

Agenda

Ordinary Meeting

Thursday, 25 May 2023

commencing at 9:00am

Sunshine Coast City Hall Chamber, 54 First Avenue, Maroochydore

ORDINARY MEETING

NOTICE


12 May 2023

Dear Councillors, Group Executives and relevant staff,

In accordance with Section 254C(2) of the *Local Government Regulation 2012*, I wish to advise that an Ordinary Meeting has been convened for

25 May 2023

commencing at 9.00am.



Emma Thomas | Chief Executive Officer

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1 DECLARATION OF OPENING

On establishing there is a quorum, the Chair will declare the meeting open.

2 WELCOME AND OPENING**3 RECORD OF ATTENDANCE AND LEAVE OF ABSENCE****4 RECEIPT AND CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES**

That the Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held on 27 April 2023 be received and confirmed.

5 MAYORAL MINUTE**6 INFORMING OF CONFLICTS OF INTEREST****6.1 PRESCRIBED CONFLICTS OF INTEREST**

Pursuant to section 150EL of the *Local Government Act 2009* (the Act), a Councillor who has a prescribed conflict of interest in an issue to be considered at a meeting of the local government must –

- (a) immediately inform the meeting of the prescribed conflict of interest including the particulars stated in section 150EL(4) of the Act and
- (b) pursuant to section 150EM(2) of the Act must leave the place at which the meeting is being held, including any area set aside for the public, and stay away from the place while the matter is being discussed and voted on.

6.2 DECLARABLE CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

Pursuant to section 150EQ of the *Local Government Act 2009*, a Councillor who has a declarable conflict of interest in a matter to be considered at a meeting of the local government, must stop participating in the meeting and immediately inform the meeting of the declarable conflict of interest including the particulars stated in section 150EQ(4) of the Act.

If the Councillor with a declarable conflict of interest does not voluntarily decide not to participate in the decision, pursuant to section 150ES(3)(a) of the Act the eligible Councillors must, by resolution, decide

- (a) whether the Councillor may participate in the decision despite the Councillors conflict of interest or
- (b) that the Councillor must not participate in the decision and must leave the place at which the meeting is being held, including any area set aside for the public and stay away while the eligible Councillors discuss and vote on the matter.

The Councillor with the declarable conflict of interest must comply with any conditions the eligible Councillors impose per section 150ES(4) and (5) of the Act.





7 PRESENTATIONS / COUNCILLOR REPORTS

8 REPORTS DIRECT TO COUNCIL

8.1 QUARTERLY PROGRESS REPORT - QUARTER 3, 2022/23

File No: Council Meetings

Author: Acting Chief Strategy Officer
Civic Governance

Appendices: App A - Chief Executive Officer's Quarterly Highlights Report, Quarter 3 2022/23 13  
App B - Operational Plan Activities Report Quarter 3, 2022/2335  

PURPOSE

This report presents the Progress Report for Quarter 3, 2022/23. The report covers the period 1 January to 31 March 2023 and seeks to inform Council and the community on the progress of implementation of activities, significant projects and service highlights from Council's Operational Plan 2022/23.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Each quarter, Council receives a progress report on the delivery of the Operational Plan 2022/23. The report is published and made available to the community. The report comprises:

- Appendix A – Chief Executive Officer's Quarterly Highlights Report Quarter 3, 2022/23
- Appendix B – Operational Plan Activities Report Quarter 3, 2022/23.

Below is a summary of key highlights achieved throughout Quarter 3, 2022/23:

Our Strong Community

- Council, in collaboration with the Sunshine Coast 2032 Legacy Plan Community Reference Group, launched its 10+10+ legacy vision in January 2023, which articulates what our region will seek to achieve from being a key delivery partner in the Brisbane 2032 Olympic and Paralympic Games
- The Healthy Sunshine Coast program relaunched in January 2023 with 30 exciting activities to provide affordable and holistic community health and wellbeing initiatives for our community to be active, have fun and meet new friends
- In recognition of current housing and cost of living pressures Council waived permit fees for those having to temporarily live in a tent, car, caravan or mobile home and who, due to extenuating circumstances find it difficult to pay.

Our Environment and Liveability

- The 'Concept Blue' design was determined by Council as the preferred design option for Mooloolaba's Central Meeting Place project, providing new public facilities which include accessible toilets, native landscaping and an integrated seawall and coastal pathway
- 1200 volunteers collected 4.2 tonnes of general rubbish and a tonne of recyclables over 103 Sunshine Coast sites for the Council supported Clean up Australia Day on 5 March 2023

- 1585 megawatt hours of power were generated from Council's landfill Renewable Energy Facility in Caloundra, with power generation and gas flaring at Caloundra combined with gas flaring at Nambour resulting in a 24,834 tonne reduction in greenhouse gas emissions.

Our Resilient Economy

- \$17.1 million in economic activity was generated for the region from 10 Sunshine Coast major events with 35,152 guests attending
- 67% of Council's total available purchasing spend for the quarter went to local businesses, resulting in \$70.4 million being injected into our local economy for the quarter
- Council, in partnership with Study Sunshine Coast, launched the Sunshine Coast Jobs Hub in January 2023 to connect local talent with local industry by showcasing the latest job and career opportunities, and in doing so will boost business and industry growth and attract and retain talent within the region.

Our Service Excellence

- \$13.4 million was invested to rehabilitate and resurface 73.7 kilometres of local roads to improve the safety of these roads for our community (total area 415,620m²)
- 80,965 customers were assisted through the development and customer contact centres.
- Construction was completed on the Palmwoods Warriors Football Club headquarters, which included a major makeover to improve access for all abilities, and the new LED lighting to support cricket and AFL sports on the adjacent Graeme Rae Oval

Our Outstanding Organisation

- Council's Corporate Plan 2023-2027 was adopted in February 2023 and will guide Council's priorities over the next five years to advance our vision
- Council's new website was launched in February 2023, which provides enhanced cyber-security and greater opportunities for new governance frameworks and practices to deliver optimal customer experience
- Council, and a Council employee, received national and international recognition during the quarter:
 - The **Kings Beach Park and Community Precinct** was awarded the international Green Flag Award for being a well-managed park and green space and for setting the benchmark standard for the management of recreational outdoor spaces, in January 2023.
 - **Council employee, Peter Armstrong**, received international recognition from the International Erosion Control Association at the Annual Conference and Awards, in February 2023.
 - The **Construction Management and Waterway Protection Taskforce** won the National Award in Policy and Education at Stormwater Australia's National Awards for Excellence, in March 2023.
 - The **Caloundra Music Festival** was awarded the People's Choice Award for Festival of the Year at the Queensland Music Awards, in March 2023.

OFFICER RECOMMENDATION

That Council:

- (a) receive and note the report titled “Quarterly Progress Report - Quarter 3, 2022/23” and
- (b) receive and note the Chief Executive Officer’s Quarterly Highlights Report – Quarter 3 2022/23 (Appendix A), and
- (c) receive and note the Operational Plan Activities Report – Quarter 3, 2022/23 (Appendix B) reporting on implementation of the Corporate and Operational Plans.

FINANCE AND RESOURCING

This report is developed and funded within the current operational budget to provide an update on the progress towards delivery of the operational plan activities. Detailed Financial Performance Reports are provided to Council each month covering operating revenue and expenses as well as progress on the capital works program.

CORPORATE PLAN

Corporate Plan Goal:	<i>Our outstanding organisation</i>
Outcome:	We serve our community by providing this great service.
Operational Activity:	S30 - Governance – providing internal leadership, legal opinion, governance and audit functions ensuring legislative accountability, transparency and ethical obligations are supported.

CONSULTATION**Councillor Consultation**

This report has been discussed with Councillor J Natoli and Councillor E Hungerford as Portfolio Councillors for Our Outstanding Organisation.

Internal Consultation

Consultation has occurred with relevant Coordinators, Managers and each Group Executive to provide accurate information on service delivery and operational plan activities.

This is a whole of Council report and consultation involves all Groups of Council:

- Built Infrastructure Group
- Business Performance Group
- Civic Governance Group
- Customer and Planning Services Group
- Economic and Community Development Group
- Liveability and Natural Assets Group
- Office of the CEO.

External Consultation

There has been no external consultation in relation to this report.

Community Engagement

There has been no community engagement in relation to this report although community engagement has been an inherent part of progressing many of the activities in this report.

PROPOSAL

Under section 174(3) of the *Local Government Regulation 2012*, the Chief Executive Officer is required to provide a regular report to a Council meeting outlining the progress in delivering its operational plan activities.

Progress report

The Chief Executive Officer's Quarterly Highlights Report – Quarter 3, 2022/23 (Appendix A) consists of a summary of achievements under each of the corporate plan goals, as reflected in the structure of Council's Operational Plan 2022/23.

Operational Plan Activities Report - Quarter 3, 2022/23 (Appendix B) provides details on the implementation of the 81 activities outlined in Council's Operational Plan 2022/23. It includes the status of each activity covering percentage complete, on time and on budget indicators as well as progress commentary.

Legal

This report has been prepared in response to the requirements of section 174(3) of the *Local Government Regulation 2012*.

Policy

The presentation of this report in itself, is not inconsistent with any adopted Council policies. The quarterly progress report is, however, a component of Council's Integrated Planning and Performance Framework.

Risk

In accordance with Council's Risk Management Framework, the risks and opportunities identified in relation to the quarterly progress report include:

- reputation/public image: the report provides information on Council's operational plan and service delivery with both qualitative and quantitative updates to the community
- legislative: the report seeks to fulfill the legislative requirements of the *Local Government Act 2009* and the *Local Government Regulation 2012* and
- business activity: the report keeps Council informed on the progress of the operational plan activities and risk associated with their budget and schedule.

Previous Council Resolution

Ordinary Meeting 23 February 2023 (OM23/7)

That Council:

- (a) receive and note the report titled “Quarterly Progress Report – Quarter 2 2022/23”,*
- (b) note the Chief Executive Officer's Quarterly Highlights Report - Quarter 2, 2022/23 (Appendix A) and*
- (c) note the Operational Plan Activities Report - Quarter 2, 2022/23 (Appendix B) reporting on implementation of the Corporate and Operational Plans.*

Related Documentation

- Corporate Plan 2022-2026
- Operational Plan 2022/23
- Financial information provided to Council in the Financial and Capital management report.

Critical Dates

Quarterly Progress reports are usually presented to Council within eight weeks of the end of the calendar quarter, subject to the scheduled meeting cycle. The *Local Government Regulation 2012* requires the report to be presented to Council at intervals of not more than three months.

Implementation

The report will be published and available for community access via Council's website and a digital copy will be provided to the State Library of Queensland.




Sunshine Coast Council CEO's Quarterly Highlights Report

Quarter 3 – 2022/23





The background of the page features a large, abstract graphic composed of numerous thin, wavy green lines that flow from the left side towards the right, creating a sense of movement and depth.

Sunshine Coast Council CEO's Quarterly Highlights Report

Quarter 3 – 2022/23



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Acknowledgements

Council wishes to thank all contributors and stakeholders
involved in the development of this document.

Disclaimer

Information contained in this document is based on
available information at the time of writing. All figures and
diagrams are indicative only and should be referred to as
such. While the Sunshine Coast Council has exercised
reasonable care in preparing this document it does not
warrant or represent that it is accurate or complete.
Council or its officers accept no responsibility for any loss
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in reliance upon any material contained in this document.

Traditional Acknowledgement

Sunshine Coast Council acknowledges the Sunshine Coast Country, home of the Kabi Kabi peoples and the Jinibara peoples, the Traditional Custodians, whose lands and waters we all now share.

We recognise that these have always been places of cultural, spiritual, social and economic significance. The Traditional Custodians' unique values, and ancient and enduring cultures, deepen and enrich the life of our community.

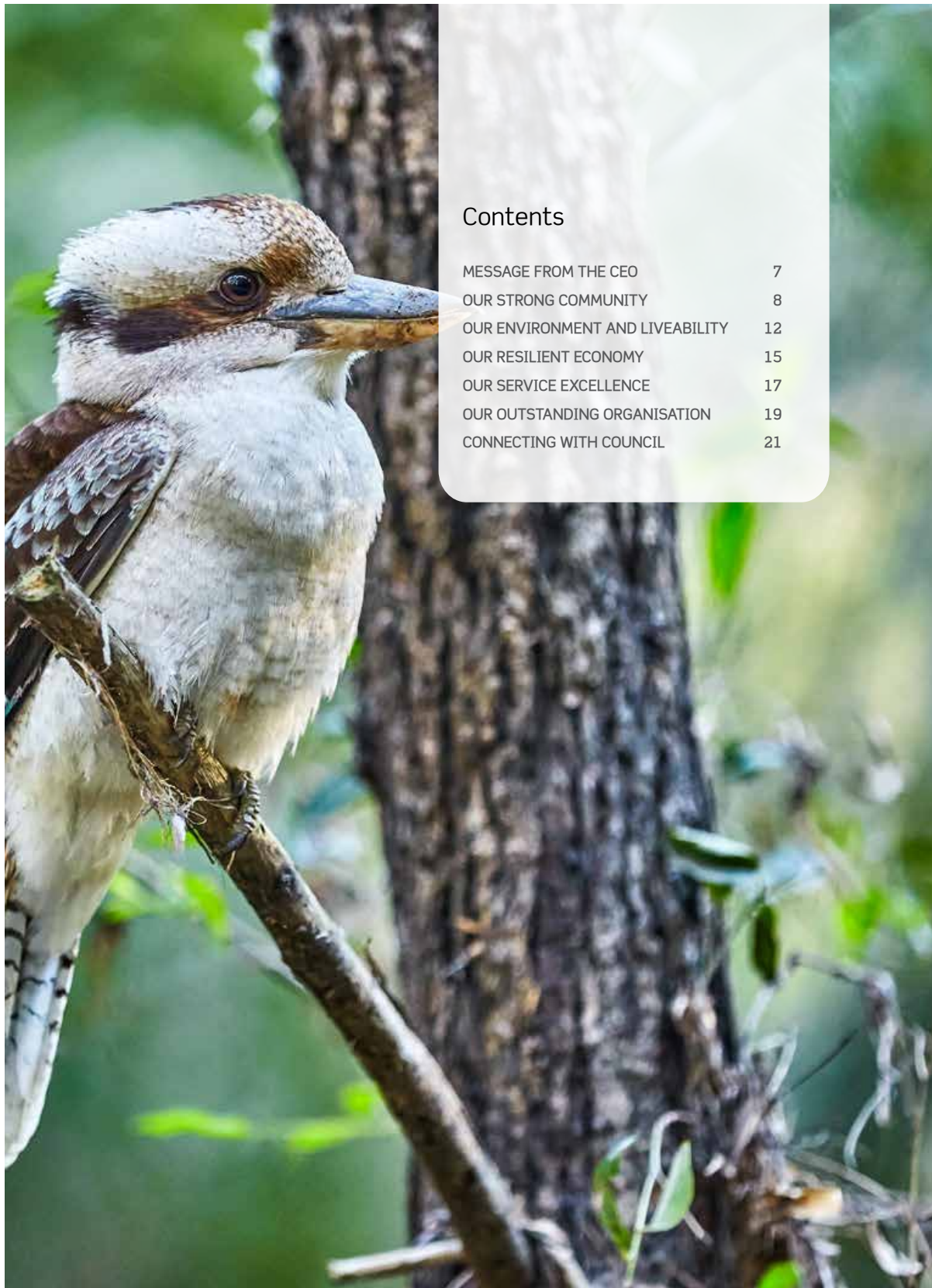
We commit to working in partnership with the Traditional Custodians and the broader First Nations (Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander) communities to support self-determination through economic and community development.

Truth telling is a significant part of our journey. We are committed to better understanding the collective histories of the Sunshine Coast and the experiences of First Nations peoples. Legacy issues resulting from colonisation are still experienced by Traditional Custodians and First Nations people.

We recognise our shared history and will continue to work in partnership to provide a foundation for building a shared future with the Kabi Kabi and the Jinibara peoples.

We wish to pay respect to their Elders – past, present and emerging, and acknowledge the important role First Nations people continue to play within the Sunshine Coast community.

Together, we are all stronger.



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Message from the CEO



Emma Thomas
Chief Executive Officer

Balancing the needs of our current community and those that will call the Sunshine Coast home in the future is an important part of Council's purpose and our genuine commitment to advance our vision as Australia's most sustainable region: Healthy. Smart. Creative.

To effectively position our region for the future it is important that we continue to engage with our community and, where required, adjust our strategies and plans to proactively manage risk and capitalise on opportunities for our region.

Following extensive environmental scanning, inclusive of a community satisfaction survey the Corporate Plan 2023-2027 was adopted by Council in February 2023. This plan establishes Council's strategic priorities and the blueprint to advance the vision over the next five years as we continue to build a strong and thriving community, maintain and enhance our liveability and natural assets and build the resilience of our economy.

In parallel, Council has embarked on a process to review the implementation plans of our regional strategies that provide the

long term directions and shape the future of our region. During the quarter our community was asked to share their thoughts on the Regional Economic Development Strategy 2013-2033 through a multi-channel engagement process which included an online survey that received almost 700 responses.

Community engagement has also commenced on the Sunshine Coast Community Strategy Action Plan 2019-2024 that will inform the implementation priorities for the next five years. Further engagement on our regional strategies will continue over the coming months to be reflected in this refreshed document that are intended to be presented to Council by the end of 2023.

As we look to the future it is hard not to get excited by the Brisbane 2032 Olympic and Paralympic Games. This worldwide event provides a once in a lifetime opportunity to secure critical infrastructure for our community and showcase our liveability and sustainability credentials of our region. In January 2023, Council launched the '10+10+ vision'. This vision has been developed in collaboration with members of the Sunshine Coast 2032 Legacy Plan Community Reference Group and clearly guides our planning in the lead up to the Games and identifies the necessary advocacy and funding required from the Queensland and Australian governments. This 10+10+ vision is critical so that current and future Sunshine Coast generations can all enjoy the outcomes from the Games.

The concept design for the new Sunshine Coast international indoor sports stadium - located

in the Kawana sports precinct - was released in January 2023. The indoor stadium will host the basketball program for the Games with construction commencing in late 2025 that will provide the capacity for 11 courts with the ability to convert to a 6000-seat show court. This world-class facility will benefit a range of groups, sports and businesses in the lead up to and well beyond the Games.

Lastly, I'm thrilled to see our grassroots sporting clubs are now benefiting from the recent upgrades in Palmwoods at the Warriors Football Club headquarters, which included a major makeover to improve access for all abilities, and the new LED lighting to support cricket and AFL sports on the adjacent Graeme Rae Oval. Sporting clubs engage with many thousands of participants across the Sunshine Coast and support healthy and active lifestyles that assist our communities to stay connected and thrive.

There are many more fantastic highlights mentioned throughout this progress report and I encourage you to read on and find out how Council is partnering with our community, business and other tiers of government to and advance our healthy, smart, creative region.

Emma Thomas
Chief Executive Officer



Our Strong Community

Our communities are connected and thriving places where people are included, treated with respect and opportunities are available for all.



111,748

people attended community events at Council's venues



90%

customer satisfaction with library and cultural programs



278,281

attendances to Council owned aquatic centres



36

community grant applications awarded, allocated more than \$44,000 for the quarter

Community Strategy 2019-2041

Council is undertaking a review and refresh of the Sunshine Coast Community Strategy 2019-2041 and supporting Community Strategy Action Plan 2019-2024 to reflect current community priorities.

Since the development of the last action plan in 2019, the community has changed due to the COVID-19 pandemic, a growing population, extreme weather events and, more recently, cost of living pressures.

The community was encouraged to get involved in this first stage of community engagement by visiting Council's 'Have your Say' website. Draft action plan priorities will be created and made available to all community members to review and provide feedback on.

Community and cultural development and partnerships

Waived permit fees for temporary living arrangements

In recognition of the housing crisis and cost of living across South East Queensland, Council waived permit fees of \$514 for those having to temporarily live in a tent, car, caravan or mobile home and who, due to extenuating circumstances, find it difficult to pay.

The decision was made in February 2023 through the 2022-2023 Register of Cost-Recovery Fees and Commercial Charges. Council understands

the rising housing pressures placed on many local families with some people having no choice but to live in a temporary home until their circumstances improve.

Approval is for a limited duration and where more time is required, the fee to reapply for a temporary home approval is \$392.

Healthy Sunshine Coast

The Healthy Sunshine Coast program bounced back in 2023 with a range of 30 exciting and innovative health and wellbeing activities held across the region each week.

These include activities such as strength and stability for older people, family yoga, fitness by the lake, pilates, tai chi, aqua aerobics and finding presence in nature.

The program is an affordable and holistic community health and wellbeing initiative that supports and encourages our community to be active, have fun and meet new friends. The program aim is to encourage:

- Positive mental health and resilience
- Regular physical activity
- Healthy eating
- Strong social connections, and
- Participation across all ages and abilities.

Harmony Week – Everyone Belongs

The Sunshine Coast celebrated our vibrant and diverse region with Harmony Week from 20 to 26

March 2023. In collaboration with the Sunshine Coast Multicultural Network and Nambour Community Centre, Council coordinated a week-long program of community conversations, workshops and events inviting residents to experience and explore the cultural diversity on the Sunshine Coast. This year's theme was 'Everyone Belongs' and included activities such as live music, dancing, and cultural activities (as part of Nambour Forecourt Live), to ancestral heritage sessions and active bystander training workshops to prevent racism.

The week demonstrated the Sunshine Coast's understanding, respect and compassion for the wealth of cultural, faith, linguistic and ethnic diversity we all share on the Sunshine Coast.

The Refinery 5.0

The Refinery 5.0 launched in January 2023 with this year's program being led by the Sunshine Coast Creative Alliance (SCCA). Council will be the Refinery 5.0's major investment partner and will work closely with SCCA, and The Refinery participants to continue to strengthen the creative ecology of our region and success of the program.

The Refinery is a 10-week program covering topics such as personal growth and leadership which is designed to build participants' capacity to grow their practice, gain visibility, understand their value and the context in which they operate.

The program will support a total of 20 artists, creative practitioners and entrepreneurs, with five identified First Nations positions, who will also participate in a dedicated First Nations-led series, curated and facilitated by leading Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander mentors and creatives.

Community Venues

Council's Venue 114 had an impressive start to 2023 facilitating and delivering a number of successful events during the quarter, including the:

- Annual Sunshine Coast Bridal Expo
- Creation of Youth Recycle
- Re-purpose Market (promoting sustainability initiatives)

- Conscious Life Festival
- Burlesque performances, and
- VIP fund-raiser events for Sunny Kids and Travis Shultz Suncoast Legal Service.

Venue 114 also curated and successfully delivered another 'In Conversation' forum for the International Women's Day event with guest speaker Leisel Jones.

Libraries

Key library statistics highlighted from the quarter include:

- 89 events and workshops were delivered to 961 attendees
- Summer Reading club recorded 309 per cent increase in participants from the previous year
- Early literacy (Rhymetime and Storytime) program has grown substantially in comparison to the previous quarter with class sessions upwards of 35 children in attendance
- Literacy services delivered 38 literacy classes with 177 attendances, and 20 English conversation circles with 108 attendances, and
- Library collections both physical and digital continue to be perform well with 8.6 per cent increase in digital loans and a 5.3 per cent increase in physical loans.

Kathleen McArthur Lunch Hour Theatre Podcast

The Kathleen McArthur Lunch Hour Theatre Podcast is now airing on 4ZZZ radio in Brisbane, promoting the content to a wider metropolitan audience. Supported by the State Library of Queensland and the Queensland Government, Council produced a podcast series of 22 episodes based on the Kathleen McArthur's Lunch Hour Theatre Scripts Collection.

Founded by Kathleen McArthur, the Lunch Hour Theatre Scripts series ran for more than twenty years with the vision of broadening public knowledge on environmental, biographical, and historical subjects. Many of the scripts focused on local and regional issues as well as providing an archive of historically significant portrayal of events, people, and places.

Roads, cycleways and pathways

Mobility Maps project expanded

Council expanded its award-winning mobility maps in March 2023 - a shining example of accessible tourism opportunities on the Sunshine Coast.

The mobility maps are a clever project that makes it easier for people of all abilities to get out and enjoy the Sunshine Coast way of life. The first maps focused on the popular area between Maroochydore to Mooloolaba and since then, more maps have been developed for the health precinct at Birtinya. Next on the list is the major sports precinct in Kawana, Caloundra and our hinterland areas.

The initiative began a year ago as a trial where specially trained "pilots" backed by advanced technology tracked some of our busiest routes, providing accessibility mapping for those living with a disability, using wheelchairs or using mobility aids to help plan their routes.

The project provides a clear solution for those with disabilities to plan and map their routes and is a comfort to travellers and visitors to our region with mobility issues in identifying where they can get to with ease.

New pathway and LED lights in Sippy Downs

Council commenced construction of a pathway inclusive of 29 LED lights along Claymore Road, Sippy Downs, ready for heavy foot traffic to the Coast's education precinct.

Once complete, the lights will be situated between Sippy Downs Drive and Bainbridge Circuit which will greatly improve the thoroughfare's safety at night as many students and locals walk, ride and scoot along the pathways connecting the community to nearby shops, schools and the local university and sports precinct.

This project is funded by the Australian Government's Local Roads and Community Infrastructure Program in association with Council.

Eco-friendly scooter trial

Council sought expressions of interests to attract a broad spectrum of electric scooter and electric bike hire operators that will trial hire services in the Maroochydore and Mooloolaba area. The trial of affordable and environmentally friendly transport will explore whether electric scooters and bikes can make life on the Sunshine Coast even better.

The trial, which is proposed to start mid-year, will be an opportunity for Council, residents and visitors to experience and test electric scooter and electric bike hire services within specific controls and locations on the Sunshine Coast. The subsequent aim is to encourage more people to spend more time actively enjoying our pathways and outdoor spaces.

Council is committed to finding the right service provider with the right equipment and experience to provide a safe, eco-friendly alternative to getting around our region, while helping to ease traffic congestion.

Sporting facilities

Sunshine Coast Stadium

In a first for our region, the Sunshine Coast Stadium hosted two Brisbane Broncos pre-season games and an open training session in February 2023. Proudly, Council was able to utilise the newly installed 16 metre by nine metre big screen for these games.

Other events hosted at the stadium include:

- Two Queensland Oztag State Cups (juniors in February 2023 and seniors in March 2023), and
- the Canberra Raiders training camp in March 2023.

In addition, the Dragon Boat Queensland State Championships were held at Lake Kawana in March 2023, and upgrades to the Sunshine Coast Stadium car park, located on Sportsman's Parade, opened with 157 formalised car parks, fencing, lighting and boom gate controls.

10+10+ vision - our legacy for the Games

Council launched its 10+10+ legacy vision in January 2023, which outlines what our region should seek to achieve from being a key delivery partner in the Brisbane 2032 Olympic and Paralympic Games.

The milestone document was developed in collaboration with the Sunshine Coast 2032 Legacy Plan Community Reference Group to create a shared vision and aspirations for our region. A range of outcomes are identified within the vision include:

- new and improved transport systems
- a range of community-based programs
- programs and projects to protect and enhance our natural environment
- increased hotel and accommodation options, and
- greater participation in community sport along with delivering world class, accessible multi-purpose sporting venues.

Sunshine Coast's new international indoor sports centre

Council, in conjunction with Brisbane 2032 Games Delivery Partners, has revealed a concept for a new international indoor sports centre that will have capacity for 11 courts and the ability to convert to a 6000-seat show court.

As planning steps up for the Brisbane 2032 Olympic and Paralympic Games, Kawana has been chosen for an exciting sporting expansion that will benefit a range of groups and sports (including basketball, netball, volleyball, pickleball, futsal and badminton) and will also benefit business, tourism and allied health providers.

It is expected to be up and running in 2027 and funded by the Australian and Queensland Governments under their Brisbane 2032 Olympic and Paralympic Games funding agreement with the cost to be determined once the design process is completed.





Our Environment and Liveability

Our natural assets, healthy environment and liveability credentials are maintained and enhanced.



7109 hectares

of landscape and garden beds maintained



417

wheelie bins of weeds removed by 357 volunteers with the Community Nature Conservation Program



10,350 hectares

managed for conservation under the Sunshine Coast Land for Wildlife program



1582 MWh

of power generated from Council's landfill Renewable Energy Facility in Caloundra, and associated reduction in greenhouse gas emissions of 24,834 tonnes

Beaches, foreshores, coastal infrastructure and canals

Funding for climate risk study

Council, in partnership with Noosa Shire Council, successfully received \$1.1 million from the Queensland Reconstruction Authority under the Queensland Resilience and Risk Reduction Fund which will be used for a climate risk study.

The project will run for two years and aims to better understand the implications of climate scenarios, how this will cause cascading impacts Sunshine Coast and Noosa's key services, the population, critical infrastructure and the environment.

Clean up for hatchlings 2023

More than 500 dedicated Sunshine Coast volunteers participated in cleaning up our beaches on 4 February 2023, ready for our hatchlings to make their way to the ocean as part of the annual 'Clean up for the Hatchlings' event.

Across 18 sites, 562 children and adults picked up 280 kilograms of rubbish – the largest item recorded was a stand up paddle board.

Our region is a turtle friendly community. Council acknowledges the fantastic work of event partners who make the clean up such a success and give our little hatchlings the best start in life. Partners of the event are TurtleCare Sunshine

Coast, Reef Check Australia, Unitywater, SEA LIFE Sunshine Coast Aquarium and Noosa Council.

Sand re-nourishment at Mooloolaba Beach

Council, in partnership with the Department of Transport and Main Roads, collaborated on a dredging campaign to remove sand from the Mooloolaba harbour entrance and within Mooloolaba bay and re-nourish Mooloolaba Beach.

Through these works, Council utilised a booster sand pump for the first time to nourish sand from the 'Cheese block' on Parkyn Parade, Mooloolaba to the Mooloolaba Surf Club. The re-nourishment is in response to erosion events associated with the La Nina weather patterns over previous years and provides an essential buffer from any future storm events.

Upgrades to Wurtulla beach accesses

Beach accesses at Wurtulla received upgrades to help beachgoers stay on the right track and protect the sensitive environment.

At beach accesses 247 Wurley Drive and 251 Petrel Court, Wurtulla, the old sets of timber stairs were completely replaced with an aluminium frame, timber handrails and fibre mesh treads and landings. Accesses 249, Poatina Street, Wurtulla and 250 near Bellbird Circuit, Wurtulla both received a refresh.

The upgrades mean our local community can continue to get safely to the beach while helping to protect the dunes and coastal foreshore areas from erosion and damage by staying on the right track to access the beach.

Bushland Conservation and habitat

Clean up Australia Day 2023

Council proudly supported Clean up Australia Day on 5 March 2023, in collaboration with local schools, businesses and community groups.

This year, almost 1200 volunteers collected 4.2 tonnes (the equivalent of 300 bags of general rubbish) and almost a tonne of recyclables over 103 Sunshine Coast sites.

Council recognises we all can play a part in keeping our region beautiful and healthy and thank those who volunteered time to participate.

Recreation parks, trails and facilities

Green Flag Award for the Kings Beach Park and Community Precinct

The Kings Beach Park and Community Precinct has been internationally recognised with a Green Flag Award. The international Green Flag Award® recognises and rewards well-managed parks and green spaces, setting the benchmark standard for the management of recreational outdoor spaces around the world.

The Kings Beach Park and Community Precinct is only the fourth Queensland park to receive this prestigious accolade and winning brings with it a wealth of benefits, from the status of being affiliated with a prestigious awards program through to tangible benefits such as boosting tourism and opening up revenue opportunities.

Electronic mower fleet expanded

Council introduced the largest fleet of fully electric, commercial grade, ride-on mowers of any Australian local government. The five new

mowers are environmentally friendly and reduce noise pollution by up to 50 per cent and join Council's growing eco-friendly fleet of vehicles and plant tools.

The new fleet is in line with Council's Environment and Liveability Strategy 2017 Transformational Actions to be a zero-net emissions organisation and low-carbon community by 2041.

These clean, green machines will be used to service our parks and recreation spaces, cemeteries, and Sunshine Coast Stadium and are proof of our Council consistently taking a proactive, evidence-based approach to deliver on its sustainability commitment.

Stormwater drainage

With a changing climate and a growing community, effective stormwater management is critical to ensuring that Council can achieve its vision as Australia's most sustainable region: Healthy. Smart. Creative.

Throughout the quarter, Council inspected and actioned the following stormwater infrastructure:

- 25 pipes were relined and 47 patched
- 45 pits were upgraded and 18 repaired
- 5512 condition inspections were undertaken, and
- 280 customer requests were investigated and responded to.

Sustainable growth and network planning

Mooloolaba's Central Meeting Place

Following an extensive community engagement process which commenced April 2022, Council determined in January 2023 the design for the Mooloolaba Foreshore Revitalisation Central Meeting Place (which encompasses the Loo with a View) would be 'Concept Blue'.

Two distinct designs were presented for a foreshore rejuvenation and presented to the community. Feedback was received through more than 1300 surveys, conversations with the

community and stakeholder groups with 'Concept Blue' being the clear preference. Council was also presented with engineering reports and State authority advice before voting commenced.

The precinct design includes new viewing decks, meeting places, picnic areas, beach showers, significant native landscaping, integrated seawall and a coastal pathway. The project also involves replacing the existing 'Loo with a View' with fully inclusive public amenities – that are separate from the viewing deck and meeting place – to address its aged state and current accessibility issues.

Community Engagement - Sunshine Coast Ecological Park

The Sunshine Coast community were invited to 'Have your Say', in March 2023, on the Draft Master Plan for the proposed Sunshine Coast Ecological Park.

The plan features numerous highlights including two treetop bridges, a forest lookout with 360 degree views over the Glass House Mountains and down to the coast, a community pavilion, operations and research facility and 'forest rooms' for play, discovery, rest and contemplation.

The 65 hectare land parcel, currently used for cattle grazing, lies in Jinibara country adjacent to the existing Mary Cairncross Scenic Reserve at Maleny, and within the Mountain View Green Space, one of the Sunshine Coast's five major green spaces. Council is in the process of reviewing the community feedback which will inform the final master plan.

Community and Creative Hub Precinct

For the first time in 28 years, Council's Customer Service counter in Omrah Avenue, Caloundra relocated to 77 Bulcock Street, Caloundra heralding the start of an exciting development. The move will allow for the refurbishment and repurposing of the Omrah Avenue administration building.

Once renovated, levels one and two of the administration building will be home to a new district library, a new customer service centre, community meeting spaces and covered outdoor

areas. The upper level of the building will provide community venue space and staff administration offices.

The Community and Creative Hub precinct will be managed in stages and delivered over the coming years. It is set to boost investment confidence and establish Caloundra as a leading business employment, cultural and community service hub and act as a catalyst for private investment in the Caloundra centre.



Our Resilient Economy

Our resilient, high-value economy of choice drives business performance, investment and enduring employment.



\$5.3 million

in revenue for Sunshine Coast holiday parks



35,152

guests attended 10 major events, which generated approximately \$17.1 million in economic activity for the region



2438

businesses accessed specialist advice and information



\$70.4 million

or 67% of the total available purchasing spend for the quarter went to local businesses

Economic development

Regional Economic Development Strategy 2013-2033

After a period of significant growth and change within our region, Council and its partners are undertaking a 2023 review of the Regional Economic Development Strategy 2013-2033.

Our community, local businesses and industry groups were invited to 'Have your Say' on the future direction of the Strategy over the next 10 years through an online survey in March 2023.

More than 690 survey responses were received in addition to feedback through several external consultation opportunities. Council is currently reviewing all feedback and will use it to inform the final strategy.

This quarter, priorities and initiatives from the existing strategy continued to be implemented, which included:

- Business Sustainability Workshops, encouraging businesses to find out how to cut costs, improve efficiencies and reduce impacts on the environment
- Level Up Your Business website launch, aimed to help with business planning, networking, permits, licenses, grants and more
- Scaling Up Program, focused on business planning and performance
- Place activation initiatives in Nambour, Mooloolaba and Caloundra, including the Buy

Local promotional campaign developed to encourage consumers to purchase local gifts for Mother's Day,

- Sunshine Coast Workforce Development and Skills Gap Analysis project (being delivered in collaboration with the University of the Sunshine Coast), and
- Support for key stakeholder groups, Visit Sunshine Coast, Food and Agribusiness Network, Clean Tech Industries, Manufacturing Excellence Forum, Sunshine Coast Tech Industry Alliance, Screen Collective and Study Sunshine Coast.

Sunshine Coast Jobs Hub

The Sunshine Coast Jobs Hub was launched in January 2023 to connect local talent with local industry by showcasing the latest job and career opportunities within the Sunshine Coast region.

The platform has been created through a partnership between Council and Study Sunshine Coast and already has more than 700 opportunities listed. It is an important initiative to boost business and industry growth and attract, retain and develop talent in the region – consistent with the intent of the Regional Economic Development Strategy 2013-2033.

The platform is free for businesses to advertise their job opportunities, and it also aggregates employment opportunities from other job sites to showcase roles specifically located on the Sunshine Coast. The one-stop-platform features

information, insights and opportunities on the region's high value industries and employers from tourism and hospitality to health, education, manufacturing and more.

Caloundra Music Festival confirmed until 2025

The much-loved Caloundra Music Festival - which attracts fans and musicians from far and wide and injects more than \$3 million into the local economy each year - was secured in February 2023 for another three years.

Council recognised the festival continued to provide affordable, family-friendly entertainment to a broad demographic, performance opportunities for local artists and support for charities, venues, businesses, accommodation providers and schools. The event also promotes accessibility, diversity and inclusivity and helps bind the community, attracting more than 500 volunteers.

An integral part of the festival's delivery has been a focus on sustainability and, in 2022, more than 80 per cent of all waste generated by the festival was diverted away from landfill. The Caloundra Music Festival aims to build on the Sunshine Coast's environmental credentials with the goal of becoming the region's first zero net emissions music event by 2027.

Water sports championships bound for Sunshine Coast

Mooloolaba will play host to one of the most-exciting up and coming water sports in the world after securing hosting rights for the 2023 Australian Coastal Rowing and Beach Sprint Championships between 27 and 30 July 2023, which for the first time incorporates the Oceania Championships.

Coastal Rowing is a high-octane, white-water variant of traditional flat-water racing and a discipline on the rise, having been included in the program for the 2026 Commonwealth Games in Victoria and on the radar for both the Los Angeles 2028 and Brisbane 2032 Olympic and Paralympic Games. Surf Sports are an important cultural aspect of our community which will provide spectacular viewing for Mooloolaba Beach visitors and locals.

Revitalising Nambour's town centre.

Council, in collaboration with Nambour businesses and community groups, worked closely together to develop digital material to sustainably promote living, working and shopping.

Developed to encourage locals and visitors to explore Nambour, the digital makeover includes dynamic #ExploreNambour video series, e-newsletter, blogs, social media content, and a revamp of the I AM NAMBOUR website. The innovative new video series captures the vibrant night economy, the café culture and broad variety of shops, including Nambour's highly regarded vintage shopping offering. The website has been updated to include newly created parking map (inclusive of accessibility options) and a Vintage and Retro Op Shop Hip Hop map, plus up-to-date small business and local industry content, links to investment information and destination marketing information.

Multi-deck parking facility within the Maroochydore City Centre

A 40-metre crane was erected on the construction site for the new multi-deck parking facility in the Maroochydore City Centre in February 2023, marking another milestone for the project. The project continues to progress well with the help of state-of-the-art equipment and a highly skilled team of construction professionals. The next phase of the project will include the construction of the eight level concrete structure. Works already completed to date include bulk earthworks, 60 deep foundation piles, footings and ground services. Once complete, the eight-storey car park will include 295 paid parking spaces, including accessible parking and electric vehicle charging spaces plus 39 motorcycle and 28 bicycle spaces.

Holiday Parks

Occupancy across all of Council's Holiday Parks was 73 per cent for the quarter. The 'Top of Dunes' refurbishment works at Coolum Beach Holiday Park were completed formalising 19 new caravan sites and sealing the roadway through these sites. This work included the replacement of the southern boundary fence and an ease of access staircase to the beach, providing direct access to the patrolled surf of Coolum Beach and making this park one of the Sunshine Coast's most popular camping and caravan destinations.



Our Service Excellence

Our services are consistent and accessible and provide positive experiences for our customers and value to our community.



89%

of development applications assessed within statutory timeframes



1767

building approvals issued with a construction value of \$511 million



80,965

customers assisted through the development and customer contact centres



\$13.4 million

invested into our local road network to rehabilitate and resurface 73.7kms of road with a total area of 415,620m² for the safety of our community

Capital works program

Palmwoods Warriors Football clubhouse and LED lighting project

Council completed construction of the Palmwoods Warriors Football Clubhouse in March 2023, in addition to the new LED lighting being delivered separately to the Graeme Rae Oval.

This modern, inclusive clubhouse includes refurbished change areas, canteen, meeting room and office, storage area, public amenities and an extensive undercover viewing area. The \$560,000 Palmwoods Warriors Football Club project was jointly funded through the Queensland Government's South East Queensland Community Stimulus Program in association with Council and Sunshine Coast Churches Soccer Association.

The new 300 lux LED lights over the wicket box and 200 lux outer field lighting will greatly improve competition and training opportunities. The \$519,000 Palmwoods Cricket/AFL LED lighting project was jointly funded by the Australian Government and Council. The Australian Government committed \$450,000 through its Local Roads and Community Infrastructure Program.

Customer and community relations

Council received a strong customer satisfaction result for the quarter and noted reduced contacts

to Council's contact centre. This can be attributed to Council's online waste forms, which have provided customers with a quick and convenient channel to 'self-service' and get the right outcome easily, the first time.

Development services

Council has continued to see development activity returning to pre-COVID-19 levels, noting a reduction in the extraordinary workloads associated with the HomeBuilder Scheme, increased interest rates, changes in development market appetite and impacts of construction costs and resourcing.

Local amenity and local laws

ParkSmart program expanded

The ParkSmart program introduced its third vehicle during the quarter (equipped with number plate recognition, high-speed cameras and advanced computer software) to monitor Maroochydore, including the Cotton Tree and Picnic Point areas, Mooloolaba and Alexandra Headland.

Similar to phase one and two, Council implemented a four-week educational period with caution notices issued before infringements are imposed.

The program is focused on providing a safer work environment for parking officers and reducing

the risk of occupational violence. It also supports local businesses in Maroochydore, Mooloolaba and Alexandra Headland as ParkSmart provides greater coverage and capacity to encourage visitor turnover.

Quarries

Key quarry initiatives undertaken during the quarter include:

- The quarry crushing contractor commenced and as a result has increased the production of road base and gravel road products for maintenance, and
- Large rock products were provided for Council's high-flow, low-flow dry creek bed projects, including the Honey Farm Road Sports Recreation Precinct.

Road network management

Upgrades to Brandenburg Road, Mooloolah Valley

Council commenced upgrades to Brandenburg Road in Mooloolah Valley in March 2023 to widen and improve safety for all road users.

The works are located near the intersection of Viewland Drive and continue west for approximately 500 meters. Upgrades include the road widening on the up-hill side to provide a more uniform road width between 6 – 6.5 metres, installation of kerb and channel to improve drainage, and the installation of three speed humps and additional signage to control traffic speed.

Replacement of 100-year-old bridge

A 21 metre-long timber bridge located at 298 River Road, Maroochy River underwent a \$650,000 replacement in March 2023 as it had reached the end of its viable life. The bridge which was 100-years-old and described as a complex, rare and logistically challenging operation, was successfully completed.

Historically, the three-span bridge was designed for minimal traffic and up to 40-tonne loads,

however more recently the weather and neighbouring developments saw an increase in traffic movements and load capacity up to 55 tonnes, meaning it was at risk of failure.

The new bridge is a cost-effective and long-lasting solution providing a safe and reliable crossing for connecting our growing communities into the future.

Waste and resource management

Free Mulch thanks to green organics bins

In March 2023, Council announced the offer of free mulch at Council's resource recovery centres.

Residential and commercial customers can attend one of Council's resource recovery centres (located at Beerwah, Caloundra, Buderim and Nambour) and with the help of a machine, pick up a free load.

The announcement follows the introduction of green garden organic bins in July 2022. Mulching and reusing garden waste, instead of dumping it, will extend our landfill life and reduce greenhouse gases being released into the atmosphere. When you recycle your garden waste, it gets turned into mulch – creating new life from old.



Our Outstanding Organisation

Our organisation is high performing, innovative and community focused, marked by great people, good governance and regional leadership.



98

offers of employment
for the quarter



4

national and international
awards received during
the quarter

Council's Corporate Plan 2023-2027

Council adopted its Corporate Plan 2023-2027 in February 2023, which will guide our directions and priorities for the region over the next five years.

The Corporate Plan has been informed by consultation with our community across a broad range of activities, including the Community Satisfaction Survey 2022, and has been considered alongside an environmental scan of key changes that have arisen since the last plan was adopted.

The Corporate Plan outlines the ways Council will advance our vision and deliver on our purpose. It presents five strategic goals which provide a balanced approach to planning and are aligned to our Councillor Portfolio system:

- Our strong community
- Our environment and liveability
- Our resilient economy
- Our service excellence
- Our outstanding organisation.

These goals will cascade into the development of the Operational Plan 2023/24 and the subsequent annual and quarterly progress reports that monitor delivery.

Digital information services

Council replaced its website in February 2023, transitioning to a new platform that provides enhanced cyber security, and provides more sophisticated artificial intelligence and reporting analytics.

The new platform is an important foundation allowing the overarching project to deliver continuous improvements relating to the customer

and user experience. The platform will give Council great opportunities for new governance frameworks and practices to deliver optimal customer experience based on customer needs.

Council continues to invest in cyber security, ensuring safe and secure digital services and maintaining the integrity and reputation of Council and the community.

Financial and procurement services

Assistance to ratepayers and suppliers

Council's bi-annual rate run was undertaken during January 2023 and to assist ratepayers unable to pay in full by the deadline, Council has continued to offer interest-free payment arrangements for those who made an arrangement by the due date.

Awards

Council and a Council employee received international and national recognition during the quarter:

- The **Kings Beach Park and Community Precinct** was awarded the international Green Flag Award for being a well-managed park and green space and for setting the benchmark standard for the management of recreational outdoor spaces, in January 2023.
- **Council employee, Peter Armstrong**, received international recognition from the International Erosion Control Association at the Annual Conference and Awards, in February 2023.

- **The Construction Management and Waterway Protection Taskforce** won the National Award in Policy and Education at Stormwater Australia's National Awards for Excellence, in March 2023. This Taskforce has been a catalyst for positive change management in the construction sector in regards to environmental performance.
- **The Caloundra Music Festival** was awarded the People's Choice Award for Festival of the Year at the Queensland Music Awards, in March 2023.

Connecting with Council

Council invites the community to take part in many forms of community engagement.

To receive Council news and information you can subscribe to Council's [e-newsletters](#) by visiting Council's website at sunshinecoast.qld.gov.au.

Through social media, Council aims to keep you up to date on a range of Council activities.

Follow Council on:



Visit our have your say website at haveyoursay.sunshinecoast.qld.gov.au to comment on current consultations and projects or read about how community engagement helped shape Council projects.

Contact us via MyCouncil online anywhere, anytime to ask a question, report a problem, lodge a request or provide your feedback. Complete an [online form](#) or chat with a Customer Service Officer using Council's [SMS](#), or [request a callback](#) service from 9am–4.30pm Monday to Friday or email mail@sunshinecoast.qld.gov.au.

Customer contact counters are open 8.30am–4.30pm Monday to Friday in Caloundra, Maroochydore and Nambour, for visits in person, or by phone on (07) 5475 7272. For after-hours emergencies, Council receives calls 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

We encourage you to visit sunshinecoast.qld.gov.au.







Operational Plan Activities Report Quarter 3, 2022/23



Quarterly Progress Report

Corporate Plan Goal : Our strong community



Goal Objective: In all our communities, people are included, treated with respect, and opportunities are available to all.







Healthy and active communities





Action Code	Action Name	Start Date	Due Date	Progress	On Time	On Budget	Comments	Branch
1.1.1	Deliver the 'Healthy Sunshine Coast' program to increase health and wellbeing in the community through low cost or free activities and workshops.	01/07/2022	30/06/2023	70%			The Healthy Sunshine Coast program recommenced in February 2023 with more than 30 weekly activities delivered by 26 different providers. The activities are spread across the Sunshine Coast to ensure the community can access activities close to them. There are 2500 registrations for the program via Council's website and more than 1200 members on the program's Facebook page. Further work has commenced to expand targeted program to young people, the First Nations community and people with disability to provide a holistic low-cost community program for all. Programming includes diverse activities such as aqua aerobics, family yoga, circuit classes, jazzercise and meditation.	CD: Community Development
1.1.2	Partner with the State Government and school communities to deliver travel behavioural change programs that support active transport options, including the 'RideScore Active School Travel' program, walking and cycling to school events, the cycle skills education course and the safe school travel program.	01/07/2022	30/06/2023	75%			Ride to School Day 2023 was a success with 37 schools and 2400 school children registered. Ten schools are now involved in the RideScore Program with more than 50% of Nirimba children registered for the event. The separated cycling facilities at Nirimba and extensive active transport network at Aura development largely supports walking and cycling to Nirimba State School were 129 bicycles and 41 scooters were counted. There was a more diverse spread of schools as part of Ride to School Day from coastal through to hinterland. This result is encouraging and supports the need to continue to improve active transport infrastructure right across our growing region to provide a healthy and sustainable travel option. Council commenced planning for the delivery of the Cycle Skills program at RideScore schools. Cycle Skills is an introductory lesson to safe cycling from local qualified cycle coaches to reinforce essential bike handling skills, road rules to assist with safe school travel behaviours, and support the promotion of active school travel.	TIM: Transport Infrastructure Management

Action Code	Action Name	Start Date	Due Date	Progress	On Time	On Budget	Comments	Branch
1.1.3	Identify and secure an enduring legacy for the Sunshine Coast as a key delivery partner in the Brisbane 2032 Olympic and Paralympic Games and work collaboratively with our Community Reference Group and key partners to identify Sunshine Coast specific themes, opportunities and challenges.	01/07/2022	30/06/2023	75%			On 24 January 2023, Council launched its '10+10+ legacy vision' for what the region should seek to achieve from being a key delivery partner in the Brisbane 2032 Olympic and Paralympic Games. The vision document was unveiled with members of the Sunshine Coast 2032 Legacy Plan Community Reference Group, who have worked with Council to develop a shared legacy vision and aspirations for our region arising from the Brisbane 2032 Games. More than 20 Sunshine Coast community and Council representatives attended the Brisbane 2032 Legacy Forum where around 500 of Australia's community and business leaders, sports stars and school leaders came together to help shape the overarching Brisbane 2032 Legacy Plan.	ECDGE: Group Executive Economic and Community Development





Vibrant community places and spaces that are inclusive, accessible and adaptable





Action Code	Action Name	Start Date	Due Date	Progress	On Time	On Budget	Comments	Branch
1.2.1	Coordinate the delivery of Council's Transport Levy policy and projects including encouraging sustainable travel choices through travel behaviour change programs and connecting our local communities by supporting transport services such as Council Link, Flexilink and Kenilworth Community Transport Service.	01/07/2022	30/06/2023	60%			Implementation of the Transport Levy initiatives progressed with the continuation of existing services such as Council Link, support of the Kenilworth Trial and the Flexilink bus services in the Hinterland. The delivery of a 2-year trial to extend bus route 631 to better serve Yandina will be funded by Council and the State. The bus stops scheduled for upgrade are on track for delivery this financial year. The Transport Levy is also funding the delivery of ThinkChange, Council's Travel Behaviour Change Program and the Ridescore initiative across participating schools. The Levy will contribute to the Detailed Business Case for Sunshine Coast Public Transport project, which is being led by the Queensland Government in collaboration with Council as a funding partner. There have been some minor delays to the program resulting in year-to-date underspends. Any remaining funds at the end of the year will return to the Transport Levy reserve to be allocated in accordance with the supporting policy.	SIPP: Strategic Infrastructure Planning and Policy

Action Code	Action Name	Start Date	Due Date	Progress	On Time	On Budget	Comments	Branch
1.2.2	Continue implementation of 'smart parking' technology with two additional car park locations in Maroochydore and Maleny that will improve car park usage data to inform future planning, travel choices for our residents and assist to reduce traffic congestion.	01/07/2022	30/06/2023	75%			Progress for the install of parking counters has been delayed due to preparatory works not being completed. All equipment has been commissioned and is ready to be installed, pending upgraded poles for mounting new signs and parking counter systems. Once poles are in place, installation of the parking counter systems is expected within a few weeks. It is anticipated to be completed before end of financial year.	TIM: Transport Infrastructure Management
1.2.3	Expand the trial and implementation of regulated parking technology to provide a safer work environment while encouraging vehicle turnover to provide fair and equitable access to the town centres, destinations and tourism locations.	01/07/2022	30/06/2023	90%			Implementation of Council's ParkSmart Program has continued with an additional vehicle fit-out completed and ParkSmart patrols commencing this quarter in the wider Maroochydore, Alexandra Headlands and Mooloolaba areas. The introduction of Council's ParkSmart Program into these new locations continues to support vehicle turnover in business centres and during community events. Educational cautions are being issued in the first four weeks of rollout, which is consistent with the rollout of the initial two vehicles. The program continues to highlight a reduction in occupational violence towards Council officers, with zero ParkSmart related incidents reported since 1 July 2022.	CR: Customer Response
1.2.4	Implement prioritised actions from the Sunshine Coast Sport and Active Recreation Plan 2011-2026 including: commencing civil works at Honey Farm Sport and Recreation Precinct, completion of the equestrian arena upgrade at Nambour showgrounds, and major upgrades to the North Shore Multi-Sports Complex and Palmwoods football clubhouses.	01/07/2022	30/06/2023	75%			Construction of key sport and recreation projects came to completion this quarter, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Palmwoods Warriors Football clubhouse upgrade, ready for the football season The installation of field lighting at Coolum Sports Complex to support rugby league and cricket activities, and The Moss Day Pavilion Indoor Equestrian Arena upgrade at the Nambour Showgrounds. The tender for new oval lighting and construction of a new clubhouse for the North Shore Multi-Sports Complex was awarded.	SCV: Sports and Community Venues









Action Code	Action Name	Start Date	Due Date	Progress	On Time	On Budget	Comments	Branch
1.2.5	Implement prioritised actions from the Sunshine Coast Aquatic Plan 2011- 2026 including: commissioning of the Nambour Aquatic Centre water slides, completing the Kawana Aquatic Centre staged detailed designs with commencement of stage 1 construction including a new program pool, and improved car parking and demolition of the existing Learn to Swim pool.	01/07/2022	30/06/2023	75%			The Kawana Aquatic Centre stage 1 works commenced during the quarter, which includes the demolition and rebuild of the existing program pool, improved car parking and demolition of the existing Learn to Swim pool. The Palmwoods Aquatic Centre underground pipework and filtration upgrade was completed in March 2023.	SCV: Sports and Community Venues
1.2.6	Implement prioritised projects and programs from the Sunshine Coast Library Plan 2014-2024 and the Library Network Plan 2019-2041 including delivery of programs that support life-long learning and planning for the delivery of new and refurbished libraries at Caloundra, Nambour and Sippy Downs.	01/07/2022	30/06/2023	75%			Council library physical and digital loan numbers grew this quarter with an 8% and 5% increase respectively. Attendance of the Early Literacy Program grew by 133% (compared to the same period in 2022). Changes to the Summer Reading Club format to improve accessibility saw a 309% increase in participants from the previous year. A new libraries initiative, the Seed Library, was launched in March 2023 to offer collections of seeds for members of the community to swap in a sustainable manner. Seeds are from local and heirloom fruit and vegetable varieties that might otherwise be lost, as well as new local varieties including flowers. The seed collection allows our communities to swap, grow, work towards seed sustainability and education in the Sunshine Coast region. The initiative relies on a strong partnership with a community group to supply seeds. This quarter 1112 seed packets were borrowed and 145 seed packets were donated by community members.	AHL: Arts, Heritage and Libraries



An inclusive community, with opportunities for everyone

Action Code	Action Name	Start Date	Due Date	Progress	On Time	On Budget	Comments	Branch
1.3.1	Implement key actions from the Sunshine Coast Innovate Reconciliation Action Plan 2021-2022 and develop a new Stretch Reconciliation Action Plan that strengthens relationships and supports social and economic opportunities for the First Nations community.	01/07/2022	30/06/2023	65%			Actions from the Sunshine Coast Innovate Reconciliation Action Plan 2021-2022 continue, with a small number likely to be carried over into the new financial year. Key initiatives undertaken this quarter include monthly meetings held with the Sunshine Coast First Nations Accord (corporate round table) and the Sunshine Coast First Nations community to build relationships and facilitate community conversations. Work is continuing on developing a First Nations Engagement Guideline and First Nations Cultural Protocols Guideline. Scoping work has commenced this quarter to develop a new 'Stretch' Reconciliation Action Plan.	CD: Community Development
1.3.2	Deliver a 'Youth Council' program that fosters youth leadership and empowers young people to advocate and implement youth-led initiatives.	01/07/2022	30/06/2023	75%			<p>A number of Youth Council initiatives have progressed during the quarter with youth-led activities including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Youth Council members volunteering to join the organising group to plan the first youth-led National Tree Day on the Sunshine Coast (a collaboration between Council, the Youth Council and Zero Positive - a world-first, not-for-profit emissions reduction program developed specifically to empower Australian schools to become climate positive). Planning has commenced on a variety of Youth Week celebrations (which the Youth Council will be involved in at various levels), and Planning has also commenced for a regional youth summit to be delivered later in 2023 with various community partners - including The Thompson Institute - which will focus on mental health and wellbeing. 	CD: Community Development





Action Code	Action Name	Start Date	Due Date	Progress	On Time	On Budget	Comments	Branch
1.3.3	Work collaboratively to deliver initiatives and outcomes that foster social inclusion and diversity, with a focus on multicultural communities and accessibility.	01/07/2022	30/06/2023	75%			This quarter, Council has placed a strong focus on the development of an Inclusion Action Plan for people with disability. A reference group was formed comprising 14 people who participated in two workshops. Reference group members represented disability, carers and services on the Sunshine Coast to provide a lived experience voice into the Inclusion Action Plan. A targeted survey was conducted and received 97 responses. Alongside internal stakeholder data, this information will be used to inform a draft Action Plan. The Multicultural Advisory Group met in February 2023 with a focus on considering the Welcoming Cities framework as a mechanism to understand progression in being a welcoming region. The Harmony Week (20-26 March 2023) festivities, inclusive of 14 events across the region, was successfully delivered.	CD: Community Development
1.3.4	Implement the Community Engagement Policy and Excellence in Engagement Framework to support the delivery of best practice engagement.	01/07/2022	30/06/2023	75%			Council's focus on delivering excellence in engagement continues to strengthen with the development of an Inclusive Engagement Guideline to recognise the individuals that make up our community and to advance inclusive engagement by addressing barriers to participation. The first phase of a broad engagement program to undertake a review of the Community Strategy Action Plan 2019-2024 launched on 30 March 2023. The Environment and Liveability Strategy 2017 and Regional Economic Development Strategy 2013-2033 are also undergoing a review process and associated broad and targeted engagement activities. The review of all three regional strategies will ensure that these positions continue to reflect and align with community need and direct localised priorities and transformative action for our region.	CD: Community Development



Connected, resilient communities, with the capacity to respond to local issues

Action Code	Action Name	Start Date	Due Date	Progress	On Time	On Budget	Comments	Branch
1.4.1	Provide support to the community and other not-for-profit organisations in the delivery of resources, facilities and services that meet the needs of communities through the grants program.	01/07/2022	30/06/2023	75%			<p>This quarter, 36 community grants were allocated, totaling \$44,042.</p> <p>Significant community capacity building activity was undertaken by grants officers during this period to support major grant applicants with project development and grant writing for Council's Major Grant round which closed on 13 March 2023. Activities included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Eight in-person and online Grant Writing Information Workshops, attracting a total of 124 participants Six in-person sessions which comprised three sector specific workshops (Cultural Heritage, Creative Arts, and Multicultural), and three general sessions. 	CD: Community Development
1.4.2	Undertake a review and develop the next version of the Active Transport Plan that sees walking and cycling playing an essential part in an integrated transport system to provide improved mobility, safer streets, healthier residents and a reduced impact on global climate	01/07/2022	30/06/2023	15%			This project is currently on hold. Active Transport remains a key priority for Council and this project will be progressed in the next financial year following budget allocation to resource its delivery.	SIPP: Strategic Infrastructure Planning and Policy
1.4.3	Develop a Roads Plan that ensures the road network plays its intended role in moving people and goods while connecting our communities efficiently and effectively, including: applying technology to improve network efficiency, guiding future investment in Council roads and informing advocacy for State and Federal Government investment.	01/07/2022	30/06/2023	40%			Development of the Roads Plan is on hold and will be progressed in the new financial year. This is to ensure there is consistency with the new Local Government Infrastructure Plan and the new Planning Scheme.	SIPP: Strategic Infrastructure Planning and Policy
1.4.4	Progress a detailed business case with the State Government for staged development of a local mass transit solution that integrates transport and land use planning to maintain the liveability of the region.	01/07/2022	30/06/2023	75%			<p>Council continues to work with Department of Transport and Main Roads to progress the preparation of the Detailed Business Case for the Sunshine Coast Public Transport (SCPT) project.</p> <p>Expressions of Interest for the SCPT Community Reference Group closed in mid December 2022, and it is anticipated the group and an independent facilitator will come together in mid 2023.</p>	UGP: Urban Growth Projects

Action Code	Action Name	Start Date	Due Date	Progress	On Time	On Budget	Comments	Branch
1.4.5	Work collaboratively to raise awareness and support initiatives for key social issues with a focus on homelessness and domestic and family violence prevention.	01/07/2022	30/06/2023	75%			<p>Planning commenced this quarter in preparation for Domestic and Family Violence Prevention Month activities (May 2023). These activities include the annual march and candlelight vigil to remember those impacted by family violence.</p> <p>Council has collaborated with Queensland Police Service to understand the challenges facing the region in regard to Domestic and Family Violence and internal to Council a dedicated Domestic and Family Violence Prevention Group has helped prioritise areas of focus and provided training in how to be an 'Ally'.</p> <p>Issues surrounding homelessness continue to be a challenge. There has been a strengthening of Council's internal response processes with various departments improving communication and understanding of areas of concern. A new lived experience project has been developed in partnership with neighbourhood centres that will support people who have experienced homelessness to become trained advocates to organisations and businesses in regard to responding to homelessness. Expressions of interest for people with lived experience opened in March 2023.</p>	CD: Community Development







Creative and innovative approaches to building a strong community









Action Code	Action Name	Start Date	Due Date	Progress	On Time	On Budget	Comments	Branch
1.5.1	Deliver the Sunshine Coast's premier multi-arts Horizon Festival for 2022 to celebrate place, encourage community participation and provide opportunities to present and build capacity for our local arts sector.	01/07/2022	30/06/2023	75%			<p>The cost of delivering the 2023 Horizon Festival has increased considerably from the previous year as a result of current market conditions.</p> <p>Council has identified and applied for funding opportunities from the State Government to assist in the delivery of the festival and was successful in receiving \$25,000 from Tourism and Events Queensland. An application has been submitted for Queensland Arts Showcase funding to cover two years of the Horizon Festival's signature event 'Dawn Awakening'.</p> <p>The festival was featured as a hero event in the Visit Sunshine Coast annual magazine, and has commenced its off-season marketing campaign 'Beneath the Surface' which dives into the work and life of local artists. The First Nations Advisory Group met to review the draft festival program and agreed the 'Kabi Kabi connections' - artworks celebrating the stories of Kabi Kabi people and contemporary representations of Country - would be delivered on a larger scale, and the festival would feature a Jinibara-led exhibition.</p>	AHL: Arts, Heritage and Libraries
1.5.2	Plan and coordinate Council's Arts Levy Program to deliver an annual program of developmental opportunities for the creative sector and, in line with the Sunshine Coast Arts Plan 2018-2038 coordinate the delivery of the Regional Arts Development Fund, plan and implement the delivery of the Regional Arts Infrastructure Framework and deliver an engaging Regional Gallery program of exhibitions and events including the Sunshine Coast Art Prize.	01/07/2022	30/06/2023	75%			<p>The Arts Plan and Arts Levy Program delivered 69 initiatives which attracted audiences of 7127 and engaged more than 147 local artists. Initiatives included the Community Partnerships Funding Program, networking activities, artists in residence, exhibitions, professional development, public showings, pop ups, First Nations programs and The Refinery creative incubator program's Bootcamp.</p> <p>A dedicated First Nations Arts newsletter has been launched and an Arts Plan Audit and Opportunities Report has been completed and is available to view on Council's website. In development is the Business Case for a new Regional Gallery at Caloundra and a Regional Audience Development Plan to support art businesses.</p>	CD: Community Development



Action Code	Action Name	Start Date	Due Date	Progress	On Time	On Budget	Comments	Branch
1.5.3	Develop the annual Heritage Levy program to support the implementation of priority activities and projects identified in the Sunshine Coast Heritage Plan 2021-2031 including: next stage planning for the Sunshine Coast Regional Collection Store, delivery of activation events for Bankfoot House and the Landsborough Museum, building the capacity of the region's network of heritage community organisations, and support to First Nations priority projects.	01/07/2022	30/06/2023	75%			The 'Historians in Residence' program commenced with two academics researching farming practices in the region and the impact of World War II. A range of programs for schools and all ages were delivered at Bankfoot House, attracting 917 people this quarter. Landsborough Museum projects are underway and include improvements to the State heritage listed building, exhibitions, visitor experience, operations and collections management. Visitation to the Landsborough Museum has reached 3485 people (year-to-date).	AHL: Arts, Heritage and Libraries





Corporate Plan Goal : Our environment and liveability

A resilient region shaped by clever planning and good design



Action Code	Action Name	Start Date	Due Date	Progress	On Time	On Budget	Comments	Branch
2.1.1	Undertake a review of the Environment and Liveability Strategy 2017 five-year implementation plan and progress embedding sustainability into organisational business while responding to climate change by building a more resilient Sunshine Coast through emissions reduction and climate risk management.	01/07/2022	30/06/2023	75%			A number of actions progressed this quarter, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The review process for the Environment and Liveability Strategy 2017 (an independent review is underway, and external stakeholder engagement is currently being planned) Sustainability and Zero-net Emission Plan implementation and engagement, and Council, in partnership with Noosa Shire Council successfully received a \$1.1 million grant from the Queensland Reconstruction Authority under the Queensland Resilience and Risk Reduction Fund to better understand the implications of Cascading Climate Risks to Sunshine Coast and Noosa Council Services and Critical Infrastructure. 	ESP: Environment and Sustainability Policy
2.1.2	Progress the drafting of the new planning scheme informed by the preliminary community consultation outcomes and the state interest review, prior to undertaking formal community consultation on the proposed planning scheme that will shape future settlement patterns across the region.	01/07/2022	30/06/2023	60%			The new Planning Scheme continues to progress informed by preliminary consultation feedback. This quarter, Council confirmed its policy positions and regulatory approaches which will inform the new Planning Scheme. There has also been ongoing consultation with external stakeholder groups to inform the detailed drafting of the planning scheme including meetings, briefings and workshops with the State Government, Technical Reference Group, and Cross-Functional Working Group.	SP: Strategic Planning
2.1.3	Continue to negotiate with parties to the Palmview Infrastructure Agreement to ensure the timely delivery of all infrastructure obligations under the agreement.	01/07/2022	30/06/2023	85%			Council is continuing to negotiate amendments to the Infrastructure Agreement with the Palmview Landowners. Budget impacts are being monitored, however will not be known until such time that all matters are resolved and drafting is finalised.	UGP: Urban Growth Projects





Action Code	Action Name	Start Date	Due Date	Progress	On Time	On Budget	Comments	Branch
2.1.4	Advocate Council's policy positions to the State Government to inform the review of the South East Queensland Regional Plan.	01/07/2022	30/06/2023	60%			The South East Queensland Regional Plan review process has formally commenced following a presentation of the scope and timing by the State Government in March 2023. Council is developing content to reinforce our position on key matters where advice has, or is being sought, by the State Government. Council officers continue to advocate for the identification and statutory protection of the northern Inter-urban Break, as well as seeking support for Council's growth management strategy as outlined in Council's Corporate Plan and regional strategies.	SP: Strategic Planning
2.1.5	Continue to work with the State Government to progress the preparation of planning for the Beerwah East Major Development Area.	01/07/2022	30/06/2023	50%			Council is continuing to work in collaboration with the State Government to progress the Detailed Business Case, the preparation of which is being managed by the State Government.	UGP: Urban Growth Projects
2.1.6	Plan for the protection of the Regional Inter-urban Break in perpetuity to secure the environmental, production and recreation values through: advocating for its retention at current extent, identifying and acquiring strategic land and implementing the Inter-urban Break Outdoor Recreation Plan with partners.	01/07/2022	30/06/2023	75%			Council has continued to advocate to the State Government for the protection of the Regional Inter-urban Break as a critical major green space separating the Sunshine Coast from the Greater Brisbane area. This includes as part of the South East Queensland Regional Plan.	ESP: Environment and Sustainability Policy
2.1.7	Develop a project to enable improved identification and updating of stormwater assets in Council's asset register, to better shape appropriate levels of service in accordance with the Stormwater Management Strategy.	01/07/2022	30/06/2023	80%			Work is progressing with around approximately 250 previously undiscovered stormwater assets being identified. These will be recorded in Council's asset management database and will now receive regular maintenance.	TIM: Transport Infrastructure Management

Action Code	Action Name	Start Date	Due Date	Progress	On Time	On Budget	Comments	Branch
2.1.8	Deliver placemaking initiatives including streetscape improvements for Eumundi, Woombye, Nambour, Landsborough, Maleny, Glass House Mountains and Maroochydore (First Avenue and Ocean Street).	01/07/2022	30/06/2023	65%			<p>Council continues to experience project delivery challenges due to changes in the broader market, including cost escalations, market supply impacts, rising labour costs and labour shortages. These impacts have placed pressure on the delivery of our placemaking projects. Key activity undertaken during the quarter includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Woombye Streetscape construction is well underway and nearing completion The Nambour Streetscape Concept Design is in review with community groups Stage 2 Landsborough Streetscape is being re-tendered with increased budget due to market conditions The Glass House Streetscape project was reassessed to allow Landsborough stage 2 to proceed The Maleny Streetscape design is being re-scoped and will go out to community engagement mid-2023 The First Avenue Streetscape project budget is under review due to construction market costs The Ocean Street Concept Design is being finalised for community engagement in mid-2023, and The Eumundi Placemaking Detailed Design will be finalised following an additional community engagement workshop to be held in late April 2023, with construction earmarked to commence towards the end of the year. 	DPS: Design and Placemaking Services



Action Code	Action Name	Start Date	Due Date	Progress	On Time	On Budget	Comments	Branch
2.1.9	Provide effective, timely and coordinated planning, preparedness, response and recovery for the region in response to disaster events and undertake a review of Council's Local Disaster Management Plan.	01/07/2022	30/06/2023	75%			Disaster Management activities for the quarter include the Local Disaster Management Group meeting, held in March 2023 and the facilitation of training for 70 Council employees to enhance local disaster coordination in the event of activation. Key Relationships and stakeholder engagement continues to be maintained through informal and formal meetings. The Queensland Emergency Risk Management Framework (current hazard risk assessment for disaster preparedness), has been endorsed for use in the Local Disaster Management Plan review. The final draft of the Local Disaster Management Plan will be presented to Council for consideration.	SF: Specialist Functions
2.1.10	Implement the Coastal Hazard Adaptation Strategy through, informing the development of the new planning scheme, undertaking dune protection, enhancement and management in identified areas, and seeking external funding opportunities to establish program partnerships and collaboration.	01/07/2022	30/06/2023	75%			Implementation continues for the following key Coastal Hazard Adaptation Strategy (CHAS) actions: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Progressing planning for integrated coastal management and shoreline erosion management plan Collaborative Design of Special Area Adaptation Plans Project Case Study Options Analysis of Coastal Hazard Adaptation Infrastructure, and Embedding CHAS actions within organisation as part of Council's broader climate risk governance. 	ESP: Environment and Sustainability Policy





Protection and enhancement of our natural assets and distinctive landscapes

Action Code	Action Name	Start Date	Due Date	Progress	On Time	On Budget	Comments	Branch
2.2.1	Coordinate the delivery of Council's Environment Levy including the strategic land acquisition program and environment levy partnerships and grants.	01/07/2022	30/06/2023	75%			Implementation of the Environment Levy Program is continuing through acquisition, projects and partnerships. Properties for acquisition are continually being considered to protect, preserve and enhance our natural environment and expand our public conservation estate. Planning for the 2023/24 financial year Environment Levy Program is being considered as part of Council's budget development processes.	ESP: Environment and Sustainability Policy





Action Code	Action Name	Start Date	Due Date	Progress	On Time	On Budget	Comments	Branch
2.2.2	Complete the upgrade and replacement of the ageing groyne field at Maroochy River to protect the natural assets.	01/07/2022	30/06/2023	100%			This project was completed in quarter 1. The projected budget was impacted by unforeseen conditions produced in this weather impacted coastal environment, given the work occurs in the beach zone. The completed groyne will protect the current beach area and river mouth environment from coastal erosion, providing a stabilised beach environment protecting the very popular Cotton Tree Holiday Park.	PD: Project Delivery
2.2.3	Progress the Point Cartwright Master Plan project, including management of the Community Reference Group, consultation activities, master plan development and readiness for implementation.	01/07/2022	30/06/2023	85%			The draft Master Plan is nearing completion, with all internal review and feedback passed onto lead consultant. The next phase of community engagement is planned to be conducted in two parts. The first component aims to inform and provide educational content to the community about the reserve's key values, as a basis for the second part, which will present the draft Master Plan for feedback. The engagement process will include a community workshop and other online and in-person methods. The final Master Plan will be presented to the Council for consideration.	DPS: Design and Placemaking Services

Responsive, accessible and well managed assets and infrastructure



Action Code	Action Name	Start Date	Due Date	Progress	On Time	On Budget	Comments	Branch
2.3.1	Implement Blue Heart Sunshine Coast in partnership with Unitywater and the State Government including delivery of the Blue Carbon Pilot project, land acquisitions, land management activities and stakeholder engagement.	01/07/2022	30/06/2023	75%			Implementation of the Australian Government's Blue Carbon restoration grant is continuing, with planning to support the introduction of tidal waters onto public lands to establish estuarine wetlands. Gaining a better understanding of blue carbon farming is also progressing.	ESP: Environment and Sustainability Policy







Action Code	Action Name	Start Date	Due Date	Progress	On Time	On Budget	Comments	Branch
2.3.2	Progress the master planning and strategic business case development to support establishing a Sunshine Coast Ecological Park on land adjoining the Mary Cairncross Scenic Reserve.	01/07/2022	30/06/2023	75%			Council completed stage 3 of the Sunshine Coast Ecological Park community engagement process between 6 -20 March 2023. It included a campaign on Council's 'Have your say' project page which received close to 3000 visitors during the engagement period. Council also engaged Jinibara people seeking feedback on the draft Master Plan. The draft Master Plan received strong support from the project's Excellence Advisory Panel, Community Reference Group and broader community. It is intended a final Master Plan will be presented to Council for consideration.	ESP: Environment and Sustainability Policy
2.3.3	Coordination of weed management activities, demonstration sites, and exploring new technology and methodologies to improve industry and community understanding of weed management practices.	01/07/2022	30/06/2023	75%			Works continue on the invasive weeds project at the Maleny Community Precinct and additional work commenced on the Obi Obi creek banks, planting out where slash pines were removed. A community field day is being planned for 2023 and will provide the broader public an opportunity to see a range of weed management treatments in the field for educational purposes. ECOllaboration were successful in securing the tender for works at the Witta Stockpile until June 2026 and commenced zone treatments. The State Government provided assistance with a grooming machine along Maleny-Kenilworth Road and remote mulching has been undertaken for track maintenance. Witta residents were invited to a drop-in session in March 2023 to discuss site plans. The pepper tree mapping trial is progressing, with drone imagery developed. Queensland University of Technology have been engaged to undertake the machine learning and deep learning aspects of the trial.	EO: Environmental Operations

Transitioning to a sustainable and affordable way of living

Action Code	Action Name	Start Date	Due Date	Progress	On Time	On Budget	Comments	Branch
2.4.1	Implement the Street Tree Master Plan to protect, enhance and sustain the region's existing and future street tree network through better selection, placement and care of these environmental assets across the Sunshine Coast.	01/07/2022	30/06/2023	75%			Implementation of Council's Street Tree Master Plan progressed with a total of 651 trees planted throughout the quarter. The Adopt A Street Tree Program completed planting 39 trees along 16 streetscapes and four Councillors 'Free Tree' days were held this quarter.	P&G: Parks and Gardens
2.4.2	Coordinate the implementation of the Sunshine Coast Biosphere in partnership with our community.	01/07/2022	30/06/2023	75%			<p>Council continued the progression of the Sunshine Coast Biosphere transitional implementation phase, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Community Advisory Group progressing planning and action to raise awareness and understanding of the Biosphere across the community Progressed trademarking of Sunshine Coast Biosphere brand, which has also been submitted for an international graphic design award, and Collaboration with the Council's Kids in Action team to inform a 'BiospHEROES' program theme for 2023. 	ESP: Environment and Sustainability Policy



A reputation for innovation, sustainability and liveability



Action Code	Action Name	Start Date	Due Date	Progress	On Time	On Budget	Comments	Branch
2.5.1	Commence construction of the new hi-tech material recovery facility at Nambour waste precinct to improve the quality of processed recyclable materials, key deliverables include: procuring plant and equipment, designing and constructing a weighbridge and an internal site access road.	01/07/2022	30/06/2023	60%			<p>Key activity progressed at the new Materials Recovery Facility at Nambour includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Building construction is nearing completion Equipment install is on track for mid-2023, and Dry and wet commissioning is on track as scheduled. <p>Supplier delays may impact provision of power to the site and options for alternate electricity provision in the interim are being considered. As a result, full transition of recyclables processing from the current Materials Recovery Facility to the new Materials Recovery Facility may be delayed.</p>	WRM: Waste and Resource Management



Action Code	Action Name	Start Date	Due Date	Progress	On Time	On Budget	Comments	Branch
2.5.2	Develop a new Sunshine Coast Waste Strategy to guide service provision, emissions reduction, diversion of waste from landfill and continued modernisation of Council's waste management facilities and practices.	01/07/2022	30/06/2023	75%			A proposed format for the new Waste Strategy has been developed. The aim of the new strategy is to outline a more succinct visionary approach to waste management that supports regional collaboration towards achieving key National and State objectives and targets for waste reduction. A draft Strategy based stakeholder feedback has been prepared for internal consultation, before proceeding to community consultation. The community will be asked to comment on the proposed waste reduction and recycling objectives and targets and provide feedback on the proposed strategy and reasons for change.	WRM: Waste and Resource Management
2.5.3	Deliver education programs that make a difference to household waste behaviours towards a cleaner, greener and sustainable Sunshine Coast.	01/07/2022	30/06/2023	70%			The 2022/23 Waste Education Plan is in progress and on schedule. A total of 57 Waste to Resource presentations were provided to schools, community and business groups during the quarter as well as a school tour of a landfill site and links into the Clean up Australia Day campaign.	WRM: Waste and Resource Management
2.5.4	Expansion of the garden organics program to reduce the amount of material that goes into general waste and landfill.	01/07/2022	30/06/2023	100%			This activity was completed in July 2022 when the expanded garden organics collection service commenced and 45,000 new services were introduced. The organic bin collection service provides residents with an easy, convenient way to recycle their garden waste and help the environment.	WRM: Waste and Resource Management

Corporate Plan Goal : Our resilient economy







Strong economic leadership, collaboration and identity





Action Code	Action Name	Start Date	Due Date	Progress	On Time	On Budget	Comments	Branch
3.1.1	Undertake a review of the Regional Economic Development Strategy Implementation Plan 2019-2023 to drive further progress towards the delivery of a resilient and strong economy for the Sunshine Coast region.	01/07/2022	30/06/2023	75%			This quarter, Council commenced economic benchmarking and analysis of local industry and economic data to inform the review of the Regional Economic Development Strategy. External consultation included over 690 survey responses and several external consultation opportunities. Economy.id were commissioned to undertake an annual Sunshine Coast Economic Health Check which will be delivered in mid-2023.	ECDEV: Economic Development

Action Code	Action Name	Start Date	Due Date	Progress	On Time	On Budget	Comments	Branch
3.1.2	Enhance the sports industry through the 'Sport Industry Development' program that maximises the use of existing assets and enhances the region's capabilities through event attraction, training camps, targeted promotion, industry development and research.	01/07/2022	30/06/2023	100%			<p>Through the completion of the Sports Industry Development Program, the following key outcomes were identified:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Development of virtual venue tours, which included the Train Play Stay marketing campaign • Promotional activities with the Australian Cycling Academy to promote the region as a premier cycle destination • Hosting of teams for training camps including the Australian Women's Water Polo Team, Melbourne Storm, Brisbane Lions AFLW, and Super Netball teams • Development of the Sunshine Coast Lightning coaching portal and EventsConnect, a local events industry supplier directory and business to business portal • Support to the Indigenous Marathon Foundation and Sunshine Coast Marathon, enhancing the event's capabilities as an all-inclusive event with World Label event classification • Upskilling of kite racing instructors and content capture of the sport to strengthen its development in the region • The hosting of 15 sporting events as part of an Event Attraction Strategy • Industry development through initiatives such as the Accessible and Inclusive Tourism Conference, USC High Performance Talent ID and Sunshine Coast Sports, and • Research projects including the Sunshine Coast Events Industry research project, park and trail audit, and a trail run feasibility study. 	ECDEV: Economic Development



Action Code	Action Name	Start Date	Due Date	Progress	On Time	On Budget	Comments	Branch
3.1.3	Provide financial support to 'Visit Sunshine Coast' to underpin its activities to promote the Sunshine Coast as a tourism destination, and develop and finalise a new performance deed.	01/07/2022	30/06/2023	75%			A financial agreement is in place between Visit Sunshine Coast and Council. Visit Sunshine Coast activity for the quarter included sub-regional promotion, the launch of a new industry sustainability program and development of a new campaign which encourages holiday-makers to visit the Sunshine Coast to find their own 'Sunshine Moment' that will leave them beaming from the inside out. Consultation has taken place with Council in preparing for Visit Sunshine Coast's 2023/24 budget request, and negotiations are continuing in the preparation of a new funding deed.	ECDEV: Economic Development



New capital investment in the region

Action Code	Action Name	Start Date	Due Date	Progress	On Time	On Budget	Comments	Branch
3.2.1	Progress amendments to the Maroochydore City Centre Priority Development Area scheme in conjunction with Economic Development Queensland.	01/07/2022	30/06/2023	75%			Council is continuing to engage with Economic Development Queensland in relation to amendments to the Maroochydore City Centre Priority Development Area.	UGP: Urban Growth Projects
3.2.2	Progress the designation of the Sunshine Coast Airport as a Priority Development Area including preparation of an Interim Land Use Plan and Development Scheme.	01/07/2022	30/06/2023	75%			Council is working in collaboration with the Sunshine Coast Airport and Economic Development Queensland to progress the designation of the Sunshine Coast Airport as a Priority Development Area.	UGP: Urban Growth Projects
3.2.3	Progress implementation of the Caloundra Centre Master Plan 2017 in alignment with the Caloundra centre activation project, including finalising the business case for the new Caloundra Regional Gallery, and preliminary feasibility and design for the Community and Creative Hub Precinct.	01/07/2022	30/06/2023	70%			The detailed design for the Caloundra Administration Building is complete. The second stage of procurement is underway with the tender released on 20 March 2023 and programed to close early-May 2023, with evaluation and award to follow. The Regional Gallery Business Case - stage 2 Preliminary Evaluation is complete. The detailed business case is now being developed for presentation to Council in late-2023. Concept design for the broader Community and Creative Hub work has recommenced and is expected to be completed late-2023.	LANAGE: Group Executive Liveability and Natural Assets



Action Code	Action Name	Start Date	Due Date	Progress	On Time	On Budget	Comments	Branch
3.2.4	Work with Walker Maroochydore Developments Pty Ltd and SunCentral Maroochydore Pty Ltd to support the implementation of the Maroochydore City Centre Development Agreement to advance the delivery of a contemporary city centre for the Sunshine Coast.	01/07/2022	30/06/2023	75%			Council and SunCentral Maroochydore Pty Ltd have continued to work with Walker Maroochydore Developments Pty Ltd this quarter to progress the review of the Master Plan for the City Centre and the development of associated amendments to the Maroochydore City Centre Development Scheme. New commercial office building (A1) was completed and opened during the quarter.	EMSS: Executive Management and Support Services
3.2.5	Leverage our digital connectivity to generate new enduring investment, trade and employment opportunities for local business and industry.	01/07/2022	30/06/2023	75%			'The Connected Worker' videos that highlight Council's partnership with the AVR Lab to test augmented reality wearables and software using the Maroochydore City Centre's high speed/low latency Wi-Fi 6 Network have been shared with the Advance Robotics Manufacturing Hub, AI Hub, Sustainable Minerals Institute, The University of Queensland and various government areas with very positive feedback and two investment opportunities generated. Council attended the New Zealand Trade & Enterprise Waitangi Day event to network with attendees and promote the Food and Agriculture Network and Critical Infrastructure - Information Sharing Analysis Centre. Contacts were made from the Australia Pacific Business Council and Austmine, who have 600 members across Australia and are a target for Testing Tech in Paradise campaign leads. This quarter, 13 new opportunities were generated which are being nurtured through the investment sales funnel.	ECDEV: Economic Development

Investment and growth in high-value industries



Action Code	Action Name	Start Date	Due Date	Progress	On Time	On Budget	Comments	Branch
3.3.1	Progress implementation of Mooloolaba Master Plan, including consultation and design of the Foreshore Central Meeting Place project and completion of the next stages of the Brisbane Road four lane road upgrade (Walan Street to Kyamba Court) that incorporates the new Mayes Canal Bridge.	01/07/2022	30/06/2023	65%			<p>Informed by community feedback, engineering reports and State authority advice, Council endorsed the 'Concept Blue' design for the Mooloolaba Foreshore Revitalisation Central Meeting Place. The community was informed via a media release and stakeholder database email. The Central Meeting Place design phase has advanced to 60% complete. Construction timing will be influenced by design outcomes, budget and grant funding availability, remaining asset life and a community and economic constraints overlay of the Mooloolaba precinct.</p> <p>The Mooloolaba Transport Corridor Upgrade project (stages 2 and 3), are now 90% complete. Stage 2 and 3 have been delayed due to material and resource shortages and wet weather experienced on the project. Revised completion date is now the end of May 2023, which includes three lanes across the bridge, full asphalt surfacing and minor works relating to the timber boardwalk. Sufficient budget exists to complete stage 2 and 3 works. Design documentation has commenced for stage 4 including assessment of acoustic management, landscaping, and service relocations. Stage 4 design finalisation will include a review of estimated costs required for project completion.</p>	PD: Project Delivery



Action Code	Action Name	Start Date	Due Date	Progress	On Time	On Budget	Comments	Branch
3.3.2	Work with key stakeholders to identify investment opportunities, undertake marketing activities and support investment projects across the region's high value industries.	01/07/2022	30/06/2023	75%			Council supported the Start-up Blink Ecosystems Summit with a video of the region promoting the local Innovation Ecosystem and a call-to-action for participants to bring their business to the Sunshine Coast. A presentation on the Sunshine Coast International Broadband Network leveraging opportunities was provided to the SunCentral Board. Council supported the announcement of the Australian Critical Infrastructure - information Sharing and Analysis Centre (CI-ISAC), which has located its national office in Maroochydore. Council and CI-ISAC issued media releases which were published in national journals including Industrial Cyber, Innovation Australia, Mirage News, Council Magazine and iTnews. Council met with a company looking to establish a premium co-working space in the Maroochydore City Centre and made introductions to Walker Corporation.	ECDEV: Economic Development

Strong local to global connections





Action Code	Action Name	Start Date	Due Date	Progress	On Time	On Budget	Comments	Branch
3.4.1	Drive export activity from the Sunshine Coast and support local businesses to expand into national and international markets by providing access to specialist services, contacts and training and partnering with State and Federal Government trade agencies for in-market assistance.	01/07/2022	30/06/2023	75%			Council entered into a sponsorship agreement for the Queensland Government's Premier of Queensland Export Awards for 2023 to promote the awards to Sunshine Coast local businesses and support their entry and attendance at the awards ceremony. The Awards are a key event in the export business calendar and the winners are automatically entered into the Australian Export Awards. The Trade Capability Program workshop series commenced in March 2023 at Maroochy Surf Club with 10 local business owners and 12 attendees. The series of three half-day workshops will prepare local businesses to be export-ready, including a step-by-step strategy and tailored business plan ready for implementation.	ECDEV: Economic Development



A natural, major and regional event destination

Action Code	Action Name	Start Date	Due Date	Progress	On Time	On Budget	Comments	Branch
3.5.1	Develop and attract events and sporting opportunities at Council venues including Caloundra Indoor Stadium, Maroochydore Multi Sports Complex, Nambour Showgrounds, Sunshine Coast Stadium and Venue 114.	01/07/2022	30/06/2023	75%			<p>Caloundra Indoor Stadium hosted the Suncoast Spinners Basketball Championships, school regional sport trials, a Sunshine Coast Pickleball Tournament and First Nations netball teams trials in the Thunder Premier League.</p> <p>The Maroochydore Multi Sports Complex held both Carlton and Gold Coast Suns AFL pre-season training camps, a netball twilight carnival, AFL carnival, school sports trials and the Netball Queensland Senior State Age Championships.</p> <p>Successful events held at Nambour Showgrounds included the Sunshine Coast Antique Car Club Sign On Day, Nursery & Garden Industry Queensland Trade Day and Collectorama.</p> <p>Sunshine Coast Stadium hosted two Brisbane Broncos NRL pre-season games in February 2023 utilising the new big screen commissioned during the quarter. In addition, activity undertaken in the sports precinct included, two Queensland Oztag State Cups, the Dragon Boat Queensland State Championships, a Canberra Raiders NRL training camp and the Sportsmans Parade carpark upgrade was opened.</p> <p>Venue 114 delivered the annual Sunshine Coast Bridal Expo, a new Youth Recycle, Repurpose Market, Conscious Life Festival, two burlesque performances, VIP fundraisers for Sunny Kids, Travis Shultz Suncoast Legal Service and an In Conversation event with guest speaker Leisel Jones.</p>	SCV: Sports and Community Venues

Action Code	Action Name	Start Date	Due Date	Progress	On Time	On Budget	Comments	Branch
3.5.2	Implement priority activities from the Major Events Strategy 2018-2027 including: strengthening arts and cultural events, capitalising on the growing demand for off road and adventure style events and ensuring close alignment with opportunities identified from the 2032 Brisbane Olympic and Paralympic Games.	01/07/2022	30/06/2023	75%			During the quarter, 10 Council sponsored major events were held, attracting 35,152 visitors to the region and generating an estimated economic benefit of \$17.14 million and 190 Full-Time Equivalent jobs. The number of visitors to the region for this quarter increased by 18% when compared to the same period last year. Key events include the Suncoast Spinners Wheelchair Basketball Tournament, Queensland Surf Life Saving Youth Championships and Senior & Masters Championships, Caloundra Triathlon, Queensland Oztag Championships Junior State Cup and Senior State Cup, and the Mooloolaba Triathlon. The Sunshine Coast Events Board met twice during the quarter and considered 16 applications and 11 acquittals. Three event applications assessed were not supported, whilst the remaining 13 applications consisted of two lifestyle events, one cultural event and 10 sporting events with many aligning strategically to the Brisbane 2032 Olympic and Paralympic Games including off-road and adventure style events.	ECDEV: Economic Development





A regional hub for innovation, entrepreneurship and creativity

Action Code	Action Name	Start Date	Due Date	Progress	On Time	On Budget	Comments	Branch
3.6.1	Work with Education Sunshine Coast and the broader education and training industry to implement 'Study Sunshine Coast' and better prepare and connect young people to education and employment opportunities in the region including through skills development within schools and working closely with the State Government on regional initiatives.	01/07/2022	30/06/2023	75%			Study Sunshine Coast delivered the Sunshine Coast Jobs Hub and Sunshine Coast Student Jobs Hub project, which connects job seekers and students to all of the available jobs in the region as well as information on high-value and focus industries and opportunities. Study Sunshine Coast took part in the TAFE East Coast International Student O-Week presentations. This was an opportunity to get in front of new students from the Philippines, Vietnam, UK, Brazil, Columbia and India to name just a few, and to promote the free programs including the International Swim Program, Ambassador Program and Student Jobs Hub. Study Sunshine Coast was also proud to partner with UniSC and TAFE Queensland to sponsor their international students engagements events in March 2023. On 7 March 2023, University of the Sunshine Coast celebrated 'Welcome to Australia' day where Study Sunshine Coast had a stall to meet and educate students about free services and support, and over 21-22 March 2023, Study Sunshine Coast attended the TAFE Queensland Mooloolaba and Nambour campuses at to promote Harmony Day.	ECDEV: Economic Development
3.6.2	Finalise the Caloundra Aerodrome Master Plan and prepare the implementation plan.	01/07/2022	30/06/2023	100%			Council endorsed the Caloundra Aerodrome Master Plan, including an implementation plan in November 2022 completing this activity.	STP: Strategic Property





Action Code	Action Name	Start Date	Due Date	Progress	On Time	On Budget	Comments	Branch
3.6.3	Strengthen the collective resilience of our business communities and the destination appeal of precincts, through the development and delivery of activation plans, and support the business community through the 'Small Business Friendly Council' initiative and to help drive the 'Buy Local' initiative within the region.	01/07/2022	30/06/2023	75%			<p>Place Activation activities undertaken in Caloundra this quarter included the:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Family movie and live music event in Felicity Park, Caloundra Build a Better Business Program was delivered to 10 Caloundra businesses The Shopfront Improvement Program supported five businesses with facade improvements (the Facebook reach was 43,283, and 11,530 for Instagram). <p>Nambour activations included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Three Nambour Forecourt Live music events involving approximately 600 participants, and the successful delivery of an I AM NAMBOUR promotional campaign involving Council, Visit Sunshine Coast and Nambour Business Groups. <p>The I AM NAMBOUR launch event included 75 participants, a website refresh, development of social media assets and an Explore Nambour video series.</p> <p>Mooloolaba Place Activation activities included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Five Mooloolaba cruise ship arrival activations and a map of Mooloolaba developed for cruise ship visitors, and Mooloolaba Summer Cinema Series in the Northern Parklands. <p>A Buy Local promotional campaign has been developed including Council, Buy Local Sunshine Coast, the Sunshine Coast Business Women's Network and Sunshine Coast Lightning to encourage consumers to purchase local gifts this Mother's Day.</p>	ECDEV: Economic Development

Corporate Plan Goal : Our service excellence





Engage with our community to inform asset management and service delivery

Action Code	Action Name	Start Date	Due Date	Progress	On Time	On Budget	Comments	Branch
4.1.1	Develop Service Excellence principles that consider customer insights to support the design of contemporary business approaches and deliver efficient and effective customer experiences.	01/07/2022	30/06/2023	75%			Work commenced on the design of Service Excellence principles based on customer feedback and service opportunities. These principles guide Council to get it right for customers first time, every time and to design more efficient, effective and more accessible services.	CR: Customer Response
4.1.2	Develop and implement a Strategic Asset Management Plan that delivers consistent asset management practices, processes and systems throughout the organisation.	01/07/2022	30/06/2023	75%			Feedback on the draft Strategic Asset Management Plan continues to inform the development of the final plan. The final plan will be presented to Council for consideration in late 2023.	AM: Asset Management





Design accessible, flexible and innovative services that meet community needs

Action Code	Action Name	Start Date	Due Date	Progress	On Time	On Budget	Comments	Branch
4.3.1	Implement the new Smart City Framework and commence execution of the implementation plan to realise Smart City opportunities and further develop Council's data driven decision making capability.	01/07/2022	30/06/2023	75%			Council completed the 'Connected Worker' trial using voice-controlled headsets for hands-free and digitised management of assets and infrastructure. The framework has progressed capability for research organisations to use smart city assets for final pre-commercialisation in public testing as an 'Investment Attraction', which is a deliverable of Council's Regional Economic Development Strategy 2013-2033. Initial testing of object detection cameras (not optical surveillance/closed-circuit television) was completed to assist with counting parked vehicles, people and bikes at the Sugar Bag Road Mountain Bike Track, Caloundra.	BI: Business and Innovation
4.3.2	Expand the online plumbing inspection system to include commercial permits which will provide efficiencies through allowing all plumbing inspections to be requested online.	01/07/2022	30/06/2023	75%			The second phase of the online plumbing inspection booking system has commenced for commercial inspections. Development, testing and refinements have been made based on comments from key internal users. The project team are working towards the final clarification phase prior to implementation this financial year.	DS: Development Services

Deliver consistent service levels that provide positive experiences for our community



Action Code	Action Name	Start Date	Due Date	Progress	On Time	On Budget	Comments	Branch
4.4.1	Utilise the customer experience program and analyse customer feedback and interactions to design solutions that improve outcomes for key business areas and our customers, including making it easier for our customers to find what they need and self service.	01/07/2022	30/06/2023	75%			Throughout this quarter significant effort has been invested on improving customer experience, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Supporting the development and deployment of Council's website to enhance the customer experience Improving online services to make the customer experience easier and more positive, which has resulted in over 36% of contacts to Council now being digital with a significant increase in customers taking up self-service options Improving the information Council provides to new residents and property owners so they are aware of the services Council provides and what the Sunshine Coast region has to offer, and Collaborating with key internal and external stakeholders to better understand and improve services including Food Licenses and Cemetery Services. 	CR: Customer Response
4.4.2	Mobilise the next generation waste collection contract to ensure continuous provision of essential waste services to the community.	01/07/2022	30/06/2023	100%			The service provision under next generation waste collection contract commenced on 10 July 2022, ensuring essential waste services are delivered to the community, with the contractor performing to high standard.	WRM: Waste and Resource Management

Assess service performance and sustainability to inform evidence-based business planning



Action Code	Action Name	Start Date	Due Date	Progress	On Time	On Budget	Comments	Branch
4.5.1	Deliver the capital works program based on robust scopes, cost and risk assessment with well sequenced delivery schedules aligned to corporate priorities and long-term financial plans.	01/07/2022	30/06/2023	60%			The Capital Works Program delivery has advanced significantly through the quarter with a multitude of projects commenced, progressed, and completed. Capital projects across many local governments are facing delivery challenges, due to changing market conditions including cost escalations, market supply impacts, rising labour costs and labour shortages. While there has been some minor easing in the market of late, there continues to be pressure with ongoing resource shortages and supply chain restrictions. Council has readjusted its budget profiles to balance out budget shortfalls and surpluses, along with project deferrals and bring forwards. Forecasting indicates that the 90% delivery target is achievable but relies on a very productive quarter four.	PD: Project Delivery
4.5.2	Progress a program of service planning and reviews that explore more efficient ways to deliver the right services, at the right service levels at a sustainable cost.	01/07/2022	30/06/2023	55%			The Corporate Plan 2023-2027 was adopted at the February 2023 Ordinary Meeting. This was informed by the Community Satisfaction Survey 2022 as well analysis of changes with the global, national and region operating environments. This analysis is now being used as an input into the design of the sustainable service planning program that will explore opportunities to adapt to change and adopt new approaches to deliver on community need more efficiently and effectively into the future .	CPP: Corporate Planning and Performance



Corporate Plan Goal : Our outstanding organisation

Maintain a financially sustainable organisation that balances the needs of our growing region





Action Code	Action Name	Start Date	Due Date	Progress	On Time	On Budget	Comments	Branch
5.1.1	Review the long term financial plan based on sound financial modelling that includes improved contributed asset processes, enhanced asset management valuation systems and the delivery of a well informed budget.	01/07/2022	30/06/2023	75%			<p>Council's 2015–2025 Financial Sustainability Plan is currently under review, with the intention to finalise a revised plan in 2024. The long-term financial model, which underpins the Financial Sustainability Plan, is reviewed on a quarterly basis with the financial statements being adopted as part of the annual budget.</p> <p>Council's long term financial plan was reviewed by Queensland Treasury Corporation as part of the Credit Review process in February 2023. The aim of the review is to determine Council's ability to service its current and future debt obligations and identify any risks to Council's financial sustainability. The review provided Council with an improved result being a strong outcome and neutral outlook.</p> <p>An external review was undertaken to improve the contributed and constructed asset write on process. The review is to be implemented over the coming financial year, with an outcome being to provide improvements in the workflow process.</p>	F: Finance









Provide quality information, systems and processes to deliver fit for purpose solutions

Action Code	Action Name	Start Date	Due Date	Progress	On Time	On Budget	Comments	Branch
5.2.1	Implement the information technology management program that provides a focus on software rationalisation, hardware replacement and progress the records and information management improvement program.	01/07/2022	30/06/2023	100%			The 10-year Information Communications Technology capital program has been established, supporting eight core programs: systems rationalisation, cyber security, workplaces technology, records and information management, data platform, IT infrastructure / networks, improved customer experience for online web and service management.	DIS: Digital and Information Services







Action Code	Action Name	Start Date	Due Date	Progress	On Time	On Budget	Comments	Branch
5.2.2	Develop and implement an Information and Communication Technology Plan with a strong focus on cyber-security, mobility, connectivity, accessibility, cloud computing and building capability to provide efficient and secure systems and processes.	01/07/2022	30/06/2023	85%			The draft Digital Plan 2023-27 has been aligned to Council's Corporate Plan 2023-2027, regional strategies, action plans and priorities and is in its final review and approval phase.	DIS: Digital and Information Services

Embrace a safe and collaborative workplace culture that attracts and retains high performing and engaged people





Action Code	Action Name	Start Date	Due Date	Progress	On Time	On Budget	Comments	Branch
5.3.1	Progress people and culture strategic initiatives including a focus on the organisational priorities of diversity, inclusion and culture.	01/07/2022	30/06/2023	75%			Actions were taken to implement the new organisational values and bring them to life in daily activity within Council. A Diversity and Inclusion Advisory Group continues to meet regularly and share perspectives on how Council can continue to be inclusive of people from all backgrounds. Council continued to recognise important events such as International Women's Day and Harmony Day to promote an inclusive workplace. Council is currently bargaining the next Certified Agreements with the unions, which will provide certainty of the key employment conditions for employees.	P&C: People and Culture
5.3.2	Implement the Wellbeing, Health and Safety Plan with a focus on managing critical risks and continuing to improve the safety management system.	01/07/2022	30/06/2023	75%			<p>Several actions from the Wellbeing, Health and Safety Action Plan 2021-2025 were completed or are underway. The CultureBoost program has delivered a refreshed set of Council values, with implementation continuing to enhance the culture.</p> <p>The Safety Management System and the WHS Policy is being reviewed and updated. The 'My Health for Life' Program has been delivered. A suicide prevention program has been created and is ongoing. An external audit of high-risk activities was completed and critical risks are progressively being considered, critical controls are being identified and implemented. Leaders continue to participate in the safety leadership training.</p> <p>Learning events were undertaken to understand and learn from safety incidents. Training in risk management and contract management is underway.</p>	P&C: People and Culture

Action Code	Action Name	Start Date	Due Date	Progress	On Time	On Budget	Comments	Branch
5.3.3	Complete staff relocations to the Maroochydore, Caloundra and Nambour administration centres and progress the delivery of the 10-year depot refurbishment program that includes the provision of additional accommodation for service delivery teams at the Caloundra depot.	01/07/2022	30/06/2023	75%			A prioritisation approach that considers service continuity, user experience and cost efficiencies amongst other criteria has been applied for the relocations of staff into City Hall, which commenced late 2022 and continue through to mid 2023. Detailed planning following similar principals has commenced for remaining staff relocations between the Caloundra and Nambour administration centres. A variety of minor capital works improvements at depots have advanced into design, procurement and in some instances works completion. The Depot Strategy review is underway with the first leadership workshop completed in February 2023 with a wide range of stakeholders. Engagement with leadership and stakeholder groups will continue throughout first half of 2023 to guide the development and finalisation of the strategy review.	SCCW: SCC Workplaces
5.3.4	Finalise construction of the Sunshine Coast City Hall in the Maroochydore City Centre by end of 2022 in preparation for staff relocations.	01/07/2022	30/06/2023	100%			The construction of the Sunshine Coast City Hall building has been completed and over 700 staff have now been inducted and transitioned to an activity based working environment. Levels 1 to 7 are now fully operational and final fit-out is being completed on levels 8 and 9 with expected completion July 2023.	SCCW: SCC Workplaces
5.3.5	Facilitate and progress the Nambour centre activation project including the preliminary feasibility and design for the Nambour administration precinct buildings.	01/07/2022	30/06/2023	60%			The functional requirements of Eddie De Vere, Fred Murray and Nambour library buildings have been confirmed. Initial concept design options and feasibility work were completed and estimated. Following significant market cost escalations further optioneering and feasibility analysis is required, including asset life examination to optimise future investment planning. Detailed design work unlikely to progress in the current financial year.	SCCW: SCC Workplaces
5.3.6	Complete detailed design for the Caloundra administration building repurposing project, including an associated operational management plan.	01/07/2022	30/06/2023	100%			Detailed design is complete. The construction tender expression of interest phase is also complete, with the second stage now progressing. Works are expected to commence by June 2023. A preliminary Operational Management Plan for the building has been completed.	SCCW: SCC Workplaces

Demonstrate accountable leadership, future planning, and good governance that provides confidence to our community

Action Code	Action Name	Start Date	Due Date	Progress	On Time	On Budget	Comments	Branch
5.4.1	Develop an Outstanding Organisation Strategy that demonstrates positive culture, accountable leadership and future planning, underpinned by good governance that builds confidence and trust with our community.	01/07/2022	30/06/2023	75%			Development of the People Plan and Digital Plan are key pillars of the Outstanding Organisation Strategy, and these pieces of work are nearing completion.	BPGE: Group Executive Business Performance Group
5.4.2	Complete implementation of the recommendations of the Office of the Information Commissioner's compliance audit report within the agreed timeframes.	01/07/2022	30/06/2023	85%			Progress report provided to the Office of the Information Commissioner for the follow up Audit on 6 March 2023.	CG: Corporate Governance
5.4.3	Prepare a revised Strategic Risk Management Framework for Council that assists with the identification, consideration and mitigation of strategic level risks across the broad spectrum of Council's corporate and service delivery responsibilities.	01/07/2022	30/06/2023	50%			The Strategic Risk Management Framework is in the draft stage and is progressing through an internal review process including input from the independent auditors. The objective is to finalise the revised strategic risk register by 30 June to ensure it informs key planning and resourcing documents.	CG: Corporate Governance

Partner with community, business and government to represent and advocate the needs of our region

Action Code	Action Name	Start Date	Due Date	Progress	On Time	On Budget	Comments	Branch
5.5.1	Advance our region's major projects outlined in the Corporate Plan 2022-2026 through establishment of a strategic approach to stakeholder relationships, advocacy and funding partnerships.	01/07/2022	30/06/2023	75%			Funding partnerships and contributions from other tiers of government are critical to deliver the projects and important infrastructure required to ensure our region is resilient and safe, and that our community thrives now and for future generations. This quarter, Council was successful in receiving funding for the Horizon Festival, coastal hazard mitigation options analysis, cascading climate risk study (in collaboration with Noosa Shire Council), Community Flood Emergency Management Plan and flood mitigation investigations, parkland adaptation pilot and disaster recovery funding for the reconstruction of essential public assets following the declared disaster event in February 2022.	CPP: Corporate Planning and Performance
5.5.2	Develop a Relationship Framework to support stakeholder trust, confidence and connection with the Sunshine Coast Council.	01/07/2022	30/06/2023	80%			The Relationship Framework is nearing completion. This work included a review of all Council's communication practices.	C: Communication

8.2 APRIL 2023 FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE REPORT

File No: Council Meetings

Author: Coordinator Financial Services
Business Performance Group

Attachments: Att 1 - April 2023 Financial Performance Report 75  
Att 2 - Capital Grant Funded Project Report April 2023..... 85  

PURPOSE

To meet Council's legislative obligations, a monthly report is to be presented to Council on its financial performance and investments.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This monthly financial performance report provides Council with a summary of performance against budget as at 30 April 2023 in terms of the operating result and delivery of the capital program.

Operating Performance

Table 1: Operating Budget as at 30 April 2023

	Original Budget \$000	Current Budget \$000
Total Operating Revenue	535,020	546,939
Total Operating Expenses	503,237	522,939
Operating Result	31,783	24,000

Details of the monthly financial report are contained in Attachment 1.

OFFICER RECOMMENDATION

That Council receive and note the report titled "April 2023 Financial Performance Report".

FINANCE AND RESOURCING

This report sets out the details of Council's financial performance and investments for the month ending 30 April 2023 and meets Council's legislative reporting requirements.

CORPORATE PLAN

Corporate Plan Goal: *Our outstanding organisation*

Outcome: We serve our community by providing this great service.

Operational Activity: S28 - Financial and procurement services – financial and procurement management and governance, ensuring effective business management and legislative compliance, coordination and development of Council's budget process, administration of financial systems, sundry debtors, accounts payable, financial and asset accounting, treasury, procurement, contract and supply functions.

CONSULTATION

Councillor Consultation

Consultation has been undertaken with the Portfolio Councillor, E Hungerford.

Internal Consultation

This report has been written in conjunction with advice from:

- Acting Group Executive Business Performance
- Chief Financial Officer

External Consultation

No external consultation is required for this report.

Community Engagement

No community engagement is required for this report.

Legal

This report ensures that Council complies with its legislative obligations with respect to financial reporting in accordance with Section 204 of the *Local Government Regulation 2012*.

Investment of funds is in accordance with the provisions of the *Statutory Bodies Financial Arrangements Act 1982* and the associated Regulations and the *Local Government Act 2009*.

Policy

Sunshine Coast Council's 2022/23 Investment Policy and
Sunshine Coast Council's 2022/23 Debt Policy.

Risk

Failure to achieve the budgeted operating result will negatively impact Council's capacity to complete its capital expenditure program.

Previous Council Resolution

Ordinary Meeting 23 February 2023 (OM23/9)

That Council:

- (a) *receive and note the report titled "**Budget Review 2 – 2022/23**"*
- (b) *adopt Appendix A as tabled, pursuant to sections 169 and 170 of the Local Government Regulation 2012, Council's amended budget for 2022/23 financial year incorporating:*
 - (i) *the statement of income and expenditure*
 - (ii) *the statement of financial position*
 - (iii) *the statements of changes in equity*
 - (iv) *the statement of cash flow*
 - (v) *the relevant measures of financial sustainability*
 - (vi) *the long-term financial forecast*

- (c) *note the following documentation applies as adopted 23 June 2022*
 - (i) *the Debt Policy*
 - (ii) *the Revenue Policy*
 - (iii) *the total value of the change, expressed as a percentage, in the rates and utility charges levied for the financial year compared with the rates and utility charges levied in the previous budget*
 - (iv) *the Revenue Statement and the rates and charges to be levied for the 2022/23 financial year and other matters as adopted 21 September 2022 and*
- (d) *endorse the Minor Capital Works Program (Appendix B).*

Ordinary Meeting 21 September 2022 (OM22/76)

That Council:

- (a) *receive and note the report titled “**Budget Review 1 – 2022/23**”*
- (b) *adopt Appendix A as tabled, pursuant to sections 169 and 170 of the Local Government Regulation 2012, Council’s amended budget for 2022/23 financial year incorporating:*
 - (i) *the statement of income and expenditure*
 - (ii) *the statement of financial position*
 - (iii) *the statements of changes in equity*
 - (iv) *the statement of cash flow*
 - (v) *the relevant measures of financial sustainability*
 - (vi) *the long-term financial forecast*
 - (vii) *the Debt Policy*
 - (viii) *the Revenue Statement*
- (c) *adopt Appendix A as tabled, pursuant to section 120, 121 and 122 of the Local Government Regulation 2012, Council grants a concession by way of a part rebate of the differential general rate levied, to those ratepayers described in section 2.4.4 in the 2022/23 Revenue Statement, subject to the eligibility criteria and conditions set out in section 2.4.4 in the 2022/23 Revenue Statement*
- (d) *note the following documentation applies as adopted 23 June 2022*
 - (i) *the Revenue Policy*
 - (ii) *the total value of the change, expressed as a percentage, in the rates and utility charges levied for the financial year compared with the rates and utility charges levied in the previous budget*
 - (iii) *the rates and charges to be levied for the 2022/23 financial year and other matters as adopted 23 June 2022*
 - (iv) *the Strategic Environment Levy Policy*
 - (v) *the Strategic Arts and Heritage Levy Policy*
 - (vi) *the Strategic Transport Levy Policy and*
- (e) *endorse the Minor Capital Works Program (Appendix B).*

Related Documentation

2022/23 Adopted Budget

Critical Dates

There are no critical dates for this report.

Implementation

There are no implementation details to include in this report.



Statement of Income and Expenses



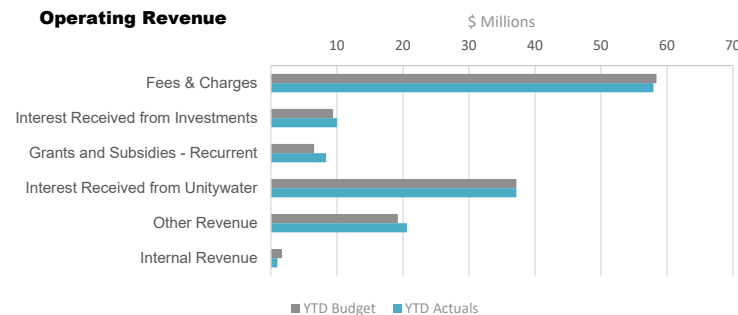
Council has a positive operating result of \$82 million, which is \$1.9 million below current budget as at 30 April 2023.

Council has an end of year forecast operating result of \$18.5 million, due to increasing depreciation expense and one off recurrent capital expenses.

The forecast net result of \$147 million, after capital revenue and non-recurrent expenses, provides and improved position to the expected budget of \$9 million.

Statement of Income & Expenses							
	Annual		YTD				Annual
	Original Budget \$'000	Current Budget \$'000	Current Budget \$'000	Actuals \$'000	Variance \$'000	Variance %	Forecast Budget \$'000
Operating Revenue							
Net Rates and Utility Charges	369,957	370,198	370,338	370,385	47	0.0%	370,198
Fees and Charges	70,045	67,857	58,405	57,949	(456)	(0.8%)	67,857
Interest Received from Investments	3,000	11,820	9,406	9,997	591	6.3%	11,820
Operating Grants and Subsidies	12,804	16,167	6,543	8,355	1,811	27.7%	16,261
Operating Contributions	320	320	242	233	(9)	(3.8%)	320
Unitywater Participation	52,438	52,438	37,182	37,182	-	-	52,438
Other Revenue	23,824	25,880	19,216	20,587	1,371	7.1%	25,880
Internal Sales/Recoveries	2,632	2,260	1,680	977	(703)	(41.8%)	2,186
Total Operating Revenue	535,020	546,939	503,013	505,665	2,652	0.5%	546,959
Operating Expenses							
Employee Costs	163,519	163,092	128,222	127,045	(1,177)	(0.9%)	163,092
Materials and Services	200,548	209,799	168,745	169,282	537	0.3%	209,891
Finance Costs	12,771	13,167	11,164	11,161	(3)	(0.0%)	13,423
Company Contributions	4,413	4,483	4,483	4,484	1	0.0%	4,483
Depreciation Expense	95,499	101,215	80,277	80,277	-	-	101,215
Other Expenses	23,292	24,447	19,439	20,443	1,004	5.2%	24,450
Recurrent Capital Expenses	3,195	6,737	6,737	10,975	4,238	62.9%	6,737
Total Operating Expenses	503,237	522,940	419,066	423,666	4,600	1.1%	523,292
Operating Result	31,783	24,000	83,947	81,999	(1,948)	(2.3%)	23,667
Capital Revenue							
Capital Grants and Subsidies	18,186	35,014	32,000	37,718	5,718	17.9%	48,523
Capital Contributions - Cash	32,000	32,000	26,983	26,983	0	0.0%	32,888
Capital Contributions - Fixed Assets	50,417	50,417	17,867	17,867	0	0.0%	50,417
Total Capital Revenue	100,602	117,430	76,850	82,568	5,718	7.4%	131,827
Non-recurrent Expenses							
Profit/Loss on disposal, revaluation & impairment	-	-	-	2,769	2,769	-	-
Movements in landfill and quarry provisions	3,010	3,010	2,509	2,509	-	-	3,010
Assets Transferred to Third Parties	-	-	-	37	37	-	-
Total Non-recurrent Expenses	3,010	3,010	2,509	5,314	2,805	111.8%	3,010
Net Result	129,375	138,419	158,288	159,253	965	0.6%	152,484

Operating Result – April 2023



Operating Summary						
	Annual		YTD			
	Original Budget \$000s	Current Budget \$000s	Current Budget \$000s	Actuals \$000s	Variance \$000s	Variance %
Operating Revenue	535,020	546,939	503,013	505,665	2,652	0.5%
Operating Expenses	500,042	516,203	412,329	412,691	362	0.1%
Recurrent Capital Expenses	3,195	6,737	6,737	10,975	4,238	62.9%
Operating Result	31,783	24,000	83,947	81,999	(1,948)	(2.3%)
Capital Revenue	100,602	117,430	76,850	82,568	5,718	7.4%
Non-recurrent Expenses	3,010	3,010	2,509	5,314	2,805	111.8%
Net Result	129,375	138,419	158,288	159,253	965	0.6%

As at 30 April 2023, \$505.7 million operating revenue had been achieved which is \$2.65 million more than current budget.

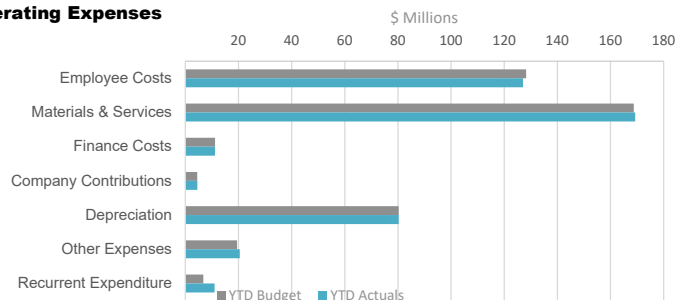
Substantial Revenue Variance for the Period Ending April 2023							
	Annual		YTD				Annual
	Original Budget \$000	Current Budget \$000	Current Budget \$000	Actuals \$000	Variance \$000	Variance %	Forecast Budget \$000
Operating Revenue							
Operating Grants and Subsidies	12,804	16,167	6,543	8,355	1,811	27.7%	16,261
Other Revenue	23,824	25,880	19,216	20,587	1,371	7.1%	25,880

Significant revenue variances:

- **Operating Grants and Subsidies** – an additional \$1.6 million of emergency operations grants were received during March for disasters from February 2022.
- **Other Revenue** – Council has received additional external revenue for environmental offset works

Operating Result – April 2023 (continued)

Operating Expenses



Operating Summary

	Annual		YTD			
	Original Budget \$000s	Current Budget \$000s	Current Budget \$000s	Actuals \$000s	Variance \$000s	Variance %
Operating Revenue	535,020	546,939	503,013	505,665	2,652	0.5%
Operating Expenses	500,042	516,203	412,329	412,691	362	0.1%
Recurrent Capital Expenses	3,195	6,737	6,737	10,975	4,238	62.9%
Operating Result	31,783	24,000	83,947	81,999	(1,948)	(2.3%)
Capital Revenue	100,602	117,430	76,850	82,568	5,718	7.4%
Non-recurrent Expenses	3,010	3,010	2,509	5,314	2,805	111.8%
Net Result	129,375	138,419	158,288	159,253	965	0.6%

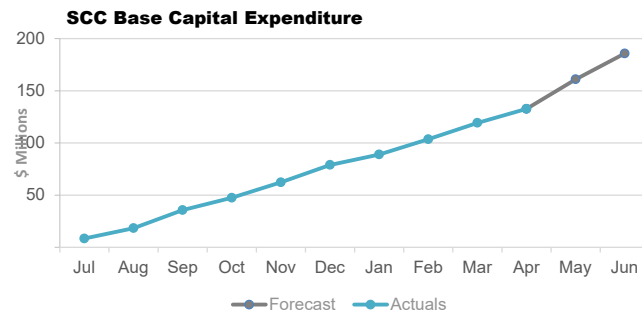
Substantial Expenditure Variance for the Period Ending April 2023

	Annual		YTD				Annual Forecast Budget \$000
	Original Budget \$000	Current Budget \$000	Current Budget \$000	Actuals \$000	Variance \$000	Variance %	
Operating Expenses							
Employee Costs	163,519	163,092	128,222	127,045	(1,177)	(0.9%)	163,092
Materials and Services	200,548	209,799	168,745	169,282	537	0.3%	209,891
Recurrent Capital Expenses	3,195	6,737	6,737	10,975	4,238	62.9%	6,737

As at 30 April 2023, \$423.7 million had been expended resulting in a variance of \$4.6 million (1.1%) higher than budget.

- Employee Costs are below budget for the current financial year due to ongoing vacancies
- Recurrent capital expenses relates to works undertaken through Council's Capital Works Program that do not meet the definition of an asset under Accounting Standard AASB 116 Property Plant and Equipment. This predominately relates to the following programs –
 - Sunshine Coast Airport Runway Expansion
 - Information Technology
 - Transportation

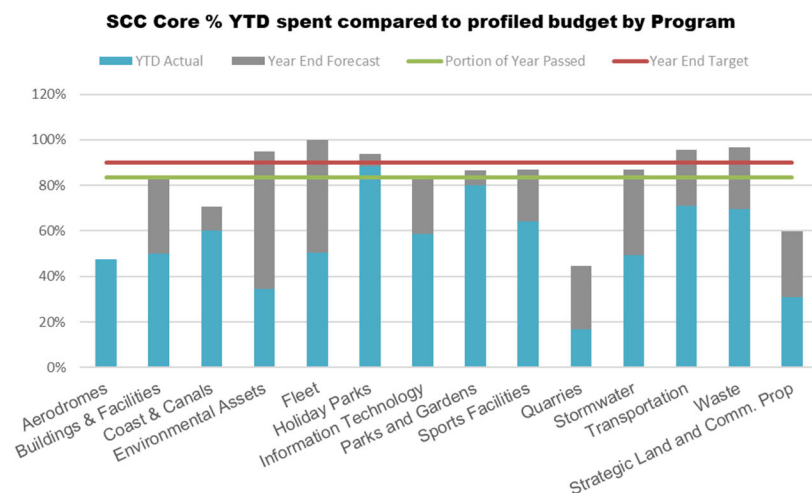
Capital Expenditure - April 2023



- As at 30 April 2023, \$176 million (60.1%) of Council's \$292.9 million Capital Works Program was financially expended.
- The Core Capital Program has progressed 65.9% of budget, an actual spend of \$138.6 million.
- Corporate Major Projects progressed 54%

Capital Expenditure						
	Annual		YTD		Year End	
	Original Budget \$000s	Current Budget \$000s	Actuals \$000s	% of FY Budget Spent	Forecast Year End Actual	Forecast Year End Variance to Budget
Core Capital Works Program						
Aerodromes	530	1,327	632	47.6%	617	(710)
Buildings and Facilities	21,764	20,116	10,078	50.1%	16,941	(3,175)
Coast and Canals	4,440	5,403	3,244	60.0%	3,827	(1,576)
Environmental Assets	3,840	2,697	930	34.5%	2,562	(135)
Minor Works	4,850	4,874	2,959	60.7%	4,287	(587)
Fleet	4,000	5,559	2,809	50.5%	5,559	-
Holiday Parks	4,095	2,112	1,866	88.3%	1,984	(128)
Information Technology	7,059	9,238	5,421	58.7%	7,696	(1,542)
Parks and Gardens	9,805	11,243	9,014	80.2%	9,725	(1,518)
Sports Facilities	8,575	9,452	6,046	64.0%	8,231	(1,221)
Quarries	610	242	41	16.8%	108	(134)
Stormwater	9,141	8,204	4,051	49.4%	7,120	(1,085)
Transportation	75,526	78,184	55,615	71.1%	74,815	(3,369)
Waste	52,546	51,683	35,941	69.5%	50,030	(1,653)
Total SCC Core Capital Program	206,781	210,334	138,647	65.9%	193,502	(16,833)
Corporate Major Projects	44,731	39,950	21,553	54.0%	28,963	(10,986)
Strategic Land and Commercial Properties	21,697	37,358	11,555	30.9%	22,358	(15,000)
Maroochydore City Centre	-	464	43	9.3%	43	(421)
Sunshine Coast Airport Runway	-	4,842	4,244	87.6%	4,842	-
Total Other Capital Program	66,428	82,614	37,394	45.3%	56,206	(26,408)
TOTAL	273,210	292,948	176,041	60.1%	249,708	(43,240)

Capital Expenditure - April 2023 (continued)



Buildings and Facilities

- Construction has commenced on stage 1 of the Kawana Waters regional aquatic centre upgrade project.
- Procurement is underway for the replacement/refurbishment of 11 public amenity buildings throughout the region. This includes:
 - Buderim Lions Park, Buderim
 - Russell Family Park, Montville
 - Allan Walker Park, Buddina
 - QCWA Park, Landsborough
 - Sir Francis Nicklin Park, Palmwoods
 - Glenfields Neighbourhood Park, Mountain Creek
 - Frank McIvor Park, Currimundi
 - Outrigger Park, Minyama
 - Lemon Park, Palmwoods
 - Mary Cairncross, Maleny
 - Pioneer Park, Gheerulla
 - Matthew Flinders Rest Area, Beerburum

Fleet

- \$4.9 million of orders have been placed with delivery expected throughout the 2022/23 and following financial year.

Holiday Parks

- Construction for the replacement of amenities at the Coolum Beach and Mudjimba holiday park are both finalised

Stormwater

- Council's \$2.1 million stormwater pipe relining program has progressed with \$1.3 million in expenditure

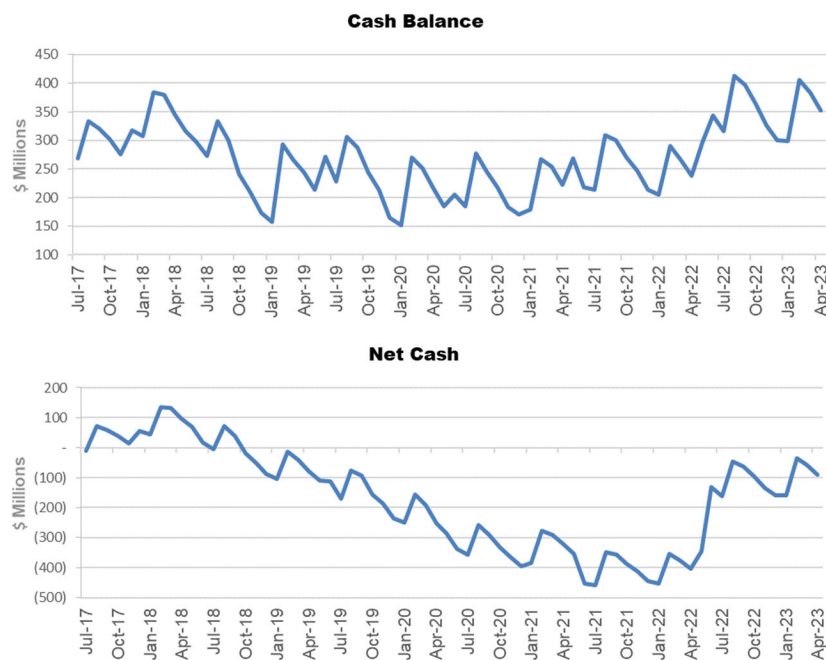
Transportation

- Council's \$23 million road resurfacing and rehabilitation program has progressed 84% with a total expenditure of \$19.4 million.
- Council's \$2.3 million bus stop program has progressed 99% with a total expenditure of \$2.295 million.
- Construction continues for Council's major transport corridor upgrade at Brisbane Road Mooloolaba

Waste

- Design and construction is progressing for the new material resource facility at the Nambour resource recovery centre.

Cash Flows and Balance Sheet



Cash and Balance Sheet - April 2023	
	Original Budget \$'000s
CASH FLOWS	
Opening Cash	289,721
Net Cash Inflow/(Outflows) from:	
Operating Activities	78,211
Investing Activities	(177,162)
Financing Activities	19,509
Net Increase/(decrease) in Cash Held	(79,442)
Cash at year end	210,279
BALANCE SHEET	
Current Assets	269,810
Non Current Assets	6,319,144
Total Assets	6,588,954
Current Liabilities	136,038
Non Current Liabilities	541,261
Total Liabilities	677,299
Net Community Assets/Total Community Equity	5,911,655

- Council's cash at 30 April 2023 is \$342.6 million excluding trust
- Council's debt at 30 April 2023 is \$457 million

Debt

Sunshine Coast Council's debt program is governed by the 2022/23 Debt Policy, which was adopted with the Original Budget adoption on 23 June 2022.

New borrowings are undertaken in accordance with the Queensland Treasury Corporation Guidelines, the Statutory Bodies Financial Arrangements Act 1982 and Section 192 of the Local Government Regulation 2012.

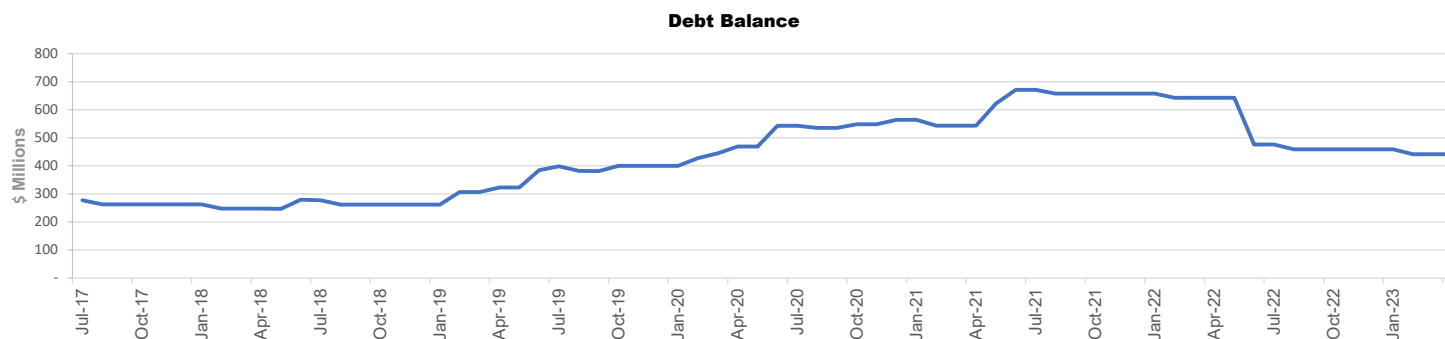
Council's debt as at 30 April 2023 is \$457 million.

In March 2023, Queensland Treasury Corporation completed the Credit Review process for Sunshine Coast Regional Council (SCRC). SCRC's credit rating has been affirmed as **Strong** with the outlook changed from Developing to **Neutral**.

The aim of the review is to determine Council's ability to service its current and future debt obligations; Identify credit and other risks which may affect Council's debt servicing capacity and the impact of such risks on Council's financial sustainability and; Determine a QTC credit rating and outlook.

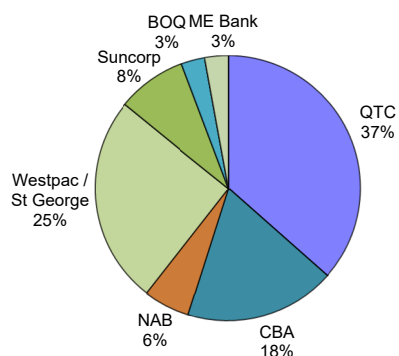
Debt - 2022/23				
	Opening Balance	Debt Redemption	New Borrowings	Closing Balance
	\$000	\$000	\$000	\$000
Sunshine Coast Council Core	345,766	16,680	34,200	363,286
Maroochydore City Centre	138,717	6,879	-	131,837
Total	484,483	23,559	34,200	495,124

Table 1: 2022/23 Adopted Debt Balance

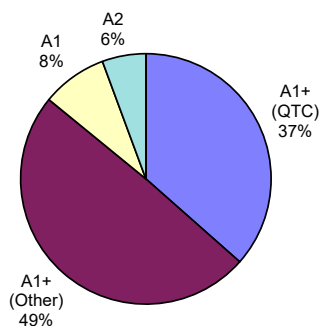


Investment Performance

Investment per financial institution (%)



Investment by Standard & Poor's (Short Term Credit Rating)



Investment Performance - April 2023				
Liquidity as at:		30/04/2023		
		\$'000's		
At-call accounts				
QTC + CBA (excl. trust)		182,580	51.47%	
Maturities within 7 days		-	0.00%	
Total at-call		182,580	51.47%	
Investment Policy Target			10.00%	

Term deposits maturing:		\$'000's	Count
within 30 days		40,000	4
30-59 days		20,000	2
60-89 days		40,000	4
90-179 days		30,000	3
180-364 days		30,000	2
1 year - 3 years		-	-
Total		160,000	15

INVESTMENT SUMMARY (including Trust) as at:							Investment Policy	
	30/04/2023		30/01/2023		30/04/2022		Individual Limit	Group Limit
A1+ (QTC)	129,525	37%	121,459	38.6%	202,185	83.3%	100%	100%
A1+ (Other)	175,184	49%	143,318	45.5%	30,601	12.6%	40%	100%
A1	30,000	8%	30,000	9.5%	-	0.0%	30%	50%
A2	20,000	6%	20,000	6.4%	10,000	4.1%	30%	45%
A3	-	0%	-	0.0%	-	0.0%	5%	10%
Total Funds	354,709		314,777		242,786			
FUND SUMMARY								
General Funds	342,580		302,720		232,414			
Trust Funds	12,129		12,058		10,371			
Total Funds	354,709		314,777		242,786			

- All investment parameters remain within the guidelines established by the Investment Policy.
- For the month ending 30 April 2023 Council had \$342.6 million cash (excluding Trust Fund), with an average interest rate of 4.42%, being 0.97% above benchmark. This is compared to the same period last year with \$232.4 million cash (excluding Trust Fund) with an average interest rate of 0.49%, being 0.61% above benchmark.
- The benchmark used to measure performance of cash funds is Bloomberg AusBond Bank Bill index (BAUBIL).



2022/23 Financial Year Grant Funding

	Description	Division	Suburb	Estimated Construction Start Month	Construction Completed Month	TOTAL Grant Revenue \$'000	Project Expenditure to date \$'000
Federal Government							
						(\$24,015)	\$14,821
1	Roads to Recovery Program					(\$3,600)	
Local Road and Community Infrastructure Grant Funding - Round 2 - Agreement end date 30 June 2022							
						(\$1,107)	\$2,056
2	H3790 - LRCIP2 - Citrus Road Gravel Road Upgrade	Division 05	Palmwoods	August 2021	February 2022	(\$220)	\$3
3	H3799 - LRCIP2 - Zgrajewski Road Gravel Road Upgrade	Division 09	Yandina Creek	January 2022	November 2022	(\$400)	\$1,925
4	H3941 - LRCIP2 - Crosby Hill Road Pathway	Division 07	Buderim	July 2021	January 2022	(\$81)	\$16
5	H4223 - LRCIP2 - Scholars Drive to Columbia Street - Road Link	Division 06	Sippy Downs	May 2022	July 2022	(\$289)	\$112
6	K1484 - LRCIP2 - Meridan Way Lighting	Division 03	Meridan Plains	September 2021	November 2021	(\$35)	\$0
7	K1492 - LRCIP2 Spray Seal - Old Gympie Road Resurfacing	Division 01	Glass House Mountains	October 2021	October 2021	(\$17)	\$0
8	K1493 - LRCIP2 Spray Seal - Bald Knob Road	Division 05	Peachester	October 2021	October 2021	(\$19)	\$0
9	K1495 - LRCIP2 Asphalt - Mountain View Road	Division 05	Maleny	October 2021	October 2021	(\$46)	\$0
Local Road and Community Infrastructure Grant Funding - Round 3 - Agreement end date 30 June 2023							
						(\$7,308)	\$1,880
10	K1622 - LRCIP3 North Shore Football Club - Sports Field Lighting	Division 08	Marcoola	April 2023	July 2023	(\$400)	\$69
11	H2095 - LRCIP3 Buderim Lions Park Public Amenity Rehab	Division 06	Buderim	June 2023	August 2023	(\$245)	\$32
12	H5465 - LRCIP3 Lake Weyba Foreshore Trail Upgrade	Division 09	Weyba Downs			(\$300)	\$34
13	K3000 - LRCIP3 Eumundi Tennis court replacement	Division 10	Eumundi			(\$600)	\$241
14	K3488 - LRCIP3 Palmwoods Cricket AFL - LED Lighting	Division 05	Palmwoods	October 2022	March 2023	(\$450)	\$486
15	H9256 - LRCIP3 Outrigger Boat Ramp Carparking	Division 04	Minyama			(\$400)	\$10
16	H8037 - LRCIP3 Lindsay Road Buderim - Pathway	Division 07	Buderim	May 2023	May 2023	(\$78)	\$12
17	K1397 - LRCIP3 Katherine Street Beerwah Pathway	Division 01	Beerwah	July 2022	January 2023	(\$125)	\$94
18	H5978 - LRCIP3 Brandenburg Road Seal Widening	Division 05	Mooloolah Valley	February 2023	June 2023	(\$385)	\$709
19	K1030 - LRCIP3 Claymore Road Pathway Lighting	Division 06	Sippy Downs	March 2023	May 2023	(\$325)	\$176
20	K2732 - LRCIP3 WOR LED Streetlighting Upgrades	Whole of Council				(\$4,000)	\$17
Urban Congestion Fund							
						(\$12,000)	\$10,885
21	H3747 - Mooloolaba Transport Corridor - D and C	Division 04	Mooloolaba		November 2023	(\$12,000)	\$10,885

2022/23 Financial Year Grant Funding							
	Description	Division	Suburb	Estimated Construction Start Month	Construction Completed Month	TOTAL Grant Revenue \$'000	Project Expenditure to date \$'000
State Government						(\$13,692)	\$8,614
	<i>Walking Local Government Grant</i>					(\$54)	\$13
22	K3037 - Walking Network Plans	Whole of Council				(\$54)	\$13
<i>2022-24 Local Government Grants and Subsidies Program</i>						(\$180)	\$208
23	H5637 - Caloundra Headland Coastal Pathway	Division 02	Kings Beach	May 2023	December 2023	(\$180)	\$208
<i>Queensland Transport Cycle Network Program</i>						(\$2,897)	\$1,072
24	H9547 - BA238 Bokarina-Warana Coastal Pathway	Division 03	Warana			(\$270)	\$107
25	H3732 - Oval Avenue and Gosling St Upgrade	Division 02	Caloundra	May 2024	November 2025	(\$237)	\$536
26	H3839 - LGIP Stringybark Rd Footbridge-Pathway	Division 07	Sippy Downs	September 2023	December 2023	(\$2,100)	\$76
27	H4851 - LGIP Ballinger Rd Cycle Lanes	Division 07	Buderim			(\$56)	\$54
28	B4344 - Sixth Avenue Road Cycle Treatments	Division 04	Maroochydore	September 2022	March 2023	(\$234)	\$298
<i>Blackspot Funding</i>						(\$1,551)	\$6
29	K3443 - Blackspot Old Gympie Road Beerwah	Division 01	Beerwah			(\$133)	\$0
30	K3444 - Blackspot Ilkley Road Ilkley - Hazard	Division 05	Ilkley			(\$515)	\$0
31	K3445 - Blackspot Brisbane Road Mooloolaba	Division 04	Mooloolaba			(\$153)	\$0
32	K2085 - Blackspot Edmund St and William St Intersection	Division 02	Shelley Beach			(\$750)	\$6
<i>Black Summer Bushfire Recover Grants Program</i>						(\$102)	\$12
33	K3402 - Nambour Showgrounds PA System	Division 10	Nambour			(\$102)	\$12
<i>34 Local Government Subsidy - SES</i>						(\$54)	
<i>35 Bus Stop Shelter Program</i>						(\$380)	
<i>36 Passenger Transport Accessible Infrastructure Program</i>						(\$321)	
<i>37 Passenger Transport Infrastructure Investment Program</i>						(\$273)	
<i>Transport Infrastructure Development Scheme</i>						(\$1,355)	\$1,993
38	H1251 - North Arm Yandina Creek Road Stage 3 Gravel Road	Division 09	Yandina Creek			(\$164)	\$33
39	H3802 - North Arm Yandina Creek Road Stage 2 Gravel Road	Division 09	Yandina Creek			(\$104)	\$178
40	H4615 - Sippy Downs School Precinct	Division 06	Sippy Downs			(\$200)	\$19
41	K3738 - TIDS Jacana St Raised Priority Crossing	Division 03	Currimundi	May 2023	May 2023	(\$45)	\$34
42	K3739 - TIDS Beerburum St Raised Zebra Crossing	Division 03	Aroona			(\$100)	\$39
43	K3740 - TIDS Bellara Dr Raised Priority Crossing	Division 03	Currimundi	April 2023	April 2023	(\$45)	\$35
44	K3741 - TIDS Kalana Road Zebra Crossing	Division 03	Currimundi			(\$10)	\$9
45	K2723 - Camp Flat Road Upgrade Stage 4	Division 09	Bli Bli	May 2023		(\$170)	\$130
46	H8013 - Chevallum Road Widening	Division 05	Chevallum	December 2022	February 2023	(\$206)	\$719
47	H9439 - Glenview Road Upgrade Stage 5	Division 05	Glenview	November 2022	March 2023	(\$300)	\$796
48	B1514 - TMR Local Government Alliance	Whole of Council				(\$11)	\$0
<i>South East Queensland Community Stimulus Program - Agreement end date 30 June 2024</i>						(\$6,525)	\$5,309
49	H1670 - SEQCSP First Avenue Streetscape	Division 04	Maroochydore	October 2022	November 2023	(\$910)	\$126
50	H9957 - SEQCSP Buderim Village Park Buderim Stage 9	Division 07	Buderim		December 2022	(\$550)	\$434
51	K1618 - SEQCSP Caloundra Indoor Sports Stadium - Roof Replacement	Division 02	Caloundra	June 2023	September 2023	(\$700)	\$85
52	K1898 - SEQCS Parkyn Parade Pedestrian Facilities	Division 04	Mooloolaba	March 2022	September 2022	\$0	\$144
53	K2259 - SEQCSP Albany Lakes Park Play Upgrade Stage 2	Division 06	Sippy Downs	August 2022	November 2022	(\$400)	\$422
54	K2406 - SEQCSP Turner Park Beerwah Activation Stage 2	Division 01	Beerwah	August 2022	November 2022	(\$100)	\$121
55	K2449 - SEQCSP North Shore Multi-Sports Complex	Division 08	Mudjimba	March 2023	September 2023	(\$650)	\$543
56	K2478 - SEQCSP Palmwoods Warriors Football Club	Division 05	Palmwoods		March 2023	(\$400)	\$626
57	K2843 - SEQCSP Landsborough Streetscape - Stage 2	Division 01	Landsborough	September 2023	January 2024	(\$100)	\$12
58	K1647 - SEQCSP Outrigger Park - Public Amenity	Division 04	Minyama		September 2023	(\$215)	\$14
59	H7863 - SEQCSP Coolum Sports Complex Intersection	Division 09	Coolum Beach	September 2023	January 2024	(\$700)	\$47
60	H4602 - SEQCSP Woombye Streetscape Placemaking	Division 05	Woombye	October 2022	May 2023	(\$500)	\$1,126
61	H4605 - SEQCSP Eumundi Town Centre Placemaking	Division 10	Eumundi	July 2023	March 2024	(\$500)	\$254
62	K1308 - SEQCSP Ocean Street Placemaking Renewal	Division 08	Maroochydore	May 2023	June 2024	(\$300)	\$72
63	B3888 - Sunshine Coast Stadium Stage1 Northern Carpark	Division 09	Bokarina	October 2022	January 2023	(\$500)	\$1,281
<i>Project Complete</i>							

8.3 QUEENSLAND AUDIT OFFICE - FIRST INTERIM MANAGEMENT REPORT FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2023

File No: Council Meetings

Author: Coordinator Financial Accounting
Business Performance Group

Attachments: Att 1 - Queensland Audit Office First Interim Report 2023 . 91 [↓](#) 

PURPOSE

This report provides for the information of Councillors, the results of the first interim audit for 2022/23 by the Queensland Audit Office (QAO), which was conducted in March this year.

Section 213(3) of the *Local Government Regulation 2012* requires that the report be presented at the next Ordinary Meeting of Council.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Council has a statutory obligation to prepare “General Purpose” Financial Statements on an annual basis, culminating in audit certification in October, before publication in Council’s Annual Report.

The QAO audits Council’s annual financial statements to ensure the statements give a true and fair view of Council’s financial position, financial performance and cash flows for the relevant year, and that they comply with the *Local Government Act 2009*, the *Local Government Regulation 2012* and Australian Accounting Standards.

The annual audit process for the 2022/23 financial year consists of 4 parts as follows:-

- Planning (December 2022)
 - Confirmation of deliverables and timelines for the audit process
- 1st Interim Audit (March 2023) – which is the subject of this report
 - Includes an assessment of the control environment to determine whether it supports an audit strategy that can rely on the controls
- 2nd Interim Audit (June 2023)
 - Includes testing of asset revaluations
- Final audit of financial statements (September 2023)

Following the final audit, QAO provides its Closing Report, Certification and Final Management Report in October 2023 which includes their audit opinion as well as a summary and status of any issues identified during the course of the audit.

Council has consistently received an unmodified audit opinion meaning the annual financial statements, in all material aspects, give a true and fair view of Council’s financial position, financial performance and cash flows for the relevant year, and that they comply with the applicable legislation and Australian Accounting Standards.

The results of all Queensland local government audits are included in the Auditor General’s annual report to Parliament on the results of local government audits.

1st Interim Audit

The QAO performed an interim audit of Council’s financial systems and processes during March 2023.

The First Interim Audit assessed the design and implementation of Council's internal controls relevant to the financial report, and whether they are operating effectively. QAO assess the key controls they intend to rely on in auditing Council's financial statements.

Based on the results of QAO's testing completed to date and the resolution of some of the prior year issues, they have determined Council's internal control environment does support an audit strategy where they can rely on Council's controls.

No new issues have been identified for the 2022/23 audit.

A summary of outstanding issues raised in the prior year, as well as current status, is below.

Item	Status
Internal Controls	2 significant deficiencies <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1 resolved • 1 in progress due by 30 June 2023 1 deficiency due by 30 June 2023
Financial Reporting Issues	1 moderate financial reporting issue in progress – due as at 30 June 2023
Milestones	On track
Areas of audit focus	On track

OFFICER RECOMMENDATION

That Council receive and note the report titled “Queensland Audit Office - First Interim Management Report for the financial year ended 30 June 2023”.

FINANCE AND RESOURCING

The estimated audit fee for the financial year is \$291,500 and this is provided for in Council's budget.

CORPORATE PLAN

Corporate Plan Goal: *Our outstanding organisation*

Outcome: 5.1 - Maintain a financially sustainable organisation that balances the needs of our growing region.

Operational Activity: NIL

CONSULTATION

Portfolio Councillor Consultation

The Portfolio Councillors have received advice of this report.

Internal Consultation

Internal consultation was held with the following areas:

- People and Culture
- Finance
- Internal Audit
- Digital and Information Services

External Consultation

External consultation has been held with Queensland Audit Office.

Proposal

This report details the outcome of the First Interim Audit for the 2022/23 financial year.

The First Interim Audit involves assessment of the design and implementation of Council's internal controls QAO intend to rely on in auditing Council's financial statements.

No new issues have been identified for the 2022/23 audit.

A summary of outstanding issues raised in the prior year, and current status, is below.

a) Internal Controls

QAO categorise internal control issues as either Significant Deficiencies (requiring immediate action to resolve) or Deficiencies (requiring resolution in a timely manner), or Other Matters (action taken at management's discretion).

Significant Deficiencies

- 22IR-1 Weaknesses in security settings, user access privileges, and checking of a key control report (payroll system)
 - Status: Resolved
- 22IR-2 Weaknesses in security over EFT payment data, user access privileges, and checking of key control reports (payroll & accounts payable systems)
 - Status: In progress (system control required to be implemented), due 30 June 2023

Deficiencies

- 22IR-8 Other Infrastructure asset class – comprehensive revaluation
 - Status: In progress, due as at 30 June 2023

b) Financial Reporting Issues

QAO categorise financial reporting issues as either High (requiring immediate action to resolve), Moderate (requiring timely action), or Low (action taken at management's discretion).

Moderate financial reporting issues

- 22FR-1 Formal review of remaining useful lives for assets is required
 - Status: Work in progress, due as at 30 June 2023

c) Milestones

On track

d) Areas of Audit Focus

On track

Based on the results of testing to date and the resolution of some prior year issues, QAO have determined Council's internal control environment does support an audit strategy where they can rely on Council's controls.

Legal

Section 213(3) of the *Local Government Regulation 2012* requires this QAO Interim Report be presented at the next Ordinary Meeting of Council.

Policy

There are no internal policy documents relating to this report. It is a legislative requirement – refer Sections 212 and 213 of the *Local Government Regulation 2012*.

Risk

Council has a statutory obligation to prepare general purpose financial statements that are subject to audit by the Auditor-General or their contracted representative.

Previous Council Resolution**Audit Committee Meeting 23 January 2023 (AC23/7)**

That the Audit Committee

- (a) *receive and note the report titled “**Planning for the 2022/23 Financial Statements Audit Process**” and*
- (b) *Request the forward schedule of the asset revaluations for 2023 and 2024 to be tabled at the May 2023 Audit Committee Meeting.*

Critical Dates

QAO will return to Council in June 2023 to conduct a second interim audit including valuation of Council’s infrastructure assets, and again in September 2023 to complete the final audit of the 2022/23 financial statements.

Council certification of the 2022/23 financial statements and current year financial sustainability statement is due by 6 October 2023 to allow time to comply with the statutory deadline of 31 October.

Implementation

All identified issues will be stored in Council’s corporate reporting system with implementation to be monitored by the Audit Committee.



2023 INTERIM REPORT

Sunshine Coast Regional Council

5 May 2023



5 May 2023

Councillor M Jamieson
Mayor
Sunshine Coast Regional Council
Locked Bag 72
SUNSHINE COAST MAIL CENTRE QLD 4560

Dear Mr Jamieson

2023 Interim report

We present our interim report for Sunshine Coast Regional Council for the financial year ending 30 June 2023. This report details the results of our interim work performed to date. Under s. 213 of the *Local Government Regulation 2012*, you must present a copy of this report at your council's next ordinary meeting.

Results of our interim audit

In this phase, we assessed the design and implementation of your internal controls relevant to the financial report, and whether they are operating effectively. We assessed the key controls we intend to rely on in auditing your financial statements. Our audit does not assess all controls that management has implemented across the organisation.

Significant deficiencies:

- 1 issue relating to weakness in IT security has been resolved
- 1 issue relating to EFT payments is partially resolved

Deficiencies:

- Recommendation to 1 issue relating to other infrastructure valuations is in progress

Financial reporting matters:

- Recommendation to 1 issue relating to review of remaining useful lives is in progress

Based on the results of our testing completed to date and the resolution of some of the prior year issues, we have determined your internal control environment does support an audit strategy where we can rely upon your entity's controls.

Refer to [section 2](#) for further details.

Milestones – On track

All financial reporting and audit deliverables milestones have been met. We will continue to work with management to meet the audit milestones as outlined in our External Audit Plan.

Audit fees – On track

No scope changes have been identified.

If you have any questions or would like to discuss the audit report, please contact me on 3149 6211 or Tony Guerrero on 3149 6065.

Yours sincerely

David Adams
Senior Director

Enc.

cc. Ms E Thomas, Chief Executive Officer
Mr M Petrie, Chair Audit Committee

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 Queensland Audit Office (QAO)

2023 Interim report

1. Status of issues

Internal control issues

No new issues have been identified in the current year audit. The following table shows the number of deficiencies in internal controls and other matters reported previously.

Issues	Significant deficiencies	Deficiencies	Other matters
Unresolved issues	1	1	-
Resolved	1	-	-
Total issues	2	1	-

Financial reporting issues

This table identifies the number of financial reporting issues we raised. Refer to [section 2 Matters previously raised](#) for the status of previously raised financial reporting issues.

Year and status	High risk	Moderate risk	Low risk
Unresolved issues	-	1	-

2. Matters previously reported

The following table summarises the status of deficiencies, financial reporting issues, and other matters previously reported to you.

Our ratings are as follows. For more information and detail on our rating definitions, please see the webpage here: www.qao.qld.gov.au/information-internal-controls or scan the QR code.



Ref.	Rating	Issue	Status
22-IR-1	S	Weaknesses in security settings, user access privileges, and checking of a key control report	Resolved Corrective actions have been undertaken to strengthen the required security settings.
22-IR-2	S	Weaknesses in security over EFT payment data, user access privileges, and checking of key control reports 1. The payroll EFT file is not in a secure drive or format before it is processed into CommBiz. The EFT file can be generated into any Council's network drive which is accessed by other users in the Council.	Work in progress Software is being implemented to improve the classification of information that needs protecting in a secured drive. Audit logging functions are being improved to identify user movements in the secured drive. Initial action date: 30 Apr 2022 Revised action date: 31 May 2023 Responsible officer: Head of People and Culture

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2023 Interim report

Ref.	Rating	Issue	Status
		2. The TechOne generated vendor EFT file is not stored in a secure TechOne drive, and it is in an editable format. The vendor EFT file is moved to a secure Council's network drive before it is processing into CommBiz.	<p>Part 1: Restrict access to TechOne secure drive – Resolved</p> <p>A manual control has been implemented to review access to the unsecured TechOne drive and restrict access to only senior accounts payable officers responsible for upload of the file into CommBiz.</p> <p>Part 2: Encrypt EFT file – Work in progress</p> <p>Progress is being made to implement account payable bank file transfer automation that includes file encryption</p> <p>Initial action date: 30 Apr 2022 Revised action date: 30 Jun 2023 Responsible officer: Chief Financial Officer</p>
		5. Account payable officers have access in TechOne to modify payment amount and payee after corporate direct invoices were approved by the financial delegate.	<p>Resolved</p> <p>Accounts payable officers no longer have access to modify payment amount and payee in TechOne after corporate direct invoices have been approved by the financial delegate.</p>
22-IR-8	D	<p>Other infrastructure asset class – comprehensive revaluation</p> <p>Comprehensive revaluation not performed for other infrastructure asset class at the 5 years interval.</p>	<p>Work in progress</p> <p>Management have prepared a proposed revaluation methodology that will be applied by year end.</p> <p>QAO has assessed the proposal and provided feedback to management in April.</p> <p>Initial action date: 30 June 2022 Revised action date: 30 Jun 2023 Responsible officer: Chief Financial Officer</p>
22-FR-1	M	<p>Formal review of remaining useful lives for assets is required</p> <p>No formal review of assets' remaining useful lives and, no formal assessment of assets' impairment indicators.</p>	<p>Work in progress</p> <p>The review of useful lives has been performed for fleet, general plant and equipment and intangibles. Other asset classes and documentation to summarise the process undertaken and the results still needs to be completed by management.</p> <p>Action date: 30 June 2023 Responsible officer: Chief Financial Officer</p>

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2023 Interim report

3. Areas of audit focus for 2022–23

Our external audit plan identified items we considered to be significant or at risk of material error in the financial statements. The table below provides a status of our audit procedures to date.

Area	Status
<p>1. Valuation of infrastructure assets</p> <p>The valuations are dependent on certain key assumptions that require significant management judgment.</p> <p>These key assumptions and judgments cannot be readily verified to market-based information as comparable fair value of the assets due to the specialised nature of the assets. Infrastructure assets generally have long lives, requiring significant estimation of useful lives.</p>	<p>Other infrastructure assets (FY2022: \$464.7m) and the stormwater network (FY2022: \$1,220m) are being comprehensively revalued internally by management. The transportation network (FY2022: \$2,108m) will be revalued by indexation in 2022–23. It was last comprehensively revalued in 2018–19.</p> <p>Management has commenced compiling its valuation process, schedule and techniques and methodology for other infrastructure assets. We are satisfied with the proposed methodology and have recommended management focus on higher value assets within this asset class.</p> <p>We have assessed management's progress in reviewing the useful lives for fleet, general plant and equipment, and intangibles. The review of useful lives of other assets classes has not yet been finalised. We recommended that management document a summary of the process undertaken and the results from the activity. The useful lives review will be finalised by management in June 2023.</p>
<p>2. Revenue recognition of infrastructure charges and contributed assets</p> <p>There are accuracy and completeness risks on infrastructure charges regarding the amount levied and the timely collection of the charges.</p> <p>Council (consistent with the broader sector) has experienced fluctuation of contributed assets revenue over the financial years which is attributable to the untimely recognition of contributed assets.</p>	<p>We have enquired with management about the internal processes for the timely collection of infrastructure charges. We were satisfied that appropriate prompts were in place when an infrastructure charge notice was issued.</p> <p>We have reviewed the approval process on developer's application and confirmed appropriate controls were designed and implemented.</p> <p>We have performed testing to verify the accuracy of infrastructure charges, discounts, and refunds to 28 February 2023 with satisfactory results.</p> <p>We have also tested the fair value measurement basis for revenue from contributed assets to 31 January 2023 and the results were consistent with AASB13 Fair Value Measurement.</p>
<p>3. Consolidation and valuation of investment in associates</p> <p>Investment in associate (Unitywater) is equity accounted into council's financial results at year end.</p> <p>There is valuation risk for the council because Unitywater adopts a cost model in the valuation of their property, plant and equipment while the council adopts a fair value approach.</p>	<p>Audit procedures over consolidation and valuation of investment in associates will be performed at year-end visit, as planned.</p>

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4. Key financial audit milestones

The following table details the status of key financial reporting and audit deliverable milestones.

Planning	Agreed date	Completed date	
Planning visit	5–16 December	5–16 December	●
External audit plan	16 December	17 January	●
Interim			
Interim testing 1 visit	13–31 March	13–31 March	●
Asset revaluation – other infrastructure assets methodology due to audit	20 March	20 March	●
Property, plant and equipment; and intangible assets useful life review completed	20 March	20 March	●
Interim report 1 outlining preliminary audit findings issued to client	5 May	5 May	●
Position papers on known accounting issues due to audit	28 April	28 April	●
Proforma financial statements due to audit	28 April	28 April	●
Feedback on accounting papers	19 May		●
Feedback on proforma financial statements	19 May		●
Interim testing 2 visit	5 June–16 June		●
Asset revaluation – indexation due to audit (transportation and buildings)	5 June		●
Asset revaluation – comprehensive revaluation due to audit (land, stormwater)	5 June		●
Asset revaluation – other infrastructure assets finalised	5 June		●
Interim report 2 outlining preliminary audit findings issued to client	25 August		●
Final			
Year-end visit	4 September–6 October		●
Complete draft financial statements to audit	4 September		●
Asset valuations due to audit (all finalised and processed)	4 September		●
Feedback on draft financial statements to client	15 September		●
Asset valuations reviewed by audit	28 September		●
QAO closing report summarizing the audit findings issued to client	28 September		●
Audit committee clearance	5 October		●
Financial statements signed by management	6 October		●
Audit report including our audit opinion issued to the client	9 October		●
Final management report	31 October		●

Note: Audit visit | SCRC deadline | QAO deadline ● Completed | ● On track | ● Behind schedule

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5. Update on new reports and resources

We present to you our Update on reports and resources. It provides an overview of the information relevant to your entity, including learnings from our tabled reports to parliament, newly published resources such as our blog articles and fact sheets, and an update on our audits that are in progress.

Relevant reports in progress

The below reports to parliament are currently underway and may be of further interest to you.

Title	Audit status
Local Government 2022	Audit in reporting stage. Likely tabling: May 2023.
Improving asset management in local government	Audit in reporting stage. Likely tabling: June 2023.

Recently tabled reports to parliament

Since your last meeting, we have tabled the below reports to parliament. For more information on any of these reports, please see our website: www.qao.qld.gov.au/reports-resources/reports-parliament.

Report	Summary
State entities 2022 Report 11: 2022–23 Tabled 16 March 2023	This report summarises the audit results of 253 Queensland state government entities, including the 20 core government departments. It also analyses the consolidated financial performance of the Queensland Government. Our report summarises their audit results, and evaluates the timeliness of their financial reporting and effectiveness of their internal controls. We have also published an interactive Understanding grants dashboard that allows you to explore and compare information in Queensland by local government area and funding agency.
Protecting our threatened animals and plants Report 9: 2022–23 Tabled 23 February 2023	QAO tabled the report <i>Conserving threatened species</i> in 2018, where we made 7 recommendations to the Department of Environment and Science. Our new report examines what progress the department has made in implementing those recommendations, and whether that has improved protections for threatened animals and plants. We cover the 3 key elements necessary to protect threatened species: identifying, assessing and listing, and coordinating and monitoring. We also report on how the department identifies animals and plants at risk, how it assesses extinction risks, and the timeliness around legislative change for listings. We examine the department's progress in delivering a coordinated biodiversity strategy, and whether its strategies are stopping the decline in populations of threatened species.

QAO Queensland dashboard

This [interactive dashboard](#) helps you understand more about the area or region you live in and the public services you receive. You can search your address to view important financial information about public sector and local government entities, and interesting demographical information. You can also compare your region.

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Recent blog articles of interest

QAO's blog, available at www.qao.qld.gov.au/blog, provides updates on topical issues, insights from our work, and general news from QAO. Here are the latest posts you may be interested in.

Published	About
For a successful contract – planning is key! 6 February 2023	Planning lays the foundation for a successful contract, but time pressures, tight budgets, and limited resources often get in the way. Before entering into a new contract or rolling one over, taking the time to explore what you want to achieve, how you'll deliver it, and how you'll measure success could save your entity pain in the long term. This is the second blog in our contract management series. It explores these 3 questions in more detail, and looks at why allowing sufficient time to plan effectively is crucial: www.qao.qld.gov.au/blog/successful-contract-planning-key
Transparency – the age of openness and accountability 24 January 2023	The ever-increasing focus on good corporate governance within organisations requires management teams to act with transparency and accountability in their dealings with the broader public. At QAO, this is a priority and a focus for us. We have just published our third transparency report to demonstrate our commitment to audit quality, continuous improvement and our values. This blog highlights what a transparency report is, and shares findings from our <i>Transparency report 2021–22</i> : www.qao.qld.gov.au/blog/transparency-age-openness-accountability
Advice on reporting data breaches 23 January 2023	Cyber security is one of the biggest threats to organisations today, with attacks increasing in intensity, frequency, and sophistication. Recently, attacks on Australian companies have resulted in disruptions to operations and leaked customer data. As government entities may hold sensitive information, knowing what to do in the event of a data breach is key. This blog poses questions all entities can review to help them assess a data breach, notify any affected individuals, report to relevant agencies including QAO, and learn from the incident: www.qao.qld.gov.au/blog/advice-reporting-data-breaches

Upcoming QAO events

Briefing for audit committee chairs

QAO briefs the chairs of public sector and local government audit committees twice each year. The last briefing was held on 2 May 2023. A copy of the presentation is available on our website: <https://www.qao.qld.gov.au/reports-resources/events>.

Client technical audit update

The most recent update was held on 28 February 2023 and covered auditing and accounting standards, strengthening internal controls, considerations for valuations, and key learnings from QAO reports. A copy of the presentation is available on our website: www.qao.qld.gov.au/reports-resources/events.

Copies of event presentations

You can see the presentation packs from our events at: www.qao.qld.gov.au/reports-resources/events.

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2023 Interim report

Matters of special interest

The below information or publications are also pertinent to you and/or your committee.

Topic or publication	Key information
Influence and transparency in Queensland's public sector: Minimising the corruption risks associated with improper influence on government decisions Crime and Corruption Commission (CCC) Published: 30 January 2023 www.ccc.qld.gov.au/publications/influence-and-transparency-queenslands-public-sector-minimising-corruption-risks	<p>This report summarises key themes and concerns about influencing practices, incorporating the views expressed in submissions, as well as the CCC's ongoing examination into these issues.</p> <p>The CCC has proposed 7 reforms for consideration by the Queensland Government to close the gaps identified, and further strengthen Queensland's integrity and accountability framework.</p> <p>Relevant to local government is the reform recommendation that elected officials, including local government councillors, make public information about their meetings with the private sector.</p>

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qao.qld.gov.au/reports-resources/reports-parliament



Suggest an audit topic

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8.4 SALE OF LAND FOR ARREARS OF RATES

File No: Council Meetings
Author: Chief Financial Officer
Business Performance Group
Appendices: Att 1 - 2023 Sale of Land List - *Confidential*

PURPOSE

This report has been prepared to seek Council's approval to commence Sale of Land procedures where rates and charges have been overdue for at least three years, in accordance with the *Local Government Regulation 2012*.

The Sale of Land List attachment is confidential under Local Government Regulation 2012, a local government need not make a related report publicly available to the extent it contains information that is confidential to the local government. The Sale of Land List contains information that is confidential to Council, including the amount of rates outstanding for each property, landowner details, mortgage and property descriptions.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The *Local Government Regulation 2012*, Chapter 4, Part 12, Division 3, applies where overdue rates and charges have remained unpaid for a period of at least three years and allows a local government to sell the land on which the rates were levied (Sale of Land procedures). The land is sold by way of public auction.

In preparing this report, the Chief Executive Officer advises that Attachment 1 contains confidential information which should be considered and discussed in a closed session of the Council meeting in accordance with Section 254J(3)(e) of the *Local Government Regulation 2012*. The Sale of Land List contains information that is confidential to Council, including the amount of rates outstanding for each property.

For these reasons, it is recommended that should Councillors wish to discuss the confidential information in **Attachment 1** (Sale of Land List), Council resolve to close the meeting under section 254J(3)(e) of the *Local Government Regulation 2012*.

On 24 January 2023, 67 properties were identified as having rates and charges overdue for at least three years and falling within the scope of the Sale of Land procedures. As at 14 April 2023 there are 45 properties on the Sale of Land List, with overdue rates and charges totalling \$494,676.47. As the Sale of Land procedures progress the number of properties with overdue rates and charges will continue to reduce as landowners take action to pay their rates.

Over the last four years only one property has been auctioned as an outcome of the Sale of Land procedures and the property was not occupied.

In the event that Council approves the recommendations in this report, the legislation directs the following timelines:

- First statutory notice – Notice of Intention to Sell to be issued as soon as practical after Council approval, in June 2023.
- Second statutory notice – Auction Notice to be issued in September 2023 and Sale of Land auction (if required) to occur in October 2023.

OFFICER RECOMMENDATION

That Council:

- (a) receive and note the report titled “Sale of Land for Arrears of Rates ”
- (b) pursuant to Section 140(2) of the *Local Government Regulation 2012* sell the land where some or all of the rates or charges for the land have been overdue for at least three years as at 31 December 2022 in accordance with Chapter 4, Part 12, Division 3 of the *Local Government Regulation 2012* to recover outstanding rates and charges, and
- (c) delegate to the Chief Executive Officer the power to take all further steps under Chapter 4, Part 12, Division 3 of the *Local Government Regulation 2012* to effect sale of the land procedures, including for the avoidance of doubt the power to end sale procedures.

FINANCE AND RESOURCING

There are 45 properties on the Sale of Land List, with total rates outstanding of \$494,676.47 where overdue rates and charges have remained unpaid for a period of at least three years. By proceeding with the Sale of Land procedures the balance of the community will not be required to bear the financial burden of long-term rate debts.

Council has a community responsibility to collect rates and charges outstanding in a timely manner to finance its operations, carry out essential services and ensure effective cash flow management. Council is proactive in the recovery of outstanding rates and charges and every effort has been taken to minimise the number of properties with rates outstanding for a period of at least three years.

CORPORATE PLAN

Corporate Plan Goal: *Our outstanding organisation*

Outcome: We serve our community by providing this great service.

Operational Activity: S28 - Financial and procurement services – financial and procurement management and governance, ensuring effective business management and legislative compliance, coordination and development of Council’s budget process, administration of financial systems, sundry debtors, accounts payable, financial and asset accounting, treasury, procurement, contract and supply functions.

CONSULTATION**Councillor Consultation**

Councillors have been updated on the Sale of Land process.

Internal Consultation

Internal consultation has been undertaken with the Legal Team.

External Consultation

In January 2023, Council issued a letter to those landowners who had rates and charges overdue for at least three years, advising their property was included in the 2023 Sale of

Land List. In March 2023 a second letter was issued to the landowners who remained on the Sale of Land List.

Community Engagement

No community engagement is required for this report.

PROPOSAL

Current Sale of Land Process

As at 14 April 2023, there remained 45 properties on the Sale of Land List with overdue rates and charges unpaid for a period of at least three years, totalling \$494,676.47.

In the period from 14 April 2023 to the Ordinary Meeting on 25 May 2023, there are likely to be changes to the number of properties and outstanding amounts if Council receives payments during this time. Interest will continue to accrue on outstanding debts and the July 2023 rates will be issued, increasing the outstanding balances.

Should the recommendation be approved by Council, landowners may prevent the sale of the property by paying all overdue rates and charges and all expenses that Council has incurred in attempting to sell the land. In accordance with Section 141 of the *Local Government Regulation 2012*, landowners are unable to enter or negotiate a Rate Payment Plan once the recommendation has been approved.

In March 2023, "Intention to Sell Land for Arrears of Rates" letters were issued to the landowners of the properties remaining on the list. This letter is not required as part of the Sale of Land procedures detailed in the *Local Government Regulation 2012*; however, this communication was issued to ensure landowners are aware of the options available to them, including entering into an approved Rate Payment Plan.

Every effort has been made to recover the outstanding rates and charges and negotiate a successful outcome for landowners and Council. Where a desirable outcome was not achieved by this preceding action, Credit Management Officers have advised landowners of alternative avenues to seek financial assistance through:

- a financial counsellor to discuss other options that may be available
- their mortgagee regarding refinancing
- apply to the State Government for a mortgage relief loan and
- apply to the Australian Taxation Office for the Early Release of Superannuation

The letters and subsequent actions have resulted in 22 properties being removed from the Sale of Land process in the period between January 2023 and compilation of the Sale of Land List on 14 April 2023. By proceeding with this action, the balance of the community will not be required to bear the financial burden of any long-term rate debts.

Prior Sale of Land Process

The Sale of Land process was undertaken in 2022, resulting in the overdue rates and charges for all properties being paid before the auction day. The Sale of Land process in 2021 concluded with an auction on 30 October 2021 where one unoccupied property was sold. The landowner was fully aware of the process following extensive communication. The Sale of Land process did not occur in 2020 due to the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic. The Sale of Land process was undertaken in 2019, resulting in the overdue rates and charges for all properties being paid before the auction day.

Sale of Land processes in prior years have demonstrated that, in the majority of cases, outstanding rates are paid in full prior to the scheduled auction date.

The majority of properties subject to the Sale of Land procedures have a mortgage. In all instances in the past where a property has a mortgage, the rates have been paid in full by the mortgagee to protect their interests.

In all prior years, when a Sale of Land auction has occurred the property involved has not been residentially occupied.

Legal

The Legal Team have been consulted.

Policy

The 2022/23 Revenue Policy was adopted on 26 May 2022 and the 2022/23 Revenue Statement was adopted as part of the annual Budget on 23 June 2022.

Risk

The *Local Government Act 2009* provides statutory powers to Council by securing the debt against the property and therefore limits Council's bad debt risk exposure. However, it is a strong business practice to manage rate debts and other accounts receivable on a proactive basis.

Previous Council Resolution

Ordinary Meeting 26 May 2022 (OM22/36)

That Council:

- (a) *receive and note the report titled "Sale of Land for Arrears of Rates"*
- (b) *pursuant to Section 140(2) of the Local Government Regulation 2012 sell the land where some or all of the rates or charges for the land have been overdue for at least three years as at 31 December 2021 in accordance with Chapter 4, Part 12, Division 3 of the Local Government Regulation 2012 to recover outstanding rates and charges and*
- (c) *delegate to the Chief Executive Officer the power to take all further steps under Chapter 4, Part 12, Division 3 of the Local Government Regulation 2012 to effect sale of the land procedures, including for the avoidance of doubt the power to end sale procedures.*

Related Documentation

In accordance with Section 254D(3) of the *Local Government Regulation 2012*, a local government need not make a related report publicly available to the extent it contains information that is confidential to the local government. The Sale of Land List contains information that is confidential to Council, including the amount of rates outstanding for each property, landowner details, mortgage and property descriptions.

Critical Dates

The proposed time-line is as follows:

- First statutory notice – Notice of Intention to Sell to be issued as soon as practicable after Council resolution, in June 2023
- Second statutory notice – Auction Notice to be issued in September 2023
- Sale of Land Auction (if required) to occur in October 2023

Implementation

Should the recommendation be accepted by Council, it is noted that the Chief Executive Officer will issue statutory notices to all interested parties in accordance with the advised schedule.

8.5 INVESTMENT POLICY FOR 2023/24**File No:** Council Meetings**Author:** Coordinator Financial Accounting
Business Performance Group**Appendices:** App A - 2023/24 Investment Policy 111  

PURPOSE

This report seeks the adoption of an Investment Policy to apply for the 2023/24 financial year.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The *Local Government Regulation 2012* section 191 requires Council to prepare an Investment Policy annually.

This policy forms part of the Council's overall system of financial management, as required under section 104(5)(c)(i) of the *Local Government Act 2009*.

The Investment Policy sets the boundaries of investment and includes the overall philosophy and strategy for investment of surplus funds, along with detailed guidelines and procedures for officers in the application of the policy.

There have been changes to individual counterparty limits compared to the previous policy, in order to take advantage of the best available returns from within each investment category.

OFFICER RECOMMENDATION

That Council:

- (a) receive and note the report titled "Investment Policy for 2023/24" and**
- (b) adopt the 2023/24 Investment Policy (Appendix A).**

FINANCE AND RESOURCING

Investment revenue is included in the draft budget and has been calculated on predicted daily cash balances and anticipated interest rates.

CORPORATE PLAN

Corporate Plan Goal: *Our outstanding organisation*

Outcome: We serve our community by providing this great service.

Operational Activity: S28 - Financial and procurement services – financial and procurement management and governance, ensuring effective business management and legislative compliance, coordination and development of Council's budget process, administration of financial systems, sundry debtors, accounts payable, financial and asset accounting, treasury, procurement, contract and supply functions.

CONSULTATION

Councillor Consultation

The Portfolio Councillor, Councillor E Hungerford, has received advice of this report through the Budget Development process.

Internal Consultation

No internal consultation was required for this report.

External Consultation

No external consultation was required for this report.

Community Engagement

No community engagement was required for this report.

PROPOSAL

The *Local Government Regulation 2012* section 191 requires Council to prepare an Investment Policy annually. This policy forms part of the Council's overall system of financial management, as required under section 104(5)(c)(i) of the *Local Government Act 2009*.

The Investment Policy must outline Council's overall investment objectives, risk philosophy and procedures for achieving the goals related to investment stated in the policy.

Council's overall philosophy is that priority is given to the preservation of capital invested over investment returns.

Investment Parameters and Guidelines

Council investments are limited to those prescribed by Section 6 of the *Statutory Bodies Financial Arrangements Act 1982* (hereafter "SBFAA") for local governments with Category 2 investment powers, which allows for investment with Queensland Treasury Corporation or Queensland Investment Corporation, along with a range of other higher-rated counterparties without further approval.

The SBFAA includes a list of prohibited investments that require Treasurer approval including derivative based instruments, non-Australian dollars and maturity maximum greater than three years.

The following table sets out Council's investment parameters, where maximum percentage of funds can be invested within each category:

Short Term Rating (S&P Global Ratings) or equivalent	Individual Counterparty Limit	Total Limit
QIC / QTC Pooled Cash Management Fund A-1+	100%	100%
A-1+ Financial Institutions	(2022/23 60%) 100%	100%
A-1+ Bond Mutual Funds	30%	50%
A-1 Financial Institutions	(2022/23 50%) 60%	100%
A-2 Financial Institutions	(2022/23 50%) 60%	90%
A-3 Financial Institutions	10%	30%
Unrated	Nil	Nil

Legal

The *Local Government Regulation 2012* section 191 requires Council to prepare an Investment Policy annually.

This policy forms part of the Council's overall system of financial management, as required under section 104(5)(c)(i) of the *Local Government Act 2009*.

Policy

The Investment Policy is reviewed annually as part of the budget development process.

Risk

A key purpose of this policy is to minimise Council's exposure to credit and interest rate risk. Proposed investments are assessed against a risk matrix with maximum exposure levels for individual counterparties and for each credit rating.

Previous Council Resolution**Ordinary Meeting 26 May 2022 (OM22/30)**

That Council:

- (a) receive and note the report titled "***Investment Policy for 2022/23***"
- (b) adopt the 2022/23 Investment Policy (Appendix A).

Related Documentation

The Investment Policy must form part of the annual budget.

Critical Dates

This policy underpins elements of the 2023/24 Budget which will be presented to Council for final adoption at the Special Meeting (Budget Adoption) to be held 22 June 2023.

Implementation

The Investment Policy sets the boundaries of investment and includes the overall philosophy and strategy for investment of surplus funds for the 2023/24 financial year.



Strategic Policy

2023/24 Investment Policy

Corporate Plan reference:	S28 - Financial and procurement services – financial and procurement management and governance, ensuring effective business management and legislative compliance, coordination and development of Council's budget process, administration of financial systems, sundry debtors, accounts payable, financial and asset accounting, treasury, procurement, contract and supply functions.	
Endorsed by Council on:	25 May 2023	Reference Number:
Manager responsible for policy:	Chief Financial Officer, Business Performance Group	

Policy statement

The intent of this document is to outline Sunshine Coast Council's investment policy and guidelines regarding the investment of surplus funds with the objective to maximise earnings within approved risk guidelines and to ensure the security of funds.

Council will maintain an active investment strategy with the following goals:

- Maximise investment returns from investment activities
- Exceed the benchmark of the Bloomberg AusBond Bill (BAUBIL) Index
- Invest only in investments as authorised under current legislation
- Invest only with approved institutions
- Invest to protect capital value of investments

Policy scope

This policy applies to the investment of all funds held by Sunshine Coast Council (Council).

Principles

Council's overall objective is to invest its funds at the most advantageous rate of interest available to it at the time, for that investment type, and in a way that it considers most appropriate given the circumstances. The investment portfolio will maintain sufficient liquidity to meet all reasonably anticipated operating cash flow requirements of Council, as and when they fall due, without incurring significant transaction costs due to being required to recall an investment.

Investment activities shall preserve capital as a principal objective of the investment portfolio. Investments will be performed in a manner that seeks to ensure security of principal of the overall portfolio. This would include managing credit risk and interest rate risk within given risk management parameters and avoiding any transactions that would prejudice confidence in Council or its associated entities.

Credit Risk

Council will evaluate and assess credit risk prior to investment. Credit risk is the risk of loss due to the failure of an investment issuer or guarantor. The investment officers will minimise credit risk in the investment portfolio by prequalifying all transactions including the brokers/securities dealers with which they do business, diversify the portfolio and limit transactions to secure investments.

Cash Flow Risk and Interest Rate Risk

The investment officers shall seek to minimise the risk of a change in the market value of the portfolio due to fluctuating interest rates and changes to financial institution credit ratings (S&P Global). This risk will be mitigated by ensuring that the portfolio is managed in accordance with the strict investment policy guidelines, specifically counter party limits, and by limiting investments to short term maturities i.e. less than 12-month terms.

Cash flow risk can be mitigated by considering the cash flow requirements of Council and structuring the portfolio accordingly to avoid having to recall investments prior to maturity.

Investment Parameters and Guidelines

Council investments are limited to those prescribed by Section 6 of the *Statutory Bodies Financial Arrangements Act 1982* (hereafter "SBFAA") for local governments with Category 2 investment powers, which allows for investment with Queensland Treasury Corporation or Queensland Investment Corporation, along with a range of other high-rated counterparties without further approval.

The SBFAA includes a list of prohibited investments that requires Treasurer's approval including derivative based instruments, non-Australian dollars and maturity maximum greater than three years.

It is noted that for the purposes of this investment portfolio, the percentage limits apply effective from the date of purchase as a percentage of the market value of the portfolio. No more than 20 per cent of the portfolio is to be invested in Floating Rate Notes.

The following table sets out Council's investment parameters, where maximum percentage of funds can be invested within each category:

Short Term Rating (S&P Global Ratings) or equivalent	Individual Counterparty Limit	Total Limit
QIC / QTC Pooled Cash Management Fund A-1+	100%	100%
A-1+ Financial Institutions	100%	100%
A-1+ Bond Mutual Funds	30%	50%
A-1 Financial Institutions	60%	100%
A-2 Financial Institutions	60%	90%
A-3 Financial Institutions	10%	30%
Unrated	Nil	Nil

Maturity

The maturity structure of the portfolio will reflect a maximum term of (1) year to maturity. With management approval, this may be extended to a maximum term of three (3) years.

Authority

Council has been granted authority to exercise Category 2 investment power under Part 6 of the SBFAA.

Authority for implementation of the Investment Policy is delegated by Council to the Chief Executive Officer. The Chief Executive Officer has then delegated authority to the Group Executive Business Performance Group, and Chief Financial Officer in accordance with the *Local Government Act 2009*, Section 257 (1) (b) – Delegation of local government powers.

For the purposes of the appointment of an external fund manager pursuant to Section 59 of the SBFAA, to operate in a manner consistent with this policy will constitute compliance.

New investment products

A new investment product requires a full risk assessment prepared by the Treasury Officer and submitted to the Chief Financial Officer and Coordinator Financial Accounting (including compliance with the Act).

Breaches

Deposits are in the first instance deemed to be “unbreakable”, that is, no early exit. Where Council holds an investment that is downgraded below the minimum acceptable rating level, as prescribed under regulation for the investment arrangement, or where limits for different risk categories or where counterparty limits are breached, an assessment will be undertaken once the change becomes known. Any breach of this Investment Policy is to be reported to the Group Executive Business Performance Group and Chief Financial Officer.

Roles and responsibilities

The Group Executive Business Performance Group, and the Chief Financial Officer are authorised to invest Sunshine Coast Council's operating funds at their discretion in investments consistent with this Investment Policy and legislation. The Financial Accounting and Treasury Unit are responsible for the operations and management of the funds.

Investments will be managed with the care, diligence and skill that a prudent person would exercise in managing the affairs of other persons. This includes having in place appropriate reporting requirements that ensure the investments are being reviewed and overseen regularly.

Investment officers are to manage the investment portfolios not for speculation, but for investment and in accordance with the spirit of this Investment Policy. Investment officers are to avoid any transaction that might harm confidence in Council. They will monitor and manage cash flow when making an investment decision.

Ethics and conflicts of interest

Consideration will be given to ethical investment principles in determining the approved counterparty lists for investment of funds.

Investment officers/employees shall refrain from personal activities that would conflict with the proper execution and management of Sunshine Coast Council's investment portfolio. This includes activities that would impair the investment officer's ability to make impartial decisions.

This policy requires that employees and investment officers disclose to the Chief Executive Officer any conflict of interest on any investment positions that could be related to the investment portfolio.

Delegation of authority

Authority for implementation of the Investment Policy is delegated by Council to the Chief Executive Officer in accordance with the *Local Government Act 2009*, Section 257 (1) (b) – Delegation of local government powers.

Authority for the day-to-day management of Council's Investment Portfolio is to be delegated by the Chief Executive Officer to the Group Executive Business Performance Group, and the Chief Financial Officer, in accordance with Section 259 of the *Local Government Act 2009*, and subject to regular reviews from the Chief Executive Officer.

Criteria of authorised dealers and broker

Council will maintain a list of authorised financial institutions and securities brokers that the investment officers may deal with. These financial intermediaries must have a minimum short-term rating of at least either A-3 (S&P Global Ratings) or the equivalent Fitch or Moody's ratings of BBB+ and Baa1 respectively.

All transactions undertaken on behalf of the investment portfolio of Council will be executed either by Sunshine Coast Council directly, or through securities brokers registered as Australian Financial Service Licensees (AFS) with an established sales presence in Australia, or direct issuers that directly issue their own securities which are registered on Sunshine Coast Council's approved list of brokers/dealers and direct issuers.

Safekeeping and custody

Each transaction will require written confirmation by the broker/dealer/bank. Council will hold security documents.

Measurement of success

A summary of investments, amount invested and comparison above benchmark, at a minimum, is included in the monthly Financial Performance Report to Council Ordinary Meetings.

The benchmark target is to be set equal to or above the Bloomberg AusBond Bank Bill (BAUBIL) Index.

Policy commitment

Council employees and Councillors covered in the scope of this policy consistently demonstrate and uphold the intent, objectives and principles of this policy. Nothing in this policy requires or authorises an employee of Council or Councillor to act in any way that is contrary to law. Any instances of non-compliance will be managed in accordance with any relevant codes of conduct, policies and legislation dealing with conduct and/or disciplinary action.

Related legislation, policies, strategies and documents

All individuals engaged in dealings within the scope of this policy are required to fulfil the ethical and behavioural obligations as defined in legislation. In the event of an inconsistency between any provision of this policy and any provision of the following related legislation, policies, strategies and documents, the provisions of the related legislation, policies, strategies and documents shall prevail, unless the CEO or Council expressly waive a provision of this policy by prior agreement. For further assistance please contact the Manager of Corporate Governance.

Definitions

BBSW – The **Bank Bill Swap Rate**, commonly known as **BBSW**, is simply the *short-term swap rate*. In Australia, BBSW is the term used for interest rate swaps of six months or less, anything dated longer than six months is simply referred to as a *swap rate*.

Bloomberg AusBond Bank Bill (BAUBIL) Index - widely considered to be the industry benchmark for short term cash fund performance and is used by market participants as a means of comparing the returns generated by the various cash funds available in the market.

Ethical Investment Principles – Investment in companies or industries that promote positive approaches to environmental, social and corporate governance issues; or the avoidance of investment in industries deemed harmful to health or the environment. These principles have been recognised by the United Nations Principles for Responsible Investment.¹

Financial Institution is defined as an authorised deposit-taking institution within the meaning of the *Banking Act 1959 (Cwlth)*, Section 5.²

Investments are defined as arrangements that are undertaken or acquired for producing income and apply only to the cash investments of Sunshine Coast Council.

Market Value is the price at which an instrument can be purchased or sold in the current market.

QIC – Queensland Investment Corporation.

QTC – Queensland Treasury Corporation.

Related policies and legislation

Statutory Bodies Financial Arrangements Act 1982

Statutory Bodies Financial Arrangements Regulation 2007

Local Government Act 2009

Banking Act 1959 (Cwlth)

Version control:

Version	Reason/ Trigger	Change (Y/N)	Endorsed/ Reviewed by	Date
1.0	Created	N	Special Statutory Budget Meeting	9/6/2014
1.1	Annual Review	Y	Manager Finance	19/2/2016
1.1	Endorsement		Council	
1.2	Annual Review	Y	Manager Finance	
1.2	Endorsement		Council	18/5/2017
1.3	Annual Review	Y	Chief Financial Officer	12/4/2018
1.3	Endorsement		Council	17/5/2018
1.4	Annual Review	Y	Chief Financial Officer	
1.4	Endorsement		Council	23/5/2019
1.5	Annual Review	Y	Chief Financial Officer	28/4/2020
1.5	Endorsement	Y	Council	11/06/2020
1.6	Annual Review		Chief Financial Officer	14/4/2021
1.6	Endorsement		Council	27/5/2021
1.7	Annual Review	N	Chief Financial Officer	27/4/2022
1.8	Endorsement		Council	26/5/2022
1.9	Annual Review	Y	Chief Financial Officer	20/3/2023
1.10	Endorsement		Council	25/5/2023

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¹ Further information on the United Nations Principles for Responsible Investment, including a schedule of Australian signatories, can be obtained from the following website <http://www.unpri.org/principles/>

² For a list of authorised deposit taking institutions, refer to the website of the Australian Prudential Regulation Authority: <http://www.apra.gov.au/adi/>

8.6 DEBT POLICY FOR 2023/24

File No: Council Meetings

Author: Coordinator Financial Services
Business Performance Group

Appendices: App A - 2023/24 Debt Policy 121  

PURPOSE

This report seeks the adoption of the Debt Policy to apply for the 2023/24 financial year.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The *Local Government Regulation 2012*, section 192 requires Council to prepare a Debt Policy annually.

This policy forms part of the Council's overall system of financial management, as required under section 104(5)(c)(ii) of the *Local Government Act 2009*.

OFFICER RECOMMENDATION

That Council:

- (a) receive and note the report titled "Debt Policy for 2023/24" and
- (b) adopt the 2023/24 Debt Policy (Appendix A).

FINANCE AND RESOURCING

The proposed borrowings and associated finance costs are included in the budget. New loans are generally not drawn down until late in the financial year to minimise interest expenses during that year, with normal repayments commencing in the following period.

CORPORATE PLAN

Corporate Plan Goal: *Our outstanding organisation*

Outcome: We serve our community by providing this great service.

Operational Activity: S28 - Financial and procurement services – financial and procurement management and governance, ensuring effective business management and legislative compliance, coordination and development of Council's budget process, administration of financial systems, sundry debtors, accounts payable, financial and asset accounting, treasury, procurement, contract and supply functions.

CONSULTATION

Portfolio Councillor Consultation

The Portfolio Councillor E Hungerford has received advice of this report through the Budget Development process.

Internal Consultation

Internal consultation was conducted with Councillors and the Executive Leadership Team during the Budget Development process.

External Consultation

External consultation was conducted with Queensland Treasury Corporation (QTC).

Community Engagement

No community engagement was required for this report.

PROPOSAL

The *Local Government Regulation 2012*, section 192 requires Council to prepare a Debt Policy annually. This policy forms part of the Council's overall system of financial management, as required under section 104(5)(c)(ii) of the *Local Government Act 2009*.

Council's borrowing activities are governed by the *Statutory Bodies Financial Arrangements Act 1982*, and the Debt Policy provides clear guidelines for loan raising, requiring an assessment of the impact of any borrowing decision on Council's long-term financial sustainability.

All borrowing proposals remain subject to evaluation by the Department of State Development, Infrastructure, Local Government and Planning. Annual credit reviews are undertaken by Queensland Treasury Corporation to assess Council's borrowing capacity is consistent with the debt policy.

There have been no changes to the existing policy.

Legal

The adoption of these policies satisfies Council's legislative obligations.

Policy

The Debt Policy is reviewed annually as part of the Budget Development process.

Risk

The Debt Policy provides the opportunity for restructure of the debt portfolio in the event of significant fluctuations in borrowing interest rates. Further, borrowing is restricted to Queensland Treasury Corporation under legislation without specific approval from the Treasurer under the advice of the Department of State Development, Infrastructure, Local Government and Planning.

Previous Council Resolution**Ordinary Meeting 26 May 2022 (OM22/31)**

That Council:

(a) receive and note the report titled "**Debt Policy for 2022/23**"

(b) adopt the 2022/23 Debt Policy (Appendix A)

Related Documentation

There are no related documents to this report.

Critical Dates

This policy underpins elements of the 2023/24 budget which will be presented to Council for final adoption at the Special Meeting (Budget Adoption) to be held 22 June 2023.

Implementation

The Debt Policy sets the required loan borrowings for the 2023/24 financial year which are included in the borrowing application to the Department of State Development, Infrastructure, Local Government and Planning.



Strategic Policy

2023/24 Debt Policy

Corporate Plan reference:	S28 - Financial and procurement services – financial and procurement management and governance, ensuring effective business management and legislative compliance, coordination and development of Council's budget process, administration of financial systems, sundry debtors, accounts payable, financial and asset accounting, treasury, procurement, contract and supply functions.	
Endorsed by Council on:	25 May 2023	Reference Number:
Manager responsible for policy:	Chief Financial Officer, Business Performance Group	

Policy statement

The purpose of this policy is to ensure the sound management of Council's existing and future debt. The policy will provide clear guidance for staff in the management of Council's debt portfolio and maintenance of appropriate debt and debt service levels.

New borrowings will only be made to fund capital expenditure, for a period less than or equal to the estimated useful life of the asset(s) and for no more than 20 years.

New borrowings will be undertaken in accordance with the Queensland Treasury Corporation Guidelines, the *Statutory Bodies Financial Arrangements Act 1982* and Section 192 of the *Local Government Regulation 2012*.

Policy scope

This policy applies to all Councillors and council staff and extends to all borrowing activities of Council and any controlled entities.

Policy requirements

Borrowing Purposes

- Council will not utilise loan funding to finance operating activities or recurrent expenditure.
- Council undertakes full analysis of all funding options as outlined in the Long Term Financial Forecast, including a forward program of capital works, to determine loan funding requirements.
- Council recognises that infrastructure demands placed upon Council can often only be met through borrowings, but will always be mindful of the additional cost incurred by the community when assets are acquired through borrowings, as this increases the cost of providing capital infrastructure.
- Council will endeavour to fund all capital renewal projects from operating cash flows and borrow only for new or upgrade capital projects, having regard to sound financial management principles and giving consideration to inter-generational equity for the funding of long term infrastructure projects.

- Where capital expenditure is deferred from one year to the next, the drawdown of approved loan funds will be reviewed to minimise interest expenses.
- Borrowings for infrastructure that provide the opportunity for a return on assets will take priority over borrowings for other assets.

Debt Term

Where capital projects are financed through borrowings, Council will repay the loans within a term not exceeding the life of those assets, and over a term that optimises cash flow efficiency. Loans undertaken for core Sunshine Coast capital investment are planned to be repaid within a twelve (12) year period. Loans undertaken for Region Making projects may have a term of greater than twelve years.

- If surplus funds become available, and where it is advantageous to Council, one-off loan repayments will be made to reduce the term of existing loans.
- In an environment of fluctuating interest rates, and where there is a distinct economic advantage to Council, consideration will be given to renegotiating any outstanding loans to obtain the best long-term benefit to Council.

Repayment Ability

Council will maintain close scrutiny of debt levels to ensure that relative sustainability indicators will not exceed target parameters recommended by Queensland Treasury Corporation and *Local Government Regulation 2012*.

Borrowing Sources

Council will raise all external borrowings at the most competitive rates available and from sources available as defined by legislation. Consideration will be given to provision of loans to business units from surplus cash reserves held by Council by way of an internal loan.

Internal Loans

The provision and approval of an internal loan will depend on the availability of surplus funds at the time of application and the capacity of the business unit or operational activity to repay the loan.

- All applications for internal loans will be made by reference to the Finance Branch for consideration in accordance with the Long Term Financial Forecast.
- The term of the loan will be appropriate to the life of the asset being financed.
- In all cases, where business units are subject to the provisions of the National Competition Policy, the cost to the business unit will be no less than what would apply to an equivalent private sector business. The interest rate will be the sum of:
 - (a) the equivalent QTC borrowing rate for the proposed term;
 - (b) the QTC administration charge; and
 - (c) an additional margin above the QTC borrowing rate.
- The interest rate applicable to internal loans relating to operational activities of Council will be the actual borrowing cost from QTC including administrative charges.

Council may, upon reasonable notice being given, require repayment of part or all of the balance of the loan at any time, which would require the business unit to convert the outstanding balance of the loan to an external facility.

- Provision for the repayment of the loan will be included in the annual budget for the business unit.

Principles

The purpose of establishing this policy is to:

- Provide a comprehensive view of Council's long term debt position and the capacity to fund infrastructure growth for the region;
- Increase awareness of issues concerning debt management;
- Enhance the understanding between Councillors, community groups and council staff by documenting policies and guidelines;
- Demonstrate to government and lending institutions that Council has a disciplined approach to borrowing.

Roles and responsibilities

Pursuant to Section 192 *Local Government Regulation 2012*, Council must prepare a debt policy each year that states the new borrowings planned for the current financial year and the next nine financial years.

The Finance Branch will review the cash flow requirements prior to loan proceeds being drawn down to minimise interest expenses.

Measurement of success

Financial sustainability indicators remain within target ranges and the provision of necessary infrastructure is not constrained through the lack of capital funding.

Details of outstanding loans will be reported annually in Council's Financial Statements and Annual Report.

Policy commitment

Council employees and Councillors covered in the scope of this policy consistently demonstrate and uphold the intent, objectives and principles of this policy. Nothing in this policy requires or authorises an employee of Council or Councillor to act in any way that is contrary to law. Any instances of non-compliance will be managed in accordance with any relevant codes of conduct, policies and legislation dealing with conduct and/or disciplinary action.

Related legislation, policies, strategies and documents

All individuals engaged in dealings within the scope of this policy are required to fulfil the ethical and behavioural obligations as defined in legislation. In the event of an inconsistency between any provision of this policy and any provision of the following related legislation, policies, strategies and documents, the provisions of the related legislation, policies, strategies and documents shall prevail, unless the CEO or Council expressly waive a provision of this policy by prior agreement. For further assistance please contact the Manager of Corporate Governance.

Definitions

Business unit – A business activity within Council structure subject to the application of full cost pricing principles as defined under the National Competition Policy.

Inter-generational equity – This relates to the fairness of the distribution of the costs and benefits of a policy when costs and benefits are borne by different generations (i.e. the principle whereby those who derive a direct benefit from the service or infrastructure provided actually pay for that service).

QTC – Queensland Treasury Corporation.

Related policies and legislation

- *Local Government Act 2009*
- *Local Government Regulation 2012*
- *Statutory Bodies Financial Arrangements Act 1982*
- *Statutory Bodies Financial Arrangements Regulation 2007*

Version control:

Version	Reason/ Trigger	Change (Y/N)	Endorsed/ Reviewed by	Date
1.0	Adopted			27 May 2021
2.0	Adopted			26 May 2022

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8.7 REVENUE POLICY FOR 2023/24**File No:** Council Meetings**Author:** Chief Financial Officer
Business Performance Group**Appendices:** App A - 2023/24 Revenue Policy 129  

PURPOSE

This report seeks the adoption of a Revenue Policy to apply for the 2023/24 financial year.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Section 169(2)(c) of the *Local Government Regulation 2012* requires that Council include in the budget a Revenue Policy.

A local government must review its Revenue Policy annually and in sufficient time to allow an annual budget that is consistent with the Revenue Policy to be adopted for the next financial year. The 2023/24 Revenue Policy in accordance with section 193 of the *Local Government Regulation 2012* sets out the principles used by Council for:

- (a) levying rates and charges
- (b) granting concessions for rates and charges
- (c) recovering overdue rates and charges
- (d) cost-recovery methods.

The Revenue Policy has been reviewed and no material changes are proposed.

OFFICER RECOMMENDATION

That Council:

- (a) receive and note the report titled “Revenue Policy For 2023/24” and
- (b) adopt the 2023/24 Revenue Policy (Appendix A).

FINANCE AND RESOURCING

The framework does not place any financial and resourcing obligations on Council but provides the principles for revenue raising for the 2023/24 Budget.

CORPORATE PLAN

Corporate Plan Goal: *Our outstanding organisation*

Outcome: We serve our community by providing this great service.

Operational Activity: S28 - Financial and procurement services – financial and procurement management and governance, ensuring effective business management and legislative compliance, coordination and development of Council’s budget process, administration of financial systems, sundry debtors, accounts payable, financial and asset accounting, treasury, procurement, contract and supply functions.

CONSULTATION

Councillor Consultation

The Portfolio Councillor E Hungerford has received advice of this report through the budget development process.

Internal Consultation

Internal consultation was conducted with Councillors and the Executive Leadership Team during the 2023/24 Budget development process.

External Consultation

No external consultation was required for this report.

Community Engagement

No community engagement was required for this report.

PROPOSAL

As part of the annual budget, Council is required to adopt a Revenue Policy which states the guidelines that may be used for preparing the local government's Revenue Statement, including the principles used by Council in:

(a) levying of rates and charges:

Council will set the rates and charges at a level to provide for both current and future community requirements. This includes general rates, special rates, separate rates and charges and other charges.

Council continues to issue half yearly rates notices and promotes by various means of communication to ratepayers the issue date of rate notices and payment date. Council offers a wide range of payment options.

(b) granting concessions for rates and charges:

Council may grant a concession in the form of a rebate of all or part of the rates and charges, or an agreement to defer payment of rates and charges, in accordance with the specific criteria detailed in section 120 of the *Local Government Regulation 2012* and outlined in the Revenue Policy.

(c) recovering overdue rates and charges:

To reduce the overall rate burden on ratepayers, Council is guided by principles of equity, treating all ratepayers in similar circumstances in a similar manner; transparency, making clear the obligations of the ratepayer; and flexibility by accommodating short-term payment arrangements.

(d) cost-recovery methods:

All fees and charges will be set with reference to full cost pricing and cost recovery fees will be charged up to a maximum of full cost. Commercial charges will be at commercial rates.

Council acknowledges the community benefit associated with not-for-profit organisations and Traditional Owners conducting activities on the Sunshine Coast. All not-for-profit organisations are exempt from cost recovery fees for applications to conduct activities requiring an approval on public and private land within the Sunshine

Coast Regional Council local government area. All applications from Traditional Owners of the Kabi Kabi and Jinibara people are exempt from cost-recovery application fees in relation to tourism and cultural business activities occurring on community land within the Sunshine Coast Regional Council local government area.

Legal

The *Local Government Regulation 2012*, section 169(2)(c) requires that Council include a Revenue Policy in the budget.

The *Local Government Regulation 2012*, section 193 details what must be included in the Revenue Policy. This policy forms part of the Council's overall system of financial management, as required under Section 104(5)(c)(iii) of the *Local Government Act 2009*.

Policy

The Revenue Policy is reviewed annually as part of the budget development process.

Risk

No risks have been identified in relation to this report.

Previous Council Resolution

The Revenue Policy for 2022/23 was adopted by Council under resolution OM22/32 at the Ordinary Meeting held on 26 May 2022.

That Council:

- (a) receive and note the report titled "**2022/23 Revenue Policy**"; and
- (b) adopt the 2022/23 Revenue Policy (Appendix A).

Related Documentation

The Revenue Policy must form part of the annual budget.

Critical Dates

This policy underpins elements of the 2023/24 Budget which will be presented to Council for final adoption at the Special Meeting (Budget Adoption) to be held on the 22 June 2023.

Implementation

Should the recommendation be accepted by Council, it is noted that the Chief Executive Officer will:

- Apply the Revenue Policy for the making and levying of rates and charges for the 2023/24 financial year.



Strategic Policy

2023/24 Revenue Policy

Corporate Plan reference:	S28 - Financial and procurement services – financial and procurement management and governance, ensuring effective business management and legislative compliance, coordination and development of Council's budget process, administration of financial systems, sundry debtors, accounts payable, financial and asset accounting, treasury, procurement, contract and supply functions.	
Endorsed by Council on:	25 May 2023	Reference Number: OM
Manager responsible for policy:	Chief Financial Officer, Business Performance Group	

Policy statement

The purpose of this Revenue Policy is to set out the principles used by Council for:

- levying rates and charges;
- granting concessions for rates and charges;
- recovering overdue rates and charges; and
- cost-recovery methods.

The Revenue Policy will be applied by Council in the development of the annual budget for the 2023/24 financial year.

Policy scope

The Revenue Policy applies to all areas identified in Section 193 of the *Local Government Regulation 2012*.

Policy Requirements

The Levying of Rates and Charges

Council levies rates and charges to fund the provision of valuable services to our community. When adopting its annual budget Council will set rates and charges at a level that will provide for both current and future community requirements. Council will apply the principle of transparency in making rates and charges.

1. Differential General Rates

Differential General Rate revenue provides essential whole of community services not funded through subsidies, grants, contributions or donations received from other entities, or not provided for by other levies or charges. Council will consider all full cost recovery options before calculating the differential general rate for each rating category.

Council is required to raise an amount of revenue it sees as being appropriate to maintain assets and provide services to the region as a whole. In deciding how that revenue is raised, Council has formed the opinion that a differential general rating scheme, based primarily on land use, provides the most equitable basis for the distribution of the general rate burden.

The rateable value for each property is the basis for determining the amount of the general rate levied. Council recognises that significant valuation fluctuations may have an adverse effect on pensioners. Council has implemented a Deferment of General Rates Policy to provide eligible pensioners with the opportunity to apply for a deferment of general rates.

2. Special and Separate Rates and Charges

Where appropriate Council will fund certain services, facilities or activities by means of separate or special rates or charges.

In accordance with Section 94 of the *Local Government Regulation 2012* Council will levy special rates and charges on certain properties that are considered to be specially benefited by the provision of a specific service, facility or activity.

Special rates are based on the rateable value of the land and special charges are a flat charge per property, where this is considered to provide a more equitable basis for the sharing of the cost.

In accordance with Section 103 of the *Local Government Regulation 2012* Council will levy a separate rate or charge on all rateable land in the region to fund a particular service, facility or activity where Council believes that the service, facility or activity is key in achieving council's vision to be Australia's most sustainable region – healthy, smart, creative.

3. Other Charges

In general, Council will be guided by the principle of user pays in making all other charges.

The Purpose of and Granting of Concessions for Rates and Charges

Under Chapter 14, Part 10, section 121 of the *Local Government Regulation 2012* Council may grant a concession. The concession may only be of the following types;

- a rebate of all or part of the rates or charges;
- an agreement to defer payment of the rates and charges;
- an agreement to accept a transfer of unencumbered land in full or part payment of rates or charges.

In accordance with Section 120(1)(a) of the *Local Government Regulation 2012*, Council has determined that eligible pensioners who are property owners may receive concessions. The purpose of these concessions is to assist pensioner property owners remain in their own home by reducing the financial impact of rates and charges.

In accordance with Section 120(1)(b) of the *Local Government Regulation 2012* charitable organisations, community groups, and sporting associations, whose objects do not include making a profit may also be entitled to concessions. The purpose of these concessions is to encourage and support charitable organisations, community groups, and sporting associations as they contribute to the health and well-being of the community and the social cohesion of the region.

In accordance with Section 120(1)(c) of the *Local Government Regulation 2012* concessions may be granted if the payment of the rates or charges will cause hardship to the landowner. The purpose of these concessions is to assist ratepayers in hardship circumstances by reducing the short-term cash flow impact of paying rates and charges, by for example providing a longer period over which to pay rates and charges.

In accordance with Section 120(1)(d) of the *Local Government Regulation 2012* concessions may be granted if the concession will encourage the economic development of all or part of the local government area. In accordance with the provisions of the Sunshine Coast Investment Incentive Scheme an approved business or enterprise may be entitled to a concession in the form of a deferment of general rates for such period as Council may determine from time to time.

In exercising these concession powers Council will be guided by the principles of:

- transparency, by making clear the requirements necessary to receive concessions; and
- communication, by raising the awareness of target groups that may qualify for these concessions; and
- equity, by ensuring that all applicants of the same type receive the same concession.

The Recovery of Rates and Charges

Council will exercise its rate recovery powers pursuant to the provisions of Chapter 4 Part 12 of the *Local Government Regulation 2012* in order to reduce the overall rate burden on ratepayers, and will be guided by the principles of:

- equity, by treating all ratepayers in similar circumstances in the same manner;
- transparency, by making clear the obligations of ratepayers and the processes used by Council in assisting them to meet their financial obligations; and
- flexibility, by accommodating ratepayers' needs through short-term payment arrangements.

Cost Recovery Fees

All fees and charges will be set with reference to full cost pricing. Cost recovery fees will be charged up to a maximum of full cost. Commercial charges will be at commercial rates. Council acknowledges the community benefit associated with not-for-profit organisations and Traditional Owners conducting activities on the Sunshine Coast. All not-for-profit organisations are exempt from cost recovery fees for applications to conduct activities requiring an approval on public and private land within the region. All applications from Traditional Owners of the Kabi Kabi and Jinibara people are exempt from cost-recovery application fees in relation to tourism and cultural business activities occurring on community land within the Sunshine Coast Regional Council local government area.

New Development Costs

Developer contributions for infrastructure are determined each year in accordance with the philosophy that a developer should pay reasonable and relevant contributions towards the capital cost of the provision of infrastructure to meet past and future augmentation costs associated with this new development, subject to State Government requirements. Infrastructure agreements are negotiated outcomes between Council and the developer.

Principles

In levying rates and charges, Council will apply the principles of:

- consistency, by scheduling the issue of rate notices on a half yearly basis;
- communication, by advising ratepayers about rate notice issue dates and payment dates;
- clarity, by providing meaningful information on rate notices to enable ratepayers to clearly understand their responsibilities; and
- flexibility, by providing payment arrangements to ratepayers in financial difficulty, along with a wide array of payment options.

In making and levying rates and charges, Council will be guided by the principles of:

- equitable distribution of the differential general rates burden as broadly as possible;
- transparency in the making and levying of rates;

- flexibility, to take account of changes in the local economy;
- clarity in terms of responsibilities (council's and ratepayers') in regard to the rating process;
- National Competition Policy legislation where applicable; and
- having in place a rating regime that is efficient to administer.

Accordingly, the principles contained within the Revenue Policy are applied in the determination of the Revenue Statement, rates, fees and charges.

Roles and responsibilities

Council is required to prepare and adopt a Revenue Policy in accordance with Section 193 of the *Local Government Regulation 2012*. The Revenue Policy must be reviewed annually and in sufficient time to allow an annual budget that is consistent with the Revenue Policy to be adopted for the next financial year.

The Chief Executive Officer is responsible for executing the Revenue Policy. Group Executive Business Performance, the Chief Financial Officer and Finance Branch are bound by the principles outlined in this policy in the levying and recovery of rates and charges, and in the application of concessions relating to those rates and charges. All council staff are bound by the principles outlined in this policy in determining cost recovery and commercial fees and charges, and in the application of an exemption relating to those fees and charges.

Measurement of success

Financial sustainability indicators remain within target ranges and Council maintains a strong financial position through adequate and equitable revenue streams.

Policy commitment

Council employees and Councillors covered in the scope of this policy consistently demonstrate and uphold the intent, objectives and principles of this policy. Nothing in this policy requires or authorises an employee of Council or Councillor to act in any way that is contrary to law. Any instances of non-compliance will be managed in accordance with any relevant codes of conduct, policies and legislation dealing with conduct and/or disciplinary action.

Definitions

All words within this policy have the meaning assigned under the Dictionary from the schedule contained within the *Local Government Regulation 2012*.

Related policies and legislation

Local Government Act 2009



Local Government Regulation 2012

Version control:

Version	Reason/ Trigger	Change (Y/N)	Endorsed/ Reviewed by	Date
1.0	Created	N	Special Statutory Budget Meeting	02/06/2014
2.0	Annual Review	Y	Manager Finance	30/03/2017
2.0	Endorsement	N	Council	15/06/2017
3.0	Annual Review	Y	Chief Financial Officer	30/03/2018
3.0	Endorsement	N	Council	17/05/2018
4.0	Annual Review	Y	Chief Financial Officer	02/04/2019
4.0	Endorsement	N	Council	23/05/2019
5.0	Annual Review	Y	Chief Financial Officer	07/05/2020
5.0	Endorsement	Y	Council	11/06/2020
6.0	Annual Review	Y	Chief Financial Officer	19/03/2021
6.0	Endorsement	N	Council	27/05/2021
7.0	Annual Review	N	Chief Financial Officer	27/02/2022
8.0	Annual Review	N	Chief Financial Officer	27/03/2023

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8.8 REGISTER OF GENERAL COST - RECOVERY FEES AND COMMERCIAL CHARGES 2023/24

File No:	Council Meetings
Author:	Coordinator Financial Services Business Performance Group
Appendices:	App A - Register of General Cost - Recovery Fees and Commercial Charges 2023/24  5/140
Attachments:	Att 1 - General Cost-Recovery Fees and Commercial Charges 2023/24 Notes  63/140

PURPOSE

To seek adoption of the fees and charges (Appendix A) as the Register of General Cost-Recovery Fees and Commercial Charges 2023/24 (excluding Development Assessment Fees).

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

General cost-recovery fees and commercial charges revenue for 2023/24 is expected to be approximately \$60.1 million. The budget fee increase parameter is 5%.

General cost-recovery fees were calculated at full cost recovery where possible. Commercial charges may be set above full cost after considering market and other conditions. General cost-recovery fees and commercial charges for 2023/24 are set out in Appendix A.

OFFICER RECOMMENDATION

That Council:

- (a) receive and note the report titled “Register of General Cost - Recovery Fees and Commercial Charges 2023/24”
- (b) adopt the fees detailed in the Register of General Cost-Recovery Fees and Commercial Charges 2023/24 (Appendix A)
- (c) resolve that, in relation to those cost-recovery fees to which Section 97 of the *Local Government Act 2009* apply:
 - (i) the applicant is the person liable to pay these fees
 - (ii) the fee must be paid at or before the time the application is lodged, and
- (d) delegate to the Chief Executive Officer the power
 - (i) to amend commercial charges to which *Section 262(3)(c) of the Local Government Act 2009* apply and
 - (ii) to determine a reasonable fee based on cost recovery principles when a price on application is requested.

FINANCE AND RESOURCING

General cost-recovery fees and commercial charges revenue for 2023/24 is expected to be approximately \$60.1 million.

Table 1 below shows the estimated general fees and charges revenue for 2023/24 by group and function.

Function	No. of Fees	Estimated Fees and Charges Revenue \$'000
Built Infrastructure		
Asset Information Management	3	-
Business and Technical	7	31
Parking and Transport	10	1,896
Stormwater Services	1	11
Transport Capital Works	4	1
Quarry Services	70	3,352
Business Performance		
BM Business & Innovation	11	-
Financial Operations	4	1,653
BM Property Management	8	-
Facilities Management	6	-
Civic Governance		
BM Corporate Governance	3	7
Corporate Planning and Performance	1	-
Legal Services	12	23
Customer and Planning Services¹		
Kawana Waters and Palmview	11	478
Cemetery Services	134	1,755
Community Land Permits and Parking	77	2,063
Healthy Places	70	1,511
Response Services	66	3,110
Strategic Flooding and Stormwater	4	200
Economic and Community Development		
BM Community Planning and Development	1	15
Community Sport	72	132
Creative Arts and Events	1	72
Cultural Heritage Services	2	-
Library Services	57	239
Major Events Delivery	1	2,991
Sports Venues	266	2,779
Sunshine Coast Holiday Parks	111	21,196
Venue 114 and Comm. Spaces	195	1,177
Liveability and Natural Assets		
BM Environmental Operations	2	-
Coastal, Const Waterbodies and Planning	15	22
Collection Services	45	206
Community Catchment Partnerships	2	-
Natural Areas Management	18	-
Waste Diversion and Disposals	59	15,218
TOTAL	1,349	60,141

¹ Excludes Development Services fees

CORPORATE PLAN

Corporate Plan Goal:	<i>Our outstanding organisation</i>
Outcome:	We serve our community by providing this great service.
Operational Activity:	S28 - Financial and procurement services – financial and procurement management and governance, ensuring effective business management and legislative compliance, coordination and development of Council's budget process, administration of financial systems, sundry debtors, accounts payable, financial and asset accounting, treasury, procurement, contract and supply functions.

CONSULTATION

Councillor Consultation

Consultation has been undertaken with all Councillors during the Budget Development process.

Internal Consultation

Managers responsible for fees and charges across Council reviewed cost-recovery fees and commercial charges relevant to their branch and obtained Group Executive's endorsement for the proposed fees.

Consultations held with:

- Managers of all Branches responsible for fees and charges
- Coordinator Business and Technical
- Team Leader Land Information Services
- General Counsel
- Coordinator Sunshine Coast Holiday Parks
- Team Leaders Sport and Community Venues
- Team Leaders Environmental Operations
- Coordinator Waste & Resource Management

External Consultation

There has been no external consultation undertaken in relation to this report.

Community Engagement

There has been no community engagement undertaken in relation to this report.

PROPOSAL

The Finance Branch facilitated and coordinated with managers and team leaders the review of general cost-recovery fees and commercial charges for the annual budget process. A Fees and Charges Workshop was held with Councillors to present the Register of General Cost-Recovery Fees and Commercial Charges for 2023/24. The workshop focused on the new and deleted fees, fees with significant increases, and fee reductions.

The general principle in setting general cost-recovery fees and commercial charges is that the costs of services should be borne by those who benefit from them.

Cost-recovery fees covered under Section 97 of the *Local Government Act 2009* are required to be set equal or less than cost of providing that service.

Charges which are commercial in nature come under Section 262(3)(c) of the *Local Government Act 2009*. Commercial charges are set with commercial considerations generally being increased by the budget fee increase parameter of 5%.

Legal

Local Government Act 2009:

- Section 97 Cost-Recovery Fees
- Section 98 Register of Cost-Recovery Fees
- Section 262(3)(c) Commercial Charges

Local Government Regulation 2012:

- Section 172 Revenue Statement
- Section 193 Revenue Policy.

A New Tax System (Goods and Services Tax) Act 1999.

Policy

General Cost-Recovery Fees and Commercial Charges are adopted by Council each financial year and can be amended during the year if need be. Authority to amend cost-recovery fees lies with Council while the authority to amend commercial fees may be delegated to the Chief Executive Officer.

Risk

Where user charges do not meet the cost of providing the service, subsidy from general rates will be required, which may risk the achievement of a balanced operating result.

Previous Council Resolution

Council adopted the 2022/23 Register of General Cost-Recovery Fees and Commercial Charges at the Ordinary Meeting held on 26th May 2022 (OM22/33):

That Council:

- (a) *receive and note the report titled "Register of General Cost-Recovery Fees and Commercial Charges 2022/23"*
- (b) *adopt the fees detailed in the Register of General Cost-Recovery Fees and Commercial Charges 2022/23 (Appendix A)*
- (c) *resolve that, in relation to those cost-recovery fees to which Section 97 of the Local Government Act 2009 apply:*
 - (i) *the applicant is the person liable to pay these fees and*
 - (ii) *the fee must be paid at or before the time the application is lodged and*
- (d) *delegate to the Chief Executive Officer the power to amend commercial charges to which Section 262(3)(c) of the Local Government Act 2009 apply.*

Related Documentation

Local Government Act 2009

Local Government Regulation 2012

Critical Dates

The 2023/24 cost-recovery fees and commercial charges apply from 1 July 2023. Adopting the fees and charges prior to adopting the 2023/24 budget in full allows advance notice for users and the community

Implementation

Should the recommendation be accepted by Council, it is noted that the Chief Executive Officer will:

Once adopted, the General Register of Cost-Recovery Fees and Commercial Charges 2023/24 (Appendix A) will be published on Council's website.

8.9 DEVELOPMENT SERVICES REGISTER OF COST-RECOVERY FEES AND COMMERCIAL CHARGES 2023/24

File No:	Council Meetings
Author:	Manager Development Services Customer & Planning Services Group
Appendices:	App A - Development Services Register for Cost-recovery Fees and Commercial Charges 2023/2471/140 
Attachments:	Att 1 - Development Services Comparison of 2022/23 Fees and Charges to 2023/24111/140  Att 2 - Urban Development Institute of Australia (UDIA) Queensland Research Foundation Fees and Charges 2022 Update129/140  Att 3 - Targeted SEQ Benchmark of Development Services Fees137/140 

PURPOSE

The purpose of this report is to seek adoption of the *Development Services Register for Cost-recovery Fees and Commercial Charges 2023/24* (refer to **Appendix A**).

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Development Services Register of Cost-recovery Fees and Commercial Charges includes relevant fees and charges for assessment and services associated with planning, engineering, environment, building and plumbing.

Under the *Local Government Act 2009*, Council can set cost recovery fees for services such as the processing a development application. However, Council has a statutory obligation to ensure cost recovery fees do not exceed the cost to undertake the services, list these fees in a register, and regularly review these fees.

A 5% increase in the pricing parameter of the fees has been proposed in the Register. A minor number of fees are proposed to be increased higher than the 5% pricing parameter as well as some new fees being introduced based on the complexities of the proposals and to ensure appropriate cost recovery for the services undertaken.

Council will continue to provide a range of existing fee incentives already included in the current Register as well as the retention the 75% reduction of the not-for-profit organisations and maintaining the 50% discounted fee incentive for the Nambour Special Entertainment Precinct.

Fees included in *Section 7 - Environmentally Relevant Activity* and *Section 18 - Historical Planning Scheme Policy Contributions* of the proposed Register are governed by State policy, which has not been released to date. These fees will be updated in the Register prior to the release on 1 July 2023.

The *Development Services Register for Cost-recovery Fees and Commercial Charges 2023/24* will apply from 1 July 2023. Adopting the fees and charges prior to adopting the 2023/24 budget in full allows advance notice for applicants and the community and provides sufficient time to update our systems prior to the 1 July 2023.

OFFICER RECOMMENDATION

That Council:

- (a) receive and note the report titled “Development Services Register of Cost-recovery Fees and Commercial Charges 2023/24” and
- (b) adopt the fees detailed in the Development Services Register of Cost-recovery Fees and Commercial Charges for Sunshine Coast Council 203/24 in Appendix A.
- (c) resolve that, in relation to those cost recovery fees to which Section 97 of the *Local Government Act 2009* apply:
 - (i) the applicant is the person liable to pay these fees and
 - (ii) the fee must be paid at or before the time the application is lodged and
- (d) delegate to the Chief Executive Officer the power:
 - (i) to amend commercial charges to which section 262(3) (c) of the *Local Government Act 2009* apply and
 - (ii) to determine a reasonable fee based on cost recovery principles when a price on application is requested.

FINANCE AND RESOURCING

There are several factors within the development environment that impact on the forecasting of Development Services revenue projections, including:

- Broad economic conditions and the underlying demand for development stock.
- Confidence in the local development market – impacted by the broader business environment and relevant policy.
- Development Applications generally include a base fee plus a unit charge; therefore the size of an application is an important (and largely unknown) factor in forecasting revenue.

The building and development industry in the Sunshine Coast region is currently experiencing some changes and challenges following the extraordinarily high development activity in 2019/20 and 2020/21 during the COVID-19 pandemic period, mainly associated with the Federal Government HomeBuilders Scheme. In addition, the industry is being affected by the availability and cost of materials, skilled labour shortages, and supply chain delays. This, along with cost-of-living pressures, rising interest rates and inflation have had an impact on the type and volume of development applications lodged with Council.

Development activity has been steady during the 2022/23 financial year to date. The typical development cycle identifies peak and trough trends, with development activity currently coming off a significant peak. At this time, it is anticipated that development activity for the 2023/24 financial year will remain steady.

It is important to acknowledge that only approximately 70% of the activities and services carried out by Development Services generate revenue. This includes development, operational works and plumbing application fees, plumbing inspection and certification fees, development advice, searches and fines. The remaining Development Services Branch functions are non-fee-paying services such as appeals management, compliance, general development information/enquiry services, business improvement and administrative support. Taking into consideration cost recovery principles under the *Local Government Act 2009*, the resultant revenue and expenses in the Branch need to align with fee paying and non-fee-paying services, ensuring Branch expenses are greater than the Branch revenue rather than being cost neutral.

At the end of March 2023, the revenue achieved for the fee-paying services was approximately \$13,613,000. It is envisaged that the Development Service Branch overall revenue for the 2023/24 year will be similar to the 2022/23 year, being approximately \$20

million. Revenue and expenses will be reviewed regularly to monitor progress. Development Services Branch will continue to support the community, the customers and the development industry in delivering our services while maintaining an appropriate balance between operational expenses and revenue.

CORPORATE PLAN

Corporate Plan Goal: *Our service excellence*

Outcome: We serve our community by providing this great service.

Operational Activity: S19 - Development services – planning, engineering, plumbing and landscaping approvals, provision of specialist advice to the community on planning requirements, audit of private development works, investigation of complaints from the public around land use or development, management of appeals.

CONSULTATION

Councillor Consultation

The Mayor and Councillors have been consulted in relation to this report.

Internal Consultation

A number of internal staff were consulted in order to develop the Register:

- Group Executive, Customer and Planning Services
- Coordinator Planning Assessment, Development Services Branch
- Business Integration and Improvement Lead, Development Services Branch
- Coordinator Engineering and Environment Assessment, Development Services Branch
- Coordinator Plumbing Services, Development Services Branch
- Coordinator Appeals Management and Compliance, Development Services Branch
- Financial Services Branch
- Urban Growth Projects Branch

External Consultation

Benchmarking comparison undertaken by the Urban Development Institute of Australia (UDIA) and specific fee benchmarking identified with other South East Queensland Councils.

Community Engagement

There has been no community engagement undertaken in relation to this report.

PROPOSAL

Development Services Branch undertakes an end-to-end role in the development cycle – from approval of subdivisions and development applications, to overseeing plumbing assessment and compliance actions as well as providing important feedback into policy positions and their operational impact.

Under the *Local Government Act 2009*, Council can set cost recovery fees for services such as the processing of a development application. However, Council has a statutory obligation to ensure cost recovery fees do not exceed the cost to undertake the services, list these fees in a register, and regularly review these fees.

The below information has been used to assist in updating the proposed 2023/24 Register:

- **Attachment 1** – Development Services Comparison of 2022/23 Fees and Charges to 2023/24 shows the fee changes from this financial year to the proposed fees for the 2023/24 year.
- **Attachment 2** – Urban Development Institute of Australia (UDIA) Queensland Research Foundation Fees and Charges 2022 Update provides a comparison of fees for specific use types for a number Council's across the State.
- **Attachment 3** – Targeted SEQ Benchmark of Development Services Fees for Planning and Development Certificates, Negotiated Decision Notices and Changes to a Development Application.

This year it is proposed to increase our fees by 5% in the 2023/24 Register, in line with the core budget parameters applied across Council. A number of minor format and administrative changes have been made to the Register for ease of understanding and to help further clarify some of the fees.

The more specific proposed changes in the proposed Register are outlined in the Development Services Comparison of 2022/23 Fees and Charges to 2023/24 (refer to **Attachment 1**). A number of fees are proposed to be increased higher than the 5% pricing parameter based on the complexities of the proposals and to ensure appropriate cost recovery for the services undertaken. These increased fees include:

- *Section 3 Development Advice Services* – Pre-advice Services for Written Advice, Town Planning Appraisals and Written Advice of Infrastructure Charges/Contributions;
- *Section 4 General Administration and Information Services* – Planning and Development Certificates, File Retrievals, Plumbing Records Searches, As Constructed Drainage Plans, Building Certificate of Occupancy, Plumbing Inspection Certificate and Property Development Notes;
- *Section 5 Dwelling House* – Material Change of Use, Concurrence Agency Referral for Building Work, Building Work and Other Change to a Development Approval;
- *Section 15 Post Development Approval Process* – Generally in accordance requests following an approval;
- *Section 16 Building Work* – Concurrence Agency Referral for Building Work to remove or rebuild a building; and
- *Section 17 Plumbing and Drainage Work* – Backflow Prevention Device Registration and On-Site Sewerage Facilities hard copy administration fee.

The main specific changes and new fees included in the 2023/24 Register are:

- *Section 2.7 Refund of Fees* – Changes have been made to the plumbing and drainage work refund of fee stages to appropriately reflect the amounts with the proportion of work carried out at each stage of the application assessment process and the inspection stage.
- *Section 17 Plumbing and Drainage Work* – A flat fee of \$1,815 has been introduced for Domestic non-sewered area plumbing and drainage work, resulting in the removal of the base fee (\$795) and per fixture / appliance / apparatus (\$70 each).
- *Section 4 General Administration and Information Services* – two new fees introduced for:
 - *Request for Draft Conditions* – New fee of \$595 has been introduced to achieve cost-recovery in relation to this current non-legislative service. This draft conditions service is provided as a customer focussed approach to allow the applicant an opportunity to respond with any queries or changes prior to the decision being made for an application, potentially removing the need to request

a Negotiated Decision. This fee is proposed for this services to be an incentive for the applicant to carry out prior to a decision rather than proceeding with a Negotiated Decision request after a decision. Note that this service does not apply to applications presented to a Council Ordinary Meeting for a decision.

- *Request to Attend on-site meetings associated with a current development application* – New fee of \$445 has been introduced to achieve cost-recovery as a result of Council officers attending on-site meetings as requested by the applicant during the assessment process to resolve the assessment and negotiation of outstanding issues associated with an application. This fee ensures cost recovery for additional meeting not envisaged as part of the current assessment process.
- *Section 5 and Section 14 Changes to a Development Application* – These new fees have been included in the Register to address a process under the *Planning Act 2016* which enables an applicant to change an application during the assessment process prior to the application being decided (not a result of an Information Request). The new fees are:
 - Dwelling House or Dual Occupancy - \$495
 - Other uses where a minor change - base fee of \$1,060 be applied plus the fee associated with any additional units, lots, beds, ha, m2 or GFA
 - Other uses where not a minor change - 100% of the application fee calculated as if the application were a new application

These fees have been structured to achieve cost-recovery in relation to the additional assessment requirements, noting that for other uses it will be charged at the relevant rates identified for the specific application/use type under the Register.

- *Section 5 and Section 15 Negotiated Decision Notices* – These new fees have been included in the Register to address a process under the *Planning Act 2016* which enables an applicant to request a negotiation of conditions and Infrastructure Charges of a development approval once a decision has been issued. The new fees are:
 - Dwelling House or Dual Occupancy - \$495
 - Other uses - \$1,060

These fees have been structure to achieve cost-recovery in relation to the assessment of the relevant representations made by the applicant to Council's previous decision and preparation of a further assessment report for consideration by Council's Delegate.

- *Section 15 Changing a Development Approval* – a new fee of \$595 has been included for Change to Concurrence Agency Response when Council is an affected entity

Council will continue to provide a range of existing development incentives already included in the current Register (refer to Section 2 of the Register in **Appendix A**), such as fee adjustments and refunds.

To support the COVID-19 pandemic recovery for the community and local businesses, in 2022/23 the not-for-profit organisations fee reduction was changed from 50% to 75%. It is proposed in the 2023/24 Register that this reduction support be retained at 75%, returning to 50% in the following financial year.

It is also proposed that the Nambour Special Entertainment Precinct incentive remain in the 2023/24 Register to help facilitate the music-based entertainment industry on the Sunshine Coast. In this Precinct, the application fee is discounted by 50% for a Material Change of Use application for a Theatre, Bar, Nightclub or Hotel use (as defined in the *Sunshine Coast Planning Scheme 2014*) located in the Nambour Special Entertainment Precinct.

Fees included in *Section 7 - Environmentally Relevant Activity* and *Section 18 - Historical Planning Scheme Policy Contributions* of the Register are governed by State policy, which

has not been released to date. These fees will be updated in the Register prior to the release on 1 July 2023.

Legal

Local Government Act 2009

- Section 98 Register of Cost-recovery Fees.
- Section 262(3)(c) Commercial Charges.

Local Government Regulation 2012.

- Section 172 Revenue Statement.
- Section 193 Revenue Policy.

Policy

Fees and charges are adopted by Council for each financial year and can be amended during the year.

Risk

The continual variability of the development market activity and legislative changes necessitate the increase and ongoing review of fees and charges to ensure that we have sufficient fee revenue for cost-recovery and resourcing.

Previous Council Resolution

Ordinary Meeting 26 May 2022 (OM22/34)

That Council:

- (a) *receive and note the report titled “Development Services Register of Cost Recovery Fees and Commercial Charges 2022/23”*
- (b) *adopt the fees detailed in the Development Services Register of Cost-recovery Fees and Commercial Charges for Sunshine Coast Council 2021/22 (Appendix A)*
- (c) *resolve that, in relation to those cost recovery fees to which Section 97 of the Local Government Act 2009 apply:*
 - (i) *the applicant is the person liable to pay these fees and*
 - (ii) *the fee must be paid at or before the time the application is lodged and*
- (d) *delegate to the Chief Executive Officer the power:*
 - (i) *to amend commercial charges to which section 262(3) (c) of the Local Government Act 2009 apply*
 - (ii) *to determine a reasonable fee based on cost recovery principles when a price on application is requested.*

Related Documentation

Local Government Act 2009

Local Government Regulation 2012







Critical Dates

The *Development Services Register for Cost-recovery Fees and Commercial Charges 2023/24* will apply from 1 July 2023. Adopting the fees and charges prior to adopting the 2023/24 budget in full allows advance notice for applicants and the community and provides sufficient time to update our systems prior to the 1 July 2023.

Implementation

Should the recommendation be accepted by Council, it is noted that the Chief Executive Officer will ensure the *Development Service Register for Cost-recovery Fees and Commercial Charges 2023/24* will become operational for new application and services from 1 July 2023. The Register will be published on Council's website.

8.10 MAKING OF AMENDMENT LOCAL LAW NO.1 (MISCELLANEOUS) 2023 AND AMENDMENT SUBORDINATE LOCAL LAW NO.1 (MISCELLANEOUS) 2023

File No:	Council Report
Author:	Governance Policy Lead Civic Governance
Appendices:	App A - Amendment Local Law No. 1 (Miscellaneous) 2023..169 ↓   App B - Amendment Subordinate Local Law No. 1 (Miscellaneous) 2023 177 ↓ 
Attachments:	Att 1 - Community Submissions 205 ↓  Att 2 - Human Rights Assessment of Compatability Proposed Local Law Amendments 245 ↓  Att 3 - Review of Amendment Local Laws for Anti Competitive Provisions 247 ↓ 

PURPOSE

The purpose of this report is to seek a Council resolution to make *Amendment Local Law No. 1 (Miscellaneous) 2023* and *Amendment Subordinate Local Law No. 1 (Miscellaneous) 2023*.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

At the Ordinary Meeting on 8 December 2022, Council resolved to propose to make *Amendment Local Law No. 1 (Miscellaneous) 2022* and *Amendment Subordinate Local Law No. 1 (Miscellaneous) 2022* which have now been updated to reflect that, subject to Council resolution, they will be made in 2023.

The general review of the local laws is the opportunity to maintain currency and responsiveness of the local law suite to community expectations and environmental needs. As such, the local law review identified a number of changes and updates and proposed amendments to the following local laws and subordinate local laws:

- Local Law No. 1 (Administration) 2011
- Subordinate Local Law No. 1 (Administration) 2016
- Local Law No. 2 (Animal Management) 2011
- Subordinate Local Law No. 2 (Animal Management) 2011
- Local Law No. 3 (Community Health and Environmental Management) 2011
- Subordinate Local Law No. 4 (Local Government Controlled Areas, Facilities, Infrastructure and Roads) 2011 and
- Subordinate Local Law No. 5 (Parking) 2011

In summary, the amendments include:

- Amending the offence provisions to create tiered categories of penalties for undertaking a prescribed activity (eg: temporary placement of shipping containers; placement of moveable advertising devices) under a local law without an approval.
- Inclusion of provisions to immediately dispose of chemical products and biological goods to mitigate the risks associated with storage.

- Provision to immediately dispose of impounded items of negligible value to reduce costs.
- Changes to the permit provisions for building work noise outside of standard hours to enable enforcement under the *Environmental Protection Act 1994* (EPA) rather than under the local laws (for consistency with enforcement of other EPA noise standards).
- Amendment of the definition of the management of domestic cats in public places to include the requirement that the cat is restrained on a leash held by a person or restrained to a fixed object (and supervised) or within an enclosure.
- Creation of a 'disposal order' (as an alternative to a destruction order) to include the ability to re-home suitable impounded dogs.
- Update of maps for exclusion of dogs from specific public places, including in areas to be designated within Muller Park at Bli Bli and the Maleny Show Grounds.
- Addition of Dog Off Leash Areas for Flintwood Crescent Palmview, Mapleton Lilyponds, Quota Memorial Park Nambour, Baringa Forest Park, Annalise Circuit Park Nirimba, Viridian Circuit Park Birtinya and Grand Parade Parrearra.
- Amendment of the minimum standards required for a dog enclosure to clarify requirements where residents use their dwelling as the enclosure.
- Addition of a definition for minimum standards supporting the existing law for keeping animals to improve clarity of the provisions for the community and tighten the compliance provision for enclosures.
- Addition of specific offences for contravening time limits for use of public pontoons and for contravening a sign closing a sporting facility playing surface to the public.
- Creation of the ability for Council to add and change the boundaries of residential parking permit areas by publishing maps on Council's website rather than amending the subordinate local law.
- Increase of the unauthorised disability parking penalty to align with State Government amendments.

Further details on the proposed amendments are highlighted in **Table 2** of this report and are contained in *Amendment Local Law No. 1 (Miscellaneous) 2023* (**Appendix A**) and *Amendment Subordinate Local Law No. 1 (Miscellaneous) 2023* (**Appendix B**)

In accordance with the implementation plan in **Table 3** below, community consultation and a State Interest Check was undertaken from 1 February through to 3 March 2023.

The amendment local law and subordinate local law do not contain any anti-competitive provisions, so it is not necessary to conduct a Public Interest Review. Five (5) State Government agencies, identified as relevant stakeholders, confirmed no impacts from the proposed amendments. Further details can be found in **Attachment 3** to this report.

Council received 141 submissions with most (105) relating to the proposal to prohibit dogs from certain areas within Maleny Showgrounds and the introduction of a new dog off leash area within the precinct. Nine (9) submissions were received for issues not related to the current amendments and as such, were referred to the appropriate units within Council.

An overview of submissions can be found in **Table 1** below and detailed information on the community submissions can be found in **Attachment 1** to this report.

Following the review of community submissions relating to the proposed Maleny Showground amendments, Amendment Subordinate Local Law No. 1 (Miscellaneous) 2023 includes new maps (2.5.16 and 2.6.29) with a second larger dog off leash area within the Equine zone. In determining this addition, consideration has been given to:

- Detailed submissions received during the community consultation phase

- Feedback on complaints received regarding dog waste issues and dog attacks on children participating in activities on the sports fields from the Maleny Show Society who manage the Showgrounds on behalf of Council
- Council's Management Plan for Domestic Animals (Cats and Dogs) 2021-2030
- Council's Maleny Sport and Recreation Master Plan 2016 – 2031

OFFICER RECOMMENDATION

That Council:

- receive and note the report titled “Making of Amendment Local Law No.1 (Miscellaneous) 2023 and Amendment Subordinate Local Law No.1 (Miscellaneous) 2023” and**
- resolve to make Amendment Local Law No. 1 (Miscellaneous) 2023 (Appendix A) as advertised**
- resolve to make Amendment Subordinate Local Law No. 1 (Miscellaneous) 2023 (Appendix B) with the following amendments:**
 - in section 19(2), substitute a revised Map 2.5.16 (Maleny Showground) Subordinate Local Law No. 2 (Animal Management) 2011. Schedule 5 (Exclusion of animals from specific places) and**
 - in section 20(5), substitute a revised Map 2.6.29 (Maleny Showground) for insertion into Subordinate Local Law No. 2 (Animal Management) 2011. Schedule 6 (Dog off-leash areas).**
- note that there are no anti-competitive provisions in Amendment Local Law No. 1 (Miscellaneous) 2023 or Amendment Subordinate Local Law No. 1 (Miscellaneous) 2023.**
- note that a review will be undertaken and reported to Council in 12 months to assess the impacts resulting from the proposed changes to the Maleny Showground Dog off-leash areas.**

FINANCE AND RESOURCING

Local Law Drafting

The cost of drafting *Amendment Local Law No. 1 (Miscellaneous) 2023* and *Amendment Subordinate Local Law No. 1 (Miscellaneous) 2023* has been funded through existing budget allocations within the Corporate Governance Branch.

Costs of the administration and regulation of the local law

Table 2 below outlines the estimated finance and resourcing implications as a result of implementing the proposed local law amendments. Information on the finance and resourcing costs have been supplied by the relevant operational areas responsible for the administration and regulation of the proposed new amendments.

CORPORATE PLAN

Corporate Plan Goal: *Our service excellence*

Outcome: We serve our community by providing this great service.

Operational Activity: S20 - Local amenity and local laws – maintaining and regulating local amenity through local laws, regulated parking, community land permits and management of animals, overgrown land and abandoned vehicles.

CONSULTATION

Councillor Consultation

Consultation has occurred with Councillor E Hungerford and Councillor J Natoli as the Portfolio Councillors.

Councillors have been briefed on the many elements of the amendments listed in **Table 2** below.

Following the completion of the Community Consultation period, Councillors were provided a detailed community submissions report.

A summary of submissions is provided in **Table 1** below and detailed information on the community submissions can be found in **Attachment 1** to this report.

Internal Consultation

Consultation with the following internal stakeholders was undertaken in developing the proposed local law amendments:

Civic Governance

- Manager Executive Management & Support Services
- Governance Liaison Officer

Customer & Planning Services

- Manager Customer Response
- Coordinator Response Services, Customer Response
- Coordinator Healthy Places, Customer Response
- Coordinator Community Land Permits and Parking, Customer Response
- Supervisor Prosecutions and Reviews, Customer Response
- Team Leader Environmental Health, Customer Response
- Response Services Education Officer, Customer Response
- Senior Business Operations & Project Officer, Customer Response
- Senior Development Planner, Urban Growth
- Senior Planner, Urban Growth
- Coordinator Planning Assessment, Development Services

Liveability and Natural Assets

- Coordinator Landscape Design, Design & Placemaking Services
- Team Leader Landscape Architectural Services, Design & Placemaking Services
- Senior Landscape Architect, Design & Placemaking Services
- Coordinator Coastal Constructed Water Bodies & Planning, Environmental Operations
- Coastal Project and Permits Officer, Environmental Operations
- Special Projects (Design), Group Executive Liveability & Natural Assets
- Project Officer, Project Delivery
- Coordinator Recreation Project, Project Delivery

Built Infrastructure

- Manager Parks & Gardens
- Coordinator Parks Asset & Capital Planning, Parks & Gardens
- Technical Officer, Parks Operations & Arboriculture, Parks & Gardens
- Technical Officer, Open Space Planning, Parks & Gardens
- Parking & Transport Manager, Transport Infrastructure Management

Economic & Community Development

- Manager Sport & Community Venues
- Coordinator Cultural Heritage Services, Arts, Heritage & Libraries
- Manager Arts Heritage & Libraries
- Venue Manager Sunshine Coast Stadium, Sport & Community Venues
- Coordinator Sports Venues & Development, Sport & Community Venues
- Team Leader Multi Sports Complexes & Aquatics, Sport & Community Venues
- Team Leader Nambour Show Grounds, Sport & Community Venues

Upon receipt of submissions at the conclusion of the external consultation period, relevant officers were consulted and provided feedback, including:

- Manager Customer Response
- Coordinator Response Services, Customer Response
- Coordinator Healthy Places, Customer Response
- Coordinator Community Land Permits and Parking, Customer Response
- Manager Sport & Community Venues
- Coordinator Sports Venues & Development, Sport & Community Venues
- Team Leader Nambour Show Grounds, Sport & Community Venues

External Consultation

Community consultation was undertaken on the proposed local laws from 1 February to 3 March 2023 (31 Days).

During the consultation phase, Council undertook a range of activities to raise awareness with the public and business community. These activities included:

- Information on council's 'Have Your Say' website
- Emails to all registered 'Have Your Say' participants
- Media Releases
- Social media posts
- Media Coverage

Section 29 of the *Local Government Act 2009* provides that the local government may decide its own process for making a local law. The proposal to commence the amendment local law making process included engagement with:

- relevant government agencies about the overall State interest in the proposed amendment local law and

- the community.

State Interest Checks were also undertaken from 1 February 2023 to 3 March 2023. Submissions were invited from five (5) State Government agencies identified as relevant stakeholders. These stakeholders did not identify any impacts.

Council reviewed the proposed amendments to the local laws to identify any possible anti-competitive provisions. Where a law contains anti-competitive provisions, the *Local Government Act 2009* requires a Public Interest Review process, which includes targeted consultation with businesses. There are no anti-competitive provisions in the amendments, therefore a Public Interest Review was not required prior to making these local laws. Further details can be found in **Attachment 3** to this report.

Pre consultation occurred with users of both Muller Park, Bli Bli and key stakeholders of Maleny Showground regarding the relevant proposed amendments.

Submissions

At the conclusion of the consultation phase, Council received 141 submissions on the proposed local law amendments with most submissions (105) relating to the proposed amendments to the Maleny Showground. Nine (9) submissions were received for issues not related to the current amendments and referred to the appropriate units within Council. An overview of submissions can be found in **Table 1** below, and detailed information on the community submissions can be found in **Attachment 1** to this report.

Table 1 – Community Submissions Overview

LOCAL LAW No 1 (ADMINISTRATION) 2011	
Introduction of a new Penalty Regime	1 Submission received supporting the amendment
Amend the penalty for non-compliance with a compliance notice to 20 penalty units in the case of non-registration of a dog.	Nil Submissions received
Inclusion of extra provisions to immediately dispose of chemical or biological products.	Nil Submissions received
Dealing with seized and impounded items – Added items that are “of no commercial value or of a value that would not cover the costs of sale of item”	Nil Submissions received
Extraordinary building work noise permits	5 Submissions received against the amendment
LOCAL LAW No 2 (ANIMAL MANAGEMENT) 2011	
Amend provision to enable destruction or disposal order to be issued enabling the rehoming of suitable dogs.	4 Submissions received supporting the amendment
Inclusion for cats in a public place to be contained in an enclosure, restrained by a leash or to a fixed object under direct supervision.	6 Submissions received 5 supporting the amendment and 1 against
SUBORDINATE LOCAL LAW No 2 (ANIMAL MANAGEMENT) 2011	
Exclusion of animals from: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Eleanor Shipley Park Moffat Beach • Sunshine Coast Stadium • Bankfoot House Glass House Mountains 	<p>Eleanor Shipley Park (amended the pathways to include pedestrian thoroughfare with dogs on a lead) received no submissions.</p> <p>Sunshine Coast Stadium (always prohibiting animals other than during a temporary event) received no submissions.</p>

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Muller Park Reserve Bli Bli Maleny Showground 	<p>Muller Park Bli Bli changes received 1 submission supporting the amendment.</p> <p>Maleny Showground changes received 105 Submissions. 7 submissions supporting and 98 against.</p>
<p>New Dog Off Leash Areas:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Flintwood Cres Palmview Mapleton Lilyponds Quota Memorial Park Nambour Baringa Forest Park Annalise Circuit Nirimba Viridian Circuit Birtinya Grand Parade Parrearra 	<p>Flintwood Crescent Palmview received 1 submission supporting the amendment.</p> <p>Mapleton Lilyponds received 1 submission supporting the amendment.</p> <p>Quota Memorial Park Nambour received 1 submission supporting the amendment</p> <p>Baringa Forest Park received 2 submissions, 1 supporting and 1 against.</p> <p>Annalise Circuit Nirimba received 1 submission supporting the amendment.</p> <p>Viridian Circuit Birtinya received 1 submission supporting the amendment.</p> <p>Grand Parade Parrearra received 1 submission supporting the amendment.</p>
Added for enclosure that is solely a dwelling - must not include a door that opens directly to an area outside the dwelling that would give the dog unrestricted access to a public place	Nil Submissions received
Animal noise nuisance provision amended to include noise unreasonably disrupts or inhibits an activity ordinarily carried out on adjoining land or nearby residential premises	Nil Submissions received
Additional minimum standards amended to include enclosure and containment meet the welfare needs of the animal (Animal Care and Protection Act 2001), maintained not to cause nuisance to neighbouring premises and constructed to prevent wastewater from entering the stormwater system or discharging to adjoining premises	1 Submission received against proposal
LOCAL LAW No 3 (COMMUNITY HEALTH AND ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT) 2011	
Replace the term 'approval for causing building work noise' with the term 'extraordinary building work noise permit' – Change required if LL1 Amendment is adopted	Nil Submissions received – Change required if Local Law 1 amendments proceed
SUBORDINATE LOCAL LAW No 4 (LOCAL GOVERNMENT CONTROLLED AREAS, FACILITIES, INFRASTRUCTURE AND ROADS) 2011	
Insert a new prohibited activity for contravening a sign to temporarily close a playing surface of a sporting facility to the public within a local government-controlled areas	1 Submission received against proposal
SUBORDINATE LOCAL LAW No 5 (PARKING) 2011	
Creation of the ability for Council to add and change the boundaries of residential parking permit areas by publishing maps on Council's website rather than amending the subordinate local law	Nil Submissions received

Increase penalty from 2 penalty units to 4 penalty units for unauthorised use of disability parking, in line with the State amendment and advice received from Queensland Police Service	Nil Submissions received
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Considerations of the main issues raised via community submissions are as follows:

Maleny Showground

The proposed amendments to the Maleny Showground received the largest portion of submissions with most respondents against the changes.

Council has considered all submissions received during the community consultation phase, feedback from the Maleny Show Society which manages the Showgrounds on behalf of Council, together with complaints received to date regarding dog waste issues and attacks on children participating in activities on the sports fields.

In line with Council's endorsed Management Plan for Domestic Animals (Cats and Dogs) 2021-2030, Council is committed to providing a safe and harmonious co-existence between people, pets, and places for the whole community. This can only be achieved by balancing the needs for available animal exercise spaces with areas that are also pet free ensuring a balanced approach to the needs of pet owners and non-pet owners alike.

As the community has grown and evolved over the past few years, the pressure on public spaces continues to provide challenges in ensuring they can be shared safely by the community.

Council's endorsed Maleny Sport and Recreation Master Plan 2016 – 2031, determines the most appropriate levels and usage for the Maleny Showgrounds and future requirements for facilities and infrastructure consistent with the needs of the community and wider region. Recommendations specific to dog off-leash areas include a recommendation to investigate future opportunities within the Maleny Community Precinct for such activities. Council continues to actively investigate suitable alternatives for a dog off-leash area within the Maleny Community Precinct. Whilst it would have been ideal to have an alternate off-leash area in place prior to the proposed amendments, the safety risks presented to children utilising the sports fields, necessitates the need to prohibit dogs from certain areas within the Showgrounds.

After careful consideration, it is proposed that Council amends Maps 2.5.16 and 2.6.29 (Maleny Showgrounds) in Subordinate Local Law No. 2 (Animal Management) 2011 to include another larger shared use dog off-leash area within the Equestrian zone, and to be dog off-leash available only when equine activities are not taking place. Equine activities are mostly held on weekends.

Given the level of community interest regarding the proposed changes to the dog off-leash areas in the Maleny Showground, it is proposed that a review be undertaken in 12 months to assess the impact of the changes and to report to Council on the outcome of the review.

Extraordinary Building Work Noise Permit

The proposed amendments do not create a new ability for building works permits to be issued for works outside of standard building hours. This has been in place since 30 January 2020 and to date 25 applications have been lodged and 18 issued within the last two years.

The purpose of the licence system is only for extraordinary circumstances such as environmental or public safety reasons, e.g. removal of asbestos from a childcare centre outside of the centre operating hours.

Making building work noise outside standard building hours is stipulated as a prescribed activity in the current local laws, meaning it is an offence to make this noise without a local law permit, attracting a 50 penalty unit fine (currently \$7,187) under the local laws. The effect of the amendment is to enable enforcement of this to occur under the *Environmental*

Protection Act 1994 (EPA) instead of the local laws. It does this by providing that the issue of the local law permit has the effect of modifying the EPA's default noise standard for when building work noise can be made. This means that enforcement is via breach of a noise standard in the EPA, which attracts a maximum fine of 400 penalty units (currently \$57,500). This ensures a consistent regime using the EPA provisions for enforcing noise standards in the community. The amendments also remove some ambiguity in the definitions for the activity of extraordinary building work noise.

Council has an after-hours on-call service for environmental nuisance noise such as building works and where able attends the site, or soon after contacts the alleged offender in line with Council's Compliance and Enforcement Policy 2021.

Cats Restrained in a Public Place

Cats are currently required to be restrained in a public place, contained in an enclosure or under the direct supervision of a person. The addition of 'restrained by a leash or to a fixed object' allows cat owners more flexibility to access a public place with their cat. A public place relates to places outside of private property.

Community Engagement

Council may, at its discretion, determine the amount of (if any) public consultation it undertakes before adopting the amendment local law and subordinate local law by resolution. A consultation period of no less than 28 days is considered good practice when proposing to make or amend a local law.

Council undertook community consultation for the proposed amendments from 1 February 2023 to 3 March 2023.

PROPOSAL

The Corporate Governance Branch undertakes a comprehensive review of the Local Laws and Subordinate Local Laws every three to five years so they remain consistent with the legislative environment and are responsive to community and environmental needs.

The current local law review process proposes amendments to the following local laws and subordinate local laws:

- *Local Law No. 1 (Administration) 2011*
- *Subordinate Local Law No. 1 (Administration) 2016*
- *Local Law No. 2 (Animal Management) 2011*
- *Subordinate Local Law No. 2 (Animal Management) 2011*
- *Local Law No. 3 (Community Health and Environmental Management) 2011*
- *Subordinate Local Law No. 4 (Local Government Controlled Areas, Facilities, Infrastructure and Roads) 2011 and*
- *Subordinate Local Law No. 5 (Parking) 2011*

Table 2 below provides an overview of the amendments:

Table 2 - Proposed Local Law Amendments Overview

Local Law	Proposed Change	Reason for Change	Finance & Resourcing Implications
Local Law No. 1 (Administration) 2011 Part 2	A new penalty regime has been developed as follows: (b) for a category 1 activity—	Issuing a 50 penalty unit infringement for low-risk minor activity is prohibitive and not in line with the offence. This amendment allows officers	Revenue estimates may be affected due to tiered

Local Law	Proposed Change	Reason for Change	Finance & Resourcing Implications
<p>Section 6</p> <p>Offence to undertake a local law prescribed activity without approval</p>	<p>(i) for a first offence—10 penalty units; or</p> <p>(ii) for a second offence—20 penalty units; or</p> <p>(iii) for a third or later offence—50 penalty units.</p> <p>(c) for a category 2 activity – 50 penalty units</p> <p>(d) for a category 3 activity—400 penalty units</p> <p><u>Category 1 activities</u></p> <p>1 placement of movable advertising devices</p> <p>2 temporary placement of a shipping container</p> <p>3 Motor Vehicle access to a local government controlled areas</p> <p><u>Category 2 activities</u></p> <p>1 alteration or improvement to local government controlled areas and roads</p> <p>2 building removal</p> <p>3 commercial use of local government controlled areas and roads</p> <p>4 establishment or occupation of a temporary home</p> <p>5 keeping of animals</p> <p>6 operation of accommodation parks</p> <p>7 operation of temporary entertainment events</p> <p>8 undertaking regulated activities regarding human remains</p> <p>9 undertaking regulated activities on local government-controlled areas and roads</p> <p><u>Category 3 activities</u></p> <p>1 operation of an amplified music venue within a special entertainment precinct</p> <p>2 causing building site delivery noise</p>	<p>greater flexibility to offer a lower cost infringement notice commensurate with the seriousness of the offence.</p>	<p>system and amended penalty amounts.</p>
<p>Local Law No. 1 (Administration) 2011</p> <p>Section 26</p> <p>Compliance notice for contravention of local law or approval condition</p>	<p>Amend the penalty for non-compliance with a compliance notice to 20 penalty units in the case of non-registration of a dog under section 9B of LL2.</p>	<p>Section 9B of LL2 does not have a penalty itself, because the penalty for non-registration of a dog is in the <i>Animal Management (Cats and Dogs) Act</i>. The penalty in that Act is 20 penalty units. It creates an anomaly that a person can be fined 50 penalty units for not complying with a compliance notice to comply with section 9B by registering their dog, when the maximum penalty for not registering a dog is 20</p>	<p>Nil</p>

Local Law	Proposed Change	Reason for Change	Finance & Resourcing Implications
		penalty units. Therefore, the maximum penalty has been changed in section 26 to 20 penalty units specifically for non-compliance with a compliance notice for section 9B of LL2.	
Local Law No. 1 (Administration) 2011 Section 44 Dealing with seized and impounded items	Inclusion of extra provisions to immediately dispose of chemical or biological products. Added items that are “hazardous to store (for example, chemical or biological products)” to s44(3).	Issues with workplace health and safety collection and no/limited storage facilities.	Nil
Local Law No. 1 (Administration) 2011 Section 44 Dealing with seized and impounded items	Added items that are “of no commercial value or of a value that would not cover the costs of sale of the item” to the s44(3) list of things that can be immediately disposed of.	Reduce/eliminate storage and auction costs.	May result in cost reduction.
Local Law No. 1 (Administration) 2011 Section 44A Extraordinary building work noise permits	Insert a new head of power for Council to grant an extraordinary building work noise permit for a person to carry out building work on premises in a way that makes an audible noise outside standard building work hours. This will replace the current Prescribed Activity for ‘causing building work noise’ in Sch 1 of LL1	By prescribing after hours building work as a Prescribed Activity, the current local law creates an offence for carrying on this activity without a LL1 approval. The effect of this is to override the noise standards in the <i>Environmental Protection Act 1994</i> (EPA) and prevent Council from using the EPA enforcement provisions, with their higher penalties than local laws. The special new permit created by s.44A will not be a standard LL1 approval but will instead simply replace the EPA noise standard for building work where such a permit is issued. Contravening the permit will therefore be enforced under the EPA offence for breaching a noise standard, not the local laws.	Nil
Local Law No. 1 (Administration) 2011 Schedule 1 Definitions	Insert new definition for “standard building work hours”, which are between 6.30am and 6.30pm on business days and Saturdays. These are the hours within which the current EPA noise standard allows building work noise.	The new definition will tie to the new section 44A, which provides for a permit to make building work noise outside the standard hours.	Nil
Local Law No. 1 (Administration) 2011 Schedule 2	Remove ‘causing building work noise’ as a prescribed activity.	This Prescribed Activity will instead be covered by the new s.44A Extraordinary building work noise permits, which will link to the EPA noise standard offence	Nil

Local Law	Proposed Change	Reason for Change	Finance & Resourcing Implications
Prescribed activities		instead of the local law enforcement regime.	
Local Law No. 1 (Administration) 2011 Schedule 2 part 2 Definition of prescribed activities	Add the following exception to the definition of the prescribed activity for 'causing building site delivery noise': <i>'but does not include noise caused by any of the circumstances mentioned in the Environmental Protection Act 1994, schedule 1, section 2 and section 3(f), (g), (h), (j) or (k).'</i>	This addition ensures that a building site delivery noise permit is not required in the situations that are exempted from the noise standard by the EP Act – for example: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Noise caused by government activities and public infrastructure, such as road maintenance Noise caused by activities that have already received a development approval from Council or the State (for a PDA)	Nil
Subordinate Local Law No. 1 (Administration) 2016 Schedule 4 Alteration or improvement to local government controlled areas and roads	Omit reference to the Memorials and Plaques Policy and replace with Commemorative Memorials Operational Policy.	Updated document reference	Nil
Subordinate Local Law No. 1 (Administration) 2016 Schedule 5A Causing building site delivery noise	Replace 'prescribed times' with the new term 'standard building work hours', as per the new definition in LL1 Schedule 1 (Definitions)	The new term will make more sense to the public. The term 'prescribed times' has caused confusion and the change will make it clear that the permit is to cause building work noise outside standing building work hours, which are defined in LL1	Nil
Subordinate Local Law No. 1 (Administration) 2016 Schedule 5B Causing building work noise	Delete this schedule	This schedule is no longer needed in its current form as this Prescribed Activity is being deleted from LL1 for the reasons set out above. However, most of the relevant provisions about building work noise approvals will be picked up in the new schedule 19, discussed below	Nil
Subordinate Local Law No. 1 (Administration) 2016 Schedule 19 Extraordinary building work noise permit	Insert this schedule, which is largely based on the old schedule 5B	This schedule sets out the details for applying for and being granted an Extraordinary Building Work Noise Permit under the new s.44A of LL1. It carries across mostly the same policy settings as the current schedule 5B, which is being deleted	Nil

Local Law	Proposed Change	Reason for Change	Finance & Resourcing Implications
Local Law No. 2 (Animal Management) 2011 Section 35 Destruction orders	Amend provision to enable destruction or disposal order to be issued. Insert new 'disposal order' option into section 35 for situations where an animal has been impounded on more than 2 occasions during a 12 month period. Amend section 36 to reflect this	Currently no option other than destruction for dogs impounded under section 35(2)(c) and suitable for re-homing	Nil
Local Law No. 2 (Animal Management) 2011 Section 6 Meaning of effective management of an animal in a public place	The proposed provision is as follows: (2) For the purposes of this local law, a domestic cat is under effective management in a public place if it is— (a) contained within an enclosure; or (b) restrained by a leash held by a person; or (c) restrained to a fixed object and under the direct supervision of a person.	Cats roaming the neighbourhood and killing or injuring wildlife.	Nil
Local Law No. 2 (Animal Management) 2011 Section 15 Requirements for enclosure, structures and buildings for keeping animals	Remove the word "proper" from section 15 for all references to enclosures	Ensures consistency with the definition of enclosure in LL1 and the definition under Schedule 3 (Minimum standards for keeping particular animals) in SLL2	Nil
Subordinate Local Law No. 2 (Animal Management) 2011 Schedule 5 Exclusion of animals from specific places	Add maps 2.5.15, 2.5.16, 2.5.17, 2.5.18 to Schedule	Updated maps reflect changes on the ground at these locations	Nil
Subordinate Local Law No. 2 (Animal Management) 2011 Schedule 5 Exclusion of animals from specific places	Update map 2.5.13 Eleanor Shipley Park	Remove prohibition on animals in the carpark and clearly mark pedestrian thoroughfare for dogs on lead for traversing through the area	Nil
Subordinate Local Law No. 2 (Animal Management) 2011 Schedule 5 Exclusion of animals from specific places	Add new map 2.5.15 Sunshine Coast Stadium	Include new map to prohibit animals at all times other than during an approved temporary event	Nil
Subordinate Local Law No. 2 (Animal Management) 2011 Schedule 5 Exclusion of animals from specific places	Add new map 2.5.16 Maleny Showground	Prohibit animals from indicated showground areas	Nil

Local Law	Proposed Change	Reason for Change	Finance & Resourcing Implications
Management) 2011 Schedule 5 Exclusion of animals from specific places		other than during an approved temporary event	
Subordinate Local Law No. 2 (Animal Management) 2011 Schedule 5 Exclusion of animals from specific places	Add new map 2.5.17 Muller Park Reserve, Bli Bli	Small section of Muller Park to prohibit animals at all times	Nil
Subordinate Local Law No. 2 (Animal Management) 2011 Schedule 5 Exclusion of animals from specific places	Add new map 2.5.18 Bankfoot House Glass House Mountains	Include new map to prohibit animals at all times	Nil
Subordinate Local Law No. 2 (Animal Management) 2011 Schedule 5 Exclusion of animals from specific places	Amend schedule 6 to reflect correct times for Dog of Leash Area times on map 2.6.12 Town of Seaside	Schedule does not reflect the correct times as indicated on map 2.6.12	Nil
Subordinate Local Law No. 2 (Animal Management) 2011 Schedule 6 Dog Off Leash Areas	Amend map 2.6.14 Muller Park Reserve Bli Bli	Include new prohibited area, new timed dog off leash area and reduced dog off leash area at all times	Nil
Subordinate Local Law No. 2 (Animal Management) 2011 Schedule 6 Dog Off Leash Areas	Amend map 2.6.29 Maleny Showground	Always include reduced dog off leash area other than during a temporary event, new prohibited dog area other than during a temporary event and new pedestrian thoroughfare dogs on leash at all times	Nil
Subordinate Local Law No. 2 (Animal Management) 2011 Schedule 6 Dog Off Leash Areas	New Dog Off Leash Area maps: 2.6.46 Flintwood Crescent, Palmview 2.6.47 Mapleton Lilyponds 2.6.48 Quota Memorial Park, Nambour 2.6.49 Baringa Forest Park	New Dog Off Leash Areas to be included into the Local Laws	Nil

Local Law	Proposed Change	Reason for Change	Finance & Resourcing Implications
	2.6.50 Annalise Circuit Park, Nirimba 2.6.51 Viridian Circuit Park, Birtinya 2.6.52 Grand Parade, Parrearra		
Subordinate Local Law No. 2 (Animal Management) 2011 Schedule 3 Minimum standards for keeping particular animals	Insert the following requirement for a dog enclosure: “in the case of a dog enclosure that is solely within a dwelling—must not include a door that opens directly to an area outside the dwelling that would give the dog unrestricted access to a public place”.	Assist and supports existing law, tightens compliance provisions for enclosures to be constructed for a dog when a house has no fencing and animal escapes from the house utilised as a containment	Nil
Subordinate Local Law No. 2 (Animal Management) 2011 Schedule 3A Minimum standards for keeping animals generally	Animal noise nuisance provision has been amended to include adjoining land as well as residential premises: (c) unreasonably disrupts or inhibits an activity ordinarily carried out on adjoining land or nearby residential premises.	The change recognises that noise nuisance (eg barking dogs) can affect activities on non-residential parts of adjoining land	Nil
Subordinate Local Law No. 2 (Animal Management) 2011 Schedule 3A Minimum standards for keeping animals generally	Insert additional minimum standards for keeping of animals <i>1. the animal enclosure and containment measures meet the welfare needs of the animal (Animal Care and Protection Act 2001)</i> <i>2. the animal enclosure is maintained in good repair so as to not cause nuisance to neighbouring premises</i> <i>3. the animal enclosure is constructed to prevent wastewater from entering into the stormwater system or discharging to adjoining premises</i> <i>the land surrounding the animal enclosure must be kept clear of organic materials which may harbour vermin or cause a nuisance to neighbouring premises</i>	Brings requirements in line with minimum standards commonly used across local government	Nil
Local Law No. 3 (Community Health and Environmental Management) 2011 Section 24A Prescribed noise standard for building work	Replace the term ‘approval for causing building work noise’ with the term ‘extraordinary building work noise permit’	Change is required because in LL1, Council is replacing the current prescribed activity approval with a new special permit that essentially just replaces the building work noise standard on a case by case basis and is enforceable using the EPA provisions (contravene noise standard) rather than the local law approval regime	Nil
Subordinate Local Law No. 4 (Local Government Controlled Areas, Facilities,	Insert a new prohibited activity for local government controlled areas: <i>8. contravene a sign that imposes time limits for use of public pontoons</i>	Provides provision to regulate restrictions on timed access to public pontoons.	Signage costs included in operational budget

Local Law	Proposed Change	Reason for Change	Finance & Resourcing Implications
Infrastructure and Roads) 2011 Schedule 1 Prohibited activity			
Subordinate Local Law No. 4 (Local Government Controlled Areas, Facilities, Infrastructure and Roads) 2011 Schedule 1 Prohibited activity	Insert a new prohibited activity for local government controlled areas: <i>3. contravene a sign temporarily closing the playing surface of a sporting facility to the public</i>	Enables enforcement of temporary closure of a playing surface at a sporting facility (e.g. to prevent damage while recovering from heavy rain)	Signage costs included in operational budget
Subordinate Local Law No. 5 (Parking) 2011 Schedule 3 Persons who may be issued with a parking permit	Creation of the ability for Council to add and change the boundaries of residential parking permit areas by publishing maps on Council's website rather than amending the subordinate local law.	Easier process to extend the residential parking permit scheme following community consultation.	Nil
Subordinate Local Law No. 5 (Parking) 2011 Schedule 4 Infringement notice penalties for certain minor traffic offences	Increase penalty from 2 penalty units to 4 penalty units for unauthorised use of disability parking, in line with the State amendment and advice received from Queensland Police Service	The change in penalty amount will ensure the Council's enforcement aligns with the State Government's enforcement approach to discourage people unlawfully using these designated spaces. Council will collect an additional \$69,000 in penalties if the rate of unlawful parking remains consistent.	Additional \$72,000 in penalties if the rate of unlawful parking remains consistent. Average number of infringements issued for parking in a disability access bay without a permit - 250 Total penalties collected when infringement was set at 2 penalty units (\$287) - \$71,750 Revised penalties when infringement set at 4 penalty units (\$575) - \$143,750

Legal

The *Amendment Local Law No. 1 (Miscellaneous) 2023* and *Amendment Subordinate Local Law No. 1 (Miscellaneous) 2023* have been considered in accordance with the following legislation:

- Chapter 1, Part 3 of the *Local Government Act 2009* and section 15 of the *Local Government Regulation 2012* and
- Sunshine Coast Council's suite of Local Laws and Subordinate Local Laws.

Human Rights Considerations

Council has obligations under Section 58 of the *Human Rights Act 2019* in the context of its law making functions and as such, has undertaken an assessment of compatibility of the amendments with the obligations in the *Human Rights Act 2019* (see **Attachment 2**).

As detailed in **Attachment 2** to this report, the assessment of compatibility in applying the *Human Rights Act 2019* against the proposed local law amendments highlighted some potential impacts and limitations to the below human rights:

- Right to recognition and equality before the law
- Right to freedom of movement
- Right to protection of family and children
- Right to liberty and security of a person

Limitations proposed in the local law amendments are considered reasonable and justifiable. Sometimes rights conflict and when this happens it is reasonable for Council to limit or restrict someone's rights to protect the rights of other people or the community at large. Council will always seek to take a balanced and reasonable approach to any amendments to its local laws.

Policy

During the local law review process, it was identified that the Memorials and Plaques Policy has been updated and replaced with the Commemorative Memorials Operational Policy. At the Ordinary Meeting of Council on 8 December 2022 Council resolved to remove the Memorials and Plaques Policy from Council's Strategic Policy Register and references to this policy within Subordinate Local Law No. 1 (Administration) 2016.

This policy has been removed from Council's Strategic Policy Register.

No other policy implications have been identified as a result of the local law making process.

Risk

Risks associated with the making of amendment local laws have been managed by:

- ensuring effective implementation of the amendments to the suite of local laws and subordinate local laws,
- utilising robust systems and processes to monitor the performance of the local laws, and
- Consulting with key stakeholders and the community
- seeking legal advice and support to ensure the local law making process complies with all legislative requirements.

- The *Human Rights Act 2019* has been given consideration in proposing the local law amendments.

Previous Council Resolution

Ordinary Meeting 8 December 2022 (OM22/113)

That Council:

- (a) receive and note the report titled “**Proposed Local Law Amendments 2022**”
- (b) resolve to propose to make Amendment Local Law No. 1 (Miscellaneous) 2022 (Appendix A)
- (c) resolve to propose to make Amendment Subordinate Local Law No. 1 (Miscellaneous) 2022 (Appendix B)
- (d) resolve to undertake a State interest check in relation to the proposed local law and subordinate local law pursuant to section 29A of the Local Government Act 2009 prior to the adoption of the instrument by resolution
- (e) resolve to undertake community consultation on the draft local law and subordinate local law for thirty-two (32) days commencing in February 2023 and prior to the adoption of the instrument by resolution and
- (f) support the removal of references to the Sunshine Coast Council Memorials and Plaques Policy in Subordinate Local Law 1 (Administration) 2016, due to this policy having been replaced with the approved Commemorative Memorials Organisational Policy and remove the now obsolete Memorials and Plaques Policy from Council’s Strategic Policy Register.

Related Documentation

- Local Government Act 2009 and Local Government Regulation 2012
- Human Rights Act 2019
- Sunshine Coast Regional Council Local Laws and Subordinate Local Laws
- State Government Guidelines for Drafting Local Laws 2016
- Sunshine Coast Council Corporate Plan 2022-2026
- Compliance and Enforcement Policy

Critical Dates

There are no critical dates relevant to this report although it is noted that ideally, some of the clarifying amendments should be progressed as soon as possible to improve the legibility and intent of the provisions of the local laws and subordinate local laws.

Implementation

Should the recommendation be accepted by Council, it is noted that the Chief Executive Officer will:

- fulfill and complete all outstanding statutory and other requirements. The timelines for implementation of the local law making process is outlined below in **Table 3**.

Table 3 – Local Law Making Process

Statutory Requirement	Action taken	Proposed Date	Status
Propose to make local law amendments	Report to Council to propose to make Amendment Local Law No. 1 (Miscellaneous) 2022 and Amendment Subordinate Local Law No. 1 (Miscellaneous) 2022	8 December 2022	Complete
Community Consultation	Undertake Community Consultation and Public Interest Review where any anti-competitive provisions are identified (ie. impacts on business)	1 February to 3 March 2023	Complete
State interest check	Undertake a State interest check with the relevant State departments.	1 February to 3 March 2023	Complete
Council Website Updated	All relevant information and documentation placed on and available through Council's website on "Have your say".	1 February to 3 March 2023	Complete
Report to Council to make the amendment local laws	Prepare report to Council to make the local laws, taking into account the consultation results Council makes the local law and amendment local law by resolution	May 2023	Complete Current
Gazette Notice Publication	Preparation of Government Gazette notice for publication in the Government Gazette.	May 2023	To be prepared
Notice to Minister	Preparation of notification to the Minister, Department of State Development, Infrastructure, Local Government and Planning.	May 2023	To be prepared
Consolidation of Local Laws	Preparation and adoption of the consolidated local laws.	June 2023	To be prepared

Sunshine Coast Regional Council

Amendment Local Law No. 1 (Miscellaneous) 2023

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5	Amendment of s 26 (Compliance notice for contravention of local law or approval condition)	2
6	Amendment of s 44 (Dealing with seized and impounded items)	2
7	Insertion of s44A (Extraordinary building work noise permits)	3
44A	Extraordinary building work noise permits	3
8	Amendment of sch 1 (Definitions)	4
9	Amendment of sch 2 (Prescribed activities)	4
Part 3	Amendment of Local Law No. 2 (Animal Management) 2011	
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12	Amendment of s15 (Requirements for enclosures, structures and buildings for keeping animals)	4
13	Amendment of pt 6, div 4, heading	5
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15	Amendment of s 35 (Destruction orders)	5
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Part 1 Preliminary

1 Short title

This subordinate local law may be cited as *Amendment Local Law No. 1 (Miscellaneous) 2023*.

2 Commencement

This local law commences on the day it is published in the gazette.

Part 2 Amendment of Local Law No. 1 (Administration) 2011

3 Local law amended

This part amends *Local Law No. 1 (Administration) 2011*.

4 Amendment of s 6 (Offence to undertake local law prescribed activity without approval)

Section 6(2), Maximum penalty for subsection (2), ‘(b) for a category 1 activity—½ penalty unit’—

omit, insert—

- (b) for a category 1 activity—
 - (i) for a first offence—10 penalty units; or
 - (ii) for a second offence—20 penalty units; or
 - (iii) for a third or later offence—50 penalty units

5 Amendment of s 26 (Compliance notice for contravention of local law or approval condition)

Section 26(7), ‘Maximum penalty for subsection (7)—50 penalty units’—

omit, insert—

Maximum penalty for subsection (7)—

- (a) for non-compliance with a compliance notice for section 9B of *Local Law No. 2 (Animal Management) 2011*—20 penalty units; or
- (b) for non-compliance with a compliance notice for another local law or for a condition of an approval—50 penalty units

6 Amendment of s 44 (Dealing with seized and impounded items)

- (1) Section 44(3)—

omit, insert—

- (2) If the impounded item is—

- (a) perishable; or
 - (b) hazardous to store (for example, chemical or biological products); or
 - (c) of no commercial value or of a value that would not cover the costs of sale of the item,
- it may be immediately disposed of as the chief executive officer directs and the proceeds (if any) applied in accordance with subsection (6).
- (2) Section 44(5)(a)—
omit.
- (3) Section 44(5), paragraphs (b) and (c)—
renumber as paragraphs (a) and (b).

7 Insertion of s44A (Extraordinary building work noise permits)

After section 44—

insert—

44A Extraordinary building work noise permits

- (1) A person may apply to the local government for a permit to carry out building work on premises in a way that makes an audible noise outside standard building work hours (an *extraordinary building work noise permit*).
- (2) Sections 8, 9, 10, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20 and 21 apply to an extraordinary building work noise permit as if—
 - (a) a reference in the section to an approval is a reference to an extraordinary building work noise permit; and
 - (b) a reference in the section to a prescribed activity is a reference to carrying out building work on premises in a way that makes an audible noise outside standard building work hours.
- (3) For the avoidance of doubt, it is declared that the contravention of an extraordinary building work noise permit—
 - (a) is not a contravention of a local law; and
 - (b) is a contravention of the prescribed noise standard mentioned in *Local Law No. 3 (Community Health and Environmental Management) 2011*, section 24A(a).

8 Amendment of sch 1 (Dictionary)

Schedule 1—

insert—

standard building work hours means after 6.30 am or before 6.30 pm on a business day or a Saturday.

9 Amendment of sch 2 (Prescribed activities)

- (1) Schedule 2, part 1, ‘causing building work noise’—

omit.

- (2) Schedule 2, part 2, definition *causing building site delivery noise*—

insert—

but does not include noise caused by any of the circumstances mentioned in the *Environmental Protection Act 1994*, schedule 1, section 2 and section 3(f), (g), (h), (j) or (k).

- (3) Schedule 2, part 2, definition *causing building work noise*—

omit.

- (4) Schedule 2, part 2, definition *commercial use of local government controlled areas and roads*, paragraph (f), ‘holding’—

omit, insert—

undertaking

Part 3 Amendment of Local Law No. 2 (Animal Management) 2011

10 Local law amended

This part amends *Local Law No. 2 (Animal Management) 2011*.

11 Amendment of s6 (Meaning of effective management of an animal in a public place)

Section 6(2)(b)—

omit, insert—

(b) restrained by a leash held by a person; or

(c) restrained to a fixed object and under the direct supervision of a person.

12 Amendment of s15 (Requirements for enclosures, structures and buildings for keeping animals)

- (1) Section 15(1), ‘a proper’—

omit, insert—

an

- (2) Section 15(2), ‘proper’—

omit.

- (3) Section 15(3), ‘a proper’—

omit, insert—

an

13 Amendment of pt 6, div 4, heading

Part 6, division 4, heading, after ‘Destruction’

insert—

or disposal

14 Amendment of s 35 (Destruction orders), heading

Section 35, heading, after ‘Destruction’

insert—

or disposal

15 Amendment of s 35 (Destruction orders)

- (1) Section 35(4), (5), and (6), ‘person’—

omit, insert—

local government

- (2) Section 35(1)—

omit, insert—

(1) The local government may make an order stating the local government proposes to destroy an animal (a ***destruction order***) or dispose of an animal (a ***disposal order***) 14 days after the order is served.

- (3) Section 35—

insert—

(2A) A disposal order may only be made if the animal has been impounded on more than 2 occasions during a 12 month period.

- (4) Section 35(3), after ‘destruction’—

insert—

or disposal

- (5) Section 35—

insert—

- (4A) If a disposal order is made for the animal, the local government may, by following the process in division 5, dispose of the animal 14 days after the order is served if no review application has been made relating to the decision to make the order.
- (6) Section 35(5), ‘make the order’—
omit, insert—
make a destruction order
- (7) Section 35—
insert—
(5A) If an application for review has been made against the decision to make a disposal order, the local government may dispose of the animal under division 5 if—
(a) the review is finally decided or is otherwise ended; and
(b) no application for an appeal has been made against the order; and
(c) the order is still in force.
- (8) Section 35(6), ‘make the order’—
omit, insert—
make a destruction order
- (9) Section 35—
insert—
(6A) If an appeal is made relating to the decision to make a disposal order, the local government may dispose of the animal under division 5 if—
(a) the appeal is finally decided or is otherwise ended; and
(b) the order is still in force.

16 Amendment of s 36 (Application of this division)

- (1) Section 36, paragraphs (c) to (f)—
renumber as paragraphs (d) to (g).
- (2) Section 36—
insert—
(c) section 35(4A), (5A) or (6A) applies; or

Part 4 Amendment of Local Law No. 3 (Community Health and Environmental Management) 2011

17 Local law amended

This part amends *Local Law No. 3 (Community Health and Environmental Management) 2011*.

18 Amendment of s24A (Prescribed noise standard for building work)

- (1) Section 24A(a), ‘approval for causing building work noise’—
 omit, insert—
 extraordinary building work noise permit
- (2) Section 24A(a), ‘approval’, wherever occurring—
 omit, insert—
 permit

Sunshine Coast Regional Council

Amendment Subordinate Local Law No. 1 (Miscellaneous) 2023

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Part 1 Preliminary

1 Short title

This subordinate local law may be cited as *Amendment Subordinate Local Law No. 1 (Miscellaneous) 2023*.

2 Commencement

This subordinate local law commences on the day it is published in the gazette.

Part 2 Amendment of Subordinate Local Law No. 1 (Administration) 2016

3 Subordinate local law amended

This part amends *Subordinate Local Law No. 1 (Administration) 2016*.

4 Amendment of s 4 (Definitions)

Section 4(2), definition, *prescribed times*—
omit.

5 Insertion of s 10 (Matters regarding extraordinary building work noise permits)

After section 9—
insert—

10 Matters regarding extraordinary building work noise permits—Authorising local law, ss8(2)(a), 9(1)(d), 10(3), 13(a), 14(2)(a)

- (1) For section 8(2)(a) of the authorising local law, the documents and materials that must accompany an application for an extraordinary building work noise permit are stated in section 1 of schedule 19.
- (2) For section 9(1)(d) of the authorising local law, the local government may only grant an extraordinary building work noise permit if it is satisfied the proposed operation and management of the activity proposed to be covered by the permit would be consistent with the additional criteria prescribed in section 2 of schedule 19.
- (3) For section 10(3) of the authorising local law, the conditions that must be imposed on an extraordinary building work noise permit are stated in section 3 of schedule 19.

- (4) For section 10(3) of the authorising local law, the conditions that will ordinarily be imposed on an extraordinary building work noise permit are stated in section 4 of schedule 19.
- (5) For section 13(a) of the authorising local law, the term of an extraordinary building work noise permit is provided for in section 5 of schedule 19.
- (6) For section 14(2)(a) of the authorising local law, the further term for renewal or extension of an extraordinary building work noise permit is provided for in section 6 of schedule 19.

11 Amendment of sch 1 (Categories of prescribed activities for the purposes of maximum penalties)

- (1) Schedule 1, part 1—
insert—
 - 1 placement of movable advertising devices
 - 2 temporary placement of a shipping container
 - 3 bring a motor vehicle onto or drive a motor vehicle on any part of a local government controlled area that is not a motor vehicle access area
- (2) Schedule 1, part 2—
omit—
 - 8 placement of movable advertising devices
 - 11 causing building site delivery noise
 - 12 causing building work noise
 - 13 temporary placement of a shipping container
- (3) Schedule 1, part 2, items 9 and 10—
renumber as items 8 and 9.
- (4) Schedule 1, part 3—
insert—
 - 2 causing building site delivery noise
- (5) Schedule 1, footnote 1—
omit, insert—

Category 1 activities attract a maximum penalty of 10 penalty units for a first offence, 20 penalty units for a second offence, and 50 penalty units for a third or later offence (section 6(2)(b), authorising local law).

12 Amendment of sch 4 (Alteration or improvement to local government controlled areas and roads)

Schedule 4, table 2, column 2, 'Memorials and Plaques Policy'—

omit, insert—

Commemorative Memorials Operational Policy

13 Amendment of sch 5A (Causing building site delivery noise)

- (1) Schedule 5A, ‘prescribed times’, wherever occurring—

omit, insert—

standard building work hours

- (2) Schedule 5A, section 3(e)(iii), ‘(including acoustic levels at the source)’ —

omit.

14 Omission of sch 5B (Causing building work noise)

Schedule 5B—

omit.

15 Insertion of sch 19 (Extraordinary building work noise permits)

After schedule 18—

insert—

Schedule 19 Extraordinary building work noise permits

section 10

1 Documents and materials that must accompany applications for a permit

An application for an extraordinary building work noise permit must be accompanied by—

- (a) the name, address, telephone number and email address, of the person applying for the permit; and
- (b) the trading name, street address, telephone number, email address, registered business name and Australian Business Number of the business undertaking the activity that is the subject of the permit; and
- (c) the name, address, mobile telephone number and email address, of the person who will have control of the building site at the times the activity that is the subject of the permit is to be carried out; and
- (d) a copy of any licence or approval required by a relevant authority (for example, the Queensland Building and Construction Commission) to carry out the building work the subject of the application; and

- (e) details of the activity proposed to be carried out, including—
 - (i) the nature of the building work; and
 - (ii) the times and places at which the building work will be carried out; and
 - (iii) the nature of the building work proposed to be carried out outside the standard building work hours; and
 - (iv) the reasons why it is proposed that the building work is carried out outside the standard building work hours; and
 - (v) the proposed term of the permit; and
- (f) a plan or scale map showing—
 - (i) the location of the premises at which the building work will be carried out; and
 - (ii) the location (and identifying particulars) of any noise sensitive place that will be exposed to audible noise caused by the building work outside the standard building work hours; and
 - (iii) the location and details of all noise sources from the building work.

2 Additional criteria for the granting of permit

For an application for an extraordinary building work noise permit, the additional criteria are that—

- (a) the building work will be undertaken on a temporary basis for a specified period of time; and
- (b) the building work will not cause unreasonable noise in a building at which the noise can be heard; and
- (c) the applicant has demonstrated that—
 - (i) there are extraordinary circumstances justifying why the building work should occur outside the standard building work hours; or
 - (ii) there are environmental or public safety reasons why the building work should occur outside the standard building work hours.

Examples for subparagraph (i)—

- Carrying out the building work outside of the standard building work hours is necessary to minimise disruption caused by impacts on critical transport or utility infrastructure.
- Carrying out the building work within the standard building work hours would cause unacceptable traffic impact.

Example for subparagraph (ii)—

The building work will involve asbestos removal that would increase safety risks to the public if carried out during the standard building work hours.

3 Conditions that must be imposed on permits

This section has been intentionally left blank.

4 Conditions that will ordinarily be imposed on permits

Conditions that will ordinarily be imposed on an extraordinary building work noise permit are that the permit holder must—

- (a) only carry out the building work at the times specified in the permit; and
- (b) limit the activity to work of a particular type, or use of particular equipment, and at particular times, as specified; and
- (c) ensure that reversing beepers or squawkers are deactivated and spotters are used during night-time works to the extent permitted under the *Work Health and Safety Act 2011*; and
- (d) ensure engines in vehicles or equipment are well muffled;
- (e) not use whistles or amplified communication devices, other than two-way radios; and
- (f) keep volume on any communication devices to a minimum; and
- (g) ensure that no radios or other amplified music or entertainment devices are used; and
- (h) ensure any work involving the emission of high intensity ultraviolet light or the use of a floodlight is shielded to protect members of the public; and
- (i) ensure no materials are placed in skip bins (or similar) outside the standard building work hours; and
- (j) ensure all external doors of the building remain closed during the carrying out of the building work; and
- (k) ensure all workers are off-site by no later than a specified time; and
- (l) ensure delivery vehicles do not load or unload goods for use on the site outside the standard building work hours; and
- (m) prior to the commencement of the building work, notify the Queensland Police Service, Queensland Fire and Emergency Services and the Department of Transport and Main Roads; and
- (n) ensure that the activity does not affect the movement of traffic; and

- (o) take other specified action to minimise the impact of the noise generated by the building work, including, but not limited to, any or all of the following—
 - (i) the construction and maintenance of noise barriers and enclosures around noisy equipment or along the noise transmission path;
 - (ii) the implementation of noise reduction measures at noise sensitive places;
 - (iii) the use of low noise equipment;
 - (iv) the carrying out of routine maintenance on fans to minimise bearing noise;
 - (v) the repair and replacement of defective mufflers and equipment; and
- (p) establish and maintain a procedure for taking and managing complaints about noise from the building work carried out outside the standard building work hours, which must—
 - (i) provide a 24 hour telephone number for persons to call to make a complaint about the noise caused by the building work; and
 - (ii) set out the procedure that must be followed by the applicant after the receipt of a complaint to ensure the complaint is adequately addressed; and
 - (iii) require that the local government is notified of any complaint within 24 hours after the complaint is received; and
- (q) provide written notification (in the prescribed form) of the commencement of any building work carried out outside the standard building work hours to the following persons, not less than 48 hours prior to the commencement of the building work—
 - (i) the residents or operators of any noise sensitive place exposed to audible noise caused by the building work; and
 - (ii) the local government; and
- (r) erect signage—
 - (i) located—
 - (A) at the premises where the building work is being carried out; and
 - (B) in a prominent position viewable from the road, or such other position specified in the permit; and
 - (ii) clearly identifying—

- (A) the permit number issued by the local government; and
- (B) the dates and times at which the permit authorises the building work to be carried out outside the standard building work hours; and
- (C) the 24 hour telephone number for persons to call to make a complaint about the noise caused by the building work.

5 Term of permit

- (1) The term of a permit commences on the date the permit is granted and expires on the date specified in the permit.
- (2) A permit expires at the end of the day for expiry specified in subsection (1).

6 Term of renewal of permit

This section has been intentionally left blank.

Part 3 Amendment of Subordinate Local Law No. 2 (Animal Management) 2011

16 Subordinate local law amended

This part amends *Subordinate Local Law No. 2 (Animal Management) 2011*.

17 Amendment of sch 3 (Minimum standards for keeping particular animals)

Schedule 3, fifth row (relating to a cat or dog), column 2, item 1—

insert—

- (e) in the case of a dog enclosure that is solely within a dwelling—
must not include a door that opens directly to an area outside the dwelling that would give the dog unrestricted access to a public place.

Example for paragraph (e)— The perimeter of an enclosure for a dog within a dwelling must not include the front door or another external door of the dwelling.

18 Amendment of sch 3A (Minimum standards for keeping animals generally)

- (1) Schedule 3A, items 1 and 2—
renumber as items 2 and 3.

- (2) Schedule 3A—

insert—

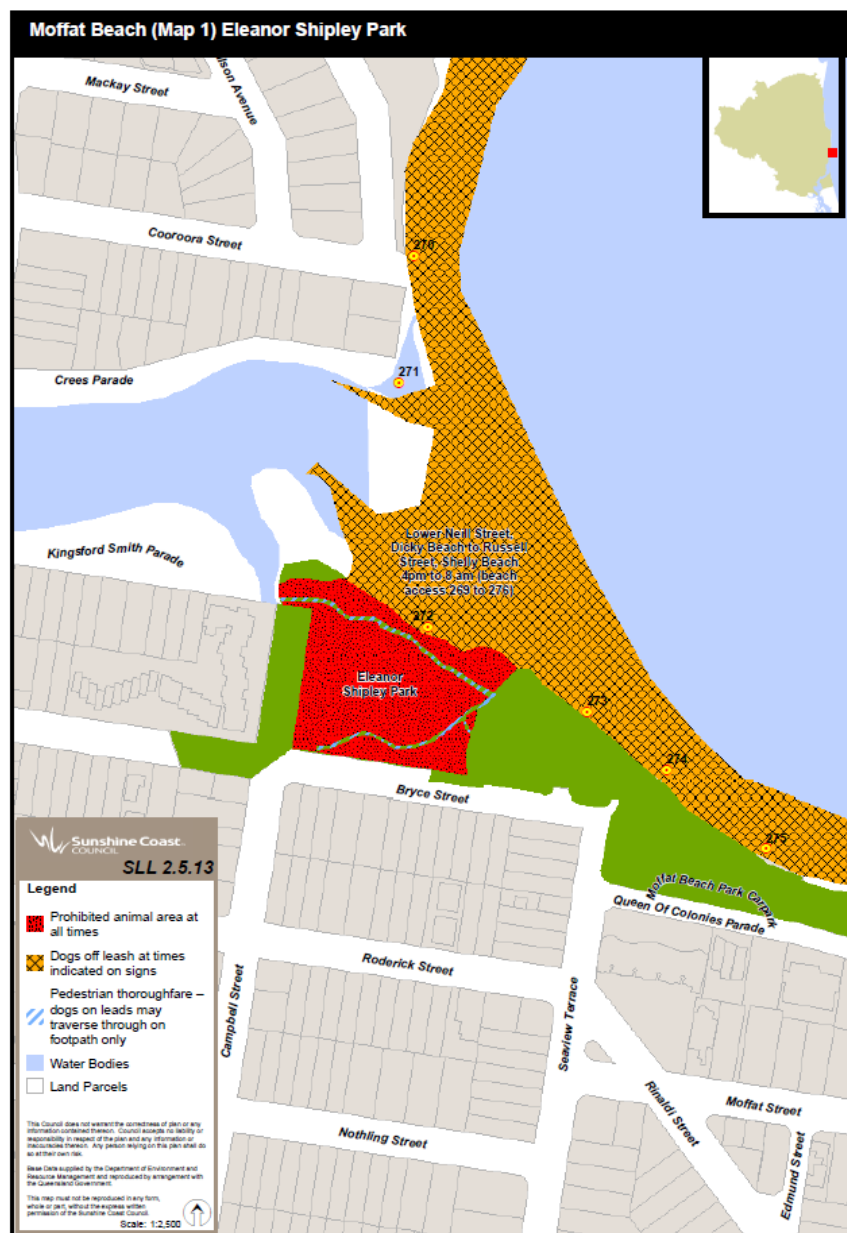
- 1 The person keeping the animal must ensure that—
 - (a) the animal enclosure and containment measures meet the welfare needs of the animal; and
 - (b) the animal enclosure is maintained in good repair so as to not cause nuisance to neighbouring premises; and
 - (c) the animal enclosure is constructed to prevent wastewater from entering into the stormwater system or discharging to adjoining premises; and
 - (d) the land surrounding the animal enclosure is kept clear of organic materials that may harbour vermin or cause a nuisance to neighbouring premises.
- (3) Schedule 3A, item 3, paragraph (c), ‘a residential premises’—
omit, insert—
adjoining land or nearby residential premises

19 Amendment of sch 5 (Exclusion of animals from specific places)

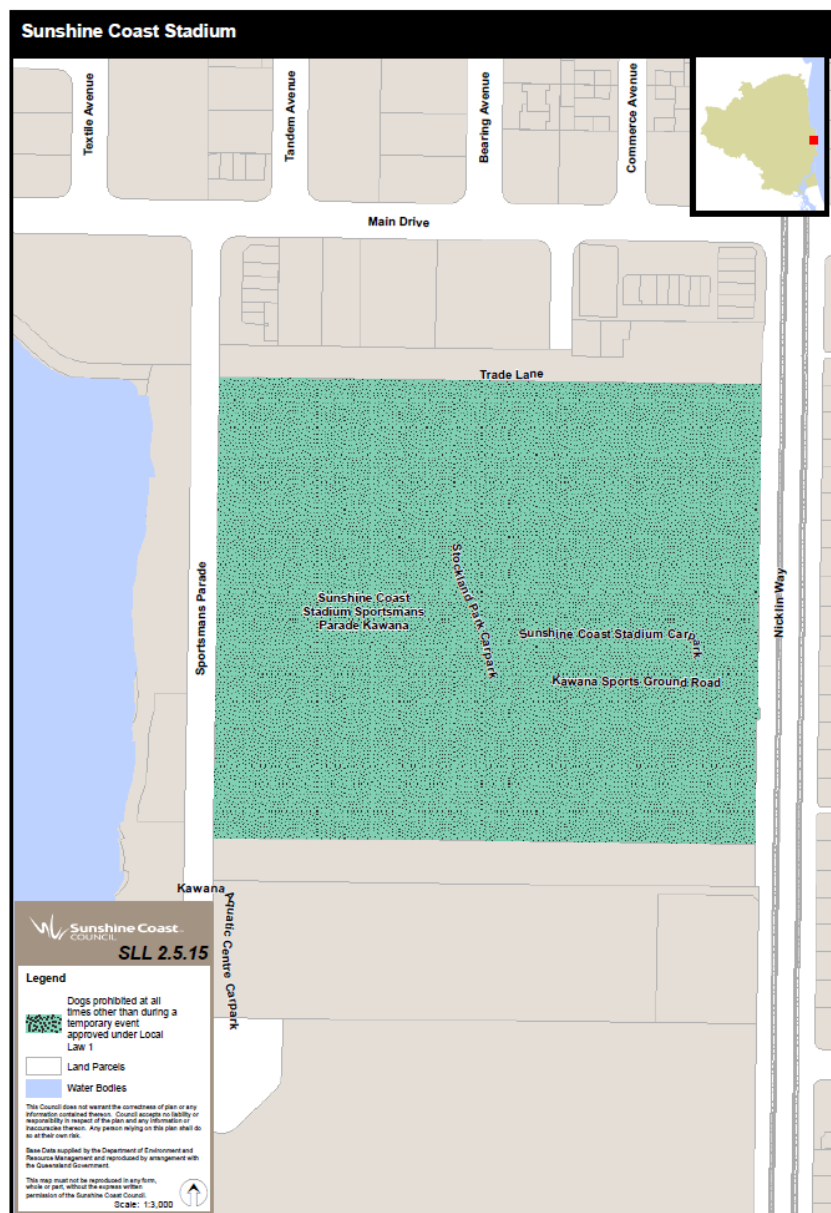
- (1) Schedule 5, table, after last row—
insert—

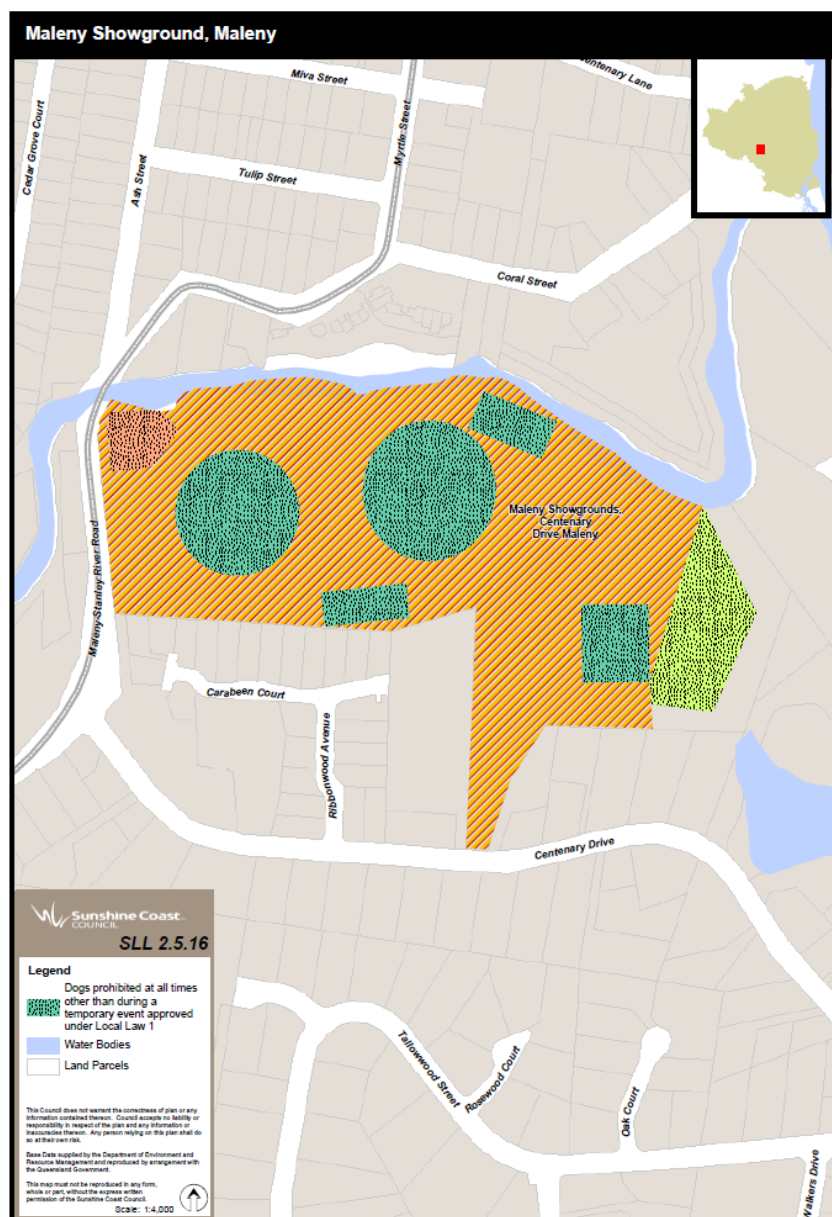
park/reserve	Sunshine Coast Stadium, Bokarina	dogs	SLL 2.5.15
park/reserve	Maleny Showground, Maleny	dogs	SLL 2.5.16
park/reserve	Muller Park Reserve, Bli Bli	all animals	SLL 2.5.17
park/reserve	Bankfoot House, Glass House Mountains	all animals	SLL 2.5.18

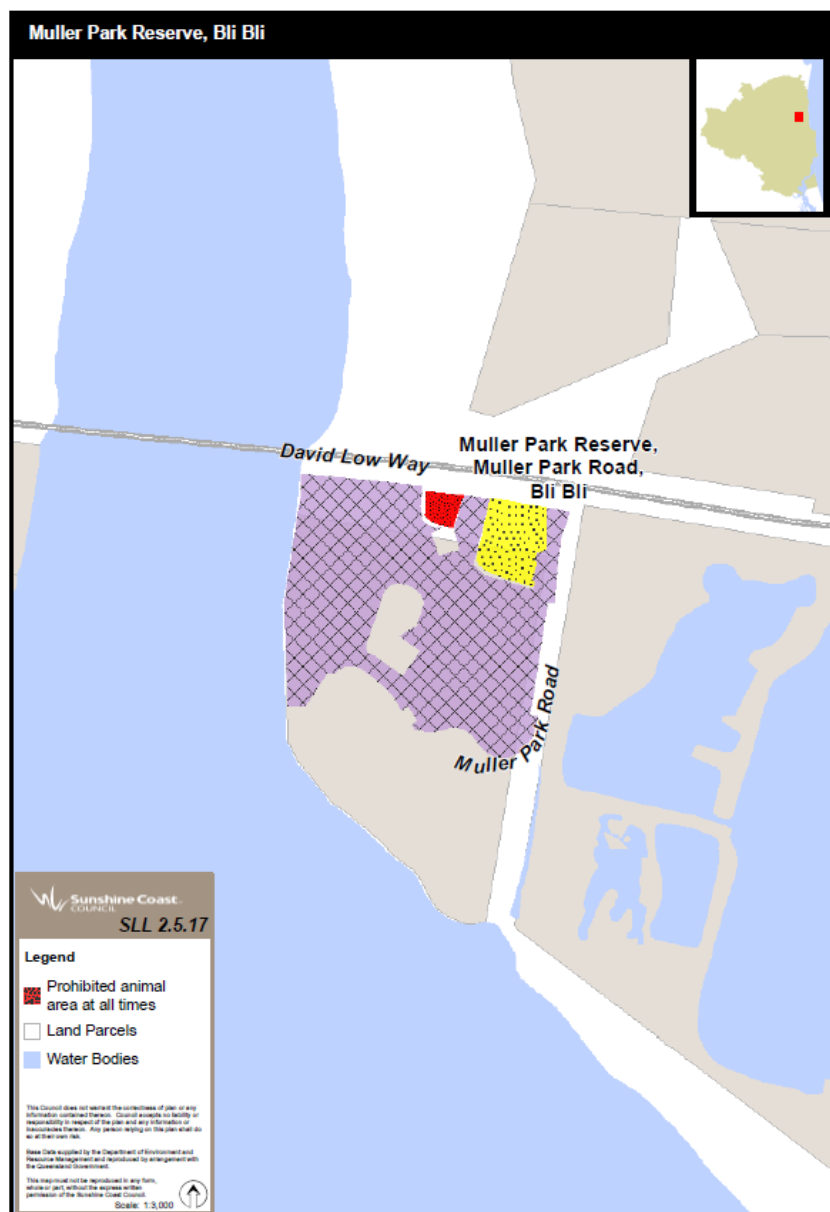
- (2) Schedule 5, Map 2.5.13 (Quota/Eleanor Shipley Park, Moffat Beach)—
omit, insert—

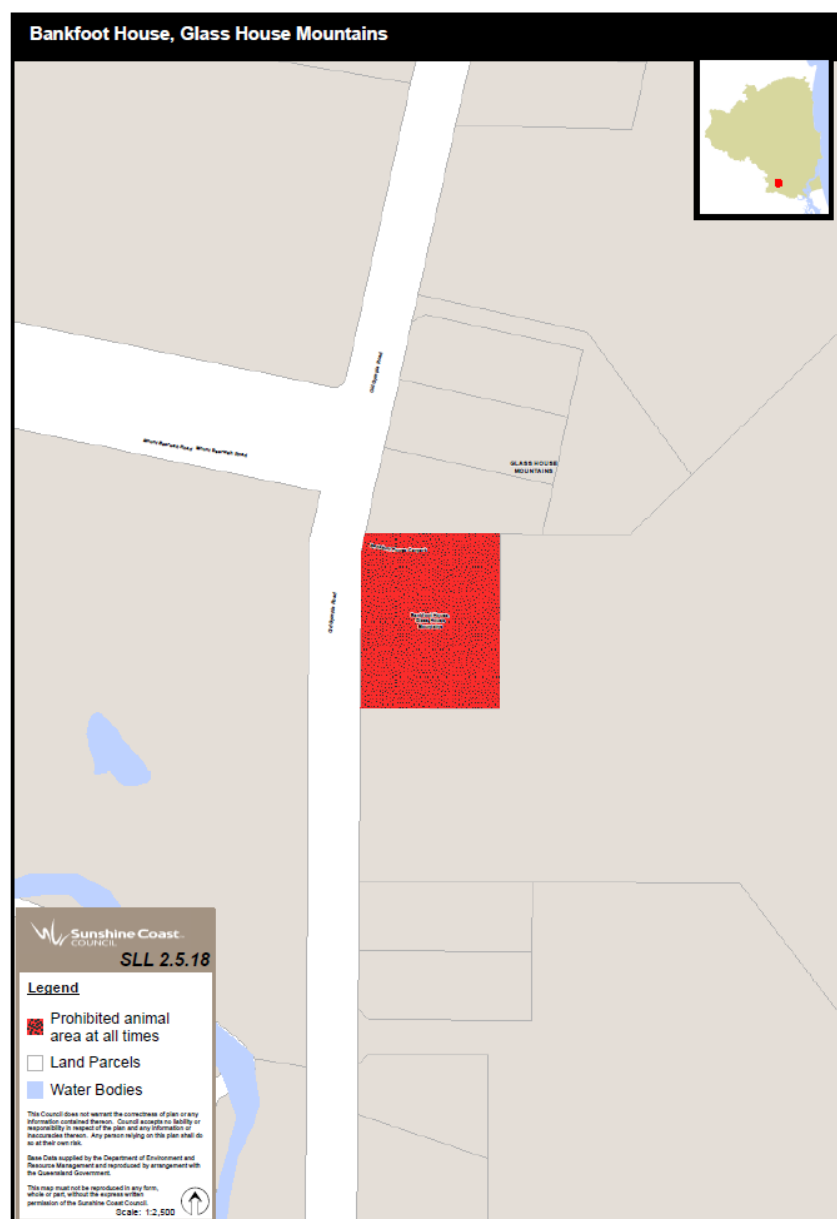


- (3) Schedule 5, after Map 2.5.14 (Graham Stewart Park, Currimundi)—
insert—









20 Amendment of sch 6 (Dog off-leash areas)

- (1) Schedule 6, table, third row (relating to Town of Seaside), column 4, ‘5am to 8am and 5pm to 8pm’—

omit, insert—

5am to 9am and 4pm to 8pm

- (2) Schedule 6, table, fifth row (relating to Muller Park Reserve), column 4, after ‘all times’—

insert—

(fenced dog off-leash area) or 4pm to 8am (entire park excluding the prohibited animal area declared by schedule 5)

- (3) Schedule 6, table, twenty-first row (relating to Maleny Showgrounds), column 4, ‘all times’—

omit, insert—

1 for the area indicated on the map by orange shading—all times except during a temporary entertainment event approved under *Local Law No. 1 (Administration) 2011*

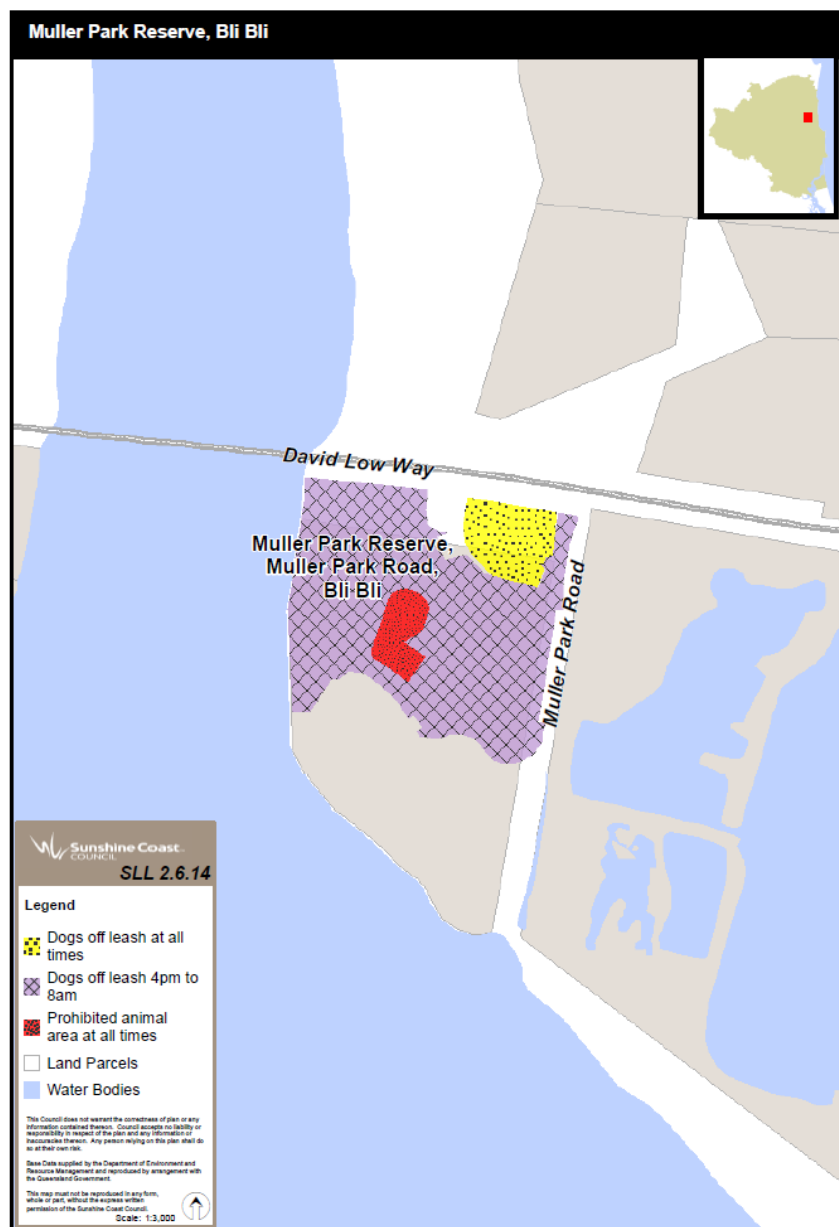
2 for the area indicated on the map by light green shading—all times except during an Equine Event advertised by Maleny Equestrian Groups

- (4) Schedule 6, table, after last row—

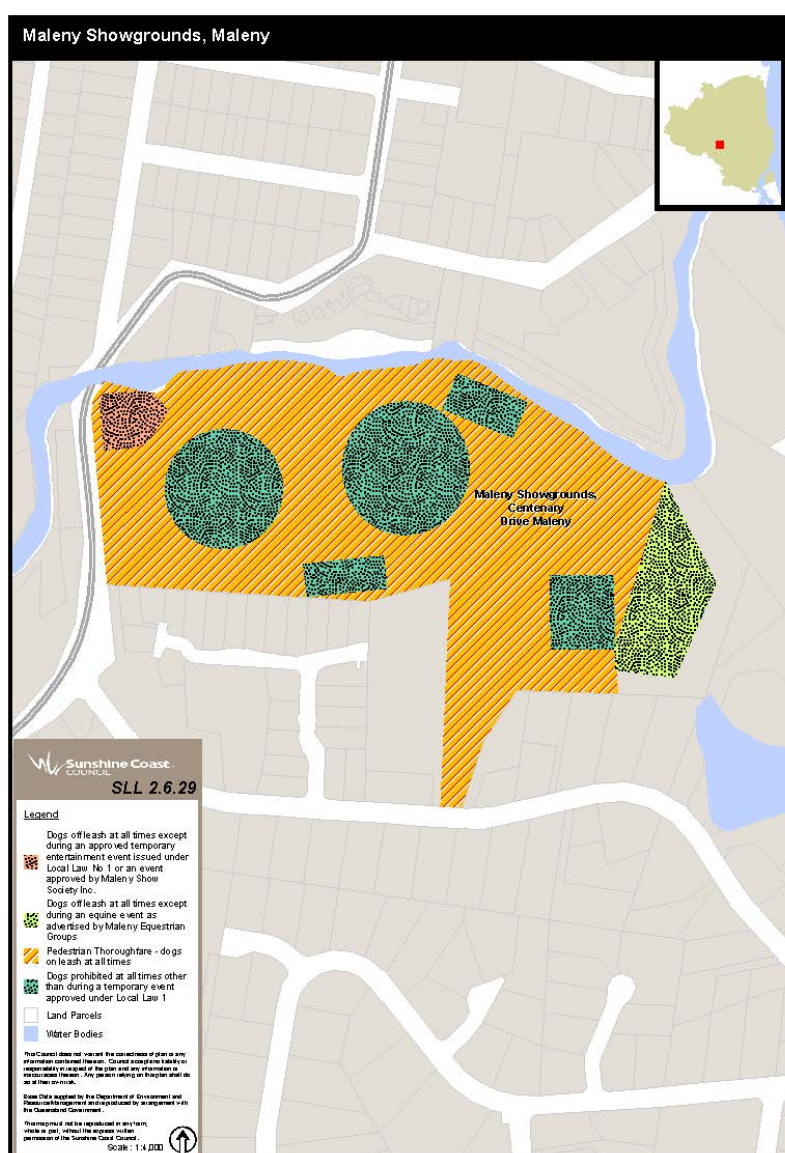
insert—

park	Flintwood Crescent, Palmview	SLL 2.6.46	all times
park	Mapleton Lilyponds, Mapleton	SLL 2.6.47	all times
park	Quota Memorial Park, Nambour	SLL 2.6.48	all times
park	Baringa Forest Park, Eden Drive	SLL 2.6.49	all times
park	Annalise Circuit Park, Nirimba	SLL 2.6.50	all times
park	Viridian Park, Birtinya	SLL 2.6.51	all times
park	Grand Parade Park, Parrearra	SLL 2.6.52	all times

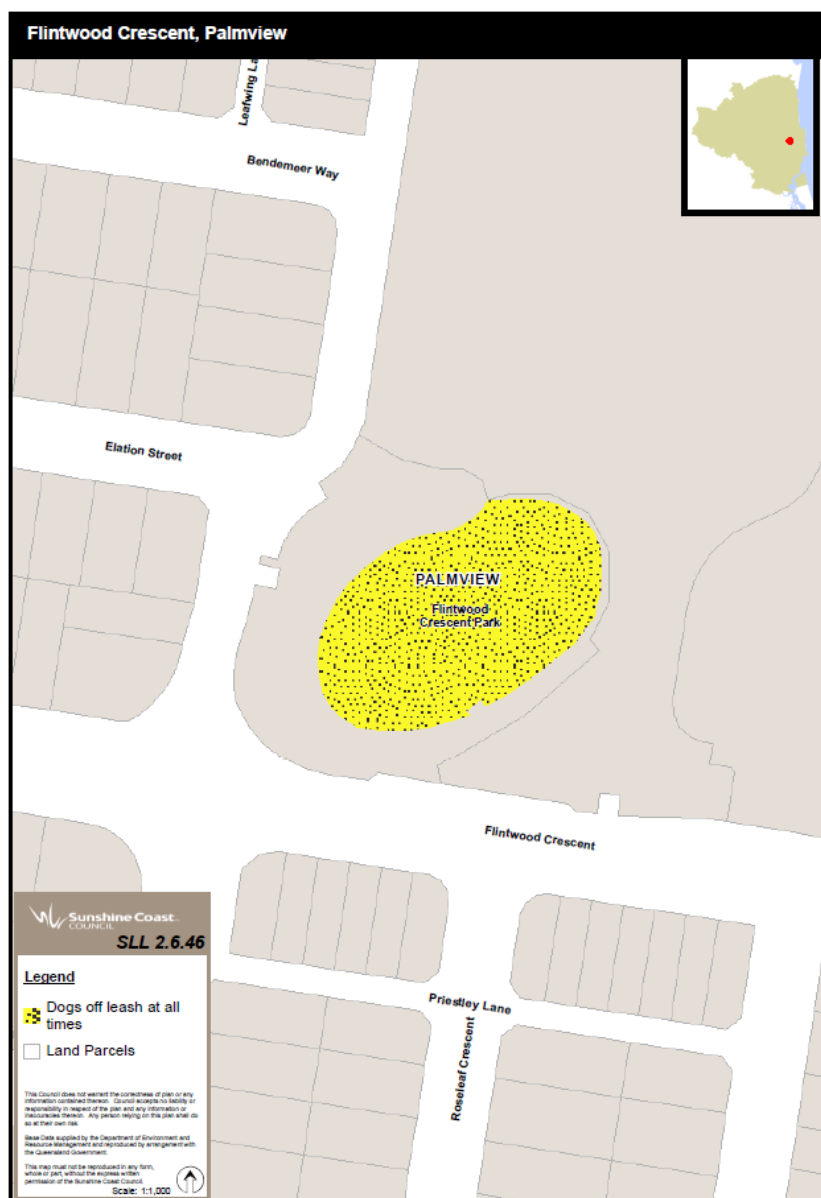
- (5) Schedule 6, Map SLL2.6.14—
omit, insert—

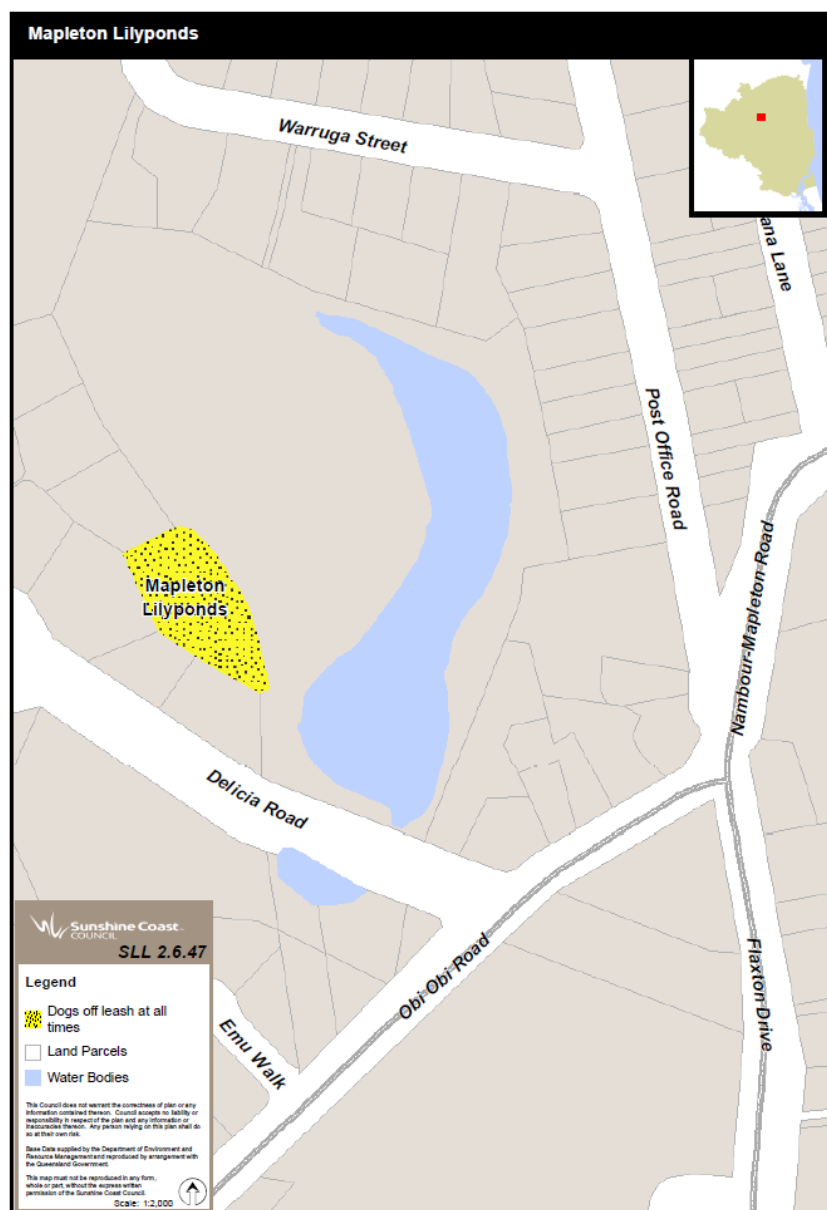


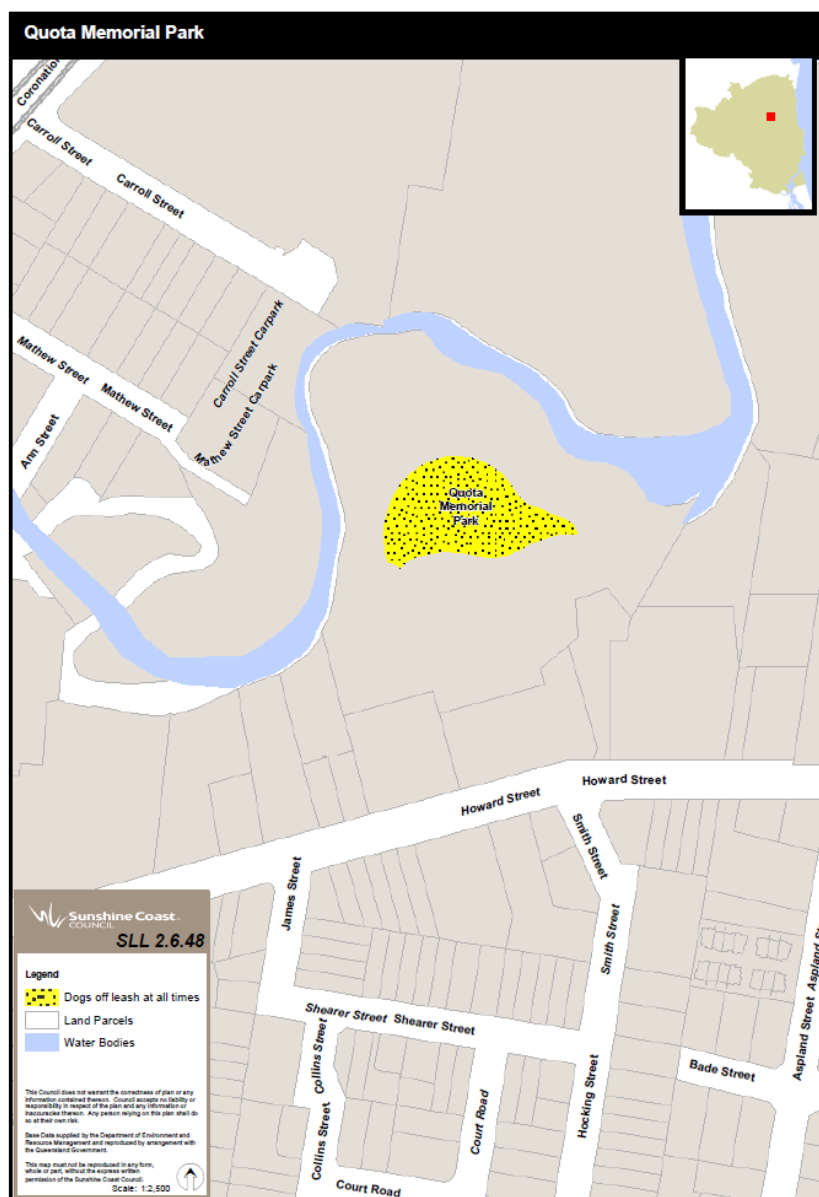
- (6) Schedule 6, Map SLL2.6.29—
omit, insert—

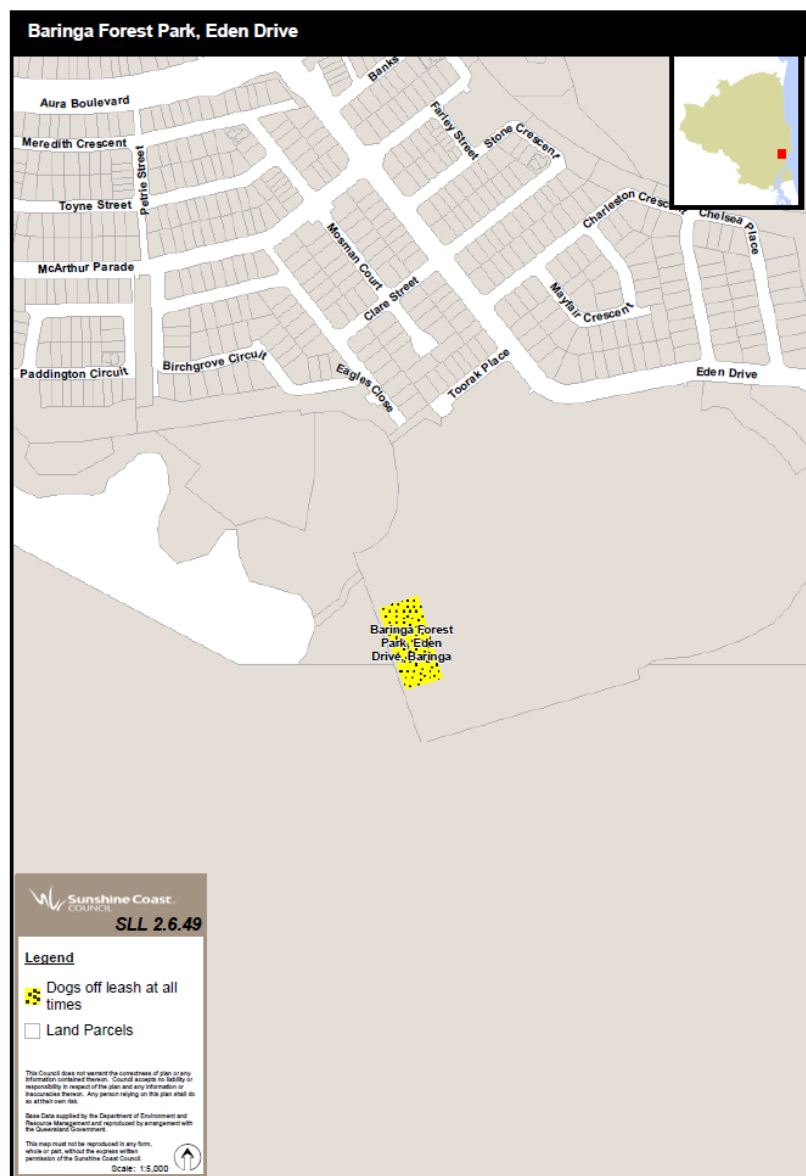


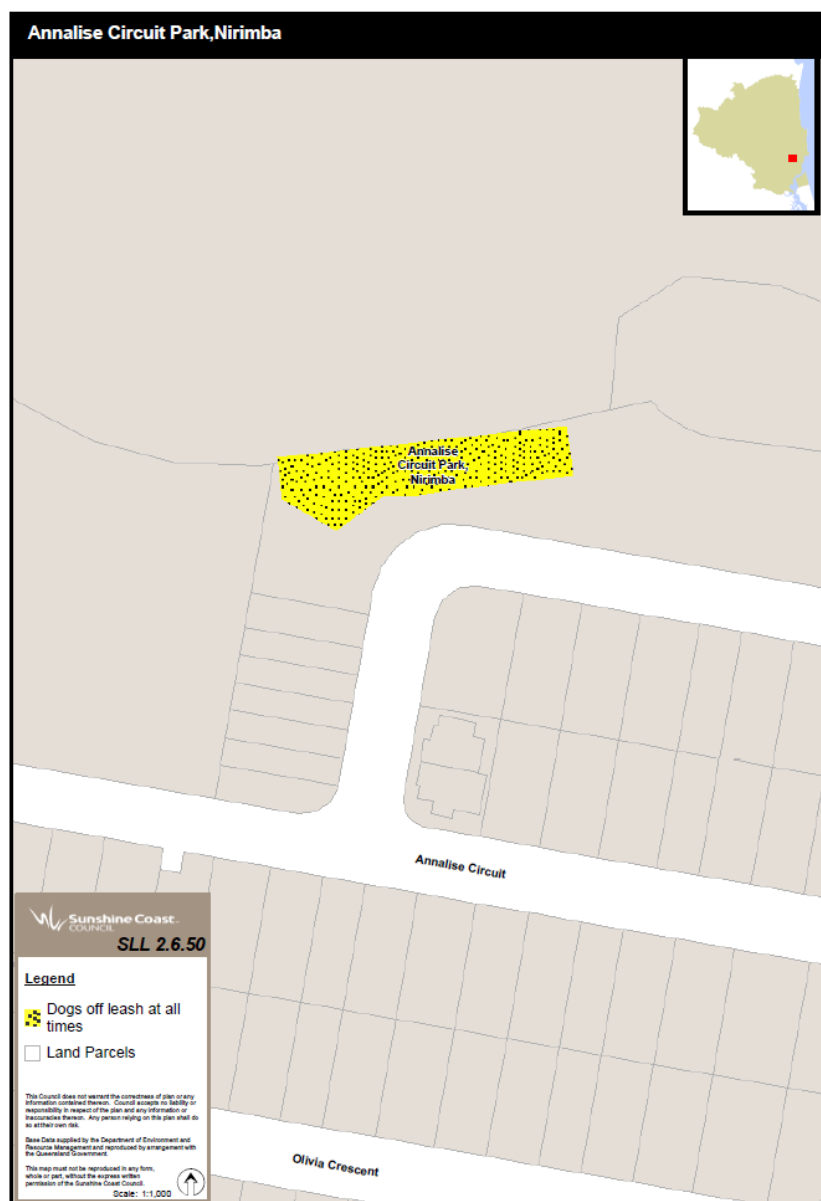
- (7) Schedule 6, after Map SLL2.6.45—
insert—

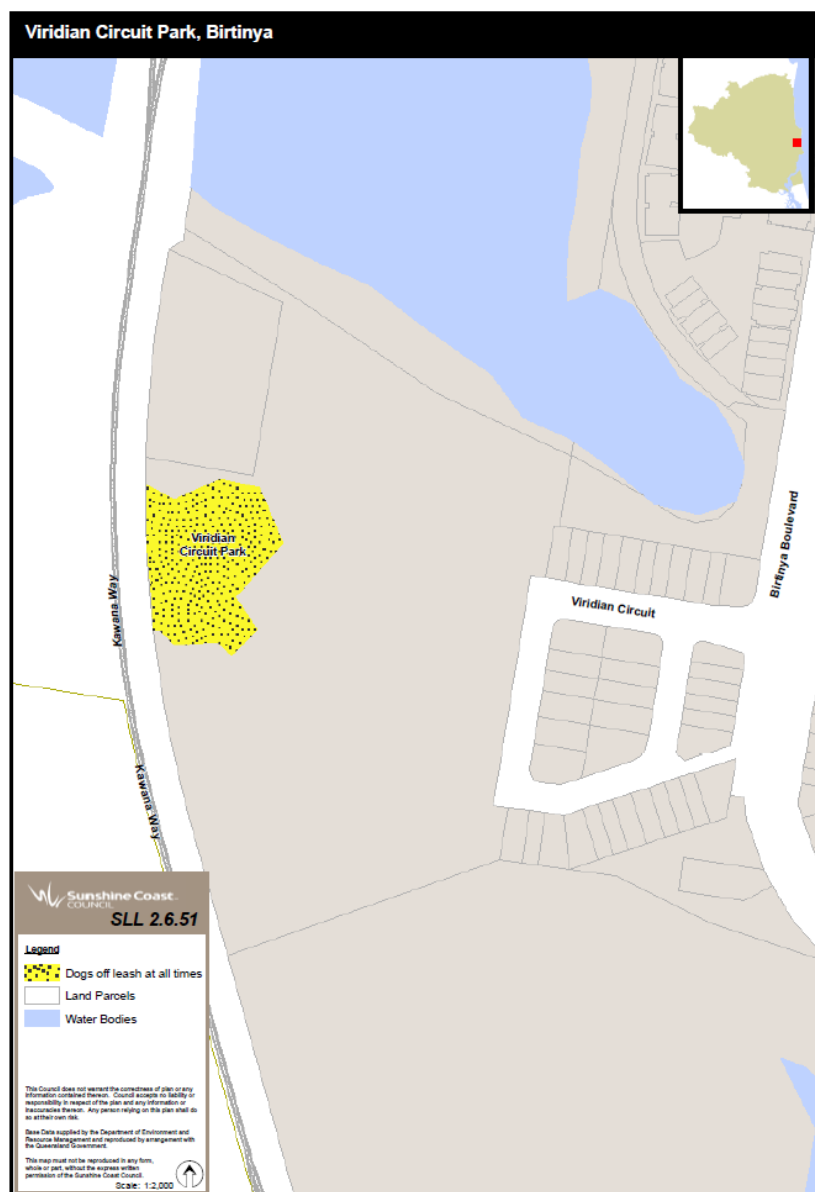














Part 4 Amendment of Subordinate Local Law No. 4 (Local Government Controlled Areas, Facilities, Infrastructure and Roads) 2011

21 Subordinate local law amended

This part amends *Subordinate Local Law No. 4 (Local Government Controlled Areas, Facilities, Infrastructure and Roads) 2011*.

22 Amendment of sch 1 (Prohibited activities for local government controlled areas, facilities, infrastructure and roads)

- (1) Schedule 1, first row, column 2, after item 7—

insert—

- 8 contravene a sign imposing a time limit on the use of a public pontoon

- (2) Schedule 1, second row, column 2, after item 2—

insert—

- 3 contravene a sign temporarily closing the playing surface of a sporting facility to the public

Part 5 Amendment of Subordinate Local Law No.5 (Parking) 2011

23 Subordinate local law amended

This part amends *Subordinate Local Law No.5 (Parking) 2011*.

24 Amendment of sch 3 (Persons who may be issued with a parking permit)

- (1) Schedule 3, table, first row (relating to residential parking permit), column 2, 'Map SLL.5.3.1'—

omit, insert—

a residential parking permit area as delineated in a map on the local government's website

- (2) Schedule 3, Map SLL5.3.1—

omit.

25 Amendment of sch 4 (Infringement notice penalties for certain minor traffic offences)

Schedule 4, table, third row (relating to the offence provided for in section 203), column 2, '2 penalty units'—

omit, insert—

4 penalty units

ATTACHMENT 1 - LOCAL LAW REVIEW - SUMMARY OF CONSULTATION	
<ul style="list-style-type: none">During the consultation phase, council undertook a range of activities to raise awareness with the public and business community. These activities included:Information on council’s ‘Have Your Say’ websiteEmails sent to 1429 registered subscribers of ‘Have Your Say’Media ReleasesSocial media posts<ul style="list-style-type: none"><i>Facebook</i> Wednesday, Feb 8 7am Sunday, Feb 12, 7am Thursday, Feb 16, 6pm Tuesday, Feb 22, 6pm Wednesday, March 1, 7am<i>Twitter</i> Thursday, Feb 9, 9am Sunday, Feb 12, 9am Wednesday, Feb 15, 5pm Saturday, Feb 18, 9am Tuesday, Feb 22, 6pm Saturday, Feb 25, 8am Wednesday, Mar 1, 7pm Thursday, Mar 2, 7am<i>LinkedIn</i> Friday, Feb 10, 7am Friday, Feb 17, 6pm Friday, Feb 24, 7am Wednesday, Mar 1, 5pmMedia Coverage<ul style="list-style-type: none">Coolum Advertiser 8 FebHot FM 91.9 10 Feb 7amABC Sunshine Coast 13 Feb 7.11amGlasshouse Country News 14 FebRadio ABC Sunshine Coast 15 Feb 5.25pmRadio ABC Sunshine Coast 15 Feb 6.30amRadio ABC Sunshine Coast 15 Feb 7.30amSunshine Coast News 16 FebABC Sunshine Coast 24 Feb 8.52amRadio ABC Sunshine Coast 24 Feb 9.25am	
Submissions:	
State interest checks	
<ol style="list-style-type: none">Consultation Period – 1 February 2023 to 3 March 2023Submissions were invited from 5 State agencies identified as relevant stakeholders, including:<ul style="list-style-type: none">Department of Agriculture and FisheriesDepartment of State Development, Infrastructure, Local Government and Planning – no identified matters of adverse impactDepartment of Energy and Public WorksDepartment of Environment and ScienceDepartment of Transport and Main RoadsSubmissions/responses received by 3 State agencies as follows:<ul style="list-style-type: none">Department of State Development, Infrastructure, Local Government and Planning – No identified matters of adverse impactDepartment of Energy and Public Works – No identified impactsDepartment of Transport and Main Roads – Nil issues<p>The following 2 State agencies did not reply a response indicating they had no issues with proposed amendments:</p><ul style="list-style-type: none">Department of Environment and Science – No responseDepartment of Agriculture and Fisheries – No response	
Community consultation	
<ol style="list-style-type: none">Consultation Period – 1 February 2023 to 3 March 2023Submissions were invited from the community.A total of 141 Submissions/responses were received, with the proposed amendment to Maleny Showground regarding reduction to the Dog Off Leash area attracting the highest numbers of submissions (105). 9 submissions/responses were received for issues not relating to the current proposed amendments.	
Pre-consultation – Maleny Showground	
<p>Pre-consultation was undertaken with the following major stakeholders of Maleny Showground:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">The Range Croquet ClubMaleny Equestrian GroupTS Centaur CadetsMaleny Cricket ClubMaleny Rangers Soccer ClubMaleny District Horse and Pony Club <p>The main issues for major stakeholders are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Shared use safety issues (children, dogs, horses)Most dog owners are responsible; however, some allow their dogs to run onto playing fields during events, people have bitten while mowing the area, confrontational situations when mixed use in progress.Issues for sporting organisations achieving safety compliance and hygiene requirements.	

LOCAL LAW REVIEW - ATTACHMENT 1 - DETAILED SUBMISSIONS (COMMUNITY CONSULTATION)				
Ref	Submission	Respondents Agree/Disagree	Officer Comments	Recommendation
LOCAL LAW No 1 (ADMINISTRATION) 2011				
Introduction of a new Penalty Regime				
1	Agree with creating tiered categories of penalties allowing Council officers greater flexibility to offer a lower cost infringement notice proportionate to the offence.	Agree		No change to proposed local law amendment.
Amend the penalty for non-compliance with a compliance notice to 20 penalty units in the case of non-registration of a dog				
	Nil Submissions	N/A		No change to proposed local law amendment.
Inclusion of extra provisions to immediately dispose of chemical or biological products.				
	Nil Submissions	N/A		No change to proposed local law amendment.
Dealing with seized and impounded items – Added items that are “of no commercial value or of a value that would not cover the costs of sale of item”				
	Nil Submissions	N/A		No change to proposed local law amendment.
Extraordinary building work noise permits				
2	<p>On too many occasions local streets have not abided by the restricted hours of operation. I believe the commencement hours are from 7.00am and close at 5.00pm.</p> <p>Although not noted in diary form building work has commenced prior to 7.00am and has occurred even on a Sunday.</p> <p>Unless Council is committed to monitor the proposed amendment and first breach result in a fine etc then what's the point.</p> <p>On many occasions I have contacted council regarding early operations however nothing happens. Cement trucks are a fine example.</p> <p>Also, handy man working outside hours should be included as this happens frequently in our neighbourhood.</p> <p>I will be disappointed if this law is amended and no responsibility from council to monitor the situation. There is to be oh this work has to be done because of lame excuse.</p>	Disagree	<p>There are a number of noise nuisances that cannot be addressed by council such as concrete trucks waiting on a road before a worksite opens. Response times by council's on-call officers to get to a work site can be challenging given the size of the region and officers however efforts are made to attend to gather evidence provide education and information and at times issue a direction notice and in some cases an infringement notice to the offender.</p> <p>The local law provisions are already in place to permit after hours building works or deliveries to a building site. The proposed amendment is making the offence higher from 50 penalty units to 400 penalty units for a breach of a licence. The current provisions for breaches of this noise without a licence will now revert back to the state legislation <i>Environmental Protection Act 1994</i>. The purpose of the licence system is not for people to breach everyday and cause community amenity issues but in extraordinary circumstances such as environmental or public safety reasons. Council has an after hours on-call service for environmental nuisance noise such as building works and where able to attends or soon after contacts the alleged offender and follows Council's Compliance and Enforcement Policy. The hours mentioned in the submission are not correct. The correct hours are:</p> <p>440R Building work</p> <p>(1) A person must not carry out building work in a way that makes an audible noise—</p> <p>(a) on a business day or Saturday, before 6.30a.m. or after 6.30p.m; or</p> <p>(b) on any other day, at any time.</p> <p>(2) The reference in subsection (1) to a person carrying out building work—</p> <p>(a) includes a person carrying out building work under an</p>	No change to proposed local law amendment.

LOCAL LAW REVIEW - ATTACHMENT 1 - DETAILED SUBMISSIONS (COMMUNITY CONSULTATION)				
Ref	Submission	Respondents Agree/Disagree	Officer Comments	Recommendation
			<p>owner-builder permit; and</p> <p>(b) otherwise does not include a person carrying out building work at premises used by the person only for residential purposes.</p> <p>440S Regulated devices (this includes grinders and other power tools)</p> <p>(1) This section applies to—</p> <p>(a) a person carrying out an activity other than building work; and</p> <p>(b) a person carrying out building work, at premises used by the person only for residential purposes, other than under an owner-builder permit.</p> <p>[s 440S]</p> <p>Environmental Protection Act 1994</p> <p>Chapter 8 General environmental offences</p> <p>Current as at 1 March 2023 Page 433</p> <p>Authorised by the Parliamentary Counsel</p> <p>(2) A person must not operate a regulated device in a way that makes an audible noise—</p> <p>(a) on a business day or Saturday, before 7.00a.m. or after 7.00p.m; or</p> <p>(b) on any other day, before 8.00a.m. or after 7.00p.m.</p>	
3	I disagree with the proposal to "override the noise standards in the Environmental Protection Act 1994 (EPA)". And the definitions in the Amendment are vague (e.g. "unreasonable noise", "keep volume...to a minimum") And in Schedule 19-2 "Additional criteria for the granting of permit", there should be included in the permit application the noise level expected (e.g. x Decibels for x hours) from the work being carried out outside of standard building work hours.	Disagree	<p>Each application is considered on its merits and noise levels cannot be set as the noise levels are just one consideration when there are extraordinary circumstances that have other environmental and public health and safety considerations. Authorised officers of council when assessing these applications work with the applicant to try and minimise impacts on the community and in particular sleep. Officers also try and work with the applicant to schedule the noisier activities in the daytime or just after dark and the less noisy activities later however depending on the works being undertaken this may not be possible. These licences are not a daily occurrence and only approved in extraordinary circumstances. e.g. removal of asbestos from a childcare centre outside of the centre operating hours.</p>	No change to proposed local law amendment.
4	The amendments need to set clear parameters on what is considered "extraordinary". The amendments also need to include a limit to how many of these permits can be granted in a given time period. The amendments need to call for a demonstration of community benefit for the loss of amenity. The amendments also need to draw a distinction between "greenfield" and Brownfield/infill work - Also known as building work in a new development where there is no significant existing community (eg Caloundra South) or building work where the works are being conducted where there is an existing community. An Example being "The Beach" building site in Buddina has been granted a number of extraordinary building work permits for exactly the same thing and same circumstances which would suggest that the circumstance are ordinary, not extraordinary	Disagree	<p><i>Sunshine Coast Regional Council Subordinate Local Law No. 1 (Administration) 2016</i> does provide guidance on what is considered "extraordinary"</p> <p>Examples for subparagraph (i)—</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Carrying out the building work outside of the prescribed times is necessary to minimise disruption caused by impacts on critical transport or utility infrastructure. 	No change to proposed local law amendment.

LOCAL LAW REVIEW - ATTACHMENT 1 - DETAILED SUBMISSIONS (COMMUNITY CONSULTATION)				
Ref	Submission	Respondents Agree/Disagree	Officer Comments	Recommendation
			<p>• Carrying out the building work within the prescribed times would cause unacceptable traffic impact.</p> <p>Example for subparagraph (ii)—</p> <p>The building work will involve asbestos removal that would increase safety risks to the public if carried out during the prescribed times.</p> <p>Regarding greenfield sites, if there are no impacts given there are no residents in the area a licence would not be issued as building works can occur if it is not audible from an affected person. e.g. new industrial estate being constructed not in earshot of any residential area and works occur outside of building hours.</p> <p>There is no limit of how many permits can issued however each application must meet the criteria of extraordinary. The application process has not been established to cater for blanket ongoing approvals for activities that are not extraordinary and a normal building works process.</p>	
5	Not enough information to support this. Do not agree if this will impact residents (e.g. noisy development happening overnight)	Disagree	Residents may be impacted if a licence is approved however authorised officers of council when assessing these applications work with the applicant to try and minimise impacts on the community and in particular sleep. These licences are not a daily occurrence and only approved in extraordinary circumstances. e.g. removal of asbestos from a childcare centre outside of the centre operating hours.	No change to proposed local law amendment.
6	12 hours a day 6 days a week is too much as it is. Qld is the only state in Australia that permits construction at 6.30am six days a week. Living next to two major developments were the developers regularly break the law and commence earlier than the allowed start time is having a huge impact on health and wellbeing. To allow work to commence any earlier will not help anyone except builders and developers. Even now with work a work start time of 6.30am we have cranes and concrete pumps and trucks driving past from 5.30am to get set up, if start times any earlier are allowed do we have to be woken at 4.30am with trucks and cranes and concrete pumps driving past not to mention all the trade vehicles. This is just not acceptable!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!	Disagree	<p>A check of the times that other states permitted building works found many different times and there was further complexity in some states regarding the type of construction being undertaken to the times allowed. In regard to the proposed changes, whilst this submission may be relevant looking across the borders council is reverting the offences to building works back to the Queensland <i>Environmental Protection Act 1994</i>. It is agreed that there are some developers who are pushing the limits and commencing building works before the law permit. Council responds to complaints regarding these incidences and has an on-call after hours service. Council has erected A0 signs at entries to subdivisions to alert builders and contractors to the laws on building start and finish times. Entering the site and setting up is commencing the building work and is not acceptable if it is impacting nearby residents where a valid licence is not in place. However, vehicles arriving on the road and waiting for the site to open is not able to be addressed under this legislation.</p>	No change to proposed local law amendment.
LOCAL LAW No 2 (ANIMAL MANAGEMENT) 2011				
Amend provision to enable destruction or disposal order to be issued enabling the rehoming of suitable dogs.				
7	Agree	Agree		No change to proposed local law amendment.

LOCAL LAW REVIEW - ATTACHMENT 1 - DETAILED SUBMISSIONS (COMMUNITY CONSULTATION)				
Ref	Submission	Respondents Agree/Disagree	Officer Comments	Recommendation
8	Dogs should never be destroyed unless proven to endanger human life or other dogs lives. It's barbaric that the destruction order is in place!! Change it to a disposal order and rehome the dogs asap!!	Agree		No change to proposed local law amendment.
9	Absolutely agree. Lots of impounded dogs are very suitable for rehoming and should not be destroyed	Agree		No change to proposed local law amendment.
10	This will quite literally be a life saver...these dogs deserve a second chance at a forever home that is kind and loving	Agree		No change to proposed local law amendment.
Inclusion for cats in a public place to be contained in an enclosure, restrained by a leash or to a fixed object under direct supervision.				
11	I would like to know in regard to the change in the rules about cats, what is referred to as public. I think the term public needs to be more explicit. Also, what are the consequences. Cats are not easy to keep contained. Will there be any support from the council in building cat runs?	Disagree	Public land relates to spaces outside of private property. There are already provisions to keep cats contained at all times on private property (in place since 2011) under Local Law No. 2	No change to proposed local law amendment.
12	The proposed amendment in relation to cats refers specifically to public places. Whilst this will reduce the risk of predation of wildlife it does not prevent it complete as cat owners can allow their cats to roam freely on their property. Request consideration is given to improvement management of cats on private property similar to that in public places. Please.	Agree	Public land relates to spaces outside of private property. There are already provisions to keep cats contained at all times on private property (in place since 2011) under Local Law No. 2	No change to proposed local law amendment.
13	Cats should be contained within a house or on a leash. Council should also actually enforce this rule by collecting stray cats. There are far too many cats roaming Maleny day and night.	Agree	Cat traps are provided free of charge for hire from the pound to assist the community in addressing roaming cat issues.	No change to proposed local law amendment.
14	The amendment of the definition of the management of domestic cats in public places. I agree that this amendment is necessary and should be passed, but this amendment should also include a better definition of restraint of stray domestic cats at the owner's property therefore I have ticked the do not agree response in the hope that this amendment can be made more relevant to the concerns of the Sunshine Coast people. I agree that all cats should be restrained at all times when in public places and that this definition include the means of restraint listed in your amendment. However, I feel that the amendment does not offer the people of the Sunshine Coast enough protection from the damage caused by domestic stray cats. I strongly feel that this amendment must include a similar definition of restraint, at the owners dwelling or property, that you have defined in the amendment for domestic dogs - ie that cats do not have unrestrained access to public places, or neighboring properties, directly from the owner's property. This could be assessed at the time of the animal's registration. Other Councils in Australia have regulations which ensure the owner has their domestic animals safely secured at the owner's property. The addition of this definition to the amendment should ensure that cats are not able to wander the streets without restraint and it will also protect the neighboring community from stray domestic cats. I feel strongly about this amendment as my experience with stray domestic cats in my neighborhood has been horrific! I have woken at 4.30 to the screaming of a tiny bird being mauled by a cat, I have had my fly screen scratched and pierced when the cats jump up to kill the geckos, I am woken at all times in the early morning to cats caterwauling, I often see dead birds in my garden - blue faced honey eaters, rainbow bee-eaters, the little wattle birds, mud larks, the noisy friar bird and rarely, a minor bird. I no longer have any small skinks in my yard. The cats even killed the frogs in the frog pond! I do not understand why these domestic stray cats have the right to kill so many of our native animals. Like so many of the residents on the Sunshine Coast I proudly grow native fauna to attract native birds and animals. I am constantly frustrated at the ability of cats to destroy the garden I wish to have at my home.	Agree	There are already provisions to keep cats contained at all times on private property (in place since 2011) under Local Law No. 2	No change to proposed local law amendment.
15	Cat regulations. - I agree as I have neighbours who say they supervise their cats, but they still wander.	Agree		No change to proposed local law amendment.
16	Amendment of the definition of the management of domestic cats in public places to include the requirement that the cat is restrained on a leash held by a person or restrained to a fixed object (and supervised) or within an enclosure. Thank you for the opportunity to provide feedback on the proposed Sunshine Coast Council Local Law Amendments. The Australian Pet Welfare Foundation (APWF) is strongly opposed to the proposed "Amendment of the definition of the management of domestic cats in public places to include the requirement that the cat is restrained on a leash held by a person or restrained to a fixed object (and supervised) or within an enclosure." Sunshine Coast Council states that the reason for this proposed change is "Cats roaming the neighbourhood and killing or injuring wildlife." However, based on the scientific evidence, this local law will not reduce the number of roaming cats or protect native wildlife.	Disagree	Roaming cats are managed under the Local Law No. 2 and the provision of cat traps free for hire through the Pound. Cats not collected are rehomed through our pet partners and our euthanasia rates reflect the success of this program. Over the past two years 92 % of all cats impounded have been rehomed. All rehomed cats are microchipped and desexed prior to being rehomed.	No change to proposed local law amendment.

LOCAL LAW REVIEW - ATTACHMENT 1 - DETAILED SUBMISSIONS (COMMUNITY CONSULTATION)				
Ref	Submission	Respondents Agree/Disagree	Officer Comments	Recommendation
	<p>Summary</p> <p>The Australian Pet Welfare Foundation (APWF) strongly encourages inside containment of cats at night, and where possible, contained to the owner's property during the day in a comfortable environment which meets the cat's physical and mental needs. However, the APWF is strongly opposed to mandated cat containment (night curfews and 24/7 – such as proposed by Sunshine Coast Council) because it leads to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> increased costs and enforcement difficulties for local governments increased cat nuisance complaints as an expectation is created that cats should not be seen increased cat impoundments increased cat and kitten euthanasia increased mental health damage to veterinary staff and community residents caused by euthanasing healthy cats and kittens, and no reduction in the overall number of roaming cats (and therefore does not protect native wildlife) <p>Mandated Cat Containment is Ineffective</p> <p>Mandated cat containment such as proposed by Sunshine Coast Council has been proven to be an ineffective strategy; a failure at reducing roaming cats in the short and long term, both in Australia and internationally (for e.g. Yarra ranges and Casey councils in Victoria).</p> <p>Mandated cat containment is not an effective strategy to reduce roaming cats because most roaming cats are strays with no owner to contain them. Even for cats with an owner, containment is often not achievable due to factors such as housing limitations, lack of financial resources and concerns about the welfare of confined cats.</p> <p>Mandated cat containment actively prevents the resolution of the problem of roaming cats because it presents a significant barrier to cat semi-owners taking full ownership of the stray cat they are feeding (the key solution to the roaming cat issue).</p> <p>What is Effective</p> <p>A scientifically proven effective approach is to help people with the desexing and microchipping of their semi-owned cat and supporting them to take full ownership. This is achieved through Community Cat Programs, i.e., high-intensity free desexing programs targeted to areas of high impoundments or complaints (the low socio-economic areas).</p> <p>Please see the City of Banyule program. Banyule implemented a free desexing and microchipping program targeted to areas of highest complaints and the effect was:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> impoundments decreased by 61% euthanasia decreased by 74% cat-related calls decreased by 64% (from 11 to 4 cat calls/1000 residents) <p>Since 2013, Banyule has spent \$60,000 on its free desexing program and saved \$397,500 on cat impoundment costs alone (Cotterell 2021, Banyule 2020). Please also see this RSPCA targeted free desexing program implemented in collaboration with 10 councils: https://www.abc.net.au/news/2023-01-19/nsw-considers-expanding-desexing-stray-cats-reduce-euthanasia/101867888</p> <p>The Australian Pet Welfare Foundation is undertaking a Community Cat Program, offering free desexing and microchipping in targeted Ipswich suburbs. Importantly we offer this service to people with cats and those feeding stray cats (semi-owners). Over 1,900 cats have been desexed through our free desexing and microchipping program and this has resulted in decreased intake and euthanasia from the target area (please contact APWF for more details).</p> <p>By significantly reducing the number of unwanted kittens born, such desexing programs, not mandated cat containment, are the key solution to the problem of roaming cats and the associated issues such as nuisance complaints, costs to local governments and potential native wildlife predation.</p> <p>A number of Australian councils have recently rejected mandated 24/7 containment and night curfews including:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Hume Council (2018) which stated that curfews would not be effective at reducing cat nuisance complaints or reduce wildlife predation. Please refer to: https://www.hume.vic.gov.au/files/assets/public/hptrim/fbl-council-subject-files/governance-council-meetings-minutes-and-agenda-council-meetings-and-committees-arrangements-minutes-agendas/20180416-agenda-ordinary-meeting-of-the-hume-city-council-monday-16-april-2018.pdf Hobsons Bay (2014) which stated that curfews are essentially unenforceable and that most wandering cats are stray cats with no owner to contain them. Please refer to: https://www.hobsonsbay.vic.gov.au/files/assets/public/documents/council-meetings/from-old-website/2014/1216/appendix_1_-_cat_curfew.pdf Merri-bek council (2022) recently voted to focus on desexing and microchipping of semi-owned stray cats (assisting cat semi-owners feeding stray cats to take full official ownership of the cat) and did not support mandated containment or curfews. Please refer to: https://merri-bek.vic.gov.au/globalassets/website-merri-bek/areas/my-council/council-and-committee-meetings/council-and-parm-meetings/minutes/2022-minutes/council-minutes-2022-12-07-december---pdf.pdf <p>Based on the evidence, implementing the proposed cat containment law in Sunshine Coast will increase costs to Sunshine Coast, increase cat nuisance complaints, increase impoundments, increase euthanasia of healthy cats and kittens, increase devastating psychological damage to staff involved in killing these healthy cats and kittens (including depression, trauma, substance abuse and increased suicide risk) and increase</p>		<p>Council continues to educate cat owners through the responsible pet ownership education program in relation to responsible containment and care whilst providing tips and ideas for the enrichment and stimulation of cats at home.</p>	

LOCAL LAW REVIEW - ATTACHMENT 1 - DETAILED SUBMISSIONS (COMMUNITY CONSULTATION)																																												
Ref	Submission	Respondents Agree/Disagree	Officer Comments	Recommendation																																								
	<p>devastating psychological damage to community cat carers feeding stray cats when their cats are trapped and killed, but without reducing the overall number of free-roaming cats in Sunshine Coast. This is because the free-roaming cat population quickly replenishes back to original numbers. Because mandated containment does not reduce the overall number of free-roaming cats, a council policy of cat containment will not reduce the number of free-roaming cats or protect native wildlife in the Sunshine Coast.</p> <p>Please refer to this recently published Australian paper details the devastating psychological impact on community cat carers when the stray cats they are feeding are killed by authorities:</p> <p>Scotney, R.; Rand, J.; Rohlf, V.; Hayward, A.; Bennett, P. The Impact of Lethal, Enforcement-Centred Cat Management on Human Wellbeing: Exploring Lived Experiences of Cat Carers Affected by Cat Culling at the Port of Newcastle. Animals 2023, 13, 271.</p> <p>The scientifically proven way for Sunshine Coast Council to reduce free-roaming cats, nuisance complaints and to protect native wildlife, is free cat desexing and microchipping programs targeted to areas of high impoundments and nuisance complaints in the Sunshine Coast council area. This involves Sunshine Coast Council examining its data for the locations of high cat nuisance complaints and the locations with high cat impoundments/intake (these will be the low socio-economic areas in Sunshine Coast).</p> <p>Desexing programs will need to involve targeted door-knocking to identify and assist cat semi-owners feeding stray cats to desex, microchip and take full ownership of the cat.</p> <p>This approach is proven to significantly reduce cat impounds, euthanasia and nuisance complaints (which reflects a decrease in free-roaming cats in the surrounding area) and will reduce costs to Council.</p> <p>Please see Key Issues to consider related to mandated cat containment (2023) below.</p> <p>Key issues to consider related to mandated 24/7 cat containment</p> <p><u>Why is mandated 24/7 cat containment proposed by some groups?</u></p> <p>Mandated 24/7 cat containment (also known as a 24-hour cat curfew) is generally proposed because of a belief that it will reduce wandering cats and associated issues such as nuisance complaints or potential wildlife predation, and protect cats from potential harm. While it seems logical and compelling that mandated 24/7 cat containment would reduce the number of wandering cats and associated issues, this assumption is not supported by the evidence.</p> <p><u>Is mandated 24/7 cat containment effective at reducing wandering cats?</u></p> <p>The evidence in Australia and internationally clearly shows that mandated 24/7 cat containment is not an effective strategy to reduce wandering cats or associated issues such as nuisance complaints or potential wildlife predation. Mandated 24/7 cat containment is already proven to be a failure at reducing wandering cats in the short, medium and long-term.</p> <p>RSPCA Australia Identifying Best Practice Domestic Cat Management in Australia 2018 report states:</p> <p>“Overall, councils with cat containment regulations have not been able to demonstrate any measurable reduction in cat complaints or cats wandering at large following the introduction of the regulations”.</p> <p>1. City of Yarra Ranges (Victoria), in the 3rd year after mandating 24/7 cat containment:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">cat-related complaints increased by 143%Yarra Ranges Council acknowledged that the significant increase in cat complaints, is likely to be a result of the introduction of a 24-hour cat curfew in 2014impoundments increased by 68%euthanasia increased by 18% (human population only increased by 2%) (Yarra Ranges 2021) <p>Yarra Ranges Council data</p> <table><tr><th>Measure</th><th>2012/13</th><th>2016/17</th><th>Difference</th><th>% Change</th></tr><tr><td>Resident population</td><td>149, 026</td><td>152,246</td><td>+3,220</td><td>^ 2.16%</td></tr><tr><td>Cat nuisance complaints</td><td>237</td><td>576</td><td>+339</td><td>^ 143 %</td></tr><tr><td>Cats impounded</td><td>440</td><td>738</td><td>+298</td><td>^ 67.7 %</td></tr><tr><td>Cats euthanased</td><td>232</td><td>273</td><td>+41</td><td>^ 17.67 %</td></tr></table> <p>2. City of Casey (Victoria), 20 years after introducing mandated 24/7 cat containment (Casey 2001, 2021):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">the number of cats impounded was still 296% higher than baseline (from 264 cats in 1998 to 1,047 cats in 2019/20), more than double the rate of the human population increase. <p>Casey Council data</p> <table><tr><th>Measure</th><th>1998</th><th>2019/ 20</th><th>Difference</th><th>% Change</th></tr><tr><td>Resident population</td><td>156,128</td><td>364,600</td><td>+208,472</td><td>^ 134%</td></tr><tr><td>Cats impounded</td><td>264</td><td>1047</td><td>+783</td><td>^ 296%</td></tr></table> <p>The number of cat nuisance complaints and impoundments are important parameters because they reflect the size of the wandering cat population in the surrounding area.</p>	Measure	2012/13	2016/17	Difference	% Change	Resident population	149, 026	152,246	+3,220	^ 2.16%	Cat nuisance complaints	237	576	+339	^ 143 %	Cats impounded	440	738	+298	^ 67.7 %	Cats euthanased	232	273	+41	^ 17.67 %	Measure	1998	2019/ 20	Difference	% Change	Resident population	156,128	364,600	+208,472	^ 134%	Cats impounded	264	1047	+783	^ 296%			
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	<p>3. Merri-bek City Council (Melbourne Victoria) supports targeted, free desexing programs (including semi-owned cats) combined with education as the approach to cat management rather than mandated cat containment/curfews (Merri-bek 2022).</p> <p>4. City of Hobsons Bay (Melbourne Victoria) undertook an assessment of cat curfews and concluded that mandated 24/7 cat containment is not an effective strategy for reducing the number of wandering cats or associated issues and has rejected cat curfews (Hobsons Bay 2014).</p> <p>5. Hume City Council in (Melbourne Victoria) investigated the viability of implementing a cat curfew in 2018 and concluded that a cat curfew would not be effective in reducing nuisance cat complaints and predation of native wildlife by cats (Hume Council 2018).</p> <p>6. Some USA jurisdictions have introduced mandated 24/7 cat containment known as cat “leash laws” which have proven to be ineffective and impossible to enforce. When leash laws are passed, animal control impound more stray cats because they do not have an “owner” to contain them. This results in more cats being impounded and then killed but without reducing the overall number of roaming cats in the area. A number of USA jurisdictions have repealed their cat leash laws because they found they were unenforceable including Smithfield Virginia 2003, Edmonds City Council Washington 2012, and Gretna City Council LA 2014 (Hughes 2002, Alley Cat Allies 2022).</p> <p>Based on data from councils, 24/7 cat containment regulations would not provide any measurable benefit in reducing cat complaints, cat impoundments, potential wildlife predation or cat-related costs and would instead increase costs to local governments.</p> <p><u>Why is mandated 24/7 cat containment not effective at reducing wandering cats?</u></p> <p>Mandated 24/7 cat containment is not an effective strategy to reduce wandering cats because most wandering cats are strays with no owner to contain them. Even for cats with an owner, containment is often not achievable due to property limitations (for e.g. rental properties), lack of financial resources and concerns about contained cat welfare (McLeod 2015, van Eeden 2021).</p> <p><u>Stray cats</u></p> <p>Stray cats are usually overlooked when mandated 24/7 cat containment is proposed, even though stray cats represent the majority of wandering cats. Most cats entering animal welfare shelters and council pounds are classed as strays, originate from low socio-economic areas and were born in the preceding 6 to 12 months (Kerr 2018, Alberthsen 2013 & 2016, Miller 2014, Ly 2021, Rinzin 2008, Zito 2016).</p> <p>Most stray cats are semi-owned domestic cats being fed by people who do not perceive they own the cat but have an emotional attachment to the cat (Rand 2021). When mandated cat containment is introduced it creates a significant barrier to semi-owners being willing or able to take full ownership of the stray cat they are feeding due to the imposition of an added responsibility and potential penalty associated with cat ownership. Transforming cat semi-owners into full owners represents the key solution to significantly reduce the number of unwanted kittens, wandering cats and associated issues, but mandated cat containment actively prevents this resolution (Banyule City Council 2020, Cotterell 2021, APWF 2021).</p> <p>Mandated cat containment perpetuates the failed Trap, adopt or kill approach</p> <p>Mandated cat containment results in more stray cats being trapped, impounded and then killed because they do not have an “owner” to contain them. However, this Trap, adopt or kill approach does not reduce the overall wandering cat population in the area overtime because it results in low-level ad hoc culling, insufficient to override the high cat reproductive rate, immigration of new cats into the area and increased survival of juveniles (Lazenby 2015, Miller 2014, Tan 2017, RSPCA Australia 2018). The result is a repetitive cycle of trapping, impounding, and killing cats, followed by new cats being trapped, impounded and killed, over and over again, but without reducing the overall number of wandering cats as the population quickly replenishes to original levels (Boone 2019, NSW Animal Seizures Pound Data Reports, Hughes 2002).</p> <p>Cat admissions into NSW council pounds has remained relatively stable over the past decade reflecting a stable stray cat population with no measurable decrease despite costly Trap, adopt or kill being applied by many councils (NSW Animal Seizures – Pound Data Reports).</p> <p>High-level culling or desexing is required to produce a sustained decrease in wandering cats. However, high-level culling is cost prohibitive for local governments and unacceptable to the majority of the community (Rand 2019) and there are no published reports of high-level culling at the suburb or city level being successful (Boone 2019).</p> <p><u>Why is mandated 24/7 cat containment not feasible?</u></p> <p>Enforcement of mandated 24/7 cat containment is problematic and essentially impossible for several reasons including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Enforcement can only be undertaken by cat trapping programs and cat-trap loan schemes. It is difficult or impossible to capture cats in breach of containment regulations. Animal Management Officers (AMOs) are not able to chase cats that are wandering at large in breach of containment and this present WHS risks. The majority of trapped and impounded cats are not owned or traceable to an owner so there is no possibility of taking any enforcement action because an owner cannot be identified (Lancaster 2015, RSPCA Australia 2018). The experience of councils that have introduced mandated 24/7 cat containment shows that limited infringement notices have been issued (Hobsons Bay 2014). 			

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Trapped unidentified cats need to be rehomed or euthanased, increasing costs for cat management and increasing the number of cats euthanased, which negatively affects the mental health of staff involved. Enforcement is very time-consuming and costly requiring expansion of cat-trap services, purchase of additional traps to reduce waiting times, and additional staff to deal with the increased nuisance complaints, trapping and impoundments that occur after mandated cat containment is introduced. Trapping by AMOs is very time-consuming because multiple trips to the site are often required including a trip to set up the trap and then trips to check the trap each morning (for animal welfare reasons) and to reset the trap each evening until the cat is caught. Times required to trap cats can range from an average of 8.9 days to 29 days per cat to trap 90% of the target cats (Nutter 2005, Lazenby 2015). <p>Hume City Council in Melbourne Victoria stated in 2018 that cat impoundment statistics and learnings from other councils demonstrate that a cat curfew would be largely unenforceable (Hume Council 2018). The City of Hobsons Bay in Melbourne also acknowledged in 2014 that introduction of mandated cat containment would lead to community expectations about enforcement that cannot be delivered. This is consistent with findings from jurisdictions in the USA (Smithfield Virginia 2003, Edmonds City Council Washington 2012, Greta City Council LA 2014, Police Chief Rowland Payson City Council Utah 2003, Alley Cat Allies 2022).</p> <p>Based on the evidence in Australia and internationally, mandated 24/7 cat containment is essentially unenforceable, rendering mandated 24/7 cat containment impractical and unfeasible.</p> <p><u>What are the negative consequences of mandated 24/7 cat containment?</u></p> <p>Based on the evidence, mandated 24/7 cat containment has many negative consequences including:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Increases cat nuisance complaints to local governments because an expectation is created in the community that cats should not be seen. Increases cat impoundments because increased nuisance complaints and community expectations that cats should not be seen both lead to increased cat trapping and impoundment (Yarra Ranges 2021, RSPCA SA 2022b). Increases euthanasia of healthy and treatable cats and kittens in council pounds, shelters and veterinary clinics because the more cats impounded, the more cats euthanased (Kreisler 2022, Marsh 2010). Increases well-documented and life-threatening mental health damage to staff and community residents caused by the euthanasia of healthy cats and kittens including depression, traumatic stress and increased suicide risk (Baran 2009, Reeve 2005, Rohlf 2005, Rollin 2011, Tiesman 2015, Whiting 2011). Increases costs to local government for cat trapping and management. Costs of impounding, returning to owner, rehoming or euthanasing cats are typically \$500/cat (\$250 to \$750 or more per cat). Trapping, impounding and managing 100 more cats per year costs approximately \$500,000, ultimately paid by rate-payers. Increases staff burnout, staff turnover and attrition rates associated with the euthanasia of healthy and treatable cats and kittens (Australian Veterinary Association 2022, Rogelberg 2007). Promotes continuation of the reactive and ineffective typical approach to domestic cats in Australia known as Trap, adopt or kill which has failed to reduce the number of wandering cats over many decades (Boone 2019, NSW Animal Seizures – Pound Data Reports). Creates a major disincentive for cat ownership, reducing cat adoption and increasing euthanasia. Actively prevents resolution of the wandering cat issue because it creates a significant barrier to semi-owners taking full ownership of the stray cat they are feeding – this is the key solution to significantly reduce the number of unwanted kittens born and the number of wandering cats and associated issues (Banyule City Council 2020, Cotterell 2021, APWF 2021). <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Semi-owners represent a huge pool of potential cat adopters for shy and timid stray cats which are difficult to adopt and are at high risk of euthanasia in shelters, pounds and veterinary clinics. Semi-ownership of cats is common with 3% to 9% of Australian adults feeding daily an average of 1.5 cats they do not perceive they own (Rand 2019, Zito 2015). Cost is the main barrier to desexing, not lack of education or knowledge about the benefits of desexing. Most semi-owners will take full ownership of the stray cats they are feeding, registering their details on the cat's microchip and registration databases if offered free desexing and microchipping as part of Community Cat Programs (please see below). But mandated containment is a major barrier to this process because most semi-owners are in low socio-economic areas in low-income households unable to afford containment system costs (\$700-\$2000+), and many are in rental properties. On average across Australia, 20% of households (2.4 people) live on less than \$650 per week (Rand 2021, ABS data 2022). Criminalises cat ownership for low-income households and people with 'door-dasher' cats. Mandated 24/7 cat containment ignores social justice of legislation and the inability of low-income households and those with difficult to contain door-dasher cats to comply. Even an expensive containment enclosure does not prevent door-dasher cats from escaping. Increases cat relinquishment and abandonment due to the imposition of an added responsibility and potential penalty to cat ownership (RSPCA SA 2022a). Places semi-owned stray cats being fed by people who have an emotional attachment to the cat at significant risk of being impounded and killed. 42% of 			

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	<p>all cats impounded by Australian councils are euthanased (Chua 2022 MPhil thesis).</p> <p>13. Increases risks to pet cats of being trapped and killed.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> One third of cat owners lose their pet at least once in the pet's lifetime and 41% of lost cats are indoor-only cats, as pet cats can still become lost through windows or doors accidentally left open. Even microchipped pet cats aren't guaranteed to be safe as microchips are not necessarily found on the first scan of a cat, and it is recommended that if no microchip is found, that cats should be scanned over 3 consecutive days. Even then, microchips can be faulty or move around the cat's body and may not be found, leading to pet cats being killed (Lord 2008, Lancaster 2015). <p>14. Negatively impacts the welfare, quality of life, and health of some contained cats which can include obesity, immobility, lower urinary tract disease and behaviour problems increasing risk of relinquishment or abandonment (RSPCA Australia 2018, Palmer & Sandoe 2014).</p> <p>15. Increases risks of cruelty towards cats, increasing animal pain and suffering.</p> <p>16. Increases the number of wandering cats due to influxes of new cats after dominant resident cats are trapped and removed and increased survival of juveniles (Lazenby 2015, Miller 2014).</p> <p><u>What are the evidence-based solutions to reduce wandering cats and associated issues?</u></p> <p>1. Community Cat Programs</p> <p>Community Cat Programs based on high-intensity free desexing and microchipping of cats targeted to areas of high cat impoundments and complaints (which are typically the low socioeconomic areas) significantly reduce the number of wandering cats and associated issues such as nuisance complaints and potential wildlife predation (fewer wandering cats means less potential wildlife predation).</p> <p>Community Cat Programs are very effective at transforming semi-owners who are feeding stray cats into full official owners and preventing unwanted kittens being born.</p> <p>Scientific evidence, including from Australia, repeatedly demonstrates that Community Cat Programs significantly reduce:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> the number of wandering cats impounded by councils and shelters cat complaints euthanasia of healthy and treatable cats and kittens and associated negative mental health impacts on staff and community residents caring for cats. <p>Recent Australian data demonstrate that Community Cat Programs are cost-effective and result in a 30-50% decrease in council pound cat intake, more than an 80% reduction in cat euthanasia, and a 30-50% decrease in cat nuisance complaints over 1 to 3 years, with these parameters reflecting the decrease in the surrounding wandering cat population (APWF 2022, Banyule City Council 2020, Cotterell 2021, Spehar & Wolf 2019, Swarbrick 2018, Levy 2014, Boone 2019, Gunther 2021,).</p> <p>City of Banyule</p> <p>In stark contrast to Yarra Ranges and Casey which have mandated 24/7 cat containment, in the City of Banyule (Melbourne, Victoria) which does not have mandated cat containment, in the third year after implementing a high-intensity free desexing program (a community cat program) targeted to where cat-related calls and impoundments were occurring in Banyule (typically the low socio-economic areas):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> impoundments decreased by 61% euthanasia decreased by 74% cat-related calls decreased by 64% (from 11 to 4 cat calls/1000 residents) <p>Since 2013, Banyule has spent \$60,000 on its free desexing program and saved \$397,500 on cat impoundment costs alone (Cotterell 2021, Banyule 2020).</p> <p>2. Bed-time feeding of cats</p> <p>Bedtime feeding of cats is recommended as a highly effective way to assist cat owners at minimal to no additional cost to keep owned pet cats safely inside at night and prevent potential wildlife predation. This strategy involves feeding cats inside at bedtime and ensuring all doors and windows are shut for the night before feeding the evening meal. This provides owners with a way to safely confine their cat inside overnight.</p> <p>Bed-time feeding should be widely promoted to raise awareness among cat owners to increase cat containment at night. However, containment should not be made mandatory because mandating containment leads to increased costs and enforcement difficulties for local governments and other negative consequences (please see above).</p> <p><u>What about mandated night curfews?</u></p> <p>Mandated night curfews are also not an effective strategy to reduce wandering cats because most wandering cats are strays with no owner to contain them. Even for cats with an owner, containment may not be achievable due to property limitations (for e.g. rental properties), lack of financial resources and concerns about contained cat welfare (McLeod 2015, van Eeden 2021). Mandated night curfews also create a barrier to semi-owners taking full ownership of the stray cat they are feeding (which is the key solution to the wandering cat issue) due to the imposition of an added responsibility and potential penalty associated with cat ownership. Night containment may also be difficult to achieve with "door-dasher" cats and poorly socialised cats that are not house trained, where mandating night containment then criminalises cat ownership.</p> <p>A number of councils continue to report wandering cat issues despite longstanding mandated night cat curfews such as Horsham (introduced in 1995), Geelong</p>			

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	<p>(introduced in 2009) and Greater Bendigo (introduced in 2004) (Horsham Council 2021, Geelong 2021, Bendigo 2016 & 2021).</p> <p>Greater Bendigo Council introduced a night cat curfew in 2004. Despite this, cat impoundments and cat euthanasia increased from 2014/15 to 2020/21, at a higher rate than the resident population increase.</p> <p>Greater Bendigo Council data</p> <table> <tr> <th>Measure</th><th>2014/15</th><th>2020/21</th><th>Difference</th><th>% Change</th></tr> <tr> <td>Resident population</td><td>109,908</td><td>121,221</td><td>+11, 313</td><td>^ 10.29%</td></tr> <tr> <td>Cats impounded</td><td>1131</td><td>1348</td><td>+217</td><td>^ 19.18 %</td></tr> <tr> <td>Cats euthanased</td><td>367</td><td>516</td><td>+149</td><td>^ 40.59 %</td></tr> </table> <p>Do domestic cats in urban areas have an impact on wildlife populations?</p> <p>Wildlife protection is an argument often proposed as a reason for mandated cat containment, critically however, there is no evidence that domestic cats in urban areas negatively impact native wildlife populations. Nor is there any evidence that cat restrictions in urban areas benefit wildlife populations.</p> <p>An ongoing issue is that feral cat impacts are often wrongly attributed to domestic cats, even though they are two very distinct populations with different behaviour and ecology.</p> <p>The impact of feral cats on native wildlife in natural environments is well-documented. Surprisingly however, and contrary to popular belief, there is actually no scientific evidence demonstrating population viability or conservation impacts at a population level on Australian wildlife by domestic cats living around people.</p> <p>Despite this lack of evidence, domestic cats in Australia still receive significant blame for negative impacts on native wildlife populations. Multiple Australian studies have been unable to detect a measurable impact in urban areas of domestic cats on native mammals (MacLagan 2018, Liliith 2010), or birds (Grayson 2007), but found that vegetation quality, housing density, distance from bushland and size of bushland were significant factors. Other studies demonstrate the positive impact cat predation has by reducing the numbers of rats that predate bird nests (Matthews 1999). Very importantly, domestic cats that are obtaining food intentionally or unintentionally from humans predate significantly fewer animals than feral cats which have to hunt to supply all their nutritional needs (Murphy 2019, Woinarski 2017).</p> <p>False blame for native wildlife impacts directed at domestic cats living in the vicinity of people is very dangerous and harmful because it is used as a justification for the use of lethal control methods for domestic cats. This perpetuates the unnecessary killing of healthy cats and kittens, and associated severe mental health damage to community residents, council pound, animal shelter and veterinary staff caused by the killing of healthy cats and kittens. This false blame can also be used as a justification for cruelty towards cats, increasing pain and suffering. Given it has never been proven that the presence of cats, living in the vicinity of people, has any impact on wildlife populations, communities and governments should not assume that just because cats are present it means they are having wildlife population impacts.</p> <p>Summary</p> <p>It is imperative that domestic cat regulations are evidence-based reflecting the available science to ensure they are effective and humane. Mandated cat containment (such as proposed by Sunshine Coast Council) should be rejected because it is not an effective strategy for reducing wandering cats or associated issues such as nuisance complaints or potential native wildlife predation. In addition, mandated cat containment has unintended negative consequences including causing devastating psychological harm to staff and community residents associated with the euthanasia of healthy cats and kittens, and preventing resolution of the wandering cat issue by creating a barrier to semi-owners taking full ownership of the stray cat they are feeding (the key solution to resolving the wandering cat issue). Furthermore, mandated cat containment is not a feasible strategy because it is essentially unenforceable. Instead of ineffective mandated cat containment, evidence-based solutions which do reduce the number of wandering cats including proactive Community Cat Programs and Bed-time feeding, which are non-lethal and humane, and do not cause psychological harm to people, should be implemented urgently.</p> <p>Please contact the Australian Pet Welfare Foundation (APWF) if you would like to discuss these important issues further, including how to effectively reduce roaming cats and associated issues such as nuisance complaints and potential native wildlife predation.</p> <p>Thank you</p> <p>Australian Pet Welfare Foundation</p>	Measure	2014/15	2020/21	Difference	% Change	Resident population	109,908	121,221	+11, 313	^ 10.29%	Cats impounded	1131	1348	+217	^ 19.18 %	Cats euthanased	367	516	+149	^ 40.59 %			
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SCHEDULE 5 - EXCLUSION OF ANIMALS FROM SPECIFIC PLACES																								
Eleanor Shipley Park, Moffat Beach - Map 2.5.13																								
	Nil Submissions	N/A		No change to proposed local law amendment.																				
Sunshine Coast Stadium - Map 2.5.15																								

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Maleny Showground - Map 2.5.16				
	<p>OFFICER COMMENTS:</p> <p>Officers propose to amend the Maleny Showground maps to include an extra Dog off leash area in the Equine zone. Consideration has been given to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> submissions received during the community consultation phase feedback on complaints received regarding dog waste issues and dog attacks on children participating in activities on the sports fields from the Maleny Show Society who manage the Showgrounds on behalf of Council Council's Management Plan for Domestic Animals (Cats and Dogs) 2021-2030 Council's Maleny Sport and Recreation Master Plan 2016 – 2031 <p>In line with Council's endorsed Management Plan for Domestic Animals (Cats and Dogs) 2021-2030, Council is committed to providing safe and harmonious co-existence between people, pets, and places for the whole community. This can only be achieved by balancing the needs for available animal exercise spaces with areas that are also pet free ensuring a balanced approach to the needs of pet owners and non-pet owners alike.</p> <p>As the community has grown and evolved over the past few years, the pressure on public spaces continues to provide challenges in ensuring they can be shared safely by the community.</p> <p>Council's endorsed Maleny Sport and Recreation Master Plan 2016 – 2031, determines the most appropriate levels and usage for the Maleny Showgrounds, and future requirements for facilities and infrastructure consistent with the needs of the community and wider region. Recommendations specific to dog off leash areas include a recommendation to investigate future opportunities within the Maleny Community Precinct for such activities. Council continues to actively investigate suitable alternatives for a dog-off-leash area within the Maleny Community Precinct. Whilst it would have been ideal to have an alternate off-leash area in place prior to the proposed amendments, the safety risks presented to children utilising the sports fields necessitates the need to prohibit dogs to from certain areas within the Showgrounds.</p> <p>After careful consideration, and to ensure adequate space for off leash activities remains a viable proposition, officers propose amendments to Maps 2.5.16 and 2.6.29 (Maleny Showgrounds) to include another larger dog off leash area within the Equestrian zone to be shared used and dog off leash available only when equine activities are not taking place. Equine activities are usually limited to the weekend.</p>			Change the amendment to include new map. See proposed amended maps attached.
17	I have lived in Maleny for the past 9 years and have been complaining to Council about the dog owners who choose to disregard the law and insist that they can let their dogs run free, off leash, in public places. I live in XXXXXXXXXXXX and use the Maleny Trail regularly to walk into town which is a favorite walk for dog owners and their dogs. There is also a lot of vacant land, so the dogs are allowed to run free. I have been 'jumped' by dogs and don't even get so much as sorry. I have also complained about the people that don't bother cleaning up their dogs' droppings. There are signs at each end of the trail stating that dogs must be on a leash at all times, but these are ignored. Please include a dog off leash in Maleny, which is badly needed.	Disagree	See above officer comments	See proposed amended maps attached.
18	Agree with update of map for exclusion of dogs from specific public places, including in areas to be designated within the Maleny Show Grounds.	Agree	See above officer comments	See proposed amended maps attached.
19	Proposed off leash area in Maleny Showgrounds doesn't give enough space. The current model works fine. I have been a long-term resident, involved with the soccer club, tennis club, cricket club as well as helping at the show grounds. Most dog owners are responsible picking up after their dogs.	Disagree	See above officer comments	See proposed amended maps attached.
20	My submission relates to legislation to change the current leash free area at the Maleny showgrounds. Council is wanting to change the current off leash area to a much smaller area near the cattle pavilion. The reason for disagreeing with the proposal is that the cattle pavilion is way to small to accommodate the amount of dogs that usually turn up to play. Our dogs are always well behaved due to the large space they have to exercise in and if that space is reduced to the proposed site I fear there will be far to many dogs for the tiny space. This could lead to dogs fighting due to cramped conditions. Add in that the caravan park is dog friendly I anticipate that overcrowding will become a huge problem creating unrest between dog owners. Please reconsider this proposal and maintain harmony in our community	Disagree	See above officer comments	See proposed amended maps attached.
21	We rely on the current off leash dog area at the showgrounds to ensure the health and wellbeing of our dogs. We take them to this area regularly so they and I can socialise with other dogs and their owners. I have a disability and have purchased an electric wheelchair recently, so I can use this area comfortably and participate more with my dogs rather than rely on my husband to walk them on the lead. Reducing this area will mean we will be limited to a tiny space and I would not be comfortable with so many dogs in a smaller area. My husband always ensures the any mess made by our dogs is cleaned up and put in the bins and will alert any other user of the facility to do this also. I do not see any necessity to reduce the size of this area as there are no other off leash areas available within our township. Please do not reduce my ability to interact with others by reducing this space.	Disagree	See above officer comments	See proposed amended maps attached.

LOCAL LAW REVIEW - ATTACHMENT 1 - DETAILED SUBMISSIONS (COMMUNITY CONSULTATION)				
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22	<p>The proposed dog off leash area in the Maleny Showgrounds is unsuitable for a number of reasons:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Too small for the many dogs that live in Maleny and the caravan owner's dogs that come and go regularly • The area is alongside a busy main road with high traffic • Unsuitable for big dogs to run and chase a ball without running into people causing injuries <p>A more suitable area would be the rear paddock near the horse arena which the horse people are happy to share. It is much bigger, away from the main road and traffic, and easy to fence</p> <p>The rear paddock is unused and vacant most of the time</p>	Disagree	See above officer comments	See proposed amended maps attached.
23	<p>As a Maleny home owner and dog owner I absolutely do not support the changes in the 'off leash' dog area in the Maleny showgrounds. Maleny is a wonderful vibrant town which is well known for its treatment and respect of dogs - many shops welcome dogs - there are numerous dog bowls filled with water throughout the main streets of Maleny. People come here 'with their dogs' because they know they are welcome. One of the most endearing aspects of our town is the Showground's unique and safe 'off leash' dog areas.</p> <p>Everyone can bring their dogs, big or little to the showgrounds and expect a fun and safe experience. The proposed new 'off leash' area at the entrance of the Showgrounds has not been adequately thought through. The space is too small and cannot accommodate small and big dogs safely. It is also close to a busy road as well as the road that runs through the Showgrounds. I do not understand why council is considering this huge change in Maleny's identity without trying some cheaper alternatives first. I believe that a few people have complained about the odd missed dog-doo and this has compelled council to 'take action'. Please consider that we as Maleny residents who rely on the Showgrounds as a safe place to run our working dogs, always pick up after our dogs and also pick up 'missed events' if we come across them which is rarely. A few council signs throughout the showgrounds asking people to 'pick up after their dogs' would be a nicer place to start. Please don't let the loud bullying voices of a few ruin what is a fantastic experience for so many. Give this more time and more thought. There is a much better compromise to be found.</p>	Disagree	See above officer comments	See proposed amended maps attached.
24	<p>I object to the changes to the present off leash areas in the Maleny Showgrounds as I think they are not in the Community Interest at large.</p> <p>I have been a daily user of the Maleny Showgrounds for exercising and training my dog for over 3 years.</p> <p>The community of Maleny is growing and is very much a dog friendly town.</p> <p>The Showgrounds is used by a large number of locals, daily visitors (tourists) and camping/ caravan owners to exercise their animals, and this number will only increase with the growth of the Sunshine Coast and tourism.</p> <p>I believe that the proposed area near the Cattle/former SES shed is far too small for the number of people and their dogs who would be using it.</p> <p>If this proposal goes ahead this would be the ONLY off lead area in all of Maleny.</p> <p>The Showground is a wonderful environment in which to train dogs. Dogs need to be taught off-lead, recall, wait, stay skills and the valuable socialisation skills to become well behaved and well-trained companions and the Showgrounds are quite unique and special with the various areas available now. I have taught my dog by being able to walk long distances around the paddocks with her off lead and not become distracted. A smaller proposed area with 30 or more dogs present this is not going to be possible.</p> <p>It is not necessary for Maleny to become "citified" with only a small off lead area being available to a growing town, when we have an existing community asset that works wonderfully.</p> <p>I fear that the small area situated at the front gate to the grounds will also create problems due to its location being near a busy road and a gate that is always left open due to human nature and large gaps under the metal fence.</p> <p>If all dogs are lumped together big and small, larger dogs won't have the space to run and chase as they do now.</p> <p>Small dogs and timid dogs will not want to be in same area and incidents may occur that don't happen now.</p> <p>Another concern is spread of disease when so many animals are in one space and many casual visitors.</p> <p>xxxxxx has indicated that he is supportive of no changes to off lead area in the Showgrounds.</p> <p>A Pony/ Horse Club representative came to a meeting last week in the Horse Paddock and has indicated on behalf of their members that they are happy to co-exist and continue to share this paddock, and the dog owners are always respectful when they have their monthly pony club meet, other events or horses are loose in the paddock (which is quite infrequent).</p> <p>Perhaps some more prominent signage regarding the playing fields, auto lock gate latches and some mesh added onto existing fence rails to prevent the dogs running onto the playing field would provide a better solution for a larger safe area for the dogs?</p> <p>Lastly the physical and mental health benefits for the dog owners provided by exercise and social contact is a very important Community benefit. There are disabled and</p>	Disagree	See above officer comments	See proposed amended maps attached.

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	elderly people who come daily with their pets and it is wonderful and quite unique to be able to roam these beautiful fields as it is now.			
25	Allow dogs off leash in all most areas of Showground	Disagree	See above officer comments	See proposed amended maps attached.
26	This is a much needed and important meeting place for friendly, well- behaved dogs in Maleny and surrounds. I have taken my dog there many times and there has been no trouble between dogs and the horses. Dogs need an area to meet and socialise and this field is perfect as it provides enough space for everyone.	Disagree	See above officer comments	See proposed amended maps attached.
27	The space is too small for all of the dogs (big and small dogs) It is too close to the road Inadequate parking Inadequate shade and cover	Disagree	See above officer comments	See proposed amended maps attached.
28	Area proposed is far too small and does not allow separation of large and small dogs. Dog owners use the Showgrounds more frequently than horse owners or users of the sports fields but are treated as pariahs. A few dog owners don't pick up dog poo. Don't punish the overwhelming number of responsible dog owners. If the poo is a problem, focus efforts on identifying and fining the irresponsible dog owners.	Disagree	See above officer comments	See proposed amended maps attached.
29	The area outlined in the proposed amendment is too small. The area most used now is the far eastern side of the showgrounds east & north of the horse arena and should be continued. Animals should be leashed/restrained along the roads or paths on the showgrounds, but the area designated as pedestrian thoroughfare in the amendments is a nonsense and only serves to make the amendments look foolish. The have your say process is deficient in not having the facility to attach a map or file expressing a submission's point.	Disagree	See above officer comments	See proposed amended maps attached.
30	Let's keep our off-leash area. As a rate payer and long-time resident of Maleny and a responsible dog owner, I believe we should be allowed to exercise our dogs at the showground.	Disagree	See above officer comments	See proposed amended maps attached.
31	I am a registered dog owner who lives in Maleny and uses the subject facility. I have just heard about the proposal, and feel I had a right to receive an email about this matter, rather than a chance hearing by word of mouth just before closure of submissions. How many other dog-owners have not been made aware of this proposal? The council has all of my contact details, and could have easily made contact. Maleny is a very dog-friendly town and the showgrounds provide a wonderful opportunity for dogs and people to meet and play. It is well utilised (unlike Beerwah), and the folk involved are conscientious about picking-up after their dogs. I have never heard of the council prosecuting a dog-owner who failed to pick up. Such a prosecution would have a strong effect on anyone failing to do the right thing. There are a number of dog-bag dispensers at places in the showgrounds. These dispensers are nearly always empty, despite many requests to have bags put in them. This, too, would have a good effect on maintaining the cleanliness of the grounds. The council is unseen on these matters. Council, please lift your game! One wonders what the dog-owner gets for paying the annual fee (seemingly nothing). I am writing to ask that the SCRC abandons the proposal, and instead acts to foster healthy enjoyment of the Showgrounds by a large number of people and dogs (Please remember that, after all, they are man's best friends!)	Disagree	See above officer comments	See proposed amended maps attached.
32	The rear paddock at the Maleny showgrounds should remain available to the community as a whole when no pony club use is using it. This area should remain as a dog off leash area. It would be helpful to have better signage regarding rules for the off-leash area and a gate to help contain the area. Dog owners are very responsible people. Dog owners pick up and dispose of their pets droppings responsibly. Dogs need to socialise with others of different breeds and sizes in a safe environment. Many of these breeds of dogs need to be able to run in open spaces. The rear paddock at the Maleny showgrounds is very under-utilised by the pony club. The rear paddock at the Maleny showgrounds should remain available to the community as a whole when no pony club use is using it. The area proposed by Sunshine Coast Regional Council next to the SES shed is far too small for dog exercising and is unsuitable for a dog park.	Disagree	See above officer comments	See proposed amended maps attached.
33	The rear paddock at the Maleny showgrounds should remain available to the community as a whole when no pony club use is using it. This area should remain as a dog off lease area. It would be helpful to have better signage regarding rules for the off-leash area and a gate to help contain the area.	Disagree	See above officer comments	See proposed amended maps attached.

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	<p>The area proposed by Sunshine Coast Regional Council next to the SES shed is far too small for dog exercising and is unsuitable for a dog park.</p> <p>This proposed area would not allow open space running for pets especially large breeds who need to be able to run</p> <p>The area next to the SES shed is also next to a busy road and the vehicle noise may scare some dogs.</p> <p>The current off lead status at the Maleny showgrounds should remain as it is.</p>			
34	<p>This needs to remain as is.</p> <p>It is a vital asset for all the community not just the dogs.</p>	Disagree	See above officer comments	See proposed amended maps attached.
35	<p>The reason given for the proposed amendment is "To update maps for exclusion of dogs from specific public places.....and Maleny Show Grounds." This does not appear to be a "reason", but rather the intention.</p> <p>As a dog owner living within walking distance of the Maleny Show Grounds the ability to walk my dog twice each day in this wonderful public amenity and to allow him controlled off-leash times during each walk is essential for his well-being.</p> <p>I wish to place on record my strong support for leaving the existing Local Law No. 2 (Animal Management) 2011 Schedule 5 as it is and without amendment.</p> <p>Any proposal to create an alternative Off-leash area in the Precinct, North Maleny will require all dog owners to drive their dogs to this area increasing the traffic in a Maleny which is already suffering from traffic congestion.</p>	Disagree	See above officer comments	See proposed amended maps attached.
36	<p>Relating to proposed changes to dog off leash areas at Maleny Showgrounds. I fully support the new proposed areas for dogs. A Showgrounds is not the place for dogs off leash especially at Maleny as there are some many users, campers, general public parking, walking paths and events. It is at times extremely difficult to deal with all users so that everyone is happy, and as a xxxxxx I have first-hand knowledge of the difficulties we have had over years and years with dogs mixing with users of the grounds. It is not viable any longer to have the entire grounds off leash, and we have spent many years trying to educate people and it simply has not worked. The precinct is the perfect place for an off-leash area.</p> <p>Strongly agree - The show society committee are the best people to make this decision and have had significant input to the council regarding this proposal.</p>	Agree	See above officer comments	See proposed amended maps attached.
37	<p>This is an extremely popular area for the community of Maleny to being their dogs to socialise off leash. This area provides enough room for multiple dogs to run and exercise where they would otherwise not be able to if this area becomes restricted. I do not agree with the proposed changes as the current system works, and changing it would only restrict the areas within Maleny that we (dog owners) can let their pet run free and exercise. This proposed change to law will only bring about community dispute and loss of faith in our local council.</p>	Disagree	See above officer comments	See proposed amended maps attached.
38	<p>The proposed off-leash area for dogs is too small to prevent aggressive behavior incidents as new dogs enter.</p> <p>It does not allow for small dogs and puppies to run and play away from bigger, rougher dogs.</p> <p>It has no water and no shade for dogs and owners.</p> <p>This proposal is coming out of the blue, before the long-promised off-leash area is made available in the Maleny Precinct or elsewhere.</p>	Disagree	See above officer comments	See proposed amended maps attached.
39	<p>Proposed area is far too small. Percentage of dog owners must be quite high in this area. Why are you discriminated against us.</p> <p>The horse community are happy to share their area with us.</p>	Disagree	See above officer comments	See proposed amended maps attached.
40	<p>I have been a regular user of the Showgrounds to walk my various dogs for over 20 years and believe that it is a wonderful social gathering place for both dogs and owners.</p> <p>I would be very disappointed to see this change.</p>	Disagree	See above officer comments	See proposed amended maps attached.
41	<p>I object to the changes to the present off leash areas in the Maleny Showgrounds as I think they are not in the Community Interest at large.</p> <p>I have been a daily user of the Maleny Showgrounds for exercising and training my dog for over 3 years.</p> <p>The community of Maleny is growing and is very much a dog friendly town.</p> <p>The Showgrounds is used by a large number of locals, daily visitors (tourists) and camping/ caravan owners to exercise their animals, and this number will only increase with the growth of the Sunshine Coast and tourism.</p> <p>I believe that the proposed area near the Cattle/former SES shed is far too small for the number of people and their dogs who would be using it.</p> <p>If this proposal goes ahead this would be the ONLY off lead area in all of Maleny.</p> <p>The Showground is a wonderful environment in which to train dogs. Dogs need to be taught off-lead, recall, wait, stay skills and the valuable socialisation skills to become well behaved and well trained companions and the Showgrounds are quite unique and special with the various areas available now. I have taught my dog by being able to walk long distances around the paddocks with her off lead and not become distracted. A smaller proposed area with 30 or more dogs present this is not going to be possible.</p>	Disagree	See above officer comments	See proposed amended maps attached.

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	<p>It is not necessary for Maleny to become “citified” with only a small off lead area being available to a growing town, when we have an existing community asset that works wonderfully.</p> <p>I fear that the small area situated at the front gate to the grounds will also create problems due to its location being near a busy road and a gate that is always left open due to human nature and large gaps under the metal fence.</p> <p>If all dogs are lumped together big and small, larger dogs won’t have the space to run and chase as they do now.</p> <p>Small dogs and timid dogs will not want to be in same area and incidents may occur that don’t happen now.</p> <p>Another concern is spread of disease when so many animals are in one space and many casual visitors.</p> <p>xxxxxxx has indicated that he is supportive of no changes to off lead area in the Showgrounds.</p> <p>A Pony/ Horse Club representative came to a meeting last week in the Horse Paddock and has indicated on behalf of their members that they are happy to co-exist and continue to share this paddock, and the dog owners are always respectful when they have their monthly pony club meet, other events or horses are loose in the paddock (which is quite infrequent).</p> <p>Perhaps some more prominent signage regarding the playing fields, auto lock gate latches and some mesh added onto existing fence rails to prevent the dogs running onto the playing field would provide a better solution for a larger safe area for the dogs?</p> <p>Lastly the physical and mental health benefits for the dog owners provided by exercise and social contact is a very important Community benefit. There are disabled and elderly people who come daily with their pets and it is wonderful and quite unique to be able to roam these beautiful fields as it is now.</p>			
42	<p>The rear paddock at the Maleny showgrounds should remain available to the community as a whole when no pony club use is using it. This area should remain as a dog off lease area.</p> <p>It would be helpful to have better signage regarding rules for the off leash area and a gate to help contain the area.</p> <p>The area proposed by Sunshine Coast Regional Council next to the SES shed is far too small for dog exercising and is unsuitable for a dog park.</p> <p>This proposed area would not allow open space running for pets especially large breeds who need to be able to run</p> <p>The area next to the SES shed is also next to a busy road and the vehicle noise may scare some dogs.</p> <p>The current off lead status at the Maleny showgrounds should remain as it is.</p>	Disagree	See above officer comments	See proposed amended maps attached.
43	<p>I regularly take my dog to the Showgrounds and use the area where the horse outdoor arena is. This area is used as a dog off leash area by a large number of dog owners both from the local community and from the people camping at the Showgrounds.</p> <p>This is the only dog off leash area in Maleny.</p> <p>As far as I am aware, xxxxxxx, the xxxxxxx and the regular dog owners were not consulted about the proposed change before it was put to Council.</p> <p>I could not find any information on the Council website about why this change is being proposed or who in the community was consulted. It is therefore difficult to provide comments on the proposal as it is unclear what the Council is trying to achieve.</p> <p>I therefore offer the following observations in support of my objection.</p> <p>The area proposed is close to the road into Maleny and therefore would need to be fenced.</p> <p>It is also in an area which is used by campers particularly at busy times like Christmas and Australia Day.</p> <p>I believe that it is totally unreasonable to limit the dog off leash area to such a small part of the Showgrounds. There would not be room for all the dogs who currently come to the Showgrounds to fit into such a small area.</p> <p>Given that there could be a large number of dogs in a small area the potential for dog fights will increase. At the moment dogs are able to range across a wide area in outdoor horse area.</p> <p>As is seen in other limited area dog off leash areas, the grass would be unable to cope with the number of dogs and therefore the area would become denuded and thus a dust or mud bowl.</p> <p>Such a small area would not give dogs the opportunity to get a big run. Many of the owners currently using the outdoor horse area area use ball throwers. The area proposed would not be large enough to allow the use of such items and therefore the dogs would not get the run they get now.</p> <p>I trust that the Council will consider these factors and not make this proposed change to the local law.</p>	Disagree	See above officer comments	See proposed amended maps attached.
44	<p>The current arrangements work well, and it is not clear what is driving the proposed change. Many locals use the Showgrounds for exercising their dogs, as do those</p>	Disagree	See above officer comments	See proposed amended maps attached.

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	<p>camping at the Showgrounds, so the change will affect numerous people and their pets. The benefit of the proposed change is unclear.</p> <p>The proposed change would result in:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - dogs off leash being restricted to a small area for dogs to run in - and larger dogs in particular need plenty of room to run - dogs being off leash much closer to traffic than currently necessary <p>Currently, the area allocated to the pony club is used for many owners for running their dogs when there are no horses. This is a safe, large area and this arrangement has worked well. There does not seem a need for change from this arrangement.</p>			
45	<p>I strongly object to the proposal to amend current rules which allow off-leash dog-walking in the generality of the Maleny Showgrounds. The proposed, restricted area is much too small and is no substitute at all.</p> <p>As a responsible dog-owner, who always cleans up litter and walks my dogs every day in the showgrounds, I can attest that during Monday to Friday day-time, and weekends when sports matches are not on or the Equestrian oval is not being used, the grounds are largely empty except for other dog-owners like myself. The dogs just love the freedom of having large spaces to exercise in off-leash. This is a huge benefit not only to the many Maleny-resident dog owners, but also to the many visitors to Maleny who come for the day or stay longer - often in the showgrounds themselves. I have had quite a few such visitors comment very favourably on this dog-friendly amenity.</p> <p>A small area is NO substitute. I can not agree that there is any serious issue with dogs or dog-owners that would require a change to the current and long-standing situation. It is rare in my experience for dog-owners to be irresponsible. Of course it can happen; and I deplore them as much as I deplore anything. But you are using a hammer to crack a pea.</p> <p>There is NO other public off-leash dog area in Maleny that would in any way be suitable. I strongly request that any proposed changes NOT go ahead.</p>	Disagree	See above officer comments	See proposed amended maps attached.
46	<p>As a daily user of the Maleny Showgrounds with our dogs, my observation is that dog walkers are by far the most numerous users. Most days they are the only people using it other than internal facilities not impacted by dogs such as Arts and Crafts, Croquet lawns, gym. The benefits experienced by dog walkers in the Showgrounds are huge, mainly social, but also mental health improvements, exercise, reinforcing community bonds etc. Maleny has no other off leash areas which, for an area with so many dog owners, is unacceptable.</p>	Disagree	See above officer comments	See proposed amended maps attached.
47	<p>I am appalled that the council are proposing these changes without discussion with the public or even xxxxxx. They are apparently was unaware of these proposed changes despite being the president of the Maleny Show Society! You people in the council should be ashamed of yourselves.</p> <p>There is absolutely no reason why the show grounds (SG) should not remain off leash.</p> <p>There is a very large and diverse community who currently use the SG for social interaction and to exercise their dogs, the smaller proposed area is just not big enough.</p> <p>The dog owners who use it regularly are extremely responsible. They watch the dogs and always pick up after them.</p> <p>It is a complete waste of the area if it is left just for the use of horses, the dogs are there far more often than the horses. In fact it is very rare to see a horse anywhere other than in the undercover arena. The horse groups are entirely happy with the dog owners using the area, the majority of them being dog owners themselves.</p> <p>The proposed area is very small, certainly not big enough for big dogs to exercise properly, it would have to be fenced properly and, from my understanding, the cattle people who use it during showtime would not allow for a proper dog fence. This would mean dogs could easily run out into the busy road.</p> <p>The noise from the busy road could also be a problem for sensitive dogs or elderly people with hearing difficulties.</p> <p>I believe that if the dogs need to be contained to one area then a dog proof fence should be put up around the whole of the horse area with a latching gate so that it cannot be left open. The horse community are in agreement with this.</p> <p>It is a safe place where dogs can be socialised.</p> <p>While I understand the need to keep dogs off the sports grounds, there are a great many people are extremely concerned regarding these changes and I am quite sure we can come up with a much better solution.</p>	Disagree	See above officer comments	See proposed amended maps attached.
48	<p>Dog Owners of Maleny is already a strong group. They can be found on Facebook. The group is supportive of the whole community and provides support towards the wellbeing of everyone, not just the dogs.</p>	Disagree	See above officer comments	See proposed amended maps attached.
49	<p>As a person who lives on the boundary of the showgrounds I am often frustrated at the noise and dangers created by dog walkers at the horse paddock. Quite often dogs are allowed to bark for extended periods, off leash dogs with no recall by owners and dog excrement left on the ground (or in bags on the ground). I own a reactive / nervous dog and am no longer able to walk her around the showgrounds due to the number of people who allow their off leash dogs to approach us. I have witnessed people allowing their dogs to run onto the sports fields whilst kids are training. I am in full support of a proposed off leash area but feel that a fully fenced and gated enclosure is required, with separate small and larger enclosures. A lot of our older population walk little dogs,</p>	Agree	See above officer comments	See proposed amended maps attached.

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	and these are not generally safe to mix with larger and more energetic dogs. Seating and shade should also be provided and all facilities should be wheelchair accessible to ensure our local population with assistance dogs can use the space.			
50	I agree there should be an enclosed dog park and dogs should be restricted from the playing fields areas of the Showgrounds.	Agree	See above officer comments	See proposed amended maps attached.
51	One of the highlights of the Maleny Showgrounds is its off-leash status. It is a great draw for tourists, and a wonderful benefit for the locals. A friendly community of dog owners meets at the showgrounds in the evening, and because of the generous space currently allowed, there is enough room for all dogs to gather safely over a wide area. Having a small dog park will radically alter all the benefits currently in place. Please refer to currently studies showing how dangerous small dog parks are - they drastically increase diseases and injuries. Also, as I mentioned, the showgrounds are a popular destination BECAUSE of the offleash status of the showgrounds. I can't tell you the number of tourists that I speak to who have come to Maleny specifically because of the off-leash status of the camping area. I strongly disagree with this amendment.	Disagree	See above officer comments	See proposed amended maps attached.
52	<p>I strongly disagree and suggest this will diminish the quality and feel of our beautiful town. We currently have access to a football sized off leash area at eastern side of the show grounds. This is utilized non-stop on a daily basis by many seniors walking their dog offleash. The exercise and natural beauty of the current dog park is the reason it's used and enjoyed - without the threat of being stalked and persecuted by council officers. If you remove this you are effectively making Malenyites life miserable by forcing them to walk dogs on leash in a field. There is no reason to change what works and diminish the Maleny lifestyle in favour of a city like experience.</p> <p>The proposed penned area has the following cons:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. There is no peace and solitude <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1.1 It's surrounded by a noisy main road. 1.2 It's surrounded by a noisy skate park with smokers. 1.3 It's surrounded by noisy caravans/generators. <p>This proposal is essentially putting a dog park in an industrial zone.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 2. Dog exercise - as in the other council dog parks large dogs do not run freely as the parks are too small - they merely walk around and poo. <p>Benefits of leaving the existing off leash area where it is:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Peaceful • Expansive - dogs are not confined and get to experience proper exercise and running • Humans exercise with their dogs • It's tucked away and out of the way - no interference from noisy kids/skate parks/caravans. <p>If it's not broken - DON'T FIX IT! Please leave the Maleny off leash area the way it is!</p>	Disagree	See above officer comments	See proposed amended maps attached.
53	<p>The restriction of dogs (off-leash) to the Evan Evans arena leaves far too small an area for proper dog exercise. Currently there are dog owners who exercise their dogs east of the equestrian centre using a ball thrower. The dogs will run the full length of that area chasing the ball. The Evan Evans arena is around half that size.</p> <p>I believe this restriction will ultimately make dog owners choose to take their dogs elsewhere, probably to the Maleny Precinct and Wetlands where off-leash dogs are already a problem.</p> <p>Also, it seems to me that there is no reason at all for changing the off-leash status of that eastern end of the showgrounds. It's long-established use for off-leash exercise doesn't interfere with any other users that I am aware of.</p>	Disagree	See above officer comments	See proposed amended maps attached.
54	Dog leash requirements at Maleny showgrounds. I agree. Dogs are constantly on playing fields with clean up dubious. Also, some dogs are dropped off at gates and allowed to run along with moving vehicle. Dogs off leash should be restricted, but council will also need to police the rules or they will be ignored as they are currently on precinct and boardwalk.	Agree	See above officer comments	See proposed amended maps attached.
55	<p>PROS:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. the pedestrian area on leash may prevent both owner and dog from being run over by speeding cars entering the Showgrounds, being a 10k zone, and for which the show society have stated in writing they have no control over. <p>CONS;</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. area designated for off leash is extremely small for the number of dogs who currently exercise off leash and socialise at the Showgrounds; 2. not fenced; 3. close to main road; 4. close to skatepark; 5. all other walking trails in Maleny are on leash which will leave a very small area for off leash in Maleny; 6. from the map, an exclusion zone for dogs appears to fall in the area where currently caravans and camping are allowed, if dogs are excluded from that area at all times it may impact on <ol style="list-style-type: none"> (i) revenue for the Showgrounds if people are excluded/restricted with their dogs 	Disagree	See above officer comments	See proposed amended maps attached.

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	<p>(ii) revenue for the town.</p> <p>COMMENTS:</p> <p>It is difficult to delineate the boundaries on map provided and could cause confusion; documentation e.g. Overview of Proposed Local Law Amendments - Reason for Change does NOT give a reason for the change other than the map is changing; there appears to be no good reason for the change; visitors who camp at the Showgrounds often comment how great it is for the dogs to have such a great area to run and chase balls, the designated area is 'postage stamp' size compared to what the dogs are currently allowed; concern for the number of dogs to squash into such a small area, there will be balls being thrown all over the place then conflict will arise when other dogs run for the ball, complete mayhem; younger (3 months to about 2years old) dogs tend to be very rambunctious and want to play with any dog, however a number of smaller dogs and older dogs do not have the patients around the younger dogs and end up snarling at each other and getting frustrated, which is not a pleasant atmosphere for both owner and dogs and the area designated does not allow for the separations; I do not have the current number of dogs in Maleny and unfortunate the time frame for a response prohibits an FOI application, however from my observations both in the morning and afternoons there are a large number of dogs (and owners) who are going to be affected by these changes and wonder if these statistics were considered when drafting the changes.</p> <p>CONCLUSION:</p> <p>There does not appear to be any good reason as to why this proposed change has come about. For dogs to go from the freedom they currently have to run, chase balls and play with other dogs, to the small area that is proposed would, to me, feel like I was being caged. To congregate so many different sizes, types and temperaments of dogs in such a small area, I believe is a recipe for disaster. Surely some other alternative could be considered. The area down the bottom of the Showgrounds has a larger open space and yes I'm aware that the horses use that space but it is infrequent compared to the daily walking of the dogs. Have both the proposed designated space available as well as the bottom area available and when the horses are going to be using the space, lock the gate at the bottom to indicate horses about. If a reason was given as to why this amendment has been proposed it may be easier to accept but with no reason it seems a mindless decision. Thank you for to opportunity to comment.</p>			
56	<p>I object to the changes to the present off leash areas in the Maleny Show Grounds as I do think they are not in the community interests at large.</p> <p>I have been in Maleny for thirty years and have used the Show Grounds for excising and training my pets. The population of Maleny has increased and is very much a dog friendly town. The Show Grounds is used by a large number of caravan people and locals to exercise their animals as there is no other place for them to do this.</p> <p>The proposed area would not allow open space for running for pets especially for larger dogs of which there are many. If there is no other "off lead" in Maleny Show Ground a large number of dogs all in this area together will be paramount to disease.... ie Parvovirus etc.</p> <p>We have a unique place in Maleny which is wonderful for our mental health, and exercise for dog owners, we do not want to be fenced in like city folk.</p>	Disagree	See above officer comments	See proposed amended maps attached.
57	<p>The current area utilised for off lead exercise of many dogs does not and will not interfere with any other use of that area. The current area provides enough space for dogs to run and play unrestricted either together or where separation is preferred or required. The proposed changed area will not provide the same. I am a Maleny resident dog owner and therefore firmly object to proposed change to the current arrangements.</p>	Disagree	See above officer comments	See proposed amended maps attached.
58	<p>I have personally only observed dog owners behaving responsibly whilst using the off-leash areas at the Maleny Showgrounds, both in relation to exercising their dogs well away from areas where horses are present and picking up after their dogs. As in any area, there will always be a small number of people who fail to behave appropriately. I think it unfair to penalise all dogs and owners. The Maleny Showground is a great place to exercise dogs with lots of space and a lovely walking track into town making it easily accessible.</p>	Disagree	See above officer comments	See proposed amended maps attached.
59	<p>Need Dog Off Leash Areas in Maleny please. A great way for the community and their dogs to get out of the house and have a space to unwind.</p>	Disagree	See above officer comments	See proposed amended maps attached.
60	<p>I wish to object to the proposal to change the dog off leash rules in Maleny Showgrounds. As a rate paying, dog registering Maleny local of more than 25 years, I have used this area for many of those years and expect to be able to do so in the future. The proposed area for off leash is singularly unsuitable for the needs of the many law abiding dog owners and visiting campers. The area is far too small and, according to the map, unfenced. This an area right beside the main road, the skate park and very close to the main entrance to the Showgrounds. Many people use this area to walk through from the main road to avoid the traffic at the main entrance, they will not appreciate dogs being loose as they pass through. Furthermore, any dog off leash area should be in keeping with those of other jurisdictions, i.e different areas for small and large dogs and of different energy levels. An under exercised, under socialised dog is not a well balanced animal.</p>	Disagree	See above officer comments	See proposed amended maps attached.
61	<p>I have had so many positive experiences throughout the Maleny show grounds area with my dogs. It's created a really great community that promotes owners to walk around more with dogs rather than going to a small area and sitting. I've had days</p>	Disagree	See above officer comments	See proposed amended maps attached.

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	where I end up walking and talking with people of all ages and this has been promoted by the large off leash space. I hope this is able to continue in the future.			
62	<p>Dog owners in Maleny are responsible people, making sure their dogs are not a threat to the community. They keep the Maleny Show Ground clean, even picking up rubbish left (plastic bottles, wrappers from from candy...) by other people. The bats droppings all over the Maleny Show Grounds are more of a concern to members of the community as well as to the horses. Most dog owners diligently keep their dogs away from the horses or put them on a leash when nearby.</p> <p>This restriction is unnecessary and might result in dogs jumping their own fences, trying to get out of their own backyard in order to get some exercise.</p> <p>That is what dogs do when owners do not let them off leash in safe areas such as the Maleny Show Grounds.</p>	Disagree	See above officer comments	See proposed amended maps attached.
63	Maleny Showgrounds off leash area for dogs to remain off leash. Dog owners of Maleny use this area more than any other group by far. We need to retain it as the only off leash dog exercise area in Maleny.	Disagree	See above officer comments	See proposed amended maps attached.
64	I am opposed to this submission. It will greatly affect my ability to exercise my dogs in the Maleny area. My two dogs are of small energetic breeds that need to run freely (e.g. ball throwing). Losing the off-leash area at the pony club will severely impact on my ability to engage my dogs in healthy exercise, in a negative way. Lack of enough exercise places the dogs at health risk and increases the potential for them to behave in a distressed manner. Many dogs and their owners use the Maleny Pony Club ground to safely exercise and socialise their dogs. We all pick up dog poo and deposit it in the bins provided. Small off-leash dog areas do not work (from bad experience I have had in other areas). They tend to get degraded due to loss of grass from overuse. Also importantly, with many dogs cramped into a small area, it counteracts the ability of dogs to safely socialise and have their own space. Instead, some dogs become defensive and this can lead to fights. I have never witnessed a fight at the Pony Club venue with dogs off leash, because there is plenty of room for everyone. One of the key reasons I chose to relocate to Maleny was the availability of the Maleny Showgrounds off leash area, as currently permitted by SCRC. Taking away this privilege and replacing it with a small dog off-leash area close to a busy road will be very disappointing and a poor outcome for what is otherwise a prized and beautiful area where people and animals can socialise. Dog owners respect the Pony Club wishes and keep their dogs on leash during pony club meets and when horses or ponies are present. Why change what is a happy arrangement? Rather educate people to continue to do the right thing. Clearly signpost what areas of the showgrounds are off-leash and on-leash. Dog owners will respect that and more so if they are consulted in a respectful manner. This submission sets SCRC against dog owners of the Maleny area. It is a bad idea.	Disagree	See above officer comments	See proposed amended maps attached.
65	<p>The new proposed dog off leash area at Maleny Showgrounds is far too small to safely accommodate the number of dogs and their owners who regularly use the current off leash area. There is also the significant number of caravan dwellers who bring their dogs with them and exercise them in the current off leash area.</p> <p>The horse field at the end of the Showgrounds is not used regularly by anyone other than dogs and owners and needs to be considered as an off leash alternative to the inappropriately small new proposed area.</p>	Disagree	See above officer comments	See proposed amended maps attached.
66	I do agree with the proposed amendment however I would like to see included a hefty fine for those who do not clean up public areas after their dogs or who dispose of the plastic bag containing the poo, in the grass or branches of trees. I would like to see more rangers enforcing this.	Agree	See above officer comments	See proposed amended maps attached.
67	The entire showgrounds has been off leash for many years and now we are stuck in one small corner not large enough for a dog to run to chase a ball. This area is not big enough. It is unsafe to mix small and large dogs together in the same area. There are no other areas in Maleny designated off leash. All off leash areas need to be designed with enough space for dogs to chase a ball for at least 30 metres. Dogs need to run!	Disagree	See above officer comments	See proposed amended maps attached.
68	<p>The Maleny showgrounds is a fantastic dog friendly, off leash venue. Restricting the off leash area will have significant impacts on the community and visitors to our community.</p> <p>It is also proven that in smaller, more restricted off leash areas the incidences of negative interactions between dogs goes up as they do not have enough room to avoid or get away from the other dogs.</p> <p>Having a large space to roam provides a safe and positive environment for dogs and their owners to enjoy.</p>	Disagree	See above officer comments	See proposed amended maps attached.
69	Dogs have so few areas they are allowed to play leash free as it is please don't reduce this any more!	Disagree	See above officer comments	See proposed amended maps attached.
70	The proposed dog off leash area at the Maleny Showgrounds is inadequate in terms of size, amenity, shade, parking, and fencing.	Disagree	See above officer comments	See proposed amended maps attached.
71	A dog park is necessary in Maleny however the proposed area in the Maleny Showgrounds is unacceptable. The area is far too small for dogs to exercise in, socialise with other dogs. We need a large area which is safe for all dogs to enjoy	Disagree	See above officer comments	See proposed amended maps attached.

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72	<p>I was distressed to learn of the plans to greatly reduce the "dog off leash" area in the Maleny Showground. So many people use this area to exercise their dogs, to give them the opportunity to meet and play with other dogs.</p> <p>No explanation has been given for this change.</p> <p>The land below the Cattle Shed is no substitute for large dogs and it's far from ideal to have small and large dogs in such a small area beside the adjoining main road.</p> <p>The Precinct arrangement has not yet been delivered. Maleny already has a traffic problem. Ideally we need both the Precinct to the North and the existing Showground space in order that dog owners can access land closest to their homes.</p> <p>Please do not implement this unpopular plan</p>	Disagree	See above officer comments	See proposed amended maps attached.
73	<p>-concern over the new designated site area and the amount of usage the dog park which is high. Will the amount of dogs comfortably fit in the new area?</p> <p>- it is unfenced and close to the road which are concerns for dog safety. Will it be safe?</p> <p>-the oval in the equestrian area where dogs are currently walked is not often used by equestrian users at the high traffic times, eg 5-7pm and 6-8am. Why exactly does the site need to be moved? Community consultation and understanding of reasoning would be helpful.</p>	Disagree	See above officer comments	See proposed amended maps attached.
74	<p>The Maleny Showground (inc Maleny Pony Club area) has been a great off leash area for dogs. This must remain. Smaller fenced areas can promote aggressive and territorial behaviour in some dogs, and limits the exercise potential for dogs. Having a broad off leash area such as the Showgrounds and Pony club allows high energy dogs to run large distances without being in the way of other dogs and owners, and also allow for dog socialisation when mutually wanted.</p>	Disagree	See above officer comments	See proposed amended maps attached.
75	<p>The showgrounds at Maleny provides a great training and off leash exercise area for dogs and their owners. It is much loved as is and the addition of a new smaller fenced area - whether at the showgrounds or elsewhere - should not remove the option for using the Pony club when it is not in use for horses. A smaller fenced area will not provide the same community benefit, particularly for running working dogs.</p>	Disagree	See above officer comments	See proposed amended maps attached.
76	<p>The Maleny showground has groups of owners, and their dogs, that meet on a daily basis. The number of dogs that are part of this group, creates a requirement of a large space. The use of the horse paddock is where the dogs currently meet, and socialise, as do the dogs' owners. This has been the practise in Maleny for some time, and I have been informed the horse owners, who use the same area, have no objection to the dogs.</p> <p>The area that the dogs will be restricted to, as proposed by the Council, is too small for the requirements of the Maleny users.</p> <p>I ask Council to reconsider the plan to change the dog restrictions at Maleny Showground, and allow the current usage to stay in place.</p>	Disagree	See above officer comments	See proposed amended maps attached.
77	<p>I have been a resident of Maleny for 20 years and over most of that time have been exercising my dogs (two border collies and now, courtesy of my daughter's move to a unit, our 12 year old, very gentle crossbreed) at the Showgrounds a couple of times per week. In that time, I have never witnessed any aggression or any significant failures by owners to control their animals or to pick up waste.</p> <p>My dogs have always enjoyed meeting other dogs but haven't joined the group usually exercising in the area adjacent to the horse arena. We have always walked the perimeter, allowing the dogs to do what they need - sniff as they wished and meet other dogs as they meet. It has been good for them and for us. I have always respected the needs of visiting caravanners and have my dog/s on a lead between the tennis courts and the dairy pavilion.</p> <p>The proposal to pen dogs off lead into the small part of the area adjacent to the dairy pavilion defies understanding and the obvious questions include ...</p> <p>Why? Presumably, there is a reason and, if so, will the "business case"/rationale proposal be publicly available?</p> <p>Have there been complaints from other users around the effects of current dog access arrangements and, if so, what were they and what other options were considered.</p> <p>It is my view that a reasonable compromise (if one is required) would be to ...</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - more explicitly identify the upper oval as dog on leash only to caravanners on site and the main sporting ovals as no dogs (the current signage does not deter either visiting caravanners or some locals from using these areas for off leash activities)). - the perimeter areas of the Showgrounds and the bottom open area be designated off leash except for the perimeter between the tennis courts and the dairy pavilion. Provision could be made for closure of the open bottom area by signage during organised equestrian or other events where it may be required for parking or other community use. <p>Please remember that we in Maleny are a rural community with community values and responsible people. There is no other legal option for dog off leash exercise which doesn't involve multiple dogs of varying sizes and "personalities" running around an area of a couple of tennis courts. We are not living in a standard suburban environment- please pay us the courtesy of respecting our community values, our common sense.</p>		See above officer comments	See proposed amended maps attached.

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78	At the moment the dogs being able to play and run freely at the showgrounds in Maleny is fantastic. The smaller dogs can feel safe with other smaller dogs and the larger dogs play together in another area. All Of the pet owners we meet there when exercising our dog are responsible pet owners and clean up after their pets. This is a very special place and our dog loves his regular playtimes for an hour there. Things are wonderful as it is so I see no reason for the change. We have visited the new dog park at Mapleton and find it is hard to have dogs exercise properly and not safe at times with so many large dogs there. As new home owners here we were so happy to have the Maleny show grounds. Maybe an idea would be to have certain times a day that the dogs could be off lead at the showgrounds.	Disagree	See above officer comments	See proposed amended maps attached.
79	Its fine the way it is. The dogs don't do any damage. The dog owners are very good about cleaning up after the dogs. Its nice and healthy that our pets have big area to run in.	Disagree	See above officer comments	See proposed amended maps attached.
80	Maleny needs a proposed off leash area for dogs! If Landsborough and Beerwah can do it ~ cmon Maleny ~ let's get with the times 🍷🍷	Disagree	See above officer comments	See proposed amended maps attached.
81	The dog law amendment at Maleny Showgrounds. I see no reason why dogs cannot continue to enjoy socialising off or on lead at the Maleny Showgrounds - the park is free at the available times and seems to be a ridiculous suggestion to stop this activity. Please do not change a good activity. Can you provide an alternative solution?	Disagree	See above officer comments	See proposed amended maps attached.
82	As a dog owner in Maleny, I use the Showgrounds regularly to walk my dogs & provide them with an off leash run to stretch their legs. The amended plan shows approximately 95% reduction of the area allowed to do this & the reason provided by the amended reason document "Always include reduced dog off leash area other than during a temporary event, new prohibited dog area other than during a temporary event and new pedestrian thoroughfare dogs on leash at all times" this does not make any sense, can you provide a more detailed reason why the change? While I do however have my dogs on leads around the roadways & the camping/play grounds (agreed sporting ovals should not be off leash areas) this amendment to the plan makes some sense. The use of the east end past the horse arena should remain as off leash, provided signage says "dogs off leash permitted while no horses are present", in my 4+ yrs of living in Maleny I have seldom seen any horses use the area, honestly if 6/7 times, even the huge area is seldomly used. This area is also commonly known & used for its dog meet ups (bonus humans social too) & off leash, furthermore I feel it is utilised more for dogs, than horses. The area is also gated so a simple close of the gate & sign saying no dogs allowed while horses are present seems fairer than the current amended plan. The overall reduction is completely unfair & considered bias with negative community outcomes in my view. I do hope my submission helps with the review of the amended plan. It might also be worth a suggestion to completing an audit of the area to see who the main users of the area are, rather than amend a plan without facts & valid reason. Regards	Disagree	See above officer comments	See proposed amended maps attached.
83	The current arrangements for dogs allowed off leash in the Maleny Showgrounds are appropriate and necessary for this dog-loving small community. If necessary for fenced restriction, it would be ideal if the horse paddock could be fenced and designated for off-leash use, at all times when not being used by the Horse Group. The proposed change to restrict off leash dog play to the tiny paddock near the SES shed is completely unacceptable. It is too close to two very busy roads, it is not safe, it is too small to allow dogs to run freely as they need to for their welfare, it is too small to support some separation of smaller and larger dogs. It is exposed to all weather with the exception of a narrow-roofed area. The local community who use the Showgrounds are responsible and respectful of others.	Disagree	See above officer comments	See proposed amended maps attached.
84	This is a known meeting area for dog trainers and agility training. Dog owners meet every afternoon for a social get together. Many exercise their dogs here. I have taken my dogs to the show grounds for many years, and never encountered an issue. With the total absence of any other large off leash area in Maleny, it seems a very poor decision. While a suitable and accessible dog park has been promised for many years, it has yet to be seen. This seems to be a very knee jerk reaction. All dog owners I meet are very respectful to others, as we understand the value of what we enjoy.	Disagree	See above officer comments	See proposed amended maps attached.
85	Maleny has a very responsible dog owning community. The provision of a large area for dog exercise is well used, respected and supported by myself and many other community members. Reducing dog off leash areas is not necessary and what I consider over reach by the council and blatant "revenue raising". I strongly object to this Local Law Amendment.	Disagree	See above officer comments	See proposed amended maps attached.
86	Dog owners pay rates too and deserve a large area for their dogs to play off-leash and socialise with other dogs. It's good for the whole community to have properly socialised dogs. Various informal groups of dog owners meet daily and or twice daily there. The Maleny Showgrounds off-leash dog area at the bottom of the Showgrounds has been used for decades. The open field is barely used by other Showgrounds users, occasionally the Equestrian Members set-up equipment for training their horses. There are no other suitable off-leash areas in Maleny. The Community Precinct is not suitable for off-leash, due to the pathway being on the perimeter of the golf course, in close proximity to golfers most of the pathway around. Also it's not in the centre of town, so not easily accessible to all, who can walk there from the Main Street. The current off-leash area is an asset and a fantastic social amenity that benefits humans and dogs alike. If necessary, the field is large enough to be split in two and fenced, with a good-	Disagree	See above officer comments	See proposed amended maps attached.

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	sized off-leash area in one half. All the other parks in town are on-leash for practical reasons, and set up for small children, and just not large enough to provide a good off-leash dog area anyway. Please don't take away our off leash area. We will have nowhere to run the family dog.			
87	In regards to the proposed change to Maleny Showgrounds off leash dog area; I was told directly by council and it also states online that registration fees are charged to dog owners to cover the cost of dog parks and dog facilities. So instead of providing a proper dog park that is suitable for large dogs and working dogs (which are popular in a farming community) you decide to take away the only off leash area that has been used since the 1990s and cram them all into a small space, near a busy road, that isn't fully fenced! What a joke! The community needs a proper sized fully fenced dog park. Just as Landsborough and Beerwah have. The proposed change will disadvantage dog owners.	Disagree	See above officer comments	See proposed amended maps attached.
88	This is the only off-leash area in Maleny, and reducing it is not an acceptable option to many people. Enquires made to council as to the reason for the reduction have not produced an answer so I can only assume that there is no reasonable answer. Dogs, like people, require exercise and with the local population increasing reducing the available space is the opposite of what should be happening.	Disagree	See above officer comments	See proposed amended maps attached.
89	Maleny is desperate need of a large fenced off leash dog area suitable for large dogs to run. Do not reduce our space - the town has been screaming out for an area for years. It is what the towns people want and need, so why on earth are you doing the opposite and reducing the size??? This is pure stupidity to reduce the size. We are too far anyway from any other dog park - we can't simply go somewhere else. All area we used to take dogs are now no dog zones. Please stop slowly making it impossible for dog owners to take their animals anywhere. I remind you just how important a dog companion is to elderly and people in rural setting with little or no other social outlets or interactions. Maleny has little to offer socially and its important that the people of maleny have outlets where their best friend can come out of the house too.	Disagree	See above officer comments	See proposed amended maps attached.
90	RECOMMENDATIONS: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Keep off-leash areas at Maleny Showground as they are. Fence the large rear paddock used by the Pony Club paddock to shield dog activity from sporting activity and keep this an off-leash area for dogs when not used by the Pony Club. Council to engage with the dog owner group "Maleny Dog Owners Community" to help manage and monitor the dog exercise areas at Maleny Showground. Clear Signage in collaboration with dog owner group. Liaising between dog owner group "Maleny Dog Owners Community", Maleny Showground Committee and Local Councillor. Dog bags at sufficient locations and stocked, with bins alongside. Encourage education and awareness of dog-owners to supervise the activity of their dogs and usage of the on and off-leash areas at Maleny Showground, in a cooperative and non-combative manner. Benefits of making no changes to Schedule 6 (Dog Off Leash Areas) at Maleny Showgrounds: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Socialising for people and dogs in safe, open space; Physical and Mental Health & Wellbeing – exercise, community connections, nature and fresh air; Not needing to drive distances, reduced travel, reduced traffic and fuel costs to access open space for dogs; Better access and flat terrain for older dog owners or those with disability. DETAILS: <p>My recommendation is to keep Maleny Showground as it is, with the existing off-leash and on-leash areas.</p> <p>I live and work from home 2kms from town in Maleny. I exercise my dogs daily at Maleny Showgrounds and this is the closest large and safe area for dogs to socialise and exercise. I have made social connections I cannot make from home. I can walk easily to Maleny Showgrounds, as do many others in my community.</p> <p>The deep concern through this process is there has been nil direct and positive key stakeholder engagement – with the people who walk their dogs at Maleny Showground.</p> <p>xxxxxx has pinpointed approximately 2 acres of land at the Precinct, North Maleny, for a future dog park, and this will serve that area of town and is a positive move. However, that cannot be seen as a substitute for the existing well-utilised local facility at Maleny Showground which is accessible to all – especially the rear pony club paddock.</p> <p>The rear paddock at Maleny Showground is under-utilised by the pony club. This area should remain available to the community when not in use by the pony club. In a recent discussion with the dog owner group, a pony club representative has confirmed they are agreeable to this.</p> <p>It is a key community benefit to keep Maleny Showground as it is because of the health & wellbeing, and social & community connections it offers -</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> It serves many local residents who aren't able to drive to other larger areas, don't have large yards to exercise their dog and need open space to safely walk their dogs or allow them to run; 	Disagree	See above officer comments	See proposed amended maps attached.

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Many of the dog owners live alone and the existing areas where people meet offer important social connections. This is important to both dogs and dog-owners, many of whom don't get to socialise with other people due to working from home, limited travel options or living alone. <p>Maleny Showground is used by a diverse community, and many residents exercise their dogs of various breeds, both large and small. A smaller, restricted space will not serve existing owners and dogs using Maleny Showground. Most dogs need to be able to run in open spaces. In small spaces, dogs don't safely mix – they need a safe environment.</p> <p>Small spaces also can lead to disease spread.</p> <p>The off-leash area (map 2.6.29) proposed by Sunshine Coast Regional Council next to the Dairy Pavilion at Maleny Showground is unsuitable as the sole dog park and too small for dog exercising. This area would not allow open space running for dogs who need to be able to run longer distances, to chase a ball over a distance, and exercise more than short or restrained walks.</p> <p>This area is next to a busy road, with frequent traffic and noise which can upset some dogs. There is an additional space within Maleny Showground – namely, the rear Pony Club paddock. In this large spaces dogs can be in different sections at the one time and can move away safely from each other. They don't need to be on the lead and dogs will move away from a problem when they can get away. When they can't they are defensive, and problems can arise.</p> <p>Maleny Showground is used by many caravan & camper owners and other visitors to walk their dogs. There needs to be ample spaces for these visitors to walk their dogs safely and maintain distance from other dogs.</p> <p>Maleny Showground is accessible and flat for older residents to visit and walk their dogs regularly.</p> <p>Maleny Showground provides facilities for people (ie. toilet amenities).</p> <p>Dog owners are very responsible people.</p> <p>Dog owners pick up and dispose of their pet's droppings responsibly.</p> <p>The on-leash areas are understandably the sporting fields and facilities where people play, practice, and move around, not wanting to be upset by dog activity or rubbish or droppings.</p> <p>Many dog parks Councils have created are away from community facilities, have little or no grass, often no shade and amenities for people and children's activities. Maleny Showground Pony Club paddock is large, well grassed, has shade in some areas, in walking distance to toilets and carparking, water. If families attend for children's sporting activities, parents or other family members can exercise with their dog nearby.</p> <p>There are so many advantages to keeping Maleny Showground off-leash, dog exercising areas as they are.</p> <p>Maleny Showground is an asset for the whole community, with so many mixed and varied uses.</p>			
91	<p>This works in favour for both off lead and on lead.</p> <p>We need an area for dogs to be able to go off lead and have some space to run. Further, dogs that need to be on lead can be walked anywhere. There is no where in Maleny to walk your dog off lead.</p> <p>Closest off lead dog area is Landsborough.</p>	Disagree	See above officer comments	See proposed amended maps attached.
92	<p>The area proposed is far too small. I am against the proposal.</p>	Disagree	See above officer comments	See proposed amended maps attached.
93	<p>I have used the Maleny Showgrounds to exercise my dog for over six years. In this time I have mostly used the outdoor area where the equestrian facilities are at the back of the Showgrounds. This is a large area used by many dogs and their owners. It has plenty of space for dogs to run as well as for the dogs to spread out if they want to.</p> <p>During this time I have witnessed the dog owners, including myself, self managing behaviours such as controlling excited dogs and picking up poo. Mostly dogs and their owners are well behaved.</p> <p>The proposal to limit the off leash area to a very small area in the front of the Showgrounds will have the following problems</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> it is the area closest to residences and therefore dogs barking may impact on those residents the area is close to where platypus watching often occurs - this requires quiet that may be impacted by dogs barking the area is close to the main road into Maleny so will need to be fenced. This will impact on the use of the area for other purposes the area is within an area used by campers etc at the Showgrounds and will therefore limit its use for this purpose the area is too small for the number of dogs which currently use the Showgrounds. This will lead to the area becoming a dust bowl (or a bog) and increase the likelihood of dog fights. <p>In summary, the proposed changes will greatly impact on the current local and camping dog owners who currently use the Showgrounds to exercise their dogs and socialise with other dog owners. I urge the Council to reconsider this proposed change and suggest that a more realistic area, such as the outdoor equestrian area, be the area for dogs off leash.</p>	Disagree	See above officer comments	See proposed amended maps attached.

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94	<p>These laws need to come into place. The off-lead area in the showgrounds is too large and is a danger to the public, visitors camping and clubs within the showgrounds.</p> <p>There are too many people who let their dogs off-lead with absolutely no recall. I own a dog and hate walking through the showgrounds because of this. I get up before 5am to walk my dog so I can limit my chances of an interaction with an off-lead dog with no recall.</p> <p>I have had an encounter in the showgrounds with a lady who had her dog off-leash with no recall that had run up to mine that was on a leash. I yelled at her to recall her dog and when she did, it ignored her and then she made no effort to rush to get her dog. I have seen her in the showgrounds since and she has continued to have the dog off-leash with no recall.</p> <p>A large fenced off-leash dog park is what is needed in Maleny.</p>	Agree	See above officer comments	See proposed amended maps attached.
95	A pointless amendment to yet again stifle something that brings happiness to dog owners and their dogs in Maleny. People live here to enjoy the freedoms that come with living in a country town and this is one of them.	Disagree	See above officer comments	See proposed amended maps attached.
96	Larger off leash area in Maleny - There are a lot of dogs in Maleny mostly owned by older people and they need to exercise.	Disagree	See above officer comments	See proposed amended maps attached.
97	My dog of ten years died last year, but we loved and relied on Maleny Show Grounds for off leash time, a good run around and socialisation with other dogs and humans. I have made many friends walking around the entire showgrounds with my dog and child. It's a valuable space and I see no benefit in changing it.	Disagree	See above officer comments	See proposed amended maps attached.
98	<p>The open area at the back of Maleny Showgrounds that is currently designated as an off-leash area for dogs is such a fantastic place for dogs to socialise and get exercise. It is used every single day for such purposes, with a lot of dog owners utilising the space. It is used far more frequently for dogs than for horses from the equestrian centre adjacent.</p> <p>I have only ever encountered responsible dog owners there, picking up after their dogs and ensuring they behave appropriately.</p> <p>Instead of not allowing dogs there anymore, I think any concerns can be alleviated by installing some better signage for dog owners. For example, there is a sign up near the 'cattleman's' bar that says dogs aren't allowed on the oval but there are two ovals at the showgrounds, so it's not clear which it refers to. The site for off-leash dogs could use some better signage to ensure owners pick up after their dogs and do not disturb any horses using the area, if these are indeed concerns.</p>	Disagree	See above officer comments	See proposed amended maps attached.
99	Disagree. There are no other off leash places in the area.	Disagree	See above officer comments	See proposed amended maps attached.
100	I would like to propose that the Maleny Show Grounds off leash area for dogs be maintained as it stands. This is an area where dogs and owners can meet in a large open space and run their dogs long distances. The equestrian club is on board with us. They have no objections. We try hard to keep the grass clear of dog farces and leave chairs and buckets of water clear of mowing. Knowing this is a shared area, the dog owners show respect if horses and riders turn up by moving away from horses. The site proposed is far too small, too close the roads in and outside the grounds and will not support the number of dogs who use the Showgrounds as a place of socialising and exercising.	Disagree	See above officer comments	See proposed amended maps attached.
101	<p>Proposed area is far too small for the number of dogs that play at the showgrounds on any given day of the week. It is right next to a skate park, and in particular the busy Stanley River road.</p> <p>The existing area used at present is far more suited, as it is removed from other facilities, apart from the equestrian facility. To my knowledge the equestrian members have no problems with dogs, as long as owners are responsible. It would not be too difficult to separate the two facilities by fencing and install self-closing gates for dogs and owners. I would also suggest and fence to separate large and small dogs.</p>	Disagree	See above officer comments	See proposed amended maps attached.
102	<p>The portion of the Maleny Showgrounds adjacent to the cattle pavilion, which is proposed as the new 'dog off-leash at all times' area, is unsuitable for the following reasons:</p> <p>Many of the dog owners currently using the Maleny Showgrounds to exercise their animals are elderly, myself included. For many, their dog is their sole companion.</p> <p>The social benefit of this daily outing for exercise cannot be overstated, both for owners and animals. The level, mowed paddock adjacent to the Maleny Equestrian Arena is easy to negotiate and is well away from roadways and pedestrian traffic.</p> <p>At a recent meeting of the Maleny Dog Owners Community group, a representative of xxxxxx stated that xxxx has no objection to the current shared use of the area adjacent to the arena, as it was working well. xxxxx. It was suggested that a self-closing mechanism on the horse paddock gate, and dog fencing added to the existing equestrian fencing (adjacent to the soccer field), would prevent off-leash dogs running on to the soccer field.</p> <p>To quote from the SSCRC website, part of the five-year Local Law review process is to determine what amendments are required to 'ensure that Council's Local Laws remain current and responsive to community and environmental needs.'</p>	Disagree	See above officer comments	See proposed amended maps attached.

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	<p>The dog off-leash area in the paddock behind the MEG arena meets the needs of the community of dog owners, in co-operation with MEG members. The proposed dog off-leash area does not.</p> <p>Further objections to the proposed amendment:</p> <p>#The proposed area is unfenced, and therefore unsuitable for off-leash dog exercise. I note that the financial and resourcing implications of the proposed amendment were assessed as 'Nil'</p> <p>This would imply that no fencing budget has been allocated for the proposed change of area. Hence the proposed dog off-leash area is inherently unsafe.</p> <p>#The area is bounded on two sides by vehicular roadways - Maleny-Stanley River Rd and the principal internal road within Maleny Showgrounds; this proximity creates the possibility of collision and harm to both Showgrounds users and dogs.</p> <p>#The third side of the proposed area is bounded by the Maleny Skate Park, with no fence between the two. This presents hazards for both skaters and dogs which are off-leash.</p> <p>#The fourth side of the proposed off-leash area slopes steeply towards Obi Obi Creek, and is unsuitable for dog and ball retrieval. This slope poses a risk of injury for elderly and disabled users.</p> <p>#The proposed new area is also much too small to accommodate the number of dogs presently being exercised on a daily basis at Maleny Showgrounds. Particularly in summer, dog owners bring their animals for exercise in the cooler afternoons, and there can be up to 15 dogs present at the same time. This number would exceed the personal space needed for reactive or nervous dogs to be socialised gradually and safely.</p> <p>#Overcrowding could also result in ground contamination and the spread of disease, in spite of responsible faeces disposal as practised by dog owners who currently use the Showgrounds.</p> <p>#Many of the dogs using Maleny Showgrounds for exercise are larger or high energy breeds and require large areas in which to run and play. The proposed smaller off-leash area is nowhere near large enough for these breeds to exercise to the extent that they need in order to remain healthy and happy.</p> <p>SUMMARY:</p> <p>The existing arrangement, where dog owners can exercise their dogs off-leash in the fenced paddock behind the MEG arena, in co-operation with equestrian groups, should be allowed to continue. This large, flat, easily accessible area meets the needs of the wide range of dogs and owners, including elderly and disabled owners, due to safe and easy access</p> <p>Some modifications could be made to make the area even safer e.g. a self-closing gate mechanism and the addition of mesh to the outside of the existing equestrian fence.</p>			
103	My husband and I regularly walk around the Maleny Showgrounds and have done so for years. We do not own a dog but we love seeing the dogs at the Showgrounds off leash enjoying themselves. They have never been a problem to us and I don't see why the area needs to be reduced in fact we oppose it strongly.	Disagree	See above officer comments	See proposed amended maps attached.
104	I don't use the area frequently, but I have used it on a number of occasions to walk my dogs. When I go I either go with just my dogs and use a ball thrower to give my 2 xxxx a really good run. Or I go with my 2 small children - when I go with my kids I tend to stay away from the other people and dogs so that I'm not hassled by other dogs coming up to my kids. By decreasing the area of off-lead to such a short area it means I'm not going to be able to throw a ball with a thrower to give my dogs a good run and I don't have as much physical area to distance myself from other dogs. I agree that sportsplayers don't want dogs on the oval for risk of waste not being cleared. I don't understand why more of the grassed area that is currently being primarily used for dogs can't be used or at least have 2 off lead areas	Disagree	See above officer comments	See proposed amended maps attached.
105	<p>- leave status quo at equestrian area but stop off-leash dog owners from using human sports fields</p> <p>- for above, make signage clear as everyone is confused.</p> <p>- dog owners group that gathers at equestrian field are generally good citizens with well behaved well socialised dogs- make it clear to them that they need to keep their dogs on lead until get into the current Area and to close the gate as this keeps most dogs in the zone.</p> <p>- the benefits of the daily meet of owners and dogs is invaluable as a positive social tool for both owners and dogs and would serve well if another pandemic occurred. The alternative area is too small for ball throwing which is an excellent way of training dogs to return to owner. Alternative area is unsafe due to proximity to roads on both sides. Even a vehicle at 40km/hr can be fatal to a dog or a child.</p> <p>If you stop the rogue dog owners off leash on the soccer field and fine or warn them appropriately.</p> <p>Keeping the current equestrian field and restricting the soccer field is a more logical workable safe alternative. Even if the proposal succeeds, Council should not proceed until the new dog park at the precinct we were promised 3 years ago is in place. There is no good reason to stop the current happy group from meeting at the Showgrounds as well as having the new purpose-built dog park at the precinct, considering the amount of visitors who come to Maleny.</p>	Disagree	See above officer comments	See proposed amended maps attached.

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	<p>Please do not punish the good dog owners because of councils failure to place proper guidelines and having an overreaction to a few complaints. I would there is a major conflict of interest here with xxxxxxxxxx</p> <p>also being on the Maleny Show committee.</p>			
106	<p>To whom it may concern at Council,</p> <p>As a long term local, life-long dog owner, and previous xxxxx and xxxxxx, I would like to give you my thoughts.</p> <p>The proposed area at the Maleny Showgrounds is a very small area given all the energetic/working dog breeds and large dog breeds that currently utilise the Showgrounds. Many of which run long distances after balls thrown in 'ball chucks', FAR FURTHER than the actual length of the proposed restricted site; some of the Border Collies/Kelpies using the back horse paddock I have seen would run at least twice as far. Being a rural area, it seems there are lots of energetic working dog breeds that need to be well exercised so this space will likely cause a huge problem for them, and greatly restrict their exercise needs.</p> <p>Also in my opinion it does not provide for enough space to keep small dogs safely out of the way from the large dogs either, especially when they are running full tilt and focused on a ball. Easy for small/elderly dogs to be bowled over and injured by distracted big dogs. Unfortunately, mine was several times until we learned to keep well out of the big dog's way and walk in other areas of the Showgrounds instead.</p> <p>The relatively small, proposed area would be very likely to quickly fill up with dogs, especially as the heat, and limited to no shade, means that everyone will have to crowd in there at the end of the day. Crowding also could increase tension between dogs. Not all dogs enjoy mixing and playing closely with other dogs but still need to exercise off-lead to sufficiently burn off energy.</p> <p>Walking with one's dog off the lead allows the dog to run around and get many times more exercise and then they would do if they were on a lead. This works really well for those of us who have limited dog-walking time and also want to exercise ourselves at the same time, rather than stand around in a small dog park. Thus, benefitting both people and dogs.</p> <p>Happy, well exercised dogs are generally a lot less troublesome in terms of barking or aggression issues than dogs that are bored and under exercised.</p> <p>We are a long way from the coast in Maleny so it is not feasible for us to have daily walks at the off-lead 'dog' beaches, which are the only other places I know of on the Sunshine Coast where you can actually walk with your dog off lead and where they have plenty of space to run and chase balls. Also, unlike people who live in suburbs we don't have the benefit of alternative nearby dog parks. For example, when I lived in xxxxx I had three dog parks that were relatively near me and I could easily access, one that was very shady for middle of the day exercise, one that was huge and allowed my dog to run long distances etc. Whereas here in Maleny we only have the Showgrounds, which is why I believe having the entire Showgrounds to walk around has met so many needs for us.</p> <p>For me, and many other dog owners that I know, walking around the showgrounds with their dogs off lead is one of our most favourite, healthy and free activities that we have. I have been walking my dogs off-lead at the showgrounds since 1995. There is literally nowhere else locally that we can do this.</p> <p>The back paddock 'horse' area that is currently often used by dogs off the lead for playing and socialising is usually otherwise empty. Why should we not use it? I think it is a perfect use for that land.</p> <p>Many community groups use the showgrounds and interact peacefully. That is one of its unique and fantastic community appeals. Would other community groups be expected to happily take such a drastic cut I wonder? Especially here where the human population, and so also the dog numbers, are likely increasing, which means the proposed site will only become more unsuitable.</p> <p>From my observations over the years the main people to utilise the showgrounds as a walking area are dog owners. Occasionally people cut through to walk into town, but a lot of the other people I see using the showgrounds drive straight to their particular facility eg: tennis courts, gym, horse arena etc and do not make use of the rest of the grounds. I find it very hard to understand what the problem is for well-behaved dogs to be off lead at the Showgrounds. The showgrounds is hardly bursting at the seams with people, in fact most of the times throughout the day it is quite deserted.</p> <p>I believe restricting the off-lead area to this proposed much smaller section would be detrimental not just for the dogs, but for the mental health of the people in Maleny that own them. How can we be expected to enjoy being limited to one small space when the rest of the showgrounds lies empty around us, and was previously for our use?</p> <p>I fully support having the entire Showgrounds kept as an off lead dog area, however if there is some as yet unknown issue that council would give that could really justify any restrictions, at the very least I think that the much larger back 'horse' paddock should REMAIN an off-lead dog area, as it is at least a much more suitable size, in my opinion, as well as the areas around the horse arena and along the road past the new shed and adjacent to the forest area, as these spots provide shade in summer and the middle of the day.</p> <p>The current Showgrounds arrangement is something that seems to work so well and brings so much pleasure to so many of us, so taking it away and providing such a seemingly ill-suited alternative is bound to cause tension and ill-will. For so many reasons, many people's habits and lifestyles are centred around their dogs and I believe</p>	Disagree	See above officer comments	See proposed amended maps attached.

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	<p>that these people are often among the 'responsible' dog owners who care about their dog's wellbeing, so it would be nice for council to support our choices.</p> <p>I have contacted council twice and asked for specific reasons as to why the off-lead status is now intending to be restricted, and I have not been able to find out. Let's try and turn this into a win-win situation, with council providing transparency about what the issues are, and working together with the dog owners to understand our needs, or please leave things as they have always been.</p>			
107	<p>My wife and I do not have a dog and we regularly walk in the Maleny showgrounds. Much of the showgrounds have been off leash for dogs and we do not have a problem with that at all. We enjoy interacting with the dogs and their owners. Dogs need a large area to run and play off leash and the current arrangements provide for that. Confining off-leash dogs to a small fenced area near the Maleny-Stanley River Road is not good for the dogs. When we had a dog he was intimidated by larger dogs in fenced off-leash areas, so we virtually never used them. Please allow responsible dog owners and their well-trained pets to continue using the wider showgrounds for exercise, social interaction and enhanced mental health. Thanks!</p>	Disagree	See above officer comments	See proposed amended maps attached.
108	<p>There are existing exclusion zones at Maleny Showground with signage to indicate this – sporting fields, tennis courts, croquet lawn and horse arena. Keep Maleny Showground as it is, for all the community to share without prejudice.</p> <p>With direct contact and liaising with stakeholders, processes and signage can be updated to serve all parties harmoniously.</p> <p>The on-leash areas are understandably the sporting fields and facilities where people play, practice, and move around, not wanting to be upset by dog activity or rubbish or droppings.</p> <p>RECOMMENDATIONS:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Keep Maleny Showground as it is. Fence the large rear paddock used by the Pony Club paddock to shield dog activity from sporting activity and keep this an off-leash area for dogs when not used by the Pony Club. Designate the rear paddock Pony Club area to be used for dog off-leash when not being used by Pony Club. Council to engage with the dog owners group "Maleny Dog Owners Community", to assist in managing and monitor the dog exercise areas at Maleny Showground, with ongoing liaison between dog owner group "Maleny Dog Owners Community", Maleny Showground Committee and Local Councillor. Clear and appropriate Signage with collaboration between Maleny Showground committee and dog owner group "Maleny Dog Owners Community". Dog bags at sufficient locations and stocked, with bins alongside. Encourage education and awareness of dog-owners to supervise the activity of their dogs and usage of the on and off-leash areas at Maleny Showground, in a cooperative and non-combative manner. There is a greater need for the right kind of spaces for dog areas – proper size, well grassed, next to amenities. Suitable areas for caravan/camper visitors to walk their dogs. Maleny Showground serves as a very important facility to enjoy visiting regularly without threat of penalties. With good guidelines and relationships with dog owners in place it can continue to be so. <p>Maleny dog-owner residents are very responsible people.</p> <p>Maleny dog-owner residents pick up and dispose of their pet's droppings responsibly, as well as that of other dogs if missed by owners.</p> <p>Maleny Showground is used by many caravan & camper owners and other visitors to walk their dogs. There needs to be ample spaces for these visitors to walk their dogs safely and maintain distance from other dogs. Appropriate space and signage will improve the management of these areas.</p>	Disagree	See above officer comments	See proposed amended maps attached.
109	<p>I am a resident of Maleny, a rate payer, a dog owner, and I vote.</p> <p>This financial year Council raised dog licences from \$15 to \$24, up 60%!</p> <p>While Council propose to decrease the off leash dog area in Maleny by about 95%!</p> <p>About 40% of households have a dog (Council).</p> <p>I feel that Council is biased towards favouring sports people and groups, and Council does not act fairly with dog owners.</p> <p>The entire Showgrounds have always been a dog off-leash area.</p> <p>The nearest off leash walks to Maleny are on the Coast; an 80km return trip from Maleny that is not practical on a daily basis due to traffic, time and cost. It makes a mockery of Council green and carbon neutral claims to take away our only alternative. Car sharing is not an option with dogs.</p> <p>The Maleny Showgrounds is the only off leash area in the Hinterland that is large enough for dogs to exercise, run, chase, socialise, play with or avoid each other.</p> <p>The community benefits because a tired dog is a good dog and reduces nuisance barking.</p>	Disagree	See above officer comments	See proposed amended maps attached.

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	<p>The local economy benefits because Maleny has a reputation of being a dog friendly town and attracts many visitors who spend their money here.</p> <p>The location is a very pleasant walk for visitors and locals to/from the town centre, on the boardwalk next to the Obi Obi Creek.</p> <p>The proposal to reduce the off leash in the Showgrounds to a tiny area next to the main road lacks merit.</p> <p>For example, I have taken my xxxxxx to Beerwah, Landsborough and other Dog Parks and her response is to slowly walk and sniff around the perimeter of the Dog Parks; then she loses interest. So she has gets no exercise and nor do I.</p> <p>The Small Dog Park proposed for Maleny is not the solution. My dog has a super friendly and gentle nature. She does not chase balls or other items; she tries to avoid boisterous play with other dogs and inappropriate attention from male dogs. She just wants to go for an off leash walk where she can use her primary sense of smell. There are many other dogs like her.</p> <p>Some suggest we should just walk our dogs on leash instead.</p> <p>Maleny has an ageing population. I speak from experience when I say that age affects the body of even healthy people. The muscles get weaker, the joints wear out and become painful, and the parts that are supposed to bend become less flexible. Besides, I've always liked to exercise my dog which generally means she needs to go three times further than me.</p> <p>Some dog owners are saying the will not get another dog as a result of the proposed changes when their current dog dies. That is sad for dogs as Maleny adopts many rescue dogs. It is also sad for the people as Maleny has a high number of single occupancy houses. They will miss out on many of the benefits dogs give us such as companionship, sense of purpose, exercise, social interaction, mental and health benefits ... Council are aware of all these and more.</p> <p>THE WAY AHEAD</p> <p>Council advised me the reason for change is due to complaints by soccer players and others about dogs and their faeces.</p> <p>When there was only one junior soccer pitch in the Showgrounds, all users managed to co-exist on friendly and amicable terms.</p> <p>Council created the problem by moving the Home of Soccer to the Showgrounds and construction of two full size soccer pitches without fully considering the consequences on other users.</p> <p>Council have thereby created friction between users and Council should take responsibility to create an acceptable solution and to demonstrate that Council is not unduly biased towards Sporting Groups.</p> <p>Taking away 95% of long held dog off leash rights is not an acceptable solution.</p> <p>It has been suggested that The Maleny Show Society wants to charge dog owners \$1,000 if we want to retain some of the 95% of land that Council proposes to change from being off leash. This is outrageous if true and needs to be investigated.</p> <p>The other side of complaints that Council may not hear about is the pleasure and connection that dogs bring to complete strangers. I exercise my dog twice a day. On average between 5 to10 people stop to positively engage with my dog. That makes between 1,800 and 3,600 occasions of joy annually; and no complaints in the last 3 years.</p> <p>In my opinion the positive benefits outweigh the negative complaints; but I may be biased as I believe a positive attitude is best.</p> <p>About 40% of households have a dog (Council). Dog owners are generally amenable to fair and unbiased change if not put at a significant disadvantage in favour of others.</p> <p>We need to be able to walk with our dogs to the town centre from Centenary Drive.</p> <p>Will pedestrians be prohibited from walking their dogs on the Trail Connection across the sporting fields?</p> <p>Currently I use the Trail Connection when there is a horse event our the horse paddock when there is a soccer event.</p> <p>WHY is the pedestrian track and trackside at 35 Centenary Drive to be changed from off leash?</p> <p>It is the most southerly part of the Showgrounds and leads to the gate to the horse paddock.</p> <p>I spoke with xxxxx, who lives xxxxx. They initiated and leads the xxxxx. They could not understand why it couldn't remain off leash and said he has no concern for it to remain off leash.</p> <p>It would have no effect on sports players.</p> <p>POSSIBLE SOLUTIONS that will not impact soccer players.</p> <p>Retain the off leash area from Centenary drive to the NE of the Showgrounds</p> <p>Keep the horse paddock off leash except during horse events. Many horse owners have dogs and sympathise with our plight, and</p> <p>Keep the pedestrian track and trackside at 35 Centenary Drive off leash.</p> <p>Re-open and grant previous requests for a 3km off leash walk around the Maleny Precinct during off peak hours. This would demonstrate that Council is not biased towards sports groups at the expense of dog owners.</p>			

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	I OPPOSE the creation of a Dog Park in the Maleny Precinct as it does not offer an off leash walk; is 6.5km round trip by road from the Post Office which is not practical for multi visits daily and would be contrary to Climate Change objectives.			
110	<p>My objection relates to the proposed change of off-leash area at the Maleny Show Grounds:</p> <p>The use of the Maleny Showgrounds as an off-leash area contributes to the unique character of the town. The area is well-used by both locals and people staying at the Showgrounds and offers opportunities for interaction between the locals and visitors. The area proposed as the off-leash area will likely bring conflict between owners of big and small dogs, conflict that doesn't currently happen. In other areas where small enclosures are used for off-leash dog activity this type of conflict arises - both between the dogs and the owners.</p>	Disagree	See above officer comments	See proposed amended maps attached.
111	<p>RECOMMENDATIONS:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Keep off-leash areas at Maleny Showground as they are. The off-leash area (map 2.6.29) proposed by Sunshine Coast Regional Council next to the Dairy Pavilion at Maleny Showground is unsuitable as the sole dog park – it is too small, will not suit mixing of large and small dogs in the one space, is next to a busy road with frequent traffic and noise, and small spaces can also lead to disease spread. Dogs need open space for running longer distances, to chase a ball over a distance, and to exercise more than short or restrained walks. Fence the large rear paddock used by the Pony Club paddock to shield dog activity from sporting activity and keep this an off-leash area for dogs when not used by the Pony Club. Designate the rear paddock Pony Club area to be used for dog off-leash when not being used by Pony Club. Council to engage with the dog owners group "Maleny Dog Owners Community", to assist in managing and monitor the dog exercise areas at Maleny Showground, with ongoing liaison between dog owner group "Maleny Dog Owners Community", Maleny Showground Committee and Local Councillor. Clear and appropriate Signage with collaboration between Maleny Showground committee and dog owner group "Maleny Dog Owners Community". Dog bags at sufficient locations and stocked, with bins alongside. Encourage education and awareness of dog-owners to supervise the activity of their dogs and usage of the on and off-leash areas at Maleny Showground, in a cooperative and non-combative manner. There is a greater need for the right kind of spaces for dog areas – proper size, well grassed, next to amenities. Suitable areas for caravan/camper visitors to walk their dogs. Maleny Showground serves as a very important facility to enjoy visiting regularly without threat of penalties. With good guidelines and relationships with dog owners in place it can continue to be so. <p>BENEFITS of making no changes to Schedule 6 (Dog Off Leash Areas) at Maleny Showgrounds:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Socialising for people and dogs in large, safe, open space. Keep large, grassed space available for dog exercising. Reduces dog-walking through streets/pathways causing neighbourhood disturbance. Easy access to amenities (toilets) and other facilities for people, as well as dogs. Families can make multiple uses of showgrounds – whilst some members are training, others can walk their dogs, meet others and enjoy the amenity responsibly without fear of prosecution. Physical and Mental Health & Wellbeing – exercise, community connections, nature and fresh air; Not needing to drive distances, reduced travel, reduced traffic and fuel costs to access open space for dogs; Better access and flat terrain for older dog owners or those with disability. <p>DETAILS:</p> <p>My recommendation is to keep Maleny Showground as it is, with the existing off-leash and on-leash areas.</p> <p>The deep concern through this process is there has been no direct and positive key stakeholder engagement – with the people who walk their dogs at Maleny Showground. Council has made this information and submission portal difficult for people to find if they weren't given the link. Dogs are registered with SCRC, yet emails weren't sent to dog-owners regarding these proposed changes. There has been no explanations or consultation directly with key stakeholders - the users themselves.</p> <p>I live 2kms from town in Maleny. I exercise my dogs daily at Maleny Showgrounds and this is the closest large and safe area for dogs to socialise and exercise. I have made social connections with a large group of dog owners at Maleny Shorground. I can walk easily to Maleny Showground, as do many others in my community. I don't have the space at home after moving into town, like so many others in a similar situation, so the Maleny Showground serves as a very important facility to enjoy visiting regularly without threat of penalties.</p> <p>There is an existing space within Maleny Showground – namely, the rear Pony Club paddock. This open space fulfils so many needs. This area is under-utilised by the pony club. In this area, dogs can exercise in open, grassed spaces away from each other; dogs can come together to socialise if owners desire this or move away and circle the perimeter away from others. Dogs can be in different sections at the one time. They don't need to be on the lead and dogs will move away from a problem when they can get away. When they can't they are defensive, and problems can arise. This area should</p>	Disagree	See above officer comments	See proposed amended maps attached.

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	<p>remain available to the community when not in use by the pony club. In a recent discussion with the dog owner group, a pony club representative has confirmed they are agreeable to this.</p> <p>Walking with dogs on leads only through the streets or pathways, causes more problems, as does small, restricted spaces. There will be more people walking with dogs on leads through suburbs, upsetting neighbourhoods. It is well known in dog training that dogs on leads, no matter how well trained, can at some point be triggered by other dogs, traffic, etc. In safe open spaces owners and their well-socialised dogs can move close or away from other dogs as the situation dictates. In smaller spaces this cannot easily happen. People will avoid the smaller spaces for their own comfort and that of their dog/s.</p> <p>The owners frequenting Maleny Showgrounds demonstrate responsible pet ownership. People meet regularly in the open area, supervising their dogs, allowing them to socialise safely with other dogs, and move away as the need requires. This is the best possible example of well-used and well-managed facility. And the owners take pride in taking care of this space, knowing how valuable it is for all. This privilege cannot be taken away.</p> <p>Maleny Showground is for people & their families ... dogs are part of the family, now more than ever. Council's laws & policies need to reflect this, not create more rules & regulations to reduce & limit resident's access to suitable facilities or create an environment of fear & distrust, with council workers having to take in more 'policing' duties to enforce regulations & confront people rather than guide, educate & support.</p> <p>It would be the utmost irresponsibility and negligence of council to proceed with any limitations on the existing status of on and off-leash areas of Maleny Showground. The high degree of mental and physical health and wellbeing this provides for residents and visitors cannot be underestimated. The stress these proposed changes has caused, following on from limits, rules and regulations handed down during covid, is high.</p> <p>I for one have lost sleep worrying about the possibility of losing our current permissions. With some very simple adjustments, appropriate signage and fencing, and setting clearer guidelines within the Showgrounds for residents and visitors to use the area harmoniously, this can continue to stay as it is.</p> <p>It is distressing to see simple freedoms being continually and gradually eroded away. These proposed changes looming for Maleny Showground, limiting access to areas that are completely reasonable for dog off-leash access, are only adding further distress. We do not believe any changes need to be made.</p> <p>The people who meet at Maleny Showgrounds have formed a group, Maleny Dog Owners Community", to show how serious we are about keeping this highly valued asset available for dog owners and their dogs at the Maleny Showground.</p> <p>xxxxxxx has pinpointed approximately 2 acres of land at the Precinct, North Maleny, for a future dog park, and this will serve that area of town and is a positive move. However, that cannot be seen as a substitute for the existing well-utilised local facility at Maleny Showground which is accessible to all – especially the rear pony club paddock.</p> <p>It is a key community benefit to keep Maleny Showground as it is because of the health & wellbeing, and social & community connections it offers -</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • It serves many local residents who aren't able to drive to other larger areas, don't have large yards to exercise their dog and need open space to safely walk their dogs or allow them to run; • Many of the dog owners live alone and the existing areas where people meet offer important social connections. This is important to both dogs and dog-owners, many of whom don't get to socialise with other people due to working from home, limited travel options or living alone. <p>Maleny Showground is used by a diverse community, and many residents exercise their dogs of various breeds, both large and small. A smaller, restricted space will not serve existing owners and dogs using Maleny Showground. Most dogs need to be able to run in open spaces. In small spaces, dogs don't safely mix – they need a safe environment.</p> <p>Maleny Showground is used by many caravan & camper owners and other visitors to walk their dogs. There needs to be ample spaces for these visitors to walk their dogs safely and maintain distance from other dogs.</p> <p>Maleny Showground is accessible and flat for older residents to visit and walk their dogs regularly.</p> <p>Maleny Showground provides facilities for people (ie. toilet amenities).</p> <p>Maleny dog owner residents are very responsible people.</p> <p>Maleny dog owner residents pick up and dispose of their pet's droppings responsibly, as well as that of other dogs if missed by owners.</p> <p>The on-leash areas are understandably the sporting fields and facilities where people play, practice, and move around, not wanting to be upset by dog activity or rubbish or droppings.</p> <p>Many dog parks Councils have created are away from community facilities, have little or no grass, often no shade and amenities for people and children's activities. Maleny Showground Pony Club paddock is large, well grassed, has shade in some areas, in walking distance to toilets and carparking, water. If families attend for children's sporting activities, parents or other family members can exercise with their dog nearby.</p> <p>There are so many advantages to keeping Maleny Showground off-leash, dog exercising areas as they are.</p>			

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	Maleny Showground is an asset for the whole community, with so many mixed and varied uses.			
112	<p>There are existing exclusion zones at Maleny Showground with signage to indicate this – sporting fields, tennis courts, croquet lawn and horse arena. Keep Maleny Showground as it is, for all the community to share without prejudice.</p> <p>With direct contact and liaising with stakeholders, processes and signage can be updated to serve all parties harmoniously.</p> <p>The on-leash areas are understandably the sporting fields and facilities where people play, practice, and move around, not wanting to be upset by dog activity or rubbish or droppings.</p> <p>RECOMMENDATIONS:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Keep Maleny Showground as it is. • Fence the large rear paddock used by the Pony Club paddock to shield dog activity from sporting activity and keep this an off-leash area for dogs when not used by the Pony Club. • Designate the rear paddock Pony Club area to be used for dog off-leash when not being used by Pony Club. • Council to engage with the dog owners group "Maleny Dog Owners Community", to assist in managing and monitor the dog exercise areas at Maleny Showground, with ongoing liaison between dog owner group "Maleny Dog Owners Community", Maleny Showground Committee and Local Councillor. • Clear and appropriate Signage with collaboration between Maleny Showground committee and dog owner group "Maleny Dog Owners Community". • Dog bags at sufficient locations and stocked, with bins alongside. • Encourage education and awareness of dog-owners to supervise the activity of their dogs and usage of the on and off-leash areas at Maleny Showground, in a cooperative and non-combative manner. • There is a greater need for the right kind of spaces for dog areas – proper size, well grassed, next to amenities. • Suitable areas for caravan/camper visitors to walk their dogs. • Maleny Showground serves as a very important facility to enjoy visiting regularly without threat of penalties. With good guidelines and relationships with dog owners in place it can continue to be so. <p>Maleny dog-owner residents are very responsible people.</p> <p>Maleny dog-owner residents pick up and dispose of their pet's droppings responsibly, as well as that of other dogs if missed by owners.</p> <p>Maleny Showground is used by many caravan & camper owners and other visitors to walk their dogs. There needs to be ample spaces for these visitors to walk their dogs safely and maintain distance from other dogs. Appropriate space and signage will improve the management of these areas.</p>	Disagree	See above officer comments	See proposed amended maps attached.
113	<p>I oppose the proposed changes to the dog off-leash area at the Maleny Showgrounds.</p> <p>I oppose the proposed changes to the dog off-leash area at the Maleny Showgrounds. The current off-leash area, near the Equestrian Centre, works very well (& has done for many years) with dogs having a large area to socialise, to run and play with other dogs of all sizes and breeds. This is very beneficial to all dogs for their physical and mental wellbeing.</p> <p>The new proposed area is very small, is too close to a busy road and would not provide the same benefits as the current off-leash area. What is the reason for the proposed change? The 'bottom paddock' is not used very often by the Equestrian Centre and dog owners realise the if an equestrian event is taking place, dogs are not to use that area. Moving the off-leash area would result in further underutilisation of the 'bottom paddock' and limit the dog owner's community involvement. The proposed off leash area is unsuitable for the number of dogs needing to run and play.</p>	Disagree	See above officer comments	See proposed amended maps attached.
114	I disagree	Disagree	See above officer comments	See proposed amended maps attached.
115	<p>The vast majority of Maleny people that use the showgrounds regularly do so to exercise their dogs in a safe and reasonable manner.</p> <p>The off-leash status attracts travellers that pay to stay at the showgrounds.</p> <p>The proposed new off-leash area is ridiculously small.</p>	Disagree	See above officer comments	See proposed amended maps attached.
116	<p>FACTS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • On average 20-30 local Maleny residents bring their dogs to park for off the leash run around on a daily basis. • 2 groups have formed – those with smaller dogs congregate at SW end of Cricket Ground and those with larger dogs congregate on SE end of park near horse pavilion. • Both groups self-moderating in a) dog behaviour and b) pick-up of your dog's excrement. Not to do so is not acceptable behaviour for both groups. • As with horse people there are occasions when someone will miss picking up excrement. • Native animals and birds also deposit excrement on playing fields. • Campers with dogs head on to cricket ground and soccer grounds with their dogs – it being immediate open space adjacent to where they are camping. Also, dogs can be let out with or without by some owners' day or night to do their abulations. 	Disagree	See above officer comments	See proposed amended maps attached.

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Other people locals and visitors chose to keep their dogs away from others and walk them in areas where the groups of dogs are not. All up we may have up to 30-50 people using the park areas every day to exercise and socialise their dogs. The existing arrangements provide harmony for the dogs and their owners. Big dogs need acres of space to run and exercise. Owners with smaller dogs keeping separate space feel much more comfortable knowing their dog will not get bowled over by a bigger dog whilst running around. If grass un-mowed and long in one area, people will take dogs to an area with short grass (usually this is the playing fields). Legal penalties already apply to dog owners that do not reasonably control their dogs. Unattended dogs are subject to impounding. <p>ISSUES</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Some people do not pick up the excrement of their pets and this is of concern to players/parents/caregivers/supporters who play on sports fields, particularly if fresh. Also, to be noted is that native animals and birds leave excrement on the playing fields. Some people associated with the sport being played also bring their pets to the sidelines of games – is this an issue? Another concern may be a dog running on the field whilst a sports activity is in progress disrupting the game and worse causing and injury. There has been some angst between Horse and Dog people in the past but believe that a reasonable accommodation and working arrangement now exists between them (keep dogs away on scheduled horse events – walk your dog’s away from horses training). Need large area to run for big dogs. Any areas adjacent Maleny Stanley River Road are currently unsafe for dogs as the porous fence lines allow animals to run on the road. <p>REALITY</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Campers will ignore any restrictions and let their dogs run adjacent to the camp site which on frequent occasions has vans located on the cricket ground itself around the perimeter of the ground Locals will ignore any restriction in area that is inadequate for the exercise of their dogs. In some discussions the old cattle show area has been suggested – basically to small for bigger dogs If campsite not gazetted dog area does this mean that campers with dogs can’t enter? The Council cannot police dog excrement and horse excrement on local streets so what chance taking on a determined community group backlash should decisions taken be deemed poor/inadequate/stupid? Of locals, dog owners, from what I can see, are the most frequent and consistent users of park facilities – every day bar really bad weather, Christmas Day and Easter. Horse people maybe next highest users and then the occasionally played sports of cricket and soccer Campers are another group on-site pretty much every day and from what I can see there are usually some dogs in the mix. Dogs are not the only excrement providers. Native animals and birds all leave excrement where they go. <p>WHAT TO DO</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Institute and objective long run (3 months every day) study to ascertain if any merit in any issues raised that requires more regulation and taking away of freedoms. Identify sources and causes of these issues. Talk to all people who use the facility. Make judgements based on normal everyday living expectations and not some aspirational unreal ideal. Look for alternative solutions. For example: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Poo patrol of sports ground before play Signage everywhere that says during formal sports use of an area – dogs/pets in area to be on restraints and not allowed on playing areas – enforce it. Note a casual “kick around” or “bowl in the nets” is not a formal sports session but is a period of shared use. Maybe a temporary flag raised and flying when field in formal use Provide gate and fencing for horse area that keeps dogs separated from playing fields Plenty of signage and rules (avoid “war and peace” or nobody will read them) for the benefit of campers Establish local communication facility between users of recreation facilities to improve local communication and better understand each others needs and concerns plus try and avoid the Australian perversion of referring (includes both valid grievances and whingeing) to the umpire (that being the Council) to make a decision so that everybody can cuss and cry what a despicable and foul decision guaranteeing nobody is happy 			
117	<p>I am sending you this email to express my disappointment in your proposed legislative to change (reduce) the current Dog Off-Leash area at Maleny Showgrounds.</p> <p>I am a dog owner of a beautiful red kelpie Reggie who, since my husband passed away 6 years ago, has made my life my more enjoyable and has pulled me out of a deep sadness and loneliness. Every afternoon, around 4-5 pm I put him in my car and drive him around to the Showgrounds where he chases a tennis ball endlessly. He has never been in a dog fight nor been aggressive in his life span so I write on his behalf.</p>	Disagree	See above officer comments	See proposed amended maps attached.

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	<p>The current area of land is sufficient for the locals to bring their dogs for meeting up with their dog friends and we (the owners), usually stand and talk to all of our friends and locals and watch our dogs play. The people who come to Maleny Showgrounds and camp their caravans and trailers here and then go shopping and spend money in Maleny, usually have one or so dogs and I must admit some of their dogs are not really socialised. Perhaps the number of dogs coming into Maleny Grounds in caravans etc., should be given a certain time frame to run their dogs and sorted into small dogs and medium dogs/large dogs.</p> <p>I have been coming up to Maleny since I was xx years and I am now xx years and I lived xxxx, Maleny and I feel the small area for cattle showing over the years is totally inappropriate as it is far too small and dangerous being closer to the road and no fully fenced although I feel you would be going to rectify some of these problems.</p> <p>Please reconsider your current proposed decision and even if some conditions were put on the current area of land where our beloved dog can sniff, see their friends and chase balls, leave things happily as they are. I would like to know how many people have been bitten or annoyed by any of our dogs as my dog was kicked in the stomach by a man just for going over to see his children (whom he has made terrified of dogs), for a pat.</p>			
118	<p>There are existing exclusion zones at Maleny Showground with signage to indicate this – sporting fields, tennis courts, croquet lawn and horse arena. Keep Maleny Showground as it is, for all the community to share without prejudice.</p> <p>With direct contact and liaising with stakeholders, processes and signage can be updated to serve all parties harmoniously.</p> <p>The on-leash areas are understandably the sporting fields and facilities where people play, practice, and move around, not wanting to be upset by dog activity or rubbish or droppings.</p> <p>RECOMMENDATIONS:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Keep Maleny Showground as it is. Fence the large rear paddock used by the Pony Club paddock to shield dog activity from sporting activity and keep this an off-leash area for dogs when not used by the Pony Club. Designate the rear paddock Pony Club area to be used for dog off-leash when not being used by Pony Club. Council to engage with the dog owners' group "Maleny Dog Owners Community", to assist in managing and monitor the dog exercise areas at Maleny Showground, with ongoing liaison between dog owner group "Maleny Dog Owners Community", Maleny Showground Committee and Local Councillor. Clear and appropriate Signage with collaboration between Maleny Showground committee and dog owner group "Maleny Dog Owners Community". Dog bags at sufficient locations and stocked, with bins alongside. Encourage education and awareness of dog-owners to supervise the activity of their dogs and usage of the on and off leash areas at Maleny Showground, in a cooperative and non-combative manner. There is a greater need for the right kind of spaces for dog areas – proper size, well grassed, next to amenities. Suitable areas for caravan/camper visitors to walk their dogs. Maleny Showground serves as a very important facility to enjoy visiting regularly without threat of penalties. With good guidelines and relationships with dog owners in place it can continue to be so. <p>Maleny dog-owner residents are very responsible people.</p> <p>Maleny dog-owner residents pick up and dispose of their pet's droppings responsibly, as well as that of other dogs if missed by owners.</p> <p>Maleny Showground is used by many caravan & camper owners and other visitors to walk their dogs. There needs to be ample spaces for these visitors to walk their dogs safely and maintain distance from other dogs. Appropriate space and signage will improve the management of these areas.</p>	Disagree	See above officer comments	See proposed amended maps attached.
119	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Keep off-leash areas at Maleny Showground as they are. The off-leash area (map 2.6.29) proposed by Sunshine Coast Regional Council next to the Dairy Pavilion at Maleny Showground is unsuitable as the sole dog park – it is too small, will not suit mixing of large and small dogs in the one space, is next to a busy road with frequent traffic and noise, and small spaces can also lead to disease spread. Dogs need open space for running longer distances, to chase a ball over a distance, and to exercise more than short or restrained walks. Fence the large rear paddock used by the Pony Club paddock to shield dog activity from sporting activity and keep this an off-leash area for dogs when not used by the Pony Club. Designate the rear paddock Pony Club area to be used for dog off-leash when not being used by Pony Club. Council to engage with the dog owners' group "Maleny Dog Owners Community", to assist in managing and monitor the dog exercise areas at Maleny Showground, with ongoing liaison between dog owner group "Maleny Dog Owners Community", Maleny Showground Committee and Local Councillor. Clear and appropriate Signage with collaboration between Maleny Showground committee and dog owner group "Maleny Dog Owners Community". Dog bags at sufficient locations and stocked, with bins alongside. Encourage education and awareness of dog-owners to supervise the activity of their dogs and usage of the on and off-leash areas at Maleny Showground, in a cooperative and non-combative manner. There is a greater need for the right kind of spaces for dog areas – proper size, well grassed, next to amenities. Suitable areas for caravan/camper visitors to walk their dogs. 	Disagree	See above officer comments	See proposed amended maps attached.

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Physical and Mental Health & Wellbeing – exercise, community connections, nature and fresh air; Not needing to drive distances, reduced travel, reduced traffic and fuel costs to access open space for dogs; Better access and flat terrain for older dog owners or those with disability. <p>DETAILS: My recommendation is to keep Maleny Showground as it is, with the existing off-leash and on-leash areas.</p> <p>The deep concern through this process is there has been no direct and positive key stakeholder engagement – with the people who walk their dogs at Maleny Showground. Council has made this information and submission portal difficult for people to find if they weren't given the link. Dogs are registered with SCRC, yet emails weren't sent to dog-owners regarding these proposed changes. There has been no explanations or consultation directly with key stakeholders – the users themselves.</p> <p>I live and work from home 2kms from town in Maleny. I exercise my dogs daily at Maleny Showgrounds and this is the closest large and safe area for dogs to socialise and exercise. I have made social connections I cannot make from home.</p> <p>I can walk easily to Maleny Showgrounds, as do many others in my community. I don't have the space at home after moving into town, like so many others in a similar situation, so the Maleny Showground serves as a very important facility to enjoy visiting regularly without threat of penalties.</p> <p>Walking with dogs on leads only through the streets or pathways, causes more problems, as does small, restricted spaces. There will be more people walking with dogs on leads through suburbs, upsetting neighbourhoods. It is well known in dog training that dogs on leads, no matter how well trained, can at some point be triggered by other dogs, traffic, etc. In safe open spaces owners and their well-socialised dogs can move close or away from other dogs as the situation dictates. In smaller spaces this cannot easily happen. People will avoid the smaller spaces for their own comfort and that of their dog/s.</p> <p>There is an existing space within Maleny Showground – namely, the rear Pony Club paddock. This open space fulfils so many needs. This area is under-utilised by the pony club. In this area, dogs can exercise in open, grassed spaces away from each other; dogs can come together to socialise if owners desire this or move away and circle the perimeter away from others. Dogs can be in different sections at the one time. They don't need to be on the lead and dogs will move away from a problem when they can get away. When they can't they are defensive, and problems can arise. This area should remain available to the community when not in use by the pony club. In a recent discussion with the dog owner group, a pony club representative has confirmed they are agreeable to this.</p> <p>The owners frequenting Maleny Showgrounds demonstrate responsible pet ownership. People meet regularly in the open area, supervising their dogs, allowing them to socialise safely with other dogs, and move away as the need requires. This is the best possible example of well-used and well-managed facility. And the owners take pride in taking care of this space, knowing how valuable it is for all. This privilege cannot be taken away.</p> <p>Maleny Showground is for people & their families ... dogs are part of the family, now more than ever. Council's laws & policies need to reflect this, not create more rules & regulations to reduce & limit resident's access to suitable facilities or create an environment of fear & distrust, with council workers having to take in more 'policing' duties to enforce regulations & confront people rather than guide, educate & support.</p> <p>It would be the utmost irresponsibility and negligence of council to proceed with any limitations on the existing status of on and off-leash areas of Maleny Showground. The high degree of mental and physical health and wellbeing this provides for residents and visitors cannot be underestimated. The stress these proposed changes has caused, following on from limits, rules and regulations handed down during covid, is high.</p> <p>I for one have lost sleep worrying about the possibility of losing our current permissions. With some very simple adjustments, appropriate signage and fencing, and setting clearer guidelines within the Showgrounds for residents and visitors to use the area harmoniously, this can continue to stay as it is.</p> <p>It is distressing to see simple freedoms being continually and gradually eroded away. These proposed changes looming for Maleny Showground, limiting access to areas that are completely reasonable for dog off-leash access, are only adding further distress. We do not believe any changes need to be made.</p>			

LOCAL LAW REVIEW - ATTACHMENT 1 - DETAILED SUBMISSIONS (COMMUNITY CONSULTATION)				
Ref	Submission	Respondents Agree/Disagree	Officer Comments	Recommendation
	<p>The people who meet at Maleny Showgrounds have formed a group, Maleny Dog Owners Community”, to show how serious we are about keeping this highly valued asset available for dog owners and their dogs at the Maleny Showground.</p> <p>xxxxxx has pinpointed approximately 2 acres of land at the Precinct, North Maleny, for a future dog park, and this will serve that area of town and is a positive move. However, that cannot be seen as a substitute for the existing well-utilised local facility at Maleny Showground which is accessible to all – especially the rear pony club paddock.</p> <p>It is a key community benefit to keep Maleny Showground as it is because of the health & wellbeing, and social & community connections it offers -</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • It serves many local residents who aren’t able to drive to other larger areas, don’t have large yards to exercise their dog and need open space to safely walk their dogs or allow them to run; • -Many of the dog owners live alone and the existing areas where people meet offer important social connections. <p>This is important to both dogs and dog-owners, many of whom don’t get to socialise with other people due to working from home, limited travel options or living alone.</p> <p>Maleny Showground is used by a diverse community, and many residents exercise their dogs of various breeds, both large and small. A smaller, restricted space will not serve existing owners and dogs using Maleny Showground. Most dogs need to be able to run in open spaces. In small spaces, dogs don’t safely mix – they need a safe environment.</p> <p>Maleny Showground is used by many caravan & camper owners and other visitors to walk their dogs. There needs to be ample spaces for these visitors to walk their dogs safely and maintain distance from other dogs.</p> <p>Maleny Showground is accessible and flat for older residents to visit and walk their dogs regularly.</p> <p>Maleny Showground provides facilities for people (ie. toilet amenities).</p> <p>Maleny dog owner residents are very responsible people.</p> <p>Maleny dog owner residents pick up and dispose of their pet’s droppings responsibly, as well as that of other dogs if missed by owners.</p> <p>The on-leash areas are understandably the sporting fields and facilities where people play, practice, and move around, not wanting to be upset by dog activity or rubbish or droppings.</p> <p>Many dog parks Councils have created are away from community facilities, have little or no grass, often no shade and amenities for people and children’s activities. Maleny Showground Pony Club paddock is large, well grassed, has shade in some areas, in walking distance to toilets and carparking, water. If families attend for children’s sporting activities, parents or other family members can exercise with their dog nearby.</p> <p>There are so many advantages to keeping Maleny Showground off-leash, dog exercising areas as they are.</p> <p>Maleny Showground is an asset for the whole community, with so many mixed and varied uses.</p>			
120	Submission same as above	Disagree	See above officer comments	See proposed amended maps attached.
121	<p>There are existing exclusion zones at Maleny Showground with signage to indicate this – sporting fields, tennis courts, croquet lawn and horse arena. Keep Maleny Showground as it is, for all the community to share without prejudice.</p> <p>With direct contact and liaising with stakeholders, processes and signage can be updated to serve all parties harmoniously.</p> <p>The on-leash areas are understandably the sporting fields and facilities where people play, practice, and move around, not wanting to be upset by dog activity or rubbish or droppings.</p> <p>RECOMMENDATIONS:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Keep Maleny Showground as it is. • Fence the large rear paddock used by the Pony Club paddock to shield dog activity from sporting activity and keep this • an off-leash area for dogs when not used by the Pony Club. • Designate the rear paddock Pony Club area to be used for dog off-leash when not being used by Pony Club. • Council to engage with the dog owners group "Maleny Dog Owners Community", to assist in managing and monitor the • dog exercise areas at Maleny Showground, with ongoing liaison between dog owner group "Maleny Dog Owners • Community", Maleny Showground Committee and Local Councillor. • Clear and appropriate Signage with collaboration between Maleny Showground committee and dog owner group • "Maleny Dog Owners Community". • Dog bags at sufficient locations and stocked, with bins alongside. • Encourage education and awareness of dog-owners to supervise the activity of their dogs and usage of the on and off leash • areas at Maleny Showground, in a cooperative and non-combative manner. • There is a greater need for the right kind of spaces for dog areas – proper size, well grassed, next to amenities. • Suitable areas for caravan/camper visitors to walk their dogs. • Maleny Showground serves as a very important facility to enjoy visiting regularly without threat of penalties. With good guidelines and relationships with dog owners in place it can continue to be so. <p>Maleny dog-owner residents are very responsible people.</p>	Disagree	See above officer comments	See proposed amended maps attached.

LOCAL LAW REVIEW - ATTACHMENT 1 - DETAILED SUBMISSIONS (COMMUNITY CONSULTATION)				
Ref	Submission	Respondents Agree/Disagree	Officer Comments	Recommendation
	Maleny dog-owner residents pick up and dispose of their pet's droppings responsibly, as well as that of other dogs if missed by owners. Maleny Showground is used by many caravan & camper owners and other visitors to walk their dogs. There needs to be ample spaces for these visitors to walk their dogs safely and maintain distance from other dogs. Appropriate space and signage will improve the management of these areas.			
122	Same as Above	Disagree	See above officer comments	See proposed amended maps attached.
Muller Park Reserve, Bli Bli - Map 2.5.17				
123	Agree with update of map for exclusion of dogs from specific public places, including area to be designated within Muller Park at Bli Bli.	Agree		No change to proposed local law amendment.
Bankfoot House, Glass House Mountains - Map 2.5.18				
	Nil Submissions	N/A		No change to proposed local law amendment.
DOG OFF LEASH AREAS				
Dog Off Leash Area – Amend Muller Park Reserve, Bli Bli - Map 2.6.14				
	Nil Submissions	N/A		No change to proposed local law amendment.
Dog Off Leash Area – Amend Maleny Showground – Map 2.6.29				
	See submissions number 17 to 118 above.			No change to proposed local law amendment.
Dog Off Leash Area – NEW Flintwood Crescent, Palmview – Map 2.6.46				
124	Agree	Agree		No change to proposed local law amendment.
Dog Off Leash Area – NEW Mapleton Lilyponds – 2.6.47				
125	Agree	Agree		No change to proposed local law amendment.
Dog off Leash Area – NEW Quota Memorial Park, Nambour – Map 2.6.48				
126	Agree	Agree		No change to proposed local law amendment.
Dog off Leash Area – NEW Baringa Forest Park – Map 2.6.49				
127	Baringa Forest Park already has 2 designated dog parks. The walk through and around the forest is a favourite area for me and my dog. I am very much against making this an off-leash area. My dog, and my partner, were attacked by two off leash Staffordshire bull terriers which resulted in \$1,500 vet bill (not reimbursed) and trauma to my partner. My dog is now terrified of off-leash dogs. Make the forest off-leash would mean we can no longer walk there.	Disagree		
128	Agree	Agree		
Dog off Leash Area – NEW Annalise Circuit Park, Nirimba – Map 2.6.50				
129	Agree	Agree		No change to proposed local law amendment.
Dog off Leash Area – NEW Viridian Circuit Park, Birtinya – Map 2.6.51				
130	Agree	Agree		No change to proposed local law amendment.
Dog off Leash Area – NEW Grand Parade, Parrearra – Map 2.6.52				
131	Agree	Agree		No change to proposed local law amendment.
MINIMUM STANDARDS FOR KEEPING ANIMALS				
Added for enclosure that is solely a dwelling - must not include a door that opens directly to an area outside the dwelling that would give the dog unrestricted access to a public place				
	Nil Submissions	N/A		No change to proposed local law amendment.
Animal noise nuisance provision amended to include noise unreasonably disrupts or inhibits an activity ordinarily carried out on adjoining land or nearby residential premises				

LOCAL LAW REVIEW - ATTACHMENT 1 - DETAILED SUBMISSIONS (COMMUNITY CONSULTATION)				
Ref	Submission	Respondents Agree/Disagree	Officer Comments	Recommendation
	Nil Submissions	N/A		No change to proposed local law amendment.
Additional minimum standards amended to include enclosure and containment meet the welfare needs of the animal (Animal Care and Protection Act 2001), maintained not to cause nuisance to neighbouring premises and constructed to prevent wastewater from entering the stormwater system or discharging to adjoining premises				
132	I had a dog once that was declared dangerous by the Brisbane City Council. My long haired xxxxx was a beautiful, gentle dog who was protecting me when a jogger ran within 1.5 meters of me in the early hours of the morning in a large park. Why the guy was running so close to me was suspicious and my dog was trying to protect me. Fortunately, being Declared Dangerous wasn't so bad back then. They just had to be kept in a backyard with a 6ft fence but these days I hear you have to put them in ridiculously small enclosures. A dog would never be happy with that!!! It's so sad that Council has the right to insist on this. I knew of someone recently that had actually decided to have their loved dog put down if it was declared dangerous rather than have the dog live a miserable life. Fortunately, the dog was declared dangerous. He was (I say past tense as have since moved up the Sunshine Coast), a lovely xxxxx with a goofy nature and definitely wasn't dangerous! But I fully support the enclosures being abolished and have something more humane in it's place. If you can't do that then by all means increase the size as much as you can. Frankly it's no way for a dog to live, to be kept in one.	Disagree		
LOCAL LAW No 3 (COMMUNITY HEALTH AND ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT) 2011				
NOISE STANDARDS				
Replace the term 'approval for causing building work noise' with the term 'extraordinary building work noise permit' – Change required if LL1 Amendment is adopted				
	See Submissions 2 – 6 Above.			
LOCAL LAW No 4 (LOCAL GOVERNMENT CONTROLLED AREAS, FACILITIES, INFRASTRUCTURE AND ROADS) 2011				
PROHIBITED ACTIVITIES				
Insert a new prohibited activity for contravening a sign to temporarily close a playing surface of a sporting facility to the public within a local government controlled areas				
	Nil Submissions	N/A		No change to proposed local law amendment.
LOCAL LAW No 5 (PARKING) 2011				
PARKING PERMITS				
Creation of the ability for Council to add and change the boundaries of residential parking permit areas by publishing maps on Council's website rather than amending the subordinate local law				
	Nil Submissions	N/A		No change to proposed local law amendment.
DISABILITY PARKING				
Increase penalty from 2 penalty units to 4 penalty units for unauthorised use of disability parking, in line with the State amendment and advice received from Queensland Police Service				
	Nil Submissions	N/A		No change to proposed local law amendment.

SUBMISSIONS MADE THAT DO NOT RELATE TO THE CURRENT PROPOSED LOCAL LAW AMENDMENTS			
Ref	Submission	Officer Comments	Recommendation
133	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Jet skis endangering lives The Spit Mooloolaba. 2. Dogs on extendable leads on footpaths a hazard. 3. Fitness groups dragging truck tyres through turtle breeding grounds Buddina and Mooloolaba. 4. "Parkrunners" need to keep left and share the footpath...Kawana. 		This submission does not relate to current amendments. Comments will be referred to appropriate operational areas within Council.
134	<p>For the safety of off leash dogs and passers by, off leash areas should be fenced and have separate areas to separate large from small dogs. Poop bags and bins should be provided along with drinking water with bowls. Shade also.</p> <p>Fenced off leash areas around Doonan and Eumundi</p>		This submission does not relate to current amendments. Comments will be referred to appropriate operational areas within Council.
135	<p>To me the new laws regarding dogs as a whole is beyond me.</p> <p>A few years ago I was confronted by a dog at Coolum Beach in a dog on leash area. By the club house to be precise.</p> <p>At the time the owner could not care less and left me in a stressed state saying the dog off leash was having exercise.</p> <p>I have not been to the beach since and that must be 5/6 years ago. Since I have heard of many other complaints regarding animals attacking and pestering people.</p> <p>Council do not patrol the beaches for breaches of the law particularly early in the morning when most dogs are exercised.</p> <p>There is no way will I accede to the change of law without council monitoring the situation and fining those people who flout the law. No warning just do it.</p> <p>I saw somewhere where dogs were able to exercise off leash in a fenced area where the public had the right not to enter.</p> <p>As I now have stress when near a dog, I am limited to my walking exercise around the suburb with a walking stick to prevent the attack happening.</p> <p>Unfortunately, dogs can sense my fear and growl, showing teething becoming aggressive.</p>		This submission does not relate to current amendments. Comments will be referred to appropriate operational areas within Council.
136	<p>Hello, After all the correspondence about dogs running amok off lead at Pt Cartwright, why is there no mention of a local law amendment? The dogs running amok off lead at Pt Cartwright has not gotten any better. There are many safety concerns for walkers and cyclists. After being involved in a terrible dog attack and many other negative dog encounters nothing seems to change?</p>	<p>Council has not included any proposals for Point Cartwright in this review as the Master Plan is not yet finalised and shared with the community.</p> <p>Should the Master Plan require any changes to the local law Council Officers will include this in the final report to Council so that the process can be considered and commenced in line with the Master Plan.</p> <p>There will be a separate opportunity to comment on the proposed changed to the local law at that time.</p>	These submissions do not relate to current amendments. Comments will be referred to appropriate operational areas within Council.
137	<p>Proposed changes to local laws related to dog access to the La Balsa/ Point Cartwright. I see no mention of the above matter in proposed changes.</p> <p>This issue has been a hotly debated topic for some years.</p> <p>More restricted access for dogs is urgently needed as this area has become extremely popular with families. Such use is not consistent with unrestricted dog access at any time. Dogs, at the very least should not be allowed on half-moon beach and on leash in any other part of this area.</p>		
138	<p>Can a small portion of river / creek be excluded from dogs North of Maroochy Bridge. Dogs currently have Stumers Creek, North Shore and Noosa River.</p> <p>Reason - our creeks and rivers are some of the best learn to swim and recreation areas for small children, particularly when open beaches are unsuitable. They are currently prioritised to over excited dogs, jumping on / scaring kids, off leash pissing on towels and belongings and cause the dune to smell like dog piss. I love dogs and owned one for 16 years until recently and do not have any concerns with this proposal as this still provides adequate facilities for dogs. Directing people to Cotton Tree to swim in or picnic next to a river that is not overrun by dogs is not reasonable when a simple solution that caters for all is easily achievable.</p> <p>Proposal - The river side at the end of North Shore Road should be divided left dogs permitted, right no dogs or vise versa. Dogs currently also have the open beach also at North Shore. The same could apply at Stumers Creek.</p> <p>Thank you for considering this community improvement request.</p>		This submission does not relate to current amendments. Comments will be referred to appropriate operational areas within Council.
139	<p>Ban burning off right across the Sunshine Coast council area, in particular rural residential areas. I do have a problem with the amended Local laws, In this set of amendments, Council has overlooked the banning of burning off in Rural Residential areas. Burning off is banned in all other residential areas. This has created an unfair two-tier system that affects those living in rural residential areas. In other words, rural residential ratepayers are being treated as second class citizens.</p> <p>Smoke directly contributes to poor air quality and has a particular effect on those with heart and lung conditions. It is within Council's remit to do something about this, having recently received Biosphere status, and with a published environment plan that has no hope of being fulfilled whilst emissions from burning off in rural residential areas continues.</p> <p>Rural ratepayers deserve better, it is up to Council to deliver.</p>		This submission does not relate to current amendments. Comments will be referred to appropriate operational areas within Council.
140	<p>Considerations do not go far enough. Council should review all rules regarding dog areas and publish. It is hard to work out the logic of why some areas allow dogs and others do not.</p>		This submission does not relate to current amendments. Comments will be referred to appropriate operational areas within Council.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Council should consider allowing dogs onto beaches between Caloundra and Pelican Waters.• The power boat club is not a safe place for dogs on 'beach' - should be after hours around Fraser Park.• If dogs are allowed outside at restaurants, why are they not allowed beside picnic tables if behaving		
141	Relation to pet laws, off leash zones etc. Issues appear to be widespread with people not following off and on leash zone requirements after hours and on weekends and public holidays. Why isn't council operating after hours to better enforce current laws and distribute fines according to perhaps discourage people not abiding by leash laws.		This submission does not relate to current amendments. Comments will be referred to appropriate operational areas within Council.

ATTACHMENT 2: LOCAL LAW AMENDMENTS - HUMAN RIGHTS ACT 2019 - ASSESSMENT OF COMPATIBILITY

In applying Section 58 of the *Human Rights Act 2019* (the Act), this statement of compatibility is made with respect to **Proposed Local Law Amendments**.

The **Amendment Local Law No. 1 (Miscellaneous) 2023 and Amendment Subordinate Local Law (Miscellaneous) 2023** are compatible with the human rights protected by the Act.

Objectives

The following rights are assessed further:

- Right to recognition and equality before the law
- Right to freedom of movement
- Right to protection of family and children
- Right to liberty and security of a person

Human Rights Assessment

What human rights are impacted?	Will any person feel their rights are limited and why?	What are the interests you have to balance?	Is the limitation reasonable?	What practical solutions are available to reduce the limitation?
1 Recognition and equality before the law Section 15 of the <i>Human Rights Act 2019</i> : You have the same rights as everyone else and have a right to the same protection.	Yes: Some members of the community may feel their rights have been overridden by the rights of others.	The community as a whole and the need for a balanced reasonable approach.	Yes: Limitations proposed in the local law amendments are reasonable and justifiable. Sometimes rights conflict. When this happens, Council may limit or restrict someone's rights to protect the rights of other people or the community at large. Council will always take a balanced approach to any amendments to the local laws.	N/A
2 Freedom of movement Section 19 of the <i>Human Rights Act 2019</i> : Every person lawfully within Queensland has the right to move freely within Queensland	Subordinate Local Law No. 2 (Animal Management) 2011 Amendments to Maleny Showground YES: Some people who currently utilise the entire Maleny Showground facility as a dog off leash area may feel their right to freedom of movement has been limited	Council is not restricting freedom of movement for persons within the Maleny Showground facility. Given the existing conflicts from mixed-use, the proposed prohibition of dogs from the sports fields balances the rights of all users with safety the overarching priority.	Yes: This limitation is reasonable.	N/A

What human rights are impacted?	Will any person feel their rights are limited and why?	What are the interests you have to balance?	Is the limitation reasonable?	What practical solutions are available to reduce the limitation?
	due to the prohibition of dogs to the sporting fields. It could be perceived by some people that Council, due to this amendment, is regulating the ability of people to be in and utilise this public facility.			
<p>3 Protection of families and children</p> <p>Section 26 of the <i>Human Rights Act 2019</i>: Families are entitled to protection. Children have the same rights as adults with added protection according to their best interests.</p>	<p>Subordinate Local Law No. 2 (Animal Management) 2011</p> <p>Amendments to Maleny Showground</p> <p>YES: Some people who currently utilise the entire Maleny Showground facility as a dog off leash area may feel their right to exercise their dog off leash has been limited.</p>	<p>This amendment provides Council assurance that the protection and safety of children is paramount, in this case from potential dog attacks, and a balanced assessment and approach has been taken to accommodate all rights and interests.</p>	<p>Yes: This limitation is reasonable. The rights of all users of the mixed-use Maleny Showground facility have been taken into consideration. There are risks to safety currently due to the mixed use with the ability for dogs to roam freely around children and people on horses.</p> <p>Like all rights, the rights to the protection of families and children can be limited where it is reasonable and demonstrably justified based on the best interests of and the protection of children. The Human Rights Act recognises that children are entitled to special protection and recognises that children are more vulnerable because of their age and governments should adopt special measures to protect children.</p>	<p>The proposed amendment included a small dog off leash area at the Maleny Showground facility and following community consultation a second larger dog off leash facility will be provided. This area will be shared within the Equine Area when not being used for horse-riding events, usually held on weekends.</p>
<p>3 Liberty and security of a person</p> <p>Section 29 of the <i>Human Rights Act 2019</i>: Everyone has the right to freedom and security. in accordance with the law. The right to security means that reasonable steps must be taken to ensure the physical safety of people who are in danger of physical harm.</p>	<p>Subordinate Local Law No. 2 (Animal Management) 2011</p> <p>Amendments to Maleny Showground</p> <p>YES: Some people may feel that their safety and that of their children will be compromised if there are spaces which are shared between off-lead dogs and other users.</p>	<p>This amendment balances the protection and safety of persons from potential dog attack with the interest of dog owners and their need to have spaces to exercise their dogs.</p>	<p>Yes: The right to security means that reasonable steps must be taken to ensure the physical safety of people who are in danger of physical harm. There is reasonable likelihood of danger of physical harm due to mixed use of a facility enabling dogs to roam freely around children and people on horses. This interaction can cause conflict and the potential to cause harm to persons.</p>	<p>The proposed amendment included a small dog off leash area at the Maleny Showground facility and following community consultation a second larger dog off leash facility will be provided. This area will be shared within the Equine Area when not being used for horse-riding events, usually held on weekends.</p>

REVIEW OF AMENDMENT LOCAL LAWS FOR ANTI-COMPETITIVE PROVISIONS

Local Law	Proposed change	Reason for change	Review for anti-competitive provisions
Local Law No. 1 (Administration) 2011			
Part 2 Section 6 - Offence to undertake a local law prescribed activity without approval	<p>A new penalty regime has been developed as follows:</p> <p>(b) for a category 1 activity—</p> <p>(i) for a first offence—10 penalty units; or</p> <p>(ii) for a second offence—20 penalty units; or</p> <p>(iii) for a third or later offence—50 penalty units.</p> <p>(c) for a category 2 activity – 50 penalty units</p> <p>(d) for a category 3 activity—400 penalty units</p> <p><u>Category 1 activities</u></p> <p>1 placement of movable advertising devices</p> <p>2 temporary placement of a shipping container</p> <p>3 Motor Vehicle access to a local government controlled areas</p> <p><u>Category 2 activities</u></p> <p>1 alteration or improvement to local government controlled areas and roads</p> <p>2 building removal</p> <p>3 commercial use of local government controlled areas and roads</p> <p>4 establishment or occupation of a temporary home</p> <p>5 keeping of animals</p> <p>6 operation of accommodation parks</p> <p>7 operation of temporary entertainment events</p> <p>8 undertaking regulated activities regarding human remains</p> <p>9 undertaking regulated activities on local government-controlled areas and roads</p> <p><u>Category 3 activities</u></p> <p>1 operation of an amplified music venue within a special entertainment precinct</p> <p>2 causing building site delivery noise</p>	Issuing a 50-penalty unit infringement for low-risk minor activity is prohibitive and not in line with the offence. This amendment allows officers greater flexibility to offer a lower cost infringement notice commensurate with the seriousness of the offence.	<p>Not anti-competitive</p> <p>Increases Category 1 penalty from ½ pu to 10/20/50, but there were previously no activities in Category 1, so in fact the three that are moved into that category have potentially <u>reduced</u> penalties. Therefore, no additional burden on businesses so not anti-competitive.</p>

REVIEW OF AMENDMENT LOCAL LAWS FOR ANTI-COMPETITIVE PROVISIONS

Local Law	Proposed change	Reason for change	Review of anti-competitive provisions
Local Law No. 1 (Administration) 2011			
Section 26 Compliance notice for contravention of local law or approval condition	Amend the penalty for non-compliance with a compliance notice to 20 penalty units in the case of non-registration of a dog under section 9B of LL2.	Section 9B of LL2 does not have a penalty itself, because the penalty for non-registration of a dog is in the Animal Management (Cats and Dogs) Act. The penalty in that Act is 20pu. It creates an anomaly that a person can be fined 50pu for not complying with a compliance notice to comply with section 9B by registering their dog, when the maximum penalty for not registering a dog is 20pu. Therefore, the maximum penalty has been changed in section 26 to 20pu specifically for non-compliance with a compliance notice for s9B of LL2.	Not anti-competitive Dog registration is about health and safety so even if it did impact businesses in some way, it comes under the PIR exclusion for "local laws to ensure accepted public health and safety standards are met"
Section 44 Dealing with seized and impounded items	Inclusion of extra provisions to immediately dispose of chemical or biological products. Added items that are "hazardous to store (for example, chemical or biological products)" to s44(3).	Issues with WH&S collection and no/limited storage facilities.	Not anti-competitive No impact on business. In any event, comes under the PIR exclusion for "local laws to ensure accepted public health and safety standards are met"
	Added items that are "of no commercial value or of a value that would not cover the costs of sale of the item" to the s44(3) list of things that can be immediately disposed of.	Reduce/eliminate storage and auction costs.	As above
Section 44A Extraordinary building work noise permits	Insert a new head of power for Council to grant an extraordinary building work noise permit for a person to carry out building work on premises in a way that makes an audible noise outside standard building work hours. This will replace the current Prescribed Activity for 'causing building work noise' in Sch 1 of LL1	By prescribing after hours building work as a Prescribed Activity, the current local law creates an offence for carrying on this activity without a LL1 approval. The effect of this is to override the noise standards in the EPA and prevent Council from using the EPA enforcement provisions, with their higher penalties than local laws. The special new permit created by s.44A will not be a standard LL1 approval, but will instead simply replace the EPA noise standard for building work where such a permit is issued. Contravening the permit will therefore be enforced under the EPA offence for breaching a noise standard, not the local laws.	Not anti-competitive There is currently a requirement for a local law approval for extraordinary building work noise. The local law is replacing this with another type of local law permit that links better to the EPA noise standard regime. It does not impose a requirement to have a permit where none existed before, so there is no additional burden on businesses. In fact, the permit enables a business to obtain a relaxation from the default State law that you cannot make building work noise outside standing building work hours.

REVIEW OF AMENDMENT LOCAL LAWS FOR ANTI-COMPETITIVE PROVISIONS

Local Law	Proposed change	Reason for change	Review of anti-competitive provisions
Local Law No. 1 (Administration) 2011			
Schedule 1 Definitions	Insert new definition for "standard building work hours", which are between 6.30am and 6.30pm on business days and Saturdays. These are the hours within which the current EPA noise standard allows building work noise.	The new definition will tie to the new section 44A, which provides for a permit to make building work noise outside the standard hours.	As above.
Schedule 2 Prescribed activities	Remove 'causing building work noise' as a prescribed activity.	This Prescribed Activity will instead be covered by the new s.44A Extraordinary building work noise permits, which will link to the EPA noise standard offence instead of the local law enforcement regime.	As above.
Schedule 2 part 2 Definition of prescribed activities	Add the following exception to the definition of the prescribed activity for 'causing building site delivery noise': <i>'but does not include noise caused by any of the circumstances mentioned in the Environmental Protection Act 1994, schedule 1, section 2 and section 3(f), (g), (h), (j) or (k).'</i>	This addition ensures that a building site delivery noise permit is not required in the situations that are exempted from the noise standard by the EP Act – for example: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Noise caused by government activities and public infrastructure, such as road maintenance Noise caused by activities that have already received a development approval from Council or the State (for a PDA) 	Not anti-competitive Does not impose any additional requirement on businesses. In fact, clarifies the exemptions contained in the Act.
Subordinate Local Law No.1 (Administration) 2016			
Schedule 4 Alteration or improvement to local government controlled areas and roads	Omit reference to the Memorials and Plaques Policy and replace with Commemorative Memorials Operational Guideline.	Updated document reference.	Not anti-competitive Insignificant change.
Schedule 5A Causing building site delivery noise	Replace 'prescribed times' with the new term 'standard building work hours', as per the new definition in LL1 Schedule 1 (Definitions).	The new term will make more sense to the public. The term 'prescribed times' has caused confusion and the change will make it clear that the permit is to cause building work noise outside standing building work hours, which are defined in LL1.	See noise permit discussion above.
Schedule 5B Causing building work noise	Delete this schedule.	This schedule is no longer needed in its current form as this Prescribed Activity is being deleted from LL1 for the reasons set out above. However, most of the relevant provisions about building work noise approvals will be picked up in the new schedule 19, discussed below.	See noise permit discussion above.

REVIEW OF AMENDMENT LOCAL LAWS FOR ANTI-COMPETITIVE PROVISIONS

Local Law	Proposed change	Reason for change	Review of anti-competitive provisions
Subordinate Local Law No.1 (Administration) 2016			
Schedule 19 Extraordinary building work noise permit	Insert this schedule, which is largely based on the old schedule 5B.	This schedule sets out the details for applying for and being granted an Extraordinary Building Work Noise Permit under the new s.44A of LL1. It carries across mostly the same policy settings as the current schedule 5B, which is being deleted.	Not anti-competitive This schedule contains no significant changes to the regulations around the current building work noise permit schedule in SLL1. As described earlier, the new permit is essentially the same as the previous local law approval for out of hours building work noise, and does not create any new burden for businesses.
Local Law No. 2 (Animal Management) 2011			
Section 35 – Destruction orders	Amend provision to enable destruction or disposal order to be issued. Insert new 'disposal order' option into section 35 for situations where an animal has been impounded on more than 2 occasions during a 12 month period. Amend section 36 to reflect this.	Currently no option other than destruction for dogs impounded under section 35(2)(c) and suitable for re-homing.	Not anti-competitive Relates to dog regulation, not business. Even if it did have some impact on businesses involving dogs, it comes under the PIR exclusion for "local laws to ensure accepted public health and safety standards are met".
Section 5 – Effective management	The proposed provision is as follows: (2) For the purposes of this local law, a domestic cat is under effective management in a public place if it is— (a) contained within an enclosure; or (b) restrained by a leash held by a person; or (c) restrained to a fixed object and under the direct supervision of a person.	Cats roaming the neighborhood and killing or injuring wildlife.	Not anti-competitive Relates to cat regulation, not business. Even if it did have some impact on businesses involving cats, it comes under the PIR exclusion for "local laws to ensure accepted public health and safety standards are met"
Section 15	Remove the word "proper" from Sect 15 for all references to enclosures.	Ensures consistency with the definition of enclosure in LL1 and the definition under Schedule 3 (Minimum standards for keeping particular animals) in SLL2.	Not anti-competitive Insignificant change

REVIEW OF AMENDMENT LOCAL LAWS FOR ANTI-COMPETITIVE PROVISIONS

Local Law	Proposed change	Reason for change	Review of anti-competitive provisions
Subordinate Local Law No. 2 (Animal Management) 2011			
Schedule 5 Exclusion of animals from specific places	Add maps 2.5.15, 2.5.16, 2.5.17, 2.5.18 to Schedule.	Updated maps reflect changes on the ground at these locations.	Not anti-competitive Relates to dog regulation, not business. Even if it did have some impact on businesses involving dogs, it comes under the PIR exclusion for "local laws to ensure accepted public health and safety standards are met".
Schedule 5 Exclusion of animals from specific places	Update map 2.5.13 Eleanor Shipley Park	Remove prohibition on animals in the carpark and clearly mark pedestrian thoroughfare for dogs on lead for traversing through the area.	As above
Schedule 5 Exclusion of animals from specific places	Add new map 2.5.15 Sunshine Coast Stadium	Include new map to prohibit animals at all times other than during an approved temporary event.	As above
	Add new map 2.5.16 Maleny Showground	Prohibit animals from indicated showground areas other than during an approved temporary event.	As above
	Add new map 2.5.17 Muller Park Reserve, Bli Bli	Small section of Muller Park to prohibit animals at all times.	As above
	Add new map 2.5.18 Bankfoot House Maleny	Include new map to prohibit animals at all times.	As above
	Amend schedule 6 to reflect correct times for Dog of Leash Area times on map 2.6.12 Town of Seaside	Schedule and does not reflect the correct times as indicated on map 2.6.12.	As above
Schedule 6 Dog Off Leash Areas	Amend map 2.6.14 Muller Park Reserve Bli Bli	Include new prohibited area, new timed dog off leash area and reduced dog off leash area at all times.	As above
Schedule 6 Dog Off Leash Areas	Amend map 2.6.29 Maleny Showground	Always include reduced dog off leash area other than during a temporary event, new prohibited dog area other than during a temporary event and new pedestrian thoroughfare dogs on leash at all times.	As above

REVIEW OF AMENDMENT LOCAL LAWS FOR ANTI-COMPETITIVE PROVISIONS

Local Law	Proposed change	Reason for change	Review of anti-competitive provisions
Subordinate Local Law No. 2 (Animal Management) 2011			
Schedule 6 Dog Off Leash Areas	New Dog Off Leash Area maps: 2.6.46 Flintwood Crescent, Palmview 2.6.47 Mapleton Lilyponds 2.6.48 Quota Memorial Park, Nambour 2.6.49 Baringa Forest Park 2.6.50 Annalise Circuit Park, Nirimba 2.6.51 Viridian Circuit Park, Birtinya 2.6.52 Grand Parade, Parrearra	New Dog Off Leash Areas to be included into the Local Laws.	As above
Schedule 3A Minimum standards for keeping animals generally	Animal noise nuisance provision has been amended to include adjoining land as well as residential premises: (c) unreasonably disrupts or inhibits an activity ordinarily carried out on adjoining land or nearby residential premises.	The change recognises that noise nuisance (e.g barking dogs) can affect activities on non-residential parts of adjoining land	Not anti-competitive Relates to animal regulation, not business. Even if it did have some impact on businesses involving animals, it comes under the PIR exclusion for "local laws to ensure accepted public health and safety standards are met"
Schedule 3A Minimum standards for keeping animals generally	Insert additional minimum standards for keeping of animals <i>1. the animal enclosure and containment measures meets the welfare needs of the animal (Animal Care and Protection Act 2001)</i> <i>2. the animal enclosure is maintained in good repair so as to not cause nuisance to neighbouring premises</i> <i>3. the animal enclosure is constructed to prevent wastewater from entering into the stormwater system or discharging to adjoining premises</i> <i>4. the land surrounding the animal enclosure must be kept clear of organic materials which may harbour vermin or cause a nuisance to neighbouring premises</i>	Brings requirements in line with minimum standards commonly used across local government.	Not anti-competitive Relates to animal regulation, not business. Even if it did have some impact on businesses involving animals, it comes under the PIR exclusion for "local laws to ensure accepted public health and safety standards are met"
Schedule 3 Minimum standards for keeping particular animals	1. Insert the following requirement for a dog enclosure: "in the case of a dog enclosure that is solely within a dwelling—must not include a door that opens directly to an area outside the dwelling that would give the dog unrestricted access to a public place."	Assist and supports existing law, tightens compliance provisions for enclosures to be constructed for a dog when a house has no fencing and animal escapes from the house utilised as a containment.	Not anti-competitive Relates to animal regulation, not business. Even if it did have some impact on businesses involving animals, it comes under the PIR exclusion for "local laws to ensure accepted public health and safety standards are met"

REVIEW OF AMENDMENT LOCAL LAWS FOR ANTI-COMPETITIVE PROVISIONS

Local Law	Proposed change	Reason for change	Review of anti-competitive provisions
Local Law No. 3 (Community Health and Environmental Management) 2011			
Section 24A Prescribed noise standard for building work	Replace the term 'approval for causing building work noise' with the term 'extraordinary building work noise permit'.	Change is required because in LL1, Council is replacing the current prescribed activity approval with a new special permit that essentially just replaces the building work noise standard on a case by case basis and is enforceable using the EPA provisions (contravene noise standard) rather than the local law approval regime.	See discussion above about these permits
Subordinate Local Law No. 4 (Local Government Controlled Areas, Facilities, Infrastructure and Roads) 2011			
Schedule 1 Prohibited activity	Insert a new prohibited activity for local government controlled areas: <i>8. contravene a sign that imposes time limits for use of public pontoons</i>	Provides provision to regulate restrictions on timed access to public pontoons.	Not anti-competitive This law falls under the exclusion in the PIR Guidelines relating to a law that is regulating the behaviour of individuals. It could inadvertently affect water-based businesses seeking to use public pontoons. However, signs already impose time limits that boats are supposed to comply with – the only difference is that this will provide a local law enforcement avenue to make sure these signs are complied with.
Schedule 1 Prohibited activity	Insert a new prohibited activity for local government controlled areas: <i>3. contravene a sign temporarily closing the playing surface of a sporting facility to the public</i>	Enables enforcement of temporary closure of a playing surface at a sporting facility (e.g. to prevent damage while recovering from heavy rain).	Not anti-competitive Sporting businesses already require approval for using local government sporting facilities so this regulation of use of playing surfaces will not impose new barriers to entry.
Subordinate Local Law No. 5 (Parking) 2011			
Schedule 4	Increase penalty from 2 penalty units to 4 penalty units for unauthorised use of disability parking, in line with the State amendment and advice received from Queensland Police Service.	The change in penalty amount will ensure the Council's enforcement aligns with the State Government's enforcement approach to discourage people unlawfully using these designated spaces. Council will collect an additional \$69,000 in penalties if the rate of unlawful parking remains consistent.	Not anti-competitive This regulates parking, not businesses. It does not change the existing offence for unauthorized use of disability parking – it just increases the penalty.

8.11 INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS AND TRADE POLICY

File No:	Council Meetings
Author:	Head of Investment, Trade and International Economic & Community Development Group
Appendices:	App A - International Relations and Trade Policy 263  
Attachments:	Att 1 - International Relations and Trade Policy - tracked changes 267  

PURPOSE

To seek Council endorsement of the International Relations and Trade Policy (Appendix A), the renewal or discontinuation of current formalised agreements with international entities ('sister/friendship cities').

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Council's international relations and engagement activities have been undertaken in accordance with the International Relations Policy since it was endorsed by Council at the Special Meeting on 18 February 2014 (SM14/1). The program of activities undertaken annually encompass many aspects of fostering local to global connections, to raise awareness of the region's investment and export opportunities and better position the Sunshine Coast in key international markets.

A review of Council's existing International Relations Policy demonstrated the need to update and reflect current trade and geo-political changes.

The International Relations and Trade Policy (Appendix A) has been reviewed and updated to better align to:

- the international activities and trade/export activities undertaken by Council
- positioning the Sunshine Coast in key national and global markets as a competitive source of high-demand goods and services
- Council's regional strategies - the Regional Economic Development Strategy 2013-2033, the Environment and Liveability Strategy 2017 and the Sunshine Coast Community Strategy 2019-2041.

For example, key regional projects and programs that may benefit from international opportunities include (but are not limited to):

- Sunshine Coast Airport expansion
- Maroochydoore City Centre development
- Sunshine Coast International Broadband Network
- Smart Cities
- Brisbane 2032 Olympic and Paralympic Games
- Supporting the UNESCO Biosphere and Blue Heart.

Council currently has four international agreements in place to foster business, cultural and educational exchanges for the Sunshine Coast community. Council's current International Agreements have also been reviewed as the agreements have expired and are due for consideration for renewal. These are:

1. Tatebayashi, Japan (Sister City Agreement)

2. Fenland, England (Friendship City Agreement)
3. Xiamen, China (Friendship City Agreement)
4. Mont Dore, New Caledonia (Friendship City Agreement).

These arrangements, some existing for almost 25 years, have over time become more focussed on cultural and educational initiatives, and do not necessarily align with the overarching economic priorities contained within the Regional Economic Development Strategy. However, the overall benefits to the Sunshine Coast region as a result of maintaining these international arrangements include:

- greater global access and connections for the community, which may lead to the achievement of greater economic outcomes for the region
- the opportunity to position the region to international business audiences through facilitated trade missions, trade shows and business briefings
- increased global business and investment opportunities, via the hosting of inbound delegations and participation in trade and investment events
- the opportunity to target international partners, programs, and projects, linked to the Brisbane 2032 Olympic and Paralympic Games.

OFFICER RECOMMENDATION

That Council:

- (a) receive and note the report titled “International Relations and Trade Policy” and
- (b) adopt the International Relations and Trade Policy (Appendix A)
- (c) endorse the continuation of the following government to government relationships:
 - (i) the Sister City arrangement with the Tatebayashi Municipal Government for a further 5-year period with the intent to align the agreement in due course to a Friendship City arrangement
 - (ii) the Friendship City with the Xiamen Municipal Government for a further 5-year period
 - (iii) the Friendship City with Fenland District Council for a further 5-year period and
- (d) does not renew the Friendship City arrangement with the Mont Dore Municipal Government.

FINANCE AND RESOURCING

There is no direct financial impact associated with the renewal or discontinuation of Council's existing international agreements. Administrative costs are included as part of the Economic Development Branch core budget.

Ongoing export/trade activities will be met by the Economic Development core budget. International activities as required will be met by the Economic Development project budget.

CORPORATE PLAN

Corporate Plan Goal: *Our resilient economy*

Outcome: 3.3 - Investment and growth in high value industries, innovation and entrepreneurship.

Operational Activity: 3.3.2 - Work with key stakeholders to identify investment opportunities, undertake marketing activities and support investment projects across the region's high value industries.

CONSULTATION

Councillor Consultation

The Mayor and Councillors have been consulted in relation to this report.

Internal Consultation

- Head of Economic Development
- Group Executive, Economic and Community Development
- Sunshine Coast Program Lead - Brisbane 2032

External Consultation

- Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFAT), Queensland State Office

Community Engagement

No community engagement has been undertaken in relation to this report.

PROPOSAL

At the Special Meeting on 18 February 2014 (SM 14/1), Council adopted the International Relations Policy which determined the organisation's corporate approach to international engagement. The International Relations Policy was directed at maintaining and enhancing Council's international reputation and providing a robust and transparent framework for Council's relationships and engagement with international entities. These objectives were purposefully targeted to ensure Council approaches its international engagement in a manner that is focused on building a professional and compelling value proposition in wider markets and with other international governments.

Since that time there have been four major shifts that have prompted a review of the International Relations Policy:

1. Council engagement through international agreements has steadily migrated over the years towards more social and cultural initiatives rather than clear and/or measurable economic development outcomes
2. Changes in the geopolitical environment in which the Sunshine Coast region is positioned, demonstrated most notably with the real or perceived need for Australia to enter the Australia, United Kingdom, and United States (AUKUS) partnership agreement
3. Delivery of advanced regional projects such as the Sunshine Coast expansion, the emerging Maroochydore City Centre, the operation of the Sunshine Coast International Broadband Network and the development of the Blue Heart.
4. The opportunity to target international partners, programs, and projects linked to the Brisbane 2032 Olympic and Paralympic Games.

One of the key principles underpinning the Regional Economic Development Strategy 2013-2033, is the recognition that the Sunshine Coast needs to shift from a consumption-based economy to one that is outwardly focused, investment oriented and connected to global and emerging markets. Sister cities and international alliances have traditionally provided the first approach at a municipal level to internationalising a city or region.

The International Relations Policy has subsequently undergone a review and has been renamed as the International Relations and Trade Policy, to include and reflect the focus and development, implementation, and delivery of all international activities including trade/export, and to realign these activities to the objectives outlined in Council's Corporate Plan and regional strategies.

Review of International Agreements

Over many years international agreements have been used to further Council's strategic policy objectives, key projects, relationships and partnerships that have economic and associated social and cultural benefits for the region and facilitate the community's broader cultural awareness. There are four types of international agreements that Council may consider establishing with international entities:

- Sister City Agreement
- Charter of Mutual Friendship Agreement
- Strategic Partnership Agreement
- Memorandum of Understanding.

At the Ordinary Meeting on 10 November 2016 (OM16/208), Council endorsed the continuation of three of its four international agreements (Xiamen, China; Tatebayashi, Japan; and Fenland District, United Kingdom) and agreed that its fourth agreement, with Mont Dore, New Caledonia, would undergo further review.

ARRANGEMENT	LOCATION	COMMENCED	SIGNED DATE	RENEWAL DURATION	EXPIRY
Sister City	Tatebayashi Gunma Prefecture, Japan	Since 1996	6-Oct-2017	4 years	6-Oct-2021
Charter of Mutual Friendship	March, Fenland District, UK	Since 1997	1-Sep-2017	4 years	1-Sept-2021
Charter of Mutual Friendship	Xiamen, Fujian Province, China	Since 1999	14-Aug-2018	4 years	14-Aug-2022
Charter of Mutual Friendship	Mont Dore, New Caledonia	Since 2006	15-Mar-2013	5 years	15-Mar-2018

** Due to the global pandemic of COVID-19 that occurred in 2020 all international travel and activities were placed on hold at this time and agreements surpassed their renewal timeframe.*

Australia's Foreign Relations (State and Territory Arrangements) Act 2020

Council is required to adhere to Australia's Foreign Relations (State and Territory Arrangements) Act 2020 (the Act) which was assented to on 10 December 2020. The Act's primary purpose is to ensure that arrangements between State or Territory governments (which include local government) do not adversely affect Australia's foreign relations and are not inconsistent with Australia's foreign policy and security interests.

The Act requires local governments to notify the Federal Minister for Foreign Affairs of any prospective and pre-existing foreign arrangements as defined under the Act. The obligations for a local government to notify the Minister of any prospective foreign arrangements commenced on 10 March 2021. Council has satisfied its obligation in this regard.

Brisbane 2032 Olympic and Paralympic Games

Further consideration must also be given to international activities within the framework of the upcoming Brisbane 2032 Olympic and Paralympic Games. Due to the size and scope of the Games, Council officers have considered the potential opportunities that international activities may offer, given a focus in hosting or part hosting such an event is to engage local industry and generate jobs. The Sunshine Coast will be home to four key venues and host nine sporting events including football, basketball, marathon, mountain biking, cycling and kiteboarding.

Council will focus on developing strategies to build strong relationships with relevant international governments, organisations, and institutions in addition to the local multicultural communities, corporate organisations and the business community to leverage the legacy of the Brisbane 2032 Olympic and Paralympic Games.

The objective of these strategies will be to:

- ensure that economic development opportunities that may stem from being a Key Delivery Partner of the Brisbane 2032 Olympic and Paralympic Games are harnessed for the benefit of Sunshine Coast residents
- enhance the Sunshine Coast region's profile in international markets
- enhance the Sunshine Coast region's economic position
- ensure that small business is supported with Council programs and events
- promote and integrate Council's marketing and business attraction opportunities
- work with the small business community to ensure Council is responsive to their needs and support the creation of local jobs.

International Missions Program

A key economic policy priority for Council in facilitating the shift from a consumption-based economy to one that is outwardly focused, investment orientated, and connected to global and emerging markets is to strengthen the region's economic foundations, support local business and create an environment that encourages investment and generates enduring employment and career opportunities for the community. Broadening access to the global marketplace is an essential element of:

- improving the competitiveness of the region
- sourcing new capital to enable business and employment growth expanding the availability of facilities and infrastructure that the community will need as the region continues to grow and
- showcasing the Sunshine Coast's export capabilities and attractions within the global environment.

Due to the global COVID-19 pandemic that started in 2020, Council's annual International Missions Program has not been developed nor been endorsed for travel since this time. However, now with border restrictions having eased, the reassessment and focus for Council to reinstate the International Missions Program is one of great importance.

Legal

Council's international agreements are not legally binding, however each international agreement will be reviewed by Legal Services prior to execution.

As per the requirements of Australia's Foreign Relations (State and Territory Arrangements) Act 2020, Council will notify any changes to Council's international arrangements to the Federal Minister for Foreign Affairs.

Policy

The International Relations and Trade Policy aligns with relevant Council policies.

Risk

There are no significant risks associated with endorsing the proposed renewal or discontinuation of Council's international agreements. The International Relations and Trade Policy provides a robust governance framework to assess, manage and mitigate potential risks to Council and its reputation as a result of its participation in international relations.

Previous Council Resolution**Ordinary Meeting 25 March 2021 (OM21/28)**

That Council:

- (a) *receive and note the report titled "Delegation to the Chief Executive Officer"*
- (b) *delegate powers to the Mayor to notify the Minister Foreign Affairs in accordance with the requirements of the Australia's Foreign Relations (State and Territory Arrangements) Act 2020 (Cth)*
- (c) *adopt Delegation 2016-73 (v6) Delegation to the Chief Executive Officer (Appendix A) and*
- (d) *note that all other existing specific delegations of authority to the Chief Executive Officer are retained.*

Ordinary Meeting 10 November 2016 (OM16/208)

That Council:

- (a) *receive and noted the report titled "Review of Council's International Agreements"*
- (b) *endorse the continuation of the existing government to government relationships to continue to reflect:*
 - (i) *a Friendship City arrangement based on arts and cultural activities with the Tatebayashi Municipal government for a further 4-year period and*
 - (ii) *a Friendship City arrangement based on arts and cultural activities with the Xiamen Municipal government for a further 4-year period and*
 - (iii) *a Friendship City relationship based on historical significance with Fenland District Council for a further 4-year period and*
- (c) *undertake further review and consultation with respect to the agreement with the Mont Dore Municipal Government.*

Special Meeting 18 February 2014 (SM14/1)

That Council:

- (a) *receive and note the report titled "International Relations Policy and 2014 Sunshine Coast International Missions Program"*
- (b) *approve the International Relations Policy (Appendix A)*
- (c) *approve the 2014 Sunshine Coast International Missions Program (Appendix B) and*
- (d) *approve the overseas travel identified in the 2014 Sunshine Coast International Missions program (Appendix B), with \$35,000 of cost to be met from the 2013/2014 budget for Strategy and Coordination and an amount of \$37,000 be included in Council's 2014/2015 budget.*

Related Documentation

- Australia's Foreign Relations (State and Territory Arrangements) Act 2020
- Sunshine Coast Council Corporate Plan 2023-2027
- Sunshine Coast: The Natural Advantage—Regional Economic Development Strategy 2013-2033
- Environment & Liveability Strategy 2017
- Sunshine Coast Community Strategy 2019-2041

Critical Dates

In line with the International Relations and Trade Policy and Council's response to the proposed recommendations in this report, the process for managing Council's existing international agreements will commence immediately.

Implementation

Should the recommendation be accepted by Council, it is noted that the Chief Executive Officer will:

1. Notify the Minister, via Australia's Foreign Arrangements Portal, as per the requirements of *Australia's Foreign Relations (State and Territory Arrangements) Act 2020* of any changes to Council's international arrangements.
2. Develop guidelines in support of the International Relations and Trade Policy.

Should the recommendation be accepted by Council, it is noted that the Mayor will formally advise all existing Sister City and Friendship Agreement governments of Council's decision.



Strategic policy

International Relations and Trade

Corporate Plan reference:	Our resilient economy <i>our Resilient, high-value economy of choice drives business performance, investment and enduring employment.</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Strong local to global connections Investment and growth in high-value industries, innovation and entrepreneurship
Endorsed by Council on:	
Manager responsible for policy:	Head of Economic Development

Policy purpose

The International Relations and Trade Policy provides the foundation to support Council's activities to pursue its strategic economic policy objectives when dealing with stakeholders and markets based primarily outside Australian sovereign territory.

The International Relations and Trade Policy is directed at maintaining and enhancing Council's national and international reputation and providing a robust and transparent framework for Council's relationships and engagement with international entities.

Policy outcome

Council has in place:

- An evidence-based rationale and robust arrangements for international and trade engagement
- Appropriate criteria to ensure any related agreements are outcome focused and targeted at appropriate international locations and markets.
- A transparent evaluation process that ensures clear outcomes are progressed through Council's internationally focused activities.

Policy scope

This policy applies to all engagement with the following entities:

- Foreign governments, their agencies, or affiliated organisations
- International business organisations and/or associations
- Foreign commercial and not for profit entities

This Policy is supported by guidelines authorised by the Chief Executive Officer.

Policy statement

A key economic policy priority for the Sunshine Coast is to strengthen the region's economic foundations, support local business and create an environment that encourages investment and the establishment of enduring high value employment and career opportunities. To achieve significant change in terms of investment, infrastructure provision, employment and prosperity, the region needs to continue moving from a consumption-based economy to one that is outwardly focused, investment oriented and connected to national and global markets.

Research undertaken by federal and state governments and other respected institutions highlights the criticality of exploiting the potential of current key and future growth markets globally as a foundation to developing prosperity and facilitating delivery of major infrastructure.

The Sunshine Coast is well placed to capitalise on its strengths and the growing opportunities the region presents. Appropriate and targeted engagement with foreign governments, commercial and not for profit organisations is warranted to position the Sunshine Coast in key global markets that offer the best prospects for success for the region.

The primary vehicles through which Council can engage with international entities are:

- International agreements.
- Hosting international delegations; and
- Participating in international missions.

Council recognises the long-standing and underlying concept of goodwill that underpins international relationships. However, Council's priority is to seek tangible and quantifiable economic benefits for the region from its international agreements and engagement activities.

The key benefits that Council seeks to achieve from its international agreements, activities and trade focused engagements include (but are not limited to):

- Promoting the region's export capabilities (goods and services) in high-value industries and economic sectors.
- Supporting the attraction of capital, professional expertise, visitation, or revenue to grow the local economy.
- Fostering access to trade and export opportunities for local business in new markets.
- Profiling the region as an investment destination to aid in securing such investment.
- Advancing the region's learnings from international best practice and locations of excellence.
- Establishing networks of significant business and other contacts.

Council will support associated cultural and community initiatives that facilitate the community's broader cultural awareness and appreciation where this better enables the achievement of economic outcomes for this region.

Guiding principles

1. All international agreements, missions and delegations undertaken by Council should contribute to the delivery of Council's Corporate Plan, the Sunshine Coast Regional Economic Development Strategy 2013-2033, Environment and Liveability Strategy 2017 and/or the Sunshine Coast Community Strategy 2019-2041 and are clearly identified at the time of obtaining authorisation for the proposed activity.
2. All international relationships and engagement must promote respect, encourage connections between the participating communities and seek to improve opportunities for knowledge and skills transfer.
3. Subject to the laws of the Parliament of the Commonwealth of Australia and the Parliament of the State of Queensland, Council is the only legal authority that can enter into an international agreement with an entity on behalf of the Sunshine Coast local government area.
4. Preservation and enhancement of Council's reputation, standing and resources is of paramount importance in any engagement or relationship with international entities. Council will not engage in new international relationships or agreements – and reserves the right to terminate an existing international relationship or agreement – where it considers the relationship or agreement may be detrimental to (or undermine) Council's

reputation, standing or resources.

5. Generally, Council does not authorise a third party to act as its intermediary or representative in engaging with international entities. A third party shall only act as an authorised representative of Council if that party has instructions in writing from the Chief Executive Officer approving their appointment as a representative of Council. Any instructions issued by the Chief Executive Officer in this regard should (at a minimum) specify the scope, extent of authority, duration and expectations associated with the appointment of the authorised representative.
6. The negotiation and authorisation of an international agreement shall only occur by resolution of council and following a rigorous assessment of the need, benefits and risks associated with establishing an international agreement of this nature.
7. Council will:
 - consider proposed international agreements in the context of the work of other levels of government and other local governments to avoid duplication or any breach of protocol
 - work with local industries, groups, institutions, organisations and other agencies to maximise benefits from developing international relationships
 - where possible, look to adopt a flexible approach to new international relationships to maximise the prospect of achieving Council's strategic economic policy objectives. Ideally, all international relationships should be project based, have defined outcomes, specified time frames and articulate how they contribute to the desired strategic outcomes
 - seek to maximise the utility and cost effectiveness of negotiating and maintaining international relationships through a range of tools such as electronic communications, video conferencing, and services offered by State and Federal Government agencies.
8. In participating in international relationships, Council is not the agent or advocate of any individual business seeking international trade or investment opportunities.
9. Council is not – and shall not act as (or act on behalf of) - a migration agent.

Roles and responsibilities

Council is responsible for:

- Adopting a new/renewal of an International Agreement
- Authorising international travel by the Mayor and/or Councillors as part of participating in an international mission.

The **Mayor** is responsible for:

- Issuing invitations to recommended international delegations to visit the Sunshine Coast.
- Executing approved international agreements.

The **Chief Executive Officer** is responsible for the operational aspects of this policy including:

- Managing expectations and ensuring advice is provided to Councillors on Council's international relations and trade processes.
- Approving Council officer participation in an international mission that is assessed to be of value to the region under this Policy
- Approving Council officer participation in an international mission that may be identified after the approval each year of Council's annual program of international missions.
- Authorisation of programs developed within or as a result of an international or trade agreement.
- Ensuring commitments are delivered in relation to international delegations and missions.

Measurement of success

A report compiled by the Economic and Community Development Group will be provided to the Chief Executive Officer at the end of each financial year providing an assessment of Council's annual international missions program.

Information will also be included in Council's Annual Report.

This policy will be reviewed as required to:

- ensure it remains consistent with the strategic and resource priorities of Council; and
- apply any specific learnings from the development and management of international agreements, missions and delegations.

Definitions

For the purposes of this Policy:

International Agreement means a Sister City Agreement, a Charter of Mutual Friendship Agreement, a Strategic Partnership Agreement, or a Memorandum of Understanding.

International Entities are:

- Foreign governments, their agencies, or affiliated organisations
- International business organisations and/or associations
- Foreign commercial and not for profit entities

International Relationships and Engagement include (but are not limited to):

- Activities associated with negotiating, executing, and maintaining an international agreement
- Activities associated with planning, organising, and participating in an international mission
- Activities associated with planning, organising, and hosting an international delegation.
- An **international mission** involves a visitation by an authorised representative(s) of Council to an international destination.
- An **international delegation** involves an approved visit to the Sunshine Coast by an international entity or entities.

Related policies and legislation

Local Government Act 2009

Australia's Foreign Relations Act 2020

Sunshine Coast Council Corporate Plan

Sunshine Coast – The Natural Advantage: Regional Economic Development Strategy 2013-2033

Environment & Liveability Strategy 2017

Sunshine Coast Community Strategy 2019-2041

Corporate Travel Policy

Gift & Benefits Policy

Civic Functions Guidelines

Business Investment Policy

Cultural Development Policy

Version control:

Version	Reason/ Trigger	Change (Y/N)	Endorsed/ Reviewed by	Date
1.0	Create New		Council Resolution (SM14/1)	18/02/2014
1.1	Updated department name and branding	N	Corporate Governance	04/01/2017
1.2	Update as per new Organisation Structure		Corporate Governance	22/11/2017
1.3	Policy review and update	Y	GE Economic & Community Development	28/04/2023

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Strategic policy

International Relations and Trade

Corporate Plan reference:	Our resilient economy <i>our Resilient, high-value economy of choice drives business performance, investment and enduring employment.</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Strong local to global connections Investment and growth in high-value industries, innovation and entrepreneurship
Endorsed by Council on:	
Manager responsible for policy:	Head of Economic Development

Policy purpose

The International Relations and Trade Policy provides the foundation to support Council's participation in international relationships activities to pursue its strategic economic policy objectives when dealing with stakeholders and markets based primarily outside Australian sovereign territory.

The International Relations and Trade Policy is directed at maintaining and enhancing Council's national and international reputation and providing a robust and transparent framework for Council's relationships and engagement with international entities.

Policy outcome

Council has in place:

- An evidence-based rationale and robust arrangements for international and trade engagement
- Appropriate criteria to ensure any internationalrelated agreements are outcomes focused and targeted at appropriate international locations and markets.
- A transparent evaluation process that ensures clear ~~economic~~ outcomes are progressed through Council's international~~ly engagement~~focused activities.

Policy scope

This policy applies to all engagement with the following entities:

- Foreign governments, their agencies, or affiliated organisations
- International business organisations and/or associations
- Foreign commercial and not for profit entities

This Policy is supported by guidelines authorised by the Chief Executive Officer.
~~contained in the following attachments:~~

International Relations & Trade Policy

1

~~Attachment 1—Establishing an International Agreement~~
~~Attachment 2—Agreement Types~~

Policy statement

A key economic policy priority for the Sunshine Coast is to strengthen the region's economic foundations, support local business and create an environment that encourages investment and the establishment of enduring high value employment and career opportunities. To achieve significant change in terms of investment, infrastructure provision, employment and prosperity, the region needs to ~~shift~~[continue moving](#) from a consumption-based economy to one that is outwardly focused, investment oriented and connected to [national and](#) global ~~and emerging~~ markets.

Research undertaken by federal and state governments and other respected institutions highlights the criticality of exploiting the potential of [current](#) key [and future](#) growth markets globally as a ~~plank~~[foundation](#) to developing prosperity and facilitating delivery of major infrastructure.

The Sunshine Coast is well placed to capitalise on its strengths and the growing opportunities the region presents. Appropriate and targeted engagement with foreign governments, commercial and not for profit organisations is warranted ~~in order~~ to position the Sunshine Coast in key global markets that offer the best prospects for success for the region.

The primary vehicles through which Council can engage with international entities are:

- International agreements.
- Hosting international delegations; and
- Participating in international missions.

~~Sunshine Coast~~ Council recognises the long-standing and underlying concept of goodwill that underpins international relationships. However, Council's priority is to seek tangible and quantifiable economic benefits for the region from its international agreements and engagement activities.

The key [economic](#) benefits that Council seeks to achieve from its international agreements, [activities](#) and [trade focused](#) engagements include (but are not limited to):

- Promoting the region's export capabilities (goods and services) in high-value industries ~~— notably education and research; tourism, sport and leisure; agri-business; health and well-being; aviation and aerospace; clean technologies; and knowledge industries and economic sectors.~~
- [Supporting the attraction of capital,](#) professional ~~services expertise, visitation, or revenue to grow the local economy.~~
- Fostering [regional](#) access to trade and export opportunities [for local business](#) in new markets.
- Profiling the region as [a competitive investment destination for visitation; business, property and infrastructure investment; and to aid in](#) securing such investment.
- Advancing the region's learnings from international best practice and locations of excellence.
- Establishing networks of significant business and other contacts.

Council will support associated cultural and community initiatives that facilitate the community's broader cultural awareness and appreciation where this better enables the achievement of economic outcomes for this region.

Guiding principles

~~1. Council's interactions, engagements and relationships with international entities will at all times:~~

~~contribute to achieving the outcomes of Council's Corporate Plan, Environment and Liveability Strategy, Community Strategy Environment and Liveability Strategy, Community Strategy and regional strategies.~~

~~be underpinned by mutual respect, understanding and diplomacy.~~

~~be conducted in a manner which maintains and enhances Council's credibility and reputation.~~

~~support increased visitation, export, investment, and business development opportunities for the region.~~

~~FRAMEWORK~~

~~Parameters relevant to all International Agreements, Delegations and Missions~~

~~2.1. All international agreements, missions and delegations undertaken by Council should contribute to~~

[International Relations & Trade Policy](#)

2

- the delivery of Council's Corporate Plan, the Sunshine Coast Regional Economic Development Strategy ~~2013-2033~~, Environment and Liveability Strategy 2017 and/or the Sunshine Coast Community Strategy 2019-2041, ~~the Sunshine Coast International Business Development Program and/or related objectives of another Council strategy that and~~ are clearly identified at the time of obtaining authorisation ~~of for~~ the proposed activity.
- ~~3.2.~~ 3.2. All international relationships and engagement must promote respect, encourage connections between the participating communities and seek to improve opportunities for knowledge and skills transfer.
- ~~4.3.~~ 4.3. Subject to the laws of the Parliament of the Commonwealth of Australia and the Parliament of the State of Queensland, Council is the only legal authority that can enter into a ~~n-binding or non-binding~~ international agreement with an entity on behalf of the Sunshine Coast local government area.
- ~~5.4.~~ 5.4. Preservation and enhancement of Council's reputation, standing and resources is of paramount importance in any engagement or relationship with international entities. Council will not engage in new international relationships or agreements – and reserves the right to terminate an existing international relationship or agreement – where it considers the relationship or agreement may be detrimental to (or undermine) Council's reputation, standing ~~and/or~~ resources.
- ~~6.5.~~ 6.5. ~~As a general rule~~ Generally, Council does not authorise a third party to act as its intermediary or representative in engaging with international entities. A third party shall only act as an authorised representative of Council if that party has instructions in writing from the Chief Executive Officer approving their appointment as a representative of Council. Any instructions issued by the Chief Executive Officer in this regard should (at a minimum) specify the scope, extent of authority, duration and expectations associated with the appointment of the authorised representative.
- ~~To maximise efficiencies, avoid duplication of effort and ensure the appropriate commitment and expenditure of Council resources, all engagements with international entities relevant to this Policy will be coordinated by the Economic Development Branch.~~
- ~~Negotiation of a Sister City Agreement or Charter of Mutual Friendship Agreement must be authorised by resolution of Council. The execution of an authorised Sister City Agreement or Charter of Mutual Friendship Agreement shall only be undertaken by the Mayor on behalf of Council.~~
- ~~7.6.~~ 7.6. The negotiation and authorisation of a ~~non-binding Strategic Partnership Agreement or Memorandum of Understanding~~ an international agreement shall only occur by resolution of council and following a rigorous assessment of the need, benefits and risks associated with establishing an international agreement of this nature.
- ~~8.7.~~ 8.7. Council will:
- consider proposed international agreements in the context of the work of other levels of government and other local governments to avoid duplication or any breach of protocol
 - work with local industries, groups, institutions, organisations, and other agencies to maximise benefits from developing international relationships
 - where possible, look to adopt a flexible approach to new international relationships to maximise the prospect of achieving Council's strategic economic policy objectives. Ideally, all international relationships should be project based, have defined outcomes ~~and~~, specified time frames and articulate how they contribute to the desired strategic economic outcomes
 - seek to maximise the utility and cost effectiveness of negotiating and maintaining international relationships through a range of tools such as electronic communications, video conferencing, and services offered by State and Federal Government agencies.
- ~~9.8.~~ 9.8. In participating in international relationships, Council is not the agent or advocate of any individual Sunshine Coast business seeking international trade or investment opportunities.
- ~~10.9.~~ 10.9. Council is not – and shall not act as (or act on behalf of) – a migration agent.
- ~~1. All international agreements must have a nominated review date of between three and five years. If an existing international agreement does not contain a nominated review date, then the review date shall be three years from the date of the agreement.~~

Matters specific to International Agreements

International agreements may be used by Council as a tool to facilitate participation by an international entity in:

- furthering Council's strategic economic policy objectives; and/or
- key projects, relationships and/or partnerships that have economic and associated social and cultural benefits for the region.

There are four categories of international agreement that Council may consider in establishing a formal relationship with an international entity:

- Sister City Agreement
- Charter of Mutual Friendship Agreement
- Strategic Partnership Agreement
- Memorandum of Understanding

The appropriate international agreement suitable for a particular international relationship shall be determined following an assessment of the location, benefits and risks using the assessment criteria and tools in **Attachment 1** within the policy and with consideration of the characteristics of nominated countries in the proposed agreement as outlined in the International Destination Matrix in Attachment 21.

A Sister City Agreement or Charter of Mutual Friendship Agreement shall only be entered into between:

- Council; and
- a lawfully recognised local or provincial government (or the legal equivalent in the jurisdiction where the entity is based).

There are to be no third parties to a Sister City Agreement or Charter of Mutual Friendship Agreement.

Unless approved otherwise by resolution of Council in a specific instance, a Sister City Agreement shall only be considered where:

- there has been a Charter of Mutual Friendship Agreement, a Strategic Partnership Agreement or Memorandum of Understanding in place for at least two years and where there has been demonstrable benefit for the Sunshine Coast from having these agreements in place; and
- the agreement is with an international city or locality that adds value to, and enhances the positioning of, the Sunshine Coast.

For a Charter of Mutual Friendship Agreement, a Strategic Partnership Agreement or Memorandum of Understanding, these agreements are only to be considered where:

- there is a clear economic benefit for the Sunshine Coast from having the agreement in place; and
- the agreement is with a reputable international entity that adds value to, and enhances the positioning of, the Sunshine Coast.

Council is at no time obliged to:

- Enter into an international agreement and Council always reserves the right not to consider an international agreement;
- Renew an existing international agreement;
- Provide hospitality or meet the costs of visiting delegations from a location with which it has an international agreement (other than where a Sister City Agreement is in place – see Attachment 2).

An international agreement:

- Other than a Sister City Agreement, must be a non-binding agreement.
- Will have a limitation of liability clause.
- Must in no way attempt to limit or fetter Council's statutory or regulatory responsibilities or Council's exercise of its statutory or regulatory responsibilities.
- Must not be open ended and must include a review clause of between three and four five years as considered appropriate for the agreement being considered and the objectives that it seeks to fulfil.
- Other than for a Sister City Agreement, unless authorised by the Chief Executive Officer, will not include obligations on Council to organise, host and/or support youth, student (adult or child) or cultural exchanges or visitor delegations (either inbound or outbound). Such exchanges can, however, be organised, hosted and/or supported by appropriate organisations within the region (at their own

~~expense) with an international entity with whom Council has an international agreement.~~

Matters specific to International Delegations

~~International delegations may be hosted by Council as a tool to facilitate:~~

- ~~• greater international exposure and awareness of the region and its attributes as a destination for visitation, investment and industry development;~~
- ~~• opportunities to showcase the region's products, services, and expertise to potential export markets; and/or~~
- ~~• investor and/or participant interest in specific projects or activities of value to the region.~~

~~Council is under no obligation to consider a request to receive or host international delegations unless it is an agreed element of a Sister City Agreement or Charter of Mutual Friendship Agreement.~~

~~As a general rule Generally, Council will not commit resources to hosting an international delegation where the delegates (or the delegation itself):~~

- ~~• are travelling to the region primarily for a holiday or for recreational purposes;~~
- ~~• are not travelling as members or representatives of an international entity;~~
- ~~• have not received a prior official invitation from the Mayor to visit the region;~~
- ~~• do not satisfy at least five of the assessment criteria nominated below.~~

~~Any requests for Council to host an international delegation must be notified in writing to the Mayor or the Chief Executive Officer. Requests to host an international delegation should clearly demonstrate the benefits that may reasonably be expected to accrue for Council, regional businesses, and industries and/or the community.~~

~~The political climate, financial stability, and international reputation of the location from where the delegation emanates shall be carefully considered when deciding whether to receive and host an international delegation.~~

~~The Head of Economic Development Branch may approve the hosting of an international delegation where the delegation meets at least five of the following criteria:~~

- ~~1. Identifiable economic benefits may potentially develop as a result of hosting the delegation.~~
- ~~2. Provides an opportunity for the region to promote its competitive strengths and export capability.~~
- ~~3. Enhances business, industry, and government connections.~~
- ~~4. Clear potential exists to establish new trade opportunities for Sunshine Coast businesses.~~
- ~~5. Provides an opportunity to promote the region as a competitive destination for visitation, business, property, and infrastructure investment.~~
- ~~6. Is relevant to developing and generating investment in one of the seven high value industries specifically identified in the Sunshine Coast Regional Economic Development Strategy.~~
- ~~7. Facilitates the region's learnings from international best practice and locations of excellence.~~
- ~~8. The delegation (or the location or region it represents) has an existing international relationship with the Sunshine Coast Council.~~
- ~~9. The location or region that the delegation represents has a government structure and/or an allocated representative to maintain and further international relationships.~~
- ~~10. The visit to Australia by the delegation is notionally supported by Trade and Investment Queensland.~~

Matters specific to International Missions

~~Council may participate in or lead international missions as a tool to facilitate:~~

- ~~• greater international exposure and awareness of the region and its attributes as a destination for visitation, investment, and industry development;~~
- ~~• opportunities to showcase the region's products, services, expertise and investment opportunities to potential export and investment markets; and/or~~
- ~~• investment and/or participant interest in specific Council projects or activities of economic value to the region.~~

~~The political climate, financial stability and international reputation of the mission destination(s) shall be carefully considered when deciding whether to participate in or lead an international mission.~~

An

~~The proposed annual program of international missions will be developed and presented to Council for consideration. The annual program of international missions will reflect:~~

- ~~• planned and known international missions proposed to be conducted across the nominated year;~~
- ~~• the rationale for nominating a specific mission and the potential benefits to the region of participating in the proposed mission;~~
- ~~• an indication of time frames in which the mission will likely take place;~~
- ~~• whether a Council representative/s are proposed to participate in or lead each proposed mission; and~~
- ~~• the estimated travel and accommodation costs associated with the Council representative participating in each proposed mission.~~

~~The proposed annual program of international missions that is presented for consideration by Council should also. Should any part of this program be accompanied by implemented then a post missions report on will be provided to the CEO at the end of financial year and included in Council's international relationships and engagement in the preceding year. Annual Report for Overseas travel summary.~~

~~Where an opportunity arises for Council to participate in or lead an international mission that has not been previously identified in the annual program of missions endorsed by Council, the opportunity shall be assessed by the Head of Economic Development Branch against the criteria nominated below and a recommendation made to the Chief Executive Officer for consideration.~~

~~Where the Chief Executive Officer determines that Council should participate in or lead an international mission that has not been previously identified in the annual program of missions endorsed by Council, the Chief Executive Officer may approve Council's participation in or leadership of the mission and:~~

- ~~• where the Council representative is to be a Council officer — approve the Council representative to take part in the mission as per the Corporate Travel Policy; or~~
- ~~• where the Council representative is to be a Councillor — make a recommendation to Council in relation to Council's participation in the mission.~~

~~In assessing whether Council should participate in or lead a proposed international mission, the mission should meet at least five of the following assessment criteria:~~

- ~~1. Identifiable economic benefits may potentially develop as a result of participating in the mission.~~
- ~~2. Provides an opportunity for the region to promote its competitive investment strengths and export capability.~~
- ~~3. Enhances business, industry, and government connections.~~
- ~~4. Clear potential exists to establish new trade opportunities for Sunshine Coast businesses.~~
- ~~5. Provides an opportunity to promote the region as a competitive destination for visitation and investment.~~
- ~~6. Is relevant to developing and generating investment in one of the seven high-value industries identified in the Sunshine Coast Regional Economic Development Strategy.~~
- ~~7. Facilitates the region's economic learnings from international best practice and locations of excellence.~~
- ~~8. The mission destination(s) has an existing international relationship with the Sunshine Coast Council.~~
- ~~9. The mission destination(s) has a government structure and/or an allocated representative to maintain and further international relationships.~~
- ~~10. The mission destination is destinations are located in a Tier 3 area nominated in **Attachment 1**.~~

~~Consideration to the strategic alignment to Council's Corporate Plan should also be given to the following:~~

~~Supports the development of a regional identity~~

~~Attracts capital investment~~

~~Contributes to a sustainable region~~

~~Fosters high value industries~~

~~Creates national and international connections~~

~~Supports employment~~

~~Attracts talent and skills~~

~~Reinforces the region's reputation as a premier regional events destination~~

~~The characteristics of the program should also:~~

~~Be run with existing SCC resources, skills, and capacity~~

~~Align with recognised vehicles for engagement (FTA's, trade offices, Sister City arrangements)~~

~~Be run without direct industry input~~

~~Be run without direct community participation~~

~~Be prioritised without abandoning or limited other high value programs of work~~

~~Offer an opportunity for a knowledge exchange that may contribute positively to the region's development~~

~~Result in increased employment within the region~~

~~Previously demonstrate the direct employment opportunities (fewer than 100 jobs)~~

~~Previously result in direct employment opportunities (greater than 100 jobs)~~

~~Result in direct investment into the region~~

~~Demonstrate other valued non-economic outcomes (social participation)~~

~~Contribute to Council's engagement of local businesses~~

~~Have the potential to foster investment in innovation and research~~

~~Any international travel undertaken by a Councillor or Council officer as part of participating in an International Mission must be reported in Council's Annual Report for the relevant financial year.~~

~~International travel for staff and Councillors that occurs to engage with international stakeholders for reasons other than primarily economic (i.e., study tours) and requires immediate or timely decision-making outside the annual International Missions Program will be the responsibility of the relevant branch/departments (including all approvals, budgetary requirements and associated costs) in accordance with the Corporate Travel Policy~~

Roles and responsibilities

Council is responsible for:

- ~~Adopting a new/renewal of an International Agreement~~~~Deciding whether to establish a Sister-City Agreement or Charter of Mutual Friendship Agreement.~~
- ~~Approving a Sister City Agreement or Charter of Mutual Friendship Agreement~~
- ~~Authorising an annual program of international missions in which Council will participate or lead~~
- Authorising international travel by the Mayor and/or Councillors as part of participating in ~~or~~ **leading** an international mission.

The **Mayor** is responsible for:

- Issuing invitations to recommended international delegations to visit the Sunshine Coast.
- Executing approved international agreements.

The **Chief Executive Officer** is responsible for the operational aspects of this policy including:

- Managing expectations and ensuring advice is provided to Councillors on Council's international relations **and trade** processes.
- Approving Council officer participation in an international mission that is assessed to be of value to the region under this Policy
- Approving Council officer participation in an international mission that may be identified after the approval each year of Council's annual program of international missions.
- Authorisation of programs developed within or as a result of an international **or trade** agreement.

Ensuring commitments are delivered in relation to international delegations and missions.

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The **Head of Economic Development** is responsible for:

~~Ensuring that council meets its obligations and adheres to the notification process for local government reporting of "non-core foreign arrangements" to the Foreign Arrangements Scheme, administered by the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFAT) in regard to prospective and pre-existing foreign arrangements it has entered or may be considering~~

- ~~entering.~~
- ~~Approval of Council hosting an international delegation.~~
- ~~Ensuring all options in relation to international relationships and engagement are objectively explored.~~
- ~~Approving The provision of hospitality and gifts for members are approved in accordance with Council's Gifts and Benefits policy.~~

~~The Head of an international delegation. The~~

~~Coordinator Trade, Investment Attraction and International~~ is responsible for:

- ~~Applying the guidelines, endorsed criteria and processes and overarching principles in this Policy to all international relationships and engagements progressed under this Policy.~~
- ~~Identification of economic benefits associated with international relationships and engagements.~~
- ~~Assessment and formulation of recommendations in relation to international agreements and missions.~~
- ~~Approving Council hosting an international delegation.~~
- ~~Maintaining a register of all international agreements and an appropriate record of all international engagements.~~
- ~~Approving the provision of hospitality and gifts as part of Council's participation in an international mission.~~

~~The Chief Legal Officer~~ is responsible for:

- ~~Ensuring international agreements limit Council's legal liability.~~
- ~~Ensuring international agreements comply with Queensland and Australian law.~~

~~To ensure the principles and accountability mechanisms in this Policy are appropriately activated, Councillors and all staff~~ are responsible for advising the Head of Economic Development of any request received by Council to:

- ~~Initiate an international relationship~~
- ~~host an inbound delegation~~
- ~~participate in/and or attend an international project, activity or, program or event~~
- ~~issue a letter of invitation to a prospective international delegation~~
- ~~participate in an international mission.~~

~~This advice should include details relating to specific matters or interests as outlined in Council's Corporate Plan, the Sunshine Coast Regional Economic Development Strategy, and/or related objectives of another Council strategy that are clearly identified at the time of obtaining authorisation of the proposed activity. For example, an Olympics related mission, would rely on the 2032 Program Lead being responsible for the operational, reporting and budgetary requirements in line with their branch responsibilities.~~

Measurement of success

A report compiled by the Economic and Community Development Group will be presented to ~~Council~~ ~~every~~ ~~the Chief Executive Officer at the end of each financial~~ year providing an assessment of Council's ~~annual~~ international ~~relationships and engagement~~ ~~missions program.~~

~~This~~ ~~information will also be included~~ in ~~the preceding year~~ ~~Council's Annual Report.~~

This policy will be reviewed ~~after two years of the date of its adoption by Council~~ ~~as required~~ to:

- ~~ensure it remains consistent with the strategic and resource priorities of Council at that time; and~~
- ~~apply any specific learnings from the development and management of international agreements, missions and delegations.~~

Definitions

For the purposes of this Policy:

International Agreement means a Sister City Agreement, a Charter of Mutual Friendship Agreement, a Strategic Partnership Agreement, or a Memorandum of Understanding.

International Entities are:

- Foreign governments, their agencies, or affiliated organisations
- International business organisations and/or associations
- Foreign commercial and not for profit entities

International Relationships and Engagement include (but are not limited to):

- Activities associated with negotiating, executing, and maintaining an international agreement
- Activities associated with planning, organising, and participating in an international mission
- Activities associated with planning, organising, and hosting an international delegation.

An **international mission** involves a visitation by an authorised representative(s) of Council to an international destination to:

- ~~Promote the region's export capabilities (goods and services) in high value industries – notably education and research; tourism, sport and leisure; agri-business; health and well-being; aviation and aerospace; clean technologies; and knowledge industries and professional services.~~
- ~~Foster regional access to trade and export opportunities in new markets.~~
- ~~Profile the region as a competitive destination for visitation; business, property, and infrastructure investment; and securing such investment.~~
- ~~Advance the region's learnings from international best practice and locations of excellence.~~
- ~~Establish networks of significant business and other contacts.~~

An **international delegation** involves an approved visit to the Sunshine Coast by an international entity or entities to:

- ~~Investigate investment opportunities in the region;~~
- ~~Investigate and/or negotiate trade and export relationships with business, industry and/or not for profit organisations in the region;~~
- ~~Such other activity as may be approved by the Chief Executive Officer and stated in any official invitation from the Mayor to the international entity.~~

~~**Culture** is the way a community sees itself and shows itself to others. It's the way a community expresses its values that define it as a distinctive group; values that are to be celebrated, remembered and offered to future generations.~~

Related policies and legislation

~~[Commonwealth of Australia Constitution Act 1900](#) [Constitution of Queensland 2001](#)~~

~~[Parliament of Queensland Act 2001](#) [Local Government Act 2009](#)~~

Documents

[Australia's Foreign Relations Act 2020](#)

[Sunshine Coast Council Corporate Plan](#)

Sunshine Coast – The Natural Advantage: Regional Economic Development Strategy 2013 - 2033

[Environment & Liveability Strategy 2017](#)

[Sunshine Coast Community Strategy 2019-2041](#)

[Corporate Travel Policy](#)

[Gift & Benefits Policy](#)

Civic Functions Guidelines

Business Investment Policy

Cultural Development Policy

Organisations

~~Trade and Investment Queensland~~
~~Department of State Development, Infrastructure and Planning Austrade~~
~~Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade~~

Version control:

Version	Reason/ Trigger	Change (Y/N)	Endorsed/ Reviewed by	Date
1.0	Create New		Council Resolution (SM14/1)	18/02/2014
1.1	Updated department name and branding	N	Corporate Governance	04/01/2017
1.2	Update as per new Organisation Structure		Corporate Governance	22/11/2017
<u>1.3</u>	<u>Policy review and update</u>	<u>Y</u>	<u>GE Economic & Community Development</u>	<u>28/04/2023</u>

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STRATEGIC POLICY – INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

International Relations Policy – Attachment 1 ESTABLISHING AN INTERNATIONAL AGREEMENT

- ~~1. Requests to establish an international agreement with Sunshine Coast Council and an international entity must be received in writing and addressed to the Mayor or Chief Executive Officer. Requests must clearly articulate the key purpose and benefits of establishing the proposed agreement.~~
- ~~2. Any request for a proposed international agreement will be assessed by the Economic Development Branch against the relevant criteria within this policy.~~
- ~~3. Key to the evaluation process is the assessment of the risk to Council associated in establishing the proposed international relationship and accompanying agreement. To inform the assessment of this risk, Council officers will consult with Trade and Investment Queensland (and their in market representatives) and the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade and other relevant and credible sources to establish an understanding of the:~~
 - ~~• Political climate of the international location~~
 - ~~• Financial stability of the international entity~~
 - ~~• Credibility and integrity of the international entity~~
 - ~~• Reliability of information provided by the international entity~~
 - ~~• International reputation and safety of the location~~
- ~~4. In considering whether to proceed with a proposed international agreement, consultation may occur with industry, educational institutions, business representative and other relevant community groups to assess the potential value that may be realised from a proposed international agreement with the proponent.~~
- ~~5. Following assessment using the criteria identified in the policy, the Head of Economic Development will make a recommendation (to either the Chief Executive Officer or Council depending on the form of agreement proposed) on whether an international agreement should be developed and the appropriate agreement type.~~
- ~~6. As a general rule and subject to eligibility, an international entity will only be recommended for a Charter of Mutual Friendship Agreement (or a Sister City Agreement if a Charter of Mutual Friendship has been in existence for more than two years), if the entity meets the relevant criteria within this policy.~~
- ~~7. Council's Legal Services Branch will be consulted and engaged in the process of developing all international agreements to ensure legal liability is considered and statutory compliance is achieved.~~
- ~~8. Individual legal advice should be sought by the entities that form part of Council's international agreements. Council is not responsible for providing legal advice to other entities who may be party to an international agreement.~~
- ~~9. If a party to an agreement poses a risk to, or may undermine, Council's reputation, standing and/or resources, no further consideration should be given to an international agreement with that party. The assessment of this risk shall include consideration of media reporting and other relevant considerations which influence the international reputation, standing and profile of the party (and the location of the party) seeking an international agreement with Council.~~

STRATEGIC POLICY – INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

INTERNATIONAL DESTINATION MATRIX

Tier 1	Tier 2	Tier 3
United Arab Emirates	People's Republic of China	New Zealand
	European Union	India
	Canada	Vietnam
	Indonesia	United States of America
	Malaysia	United Kingdom
	Japan	Hong Kong
	Taiwan	Singapore
	Thailand	
	Korea	

STRATEGIC POLICY – INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

International Relations Policy

AGREEMENT TYPES

<p>Sister City Agreement</p>	<p>A Sister City Agreement is a longer term partnership which takes place between the recognised government authorities of cities or regions in two different countries that generally share similar population and demographic profiles and economic interests.</p> <p>A Sister City Agreement is based on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Principles of mutual respect, cooperation, understanding and tolerance. The alignment of vision and strategic direction set by both communities through their respective legislative and policy frameworks. Collaboration, engagement and co-operation between the government and citizens of both communities. <p>These agreements should foster:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Cooperation in areas of mutual economic strength. The development of trade and investment related activity. Cultural understanding and the exchange of information to stimulate economic development. International perspectives on best practice local government <p>Formalities are limited to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The exchange of information and salutations via written and electronic communication. The exchange of gifts when an official visit has been arranged by prior mutual agreement. Hosting a Civic Function on the occasion of any official visit that includes the Mayor (or equivalent office holder) of the visiting Sister City. <p>Council will meet the accommodation and in-region transport costs for the Mayor (or equivalent office holder) and up to two official government staff participating in an authorised inbound delegation from a Sister City of the Sunshine Coast Council.</p> <p>A limited liability clause will be included in all Sister City agreements.</p>
	<p>Application: A Sister City Agreement enables the highest level of engagement with an international entity and is executed only with a location where high value, long term economic outcomes are expected for the Sunshine Coast.</p>

STRATEGIC POLICY – INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

Charter of Mutual Friendship

A Charter of Mutual Friendship Agreement is a formal government to government relationship entered into primarily for establishing friendly relations and promoting economic cooperation and understanding. It is based on:

- Principles of mutual respect, cooperation and local decision making;
- Achieving alignment of vision and strategic direction set by both communities through their respective legislative and policy frameworks;
- Stimulating collaboration, engagement and co-operation between the government and citizens of both communities.

The Charter should:

- Encourage community to community connections in the areas of trade, business development, culture, education, and training to foster understanding, respect and opportunities for knowledge and skill transfer where no resource cost is allocated to Council.
- Consider opportunities to exchange human and material resources and sharing of experiences and information where beneficial outcomes exist for both communities where no resource cost is allocated to Council.
- Provide appropriate public and private contacts to facilitate the introduction and establishment of relationships between economic and educational organisations within the two communities.

Formalities are limited to:

- The exchange of information and salutations via written and electronic communication;
- The exchange of appropriate gifts when an official visit has been arranged by prior mutual agreement; and
- Hosting a Civic Function on the occasion of any official visit that includes the Mayor of the visiting Friendship City.

The Chief Executive Officer will determine whether Council will meet the cost of in region accommodation and transport for the Mayor and up to two government officials participating in a visiting delegation from a Friendship City.

In making that determination, the Chief Executive Office will consider the significance of the relationship and the circumstances of the specific visit.

A limited liability clause will be included in all Charter of Mutual Friendship agreements. A Charter of Mutual Friendship is to be a non-binding agreement.

Application: A Charter of Mutual Friendship should be executed as an initial government to government relationship agreement, potentially as a precursor to a Sister City Agreement. It enables both parties to engage formally, to explore the potential for sharing knowledge, opportunities, and networks.

STRATEGIC POLICY – INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

Strategic Partnership Agreement

A Strategic Partnership Agreement is a formal Agreement involving the development of a specific activity, project or related group of activities that deliver a defined economic benefit.

These agreements set out specific focus areas of the parties and establish an environment that encourages the sharing of information, resources, technology, and research to advance a specific activity or project in high value industries or projects of significance to the region.

These agreements are based on:

- principles of mutual respect, cooperation and collaboration understanding and tolerance
- a mutually compatible objective(s) for both communities' collaboration, engagement and co-operation between the government and citizens of both communities

The agreement should foster:

- global competitiveness
- strategic partnerships to advance a specific objective(s)
- trade and investment activity
- collaborative research
- innovation

Formalities are generally restricted to:

- The exchange of information and salutations via written or electronic communication
- At the discretion of the CEO, hosting a Civic Function on the occasion of an official visit depending on the significance of the relationship and specific project.
- Official delegations and missions, both inbound and outbound
- Hosting critical meetings associated with advancing the objectives of the agreement

A limited liability clause will be included in all Strategic Partnership Agreements. Strategic Partnership agreements are to be non-binding in nature.

Application: A Strategic Partnership Agreement is executed with the intent of activating a specific project or program where a commitment of resources may be required. It provides the framework within which to work and clearly states the role, responsibilities, and the commitment of resources by each party. This type of agreement is used to formalise projects developed in specific industries where a mutual advantage has been identified.

STRATEGIC POLICY – INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

Memorandum of Understanding

A Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) is a document describing a bilateral or multilateral agreement between parties that articulates a coming together of ideas between the parties to pursue a common objective.

An MoU provides a clear statement of intent and common line of action and focus on a particular subject, area of expertise or industry of mutual importance to the parties to the agreement.

An MoU enables Council to work with the community and/or business networks and other levels of government to scope their roles and shared expectations.

An MoU is based on:

- principles of mutual respect, cooperation, and collaboration
- mutually compatible objectives for both communities engagement and co-operation between the parties to the MoU

Formalities are generally restricted to:

- The exchange of information and salutations via written or electronic communication
- Hosting critical meetings associated with advancing the objective(s) of the MoU

A limited liability clause is to be included in all MoU agreements. MoU agreements are to be non-binding in nature.

Application: A Memorandum of Understanding is an entry point relationship agreement – commonly a precursor to all other International Agreement types endorsed by Council. It enables the establishment, growth, and development of international relationships against a set of agreed goals to be achieved within defined parameters.

9 NOTIFIED MOTIONS**10 TABLING OF PETITIONS**

Petitions only eligible for submission if:

- * Legible
- * Have purpose of the petition on top of each page
- * Contain at least 10 signatures
- * Motion limited to:
 - Petition received and referred to a future meeting
 - Petition received and referred to the Chief Executive Officer for report and consideration of recommendation
 - Petition not be received

11 CONFIDENTIAL SESSION

12 NEXT MEETING

The next Ordinary Meeting will be held on 22 June 2023.

13 MEETING CLOSURE