



## **AGENDA**

### **Ordinary Meeting**

**To be held at Council Chambers  
Sir Albert Abbott Administration Building  
73 Gordon Street, Mackay**

**On Wednesday 26 June 2024**

**Commencing at 10:00 AM**

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- 1. ATTENDANCE**
- 2. OPENING PRAYER**
- 3. ABSENT ON COUNCIL BUSINESS**
- 4. APOLOGIES**
- 5. CONDOLENCES**
- 6. CONFLICT OF INTEREST**
- 7. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES**
  - 7.1. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES - 22 MAY 2024**

**THAT** the Ordinary Meeting Minutes dated 22 May 2024 be adopted.
- 8. BUSINESS ARISING OUT OF PREVIOUS MINUTES**

**UPDATE ON QUESTIONS ARISING FROM COUNCIL MEETING – 22 MAY 2024**

MEETING DATE	AGENDA ITEM	MATTER	RESPONSE
22 May 2024	11.1.3	<p>Chief Executive Officer's Monthly Review Report - April 2024 Question on Notice -</p> <p>Cr Jones asked what the YTD figure for library loans was, noting the CEO report stated the library loans for the prior month at 73,595.</p>	<p>The Total YTD (July 1 to April 30): Library loans are at 779,546 of that 221,976 were digital loans</p>
22 May 2024	11.2.2	<p>Operational Plan Quarterly Report - Third Quarter 2023-2024 Question on Notice -</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• What are the organisational impacts of the Asset Management actions in the Operational Plan report being below target?</li> <li>• What are the budget implications of some of the Northern Beaches Community Hub program being pushed to next year?</li> </ul>	<p>With the new Executive Manager starting there has been a high-level review of all asset management activities, noting that there are many great initiatives continuing and gaining momentum which assist in reaching the KPIs referenced. The 2 individual KPIs referred to as being below target are not negatively impacting the organisation, and the asset management function continues to mature with greater levels of engagement across the organisation than historically seen. We have recently awarded an external party to undertake the Strategic Asset Management Plan (SAMP) review and as part of this process Councillors will be engaged via a future briefing. The percentages identified for these KPIs are not truly representative of the work which has occurred, and we expect to see a marked increase in percentages achieved at the end of the FY.</p> <p>In relation to Stage 1 A and the current budget allocation for the Multipurpose facility this project was always forecast to go over two financial years in FY23/24 and FY24/25 to get finalised. The additional deferral of funds from 23/24 FY into 24/25 FY due to weather impacts doesn't impact the capital budget as its simply a change in cash forecast with the project still forecast to be delivered in the next FY. The unspent funds will need to be carried over into FY24/25.</p>

**9. MAYORAL MINUTES**

**10. CONSIDERATION OF COMMITTEE REPORTS & RECOMMENDATIONS**

**10.1. VISUAL ARTS ADVISORY COMMITTEE (VAAC) MINUTES 27052024**

<b>Author</b>	Director Artspace Mackay (Tracey Heathwood)
<b>Responsible Officer</b>	Director Community Services (Janine Mckay)
<b>File Reference</b>	Visual Arts Advisory Committee (VAAC)

<b>Attachments</b>	1. VAAC Minutes 27 May 2024 [ <b>10.1.1</b> - 7 pages]
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**Purpose**

Attached is a copy of the Visual Arts Advisory Committee (VAAC) minutes of 27 May 2024 for information.

**Related Parties**

N/A

**Operational Plan Linkage**

This links to various corporate objectives and strategies within the corporate plan.

**Officer's Recommendation**

THAT the minutes of the Visual Arts Advisory Committee meeting held on 27 May 2024 be received.

**Mackay Regional Council  
Visual Arts Advisory Committee (VAAC) Meeting  
27 May 2024 – 1pm JCC Training Room**

**MINUTES**

**Attendance:** Kerry Smith (Chair), Director Community Services Janine McKay, Artspace Mackay Director Tracey Heathwood, Artspace Exhibitions Curator Lauren Turton, Glenda Hobdell, Bern Howlett, Leonie Wood, Isaac Fatnowna; Bridie Weaver (guest); Kathryn Smith (minutes).


**Apologies:** Nil

The meeting opened at 1.05pm

Acknowledgement of Country

Nominations to Chair this meeting called for – VAAC Committee Member Kerry Smith agreed to Chair

Introduction to Bridie Weaver, Arts & Cultural Advisor from Banana Shire Council, currently spending some time with the Artspace team

ITEM	COMMENTS	ACTION
<p><b>1. Minutes of the previous Meeting</b></p>	<p>The Minutes of the meeting held on 27 November 2023, having been previously distributed, were accepted as a true and accurate record.</p>  <p>VAAC Minutes 27 November 2023.doc</p>	<p>All actions underway</p> <p>Updated Terms of Reference endorsed and distributed.</p>
<p><b>2. Matters arising</b></p>	<p>nil</p>	
<p><b>3. Acquisition Proposal 2024: 1-5 Print Commission Prints</b></p>	<p>Tracey explained the temporary closure of Artspace has afforded curatorial and exhibitions team time to dedicate to the existing art collection.</p> <p>A full collection audit had uncovered some items which have been in store but were not considered part of the Art Collection and needed to be researched for provenance, having come into Artspace in an unconventional way in the past. The team</p>	<p>Tracey/Lauren to forward documentation to VAAC representative and DCS for signature.</p>

ITEM	COMMENTS	ACTION
	<p>has researched these, identifying some items now to put to this committee for formally accessioning into the Art Collection. Many of these have been displayed in offices throughout Mackay Regional Council. Some have merit and fit with Art Collection priorities.</p> <p>Lauren spoke to the items which had been purchased from Print Council of Australia Print Commission and had never officially been accessioned to the Mackay Regional Council Art Collection. Historically, through subscriptions, some prints were given to Artspace.</p> <p>Details presented to VAAC for review:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 2024.1 – Elizabeth Banfield, Letter to the lost</li> <li>• 2024.2 – Jenny Kitchener, In the service of trees: Bird pollinators</li> <li>• 2024.3 – Jo Lankester, Cortex – Balding bay walking track</li> <li>• 2024.4 – John Rylie, Untitled</li> <li>• 2024.5 - Sophie Szilagyi, Where shadows lie (diptych)</li> </ul> <p>Request that these be approved to be added to the collection.</p> <p>The VAAC unanimously agreed to acquire the prints for the Mackay Regional Council Art Collection.</p>	
<p><b>4. Acquisition Proposal 2024: 6 Autumn Skuthorpe</b></p>	<p><i>Book of Sorrow #0017</i>: Artwork was viewed and noted that Artspace does have a couple of other items by Autumn Skuthorpe and this artwork fits in with items already in the Collection. Autumn had donated this to Artspace and does not expect to have it returned.</p> <p>Noted that Autumn is a significant local artist and has been at Crossroad Arts for around 17 years.</p> <p>Request that this be approved to be added to the Collection.</p>	<p>Tracey/Lauren to forward documentation to VAAC representative and DCS for signature.</p>



ITEM	COMMENTS	ACTION
	The VAAC unanimously agreed to acquire the artwork for the Mackay Regional Council Art Collection.	
<p><b>5. Acquisition Proposal: 2024: 7</b> <b>Victoria Cooper / Doug Spowart</b></p>	<p><i>#21 Artist Survey Book: Maps and Ode to the Toyota Tarago:</i> Research shows that this had likely been gifted to the gallery during an event or visit. Provenance had been acknowledged and artists are happy to give ownership to the gallery – there is a long history supporting Artspace.</p> <p>The VAAC unanimously agreed to acquire the artwork for the Mackay Regional Council Art Collection.</p>	Tracey/Lauren to forward documentation to VAAC representative and DCS for signature.
<p><b>6. Acquisition Proposal: 2024: 8</b> <b>Jas Duke, Peter Lyssiotis, Vivenne Mehes</b></p>	<p><i>Industrial Woman:</i> This had been attributed in the Collection as a reference book from early days of Artspace. Curatorial staff have identified that this should be re-acquisitioned/recognised as an artist's book in the Art Collection. This is part of an overall collection of work and is relevant to existing works in the Collection.</p> <p>The VAAC unanimously agreed to acquire this artwork for the Mackay Regional Council Art Collection.</p>	Tracey/Lauren to forward documentation to VAAC representative and DCS for signature.
<p><b>7. Acquisition Proposal: 2024: 9</b> <b>Townsville College of Tafe students 1989</b></p>	<p><i>Printmakers 1989:</i> These were acquired by Mackay City Council Libraries in the early 1990's and have been in storage at the gallery for some time. It had been initially thought they didn't have merit but on review, propose keeping as they show the early days of printmaking practice in North Queensland and should therefore be acknowledged for this.</p> <p>The VAAC unanimously agreed to accept the artwork to the Mackay Regional Council Art Collection.</p>	Tracey/Lauren to forward documentation to VAAC representative and DCS for signature.

ITEM	COMMENTS	ACTION
<p><b>8. Acquisition Proposal: 2024: 10 Townsville College of Tafe students 1990</b></p>	<p><i>Printmakers 1990</i>: This is the second book in the series as above. It was acknowledged that Townsville's James Cook University was a printmaking hub and this limited-edition book fits with the identified collection priorities, diversify the existing holdings of prints by North Queensland artists.</p> <p>The VAAC unanimously agreed to accept the book to the Mackay Regional Council Art Collection.</p>	<p>Tracey/Lauren to forward documentation to VAAC representative and DCS for signature.</p>
<p><b>9. Acquisition Proposal: Glen Skien gift (approx. 46 works)</b></p>	<p><i>46 individual multipart artworks</i>: Glen Skien's gifts had been discussed at previous meetings, Glen's work is of great significance to Mackay region. Glen left these items some time ago. They have now been assessed and 46 artworks have been identified as being in good condition and suitable for collection. This is about half of the work Glen left with Artspace. Condition and overall story as well as space were all considered. Artspace has a lot of Glen's work and it is felt this significant donation will complement the Collection. It is a significant gift, being mostly visual diaries, and shows how Glen's work has progressed over the past 20 years.</p> <p>Tracey commended Lauren and Team on a thorough job sorting through this donation, in a meticulous and methodical manner. This is the largest holding of artworks by Glen Skien anywhere and with Glen's connection to the region, it is appropriate this is held in Mackay.</p> <p>The works that haven't made it into Artspace collection (eg works that were not complete, in poor condition and/or couldn't be exhibited) will be packaged appropriately and transported back to Glen. A conversation has been held with Glen and he is happy with this proposal.</p> <p>The VAAC unanimously agreed to accept this significant collection to the Mackay Regional Council Art Collection.</p>	<p>Tracey/Lauren to forward documentation to VAAC representative and DCS for signature.</p>

ITEM	COMMENTS	ACTION
<p><b>10. Deaccession Proposal – 2007.7</b>  <b>10 Prints from the Introduction to Dimensional Printmaking Workshop</b></p>	<p><i>10 Prints from the Introduction to Dimensional Printmaking workshop, held at Artspace Mackay, February 2005.</i></p> <p>These items do not fit into the Art Collection priority areas for various reasons. They resulted from an experimental printmaking workshop at Artspace and there is no evidence of conversations or context as to why these should be in the Collection.</p> <p>The process of deaccession was explained: this is required when prints were acquired without a rigorous process, in a less formal manner than what is currently in place.</p> <p>Query what happens to the work when it is identified for de-accession: there is a process with steps: firstly officers try to offer back to artist, sometimes artists may not want it, or are difficult to contact. A cooling off period then follows. Then the final action is to get rid of the work and it is completely destroyed. This can be a difficult thing but is most appropriate so as not to cause offence to the artist in the future. Artists are aware of this process.</p> <p>The proposal to offer these items back to the artist was unanimously approved by the VAAC.</p>	<p>Tracey / Lauren to progress agreed action.</p>
<p><b>11. Deaccession Proposal – 2010.89</b>  <b>Annette Vincent, Reflection</b></p>	<p><i>Reflection 2005, edition 22/46:</i> This artwork had been acquired from Print Council of Australia and had been entered into the Art Collection database. It had been sitting in a box indicating it was for “furnishing” in offices around council and had been purchased for that reason. Artspace had kept some of the work for this purpose.</p> <p>This item is proposed to be moved back onto the <i>furnishing collection</i> as original intent.</p> <p>VAAC unanimously agreed that this artwork be moved back into the Furnishing Collection.</p>	<p>Tracey / Lauren to complete agreed action.</p>

ITEM	COMMENTS	ACTION
<p><b>12. General Business</b></p> <p><b>12.1 Artspace facility closure - update</b></p>	<p>Tracey provided an update. There has been delays to the opening date initially being worked to, due to unforeseen delays in the supply chain in receiving critical parts mostly for new HVAC. This was partly due to industrial action in the ports – the parts were coming from all over the world. It was good to note that the chiller system has now been installed and on track to have staff move back into the gallery from early July.</p> <p>Artspace is working towards the first exhibition to open on 9 August and looking at arranging a big celebration weekend from Saturday 10 August. May have a soft opening for some public programs from 29 July, with a Wall Residency as part of the next suite of exhibitions.</p> <p>Many of the improvements are “hidden” so the public will not necessarily see what work has gone into the new chiller system which has included complete new ducting in the ceiling resulting in substantial work. This will ensure future safety of the Art Collection as well as the comfort of staff and visitors.</p> <p>Timber floors have been replaced with the same type of wood (Spotted Gum).</p> <p>In response to a query about what happened to the old floors, Tracey advised it had been hoped to keep the old floors to sell and reuse but when they were pulled up it was realised they were in a bad condition, severely cracking, very thin in places and were unable to be saved.</p> <p>Much work will be involved in moving back, installing work, and preparing for the exhibition period but everyone at Artspace is very excited about this.</p> <p>Janine recognised the leadership and values of the Artspace Team during this period and acknowledged how they had dealt with delays in a positive way and congratulated the team on the way they have managed this whole exercise. Tracey also thanked the Artspace Team.</p>	

ITEM	COMMENTS	ACTION
<p><b>12.2 2024 Artspace Mackay Focus on First Nations Exhibition Program</b></p>	<p>Tracey spoke about the focus on the First Nations Exhibitions, from the reopening right through to mid-2025.</p> <p>Staff have undertaken a big stakeholder engagement around all the exhibitions with the community.</p> <p>Potential for education was raised and this was confirmed with most of the exhibitions. Some exhibitions do include education kits which will be shared. There will also be some good public programs coming from the exhibitions.</p> <p>There is an area on the website around the Contemporary Indigenous Art Collection, which has also been promoted through the Focus on First Nations Exhibition Program Brochure.</p> <p>The VAAC congratulated the Artspace team on great work.</p> <p><a href="#">015.First Nations Program Brochure_Facing Pages.pdf</a></p>	
<p><b>13. Acquisitions to be digitally sent</b></p>	<p>Lauren explained the acquisitions details to be digitally sent and signed via DocuSign.</p> <p>VAAC Committee member Isacc Fatnowna offered to sign acquisition paperwork on behalf of the VAAC.</p>	<p>Tracey/Lauren to forward documentation to VAAC representative Isacc Fatnowna and DCS for signature.</p>
<p><b>14. Date of next meeting</b></p>	<p>To be advised – to be held in the new financial year, tentatively September.</p>	<p>Tracey to advise when a new Chair has been appointed.</p> <p>Tracey to advise date of the next committee meeting via email.</p>
<p><b>15. Close of meeting</b></p>	<p>The meeting closed at 2.07 pm</p>	

## 10.2. STRATEGIC ADVISORY COMMITTEE TERMS OF REFERENCE

### Advisory Committees – Terms of Reference

<b>Author</b>	Executive Officer (David McKendry)
<b>Responsible Officer</b>	Chief Executive Officer (Scott Owen)
<b>File Reference</b>	Strategic Advisory Committee

#### Attachments

1. FINAL DRAFT Arts Culture and Heritage Advisory Committee Terms of Reference 19 6 24 [10.2.1 - 5 pages]
2. FINAL DRAFT Economic Development and Growth Strategic Advisory Committee Terms of Reference 19 [10.2.2 - 6 pages]
3. FINAL DRAFT Sustainability Strategic Advisory Committee Terms of Reference 19 6 24 [10.2.3 - 6 pages]
4. FINAL DRAFT Regional Infrastructure Strategic Advisory Committee Terms of Reference 19 6 24 [10.2.4 - 6 pages]
5. FINAL DRAFT Liveability and Social Inclusion Strategic Advisory Committee Terms of Reference 1 [10.2.5 - 6 pages]

#### Purpose

To present to Council the Terms of References for identified Advisory Committees for adoption.

#### Related Parties

N/a

#### Corporate Plan Linkage

##### Financial Strength

*Ethical Decision-Making and Good Governance* - We are committed to keeping our community informed about our activities and performance and employing robust governance policies and procedures to ensure legislative compliance and organisational integrity.

#### Background/Discussion

The *Local Government Regulation 2012 (Regulation)* allows Councils to operate with a range of meeting and committee structures.

These include –

- Ordinary Council Meeting – It is mandated that Council hold at least one(1) meeting per month. Council has already resolved to hold monthly meetings on the 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesday of each month
- Standing Committees – These are formal Council meetings open to the public, similar to Ordinary meetings. Membership is restricted to Councillors (not necessarily all Councillors). These committees can be delegated decision making authority to the specific areas (i.e. Planning). These Committees are used as a way of dividing the volume of formal decisions needed. Standing Committees are not established for Mackay Regional Council, rather these formal decisions are handled through Ordinary (and Special) meetings.
- Advisory Committees – Advisory Committees are essentially sub-committees focused on a specific area. They can include members other than Councillors, allowing for the inclusion of appointees or experts. The advantage of these committees is their ability to concentrate on a particular area and gather

specialised advice and/or community input. While not always required, the minutes from these meetings are typically presented at the Council's Ordinary Meeting for endorsement.

As part of the induction process for the newly elected Councillors, a number of sessions were held to discuss options for meeting structure. The outcome was a preference for a monthly Ordinary Meeting and the development of Strategic Advisory Committees.

The identified areas for Strategic Advisory Committees included –

- Arts, Culture and Heritage
- Economic Development and Growth
- Sustainability
- Regional Infrastructure
- Liveability and Amenity

The areas selected specifically identified with a strategic, not operational, focus. This is in keeping with the strategic role of a Councillor and allowing the operational business to be handled by the Chief Executive Officer and Council staff (following the direction set by strategic decisions).

Following calling of expressions of interest in membership, the following alignments were recommended -

- Arts, Culture and Heritage – Cr Corowa (Chair), Cr Paton (D/Chair)
- Economic Development and Growth – Cr Hassan (Chair), Cr Macrae(D/Chair)
- Sustainability – Cr Jones (Chair), Cr Sheedy(D/Chair)
- Regional Infrastructure – Cr Bella (Chair), Cr Christensen(D/Chair)
- Liveability and Amenity – Cr May (Chair), Cr Johnson(D/Chair)

Each allocated Councillor met, including with key Department Directors, to refine a terms of reference for their Strategic Advisory Committee, which included potential membership and key stakeholders. It should be noted that the way a strategic advisory committee operates is very flexible, allowing it to adapt to the specific area and needs.

From these meetings, Crs May and Johnson are recommending that “Liveability and Amenity” be changed to “Liveability & Social Inclusion”, and also a suggestion that rather than Chair and Deputy Chair, that they act as Co-Chairs. Crs Jones and Sheedy are also suggesting a Co-Chair arrangement for Sustainability.

### **Consultation and Communication**

As part of the review process, consultation has been undertaken with the following:

- Mayor and Councillors (various briefings and meetings)
- Applicable Council Departments (specifically Directors working with Councillors in the development and refinement of Terms of Reference)

Minutes from the strategic advisory committees will be presented to Council's Ordinary Meetings for endorsement however, Chairs and Deputy Chairs can also report to the Council's Ordinary Meetings via a monthly report framework on any key items of interest outside their committee meetings.

Linkage to stakeholders was considered as part of the terms of reference. Where a formal appointment is recommended and supported to a Board/Executive (for example, Mackay Tourism Limited), these are being formalised as part of separate approvals (noting that doing so provides a legislative exemption from conflicts of interest with Council decisions given that the appointments are views as a Council role), however, there will also be a range of stakeholder groups where Councillors can still interact (including attending meetings as required) without being a formal part of the body (ie an observer not a member of the Board/Executive), as well as a range of informal groups such as community reference groups which Councillors can also liaise with (including

attending meetings) given that they are not formal bodies rather a consultation format group utilised to gather information to inform decisions.

### **Resource Implications**

Supporting the administrative aspect of the strategic advisory committees is something that will be done by the identified Council Department (with direct support from the key Director). Whilst requiring support, the streamlining of committees generally assists in the better focus of resources and therefore, not seen as having a major impact.

### **Risk Management Implications**

Advisory Committees, by definition under the *Regulation*, do not have decision making authority. They have also been specifically selected with a strategic rather than operational focus. Any key recommendations from the committees would need to be presented to Council for formal endorsement or support.

The terms of reference documents were developed from a template which was provided to ensure that key governance aspects were addressed. From there, each committee was able to tailor its terms of reference to suit specifics.

### **Conclusion**

The establishment and utilisation of strategic advisory committees is a concept aimed at allowing Councillors to focus on key areas, ensure relevant liaison with key community/business/industry stakeholders, and to help mould the strategic direction of Council, providing guidance to the organisation.

The allocated Councillors have developed the Terms of Reference documents for each committee, assisted by key Directors. It is recommended that Council endorse them, enabling each strategic advisory committee to commence.

### **Officer's Recommendation**

THAT per sections 264 and 265 of the *Local Government Regulation 2012*, Council adopts the following terms of reference documents for the establishment of Strategic Advisory Committees –

- Arts, Culture and Heritage
- Economic Development and Growth
- Sustainability
- Regional Infrastructure
- Liveability and Social Inclusion





**MACKAY REGIONAL COUNCIL  
ARTS CULTURE AND  
HERITAGE STRATEGIC  
ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

## TERMS OF REFERENCE

### 1. Purpose

The purpose of the Mackay Regional Council ('MRC') Arts, Culture and Heritage Strategic Advisory Committee (Committee) is to:

- 1.1 Provide a forum to enable MRC to enhance Arts, Culture and Heritage through social capacity building, community projects, initiatives, and local story telling.
- 1.2 Provide advice and guidance to MRC on current and emerging matters and opportunities the Mackay Local Government Area; and
- 1.3 Enable Councillors to engage with the community through identified stakeholder groups and individuals.

### 2. Scope

As a strategic advisory committee, the Committee should not deal directly with operational issues. The Committee will provide advice to MRC to be considered as part of the MRC strategic decision-making process and aligned with council's corporate plan.

In this regard the Co-Chairs will provide the conduit to MRC.

### 3. Roles and Responsibilities

The Committee provides a forum to provide advice and guidance on Arts Culture and Heritage in the Mackay region.

The Committee is strategically focused to make recommendations regarding;

- Reconciliation initiatives
- Provision of arts, culture and heritage facilities and service levels
- Community arts events and capacity-building opportunities
- Council Art, Museums and Heritage Collections policies and strategies

Members will be responsible for:

- Ensuring that they are aware of and accurately represent their respective stakeholder groups' views.
- Ensuring that outcomes of the Committee are conveyed accurately to the relevant stakeholder groups.
- Ensuring that they do not participate in or try to influence discussion and recommendations on issues where they may have a material or personal interest; and



- Providing timely advice to MRC when sought at scheduled meetings and special meetings.

Co-Chairs are responsible for:

- Setting the Agenda,
- Leading the meeting,
- Maintaining order at the meeting;
- Ensuring the conventions of the meeting are being followed; and
- Ensuring fairness and equality at the meeting,

In the absence of a Co-Chair the other Co-Chair will assume the roles and responsibilities of the Chairperson.

All information, advice, views and recommendations will be recorded in the minutes. The Committee has the opportunity to influence MRC decision making by making recommendations, however, does not have decision-making authority. Decision making remains the function of MRC.

#### 4. Authority

The Committee provides information and advice for consideration by MRC and does not hold any delegated authority, separate budget or financial delegation from MRC.

The relationship between MRC and the Committee is reciprocal in that the Committee contributes advice to MRC and MRC provides information to the Committee (and the various groups and organisations that it represents) about MRC's strategic direction, decisions, projects, and initiatives relevant to the purpose and scope of the Committee.

Membership is voluntary, with MRC's Volunteer Policy (Administrative Policy No 090) and MRC Code of Conduct applying to all non-MRC Members.

Copyright of all information produced through the Committee is assigned to MRC.

#### 5. Membership

##### 5.1 Key Representation

- Committee Members, depending on identification, will be either –
  - a) sought by calling for expressions to the public; or
  - b) invited to apply by the Co-Chairs given representation of an identified stakeholder group or entity
- Interested persons/organisations are required to submit their applications in writing, outlining their suitability, relevant experience, and the value they can provide to the Committee.
- The process for the selection of Members will be undertaken by a panel consisting of the Co-Chairs of the Committee, and the relevant Director, and be presented to the CEO for consideration and finalisation.
- The Co-Chairs of the Committee, in consultation with the relevant Director, will undertake a process for the selection of a new member to replace a vacating member,



if needed, and be presented to the CEO for consideration and finalisation.

- With the approval of the Co-Chairs, representatives may nominate a proxy if unable to attend a meeting.

Applicants will be requested to provide information to support their nomination on:

- Knowledge of and interest in the Committee
- Experience in applying strategic input.
- Developed interpersonal skills to interact with the local community.

## 5.2 Composition of Membership

### Councillor Co-Chairs / Membership

The Committee will consist of two (2) Councillors acting as Co-Chairs.

### Community/Stakeholder Representatives

- Members will be appointed for a period of generally three (3) years after the implementation of the selection process.
- Up to 10 Members will be selected from the nominations based on the following criteria and industry/community sectors

### MRC officers

- Director Community Services
- Executive Manager Community Lifestyle
- Executive Manager MECC & Events
- Other officers of MRC may attend meetings as required.
- Administrative/secretariat support will be provided by MRC.

Membership may be discontinued if a member, or their delegate, fails to attend three (3) consecutive meetings, without reason. It is expected Members will provide their apologies prior to the scheduled meeting.

Meetings are not open to Members of the public. Other community representatives or organisations may be invited to address the Committee on specific matters.

Membership should not exceed ten (10) in total.

## 6. Quorum

A quorum consists of at least half of the appointed Members, however also including at least one of the Co-Chairs, and well as one MRC Officer representative.

## 7. Meetings

Meetings will be held as required, however a minimum of two (2) meetings are to be held per year. In the event of the Committee being unable to meet at the delegated time, the meeting will be rescheduled at a date as close as possible to the original date.



Agenda Items will be requested a month prior to the scheduled meeting. An agenda where practical, will be distributed seven (7) days prior to a meeting.

Agenda items and discussions that occur during these scheduled meetings are privileged and should be treated as confidential until the minutes are adopted by the next available meeting of MRC.

## 8. Conduct

Meetings must be conducted in accordance with the provisions of the *Local Government Act 2009 and Local Government Regulations 2012*.

Members are required to:

- Act with honesty, good faith and integrity;
- Abide by the Terms of Reference;
- Actively participate in meetings; and
- Represent the interest of their local community rather than individual interest or issues.

In particular, Members are required not to use any community reference group for any public lobbying or political purposes, including use of social media to promote specific campaigns or strategies.

## 9. Governance

Members are to acknowledge that confidentiality of information and discussions must be maintained and respected.

Members will not use any information disclosed at meetings for personal purposes or gains for either themselves or others (including financial gains) and maintain confidentiality of all information provided.

## 10. Media

Members are not permitted to speak or liaise with the media and represent the opinions of the Committee or MRC.

Comments to the media on behalf of the Committee shall only be made by the Co-Chairs, or by another member of the Committee with the prior approval of the Co-Chairs and in line with Council's Media Policy.

## 11. Conflict of Interest

At the commencement of each meeting Members must declare:

- any declarable conflict of interest (using the definition of that term in the *Local Government Act 2009*, to the extent it applies to the Committee Member); and
- any prescribed conflict of interest they have in respect of a matter before that meeting. Members with a prescribed conflict of interest must not participate in discussion or decisions about the matter in which they have the material personal interest; and



- any other Committee decision about a matter if that decision has any possibility of impacting upon the matter in which they have the prescribed conflict of interest (for example, a decision about another grant application).

When a Member declares a declarable conflict of interest and the Member does not decide to refrain from discussing or voting upon the matter, the other Members must vote upon whether the declaring member must refrain from discussing or voting upon the matter. The results of the ballot are binding upon the declaring member.

## 12. Reporting Requirements

The Committee does not hold any delegated authorisation from MRC, separate Budget, or financial delegation approval. Each meeting shall be properly recorded by the taking of minutes.

The minutes and any recommendations will be presented for consideration to the next available meeting of MRC.

## 13. Associated Documents

*Local Government Act 2009*  
*Local Government Regulation 2012*  
*Public Sector Ethics Act 1994*  
MRC's Corporate Plan  
MRC's Culture and Values  
MRC's Code of Conduct

MRC Policy 033 - Council's Community Engagement  
MRC Policy 090 – Volunteers  
MRC Policy 046 – Information Privacy  
MRC Policy 019 – Confidentiality



**MACKAY REGIONAL COUNCIL  
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT  
AND GROWTH STRATEGIC  
ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

## TERMS OF REFERENCE

### 1. Purpose

The purpose of the Mackay Regional Council ('MRC') Economic Development and Growth Strategic Advisory Committee (Committee) is to:

1. Provide a forum to enable MRC and community projects, initiatives, and strategic issues to be discussed; and
2. Provide information, advice and views to MRC on current and emerging matters within the Mackay Local Government Area; and
3. Enable Councillors to engage with sectors of the community through identified stakeholder groups.

### 2. Scope

As a strategic advisory committee the Committee should not deal directly with operational issues. The Committee will provide advice to MRC to be considered as part of the MRC strategic decision making process.

In this regard the Chairperson will provide the conduit to MRC.

### 3. Roles and Responsibilities

The Committee provides a forum to provide advice and guidance on economic diversification and growth in the Mackay region.

The Committee is strategically focused to:

- Diversification of the regional economy
- Facilitating development and innovation
- Investment opportunities
- Support for and growth in existing industries
- Tourism and events attraction

Members will be responsible for:

- Ensuring that they are aware of and accurately represent their respective stakeholder groups' views.
- Ensuring that outcomes of the Committee are conveyed accurately to the relevant stakeholder groups.
- Ensuring that they do not participate in or try to influence discussion and recommendations on issues where they may have a material or personal interest; and



- Providing timely advice to MRC when sought at scheduled meetings and special meetings.

Chairperson is responsible for:

- Setting the Agenda,
- Leading the meeting,
- Maintaining order at the meeting;
- Ensuring the conventions of the meeting are being followed; and
- Ensuring fairness and equality at the meeting,

In the absence of the Chairperson the Deputy Chairperson will assume the roles and responsibilities of the Chairperson.

All information, advice, views and recommendations will be recorded in the minutes. The Committee has the opportunity to influence MRC decision making by making recommendations, however, does not have decision-making authority. Decision making remains the function of MRC.

#### 4. Authority

The Committee provides information and advice for consideration by MRC and does not hold any delegated authority, separate budget or financial delegation from MRC.

The relationship between MRC and the Committee is reciprocal in that the Committee contributes advice to MRC and MRC provides information to the Committee (and the various groups and organisations that it represents) about MRC's strategic direction, decisions, projects, and initiatives relevant to the purpose and scope of the Committee.

Membership is voluntary, with MRC's Volunteer Policy (Administrative Policy No 090) and MRC Code of Conduct applying to all non-MRC Members.

Copyright of all information produced through the Committee is assigned to MRC.

#### 5. Community/Stakeholders Representatives Committee Membership

Where it is identified that there is a need to have external Community/Stakeholder Representatives as formal Committee Members, the following processes will apply (noting that Councillors and MRC officers are separate to this process and direct appointed).

##### Key Representation

- Committee Members, depending on identification, will be either –
  - a) sought by calling for expressions of interest; or
  - b) invited to apply by the Chairperson given representation of an identified stakeholder group or entity.
- The process for the selection of Members will be undertaken by a panel consisting of the Chairperson and Deputy Chairperson of the Committee, and the relevant Director, and be presented to the CEO for consideration and finalisation.
- The Chairperson of the Committee, in consultation with the relevant Director, will



undertake a process for the selection of a new member to replace a vacating member, if needed, and be presented to the CEO for consideration and finalisation.

- With the approval of the Chairperson, representatives may nominate a proxy if unable to attend a meeting.

## 6. Composition of Membership

### Councillor Chairperson/ Membership

The Committee will consist of two (2) Councillors acting as Chairperson and Deputy Chairperson.

### Community/Stakeholder Representatives (per clause 5.1)

- Members will be appointed for a period of generally three (3) years after the implementation of the selection process.
- Up to ten Members will be selected based on the following criteria and industry/community sectors and :
  - Regional economic development organisations
  - Industry stakeholder group
  - Special interest groups.

### MRC officers

- Director Planning, Growth & Sustainability.
- Executive Manager Economic Development & Tourism.
- Other officers of MRC may attend meetings as required in a non-decision-making capacity.
- Administrative/secretariat support will be provided by MRC.

Membership may be discontinued if a Member, or their delegate, fails to attend three (3) consecutive meetings, without reason. It is expected Members will provide their apologies prior to the scheduled meeting.

Meetings are not open to Members of the public. Other community representatives or organisations may be invited to address the Committee on specific matters.

Membership should not exceed ten (10) in total.

## 7. Community/Stakeholders

As well as the formal Members of the Committee, any Community/Stakeholder representative or group may be invited to a meeting for a specific purpose or update.

Also, outside of formal meetings, the Chair/Deputy Chair and Committee will decide how best to liaise with identified Community/Stakeholder groups to ensure two way flow of information critical to the purposes of the committee. Such liaison could include –

- Attendance at Community/Stakeholder group meetings/reference groups
- Adhoc meetings with Community/Stakeholder group executive and members





Such interactions either by Chair/Deputy Chair, or MRC officers

Key Community/Stakeholder groups include but are not limited to the following:

- Greater Whitsunday Alliance
- Mackay Isaac Tourism
- RDA Greater Whitsundays
- Resource Industry Network
- Resources Centre of Excellence
- Mackay Regional Chamber of Commerce
- Local Buying Foundation Advisory Committee
- Canegrowers

## 8. Quorum

A quorum consists of at least half of the appointed Members, however also including at least one of either the Chairperson or Deputy Chairperson, and well as one MRC Officer representative.

## 9. Meetings

Meetings will be held as required, however a minimum of four (4) meetings are to be held per year. In the event of the Committee being unable to meet at the delegated time, the meeting will be rescheduled at a date as close as possible to the original date.

Agenda Items will be requested a month prior to the scheduled meeting. An agenda will be distributed seven (7) days prior to a meeting.

Agenda items and discussions that occur during these scheduled meetings are privileged and should be treated as confidential until the minutes are adopted by the next available meeting of MRC.

## 10. Conduct

Meetings must be conducted in accordance with the provisions of the *Local Government Act 2009 and Local Government Regulations 2012*.

Members are required to:

- Act with honesty, good faith and integrity;
- Abide by the Terms of Reference;
- Actively participate in meetings; and
- Represent the interest of their local community rather than individual interest or issues.

In particular, Members are required not to use any community reference group for any public



lobbying or political purposes, including use of social media to promote specific campaigns or strategies.

#### **11. Governance**

Members are to acknowledge that confidentiality of information and discussions must be maintained and respected.

Members will not use any information disclosed at meetings for personal purposes or gains for either themselves or others (including financial gains) and maintain confidentiality of all information provided.

#### **12. Media**

Members are not permitted to speak or liaise with the media and represent the opinions of the Committee or MRC.

Comments to the media on behalf of the Committee shall only be made by the Chairperson, or by another member of the Committee with the prior approval of the Chairperson and in line with Council's Media Policy.

#### **13. Conflict of Interest**

At the commencement of each meeting Members must declare:

- any declarable conflict of interest (using the definition of that term in the *Local Government Act 2009*, to the extent it applies to the Committee Member); and
- any prescribed conflict of interest they have in respect of a matter before that meeting. Members with a prescribed conflict of interest must not participate in discussion or decisions about the matter in which they have the material personal interest; and
- any other Committee decision about a matter if that decision has any possibility of impacting upon the matter in which they have the prescribed conflict of interest (for example, a decision about another grant application).

When a Member declares a declarable conflict of interest and the Member does not decide to refrain from discussing or voting upon the matter, the other Members must vote upon whether the declaring member must refrain from discussing or voting upon the matter. The results of the ballot are binding upon the declaring member.

#### **14. Reporting Requirements**

The Committee does not hold any delegated authorisation from MRC, separate Budget, or financial delegation approval. Each meeting shall be properly recorded by the taking of minutes.

The minutes and any recommendations will be presented for consideration to the next available meeting of MRC.

#### **15. Associated Documents**

*Local Government Act 2009*  
*Local Government Regulation 2012*



*Public Sector Ethics Act 1994*

MRC's Corporate Plan

MRC's Culture and Values

MRC's Code of Conduct

MRC Policy 033 - Council's Community Engagement

MRC Policy 090 – Volunteers

MRC Policy 046 – Information Privacy

MRC Policy 019 – Confidentiality

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**MACKAY REGIONAL COUNCIL  
SUSTAINABILITY STRATEGIC  
ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

## TERMS OF REFERENCE

### 1. Purpose

The purpose of the Mackay Regional Council ('MRC') Sustainability Strategic Advisory Committee (Committee) is to:

1. Provide a forum to enable MRC and community projects, initiatives, and strategic issues to be discussed; and
2. Provide information, advice and views to MRC on current and emerging matters within the Mackay Local Government Area; and
3. Enable Councillors to engage with sectors of the community through identified stakeholder groups

### 2. Scope

As a strategic advisory committee the Committee should not deal directly with operational issues. The Committee will provide advice to MRC to be considered as part of the MRC strategic decision making process.

In this regard the Co-Chairs will provide the conduit to MRC.

### 3. Roles and Responsibilities

The Committee provides a forum to provide advice and guidance on sustainability, planning and environmental matters in the Mackay region.

The Committee is strategically focused to:

- Sustainability
- Natural Environment
- Coastal management
- Catchment management
- Strategic planning.

Members will be responsible for:

- Ensuring that they are aware of and accurately represent their respective stakeholder groups' views.
- Ensuring that outcomes of the Committee are conveyed accurately to the relevant stakeholder groups.
- Ensuring that they do not participate in or try to influence discussion and recommendations on issues where they may have a material or personal interest; and
- Providing timely advice to MRC when sought at scheduled meetings and special



meetings.

The Co-Chairs is responsible for:

- Setting the Agenda,
- Leading the meeting,
- Maintaining order at the meeting;
- Ensuring the conventions of the meeting are being followed; and
- Ensuring fairness and equality at the meeting.

All information, advice, views and recommendations will be recorded in the minutes. The Committee has the opportunity to influence MRC decision making by making recommendations, however, does not have decision-making authority. Decision making remains the function of MRC.

#### 4. Authority

The Committee provides information and advice for consideration by MRC and does not hold any delegated authority, separate budget or financial delegation from MRC.

The relationship between MRC and the Committee is reciprocal in that the Committee contributes advice to MRC and MRC provides information to the Committee (and the various groups and organisations that it represents) about MRC's strategic direction, decisions, projects, and initiatives relevant to the purpose and scope of the Committee.

Membership is voluntary, with MRC's Volunteer Policy (Administrative Policy No 090) and MRC Code of Conduct applying to all non-MRC Members.

Copyright of all information produced through the Committee is assigned to MRC.

#### 5. External Representatives Committee Membership

Where it is identified that there is a need to have external External Representatives as formal Committee Members, the following processes will apply (noting that Councillors and MRC officers are separate to this process and direct appointed).

##### Key Representation

- Committee Members, depending on identification, will be either –
  - a) sought by calling for expressions of interest from the public; or
  - b) invited to apply by the Co-Chairs given representation of an identified stakeholder group or entity
- Interested persons/organisations are required to submit their applications in writing, outlining their suitability, relevant experience, and the value they can provide to the Committee.
- The process for the selection of Members will be undertaken by a panel consisting of the Co-Chairs of the Committee, and the relevant Director, and be presented to the CEO for consideration and finalisation.



- The Co-Chairs of the Committee, in consultation with the relevant Director, will undertake a process for the selection of a new member to replace a vacating member, if needed, and be presented to the CEO for consideration and finalisation.
- With the approval of the Co-Chairs, representatives may nominate a proxy if unable to attend a meeting.

Applicants will be requested to provide information to support their nomination on:

- Knowledge of and interest in the Committee
- Experience in applying strategic input.
- Developed interpersonal skills to interact with the local community.

## 6. Composition of Membership

### Councillor Chairperson/ Membership

The Committee will consist of two (2) Councillors acting as Co-Chairs.

### External Representatives (per clause 5.1)

- Members will be appointed for a period of generally up to three (3) years after the implementation of the selection process.
- Up to 9 Members will be selected from the nominations based on the following criteria and industry/community sectors:
  - Demonstrated interest in sustainability, planning and environmental matters pertaining to the Mackay region
  - Basic understanding of the broader role of local government and the financial constraints of Council
  - Relevant experience in committees and/or demonstrated ability to participate in, and constructively contribute to a group, committee or organisation
  - Ability to regularly attend and participate in meetings as scheduled
  - Have a diversity of skills, experience or background relevant to the business of the committee.
- Members will be selected from the following industries/stakeholder groups:
  - Agriculture
  - Mining/ports
  - Higher education
  - State government
  - Natural resource management
  - Regional economic development.

### MRC officers

- Relevant Director or delegated officer (Director Planning, Growth & Sustainability)
- Executive Manager Strategic Planning
- Other officers of MRC may attend meetings as required in a non-decision-making capacity.
- Administrative/secretariat support will be provided by MRC.



Membership may be discontinued if a Member, or their delegate, fails to attend three (3) consecutive meetings, without reason. It is expected Members will provide their apologies prior to the scheduled meeting.

Meetings are not open to Members of the public. Other community representatives or organisations may be invited to address the Committee on specific matters.

Membership should not exceed ten (10) in total.

## 7. Community/Stakeholders

As well as the formal Members of the Committee, any Community/Stakeholder representative or group may be invited to a meeting for a specific purpose or update.

Also, outside of formal meetings, the Co-Chairs and Committee will decide how best to liaise with identified Community/Stakeholder groups to ensure two way flow of information critical to the purposes of the committee. Such liaison could include –

- Attendance at Community/Stakeholder group meetings/reference groups
- Adhoc meetings with Community/Stakeholder group executive and members

Such interactions either by Co-Chairs, or MRC officers

Key Community/Stakeholder groups include but are not limited to the following:

- Reef Catchments
- Reef Guardian Councils
- Pioneer Catchment & Landcare Group
- Sarina Landcare Catchment Management Association
- Healthy Rivers to Reef Partnership
- Local Marine Advisory Committee

## 8. Quorum

A quorum consists of at least half of the appointed Members, however also including at least one of either the Co-Chairs, and well as one MRC Officer representative.

## 9. Meetings

Meetings will be held as required, however a minimum of four (4) meetings are to be held per year. In the event of the Committee being unable to meet at the delegated time, the meeting will be rescheduled at a date as close as possible to the original date.

Agenda Items will be requested a month prior to the scheduled meeting. An agenda will be distributed seven (7) days prior to a meeting.

Agenda items and discussions that occur during these scheduled meetings are privileged



and should be treated as confidential until the minutes are adopted by the next available meeting of MRC.

## 10. Conduct

Meetings must be conducted in accordance with the provisions of the *Local Government Act 2009 and Local Government Regulations 2012*.

Members are required to:

- Act with honesty, good faith and integrity;
- Abide by the Terms of Reference;
- Actively participate in meetings; and
- Represent the interest of their local community rather than individual interest or issues.

In particular, Members are required not to use any community reference group for any public lobbying or political purposes, including use of social media to promote specific campaigns or strategies.

## 11. Governance

Members are to acknowledge that confidentiality of information and discussions must be maintained and respected.

Members will not use any information disclosed at meetings for personal purposes or gains for either themselves or others (including financial gains) and maintain confidentiality of all information provided.

## 12. Media

Members are not permitted to speak or liaise with the media and represent the opinions of the Committee or MRC.

Comments to the media on behalf of the Committee shall only be made by the Co-Chairs, or by another member of the Committee with the prior approval of the Co-Chairs and in line with Council's Media Policy.

## 13. Conflict of Interest

At the commencement of each meeting Members must declare:

- any declarable conflict of interest (using the definition of that term in the *Local Government Act 2009*, to the extent it applies to the Committee Member); and
- any prescribed conflict of interest they have in respect of a matter before that meeting. Members with a prescribed conflict of interest must not participate in discussion or decisions about the matter in which they have the material personal interest; and
- any other Committee decision about a matter if that decision has any possibility of impacting upon the matter in which they have the prescribed conflict of interest (for example, a decision about another grant application).





When a Member declares a declarable conflict of interest and the Member does not decide to refrain from discussing or voting upon the matter, the other Members must vote upon whether the declaring member must refrain from discussing or voting upon the matter. The results of the ballot are binding upon the declaring member.

#### **14. Reporting Requirements**

The Committee does not hold any delegated authorisation from MRC, separate Budget, or financial delegation approval. Each meeting shall be properly recorded by the taking of minutes.

The minutes and any recommendations will be presented for consideration to the next available meeting of MRC.

#### **15. Associated Documents**

*Local Government Act 2009*  
*Local Government Regulation 2012*  
*Public Sector Ethics Act 1994*  
MRC's Corporate Plan  
MRC's Culture and Values  
MRC's Code of Conduct

MRC Policy 033 - Council's Community Engagement  
MRC Policy 090 – Volunteers  
MRC Policy 046 – Information Privacy  
MRC Policy 019 – Confidentiality

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**MACKAY REGIONAL COUNCIL  
REGIONAL INFRASTRUCTURE  
STRATEGIC ADVISORY  
COMMITTEE**

## TERMS OF REFERENCE

### 1. Purpose

The purpose of the Mackay Regional Council ('MRC') Regional Infrastructure Strategic Advisory Committee (Committee) is to:

1. Provide a forum to enable MRC and community projects, initiatives, and strategic issues to be discussed; and
2. Provide information, advice and views to MRC on current and emerging matters within the Mackay Local Government Area; and
3. Enable Councillors to engage with sectors of the community through identified stakeholder groups

### 2. Scope

As a strategic advisory committee the Committee should not deal directly with operational issues. The Committee will provide advice to MRC to be considered as part of the MRC strategic decision making process.

In this regard the Chairperson will provide the conduit to MRC.

### 3. Roles and Responsibilities

The Committee provides a forum to provide advice and guidance on infrastructure planning and provision deemed strategically important in the Mackay region.

The Committee is strategically focused to:

- Regional Waste & Recycling
- Regional Transport & Drainage
- Energy, Water and Communications
- Regionally focused Parks/Facilities

Members will be responsible for:

- Ensuring that they are aware of and accurately represent their respective stakeholder groups' views.
- Ensuring that outcomes of the Committee are conveyed accurately to the relevant stakeholder groups.
- Ensuring that they do not participate in or try to influence discussion and recommendations on issues where they may have a material or personal interest; and



- Providing timely advice to MRC when sought at scheduled meetings and special meetings.

Chairperson is responsible for:

- Setting the Agenda,
- Leading the meeting,
- Maintaining order at the meeting;
- Ensuring the conventions of the meeting are being followed; and
- Ensuring fairness and equality at the meeting,

In the absence of the Chairperson the Deputy Chairperson will assume the roles and responsibilities of the Chairperson.

All information, advice, views and recommendations will be recorded in the minutes. The Committee has the opportunity to influence MRC decision making by making recommendations, however, does not have decision-making authority. Decision making remains the function of MRC.

#### 4. Authority

The Committee provides information and advice for consideration by MRC and does not hold any delegated authority, separate budget or financial delegation from MRC.

The relationship between MRC and the Committee is reciprocal in that the Committee contributes advice to MRC and MRC provides information to the Committee (and the various groups and organisations that it represents) about MRC's strategic direction, decisions, projects, and initiatives relevant to the purpose and scope of the Committee.

Membership is voluntary, with MRC's Volunteer Policy (Administrative Policy No 090) and MRC Code of Conduct applying to all non-MRC Members.

Copyright of all information produced through the Committee is assigned to MRC.

#### 5. Community/Stakeholders Representatives Committee Membership

Where it is identified that there is a need to have external Community/Stakeholder Representatives as formal Committee Members, the following processes will apply (noting that Councillors and MRC officers are separate to this process and direct appointed)

##### Key Representation

- Committee Members, depending on identification, will be either –
  - a) sought by calling for expressions of interest from the public; or
  - b) invited to apply by the Chairperson given representation of an identified stakeholder group or entity
- Interested persons/organisations are required to submit their applications in writing, outlining their suitability, relevant experience, and the value they can provide to the Committee.



- The process for the selection of Members will be undertaken by a panel consisting of the Chairperson and Deputy Chairperson of the Committee, and the relevant Director, and be presented to the CEO for consideration and finalisation.
- The Chairperson of the Committee, in consultation with the relevant Director, will undertake a process for the selection of a new member to replace a vacating member, if needed, and be presented to the CEO for consideration and finalisation.
- With the approval of the Chairperson, representatives may nominate a proxy if unable to attend a meeting.

Applicants will be requested to provide information to support their nomination on:

- Knowledge of and interest in the Committee
- Experience in applying strategic input.
- Developed interpersonal skills to interact with the local community.

## 6. Composition of Membership

### Councillor Chairperson/ Membership

The Committee will consist of two (2) Councillors acting as Chairperson and Deputy Chairperson.

### Community/Stakeholder Representatives (per clause 5.1)

- No external Members are proposed to be appointed to the Committee, rather that they will be invited as required to address topical issues. If it is decided to add external Members the below points will apply.
- Members will be appointed for a period of generally three (3) years after the implementation of the selection process.
- Up to five(5) Members will be selected from the nominations based on the following criteria and industry/community sectors and :
  - To be refined as needed

### MRC officers

- Relevant Director or delegated officer (Director Infrastructure and Operations))
- Associate Director Infrastructure
- Associate Director Operations
- Other officers of MRC may attend meetings as required in a non-decision-making capacity.
- Administrative/secretariat support will be provided by MRC.

Membership may be discontinued if a Member, or their delegate, fails to attend three (3) consecutive meetings, without reason. It is expected Members will provide their apologies prior to the scheduled meeting.



Meetings are not open to Members of the public. Other community representatives or organisations may be invited to address the Committee on specific matters.

Membership should not exceed ten(10) in total.

## 7. Community/Stakeholders

As well as the formal Members of the Committee, any Community/Stakeholder representative or group may be invited to a meeting for a specific purpose or update.

Also, outside of formal meetings, the Chair/Deputy Chair and Committee will decide how best to liaise with identified Community/Stakeholder groups to ensure two way flow of information critical to the purposes of the committee. Such liaison could include –

- Attendance at Community/Stakeholder group meetings/reference groups
- Adhoc meetings with Community/Stakeholder group executive and members

Such interactions either by Chair/Deputy Chair, or MRC officers

Key Community/Stakeholder groups may include but are not limited to the following:

- Department of Transport and Main Roads
- Whitsunday Regional Roads and Transport Group
- Mackay Regional Council Traffic Advisory Committee
- Road Accident Action Group (RAAG)
- Local Authority Waste Management Action Committee (LAWMAC)
- Communication providers (NBN, Telstra, Optus)
- Whitsunday Isaac Mackay (WIM) Alliance
- Mackay Region Mountain Biking Alliance

## 8. Quorum

A quorum consists of at least half of the appointed Members, however also including at least one of either the Chairperson or Deputy Chairperson, and well as one MRC Officer representative.

## 9. Meetings

Meetings will be held as required, however meetings are planned to be held at least quarterly. In the event of the Committee being unable to meet at the delegated time, the meeting will be rescheduled at a date as close as possible to the original date.

Agenda Items will be requested a month prior to the scheduled meeting. An agenda will be distributed seven (7) days prior to a meeting.



Agenda items and discussions that occur during these scheduled meetings are privileged and should be treated as confidential until the minutes are adopted by the next available meeting of MRC.

## 10. Conduct

Meetings must be conducted in accordance with the provisions of the *Local Government Act 2009* and *Local Government Regulations 2012*.

Members are required to:

- Act with honesty, good faith and integrity;
- Abide by the Terms of Reference;
- Actively participate in meetings; and
- Represent the interest of their local community rather than individual interest or issues.

In particular, Members are required not to use any community reference group for any public lobbying or political purposes, including use of social media to promote specific campaigns or strategies.

## 11. Governance

Members are to acknowledge that confidentiality of information and discussions must be maintained and respected.

Members will not use any information disclosed at meetings for personal purposes or gains for either themselves or others (including financial gains) and maintain confidentiality of all information provided.

## 12. Media

Members are not permitted to speak or liaise with the media and represent the opinions of the Committee or MRC.

Comments to the media on behalf of the Committee shall only be made by the Chairperson, or by another member of the Committee with the prior approval of the Chairperson and in line with Council's Media Policy.

## 13. Conflict of Interest

At the commencement of each meeting Members must declare:

- any declarable conflict of interest (using the definition of that term in the *Local Government Act 2009*, to the extent it applies to the Committee Member); and
- any prescribed conflict of interest they have in respect of a matter before that meeting. Members with a prescribed conflict of interest must not participate in discussion or decisions about the matter in which they have the material personal interest; and
- any other Committee decision about a matter if that decision has any possibility of



impacting upon the matter in which they have the prescribed conflict of interest (for example, a decision about another grant application).

When a Member declares a declarable conflict of interest and the Member does not decide to refrain from discussing or voting upon the matter, the other Members must vote upon whether the declaring member must refrain from discussing or voting upon the matter. The results of the ballot are binding upon the declaring member.

#### **14. Reporting Requirements**

The Committee does not hold any delegated authorisation from MRC, separate Budget, or financial delegation approval. Each meeting shall be properly recorded by the taking of minutes.

The minutes and any recommendations will be presented for consideration to the next available meeting of MRC.

#### **15. Associated Documents**

*Local Government Act 2009*  
*Local Government Regulation 2012*  
*Public Sector Ethics Act 1994*  
MRC's Corporate Plan  
MRC's Culture and Values  
MRC's Code of Conduct

MRC Policy 033 - Council's Community Engagement  
MRC Policy 090 – Volunteers  
MRC Policy 046 – Information Privacy  
MRC Policy 019 – Confidentiality



**MACKAY REGIONAL COUNCIL  
LIVEABILITY AND SOCIAL  
INCLUSION STRATEGIC  
ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

## TERMS OF REFERENCE

### 1. Purpose

The purpose of the Mackay Regional Council ('MRC') Liveability & Social Inclusion Strategic Advisory Committee (Committee) is to:

- 1.1 Provide a forum to enable MRC to enhance Liveability and Social Inclusion through strategic social planning, regulatory mechanisms, community projects, initiatives, and creating safe places where community voices can be heard and contribute to society.
- 1.2 Provide information, advice and views to MRC on current and emerging matters within the Mackay Local Government Area; and
- 1.3 Enable Councillors to engage with sectors of the community through identified stakeholder groups and individuals.

### 2. Scope

As a strategic advisory committee the Committee should not deal directly with operational issues. The Committee will provide advice to MRC to be considered as part of the MRC strategic decision making process and aligned with council's corporate plan.

In this regard the Co-Chairs will provide the conduit to MRC.

### 3. Roles and Responsibilities

The Committee provides a forum to provide advice and guidance on Liveability and Social Inclusion in the Mackay region.

The Committee is strategically focused to make recommendations regarding :

- provision of community facilities
- Community events and place making opportunities
- Governance and regulatory mechanisms
- Locality social planning
- Community development
- Community Safety

Engaging with stakeholders including (but not limited to)

- young people
- not-for-profit organisations
- service providers
- seniors network
- community volunteers





- Business and Industry
- Government agencies
- other community and interest groups

Members will be responsible for:

- Ensuring that they are aware of and accurately represent their respective stakeholder groups' views.
- Ensuring that outcomes of the Committee are conveyed accurately to the relevant stakeholder groups.
- Ensuring that they do not participate in or try to influence discussion and recommendations on issues where they may have a material or personal interest; and
- Providing timely advice to MRC when sought at scheduled meetings and special meetings.

Co-Chairs are responsible for:

- Setting the Agenda,
- Leading the meeting,
- Maintaining order at the meeting;
- Ensuring the conventions of the meeting are being followed; and
- Ensuring fairness and equality at the meeting,

In the absence of a Co-Chair the other Co-Chair will assume the roles and responsibilities of the Chairperson.

All information, advice, views and recommendations will be recorded in the minutes. The Committee has the opportunity to influence MRC decision making by making recommendations, however, does not have decision-making authority. Decision making remains the function of MRC.

#### **4. Authority**

The Committee provides information and advice for consideration by MRC and does not hold any delegated authority, separate budget or financial delegation from MRC.

The relationship between MRC and the Committee is reciprocal in that the Committee contributes advice to MRC and MRC provides information to the Committee (and the various groups and organisations that it represents) about MRC's strategic direction, decisions, projects, and initiatives relevant to the purpose and scope of the Committee.

Membership is voluntary, with MRC's Volunteer Policy (Administrative Policy No 090) and MRC Code of Conduct applying to all non-MRC Members.

Copyright of all information produced through the Committee is assigned to MRC.

#### **5. Membership**

##### **5.1 Key Representation**

- Committee Members, depending on identification, will be either –
  - a) sought by calling for expressions to the public; or



b) invited to apply by the Co-Chairs given representation of an identified stakeholder group or entity

- Interested persons/organisations are required to submit their applications in writing, outlining their suitability, relevant experience, and the value they can provide to the Committee.
- The process for the selection of Members will be undertaken by a panel consisting of the Co-Chairs of the Committee, and the relevant Director, and be presented to the CEO for consideration and finalisation.
- The Co-Chairs of the Committee, in consultation with the relevant Director, will undertake a process for the selection of a new member to replace a vacating member, if needed, and be presented to the CEO for consideration and finalisation.
- With the approval of the Co-Chairs, representatives may nominate a proxy if unable to attend a meeting.

Applicants will be requested to provide information to support their nomination on:

- Knowledge of and interest in the Committee
- Experience in applying strategic input.
- Developed interpersonal skills to interact with the local community.

## 5.2 Composition of Membership

### Councillor Co-Chairs / Membership

The Committee will consist of two (2) Councillors acting as Co-Chairs.

### Community/Stakeholder Representatives

- Members will be appointed for a period of generally three (3) years after the implementation of the selection process.
- Up to 10 Members will be selected from the nominations based on the following criteria and industry/community sectors and :
  - Social planning skills and or place making experience
  - Stakeholder engagement experience
  - Youth Development
  - Access and Inclusion
  - Disaster Preparedness
  - Community safety and amenity
  - Sporting Club Development
  - Community development



#### MRC officers

- Director Community Services
- Executive Manager Community Lifestyle
- Other officers of MRC may attend meetings as required
- Administrative/secretariat support will be provided by MRC.

Membership may be discontinued if a member, or their delegate, fails to attend three (3) consecutive meetings, without reason. It is expected Members will provide their apologies prior to the scheduled meeting.

Meetings are not open to Members of the public. Other community representatives or organisations may be invited to address the Committee on specific matters.

Membership should not exceed ten (10) in total.

#### **6. Quorum**

A quorum consists of at least half of the appointed Members, however also including at least one of the Co-Chairs, and as well as one MRC Officer representative.

#### **7. Meetings**

Meetings will be held as required, however a minimum of two (2) meetings are to be held per year. In the event of the Committee being unable to meet at the delegated time, the meeting will be rescheduled at a date as close as possible to the original date.

Agenda Items will be requested a month prior to the scheduled meeting. An agenda where practical, will be distributed seven (7) days prior to a meeting.

Agenda items and discussions that occur during these scheduled meetings are privileged and should be treated as confidential until the minutes are adopted by the next available meeting of MRC.

#### **8. Conduct**

Meetings must be conducted in accordance with the provisions of the *Local Government Act 2009 and Local Government Regulations 2012*.

Members are required to:

- Act with honesty, good faith and integrity;
- Abide by the Terms of Reference;
- Actively participate in meetings; and
- Represent the interest of their local community rather than individual interest or issues.

In particular, Members are required not to use any community reference group for any public lobbying or political purposes, including use of social media to promote specific campaigns or strategies.



## 9. Governance

Members are to acknowledge that confidentiality of information and discussions must be maintained and respected.

Members will not use any information disclosed at meetings for personal purposes or gains for either themselves or others (including financial gains) and maintain confidentiality of all information provided.

## 10. Media

Members are not permitted to speak or liaise with the media and represent the opinions of the Committee or MRC.

Comments to the media on behalf of the Committee shall only be made by the Co-Chairs, or by another member of the Committee with the prior approval of the Co-Chairs and in line with Council's Media Policy.

## 11. Conflict of Interest

At the commencement of each meeting Members must declare:

- any declarable conflict of interest (using the definition of that term in the *Local Government Act 2009*, to the extent it applies to the Committee Member); and
- any prescribed conflict of interest they have in respect of a matter before that meeting. Members with a prescribed conflict of interest must not participate in discussion or decisions about the matter in which they have the material personal interest; and
- any other Committee decision about a matter if that decision has any possibility of impacting upon the matter in which they have the prescribed conflict of interest (for example, a decision about another grant application).

When a Member declares a declarable conflict of interest and the Member does not decide to refrain from discussing or voting upon the matter, the other Members must vote upon whether the declaring member must refrain from discussing or voting upon the matter. The results of the ballot are binding upon the declaring member.

## 12. Reporting Requirements

The Committee does not hold any delegated authorisation from MRC, separate Budget, or financial delegation approval. Each meeting shall be properly recorded by the taking of minutes.

The minutes and any recommendations will be presented for consideration to the next available meeting of MRC.

## 13. Associated Documents

*Local Government Act 2009*  
*Local Government Regulation 2012*  
*Public Sector Ethics Act 1994*  
MRC's Corporate Plan



MRC's Culture and Values  
MRC's Code of Conduct

MRC Policy 033 - Council's Community Engagement  
MRC Policy 090 – Volunteers  
MRC Policy 046 – Information Privacy  
MRC Policy 019 – Confidentiality

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### 10.3. COUNCILLOR MEMBERSHIP OF COMMITTEES RECOMMENDATIONS

#### Advisory Committees – Terms of Reference

**Author** Executive Officer (David McKendry)  
**Responsible Officer** Chief Executive Officer (Scott Owen)  
**File Reference** Councillors Membership to Committees & Working Groups Register

**Attachments** **Councillor Membership Register**

1. MRC Councillor Representation on Committees Register - Councillors - Meeting Agenda - 26-6-24 [10.3.1 - 3 pages]

#### Purpose

To present to Council for endorsement Register for appointment of Councillors to committees, entities, and beneficial enterprises.

#### Related Parties

N/a

#### Corporate Plan Linkage

#### Financial Strength

*Ethical Decision-Making and Good Governance* - We are committed to keeping our community informed about our activities and performance and employing robust governance policies and procedures to ensure legislative compliance and organisational integrity.

#### Background/Discussion

The *Local Government Regulation 2012 (Regulation)* allows Council to operate with a range of meeting and committee structures, including Ordinary Council meetings, Standing Committees, and Advisory Committees. Mackay Regional Council (Council) is utilising Ordinary meetings (as required at a minimum of one per month), as well as Strategic Advisory Committees.

Additionally, Council has the authority to officially appoint Councillors to the board of a corporation or association. This action signifies that Council seeks active input and participation in the specified corporation or association, thereby extending the Councillor's responsibilities. According to section 150EF(2) of the *Local Government Act 2009 (Act)* such an appointment grants an exemption from Chapter 5B (Councillors' Conflicts of interest) under the Act (by declaring the involvement as "ordinary business"). This further reinforces the extension of the Councillor's role:

***150EF(2) - "...this chapter does not apply in relation to a councillor's conflict of interest in a matter relating to a corporation or association that arises solely because of a nomination or appointment of the councillor by the local government to be a member of the board of the corporation or association.***

Outside these formal appointments and resulting legislative exemptions, there are other interactions and involvement with external entities/committees/groups that are possible and encouraged for Councillor community interaction. These would fall under a few different scenarios –

- Reference Groups – There are a range of informal (non-entity) groups established purely for community engagement and understanding community/industry issues. As a non-formal entity, there is no board. Councillors are able to attend such meetings, especially with identified stakeholder linkage via Strategic Advisory Committees, noting that doing so is simply for the gathering of information to inform Council

strategy and decisions. Where possible, this relationship should be listed as stakeholders within the various Strategic Advisory Committee Terms of Reference documents.

- Corporations/Associations (observer) – similar to the above, potentially where identified as a key Stakeholder group via Strategic Advisory Committees, there may be a requirement to attend meetings, etc of various corporations and associations. Doing so as an observer, without being a formal member and/or holding an executive or board position, is possible, noting that doing this is to gather information to inform Council strategy and decisions (and specifically does not enact the exemption provisions under the Act for conflicts of interest as afforded to roles with formal Council appointment which ).
- Board/Executive roles – Councillors, as integral parts of the community, will have personal interests in a range of areas, including various groups, entities, and committees. Involvement in these, including where considered necessary by the Councillor as part of the Board/Executive, is encouraged. However, it needs to be recognised that these are personal decisions for involvement and not formal Council appointments (i.e. not formalised as an extension of the Councillor role) and will enact the conflict of interest provisions of the Act where decisions of Council intersect with the business of the group. Again, personal connection and interaction with the community via such groups is encouraged, with Councillors simply needing to declare the same on their Register of Interest documents and be mindful of conflict of interest instances.

The Register being presented for endorsement will formalise the appointments of respective Councillors to formal boards or similar roles with the identified corporations/associations. Further, the Mayor and Chief Executive Officer hold a formal Council delegation (Delegation COUDEL08) to make various appointments, enabling some flexibility should changes be required.

### **Consultation and Communication**

As part of the review process, consultation has been undertaken with the following:

- Mayor and Councillors (various briefings and meetings)
- Applicable Council Departments

### **Resource Implications**

Having been formally appointed by Council, any support required will be provided (however, in most instances, the roles are supported by the resources of the individual corporation/association)

### **Risk Management Implications**

There is a potential risk/exposure for Councillors appointed to hold formal board appointments of a corporation or committee. However, formal appointment by Council endorses these as an extension of the Councillor role and also then extends any legislative or insurance coverage being a formal part of the role.

An issue is the ability to make decisions in the best interest of both entities (Council and the corporation/association) when, at times, the decision representing one could be in conflict with the other. The appointed Councillor should balance this, noting that the appointment is essentially an extension of the Councillor role.

### **Conclusion**

The provisions of the Act recognise the appointment of Councillors to hold formal positions on the board or similar of corporations or associations (specifically, by providing an exemption from applicable conflict of interest provisions). Given that this is essentially an extension of the Councillor role, appointments need to be fully considered accordingly.

This term of Council has seen a major review of appointments, with those presented being the key roles considered integral to Council operations.

**Officer's Recommendation**

THAT Council endorses the Register of Councillor Membership of Committees, Organisations, Entities, Beneficial Enterprises and Internal Working Groups, and in doing so, acknowledges the exemption applied by section 150EF(2) of the *Local Government Act 2009* for an exemption from Chapter 5B (Councillors' conflicts of interest).



**Mackay Regional Council (MRC)****Councillor Membership of Committees, Organisations, Entities, Beneficial Enterprises and Internal Working Groups**

Per section 150EF(2) of the Local Government Act 2009, appointment is considered "ordinary business" and as such exempts Councillors from Chapter 5B (Councillors' conflicts of interest)

Formal Entity Name	Business/Trading Name	Purpose	Appointed Councillors
<b>Formal Register</b>			
Arts, Culture and Heritage Strategic Advisory Committee	Advisory Committee per section 264 of LG Regulation 2012		Cr Namarca Corowa (Chair) Cr Heath Paton (Deputy Chair)
Audit Committee		The Audit Committee is an advisory committee of Council, established and governed in accordance with the Local Government Act 2009 (the Act) and the Local Government Regulation 2012 (the Regulation), which require each large local government to establish an Audit Committee.	Mayor Greg Williamson Cr Martin Bella Cr Johnson (Observer/Proxy)
Economic Development & Growth Strategic Advisory Committee	Advisory Committee per section 264 of LG Regulation 2012		Cr Belinda Hassan (Chair) Cr Nathanea Macrae (Deputy Chair)
Greater Whitsunday Alliance Limited (GW3)	GW3	To promote sustainable economic growth and development in the region through coordination of any promotion of economic development activities, priorities and resources.	Regional Representative - Noted as Mayor Ry Collins (Whitsunday Regional Council)
LGAQ Animal Management Taskforce		Hosted by the LGAQ, in conjunction with the State Government the Taskforce will conduct a targeted review of the legislation (Animal Management (Cats and Dogs) Act 2008).	Cr Martin Bella
Liveability and Social Inclusion	Advisory Committee per section 264 of LG Regulation 2012		Cr Karen May (Co-Chair) Cr Ash-Lee Johnson (Co-Chair)
Local Authority Waste Management Action Committee INC (LAWMAC)	LAWMAC	LAWMAC is a not for profit incorporated association representing the regional areas of Northern and Central Queensland comprising a membership of local government councils and waste industry corporate members dedicated to best practice waste management and resource recovery.	No formal appointment of Councillor to Executive
Mackay & District Agricultural, Pastoral & Industrial Association INC	Mackay Show Assoc Trustee of Mackay Showgrounds	Trustees appointed under the Land Act 1994. Gazetted roles for Mayor and CEO	Mayor Chief Executive Officer
Mackay District Disaster Management Group (DDMG)	DDMG	The Mackay Disaster District encompasses the Mackay, Whitsunday and Isaac local government areas. The Mackay District Disaster Group performs a support function within the disaster management arrangements by providing support and assistance to the LDMG, when requested by the local group.	Mayor Greg Williamson
Mackay Local Disaster Management Group (LDMG)	LDMG	The purpose of the LDMG is to detail the arrangements for the coordination and management of operations and resources and to minimise adverse impacts that threaten the safety of our community prior to, during and after a disaster event.	Mayor Greg Williamson Deputy Mayor Belinda Hassan

Formal Entity Name	Business/Trading Name	Purpose	Appointed Councillors
<b>Formal Register</b>			
Mackay Local Disaster Recovery Group		The Mackay Local Disaster Recovery Group undertakes activities and decision making necessary to restore affected communities to its previous state.	Mayor Greg Williamson Deputy Mayor Belinda Hassan
Mackay Regional Council for Social Development Limited (Trading as Greater Whitsunday Communities) & (Trading as Regional Social Development Coalition)	Greater Whitsunday Comm	A non-for-profit company limited as the regional body for community and social development.	Cr Karen May
Mackay Regional Housing Company Limited	Connect Housing Group	Connect Housing Group is an independent, not for profit charitable company which provides a range of appropriate, safe and affordable housing and support options to people who are marginalised.	Cr Karen May Cr Ash-Lee Johnson
Mackay Tourism Limited	Mackay Isaac Tourism	Mackay Tourism Limited is the peak tourism organisation for the Mackay and Isaac regions. It is a not-for-profit, membership-based, marketing and destination development organisation, promoting the Mackay and Isaac regions.	Cr Belinda Hassan Cr Nathanea Macrae(Proxy)
Mayor's Olympics 2032 Taskforce		To provide a collaborative approach for the Mackay region and its residents to benefit from a pathway program to the Brisbane 2032 Olympics representation and legacy opportunities.	Mayor Greg Williamson
North Queensland Sports Foundation Limited		The North Queensland Sports Foundation is a not for profit, non government agency established to develop a sporting event to meet with a significant community need. The inaugural NQ Games was hosted in Townsville in 1984 and has continued to develop into the largest regularly run multi-sport event in regional Australia.	Cr Ash-Lee Johnson
Reef Catchments Limited	Reef Catchments Reef Catchment Solutions	To advocate for the Great Barrier Reef, facilitating best land management practices in agriculture, which allows the region to capitalise on our natural assets through activities such as tourism.	No MRC Representative Confirming representative from Isaac Regional Council as regional rep
Reef Guardian Council			Cr Jones
Regional Development Australia INC (formerly Regional Development Australia Mackay-Isaac-Whitsunday INC)	RDA Greater Whitsundays	An incorporated body who have an active and facilitative role in their communities with a clear focus on growing strong and confident regional economies that harness their competitive advantages, seize economic opportunities & attract investment.	Cr Belinda Hassan
Regional Infrastructure	Advisory Committee per section 264 of LG Regulation 2012		Cr Martin Bella (Chair) Cr George Christensen (Deputy Chair)
Regional Queensland Council of Mayors INC (RQCOM)	Regional Queensland Council of Mayors (RQCOM)	To provide collective representation for regional Queensland; to advocate for regional infrastructure, economic and social planning; to provide a stronger voice from regional Queensland; to influence State & Federal Elected Members to ensure their policy & legislative positions support Queensland growth.	Mayor Greg Williamson
Sustainability	Advisory Committee per section 264 of LG Regulation 2012		Cr Alison Jones (Co-Chair) Cr Peter Sheedy (Co-Chair)

Formal Entity Name	Business/Trading Name	Purpose	Appointed Councillors
<b>Formal Register</b>			
<b>The Mayor's Domestic Violence Taskforce</b>	The Mayor's DV Taskforce	The Mayor's DV Taskforce was established to provide forum where community and business leaders come together to demonstrate leadership and discuss options regarding the high levels of family and domestic violence in the Mackay region.	<b>Mayor Greg Williamson</b> <b>Cr Belinda Hassan</b> <b>Cr Ash-Lee Johnson</b> <b>Cr Namarca Corowa</b>
<b>Whitsunday ROC Limited (Trading as Greater Whitsunday Council of Mayors)</b>	Greater Whitsunday Council of Mayors (Whitsunday ROC Ltd)	The Greater Whitsunday Council of Mayors is a collaborative partnership between Mackay Regional Council, Isaac Regional Council and Whitsunday Regional Council. The partnership is committed to welcoming investment and growing the economic value and diversity of the greater region.	<b>Mayor Greg Williamson</b> <b>Chief Executive Officer - Scott Owen</b>

## **11. CORRESPONDENCE AND OFFICER'S REPORTS**

### **11.1. MAYOR AND CEO REPORTS**

#### **11.1.1. MAYOR'S MONTHLY REVIEW REPORT**

<b>Author</b>	Mayor (Greg Williamson)
<b>Responsible Officer</b>	Mayor (Greg Williamson)
<b>File Reference</b>	DMRR

#### **Attachments**

1. Mayoral Monthly Report - May- June 2024 [**11.1.1.1** - 8 pages]

#### **Purpose**

To provide Council with the Mayor's Monthly Review Report for the month of May/June 2024.

#### **Related Parties**

Nil

#### **Officer's Recommendation**

**THAT** the Mayor's Monthly Review Report for May/June 2024 be received.

# MAYORAL MONTHLY REVIEW REPORT

## MAY/JUNE 2024



Mayor Greg Williamson



# SUMMARY OF CONTENT

Key Events Attended

Key Events Attended – Points of Note

Key Meetings Held

Key Meetings Held – Points of Note

# KEY EVENTS ATTENDED

## Listing of key events attended as Mayor

- Officially launch the Bee Mindful Mural Launch in 7<sup>th</sup> Lane
- Open the Pioneer Swimming Club's Short Course Carnival at the MARC
- Speaker at the Artspace Volunteer Recognition of Service – National Volunteer Week
- Speaker at National Volunteer Week Afternoon Tea for Friends of the MECC
- Speaker at Decarbonisation Accelerated Summit
- Speaker at Magpies Sporting Clubs Biggest Morning Tea
- Speaker at Mackay West State School Centenary Ceremony
- Attended Botanic Gardens Open Day
- Attended Pet Food Donation Ride for Mackay Pet Rescue
- Opened RSPCA's 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Million Paws Walk
- Speaker at Mackay Women's Service Candle Lighting Ceremony
- Speaker at Bindi Guree – Opening of Culturally Safe Place and Yarning Circle – CQU
- Attended Bowen Basin Mining Club Networking Luncheon
- Speaker at Afternoon Tea hosted by Young Mayors
- Guest panelist at Young Professionals Networking by the River evening
- Provided Welcome at the RIN Safety Conference
- Speaker at Mabo Day lunch
- Speaker at Bishop McCarthy's 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary as Bishop of Rockhampton and Welcome to His Excellency Archbishop Charles Balvo Apostolic Nuncio to Australia
- Mackay Meteors and Meteorettes v Darwin
- Opened Legends on the Lawn
- Speaker at Mitsubishi Development Dinner
- Speaker at Thank You Volunteers Breakfast
- Speaker and Presenter at BMA Mackay Marina Run trophy presentations
- Speaker at 81<sup>st</sup> Anniversary of Bakers Creek Memorial
- Deliver Civic Reception for Visiting Consular Corps
- Attended Dinner with Visiting Consular Corps
- Attended Mackay Community Foundation Grants Presentation
- Speaker at World Elder Abuse Morning Tea
- Attended the QLD Scouts Annual Presentation
- Mackay Meteors and Meteorettes v Sunshine Coast
- Provided welcome for Mackay Open Table Tennis Tournament
- Attended the Finley Smith Memorial Cup cricket event raising funds for Epilepsy QLD

# KEY EVENTS ATTENDED - POINTS OF NOTE

## **The BEE MINDFUL Mural**

This is another project aimed at revitalising our city centre through laneway activation. It follows on from our award-winning redevelopment of 5th Lane. Using grants through Activate My Place, Regional Arts Development and Mackay City and Waterfront, a two-story brick wall at the back of the old Penny's Arcade and fronting 7th Lane, is the canvas for a magnificent mural.

Tammy Laval leads a community placemaking group called Mackay City Heart Collective and this project just shows what can be done when there is a community lead desire to activate an inner-city space most people have never seen. It is worth a stroll down 7th Lane to see this mural.

## **Decarbonisation Accelerated Summit**

Was a pleasure to join Mayor Kelly Vea Vea from Isaac Regional Council and Mayor Ry Collins from Whitsunday Regional Council to welcome over 200 delegates to a pioneering event delivered by our very own Greater Whitsunday Alliance (GW3) and the Mackay Resources Centre of Excellence (RCOE). The summit received tremendous feedback for the way the speakers unlocked the thinking around that word which scares many in business – decarbonisation.

The message was clear – we need a future where our industries embrace decarbonisation and our region is identified as a leader in the movement.

Our region is better placed than most to lead the way. Metallurgical coal plays a crucial role in the decarbonization process, particularly in the steel industry, and it is clear there is a long-term future for the sector that underpins the largest part of our regional economy. Add to that the huge potential in biomanufacturing (foods and fuels) using sugar as the feedstock, and it is easy to see why we should not be frightened of a decarbonised future but rather be actively working towards it.

Congratulations to GW3 and RCOE for their drive and foresight in facilitating this seminal event.

## **Mackay West State School**

A celebration marking 100 years of education was extremely well attended and it was surprising to see the members of our community who can claim to be "Westies" - including our Deputy Mayor Belinda Hassan. Congratulations to the Principal, staff and students for delivering a tremendous event to mark the occasion.

## **Apostolic Nuncio to Australia**

Was a pleasure to welcome the Apostolic Nuncio to Australia, His Excellency Archbishop Charles Balvo, on his first visit to Mackay at a community function at St Pats hall. It was also an occasion to mark the 10th anniversary of Bishop McCarthy's appointment as Bishop of Rockhampton (which of course takes in Mackay).

## **BMA Mackay Marina Run**

Started 16 years ago with 200 runners, the run this year was sold out with around 3600 runners and is now a premier event on the road race circuit in Australia, This year was also the biggest number of runners in the half marathon ever. Congratulations to the volunteers who make this happen.



# KEY EVENTS ATTENDED - POINTS OF NOTE CONTINUED

## Visit by the Australian Consular Corps

Earlier this year the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade sought our interest in hosting a group of Consul-Generals to Mackay to showcase our region. Of course, we welcomed the chance to put the Mackay Region on display and on Wednesday 12th June eight members of the Consular Corps arrived in Mackay for a three-day visit. The members of the party were:

Mr. Naoki Yanagida	Consul for Japan	from Brisbane
Mr. Seong-Yeon Kim	Consul for the Republic of Korea	from Brisbane
Mr. Mashare Ben Naheet	Consul-General for the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia	from Sydney
Mr. Richard Cowin	Consul-General for the United Kingdom	from Brisbane
Mr. John Williams	Trade Commissioner for Canada	from Brisbane
Ms. Nurfika Wijayanti	Consul (Economic Affairs) for Indonesia	from Sydney
Ms. Epi Rati Zuwita	Deputy Director - Indonesian Investment Centre	from Sydney
Ms. Luna Angelini	Consul-General for Italy	from Brisbane

The team had a packed program which started with a briefing from the CEO and myself covering our key developments, economic priorities and regional growth. They had trade and investment briefings from State Development and GW3 our regional economic development body.

They toured the Resources Centre of Excellence, were briefed by the Resource Industry Network, and had a networking function with representatives of the mining, engineering, and technology sectors.

I was honoured to extend a civic reception for the group in the presence of our elected body and regional leaders followed by a small dinner in 5th Lane.

The group had a half day on the Wild Cat visiting Keswick Island for a small sample of our tourism products. They visited a cane farm and toured Racecourse Mill including the bio commodities pilot plant. There was also a networking dinner with the representatives of the resources, sugar, services and tourism sectors.

On their final day they got up early to see the wallabies on the beach at Cape Hillsborough and then toured Dalrymple Bay Coal Terminal.

The feedback from the group was outstanding and with only one of them ever having been to Mackay before, it would seem the investment was well worthwhile. Proof will be in expanding on the contacts made of course, but we are confident we have introduced trade and investment opportunities to the reps of six countries who had no idea how good it is in our region.

# KEY MEETINGS HELD

## Key meetings attended as Mayor

- Community Accommodation Support Agency (CASA) site visit.
- Roundtable Meeting with Real Estate Agents and Conveyancers
- Mayor's Domestic Violence Taskforce Meeting
- Queensland Treasury Corporation – Leon Allen and Dominic Ryan
- Mackay Cutters Board Meeting
- Teleconference with Premier Steven Miles on Public Transport 50c Fares
- Whitehaven Coal
- Tracey Stinson, Regional Director Policy and Impact Queensland, Clean Energy Council - Renewable Energy Development in Qld
- Member for Dawson, Andrew Willcox MP
- Welcome Meeting with visiting Consular Corps
- Dolphins NRL Chief Executive Officer Terry Reader, and Chief Commercial Officer Damien McDowell
- Mackay Local Disaster Management Group Meeting
- Member for Mirani, Stephen Andrew MP
- North Queensland Airports



# KEY MEETINGS HELD - POINTS OF NOTE

## **CASA Site Visit and Staff introduction**

Was a privilege to attend an extended visit to the Community Accommodation Support Agency (CASA) Mackay to learn about their current operation and meet the staff. New Manager William Stafford continues the passionate delivery of services that started as crisis accommodation providers in Mackay 41 years ago. Today CASA is a Tier 3 community housing provider with new Outreach and Homestay programs to deliver, as they told me, "anything that gets the client off the streets"

There are 28 wonderful people working at CASA including three people on a new Outreach program who work the streets at night and on weekends to assist the homeless. On an average day CASA staff field 20 walk-in enquiries and 50 phone calls for assistance.

The service administers multiple government contracts all designed to get people in distress off the streets and into shelter. Many clients are victims of domestic and family violence, or desperate families struggling to find accommodation, and many have substance abuse issues.

The result of CASA's work in our community is amazing. The funds they spend on "brokerage" - which is client related expenses for things like motels, rent subsidies, tenancy retention, food etc. - has doubled year on year. It is \$800K so far this year and there are no admin costs in that number - it is all spent putting a roof over the heads of people in our community who need it the most.

While CASA has government funded contracts, they still rely heavily on community support. The volunteer community committee is chaired by Robert Ryan and people can contribute by finding out what's needed on their website :

## **Mayor's Domestic Violence Taskforce Meeting**

Forty-five people attended this Taskforce meeting to discuss the very concerning issue of DV. We heard from Reconcile Life - Cr Namarca Corowa and Joshua Fountian - about a DV prevention model that is working very well and has the potential for expansion.

The Taskforce spent some time discussing a strategic approach for our community to address four main areas of concern ;

- The fact that between 80 and 90 percent of Mackay Police time is consumed by DV.
- The huge societal issue of Lack of Respect that feeds so many issues around DV.
- A severe shortage of accommodation that compounds many DV issues.
- The statistic that tells us that migrant DV numbers are higher than the average.

The Taskforce is organising a workshop meeting to tackle Lack of Respect as the first step in a strategic community outcome.

## KEY MEETINGS HELD - POINTS OF NOTE CONTINUED

### **Tracey Stinson, Regional Director Policy and Impact Queensland, Clean Energy Council**

The Clean Energy Council(CEC) is the Peak Representative body for "clean" energy and energy storage in Australia. The CEC has over 1000 members companies from rooftop installers to very large solar farm companies.

The CEC is a non-political body aiming to provide research-based advice to commerce and Local Governments to create better renewable energy literacy.

With 36% of Australia's energy now coming from solar, wind, hydro, bioenergy, or hydrogen, it is a sector that we in local government need to be embracing. The CEC are working on a Local Government toolkit to assist councils like ours get the best for our community in this rapidly developing sector.



**11.1.2. CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER'S MONTHLY REVIEW REPORT - MAY 2024**

**Author** Chief Executive Officer (Scott Owen)  
**Responsible Officer** Chief Executive Officer (Scott Owen)  
**File Reference** DMRR

**Attachments** 1. FINAL - CEO Monthly Review Report - May 2024 [11.1.2.1 - 22 pages]

**Purpose**

To provide Council with the Chief Executive Officer's Monthly Review Report for the month of May 2024.

**Related Parties**

Nil

**Officer's Recommendation**

THAT the Chief Executive Officer's Monthly Review Report for May 2024 be received.

# CEO MONTHLY REVIEW REPORT

## MAY 2024



Scott Owen CEO



# SUMMARY OF CONTENT

CEO's summary

Safety

Highlights

Workforce profile

Utilisation of council facilities

Grants awarded

Community events

Community engagement

Customer contacts

Regional growth

Significant projects

Economic snapshot

Development activity

## CEO'S SUMMARY

It is with pleasure that I present the consolidated CEO's report for council for the month of May 2024.

Although each is further detailed in the report, items of note include the below:

- Workplace Health and Safety has developed a Safety Management Dashboard, which is being rolled out throughout the organisation. This is the start of the journey using safety data for better focus.
- Council is assisting Douglas Shire Council by sending key water staff to assist in their post-cyclone and rain events works. With limited resources, key repair work was not able to be attended to and Mackay Regional Council was happy to assist.
- It is unfortunate that council has had to launch a There's No Excuse for Abuse campaign, highlighting that it is not okay to abuse staff. Initial feedback has been positive.
- It was pleasing to see the Mackay Aquatic and Recreation Complex hosting high performance swimming training camps featuring Olympic and Paralympic athletes. It highlights the high-class facilities in Mackay, particularly relevant in the build-up to the 2032 Olympics.
- It has been a big month for funding announcements. Starting with \$15 million for the Northern Beaches Community Hub, more than \$32 million (over a period of years) was also confirmed for council for roads funding, as well as Works for Queensland projects.



# SAFETY

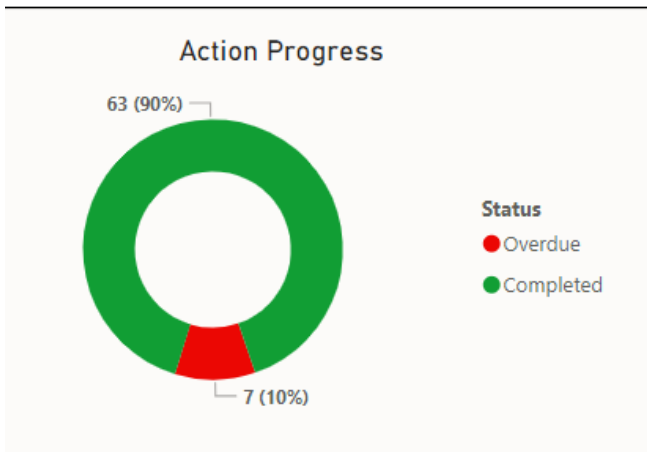
## Safety Management Dashboard unveiled

The Safety Management Dashboard was identified as a key business improvement initiative to transform safety data into actionable insights that support informed decision-making. The creation of intuitive dashboards will enable consumers to identify trends within the business and take action to improve safety. Phase 1 – Incidents and Phase 2 – Corrective Actions were delivered mid-May. These dashboards will be introduced at the June Safety Committee meetings for management and safety representatives to engage with.

## Strategic Safety Committee endorses roadmap

The Safety Roadmap was endorsed by the Strategic Safety Committee. The 2024-2025 program plan has been updated to reflect the approved priorities outlined in the decision register. The next meeting is scheduled for August 2023.

## Improvement Opportunities Overview



Of the 70 actions recorded in May, 20 actions materialised from investigations completed as result of a safety incident. The remaining 50 actions were implemented as result of proactive activities, such as site inspections, safety interactions, learning teams or emergency exercises. Reminder alerts have been sent to prompt completion of overdue actions.



Safety interactions play a key role in helping enhance our safety culture. In May, a total of **80 safety interactions** were completed by leaders.



In May, a total of **152 individuals completed inductions**, which included 19 staff members, 125 contractors, four volunteers, and four individuals on work experience.



# HIGHLIGHTS

## Water Networks staff assist cyclone-hit Douglas Shire Council

Two Water Networks staff members and one vehicle departed Mackay on Monday, May 27, for Douglas Shire Council.

The two Mackay council staff members worked alongside Douglas Shire Council staff for about 10 days, providing much-needed assistance repairing essential infrastructure damaged during the cyclone and rain events earlier this year.

Douglas Shire Council is struggling to complete all necessary repairs to infrastructure and the assistance from Mackay was much appreciated. Planning for this trip occurred over the previous month.

## Finch Hatton Mountain Bike project featured

The Finch Hatton Mountain Bike Project has featured in the Australian Mountain Bike (AMB) Magazine.

The “Places That Rock: Mountain Biking at Finch Hatton” article, written by Anna Beck, was extremely favourable and included numerous fantastic photos of the trails. Special mention was also made of the features included at the Trail Head and cafes and local attractions in Finch Hatton.



## After-agent survey captures feedback

Council's call centre after-agent survey is capturing community feedback and sentiment on kerbside rubbish collection and the Paget Waste Facility.

This topic will remain the focus of the after-agent survey until the end of July.

Three questions are asked and customers make their selection of one to five on the keypad to provide their rating. For May, 738 surveys were offered, with 211 completed.

Question	Average Rating out of 5	Percentage
How satisfied are you with your kerbside wheelie bin collection service?	4.57	91%
How satisfied are you with the operation of waste facilities, such as the transfer stations and Paget Waste Facility?	4.17	83%
Please rate your overall satisfaction with Mackay Regional Council.	4.18	84%

## 8 River Street site reinstated

The demolition of the 8 River Street building and reinstatement of the riverbank was completed in May.

Design options for the development of the now-greenfield site are being investigated and will be presented to council when available.



## There's No Excuse for Abuse campaign launched

An increasing trend of incidents involving verbal and physical threats against its staff has prompted Mackay Regional Council to act.

Council is standing up for its workers and saying it won't tolerate this abuse.

A No Excuse for Abuse campaign, including radio and television ads featuring four council staff members, as well as posters at its facilities, was launched last month.

There have had been more than 165 safety incidents involving some factor of unsavoury interaction by the public in less than two-and-a-half years. That includes 40 in 2022, 96 in 2023 and 30 so far in 2024.

Some of that increase is due to better reporting by staff, but the high numbers are alarming, especially as much of them were going unreported previously.

As council's campaign included real staff and not actors, the videos were not put on social media. Unfortunately, social media is where a lot of abuse is directed at council and its staff.



## Bee Mindful mural impresses

Council provided sponsorship funding to the City Heart Collective for the installation of the Bee Mindful Mural.

The mural in Seventh Lane was unveiled on Saturday, May 18, during a small event with invited guests and community.

One of the project's artists Scott Nagy also worked on the Slade Point Water Tower mural.

If you take a photo in front of it be sure to tag it #BeeMindfulMural on social media.



## Mackay Region Events and Conference Connect staged

The 2024 Mackay Region Events and Conference Connect was held on Wednesday, May 1, at BB Print Stadium.

The event attracted more than 80 attendees and 12 exhibitors from the region's event community, tourism operators and event services and suppliers' sector. It was an evening of relaxed networking and collaboration for the upcoming 2024 event season.

## Prospectus aims to attract high performance sports camps

The Mackay Region High Performance Camp Attraction Prospectus was published in May.

It is aimed at attracting national and international high performance sports training camps in the lead-up to the 2026 Commonwealth Games and 2032 Olympics and Paralympics. The development of the Prospectus was a collaborative effort between the Economic Development and Tourism and Community Lifestyle programs.

## High Performance Swimming Camps hosted at MARC

The Mackay Aquatic Recreation Complex hosted two high-performance swimming training camps featuring Commonwealth Games, Olympic and Paralympic athletes.

University Sunshine Coast (USC) Spartans Swimming and South Australia Sports Institute (SASI) trained at the world-class facility.



## Sarina Sugar Shed honoured

Sarina Sugar Shed has once again been awarded Best of Queensland Experience for 2024 for three categories: attractions, tours, and food and drink.

The program has been developed in partnership with the state's Regional Tourism Organisations, the Queensland Tourism Industry Council and the Department of Tourism, Innovation and Sport.

It identifies and recognises experiences that best bring the Queensland story to life and consistently deliver an exceptional customer experience.





## Silent Disco groovers step out in the city

The Mackay City and Waterfront Team hosted a "Silent Disco in the City" in May. Three sessions were held and more than 100 people joined in and grooved way around the City Heart.

## Council-sponsored events a success

Three Invest Mackay Events and Conference Attraction Program-sponsored events and conferences were held in the month of May, including:

- 2024 Barrier Reef Congress
- 2024 QRL Foley Shield
- 2024 ZACH MACH Adventure Challenge

## Library membership drive well received

The Libraries' membership drive was a big hit, with 188 people joining in conversations and 185 engaging with staff about membership, resources, and giveaways. Staff shared impactful stories, emphasizing the connections made during the drive.



# WORKFORCE PROFILE

## Staff Contingent

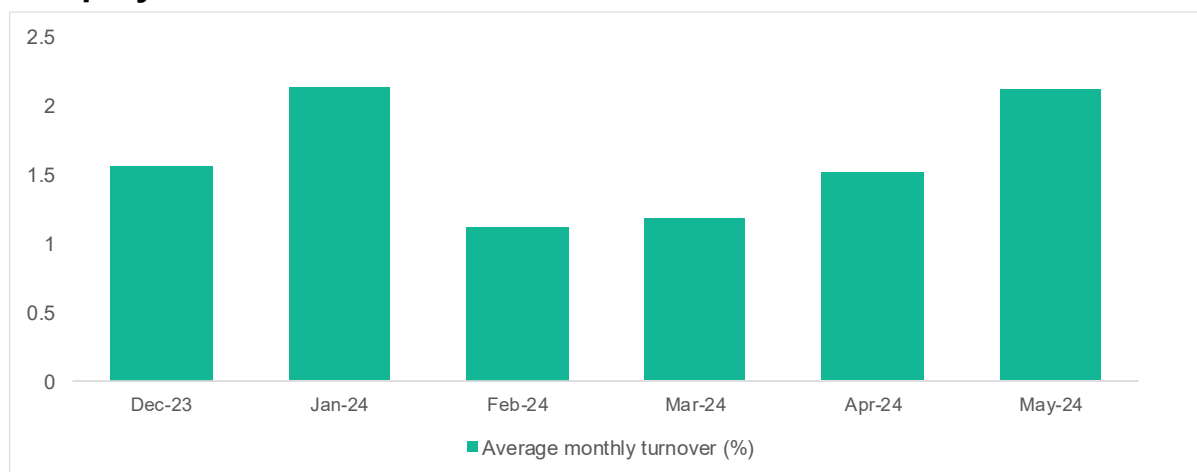
The current make-up of council's workforce is below.

	COMS	CORS	IO	OCR	PGS	TOTAL	Prev. month
Casual	82	3	4	0	8	97	96
Contract	5	5	13	5	4	32	31
Permanent Full Time	102	125	532	35	47	841	861
Permanent Part Time	34	23	11	2	10	80	71
Permanent Job Share	5	1	1	0	0	7	6
Temporary Full Time	22	16	49	3	13	103	102
Temporary Part Time	8	4	3	0	0	15	16
Temporary Job Share	2	1	3	0	1	7	6
<b>TOTAL EMPLOYEES*</b>	<b>260</b>	<b>178</b>	<b>616</b>	<b>45</b>	<b>83</b>	<b>1182</b>	<b>1189</b>
<b>TOTAL ACTIVE VACANCIES**</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>78</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>125</b>	<b>100</b>

\* Total employees excludes Councillors, Mayor and Deputy Mayor

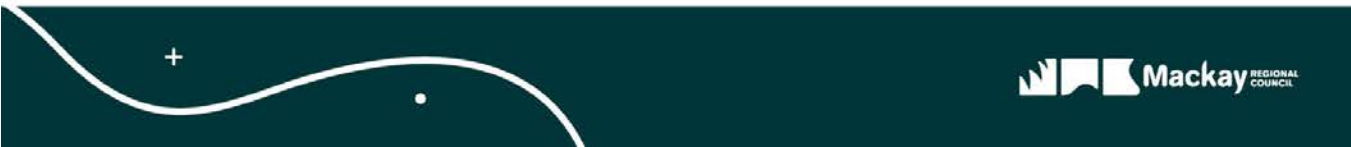
\*\* Total active vacancies are defined as vacant positions which have been approved for and are undergoing recruitment

## Employee Turnover

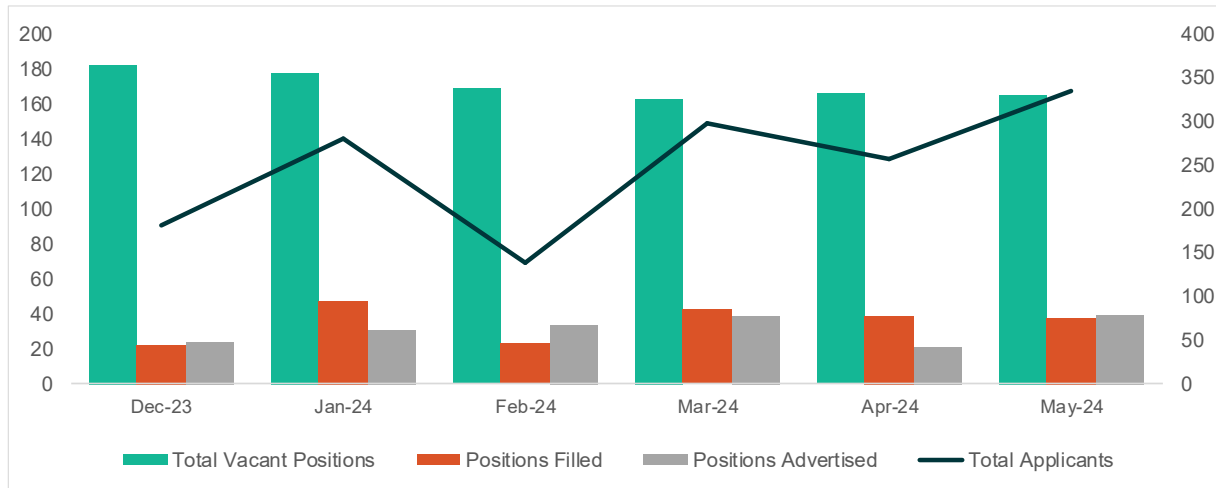



STAFF TURNOVER

The monthly turnover for **May** was **2.11%**.



## Monthly Recruitment





In **May**, there were **165** vacant positions, **39** positions were advertised, resulting in **335** applications and **37** positions were filled.

## Key Workforce Initiatives

- The Workforce Capability team has been working to improve workforce design processes, which will result in a dedicated Workforce Planning and Design site, improved delegations and clearly documented and accessible processes and tools. It was to be officially implemented in early June.
- On May 15, council hosted a delegation from Redlands City Council. This was a valuable learning session for both councils, providing participants with the chance to discuss common issues and opportunities faced with running a water business within a similar sized municipal council.
- Council's first Surveying and Information Services trainee attended their first residential experience in New South Wales for two weeks.
- Council trainees have been selected as two of the three finalists in the Bob Marshman Trainee of the Year for the CQ Region this year.
- Council is currently second in the Mackay v Townsville v Cairns blood drive. With 21 donations and 61 lives saved in the month of April, Mackay is ramping up the competition for a great cause.





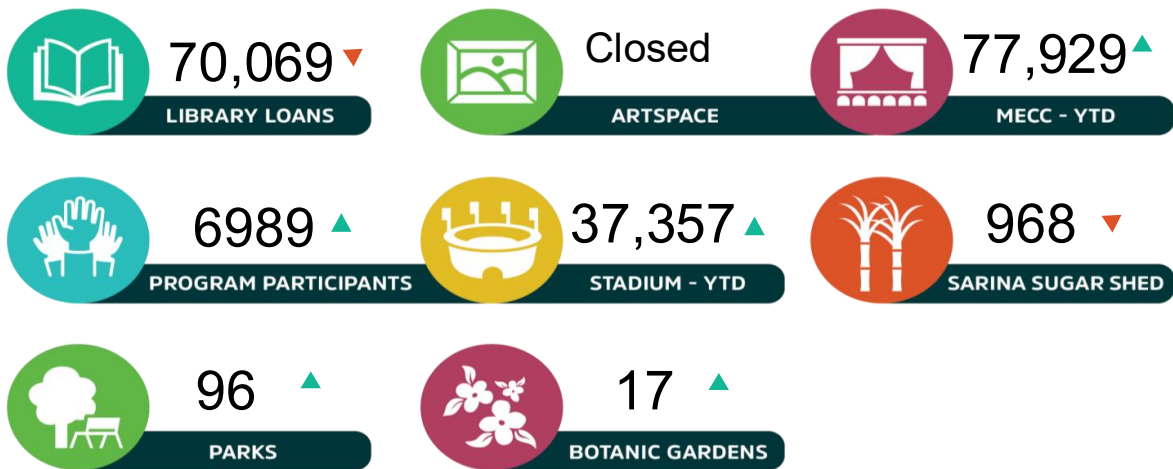
# UTILISATION OF COUNCIL FACILITIES MAY 2024

## Aquatic Facilities



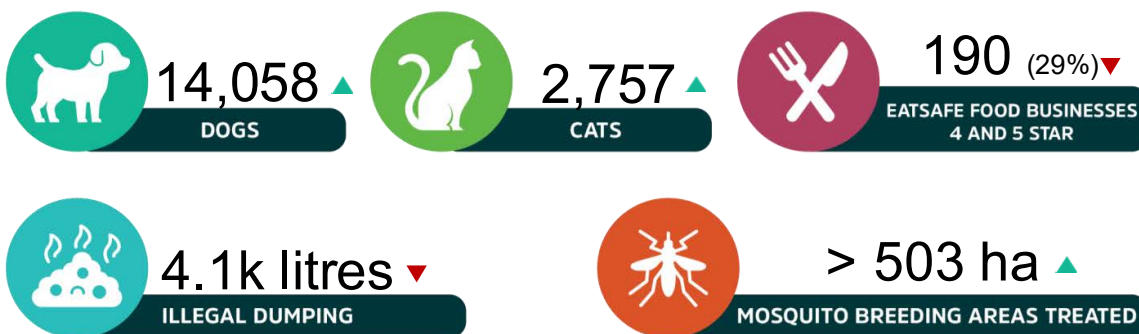
- ^ Closed from March 28 for winter period
- Closed from April 15 for winter period

## Public Programs and Facilities



Library loans saw a 4.8% decrease in May, with the April total being 73,595.

## Health and Regulatory Services registrations and statistics



The mosquito breeding areas treated increased due to above-average rainfall and an increase in fogging of identified breeding sites. Illegal dumping complaints decreased by 44 percent, with 27 received compared to 42 in April. Note, illegal dumping is reported in litres (not weight measurement) consistent with the State Government reporting requirements. EatSafe ratings of 4 and 5 star decreased by three. Out of 656 licensed food businesses, 190 were rated 4 and 5 Star (5 Star being the highest rating) under the EatSafe program.



# GRANTS AWARDED

## Regional Arts Development Fund Grants

Name	Title & Description	Amount
Charlene Attard	<b>Ridgelines - Art Exhibition Event</b> Project brings together interdisciplinary local visual artists to display new artwork at two locations with a focus on meaningful community engagement and foster cultural connection.	\$6645
Mackay Chamber of Music Festival Inc	<b>Mackay Chamber Music Festival Inc</b> The 6th MCMF will highlight the health, well-being and educational benefits of concerts and activities involving a collaboration with Queensland's Chamber Orchestra - Camerata.	\$5000
Jennifer Perry	<b>The Skies beyond</b> This project is researching the life of Aviatrix May Bradford. It involves flying to Canberra for six nights and accessing a range of archival sites relevant to May Bradford's life.	\$5516
Valley Spinners & Crafts Group Inc	<b>Celebrating 45 years through learning</b> To celebrate the 45th anniversary of Valley Spinners through a year of learning. Project will involve a total of 7 workshops.	\$6090
Colleen Heathwood James	<b>Art Exhibition at Art Space Jan 2026</b> Painting large landscapes expressing the artist's concern for human induced climate change by visually representing the stresses on the well-known rainforest area and the community of Eungella	\$5000
Jamie Wilcox	<b>Bucasia Amenities Block, Seaview Park</b> Creating a painted mural on the Seaview Park amenities block that highlights the unique natural environment of Bucasia through colourful flora and fauna elements from the beach and bush surrounds.	\$6380
Crossroads Arts Inc	<b>UNLOCK THE CITY</b> This project features performances across the streets of the Mackay CBD, including Crossroad Arts performers, Welcome to Country and a cultural performance by Tchundal Malar.	\$7347
The Wild Sky	<b>The Wild Sky Recording</b> The Wild Sky is seeking to record a high-quality original music EP	\$4434
Anita Wano-Sumner	<b>Augemwali Dressmaking Project</b> Project - pass on and teach Torres Strait Islander women the cultural craft of drafting pattern of traditional TSI Augemwali (dress) and sew the augemwali to fit each woman.	\$2235
Leon Namai	<b>NAIDOC exhibitions and mentorship (working title)</b> Creation of new works for two exhibitions in July in conjunction with the second stage of a professional development mentorship with Donna Maree Robinson	\$6760
April Tippett – Firefly Books	<b>Pathways to Print: A Step-by-Step Guide on How to Self-Publish Your Book with A. L. Tippett</b> Workshop attendees will learn the process of self-publishing, from hiring an editor to finding a printer in Australia. They'll be familiarised with service providers, anticipated timeframes, and expected costs.	\$2470
Mackay Filipino-Australian Community Inc - Aubrey Bautista	<b>Pinoy Art Exhibition</b> This project will celebrate Filipino Culture, by showcasing Indigenous Filipino Arts & creative pieces that will rekindle the glimpse of the past, educating the young ones of their roots/family history	\$7123
	<b>TOTAL ALLOCATION</b>	<b>\$83 481</b>



# COMMUNITY EVENTS

## Recent and upcoming events

Date	Event	Location
18-20/6/24	Mackay Show	Mackay Showgrounds
19/6/24	Lunch Box Yarns with Aunty Lee George	MECC courtyard
26/6/24	Lunch Box Yarns with Sarah Minniecon	MECC courtyard
3/7/24	MECC Presents: From Campsite to Stage Light	MECC
5-7/7/24	Merrick Watts: An Idiots Guide to Wine	MECC
6-7/7/24	Between the Tides	Cape Hillsborough
6-7/7/24	Fox Superflow Series and Rocky Trail Academy	Finch Hatton MTB Park
11-12/7/24	MECC Presents: You are a doughnut	New Life Church
12/7/24	DBI Literary Dinner	MECC
13/7/24	Sarina Small Halls Concert	Bob Wood Cultural Hall
13/7/24	Graeme Connors	MECC
14-21/7/24	QLD Veterans Table Tennis Championships	Mackay Table Tennis Centre
20/7/24	Wisely Wine and Food Day	Queens Park
23-25/7/24	QME	Mackay Showgrounds
26/7/24	Schools Tree Day	Glenfields Park, Glenella
28/7/24	National Tree Day	Glenfields Park, Glenella
1-4/8/24	Gold Coast to Mackay Yacht Race	Mackay Harbour
2-4/8/24	The Century Cricket Competition	GBRA
2/8/24	Mackay Art on Show Exhibition Opening	Mackay Showgrounds



# COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

## **Northern Beaches Community Hub (consult and inform)**

The Federal Government announced \$15 million for the Northern Beaches Community Hub stage 1B in mid-May. The community and key project stakeholders were informed via a project update email, media release, social media post and Connecting Mackay. The new internal road, Badyari Yalu Road, closed June 3 and will remain closed until late September to complete landscaping works for stage 1A. All local businesses, schools and childcare centres have been informed and the closure was promoted on a VMS board, social media and council's Connecting Mackay website.

## **Hamilton Street sewer rising main (inform)**

Council advised residents on May 23 of a one-day road closure in Hamilton Street to complete sewer rising main work. Social media was also used to inform motorists.

## **Grasstree Beach access (inform)**

Local residents and the Grasstree Beach Progress Association were advised by letter that three sand ladders on Grasstree Beach had been closed permanently due to extensive king tide damage. The existing engineered stairs fared well and council plans to construct another set to replace the damaged sand ladders.

## **Draft waste and resource recovery strategy (consult)**

Council's Waste Services team wanted feedback from internal departments about their draft waste and resource recovery strategy. Community Engagement ran engagement sessions with each directorates' management teams, and they were given three weeks to have their say online. A community engagement report was completed for this project and submitted to the Waste Services team to consider.

## **Design services engagement (consult)**

In May, Design Services required engagement with property owners in Cemetery Road, Sarina, for a kerb and channel design and consultation with property owners in East Mackay about the continuation of a shared footpath. The information gathered from these engagement activities will feed into the final design for these projects.

## **Bluewater Lagoon maintenance works (inform)**

Letters were sent to surrounding residents to update them on the progress of works at the Bluewater Lagoon and to inform them about the use of heavy machinery for the next stage of works. Regular updates will be provided to surrounding residents to keep them informed about the project.

# CUSTOMER CONTACTS

## Top Five Customer Requests

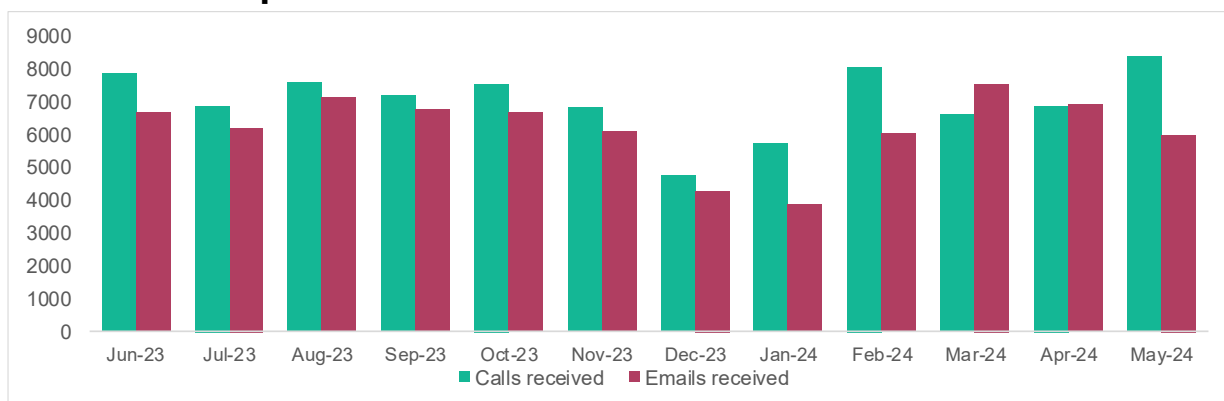
Pathway Requests Lodged – May 2024	Volume	% of total requests
Replace Wheelie Bin	411	16%
Phone Message	390	15%
Water Leak (Public Area)	179	7%
Planning Advice Enquiry	171	7%
Tree Maintenance	148	6%

+



**Across council, in May 82% of customer requests were responded to on time.**

## Customer Enquiries

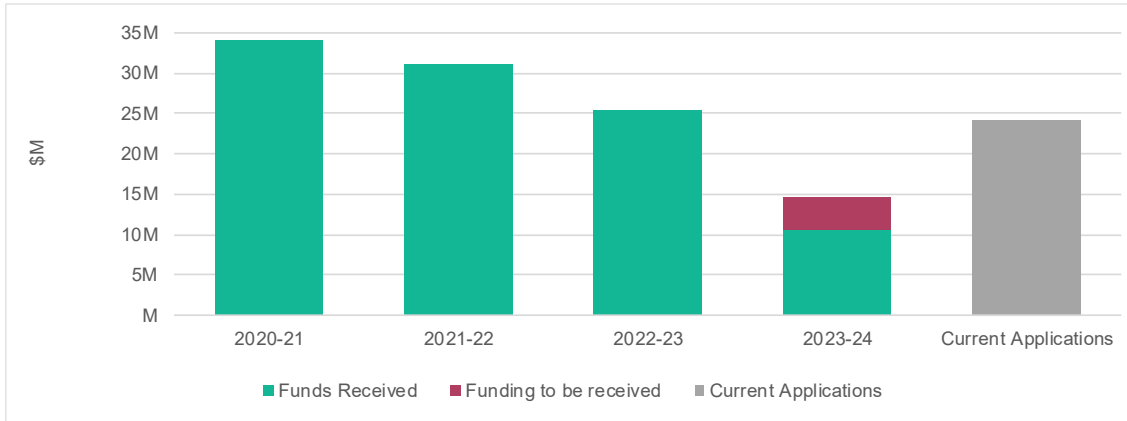


KPI	KPI Description	Target			Result FEB 2024
		Red (Under KPI)	Green (Met KPI)	Blue (Exceed KPI)	
<b>First Contact Resolution (FCR)</b>	The percentage of external customer enquiries that are resolved at the first point of contact.	< 50%	50-60%	> 60%	<b>52%</b>
<b>Abandoned Calls</b>	The percentage of customers that abandon their call before being served.	> 6%	4.5-6%	< 4.5%	<b>18%</b>



# REGIONAL GROWTH

## External Grant Funding



## Grant Applications Submitted



### April Movements

#### Key successful funding submissions announced

- Department of Housing, Local Government, Planning and Public Works – Works for Queensland 2024-2027 - \$14,980,000
- Department of Infrastructure, transport, Regional Development, Communications and the Arts – Roads to Recovery 2024-2029 - \$17,218,051.
- Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development, Communications and the Arts – Northern Beaches Community Hub - \$15,000,000

#### Key Applications Submitted

- Department of Treaty, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Partnerships, Communities and the Arts – Regional Arts Development Fund (RADF) - \$105,000.



**\$10.5M, or 58%, of council spend in May 2024 was with local suppliers.**



# SIGNIFICANT PROJECTS



## Northern Beaches Community Hub Stage 1 A and B

**Project Budget:** \$53 Million

**Project Status:** Stage 1B - \$15 million funding announced through Growing Regions Fund. Stage 1A construction progressing with some minor delays incurred due to wet weather and poor ground conditions.



## Forbes Road Concrete Floodway Restoration

**Project Budget:** \$3.4 million

**Project Status:** On Track - Works started onsite by Pentacon. Environmental controls being installed prior to construction beginning.



## Resource Centre of Excellence Stage 2

**Project Budget:** TBA

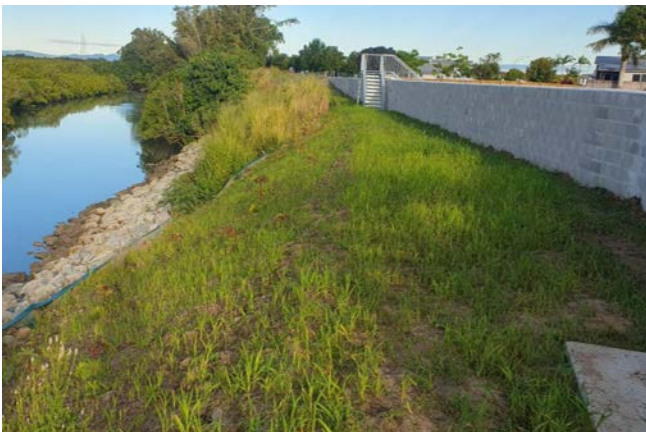
**Project Status:** On Track – Design complete and project released to tender, with tender closing July 9, 2024.



## Bluewater Lagoon Resurfacing and Pipe Relining

**Project Budget:** \$1.2 million

**Project Status:** On Track - Works commenced onsite and progressing well.



## Pioneer River Levee – Kay Court to Valetta Gardens

**Project Budget:** \$8.7 million

**Project Status:** Completed



## Midge Point Road Culvert Rehabilitation

**Project Budget:** \$0.5 million

**Project Status:** On Track – Nearing completion.





# ECONOMIC SNAPSHOT

## Economic Indicators (Quarterly)

Indicator	Dec 22	Mar 23	Jun 23	Sep 23	Dec 23	Mar 24
<b>Employment</b>						
Unemployment rate	2.4%	2.7%	3.1%	3.7%	4.4%	NA
Employed persons	70,832	70,070	69,676	69,249	68,046	NA
<b>Real Estate</b>						
Median house sale	\$440,000	\$445,000	\$450,000	\$450,000	\$480,000	NA
Median house rent 3 bed house (12 month ending)	\$450	\$460	\$470	\$480	\$500	\$500
Median rent 2 bed unit (12 month ending)	\$350	\$350	\$360	\$370	\$383	\$400
Res. Vacancy rate	1.0%	1.0%	0.8%	0.5%	0.6%	NA
<b>Residential Lot Supply</b>						
Lots approved	3	215	2	22	204	NA
Lots registered	28	29	74	75	14	27

Data relates to the Mackay Local Government Area and is updated on a quarterly basis as it is received by council. There is often a three-to-six-month lag from the receipt of data for a previous quarter. The "employed persons" data does get adjusted retrospectively by the source. This may see quarterly figures change but is a valuable indicator for recognising trends. ^ Queensland Government data (QLD Treasury).

NA = data not yet released.

## E-Statistics

	Dec 23	Jan 24	Feb 24	Mar 24	Apr 24	May 24
Mackay Region Joblink Analytic Report Active Users	1329	1343	1378	1405	1420	1479
Internet Vacancy Index (Central Qld) Advertised Jobs*	4340	4288	4321	4652	4519	NA
SEEK Advertised Jobs**	1473	1262	1328	1494	1446	1463
Discover Mackay Website Visitation	473	313	715	634	618	883
Sarina Field of Dreams Website Visitation	430	258	400	487	483	574
Hooked on Mackay Facebook	6782	6792	6847	6867	6886	6878
Hooked on Mackay Instagram	982	971	982	999	1,004	1,015
Hooked on Mackay YouTube Subscribers	486	508	521	526	541	561
Net Free Zone Voluntary Code Sign-ups	716	716	716	716	716	716
Mackay Region Event Organisers Connect Facebook Group Members	160	160	161	161	161	163
Invested in Mackay Subscribers	590	582	583	582	579	583

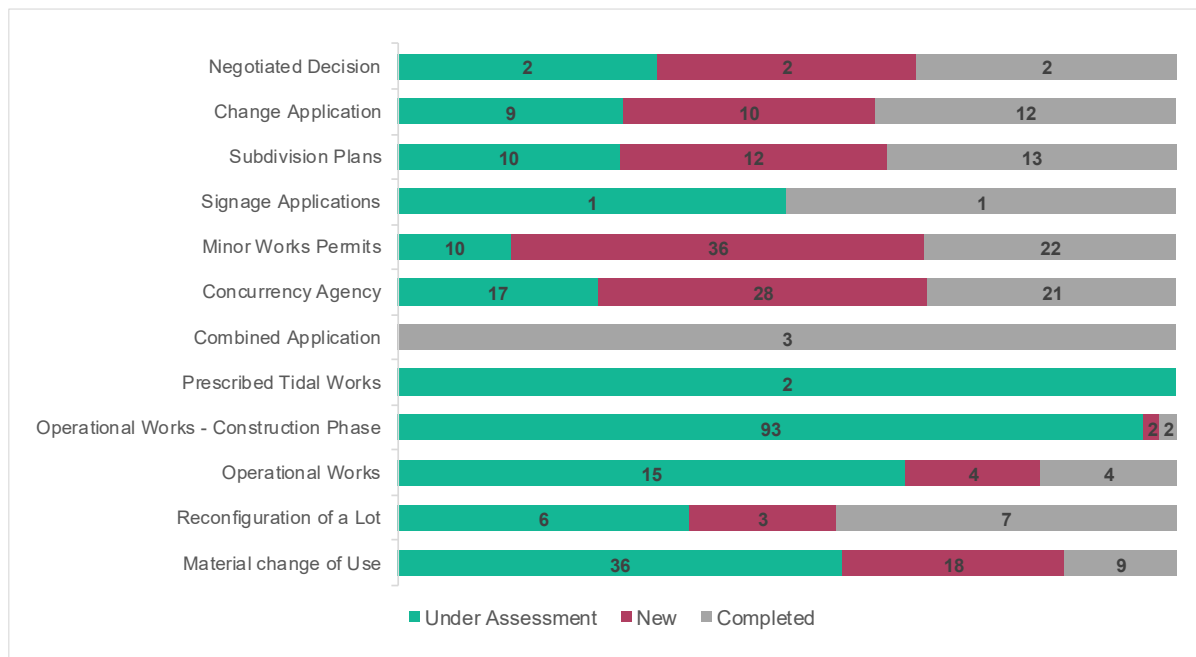
\*The Internet Vacancy Index (IVI) is the only publicly available source of detailed data on online vacancies, for 350 occupations (at all skill levels), and for all states/territories and 37 regions. The IVI is based on a count of online job advertisements newly lodged on SEEK, CareerOne and Australian JobSearch during the month. As such, the IVI does not reflect the total number of job advertisements in the labour market as it does not include jobs advertised through other online job boards, employer websites, word of mouth, in newspapers, and advertisements in shop windows. The IVI does not take account of multiple positions being advertised in a single job advertisement. The data is broken down to Central QLD covering 9 Local Government Areas (including Mackay Regional Council) and is calculated on a 3-month moving average.

\*\*SEEK data is captured on the 1st Tuesday of each month.



# DEVELOPMENT ACTIVITY MAY 2024

## Applications received by Development Planning and Engineering

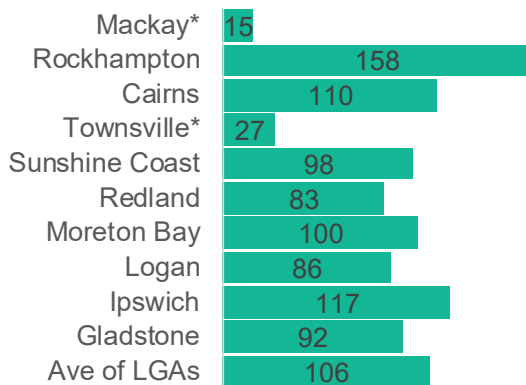


**In May 215 building approvals including amendments together with 115 development and 63 plumbing applications were lodged.**

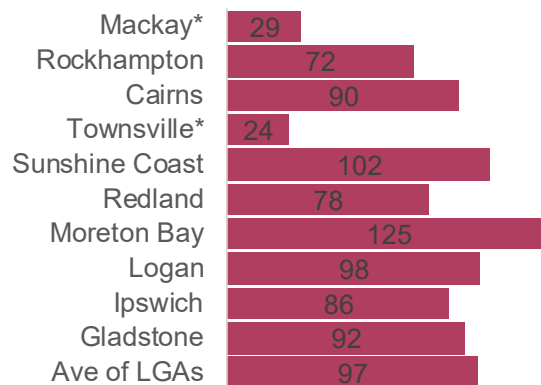
## Building applications lodged with council

Class	May 23	May 24	Year to date	Total value of proposed works
Class 1A	57	48	199	\$16,865,884
Other classes	138	137	575	\$16,984,408
<b>Totals</b>	<b>195</b>	<b>185</b>	<b>774</b>	<b>\$33,850,292</b>

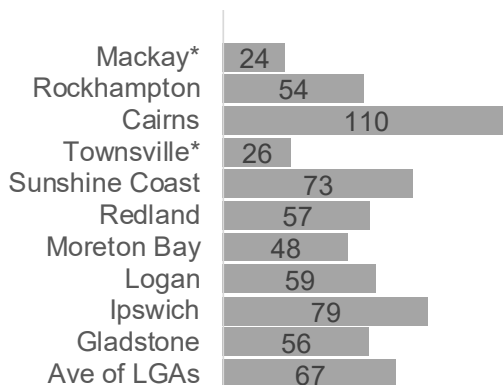
**Material Change of Use**



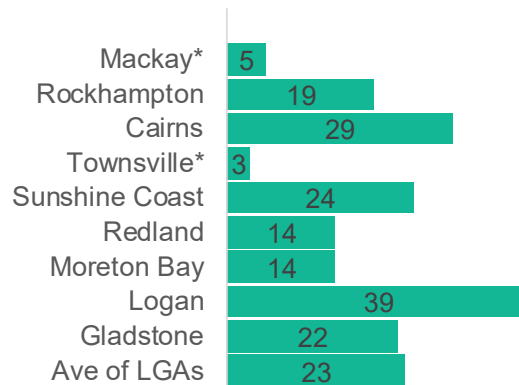
**Reconfiguration of a Lot**



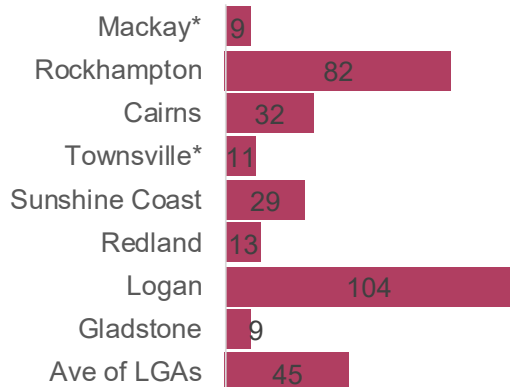
**Operational Works**



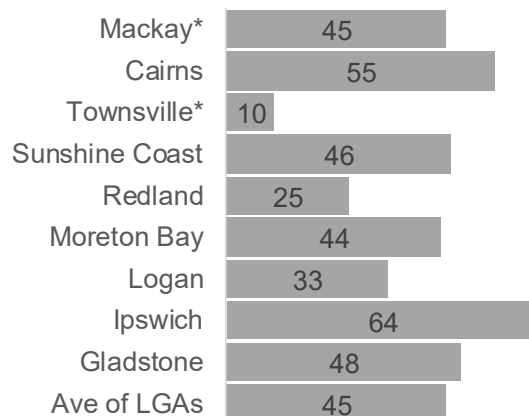
**Concurrence Referrals**



**Negotiated Decisions**



**Minor Change Development Approvals**



The information in these tables is supplied by Urban Development Institute of Australia (UDIA) and updated quarterly.  
 \*Statistics provided by Toowoomba Regional Council (TRC) for MCU, RoL, OPW and BWA reflects decision periods only. Townsville and Mackay are also reporting decision periods only for all categories.  
 Q1 2024 information will be published by UDIA week ending 28 June 2024.



### **11.1.3. COUNCILLOR CONFERENCE ATTENDANCE - ALGWA STATE CONFERENCE**

**Author** Executive Officer (David McKendry)  
**Responsible Officer** Executive Officer (David McKendry)  
**File Reference** Councillors General

**Attachments** Nil

#### **Purpose**

This report is to request Council approval for Cr Belinda Hassan, Cr Ash-Lee Johnson, Cr Alison Jones, Cr Nathenea MacRae and Cr Karen May to attend the Australian Local Government Women's Association (ALGWA) Queensland Branch 2024 State Conference in Brisbane on 26-27 August 2024.

#### **Related Parties**

N/A

#### **Corporate Plan Linkage**

#### Financial Strength

*Ethical Decision-Making and Good Governance* – We are committed to keeping our community informed about our activities and performance and employing robust governance policies and procedures to ensure legislative compliance and organisational integrity.

#### **Background/Discussion**

The conference has been planned for emerging and established public service leaders including elected officials within the local government sector.

The theme of the conference is "Learn today, lead tomorrow" and is designed to give delegates the inspiration and skills needed to recognise the potential in themselves, their workforce, and the community they represent as we travel through extraordinary times.

The ALGWA Annual General Meeting will be held as part of the Conference.

#### **Consultation and Communication**

Mayor and Councillors

As per Council's policy, a report on the Conference will be tabled at a future Council Meeting.

#### **Resource Implications**

The total cost for travel, accommodation and attendance at the Conference is estimated at \$1,700 per person, with such costs allowed per the Conferences section of Council's Councillor Reimbursement of Expenses policy.

#### **Risk Management Implications**

Nil

### **Conclusion**

The Australian Local Government Women's Association (ALGWA) Qld Branch State Conference will provide an opportunity for Council to learn from the array of speakers and presentations and meet and network with council colleagues from across Queensland.

### **Officer's Recommendation**

THAT Council endorse the attendance of Cr Belinda Hassan, Cr Ash-Lee Johnson, Cr Alison Jones, Cr Nathenea MacRae and Cr Karen May at the Australian Local Government Women's Association (ALGWA) Qld Branch State Conference in Brisbane from 26 – 27 August 2024.

#### **11.1.4. COUNCILLOR CONFERENCE ATTENDANCE - LGAQ COASTAL LEADERS FORUM**

**Author** Executive Officer (David McKendry)  
**Responsible Officer** Executive Officer (David McKendry)  
**File Reference** Councillors General

**Attachments** Nil

#### **Purpose**

This report is to request Council approval for Mayor Williamson and Cr Alison Jones to attend the LGAQ Coastal Leaders Forum in Townsville on 5-6<sup>th</sup> August 2024.

#### **Related Parties**

N/A

#### **Corporate Plan Linkage**

##### Financial Strength

*Ethical Decision-Making and Good Governance* – We are committed to keeping our community informed about our activities and performance and employing robust governance policies and procedures to ensure legislative compliance and organisational integrity.

#### **Background/Discussion**

The Coastal Leaders Forum will bring together elected members, chief executives and senior officers from across Queensland to showcase coastal council initiatives, explore current and emerging issues, identify coastal council-specific advocacy priorities and engage with key State and Federal Government representatives and industry partners, on a range of matters impacting coastal communities. Refer to Conference Program attached with further information.

Cr Jones as Sustainability Strategic Advisory Committee Chair has registered her interest in attending. The Mayor's interest, as well as having been invited to participate as part of the Panel Forum, is also to align an opportunity for the Regional Qld Council of Mayors to meet for the first time since the election.

#### **Consultation and Communication**

Mayor and Councillors

As per Council's policy, a report on the Conference will be tabled at a future Council Meeting.

#### **Resource Implications**

The associated cost for travel, accommodation and attendance at the Conference is estimated at \$1,450 per person, with such costs allowed per the Conferences section of Council's Councillor Reimbursement of Expenses policy.

#### **Risk Management Implications**

Nil

**Conclusion**

The Coastal Leaders Forum will provide an opportunity for Council to learn from the array of speakers and presentations and meet and network with council colleagues from across Queensland.

**Officer's Recommendation**

THAT Council endorse the attendance of Mayor Williamson and Cr Alison Jones at the LGAQ Coastal Leaders Forum in Townsville on 5-6<sup>th</sup> August 2024.

### **11.1.5. 2025 MACKAY SHOW HOLIDAY**

**Author** Executive Officer (David McKendry)  
**Responsible Officer** Chief Executive Officer (Scott Owen)  
**File Reference** Mackay Show Association

#### **Attachments**

1. Request letter 2025 [11.1.5.1 - 1 page]

#### **Purpose**

To consider a request for the appointment of a special holiday for the 2025 annual Mackay Show.

#### **Related Parties**

Office of Industrial Relations  
Mackay & District Agricultural, Pastoral & industrial Assn Inc (Mackay Show Assn)

#### **Corporate Plan Linkage**

##### Live and Visit

*Community Participation and Active Lifestyles* – Our region is vibrant and culturally rich, home to a wide variety of events, experiences and attractions.

#### **Background/Discussion**

Correspondence has been received from the Executive Director, Industrial Relations, Office of Industrial Relations, requesting that Council advise whether a special holiday is requested for 2025 (namely for a Show Day).

A response by Council is required by Friday, 5 July 2024.

Contact has been made with the Mackay Show Assn, who advise that per the Queensland Show dates schedule, the Mackay Show is planned for Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> June to Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> June 2025, making the applicable holiday date Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> June 2025.

This date aligns with the Pioneer Valley Show which is scheduled for Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> June 2025.

#### **Consultation and Communication**

Mackay Show Association

#### **Resource Implications**

Nil

#### **Risk Management Implications**

Nil

#### **Conclusion**

It is recommended that Council request a special holiday for the 2025 Mackay Show for Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> June 2025, being the date advised by the Mackay Show Assn.



**Officer's Recommendation**

THAT Council endorses that a special holiday be requested for Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> June 2025 for the hosting of the annual Mackay Show.



Office of  
Industrial Relations

Department of State  
Development and  
Infrastructure

24 May 2024

Dear Chief Executive Officer,

As you may be aware, each year in accordance with the *Holidays Act 1983* local governments are invited to request special holidays to be observed during the following year for districts in their area.

If you wish to request special holidays to be observed during 2025 for districts in your local government area, please complete the attached request form and submit via email to [info@oir.qld.gov.au](mailto:info@oir.qld.gov.au) by no later than **Friday, 12 July 2024**.

A local council requested special holiday is a public holiday only if it is in respect of an agricultural, horticultural or industrial show. Under federal industrial relations legislation, on a public holiday employees are, without loss of ordinary pay, entitled to be absent from work or refuse to work in reasonable circumstances. Employees who work on a public holiday are entitled to penalty rates in accordance with their award or agreement.

A special holiday for any other reason is not a public holiday but is a bank holiday only and under the *Trading (Allowable Hours) Act 1990*, is only a holiday for banks and insurance offices and under a directive of the *Public Sector Act 2022*, a holiday for public service employees unless otherwise determined by a chief executive.

Upon receiving Ministerial approval, the holidays will be published in the Queensland Government Gazette. Confirmation of the approved special holidays together with a link to the Queensland Government Gazette will be emailed to your office.

Should you require further information regarding this process, please contact Patricia Faulkner, Office of Industrial Relations on (07) 3406 9845 or email [patricia.faulkner@oir.qld.gov.au](mailto:patricia.faulkner@oir.qld.gov.au).

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Shane Donovan".

**Shane Donovan**  
A / Executive Director, Industrial Relations  
Office of Industrial Relations

1 William Street Brisbane  
Queensland 4000 Australia  
GPO Box 69 Brisbane  
Queensland 4001 Australia  
**Telephone 13 QGOV (13 74 68)**  
**WorkSafe** 1300 362 128  
**Website** [www.worksafe.qld.gov.au](http://www.worksafe.qld.gov.au)  
[www.business.qld.gov.au](http://www.business.qld.gov.au)  
ABN 94 496 188 983

## **11.2. ORGANISATIONAL CAPABILITY AND RISK**

### **11.2.1. ADOPTION OF COUNCIL POLICIES**

<b>Author</b>	Senior Governance Officer (Pam Currell)
<b>Responsible Officer</b>	Executive Manager, Ethical Standards, Audit & Risk (Anthony Bigby)
<b>File Reference</b>	COU088 - Graffiti Management / COU036 - Library Public Internet and Computer Use / COU016 - Rates Relief / COU084 - Corporate Strategies

#### **Attachments**

1. COU088 - Graffiti Management [**11.2.1.1** - 11 pages]
2. COU036 - Library Public Internet and Computer Use [**11.2.1.2** - 7 pages]
3. COU016 - Rates Relief [**11.2.1.3** - 8 pages]
4. COU084 - Corporate Strategies [**11.2.1.4** - 6 pages]

#### **Purpose**

To present the following Council policy for consideration and adoption:

1. COU088 - Graffiti

Further to present the following Council policies for rescission as they are no longer required:

1. COU036 – Library Public Internet and Computer Use
2. COU016 – Rates Relief
3. COU084 – Corporate Strategies

#### **Related Parties**

There are no identified related parties.

#### **Corporate Plan Linkage**

##### Financial Strength

*Ethical Decision-Making and Good Governance* - We are committed to keeping our community informed about our activities and performance and employing robust governance policies and procedures to ensure legislative compliance and organisational integrity.

#### **Background/Discussion**

Mackay Regional Council (MRC) has a process for reviewing policies and any associated corporate standards to ensure that they are relevant and up to date. The process involves a review by the responsible policy owner, circulation to the management team for consultation, and final submission to the Executive Leadership Team (ELT) for review and endorsement by the CEO prior to presentation to Council for adoption.

##### COU088 – Graffiti

This policy is a best practice policy to engage community support and reduce the incidence and visibility of graffiti.

This policy has been reviewed as part of MRC's policy review process.

##### COU036 – Library Public Internet and Computer Use

This policy's objective was to direct library staff to effectively manage personal computers and internet services at MRC libraries.

During the review process, the policy owner determined that the policy is procedural based and will be converted into an MRC library procedure. The policy is now not required, and it is recommended that it be rescinded.

#### COU016 – Rates Relief

This policy has been deemed redundant by the policy owner as its purpose has not been utilised since 2016, therein as it is not required can be rescinded.

#### COU084 – Corporate Strategies

Following review of this policy, it has been determined that its contents will form part of the Corporate Performance Planning Framework. Therefore, the policy is no longer required and can be rescinded.

### **Consultation and Communication**

As part of the review process consultation has been undertaken with the relevant stakeholders including responsible and associated program managers, directors and ELT.

### **Resource Implications**

The implementation and rescission of these policies will not require additional resources beyond those currently budgeted.

### **Risk Management Implications**

There are no risk management implications identified regarding the proposed and rescinded policies.

### **Conclusion**

It is recommended that Council adopt the following policy:

1. COU088 - Graffiti

It is further recommended that Council rescind the following policies if they are no longer required:

1. COU036 – Library Public Internet and Computer Use
2. COU016 – Rates Relief
3. COU084 – Corporate Strategies

### **Officer's Recommendation**

THAT Council adopt the following policies:

1. COU088 - Graffiti

AND FURTHER THAT Council rescind the following policies as they are no longer required:-

1. COU036 – Library Public Internet and Computer Use
2. COU016 – Rates Relief
3. COU084 – Corporate Strategies



# COUNCIL POLICY

## GRAFFITI MANAGEMENT

**Program:** Parks & Open Space  
**Date of Adoption:**  
**Resolution Number:**  
**Review Date:**

**Scope**

This policy applies to graffiti on all Mackay Regional Council ("MRC") assets, private property visible from high profile public areas, and any assets covered by relevant Memorandums of Understanding between Council and third-party asset owners (e.g. Port Authority).

This policy applies to all MRC Employees involved in asset management, planning, design, redesign and refurbishment of MRC assets.

**Objective**

To provide support to:

- remove graffiti as quickly as practicable as a strong deterrent;
- reduce the incidence and visibility of graffiti;
- work with Police, the community and other government agencies in identifying graffiti offenders and to deal with them via legal and remedial means;
- improve community perceptions of safety in the Mackay region; and
- engage community support and participation in graffiti removal and prevention.

**Policy Statement**

MRC is committed to the rapid removal of graffiti from MRC owned and MRC managed property and actively encouraging community involvement in reporting and providing the community with information to help with prevention and removal.

Council considers that to the extent this policy engages and limits, or potentially limits, any human rights, that limitation is reasonable in that it is proportionate and justified.

\*\*\*\*\*

This process to remain in force until otherwise determined  
by Mackay Regional Council



**COUNCIL POLICY**

**GRAFFITI MANAGEMENT**

Contents

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<b>2.0 Definitions</b> .....	4
<b>3.0 Review of Policy</b> .....	5
<b>4.0 Reference</b> .....	5
<b>5.0 Attachments</b> .....	5

## COUNCIL POLICY

## GRAFFITI MANAGEMENT

### 1.0 Principles

Graffiti vandalism refers to the illegal defacing of public and private property with markings or graphics without the owner's consent. Graffiti vandalism costs Queensland local governments millions of dollars each year. These are funds that would otherwise be spent on providing local projects such as parks, walkways, and improved roads.

This policy provides a set of principles covering both the removal of graffiti and the creation of conditions that will contribute to a reduction in the amount of new graffiti.

#### 1.1 Removal

MRC will remove graffiti from the following:

1. MRC property;
2. Private property boundaries where graffiti is directly accessible from public property, for example from a footpath or park;
3. Community leasehold sites; and
4. Other publicly owned infrastructure in accordance with approved Memorandums of Understanding between MRC and other asset owners.

MRC, where possible, will encourage property owners to remove graffiti from private property by providing advice on removal techniques.

Where possible, Employees are to remove graffiti as per the following target removal timeframes.

Priority 1 – removal within 1 working day. Applies to obscene, racist or other offensive material;

Priority 2 – removal within 3 working days. Applies to highly visible sites; and

Priority 3 – removal within 5 working days. Applies to all other graffiti.

It may be necessary to deviate from these timeframes on a case-by-case basis, e.g. due to resource constraints.

Exceptions include, but are not limited to:

- murals where an artist is required to repair the mural;
- sites that require a risk assessment or have access and or workplace health and safety constraints (e.g. working at heights or on a roadway); and
- private property, if MRC deems that the graffiti removal may cause more damage to the surface (MRC will suggest the private owner seek specialist advice).

In instances where graffiti on private property requires significant repairs, MRC will provide access to a graffiti removal grant program with applications

## COUNCIL POLICY

## GRAFFITI MANAGEMENT

accepted at any time and approved by the Executive Manager Community Lifestyle up to the value of \$500 per event and \$2,000 per property.

### 1.2 Prevention

MRC is committed to strategies that reduce and prevent graffiti.

MRC recognises the importance of developing and maintaining community partnerships to assist in the effort to reduce graffiti. This particularly applies to the reporting of graffiti, the removal of graffiti and the identification and implementation of potential reduction strategies.

MRC recognises that any strategy to reduce the incidence of graffiti should contain an enforcement element to ensure that serious offenders are appropriately dealt with through proper legal channels. MRC will share information with the Queensland Police Service regarding graffiti offenders and graffiti "hotspots".

MRC will promote design strategies that reduce opportunities for graffiti on public and private assets. For example, Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design (CPTED).

MRC will not provide walls or surfaces for unregulated 'legal' graffiti, as a prevention strategy.

The design and application of appropriate murals on MRC property may be used at selected locations to reduce the likelihood of graffiti vandalism. Proposed murals will need Council approval and the responsibility for maintenance of murals will lie with the MRC Program responsible for that asset.

### 1.3 Reporting

Employees and residents are encouraged to report graffiti to a MRC Customer Service Centre.

Citizens are encouraged to ring or SMS1300graffiti (1300 472 334) and report what they know.

MRC supports a working partnership with Crime Stoppers Queensland to encourage the reporting of graffiti offenders.

## 2.0 Definitions

To assist in interpretation the following definitions shall apply:

**Community Leasehold Sites** shall mean sites held under leasehold tenure to community groups ('not for profit' groups or incorporated associations) for land owned or under the control of MRC or the state government.



## COUNCIL POLICY

## GRAFFITI MANAGEMENT

**Employee** shall mean all persons employed by MRC on a permanent, temporary, or casual basis and includes persons engaged under a contract of service, and volunteers.

**MRC** shall mean Mackay Regional Council.

**Private property** shall mean property not owned by MRC, within the MRC boundaries, and for which rates are paid to MRC (excludes State Government owned property).

### 3.0 Review of Policy

This policy will be reviewed when any of the following occur:

- The related documents are amended or replaced.
- Other circumstances as determined from time to time by a resolution of Council.

Notwithstanding the above, this policy is to be reviewed at intervals of no more than three (3) years.

### 4.0 Reference

- *Local Government Act 2009*
- *Queensland Criminal Code Act 1899*, section 469 (Wilful Damage)
- The *Summary Offences Act 2005* Part 3 prescribes powers of entry for authorised officers with respect to "public graffiti" which is defined as:
  - (a) Graffiti in a public place; or
  - (b) Graffiti in another place but only to the extent the graffiti can readily be seen from a public place

### 5.0 Attachments

- Graffiti Removal Grant Application Form

Version Control:

Version	Reason / Trigger	Change	Endorsed / Reviewed	Date
1	New Policy		Council	26.08.15
2	Review		Council	27.09.17
3	Policy Review		Council	28.10.20
4	Review			

**COUNCIL POLICY** **GRAFFITI MANAGEMENT**



**Graffiti Removal Grant Application Form**

**Guidelines and Conditions**

The Mackay Regional Council Graffiti Grant is provided to businesses and/or organisations as a means of supporting the removal of graffiti from non-Council owned facilities, so as not to create a visual or general impact on the community.

Conditions of the funding are as follows:-

- The graffiti must be deemed by Council to be considered to have a community impact; and
- Quotes to the satisfaction of Council should be obtained for the cost of removal of the applicable graffiti; and
- Council's commitment to each facility for each graffiti event is to a maximum of \$500 (plus GST); and
- It is possible for a single facility to occur a number of graffiti events, with Council's commitment to each facility to be a maximum of \$2,000 (plus GST) within a 12 month period; and
- Funding may be provided to either the facility owner or tenant; and
- Graffiti is required to be removed within 14 days of approval of funding (unless a longer period is specifically approved); and
- Council reserves the absolute right and discretion whether to grant the applicable funding to a facility and/or graffiti event.

Please ensure all requirements are fulfilled as any incomplete applications will be returned unactioned.

Details of Business or Organisation	Business/Organisation	
	Address	
	Postal Address	
	Telephone	
	Fax	
	Email	
Contact Person for this Application	Name	
	Telephone	
	Email	
	Occupancy Status	<input type="checkbox"/> Tenant <input type="checkbox"/> Owner
Business or Organisation Status	Incorporation Number: <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/>	
	or	
	Australian Business Number (ABN): <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/>	
	Is your Business or Organisation registered for GST?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No

Civic Precinct, Gordon Street PO Box 41 | Mackay | QLD 4740 | Australia Telephone 1300 622 529 Facsimile 07 4944 2400 Email council@mackay.qld.gov.au www.mackay.qld.gov.au



# COUNCIL POLICY GRAFFITI MANAGEMENT

Details of Graffiti	Location of Graffiti			
	Approximate Size			
	Medium Used (Paint, Nikko, etc)			
	Cheapest Quote	\$		
	Method of Removal (from Quote)			
	Timeframe for Removal (from Quote)			
	Photographic Evidence of Graffiti	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No	
	Have the Police been notified	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No	
	If yes: Name of Officer			
	Contact Number			
Incident Report Number				
Eligibility Criteria and Checklist	Please answer the following in relation to your Business / Organisation:			
		Yes	No	N/A
	Do you operate within the Mackay Regional Council boundaries?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Have you acquitted any previous Mackay Regional Council Graffiti Grants?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Do you have 2 quotes for graffiti removal costs?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Have you attached a photo of the graffiti to be removed?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Have you completed and attached the relevant tax form?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Has an Authorised Person signed the application form?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	

I hereby certify that I have been authorised to prepare and submit this application on behalf of the above mentioned Business / Organisation and the information contained herein is a true and correct record to the best of my knowledge. On behalf of the above mentioned Business / Organisation, I agree to accept funding in accordance with the Graffiti Grants Guidelines and Conditions.

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Position: \_\_\_\_\_

Civic Precinct, Gordon Street  
 PO Box 41 | Mackay | QLD 4740 | Australia

Telephone 1300 622 529  
 Facsimile 07 4944 2400

Email [council@mackay.qld.gov.au](mailto:council@mackay.qld.gov.au)  
[www.mackay.qld.gov.au](http://www.mackay.qld.gov.au)



**COUNCIL POLICY****GRAFFITI MANAGEMENT**

You are required to complete **one** of the following forms. Please read for more information.

**1. Statement by a supplier.**

- To be completed if you have **no ABN and are not registered for GST**.
- Please tick one category only.
- There are penalties for making a false declaration on this form.
- If you do not qualify for one of the categories, 48.5% of the payment is required to be withheld and forwarded to the Australian Tax Office. You will then need to claim this amount in your next tax return.

**2. Agreement for creation of a tax invoice on behalf of a payee.**

- To be completed if you have **an ABN and are registered for GST**. (This will allow Council to generate a Tax Invoice on behalf of the supplier and therefore conform to ATO procedure.)

**3. Declaration by a Supplier – ABN (Not registered for GST).**

- To be completed if you have **an ABN but are not registered for GST**.

**NOTE:** If you are still unsure in regard to your circumstances relating to GST contact the Australian Taxation Office.

**COUNCIL POLICY** **GRAFFITI MANAGEMENT**

**AGREEMENT FOR CREATION OF A TAX INVOICE  
ON BEHALF OF A PAYEE**

ABN Number	
Name of Payee	
Address of Payee	
Telephone Details	
Purpose of Payment	

**NOTE: Where the ABN is not supplied Mackay Regional Council is obliged to deduct 48.5% of any payments for the above purpose and remit it to the Australian Taxation Office. You will be then required to claim this amount in your annual taxation return.**

In order for Mackay Regional Council to create a tax invoice on your behalf ("RCTI") for the above supply, Mackay Regional Council and the Payee/s agree that Mackay Regional Council can issue tax invoices in respect of the supplies on the following conditions:-

- The Payee/s will not issue tax invoices in respect of the supplies;
- The Payee/s acknowledges that it is registered for GST and that it will notify Mackay Regional Council if it ceases to be registered;
- Mackay Regional Council acknowledges that it is registered for GST and that it will notify the Payee/s if it ceases to be registered or if it ceases to satisfy any of the requirements of the RCTI Ruling issued by the Australian Taxation Office; and

This authority remains in place unless it is amended **in writing** by the Payee/s.

I hereby certify the information in this authority is correct and the ABN quoted is the ABN of the Payee/s identified in this authority.

Dated this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_ 20

.....  
Signature of Payee/s

.....  
Signature of Payee/s



**COUNCIL POLICY** **GRAFFITI MANAGEMENT**

**Statement by a Supplier**

Reason for not quoting an Australian Business Number (ABN) to an Enterprise

Name of Supplier

Address of Supplier

Under the Pay As You Go legislation and guidelines produced by the Australian Taxation Office I provide you with a written statement that, for the supply I am making and further supplies of this type that I make to you:  Tick the Appropriate Box

The supply is made to you in my capacity as an individual, and the supply is made in the course of an activity that is a private recreational pursuit or hobby

The supply is made to you in my capacity as an individual, and the supply is wholly of a private or domestic nature for me

I (or the supplier that I represent) am/is a non-resident who is not carrying on an enterprise in Australia

The whole of the payment that I (or the supplier that I represent) will receive for the supply is exempt from income tax

I (or the partnership that I represent) have no reasonable expectation of profit or gain from the activity undertaken and consider that I (or the partnership that I represent) do not meet the definition of enterprise for tax purposes

Therefore, I am not quoting you an ABN. You should not withhold an amount from the payment you make to me for the supply. I agree to advise you in writing if circumstances change to the extent that this statement becomes invalid.

Name of Authorised Person (if not the supplier)

Signature of Supplier of Authorised Person

Date  /  /

Daytime Contact Phone Number

**It is an offence to make a false or misleading statement**

**The person / entity to whom this statement is made should retain the statement for 5 years**



## COUNCIL POLICY

## GRAFFITI MANAGEMENT


**DECLARATION BY A SUPPLIER – ABN ( NOT REGISTERED FOR GST )**

<b>Name of Supplier</b>	
<b>Address of Supplier</b>	
<b>ABN</b>	

I hereby certify that the information and ABN quoted above is correct and that the above named supplier is not registered for GST.

Therefore GST is not required to be paid for a supply.

<b>Name of Authorised Person</b> <i>(if not the supplier)</i>	
<b>Signature of Supplier or Authorised person</b>	
<b>Date</b>	

 <p><b>Mackay</b> REGIONAL COUNCIL</p>	COUNCIL POLICY	
	Library Public Internet and Computer Use	
	POLICY NO	036
	DEPARTMENT	Community & Client Services
	PROGRAM	Community Lifestyle
ENDORSED BY COUNCIL 24 February 2021		
Resolution: ORD-2021-55		

### 1.0 Scope

This policy applies to all users of Mackay Regional Council (MRC) and Library Services computers and networks.

### 2.0 Purpose

The objectives of this policy are to:

- ensure efficient and effective management of PC's and internet services at MRC Libraries;
- inform library users of the terms and conditions of use for accessing PC's and internet services.

### 3.0 Reference

- *Local Government Act 2009*
- *Human Rights Act 2019*
- MRC Policy No. 001 - Administrative Action Complaints Policy
- Subordinate Local Law No. 4 (Local Government Controlled Areas, Facilities & Roads) 2011

### 4.0 Definitions

To assist in interpretation the following definitions shall apply:

**Council** shall mean the Mayor and Councillors of Mackay Regional Council.

**Human Rights Complaint** shall mean a complaint about an alleged contravention of section 58-1 by a public entity in relation to an act or decision of the public entity.

**Internet services** shall mean internet access available via the PC's and wireless network.

**Library** shall mean a Library belonging to, or under the control or management of, MRC and includes all library locations.



**Member** shall mean any user who has fulfilled the requirements for membership of the Library and has a current membership card.

**MRC** shall mean Mackay Regional Council.

**PC** shall mean PC.

**Offensive material** may include but is not limited to images or text containing nudity, obscenity, or graphic violence.

**User** shall mean any person, whether or not a member, who visits a Library for the purpose of using Library resources and/or facilities.

**Visitors** shall mean any user, who is not a library member.

## 5.0 Background

This policy outlines the requirements for access to MRC Libraries' public computer Internet and wireless network services.

Human Rights have been considered when preparing this Policy.

## 6.0 Policy Statement

### 6.1 Responsibility of the Library

Library Services staff have the responsibility of implementing this policy consistently across all library branches.

### 6.2 Terms and Conditions

If users do not wish to be bound by these terms and conditions, they should not accept these terms and conditions or access the library, public computer or WiFi services.

MRC Libraries is committed to a policy of information equity for our community. As part of this commitment the library provides access and maintains public internet PC's at all library sites as well as a public wireless network at all library sites and other public MRC facilities. Any breach of this policy will result in library services being suspended or withdrawn.

- Users agree to comply with all copyright laws (displayed at printing station) and any applicable Federal and State legislation.
- Mackay Regional Council Libraries are not responsible for any loss or damage occurring from the use of this resource, including accuracy or content of web sites, technical difficulties, service interruptions, the transmission of computer viruses or loss/corruption of files on storage devices.
- Council reserves the right to implement software and hardware control mechanisms to block information determined to be inconsistent with the organisation mission, together with software to protect the PC's from viruses and setting changes.

- Council does not guarantee availability of the internet or any sites at any time. Libraries are not liable for technical difficulties, loss of data resulting from delays, non-delivery or service disruptions.
- Users must not attempt to make changes to the setup or configuration of PC's, including the loading of software applications and/or games.
- The intentional downloading and/or viewing of material on the internet that contains content considered offensive is expressly prohibited.
- Council reserves the right to limit download amounts, and may restrict access to certain sites, including but not limited to, content streaming sites, to ensure equitable access to all users.
- Council does not provide support to configure your equipment for wireless access. For further assistance refer to your user manual or refer to your hardware or software provider.
- Library staff may decline to provide assistance to users where there is a risk a user may be exposing confidential information such as banking or other identifying details. As such library staff will not enter a user's personal information into forms or information fields on a user's behalf, eg typing up word documents, entering financial information into online forms.
- All PC's and wireless users must adhere to the Mackay Regional Council Libraries Customer Service Charter at all times, treating library staff with courtesy and respect.
- Information wirelessly sent to and from your laptop/notebook may be captured by someone else with a wireless device. Users must keep this in mind when accessing personal or business information.
- As a legal requirement Council will retain user browsing history for a period of two years, this will log internet traffic for devices on the hardwired network (PC's), the wireless networks (Laptops) and user devices.

### 6.3 General Conditions

- Library PC's, internet and WiFi is available at all library branches (except Mobile Library) and some public council facilities during opening hours.
- Access to and use of Library PC's, Internet and WiFi is free of charge.
- Printing is available via the Library PC's only on paper supplied by the library.
- Printing is also available via personal computers or mobile devices using the MobilePrint Service.
- There are charges for printing.
- Print jobs automatically delete from the print queue every 24 hours.
- Bookings can be made up to 14 days in advance for public PC's, using the individual user's library card and PIN, for a maximum of two hours. Users must abide by the time limit of the booking.
- Advance bookings can be made using the web-based PC booking module or in branch using the library card and PIN.
- Bookings are automatically cancelled if the user fails to arrive 10 minutes after the scheduled starting time. The time is defined by the computer clock.
- Prior to the end of the allotted time it is the user's responsibility to ensure all documents are saved appropriately. At the end of the session the computer will log out and all data not saved on a portable storage device will be lost.

- Users are required to log off the computer at the end of the session to ensure that private information is not viewed by others.
- Computer time warnings display onscreen at 10 minutes and 1 minute prior to the scheduled booking expiry.
- All library computers shut down automatically 10 minutes before the library closes.
- To avoid disruption to others, headphones must be used for private listening – audio from PC's will not activate until headphones are connected.
- Public laptops cannot be booked in advance and must be checked out using library card and pin via the Laptop Dispenser.
- Any technical issues should be reported to Library staff.

#### 6.4 Wireless Network Access

MRC Libraries provide users access to free WiFi at all branches 24 hours a day, 7 days per week and is accessible external to our libraries outside of library hours(excluding the Mobile Library).

- All users must logon to the WiFi service using their library card number and PIN within the library environment to access extended WiFi time.
- When using the WiFi network, anti-virus, security and privacy of information is the responsibility of the device owner.
- All users of wireless services must accept and abide by the Terms & Conditions on the splashpage presented upon accessing the network
- Access to printing services from mobile devices via the wireless network is available.
- To ensure equitable access to all users, download limits apply and access to specific sites may be restricted. This includes, but is not limited to, content streaming sites.
- Wireless users can access power in designated library areas.
- As a legal requirement, Council will keep the records of any device connecting to public WiFi service for a period of two years and retain the following details:
  - Mac Address of device connected
  - IP address assigned to device
  - Time when the device authenticates
  - Time when the device terminates the session
  - Location of the session (Location of AP connected)
  - Firewall history across the WiFi network for Loan laptops and User devices

#### 6.5 Inappropriate Use

Inappropriate use of Library and/or Council PC, internet or WiFi may result in access cancelled or suspended. Further action may be taken including the user being banned from use of the library or appropriate law enforcement agencies being contacted and may lead to prosecution. Inappropriate use includes but is not limited to:

- Display or downloading of pornographic or offensive material;
- Modification of library hardware, settings or software;
- Illegal, criminal or anti-social (intimidation, harassment, bullying) internet use;

- Damage to or theft of library resources;
- Use MRC PC's to obscure the identity of the signed in user or to impersonate others;
- Use MRC Library internet or WiFi networks to attempt or inflict harm to third parties or third-party hardware or software systems.
- Altering, destroying or damaging equipment, software or data belonging to the library or tampering with local or remote council files.
- Refusal to vacate an internet PC when a booking has expired and access is required by another user.

#### 6.6 Library Accounts

- Users must be current registered members of MRC Libraries and have their card or stored card image present when using MRC computers and networks.
- Library accounts must be in good standing and clear of any review of status or debarral.
- Library membership is not transferrable. Only the registered library member can access MRC computers and internet services. Access cannot be granted by one library member to another.
- Council may block, cancel or retain your Library Card if Council reasonably believes that:

- a) your Library card is lost, stolen or faulty; or
- b) you have breached these terms and conditions

- Users must keep any usernames, passwords, personal identification numbers, card security codes and answers to security questions confidential.
- Library non-members can join under the short-term Entry Membership category which provides 2 hours free internet per day.
- University, technical and high school students are able to access up to six hours of computer access per day as part of the Work Together Program – current and valid Student Identification must be sighted by Library staff.

#### 6.7 Parental Supervision

- Children aged 11 years and under require parent/guardian permission to access PC's and the internet. Active supervision is required when using computers. Parents/Guardians are required to stay with the child at all times.
- Young Adults aged 12-14 years require parent/guardian permission to access PC's and the internet. Computers can be used unsupervised provided parental permission has been given.
- A PC/Wireless/Games Access for Young People form must be completed by the parent/guardian which is witness by a library staff member.

#### 6.8 Privacy

As PC's are on a public network, Libraries are unable to guarantee privacy during or after use of PC's. To ensure private information is not viewed by others, users should:

- Only save a copy of a document to a flash drive or other portable storage device and not to the computer's hard disk drive; and
- Close the Internet browser and other applications in use before the end of the booking.

#### 6.9 Penalties for Breach of Policy

- A verbal explanation of the policy, its rationale and the procedures to be undertaken when it is breached (first warning) – the breach will be recorded on the individual's library card;
- A written warning, detailing the nature of the breach, the time it occurred and procedures to be undertaken; and
- Written notification of withdrawal of access to the Internet service.
- Notification to the relevant authorities for illegal acts.

The above are not necessarily to be applied in a required sequence. For instance, a serious breach may result in final withdrawal of access without a written warning action.

Mackay Regional Council Library Service reserves the right to change the policies relating to the use of the Mackay Regional Council Library Services' computer equipment and wireless internet service at any time without notice.

#### 6.10 Complaints

Any complaints in relation to this service will be assessed and managed in accordance with MRC's Administrative Action Complaints Policy, a copy of which can be found on MRC's website.

Complaints may be made as following:

In writing to

Chief Executive Officer  
Mackay Regional Council  
PO Box 41  
MACKAY QLD 4740

Via Email

Email: [complaints@mackay.qld.gov.au](mailto:complaints@mackay.qld.gov.au)

In person to the Branch Coordinator or Library Personnel

#### 6.11 Human Rights Complaints

When an individual feels that they are the subject of MRC's failure to act compatibly with human rights, they can make a complaint directly to MRC. These complaints will be assessed against the Human Rights Act 2019.

### 7.0 **Review of Policy**

This policy will be reviewed when any of the following occur:

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036 – Library Public Internet and Computer Use      Electronic version current – uncontrolled copy valid only at time of printing

1. The related documents are amended or replaced.
2. Other circumstances as determined from time to time by a resolution of Council

Notwithstanding the above, this policy is to be reviewed at intervals of no more than three (3) years.

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Version Control:

Version	Reason / Trigger	Change	Endorsed / Reviewed	Date
2	Review of Policy	No Amendments	Endorsed by Council - Folio 42522	22/02/2017
3	Review of Policy	Amendments	Council	24/02/2021



# COUNCIL POLICY

# RATES RELIEF POLICY

<b>Program:</b>	Financial Services
<b>Date of Adoption:</b>	21 June 2023
<b>Resolution Number:</b>	ORD-2023-184
<b>Review Date:</b>	21 June 2024

**Scope**

This policy applies to those ratepayers who are experiencing serious financial hardship and as a result are unable to pay their rates and charges. The policy will only apply to non-profit community organisations and residential properties where the property is the ratepayers' principal place of residence, and no commercial benefit is derived from the property.

**Objective**

The objective of this policy is to establish a decision-making framework to support an independent tribunal of a majority of appointed community representatives, who will make recommendations to Council as an advisory body regarding the most appropriate assistance to be offered to ratepayers who are experiencing genuine financial hardship.

**Policy Statement**

In accordance with the provisions of sections 170 and 171(1) of the *Local Government Act 2009*, this Policy will be used to provide a framework to accept and consider applications for hardship. Approval is to be given by the Manager Financial Services, Revenue & Treasury Coordinator, or Director of Organisational Services.

\*\*\*\*\*

This process to remain in force until otherwise determined  
by Mackay Regional Council



## COUNCIL POLICY

## RATES RELIEF POLICY

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## COUNCIL POLICY

## RATES RELIEF POLICY

### 1.0 Principles

In accordance with the provisions of the *Local Government Act 2009*, Council has resolved to implement a process to provide relief to residential ratepayers and non-profit community organisations experiencing hardship. Council recognises that circumstances may arise which negatively impact on a ratepayer's ability to meet their financial obligations.

Where a ratepayer can show that the payment of the full amount of rates and charges owed in the time required would entail "serious hardship" because of a loss the ratepayer has suffered, Council seeks to provide a framework for assistance deemed appropriate to the circumstances experienced.

Financial hardship exists when ratepayers are unable to meet basic requirements, including food, clothing, medicine, accommodation and children's education. This hardship may occur as a result of illness, long-term unemployment or death of a partner.

Human Rights have been considered when preparing this Policy.

#### 1.1 Role of the Rate Payment Review Tribunal

The Tribunal's role is to recommend to Council the most appropriate form of assistance that Council should provide to ratepayers who make application to the Tribunal and whom the Tribunal consider are experiencing serious financial hardship beyond their control.

#### 1.2 Composition of the Tribunal

- The Tribunal consists of a minimum of three voluntary members and two current Councillors.
- Voluntary appointees may come from a number of backgrounds, however a financial background will be considered beneficial. When a vacancy arises on the Tribunal, Council may, at its discretion, appoint Tribunal members as nominated by various interest groups, Councillors or other Tribunal members.
- Council will reaffirm Tribunal membership each year.
- The voluntary community members will not be salaried or wage employees of Council.
- The Tribunal chair will be appointed by Council each year from the three external members appointed to the Tribunal.
- A quorum will consist of the Chair and three (3) of the other members of which one must be a Councillor. In the event of a split decision the Chair will carry the vote.
- Should the Chairperson not be present at the meeting, then the meeting shall elect a Chair from those present at that meeting.
- Secretarial and support services suitable to the Tribunal's needs shall be provided from within the Organisational Services department. However no other staff will have access to the applications put before the Tribunal.

#### 1.3 Administration of the Tribunal

- The Tribunal shall meet on an 'as required' basis, dependent on applications.

## COUNCIL POLICY

## RATES RELIEF POLICY

- Due to the sensitive nature of an applicant's financial affairs, the Tribunal hearings will not be open to the public.
- The Tribunal will endeavour to schedule appointments to avoid any embarrassment to the applicant.
- The hearings will be conducted on a 'without prejudice' basis.
- The Tribunal will act as an Advisory Committee to Council.

### 1.4 Funding of Recommended Decisions

The Council shall make a specific budget allocation annually from which the relief or other assistance recommended by the Tribunal, and subsequently resolved by Council, will be funded. The Tribunal will be expected to operate within the budgetary limits allocated by Council.

All recommendations made by the Tribunal to Council shall be accompanied by a statement of actual expenses versus budget allocation.

Where the Council agrees to full or partial relief from interest charges for some period in the future, the costs of the interest foregone will be considered as part of the assistance funded by the Council from the allocated budget in that year.

### 1.5 Monitoring and Data Collection

Council will monitor assistance under this policy by including:

- register of application
- reasons for applications
- report on shortfall in Council income as a result of assistance provided.

### 1.6 Forms of Assistance that can be provided

Within the limitations of the specific assistance detailed in "Table A", the Tribunal can consider structuring the assistance as one or more of the following:

- repayment plans that are outside of the current Debt Recovery Policy
- interest costs either as a direct reimbursement for interest already charged or for interest that may accrue between the Tribunal's decision and satisfactory completion of an agreed repayment plan
- court costs or other related legal expenses already charged to the ratepayer for recovery of outstanding rates and charges
- actual financial assistance to a ratepayer to meet either rates and/or service charges levied
- assistance to ratepayers in meeting other charges that are attached to the land (e.g. unpaid noxious weed charges or some outstanding costs which MRC is entitled to attach to the land).

### RATES RELIEF POLICY

The Tribunal can recommend the following ranges of assistance for the listed categories of ratepayers:

**"Table "A"**

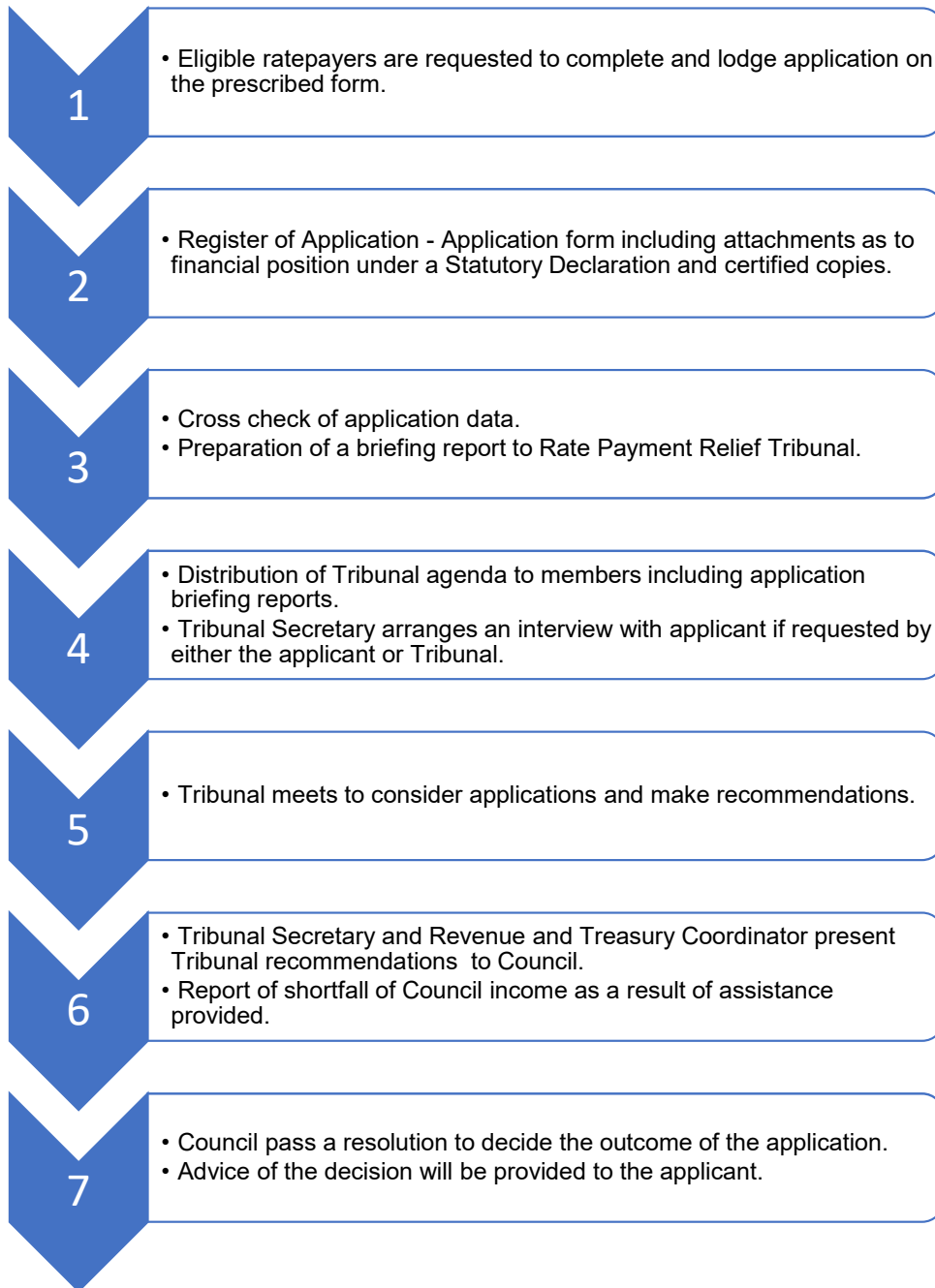
Categories of ratepayers	Assistance that can be recommended
<p><b>Residential ratepayers</b></p> <p>i) With six months or more in arrears; OR</p> <p>ii) Who have suffered a recent adverse incident leaving them unable to meet these basic needs; OR</p> <p>iii) Ratepayers experiencing serious hardship where the payment of the rates and charges would leave the ratepayer unable to meet reasonable needs for food, clothing, medicine, accommodation, education for children and other basic requirements.</p>	<p>- The ratepayers may be eligible for assistance with interest, rates and charges, and/or payment terms outside the scope of the normal Debt Recovery Policy.</p>
<p><b>Aged Pensioners and Self-funded Retirees</b></p> <p>i) Endeavouring to meet their rate account by regular instalments, OR</p> <p>ii) Part owner of the property they reside in and because of extreme hardship are unable to pay rates and/or do not qualify for full pensioner remission, OR</p> <p>iii) In serious financial hardship.</p>	<p>- The ratepayer may be eligible for assistance with interest, rates and charges, and/or payment terms outside the scope of the normal Debt Recovery Policy.</p> <p>- Review the circumstances of applicants and make recommendations as to whether certain pensioners and self-funded retirees, otherwise ineligible due to policy reasons, should be entitled to assistance as though they were a Council pensioner.</p> <p>- The Tribunal may recommend the deferral of payment of the rates and charges for the lifetime of a pensioner or self-funded retiree experiencing hardship under Section 125 of Local Government Regulation 2012 with the rates and charges to remain a charge on the land.</p>
<p><b>Non-profit Community Organisations</b></p> <p>i) That are already receiving rates based financial assistance or would be eligible if they did not have rates outstanding.</p>	<p>- May be eligible for assistance with interest, rates and charges, and/or payment terms outside the scope of the normal Debt Recovery Policy.</p>

COUNCIL POLICY

RATES RELIEF POLICY

1.7 Process for an Application

The process for application to the Tribunal will remain simple and accessible as possible in recognition that at the very least, the ratepayers are experiencing financial difficulties. All applications are assessed confidentially and on merit.



## COUNCIL POLICY

## RATES RELIEF POLICY

### 1.8 Process if Ratepayers don't accept or comply with Tribunal Decisions

- If a ratepayer doesn't respond to the Tribunal's offer of assistance, MRC's billing services will continue with normal recovery action and provide a report to the next meeting of the Tribunal.
- If a ratepayer fails to completely comply with the Tribunal's offer of assistance, the billing services will report to the next meeting of the Tribunal, with their recommendation for action.

### 1.9 Communication of Policy

To maintain a high level of publicity of the policy and to ensure ratepayers in need are aware of the policy, MRC will adequately communicate its Rates Relief Policy, application form and associated material on the website. This policy and in particular the monitor and data collection process, will ensure the privacy and confidentiality laws are adhered to. Data collected through the hardship assistance process will be dealt with by way of Council Policy 019 - Confidentiality Policy.

### 1.10 Human Rights Complaints

When an individual feels that they are the subject of MRC's failure to act compatibly with human rights, they can make a complaint directly to MRC. These complaints will be assessed against the *Human Rights Act 2019*.

## 2.0 Definitions

To assist in interpretation the following definitions shall apply:

**Application Form** shall mean Council's Rates Relief Application Form for the purpose of applying for assistance under this policy.

**Council** shall mean the Mayor and Councillors of Mackay Regional Council.

**Hardship** shall mean unable to meet basic requirements, including food, clothing, medicine, accommodation and children's education.

**Human Rights Complaint** shall mean a complaint about an alleged contravention of section 58-1 by a public entity in relation to an act or decision of the public entity.

**MRC** shall mean Mackay Regional Council.

**Tribunal** shall mean Rates Payment Review Tribunal, a committee delegated by Council to review hardship applications.

## 3.0 Review of Policy

This policy will be reviewed when any of the following occur:

**COUNCIL POLICY****RATES RELIEF POLICY**

- The related documents are amended or replaced.
- Other circumstances as determined from time to time by a resolution of Council

Notwithstanding the above, this policy is to be reviewed at intervals of no more than three (3) years.

**4.0 Reference**

- *Local Government Act 2009*
- *Local Government Regulation 2012*

**5.0 Attachments**

	COUNCIL POLICY	
	Corporate Strategies	
	POLICY NO	084
	DEPARTMENT	Organisational Services
	PROGRAM	Governance and Safety
ENDORSED BY COUNCIL	8 May 2019, Folio 62196	

### 1.0 Scope

Corporate direction for the development, implementation, monitoring and review of corporate strategies, (Council and Administrative).

The policy applies to Council and all employees.

### 2.0 Purpose

This policy:

- Facilitates inter Department consideration and collaboration for all phases of the corporate strategy lifecycle.
- Ensures Councillors are appropriately engaged in the development of Council Strategies.
- Ensures the development, implementation, monitoring and review of all strategies is corporately consistent and achieves mandatory business outcomes.
- Directs adherence to processes and procedures that relate to the development, implementation, monitoring and review of all strategies.
- Ensures monitoring of outcomes identified in all strategies is undertaken.

### 3.0 Reference

- *Local Government Act 2009*
- *Local Government Regulation 2012, Section 164 (1)*

### 4.0 Definitions

To assist with interpretation, the following definitions shall apply:

**Council** shall mean the Mayor and Councillors of Mackay Regional Council.

**Employee** shall mean any person who performs work for MRC, including trainees, work experience persons, volunteer staff, consultants and contractors and their employees.

**Strategy** shall mean a long-term plan for the achievement of a particular corporately-significant service outcome aligned to the council's long-term vision and delivered through multiple business units.

**Council strategies** shall mean strategies that are of particular interest to council. They usually have an outward focus directly linked with desired community outcomes.

**Administrative strategies** shall mean a strategy that is focussed on operational matters of council.

**MRC** shall mean Mackay Regional Council.

**Plan** lists specific actions with defined completion dates and assigned resources.

**Study** is used to inform planning decisions, assesses past trends and current activity and has a focus of less than 3 years, with no requirement for ongoing review of the study.

## 5.0 Background

Strategies form a critical layer in MRC's Corporate Performance Planning and Reporting Framework. Strategies bridge the gap between the Corporate Plan and Business and Action Plans, providing a vision for the way in which the priorities of the Corporate Plan will be met.

Strategies are categorised into *Council* and *Administrative Strategies*.

*Council* strategies are those that are of particular interest to the Council. These usually have a strong focus on community outcomes but can also include strategies that have a critical impact on MRC's operations.

*Administrative* strategies have an operational focus in that they direct the workings of MRC and are managed by the Strategy, Leadership and Performance Team (SLPT).

## 6.0 Policy Statement

### Initiation of a strategy

The development of a strategy is subject to approval by the Strategy Leadership and Performance Team (all strategies). The development of a Council Strategy is subject to approval by both the Strategy Leadership and Performance Team and Council.

Prior to the submission of a strategy proposal to SLPT, the steps outlined in the *Corporate Strategies-Development, implementation, monitoring, review and engagement: Decision Tree* must be considered.

Where there are linkages between existing strategies and proposed strategies, these linkages are to be acknowledged and the proposed strategy is to be prepared accordingly. Additionally, if a review of the existing strategy is triggered at this point and a business benefit identified, the existing strategy is to be reviewed. This may occur in addition to development of the proposed strategy or may eliminate the need to progress development of the proposed strategy.



### **Endorsement of the initiation phase**

At this stage of the strategy lifecycle, SLPT approval must be obtained for:

- The type (Administrative or Council Strategy) of strategy that is to be developed.
- Progress of the strategy to the development phase.
- Resources required to develop and implement the strategy in question.

For any strategy deemed a Council strategy, endorsement must be obtained from Councillors.

Council Strategies must also have Council approval to proceed to development.

### **Strategy development**

Strategy development will occur in accordance with the Corporate Performance Planning framework.

For Council strategies, stakeholders (including The Mayor and Councillors) will be engaged in all phases of development. Engagement activities may include workshops, community engagement sessions and the like.

### **Endorsement of developed strategy**

All strategies will be endorsed by SLPT and Council strategies will be endorsed by both SLPT and Council, through ordinary meeting protocols.

### **Strategy implementation**

The implementation of all strategies will occur through the formal corporate performance planning process. Strategies will be recognised in Business Plans/Action Plans/Operational Plan.

### **Strategy monitoring and review**

Monitoring of strategy outcomes will occur through a corporate reporting regime that will be presented to SLPT (all strategies) and council (council strategies) on an annual basis.

The review of strategies will be undertaken as a predecessor to the annual corporate performance planning cycle.

A corporate register of strategies will be maintained and made available to all employees.

A register of Council strategies will be maintained and made available to members of the public through the council website.

### **Resourcing Strategy development and implementation**

In the first instance, internal capacity (skills, knowledge, availability) will be considered for the development and implementation of any strategy. Internal capacity means the capacity of any employee from across council. People and Culture and Human Resource procedures are to be followed.

In the event it is deemed there is no internal capacity for the development and implementation of any strategy, external providers may be sought. The procurement policy and processes must be followed in this instance.

Approval of resources (internal and external) for the development and implementation of strategies is to be obtained from SLPT, (all strategies).

### **Resourcing Monitoring and review**

The monitoring and review of strategies will be facilitated by the strategy owner as per the Corporate Performance Planning and Reporting processes, governed and facilitated by the Governance and Safety Program.

#### 6.1 Accountabilities

**Council** is responsible for adopting this policy.

**Chief Executive Officer, (CEO)** is accountable for promotion of compliance with this policy.

**Strategy, Leadership and Performance Team, (incl. Senior Legal Counsel and the Executive Officer)** are accountable to the CEO for:

- Promoting the corporate approach to the development, implementation, monitoring and review of all strategies.
- Consideration and approval of all proposals to develop and implement all strategies.
- Ensuring there is an inter-departmental approach and collaboration when developing any strategy.

**Strategy Owner** is accountable for the implementation, monitoring and review of the relevant strategy.

**Governance & Safety Program** has carriage of the framework that supports the development, implementation, monitoring and review of strategies, and is accountable for its implementation, review and continual improvement.

**Employees, (Program Managers inclusive)** are required to familiarise themselves with this Policy. Employees are also accountable for ensuring any strategy they are tasked with developing, implementing, monitoring or reviewing is undertaken in accordance with this Policy.

## 7.0 Review of Policy

This policy will be reviewed when any of the following occur:

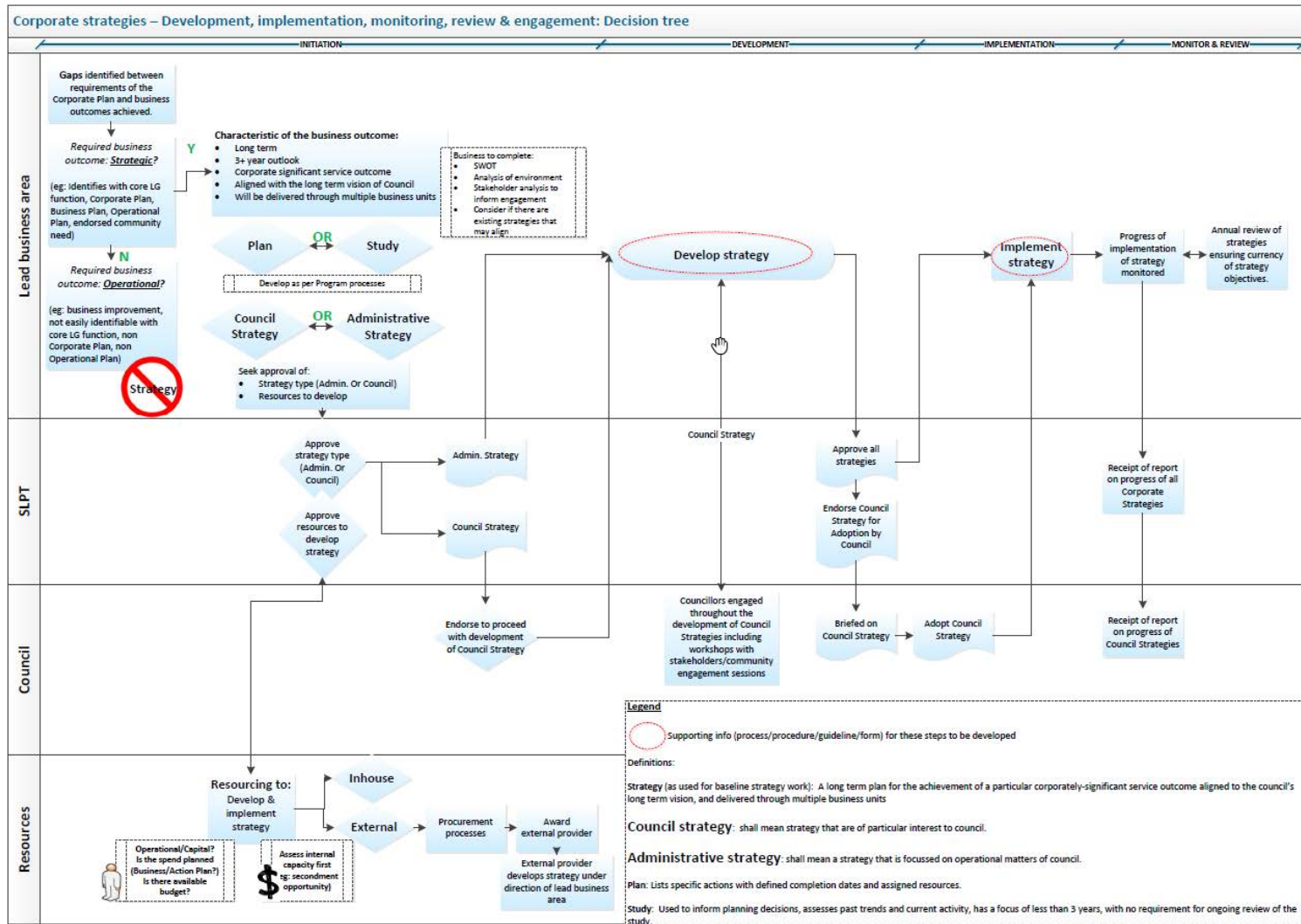
1. The related documents are amended or replaced.
2. Other circumstances as determined from time to time by a resolution of Council

Notwithstanding the above, this policy is to be reviewed at intervals of no more than three (3) years.

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Version Control:

Version	Reason / Trigger	Change	Endorsed / Reviewed	Date
1	New Policy		Council	08.05.19



### **11.2.2. OPERATIONAL PLAN 2024 - 2025**

<b>Author</b>	Executive Manager Ethical Standards, Audit & Risk (Anthony Bigby)
<b>Responsible Officer</b>	Director Organisational Capability and Risk (Lisa Young)
<b>File Reference</b>	Corporate Management, Corporate Performance Planning and Reporting, 24-25 Operational Plan

#### **Attachments**

1. Operational Plan 24-25 UPDAT Ev 3 [11.2.2.1 - 24 pages]

#### **Purpose**

The purpose of the report is to present to Council for adoption the Operational Plan 2024 - 2025.

#### **Related Parties**

N/A

#### **Corporate Plan Linkage**

##### Financial Strength

*Ethical Decision-Making and Good Governance* - We are committed to keeping our community informed about our activities and performance and employing robust governance policies and procedures to ensure legislative compliance and organisational integrity.

*Resilient and Agile Economy* - Our long-term vision guides our planning for present and future needs, understanding the future implications of decisions made today.

##### Operational Excellence

*Customer/Community Focus* - Improving community wellbeing is a primary goal of our services to the Mackay region. This encompasses residents, businesses, visitors and investors. Council believes all members of the community play a crucial role in supporting the vision and strategic outcomes and we encourage community engagement.

#### **Background/Discussion**

Sections 174 and 175 *Local Government Regulation 2012* mandate that a local government prepare and adopt an operational plan that states how it will implement its 5-year corporate plan during the year. The operational plan must be consistent with the annual budget, set out how operational risk will be managed and include an annual performance plan for each commercial business unit.

The Operational Plan 2024 - 2025 includes actions against Corporate Plan priorities and strategies. Each action includes a responsible program and an evaluation measure to assess performance.

The Operational Plan 2024 - 2025 is informed by goals and key performance indicators identified in each Program's annual Program Plan. Program Plans are developed to support the implementation of priorities, cascading from the Organisational Strategy and Corporate Plan.

#### **Consultation and Communication**

In January 2023, the Organisational Strategy 2023-2028 was updated by the Chief Executive Officer, Executive and Senior Leadership Teams.

The Operational Plan 2024 - 2025 was developed through an extensive engagement process with the Chief Executive Officer, Directors, Executive Managers and Coordinators. The process was undertaken in the period November 2023 through May 2024.

Facilitated sessions for each of the 29 Programs were undertaken. In these sessions, drafting of 2024 - 2025 Program Plans commenced, with a focus on developing meaningful and achievable key performance indicators (KPIs) that have since informed the Operational Plan 2024 - 2025.

Once adopted by the council, the plan will be published on the MRC website, making it accessible to the community.

Internally, the Operational Plan 2024 - 2025 will be communicated to staff through Directors, Executive Managers and the Intranet.

The Operational Plan has been presented at the council briefing on 19 June 2024.

### **Resource Implications**

There are no resource implications directly related to preparation of the Operational Plan.

Executive Managers have been consulted to confirm all actions are funded in the proposed Operational Plan 2024 - 2025.

### **Risk Management Implications**

The Operational Plan minimises risk to council by ensuring potential risks to achieving objectives are identified, assessed and monitored.

### **Conclusion**

It is recommended the Operational Plan 2024 - 2025 be adopted as tabled.

### **Officer's Recommendation**

THAT Council adopts the Operational Plan 2024 - 2025 in accordance with *S174 of the Local Government Regulation 2012*.

# OPERATIONAL PLAN 2024-2025



## ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

Mackay Regional Council respects the traditional custodians of the lands that make up our region, the Yuwi and Widi people. We also acknowledge all other Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people who call our region home.

OUR VISION



TO BECOME THE BEST REGION FOR LIVEABILITY AND LIVELIHOOD

OUR VALUES







MACKAY REGIONAL COUNCIL

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MESSAGE FROM THE MAYOR

Council is proud to present the Operational Plan for 2024-2025.

This is the first Operational Plan to be endorsed by the new council, elected at the March 2024 local government elections. Although a local government's Operational Plan is a legislative requirement, it is a very important document for the organisation. The Ops Plan sets out key actions for the next 12 months to enable council to deliver on the strategies of our Corporate Plan 2022-2027.

The KPI's contained in the Operational Plan provide

the direction for the CEO to manage the business of council and, of course, then serves as a report card for council and our community when the plan is reviewed each quarter.

Council's Corporate Plan 2022-2027 sets out our strategic Vision for our community "To become the best region for liveability and livelihood". This Operational Plan sets out deliverables aimed at delivering on that vision.

Council, like most organisations, has been impacted by escalating costs and skills shortages. These are

challenging times for all businesses and all members of our community. It makes having a measurable plan to tackle operating in this environment essential.

It is important to remember that council's workforce is passionately invested in delivering a high level of service to our region because they all live here too. This Operational Plan with its clear set of goals will help our team deliver.

**Mayor Greg Williamson**  
**Mackay Regional Council**



MESSAGE FROM THE CEO

This is the second Operational Plan I have been involved in presenting since joining Mackay Regional Council in November 2022.

I am proud to present the Operational Plan 2024-2025 as it once again sets out key actions the organisation will take during the next 12 months.

Those actions are important as we strive to deliver on our five-year Corporate Plan, as well as our Purpose and Vision.

Our Purpose as a council is to create opportunity to thrive. Our Vision is to become Australia's best region for liveability and livelihood.

The five pillars of our Corporate Plan are once again represented in the Operational Plan 2024-2025. They include the outward-facing pillars of:

- Live and Visit
- Invest and Work
- Community and Environment

And the internal-facing pillars of:

- Financial Strength
- Operational Excellence

What strikes me when I talk to our workforce is that they are passionate about contributing to the community they live in.

They love the Mackay region and are determined to make it the best it can be for residents and visitors alike through their day-to-day work.

The innovation and dedication shown by our workforce gives me great confidence that we will deliver on this new Operational Plan. We'll keep the community and other stakeholders updated through quarterly reporting.

**Scott Owen**  
**CEO**



Figure 1: Mackay Regional Council Corporate Plan 2022-2027 Pillars

The Operational Plan 2024-2025 outlines how we will progress implementation of our Corporate Plan 2022-2027 during the financial year.

Our Corporate Plan 2022-2027 sets our strategic direction over the five-year period with five pillars (shown in Figure 1), supported by a range of strategies.

The Operational Plan details programs, projects, and services we will deliver in 2024-2025 to achieve our vision. Each action has a lead council program and an evaluation measure that we will use to monitor and report on our performance.

Preparation of an Operational Plan is required under s.174(1) *Local Government Regulation 2012*. An annual Operational Plan for a local government must be consistent with its annual budget, include an annual performance plan for each commercial business unit, and state how the local government will progress implementation of the five-year corporate plan during the period of the annual operational plan.

Our Operational Plan 2024-2025 is consistent with our Budget 2024-2025, which allocates funding for projects, programs and services that will be delivered during the financial year.

INTRODUCTION

# CORPORATE PERFORMANCE, PLANNING AND REPORTING FRAMEWORK

Our Corporate Performance, Planning and Reporting Framework (Figure 2) cascades from our five-year Corporate Plan.

Delivery of Corporate Plan objectives is supported through the Organisational Strategy and the goals and key performance indicators visible in the Operational Plan.

The Organisational Strategy has three key focus areas:

- **OUR PEOPLE, OUR CULTURE**
- **OUR CUSTOMER, OUR COMMUNITY**
- **OUR SERVICE DELIVERY**

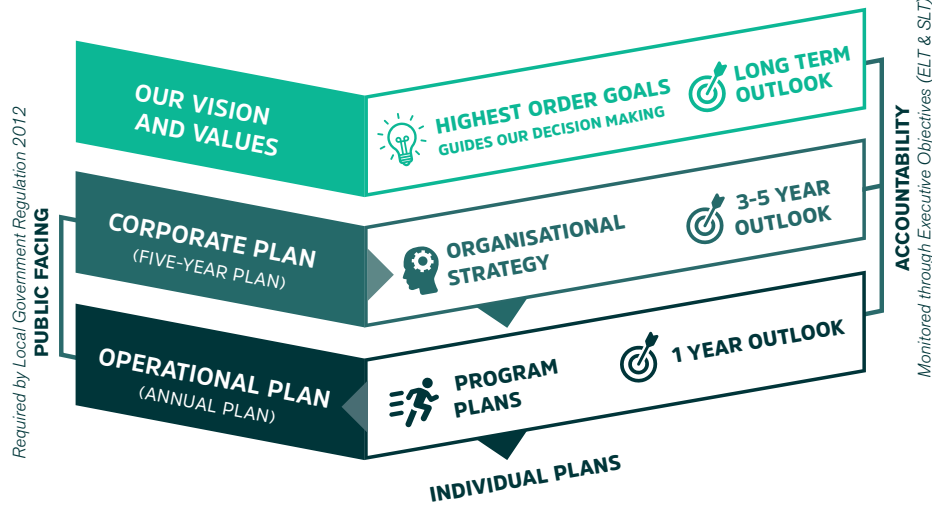


Figure 2: Corporate Performance Planning and Reporting Framework





MONITORING AND REVIEWING

We will review our progress in completing the actions contained in the Operational Plan 2024 –2025, on a quarterly basis. The outcome of these reviews will be documented in a quarterly Operational Plan report, which will include a status report on each action.

These reports meet the requirements of s.174(3) *Local Government Regulation 2012*, which requires that a written assessment of progress towards implementing the operational plan is presented at a council meeting held at regular intervals of not more than three months.

RISK MANAGEMENT

The *Local Government Regulation 2012* requires that the Operational Plan states how the local government will manage operational risk.

Mackay Regional Council acknowledges the importance of risk management as it ensures identified risks in achieving corporate objectives are known and appropriately managed. Council's approach to risk management is based on the Australian/New Zealand Standard ISO 31000:2018 Risk Management – Principles and Guidelines.

Our Enterprise Risk Management Framework guides the identification, assessment and management of risk across the organisation.

We undertake an annual risk review process, where strategic and operational risks are formally reviewed and assessed, and control actions are reviewed and risk treatments identified.

On a quarterly basis we actively seek input on progress of completing identified risk treatment plans. This process ensures council's strategic and operational risks are being managed and also allows for the identification and escalation of any new risks.

Strategic and Operational risk reports are presented to our Executive Leadership Team (ELT) and the Audit Committee and made available organisation wide.

OUR CORPORATE STRUCTURE

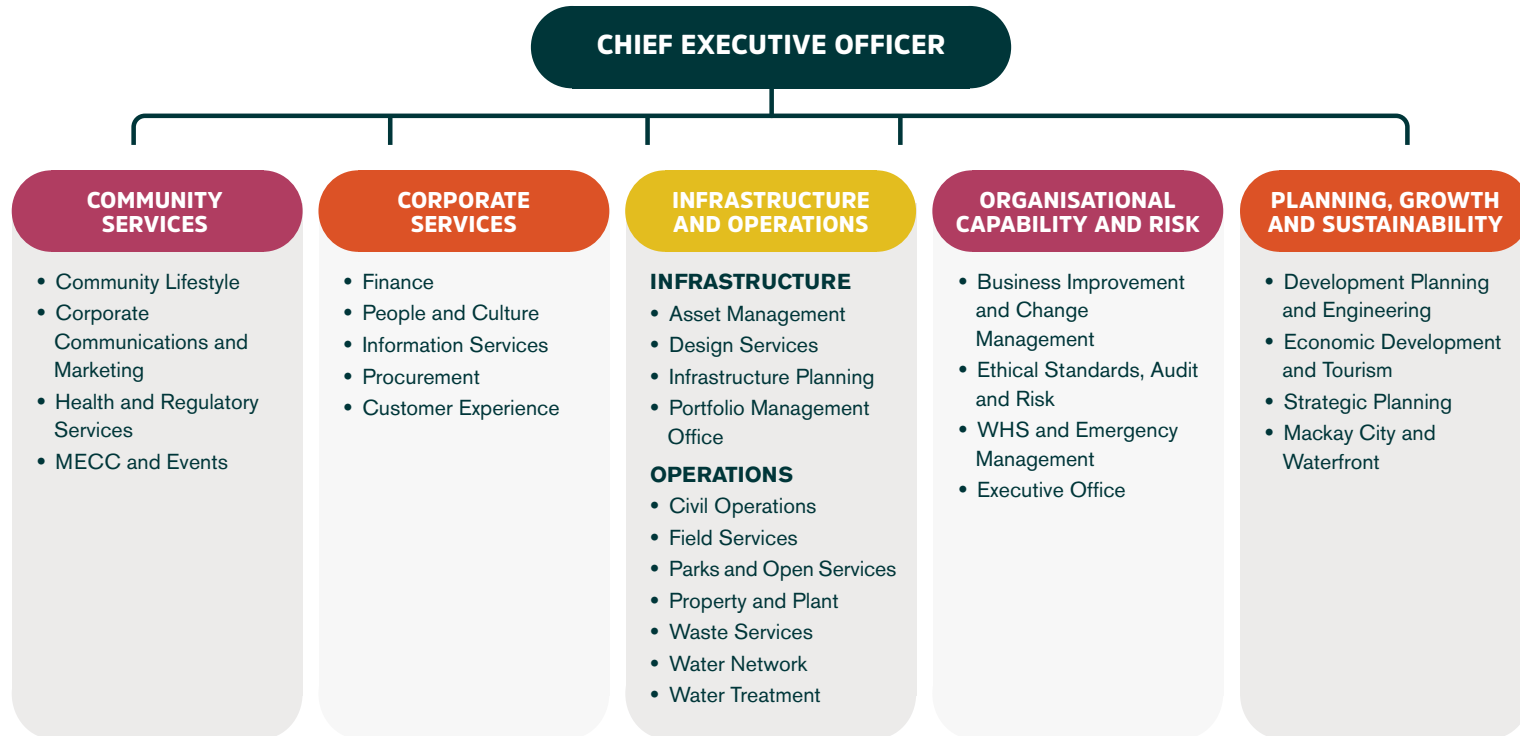


Figure 3: Mackay Regional Council corporate structure

Mackay Regional Council's structure includes departments through which it delivers its programs, projects and services. Each council department includes programs which are responsible for delivering actions in the annual operational plan.



The annual Operational Plan for a local government must include an annual performance plan for each commercial business unit (in accordance with s. 175(1)(c) *Local Government Regulation 2012*).

We have two commercial business units, Waste Services and Water Services. Each has a five-year performance plan, which satisfies the legislative requirements for an annual performance plan.

The Waste Services and Water Services Performance Plans for 2024-2029 are published on our website at: [mackay.qld.gov.au](http://mackay.qld.gov.au) or are available by contacting us on 1300 MACKAY (622 529).

We update the performance plans for our commercial business units annually and they are adopted by council when adopting Annual Budget.

## COMMERCIAL BUSINESS UNITS

COUNCIL DEPARTMENTS

COMMUNITY SERVICES

 **291**  
EMPLOYEES

 **\$19.4M**  
OPERATING BUDGET

**DEPARTMENT OVERVIEW:**

The Purpose of Community Services is to make our diverse region safe, inclusive and accessible, improving wellbeing and quality of life for our residents, workers and visitors through creating opportunities to connect, create, learn and participate.

CORPORATE SERVICES

 **205**  
EMPLOYEES

 **\$28M**  
OPERATING BUDGET

**DEPARTMENT OVERVIEW:**

The department provides organisation-wide support, services and advice in the areas of financial management, procurement, human resource management, information communication technology and customer service.

INFRASTRUCTURE AND OPERATIONS

 **727**  
EMPLOYEES

 **\$95M**  
OPERATING BUDGET

**DEPARTMENT OVERVIEW:**

The department manages the planning, design, construction, maintenance and operation of the region's key assets – parks and open spaces, buildings and plant, roads and drainage networks as well as operating council's commercial business units for water and waste. The department has charge of capital budget delivery through various projects managed by specialised delivery teams.



**ORGANISATIONAL CAPABILITY AND RISK**

 **48**  
EMPLOYEES

---

 **\$11.5M**  
OPERATING BUDGET

**DEPARTMENT OVERVIEW:**

The Organisational Capability and Risk department provides strategic support, guidance and advice to the organisation in the areas of Business Improvement and Change Management, Ethical Standards, Audit, Risk, Workplace Health and Safety, Emergency Management and council's Executive Office.

**PLANNING, GROWTH AND SUSTAINABILITY**

 **101**  
EMPLOYEES

---

 **\$10M**  
OPERATING BUDGET

**DEPARTMENT OVERVIEW:**

The department is responsible for encouraging growth and investment in the region, by delivering development planning and engineering services, undertaking strategic planning for the region and pursuing economic development and tourism activities and initiatives. The department supports a strong city centre and waterfront and has a focus on ensuring the Mackay region is sustainable.

HOW TO READ THIS PLAN

The body of this operational plan is set out so that each of the goals and KPIs can be easily identified against:

- The pillars of the Corporate Plan.
- Key Result Areas identified in the Organisational Strategy.

Representation of this as per Figure 4 below.

**Plan Acronyms** (these are all departments of council)

COMM: Community Services  
 CORP: Corporate Services  
 IO: Infrastructure and Operations  
 OCR: Organisational Capability and Risk  
 PGS: Planning, Growth and Sustainability

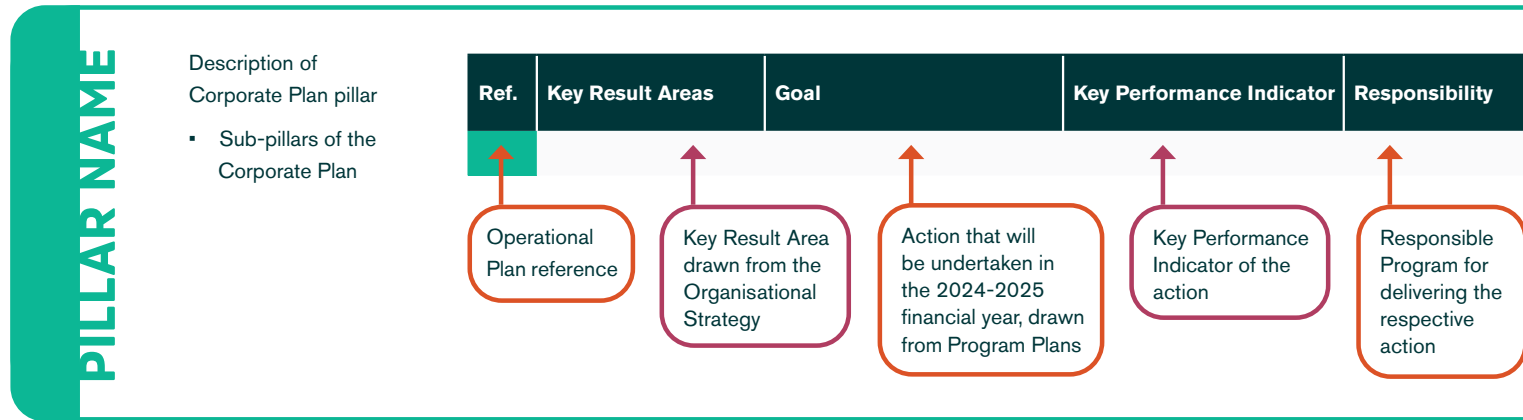


Figure 4: How to read this plan

We will attract investment, create educational opportunities, develop partnerships that drive growth and increase connectivity and digital access in the region.

Ref.	Key Result Areas	Goal	Key Performance Indicators	Responsibility
OP 01	Our Customer, Our Community	Matching of council projects with appropriate funding opportunities.	\$30 million of external funding applied for.	Executive Office
OP 02	Our Customer, Our Community	To facilitate growth, job creation and investment opportunities.	Economic Development Strategy presented to council for adoption.	Economic Development and Tourism
OP 03	Our Customer, Our Community	Promote and attract investment, development, business and tourism opportunities in the Mackay City and Waterfront (PDA).	Conduct briefings with key partners and stakeholders to promote the opportunities and benefits of the Mackay City and Waterfront.	Mackay City and Waterfront
OP 04	Our Service Delivery	Build on and deliver a Discover Mackay marketing campaign.	Discover Mackay campaign delivered.	Corporate Communications and Marketing

INVEST AND WORK

LIVE AND VISIT

Council is committed to improving the lifestyle of Mackay region residents by delivering infrastructure, services, travel options and accessibility improvements.

We will advocate for greater access to public transport and increase the number of walkable and cyclable neighbourhoods, creating an inclusive region for people of all ages, abilities and backgrounds.

Ref.	Key Result Areas	Goal	Key Performance Indicators	Responsibility
OP 05	Our Customer, Our Community	Promote Finch Hatton Mountain Bike Trails as a destination.	Implement the Finch Hatton Mountain Bike Trails marketing strategy for funded projects.	Economic Development and Tourism
OP 06	Our Customer, Our Community	Promote the Mackay Region as a Recreational Vehicle Destination.	Implement the Mackay Region Recreational Vehicle Strategy for funded projects.	Economic Development and Tourism
OP 07	Our Customer, Our Community	Support the attraction of major sporting and cultural events, concerts and conferences to stimulate the local economy.	Deliver funding and support for Mackay region events and conferences.	Economic Development and Tourism
OP 08	Our Customer, Our Community	Develop a Mackay Waterfront Place Strategy.	Scope, develop and adopt a Mackay Waterfront Place Strategy.	Mackay City and Waterfront
OP 09	Our Customer, Our Community	Ensure sustainable urban growth planning and land use management.	Progress Planning Scheme 10-year review program.	Strategic Planning

Ref.	Key Result Areas	Goal	Key Performance Indicators	Responsibility
OP 10	Our Customer, Our Community	Implement priority actions from the Mackay Region Integrated Transport Strategy (MRITS).	Northern Beaches Area Transport Plan and Road Network Model completed.	Strategic Planning
OP 11	Our Customer, Our Community	Foster and develop growth in the local Arts sector.	Inclusive opportunities are facilitated for local arts organisations.	MECC and Events
OP 12	Our Customer, Our Community	Strategic growth of council Festivals in the region.	Implementation of Mackay Festival of Arts Strategic Business Plan.	MECC and Events
OP 13	Our Customer, Our Community	Facilities under our operational management are well planned and meet the future needs of our residents and visitors.	MECC, Stadium and Precinct facilities Masterplans and appropriate business cases developed and submitted for ELT consideration.	MECC and Events



**COMMUNITY AND ENVIRONMENT**

We are committed to creating a safe, connected and resilient community, with a focus on protecting and enhancing the Mackay region's natural environment.

Ref.	Key Result Areas	Goal	Key Performance Indicators	Responsibility
OP 14	Our Service Delivery	Disaster Risk mitigation mechanisms are in situ and are best practice.	Ensure an effective collaborative multi-agency response to disaster activations. One disaster management exercise is undertaken annually.	WHS and Emergency Management
OP 15	Our Customer, Our Community	Progress flood and coastal hazard policy, studies, plans and guidelines.	McCreadys Creek Flood Study is presented to council for adoption.	Strategic Planning
OP 16	Our Customer, Our Community	Encourage participation in volunteering as a means of building a happy, healthy, and wealthy community.	Develop volunteer management framework to enable clear and accountable engagement of volunteers across Mackay Regional Council.	Community Lifestyle
OP 17	Our Customer, Our Community	Support young people to remain connected to their community by providing a platform to express voice and identity.	Develop partnerships with local organisations to support youth development.	Community Lifestyle
OP 18	Our Customer, Our Community	To understand the extent of our museum collection.	Complete museum rationalisation project.	Community Lifestyle

Ref.	Key Result Areas	Goal	Key Performance Indicators	Responsibility
OP 19	Our Customer, Our Community	Build Connecting Mackay active panel member numbers.	Connecting Mackay Panel members grow 10 per cent annually.	Corporate Communications and Marketing
OP 20	Our Customer, Our Community	Progress Community Dashboard project.	Community Dashboard begins operating and is embedded on website.	Corporate Communications and Marketing
OP 21	Our Customer, Our Community	Implement revised risk based inspection program for licenced facilities to optimise effort in protecting community health, safety and wellbeing.	Licensed premises inspected according to risk based schedule.	Health and Regulatory Services
OP 22	Our People, Our Culture	Deliver responsible pet ownership program to reduce negative impacts on dogs and cats, on community safety and wellbeing, and on the environment.	Deliver responsible pet ownership campaign including incentivised desexing program.	Health and Regulatory Services
OP 23	Our Customer, Our Community	Waste Management and Resource Recovery Strategy developed.	The Waste Management and Resource Recovery Strategy submitted for adoption.	Waste Services



**FINANCIAL STRENGTH**

We will maintain the financial sustainability of council through good governance and efficient financial management practices. Council is committed to ensuring transparency and education to the community around the provision of council services and facilities.

Ref.	Key Result Areas	Goal	Key Performance Indicators	Responsibility
OP 24	Our Service Delivery	Implementation of Asset Information Strategy.	Implementation plan for Asset Information Strategy with priority for delivery agreed and implemented.	Asset Management
OP 25	Our Service Delivery	Review and update of Asset Management Plans (AMP).	AMPs for all asset classes are complete by June 2025.	Asset Management
OP 26	Our Service Delivery	Updated Strategic Asset Management Plan (SAMP).	Updated SAMP approved.	Asset Management
OP 27	Our Customer, Our Community	Maintain and deliver capital infrastructure in line with approved budget.	90 per cent delivery of capital infrastructure against budget.	Financial Services





**OPERATIONAL EXCELLENCE**

We are a community-focussed, values-led council, underpinned by robust decision making, strategic leadership and being responsive to the needs of the community.

Ref.	Key Result Areas	Goal	Key Performance Indicators	Responsibility
OP 28	Our Customer, Our Community	Develop and deliver the Internal Audit (IA) Plan to provide assurance and add value to council.	Complete audit as per IA Plan to 90 per cent.	Ethical Standards Audit and Risk
OP 29	Our Customer, Our Community	We drive reconciliation in our indigenous communities through council's Reconciliation Action Plan (RAP).	Actions assigned to cultural heritage officer completed within deliverable timeframes of the RAP.	Ethical Standards Audit and Risk
OP 30	Our People, Our Culture	Increase awareness for all council employees on safety and wellbeing.	Organise safety and wellbeing day with leadership messaging, interactive displays, educational presentations.	WHS and Emergency Management
OP 31	Our Service Delivery	Implement and evaluate Marketing and Communications strategy, including digital medial strategy.	Digital media strategy is implemented and monitored throughout the organisation.	Corporate Communications and Marketing
OP 32	Our Service Delivery	Improve user experience of council and dedicated websites.	Opportunities within the accessible communities action plan are investigated.	Corporate Communications and Marketing
OP 33	Our Service Delivery	Harness digital technology to enhance efficiency in delivering outcomes and improve health and safety.	Improve efficiency and reduce risks to safety and environment.	Health and Regulatory Services
OP 34	Our Customer, Our Community	Increased community engagement on council's bi-annual rates notices.	Update of existing insert, identifying areas for improvement/expansion, including relevant information on valuation processes, rates calculation process and general frequently asked questions.	Financial Services

Ref.	Key Result Areas	Goal	Key Performance Indicators	Responsibility
OP 35	Our People, Our Culture	Ensuring a consistent experience across all customer touchpoints.	Create Customer Experience Framework for presentation to ELT for endorsement.	Customer Experience
OP 36	Our Service Delivery	Ensuring a consistent experience across all customer touchpoints.	Define customer journey and commence experience mapping.	Customer Experience
OP 37	Our Service Delivery	Digitise and automate council services.	Integration of self-service channels (Snap, Send Solve Integration) to streamline backend processes.	Customer Experience
OP 38	Our Service Delivery	Support for the Capital prioritisation system.	Lead the development of a capital prioritisation and project identification tool.	Asset Management
OP 39	Our Customer, Our Community	Gain customer insights on project delivery.	Minimum of 10 per cent of projects completed, customer satisfaction surveys are undertaken.	Portfolio Management Office
OP 40	Our People, Our Culture	Staff accommodation strategy - how we best utilise our working space.	Review and present findings with a view to implementation of ELT recommendations from tabled report.	Property and Plant
OP 41	Our Service Delivery	Maintain and deliver council's maintenance services in full and on time.	80 per cent delivery of agreed scheduled maintenance works.	Infrastructure and Operations









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**Mackay** REGIONAL COUNCIL

### 11.3. COMMUNITY SERVICES

#### 11.3.1. RESPONSE TO PETITION - REMOVAL OF ITEMS FROM LIBRARIES

<b>Author</b>	Executive Manager Community Lifestyle (Brenton Niemz)
<b>Responsible Officer</b>	Director Community Services (Janine McKay)
<b>File Reference</b>	Libraries Petitions

**Attachments** Nil

#### **Purpose**

To provide a response report to Council related to a Petition received by Council regarding Mackay Regional Council Library material.

#### **Related Parties**

- Principal petitioner Rhonda Marriage
- Listed petitioners per the petition.
- Stop Corrupting our Children.

#### **Corporate Plan Linkage**

Live, visit and play We have a diverse mix of accessible spaces to live, visit and play.

Safe, healthy and engaged region Our region is a safe and resilient community, with services that support high standards of public health, and extends friendship and support to each other through both good and challenging times.

Arts, culture and heritage We invest in the Mackay region's arts and culture and protect the rich cultural heritage and history of our region in line with council's Arts and Cultural Development Policy.

Integrated social services We bring together residents, community organisations, funders, researchers, and regional services to build a connected community.

Ethical decision-making and good governance We are committed to keeping our community informed about our activities and performance and employing robust governance policies and procedures to ensure legislative compliance and organisational integrity.

Resilient and agile economy Our long-term vision guides our planning for present and future needs, understanding the future implications of decisions made today.

#### **Background/Discussion**

The petition was received by council at its Ordinary meeting of 24 April 2024, specifically - "It is our will that all pornographic and gender corrupt materials targeting children, be removed from the Mackay Regional Council (MRC) libraries immediately." Council resolved to receive the Petition, and that it be referred to the Chief Executive Officer for a report to be prepared for consideration by Council which investigates the issues identified within the Petition. This report and content as a result of that resolution.

The dictionary definition of "pornography" is "the depiction of erotic behaviour (as in pictures or writing) intended to cause sexual excitement."

The term "gender corrupt" as a term is not defined within dictionaries.

Council can confirm there are no items within the MRC library collection that are categorised as "pornography" or "gender corrupt" targeting children.

Council libraries provide a physical and digital collection based on a broad range of community needs. MRC Libraries comply with the decisions made under State and Federal law, including those by the Australian Classification Board (The Board) to provide an unbiased source of knowledge, information, and ideas.

The Australian Classification Board

The Board is responsible for the classification of publications, films and computer games within Australia. As a rule, most books and publications are generally not classified. Individual items can be submitted for classification if they are considered offensive to a reasonable adult and/or unsuitable for a minor to read. The Board may deem a publication prohibited or age restricted.

Council encourages individuals or organisations concerned about the appropriateness of particular items in library collections to submit them to The Board for review. There is a cost associated with having a publication classified, with that cost depending on the size of the publication. Council does not pay for classification on behalf of individual customers or organisations that have requested items be removed from MRC libraries.

Publisher’s Recommended Age Categories

Items within the MRC library collection are located within age-related categories and Table 1 below provides a summary of the categories.

Table 1

<b>Category</b>	<b>Audience age range</b>	<b>Description</b>
Adult Non-Fiction Collection	16+	The Non-fiction Collection contain resources at a general readership level that provide information about a wide variety of subjects.
Adult Fiction	18+	The Adult Fiction Collection contains popular, contemporary and classic works in the English language, covering a wide range of genres.
Young adult graphic novel	12-25	A Graphic Novel can be defined as any self-contained story in a single binding that uses a comic book-like page layout, with a strong emphasis on illustration.
Young Adult Fiction	12-25	Enhance the “reading for pleasure” experience and growth of knowledge, ideas and imagination via the worlds of non-fiction and fiction titles
Junior Fiction	5-12	A book is considered appropriate for the Junior Fiction category when the content, vocabulary and structure is deemed more relevant to independent readers
Junior non-Fiction	5-12	This collection includes both study related resources and items for recreational and informative reading.
Picture Books	0-5	Picture Books should feature high quality illustration and appropriate standards in the use of text – i.e. contain a low proportion of text and predominantly utilise images/illustration to convey and support the narrative.
Parenting Collection (Picture books)	All ages	This collection is a curated selection of picture books that can be of use to parents and caregivers when there is a need to have various “life conversations” with their children and young people in their care.

Many publications contain details of their intended audience within the publisher’s descriptor.

Effectiveness of library borrowing controls



Other than The Board's prohibitions and restrictions and publisher's recommendations, additional controls are in place at MRC libraries to ensure age-appropriate reading, including:

Library membership

MRC library conditions of membership require parents or guardians of children under the age of 15 to take full responsibility for the items accessed and borrowed in our libraries and/or through our online library portal.

Library Management System Technology

When an item is age-restricted by The Board, a person outside of that age group is prohibited from loaning that item through our library management system. This applies only to items that have age restrictions in place, such as DVDs, online content, and limited print publications.

Physical Location of collection items

The library layout is designed to separate the children's collection section away from the adult reading area to separate the users and for ease of supervision by library staff. The "Parenting Collection" is co-located in the children's area as this collection targets young people. Other parenting resources intended for adult audiences are located within adult non-fiction areas.

Library Staff Supervision

Trained and/or library qualified library professionals are best positioned to support customers to make age-appropriate reading choices and endeavour to provide the highest level of customer service and care to customers within our libraries.

Collection Development

MRC Collection Development Plan states: "Our...collection will support the information and recreation needs of the whole community, inclusive of differences in gender, sexuality, age, disability, ethnic origin or economic status...The library will provide resources that respond to specific needs of the community, including those of CALD, First Nations, and LGBTQIA+ communities, those who cannot visit the library in person, and those requiring accessible formats."

**Consultation and Communication**

Consultation has occurred with library staff, the State Library of Queensland (State Library), The Australian Library and Information Association and a range of councils. All parties consulted agree that it is the Australian Classification Board's role to classify publications and not the role of Council or librarians.

**Resource Implications**

MRC receives funding from the State Library of approximately \$570,000.00 each year for library collection items. These funds are used to purchase new or replacement stock, as well as purchase our various online subscriptions and content.

State Library Guidelines and Advice

State Library Collection Guidelines state: "The selection and availability of library materials and services is governed by professional considerations and not by political, moral and religious views. Personal views or values, or any perception of the potential of material to offend or cause controversy, do not limit the materials libraries acquire and make accessible."

**Risk Management Implications**

Since June 2023, there have been nine safety incidents reported by staff involving interactions with members of the public regarding collection items, with a focus on age-appropriate materials. There is an increasing risk of psychological and physical injury associated with library staff being targeted regarding this issue. Council has a strong commitment, as well as a legislative obligation, to make sure libraries remain a safe place for all employees, volunteers, and visitors.

MRC is conscious of the extensive community anger, protest, threats, and negative national media attention associated with Cumberland City Council's recent decision to limit freedom of expression and ban a single library book. Community petitions against the ban with more than 40,000 signatures resulted in council voting to overturn the ban.

MRC closely follows State Library Guidelines in building and management of collections and material. Not following these guidelines could potentially jeopardise MRC State Government funding.

### **Conclusion**

Council encourages individuals or organisations concerned about the appropriateness of items in the library collection to submit those items to the Australian Classification Board for review.

Council does not pay for classification on behalf of individual customers or organisations that have requested items be removed from libraries.

Council libraries continue to follow Australian Classification Board decisions and State Library Guidelines.

The CEO will advise the principal petitioner that no further action will be required and that any future correspondence relating to the publications will be dealt with by the CEO in accordance with resolution.

### **Officer's Recommendation**

THAT Council confirms that no material within its libraries are banned by the Australian Classification Board, nor is there any category targeted at children that fits the definitions of "*pornographic*" or "*gender corrupt*"

AND THAT material within Councils libraries are in line with Queensland State Library Guidelines, and that should any material be banned by the Australian Classification Board that they will be removed.

FURTHER THAT the Chief Executive Officer contact the Principal Petitioner to advise of the Council decision, and also that any further correspondence related to queries regarding materials contained within Council's libraries be addressed by the Chief Executive Officer

## 11.4. PLANNING, GROWTH AND SUSTAINABILITY

### **11.4.1. FACILITATING DEVELOPMENT IN THE MACKAY REGION POLICY - KOOL BEANZ CHILDCARE CENTRE - BRIDGE ROAD, MACKAY**

<b>Author</b>	Senior Economic Development Officer (Brenton Randall)
<b>Responsible Officer</b>	Director Planning, Growth & Sustainability (Aletta Nugent)
<b>File Reference</b>	Facilitating Development in the Mackay Region Policy Applications

#### **Attachments**

1. Kool Beanz Bridge Road - Site Plans [11.4.1.1 - 9 pages]

#### **Purpose**

To assess an application under the Facilitating Development in the Mackay Region Policy.

#### **Related Parties**

- Bridge Road Mackay Holding No.1 Pty Ltd ATF
- Kool Beanz Bridge Road
- Kool Beanz Academy
- Stea Astute Architecture
- Coulson Operations

#### **Corporate Plan Linkage**

##### Live and Visit

*Enhance Liveability* - We have a range of housing and social infrastructure options that supports a great quality of life and wellbeing in our community.

*Places and Spaces* - We provide well planned and designed places, facilities and infrastructure that meet the needs of our residents and visitors.

#### **Background/Discussion**

The proposed development by Bridge Road Mackay Holding No.1 Pty Ltd ATF (trading as Kool Beanz Bridge Road) will deliver a childcare centre at 448 Bridge Road, West Mackay (Lot 22 SP344947, formerly Lot 10 RP720085 and Lot 12 RP709427). The site has a frontage to Streeter Avenue and to Bridge Road.

The development application, seeking a Development Permit for the Material Change of Use (DA-2023-1) for a Childcare Centre, was approved on 8 March 2023.

The development proposed by Kool Beanz is their second childcare facility in the region, with their Juliet Street centre almost at full capacity. The establishment of this new centre is strategically positioned to support the existing Mackay Base Hospital and proposed new private hospital. The childcare centre will provide an additional 52 early childcare places including places for baby, toddler, junior kindy and senior kindy. The proponent has advised they have a significant waitlist for the proposed Bridge Road facility.

The centre comprises two main buildings over a single level and connected by an overhead shelter around a central courtyard. The main entrance to the centre is via Bridge Road.

The site has access to urban infrastructure including sewer, stormwater, electricity and telecommunications, and will not result in additional infrastructure costs to Council.

The centre is estimated to cost approximately \$3.8M to construct, with the total capital investment anticipated at around \$5.1M. Construction is scheduled to commence in July 2024 and should be operational by late 2024 / early 2025. It is anticipated that the centre will create 12 new full time equivalent (FTE) positions for educators, support staff, administrators and maintenance personnel.

### Incentive Requests

The applicant submitted an Expression of Interest under the Facilitating Development in the Mackay Region Policy (Policy) on 5 April 2024, and the subsequent Stage 2 Application was received on 29 May 2024. The applicant is seeking concessions under Schedule 6 Community Facilities which supports Material Change of Use development for a Childcare Centre.

The following concessions have been requested:

- a) 75% concession on infrastructure charges:
  - o Infrastructure Charges = \$30,413.65
  - o Requested concession = \$22,810.24
  - o Charges payable = \$7,603.41

Under Schedule 6 Community Facilities in the current Policy (December 2023), infrastructure charges may be reduced by up to 75% of the net charge amount identified on the Infrastructure Charges Notice (after the subtraction of any offsets or credits and following annual adjustments) to a maximum concession value of \$1,000,000 for a Childcare Centre.

Council may consider reductions in infrastructure charges beyond these rates for applications that can demonstrate they will generate significant long-term economic benefits, job creation and have transformative outcomes that will diversify the existing economic base of the region.

### General Eligibility Criteria

The Policy seeks to attract investment in qualifying developments to stimulate growth, diversify and add value to the economy of the Mackay region.

Based on information provided by the applicant, the proposed development satisfies the requirements under the General Eligibility Criteria in Schedule 6 Community Facilities as follows:

Criteria	Eligibility
<b>Timing of development</b> Use commences within 2 years.	Commencement of construction – July 2024 Commencement of use – late 2024 / early 2025
<b>Non-Government Development</b>	Yes
<b>Infrastructure capacity</b>	The applicant has advised all required urban services are already provided to the site, and no external or trunk infrastructure upgrades will be required to service the proposed development.  As per the Infrastructure Charges Notice, no offsets are in place for DA-2023-1.

### Specific Eligibility Criteria

Based on information provided by the applicant, the proposal satisfies the requirements under the Eligibility Criteria in Schedule 6 Community Facilities as follows:

Criteria	Eligibility
<p><b>Economic Investment</b> Minimum capital investment in the development is equal to or greater than \$100,000 under Schedule 6 Community Facilities.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Estimated construction cost of development is \$3.8M.</li> <li>• Estimated total capital investment of \$5.1M (land, construction costs, project management, consultant costs, development application costs, etc)</li> <li>• Based on council's economic modelling, a direct injection of \$3.8M (construction costs) will result in combined supply chain and consumption effects of \$4.059M, totalling \$7.859M economic impact.</li> <li>• The applicant has committed to utilising local contractors and suppliers during construction of the development.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Employment Generation</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Based on council's economic modelling, the project will generate 7 direct and 7 indirect jobs, totalling 14 jobs during construction.</li> <li>• Post construction, the applicant anticipates the development will result in 12 direct FTE jobs once operational.</li> <li>• The applicant has committed to utilising local contractors and suppliers during construction of the development.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Applicable Area</b></p>	<p>A Development Permit for the Material Change of Use (DA-2023-1) for a Childcare Centre was approved on 8 March 2023.</p>
<p><b>Applicable Land Uses</b> The Policy applies to a Material Change of Use for applicable land uses in Schedule 6 Community Facilities (refer to the table in the Policy)</p>	<p>The development application was for a Material Change of Use for Childcare Centre, which is consistent with the land uses identified in Schedule 6 Community Facilities.</p>

**Business and Regional Benefits**

The applicant proposes the development will deliver immediate benefits to the Mackay region's economy, these being:

- This project will deliver 52 new early childcare spaces.
- The project will deliver a new modern, state-of-the art facility, strategically located in a populated area adjacent the existing hospital and proposed private hospital, allowing easy access for working parents to drop off and pick up children.
- The project will allow more parents to return to and/or increase their hours in the workplace. This will relieve some pressure on the critical skills shortage challenges currently being experienced in the Mackay region.
- The proposed building has been architecturally designed to ensure a high-quality built form outcome on the site which is responsive to the existing residential character and amenity of the area.
- The project will result in 12 FTE staff positions post construction.
- The development supports increased business activity within the local construction industry, manufacturers and suppliers, and provides additional employment opportunities across various industry sectors.

**Consultation and Communication**

The Development Planning and Engineering program has considered the development application through the statutory assessment provisions under the *Planning Act 2016*. As part of this assessment process, other relevant sections of Council were consulted.

The Director Planning, Growth & Sustainability has also considered this application and provided approval for the Expression of Interest to progress to a Stage 2 application.

### Resource Implications

In accordance with the Infrastructure Charges Notice, the development gives rise to total net infrastructure charges of \$30,413.65 (+ annual adjustments).

Gross Infrastructure Charge (IC)	Applicable Credits	Net Infrastructure Charge (IC minus Credit)	Concession (%)	Concession (\$)	Charges Payable
\$90,867.05	\$60,453.40	\$30,413.65	75%	\$22,810.24	\$7,603.41

Under Schedule 6 Community Facility (Childcare Centre), infrastructure charges may be reduced up to 75% of the net charge amount (identified on the Infrastructure Charges Notice after the subtraction of any offsets or credits) to a maximum concession value of \$1,000,000.

It is proposed that infrastructure charge concessions only be applied to the net charge amounts calculated following the subtraction of any offsets and credits. The application of this methodology will ensure that the granting of concessions does not introduce any additional infrastructure costs to Council.

### Risk Management Implications

There is a risk that granting significant concessions can leave Council exposed to similar claims in the future and that a potential infrastructure funding gap could present. These risks are sufficiently mitigated through the following measures:

- An existing development approval is in place and on-site infrastructure requirements have been reviewed as part of the assessment process;
- A condition has been included as part of the officer's recommendation stating that the approved concessions are dependent on Council not incurring any additional infrastructure costs (including 'bring forward costs') to service the development;
- Strict timeframes are placed for claiming approved concessions. If the use has not commenced within the recommended timeframe, the concessions will no longer be applicable and 100% of the applicable Infrastructure Charges will be applicable to the development;
- Council can review the application of the Policy at any time.

### Conclusion

The Policy provides incentives for developments that will deliver economic development and growth outcomes in alignment with Council's policy and planning objectives.

The proposed development supports the desired outcomes of Schedule 6 of the Policy. The provision of concessions will facilitate the delivery of the project, resulting in jobs during construction, on-going jobs post construction, and increased economic output for the region.

**Officer's Recommendation**

THAT the following Specific Incentives are approved under the Facilitating Development in the Mackay Region Policy for the proposed development by Bridge Road Mackay Holding No.1 Pty Ltd ATF (trading as Kool Beanz Bridge Road) known as Kool Beanz Bridge Road Childcare Centre, 448 Bridge Road, West Mackay (Lot 22 SP344947):

- a) Concessions of 75% (estimated at \$22,810.24) apply to the net charge amount on the Infrastructure Charge Notice (calculated following annual adjustments, and subtraction of any offsets and credits) for DA-2023-1;

AND THAT the approval of concessions is dependent on:

- b) The development must be completed and use commenced by 26 June 2026;
- c) No additional infrastructure costs are incurred by Council (including establishment and bring forward costs);
- d) The developer utilising local contractors and suppliers.



Site Survey  
1 : 200



KOOL BEANZ BRIDGE ROAD	
SITE SURVEY	
Scale:	1:200 (A4)
Date:	Author
Drawn:	24/30
Job Number:	2430
Project Name:	SK 03
Address:	Level 1, 25 River St, PO Box 758 Mackay Q 4740
Contact:	(07) 4957 7341 mail@stea.com.au stea.com.au

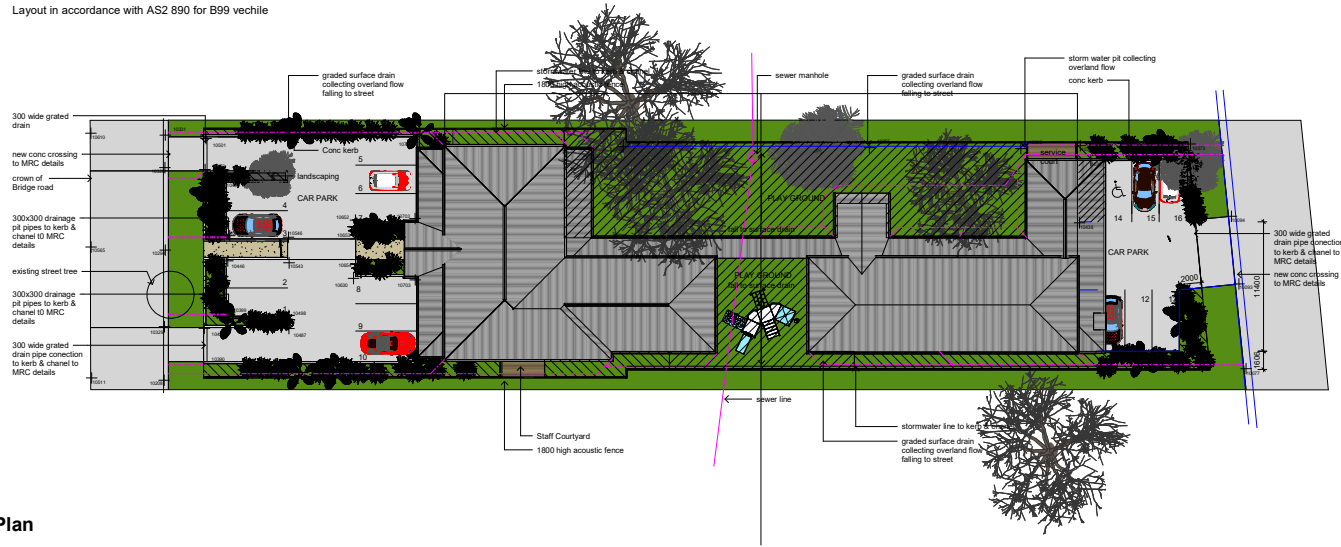
Document Set ID: 9826385  
Version: 6, Version Date: 10/03/2023





DEVELOPMENT AREAS		EDUCATION SEPP REQUIREMENTS	
Site Area	1824 sqm	52 Children	
Building area		13 EFT Staff	
FECA	515 sqm	Unicumbred indoor space @ 3.25sqm / child	169 sqm
UECA	185 sqm	Required	208 sqm
Playground	430 sqm	Provided	
Landscaped area excluding playground	188 sqm	Unicumbred outdoor space @ 3.25sqm / child	364 sqm
		Required	430 sqm
		Provided	
Car Parks			
Setdown bays	5 ( 1 no accessible AS1428)		
Staff	11		

Layout in accordance with AS2 890 for B99 vehicle



Site Plan  
1 : 200



1 Steeler Avenue Elevation Amend	24/01/23
KOOL BEANZ BRIDGE ROAD	
SITE PLAN	
Scale	1:200 (A1)
Drawn	Author
Check	December 2022
Job Number	2430
Project Number	SK 04
Sheet	1
Level 1, 25 River St, PO Box 758 Mackay Q 4740	(07) 4957 7341 mail@stea.com.au stea.com.au

Document Set ID: 9826385  
Version: 6, Version Date: 10/03/2023



Ground Floor  
1 : 100



KOOL BEANZ BRIDGE ROAD	
FLOOR PLAN	
Scale	1:100 (A1)
Drawn	Author
Date	December 2022
Job Number	2430
Project Name	SK 05
Address	Level 1, 25 River St, PO Box 758 Mackay Q 4740
Contact	(07) 4957 7341 mail@stea.com.au stea.com.au

Document Set ID: 9826385  
Version: 6, Version Date: 10/03/2023



**Bridge Road Elevation**  
1 : 100



**Steeter Ave Elevation**  
1 : 100



**Section A - A**  
1 : 100



1	Steeter Avenue Elevation Amend	24/01/23
KOOL BEANZ BRIDGE ROAD		
ELEVATION & SECTION		
Scale	1 : 100 (A1)	
Drawn	Author	
Check	December 2022	
Job Number	2430	
Project Name	SK 06	Sheet 1
Level 1, 25 River St, PO Box 758 Mackay Q 4740		
(07) 4957 7341 mail@stea.com.au stea.com.au		

Document Set ID: 9826385  
Version: 6, Version Date: 10/03/2023



South East Elevation  
1 : 100



North West Elevation  
1 : 100



1 Stear Avenue Elevation Amend 24/01/23  
KOOL BEANZ BRIDGE ROAD

ELEVATIONS

1:100 (A1)  
Date: December 2022  
Job Number: 2430  
Project Name: SK 07

Level 1, 25 River St, (07) 4957 7341  
PO Box 758, mail@stea.com.au  
Mackay Q 4740, stea.com.au

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Version: 6, Version Date: 10/03/2023



Bridge Road Entry



KOOL BEANZ BRIDGE ROAD

PERSPECTIVE

Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Author: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Date: December 2022  
 Job Number: 2430  
 Project Name: SK 08

Level 1, 25 River St,  
 PO Box 758  
 Mackay Q 4740

(07) 4957 7341  
 mail@stea.com.au  
 stea.com.au

Document Set ID: 9826385  
 Version: 6, Version Date: 10/03/2023



North West Aerial View



KOOL BEANZ BRIDGE ROAD

---

PERSPECTIVE

Scale: 1:100

Date: 10/03/2023

Author: [Redacted]

Drawn: [Redacted]

Check: [Redacted]

Job Number: 2430

Project Name: SK 09

---

Level 1, 25 River St, (07) 4957 7341  
 PO Box 758, mail@stea.com.au  
 Mackay Q 4740, stea.com.au

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Version: 6, Version Date: 10/03/2023



Playground View



KOOL BEANZ BRIDGE ROAD

---

PERSPECTIVE

Scale: 1:100

Project: Author

Date: December 2022

Job Number: 2430

Project Name: SK 10

Level 1, 25 River St, (07) 4957 7341  
 PO Box 758, mail@stea.com.au  
 Mackay Q 4740, stea.com.au

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Document Set ID: 9826385  
 Version: 6, Version Date: 10/03/2023



Streeter Avenue



1	Streeter Avenue Elevation Amend	24/01/23
KOOOL BEANZ BRIDGE ROAD		
PERSPECTIVE		
Scale: 1:100		
Date: 24/01/23		
Job Number: 2430		
Project Name: SK 11		
Level 1, 25 River St, (07) 4957 7341 PO Box 758, mail@stea.com.au Mackay Q 4740, stea.com.au		

Document Set ID: 9826385  
 Version: 6, Version Date: 10/03/2023



### **11.4.2. FACILITATING DEVELOPMENT IN THE MACKAY REGION POLICY - WHITSUNDAY ANGLICAN SCHOOL - 2-16 CELEBER DRIVE, ANDERGROVE**

**Author** Senior Economic Development Officer (Brenton Randall)  
**Responsible Officer** Director Planning, Growth & Sustainability (Aletta Nugent)  
**File Reference** Facilitating Development in the Mackay Region Policy Applications

#### **Attachments**

1. DA-2002-23/A Approved Plans - Whitsunday Anglican School [11.4.2.1 - 7 pages]

#### **Purpose**

To assess an application under the Facilitating Development in the Mackay Region Policy.

#### **Related Parties**

- Whitsunday Anglican School
- RPS
- Sanders Turner Ellick Architects
- M&P Services

#### **Corporate Plan Linkage**

##### Invest and Work

*Industries, Jobs and Growth* - Our core industries are growing and prosperous, encouraged to innovate, create jobs, and drive growth.

*Skills, Training and Education* - The Mackay region offers world-class educational and vocational opportunities for current and future careers.

##### Live and Visit

*Places and Spaces* - We provide well planned and designed places, facilities and infrastructure that meet the needs of our residents and visitors.

#### **Background/Discussion**

The proposed development by Whitsunday Anglican School Limited will deliver a demountable classroom building on the school grounds at 2-16 Celeber Drive, Andergrove (Lot 3 on SP262625).

The initial establishment of the demountable classroom will maintain classroom numbers so existing classroom buildings can be refurbished and upgraded to modern standards, including technology upgrades. This will ensure the school maintains high standards of teaching facilities. Ultimately the demountable classroom will accommodate future student growth.

The proposed demountable building will connect to the existing internal infrastructure that services the existing school. All necessary infrastructure is available to the building location. No new services or extensions to Council infrastructure will be required.

The centre is estimated to cost approximately \$500,000 to construct, with total capital investment anticipated at around \$620,000. The development is scheduled to commence construction in July 2024, and should be operational by 19 July 2024. The demountable building will be constructed off-site by M&P Services, resulting in additional temporary construction jobs.

It is also worth noting that additional construction jobs will be generated by the refurbishment works in existing classrooms which is associated with the demountable building.

**Incentive Requests**

The applicant submitted an Expression of Interest under the Facilitating Development in the Mackay Region Policy (Policy) on 5 June 2024, and the subsequent Stage 2 Application was received on the same date. The applicant is seeking concessions under Schedule 6 Community Facilities which supports Material Change of Use development for an Educational Establishment.

The following concessions have been requested:

- a) 100% concession on infrastructure charges:
  - o Infrastructure Charges = \$ 26,493.46
  - o Requested concession = \$ 26,493.46
  - o Charges payable = \$0.00

Under Schedule 6 Community Facilities in the current Policy (December 2023), infrastructure charges may be reduced by up to 100% of the net charge amount identified on the Infrastructure Charges Notice (after the subtraction of any offsets or credits and following annual adjustments) to a maximum concession value of \$1,000,000 for registered charities. The applicant has supplied documentation that demonstrates they have registered charity status.

- b) Delayed payment of infrastructure charges:

As per Schedule 6 Community Facilities, delayed payment of Infrastructure Charges can be considered for eligible applications.

**General Eligibility Criteria**

The Policy seeks to attract investment in qualifying developments to stimulate growth, diversify and add value to the economy of the Mackay region.

Based on information provided by the applicant, the proposed development satisfies the requirements under the General Eligibility Criteria in Schedule 6 Community Facilities as follows:

<b>Criteria</b>	<b>Eligibility</b>
<b>Timing of development</b> Use commences within 2 years.	Commencement of construction – July 2024 Commencement of use – July 2024
<b>Non-Government Development</b>	Yes
<b>Infrastructure capacity</b>	The applicant has advised all required urban services are already provided to the site, and no external or trunk infrastructure upgrades will be required to service the proposed development.  As per the Infrastructure Charges Notice, no offsets are in place for DA-2002-34/A.

**Specific Eligibility Criteria**

Based on information provided by the applicant, the proposal satisfies the requirements under the Eligibility Criteria in Schedule 6 Community Facilities as follows:

Criteria	Eligibility
<p><b>Economic Investment</b> Minimum capital investment in the development is equal to or greater than \$100,000 under Schedule 6 Community Facilities.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Estimated construction cost of the development is \$500,000.</li> <li>• Estimated total capital investment of \$620,000 (land, construction costs, project management, consultant costs, development application costs, etc).</li> <li>• Based on Council's economic modelling, a direct injection of \$500,000 (construction costs) will result in combined supply chain and consumption effects of \$535,000, totalling \$1.034M economic impact.</li> <li>• The applicant has committed to utilising local contractors and suppliers during construction of the development and anticipates that at least 95% of contractors will be local.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Employment Generation</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Based on Council's economic modelling, the project will generate 1 direct and 1 indirect job, totalling 2 jobs during construction.</li> <li>• Post construction, the applicant anticipates the development will result in additional FTE jobs once refurbished classrooms are operational.</li> <li>• The applicant has committed to utilising local contractors and suppliers during construction of the development and anticipates that at least 95% of contractors will be local.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Applicable Area</b></p>	<p>A Development Permit for the Material Change of Use (DA-2002-34/A) for an Educational Establishment was approved on 9 April 2024.</p>
<p><b>Applicable Land Uses</b> The Policy applies to Material Change of Use for applicable land uses in Schedule 6 Community Facilities (refer to the table in the Policy)</p>	<p>The development application applies to a Material Change of Use Development Permit for Educational Establishment, which is consistent with land uses identified in Schedule 6 Community Facilities.</p>

### Business and Regional Benefits

The applicant proposes the development will deliver immediate benefits to the Mackay region's economy, these being:

- This project will deliver a new demountable classroom to be used while refurbishment of existing classrooms take place.
- Once refurbishment is complete, the demountable classroom will be used as an additional classroom for the school.
- The project will deliver a new modern, state-of-the art facility, and enable existing facilities to be upgraded to a high standard.
- The demountable classroom will be constructed and installed by a local company.
- The development supports increased business activity within the local construction industry, manufacturers and suppliers, and provides additional employment opportunities across various industry sectors.

### Consultation and Communication

The Development Planning and Engineering program has considered the development application through the statutory assessment provisions under the *Planning Act 2016*. As part of this assessment process, other relevant sections of Council were consulted.

The Director Planning, Growth & Sustainability has also considered this application and provided approval for the Expression of Interest to progress to a Stage 2 application.

**Resource Implications**

In accordance with the Infrastructure Charges Notice, the development gives rise to total net infrastructure charges of \$26,493.46 (+ annual adjustments).

Under Schedule 6 Community Facility (Educational Establishment), infrastructure charges for registered charities may be reduced up to 100% of the net charge amount (identified on the Infrastructure Charges Notice after the subtraction of any offsets or credits) to a maximum concession value of \$1,000,000. Under this scenario, there are no infrastructure charges payable by the applicant for this development.

Gross Infrastructure Charge (IC)	Applicable Credits	Net Infrastructure Charge (IC minus Credit)	Concession (%)	Concession (\$)	Charges Payable
\$26,493.46	\$0.00	\$26,493.46	100%	\$26,493.46	\$0.00

Infrastructure charge concessions will only be applied to the net charge amount calculated following the subtraction of any offsets and credits. The application of this methodology will ensure that the granting of concessions does not introduce any additional infrastructure costs to Council.

b) Delayed payment of infrastructure charges

Should 100% concessions apply, the applicant will not require the delayed payment option.

**Risk Management Implications**

There is a risk that granting significant concessions can leave Council exposed to similar claims in the future and that a potential infrastructure funding gap could present. These risks are sufficiently mitigated through the following measures:

- An existing development approval is in place and on-site infrastructure requirements have been reviewed as part of the assessment process;
- A condition has been included as part of the officer’s recommendation stating that the approved concessions are dependent on Council not incurring any additional infrastructure costs (including ‘bring forward costs’) to service the development;
- Strict timeframes are placed for claiming approved concessions. If the use has not commenced within the recommended timeframe, the concessions will no longer be applicable and 100% of the applicable Infrastructure Charges will be applicable to the development;
- Council can review the application of the Policy at any time.

**Conclusion**

The Policy provides incentives for developments that will deliver economic development and growth outcomes in alignment with Council’s policy and planning objectives.

The proposed development supports the desired outcomes of Schedule 6 of the Policy. The provision of concessions will facilitate the delivery of the project, resulting in jobs during construction, on-going jobs post construction, and increased economic output for the region.

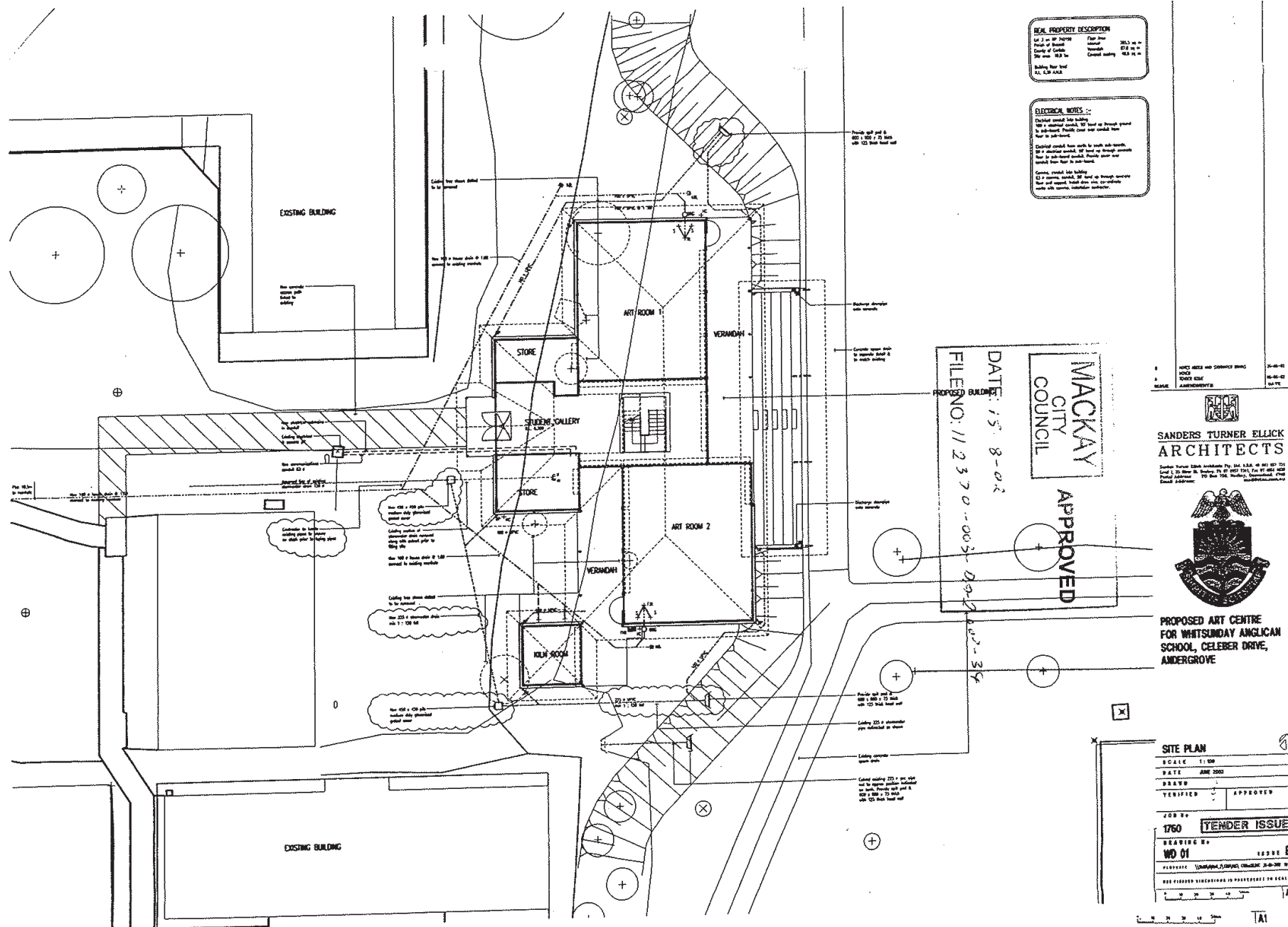
**Officer's Recommendation**

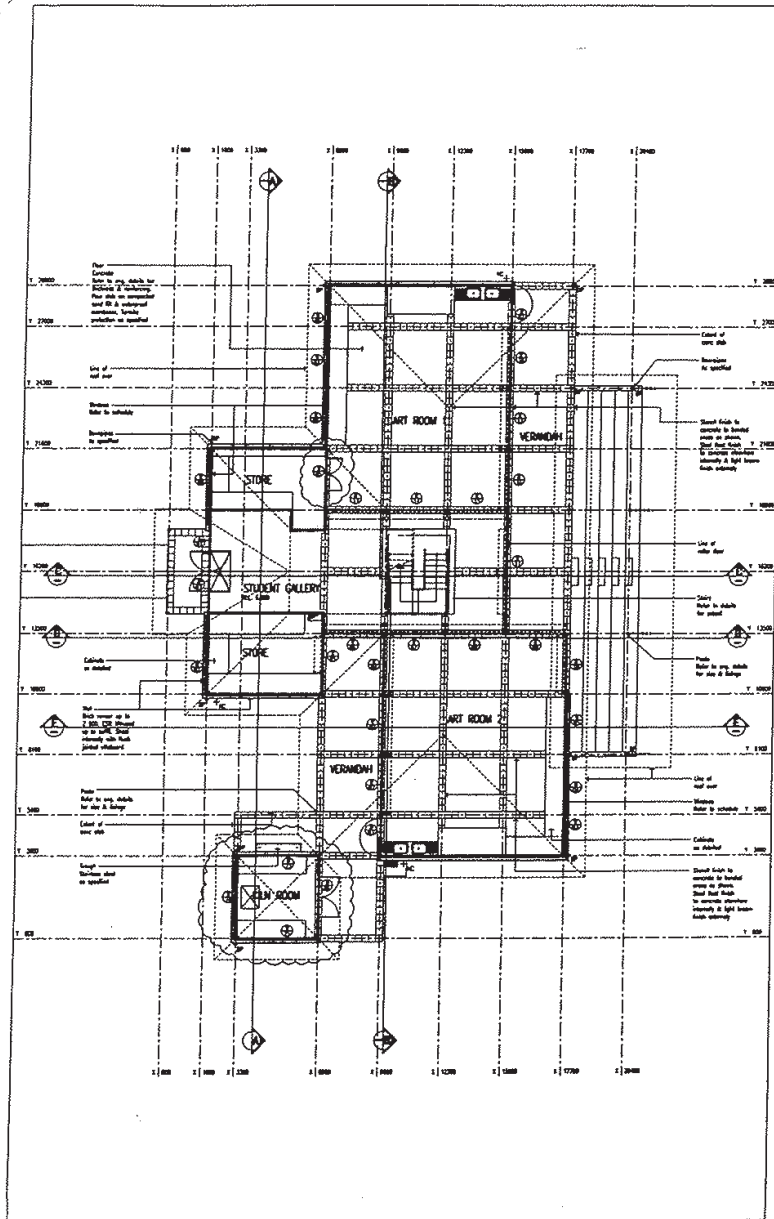
THAT the following Specific Incentive is approved under the Facilitating Development in the Mackay Region Policy for the proposed development by Whitsunday Anglican School Limited, 2-16 Celeber Drive, Andergrove (Lot 3 on SP262625):

- a) Concession of 100% (estimated at \$26,493.46) apply on the net charge amount on the Infrastructure Charge Notice (calculated following annual adjustments, and subtraction of any offsets and credits) for DA-2002-34/A.

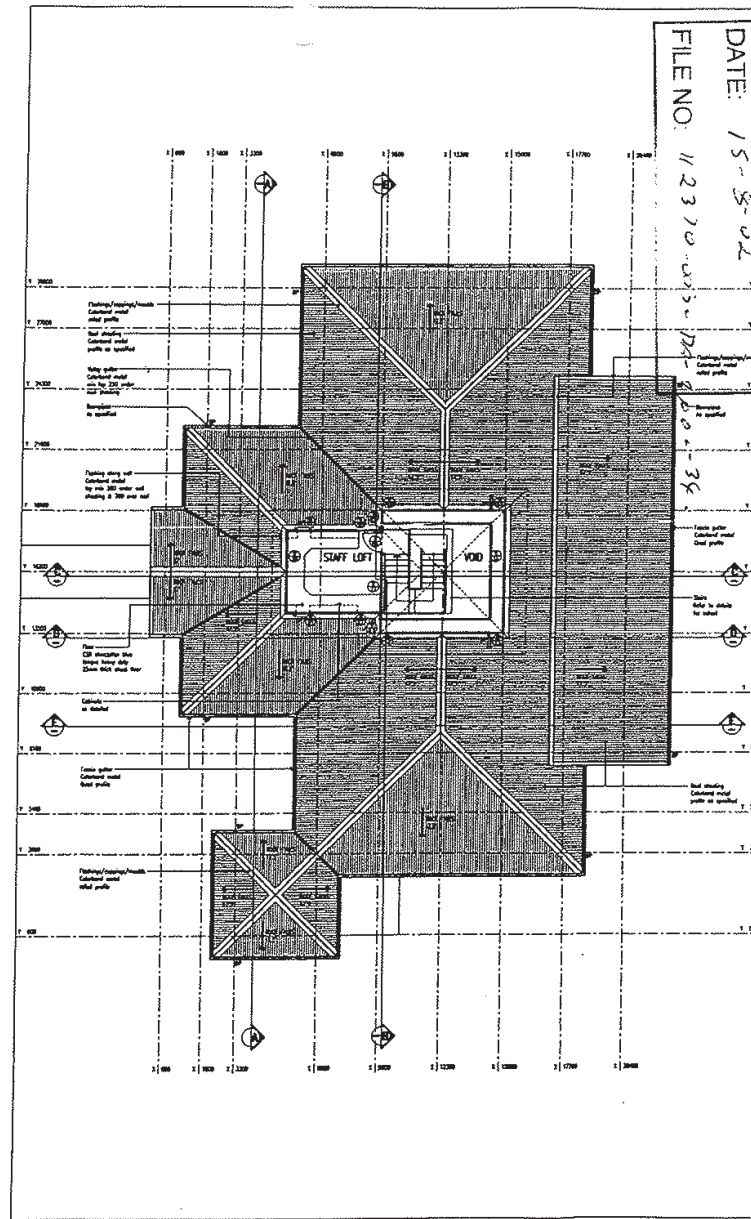
AND THAT the approval of the concession is dependent on:

- b) The development must be completed and use commenced by 26 June 2026;
- c) No additional infrastructure costs are incurred by Council (including establishment and bring forward costs);
- d) The developer utilising local contractors and suppliers.





GROUND FLOOR PLAN



FIRST FLOOR PLAN

DATE: 15-8-02  
 FILE NO: 112370-023-128-820-36

MACKAY CITY COUNCIL  
 APPROVED

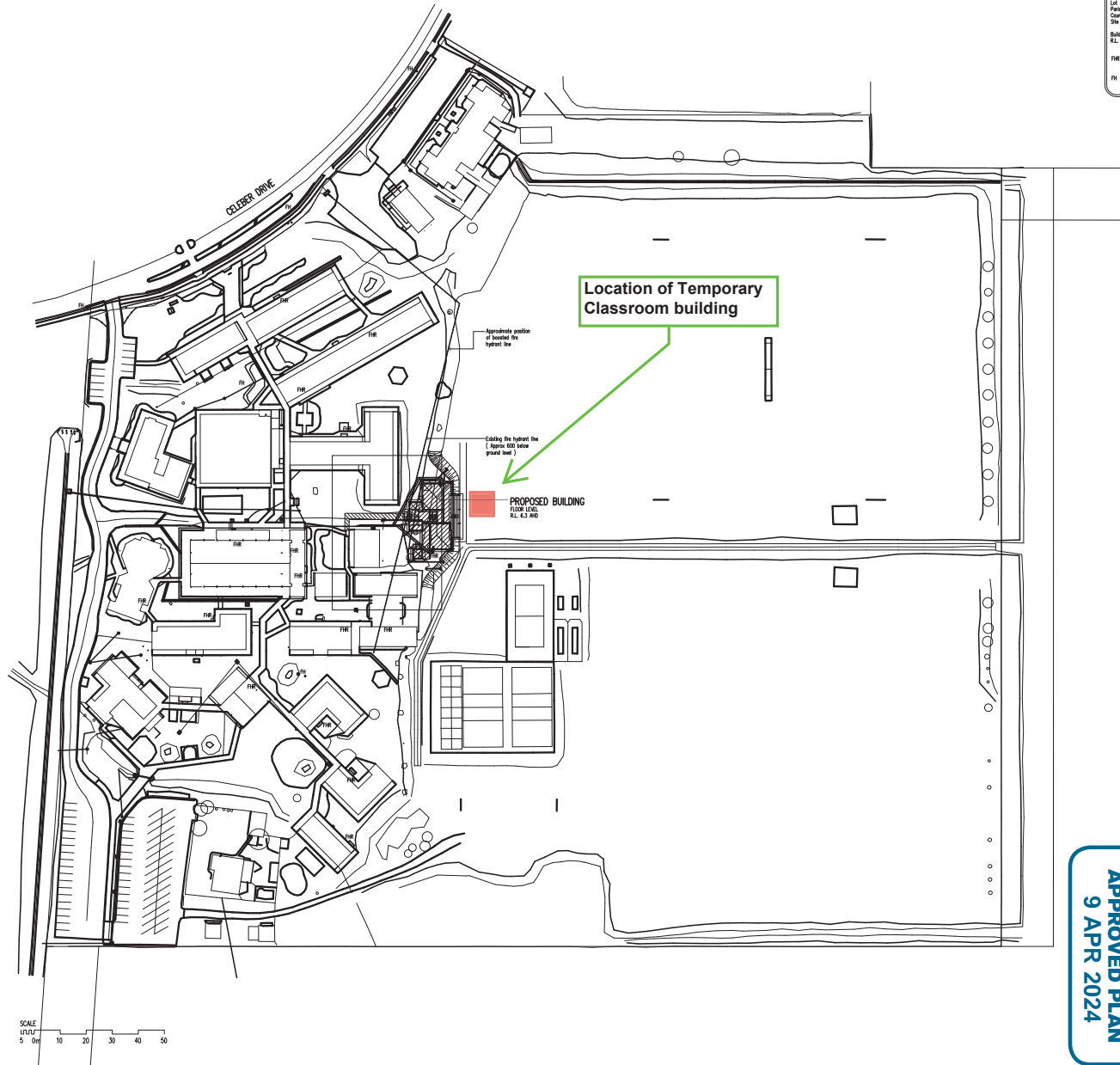
A 1:5000 DATE: 15-8-02

SANDERS TURNER ELLICK ARCHITECTS  
 Sanders Turner Elick Architects Pty Ltd, A.B.N. 42 861 677 725  
 Level 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, 34, 35, 36, 37, 38, 39, 40, 41, 42, 43, 44, 45, 46, 47, 48, 49, 50, 51, 52, 53, 54, 55, 56, 57, 58, 59, 60, 61, 62, 63, 64, 65, 66, 67, 68, 69, 70, 71, 72, 73, 74, 75, 76, 77, 78, 79, 80, 81, 82, 83, 84, 85, 86, 87, 88, 89, 90, 91, 92, 93, 94, 95, 96, 97, 98, 99, 100, 101, 102, 103, 104, 105, 106, 107, 108, 109, 110, 111, 112, 113, 114, 115, 116, 117, 118, 119, 120, 121, 122, 123, 124, 125, 126, 127, 128, 129, 130, 131, 132, 133, 134, 135, 136, 137, 138, 139, 140, 141, 142, 143, 144, 145, 146, 147, 148, 149, 150, 151, 152, 153, 154, 155, 156, 157, 158, 159, 160, 161, 162, 163, 164, 165, 166, 167, 168, 169, 170, 171, 172, 173, 174, 175, 176, 177, 178, 179, 180, 181, 182, 183, 184, 185, 186, 187, 188, 189, 190, 191, 192, 193, 194, 195, 196, 197, 198, 199, 200, 201, 202, 203, 204, 205, 206, 207, 208, 209, 210, 211, 212, 213, 214, 215, 216, 217, 218, 219, 220, 221, 222, 223, 224, 225, 226, 227, 228, 229, 230, 231, 232, 233, 234, 235, 236, 237, 238, 239, 240, 241, 242, 243, 244, 245, 246, 247, 248, 249, 250, 251, 252, 253, 254, 255, 256, 257, 258, 259, 260, 261, 262, 263, 264, 265, 266, 267, 268, 269, 270, 271, 272, 273, 274, 275, 276, 277, 278, 279, 280, 281, 282, 283, 284, 285, 286, 287, 288, 289, 290, 291, 292, 293, 294, 295, 296, 297, 298, 299, 300, 301, 302, 303, 304, 305, 306, 307, 308, 309, 310, 311, 312, 313, 314, 315, 316, 317, 318, 319, 320, 321, 322, 323, 324, 325, 326, 327, 328, 329, 330, 331, 332, 333, 334, 335, 336, 337, 338, 339, 340, 341, 342, 343, 344, 345, 346, 347, 348, 349, 350, 351, 352, 353, 354, 355, 356, 357, 358, 359, 360, 361, 362, 363, 364, 365, 366, 367, 368, 369, 370, 371, 372, 373, 374, 375, 376, 377, 378, 379, 380, 381, 382, 383, 384, 385, 386, 387, 388, 389, 390, 391, 392, 393, 394, 395, 396, 397, 398, 399, 400, 401, 402, 403, 404, 405, 406, 407, 408, 409, 410, 411, 412, 413, 414, 415, 416, 417, 418, 419, 420, 421, 422, 423, 424, 425, 426, 427, 428, 429, 430, 431, 432, 433, 434, 435, 436, 437, 438, 439, 440, 441, 442, 443, 444, 445, 446, 447, 448, 449, 450, 451, 452, 453, 454, 455, 456, 457, 458, 459, 460, 461, 462, 463, 464, 465, 466, 467, 468, 469, 470, 471, 472, 473, 474, 475, 476, 477, 478, 479, 480, 481, 482, 483, 484, 485, 486, 487, 488, 489, 490, 491, 492, 493, 494, 495, 496, 497, 498, 499, 500, 501, 502, 503, 504, 505, 506, 507, 508, 509, 510, 511, 512, 513, 514, 515, 516, 517, 518, 519, 520, 521, 522, 523, 524, 525, 526, 527, 528, 529, 530, 531, 532, 533, 534, 535, 536, 537, 538, 539, 540, 541, 542, 543, 544, 545, 546, 547, 548, 549, 550, 551, 552, 553, 554, 555, 556, 557, 558, 559, 560, 561, 562, 563, 564, 565, 566, 567, 568, 569, 570, 571, 572, 573, 574, 575, 576, 577, 578, 579, 580, 581, 582, 583, 584, 585, 586, 587, 588, 589, 590, 591, 592, 593, 594, 595, 596, 597, 598, 599, 600, 601, 602, 603, 604, 605, 606, 607, 608, 609, 610, 611, 612, 613, 614, 615, 616, 617, 618, 619, 620, 621, 622, 623, 624, 625, 626, 627, 628, 629, 630, 631, 632, 633, 634, 635, 636, 637, 638, 639, 640, 641, 642, 643, 644, 645, 646, 647, 648, 649, 650, 651, 652, 653, 654, 655, 656, 657, 658, 659, 660, 661, 662, 663, 664, 665, 666, 667, 668, 669, 670, 671, 672, 673, 674, 675, 676, 677, 678, 679, 680, 681, 682, 683, 684, 685, 686, 687, 688, 689, 690, 691, 692, 693, 694, 695, 696, 697, 698, 699, 700, 701, 702, 703, 704, 705, 706, 707, 708, 709, 710, 711, 712, 713, 714, 715, 716, 717, 718, 719, 720, 721, 722, 723, 724, 725, 726, 727, 728, 729, 730, 731, 732, 733, 734, 735, 736, 737, 738, 739, 740, 741, 742, 743, 744, 745, 746, 747, 748, 749, 750, 751, 752, 753, 754, 755, 756, 757, 758, 759, 760, 761, 762, 763, 764, 765, 766, 767, 768, 769, 770, 771, 772, 773, 774, 775, 776, 777, 778, 779, 780, 781, 782, 783, 784, 785, 786, 787, 788, 789, 790, 791, 792, 793, 794, 795, 796, 797, 798, 799, 800, 801, 802, 803, 804, 805, 806, 807, 808, 809, 810, 811, 812, 813, 814, 815, 816, 817, 818, 819, 820, 821, 822, 823, 824, 825, 826, 827, 828, 829, 830, 831, 832, 833, 834, 835, 836, 837, 838, 839, 840, 841, 842, 843, 844, 845, 846, 847, 848, 849, 850, 851, 852, 853, 854, 855, 856, 857, 858, 859, 860, 861, 862, 863, 864, 865, 866, 867, 868, 869, 870, 871, 872, 873, 874, 875, 876, 877, 878, 879, 880, 881, 882, 883, 884, 885, 886, 887, 888, 889, 890, 891, 892, 893, 894, 895, 896, 897, 898, 899, 900, 901, 902, 903, 904, 905, 906, 907, 908, 909, 910, 911, 912, 913, 914, 915, 916, 917, 918, 919, 920, 921, 922, 923, 924, 925, 926, 927, 928, 929, 930, 931, 932, 933, 934, 935, 936, 937, 938, 939, 940, 941, 942, 943, 944, 945, 946, 947, 948, 949, 950, 951, 952, 953, 954, 955, 956, 957, 958, 959, 960, 961, 962, 963, 964, 965, 966, 967, 968, 969, 970, 971, 972, 973, 974, 975, 976, 977, 978, 979, 980, 981, 982, 983, 984, 985, 986, 987, 988, 989, 990, 991, 992, 993, 994, 995, 996, 997, 998, 999, 1000



PROPOSED ART CENTRE  
 FOR WHITSUNDAY ANGLICAN  
 SCHOOL, CELEBER DRIVE,  
 ANDERGROVE

FLOOR & ROOF PLAN  
 SCALE 1:500  
 DATE: JUN 2002  
 DRAWN: [ ]  
 VERIFIED: [ ] APPROVED: [ ]  
 JOB NO: 1760  
 DRAWING NO: TENDER ISSUE  
 NO 02 ISSUE A  
 FOR PROCEED SUBMITTED IN REFERENCE TO RESOLV [ ]



REAL PROPERTY DESCRIPTION	
Lot 3 on SP 12323	Floor Area
Part of Bassett	Volume
County of Collier	Area
Site area 10.8 ha	Covered area
Building floor level	
R.L. 6.30 A/D.	
FR	Fire hose reel position
FI	Fire hydrant position

ISSUE	CONSTRUCTION ISSUE AMENDMENTS	DATE
C	CONSTRUCTION ISSUE	13-06-02
B	FIRE HOSE REEL & HYDRANTS ADDED	08-09-02
A	TENDER ISSUE	06-06-02



**SANDERS TURNER ELICK ARCHITECTS**

Sanders Turner Ellick Architects Pty. Ltd. A.B.N. 49 001 807 731  
 Level 3, 25 River St, Mackay, Q.L. 4720, Fax 07 489 4500  
 Postal Address: PO Box 756, Mackay, Queensland, 4740  
 Email Address: mail@stee.com.au

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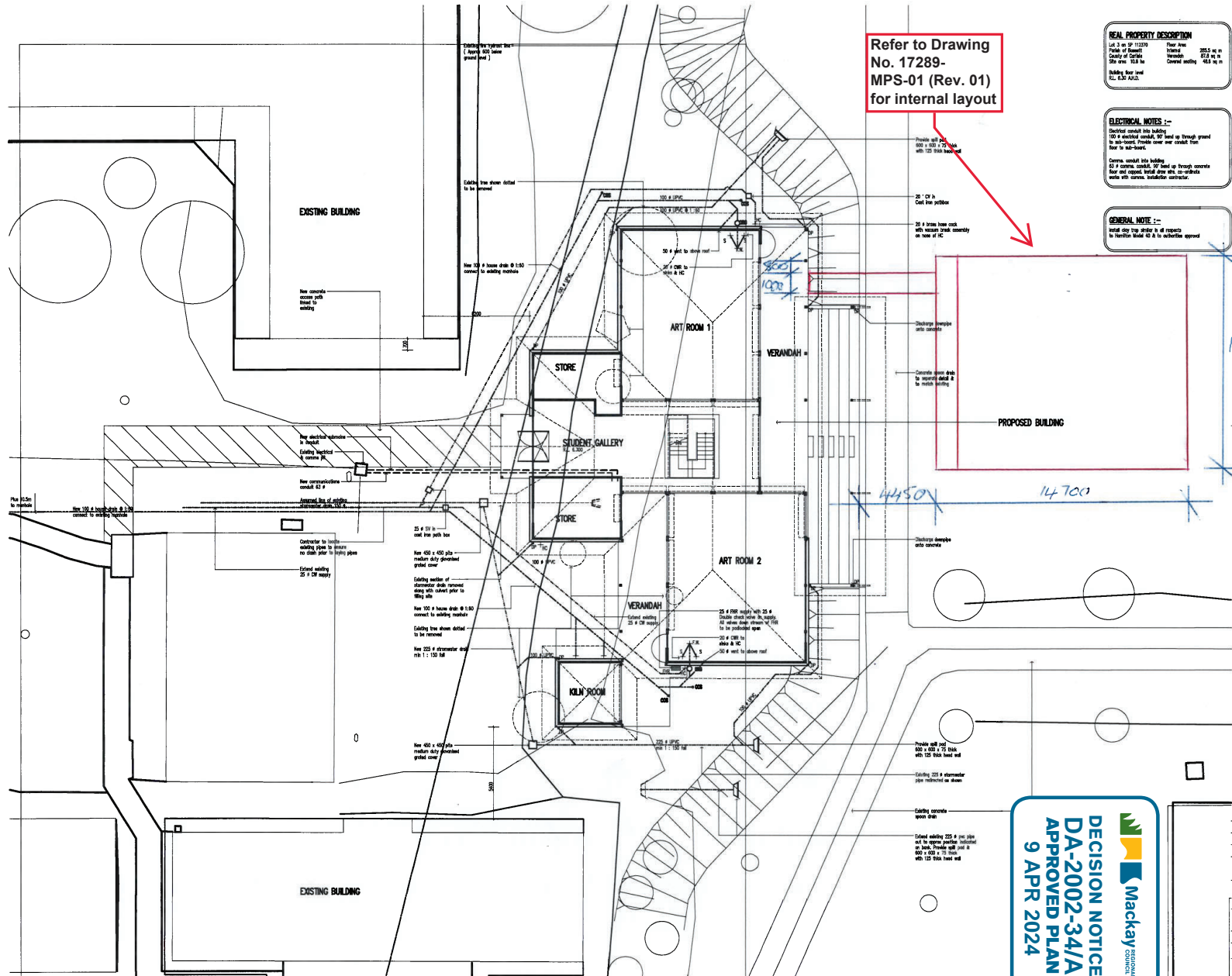
PROPOSED ART CENTRE  
 FOR WHITSUNDAY ANGLICAN  
 SCHOOL, CELEBER DRIVE,  
 ANDERGROVE

**CONSTRUCTION ISSUE**

OVERALL SITE PLAN		
SCALE	1: 750	
DATE	AUGUST 2002	
DRAWN	VERIFIED	
JOB No		APPROVED
1760		
DRAWING No	ISSUE C	
WD 00		
PLOT DATE: \\share\stturn\A_P\7\7\stturn\stturn\stturn\stturn.dwg 02-08-2002 15:04		
USE FIGURED DIMENSIONS IN PREFERENCE TO SCALES		
1	10	20
30	40	50m
FILE NAME - STAIN.SWP		A1

**DECISION NOTICE**  
**DA-2002-34/A**  
**APPROVED PLAN**  
**9 APR 2024**





Refer to Drawing  
No. 17289-  
MPS-01 (Rev. 01)  
for internal layout

REAL PROPERTY DESCRIPTION	
Lot 10 of 11223	Plan area 202.0 sq m
Block of 10 lots	Frontal area 67.0 sq m
City area 10.8 ha	Covered surface 48.8 sq m
Block area 10.8 ha	

ELECTRICAL NOTES :-	
Detailed electrical schedule	
100 # electrical conduit, 90° bend up through ground to sub-board, provide cover over conduit from floor to sub-board.	
Conduit conduit into building	
20 # conduit, conduit, 90° bend up through concrete floor and support, install show wire, co-ordinate with civil, installation contractor.	

GENERAL NOTE :-	
Send copy of this drawing to all relevant parties for their approval.	

ISSUE	AMENDMENTS	DATE
F	WATER SUPPLY NEED	04-08-20
E	ELECTRICAL NOTES MISSING	02-08-20
C	AMENDMENTS TO EXISTING BUILDING	12-08-20
B	CONSTRUCTION ISSUE	12-08-20
A	WATER MAIN AND STORMWATER DRAINS	08-08-20
A	WATER MAIN	08-08-20
A	TERRACE DECK	08-08-20

**SANDERS TURNER ELLICK ARCHITECTS**  
 Sanders Turner Elick Architects Pty. Ltd. A.B.N. 49 001 927 723  
 Level 1, 25 The Esplanade, PO Box 2201, The Esplanade, Mackay  
 Postal Address: PO Box 756, Mackay, Queensland, 4740  
 Email Address: info@stea.com.au

PROPOSED ART CENTRE  
FOR WHITSUNDAY ANGLICAN  
SCHOOL, CELEBER DRIVE,  
ANDERGROVE

CONSTRUCTION ISSUE

**DECISION NOTICE**  
**DA-2002-34/A**  
**APPROVED PLAN**  
**9 APR 2024**

Mackay REGIONAL COUNCIL

SITE PLAN	
SCALE	1:300
DATE	AUGUST 2002
DRAWN	
VERIFIED	APPROVED
JOB No.	1760
DRAWING No.	WD 01
ISSUE	F
PLANT/DATE	15/08/2024
USE FIGURED DIMENSIONS IN PREFERENCE TO DECALS	
1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10	Signs
FILE NAME	STEAT1760

**DECISION NOTICE**  
DA-2002-34/A  
APPROVED PLAN  
9 APR 2024

**ITEM DESCRIPTION**

1. 5.0kW SPLIT SYSTEM REV. CYCLE A/C OUTDOOR UNIT WITH BRACKET & ISOLATOR
2. 5.0kW SPLIT SYSTEM REV. CYCLE A/C INDOOR UNIT
3. SINGLE INTERNAL LIGHT SWITCH
4. DIFFUSED LED BATTEN LIGHT
5. MAINTAINED DIFFUSED LED BATTEN LIGHT EXIT LIGHT
6. SMOKE ALARM (HARD WIRED, LINKED, PHOTOELECTRIC)
8. 10A DOUBLE GPO
9. POWER P.O.E
10. DISTRIBUTION BOARD WITH MAIN SWITCH, EARTH LEAKAGE & CIRCUIT BREAKER
11. GUTTER & DROPPER (NO DOWN PIPE)

ROOF FALL

14700

**BUILDING SPECIFICATION**

DESCRIPTION	TYPE	STYLE	COLOR
ROOFING PANEL	150mm EPS PANEL	SKILLION	WHITE
ROOF CLADDING	COLORBOND	TRIMDEK	SURMIST
ROOF CAPPING	200x80 1.2mm HT	POWDER COATED	WHITE
EXTERNAL WALLS	100mm EPS PANEL	SATINLINE	SHALE GREY
EXT/INT CORNERS	ALUMINIUM	POWDER COATED	WHITE
INTERNAL WALLS	50mm EPS PANEL	SMOOTH	WHITE
FLOORING	STRUCTURAL PLY	FT1 19mm	
GUTTERING	SQUARELINE	COLORBOND	WHITE
WINDOWS	ALUMINIUM	POWDER COATED	WHITE
GLASS	FLOAT	TINTED	GREY
EXTERNAL DOORS	GLASS	SLIDING	WHITE
VINYL FLOOR COVERINGS	CARPET	PARTY PROOF	PARTY PROOF

**FLOOR PLAN**  
BUILDING LAYOUT

**PRELIMINARY PLAN**  
SUBJECT TO FINAL ENGINEERING & ENERGY EFFICIENCY REPORTS

**DOOR LEGEND**

D1 2-2100x2400mm SLIDING GLASS DOOR & LOCKSET WITH SECURITY FLYSCREEN

**WINDOW LEGEND**

W1 6-900x1200 SGW - GREY GLASS WITH FLYSCREEN

1. Dessel, Drive  
Ayrton, Queensland 4740  
Phone: (07) 4963 7777  
Fax: (07) 4963 0599  
Email: info@mpservices.net.au

CLIENT: WHITSUNDAY ANGLICAN SCHOOL

SITE LOCATION: 2/19 CELEBER DR,  
BEACONSFIELD,  
QLD, 4740

DESCRIPTION:  
14.7x12.3m CLASSROOMS  
FLOOR PLAN

CLIENT SIGNATURE:

DATE SIGNED:

DRAWING: JKH

CHECKED:

DATE: 23-11-2023

SIZE: A3

WIND RATING: C2

FLOOR LOAD: 3.0kPa@1.8kN

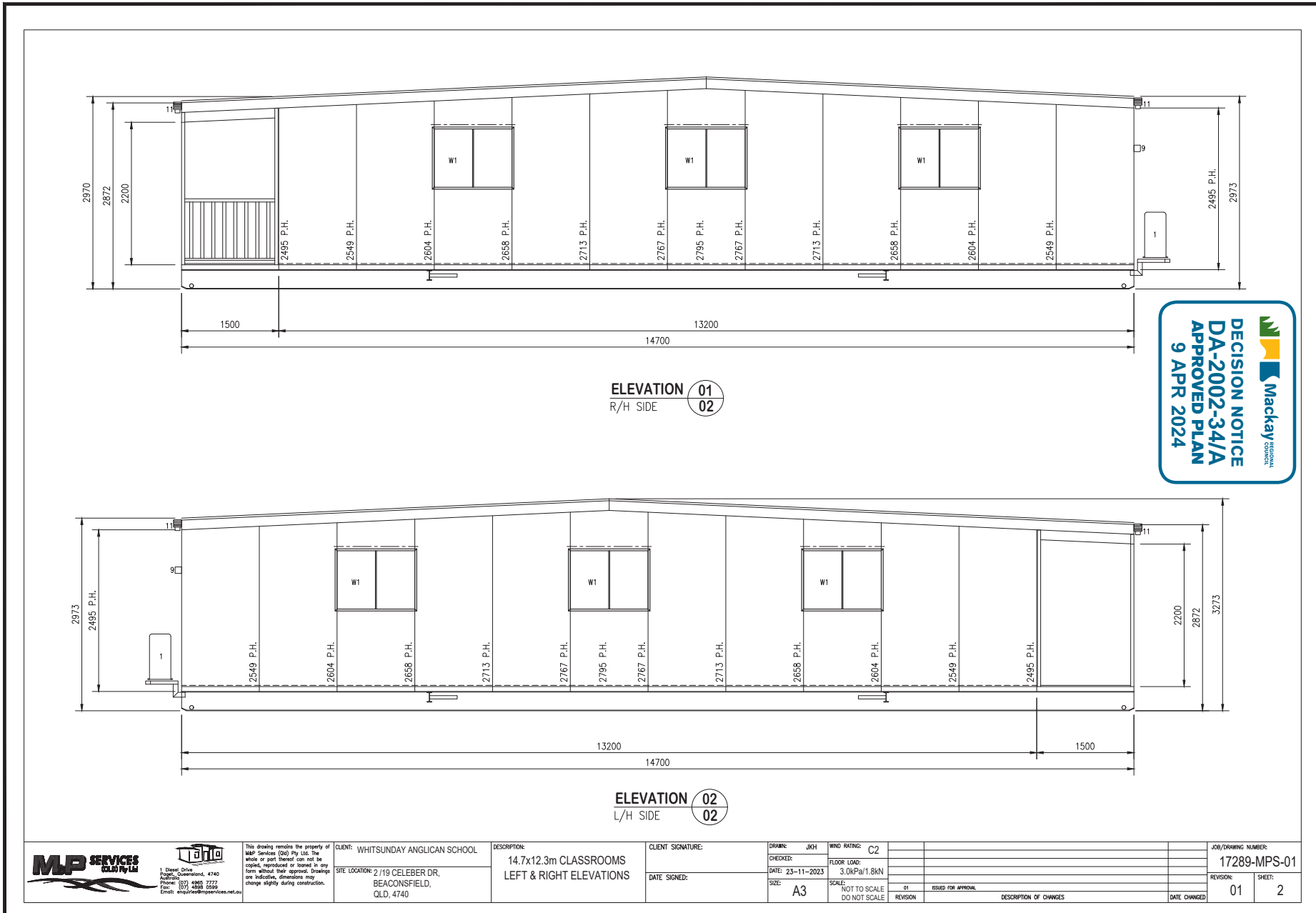
SCALE: 1:100  
DO NOT SCALE

JOB/DRAWING NUMBER:  
17289-MPS-01

REVISION: 01

SHEET: 1

REVISION	ISSUED FOR APPROVAL	DESCRIPTION OF CHANGES	DATE CHANGED



**DECISION NOTICE**  
DA-2002-34/A  
APPROVED PLAN  
9 APR 2024

**Mackay REGIONAL COUNCIL**

**MAP SERVICES**  
CONSULTANTS  
1. Diesel Drive  
Ingham Queensland 4740  
Australia  
Phone: (07) 4965 7777  
Fax: (07) 4889 0599  
Email: info@mapservices.net.au

This drawing remains the property of MAP Services (Qld) Pty Ltd. The whole or part thereof can not be copied, reproduced or loaned in any form without their approval. Drawings are indicative, dimensions may change slightly during construction.

CLIENT: WHITSUNDAY ANGLICAN SCHOOL  
SITE LOCATION: 2/19 CELEBER DR,  
BEACONSFIELD,  
QLD, 4740

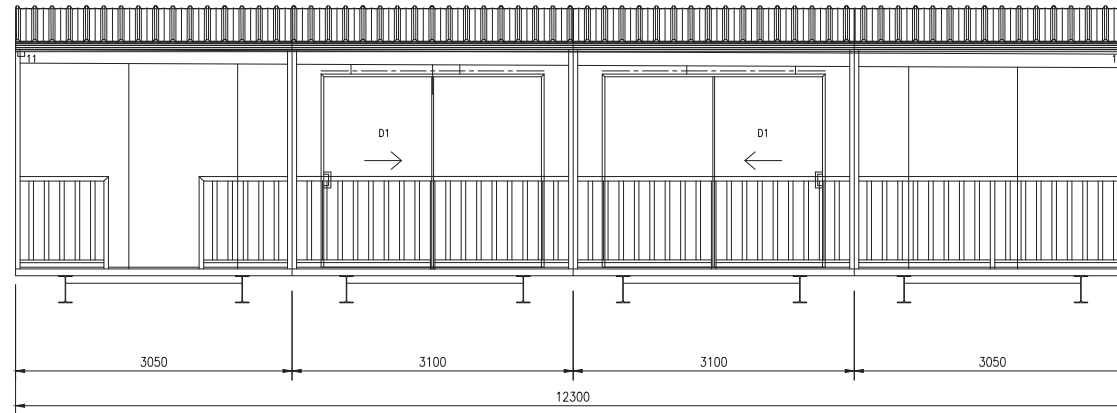
DESCRIPTION:  
14.7x12.3m CLASSROOMS  
LEFT & RIGHT ELEVATIONS

CLIENT SIGNATURE:  
DATE SIGNED:

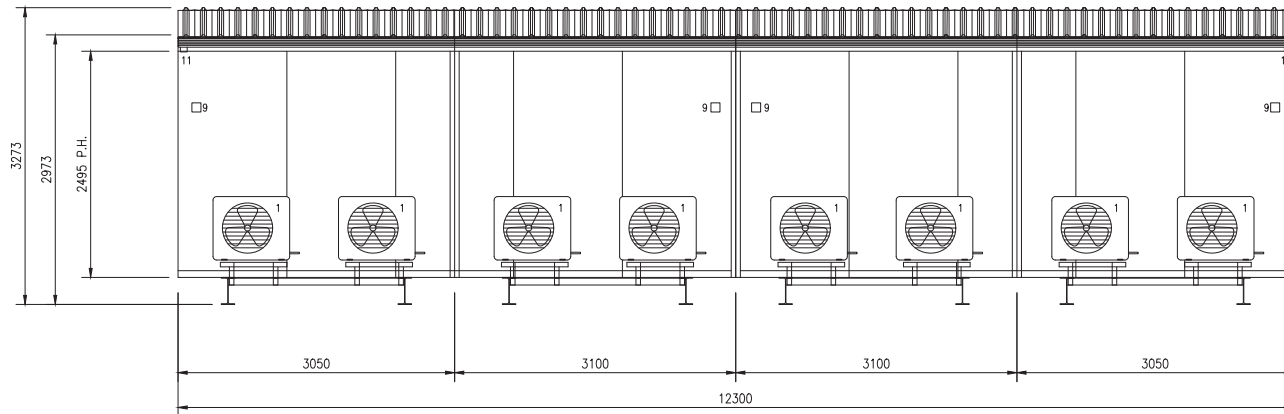
DRAWING: JKH  
CHECKED:  
DATE: 23-11-2023  
SIZE: A3

WIND RATING: C2  
FLOOR LOAD: 3.0kPa/1.8kN  
SCALE: NOT TO SCALE  
DO NOT SCALE

JOB/DRAWING NUMBER:  
17289-MPS-01  
REVISION: 01  
SHEET: 2



ELEVATION 01  
FRONT 03



ELEVATION 02  
REAR 03

**MP SERVICES**  
CONSULTANTS

1. Diesel Drive  
2. Air Conditioning  
3. Electrical  
4. Plumbing  
5. Mechanical  
6. Civil  
7. Structural  
8. Surveying  
9. Environmental  
10. Landscape Architecture  
11. Town Planning  
12. Heritage  
13. Archaeology  
14. Transport  
15. Water Management  
16. Stormwater Management  
17. Irrigation  
18. Drainage  
19. Road Design  
20. Road Construction  
21. Road Maintenance  
22. Road Safety  
23. Road Signage  
24. Road Lighting  
25. Road Furniture  
26. Road Markings  
27. Road Surfaces  
28. Road Drainage  
29. Road Sewerage  
30. Road Stormwater  
31. Road Stormwater Management  
32. Road Stormwater Treatment  
33. Road Stormwater Storage  
34. Road Stormwater Disposal  
35. Road Stormwater Reuse  
36. Road Stormwater Recycling  
37. Road Stormwater Recharge  
38. Road Stormwater Infiltration  
39. Road Stormwater Evaporation  
40. Road Stormwater Transpiration  
41. Road Stormwater Condensation  
42. Road Stormwater Precipitation  
43. Road Stormwater Runoff  
44. Road Stormwater Inflow  
45. Road Stormwater Infiltration  
46. Road Stormwater Inflow  
47. Road Stormwater Infiltration  
48. Road Stormwater Inflow  
49. Road Stormwater Infiltration  
50. Road Stormwater Inflow

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CLIENT: WHITSUNDAY ANGLICAN SCHOOL  
SITE LOCATION: 2/19 CELEBER DR, BEACONSFIELD, QLD, 4740

DESCRIPTION:  
14.7x12.3m CLASSROOMS  
FRONT & REAR ELEVATIONS

CLIENT SIGNATURE:  
DATE SIGNED:

DRAWING: JKH  
CHECKED:  
DATE: 09-10-2023  
SIZE: A3

WIND RATING: C2  
FLOOR LOAD: 3.0kPa/1.8kN  
SCALE: NOT TO SCALE  
DO NOT SCALE

REVISION	ISSUED FOR APPROVAL	DESCRIPTION OF CHANGES	DATE CHANGED
01	ISSUED FOR APPROVAL		

JOB/DRAWING NUMBER:  
17289-MPS-01  
REVISION: 01  
SHEET: 3

## **11.5. INFRASTRUCTURE AND OPERATIONS**

### **11.5.1. LEASE RENEWAL - MACKAY TABLE TENNIS ASSOCIATION**

<b>Author</b>	Land & Property Officer (Jacinta Pollock Bonnett)
<b>Responsible Officer</b>	Director Infrastructure and Operations (Jason Devitt)
<b>File Reference</b>	Current Securities Lease 67, 50 Lamb Street, SOUTH MACKAY QLD 4740

#### **Attachments**

1. Lease Area MTTA [11.5.1.1 - 1 page]

#### **Purpose**

To consider a lease renewal for Mackay Table Tennis Association for a total area of approximately 3,100 square metres being Part of Lot 532 on SP239851, known as 50 Lamb Street, South Mackay for a period of ten (10) years with such lease to commence on 1 July 2024.

#### **Related Parties**

Mackay Table Tennis Association

#### **Corporate Plan Linkage**

##### Live and Visit

*Community Participation and Active Lifestyles* - Our region is vibrant and culturally rich, home to a wide variety of events, experiences and attractions.

*Live, Visit and Play* - We have a diverse mix of accessible spaces to live, visit and play.

#### **Background/Discussion**

The Mackay Table Tennis Association (MTTA) has been an incorporated association since 1937, and currently has around 160 members. The association funded and built the hall in the 1970s, with further extensions completed in the late 1980s.

MTTA has held championships every year, and Queensland wide tournaments such as Veterans and Junior tournaments are held at the hall every couple of years. The 2024 Queensland Veterans Championships are scheduled for September, with all tournaments streamed live to view.

Over the years MTTA has produced State and Australian Table Tennis Champions, especially in the junior competitions.

Organised coaching is offered at MTTA by Bruno Levis, one of Australia's top coaches, providing squad and personal coaching sessions each month, which compliments training, social and competitive play available every day of the week.

The club currently has a full committee and a working strategic plan for the future of MTTA.

MTTA have advised the association still requires the premises and wish to proceed with renewing their lease for a further ten (10) years.

According to Section 236 (1) (b) (ii) of the Local Government Regulation 2012, "a local government may dispose of a valuable non-current asset other than by tender or auction if – the valuable non-current asset is disposed of to a community organisation."

Therefore, Council is not required to tender this before approving a new Lease Agreement.

### **Consultation and Communication**

Representatives of Mackay Table Tennis Association, Legal Counsel, Executive Manager Property & Plant, Supervisor Land Operations, Land and Property Officer, and members of the Land and Road Use Committee.

### **Resource Implications**

All costs incurred in respect to the preparation and lodgement of the lease documentation will be borne by the Lessee.

The lease will be a standard "Trustee" lease inclusive of rental in accordance with the Mackay Regional Council's Community Leasing Policy and other like conditions.

### **Risk Management Implications**

MTTA have shown a long-term commitment to the land, its infrastructure and the local community, and should the lease not be renewed, both our community and region would not be able to benefit from the opportunities that arrive from such a community group.

### **Conclusion**

The approval of a new ten (10) year lease to MTTA is the most advantageous outcome to Mackay Regional Council and the community.

### **Officer's Recommendation**

THAT Council

1. Resolves that an exemption applied under Section 236 (1) (b) (ii) of the Local Government Regulation 2012, "a local government may dispose of a value non-current asset other than by tender or auction if – the valuable non-current asset is disposed of to a community organisation"; and
2. Approves a new lease for Mackay Table Tennis Association for a total area of approximately 3,100 square metres being Part of Lot 532 on SP239851, known as 50 Lamb Street, South Mackay for a period of ten (10) years with such lease to commence on 1 July 2024.

Mackay Table Tennis Association  
Lease I over Part of Lot 532 on SP239851



### **11.5.2. LEASE RENEWAL - PIONEER TENNIS INC**

**Author** Land & Property Officer (Jacinta Pollock Bonnett)  
**Responsible Officer** Director Infrastructure and Operations (Jason Devitt)  
**File Reference** Current Securities Lease 73, 6 Leisure Street, SOUTH MACKAY QLD 4740

#### **Attachments**

1. Lease Area Pioneer Tennis Inc [**11.5.2.1** - 1 page]

#### **Purpose**

To consider a Lease renewal to Pioneer Tennis Inc for a total area of approximately 15,690 square metres being part of Lot 532 on SP239851, known as 6 Leisure Street, South Mackay for a period of ten (10) years with such Lease to commence on 1 July 2024.

#### **Related Parties**

Pioneer Tennis Inc

#### **Corporate Plan Linkage**

##### Live and Visit

*Community Participation and Active Lifestyles* - Our region is vibrant and culturally rich, home to a wide variety of events, experiences and attractions.

*Live, Visit and Play* - We have a diverse mix of accessible spaces to live, visit and play.

#### **Background/Discussion**

Pioneer Tennis Inc (Pioneer) aims to provide tennis for all ages and abilities and is the largest tennis club in Mackay. Pioneer have full time coaches who conduct both school based and club-based coaching, ranging from National Hot Shots Program, weekly fixtures, private coaching, junior development coaching and adult coaching.

The club secured the Wendy Turnbull for 2024, one of the 4 Icon tournaments of the Queensland Calendar, which will be held September / October – the association are anticipating upwards of 150 junior players coming from across Queensland to play.

Pioneer continues to improve the facility and have recently repurposed the hot shot courts into 3 x pickleball courts, a popular and growing sport within the Mackay community. Improvements to the paths, drainage, and resurfacing courts are amongst the upgrades the club has carried out in their near 50 years at the site.

Pioneer have advised the club still requires the premises and wish to proceed with renewing their lease for a further ten (10) years.

According to Section 236 (1) (b) (ii) of the Local Government Regulations 2012, “a local government may dispose of a valuable non-current asset other than by tender or auction if – the valuable non-current asset is disposed of to a community organisation.”

Therefore, Council is not required to tender this before approving a new Lease Agreement.

#### **Consultation and Communication**

Representatives of Pioneer Tennis Inc, Executive Manager Property and Plant, Supervisor Land Operations, Land and Property Officer, Sport and Recreation Development Officer, Legal Counsel, and Land and Road Use Committee.



### **Resource Implications**

All costs incurred in respect to the preparation and lodgement of the lease documentation will be borne by the Lessee.

The lease will be a standard trustee lease inclusive of rental in accordance with the Mackay Regional Council's Community Leasing Policy and other like conditions.

### **Risk Management Implications**

Pioneer Tennis Inc hold a long-term commitment to the land, its infrastructure and the local community, and should the Lease not be renewed, both our community and region would not be able to benefit from the opportunities that arise from such a community group.

### **Conclusion**

The approval of a new ten (10) year lease to Pioneer Tennis Inc, is the most advantageous outcome to Mackay Regional Council and the community.

### **Officer's Recommendation**

THAT Council

1. Resolves that an exemption applies under Section 236 (1) (b) (ii) of the Local Government Regulation 2012, "a local government may dispose of a valuable non-current asset other than by tender or auction if – the valuable non-current asset is disposed of to a community organisation".; and
2. Approves a new Lease for Pioneer Tennis Inc for a total area of approximately 15,690 square metres being part of Lot 532 on SP239851, known as 6 Leisure Street, South Mackay for a period of ten (10) years with such Lease to commence on 1 July 2024.

Pioneer Tennis Inc

Lease T in Lot 532 on SP239851



### **11.5.3. RESPONSE TO PETITION - PROVISION OF BUS SHELTER IN PRIMAVERA BOULEVARD**

**Author** Executive Assistant (Robyn Smith)  
**Responsible Officer** Director Infrastructure and Operations (Jason Devitt)  
**File Reference** Petitions

**Attachments** Nil

#### **Purpose**

Council formally received a Petition from residents on 23 November 2022 regarding a request for the installation of a bus shelter in Primavera Boulevard, Beaconsfield specifically to service residents of the Eaglemount Retirement Resort and surrounding areas.

The Resolution from Council was:

THAT the Petition be received and referred to the Chief Executive Officer for a report to be prepared for consideration by Council which investigates the issues identified within the Petition.

And THAT the Principal Petitioner be advised of Council's determination to undertake a report to be prepared for consideration by Council which investigates the issues identified within the Petition.

This Report identifies the outcome of the investigation for consideration by the Council.

#### **Related Parties**

The parties relating to this report are as follows:

- Council
- Translink
- Eaglemount Retirement Home Residents
- Surrounding Residents

#### **Corporate Plan Linkage**

##### Financial Strength

*Optimised Asset Management* - Our asset spend is aligned with the optimised maintenance, replacement and renewal of our asset base.

##### Live and Visit

*Places and Spaces* - We provide well planned and designed places, facilities and infrastructure that meet the needs of our residents and visitors.

#### **Background/Discussion**

A Petition was received by Council on 9 November 2022 and formally received at its 23 November 2022 Ordinary Meeting.

The basis of the request is that residents have requested the installation of a bus shelter adjacent to the entrance of the Retirement Home on Primavera Boulevard to service residents via use of a private bus service.

Following receipt of the Petition to Council, investigations into the reported issues have been undertaken.

##### Road Hierarchy, Bus Rote Status and Traffic Volumes

The road in question has a current Minor Collector Status and is serviced by Urban Route 301 within the Translink Network which travels eastbound only at this location. Most recent traffic counts at this location indicate in the order of 75 vehicles per day ADT with an 85<sup>th</sup> percentile speed of 40.3 kp/h.



### Accident History

During the period 1 January 2016 to 25 November 2022, no accidents were recorded on Primavera Boulevard.

### Current Funding Situation and Previous Advice to the Petitioners

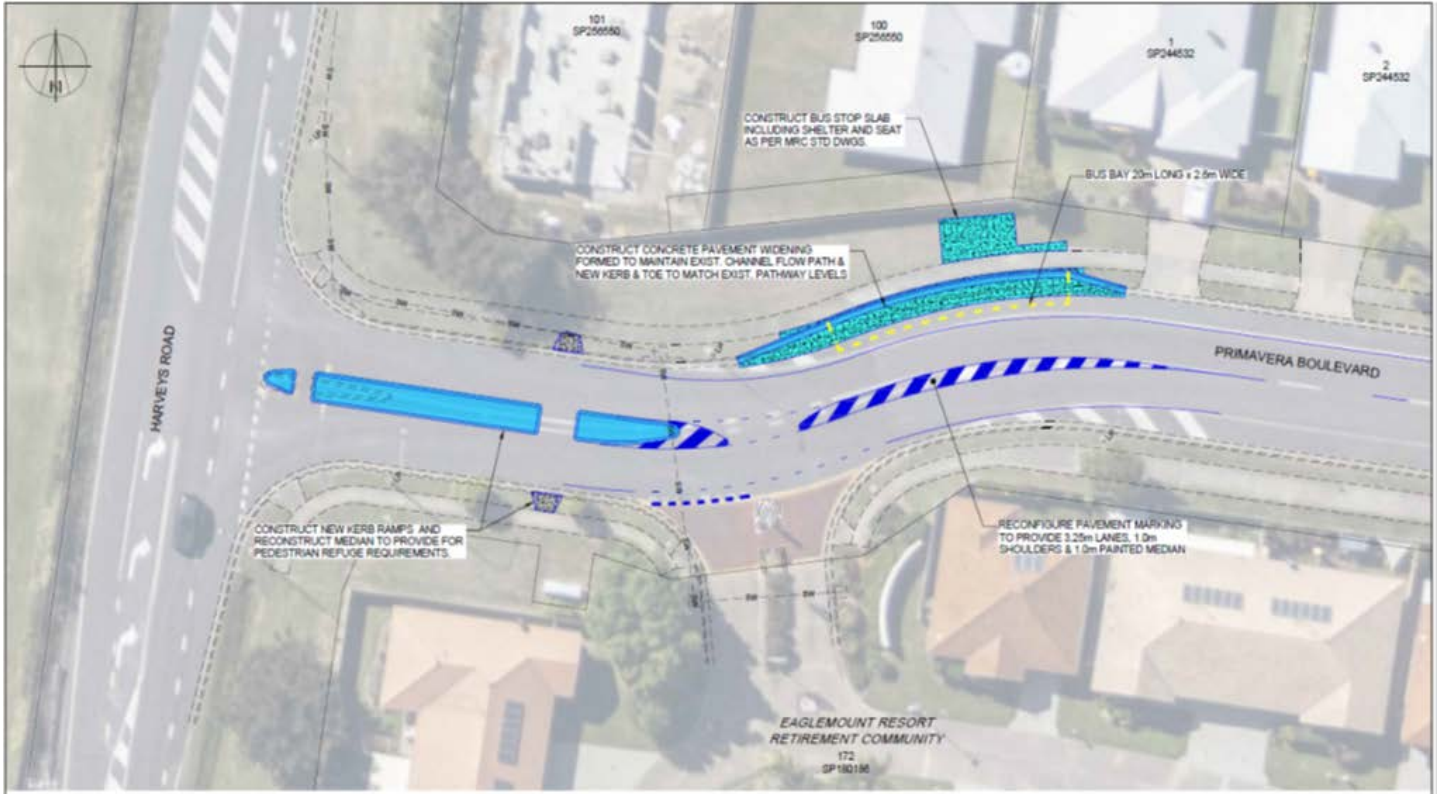
Capital Works Funding relating to bus shelters for the last few years has been used to match funding to Translink Public Transport Accessible Infrastructure Program/Bus Shelter Subsidy Program (PTAIP/BSSP) Grant Funding for the upgrade of existing public route bus stops and shelters to meet Disability Discrimination Act (DDA) Standards as required under the Australian Government's Disability Standards for Accessible Public Transport 2002 (Transport Standards) and which is also reflected in the Disability Discrimination Act 1992.

Advice to the current Petitioner has been provided several times indicating that all currently allocated funds for bus shelter works are allocated to this purpose and the current request would be considered post the completion of this Program, however, given that the structure requested is to service a specific site on the Public Network Bus Service, it would not likely be highly prioritised noting the other public and school based requests received.

An option exists to make direct representations to Translink for funding related to this project as has occurred recently for a shelter at Royal Sands to address specific issues on the Network.

Alternative Grant Funds may be available through sources such as the Federal Government Department of Health and Aged Care's Aged Care Capital Assistance Program (ACCAP), however, it is believed that this is unavailable for Local Government to apply for, but this option might be able to be accessed by the Retirement Home.

Preliminary investigations for an indented bay and intermediate standard bus shelters with sufficient capacity to house expected volumes of users is indicatively \$365,000.



### Consultation and Communication

Consultation has been held with the Director Infrastructure & Operations on this matter and general agreement has been reached that this is not a current option considering current priorities for capital expenditure proposed in the Long-Term Financial Forecast (LTFF) by Council.

### Resource Implications

Council budget allocations for bus shelters over the last few financial years has been focussed on contributions to match PTAIP/BSSP Grant Funds. Post this timing, as part of Bus Stop & Shelter Sub-Asset Management Plan (Sub-AMP) Assessments, a prioritised Works Program and Capital expenditure allocation will be developed. No funding exists in the proposed 24/25 capital budget for delivery of bus shelters. The proposed site will be considered for funding as part of the Works Program generation although considered a low priority given it is purely to service addressing access for a private facility and competing priorities in the first five years of the LTFF.

### Risk Management Implications

Risk of not funding the proposed project may be restricted to adverse local community reaction from the residents of the Retirement Home.

### Conclusion

Due to the ongoing financial commitments by Council for matching allocations to Grant Funding under the PTAIP/BSSP for upgrade of existing bus stops and shelters and requirements to restrict LTFF expenditures, it is recommended that this project be considered for funding post completion of the current Program of Works although it would be considered a low priority noting it is primarily for servicing a private facility only although being located on the Public Network.

### **Officer's Recommendation**

THAT the Council note the outcomes of the investigation into the Petition and approve the following actions:

- Advise Petitioners that no specific funding has been allocated for this project in the proposed 24/25 capital program.
- Council will list the proposed project for consideration of funding along with other urban and rural stops and shelters post completion of the current Program. It should be noted, that given the proposed infrastructure mainly services a private facility only, it therefore would be considered a low priority against other public use facilities within the current future projects listed.
- Representations will be made direct to Translink for site specific funding for this location given its presence on the Public Network.
- Alternatives may exist for the Petitioner to submit direct Grant Applications to the Federal Government for such works under the ACCAP Program not available to Local Government.
- That the Principal Petitioner be advised of these outcomes.

## **11.6. CORPORATE SERVICES**

### **11.6.1. STRATEGIC FINANCIAL REPORT - MAY 2024**

<b>Author</b>	Financial Accounting Co-ordinator (Jena Prinsloo)
<b>Responsible Officer</b>	Director Corporate Services (Angela Hays)
<b>File Reference</b>	Strategic Financial Report - May 2024

#### **Attachments**

1. FINAL May 2024 - MRC Strategic Report - 07.06.2024 [**11.6.1.1** - 19 pages]

#### **Purpose**

To adopt Mackay Regional Council's (MRC) Strategic Financial Report for the month of May 2024.

#### **Related Parties**

Nil

#### **Corporate Plan Linkage**

##### Financial Strength

*Ethical Decision-Making and Good Governance* - We are committed to keeping our community informed about our activities and performance and employing robust governance policies and procedures to ensure legislative compliance and organisational integrity.

#### **Background/Discussion**

Under Part 9, section 204 of the *Local Government Regulation 2012*, the local government is required to prepare a financial report which the Chief Executive Officer presents at a meeting of the local government once a month.

The financial report must state the progress that has been made in relation to the local government's budget for the period of the financial year up to a day as near as practicable to the end of the month before the meeting is held.

#### **Consultation and Communication**

Chief Executive Officer, Directors, Chief Financial Officer.

#### **Resource Implications**

MRC is forecasting an operating deficit of \$5.4M for the 2023/24 financial year. The variance of the actual operating result for YTD May 2024 against YTD budget is an unfavourable variance of \$264K.

Operating revenue is reporting a favourable YTD variance of \$1.95M, this favourable variance is largely due to additional water usage charges which are reflective of increased water consumption. Operating expenses are reporting an unfavourable YTD variance of \$2.22M largely due to employee benefits of \$0.94M and materials and services of \$2.31M.

The unfavourable variance in employee benefits is reflective of movements in the employee provisions based on employee leave balances. The unfavourable variance in materials and services is largely attributable to contractors 1.28M, utilities \$0.50M and software maintenance \$0.62M.

To date, 80% of the annual revised budget has been expended on capital projects. This is reflective of \$85.86M in actual expenditure.

**Risk Management Implications**

Variances will be closely reviewed and considered in future budget processes where required.

**Conclusion**

MRC is forecasting an operating deficit of \$5.4M for the 2023/24 financial year. The variance of the actual operating result for YTD May 2024 against YTD budget is an unfavourable variance of \$264K.

**Officer's Recommendation**

THAT the Strategic Financial Report for May 2024 be received.





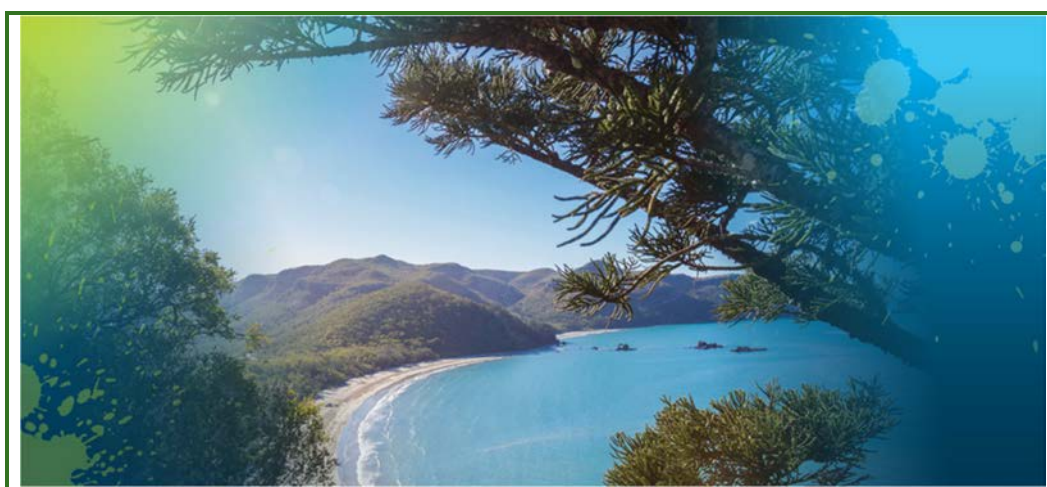
# Strategic Financial Report

31 May 2024

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## Strategic Report for May 2024

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## Background



Under the requirements of the Local Government Regulation 2012, Council must prepare a financial report that states the progress that has been made in relation to the Council's budget for the period of the financial year up to the end of the month.

The end of month financial statements within the report include:

- Statement of Profit or loss
- Statement of Financial Position
- Statement of Cash Flows

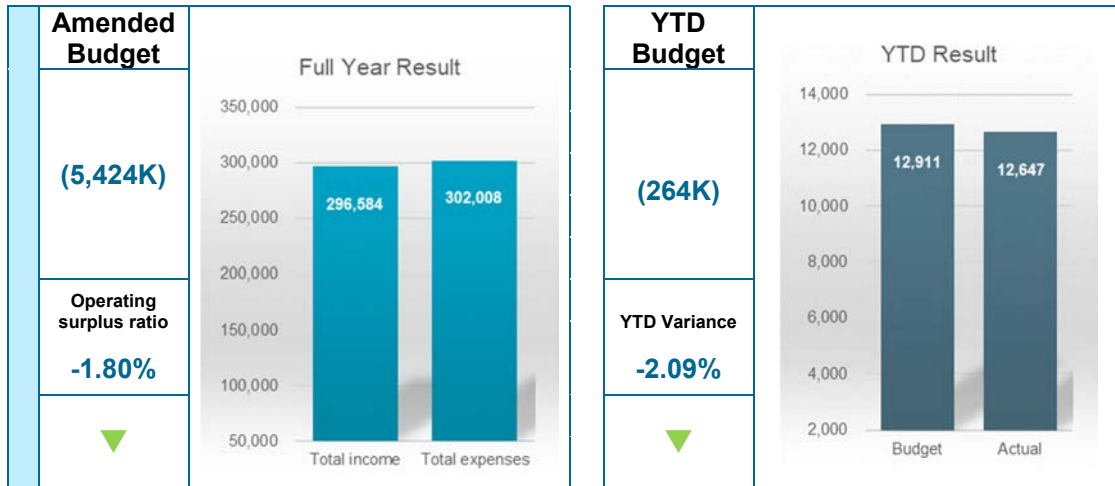
The report is prepared based on the revised March budget review approved at the council meeting held on 24 April 2024.

Figures provided are accurate as at the date of publication and are cumulative year-to-date.

Amounts disclosed are rounded to the nearest thousand (\$'000) unless otherwise stated. Consequently, rounded balances in the categories may not exactly add to the reported totals.

<sup>\*</sup> Refer to Glossary

## May '24 result at a glance



<b>Available cash</b>	<b>148.1M</b>	<b>Cash and investments at call</b>
	<b>5.15%</b>	<b>MRC Portfolio returns on cash at call</b>

<b>Liquidity</b>	<b>1.53</b>	<b>Current ratio</b>
	<b>7.2M</b>	<b>Rates in arrears at 31 May 2024</b>
	<b>3.01%</b>	<b>Rates in arrears as a percentage of rates charged</b>

<b>Borrowings</b>	<b>42.5M</b>	<b>Loan borrowings outstanding</b>
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<b>Capital Expenditure</b>	<b>85.9M</b>	<b>Capital expenditure for the period ended 31 May 2024</b>
	<b>80%</b>	<b>Actual capital expenditure divided by forecasted total capital expenditure for the period ended 31 May 2024</b>



## Operating result

	Annual Original Budget \$'000	Annual Revised Budget \$'000	YTD Budget \$'000	YTD Actual \$'000	YTD Variance \$'000	Size of Variance (+ and -):
						0% to 3%
						3% to 5%
						More than 5%
€	292,142	296,584	287,182	289,134	1,952	Total operating revenue
✂	291,591	302,008	274,271	276,487	(2,216)	Less: Total operating expenses
€	551	(5,424)	12,911	12,647	(264)	Operating surplus or (deficit)

### Monthly Performance



### Operating surplus ratio\*








Historical results				Budget	5yr Avg
2019/20	2020/21	2021/22	2022/23	2023/24	2023/24
-0.9%	2.3%	0.2%	-1.5%	-1.8%	-0.34%

Benchmark: Greater than 0%\*

\*Refer to Glossary



## Operating Revenue





	Annual Original Budget	Annual Revised Budget	YTD Budget	YTD Actual	YTD Variance	
	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	
	240,557	240,555	241,070	242,976	1,906	Rates and charges
	19,806	22,126	20,291	20,024	(267)	Fees and charges
	8,230	7,412	6,235	6,258	23	Contract and recoverable works
	5,537	6,169	5,574	5,627	53	Sales and other income
	9,839	11,089	5,504	5,781	277	Grants and subsidies
	6,676	7,726	7,210	7,239	29	Interest received
	1,497	1,507	1,298	1,229	(69)	Rental income
	<b>292,142</b>	<b>296,584</b>	<b>287,182</b>	<b>289,134</b>	<b>1,952</b>	

**Rates and charges: \$1,906K** This favourable variance is largely due to additional water usage charges, which are reflective of increased water consumption.

**Fees and charges: (\$267K)** This unfavourable variance, is due to less than anticipated waste disposal fees, this reduced income also sees a reduction in waste processing costs which are included in Materials and Services.

**Grants and subsidies: \$277K** This favourable variance, due to developer contributions of \$178K and a contribution to maintenance for \$120K.

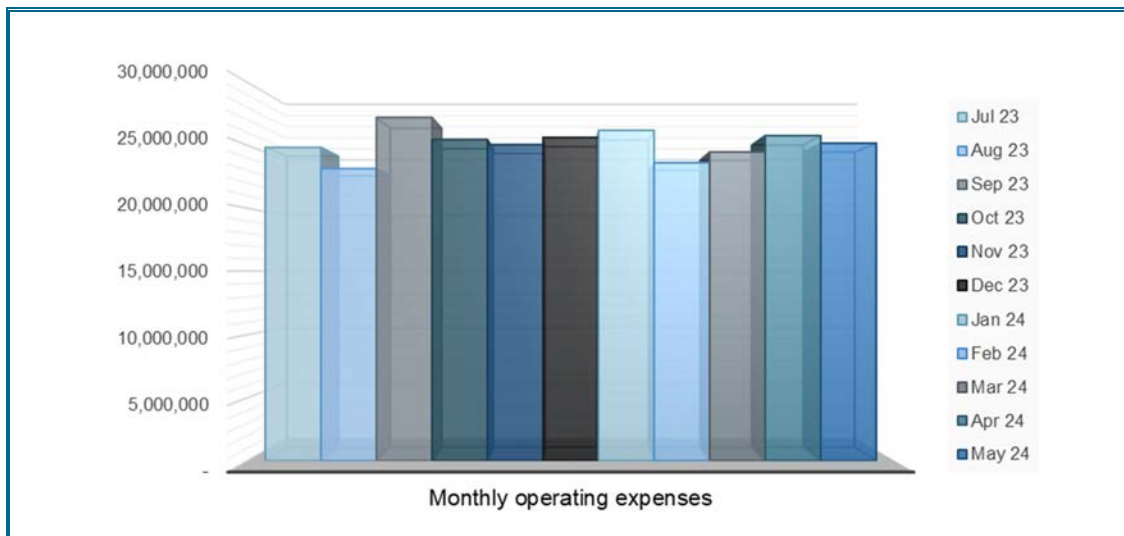
## Operating Expenditure

	Annual Original Budget	Annual Revised Budget	YTD Budget	YTD Actual	YTD Variance	
	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	
	99,822	94,072	86,465	87,400	(935)	Employee benefit expenses
	103,100	110,576	99,738	102,047	(2,309)	Materials and services
	3,230	7,886	6,071	6,064	7	Finance costs
	85,439	89,474	81,997	80,976	1,021	Depreciation and amortisation
	<b>291,591</b>	<b>302,008</b>	<b>274,271</b>	<b>276,487</b>	<b>(2,216)</b>	

**Employee Benefit Expenses: (\$935K)** unfavourable variance largely due to an increase in other salary costs as a result of the movement in employee provisions.

**Materials and Services: (\$2,309K)** unfavourable variance largely due to increases in contractor costs for (\$1,280K), across multiple areas of Council including Parks and Open spaces (\$903K), Portfolio Management (\$427K) and the Water Treatment program (\$395K). The unfavourable variance includes cost increases in, software maintenance (\$616K) and electricity (\$503K). The Water Treatment program (\$165K), and Property Services (\$307K) reported electricity cost increases in the period to date.

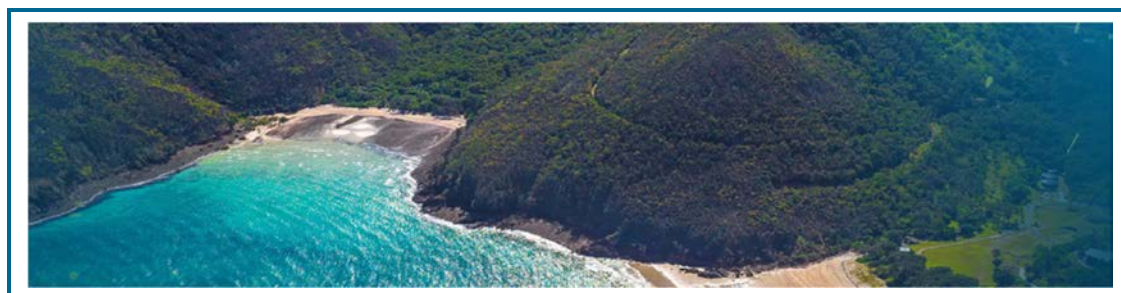
\* Refer to Glossary



**Capital Income and Expenses**

	Annual Original Budget \$'000	Annual Revised Budget \$'000	YTD Budget \$'000	YTD Actual \$'000	YTD Variance \$'000	
	<b>551</b>	<b>(5,424)</b>	<b>12,911</b>	<b>12,647</b>	<b>(264)</b>	<b>Operating surplus or (deficit)</b>
👍	31,410	26,498	17,724	17,537	(187)	<b>Capital grants and subsidies</b>
♻️	-	956	868	918	50	<b>Other capital revenue</b>
OCE	2,740	3,342	1,149	5,039	(3,890)	<b>Less: Other capital expenses</b>
	<b>29,221</b>	<b>18,688</b>	<b>30,354</b>	<b>26,063</b>	<b>(4,291)</b>	<b>Net surplus or (deficit)</b>

**Other Capital Expenses: (\$3,890K)** unfavourable variance, mainly due to the write-off and disposal of roads and drainage assets (38%), water assets (31%) and plant and equipment (12%) as part of the asset capitalisation process.

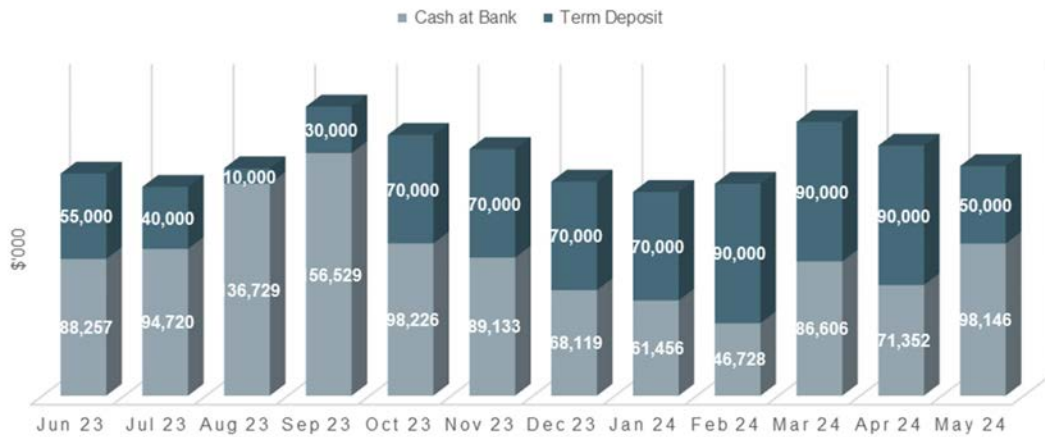


\* Refer to Glossary



## Money Matters

### Cash at call



May '24	12 Month Comparative	
4.24%	3.61%	AusBond Bank Bill Index
5.15%	4.97%	MRC Portfolio

### Liquidity (can Council pay its debts when they fall due)

	Annual Original Budget \$'000	Annual Revised Budget \$'000	YTD Actual \$'000	
↑	173,032	157,809	186,393	<b>Current assets</b>
↓	107,263	101,083	122,149	<b>Current liabilities</b>
	<b>1.61</b>	<b>1.56</b>	<b>1.53</b>	<b>Current ratio</b>

### Current ratio\*

The current ratio is an indicator of Council's liquidity and ability to meet short term obligations.

Historical results				Budget	5yr Avg
2019/20	2020/21	2021/22	2022/23	2023/34	2023/24
1.7	1.8	1.5	1.3	1.6	1.6

Benchmark: Between 1 and 4



### Debtors

	Actual \$'000	Actual %
Rates and utility charges	18,732	62.8%
Development contributions	3,970	13.3%
Other debtors	7,134	23.9%
<b>Trade and other receivables</b>	<b>29,836</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

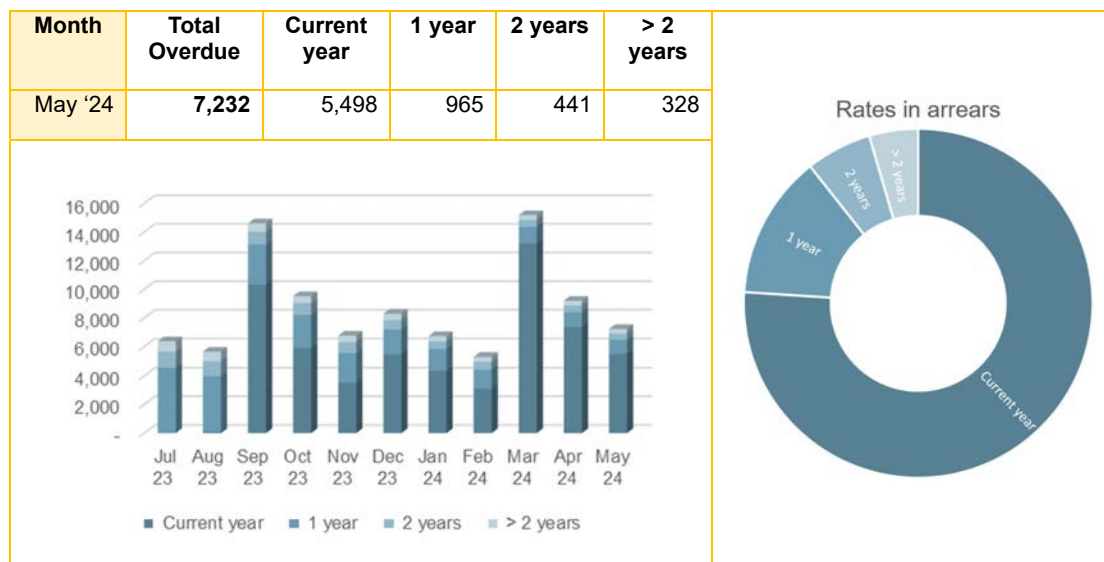
### Rates Collection

Council's standard settlement terms for trade receivables are 30 days from invoice date.

	Issue date of notice	Due date of payment
Rates notice	12/02/2024	13/03/2024
Pensioner rates notice	12/02/2024	06/06/2024

MRC collection processes ensure rates are collected efficiently and effectively, whilst being cognisant of individual circumstances. Collection action is continuing, both with our external collection agency and monitoring of in-house payment schedules. In-house collection methods include the use of SMS reminders for ratepayers.

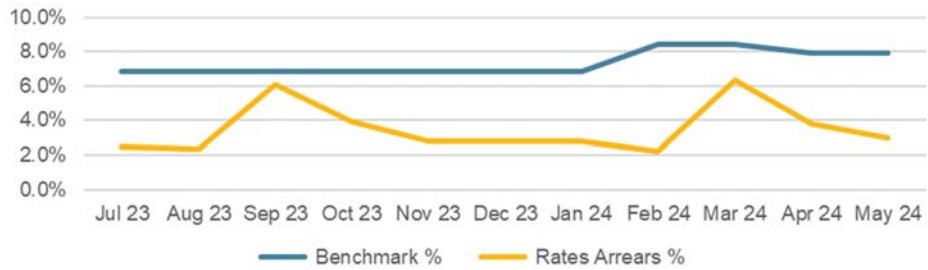
### Rates Arrears



\* Refer to Glossary

Rates in arrears as a percentage of rates charged:

- May 2024: 3.01%



Benchmark: **7.94%** (average rates arrears percentage of Tier 2 Councils for 2022-23)

### Borrowings

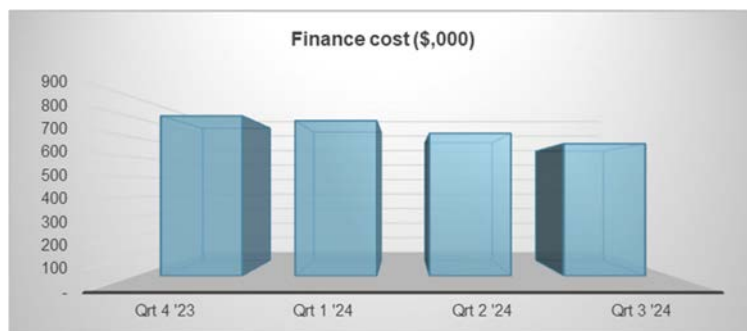
**\$42.45M** total loan borrowings outstanding

Loan borrowings are an important funding source for Council; reflecting that the full cost of infrastructure should not be borne entirely by present-day ratepayers alone, rather by all those who benefit from the infrastructure over its lifetime.



### Finance costs

Finance costs are reflective of interest repayments on current borrowings.



\*Refer to Glossary



### Debt service cover ratio\*

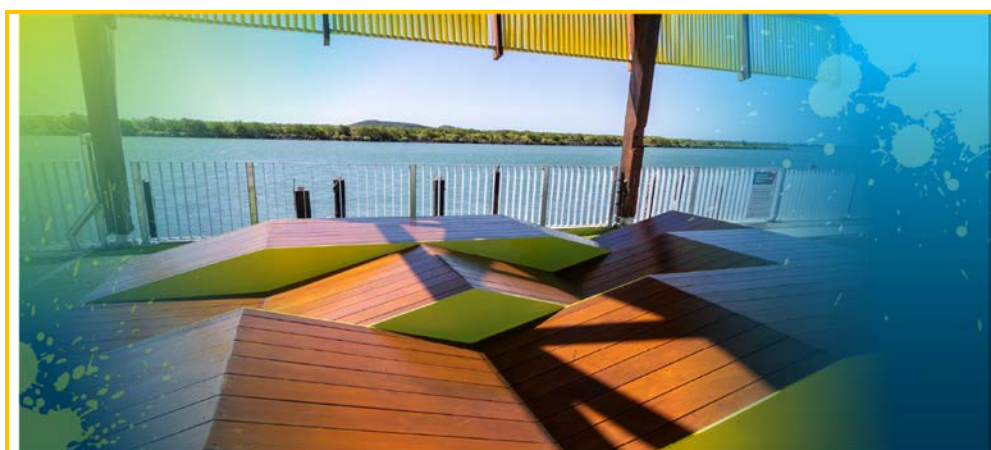
This ratio measures the extent to which available cash flow covers current debt obligations.

Historical results				Budget	5yr Avg
2019/20	2020/21	2021/22	2022/23	2023/34	2023/24
N/A	N/A	3.2	4.9	4.2	N/A

Benchmark: More than 2 times.

### Cash flows for the period


Cash at call on 1 July 2023	\$'000
	<b>150,165</b>
<b>Cash inflows</b>	
Receipts from customers	262,741
Receipts from grantors	21,360
Interest received	7,239
<b>Cash outflows</b>	
Payments to suppliers and employees	(190,793)
Payments for property, plant and equipment	(90,029)
Repayment of borrowings and leases	(10,504)
Finance costs	(2,168)
Other	135
<b>Cash at call on 31 May 2024</b>	<b>148,146</b>



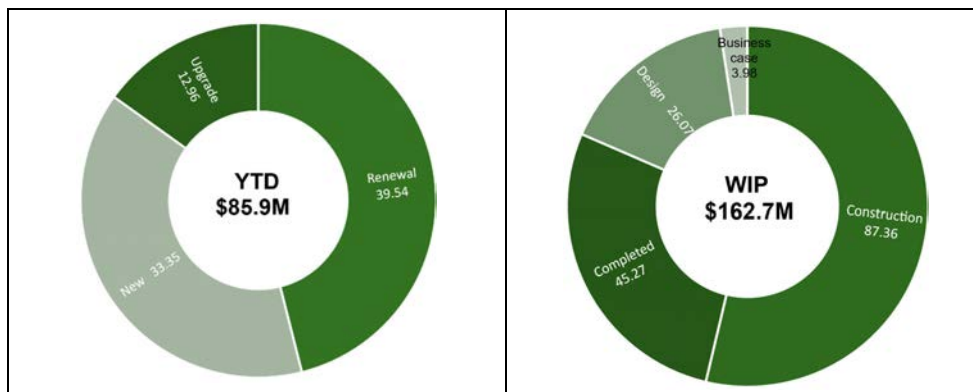
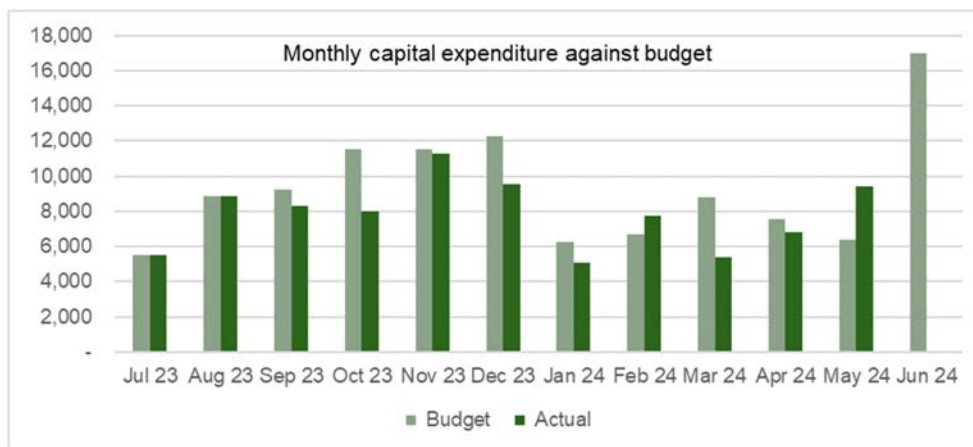
\*Refer to Glossary

## Infrastructure

Council manages the construction, upgrade, and renewal of community assets as part of its capital works program.

	Annual Original Budget	Annual Revised Budget	YTD Actual	
	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	
	124,420	107,466	85,857	<b>Capital expenditure</b>

80% of annual revised budget expended on capital projects.



WIP – Works in Progress, reflects all projects that are currently in progress or completed and awaiting capitalisation.



Refer to Glossary



## Major Projects

The projects reflected below are largest projects being delivered as part of Council's capital works program based on Amended Budget.

Project	Amended Budget \$'000	YTD Actuals \$'000	YTD Forecast \$'000
Mountain Biking - Stage 1	9,378	8,999	8,897
Pioneer River Levee construction - Rivers Edge to Heaths Rd	6,133	6,018	6,002
Asphalt Resurfacing Works FY2024	4,442	4,329	4,355
Replacement Program for plant and equipment	3,396	1,775	2,007
Northern Beaches Community Hub - Civil Works	3,230	2,370	2,407
Mackay Stadium Refurbishment	2,916	1,682	1,552
Pioneer River Floating Pontoon	2,774	2,648	2,663
Art Space Facility Upgrade	2,715	2,199	2,218
Mackay Bus Station – Bus Set down	2,700	2,692	2,692
Northern Beaches Community Hub – Stage 1A	2,456	1,138	1,244

The delivery of several major projects under construction is on track for the year to date ending May '24, such as, the Northern Beaches Community Hub civil works-project, Asphalt Resurfacing Works, Mackay Stadium Refurbishment and the Art Space Facility Upgrade.

The Pioneer River Floating Pontoon, Pioneer River Levee construction project, and Mackay Bus Station at Canelands are completed. The Mountain Bike Trial - Stage 1 project is at practical completion, with the maintenance period for landscaping still in progress.

A part of the replacement program for plant and equipment is impacted by delays in equipment delivery times from suppliers.

### Capital expenditure ratio\*

This ratio indicates that council is willing to invest more than depreciation into expanding its assets base for the life of the adopted Long Term Financial Forecast.

Historical results				Budget	5yr Avg
2019/20	2020/21	2021/22	2022/23	2023/24	2023/34
1.1	1.2	1.3	1.3	1.2	1.2





Benchmark: More than 1.1 times.



\* Refer to Glossary



Council is responsible for the provision of a diverse range of services to meet community needs and expectations. A significant number of these services are provided through infrastructure assets and other property, plant, and equipment.

	Annual Original Budget \$'000	Annual Revised Budget \$'000	YTD Actual \$'000	
	3,730,542	3,958,003	3,976,021	Property, plant and equipment
	5,277	5,580	5,580	Investment properties
	1,143	1,143	1,149	Right of use assets
	3,927	4,106	4,278	Intangible assets

**Asset sustainability ratio\***

This ratio is calculated based on the planned capital expenditure on the renewal of assets.

Historical results				Budget	5yr Avg
2019/20	2020/21	2021/22	2022/23	2023/34	2023/24
50.8%	74.5%	62.8%	63.6%	58.2%	62%

Benchmark: More than 60%.



\* Refer to Glossary

## Appendices

### - Statement of Profit or Loss For the period ended 31 May 2024

	Annual Original Budget \$000	Annual Revised Budget \$000	YTD Budget \$000	YTD Actual \$000	YTD Variance \$000
<b>Operating Revenue</b>					
Rates, levies and charges	240,557	240,555	241,070	242,976	1,906
Fees and charges	19,806	22,126	20,291	20,024	(267)
Contracts and recoverable works	8,230	7,412	6,235	6,258	23
Sales and other income	5,537	6,169	5,574	5,627	53
Grants, subsidies, contributions, donations	9,839	11,089	5,504	5,781	277
Interest received	6,676	7,726	7,210	7,239	29
Rental income	1,497	1,507	1,298	1,229	(69)
<b>Total operating revenue</b>	<b>292,142</b>	<b>296,584</b>	<b>287,182</b>	<b>289,134</b>	<b>1,952</b>
<b>Less: Operating expenses</b>					
Employee benefits	99,822	94,072	86,465	87,400	(935)
Materials and services	103,100	110,576	99,738	102,047	(2,309)
Finance costs	3,230	7,886	6,071	6,064	7
Depreciation and amortisation	85,439	89,474	81,997	80,976	1,021
<b>Total operating expenses</b>	<b>291,593</b>	<b>302,008</b>	<b>274,271</b>	<b>276,487</b>	<b>(2,216)</b>
<b>Operating surplus or (deficit)</b>	<b>551</b>	<b>(5,424)</b>	<b>12,911</b>	<b>12,647</b>	<b>(264)</b>
<b>Capital revenue</b>					
Grants, subsidies, contributions, donations	31,410	26,498	17,724	17,537	(187)
Other capital revenue	-	956	868	918	50
<b>Less: Capital expenses</b>					
Capital expenses	2,740	3,342	1,149	5,039	(3,890)
<b>Total capital revenue and expenses</b>	<b>28,670</b>	<b>24,112</b>	<b>17,443</b>	<b>13,416</b>	<b>(4,027)</b>
<b>Net result</b>	<b>29,221</b>	<b>18,688</b>	<b>30,354</b>	<b>26,063</b>	<b>(4,291)</b>

#### % YTD Variance from YTD Budget (KPI)

YTD Variance between 0% and ± 2.99%

YTD Variance between ± 3% and ± 4.99%

YTD Variance equal to or greater than ± 5%

\* Refer to Glossary



- **Statement of Financial Position**  
**At 31 May 2024**

	<b>Annual Original Budget \$000</b>	<b>Annual Revised Budget \$000</b>	<b>YTD Actual \$000</b>
<b>Current assets</b>			
Cash and cash equivalents	87,190	35,385	98,146
Financial assets	55,000	90,000	50,000
Trade and other receivables	21,059	21,282	29,836
Contract assets	3,500	3,500	2,563
Other assets	3,216	4,506	2,308
Inventories	2,988	3,136	3,540
Non-current assets held for sale	79	-	-
<b>Total current assets</b>	<b>173,032</b>	<b>157,809</b>	<b>186,393</b>
<b>Non-current assets</b>			
Investment property	5,277	5,580	5,580
Trade and other receivables	-	-	1,676
Property, plant and equipment	3,730,542	3,958,003	3,976,021
Right of use assets	1,143	1,143	1,149
Intangible assets	3,927	4,106	4,278
<b>Total non-current assets</b>	<b>3,740,889</b>	<b>3,968,832</b>	<b>3,988,704</b>
<b>Total assets</b>	<b>3,913,921</b>	<b>4,126,641</b>	<b>4,175,097</b>
<b>Current liabilities</b>			
Trade and other payables	8,488	9,482	13,541
Employee entitlements	14,135	1,799	22,008
Borrowings	11,644	11,646	3,696
Lease liabilities	66	68	33
Provisions	49,858	59,641	64,116
Contract Liabilities	3,500	3,500	2,570
Other liabilities	19,572	14,947	16,185
<b>Total current liabilities</b>	<b>107,263</b>	<b>101,083</b>	<b>122,149</b>
<b>Non-current liabilities</b>			
Employee entitlements	1,699	1,601	1,529
Borrowings	48,406	48,408	38,755
Lease liabilities	1,241	1,213	1,230
Provisions	13,268	21,685	21,740
Other liabilities	11,691	9,685	6,184
<b>Total non-current liabilities</b>	<b>76,305</b>	<b>82,592</b>	<b>69,438</b>
<b>Total liabilities</b>	<b>183,568</b>	<b>183,675</b>	<b>191,587</b>
<b>Net community assets</b>	<b>3,730,353</b>	<b>3,942,966</b>	<b>3,983,510</b>

\* Refer to Glossary





**Statement of Financial Position**  
**At 31 May 2024**

	Annual Original Budget \$000	Annual Revised Budget \$000	YTD Actual \$000
<b>Community equity</b>			
Retained surplus	2,340,937	2,331,876	2,372,420
Asset revaluation surplus	1,389,416	1,611,090	1,611,090
<b>Total community equity</b>	<b>3,730,353</b>	<b>3,942,966</b>	<b>3,983,510</b>

\* Refer to Glossary



**- Statement of Cash Flows**  
For the period ended 31 May 2024

	<b>Annual Original Budget \$000</b>	<b>Annual Revised Budget \$000</b>	<b>YTD Actual \$000</b>
<b>Cash flows from operating activities</b>			
Receipts from customers	275,075	279,284	262,743
Receipts from grantors, donors for operational activities	9,824	11,585	5,781
Payments to suppliers and employees	(204,004)	(237,975)	(190,793)
Interest income	6,676	7,726	7,239
Borrowing costs	(2,787)	(2,787)	(2,168)
<b>Net cash inflow from operating activities</b>	<b>84,784</b>	<b>57,833</b>	<b>82,802</b>
<b>Cash flows from investing activities</b>			
Payments for non-current assets	(123,863)	(106,423)	(90,029)
Payments for investments	-	-	5,000
Payments for capital projects	(2,000)	(3,844)	(714)
Proceeds from sale of non-current assets	2,090	1,189	848
Receipts from grantors, donors for capital projects	27,410	19,327	15,579
<b>Net cash outflow from investing activities</b>	<b>(96,363)</b>	<b>(89,751)</b>	<b>(69,316)</b>
<b>Cash flows from financing activities</b>			
Proceeds from borrowings	21,200	21,200	-
Repayment of borrowings	(14,045)	(14,045)	(10,446)
Repayments made on leases (principal only)	(17)	(17)	(57)
<b>New cash outflow from financing activities</b>	<b>7,138</b>	<b>7,138</b>	<b>(10,503)</b>
<b>Net increase or (decrease) in cash and cash equivalents</b>	<b>(4,441)</b>	<b>(24,780)</b>	<b>2,981</b>
<b>Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of the period</b>	<b>146,631</b>	<b>150,165</b>	<b>95,165</b>
<b>Cash and cash equivalents at end of the period</b>	<b>142,190</b>	<b>125,385</b>	<b>98,146</b>

\* Refer to Glossary



## Glossary

Operating surplus ratio (%)	Extent to which operating revenue covers operating expenses (excludes capital items)	Operating result (excluding capital items) as a percentage of operating revenue
Current ratio	Extent to which current assets cover current liabilities	Current assets / current liabilities
Asset sustainability ratio (%)	Extent to which the infrastructure assets are being replaced/renewed	Capital expenditure on renewals / depreciation expense
Capital expenditure ratio (times)	Extent to which capital expenditure exceeds depreciation.	Capital expenditure / depreciation
Debt service cover ratio	Extent to which available cash flow covers current debt obligations	Earnings Before Interest Depreciation and Amortisation / (interest expense + principal loan repayment)

MRC will be adopting the new Local Government Sustainability Framework ratios in the 2023/24 Annual Financial Statements. Calculations of historical ratios have been adjusted to reflect the guidance provided in the Local Government Sustainability Guideline (2023 Version 1).

\* Refer to Glossary



## 12. RECEIPT OF PETITIONS

### 12.1. PETITION - FOOTPATH ALONG GOLDSMITH STREET, EAST MACKAY

**Author** Chief Executive Officer (Scott Owen)  
**Responsible Officer** Chief Executive Officer (Scott Owen)  
**File Number** Petitions

**Attachments** 1. Petition - Footpath on Goldsmith Street East Mackay [**12.1.1** - 10 pages]

#### **Purpose**

A petition was received by Council on the 23 April 2024 and relates to a request to provide a footpath along Goldsmith Street, between Bridge Road to Evan Street, East Mackay.

#### **Related Parties**

Listed petitioners per the attached petition.

#### **Corporate Plan Linkage**

N/A

#### **Background/Discussion**

In terms of Council's Standing Orders, where a petition is put to a meeting no debate is undertaken on the petition itself, with the only motion which may be moved being:

- (a) the petition be received, and consideration stand as an order of the day for:
  - (i) the meeting; or
  - (ii) a future meeting; or
- (b) the petition be received and referred to the Chief Executive Officer for consideration and a report to the local government; or
- (c) the petition not be received.

The petition meets the requirements as per the Standing Orders, in that it is legible and has more than 25 signatures.

#### **Consultation and Communication**

That the petitioners, through their lead petitioner, be informed that Council acknowledges receipt of the Petition and that it has been accepted as a formal submission. The issues raised will be addressed in the report to be tabled before Council in the future.

#### **Resource Implications**

At this stage as the recommendation relates only to the preparation of a report on the matter.

#### **Risk Management Implications**

NIL.

**Conclusion**

It is proposed that as the petition meets the necessary requirement for consideration by Council, that the petition be referred to the Chief Executive Officer for a report to be prepared for further consideration by Council.

**Officer's Recommendation**

THAT the petition be received and referred to the Chief Executive Officer for a report to be prepared for consideration by Council which investigates the issues identified within the petition.

THAT the principal petitioner be advised of Council's determination.

To Scott Owen,  
Chief Executive Officer  
Mackay Regional Council

Levi Alexander  
111 Goldsmith St, East Mackay  
QLD 4740  
0458 869 489  
[speedypainter113@gmail.com](mailto:speedypainter113@gmail.com)

Please find attached our Petition including 184 Signatures for the proposed addition of a Footpath along the remainder of Goldsmith Street, East Mackay (Bridge Road to Evan St).

Mackay is well renowned for its' beautiful beaches, friendly residents and unfortunately; its' Obesity epidemic.

We believe the addition of a footpath across the entire length of Goldsmith Street will encourage more families and individuals to be more active in our community and help ease the regions Obesity crisis. The new proposed footpath would link up with the well used footpath that runs along Bridge Road, and also with the existing footpath from Evans St that links up to both Queens Park and Town Beach. This would be an incredible asset to the East & South Mackay areas, encouraging more people to leave their cars at home and walk.

Goldsmith Street is the main street in which school children attending Victoria Park State Primary School walk to and from school each day. Living at 111 Goldsmith Street myself, we witness on a daily basis the near-accidents and unfortunately sometimes real accidents involving school children on bikes and scooters. They are forced to ride their bikes on the road because of the very uneven and sometimes unkept nature strips where the presence of a footpath is needed. This causes too many accidents and near-misses of children both own their bikes and on foot. Being a busy Bus route, Goldsmith St has little speed-reducing instalments, meaning that cars do above and beyond the speed limit even during peak times. All of these factors create an extremely unsafe environment for our kids and families in this area.

As a young family ourselves, we often result to driving our car to other pathed areas just to avoid the unsafe main road we are forced to walk on. We bought our home in East Mackay 4 years ago thinking that we could enjoy morning and afternoon walks to Queens Park and Illawong Beach, but those plans came to a quick halt when we realised just how dangerous it is and the apparent lack of pedestrian infrastructure available to us.

Upon collecting signatures for our Petition, we had numerous neighbours approach us and tell us of their troubles with getting Mackay Council to take their concerns seriously, as many have tried notifying the council in the past of the desperate need for a footpath on Goldsmith Street. Not only have others tried, but they have been told that it is 'not necessary' and to 'wait another 10 years'. This is absolutely unacceptable.

As one of the most expensive Council Rates are in the country, it is our right as taxpayers to see that some of those funds go back into the community in the form of more accessible pathed areas, especially when it has been brought to the Councils attention numerous times in the past.

We have collected 184 Signatures from Mackay residents who agree that something has to be done about the unsafe pedestrian conditions for individuals, families, people with disabilities and young school children along Goldsmith Street and in the East & South Mackay area.

We trust that the safety and health of our residents is as important concern to you as it is to us, and appreciate your time in considering our Petition.

Thank you,  
Levi Alexander.

---

184 signatures in favour of  
erecting new footpath/s along  
Goldsmith St,  
East Mackay.

Petition by Levi Alexander

Submission ID	First name	Last name	Email
4/29/24 17:47	Kit	Thompson	valeriestoff@gmail.com
4/28/24 11:30	Di	Matthews	dimatthews1977@gmail.com
4/21/24 12:18	Teagan	Darvill	darvill.t.m@gmail.com
4/20/24 14:04	Greg	McKay	Greg.mckay@outlook.com.au
4/20/24 14:02	Hannah	Foley	Hannah.foley82@gmail.com
4/19/24 11:27	Tracey	Galletly	fullonfotoz@hotmail.com
4/19/24 11:25	Simone	Rolleston	enomis19@hotmail.com
4/18/24 22:53	Melody	Keidge	Surreal_skin@outlook.com
4/18/24 13:03	Troy	Abraham	random81@bigpond.com
4/18/24 10:54	Astrid	English	gee9861@bigpond.com
4/18/24 9:57	Julie	Courtney	Jewels2575@gmail.com
4/18/24 9:34	Zoe	Scott	Zoe.scott94@hotmail.com
4/17/24 16:53	Clay	McCormack	Cmccormack
4/16/24 20:58	Jake	Newman	Newmanjake93@gmail.com
4/16/24 19:15	Aaron	Emeny	bluedog91@live.com
4/16/24 19:15	Meagan	Rose	Meagan_rose@hotmail.com
4/16/24 18:02	Adam	Franklin	adfran1978@yahoo.com.au
4/16/24 11:27	Nathan	Neilson	Nathan.neilson@bigpond.com
4/16/24 11:25	Vanessa	Rohdman	vanessa.rohdman@cquemail.com
4/15/24 11:05	Karen	Webb	webb.k1@outlook.com
4/15/24 10:24	Brooke	Cowie	Brookecowie2@gmail.com
4/15/24 8:52	Kirstin	Kennedy	kirstin1986.kk@gmail.com
4/14/24 23:54	Jacinta	Gornall	jacintagornall@hotmail.com
4/14/24 18:51	Crystal	Weller	aussiegirl2702@yahoo.com
4/14/24 18:09	Djedda	Thomas	djedda_27@live.com.au
4/14/24 13:40	Paul	Octrin	dpoctrin@digpond.com
4/14/24 13:32	Tina	Mckenzie	tina07marie@live.com
4/14/24 12:51	Danny	Zarb	Danny.zarb.1103@gmail.com
4/14/24 6:21	Savannah	Cowie	Savannahcowie@outlook.com
4/13/24 15:03	Raith	Turner	I've been trying for 10yrs and was told in abou
4/13/24 12:47	Naomi	Rowler	Rowler4@gmail.com
4/13/24 12:08	Kathy	Peters	kb.peters@hotmail.com
4/13/24 10:44	Astrid	Cash	Astridshadow@yahoo.com
4/12/24 20:00	Allison	Roberts	
4/12/24 16:34	Mary	McKell	MARY.MCKELL@GMAIL.COM
4/12/24 16:30	Jason	McKell	cfetus71@hotmail.com
4/12/24 16:24	Keirie	Whitehead	keirie-may@live.com
4/12/24 16:20	Clifford	McKell	mck135@icloud.com
4/12/24 16:19	Peter	Clout	58clout@gmail.com
4/12/24 16:13	Tammie	Cunningham	Tammie.cunningham@hotmail.com
4/12/24 10:28	Tina	Mackie	Piper_oz@hotmail.com.au
4/11/24 23:08	Michelle	Steffens	capricornlady40@hotmail.com
4/11/24 23:05	Lloyd	Story	lloyd97@live.com.au
4/11/24 21:24	Lea	Jacobson	lea_jacobson@live.com.au
4/11/24 20:16	Charles	Jacobson	Charlie.Jacobson60@gmail.com
4/11/24 20:13	Theodore	James	Theodorejames09@icloud.com
4/11/24 20:02	Telina	James	telina_james@bigpond.com
4/11/24 17:33	Emily	Germanotta	ejgermanotta@icloud.com
4/11/24 11:49	Lee	Buckland	tradie2004@yahoo.com.au
4/11/24 11:21	Ryezak	Ayles	Ryezakayles@gmail.com
4/11/24 10:41	Bruce	Winter	reddoghill@gmail.com
4/11/24 10:40	Susan	Winter	reddoghill@gmail.com
4/11/24 10:28	Julz	Wilson	Julz.wilson91@hotmail.com



Address	Suburb/Town	State	Postcode	Agree
105 goldsmith street	east mackay	Queensland	4740	Yes
352 ALFRED ST	MACKAY	queensland	4740	Yes
2/17 Willoughby Crescent	East Mackay	QLD	4740	Yes
Evan st	South mackay	Qld	4730	Yes
Evan St	Mackay	Qld	4740	Yes
14 Maple Drive	Andergrove	Qld	4740	Yes
108 Bedford Road	Andergrove	Qld	4740	Yes
125 Goldsmith st	East Mackay	Qld	4740	Yes
117 Goldsmith St	East Mackay	QLD	4740	Yes
43 Northview Terrace	Mount Pleasant	Wld	4740	Yes
Botanical dve	Ooralea	Qld	4740	Yes
21 Kensington court	Glenella	QLD	4740	Yes
7 scott	Mackay	Qld	4740	Yes
14 Caroline street	Mirani	Qld	4754	Yes
115 goldsmith st	Mackay	Qld	4740	Yes
115 Goldsmith street	East mackay	Qld	4740	Yes
				Yes
127 Goldsmith Street	East Mackay	QLD	4740	Yes
127 Goldsmith Street	East Mackay	QLD	4740	Yes
155 Goldsmith Street	East Mackay	Qld	4740	Yes
155 Goldsmith Street	East Mackay	Queensland	4740	Yes
2/199 Evan street	East mackay	QLD	4740	Yes
29 Bridge road	East mackay	Qld	4740	Yes
35 Scott st	south mackay	qld	4740	Yes
Hart Street	South Mackay	QLD	4740	Yes
138 Goldsmith street	East Mackay	Qld	4740	Yes
64 Goldsmith st	Mackay	QLD	4740	Yes
133 goldsmith st	East Mackay	Qld	4740	Yes
155 Goldsmith Street	Mackay	QLD	4740	Yes
125 goldsmith st	Mackay	QLD	4740	Yes
3 Van Eldik avenue	Andergrove	Qld	4740	Yes
1/51 Phoenix Crescent	Rural View	QLD	4740	Yes
156 Goldsmith Street	South Mackay	QLD	4740	Yes
160 Goldsmith street	South Mackay	Queensland	4740	Yes
135 Goldsmith street	East Mackay	Qld	4740	Yes
6 Beverley Street	East Mackay	Qld	4740	Yes
158 Goldsmith Street	South Mackay	QLD	4740	Yes
135 Goldsmith St	East Mackay	QLD	4740	Yes
4 durham ct andergrove mackay	Mackay	QLD	4740	Yes
14 Ethel court	Glenella	QLD	4740	Yes
61 mclean street	East mackay	Qld	4740	Yes
5 Cypress Court	Beaconsfield MACKAY	Qld	4740	Yes
	Mackay	QLD		Yes
32 hume street	West mackay	Qld	4740	Yes
32 Hume Street	West Mackay	Qld	4740	Yes
3 Neill street	East mackay	Qld	4740	Yes
3 Neill Street	East Mackay	QLD	4740	Yes
2 Ready Street	South Mackay	QLD	4740	Yes
2/32 Worthing rd	Highbett	Vic	3190	No
113 goldsmith street	East Mackay	Qld	4740	Yes
2 Abalone Court	East Mackay	Queensland	4740	Yes
2 Abalone Court	East Mackay	Qld	4740	Yes
21 reef drive	Sarina	Qld	4737	Yes

4/11/24 9:43	Kelly	Koch	
4/11/24 8:07	Barb	Schusser	Schusserfam@gmail.com
4/11/24 7:22	Ian	Davies	ian.davies17@outlook.com
4/11/24 7:20	Pauline	Knight	Ginger_ninja2@hotmail.com
4/11/24 6:59	Tiffany	Blanch	tiffanymblanch@gmail.com
4/11/24 5:35	Angela	Elworthy	Angavidenzel@hotmail.com
4/11/24 5:04	Dianne	Octrin	dpoctrin@bigpond.com
4/10/24 22:51	Sally	Wood	Sawood4740@hotmail.com
4/10/24 22:03	Kiera	Kinsella	Kiera.1990@hotmail.com
4/10/24 21:44	Stanley	Shakespeare	Stanshakespeare@gmail.com
4/10/24 21:43	Anna	Shakespeare	annashakespeare90@gmail.com
4/10/24 21:34	Caroline	Lawson	
4/10/24 21:32	Claudia	Lunnon	claudia.lunnon@yahoo.com.au
4/10/24 21:27	Trinity	Grigg	griggtrinity1@gmail.com
4/10/24 21:10	Melinda	Studt	Melinda.studt86@gmail.com
4/10/24 21:09	Ria	Strickland	ria.strickland@outlook.com
4/10/24 21:02	Tich	Rafter	tichl88@hotmail.com
4/10/24 20:55	Emily	McKenzie	emilyg.smith@outlook.com
4/10/24 20:54	Bernadette	Vella	Bvella@qetm.com.au
4/10/24 20:46	Rachael	Tansacha	rachy_jay@hotmail.com
4/10/24 20:40	Emma	Johnston	ejohn383@eq.edu.au
4/10/24 20:34	Jessica	Tandy	jessicamtandy@hotmail.com
4/10/24 20:31	Melissa	McGuiness	Melissaborg@yahoo.com.au
4/10/24 20:23	Laura	Lyons	Laura_betty_87@hotmail.com
4/10/24 20:20	Dominic	Green	Domgreen211993@gmail.com
4/10/24 20:17	Rebecca	Stephens	Bectroy27@bigpond.com
4/10/24 20:15	Emma	Gomm	Emma.Gomm@outlook.com
4/10/24 20:14	Catherine	Searle	cathy.searle@bigpond.com
4/10/24 20:13	Katherine	Green	katherinemacdonald96@gmail.com
4/10/24 20:09	Callum	Strachan	Callum15p@bigpond.com
4/10/24 19:47	Brontia	Andreassen	brontia06@icloud.com
4/10/24 19:04	Patricia	Kemp	pkemp6511@gmail.com
4/10/24 18:49	Clare	Millard	scottmillard82@gmail.com
4/10/24 18:38	Chris	O'Neill	87johno@gmail.com
4/10/24 18:38	Benita	Cantwell	Benita_cantwell@hotmail.com
4/10/24 18:16	Simone	Goedee	Simonegoedee@bigpond.com
4/10/24 18:13	Sharon	Braithwaite	shazbook@hotmail.com
4/10/24 18:12	Patrick	Mcgahan	Mcgahans101@outlook.com
4/10/24 18:10	Peter	Mcgahan	Mrpetermcgahan@gmail.com
4/10/24 18:09	Levi	Percy	levi_percy@hotmail.com
4/10/24 18:08	Andrew	Mogg	Moggy@smartseal.com.au
4/10/24 18:08	Andrea	Mcgahan	Andreajmcgahan@gmail.com
4/10/24 18:08	Lee	Day	Brylawptyltd@bigpond.com
4/10/24 18:06	Bethany	Ufer	bethanyufer58@gmail.com
4/10/24 18:05	Suzanne	Mogg	suzymogg@gmail.com
4/10/24 18:05	Raymond	Weise	Karennray@bigpond.com
4/10/24 18:05	Richard	Allingham	dusty-60@hotmail.com
4/10/24 18:04	Karen	Weise	ray.and.karen@gmail.com
4/10/24 18:04	Jan	Allingham	rajall@bigpond.com
4/10/24 18:04	Karen	Weise	ray.and.karen@gmail.com
4/10/24 17:48	Evelyn	Schoch	Evschoch@hotmail.com
4/10/24 17:47	Jesse	Wilson	Jessewilson81@live.com.au
4/10/24 17:36	Mark	Whittaker	whittaker.markj@live.com
4/10/24 17:12	Shannon	Woods	Shannon.woods.1998@gmail.com

	Mackay	Queensland	4740	Yes
7 nella drv	Mackay	Q	4740	Yes
5 Glenella - Richmond Road	Glenella	Qld	4740	Yes
106 Goldsmith St	Mackay	QLD	4740	Yes
11 Pearce Street	East Mackay	QLD	4740	Yes
20 yaralla avenue	Mackay	Qld	4740	Yes
138 Goldsmith Street	South Mackay	Queensland	4740	Yes
9 McKenney Street	South Mackay	QLD	4740	Yes
21 Edward Street	South Mackay	Qld	4740	Yes
21 James Cook Drive	Rural View	QLD	4740	Yes
21 James Cook Drive	Rural View	QLD	4740	Yes
35 Bezzina court	Bucasia	Qld	4750	Yes
2/33 Schooner avenue	Shoal Point	Qld	4750	Yes
16 McKenney Streer	South Mackay	QLD	4740	Yes
12 Lochmaben Court	Beaconsfield	Qld	4740	Yes
	Mackay	Qld	4740	Yes
162 Goldsmith St	South Mackay	QLD	4740	Yes
18 Reef pde	East Mackay	QLD	4740	Yes
7 Pratt St	South Mackay	Qld	4740	Yes
66 Rae St	East Mackay	Qld	4740	Yes
8 Sugarfield Place	Ooralea	QLD	4740	Yes
75 Rae Street	East Mackay	QLD	4740	Yes
12 Irving street	South Mackay	Qld	4740	Yes
87 Goldsmith street	East Mackay	Qld	4740	Yes
53 hart st	South mackay	Qld	4740	Yes
128 Kippen Street	South Mackay	Qld	4740	Yes
27 Mogford St	West Mackay	QLD	4740	Yes
6 Lettice Court	South Mackay	Queensland	4740	Yes
53 Hart Street	South MACKAY	QLD	4740	Yes
15 Pearce Street	East Mackay	Qld	4740	Yes
9 Marine Parade	Bucasia, Mackay	QLD	4745	Yes
75 Napier Street	South Mackay	QLD	4740	Yes
21 Credlin Street	South Mackay	Qld	4740	Yes
19, Credlin Street	South Mackay	QLD	4740	Yes
19 Credlin street	Mackay	QLD	4740	Yes
5 tinonee Court	Mackay	QLD	4740	Yes
33 Chataway Street	West Mackay	Qld	4740	Yes
31 Ready street	South Mackay	Qld	4740	Yes
31 Ready street	South Mackay	Qld	4740	Yes
37 lamb street Mackay	Mackay	Queensland	4740	Yes
13 Nott Street	East Mackay	QLD	4740	Yes
31 Ready street	South Mackay	Queensland	4740	Yes
18 McKellar street	Mt pleasant	Qld	4740	Yes
12 Perkins Street	North Mackay	QLD	4740	Yes
13 Nott Street	East mackay	QLD	4740	Yes
16 Pratt Street	South Mackay	QLD	4740	Yes
222 Goldsmith Street	South Mackay	Qld	4740	Yes
16 Pratt Street	South Mackay	QLD	4740	Yes
222 Goldsmith Street	Mackay	Qld	4740	Yes
16 Pratt Street	South Mackay	QLD	4740	Yes
Evan Street	East Mackay	Qld	4740	Yes
29 Wardrop St	West Mackay	Qld	4740	Yes
27 HOLLAND STREET	WEST MACKAY	QLD	4740	Yes
31 Wattle Street	Andergrove	QLD	4740	Yes

4/10/24 16:45	Rebecca	Wicks	beccybooboo1983@gmail.com
4/10/24 16:31	Regan	Taylor	reganindie15@gmail.com
4/10/24 16:18	Jay	Turner	afex_71au@hn.ozemail.com.au
4/10/24 15:52	Lachlan	Peach	lachlanpeach206@outlook.com
4/10/24 15:51	Natalie	Jenkins	natalie-jayne90@hotmail.com
4/10/24 15:25	Shayla	Campbell	Campshay08@gmail.com
4/10/24 14:04	Helen	Teitzel	helenteitzel@hotmail.com
4/10/24 13:43	Daniel	Walpole	dwwalpole11@gmail.com
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4/10/24 10:39	Robert	Bath	
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4/10/24 7:28	Ivan	Cross	ivan_cross@hotmail.com
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4/10/24 7:16	Kim	Saron	Kim.saron2@outlook.com
4/10/24 7:04	David	Wood	Davensal@hotmail.com
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4/10/24 6:29	Kelly	Cooper	cooper.kelly@bigpond.com
4/10/24 6:13	Miya	Scott	Callen_miya@hotmail.com
4/10/24 6:11	Trish	Hilt	Trishactwist@hotmail.com
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4/10/24 0:16	Steve	Wood	computasurvex0x@live.com
4/9/24 23:53	Paul	Durelli	pauldurelli@gmail.com
4/9/24 23:06	Calum	Todd	Toddcalum4@gmail.com
4/9/24 22:41	Judi	Cavanagh	Judi.cavanagh@hotmail.com
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4/9/24 22:26	Michael	Rhodes	
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4/9/24 22:12	Lia	Durelli	durfam@westnet.com.au
4/9/24 22:12	Paula	Stewart	
4/9/24 22:12	Lia	Durelli	durfam@westnet.com.au
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4/9/24 22:02	Peter	Ayles	peterayles@bigpond.com
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16a Juliet street	Mackay	Qld	4740	Yes
4 Northern circuit Rural View	Rural View Mackay	QLD	4740	Yes
13 Keelan St	East Mackay	Qld	4740	Yes
29 Meero St	South Mackay	Qld	4740	Yes
6 Steen Street	South mackay	Qld	4740	Yes
202 goldsmith street	South mackay	Qld	4740	Yes
5 Sugarland Court	Alligator Creek	Qld	4740	Yes
17 Beverley St	East Mackay	Queensland	4740	Yes
16 Ashton place	Ooralea	Qld	4740	Yes
96 Celeber Drive	ANDERGROVE	Qld	4740	Yes
53 Bucasia Esplanade	Bucasia	Qld	4750	Yes
				Yes
40 Scott Street	South Mackay	QLD	4740	Yes
39 broomdykes drive	Beaconsfield	QLD	4740	Yes
1/38 Holland Street	West Mackay	Qld	4740	Yes
Kenilworth Street	South Mackay	Qld	4740	Yes
228 Goldsmith Street	South Mackay	QLD	4740	Yes
				Yes
16 Irving street	South Mackay	Queensland	4740	Yes
8 Sutton Court	Andergrove	QLD	4740	Yes
34 hart street	South mackay	QLD	4740	Yes
198 Goldsmith Street	South Mackay	QLD	4740	Yes
198 Goldsmith Street	South Mackay	QLD	4740	Yes
4 Macquarie Street	Mount pleasant	Qld	4740	Yes
142 goldsmith street	Mackay	Qld	4740	Yes
142 Goldsmith St	South Mackay	Qld	4740	Yes
41 Renae Street	Andergrove	Qld	4740	Yes
9 McKenney Street	South Mackay	Queensland	4740	Yes
82 Yakapari Habana Road	THE LEAP (QLD)	Queensland	4740	Yes
36 hart st	South mackay	Qld	4740	Yes
21 Iambrook court	Alexandra	Qld	4740	Yes
6 danelles way	Elmeo	Qld		Yes
Dickens ave	Ooralea	Qld	474p	Yes
4 Bowman St	West Mackay	Qld	4740	Yes
4 Tinonee Court	Mackay	Queensland	4740	Yes
2 norris st	Mackay	Queensland	4749	Yes
				Yes
Hoey St	East Mackay	QLD	4740	Yes
161 goldsmith st	East Mackay	Qld	4740	Yes
3 Jubilee st	Mackay	qld	4740	Yes
32 Prudhoe st	East Mackay	Qld	4740	Yes
Tinonee crt	East Mackay	Qld	4740	Yes
Goldsmith street	Mackay	Qld	4740	Yes
Tinonee crt	East Mackay	Qld	4740	Yes
46 Hart Street	South Mackay	Queensland	4740	Yes
113 Goldsmith Street	East Mackay	Qld	4740	Yes
4/24 Goldsmith St	Mackay	Qld	4740	Yes
32 yaralla Avenue	Mackay	Qld	4740	Yes
7A Danelles Way	Elmeo	Qld	4740	Yes
11 Bannister St	South Mackay	Qld	4740	Yes
40 Scott Street	South Mackay	QLD	4740	Yes
16 Mengel Street	South Mackay	QLD	4740	Yes
9/15 Perkins street	North Mackay	Qld	4740	Yes
15 lynch st	East Mackay	Qld	4740	Yes

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4/8/24 12:33	Levi	Alexander	Aqcpainting@gmail.com

64 George street	Mackay	QLD	4740	Yes
109 Goldsmith Street	East Mackay	Qld	4740	Yes
109 Goldsmith St	East Mackay	QLD	4740	Yes
14 Kingslea Court	Ooralea	QLD	4740	Yes
15 Yaralla Avenue	East Mackay	Queensland	4740	Yes
18 Chivers street	Marian	Qld	4753	Yes
6 Stirling Court	Mount pleasant	Qld	4730	Yes
13 Maple drive	Mackay	Qld	4740	Yes
59 Range Rd	Sarina	Qld	4737	Yes
111 Goldsmith st	Mackay	Qld	4740	Yes
111 Goldsmith St	East Mackay	QLD	4740	Yes
111 Goldsmith st	Mackay	Qld	4740	Yes

## 13. TENDERS

### 13.1. MRC 2025-002 ADHOC AND REACTIVE GRASS MOWING SERVICES

**Author** Executive Assistant (Robyn Smith)  
**Responsible Officer** Director Infrastructure and Operations (Jason Devitt)  
**File Reference** MRC 2025-002

**Attachments** Nil

#### **Purpose**

To seek endorsement of Council entering into MRC 2025-002 Ad hoc and Reactive Grass Mowing Services, in accordance with Section 235 (b) of the Local Government Regulation 2012 for Small, Medium and Large, with Bootha Group PTY LTD on a Fixed Price Schedule of Rates Basis for a term of one (1) year commencing from 1 July 2024, with no contract extension options, at a capped cost of \$250,000.

#### **Related Parties**

Bootha Group PTY LTD

#### **Corporate Plan Linkage**

##### Financial Strength

*Affordable Living* - Our rates and charges provide value for residents and are sufficient in providing for required infrastructure, facilities and services.

*Ethical Decision-Making and Good Governance* - We are committed to keeping our community informed about our activities and performance and employing robust governance policies and procedures to ensure legislative compliance and organisational integrity.

#### **Background/Discussion**

Council undertakes approximately 123 million square metres of grass cutting per year excluding roadside grass cutting services undertaken on behalf of the Department of Transport and Main Roads. The areas of greenspace that Council provides general cutting services include Local Open Space, Conservation Reserve, District Park, Road Reserve, Council Facility, Regional Park, Sporting Field, Coastal – Foreshore Reserve, Cemetery, Drainage Reserve, Camping Grounds and Open Drains (Roads).

Council aims to undertake grass cutting services using internal resources. During the recent peak growing season, current Council suppliers could not provide the external support to Council required to meet service delivery timeframes after both wet weather and equipment faults reduced Council's internal capacity to deliver grass cutting services. As a result, the amenity of the Region declined impacting Council's reputation and the community's use of open spaces.

This contract will increase the volume of supplementary resourcing available to manage periods of peak demand while we establish an improved Grass Cutting Panel Contract to support delivery of grass cutting services across the Region.

Council does not have the resources and skills to manage grass cutting services through our internal labour during peak demand, the contractor will:

- a. Undertake ad hoc grass cutting services as directed by Council;
- b. Provide reactive grass cutting services where Council's internal resources are unable to meet service timeframes; and



- c. Provide all labour, plant, management systems and management services, asset maintenance management and all other things necessary for the performance of all obligations under the Agreement related to the above.

Council has three Preferred Supplier Agreements in place to deliver grass cutting services across the Region. During the recent heavy growth period, two of the current Preferred Suppliers were unable to provide grass cutting services to Council in the timeframe required.

The third provider of grass cutting services was unable to continue to meet the Service Schedule and, as a result, Council was forced to engage Bootha Group PTY LTD as an alternate supplier to complete these works for a period of three months.

Bootha Group PTY LTD possess the distinctive experience to operate and deliver commercial grass cutting support in an efficient and effective capacity. Bootha Group PTY LTD's staff have specific training and practical capabilities to ensure the grass cutting can be delivered in the timeframes required by Council.

The process to bring on a new contractor would result in some risk to Council given the short-term appointment and difficulty in attracting a new company with capacity to support Council's requirements whilst also providing the same level of expertise.

### **Consultation and Communication**

Internal consultation with Procurement Services and Ethical Standards Audit & Risk was undertaken.

### **Resource Implications**

To ensure Council can provide uninterrupted grass cutting services, it is recommended that the most advantageous outcome for Council is entering into a short-term contract to increase the pool of readily available contractors to provide supplementary grass cutting services while Council undertakes a detailed tender process to establish a new Grass Cutting Panel arrangement.

Market testing has been undertaken to assess other potential providers' ability to undertake the contracted work considering their ability to mobilise, supply suitable plant and equipment, and accept the same level of risk as Bootha Group PTY LTD for similar pricing and ability to provide the similar level of service.

Value for money has been demonstrated by Bootha Group PTY LTD during the initial market testing, the level of service and specialised nature of the service, and fixed Service Rates for the duration of the contract period.

Bootha Group PTY LTD has supplied mowing services since 2014. They have provided the service throughout challenging market conditions with significantly improved service delivery timeframes. Their knowledge and implementation of commercial grass cutting has shown their ability to undertake the work successfully.

More recently, during the initial engagement, Bootha Group PTY LTD has demonstrated its ability to perform services to Council's standards.

Total financial spend is estimated to be at the upper limit of \$250,000 for a one-year period with a sufficient approved budget available to meet this total spend.

### **Risk Management Implications**

The contractor has provided acceptable environmental management, Quality Assurance and Work Health Safety Systems.

The contractor must deliver services in the nominated timeframes, this is managed through the use of delivery dates when ordering service through the current Purchase Order process.

The contract is short term with the mid-term strategy to introduce a Grass Cutting Panel that will allow Council the flexibility to scale external support to meet seasonal demand.

### **Conclusion**

The endorsement of this Agenda Report will contribute to the efficient management of the Region's resources as the ongoing delivery of grass cutting services, through the use of external resources, improves the liveability and livelihood of the Region.

The ability to not scale up as required for grass cutting operations may impact the ongoing amenity of the Region and lead to an increase in customer dissatisfaction. A reduction in the use of external support to assist the internal Grass Mowing Teams will likely decrease service frequency time which will have a direct impact on the appearance and usage of the Parks and Outdoor Spaces in the Region.

### **Officer's Recommendation**

THAT Council resolves:

- Entering into a one-year Agreement with Bootha Group PTY LTD to supply grass ad hoc and reactive grass cutting services to Council. The contract will be entered into under Section 235(b) of the *Local Government Regulation 2012* due to the specialised and specific nature of the services.

### 13.2. MRC 2024-041 JOLIMONT CREEK FISHWAY

**Author** Executive Assistant (Robyn Smith)  
**Responsible Officer** Director Infrastructure and Operations (Jason Devitt)  
**File Reference** MRC 2024-041

**Attachments** Nil

#### **Purpose**

To present to Council for approval MRC 2024-041 Jolimont Creek Fishway.

#### **Related Parties**

The parties relating to this report are:

- Pentacon Pty Ltd
- Seaforth Civil Pty Ltd
- Vassallo Constructions Pty. Ltd.

#### **Corporate Plan Linkage**

##### Community and Environment

*Sustainable Practices* - We are responsible and active custodians of our natural environment, with future targets and commitments aimed at driving us towards a cleaner, greener and more sustainable region. Climate change will continue to be a consideration in forward planning and we will continue to implement sustainability initiatives in council operations.

##### Financial Strength

*Resilient and Agile Economy* - Our long-term vision guides our planning for present and future needs, understanding the future implications of decisions made today.

#### **Background/Discussion**

Council is committed to protecting and enhancing the Region's natural environment, and specifically to maintaining sustainable fish stocks across the Region, as prescribed in the organisation's Corporate Plan (2022–2027) and the Mackay Region's Recreational Fishing Strategy (2017–2022). The Jolimont Creek Fishway Project is especially important as this waterway falls within the catchment of the St Helens Beach to Cape Hillsborough Net Free Fishing Zone introduced by the Queensland Department of Agriculture and Fisheries (DAF) in November 2017.

This project is jointly funded as part of the Reef Guardian Councils' Program - Activating Local Councils' Reef Action Plans grant opportunity.

Mackay Regional Council issued tender documents for the construction of a culvert/rock ramp fishway at Jolimont Creek, Kuttabul. Upstream of the barrier is an extensive stream network that contains a multitude of instream and off stream aquatic habitats. Currently, fish and other aquatic fauna are being impacted by limitations to migration because of the existing weir at the site and causeway configuration.

The Tender was advertised on 1 March 2024 via Queensland Governments QTenders website and advertised on Mackay Regional Council's website.

Four (4) submissions were received by the closing time of 9 April 2024.

The weighting attributed to each Qualitative Criteria listed in the tender documents was:

Criterion	Weighting %
Demonstrated Understanding	30%
Resources	15%
Availability	25%
Value for Money	30%

The preferred tenderer's submitted price is \$902,605.96.

### Consultation and Communication

Consultation was undertaken with Council's Design Services, Portfolio Management Office and Procurement Teams throughout the Tender process.

### Resource Implications

Budget is allocated in 5.09 Portfolio Management Office for FY (Financial Year) 2024/2025 - \$829,928.00, partially grant funded as follows:

Council Funding	\$229,928.00
Reef Guardian Councils' Program	\$600,000.00

Description	Amount	Notes
<b>MRC 2024-041 Jolimont Creek Fishway</b>		
Expenditure to Date	\$15,486.76	
Contract Price	\$902,605.96	<i>Seaforth Civil Pty Ltd</i>
Project Risks	\$90,260.59	<i>10% Contingency Allowed</i>
Council's Costs	\$108,052.16	<i>Below the Line Costs for Council</i>
<b>Estimated Cost of Project</b>	<b>\$1,116,405.47</b>	
<b>BUDGET</b>		
Budget for 2023/2024	\$0.00	
Budget for 2024/2025	\$829,928.00	<i>From Capital Plan</i>
<b>BALANCE</b>	<b>(\$286,477.47)</b>	<i>Budget Shortfall</i>

Council would look to allocate the additional budget of \$286,478 to this project at the first budget review process of the 24/25 FY. This would increase councils' overall contribution to \$516,406.

There is an opportunity that additional funding could be made available for this project and council is still pursuing this option however the decision on this is still being considered. Given the optimum delivery conditions for this project are in August and September 2024, it is recommended to award the contract now to take the best advantage of those conditions. If the additional funding request was approved in the interim, then council would take that into account at the first budget review process in 24/25FY.

## **Risk Management Implications**

The optimum delivery period for this project best aligns to the August and September 2024 times where conditions and tides best align to minimise risks around impacts on delivery. Therefore, any delays in awarding would increase the risk around impacts to delivery.

Throughout delivery of the Project, risks will be mitigated as follows:

- Environmental Damage - noise, dust, erosion and sediment control. The Contractor must develop and implement environmental procedures. This will be monitored and managed by the Project Superintendent and Project Manager. The Contractor must prepare and implement an Erosion and Sediment Control Plan which is endorsed by a CPESC or Suitably Qualified Person.
- Health and Safety by utilising experienced Contractors for the works and ensuring compliance with Workplace Health and Safety Legislation. The Workplace Health & Safety Management Plan from the successful Contractor must address Legislation and any high-risk work activity. Council is to review and monitor.
- Stakeholder Engagement by liaising with the landholders directly affected by the work activity. The existing weir water storage is used by three (3) landholders for irrigation and communication with the landholders is essential during the works.
- Vehicular and Pedestrian Traffic. The existing causeway is used by the landholder for cane harvesting access. Access will be limited during the works, as previously discussed with the landholder. A Licence Agreement is in place with the affected landholder.

## **Conclusion**

That awarding the Contract to Seaforth Civil Pty Ltd represents the most advantageous outcome and demonstrated value for money to Mackay Regional Council as they have the experience, capacity and resources to complete the works to the quantity and quality as specified in the Request for Tender.

## **Officer's Recommendation**

THAT Council award Contract MRC 2024-041 Jolimont Creek Fishway to Seaforth Civil Pty Ltd for the Re-Measurable Schedule of Rates Tender Price of \$902,605.96 (excl GST).

FURTHER THAT Council endorses the additional funding requirement of \$286,478 at the first budget review process in 24/25FY.

## 14. CONSIDERATION OF NOTIFIED MOTIONS

### 14.1. NOTIFIED MOTION - CR CHRISTENSEN - MECC EVENT

#### Notified motion – MECC Event

**Author** Executive Officer (David McKendry)  
**Responsible Officer** Chief Executive Officer (Scott Owen)  
**File Reference** Notice of Motion

**Attachments** Nil

#### Purpose

To present a Notified Motion as presented by Cr George Christensen for Mackay Regional Council to deem performances and events held at the Mackay Entertainment and Convention Centre (MECC), and other council facilities, which involve what the performers bill as “drag”, as adults-only events and restrict attendance of audiences to those over the age of 18.

#### Related Parties

MRC Councillors

#### Corporate Plan Linkage

#### Live and Visit

Community Participation and Active Lifestyles - Our region is vibrant and culturally rich, home to a wide variety of events, experiences and attractions.

#### Background/Discussion

Under clause 6.3 of Council’s Standing Orders, any Councillor can request that a matter be included on a council Ordinary Meeting agenda.

Cr Christensen has requested that a Notified Motion as below be presented to council:

**That Mackay Regional Council deems that performances and events held at the Mackay Entertainment and Convention Centre (and other council facilities) which involve what the performers bill as "drag" are adults-only events, and restricts attending audiences to those over the age of 18.**

In support of this Notified Motion, Cr Christensen provided the below –

*Drag performances aimed at child audiences are a relatively new phenomenon and have understandably sparked significant controversy and debate.*

*Multiple councils and legislative bodies have taken steps to restrict these performances to adult audiences.*

*This briefing paper aims to inform Mackay Regional Councillors of the issues and precedents related to such performances in order to enact a policy change at Mackay Entertainment and Convention Centre (MECC) and other council facilities.*

*As the policy change impacts only performances billed as 'drag' performances, it will not impact upon other performances, such as pantomime and the like, that, for comedic reasons, include cross-dressing.*

*Sexualised Content Concerns:*

*Drag performances are different to pantomime and comedic cross-dressing as, by their nature, they are considered to be sexualised or pertaining to sexuality (even by drag performers themselves). As such, drag performances often include sexual content, including highly sexualised clothing, and suggestive themes, that are inappropriate for children. There are legitimate concerns in the community about exposing minors to adult themes and exaggerated sexual characteristics in these performances.*

*Actions by local and other governments elsewhere in Australia and around the world have led to cancellations of drag performances, or restrictions on drag performances to adults-only audiences, due to concerns about exposing children to inappropriate displays.*

*Local Government Precedents:*

*Hill Shire Council: In February 2024, Hill Shire Council voted to stop supporting drag story time events, citing concerns about exposing children to sexualised content. The decision was supported by the majority of councillors.*

*Cumberland City Council: Similarly, in February 2024, Cumberland City Council voted to ban drag story time events at council facilities. The motion was supported by a majority of councillors, reflecting community concerns about the appropriateness of these performances for children.*

*Local Community Sentiment:*

*A Mackay Daily Mercury poll conducted on 19 February 2024 showed that 67% of respondents were opposed to children attending a drag event, even when the question claimed it would be "family friendly". This indicates strong community sentiment against such events for children.*

*Conclusion:*

*Implementing a policy that restricts drag performances to adult-only audiences at MECC and other council facilities addresses community concerns about the appropriateness of such events for children. By taking this step, Mackay Regional Council will align with the precedents set by other councils and uphold community standards and expectations, as evidenced by the aforementioned Daily Mercury poll.*

**Background**

The term "drag" is thought to be an acronym for "dressed resembling a girl." Drag dates back at least to Shakespearean theatre times, when only men were allowed to act and, therefore, had to play the roles of women due to bans by the church on female performers.

By modern standards, the term "drag" can also be used to describe a female performer acting (or appearing) in the role of a man.

The MECC and other council facilities have mechanisms in place to ensure age-appropriate content for audiences. Any performance, including drag performances, with sexualised adult context are already restricted to audiences over the age of 18.

**Classification and Censorship in the Performing Arts**

Performances are not generally subject to classification.

Works will be considered unlawful, where they are offensive to contemporary community standards.

Issues to consider in determining whether a performance or other work is likely to breach such laws include:

- the content of the performance or work;

- the context of any potentially offensive material;
- the location of the performance or work;
- the target audience;
- the manner in which the performance or work is promoted; and
- the extent to which prospective audience members or prospective visitors are warned of possibly offensive elements.

The MECC has an obligation under the Live Performance Australia guidelines to inform patrons before they purchase a ticket of what they can expect.

### **The MECC programming**

The programming for the MECC Kids Theatre Season is completed using the MECC & Events Entrepreneurial Programming Guide, supported by the national frameworks and policies as listed in the Guide.

To ensure a balanced program is delivered each year, the following genres and audience segments provide a platform for storytelling:

<b>Performing Arts Genres</b>	<b>Audience Segments</b>
Music	Age Diversity
Dance	New Patrons
Drama	Frequent Patrons
Comedy	Audience Development
Children / Youth	
Physical Theatre	

The MECC strives to include in programming;

- Age-appropriate events for audiences.
- A balance of productions with and without links to curriculum aligning with our community's diverse interests and ensuring accessibility to all.
- Quality of the production, performers, and touring company as demonstrated by the successful performance history, quality of documentation in relation to technical specification, marketing assets, including a show synopsis and recommendation for audience age.
- Data driven decision making using previous show/genre history, surveys indicating demand and ticketing information available to the MECC.
- Review of the performance by MECC in person or video via a presenter pack and marketing assets.
- A mixture of engagement opportunities and workshops on and offsite to create strong pathways for connections with audiences of all ages and abilities.

Other council facilities, such as council libraries, also have mechanisms in place to help make sure audiences receive age-appropriate content. These mechanisms ensure there is no sexualised content in programs targeted at children.

### **Consultation and Communication**

- Cr Christensen
- Council was briefed regarding Community Services Program content selection on April 24, 2024.
- Consultation and input from Council's Community Services Department, and MECC and Events program specifically.

### **Resource Implications**

Staff resources are frequently diverted from delivering services in order to respond to requests from a small number of stakeholders calling for bans on certain council program content.



## Risk Management Implications

Risks to be considered;

- Legislative risk– The *Human Rights Act 2019* (The HR Act) places obligations on public entities to be compatible with human rights when acting or making a decision. Under the Act, "compatible with human rights" means an act or decision does not limit a human right or limits a human right only to the extent that is "reasonable and demonstrably justifiable". Human rights should only be limited after careful consideration, and in a way that can be justified in a free and democratic society based on human dignity, equality, freedom and the rule of law. Rights include, but are not limited to:
  - Section 15 Recognition and equality before the law,
  - Section 21 Freedom of expression
  - Section 27 Cultural rights – generally

Council could be challenged under the HR Act regarding any decision to restrict under 18 program content so only females can dress resembling females.

- Reputational risk – Perception by the broader community, staff, performers, funding bodies and government agencies as limiting freedom of expression. There was extensive community anger, protest, death threats, and negative national media associated with Cumberland City Council's recent decision to limit freedom of expression and ban a single library book on same sex parenting. Community petitions against the ban with more than 40,000 signatures resulted in the NSW government threatening to reduce funding and council voting to overturn the ban.
- Safety and engagement risk – There have been multiple safety incidents recorded in the last 12 months involving aggression from members of the public and urging council staff to limit certain program content, either at the library or the MECC.
- Reduced Events risk – The following bookings within the children's program could fall under the same criteria and potentially be at risk for any restriction(also seeing a potential loss of revenue):
  - Shakespeare plays
  - Ballet
  - Children's pantomimes
  - Children's stories, such as *Wind in the Willows*, *the Adventures of Huckleberry Finn* and *Robinson Crusoe*

## Conclusion

Councillors are able to request a Notified Motion be presented for consideration of Council on any matter. This motion is put forward by Cr Christensen for consideration.

## Recommendation

THAT Council considers the notified motion by Cr Christensen of:

*That Mackay Regional Council deems that performances and events held at the Mackay Entertainment and Convention Centre (and other council facilities) which involve what the performers bill as "drag" are adults-only events, and restricts attending audiences to those over the age of 18.*

## 14.2. NOTIFIED MOTION - CR CHRISTENSEN - PIONEER-BURDEKIN HYDRO

### Notified Motion – Pioneer-Burdekin Hydro

<b>Author</b>	Executive Officer (David McKendry)
<b>Responsible Officer</b>	Chief Executive Officer (Scott Owen)
<b>File Reference</b>	Notice of Motion

### Attachments

- 1 - Queensland Hydro – Project Fact Sheet – Proposed Pioneer-Burdekin Pumped Hydro Project
- 2 – Queensland Hydro – Pioneer-Burdekin Pumped Hydro – Questions and Answers – December 2022
3. – Queensland Hydro – Pioneer-Burdekin Pumped Hydro – Questions and Answers – January 2023
- 4 – Queensland Hydro – Pioneer-Burdekin Pumped Hydro – Questions and Answers – February 2023
- 5 – Queensland Hydro – Pioneer-Burdekin Pumped Hydro – Responses to questions from the Daily Mercury – 25 September 2023

### Purpose

To present a Notified Motion as presented by Cr George Christensen that Council advises the State Government that Council opposes the proposal to construct the Pioneer-Burdekin pumped hydroelectricity (hydro) project.

### Related Parties

MRC Councillors  
Queensland Hydro Pty Ltd (Queensland Hydro)

### Corporate Plan Linkage

#### Invest and work

Diversified economy - We have a diversified economy that attracts new and emerging industries, such as sport, tertiary education, health, tourism, agribusiness, biofutures industry, and the Mining Equipment Technology and Services (METS) sector.

Industries, jobs and growth - Our core industries are growing and prosperous, encouraged to innovate, create jobs, and drive growth.

#### Community and environment

Sustainable practices - We are responsible and active custodians of our natural environment, with future targets and commitments aimed at driving us towards a cleaner, greener, and more sustainable region. Climate change will continue to be a consideration in forward planning and we will continue to implement sustainability initiatives in council operations.

### Background/Discussion

Under clause 6.3 of Council's Standing Orders, any Councillor can request that a matter be included on a Council Ordinary Meeting Agenda.

Cr Christensen has requested that a Notified Motion as below be presented to Council:

***That Mackay Regional Council notifies the State Government that it formally opposes the proposal to construct the Pioneer-Burdekin pumped hydroelectricity project due to its negative impacts on the Netherdale and Eungella communities, local farming enterprises, and the natural environment (particularly Platypus populations), as well as the issues arising from the placement of a 2,000-strong workforce in the region, comprised predominantly of fly-in, fly-out workers.***

In support of this Notified Motion, the below has been provided by Cr Christensen—

*The Queensland Hydro's Pioneer-Burdekin pumped hydroelectricity scheme proposal has raised significant concerns among local communities (particularly Eungella and Netherdale), environmental groups, and other stakeholders.*

*This briefing note aims to inform Mackay Regional Councillors about the critical issues associated with the project with the view that Mackay Regional Council declare its formal opposition to the proposal based on its adverse impacts.*

*Community Displacement and Disruption:*

*The construction of the Pioneer-Burdekin pump hydro scheme involves creating three large reservoirs, which will inundate approximately 937 hectares (2,315 acres) of land. This development will lead to the complete displacement of the town of Netherdale, affecting numerous farms, properties, and homes. The loss of cane-farming land is of particular concern as it can have an impact the viability of local sugar mills and, thus, the local sugar industry overall.*

*Environmental Degradation:*

*The Pioneer-Burdekin pumped hydro scheme poses a severe threat to the local environment, particularly to the sensitive ecosystems of Eungella and the Pioneer Valley. The area is known for its pristine and unspoiled environment, home to endangered species and unique biodiversity. Maps of the scheme show that pipelines and transmission lines will cross national park boundaries.*

*Notably, the project endangers the platypus population by destroying their breeding areas and disrupting their natural habitats. The constant water flow management necessary for the pumped hydro scheme will likely lead to water quality issues, including high turbidity, changes in oxygen levels, and potential cross-catchment pollution.*

*Flood Risks and Water Contamination:*

*The proposal includes plans to release water from the lower reservoir into Cattle Creek, which feeds into the Pioneer River. During flooding events, contaminated floodwater from the reservoirs could significantly pollute downstream waterways, affecting both the environment and local water supplies.*

*Housing and Rental Costs:*

*The influx of a 2,000-strong workforce, primarily fly-in, fly-out (FIFO) workers, will exacerbate the already critical housing shortage in the Mackay region. This additional population pressure is expected to drive up rental costs further, making housing less affordable for local residents.*

*The region is currently experiencing high rental prices and a lack of available housing, a situation that will only worsen with the arrival of the construction workforce.*

*Labour Shortages:*

*The local labour market is already strained, with existing industries struggling to fill positions. Not only will the project bring an influx of FIFO workers into the region (which as its own issues) but it will also attract workers away from local businesses, exacerbating labour shortages and impacting the regional economy.*

*Conclusion:*

*Given the significant negative impacts on the Netherdale and Eungella communities, local farming enterprises, and the natural environment, particularly the platypus population, it is imperative for Mackay Regional Council to take a stand against the Pioneer-Burdekin pumped hydroelectricity scheme.*

*Furthermore, the socio-economic issues arising from the placement of a predominantly FIFO workforce, as well as cannibalising the workforce in existing local businesses, highlight the broader adverse effects on the Mackay region.*

In June 2022, the Queensland Government announced \$35 million of funding, to identify a second hydroelectricity project site, in addition to the Borumba project announced in June 2021. The second site identified being the Pioneer-Burdekin, situated within the Pioneer Valley due to its favourable topography and proximity to high-quality wind and solar generation sources in the Central and Northern Queensland Renewable Energy Zones (which could unlock large volumes of renewable energy).

Queensland Hydro are currently carrying out associated environmental, social and cultural assessments, geotechnical investigations and engineering designs, to better understand the impacts and benefits.

The project is linked to the Queensland Government's renewable energy plan, and plays a vital role in helping to meet the Queensland Government's renewable energy targets and net zero emissions by 2050.

The project has a last reported estimated cost of \$12B.

No detailed economic benefits reports are currently available, however the sheer scale of the proposed project (including a reported 2,000 jobs over the construction phase of up to six years, and up to 200 longer term for operation and maintenance) will have a large direct economic impact for the region, with Queensland Hydro reporting –

*The proposed Project provides an opportunity to generate a diverse range of job and work opportunities to the region. It will support diversification of the regional economy to include green energy generation, transforming industries and allow local businesses in the region to grow*

Rather than addressing specifics of the proposed project within the body of this report, attached are a number of documents published by Queensland Hydro that address information and questions related to the project. These include a Project Fact Sheet, and a number of Question and Answer sheets.

The primary project approval process would be an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) under both State legislation (i.e. the coordinated project process under the State Development and Public Works Organisation Act 1971) and Commonwealth legislation (i.e. the controlled action assessment process under the Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999). A broad range of secondary approvals would also be required under other State planning and environmental legislation.

Council will not ultimately have decision making authority under the Planning Act in relation to whether the project proceeds or not. As a result, it is not necessary for Council to form a view or take an official position in relation to the project.

### **Consultation and Communication**

- Cr Christensen
- Consultation and input from Council's Planning, Growth and Sustainability Department

### **Resource Implications**

There are no identified direct Council resource impacts, noting the identified potential economic benefits elsewhere in this report.

### **Risk Management Implications**

Taking an official position opposing the Pioneer-Burdekin pumped hydroelectricity project could give rise to Council being excluded from having an active involvement in managing flow on impacts from the project (both

positive and negative) should it go ahead. If the project proceeds, there is the potential to secure long term economic benefits and social investment from the project, and Council officers need to be empowered to work on securing this for the benefit of the Mackay region.

Many regional stakeholders see the project as being of significant, long term benefit to the region's economy, well placing the Mackay region to diversify its economy and become a hub for emerging industries associated with decarbonisation and climate technologies. There is a risk that Council taking a formal position against the project could have a reputational impact on the region, deterring new and emerging industries from becoming established in the region.

Cr Christensen, as detailed earlier in this report, has raised concerns over risks associated with –

- Community displacement and disruption
- Environmental degradation
- Flood risks and water contamination
- Housing and rental costs

### **Conclusion**

Councillors are able to request a Notified Motion be presented for consideration of Council on any matter. This motion is put forward by Cr Christensen for consideration.

### **Recommendation**

THAT Council considers the notified motion by Cr Christensen of:

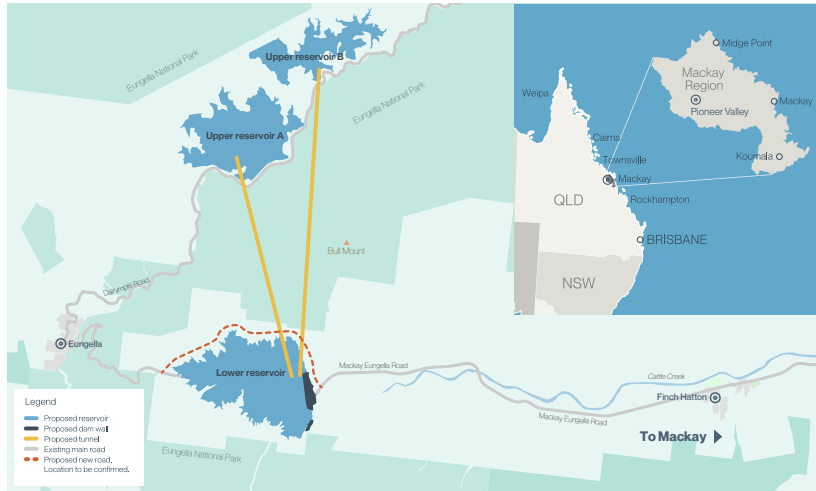
*That Mackay Regional Council notifies the State Government that it formally opposes the proposal to construct the Pioneer-Burdekin pumped hydroelectricity project due to its negative impacts on the Netherdale and Eungella communities, local farming enterprises, and the natural environment (particularly Platypus populations), as well as the issues arising from the placement of a 2,000-strong workforce in the region, comprised predominantly of fly-in, fly-out workers.*



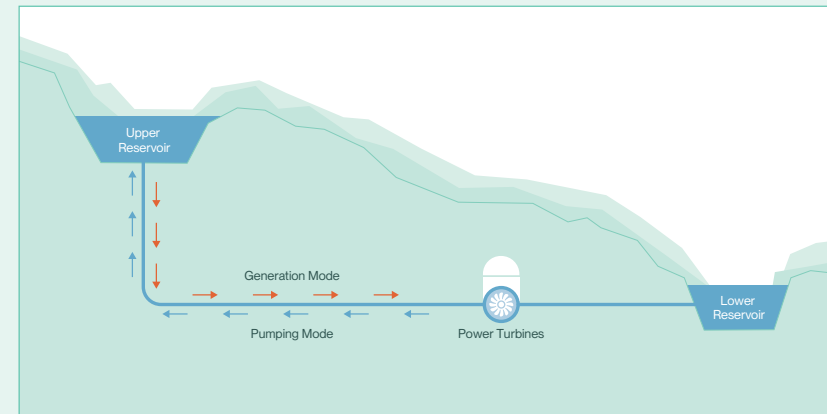
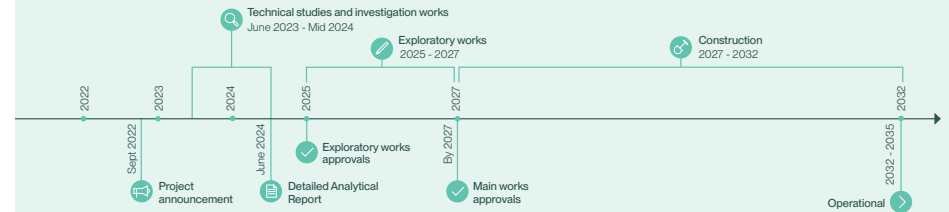
Project fact sheet

# Proposed Pioneer-Burdekin Pumped Hydro Project





Project timeline



About the proposed Project

The Pioneer-Burdekin site has been identified for a long duration pumped hydro energy storage facility.

Pumped hydro storage will play a vital role in the move to renewable generation and will support energy remaining affordable, reliable and secure for our communities.

In June 2022, the Queensland Government announced \$35 million of funding, to identify a second site, in addition to the Borumba project announced in June 2021.

Further studies are required to better understand the impacts and benefits the proposed Project. Queensland Hydro have are currently carrying out detailed analytical studies to refine knowledge of the pumped hydro potential between the proposed upper reservoirs in the Burdekin catchment, and the lower reservoir proposed in the Pioneer Valley, near Netherdale. Studies will also include geotechnical investigations, environmental assessments, social and cultural assessments.

Site location

The Pioneer Valley and adjacent ranges, about 75 kilometres west of Mackay, have been identified for its significant potential for a long duration pumped hydro facility given the topography, favourable hydrology and proximity between upper and lower reservoirs.

The site's proximity to high-quality wind and solar generation sources in the Central and Northern Queensland Renewable Energy Zones could unlock large volumes of renewable energy.

Queensland Hydro

Queensland Hydro will drive delivery of world-class pumped hydro assets to provide the long duration storage and reliability needed to power Queensland's clean energy future.

A publicly-owned entity established by the Queensland Government, Queensland Hydro will deliver the long duration hydro assets that will be the cornerstone for the transformation of the state's energy system.

Transforming Queensland Energy

Pumped hydro will store energy when the wind blows and the sun shines and make it available when we need it. It will support the delivery of affordable, reliable, clean energy for all Queenslanders.

Long duration pumped hydro will support growth in renewable energy, and a more diverse generation mix.

Why pumped hydro?

Pumped hydro is a proven technology. Long duration pumped hydro has the scale, operational flexibility, and low energy costs necessary to ensure the ongoing security and reliability of supply for Queensland's future clean electricity system with high levels of wind and solar generation.

Pumped hydro allows for renewable energy to be stored and dispatched at times when the sun isn't shining and the wind isn't blowing.

Rather than shifting energy between places – pumped hydro allows us to shift energy between times. This will become increasingly important as the share of renewables in Queensland's energy system grows to continue to provide a stable and reliable energy system for Queensland.

Long duration pumped hydro assets are able to supply energy over a 24 hour period, or longer. Long duration pumped hydro stores energy while renewable generation is plentiful and discharges it when there is insufficient generation to meet demand. Long duration storage can also provide intra-day storage benefits, along with the ability to deal with extended solar and wind droughts.

There is a need for both pumped hydro and batteries in the future. Batteries play a role in providing an immediate response to changes in the power system. However, the scale and duration of long duration pumped hydro is significantly greater than the biggest utility-scale batteries, enabling cost efficient delivery of electricity to consumers long after batteries have discharged.



## Key pillars



### Community

Community and stakeholder engagement is a key priority for us, to ensure we deliver the best outcomes for the local community and Queensland as a whole. We are committed to engaging early and often with the community and key stakeholders. We will work openly and transparently with communities to manage impacts and create lasting benefits for the places we plan to operate.



### Environmental

Minimising adverse impacts on the natural environment is a guiding principle in developing pumped hydro. Understanding potential environmental issues and risks is a key focus for the project team.



### Technical

Pumped hydro will play a vital role in helping to meet the Queensland Government's renewable energy targets and net zero emissions by 2050, supporting the shift in our economy to a decarbonised energy system.



### Hydrologic

Hydrological studies will provide detailed assessment of the sustainable yield of the Pioneer- Burdekin catchment, timeframes for filling of the reservoirs, reliability, impact on other water users, and the impact of climate change. The project will avoid impacts on existing water allocations.



### Economic

The proposed Project provides an opportunity to generate a diverse range of job and work opportunities to the region. It will support diversification of the regional economy to include green energy generation, transforming industries and allow local businesses in the region to grow.

## Next steps

1

Queensland Hydro is currently carrying out environmental, social and cultural assessments, geotechnical investigations and engineering design.

2

If approved, construction will commence following detailed planning, environmental studies, and approval processes.

3

The project, if approved, will support approximately 2000 jobs over the construction period, which is expected to extend for more than six years.

4

Get involved – we encourage you to share local insights, feedback and ideas through our website and at community drop-in information sessions.

### Get in touch

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qldhydro.com.au

ABN 81 661 444 515

This document was created on 12 October 2023 and is of a general nature and subject to change.





# Questions and Answers

## Pioneer-Burdekin Pumped Hydro

### Environmental Approvals

Question:	Answer:
<p><b>Q: What will happen to all the platypus, Eungella crayfish, Eungella day frogs, etc in the creeks where the reservoirs are proposed to be built?</b></p>	<p><b>A:</b> The project is currently in the technical investigation phase. During this phase Queensland Hydro will focus on completing a range of technical studies to inform a Detailed Analytical Report (DAR) for the Queensland Government. An aquatic ecology study will be carried out as part of the DAR and include input from aquatic fauna specialists. The aquatic ecology study will assess potential impacts to key aquatic fauna species, including species such as the platypus, Eungella crayfish and Eungella day frogs, and will provide advice on what could be done to manage potential impacts.</p> <p>An Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) requires specific assessment processes that will be followed in relation to listed threatened species under applicable Commonwealth and State legislation. Reports are made available through the EIS process for review, assessment and approval by relevant Commonwealth and State agencies, and to apply conditions that the proponent (project) must implement in relation to the species.</p>
<p><b>Q: What is the required approvals process for this project?</b></p>	<p><b>A:</b> During the technical investigation phase, Queensland Hydro will focus on completing a range of studies to inform a Detailed Analytical Report (DAR) for the Queensland Government. For the Queensland Government to progress the project to the next phase, the primary project approval process would be an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) under both State legislation (i.e. the coordinated project process under the <i>State Development and Public Works Organisation Act 1971</i>) and Commonwealth legislation (i.e. the controlled action assessment process under the <i>Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999</i>). A broad range of secondary approvals would also be required under other State planning and environmental legislation.</p> <p>Based on the current indicative project schedule, this formal EIS process could commence in 2023, and is estimated to conclude in 2027. Should the EIS be approved, receipt of other secondary approvals is targeted for 2028.</p>



<p><b>Q: Eungella receives 1500 mm of rain on average each year. In the event of a major rain event, will the quality of the reservoir/dam water be suitable to overflow to the Great Barrier Reef?</b></p>	<p><b>A:</b> The project catchment only accounts for about five percent of the mean annual flows discharged from the mouth of the Pioneer River to the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park. This means potential for the project to impact water quality to the Great Barrier Reef is low. The Detailed Analytical Report (DAR) will include a study of potential impacts to water quality, which will also consider impacts to the Great Barrier Reef. Should any potentially significant impacts be identified, the DAR would identify measures to mitigate these impacts.</p> <p>Additionally, the Great Barrier Reef is classified as a Matter of National Environmental Significance (MNES), under the <i>Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999</i>. If the project progresses to the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) phase, any potential for impacts to the Great Barrier Reef would need to be assessed in detail. This assessment would be considered by the Department for Climate Change, Energy, Environment and Water (DCCEEW).</p>
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## Water

Question:	Answer:
<p><b>Q: How will Cattle Creek be kept flowing while the dam is built and while it fills?</b></p>	<p><b>A:</b> Options for managing water flows for Cattle Creek are considered during the detailed design phase.</p> <p>Water would continue past the wall during construction around the first half of the reservoir. Flows would then pass through the outlet works of the first half of the wall while the second half of the wall is constructed.</p> <p>Flows for water allocations, offtakes and environmental flows will continue through the outlet works of the wall during the filling period of the reservoir.</p>
<p><b>Q: What water quality do the reservoirs have to be and how will it be maintained?</b></p>	<p><b>A:</b> Detailed assessments and modelling of water quality, both existing and once the project is operational (if the project proceeds), will be undertaken as part of the DAR and developed in more detail should the project progress to an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) phase. This study will look at potential contamination, sediment, water and movement. Based on investigation findings, the project design will incorporate measures to maintain water quality and to avoid and minimise any potential impacts.</p>



**Q: How long will it take to fill the dam? What happens if it takes significantly longer?**

**A:** Initial modelling identifies it would take two average wet seasons to capture enough water to fill the reservoir and meet existing water allocations - offtakes as well as environmental flows. Should the filling be undertaken in a dry period it is expected it would take a longer period. Once the reservoir is filled, small amounts of top-ups would be required to account for evaporative losses, which would be offset by the local rainfall received in the region.

The pump turbines and equipment can be commissioned if the reservoir is not entirely full. If the natural inflows are low, full capacity will be reached only when the reservoirs are entirely full. The pumped hydro scheme could still operate, at a reduced number of hours, if the reservoirs are not completely filled.

## General

Question:	Answer:
<b>Q: If a property is only partially impacted by dam and/or road, will a full resumption be enforced?</b>	<b>A:</b> Preliminary desktop studies have identified land that may be required for the project. This includes land that would be directly affected by inundation areas, walls and potential areas for other surface infrastructure, such as entry and exit portals and any road realignments required should the project proceed. Queensland Hydro will work closely with any directly impacted landowners. Negotiations will involve independent valuations, including Queensland Hydro paying reasonable legal costs incurred by landowners.
<b>Q: Have the local indigenous community been consulted about the proposal?</b>	<b>A:</b> We have commenced discussions with Yuwibara and Widi Traditional Custodian groups, and intend to work in partnership with these key stakeholders to assess cultural heritage and environmental values, as well as areas of significance. These discussions are a critical part of the engagement process and will be ongoing throughout the project.
<b>Q: What is the proposed track for transmission lines? Will they meet up with transmission lines that run from solar and wind behind Eungella dam?</b>	<b>A:</b> Powerlink will investigate potential transmission routes in parallel with project investigations. Powerlink is committed to meaningful and early engagement with the community, landholders and Traditional Custodians as part of the option identification and selection process.  Powerlink has not yet commenced detailed planning, studies or design works on the connections to the Pioneer-Burdekin project site.



**Q: What evidence of site selection does the Queensland government have?**

**A:** The Queensland Government undertook an extensive state-wide screening process looking at suitable locations for pumped hydro. The starting point for this analysis was based on the Australian National University STORES report and national map. These are publicly available and identify more than 1000 potential pumped hydro sites in Queensland, principally based on geographic factors such as potential proximity and height differential.

The Pioneer-Burdekin project site, along with the Borumba project site, are the two preferred locations identified for further investigations for pumped hydro. The locations have been selected based on a preliminary review of a range of factors and risks including engineering and constructability, environmental considerations, social impacts and benefits, and cost and timing to construct. The ability to construct 5,000MW at one location for Pioneer-Burdekin is unique in Queensland, and globally.

Links to the ANU STORES report and national map are provided below.

Report: <https://arena.gov.au/assets/2018/10/ANU-STORES-An-Atlas-of-Pumped-Hydro-Energy-Storage-The-Complete-Atlas.pdf>

National map: <https://www.nationalmap.gov.au/#share=s-py9ofDCNEwqsrFGGkptS5dJ9wSq>



# Questions and Answers

## Pioneer-Burdekin Pumped Hydro

### Environmental Approvals

Question:	Answer:
<p><b>Q:</b> How will you stop the spread of weeds between the bottom and top reservoirs as well as further downstream eg. there is a giant Rats Tail in the area?</p>	<p><b>A:</b> The project is currently in its technical investigations phase. During this phase Queensland Hydro will focus on completing a range of technical studies to inform a Detailed Analytical Report (DAR) which will be provided to the Queensland government. The aquatic ecology study completed as part of the DAR will consider potential risks associated with transfer of aquatic weed species between the upper and lower reservoirs. The terrestrial ecology study completed as part of the DAR will consider potential risks associated with transfer of land-based weed species. Both studies will identify mitigation measures to reduce these risks. For spread of land-based weeds, measures such as vehicle washdown procedures and physical or chemical weed control will be considered.</p>
<p><b>Q:</b> Will their environmental studies include study of the impact of changing the local microclimate, within the valley? (Won't a huge open body of water change the local climate here in the valley? What impact will that have on local flora and fauna?)</p>	<p><b>A:</b> During the technical investigations phase this phase Queensland Hydro will focus on completing a range of studies to inform a Detailed Analytical Report (DAR) for the Queensland government. The DAR will include a high-level analysis of potential local climatic effects. If the analysis indicates local climatic effects are likely to be an issue, a more detailed assessment would be prepared at the Environment Impact Statement (EIS) phase of the project.</p>
<p><b>Q:</b> On average it takes ~7 Years for major projects to be adequately reviewed and approved for execution. How can this project be completed much sooner (Fast tracked) if it is to adhere to the same approvals process as all other major projects?</p>	<p><b>A:</b> Major projects timelines and approvals may be extensive due to the sequential performance of technical studies, seasonal surveys and detailed design. There may also be revisions to project timelines due to factors such as the finalisation of design or unforeseen weather events. Queensland Hydro has developed a project timeline that allows for the key activities outlined above to be undertaken at an earlier stage in the project development process, and in parallel where possible. This also reduces the risk of time-consuming redesign during the later stages of the project, which minimises potential delays.</p>



## Water

Question:	Answer:
<p><b>Q:</b> For how long will Cattle Creek stop flowing while construction and filling up the dam takes place?</p>	<p><b>A:</b> If the project was to proceed, flows through Cattle Creek would continue during construction. See the first water QnA response <a href="#">HERE</a>. Once the reservoir is completed and filling has commenced, the project would continue to release water to ensure that environmental flows and water security for downstream users are maintained. The design would include outlet valves for this purpose.</p>
<p><b>Q:</b> How is the bottom reservoir going to maintain its operational level when Cattle Creek and other small creeks they would rely on dry up and this does happen in some years?</p>	<p><b>A:</b> These creeks are situated on what is known as permeable alluvial gravels, which can lose surface flows during dry periods. During these dry periods, the creeks will still maintain subsurface groundwater flows.</p> <p>The proposed lower reservoir would connect to bedrock and use measures such as grout curtains to ensure it was water-tight. As such, the reservoir is not expected to “dry up” like a typical riverbed.</p>
<p><b>Q:</b> Will you be concreting the whole reservoirs or will they be mud?</p>	<p><b>A:</b> If the project proceeded to construction, the dam walls would be made of concrete and/or rock, and connect the bedrock to provide a water-tight seal. The reservoirs behind the dam wall are not planned to be concreted, and would consist of the natural topsoil and alluvium from the reservoir area today.</p>
<p><b>Q:</b> There is loss of water due to evaporation and seepage to be considered in all 3 reservoirs?</p>	<p><b>A:</b> Hydrologic studies to be completed as part of the Detailed Analytical Report (DAR) will consider evaporation and seepage losses from all three potential reservoirs.</p>



## General

Question:	Answer:
<p><b>Q:</b> How will costs to landowners be covered? eg Capital Gains Tax (and some will have to pay this) stamp duty to buy another property, legal fees to sell, mortgage release fees etc.</p>	<p><b>A:</b> A designated Landholder Engagement Adviser has been assigned to directly impacted landowners to provide tailored support and guidance. Information packs have also been provided to landowners about the process for the project team to attain access, detail on financial support provided by Queensland Hydro to engage a lawyer, valuer and other experts that may be required to assist landowners. It also includes an explanation of factors considered in the land valuation and acquisition process (where applicable).</p>
<p><b>Q:</b> Are you still investigating other sites in the same way you are pushing for this location?</p>	<p><b>A:</b> The Queensland Government has undertaken an extensive screening process looking at suitable locations for pumped hydro projects. The Pioneer-Burdekin site, along with the Borumba site, are the two preferred locations identified for further investigation. The locations for further investigation have been selected based on preliminary review of range of factors and risks including engineering, constructability, environmental considerations, social impacts and benefits, cost and timing to construct. The ability to construct 5,000MW at one location for Pioneer-Burdekin is unique in Queensland, and globally. On this basis further investigation of the Pioneer-Burdekin site is a main priority for Queensland Hydro.</p>
<p><b>Q:</b> What is the road plan for all of the valley and Eungella?</p>	<p><b>A:</b> Queensland Hydro will work with the local community, Mackay Regional Council and the Department of Transport and Main Roads, as technical investigations for the Detailed Analytical Report (DAR) progress to understand site access and any potential impacts the project may have on existing transport routes, which include the Mackay-Eungella Road.</p> <p>Studies will consider traffic volumes, road capacity, road realignment and road surface requirements. Other studies include a range of social, environmental, and financial considerations related to traffic and transport. The outputs of these studies would inform any proposed modifications to the existing road network.</p>
<p><b>Q:</b> Where will the hundreds or more workers be accommodated?</p>	<p><b>A:</b> If the project proceeds to construction, it is proposed that one or more temporary construction camps may be utilised to accommodate the workforce. Queensland Hydro will work with Mackay Regional Council and local service providers to understand how it can support future accommodation and housing opportunities in the region.</p>



# Pioneer-Burdekin Pumped Hydro February 2023

## Questions and answers

### Environmental approvals

Question:	Answer:
<p><b>Q: How will dust, vibration, explosions etc, during construction be controlled and how will they impact local fauna?</b></p>	<p><b>A:</b> The Project is currently in the technical investigation phase. During this phase, Queensland Hydro will focus on completing a range of technical studies to inform a Detailed Analytical Report (DAR) for the Queensland Government.</p> <p>The DAR will contain a preliminary assessment of noise, air quality and vibration impacts during construction, this will include potential impacts on sensitive flora and fauna. Mitigation measures would be identified for any potentially significant impacts. A more detailed assessment would be presented as part of the Environmental Impact Statement; this may include computer-based air, noise and vibration modelling.</p>
<p><b>Q: Will this Project follow the proper requirements for approvals through the state and federal governments as all other major projects are required to?</b></p>	<p><b>A:</b> The Project will follow the same approval process as other major projects in Queensland and Australia. This includes the Environmental Impact Statement process, which provides opportunities for the community to respond to the proposal.</p>
<p><b>Q: What happens to any wildlife that is drawn into the pumped hydro process?</b></p>	<p><b>A:</b> If the Project were to proceed to construction and operations, the intakes and outlets of the system would be screened to prevent objects, including aquatic wildlife, from being drawn into the system. Once aquatic ecology assessments have been completed, and a full understanding of the species present has been gained, additional species-specific actions may be incorporated into the design to reduce wildlife impacts.</p>
<p><b>Q: What will the ecosystem of the dam and reservoirs be like?</b></p>	<p><b>A:</b> If the Project were to proceed to construction and operation, the reservoir ecosystem would be modified from a flowing riverine system to a standing waterbody. The reservoirs would be subject to regular fluctuations in water levels when the hydropower system was in operation. The range of species present in the reservoirs is likely to change due to the altered conditions. Further assessment will be provided as part of the Detailed Analytical Report and Environmental Impact Statement to better understand likely impacts to individual species.</p>
<p><b>Q: Are the creeks for damming confirmed?</b></p>	<p><b>A:</b> If the Project were to proceed to construction and operation, the lower reservoir would be created by damming a portion of Cattle Creek (south branch). Upper reservoir A would be created by damming the uppermost portion of Pla Creek, while upper reservoir B would be created by damming the uppermost portion of Quandong Creek.</p> <p>Water releases would still occur from the dam on Cattle Creek to ensure that downstream environmental flow and water allocation security requirements continue to be met.</p>





## Water

Question:	Answer:
<p><b>Q: Will the dam be pumped dry to fill the upper dams during the day? Will it be left that way if the power generation aspects is not needed at a particular time?</b></p>	<p><b>A:</b> The lowest level the lower reservoir would reach is the minimum operating level of approximately 185m AHD (Australian Height Datum).</p> <p>At this level there would still be a significant volume of water remaining in the reservoir at approximately 35m deep at the deepest point. Further modelling will be undertaken as part of the Detailed Analytical Report to determine the proposed cycling of the system (i.e. how long it may remain at the minimum operating level).</p>
<p><b>Q: What are the water levels of the dam (metres above sea level)?</b></p>	<p><b>A:</b> Based on the current concept design, the proposed water levels are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Full supply level                      206m AHD</li> <li>• Minimum operating level    185m AHD (approx. 35m deep at the deepest point)</li> <li>• The existing ground near the deepest part of the lower dam is 150m AHD.</li> </ul> <p>Note that these levels may be adjusted as further technical studies are undertaken and the project design develops in response to these studies.</p>
<p><b>Q: How will flows be controlled in cases of extreme weather events, such as exceptionally wet seasons and cyclones?</b></p>	<p><b>A:</b> The dam would not increase flood risk. If the Project were to proceed to construction and operation, floods that would cause the water level to rise would reach the dam spillway crest at full supply level, and flow naturally over the spillway downstream. The design of the dam spillway would consider a worst case probable maximum precipitation event similar to a large tropical cyclone located exactly above the project catchment. The spillway is intended to be ungated, meaning that no human decision-making would be required to initiate water flow, and the water would overflow when it reaches the spillway level.</p>
<p><b>Q: What steps will be taken to protect Finch Hatton, and all other downstream towns, in case of a dam failure?</b></p>	<p><b>A:</b> Should the Project obtain the required approvals and proceed to construction, Queensland Hydro will work with Australian and international experts experienced in these types of projects to design and construct the scheme, including the dam wall.</p> <p>As required by Queensland Dam Safety Legislation, dam projects include comprehensive geotechnical investigations and must be designed in accordance with strict design guidelines, such as Australian National Committee on Large Dams (ANCOLD) and International Committee on Large Dams (ICOLD). Given the regulatory framework in place for designing and constructing regulated dams in Queensland, dam failure is extremely unlikely.</p> <p>Queensland Hydro has an internationally renowned Technical Review Panel looking at the dam design. The final design would also be subject to approval from the Queensland dam safety regulator.</p>



## General

Question:	Answer:
<b>Q: How will the dam affect flood insurance for residents downstream?</b>	<b>A:</b> If the Project were to proceed, Queensland Hydro would ensure all necessary dam safety regulations are adhered to. Homeowners are encouraged to consult their insurer, should questions about their policy arise.
<b>Q: Who is paying for the Pioneer-Burdekin Project?</b>	<b>A:</b> The Queensland government is funding this Project.
<b>Q: Will the hang-gliding from the chalet be available or will there be a no-fly zone?</b>	<b>A:</b> Hang-gliding activities will be investigated as part of the Detailed Analytical Report, this will include consultation with affected stakeholders and regulatory agencies.
<b>Q: What form of consultation was undertaken with Traditional Owners, or local residents prior to selecting this location.</b>	<b>A:</b> Engagement is underway with Traditional Custodians, directly impacted landowners and the community. Engagement kicked-off immediately following the Project's announcement. Queensland Hydro is committed to building and maintaining relationships with Project stakeholders as it progresses.
<b>Q: Why have only certain people been consulted regarding buybacks and offers?</b>	<b>A:</b> The Project is currently in the technical investigation phase. Preliminary desktop studies have identified land required for the Project. This includes land that would be directly affected by the water inundation areas, dam walls and potential areas for other surface infrastructure, such as entry and exit portals and any potential road realignments.  Over the next 18 months, Queensland Hydro will conduct detailed analytical studies to better understand the environmental, cultural, social, economic, and technical impacts. Initial conversations have begun with landowners to discuss obtaining access to their land to complete these studies. The investigation phase will also involve gathering information about potentially affected properties.  These investigations will enable the Queensland Government to decide if the Project progresses to the next stage of development. If the Project were to advance to this stage, a comprehensive Environmental Impact Statement would be undertaken. Queensland Hydro would be able to confirm the land required for the Project, following environmental and Project approvals.  Queensland Hydro is working with each landowner to understand their specific circumstances as part of discussions related to compensation. We want to achieve a positive financial outcome for all landowners in the impacted area.  Any acquisition discussions are at the request of the landowner based on their individual circumstances.
<b>Q: What environmental and hydrogeological studies were undertaken to select this location and how do they align with government policy?</b>	<b>A:</b> The Pioneer-Burdekin and Borumba sites are two preferred locations identified for further investigation for pumped hydro schemes. The locations for further investigation have been selected based on a preliminary review of various factors and risks, including engineering and constructability, environmental considerations, social impacts and benefits, and cost and timing to construct.  The Project is currently in the technical investigations phase. During this phase, Queensland Hydro will focus on completing a range of technical studies to inform a Detailed Analytical Report for the Queensland Government, including both hydrologic and environmental studies.



<p><b>Q: Basic public procurement principles and the use of public funds are; Transparency, integrity, economy, openness, fairness and accountability.</b></p> <p><b>The QLD government has allocated \$270m. With multiple contracts awarded. Since pumped hydro was only announced on 28 September 2022, this means that procurement processes were undertaken prior to the announcement. What processes were undertaken through the appropriate public processes? Or have the procurements also been hidden behind parliamentary privilege.</b></p>	<p><b>A:</b> In June 2021, the Queensland Government announced \$22 million in funding for detailed design and cost analysis for a pumped hydro project at Borumba Dam.</p> <p>In June 2022, the Queensland Government announced \$35 million to advance a state-wide search for a second pumped hydro energy storage site. This funding provided for engineering, land and engagement services to identify and prepare for confirmation of the second site. These engagements were undertaken in line with procurement requirements.</p> <p>Under the Queensland Energy and Jobs Plan announced on 28 September 2022, the Queensland Government set aside \$273.5 million, including \$203.5 million in new funding, to advance the consideration of the Borumba and Pioneer-Burdekin Projects.</p> <p>The Pioneer-Burdekin project is currently in the technical investigations phase. In November 2022, Queensland Hydro opened an Expressions of Interest process to identify local service providers for geotechnical, environmental and accommodation services to help shape the procurement packages required for this phase.</p> <p>A series of procurement opportunities directed at local suppliers for geotechnical and environmental work, was released from 17 February 2023.</p>
<p><b>Q: What guarantee is the government giving that it will provide cheaper power?</b></p>	<p><b>A:</b> The Pioneer-Burdekin and Borumba Pumped Hydro Projects are central to the Queensland Energy and Jobs Plan (QEJP) announced on 28 September 2022. The Plan aims to put downward pressure on wholesale electricity prices in the longer term, with more investment into cheap renewable energy and storage.</p> <p>Independent modelling indicates that under the QEJP, lower wholesale electricity prices will flow through to lower retail bills than without the QEJP, with an average annual bill for a household projected to be \$150 lower in 2032 and \$1,495 lower for a small business.</p>
<p><b>Q: What are the bounds of the parliamentary privilege and when will the Queensland residents be provided with the actual details in full of this Project?</b></p> <p><b>Such as: location with accurate maps, costs, tenders awarded and successful tenderers. Timeline and the environmental processes that the Project will abide by.</b></p>	<p><b>A:</b> The Queensland Government identified the Pioneer-Burdekin site for further investigation for potential pumped hydro. The location was selected after a preliminary review of various factors and risks, including engineering and constructability, environmental considerations, social impacts and benefits, and cost and timing to construct.</p> <p>If the Project proceeds, the primary project approval process would be through an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) under both State legislation (i.e. the coordinated project process under the State Development and Public Works Organisation Act 1971) and Commonwealth legislation (i.e. the controlled action assessment process under the Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999). A broad range of secondary approvals would also be required under other state planning and environmental legislation.</p> <p>The EIS process would build on the findings of the DAR, and based on the current indicative project schedule is estimated to conclude in 2027.</p>



<p><b>Q: Can QldHydro confirm that free, prior and informed consent for traditional owners was undertaken as per the UNDRIP.</b>  <i>"FPIC is a principle protected by international human rights standards that state, 'all peoples have the right to self-determination' and - linked to the right to self-determination - 'all peoples have right to freely pursue their economic, social and cultural development. Backing FPIC are the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (UNDRIP), the Convention on Biological Diversity and the International Labour Organization Convention 169, which are the most powerful and comprehensive international instruments that recognise the plights of Indigenous Peoples and defend their rights."</i></p>	<p><b>A:</b> Queensland Hydro has commenced engagement with the Traditional Custodians. The principles of free prior and informed consent will guide the Project if it proceeds to the approvals phase.</p> <p>Queensland Hydro will also work with Traditional Custodians to develop appropriate cultural heritage studies and management plans. Queensland Hydro will also enter good faith negotiations regarding any aspects of the Project that may affect Native Title interests and any other cultural or social matters of importance. Should agreement be reached regarding native title consent, this could be formalised through an Indigenous Land Use Agreement which requires a rigorous native title group consultation and decision-making process as detailed in the <i>Native Title Act 1993</i>.</p>
<p><b>Q: Where will the tunnel be placed?</b></p>	<p><b>A:</b> During the technical investigations phase, Queensland Hydro will focus on completing a range of technical studies to inform a Detailed Analytical Report (DAR) for the Queensland Government. The DAR will include Front End Engineering Design that will refine the location of required tunnels based on the outputs of geotechnical, environmental, and cultural heritage studies.</p>
<p><b>Q: When will findings be released from explorations performed? (at the end of 18 months or during)?</b></p>	<p><b>A:</b> Stakeholder engagement is a priority for Queensland Hydro to ensure we deliver the best outcomes for Queensland and the local community. The project team has held information sessions in Finch Hatton, Eungella, and Mackay in early October and mid-November 2022.</p> <p>As we receive feedback from the technical investigations, we will endeavour to provide further updates during the investigation period on the key areas of interest highlighted by the community.</p>
<p><b>Q: What is the proposed track for transmission lines? Will they meet up with transmission lines that run from solar and wind behind Eungella dam?</b></p>	<p><b>A:</b> New electricity transmission lines and substations will be needed to connect the Pioneer-Burdekin Pumped Hydro Project to the existing transmission network in the area. The transmission infrastructure will allow renewable energy from across Queensland to be stored at the site during the day and then released to supply power to customers at peak times, such as early evening.</p> <p>To select new transmission line routes, Powerlink assesses social, economic, and environmental factors such as existing and future land use, the location of homes, flora and fauna, existing electricity infrastructure corridors and topography. Powerlink's engagement approach is focused on early discussions with landowners and the community to gain better insights into existing land uses and constraints. This information then directly informs potential corridor options for further investigation. Community views are sought on all corridor options to help select a preferred corridor.</p>



Questions and Answers

**Q: Did they say how long the public would have to respond to their findings (ie objection period) before the final decision is made?**

**A:** If the Project were to proceed to the approvals phase an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) will follow, the EIS process provides stakeholders, interested organisations and the public with the opportunity to respond during the public notification period.

The EIS would be available for a minimum period of 30 business days, during which the EIS document can be reviewed, and submissions received. Queensland Hydro is committed to keeping the community updated as information about the Project becomes available.

## Responses to questions from the *Daily Mercury*

### 25 September 2023

No.	Question from <i>Daily Mercury</i>	Response from Queensland Hydro
1	Will PHES rely on 'cloud seeding' like the Snowy hydro scheme and how will this impact the environment including flora, fauna and water quality?	Queensland Hydro does not intend to use cloud seeding or any other form of manufactured weather modification during the proposed Pioneer-Burdekin project.
2	Why did Labor announce this project from afar and not consult landowners and the Mackay region community, including the mayor, beforehand?	<p>The pumped hydro project was announced by the Queensland Government in the context of the broader Queensland and Energy Jobs Plan. Engagement with the local community commenced immediately after the project was announced, with the Premier travelling to Mackay and the Minister travelling to the Pioneer Valley within days of the announcement.</p> <p>At the first meeting of the Stakeholder Reference Group for the project, Minister de Brenni addressed the role of the Queensland Government as decision maker for the project, and that Queensland Hydro had no role in decisions about how the project was announced.</p>
3	There are concerns the reservoirs mixing water from two separate catchments present a biosecurity risk. How will outflow be treated before being released back into the Pioneer River and Burdekin River catchments?	<p>As part of the current investigation phase, and a potential future environmental impact statement (EIS), we will undertake a range of water quality, hydrology and aquatic ecology studies. These studies will assess potential water quality and biosecurity risks, as well as identify measures that can be put in place to manage potential risks.</p> <p>Depending on the outcomes of these studies there are a range of measures that could be incorporated, for example, implementing pest species control programs. Potential biosecurity risks will also be considered when determining what options should be used for aquatic fauna passage associated with the lower dam wall.</p>
4	Why did the government choose the Pioneer Valley for its hydro centrepiece considering other locations may not have required as much clearing of remnant rainforest or impact on national park waterways and waterfalls?	<p>As with any significant infrastructure project, it is exceptionally challenging to identify a location that avoids all impacts. On the proposed Pioneer-Burdekin project, Queensland Hydro is committed to working alongside communities and experts to best understand and manage potential environmental, social and community impacts. The proposed Pioneer-Burdekin project offers world leading energy storage and generation capacity, while avoiding inundation of national parks and World Heritage areas. These factors are unparalleled by other sites.</p> <p>The proposed Pioneer-Burdekin project has been located to avoid surface impacts to Eungella National Park, noting that approximately 86 per cent of the land within the inundation footprint is currently used for agriculture or has previously been developed. See the response to question 36 for further details.</p>



No.	Question from <i>Daily Mercury</i>	Response from Queensland Hydro
5	How can the government ensure the Mackay region is protected from dam failure, given the impacts on the underground water table, the igneous geology of the range, and the region's history of monsoonal rains, earthquakes, and landslides, including most recently in the January floods?	<p>Given the regulatory framework in place for designing and construction of regulated dams in Queensland, dam failure is unlikely.</p> <p>If the proposed Pioneer-Burdekin project proceeds to construction, Queensland Hydro will work with Australian and international experts experienced in these types of projects to design and construct the scheme. This will include comprehensive geotechnical investigations, hydrologic and hydraulic modelling, seismic assessments, and dam engineering. This work will be subject to scrutiny by our Technical Review Panel to ensure the Project meets international best practice.</p> <p>The dams will be designed to comply with applicable national and international standards. As required by Queensland Dam Safety Legislation, dam projects must be designed in accordance with strict design guidelines, such as Australian National Committee on Large Dams (ANCOLD) and International Committee on Large Dams (ICOLD). The final design would also be subject to approval from the Queensland dam safety regulator.</p>
6	What modelling has been done to illustrate the impact should the dam walls fail?	<p>If the proposed Pioneer-Burdekin project proceeds, failure impact assessments will be conducted at the appropriate design stages in accordance with Queensland guidelines and Australian National Committee on Large Dams (ANCOLD) guidelines. See question 5 response for further details.</p> <p>Australia is a world leader in dam safety with a very low rate of dam safety incidents and an even lower rate of dam failures.</p>
7	Is it true the Labor government did studies in the 1990s that showed a dam wall at Netherdale would fail as the ground was unstable, and who will be liable should the PHES dam walls fail?	<p>A study was conducted in the 1990s looking at creating a water supply dam in the Netherdale area, but the geotechnical information for this study was inferred from available data taken from Finch Hatton, not Netherdale. At the time, the site was not selected because a superior water supply dam existed elsewhere.</p> <p>Prior to commencing construction on this proposed project, we will be conducting a full failure impact assessment and full geotechnical investigation of the ground conditions for appropriate design and construction in accordance with Queensland Government guidelines. In Queensland, the responsibility for the safety of a dam rests with the dam owner.</p> <p>See response to Question 6 for more information on dam safety.</p>
8	Has Qld Hydro referred the proposed project to the federal environment minister as required under Section 79 of the EPBC Act, as it is a controlled action for four separate protected matters, being: wetlands of international importance, listed threatened species and ecological communities, listed migratory species, and the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park?	<p>The proposed Pioneer-Burdekin project is currently in the investigation phase.</p> <p>If the project proceeds beyond the investigation phase, Queensland Hydro would submit controlled action referrals under the <i>Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999</i> for both the exploratory works as well as the main project works.</p>



No.	Question from <i>Daily Mercury</i>	Response from Queensland Hydro
9	How will the issue of soil contamination in waterways be tackled, given the country will be scraped back to gather soil to build dam walls, and Netherdale was historically sugar cane country?	<p>As part of the current investigation phase, and a potential future environmental impact statement (EIS), Queensland Hydro will conduct a contaminated site assessment which will consider the potential risks (including ecological and health risks) associated with potential man-made contamination within the project area. This will include an assessment of potential risks associated with agricultural chemicals such as those used in sugar cane production. These studies will also identify any necessary measures to mitigate these risks.</p> <p>If the proposed Pioneer-Burdekin project proceeds, further development of the design, including further geotechnical and soil investigations, will be required to understand what – if any – excavation would be required within the reservoir areas.</p>
10	Why is PHES considered an important renewable energy project towards a green future when it will impact the pristine Eungella rainforest which makes its own oxygen and microorganisms, supports flora and fauna, and supplies clean drinking water?	<p>To decarbonise our energy grid, Queensland requires a significant amount of large-scale, long-duration energy storage to store solar and wind energy and make it available to consumers and industry at times when it is needed.</p> <p>The proposed Pioneer-Burdekin site is a stand-out location for pumped hydro energy storage (PHES) because of the unique topography which provides substantial generation capacity within a relatively compact footprint.</p> <p>To deliver equivalent storage capacity elsewhere in Queensland if the Pioneer-Burdekin project did not proceed, the footprint would need to be 2-3 times larger and across multiple locations, resulting in a potentially greater cumulative environmental impact.</p> <p>The proposed reservoirs and tunnel portals for the Pioneer-Burdekin project are all located outside of Eungella National Park.</p>
11	Is it true the PHES battery system will use more energy to pump up water than what is collectively used across Queensland each day?	<p>Pumped hydro energy storage (PHES) is like a giant battery which stores power and releases it when needed. Like all batteries, the amount of energy used to charge the battery (via pumping) is greater than the energy that can be taken from it (via generation).</p> <p>The purpose of the proposed Pioneer-Burdekin PHES is to store large volumes of renewable energy by pumping water from the lower reservoir to the upper reservoirs. As such, the proposed project could store almost the same amount of energy (120,000 MWh) as is collectively used across Queensland each day (about 150,000MWh on average).</p> <p>The PHES can then release this energy at times when Queensland needs it, which is important for a stable and reliable energy system.</p> <p>Without this large-scale storage capability, large volumes of excess renewable energy would otherwise be lost.</p>





No.	Question from <i>Daily Mercury</i>	Response from Queensland Hydro
12	Where will all the wind and solar farms, and massive 5KV transmission lines be built (as Powerlink could not say where), and where will existing power transmission lines be moved to?	<p>The proposed Pioneer-Burdekin project will connect into the broader transmission network, drawing energy from renewables across Queensland. Solar and wind power stations do not need to be in immediate proximity to the pumped hydro scheme.</p> <p>To further support renewable development in Queensland, in July 2023 the Queensland Government released a draft Renewable Energy Zone Roadmap (REZ Roadmap). This Roadmap outlines the pathway for connecting 22 gigawatts (GW) of new wind and solar generation to meet our renewable targets of 50 per cent renewable by 2030, 70 per cent by 2032 and 80 per cent by 2035.</p> <p>The Queensland Government, working with Powerlink, has identified 12 potential REZs across the Southern, Central, North and Far North Queensland regions. Powerlink will play a role in coordinating how and when renewable energy projects connect to the transmission network within these zones.</p> <p>More information on the REZ Roadmap can be found here: <a href="http://www.epw.qld.gov.au/about/initiatives/renewable-energy-zones/rez-roadmap">www.epw.qld.gov.au/about/initiatives/renewable-energy-zones/rez-roadmap</a></p> <p>See responses to question 13 and 14 for information about the transmission lines.</p>
13	How wide will the corridor need to be for transmission lines that will need to be built from Netherdale down to Brisbane, and which towns will be impacted by them?	<p>Powerlink will commence their engagement with landholders and the community in April 2024 for the proposed Pioneer-Burdekin project.</p> <p>Powerlink is set to deliver a new 500kV transmission network for Queensland to enable variable renewable generation and storage to reliably meet our future energy needs. Further information is available from their website: <a href="http://www.powerlink.com.au/reports/delivering-new-500kv-transmission-network-queensland">www.powerlink.com.au/reports/delivering-new-500kv-transmission-network-queensland</a></p> <p>As a first step, Powerlink will identify an investigation area, and over time based on a range of studies and comprehensive engagement, Powerlink will narrow that down to a single, final corridor. The final width of the corridor is yet to be determined.</p>
14	How many square metres of rainforest/fauna will need to be destroyed to build the powerlines for the PHES?	<p>Powerlink have not yet commenced any detailed planning, studies or design work to connect the proposed Pioneer-Burdekin Pumped Hydro Project to the electricity network. Powerlink's focus will be on locating this infrastructure with the best balance of environmental, social and economic impacts.</p> <p>The project's planning approval processes will comprehensively examine a range of environmental factors, including impacts on endangered, vulnerable, rare and threatened flora and fauna species in the region.</p> <p>See also the response to question 13.</p>
15	Will there be compensation for tourism businesses that will die from this project taking 10 years to construct?	<p>We will be undertaking extensive consultation and engagement with stakeholders, including tourism operators, to ensure that options to maintain (and even enhance) opportunities in the local area are incorporated in the design of the project wherever possible.</p> <p>Queensland Hydro would consider grounds for compensation on a case-by-case basis.</p> <p>Queensland Hydro understands that the Pioneer Valley and Eungella National Park are very important tourism areas for the local community and the wider region.</p>



No.	Question from <i>Daily Mercury</i>	Response from Queensland Hydro
16	There are two new road diversions proposed around the lower reservoir at Netherdale - one for general traffic, one for construction traffic, merging back to the existing Eungella Range Rd. What will traffic look like on an already dangerous road when a large number of construction vehicles are forced to merge with locals' vehicles, tourists' vehicles, school buses, cattle trucks, and milk providers	<p>The safety of the community is an absolute priority for Queensland Hydro. The road diversions are being investigated as part of this commitment, to make the roads safe for all users, including community members and our project partners.</p> <p>If the project proceeds, we will work with Mackay Regional Council, the Department of Transport and Main Roads and the local community to understand site access and any potential impacts the project may have on existing transport routes. This will include assessing Eungella Range Rd.</p> <p>Studies will consider traffic volumes, road capacity, road realignment and road surface requirements, as well as a range of social, environmental, and financial considerations related to traffic and transport. The findings of these studies would inform the final design of any proposed modifications to the existing road.</p>
17	How does construction machinery travel along Mackay Eungella Rd given the existing road infrastructure and multiple bridges are not rated for them?	Investigations will be undertaken as part of the current investigation phase of the proposed Pioneer-Burdekin project to assess the existing road network and determine whether infrastructure, including bridges, need to be upgraded to facilitate construction traffic.
18	What road upgrades will be required?	Studies in the current investigation phase will consider traffic volumes, road capacity, road realignment and road surface requirements, as well as a range of social, environmental, and financial considerations related to traffic and transport. The findings of these studies would inform any proposed modifications to the existing roads. See responses to question 16 and 17 for more about roads.
19	Given the cost of the Snowy hydro project, a much smaller project than PHES, has already blown out from \$2bn to \$12bn, what is the true cost of the PHES?	<p>This detail is unavailable at this stage. A core objective of the detailed analytical report for the proposed Pioneer-Burdekin project is to provide the Queensland Government with more information on the proposed project cost and schedule, factoring in engineering design and on the ground social and technical investigation information.</p> <p>The proposed Pioneer-Burdekin project has the advantage of being able to learn from lessons from the Snowy Hydro project and incorporate them into the planning phase.</p>
20	The Snowy hydro project was expected to be finished by 2021 but will now not be ready for three to five years. Using the same logic, why did the government decide 2035 was a feasible ETC date for PHES?	<p>The project's proposed construction timeframe, outlined in the Queensland Energy and Jobs Plan (QEJP), is based on an initial analysis of the project parameters. The plan is available here: <a href="http://www.epw.qld.gov.au/_data/assets/pdf_file/0029/32987/queensland-energy-and-jobs-plan.pdf">www.epw.qld.gov.au/_data/assets/pdf_file/0029/32987/queensland-energy-and-jobs-plan.pdf</a></p> <p>A core objective of the detailed analytical report for the proposed Pioneer-Burdekin project is to provide the Queensland Government with more information on the schedule, including inputs from front-end engineering design, geotechnical and ecological data, and details of potential environmental impact of the project.</p>



No.	Question from <i>Daily Mercury</i>	Response from Queensland Hydro
21	Where is the 2000-strong worker's camp going to be situated, with another massive environmental and community footprint?	<p>The current phase of investigation works will consider potential locations for these facilities; however, the final locations and layouts would be determined during future phases. Queensland Hydro would seek input from a range of stakeholders including Mackay Regional Council as part of the site selection process. Temporary worker accommodation facilities may be required for both the upper and lower reservoir sites to accommodate the workforce.</p> <p>Should the project proceed to an environmental impact statement (EIS), Queensland Hydro will be required to prepare a Social Impact Management Plan which will include a Workforce Housing and Accommodation Plan. The environmental and social impacts of any temporary worker accommodation facilities would also need to be assessed as part of the EIS process.</p>
22	Where does the government intend to get the workforce from to build this monstrosity?	<p>With more than 2000 workers likely to be required during construction, the project would need to tap into local, regional, state, national, and even international workforce to source the skills to deliver the proposed project.</p> <p>Queensland Hydro would seek to maximise opportunities for current and future local workers. There are many workers in the Mackay region with transferrable skills from the mining and construction sectors, presenting opportunities for training, re-training and upskilling workers in adjacent industries.</p> <p>Queensland Hydro has started hiring the workforce to deliver the Borumba pumped hydro project, and we are already seeing that these unique, world class projects are highly attractive to workers.</p>
23	How will cyclone and flood waters be handled, and ensure releases over spillways don't erode Eungella watersheds and cause sedimentation in creeks, if there is no controlled overflow from the dam?	<p>The dam would not increase flood risk. The design of the dam spillway would consider a worst case probable maximum precipitation event, like a large tropical cyclone located exactly above the project catchment.</p> <p>Floods that would cause the water level to rise would reach the dam spillway crest at full supply level, and flow naturally over the spillway downstream.</p> <p>As part of the investigation phase, and a potential future environmental impact statement (EIS) process, Queensland Hydro will be undertaking studies into erosion and sediment transport processes within the catchment to better understand the potential impacts of the proposed project, and how these impacts could be managed.</p>
24	What studies has the government done to determine whether endemic species like the Gastric Brooding Frog and Eungella Tinker Frog still exist in the region, and how it will protect these species when small waterways are being lost to the project?	<p>Current investigation works will consider endemic species such as the Eungella Tinker Frog and the Eungella Honeyeater.</p> <p>Proposed measures to avoid, mitigate or offset any potential impacts to native and endemic species in the area would be presented in detail in an environmental impact statement (EIS) report, should the project progress to EIS phase.</p> <p>It should be noted that the Northern Gastric Brooding Frog has not been sighted since 1985 and is presumed extinct under the <i>Environmental Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999</i>. Multiple detailed surveys to locate the species have been undertaken without success since the last sighting. We will be commissioning surveys for this species in accordance with relevant Commonwealth and State survey guidelines.</p> <p>See the response to question 25 for further details on environmental studies.</p>



No.	Question from <i>Daily Mercury</i>	Response from Queensland Hydro
25	Why hasn't there been more of a focus on the risk to the Eungella region's endemic species when the Labor government was not shy to focus on the impact of the Bravus Carmichael mine on the black throated finch?	<p>As part of the current investigation phase, and a potential future environmental impact statement (EIS), Queensland Hydro is commissioning a range of ecological investigations including field-based flora and fauna surveys of areas that may be affected by the project. This work considers (but would not be limited to) species such as the Eungella Honeyeater, Eungella Dayfrog, Greater Glider and Northern Quoll.</p> <p>We will work with ecological specialists to assess potential impacts to these species, and identify measures to avoid, mitigate or offset these potential impacts.</p>
26	How much travel time will be added when the Mackay-Eungella Road is diverted to travel around the proposed lower Reservoir at Netherdale?	This information is currently not available. If the Pioneer-Burdekin project proceeds, we will be working with the Department of Transport and Main Roads and the local community to understand site access and any potential impacts the project may have on existing transport routes. The findings of these studies would inform any proposed modifications to the existing road.
27	When will cost estimates and a business case be available for the public to see?	<p>Public release of the detailed analytical report or any associated cost information will be determined by the Queensland Government following a decision on whether the project will proceed.</p> <p>We are undertaking a range of studies to inform a detailed analytical report (similar to a business case) for the Queensland Government to consider in mid-2024.</p> <p>We plan to share the key findings from the studies undertaken during the investigation phase with the community through our project updates, community pop-up and drop-in sessions, and other forums.</p>
28	Why can't all directly affected landholders attend Qld Hydro stakeholders reference group meetings, as after all, they have as much at stake as anyone else?	<p>There is opportunity for everyone to get involved and provide feedback on the proposed project. The stakeholder reference group (SRG) is one mechanism of engagement with stakeholders.</p> <p>The purpose of the SRG is to ensure the interests of key stakeholder groups are represented and considered. Membership is a cross-section of local and regional members representing environmental, land, economic and community interests. To help ensure an equitable representation of stakeholder interests, only nominated SRG members may participate in the SRG meetings.</p> <p>Current SRG members include people directly affected and nearby landholders. SRG members may disseminate information to the stakeholder group they represent to enable a two-way flow of information between Queensland Hydro, the Queensland Government, and the community.</p> <p>All SRG presentations and minutes are published on the project website to allow wider access to the material discussed at the meetings.</p> <p>The project's stakeholder engagement program also includes other forums for wider community involvement, including regular drop-in sessions at Finch Hatton and pop-up information stalls at community events and shopping centres in the Pioneer Valley and Mackay region. The dates of upcoming events are published on our website.</p>
29	What is the maximum height (metres above sea level) of Reservoir B?	Upper Reservoir B will have an approximate elevation of 920m AHD (Australian Height Datum) when full.



No.	Question from <i>Daily Mercury</i>	Response from Queensland Hydro
30	How will water flowing downstream from the dam wall be maintained while the dam is being built?	If the proposed Pioneer-Burdekin project goes ahead, water flows in Cattle Creek would be temporarily diverted around the construction areas while the dam wall is built. Any impact to flows in Cattle Creek during construction would be minor, temporary and clearly communicated with the local community.
31	Energy Minister Mick de Brenni said the PHES would not impact the platypus population as it was kilometres away and 700m underground. How could this be true when more than 200 platypus live in the footprint of the proposed Reservoir A, just one of three reservoirs proposed for the project?	<p>Queensland Hydro acknowledges there is platypus habitat within the footprint of the proposed reservoirs. We are working closely with platypus experts to determine what measures can be implemented to mitigate or offset the associated potential impacts to the local platypus habitat if the project proceeds. Our approach will be guided by advice from these experts and will be informed by field-based survey and research. These surveys may include activities such as e-DNA sampling, tagging and recapture programs, and habitat quality mapping.</p> <p>It is likely that the chosen approach will incorporate a variety of measures which may include habitat enhancement in nearby areas, as well as possible relocation activities. Queensland Hydro will keep stakeholders informed as this approach is developed. The power station for the proposed project would be located 700m underground.</p>
32	What plans are being made to protect the currently large and healthy platypus population?	<p>Queensland Hydro is working closely with platypus experts to determine what measures can be implemented to mitigate or offset the associated potential impacts to the local platypus habitat if the project proceeds. Our approach will be guided by advice from these experts and will be informed by field-based survey and research. These surveys may include activities such as e-DNA sampling, tagging and recapture programs, and habitat quality mapping. The approach may include habitat enhancement in nearby areas, as well as possible relocation activities.</p> <p>Queensland Hydro has also prepared a Platypus Management Plan which is available on the project website. This plan is a 'live' document and will be regularly reviewed and updated as further information becomes available.</p> <p>See the response to question 31 for more information on platypus studies and the impact mitigation approach.</p>
33	Why are there drilling markers 10m and 20m away from creeks when the law states no drilling can occur closer than 50m?	<p>The presence of a marker peg indicates an area of interest for the project and is not necessarily a confirmed location for geotechnical drilling. Peg locations may be moved multiple times in response to ecological and cultural heritage site inspections, internal authorisation processes, and operational and safety requirements.</p> <p>There is no law that prohibits geotechnical drilling within 50m of a creek, however in some instances, certain permits and approvals may be required if the proposed activities have the potential to impact sensitive environmental areas.</p> <p>Queensland Hydro's first preference is to locate geotechnical investigation sites away from sensitive areas where possible. Queensland Hydro's Platypus Management Plan states that if geotechnical investigations are to be undertaken within 50m of a waterway, pre-disturbance surveys are required to assess whether active platypus burrows are likely to be present.</p> <p>These surveys are undertaken by a qualified aquatic ecologist with experience surveying for platypus. Should burrows be identified, further investigations would be required to establish whether they are being actively used and what measures could be implemented to avoid impacting platypus breeding.</p>



No.	Question from <i>Daily Mercury</i>	Response from Queensland Hydro
34	What social impact study has been carried out?	<p>A social impact evaluation (SIE) will be prepared for the project as part of the investigation phase. Should the project proceed to an environmental impact statement (EIS), a more detailed social impact assessment (SIA) would be required, which would build on the findings of the SIE.</p> <p>The SIE and SIA would assess potential positive and adverse social impacts of the project and will provide measures to enhance positive impacts and minimise adverse impacts. The SIA will also include a detailed social impact management plan (SIMP), which would provide a practical framework for implementing these measures.</p>
35	Where is the money coming from and where is the capital budget?	<p>The current investigation phase of the project is funded by the Queensland Government. The Treasurer also announced an allocation of \$1 billion in the June State Budget to progress the proposed Pioneer-Burdekin project, subject to a final investment decision by the Government and approvals by State and Federal authorities. Treasury will nominate the source of funding allocations if the project proceeds.</p>
36	On the maps of possible sites for pumped hydro, Cathu's old pine forest had the same capacity on land the government already owned. There is also the site behind Mt Hector south of Lake Proserpine that is nine times larger than the PHES site. Wouldn't these sites have made more sense and be cheaper?	<p>While many Queensland sites have been considered in previous studies (based off the Australian National University and Australian Renewable Energy Agency's Project – An Atlas of Pumped Hydro Energy Storage), only a limited number of sites are suitable to efficiently meet the storage capacity and duration required by Queensland to facilitate a transition to renewable energy. The Borumba and Pioneer-Burdekin projects are stand-out locations for pumped hydro energy storage based on their topography, hydrology, geology and commerciality.</p> <p>The proposed footprint would need to be 2-3 times bigger and across multiple locations, to deliver equivalent storage capacity elsewhere in Queensland. The topography and hydrology of the Cathu – Macartney pine forest area, for example, is not as favourable as the proposed Pioneer-Burdekin site.</p>
37	Will residents experience power surges given the amount of power required to push water up the mountain in area with no wind?	<p>Residents are not expected to experience power surges because of the project.</p> <p>If the project proceeds, it would connect into the new transmission network forming Queensland's SuperGrid and would not be connected directly into the local distribution network.</p> <p>Renewable electricity drawn from the transmission network would power the project with no requirement for renewable generation to be in the immediate vicinity of the project site.</p> <p>Queensland Hydro are working closely with Powerlink to ensure the proposed pumped hydro energy storage facility at Pioneer-Burdekin would make best use of the renewable energy generated across Queensland and provide grid stability benefits for the State.</p> <p>See the response to question 12 for information on the location of renewable energy sources across the state.</p>
38	Won't cyclones and high winds destroy wind farm blades?	<p>There are no wind turbines or wind farms to be constructed by the project or Queensland Hydro. The proposed Pioneer-Burdekin project is a long duration pumped hydro energy storage scheme.</p>



No.	Question from <i>Daily Mercury</i>	Response from Queensland Hydro
39	How many long term (more than 10 years) full time permanent positions will be available, and how many will be locally attained?	<p>The investigation phase of the proposed Pioneer-Burdekin project will consider the long-term benefits for the region, including the workforce. Like all major infrastructure projects, a large workforce (more than 2000) will be required during construction, with a smaller workforce (up to 200) needed longer-term to operate and maintain the facility.</p> <p>We will be exploring opportunities to provide pathways and incentives to grow our local workforce, and to build training capability in the local region to support all stages of the Project. This may include partnerships with education providers and scholarships to help students build the skills that will be required to support the renewable energy transition.</p>
40	What impact will the project have on the Pioneer River?	<p>During the investigation phase of the proposed Pioneer-Burdekin project, we will undertake a series of hydrological studies to provide a detailed assessment of the likely impacts of the project on river flows in both the Pioneer and Burdekin catchments. The studies will consider impacts on environmental flows and water security for downstream water users. We will work closely with the Department of Regional Development, Manufacturing and Water to ensure sustainable management of water in the respective water plan areas.</p> <p>We are also commissioning studies into other aspects of river health and function, such as water quality, aquatic ecology, sediment transport and geomorphology. Each of these studies will document the current conditions and assess the potential impacts the project may have on these conditions. Where potential adverse impacts are identified, the studies will propose measures to avoid, mitigate or offset these impacts.</p> <p>If the project proceeds, the lower dam would incorporate outlet valves in the base of the dam wall which would allow water to be released to maintain natural flow patterns.</p>
41	How does Qld Hydro plan to manage the fire threats from dry season given the large number of properties they have already purchased formerly had owners that cared for the land including via cattle grazing to reduce fuel loads, weed control, fire breaks, preparation of water points and firefighting equipment, and membership of local Rural Fire Brigades?	<p>Queensland Hydro's Land Team is managing any land owned by Queensland Hydro. They will work with our Environment Team to ensure appropriate measures are in place to manage biosecurity, fire, and other environmental and land management considerations.</p>
42	When (with specific date ranges) will landowners be updated about crucial stages of the project, and how?	<p>Landowners will be contacted directly about significant project milestones and would be provided the opportunity to meet with their dedicated land advisor and technical experts to discuss further, as required.</p> <p>The most up-to-date information about the stages of the project can be found at any time on the project timeline on the website: <a href="#">Pioneer Burdekin Project Timeline.pdf</a></p> <p>We also host regular drop-in sessions in Finch Hatton for the community, and share information about the progress of the project in the project newsletter.</p>



No.	Question from <i>Daily Mercury</i>	Response from Queensland Hydro
43	Is it true that most of the property owners have already sold their properties, even though they're still protesting? And how many private properties has Qld Hydro already purchased for its PHES?	<p>In the current investigation phase, we have been working with landowners to understand their individual needs and seek land access for technical investigations. We recognise however, that the project is causing uncertainty for some landowners who may not be able to wait for a project decision by the Queensland Government.</p> <p>As of mid-September, a number of landowners have chosen to enter negotiations for their properties to be acquired through voluntary acquisition.</p> <p>We actively encourage all community members to provide feedback on the project. There are no agreements or legal documents in place that prevent impacted landowners from commenting on the project or contributing to any community or advocacy groups.</p>
44	Why was the only Qld Hydro staffer over the last 8 months, the ex-interim CEO Chris Evans, who gave honest and transparent answers when prompted, and stepped up and addressed our community, repeatedly, replaced by an ex-Snowy 2.0 Hydro engineer as CEO?	<p>Chris Evans remains integral to the strategic direction of the project and Queensland Hydro in his current role as Executive General Manager, Development.</p> <p>Kieran Cusack joined Queensland Hydro as CEO from Snowy Hydro where he held several executive roles including Project Director and General Manager of Generation Operations. His considerable experience across hydropower, pumped hydro, electrical and heavy industrial infrastructure sectors will be instrumental as Queensland Hydro works to secure a clean energy future.</p>
45	What impact will the PHES have on the water table, and the current underground flows of water in the vicinity of the dam?	<p>Geotechnical and hydrogeological studies are currently underway to better understand groundwater dynamics in and around the reservoirs, including water table depth (noting that this will vary seasonally).</p> <p>Queensland Hydro will be setting up a groundwater monitoring network around the proposed upper and lower reservoirs. This network will provide data on existing groundwater conditions, which will inform the technical studies and design for the project. Should the project proceed to an environmental impact statement (EIS), this data will be used to develop a computer-based model of the local and regional groundwater systems.</p> <p>Filling of the reservoir for any dam would typically result in an overall increase in the surrounding groundwater levels. However, there may also be localised areas where groundwater levels could decrease. The studies described above would allow us to understand if these effects would occur, and how significant they are likely to be.</p>
46	Will local farmers still have their annual water allocation (that they pay for)?	<p>If the proposed Pioneer-Burdekin project proceeds, local farmers would continue to have access to their annual water allocation as per the Pioneer Valley Water Plan, and subject to the conditions of any agreements that they may have in place with a water supply scheme operator.</p> <p>The proposed project would operate in accordance with the requirements of the Pioneer Valley Water Plan, meaning that water would need to be released for the purposes of maintaining environmental flows, and maintaining water security for downstream water users.</p>





No.	Question from <i>Daily Mercury</i>	Response from Queensland Hydro
47	What will happen to the household water supply of local people who currently rely on bore water?	<p>Queensland Hydro will be conducting a bore census to document the existing condition of groundwater bores in the local area. This study will gather information for individual bores, including usage of the bore by the landholder, productivity of the bore, and the quality of the water produced. This will provide a baseline against which any potential impacts of the project can be assessed. Queensland Hydro's Land Team will be in touch with any landowners whose existing bores are within the area of interest for this study.</p> <p>Filling of the reservoir for any dam would typically result in an overall increase in the surrounding groundwater levels. Should the project result in interruptions to, or loss of, groundwater supply however, Queensland Hydro would be responsible for ensuring that an alternative water supply of equal or better quality and reliability was provided.</p> <p>See response to question 45 for more information on groundwater.</p>
48	How long will it take to pay for the PHES (excluding subsidies, grants, rebates, and taxpayers' money)?	This information is currently not available. The commercial operating model for the hydropower station will be considered as part of the detailed analytical report to be submitted to the Queensland Government and will inform any final investment decision on the proposed project. Like any government-owned commercial enterprise, the final capital structure and revenue model for Queensland Hydro will be determined by the Queensland Government (as shareholder).
49	When will energy produced from the PHES lower Queenslanders power bills?	<p>The proposed Pioneer-Burdekin and Borumba pumped hydro projects are central to the Queensland Energy and Jobs Plan (QEJP) announced on 28 September 2022. The plan aims to put downward pressure on wholesale electricity prices in the longer-term, with more investment into cheap renewable energy and storage.</p> <p>Independent modelling indicates that under the QEJP, lower wholesale electricity prices will flow through to lower retail bills than without the QEJP, with an average annual bill in 2032 for a household projected to be \$150 lower and \$1,495 lower for a small business.</p>
50	Will there be public access or tourism activities permitted on the dams?	<p>There is potential for future public spaces, including lookouts and bird viewing areas around the reservoirs, to be included in the detailed design if the project proceeds. Queensland Hydro will work with key stakeholders, including Mackay Regional Council and the local community to guide the inclusion of local benefits such as tourism.</p> <p>Water based activities are not considered possible due to the speed of water level changes within the reservoirs when the hydropower system is in operation.</p>

### 14.3. NOTIFIED MOTION - CR CHRISTENSEN - RENAMING JIM ADAMS MEMORIAL PARK

#### Renaming of Seaforth Esplanade (Playground)

**Author** Executive Officer (David McKendry)  
**Responsible Officer** Chief Executive Officer (Scott Owen)  
**File Reference** Notice of Motion

#### Attachments

1. Jim Adams Memorial Plaque [14.3.1 - 1 page]
2. Naming of Infrastructure Assets - Policy [14.3.2 - 12 pages]
3. 2024 06 11 Letter from Judith Thatcher (on behalf of Margaret Adams and extended family) [14.3.3 - 3 pages]

#### Purpose

To present a Notified Motion as presented by Cr George Christensen to decommission the existing Jim Adams Memorial Park and name the new playground area associated with the Seaforth Water Park the Jim Adams Memorial Park.

#### Related Parties

- MRC Councillors
- The family of the late Jim Adams
- Seaforth Community and Progress Association (Progress Association)

#### Corporate Plan Linkage

##### Live and Visit

*Community Participation and Active Lifestyles* - Our region is vibrant and culturally rich, home to a wide variety of events, experiences and attractions.

*Live, Visit and Play* - We have a diverse mix of accessible spaces to live, visit and play.

*Places and Spaces* - We provide well planned and designed places, facilities and infrastructure that meet the needs of our residents and visitors.

#### Background/Discussion

Under clause 6.3 of Council's Standing Orders, any Councillor can request that a matter be included on a Council Ordinary Meeting Agenda.

Cr Christensen has requested that a Notified Motion as below be presented to Council:

***That Mackay Regional Council decommissions the existing Jim Adams Memorial Park and names the new playground area associated with the Seaforth Water Park the Jim Adams Memorial Park.***

In support of this Notified Motion, the below has been provided by Cr Christensen –

*By way of background to the Jim Adams Memorial Park, Seaforth motion, I include the following letter from Jim Adams' daughter.*

*The motion, in conjunction with this letter, is self-explanatory.*

*I would add that council does have a policy titled "Naming of Infrastructure Assets". The motion generally aligns with the objectives and policy statement outlined in the "Naming of Infrastructure Assets" policy*

*document. Any deviation from the policy is because the proposed naming is, in effect, a transfer of a name from one asset to a similar asset in the same proximity. Given this, this matter should not be controversial.*

Jim Adams Memorial Park was opened on 4 January 1998, and dedicated in recognition of his community service to the Seaforth and wider Mackay Community.

Seaforth Esplanade Redevelopment was officially opened 4 September 2023. As a \$8.6M project it saw the transformation of the Seaforth Esplanade into a new recreation hub which included a new playground facility, an all-abilities splashpad replacing the old wading pool, new Changing Places amenities facility, new BBQ and picnic facilities, and associated walkways.

As part of consultation for the wider Seaforth Master Plan project undertaken since 2019, the outcome of rationalisation of park infrastructure across the Seaforth township has been communicated to the Seaforth community. A clear aim of the Seaforth Esplanade Redevelopment, as part of the Master Plan, was to provide new and comprehensive facilities at the beachfront in the Seaforth Esplanade to allow for the decommissioning of aged infrastructure including play equipment in other locations scattered around the township. This was communicated to the community via public meetings and discussions with the Progress Association, as well as being the subject of briefings with Council at the time.

Initial decommissioning of park assets around the township commenced early on while the Master Plan was being developed. This involved the removal of the remaining items of play equipment in Frangipani Park in 2019/2020 following consultation with the Progress Association, and the removal of the play equipment within the Seaforth Camping Reserve (at the same time the play equipment in Jim Adams Memorial Park was removed).

Only two items of play equipment were originally installed within Jim Adams Memorial Park - a small children's combo and swing set (2 swings). The equipment was old and in very poor condition. The combo has been effectively disabled for several years – the slide needed to be removed and entry boarded up. Other parts of the equipment have also needed to be progressively removed.

Despite the removal of the play equipment, the Park was always to remain the Jim Adams Memorial Park.

Following concerns raised by the family of the late Jim Adams, it was agreed that Council would re-turf the area following the removal of the play equipment, ensure the Park signage is current and well maintained, and install a bench seat with a plaque recognising the contributions of the late Jim Adams. This was proposed to re-establish the Park as an attractive and usable space adjacent to the Community Hall.

There was also a joint meeting held between representatives from the Progress Association, Council and the family of the late Jim Adams, an outcome of which was that a project would be initiated to celebrate the evolution and history of Seaforth, including the contribution made by Jim Adams, within Jim Adams Memorial Park. This project was to be auspiced by the Progress Association, supported by Council's community development team and in collaboration with the family of the late Jim Adams. Since the meeting, Council's community development team have been working very closely with the Progress Association and the family on grant applications to develop a detailed concept plan for the project.

The delivery of the Seaforth Master Plan resulted in a number of improvements, significantly a new water play area within the foreshore parkland simply known as the Seaforth Esplanade. The name for this foreshore park area is in keeping with Council's Naming of Infrastructure Assets Policy (adopted 8 February 2023), which establishes Council's policy in relation to the naming of infrastructure assets under Council's control including but not limited to – roads, bridges, parks, open spaces, reserves, public facilities, footpaths, recreation paths and car parks. It is noted that the request is to name a part only (the new playground area) of the Seaforth Esplanade development. Such naming after an individual is still considered to be inconsistent with the Policy, even though the name may only apply to part of a larger reserve area.

A full copy of the Policy is attached, however relevant extracts include -

### 1.1 Request for naming or Renaming of an Infrastructure Asset

*Renaming is discouraged however an infrastructure asset may be renamed under special circumstances with the below elements being considered to assist Council's decision:*

- The person or body or entity after which the infrastructure asset was named has been discredited or dishonoured;*
- There is strong community desire for the name change;*
- The name is duplicated elsewhere in the MRC area;*
- It is found that the information submitted regarding the naming of the infrastructure asset is factually incorrect; or*
- The name does not comply with AS/NZS 4819.2011 Rural and Urban Addressing.*

### 1.3 Naming of New Parks, Reserves, Open Spaces

*Parks will be named after the major street or road in which they are situated. Should the street name be inappropriate through reason of duplication or lack of a major street frontage to the park or similarity with another existing named park, then a locality name should be adopted.*

*The locality name should be that of the suburb, locality, township, etc. in which the park is situated. Should the locality name be unsuitable through the existence of similarly named parks, then the park should be named from a list of significant historical events or historical personages.*

*The criteria for selection of a park name should include:*

- a) That the name identifies the area in which the park is situated; or*
- b) That the name relates to a significant person or historical event for which recognition in perpetuity should occur.*

*A register of significant historical events or persons will be maintained.*

*Members of the public will be able to suggest additions to the Register of Significant Historical Persons or Events and the register shall be maintained by Parks, Environment and Sustainability Program.*

### 1.7 Community Consultation

*Where appropriate, community consultation will be conducted with relevant stakeholders when MRC proposes to name or rename an infrastructure asset.*

*The purpose of the consultation is to seek stakeholder feedback on the naming request in order for MRC and/or staff to make an informed decision on a naming proposal.*

*Public consultation is not required where a name is being assigned to new infrastructure created by way of New Development.*

As well as the Policy, Council has precedence in its decision on a similar request, being a request to rename Seagull Street Park in honour of Nanna Ramsamy. In considering this request, Council at its meeting of 14 September 2022 resolved –

***THAT in considering the Petition as previously received by Council on 25 August 2021 requesting that the Seagull Street Park be renamed in honour of Nanna Ramsamy, in line with Council Policy – Naming of Infrastructure Assets, that the renaming not be supported and rather that Council works with the Principal Petitioner to achieve suitable park infrastructure installation (including***

***dedication plaque) in accordance with Council's Memorial, Monument and Plaque Requests Policy.***

Since this time work has progressed on the installation of a bench seat and plaque in line with Council Policy.

**Consultation and Communication**

- Cr Christensen
- Consultation and input from Council's Planning, Growth & Sustainability, Infrastructure and Operations, and Community Services Departments

No community consultation has occurred related specifically to any proposed renaming (consultation cited within this report relates to previous works and activities).

**Resource Implications**

Should renaming of the facility at the Seaforth Esplanade be approved, appropriate signage would be required. This has not been fully costed, and would depend on scale, but would be envisaged to be a few thousand dollars.

**Risk Management Implications**

Council has an adopted Policy relating to the naming (and renaming) of key infrastructure. Whilst naming a park after an individual would not be supported by the Policy if a new facility being named now, the Jim Adams Memorial Park is already named without any proposal to change its naming. The area within which the new facility known as the Seaforth Esplanade is located is named in keeping with the Policy (and the naming of any sections of a park considered to be the same as naming of a park for the purposes of the Policy).

The Policy further goes on to discourage renaming, except under special circumstances, with elements to consider included within the Policy as a trigger (none of which would trigger a change at this time).

Council has also recently upheld the position of the Policy in not agreeing to rename Seagull Street Park, rather to utilise other options available in recognition (namely installation of a bench seat and plaque).

Should Council decide to rename the Seaforth Esplanade facility (or a part of it) in recognition of the late Jim Adams (in place of the existing Jim Adams Memorial Park), it would be appropriate to redraft the Policy accordingly to allow similar applications at other locations. Doing so would no doubt potentially see a number of applications come forward for consideration. This may present difficulties where multiple people may be put forward as having a connection to an area worthy of that area being named in their honour.

**Conclusion**

Councillors are able to request a Notified Motion be presented for consideration of Council on any matter. This motion is put forward by Cr Christensen for consideration.

**Recommendation**

THAT Council considers the notified motion by Cr Christensen of:

*That Mackay Regional Council decommissions the existing Jim Adams Memorial Park and names the new playground area associated with the Seaforth Water Park the Jim Adams Memorial Park.*



## COUNCIL POLICY

# NAMING OF INFRASTRUCTURE ASSETS

<b>Program:</b>	Ethical Standards, Audit & Risk
<b>Date of Adoption:</b>	8 February 2023
<b>Resolution Number:</b>	ORD-2023-34
<b>Review Date:</b>	8 February 2026

### Scope

This Policy relates to the naming of infrastructure assets under Mackay Regional Council's (MRC's) control including but not limited to - roads, bridges, parks, open spaces, reserves, public facilities, footpaths, recreation paths and car parks and applies to Council and Staff of MRC.

### Objective

This Policy provides a consistent and transparent approach to the naming of MRC's infrastructure assets to ensure that:

- Public consultation is undertaken where necessary and nominations received from the public are assessed against pre-determined criteria to ensure transparency;
- Any new names do not conflict with names presently in use;
- Any new names are not racist, derogatory, demeaning or likely to give offence;
- MRC's road network has an easily recognisable system of road names that assist both pedestrians and motorists and provides a safe traffic environment; and
- MRC's parks and reserves can be easily identified.

### Policy Statement

The naming of infrastructure assets provides an opportunity to honour individuals of the community for their contributions and achievements that deserve recognition, as well as emphasising important landmarks, geographical features or history.

Council considers that to the extent this policy engages and limits, or potentially limits, any human rights, that limitation is reasonable in that it is proportionate and justified.

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This process to remain in force until otherwise determined  
by Mackay Regional Council

## COUNCIL POLICY

## NAMING OF INFRASTRUCTURE ASSETS

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## COUNCIL POLICY

# NAMING OF INFRASTRUCTURE ASSETS

### 1.0 Principles

The naming of infrastructure assets may be instigated by the following circumstances:

- A request from a member of the community;
- As a result of new infrastructure assets being constructed as part of MRC works or new development.

MRC has no obligation to accept any name proposed by any group, entity, developer or individual. MRC reserves the right to allocate names in accordance with this Policy.

This policy must be read in conjunction with Corporate Standard 90.1 Commemorative Street Blades.

#### 1.1 Request for naming or Renaming of an Infrastructure Asset

Renaming is discouraged however an infrastructure asset may be renamed under special circumstances with the below elements being considered to assist Council's decision:

- The person or body or entity after which the infrastructure asset was named has been discredited or dishonoured;
- There is strong community desire for the name change;
- The name is duplicated elsewhere in the MRC area;
- It is found that the information submitted regarding the naming of the infrastructure asset is factually incorrect; or
- The name does not comply with AS/NZS 4819.2011 Rural and Urban Addressing.

#### 1.2 Commemorative Street Blades

Commemorative Street Blades will be considered as an opportunity to honour the region's citizens that made the ultimate sacrifice in service of the community or provided a historical or leading service for a prolonged period of 25 years or more to the local community. This includes ANZAC soldiers that served and gave their lives or persons associated with the region that provided a distinguished service and commitment to the local community.

Requests for Commemorative Street Blades including information provided as part of the request will be vetted by the Heritage Reference Group (HRG) before final approval by Council resolution.

Requests for Commemorative Street Blades must be accompanied by research and credible supporting material as detailed in the annexed Corporate Standard 90.1 Commemorative Street Blades.

**COUNCIL POLICY****NAMING OF INFRASTRUCTURE ASSETS****1.3 Naming of New Parks, Reserves, Open Spaces**

Parks will be named after the major street or road in which they are situated. Should the street name be inappropriate through reason of duplication or lack of a major street frontage to the park or similarity with another existing named park, then a locality name should be adopted.

The locality name should be that of the suburb, locality, township, etc. in which the park is situated. Should the locality name be unsuitable through the existence of similarly named parks, then the park should be named from a list of significant historical events or historical personages.

The criteria for selection of a park name should include:

- (a) That the name identifies the area in which the park is situated; or
- (b) That the name relates to a significant person or historical event for which recognition in perpetuity should occur.

A register of significant historical events or persons will be maintained.

Members of the public will be able to suggest additions to the Register of Significant Historical Persons or Events and the register shall be maintained by Parks, Environment and Sustainability Program.

**1.4 Naming within New Development**

The naming of new assets created as part of a new development (i.e., road networks, parks or reserves) are to be included in the lodgement of the associated operational works application.

Infrastructure asset names will be approved as part of the application process and the sealing of the Survey Plan.

Approval of infrastructure asset names will be as per planning delegations for the approval of operational work applications.

**1.5 Naming Rights for Sponsorship Purposes**

Council will consider Naming rights (for sponsorship purposes) on a case-by-case basis. Naming rights are not considered permanent.

Any sponsor messages displayed at or on an MRC owned asset must be in accordance with MRC's requirements. MRC reserves the right to prohibit any requests if it deems the message to be offensive or discriminatory.

All requests for naming rights will be put to Council for resolution.

**1.6 Nominations**

Members of the public may submit at any time, naming ideas, for consideration. Submission for naming or renaming of an infrastructure

## COUNCIL POLICY

### NAMING OF INFRASTRUCTURE ASSETS

asset (except for New Development which will be approved by delegated authority) must be made in writing and should include the following information:

- Name/s selected;
- Exact location and/or locality of the infrastructure asset; and

Any other relevant information pertaining to the suggested name/s in order to support the application.

#### 1.7 Community Consultation

Where appropriate, community consultation will be conducted with relevant stakeholders when MRC proposes to name or rename an infrastructure asset.

The purpose of the consultation is to seek stakeholder feedback on the naming request in order for MRC and/or staff to make an informed decision on a naming proposal.

Public consultation is not required where a name is being assigned to new infrastructure created by way of New Development.

#### 1.8 Approving Nominations

Nominations will be considered by MRC and after public consultation put to Council for resolution. The naming of infrastructure assets will be at the discretion of the Council.

Council may adopt, alter or reject any recommendation presented.

Unsuccessful recommended names and suitable unsolicited suggestions will be included in the "Approved Names Register" list of names that may be used in the future. This Register will be maintained by MRC's Geographic Information Program (GIS) in Shared Services.

#### 1.9 Process After Approval

Following approval by Council, MRC shall as soon as practicable:

- Details updated in MRC records (i.e. Pathways).
- Erect appropriate signage; and
- Correspond with affected external organisations or individuals advising of the new or renamed asset.

## 2.0 Complaints

Any complaints in relation to this service will be assessed and managed in accordance with MRC's Administrative Action Complaints Policy, a copy of which can be found on MRC's website.

## COUNCIL POLICY

## NAMING OF INFRASTRUCTURE ASSETS

When an individual feels that they are the subject of MRC's failure to act compatibly with human rights, they can make a complaint directly to MRC. These complaints will be assessed against the *Human Rights Act 2019*.

Complaints may be made as following:

In writing to  
Chief Executive Officer  
Mackay Regional Council  
PO Box 41  
MACKAY QLD 4740

Via Email - [complaints@mackay.qld.gov.au](mailto:complaints@mackay.qld.gov.au)

In person at the following Council Client Services Centres:

- MRC Mackay Office – 73 Gordon Street, Mackay
- MRC Sarina Office – 65 Broad Street, Sarina
- MRC Mirani Council Office – 20 Victoria Street, Mirani

### 3.0 Definitions

To assist in interpretation the following definitions shall apply:

**Heritage Reference Group** shall mean a group of community members comprised of heritage agencies, local heritage organisation representatives and Council staff who lead and advise Council on historical and cultural heritage matters for the Mackay region appointed Council.

**Commemorative Street Blades** shall mean street name signages distinguishable disquisable to Council's typical street sign as per Council approved standard.

**Council** shall mean all elected representatives including the Mayor of Mackay Regional Council.

**Infrastructure Asset** shall mean an asset owned or under the control of Mackay Regional Council which includes but not limited to roads, bridges, parks, reserves, public facilities, footpaths, bicycle paths, and car parks.

**MRC** shall mean Mackay Regional Council.

**New Development** shall mean a development which has been approved by MRC through the development assessment process.

**Park** means an area primarily used for recreational and managed by Council.

**Public Facility** shall mean any facility/building owned by or entrusted to MRC for use by the community for recreation, sport, cultural or community purposes, on a non-commercial or non-profit making basis.

**Reserve** shall mean land dedicated as a reserve as per the *Land Act 1994*.

## COUNCIL POLICY

## NAMING OF INFRASTRUCTURE ASSETS

**Road** is described as per section 59(2) of the *Local Government Act 2009*:

- (a) An area of land that is dedicated to public use as a road; or
- (b) An area of land that:
  - (i) is developed for, or has as one of its main uses, the driving or riding of motor vehicles; and
  - (ii) is open to, or used by the public; or
- (c) A footpath or bicycle path; or
- (d) a bridge, culvert, ford, tunnel or viaduct.

However, a **road** does not include –

- (a) a state-controlled road; or
- (b) a public thoroughfare easement.
- (c) a private road - Section 60(4) of the *Local Government Act 2009* states that a private road is a road over land which is owned by a person who may lawfully exclude other persons from using the road.

**Road Name History** means a register of all road names currently in use or where they have been approved for proposed developments. Information is also recorded where a road name has significant historical events or persons relevant to the Mackay region.

#### 4.0 Review of Policy

This policy will be reviewed when any of the following occur:

- The related documents are amended or replaced.
- Other circumstances as determined from time to time by a resolution of Council

Notwithstanding the above, this policy is to be reviewed at intervals of no more than three (3) years.

#### 5.0 Reference

- *Local Government Act 2009*
- *Local Government Regulation 2012*
- *Place Names Act 1994*
- *Human Rights Act 2019*
- *AS/NZS 4819:2011 – Rural and Urban Addressing*
- *AS 1742.5-1997 Manual of Uniform Traffic Control Devices - Part 5 Street Name and Community Facility Name Signs*
- MRC Corporate Standard 090.1 - Commemorative Street Name Blades

## COUNCIL POLICY

## NAMING OF INFRASTRUCTURE ASSETS

**6.0 Attachments**

1. Corporate Standard 090.1 – Commemorative Street Name Blades

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Version Control:

Version	Reason / Trigger	Change	Endorsed / Reviewed	Date
1	New Policy		Council	28.02.18
2	Amendment		Council	13.05.22
3	Amendment + CS		Council	08.02.23

Attachment 'A'

<b>Program</b>	Strategic Planning
<b>Date of Endorsement</b>	8 February 2023
<b>Review Date</b>	8 February 2023

**1.0 Scope**

This Corporate Standard applies to the approval of the use of Commemorative Street Blades within the Mackay Regional Council area.

**2.0 Objective**

To provide a framework and a consistent assessment process on the use of Commemorative Street Blades which honour fallen ANZAC soldiers within the Mackay Regional Council area.

**3.0 Reference**

- *Local Government Act 2009*
- *Local Government Regulation 2012*
- *Place Names Act 1994*
- *Human Rights Act 2019*
- Australian/New Zealand Addressing Standards – AS/NZS 4819:2011
- *MRC Policy 090 - Naming of Infrastructure Assets*

**4.0 Definitions**

To assist in interpretation the following definitions shall apply:

**Heritage Reference Group** shall mean a group of community members comprised of heritage agencies, local heritage organisation representatives and Council staff who lead and advise Council on historical and cultural heritage matters for the Mackay region appointed Council.

**Council** shall mean all elected representatives including the Mayor of Mackay Regional Council.

**Commemorative Street Blades** shall mean street name signages distinguishable to Council's typical street sign as per Council approved standard.

**New Development** shall mean a development which has been approved by Council through the development assessment process.

**Road** is described as per section 59(2) of the Local Government Act 2009:

- An area of land that is dedicated to public use as a road; or
- An area of land that:

## COMMEMORATIVE STREET NAME BLADES

- (i) is developed for, or has as one of its main uses, the driving or riding of motor vehicles; and
- (ii) is open to, or used by the public; or
- (c) A footpath or bicycle path; or
- (d) a bridge, culvert, ford, tunnel or viaduct.

However, a **road** does not include -

- (a) a state-controlled road; or
- (b) a public thoroughfare easement.
- (c) a private road - Section 60(2) of the *Local Government Act 2009* states that a private road is a road over land which is owned by a person who may lawfully exclude other persons from using the road.

## 5.0 Standard Statement

This standard is intended to fulfil the following objectives:

Designation of Commemorative Street Blades may arise from approval of a replacement of a current street blade. A request from Council or the community for an existing unnamed Road; or a new road being constructed as part of Council works or New Development must be read in conjunction with Council Policy 090 - Naming of Infrastructure Assets.

- 5.1 Request to designate a Commemorative Street Blade, either as new or to replace and existing regular street blade, are to be made formal application to Council.
- 5.2 Information and material to support a formal application to have a Commemorative Street Blade designated, where possible, should include details of:
  - Full Name, including Middle Name
  - Ranking and Battalion Number
  - Date and location of passing
  - Age
  - Location of burial or memorial
  - Family relations/ties in the Mackay Region
  - Information to address the assessment criteria in 5.5
  - Information must include references and copies from reputable sources to validate the history of the surname and linkage to the soldier identified.



- 5.3** Based on the details and research available/provided, the Heritage Reference Group (HRG) will conduct an assessment and evaluation process providing a recommendation to Council to accept or refuse the use of Commemorative Street Blades.
- 5.4** Requests for Commemorative Street Blades will need to be itemised as an agenda item to the HRG's next scheduled meeting (arranged quarterly).

Prior to the groups meeting, all members of the group must have access to the material and a suitable amount of time prior to consider the material.

The HRG will deliberate on a decision, in accordance with this policy, and will make a recommendation as a record within the minutes of the HRG meeting. HRG minutes will be endorsed by Council in the next scheduled Ordinary Meeting.

Applicant will be notified of the Decision from Council's Ordinary Meeting.

Applicant will be instructed on the next steps and actions to proceed forward.

**5.5 Criteria for assessment**

An application to replace an existing street blade with a Commemorative Street Blade will be subject to a set of criteria. The application is required to provide a response to each criterion in order to justify the use of Commemorative Street Blades.

- Provide a biography of the commemorated Surname in accordance with section 5.2 of this Standard;
- Demonstrate a connection to the Mackay region by providing information surrounding the history of the commemorated serviceman/woman. This may include nature of work, names of direct relatives, area of residence etc;
- Outline information detailing the commemorated serviceman/woman's accounts of their experiences during their enlistment; and
- Any other relevant information.

**6.0 Review of Standard**

This corporate standard will be reviewed when any of the following occur:

1. The related policy documents are amended or replaced.
2. Other circumstances as determined from time to time.

Notwithstanding the above, this policy is to be reviewed at intervals of no more than three (3) years.

**CORPORATE  
STANDARD****COMMEMORATIVE STREET NAME BLADES**

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Version Control:

Version	Reason / Trigger	Change	Endorsed / Reviewed	Date
1	New Standard		Council	13.05.22
2	Amendments		Council	08.02.23

10.6.2024

Mackay Regional Council,  
[cr.george.christensen@mackay.qld.gov.au](mailto:cr.george.christensen@mackay.qld.gov.au)

Dear Cr Christensen

RE:Jim Adams Memorial Park – Seaforth

Jim Adams had an amazing vision for his beloved community and represented his constituents with honour, dignity and an impeccable civic record until his untimely death on 12.4. 1995.

His vision was to assist in the planning/ construction of infrastructure vital to keep the general population safe and for the region to flourish, whilst being fiscally responsible. His service was given to more than 30 Committees, Boards and Local Government bodies.

Dad never shied away from hard work when it came to projects, especially in the Seaforth Community – Along with many community minded people, Dad donned his works clothes, rolled up his sleeves and put his fair share of sweat equity into various projects.

After the 1<sup>st</sup> council amalgamation, 1 vote 1 value was introduced into the Local Gov elections MCC was split into 10 single member divisions. At this time Dad's division comprised of 63% of the entire council area. The division's boundary's consisted of -the O'Connell River in the North to Barcoo/Denman's Rd in the South, Lindeman Is to the East and Dumbleton in the West. No mean feat for 1 man. The remaining 37% MCC area was serviced by 9 Councillors.

Dad was a key driver in securing the necessary approvals for the Seaforth swimming enclosure as he also was a Member of the Qld Beach Protection Authy, Pioneer Shire Council and the Seaforth Progress Assn.

During his 29 year tenure as a Pioneer Shire and Mackay City Council, Councilor he was instrumental in securing:-

- Reticulated Water Supply from North Mackay, thru Farleigh, Coningsby, The Leap to Seaforth, (allowing future water to Halliday Bay, Ball Bay and Cape Hillsborough),
  - Seaforth Community Hall project,
  - Seaforth Catholic Church project,
  - Mackay Port Authy – Planning/Construction of vital port infrastructure including the Grain Silos
  - Mackay's Airport –Research/ Planning/Construction of the current Mackay Airport
  
  - Mackay Entertainment Centre – Planning/Construction - Pioneer Shire /Mackay City Council – joint venture
  - Securing Reticulated Water for Calen/Kolijo Townships, Bloomsbury/Midge Point Townships
  - Fighting to obtain funding for rural roads to have bitumen and for roadside garbage bins to be available to as much of the rural sector as possible.
  - Pioneer Swim Centre project
  - Midge Point Catholic Church project
  - Gaining improvements to various boat ramps (including Victor Ck Boat Ramp, Seaforth)
  - Gaining improvements at St Helens Beach foreshore to mitigate erosion.
- Just to name a few.

Further to the above and just importantly Dad gave an enormous amount of UNPAID time to his beloved community in a effort to make our communities more vibrant and resilient.

The Jim Adams Memorial Park in Seaforth has, up until recently, been an active play area for children with playground equipment. This was a facility that our family was pleased to have named after my late father as it was purposeful and dignified.

However, council decided to remove all playground equipment, fence and shade sail (on 14.8.23) from the park and return the area to green open space. We do not feel that this is a purposeful and dignified use of an area named after my late father.

Suggestions have been put to us to try and source State and Federal funding (via the Seaforth Progress Assn), for something else, namely history or education based to be put in the park, but this is time-consuming and may potentially be a fruitless exercise. No grant funding has been forthcoming at this point in time - some 10 months post demolition of the infrastructure.

Instead, we support the transfer of the name of the Jim Adams Memorial Park from the current open space area to the new playground area on the Seaforth Esplanade (associated with the Seaforth Water Park).

This then retains the name to a purposeful and dignified facility that has exactly the same usage as the Jim Adams Memorial Park once had and is in close proximity to the existing Jim Adams Memorial Park.

Bearing in mind the Jim Adams Memorial Park and Playground equipment was always intended to honour his memory and extensive community service to not only Seaforth but the wider Mackay region, our family and the wider community is of the belief that this option would be fiscally responsible, purposeful and dignified.

If this name change were to occur, we would no longer maintain family interest in the existing site of the Jim Adams Memorial Park.

We look forward to Council's consideration of our request.

Sincerely

Judith Thatcher

(on behalf of Margaret Adams and extended family)

## COMMUNITY SERVICE/COMMITTEES

1. Pindi Pindi State School P & C Assn – Secretary 1955 to 1965, Treasurer 1965 to 1967, Auditor from.....to 1995
  2. Calen State School P & C Assn – President
  3. Odd Fellow (MUIIOOF) – Grand Noble
  4. Masonic Lodge – Member of the Grand Lodge
  5. Buffolo Lodge – Member
  6. Pindi Pindi Branch of the Farleigh Mills Suppliers Assn - Secretary – 1970 to 1989
  7. Pindi Pindi Bush Fire Brigade / Rural Fire – 27 years service
  8. Blackrock Creek Water Advisory Board – Secretary
  9. Seaforth Progress Assn – Deputy Chairman
  10. Farleigh Mill Suppliers Committee - Chairman 1970 to April 1989
  11. Farleigh Mill – Local Cane Prices Board – Member
  12. Farleigh Mill – Equity Committee – Chairman
  13. Farleigh Mill – Peak Committee – Member
  14. Farleigh Mill – Assignment Committee – Member
  15. Mackay and District Canegrowers Executive – Farleigh Mill representative 1979 to 1989
  16. Qld Cane growers Council – State Council -Mackay representative – 1982 to 1989
  17. ASPA – Conference Delegate
  18. Local Government Councillor – Pioneer Shire Council & Mackay City Council – 29 years until 12.4.1995
  19. Local Government- Pioneer Shire Council – Deputy Chairman – 1982 to 1994
  20. Local Government- Pioneer Shire Council - Elected Councillor – Division 3 – 1967 to 1991
  21. Local Government- Mackay City Council - Elected Councillor – Division 1 – 1991 to 1995
  22. Local Government- Mackay City Council – River Trust Committee member – 1982 to 1995
  23. Local Government- Mackay City Council – Finance Committee member – 1982 to 1995
  24. Local Government- Mackay City Council – Works Committee member – 1994 to 1995
  25. Mackay Harbour Board – Deputy Chairman – 1978 to 1989
  26. Mackay Harbour Board – Member – 1972 to 1989
  27. Justice of the Peace - 1967 to 1995
  28. Co-operative Buying Group
  29. Qld Beach Protection Authority – Member
  30. Calen Junior Tennis – Patron to 1995
  31. Seaforth Community Hall – Management Committee and Deputy Chairman 1994 to 1995
  32. Seaforth Community Hall – Patron – 1994 to 1995
- And many more.

#### 14.4. NOTIFIED MOTION - CR CHRISTENSEN - NORTHERN BEACHES INFRASTRUCTURE FUNDING

##### Notified Motion - Northern Beaches Infrastructure Funding

**Author** Executive Officer (David McKendry)  
**Responsible Officer** Chief Executive Officer (Scott Owen)  
**File Reference** Notice of Motion

**Attachments** Nil

#### Purpose

To present a Notified Motion as presented by Cr George Christensen to lobby the Queensland Government to commit to funding for infrastructure needed in the Northern Beaches.

#### Related Parties

MRC Councillors

#### Corporate Plan Linkage

#### Live and Visit

*Community Participation and Active Lifestyles* - Our region is vibrant and culturally rich, home to a wide variety of events, experiences and attractions.

*Live, Visit and Play* - We have a diverse mix of accessible spaces to live, visit and play.

*Places and Spaces* - We provide well planned and designed places, facilities and infrastructure that meet the needs of our residents and visitors.

#### Background/Discussion

Under clause 6.3 of Council's Standing Orders, any Councillor can request that a matter be included on a Council Ordinary Meeting Agenda.

Cr Christensen has requested that a Notified Motion as below be presented to Council:

***THAT Mackay Regional Council write to the State leaders of all political parties represented in the Queensland Parliament requesting that, as part of the upcoming State election, they commit to funding needed infrastructure in the Northern Beaches, including:***

- 1. A second Northern Beaches access and other traffic improvement measures that can alleviate peak hour congestion for Northern Beaches motorists; and***
- 2. The Northern Beaches Community Hub.***

***AND THAT such correspondence includes a detailed brief on each funding request.***

***FURTHER THAT this request also be sent to Member for Whitsunday Amanda Camm and other candidates who have or who will nominate for election to the State electorate of Whitsunday.***

In support of this Notified Motion, the below has been provided by Cr Christensen –

#### ***Election Commitments for the Northern Beaches***

*Mackay's Northern Beaches are among the fastest-growing suburbs in the Mackay area, with significant population growth driven by new housing developments and the area's attractiveness as a beachside residential location. As the population continues to increase, the need for improved infrastructure has become more pressing. This brief aims to inform Mackay Regional Councillors about the need to raise critical infrastructure requirements for the Northern Beaches as a State election issue, specifically the need for a second access route and a comprehensive community hub including a swimming pool. It must be noted that adopting a motion on these two local needs does not stop Mackay Regional Council from putting further issues and critical needs for the rest of the local government area and even the Northern Beaches. Indeed, council should develop a comprehensive and exhaustive list of priority funding and policy requests for the State election.*

*1. Need for a Second Access Route to Northern Beaches:*

*Current Traffic Situation:*

*The Northern Beaches region includes the suburbs of Shoal Point, Bucasia, Eimeo, Dolphin Heads, Blacks Beach, Rural View, and parts of Richmond. The region is heavily reliant on the Mackay-Bucasia Road as the primary access route.*

*During peak hours, traffic congestion on this route is significant, causing delays and frustration for motorists. This congestion is expected to worsen as the population continues to grow.*

*Impact on Residents and Economy:*

*The current traffic situation hampers the daily commute for residents, affecting their quality of life and reducing the efficiency of transportation within the region.*

*Local businesses and emergency services are also impacted by the congestion, which can delay deliveries, services, and response times.*

*Proposed Solution:*

*A second access route to the Northern Beaches is ultimately essential to alleviate traffic congestion and provide a more reliable and efficient transportation network. This would improve accessibility for residents, support local businesses, and enhance overall economic development in the region.*

*While this ultimate solution may take considerable time to realise, there may be short to medium-term traffic management solutions (involving roundabouts, signalisations, etc.) that can and should also be considered.*

*2. Need for a Northern Beaches Community Hub:*

*Population Growth and Community Needs:*

*The Northern Beaches area is experiencing rapid urbanisation with projections indicating a population increase of 53.6% by 2036. This growth is predominantly driven by working families and retirees seeking a beachside lifestyle. The current infrastructure is insufficient to meet the needs of this growing population, particularly in terms of community services and recreational facilities.*

*Community Hub Benefits:*

*The Northern Beaches Community Hub is designed to be a central meeting place providing a range of activities, programs, services, and events tailored to the needs of the community.*

*Stage 1A of the project, currently under construction, includes an undercover multi-purpose court, nature play and picnic spaces, and landscaping. Future stages (1B and beyond) are planned to include a library,*

*additional community spaces, and crucially, a swimming pool. It is to be noted that Stage 1B has recently received federal funding and council is actively seeking State funding as well.*

**Swimming Pool Importance:**

*A swimming pool within the community hub, as envisaged by Stage 2 of the project, will provide a vital recreational facility for residents, promoting health and wellness, and offering a space for swimming lessons, exercise, and community events.*

*The pool will cater to the diverse needs of the community, from families with young children to older residents looking for low-impact exercise options.*

**Conclusion:**

*The significant growth in Mackay's Northern Beaches necessitates urgent investment in infrastructure to ensure the region can sustain its expanding population and maintain a high quality of life for its residents. The construction of a second access route and the completion of the Northern Beaches Community Hub, including a swimming pool, are critical steps towards achieving this goal. Knowing these critical needs, it is imperative that Mackay Regional Council lets all political parties know that these should receive high priority for funding commitments for the next State election.*

**Northern Beaches Community Hub**

At present, the Northern Beaches community stands as the fastest-growing residential area within the Mackay Regional Council. This growth brings forth the challenge of ensuring sufficient local provision of community facilities and employment opportunities that align with this expansion.

The vision for the Northern Beaches Community Hub is to create an active space that brings the community together. The precinct will be developed in stages to create indoor and outdoor spaces to make the hub the heart of Northern Beaches life. This hub will offer a comprehensive range of community services, catering to individuals from early childhood to elderly residents. Extensive community consultation was undertaken to inform the Northern Beaches Community Hub master plan, which includes regular engagement with the Northern Beaches Community Hub Reference Group.

Early civil works commenced in 2022 with the construction of the Badyari Yalu Road and associated civil infrastructure. Further civil works is now underway on landscaping and the drainage to the east of the site. The civil works estimated cost is \$8.7M.

**Badyari Yalu Road**





Stage 1A



Construction of Stage 1A started in March 2024.

This stage includes an undercover multi-purpose court, adjoining small kitchenette and storeroom, nature play and picnic spaces, as well as landscaping, pedestrian links, and a parking area.

The Australian Government committed \$6.5 million towards Stage 1A, with Council contributing the remainder of the cost of the works, which is estimated at \$10.3M in total.

Stage 1B



Stage 1B includes a library, community spaces, café and car parking. The project cost estimate for this stage is \$40M. \$15 million grant funding was recently announced for this stage under the Australian Government's Growing Regions Program.

Initial on-ground works are proposed to commence in November 2024.

Within the funding application to Growing Regions Program, notice was given of the intention to seek additional funding opportunities to offset some of the balance cost to deliver these stages, including seeking funding from the State Government.

Future Stages

The entire Northern Beaches Community Hub project contains several stages. Early civil works were completed in 2023, Stage 1A is well underway, and funding for Stage 1B was recently announced with an expected on-ground commencement of November 2024.

The future Stage 2 is at a master plan concept level only, and the best use of the future development Stage 3 is to be determined in the future, subject to finalising concepts for Stage 2. Stage 2 (including the Aquatics Facility) has not at this point been included in the Long Term Financial Plan (LTFP)/ Capital Plan, meaning that there has not been any design works done, and no concept estimate undertaken. Ongoing operational costs for Stage 2 (including the Aquatic Facility) are also yet to be considered.

The master plan is shown below.



## Funding

For the majority of major funding opportunities, there is a requirement for “shovel ready” projects to enable early commencement of actual on-ground works (unless the funding is for the design itself). At this point, neither Stage 2 (Aquatics Facility), or the Stage 3 (future development area), have sufficient design, planning and costings to enable funding submissions for construction. In addition, recognition needs to be given to the priority listing of the LTFP, as well as additional operational costs associated especially with the Aquatics Facility (which have not been projected as yet).

Stage 1B is progressing quickly and would be a ready candidate for joint funding including from the State to support the implementation of the project in conjunction with the recent Federal Government funding announcement.

The master planning and concept development for Stage 2 could also meet some external grant funding criteria. It should be recognised that this cost is not included in the LTFP and would require bringing forward resources to undertake the detail planning, which will require moving other projects back.

## Mackay – Bucasia Road

The Department of Transport and Main Roads (DTMR) has provided information on their web-site related to the project of – ***Mackay – Bucasia Road, capacity upgrades and duplication planning.***

Information includes –

*Planning is underway to identify potential future upgrades to Mackay – Bucasia Road to improve congestion, safety, and flooding impacts on this vital link to the Northern Beaches.*

*Mackay – Bucasia Road is the sole link connecting the Northern Beaches communities to the Mackay region.*

*Mackay – Bucasia Road is a key commuter and freight corridor route to employment, goods, services and schools in Mackay. The 11km road connects from the Bruce Highway in North Mackay, and is the only access route to Rural View, Bucasia, Eimeo, Blacks Beach and Shoal Point.*

### Key features

*The scope of works in the planning phase includes activities such as business case development and associated stakeholder engagement.*

*The investigation will include:*

- *engagement with the local community to provide input into their experiences and concerns as users of the road*
- *identification of key congestion points to address improvements to road capacity*
- *identification of key areas for improvements to safety and flood mitigation.*

### Funding

*This is fully funded (\$750,000) by the Queensland Government as part of the Transport System Planning Program.*

### Current status

*The department is undertaking planning to identify the highest priority sections of Mackay-Bucasia Road for future upgrades.*

*As part of the planning phase, we are developing a business case to assess and recommend delivery options. Once planning is completed, funding and project timelines can be determined.*

*Community consultation closed on 23 August 2023.*

At this stage, the DTMR project has not been completed to understand the specifics of any proposed activity or project.

Council have undertaken transport modelling work, demonstrating the need for both Dawson Boulevard and Norwood Parade extension roads as additional parallel roads to Mackay-Bucasia Road, to provide better connectivity and reduce the reliance on Mackay Bucasia Road. These works will be required in addition to Mackay-Bucasia Road upgrade works. This information has been supplied to TMR to consider as part of their study.

### **Consultation and Communication**

- Cr Christensen
- Consultation and input from Council's Strategic Planning program

### **Resource Implications**

Stage 1B includes a library, community spaces, café and car parking. The project cost estimate for this stage is \$40M. \$15 million grant funding was recently announced for this stage under the Australian Government's Growing Regions Program. An opportunity exists to seek State Government contribution to supplement the Australian Government's commitment.

At this point neither Stage 2 (Aquatics Facility), or the Stage 3 (future development area), have sufficient design and planning to enable costings to be developed to any level of confidence. The master planning and concept development for Stage 2 could also meet some external grant funding criteria. It should be recognised that this cost is not included in the LTFP and would require bringing forward resources to undertake the detail planning, which will require moving other projects back.

Mackay – Bucasia Road is a State controlled road.

Norwood Parade (through to the Reed St extension), and Dawson Bvd, are Council controlled roads currently in design and included in Council's Capital LTFP.

### **Risk Management Implications**

Possibly the major risk to highlight is that Stage 2 (Aquatics Facility) has not at this time progressed past concept stage design, and therefore costs are not known with any confidence. Also, that any Council contribution outside the funding achieved has not been programmed as part of Capital LTFP.

### **Conclusion**

Councillors are able to request a Notified Motion be presented for consideration of Council on any matter. This motion is put forward by Cr Christensen for consideration.

Council has previously lobbied for funding for the Northern Beaches Community Hub, with two(2) successful funding announcements. Stage 1B, with the latest announcement of funding, is ready for any further funding commitment and is something envisaged. Future stages of the Community Hub, including Aquatics Facility,

would not be considered shovel ready and in fact other than concept planning no other planning or design work has commenced on these stages. Any funding request for Stage 2 would be recommended for design and planning activities to better develop the project.

Council has previously lobbied for action by the Queensland Government on alleviating traffic congestion on the Mackay-Bucasia road (State controlled road), especially given the current single access point. Council has also undertaken transport modelling work, demonstrating the need for both Dawson Boulevard and Norwood Parade extension roads as additional parallel roads to Mackay-Bucasia Road. Both of these are Council controlled roads.

### **Recommendation**

THAT Council considers the notified motion by Cr Christensen of:

*THAT Mackay Regional Council write to the State leaders of all political parties represented in the Queensland Parliament requesting that, as part of the upcoming State election, they commit to funding needed infrastructure in the Northern Beaches, including:*

- 1. A second Northern Beaches access and other traffic improvement measures that can alleviate peak hour congestion for Northern Beaches motorists; and*
- 2. The Northern Beaches Community Hub.*

*AND THAT such correspondence includes a detailed brief on each funding request.*

*FURTHER THAT this request also be sent to Member for Whitsunday Amanda Camm and other candidates who have or who will nominate for election to the State electorate of Whitsunday.*

## 14.5. NOTIFIED MOTION - CR CHRISTENSEN - LIBRARY BOOKS AGE RESTRICTIONS

### Notified Motion – Library Books Age Restrictions

**Author** Director Community Services (Janine McKay)  
**Responsible Officer** Chief Executive Officer (Scott Owen)  
**File Reference** Libraries

**Attachments** Nil

### Purpose

To present a Notified Motion as presented by Cr George Christensen for Mackay Regional Council regarding access controls for library items within the collection.

### Related Parties

MRC Councillors

### Corporate Plan Linkage

Live, visit and play We have a diverse mix of accessible spaces to live, visit and play.

Safe, healthy and engaged region Our region is a safe and resilient community, with services that support high standards of public health, and extends friendship and support to each other through both good and challenging times.

Arts, culture and heritage We invest in the Mackay region's arts and culture and protect the rich cultural heritage and history of our region in line with council's Arts and Cultural Development Policy.

Integrated social services We bring together residents, community organisations, funders, researchers, and regional services to build a connected community.

Ethical decision-making and good governance We are committed to keeping our community informed about our activities and performance and employing robust governance policies and procedures to ensure legislative compliance and organisational integrity.

Resilient and agile economy Our long-term vision guides our planning for present and future needs, understanding the future implications of decisions made today.

### Background/Discussion

Under clause 6.3 of Council's Standing Orders, any Councillor can request that a matter be included on a Council Ordinary Meeting Agenda.

Cr Christensen has requested that a Notified Motion as below be presented to Council:

#### **That the Mackay Regional Council resolves to:**

- 1. Continue to set age classification for adult fiction, in its libraries, to individuals aged 18 and over, and of non-fiction books, in its libraries, to individuals aged 16 and over.**
- 2. Require age verification for adult non-fiction and adult fiction books containing sexually explicit content when the age of the borrower is unclear.**
- 3. Restrict browsing of books containing sexually explicit content in adult fiction to individuals aged 18 and over, and explicit sexual content in non-fiction books to individuals aged 16 and over, and**

**to now consider low-cost or cost-neutral appropriate measures to enforce this browsing restriction.**

**4. Restrict books containing sexually explicit content to the adult fiction and non-fiction sections, where the library is either aware or is made aware that it contains sexually explicit content.**

In support of this Notified Motion, the below has been provided by Cr Christensen –

*The Mackay Regional Council is dedicated to ensuring the safety and well-being of all its residents, especially our youngest members. Concerns have been raised regarding the accessibility of books that are inappropriate for children in our libraries. In response to these concerns, a motion has been proposed to enhance the enforcement of existing borrowing and browsing policies for adult fiction and non-fiction books, as well as to ensure that all books containing explicit sexual matter are appropriately categorised.*

*Purpose of the Motion:*

*The primary aim of this motion is to protect children by reinforcing restrictions on access to adult content. By implementing stricter age verification and considering cost-effective measures to enforce browsing restrictions, we aim to maintain a library environment that is both safe and conducive to learning for all age groups.*

*Key Points of the Motion:*

*1. Restricting Access to Adult Books:*

- The motion continues to restrict access to adult fiction and non-fiction books to individuals aged 16 and over.*
- Age verification will now be required when the age of the borrower is unclear.*
- This measure ensures that mature content is only accessible to those who are legally adults, providing an additional layer of protection for younger patrons.*

*2. Restricting Browsing of Adult Books:*

- The motion continues to restrict browsing of adult fiction and non-fiction books to individuals aged eighteen and over.*
- The Council will consider low-cost or cost-neutral measures to enforce this browsing restriction, such as placing these books in designated areas that require age verification for entry or supervising these sections. These measures should be taken within the library budget.*
- This step aims to ensure that browsing restrictions are practically and effectively enforced without imposing significant financial burdens.*

*5. Categorising Books Containing Sexual Matter:*

- The motion continues to ensure that all books containing sexual matter are restricted to the adult fiction and non-fiction sections of Mackay Libraries.*
- This measure ensures that such content is not accessible to children and is appropriately categorized to maintain a suitable library environment for all patrons.*

*Conclusion:*

*The term “sexually explicit content” is an oft-used legal term in Australia, the USA and Canada that variably means a depiction of actual or simulated sexual acts, actual or simulated torture or violence in the context of a sexual act, and emphasis on the human genitals.*

*Adopting this motion is a crucial step towards safeguarding our children from books that are inappropriate for them while ensuring access to valuable resources for older teens and adults. The proposed measures reinforce existing policies and introduce necessary enhancements to improve their enforcement, balancing accessibility and safety.*

*By confirming these restrictions and seeking greater enforcement around them, we fulfill our responsibility as custodians of public resources and ensure our libraries foster a secure and nurturing environment for learning and growth.*

Council libraries provide a physical and digital collection based on a broad range of community needs. MRC Libraries comply with the decisions made under state and federal law, including those by the Australian Classification Board (Board) to provide an unbiased source of knowledge, information, and ideas. MRC Libraries are also guided by publishers recommendations in terms of the age appropriate target audiences for publications.

#### Publisher’s Recommended Age Categories

Items within the MRC library collection are located within age-related categories and Table 1 below provides a summary of the categories.

These categories are guidelines only, they are not mandated.

**Table 1**

<b>Category</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Current target audience age range</b>
Adult Non-Fiction Collection	The Non-fiction Collection contain resources at a general readership level that provide information about a wide variety of subjects.	16+
Adult Fiction	The Adult Fiction Collection contains popular, contemporary and classic works in the English language, covering a wide range of genres.	18+
Young adult graphic novel	A Graphic Novel can be defined as any self-contained story in a single binding that uses a comic book-like page layout, with a strong emphasis on illustration.	12-25
Young Adult Fiction	Enhance the “reading for pleasure” experience and growth of knowledge, ideas and imagination via the worlds of non-fiction, and fiction titles	12-25
Junior Fiction	A book is considered appropriate for the Junior Fiction category when the content, vocabulary and structure is deemed more relevant to independent readers	5-12
Junior non-Fiction	This collection includes both study related resources and items for recreational and informative reading.	5-12
Picture Books	Picture Books should feature high quality illustration and appropriate standards in the use of text – i.e. contain a low proportion of text and predominantly utilise images/illustration to convey and support the narrative.	0-5
Parenting Collection (Picture books)	This collection is a curated selection of picture books that can be of use to parents and caregivers when there is a need to have various “life conversations” with their children and young people in their care.	All ages

#### Effectiveness of library borrowing controls

Other than the Board’s prohibitions and restrictions and publisher’s recommendations, additional controls are in place at MRC libraries to guide age-appropriate reading, including:



#### Library membership

MRC library conditions of membership require parents or guardians of children under the age of 15 to take full responsibility for the items accessed and borrowed in our libraries and/or through our online library portal.

#### Library Management System Technology

When an item is age-restricted by The Board, a person outside of that age group is prohibited from loaning that item through the library management system. This applies only to items that have age restrictions in place, such as DVDs, online content, and certain print publications.

#### Physical Location of collection items

The library layout is designed to separate the children's collection section away from the adult reading area to separate the users and for ease of supervision by library staff. The "Parenting Collection" is co-located in the children's area as this collection targets young people. Other parenting resources intended for adult audiences are located within adult non-fiction areas.

#### Library Staff Supervision

Trained and/or library qualified library professionals are best positioned to support customers to make age-appropriate reading choices and endeavour to provide the highest level of customer service and care to customers within our libraries.

### **Consultation and Communication**

Cr Christensen

Consultation has occurred with library staff, the State Library of Queensland (State Library), The Australian Library and Information Association and a range of councils. All parties consulted agree that it is the Australian Classification Board's role to assess classify publications and not the role of Council or librarians. The ethos of free access to information is considered fundamental to public libraries.

### **Resource Implications**

#### Categorisation of books

Collectively MRC libraries contain more than 145,000 items and access to an expanded pool of online resources. From a resourcing perspective, it is not practical or feasible for librarians to check publications for sexually explicit content.

Setting a public expectation that library staff change the location and category of books in response to community requests (rather than following publisher's recommendations) could prove problematic from a resourcing perspective because community members have proven to hold contrasting views in relation to this matter, e.g. some groups consider non-fiction sex education materials designed for a younger audience to be pornographic, other parents wish their children to be able to freely access this as age appropriate content.

### **Risk Management Implications**

Publishers recommended age categories are only guidelines and not rules that can be enforced. The guidelines are designed so collections can be organised and targeted to appropriate audiences. Making new rules, physical barriers and or enforcement based on these categories implies parents would no longer be able to decide the publications their children can access and borrow. Sixteen and seventeen year-olds would have their access restricted. Proposed changes could lead to challenges under the *Human Rights Act* .

Freedom of expression is central to the ethos of librarians internationally. Rules about who should access what content is in the first instance the role of the Board, and beyond that, for young people the responsibility of

parents and carers. A shift of such onus to library staff may cause staff disengagement and pressure of unrealistic expectations.

MRC is conscious of the extensive community anger, protest, threats, and negative national media attention associated with Cumberland City Council's recent decision to ban one book. Some community members are likely to hold opposing views, particularly about banning access for some age groups to certain books.

The existing 15 year- old age threshold where parental supervision is no longer required is consistent with the MA 15 + film and computer games classification in Australia. New restrictions proposed banning access to certain content may antagonise 15 year-olds.

Since June 2023, there have been nine safety incidents reported by staff involving interactions with members of the public regarding collection items, with a focus on age-appropriate materials. The motion may cause psychological and physical harm, setting up library staff as targets for organisations and individuals that hold diverse and opposing moral views about who should access what content.

Council has a strong commitment, as well as a legislative obligation, to make sure libraries remain a safe place for all employees, volunteers, and visitors and where freedoms under the *Human Rights Act* are upheld.

Council libraries follow recommendations and guidelines from the Queensland State Library, failing to do so may have financial, legal and reputational damage to MRC

### **Conclusion**

There is no change to library operations associated with part 1 of the notified motion, that Council continue to set age classification for adult fiction, in its libraries, to individuals aged 18 and over, and of non-fiction books, in its libraries, to individuals aged 16 and over.

For part 2 of the motion, The Library Management System is configured to apply the Board's classification restrictions based on membership details (card holder date-of-birth.) Other than Board restrictions and parental supervision of children under 15, there is no law or library rule to enforce regarding access to any library content. Librarians actively guide readers towards age specific content based on publishers recommendations (not restrictions).

For parts 3 and 4 enforcement or physical barriers restricting access to sections of the library goes against the fundamental free access to information principles of public libraries. Also, there would be costs associated with installing physical controls and barriers, which at this stage have not been investigated. Council could be challenged for limiting freedoms under the *Human Rights Act*.

Council has a range of existing controls that are effective to guide age-appropriate reading in libraries.

Council encourages individuals or organisations concerned about the age appropriateness of items in the library collection to submit those items to the Australian Classification Board for review.

Council libraries continue to follow Australian Classification Board decisions and State Library Guidelines.

**Recommendation**

THAT Council considers the notified motion by Cr Christensen

*That the Mackay Regional Council resolves to:*

- 1. Continue to set age classification for adult fiction, in its libraries, to individuals aged 18 and over, and of non-fiction books, in its libraries, to individuals aged 16 and over.*
- 2. Require age verification for adult non-fiction and adult fiction books containing sexually explicit content when the age of the borrower is unclear.*
- 3. Restrict browsing of books containing sexually explicit content in adult fiction to individuals aged 18 and over, and explicit sexual content in non-fiction books to individuals aged 16 and over, and to now consider low-cost or cost-neutral appropriate measures to enforce this browsing restriction.*
- 4. Restrict books containing sexually explicit content to the adult fiction and non-fiction sections, where the library is either aware or is made aware that it contains sexually explicit content.*

**15. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

**16. LATE BUSINESS**

**17. CONFIDENTIAL REPORTS**

**17.1. APPROVED SPONSORSHIP UNDER THE INVEST MACKAY EVENTS AND CONFERENCE ATTRACTION PROGRAM - MAY 2024**

**Confidential**

*Confidential Report to be forwarded separately.*

This report is **CONFIDENTIAL** in accordance with the Section 254J (3) (g) of the *Local Government Regulation 2012* which permits the meeting to be closed to the public to discuss a matter relating to **negotiations relating to a commercial matter involving the Council for which a public discussion would be likely to prejudice the interests of the Council.**

**17.2. APPROVED CONCESSIONS UNDER THE FACILITATING DEVELOPMENT IN THE MACKAY REGION POLICY – MAY 2024**

**Confidential**

*Confidential Report to be forwarded separately.*

This report is **CONFIDENTIAL** in accordance with the Section 254J (3) (g) of the *Local Government Regulation 2012* which permits the meeting to be closed to the public to discuss a matter relating to **negotiations relating to a commercial matter involving the Council for which a public discussion would be likely to prejudice the interests of the Council.**

**18. ANNUAL BUDGET 2024/25 (CONFIDENTIAL UNTIL MEETING)**

**19. MEETING CLOSURE**

**20. FOR INFORMATION ONLY**

**20.1. BUILDING WORKS STATISTICS - MAY 2024**

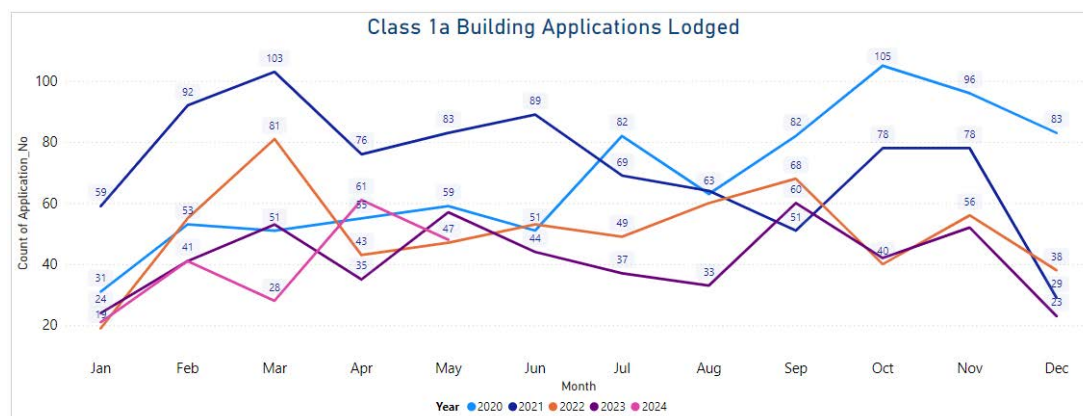
**Attachments**

1. Building Works Statistics - June 2024 [20.1.1 - 2 pages]

Class	Description	Total May 2024	Total Value of Proposed Works	Average Proposed Floor Area (m2)	Total May 2023	YTD
Class 1A	A single dwelling being a detached house, or one of a group of two or more attached dwellings, each being a building, separated by a fire-resisting wall, including a row house, terrace house, town house or villa unit	48	\$16,865,884	155	57	199
Class 1B	A boarding house, guest house, hostel or the like with a total area of all floors not exceeding 300m2, and where not more than 12 people reside, and is not located above or below another dwelling or another Class of building other than a private garage	0			0	2
Class 2	A building containing 2 or more sole-occupancy units each being a separate dwelling	0			0	0
Class 3	A residential building, other than a Class 1 or 2 building, which is a common place of long term or transient living for a number of unrelated persons. Example: boarding-house, hostel, backpackers accommodation or residential part of a hotel, motel, school or detention centre	1	\$500,000	257	2	1
Class 4	A dwelling in a building that is Class 5, 6, 7, 8 or 9 if it is the only dwelling in the building	0			0	0
Class 5	An office building used for professional or commercial purposes, excluding buildings of Class 6, 7, 8 or 9	1	\$600,000	0	3	7
Class 6	A shop or other building for the sale of goods by retail or the supply of services direct to the public. Example: café, restaurant, kiosk, hairdressers, showroom or service station	4	\$753,032	334	5	23
Class 7A	A building which is a car park	1	\$149,500	299	0	2
Class 7B	A building which is for storage or display of goods or produce for sale by wholesale	1	\$768	768	0	6
Class 8	A laboratory, or a building in which a handicraft or process for the production, assembling, altering, repairing, packing, finishing, or cleaning of goods or produce is carried on for trade, sale or gain	0			1	3
Class 9A	A health care building, including those parts of the building set aside as a laboratory	1	\$800,000	2,400	0	2
Class 9B	An assembly building, including a trade workshop, laboratory or the like, in a primary or secondary school, but excluding any other parts of the building that are of another class	5	\$8,186,397	351	1	14
Class 9C	An aged care building	0			0	0
Class 10A	A private garage, carport, shed or the like	91	\$3,996,052	74	92	402

Class 10B	A structure being a fence, mast, antenna, retaining or free standing wall, swimming pool or the like	32	\$1,998,659	6	25	109
Class 10C	A private bushfire shelter	0			5	0
Sundry	Demolition residential/commercial/industrial, class n/a, class s/s	0		N/A	4	4
<b>Totals</b>		<b>185</b>	<b>\$33,850,292</b>	<b>4,642</b>	<b>195</b>	<b>774</b>

Description	Total May 2024	Total Value of Proposed Works	Average Proposed Floor Area (m2)	Total May 2023	YTD
New building or structure	118	\$29,887,850	156	136	539
Change of building classification	2	\$180,000	81	0	6
Demolition	6	\$274,326	N/A	14	34
Repairs, alterations, additions	27	\$2,708,679	48	37	115
Swimming pool and/or pool fence	30	\$1,950,623	N/A	23	96
Relocation or removal	2	\$45,000	0	1	7
<b>Totals</b>	<b>185</b>	<b>\$35,046,478</b>	<b>283</b>	<b>211</b>	<b>797</b>



## **20.2. DEVELOPMENT APPLICATIONS - MAY 2024**

### **Attachments**

1. Development Applications - June 2024 [**20.2.1** - 5 pages]

**Development Applications Received**

App No.	Code / Impact	Address	Applicant	Description	Officer
DA-2000-13/E	Code	117 Archibald Street PAGET	Property 85 Pty Ltd	Change Application (Minor) - Light Industrial and Showroom Use Material Change of Use - Code Assessment - Additions to Factory/Warehouse. Framework CD00-13	Lachlan Deon
DA-2002-126/A	Code	17 Conder Parade MIDGE POINT	McDonald Earthmoving Equipment Pty Ltd	Change Application (Other)Material Change of Use - Development Permit for Service Station, Shop, Catering Shop, Low Impact Industry and Outdoor Sales	Renee Andrea
DA-2008-229/H	Code	35 Leichhardt Road MIRANI	Pioneer Lakes Pty Ltd	Extension to Currency Period Material Change of Use - 173 Multiple Dwelling Units and Associated Community Facilities	Lachlan Deon
DA-2017-4/C	Impact	15 Charlotte Street WEST MACKAY	OZCARE	Generally in Accordance Accommodation Units (Aged Care Facility - 126 beds)	Emma Langford
DA-2020-78/A	Code	2 Penn Street SOUTH MACKAY	The Roman Catholic Trust Corporation	Minor Change Material Change of Use - Development Permit for Educational Establishment in 2 Stages (Stage 1 - Extension of School Hall – increase public foyer and relocation of gymnasium, refurbishment of school amenities. Stage 2 – Relocation of general learning areas	Emma Langford
DA-2022-100/B	Code	Lot 241 Slater Avenue BLACKS BEACH	Crossroad Developments Pty Ltd	Change Application (Minor)Material Change of Use - Childcare Centre & Reconfiguration of Lot - 1 Lot into 3 Lots and Access Easement	Teagan Darvill
DA-2022-84/A	Code	26-30 Diesel Drive PAGET	Local Developments Pty Ltd	Change Application (Minor)Material Change of Use - Development Permit for Medium Impact Industry	Teagan Darvill
DA-2024-22/A	Code	Lot 83 Rocky Waterholes-Wollingford Road PLEYSTOWE	Troy M Craig and Elizabeth J Craig	Change Application (Minor) Reconfiguring a Lot - Development Permit for Boundary Realignment (2 into 2 Lots)	Lachlan Deon
DA-2024-34/A	Code	22 Kinchant Dam Road NORTH ETON	PV Pumps Pty Ltd	Generally in Accordance Reconfiguration of a Lot - Development Permit for Boundary Realignment (2 Lots into 2 Lots)	Darryl Bibay
DA-2024-59	Code	109 Old Bowen Road CALEN	The Pa & Ma Dunn Family Super Fund	Reconfiguring a Lot - Development Permit for Boundary Realignment (3 Lots into 3 Lots - Tradeable Development Rights)	Renee Andrea
DA-2024-60	Code	54-56 Alfred Street MACKAY	Aspen Manor Holdings Pty Ltd	Material Change of Use - Development Permit for Caretakers Accommodation	Emma Langford
DA-2024-62	Code	32 Sugarloaf Drive BALNAGOWAN	Jaimee M Miller	Material Change of Use - Development Permit for Dwelling House	Emma Langford
DA-2024-63	Code	484 Anzac Avenue MARIAN	Jessica L Borics	Material Change of Use - Development Permit for Dwelling House (Carport x2 - Class 10a )	Lachlan Deon
DA-2024-64	Code	506-510 Milton Street PAGET	Cronos Steel Mackay Pty Ltd	Material Change of Use - Development Permit for High Impact Industry (Extension to Warehouse)	Teagan Darvill
DA-2024-65	Impact	197 Maggiolo Drive PAGET	Mt Tyson Holdings Pty Ltd	Material Change of Use - Development Permit for Shop	Lachlan Deon
DA-2024-66	Code	6-8 Southlink Drive BAKERS CREEK	Sst 1	Material Change of Use - Development Permit for Warehouse	Lachlan Deon
DA-2024-67	Code	9-11 Southlink Drive BAKERS CREEK	Southlink Industrial Pty Ltd	Material Change of Use - Development Permit for Warehouse	Lachlan Deon



DA-2024-69	Code	31 Power Boulevard MIDGE POINT	Larry D Codd	Material Change of Use - Development Permit for Dwelling House (Shed - Class 10a) - Height and Building Work - Dwelling House (Shed - Class 10a) - Siting	Darryl Bibay
DA-2024-70	Code	205 Armstrong Beach Road SARINA	Amanda M Armitage and Luke A Armitage	Reconfiguring a Lot - Development Permit for Easement (Access and Services)	Lachlan Deon
DA-2024-71	Code	5 Sneyd Street WEST MACKAY	AAA Building Consultants	Material Change of Use - Development Permit for Dwelling House (Neighbourhood Character Overlay) and Building Work - Dwelling House (Open Carport - Class 10a) - Siting	Renee Andrea
DA-2024-73	Code	6441 Mackay-Eungella Road NETHERDALE	Integral Services Pty Ltd Ta Aaa Building	Material Change of Use - Development Permit for Dwelling House (Bushfire Hazard Overlay)	Teagan Darvill
DA-2024-74	Code	1/25 English Street SOUTH MACKAY	Dianne E Teece	Material Change of Use - Development Permit for Dwelling House - (Patio - Class 10a) - Heritage and Neighbourhood Character Overlay and Building Work - Dwelling House (Patio - Class 10a) - Siting	Renee Andrea
DA-2024-75	Code	59 Anzac Parade FINCH HATTON	Angela R Clifford and William J Clifford	Material Change of Use - Development Permit for Dwelling House (Flood Hazard Overlay - Finch Hatton)	Lachlan Deon
DA-2024-76	Code	17 Schaefer Street WEST MACKAY	Stephen P Kelly and Madonna J Kelly	Material Change of Use - Development Permit for Dwelling House (Carport and Walkway in a Heritage and Neighbourhood Character Overlay - Class 10a)	Renee Andrea
DA-2024-78	Code	289 West Plane Creek Road SARINA	Darryl K Josey	Material Change of Use - Development Permit for Winery	Lachlan Deon
DA-2024-80	Code	21 Turtle Place BLACKS BEACH	Mackstock Pty Ltd	Reconfiguring a Lot - Development Permit for Subdivision (2 Lots into 2 Lots)	Renee Andrea
DA-2024-81	Code	2088 Maraju-Yakapari Road THE LEAP	Aaron C Rootes and Phillippa R Aylett	Material Change of Use - Development Permit for Dwelling House (Open Carport - Class 10a)	Darryl Bibay

#### Development Applications Entering Decision Making Period

App No.	Code / Impact	Address	Applicant	Description	Officer
DA-2022-159/A	Impact	1000 Kuttabul Mount JUKES ROAD MOUNT JUKES	Sole Family Trust	Change Application (Other) Material Change of Use - Development Permit for Food and Drink Outlet and Low Impact Industry (Brewery)	Teagan Darvill
DA-2024-19	Code	Lot 28 Production Drive PAGET	Bosso Holdings Pty Ltd and Maggiolo Holdings Pty Ltd	Material Change of Use - Development Permit for Medium Impact Industry	Lachlan Deon
DA-2024-50	Code	13 Lester Hansen Street SLADE POINT	Mark J Clifford and Leigh V Clifford	Material Change of Use - Development Permit for Low Impact Industry (Extension to Existing Office)	Teagan Darvill
DA-2024-55	Code	471 Olletts Road THE LEAP	Denham Livestock Pty Ltd	Material Change of Use - Development Permit for Dwelling House (Bushfire Overlay)	Teagan Darvill
DA-2024-58	Code	167 Paradise Street SOUTH MACKAY	WHF Group	Material Change of Use - Development Permit for Warehouse	Renee Andrea
DA-2024-73	Code	6441 Mackay-Eungella Road NETHERDALE	Integral Services Pty Ltd Ta Aaa Building	Material Change of Use - Development Permit for Dwelling House (Bushfire Hazard Overlay)	Teagan Darvill
DA-2024-8	Code	2-10 Sweeney Court GLENELLA	Magpies Sporting Club Limited	Material Change of Use - Development Permit for Club Extension	Lachlan Deon

## Development Applications Finalised

App No.	Code / Impact	Address	Applicant	Description	Officer
<b>Approved Subject to Conditions</b>					
DA-2003-260/B	Code	11 Carlyle Street MACKAY	ATSICHS Mackay Ltd	Change Application (Minor)Material Change of Use - Development Permit for Health Care Centre	Emma Langford
DA-2010-341/F	Code	146-150 Shoal Point Road SHOAL POINT	Acquilla Investments Pty Ltd	Generally in Accordance Combined Application - Material Change of Use - Dwelling House (19 Houses) and Reconfiguration of a Lot - 1 High Density Residential Lot into 19 Lots	Darryl Bibay
DA-2011-261/F	Code	40-42 Caterpillar Drive PAGET	Hastings Deering (Australia) Ltd	General Industry, Warehouse & Outdoor Sales Premises	Lachlan Deon
DA-2018-10/B	Code	Lot 1 Mackay-Bucasia Road BEACONSFIELD	SHD Pty Ltd and RPS AAP Consulting Pty Ltd	Generally in Accordance Reconfiguring a Lot – Development Permit for Subdivision of 3 Lots into 48 Lots (Kerrisdale Estate – Stage 4) and Preliminary Approval for Subdivision - Kerrisdale Development Framework Plan	Dennis O’Riely
DA-2020-46/B	Code	Lot 467 Heliconia Street BAKERS CREEK	Cougar Developments Pty Ltd	Change Application (Minor)Reconfiguring a Lot - Development Permit for Subdivision (1 Emerging Community Lot into 3 Residential lots, and Removal of Common Property - Stage 4C)	Lachlan Deon
DA-2021-172	Code	160 Oswald Street SARINA	Sentinel Sarina Development Pty Ltd	Combined Application: Material Change of Use - Car Wash, Community Care Centre, Emergency Services, Food and Drink Outlet, Funeral Parlour, Hardware and Trade Supplies, Health Care Services, Office, Service Station, Showroom, Shop, and Veterinary Services; and Reconfiguring a Lot - 1 Emerging Community Lot into 3 Lots + Balance Lot + Access Easement	Lachlan Deon
DA-2021-209/A	Code	Lot 101 Bedford Road ANDERGROVE	Risewild Enterprise Pty Ltd	Change Application (Minor)Material Change of Use – Development Permit for Multiple Dwelling (26 x Multiple Dwelling Units) and Reconfiguring a Lot – Development Permit for 3 Lots into 13 Community Title Lots - in 4 Stages	Emma Langford
DA-2022-234	Code	1 Matsen Street BAKERS CREEK	Schweitzer Investments Pty Ltd	Material Change of Use - Service Station, Food and Drink Outlet, Childcare Centre and Reconfiguring a Lot - 1 Lot into 3 Lots and Access Easements	Emma Langford
DA-2022-84/A	Code	26-30 Diesel Drive PAGET	Local Developments Pty Ltd	Change Application (Minor)Material Change of Use - Development Permit for Medium Impact Industry	Teagan Darvill
DA-2023-103	Code	Lot 602 Norwood Parade BEACONSFIELD	SHD Pty Ltd	Reconfiguring a Lot - Development Permit for Subdivision (2 into 127 Lots and Balance Lot) - Kerrisdale Estate (Stages 5C, 6, 7 and 8)	Dennis O’Riely
DA-2023-113	Code	269 Nebo Road WEST MACKAY	Kristin M Rounsevell	Material Change of Use - Development Permit for Multiple Dwelling (4 Units) and Reconfiguring a Lot - Development Permit for Subdivision (1 into 4 Lots) in Two Stages	Renee Andrea
DA-2023-150	Code	49 Langdon Road SARINA	P & Tm Schulte Pty Ltd	Reconfiguring a Lot - Development Permit for Boundary Realignment (2 Lots into 2 Lots)	Darryl Bibay
DA-2023-162	Code	984 Sarina Beach Road SARINA BEACH	Martin B Cameron and Jodie K Cameron	Material Change of Use - Development Permit for Dwelling House (Bushfire Hazard Overlay) and Secondary Dwelling and Shed (Class 1a and 10a)	Renee Andrea

DA-2023-98	Code	55 Ocean Avenue SLADE POINT	Adam G Harrison and Leah Harrison	Reconfiguring a Lot - Development Permit for Boundary Realignment (4 into 2 Lots)	Emma Langford
DA-2023- 99/A	Code	7 English Street SOUTH MACKAY	Horizon Property Alliance	Change Application (Minor) Reconfiguring a Lot - Development Permit for Subdivision (1 into 2 Lots) and Material Change of Use - Development Permit for Multiple Dwellings (2 x Dual Occupancy)	Renee Andrea
DA-2024-17	Impact	2A Keim Street RURAL VIEW	MI & SA Quinn Family Trust	Material Change of Use - Development Permit for Shop	Teagan Darvill
DA-2024- 22/A	Code	Lot 83 Rocky Waterholes- Wollingford Road PLEYSTOWE	Troy M Craig and Elizabeth J Craig	Change Application (Minor) Reconfiguring a Lot - Development Permit for Boundary Realignment (2 into 2 Lots)	Lachlan Deon
DA-2024-25	Code	20 Pugsley Street WALKERSTON	Statewide Town Planning	Reconfiguring a Lot - Development Permit for Boundary Realignment (2 into 2 Lots)	Lachlan Deon
DA-2024-28	Code	2-16 Celeber Drive ANDERGROVE	Whitsunday Anglican School Ltd	Material Change of Use - Development Permit for Educational Establishment (New Egress and Car Park Expansion)	Teagan Darvill
DA-2024- 34/A	Code	22 Kinchant Dam Road NORTH ETON	PV Pumps Pty Ltd	Generally in Accordance Reconfiguration of a Lot - Development Permit for Boundary Realignment (2 Lots into 2 Lots)	Darryl Bibay
DA-2024-36	Code	13 Paulette Street WEST MACKAY	AAA Building Consultants	Material Change of Use - Development Permit for Dwelling House (Class 1a Dwelling House and 10a Shed)	Renee Andrea
DA-2024-40	Code	8 Central Park Drive PAGET	Australian Management & Safety Training	Material Change of Use – Development Permit for Educational Establishment (Training for Industry Uses)	Lachlan Deon
DA-2024-42	Impact	5-7 Corporate Drive PAGET	Steven R Battaia and Caesar C Van Lint and Petrus C Van Lint	Material Change of Use - Development Permit for Medium Impact Industry	Teagan Darvill
DA-2024-46	Code	1 Silverton Court PAGET	Ahrens Group Pty Ltd	Material Change of Use - Development Permit for Medium Impact Industry (Workshop)	Lachlan Deon
DA-2024-48	Code	895 Walkerston- Homebush Road SANDIFORD	Wayne M Simpson	Reconfiguring a Lot - Development Permit for Boundary Realignment (2 lots into 2 lots)	Darryl Bibay
DA-2024-51	Code	228 Rocky Waterholes- Wollingford Road GREENMOUNT	Michael E Pagden	Reconfiguring a Lot - Development Permit for Boundary Realignment (2 Lots into 2 Lots)	Darryl Bibay
DA-2024-54	Code	87 Jeppesens Road BLOOMSBURY	Ted Jeppesen Family Trust and J & D Baretta Family Trust	Reconfiguring a Lot - Development Permit for Subdivision and Boundary Realignment (2 Lots into 3 Lots)	Renee Andrea
DA-2024-75	Code	59 Anzac Parade FINCH HATTON	Angela R Clifford and William J Clifford	Material Change of Use - Development Permit for Dwelling House (Flood Hazard Overlay - Finch Hatton)	Lachlan Deon
DA-2024-9	Impact	162 Wood Street MACKAY	FX Clinics Rejuvenation Pty Ltd	Material Change of Use - Development Permit for Adult Store	Teagan Darvill
<b>Application Lapsed</b>					
DA-2012- 251	Code	122-126 Kellys Road WALKERSTON	AV Jennings Mackay Pty Ltd	2 Urban Expansion Lots into 97 Lots, Parkland & 1 Balance Lot - Glenrowan Estate - Stages 8, 9 & 10	Darryl Bibay
DA-2012- 251/A	Code	122-126 Kellys Road WALKERSTON	AV Jennings Mackay Pty Ltd	Extension of Relevant Period - 2 Urban Expansion Lots into 97 Lots, Parkland & 1 Balance Lot - Glenrowan Estate - Stages 8, 9 & 10	Darryl Bibay

DA-2024-32	Code	Lot 5 Melba Street ARMSTRONG BEACH	Karkel Contracting Pty Ltd	Material Change of Use - Development Permit for Multiple Dwelling Activities (Retirement Facility)	Renee Andrea
<b><u>Negotiated Decision</u></b>					
DA-2017-116/E	Code	Lot 700 Whitsunday Drive BLOOMSBURY	Mt Tyson Holdings Pty Ltd	Change Application (Other) Reconfiguring a Lot – Development Permit for Subdivision (2 Rural Lots into 35 Airfield Park lots, 1 Airfield lot and 1 Balance lot) & Material Change of Use – Development Permit for Air Services	Cherise Ayling
<b><u>Generally in Accordance With</u></b>					
DA-2017-4/C	Impact	15 Charlotte Street WEST MACKAY	OZCARE	Generally in Accordance Accommodation Units (Aged Care Facility - 126 beds)	Emma Langford
<b><u>Application Withdrawn</u></b>					
DA-2024-57	Code	1-9 Trade Court MOUNT PLEASANT	Fitness Cartel Mackay Pty Ltd	Material Change of Use - Development Permit for Indoor Sport and Recreation	Teagan Darvill