



Sunshine Coast Council
Disaster Resilience Plan
2019-2022



Acknowledgement of Country

Sunshine Coast Regional Council acknowledges the traditional Country of the Kabi Kabi Peoples and the Jinibara Peoples of the coastal plains and hinterlands of the Sunshine Coast and recognise that these have always been places of cultural, spiritual, social and economic significance. We wish to pay respect to their Elders – past, present and emerging – and acknowledge the important role Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people continue to play within the Sunshine Coast community.

www.sunshinecoast.qld.gov.au

T 07 5475 7272 F 07 5475 7277

Locked Bag 72 Sunshine Coast Mail Centre Qld 4560

© Sunshine Coast Regional Council 2009-current.
Sunshine Coast Council™ is a registered trademark
of Sunshine Coast Regional Council.

Acknowledgements

Council wishes to thank all contributors and stakeholders involved in the development of this document.

Disclaimer

Information contained in this document is based on available information at the time of writing. All figures and diagrams are indicative only and should be referred to as such. While the Sunshine Coast Council has exercised reasonable care in preparing this document it does not warrant or represent that it is accurate or complete. Council or its officers accept no responsibility for any loss occasioned to any person acting or refraining from acting in reliance upon any material contained in this document.





Message from the Mayor

We all love living on the Sunshine Coast.

However we know our healthy, smart, creative region, one of the most idyllic locations in the country, is not immune to natural or man-made disasters.

At Sunshine Coast Council, our highest priority is always the safety and care of our 319,500 residents and the millions of visitors who come to see us each year.

With a keen awareness of the major role we play when disaster strikes, it is council's vision to create a strong and resilient region able to respond, recover and adapt to any disaster event.

Thanks to strong representation on the Sunshine Coast Local Disaster Management Group council is at the forefront of dealing with any disasters that occur in our region and in preparing and educating our community about potential events.

With the assistance of our valuable LDMG partners, we are continuing to make improvements to not only what we do when a disaster hits, but how we make the Sunshine Coast even more resilient to the serious impacts and disruptions these events can cause.

In this plan, we recognise building regional resilience is a shared responsibility between all levels of government, the business community, non-government sector, our neighbourhoods and the individual.

We all have vital roles to play.

Council has identified four priority areas critical to ensuring our region can respond to and recover quickly from any disaster. We will work with our stakeholders and local community to strengthen community connectedness and social capital; strengthen economic and environmental resilience; and work with our partners to develop and protect infrastructure vital to the wellbeing of our community.

Thanks to this plan we are reinforcing council's commitment to building "A Strong Community" as we shape our future and look forward to the exciting times ahead.

Mayor Mark Jamieson
Chair
Local Disaster Management Group



About the Sunshine Coast

The Sunshine Coast is one of Australia's most desirable regions, renowned for its natural attributes and diverse, vibrant communities.

It is home to 319,500 residents and is visited by 9.8 million tourists annually.

During the past 30 years, the Sunshine Coast has undergone extraordinary change. The region has experienced significant population growth and urban development, but has still maintained the enviable lifestyle that has made it so popular.

The Sunshine Coast stretches from the hinterland towns of Eumundi and Kenilworth in the north, through to Beerburrum in the Glass House Mountains in the south with the bulk of the population located in the coastal strip from Caloundra to Coolumb.

Council's vision is for the Sunshine Coast to be Australia's most sustainable region – healthy, smart, creative.

Contents

About this Plan	6
Our Mission	6
What is a disaster?	6
What is disaster resilience?	6
Dependencies	7
1 Strategic alignment of this Plan	9
1.1 Sunshine Coast Council Corporate Plan	9
1.2 Environment and Liveability Strategy	9
1.3 Sunshine Coast Social Strategy	9
1.4 Sunshine Coast Planning Scheme 2014	9
1.5 Local Disaster Management Plan	9
1.6 Disaster Management Act 2003	9
1.7 Queensland Prevention, Preparedness, Response and Recovery Disaster Management Guidelines 2018	10
1.8 Queensland Strategy for Disaster Resilience 2017	10
1.9 National Strategy for Disaster Resilience 2011	10
2 Roles in Disaster Resilience	13
2.1 Council's role in Disaster Resilience	13
2.2 Other levels of government	13
2.3 Businesses	14
2.4 Community Service Sector	14
2.5 Our Neighbourhoods	14
2.6 The Individual	14
3 Disaster Resilience Implementation Framework	17
4 Delivery and Outcomes	18
Priority Area 1 - Strengthening Community Connectedness & Social Capital	18
Priority Area 2 – Strengthening Economic resilience	18
Priority Area 3 – Protection of critical infrastructure	20
Priority Area 4 – Preservation of the environment	20
5 Monitoring and review	22
6 Document Custodian	22
Appendix	23

About this Plan

The Disaster Resilience Plan 2019 - 2022 supports implementation of the intent of the *Local Disaster Management Plan 2019 - 2022*, and the Sunshine Coast Council's *Environment and Liveability Strategy 2017*, *Regional Economic Development Strategy 2013 - 2033*, and *Social Strategy 2015*. This Plan reinforces council's commitment for "A Strong Community", and identifies principles and priority areas to guide the application of disaster resilience activities.

Our Mission

A resilient region able to respond, recover, and adapt to disaster events.

What is a disaster?

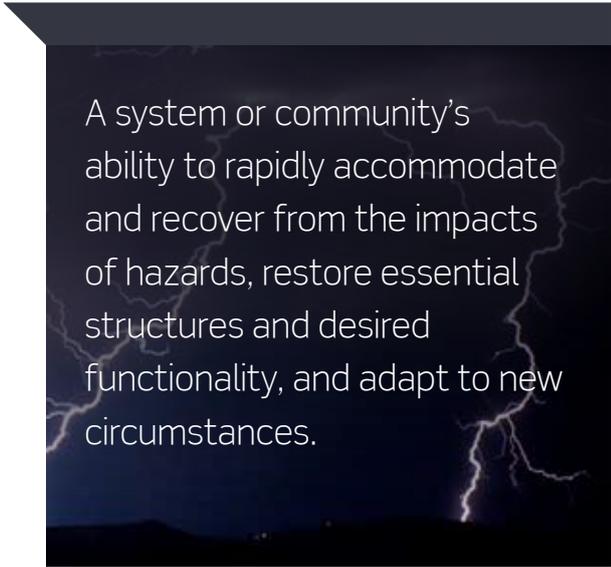
A disaster is 'a serious disruption in a community, caused by the impact of an event, that requires a significant coordinated response by the State Government and other entities to help the community recovery from the disruption'.*

Disaster events can come in many forms including man-made disasters, and natural disasters like cyclones, flooding, bushfires, and earthquakes. Extreme weather hazards are the most common types of disasters experienced in Queensland however disasters can also be from human-made hazards including terrorism acts, bio-security events, major urban accidents or fires and hazardous material events.

What is disaster resilience?

Disaster resilience is the capacity to respond to change, grow and flourish following disruptions. A disaster resilient region means we know the risks and hazards we individually and as a region face, how we should prepare and respond, and has the ability to return to 'normal' life or business as quickly as possible in the aftermath of such events.

Disaster resilience is not simply about our region going back to what it was like before, but rather learning from a disaster and adjusting to be more resilient should a similar event occur again.



A system or community's ability to rapidly accommodate and recover from the impacts of hazards, restore essential structures and desired functionality, and adapt to new circumstances.

Figure 1 Definition of resilience as defined in the Queensland Strategy for Disaster Resilience 2017



*Meaning of a Disaster as stated in s13 (2) of the Disaster Management Act 2003

Dependencies

A disaster resilient Sunshine Coast community depends upon:

Individual and collective experience and responsibility: The ability of people and groups to live through and recover from disasters, identify strengths and weaknesses in how they responded and apply their experiences, observations and learnings to future events.

Personal health and wellbeing: A community that has a high level of overall fitness and mental wellbeing and a low dependency on healthcare services is better able to manage the physical and emotional demands of a disaster event.

Awareness of risks: The community has access to current, relevant and localised information on what the risks are in their area. A well informed community is a risk aware community.

Connection to social networks: A high degree of accessibility to and membership of informal and formal local and social networks and organisations allows for greater mutual support and assistance being provided at the most basic level. Networks may include family, friends and social networks, school or church based groups, local formal clubs or sporting clubs.

Access to infrastructure: A high degree of surety in supply of essential services through maintaining robust infrastructure is a measure of a community's resilience. Access to clean drinking water, health services, power, food and security are important considerations in disaster management planning and response.

Access to communication networks: Community members have access to reliable means of communication. This allows for the effective passage of information to community members (such as alerts, warnings and advice from authorities) and information from community members (such as requests for assistance or advising status to family and friends). Communication networks may include face to face contact, telephone services (voice and text), email, social network sites and radio and television networks.

Good Governance: Community members have confidence in the leadership, authority, structures and capabilities that contribute to minimising the impact on the community during all phases of a disaster. This includes federal, state and local government agencies, emergency services and local leaders.

1.



Strategic alignment of this Plan

The Disaster Resilience Plan is aligned with the intent of council's *Corporate Plan 2019 - 2023*, *Social Strategy 2015*, *Environment and Livability Strategy 2017*, *Regional Economic Development Strategy 2013 - 2033* and the *Sunshine Coast Local Disaster Management Plan 2019 - 2022*.

The four priority areas within this Plan supports the intent of these key strategic documents, including other State and Federal government legislation, strategies and guidelines.

1.1 Sunshine Coast Council Corporate Plan 2019 - 2023

The *Sunshine Coast Council's Corporate Plan* sets council's vision, goals and strategic pathways and priorities and directly informs the operations of council. The Plan identifies council's vision as 'Australia's most sustainable region. Healthy. Smart. Creative'. The Disaster Resilience Plan contributes to achieving the Corporate Plan's goal of *A Strong Community*.

1.2 Environment and Liveability Strategy 2017

Council's Environment and Liveability Strategy focuses on the preservation and enhancement of the natural environment and the liveability of the region. The Strategy seeks to strengthen the community's resilience and deliver balanced economic, social and environmental outcomes that respect the principles of sustainability.

This strategy recognises the exposure and impact of climate change both to the natural environment and liveability of the Sunshine Coast, and provides strategic pathways and actions to guide the strategies implementation including:

Strategic Pathway 1: *A resilient region shaped by clever planning and good design*

Action 5: Being Prepared - *Proactively planning for the potential impacts of climate change and natural hazards to build resilience of the region.*

1.3 Sunshine Coast Social Strategy 2015

The Social Strategy provides council's long-term social direction. The strategy identifies a number of aims that respond to the corporate goal of "A strong community" and the associated outcomes. They include:

- Build strong community resilience to and awareness of vulnerability to natural hazards and threats
- Strengthen the focus on social inclusion, building social capital and connection with communities

1.4 Sunshine Coast Regional Economic Development Strategy 2013 - 2033

The Regional Economic Development Strategy provides a 20-year vision and blueprint for sustainable economic growth. The Strategy was developed to guide and facilitate economic development and activities in the region. The Strategy provides a clearly articulated strategy for the transformation of the region's economy over 20 years.

1.5 Sunshine Coast Planning Scheme 2014

The *Sunshine Coast Planning Scheme 2014* (planning scheme) is Council's principal policy and regulatory document in relation to land use and development, setting out the preferred settlement pattern for the future of the region. The planning scheme has a key role in identifying natural hazards and ensuring that new development is situated and designed to mitigate the impacts of identified hazards. The planning scheme sets out specific overlay mapping and assessment codes in relation to flooding and inundation, bushfire hazard, landslide hazard, steep land, acid sulphate soils and coastal protection.

1.6 Local Disaster Management Plan 2019 - 2022

The *Sunshine Coast Local Disaster Management Plan (LDMP)* details specific strategies relating to the prevention and preparedness for response to, and recovery from, a disaster.

The LDMP states the Sunshine Coast approach to resilience is prioritised on risk mitigation activities categorised against the four core functions of Recovery: Human and Social (community), Infrastructure (Building/Roads and Transport), Environment and Economic. The development of this Plan is a direct action of the Sunshine Coast Local Disaster Management Plan.

1.7 Disaster Management Act 2003

The *Disaster Management Act (2003)*, forms the legislative basis for disaster management activities within all levels of Government in Queensland. The Act states, Local Disaster Management Groups are responsible for ensuring their communities are aware of ways of mitigating the adverse effects of an event, and preparing for, responding to and recovering from a disaster.

Under the Act, council must develop a comprehensive approach to disaster management - Prevention/Preparation/Response and Recovery.

1.8 Queensland Prevention, Preparedness, Response and Recovery Disaster Management Guideline 2018

The Queensland Prevention, Preparedness, Response and Recovery Disaster Management Guideline complements legislative responsibilities and provides guidance to the implementation of legislation and other key documents.

1.9 Queensland Strategy for Disaster Resilience 2017

The Queensland Strategy for Disaster Resilience provides an approach to building disaster resilience throughout Queensland, with the stated vision of *"Making Queensland the most disaster resilient state in Australia"*. The Strategy provides an overarching framework to empower Queenslanders to factor in resilience measures and activities as they anticipate, respond and adapt to changing circumstances.

The Objectives of the Strategy are:

- Queenslanders understand their disaster risk
- Strengthened disaster risk management
- Queenslanders are invested in disaster risk reduction
- Continuous improvement in disaster preparedness response and recovery

2.0 National Strategy for Disaster Resilience 2011

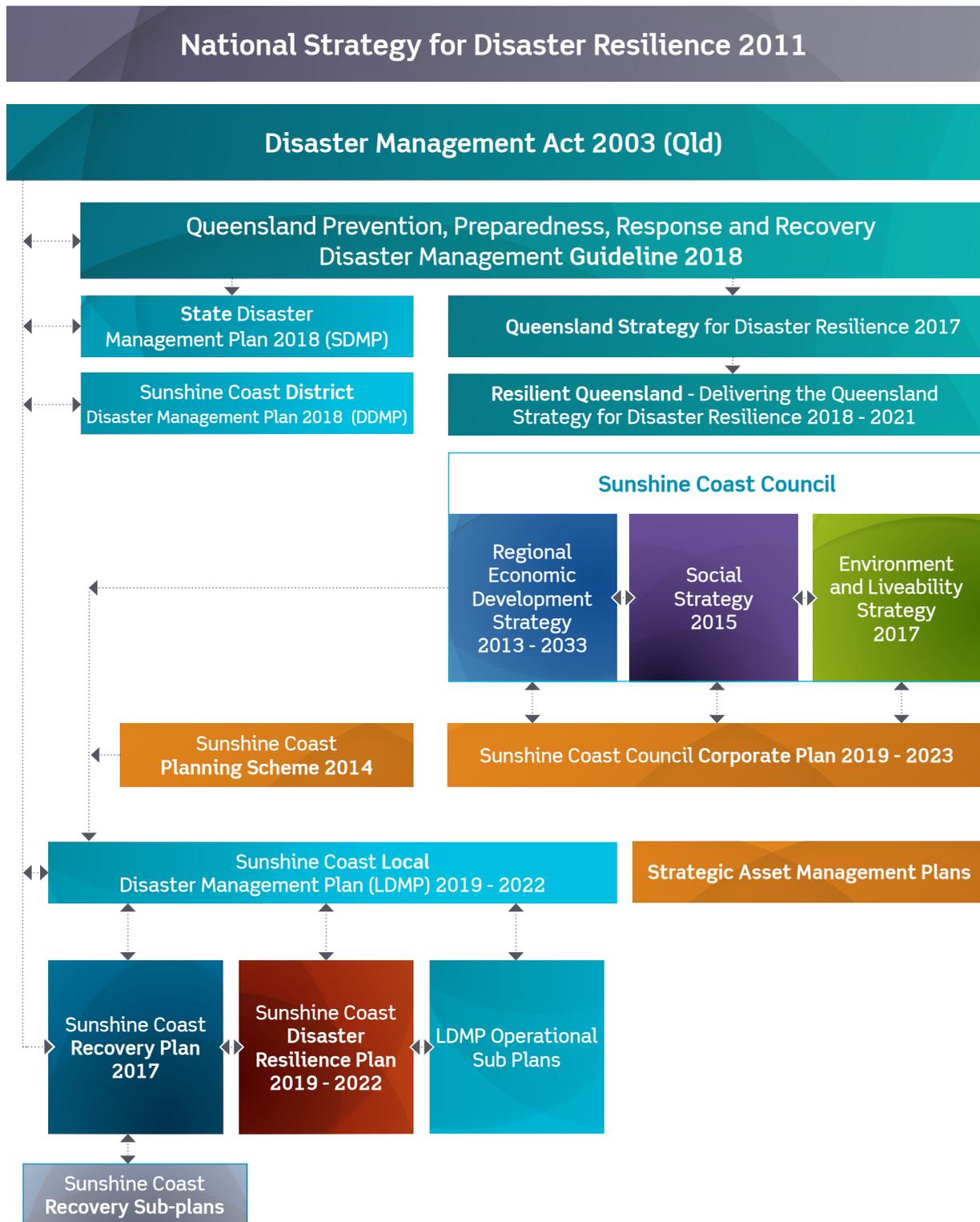
The National Strategy provides high-level guidance on disaster management to all levels of government, business, community leaders and the not-for-profit sector.

Key actions of the National Strategy for Disaster Resilience (NSDR):

- Leading change and coordinating effort
- Understanding risks
- Communicating with and educating people about risk
- Partnering with those who effect change
- Empowering individuals and communities to exercise choice and take responsibility
- Reducing risks in the built environment
- Supporting capabilities for disaster resilience



Key strategic alignment with all levels of government



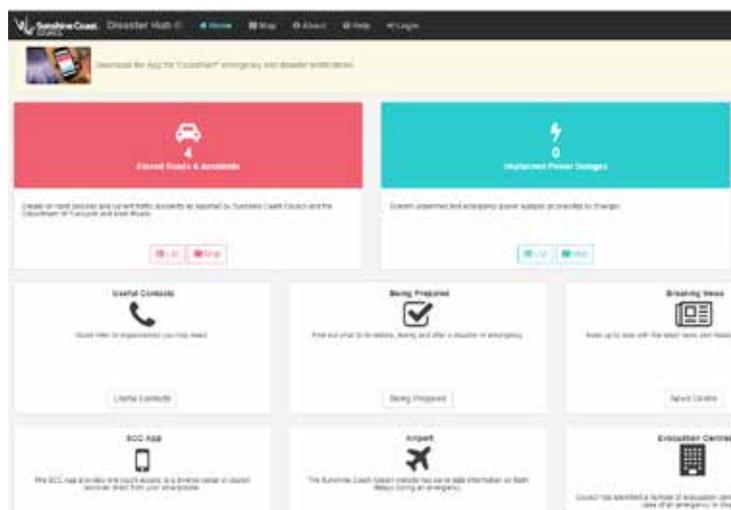
All documents are current as at December 2018



Information Provider: Disaster Hub

Disaster Hub is an award winning web based platform that provides comprehensive, centralised and real-time information for the public, media and external agencies to access before, during and after emergency and disaster events.

The Disaster Hub was developed to support council's need to provide a resilient, comprehensive solution for the community, council and first-response agencies with real-time disaster information, before, during and after an event. It provides an integrated approach to disaster management and messaging utilising a user-centric responsive design for mobile devices to ensure access to information from any device, anyplace, anytime by anyone.



Main Features include:

Storm Tide and Riverine map layers: Allowing users to view possible inundation levels for all areas by using a simple toggle to change the coloured flooding levels display.

Road Closure Information: Incorporating feeds from Department of Transport and Main Roads (DTMR) and internal systems. Information is displayed on the dashboard in simple form: # of roads closed, and provides a list or map view including status and hazard type.

Evacuation Centres: Providing immediate advice on evacuation centres and status, locations and both a map and list view.

Current Warnings: A combination of BOM current warnings and council warnings providing a single source of information. Hyperlinks to information or the warning on the specific site allows users to have a single browser experience and navigate to and from different information from multiple sources.

Traffic Cameras: Live feeds from DTMR cameras allow users to check on possible routes and any issues and plan safe travel during disaster events. The recent event provided analytics that demonstrated high numbers of users checking routes before travelling to and from work using a combination of traffic cameras, road closures and flood maps.

Mobile device compatibility: A fully responsive design allowing different mobile devices to access and view information easily. Analytics during recent events demonstrates large utilisation of the solution and showed that 60% of our audience use mobile devices.

Scalability and resilience: A fully scalable solution with built in alerts and monitoring ensuring resilience. During recent events the solution scaled up to allow for the number of users. The solution response time at its slowest was 0.44 sec ensuring a good experience for users.

disaster.sunshinecoast.qld.gov.au

Roles in Disaster Resilience

A Disaster Resilient community is one that **collaborates** and works **together** to understand the risks and manage those risks together. Ensuring a disaster resilient region is the **shared** and collaborative responsibility of all levels of government, non-government sector, business, community, and the individual.

2.1 Council's role in Disaster Resilience

Local government is ideally placed to be at the frontline for local disaster management due to the localised knowledge and understanding of local social, environmental and economic issues.

Council's role in Disaster Resilience is integrated with other levels of government and plays an important leadership role in facilitating and establishing collaborative approaches and actions to disaster resilience. It achieves this through the following roles:

Leader

A high performing, innovative and customer-focused organisation marked by great people, good governance and regional leadership and disaster management matters

Partner

Contribute funds and/or resources towards disaster resilience or preparedness activities delivered with or by other parties eg council's Community Grants Program and the State Government Get Ready funding program

Facilitator/Initiator

Bring together stakeholders to collectively pursue a shared interest or service or to resolve an issue

Owner/Custodian

Designing, constructing and managing community assets that are resilient to disasters including buildings, road and stormwater networks, public space and environmental reserves

Service Provider

Fully fund a service or provide a service, e.g. undertaking controlled fire burns

Information Provider

Develop resources to promote a common understanding; provide information; engage with stakeholders; develop distribute and display disaster resilient and preparedness community information

Advocate

Make representation or seek to influence for positive disaster resilience outcomes on behalf of the community

Regulator

Specific role in response to legislation which may be direct, specific or general in nature

As a major employer who provides services to our community, council must plan and test its operations during an emergency or disaster event. Business Continuity Plans (BCPs) have been developed across the organisation to minimise impact on council's operations following a significant disruption (crisis). The objectives of these plans are:

- To ensure that minimum acceptable service levels are maintained
- To ensure recovery from interruptions as quickly as possible
- To minimise the impact of interruptions to critical functions and assets
- To protect the health and safety of staff and the public.

The Sunshine Coast Planning Scheme 2014 regulates the way land, buildings and structures are used and developed on the Sunshine Coast. The Planning Scheme includes appropriate provisions to ensure that identified natural hazards and risks are tolerable to the community. The Sunshine Coast Planning Scheme provides specific design provisions to guide development on disaster resilience.

The Sunshine Coast Council has a dedicated Disaster Management Team who coordinates the business of the Local Disaster Management Group (LDMG). Council, with the support of the LDMG, delivers on the Sunshine Coast *Local Disaster Management Plan 2019-2022* and the associated sub-plans including delivery of preparedness and resilience, response and recovery activities.

2.2 Other levels of government

Federal Government

All levels of government have a responsibility to strengthen our communities' resilience, ensuring they can effectively prevent, prepare, respond to, and recover from disasters.

The Federal Government offers assistance to states and territories in developing their capacity for dealing

with emergencies and disasters, in particular provides funding for resilience programs that support local strategies and initiatives within each state and territory.

Emergency Management Australia (EMA) - a division of the Federal Department of Home Affairs, plans and coordinates Australian Government assistance to Queensland.

State Government

The Queensland Government provides strategic leadership in relation to disaster management across Queensland.

Resilience measures are prescribed by the State with policies for land use planning and building standards, financial assistance for resilient infrastructure, managing warning systems, community education and engagement, public awareness and hazard specific programs.

Details of State level lead Agency for emergency support functions are detailed in the *Queensland State Disaster Management Plan 2018*, however the lead agency for Disaster resilience and mitigation policy and planning is the Queensland Reconstruction Authority (QRA).

2.3 Businesses

Businesses play an important role in supporting the community's resilience to disasters. They provide resources, expertise, and many essential services on which the community depends.

Many private sector organisations own and are responsible for operating and maintaining critical infrastructure and/or services throughout Queensland. Businesses contribute by understanding the risks they face and ensuring they are able to continue to provide essential services during or soon after a disaster.

2.4 Community Service Sector

Building the resilience of individuals, families and communities is the core work of community sector organisations. Through a wide range of programs, services, policy development and advocacy, delivered by significant numbers of paid and volunteer workers, community sector organisations contribute to the building of stronger, more cohesive communities every day.

Australia's National Strategy for Disaster Resilience states that non-government and community organisations are at the forefront of strengthening

disaster resilience. It acknowledges that Australians often turn to these organisations for support or advice, and that their dedicated work is critical to helping communities to cope with, and recover from, a disaster.

Community organisations know their local communities intimately, are embedded in their communities. They provide services to the most vulnerable and at-risk residents in their area. They are perceived as 'trusted sources' by their community. Organisations are able to undertake formal and informal needs analyses, monitor trends, and 'take the pulse' of their community, have specific expertise in outreach and are trained in language and cultural sensitivity skills and for working with people who have disabilities or other particular needs.

Community organisations are also vulnerable to the same impacts of a disaster as members of our community. It is important organisations recognise the importance of continuity of operations pre and post disaster events. To respond effectively to community needs, organisations must have a plan in place to ensure their services continue to operate during and post disasters.

2.5 Our Neighbourhoods

Neighbourhoods that are aware of their risks in a disaster and are connected to their local community are more likely to be able to respond to and quickly recover to the 'new' normal of day to day living.

Local communities are an important source of help to individuals and communities prior to, during, and post disaster or event. Neighbourhoods often have a better understanding of their local disaster risks and with support, are best placed to identify local solutions to reduce their vulnerability to these risks, and prepare for potential impacts on their households.

2.6 The Individual

The individual has a personal responsibility to ensure they understand the disaster risks to themselves and their household, and have strategies in place to mitigate against those risks, and prepare for potential impacts on their household.

An individual being connected to their local community means they can offer and receive support during and post an emergency. These connections can be formal for example membership or volunteering at local community groups, or informal, for example connecting by social media, or school parent coffee catch-ups.



“

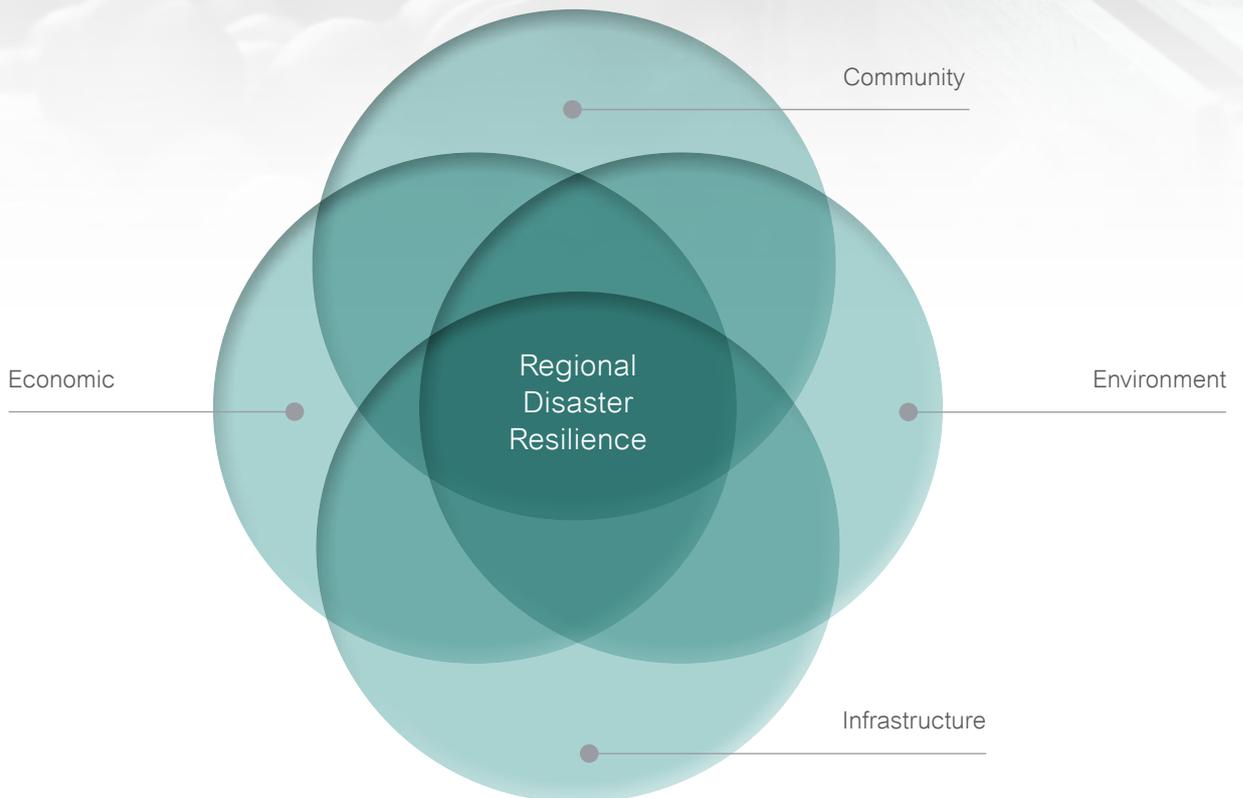
“Resilience starts and ends with a few like-minded people working together to plan and prepare”.

(Auckland Civil Defence and Emergency Management Group, 2016)

”

3.

Sunshine Coast Regional Disaster Resilience



Disaster Resilience Implementation Framework

Disaster Resilience Philosophy Statement:

The Sunshine Coast Council works with all levels of government, non-government sector, business, community, and the individual to ensure we all understand, mitigate against, respond to, and adapt to any disaster faced.

Guiding Principles:

The following six principles will guide the application of the Disaster Resilience activities:

Working together:

Stronger and resilient communities will be achieved through working together with people and organisations from multiple sectors taking joint responsibility and pooling resources. Council values its key stakeholders and community's input to the development of disaster resilience initiatives and planning relevant to stakeholder's needs and capacities. Becoming a well-adapted and resilient community is a long-term strategy which requires shared responsibility by community, business, non-government sector, government and the individual.

Evidence-based decision making:

Council's disaster resilience initiatives are supported by evidence to ensure that the strategies and actions adopted make the best use of available resources and are appropriate to the region's needs and priorities and make a difference.

Compliance with relevant legislation:

Council will actively comply with relevant legislation to promote strong and accountable leadership.

Continual learning:

The ongoing review of operational activities undertaken during and after a disaster or emergency is a key component in ensuring capability development and the continuous improvement of disaster management arrangements. Council will monitor and evaluate its preparedness activities to ensure desired outcomes of initiatives are achieved.

Knowledge and information sharing:

Understanding our local risks, knowing how to prepare for disasters and how to access current information is essential to creating strong and resilient communities. Information will be easily accessible and distributed by all stakeholders and members of our community. Council will engage with our stakeholders and community to *explore and implement innovative technologies for timely and proactive disaster communications.

Managing and reducing risk:

The Sunshine Coast Local Disaster Management Group has undertaken a hazard risk assessment and developed a local risk register incorporating risk identification, risk analysis and risk evaluation in accordance with the process outlined in the National Risk Assessment Guidelines. This assessment is used to identify possible hazards and target risk reduction measures. As a region we will be proactive with managing future risks and will increase our capacity to recover quickly from disasters and events.

* Action from the *Environment and Liveability Strategy 2017 Part B: Five-Year Implementation Plan*

4. Delivery and Outcomes

Priority Area 1 – Strengthening Community disaster resilience:

This region is a community of communities each with their own considerations, strengths and differences. Identifying what social capital exists and facilitating opportunities for community-based solutions to the impacts of disasters is vital to a disaster resilient community.

Neighbours are an important source of help to individuals and communities prior to, during, and post disaster or event. Connected communities are able to assist each other when immediate assistance may not be available. Neighbourhoods that are aware of their risks in a disaster or emergency and are connected to their local community are more likely to be able to respond to and quickly recover to the 'new' normal of day to day living.

Desired Outcomes

- A prepared, adaptive and disaster resilient community who understands their vulnerabilities and exposure to local disaster risks and is responsive to a changing environment.
- Community-based solutions empowering communities to use their own knowledge and decision-making processes to prepare and take action before, during, and after disaster events.
- Our neighbourhoods are connected with each other and invested in local efforts to reduce exposure and increase response to disasters.
- Sunshine Coast communities are engaged with council and have access to up-to-date information on how to prepare, respond, and quickly recover from a disaster or major event.

Priority Area 2 – Strengthening Economic disaster resilience

Building capacity within the Sunshine Coast business community to prepare for, respond to and recover from the impacts of disaster events assists with strengthening the resilience of our business community.

Council encourages business owners to undertake business continuity planning and have a clear understanding how to mitigate against the negative impacts a disaster or major event may have on their business and subsequently the Sunshine Coast community.

Desired Outcomes

- Business owners are aware of the risks to business continuity and are able to identify and implement strategies to minimise the negative economic impact of a disaster or major event.
- Sunshine Coast businesses have access to up-to-date information on how to prepare, respond, and quickly return to operations following a disaster or major event.
- Strong economic leadership and collaboration by government, business and industry on disaster resilience and preparedness activities.

Delivery

- Deliver and/or support neighbourhood programs that assist with developing connected neighbourhoods, and strengthening relationships that build social capital.
- Council will support community driven opportunities that build communities capacity to thrive before, during and after a disaster.
- * Increase community access to information on risks, resilience and priorities for adaption investment.
- * Promotion of the Sunshine Coast Disaster Hub and encourage business to subscribe to council's CoastAlert notification service.
- * Build capacity to positively respond to the impacts of climate change and disasters through education and partnerships with key stakeholders, business, community groups, universities and government

* Action from the *Environment and Liveability Strategy 2017 Part B: Five-Year Implementation Plan*



Delivery

- Council will work with the business community to prepare for, respond to, and recover from events that disrupt business continuity.
- Promotion of the Sunshine Coast Disaster Hub and encourage business to subscribe to council's CoastAlert notification service
- Council will undertake and participate in training exercises that include economic impact scenarios
- * Council will work with business to build capacity to positively respond to the impacts of climate change and disasters through education and partnerships with key stakeholders, business, community groups, universities and government

* Action from the *Environment and Liveability Strategy 2017 Part B: Five-Year Implementation Plan*



Delivery and Outcomes continued

Priority Area 3 – Protection of critical infrastructure

Hazard avoidance and management strategies reflect a precautionary and conservative approach that recognises the high risk profile of the Sunshine Coast.

Critical infrastructure and/or services are identified and designed, operated and maintained with an understanding of the risks they face and ensuring they are able to continue to provide essential services during or soon after a disaster. Examples of critical infrastructure includes power, water, and telecommunications.

Critical infrastructure supports communities basic needs post disaster: safe drinking water, food, transport, energy for homes and business, access to health and government services, and remaining connected to information and support.

Desired Outcomes

- A disaster resilient region shaped by clever planning and good design
- Reduced exposure to all hazards through responsible land use planning, development and construction.
- Decision making and delivery of asset management, operations and investment that considers climate hazards and reduces disaster risks in the built environment.
- Critical infrastructure is able to support Community access basic needs post disaster event.
- * Coastal dependent development / community infrastructure is resilient to coastal hazards.

* from the *Environment and Liveability Strategy 2017 Part A: Strategic Direction*

Priority Area 4 – Preservation of the environment

The environment is the physical and biological surroundings in which plants, animals and people live and interact.

Environmental resilience is obtained through the combined actions of all stakeholders from government to the individual. Environmental resilience is strengthened by good design and planning, and by having an understanding of the potential impacts of natural hazards and climate change and how as a region we can mitigate against these.

Desired Outcomes

- * The environment is able to absorb change, manage major events and bounce forward to a stronger, more resilient state.
- * The environment is protected against loss of native vegetation and habitat.
- * Biodiversity values in our neighbourhoods and the impacts of climate change are strong and understood.
- * Biodiversity conservation and the management of waterways, wetlands, and the coastal environment incorporates the predicted impacts from climate change and natural hazards.
- The impact of climate change on our vulnerable communities is less due to sustainable environmental planning.

* from the *Environment and Liveability Strategy 2017 Part A: Strategic Direction*

Delivery

- Public assets and spaces are designed to reduce risk to disaster hazards and provide resilient infrastructure.
- Project design considers disaster resilience, and priority capital works allocation be given to projects that demonstrate a direct impact to improving disaster resilience.
- The Sunshine Coast Planning Scheme continues to identify natural hazards to enable new development to be situated and designed to reduce risk.
- Asset Management Plans consider the impacts of potential disaster events to the built asset.
- * Creation of a council-wide adaption framework and plan for climate hazards that is integrated with organisational systems and processes.
- * Investigate and advocate for the removal of barriers to establishing safe refuge levels in homes to improve community safety and reduce the burden on emergency services

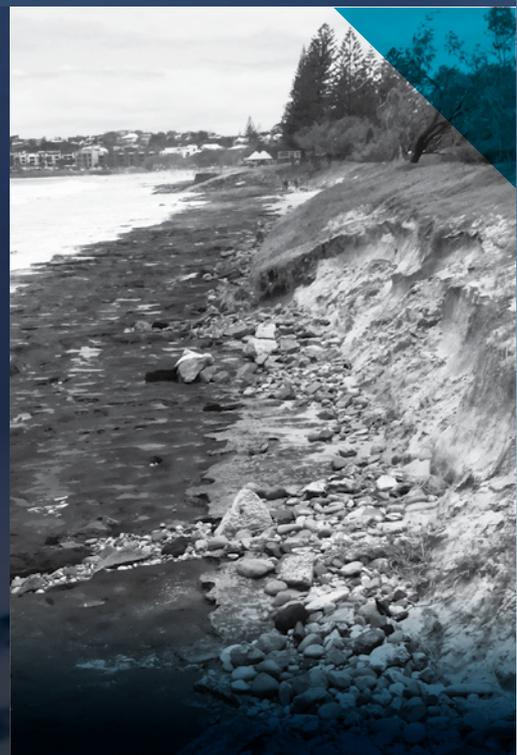
* Action from the *Environment and Liveability Strategy 2017 Part B: Five-Year Implementation Plan*



Delivery

- Proactively plan for the potential impacts of climate change and natural hazards. This includes consideration to environmental embellishments, location and construction.
- Environmental design will consider the rise in sea level predictions and severe storm events.
- Council will maintain the natural environment to preserve natural buffers and critical ecosystems
- The Sunshine Coast Planning Scheme ensures development does not increase exposure or vulnerability to hazards, but protects and conserves the environment.
- * Council will develop and implement a Coastal Hazard Adaptation Strategy with the community
- Project design considers disaster resilience, and priority capital works allocation be given to projects that demonstrate a direct impact to improving disaster resilience.
- Asset Management Plans consider the impacts of potential disaster events to the environmental asset.

* Action from the *Environment and Liveability Strategy 2017 Part B: Five-Year Implementation Plan*





5.

Monitoring and review

The implementation of the Plan over the next four years will require monitoring and review of the initiatives within the priority areas to ensure:

- Responsive stakeholder engagement and problem solving
- Strong relationships with Federal, State and other Local Government and agencies
- Improved funding alignment and opportunities for Disaster Resilience and Preparedness initiatives
- The Plan remains aligned with state and national frameworks

The ongoing review of operational activities undertaken during a disaster is a key component in ensuring capability development and the continuous improvement of disaster management arrangements.

The document custodian is responsible for ensuring that this plan is reviewed at least annually for accuracy and relevance and for the issue of updated versions as required.

A progress report on the delivery of this Plan will be provided to council's Board of Management and the Local Disaster Management Group annually.

Implementation Plan/s will further detail how council will deliver on the associated actions contained within this Plan.

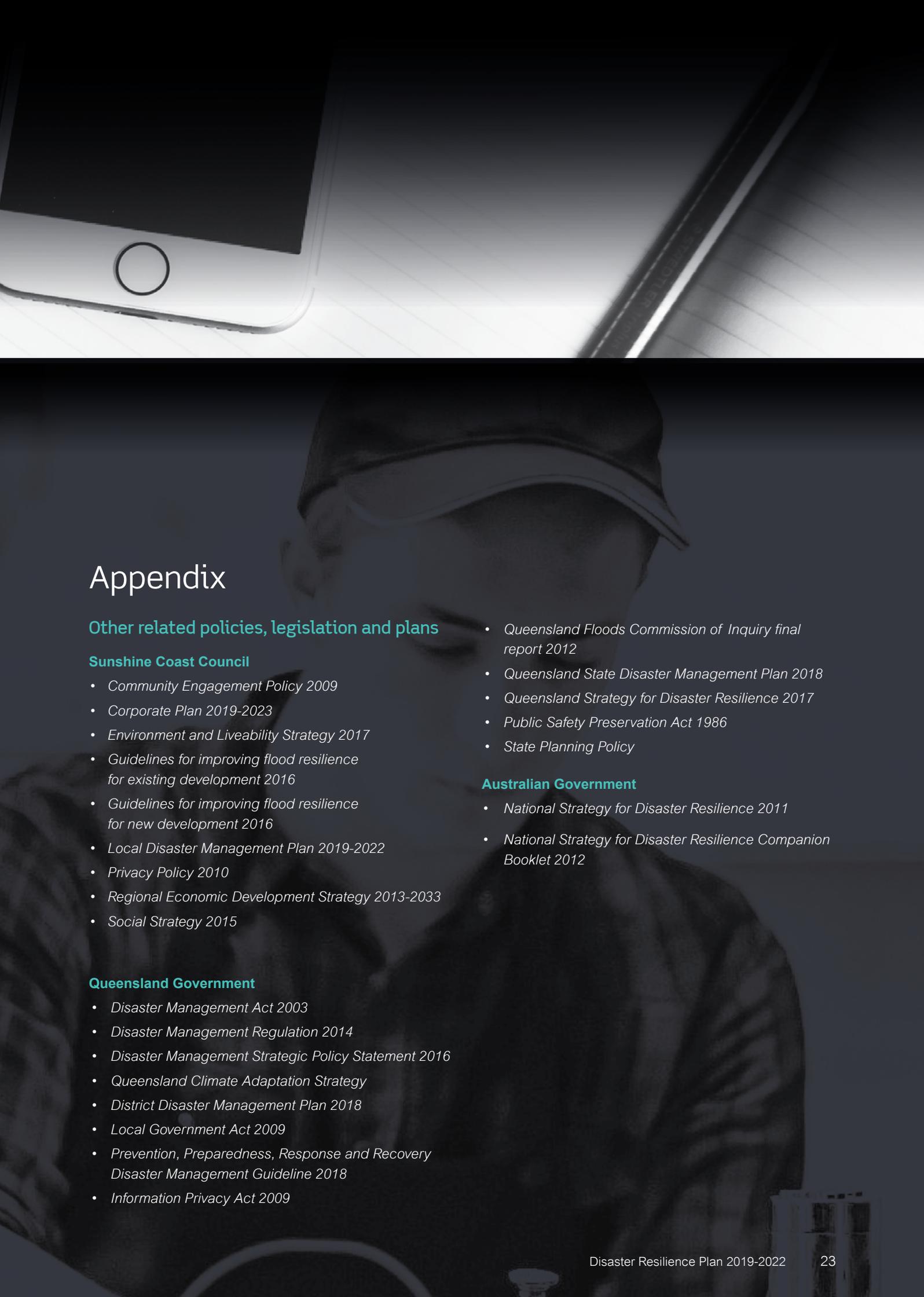
6.

Document Custodian

The document custodian is the Coordinator, Disaster Management of Sunshine Coast Council.

All suggestions for improving this Plan are to be forwarded to:

Coordinator
Disaster Management | Built Infrastructure
Locked Bag 72
Sunshine Coast Mail Centre Qld 4560
Phone: 07 5475 7272
Email: mail@sunshinecoast.qld.gov.au

A grayscale photograph of a person wearing a cap, looking down at a smartphone. The phone is in the foreground, and the person's face is partially visible in the background. The lighting is soft, creating a contemplative mood.

Appendix

Other related policies, legislation and plans

Sunshine Coast Council

- *Community Engagement Policy 2009*
- *Corporate Plan 2019-2023*
- *Environment and Liveability Strategy 2017*
- *Guidelines for improving flood resilience for existing development 2016*
- *Guidelines for improving flood resilience for new development 2016*
- *Local Disaster Management Plan 2019-2022*
- *Privacy Policy 2010*
- *Regional Economic Development Strategy 2013-2033*
- *Social Strategy 2015*

Queensland Government

- *Disaster Management Act 2003*
- *Disaster Management Regulation 2014*
- *Disaster Management Strategic Policy Statement 2016*
- *Queensland Climate Adaptation Strategy*
- *District Disaster Management Plan 2018*
- *Local Government Act 2009*
- *Prevention, Preparedness, Response and Recovery Disaster Management Guideline 2018*
- *Information Privacy Act 2009*

- *Queensland Floods Commission of Inquiry final report 2012*
- *Queensland State Disaster Management Plan 2018*
- *Queensland Strategy for Disaster Resilience 2017*
- *Public Safety Preservation Act 1986*
- *State Planning Policy*

Australian Government

- *National Strategy for Disaster Resilience 2011*
- *National Strategy for Disaster Resilience Companion Booklet 2012*



www.sunshinecoast.qld.gov.au

mail@sunshinecoast.qld.gov.au

T 07 5475 7272 F 07 5475 7277

Locked Bag 72 Sunshine Coast Mail Centre Qld 4560