



Kowanyama News



January 2026

Farewell to 2025 ...

As we look back on 2025, I want to acknowledge the strength and spirit of our people, Mayor Territa Dick writes ...

This past year reminded us of the power of culture, family, and community working together. From our young ones learning from Elders to the dedication shown across every part of Kowanyama, we have much to be proud of.

Stepping into 2026, we carry that same spirit forward. New projects, better opportunities, and continued growth are on the horizon. I'm excited for what this year will bring as we walk together, honouring our past and shaping a strong future for Kowanyama.

Territa



Council was pleased to host Federal Member for Leichhardt Matt Smith during his visit to community in December.

Mr Smith met with Mayor Territa Dick, Acting CEO Mark Crawley and several Councillors to discuss key projects and priorities, including an update on the planned Disaster Resilience Centre.

During the visit, Mr Smith also spent time with Elders at the Aged Care Centre and met with the Women's Group to hear about their ongoing work in the community.

He heard about the achievements of young resident Carl Douglas Jr and his recent journey to Utah and the work of our Land and Sea Rangers.

The visit concluded with the presentation of cultural gifts by community members, acknowledging the significance of connection and respect.

We look forward to having him back in community next year.



The 2025 Community Christmas Party at the Kowanyama Hall was a joyful gathering that brought together families, Elders, and children from across our Kokomenjena, Kokoberra, and Kunjen communities.

Looking forward to 2026 ...

The first Ordinary Council Meeting of 2026 was held at the Studio while important renovations continue at the Council building.

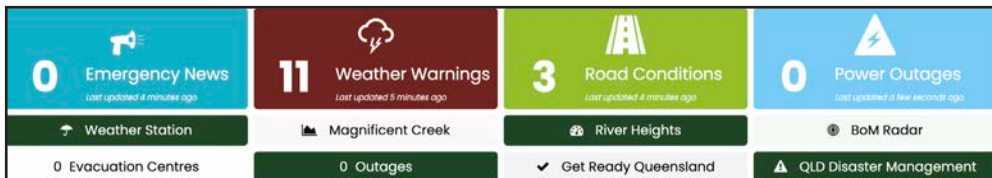
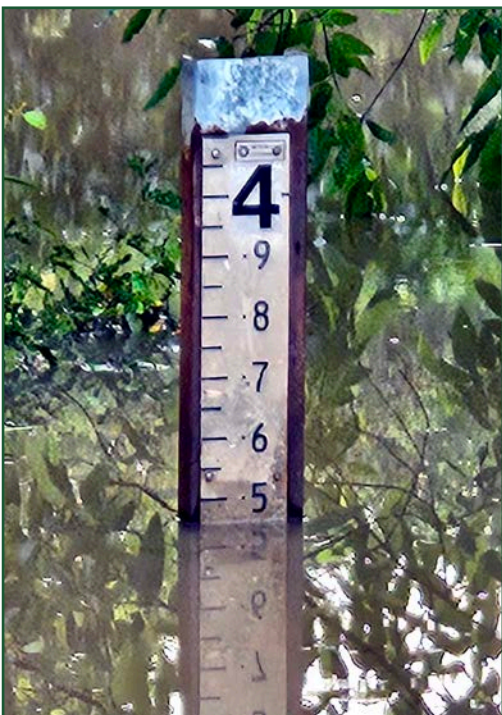


Councillors received detailed updates from Operations on the many projects already underway, as well as several new initiatives scheduled to begin later in the year.

These projects focus on strengthening community infrastructure, improving services, and supporting long-term development.

While more information will be shared as each project progresses, it is already shaping up to be a productive year.

The Mayor, Deputy Mayor, and Councillors are excited to continue serving the community and working together for a strong and positive 2026.



This month, our Local Disaster Management Group (LDMG) was activated, at one stage set to 'Lean Forward', due to the tropical low and the impact on the roads and the levels within Magnificent Creek.

The Creek rose to a moderate 3.9metres.

The LDMG helped to ensure the community was well prepared, with good supplies of food and fuel across the outlets in Kowanyama.

Roads are closed in various locations and likely to remain so.

Our new Disaster Dashboard (above) can be accessed from the Council's website and has important information in relation to disaster and weather information and how to best prepare for natural disasters.

Kowanyama will join communities across the country to take part in Clean Up Australia Day on Sunday 1 March.

This event is a great opportunity for our families, young people, Elders, and community members to come together and help keep our streets, grassed areas, and public spaces clean and beautiful.

Caring for Country is an important part of who we are,

and every small effort makes a big difference.



Council encourages everyone to get involved—pick up litter, tidy around your home, or join one of the community clean-up areas.

By working together, we can create a cleaner, healthier Kowanyama for all and show pride in the place we call home.



**Kowanyama
Aboriginal
Shire Council**



(07) 4083 7100



admin@kowanyama.qld.gov.au



kowanyama.qld.gov.au

Kowanyama News was edited and produced by Christine Howes: www.chowes.com.au