



**Redland**  
CITY COUNCIL

# **AGENDA**

## **GENERAL MEETING**

**Wednesday, 21 February 2024**  
**commencing at 9.30am**

**The Council Chambers**  
**91 - 93 Bloomfield Street**  
**CLEVELAND QLD**

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## **1 DECLARATION OF OPENING**

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

### **Recognition of the Traditional Owners**

Council acknowledges the Quandamooka people who are the traditional custodians of the land on which we meet. Council also pays respect to their elders, past and present, and extends that respect to other indigenous Australians who are present.

## **2 RECORD OF ATTENDANCE AND LEAVE OF ABSENCE**

Motion is required to approve leave of absence for any Councillor absent from today's meeting.

### **3      DEVOTIONAL SEGMENT**

Member of the Ministers' Fellowship will lead Council in a brief devotional segment.

#### **4 RECOGNITION OF ACHIEVEMENT**

Mayor to present any recognition of achievement items.

## **5 RECEIPT AND CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES**

General Meeting - 17 January 2024.



## 6 DECLARATION OF PRESCRIBED CONFLICT OF INTERESTS AND DECLARABLE CONFLICT OF INTERESTS

Councillors are reminded of their responsibilities in relation to a Councillor's Prescribed Conflict of Interest and Declarable Conflict of Interest at a meeting. For full details see Chapter 5B of the *Local Government Act 2009*.

In summary:

### Obligation of Councillor with Prescribed Conflict of Interest

Section 150EL of the *Local Government Act 2009* requires Councillors to declare a Prescribed Conflict of Interest in a matter as soon as they become aware of their interest in the matter, either:

- (1) *at a local government meeting, or*
- (2) *as soon as practicable, by giving the Chief Executive Officer written notice of the prescribed conflict of interest.*
- (3) The declaration must include the following particulars:
  - (a) *For a gift, loan or contract – the value of the gift, loan or contract;*
  - (b) *For an application for which a submission has been made – the matters the subject of the application and submission;*
  - (c) *The name of any entity, other than the Councillor, that has an interest in the matter;*
  - (d) *The nature of the Councillor's relationship with the entity mentioned in (c) above;*
  - (e) *Details of the Councillor's, and any other entity's, interest in the matter.*

### Dealing with Prescribed Conflict of Interest at a Meeting

Pursuant to Section 150EM of the *Local Government Act 2009*, if a Councillor declares a Prescribed Conflict of Interest in a matter, ***the Councillor 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 discussed and voted on.***

### Obligation of Councillor with Declarable Conflict of Interest

Section 150EQ of the *Local Government Act 2009* requires Councillors to declare a Declarable Conflict of Interest in a matter as soon as they become aware of their interest in the matter, either:

- (1) *at a local government meeting, or*
- (2) *as soon as practicable, by giving the Chief Executive Officer written notice of the declarable conflict of interest.*
- (3) The declaration must include the following particulars:
  - (a) *The nature of the declarable conflict of interest;*
  - (b) *If the declarable conflict of interest arises because of the councillor's relationship with a related party:*
    - (i) *The name of the related party; and*
    - (ii) *The nature of the relationship of the related party to the Councillor; and*
    - (iii) *The nature of the related party's interests in the matter;*

- (c) *If the Councillor's or related party's personal interests arise because of the receipt of a gift or loan from another person:*
- (i) *The name of the other person; and*
  - (ii) *The nature of the relationship of the other person to the Councillor or related party; and*
  - (iii) *The nature of the other person's interests in the matter; and*
  - (iv) *The value of the gift or loan, and the date the gift was given or loan was made.*

#### **Procedure if Councillor has Declarable Conflict of Interest**

Pursuant to Section 150ES of the *Local Government Act 2009*, eligible Councillors at the meeting must, by resolution, decide whether the Councillor who has declared the interest:

- (1) *May participate in a decision about the matter at the meeting, including by voting on the matter; or*
- (2) *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 eligible Councillors discuss and vote on the matter.*

#### **Duty to report another Councillor's Prescribed Conflict of Interest or Declarable Conflict of Interest**

Pursuant to section 150EW of the *Local Government Act 2009*, a Councillor who reasonably believes or reasonably suspects another Councillor has a Prescribed Conflict of Interest or a Declarable Conflict of Interest in a matter must:

- (1) *Immediately inform the person who is presiding at the meeting about the belief or suspicion; or*
- (2) *As soon as practicable, inform the Chief Executive Officer of the belief or suspicion.*

*The Councillor must also inform the person presiding, or the Chief Executive Officer, of the facts and circumstances forming the basis of the belief or suspicion.*

#### **Record of Prescribed and Declarable Conflicts of Interest**

Where a Councillor informs the meeting of a Prescribed or Declarable Conflict of Interest, section 150FA of the *Local Government Act 2009* requires the following information to be recorded in the minutes of the meeting:

- (1) The name of the Councillor who may have a prescribed or declarable conflict of interest in the matter;
- (2) The particulars of the prescribed or declarable conflict of interest;
- (3) If another Councillor informs the meeting of a belief of suspicion, about another Councillor's Conflict of Interest:
  - (a) The action the Councillor takes;
  - (b) Any decision by eligible Councillors; and
  - (c) The name of each eligible Councillor who voted in relation to whether the Councillor has a declarable conflict of Interest, and how each eligible Councillor voted.
- (4) Whether the Councillor participated in deciding the matter, or was present for deciding the matter;
- (5) For a matter to which the Prescribed or Declarable Conflict of Interest relates:
  - (a) *The name of the Councillor who has declared the conflict of interest;*

- (b) The nature of the personal interest, as described by the Councillor;*
  - (c) The decision made;*
  - (d) Whether the Councillor participated in the meeting under an approval by the Minister;*
  - (e) If the Councillor voted on the matter, how they voted; and*
  - (f) How the majority of Councillors voted on the matter.*
- (6) If the Councillor has a Declarable Conflict of Interest, in addition to the information above, the following information must be recorded in the minutes:
- (a) The decision and reasons for the decision as to whether the Councillor with the Declarable Conflict of Interest may participate in the decision, or must not participate in the decision; and
  - (b) The name of each eligible Councillor who voted on the decision, and how the eligible Councillor voted.

## **7 MATTERS OUTSTANDING FROM PREVIOUS COUNCIL MEETINGS**

### **7.1 SUBORDINATE LOCAL LAW NO. 4 (LOCAL GOVERNMENT CONTROLLED AREAS, FACILITIES AND ROADS) (2015) 2023 COMMUNITY CONSULTATION**

At the General Meeting 15 February 2023 (Item 13.3 refers), Council resolved as follows:

*That in accordance with Council's Local Law-Making Process adopted on 20 March 2019; pursuant to section 29 of the Local Government Act 2009, Council resolves as follows:*

- 1. To receive and note the Community Consultation Feedback Review (Attachment 3) of this report.*
- 2. To request officers provide Councillors with a detailed briefing of the proposed changes, discuss concerns including pedestrian and rider safety, infrastructure requirements and solutions at a Councillor workshop to be held on 13 March 2023.*
- 3. To request officers to bring back a further report to a future General Meeting with recommendations and the amended Subordinate Local Law No. 4 (Local Government Controlled Areas, Facilities and Roads) 2015 to a future meeting of Council.*

A report will be brought to a future meeting of Council addressing dot point 3 above.

**7.2 NOTICE OF MOTION - CR JULIE TALTY - REPORT ON COUNCIL'S PROGRAMS RELATED TO THE ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AND BIODIVERSITY CONSERVATION ACT**

At the General Meeting 19 July 2023 (Item 18.1 refers), Council resolved as follows:

*That Council resolves as follows:*

1. *That Council undertakes a comprehensive report on the programs and infrastructure provision including expenditure, both operational and capital, in relation to koalas and threatened species management, and native vegetation rehabilitation and revegetation.*
2. *That a report be brought back to Council, and made publicly available on the Council website, explaining the success or other outcomes over the last ten years, and where known, planned in the coming five years in relation to koalas and threatened species management, and native vegetation rehabilitation and revegetation.*
3. *That the report be provided to the Federal Government to assist in Environmental Protection Biosecurity Conservation (EPBC) assessment of community infrastructure.*

A report will be brought to a future meeting of Council.

### **7.3 DRAFT BIRKDALE COMMUNITY PRECINCT LOCAL GOVERNMENT INFRASTRUCTURE DESIGNATION CONSULTATION REPORT**

At the General Meeting 13 September 2023 (Item 14.1 refers), Council resolved as follows:

*That Council resolves as follows.*

- 1. To endorse the Birkdale Community Precinct Local Government Infrastructure Designation Consultation Summary Report, including responses to submissions.*
- 2. To note that officers will continue to progress amendments to the Birkdale Community Precinct Local Government Infrastructure Designation based on the Consultation Report, and that a report seeking Council endorsement to make the designation will be brought to a future meeting of Council.*
- 3. To thank the community for its participation in the consultation.*

A report will be brought to a future meeting of Council.

## **8 MAYORAL MINUTE**

In accordance with s.6.9 of Council Meeting Standing Orders, the Mayor may put to the meeting a written motion called a 'Mayoral Minute', on any matter. Such motion may be put to the meeting without being seconded, may be put at that stage in the meeting considered appropriate by the Mayor and once passed becomes a resolution of Council.

## 9 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

In accordance with s.6.10 Council Meeting Standing Orders:

1. In each meeting (other than special meetings), a period of 15 minutes may be made available by resolution to permit members of the public to address the local government on matters of public interest relating to the local government. This period may be extended by resolution.
2. Priority will be given to members of the public who make written application to the CEO no later than 4.30pm two days before the meeting. A request may also be made to the chairperson, when invited to do so, at the commencement of the public participation period of the meeting.
3. The time allocated to each speaker shall be a maximum of five minutes. The chairperson, at his/her discretion, has authority to withdraw the approval to address Council before the time period has elapsed.
4. The chairperson will consider each application on its merits and may consider any relevant matter in his/her decision to allow or disallow a person to address the local government, e.g.
  - a) Whether the matter is of public interest;
  - b) The number of people who wish to address the meeting about the same subject
  - c) The number of times that a person, or anyone else, has addressed the local government previously about the matter;
  - d) The person's behaviour at that or a previous meeting; and
  - e) If the person has made a written application to address the meeting.
5. Any person invited to address the meeting must:
  - a) State their name and suburb, or organisation they represent and the subject they wish to speak about;
  - b) Stand (unless unable to do so);
  - c) Act and speak with decorum;
  - d) Be respectful and courteous; and
  - e) Make no comments directed at any individual Council employee, Councillor or member of the public, ensuring that all comments relate to Council as a whole.



**10 PETITIONS AND PRESENTATIONS****10.1 PETITION - CR WENDY BOGLARY - REQUEST TO STOP DESTRUCTION OF WELLINGTON POINT BUSH TRACK**

In accordance with s.6.11 of Council Meeting Standing Orders, Cr Wendy Boglary will present the petition and motion as follows:

**That the petition is of an operational nature and be received and referred to the Chief Executive Officer for consideration.**

**10.2 PETITION - CR JULIE TALTY - REQUEST FOR FOOTPATH CONSTRUCTION REDLAND BAY**

In accordance with s.6.11 of Council Meeting Standing Orders, Cr Julie Talty will present the petition and motion as follows:

**That the petition is of an operational nature and be received and referred to the Chief Executive Officer for consideration.**

**10.3 PETITION - CR ADELIA BERRIDGE - REQUEST TO INSTALL SPEED HUMPS ON SPIRIT DRIVE  
CAPALABA**

In accordance with s.6.11 of Council Meeting Standing Orders, Cr Adelia Berridge will present the petition and motion as follows:

**That the petition is of an operational nature and be received and referred to the Chief Executive Officer for consideration.**

**10.4 PETITION - CR ADELIA BERRIDGE - DEVELOPMENT APPLICATION MCU23/0181 9 JASEN STREET CAPALABA**

In accordance with s.6.11 of Council Meeting Standing Orders, Cr Adelia Berridge will present the petition and motion as follows:

**That the petition is of an operational nature and be received and referred to the Chief Executive Officer for consideration.**

**11 MOTION TO ALTER THE ORDER OF BUSINESS**

The order of business may be altered for a particular meeting where the Councillors at that meeting pass a motion to that effect. Any motion to alter the order of business may be moved without notice.

**12      REPORTS FROM THE OFFICE OF THE CEO**

Nil.

## 13 REPORTS FROM ORGANISATIONAL SERVICES

### 13.1 JANUARY 2024 MONTHLY FINANCIAL REPORT

**Objective Reference:** A8134910

**Authorising Officer:** Peter Paterson, Acting Executive Group Manager Financial Services & Chief Financial Officer

**Responsible Officer:** Peter Paterson, Acting Executive Group Manager Financial Services & Chief Financial Officer

**Report Author:** Udaya Panambala Arachchilage, Corporate Financial Reporting Manager

**Attachments:** 1. [January 2024 Monthly Financial Report](#) [↓](#)

#### PURPOSE

To note the year to date financial results as at 31 January 2024.

#### BACKGROUND

Council adopts an annual budget and then reports on performance against the budget on a monthly basis. This is not only a legislative requirement but enables the organisation to periodically review its financial performance and position and respond to changes in community requirements, market forces or other outside influences.

#### ISSUES

##### ***2023-2024 budget review***

Council adopted its revised budget at the General Meeting on 13 December 2023 and the updated budget numbers are reflected in this report. The capital portfolio continues to be reprioritised and delivered.

##### ***Capital program progress***

The Executive Leadership Team reviews the progress of the capital program on a regular basis. Council's capital works expenditure is ahead of budget by \$10.72M, due to the early and pro-active engagement with the market and the active management of contracts. The program is frequently and actively re-prioritised and managed to ensure that projects continue to be delivered on behalf of the community. Council is on track to deliver the largest annual capital expenditure program to date.

#### STRATEGIC IMPLICATIONS

Council has either achieved or favourably exceeded the following key financial sustainability ratios as at the end of January 2024.

- Operating Surplus Ratio
- Operating Cash Ratio
- Unrestricted Cash Expense Cover Ratio
- Asset Sustainability Ratio
- Asset Consumption Ratio
- Leverage Ratio
- Net Financial Liabilities Ratio

The Council-Controlled Revenue, Population Growth, and Asset Renewal Funding Ratios are reported for contextual purposes only. Population Growth and Asset Renewal Funding Ratios will not materially change from month to month.

### Legislative Requirements

The January 2024 financial report is presented in accordance with the legislative requirement of section 204(2) of the *Local Government Regulation 2012*, requiring the Chief Executive Officer to present the financial report to a monthly Council meeting.

### Risk Management

The January 2024 financial report has been noted by the Executive Leadership Team and relevant officers who can provide further clarification and advice around actual to budget variances.

### Financial

There is no direct financial impact to Council as a result of this report, however it provides an indication of financial outcomes at the end of January 2024.

### People

Nil impact expected as the purpose of the attached report is to provide financial information to Council based upon actual versus budgeted financial activity.

### Environmental

Nil impact expected as the purpose of the attached report is to provide financial information to Council based upon actual versus budgeted financial activity.

### Social

Nil impact expected as the purpose of the attached report is to provide financial information to Council based upon actual versus budgeted financial activity.

### Human Rights

There are no human rights implications for this report as the purpose of the attached report is to provide financial information to Council based upon actual versus budgeted financial activity.

### Alignment with Council's Policy and Plans

This report has a relationship with the following items of Council's *Our Future Redlands – A Corporate Plan to 2026 and Beyond*:

Efficient and effective organisation objectives

- 7.1 Improve the efficiency and effectiveness of Council's service delivery to decrease costs, and enhance customer experience and community outcomes.
- 7.4 Demonstrate good governance through transparent, accountable processes and sustainable practices and asset management.

### CONSULTATION

Consulted	Date	Comment
Council departmental officers	Year to date 31 January 2024	Consulted on financial results and outcomes
Financial Services Group officers	Year to date 31 January 2024	Consulted on financial results and outcomes
Executive Leadership Team and Senior Leadership Team	Year to date 31 January 2024	Recipients of variance analysis between actual and budget. Consulted as required



**OPTIONS****Option One**

That Council resolves to note the financial position, results and ratios for January 2024 as presented in the attached Monthly Financial Report.

**Option Two**

That Council resolves to request additional information.

**OFFICER'S RECOMMENDATION**

**That Council resolves to note the financial position, results and ratios for January 2024 as presented in the attached Monthly Financial Report.**































**13.2 OPERATIONAL PLAN QUARTERLY PERFORMANCE REPORT DECEMBER 2023****Objective Reference:** A8138300**Authorising Officer:** Deborah Corbett-Hall, Acting General Manager Organisational Services**Responsible Officer:** Tony Beynon, Group Manager Corporate Governance**Report Author:** Daniella Busk, Acting Adviser Operational Planning & Performance**Attachments:** 1. **Operational Plan Quarterly Performance Report Quarter Two (October - December 2023)** [↓](#)**PURPOSE**

To provide an update on the progress of the Operational Plan 2023-2024 for Quarter Two from 1 October to 31 December 2023.

**BACKGROUND**

The *Local Government Act 2009* requires Council to adopt an operational plan each year. The Operational Plan 2023-2024 (the Plan) is an important planning document which sets out how Council intends to implement the Corporate Plan *Our Future Redlands – A Corporate Plan to 2026 and Beyond*.

The Plan is structured to reflect the seven goals (themes) of the Corporate Plan, and outlines activities that Council plans to deliver to progress the 30 Catalyst Projects and 37 Key Initiatives in the 2023-2024 financial year.

The *Local Government Regulation 2012* requires the Chief Executive Officer to present a written assessment of Council's progress towards implementing the annual Operational Plan at meetings of Council, at least quarterly.

**ISSUES**

The Operational Plan 2023-2024 Performance Report (Attachment 1) focusses on Council's performance from 1 October 2023 to 31 December 2023. It includes a progress and status update for each activity for Catalyst Projects and Key Initiatives outlined in the Plan.

The report provides commentary by exception on activities that are not 100% complete in Quarter Two. In addition, the report provides Key Activities and Highlights under each goal (theme) of the Corporate Plan.

The following summarises the status of the 67 Catalyst Projects and Key Initiatives outlined in the Operational Plan 2023 – 2024 as of 31 December 2023:

On Track	57
Monitor	5
Concern	1
Completed	4
Cancelled	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>67</b>



The four Catalyst Projects and Key Initiatives finalised by Council during the Operational Plan 2023 – 2024 are as follows:

- Catalyst Project 3.3 New City Entry Statement
- Catalyst Project 4.4 Minjerribah Panorama Coastal Walk
- Catalyst Project 5.3 Marine Public Transport Facility Program
- Key Initiative 7.3 Improve our value for money delivery through the upgrade of our financial management system.

The following summarises the status of the 70 activities outlined in the Operational Plan 2023 – 2024 as of 31 December 2023:

On Track	59
Monitor	5
Concern	1
Completed	5
Cancelled	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>70</b>

## STRATEGIC IMPLICATIONS

### Legislative Requirements

This report has been prepared in compliance with section 174(3) of the *Local Government Regulation 2012* which states that ‘*The chief executive officer must present a written assessment of the local government’s progress towards implementing the annual operational plan at meetings of the local government held at regular intervals of not more than 3 months*’.

### Risk Management

The risk of not delivering the Plan is that Council does not achieve the commitments set out in the longer-term Corporate Plan. Each activity has associated risks which are managed by the relevant area of Council.

### Financial

The Plan is funded by the 2023-2024 Annual Budget adopted by Council on 26 June 2023.

### People

Although delivery of the Plan itself is dependent on staff resources, there are no direct impacts on people resulting from this report.

### Environmental

Some activities within the Plan directly contribute to Council’s environmental commitments. However, this report does not have any direct environmental impacts.

### Social

Some activities within the Plan directly contribute to Council’s social commitment. However, this report does not have any direct social impacts.

### Human Rights

There are no human rights implications associated with this report.

### Alignment with Council's Policy and Plans

This performance report is in response to Council's Operational Plan 2023-2024. The Plan outlines activities against the seven goals (themes) in the Corporate Plan that Council plans to deliver in 2023-2024. As such, it is a key planning document and consistent with Council's current Corporate Plan *Our Future Redlands – A Corporate Plan to 2026 and Beyond*.

Council adopted its Corporate Plan on 16 December 2020, for commencement on 1 July 2021. The Corporate Plan provides Council with a framework for forward planning and future delivery of services and infrastructure.

### CONSULTATION

Consulted	Consultation Date	Comments/Actions
Executive Group Manager People, Culture and Organisational Performance General Manager Organisational Services, General Manager Community and Customer Services General Manager Infrastructure and Operations General Manager Advocacy, Major Projects and Economic Development	January 2024	The activity progress and comments have been provided by the officers involved in delivering the activities within the Operational Plan 2023-2024.

### OPTIONS

#### Option One

That Council resolves to note the Operational Plan 2023-2024 Performance Report for Quarter Two from 1 October 2023 to 31 December 2023, at Attachment 1.

#### Option Two

That Council resolves to note this report and request additional information.

### OFFICER'S RECOMMENDATION

**That Council resolves to note the Operational Plan 2023-2024 Performance Report for Quarter Two from 1 October 2023 to 31 December 2023, at Attachment 1.**





























































































































### 13.3 EXPANSION TO PAYMENT METHODS - AMERICAN EXPRESS

**Objective Reference:** A8142927

**Authorising Officer:** Deborah Corbett-Hall, Acting General Manager Organisational Services

**Responsible Officer:** Peter Paterson, Acting Executive Group Manager Financial Services & Chief Financial Officer

**Report Author:** Katharine Bremner, Budget & Systems Manager

**Attachments:** Nil

#### PURPOSE

To inform Council that investigations are taking place to introduce an additional payment method in support to Redlands Coast residents, visitors and stakeholders as part of Council's broader Digital Transformation and Customer Experience initiatives.

#### BACKGROUND

Council officers in Financial Services were approached by American Express in 2023 to ask if Redland City Council (Council) would consider expanding the acceptable cards offered for payment to include its own card. Council currently only offers Visa and Mastercard for card payments as outlined on its rate notice, website and other communications. In line with *Our Future Redlands – A Corporate Plan to 2026 and Beyond*, Council is looking to enhance digital media platforms and technologies as well as ensuring process improvement initiatives are informed by customer insights aimed at improving the customer experience. Data presented to Council by American Express suggests its customers are wanting to use their cards with local governments. Council is mindful ratepayers and customers often want to control their payment times and dates and electronic payment channels are a way of fully controlling the time and amount of payment.

American Express card payment is accepted in some other local governments.

#### ISSUES

Council has a financial institution that it banks with and the Financial Services Group will work with the Commonwealth Bank of Australia to ensure current processes and payment channels are positively impacted if American Express cards were introduced as an acceptable payment method in addition to Mastercard and Visa.

#### STRATEGIC IMPLICATIONS

##### Legislative Requirements

Council officers are required to implement policies and priorities that promote excellence in service delivery and continual improvement in line with the Local Government Act 2009. Council is committed to working with others to consider how to improve the way all stakeholders transact with it.

##### Risk Management

##### Financial

There is no direct financial impact to Council as a result of this report and it is part of business improvement to enhance customer service and the customer experience at Council.

Following thorough investigations with key stakeholders, should officers choose to implement American Express as a payment channel:

- American Express has stated it is willing to support Council with technical funding and communications to ensure the ratepayer is not impacted by this introduction of this payment method; and
- if there is an associated merchant fee, this will be recouped by Council in the form of a surcharge in line with Council's current FIN-017-P Revenue Policy. Of note, BPAY is Council's preferred method of receiving payments and no surcharge will be placed on payments made to Council by BPAY.

### People

There is no direct financial impact to Council as a result of this report - it is noting some operational improvements. Should Council introduce an additional card holding, Redlands Coast residents, stakeholders and visitors will have more options to transact with Council.

### Environmental

There is no direct financial impact to Council as a result of this report.

### Social

There is no direct social impact to Council as a result of this report - it is noting some operational improvements. Should Council introduce an additional card holding, Redlands Coast residents, stakeholders and visitors will have more options to transact with Council.

### Human Rights

There are no human rights implications for this report as the purpose of the attached report is to inform Councillors of an opportunity to increase payment methods if the benefits to Redlands Coast ratepayers and customers outweigh the costs.

### Alignment with Council's Policy and Plans

This report has a relationship with the following items of Council's *Our Future Redlands – A Corporate Plan to 2026 and Beyond*:

Efficient and effective organisation objectives

- 7.1 Improve the efficiency and effectiveness of Council's service delivery to decrease costs, and enhance customer experience and community outcomes.
- 7.4 Demonstrate good governance through transparent, accountable processes and sustainable practices and asset management.

### CONSULTATION

Consulted	Consultation Date	Comments/Actions
Councillors, Executive Leadership Team and Finance Officers	12 December 2023	Presentation from American Express at its request to talk to its members' desire to pay local government payments with an American Express card
Chief Financial Officer	Throughout 2023	Approached via email by American Express to consider whether Redland City Council would consider expanding its current payment methods and insight to other Councils that have signed up with it

**OPTIONS****Option One**

That Council notes officers are working with American Express to provide an additional payment method for customers.

**Option Two**

That Council discontinues working with American Express as an additional payment method.

**OFFICER'S RECOMMENDATION**

**That Council notes officers are working with American Express to provide an additional payment method for customers.**

**14 REPORTS FROM ADVOCACY, MAJOR PROJECTS AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT**

Nil.

## 15 REPORTS FROM COMMUNITY & CUSTOMER SERVICES

### 15.1 STATE GOVERNMENT CORRESPONDENCE AND COUNCIL'S RIGHT TO INFORMATION REQUEST IN REGARD TO SHAPINGSEQ 2023

**Objective Reference:** A8144016

**Authorising Officer:** Louise Rusan, General Manager Community & Customer Services

**Responsible Officer:** David Jeanes, Group Manager City Planning & Assessment

**Report Author:** Brett Hookway, Principal Strategic Planner

**Attachments:**

1. Correspondence from Deputy Director General Planning Group [↓](#)
2. State Government Proposed Fast Track Amendment Process [↓](#)
3. ShapingSEQ 2023 City Plan Alignment Amendment Requirements [↓](#)
4. Notice - Amending Planning Scheme for Council comment [↓](#)
5. Council Officer Response to Deputy Director General Planning Group [↓](#)
6. Right to Information Request Notice of Decision [↓](#)
7. Right to Information Request Documents Released [↓](#)

#### PURPOSE

To note recent State Government correspondence outlining a proposed fast track process to streamline amendments to City Plan to align with ShapingSEQ 2023 and to provide an update on Council's ShapingSEQ 2023 Right to Information request.

#### BACKGROUND

##### Background and correspondence timelines in relation to ShapingSEQ 2023

The Deputy Director General Planning Group, Department of Housing, Local Government, Planning and Public Works recently wrote to Council officers advising of an urgent need to commence work to align Council's City Plan with the ShapingSEQ 2023 (see Attachments 1-4: correspondence from the Deputy Director General Planning Group, dated 19 January 2024). In summary, the correspondence included a draft notice detailing a new fast track amendment process and the expectations of State Government officers for Council to progress and finalise alignment amendments to City Plan before the end of 2024. The correspondence also sought a commitment that Council officers would work collaboratively with the State Government on alignment activities from early 2024 onwards.

The following chronology provides relevant background information leading up to the recent correspondence as follows:

**15 September 2022:** The Planning Minister advised Council of his decision to urgently prepare a housing strategy for the Redlands Coast. A key reason cited was that *'the Redland City Plan does not provide sufficient opportunity to deliver diverse housing options in the local government area'*.

**14 December 2022:** Council wrote to the Planning Minister outlining the critical elements the State Government should consider when preparing a housing strategy for the Redlands Coast.

**3 August 2023:** The draft ShapingSEQ 2023 Update was released for public consultation until 20 September 2023. All South East Queensland councils were given until the 9 October 2023 to make their submissions.

**27 September 2023:** Council endorsed the matters to be raised in its submission on the draft ShapingSEQ 2023 Update at a special meeting.

**16 October 2023:** The draft Redland Housing Strategy (RHS) was released for public consultation for 20 business days. Council endorsed the matters to be raised in its submission on the draft RHS at its General Meeting on 15 November 2023.

**5 December 2023:** Council officers were verbally advised by officers of the Department of Housing, Local Government, Planning and Public Works that the draft RHS is expected to be finalised in the first quarter of 2024.

**15 December 2023:** ShapingSEQ 2023 commenced. No major changes were incorporated to address Council's formal submission or the matters consistently raised by Council officers throughout the drafting process.

**19 January 2024:** Council officers received correspondence from the Deputy Director General Planning Group regarding the need for Council to undertake urgent work to align Council's City Plan with ShapingSEQ 2023 and a draft notice advising of a new fast track amendment process.

**29 January 2024:** The Group Manager City Planning and Assessment provided a written response to the correspondence received from the Deputy Director General Planning Group (see Attachment 5).

*Background on Council's Right to Information (RTI) request with regard to ShapingSEQ 2023*

Throughout the drafting of ShapingSEQ 2023, Council consistently sought further advice on how the ShapingSEQ 2023 drafting team assessed the projected dwelling supply to 2046 under the existing City Plan for Redlands Coast. In addition, further information and advice was consistently sought on how the Model for Urban Land Use and Transport Interaction (MULTI) model was developed and used to inform the drafting of ShapingSEQ 2023. In this regard it should be noted Council has consistently maintained that the estimated dwelling capacity figure used by the ShapingSEQ drafting team in preparing the draft ShapingSEQ 2023 was incorrect and significantly lower than the dwelling capacity that already existed under Council's City Plan. The State Government appears to have used its lower dwelling supply figure as a key justification for the inclusion of Southern Thornlands in the urban footprint in the final ShapingSEQ 2023.

As part of Council's submission on the then draft ShapingSEQ 2023, Council included an independent report, prepared by Land Supply Insights. The report reaffirmed the city has sufficient dwelling supply available under its current City Plan to accommodate the 2046 population and dwelling projections of the draft ShapingSEQ 2023 without any expansion of the urban footprint or the designation of any new growth areas in the City.

**13 September 2023:** Council resolved to lodge an RTI requesting further information used in the MULTI model and all documents related to the proposed inclusion of the Southern Thornlands in the urban footprint.

**20 October 2023:** the Department provided a notice of intention to refuse to deal with the application. The reason stated in this notice included *'...the application in its current form would substantially and unreasonably divert the resources of the Department from their use by the department in the performance of its functions. In particular, the ShapingSEQ team who are at a critical time and are currently working at full capacity to deliver the Shaping SEQ project.'*

In response to the notice of intention to refuse to deal with the application, the scope of the RTI request was modified by Council officers. The amended request was as follows:

1. *Specific inputs, assumptions and methodologies used to generate regional growth scenario 1, 2 and 3 using the MULTI model in the draft ShapingSEQ 2023 Update (draft ShapingSEQ).*
2. *Specific detailed investigation/s undertaken to justify the proposed inclusion of Southern Thornlands in the Urban Footprint. The highest priority documentation Council is seeking is:*
  - a. *The assessment conducted against each of the Urban Footprint Principles espoused in the South East Queensland Regional Plan.*
  - b. *Details of the sites in the region that were considered as potential alternative locations to accommodate future population growth, including details on what methodology was used to evaluate each site and how Southern Thornlands was determined to be the most suitable location.*

**12 December 2023:** Council received a RTI Notice indicating that 111 pages of documentation were within the scope of the application. Of the 111 pages, 62 pages were wholly or partially redacted and access was refused to 29 pages. Attachments 6 and 7 provide copies of the RTI Notice of Decision and document released. In summary, the released document responded to Council's RTI request in the following way:

- Details on MULTI: some additional information on the MULTI model and the key inputs and assumptions used has been provided.
- Assessment of Southern Thornlands against Shaping SEQ Urban footprint principles: Limited information has been provided in relation to Southern Thornlands assessment against the urban footprint principles.
- Assessment of potential alternative locations: no specific information has been provided on potential alternative locations to accommodate future population growth across the region (other than verbal reference to other Potential Future Growth Areas by officers of the Department of Housing, Local Government, Planning and Public Works) or on how Southern Thornlands was determined to be the most suitable location to accommodate a new growth area.

**11 January 2024:** an application for an external review of the information provided was lodged with the Office of the Information Commissioner.

## ISSUES

### **ShapingSEQ 2023 Alignment Amendment**

The correspondence received from the Deputy Director General Planning Group on 19 January 2024 advised of an urgent need to undertake work to align Council's City Plan with ShapingSEQ 2023 and requested a written Council officer response by 29 January 2024.

In summary, the response reiterates Council officers' longstanding commitment to work in partnership with officers in the Department of Housing, Local Government, Planning and Public Works on a range of significant planning projects and initiatives. The officer response notes, however, that there are a number of significant matters that will make delivering on the alignment amendments in the requested timeframe very challenging.



These matters include, for example:

- **Timing of the release of the RHS:** Council is yet to receive formal advice on how matters raised in Council's submission have been considered. There is also no clear understanding of when the final RHS may be finalised and released. Once finalised, Council will need to consider its position on RHS before any work on potential City Plan amendments can commence.
- **Uncertainty over planning investigations for Southern Thornlands:** Currently there is no clarity regarding how the significant level of planning investigation required to be undertaken will be progressed. In particular, urgent advice is needed from the State Government in regard to whether it intends to progress a Priority Development Area designation of the site under the *Economic Development Act 2012*.
- **Political challenges with Local Government and State Government elections:** Caretaker arrangements in the lead up to local and state government elections will impact on the processing of amendments. Council officers are unable to progress work on any amendment until such time as there is a resolution of Council.
- **Major delays with current City Plan amendments:** To date, Council has experienced significant delays in progressing a number of proposed amendments. This raises concerns in regards to the capacity of the State Government to manage an increased volume of fast tracked amendments in the suggested 3, 6 and 12 month timeframes from SEQ councils.

Attachment 6 identifies additional matters and provides further details.

### **RTI request**

To date, limited information has been provided in response to Council's RTI request. In this regard it may appear that either the State Government has not been forthcoming in its sharing of information with Council, or it may not have undertaken comprehensive critical assessments, such as its consideration of potential alternative locations to accommodate future population growth across the region and how Southern Thornlands was determined to be the most suitable location to accommodate a new growth area.

To ensure the principles of transparency and accountability in government decision-making are fully considered, an application for an external review of the information provided was lodged with the Office of the Information Commissioner on 11 January 2024. A further update to Council will be provided once the external review has been completed.

## **STRATEGIC IMPLICATIONS**

### **Legislative Requirements**

There is a legislative requirement for Council to ensure its City Plan aligns with ShapingSEQ 2023.

### **Risk Management**

There are no risk management implications associated with the recommendation of this report.

### **Financial**

Amendments to City Plan to align with ShapingSEQ 2023 may be funded as part of the operating budget of the City Planning and Assessment Group. Additional budget may be required in the 2024/2025 financial year following final determination on the scope and timing of amendments required to be undertaken to align City Plan with ShapingSEQ 2023.

**People**

The ShapingSEQ 2023 alignment amendment is expected to be undertaken as high priority work and completed by the end of 2024. It is expected that this work can be progressed by staff in the Strategic Planning Unit, however, this may have implications for the delivery of other projects/work being undertaken by the team.

**Environmental**

There are no environmental implications associated with the recommendation of this report.

**Social**

There are no social implications associated with the recommendation of this report.

**Human Rights**

There are no known human rights implications associated with the recommendation of this report.

**Alignment with Council's Policy and Plans**

ShapingSEQ 2023 provides new policy direction for the SEQ region and each local government. Council will be required to amend any policy and plans that may be inconsistent with ShapingSEQ 2023.

**CONSULTATION**

Consultation with State Government officers took place throughout the drafting period for ShapingSEQ 2023.

**OPTIONS****Option One**

That Council resolves as follows:

1. To note the correspondence from the Deputy Director General Planning Group, Department of Housing, Local Government, Planning and Public Works dated 19 January 2024, and the letter of response from the Group Manager City Planning and Assessment dated 29 January 2024.
2. To note the information provided on Council's Right to Information Request regarding details on the Model for Urban Land Use and Transport Integration (MULTI) and the inclusion of Southern Thornlands within the urban footprint of ShapingSEQ 2023.
3. To note that a request for an external review of the information provided to Council's ShapingSEQ 2023 Right to Information request was lodged with the Office of the Information Commissioner on 11 January 2024.
4. To note that a further update from Council officers on the outcomes of the external review by the Information Commissioner will be provided when received.

**Option Two**

That Council resolves to seek further information.

**OFFICER'S RECOMMENDATION**

That Council resolves as follows:

1. To note the correspondence from the Deputy Director General Planning Group, Department of Housing, Local Government, Planning and Public Works dated 19 January 2024, and the letter of response from the Group Manager City Planning and Assessment dated 29 January 2024.
2. To note the information provided on Council's Right to Information Request regarding details on the Model for Urban Land Use and Transport Integration (MULTI) and the inclusion of Southern Thornlands within the urban footprint of ShapingSEQ 2023.
3. To note that a request for an external review of the information provided to Council's ShapingSEQ 2023 Right to Information request was lodged with the Office of the Information Commissioner on 11 January 2024.
4. To note that a further update from Council officers on the outcomes of the external review by the Information Commissioner will be provided when received.























































































































































































**16      REPORTS FROM INFRASTRUCTURE & OPERATIONS**

Nil.

**17 NOTICES OF INTENTION TO REPEAL OR AMEND A RESOLUTION**

In accordance with *s.262 Local Government Regulation 2012*.

**18 NOTICES OF MOTION**

In accordance with s.6.16 Council Meeting Standing Orders.

## 19 URGENT BUSINESS WITHOUT NOTICE

In accordance with s.6.17 of Council Meeting Standing Orders, a Councillor may bring forward an item of urgent business if the meeting resolves that the matter is urgent.

Urgent Business Checklist	YES	NO
To achieve an outcome, does this matter have to be dealt with at a general meeting of Council?		
Does this matter require a decision that only Council make?		
Can the matter wait to be placed on the agenda for the next Council Meeting?		
Is it in the public interest to raise this matter at this meeting?		
Can the matter be dealt with administratively?		
If the matter relates to a request for information, has the request been made to the CEO or a General Manager Previously?		



**20 CONFIDENTIAL ITEMS**

Nil.

**21 MEETING CLOSURE**