



THE TORRES STRAIT LOCAL DISASTER MANAGEMENT GROUP



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JOINT MEDIA RELEASE – FOR IMMEDIATE ISSUE

5 August 2021

TORRES STRAIT NOTICE RE: FACE-TO-FACE MEETINGS COVID-19 CORONAVIRUS

Joint statement from the Torres Strait Local Disaster Management Group (TSLDMG) Co-Chairs, Torres Shire Council Mayor Cr. Vonda Malone and Torres Strait Island Regional Council Mayor Cr. Phillemon Mosby.

The TSLDMG has continued to work with key regional agencies and partners throughout this pandemic, including working within the relevant Federal and State disaster management guidelines and CHO (Chief Health Officer) Directives.

The TSLDMG reminds the local community of the need to remain aware of the COVID-19 case in Cairns, Far North Queensland and particularly the spread in South East Queensland.

As of today, 5 August 2021, many States in Australia are currently on lock down including within 11 Local Government areas in Queensland. Due to the spread of the virus and especially it's Delta variant the communities of the Torres Strait are highly vulnerable, and we are committed to continue protecting everyone during this time.

Therefore, during this period from 5 August until 3 September 2021, the two Local Government Councils that make-up the Torres Strait Local Disaster Management Group **request** that you alter your communication in the Torres Strait to non-face-to-face meetings (such as Teams/Zoom).

What does this mean for the Torres Strait region:

If you are planning on holding any face-to-face meetings with either local governments;

- **Torres Strait Island Regional Council's operational footprint which includes (Divisions 1 – 15, Thursday Island and Cairns based office) and;**
- **Torres Shire Council, 68 Douglas Street, Thursday Island;**

we kindly ask as a cautionary measure you consider deferring the meeting to a later date at this time due to potential COVID-19 risks.

We thank you for your support in our shared objective of protecting the health and safety of our communities.

ENDS

Media Enquires:

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