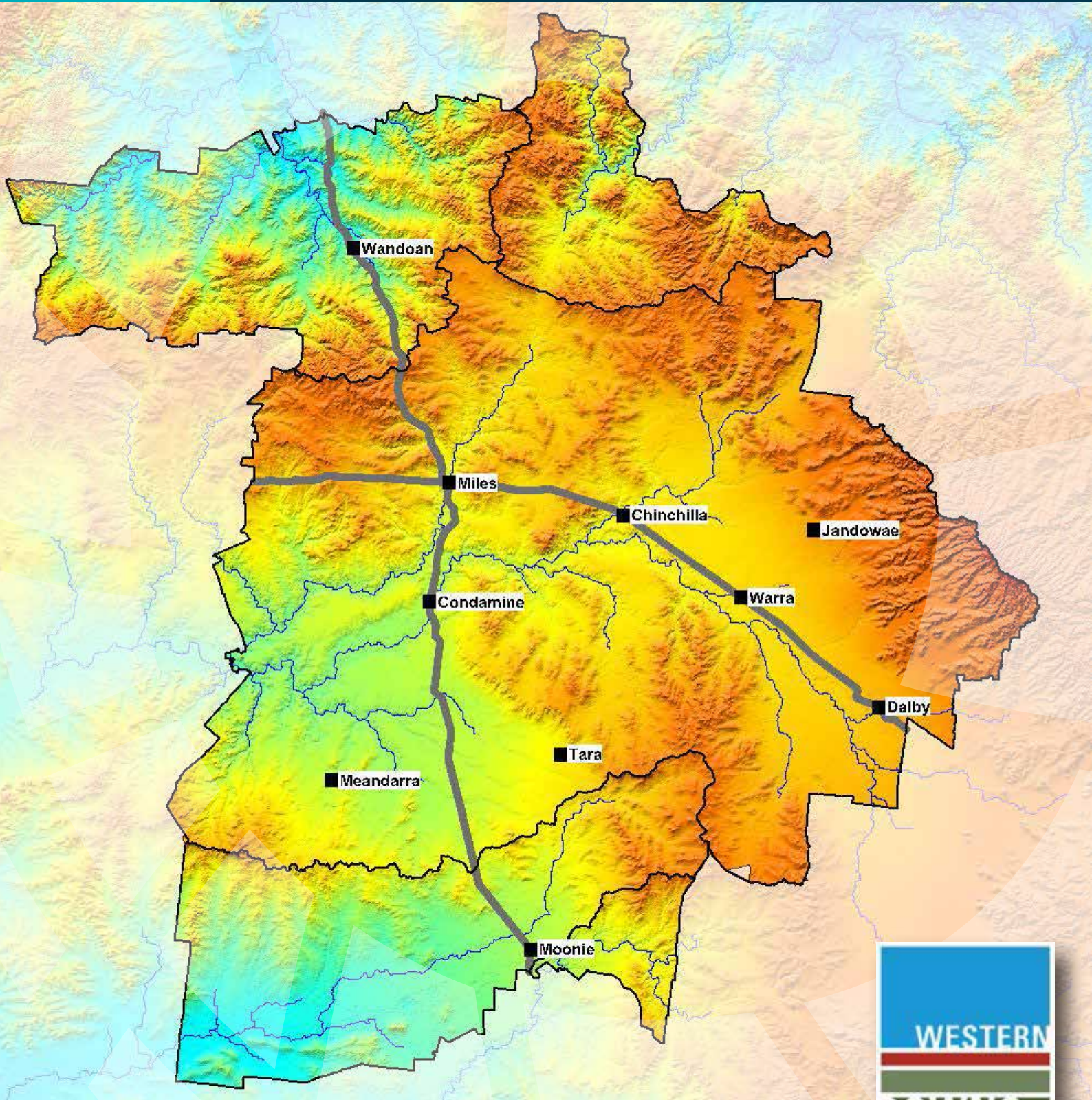


# Overview: Community Assessments



# Floodplain Risk Management Study

## Overview: Community Assessments

Prepared For: Western Downs Regional Council

Prepared By: BMT WBM Pty Ltd (Member of the BMT group of companies)

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<b>Title :</b>	Western Downs Regional Council Floodplain Risk Management Study
<b>Author :</b>	Barry Rodgers
<b>Synopsis :</b>	An overview of the framework used to determine the level of assessment required for the various communities across the Western Downs LGA.

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## CONTENTS

Contents	i
List of Figures	i
List of Tables	i
<b>1 INTRODUCTION</b>	<b>1-1</b>
<b>2 COMMUNITY ASSESSMENT OVERVIEW</b>	<b>2-1</b>
2.1 Introduction	2-1
2.2 Assessment Framework	2-1
2.3 Overview of Assessments	2-3

## LIST OF FIGURES

Figure 1-1	FRMS Document Overview	1-1
Figure 2-1	Assessment Framework	2-2

## LIST OF TABLES

Table 2-1	Assessment Overview by Township	2-3
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# 1 INTRODUCTION

This report provides an overview of the assessment framework used for determining the level of assessment attributed to a community for the FRMS. This report is one of several that make up the FRMS as shown by the document map presented in Figure 1-1.

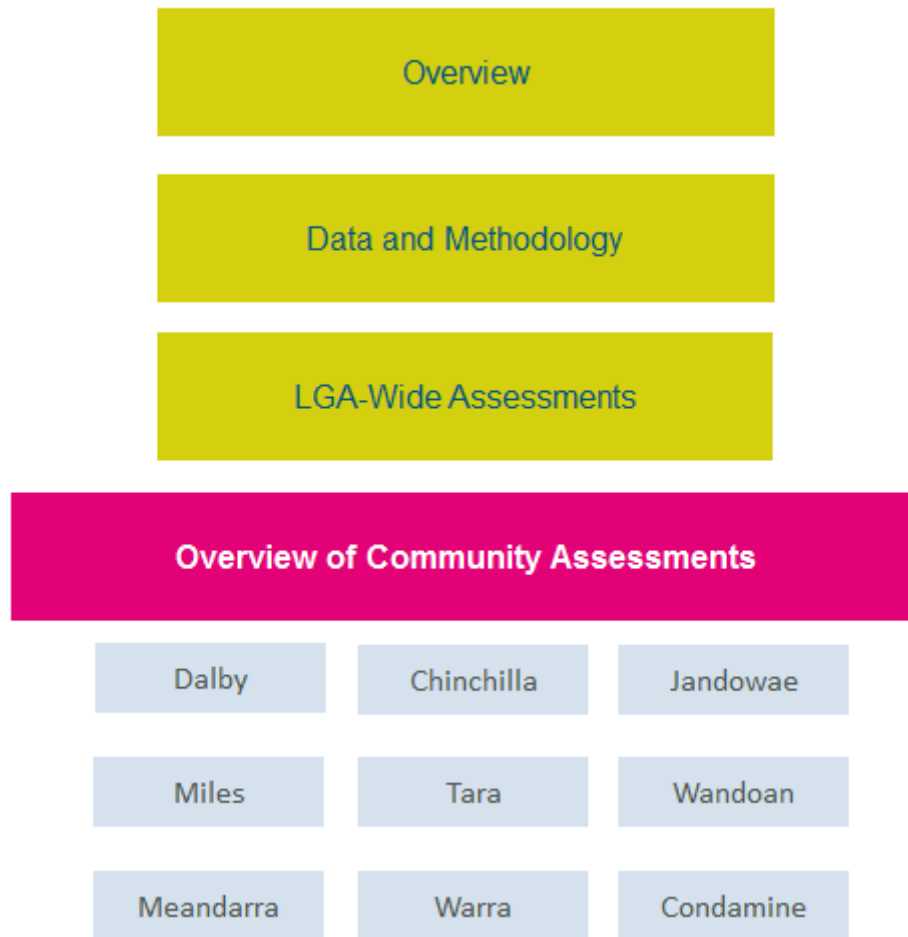


Figure 1-1 FRMS Document Overview

## 2 COMMUNITY ASSESSMENT OVERVIEW

### 2.1 Introduction

Western Downs Council contains within its administrative area 23 townships. Principal towns include Dalby, Chinchilla and Miles but many of the remaining townships are small, some with just a cluster of houses.

It is not feasible to apply the same level of floodplain risk assessment to each community as the level of risk differs between them. Therefore a risk based approach has been undertaken in this study whereby assessments are applied for each community at a level commensurate with the level of flood risk.

The definition of risk with regard to flooding is as:



The study assesses consequences on a community basis rather than to individuals. Therefore for any given flood the consequence (and therefore risk) is likely to be greater for areas of greater population.

Those places with the greatest risk, i.e. where there is a significant flood hazard which may impact on a large number of people, have been given a greater consideration in the assessments than for areas where flood hazard is low and/or the affected population is small.

For example, the communities of Dalby and Chinchilla have greater population relative to other towns in the region and have an associated flood risk which impacts upon them. The town of Miles is also relatively large in a population sense within Western Downs but the likelihood of flooding to large areas of the town is low and so overall the flood risk is considered low. Jandowae is a moderate sized town by Western Downs standards but has a relatively high likelihood of flooding. Therefore the overall flood risk is moderate to high. Many of the smaller townships within the region do not warrant detailed levels of assessment by virtue of their size as the flood risk to that community is small in relation to others within the region. It is important that they are not completely excluded from the assessments however.

### 2.2 Assessment Framework

This risk based approach to determining the level of assessment warranted for each respective township/community is formalised in a framework. The framework has three tiers of assessment and is shown in Figure 2-1. Level 1 is a basic level of assessment and level 3 is the most detailed.

The levels of assessment are summarised as follows:

- Level 1 – Basic assessment only using existing, available data. Response measures, such as flood warning and emergency planning, are the main measures considered under a basic assessment.
- Level 2 – Intermediate assessment using existing, available data and supplemented with additional coarse-scale modelling of the existing case scenario. An intermediate assessment considers emergency response measures such as flood warning as well as elements of land use and development control measures.
- Level 3 – Detailed assessment using existing, available data and supplemented with detailed modelling of flood risk. The hydraulic modelling extends to considering and modelling structural flood mitigation measures where appropriate.

Lack of suitable data may prevent a Level 2 or 3 assessment being undertaken, even though the framework recommends such an assessment. In this situation a less detailed assessment is undertaken and the flood risk management study makes a recommendation that the required data is obtained and the assessment revisited.

Furthermore flood risk changes as population changes and a community which is deemed at relatively low risk at present time but which is earmarked for significant expansion may warrant an additional level of assessment in lieu of the development.

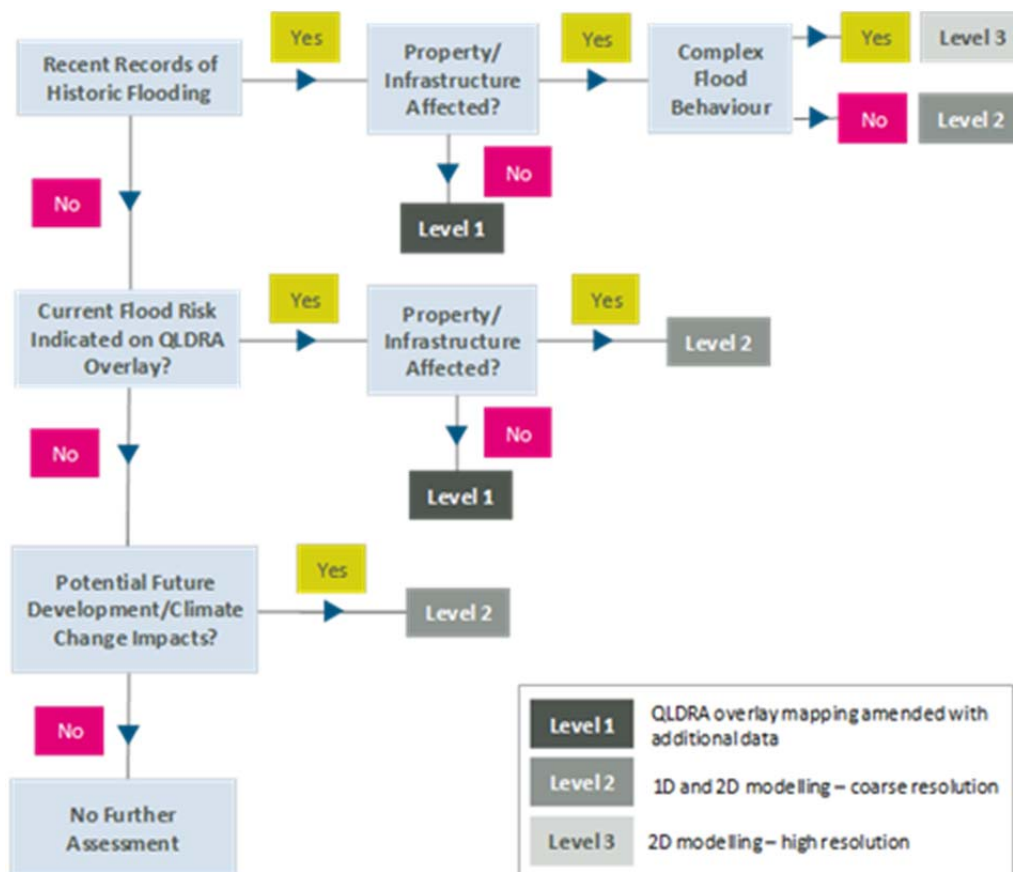


Figure 2-1 Assessment Framework

## 2.3 Overview of Assessments

Community specific reports have been prepared for a number of towns across Western Downs. The FRMS is designed so that additional reports can be inserted or existing reports updated and slotted into the overall FRMS in the future. A summary of the level of assessment applied to each community is contained in Table 2-1. The flood risk management measures referred to in Table 2-1 are as outlined in Section 1 and consist of:

- Structural Flood Mitigation Measures (**Structural**);
- Land use and Development Control Measures (**Property**); and
- Emergency Planning and Response Measures (**Response**).

**Table 2-1 Assessment Overview by Township**

Community	Level of Assessment	Flood Risk Management Measures Considered/Assessed
Dalby	3	Structural, Property, Response
Chinchilla	3	Structural, Property, Response
Jandowae	3	Structural, Property, Response
Miles	2	Property, Response
Tara	1	Response
Wandoan	1	Response
Condamine	2	Property, Response
Warra	2	Property, Response
Meandarra	2	Property, Response





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