

# Mount Isa City Local Disaster Management Plan

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Amendments to Mount Isa City Local Disaster Management Plan 2013

Date	Section Number	Details of Amendment	Officer
06/06/2014			E. Cianetti
03/08/2014	Section 3.2.9	Inclusion of link to member organisation mitigation strategies (Dam Owner's EMP)	E. Cianetti
03/08/2014	Section 5.4 (Table 5.4)	Updating action outline for "Alert Stage", "Lean Forward Stage", "Stand Up Stage" and "Stand Down Stage"	E. Cianetti
03/08/2014	Section 6	Explanation re Sub Plan requirements.	E. Cianetti
03/08/2014	Contents Page	Updated referencing	E. Cianetti

# 1. ADMINISTRATION AND GOVERNANCE

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## 1.1 Introduction / Purposes and Objectives

Mount Isa City is not immune to natural disasters, whilst these types of events are not common we cannot afford to become complacent. The key to effective disaster response and recovery is the resilience of the community and the willingness of people to work together for the benefit of the community.

Mount Isa City through the work of the Local Disaster Management Group will maintain their commitment to effective disaster management for the City. To be effective our disaster management planning must be a moving feast, we learn from events in the City and we examine the actions of other Local Governments to ensure that we improve and adapt to changes such as the expectations of the community and climate change.

This plan is a plan for the community, to be truly effective we must draw on the collective knowledge of the community to develop plan that are suitable and effective.

The purpose of the Mount Isa City Disaster Management Plan is to address the disaster management needs of the Mount Isa City.

This will be achieved by:

- Ensuring that community risks related to events are effectively managed;
- Ensuring that risks requiring District level support are identified and communicated to the District Level;
- Ensuring that Local Government and Local Groups comply with their disaster management obligations under the Disaster Management Act 2003; and
- Other purposes related to disaster management the Local Government determines.

The plan ensures that community risks relating to disaster events, or events that affect the wellbeing of the community are identified and effectively managed.

The plan is to detail the arrangements and responsibilities between response agencies, supporting government and non-government organisations.

The objective of the plan is to ensure that risks requiring District level support are identified and communicated to District level.

## 1.2 Statement of establishment / authority to plan

The Local Disaster Management Group (LDMG) is established under s. 29 of the *Disaster Management Act 2003* (the Act).

## **1.3 LDMG terms of reference**

### **1.3.1 Role**

#### **s. 4A**

The local government, through the LDMG, retains primary responsibility for managing disaster events contained within the local government area.

### **1.3.2 Functions**

#### **s. 30**

The LDMG has the following functions:

- 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;
- To develop effective disaster management, and regularly review and assess the disaster management;
- To help the local government for its area to prepare a local disaster management plan;
- 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;
- 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;
- To manage disaster operations in the area under policies and procedures decided by the State group;
- To provide reports and make recommendations to the relevant district group about matters relating to disaster operations;
- To identify, and coordinate the use of, resources that may be used for disaster operations in the area;
- 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;
- To ensure information about a disaster in the area is promptly given to the relevant district group;
- To perform other functions given to the group under the Act; and
- To perform a function incidental to any of the previous functions mentioned.

### **1.3.3 Membership**

#### **s. 33**

The LDMG consists of the following members:

- The persons appointed as members of the group by the relevant local government for the group;
- At least 1 person nominated by the Chief Executive of the Department of Community Safety (the Chief Executive); and
- At least 1 person who is a councillor of a local government.

**s. 34**

The LDMG must appoint a member of the group as a Chairperson and a member of the group as a Deputy Chairperson. The member appointed as the Chairperson must be a councillor of a local government.

**s. 35**

The Chairperson must, after consulting with the Chief Executive, appoint in writing the Chief Executive Officer or an employee of the relevant local government as Local Disaster Coordinator.

**s. 37**

At least once a year written notice of the members of the group must be given to the Chief Executive and the relevant District Disaster Coordinator (DDC).

### **1.3.4 Meetings**

**s. 39**

LDMG meetings must be held at least once in every 6 months at the times and places decided by the Chair; or when asked in writing by the relevant DDC or at least one-half of its members.

**s. 40**

A quorum for a LDMG meeting is the number equal to one-half of the members plus 1, or, if one-half of the members is not a whole number, the next highest whole number.

**s. 40A**

A member of a LDMG may, with the approval of the Chairperson, appoint by signed notice another person as his or her deputy. The deputy may attend a meeting in the member's absence and exercise the member's functions and powers under the Act. Deputy members are to be counted in deciding if there is a quorum for a meeting.

**s. 41**

The Chairperson is to preside at all LDMG meetings, or in their absence the Deputy Chairperson. If both are absent the meeting must be chaired by a person nominated by the Chairperson, a member nominated by the Deputy Chairperson, or if those offices are vacant, a member of the group chosen by the members present.

**s. 42**

Meetings may be held using any technology that reasonably allows members to hear and take part in discussions as they happen. Members who participate in meetings using this technology are taken to be present at the meeting.

**s. 43**

Minutes must be taken of LDMG meetings.

### **1.3.5 Local Disaster Management Plan (LDMP)**

**s. 57**

A local government must prepare a LDMP which must include provision for:

- The State group’s strategic policy framework for disaster management for the State, and the local government’s policies for disaster management;
- The roles and responsibilities of entities involved in disaster operations and disaster management in the area;
- The coordination of disaster operations and activities relating to disaster management performed by the entities;
- Events that are likely to happen in the area;
- Strategies and priorities for disaster management for the area;
- The matters stated in the disaster management guidelines as matters to be included in the plan; and
- Other matters about disaster management in the area the local government considers appropriate.

**s. 58**

The LDMP must be consistent with the disaster management guidelines

**s. 59**

The LDMP may review or renew the LDMP when it considers appropriate, however must review the effectiveness of the plan at least once a year.

**S. 60**

The LDMP must be available for inspection, free of charge, by members of the public.



## 1.4 ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

The following table outlines the roles and responsibilities of the various agencies in the disaster management system, whilst not all of these agencies will be available at a local level these can be accessed through the disaster management system by requesting support to the district level.

Organisation	Responsibilities
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Local Government</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Maintenance of Local government functions (via Local government business continuity and recovery Planning)</li> <li>• Maintenance of normal Local government services to the community and critical infrastructure protection</li> <li>• Development and maintenance of Disaster Management Plans for the City</li> <li>• Development and maintenance of a public education/awareness program</li> <li>• Establishment, maintenance and operation of a LDCC including the training of sufficient personnel to operate the centre</li> <li>• Coordination of support to emergency response agencies</li> <li>• Maintenance of warning and telemetry systems</li> <li>• Collection and interpretation of information from telemetry systems</li> <li>• Reconnaissance and post impact assessments for the City</li> <li>• Debris clearance of roads and bridges</li> <li>• Issuance of public information prior to, during and post disaster impact events</li> <li>• Recommendations with regard to areas to be considered for authorised evacuation</li> <li>• Public advice with regard to voluntary evacuation</li> <li>• Provision of locally based community recovery services in conjunction with other recovery agencies</li> <li>• Evacuation centre management</li> </ul>

Organisation	Responsibilities
<b>Emergency Management Queensland</b>	<p>Through the XO to the State Group the functions as described in the DM Act 2003, include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provision of advice and assistance to all agencies within Queensland's disaster management arrangements.</li> <li>• Provision of advice to disaster managers at all levels of the state's disaster management arrangements.</li> <li>• Ensuring that disaster management activities within the State are consistent with the strategic policy framework.</li> <li>• Facilitation of the development and maintenance of the State's Disaster Management Plan.</li> <li>• Operation and maintenance of the SDCC.</li> <li>• The maintenance of arrangements between the State and Australian government about matters relating to effective disaster management; and the coordination of State and Australian government assistance for disaster management and disaster operations.</li> <li>• Training of disaster management stakeholders</li> <li>• Review of District and Local Plans.</li> </ul>
<b>Queensland Police Service</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Preservation of peace and good order</li> <li>• Prevention of crime</li> <li>• Maintenance of any site as a possible crime scene</li> <li>• Coronial investigation procedures</li> <li>• Traffic control, including assistance with road closures and maintenance of road blocks</li> <li>• Crowd control</li> <li>• Coordination of evacuation operations</li> <li>• Coordination of rescue operations</li> <li>• Security of evacuated areas</li> <li>• Security of damaged premises</li> <li>• Registration of evacuated persons</li> <li>• Tracing or coordination of search for missing members of the community</li> <li>• Traffic, rail and air accidents</li> <li>• Guidance on Counter-Terrorism Issues</li> </ul>
<b>Department of Premier and Cabinet</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Independent advice to the chair of State Group</li> <li>• Public Information Arrangements – Crises Communication Network</li> <li>• Coordinating strategic situational awareness in a terrorist event via the SCC;</li> <li>• Leadership of strategic policy in all hazards</li> <li>• Provision of support and advice to the Premier and Cabinet</li> </ul>
<b>Queensland Fire &amp; Rescue Service</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Fire control</li> <li>• Fire prevention</li> <li>• Rescue of trapped persons</li> <li>• Assist in pumping out of flooded buildings</li> <li>• Management of hazardous material situations</li> <li>• Provision of Material Safety Data Sheet (MSDS) information relative to hazardous materials</li> <li>• Provision of expert advisory services with regard to chemical incidents</li> </ul>

Organisation	Responsibilities
<b>Queensland Ambulance Service</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Assessment, treatment and transportation of injured persons</li> <li>• Assistance with evacuations (persons with medical conditions)</li> <li>• Provision of advice regarding medical special needs sectors of the community</li> </ul>
<b>State Emergency Services</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Storm damage response</li> <li>• Public education</li> <li>• Rescue of trapped or stranded persons</li> <li>• First aid</li> <li>• Traffic control</li> <li>• Short term welfare support</li> <li>• Assistance with impact assessment</li> <li>• Assistance with communications</li> <li>• Assistance with lighting</li> </ul>
<b>Bureau of Meteorology</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Forecasting of weather and the state of the atmosphere</li> <li>• Issue of warnings for gales, storms and other weather conditions likely to endanger life or property, including weather conditions likely to give rise to floods or bushfires</li> <li>• Supply of meteorological information</li> <li>• Publication of meteorological reports and bulletins</li> <li>• Provision of advice on meteorological matters</li> </ul>
<b>Department of Communities, Child safety and Disability Services</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• State's coordinating agency for social/community response and recovery planning &amp; issues</li> <li>• Coordination of community recovery services including information on the range of recovery services available</li> <li>• Information on the psychological effects of disaster</li> <li>• Personal support services</li> <li>• Personal Hardship financial assistance measures - NDRRA / SDRA or other approved government assistance measures to eligible applicants</li> <li>• Provision of counselling and mental health services</li> <li>• Long term accommodation services</li> <li>• Facilitation of community participation in the redevelopment of social networks and community infrastructure</li> </ul>

Organisation	Responsibilities
<p><b>Queensland Transport and Main Roads</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Coordination of transport and transport engineering support for disaster prevention, preparedness, response and recovery</li> <li>• Movement of disaster related equipment and supplies including food, water, fuel, sandbags and medical resources</li> <li>• Movement of people as a result of mass evacuation of a disaster affected community</li> <li>• Repairs to and reinstatement of road, rail and maritime infrastructure</li> <li>• Provision of transport engineering advice including infrastructure service capacities relating to roads, bridges, ports and rail lines</li> <li>• Provision of information at State and District Disaster levels on road, rail, maritime and air service closures and / or restrictions</li> </ul>
<p><b>Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Coordinates the Government's efforts to prevent, respond to, and recover from pests and diseases that threaten the economy and environment</li> <li>• Lead agency for exotic animal and plant diseases</li> <li>• Advice relative to stock</li> <li>• Destruction of stock or crops as required</li> <li>• Advice relative to disaster recovery processes for primary producers</li> </ul>
<p><b>Department of Housing and Public Works</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Functional Lead agency for: Building and Engineering Services; Communications Infrastructure; and Emergency Supply. QBuild provides the functional response at a disaster district level on behalf of Public Works</li> <li>• Inspection and repair of damaged State Government built infrastructure</li> <li>• Support in damage assessment</li> <li>• Access to Government motor vehicle fleet</li> <li>• Liaison with telecommunication providers</li> <li>• Logistical support arrangements</li> <li>• Temporary built infrastructure solutions</li> <li>• DPW utilises a framework of support from all service areas within the departments administrative portfolio</li> </ul>
<p><b>Environment and Heritage Protection</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Coordination of storm time advice</li> <li>• Environmental issues</li> <li>• Pest control and fire management programs</li> <li>• Increased level of monitoring, modelling and assessment and supply of relevant information to decision-makers</li> <li>• Increased effectiveness managing significant environmental risks with potential adverse impacts minimised</li> <li>• Responsibilities under the Hazmat Recovery Plan</li> </ul>

Organisation	Responsibilities
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Queensland Health</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Coordination of medical resources</li> <li>• Lead agency for pandemics</li> <li>• Public health advice and warnings to participating agencies and the community</li> <li>• Psychological and counselling services for disaster affected persons</li> <li>• Ongoing medical and health services required during the recovery period to preserve the general health of the community</li> </ul>

## 1.5 Coordination of disaster operations

Coordination underpins the entire disaster management system. It is defined in the State Disaster Management Plan as:

*The bringing together of organisations to ensure effective disaster management before, during and after an event. It is primarily concerned with systematic acquisition and application of resources (people, material, equipment etc) in accordance with priorities set by disaster management groups. Coordination operates horizontally across organisations and agencies.*

Coordination in disaster management is about the effective management of different agencies with a diverse range of expertise, resources and skills by ensuring that they work together to a common goal and resources are best used for the benefit of the community.

One of the supplementary principles of disaster management is ‘coordination, collaboration and consultation’. Effective management of any disaster relies on strong coordination arrangements, consultative decision making, collaboration and shared responsibility achieved through supporting relationships, trust and teamwork between individuals, agencies and the community.

## **1.6 Statement of compliance with legislation, guidelines and strategic policy framework**

The Mount Isa City and the Local Disaster Management Group will ensure that the City's responsibilities in its Terms of reference as detailed in section 1.3 of this plan are executed within the available resources of both the group and the district. The City is committed to the values of the disaster management strategic framework:

- Protecting health, safety, quality of life and economic vitality.
- Building and maintaining partnerships and collaboration across all levels of government, community and industry, in all aspects of disaster management.
- Protecting our natural and built environment.
- Respecting the diversity of Queensland communities.
- Ensuring accountability and transparency of the Queensland disaster management arrangements.

S57 of Disaster Management Act 2003 requires that a local government must prepare a Local Disaster Management Plan for disaster management in the local government area.

The Local Government Act 2009 states that a local government must prepare a corporate plan that identifies the local and regional issues the local government has identified as affecting its area. These issues are to include disaster management (s.104).

**1.7 Approval of executive members**

This plan was approved by the Mount Isa City Council on the \_\_\_\_\_

This plan is endorsed by the Chair of the Local Disaster Management Group

..... Date .....

**The Hon. Cr Tony McGrady AM**

Chair

Mount Isa Local Disaster Management Group

This plan has been agreed to and accepted by the Mount Isa City Council through resolution.



## 1.8 Amendment Register and Version Control

This plan must reflect the changes in the Mount Isa community; as such it will undergo changes as the community and City develops over time.

Changes to this plan are to be submitted to the CEO of the Mount Isa City and to the Local Disaster Management Group for inclusion in the plan.

### 1.8.1 - Amendment Register

Amendment Number	Date	Section Amended	Amended By
1	06/06/2014	5.4 - Activation of response arrangements (table 5.4)	E. Cianetti
2			
3			
4			
5			
6			
7			
8			

### 1.8.2 - Version Control

Version	Date	Date accepted by LDMG
1		
2		
3		
4		
5		
6		
7		
8		



## 1.10 Definitions, abbreviations and acronyms

### Definitions

<b>ACTIVATION OF RELIEF AND RECOVERY MEASURES:</b>	Activated by Minister of Emergency Services for a special geographical area affected by a natural disaster to activate and co-ordinate NDRRA assistance measures
<b>AREA DIRECTOR:</b>	A Public Servant employed by EMQ, Department of Community Safety, appointed to provide advice and training to Local Government and District Groups. in Planning and Operations. Support to SES/VMR Units.
<b>CHAIRPERSON:</b>	The Chairperson of the Disaster Management Group, means the person appointed or acting as the chairperson of the group under section 20 of the <i>Disaster Management Act 2003</i> .
<b>COMMAND:</b>	The direction of members and resources of an agency in the performance of the agency's roles and tasks. Command operates vertically within an agency.
<b>CONTROL:</b>	The overall direction of the activities, agencies or individuals concerned. Control operates horizontally across all agencies, functions and individuals. Situations are controlled.
<b>CO-ORDINATION:</b>	The bringing together of agencies and individuals to ensure effective disaster management, but does not include the control of agencies and individuals by direction.
<b>CO-ORDINATION CENTRE:</b>	A centre established at State, District or Local level as a centre of communications and co-ordination during response and recovery operations eg. DDCC- District Disaster Co-ordination Centre, SDCC- State Disaster Co-ordination Centre, LDCC-Local Government Disaster Co-Ordination Centre.
<b>DECLARED DISASTER OFFICER</b>	(i) a police officer; or  (ii) a persons authorized under <i>s75(1) of the DMA</i> to exercise declared disaster powers for the disaster situation.
<b>DISASTER:</b>	(1) 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 and other entities to help the community recover from the disruption.  (2) In this section – ‘serious disruption’ means - a) Loss of human life, or illness or injury to humans; or b) widespread or severe property loss or damage; or c) widespread or severe damage to the environment.
<b>DISASTER DISTRICT:</b>	Means a part of the State prescribed under a regulation as a disaster district.

<b>DISTRICT DISASTER MANAGEMENT GROUP</b>	Means the functional group as set out in the <i>Disaster Management Act 2003</i>
<b>DISTRICT DISASTER COORDINATOR:</b>	means a police officer appointed by the commissioner Queensland Police Service as a district disaster coordinator under section 25.
<b>DISASTER MANAGEMENT:</b>	Arrangements about managing the potential adverse events, including, for example, arrangements for mitigating, preventing, preparing for, responding to and recovering from a disaster.
<b>EXECUTIVE OFFICER -STATE DISASTER MANAGEMENT GROUP (SDMG):</b>	Of the State group, means the person who is the executive officer of the group under section 19(3).
<b>OPERATIONS OFFICER - DISTRICT DISASTER MANAGEMENT GROUP:</b>	That person appointed by the District Disaster Coordinator to be the Operations Officer of the District Disaster Management Group for disaster management purposes.
<b>FUNCTIONAL LEAD AGENCY:</b>	A Government Department allocated a responsibility by the State Disaster Management Group to coordinate a particular function in respect of disaster management.
<b>HAZARD:</b>	A potential or existing condition that may cause harm to people or damage to property or the environment.
<b>INCIDENT:</b>	Day-to-day occurrence which are responded to by a single response agency by itself or in cooperation with other response agencies.
<b>LOCAL DISASTER COORDINATOR</b>	Chief Executive Officer or other council officer appointed by the Chair of the LDMG as the Local Disaster Coordinator.
<b>LOCAL CONTROLLER:</b>	The controller of a Local State Emergency Service Unit appointed under the <i>Disaster Management Act 2003</i> . The Local Controller is usually the appointed leader of a volunteer SES unit.
<b>LOCAL DISASTER MANAGEMENT GROUP:</b>	The persons responsible for implementing the requirements of Local Government with respect to development and implementation of disaster arrangements for their area
<b>LOCAL DISASTER MANAGEMENT PLAN:</b>	A plan that documents agreed arrangements that are in place to deal with disaster events within its area of responsibilities.

<b>MITIGATION:</b>	Measures taken in advance of an event aimed at decreasing or eliminating its impact on society and the environment.
<b>NDRRA FINANCIAL GUIDELINES QLD:</b>	Financial arrangements for the activation and delivery of Natural Disaster Relief and Recovery assistance within Queensland
<b>NON-GOVERNMENT ORGANISATION:</b>	A voluntary organisation or any other private individual or body, other than a government agency.
<b>PLANNING:</b>	Process of developing arrangements for coordinating a response and establishing priorities, duties roles and responsibilities of different individuals and organisations, including an actual state of preparedness.
<b>PREPAREDNESS:</b>	Action designed to minimise loss of life and damage, and to organise and facilitate timely and effective rescue, relief and rehabilitation in case an event. Preparedness is concerned with understanding the threat; forecasting and warning; educating and training officials and the population; and establishing organisations for the management of disaster situations including preparation of operational plans, training relief groups, stockpiling supplies, and accessing necessary funds.
<b>PREVENTION:</b>	Includes the identification of hazards, the assessment of threats to life and property and the taking of measures to reduce or eliminate potential loss of life or property and protect economic development.
<b>RECOVERY:</b>	<p>Includes the process of returning an affected community to its proper level of functioning after a disaster. This process is divided into short term Recovery and Long Term Recovery/Reconstruction.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Initial Recovery – the aim of initial recovery operations is to satisfy personal and community needs, and to restore services to the level where the continuing process can be managed by local government and the normal responsible agencies</li> <li>• Long Term Recovery – long term recovery, reconstruction or rehabilitation measures are the subject of separate arrangements.</li> </ul>
<b>RESOURCES:</b>	Includes food, manpower, any horse or other animal, vehicle, vessel, aircraft, plant, apparatus, implement, earthmoving equipment, construction equipment or other equipment of any kind or any means of supplying want or need.
<b>RESPONSE:</b>	Includes the process of combating a disaster and of providing immediate relief for persons affected by a disaster.

<b>RISK:</b>	Expected losses (of lives, persons injured, property damaged, and economic activity disrupted) due to a particular hazard for a given area and reference period. Based on mathematical calculations, risk is the product of hazard and vulnerability.
<b>RISK MANAGEMENT:</b>	The systematic application of management policies, procedures and practices to the tasks of identifying, analysing, assessing, treating and monitoring risk.
<b>STATE DISASTER MANAGEMENT GROUP</b>	Queensland body responsible for the development of Disaster Management policy and coordination of resources necessary to ensure that all steps are taken to plan for and counter the effects of disaster.
<b>SUPPORTING ORGANISATIONS:</b>	Government Departments, statutory authorities, volunteer organisations and other specialist agencies who have indicated a willingness to participate and provide specialist support resources to a functional or threat specific lead agency during disasters.
<b>WARNING:</b>	Dissemination of message signaling imminent hazard, which may include advice on protective measures.

### ***Acronyms***

<b>ADF</b>	Australian Defence Force
<b>BOM</b>	Bureau of Meteorology
<b>COAG</b>	Council of Australian Governments
<b>DACC</b>	Defence Aid to the Civil Community
<b>DDC</b>	District Disaster Co-ordinator
<b>DDCC</b>	District Disaster Co-ordination Centre
<b>DDMG</b>	District Disaster Management Group
<b>DCS</b>	Department of Community Safety
<b>DMA</b>	Disaster Management Act 2003
<b>DOC</b>	Department of Communities
<b>EMA</b>	Emergency Management Australia
<b>EMQ</b>	Emergency Management Queensland

<b>FWCCQ</b>	Flood Warning Consultative Committee Queensland
<b>HAZMAT</b>	Hazardous Material
<b>LDMG</b>	Local Disaster Management Group
<b>LDC</b>	Local Disaster Coordinator
<b>LDCC</b>	Local Disaster Coordination Centre
<b>NCTP</b>	National Counter Terrorism Plan
<b>NDRRA</b>	Natural Disaster Relief and Recovery Arrangements
<b>QAS</b>	Queensland Ambulance Service
<b>QECC</b>	Queensland Earthquake Coordination Centre
<b>QFRS</b>	Queensland Fire and Rescue Service
<b>QH</b>	Queensland Health
<b>QLDVETPLAN</b>	Queensland Veterinary Emergency Plan
<b>QPS</b>	Queensland Police Service
<b>QTCCC</b>	Queensland Tropical Cyclone Coordination Committee
<b>RFS</b>	Rural Fire Service
<b>RFDS</b>	Rural Flying Doctors Service
<b>SDCC</b>	State Disaster Coordination Centre
<b>SDCG</b>	State Disaster Coordination Group
<b>SDMG</b>	State Disaster Management Group
<b>SDRA</b>	State Disaster Relief Arrangement
<b>SES</b>	State Emergency Service
<b>SEWS</b>	Standard Emergency Warning Signal
<b>SITREP</b>	Situation Report
<b>SOP</b>	Standing Operating Procedures
<b>XO</b>	Executive Officer

## **1.11 Processes and timeframes – Internal and External Assessment**

This Local Disaster Management Plan will be reviewed every 12 months by the members of the LDMG, that plan will also be reviewed under the following circumstances:

- Following activation of the LDMG in response to an event,
- Following significant changes to the planning environment including changes in threats or the community,
- In response to changes in the planning guidelines, or
- In any other circumstance that the Chair believes a review is warranted.



## 1.12 Governance Processes

### 1.12.1 - Core Group

Organisation	Position
Mount Isa City Council	Chair (Mayor)
Mount Isa City Council	Deputy Chair (Deputy Major)
Mount Isa City Council	XO (CEO)
Mount Isa City Council	Engineer
Queensland Police Service	OIC Mount Isa Police
Emergency Management Queensland	Area Director Mount Isa

### 1.12.2 - Advisors

Organisation	Position
SES	SES Local Controller
QAS	OIC Queensland Ambulance
Queensland Health	Queensland Health Rep
QPS	OIC Camooweal Police
QFRS	Area Director
Rural Fire Service	Rural Fire Inspector
Ergon	Ergon
Telstra	Telstra
QCWA	QCWA
MICC	MICC Media Officer
Xstrata	Xstrata Rep

Membership of the Committee shall mean and include the person acting in the capacity of any of the above members or the delegate of the member as the case maybe. The delegate must have the authority to commit resources from parent body

### 1.12.3 - Specialist Advisors

The following members whilst not regarded as “core” members of the LDMG, they may be called upon to give specialist advice about the role and capabilities that their organisation may be able to provide to the LDMG

Agency	Member

### ***Appointment of representative to District Group***

The Mount Isa City CEO and Mayor are appointed as a member of the District Disaster Management Group.

### ***Notification of membership to State Group***

The LDC shall notify the State Disaster Management Group and District Group of the Local groups membership once per annum. Changes to the executive membership will be forwarded to the state and district groups as they occur.

### ***Meeting Schedule***

The Mount Isa LDMG has an obligation under the Disaster Management Act to meet twice per year. Traditionally these meetings have been held prior to the traditional wet season and post season. The XO of the Mount Isa group will schedule these meetings and notify the members. All meeting will be minuted and a copy of these minutes will be sent to the district group.

## ***1.12.4 - Administrative responsibilities***

The LDC of the local group is responsible for the administrative responsibilities of the group. The following administrative tasks are to be undertaken by the group:

- Keeping of meeting minutes,
- Maintenance of contact list,
- Maintenance of membership lists
- Updating of local plan,
- Registration of correspondence,
- Reporting (as listed), and
- Conduct of meetings

## ***1.12.5 - Authority to activate the Group***

The group may be activated by the Chair of the local group should the Chair believe that the activation in response to a threat is significant to warrant activation. The level of activation will be determined by the chair taking into account the likelihood and possible impact of the threat.

The group may be activated by the District Disaster Coordinator (DDC)

Activation of the group will occur independently of activation of NDRRA, the decision to activate will be based on threat rather than financial implications.

Once the group is activated situation reports will be compiled and submitted to the district group at a frequency determined by the district group.

Whilst there may be no requirement for the entire group to be in attendance at a coordination centre the chair is to ensure that the entire group is kept informed of the situation and actions of the group.

The group will stand down only after the decision to cease activity has been made from the chair and the DDC.

Once the group has stood down a final situation report will be compiled and sent to the district group.

**1.12.6 - Reporting Requirements**

The LDC of the Mount Isa Group is responsible for the administrative and reporting obligations of the group. The following reporting must be undertaken by the group:

Report	Submitted to	Frequency	Format
Meeting minutes	DDMG/SDMG	Following every meeting	Council minutes
LDMG Report	DDMG/SDMG	Yearly	Issued by SDMG
LDMG Membership	DDMG/SDMG	Yearly	With above
Situation reports	DDMG	As negotiated	As issued
Activation report	DDMG	As required	Issued by DDMG

## **2. LOCAL DISASTER MANAGEMENT GROUP**

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Under the Disaster Management Act 2003 (section 29) a local government must establish a Local Disaster Management Group for the local government area. The roles and responsibilities for the core group are detailed in the Terms of Reference in section 1.3 of this plan.

State government agencies and organisations have designated responsibilities in disasters which reflect their legislated and/or technical capability and authority with respect to hazards, functions and/or activities of disaster management.

This list contained in Annexure A – Agency Roles and Responsibilities of the State Disaster Plan is not exhaustive; it focuses on the roles and responsibilities of agencies at the State level only. Importantly, this list aims to ensure, from a whole-of-government perspective, that all accountabilities of the State government with respect to disaster management have been addressed.

## 3. DISASTER RISK ASSESSMENT

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### 3.1 Community Context

#### 3.1.1 - Geography

Mount Isa is bounded by the Northern Territory to the west, Cloncurry Shire to the east, Boulia Shire to the south and Burke Shire to the north. The City Council covers an area of 42 904 Km<sup>2</sup> making it the largest city in Australia (by area covered).

The two populated areas of the city are Mount Isa (Long 139.50001 Lat -20.73332) located in the south east of the boundary and Camooweal (Long 138.11667 Lat -19.91665) located on the Northern Territory border North West of Mount Isa.

The geography of the area is predominantly open savannah and woodlands with sparkly vegetated areas of Spinifex. The mineral rich Selwyn Ranges run from South to North through the east of the shire.

Mount Isa City is nestled in the Selwyn Ranges while to the west Camooweal is situated on the flay Barkley Tablelands.

The predominant river systems in the shire are the Flinders and Georgina Rivers.

#### 3.1.2 - Climate and Weather

The climate of **Mount Isa** is governed by three main criteria: Tropical location (latitude), elevation and distance from the coast. With the Gulf of Carpentaria approximately 340km to the north, and the Coral Sea 740km to the east-northeast, the climate of Mount Isa is suitably described as 'Tropical Continental'.

Three main seasons are experienced in Mount Isa:

- a) Mild temperatures with low humidity (MAY to AUGUST)
- b) Hot temperatures with low humidity (SEPTEMBER to DECEMBER)
- c) Hot temperatures with high humidity (JANUARY to APRIL)

Although maximum temperatures can reach well into the 40-degree scale in Summer (45.9 degrees on the 29th of January 1990 the highest temperature recorded for Mount Isa), the higher elevation of the Northwest uplands from the surrounding area (150m higher) has a significant moderating effect on temperatures. This can be shown by the temperature differences experienced in Mount Isa as compared to neighbouring townships such as Cloncurry, Boulia, Winton and Urandangie on the Western Plains.

Night time temperatures in Mount Isa can often be much cooler than those of nearby centres. Mount Isa is located in a valley between two spurs of the Selwyn ranges. On clear nights, the

moderate south-easterly winds experienced on the Western Plains and Barkly Tablelands keep the temperature higher. The calm conditions experienced in Mount Isa due to the sheltering effect of the ranges leads to lower temperatures being recorded (this can be up to ten degrees lower in extreme cases).

Due to the continental climate of Mount Isa, the diurnal (daily) temperature range is approximately 10 to 15 degrees throughout the year, although can be as high as 20 to 25 degrees at times. Except for the months of June, July and August, temperatures for the area are described as warm to hot. However, very low minimum temperatures can occur (lowest ever minus 2.9 degrees on the 7th of July 1984) due to the often clear skies experienced in the winter months. Negative temperatures have occurred during the months of June, July and August. Although Mount Isa is just south of the limits of frosts, the area rarely experiences frost conditions to the same degree as continental areas further south.

Variability of rainfall in the Mount Isa district is in the order of 20 - 25%. This is verified by annual rainfall amounts that may be less than 250mm in one year and greater than 500mm the following (161mm in 1970 being the lowest yearly rainfall recorded, and 864mm in 1974 the highest). A district wet season usually occurs from December to March, with over 75% of the annual rainfall occurring during these months.

A failure of the wet season causes severe strain on the pastures and available surface water supplies. The onset of drought is greatly enhanced by the high evaporation rates during the summer months, although the loss during the dry season is less due to the lower temperatures.

The districts rainfall usually comes from thunderstorms that form due to the intense heating experienced during the summer months, and from the passage of the inland trough system prevalent during the Spring and summer months.

Occasionally, quite heavy and prolonged rain can occur with the passage of ex tropical cyclones, which can lead to an extension south of the monsoon trough from the northern areas of Australia. With it can come flooding of local river and stream systems, with its associated dislocation of local infrastructure.

### **3.1.3 – Population**

The population of Mount Isa City is difficult to ascertain, the 2011 census placed the population at 21 237. Difficulty in ascertaining the true population is attributed to fly in fly out workers.

The population is distributed as follows:

Mount Isa: 20 569  
Camooweal: 287  
Other (rural properties): 85

The City area is 42 904 giving it a population density of .5 persons per Km<sup>2</sup>.

The City has a very high level of visitors travelling to the area for work throughout the year or as tourists during the cooler months of the year.

### 3.1.4 - Vulnerable People

The 2011 census reported 446 persons who required assistance for core activity. There are a number of agencies in the Mount Isa City to service at needs persons. Mount Isa has a number of transient persons “sleeping rough” at any given time, some overcrowding of social housing is also present in the City.

### 3.1.5 - Community Preparedness

Residents of the Mount Isa City are resilient and accustomed to the regular isolation that accompanies the wet season in the area.

### 3.1.6 – Industry

Industry in the Mount Isa City is predominately mining and mining support services.

### 3.1.7 - Critical Infrastructure

Critical infrastructure includes power, water, sewage, roads and essential services buildings. There are two major dams in the City area.

**Electricity Supply** - Mount Isa City is powered by a local power generators (Mica Creek) using a mixture of Natural Gas and Diesel.

**Water Supply** - Water supply across the City varies from treated Dam supply to treated artesian supply.

**Sewerage** - Across the City area there is a mixture of sewage and septic systems.

#### **Roads -**

From	To	Road	Distance(Km)
Mount Isa	Camooweal	Barkly Hwy	189
Mount Isa	Cloncurry	Barkly Hwy	121
Mount Isa	Bouli	Diamantina Dev Rd	300

**Airport/Airstrips** - Mount Isa is serviced by a number of carriers with regular flights to Townsville and Brisbane. Regular flights to the Gulf and South are also available. In the 2009/2010 period 184 860 passengers used the airport.

### **Mount Isa**

*Airport codes:* ISA YBMA

*Type:* regional airport

*Scheduled airline service:* yes

*Serves:* Mount Isa, Queensland, Australia

*Latitude:* -20.663900 | 20 39.834023 S | S20 39 50

*Longitude:* 139.488998 | 139 29.339905 E | E139 29 20

*Field elevation:* 1,121 ft/342 m MSL

*Magnetic variation:* 6.1°E

**16/34**

8,399 x 148 ft (2,560 x 45 m) — paved — lighted

### **Camooweal**

*Airport codes:* CML YCMW

*Type:* local airport (light traffic)

*Scheduled airline service:* no

*Latitude:* -19.911699 | 19 54.701958 S | S19 54 42

*Longitude:* 138.125000 | 138 7.500000 E | E138 07 30

*Field elevation:* 241 ft/73 m MSL

**13/31**

3,500 ft (1,067 m) — paved

## **3.1.8 - Essential Services**

### **Mount Isa:**

Queensland Ambulance

Queensland Police

Queensland Health (inpatient and surgical facility)

SES

Queensland Fire and Rescue

Rural Fire Service

### **Camooweal**

SES

Rural Fire Service

Queensland Police

Queensland Health (Clinic)

## **3.1.9 - Hazardous Sites**

Due to the number of mine sites located in the Mount Isa City chemical storage and transport is common.



Large quantities of potentially dangerous chemicals are stored at various locations within the City. These are monitored by the Department of Employment, Economic Development and Innovation (DEEDI). Council planning policy restricts the quantities of chemicals that can be stored near the populated areas of the City.

Transport of dangerous goods is common in the City. Chemical spills have occurred in the past due to mine overtopping and vehicle accidents.

The highways running east to west are the most likely areas for a spill to occur. The rail corridor runs to the South then east through the town is also a transport route for hazardous materials.

### **3.1.10 - Public Buildings, Spaces and Events**

The Mount Isa City has no areas that would be considered high density. Areas where the density of people would be increased on occasion include:

- Mount Isa Shows (Buchanan Park Facility)
- Rodeo Events (Buchanan Park facility)
- Night Club Facilities (Various Locations)
- Sporting Events (Various Sporting Facilities)
- Cinema (CBD)
- Shopping Complexes (Kmart & Woolworth)
- Theatre (Civic Centre)

### **3.1.11 - Proposed Future development**

With the mining development in the region Mount Isa City is expected to experience moderate growth in infrastructure and housing over the next five years.

### **3.1.12 - Neighbour relationships**

The Mount Isa City has good working relationships with all neighbouring Local Government areas.



## 3.2 Hazards

*A hazard analysis was undertaken by Dr Douglas Goudie, Centre for Disaster Studies, JCU in 2003. This report is considered current. Additional studies are conducted in relation to the flood threat of new estates and building projects.*

### Description of Natural Environment

Open savannah and woodland, spinifex. An ancient, highly weathered landscape, landlocked and tropical.

Subject to variable monsoonal rain, high day temperatures and cool nights - inland continental climate.

### Description of Social Environment

Economically the region is mainly dependent on the mining and service industries, with some economic diversity provided by the beef industry.

Mount Isa became a separate shire in 1962, largely superseding the Barkly Shire. There is a relatively high portion of indigenous residents in the city, many itinerant from the region at large. There are currently problems of public drunkenness and unruly behavior.

Mt Isa has an above Australian average per capita income. The mines bring great prosperity, although there has been downsizing in recent years. As the key regional centre of a vast area, Mt Isa has a wide spectrum of state government offices, radio and TV stations and a functional CBD. There are banks, a wide variety of shops, hotels and a cinema. There are many forms of short term accommodation, both for tourists and people on short term private or government business.

### 3.2.1 - Flooding

#### ***3.2.1.2 Vulnerability of Local Economic Production and Employment***

During flood there is little movement, except by air. Stock movement usually stops. Mail and food deliveries by road or rail may cease. There is little work anyone on properties can do during floods. At Mount Gordon mine, the 40Km of soft unsealed road means their product cannot be moved, resulting in suspension of production.

Winds may disrupt communications and power, causing lost work-time in the towns.

Low tourist numbers reduce retail trade.

#### ***3.2.1.3 Vulnerability of People***

Most stations are flooded-in from a couple of days to a couple of months during most wet seasons. Station residents may find medical evacuations and resupply of basic needs difficult during flood events due to the isolation of the remote stations and gravel road accesses.

The most vulnerable people are the 'riverbed people', the seemingly homeless indigenous people. During flood periods, many of these people are forced from the Leichhardt River system.

Groups like the Mount Isa Riverbed Action Group are trying to address some of the most damaging aspects of this kind of vulnerability.

There are also a few residences identified as slightly flood prone and these sites can be identified through the flood inundation mapping available through the Mount Isa City Council's Town Planning Scheme.

Some travelers are vulnerable to drowning or exposure if isolated by floodwaters.

#### ***3.2.1.4 Vulnerability of Social Structures***

Neither population centre has a history of direct flooding. There are community halls, and a strong sense of community. A caravan parks located along Break-Away creek and the Leichardt River may be prone a minor level of flooding, however many of the residents are mobile. Check for van residents' relocation plan.

#### ***3.2.1.5 Vulnerability of Buildings***

Station homesteads all appear above flood levels, although some sheds may be submerged though. Many older buildings may be relatively vulnerable to extreme winds.

#### ***3.2.1.6 Vulnerability of Lifelines***

Both the population centres have all-weather air strips. Link roads are severed in many places during flood. Of particular wider importance is the flooding of the Flinders Highway. The Townsville/Mt Isa rail link is also vulnerable to flooding. Electricity supply and telecommunications may be vulnerable during heavy electrical storm events however historically these systems have proven to be robust with short duration power failure in extreme weather conditions. Property owners and operators have reported that Telstra communications are reliable with backup UHF and School of the Air equipment available.

#### ***3.2.1.7 Vulnerability of Critical Facilities***

Both public air strips and hospitals are accessible to the two population centres (Mount Isa City and Camooweal Township) during flood. Alternative power generation is available to key facilities.

Camooweal water supply is pumped from limestone bores. It is unlikely these will become contaminated. This may not be true for the Mount Isa city water supply. Both supplies are tested regularly for potability and safe use.

The Leichardt River feeds the downstream Mount Isa water supply. This river is fed by numerous tributary systems along its length. Stormwater runoff is contained within the mining lease that adjoins the Leichardt River system and is controlled by stringent environmental operating conditions. Drawing water downstream from an urban area of about 7,000 buildings, industrial, heavy industry, automotive and machinery works has potential risks however regular monitoring and testing of the City's water supply coupled with water management procedures compliant to the current Water Acts mitigates much of the risk levels.

#### ***3.2.1.3 Vulnerability of Other Elements***

Road damage from flooding is often extensive and costly.

## **3.2.2 - Fire**

### ***3.2.2.1 Vulnerability of Local Economic Production and Employment***

Potential evacuation of extreme perimeter business particularly along the Leichardt River may be required due to a bush fire event. Fire breaks and controlled burning undertaken by Mount Isa City Council mitigates much of the risk. City geographical layout is of low density with hydrant water supply available throughout the watered areas of the city to aid fire fighting.

Regional bush fires pose a potential risk to stock loss, potential loss of life, loss of feed and fencing. The harsh geographical terrain is normally hard on people and machines fighting fires.

### ***3.2.2.2 Vulnerability of People***

Most vulnerable areas are those of the outer perimeter of the City residential and industrial areas which adjoin onto bush land. Fire breaks and controlled burning undertaken by Mount Isa City Council mitigates much of the risk. City geographical layout is of low density with hydrant water supply available throughout the watered areas of the city to aid fire fighting.

The most vulnerable people are the 'riverbed people', the seemingly homeless indigenous people. During fire events in the riverbed, many of these people are forced from the Leichhardt River system.

Groups like the Mount Isa Riverbed Action Group are trying to address some of the most damaging aspects of this kind of vulnerability.

### ***3.2.2.3 Vulnerability of Social Structures***

Not applicable.

### ***3.2.2.4 Vulnerability of Buildings***

Outer perimeter businesses and residences may possibly be exposed to bush fire threats. These threats are generally mitigated by a yearly fire break and back burning program operated by the Mount Isa City Council.

### ***3.2.2.5 Vulnerability of Lifelines***

Not applicable

### ***3.2.2.6 Vulnerability of Critical Facilities***

Not Applicable

### ***3.2.2.7 Vulnerability of Other Elements***

Not Applicable

## **3.2.3 – Severe Wind (Land Gayle/Dust Storms)**

### ***3.2.3.1 Vulnerability of Local Economic Production and Employment***

Severe winds, described locally as land gales may cause some damage in built areas including industrial sites and in the rural areas. Generally buildings are constructed



to latest wind loading standards and damage sustained will have little impact on business operation.

#### ***3.2.3.2 Vulnerability of People***

Sever winds may cause power loss and downed power lines as a result of fallen trees and flying debris which could expose people to electrocution or to be struck by flying debris. A tree pruning program by Ergon Energy throughout the city reduces the risk of damage to power services from trees.

#### ***3.2.3.3 Vulnerability of Social Structures***

Not applicable.

#### ***3.2.3.4 Vulnerability of Buildings***

Damage to properties may be to an extent limited to the older residential buildings in the city. Sever winds may cause power loss and downed power lines as a result of fallen trees and flying debris. Additional damage to buildings may occur from similar causes. Historically damage from sever winds has been minimal with Council and SES crews attending to damage quickly. A tree pruning program by Ergon Energy throughout the city reduces the risk of damage to power services from trees

#### ***3.2.3.5 Vulnerability of Lifelines***

Not applicable

#### ***3.2.3.6 Vulnerability of Critical Facilities***

Generally not applicable with the exception of possible grid power loss to facility. Most facilities have alternative power generation.

#### ***3.2.3.7 Vulnerability of Other Elements***

Not Applicable

### **3.2.4 – Toxic Spill and Emissions**

#### ***3.2.4.1 Vulnerability of Local Economic Production and Employment***

Plant closure as a result of the spillage or emission event may occur in loss of production.

#### ***3.2.4.2 Vulnerability of People***

Damage to sight, lungs and skin for of people on site and in adjoining residential area to the Acid Plant and the smelting and processing plant on the western side of the City. Both Xstrata and the Acid Plant Facility have rigid environmental monitoring systems distributed throughout the city with shutdown procedures for the processing plant executed immediately upon detection of emissions over the City. Asthmatics and people with other respiratory conditions are particularly at risk when emissions drift over the City. Contamination is generally short lived and prevailing winds blow the contaminating emissions away from the populated areas.

#### ***3.2.4.3 Vulnerability of Social Structures***

Not applicable.

#### ***3.2.4.4 Vulnerability of Buildings***

Minor damage to building surfacing may occur.

#### ***3.2.4.5 Vulnerability of Lifelines***

Not applicable

#### ***3.2.4.6 Vulnerability of Critical Facilities***

Not Applicable

#### ***3.2.4.7 Vulnerability of Other Elements***

Not Applicable

### **3.2.5 – Major Mine Disaster**

#### ***3.2.4.1 Vulnerability of Local Economic Production and Employment***

Plant closure as a result of the spillage or emission event may occur in loss of production.

#### ***3.2.4.2 Vulnerability of People***

Major loss of life may occur with onsite workers. Emergency response systems' capacity extended to the extreme with access to disaster area limited due to collapse of access in underground structure or site debris from large scale building collapse. Social and logistical stress. The mine operations undertake regular mine rescue drills and practice emergency response to a number of possible site disaster scenarios. Immediate capacity to attend to a disaster may be an issue with availability of resources depending on scale of event.

#### ***3.2.4.3 Vulnerability of Social Structures***

Not applicable.

#### ***3.2.4.4 Vulnerability of Buildings***

Significant damage to onsite buildings and services may occur.

#### ***3.2.4.5 Vulnerability of Lifelines***

Onsite emergency response efforts and resources may be impacted by nature of event with land based services such as water and communications being disrupted by the event. Backup systems would be deployed during such an event.

#### ***3.2.4.6 Vulnerability of Critical Facilities***

Not Applicable

#### ***3.2.4.7 Vulnerability of Other Elements***

Not Applicable

## 3.2.6 - Pandemic Disease

### 3.2.6.1 Identification and Description of Natural Hazard – Pandemic Disease (Human)

*Hazard Description (extracted from the Queensland interim pandemic plan)*

Influenza pandemics are severe outbreaks that rapidly progress to all parts of the world, associated with the emergence of a new influenza A virus subtype to which the overall population has no immunity. Characteristics of a pandemic include:

- outbreaks occur concurrently throughout the world
- disease may occur outside the usual season, including during summer
- a high attack rate in all age groups
- waves of disease before and after the main pandemic.

Influenza pandemics occur at irregular intervals. Table 1 provides a summary of influenza pandemics during the 20th century.

**Table 1: Summary of influenza pandemics during the 20<sup>th</sup> century**

Year	Name of pandemic	Attack rate	Estimated mortality	Highest mortality risk group
1918-1919	Spanish flu	28 – 90%	20 – 40 million	20-45 year olds especially males
1957-1958	Asian flu	20-70%	1/2,000 to 1/10,000 infections	Those aged over 65 years
1968	Hong Kong flu	25-30%	1/2,000 to 1/10,000 infections	Those aged over 65 years

Factors that influence the likelihood of a pandemic occurring include:

- the emergence of a new viral subtype
- the virus being virulent enough to cause disease in humans
- the capacity of the virus to spread efficiently from person to person.

### 3.2.6.2 - Vulnerability of People

The population of Mount Isa is no less susceptible to pandemic disease than any other area of Queensland. The spread of disease would be higher in the town areas than the rural properties due to the density of population and the reduced social distancing.

Traditionally school children show a higher transmission rate than adults.

### 3.2.6.3 - Vulnerability of Social Structures

The impact of widespread disease on the social structure of the shire would be dependant on the strain of virus prevalent in the community. This may range from short term illness to widespread deaths from the disease.



At a minimum it is expected that the community would experience hardship from social distancing measures including:

- Absenteeism from workplace due to illness,
- Requirement to care for ill family,
- Closure of schools requiring parents to care for children,
- Reduction in social events, and
- Care for those quarantined at home unable to access normal facilities.

In the worst case of a disease with a high morbidity rate the impacts on the social structure would be significantly higher. In addition to the items listed above these would include:

- Significant increase in death rate within the shire,
- Higher admission rates to the health facilities,
- Losses of key staff,
- Periods of grieving from family and friends of deceased,
- General fear in the community, and
- Significant reduction in industry due to staff shortages.

#### ***3.2.6.4 - Vulnerability of Buildings***

Whilst building will not be directly affected there may be a requirement to allocate some facilities to assist the health services in managing the disease.

#### ***3.2.6.5 - Vulnerability of Lifelines***

The reduction in the available workforce within the shire would lead to a reduction in the services available to the shire. Whilst the disease would not directly impact on the physical lifelines reduced staff may lead to maintenance issues and reduced operating capacity of these lifelines.

Business continuity planning would necessitate that reallocation of staff to maintain these essential lifelines.

#### ***3.2.6.6 - Vulnerability of Critical Facilities***

*As per vulnerability of critical lifelines*

#### ***3.2.6.7 - Vulnerability of Local Economic Production and Employment***

The affect of pandemic disease on the local economy is dependant on the virulence and type of virus. In the case of a milder strain of a virus the shire could expect:

- Increase absenteeism from normal workplaces through illness,

- Parents absent from work due to need to care for children,
- Closure of schools,
- Need to reduce non essential services,

The effects of a disease with a high morbidity rate may include:

- Closure of businesses due to staff unavailability,
- Significant decrease in staff attendances at work,
- Re allocation of staff to maintain essential services,
- Loss of key staff and skills,
- Reluctance of staff to attend work areas due to fear of infection,

### **3.2.7 - Exotic Disease in Animals**

#### **3.2.7.1 - Identification and Description of Natural Hazard – Exotic disease in animals**

##### **Hazard Description (*extracted from the Aus Vet plan*)**

Australian agriculture benefits enormously from its freedom from the more devastating disease epidemics that plague livestock industries in other parts of the world. An exotic disease incursion or a serious outbreak of an emerging or endemic disease could cause serious production losses to livestock industries in this country, jeopardise exports of livestock and livestock products and/or have serious public health implications. It is therefore essential that effective contingency plans and competency-assessed, trained personnel are available to counter such diseases.

The Australian Veterinary Emergency Plan (AUSVETPLAN) is a coordinated national response plan for the management and wherever possible, eradication of exotic disease incursions and outbreaks of certain emerging or endemic animal diseases. The term ‘emergency animal disease’ (EAD) is used in this manual to collectively describe all these disease categories.

In most cases, where this is applicable and is considered to be cost-effective, the policy for control and eradication of an EAD will be stamping out. This would involve:

- quarantine and/or movement controls;
- destruction and disposal of infected and exposed animals;
- decontamination of infected premises;
- surveillance of susceptible animals; and
- restriction of the activities of certain enterprises.

These measures may be supplemented where necessary (or replaced when stamping out is not appropriate) by one or more of the following options:

- vaccination;
- vector or wild animal control; and
- animal treatment.

Infected and disease-free zones may be established to contain the disease agent and to protect Australia's export trade.

### ***3.2.7.2 - Vulnerability of People***

In general individuals are not affected by exotic diseases that effect animals. Restriction on movement of people would be expected but unless the disease develops the ability to pass from animal to human there would be little direct effect on people.

### ***3.2.7.3 - Vulnerability of Social Structures***

Mount Isa is a large agricultural area with the main product being beef. Any outbreak of exotic disease in animal with the shire would have a direct and significant impact on the social structure of the shire. Experiences drawn from the foot and mouth outbreak in the United Kingdom show:

- Isolation of property owners and staff unable to leave the infected property,
- 100% stock loss on some properties resulting in unrecoverable losses,
- Individuals being targeted with blame for introduction or spread of disease, and
- Loss of market confidence.

### ***3.2.7.4 - Vulnerability of Buildings***

*No effect*

### ***3.2.7.5 - Vulnerability of Lifelines***

*No effect*

### ***3.2.7.6 - Vulnerability of Critical Facilities***

*No effect*

### ***3.2.7.7 - Vulnerability of Local Economic Production and Employment***

The effect of exotic disease in animals on the Mount Isa economy would be Major. The impact on the economy will be dependant on the nature of the disease and the control measures required to contain it.

Economic losses may extend for some time if there is an embargo on beef from the region as a result of disease.

***The following is an extract from the World Bank on animal disease***

“The consequences of animal diseases in domesticated birds and livestock can be complex and generally go well beyond the immediate effects on affected producers. These diseases have numerous impacts, including:

- productivity losses for the livestock sector (e.g. production losses, cost of treatment, market disturbances)
- loss of income from activities using animal resources (in such sectors as agriculture; energy; transportation; tourism)
- loss of well-being of human beings (morbidity and even mortality rates; food safety and quality)
- prevention or control costs (production costs; public expenditure)
- suboptimal use of production potential (animal species, genetics, livestock practices)”

### 3.2.8 - Terrorism / Major Crime

#### 3.2.8.1 - Identification and Description of Natural Hazard – Terrorism/Major Crime

##### **Hazard Description (extract form the National counter terrorism Plan)**

A ‘terrorist act’ is defined under Australian law as an act or threat, intended to advance a political, ideological or religious cause by coercing or intimidating an Australian or foreign government or the public, by causing serious harm to people or property, creating a serious risk to the health and safety to the public, or seriously disrupting trade, critical infrastructure or electronic systems. (*Criminal Code Act 1995 (Cwlth)*)

A ‘terrorist incident’ is a combination of circumstances or conditions which may lead to or result from a terrorist act, and which require preventative and/or responsive action.

The nature of terrorism means that its implications may cross jurisdictional boundaries. This, and the range of preventive measures and capabilities that may be required, necessitates that Australia maintain a national, cooperative approach to counter terrorism. Coordination and consultation between jurisdictions is formalised by the Inter-governmental Agreement on Australia’s National Counter-Terrorism Arrangements of 24 October 2002 and is managed through the mechanisms outlined in this chapter.

The National Counter-Terrorism Alert System consists of four levels:

low	terrorist attack is not expected;
medium	terrorist attack could occur;
high	terrorist attack is likely; and
extreme	terrorist attack is imminent or has occurred.

A change to a counter-terrorism alert level may be considered when:

- the situation is such that it is necessary to adjust community or business/industry sector vigilance or preparedness; or
- there may be sufficient grounds for declaration of a National Terrorist Situation.

The threat from terrorist activity in the Mount Isa is considered low. The role of the LDMG is to deal with the effects of a terrorism event as it would with any other event affecting the shire, the role of investigating and preventing a terrorism incident is the role of the Queensland Police Service.

#### ***3.2.8.2 - Vulnerability of People***

There are very few circumstances or areas in the Mount Isa that require the gathering of many people. One of the intents of a terrorist act is to create fear in the public, the residents of the shire are no more immune from this than any other area of Queensland.

#### ***3.2.8.3 - Vulnerability of Social Structures***

Recovery will be planned for and managed in a structured manner. The broad needs created by the impact of a terrorist incident on a community will only be met through a range of services. These may be provided by a variety of both government and non-government organisations.

The focus of recovery planning and management is on community input. Emergency planning must cater for local conditions and incorporate localised recovery planning to address the aspects of recovery.

Local government has responsibilities to provide and maintain physical services relevant to recovery. Most local government authorities also provide a range of human and community services to individuals and the community.

#### ***3.2.8.4 - Vulnerability of Buildings***

There are few buildings in the shire that would meet the criteria detailed in the Local Government counter terrorism risk management kit.

#### ***3.2.8.5 - Vulnerability of Lifelines***

The lifeline of Mount Isa City are considered to be at low risk of terrorist activity.

#### ***3.2.8.6 - Vulnerability of Critical Facilities***

The critical facilities are considered to be at low risk of terrorist activity.

#### ***3.2.8.7 - Vulnerability of Local Economic Production and Employment***

Whilst there is potential for a terrorist act to disable one of the significant mines in the area thus leading to major job losses the likelihood of this is considered low.

Should the nations alert level increase there would be some delays and increased expense involved to the mining sector in the production and transport of explosives.

### **3.2.9 – Dam Failure or Supply Threat**

### ***3.2.9.1 - Identification and Description of Hazard – Wall failure/Flood due to Overflow/Terrorism/Supply Integrity Threat***

**Hazard Description** – Hazard may arise from excessive inflows into the two water supply dams causing possible dam wall failure and/or flooding downstream. Additional hazards may arise from terrorist action whereby the integrity of the dam wall or water supply is affected. Two reservoirs are described in this section being – Lake Julius, Lake Moondarra and Rifle Creek Dam which are both in the Mount Isa Shire area.

### ***3.2.9.2 – Vulnerably***

At immediate risk from a dam wall failure or overflow are the downstream properties. Local and district industries including communities will be affected in the longer term by a dam wall failure resulting in loss of water supply.

At immediate risk in the event of water supply contamination are the entire water supply customers for that distribution system.

### ***3.2.9.3 – Management of Hazard***

For the management and delegated responsibilities for each of the Water Reservoirs mentioned above please refer to:

- 1. Lake Julius** (Infrastructure Owner – SunWater). Emergency Action Plan – Julius Dam (Controlled copies are supplied by SunWater. A Controlled Copy of the EAP is also held by the Chair of the LDMG, the Local Disaster Coordinator and the OIC of the QPS).

Due to the location of the dam and the lack of populated areas downstream from the dam it is deemed to be a low risk

- 2. Lake Moondarra** (Infrastructure Owner – Mount Isa Mines Limited). Emergency Action Plan – Leichardt River Dam (Controlled copies are supplied by Mount Isa Mines. A Controlled Copy of the EAP is also held by the Chair of the LDMG, the Local Disaster Coordinator and the OIC of the QPS).

Due to the location of the dam and the lack of populated areas downstream from the dam it is deemed to be a low risk

- 3. Rifle Creek Dam** (Infrastructure Owner – Mount Isa Mines Limited). Emergency Action Plan – Rifle Creek Dam (Controlled copies are supplied by Mount Isa Mines. A Controlled Copy of the EAP is also held by the Chair of the LDMG, the Local Disaster Coordinator and the OIC of the QPS).

Due to the location of the dam being upstream of the Mount Isa City Area and therefore upstream of populated areas the dam it is deemed to be of significant risk.

### 3.3 Risk Assessment

Risk assessments were undertaken for all hazards identified to have any relevance to the area covered by the plan. The likelihood of each hazard was considered on a monthly basis and as supported by the Bureau of Meteorology records.

The Mount Isa City Disaster Risk Management Study found that wet season flooding and possible urban fires are considered as the two main natural disaster hazards. Neither of these are likely to be grossly disruptive or destructive, except in the extreme event, where indicators of threat should pre-mobilise the community and trigger precautionary evacuation responses.

A community fear of mine or toxic transport related mishap exists. There is potential however considered a minor threat of release of ammonia gases associated with air cooling into the mine. This unit is approximately 500 m from the Barkly Highway and any released ammonia is likely to disperse harmlessly. Apart from terrorist activities, the only other mine related hazardous incident that could occur to affect the public is from a failure of the acid plant. In the event that sulphuric acid escapes in liquid form from the site, containment bunding will contain any spillage. In the event were fracturing of the high pressure acid transporting pipes, the plant would automatically close down. There are practiced standing procedures with QFRS in each case to initiate evacuations if the normal prevailing easterly winds happen to blow from the west, dispersing vapor over populated areas. Probability of occurrence considered to be minor.

Transport spills have a slightly higher probability than in other areas of the country because of the quantity of toxic substances used in mining in the Mount Isa region. The counter disaster plan has detailed responses to toxic spills awaiting upgrade or endorsement, and QFRS have specialised response gear.

Monsoonal rains are a normal part of the inland tropical climate. Loss of communications was not significant in the past however the threat of urban fires was a cause for public concern. Destructive winds are usually localized and dust storms are usually rarely occur and not a significant threat.

Floods are the most troublesome natural extreme. Isolation by saturated or flooded roads usually only lasts for a couple of days in many instances, except during severe or prolonged flooding events, which occur, on average approximately at eight yearly intervals. Floods are of special concern during medical evacuations and when travelers are stranded.

### 3.4 Risk Treatment

The risk assessment identified existing controls for each hazard and possible future treatments to further reduce the identified residual risk. Possible further treatments will only be moved into the existing control category after funding and implementation has occurred.

## 4. CAPACITY BUILDING

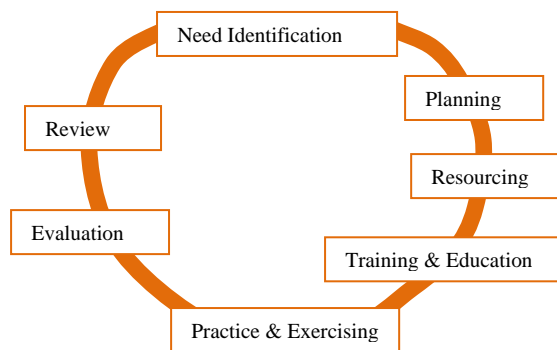
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### 4.1 Capacity Building

The capacity of the Mount Isa based LDMG shall be determined through the combination of the resources and capability available to the local group to reduce the level of risk or effects of a disaster. Capacity is built through the combination of scheduled training and exercise programs that are targeted to specific local requirements.

The Local Disaster Management Group shall undertake continuous improvement through the regular evaluation and improvement of processes and arrangements used by the LDMG to respond to an emergency to ensure their relevance, efficiency, effectiveness and readiness.

The process of continuous improvement can be portrayed graphically by Figure 4.1



**Figure 4.1**

### 4.2 Community Awareness

Ongoing public awareness programmes are conducted through the Mount Isa Area Director, Emergency Management Queensland.

This programme comprises the following elements:

- (a) Publications explaining flooding and emergency procedures;
- (b) Preparation of media releases explaining flooding preparedness and emergency procedures;
- (c) Publications prepared by statutory services detailing the measures that should be taken to prevent, minimise and deal with the effects of emergency situations; and
- (d) Ongoing media campaign to encourage the public to "be aware".

These publications will be made available to the public by Council.



Providing such information is not urgent, the Disaster Management information will be passed to radio and television media for communication to the public of as directed by the Controlling Authority. However, where there is insufficient time for this means of communication, it will be necessary to inform the public directly and this will become a task for the LDMG.

To ensure consistency and relevance of information, all outside media enquiries shall be directed to the Chairperson of the LDMG or their delegate.

The Mount Isa City will ensure that public education material in relation to natural hazard events is available on the Council website.

Prior to the onset of the traditional wet season additional public education will be undertaken by the State Emergency Service and Queensland Fire and Rescue. The focus of this education will be school aged children.

During flood events the City will work closely with media to ensure that the condition of roads in the City is widely communicated as this will assist in reducing the number of persons becoming stranded in the town and on roads in the City.

### 4.3 Training

The Mount Isa Local Disaster Management group will undertake disaster management training in line with the Queensland Disaster Management Training Framework.

	LDC	Chair/Deputy Chair	LDMG Member	Local Recovery Coordinator	LDCC Staff	LDMCC Liaison Officer
QDMA	■	■	■	■	■	■
Disaster Management Planning	■	■	■	■	■	■
Disaster Coordination Centre Modules 1, 2 & 3	■	■	■	■	■	■
Evacuation Modules 1 & 2	■	■	■	■	■	■
Evacuation Centre Management	■	■	■	■	■	■
Recovery Modules 1, 2 & 3	■	■	■	■	■	■
Resupply	■	■	■	■	■	■
Warnings & Alert Systems	■	■	■	■	■	■
Disaster Relief & Recovery Funding Arrangements	■	■	■	■	■	■
LDMG Member Induction	■	■	■	■	■	■
Local Disaster Coordinator Induction	■	■	■	■	■	■
Local Recovery Coordinator Induction	■	■	■	■	■	■

### 4.4 Exercises

The LDMG has the responsibility to conduct disaster management exercises with each individual agency to ensure they have exercised and practiced procedures. The EMQ will be utilised to facilitate exercises conducted for groups in the disaster management arrangements.

A hot debrief will be conducted immediacy following the exercise with the debrief being conducted in the format of SWOT analysis where:

- **Strengths:** characteristics of the team that give it an advantage over others
- **Weaknesses:** are characteristics that place the team at a disadvantage relative to others
- **Opportunities:** *external* chances to improve performance in the environment
- **Threats:** *external* elements in the environment that could cause issues for the team.

Issues identified should be noted and recorded against one or more of the P<sup>2</sup>OST<sup>2</sup>E categories, depending on the perception of the reason behind the issue identified.

<b>People</b>	roles, responsibilities and accountabilities, skills
<b>Process</b>	includes plans, policies, procedure, processes
<b>Organisation</b>	structure and jurisdiction
<b>Support</b>	infrastructure, facilities, maintenance
<b>Technology</b>	equipment, systems, standards, interoperability, security
<b>Training</b>	capability qualifications/skill levels, identify courses required
<b>Exercise Management</b>	exercise development, structure, management, conduct

### 4.5 Post Disaster Assessment

Following any operational activity the LDMG will meet to identify and adopt any lessons that can be learnt from the actions taken during the response to continuously improve the Local Disaster Management Plan (LDMP). The LDMP is to be continually reviewed and the effectiveness of disaster management process assessed and updates as necessary. Immediately following an event, a HOT debrief will be conducted as detailed in Section 4.4 of this plan. A post full post event review shall be conducted with the outcome including corrective actions requires to be communicated to LDMG members and the XO of the District Group.

## 5. RESPONSE STRATEGY

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The Mount Isa City Council has access to staff and equipment to respond to the majority of events that may threaten the City. Widespread damage or multiple events would require the resources of the City to be supplemented by the district group.

Historically, Mount Isa has predominantly activated for flooding in the region and locally. Due to the nature of the flooding there is a considerable lean forward phase where flooding can be reasonably predicted. In the event of an incident where little or no warning can be achieved and widespread damage involved such as for an earthquake or severe storm, the local emergency response agencies would be quickly overwhelmed. In such a situation, additional resources would be requested from Townsville.

During major or prolonged flooding the LDMG may need to request a resupply of essential goods.

The Mount Isa City Council has the capability to manage events that occur in the City on a regular basis, these include minor to moderate flooding, fires with minimal structural damage and short duration storms.

Larger scale events in the City or multiple events would require the support of outside agencies. The City has the capacity to effect small scale evacuations however larger scale evacuation with prolonged sheltering of population displaced by an event would require the assistance from outside of the City.

Whilst the City has access to a range of services it recognises the limitations within these services. An example of this is that lack of a surgical facility in the City.

Events that would be beyond the capacity of the City would include, but not be limited to:

- Flash flooding of significant number of dwellings;
- Earthquake with multiple structural failure;
- Spread of exotic animal disease;
- Events that require long term housing for evacuated population, and
- Events with multiple fatalities or multiple serious injuries.

### 5.1 Operational Planning

***The Concept of operations document is held separately to this plan.***

The Concept of operations document is known as the working papers and is a summary of this document designed to assist LDMG in times of disaster by providing quick access to important information contained in this plan.

The COO details the stages of activations of the group and the roles of the staff in the coordination centre. The COO document contains a large portion of operational plans in which detail items that should be addressed during different phases or actions of the response.

## 5.2 Management of Residual Risks

Residual risks may exist throughout the risk management process. These are the risks to the City that cannot be reduced within the capacity of the resources and capability of the Council.

Two main residual risks have been identified for the Mount Isa City Council:

- a) Staffing: It is recognised that the City may lack the staff or specialised skill sets that may be required during an event. These identified residual risks will be referred to the DDMG for inclusion in the district disaster management plan.
- b) Engineering: In order to remove or significantly reduce certain risks, modification of assets through engineering design and construction may be required. As an example, in order to flood proof cross City links, additional bridges and roads may need to be designed and constructed above the Q100 flood level. However, residual risks will remain where these engineering modifications are not cost effective to counter the level of risk reduction required and this residual risk are accepted by the City.

## 5.3 Warning notification and dissemination

The Bureau of Meteorology may provide warnings of severe weather, tropical cyclones relevant to the area. The Local Disaster Controller may request through the EMQ member of the LDMG, emergency alert advice through a landline or by text messaging to affected constituents.

The LDMG is tasked with the role to ensure that warning notifications are communicated to all of the LDMG members and to the portion of the community that is serviced by the LDMG.

Communication of the warning notifications shall be through email messages or by direct contact by the LDC in instances where emailing facilities are not available to the LDMG members.

Additional information regarding warnings can be obtained from the sub-plan referred to in section 9 of this DMP and from the Emergency Alert Operational Guidelines available on the web at [WWW.disaster.qld.gov.au](http://WWW.disaster.qld.gov.au).

## 5.4 Activation of response arrangements

The timely activation of the LDMG is critical for an effective response to an event. The decision to activate is dependent upon a number of factors including the perceived level of threat. The activation of the QDMA may either be bottom up or top down. Bottom up activations escalate up through the disaster management arrangements where the LDMG requires support and top down activations involve escalation down through the arrangements from the SDMG where the imminent threat has a broader implication across the State.

The QDMA are activated using an escalation model based on the following levels:

- **Alert** – A heightened level of vigilance due to the possibility of an event in the area of responsibility. No action is required however the situation should be monitored by someone capable of assessing the potential of the threat.
- **Lean forward** – An operational state characterised by a heightened level of situational awareness of a disaster event (either current or impending) and a state of operational readiness. Disaster coordination centres are on stand by and prepared but not activated.
- **Stand up** – An operational state where resources are mobilised, personnel are activated and operational activities commenced. Disaster coordination centres are activated.
- **Stand down** – Transition from responding to an event back to normal core business and / or continuance of recovery operations. There is no longer a requirement to respond to the event and the threat is no longer present.

The movement of disaster management groups through this escalation phase is not necessarily sequential, rather is based on flexibility and adaptability to the location and event. Activation does not necessarily mean the convening of the LDMG, rather the provision of information to group members regarding the risks associated with a pending hazard impact.

**Table 5.4 - Local Levels of Activation for Recovery Arrangements**

Response Alert		Triggers	Actions	Communications
Response Lean Forward	Recovery Alert	Response phase at 'lean forward' level of activation	Appointment of LRC as appropriate Potential actions and risks identified Information sharing commences LRC in contact with LDCC/LDC Initial advice to all recovery stakeholders	LRC and LRG members on mobile remotely
Response Stand Up	Recovery Lean Forward	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Response phase at 'stand up' level of activation</li> <li>▪ Immediate relief arrangements are required during response phase</li> </ul>	<p>Monitoring of response arrangements Analysis of hazard impact or potential impact Relief and recovery planning commences</p> <p>Deployments for immediate relief commenced by recovery functional agencies</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ LRC and LRG members on mobile and monitoring email remotely</li> <li>▪ Ad hoc reporting</li> </ul>
	Recovery Stand Up	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Immediate relief arrangements continue</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ LRG activated at LDCC or alternate location</li> <li>▪ Recovery plan activated</li> <li>▪ Deployments for immediate relief response</li> <li>▪ Action plans for four functions of recovery activated as required</li> <li>▪ Community information strategy employed</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ LRC and LRG members present at LDCC or alternate location, on established land lines and/or mobiles, monitoring emails</li> </ul>
Response Stand Down	Recovery Stand Up	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Response phase moves to 'stand down' level of activation. Medium term recovery commences.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Participate in response debrief</li> <li>▪ Transition arrangements from 'response and recovery' to 'recovery' activated including handover from LDC to LRC</li> <li>▪ Action plans for four functions of recovery continue</li> <li>▪ Community information strategies continue</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ LRC and LRG members involved in medium term recovery continue as required</li> <li>▪ Regular reporting to LDMG/LDC</li> </ul>
	Recovery Stand Down	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ LRG arrangements are finalised. Community returns to normal activities with ongoing support as required.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Consolidate financial records</li> <li>▪ Reporting requirements finalised</li> <li>▪ Participate in recovery debrief</li> <li>▪ Participate in post event debrief</li> <li>▪ Post event review and evaluation</li> <li>▪ Long term recovery arrangements transferred to functional lead agencies</li> <li>▪ Return to core business</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ LRC and LRG members resume standard business and after hours contact arrangements</li> <li>▪ Functional lead agencies report to LRC/LRG as required</li> </ul>

## **5.5 Role of the Local Disaster Coordination Centre Operation and Management**

The principle aim of the LDCC is to coordinate resources and assistance in support of local agencies and stakeholders who are engaged in disaster operations.

The primary functions of a LDCC revolve around three key activities:

- Forward planning;
- Resource management; and
- Information management.

In particular, the LDCC is responsible for the:

- Analysis of probable future requirements and forward planning including preliminary investigations to aid the response to potential requests for assistance;
- Implementation of operational decisions of the LDCC;
- Advice of additional resources required to the DDMG; and
- Provision of prompt and relevant information to the DDMG concerning any disaster event occurring within their district.

The LDC has overall responsibility for the establishment and operation of the LDCC. The LDCC should ensure appropriate levels of staff are identified and trained in operation of the LDCC. LDC training would form a component of the LDMG training program. To support the operation of the LDCC, Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) should be developed and utilised to inform training.

## **5.6 SES – partnerships**

The SES is a vital part of the QDMA, providing a response capability on behalf of the LDMG to assist communities in times of disaster or emergency situations. State and Local Governments maintain an important partnership in assisting SES volunteers to provide a valuable volunteer emergency service to their local communities.

The functions of the SES are to:

- Perform search and rescue or similar operations;
- Help injured persons or protect persons or property from danger or potential danger; and
- Conduct other activities to help communities prepare for, respond to and recover from an event or disaster.

The SES also provides valuable assistance to other emergency service agencies in disaster or emergency situations.

The SES Local Controller should ideally be a member of the LDMG and will be able to assist with planning and procedures surrounding activation and operations of SES groups in local government areas.

## **5.7 Declaration of a disaster situation**

In accordance with s. 64 of the Act, a DDC may, with the approval of the Minister, declare a disaster situation for the district or one or more local government areas within the district in whole or in part. As outlined in s. 75 and s. 77 of the Act, the declaration confers extra powers on particular groups to perform actions, give directions and control movements within the declared area.

In declaring a disaster situation, the DDC is to be satisfied that a disaster has happened, is happening or is likely to happen and it will be necessary, or reasonably likely to be necessary, to exercise declared disaster powers to prevent or minimise the loss of human life, illness or injury to humans, property loss or damage, or damage to the environment. Before declaring a disaster situation the DDC is to take reasonable steps to consult with each local government under the Act to manage disaster operations in their area.

It is important to note that the declaration of a disaster situation relates to the situational requirement for additional powers and is not linked to the activation of particular disaster management groups under the QDMA or the activation of disaster financial assistance arrangements. All three actions are independent processes and are not interlinked or conditional. The declaration of a disaster situation does not impact the requirements of a local government under the Act to manage disaster operations in their area.

## **5.8 Operational reporting**

### ***5.8.1 - Situation Report (SITREP)***

During operational activity the LDMG, through the operation of the LDCC, will be responsible for the preparation and distribution of SITREPs. Situation reports are aimed to capture accurate information from the day's operations through communicating a current and forecast situation during a disaster event.

The LDMG will need to ensure regular and accurate information is received from operational areas to inform operational response, forward planning and the contents of the LDMG SITREP.

The production of SITREPs takes time and effort and LDMGS will need to consider the allocation of appropriate staff in the LDCC to compile the SITREP.

If a disaster event requires the activation of a DDCC, the LDMG will be required to develop a SITREP to be forwarded regularly from the LDCC to the DDCC. If an event is contained within a local government area and has not progressed to DDCC activation, the DDMG will still have activated to 'lean forward' level and the DDC may still request LDMG SITREPS to monitor and assess the situation. The nature of the disaster and the involvement of the DDMG will determine the timings, complexity and format of the SITREP for a given event.

### ***5.8.2 - Tasking Log***



It is recommended that a tasking log be used during activations to record actions taken and the responsible agency or officer. It is anticipated that the log will be used by the LDC or in larger operations the Tasking or Operations Officer in the LDCC.

A tasking log may contain details of:

- The specific operational task to be undertaken
- The date and time of commencement of the task
- The agency and responsible officer to which the task has been delegated
- Relevant contact details
- The date and time of completion of the task
- Actions taken and contextual comments.

The use of a tasking log will ensure that planned operational contingencies have been executed. Tasking logs should be treated as official records and should be stored and archived appropriately to provide information to any post-event review.

## **5.9 Financial Management**

Due to the nature of many disaster situations, finance operations will often be conducted with compressed time constraints and other pressures, necessitating the use of non-routine procedures. This in no way lessens the requirement for sound financial management and accountability.

The LDMG should predetermine event-related financial management arrangements to ensure costs are appropriately endorsed and captured from the onset of operations.

The LDC, consultation with the LDMG Executive Team, is responsible for establishing and maintaining financial management procedures for the LDCC. Each support agency is responsible for providing their own financial services and support to its response operations relevant to their agency.

### **5.9.1 - Authority to expend funds**

Each participating agency should predetermine the type and limit of expenditure permitted (individual expense and cumulative expense) by their group members without further reference to senior management.

This also includes predetermining management processes for the expeditious financial authorisation of support and relief staff, as may be required.

### **5.9.2 - Document management**

When an event occurs, each participating agency should immediately begin accounting for personnel and equipment costs relating to disaster operations. Reimbursement is not an automatic process and requires solid evidence of disaster-related expenditure. Care and attention to detail must be taken throughout the disaster operations period to maintain logs, formal records and file copies of all expenditure (including personnel timesheets), in order to provide clear and reasonable accountability and justifications for future audit and potential reimbursement purposes.

The LDMG will ensure that expenditure is in line with LG procurement processes.

## **5.10 Disaster financial assistance arrangements**

There are two sets of financial arrangements which, if activated by the Minister, provide financial support to Queensland communities impacted by a disaster event through the reimbursement of eligible expenditure:

### ***5.10.1 - State Disaster Relief Arrangements (SDRA)***

The intent of the SDRA is to assist in the relief of communities whose social wellbeing has been severely affected by a disaster event (natural or non-natural). The SDRA is State funded, and therefore not subject to the Australian government imposed event eligibility provisions or the activation threshold that exists under the NDRRA. As a consequence, SDRA is able to address a wider range of disaster events and circumstances where personal hardship exists.

### ***5.10.2 - Natural Disaster Relief and Recovery Arrangements (NDRRA)***

The intent of the NDRRA is to assist the relief and recovery of communities whose social, financial and economic wellbeing has been severely affected by a disaster event.

The arrangements provide a cost sharing formula between the State and Australian Government and include a range of pre-agreed relief measures.

To claim for expenditure reimbursement under SDRA and NDRRA arrangements:

- The relevant arrangements must be activated;
- The relevant relief measures must be activated and the expenditure must meet the eligibility requirements of that measure; and
- Documentary support for all eligible expenditure detailed in the claim must be provided by the claimant.

## 6. RECOVERY STRATEGY

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For the purpose of effective coordination aspects of recovery are conceptually grouped into four functions. It is important to acknowledge that the four functions of recovery overlap and recovery arrangements must reflect the inter-relationship between each of these functions.

Due to the nature and size of the LDMG area and membership, a recovery sub-plan is considered not to be warranted as the memberships of the sup-plan would be those of the main plan as well with any actions, responsibilities etc.

### 6.1 Economic

Economic recovery includes renewal and growth of the micro economy (within the affected area) and the macro economy (overall economic activity of the state). Economic recovery includes individual and household entities (e.g. employment, income, insurance claims), private and government business enterprises and industry. It includes assets, production and flow of goods and services. It includes capacity for the export of goods and services from the affected region, and securing confidence of overseas markets.

### 6.2 Environment

Environment, or natural environment, recovery includes restoration and regeneration of biodiversity (species and plants) and ecosystems, natural resources, environmental infrastructure, amenity/aesthetics (e.g. scenic lookouts), culturally significant sites and heritage structures. It includes management of environmental health, waste, contamination and pollution and hazardous materials.

The functional lead agency for environmental recovery is Department of Environment and Resource Management.

### 6.3 Human-social

Human-social recovery includes personal support and information, physical health and emotional, psychological, spiritual, cultural and social well-being, public safety and education, temporary accommodation, financial assistance to meet immediate individual needs and uninsured household loss and damage.

### 6.4 Infrastructure

Infrastructure, or built environment, recovery includes repair and reconstruction of residential and public buildings, commercial, industrial and rural buildings and structures, government structures, utility structures, systems and services (transport, water, sewerage, energy, communications) and other essential services and dam safety.

The functional lead agency for infrastructure recovery is the Department of Local Government and Planning.

The LDMG has adopted the nationally established principles for recovery which recognise that successful recovery relies on:

- Understanding the context;
- Recognising complexity;
- Using community-led approaches;
- Ensuring coordination of all activities;
- Employing effective communication; and
- Acknowledging and building capacity.

## 7 PUBLIC HEALTH

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Maintenance of sewage, water and domestic refuse services are the responsibility of the Mount Isa City Council.

Vector (mosquito) control is undertaken by the Mount Isa City Council throughout the year, however these services are increased during flood events due to the increase in insect activity.

Specialist public health advice is available through Queensland Health Public and Environmental health services.

## 8 EVACUATION AND EVACUATION CENTRE MANAGEMENT

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The Mount Isa LDMG has the capacity and capability to conduct and support the evacuation of small numbers of persons from effected areas of the town to non effected areas of the town. It is acknowledged by the LDMG and the DDMG that larger scale evacuations would require significant coordination and assistance form both District and State levels of the Disaster Management system.

### 8.1 Evacuation Centres

**The table on the following page** lists the buildings which have been identified as potential evacuation centres subject to the adequacy of their provisions.

Mount Isa City will request bedding and other materials as required from the District and make them available to the shelters on their activation.

### 8.2 Evacuation Centre Managers

Mount Isa City will appoint welfare centre managers for each centre in consultation with the owners of each centre. Local welfare is usually co-ordinated under the auspices of the SES, through a Welfare Officer. The managers will be responsible for welfare arrangements on a daily basis.

#### ***8.2.1 - Duties of Evacuation Centre Managers***

Evacuation Centre Managers will be responsible for the day to day operation of the Evacuation Centre. This will include:

- Organising the physical set up and adequate provision of the Evacuation Centre.
- Be responsible for the overall co-ordination of the centre.
- Liaise with LDCC to ensure the adequate provision of food, bedding, volunteers, access to medical treatment and any other needs of evacuees.
- Registration of evacuees (names/address, telephone, next of kin).
- Ensure persons with special needs are given appropriate assistance.
- Ensure adequate feed back to LDCC regarding problems, either in respect of management of the Welfare Centre or special needs of clients.
- Ensure information, i.e. medical, insurance, financial assistance (Govt Dept) etc is available to all people.
- Ensure adequate records of activities and expenses are maintained.

Building	Owner	Contact	Number of Toilets	No of Showers	Cooking Facilities	Shortcomings	Additional Facilities Required	Comments	Estimated Shelter Capacity
Civic Centre Building	MICC	CEO	20	5	Minor				400
Mount Isa State Schools	Dept of Education	Principal							
Church's									
Buchanan Park Multi Functional Entertainment Facility	MICC	CEO							
Other									

## 9 IMPACT ASSESSMENT

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Following an event the Local Disaster Management Group will coordinate the assessment of damage to the community and infrastructure. If specialised skills are required (Building inspections) the LDMG will request support from the District Group.

Following an evacuation the LDMG will coordinate damage assessment of critical infrastructure, essential services and dwellings prior to the return phase of the evacuation operation.



## 10. LDMG SUB-PLANS

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Current Sub Plans include:

- Concept of Operations
- Reception Plan.

Contact List for Mount Isa Local Disaster Management Group [Held Separatly](#)