

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Community Blitz program to build disaster resiliency in Lakeland and Laura

November 18, 2019

COOKTOWN

Cook Shire Council staff and community volunteers will descend on Lakeland and Laura next week to prepare properties and public spaces for the upcoming monsoon season and boost fire safety as part of Council's ongoing Community Blitz program.

The Blitz program began last year in Coen, with Council staff, community volunteers and stakeholder groups providing a community improvement program to tackle issues identified by residents. The program was so successful it has now been rolled out at the Cooktown Cemetery and will next week be taken to Lakeland and Laura, thanks to funding from the State and Federal government's Community Development Program. "We will be removing weeds, abandoned vehicles and fire hazards and clearing blocked drains and undertaking minor repairs and painting works," Cook Shire Mayor Peter Scott said. "The Blitzes are not only important because of the improvements made for residents, but also in bringing the community together to build resiliency in preparation for the disaster season."

The Blitz will kick off in Lakeland on Monday and Tuesday, and head to Laura from Wednesday to Friday, with a focus on raising awareness of the Queensland Reconstruction Authority's Get Ready disaster preparation program. In Lakeland there will be a school visit with giveaways on Tuesday, November 26, followed by a community barbecue at the school at 1pm. In Laura there will be a school talk with Queensland Fire and Emergency Services (QFES) on Wednesday, November 27, and an emergency preparedness quiz with a lucky draw entry prize of a chainsaw, followed by a community barbecue, activities and games provided by the Cooktown District Community Centre and QFES at 5.30pm at the town hall. On Thursday, November 28 the Department of Housing and Public Works will hold a community barbecue at the town hall at 12noon.

Although funding for this product has been provided by both the Australian and Queensland Governments, the material contained herein does not necessarily represent the views of either Government.

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