

Disaster Management

for Local Government Conference 2010



Disasters Just Happen!

But Building Community Resilience Doesn't



June 2nd – 4th 2010
Home Hill, Burdekin Shire

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ASSOCIATION
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This conference is offset by Green Energy

Welcome to the Disaster Management for Local Government Conference 2010



It is with great pleasure that I welcome you to the 2nd LGAQ Disaster Management Conference here in the beautiful Burdekin Shire.

LGAQ was enormously encouraged by the great success and positive feedback from last year's conference. Once again we are raising the important disaster management questions for councils, seeking shared solutions, promoting innovative activities and responding to the complex and evolving issues that councils face.

The theme of this Conference, **"Disasters Just Happen! – But Building Community Resilience Doesn't!"** recognises the reality of our exposure to disasters and hazards and also recognises our responsibility to help our local communities – and indeed our own councils – to build resilience, resistance and self-reliance.

Key areas of discussion at this year's Disaster Management conference include:

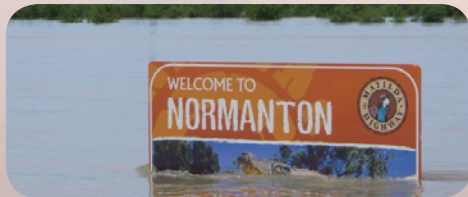
- the disaster management landscape - to successfully manage in this period of major adjustment and reorganisation, we must first understand the current landscape and how it is changing,
- lessons from the field – important lessons from those who have been involved in recent events here in Queensland and interstate,
- planning & policy, systems & tools – get the most recent information, hear about the solutions other places have implemented, and think about whether your council could adopt similar approaches.

Importantly, a key outcome of the Conference will be a "Communiqué" that will identify the long term issues for councils in building community resilience, guide LGAQ's policy formulation process and articulate a way forward in building stronger partnerships with Government and other key stakeholders.

The Conference program will also provide you with an opportunity to experience the Burdekin area, famed for its extensive sugar industry, massive water supplies and fantastic fishing. As a delegate, you will have the chance to see first-hand the mighty Burdekin River, tour the district "built on liquid gold" and discuss the local disaster management issues local residents face.

I trust you will find the program informative and useful, and I wish you an enjoyable Conference.

Cr Paul Bell AM
President
Local Government Association of Queensland



Day 1: Wednesday 2nd June – Technical Tour: The "Hot Flood Spots" of the Burdekin Region and... what Council is doing about them!

Time	Sessions
10:00am – 11:15am	Technical Tour Registration
11:30am – 4:00pm	Technical Tours
Technical Tour – Group 1	<p>The "Hot Flood Spots" of the Burdekin!</p> <p>The Burdekin Region experiences more than its fair share of storms and flooding – creating a number of "hot spots" for disaster managers.</p> <p>This tour is an opportunity to visit the areas that are most commonly and/or worst affected by these events.</p> <p>The tour will be supported by a Burdekin Shire Councillor as well as a senior council staff member who will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • explain the issues in each location; • the impacts for the community; • discuss the mitigation and resilience building programs that council is undertaking; and • identify the residual risks that the council and community are absorbing. <p>The tour includes a lunch break and, a chance to enjoy some of the regions best country cuisines!</p>
Technical Tour – Group 2	<p>The "Hot Flood Spots" of the Burdekin!</p> <p>This is the same technical tour but will be run in reverse order. Both groups will then meet midway for lunch – yum!</p>
6:00pm – 9:00pm	<p>Welcome to Burdekin BBQ Dinner</p> <p>A great chance to eat well, drink (in moderation of course) and network with colleagues!</p> <p>Sponsored by the Burdekin Shire Council & supported by the Burdekin SES – featuring displays of local emergency management equipment and infrastructure.</p>

Day 2: Thursday 3rd June – Building Resilience through better Preparedness and Planning

Time	Sessions		
8:00am – 9:30am	Registration and Trade Expo		
8:15am – 9:30am	<p>Natural Disaster Resilience Program (NDRP) Workshop</p> <p>The Natural Disaster Resilience Program has opened a range of new funding opportunities to councils, but the implementation of this new program, the new guidelines and the completion of the application forms has created considerable confusion for some councils. This workshop will act as a “masterclass” for the NDRP. Come and learn and share your thoughts on issues including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • tips for application writing in the new resilience environment; • reframing mitigation programs into community resilience building activities; and • partnering with public, private, not-for-profit and non-government organisations to build resilience. 		
9:30am – 9:45am	<p>Welcome to Symposium</p> <p><i>Cr Paul Bell AM, President, LGAQ</i></p>		
9:45am – 10:00am	<p>Welcome to the Burdekin</p> <p><i>Cr Lyn McLaughlin, Mayor, Burdekin Shire Council</i></p>		
10:00am – 10:30am	<p>The Disaster Management Landscape</p> <p>Twelve months since the last conference, the Disaster Management Review, more “lessons learned”... and where are we now? This session will present a strategic overview of where the disaster management system is at, how it got here and where it is going. The session will assist to re-assess the disaster management issues for councils, provide an update on significant changes and discuss the emergence of “resilience” as the key element of good disaster management.</p> <p><i>Mr Gary Mahon, Executive Director, Strategic Policy Division, Department of Community Safety (confirmed)</i></p>		
10:30am – 11:15am	Morning Tea		
11:15am – 12:30pm	<table border="1"> <tr> <td> <p>Stream 1 – Disaster Management Planning & Policy</p> <p>Disaster management policy has undergone significant changes in recent times impacting mostly on the planning requirements of councils. This session will examine these recent changes, the implications for councils and present innovative new examples of best practice.</p> </td> <td> <p>Stream 2 - Disaster Management Systems & Tools</p> <p>Balancing community expectations, statutory requirements and financial management obligations is no easy task. This session will examine the systems and tools that are currently being used in some councils and demonstrates that the most effective solution doesn't necessarily have to be the most expensive.</p> </td> </tr> </table>	<p>Stream 1 – Disaster Management Planning & Policy</p> <p>Disaster management policy has undergone significant changes in recent times impacting mostly on the planning requirements of councils. This session will examine these recent changes, the implications for councils and present innovative new examples of best practice.</p>	<p>Stream 2 - Disaster Management Systems & Tools</p> <p>Balancing community expectations, statutory requirements and financial management obligations is no easy task. This session will examine the systems and tools that are currently being used in some councils and demonstrates that the most effective solution doesn't necessarily have to be the most expensive.</p>
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12:30pm – 1:15pm	Lunch		
1:15pm – 1:30pm	Key Sponsor Presentation		
1:30pm – 2:55pm	<p>Frank, Fearless and Future Focused – Panel Session and Facilitated Discussion on Queensland's Disaster Management System</p> <p>It's a time for laying all the cards on the table, identifying the difficult issues, examining the untold stories and beginning to map the way forward for councils and the local disaster management system.</p> <p>This session will also be the beginning of the development of a “Conference Communiqué” that identifies the expectations of local government, documents our commitments to supporting the disaster management system and makes recommendations for addressing the gaps.</p> <p>Let the discussion begin.....</p> <p>Confirmed Panel Members:</p> <p><i>Cr Lyn McLaughlin – Mayor, Burdekin Shire Council</i> <i>Mr Jim McGowan – Director General, Department of Community Safety</i> <i>Mr Bruce Grady – Acting Chief Officer, Emergency Management Queensland</i> <i>Supt Scott Trappett – Security and Emergency Planning Branch, Queensland Police Service</i> <i>Mr Michael Dickinson – Disaster Management Alliance Project Officer, LGAQ</i></p> <p>Panel Facilitator:</p> <p><i>Mr Greg Hoffman – Director, Policy and Representation, LGAQ</i></p>		
2:55pm – 3:00pm	Sponsor Presentation		
3:00pm – 3:30pm	Afternoon Tea		
3:30pm – 4:00pm	<p>“Getting Competent” or Rafferty's Rules?</p> <p>Councils have a wide range of disaster management responsibilities – before, during and after the event – but many council officers and elected members have not received any formal training in these areas.</p> <p>The somewhat laissez faire approach to these responsibilities and “make do” responses has an inherent risk that exposes councils to criticism and even litigation. Competency based training is becoming prohibitively expensive... but can we afford not to “get competent”?</p>		
4:00pm – 5:00pm	<p>Lessons from the South</p> <p>The Black Saturday Bushfires left their mark on the Victorian landscape, but the implications for emergency managers across the country are just being realised.</p> <p>This session will examine the difficulties faced by Victorian councils – before, during and after – the Black Saturday fires. The session will also examine the fallout and implications for government – and especially local governments - across the country.</p> <p><i>Mr Bruce Esplin, Victorian Emergency Services Commissioner (confirmed)</i></p>		
5:15pm	Close of Day 2		
7:30pm – Late	<p>Conference Dinner</p> <p>Back by popular demand... the inimitable Dr Karl</p> <p>Karl Kruszelnicki's media career began in 1981, when he started presenting ‘Great Moments In Science ‘ on double-j to pay his way through medical school. Since then, his media career has exploded from radio to include TV, books, newspapers, magazines, scripting, professional speaking, and of course, the Net.</p>		

Day 3: Friday 4th June – Responding and Recovering – Now and in the Future

Time	Sessions
8:30am – 9:00am	Registration and Trade Expo
9:00am – 10:25am	Lessons from the Field These “Lessons from the Field” give a first hand account of the issues, problems and solutions that have worked for local communities. 1. Community and Psycho-Social Recovery – from just surviving... to thriving 2. Recovery of Essential Infrastructure – if it's broke, can't we fix it better? 3. Recovering Local Economies – it's the life blood of the community! 4. Environmental Recovery – it's about more than planting trees!
10:25am – 10:30am	Sponsor Presentation
10:30am – 11:00am	Morning Tea
11:00am – 11:30am	Changing Climates are Changing the Response Rules? Let's agree to disagree on the causes of climate change, but the record breaking weather patterns and individual events means council's ability and capacity to respond is more important than ever. So, how bad is it predicted to get... what parts of the state will be most affected and what will it mean for local government disaster management?
11:30am – 12:00pm	Assessing Risks and Hazards – Old News or New Wisdom? The dilemma of assessing risks is not new to councils – but how do we assess better, reassess appropriately, reduce exposure and build resilience to mitigate the impacts?
12:00pm – 12:30pm	“Committed to Building Community Resilience” The Queensland Government is committed to working with councils to build local resilience and support the further development of the Queensland Disaster Management System. The partnership with LGAQ through the Disaster Management Alliance and the support of councils through the Natural Disaster Resilience Program is central to this commitment to building community resilience to natural hazards. <i>The Hon Neil Roberts MP, Minister for Police, Corrective Services and Emergency Services (confirmed)</i>
12:30pm – 1:00pm	Conference Communiqué Where is local government standing in relation to the BIG disaster management issues? What are OUR priorities? What problems do WE need to see addressed? What are OUR commitments to the future of disaster management? Who do WE need to engage, encourage and support in ensuring the resilience of our communities? Join in the debating and finalisation of the Conference Communiqué to answer these questions and more!
1:00pm	Conference Close & Lunch <i>Cr Paul Bell AM, President, LGAQ</i>

Venue and Dates:

Burdekin Memorial Hall, Home Hill
2-4 June 2010

Complimentary Bus Transfers:

Burdekin Shire Council will be offering complimentary bus transfers during the conference.

These services will operate between:

- Townsville and Ayr on Tuesday 1st (afternoon only) Wednesday 2nd (morning and afternoon) and Thursday 3rd June (Early morning flights only)
- Ayr/Home Hill to Townsville on Friday 4th June
- Home Hill to Ayr following conference dinner on Thursday 3rd June
- Daily transfers Ayr to Home Hill (return) depending on interest.

Please remember to indicate on your registration if you would like to use this service and if you are interested in daily transfers between Ayr and Home Hill.

Accommodation

Accommodation has been secured at:

Ayr Max Motel – 4 Edwards Street, Ayr
 Ayrline Motel – 129 Edwards Street, Ayr
 Country Ayr Motel – 197-199 Queen Street, Ayr
 Parkside Motel – 74-76 Graham Street, Ayr
 Burdekin Motor Inn – 14 Eighth Avenue, Home Hill
 Please book accommodation via the link on the LGAQ Disaster Management Conference webpage

Conference Registration: (GST Inclusive)

Full Registration \$880.00

Includes: Presentations and workshop papers, delegate satchel containing conference program and exhibitor material.

Functions:

Technical Tour \$20.00
Dinner \$100.00

Please refer to registration cancellation policies on www.lgaq.asn.au when making your registration.

Conference Enquiries:

Bron Browning, Event Coordinator LGAQ, Ph: (07) 3000 2220
Fax: (07) 3252 4473 email: bron_browning@lgaq.asn.au

Exhibition Enquiries:
Carolyn McSweeney, Trade and Liaison LGAQ, Ph: 0437 822 142
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Register online at www.lgaq.asn.au under Events, 2010 Disaster Management Conference on the home page.

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