



Queensland Local Government – Doing More with Less

The Cook Shire, Resiliency Blitz Programme was developed as a means of creating community pride and addressing some of the challenges facing communities across the Shire. Kicking off in Coen, a community improvement programme tackled issues identified by residents and local agencies such as an accumulation of abandoned vehicles, rubbish, overgrown vegetation and run-down Council facilities.

Council staff visited residents to discuss priorities and, as part of the school's curriculum, students had the opportunity to produce posters promoting how to recycle and keep communities healthy. Council donated gardening equipment, worm farms, compost bins and plants. The Coen waste transfer station was cleared and prepared for the coming wet season. Approximately 15 tons of waste was collected from the community including three semitrailer loads from the remote coastal community of Port Stewart. Repairs, re-painting and cleaning of community buildings and removal of 42 abandoned vehicles occurred during the 3-day blitz.

The blitz was so successful that it was repeated in other communities including Lakeland and Laura, where works included street sweeping, vegetation clearing and removal, drain clearing, painting and drainage repairs at the airport, refurbishing the community halls, repairing public amenities, cemetery maintenance and a house numbering and street plan. A blitz of activity generating a huge result.

To find out more about this programme for application in your own area, visit <https://tinyurl.com/y8klzf59>

The Cook Shire Council Resiliency Blitz is a contender in the 2020 Queensland Local Government Awards for Excellence as an exemplar of Community Shaping and also of Doing More with Less.

