



Adverse Events Plan

Banana Shire Council



Banana
SHIRE
SHIRTS FOR COMMUNITY

Part 1 – Administration

Authority

The Banana Shire Council Adverse Events Plan has been prepared by the Banana Shire Council in response to the requirements of the Federal Government's Drought Communities Program.

This document responds to "Drought in Australia" Coordinator-General for Droughts advice on a Strategy for Drought Preparedness and Resilience.

This Plan was endorsed by Council on 28 August 2024 and set to be reviewed every 3 years.

Updated and endorsed by:



Cr Nev Ferrier
Chair LDMG
Mayor
Banana Shire Council
11/09/2024



Tom Upton
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Chief Executive Officer
Banana Shire Council
11/09/2024

Version Control

Version	Date	Prepared by	Comments
1.0	25 June 2020	Andrew Bicknell	Endorsed
1.1	18 July 2023	Di Corfield	Updated
2	19 July 2024	Di Corfield	Changes to Titles/Acronyms
3	28 August 2024	Di Corfield	Endorsed – OM006136

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Table of Acronyms

Banana Shire Council	BSC
Local Disaster Management Group	LDMG
Local Emergency Coordination Committee	LECC
Department of Agriculture & Fisheries	DAF
Biosecurity Queensland	BQ
Queensland Health	Qld H
Queensland Fire Department	QFD
Queensland Police Services	QPS
Queensland Rail	QR
Australian Government Farm Allowance	FHA
Qld Rural & Industry Development Authority	QRIDA
Rural Fire Services Qld	RFSQ
Department of Environment, Science and Innovation	DESI
State Emergency Services	SES

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Purpose

The purpose of the Banana Shire Council Adverse Events Plan is to provide detailed guidance for Council and the community to prepare for, and manage, adverse events that directly and indirectly affect Banana Shire.

Objectives

The objectives of this Plan are to:

- Build community leadership capability and community resilience and capacity to adapt and cope with chronic stresses and acute shocks caused by adverse events.
- Identify key strategies and actions to be undertaken by Council and other relevant stakeholders, in order to prepare for and manage adverse events that effect Banana Shire.
- Standardise the approach of Council to meet the needs of the community in dealing with adverse events.

Scope

The Plan describes the key strategies and actions at local level to prevent, prepare for, respond to and recover from adverse events. These events may be events for which Banana Shire Council has full or partial responsibility or external events which are the responsibility of another agency (e.g. Rural Fire Service, Area Health Service) that may involve a commitment from Council.

This Plan shall be considered in conjunction with other relevant plans and policies, including:

- Banana Shire Council Risk Management Policy
- Banana Shire Local Emergency Management Plan
- Local Disaster Management Plan and Subplans for Banana Shire Council
- Risk Management & Procedures
- Disaster Management Act 2003

Definition

An adverse event means an event or incident that has a negative impact on the wellbeing of the community. Adverse Events maybe either events for which council has full or partial responsibility, or external events which are the responsibility of another agency (e.g. Rural Fire Service, Area Health Service)

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Principles

The following principles are applied in this Plan:

- (a) Responsibility for prevention, preparation, response and recovery rests initially at local level. If local agencies and available resources are not sufficient they are augmented by those at State and Federal level.
- (b) Control of adverse event response and recovery operations is conducted at the lowest effective level.

Level of Response

The response of Council will vary in relation to adverse events depending on the:

- Seriousness of the event
- Numbers of people involved
- Risk Exposure
- Financial impacts
- Media interest
- Need to involve other stakeholders

Therefore the response to each adverse event should be proportionate to its scale, scope and complexity.

Communication

Communication in relation to any adverse events shall be in accordance with Council's media policy. Council will use a variety of communication media to provide the community with relevant information in relation to adverse events including print, radio and social media.

Test & Review Process

The Banana Shire Council Local Disaster Management Group (LDMG) will review this Plan every three (3) years, or following any:

- Activation of the Plan in response to an adverse event
- Legislative changes affecting the Plan; and
- Exercises conducted to test all or part of the Plan

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Part 2 – Community Context

Major Features

MAJOR ROADS

Burnett Highway – Biloela – Monto
 Burnett Highway – Biloela - Dululu
 Dawson Highway – Biloela - Moura
 Leichhardt Highway – Biloela – Taroom
 Leichhardt Highway – Dululu – Taroom
 Theodore Moura Road
 Theodore Cracow Road
 Coolum Road - Baralaba – Woorabinda

AIRPORTS

Baralaba Aerodrome (YBAB)

Coordinates	Elevation (m)	Runway				Fire Service	Fuel
		Direction	Length (m)	Width (m)	Construction		
24°11'12"S 149°50'42"E	400	04/22	1,200	18	Spray seal surface		

Moura Aerodrome (YMOU)

Coordinates	Elevation (m)	Runway				Fire Service	Fuel
		Direction	Length (m)	Width (m)	Construction		
24°36'42"S 149°59'47"E	482	16/34	1,500	23	Spray seal surface	2 x 5 gallon water tanks being installed in 2020	

Taroom Aerodrome (YTAM)

Coordinates	Elevation (m)	Runway				Fire Service	Fuel
		Direction	Length (m)	Width (m)	Construction		
25°48'07"S 149°53'58"E	786	12/30	1,100	30	Gravel	2 x 5 gallon water tanks being installed in 2020	
		08/26	1,091	30	Grass		

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Thangool Aerodrome (YTNG)

Coordinates	Elevation (m)	Runway				Fire Service	Fuel
		Direction	Length (m)	Width (m)	Construction		
24°29'38"S 150°34'34"E	644	10/28	1,527	30	Bitumen seal		Avgas & Jet A1
		14/32	794	30	Grass		

Theodore Aerodrome (YTDR)

Coordinates	Elevation (m)	Runway				Fire Service	Fuel
		Direction	Length (m)	Width (m)	Construction		
24°59'11"S 150°05'35"E	560	17/35	1,350	30	Spray seal surface	2 x 5 gallon water tanks being installed in 2020	

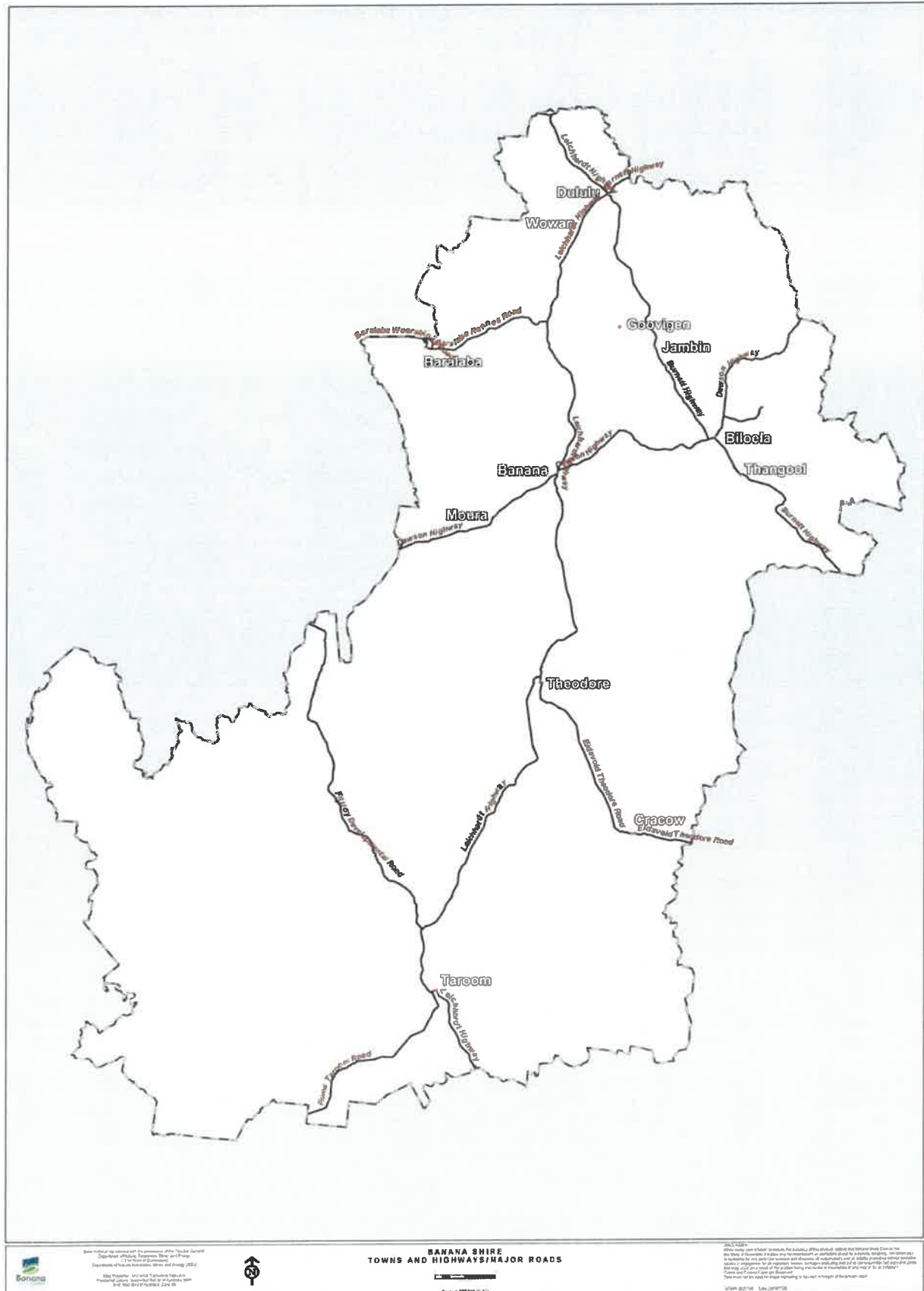
Agricultural Land

Land in Banana Shire is predominantly used for cropping and/or grazing, with distinct urban areas in and around the townships. Almost 90% of Banana Shire is set aside for primary production purposes reflecting Banana Shire's dependence on agriculture as a major area of employment and income.

Economy and Industry

Employment in the Banana Shire is balanced between agriculture, mining, power generation, meatworks and support service industries. In addition to this there exists growing employment in renewable energy, aged care, education and health services. Other notable employers include Banana Shire Council.

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Hazards and Risks Summary

The Banana Shire Adverse Events Plan identifies the following hazards as having risk of causing loss of life, property, utilities, services and/or the community's ability to function within its normal capacity. These hazards have been identified as having the potential to create an emergency.

Hazard	Risk Description	Likelihood Rating	Consequence Rating	Risk Priority	Combat / Responsible Agency
Agricultural Disease (Animal/horticultural)	An agricultural/horticultural incident that results, or has potential to result, in the spread of a communicable disease or infestation.	Likely	Major	Extreme	Biosecurity Queensland DAF
Communicable Disease (Human)	Pandemic illness that affects, or has potential to affect, large portions of the human population.	Possible	Major	Extreme	Queensland Health
Earthquake	Earthquake of significant strength that results in localised or widespread damage.	Rare	Major	High	QFD
Drought	A prolonged serious or severe rainfall deficiency.	Likely	Major	High	DAF QRIDA
Fire (Bush or Grass)	Major fires in areas of bush or grasslands.	Likely	Major	Extreme	QFD RFSQ
Fire (Industrial)	Serious industrial fire in office complexes and/or warehouses within industrial estates.	Possible	Moderate	High	QFD R&R QPS Major Industrial Response
Fire (Urban & Residential)	Serious commercial fires in shopping centres and adjoining residential housing, aged persons units, nursing homes and hospitals.	Possible	Major	Extreme	QFD R&R QPS

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Hazardous Release	Hazardous material released as a result of an incident or accident.	Possible	Moderate	High	QPS DESI QFS R&R
Heatwave	A sequence of abnormally hot conditions having the potential to affect a community adversely.	Possible	Major	Extreme	Queensland Health
Explosion	Potential for explosion present in bulk grain storage and imminent threat may cause community evacuations.	Possible	Moderate	High	QFD R&R
Storm	Severe storm with accompanying lightning, hail, wind, and/or rain that causes severe damage and/or localised flooding (includes cyclones/tornado).	Likely	Major	Extreme	BSC SES
Transport Emergency (Air)	Aircraft crashes in Local Government Area resulting in large number of fatalities, injuries and/or damage to property.	Possible	Major	Extreme	QPS BSC
Transport Emergency (Road)	A major vehicle accident that disrupts one or more major transport routes that can result in risk to people trapped in traffic jams, restrict supply routes and/or protracted loss of access to or from the area.	Possible	Major	Extreme	QPS QFD R&R QAS
Transport Emergency (Rail)	A major accident that results in environmental damage and may close rail routes for up to a week.	Possible	Major	High	QR QPS QFD R&R
Utilities Failure	Major failure of essential utility for unreasonable periods of time as a result of a natural or man-made occurrence.	Possible	Major	Extreme	BSC Ergon Queensland Health

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Part 3 – Delivery

Context

The key strategies and actions within the Banana Shire Adverse Events Plan respond to the objectives of the plan to build community leadership capability and community resilience and capacity to adapt and cope with chronic stresses and acute shocks caused by adverse events.

These adverse events in particular, drought as well as the potential for floods and bushfires, and other adverse events, affect businesses and communities¹.

These events impact upon the productivity and profitability of farmers, which is the main employment area within Banana Shire.

When farming experiences a downturn, local services and businesses suffer as less money is spent locally. This may lead to staff unemployment, some businesses closing, fewer new employment opportunities and some people leaving the community to access employment elsewhere.

Adverse events also have significant social and environmental impacts. Stress affects health and wellbeing of the whole community. Farmland and natural areas can become degraded as a result of adverse events.

The Banana Shire Adverse Events Plan is intended to assist the Council and the community to prepare for adverse events.

The support of Federal & State Governments is essential to this process, as Local Councils do not have the capacity to respond to the full extent required to prepare their communities for future adverse events.

The outcome of responding to the key strategies and objectives is a stronger rural community and stronger local economy.

Key Strategies and Actions

Banana Shire Council has identified the following key strategies and actions in order to prepare for and manage adverse events that affect Banana Shire. The key strategies and actions are presented within the Federal Government's priorities framework.

Priority	Key Strategies and Actions
Council staff are trained and prepared to assist in managing the impacts of adverse events	1. Council staff have received training relevant to their area of work to assist and protect the community in adverse events, such as clearing fallen trees from roads as a result of storms, and managing road access during flood events and traffic incidents.
Council owned resources are well maintained to manage	1. Continue to maintain Council facilities including roads and buildings in accordance with Council's maintenance schedules to manage impacts of minor

¹ Drought in Australia, Major General Stephen Day DSC AM April 2019

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the impacts of adverse events on facilities	<p>adverse events, including minor storm events through drainage work maintenance.</p> <p>2. Respond to major repair incidents in accordance with Council works procedures, including road and building repairs.</p>
Stewardship of important natural resources	<p>1. Support and encourage workshops and seminars organised by Government Agencies, including Local Land Services to assist farmers and farm businesses, including feed and pest management.</p> <p>2. Actively manage water assets within Banana Shire, including use of recycled water for irrigation purposes, and work with Sunwater.</p>
Incentives for good practice	<p>1. Promote and advocate for local training opportunities to support the provision of additional skills for both on and off farm work opportunities.</p>
Improving planning and decision making	<p>1. Support awareness of, and encourage access to, the Rural Financial Counselling Service.</p> <p>2. Support awareness of the Councils Business Continuity Plan.</p> <p>3. Connect local people to relevant services through the Banana Shire Recovery Committee and provide contact details for relevant organisation and service details through Council social media and website.</p> <p>4. Support awareness of available Government assistance, including the farm household allowance.</p> <p>5. Promote communication with local financial institutions and accounting firms to provide advice and work cooperatively with clients during times of adverse events.</p> <p>6. Provision of Council policy that allows for special circumstances as per the Councils Rates Collection Procedures for those landholders experiencing genuine hardship as a result of an adverse event.</p>
Building community resilience	<p>1. Support continued advocacy by Councillors and the Chief Executive Officer towards Federal & State Government members of parliament in the interests of the Banana Shire.</p> <p>2. Support economic development opportunities for Banana Shire that will strengthen the local economy.</p> <p>3. Support a proactive Council that is innovative and progressive in responding to the opportunities to</p>

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	<p>diversify the local economy and improve the provision of local infrastructure, facilities and services.</p> <p>4. Support capacity and resilience of individuals to support others through mental health training and counselling services.</p> <p>5. Actively pursue grant opportunities that benefit the Banana Shire Corporate Plan.</p> <p>6. Support the strong connection with sister cities for the mutual benefits of this connection.</p> <p>7. Support the buy local and buy from the bush campaigns to support local businesses.</p>
Informing farmers, communities and government	<p>1. Promote the delivery of local project, programs and services to the community through a range of media sources, particularly through social media.</p>

Local Sub Plans, Supporting Plans and Policies

Responsibility for the preparation and maintenance of appropriate sub and supporting plans rest with the relevant Combat Agency Controller or the relevant Functional Area Coordinator.

The sub/supporting plans are developed in consultation with the Banana Shire Local Disaster Management Group and the community.

The plans listed below are supplementary to this Adverse Events Plan. The sub/supporting plans have been endorsed by the Local Disaster Management Group and are determined as compliant and complimentary to the arrangements listed in this Plan.

These plans are retained by the Local Disaster Management Officer on behalf of the Local Disaster Management Group and public release versions are available on the Council website.

Plan / Policy	Purpose	Combat / Responsible Agency
Banana Local Emergency Management Plan	Details arrangements for prevention of, preparation for, response to and recovery from emergencies	Banana Shire LDMG
Banana Shire Flood Study	Emergency management arrangements for flood operations	Banana Shire LDMG
Banana Shire Airports Emergency Plan	Emergency response to Banana Shire Airports	Airports Manager
Banana Shire Local Disaster Plan	Ensure the co-ordinated response to emergencies by all agencies	Banana Shire LDMG and LECC
Risk Management Policy	Council's commitment to adopting risk management principles	Banana Shire Council

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Business Continuity Plan	Provide a systematic approach for the management of a disaster to re-establish services and operations	Banana Shire Council
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Other Existing Supporting Documents

This plan shall be considered in conjunction with other relevant plans and policies, including:

- State and Regional Level;
- Disaster Management Plan (and supporting sub-plans)
- GEM Strategic Plan 2023 - 2027
- Qld Rural and Industry Development Authority – Drought Support
- Qld Governments “Get Ready” for disasters resources

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