

HOPE VALE ABORIGINAL SHIRE COUNCIL

MEETING REPORT

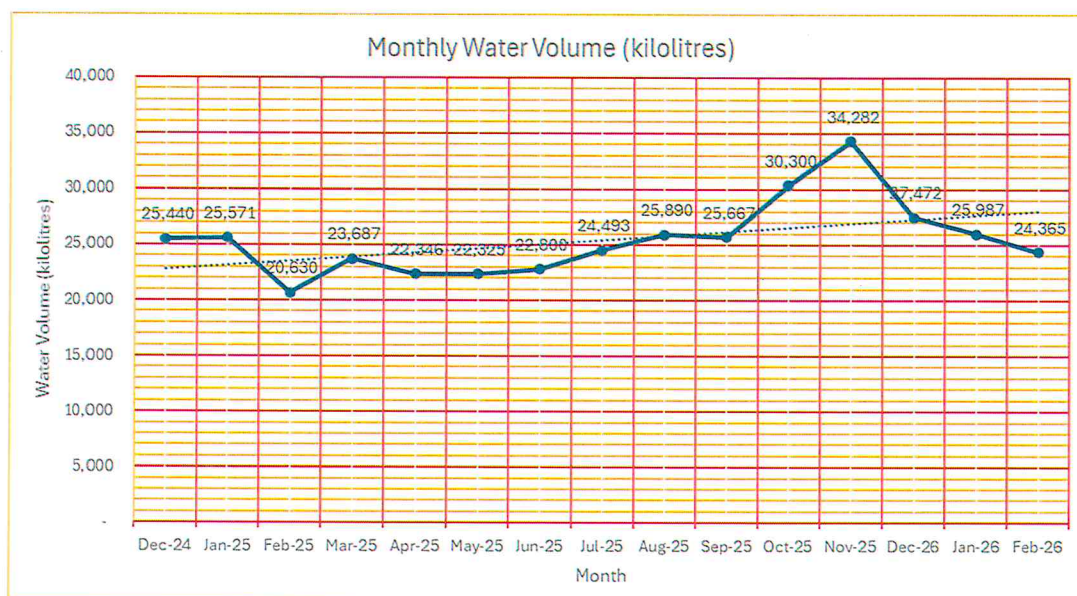
ITEM NO: 6.5.1 **GENERAL MEETING:**
SUBJECT: **DIRECTOR OPERATIONS REPORT**
CLASSIFICATION: **INFORMATION**

Executive Summary – Operations Report | February 2026

This report provides a snapshot of the key operational activities, infrastructure updates, and service delivery matters across Council for the month of February 2025. It informs Council on status of Essential Services, Environmental Management, Open Spaces, Cleaning Services, Work Health and Safety, Building and Construction, Civil Construction and other matters.

Key Highlights:

- **Work Health and Safety:** Council is progressing with the roll out of the Work Health and Safety Action Plan which seeks to turn around Council's WH&S practices and culture. It is a 12-month program with quarterly progress reviews.
- **Water Operations:** Routine water testing was undertaken in accordance with Council's Drinking Water Quality Management Plan. The test results for the month were compliant with the Australian Drinking Water Guidelines and the *Water Supply (Safety and Reliability) Act 2008 Qld*. Water consumption is stable, demand peaked in November 2027, the trend shows reduced demand during the rainy season. 417mm of rainfall was recorded at the water treatment plant (WTP) in February 2026.



- **Sewage Operations:** The sewage treatment plant met operational requirements in the Permit issued under the *Environmental Protection Act 1914 Qld*. There were no significant operational issues other than routine maintenance of the reticulation system.
- **Environmental Health:** Implementation of the 2025–2026 Environmental Health Plan is in progress. Council has support from Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Environmental Health Program Staff. Council has appointed Tropical Vets for delivery of veterinary services under the Environmental Health Plan. Dog census is scheduled for 4 May to 8 May 2026, will coincide with the vet visit. The vet will administer vaccinations, desex dogs, treatments for ticks, fleas, mites, antibiotics, eye medicine, ear medicine, antiseptic sprays worms and euthanise dogs (as required). Tropical Vets services includes supervision of the Animal Management Worker in delivery of animal euthanasia if required.

Management of horses is being handled by the CEO.

- **Building, Construction and Civil Works:** A review has been undertaken for building and construction, civil construction projects. Civil construction projects have been paused and will resume after the wet season in 2026. During that time the civil construction delivery will be reviewed for implementation during the next construction season.

Signage and speed humps will be completed before the end of the financial year.

The construction of the detour road to bypass the Elim Beach Road Embankment Failure has been delayed due to persistent wet weather. In principle approval has been granted by QRA for Emergency Works detour construction work to proceed. The contractor is ready to commence when the weather permits.

Spring Hill Road is closed due extensive storm damage. A proposal has been submitted to QRA for the works to be delivered as Immediate Reconstruction Works.

A status update on External Disaster and Resilience Projects is included in the attached to this report.

- **Open Spaces & Waste:** Council's small refuse truck is having persistent issues with the bin lifting mechanism and the compactor. Council's mechanic is maintaining the truck to keep it operational.
- **Cleaning Services:** Vacancies have now been filled from the expression of interest issued by Council which closed in December 2025.
- **Mechanical Workshop:** The CEO has concluded the lease for the Mechanical Workshop.

Report Prepared by: Onesimo Mukodi DIRECTOR OF OPERATIONS	Report Authorised by: Lew Rojahn CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER
---	--

External Disaster and Resilience Funding Report

Forward Outlook

11th of March 2026 – 11th of April 2026



orion
project
consulting

Program Overview

QRA Submission #	Contract #	Event Year	Project Package	QRA Status	Project Phase	Health
HVASC.0015	25 - 03	2023	HVASC - 23B-2 Alligator Creek Road	Approved	4. Procurement	●
HVASC.0016	n.a	2023	HVASC - 23B-3 Unsealed	Approved	6. Close Out (roll over)	●
HVASC.0017	26-5	2023	HVASC - 23B-4 Sealed	Approved	5. Delivery	●
HVASC.0019	25-01	2023	HVASC - 23B -5 Elim Road Landslip	Approved	6. Close Out	●
HVASC.0021	25-02	2023	HVASC - 23B-7 Bulls Creek Crossing	Approved	6. Close Out	●
HVASC.0022	n.a	2023	HVASC - 23B-1 McIvor & Rehab Road	Approved	6. Close Out (roll over)	●
HVASC.0023	n.a	2023	HVASC - 23B-6 Spring Hill	Approved	6. Close Out (roll over)	●
HVASC.0027	25 - 03	2023	Alligator Creek Betterment	Approved	4. Procurement	●
HVASC.0025	25-04	2024	HVASC CAL Round 1	Approved	4. Procurement	●
HVASC.0026	25-05	2024	HVASC CAL Round 1	Approved	4. Procurement	●
HVASC.0020	multiple	2023	LRRG - TC Jasper	Approved	5. Delivery	●

Notable Comments and Risks

Project Phase	Project Package	Notable Comments / Risk	Action
Close Out	All Submissions delivered internally.	OPC is supporting Council to finalise project acquittal documentation. However, impacts from the 2026 flooding event have resulted in re-damage to several assets that were scheduled for completion prior to 30 June 2026. These assets will require re-scoping and require additional QRA funding support.	<p>OPC to work with Council Finance team to finalise project close-out reporting and acquittals. In parallel, OPC to support Council in re-scoping damaged assets and preparing funding submissions to QRA where required.</p> <p>Monthly Update</p> <p>OPC has identified discrepancies within the financial reporting which have been sent to Council for additional information.</p>

Submission	Submission Number	Progression	Recommended Value	Estimated Final Cost
Recovery and Resilience Grants				
LRRG - TC Jasper	HVASC.0020.2324PRRG	Delivery	\$1,098,912.2	\$1,678,216
Queensland Mitigation Fund - Infrastructure				
HVASC CAL Round 1	HVASC.0025.2425S.QMF	Delivery	\$5,429,661.54	\$5,427,670.00
HVASC CAL Round 1	HVASC.0026.2425S.QMF	Delivery	\$5,136,200.63	\$5,135,795.62
Reconstruction of Essential Public Assets (REPA)				
HVASC - 23B-2 Alligator Creek Road	HVASC.0015.2324P.PREC	Delivery	\$68,448.56	\$68,447.00
HVASC - 23B-3 Unsealed	HVASC.0016.2324P.PREC	Close Out	\$1,064,652.79	\$1,397,705.59
HVASC - 23B-4 Sealed	HVASC.0017.2324P.PREC	Delivery	\$322,897.91	\$340,820.13
HVASC - 23B -5 Elim Road Landslip	HVASC.0019.2324P.PREC	Close Out	\$936,126.57	\$923,831.08
HVASC - 23B-7 Bulls Creek Crossing	HVASC.0021.2324P.PREC	Close Out	\$685,483.26	\$670,447.22
HVASC - 23B-1 Mclvor & Rehab Road	HVASC.0022.2324P.PREC	Close Out	\$1,349,939.37	\$1,349,925.00
HVASC - 23B-6 Spring Hill Road	HVASC.0023.2324P.PREC	Close Out	\$613,208.02	\$606,972.01
Alligator Creek Betterment	HVASC.0027.2324P.PREC	Delivery	\$1,413,371.66	\$1,413,371.00
DRFA Program Total			\$18,698,206	\$18,433,896.85

Note: HVASC.0020.2324P.PRRG Miller Estate to Township Footpath includes a co-funding contribution from the Works for Queensland program, resulting in a variance between the approved funding amount and the current final cost estimate.

Submission Development

QRA Sub #	Project Package	Project Phase	QRA Status	Progress Update
2026 Submission 1: TBA	Elim Road Embankment Failure	2. Procurement	In Principle Approval provided.	Site inspections and desktop technical review have been completed by OPC in collaboration with ARO geotechnical engineers. In-principle approval has been obtained to establish a temporary detour and undertake interim stabilisation works to maintain safe access while detailed design is finalised. FNO Civil has been engaged via Local Buy to deliver temporary make-safe emergency works. Works have been unable to commence due to inclement weather preventing mobilisation.
2026 Submission 2: TBA	Spring Hill Road Large Washout & Alligator Creek Washouts	2. Damage Pickup	Under Assessment	<p>These sites was inaccessible due to flooding during the planned network impact assessment. Council has provided photographic evidence to support desktop damage assessment and progression of an In-Principle Approval request for Immediate Reconstruction Works (IRW). Due to the severity of the failure, emergency works alone are unlikely to safely restore traffic access.</p> <p>Council is awaiting approval from QRA before works can start. Inclement weather is also preventing mobilisation of a contractor to undertake the works.</p>
2026 Submission 3: TBA	Mclvor Road Washouts	3. Damage Pickup	In Development	OPC has commenced detailed damage scoping along the Mclvor–Cooktown Road corridor. Initial emergency response works are being undertaken by Council's Day Labour workforce to stabilise priority locations while detailed scope definition progresses.
2026 Submission 4: TBA	All Roads	3. Submission Development	In Development	<p>Network-wide damage scoping is underway to support submission for Restoration of Essential Public Assets funding. Preliminary damage estimates indicate approximately \$4M in network impacts. At time of inspection, Branican Road and Spring Hill Road were impassable. Additional field inspections are required to complete the network impact assessment and refine cost estimates.</p> <p>Subsequent impact has occurred on the network with the recent rain from the Tropical Low crossing the coast. No additional activation is required, QRA have combined the events into one to streamline recovery efforts.</p>

Notable Comments and Risks

Project Phase	Project Package	Notable Comments / Risk	Action
Submission Development	Emergency Works and IRW packages and REPA	There is a risk of ineligible expenditure where Emergency Works (EW) and Immediate Reconstruction Works (IRW) are undertaken outside the Disaster Recovery Funding Arrangements (DRFA) eligibility parameters, particularly in	Seek QRA in-principle approval for all significant expenditure items prior to commitment. Ensure works are strictly aligned to DRFA eligibility requirements, including like-for-like restoration

		<p>relation to high-value items or where scope expands beyond make-safe activities or like-for-like restoration requirements.</p> <p>Due to the ongoing impacts of the Monsoon Trough from December through to early March, the extent of damage identified during the initial assessment is expected to increase as continued heavy rainfall affects infrastructure and access to sites.</p>	<p>for REPA works and limiting Emergency Works to make-safe activities only. OPC to provide construction supervision and funding compliance oversight.</p> <p>Reassessment of initial impact assessment</p>
Submission Development	Alligator Creek Road REPA	<p>Additional damage attributable to the 2026 event has been identified that is outside the scope of the approved TC Jasper restoration and betterment package. Risk of scope and funding commingling if not clearly separated.</p>	<p>Develop and submit the 2026 event works as a separable portion to the existing approved package to maintain funding clarity and audit defensibility. OPC to coordinate scope separation and submission documentation.</p>

Procurement Update

QRA Sub #	Contract #	Yr	Package	Council / External	Tender Status	Milestones						
						RFT Preparation	Tender Briefing	RFT Release	Tender Assess.	LoA Issue	PoS due	Planned PoS date
HVASC.0026.2425S.OMF	25 - 04	2025	Hope Vale Aerodrome Upgrade	External	Ready for Release	✓						
HVASC.0025.2425S.OMF	25 - 05	2025	Everlina Bridge Upgrade	External	In Development	✓						
HVASC.0020.2324PRRG	25 - 03	2023	Township to Miller Estate Footpath	External	Ready for Release	✓						
HVASC.0027.2324PREC	25 - 03	2023	Alligator Creek Betterment	External	Ready for Release	✓						

Notable Comments and Risks

QRA Sub #	Project Package	Notable Comments / Risk	Action
HVASC.0026.2425S.OMF	Hope Vale Aerodrome Upgrade	Procurement is ready to proceed to market. Primary risk relates to contractor market capacity and long-lead material procurement, which may impact mobilisation timeframes and dry season delivery windows.	Proceed with RFT release. Continue early supplier engagement and validate contractor capability and delivery methodology during tender assessment.
HVASC.0025.2425S.OMF	Everlina Bridge Upgrade	Procurement remains dependent on finalisation of design development activities. Any delay to design completion may compress procurement and construction timeframes relative to seasonal delivery constraints.	Closely monitor design program and align procurement release with design maturity. Confirm construction window assumptions during tender planning.
HVASC.0020.2324PRRG & HVASC.0027.2324PREC	Township to Miller Estate Footpath and Alligator Creek Betterment	<p>The project is ready for market release. However, there remains a delivery risk associated with aligning construction timeframes to funding milestone requirements, particularly given contractor availability constraints within the regional market.</p> <p>To improve market attractiveness and achieve better value for money, Council intends to combine the Alligator Creek Road works with the associated footpath works. This approach increases the overall scope of the package, making it more commercially attractive to contractors and enabling potential economies of scale during delivery.</p>	Proceed with RFT release and structure procurement timelines to support timely award and mobilisation. Monitor program closely to ensure alignment with funding deadlines.

Project Delivery

QRA Sub #	Contract #	Project Package	Contractor	Progress Update	Upcoming Milestones
HVASC.0026.2425S.OMF	25 - 04	Hope Vale Aerodrome Upgrade	TBA	<p>Construction is forecast to commence May 2025, with an estimated construction duration of approximately 60 days. Procurement and pre-construction activities are progressing in line with program.</p> <p>JJ Ryan has been appointed as the subconsultant by OPC to undertake the peer review of the design documentation. JJ Ryan will have the peer review completed by the end of March in line with the delivery milestones.</p>	Independent Technical Review currently being undertaken by JJ Ryan to validate tender drawings and scope alignment with CASA regulatory requirements prior to market release / award.
HVASC.0025.2425S.OMF	25 - 05	Everlina Bridge Upgrade	TBA	<p>Flood modelling has been completed by Venant Solutions to establish the proposed bridge design levels for both 100-year ARI and 5-year ARI flood events. Due to project budget constraints, the bridge design has been based on the 5-year ARI level, which meets the minimum DRFA eligibility requirements. Environmental investigations undertaken by Terra Solutions, including a Constraints Assessment and Flora Survey, confirmed the proposed bridge footprint is located entirely within the existing road corridor with no significant environmental constraints identified. The 15% concept design, including preliminary drawings, design report (with Matters for Resolution in accordance with AS5100), and a preliminary cost estimate, has now been completed.</p>	Council review of the 15% concept design package will be undertaken to confirm the preferred bridge option and enable progression to the next design stage. Upcoming activities include mobilisation of a geotechnical investigation to inform foundation design, completion of a post-development flood assessment, submission of the Operational Works Planning Application, and progression to 50% design, including preparation of updated design documentation, technical specifications, bill of quantities, and a revised P50 Engineer's Estimate
HVASC.0020.2324P.PRRG	25 - 03	Township to Miller Estate Footpath	TBA	<p>Procurement strategy has been refined to support accelerated delivery timeframes, with the project transitioned to open market tender to support completion prior to 30 June 2026 funding deadlines.</p>	Open market tender release via VendorPanel scheduled for end of February, with evaluation and award to follow in accordance with procurement deadlines. Award of Contract end of March.
HVASC.0027.2324P.PREC	25 - 03	Alligator Creek Betterment	TBA	<p>Procurement strategy has been refined to support accelerated delivery timeframes, with the project transitioned to open market tender to support completion prior to 30 June 2026 funding deadlines.</p>	Open market tender release via VendorPanel scheduled for end of February, with evaluation and award to follow in accordance with procurement deadlines. Award of Contract end of March.

Notable Comments and Risks

Contract #	Project Package	Notable Comments / Risk	Action
HVASC - 25 - 01	Hope Vale Aerodrome Upgrade	Early market engagement for key construction materials has commenced to de-risk procurement and minimise mobilisation delays between contract award and construction commencement. Material supply availability and specification compliance remain critical to maintaining program.	OPC to continue active engagement with suppliers to confirm production capacity, specification compliance, and delivery timeframes aligned to the construction program.
HVASC - 25 - 02	Everlina Bridge Upgrade	Design program is under schedule pressure due to later-than-planned design engagement (approximately three months delay associated with internal Council transition). This has compressed design delivery against the upcoming dry season construction window.	Ongoing program monitoring. Recovery opportunities to be assessed as design progresses.