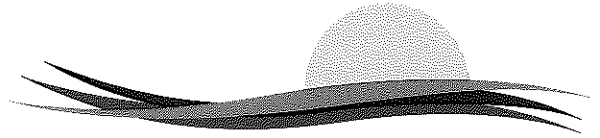


14/10/2011  
EMAILED



## CARPENTARIA SHIRE

*Outback by the Sea*

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14 October, 2011

Executive Director  
Queensland Floods Commission of Inquiry  
Level 30  
400 George Street  
BRISBANE QLD 4000

Dear Sir/Madam,

### Re: Requirement to Provide Information to Commission of Inquiry

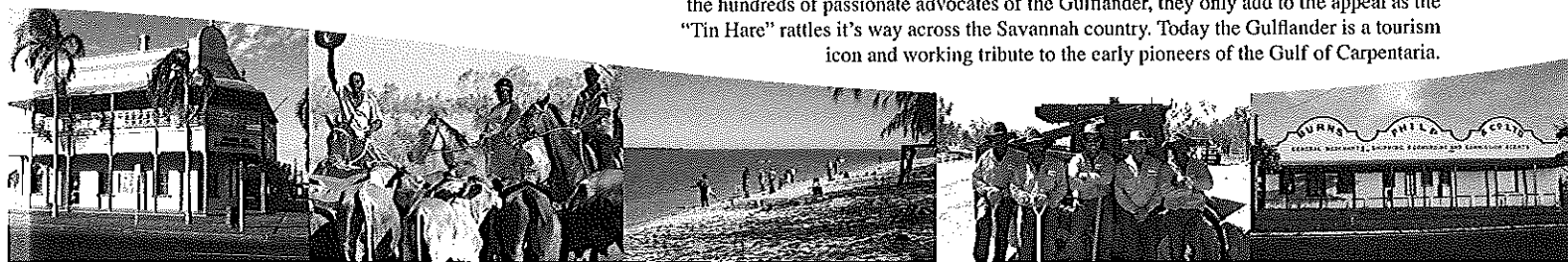
The following information is provided by the Carpentaria Shire Council (Council) in response to the Requirement to Provide Information to the Commission of Inquiry dated 13 September 2011.

1. The Carpentaria Shire SES Unit consists of two (2) groups at this time, each group located at Normanton and Karumba respectively.
2. SES membership is classified as follows:  
  
"Active members" these are members who are available to attend training on a regular basis and are also available for callout.  
  
"Reserve members" these are members who have joined the SES having completed minimal training but may be available for activation at the time of a major event.
3. As at 26 September 2011, Normanton SES had a total of twenty one (21) active members and twelve (12) reserve members. There has been a slight decrease in numbers over the last twelve months due to some members moving away from Normanton.
4. As at 26 September 2011 Karumba has thirteen (13) active members and one (1) reserve member. These numbers have decreased slightly over the last twelve (12) months due to members moving from Karumba.



### July 20th, 2011 marks the 120th Anniversary of the Gulflander!

Opened in 1891 to join Normanton to the teeming gold fields of Croydon, the line has never been linked to the main Queensland Rail network. But these minor oddities do not concern the hundreds of passionate advocates of the Gulflander, they only add to the appeal as the "Tin Hare" rattles it's way across the Savannah country. Today the Gulflander is a tourism icon and working tribute to the early pioneers of the Gulf of Carpentaria.



5. The Council provided in the 2009/2010 and 2010/2011 financial years the following assets to the Carpentaria Shire SES Unit and associated groups as follows:
  - a. Normanton (this is a joint centre for SES and rural fire brigade)
    - Accommodation and sheds located at Normanton to house operations/training centre and vehicles, flood boat and trailers.
    - One (1) Nissan Navarra Dual Cab utility owned and maintained by Council but dedicated SES vehicle.
    - One (1) trailer for general rescue and traffic control equipment.
    - One (1) flood boat provided by the State Government and maintained by Council.
    - Council plant and equipment including operators are made available on an as needed basis.
  - b. Karumba
    - Premises for the SES equipment, training room and communications room which are co-located in the Council depot at Karumba.
    - One (1) Toyota Hilux provided by the State Government and maintained by Council.
    - One (1) flood boat provided by the State Government and maintained by Council.
    - Council plant and equipment including operators are made available on an as needed basis.
6. The Local Controller position is currently vacant and the Deputy Local Controller (Mr [REDACTED]) is acting in that position until a suitable person is appointed. The Group Leader position in Karumba is held by Mr [REDACTED]. Both positions are voluntary.
7. The SES within the Carpentaria Shire area has the following approved functions:
  - Agency support including communications, welfare, emergency lighting, food handling, air observation, re-supply and evacuation.
  - Floodboat operations
  - Incident management. Emergency Operation Centre/Emergency Coordination Centre trained only
  - Road crash rescue (only Normanton SES primary response)
  - Land search
  - Storm damage operations including working at heights, temporary roof repairs, chainsaw operations, debris cleanup and sandbagging.
  - Traffic management including incident site, traffic control and road closure/diversion

8. The Council provides annual funding for the SES. The following table sets out the actual expenditure for the past four (4) years as well as the provision made in this year's budget.

		Actual	Actual	Actual	Actual	Budget
		07-08	08-09	09-10	10-11	11-12
	<b>SES</b>					
	<b>Operating Expenses</b>					
4510-2000-0002	Normanton SES	3,844	6,449	8,705	13,995	16,000
4510-2000-0003	Karumba SES	8,445	11,312	9,742	8,473	9,000
	<b>Depreciation</b>	7,500	7,500	8,858	11,100	9,637
	<b>Capital</b>					
	SES Karumba		50,820		12,264	
<b>Total</b>		19,789	76,081	27,305	45,832	34,637

9. The Council does not employ any staff in SES positions.

Yours faithfully,



**CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER**