



## **Media Release**

### **Banana Shire Council**

**29 November 2017**

#### **LINKES ROAD CROSSING COMPLETION**

Construction is nearing completion on the Linkes Road Crossing project on the outskirts of Biloela.

The 2015 Betterment Fund was a joint Commonwealth-Queensland Government initiative under the Natural Disaster Relief and Recovery Arrangements (NDRRA). A \$20 million Betterment Fund was available to councils activated for NDRRA assistance as a result of Tropical Cyclone Marcia, and was jointly funded by the Commonwealth and State governments.

The intent of betterment is to increase the resilience of Queensland communities to natural disasters, while at the same time reducing future expenditure on asset restoration, reducing incidents, injuries and fatalities during and after natural disasters. It is also intended for improving asset utility during and after natural disasters.

The 2015 Framework for Betterment allowed local councils to restore or replace essential public assets damaged by Tropical Cyclone Marcia to a more disaster-resilient standard. The 2015 Betterment Fund has been managed by the Queensland Reconstruction Authority (QRA).

Linkes Road Crossing was chosen as a Betterment Project as it has been impacted numerous times from different events. The crossing was lowered to be more disaster-resilient which means that there will, at times, be water over the crossing. During these times motorists must be vigilant and follow speed/road closed signs as directed.

Council would like to thank the Commonwealth Government and the QRA for the provision of Betterment funding.

“I am pleased with the project and would once again like to thank the Queensland and Commonwealth Governments for their funding; we look forward to the benefit that a more resilient Linkes Road will bring to the community.”

Linkes Road is expected to be re-open by Friday 8 December 2017.

Councillor Neville Ferrier  
Mayor, Banana Shire Council

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**MEDIA NOTE: For further information or media comment, contact Mayor Neville Ferrier, on (07) 4992 9500 or 0448 011 814.**