responsibility of the Local Disaster Coordinator WDLDMG.

Activation at the WDLDMG shall be in response to a local event that demands a coordinated community response. The authority to activate the Western Downs Local Disaster Management Plan is vested in the Chair (or delegate) of the WDLDMG in consultation with the Local Disaster Coordinator. It is the duty of the Chair or LDC to inform the DDC and Area Director, QFES regarding the Plans activation. The plan may also be activated at the request of the DDC.

The functions of the WDLGCC are:

- To co-ordinate Western Downs Regional Council and community resources in support of agencies involved in response and recovery operations;
- To co-ordinate additional resources allocated to Western Downs Regional Council area through the District Disaster Coordination Centre; and
- To coordinate the collection, collation and dissemination of information to the DDCC and the community.

The Primary Western Downs Local Disaster Coordination Centre is located in the Western Downs Regional Council Chambers, within the Corporate Office 30 Marble Street. Should this Centre be inoperable, an alternate location will be selected from the following:

1. MyALL 107 building, 107 Drayton Street, Dalby
2. WDRC Works Depot, 12 Jandowae Road, Dalby
3. Dalby Events Centre, Corner Wilkes and Nicholson Streets Dalby
4. WDRC Miles Customer Service Centre, 29 Dawson St, Miles
 - a. Note that the Dalby Corporate office systems are backed up at Miles

If an event occurs that is contained to a Local District the coordination of the response will be at the Local Emergency Coordination Centre for that District. The main WDLGCC shall only be activated to standby mode with the Disaster Management Executive giving support as required.

For Activation of the main WDLGCC and the Standard Operating Procedures refer to **A.1 Activation of Western Downs LDMG Operational Plan** and **A.2 Western Downs Local Disaster Coordination Centre Operational Plan**.

Communication procedures are included in **A.2 Western Downs Local Disaster Coordination Centre Operational Plan**.

Local District Communications are identified in the local Standard Operating Procedures.

4.2 Warning Systems and Public Education

The release of information to the community regarding the emergency and associated threats, will normally be approved by the Chair and distributed through the Media Liaison Officer after discussions with the Officer in Charge of the Lead Agency and Local Disaster Coordinator.

Refer to **Section 3.3 Public Education** in this plan, and also to **A.10 Public Information and Warnings Operational Plan**

4.3 Response Capability

Western Downs Regional Council has the following resources available to respond to a disaster, a full list is included in **Appendix G – Resource List**.

- Human Resources
 - 132 Dalby field staff;
 - 2 Bell field staff;
 - 16 Jandowae field staff;
 - 7 Jimbour field (quarry) staff;
 - 55 Chinchilla District field staff;
 - 52 Miles field staff;
 - 19 Wandoan field staff;
 - 1 Condamine field staff;
 - 1 Dulacca field staff;
 - 58 Tara District field staff;
 - 2 Meandarra field staff;
 - ;
 - 178 Dalby District administrative staff;
 - 2 Bell administrative staff;
 - 17 Jandowae administrative staff;
 - 33 Chinchilla administrative staff;
 - 28 Miles administrative staff
 - 28 Miles Carinya aged care staff;
 - 2 Wandoan administrative staff;
 - 22 Tara District administrative staff;
 - 46 Tara Tarcoola aged care staff
 - 4 Moonie administrative staff; and
 - 8 Meandarra administrative staff.
- Equipment – includes chainsaws, concrete cutting saws, pumps, pneumatic hammers and a variety of hand operated tools usually associated with road construction or maintenance work; and
- Plant - ranges from small passenger vehicles to large trucks and trailers, low loaders and includes four-wheel drive and two-wheel drive utilities and small trucks. Other plant includes dozers, graders, backhoes and front-end-loaders.

If additional resources are required, they shall initially be sourced through local suppliers that are:

- contracted to Council to provide a service or resource;
- are capable of providing the resources; and
- can support Council in responding to a disaster through the provision of resources

A list of all available resources is included in **A.11 Public Works and Engineering Operational Plan as well as Appendix K - Emergency Suppliers Register**.



4.4 Exercises

Every year one or more of the following exercises shall be held and outcomes evaluated as per s7.9.3 of the Queensland Local Disaster Management Guidelines:

- a desk top exercise;
- a Western Downs Local Disaster Coordination Centre exercise;
- a small scale exercise involving the SES and the testing of the WDLGCC and District LDCC; and
- involvement in a District Disaster Exercise.

The purpose of these exercises is to test the resource and response capabilities of the WDLDMG and other agencies, the resource 4.5 Measurement of Capability Table shall be updated after each exercise.

Members of the WDLDMG will be required to complete training as per the Disaster Management Training Framework.

4.5 Measurement of Capability

The table below sets out a measurement of response capability. This may be achieved through operational activation or by the conduct of exercises.

Date	Type	Process or Event	Participants	Specific lessons learnt and reports	Opportunities for improvement (identify these in priority)	Action Plan (actions derived from lessons learnt)	Completion Date (for evaluation of implementation of Action Plan)
03 November 2010	Exercise	Exercise ORKO	WDLDMG, QFES & DDMG	Location of LDCC at 26 Wood Street instead of at the Senior Citizens Centre proved to be most successful and will continue as the LDCC until Council moves to the new corporate offices in Marble Street	-	-	-
Dec 2010 and Jan 2011	Major Event	Major flood event affecting most of WDRC and its communities	WDLDMG, QFES & DDMG	Actions Transferred to Plan			
28 September 2011	Exercise	Exercise Phoenix (Bushfire)	DDMG				



20 December 2011	Exercise Muddy Waters	WDLDMG, QFES	Actions Transferred to Plan
February 2012	Major Event	WDLDMG, QFES & DDMG, SDCC	Actions Transferred to Plan
01 May 2012	Exercise Red Light Runner	DDMG	Documented in DDMG Minutes
08 November 2012	Exercise Dragon	LDMG	Documented in LDMG Minutes
03 December 2013	Major Event	LDMG	Actions Transferred to Plan
26 January 2013	Major Event	LDMG	Actions Transferred to Plan
02 March 2013	Major Event	LDMG	Actions Transferred to Plan
14 October 2013	Exercise Caution Horses	LDMG	Documented in LDMG Minutes
16 October 2014	Exercise Dark Cloud	LDMG	Documented in LDMG Minutes
29 March 2017	Major Event	LDMG	Documented in TC Debbie Debrief
12 July 2017	Exercise Jindowie	LDMG	Documented in Jindowie Exercise report
27 November 2018	Exercise Dark and Stormy	LDMG	Documented in Exercise After action Report



Nov-December 2019	Major Event	2019 Bushfires	LDMG	Documented in Debrief
8 February 2020	Major Event	Feb 2020 Floods	LDMG and LECCs	Documented in Debrief
April 2020	Major Event	COVID-19	LDMG	Ongoing
13 February 2021	Exercise	PIVOT	LDMG, Incitec Pivot	Documented in Debrief
23 June 2021	Exercise	Hot Scrub	LDMG, Tara LECC	Documented in Exercise After Action Report



5. Response

The principle purpose of the emergency response is the preservation of life and property. Response is defined as the "actions taken in anticipation of, during, and immediately after an emergency to ensure that its effects are minimised, and that people affected are given immediate relief and support" (EMA 2004).

5.1 Activation

Activation may occur as:

- As a response to a worsening situation; or
- At the request of the responsible Lead Agency (in situations where no prior warning is possible).

Activation of the WDLDMG is a four-stage operation being Alert, Lean Forward, Stand Up, Stand Down. Activation of each stage shall be dependent upon the type of hazard situation. For example, an earthquake or terrorist attack may have an immediate major or catastrophic impact and will require Stand Up activation. A bushfire or flood may be a gradual build up and a staged activation is more likely.

Authority to Activate

The authority to activate the Western Downs Local Disaster Management Plan is vested in the Chair (or delegate) of the WDLDMG. It is the duty of the Local Disaster Coordinator to inform the DDC and Area Director QFES regarding the Plan's activation.

Refer to A.1 Activation of WDLDMG Operational Plan.

The Western Downs Local Disaster Coordination Centre (WDLGCC) shall be activated by the Local Disaster Coordinator of the WDLDMG.

For Activation and Operating Procedures refer to **A.2 Western Downs Local Disaster Coordination Centre Operational Plan.**

The Plan provides the basis for the WDLDMG to coordinate the response to a disaster through various response authorities.

Those incidents of local concern that can be responded to using local resources shall be managed by the Local Emergency Coordination Committee through the affected district's Local Emergency Operations Centre. The LEOC shall be activated by the relevant Community Liaison Officer.

When local resources are exhausted, the District Disaster Management Plan and State Disaster Management Plan provide for external resources to be made available, firstly from the District, and then secondly on a State-wide basis.

Only the Local Disaster Coordinator and Chairperson are authorised to seek external resources through the DDC.

5.2 Accessing Support

In the WDLGCC, Council shall provide land line telephones, desk space and administrative resources to agency liaison officers.

Requests to District Disaster Management Group

- **Declaration of Disaster Situation**

The LDMG can request a declaration of disaster situation, through the District Disaster Coordinator.

A District Disaster Coordinator for a Disaster District may, with the approval of the Minister, declare a Disaster Situation for the District or part of it, if satisfied of a number of conditions as set out in Part 4 – Provisions for Declaration of a Disaster Situation - Sect 64 Declaration (Disaster Management Act 2003).

- All requests to the DDC will go through either the Local Disaster Coordinator or Chair of the WDLDMG or their delegate after confirming all available local resources have been exhausted.

Support from external agencies (public & private)

- All of Council's preferred suppliers as per the list of suppliers held by the Procurement Officer.
- All emergency service providers both Government and Non-government agencies; and
- Support is requested through the agency Liaison Officers or via the usual Council procedures. Requests to the DDC are as described previously.

Should support be withdrawn for whatever reason all agencies affected shall be advised.

5.3 Operational Plans

Plans have been written for specific functions, refer to **Section 7 Appendices - Appendix A – Operational Plans** (they are not included in the 'Public Version' to maintain privacy and confidentiality):

- A.1 Activation of WDLDMG – sets out the process for the activation of the WDLDMG.
 - A.1.1 Activation of the Local Emergency Coordination Committee.
- A.2 Western Downs Local Disaster Coordination Centre – standard operating procedures for activating, staffing and management of the WDLDMG during an event.
 - A.2.1 Chinchilla District Local Emergency Operations Centre – Standard Operating Procedures for the LEOC.
 - A.2.2 Miles District Local Emergency Operations Centre – Standard Operating Procedures for the LEOC.
 - A.2.3 Tara District Local Emergency Operations Centre – Standard Operating Procedures for the LEOC.
- A.3 Financial Management – establishes the procedure for purchasing, procurement and the process for tracking agency costs for response and recovery from a disaster.
- A.4 Community Support – includes the Community Support Sub Plan and provides procedures and processes to be used during both the response and recovery phase of an event.
 - A.4.1 Chinchilla District Community Support and Evacuation Plan
 - A.4.2 Miles District Community Support and Evacuation Plan
 - A.4.3 Tara District Community Support and Evacuation Plan
- A.5 Evacuation – this plan sets out the process for evacuation, who makes the decision, how it is activated, who gives direction to evacuate and to which centre.
- A.6 Evacuation Centre Management – establishes the roles and responsibilities for the opening up, staffing, registering and in general caring for evacuees.
- A.7 Impact Assessment – this plan provides the WDLDMG with the tools to carry out an initial and then a more detailed impact assessment on the effect of the disaster on infrastructure, private property and the people in the community.



- A.8 Medical Services – this Plan provides a list and contact details for medical support in Western Downs Regional Council area.
- A.9 Public Health – this Plan sets out the responsibilities of the Environmental Health Officer in the event of a disaster and the support given by Queensland Health.
 - A.9.1 Waste Preparedness Guideline
 - A.9.2 Environmental Health
- A.10 Public Information and Warnings – provides the guidelines for the public awareness and education programs undertaken by members of the WDLDMG and also the procedure for issuing warnings or advice pre, during or post event.
- A.11 Public Works and Engineering – protection and restoration of infrastructure before, during and after an event is paramount and this plan identifies key resources and assistance that can be deployed.
- A.12 Transport – transport plays a key role in a disaster in not only ensuring access to the area for response teams but also to evacuate people if required.
- A.13 Logistics – resource management, particularly of material resources, is an area that can cause extreme problems in response to a major event. This plan addresses the issues and provides process to be followed during a major event.

5.4 Risk Treatment Arrangements

As this Disaster Management Plan is based on the all-hazards approach there are no threat specific plans as such, each threat is responded to in a similar manner and the key to a successful operation is to manage the consequences of the event to produce the best outcome for the community. However, the Jandowae Water Supply Dam which is considered a Referable Dam under the Water Supply (Safety and Reliability) Act 2008 and therefore specific risk treatment is identified and mitigation within the Jandowae Water Supply Dam EAP (Annexure A).

The types of threat or disaster/emergency vary significantly and could be any of the following, severe storm, terrorism, exotic animal disease, bushfire, flood, oil spill, pollution, contamination of town water supply, major road/rail incident, etc. Each type of event will have its own special requirements however the response will be in accordance with the Main Plan and supporting Operational Plans.

The Operational Plans are applicable to all hazards and some or all of the Operational Plans would be implemented depending on the particular event.

Some specific Risk Treatment Arrangements should be prepared for specific risks.

Refer to **Appendix J Risk Treatment Arrangements**.

5.5 Initial Impact Assessment

The details of who carries out initial inspections and assessments, the procedures for reporting and action to be taken is set out in **A.7 Impact Assessment Operational Plan**.

6.3 Recovery Components

There are five elements of recovery and all components are interdependent of each other and one cannot operate effectively without the others. The Recovery Plan considers in detail each component and addresses the issues identified:

- Human and Social Recovery:

- Community characteristics;
- Resources necessary to assist in recovery;
- What government agencies and non-government organisations would be necessary during recovery; and
- What financial assistance is available to the community and how to access this financial assistance.

Lead agency: Department of Communities, Child Safety and Disability Services

- Roads and Transport Recovery

- Restoration of essential services;
- Community access to services;
- Facilitation of restoration of living conditions and security;
- Prioritising the rebuilding of infrastructure and community lifelines;
- How to communicate with the community; and
- How to integrate arrangements with other agencies

Lead agency: Department of Transport and Main Roads

- Building Recovery:

- Restoration of essential services;
- Community access to services;
- Facilitation of restoration of living conditions and security;
- Prioritising the rebuilding of infrastructure and community lifelines;
- How to communicate with the community; and
- How to integrate arrangements with other agencies

Lead agency: Buildings Department of Housing and Public Works

- Economic Recovery:

- What impact will the disaster have on business continuity and job security;
- Who needs to be involved in rebuilding economic viability in the community; and
- Management of damaged reputation regionally, nationally and internationally

Lead agency: Department of State Development, Infrastructure and Planning

- Environmental Recovery:

- Identification of issues to be considered in managing environmental damage caused by the disaster; and
- Identification of who should be involved in this process

Lead agency: Department of Environment and Heritage Protection

6.4 Interim Recovery Arrangements

These arrangements are attached as **Appendix I – Interim Recovery Arrangements** and provide interim guidelines for recovery from a disaster event and actions the Council may take in the recovery process.



7. Appendices

(not included in the 'Public Version' to maintain privacy and confidentiality):

Appendix A - Operational Plans

- A.1 Activation of Western Downs Local Disaster Management Group
 - A. 1.1 Activation of the Local Emergency Coordination Committee
- A.2 Western Downs Local Disaster Coordination Centre
 - A. 2.1. Chinchilla District Local Emergency Operations Centre
 - A. 2.2. Miles District Local Emergency Operations Centre
 - A. 2.3. Tara Local Emergency Operations Centre
- A.3 Financial Management
- A.4 Community Support
 - A. 4.1. Chinchilla District Community Support and Evacuation Plan
 - A. 4.2. Miles District Community Support and Evacuation Plan
 - A. 4.3. Tara District Community Support and Evacuation Plan
- A.5 Evacuation
- A.6 Evacuation Centre Management
- A.7 Impact Assessment
- A.8 Medical Services
- A.9 Public Health
 - A. 9. 1 Waste Management
 - A. 9. 2 Environmental Health
- A.10 Public Information and Warnings
- A.11 Public Works and Engineering
- A.12 Transport
- A.13 Logistics

Appendix B - Roles and Responsibilities of WDLDMG Members

Appendix C - Distribution List

Appendix D - Definitions

Appendix E - Abbreviations

Appendix F - WDLDMG Contact Directory

Appendix G - Resources

Appendix H - Roles and Responsibilities of Agencies

Appendix I - Interim Recovery Arrangements

Appendix J - Risk Treatment Arrangements

Related Documents

- Miles Aerodrome Safety Management System Manual
- Dalby Flood Alert Action Plan
- Water Contaminations Safe Work Procedures
- Neighbourhood Safer Places Locations
- Memorandum of Understanding between Western Downs Regional Council and Red Cross Australia (QLD) for the provision of services in relation to preparing for, responding to and recovering from emergency events



- Memorandum of Understanding between Western Downs Regional Council and St John Ambulance for the provision of first aid services in an evacuation centre
- Memorandum of Understanding between Western Downs Regional Council and the Salvation Army for the provision of catering within evacuation centres
- Memorandum of Agreement between Western Downs Regional Council and the Department of Education Training and Employment for the provision of temporary access to identified DETE facilities for the purpose of evacuation centres, cyclone shelters and places of refuge.
- Protocol Agreement between Western Downs Regional Council and Transport and Main Roads for the inclusion of Local Roads of Regional Significance in the 131940 Road Conditions and Closures System.
- Memorandum of Understanding between Western Downs Regional Council and State Emergency Services to ensure efficiencies in emergency and Disaster response.

