



NOTICE OF COUNCIL STANDING COMMITTEE MEETING

In accordance with Section 254C of the *Local Government Regulation 2012* this notice is to advise that a meeting of Council's Strategic Action Reference Group (SARG) Standing Committee will be held by *Microsoft (TEAMS)* as follows:

Wednesday, 5 March 2025

(9.00am to 4.00pm)

[TEAMS Meeting] Meeting ID: 411 763 378 378 | Passcode: vc6EL33X

The attendance of each Committee Member is requested.

Agenda papers for this meeting are attached and will soon be available on Council's website (except for any Closed Business papers) and can be accessed by clicking on the link below:

[Documents | Torres Strait Island Regional Council](#)

Please note that this meeting will also be live streamed on Council's YouTube Channel.

James William
Chief Executive Officer

28 February 2025



STRATEGIC ACTION REFERENCE GROUP
(SARG) STANDING COMMITTEE
MEETING
5 MARCH 2025

AGENDA

Time: 9.00am to 4.00pm

Venue: [\[TEAMS Meeting\]](#) Meeting ID: 411 763 378 378 | Passcode: vc6EL33X

ORDER OF BUSINESS

9.00am	<p>A. WELCOME & QUORUM CONFIRMATION ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS OPENING PRAYER OBSERVANCES</p> <p>B. APOLOGIES</p> <p>C. CONFLICT OF INTEREST DECLARATIONS</p> <p>D. LIVE STREAM. <i>This meeting is live streamed on Council's YouTube Channel.</i></p> <p>1. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES (25 October 2024 & 4 December 2024)</p> <p>1.1. Action Items from Previous Meetings</p> <p>2. RESOLUTION TO CLOSE THE MEETING TO THE PUBLIC</p>
9.30am	<p>3. CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER</p> <p>3.1. TSIRC Transition Action Plan (TAP) Update <i>(verbal update by Mr Scott Mason)</i></p> <p><i>[Reason for Closed Discussion: In accordance with section 254J of the Local Government Regulation 2012, it is recommended that this matter be considered by Council in Closed Business as it includes "matters that may directly affect the health and safety of an individual or a group of individuals".]</i></p> <p>3.2. Acting Chief Executive Officer – verbal discussion</p> <p>4. CORPORATE SERVICES DIRECTORATE</p> <p>4.1. Mirabou Energy Project - presentation</p> <p><i>[Reason for Closed Discussion: This report is presented in the closed meeting of the Council under section 254J of the Local Government Regulation 2012, as it involves negotiations relating to a commercial matter involving the local government for which a public discussion would be likely to prejudice the interests or the local government.]</i></p> <p>4.2. Culture, Arts, Land and Heritage (CALH) Advisory Committee – Draft Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with PBCs for Review</p> <p><i>[Reason for this matter to be discussed in Closed Business: In accordance with section 254J of the Local Government Regulation 2012, it is recommended that this matter be considered by Council in Closed Business as it involves legal advice obtained by the local government or legal proceedings involving the local government including, for example, legal proceedings that may be taken by or against the local government].]</i></p> <p>5. RESOLUTION TO RETURN THE MEETING TO OPEN DISCUSSION</p>

6. CONSIDERATION OF MATTERS DISCUSSED IN CLOSED SESSION

7. MAYORAL ITEMS *(verbal discussion)*

- 7.1. Regional Health Reform | Health Equity Strategy
- 7.2. Torres Strait & Northern Peninsula Area Regional Organisation of Councils (TS&NPAROC)
- 7.3. Blue Security & Safe Regional Business Service Model
- 7.4. 2025 Federal Government Advocacy Campaign | Council & TS&NPAROC
- 7.5. May 2025 Workshop Agenda
- 7.6. Advisory Committee Annual Plan & Annual Performance Review

8. CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER REPORTS

Nil.

9. BUILDING SERVICES DIRECTORATE

Nil.

10. COMMUNITY SERVICES DIRECTORATE

Nil.

11. CORPORATE SERVICES DIRECTORATE

- 11.1. Economic Growth Advisory Committee – EMG Community Consultations – 2024-25 Results

Presenter: Ms Tina McGuffie (My Pathway)

- 11.2. Councillor Remuneration, Expenses Reimbursement and Resources Policy – *Councillors' Meeting Attendance*

- 11.3. Corporate Plan 2025-30 Concept

12. ENGINEERING SERVICES DIRECTORATE

Nil.

13. FINANCIAL SERVICES DIRECTORATE

Nil.

14. MATTERS ARISING

15. NEXT MEETING – 9 April 2025 (Microsoft TEAMS)

16. CLOSE OF MEETING & PRAYER

4.00pm



**STRATEGIC ACTION REFERENCE GROUP (SARG)
STANDING COMMITTEE MEETING**

5 MARCH 2024

Agenda Item

1

DIRECTORATE: Corporate Services

AUTHOR: Executive Director Corporate Services

CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES – 25 OCTOBER 2024 & 4 DECEMBER 2024

OFFICER RECOMMENDATION:

The Standing Committee:

- (a) confirms the Minutes of its meeting held on 25 October 2024; and
 - (b) confirms the Minutes of its meeting held on 4 December 2024.
-

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

Section 254F(4) of the *Local Government Regulations 2012* requires that at each local government meeting, the minutes of the previous meeting must be confirmed by the councillors or committee members present.

Interested Parties/Consultation:

N/A

Background / Previous Standing Committee Consideration:

The SARG Standing Committee has met on two previous occasions - 25 October 2024 and 4 December 2024.

The 4 December 2024 meeting was inquorate, however, there were out-of-session matters that required actioning by the Standing Committee in the lead-up to the December 2024 Ordinary Council Meeting.

Following confirmation of the Minutes by the Standing Committee, the confirmed Minutes will be placed on the Council website.

A copy of the confirmed Minutes will also be submitted to the next Council meeting for noting.

COMPLIANCE / CONSIDERATIONS:

Statutory:	Section 254F(4) of the <i>Local Government Regulation 2012</i>
Budgetary:	N/A
Policy:	N/A
Legal:	N/A
Risk:	Council breach of its Statutory requirements above.
Links to Strategic Plans:	TSIRC Corporate Plan 2020–2025 (<i>Bisnis Plan</i>) Delivery Pillar One – People (<i>Bisnis – Pipol</i>) Outcome 4: We are a transparent, open and engaging council. ➤ 4.2 Evolve Council’s communication channels and community’s access to information.
Masig Statement:	N/A
Standing Committee Consultation:	N/A
Timelines:	Standard Procedure following at each Standing Committee Meeting

Other Comments:

N/A

Recommended:

S. Andres

Susanne Andres
Executive Director Corporate Services

Recommended:

James William
Chief Executive Officer

ATTACHMENTS:

1. Draft Minutes of the SARG Standing Committee Meeting held on 25 October 2024.
2. Draft Minutes of the SARG Standing Committee Meeting held on 4 December 2024.



**STRATEGIC ACTION
REFERENCE GROUP (SARG)
MEETING
25 OCTOBER 2024**

MINUTES

Time: 1.00pm

Venue: Committee Meeting Room, Level 3, 111 Grafton Street, Cairns
Microsoft (TEAMS) Meeting ID: 452 580 280 897 | Passcode: YskRaT

PRESENT:

Mayor/Chair

Chair - Economic Growth Advisory Committee
Chair - Environment & Climate Adaptation Advisory Committee
Chair - Governance & Leadership Advisory Committee
Chair - Housing, Families and Safe & Healthy Communities Advisory Committee

Cr Phillemon Mosby
Cr Rocky Stephen
Cr Kabay Tamu
Cr Dimas Toby
Cr Keith Fell

OFFICERS:

Chief Executive Officer

Executive Director Community Services
Executive Director Corporate Services
Executive Director Engineering Services
Executive Director Financial Services – *left meeting at 3.00pm*
Executive Assistant to the CEO – *left meeting at 2.20pm*
Executive Assistant to the Mayor – *left meeting at 2.20pm*
TSIRC Secretariat

Mr James William
Mr Dawson Sailor
Ms Susanne Andres
Mr David Baldwin
Ms Hollie Faithfull
Ms Jessica Conway
Ms Trudy Lui
Mr Darryl Brooks

APOLOGIES:

Deputy Mayor – *on leave*
Chair - Culture, Arts, Land & Heritage Advisory Committee – *prior commitment*
Executive Director Building Services

Cr Ranetta Wosomo
Cr Chelsea Aniba
Mr Wayne Green

**A. WELCOME & QUORUM CONFIRMATION | ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS | OPENING PRAYER
| OBSERVANCES**

At 1.05pm, the Mayor welcomed Committee Members and staff to the meeting, noting that a quorum of members was present.

The Mayor made the following acknowledgements:

- Our Heavenly Father for his awesome wisdom, knowledge, understanding, favour and blessings throughout our lives;
- The Traditional Custodians throughout Zenadth Kes and the communities and constituents that Council serves; and
- All Elders – past, present and emerging.

The Mayor also conveyed to those members of the Torres Strait Islander community – throughout the homelands and on the Australian mainland – who may be observing Sorry Business at this time, the thoughts and prayers of the Committee.

The Mayor invited participants to observe a minute of silence for remembrance purposes, especially those going through the processes of Sorry Business.

Cr Keith Fell delivered the opening prayer.

B. NOTING OF APOLOGIES

The Mayor advised that he has received apologies for the Deputy Mayor (Cr Ranetta Wosomo) and Cr Chelsea Aniba (Chair - Culture, Arts, Land & Heritage Advisory Committee).

#SSC24-28/2024-10/B

CR STEPHEN / CR TOBY

The SARG Standing Committee accepts the apology of Cr Ranetta Wosomo and Cr Chelsea Aniba for the 25 October 2024 Standing Committee meeting.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

C. CONFLICT OF INTEREST DECLARATIONS

The Mayor invited attendees to table any prescribed or declarable COI matters. No COI declarations were made. The Mayor requested that Committee Members advise of any COI declarations should they arise throughout discussions.

The Mayor also invited attendees to advise of any legal matters that would prevent members from participation in today's meeting. No matters were declared.

1. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES (14 AUGUST 2024)

#SSC24-28/2024-10/1

CR TOBY / CR STEPHEN

The SARG Standing Committee confirms the Minutes of its meeting held on 14 August 2024.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

1.1. ACTION ITEMS FROM PREVIOUS MEETING

The Chief Executive Officer (Mr James William) spoke to this item. The update was noted by the Standing Committee.

1.2. ACTION ITEMS FROM FORMER STRATEGIC ADVISORY REFERENCE GROUP (SARG) STANDING COMMITTEE MEETINGS

The Chief Executive Officer (Mr James William) spoke to this item advising that a review of these action items will be provided at the December 2024 Standing Committee meeting.

2. MAYORAL ITEMS

2.1. Council Workshop (4-14 November 2024, Cairns)

The Mayor advised that he and the Chief Executive Officer are locking in the final parts of the agenda for the November 2024 Council Workshop.

This work will assist Council to prepare strategically on how to move forward with its Advocacy Priorities post-State Government elections on 26 October 2024.

Particular sessions planned for Councillors during the upcoming Workshop will include:

- Improvements/Standardisation for Community Information Sessions across Divisions for consistent messaging on strategic matters;
- Days 1 and 2 (4-5 November 2024) will be focussed on:
 - TS&NPA ROC engagement moving forward in relation to Blue Security (water and Treaty issues)
 - Torres Strait Coalition (TSRA and TS&NPA ROC) to provide an update on regional governance/regional assembly matters, as well as the independent health review;
- LGAQ discussions (particularly Peak Services) will be held on Day 4 to provide training on COI, confidentiality, dual roles, policy development cycles, etc. to enable Councillors to legally undertake their duties;
 - *Cr Toby recommended that LGAQ Updates/Sessions/Training/Refreshers be a standing item for each Council Workshop.*
- The Masig Statement Action Plan (including each Divisional Taskforce, funding submission to TSRA and the 90th Anniversary of the Maritime Strike Exhibition in Brisbane being organised by the Queensland Museum);
- Navigating Native Title Matters and DOGIT Responsibilities. The Council Workshop will consider a refocus around Council developing MOUs with individual PBCs for each Division to strengthen Council's strategic leadership in the region, as well as to allow Council to deliver progress in relation to the high on—ground needs and priorities for 'shovel ready' communities - particularly in relation to critical needs such as housing. In addition, such an arrangement will assist in 'empowering' local PBCs in undertaking their own role within the Division.
- Treaty Matters:
 - using the 50th Anniversary of the Torres Strait Treaty (1975-2025) as an example of self—governance/regional governance and how it should be/could be reshaped over the next 50 years
 - standardising Prior Approval Requests across the region in response to current regional priorities
 - review legacy issues associated with the Torres Strait Treaty (fishing zones, etc.)
- Transitional Action Plan (TAP) discussions, with Mr Scott Mason (CEO LG Services Group) to deliver an in—depth update (including costings, operational commitments/requirements, messaging to the community on TAP, etc.).

3. CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

3.1. General Update (*verbal*)

The Chief Executive Officer (Mr James William) spoke to this item covering key issues such as:

- the November 2024 Council Workshop currently being the main focus for Council's administrative arm
- preparations are under way to brief the incoming Government on the TSIRC 11 x priorities and the challenges currently facing Council
- the Comprehensive Assets Valuation is currently underway
- the Operational Investment Plan and the Asset Investment Plan will be explored further at the November 2024 Council Workshop, including financial sustainability for Council (i.e. water losses on Badu currently costs Council \$750k annually due to poor and ageing infrastructure)
- Starlink has been installed in all Divisional Offices. Cabling issues in buildings has nothing to do with Starlink and the Executive Director Corporate Services will take the matter of issues currently being experienced on Mabuiag on notice.
- Seaswift analysis has been completed and the Chief Executive Officer will be travelling to Brisbane on 28 October 2024 to have discussions with Seaswift on these matters and a further update will be provided at the November 2024 Council Workshop.

4. BUILDING SERVICES DIRECTORATE

Nil.

5. COMMUNITY SERVICES DIRECTORATE

5.1. 1st Quarter Report – Housing, Families and Safe and Healthy Communities (HFSHC) Advisory Committee

#SSC24-28/2024-10/5.1

CR TOBY / CR TAMU

The Strategic Action Reference Group (SARG) Standing Committee:

1. notes the 1st Quarter Report submitted by the Housing, Families and Safe & Healthy Communities (HFSHC) Advisory Committee for the period July-September 2024 and endorses the report for consideration by Council; and
2. recommends that Council endorse the appointment of the HFSHC Advisory Committee Chairperson as Council's representative on the Queensland Department of Agriculture and Fisheries' Animal Management Taskforce.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

6. CORPORATE SERVICES DIRECTORATE

6.1 Media Policy

#SSC24-28/2024-10/6.1

CR STEPHEN / CR TAMU

The Strategic Action Reference Group (SARG) Standing Committee notes the Council Media Policy.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

6.2 1st Quarter Report – Economic Growth Committee

The Executive Director Corporate Services (Ms Susanne Andres) spoke to this item. The Standing Committee noted the 1st Quarter Meeting Minutes submitted by the Economic Growth Committee.

7. ENGINEERING SERVICES DIRECTORATE

The Mayor acknowledged the ongoing work underway by the Engineering Services teams.

The Executive Director Engineering Services briefly updated the Standing Committee with the following:

- the November 2024 Council Workshop to include discussion around the Marine Infrastructure Program (including a recap on the Australian Government funding which is targeted for Saibai, Dauan and Boigu) and an update on the Coastal Hazard Adaptation Strategy;
- Water security issues indicate that 2024 will be worse than 2015 (currently there are 5 communities on Level 4 restrictions and another 2 which are very close to Level 4). In good news, the Erub Water Reservoir asset renewal work is almost complete and similar projects on St Paul's is next (or possibly already underway) and the tanks on Erub or St Paul's will be transferred to Poruma in the interim.

8. FINANCIAL SERVICES DIRECTORATE

Nil.

9. MATTERS ARISING

(a) Travel/Accommodation Logistics for November 2024 Council Workshop

The Mayor sought an update on travel and accommodation and T/A arrangements. The Chief Executive Officer will send out advice to Councillors as soon as possible on Monday (28 October 2024).

(b) Telstra Facilities

Cr Kabay Tamu requested that a formal request be made to Telstra to review its facilities across the region in view of the recent incident on Warraber. The Mayor advised that he will follow up with the TSRA as this issue rests with the Australian Government (Telstra) as a service provision matter.

(c) Garbage Trucks for Divisions

Cr Keith Fell sought an update on the roll-out of garbage trucks for the Divisions, as he has observed that the ongoing delays are impacting staff on ground as a result of them having to manually collect garbage bins.

The Executive Director Corporate Services (Ms Susanne Andres) advised that the status of the roll-out is presented in the monthly Corporate Services Information Report to Council, and the current delays are from the Gold Coast City Council who need to hold these vehicles for use as they await delivery of their new fleet.

(d) QFleet Matter

Cr Keith Fell sought an update on the QFleet matter.

The Executive Director Corporate Services (Ms Susanne Andres) advised that the Financial Services Directorate is reviewing the matter as there is currently no budget available.

(e) Councillor Leave

The Mayor advised that the Deputy Mayor will be on leave until 4 November 2024. The Mayor will be taking leave in December 2024. The Mayor also requested Committee members to advise if they are taking leave over the upcoming December/January period.

10. NEXT MEETING – 4 DECEMBER 2024 (Microsoft TEAMS)

Noted by the Standing Committee.

11. CLOSE OF MEETING & PRAYER

The Mayor thanked Standing Committee members and officers for their attendance and contributions throughout the meeting. The Mayor formally closed the meeting at 3.25pm and delivered the closing prayer.

MINUTES CONFIRMED – 4 December 2024

.....
Cr Phillemon Mosby
Mayor
Torres Strait Island Regional Council
Date: 4 December 2024

.....
James William
Chief Executive Officer
Torres Strait Island Regional Council
Date: 4 December 2024



**STRATEGIC ACTION REFERENCE
GROUP (SARG) STANDING
COMMITTEE MEETING
4 DECEMBER 2024**

MINUTES

Time: 1.00pm

Venue: Committee Meeting Room, Level 3, 111 Grafton Street, Cairns
Microsoft (TEAMS) Meeting ID: 449 999 757 665 | Passcode: PrZsia

PRESENT:

Mayor/Chair

Cr Phillemon Mosby

OFFICERS:

Chief Executive Officer

Executive Director Community Services
Executive Director Corporate Services
Executive Director Engineering Services
Executive Director Financial Services
Interim Executive Advisor to the CEO
Executive Assistant to the Mayor
TSIRC Secretariat
TSIRC Secretariat

Mr James William
Mr Dawson Sailor
Ms Susanne Andres
Mr David Baldwin
Ms Hollie Faithfull
Ms Jessica Buxton
Ms Trudy Lui
Mr Darryl Brooks
Ms Julie Marino

APOLOGIES:

Deputy Mayor – *on leave*
Chair – Economic Growth Advisory Committee – *overseas*
Executive Director Building Services – *travelling to Cairns*

Cr Ranetta Wosomo
Cr Rocky Stephen
Mr Wayne Green

**A. WELCOME & QUORUM CONFIRMATION | ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS | OPENING PRAYER
| OBSERVANCES**

At 1.15pm, the Mayor noted that the meeting was inquorate.

The Mayor requested that any matters listed on the agenda which require endorsement by the SARG Standing Committee prior to the December 2024 Ordinary Council Meeting be circulated Out-Of-Session to SARG Standing Committee members for consideration.

The Mayor did not postpone the meeting for another time/date and formally closed the meeting at 1.25pm.

MINUTES CONFIRMED –

.....
Cr Phillemon Mosby
Mayor
Torres Strait Island Regional Council
Date:

.....
James William
Chief Executive Officer
Torres Strait Island Regional Council
Date:

POST-MEETING ACTIONS:

An Out–Of–Session request was made to SARG Standing Committee members, as per Attachment A.

Responses received from SARG Standing Committee members are at Attachment B.

END.

DRAFT

From: Secretariat
Sent: Friday, 6 December 2024 12:34 PM
To: Secretariat; Mayor Phillemon Mosby; Cr. Phillemon Mosby; Cr. Chelsea Aniba; Cr. Ranetta Wosomo; Cr. Keith Fell; Cr. Dimas Toby; Cr. Kabay Tamu; Cr. Rocky Stephen
Cc: CEO; James William; Dawson Sailor; Wayne Green; David Baldwin; Jessica Conway; Trudy Lui
Subject: URGENT RESPONSE REQUESTED: OUT-OF-SESSION APPROVAL - SARG STANDING COMMITTEE AGENDA PAPERS - reply required by cob THURSDAY, 5 DECEMBER 2024
Categories: Blue category

Mayor & Councillors

Another reminder please for these Out-of-Session approvals to be considered ASAP and **by 3pm today**. So far, have only had responses from Cr Fell and Cr Toby.

Eso.
Darryl

Secretariat
Executive Office Department

Torres Strait Island Regional Council



Phone: 07 4034 5700
Email: secretariat@tsirc.qld.gov.au
Address: [111 - 115 Grafton Street, Cairns, QLD 4870](#)
Website: www.tsirc.qld.gov.au
Find us on:   

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From: Secretariat <secretariat@tsirc.qld.gov.au>
Sent: Wednesday, 4 December 2024 2:50 PM
To: Mayor Phillemon Mosby <Mayor@tsirc.qld.gov.au>; Cr. Phillemon Mosby <Cr.Phillemon.Mosby@tsirc.qld.gov.au>; Cr. Chelsea Aniba <cr.chelsea.aniba@tsirc.qld.gov.au>; Cr. Ranetta Wosomo <cr.ranetta.wosomo@tsirc.qld.gov.au>; Cr. Keith Fell <Cr.Keith.Fell@tsirc.qld.gov.au>; Cr. Dimas Toby <Cr.Dimas.Toby@tsirc.qld.gov.au>; Cr. Kabay Tamu <Cr.Kabay.Tamu@tsirc.qld.gov.au>; Cr. Rocky Stephen <Cr.Rocky.Stephen@tsirc.qld.gov.au>
Cc: Secretariat <secretariat@tsirc.qld.gov.au>; CEO <CEO@tsirc.qld.gov.au>; James William <james.william@tsirc.qld.gov.au>; Dawson Sailor <Dawson.Sailor@tsirc.qld.gov.au>; Wayne Green <wayne.green@tsirc.qld.gov.au>; David Baldwin <David.Baldwin@tsirc.qld.gov.au>; Jessica Conway <Jessica.Conway@tsirc.qld.gov.au>; Trudy Lui <trudy.lui@tsirc.qld.gov.au>
Subject: OUT-OF-SESSION APPROVAL - SARG STANDING COMMITTEE AGENDA PAPERS - reply required by cob THURSDAY, 5 DECEMBER 2024

Mayor and SARG Standing Committee Members

The CEO has requested that four items listed on the agenda for today's SARG Standing Committee Meeting be submitted for your approval out-of-session, as these matters need to be formally endorsed at the December 2024 Ordinary Council Meeting:

1. LATE PAPER – Engineering Services – Zenadth Kes Coastal Hazard Adaptation Strategy
Officer Recommendation:

That the Strategic Action Reference Group (SARG) recommend the CHAS is presented to the full Council Committee for consideration and adoption.

2. AI 10.1 – QuickStarts Island Extension Program
Officer Recommendation:

The Standing Committee recommends that Council resolves to:

Approve and formalise the identified lots for each community in the Quickstarts Detached Extension Program, as detailed in the TSIRC Housing Needs Register; and

Pursuant to Section 257 of the *Local Government Act 2009*, delegate authority to the Chief Executive Officer to negotiate, finalise, and execute all matters associated with or related to this project, funding, and contracts. This delegation includes, without limitation, any options, variations, and actions in compliance with Council's procurement and ethical sourcing policy.

3. AI 3.1 – TSIRC Advocacy Framework
Officer Recommendation:

The Standing Committee:

- **agrees to review and provide feedback on Council's Advocacy Framework;**
- **endorses the Advocacy Framework for implementation into Council operations; and**
- **determine whether the Framework is to be included in Council meeting papers.**

4. AI 3.2 – Community Advocacy Statements
Officer Recommendation:

The Standing Committee:

- (a) agrees to review and provide feedback on final draft Community Advocacy Statements for Boigu, Dauan, Erub and Poruma;**
- (b) agrees to continue to support the development and finalisation of all 15 Community Advocacy Statements; and**
- (c) recommends that Council accept the final draft Community Advocacy Statements for Boigu, Dauan, Erub and Poruma and that that all 15 Community Advocacy Statements be finalised for endorsement at the February 2025 Council meeting.**

Please [reply by email](#) indicating whether you SUPPORT/NOT SUPPORT the officer recommendations as presented above.

Responses required by close of business **THURSDAY, 5 DECEMBER 2024.**

Eso.
Secretariat (on behalf of the CEO)

Secretariat
Executive Office Department

Torres Strait Island Regional Council



Torres Strait Island
REGIONAL COUNCIL

Phone: 07 4034 5700
Email: secretariat@tsirc.qld.gov.au
Address: [111 - 115 Grafton Street, Cairns, QLD 4870](#)
Website: www.tsirc.qld.gov.au
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From: Cr. Keith Fell
Sent: Thursday, 5 December 2024 10:22 AM
To: Secretariat
Cc: Mayor Phillemon Mosby; Cr. Phillemon Mosby; Cr. Chelsea Aniba; Cr. Ranetta Wosomo; Cr. Dimas Toby; Cr. Kabay Tamu; Cr. Rocky Stephen; CEO; James William; Dawson Sailor; Wayne Green; David Baldwin; Jessica Conway; Trudy Lui; Cr. Dimas Toby; Cr. Rocky Stephen; Secretariat; James William
Subject: Re: OUT-OF-SESSION APPROVAL - SARG STANDING COMMITTEE AGENDA PAPERS - reply required by cob THURSDAY, 5 DECEMBER 2024
Categories: Blue category

My apologies for yesterday..
I would like to give my approval for the following endorsements.
I'll move all request...
Cheers,
CF

Sent from my iPhone

Cr. Keith Fell | Councillor - Division 4 - Mabuiag

Torres Strait Island Regional Council



Phone: 07 4083 2504 Mobile: 0458 696 682
Email: Cr.Keith.Fell@tsirc.qld.gov.au
Address: TSIRC, Mabuiag Island, QLD 4875
Website: www.tsirc.qld.gov.au
Find us on:   

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On 4 Dec 2024, at 2:50 pm, Secretariat <secretariat@tsirc.qld.gov.au> wrote:

Mayor and SARG Standing Committee Members

The CEO has requested that four items listed on the agenda for today's SARG Standing Committee Meeting be submitted for your approval out-of-session, as these matters need to be formally endorsed at the December 2024 Ordinary Council Meeting:

1. LATE PAPER – Engineering Services – Zenadth Kes Coastal Hazard Adaptation Strategy
Officer Recommendation:

That the Strategic Action Reference Group (SARG) recommend the CHAS is presented to the full Council Committee for consideration and adoption.

2. AI 10.1 – QuickStarts Island Extension Program
Officer Recommendation:

From: Cr. Dimas Toby
Sent: Thursday, 5 December 2024 11:43 AM
To: Secretariat; Mayor Phillemon Mosby; Cr. Phillemon Mosby; Cr. Chelsea Aniba; Cr. Ranetta Wosomo; Cr. Keith Fell; Cr. Kabay Tamu; Cr. Rocky Stephen
Cc: Secretariat; CEO; James William; Dawson Sailor; Wayne Green; David Baldwin; Jessica Conway; Trudy Lui
Subject: Re: OUT-OF-SESSION APPROVAL - SARG STANDING COMMITTEE AGENDA PAPERS - reply required by cob THURSDAY, 5 DECEMBER 2024
Categories: Blue category

Kapu Goeyga, Team

I support as per request. Esso

Cr. Dimas Toby | Councillor - Division 1 - Boigu

Torres Strait Island Regional Council



Phone: 07 4083 2002 Mobile: 0418 589 446

Email: Cr.Dimas.Toby@tsirc.qld.gov.au

Address: TSIRC, Boigu Island, QLD 4875

Website: www.tsirc.qld.gov.au

Find us on:   

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From: Secretariat <secretariat@tsirc.qld.gov.au>
Sent: Wednesday, December 4, 2024 2:50:08 PM
To: Mayor Phillemon Mosby <Mayor@tsirc.qld.gov.au>; Cr. Phillemon Mosby <Cr.Phillemon.Mosby@tsirc.qld.gov.au>; Cr. Chelsea Aniba <cr.chelsea.aniba@tsirc.qld.gov.au>; Cr. Ranetta Wosomo <cr.ranetta.wosomo@tsirc.qld.gov.au>; Cr. Keith Fell <Cr.Keith.Fell@tsirc.qld.gov.au>; Cr. Dimas Toby <Cr.Dimas.Toby@tsirc.qld.gov.au>; Cr. Kabay Tamu <Cr.Kabay.Tamu@tsirc.qld.gov.au>; Cr. Rocky Stephen <Cr.Rocky.Stephen@tsirc.qld.gov.au>
Cc: Secretariat <secretariat@tsirc.qld.gov.au>; CEO <CEO@tsirc.qld.gov.au>; James William <james.william@tsirc.qld.gov.au>; Dawson Sailor <Dawson.Sailor@tsirc.qld.gov.au>; Wayne Green <wayne.green@tsirc.qld.gov.au>; David Baldwin <David.Baldwin@tsirc.qld.gov.au>; Jessica Conway <Jessica.Conway@tsirc.qld.gov.au>; Trudy Lui <trudy.lui@tsirc.qld.gov.au>
Subject: OUT-OF-SESSION APPROVAL - SARG STANDING COMMITTEE AGENDA PAPERS - reply required by cob THURSDAY, 5 DECEMBER 2024

Mayor and SARG Standing Committee Members

The CEO has requested that four items listed on the agenda for today's SARG Standing Committee Meeting be submitted for your approval out-of-session, as these matters need to be formally endorsed at the December 2024 Ordinary Council Meeting:

1. LATE PAPER – Engineering Services – Zenadth Kes Coastal Hazard Adaptation Strategy
Officer Recommendation:

From: Cr. Kabay Tamu
Sent: Friday, 6 December 2024 12:41 PM
To: Secretariat; Mayor Phillemon Mosby; Cr. Phillemon Mosby; Cr. Chelsea Aniba; Cr. Ranetta Wosomo; Cr. Keith Fell; Cr. Dimas Toby; Cr. Rocky Stephen
Cc: Secretariat; CEO; James William; Dawson Sailor; Wayne Green; David Baldwin; Jessica Conway; Trudy Lui
Subject: Re: OUT-OF-SESSION APPROVAL - SARG STANDING COMMITTEE AGENDA PAPERS - reply required by cob THURSDAY, 5 DECEMBER 2024

Categories: Blue category

Kapu Goeyga,

Request supported.




Eso,

Get [Outlook for Android](#)

Cr. Kabay Tamu | Councillor - Division 10 - Warraber

Torres Strait Island Regional Council



Phone: 07 4083 2552 Mobile: 0474 954 462
Email: Cr.Kabay.Tamu@tsirc.qld.gov.au
Address: TSIRC, Warraber (Sue) Island, QLD 4875
Website: www.tsirc.qld.gov.au
Find us on:   

Torres Strait Island
TOLUINA LULUNG-I

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From: Secretariat <secretariat@tsirc.qld.gov.au>
Sent: Wednesday, December 4, 2024 2:50:08 PM
To: Mayor Phillemon Mosby <Mayor@tsirc.qld.gov.au>; Cr. Phillemon Mosby <Cr.Phillimon.Mosby@tsirc.qld.gov.au>; Cr. Chelsea Aniba <cr.chelsea.aniba@tsirc.qld.gov.au>; Cr. Ranetta Wosomo <cr.ranetta.wosomo@tsirc.qld.gov.au>; Cr. Keith Fell <Cr.Keith.Fell@tsirc.qld.gov.au>; Cr. Dimas Toby <Cr.Dimas.Toby@tsirc.qld.gov.au>; Cr. Kabay Tamu <Cr.Kabay.Tamu@tsirc.qld.gov.au>; Cr. Rocky Stephen <Cr.Rocky.Stephen@tsirc.qld.gov.au>
Cc: Secretariat <secretariat@tsirc.qld.gov.au>; CEO <CEO@tsirc.qld.gov.au>; James William <james.william@tsirc.qld.gov.au>; Dawson Sailor <Dawson.Sailor@tsirc.qld.gov.au>; Wayne Green <wayne.green@tsirc.qld.gov.au>; David Baldwin <David.Baldwin@tsirc.qld.gov.au>; Jessica Conway <Jessica.Conway@tsirc.qld.gov.au>; Trudy Lui <trudy.lui@tsirc.qld.gov.au>
Subject: OUT-OF-SESSION APPROVAL - SARG STANDING COMMITTEE AGENDA PAPERS - reply required by cob THURSDAY, 5 DECEMBER 2024

Mayor and SARG Standing Committee Members

From: Cr. Ranetta Wosomo
Sent: Friday, 6 December 2024 12:59 PM
To: Secretariat; Mayor Phillemon Mosby; Cr. Phillemon Mosby; Cr. Chelsea Aniba; Cr. Keith Fell; Cr. Dimas Toby; Cr. Kabay Tamu; Cr. Rocky Stephen
Cc: CEO; James William; Dawson Sailor; Wayne Green; David Baldwin; Jessica Conway; Trudy Lui
Subject: RE: OUT-OF-SESSION APPROVAL - SARG STANDING COMMITTEE AGENDA PAPERS - reply required by cob THURSDAY, 5 DECEMBER 2024
Categories: Blue category

Good afternoon

I am in support of the recommendations.

Eso,

Cr. Ranetta Wosomo | Councillor - Division 5 - Badu and Deputy Mayor

Torres Strait Island Regional Council



Phone: 0437 495 688 Mobile: 0437 495 688
Email: cr.ranetta.wosomo@tsirc.qld.gov.au
Address: TSIRC, Badu Island, QLD 4875
Website: www.tsirc.qld.gov.au
Find us on:   

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From: Secretariat <secretariat@tsirc.qld.gov.au>
Sent: Wednesday, 4 December 2024 2:50 PM
To: Mayor Phillemon Mosby <Mayor@tsirc.qld.gov.au>; Cr. Phillemon Mosby <Cr.Phillemon.Mosby@tsirc.qld.gov.au>; Cr. Chelsea Aniba <cr.chelsea.aniba@tsirc.qld.gov.au>; Cr. Ranetta Wosomo <cr.ranetta.wosomo@tsirc.qld.gov.au>; Cr. Keith Fell <Cr.Keith.Fell@tsirc.qld.gov.au>; Cr. Dimas Toby <Cr.Dimas.Toby@tsirc.qld.gov.au>; Cr. Kabay Tamu <Cr.Kabay.Tamu@tsirc.qld.gov.au>; Cr. Rocky Stephen <Cr.Rocky.Stephen@tsirc.qld.gov.au>
Cc: Secretariat <secretariat@tsirc.qld.gov.au>; CEO <CEO@tsirc.qld.gov.au>; James William <james.william@tsirc.qld.gov.au>; Dawson Sailor <Dawson.Sailor@tsirc.qld.gov.au>; Wayne Green <wayne.green@tsirc.qld.gov.au>; David Baldwin <David.Baldwin@tsirc.qld.gov.au>; Jessica Conway <Jessica.Conway@tsirc.qld.gov.au>; Trudy Lui <trudy.lui@tsirc.qld.gov.au>
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Mayor and SARG Standing Committee Members

The CEO has requested that four items listed on the agenda for today's SARG Standing Committee Meeting be submitted for your approval out-of-session, as these matters need to be formally endorsed at the December 2024 Ordinary Council Meeting:

1. LATE PAPER – Engineering Services – Zenadth Kes Coastal Hazard Adaptation Strategy

From: Cr. Chelsea Aniba
Sent: Friday, 6 December 2024 1:03 PM
To: Secretariat; Mayor Phillemon Mosby; Cr. Phillemon Mosby; Cr. Ranetta Wosomo; Cr. Keith Fell; Cr. Dimas Toby; Cr. Kabay Tamu; Cr. Rocky Stephen
Cc: CEO; James William; Dawson Sailor; Wayne Green; David Baldwin; Jessica Conway; Trudy Lui
Subject: RE: URGENT RESPONSE REQUESTED: OUT-OF-SESSION APPROVAL - SARG STANDING COMMITTEE AGENDA PAPERS - reply required by cob THURSDAY, 5 DECEMBER 2024
Categories: Blue category

I support recommendations

Cr. Chelsea Aniba | Councillor - Division 3 - Saibai

Torres Strait Island Regional Council



Phone: 07 4083 2814 Mobile: 0474 926 820
Email: cr.chelsea.aniba@tsirc.qld.gov.au
Address: TSIRC, Saibai Island, QLD 4875
Website: www.tsirc.qld.gov.au
Find us on:   

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From: Secretariat <secretariat@tsirc.qld.gov.au>
Sent: Friday, 6 December 2024 12:34 PM
To: Secretariat <secretariat@tsirc.qld.gov.au>; Mayor Phillemon Mosby <Mayor@tsirc.qld.gov.au>; Cr. Phillemon Mosby <Cr.Phillemon.Mosby@tsirc.qld.gov.au>; Cr. Chelsea Aniba <cr.chelsea.aniba@tsirc.qld.gov.au>; Cr. Ranetta Wosomo <cr.ranetta.wosomo@tsirc.qld.gov.au>; Cr. Keith Fell <Cr.Keith.Fell@tsirc.qld.gov.au>; Cr. Dimas Toby <Cr.Dimas.Toby@tsirc.qld.gov.au>; Cr. Kabay Tamu <Cr.Kabay.Tamu@tsirc.qld.gov.au>; Cr. Rocky Stephen <Cr.Rocky.Stephen@tsirc.qld.gov.au>
Cc: CEO <CEO@tsirc.qld.gov.au>; James William <james.william@tsirc.qld.gov.au>; Dawson Sailor <Dawson.Sailor@tsirc.qld.gov.au>; Wayne Green <wayne.green@tsirc.qld.gov.au>; David Baldwin <David.Baldwin@tsirc.qld.gov.au>; Jessica Conway <Jessica.Conway@tsirc.qld.gov.au>; Trudy Lui <trudy.lui@tsirc.qld.gov.au>
Subject: URGENT RESPONSE REQUESTED: OUT-OF-SESSION APPROVAL - SARG STANDING COMMITTEE AGENDA PAPERS - reply required by cob THURSDAY, 5 DECEMBER 2024

Mayor & Councillors

Another reminder please for these Out-of-Session approvals to be considered ASAP and **by 3pm today**. So far, have only had responses from Cr Fell and Cr Toby.

Eso.
Darryl

Secretariat

AGENDA ITEM 1.1



STRATEGIC ACTION REFERENCE GROUP (SARG) STANDING COMMITTEE MEETING ACTION ITEMS

[as at 28 Feb 2025]

Agenda Item	Action	Action Area	Current Status
October 2024 Mtg AI 1.1 Action Items Update	Cr Fell requested that discussion take place on superannuation and other long service matters for Councillors.		Matter listed as an action item at Council level. Recommend close action.
Aug 2024 Mtg AI 1.1 Action Items Update	Chief Executive Officer to review/update the Action Items from the former Strategic Advisory Reference Group (SARG).	CEO	CEO committed to have the action items list for the former SARG Committee updated for the December 2024 Committee meeting.
Aug 2024 Mtg AI 3.3 2024 SARG Meeting Schedule	Chief Executive Officer to provide details on the budget and costings for each SARG meeting.	CEO	SARG Meeting Schedule for 2025 endorsed. Recommend close action.



SARG COMMITTEE ACTION ITEMS

[Last Updated: 27 Feb 2025]

Agenda Item	Action	Action Area	Current Status
Feb 2024 Mtg AI 6 Committees Review	Executive Director Corporate Services to include as an attachment into the briefing paper "Committees Review" for the March 2024 Ordinary Council Meeting the table prepared by the Mayor and SARG Members following the January 2024 SARG meeting.	ED Corporate Services	Completed. Recommend close action.
Jan 2024 Mtg AI 5 Action Items	Chief Executive Officer to provide Mayor with a copy of all action items arising from future SARG Committee meetings, as well as Trustee Council and Ordinary Council meetings within the standard 10 day deadline used for posting of draft Minutes.	CEO	Completed. Recommend close action.
Jan 2024 Mtg AI 5 Action Items	Executive Director Corporate Services to prepare a letter to the Australian Ambassador for First Nations People (Mr Justin Mohamed) seeking support to champion TSIRC's aspirations in relation to matters such as Regional Governance, Treaty, Native Title (DOGIT), the Masig Statement and other key strategic initiatives.	ED Corporate Services	Not yet started. (Link to AI 7 of June 2023 Mtg) Recommend close action.
Jan 2024 Mtg AI 8 Corporate Services: Elphinstone Matters	<ol style="list-style-type: none">Executive Director Corporate Services to prepare a brief for the upcoming Economic Growth Committee Meeting which includes the original business case for Elphinstone.Executive Director Corporate Services to prepare a brief for the February 2024 Ordinary Council Meeting providing Council with an update on the Elphinstone asset.	ED Corporate Services	<ol style="list-style-type: none">Postponed. Unable to be discussed at Committee meeting due to time constraintsNo update. The Elphinstone matter sits with the CEO.

SARG Action Items

<p>Jan 2024 Mtg</p> <p>AI 13</p> <p>Corporate Services: Enterprise Divestment</p>	<p>Executive Director Corporate Services (in consultation with the Economic Growth Committee) to prepare a brief for the February 2024 Ordinary Council Meeting in relation to Council's Enterprise Divestment Policy.</p>	<p>ED Corporate Services</p>	<p>Matter held over for incoming Council. Committee has not yet discussed. Waiting for Trustee Policy to be finalised</p>
<p>Jan 2024 Mtg</p> <p>AI 19</p> <p>Treaty Management Issues</p>	<p>Chief Executive Officer to prepare communication with DFAT's Treaty Liaison Office to formalise TSIRC concerns in relation to Treaty issues, specifically the current situation on Saibai Island and other matters.</p>	<p>CEO</p>	
<p>Jun 2023 Mtg</p> <p>AI 7</p> <p>Matters Arising from May 2023 Workshop</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The Mayor, Deputy Mayor and the ED Corporate Services to meet and prepare relevant correspondence on formalising its relationship with the Ambassador for First Nations and to highlight Council's position in relation to key national priorities, such as the Voice to Parliament Referendum, Treaty issues (in addition to the Australia/Papua New Guinea Torres Strait Treaty) and the Masig Statement. 2. Regarding TSIRC/TSRA arrangements, the Mayor requested that a letter be sent to the Minister for Indigenous Australians to rescind the decision to have separate elections for the TSRA and the TSIRC needs to be followed up. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. ED Corporate Services 2. CEO 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. To be completed. Correspondence to now focus on self-determination for Torres Strait Islander people, as well as Treaty issues, the Masig Statement and native title matters. Refer AI 5 of Jan 2024 Mtg. 2. Outstanding.

SARG Action Items

<p>7 Mar 2023 Mtg</p> <p>AI 8</p> <p>General/Other Business</p>	<p>(1) Write to the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade regarding the following matters:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Movement under the treaty • Unauthorised visits. • Overstayers • Policy and Border Force concerns. <p>(2) Write to Premier Anastasia Palaszczuk regarding the Joint Ministerial Advisory Committee for the One Boat Regional Governance.</p> <p>(3) Write to the Torres Strait Regional Authority regarding</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • TSIRC objection to the establishment of the Regional Infrastructure Advisory Committee (RIAC). • Follow-up to Major Infrastructure Program MIP 7 list that was provided approximately 18 months ago. 	<p>CEO / ED Corporate Services</p>	<p>CEO advised Jan 2024 SARG Mtg that he will review the status of actioning on these issues.</p>
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DIRECTORATE: Corporate Services

AUTHOR: Executive Director Corporate Services

RESOLUTION TO CLOSE THE MEETING TO THE PUBLIC

OFFICER RECOMMENDATION:

The Standing Committee resolves to close the meeting to the public pursuant to section 254J of the *Local Government Regulation 2012* to allow the Committee to discuss items listed on the agenda for closed discussion and for the reasons outlined under those items.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

A local government meeting is open to the public unless the local government or committee has resolved that the meeting is to be closed.

Section 254J of the *Local Government Regulation 2012* allows the Council or its Standing Committee to close its meeting to the public to discuss one or more of the following matters:

- (a) the appointment, discipline or dismissal of the chief executive officer;
- (b) industrial matters affecting employees;
- (c) the local government's budget;
- (d) rating concessions;
- (e) legal advice obtained by the local government or legal proceedings involving the local government including, for example, legal proceedings that may be taken by or against the local government;
- (f) matters that may directly affect the health and safety of an individual or a group of individuals;
- (g) negotiations relating to a commercial matter involving the local government for which a public discussion would be likely to prejudice the interests of the local government;
- (h) negotiations relating to the taking of land by the local government under the *Acquisition of Land Act 1967*;
- (i) a matter the local government is required to keep confidential under a law of, or formal arrangement with, the Commonwealth or a State;
- (j) an investigation report given to the local government under chapter 5A, part 3, division 5 of the Act.

Section 254J(6) of the *Local Government Regulation 2012* stipulates that a local government or a committee of a local government must not make a resolution (other than a procedural resolution) in a local government meeting, or a part of a local government meeting, that is closed.

Interested Parties/Consultation:

N/A

Background / Previous Council or Committee Consideration:

N/A

COMPLIANCE / CONSIDERATIONS:

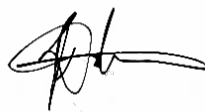
Statutory:	Section 254J of the <i>Local Government Regulation 2012</i>
Budgetary:	N/A
Policy:	Council meetings State Development and Infrastructure
Legal:	N/A
Risk:	Council breach of its Statutory requirements above. TSIRC Corporate Plan 2020–2025 (<i>Bisnis Plan</i>) Delivery Pillar One – People (<i>Bisnis – Pipol</i>)
Links to Strategic Plans:	Outcome 4: We are a transparent, open and engaging council. ➤ 4.2 Evolve Council's communication channels and community's access to information.
Masig Statement:	N/A
Standing Committee Consultation:	N/A
Timelines:	Standard Procedure at all Council and Standing Committee Meetings

Other Comments:

Nil.

Recommended:

Susanne Andres
Executive Director Corporate Services

Approved:

James William
Chief Executive Officer

ATTACHMENTS:

Nil.



STRATEGIC ACTION REFERENCE GROUP (SARG) STANDING COMMITTEE MEETING

5 MARCH 2025

Agenda Item

5

DIRECTORATE: Corporate Services

AUTHOR: Executive Director Corporate Services

CLOSED BUSINESS

RESOLUTION TO RETURN THE MEETING TO OPEN DISCUSSION

OFFICER RECOMMENDATION:

The Standing Committee resolves to move out of closed discussions pursuant to Section 254I of the *Local Government Regulation 2012*.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

Section 254I of the *Local Government Regulation 2012* stipulates that a local government meeting is open to the public unless the local government or standing committee has resolved that the meeting is to be closed.

Interested Parties/Consultation:

N/A

Background / Previous Council or Committee Consideration:

N/A

COMPLIANCE / CONSIDERATIONS:

Statutory:	Section 254I of the <i>Local Government Regulation 2012</i>
Budgetary:	N/A
Policy:	Council meetings State Development and Infrastructure
Legal:	N/A
Risk:	Council breach of its Statutory requirements above.
Links to Strategic Plans:	TSIRC Corporate Plan 2020–2025 (<i>Bisnis Plan</i>) Delivery Pillar One – People (<i>Bisnis – Pipol</i>) Outcome 4: We are a transparent, open and engaging council. ➤ 4.2 Evolve Council’s communication channels and community’s access to information.
Masig Statement:	N/A
Standing Committee Consultation:	N/A
Timelines:	Required procedure for all Council and Standing Committee meetings.

Other Comments:

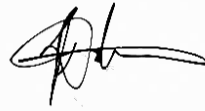
Nil.

Recommended:



Susanne Andres
Executive Director Corporate Services

Approved:



James William
Chief Executive Officer

ATTACHMENTS:

Nil.



DIRECTORATE: Corporate Services

AUTHOR: Executive Director Corporate Services

CONSIDERATION OF MATTERS DISCUSSED IN CLOSED SESSION

OFFICER RECOMMENDATION:

For the Committee to formally resolve on the matters discussed in its Closed Session.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

Section 254J(6) of the *Local Government Regulation 2012* stipulates that a local government or a committee of local government must not make a resolution (other than a procedural resolution) in a local government meeting, or a part of a local government meeting, that is closed.

The open meeting must resume to pass a resolution if any decisions are necessary following the closed-meeting discussion.

Interested Parties/Consultation:

N/A

Background / Previous Committee Consideration:

N/A

COMPLIANCE / CONSIDERATIONS:

Statutory:	Section 254J(6) of the <i>Local Government Regulation 2012</i>
Budgetary:	N/A
Policy:	Council meetings State Development and Infrastructure
Legal:	N/A
Risk:	Council breach of its Statutory requirements above.
Links to Strategic Plans:	TSIRC Corporate Plan 2020–2025 (<i>Bisnis Plan</i>) Delivery Pillar One – People (<i>Bisnis – Pipol</i>) Outcome 4: We are a transparent, open and engaging council. 4.2 Evolve Council’s communication channels and community’s access to information.
Masig Statement:	N/A
Standing Committee Consultation:	N/A
Timelines:	Standard Procedure at each Committee Meeting

Other Comments:

Nil.

Recommended:



Susanne Andres
Executive Director Corporate Services

Approved:



James William
Chief Executive Officer

ATTACHMENTS:

Nil.



STRATEGIC ACTION REFERENCE GROUP (SARG)
STANDING COMMITTEE MEETING
5 MARCH 2025

Agenda Item

11.1

DIRECTORATE: Corporate Services

AUTHOR: Executive Director Corporate Services

**ECONOMIC GROWTH ADVISORY COMMITTEE – EMG COMMUNITY CONSULTATIONS
2024/2025 RESULTS**

OFFICER RECOMMENDATION:

The Committee notes the presentation.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

The results of the EMG Workforce community consultations are presented to the Committee.

INTERESTED PARTIES/CONSULTATION:

Economic Growth Advisory Committee

REPORT:

Council's Economic Growth Advisory Committee (EGAC) met on 3 February 2025. A presentation by EMG Workforce was scheduled for the meeting, but due to two members of the committee declaring a Conflict of Interest for this agenda item, the presentation was re-allocated to SARG.

EGAC now seeks feedback and endorsement from SARG.

COMPLIANCE/CONSIDERATIONS:

Statutory:	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• <i>Local Government Act 2009</i>• <i>Local Government Regulation 2012</i>
Budgetary:	Operational budget as approved by Council
Policy:	Advisory Committee Terms of Reference (ToR)
Legal:	N/A
Risk:	N/A
Links to Strategic Plans:	Corporate Plan 2020-2025 (Bisnis Plan) Outcome 8 – we manage Council affairs responsibly to the benefit of our communities
Masig Statement:	Partnerships with Key Regional Stakeholders
Standing Committee Consultation:	Economic Growth Advisory Committee
Timelines:	N/A

Recommended:

S. Andres

Susanne Andres
Executive Director Corporate Services

Approved:

James William
Chief Executive Officer

ATTACHMENTS: Attachment 1: EMG consultations 2024/2025 presentation



Torres Strait Island
REGIONAL COUNCIL



Consultations 2024/2025



*"If you create something,
it creates destiny"*

(community member Ugar)

Overview



Consultation Approach
& Design

Past, Present & Future
Program Evaluation

Success, Barriers,
Economy, Services, Skills

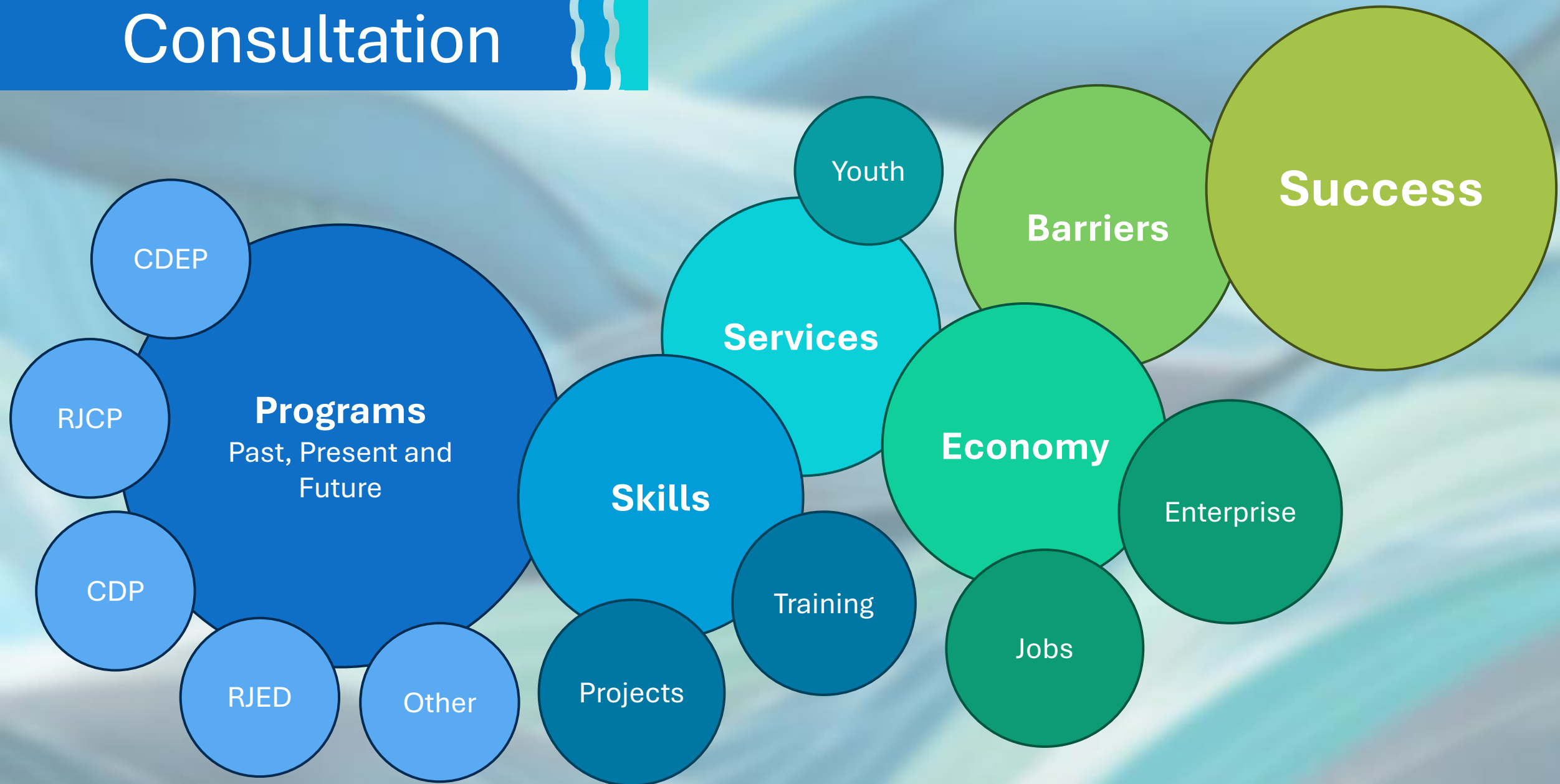
Comparisons with NIAA
Consultation Findings

Further Considerations





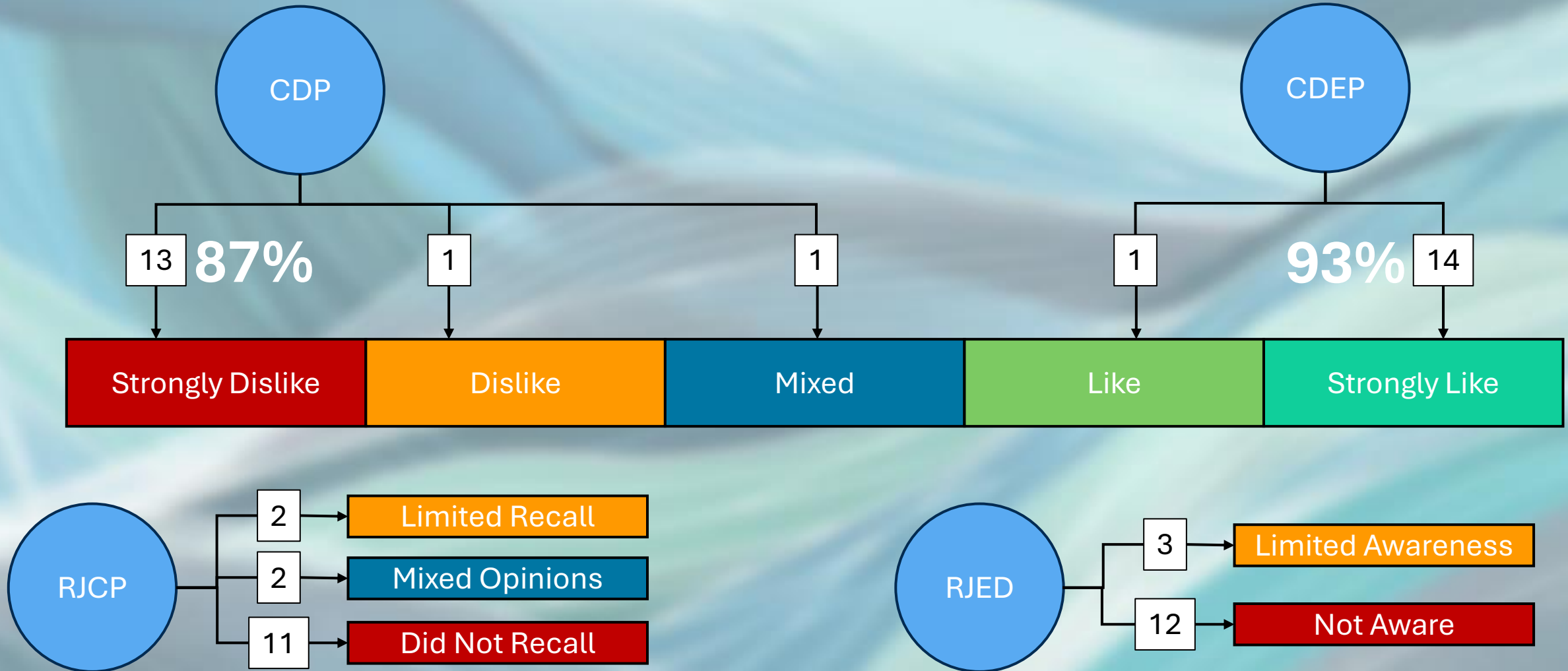
Consultation



Programs

OVERLAP
80%

We consulted on
15 islands, 8 in
common with 10
report by NIAA



Sentiment

CDP

Strongly
Dislike

Dislike

Mixed

*"CDP is being done to us, we're not asked what we want"
(community member IAMA)*

*"Jobseekers are happy with their current circumstance, they don't have to do anything to get paid, so they're not doing anything, not challenging themselves. They're losing confidence."
(community member Erub)*

*During CDEP,
Community didn't
need a skills audit,
they knew what skills
were available, who
could do what
(comments Warraber)*

*"Masig statement is the voice
for people. During CDEP time,
that is what we were doing"
(community member St Paul's)*

Like

Strongly
Like

CDEP

*"When people were given an opportunity
to work, we saw their talent"
(community member Mer)*

*"During CDEP we yarned on the
ground and we decided projects,
planned projects, found solutions
and delivered projects"
(community member Erub)*

The underlying reason for positive sentiment is that the CDEP was

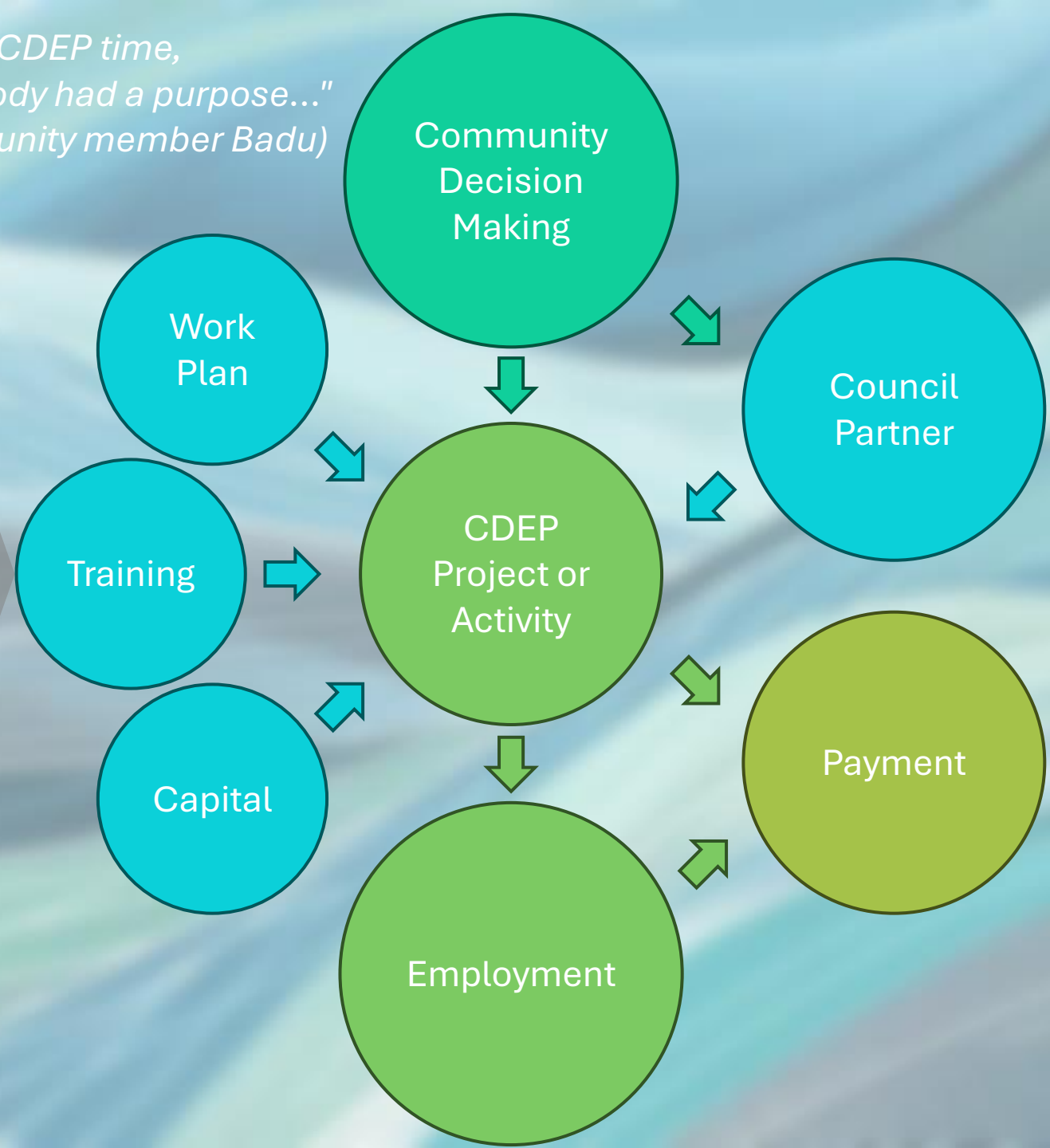
Outcome-based

The **outcome** being the completion of the project or ongoing completion of activities

Key factors in establishment and achievement of the outcome:

- Determination of the project or activity was done with **community**
- Work plan and project management **determined** skills and qualifications required
- Assets, resources and capital were **wrapped** around
- Community was working **together** on things they jointly agreed were important
- People received **payment** for their effort including top-up

*"When CDEP time,
everybody had a purpose..."
(community member Badu)*

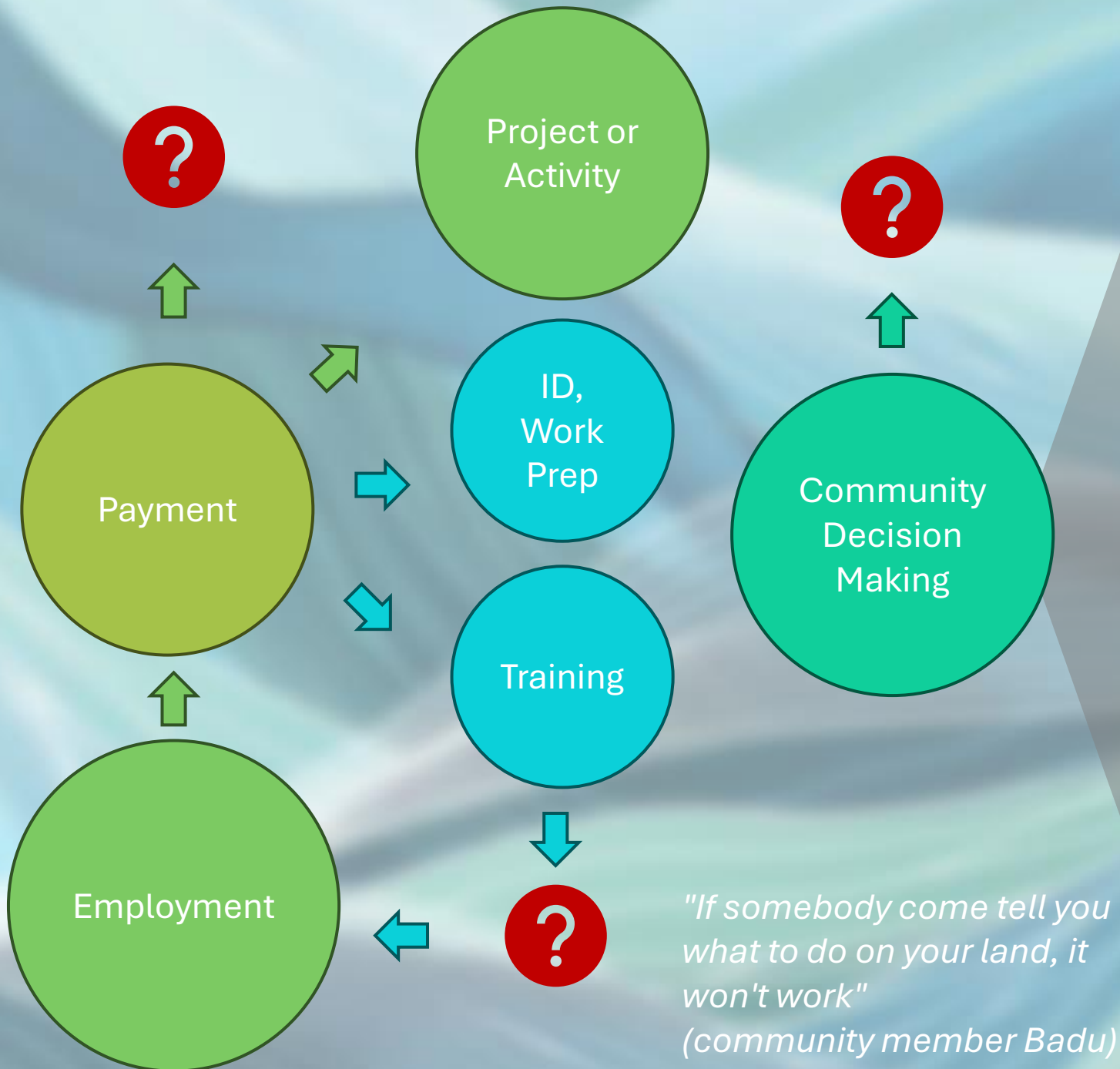


The underlying reasons for negative CDP sentiment is community feels

Disenfranchised

Key factors in this feeling:

- Community feel that have no say in projects
- Community feel they don't know what activities / projects are being done or why
- Community feel local connections are not supported and are under strain
- Payment is perceived to be given without an effort
- There is no perceived connection between activities and employment
- There is no perceived connection between training and employment



Evaluation

"We were doing well when we had CDEP, now there is nothing happening" (community member Saibai)



Community Decisions

Many communities appreciated that CDEP was managed and controlled locally, allowing them to make decisions that best suited their needs.



Flexibility

CDEP was noted for its flexibility in terms of work hours and project types, which was beneficial for community members.



Program Changes

Some communities expressed dissatisfaction with the changes and discontinuation of CDEP, feeling that newer programs did not meet their needs as effectively.



Lack of Support for Business Development

There was a sentiment that CDEP did not provide enough support for business development and mentoring.



Red Tape

Communities mentioned issues with bureaucratic hurdles and "red tape" that made it difficult to implement projects and access funding.



Loss of Work Ethic

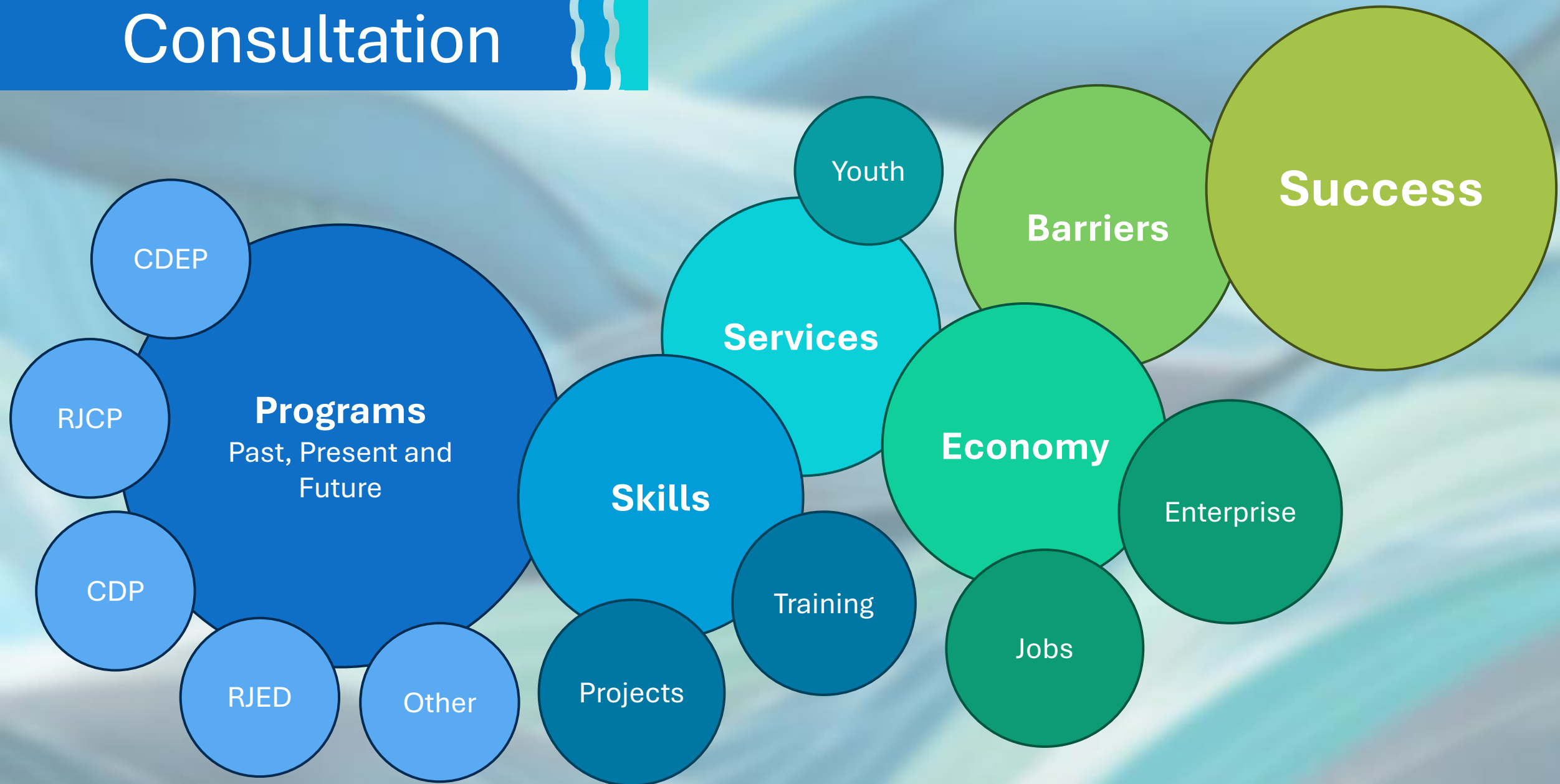
Some feedback indicated that the removal of mutual obligations under newer programs led to a decline in work ethic among community members.



Sustainability Concerns

There were concerns about the sustainability and long-term impact of projects / training initiated under CDEP, especially after the program ended.

Consultation



Outlooks



*"We worked together back in the day".
(community member Mer)*

*"Why don't we change the system? How can we go back to the CDEP way?"
(community member Ugar)*

*"If we find interesting projects, they'll get behind it"
(community member Erub)*

We need a skills audit, so many people here have qualifications, but there's no work for them. Create those positions. (comments Kirriri)

*"We need grass root businesses, start small, build confidence through success"
(community member Mabuiag)*

*"I want us to work together as a community, as a family. We've done it before, we can do it again"
(young community member Kubin)*

**Future
Community
Success**

Community Success

"I speak from my heart, everything needs to start from here, in community" (community member Boigu)



Community Decisions

Communities value having control over their own projects and decisions



Maintaining Culture

Strong connections to cultural and spiritual practices, preserving and maintaining culturally significant sites



Training and Employment Opportunities

Access to training and employment is a key indicator of success



Community Participation

Active and valued participation of community members in various projects and activities



Economic Growth

Development of local businesses, services and economic opportunities



Youth Engagement

Young people nurtured from birth and stay to participate in community life

Barriers



Success leads to motivation and a cycle where overcoming barriers is a step towards greater achievements, rather than a prerequisite for any success

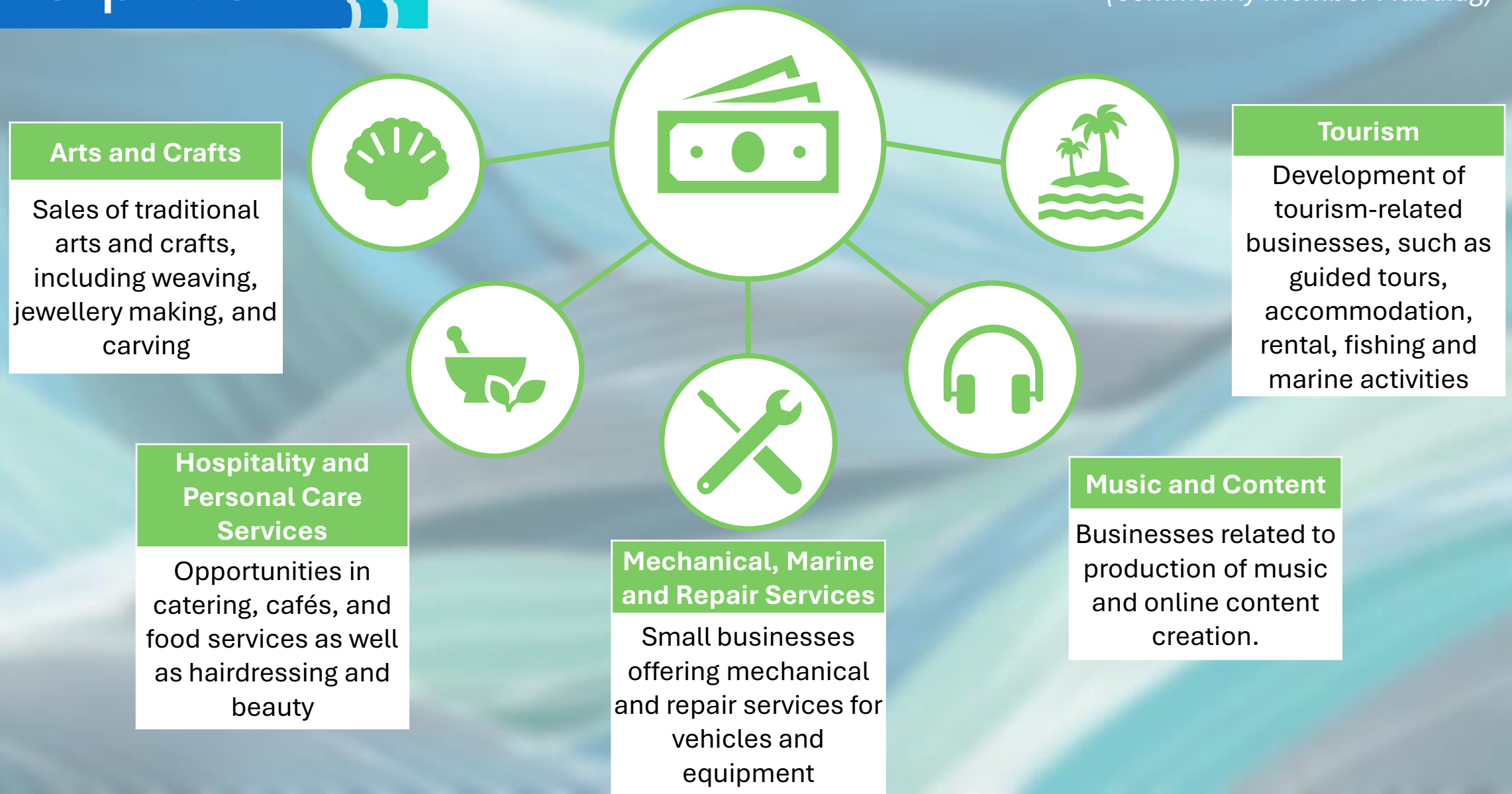
Employment

*"We need a path to a real job"
(community member Poruma)*



Enterprise

"We're a small community, but we invest in people"
(community member Mabuiag)



Enterprise Success



**Community
Aspirations**

**Business Support and
Training**

**Mentorship
Needs**

**Current and Potential
Business
Opportunities**

Create jobs through
small businesses to
support economic growth
and self-determination

Align with cultural
values, such as
ecotourism and
culturally sensitive
tourism

Develop a start-up kit for
potential businesses

Provide live
information sessions

Providing courses for
business start-ups
including those from
home

Lack of business
mentors who
understand the cultural
context

There is a need for longer-
term business mentorship,
workshops, bookkeeping,
accounting, and tax help

High costs of freight
and geographical
isolation are significant
barriers to business
development

Services



"There is so much we could do to have access and equity here on Hammond" (community member Kirriri)

Environmental and Maintenance Services
Business Development and Mentorship
Childcare and Aged Care Services
Community and Social Services
Infrastructure and Transport
Training and Education
Employment Support
Health Services
Legal Services
Youth Programs



Frequency

Accessibility

Adequacy

Absence

Access

Youth

"Our children need something to look forward to when they finish school" (community member Poruma)

"There's nothing here for our young ones, nothing to make them stay" (community member Dauan)



Sustaining Culture

Communities have concerns about sustainability as elderly pass away and younger generation are leaving the Island. More engaging cultural activities are wanted.



Employment Opportunities

Many communities are concerned about the limited job opportunities available for young people, leading to high unemployment rates and a lack of career prospects.



Access to Training and Education

There is a significant need for more accessible and practical training programs, including vocational training and higher education opportunities, to equip young people with the skills needed for employment.



Youth Engagement and Motivation

Communities are worried about the lack of engagement and motivation among young people, which can lead to issues such as substance abuse, antisocial behaviour, and a general lack of direction.



Support for Transition from School to Work

There is a need for better support systems to help young people transition from school to work, including career guidance, apprenticeships, and mentorship programs.



Recreational and Social Activities

Many communities lack adequate recreational and social activities for young people, which are essential for their overall development and well-being.

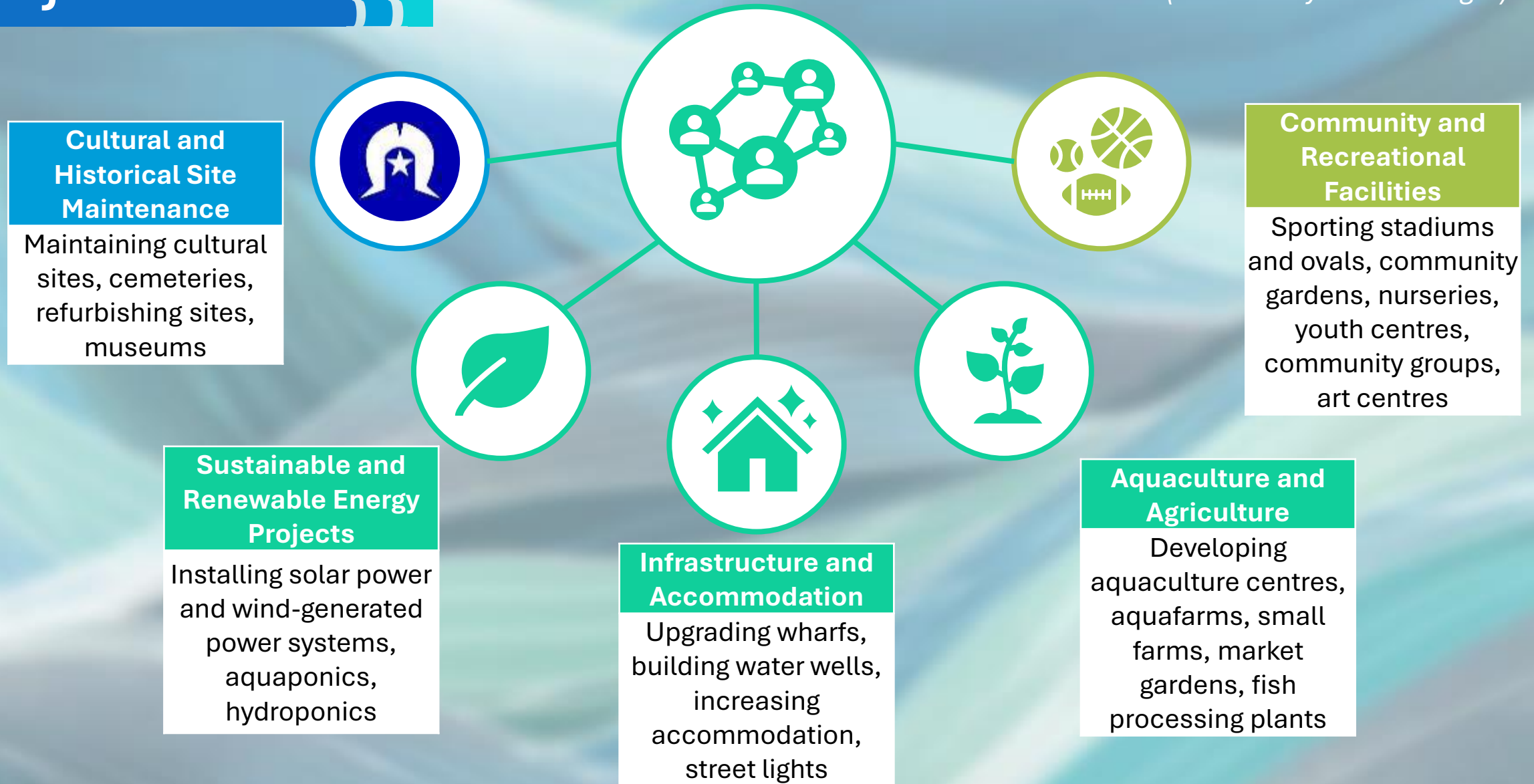
Skills / Training

*"We need on the job training and experience"
(community member Dauan)*

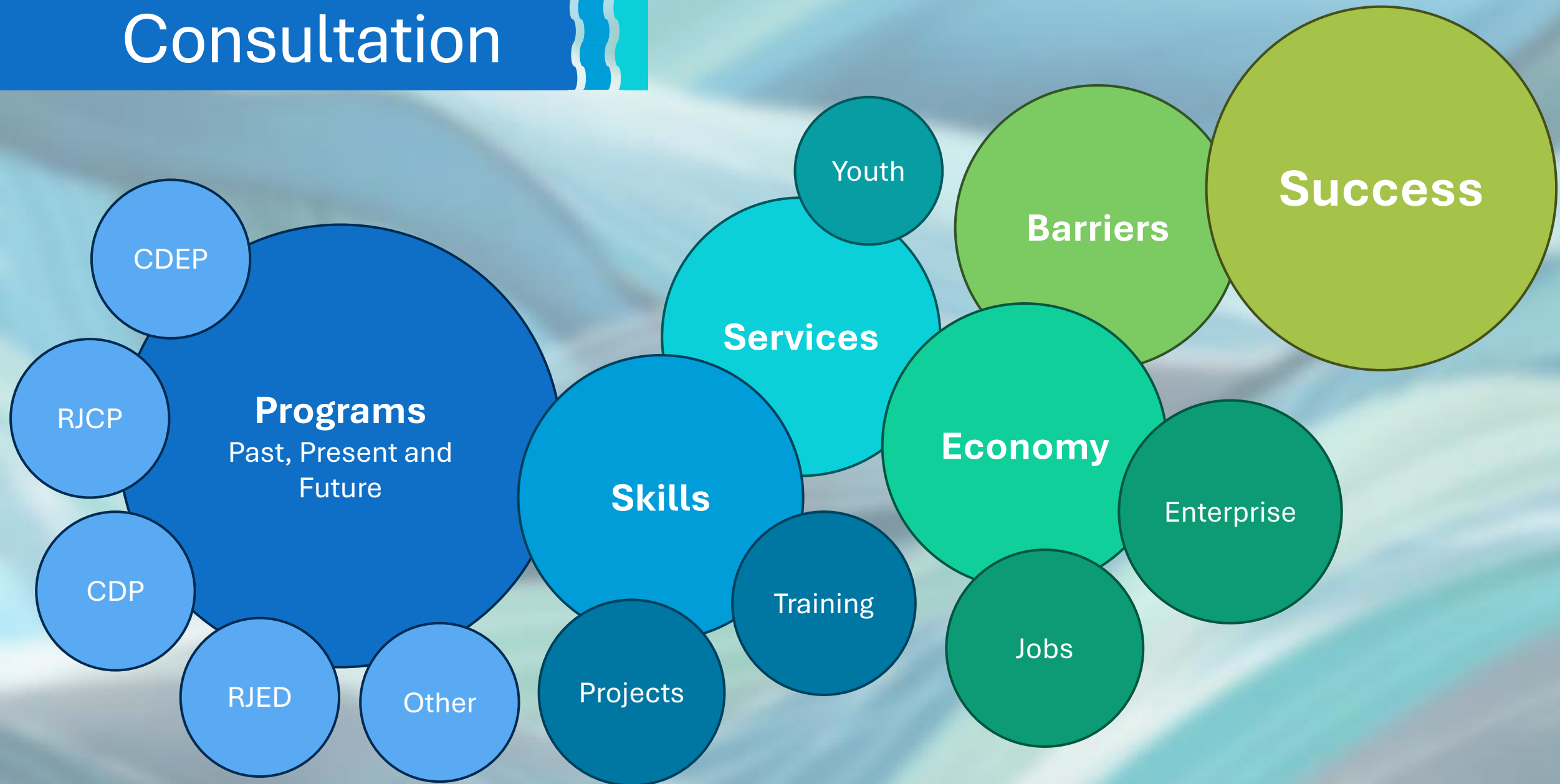


Projects

"Give us the tools and we'll do something, we don't need words" (community member Ugar)



Consultation



NIAA Findings



Replacing the Community Development Program – second phase of community consultations report (80% overlap)

Mutual obligations

Some communities have said they would like to see **compulsory activity attendance** introduced under the new model.

Some communities have said it is fair and reasonable to **participate in community activities in return for income support**

The general sentiment is that if Mutual Obligation is the only option, it is reluctantly supported. However, there is a far greater want for projects and supports which motivate and build confidence to incentivise participation rather than penalise non-participation.

Quality assessment and wrap-around supports

We heard that it is important that participants are **assessed to identify aspirations and goals**, barriers to work, needs and supports required, capability and capacity to work. Under the new model there should be strong support pathways for those who are **unable to work right now**. This could include referrals to **wrap around support services** or non-vocational training such as financial literacy.

Community sentiment is around people's passions and engagements to motivate participation. Wrap-around supports are required, however, this area has significant barriers with regard to services available to be referred to. This has impact on what people are able to do.

NIAA Findings



Replacing the Community Development Program – second phase of community consultations report (80% overlap)

Tailored support for youth

We heard that young people need **tailored supports** to find and maintain suitable employment.

Some young people lack **motivation** to work due to **limited jobs** that align with their goals, aspirations and skill set.

Young people need to be empowered to learn new skills and **bring those skills back to community**.

Community sentiment is more broad than NIAA and sees the issues related to youth more holistically the simply 'employment'.

Transition from school to work is seen as a critical point and needs to happen *before* youth leave community and *before* youth become 'unemployed' and part of a program.

Tailored support to become job-ready

Under the new model it should be explicit that providers support job seekers to **obtain such documentation** to become **job-ready**. In some cases, training and support offered to job seekers is **outside community**. This presents transportation barriers and being away from family and cultural responsibilities for a period of time.

Community express frustration, effectively stating that people already have skills and are 'job-ready' but there are no jobs for them. Instead of 'job-ready', their focus is 'Outcome-based' to help people get what is needed to achieve an outcome, which could be a project, activity, employment, or own business. Community prefer own island or island cluster training.

Further Considerations



Community
Decisions

Maintaining
Culture

Training and
Employment
Opportunities

Community
Participation

Economic
Growth

Youth
Engagement

Perception

"Economic development being driven through TSIRC is an important step"
(community member Mer)

"CDEP worked well because Council had control and community had a say"
(community member IAMA)

Bureaucratic and Regulatory Barriers

Too much
"red tape"

TSIRC policies

TSIRC needs to
divest assets

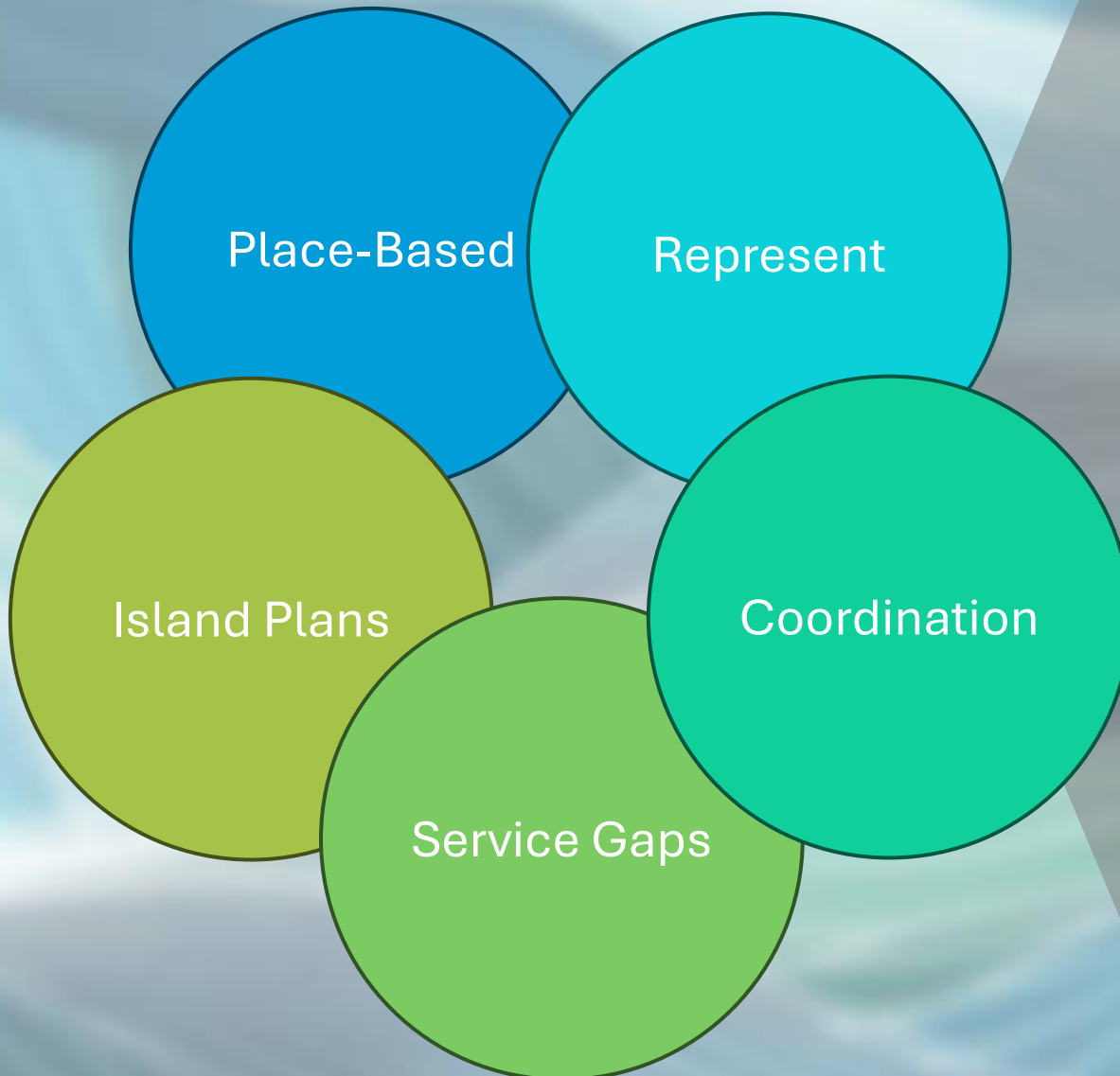
TSIRC legal
contact

There is strong support for Council involvement in program delivery, and the positive sentiment towards CDEP is closely connected.

However, there is also a current perception that Council contribute to the bureaucratic and regulatory barriers for community.

Further consultation or internal process / system audits could present opportunities for optimisation.

Localisation



There is general frustration around the 'TI centric' nature of the current program.

Where the next program cannot be fully Community based, there are still some strategies to consider:

- Maximise **place-based** services where possible, even a person who is not directly part of a service but **represents** and assists others is valuable, face to face is best
- **Localise and individualise** the plan for each island, like with the consultations
- **Service gaps** and **coordination** of services could be bridged by technology and some gaps in services could be filled by Enterprise, this will take time but has broad based community support

Business

"(Our) aspiration is to combine business growth with community development and cultural preservation..."
(business owner St Pauls)

Community Support and Growth

Most respondents aspire to establish or expand businesses that support their local communities, create job opportunities, and encourage economic growth

Infrastructure and Resource Limitations

Common challenges include issues with infrastructure, funding, native title, and logistical difficulties

Community Development and Job Creation

Opportunities in helping the community, creating jobs, and developing cultural and eco-tourism initiatives

Comprehensive Business and Operational Skills

Required skills include business management, operational training, hospitality, cultural awareness, and specific technical skills relevant to the business

Local Market Focus with Growth Potential

Current market is primarily local, with future demand expected to grow through economic development, job creation, and increased tourism



Sentiment



Strength

- Community Focus
- Opportunities for Growth
- Aspiration for Improvement

Challenges

- Infrastructure and Resource Limitations
- High Freight Costs
- Recruitment and Retention of Skilled Staff

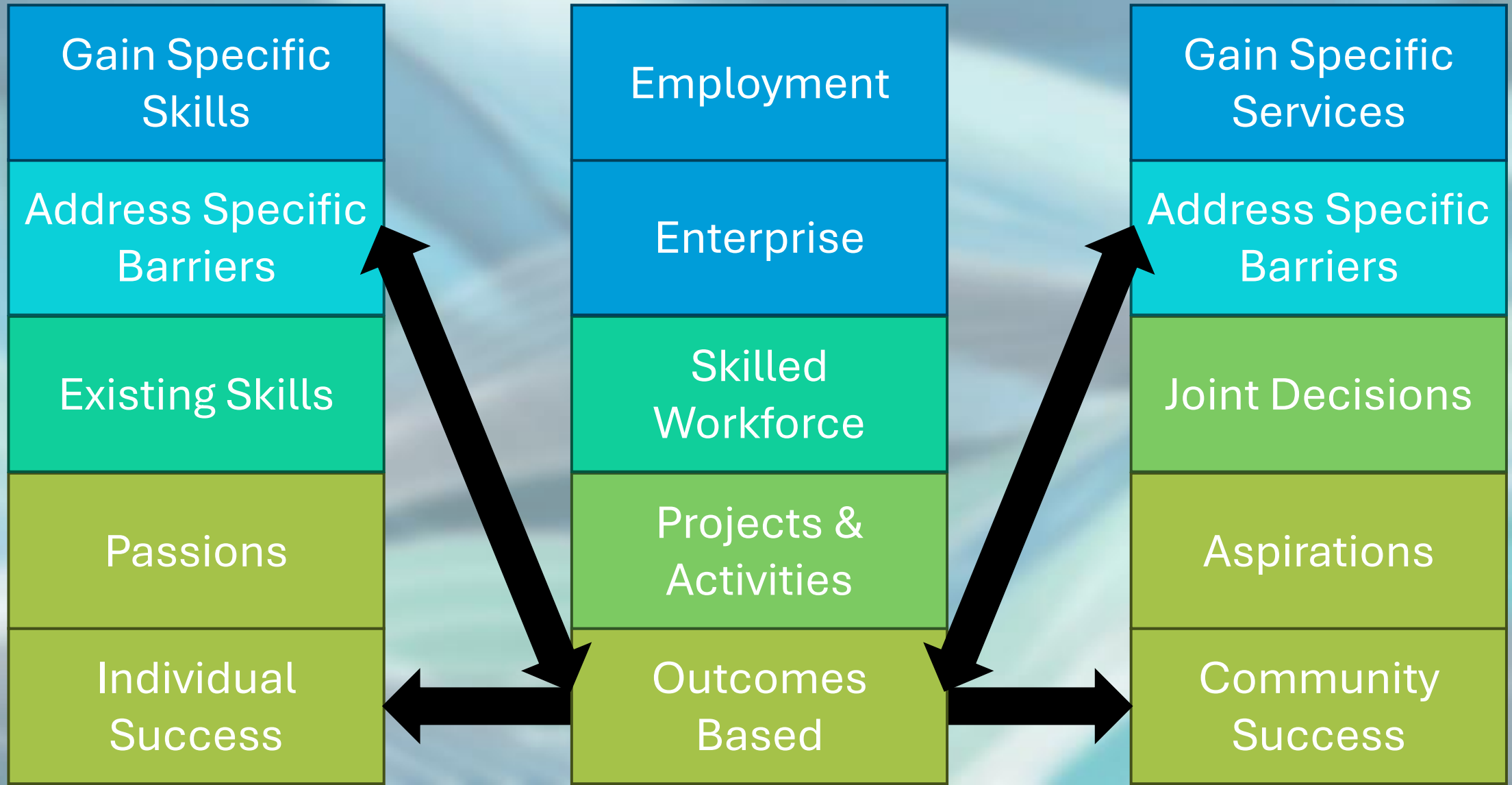
Support

There is a desire for improved logistics, infrastructure development, workforce training, marketing assistance, and stronger **community collaboration**.

Overall, the sentiment is one of **determination and resilience**, with a focus on overcoming challenges to achieve growth and support the community.

Design

"We need to create opportunities that align with passions of those who want to work or build business". (community member Ugar)





Torres Strait Island
REGIONAL COUNCIL



Consultations 2024/2025



*"If you create something,
it creates destiny"*

(community member Ugar)



STRATEGIC ACTION REFERENCE GROUP (SARG)
STANDING COMMITTEE MEETING
5 MARCH 2025

Agenda Item

11.2

DIRECTORATE: Corporate Services

AUTHOR: Corporate Performance and Planning Lead

COUNCILLOR REMUNERATION, EXPENSES REIMBURSEMENT AND RESOURCES POLICY

OFFICER RECOMMENDATION:

That the Strategic Action Reference Group (SARG) Standing Committee discuss and review the Councillor Remuneration, Expenses Reimbursement and Resources Policy.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

The *Councillor Remuneration, Expenses Reimbursement and Resources Policy* outlines the compensation, expense reimbursement and support provided to its elected officials.

The policy also details procedures for advance payments in cases of financial hardship, emergency relief or other genuine reasons, with specific conditions and repayment requirements. Additionally, it specifies the facilities and support available to Councillors to assist them in fulfilling their duties.

BACKGROUND:

The Policy is reviewed annually and was last adopted by Council in June 2024.

The Policy outlines the financial entitlements, expense reimbursement provisions, and resources available to Councillors in performing their official duties. The policy ensures compliance with relevant legislative requirements and provides transparency in the use of public funds.

The Mayor requested at the February 2025 Ordinary Council Meeting that SARG review the policy, particularly in relation to meeting attendance, apologies and remuneration to support that Councillors are actively participating in Council and committee meetings to allow for informed decision-making, accountability, and effective representation of communities.

COMPLIANCE / CONSIDERATIONS:

Statutory:	In accordance with section 250 of the <i>Local Government Regulation 2012</i> Council must prepare an Expenses Reimbursement Policy and adopt this by resolution
Budgetary:	Policy aligns with Annual Budget
Policy:	<i>Councillor Remuneration, Expenses Reimbursement and Resources Policy</i>
Legal:	<i>Local Government Regulation 2012 s250</i>
Risk:	This policy must be updated annually to ensure legislative and commercial aspects relating to the policy are given due consideration
Links to Strategic Plans:	People - Outcome 4: We are a transparent, open, and engaging Council. Sustainability - Outcome 8: We manage Council affairs responsibly to the benefit of our communities.
Masig Statement:	N/A
Standing Committee Consultation:	Strategic Action Reference Group
Timelines:	This Policy needs to be reviewed and adopted by 30 June 2025.

OTHER COMMENTS:

N/A

Prepared/Recommended:

Robert Blake
Corporate Planning and Performance Lead

Endorsed:

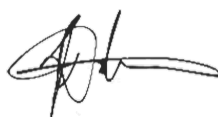
Emily Reid
Manager Administration and Communication

Endorsed:

S. Andres

Susanne Andres
Executive Director Corporate Services

Approved:



James William
Chief Executive Officer

ATTACHMENTS:

Attachment 1: Councillor Remuneration, Expenses Reimbursement and Resources Policy

Councillor Remuneration, Expenses Reimbursement and Resources Policy

1. PURPOSE

To clarify the extent of remuneration, expense reimbursement and support provided to Torres Strait Island Regional Council Councillors.

2. SCOPE

This policy applies to all duly elected representatives of Torres Strait Island Regional Council.

In accordance with section 250 of the *Local Government Regulation 2012* (Regulation) Council must prepare an Expenses Reimbursement Policy and adopt this by resolution. The discussion and resolution of this policy must be conducted in open session.

This policy must provide for:

- Payment of reasonable expenses incurred, or to be incurred, by Councillors discharging their duties and responsibilities as Councillors; and
- Provision of facilities to the councillors for the purpose of discharging their duties and responsibilities as councillors

3. LINK TO CORPORATE PLAN

- People *Bisnis* - *Pipo*
- Sustainability *Bisnis* - *Mekem las long*
- Prosperity *Bisnis* – *Pruitpul*

4. POLICY STATEMENT

4.1. Councillor Remuneration

Pursuant to section 247 of the *Local Government Act 2009*, a local government must pay remuneration to each Councillor.

In accordance with section 177 of the *Local Government Act 2009*, the Local Government Remuneration Commission is responsible for deciding the maximum amount of remuneration that is payable to Councillors.

The Commission must annually decide and publish the maximum amount of remuneration payable from 1 July of the following year to a Mayor, Deputy Mayor or a Councillor of a local government.

As required by section 246 of the *Regulation* the Local Government Remuneration Commission have prepared a remuneration schedule for the 2024/25 Financial Year:

Position	Remuneration amounts effective 1 July 2024
Mayor	\$120,541
Deputy Mayor	\$69,543
Councillor	\$60,270

The remuneration fixed above is all inclusive and no additional remuneration is payable for sick leave, annual leave, or any other benefits otherwise applicable to employees other than superannuation. Remuneration payments are made in fortnightly instalments.

Councillors who serve only part of a given financial year, shall receive remuneration pro-rata only.

4.2. **Advance Payment**

Meaning in this section:

Advance Payment means a payment of a Councillor's base salary in advance of when it is due to be paid.

This section applies to Advance Payments and the circumstances in which an advance payment may be paid to a Councillor on approval from the Chief Executive Officer. Any requests by Councillors which do not meet the requirements of this Policy will need to go to a Council meeting.

Upon a request being received from a Councillor, the Chief Executive Officer (CEO) may approve for payment to a Councillor an advance payment if:

1. The CEO is satisfied that the Advance Payment is for:
 - financial hardship;
 - emergency relief; or
 - for another genuine reason
2. a Councillor has made the request in writing and has provided the information required to complete the advance payment repayment form demonstrating how it is intended to be repaid (attached as *Appendix A* to this Policy);

3. the payment of an advance payment is not requested to be made within the first two months of the Councillor's term;
4. the payment of an advance payment is not requested to be made within the last six months of the Councillor's term;
5. the total of advance payment/s made to any one Councillor does not exceed one fortnight's base salary.

All advance payments are to be repaid to Council by the Councillor within the following fortnightly pay period for the Councillor.

The Chief Executive Officer, at their discretion, may request a Councillor to produce material to substantiate their application for an advance payment which the Chief Executive Officer considers relevant to their assessment.

The Chief Executive Officer, at their discretion, can refuse any application by a Councillor for an advance payment whatsoever. Any approval given by the Chief Executive Officer must be in writing.

This section only applies to an advance payment, relating to a Councillor's base salary component, and does not cover or permit any other advance. To avoid any doubt, a Councillor's meeting fee component cannot be paid in advance.

Before any advance payment is made a signed copy of the Advance Payment Repayment Form must be provided.

4.3. Tax

At the beginning of each financial year, Councillors must nominate a tax withholding amount to be applied by Council.

4.4. Provision of Facilities and Support

Certain equipment separately identified in this policy is provided to the Councillor once and will remain the property of the Councillor upon the completion of the entire term of Council. All other equipment and facilities not separately identified remain the property of Council and must be returned to Council when a Councillor's term expires.

4.4.1. Private use of Council owned facilities

Based on the principle, that no private benefit is to be gained, the facilities provided to Councillor's by Council owned facilities are to be used only for Council business unless prior approval has been granted by resolution of Council.

4.4.2. Office facilities

Councillors will be provided with the following facilities and support:

- Mayor: Separate office accommodation on home island, Thursday Island and in Cairns Office with Secretarial and Executive Assistant Support
- Deputy Mayor and Councillors: Office accommodation and administrative support in accordance with the established staff structure and Council's Communications Guidelines (Acceptable Request Guidelines) on the Councillor's home island.

Councillors are provided with access to shared facsimile, scanner, printer, photocopier and paper shredder for business use.

Use of Council landline telephones and internet access in Council offices for Council business.

4.4.3. Uniform provision

The Council will provide Councillors with a Council uniform allocation, aligned to the general employee uniform allowance.

4.4.4. Motor vehicles

On the choice of the Mayor or Councillor:

Council will provide a 2WD dual cab utility or similar vehicle dependent upon availability on a full private use basis, that being, any member of the Councillor's family with a current driver's licence can drive this vehicle and transport passengers.

The Councillor will pay \$25 a week as hire and provide all fuel.

The Council will be responsible for the routine maintenance and insurance of the vehicle and all fair wear and tear repairs. Where repairs are required other than as a result of fair wear and tear, the Councillor will pay the full cost (including any freight costs) of rectification or, if the vehicle cannot be repaired, replacement of the vehicle. Repair or replacement must be carried out in a timely manner— within two months of damage being identified, or as soon as reasonably practicable.

Vehicle hire may be suspended for a period of time where the vehicle is taken out of operation for repairs and maintenance and an alternative vehicle is not available.

Motor vehicles will not be allocated to Councillors with outstanding unpaid charges for maintenance and unfair wear and tear repairs from previous hire arrangements through Council.

Council shall retain property in the vehicle. At the end of the Councillor's term the vehicle shall be returned to Council in the same condition as when the vehicle was provided, subject to fair wear and tear.

A Councillor will not be entitled to access any other Council vehicle, for Council business or private.

4.4.5. Computers and telecommunication

Council will only provide one mobile phone handset and one piece of portable IT hardware equipment to a Councillor at the start of their term of office.

At the conclusion of the term these items will become the property of the Councillor. A standard suite of Council software will be provided with each piece of portable IT hardware equipment issued to the Councillor. Any additional software provision and/or installation will be at the discretion of the Chief Executive Officer and must comply with licencing and ICT Standard Operating Environment Procedure. This software will be removed at the end of the Councillor's term.

Support for the Council supplied IT hardware will be provided through the Information Services Helpdesk (within standard business hours). If rectification requires more than phone support the Council provided IT hardware must be returned to the Cairns office by the Councillor.

Any lost, damaged, stolen or superseded devices will be repaired or replaced by Council at the sole discretion of the Chief Executive Officer, who shall consider the reasonableness of the request.

Use of IT equipment provided by Council must comply with IT Policy and Procedures, and particularly the ICT Acceptable Use Procedure.

A voice and data plan will be paid for by Council for business use only during the term of the Councillor.

4.4.6. General legal advice

General legal advice is available to Councillors on Council-related matters. Legal advice is provided by Council's Legal Services Team.

4.5. Reimbursement of Expenses

4.5.1. Representing Council

Where Council resolves, or the Mayor and Chief Executive Officer consider relevant, that Councillors are required to attend study tours, conferences or workshops to either deliver a paper, to receive knowledge or as a delegate of Council; Council will pay for or reimburse expenses, associated with attending the event since participation is part of the business of Council.

Each Councillor who attends an event on behalf of Council must provide a written report to the whole Council at the second ordinary meeting after the event and a verbal report upon request.

4.5.2. Mandatory professional development

Where Council resolves or the Mayor and Chief Executive Officer consider, that all Councillors are to attend training courses or workshops for skills development related to a Councillor's role, the Council will pay for or reimburse expenses, being the total cost of the course plus associated expenses.

4.5.3. Discretionary professional development

Where a Councillor identifies a need to attend a conference, workshop or training to improve skills, other than mandatory training, Council will pay for or reimburse expenses to a maximum of \$5,000 per financial year. The professional development must be related to the skill development of the Councillor in their capacity as Councillor.

4.6. Travel as required to represent Council

A local government may pay for or reimburse local, interstate and overseas travel expenses (e.g. flights, car, accommodation, meals and associated registration fees) deemed necessary to achieve the business of Council where:

- A Councillor is an official representative of Council; and
- The activity/event and travel have been endorsed by resolution of Council; or
- The Mayor and Chief Executive Officer consider necessary to incur the travel on behalf of Council

Council will pay for reasonable expenses incurred for overnight accommodation. All travel expenses will be paid in advance of travel with any unused allowance recovered from future claims.

If a Councillor travels using their private vehicle, a log is to be kept of the kilometres travelled and the reimbursement will be on a cents-per-kilometre method in accordance with the Australian Taxation Office rulings for the engine capacity of the vehicle used. Claim can only be made to a maximum of 5,000 business kilometres per year per vehicle.

If a Councillor travels using a private vessel, reimbursement will be based on actual costs incurred (such as fuel costs). A log is to be kept and receipts provided to substantiate reimbursement of expenses. The claim must not exceed the cost of the same travel using economy flights plus taxi transfers.

4.6.1. Travel bookings

All Councillor approved air travel will be booked and paid for by Council. For the purpose of travelling for Council (not as a result of a third-party request and payment) economy class is to be used, however for journeys of two (2) hours or more, business class may be used where available.

Class of travel for third-party travel requests such as attendance at board or other meetings of the third party will be at the discretion of the Chief Executive Officer.

Airline tickets are not transferable and can only be procured for the Councillor's travel on Council business. They cannot be used to offset other unapproved expenses. (e.g. cost of partner or spouse accompanying the Councillor.)

4.6.2. Travel transfer costs

Any travel transfer expenses associated with Councillors travelling for Council approved business will be reimbursed. For example: trains, taxis, buses and ferry fares as well as possible hire cars.

Cab charge fast cards may also be used where Councillors are required to undertake duties relating to the business of Council. Cab charge statements are reviewed monthly by Councils Senior Executive Assistant to the Mayor and Chief Executive Officer against approved Council travel dates.

On the mainland only, for travel periods of longer than three (3) days, the Councillor has an option of obtaining a hire car. The hire car will be the equivalent of the Avis car classes being either full size or standard class vehicle. This is to be arranged by Council. All fuel costs and non-direct hire costs (e.g. cleaning) associated with the hire car will be borne by the Councillor.

If the Chief Executive Officer considers it an operational advantage or that savings can be achieved by hiring a car, this is at the Chief Executive Officer's discretion.

In exceptional circumstances where there is no Council vehicle or taxi service reasonably available, a hire car may be approved, for travel periods of less than 3 days, at the Chief Executive Officer discretion.

Travel costs including car-hire, parking costs and fuel, when attending conferences, will be considered by the Chief Executive Officer on a case-by-case basis. For example: hire car including fuel and parking to attend a conference or other official Council business requiring road-based travel from the nearest airport.

NOTE: Any fines incurred while travelling in Council-owned vehicles or Council arranged hire vehicles when attending to Council business, will be the responsibility of the Councillor incurring the fine.

Costs listed on invoices to Council which are not covered by the Council hire arrangement including fines, fees, refuelling, vehicle repairs and cleaning will be recovered by Council from the next payment made to the Councillor. A copy of the invoice will be forwarded to the Councillor to support the deduction made for the cost recoveries.

4.6.3. Accommodation

Council will pay for the most economical deal available. Where possible, the minimum and maximum standard for Councillors' accommodation will be four (4) star rating. Where particular accommodation is recommended by conference organisers, Council will take advantage of the package deal that is the most economical and convenient to the event.

For Cairns events Council has a list of pre-qualified suppliers who offer accommodation services, Councillors will be able to make a choice from these suppliers subject to availability.

Where a Councillor prefers to organise their own accommodation, an accommodation allowance will be paid as per the Australian Taxation Office Tax Determination for accommodation expenses current at the date of travel. This arrangement must be pre-approved by the Chief Executive Officer.

Tax withholding rate for non-commercial accommodation allowance is a minimum of 20%. If Councillor's ordinary withholding rate is higher than 20%, the tax withholding rate will be at the Councillor's ordinary rate.

4.6.4. Meals

Council will provide an allowance for meals, in accordance with the Australian Taxation Office ruling on travel expenses current at the date of travel, for a Councillor when a meal is not provided:

- Within the registration costs of the approved activity/event
- During an approved flight
- Any time Councillor is on Council Business

No alcohol will be paid for by Council. If the Councillor is away from home or commences their travel before 8am or concludes after 9 am a breakfast entitlement is provided. If the Councillor is away from home or commences travel before 12 noon or concludes after 1pm a lunch entitlement is provided. If the Councillor is away from home or commences travel before 6 pm or concludes after 7pm a dinner entitlement is provided.

4.6.5. Incidental allowance

Payment will be made for any overnight travel only; the calculation is to pay on the first day of travel, on the last day of travel and for any day in between. In effect the minimum payment will be two days entitlement.

4.6.6. Reimbursement of travel costs

In the event that a Councillor is absent without approved leave, from a workshop, training or any organised Council business event for which travel costs have been incurred and/or travel allowance paid, the Councillor will be liable for reimbursement of travel costs and/or travel allowance paid.

4.7. Legal Representation for Councillors

Councillors can seek legal representation by written request to the Chief Executive Officer in relation to a matter that arises from the Councillor's performance of his or her functions. Former Councillors may also request legal representation.

There are four major criteria for determining whether Council will pay the legal representation costs of a Councillor.

These are:

1. the legal representation costs must relate to a matter that arises from the performance, by the Councillor, of his or her functions;
2. the legal representation cost must be in respect of legal proceedings that have been, or may be, commenced;
3. in performing his or her functions, to which the legal representation relates, the Councillor must have acted in good faith, and must not have acted unlawfully or in a way that constitutes improper conduct; and
4. the legal representation costs do not relate to a matter that is of a personal or private nature.

If the above four (4) criteria are satisfied, Council may approve the payment of legal representation costs:

- where proceedings are brought against a Councillor in connection with his or her functions – for example, an action for defamation or negligence arising out of a decision made or action taken by the Councillor; or
- to enable proceedings to be commenced and/or maintained by a Councillor to permit the Councillor to carry out his or her functions – for example, where a Councillor seeks to take action to obtain a restraining order against a person using threatening behaviour to the Councillor; or
- where exceptional circumstances are involved – for example, where a person or organisation is lessening the confidence of the community in Council by publicly making adverse personal comments about Councillors.

Council shall only approve the payment of legal representation costs if the Councillor has signed a written statement confirming that the Councillor:

- has acted in good faith, and has not acted unlawfully or in a way that constitutes corrupt conduct or misconduct, in relation to the matter to which the request for legal representation relates;
- has read, and understands, the terms of this Policy relating to legal assistance and associated costs;
- acknowledges that any approval of legal representation costs is conditional on the repayment provisions below and any other conditions to which the approval is subject; and
- undertakes to repay to Council any legal representation costs in accordance with the repayment provisions below. Council will not provide or fund legal advice or representation for Councillors in relation to personal or private matters.

Council will not, unless under exceptional circumstances, provide or fund legal advice or representation for a defamation action or a negligence action instituted by a Councillor.

Council will not, unless under exceptional circumstances, pay for legal advice or representation obtained by a Councillor where the Councillor has not obtained prior written approval from the Chief Executive Officer.

In assessing a request, Council may have regard to any insurance benefits that may be available to the Councillor under Council's insurance policies.

Council may:

- refuse;
- grant; or
- grant subject to conditions a Councillor's request for payment of legal representation costs.

Conditions may include, but are not restricted to:

- Council specifying who will provide the legal services (e.g. Council's Legal Services Directorate or an external law firm or legal services provider);
- a financial limit;
- a requirement to enter into a formal agreement, including a security agreement, relating to the payment, and repayment, of legal representation costs; and/or
- an obligation on the Councillor to act reasonably and to disclose to Council anything that could affect representation.

If Council approves a request for payment of legal representation costs, Council:

- shall confirm the scope of the approved legal representation;
- shall take advice on the estimated costs of the matter and set a limit on the costs to be paid by Council;
- shall require full and detailed accounts from the lawyer providing the legal representation to ensure that the representation complies with the scope of Council's approval;
- may make payment of approved legal representation costs either by a direct payment to the approved lawyer (or the relevant firm), or a reimbursement to the Councillor; and
- shall not make payment for any legal services that are outside the scope of Council's approval.

A Councillor may make a further request to Council in respect of the same matter.

Council may at any time revoke or vary an approval, or any conditions of approval, for the payment of legal representation costs.

4.7.1. Repayment provisions

Council may, subject to below, determine that a Councillor whose request for legal representation costs has been approved has, in respect of the matter for which legal representation costs were approved –

- not acted in good faith, or has acted unlawfully or in a way that constitutes corrupt conduct or misconduct; or
- given false or misleading information in respect of the request.

A determination under the above may be made by Council only on the basis of, and consistent with, the findings of a court, tribunal or inquiry. Where Council makes a determination under the above, the legal representation costs paid by Council are to be repaid by the Councillor:

- all or part of those costs – in accordance with a determination by Council as per above;
- as much of those costs as are available to be paid by way of set-off – where the Councillor receives monies paid for costs, damages or settlement in respect of the matter for which Council paid the legal representation costs.

Council may take action in a court of competent jurisdiction to recover any monies due to it under this policy.

4.8. Insurance cover

Councillors will be covered under relevant Council insurance policies while discharging civic duties. Specifically, insurance cover will be provided for public liability, professional indemnity, Councillors liability and personal accident.

5. REPORTING

No additional reporting.

6. DEFINITIONS

Council business will include attendance at any official meeting of the Council, including the meetings of any Committee appointed by the Council under the relevant section of the *Local Government Regulation 2012*, Councillor forums and workshops and meetings of any external agency, committee, board or organisation on which Council input or representation is desirable and to which a Councillor has been appointed by formal resolution of the Council.

Council business also includes attendance at meetings and functions of community groups and organisations which Councillors have been formally requested or appointed to attend in an official capacity.

It should be noted, however, that Council business should result in a benefit being achieved either for the local government and/or the local government area.

Community business is performing civic ceremony duties such as opening a community event, attending or participating in a community group event or being a representative on a board not associated with Council

7. RELATED DOCUMENTS AND REFERENCES

- *Local Government Act 2009*
- *Local Government Regulation 2012*
- *Acceptable Request Guidelines*
- *Information Technology Policy*
- *ICT Acceptable Use Procedure*
- *ICT Standard Operating Environment Procedure*

8. REVIEW

This policy is to be reviewed annually, or if legislation changes, or at the direction of the Chief Executive Officer.

Policy type:	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Council <input type="checkbox"/> Administrative
Directorate:	Corporate Services
Responsible Officer	Executive Director Corporate Services
Authorised on:	25 June 2024
Effective date:	1 July 2024
Next review date:	June 2025
Review history:	2020, 2021, 2022, 2023



**STRATEGIC ACTION REFERENCE GROUP (SARG)
STANDING COMMITTEE MEETING
5 MARCH 2025**

Agenda Item

11.3

DIRECTORATE: Corporate Services

AUTHOR: Corporate Performance and Planning Lead

CORPORATE PLAN 2025-2030 CONCEPT

OFFICER RECOMMENDATION:

The Strategic Action Reference Group (SARG) Standing Committee endorses:

- the concept of the Corporate Plan 2025-2030; and
- the proposed timeline to progress the development of the Corporate Plan.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

Torres Strait Island Regional Council (Council) is developing its Corporate Plan 2025-2030 to guide strategic priorities and decision-making over the next five years.

This Plan is a legislative requirement under the *Local Government Act 2009* and the *Local Government Regulation 2012*, ensuring alignment with Council's Budget and Operational Plan.

Extensive community consultation, including meetings across 13 communities and a community survey, has informed the development of the new Corporate Plan.

A concept for the new Corporate Plan is presented for consideration.

BACKGROUND:

Local governments are required to develop a five-year Corporate Plan to ensure strategic direction and alignment with financial and operational planning. As per the *Local Government Regulation 2012 (Part 2, Division 1, s165)*, the Corporate Plan must be adopted in sufficient time to guide the next Budget and Operational Plan. The *Local Government Act 2009* mandates that:

- Councillors ensure the Corporate Plan's implementation (s12.3).
- Employees carry out duties in alignment with the Corporate Plan (s13.2).
- The Corporate Plan incorporates community engagement (s104.5).
- The Corporate Plan may be amended by Council resolution (LGR 2012, s165).

The existing Corporate Plan 2020-2025 expires 30 June 2025, requiring the adoption of a new plan.

Consultation

To ensure the Corporate Plan 2025-2030 reflects community needs and aspirations, extensive consultation was undertaken between August and December 2024. Community meetings were held in 13 communities, led by the Corporate Services team, providing an opportunity for residents to engage with their Divisional Councillor and Council staff. A community survey, with 48 respondents, supplemented these meetings.

Analysis of community feedback identified **five key community priorities**:

1. Housing
2. Water and Sustainable Infrastructure
3. Marine Infrastructure and Transport
4. Health and Wellbeing
5. Jobs and Economic Development

These five priorities were highlighted across the region. Individual community feedback has been provided to Councillors and is also attached to this report.

Progress of the Corporate Plan 2025-2030

The concept for the Corporate Plan 2025-2030 has been structured around four primary focus areas:

1. **Strengthening Our Communities** – Supporting healthy lifestyles, engaged communities, and celebrating cultural heritage.
2. **Maintaining and Renewing Our Infrastructure** – Building reliable infrastructure, ensuring connected communities, and managing assets responsibly.
3. **A Proactive and Responsible Council** – Promoting a community-focused Council committed to accountability, transparency, and ethical decision-making.
4. **Protecting Our Natural Environment** – Creating a sustainable future for generations to come.

Timeline

- **5 March 2025** – Concept endorsed by the SARG Committee
- **6 March 2025** – Concept circulated to Council for comment
 - Feedback due by the end of March 2025
- **9 April 2025** – SARG Meeting to review feedback received and provide any additional advice
 - Feedback will be incorporated into the draft plan
- **12–22 May 2025** – Draft Corporate Plan 2025-2030 presented at the May 2025 Council Workshop
- **23 May 2025** – Draft Corporate Plan 2025-2030 presented to Council for consideration and adoption
- **June 2025**: once adopted, the Corporate Plan 2025-30 will be publicly available, promoted through existing communication channels including website, social media, electronic newsletters and newspaper advertisements. Copies of the Plan will also be printed and distributed to each Division.

COMPLIANCE / CONSIDERATIONS:

Statutory:	The Corporate Plan is a legislative requirement under the <i>Local Government Act 2009</i> and the <i>Local Government Regulation 2012</i>
Budgetary:	Annual budgets must align with Corporate Plan
Policy:	N/A
Legal:	<i>Local Government Regulation 2012, Part 2, Division 1, s165. Local Government Act 2009, s12.3, s13.2, and s104.5.</i>
Risk:	The Corporate Plan must be updated prior to expiry
Links to Strategic Plans:	The Corporate Plan will set strategic vision for Council
Masig Statement:	Achieve regional goals and aspirations
Standing Committee Consultation:	Strategic Action Reference Group
Timelines:	Timelines are included in report. The Corporate Plan must be adopted by 30 June 2025.

OTHER COMMENTS:

N/A

Prepared/Recommended:

Robert Blake
Corporate Planning and Performance Lead

Endorsed:

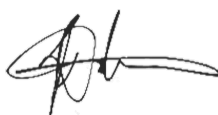
Emily Reid
Manager Administration and Communication

Endorsed:

S. Andres

Susanne Andres
Executive Director Corporate Services

Approved:



James William
Chief Executive Officer

ATTACHMENTS:

Attachment 1: Draft Corporate Plan focus areas

Attachment 2: Corporate Plan 2025 – 2030 Community Consultation results

Focus Areas

1. STRENGTHENING OUR COMMUNITIES
1.1 Provide suitable public housing for our communities
Work with the State and Federal Governments and community to ensure that all Torres Strait Island communities have access to safe, secure, and culturally appropriate housing.
Advocate for increased funding to accelerate the delivery of new social housing to address homeless, child safety, health, disability and domestic violence.
Work with communities and relevant stakeholders secure and develop more land to meet the growing housing needs of Torres Strait Islander communities.
1.2 Provide accessible support services for vulnerable and elderly residents in our communities
Collaborate with communities and relevant stakeholders to expand accessible aged care services that cater to the needs of our elderly population, ensuring their health, safety, and active participation in the community, with a focus on supporting vulnerable residents.
Advocate for greater access to healthcare services, programs and treatments to enhance the health, well-being, and quality of life for all residents, with a focus on equitable care across the region.
1.3 Create a healthy, happy and supportive environment for our communities
Develop programs and initiatives to promote healthy and active lifestyles and active participation in the community to enhance overall well-being, strengthen social connections, and improve physical and mental health outcomes.
Work with communities and relevant stakeholders to diversify childcare support models across the region to improve accessibility, support working families, foster early childhood development, and ensure culturally appropriate care that meets community needs.
Evolve and strengthen the Indigenous Knowledge Centre (IKC) Program to enhance education, and support language, arts, and digital access for future generations.
Enhance community awareness and preparedness to mitigate risks, respond effectively, and build resilience against major weather events and disasters.
1.4 Celebrate and promote our art, culture and heritage in our communities
Take a strategic approach to ensuring that Ailan Kastom (Island Custom) and cultural practices are preserved, celebrated, and passed on to future generations.
Support community-led initiatives and projects to enhance social, sporting, cultural and economic outcomes across the region.

2. MAINTAINING AND RENEWING OUR INFRASTRUCTURE

Provide safe and reliable drinking water for our communities

Advocate for priority funding to enhance and maintain water infrastructure, ensuring a safe and reliable water supply for all communities.

Develop and implement a comprehensive strategy to secure a safe, reliable, and sustainable water supply for all communities, addressing current critical needs, challenges and anticipating future needs.

Provide reliable and sustainable infrastructure and assets in our communities

Plan and deliver capital works projects that address current and future infrastructure needs, promoting community development and resilience.

Actively involve community members in the planning and decision-making processes for infrastructure projects to ensure they meet local needs and preferences.

Ensure the provision of safe, accessible, and well-maintained community assets that promote active lifestyles, social engagement, and inclusive participation for all residents.

Advocate for continued funding to support infrastructure projects that enhance the liveability of residents in our communities.

Ensure adequate lighting in public areas, including streets and recreational spaces, to enhance community safety and accessibility.

Keep our communities connected by road, sea and air

Ensure safe, reliable and accessible transport infrastructure across the region prioritising the development, maintenance and expansion of road, marine and air transport networks.

Advocate for funding to support the development of road, marine and air transport infrastructure.

3. A PROACTIVE AND RESPONSIBLE COUNCIL

3.1 Provide good governance and leadership

Deliver the Corporate Plan, Operational Plans, Strategies and budget that reflect the needs of community.

Continue responsible financial management and sustainability.

Progress the MASIG Statement.

Ensure compliance with legislative requirements and regulations, uphold the Council's legal obligations, and make ethical decisions in the best interest of the community.

Prioritise and manage risks effectively.

Ensure responsible land and trustee management by upholding cultural, environmental, and legal obligations.

Support sustainable land use, protect traditional ownership rights, and enhance community-driven decision-making to preserve and maximize land benefits for future generations.

3.2 Advocate on behalf of our communities

Proactively advocate on behalf of our people for vital Federal and State Government funding consistent with community needs and Council priorities.

Strengthen regional governance by engaging with State and Federal leaders, advocating for a legal framework that respects both State law and Traditional Lore.

Build strong relationships with the state and federal government and key stakeholders.

3.4 Foster a high-performing, supportive and inclusive work environment

Strengthen Council's reputation as an employer of choice by promoting values-based leadership, fostering a collaborative and engaged workforce, building trust, and supporting staff development.

Demonstrate a strong commitment to the safety, health, and wellbeing of staff and Councillors, with a focus on both physical and mental wellbeing.

Improve business processes and systems, with a strong focus on community consultation and engagement.

Celebrate achievements and cultural events to promote diversity, collaboration, and a positive workplace culture.

3.5 Support and grow our local economy and employment opportunities

Collaborate with peak bodies and representative groups to drive initiatives that support businesses and investment opportunities.

Support Indigenous businesses through local procurement.

Support and promote local employment opportunities by fostering skills development, workforce participation, and sustainable job creation.

4. PROTECTING OUR NATURAL ENVIRONMENT

Respond to climate change and environmental impacts

Actively mitigating risks, adapting to challenges, and strengthening resilience to climate change.

Advocate for funding to strengthen community resilience against coastal erosion and climate change impacts through strategic infrastructure investments.

Reduce our carbon footprint

Promoting the adoption of renewable energy sources to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and reliance on non-renewable energy.

Identify and promote sustainable projects to reduce environmental impacts, enhance resilience, and support a greener future.

Provide reliable and efficient waste management services for all communities

Diversify waste management services in all communities.

Ensure the effective and efficient treatment of wastewater to safeguard public health and protect the environment through reliable and sustainable processes.

Provide effective bio-security management

Strengthen and implement effective biosecurity management strategies to protect local ecosystems, agriculture and community health.

Strengthen partnerships with key stakeholders and communities to enhance compliance with biosecurity regulations and best practices.



Corporate Plan 2025 – 2030 Community Consultation

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Communities
visited

250+
Community
members engaged

40+
Community surveys
completed

Several common themes have been identified across the region with **housing** and **water security** being a priority in all communities.

Top 5 Regional Priorities



Housing



Water



**Marine
Infrastructure**



**Health and
Wellbeing**



Jobs

Division 6: Arkai (Kubin)

When: Tuesday 1 October 2024 | 12.30pm – 2pm

Attendance: 12 people max

Summary: The community prioritises water infrastructure improvements to address leaks, poor quality, and insufficient tanks, forcing residents to buy drinking water. Housing challenges include maintenance delays, overcrowding, and poor communication, with a lack of state funding. A new jetty with facilities and a marine rescue ramp is essential. Poor road maintenance and limited emergency networks create safety concerns, while the absence of childcare restricts parents' work opportunities. Better communication is needed for employment, and the Art Centre is seen as vital for tourism but requires improved infrastructure. Climate change impacts and aerodrome safety issues are also key concerns. Advocacy and funding are critical to addressing these needs.

Top 3 Priorities



Marine Infrastructure



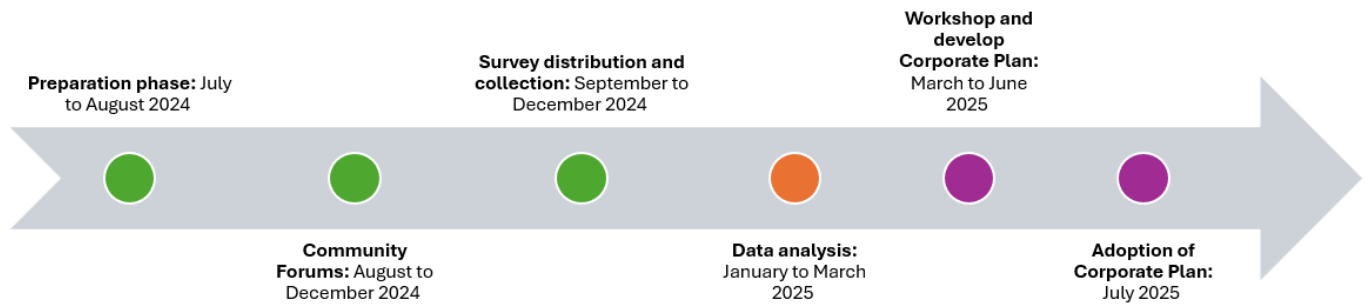
Housing



Water



Development of the Corporate Plan





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Top 5 Regional Priorities



Housing



Water



Marine
Infrastructure



Health and
Wellbeing



Jobs

Division 5: Badu

When: Tuesday 13 August 2024 | 3pm – 5.30pm

Attendance: 35 people max

Summary: The community meeting at Badu was focussed on Individual Land Use Agreements and Native Title. There was sensitivity around landownership and cultural heritage.

The community also highlighted that efforts should focus on enhancing waste management through the introduction of new machinery, establishing a transfer station, and ensuring sustainable practices, including moving rubbish off the island. Addressing housing challenges requires better support for tenants, sensitive communication regarding payments and maintenance, and resolving issues of overcrowding and substandard housing. Investigating jetty improvements to ensure safety and accessibility is crucial, as is implementing programs to retain a local workforce, reducing reliance on outside tradespeople to stimulate economic development.



Top 3 Priorities



Waste Management



Housing



Marine Infrastructure



Development of the Corporate Plan

Preparation phase: July
to August 2024

**Survey distribution and
collection:** September to
December 2024

**Workshop and
develop
Corporate Plan:**
March to June
2025

**Community
Forums:** August to
December 2024

Data analysis:
January to March
2025

**Adoption of
Corporate Plan:**
July 2025



Corporate Plan 2025 – 2030 Community Consultation

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Top 5 Regional Priorities



Housing



Water



**Marine
Infrastructure**



**Health and
Wellbeing**



Jobs

Division 2: Dauan

When: Wednesday 23 October 2024 | 12.20pm – 2pm **Attendance:** 15 people max

Summary: The Dauan Island community expressed concerns about ageing housing infrastructure, overcrowding, and delays in repairs, emphasising the need for additional housing. They also highlighted the importance of improving marine infrastructure, addressing climate change impacts like erosion, and enhancing access to essential services such as water supply, roads, and childcare. Economic development opportunities, such as training locals in trades and expanding waste management, were also identified as key priorities for the island's future.

Top 3 Priorities



Jobs



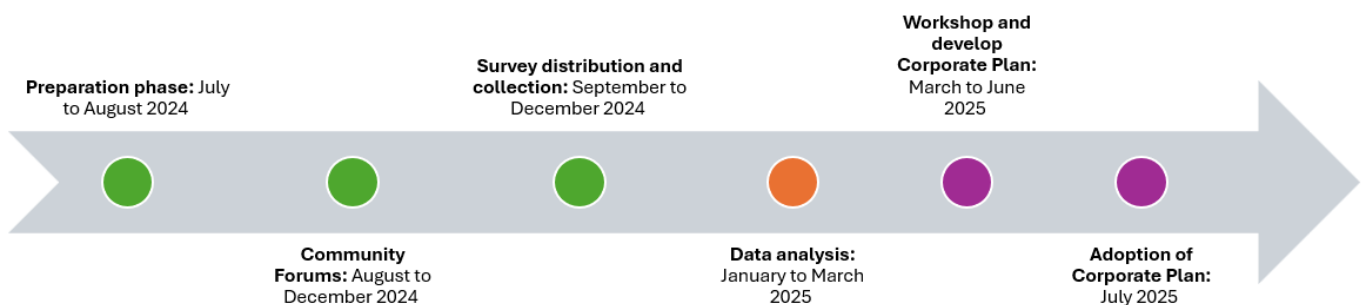
Housing



Marine Infrastructure



Development of the Corporate Plan





Corporate Plan 2025 – 2030 Community Consultation

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Top 5 Regional Priorities



Housing



Water



**Marine
Infrastructure**



**Health and
Wellbeing**



Jobs

Division 14: Erub

When: Tuesday 22 October 2024 | 5pm – 8pm

Attendance: 15 people max

Summary: The community faces critical challenges across multiple sectors. Housing overcrowding and poor maintenance persist, with requests for local tradespeople and fencing for safety. Water security requires advocacy for improved access, additional tanks, and sewage upgrades. Roaming dogs pose safety risks, highlighting the need for responsible pet ownership education and enforcement of local laws. The Sport and Recreation Centre and sports oval need repairs, and residents call for playgrounds for younger children. Marine infrastructure requires dredging, lighting, and jetty repairs, while the airport lacks bathrooms, an adequate runway, and sufficient flights. Roads, particularly the main road to the airport, need urgent repairs, and speed bumps are requested for villages. Elderly residents require better transportation, HACC worker recruitment, and community engagement. Waste management, public toilets, security measures, affordable fuel, and training opportunities also require attention to improve living conditions and island sustainability.



Top 3 Priorities



Housing



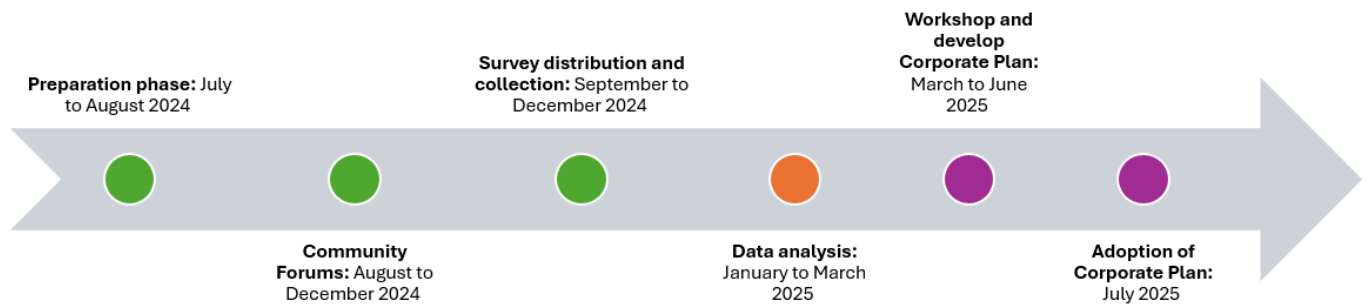
Transport



Water



Development of the Corporate Plan





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Top 5 Regional Priorities



Housing



Water



**Marine
Infrastructure**



**Health and
Wellbeing**



Jobs

Division 9: Iama (Yam)

When: Tuesday 22 October 2024 | 11am – 2pm **Attendance:** 30 people max

Summary: Key topics included the need for expanded health and wellbeing programs, especially youth activities, and infrastructure improvements such as fencing to address stray dog concerns, and upgrades to housing, water systems, and waste management. Residents emphasised the importance of creating local job opportunities, particularly for youth, and advocated for greater support in economic development and community education on business, grant applications, and animal management. Infrastructure concerns were raised regarding the jetty, roads, parks, airport, and overall water security, all seen as essential to enhancing community safety, mobility, and quality of life.

Top 3 Priorities



Housing



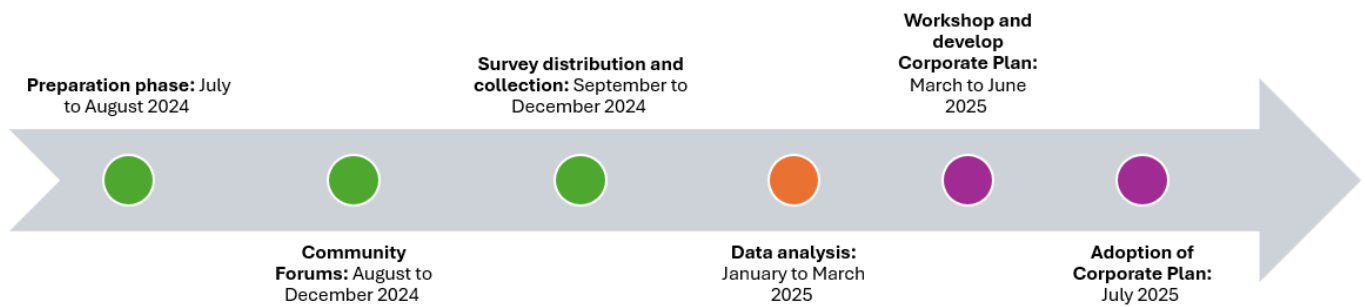
Jobs



Health and Wellbeing



Development of the Corporate Plan





Corporate Plan 2025 – 2030 Community Consultation

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Top 5 Regional Priorities



Housing



Water



**Marine
Infrastructure**



**Health and
Wellbeing**



Jobs

Division 8: Kirirri (Hammond)

When: Monday 30 September 2024 | 7pm – 9pm

Attendance: 20 people max

Summary: The community meeting highlighted several key concerns and priorities. Childcare is a major issue, with no early childhood services and limited programs for children. Housing shortages and overcrowding were noted, though the condition of current houses is generally good. The community seeks a dedicated healthcare centre and suggests better utilisation of existing facilities, such as the underused childcare centre. Upgrading council facilities, particularly recreation and the community hall, is a priority, alongside improving waste and sewerage systems. Transportation is another concern, with calls for improved marine services between Hammond and Thursday Islands, as well as better road conditions. The need for lighting at the helipad nighttime medical evacuations was raised as an urgent concern. Employment opportunities and delays in council recruitment were also flagged as issues. Poor mobile phone reception and connectivity were also an ongoing issue. The community feels neglected, seeking a tailored, community-specific plan to address these needs rather than competing with other.



Top 3 Priorities



Healthcare and Childcare



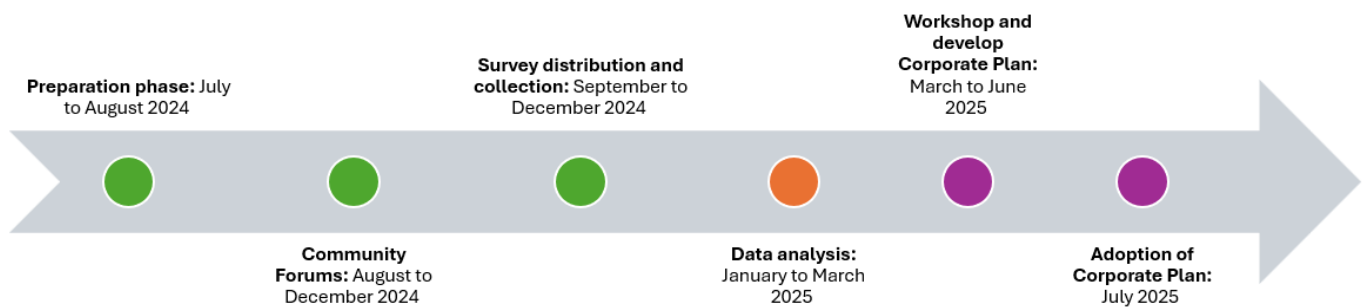
Housing



Waste Management



Development of the Corporate Plan





Corporate Plan 2025 – 2030 Community Consultation

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Top 5 Regional Priorities



Housing



Water



**Marine
Infrastructure**



**Health and
Wellbeing**



Jobs

Division 4: Mabuiag

When: Tuesday 13 August 2024 | 9.30am

Attendance: 20 people max (staff)

Summary: The meeting at Mabuiag brought to light several pressing social and environmental issues, emphasising the need for tailored, community-driven solutions. Key concerns included housing challenges, (rent arrears, overcrowding, maintenance). Infrastructure needs like erosion mitigation, local trade development, and wharf construction were linked to economic growth opportunities. Childcare shortages, particularly impacting working women, led to discussions about establishing childcare businesses and centers. Waste management focused on the feasibility of recycling programs and regional facilities. Additionally, culture preservation was emphasised, with proposals for expanded programs and upgraded facilities.

Top 3 Priorities



Health and Wellbeing



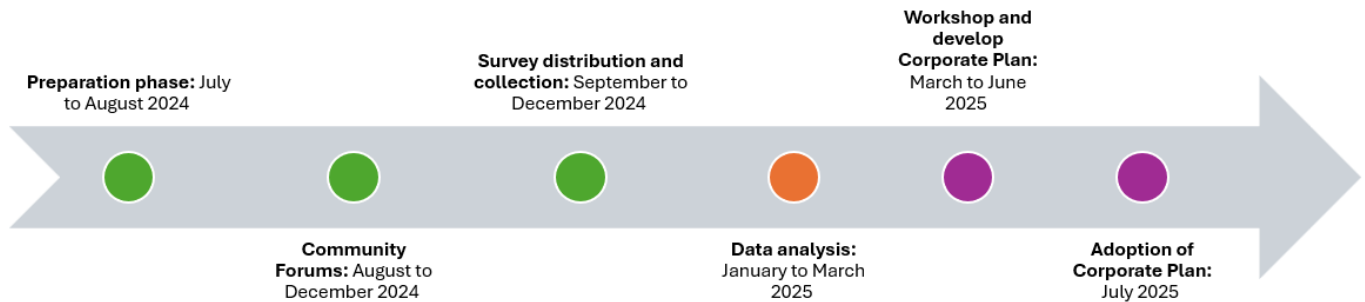
Housing



Environment



Development of the Corporate Plan





Corporate Plan 2025 – 2030 Community Consultation

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Top 5 Regional Priorities



Housing



Water



Marine
Infrastructure



Health and
Wellbeing



Jobs

Division 12: Masig

When: Wednesday 2 October 2024 | 12pm – 2pm

Attendance: 18 people max

Summary: The Masig Island community has highlighted critical concerns across multiple areas, including water security, housing, and infrastructure. Residents seek improved water access through rainwater tanks and better bore water utilisation, alongside solutions for overcrowded housing and culturally appropriate tenancy management. Urgent infrastructure needs include repairing the jetty, upgrading the airport waiting shed, and refurbishing the unused stadium for community activities. Climate change impacts, such as seawall erosion, threaten the island, while waste management challenges necessitate recycling initiatives and landfill alternatives. The lack of childcare, youth programs, and aged care support further strains families, and poor road conditions hinder accessibility.





Top 3 Priorities



Housing



Climate Change



Water



Development of the Corporate Plan

Preparation phase: July
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Top 5 Regional Priorities



Housing



Water



Marine
Infrastructure



Health and
Wellbeing



Jobs

Division 15: Mer

When: Thursday 24 October 2024 | 11.00am - 2pm **Attendance:** 20 people max

Summary: The community on Mer Island has identified housing as the most significant concern, with delays in repairs, inadequate maintenance, and culturally inappropriate housing delivery processes. There is a strong desire for local tradespeople to handle repairs and for QBuild to create local job opportunities. Water quality is unsuitable for drinking, prompting calls for better-maintained rainwater tanks. Youth facilities are lacking, with no playgrounds or recreation spaces, and land ownership complexities hinder development. Employment opportunities are limited, and many locals leave due to insufficient full-time jobs. Poor road conditions, inadequate public transport, and challenges accessing steep roads impact the elderly and schoolchildren. Marine infrastructure is insufficient, with no jetty and temporary arrangements for the boat ramp. Waste management issues include landfill odors and fire risks. Cultural preservation and a proposed multipurpose arts and education center face land ownership challenges. Severe erosion and prolonged power outages underscore climate change concerns. The airport and sewerage systems need urgent upgrades, while the lack of childcare services further strains working parents.



Top 3 Priorities



Housing



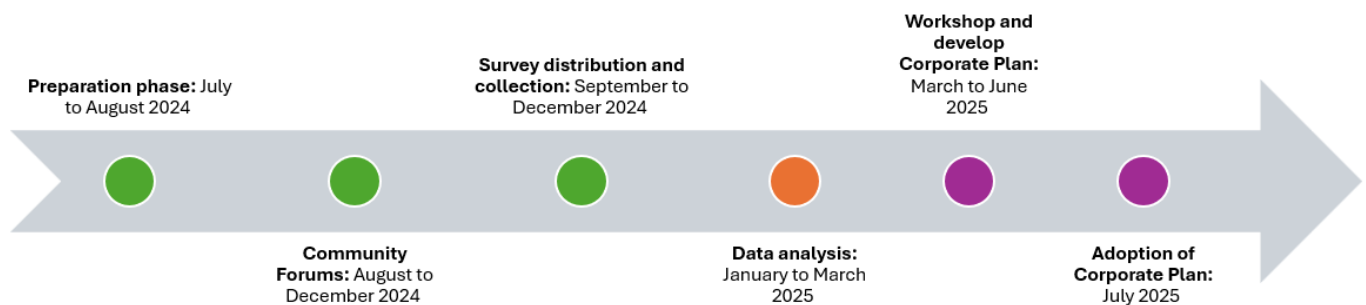
Health and Wellbeing



Water



Development of the Corporate Plan





Corporate Plan 2025 – 2030 Community Consultation

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Top 5 Regional Priorities



Housing



Water



**Marine
Infrastructure**



**Health and
Wellbeing**



Jobs

Division 11: Poruma

When: Tuesday 1 October 2024 | 6pm – 8pm

Attendance: 18 people max

Summary: The priority areas include childcare access, playground safety, tourism support and upgrades to sports and recreation facilities. Additionally, the community expressed concerns about high fuel costs, pest and animal management, and the need for more robust communication channels and employment opportunities. Infrastructure issues, such as jetty expansion and improved water management training, alongside updates to the disaster management plan and aged care services, were also emphasised.

Top 3 Priorities



Housing



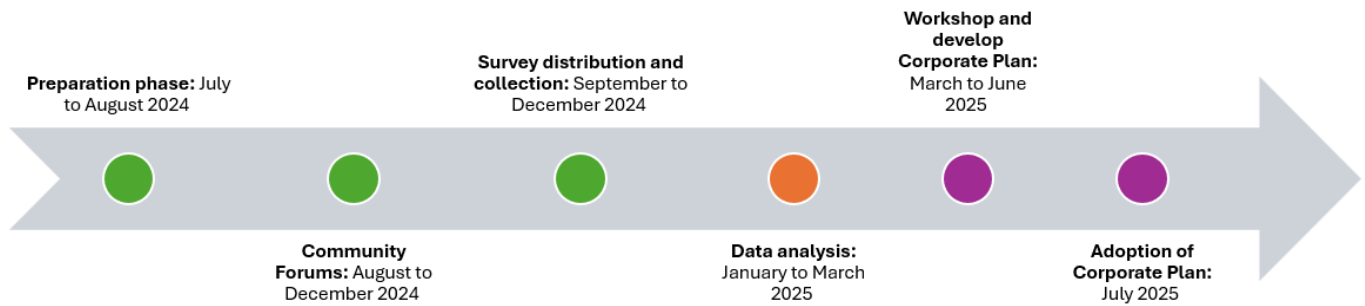
Tourism



Health and Wellbeing



Development of the Corporate Plan





Corporate Plan 2025 – 2030 Community Consultation

In 2024, the Corporate Services team visited 13 communities to engage with residents in preparation for Council's new Corporate Plan 2025-2030. The purpose of the meetings is to give residents the opportunity to voice their concerns and suggestions directly to their Divisional Councillors and council staff. A community survey was also developed for residents to provide their feedback in another way.

13 out of 15
Communities
visited

250+
Community
members engaged

40+
Community surveys
completed

Several common themes have been identified across the region with **housing** and **water security** being a priority in all communities.

Top 5 Regional Priorities



Housing



Water



Marine
Infrastructure



Health and
Wellbeing



Jobs

Division 3: Saibai

When: Tuesday 3 December 2024 | 10am – 12pm

Attendance: 15 people max

Summary: The Saibai community meeting highlighted key issues, including the need for childcare facilities, an aged care centre, and better-resourced council amenities. Concerns were raised about limited recreational spaces, underutilized swamp land, and infrastructure challenges like extending the seawall and improving cemetery drainage. Housing issues, such as overcrowding, vacant homes, and unsuitable options, were prominent, along with water quality concerns like low pressure and insufficient tanks. The community also called for an Art Centre and Indigenous Knowledge Centre to preserve culture and support local talent.

Top 3 Priorities



Aged Care and
Childcare



Housing



Water



Development of the Corporate Plan

Preparation phase: July to August 2024

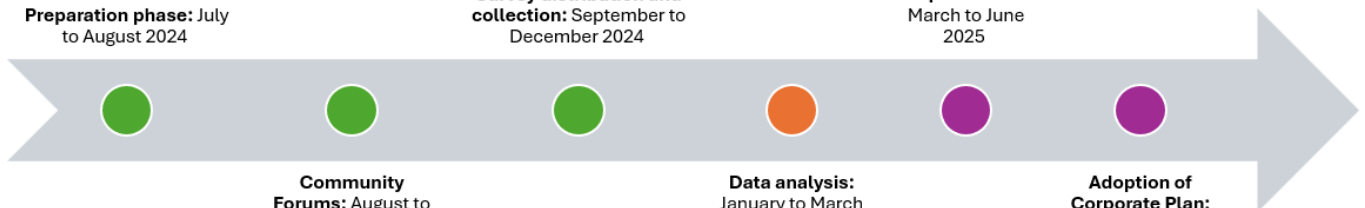
Survey distribution and collection: September to December 2024

Workshop and develop Corporate Plan: March to June 2025

Community Forums: August to December 2024

Data analysis: January to March 2025

Adoption of Corporate Plan: July 2025





Corporate Plan 2025 – 2030 Community Consultation

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13/15

communities
visited

250+

community members
engaged

34

surveys
completed

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Top 5 Regional Priorities



Housing



Water



Marine
Infrastructure



Health and
Wellbeing



Jobs

Division 10: Warraber

When: Monday 21 October 2024 | 6pm – 8pm

Attendance: 6 people max

Summary: Key topics included the need for expanded health and wellbeing programs, especially youth activities, and infrastructure improvements such as fencing to address stray dog concerns, and upgrades to housing, water systems, and waste management. Residents emphasised the importance of creating local job opportunities, particularly for youth, and advocated for greater support in economic development and community education on business, grant applications, and animal management. Infrastructure concerns were raised regarding the jetty, roads, parks, airport, and overall water security, all seen as essential to enhancing community safety, mobility, and quality of life.

Top 3 Priorities



Housing



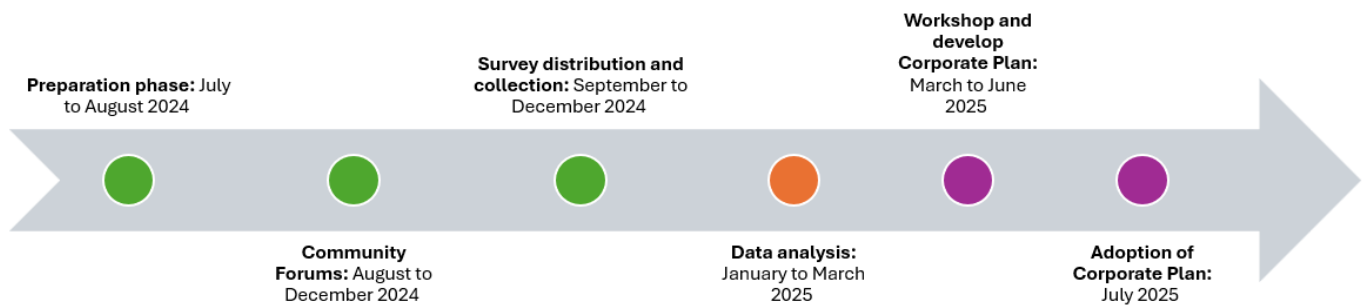
Connectivity



Health and Wellbeing



Development of the Corporate Plan





Corporate Plan 2025 – 2030 Community Consultation

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13 out of 15
Communities
visited

250+
Community
members engaged

40+
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Top 5 Regional Priorities



Housing



Water



**Marine
Infrastructure**



**Health and
Wellbeing**



Jobs

Division 7: Wug (St Pauls)

When: Tuesday 1 October 2024 | 6pm – 8pm

Attendance: 35 people max



Summary: Community members raised concerns across various areas. Childcare is needed with calls for a culturally sensitive community-run childcare centre or subsidised family daycare. Aged care services are inadequate, with residents desiring local solutions to keep families together and create jobs. Housing faces challenges with trustee barriers, overcrowding, delayed maintenance, and the urgent need for new homes. Employment for youth is limited, prompting support for apprenticeships,

vocational training, and tailored job programs. Marine infrastructure, particularly the jetty, requires safety upgrades like lighting and repairs. Water security is a priority, with frequent leaks and restrictions, driving demands for sustainable management, larger dams, and rainwater tanks. The sport and recreation centre needs maintenance and improved access to promote health and community cohesion. Additionally, the helipad's location is unsuitable, raising safety concerns and the need for relocation or enhancements. The community asked to see the outcomes of the previous corporate plan. Another issue raised was the need for DATSIP to report back to community on the Masterplan.



Top 3 Priorities



Health and Wellbeing



Housing



Water

Development of the Corporate Plan

Preparation phase: July
to August 2024

**Survey distribution and
collection:** September to
December 2024

**Workshop and
develop
Corporate Plan:**
March to June
2025

**Community
Forums:** August to
December 2024

Data analysis:
January to March
2025

**Adoption of
Corporate Plan:**
July 2025

