



**LAND USE PROGRAM  
(LUP)**

**CURRENT ADMINISTRATIVE STRUCTURES  
ON  
CAPE YORK PENINSULA**

J. Stanley & K. Campbell

**FOCUS**  
Kim Campbell Town Planning  
1995



**CYPLUS is a joint initiative of the Queensland and Commonwealth Governments**

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**Note:**

Due to the timing of publication, reports on other CYPLUS projects may not be fully cited in the BIBLIOGRAPHY section. However, they should be able to be located by author, agency or subject.

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# CAPE YORK PENINSULA LAND USE STRATEGY STAGE I

## PREFACE TO PROJECT REPORTS

Cape York Peninsula Land Use Strategy (CYPLUS) is an initiative to provide a basis for public participation in planning for the ecologically sustainable development of Cape York Peninsula. It is jointly funded by the Queensland and Commonwealth Governments and is being carried out in three stages:

- Stage I - information gathering;
- Stage II - development of principles, policies and processes; and
- Stage III - implementation and review.

The project dealt with in this report is a part of Stage I of CYPLUS. The main components of Stage I of CYPLUS consist of two data collection programs, the development of a Geographic Information System (GIS) and the establishment of processes for public participation.

The data collection and collation work was conducted within two broad programs, the Natural Resources Analysis Program (NRAP) and the Land Use Program (LUP). The project reported on here forms part of one of these programs.

The objectives of NRAP were to collect and interpret base data on the natural resources of Cape York Peninsula to provide input to:

- evaluation of the potential of those resources for a range of activities related to the use and management of land in line with economic, environmental and social values; and
- formulation of the land use policies, principles and processes of CYPLUS.

Projects examining both physical and biological resources were included in NRAP together with Geographic Information System (GIS) projects. NRAP projects are listed in the following Table.

Physical Resource/GIS Projects	Biological Resource Projects
Bedrock geological data - digitising and integration (NR05)	Vegetation mapping (NR01)
Airborne geophysical survey (NR15)	Marine plant (seagrass/mangrove) distribution (NR06)
Coastal environment geoscience survey (NR14)	Insect fauna survey (NR17)
Mineral resource inventory (NR04)	Fish fauna survey (NR10)
Water resource investigation (groundwater) (NR16)	Terrestrial vertebrate fauna survey (NR03)
Regolith terrain mapping (NR12)	Wetland fauna survey (NR09)

Physical Resource/GIS Projects	Biological Resource Projects
Land resource inventory (NR02)	Flora data and modelling (NR18)
Environmental region analysis (NR11)	Fauna distribution modelling (NR19)
CYPLUS data into NRIC database FINDAR (NR20)	Golden-shouldered parrot conservation management (NR21)
Queensland GIS development and maintenance (NR08)	
GIS creation/maintenance (NR07)*	

\* These projects are accumulating and storing all Stage I data that is submitted in GIS compatible formats.

Research priorities for the LUP were set through the public participation process with the objectives of:

collecting information on a wide range of social, cultural, economic and environmental issues relevant to Cape York Peninsula; and highlighting interactions between people, land (resource use) and nature sectors.

Projects were undertaken within these sector areas and are listed in the following Table.

People Projects	Land Projects	Nature Projects
Population	Current land use	Surface water resources
Transport services and infrastructure	Land tenure	Fire
Values, needs and aspirations	Indigenous management of land and sea	Feral and pest animals
Services and infrastructure	Pastoral industry	Weeds
Economic assessment	Primary industries (non-pastoral, non-forestry)	Land degradation and soil erosion
Secondary and tertiary industries	Forest resources	Conservation and natural heritage assessment
Traditional activities	Commercial and non commercial fisheries	Conservation and National Park management
Current administrative structures	Mineral resource potential and mining industry	
	Tourism industry	

## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This project was commissioned by CYPLUS to provide a description of the institutional structures on Cape York Peninsula that have relevance for land use planning and resource management. It includes a directory of agencies, together with a description of interrelationships, current changes and planning activities.

The report was conducted as a desktop study, relying on existing written material. It represents a snapshot of agencies as at September 1994. It is recognised that institutional structures and agency relationships are fluid, and readers will need to take account of more recent changes.

As this review was being undertaken, several administrative structures and functions were undergoing a process of change. These are described in the report. Many of the Peninsula's government (Commonwealth, State, Local) and non-government organisations will experience the effects of these changes, and such changes are likely to have some impact on agency interrelationships.

A feature of the current administrative arrangements for land and resource use in Cape York Peninsula is a high level of complexity. A number of agencies appear to have broadly similar roles and responsibilities, and some functions are split between three levels of government. This complexity allows for potential overlap, duplication and gaps to occur in the provision of government services.

An issue for CYPLUS Stage 2 is the need to examine the land use decision-making processes and mechanisms in Cape York Peninsula in order to recommend a system which clearly identifies responsibilities between levels of government and between agencies within each level.

The main sources for the report are annual reports and corporate plans prepared by different agencies, as well as discussion papers on legislative or administrative changes.

It is hoped that the directory and accompanying commentary will assist CYPLUS participants in understanding the complex issue of "who does what", and with identifying relevant agencies to contact about specific land use planning and management initiatives.



# **PART A**

## **CHANGES IN ADMINISTRATIVE STRUCTURES AND FUNCTIONS**

## **PART A : CHANGES IN ADMINISTRATIVE STRUCTURES AND FUNCTIONS**

The administrative structures on Cape York Peninsula are caught in a process of change. Before describing the agencies and their functions, it is important to recognise some of the "big picture" changes taking place, and the reform agendas requiring a response by particular agencies. These are the current challenges for administrative structures, and their relative success in meeting these challenges is outlined in Part B.

The following summaries describe the changes taking place in legislation or agency relationships which are expected to impact on administrative structures in the Cape York Peninsula.

The summaries are presented as follows:

1. Planning and Development Legislation
2. Land Management Legislation
3. Nature Conservation Legislation
4. Coastal Protection Legislation
5. Environmental Protection Legislation
6. Sustainable Use and Management of Queensland's Natural Resources
7. Integrated Development Approval System
8. Electoral and Administrative Reform
9. Integrated Local Area Planning Program
10. Community and Local Government Reform
11. Land Rights Legislation
12. "Mainstreaming" Services to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Island Communities
13. Recommendations of the Royal Commission into Aboriginal Deaths in Custody.

The documents indicated in the references to each of the above sections have been obtained, and will inform the assessments carried out in later stages of this project.

## **1. PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT LEGISLATION (State Government)**

A discussion paper on the new planning and development legislation was published by the Department of Housing, Local Government and Planning in 1993, as a basis for public consultation. This proposes a consolidation and rationalisation of planning, subdivision and building legislation applicable to local government throughout Queensland. The new framework is intended to provide for better community consultation, co-ordination of infrastructure and service provision by State and local government, and more effective dispute resolution processes. In addition, the legislation will support the introduction of the Integrated Development Approval System (IDAS) described in section 7.

Particular proposals for the new legislation include:

- requirements for incorporation of State and regional planning objectives into local planning schemes;
- production of policy documents to provide greater certainty in decision making;
- increased community contribution to plan making in the early forward planning stages rather than at the development approval stage;
- possible provision for planning inquiries and open hearings to allow for community discussion over controversial issues;
- co-ordination of State and local government agencies in the provision of infrastructure through strategic planning and budgetary commitments;
- increased flexibility for location of types of development within particular zones, provided that environmental performance is satisfactory;
- a revised approach (unspecified) to requirements for environmental impact statements; and
- a revised system (options discussed) for dispute resolution and appeals.

The discussion paper is silent on the controversial issue of compensation, which has in the past been an obstacle to significant changes to land use planning requirements for particular areas.

Significantly, it is proposed that local government retain its prime role in operating the development approval system, but with the ability of the State Government to influence decisions which impact on State interests.

It is expected that the new legislation will be produced in draft form late in 1994.

### **References**

Queensland Department of Housing, Local Government and Planning (1993) : "Planning for the People of Queensland - new planning and development legislation - a discussion paper", Brisbane.

## 2. LAND MANAGEMENT LEGISLATION (State Government)

A White Paper was produced by the Department of Lands in December 1992, foreshadowing legislative reform on this issue. This followed the completion of the "Wolfe Report" in 1990. It is intended to consolidate a number of current Acts, and provide a clearer and simpler management framework. Essential to the new legislation will be development of a fair and accountable system for balancing different interests : preservation and development, community and private benefit, recognition of indigenous rights, revenue neutral and revenue generating uses, interventionist action and free market forces. Community participation in land management decisions is also to be increased.

This legislation will have particular relevance for land management issues on Cape York Peninsula, much of which is held by the Crown under various forms of leasehold tenure.

Particular issues which the new legislation is expected to address include:

- achieving a single consistent system for valuing land;
- integration of appeals on land management issues with the appeals system for planning and environmental issues;
- appropriate tenure relating to the use of the land, particularly distinguishing between community rights (eg in reserves) and operational approval (eg through leases or freehold title), as well as combined uses;
- basing land management decisions on land capability, socio-economic and environmental assessment;
- protection of environmentally and culturally significant Crown lands, with a broader list of purposes for which land can be reserved;
- fair return to the community for private benefits arising from access to Crown lands;
- use of returns from leases granted over reserves for maintenance or enhancement of the reserve (or a group of reserves);
- greater scope for allocation of land for community uses rather than government service delivery;
- provisions for revocation of reserve status in appropriate circumstances, after community consultation (with the grounds for revocation being provided by policy);
- preparation of management plans for reserves where appropriate (as determined by policy), with model plans to provide guidance to trustees;
- simplification of types of lease into perpetual leases and term leases, as well as conditional leases;
- ongoing review of compliance with lease conditions,
- an increase in penalties for failure to comply with lease conditions or other transgressions;
- renewal of leases after a review of conditions;
- increased attention to conditions on leases which promote sustainable use of resources;
- better co-ordination between approval of leases, and conditions attached to them, and planning requirements;
- limits on the aggregation of leasehold land by any one party;

- provision for priority leases to be offered to a single party in certain cases, including major projects;
- improved flexibility in allocating land in the event that it may subsequently be required for different uses;
- provision for short term licences to use Crown land for a specific purpose; and
- controls over the clearing of land.

A further discussion paper foreshadowing the new Act is expected to be published in September 1994.

#### References

1. Queensland Department of Lands (1990) : "Report on Land Policy and Administration in Queensland", Brisbane.
2. Queensland Department of Lands (1992) : "Crown Land Management Reform in Queensland - a white paper which outlines principles for Crown land legislation".

### 3. NATURE CONSERVATION LEGISLATION (State Government)

The *Nature Conservation Act* was introduced in 1992 following extensive public consultation and in recognition of growing community support for nature conservation. Provisions previously contained in the *National Parks and Wildlife Act 1975*, the *Fauna Conservation Act 1974*, the *Native Plants Protection Act 1930* and the *Land Act 1962* have been combined in the new legislation together with additional initiatives which provide for Aboriginal claim over National Parks and which recognise the importance of involving landowners in management of land and water resources outside National Parks.

The Act has yet to be fully promulgated. At present, Divisions 4,7, and 8 of Part 4, Part 6, sections 116, 118, 119, 121, 122, 124 and 127 to 129, Part 9, sections 145 to 150, 154 and 155, Part 11, Schedule 2, amendments 2 to 4 of the *Land Act 1962*, and *Acts Interpretation Act* of Schedule 2, are in force with the remaining sections expected to be promulgated in November, 1994. Amendments to the legislation are already in train with the *Nature Conservation Act Amendment Act Bill* due to go to the next session of Parliament.

The object of the legislation is the conservation of nature. The Act sets out to achieve this through a "whole of conservation" approach which provides for an integrated and comprehensive conservation strategy, not just within National Parks, but over the whole of the State. This strategy includes :

- gathering information and community education
- dedication and declaration of protected areas
- management of protected areas
- protection of native wildlife and its habitat
- use of protected wildlife and areas to be ecologically sustainable

The Act creates various classes of protected areas consistent with international classification criteria. These are from highly protected areas such as of National Parks to multiple use areas which may be contained in a co-ordinated conservation area. An important feature of the legislation will be the use of conservation agreements between private landowners and the Department of Environment and Heritage which will provide for a formal agreement to protect and manage the land for nature conservation.

Conservation Plans are a key part of the legislation, providing a detailed means for protecting, using and managing protected areas, areas of major interest, critical habitats, and classes of wildlife. Such plans will be prepared with community input and will involve the co-operation of landholders in managing protected areas.

While the legislation is generally well regarded in terms of its contribution to nature conservation, its policy thrust (rather than any regulatory approach) is likely to generate some practical implementation difficulties to be worked through. Some criticism of the legislation has been levelled from various sources, including the conservation movement. Concern has been expressed at the excessive Ministerial and Cabinet discretion contained in some sections of the Act, the failure to provide third party appeal rights, and the lack of protection of wilderness areas from mining.

Aboriginal groups expressed disappointment at the lack of adequate consultation prior to its enactment, and in particular were concerned that the Act did not fully recognise the role of Aboriginal people in conservation management.

In summary, the holistic approach to nature conservation taken in the Act has widespread support and while certain aspects of the legislation may have to be worked through, the Act does provide the basis for a more comprehensive management of the State's protected areas.

#### **4. COASTAL PROTECTION LEGISLATION (State Government)**

Following the release in 1991 of a Green Paper on the Coastal Protection Strategy and consideration of submissions to that Strategy, the State Government released a Coastal Protection Bill in July 1993. The legislation will amalgamate and replace existing legislation including the *Beach Protection Act*, *Canals Act* and parts of the *Harbour Act* and provide for the protection, management and rehabilitation of the coastal zone of Queensland.

The Act is intended to have jurisdiction over all land up to one kilometre from the highest point of the highest astronomical tide, on all land on Queensland islands, and along rivers, streams, watercourses, lakes and other bodies of water up to 400 metres from the highest point of the highest astronomical tide.

The Bill generated considerable public discussion during the public consultation phase, particularly on those provisions which gave the Minister power to acquire land in Erosion Control Districts (defined as including Erosion Prone Widths) which was the subject of development applications to dedicate the land free of charge to the Crown. Given that a significant proportion of Cape York Peninsula would potentially be affected by these provisions, with erosion prone widths of up to 400 metres along many sections of the coastline, implementation of Coastal Protection legislation will impact on future land use considerations.

The Bill requires all applications over land which is wholly or partially contained in an Erosion Control District to be referred to the Minister. The Act is proposed to give the Minister substantial power to impose conditions, seek the transfer of land, or refuse an application. The approval agency, ie local government, is required to follow the direction of the Minister.

The Coastal Protection Bill does not specifically accommodate provision for Native Title ownership or access to marine or terrestrial resources. However, in its drafting, the intention was to ensure that its provisions do not unintentionally erode or extinguish any native title that may continue to exist.

In its present form the Bill contains some areas of overlap with local government planning powers derived from the *Local Government (Planning and Environment) Act*. The preparation of a draft local planning policy on Coastal Protection as a joint initiative between the Department of Environment and Heritage and the Department of Housing, Local Government and Planning should resolve procedural issues in the implementation of the Act at the regional and local level.

Importantly, the Bill provides for the establishment of a Coastal Protection Policy Advisory Council to advise the Minister of broad range of planning, investigation, research and public education matters. The Council is intended to comprise the Chief Executive of the Department of Environment and Heritage as Chairperson, representatives from each of the departments of Office of Co-ordinator General, Lands, Housing, Local Government and Planning, Primary Industries and three representatives from coastal local authorities, one of which is to be selected from an Aboriginal and Islander Community Council. This Council will have a primary responsibility in the preparation of State and regional coastal management plans.

#### References

1. Coastal Protection Bill (1993) - Draft for Public Consultation - Department of Environment and Heritage, Queensland.
2. Coastal Protection Bill (1993) - Explanatory Notes - Department of Environment and Heritage.
3. Submission for Coastal Protection Bill (1993) - Schomburgk & Partners, Brisbane. Unpublished submission to Queensland Environmental Law Association.

## **5. ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION LEGISLATION (State Government)**

Review of environmental legislation and policy in Queensland has been underway since 1990, culminating in the release in November, 1993 of an Environmental Protection Bill. The Act will replace the Clean Air, Clean Waters and Noise Abatement Acts and provide for all government departments and agencies to incorporate environmental factors into their decision-making.

Elements of the legislation will provide for:

- integration of waste minimisation and control with all environmental management;
- self-regulation by businesses through the development and assessment of environmental strategies;
- incentives provided for responsible environmental managers;
- efficient targeting of resources by identifying at the Commonwealth and State Government levels, the most urgent and irreversible environmental threats;
- nation wide consistency;
- a legal framework to efficiently achieve Ecologically Sustainable Development by decentralising service delivery through delegation to other departments, and by devolution to local governments for managing local impacts; and
- the flexibility to address new threats to the environment through social consensus on the most appropriate response by government and the community.

The legislation will provide for the transfer of responsibility for a limited number of activities to local governments, with funding and training assistance to resource local government officers to undertake certain functions under the Act. Similarly, delegation of functions to other agencies such as the Department of Primary Industries and Department of Minerals and Energy, under the co-ordinating policy and management umbrella of the Department of Environment and Heritage (DEH) will be provided for. The primary role of the DEH will be to set the policy and environmental standards to be achieved, gather State of the Environment data, and regularly audit the performance of delegated agencies.

### **References**

1. Environmental Protection Bill and Commentary - November, 1993 - Department of Environment and Heritage, Queensland

## **6. SUSTAINABLE USE AND MANAGEMENT OF QUEENSLAND'S NATURAL RESOURCES (State Government)**

A discussion paper on the Sustainable Use and Management of Queensland's Natural Resources has been released by the Queensland Department of Primary Industries as a basis for assessing existing policies and strategies for the sustainable use of both State and privately controlled natural resources of land, water, forests and fisheries and examining new initiatives. By reviewing Natural Resource Management (NRM) legislation and policy, the State Government's intention is to develop an integrated policy and legislative framework for future natural resource management throughout Queensland.

An anticipated outcome of the process will be the development of new legislation. This will provide a more cohesive framework within which management of natural resources can be implemented. The two existing fisheries Acts have now been incorporated into a draft Queensland Fisheries Bill and the remaining nine Acts covering natural resource management are intended to be linked to provide for greater co-ordination and consistency of controls and approval mechanisms, with specific legislative support for Integrated Catchment Management.

### **References**

"Sustainable Use and Management of Queensland's Natural Resources" - Queensland Department of Primary Industries.

## **7. INTEGRATED DEVELOPMENT APPROVAL SYSTEM (State Government)**

In 1989, the Queensland Government commenced a review of State and local government development approval processes, termed the "System Review". This aimed to rationalise and integrate the multitude of legal requirements, referral and concurrence procedures, and other steps in the approval process. The ultimate goal was to develop a single approval process, with input from relevant agencies but within a single decision making framework, encompassing building, planning and associated land development approvals.

The Systems Review was renamed the Integrated Development Approval System (IDAS) in 1992. It is consistent with the Commonwealth Local Approvals Review Program, (LARP), which seeks to simplify and streamline approval processes within local government agencies in the reform agenda.

Much of the IDAS work has been concerned with describing how current systems work, and improving flows of information between agencies. There has also been some development of computer based information systems which can integrate the requirements of different pieces of legislation. Currently, there is a pilot project designing the administrative processes for integrating approval requirements for sample categories of application.

The principles of IDAS, which will be addressed in the development of new systems, are :

- local government should be the main sphere of government responsible for development approval;
- no new development approval systems should be introduced;
- there should be clear connections between policy objectives and the need to comment or give approvals on development proposals;
- simplified approval procedures should be available for all forms of development. This should include the facility to obtain an early answer as to whether a development concept is acceptable before the expense of detailed investigations is incurred;
- all assessment criteria, standards, codes and other information relevant to the approval process should be published and freely available; and
- consistent approaches should be adopted in relation to consultation with other Government agencies and the public.

Implementation of IDAS has been hampered by a reluctance of State government agencies to explicitly state their requirements and their policies, preferring to reserve a right of veto or discretionary call in power. This is despite the role of an Interdepartmental Committee in steering the overall project. Implementation is therefore likely to be very long term.

#### References

1. Queensland Department of Housing and Local Government (1990) : "Is it Too Complex? a discussion paper for the Development Approvals Systems Review," Brisbane.
2. Queensland Department of Housing, Local Government and Planning (1993) : "Integrated Development Approval System", Brisbane.

## **8. ELECTORAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE REFORM (Commonwealth Government)**

The report of the Electoral and Administrative Review Commission into the appropriateness of external boundaries of local authorities in Queensland was brought down in 1991 with the recommendations subsequently tabled. The Commission conducted hearings in the Cape York area between August and October 1991 attended by 82 representatives of community councils, Aurukun and Cook Shire Councils and their electorates.

In making its recommendations in relation to external boundaries throughout Queensland, the Commission also recommended amendment to relevant legislation to empower Aboriginal and Islander Councils and other local authorities to enter into formal agreements relating to access roads and land use planning. The Commission further recommended that the Cook and Aurukun Shire Councils as well as neighbouring Aboriginal and Islander Councils enter into an agreement to share decision-making on land use and access road matters.

Specific findings in relation to Cape York Peninsula are contained in Chapter 16 of the Commission's report, which sets out the content of submissions received from the community and mainstream local governments on the Peninsula. The Commission saw the issues in two broad categories - one, the determination of the nature and extent of the problem between Cook Shire Council and neighbouring Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Community Councils on land use and road maintenance decisions, and two, to try to determine the best solution to problems identified. The issues thus identified revolved around the relationship between Aboriginal and mainstream local government and the disenfranchisement of Aboriginal people from voting in Cook Shire elections. A paper putting forward five options was subsequently developed for discussion purposes leading to the findings set out in the paragraph above.

The shortcomings in the present local government enfranchisement on Cape York Peninsula are being partially addressed through a number of related legislative and policy reforms. These include the recommendations of the Final Report of the Legislation Review Committee and the implementation of the Alternative Governing Structures Program, both State Government initiatives which seek to enhance the capacity of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people to manage their own lives by establishing alternative structures and processes for self-management. Section 10 examines these reforms in more detail.

The EARC recommendations together with other local government issues relevant to Cape York Peninsula were the topic of a Local Government Issues Conference held in Cairns in August, 1993. In particular, the establishment of Joint Authorities on Cape York Peninsula, a recommendation of EARC, was canvassed at the meeting which was attended by representatives of Aboriginal and Islander Community Councils and "mainstream" Councils established under the *Local Government Act*. These issues subsequently formed the basis for a project approved under the Commonwealth Integrated Local Area Planning (ILAP) Program sponsored by Cook Shire and Wujal Wujal Community Councils.

#### References

1. Electoral and Administrative Review Commission - Report on Local Authorities External Boundaries Review - Summary

## **9. INTEGRATED LOCAL AREA PLANNING (ILAP) PROGRAM (Commonwealth Government)**

In 1990, the Australian Local Government Association produced a report: "Better Services for Local Communities", promoting reform of local area planning. In response, the Commonwealth Government created ILAP as a three year funding program, commencing in 1992-3. The purpose of the program is to establish improved models for local government working across functional and agency boundaries, so as to provide more appropriate services to meet the needs of local communities. A range of projects is being funded by the program, developing innovative models to suit different local circumstances. The Local Government Association of Queensland is administering the Queensland ILAP program, with a Steering Committee comprising Commonwealth, State and local government representation.

ILAP will fund two projects located in Cape York in 1994-5. These are being sponsored by Wujal Wujal Community Council and Cook Shire Council, and the two projects will run in parallel. The project for Cook Shire will look at the way in which local government services are provided throughout the Cook Shire, the relationship with Wujal Wujal and other community councils, and the potential for co-operative arrangements with other agencies. The project for Wujal Wujal Community Council will develop an integrated community development plan which takes account of potential co-operative arrangements with Cook Shire Council and other agencies.

These two projects are expected to commence in early 1995, and to be completed within six months of commencement.

### **References**

1. Australian Local Government Association (1992) : "Making the Connections - towards integrated local area planning", Canberra.
2. Australian Local Government Association (1993) : "Ideas for Integrated Local Area Planning", Canberra.
3. Australian Local Government Association (1993) : "A Guide to Integrated Local Area Planning," Canberra.
4. Draft briefs for ILAP funding developed by Cook Shire Council and Wujal Wujal Community Council.

## 10. COMMUNITY AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT REFORM (State Government)

The *Community Services (Aborigines) Act 1984* and the *Community Services (Torres Strait) Act 1984* were introduced following criticism of the previous legislation's provision for human rights. These Acts required community councils to act as local government bodies for their communities, with a significant State role in overseeing their administration. Councils subject to this legislation were not granted the same powers as those subject to the *Local Government Act*. The affected Cape York communities are Lockhart River, Wujal Wujal, Hopevale, Injinoo, New Mapoon, Umagico, Napranum, Pormpuraaw and Kowanyama.

In 1990, the Legislation Review Committee was established to review this legislation, and in 1991 it recommended significant changes to remove inherent discrimination. Its report also recommended that more culturally appropriate local government models should be developed.

The Department of Family Services and Aboriginal and Islander Affairs has developed an Alternative Governing Structures Program to address this issue. A pilot project was carried out in Aurukun, which resulted in a recommended administrative structure reflecting the different social units functioning within the community. A further project is underway at Lockhart River, and the program may be pursued as part of the ILAP funded project at Wujal Wujal (see section 9). These pilots are intended to advise the drafting of new legislation, which will provide scope for a range of administrative models. It is not clear whether the new legislation will be capable of application to mainstream communities or multi-racial communities (such as Weipa). It is intended that work on a new Act will begin late in 1994.

In 1990, the Public Accounts Committee (PAC) of Parliament examined the financial administration of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander councils, following critical audit reports. This Committee recommended that community councils should have similar powers and responsibilities to those of mainstream councils, with less State interference in their affairs.

The Criminal Justice Commission has recently reported on the results of its investigation of six Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Councils. The report recommends substantial amendment of the *Community Services Acts* to improve the accountability of councils to their communities.

Another recent report was prepared by Morton Consulting Services for the Department of Family Services and Aboriginal and Islander Affairs. This looked at the distribution of State Government funding to different Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Councils, and found considerable inequities. New systems for allocating funds on the basis of need were proposed.

The councils in the region that are subject to the *Local Government Act* include the whole of Cook Shire, while only parts of Torres and Carpentaria Shires, also subject to the *Local Government Act*, are located within the CYPLUS study area. A new *Local Government Act* was introduced late in 1994, and councils are steadily adjusting to the new legislative requirements. These include improved corporate and strategic planning, and clearer public accountability.

accountability. Aurukun Shire Council was separately constituted under the Local Government (Aboriginals) Act. The Council undertakes a broader range of functions including housing and social issues in addition to more local government functions.

Regional governing structures relevant to Cape York include the regional councils established by the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Commission (ATSIC). There has recently been a move towards greater regional autonomy with the replacement of the Torres Strait Regional Council by the Torres Strait Regional Authority. This represents an increase in devolution of responsibility and resources from ATSIC.

### References

1. Queensland Government (1984) "Community Services (Aborigines) Act 1984", Government Printer, Brisbane.
2. Queensland Government (1984): "Community Services (Torres Strait) Act 1984", Government Printer, Brisbane.
3. Queensland Legislative Review Committee final report 1991 (document not yet obtained).
4. Queensland Department of Family Services and Aboriginal and Islander Affairs (undated): program guidelines for Alternative Governing Structures Program.
5. Yalga-binbi Institute for Community Development (1994): "Aurukun Community Plan - community survey, homeland development".
6. Queensland Criminal Justice Commission (1994): "Report on an investigation into complaints against Six Aboriginal and Island Councils", Brisbane.
7. Morton Consulting Services (1993): "Evaluation of Funding to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Island Councils", for Queensland Department of Family Services and Aboriginal and Islander Affairs, Brisbane.
8. Barbara Miller (1994): "Options for the Future - local government and native title on Queensland Aboriginal communities", draft report for the Aboriginal Co-ordinating Council, Cairns.
9. Torres Strait Regional Authority (1994) descriptive material.

## **11. LAND RIGHTS LEGISLATION**

This section deals with legislative reforms governing tenure of and access to Aboriginal land and land over which Native Title may still exist. The specific legislation includes:

- Aboriginal Land Act 1991
- Torres Strait Islander Land Act 1991
- Native Title Act 1993
- Native Title (Queensland) Act 1993

### **11.1 Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Land Acts (State Government)**

These two Acts were introduced in 1991 following limited consultation with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander groups. The intent of the Acts is to provide for the grant and claim of traditional lands and to foster the capacity for self-development, and the self reliance and cultural integrity of the Aboriginal people of Queensland. The Acts provide a mechanism for the identification and grant of "transferable land". This is land for which no claim is required and which reverts to Aboriginal title, as in the case of all Deed of Grant in Trust and Reserve lands and the lease areas of Aurukun and Mornington Shires. It also includes "claimable" land, that is land which is available as vacant Crown land and which the Governor-in-Council has declared for the purposes of the Act.

The process of claiming title to land is established under the legislation and requires the claimants to make application for an area of claimable land within a period of fifteen years from the date of promulgation of the legislation. Claims under the Act can only be made on the basis of "traditional affiliation, historical association, or economic or cultural viability" and are then referred to the Land Tribunal for hearing. Importantly, the legislation provides for the inclusion of National Parks as claimable land.

At the time of this report, 36 parcels of vacant Crown land equivalent to 37,301 hectares have been gazetted as available for claim on Cape York Peninsula. These include 30 coastal islands amounting to 375 hectares. A further 19 "duly made" claims have been lodged. Eleven National Parks containing an area of 2,359,000 hectares have been gazetted as available for claim under the Act, with eight having had claims lodged over them.

The first decision handed down by the Tribunal supported the claim by the traditional owners of Melville National Park. Prior to title to the land being transferred, the Act requires a Management Plan to be prepared and approved by the Governor-in-Council and a lease granted to the Crown over the National Park.

## **11.2 Native Title Legislation (Commonwealth/State Government)**

Following the release of a discussion paper by the Commonwealth Government in June, 1993, the *Native Title Act 1993* was assented to in December, 1993. The Act has mirror State legislation to reinforce its application in the States including Queensland. While the Federal Tribunal has been established to hear claims under this Act, at present no separate State tribunal has been established.

The *Native Title Act* gives recognition to the progressive dispossession of Aboriginal Australians of their lands, over time, and without compensation, following the High Court's rejection of terra nullius. The Act gives common law recognition to native title rights where those rights have not been extinguished, and for payment of compensation under the National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Land Fund for dispossessed title holders. The latter is part of a Commonwealth commitment to the broader reconciliation process.

The Act is also intended to provide greater certainty to the broader Australian community in terms of the existence or otherwise of native title, by the validation of past legislation and land grants which may have extinguished native title.

Importantly, the legislation provides a process by which native title rights can be established and compensation determined. It can also lead to determinations on future grants or activities pursued on native title land and waters.

### **References**

1. *The Aboriginal Land Act 1991*
2. *The Torres Strait Islander Land Act 1991*
3. *Native Title Act 1993*
4. *Native Title (Queensland) Act 1993*
5. Aboriginal Management of Land - A Case Study of Cape York Peninsula  
Unpublished Master's Research Paper - Kim Campbell, Brisbane

## **12. MAINSTREAMING SERVICES TO ABORIGINAL AND TORRES STRAIT ISLANDER COMMUNITIES (State Government)**

Initiatives to mainstream services to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people were initiated by the Public Sector Management Commission (PSMC) 1991 review of the Queensland Department of Family Services and Aboriginal and Islander Affairs. The review recommended a transfer of administration of the Aboriginal Rental Housing Assistance Program (funded under the Commonwealth-State Housing Agreement) to the (then) Queensland Department of Housing and Local Government.

Other changes have included a transfer of responsibility for assistance with transport infrastructure from the Queensland Department of Family Services and Aboriginal and Islander Affairs to the Queensland Department of Transport, and for a range of other services to other mainstream departments.

The most recent investigation of the Department by the PSMC has resulted in recommendations for much more mainstreaming of services. This includes a transfer of land administration functions to the Lands Department. Other possible transfers include movement of administrative functions in relation to community councils to the Department of Housing, Local Government and Planning.

Mainstreaming of services has also been raised as an issue in relation to the functions of Commonwealth agencies. In particular there is likelihood of a transfer of responsibility for implementing the National Aboriginal Health Strategy from the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Commission (ATSIC) to the Department of Human Services and Health.

There are arguments for and against mainstreaming and these are likely to be the subject of ongoing debate within government and the broader community. Briefly, the separation of functions into specialist departments present opportunities for greater cultural adaptation of services, while mainstreaming is likely to produce more equitable distribution of resources on a needs basis. However, neither outcome is necessarily determined by administrative structures alone.

#### **References**

Public Service Management Commission (1994): "Summary Report - investigation into aspects of the Department of Family Services and Aboriginal and Islander Affairs", Brisbane.

### **13. RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE ROYAL COMMISSION INTO ABORIGINAL DEATHS IN CUSTODY (Commonwealth Government)**

The Royal Commission handed down its recommendations in April 1991. Having investigated the factors relating to Aboriginal deaths in custody, the Commission found that these were broad ranging, relating to loss of culture, poor living conditions, disempowerment, and racial prejudice within mainstream society.

In total, 339 recommendations were made by the Commission, and 337 of these were agreed to by the Queensland Government. These cut across the responsibilities of different government and non-government agencies. Implementation of the recommendations is being overseen by an Interdepartmental Committee through an Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Overview Committee, with its own Secretariat. So far, two annual reports have been produced which document the implementation of recommendations to date.

The latest report, made in December 1993, describes the following initiatives which relate to land and resource management:

- Community Governing Structures Program (described separately in Section 10);
- Community Justice Development Strategy - this new program will pilot alternative community-based corrections as alternatives to prison. Employment of offenders in community managed projects may be facilitated;
- grant funding to projects which aim to revitalise, maintain or preserve Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander cultural heritage;
- grant funding for research into indigenous rights which will assist the cultural, social and economic viability of communities;
- TAFE training courses for rangers employed in natural and cultural management (overseen by the Aboriginal Co-ordinating Council);
- development of procedures for implementation of land rights legislation (see separate documentation in Section 11), including provisions for claims to be made over some National Parks;
- provision for joint management agreements over land to be reached between the Wet Tropics Management Authority and Aboriginal communities;
- opening a Torres Strait campus on Thursday Island, which creates a capacity to develop regionally appropriate land and resource management skills;
- consultations with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people over the future directions of the Commonwealth funded Aboriginal Rental Housing Program, which may include establishment of a separate housing board (possibly under the auspice of the Aboriginal Co-ordinating Council); and
- adjustment of the formula for road funding provided to community councils to achieve greater equity with local governments.

#### References

1. Queensland Government (1992) : "Royal Commission into Aboriginal Deaths in Custody - Queensland Government response to the Royal Commission", Brisbane.
2. Aboriginal Deaths in Custody Secretariat of the Queensland Department of Family Services and Aboriginal and Islander Affairs (1993) : "Royal Commission into Aboriginal Deaths in Custody - Queensland Government progress report on implementation to December 1993".



## **PART B**

# **RELATIONSHIPS BETWEEN AGENCIES AND RESPONSES TO CHANGE**

## **PART B : RELATIONSHIPS BETWEEN AGENCIES AND RESPONSES TO CHANGE**

The following discussion makes some preliminary observations about the nature of interagency relationships as they affect Cape York Peninsula. There are some distinct areas of duplication, some areas which are not well covered by any agency, some areas of confusion about who is responsible for what, and some distinct areas of opportunity for better interagency co-ordination in the future.

### **1. DYSFUNCTIONAL LOCAL GOVERNMENT RELATIONSHIPS**

A major issue to be resolved on Cape York Peninsula as well as elsewhere is the current dysfunctional relationship between mainstream local government and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Community Councils. There is considerable ambiguity about what agency is responsible for what functions, as well as considerable opportunity to promote greater co-operation in efficient provision of services to those who need them most.

Apart from the functional difficulties, the coexistence of the two types of local government creates significant difficulties in electoral representation. The Electoral and Administrative Reform Commission (EARC) pointed to the apparent disenfranchisement of indigenous people from the much larger mainstream local governments caused by the creation of separate community councils. An added dimension to this problem is the movement of people from communities onto outstations beyond the community council boundaries, where they are unable to vote for the community councils with which they now identify.

These issues are being addressed by a pilot project looking at the interface between Cook Shire Council and Wujal Wujal Community Council, funded by the Integrated Local Area Planning Program (ILAP) - see page 12.

### **2. AREAS OF DUPLICATION**

Within the array of agencies which have responsibilities within the Cape York Peninsula, there are some potential overlaps. These are identified as follows.

The responsibilities of State Government Departments, some Commonwealth Government Departments and local government have some areas of overlap, particularly in relation to regulation. This is well recognised by the State Government, and the Integrated Development Approvals System (IDAS) is attempting to rationalise this.

A significant area of overlap is between the Islander Co-ordinating Council and the Torres Shire Council, with parallel services to the same localities in some instances, and duplication in equipment. Funding for particular projects may be directed through either agency. This is likely to be extended to an overlap between the Shire Council and the Torres Strait Regional Authority, at least for the inner islands. A rationalisation or an amalgamation of these agencies is a future possibility.

### **3. GAPS**

As discussed, the interface between Aboriginal and Island Community Councils and local government presents some gaps as well as overlaps. This is clearly evident in the area of road maintenance, as one example, where the Shire Councils are often reluctant to maintain roads within Community Council lands. It is important that the interrelationships be re-examined, and there are various initiatives that may assist this process.

A significant gap in Commonwealth responsibilities is in relation to meeting the needs of rural areas. Apart from the primary industries area, there is no Commonwealth agency with a particular concern to develop rural strategies, and even some programs directed to rural areas (such as the funding for rural telecentres) are not backed up by strategic directions for meeting rural needs.

In contrast with the considerable overlap between agencies in their regulatory concerns, there is a major gap in terms of enforcement on the Cape York Peninsula, and this is significant for rural land management. This is referred to below as an area of opportunity in developing interagency co-operation.

There is also a gap in terms of co-ordination and the flow of information between local government and community councils. There is little contact between Cook Shire and Torres Shire Councils, despite their common interests. Similarly, the individual community councils may have little contact except through peak bodies such as the ACC or the Land Council.

### **4. AREAS OF CONFUSION AND CONFLICT**

The confusion about the interface between community councils and local government has already been referred to.

In the southern areas of the Peninsula, there is an obvious lack of clarity in the relationship between Aboriginal Community Councils and the Wet Tropics Management Authority. This extends to a lack of mutual recognition of authority. The recent appointment of Aboriginal liaison officers by the Authority may assist in some settling of this situation. However the recent conflict between Wujal Wujal Community Council and the Authority over upgrading its water supply is ominous, and indicated a critical need to improve relations.

In the northern part of the Peninsula and on the near shore islands there is some confusion over the competing interests of the Kuarareg Land Council and Torres Strait Regional Authority. Clear representation of Kuarareg interests within the Regional Authority might assist in resolving this issue, if it is achievable - there is currently only a shared representative with other groups.

Within the Torres Strait Islands, the role of the Islander Co-ordinating Council and the Torres Strait Regional Authority in relation to State and Commonwealth legislation is somewhat confusing. The potential merger of these agencies would require a rationalisation of this legislation across Governments, and this may in the end be necessary to ensure that regional aspirations are met.

Within the seas of the Torres Straits there is considerable confusion over responsibilities for fishery management, with a multiplicity of State, Commonwealth and other agencies, and an extremely complex combination of regulations. Even those directly involved in this system are unclear about the role of other players. Despite the complexity of the regulation and administration, there are ongoing concerns about the damage being done to coastal fisheries by commercial prawn trawlers. Given the significance of this resource and its management, rationalisation of this area would appear to be much needed.

## **5. OPPORTUNITIES**

Despite the difficulties described above, there are some areas where agencies are working well together, or where there is potential for much improved interagency relationships.

There are some interesting areas of co-operation. The Aboriginal Co-ordinating Council and the Cape York Land Council appear to have a supportive working relationship, despite representing different and potentially competing interests (elected councils as compared with traditional land owners).

The Cape York Land Council has also formed a close working relationship with the Nature Conservation Foundation, which may extend to other interest groups in time. This could potentially provide a basis for developing consensus and mutually agreeable trade-offs between interest groups, which would be highly relevant to planning in the Cape York Peninsula.

The regional managers' forum for the Far North Queensland region appears to present prospects for improved co-operation between State Government agencies, extending to strategic planning, exchange of information and service delivery.

A particular area of opportunity for improved interagency co-operation relates to interagency enforcement of regulatory requirements. The potential for increased training of indigenous people through the ranger program, and broadening of the skills and responsibilities of rangers could meet this need, given appropriate resources.

The Integrated Local Area Planning (ILAP) program funded by the Commonwealth Government through the Local Government Association of Queensland (LGAQ) presents some opportunities for re-designing the interface between community councils and mainstream local government. Two complementary projects have been approved for funding : one for Cook Shire Council and the other for Wujal Wujal Community Council. The projects will develop planning approaches which assign responsibilities to the two councils in a way which is rational for the particular socio-political and physical environment. This may set a precedent for co-operative planning which can then be replicated by other councils in the region (and elsewhere).

A further important area of opportunity is the development of appropriate information technology which will support interagency co-operation across the vast distances experienced in the Cape York Peninsula. This is essential to the CYPLUS agenda as well as for sensible administrative functioning. It is clear that reliance on face-to-face meetings will not produce the levels of interaction that are appropriate for co-operative planning and management, and innovation in this area is critical. At the same time, there are appropriate technologies that can be introduced, and which are affordable.

## **PART C**

# **PLANS PREPARED BY DIFFERENT AGENCIES**

## **PART C : PLANS PREPARED BY DIFFERENT AGENCIES**

This part of the report outlines a wide range of planning initiatives being undertaken by different agencies in Cape York Peninsula. In future planning and land use management, it is important to take account of these activities. It will also be critical to ensure that the various levels of planning are integrated in some way, to avoid future confusion and possibly conflict over resource management.

### **1. ATSIC COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT PLANS**

ATSIC has a program for funding community development plans. These are seen as tools for helping individual communities clarify their planning objectives and priorities across a range of issues - land claims, social and cultural development and health being common areas of concern, for example. These plans are a basis for reaching agreement within the community about the directions that people want to take, and they can then form the basis for seeking resources to address the community's priorities. They may potentially apply to most aspects of community wellbeing, though initially they may start with a few important issues. They may also document community needs in a way that will justify applications for resources, and identify relevant agencies and funding programs which can resource implementation of the plan, though some community plans are weak in this area. It is recommended by ATSIC that they include performance indicators and an evaluation mechanism, which implies that they should be used much like holistic corporate plans for the communities concerned.

#### **Reference**

ATSIC (1993) : "Community-Based Planning - Principles and Practices", Regional Support Branch, Canberra

### **2. ANG-GNARRA ABORIGINAL MANAGEMENT CORPORATION STRATEGIC MANAGEMENT PLAN**

A Strategic Management Plan outlining an environmental, social, and economic agenda was prepared by Ang-Gnarra Aboriginal Corporation in January 1993 to enable the Corporation to achieve the Community's goals. The format of the Plan addresses Natural, Human and Cultural Resources in a series of Action Plans for each of the major program areas of concern to the Ang-Gnarra Corporation. Actions are prioritised, with timetabling, estimated budget and source of funding, and implementation measures identified.

The Housing Action Plan component has provided a clear direction for improving housing stock in the Laura area and is being progressively implemented. The population forecasting used in the report was used in a recent submission by Cook Shire Council for funding of a Town Water Supply under the Rural Communities Water Scheme Program.

The Community Ranger Training Program conducted in conjunction with Cairns TAFE has been very successful in developing skills in the local community to undertake land management programs both within Laura and on Quinkan Trust lands utilising CDEP employment.

### **3. COEN REGIONAL ABORIGINAL CORPORATION COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT PLAN**

The Coen Regional Aboriginal Corporation has been in operation since 1993 replacing two previous community based organisations, Malpa Kincha and Moomba. The Corporation is the major funding vehicle for the Coen Aboriginal community and provides a political, social, economic, and administrative base for Aboriginal self-determination.

The community development planning process was developed through extensive discussion with the community and the development of a series of recommendations for work projects. The Community's prioritised goal list for the next three years is:

1. Training and Education
2. Land Issues
3. Employment and Economic Development
4. Administration and Planning
5. Housing
6. Health
7. Social and Cultural Issues
8. Sport and Recreation

For each of these goals, specific strategies and tasks, priorities (dates), project targets, responsibility and action plans have been devised as a program for implementation of the CDP.

#### **4. ATSIC/DHLGP HOUSING AND INFRASTRUCTURE PLANS**

Needs for housing and physical infrastructure are identified in the ATSIC needs studies, both national and State. The capital works planning by both State and Commonwealth Governments is co-ordinated at the State level, and sets priorities for different communities with reference to these needs studies. Other factors are also relevant, such as the capacity of different communities to manage resources, and the likely weather conditions for construction at different times of year.

Some planning also takes place at the community level, with assessment of the state of repair of housing and infrastructure, and some settlement planning at this level. While this is only indirectly relevant to the CYPLUS agenda, it is another layer of planning that may need to be integrated with others at the local level.

#### **5. ATSIC REGIONAL PLANS**

The *ATSIC Act 1989* requires ATSIC regional councils to prepare regional plans which give a framework for improving the economic, social and cultural status of the region's indigenous people. The plans that have been prepared so far vary in their depth, but often represent statements of desired outcomes. Strategy formulation for achieving these outcomes is made difficult by the lack of direct authority that the regional councils have for relevant service delivery and resource management, and particularly the lack of influence over the priorities of other government agencies. The councils also have limited capacity for regional planning, given their other responsibilities and level of resources.

Regional plans so far produced have dealt with "big picture" issues including social justice, land rights, resource access and control, sovereignty and reconciliation, regional issues, the development of a regional perspective, planning and funding for services, local community and organisational issues, priorities and projects.

The Peninsula Regional Council has prepared a framework for its regional plan, which outlines the directions it wishes to take in its planning. Tenders have been called for consultants to assist in the preparation of the more detailed plan, in close consultation with the regional council and within the established framework.

The previous Torres Strait Regional Council prepared a "draft development plan" in 1993, which fulfils the functions of a regional plan. This places priority on health, housing, community infrastructure and training. The plan identifies community needs and makes some preliminary proposals about specific projects. It is now the responsibility of the new Torres Strait Regional Authority to take the plan further in developing strategies and designing implementation mechanisms.

## Reference

Jackie Wolfe (1993) : "Regional Planning by ATSIC councils - Purpose, Process, Products and Problems", Northern Australia Research Unit Discussion Paper No. 18, Darwin

## 6. MAINSTREAM PLANNING SCHEMES

The current Planning Scheme for Cook Shire was prepared under the *Local Government Act 1936* and has been in force since 1982. The Shire has no Strategic Plan. Development Control Plans (DCP's) have been prepared and gazetted for Cooktown and Environs (1986) and Rossville (1991) while a draft DCP has been prepared for Ayton/Bloomfield.

Recognising the limitations of the present Scheme to adequately meet the particular locational needs of Cook Shire, the Council embarked on the preparation of a new Planning Scheme in 1992, and undertook extensive consultation with local communities and Aboriginal Corporations throughout the Shire, adjoining Aboriginal Community Councils, and State Government agencies. The draft Planning Scheme has been on public display and is expected to be gazetted and in force by May 1995.

Where the present Scheme contains some 21 land use zones each with a narrow range of permitted and permissible uses, the draft Scheme has condensed this to eight zones which appropriately cover the broad range of land uses represented in the Shire. Through the introduction of an innovative Table of Zones which excludes a prohibited column in all but the Residential zone, the Scheme will give Council greater flexibility to consider a particular proposal on its merits having regard to the intent of the zone and other relevant performance criteria.

Given the timing of the CYPLUS project and Cook Shire Council's desire to co-ordinate any strategic direction for the Shire within the overall policy framework developed for Cape York Peninsula, Ministerial exemption was granted from the statutory requirement to prepare a Strategic Plan at this stage. Hence, the document provides a structure for managing development within broadly defined community goals.

Importantly, the Scheme will provide the opportunity for the outcomes of the *Native Title Acts* and *Aboriginal Land Act* to be managed within Cook Shire in terms of land use and development through the introduction of definitions of bush camping and multiple rural occupancy. Further provisions addressing these issues should emerge through discussions with claimant groups and through outcomes of the Integrated Local Area Planning (ILAP) project to be undertaken with Wujal Wujal Community Council.

Torres Shire Council has a Planning Scheme which covers those parts of the Shire not governed by Islander or Aboriginal Community Councils. This is a highly prescriptive zoning document, which specifies permissible land uses for different areas. The Scheme would require most changes in land use to go through a rezoning process.

## **7. TORRES STRAIT MARINE STRATEGY**

This planning exercise does not have status under any specific legislation, but it represents a potentially strong tool in management of marine resources across areas of Commonwealth, State and local responsibility.

Initial work has been carried out by the Islander Co-ordinating Council in developing policy directions for the Strategy, which are in published form. These look at resource management within the Torres Strait in the context of international, national and State legislation, and propose some directions for future policy and strategy development. The policies recognise the importance of marine resources to Islander people, and the likelihood that management and development of these resources is likely to play a significant part in the future economic wellbeing of the region. Proposals for aquaculture enterprises are included.

Current work includes further development of strategies, and preparation of a series of plans for each island that is governed by an Island Council. These are being funded by the Department of Family Services and Aboriginal and Islander Affairs.

## **8. INTEGRATED CATCHMENT MANAGEMENT PLANS**

Integrated Catchment Management (ICM) and Total Catchment Management (TCM) are similar concepts for planning natural resource management along sustainable lines, based on water catchment units. The interaction of surface water, groundwater, soil, habitat and coastal systems can be assessed in the context of the total catchment unit. Changes to these systems can be monitored, and strategies developed to promote the health of the various environmental systems. Development proposals can be assessed in terms of immediate, indirect and cumulative impact, and forward planning can look to containing development within the capacity of the catchment to accept these impacts.

While catchment management is widely accepted as a worthwhile concept, and there are many projects which apply catchment management principles, there is some way to go in integrating the activities of different agencies so as to achieve effective management. This weakness is not limited to Australia, as there is a lack of sound international models for implementation.

The Department of Primary Industries is the lead agency for catchment management in Queensland. The main pilot has been conducted in the Johnstone River catchment south of Cairns. This has produced a good database, but the development and implementation of strategies is proving difficult as there is a lack of strong community commitment.

The Mitchell River Watershed Management Working Group is promoting catchment management principles within the Mitchell River catchment, as well as giving consideration to catchment management needs throughout the Cape York Peninsula. It started as a result of a meeting organised by the Kowanyama Aboriginal Land and Natural Resources Management Office in 1990. The group includes Aboriginal people, graziers, miners, tourism representatives, environmentalists, fishermen, representatives from State Government Departments and local government. It meets quarterly, each time holding a workshop on a particular issue. Development of specific strategies to address catchment needs relies on negotiated agreement and co-management between landowners and agencies.

#### Reference

Anna Carr (1993) : "Catchment Co-management - The Case of the Mitchell River Watershed Management Working Group", Centre for Resource and Environmental Studies Working Paper 7, ANU Canberra

### **9. DEPARTMENT OF FAMILY SERVICES AND ABORIGINAL AND ISLANDER AFFAIRS ALTERNATIVE GOVERNING STRUCTURES PROGRAM - COMMUNITY PLANS**

This program recognises that the administrative structures established under the *Community Services (Aborigines) Act 1984* may not be appropriate to the needs of individual communities, and that in some cases they may run counter to traditional lines of authority. Funds are provided to individual communities to prepare plans which utilise alternative structures for achieving the community's needs. These will then lead to a review of the legislation, and probably a legal framework which allows for a range of administrative arrangements. Priority is being given to funding these projects for communities on the Cape York Peninsula.

A pilot project under this program was the development of a community plan for Aurukun. The project involved an assessment of community needs and priorities, and assessed options for developing strategies and implementation. The priority planning strategy was the development of homeland areas outside the townships, as these were where most people wished to move. The preferred option for implementing this would involve providing support to family/homeland groups as being the appropriate social units for consultation, strategy formulation and implementation, alongside the town based administration.

The program is funding a project at the Lockhart River community, which may result in a different model.

#### Reference

Yalga-binbi Institute for Community Development (1994) : "Aurukun Community Plan"

## 10. REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT PLANS

The Islander Co-ordinating Council has prepared two economic development plans, which examine the possibilities for economic enterprise development in the region. These place considerable priority on economic management and development of marine resources, but also look at a range of sectors and economic infrastructure appropriate to regional aspirations.

It is intended that these plans be updated and carried further in terms of implementation, possibly by the Torres Strait Regional Authority.

### References

1. J.P. Lea, O.G. Stanley and P.J. Phibbs for the Islander Co-ordinating Council (1990): "Torres Strait Regional Development Plan 1990-95" for the Islander Co-ordinating Council, University of Sydney
2. W.S. Arthur for the Islander Co-ordinating Council (1989): "Torres Strait Development Study", Australian Institute of Aboriginal Studies, Canberra

## 11. WET TROPICS STRATEGY

A management plan for the Wet Tropics of Queensland World Heritage Area is currently in preparation. The World Heritage Area extends from just north of Townsville to include a small portion of Cape York Peninsula located north of the Bloomfield River and ending at the Black Mountains National Park near Cooktown. In August, 1992, a draft Wet Tropics Plan: Strategic Directions discussion paper was released for public comment. This document together with responses received during the display period formed the basis for the draft Wet Tropics Plan which is to go on public display on 31 October, 1994 until 28 February, 1995.

The format of the draft Plan will generally follow that developed in the Strategic Directions document with a goal based format and issue based identification of policies, actions and monitoring procedures. The Plan will be divided into two sections dealing with management strategies and regulation. The latter will be in the form of statutory land use controls over specific activities which will have the power under the *Wet Tropics Management Act 1993* to override local government planning schemes where inconsistencies exist. The Act is not structured to conflict to any significant extent with planning schemes and compensation provisions will apply to restriction of development on private land under the Act.

A draft Management Plan is currently under preparation for Cape Tribulation/Daintree, and expected to be completed for display by mid-1995. The plan will include an area extending from the Daintree River to Wujal Wujal on the Bloomfield River and will take the format of a policy format rather than regulatory provisions. Future management plans are likely to be issue specific, for example, fire management and eco-tourism, rather than area specific.

# **PART D**

## **DIRECTORY OF COMMONWEALTH AGENCIES**

**ABORIGINAL AND TORRES STRAIT ISLANDER COMMERCIAL DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION**

**Address Head Office :** PO Box 38, Woden, ACT 2606, tel : (06) 285 3031

**Nature of Business :** the ATSICDC is a business development facilitator which aims to assist and enhance ATSI self-management and economic self-sufficiency and to advance the commercial and economic interests of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people.

**Funding Programs :** the Corporation develops joint ventures and commercial activities with ATSI and non-ATSI companies.

## ABORIGINAL AND TORRES STRAIT ISLANDER COMMISSION

**Address Head Office :** PO Box 17, Woden, ACT 2606, tel: (06) 289 1222

**Address Local :** ATSIC State Office, 254 Adelaide Street, Q.4000, tel: (07) 234 4222,  
19 Aplin Street / PO Box 1599, Cairns Q 4870, tel: (070) 31 5577

**Nature of Business :** ATSIC replaced the Federal Department of Aboriginal Affairs and the Aboriginal Development Commission to allow indigenous people to determine the public administration of their own affairs. It is a decentralised organisation, combining representation, policy-making and administrative elements. Administrative support is provided by Commonwealth public servants.

**Policies :** apart from the information distribution program, ATSIC is involved in a number of policy areas. The Community Development Employment Projects Scheme enables Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities to work voluntarily for the community, rather than receive social security benefits. This a highly significant funding program in the region in terms of expenditure and outcomes.

A Business Funding Scheme has been initiated to promote the economic independence of indigenous people by helping them to acquire, own and develop commercially successful enterprises. Professional management and technical advice together with loans or bank loan guarantees are provided.

A Community Economic Initiatives Scheme has been established to provide grant funding to incorporated Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander organisations to assist in the establishment of community businesses for employment and income generation.

Land Acquisition and Management by ATSIC occurs for the implementation of sustainable development projects, and to provide communities with an economic base, as well as for spiritual and cultural reasons. ATSIC is also developing a National Rural Industries Strategy relating to the needs of indigenous people. Finally, the *Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Heritage Protection Act 1984* "preserves and protects places, areas and objects of particular significance to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people", and ATSIC provides the administrative framework.

**Funding Programs :** the Commission provides the majority of funding from within its own budget with supplementary funding provided for specific projects / programs by other Federal or State agencies. The programs include :

- Information for the community
- Community Development Employment Project Scheme
- Community Economic Initiatives Scheme
- Business Funding Scheme
- Housing Loans Scheme

- Community services (building and maintaining houses and other infrastructure)
- Community based health centres
- Social Justice Program
- Community planning, family and youth through the preparation of development plans for cultural, social and economic well-being
- Land Acquisition and Management

**Activities :** A significant responsibility of ATSIC is to assist regional councils to prepare regional plans.

**Linkages :** ATSIC relates closely to Aboriginal Community Councils, and locally it works closely with the Queensland Department of Family Services and Aboriginal and Islander Affairs.

**Accountability :** ATSIC was established under the *Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Commission Act 1989*.

**Further Information Sources :** information publications, corporate plan, annual report.

**ARTS & ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES (DEPARTMENT)**

**Address Head Office :** GPO Box 1920, Canberra, ACT 2601, tel: (06) 275 3000

**Address State :** GPO Box 920, Brisbane, Q.4001, tel: (07) 233 7902

**Nature of Business :** the Department delivers a wide range of services to Government departments and agencies. These services include management of Government owned lands and buildings, transport, publishing and printing and services to Parliamentarians.

**Funding Programs :** DAAS has amongst its associated non-statutory bodies the Commonwealth Grants Commission, which funds States and local government.

A further program is the Australian Surveying and Land Information Group (AUSLIG) which provides surveying, mapping, geographic and land information systems, geodesy and remote sensing. The Australian Centre for Remote Sensing (ACRES) receives and processes satellite data, as well as providing a wide range of digital and photographic products.

**Activities :** the Department is structured into 6 programs:

1. The Australian Cultural Development Office
2. DAAS Government including Government Archives
3. DAAS Commercial including Australian Government Printing Service, Australian Property Group
4. DAAS Business development
5. DAAS Corporate
6. Purchasing Australia.

**Further Information Sources :** annual report

## **AUSTRALIA POST**

**Address Head Office :** GPO Box 1777Q, Melbourne, Vic. 3001, tel : (03) 204 5237

**Nature of Business :** Australia Post's principal role is to supply postal services within Australia and between Australia and the rest of the world. The enterprise also provides electronic mail, money order, and bill-paying and banking services as well as philatelic, packaging and sales operations. All services are available through a national retail network of corporate Post Offices, Post Office agencies and Licensed Post Offices.

**Policies :** Australia Post aims to serve all Australians effectively. As part of its community service obligations it aims to reach even the most remote parts of the country with regular mail services. A government requirement ensures products and services are provided to remote communities at a price less than the cost of supplying them. For example, operating the "Channel Country Run" from South Australia to Queensland, the worlds longest mail route, costs \$67,000 annually and serves only 88 households. Despite the high costs, Australia Post is committed to maintaining high service standards for outback Australia. When assessing rural mail services, Australia Post considers special requirements such as health and educational needs.

**Funding Programs :** as a leading commercial business Australia Post contributes to the community through patronage of the Arts, community affairs, sports and other causes.

**Linkages :** the strongest linkage with Telecom Australia, which shares an important role in communications, and which used to be a part of the same organisation.

**Accountability :** Australia Post is a corporation managed by a Board of Directors. The Managing Director manages Australia Post's day to day operations. There are five regional profit centres which operate separately, located in Sydney, Melbourne, Brisbane, Adelaide and Perth. The Corporation also participates in two joint ventures: Australian Air Express Pty Ltd; and a new partnership called GEOSPEND Pty Ltd which is developing a geo-demographic data base for the direct mail industry.

**Further Information Sources :** annual report

## AUSTRALIAN BUREAU OF STATISTICS

**Address Head Office :** PO Box 10, Belconnen, ACT 2616, tel: (06) 252 7911

**Address State :** GPO Box 9817, Brisbane 4001, tel: (07) 222 6022

**Nature of Business :** ABS is Australia's national statistical authority. The Bureau collects and disseminates information on a wide range of economic, social and demographic topics. ABS provides statistical services to both Federal and State Government departments and publishes data for public consumption. It was set up under the *Australian Bureau of Statistics Act 1975* and responds to the Australian Statistics Advisory Council.

## AUSTRALIAN CUSTOMS SERVICE

**Address Head Office :** Customs House, 5 Constitution Ave, Canberra 2601

**Addresses State/ Local :** GPO Box 1464, Brisbane 4001, tel: Cairns - (070) 52 3500; Thursday Is. - (070) 69 1554; Townsville - (077) 72 6166

**Nature of Business :** the Australian Customs Service is responsible for controlling the movement of goods, people, ships and aircraft into and out of Australia. Coastwatch is a surveillance service, which operates mainly in northern Australia, protecting Australia from activities involving illicit drugs, breaches of plant and animal quarantine and illegal foreign fishing activity. Coastwatch works in close cooperation with units of the RAAF and RAN and Customs' own sea-going vessels. There is a Thursday Island base.

## AUSTRALIAN ELECTORAL COMMISSION

**Address Head Office :** West Block, Parkes, ACT 2600, tel: (06) 271 4405

**Address Local :** GPO Box 2590, Brisbane, Q.4001, tel: (07) 834 3400

**Nature of Business :** the AEC conducts parliamentary elections and referendums and elections and ballots required to be held under the *Industrial Relations Act 1988*. It also maintains the electoral roll.

**Accountability :** the Commission is made up of three members appointed by the Governor-General. It is an independent statutory authority, the Chief Executive reports to the Minister for Administrative Services.

**Further Information Sources :** annual report

## AUSTRALIAN FISHERIES MANAGEMENT AUTHORITY

**Address Head Office :** PO Box 7051, Canberra Mail Centre, ACT 2610, tel: (06) 272 5029.

**Address Local :** Tingara Street, Cairns. tel: (070) 351 580

Victoria Parade, Thursday Is, tel: (070) 691 307

**Nature of Business :** Commonwealth Fisheries within the Australian Fishing Zone are managed by the Australian Fisheries Management Authority. The Authority aims to ensure the conservation and sustainable and efficient use of all fisheries resources within its jurisdiction. As well as this management role, the authority publishes information about the fishing industry through "Australian Fisheries" magazine and other publications.

**Activities :** it provides advice and services on fisheries management, including education, surveillance, restocking and data collection and research (fisheries and habitat) in both marine and freshwater areas.

**Accountability :** the *Fisheries Administration Act 1991* is the enabling legislation. The Board of Directors report to the Minister for Resources.

**Further Information Sources :** annual report, corporate plan, "Fisheries and Marine Research in Torres Strait", Geoff Williams, Dept of Primary Industries.

## **AUSTRALIAN HERITAGE COMMISSION**

**Address Head Office :** GPO Box 1567, Canberra, ACT 2601, tel : (06) 271 2111

**Nature of Business :** the Australian Heritage Commission is a statutory authority established by the Commonwealth Government to identify the National Estate and to advise the government on National Estate conservation and preservation. The "National Estate" is defined in the enabling legislation as: "those places, being components of the natural environment of Australia, or the cultural environment of Australia, that have aesthetic, historic, scientific or social significance or other special value for future generations, as well as for the present community". The AHC was set up under the *Australian Heritage Commission Act 1975*.

**Policies :** the "National Estate" is defined in the enabling legislation as: "Those places, being components of the natural environment of Australia, or the cultural environment of Australia, that have aesthetic, historic, scientific, or social significance or other special value for future generations as well as for the present community".

**Funding Programs :** the AHC administers the National Estate Grant Program for Government and non-Government projects.

**Accountability :** the AHC was set up under the *Australian Heritage Commission Act 1975*. The board of management reports to the Minister for the Arts, Sport, the Environment and the Territories.

**Further Information Sources :** annual report

## **AUSTRALIAN INSTITUTE OF ABORIGINAL & TORRES STRAIT ISLANDER STUDIES**

**Address Head Office :** GPO Box 553, Canberra, ACT 2601, tel: (06) 246 1111

**Nature of Business :** the Institute is the largest resource centre of its kind for information about the cultures and lifestyle (traditional and contemporary) of Aborigines and Torres Strait Islanders. Some material in its collections is available for use by researchers, ATSI communities and the general public.

**Funding Programs :** in addition to employing its own research staff, the Institute supports research through limited (up to \$3000) and unlimited grants.

**Activities :** The Institute furnishes and distributes books, a journal, sound records, films and audio and video tapes.

## **AUSTRALIAN MARITIME SAFETY AUTHORITY**

**Address Head Office :** PO Box 1108, Belconnen, ACT 2616, tel: (06) 279 5000

**Address State :** 363 Adelaide Street, Brisbane, Q.4000, tel: (07) 835 3600

**Nature of Business :** promotion of marine safety within the field of Commonwealth jurisdiction.

## **AUSTRALIAN NATURE CONSERVATION AGENCY**

**Address Head Office :** GPO Box 636, Canberra, ACT 2601, tel: (06) 250 0200

**Address State :** 11 Wicklow Street, Kangaroo Point, Q.4169, tel: (07) 391 6655

**Nature of Business :** the ANCA oversees programs to improve the natural environment including the 'One Billion Trees Program'.

**Policies :** the One Billion Trees Program aims to have a billion more trees planted and growing around Australia by the year 2000 through encouraging and enabling communities to strategically plan and establish their own vegetation projects. The Australian Nature Conservation Agency oversees the program and provides funds to Greening Australia, a national community organisation, to implement it.

The Commonwealth also provides almost \$1 million annually for community grants. Community groups and local governments (and in some cases individuals) can apply for grants to cover the cost of equipment, fencing, seed, seedlings and other materials and services for the purposes of establishing trees, shrubs and ground cover. These grants are part of the National Landcare Program, which combines the community grants components of four Commonwealth programs (one Billion Trees, Save the Bush, Land and Water Program and Natural Resources Management Strategy).

Greening Australia provides on-the-ground support to local and regional community groups through its State and Territory organisations. It also undertakes and coordinates school-based and community education projects; produces education and information books, brochures, videos and other materials; conducts trials and demonstrations on the technical aspects of tree planting; trains children and others in community-based seed collecting; and coordinates major revegetation projects.

## **AUSTRALIAN AND OVERSEAS TELECOMMUNICATIONS CORPORATION (AOTC)**

**Address Head Office** :199 William Street, Melbourne, Vic. 3000, tel : (03) 634 6434

**Address Local** : GPO Box 2580, Brisbane, Q.4001, tel: (07) 837 6710

**Nature of Business** : AOTC is a government business enterprise formed from the merger of Telecom Australia and Overseas Telecommunications Corporation Ltd. It trades within Australia as Telecom Australia.

**Policies** : Telecom operates commercially but with recognition of its vital social role.

**Funding Programs** : funds research into telecommunications products and services by universities and small business.

**Activities** : it is responsible for building the base of Australia's telecommunications network, including telephone, data, mobile and satellite networks.

**Accountability** : reports to the Minister for Transport and Communications.

## **AUSTRALIAN TAXATION OFFICE**

**Address Head Office** : 320 Adelaide Street, Brisbane, Q.4000, tel: (07) 222 5011

**Address Local** : 235 Stanley Street, Townsville, Q.4810

**Nature of Business** : the main function is to collect taxation revenue under Federal taxation laws. These include Pay as you Earn, Prescribed Payment System Fringe Benefits Tax, withholding taxes and Superannuation Guarantee Levy, and Sales Tax. Other charges collected include the Training Guarantee, the Wool Tax, and the Higher Education Contribution Scheme. Additionally the Child Support Agency collects court ordered child support from non custodial parents. There are a series of incentives and forms of assistance to individuals, business and organisations. For example, there is a concessional tax deduction in respect of eligible research and development expenses and tax deductions for capital expenditure. There are also activity specific concessions for certain industries, eg engineering and civil construction, agriculture and mining.

To make equity more readily available for smaller corporations, concessional tax treatment is provided to a new type of investment company called a Pool Development Fund. The sole purpose of these companies is to invest equity in established Australian resident companies that have total assets of less than \$30 million and that are establishing new business, expanding their productive capacity, or going into new markets. The Commissioner of Taxation reports to the Federal Treasurer and implements the *Income Tax Assessment Act 1936*, the *Taxation Administration Act 1953* and corresponding provisions of the general taxing statutes of Australia.

## **AUSTRALIAN TRADE COMMISSION**

**Address Head Office :** 181 Castlereagh Street, Sydney, NSW 2000, tel: (02) 390 2000

**Nature of Business :** To encourage the export of goods, services, industrial property rights and know-how of substantially Australian origin. The Export Market Development Grant Scheme offers taxable cash grants designed to partially offset expenses incurred in developing new export markets and promoting products overseas. General brochures are available from the Commission, and specific guidelines accompany application forms for export market and development grants.

## **BUREAU OF METEOROLOGY**

**Address Head Office :** 150 Lonsdale Street, Melbourne, Vic 3000, tel: (03) 669 4000

**Address State :** GPO Box 413, Brisbane Q.4001, tel: (07) 864 8000

**Nature of Business :** the Bureau provides weather and climate information. Forecasts, warnings and current weather information are provided to the general public through radio and television stations, the press, and OTC or fishermen's co-operative radio. Warnings are issued of tropical cyclones, floods, weather conducive to the rapid spread of bushfires, and severe storms. Warnings of strong winds and gales in coastal waters are also issued for fishermen and small craft operators. In some areas outside the State capitals, particularly cyclone prone areas in Queensland, forecasts and warnings are also available on a recorded telephone weather service. A seasonal climate outlook also operates. The Bureau also provides climate data services and issues weekly and monthly publications on recent weather and the incidence of drought.

## **CIVIL AVIATION AUTHORITY**

**Address Head Office :** Australia House, 363 Adelaide Street, Brisbane. Q.4000, tel: (07) 833 6211

**Nature of Business :** the CAA is a government business enterprise established under the *Civil Aviation Authority Act 1988*. The CAA services are planned, developed, operated and managed on an Australia wide basis with its key activities including airspace management, air traffic control, traffic and flight information, navigation services, aeronautical information, safety and regulatory information, search and rescue services and rescue and fire fighting services. The standards and practices adopted by the CAA are based upon those from the International Civil Aviation Organisation. Policies are to provide, operate and maintain airway systems and procedures which optimise the safe a cost effective use of airspace, to provide safety and regulatory services which minimise the cost to industry without reducing safety benefits and to provide and cost-effective aviation rescue and fire-fighting service. The Board of Management reports to the Federal Minister for Transport and Communications under the *Civil Aviation Authority Act 1988*. The Authority administers the Air Navigation (Aircraft Noise) Regulations and operates a Noise Monitoring System.

## **COMMONWEALTH EMPLOYMENT SERVICE**

**Addresses Local :** Commonwealth Centre, Lake Street, Cairns, tel: (070) 52 5611, Victoria Parade, Thursday Island, tel: (070) 69 1323

**Nature of Business :** the Commonwealth Employment Service (CES) is a national employment agency that assists job seekers through a network of offices throughout urban and rural Australia. There are 321 CES Job Centres, and in areas which are too small to have a Job Centre, local people have been appointed as CES agents. The major task of an agent is to assist the local CES office to bring a range of CES services to people in the area. Agents act on behalf of the CES by arranging employment and referring job seekers to employers. Schemes which provide individuals with assistance include the Mobility Assistance Scheme; Skillshare; the Landcare and Environment Action Program; Jobstart; the Australian Traineeship System; Jobclubs; Jobtrain; CRAFT; the Special Assistance Program; the Community Activity Program; the Disadvantaged Young People Services Program; and Labour Adjustment Packages. The CES helps people looking for work by locating and advertising jobs, arranging job interviews, providing general information on careers in the labour market and providing counselling and access to job training programs for people having difficulty in finding or keeping a job.

## **COMMONWEALTH SCIENTIFIC AND INDUSTRIAL RESEARCH ORGANISATION (CSIRO)**

**Address Head Office :** PO Box 53, Parkville, Vic. 3052, tel: (03) 662 7166

**Address Regional :** 206 Carmody Road, St Lucia Q 4067, tel : (07) 377 0390

**Nature of Business :** the CSIRO is an independent statutory authority which "seeks to contribute to Australia's quest for increased performance, living standards, environmental quality and community understanding of science and technology".

Three of the CSIRO's Corporate Goals are relevant. Firstly, improving competitiveness within the primary and manufacturing industries. Secondly, developing ecologically sound management principles / practices for the use / conservation of Australia's natural resources. Thirdly, achieving sustainable development in production systems, as well as developing technologies in order to protect the environment.

**Policies :** the Institutes within the CSIRO vary in their relevance to Cape York due to the varying types of scientific and industrial research being undertaken. The CSIRO's Institutes includes Animal Production and Processing; Industrial Technologies; Information Science and Engineering; Minerals, Energy and Construction; Natural Resources and Environment; and Plant Production and Processing.

**Funding Programs :** through the Federal Department of Industry, Science and Technology together with self funding initiatives such as: the arranging of research and other work to be undertaken outside the CSIRO; the formation of partnerships or companies; sale of its discoveries / inventions; paying bonuses to staff for discoveries or inventions; and charging fees for research, facilities or services provided to others.

**Activities :** carrying out scientific research; assisting Australian industry and furthering the interests of the Australian community; contributing to national and international objectives and responsibilities of the Commonwealth Government; encouraging or facilitating the application and use of the results of its own or any other scientific research. Its secondary functions include international scientific liaison, training of research workers, publication of research results, and dissemination of information about science and technology.

**Linkages :** the CSIRO acts in relative isolation as a corporate entity, though its scientists liaise with those of other agencies on a project and specialist expertise basis.

**Accountability :** the CSIRO was established by and operates under the Science and Industry Research Act 1949, with further accountability being established through both the parliamentary and auditing processes / requirements.

**Further Information Sources :** annual report.

## **DEFENCE (DEPARTMENT)**

**Address Head Office :** Russell, ACT 2600, tel: (06) 265 4449

**Address Local :** Army Establishment, Cairns, 51 Battalion Far North Queensland Regiment, 45 Tills Westport, tel : (070) 54 8200.

Thursday Island Depot, Normanby Street, (corner of Tully Street), tel : (070) 69 1486 and Weipa, tel : (070) 69 9320.

**Nature of Business :** to promote the security of Australia and to protect its people and its interests. Joint exercises with allied countries and formation exercises within the Australian Army can be expected to be conducted in Cape York Peninsula from time to time. A number of Army Reserve Units are stationed there, for example at Bamaga. Land use planning aims to ensure that exercises do not conflict with other land uses nor with cultural values.

An additional activity of the Department is in landscape mapping, generally to support its own operations.

**Linkages :** Defence Housing Authority, which has responsibility for constructing and managing housing for Defence Department personnel

**Further Information Sources :** annual report, corporate plan.

## **ELECTORAL OFFICE (LEICHHARDT)**

**Address Head Office :** John Gayler, MP. (Leichhardt) 107 Lake Street, Cairns, tel: (070) 514 033, Thursday Island Office, Douglas Street, tel: (070) 691 393.

**Nature of Business :** this office provides an interface between the elected member and his electorate. It has a small research capacity, as well as a public relations function.

## **EMPLOYMENT, EDUCATION AND TRAINING (DEPARTMENT)**

**Address Head Office :** GPO Box 9880, Canberra, ACT 2601, tel: (06) 276 8111

**Address State :** 167 Eagle Street, Brisbane, Q.4000, tel : (07) 226 9111

**Address Local :** Commonwealth Centre, Graham Street Cairns, Q. tel : (070) 52 5606; Free call 008 017 975

**Nature of Business :** the Department advises on and implements government policies for achieving economic, educational and social goals through programs to improve effectiveness of Australia's employment, education and training systems.

**Policies :** DEET's scope includes School; Higher Education; Vocational Education and Training and Employment and Education Assistance and Income Support areas.

Specific policies may include Aboriginal Education Direct Assistance; Aboriginal Education Strategic Initiatives Program; Training for Aboriginals Program; National Equity Program for Schools (including disadvantaged schools and schools in country areas); Hostels for Rural Students Non-government Element; One Nation; and the various operations of the CES offices.

The Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Support Element has been established to improve educational outcomes for students of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander background, improving their participation and achievement through the provision of capital facilities. In conjunction with this Element is the National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Education Policy, with supporting Commonwealth legislation, the Aboriginal Education (Supplementary Assistance) Act 1989.

**Funding Programs :** principally from within DEET.

**Activities :** a specific employment strategy linked to training needs has been prepared for the Torres Strait region.

**Linkages :** in terms of program responsibilities, DEET has strong links with the State Department of Education, the Department of Business, Industry and Regional Development, and the Department of Employment, Vocational Training and Industrial Relations.

**Accountability :** there are many pieces of Commonwealth legislation affecting DEET as well as the parliamentary and auditing processes / requirements which provide further accountability.

**Further Information Sources :** annual report.

## **ENVIRONMENT, SPORT AND TERRITORIES (DEPARTMENT)**

**Address Head Office :** GPO Box 787 Canberra, ACT. 2601, tel: (06) 274 1111

**Nature of Business :** the EST portfolio is the principal adviser to the Commonwealth Government on environmental issues. It also oversees the Commonwealth Environmental Protection Agency, which is established to assess the impacts of major developments within Commonwealth jurisdiction.

**Policies :** the environment is defined in Commonwealth legislation as including "all aspects of the surroundings of human beings, whether affecting human beings as individuals or in social groupings".

The Government aims to implement ecologically sustainable development (ESD) - that is, using resources so that ecological processes are maintained and the quality of life for future and present generations is increased.

The portfolio emphasises three approaches in pursuing its policies and programs:

- an adequate information base;
- a collaborative approach to the resolution of environmental issues;
- a national approach to environmental issues.

**Funding Programs :** there are a number of funding programs administered by the Environment portfolio and the agencies working for it, for example the Australian Biological Resources Study (ABRS) which supports studies of Australia's biological diversity through a Commonwealth grant scheme. The Department also supports the Environmental Resources Information Network (ERIN) which is a national database. Australia has obligations under a number of international agreements to participate in nature conservation activities in the South Pacific area. The Convention on Nature Conservation in the South Pacific established a broad framework for nature conservation in the area particularly in relation to a reservation and management of wildlife habitat. The Torres Strait Treaty, signed in 1978 and ratified in 1985, establishes a "protected zone" for conservation of environmental practices of the Torres Strait region.

The Contract Employment Program for Aboriginals in Natural and Cultural Resource Management Program has been allocated monies under the Aboriginal Employment and Development Program and this has been administered by ANCA under its Contract Employment Program. The objective is to provide funds to State and Territory Governments, local governments, statutory bodies and Aboriginal Land Councils, to contract Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people to carry out contract employment on national or marine parks, Crown Land, or Aboriginal held lands. The Aboriginal Recruitment, Training and Career Development Strategy aims to develop and monitor Aboriginal Recruitment, Training and Career Development strategies in nature conservation agencies in order to promote employment equity for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people in nature conservation and cultural heritage management.

**Activities :** the Department deals with a wide range of environmental issues ranging from World Heritage listing, wilderness management, weeds, feral animals and pathogens, natural hazards, land degradation, marine and coastal areas, forests, climate change and ozone depletion, and state of the environment reporting.

**Linkages :** as well as CEPA, the Department oversees the Bureau of Meteorology, the Australian Heritage Commission, the Australian Nature Conservation Agency, the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority. It has links to the State Department of Environment and Heritage.

**Further Information Sources :** annual report

## **FEDERAL AIRPORTS CORPORATION**

**Address Head Office :** Locked Bag 28, Botany, NSW 2019, tel : (02) 316 2777

**Address State :** Brisbane Airport, PO Box 61, Hamilton Central Q.4107, tel: (07) 860 8600

**Nature of Business :** the F.A.C. is responsible for the ownership, development and management of main airports, e.g. Brisbane International and domestic, Archerfield and Coolangatta. It also manages airport related industrial land. (It should be noted that other airports in Queensland are owned by private corporations or local authorities).

## **FOREIGN AFFAIRS AND TRADE (DEPARTMENT)**

**Address Head Office :** Administrative Building, Parkes, ACT 2600, tel : (06) 261 9111

**Address State :** Commonwealth Centre, 295 Ann Street, Brisbane, tel : (07) 864 8000

**Address Local :** Torres Strait Treaty Liaison Officer, Victoria Parade, Thursday Island, tel: (070) 69 1495

**Nature of Business :** the Department provides advice across the Federal Government to enable the protection and promotion of Australia's external interest and management of Australia's Foreign and Trade Relations with overseas governments. This includes management of Australia's official aid program, international legal issues and treaties (including trade agreements), trade policy (including commodity negotiations) and Australia's participation in multi-lateral organisations.

The Department is responsible for representing the Australian Government in overseas countries, as well as liaising with diplomatic and consular missions in Australia. It has a major role to play in relation to multi-lateral trade issues centred on the Uruguay round of trade negotiations. It coordinates Australian public affairs and cultural activities overseas and promotes informed public debate in Australia. It also administers the Passports Act 1938 and provides appropriate protection and support for Australian citizens overseas.

**Funding Programs :** the Australian International Development Assistance Bureau (AIDAB) is an autonomous body within the Department responsible for administering Australian official aid programs. The provision of aid is often linked to use of goods and services from donor countries, opening opportunities for foreign trade.

**Linkages :** Australian Trade Commission as an important connection.

## **GREAT BARRIER REEF MARINE PARK AUTHORITY (GBRMPA)**

**Address Head Office :** PO Box 1379, Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority, Townsville Q.4810, tel: (077) 818 811

**Nature of Business :** the Great Barrier Reef was placed on the World Heritage List on the 26th October 1981 on the basis of its outstanding natural, cultural and historical features and its integrity as a self-perpetuating ecological system. It is protected by the Commonwealth and Queensland Governments under legislation and management arrangements. Activities in the Great Barrier Reef World Heritage Area are managed by many agencies, the major most wide reaching responsibilities falling to the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority (GBRMPA). GBRMPA fosters close working ties with all other management groups e.g. fisheries management, Queensland marine parks etc. and follows an exhaustive community consultation and negotiation process to design the zoning plans used to resolve conflicts between the activities of different users.

**Policies :** a 25 year strategic plan for the Great Barrier Reef has been developed and is a statement of what the participating organisations of the area want the future to be and how it can be achieved. It provides direction and guidance for the many organisations, agencies and individuals whose actions will determine whether the vision is reached. The plan provides guidance for stakeholders to develop their corporate plans in conjunction with relevant legislation. This leads to other levels of planning, for instance the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority and Queensland Department of Environment and Heritage produce zoning plans which regulate activities.

**Funding Programs :** in order to better manage the Great Barrier Reef, research is carried out on behalf of GBRMPA under contract by private, University, industry and government researchers.

**Activities :** there is a current review of the management plan for the northern section, and studies into indigenous marine management.

**Linkages :** the strongest links are to the Australian Fisheries Management Authority, the Australian Heritage Commission, the Australian Maritime Safety Authority, and the Queensland Department of Environment and Heritage

**Accountability :** GBRMPA is a Commonwealth statutory body consisting of a full-time Chairman and two part-time members, one of whom is nominated by the Queensland Government.

**Further Information Sources :** annual report, corporate plan.

## HOUSING & REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT (DEPARTMENT)

**Address Head Office :** GPO Box 9834, Canberra, ACT 2601

**Nature of Business :** the Department is responsible for regional planning, housing policy and the administration of the Commonwealth-State Housing Agreement, support to local government, regulatory reform, and urban reform.

**Policies :** the Department was formed in mid-1994, and it strengthens the Commonwealth Government's role in providing planning direction at the national level. It follows from previous increased involvement in strategic planning for housing (through the National Housing Strategy).

Its objectives are "to improve access to affordable and appropriate housing for all Australians and to improve the performance of our regional economies and the quality and efficiency of our cities".

**Funding Programs :** the Department funds the Building Better Cities Program (BBC), the Local Approvals Review Program (LARP), Greenstreet and the Integrated Local Area Planning program (ILAP) as well as a proportion of funding for the Commonwealth-State Housing Agreement and the various special purpose housing programs within it. The ILAP program is funding a service and community planning project for Cook Shire Council in collaboration with Wujal Wujal Community Council, as a Cape York initiative. Various programs are reaching the end of their term, and they are likely to be replaced by a new program which is more broadly based, aiming to encourage better and more integrated approaches to development.

The Regional Development Program has particular relevance to CYPLUS. Its objectives include "to facilitate action by communities, the private sector and government in mobilising regional resources and improving program delivery to foster competitive regional economic development", and "to advance the interests and development of Northern Australia, by assisting business and communities to access and utilise government programs". The Office of Northern Development is funded to assist in the latter objective, based in Darwin and Townsville. A key priority of this program area is to implement the Regional Development Strategy outlined in the Government's Employment White Paper "Working Nation". This includes establishing Regional Economic Development Organisations in priority areas which may be supported by funding.

**Activities :** a current activity is the review of the Australian Code for Residential Development (AMCORD) which will apply to small towns as well as larger urban centres. ILAP is due to fund a project undertaken by Cook Shire Council and Wujal Wujal Community Council, to develop an interface between mainstream local government and the operations of community government.

**Linkages :** the Department has strong linkages with the Department of Human Services and Health, with which it was previously joined. At the State level it has strong links to the Department of Housing, Local Government and Planning.

**Accountability :** to the Commonwealth Government through the Minister for Housing and Regional Development.

**Further Information Sources :** annual report, corporate plan.

## **HUMAN SERVICES AND HEALTH (DEPARTMENT)**

**Address Head Office :** GPO Box 9848, Canberra , ACT 2601, tel : (06) 289 1555

**Address Local :** 155 Hugh Street, Currajong, Townsville, Queensland tel : 008 019 030

**Nature of Business :** the Department is responsible for :

1. The promotion of good health and the reduction of illness through regulatory, promotional and funding programs;
2. The provision of care and services appropriate to their needs for aged people and people with disabilities;
3. Ensuring that all Australians have access to necessary health services at reasonable cost;
4. Improving the quality of life and the choices available for families and children at home, at work, and in the general community.

**Policies :** recent years have seen a shift from direct service provision to directing funds through the States, within an enhanced policy framework.

**Funding Programs :** these include various community service programs including the Home and Community Care program, the Disabilities Program, funding to Nursing Homes and Hostels, rehabilitation services and children's services.

**Activities :** the Department oversees the administration of the various funding programs including reviewing program performance.

**Linkages :** the strongest linkages at State level are with Queensland Health and the Department of Family Services and Aboriginal and Islander Affairs. At the Commonwealth level, there is currently a strong tie with the Department of Housing and Regional Development, from which it was recently separated.

**Accountability :** the Department has a 3 tiered planning structure consisting of tier one, or the Corporate Plan, tier 2 operational plans and tier 3 plans which provide background and values against which the other levels of planning occur. National and state managers report biannually to the executive against plans and the departmental executive reports to the Minister for Human Services and Health and the Parliamentary Secretary.

**Further Information Sources :** annual report, corporate plan.

## **HUMAN RIGHTS AND EQUAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES COMMISSION**

**Address State :** PO Box 5363, West End, Q.4101, tel : (07) 844 6099

**Address Local :** PO Box 375, Cairns, Q.4870. tel : (070) 317 399, Toll free: 008 177 822

**Nature of Business :** the Human Rights and Equal Opportunity Commission investigates and settles complaints about infringements of human rights and discrimination under the Sex Discrimination Act 1984, Racial Discrimination Act 1975, Human Rights and Equal Opportunity Commission Act 1986 and Disability Discrimination Act 1992. Grounds on which complaints may be accepted include sexual harassment and discrimination on the basis of sex, marital status, pregnancy, family responsibilities, race, national, social or ethnic origin, religion, political opinion, age, disability, sexual preference, criminal record, medical record and trade union activity.

An Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Social Justice Unit has been established to act as an independent watchdog on Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander affairs. The unit was established as a result of the findings of the Royal Commission into Aboriginal Deaths in Custody.

## **IMMIGRATION AND ETHNIC AFFAIRS (DEPARTMENT)**

**Address Head Office :** PO Box 25, Belconnen, ACT, 2617, tel : (06) 264 1111

Cairns tel : (070) 314 055, Thursday Island - tel: (070) 691 292

**Nature of Business :** the Department is responsible for migration, including refugees, citizenship, ethnic affairs and post arrival arrangements for migrants. Translating and interpreting service can be contacted on (07) 221 5233.

## **INDUSTRIAL RELATIONS (DEPARTMENT)**

**Address Head Office :** Jollimont Centre, 65-67 Northborne Ave, Canberra, ACT 2601, tel: (06) 243 7333

**Address State :** GPO Box 9875, Brisbane, Q.4001, tel : (07) 231 2567

**Nature of Business :** the Department promotes an orderly and adaptable system for determining wages and employment conditions. It also provides assistance to encourage the implementation of workplace reforms and promotes fair wages and conditions for all workers while assisting Australia's economic and industrial performance. Funding Programs include the Workplace Reform Program, the Workplace English language and literacy program, and Worksafe Australia - occupational health and safety.

## **INDUSTRY, SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY (DEPARTMENT)**

**Address Head Office :** GPO Box 9839, Canberra, ACT 2601

**Address State :** GPO Box 9839, Brisbane, Q.4001

**Nature of Business :** the Department has the primary responsibility for advising the Government on industry, science and technology. It also delivers programs to firms in the Australian manufacturing and services sector and to the science and technology community.

**Funding Programs :** grants and subsidies are available under a number of programs, including:

- Export access
- Enterprise Networking
- Development and Application of Technology in Industry
- Marine Industries Development

**Activities :** three broad categories of programs are delivered

- industry development programs
- industry infrastructure programs
- light industry.

A specific section, the Office of Northern Development (see below) covers the issues of northern Australia including Cape York.

**Linkages :** the Australian Manufacturing Council assists the development of internationally competitive industry by providing a framework for co-operative relations between government, management and labour.

**Accountability :** to the Commonwealth Government through the Minister for Industry, Science and Technology

## **NATIVE TITLE TRIBUNAL**

**Address Head Office :** Principle Registry, Commonwealth Law Courts,  
Level 5, 1 Victoria Avenue, Perth, WA 6001

**Nature of Business :** the primary role is to process claims by Aboriginal people and Torres Strait Islanders for native title over Australian land and/or waters. It decides if native title exists in agreed or unopposed claims, and acts as a mediator if claims are contested. Claims that cannot be resolved by mediation are then referred to the Federal Court.

**Policies :** the tribunal operates under a principle established by the Australian High Court in 1992, after a claim made by Torres Strait Islander Eddie Mabo and others. This identifies Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people as having a right to native title, where that right has not been extinguished by actions such as the granting of freehold title to other people. The right exists if indigenous people have had a continuous physical or spiritual connection with land or waters. This can include hunting, gathering, fishing, use of land for ceremonial purposes, and protection of sacred sites.

**Funding Programs :** not applicable

**Activities :** applications for determination of native title are received, checked and registered except where they are considered to be frivolous. Two months are given for other interests in the claim to be lodged. If the claim is disputed, mediation takes place, and inquiries may also be held. Compensation for loss of title may also be agreed during mediation, and this is normally paid by the government that extinguished the original title. The Tribunal travels to meeting places that are convenient to claimants, including remote areas.

**Linkages :** there is a linkage to the Queensland Land Tribunal which hears claims under the Aboriginal Land Act 1991 and the Torres Strait Islander Land Act 1991. There is also a likely future linkage to a Queensland Tribunal (not yet formed) which will receive native title claims under the parallel Queensland legislation to the Native Title Act.

**Accountability :** responsible under the Native Title Act, 1993, with appeals against Tribunal decisions being made to the Federal Court.

**Further Information Sources :** press releases and information sheets.

## **PRIMARY INDUSTRIES AND ENERGY (DEPARTMENT)**

**Address Head Office :** GPO Box 858, Canberra, ACT. 2601 tel : (06) 272 4180

**Address State :** Bureau of Rural Resources Regional Office, GPO Box 778, Brisbane, Q.4001

**Nature of Business :** the DPIE operates as seven autonomous but interdependent groups managing agriculture, minerals, energy, fisheries and forestry industries.

**Policies :** the Department aims to achieve progressive, adaptable and internationally competitive Australian Primary and Energy industries. A key element of its policies is sustainable development with appropriate returns to the community from their use.

**Funding Programs :** these include Landcare, which provides funding for local landcare and community groups for activities aimed at making a significant contribution to land management, water management or vegetation restoration. In addition, the Department administers the natural resources management sub-program, which promotes responsible management arrangements for natural resources. The Rural Adjustment and Services program is a further initiative aimed at redressing rural people's access to government and non-government services. The energy sub-program promotes energy efficiency and environmentally acceptable energy technology.

The Department also maintains the National Resource Information Centre (NRIC) as a data base for ecologically sustainable development and management of natural resources. The NRIC has contributed to CYPLUS stage one in assembling the GIS mapping and indexing information.

The Australian Geological Survey is another division of the Department, with a role to develop a comprehensive and integrated geoscientific knowledge base for the Australian continent, offshore areas and the Australian Antarctic Territory. It acts as a base for encouraging the effectiveness of exploration for petroleum, mineral and groundwater resources, and mitigation of natural hazards.

The Australian Bureau of Agricultural and Resource Economics (ABARE) provides advice to Government, industry and the community on the economic and policy environment affecting production of commodities.

The Australian Quarantine and Inspection Services provides centralised advice on quarantine requirements, which are administered by State and Territory agencies.

**Activities :** activities include industry development, industry support and services, research and assessment.

**Linkages :** the DPIE oversees 68 Statutory bodies and 58 non-statutory bodies. The linkage to State functions is to the Queensland Department of Primary Industries.

**Accountability** : the executive board reports to the Minister for Primary Industries and Energy, and the Minister for Resources.

## **PRIME MINISTER AND CABINET (DEPARTMENT)**

**Address Head Office** : 3-5 National Circuit, Barton, ACT 2600, tel: (06) 271 5111

**Nature of Business** : the Department plays a key role in policy advice on domestic and international matters, and coordinates policy proposals across federal government portfolios.

**Policies** : the Department is divided into 5 divisions :

- Economic Division
- Industries, Resources and Environment
- International Division
- Social Policy Division
- Government business

A number of portfolio agencies report to the Prime Minister, and these included the previous Resource Assessment Commission.

**Funding Programs** : the Department does not have responsibility for major programs apart from the Co-operative Research Centres program (support for science and technology research and development).

**Activities** : there is a current task force considering the delivery of services to remote and rural communities.

**Accountability** : to the Prime Minister and Cabinet.

## **SOCIAL SECURITY (DEPARTMENT)**

**Address Head Office** : PO Box 7788, Canberra Mail Centre, ACT 2601

**Addresses Regional** : Cairns, Townsville, Thursday Island, other local

**Nature of Business** : The Department delivers social security entitlements under 5 programs - for the retired; for people with disabilities; for the unemployed; for families with children; and special circumstances.

**Accountability** : Minister for Social Security.

**Further Information Sources** : annual report

## **TORRES STRAIT ISLANDER ADVISORY BOARD**

**Address Head Office :** PO Box 17, Woden, ACT 2601, tel : (06) 289 8851.

**Nature of Business :** this is an advisory board convened in Canberra, designed to provide high level policy advice to the Minister for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Affairs on matters relating to the interests of Torres Strait Islanders. It will have strong links with the new Torres Strait Regional Authority. It is currently serviced from within ATSIC, but this may change in the future.

## TORRES STRAIT REGIONAL AUTHORITY

**Address :** Commonwealth Building, Thursday Island, tel : (070) 691 247

**Nature of Business :** lead agency in terms of Commonwealth programs which specifically address Islander issues. It has replaced the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Commission and its Regional Council for the purposes of the Torres Strait region, and has some enhanced responsibilities and powers.

**Policies :** the main agenda is to promote self-determination for Islander people. In doing this it may well extend beyond its initial legislative charter to become the main Islander voice in relation to both Commonwealth and State programs.

In developing its strategies, it is likely to review and update the strategies previously developed by both the ATSIC Regional Council (its Development Plan) and the work of the Islander Co-ordinating Council (Marine Strategy, Development Study and Development Plan).

**Funding Sources :** currently funding is approved by the Minister for Aboriginal and Islander Affairs, and is supplied as untied funds. It replaces the previous budget to the Regional Council provided by ATSIC, with some additional resources. This includes equivalent amounts to some programs which are tied when provided to ATSIC regional councils, such as resources for the National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Health Strategy. The Authority will establish a Housing Fund for making housing loans, and a Land and Natural Resources Fund for obtaining interests in land.

**Activities :** the Authority is very new, having only come into existence in July 1994. However, it has taken over from previous ATSIC involvement in enterprise development, housing, infrastructure, employment, health, legal services, recreation and cultural activities. The Commonwealth Development Employment Program (CDEP) is the major funding program on many of the islands, with some reluctance by the Commonwealth to invest in housing where there is no freehold tenure.

**Linkages :** notwithstanding the Authority's formation, there will continue to be a Torres Strait Commissioner on the ATSIC Board, and a separate Torres Strait Islander Advisory Board has been established in Canberra to advise the Minister on Islander matters. It will obviously be essential for strong links between the TSIAB and the Regional Authority to be established.

Linkages with the Islander Co-ordinating Council are strong. There is little communication as yet with the Torres Shire Council, despite public aspirations for the Authority to eventually absorb local government functions. The linkage with the Kuarareg people is also unclear, with some potential for conflict if representation on the Authority is not resolved.

**Accountability** : the Authority is established through the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Commission Amendment Act, 1993. It comprises representation from Island Councils plus the near shore islands. It is obliged to produce an annual report, including a report on implementation of its Development Plan, and financial statements.

**Further Information Sources** : Corporate plan, and various information booklets

## **TOURISM (DEPARTMENT)**

**Address Head Office** : PO Box 1545, Canberra, ACT 2601, tel : (06) 279 7229

**Nature of Business** : this relatively small department has a strong policy role, as well as a function in encouraging particular tourism initiatives that are consistent with policy. The overall objective is to "facilitate the development of an internationally competitive and sustainable tourism industry that contributes to the economic, environmental and social wellbeing of Australians".

**Policies** : the Department is responsible for providing policy recommendations to Government, as well as information relevant to policy development. This has recently included the National Ecotourism Strategy as well as the National Tourism Strategy, and a policy on backpacker tourism. In addition, appropriate forms of tourism are promoted by way of Departmental activities, and by funding specific projects. The Department is working with ATSIC on the finalisation and implementation of an Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Tourism Strategy.

**Funding Programs** : particularly significant funding has been allocated to ecotourism, including related infrastructure and training.

**Activities** : the Department is heavily involved in monitoring the performance of the Australian tourism industry, and providing advice to the Commonwealth Government on tourism matters. Activities also include taking steps to implement policies. This has recently included work to develop an accreditation system for ecotourism operators.

**Linkages** : the clearest linkages in terms of function are to the Queensland Department of Tourism, Sport and Racing. The two agencies liaise over policy matters at State/Commonwealth levels. Both are essentially centralised.

**Accountability** : reports to the Minister for Tourism.

**Further Information Sources** : corporate plan, annual report.

**TRANSPORT AND COMMUNICATIONS (DEPARTMENT)**

**Address Head Office :** GPO Box 594, Canberra, ACT 2601, tel : (06) 274 7111

**Address State :** PO Box 2585, Brisbane, Q.4001, tel : (07) 238 6322

**Address Local :** PO Box 1225, Cairns, Q.4870, tel : (070) 52 5560

**Nature of Business :** the Department oversees road, rail, air and sea transport within Australia. It manages the National Highway System which terminates at Cairns. It operates a 'Remote Air Service Subsidy' for remote communities that have no other suitable means of transport. A community's eligibility for a subsidy depends on its access to other methods of transport and the level of demand.

**WET TROPICS MANAGEMENT AUTHORITY**

**Address Head Office :** PO Box 2050, Cairns, Q.4870, tel : 008 808 557

**Nature of Business :** the Wet Tropics were given World Heritage Listing in 1988. The area covers the eastern coastal region north from Townsville. The WTMA is a joint venture of the State and Federal Governments and administers the *Wet Tropics World Heritage Protection and Management Act*. It is a strategic planning authority, and a management plan for the area is currently in preparation.

**PART E**

**DIRECTORY OF STATE  
AGENCIES**

## **ABORIGINAL CO-ORDINATING COUNCIL**

**Address :** 17 Aplin Street, Cairns 4870, tel : (070) 312 623

**Nature of Business :** peak body, acting on behalf of Aboriginal Community Councils in Queensland, developing their capacity, and advising other agencies on "matters affecting the progress, development and well being of Aborigines".

The ACC is representative in structure, comprising the Chairman of each community council plus another councillor from each. The Executive Council of 6 members is elected by the full Council. While the councils are located throughout Queensland, the majority are located on the Cape York Peninsula. Membership includes 15 councils and several affiliated non-trust communities.

**Policies :** the ACC has provision for a Land and Resources Officer "to assist Aboriginal Community Councils to develop appropriate land and sea resource management and control mechanisms suitable to their community needs". There is particular assistance provided with the establishment of business enterprises, and advising on investments. Housing is another area of policy development and advice.

Training services for councils is an important program for the ACC, aimed at promoting good government. Public relations and dissemination of information is also an essential function.

**Funding Programs :** most funding comes from the Department of Family Services and Aboriginal and Islander Affairs, with additional contributions from DHLGP and ATSIC. This supports the ACC's main functions as described. The ACC is not a source of funding support for other agencies.

### **Activities :**

- contribution to and monitoring of the TAFE community ranger training program
- making representations on land claims
- developing a mining code of practice
- making representations on land rehabilitation after mining
- making representations on broad land and sea management strategies including management plans and resource legislation
- developing housing policies including proposals for an Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Housing Authority
- promoting best management approaches to water and waste management in communities
- advice to communities on conflict resolution mechanisms

**Linkages :** Constituent councils - Aurukun, Hopevale, Injinoo, Kowanyama, Lockhart River, Napranum, New Mapoon, Pormpuraaw, Umagico, Wujal Wujal. Also -

- DFSAIA, DHLGP and ATSIIC - for funding
- Cape York Land Council - strong working relationship despite different interests represented by the two bodies (governing body c.f. traditional owners)
- TAFE in relation to the ranger training program

**Accountability :** DFSAIA under the *Community Services Act, 1984*

**Further Information Sources :** annual report, corporate plan

**ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES (DEPARTMENT)**

**Address :** 80 George Street, Brisbane, Qld 4000, tel : (07) 224 2111

**Nature of Business :** this Department contains several discreet components. CITEC is focused on communication and information technology to assist Government agencies. The Queensland public records are managed by State Archives who make them available for use by Government and the general public. Q Build Project Services engages in a state wide, comprehensive and competitively-priced professional building consultancy service (concept, design, documentation and construction of building and civil engineering works). Q Build Maintenance and Operations and Q Build Property Management provide a maintenance role for different Government agencies.

**BUILDING SERVICES AUTHORITY**

**Address Head Office :** 201 Logan Road, Stones Corner, tel : (07) 391 8233

**Address Regional Office :** Suite 3, MLC Building, 188 Mulgrave St, Cairns, 4870,  
tel : (070) 316 828

**Nature of Business :** this replaced the previous Builders Registration Board. It provides protection to consumers and seeks to improve standards of workmanship within the building industry. The Authority provides a licensing system for contractors, an insurance system to protect consumers, and an advisory system for consumers. A major role is in dispute resolution, with matters being referred to the Building Tribunal for determination.

## **BUSINESS, INDUSTRY AND REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT (DEPARTMENT)**

**Address Head Office :** 111 George Street, Brisbane Q 4001, tel : (07) 225 8568

**Address Regional Office :** 11th Floor, National Mutual Tower, 15 Lake Street, Cairns Q 4870, tel : (070) 31 4441

**Nature of Business :** DBIRD develops goals and strategies which focus on promoting growth, diversification and competitiveness of business, developing a prosperous operating environment for the development of the State's economy as well as co-ordinating services for business and industry with other government agencies.

**Policies :** the Business Program aims to achieve regulatory efficiency, improvements in the relationship between government and the business sector, and centralised assistance to business on licensing and permit requirements. The Queensland Small Business Corporation and the Retail Shop Leases Registry are program instruments. The Industry and Technology Program "seeks to develop and expand an internationally competitive Queensland manufacturing and traded services base, with specific reference to value added activities, by nurturing the establishment of new industries, attracting industry to the State and encouraging expansion of existing industry." The Regional and Project Development Program aims "to promote and support sustainable development throughout Queensland within a regional economic development strategy." In support of increased competitiveness and market enhancement the program provides advice, assistance and incentives to business and industry as well as assistance to a wider range of regional development organisations. The Corporate Services Program "provides an appropriate range of corporate support services, policy development services and the marketing of departmental services to client groups."

**Funding Programs :** funding is a direct provision from the State Government. DBIRD makes available funds to assist regional organisations in developing strategies and particular projects, through the Regional Economic Development Program. Some economic development programs are administered jointly with the Commonwealth Government.

**Activities :** a significant past activity of DBIRD has been the acquisition and development of industrial land for manufacturing. These holdings are now being rationalised, with many being sold, and others being made available for a broader range of uses. A further activity in recent years has been the reform of State Government regulations as they affect business activity. The Department also oversees the activities of the Small Business Corporation, which exists to give advice to small businesses on a wide range of matters.

**Linkages :** the strongest links are with the Commonwealth Dept. of Employment, Education and Training, and the State Department of Employment, Vocational Education and Training. These share interests in regional economic development.

**Accountability :** the following Acts of Parliament are relevant to the Department's operations, the *Industrial Development Act 1963 - 87*, *Enterprises Zones Act 1988*, *Retail Shop Leases Act 1984 - 90*, *Queensland Small Business Corporation Act 1990* and *Regulatory Reform Act 1986*. Further accountability is provided through both the parliamentary and auditing processes / requirements.

**Further Information Sources :** annual report and strategic plan.

## **CONSUMER AFFAIRS (DEPARTMENT)**

**Address :** 50 Ann Street, Brisbane, Qld 4000, tel : (07) 246 1500

**Nature of Business :** to achieve a fair and equitable trading environment in Queensland. The strategic direction has been to increase the degree of voluntary compliance among traders while at the same time enhancing the skills and knowledge of consumers to protect their rights. Consistent with the Government's social justice principles, this approach has also enabled resources to be targeted to support and assist those most in need.

## **CORRECTIVE SERVICES COMMISSION**

**Address Head Office:** State Government Bldg, 36 Shields Street, Cairns Q 4870, tel : (070) 52 3210

**Nature of Business :** the Commission is an autonomous statutory body which has the sole responsibility for all probation, prison, parole and associated correction functions in the state. The chief policy-making body is a Board comprised of people representing civil liberties, church, welfare, staff, rural and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander groups; and through the Chairman, the general community.

**Policies :** a significant policy change in recent years has been to develop policies which can offer alternatives to incarceration for offenders in both mainstream and indigenous communities. The Commission oversees the system of giving community service orders, and is developing new programs specifically tailored to remote rural communities. Some of these could provide resources for land management projects, provided community based management arrangements can be made.

**Funding Programs :** there is current development of a funding program to remote rural communities to develop alternatives to the prison system for local offenders. Specific proposals can be developed by the communities themselves.

**Activities :** within the QCSC Offenders Program, a relevant initiative includes the Community Correction Centre / Institution at Wathanin Outstation, 70 kilometres outside Aurukun on the west of Cape York Peninsula, run by a private organisation (Aurukun Community Inc.) providing contract residential accommodation for 14 offenders.

**Linkages :** the Commission has links with the Police Department as well as with the Department of Family Services and Aboriginal and Islander Affairs in relation to juvenile justice (which is not the Commission's prime responsibility).

**Accountability :** the QCSC has its legislative basis in the *Corrective Services (Administration) Act 1988* with the following Acts of Parliament being relevant to the QCSC's operations, the *Corrective Services Act 1988*, *Penalties and Sentences Act 1992*, *Prisoners (Interstate Transfer) Act 1982* and *Parole Orders (Transfer) Act 1984*. The Audit and Investigations Section of the QCSC was established in accordance with the *Financial Administration and Audit Act 1977*. Further accountability is provided though both the parliamentary and auditing processes / requirements.

**Further Information Sources :** annual report, strategic plan and information publications.

## **CRIMINAL JUSTICE COMMISSION**

**Address :** 557 Coronation Drive, Toowong, 4066, tel : (07) 360 6060

**Nature of Business :** the Commission has a major role in investigating alleged misconduct within the public service and local government. It also has powers to investigate other criminal activity where this cannot be effectively managed by the Police Department. Recent investigations by the CJC have included actions of public officers relating to alleged foxtail palm smuggling on the Cape York Peninsula, and illegal waste dumping by corporations throughout the State.

## **EDUCATION (DEPARTMENT)**

**Address Head Office :** 30 Mary Street, Brisbane, tel : (07) 237 0111

**Address Regional Office :** 17 Sheridan Street, Cairns Q 4870, tel : (070) 52 3133

**Nature of Business :** the Department is concerned with the management of the primary and secondary schools system, including systems of accreditation leading towards tertiary education or employment. Particular policy initiatives include Languages Other Than English (LOTE), Distance Education and ABSTUDY. Encouragement is increasingly being given to cultural appropriateness of education provided in remote Aboriginal communities. The Department is a significant land holder, developer and employer within the State, with a dispersed locational base.

## **ELECTORAL OFFICE (COOK)**

**Address :** Stephen Bredhaver, State Member for Cook, PO Box 2080, Cairns,  
tel : (070) 513 849.

**Nature of Business :** provides an interface between the elected member and his electorate. Covers the whole of Cape York Peninsula and Torres Strait region, down to Mossman.

## **ELECTRICITY COMMISSION FAR NORTH QUEENSLAND ELECTRICITY BOARD (FNQEB)**

**QEC HEAD OFFICE :** QMEC Building, 61 Mary Street, Brisbane 4000 tel : (07) 228 2111  
**FNQEB Office :** 109 Lake Street, Cairns 4870 tel : (070) 50 2777

**Nature of Business :** the Commission regulates and co-ordinates the electricity supply industry in Queensland. It is concerned with safety, industrial relations, financial policy, tariffs, economic use of available capital, and planning to meet future consumer needs. It also constructs, operates and maintains power stations and the main electricity transmission lines to bulk supply points.

**Policies :** the Commission is particularly concerned to augment supply for future needs, and the Tully Millstream hydro-electric power station is a potential project that would achieve this. The location of power generation facilities is not critical, as the power is fed into the State grid, which may in future be joined to the national grid. The Boards are concerned with the consumer end of the supply system, including demand management, and planning infrastructure in time to serve the needs of new development. Both organisations are involved in community controversies over the impact of transmission lines (alienation of land, visual intrusion, and possibly health impacts).

**Funding Programs :** the organisations are based on commercial lines, with the costs of goods supplied being applied to running operations and future infrastructure.

**Activities :** reticulated electricity supply is currently supplied from the State grid only as far north as Cooktown on the Cape York Peninsula. Outside the area of reticulated supply, a variety of other power generation arrangements exist, with the Board providing power from a number of small diesel power stations to the communities of Thursday Island, Coen, Aurukun, Bamaga, Kowanyama, Pormpuraaw and Lockhart River.

**Linkages :** the main linkages to other agencies are in relation to planning for population needs - the Commission with the ABS and the Department of Housing, Local Government and Planning; the Board with local government and the development industry. The construction of power lines and the acquisition of easements is little regulated, and relies largely on negotiations with land holders. However, major works may be advertised for comment or may require an environmental impact statement. There is a potential linkage to the Department of Environment and Heritage in relation to the environmental consequences of infrastructure provision. Maintenance of powerline easements as firebreaks may also provide a link to the Department of Emergency Services.

**Accountability :** the Commission and the Board are accountable to the State Government through the provisions of the *Electricity Act, 1976*.

**Further Information Sources :** annual report, corporate plan

## **EMERGENCY SERVICES (DEPARTMENT)**

**Address Head Office :** Forbes House, 30 Makerston Street, Brisbane, Q. 4000,  
tel: (07) 227 4111

**Nature of Business :** the Department contains the Bureau of Emergency Services and provides comprehensive State-wide emergency service and disaster management systems that meet the needs of Queensland communities by enhancing public safety. The Office of Rural Communities is another recent addition to the Department, having been transferred from Administrative Services.

**Policies :** the Queensland Fire Service has undertaken a Standards of Fire Cover review and implemented major training programs. The State Emergency Services Division was restructured and renamed the Counter Disaster Management Division which retains its predominantly State Emergency Service focus, providing for enhanced counter disaster planning and policy. The Aviation Division continued to expand its services with a sharp increase in the number of organ transplant retrieval, aero-medical, and search and rescue flights. The Chemical Hazards and Emergency Management (CHEM) Unit played a key role overseeing the construction of the Gurulmundi Secure Landfill as well as undertaking extensive hazardous materials training programs across the State.

The Office of Rural Communities provides advice to the Government on the needs of rural communities, and seeks to ensure that rural issues are addressed in all of the Government's decision making.

**Funding Programs :** these are drawn from Government in relation to the Department's core functions.

**Activities :** the Office of Rural Communities has recently produced an information brochure on funding programs relevant to Far North Queensland.

**Linkages :** the Department links with the Police Department in its emergency services role. The Office of Rural Communities provides for co-ordination across all State Government departments.

**Accountability :** provided through both the parliamentary and auditing processes / requirements.

**Further Information Sources :** corporate plan, annual report, "Queensland Rural Services Directory for the Far North Area"

## **EMPLOYMENT, VOCATIONAL EDUCATION, TRAINING AND INDUSTRIAL RELATIONS (DEPARTMENT)**

**Address Head Office :** Citibank Centre, 199 Charlotte Street, Brisbane GPO Box 69, Brisbane 4001 tel (07) 225 2000

**Nature of Business :** the Department includes management of the TAFE system (colleges throughout the State), developing skills within the labour market including unemployed people, administering State industrial relations including awards, workplace health and safety and workers compensation.

**Policies :** TAFE has policies of providing regionally appropriate vocational education and skill development. There are TAFE colleges in Cairns and Normanton, which provides courses for the mainland. Campuses have also been established at Weipa and on Thursday Island, as annexes of the Cairns College. The Thursday Island campus also has some programs on the northern tip of the mainland, for example in relation to environmental management.

**Funding Programs :** the higher education equity program is funded by the Commonwealth to give people from disadvantaged groups, for example people from rural and isolated areas, equal opportunity in higher education. Hostels for rural students assist students from rural and remote areas who need to move away from their homes to complete their education. Funds are provided to non-government, non-profit organisations such as parent groups, churches and welfare groups for the construction or refurbishment of hostel facilities for such students.

**Activities :** courses run on Thursday Island include office study, woodwork, metal work, arts and crafts, boat operating, heavy machinery and plant operations. Tourism is not included - there is not seen to be demand for tourism on the islands, nor an inclination for local participation in this industry. The Thursday Island campus is also involved in training people for environmental rehabilitation projects on the mainland, eg at New Mapoon (Loyalty Beach). This could be extended to other mainland and island communities in the future.

**Linkages :** there are strong functional links to the State Departments of Education in relation to education, the State Department of Business, Industry and Regional Development in relation to economic development and employment, as well as the Commonwealth Department of Education, Employment and Training in relation to both education and employment.

**Accountability :** there is accountability to the State Government through the normal auditing and accountability systems, as well as to the Commonwealth Government for expenditure of particular programs, including TAFE.

**Further Information Sources :** annual reports, including TAFE College annual report.

## **ENVIRONMENT AND HERITAGE (DEPARTMENT)**

**Address Regional Office:** 10/12 McLeod Street, Cairns tel : (070) 523 096

**Northern Cape York District Office:** cnr Taylor and Shetland Streets c/o Post Office, Coen Qld. 4871 tel : (070) 601 137

**Nature of Business :** this Government Department is the lead agency in all environmental matters in Queensland. The Department is required to: monitor the quality of the natural environment; provide for environmental impact assessment processes in relation to the natural environment, co-ordinate environmental management aspects of the activities of other Queensland Government departments and conduct appropriate environmental audits, regulate environmental matters generally, report to governments on the state of the natural environment and environmental management, and establish a consultation process between government, industry the public and all relevant client groups to contribute to decision making processes.

**Policies :** the Queensland government has formally endorsed the National Strategy for Ecologically Sustainable Development (ESD). The strategy encompasses agriculture, energy production, energy use, fisheries, forest use, manufacturing, mining, tourism and transport and provides advice on policy directions and on measures encouraging integration of environmental considerations into decision making.

**Funding Programs :** the Department is divided into five main programs: National Parks and Wildlife Management/Conservation strategies, Coastal Management, Heritage, Environment, and Corporate Services.

**Activities :** significant activities in North Queensland relate to the assessment, acquisition and management of lands designated for conservation purposes. This includes acquisition of lands to be managed by the Wet Tropics Management Authority. Management policies that are being introduced recently include restrictions on fishing in National Park areas. State level activities include the development of new legislation in the areas of nature conservation, coastal management and environmental protection.

**Linkages :** the main links are with land use agencies including the Wet Tropics Management Authority and the State Departments of Lands, Primary Industries and Housing/Local Government and Planning. The main linkage with the Commonwealth Government is to the Department of the Environment, Sport and Territories.

**Accountability :** the Department is directly responsible to the State Government through the Minister for Environment and Heritage.

**Further Information Sources :** annual report, corporate plan.

## **FAMILY SERVICES AND ABORIGINAL AND ISLANDER AFFAIRS (DEPARTMENT)**

**Address Regional Offices :** Cape York Regional Office, 36 Shields St, Cairns 4870 tel: (070) 52 3177, Torres Strait Regional Office, Victoria Parade, Thursday Island 4875 tel: (070) 69 1243

**Nature of Business :** the Department has responsibility for developing and administering the State's juvenile justice system. It is responsibility for community services including special services for elderly people, child care services, physical disability services, intellectual disability services, youth services, services to victims of domestic violence, support services to people in crisis accommodation, family support services, and it administers community service grants. It also has responsibility for policy and program development and administration in relation to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people, though this function is likely to be limited to core policy responsibilities.

**Policies :** the Department has co-ordinated the State Government response to the Royal Commission into Aboriginal Deaths in Custody, and it seems likely that this will continue. Other significant policy development has occurred in the areas of:

- disability services, with a transfer of responsibilities from the Commonwealth Government,
- juvenile justice, with a reformed system of crime prevention, sentencing and custody,
- indigenous land claims, with systems developed for processing claims,
- child care, with new licensing standards for carers,
- domestic violence, with improved legal remedies introduced,
- cross-program funding, with innovative systems developed for remote areas, and
- cross cultural awareness training, with a program provided throughout the State.

**Funding Programs :** the Land program is significant, but this is probably being transferred to the Department of Lands. The small Alternative Governing Structures program is relevant, particularly as priority has been placed on application of this program to Cape York communities. The cross-program co-ordination provided by the Aboriginal Deaths in Custody secretariat and its interdepartmental Committee is potentially significant in providing a multi-functional response to the cultural, social and economic needs of indigenous people.

**Activities :** significant current activities are the implementation of a range of new legislation, and internal restructuring following organisational review. There is also a small but significant involvement in promotion of cultural tourism involvement by Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people.

**Linkages :** regional officers have good links to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander organisations, as well as to the Commonwealth ATSIC, and potentially with the Torres Strait Regional Authority. There are linkages to the State Correctional Services Commission in relation to the correctional system, and to the Commonwealth Department of Human Services and Health in relation to community services.

**Accountability :** a wide range of legislation provides for accountability to State and Commonwealth Governments for different program areas.

**Further Information Sources :** annual report.

**HEALTH DEPARTMENT  
PENINSULA AND TORRES STRAIT REGIONAL HEALTH AUTHORITY**

**Address Head Office :** 147-163 Charlotte Street, Brisbane, tel (07) 234 0111

**Address Regional Office :** PO Box 5465, Cairns, Qld 4870, tel : (070) 503 400.

**Nature of Business :** The Queensland Health Department is a very large and decentralised operation, with its regional presence being the Peninsula and Torres Strait Health Authority. It plans and administers the public hospital system, nursing homes, mental health hospitals and facilities for the care of disabled people. It also provides home based care to elderly and disabled people (through State-Commonwealth funding to community based groups), and it has a range of programs promoting and monitoring health, and providing for early detection of disease. A significant responsibility is to support the National Aboriginal Health Strategy, through initiatives directed to resolving the health problems of indigenous people.

## **HOUSING, LOCAL GOVERNMENT AND PLANNING (DEPARTMENT)**

**Address Regional Office:** 11 Sheridan Street, Cairns Q 4870 and Orchid Plaza tel : (070) 51 3477

**Nature of Business :** the QDHLGP aims to integrate State and local planning objectives and the management of urban growth, improve access to secure, affordable and appropriate housing and improve the performance and accountability of local government.

**Policies :** the Housing Program aims at "developing better communities by providing access to secure, affordable and appropriate housing" and is thus concerned with specific initiatives, such as Public Rental Housing, Home Ownership, Community Housing, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Rental Housing and Private Rental Assistance.

The Local Government Program is "helping local government develop better communities" by supporting Legislative and Electoral Reform and Operational and Financial Support.

The Planning Program is "developing better communities by integrating State and local planning objectives and managing urban growth." The program encompasses the development of the planning system, regional planning and growth management (Far North Queensland Regional Planning Advisory Committee), involvement with the Federal Government's Building Better Cities Program as well as other housing and development reform programs.

**Funding Programs :** the QDHLGP manages housing funds in trust derived from the Commonwealth-State Housing Agreement, as well as a much smaller State budget provision for local government and planning services.

**Activities :** particular activities at present include the implementation of the new Local Government Act and the development of a new Planning and Development Act. The Department also contributes to development of the Commonwealth-State Housing Agreement through various working parties, as well as to the development of the new State Residential Tenancies Act. Within the region, the development of regional planning processes for Far North Queensland is a current major activity.

**Linkages :** at the regional level, the regional managers' forum provides strong links between those State Government departments with a regional office in the Far North Coast, particularly with the core Departments of Lands, Environment/Heritage, Primary Industries, and Business/Industry/Regional Development. At the Commonwealth level, there are strong program linkages with the Department of Housing and Regional Development.

**Accountability :** there are many pieces of State legislation affecting the QDHLGP as well as the parliamentary and auditing processes / requirements which provide further accountability. The Commonwealth-State Housing Agreement provides for extensive accountability to the Commonwealth for housing expenditures.

**Further Information Sources :** corporate plan and annual report.

## **QUEENSLAND INDUSTRY DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION**

**Address :** QIDC House, 388 Queen Street, Brisbane, tel : (07) 232 4018

**Nature of Business :** QIDC is involved in a range of lending strategies throughout primary, secondary and tertiary industries in Queensland. It is also involved in commercial lending, venture capital, trade finance, leasing and investment services. It acts as an agent for Government, administering various Commonwealth State schemes of assistance such as the Rural Adjustment Scheme.

## ISLANDER CO-ORDINATING COUNCIL

**Address** : Summer Street, Thursday Island, tel : (070) 69 1446

**Nature of Business** : the Council functions are established by the *Community Services (Torres Strait) Act, 1984*, and include providing advice to any person on Islander affairs, making representations on the part of Island Councils, making recommendations to State Government, administering the Island Industries Board, and administering State funds granted for projects relevant to Islander interests. It must consult with the relevant Island Council before making expenditures in that Council's area. In practice, the Council has tended to play a role in relation to Commonwealth programs too, where it appears logical to do so.

**Policies** : the ICC is involved in pursuing native title claims, but has currently decided not to claim land under the *Native Title (Queensland) Act 1993*. A claim over the sea under Commonwealth legislation is a higher priority. A further significant policy area is working towards a combination of interests with the new Torres Strait Regional Authority, possibly with long term amalgamation of the two organisations (despite their separate legislative bases).

**Funding Programs** : administrative funding is met by the State Government through the Department of Family Services and Aboriginal and Islander Affairs, with additional budget provision on a project basis. Project based funding may change with the administrative arrangements for mainstreaming services from DFSAIA. For example, some come through the Lands Branch, which may be transferred to the Lands Department. The ICC has broad scope for funding particular projects, which sometimes includes basic infrastructure works to the outer islands.

**Activities** : development of the Torres Strait Marine Strategy is a major initiative, with ongoing work. This strategy does not have particular status under existing legislation, but it brings together Islander interests in marine resources in one document. It also provides some direction in terms of articulating ICC views on the Australia/Papua New Guinea Treaty, which affects seas and islands to the north of the CYPLUS area.

Previous research and development projects include the preparation of two interlinked economic strategy papers, which it is intended to update in terms of an overall economic development plan. Current work involves the preparation of community based environmental resource management plans for each island, which should be completed in 1996. These are linked to the Marine Strategy.

**Linkages** : the ICC is increasingly intertwined with the new Torres Strait Regional Authority, as well as maintaining close links to individual Island Councils. It has not established links with the Torres Shire Council, despite significant functional overlaps.

**Accountability :** statutory accountability is to the Minister for Family Services and Aboriginal and Islander Affairs through the *Community Services (Torres Strait) Act 1984*. However, it has not proved necessary to publish a separate corporate plan or annual report, given its involvement in developing strategies for the Torres Strait Regional Authority, which coincide with those of the ICC.

**Further Information Sources :** Marine Strategy for the Torres Strait, Torres Strait Development Study 1990, Torres Strait Regional Development Plan 1990

## **JUSTICE AND ATTORNEY GENERAL (DEPARTMENT)**

**Address :** State Law Building, 50 Ann Street, Brisbane, tel : (07) 239 3520

**Nature of Business :** this contains the Queensland Audit Office, which has the role of auditing all public sector entities, for instance the Aboriginal Co-ordinating Council, the Islander Co-ordinating Council, Aboriginal and Island Community Councils, local authorities and State agencies. The Department also has a role in drafting legislation and overseeing the courts system. The Arts Division has recently moved from the Department of the Premier, Economic and Trade Development. The Queensland Office of Arts and Cultural Development provides infrastructure support for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander cultural activities.

Within the Department, the office of the Public Trustee provides a range of legal services to the community, including willmaking, administration of deceased estates, administration of certain Trust funds, managing the affairs of people who lack alternative guardianship, providing powers of attorney, providing for changes of name by deed poll, and conveyancing.

## LAND TRIBUNAL

**Address Head Office :** Ground Floor, BP House, Herschel Street, Brisbane 4000, P.O. Box 127, Brisbane Roma Street 4003, tel : (07) 227 9273

**Nature of Business :** the Tribunal hears and reports on claims for eligible land as Aboriginal land under the *Aboriginal Land Act, 1991*.

**Policies :** the Tribunal proceedings are informal and legal representation is discouraged, apart from providing advice to the claimants. The lands eligible for claim within the Cape York Peninsula were substantially extended in 1994.

**Funding Programs :** the granting of land claims is itself a funding program, drawing on Crown Land resources.

**Activities :** the total area of land claimed in 1994 within the State was 554,000 hectares, bringing the total claimed since the inception of the legislation to 2,147,329 hectares. The sizes of claim vary from a few hectares to 237,000 hectares. Hearings are held in the vicinity of the claims.

**Linkages :** The *Commonwealth Native Title Act, 1993*, and its complementary legislation the Native Title (Queensland) Act 1993 impact on the activities of the Tribunal. Where the interests referred to in claims to the Tribunal include native title, these interest will be determined under the Native Title legislation. The Tribunal does not have jurisdiction to hear native title claims - these will be heard by a Queensland Native Title Tribunal, when this is established.

The activities of the Tribunal impact on the activities of the Department of Lands and the Department of Housing, Local Government and Planning, and some other departments, as claims need to be resolved before certain planning and development matters can be finalised.

**Accountability :** the Tribunal is accountable to the State Government through s. 8.39 of the *Aboriginal Land Act 1991*.

**Further Information Sources :** annual report

## **LANDS (DEPARTMENT)**

**Address Head Office :** Landcentre, Crn Main and Vulture Street, Woolloongabba Q 4102, tel : (07) 896 3111

**Address Regional Office :** 15, Lake Street, Cairns 4870, tel : (070) 52 3431

**Nature of Business :** the Department is responsible for managing the State's public lands to ensure appropriate and sustainable economic uses, public uses and environmental conservation. It also manages a process for meeting Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander needs for land, it maintains records systems for all land in the State, it provides a system for creating and maintaining titles to private and public lands, it maintains a valuation system for all lands, and it provides an information service relating to land characteristics.

**Policies :** significant policies are the promotion of sustainable land uses, and the consideration of indigenous peoples' aspirations in land planning. Streamlining of land administration functions is also being given high priority, to improve efficiency and customer service. Regionalisation of the Department is an additional policy initiative undertaken over the past few years.

**Funding Programs :** the granting of access to land has funding implications, and additional programs include hardship assistance to eligible lessees and contributions towards interdepartmental efforts in weed and pest control.

**Activities :** the Department is responsible for the establishment of a comprehensive computer based land information system, drawing on the resources of all government agencies. Additional activities are planning for the development of Crown lands to meet different needs within the community, and assessing competing demands for access to Crown land, as well as the development of new legislation for Crown Land Management. The Department also provides an assessment service for surplus Government lands managed by other departments. Additional activities are likely to be administering land allocation and management in relation to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities, as this function is likely to be transferred from the Department of Family Services and Aboriginal and Islander Affairs.

**Linkages :** the Department manages the register of claimable land under the *Aboriginal Land Act 1991*, and this provides a linkage with the Land Tribunal. In planning for use of Crown lands, the Department has linkages to all State departments, but particularly strong linkages to the State Department of Housing, Local Government and Planning, the State Department of Primary Industries and the State Department of Environment and Heritage. It also has strong linkages with local government and community organisations who wish to gain access to Crown lands.

**Accountability :** the Department is accountable to the State Government through the Minister for Lands.

**Further Information Sources :** annual report, corporate plan.

## **LEGAL AID OFFICE**

**Address :** 44 Herschel Street, Brisbane, tel : (07) 238 3444, Toll free : 008 805 817.

**Nature of Business :** This Office offers a number of services including a toll free telephone service relating to general legal queries (which may refer inquirers to the relevant agencies), legal advice by appointment, legal representation in approved circumstances, and community education on legal matters.

**MINERALS AND ENERGY (DEPARTMENT)**

**Address Head Office :** 17th Floor, QMEC Building, 61 Mary Street, Brisbane Q 4000,  
tel : (07) 237 1435

**Address Regional Office :** 159 Walsh Street, Mareeba 4880, tel : (070) 92 4211

**Nature of Business :** the Department is the lead agency within State Government on issues relating to the economic use of mineral and energy resources. Its responsibilities include planning for economic use of resources, and overseeing the management of the economic use of these resources.

**Policies :** these include improving occupational safety in resource industries, and promoting improved environmental management practices. In addition, the Department is concerned to streamline its administrative processes for granting permits, licences and leases.

**Funding Programs :** decommissioning the previous pyritic materials mining site at Horn Island is a significant activity, involving total expenditure to date of around \$2.1M and ongoing maintenance of around \$300,000. This is the major rehabilitation program at present.

**Activities :** overseeing the preparation of Environmental Management Overview Strategies (EMOS's) is a significant activity, with a view to improving management and rehabilitation of extraction sites. Development of the Minerals and Energy Locational Information Network (MERLIN) is also underway. The significant areas for planning new extractive industry are outside the Cape York Peninsula, but mineral occurrence mapping has been completed for CYPLUS.

**Linkages :** the Department works closely with the Queensland Electricity Commission on energy matters, and has linkages with the Department of Environment and Heritage on environmental management issues.

**Accountability :** the Department is accountable to the State Government through the Minister for Minerals and Energy. Its public accountability in relation to environmental management has recently been the subject of a report by the Criminal Justice Commission.

**Further Information Sources :** annual report, CJC report into the Improper Disposal of Liquid Waste in SE Queensland (vol 1 mining issues).

## **POLICE SERVICE**

**Address Head Office:** 100 Roma Street, Brisbane Q 4000, tel : (07) 364 6464

**Nature of Business :** the Police Service is established to protect life and property, preserve peace and safety, prevent crime and uphold the law. It does this through prevention and detection of crime, apprehension of criminals and law breakers, community education, provision of assistance to the public in emergencies, promotion of road safety and effective traffic management. The Community Watch Unit co-ordinates community based crime prevention initiatives in both rural and urban areas. Recruitment of indigenous people and internal promotion of cultural awareness are significant initiatives in recent years.

**PREMIER, ECONOMIC AND TRADE DEVELOPMENT (DEPARTMENT)  
(INCLUDING CO-ORDINATOR-GENERAL)**

**Address Head Office :** 100 George Street, Brisbane 4000, GPO Box 185, North Quay 4001,  
tel : (07) 224 2111

**Nature of Business :** the Department supports the Premier as leader of the Government, and has additional responsibilities for economic and trade development. The Office of the Co-ordinator General has responsibility for guiding major projects through to approval, through co-ordination of government agencies and providing advice to developers. An additional function of the Office of the Co-ordinator General is management of the Cape York Peninsula Land Use Strategy (CYPLUS).

**Policies :** the policy of the Office of the Co-ordinator General is to assist major projects which will contribute positively to the economic development of the State and increase employment opportunities. The Trade and Investment Development Division has additional policies to assist Queensland exporters to enter overseas markets, to attract investment into targeted sectors of the Queensland economy, and promote export amongst domestic producers.

**Funding Programs :** CYPLUS is providing direct Commonwealth-State funding for land use studies and planning on the Cape York Peninsula. The Queensland Export Development Scheme (QEDS) provides financial assistance to select Queensland firms.

**Activities :** CYPLUS Stage One is a current activity, involving the co-ordination of separate studies through a temporary Task Force Office in Cairns.

**Linkages :** the Department has linkages to all State departments arising from its administration of the Cabinet, and through the functions of the Premier. Particular linkages of the Office of the Co-ordinator-General are to the Commonwealth Department of Environment, Sport and Territories (through CYPLUS, and in relation to environmental assessment of major projects), and to the State Department of Housing, Local Government and Planning, Department of Business, Industry and Regional Development, and Department of Lands.

**Accountability :** the Department is responsible to the State Government through the Cabinet and the Premier.

**Further Information Sources :** statement of affairs

## **PRIMARY INDUSTRIES (DEPARTMENT)**

**Address Regional Office :** 36 Shield Street, Cairns 4870, tel : (070) 52 3288

**Nature of Business :** the Department has responsibility for promoting primary industries in a way which will encourage the sustainable, economic development of production systems based on Queensland's water, vegetation and land resources. This includes management of agricultural, forestry, fishing and water resources.

**Policies :** State Planning Policy 1/92: "Development and the Conservation of Agricultural Land" was developed and subsequently approved by Cabinet, supported by "Planning Guidelines: The Identification of good Quality Agricultural Land ". The Department is promoting Integrated Catchment Management as a basis for resource planning and management, sustainable management of forests, and community based care of land resources.

**Funding Programs :** funding is provided for Integrated Catchment Management, Landcare, and tree planting (various schemes)

**Activities :** 119 Landcare groups are established within Queensland, covering the majority of the State's local authorities, and including some on the Cape York Peninsula. The Department assisted the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority in its strategic plan for the Great Barrier Reef World Heritage Area, and provided support to the State Government's Cape York Peninsula Land Use Strategy. The pilot for Integrated Catchment Management was the Johnstone River, but the focus of attention has now shifted to the Tully-Murray River catchments as a result of the Commonwealth-State sugar expansion package.

The Department oversees the work of a large number of statutory authorities and semi-government organisations. One of these is the Queensland Fish Management Authority, which has responsibility for managing the State's fish resources for both commercial and recreational purposes. A further activity is the rationalisation of a complex array of legislation, including fisheries legislation.

**Linkages :** the Department has linkages to the Commonwealth Department of Primary Industries and Energy, with which it shares common interests, and has complementary responsibilities for fishery management. In relation to State interests, its strongest links are with the Department of Lands (agricultural and grazing leases), the Department of Housing, Local Government and Planning (planning activities, including the development of the agricultural lands policy), the Department of Environment and Heritage (forestry management and conservation of natural resources) and the Department of Business, Industry and Regional Development (in relation to promotion of value adding to primary products).

**Accountability :** there are a number of pieces of relevant State legislation, particularly the *Primary Industries Corporation Act 1992*, as well as the parliamentary and auditing processes and requirements which provide further accountability.

**Further Information Sources :** corporate plan and annual report, as well as annual report of the Queensland Fish Management Authority.

## **TOURISM, SPORT AND RACING (DEPARTMENT)**

**Address Regional Office :** 17 - 19 Sheridan Street, Cairns 4870, tel : (070) 52 3299

**Nature of Business :** Tourism, Sport and Racing is the youngest of the 18 State Government Departments. The Department's responsibilities include Youth Affairs and Liquor Licensing.

**Policies :** the Department has been established to work with Government agencies, community organisations and peak industry bodies to ensure that social responsibility and the economic potential of the Tourism, Liquor, Racing and Sport industries and the needs of young people are understood and recognised in policy, legislation, infrastructure, planning, grants programs and services. A significant current initiative is the development of a State Tourism Policy.

**Funding Programs :** the main funding programs are through the Sport and Recreation program, the Queensland Academy of Sport, Sports Development Unit, Recreation and Facilities Development Unit, Equity Unit (Sport and Recreation) and Youth Bureau, Recreation and Facilities Development Unit (The Duke of Edinburgh's Award Scheme).

**Activities :** the development of the State's first tourism strategy is a significant current activity. This has so far involved the preparation of a series of issues papers, and reference groups are providing further input prior to the development of position papers on various aspects of tourism. Ecotourism, indigenous tourism, tourism infrastructure and the social and economic impacts of tourism are amongst the issues being separately addressed.

**Linkages :** the Department is strongly linked in functional terms to the Queensland Tourism and Travel Corporation, which is an arms-length marketing body. Tourism policy was the responsibility of the QTTC until around three years ago, and the transfer of responsibilities has not been smooth, with something of a policy vacuum existing for a time.

**Accountability :** the Department is directly responsible to the State Government through the Minister for Tourism, Sport and Racing.

**Further Information Sources :** annual report, corporate plan.

## **TRANSPORT (DEPARTMENT)**

**Address Regional Office :** 146 Wills Street, Townsville 4810, PO Box 1089, tel : (077) 810 611

**Nature of Business :** the Department has responsibility for developing and maintaining transport infrastructure in the form of roads, railways and marine transport facilities, providing for movement of both people and freight. There is additional involvement in other transport modes, including cableways, small airstrips and bikeways.

**Policies :** it is aimed to develop a comprehensive Queensland Transport Policy, which will combine road, rail, marine and other transport facilities in providing effective movement systems. A particular goal for the Northern Region, which includes the Cape York Peninsula, is the removal of hazardous road and marine conditions.

**Funding Programs :** subsidies are granted to public transport services which meet particular needs, including school transport, urban buses and some taxi services. Major funding programs are directed to the provision of transport infrastructure.

**Activities :** a particular study has been carried out of commercial road user operations in the Northern region. Provision of transport industry to serve the region's growing tourist industry as well as residents is recognised as a future task.

**Linkages :** the Department lacks strong linkages with other departments. The main linkages are with Treasury, in relation to budget allocations (Transport being a major spending department) and the Queensland Electricity Commission, with which it shares an interest in infrastructure planning.

**Accountability :** the Department is accountable to the State Government through the Minister for Transport.

**Further Information Sources :** annual report.

**TREASURY (DEPARTMENT)**

**Address :** Executive Building, 100 George Street, Brisbane, tel : (07) 224 2111

**Nature of Business :** the Treasury has responsibility for raising revenue for the State Government, managing the State Government's financial resources, advising the Government on the state of the Queensland economy, and improving public sector financial management and accountability. The Treasury has a major role in assessing the budgetary needs of different State Government agencies and programs, and allocating appropriate levels of resourcing. This is achieved through evaluation of the budget bids made by individual departments, assessing community needs, and the costs and benefits of different initiatives.

# **PART F**

# **DIRECTORY OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT AGENCIES**

## AURUKUN SHIRE COUNCIL

**Address :** C/o Post Office, Aurukun, Q.4871  
tel : (070) 606 144

**Population:** 1050

**Nature of Business :** local government functions under *Local Government (Aboriginal Lands) Act 1978*.

**Policies :** the Council is responsible for core local government infrastructure functions and in addition, housing, social, cultural and economic development functions.



**Funding Sources :** funding is provided through various sources. Commonwealth funds are allocated by the Grants Commission and channelled through DHLGP. ATSIC provides major funding for infrastructure, CDEP and specific projects. State Government funding for specific projects is provided by DHLGP, DFSAIA and Department of Transport.

**Activities :** included roads construction, water supply and wastewater treatment, and refuse disposal. The community is also reviewing its administrative structure under the Alternative Government Structures Program and is seeking a local government boundary adjustment with Cook Shire Council to extend its area of management to include additional traditional lands.

Commercial activities undertaken by the community, including the store and airline, are managed by Aurukun Community Inc. The Council has no formal Planning Scheme but has prepared a Strategic Plan identifying existing developments. An outstation program is actively pursued. A Community Plan was prepared this year.

**Linkages :** the Council has funding linkages with State Government funding agencies, ATSIC, and Cape York Land Council and is a member Council of the Local Government Association. Informal linkages have been developed with Cook Shire Council for funding and road maintenance purposes.

**Accountability :** the Council is accountable under the *Local Government (Aboriginal Lands) Act 1978*.

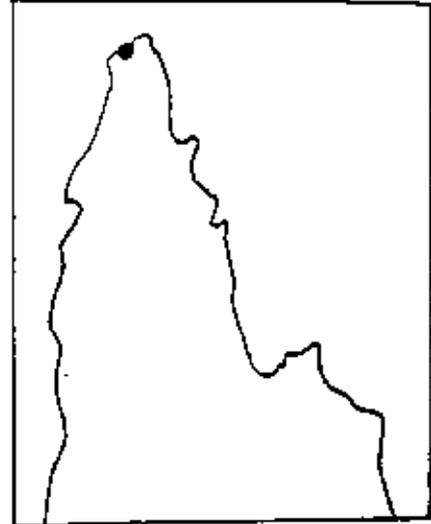
**Further Information Sources :** Aurukun Shire Council annual budget.

## BAMAGA ISLAND COMMUNITY COUNCIL

**Address :** C/o Post Office, Bamaga, Q.4876  
**tel :** (070) 693 121

**Nature of Business :** the Council is responsible for local government and community functions set out under the *Community Services (Torres Strait) Act 1984*.

**Policies :** Bamaga serves as a district service centre for government and community service functions with the Council discharging of local government functions, housing, and community health, and infrastructure programs.



**Funding Sources :** funding for local government services is allocated through the Grants Commission by the DHLGP. To date, Commonwealth capital and specific purpose funding has been provided through ATSIC although this role is likely to be taken over by the Torres Strait Regional Authority. State funding is allocated through the DFSAIA and relevant state government agencies.

**Activities :** the Bamaga Island Council is involved with the provision of local government, community services and housing, the lease of land, and the establishment and operation of community enterprises. The Council also owns and operates the Bamaga Aerodrome.

**Linkages :** to relevant funding agencies and representative bodies such as the Island Coordinating Council and the Torres Strait Regional Authority.

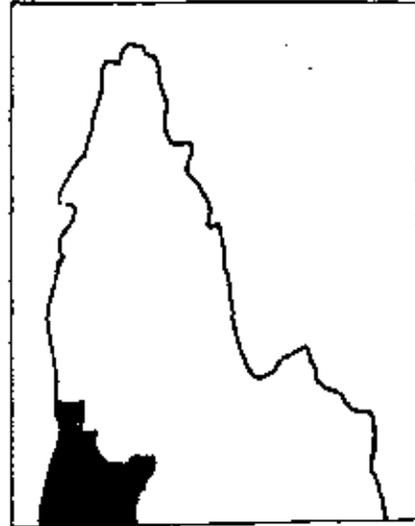
**Accountability :** annual financial statements are audited and submitted to the Attorney-General's Department.

**Further Information Sources :** Bamaga Island Council 94/95 Budget.

## CARPENTARIA SHIRE COUNCIL

**Address :** PO Box 31, Normanton (cnr Haig & Landsborough Streets), tel : (077) 451 166

**Nature of Business :** Local government administered by elected Council under the *Local Government Act*. Council undertakes the main functions of local government - road construction and maintenance, water supply, sewerage, waste disposal, building, town planning and public health controls - provided for under the Act.



**Policies :** the Shire Council is in the process of developing a Corporate Plan which will identify the aims and objectives of Council for the administration of the Shire. The draft Plan is expected to be put out for public comment shortly. The Shire also has in place a Town Planning Scheme which implements the land management policies of the Council.

**Funding Sources :** the Shire has a narrow rate base given its small population and large extent of non-rateable National Parks and Aboriginal Reserves and Trust lands. The bulk of operational expenditure is in the form of grants with the Grants Commission allocating federal government funding to the local government through the Department of Housing, Local Government and Planning. Additional funding is provided by the Department of Transport for road construction and maintenance and specific purpose grants are obtained from other funding bodies.

**Activities :** only a small percentage of Carpentaria Shire adjoining Kowanyama Community Trust lands falls within Cape York Peninsula. This part of the Shire comprises grazing leases and National Park. Council activities in this area are restricted to maintaining road access.

**Linkages :** with funding bodies, adjoining Aboriginal Community Councils, and with Cook Shire Council which co-ordinates the local government sector community input to CYPLUS. Council's main linkage is with Gulf Local Authorities as a member of Gulf Local Authorities Development Authority (GLADA).

**Accountability :** annual financial statements are audited and submitted to the Attorney-General's Department.

**Further Information Sources :** Carpentaria Shire Council 94/95 Budget.

## COOK SHIRE COUNCIL

**Address :** Charlotte Street, Cooktown,  
tel : (070) 695444.

**Nature of Business :** Local Government functions under the *Local Government Act.* over Cape York Peninsula south of the 11° latitude excluding Aboriginal Community "Deed of Grant in Trust" lands and that part of south-west Cape York Peninsula which is administered by Carpentaria Shire.

The Council functioned under an Administrator until March, 1988 at which time a Council comprising a Chairman and six Councillors was elected. The current Council was elected in March 1994.



**Policies :** the Council does not as yet have a Corporate Plan. Council's land use policies are implemented through its planning mechanisms, while the focus of the organisation is on the provision of infrastructure services and participation in regional planning and legislative reform areas which will potentially impact on the functioning of the Council.

**Funding Sources :** the rate base of Cook Shire is limited by sparse population settlement and the extent of Crown land, Aboriginal Reserve, and National Park land tenure. Accordingly, there is a reliance on the Grants Commission allocation to provide funding for the Council to meet its infrastructure commitments. Funding for specific programs is obtained from other sources such as the Department of Transport. Joint funding submissions with the Department of Environment and Heritage and adjoining Councils are submitted for road upgrading and maintenance.

**Activities :** services provided by the Council include the provision of water supply to the communities of Cooktown, Laura and Coen and sewerage reticulation to Cooktown. Additional funding submissions under the Rural Infrastructure Living Program are currently being prepared for improved water supplies in Laura and Coen. The Shire also operates refuse collection services and establishes and maintains public refuse tips.

Access is a key Shire responsibility with most of the Shire serviced by gravel roads which are subject to extensive usage by tourists in the dry season and flood damage during the wet season. Council is also responsible for the operation and management of aerodromes at Cooktown, Coen, Lakeland and Laura and is represented on the Board of the Lockhart River Aerodrome

Community service functions include town planning which applies throughout the Shire, library service operation in Cooktown, Ayton, Laura and Coen, maintenance of parks and Gallop Botanic Gardens (Cooktown), maintenance of Community Halls (Cooktown, Laura, Lakeland and Coen).

The Shire has in place By-laws gazetted under the *Local Government Act 1936* which provide for the management of the Shire and extend to such areas as animal control, camping, nuisance control, preservation of trees, etc. These By-laws are to be reviewed in accordance with the model local laws provided for under the *Local Government Act 1993*.

Recent programs undertaken by the Council include preparation of a draft Planning Scheme to supersede the current Planning Scheme gazetted in 1982, completion of a Total Management Plan to document an Asset Register of Cooktown's water supply, and a Heritage Study of Cooktown which has resulted in Council's support for the listing of buildings and structures identified as having heritage significance.

**Linkages :** the Council has well developed linkages with State Government agencies which provide funding to Council or whose areas of interest overlap with or require co-operation or input from the Shire Council. The Council has undertaken preliminary cross agency service delivery with Aurukun Shire Council and Wujal Wujal and Lakeland their Councils in the areas of road maintenance and refuse collection and joint funding submissions with a member of community councils. The opportunities for extending and formalising these intergovernmental agreements will be more closely examined under an approved Integrated Local Area Planning (ILAP) project.

**Accountability :** the Council is accountable under the *Local Government Act* and has statutory functions under a number of other State Government Acts. It has accountability to the electorate and its financial affairs must be audited and submitted to the Auditor-General's Department.

**Further Information Sources :** financial Statement; July 1993 to June 1994; 1994/95 Budget; Town Planning Scheme; By-laws for the Shire of Cook, Shire Directory and monthly Cook Shire Council Bulletin.

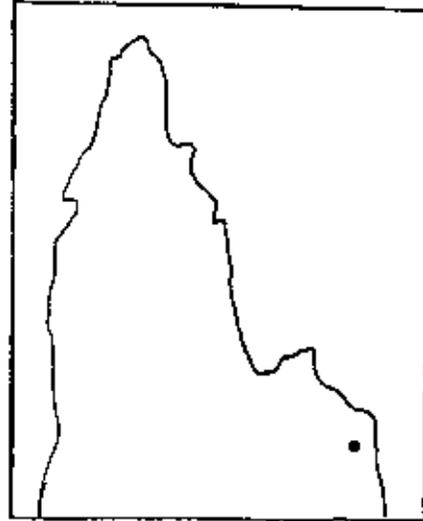
## HOPEVALE COMMUNITY COUNCIL

**Address :** c/- Post Office, Hopevale, Q.4871  
**tel :** (070 609 133

**Nature of Business :** local government and community functions set out under the *Community Services (Aborigines) Act 1984*.

**Policies :** the Council undertakes infrastructure, community development and economic enterprise functions.

**Funding Sources :** sources of funding include DHLGP Grants Commission, ATSIC and DPSALA.



**Activities :** apart from its infrastructure programs, Council, through a community corporation, operates or provides finance for a range of community and private enterprises. Housing is another activity and an Aged Persons Retirement Home has recently been completed. The operation of the Cape Flattery Silica Mine provides royalties and employment opportunities to Hopevale residents.

**Linkages :** with State Government funding agencies, ATSIC and Cape York Land Council. Given its location near Cooktown, the community has strong linkages with the Shire centre for education, health and entertainment services. The Councils have acted jointly on specific issues, particularly road access, although there is scope for the development of further joint initiatives.

**Accountability :** Financial statements are audited and submitted to the Attorney-General's Department.

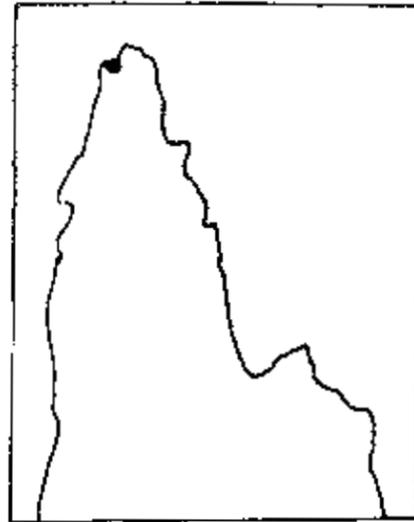
**Further Information Sources :** Hopevale Aboriginal Community Council Budget 1994/95.

## INJINOO COMMUNITY COUNCIL

**Address :** C/o Post Office, Injinoo, Q.4871  
tel : (070) 693 252

**Nature of Business :** the Council is responsible for local government and community functions set out under the *Community Services (Aborigines) Act 1984* for the area included in the Injinoo Community Deed of Grant in Trust Lands.

**Policies :** in addition to the discharge of local government infrastructure development and maintenance, housing and social infrastructure, relevant policy areas include land acquisition and management, management of tourism, and development of economic enterprises.



**Funding Sources :** Grants Commission funding is provided through the DHLGP for operation of local government functions, ATSIC provides funding for housing, operation of CDEP, and specific purpose grants, DFSAIA provides state government financial aid, while other state government funding is obtained from DEET, and Departments of Transport, Education, and Health. Other community income is obtained from enterprises such as operation of the Jardine River ferry, Pajinka Wilderness Lodge, community store and garage, and rental income from community housing.

**Activities :** the community is actively involved in management of its extensive Trust and Reserve lands and is currently undertaking the development of a Tourism Strategy which will assess appropriate tourism visitation levels and the opportunities for managing the impact of tourism on the area. The Council is involved on a day-to-day basis with the provision of local government services including road construction and maintenance, water supply, wastewater and refuse disposal, and provision of community facilities employment a labour force under CDEP funding, and in addition the social, housing, education, cultural and health responsibilities under the *Community Services Act*.

**Linkages :** to relevant funding agencies and representative bodies such as the Cape York Land Council.

**Accountability :** Annual financial statements are required to be audited and submitted to the Attorney-General's Department.

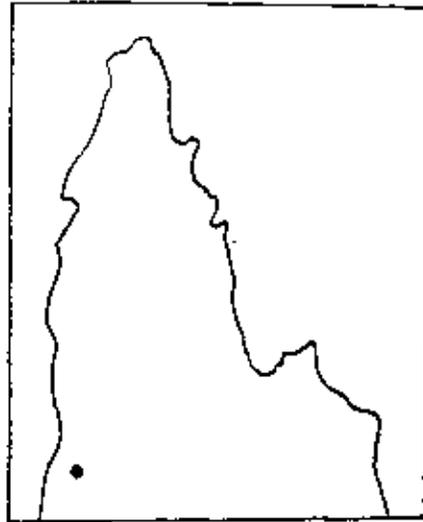
**Further Information Sources :** Injinoo Community Council 94/95 budget, Injinoo Handbook.

## KOWANYAMA COMMUNITY COUNCIL

**Address :** Gilbert White Street, Kowanyama  
tel : (070) 605 155

**Nature of Business :** the Council functions established by the *Community Services (Aborigines) Act 1984* which include normal local government functions ie: roads, water supply, planning and waste management as well as housing, community policing and economic enterprises.

**Policies :** the Council's policy is clearly towards establishing its management role over natural resources within its administrative boundaries and expanding this to include upstream catchment management.



**Funding Sources :** administrative funding is provided through the State Government, with specific funding for the Land and Natural Resource Management Office obtained through various funding sources including recreational access fees.

**Activities :** in addition to municipal functions, the Council has adopted a pro-active role in natural resource management through the establishment of the Kowanyama Aboriginal Land and Natural Resource Management Office (KALNRMO). The Office established under the joint direction of the Council and a Council of Elders, provides for management of land and water resources through community involvement and participation in the Mitchell River Watershed Management Group.

**Linkages :** through the Aboriginal Co-ordinating Council and the Cape York Land Council, with other Aboriginal and Islander Community Councils on Cape York Peninsula, particularly in relation to management issues and with Carpentaria Shire in maintenance of access.

**Accountability :** Financial statement audited and submitted to Attorney-General's Department.

**Further Information Sources :** Kowanyama Aboriginal Community Council Budget; Kowanyama Aboriginal Land and Natural Resources Management Office, Strategic Directions 1994.

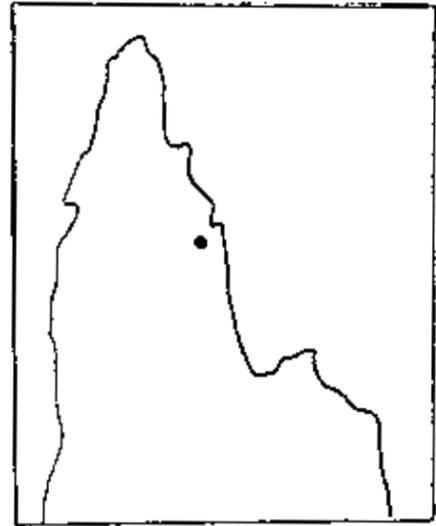
## LOCKHART RIVER COMMUNITY COUNCIL

**Address :** c/o Post Office, Lockhart River, Q.4871,  
tel: (070) 607 144

**Nature of Business :** Local government and community functions set out under the *Community Services (Aborigines) Act 1984*.

**Policies :** The Council undertakes infrastructure, community development and limited economic enterprise functions.

**Funding Sources :** Funding sources include - DHLGP (Grants Commission) for infrastructure maintenance, ATSIC - CDEP, housing and other projects, and DFSAIA for specific projects including AGSP funding.



**Activities :** Infrastructure maintenance including some external roadworks, management of Lockhart River aerodrome, and housing and community development. Council is currently reviewing its administrative structure under the Alternative Governing Structures Program (AGSP) and is examining opportunities for economic activities through the preparation of a Community Development Plan. Included in this is the development of an outstation program.

**Linkages :** with State Government funding agencies. Through the Lockhart River Aerodrome Management Committee with Cook Shire, and joint funding arrangements with Cook Shire Council and Department of Environment and Heritage for external road maintenance.

**Accountability :** financial statement audited and submitted to the Attorney-General's Department

**Further Information Sources :** Lockhart River Aboriginal Community Council Budget 1994/94.

## **NAPRANUM COMMUNITY COUNCIL**

**Address :** C/o Post Office, Napranum, Q.4871,  
tel: (070) 697 855

**Nature of Business :** the community undertakes local government functions under the *Community Services (Aborigines) Act 1984*.

**Policies :** Council is responsible for infrastructure maintenance and the development of employment opportunities and cultural activities.

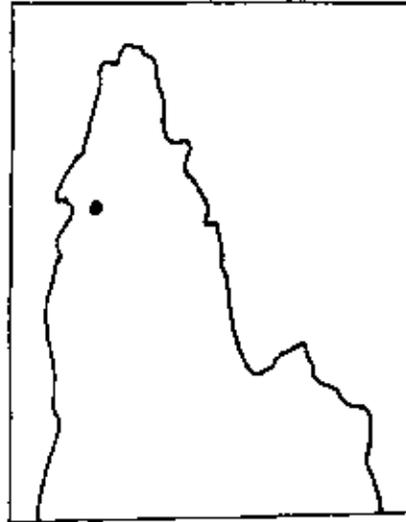
**Funding Sources :** DHLGP - Grants Commission for infrastructure maintenance, ATSIC for housing and CDEP funding and other projects, DFSAIA for specific projects. Income from housing rental and community economic enterprises.

**Activities :** maintenance of infrastructure, a well developed training centre and construction focussed CDEP scheme, operation of a tavern and take-away food store, and a cultural centre and amphitheatre. Development and management of the Uningan Nature and Recreational Reserve near Weipa jointly with Comalco using Napranum community rangers.

**Linkages :** with State Government funding agencies, ATSIC and Cape York Land Council and with the town of Weipa.

**Accountability :** financial statements audited and submitted to Attorney-General's Department.

**Further Information Sources :** Napranum Aboriginal Community Council Budget 1994/95.

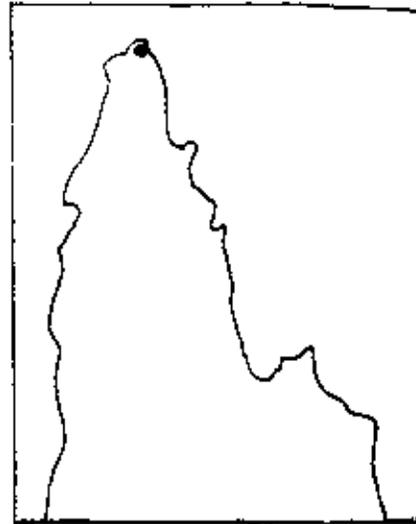


## NEW MAPOON COMMUNITY COUNCIL

**Address :** C/O Post Office, New Mapoon, Q.4871  
tel : (070) 693 277

**Nature of Business :** the Council is responsible for local government and community functions set out under the *Community Services (Aborigines) Act 1984* for the area included in the New Mapoon Deed of Grant in Trust Lands.

**Policies :** the Council administers local government infrastructure, administration and land management functions in addition to developing social infrastructure programs.



**Funding Sources :** Grants Commission funding is provided through the DHLGP for operation of local government functions, ATSIC provides funding for housing, operation of CDEP and specific purpose grants, DFSAIA provides state government financial aid, while specific health, education, housing and road access funding is provided directly by relevant state government departments.

**Activities :** the Council undertakes its local government functions under a works program which provides for road maintenance, water supply and wastewater disposal, refuse disposal and facility management. Through the implementation of Council By-laws, management of activities within the Trust area.

**Linkages :** to relevant funding agencies and representative bodies, and with adjoining Aboriginal and Island Community Councils.

**Further Information Sources :** New Mapoon 94/95 Budget.

## **PORMPURAAW COMMUNITY COUNCIL**

**Address :** C/o Post Office, Pormpuraaw, Q.4871  
**tel :** (070) 604 175

**Nature of Business :** local government and community functions set out under the *Community Services (Aborigines) Act 1984*.

**Policies :** Council provides administration of community and development and maintenance of infrastructure, particularly access.

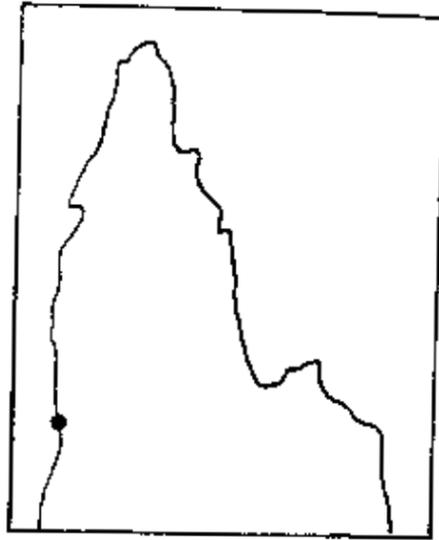
**Funding Sources :** Commonwealth funding through ATSIIC for CDEP, specific purpose grants from DFSAIA, and other Departmental programs. State Government funding through Grants Commission for infrastructure maintenance.

**Activities :** includes road maintenance and construction of water supply and wastewater disposal, refuse management, housing and community services.

**Linkages :** with State Government funding agencies, ATSIIC and Cape York Land Council, with interaction with Cook Shire Council except on access matters.

**Accountability :** Financial statement audited and submitted to Attorney-General's Department.

**Further Information Sources :** Pormpuraaw Community Council Budget 94/95.

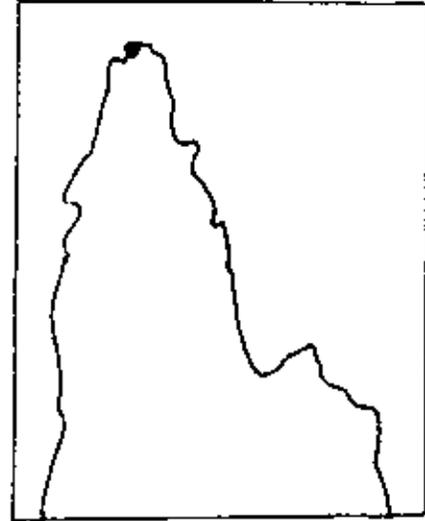


## SEISIA ISLAND COUNCIL

**Address :** c/- Post Office, Bamaga, q.4876  
tel : (070) 693 133

**Nature of Business :** the Council is responsible for local government and community functions set out under the *Community Services (Torres Strait) Act 1984*.

**Policies :** the Council undertakes the discharge of local government infrastructure and community service functions, management of tourism and development of economic enterprises.



**Funding Sources :** funding for local government services is provided through the Grants Commission from DHLGP. Commonwealth funding for housing and specific purposes is provided by ATSIC (transferring to Torres Strait Regional Authority), while state government funding provided through DFSAIA and relevant state government agencies.

**Activities :** as well as undertaking local government functions, Seisia Island Council operates a camping area at Red Beach and promotes tourism enterprises on community lands.

**Linkages :** to relevant funding agencies and representative bodies and with adjoining Aboriginal and Island Community Councils.

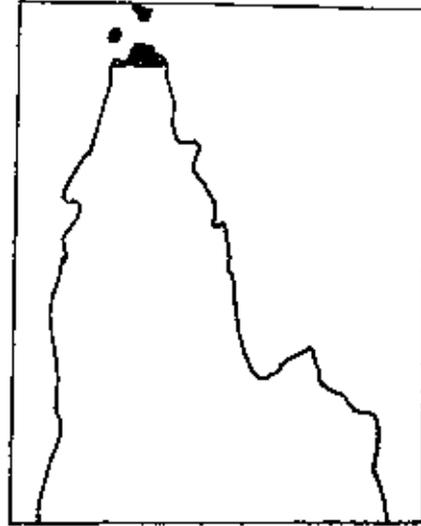
**Further Information Sources :** Seisia Island Council 94/95 Budget.

## TORRES SHIRE COUNCIL

**Address :** Douglas Street, Thursday Island  
tel : (070) 691 336

**Nature of Business :** local government functions for the area covering the Torres Strait Islands and that part of the Cape York Peninsula lying north of latitude 11°. This includes the area covered by the mainland communities of Seisia, New Mapoon, Bamaga, Umagico and Injinoo.

**Policies :** the Council limits itself to the conventional core areas of local government, particularly the provision of infrastructure. It has a significant plant fleet to support this. This would appear to be a deliberate focusing of resources.



**Funding Sources :** the Grants Commission is a significant source of funding for infrastructure works. The rate base is limited by the nature of occupation and land tenure in the Shire.

**Activities :** these include road construction, water supply and garbage collection. A quarry is being developed to support road construction work. A waste disposal strategy has been commissioned to provide better long term management, which may include barging waste from Thursday to Horn Island. There is currently no sewerage on any of the islands, but funds are being sought for a Thursday Island Scheme, possibly using the previous waste disposal tip for a treatment plant.

The Council also co-ordinates a Counter Disaster Planning Committee, involving State and Commonwealth departments but not Island Councils. Dog control, town planning and building control are particular areas of regulatory enforcement. The Council does not extend any part of its regulatory enforcement or infrastructure provision to those areas which are governed by Island or Community Councils.

The Town Plan for Torres Shire has been in existence for some time, and is highly prescriptive in terms of controlling land use. It extends to Albany, Dayman, Entrance, Friday, Goods, Horn, Little Adolphus, Mount Adolphus, Packe, Port Lihou, Possession, Prince of Wales, Thursday, Turtlehead and Wednesday Islands, as well as parts of the mainland. Future planning work will include working with the Lands Department in providing for more subdivision on Horn Island, providing for an increased population there from 600 to 2,000. This may be delayed by Kaurareg Land Council claims.

**Linkages :** the Council has strong links with the State Government agencies which provide funding or co-operate in works. Its links with Island Councils, the Islander Co-ordinating Council and the Torres Strait Regional Authority are very weak. There is also little contact with Cook Shire Council, despite the common boundary.

**Accountability :** the Council is accountable under the *Local Government Act*, and has statutory functions under a number of other State Government Acts. It is obliged to account for its financial dealings to the Attorney-General's Department. The Local Government Act, 1993, also provides for an increasing degree of public accountability to the electorate.

**Further Information Sources :** information brochure on Torres Shire Council, and the Council-sponsored Thursday Island Business and Community Directory.

## UMAGICO COMMUNITY COUNCIL

**Address :** C/o Post Office, Umagico, Q.4871  
tel : (070) 693 251

**Nature of Business :** the Council is responsible for local government and community functions under the provisions of the *Community Services (Aborigines) Act 1984* for the area included in the Umagico Community Deed of Grant in Trust Lands.

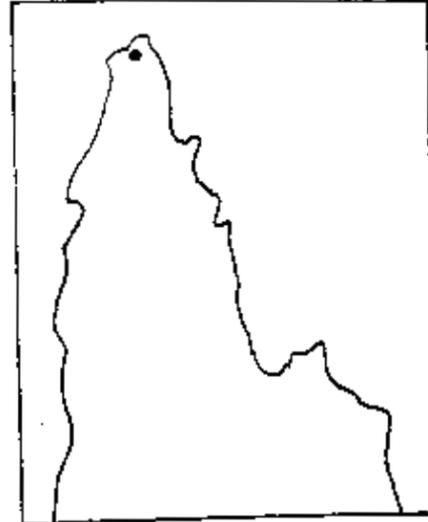
**Policies :** administration of community and provision of local government and community functions.

**Funding Sources :** Grants Commission funding is provided through the DHLGP for operation of local government functions, ATSIC provides funding for housing, operation of CDEP and other specific purpose grants, DFSAIA provides state government financial assistance, while other state government funding is provided through the relevant state agencies.

**Activities :** the Community Council has responsibility for control of buildings and land use, road construction and maintenance, water supply and wastewater and refuse disposal, in addition to provision and maintenance of housing, leasing of community land and establishment of community services.

**Accountability :** annual financial statements are required to be audited and submitted to the Attorney-General's Department.

**Further Information Sources :** Umagico Community Council 94/95 Budget.



## **WEIPA TOWN OFFICE**

**Address :** C/o Post Office, Weipa  
tel : (070) 698 426

**Nature of Business :** Comalco is responsible for administration of Weipa through the Town Office, which acts in the role of a local authority.

**Policies :** Infrastructure and service provision, planned development of Weipa town area and pursuit of town "normalisation" through formation of a Weipa Town Advisory Group.

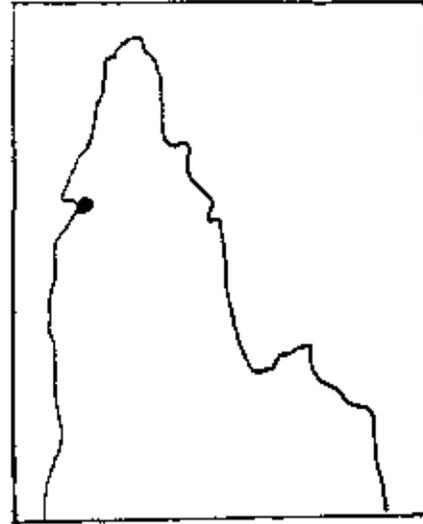
**Funding Sources :** Funded by Comalco and through "rates" levied on development lease sites (housing, industrial and commercial) in town area.

**Activities :** Performs the functions of local government - foreshore and open space maintenance, road maintenance, provision of water supply, sewerage and refuse disposal services, building control, public library, etc. Council employs a Town Manager and an Environmental Health Officer, Engineer, Librarian/Community Services Officer. The officer is responsible for the planned development of Weipa and has prepared a Strategic Plan which provides a guide for future development.

**Linkages :** With Napranum Aboriginal Community Council and Cook Shire Councils and the Cape York Peninsula Development Association.

**Accountability :** lines of responsibility and governing legislation

**Further Information Sources :** Weipa Town Office 94/95 Budget



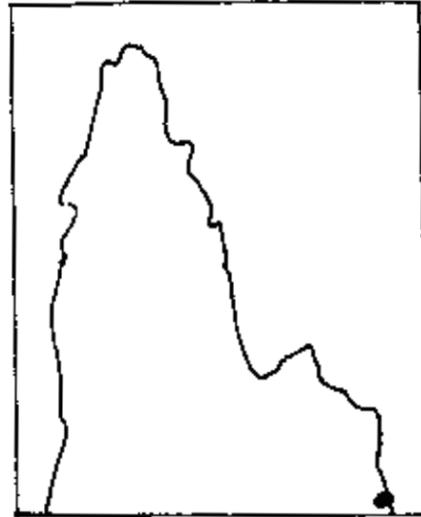
## WUJAL WUJAL COMMUNITY COUNCIL

**Address :** C/o Post Office, Wujal Wujal, Q.4871  
tel : (070 608 155

**Nature of Business :** Local government functions under the *Community Services (Aborigines) Act 1984*.

**Policies :** Provision of infrastructure, community development and commercial enterprises.

**Funding Sources :** Sources of funding include DHLGP - Grants Commission, ATSIC and DFSAIA. Council has recently received specific purpose grants for completion of a recreation hall and are undertaking preparation of a community development plan under Integrated Local Area Planning (ILAP) funding.



**Activities :** Includes road construction, water supply, sewerage, health services and refuse collection and disposal. The Council has extended its services to include community housing located in Ayton in Cook Shire and has entered into arrangements with Cook and Douglas Shire Councils to undertake road maintenance in the area. The ILAP project with Cook Shire will investigate opportunities to maximise service delivery to both communities through formal and informal arrangements. Wujal Wujal is currently investigating its administrative structure under the Alternative Governing Structures Program and is pursuing opportunities to expand its small land area through land transfers, purchase and claims.

**Linkages :** with State Government funding agencies, Cook and Douglas Shire Councils and the Ayton community which provides education and recreational opportunities.

**Accountability :** Council is required to have its financial statements audited and submitted to the Attorney-General's Department.

**Further Information Sources :** annual budget.

**OTHER ISLAND COMMUNITY COUNCILS  
(ESTABLISHED UNDER *THE COMMUNITY SERVICES (TORRES STRAIT)  
ACT 1984*)**

- BADU ISLAND COUNCIL**
- BOIGNU ISLAND COUNCIL**
- COCONUT ISLAND COUNCIL**
- DARNLEY ISLAND COUNCIL**
- DAUAN ISLAND COUNCIL**
- HAMMOND ISLAND COUNCIL**
- KUMBIN ISLAND COUNCIL**
- MABUIAG ISLAND COUNCIL**
- SAIBAI ISLAND COUNCIL**
- STEPHENS ISLAND COUNCIL**
- ST PAULS' ISLAND COUNCIL**
- SUE ISLAND COUNCIL**
- YAM ISLAND COUNCIL**
- YORKE ISLAND COUNCIL**

# **PART G**

## **DIRECTORY OF SEMI-GOVERNMENT AND NON-GOVERNMENT AGENCIES**

## ANG-GNARRA ABORIGINAL CORPORATION

**Address :** Peninsula Development Road, Laura, Q.4871

**Nature of Business :** Aboriginal Corporation established under the *Commonwealth Aboriginal Councils and Incorporations Act*. The Corporation comprises an elected Council with salaried administration staff.

**Catchment :** Aboriginal persons residing in the town of Laura and its environs.

**Funding Sources :** ATSIC provides the bulk of funding to the Corporation for administration and CDEP expenditure. The Corporation is able to apply for specific purpose funding from various state agencies including DHLGP and DFSAIA for housing and infrastructure provision.

**Activities :** the Corporation operate a number of enterprises in Laura including a caravan park, service station and cafe. The Corporation employs Community Rangers to assist with land management on Corporation land and within the town area. The rangers also guide visitors within the Quinkan Trust lands which contain an extensive collection of ancient Aboriginal art. A Biennial Dance Festival is organised by the Corporation for participants throughout Cape York Peninsula.

The Corporation has an active housing program and has completed construction of a number of new homes, seniors persons accommodation, and refurbishment of existing houses in town. This program is supported by a Strategic Management Plan prepared by the Corporation in January, 1993. The Corporation is exploring opportunities extend its landholdings through the claim of Reserve and Crown lands within the Town.

**Linkages :** with relevant funding agencies. The Corporation is closely involved with activities in the town of Laura and liaises with Cook Shire Council on various matters including a recent application for a new water supply for the town.

**CAIRNS AND FAR NORTH ENVIRONMENT CENTRE (CAFNEC)**

**Address :** Cominos House, Cairns.

**Nature of Organisation :** umbrella organisation operating as a peak conservation body representing some 18 national environmental member organisations in Far North Queensland including Cape York Peninsula.

**Catchment :** individuals and organisations with an environmental protection role in Far North Queensland.

**Funding Sources :** member subscriptions and government grants.

**Activities :** monitoring brief on development and land use activities within catchment area which have an environmental perspective. Representations to decision-making agencies and participation in land management programs such as CYPLUS to promote sound environmental management and the embracement of ecologically sustainable development principles in land use.

**Linkages :** primary functional linkages with environmental bodies including the Australian Conservation Foundation, the Wilderness Society, and the Queensland Conservation Council. Through the establishment of the Cape York Network, with the Cape York Land Council and the Aboriginal Co-ordinating Council.

**Accountability :** CAFNEC is accountable to its membership under the articles of incorporation. Financial accountability is provided by an internal audit submitted to the Attorney-General's Department annually.

**Further Information Sources :** refer to CAFNEC.

## CAPE YORK LAND COUNCIL

**Address :** 38 Grafton Street, Cairns, Q.4870, tel : (070) 519 077, Fax: (070) 510 097

**Nature of Business :** the Land Council is an Incorporated Aboriginal Association under the *Aboriginal Councils and Associations Act 1976* of which membership is open to adult Aboriginal persons with traditional or historical interests in Cape York Peninsula. A Governing Committee comprising not less than 18 elected members is responsible for managing and controlling the affairs of the Land Council, with day-to-day matters being the responsibility of an Executive Director.

**Policies :** policy positions on key issues affecting the objects of the Land Council are developed at the annual Land Summit which includes an Annual General Meeting and election of office bearers. Policies adopted at the October 1993 Land Summit included the Council's position on native title legislation, establishment of local land councils, CYPLUS, information ownership and control, Aboriginal Welfare Trust, proposed amendments to the *Community Services Act*, mining, tourism, reconciliation and *Aboriginal Land Act 1991*.

**Funding Sources :** funding is provided primarily through ATSIC.

**Activities :** the activities of the Cape York Land Council are derived from the Objects of its Rules of Incorporation. The principal object is:

"the relief of poverty, sickness, destitution, serious economic disadvantage, distress, suffering and misfortune of Aboriginal persons, communities and groups within Cape York Peninsula".

This object is achieved by:

- (a) facilitating return of traditional Aboriginal land to Aboriginal persons, and obtaining secure title to that land;
- (b) ascertaining the wishes, aspirations and opinions of Aboriginal persons relating to the management, use and control of traditional Aboriginal land within Cape York Peninsula, and promoting and providing assistance to give effect to those wishes, aspirations and opinions;
- (c) advancing and propagating education and learning generally amongst Aboriginal persons;
- (d) encouraging the continuation and preservation of traditional Aboriginal culture amongst Aboriginal persons, and the protection of members' intellectual property relating to traditional Aboriginal culture;
- (e) providing for the general social welfare of Aboriginal persons;
- (f) representing Aboriginal persons in all matters relating to land within, and human rights issues relating to, Cape York Peninsula;
- (g) assisting Aboriginal persons to protect sacred sites and sites of significance; and
- (h) assisting Aboriginal persons to return to their traditional lands."

The Land Council is currently preparing a Strategic Plan to describe its activities and policy directions.

**Linkages :** the primary linkages are to the Aboriginal Community Councils on Cape York Peninsula. There is also an important linkage with the Australian Conservation Foundation and environmental organisations through the Cape York Network proclaimed on 6 June, 1994 with the aim of establishing responsible regional conservation and protection while embracing Aboriginal land and cultural issues.

**Accountability :** an annual financial statement is required to be prepared and submitted for auditing while banking and accounting procedures are required to conform with the rules of incorporation.

**Further Information Sources :** rules of Cape York Land Council Aboriginal Corporation.

## **CAPE YORK PENINSULA PASTORAL ADVISORY GROUP**

**Nature of Organisation :** grass roots organisation with broad representation from the pastoral industry and state government agencies to promote issues and influence government policies affecting the pastoral industry on Cape York Peninsula.

**Catchment :** individuals and organisations involved in the pastoral industry on Cape York Peninsula.

**Funding Sources :** membership subscriptions and specific purpose government grants.

**Activities :** promoting the pastoral industry on Cape York Peninsula, serving as a lobby group to provide representations to formulation of government policy, participating in regional land use management studies such as CYPLUS and Mitchell River Watershed Management Group.

**Linkages :** informal linkages with other regional representative bodies including CYPDA and Cattlemen's Union (Far Northern Branch).

**Further Information Sources :** Bob Wincen (Co-ordinator)

## CAPE YORK PENINSULA DEVELOPMENT ASSOCIATION

**Nature of Business :** the Cape York Peninsula Development Association (CYPDA) was founded in 1987 and has worked from an advisory body to a position addressing a variety of economic and community development issues, across a broad cross-section of government and non-government organisations represented on Cape York Peninsula. An executive management committee of 12 members is elected annually, comprising three representatives each from the primary industry, housing and community, industry and commerce, and local government including Aboriginal and Islander Community Council sectors. A part-time secretariat has been established for day-to-day management of CYPDA affairs.

**Policies :** the mission statement of the CYPDA is "to enhance the quality of life of the people of Cape York Peninsula through economic and community development and, at the same time, to preserve their preferred life-style".

This is seen as being achieved through the facilitation of economic and community development in Cape York Peninsula when opportunities are identified, and to assist the people of CYP with the instability of change.

**Funding Sources :** the organisation is funded through members' subscriptions and applications for specific purpose grants to funding organisations to raise sufficient funds to qualify for equal contributions under the Department of Business, Industry and Regional Development's Regional Economic Development (REDS) Program.

**Activities :** the Association has prepared a Corporate Plan to put forward a case for funding a fully resourced Secretariat. The organisation provides a forum for dissemination of information from various levels of government and the establishment of networks between government and non-government agencies.

**Linkages :** linkages are informal through membership of CYPDA and via specific government funding.

**Accountability :** annual auditing of financial statement.

**Further Information Sources :** Corporate Plan 1993; Articles of Association; Cape York Tourism Workshop proceedings; CYPDA's Work Program 1993-95.

## **CAPE YORK TOURISM COUNCIL**

**Nature of Organisation :** a tourism committee of the Cape York Peninsula Development Association.

**Catchment :** membership of the Cape York Peninsula Development Association.

**Funding Sources :** membership subscriptions and specific purpose grants.

**Activities :** Tourism Committee established to address the management needs of the tourism industry in Cape York Peninsula and has promoted the hosting of Cape York Tourism Peninsula Workshops in 1992 and 1993 to bring together key players and develop appropriate strategies for the development and management of the tourism industry on Cape York Peninsula.

**Linkages :** with associated tourism organisations such as the Cooktown Tourism Association, the Far North Queensland Promotion Bureau, Queensland Tourist and Travel Corporation, and Pacific Asia Travel Association.

**Further Information Sources :** proceedings of Cape York Tourism Council's workshops held in Cooktown on 7 & 8 November, 1992, and 6 & 7 November, 1993, produced by the Cape York Peninsula Development Association Inc.

**COEN REGIONAL ABORIGINAL CORPORATION**

**Address :** Taylor Street, Coen

**Nature of Business :** Aboriginal Corporation established under the *Commonwealth Aboriginal Councils and Associations Act*. The Corporation comprises an elected Council supported by salaried staff.

**Catchment :** Aboriginal persons residing in the town of Coen and its environs.

**Funding Sources :** ATSIC provides the primary source of funding to the Corporation including the operation of a CDEP scheme. Other specific purpose grants are obtained from DHLGP, DFSAIA, and other state funding bodies.

**Activities :** the Corporation was formed from two separate corporations, Malpa Kincha and Moomba, which had previously operated in Coen. While these corporations continue to have a role for maintaining independent family associations, the Coen Regional Aboriginal Corporation (CRAC) is the umbrella organisation for funding purposes. The Corporation operates a CDEP scheme and recently produced a Community Development Plan which provides strategic directions for the organisation over the next few years.

**Linkages :** With funding bodies.

**Accountability :** to the Commonwealth Registrar of Aboriginal Corporations for accounting and administrative functions.

**Further Information Sources :** Coen Regional Aboriginal Corporation Community Development Plan. (August 1993).

## **GUNGARDE ABORIGINAL CORPORATION**

**Address :** Charlotte Street, Cooktown

**Nature of Business :** Aboriginal Corporation established under the *Commonwealth Aboriginal Councils and Associations Act*. The Corporation comprises an elected Council supported by salaried administrative staff.

**Catchment :** Aboriginal persons residing in the town of Cooktown and its environs.

**Funding Sources :** ATSIC provides funding for the operation of the Corporation including the management of a CDEP scheme and other specific purpose grants. The state government provides specific purpose funding by DFSAIA and DHLGP for housing and infrastructure provision.

**Activities :** the Gungarde Aboriginal Corporation is active in the Cooktown community and operates a number of commercial enterprises including an artefacts factory and showroom, school bus, and workshop and garage. The Corporation has developed a community hall which is available for private hire and operates a CDEP garden maintenance gang which cares for Corporation land as well as being available for contracting to the broader community.

The Corporation is presently completing a Community Development Plan which will assist in finalising proposals for the Reserve land located in Helen Street. A housing development program has been underway on the site and the Corporation intends further developing the site for a range of housing and community service uses.

**Linkages :** with funding bodies, primarily ATSIC. The Corporation has limited linkages with Cook Shire Council which could be strengthened by the development of a closer working relationship on issues such as service delivery. The opportunities for this will be further examined as part of the Cook Shire / Wujal Wujal Community Council ILAP project which is to commence shortly.

**Accountability :** to the Commonwealth Registrar of Aboriginal Corporations for administration and accounting purposes.

**Further Information Sources :** Gungarde Aboriginal Corporation Office.

## **KOWANYAMA ABORIGINAL LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES AGENCY**

**Address :** The Mall, Post Office, Kowanyama, tel: (070) 605 187

**Nature of Organisation :** established in 1990 under the joint direction of the Kowanyama Aboriginal Council (elected representatives) and the Kowanyama Council of Elders (Traditional Land Owners) to manage land and natural resources.

**Nature of Business :** the agency (referred to as the office) operates on a firm policy of responding to the Elders' concerns about land and natural resources management issues with extensive community involvement. Key principles of the agency are self-governance, recognition of traditional interest, community participation, common ground, community unity, use of technical expertise, and commitment to bargaining and negotiation.

**Catchment :** the Kowanyama Aboriginal Community

**Funding Sources :** the Department of Primary Industries provides funding for employment of a full-time ranger as a Fisheries Inspector, income from issue of camping permits contributes towards a helicopter surveillance program, and other specific purpose grants from funding bodies.

**Activities :** development of programs for management of land and water resources. Tourist visitation is managed with access fees contributing towards the use of aerial surveillance as part of a local fisheries enforcement program. The agency has successfully negotiated commercial and recreational closures of large areas of the Mitchell River delta waterways to protect future fish stocks and habitat and has recently conducted a freshwater fish survey. The agency was instrumental in establishing the Mitchell River Watershed management Group and played a pivotal role in the formation of the Cape York Network.

**Linkages :** strong linkages with the Mitchell River Watershed Management Group and the Department of Primary Industries.

**Accountability :** to the relevant government funding bodies, particularly the Department of Primary Industries and to the Kowanyama Community Council and Council of Elders.

**Further Information Sources :** Kowanyama Aboriginal Land and Natural Resources Management Office Strategic Directions 1994.

**MARPUNA ABORIGINAL CORPORATION**

**Address :** Red Beach, via Weipa, tel : (070) 698 117.

**Nature of Organisation :** Aboriginal Corporation established under the *Commonwealth Aboriginal Councils and Associations Act*. The Corporation comprises an elected Council supported by salaried staff.

**Catchment :** Aboriginal persons whose traditional lands were located at Marpuna and who had been previously removed from the settlement with the closure of the mission.

**Funding Sources :** CDEP funding through ATSIC for provision of wages, administration and some infrastructure. Certain infrastructure, eg bores and dam provided by Comalco. Specific purpose grants from DHLGP and DFSAIA.

**Activities :** administration of CDEP funding, development of housing and community infrastructure on Aboriginal Reserve land. Re-establishment of Old Mapoon township, development of adequate community infrastructure and attainment of self-government, as a Community Council. Management of tourism access and camping.

**Linkages :** the Council has links with Napranum Aboriginal Community Council, Weipa Town Office and Comalco, and Cook Shire Council, and with various funding agencies.

**Accountability :** the Corporation is financially accountable under its terms of incorporation to the Commonwealth Registrar of Aboriginal Corporations.

**Further Information Sources :** Marpuna Community Aboriginal Corporation

**MITCHELL RIVER WATERSHED MANAGEMENT GROUP**

**Address :** C/o Post Office, Mitchell River, Q. 4871

**Nature of Organisation :** a voluntary organisation set up initially to manage land use activities within the catchment of the Mitchell River system to control the effects on downstream water quality and resources, principally within the Kowanyama Aboriginal Community lands.

**Catchment :** comprises individuals, organisations and agencies with land interests, resource deposits, or responsibility for land management within the catchment of the Mitchell River system. Members include voluntary representatives from pastoral, mining, tourism, aboriginal, fishing and environmental sectors, and approximately 16 participating government officers.

**Funding Sources :** specific purpose government grants through LandCare and the Department of Primary Industries Model Catchment Management program, and assistance in kind from member organisations.

**Activities :** the preparation and dissemination of information to the broader community and input to regional land management forums such as CYPLUS. The group meets quarterly in conjunction with a field-based workshop or activity focussing on one group or sector. The aim of the organisation is to co-manage the Mitchell River catchment using an integrated approval to sustain the natural resources and bio-diversity of the river system.

**Linkages :** strong membership linkages with local government, in particular with Kowanyama Community Council, Kowanyama Aboriginal Land and Natural Resources Agency, and Mareeba Shire Council and with the Department of Primary Industries, CAFNEC, the Queensland Commercial Fisherman's Organisation, and Red Dome Gold Mine.

**Accountability :** accountability to membership under the Articles of Incorporation and to funding bodies. Financial statements required to be audited and submitted to the Attorney-General's Department.

**Further Information Sources :** publications produced by the Mitchell River Catchment Management Group.

## PORT KENNEDY ASSOCIATION INCORPORATED

**Address :** Douglas Street, Thursday Island, Q. 4875, tel and fax : (070) 692 306

**Nature of Organisation :** Community activities, services, and projects, as per the aims and objectives outlined in the Port Kennedy Association constitution listed below:

- *to advise Federal and State Governments on matters affecting the lifestyle of Aboriginal, Torres Strait Islander and other residents in the Port Kennedy area;*
- *to make recommendations to Federal and State Governments about funding in the Port Kennedy area in order that priorities be established according to the various needs of Communities and Organisations in that area;*
- *to assist in establishing services for Communities and Organisations in the Port Kennedy area;*
- *to assist unified action and equality of representation in dealings by the residents of the Port Kennedy area with Federal and State Governments, Local Government, and commercial enterprises;*
- *to liaise with all Government Departments in the Port Kennedy area to facilitate their achievement of their aims and projects; and*
- *to promote the interests of the members of the Association and residents of the Port Kennedy area in maintaining their Australian National citizenship and identity.*

**Catchment :** interested persons shown on the Electoral Roll for the State of Queensland seat of Cook as being residentially qualified for membership, and nominated by two existing members of PKA.

**Funding Sources :** various funding bodies including community fund raising, social nights, raffles, and Government grants.

**Activities :** Mura Kaimel Playgroup Programme, Enrichment Programme, Social Worker Services, Vacation Care Programme, other community activities including sponsorship to other organisation in the Port Kennedy area (Clean-up Australia Day, Australia Day Holiday fun in the Park Activities). Sponsor 1994 annual cultural festival, and youth recreational activities. Participating in regional Land Use Management Study (CYPLUS) and Carols by Candlelight.

**Linkages :** other Community organisations, Torres Strait Regional Authority, State, Local and Federal Governments, and general community.

**Accountability :** PKA is accountable in all aspects to its membership, including an annual audit, and also to funding organisations (State and Commonwealth).

## **ROYAL FLYING DOCTOR SERVICE OF AUSTRALIA**

**Address :** 1 Junction Street, Edge Hill, Q. 4870, tel : (070) 531 952

**Nature of Business :** provide primary health service to rural areas, with a mixture of health services. Provide clinics in remote locations, and immunisation programs for young children. Air service for patients needing to travel for Secondary and Tertiary health care.

**Funding sources :** 3 separate funding sources - Queensland Health, Commonwealth Government and a proportion of funding through donations, fund raising, etc. To June 1994, 16% raised through Royal Flying Doctor Service, 44% Queensland Health, and 40% Government (not including capital).

**Accountability :** accountable to the Board of Directors and Queensland Health.

**Information sources :** annual reports to Queensland Health and Government re financial position and services provided. Also provides a Public Annual Report.

# **PART H**

## **INDEX OF ALL AGENCIES AND ACRONYMS**

## PART H : INDEX OF ALL AGENCIES & ACRONYMS

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**ACRONYMS**

<b>ABRS:</b>	Australian Biological Resources Study
<b>ABS:</b>	Australian Bureau of Statistics
<b>ABSTUDY:</b>	Aboriginal Study
<b>ACC:</b>	Aboriginal Community Councils
<b>ACRES:</b>	Australian Centre for Remote Sensing
<b>AEC:</b>	Australian Electoral Commission
<b>AGPS:</b>	Australian Government Printing Service
<b>AGSP:</b>	Alternative Governing Structures Program
<b>AGSP:</b>	Australian Government Structures Program
<b>AHC:</b>	Australian Heritage Commission
<b>AIDAB:</b>	Australian International Development Assistance Bureau
<b>ANCA:</b>	Australian Nature Conservation Agency
<b>AOTC:</b>	Australian & Overseas Telecommunications Corporation
<b>ATSIC:</b>	Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander Commission
<b>ATSICDC:</b>	Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander Commercial Development Corporation
<b>AUSLIG:</b>	Australian Surveying & Land Information Group
<b>CAA:</b>	Civil Aviation Authority
<b>CAAA:</b>	<i>Civil Aviation Authority Act</i>
<b>CAFNEC:</b>	Cairns & Far North Environment Centre
<b>CDEP:</b>	Commonwealth Development Employment Program
<b>CDP:</b>	Commonwealth Development Program
<b>CEPA:</b>	Commonwealth Environmental Protection Agency
<b>CES:</b>	Commonwealth Employment Service
<b>CHEM:</b>	Chemical Hazards & Emergency Management
<b>CITEC:</b>	Communication & Information Technology
<b>CJC:</b>	Criminal Justice Commission
<b>CRAC:</b>	Coen Regional Aboriginal Corporation
<b>CSIRO:</b>	Commonwealth Scientific & Industrial Research Organisation
<b>CYPDA:</b>	Cape York Peninsula Development Association
<b>CYPLUS:</b>	Cape York Peninsula Land Use Strategy
<b>DAAS:</b>	Department of Arts & Administrative Services
<b>DBIRD:</b>	Department of Business Industry & Regional Development
<b>DCP:</b>	Development Control Planning
<b>DEET:</b>	Department Employment, Education & Training
<b>DEH:</b>	Department Environment & Heritage
<b>DFSAIA:</b>	Department Family Services & Aboriginal & Islander Affairs
<b>DHLGP:</b>	Department of Housing, Local Government and Planning
<b>DPIE:</b>	Primary Industries & Energy Department
<b>EARC:</b>	Electoral & Administrative Review Commission
<b>EARC:</b>	Electoral & Reforms Commission
<b>EMOS's:</b>	Environmental Management Overview Strategies
<b>ERIN:</b>	Environmental Resources Information Network

ESD:	Ecologically Sustainable Development
ESD:	Emergency Services Department
EST:	Environment, Sport and Territories Department
FNQEB:	Far North Queensland Electricity Board
GBRMPA:	Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority
GLADA:	Gulf Local Authorities Development Association
ICC:	Islander Co-ordinating Council
ICM:	Integrated Catchment Management
IDAS:	Integrated Development Approval System
ILAP:	Integrated Local Area Planning
KALNRMO:	Kowanyama Aboriginal Land & National Resource Management
LARP:	Local Approvals Review Program
LOTE:	Languages Other than English
MERLIN:	Minerals & Energy Locational Information Network
PAC:	Public Accounts Committee
PSMC:	Public Sector Management Commission
QCSC:	Queensland Corrective Services Commission
QDHLGP:	Queensland Department of Housing & Local Government Planning
QEC:	Queensland Electricity Commission
QEDS:	Queensland Export Development Scheme
QIDC:	Queensland Industry Development Corporation
QTTC:	Queensland Tourism & Travel Corporation
RAAF:	Royal Australian Air Force
RAN:	Royal Australian Navy
REDS:	Regional Economic Development Scheme
TAFE:	Technical and Further Education
TCM:	Total Catchment Management
WTMA:	Wet Tropics Management Authority

**APPENDIX 1 - TERMS OF REFERENCE**

- Prepare a detailed outline and analysis of the scope and extent of the project, the format for the reports and directory and an assessment of the likely future uses for this material.
- Prepare current status report of following reviews:
  - EARC and local government boundary reviews;
  - Legislative Review Committee report;
  - environmental planning legislation and IDAS;
  - ILAP.
- Prepare current status report on policies applying to the following Acts:
  - Lands Act;
  - Nature Conservation Act;
  - Aboriginal and Islander Land Acts;
  - State and Commonwealth Native Title Acts;
  - other relevant land use, management and tenure legislation.
- Compile a directory of roles, responsibilities and activities of Government agencies, local government authorities, non-government organisations and community groups in CYP.
- Prepare a report describing the formal and informal framework within which the CYP government, non-government and community organisations work, the interrelationships between them and an analysis of the administrative processes.