Cook Shire COUNCIL

MEDIA RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Events centre works on track

January 16, 2018 COOKTOWN

An expensive roofing upgrade will not be needed at Cooktown's Events Centre after cyclone testing proved the current roof was compliant.

Cook Shire Council has just completed Stage 2A of an upgrade program designed to bring the centre's main hall, foyer and toilets up to cyclone shelter standards. Stage 1 was completed in 2016, after discrepancies identified in 2015 meant the building could only be classified as a place of refuge. Stage 2A included a new mechanical room addition which houses the centre's new generator and backup batteries, as well as ventilation plenums to improve natural airflow in the main hall and fans. The first stage included drainage works to provide a high flow stormwater path around the building, as well as glazing, latch and bolt upgrades, weatherproofing and roller door and debris screen replacement.

"We are actively seeking funding to complete the remaining works stages," Cook Shire Council Infrastructure Works Director Robert Uebergang said. "Works in the final stage will include replacing the centre's ceiling to the correct pressure rating for a cyclone shelter."

The project to date has been funded by Cook Shire Council and \$1.63 million from the Queensland Government's 2015-16 Community Resilience Program. The remaining works are expected to cost about \$1 million.

For more information contact Council's Infrastructure Services team via email at mail@cook.qld.gov.au or phone on 4069 5444.

The Cooktown Events Centre Cyclone Shelter Accelerated Works Program is a joint initiative of Cook Shire Council and the Queensland Government.

~ end ~