

Redland
CITY COUNCIL

MINUTES

GENERAL MEETING

Wednesday, 19 February 2025

The Council Chambers
91 - 93 Bloomfield Street
CLEVELAND QLD

Order Of Business

1	Declaration of Opening	4
2	Record of Attendance and Leave of Absence	5
3	Devotional Segment	7
3.1	Condolence – Michael Challoner.....	7
4	Recognition of Achievement	8
4.1	Disaster Management Team, SES and Community Champions.....	8
4.2	Retirement of Mary McDougall.....	9
5	Receipt and Confirmation of Minutes	10
6	Declaration of Prescribed Conflict of Interests and Declarable Conflict of Interests	11
6.1	Declarable Conflict of Interest – Councillor Lance Hewlett	11
6.2	Declarable Conflict of Interest – Mayor Jos Mitchell	11
7	Matters Outstanding from Previous Council Meetings	12
7.1	Draft Birkdale Community Precinct Local Government Infrastructure Designation Consultation Report	12
7.2	Indoor Sports Facilities Planning	13
7.3	Petition - Cr Shane Rendalls - Request for Council to Reverse the Full Cost Recovery Policy for Moreton Bay Marine Facilities	14
7.4	Council's Programs Related to the Environmental Protection Biodiversity Act - Response to Notice of Motion	15
8	Mayoral Minute	16
9	Public Participation	17
10	Petitions and Presentations	18
11	Motion to Alter the Order of Business	19
12	Reports from the Office of the CEO	20
13	Reports from Organisational Services	21
13.1	January 2025 Monthly Financial Report.....	21
14	Reports from Advocacy, ajor Projects and Economic Development	38
14.1	2025 Federal Election Advocacy.....	38
15	Reports from Community & Customer Services	57
15.1	Council's Programs Related to the Environmental Protection Biodiversity Act - Response to Notice of Motion	57
16	Reports from Infrastructure & Operations	75
17	Notices of Intention to Repeal or Amend a Resolution	76
18	Notices of Motion	77

18.1 Councillor Representative Portfolio Structure 77

19 Urgent Business Without Notice 79

20 Confidential Items 80

20.1 Request for Further Deferral of Infrastructure Charges 82

20.2 Disposal of Land and Road Closure - Mount Cotton 83

20.3 Public Tracks and Trails on Private Land 84

20.4 Redland Investment Corporation Financial Report for period ending 30
September 2024 84

20.5 Chief Executive Recruitment Process..... 85

20.6 Strategic Property Opportunity 86

21 Meeting Closure 87

1 DECLARATION OF OPENING

The Deputy Mayor declared the meeting open at 9.30am and acknowledged the Quandamooka people, who are the traditional custodians of the land on which Council meets.

The Deputy Mayor also paid Council's respect to their elders, past and present, and extended that respect to other indigenous Australians who were present.

2 RECORD OF ATTENDANCE AND LEAVE OF ABSENCE

MEMBERS PRESENT: Cr Wendy Boglary (Division 1), Cr Peter Mitchell (Division 2), Cr Paul Gollè (Division 3), Cr Lance Hewlett (Division 4), Cr Shane Rendalls (Division 5), Cr Julie Talty (Division 6), Cr Rowanne McKenzie (Division 7), Cr Tracey Huges (Division 8), Cr Jason Colley (Division 9), Cr Paul Bishop (Division 10)

VIRTUAL ATTENDANCE: Cr Jos Mitchell (Mayor)

EXECUTIVE LEADERSHIP TEAM: Louise Rusan (Acting Chief Executive Officer), Grant Mather (Acting General Manager Organisational Services), David Jeanes (Acting General Manager Community & Customer Services), Margit Connellan (Acting General Manager Infrastructure & Operations), Natasha Comber (Proxy for General Manager Advocacy, Major Projects & Economic Development), Sandra Bridgeman (Executive Group Manager Financial Services & Chief Financial Officer), Andrew Ross (Executive Group Manager Risk & Legal Services), Micah Beaumont (Acting Executive Group Manager People, Culture & Organisational Performance)

MINUTES: Lizzi Striplin (Senior Governance Adviser)
Marina Roddy (Governance Adviser)

TELECONFERENCING**COUNCIL RESOLUTION 2025/9**

Moved by: Cr Peter Mitchell
Seconded by: Cr Paul Gollè

That Councillor Jos Mitchell be permitted to participate in the meeting via teleconference.

CARRIED 10/0

Crs Wendy Boglary, Peter Mitchell, Paul Gollè, Lance Hewlett, Shane Rendalls, Julie Talty, Rowanne McKenzie, Tracey Huges, Jason Colley and Paul Bishop voted FOR the motion.

Cr Jos Mitchell did not participate in the vote.

COUNCILLOR ABSENCES DURING THE MEETING

Cr Lance Hewlett left the meeting at 10.19am (during item 14.1) and returned at 10.21am (during item 14.1).

Cr Wendy Boglary left the meeting at 11.52am (during item 18.1) and returned at 11.54am (during item 18.1).

Cr Paul Bishop left the meeting at 11.55am (during item 18.1) and returned at 11.58am (during item 18.1).

Cr Tracey Huges left the meeting at 12.47pm (during item 20.6) and returned at 12.48pm (during item 20.6).

Cr Lance Hewlett left the meeting at 1.57pm (during the vote on item 20.3) and did not return for the closure of the meeting.

Cr Jos Mitchell left the meeting at 1.57pm (during the vote on item 20.3) and did not return for the closure of the meeting.

3 DEVOTIONAL SEGMENT

Pastor Angie Herranz from Chaplaincy Australia, also a member of the Minister's Fellowship, led Council in a brief Devotional segment.

3.1 CONDOLENCE – MICHAEL CHALLONER

Cr Wendy Boglary expressed condolences for Michael Challoner:

Many of Council's longer serving staff would remember Michael Challoner and today I would like to remember his contribution to our community.

Michael Challoner served as Redland Shire Council's first employed town planner, from 4 December 1976 to 1 February 1985, making an invaluable contribution to the development of Redland City.

His expertise and advice were highly regarded and respected by colleagues and community members alike. Michael was often called upon to be an expert witness for the courts.

Michael truly valued his time with Council, cherishing the opportunity to positively impact the city's growth and planning initiatives. When Michael joined Council there were 6 planning schemes over the City and he managed the first single Town Plan at a time when the growth rate was double what it is today. Michael's foresight in retaining certain parcels of land ensured the liveability we enjoy today, 40 years later, in many of our areas.

His legacy in the field continues to be appreciated by everyone who had the privilege of working with him. Over the past month I have had several ex-Council staff speak very highly of his work ethic, leadership and being a true gentleman.

4 RECOGNITION OF ACHIEVEMENT

4.1 DISASTER MANAGEMENT TEAM, SES AND COMMUNITY CHAMPIONS

Deputy Mayor Julie Talty recognised the Disaster Management Team, SES and Community Champions.

We have just witnessed the terrible devastation that the floods in North Queensland caused to our colleagues, particularly at Ingham in the Hinchinbrook Shire and Townsville, over the last few weeks.

As we know, our Disaster Management Team, SES and Community Champions here at Redlands are very special people, of whom we are all very proud. It gives me immense pride and honour, not only as a Councillor, but also as the Deputy Chair of our Local Disaster Management Committee, to advise you that Redlands sent a contingent of personnel up to Ingham and Townsville to support our northern colleagues.

Councillors, I would like to acknowledge and thank these amazing Redlanders:

Mike Tait - our Service Manager for Disaster Management. Mike spent 10 days in the Disaster Control Centre at Ingham doing what Mike does best.

We had 28 SES volunteers go up to Ingham and Townsville to help out the local community throughout this most difficult time. Thank you very much to:

Amanda Griffith

Chris Evans

Di Vandermeer

Enrica Brazzelli

Hammy Nosa

Heather Curley

Heather Robertson

Jane Cooke

Jonathon Gibbon

Kathleen Brzoskowski

Ken Bridge

Lee Unitt

Lloyd Marken

Luke Forster

Malakai Keen

Melanie Knight

Mike Jones – 2 deployments

Ross Alcorn

Scott Barnes

Sidrah Harcourt

Tim Willis

Tony Morton – 2 deployments

Tori Moore-Enright

Cindel Richardson

Alexandra Davies

Belinda Brown

Cooper McKillop

Jenny Ross

A special thank you to Catrina Malcom and David Fraser who assisted with the logistics back here at Redlands.

We also had three of our amazing community champions deployed to Townsville and Ingham working in their Evacuation Centres and recovery hubs to support the flood response:

Marie Dalton

Rae Green

Michelle Anderson

Councillors, please join me in showing our appreciation to these magnificent Redlanders.

4.2 RETIREMENT OF MARY MCDUGALL

Deputy Mayor Julie Talty recognised the retirement of Mary McDougall.

Councillors, it gives me great pleasure to acknowledge Mary McDougall for her 39 years of service to Redland City Council and wish her well in her retirement, commencing 21 February 2025.

Mary joined Redland Shire Council 39 years ago as a casual Data Input Operator in 1986. Little did she know, she would come to live and breathe all things 'Redland City Council' for the rest of her working life.

It wasn't long before her capabilities were recognised and she was appointed permanently as the Data Input Operator within the Accounts Team in 1987 and then Stores in 1988, where she stayed for an impressive 16 years.

Mary's longstanding tenure and experience working within Council equipped her with all the financial and inventory management capabilities that paved the way to her next role as a Senior Supply Systems and Accounts Officer. This was a role that Mary excelled in and delivered for the next seven years.

In 2011, Mary's career pivoted slightly, and she officially entered the world of procurement, first as a Procurement Officer, and from 2021 as the Procurement Process Administrator, where she continued to serve Council until her well-earned retirement, commencing on Friday.

Whilst Mary's career timeline can be succinctly summarised, her role and working contributions to Council are not so easy. Mary McDougall was a name very well-known, and many would consider her one of the beating hearts of Council. She was the person you asked when no-one else knew the answer. She had a front seat in many reviews, audits, business changes, system implementations and process developments and became somewhat of a walking encyclopedia or history lesson in Council operations. During her time within Procurement, Mary tirelessly supported Stores Operations, was the central responsible officer for the processing of all of Council's transactional purchasing, kept both our field and corporate staff clothed in Council uniforms, managed and maintained our financial Creditors, managed Council's stationery account and a myriad of other tasks that kept Council running smoothly.

Mary's commitment to the job was unwavering with her typically in the office before anyone else and being strongly encouraged to head home when the rest of us were ready to turn the lights off. COVID lockdown was particularly challenging for our very work focused friend as her home contains the one secret weapon that could stop her working her usual long hours. Mary would be toiling away in her office, head buried in her work, but when her beloved cat decided that mum had worked enough, the crying at the door was all it took for Mary to finally give up and shut down her computer for the day.

Mary, as you head into your very well deserved retirement, we thank you for all the time, effort, commitment and valuable contributions that you have given not only to Council, but also to the staff you have worked alongside and the Redland City community that we serve.

5 RECEIPT AND CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

COUNCIL RESOLUTION 2025/10

Moved by: Cr Paul Bishop

Seconded by: Cr Paul Gollè

That the minutes of the General Meeting held on 22 January 2025 be confirmed.

CARRIED 11/0

Crs Jos Mitchell, Wendy Boglary, Peter Mitchell, Paul Gollè, Lance Hewlett, Shane Rendalls, Julie Talty, Rowanne McKenzie, Tracey Huges, Jason Colley and Paul Bishop voted FOR the motion.

6 DECLARATION OF PRESCRIBED CONFLICT OF INTERESTS AND DECLARABLE CONFLICT OF INTERESTS**6.1 DECLARABLE CONFLICT OF INTEREST – COUNCILLOR LANCE HEWLETT**

Councillor Lance Hewlett declared a Declarable Conflict of Interest in relation to Item *20.3 Public Tracks and Trails on Private Land*, stating that he was previously a close friend of one of the owners of one of the parcels of land listed in this report.

Councillor Lance Hewlett chose to exclude himself from the meeting while the matter was being discussed and the vote taken.

6.2 DECLARABLE CONFLICT OF INTEREST – MAYOR JOS MITCHELL

Mayor Jos Mitchell declared a Declarable Conflict of Interest in relation to Item *20.3 Public Tracks and Trails on Private Land*, stating that she believes that non-factual statements made about her by one of the landowners during the election campaign may affect her impartiality.

Mayor Jos Mitchell chose to exclude herself from the meeting while the matter was being discussed and the vote taken.

7 MATTERS OUTSTANDING FROM PREVIOUS COUNCIL MEETINGS**7.1 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:

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.

7.2 INDOOR SPORTS FACILITIES PLANNING

At the General Meeting 18 September (Item 16.1 refers), Council resolved as follows:

1. *To endorse officers to investigate opportunities for a new indoor sports facility to be established in Redlands Coast as a legacy outcome in the lead up to the Brisbane 2032 Olympic and Paralympic Games.*
2. *To endorse the development of an Indoor Sports Facility Action Plan for the Redlands Coast identifying priority locations, funding requirements and opportunities for refurbishing existing facilities to obtain a minimum of six indoor courts.*
3. *To endorse the development of a feasibility study on the priority site(s) identified by the indoor sports court action plan.*
4. *To bring a report to Council on the outcomes of Brisbane 2032 Olympic and Paralympic Games indoor sports facility investigation and the Indoor Sports Facility Action Plan.*

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

7.3 PETITION - CR SHANE RENDALLS - REQUEST FOR COUNCIL TO REVERSE THE FULL COST RECOVERY POLICY FOR MORETON BAY MARINE FACILITIES

At the General Meeting 20 November 2024 (Item 10.2 refers), Council resolved as follows:

That the petition be received and referred to the Chief Executive Officer for consideration and a report to the local government.

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

7.4 COUNCIL'S PROGRAMS RELATED TO THE ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION BIODIVERSITY ACT - RESPONSE TO NOTICE OF MOTION

At the General Meeting 21 August 2024 (Item 15.1 refers), Council resolved as follows:

That Council resolves to note this report and a further detailed report be provided 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.

A report addressing this matter was discussed at Item 15.1.

8 MAYORAL MINUTE

Nil

9 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**MOTION TO SUSPEND STANDING ORDERS AT 9.53AM****COUNCIL RESOLUTION 2025/11**

Moved by: Cr Wendy Boglary

Seconded by: Cr Paul Bishop

That Council suspend standing orders for a five minute public participation segment.

CARRIED 11/0

Crs Jos Mitchell, Wendy Boglary, Peter Mitchell, Paul Gollè, Lance Hewlett, Shane Rendalls, Julie Talty, Rowanne McKenzie, Tracey Huges, Jason Colley and Paul Bishop voted FOR the motion.

MOTION TO RESUME STANDING ORDERS AT 9.59AM**COUNCIL RESOLUTION 2025/12**

Moved by: Cr Paul Gollè

Seconded by: Cr Tracey Huges

That Council resume standing orders.

CARRIED 11/0

Crs Jos Mitchell, Wendy Boglary, Peter Mitchell, Paul Gollè, Lance Hewlett, Shane Rendalls, Julie Talty, Rowanne McKenzie, Tracey Huges, Jason Colley and Paul Bishop voted FOR the motion.

10 PETITIONS AND PRESENTATIONS

Nil

11 MOTION TO ALTER THE ORDER OF BUSINESS

MOTION TO ACCEPT A LATE ITEM

COUNCIL RESOLUTION 2025/13

Moved by: Cr Shane Rendalls

Seconded by: Cr Peter Mitchell

That a confidential late Item, *Strategic Property Opportunity*, be accepted to the agenda and discussed between Item 20.4 and 20.5.

CARRIED 11/0

Crs Jos Mitchell, Wendy Boglary, Peter Mitchell, Paul Gollè, Lance Hewlett, Shane Rendalls, Julie Talty, Rowanne McKenzie, Tracey Huges, Jason Colley and Paul Bishop voted FOR the motion.

12 REPORTS FROM THE OFFICE OF THE CEO

Nil

13 REPORTS FROM ORGANISATIONAL SERVICES**13.1 JANUARY 2025 MONTHLY FINANCIAL REPORT****Objective Reference:** A11807664**Authorising Officer:** Sandra Bridgeman, Executive Group Manager Financial Services & Chief Financial Officer**Responsible Officer:** Peter Paterson, Financial Controller**Report Author:** Udaya Panambala Arachchilage, Corporate Financial Reporting Manager**Attachments:** 1. January 2025 Monthly Financial Report [↓](#)**PURPOSE**

To note the year to date financial results as at 31 January 2025.

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***2024-2025 first budget review***

Council adopted its revised budget at the General Meeting on 18 December 2024 and the updated budget numbers are reflected in this report.

STRATEGIC IMPLICATIONS

Council has either achieved or favourably exceeded the following key financial sustainability ratios as at the end of January 2025.

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

The Asset Sustainability Ratio did not meet the target at the end of January 2025 and continues to be a stretch target for Council with renewal spends of \$15.96M and depreciation expense of \$38.33M year to date on infrastructure assets. This ratio is an indication of how Council currently maintains, replaces and renews its existing infrastructure assets as they reach the end of their useful lives. Capital spend on non-renewal projects increases the asset base and therefore increases depreciation expense, resulting in a lower asset sustainability 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 2025 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 2025 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 2025.

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 from 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 2025	Consulted on financial results and outcomes.
Financial Services Group officers	Year to date 31 January 2025	Consulted on financial results and outcomes.
Executive Leadership Team and Senior Leadership Team	Year to date 31 January 2025	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 2025 as presented in the attached Monthly Financial Report.

Option Two

That Council resolves to request additional information.

OFFICER'S RECOMMENDATION 2025/14

Moved by: Cr Paul Bishop

Seconded by: Cr Paul Gollè

That Council resolves to note the financial position, results and ratios for January 2025 as presented in the attached Monthly Financial Report.

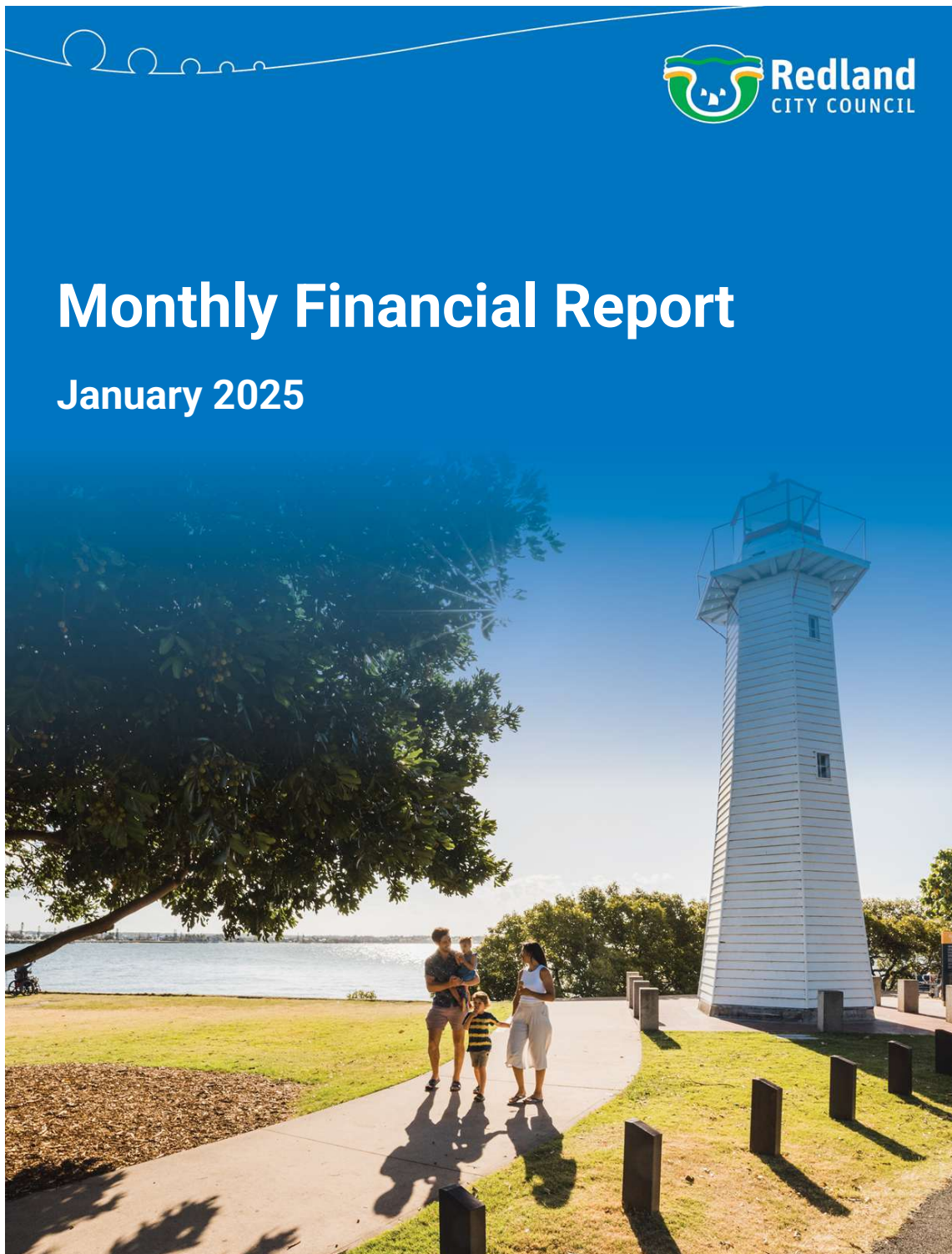
CARRIED 11/0

Crs Jos Mitchell, Wendy Boglary, Peter Mitchell, Paul Gollè, Lance Hewlett, Shane Rendalls, Julie Talty, Rowanne McKenzie, Tracey Huges, Jason Colley and Paul Bishop voted FOR the motion.



Monthly Financial Report

January 2025



CONTENTS

1. Executive Summary	3
2. Key Performance Indicators	3
3. Statement of Comprehensive Income	4
4. Capital Expenditure	6
5. Statement of Financial Position	7
6. Statement of Cash Flows	9
7. Investment & Borrowings Report	10
8. Constrained Cash Reserves	11
9. City Water Statements	12
10. City Waste Statements	12
11. Appendix: Additional and Non-financial Information	13
12. Glossary	14

1. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This monthly report illustrates the financial performance and position of Redland City Council compared to its adopted budget at an organisational level for the period ended 31 January 2025. The year to date annual revised budget referred to in this report incorporates the changes from the budget review adopted by Council on 18 December 2024.

Key Financial Highlights and Overview

Key Financial Results (\$'000)	Annual Revised Budget	YTD Budget	YTD Actual	YTD Variance	YTD Variance %	Status Favourable ✓ Unfavourable ✗
Operating Surplus / (Deficit)	2,684	48,603	47,727	(876)	-2%	✗
Recurrent Revenue	386,699	267,357	265,583	(1,774)	-1%	✗
Recurrent Expenditure	384,015	218,754	217,856	(898)	0%	✓
Capital Works Expenditure	140,083	56,814	44,344	(12,470)	-22%	✓
Closing Cash & Cash Equivalents	181,048	229,360	204,480	(24,880)	-11%	✗
Short-Term Investment	50,000	50,000	50,000	-	0%	✓

Council reported a year to date operating surplus of \$47.73M which is unfavourable to budget by \$876K. This is mainly due to lower than budgeted levies and utility charges, lower than budgeted grants subsidies and contributions revenue, higher than budgeted depreciation expense, and higher than budgeted other expenditure, partially offset by lower than budgeted materials and services expenditure. Variances to budget are closely monitored and will be addressed within the appropriate budget review as required.

Council's capital works expenditure is behind budget by \$12.47M due to timing of works for a number of infrastructure projects.

Council's cash balance is behind budget at 31 January mainly due to timing of cash flows, with lower than budgeted receipts from customers, higher than budgeted payments to suppliers, and lower than budgeted receipt of capital grants, subsidies and contributions. This is partially offset by lower than budgeted payments for property, plant and equipment. Constrained cash reserves represent 61% of the cash balance.

2. KEY PERFORMANCE INDICATORS

During 2024, a new Financial Management (Sustainability) Guideline (the Guideline) was developed by the Department of Housing, Local Government, Planning and Public Works following consultation with local governments and other stakeholders which supersedes the Financial Management (Sustainability) Guideline 2013. The Guideline applies to all Queensland local governments for calculating the relevant financial sustainability measures detailed in the *Local Government Regulation 2012* and are presented below.

Type	Financial Sustainability Measures	Target	Annual Revised Budget	YTD Actual	Status Achieved ✓ Not achieved ✗
Financial Capacity	Council-Controlled Revenue*	Contextual - No target specified	90.15%	91.75%	N/A
	Population Growth Ratio*	Contextual - No target specified	1.88%	1.88%	N/A
Operating Performance	Operating Surplus Ratio	Greater than 0%	0.70%	17.75%	✓
	Operating Cash Ratio	Greater than 0%	21.03%	35.37%	✓
Liquidity	Unrestricted Cash Expense Cover Ratio	Greater than 2 months	8.95	10.25	✓
Asset Management	Asset Sustainability Ratio	Greater than 60%	92.87%	41.65%	✗
	Asset Consumption Ratio	Greater than 60%	67.40%	61.45%	✓
	Asset Renewal Funding Ratio*	Contextual - No target specified	100.00%	100.00%	N/A
Debt Servicing Capacity	Leverage Ratio	0 - 4 times	1.10	0.65	✓
Level of Debt	Net Financial Liabilities Ratio**	Less than 60% (on average over the long-term)	-21.41%	-63.75%	✓

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

** The Net Financial Liabilities Ratio is negative as current assets are greater than total liabilities. This measure is presented in addition to the nine financial sustainability measures required to provide more information to the community.

3. STATEMENT OF COMPREHENSIVE INCOME

STATEMENT OF COMPREHENSIVE INCOME					
For the period ending 31 January 2025					
	Annual Original Budget \$000	Annual Revised Budget \$000	YTD Budget \$000	YTD Actual \$000	YTD Variance \$000
Recurrent revenue					
Rates charges	132,519	132,519	99,482	99,803	321
Levies and utility charges	202,583	202,583	137,132	135,639	(1,493)
Less: Pensioner remissions and rebates	(3,896)	(3,896)	(2,851)	(2,851)	-
Fees	20,936	22,442	14,056	14,083	27
Rental income	1,128	1,239	643	712	69
Interest received	13,583	13,583	7,821	8,036	215
Sales revenue	4,990	4,990	2,944	3,069	125
Other income	935	935	731	1,063	332
Grants, subsidies and contributions	9,534	12,305	7,399	6,029	(1,370)
Total recurrent revenue	382,312	386,699	267,357	265,583	(1,774)
Recurrent expenses					
Employee benefits	117,020	117,084	69,845	69,428	(417)
Materials and services	185,222	186,266	102,540	100,534	(2,006)
Finance costs	3,995	3,995	2,002	1,924	(78)
Depreciation and amortisation	78,067	78,067	45,539	46,372	833
Other expenditure	620	(249)	(501)	496	997
Net internal costs	(1,148)	(1,148)	(671)	(898)	(227)
Total recurrent expenses	383,777	384,015	218,754	217,856	(898)
OPERATING SURPLUS / (DEFICIT)	(1,465)	2,684	48,603	47,727	(876)
Capital revenue					
Grants, subsidies and contributions	20,232	28,409	17,071	8,720	(8,351)
Non-cash contributions	121,013	121,013	-	6	6
Total capital revenue	141,244	149,421	17,071	8,726	(8,345)
Capital expenses					
(Gain) / loss on disposal of non-current assets	9,603	9,603	5,312	137	(5,175)
Total capital expenses	9,603	9,603	5,312	137	(5,175)
TOTAL INCOME	523,556	536,121	284,428	274,309	(10,119)
TOTAL EXPENSES	393,380	393,618	224,066	217,993	(6,073)
NET RESULT	130,177	142,503	60,362	56,316	(4,046)
Other comprehensive income / (loss)					
Items that will not be reclassified to a net result					
Revaluation of property, plant and equipment	-	-	-	-	-
TOTAL COMPREHENSIVE INCOME	130,177	142,503	60,362	56,316	(4,046)

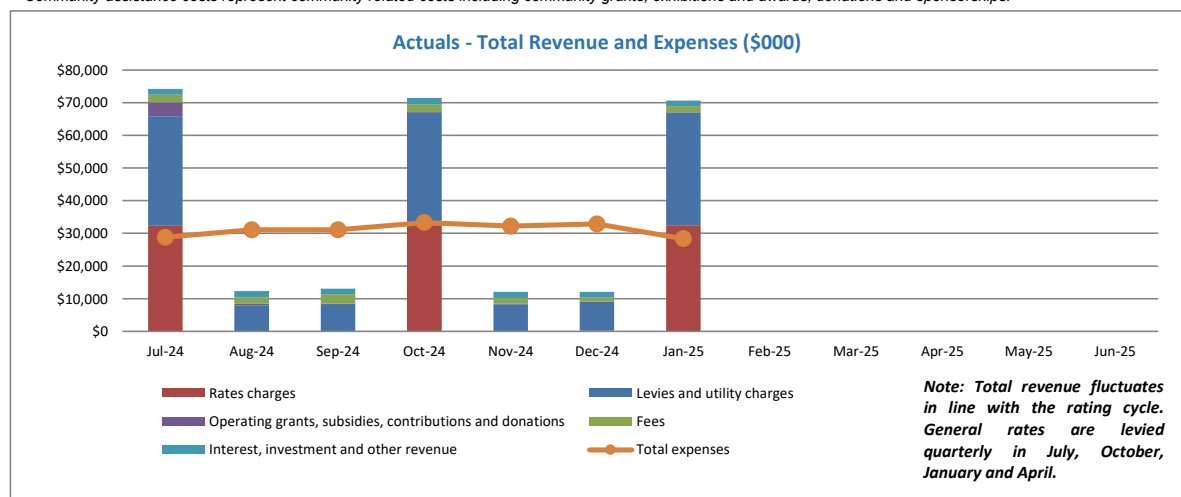
3. STATEMENT OF COMPREHENSIVE INCOME - CONTINUED

LEVIES AND UTILITY CHARGES ANALYSIS					
For the period ending 31 January 2025					
	Annual	Annual	YTD	YTD	YTD
	Original	Revised	Budget	Actual	Variance
	Budget	Budget	\$000	\$000	\$000
	\$000	\$000			
Levies and utility charges					
Refuse collection rate charge	38,288	38,288	22,272	22,571	299
SES separate charge	479	479	359	361	2
Environment & Coastal Management Separate Charge	14,970	14,970	11,046	11,258	212
Separate charge landfill remediation	3,096	3,096	2,321	2,330	9
Wastewater charges	60,831	60,831	45,401	45,992	591
Water access charges	24,845	24,845	18,610	18,718	108
Water consumption charges	60,074	60,074	37,123	34,409	(2,714)
Total levies and utility charges	202,583	202,583	137,132	135,639	(1,493)

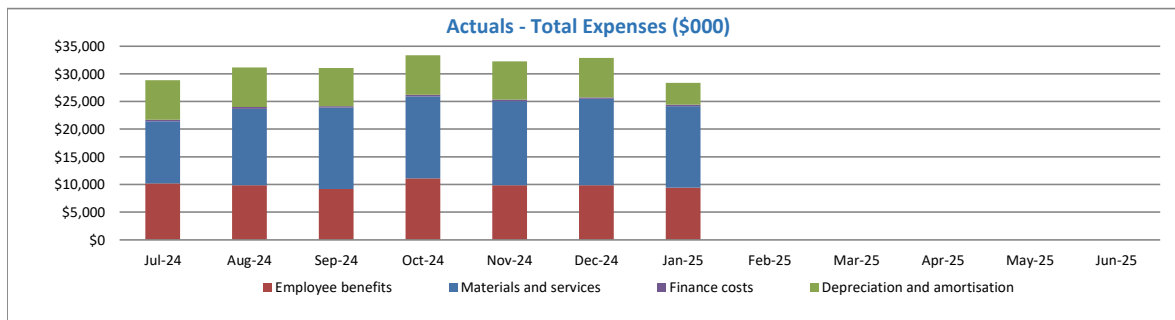
MATERIALS AND SERVICES ANALYSIS					
For the period ending 31 January 2025					
	Annual	Annual	YTD	YTD	YTD
	Original	Revised	Budget	Actual	Variance
	Budget	Budget	\$000	\$000	\$000
	\$000	\$000			
Materials and services					
Contractors	54,322	55,798	26,305	27,671	1,366
Consultants	6,593	7,372	3,376	2,310	(1,066)
Other Council outsourcing costs*	32,430	30,958	17,099	15,116	(1,983)
Purchase of materials	64,458	65,061	39,382	36,472	(2,910)
Office administration costs	5,028	3,053	2,501	5,145	2,644
Electricity charges	5,550	6,548	3,519	3,344	(175)
Plant operations	4,111	4,111	2,426	2,346	(80)
Information technology resources	7,964	7,966	4,660	5,012	352
General insurance	2,158	2,804	1,689	1,642	(47)
Community assistance**	1,863	1,843	1,114	1,075	(39)
Other material and service expenses	746	752	469	401	(68)
Total materials and services	185,222	186,266	102,540	100,534	(2,006)

* Other Council outsourcing costs are various outsourced costs including refuse collection and disposal, waste disposal, legal services, traffic control, external training, valuation fees, etc.

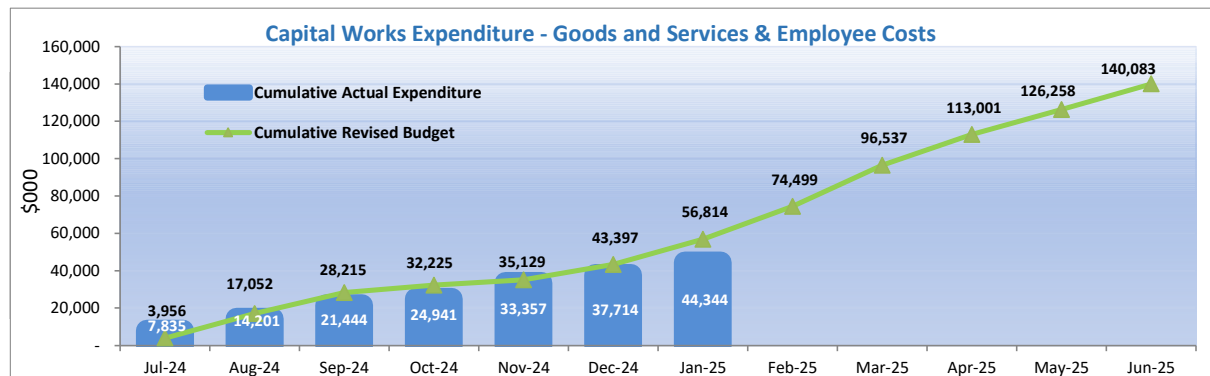
** Community assistance costs represent community related costs including community grants, exhibitions and awards, donations and sponsorships.



3. STATEMENT OF COMPREHENSIVE INCOME - CONTINUED



4. CAPITAL EXPENDITURE



	Annual Revised Budget \$000	YTD Budget \$000	YTD Actual \$000	YTD Variance \$000
Capitalised goods and services*	130,796	53,298	39,605	(13,693)
Capitalised employee costs	9,287	3,516	4,739	1,223
Total	140,083	56,814	44,344	(12,470)

* Excludes capital prepayments.

Notable Programs and Projects

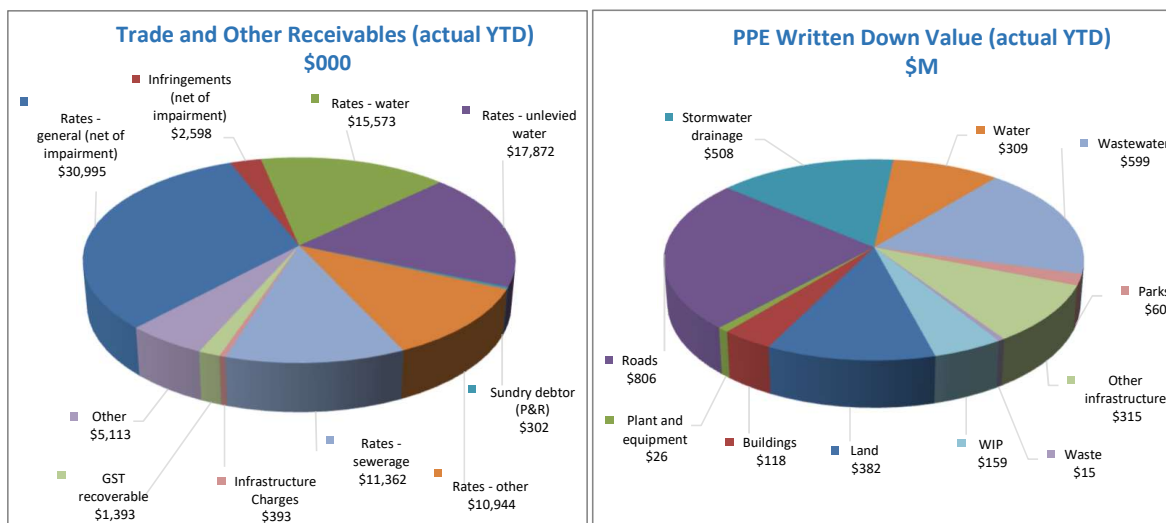
The table below lists Council's capital expenditure on major programs and projects.

Capital Investment		YTD Actual \$000
Wellington St / Panorama Dr upgrade	Road widening / lane duplication of Wellington St / Panorama Dr.	6,195
Kinross Road sewerage trunk	New sewage pump station (Lorikeet Dr) and trunk sewer main to Cleveland WWTP.	4,119
Weinam Creek development	Continuation of works at Weinam Creek Priority Development Area.	3,556
Fleet replacement	Current fleet replacement program.	2,278
Willard's Farm restoration program	Make the building safe and preserve the heritage values.	1,829

5. STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION				
As at 31 January 2025				
	Annual	Annual	YTD	YTD
	Original Budget \$000	Revised Budget \$000	Budget \$000	Actual \$000
CURRENT ASSETS				
Cash and cash equivalents	190,355	181,048	229,360	204,480
Short-term investment - CBA	50,000	50,000	50,000	50,000
Trade and other receivables	52,508	50,791	86,001	96,545
Inventories	1,123	1,042	1,042	1,212
Other current assets	3,052	5,838	5,839	5,807
Total current assets	297,038	288,720	372,242	358,044
NON-CURRENT ASSETS				
Investment property	1,403	1,474	1,474	1,474
Property, plant and equipment	3,266,103	3,472,720	3,305,384	3,297,401
Intangible assets	294	304	448	452
Right-of-use assets	2,469	2,523	2,916	2,925
Other financial assets	73	73	73	73
Investment in other entities	11,357	11,769	11,769	11,769
Equity investment	-	2,831	2,831	2,831
Total non-current assets	3,281,699	3,491,694	3,324,895	3,316,925
TOTAL ASSETS	3,578,737	3,780,413	3,697,137	3,674,969
CURRENT LIABILITIES				
Trade and other payables	38,992	56,810	66,216	45,673
Borrowings - current	5,252	6,391	6,391	6,391
Lease liability - current	781	537	901	901
Provisions - current	10,540	13,742	16,378	17,355
Other current liabilities	6,080	4,250	15,000	15,831
Total current liabilities	61,645	81,730	104,886	86,151
NON-CURRENT LIABILITIES				
Borrowings - non-current	85,169	84,052	54,988	54,966
Lease liability - non-current	2,112	2,508	2,761	2,206
Provisions - non-current	22,036	32,603	32,103	33,621
Other non-current liabilities	4,368	5,026	10,046	9,717
Total non-current liabilities	113,685	124,189	99,898	100,510
TOTAL LIABILITIES	175,331	205,918	204,784	186,661
NET COMMUNITY ASSETS	3,403,407	3,574,495	3,492,353	3,488,308
COMMUNITY EQUITY				
Asset revaluation surplus	1,441,319	1,612,203	1,612,203	1,612,203
Retained surplus	1,871,903	1,850,722	1,763,553	1,751,842
Constrained cash reserves	90,184	111,570	116,597	124,263
TOTAL COMMUNITY EQUITY	3,403,407	3,574,495	3,492,353	3,488,308

5. STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION - CONTINUED



RIGHT-OF-USE ASSETS As at 31 January 2025				
	Annual Original Budget \$000	Annual Revised Budget \$000	YTD Budget \$000	YTD Actual Balance \$000
Right-of-use asset				
Buildings	382	407	626	635
Land	1,884	1,913	2,070	2,070
Plant and equipment	203	203	220	220
Closing balance	2,469	2,523	2,916	2,925

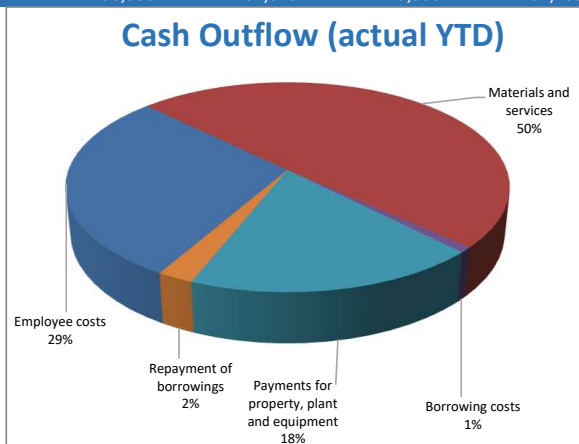
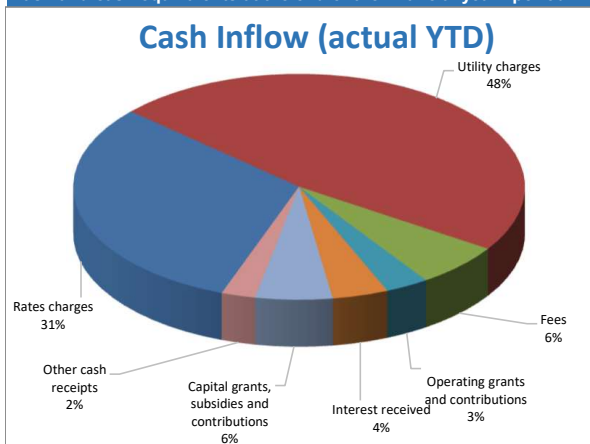
PROPERTY, PLANT AND EQUIPMENT (PPE) MOVEMENT* For the period ending 31 January 2025				
	Annual Original Budget \$000	Annual Revised Budget \$000	YTD Budget \$000	YTD Actual Balance \$000
PPE movement				
Opening balance (includes WIP from previous years)	3,114,783	3,299,599	3,299,599	3,299,599
Acquisitions and WIP in year movement	239,295	261,095	56,814	44,350
Depreciation in year	(76,779)	(76,779)	(44,788)	(45,635)
Disposals	(11,196)	(11,195)	(6,241)	(913)
Closing balance	3,266,103	3,472,720	3,305,384	3,297,401

* This table includes movement relating to property, plant and equipment only and is exclusive of intangible assets.



6. STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS

STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS For the period ending 31 January 2025				
	Annual Original Budget \$000	Annual Revised Budget \$000	YTD Budget \$000	YTD Actual \$000
CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES				
Receipts from customers	344,411	345,917	216,105	199,261
Payments to suppliers and employees	(317,872)	(317,879)	(172,586)	(188,756)
	26,539	28,038	43,519	10,505
Interest received	13,583	13,583	7,821	9,178
Rental income	1,128	1,239	643	712
Non-capital grants and contributions	9,658	12,757	7,854	7,129
Borrowing costs	(1,823)	(1,823)	(1,824)	(1,815)
Right-of-use assets interest expense	(316)	(316)	(184)	(184)
Net cash inflow / (outflow) from operating activities	48,769	53,478	57,829	25,525
CASH FLOWS FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES				
Payments for property, plant and equipment	(118,283)	(140,083)	(56,814)	(44,344)
Proceeds from sale of property, plant and equipment	1,593	1,593	929	776
Capital grants, subsidies and contributions	20,232	28,409	17,071	12,633
Net cash inflow / (outflow) from investing activities	(96,459)	(110,082)	(38,814)	(30,935)
CASH FLOWS FROM FINANCING ACTIVITIES				
Proceeds of borrowings	27,922	27,922	-	-
Repayment of borrowings	(5,044)	(5,044)	(4,681)	(4,692)
Right-of-use lease payment	(607)	(607)	(354)	(798)
Net cash inflow / (outflow) from financing activities	22,271	22,271	(5,035)	(5,490)
Net increase / (decrease) in cash held	(25,419)	(34,332)	13,980	(10,900)
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the year	215,774	215,380	215,380	215,380
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the financial year / period	190,355	181,048	229,360	204,480



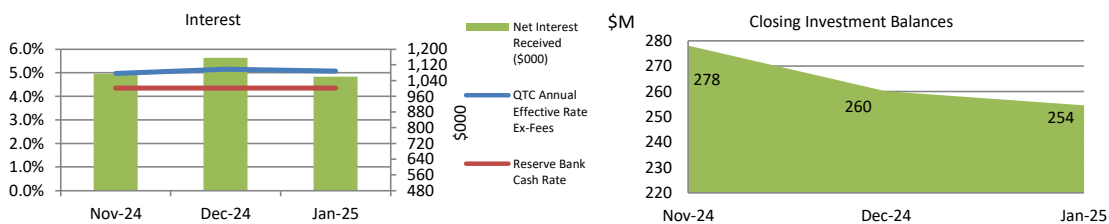
Total Cash Funding (Actual YTD)	229,689
Total Cash Funding (Annual Revised Budget)	431,420
% of Budget Achieved YTD	53%

Total Cash Expenditure (Actual YTD)	240,589
Total Cash Expenditure (Annual Revised Budget)	465,752
% of Budget Achieved YTD	52%

7. INVESTMENT & BORROWINGS REPORT

For the period ending 31 January 2025

INVESTMENT RETURNS



Total Investment at End of Month was \$254.48M

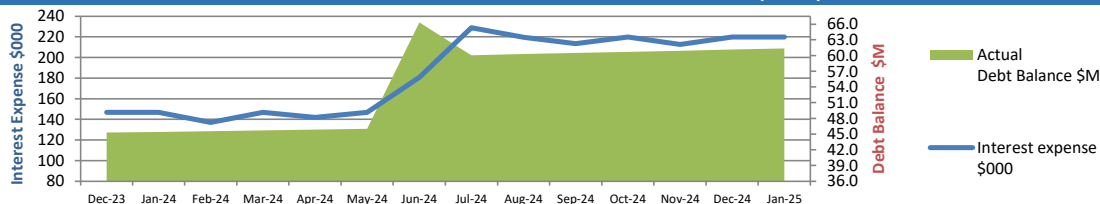
Council investments are currently held predominantly in the Capital Guaranteed Cash Fund, which is a fund operated by the Queensland Treasury Corporation (QTC).

The movement in interest earned is indicative of both the interest rate and the surplus cash balances held with QTC, the latter of which is affected by business cash flow requirements on a monthly basis as well as the rating cycle. The interest income decreased from December to January mainly due to decrease in QTC annual effective rate (excluding fee) from 5.15% to 5.07%.

Note: the Reserve Bank cash rate of 4.35% remains unchanged since November 2023.

Council adopted its Investment Policy (FIN-001-P) in June 2024 for the 2024-2025 financial year

BORROWINGS AND BORROWING COSTS (QTC)



The debt balance increased in June 2024 due to new borrowings of \$20.16M as part of Council's Capital Works Plan.

In July 2024 the debt balance showed a decrease due to the \$6.51M Annual Debt Service Payment (ADSP), being \$4.69M principal and \$1.82M interest. Interest will accrue monthly on a daily balance until next ADSP in July 2025 which is reflected in the increasing debt balance.

Total Borrowings at End of Month were \$61.36M

Council adopted its Debt Policy (FIN-009-P) in June 2024 for the 2024-2025 financial year

BORROWINGS

For the period ending 31 January 2025

	Annual Original Budget \$000	Annual Revised Budget \$000	YTD Budget \$000	YTD Actual Balance \$000
Borrowings				
Opening balance	(66,308)	(66,330)	(66,330)	(66,330)
Accrued interest on borrowings	(2,696)	(2,696)	(1,554)	(1,534)
Interest paid on borrowings	1,824	1,824	1,824	1,815
Principal repaid	4,681	4,681	4,681	4,692
Loan drawdown	(27,922)	(27,922)	-	-
Closing balance	(90,421)	(90,443)	(61,379)	(61,357)

8. CONSTRAINED CASH RESERVES

Reserves as at 31 January 2025	Purpose of reserve	Opening Balance	To Reserve	From Reserve	Closing Balance
		\$000	\$000	\$000	\$000
Special Projects Reserve:					
Aquatic Paradise Revetment Wall Reserve	To fund Aquatic Paradise revetment wall works program	131	99	(7)	223
Weinam Creek Reserve	Maintenance and improvements associated with Weinam Creek projects	1,820	289	(1,000)	1,109
Waste Levy Reserve	To fund Waste Levy Program	57	3,271	(3,328)	-
Raby Bay Revetment Wall Reserve	To fund Raby Bay revetment wall works program	2,556	2,513	(1,266)	3,803
		4,564	6,172	(5,601)	5,135
Constrained Works Reserve:					
Public Parks Trunk Infrastructure Reserve	Capital projects for public parks trunk infrastructure	6,987	2,006	(363)	8,630
Marine Trunk Infrastructure Reserve	Provision of marine facilities south of Redland Bay	183	-	-	183
Land for Community Facilities Trunk Infrastructure Reserve	Land for community facilities trunk infrastructure	5,507	72	-	5,579
Water Supply Trunk Infrastructure Reserve	Upgrade, expansion or new projects for water supply trunk infrastructure	16,202	77	-	16,279
Sewerage Trunk Infrastructure Reserve	Upgrade, expansion or new projects for sewerage trunk infrastructure	16,269	1,915	(3,089)	15,095
Local Roads Trunk Infrastructure Reserve	Capital projects for local roads trunk infrastructure	36,271	2,893	(2,933)	36,231
Cycleways Trunk Infrastructure Reserve	Capital projects for cycleways trunk infrastructure	15,048	1,075	(9)	16,114
Stormwater Trunk Infrastructure Reserve	Capital projects for stormwater trunk infrastructure	11,739	292	-	12,031
Tree Planting Reserve	Acquisition and planting of trees on footpaths	428	45	(27)	446
Special Property Reserve	Acquisition of property in line with the strategic property framework	3,835	526	-	4,361
		112,469	8,901	(6,421)	114,949
Separate Charge Reserve:					
Environment & Coastal Management Separate Charge Reserve	Ongoing conservation and maintenance operations	-	11,259	(7,539)	3,720
SES Separate Charge Reserve	On-going costs of maintaining the Redland SES	105	361	(7)	459
		105	11,620	(7,546)	4,179
TOTALS		117,138	26,693	(19,568)	124,263
				Closing cash and cash equivalents	204,480
				Reserves as percentage of cash balance	61%

9. CITY WATER STATEMENTS

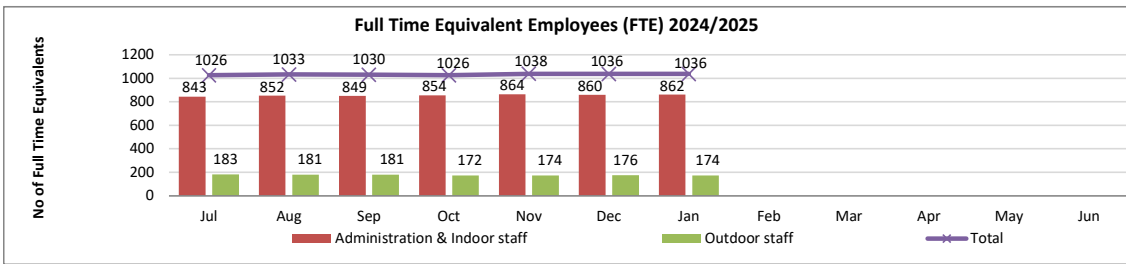
CITY WATER SUMMARY OPERATING STATEMENT					
For the period ending 31 January 2025					
	Annual	Annual	YTD	YTD	YTD
	Original	Revised	Budget	Actual	Variance
	Budget	Budget	\$000	\$000	\$000
	\$000	\$000			
Total revenue	155,256	155,270	106,599	104,601	(1,998)
Total expenses	89,785	89,915	53,531	49,067	(4,464)
Earnings before interest, tax and depreciation (EBITD)	65,471	65,355	53,068	55,534	2,466
External interest expense	648	648	371	366	(5)
Internal interest expense	19,061	19,061	11,119	11,119	-
Depreciation	30,585	30,585	17,841	18,194	353
Operating surplus / (deficit)	15,177	15,061	23,737	25,855	2,118
CITY WATER CAPITAL FUNDING STATEMENT					
For the period ending 31 January 2025					
	Annual	Annual	YTD	YTD	YTD
	Original	Revised	Budget	Actual	Variance
	Budget	Budget	\$000	\$000	\$000
	\$000	\$000			
Capital contributions, donations, grants and subsidies	3,196	3,196	1,864	1,992	128
Net transfer (to) / from constrained capital reserves	2,580	5,511	2,867	1,096	(1,771)
Non-cash contributions	110,434	110,434	-	-	-
New loans	7,195	7,195	-	-	-
Funding from utility revenue	8,423	11,177	5,232	5,664	432
Total sources of capital funding	131,827	137,512	9,963	8,752	(1,211)
Contributed assets	110,434	110,434	-	-	-
Capitalised expenditure	21,106	26,791	9,512	7,765	(1,747)
Loan redemption	287	287	451	987	536
Total application of capital funds	131,827	137,512	9,963	8,752	(1,211)

10. CITY WASTE STATEMENTS

CITY WASTE OPERATING STATEMENT					
For the period ending 31 January 2025					
	Annual	Annual	YTD	YTD	YTD
	Original	Revised	Budget	Actual	Variance
	Budget	Budget	\$000	\$000	\$000
	\$000	\$000			
Total revenue	41,369	41,608	24,060	24,342	282
Total expenses	32,200	32,439	18,706	19,127	421
Earnings before interest, tax and depreciation (EBITD)	9,169	9,169	5,354	5,215	(139)
External interest expense	5	5	3	3	-
Depreciation	486	486	283	270	(13)
Operating surplus / (deficit)	8,678	8,678	5,068	4,942	(126)
CITY WASTE CAPITAL FUNDING STATEMENT					
For the period ending 31 January 2025					
	Annual	Annual	YTD	YTD	YTD
	Original	Revised	Budget	Actual	Variance
	Budget	Budget	\$000	\$000	\$000
	\$000	\$000			
Funding from utility revenue	6,167	6,167	1,975	159	(1,816)
Total sources of capital funding	6,167	6,167	1,975	159	(1,816)
Capitalised expenditure	6,131	6,131	1,954	162	(1,792)
Loan redemption	36	36	21	(3)	(24)
Total application of capital funds	6,167	6,167	1,975	159	(1,816)

11. APPENDIX: ADDITIONAL AND NON-FINANCIAL INFORMATION

Workforce Reporting



January 2025: Headcount	Employee Type			
Department Level	Casual	Full Time	Part Time	Total
Office of CEO and People, Culture and Organisational Performance	5	52	10	67
Organisational Services	3	202	28	233
Community and Customer Services	67	298	72	437
Infrastructure and Operations	4	357	17	378
Advocacy, Major Projects and Economic Development	-	36	4	40
Total	79	945	131	1,155

Note: FTE employees includes all full time employees at a value of 1 and all other employees, at a value less than 1. During October 2024 there was a change to the methodology to calculate the number of FTE employees. The table above demonstrates the headcount by department. Following Ourspace, the table includes contract of service and temporary personnel. It includes casual staff in their non-substantive roles as at the end of the period where relevant.

Overdue Rates Debtors & Statistics

Comparison January 2025 to January 2024										
Days Overdue	Jan-25	% Overdue	Jan-24	% Overdue	\$ Variance	% Variance	Rates & Charges Statistics		Jan-25	Jan-24
0 - 30	\$0	0.0%	\$1,103	0.0%	-\$1,103	0.0%	Levied (Billed) Rates & Charges since 1 July 2024		\$173,835,057	\$249,448,153
31 - 60	\$0	0.0%	\$698	0.0%	-\$698	0.0%	Rate arrears b/fwd 1 July 2024		\$9,598,398	\$9,226,293
61 - 90	\$3,291,233	1.8%	\$3,022,209	1.2%	\$269,024	0.6%	Total		\$183,433,455	\$258,674,446
91 - 180	\$1,644,523	0.9%	\$1,705,755	0.7%	-\$61,232	0.2%	Balance of overdue rates & charges		\$8,265,675	\$7,975,684
>180	\$3,329,919	1.8%	\$3,245,919	1.2%	\$84,000	0.6%	Percentage Overdue		4.5%	3.1%
Total	\$8,265,675	4.5%	\$7,975,684	3.1%	\$289,991	1.4%				

12. GLOSSARY

Key Terms

Written Down Value:

This is the value of an asset after accounting for depreciation or amortisation, and it is also called book value or net book value.

Work In Progress (WIP):

This represents an unfinished project that costs are still being added to. When a project is completed, the costs will be either capitalised (allocated to relevant asset class) or written off.

Current Replacement Cost:

The amount of money required to replace an existing asset with an equally valued or similar asset at the current market price.

Written Down Replacement Cost:

An asset's current replacement cost less accumulated depreciation.

Book Value of Debt:

The book value of Council's debt (QTC or other loans) as at the reporting date (i.e. 30 June).

Infrastructure Assets:

Those significant, long-life assets that provide ratepayers with access to social and economic facilities. Examples include water and sewerage treatment plants, roads, bridges, drainage, buildings, and other community assets (does not include right of use assets).

Definition of Ratios

Council Controlled Revenue Ratio:

This is an indicator of a Council's financial flexibility, ability to influence its operating income, and capacity to respond to unexpected financial shocks

$$\frac{\text{Net Rates, Levies and Charges add Fees and Charges}}{\text{Total Operating Revenue}}$$

Population Growth:

This is a key driver of a Council's operating income, service needs, and infrastructure requirements into the future

$$\frac{\text{Prior year estimated population}}{\text{Previous year estimated population}} - 1$$

Operating Surplus Ratio*:

This is an indicator of the extent to which revenues raised cover operational expenses only or are available for capital funding purposes

$$\frac{\text{Operating Result}}{\text{Total Operating Revenue}}$$

Operating Cash Ratio:

This measures the ability to cover core operational expenses and generate a cash surplus excluding depreciation, amortisation, and finance costs

$$\frac{\text{Operating Result add Depreciation and Amortisation add Finance Costs*}}{\text{Total Operating Revenue}}$$

Unrestricted Cash Expense Cover Ratio:

This is an indicator of the unconstrained liquidity available to meet ongoing and emergent financial demands. It represents the number of months Council can continue operating based on current monthly expenses

$$\frac{(\text{Total Cash and Cash Equivalents add Current Investments add Available Ongoing QTC Working Capital Facility Limit less Externally Restricted Cash})}{(\text{Total Operating Expenditure less Depreciation and Amortisation less Finance Costs*})} \times 12$$

Asset Sustainability Ratio:

This ratio indicates whether Council is renewing or replacing existing non-financial assets at the same rate that its overall stock of assets is wearing out

$$\frac{\text{Capital Expenditure on Replacement of Infrastructure Assets (Renewals)}}{\text{Depreciation Expenditure on Infrastructure Assets}}$$

Asset Consumption Ratio:

This measures the extent to which Council's infrastructure assets have been consumed to what it would cost to build a new asset with the same benefit to the community

$$\frac{\text{Written Down Replacement Cost of Depreciable Infrastructure Assets}}{\text{Current Replacement Cost of Depreciable Infrastructure Assets}}$$

Asset Renewal Funding Ratio:

This ratio measures the ability of a Council to fund its projected asset renewal/replacements in the future

$$\frac{\text{Total of Planned Capital Expenditure on Asset Renewals over 10 years}}{\text{Total of Required Capital Expenditure on Asset Renewals over 10 years}}$$

Leverage Ratio:

This is an indicator of a Council's ability to repay its existing debt. It measures the relative size of the Council's debt to its operating performance

$$\frac{\text{Book Value of Debt**}}{\text{Total Operating Revenue less Total Operating Expenditure add Depreciation and Amortisation and Finance Costs}}$$

Net Financial Liabilities:

This is an indicator of the extent to which the net financial liabilities of Council can be serviced by operating revenues

$$\frac{\text{Total Liabilities - Current Assets}}{\text{Total Operating Revenue}}$$

* Finance costs only include interest charged on Council's existing QTC debt balances and any other Council loans

** Book Value of Debt only includes the book value of the Council's debt (QTC or other loans) as at the reporting date

14 REPORTS FROM ADVOCACY, AJOR PROJECTS AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT**14.1 2025 FEDERAL ELECTION ADVOCACY****Objective Reference:** A11759505**Authorising Officer:** Christopher Isles, General Manager Advocacy, Major Projects & Economic Development**Responsible Officer:** Natasha Comber, Group Manager Economic Development & Investment**Report Author:** Kate Turner, Senior Advocacy & Government Relations Officer**Attachments:** 1. [Redland City Council 2025 Federal Election Advocacy](#) **PURPOSE**

To seek Council endorsement of 2025 Federal Election Advocacy Priorities as outlined in Attachment 1 of this report, for the upcoming federal election.

BACKGROUND

A key component of serving the Redlands Coast community is the development of strong relationships with other levels of government to help deliver the projects and initiatives needed to support our community. In the lead up to the 2025 Australian Federal Election, Council has identified several priorities we are seeking Federal Government support to deliver. On behalf of the Redlands Coast community, Council will use the endorsed federal election advocacy priorities to advocate to candidates and parties contesting the election and request their support. Following the election Council will work with the Federal Government and successful Members of Parliament to progress these projects to the benefit of the community.

ISSUES

A key role of Local Government is to advocate on behalf of their community, with Councils regularly advocating to both the Federal and State Governments for key projects and initiatives. This advocacy takes several forms including formalised advocacy such as election advocacy, resolutions to Local Government Association of Queensland (LGAQ) annual conference and individual advocacy by elected members on behalf of their community. Council's advocacy is a rolling program that evolves based on the needs of the community and priorities of Council. The included priorities have been identified and many are currently being progressed by Council as part of its corporate and or operational plans.

STRATEGIC IMPLICATIONS**Legislative Requirements**

There are no legislative requirements to consider.

Risk Management

To minimise the risk of conflicting uncoordinated messaging, a consolidated coordinated approach is recommended for implementing 2025 federal election advocacy.

Financial

Advocacy has the potential to secure Federal Government financial support, delivering a potential positive financial outcome for Council.

People

There are no implications for staff associated with this report. If adopted, the advocacy priorities will be outworked as part of the business-as-usual activity.

Environmental

There are no implications for the environment associated with this report.

Social

There are no social implications associated with this report.

Human Rights

There are no human rights implications associated with this report.

Alignment with Council's Policy and Plans

The 2025 federal election advocacy program supports the objectives and outcomes of Council's Corporate and Operational Plans.

CONSULTATION

Consulted	Consultation Date	Comments/Actions
Councillor Officers/Subject Matter Experts	November 2024 – January 2025	Various
Councillors	January 2025	Feedback opportunity via online survey

OPTIONS**Option One**

That Council resolves as follows:

1. To endorse the 2025 Federal Election Advocacy Priorities as outlined in Attachment 1.
2. To delegate to the Chief Executive Officer to make minor administrative changes to Attachment 1.
3. To send a copy of the endorsed 2025 Federal Election Advocacy Priorities to candidates and parties contesting the 2025 Australian Federal Election.
4. To deliver a communications campaign to support advocacy efforts.

Option Two

That Council resolves as follows:

1. To not endorse the 2025 Federal Election Advocacy Priorities as outlined in Attachment 1 and request officers prepare an alternative set of priorities for Council's future considerations.
2. To send a copy of the endorsed 2025 Federal Election Advocacy Priorities to candidates and parties contesting the Australian Federal Election.
3. To deliver a communications campaign to support advocacy efforts.

OFFICER'S RECOMMENDATION 2025/15

Moved by: Cr Jason Colley

Seconded by: Cr Wendy Boglary

That Council resolves as follows:

1. To endorse the 2025 Federal Election Advocacy Priorities as outlined in Attachment 1.
2. To delegate to the Chief Executive Officer to make minor administrative changes to Attachment 1.
3. To send a copy of the endorsed 2025 Federal Election Advocacy Priorities to candidates and parties contesting the 2025 Australian Federal Election.
4. To deliver a communications campaign to support advocacy efforts.

CARRIED 11/0

Crs Jos Mitchell, Wendy Boglary, Peter Mitchell, Paul Gollè, Lance Hewlett, Shane Rendalls, Julie Talty, Rowanne McKenzie, Tracey Huges, Jason Colley and Paul Bishop voted FOR the motion.



Redland City Council

Federal Election Priorities 2025

Acknowledgement of Country

Redland City Council is committed to working with Traditional Custodians, supporting their role as custodians of their traditional lands and helping ensure the future prosperity and cultural enrichment across Redlands Coast. Council acknowledges the Goenpul, Ngugi and Noonuccal First Nations Peoples of the Quandamooka region and recognises that the Quandamooka People are the Traditional Custodians of much of Redlands Coast. Council also extends its acknowledgement of Traditional Custodians to the Danggan Balun (Five Rivers) claimant group who are currently in the process of Native Title determination for an area that crosses into southern Redlands Coast.

Working together to deliver for Redlands Coast

Redland City Council is committed to partnering with all levels of government to deliver for our community. We have identified eight advocacy priorities ahead of the 2025 Federal Election. These priorities aim to support liveability for all community members, boost our local economy and create local jobs, reduce reliance on ratepayer dollars, support disaster resilience and community safety, and enhance safe and efficient travel around our beautiful city and surrounding areas.

Contents

What is advocacy?.....	4
Our eight priorities.....	5
Priority One - Brisbane Metro network extension.....	6
Priority Two - Sport and recreation upgrades.....	7
Priority Three - Enabling infrastructure to support population growth	9
Priority Four - Redlands Coast Islands.....	10
Priority Five - Improved clarity on the Native Title process.....	12
Priority Six - Wellington Street / Panorama Drive upgrades.....	13
Priority Seven - Improved consultation for environment protection, biodiversity and conservation .	14
Priority Eight - Disaster resilience	15

What is advocacy?

Advocacy is the strategic process of engaging and influencing key decision-makers to drive meaningful change. It serves as a powerful tool to raise awareness and champion projects, initiatives, and issues that matter to our community. By forging strategic partnerships with government entities, private sector stakeholders, and other relevant organisations, advocacy enables us to effectively represent and address the needs of our community.

Why are we advocating?

Our advocacy efforts are driven by the need to collaborate with various sectors, including government bodies, agencies, peak organisations, the private sector, and the broader community. The primary goal of our advocacy activities is to align with the vision outlined in our corporate plan, *A Corporate Plan to 2026 and Beyond*, and to support the implementation of key projects and priorities that will benefit our region.

The challenges we are addressing

Our region is projected to grow by an additional 50,000 people by 2046, highlighting the urgent need for critical infrastructure and investment in our community assets. To meet the demands of this growth, our advocacy program is focused on securing essential public transport and infrastructure.

It is important no community is left behind. Our islands, in particular, are experiencing growth but have historically received limited investment. This has led to significant disadvantages including for our young people who lack access to adequate facilities in times of need. Addressing these issues is a key priority in our advocacy efforts, as we strive to create a more equitable and connected region for all.

How we selected our priorities

Our advocacy efforts are grounded in a strategic framework to ensure that we address the most critical needs of our community. The priorities are the result of a thorough and deliberate process, guided by five core principles that shape every aspect of our advocacy activity.

Evidence-based: We rely on data and research to identify and prioritise the issues that have the most significant impacts on our community. This ensures that our advocacy is informed by evidence and that our efforts are focused on areas where they can achieve the most meaningful outcomes.





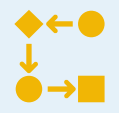



Partnerships first: Collaboration is at the heart of our advocacy approach. We actively seek to build and strengthen partnerships with key stakeholders across government, the private sector, and the community. By working together, we amplify our voice and increase the likelihood of achieving shared goals.

Shared voice: Advocacy is most powerful when it represents a collective voice. We engage with diverse groups within our community to ensure our priorities reflect a broad consensus. This inclusive approach allows us to advocate for issues that resonate widely and are supported by a strong and united front.

Outcomes focused: We set clear objectives and measure our success based on the outcomes we deliver for the community. This results-oriented approach ensures our advocacy efforts lead to real, positive change.

Always on: Advocacy is an ongoing process, not a one-time effort. We maintain a consistent and proactive presence in the advocacy space, continuously engaging with decision-makers and stakeholders to maintain momentum on key issues while remaining agile within the changing environment.

Our eight priorities

	<p>Brisbane Metro network extension</p>	<p>Council is advocating for funding to support delivery of the Brisbane Metro busway extension to Capalaba.</p>
	<p>Sport and recreation upgrades</p>	<p>Council is advocating for investment to support local sport and recreation facility upgrades to increase access and participation, enhance pathways to high performance and support liveability.</p>
	<p>Enabling infrastructure</p>	<p>Council is advocating for investment in infrastructure to support population growth, housing supply and liveability.</p>
	<p>Redlands Coast islands</p>	<p>Council is advocating for regional status recognition for Redlands Coast islands in relation to federal and state planning and funding, as well as black spot funding and investment for wastewater infrastructure.</p>
	<p>Improved clarity on the Native Title process</p>	<p>Council is advocating for greater certainty and clarity for all to participate in Native Title processes, as well as restoring respondent funding and greater community transparency on native title land dealings</p>
	<p>Wellington Street / Panorama Drive upgrades</p>	<p>Council is advocating for \$80 million in funding to simultaneously deliver Stages 2 and 3 of this road upgrade program.</p>
	<p>Improved consultation for environment protection</p>	<p>Council is advocating for improved consultation to the application of the <i>Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999</i> to enable local governments to better plan and deliver important community infrastructure.</p>
	<p>Disaster resilience</p>	<p>Council is advocating for funding to enhance disaster resilience and community safety.</p>

Priority One - Brisbane Metro network extension

Ask

Redland City Council seeks funding from the Australian Government to support delivery of the Brisbane Metro extension to Capalaba.

Why is this critical?

Redlands Coast is anticipating significant population growth of around 17 per cent, or approximately 28,000 new residents, by 2046. This growth will put considerable strain on existing transport routes and networks.

Expanding the Brisbane Metro busway east to Capalaba will help tackle growing vehicle congestion, reduce emissions with fully electric buses, and provide a safe and efficient way for our community to travel. This extension will improve connectivity between the Redlands and greater Brisbane, bringing substantial economic benefits to the city.

The new busway route would service evolving precincts and venues which are set to provide great social and economic value to Redlands Coast, including:

1. The Capalaba Town Centre Revitalisation – This project will transfer land behind Capalaba Central Shopping Centre into a vibrant mixed-use urban heart, with exemplar public spaces including a new Council library and customer service centre, spaces for the arts and a community hall. The precinct will also accommodate an employment hub and innovative public realm (suitable for entertainment uses) that will create a day/night economy, attracting both visitors and businesses.

The first stage of the revitalisation works has commenced with planning underway for the works involving the bus interchange facilities.

2. Several potential Brisbane 2032 Olympic and Paralympic Games venues, delivering long-term legacy benefits for the region before and after the Games.

Community benefit

- Improved access to reliable public transport
- Enhanced connectivity between Redlands and greater Brisbane
- Supported population growth with better transport options
- Reduced congestion and shorter commutes
- Increased economic, tourism and employment opportunities
- Enhanced liveability and quality of life
- Improved environmental outcomes by alleviating congestion and emissions.

Redland City Council continues to partner and work together with Brisbane City Council and the Queensland Government to deliver a fast and efficient bus route that will connect Capalaba to greater Brisbane.

Priority Two - Sport and recreation upgrades

Ask

Redland City Council seeks significant investment from the Australian Government to support local sport and recreation facility upgrades to increase access and participation, enhance pathways to high performance and support liveability, including:

- precinct upgrades at William Taylor Memorial Sports Precinct and Keith Surridge Sports Precinct
- key lighting upgrades across the region
- skate park upgrades at Cascade Gardens Skate Park in Victoria Point and John Frederick Skate Park in Capalaba
- facility upgrades at EGW Wood Sports Field in Wellington Point to enable pickleball development in the Redlands.

Precinct upgrades

Sports precincts provide easy access to various sports and recreation activities in one place, making it convenient for the community. They become lively social centres where people of all ages can gather, promoting community spirit, health and wellbeing. These precincts also attract events and visitors, boosting local businesses and the economy. We are seeking:

- **\$5 million** for clubhouse upgrades at the William Taylor Memorial Sports Precinct in Thorneside. This precinct requires field and clubhouse upgrades including the relocation of netball courts. While Council has already secured funding under the Queensland Government's South-East Queensland Liveability Fund (which forms part of the City Deal) for BMX, skate, playground and amenity upgrades; further funding is still required to deliver the important clubhouse upgrades to support the existing tennis, soccer, cricket and netball clubs.
- **\$5 million** for upgrades at Keith Surridge Sports Precinct in Alexandra Hills. This precinct requires sports and clubhouse upgrades, and a new amenities block to support the existing Australian rules football and netball clubs.

Sports field lighting

Many of our sports fields and courts need lighting upgrades to transition from outdated halogen or mercury incandescent lights to contemporary, energy efficient and more environmentally friendly LED technology. We are seeking:

- **\$1.2 million** for John Fredericks Park, in Capalaba, to support rugby league.
- **\$2.2 million** for Ern and Elma Dowling Memorial Sports Field, in Victoria Point, to support the Australian Rules football club.
- **\$2.2 million** for Russell Island Sport and Recreation Park to support the soccer club.
- **\$2.2 million** for Laurie Burns Recreation Reserve, on Coochiemudlo Island, to support the Coochiemudlo Recreation Club including gym, tennis and croquet.

Skate park upgrades

Skate parks offer a variety of important benefits to our community including youth engagement, health and fitness, community building, social cohesion and crime reduction. Redlands Coast has many skate parks across the city and requires funding to ensure our skate parks remain fit for purpose for our growing population. We are seeking:

- **\$1.875 million** for upgrades to Cascade Gardens Skate Park in Victoria Point.
- **\$10 million** for upgrades to the skate park at John Frederick Park in Capalaba.

Court upgrades to support pickleball

Pickleball has experienced rapid growth in Australia and Queensland in recent years. It is one of the fastest growing sports with a 92 per cent increase in participation in Queensland since 2018. We are seeking **\$1.5 million** for a roof structure for the current netball courts at EGW Wood Sports Field in Wellington Point to enable them to become multi-use pickleball courts to support the high growth of this sport in our region.

Why is this critical?

With Redlands Coast's growing population, it is critical our local sport and recreation facilities are supported to ensure community access to quality sport and recreation offerings.

Redlands Coast has a strong sports legacy, with many top athletes calling the area home. As the 2032 Brisbane Olympic and Paralympic Games approach, it is important to build on this legacy and ensure our city continues to thrive in sports.

Investing in quality infrastructure will support local jobs, attract major events, and provide more opportunities for community participation in sport. It will also strengthen pathways for athletes from grassroots to high performance, enhancing the city's reputation as a great place to live, work and play.

Community benefit

- Attraction of major events and associated economic benefit
- Increased access and participation in sport
- Improved community health, wellbeing and social cohesion
- Opportunities for facilities to be used for pre-Games events and training leading up to the 2032 Brisbane Olympic and Paralympic Games.

The Australian Government's 2018 report *The Value of Community Sport Infrastructure* prepared by KPMG, finds that community sport infrastructure is estimated to generate an **annual value of more than \$16.2 billion to Australia**, comprising:

Benefit Category	Value	Percentage
Economic Benefits	\$6.3B	39%
Health benefits	\$4.9B	30%
Social benefits	\$5.1B	31%

Priority Three - Enabling infrastructure to support population growth

Ask

Redland City Council seeks investment from the Australian Government for infrastructure to support population growth, housing supply and liveability.

Why is this critical?

The population of Redlands Coast is set to grow significantly over the next twenty years.

As our population grows, so does demand for essential infrastructure such as transport networks, housing, wastewater infrastructure and recreation spaces.

Adequate infrastructure will enhance the quality of life for our current and future residents by providing access to reliable transport, clean water, sanitation, recreational spaces and more.

Infrastructure funding now will help Council to provide the required infrastructure ahead of growth, rather than playing 'catch up'.

In particular, it could help us to expand our sewer network to include those parcels of land in our urban footprint that are not yet connected.

Housing affordability and infrastructure adequacy are critical factors that influence a region's economic competitiveness and attractiveness to businesses and investors. Failure to address these issues could hinder our economic growth and development opportunities.

Community benefit

- Creation of local jobs
- Economic stimulation
- Supports growth in industries such as construction, engineering and manufacturing
- Improved liveability and quality of life.

**Priority Four -
Redlands Coast islands**

Ask

Redland City Council seeks a commitment from the Australian Government to deliver initiatives that will improve the liveability, infrastructure and safety for island residents now and into the future, including:

- Regional Status recognition for federal and state planning and funding
- continued Mobile Black Spot funding
- significant investment to expand critical wastewater infrastructure.

Why is this critical?

While relatively close to the centre of the city when measured in a straight line, the Redlands Coast islands face unique infrastructure, service delivery and social challenges that align more closely to remote and regional communities.

Recent outages caused safety concern
During the Christmas period of 2023, one of the major telecommunication providers on Russell Island, within the SMBIs, experienced loss of mobile services. This meant customers could not dial 000 to access emergency services, putting our Russell Island community at risk. Outages and lack of coverage is an issue our islands residents are all too familiar with.

Recent outages cause concern for local businesses, residents and tourists
A recent outage during the January 2025 school holidays saw North Stradbroke Island’s main telecommunications provider unable to provide mobile services. More than 20 island businesses were impacted, unable to operate digital payment machines, or mobile phones and landlines. The outage, which lasted more than 18 hours, also made it difficult for locals to access television reception.


Despite facing social challenges such as high unemployment, low education, and concerning health and aged care outcomes, the islands do not have regional status recognition when it comes to federal and state planning and funding.

Council’s investment in our island communities is disproportionately high when compared to the mainland spend. But our efforts to help address these island-centric issues are constrained by the current classification as part of a major city, which limits access to funding and services tailored to regional communities. Granting regional status would open doors to funding that aligns better with the islands’ specific needs and facilitates infrastructure upgrades.

Significant growth for SMBIs
2016 – 2022 saw estimated growth of 175 houses per year on the Southern Moreton Bay Islands (SMBIs), over and above the expected growth.

Islands Infrastructure Needs
The Redlands Coast Islands have unique infrastructure needs to support standards of living equitable to those throughout greater south-east Queensland and the Redlands Coast mainland.


The Redlands Coast islands have great need for upgrades to key infrastructure such as sealed roads, footpaths, drainage and wastewater infrastructure, that other parts of the country take for granted.



49 kms
of unsealed roads remain on the Southern Moreton Bay Islands



\$37 million
estimated cost to green seal the remaining 49km of unsealed roads on the SMBIs.



More than 1400
non seweraged island properties

More Mobile Black Spot funding is also needed to enable telecommunication providers to improve digital coverage on the islands, address telecommunication black spots, enhance connectivity and improve resilience during power outages. Improved coverage is crucial for community safety during natural disasters, as well as fostering digital literacy and connectivity.

Additionally, expanding wastewater infrastructure is vital to meet the growing needs of the islands, where more than 1400 properties are still reliant on septic systems (many ageing) or a home sewerage treatment plant. Residential septic systems can pose environmental and public health risks when not maintained or replaced as needed, due to contaminated water discharges. Upgrading to a fit-for-purpose sewerage system would mitigate these issues and ensure sustainable development for the islands.

Community benefit

- Regional status recognition will provide access to better-aligned funding and support for regional challenges
- Regional funding will enable significant planning and infrastructure improvements tailored to the islands' needs
- Improved digital coverage will enhance community safety, connectivity and access to services
- Upgrades to wastewater infrastructure will improve environmental outcomes and ensures sustainable living conditions.

Priority Five - Improved clarity on the Native Title process

Ask

Redland City Council seeks commitment from the Australian Government to:

- remove uncertainty and provide greater clarity for all to participate in Native Title processes
- restore respondent funding to achieve just outcomes for both claimants and responders
- provide greater community transparency on Native Title land dealings.

Why is this critical?

Approximately 3,500 parcels of Council-owned land are included in the Quandamooka Coast Native Title claim that is currently being considered. A Native Title claim process is costly and timely, for both claimants and responders.

Council is seeking to improve clarity and certainty around provisions in *The Native Title Act 1993 (The Act)* that suggest Native Title rights or interests are not subject to Commonwealth, state or local government laws. The Act should be reviewed and amended to make certain that mainstream Australian law applies over Native Title land, as it does over non-native title land.

It is important that all laws apply over Native Title land to ensure consistency, clarity and cohesion.

Council is also seeking to restore respondent funding to achieve a just outcome for both claimants and respondents.

The Australian Government has historically provided financial support to both Native Title claimants and responders. Recently, the Federal Government repealed the Native Title Respondent Funding Scheme resulting in no financial assistance for responding to Native Title claims, while claimants are fully funded. This change passes the financial burden to rate payers for local governments to respond.

Community Benefit

- Better understanding of processes and more effective consideration of claims
- Reduced legal expenses for both claimants and responders
- Reduced negotiation time and better efficiency with lower chances of litigation
- Less reliance on ratepayer dollars to fund Native Title claim responses
- Improved community transparency on Native Title land dealings.

Redland City Council acknowledges the important step Native Title plays in our broader reconciliation journey, and advocates for these changes to improve the shared understanding for Native Title holders.

A Native Title claim process can be extensive and expensive.

Clarity, certainty and transparency around the process will add robust governance, improving outcomes for all parties and improving timeliness and efficiency of resources.

Priority Six - Wellington Street / Panorama Drive upgrades

Ask

Redland City Council seeks **\$80 million** in funding from the Australian Government to simultaneously deliver Stages 2 and 3 of the Wellington Street/Panorama Drive road upgrade program.

Why is this critical?

Stage 1 of this important road upgrade have recently been completed. Delivery of Stages 2 and 3 are dependent on securing external funding.

These road upgrades are essential to improve access and connectivity, especially for users of the hospital precinct and for emergency vehicles accessing the ambulance station at the northern end of Wellington Street.

Significant population growth is projected but existing roads are already at capacity. These important upgrades will support that population growth, providing improved access and better connectivity along this critical north-south arterial route.

Community benefit

- Faster completion: delivering Stages 2 and 3 concurrently will see the entire project delivered quicker, minimising disruptions to residents and road users, and reducing costs compared to separate delivery
- Improved access: better access to the Redlands Hospital precinct for both users and emergency vehicles
- Reduced congestion: shorter commute times and decreased peak-hour traffic congestion
- Enhanced safety: increased safety for vehicles, cyclists and pedestrians
- Job creation: approximately 140 new jobs during construction.

Priority Seven -

Improved consultation for environment protection, biodiversity and conservation

Ask

Redland City Council seeks improved consultation to the application of the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* (EPBC), to ensure local governments can plan and deliver important community infrastructure.

Why is this critical?

A more balanced application of the EPBC Act, with a broader consideration of cultural, economic, social and environmental outcomes (the 'quadruple bottom line'), would empower local governments to effectively plan and deliver important community infrastructure while meeting environmental protections.

Clearer guidelines and timelines for the EPBC Act's application and interpretation would support local governments in fulfilling their obligations to protect and manage the environment, while delivering infrastructure important to liveability, social wellbeing, critical transport and housing and other infrastructure.

As local government play a key role in delivering essential infrastructure such as roads, water and wastewater systems; a more streamlined EPBC process is essential for supporting national and state housing strategies. Currently, the complexity of the EPBC process adds unnecessary hurdles, putting additional pressures on projects and risking delays and increased costs.

Council is seeking greater transparency and consultation when changes to protected matters occur to help reduce these disruptions and ensure smoother project delivery.

Community benefit

- Improved transparency regarding protected matters under the EPBC Act
- Enhances efficiency in planning and delivering important community infrastructure
- Stronger communication and partnerships with the Australian Government's Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water.

Council urges the Australian Government to amend the EPBC referral process to provide local governments with greater clarity and transparency through early consultation around the application of the EPBC Act.

Protected matters under the Act, such as World Heritage areas, wetlands of international importance and nationally threatened species, undergo regular changes with little to no advance notice to local governments. This lack of communication disrupts Council's project planning efforts and often leads to costly delays.

Council invests significant resources in planning community infrastructure, ensuring correct environmental controls are in place at the time. When updates to protected matters occurs without early consultation and notification to local governments, much of this planning becomes redundant, at a cost to ratepayers. These unexpected changes impact the planning of vital community projects such as sport and recreation facilities, parks, cultural and education facilities, road upgrades and wastewater network expansions.

Priority Eight - Disaster resilience

Ask

Redland City Council seeks the following funding from the Australian Government to enhance disaster resilience and community safety:

- **\$10 million** for a purpose-built dedicated disaster coordination centre
- **\$2 million** for flood warning infrastructure and rainfall and creek gauge networks to provide important warnings and data
- Funding for assessments and upgrades to improve the wind resistance of our buildings.

Why is this critical?

Queensland is the nation's most disaster-prone state, and it's not a question of if, but when a natural disaster will occur. The state has endured more than 100 disasters over the past 15 years including floods, fires, cyclones, storms and storm tides, highlighting the need for enhanced disaster preparedness and resilience.

As the frequency and intensity of natural disasters continues to rise, the need for comprehensive disaster management is paramount, including preparedness, resilience, response and recovery.

Council, in partnership with agencies and organisations, coordinated activities during a disaster event to minimise loss of human life, illness and injury, property loss or damage and damage to the environment.

To better manage these critical functions, Council is seeking significant funding for a purpose-built disaster coordination centre. This facility will serve as a command centre for coordinating and responding to emergencies and disasters. A purpose-built disaster coordination centre would ensure that in times of crisis, essential services and disaster response operations can continue seamlessly, safeguarding the community during its most vulnerable moments.

Additionally, funding is needed for flood warning infrastructure, such as rainfall and creek gauge networks, to provide critical information and data to support community safety and assist responses during severe weather events.

Furthermore, Council seeks funding for wind rating assessments and building upgrades to enhance the resilience of Council owned buildings, ensuring safety for all in the face of severe storms, cyclones and other natural disasters.

Community benefit

- Enhances community safety

Council currently operates their disaster coordination out of an old demountable building which is not cyclone rated, does not have sufficient parking or space for emergency service and liaison vehicles and personnel, does not have the facilities to store water or food onsite, does not have toilet or shower facilities or overnight accommodation facilities. A purpose-built dedicated centre will support improved disaster management as well as safer conditions for staff and emergency services coordinating disaster response and in turn keeping our community safe.

With climate change predictions forecasting increased frequency and severity of weather events across the country, it is more important than ever that the Redlands community have a safe and fit for purpose centre to support this growing need.

- Improved disaster preparedness, resilience, response and recovery
- Mitigate risks associated with natural disasters.

15 REPORTS FROM COMMUNITY & CUSTOMER SERVICES**15.1 COUNCIL'S PROGRAMS RELATED TO THE ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION BIODIVERSITY ACT - RESPONSE TO NOTICE OF MOTION****Objective Reference:** A11739690**Authorising Officer:** David Jeanes, Acting General Manager Community & Customer Services**Responsible Officer:** Graham Simpson, Group Manager Environment & Regulation**Report Author:** Graham Simpson, Group Manager Environment & Regulation**Attachments:** Nil**PURPOSE**

To provide a further response to the Notice of Motion and Council resolution from the General Meeting of 19 July 2023 seeking a report on Council's environment programs relevant to the *Environmental Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999*.

An interim response was provided at the General Meeting of 21 August 2024, which was noted by Council and sought a further detailed report.

BACKGROUND

A Notice of Motion was tabled at the General Meeting held on 19 July 2023 for a report of Council's programs related to the *Environmental Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* (EPBC Act). Council resolved 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.*

An interim report was provided at the General Meeting of 21 August 2024, which provided details regarding the above Notice of Motion concerning:

- Environmental legacy
- Environmental Regulation – *Environmental Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act* (EPBC)
- Environmental Offsets, including Advanced Offsets
- Conservation Planning Approach
- Nature Positive Plan

The interim report effectively dealt with Council's legacy and planning relating to EPBC matters, but more detail was required regarding point 1 of the Notice of Motion.

Therefore, this report seeks to provide more detailed information on the programs and infrastructure provision including expenditure, both operational and capital, in relation to Council’s environment program including koalas and threatened species management, and native vegetation rehabilitation and revegetation.

ISSUES

Environment Program

As part of Council’s 2024/25 budget process for the Environment and Coastal Management Special Charge (Environment Levy), it was determined that additional information concerning Council’s environment program would assist with understanding the strategic priorities and operational delivery of associated services and activities.

As a result, during October 2024, two Councillor workshops were held which went into detail about Council’s environment program, including:

- Council’s role and responsibilities
- The importance of Council’s environment program
- Planning and delivery of the program

As a local government, Council is responsible as the primary level of government, for implementing state and national environmental laws and achieving ecological sustainability through dealing with local landscape level environmental matters.

As referenced in Council’s Corporate Plan *Our Future Redlands – A Corporate Plan to 2026 and Beyond*, our environment enhances our identity, lifestyle, wellbeing, economy and cultural values. This provides opportunities to be immersed in our naturally wonderful environment and drive our commitment to protect and enhance our natural assets.

Redlands has an enviable conservation estate with a high level of biodiversity that requires significant investment to ensure it is managed and maintained to a standard that protects and enhances it value as habitat and to the community.

Some key information about the environment on Redlands Coast is as follows:

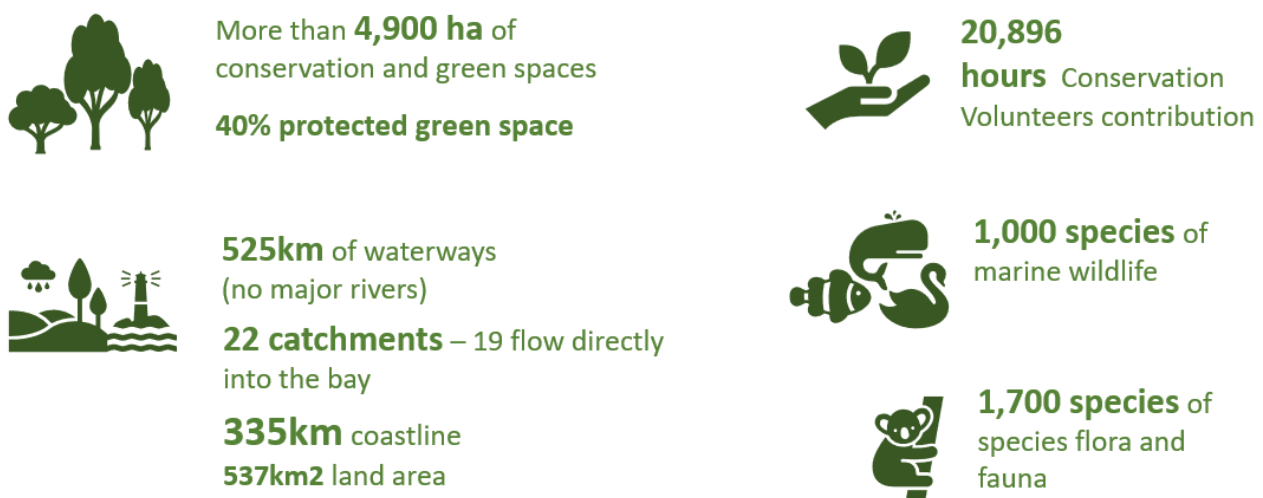


Figure 1 – High level environmental information - Redlands

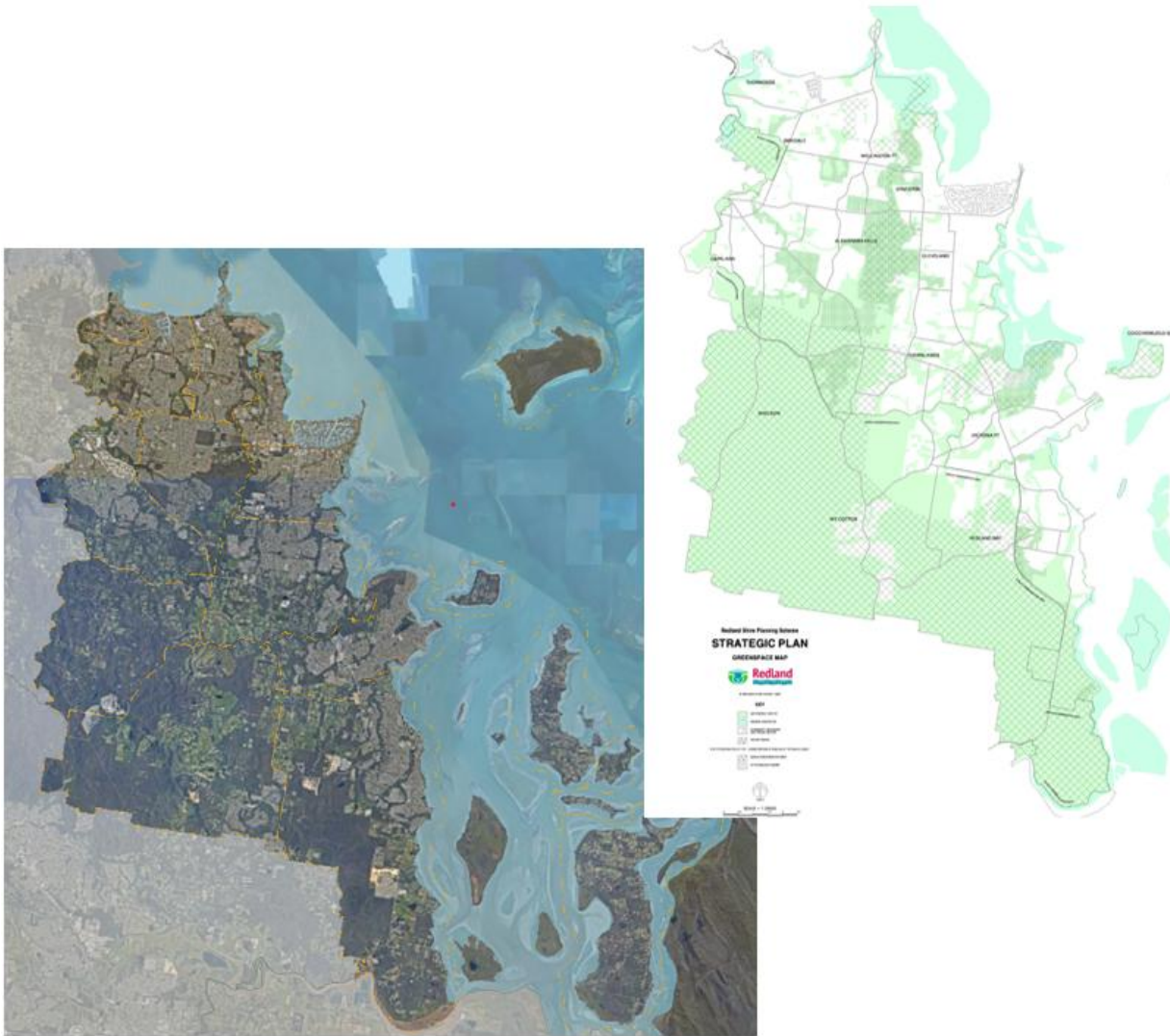


Figure 2 – Greenspace across Redlands (showing spatially the extent of conservation areas)

The above figures demonstrate the scale of the commitment needed by Council and the community to fulfil our responsibilities to the environment.

Council discharges this responsibility through deciding on environmental policy settings and budgets, which are informed by detailed planning and delivery of an environment program using scientific principles that can ensure beneficial outcomes for both ecosystems and the community.

Council’s Environment Program can be broadly summarised, using the headings in *Our Future Redlands - A Corporate Plan to 2026 and Beyond* as below:

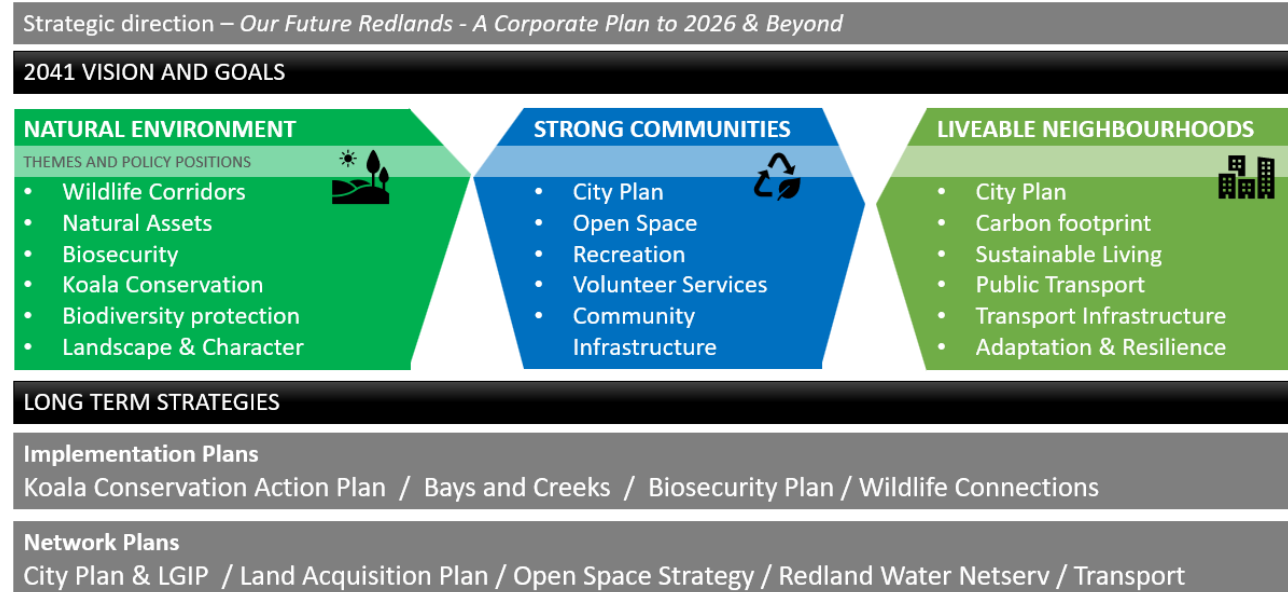


Figure 3 – Corporate Plan alignment

Overwhelmingly, Council’s core environment program sits within the Natural Environment goal within the Corporate Plan. For example, the Corporate Plan has key initiatives listed in the Natural Environment goal such as:

- Deliver the Redlands Coast Wildlife Connections Plan through Council's wildlife connections program.
- Deliver the Redlands Coast Koala Conservation Plan through Council's koala conservation program.
- Implement Council’s fire management program.
- Explore and implement opportunities to proactively reduce Council’s carbon footprint.
- Implement the Coastal Hazards Adaptation Strategy (CHAS) across Redlands Coast.
- Deliver the Redlands Coast Biosecurity Plan through Council's biosecurity program.
- Continue to provide an education program to the Redlands Coast community to support, enhance and encourage environmental understanding and grow environmental connections.
- Deliver the Redlands Coast Bay and Creeks Plan through Council's bay and creeks program.
- To help Council focus on the future horizon there are a range of strategies and plans (Implementation Plans) that enable us to progress environmental outcomes across the city. These plans and strategies all directly impact the environment in the city.
- These Implementation Plans are in place to ensure we gear our environmental programs and funding towards outcomes that follow expert research and conservation methodology. Generally, all Council’s Environmental Plans and Strategies are underpinned by four fundamental environmental planning principles.



Figure 4 – Environmental Planning Principles

These principles provide a consistent theme for how Council decides what is important for strategic direction, tactical decisions and operational programs/services. These decisions are aimed at ensuring there is impactful interventions with the resources we apply to Council's environment programs.

Environment Program Categories

Council's core environment program involves a range of initiatives centred around the protection, management, promotion, and enhancement of biodiversity, and includes:

- Land acquisition for purchasing significant and important conservation areas.
- Conservation land maintenance including environmental weed management and fire mitigation.
- Enhancement and rehabilitation of conservation areas and corridors through habitat improvement and planting programs.
- Wildlife programs including Redlands After-hours Wildlife Ambulance and Redlands Wildlife Care Network.
- Threatened species programs such as Council's Koala Conservation Program.
- Environmental extension and education programs for the community such as Bushcare, Land for Wildlife, Waterways extension and Habitat Protection.

To assist in understanding Council's environmental programs and how they are supported by policy and budget settings, it is useful to place services and activities into nine categories (service categories).

These service categories allow for effective grouping of functions and activities associated with Council's core environment program. These categories are:

1. Conservation area maintenance
2. Fire management
3. Trail maintenance
4. Fauna management
5. Waterway management

6. Corridor management
7. Environmental education
8. Conservation administration*
9. Coastal protection*

These service categories have specific inclusions and are supported by key Implementation Plans. The following table provides information relating to each of the service categories, including strategic alignment to policy and the key activities undertaken:

Service Category	Implementation Plan/s	Key Activities
Conservation area maintenance	Conservation Land Management Strategy 2010 Biosecurity Plan 2018	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Vegetation management • Rehabilitation • Weed management • Pest animals • Strategic land conservation maintenance – Birkdale, Heinemann Road etc. • Voluntary Conservation Program • Habitat Protection Program • Mainland and Island tree programs
Fire management	Redland City Local Disaster Management Plan Conservation Land Management Strategy 2010	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mainland, North Stradbroke Island (NSI) and Southern Moreton Bay Islands (SMBI) fire management programs • Fire management zones • Fire regime assessment • Fire buffers and trails • Planned burn program
Trail maintenance	Conservation Land Management Strategy 2010 Seven C's Connection Strategy 2011 Redland Open Space Strategy 2012	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tracks and trails improvement and maintenance • Footbridge and boardwalk maintenance • Erosion and sediment control
Fauna management	Wildlife Connections Plan 2018 Koala Conservation Strategy 2021	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Koala conservation Program – research, monitoring and management • Koala conservation agreement program • Threatened species and fauna management • Redlands After-hours Wildlife Ambulance (RAWA) • Flying Fox roost management
Waterway management	Bay and Creeks Plan 2021 Conservation Land Management Strategy 2010	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Gross Pollutant Trap and Water Sensitive Design infrastructure maintenance • Waterway management plans • Resilient Rivers program • Waterways extension program • Aquatic weed control • Water quality monitoring • Catchment planting and maintenance
Corridor management	Wildlife Connections Plan 2018 Koala Conservation Strategy 2021	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • One million native plants program* *removed in 2024-2025 • Conservation land acquisitions • Environmental offsets • Koala habitat restoration
Environmental education	All above	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Environmental education and community events • Environmental communications • School program • Your backyard program

Service Category	Implementation Plan/s	Key Activities
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Community Bushcare
Conservation administration* (*includes indirect costs)	Nil	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Employee costs for core conservation labour Administrative costs Internal Council charges
Coastal protection* (*included as part of Environment levy in 2021/22)	Coastal Hazard Adaptation Strategy 2021	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Beach erosion rectification Beach nourishment Shoreline and seawall erosion management Amity and Coochiemudlo SEMP's Amity Point flowside research Marine works administration

Table 1 – Service Categories

Service Category - Conservation Area Management – case study

To put Table 1 in context, Council’s environment program and the subsequent budget funded by the Environment Levy and operational budget, has a strong focus on managing Council’s conservation areas, which range from large scale areas (such as Bayview Conservation Area and Eastern Escarpment) to medium scale conservation areas (such as Greater Glider Conservation Area), through to numerous smaller conservation reserves scattered across the City.

The number and diversity of conservations areas creates a challenge in managing these natural assets, given they are dissected by roads, housing, various urban and rural land uses, infrastructure and recreational parks. These things place pressure on conservation areas by causing edge effects, such as biosecurity risks (weeds, feral animals), which require management by Council.

In general, smaller conservation areas have a proportionally higher cost to manage edge effects. Given the composition of Council’s conservation reserves this requires a significant budget to manage these impacts.

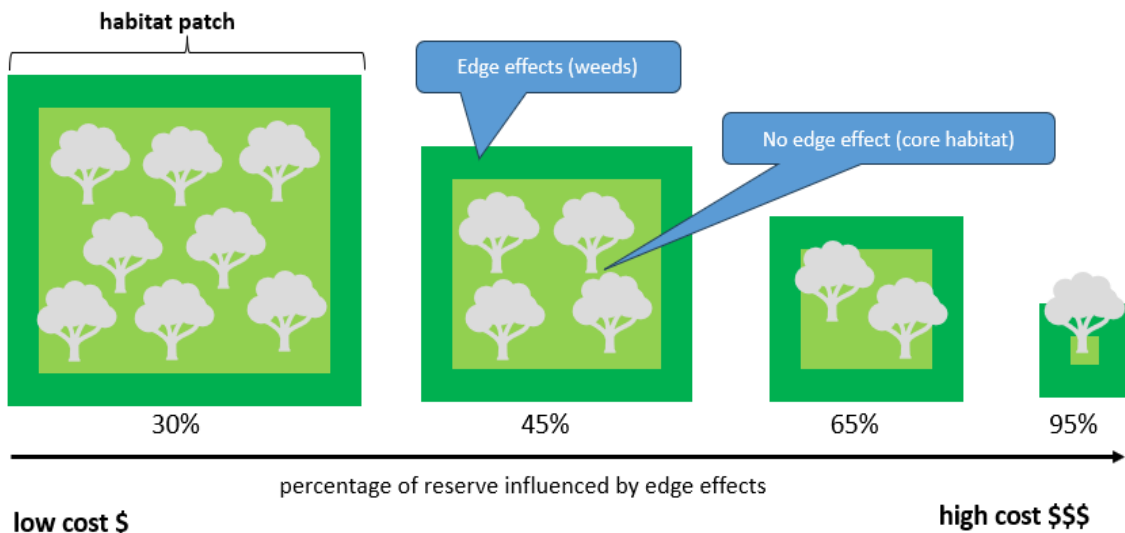


Figure 5 – Edge Effect Impact on Conservation Areas

Conservation area management significantly contributes to protecting, managing and enhancing the City’s conservation areas. A review of those conservation areas has banded them as follows, which directly impacts the budget needed for ongoing maintenance and improvement:

<p>Band 1:</p> <p style="font-size: 2em; font-weight: bold;">~74%</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Large contiguous reserves or important connection corridors • High value ecosystems • Very good condition, Resilient • Low damage from human modification • Minimal urban interface • High community value 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lower cost \$/Ha to preserve values in good condition • Attract fewer customer requests • More emphasis on tracks and public amenity • Can contribute to a positive perception of Council. 	<p>Generally means</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conservation Areas and Parks • Nature Refuge • Conservation Foreshore • Wetlands
<p>Band 2:</p> <p style="font-size: 2em; font-weight: bold;">~17%</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mid-size contiguous areas or connection corridors • Moderate to high value ecosystems • Reasonable condition, remediation needed • Some damage from human modification • Moderate urban interface • Local recreational value 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Moderate cost \$/Ha to preserve values in good condition and treat weed incursions and human damage • Attract more customer requests 	<p>Generally means</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bushland Refuge • Nature Belt • Creek Corridor
<p>Band 3:</p> <p style="font-size: 2em; font-weight: bold;">~9%</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Small or fragmented areas • Lower value ecosystems or poor connection • Poor condition, remediation required • Extensive damage from human modification • High urban interface 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Higher \$/Ha to treat poor condition • Require more fire mitigation • Attract most customer requests due to litter, weeds, dumping, tree risks, fire risks etc. • Most difficult to keep in good condition • Can contribute to a negative perception of Council 	<p>Generally means</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Urban Habitat • Drainage Reserve • Road Reserve • Unclassified

Figure 6 – Banding of Conservation areas (across City)

Figure 6 indicates the importance of seeking to improve conservation areas, through a holistic approach to management, to ultimately improve the banding of conservation areas and resultant costs to maintain.

Environment Program budget

Council’s core environment program as detailed in the above service categories, is funded through a combination of funding from the Environment Levy and general rates revenue.

As noted in the interim report to Council in August 2024, the programs that have helped establish or support Redlands conservation effort are primarily funded out of the Environment Levy – which was first established in the 1990s.

Council has spent close to \$36M on strategic conservation land acquisitions since 1993, bringing into public ownership around 1,313 hectares of land with high environmental values. This includes land that forms part of core habitat areas, environmental corridors and broader functional precincts.

It is important to note that over the last 10 years that the Environment Levy has evolved from a primary focus on strategic acquisition of privately owned conservation land, to the maintenance of those strategic acquisitions and the broader conservation estate owned or managed by Council.

The Environment Levy (and the environment program budget more broadly) has also experienced several significant shifts over the last 10 years in what activities it includes for funding. This is based on the broad definition of the Environment Levy and the increasing demands on Council to effectively manage biodiversity, our conservation estate, and coastal processes.

The Environment Levy is defined as follows:

- *Council has determined that the community in general will benefit from (1) the protection, management, promotion and enhancement of biodiversity and (2) the management of foreshores and mitigation of coastal hazards.*
- *Environmental management includes programs of work including fire management, bushland regeneration and weed management for bushland and conservation areas, education and awareness programs, green spaces, water ways, catchments, and ecosystems across the city.*

- *Coastal Management includes foreshore maintenance activities, as well as enacting the recommendations of Shoreline Erosion Management Plans and Coastal Hazard Adaptation Strategy to manage and protect significant community assets and values.*

Understanding the catalysts for the ongoing shift in environment program funding is important when considering the budgets assigned to the environment program. This shift in the intention and program funding by the Environment Levy over the last 10 years is summarised in the below table:

Financial year	Inclusion/commentary	Levy impact
2015/16	Base year	N/A
2016/17	Significant land purchases Heinemann Road (part) Bligh Street	Environment acquisition reserve acquitted (\$0 balance)
2017/18	Significant land purchase – South Street Commencement of Koala Conservation Strategy (KCS)	Fauna management service category increased to fund KCS (ongoing)
2018/19	QFES SMBI Fire Management Report recommendations	Fire management service category increased to fund recommendations (ongoing)
2019/20	Significant land purchase – Birkdale land (in part) Commencement of new Biosecurity Plan	Conservation area maintenance service category increased to fund Biosecurity Plan uplift and strategic land maintenance (ongoing)
2020/21	No significant changes	N/A
2021/22	Commencement of Coastal Hazard Adaptation Strategy (CHAS) Shift to levy of Gross Pollutant Trap (GPT) and Water Sensitive Urban Design (WSUD) maintenance	Coastal protection service category commenced (ongoing) Waterway management service category increased to fund GPT and WSUD maintenance (ongoing)
2022/23	Budget for employee costs for conservation area management redistributed increasing transparency on full cost of program	Reallocation of budget to appropriate service category, increasing levy (ongoing)
2023/24	Further shift to levy of conservation area management costs to provide transparency on full cost of program to include internal costs	Conservation area management category increased (ongoing)
2024/25	Shift of a range of environmental education and community partnership expenditure to provide transparency on full cost of program	Increases to environmental education and corridor management service categories (ongoing)

Table 2 – Significant inclusions into Environment Levy past 10 years

Table 2 is important in understanding that over the last 10 years there has been increased use of the Environment Levy for funding Council's environment program, which has meant it has increased in a non-linear way as a funding source.

This trend is because of:

- A shift away from conservation land acquisition to conservation land maintenance.
- The emergence of increasing hazards (e.g. bushfire, coastal protection, biosecurity).
- The emerging needs to protect threatened species (e.g. koalas).

- A desire to align the environment program service categories to be funded by the levy to better represent the full cost of environmental programs – resulting in increased transparency on the program expenditure.

For example, in the 2024/25 financial year, expenditure in environmental education and community partnerships that was previously funded by general rates revenue, was shifted to the Environment Levy for funding to increase transparency around Council’s funding of these programs. This helps in more clearly distinguishing Council’s actual spend on core conservation programs in accordance with the purpose of the levy.

Financial information

As requested by the Notice of Motion, the below graphs and tables provide the detailed financial information on expenditure.

It is important to note that the below financial information is provided on the following basis:

- The financial job numbers and natural accounts used to collate the information have often changed over time. The allocation of jobs to each service category has also changed over time as budget practices have matured and, in some instances, is reflected in this data as significant changes to costs within a service category.
- As a result, the financial information is considered accurate but relies on some assumptions and high-level assessment of the activities included in budgets assigned to service categories.
- While the Environment Levy funds a significant portion of Council’s environment program it has not and continues to not fund all the program (yet).
- As such, budgets from relevant Units of Council that are considered to deliver the core environment program not currently funded by the levy, have been included in some graphs to provide as much accuracy as possible on the total environment program expenditure.
- The budget figures provided include Council’s internal charges for organisational services, such as information technology, human resource management and financial services, applied to those budgets and job numbers.

Environment Levy

To begin to understand the historic expenditure associated with Council’s core environment program, a 10-year graph showing the expenditure (actual spend) solely from the Environment Levy is provided below. This graph provides information on the total expenditure and trendline of funding raised via the levy.

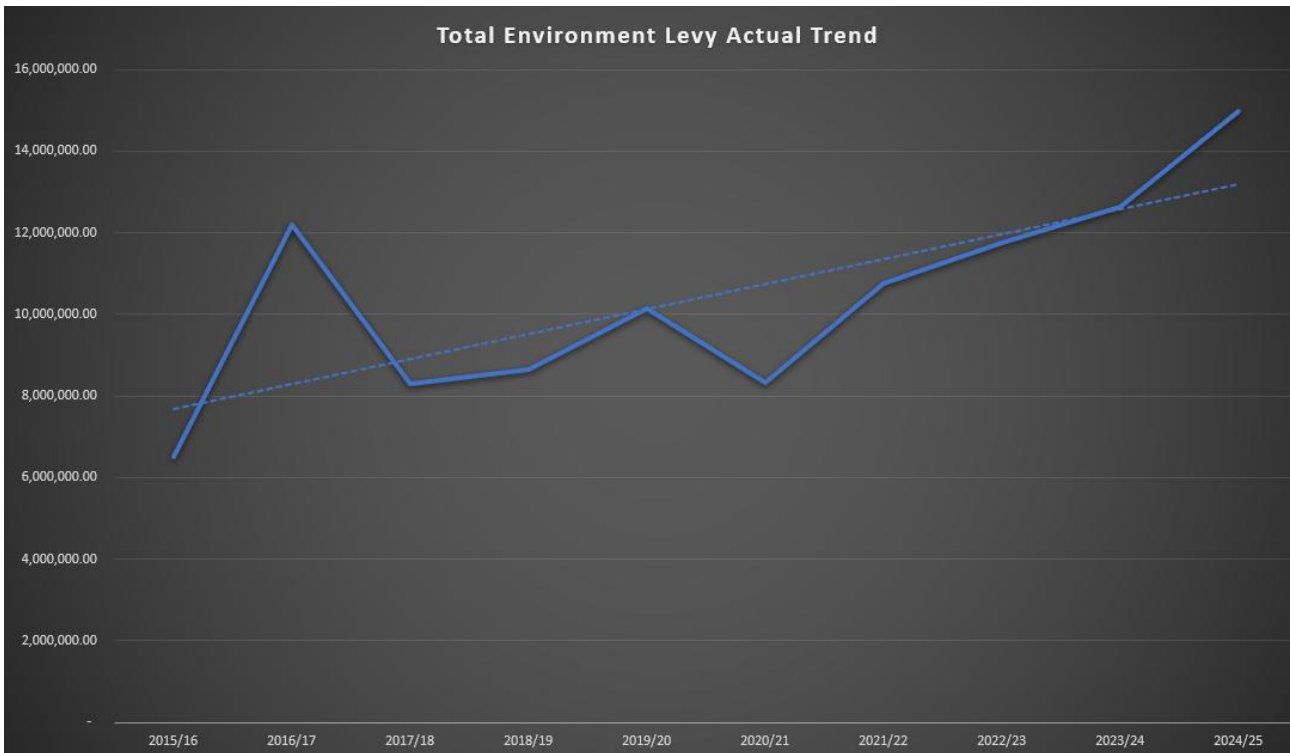


Figure 7 – Total Environment Levy actual expenditure and trend – 10 years

2015/16	2016/17	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22	2022/23	2023/24	2024/25*
\$6.517M	\$12.190M	\$8.298M	\$8.642M	\$10.155M	\$8.339M	\$10.748M	\$11.747M	\$12.639M	\$14.969M

Table 3 – Total Environment Levy actual expenditure and trend – 10 years

* Note 2024/25 represents provided budget not actual expenditure.

Figure 7 and Table 3 are to be read in conjunction with Table 2 earlier in the report which assists in describing the shifts in the Environment Levy budget over the last 10 years. In total over the last 10 financial years, Council has spent \$104M using the Environment Levy, which equates to \$10.4M p.a on average.

Figure 7 and Table 3 are to be read in conjunction with Table 2 earlier in the report which assists in describing the shifts in the Environment Levy budget over the last 10 years.

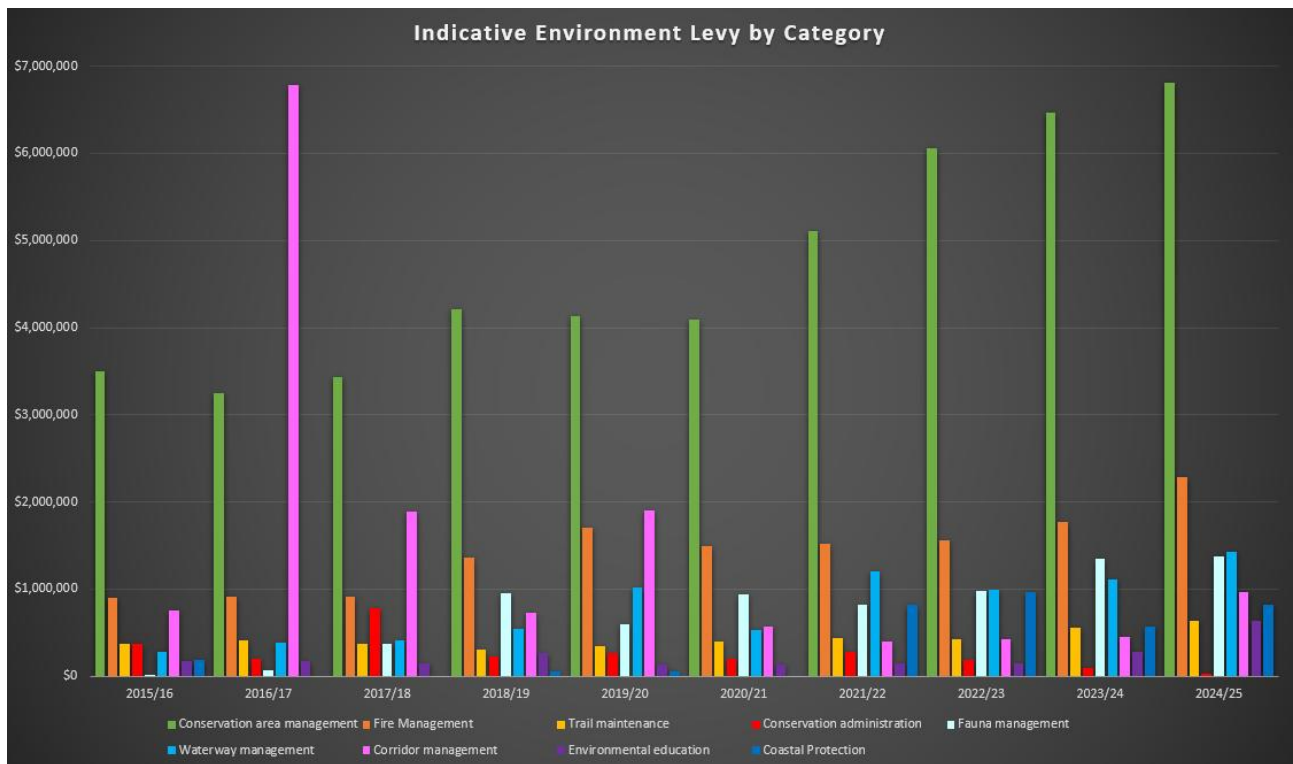


Figure 8 – Environment Program Service Categories funded by Levy – 10 years

	Conservation area management	Fire Management	Trail maintenance	Conservation administration	Fauna management	Waterway management	Corridor management	Environmental education	Coastal Protection	
2015/16	\$3,504,890	\$903,057	\$368,103	\$366,258	\$5,000	\$275,269	\$747,992	\$166,979	\$180,000	\$6,517,547
2016/17	\$3,250,252	\$907,925	\$405,724	\$203,503	\$68,753	\$388,344	\$6,788,502	\$177,747	\$0	\$12,190,750
2017/18	\$3,432,805	\$908,482	\$367,045	\$781,330	\$371,500	\$411,528	\$1,883,757	\$142,142	\$0	\$8,298,588
2018/19	\$4,207,195	\$1,359,096	\$298,844	\$225,702	\$957,578	\$536,267	\$731,436	\$266,794	\$59,577	\$8,642,488
2019/20	\$4,137,356	\$1,701,551	\$339,498	\$263,183	\$599,816	\$1,022,782	\$1,905,330	\$132,400	\$53,341	\$10,155,258
2020/21	\$4,088,791	\$1,490,724	\$400,382	\$205,152	\$933,459	\$522,833	\$561,869	\$135,999	\$0	\$8,339,210
2021/22	\$5,111,388	\$1,520,605	\$441,274	\$281,064	\$816,414	\$1,207,600	\$402,864	\$142,729	\$824,866	\$10,748,803
2022/23	\$6,058,415	\$1,562,499	\$429,425	\$186,547	\$976,327	\$993,582	\$428,232	\$147,428	\$964,858	\$11,747,313
2023/24	\$6,473,269	\$1,767,376	\$551,135	\$96,529	\$1,342,441	\$1,109,506	\$455,747	\$280,484	\$563,258	\$12,639,746
2024/25	\$6,809,423	\$2,286,930	\$631,235	\$30,723	\$1,369,952	\$1,429,030	\$964,459	\$629,266	\$818,653	\$14,969,671

Table 4 – Environment Program Service Categories funded by Levy – 10 years

Figure 8 and Table 4 break up the Environment Levy budget by allocation to the environment program service categories. It assists in seeing the changes over time to each category and again should be read in conjunction with Table 2 provided earlier in the report.

For example, it can be seen under the Coastal Protection service category, that the decision to include coastal protection in the Environment Levy in 2021/22 increases the total amount raised by the levy.

Total Environment Program spend

Council’s core environment program as detailed in the service categories listed earlier in the report, is funded through a combination of funding from the Environment Levy and general rates revenue.

Therefore, in accordance with the request under the Notice of Motion, the below graphs and table are useful in assisting with showing the full expenditure associated with the core environment program.

Noting the limitations associated with sourcing the financial data given budget movement across various job numbers and natural accounts, the information included is based on some assumptions and high-level assessment of the activities included in budgets and jobs assigned to service categories.

This has meant that to most accurately show the full budget expenditure a five-year time period has been applied, rather than 10 years.

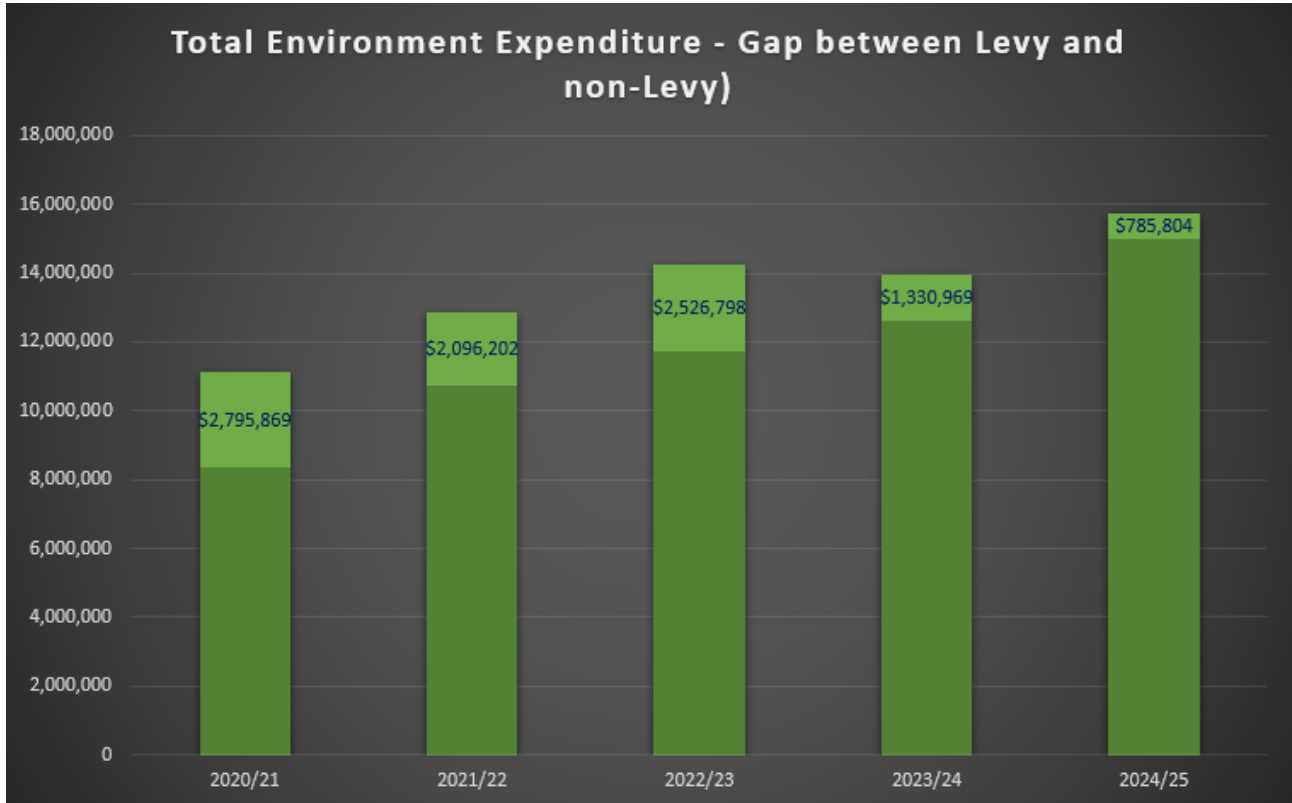


Figure 9 – Total Environment Program Expenditure (Actuals) – 5 years

	Total Program budget	Total Levy budget	Budget not funded by Levy
2020/21	\$11,135,078	\$8,339,210	\$2,795,869
2021/22	\$12,845,005	\$10,748,803	\$2,096,202
2022/23	\$14,274,111	\$11,747,313	\$2,526,798
2023/24	\$13,970,714	\$12,639,746	\$1,330,969
2024/25	\$15,755,475	\$14,969,671	\$785,804

Table 5 – Total Environment Program Expenditure (Actuals) – 5 years

* Note 2024/25 represents provided budget not actual expenditure.

Figure 9 and Table 5 indicate that Council has spent approximately \$68M in the last five years on the core environment program.

Notably, the amount of budget funded outside the Environment Levy is reducing as part of the strategic intention to ensure that there is transparency of expenditure on Council’s core environment program now and into the future.

Over the last five years, the proportion of the core environment program budget that is funded outside the levy by general rates revenue has dropped from 25.1% of total expenditure to just 4.98%. This means that the core environment program now makes up less than 1% of general rates revenue.

This shift, combined with detailed service planning currently underway, has significant advantages in allowing Council to be able to clearly see the total spend across the core environment program service categories, funded ideally in total by the Environment Levy.

This will provide Council with the flexibility to adjust expenditure annually to reflect current priorities based on the strategic policy approach to environment issues and emerging environmental issues.

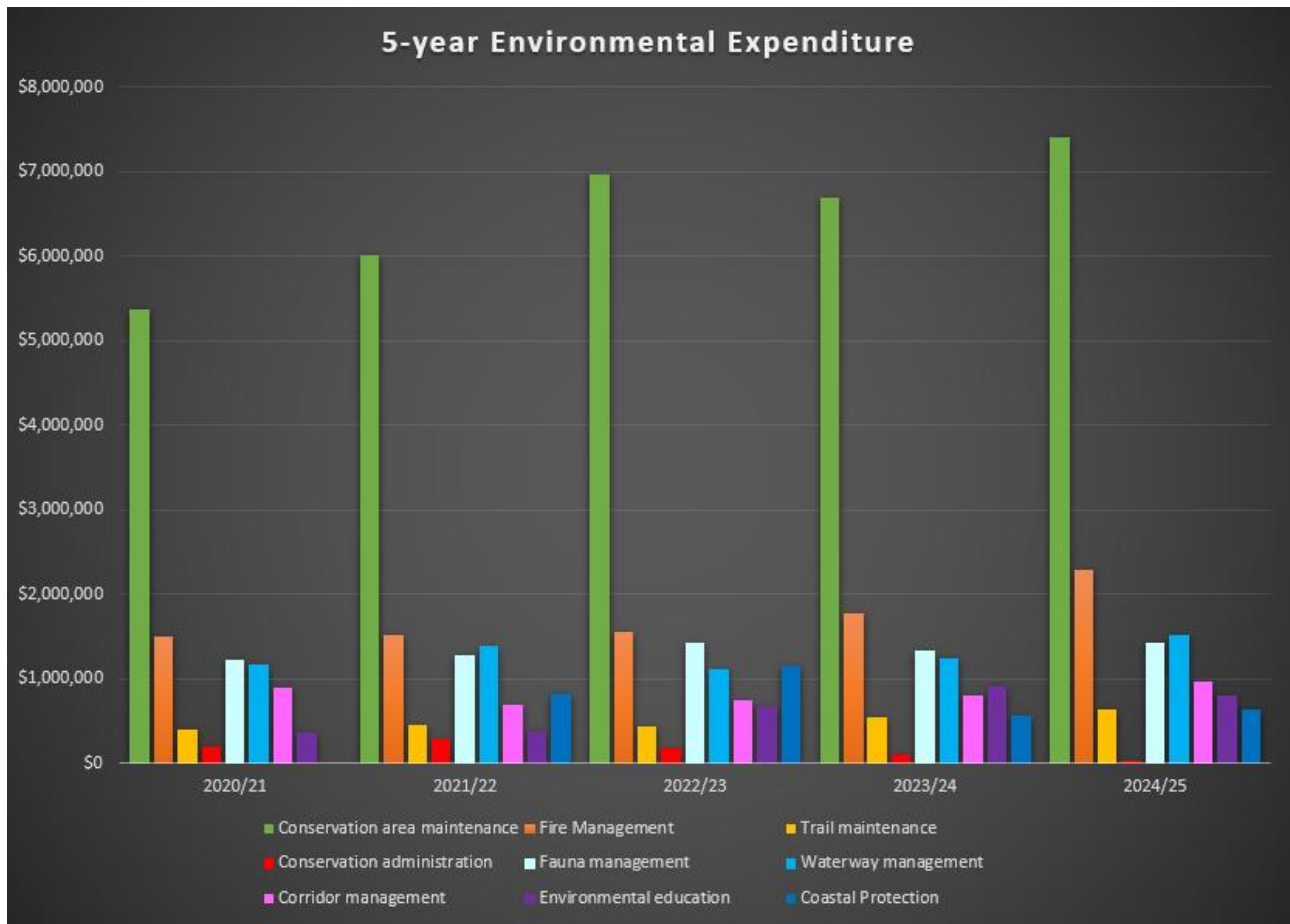


Figure 10 – Environmental Program Service Category overall Budget (Actuals) – 5 Years

	Conservation area maintenance	Fire Management	Trail maintenance	Conservation administration	Fauna management	Waterway management	Corridor management	Environmental education	Coastal Protection	Total
2020/21	\$5,372,735	\$1,501,006	\$405,613	\$205,152	\$1,218,536	\$1,171,651	\$889,001	\$371,385	\$0	\$11,135,078
2021/22	\$6,009,484	\$1,520,605	\$448,124	\$281,064	\$1,280,122	\$1,392,973	\$699,500	\$388,269	\$824,866	\$12,845,005
2022/23	\$6,960,585	\$1,562,499	\$429,425	\$186,547	\$1,432,736	\$1,117,671	\$747,882	\$677,582	\$1,159,185	\$14,274,111
2023/24	\$6,698,212	\$1,767,375	\$551,135	\$96,529	\$1,342,442	\$1,235,821	\$800,168	\$915,774	\$563,258	\$13,970,714
2024/25	\$7,415,493	\$2,295,030	\$631,809	\$30,723	\$1,433,146	\$1,526,076	\$972,503	\$810,742	\$639,953	\$14,969,671
Total	\$32,456,509	\$8,646,515	\$2,466,106	\$800,015	\$6,706,982	\$6,444,191	\$4,109,053	\$3,163,751	\$3,187,262	\$67,980,384

Table 6 – Environmental Program Service Category overall Budget (Actuals) – 5 Years

Similar to the Environment Levy only graph and data table above (refer Figure 10 and Table 6), this graph and data table breaks up the total environment program expenditure budget (actuals) by allocation to the environment program service categories. It assists in seeing the changes over time to each category and again should be read in conjunction with Table 2 provided earlier in the report.

Service Planning

As part of continuing to increase transparency and understanding of Council's ongoing investment into the environment, a combination of use of the Environment Levy and Service Planning is anticipated.

By seeking to fund Council's core environment program primarily or exclusively through the Environment Levy, which has been progressively occurring over the last decade – this provides an opportunity to understand year on year Council's policy and financial commitment.

As has been demonstrated, Council's use of the Environment Levy to fund emerging environmental issues, such as hazards including bushfire management, coastal adaptation and biosecurity and threats to fauna and flora – has positively influenced outcomes necessary to many Council's conservation responsibilities.

To continue to improve and evolve Council's environment program, Service Planning is underway that will assist in providing information at a service category level through to related activities to that service. This will improve capabilities in being able to manage funding and value of service categories and associated activities through the Environment Levy budget process.

STRATEGIC IMPLICATIONS

Legislative Requirements

Council has a responsibility under various regulatory instruments to manage the city's conservation estate appropriately. This includes matters such as:

- Biosecurity
- Nature Conservation
- Disaster Management
- Planning Hazards
- Threatened Species
- Environmental Protection

Risk Management

Many of the service categories that form part of the core environment program are related to mitigating hazards and threats. This includes bushfire management; biosecurity works and conservation area user safety.

Financial

This report has been prepared using financial information attributable to the Environment Levy and those operational budgets associated with work units managing the core environment program.

This report provides financial information based on compiling data that provides a consistent allocation of budgeted expenditure to the various service categories referenced in the report. The financial data is not meant to be used for any other purpose than to provide high level insights into Council's historic budgets associated with the environment.

It is anticipated that through upcoming annual budget processes the information provided in this report will help Council determine budget allocations to the environment program primarily using the Environment Levy.

People

There are no impacts on people associated with this report.

Environmental

This report assists with providing detailed information regarding Council's investment into the environment, including the drivers and services/activities that inform this investment.

The Redlands natural environment benefits considerably because of Council's funding of the environment program.

Social

Council's ongoing investment in the environment program also provides significant benefits to the community through providing both recreational and economic opportunities.

Council's management of the public conservation areas of the city also protects the community from hazards such as bushfire risk and coastal processes.

Human Rights

There are no human rights impacts associated with this report.

Alignment with Council's Policy and Plans

The Environment Programs align with:

Our Future Redlands – A Corporate Plan to 2026 and Beyond

Goal 2. Strong Communities

2.3 Build the community's capacity to adapt to changes in the physical, social and economic environment

Goal 4. Natural Environment

4.1 Manage, maintain and enhance our natural assets and ecosystems, including wildlife protection, vegetation management, and marine and waterway health and values.

Goal 5. Liveable Neighbourhoods

5.2 Maximise economic, environmental and liveability outcomes by creating greater connectivity and linkages within and beyond our city.

The Environment Programs support the following Council policies, plans and frameworks:

- Redland City Local Disaster Management Plan
- Conservation Land Management Strategy 2010
- Conservation Land Management Strategy 2010
- Seven C's Connection Strategy 2011
- Redland Open Space Strategy 2012
- Bay and Creeks Plan 2021
- Conservation Land Management Strategy 2010
- Wildlife Connections Plan 2018
- Koala Conservation Strategy 2021
- Coastal Hazard Adaptation Strategy 2021

CONSULTATION

Consulted	Consultation Date	Comments/Actions
Deputy Mayor Julie Talty	7 February 2025	Briefed on report as initiator of Notice of Motion
Service Manager – Business Partnering Unit Financial Services	January/February 2025	Assisted with compiling relevant financial information around the environment program
Group Manager City Operations	Ongoing	Supported the compiling of relevant information around the environment program
Program Leader, Planning, Performance and Improvement - Environment and Regulation	Ongoing	Assisted with compiling relevant information around the environment program
Principal Advisor City Operations	Ongoing	Assisted with compiling relevant information around the environment program

OPTIONS

Option One

That Council resolves as follows:

1. To note the contents of this report as finalising the request under the Notice of Motion.
2. To endorse the ongoing transition to fund Council's core environment program, in principle, through the Environment levy.

Option Two

That Council resolves to note the contents of this report as finalising the request under the notice of motion.

OFFICER'S RECOMMENDATION

That Council resolves as follows:

1. To note the contents of this report as finalising the request under the Notice of Motion.
2. To endorse the ongoing transition to fund Council's core environment program, in principle, through the Environment levy.

COUNCIL RESOLUTION 2025/16

Moved by: Cr Rowanne McKenzie

Seconded by: Cr Peter Mitchell

That Council resolves to note the contents of this report as finalising the request under the Notice of Motion.

CARRIED 11/0

Crs Jos Mitchell, Wendy Boglary, Peter Mitchell, Paul Gollè, Lance Hewlett, Shane Rendalls, Julie Talty, Rowanne McKenzie, Tracey Huges, Jason Colley and Paul Bishop voted FOR the motion.

16 REPORTS FROM INFRASTRUCTURE & OPERATIONS

Nil

17 NOTICES OF INTENTION TO REPEAL OR AMEND A RESOLUTION

Nil

18 NOTICES OF MOTION**18.1 COUNCILLOR REPRESENTATIVE PORTFOLIO STRUCTURE****Objective Reference: A11837371****Attachments: Nil**

In accordance with section 6.16 of *Council Meeting Standing Orders*, at the General Meeting scheduled for Wednesday, 19 February 2025, notice is hereby given that Deputy Mayor Julie Talty intends to move the motion as follows:

MOTION**Moved by: Cr Peter Mitchell****Seconded by: Cr Rowanne McKenzie**

That Council resolves to request that a report be tabled at the General Meeting on 19 March 2025, finalising the Councillor Representative Portfolio Structure and the supporting Policy and Guideline.

A procedural motion was put as follows:

PROCEDURAL MOTION**Moved by: Cr Wendy Boglary****That the item lie on the table.**

A procedural motion was put as follows:

Moved by: Cr Peter Mitchell**That the motion be Put.**

No vote was taken.

COUNCIL RESOLUTION 2025/17**Moved by: Cr Wendy Boglary****That the item lie on the table.****LOST 5/6**

Crs Jos Mitchell, Wendy Boglary, Paul Gollè, Lance Hewlett and Paul Bishop voted FOR the motion.

Crs Peter Mitchell, Shane Rendalls, Julie Talty, Rowanne McKenzie, Tracey Huges and Jason Colley voted AGAINST the motion.

A put motion was moved as follows:

PROCEDURAL MOTION TO PUT THE MOTION

COUNCIL RESOLUTION 2025/18

Moved by: Cr Rowanne McKenzie

That the motion be Put.

LOST 5/6

Crs Paul Gollè, Shane Rendalls, Julie Talty, Rowanne McKenzie and Jason Colley voted FOR the motion.

Crs Jos Mitchell, Wendy Boglary, Peter Mitchell, Lance Hewlett, Tracey Huges and Paul Bishop voted AGAINST the motion.

COUNCIL RESOLUTION 2025/19

Moved by: Cr Peter Mitchell

Seconded by: Cr Rowanne McKenzie

That Council resolves to request that a report be tabled at the General Meeting on 19 March 2025, finalising the Councillor Representative Portfolio Structure and the supporting Policy and Guideline.

CARRIED 7/4

Crs Peter Mitchell, Paul Gollè, Shane Rendalls, Julie Talty, Rowanne McKenzie, Tracey Huges and Jason Colley voted FOR the motion.

Crs Jos Mitchell, Wendy Boglary, Lance Hewlett and Paul Bishop voted AGAINST the motion.

19 URGENT BUSINESS WITHOUT NOTICE

Nil

20 CONFIDENTIAL ITEMS**MOTION TO MOVE INTO CLOSED SESSION AT 12.15PM****COUNCIL RESOLUTION 2025/20**

Moved by: Cr Peter Mitchell

Seconded by: Cr Jason Colley

That Council considers the confidential report(s) listed below in a meeting closed to the public in accordance with section 254J of the *Local Government Regulation 2012*:

20.1 Request for Further Deferral of Infrastructure Charges

This matter is considered to be confidential under section 254J(3)(g) of the *Local Government Regulation 2012*, and the Council is satisfied that discussion of this matter in an open meeting would, on balance, be contrary to the public interest as it deals with negotiations relating to a commercial matter involving the local government for which a public discussion would be likely to prejudice the interests of the local government.

Overview

To consider a request for a two-year extension to the deferral period for infrastructure charges.

20.2 Disposal of Land and Road Closure - Mount Cotton

This matter is considered to be confidential under section 254J(3)(g) of the *Local Government Regulation 2012*, and the Council is satisfied that discussion of this matter in an open meeting would, on balance, be contrary to the public interest as it deals with negotiations relating to a commercial matter involving the local government for which a public discussion would be likely to prejudice the interests of the local government.

Overview

To comply with the requirement of the Local Government Regulation 2012 by obtaining approval from Council to dispose of an interest in land and also to make application to close an unformed Road.

20.3 Public Tracks and Trails on Private Land

This matter is considered to be confidential under section 254J(3)(h) of the *Local Government Regulation 2012*, and the Council is satisfied that discussion of this matter in an open meeting would, on balance, be contrary to the public interest as it deals with negotiations relating to the taking of land by the local government under the Acquisition of Land Act 1967.

Overview

Acquisition of land.

20.4 Redland Investment Corporation Financial Report for period ending 30 September 2024

This matter is considered to be confidential under section 254J(3)(g) of the *Local Government Regulation 2012*, and the Council is satisfied that discussion of this matter in an open meeting would, on balance, be contrary to the public interest as it deals with negotiations relating to a commercial matter involving the local government for which a public discussion would be likely to prejudice the interests of the local government.

Overview

To present Redland Investment Corporation's management accounts to Redland City Council as required by the Service Agreement between RIC and Council.

20.6 Strategic Property Opportunity

This matter is considered to be confidential under section 254J(3)(g) of the *Local Government Regulation 2012*, and the Council is satisfied that discussion of this matter in an open meeting would, on balance, be contrary to the public interest as it deals with negotiations relating to a commercial matter involving the local government for which a public discussion would be likely to prejudice the interests of the local government.

Overview

This confidential discussion will pertain to negotiations relating to a commercial matter.

20.5 Chief Executive Recruitment Process

This matter is considered to be confidential under section 254J(3)(a), (b) and (e) of the *Local Government Regulation 2012*, and the Council is satisfied that discussion of this matter in an open meeting would, on balance, be contrary to the public interest as it deals with the appointment, discipline or dismissal of the chief executive officer, industrial matters affecting employees and legal advice obtained by the local government or legal proceedings involving the local government including, for example, legal proceedings that may be taken by or against the local government.

Overview

To provide an update on the recruitment of the Chief Executive Officer.

CARRIED 11/0

Crs Jos Mitchell, Wendy Boglary, Peter Mitchell, Paul Gollè, Lance Hewlett, Shane Rendalls, Julie Talty, Rowanne McKenzie, Tracey Huges, Jason Colley and Paul Bishop voted FOR the motion.

MOTION TO MOVE INTO OPEN SESSION AT 1.50PM**COUNCIL RESOLUTION 2025/21**

Moved by: Cr Tracey Huges

Seconded by: Cr Rowanne McKenzie

That Council moves out of Closed Council into Open Council.

CARRIED 11/0

Crs Jos Mitchell, Wendy Boglary, Peter Mitchell, Paul Gollè, Lance Hewlett, Shane Rendalls, Julie Talty, Rowanne McKenzie, Tracey Huges, Jason Colley and Paul Bishop voted FOR the motion.

20.1 REQUEST FOR FURTHER DEFERRAL OF INFRASTRUCTURE CHARGES**OFFICER'S RECOMMENDATION**

That Council resolves as follows:

1. To refuse the request made by the applicant to further extend the current two-year deferral period for payment of infrastructure charges by a further two years.
2. To offer the applicant an alternate further extension of six months from the date the invoice was issued on 21 October 2024 for stage one of the development and to note that the Group Manager City Planning and Assessment would negotiate a variation to the current Infrastructure Agreement for that purpose under existing delegated powers.
3. To note that should this further extension of six months not be accepted by the applicant, the Group Manager City Planning and Assessment would issue the invoice for the relevant outstanding infrastructure charges amount.
4. To maintain the report and attachments confidential until such time as the obligations of the agreement are met and details are published in accordance with legislative requirements, subject to maintaining the confidentiality of legally privileged and commercial in confidence information.

COUNCIL RESOLUTION 2025/22

Moved by: Cr Peter Mitchell

Seconded by: Cr Paul Bishop

That Council resolves as follows:

1. **To offer the applicant a further deferral of 12 months from the date of Council's invoice until 21 October 2025 and to enter into a 12-month payment plan, which is to commence on 21 October 2025 and consist of equal quarterly payments for the full and indexed infrastructure charges for stage one of the development, with the first payment due by 21 January 2026.**
2. **To note the Group Manager City Planning and Assessment would negotiate a variation to the current Infrastructure Agreement to reflect Council's offer, under existing delegated powers.**
3. **To note that should this further deferral of 12 months and payment plan not be accepted by the applicant through signing the variation by 28 February 2025, the Group Manager City Planning and Assessment would reissue the invoice for the outstanding infrastructure charges amount.**
4. **To maintain the report and attachments as confidential until such time as the obligations of the agreement are met and details are published in accordance with legislative requirements, subject to maintaining the confidentiality of legally privileged and commercial in confidence information.**

CARRIED 11/0

Crs Jos Mitchell, Wendy Boglary, Peter Mitchell, Paul Gollè, Lance Hewlett, Shane Rendalls, Julie Talty, Rowanne McKenzie, Tracey Huges, Jason Colley and Paul Bishop voted FOR the motion.

20.2 DISPOSAL OF LAND AND ROAD CLOSURE - MOUNT COTTON**OFFICER'S RECOMMENDATION/COUNCIL RESOLUTION 2025/23**

Moved by: Cr Rowanne McKenzie

Seconded by: Cr Jason Colley

That Council resolves as follows:

1. To apply the exception to dispose of land or an interest in land, other than by tender or auction, under section 236(1)(c)(iii) of the *Local Government Regulation 2012*, for renewing a lease/sublease.
2. To note the delegation the Chief Executive Officer holds under section 257(1)(b) of the *Local Government Act 2009*, to make, vary, negotiate, and discharge the contracts.
3. To make an application to permanently close the section of Road that has structures located on it and sufficient surrounding area to allow access to the facility as shown in Attachment 1.
4. To enter into a lease with the State for the newly created land parcel.
5. To enter into a sub-lease with the lessee identified in the report for the newly created land parcel.
6. To maintain the report and attachments as confidential in accordance with any legal and statutory obligation, subject to maintaining confidentiality of legally privileged, private and commercial in confidence information until such time as the disposals are finalised.

CARRIED 11/0

Crs Jos Mitchell, Wendy Boglary, Peter Mitchell, Paul Gollè, Lance Hewlett, Shane Rendalls, Julie Talty, Rowanne McKenzie, Tracey Huges, Jason Colley and Paul Bishop voted FOR the motion.

A motion was put that the voting order be amended in order for Councillors to vote on Item 20.3 last.

COUNCIL RESOLUTION 2025/24

Moved by: Cr Rowanne McKenzie

Seconded by: Cr Paul Bishop

That Item 20.3 be the last item for Council to vote on.

CARRIED 11/0

Crs Jos Mitchell, Wendy Boglary, Peter Mitchell, Paul Gollè, Lance Hewlett, Shane Rendalls, Julie Talty, Rowanne McKenzie, Tracey Huges, Jason Colley and Paul Bishop voted FOR the motion.

20.3 PUBLIC TRACKS AND TRAILS ON PRIVATE LAND**OFFICER'S RECOMMENDATION/COUNCIL RESOLUTION 2025/25**

Moved by: Cr Peter Mitchell
Seconded by: Cr Rowanne McKenzie

That Council resolves as follows:

1. To negotiate the acquisition of the land, identified in Attachment 1, for the purposes relating to transportation and/or environment and/or recreation, by agreement.
2. To commence proceedings under the *Acquisition of Land Act 1967* to resume the land, identified in Attachment 1, for the purposes relating to transportation and/or environment and/or recreation if agreement cannot be reached.
3. That this report and attachments remain confidential as required by any legal and statutory obligation, subject to maintaining confidentiality of legally privileged, private and commercial in confidence information until such time as the acquisition is finalised.

CARRIED 8/1

Crs Wendy Boglary, Peter Mitchell, Paul Gollè, Shane Rendalls, Julie Talty, Rowanne McKenzie, Tracey Huges and Jason Colley voted FOR the motion.

Cr Paul Bishop voted AGAINST the motion.

Crs Jos Mitchell and Lance Hewlett were not present for the vote.

20.4 REDLAND INVESTMENT CORPORATION FINANCIAL REPORT FOR PERIOD ENDING 30 SEPTEMBER 2024**OFFICER'S RECOMMENDATION/COUNCIL RESOLUTION 2025/26**

Moved by: Cr Jason Colley
Seconded by: Cr Wendy Boglary

That Council resolves as follows:

1. To note the Financial Report for period ending 30 September 2024.
2. To maintain the attachment to the report as confidential including maintaining the confidentiality of legally privileged, private and commercial in confidence information. The Annual Certified Financial Statements are published by Redland Investment Corporation voluntarily.

CARRIED 11/0

Crs Jos Mitchell, Wendy Boglary, Peter Mitchell, Paul Gollè, Lance Hewlett, Shane Rendalls, Julie Talty, Rowanne McKenzie, Tracey Huges, Jason Colley and Paul Bishop voted FOR the motion.

20.5 CHIEF EXECUTIVE RECRUITMENT PROCESS**OFFICER'S RECOMMENDATION**

That Council resolves as follows:

1. That in accordance with section 194 of the *Local Government Act 2009*, Council considers that [insert name] is appropriately qualified to be its Chief Executive Officer having regard to their ability, experience, knowledge, skills, and the responsibilities of a Chief Executive Officer.
2. That pursuant to section 194 of the *Local Government Act 2009*, Council appoints [insert name] as its Chief Executive Officer.
3. To authorise the Mayor, on receiving legal advice from the Executive Group Manager Risk & Legal Services, to sign all relevant documents to give effect to the Chief Executive Officer appointment.
4. That this report and attachments remain confidential.

COUNCIL RESOLUTION 2025/27

Moved by: Cr Lance Hewlett

Seconded by: Cr Shane Rendalls

That Council resolves as follows:

1. That in accordance with section 194 of the *Local Government Act 2009*, Council considers that the preferred candidate, as identified in the Confidential session, is appropriately qualified to be its Chief Executive Officer having regard to their ability, experience, knowledge, skills, and the responsibilities of a Chief Executive Officer.
2. That pursuant to section 194 of the *Local Government Act 2009*, Council appoints the preferred candidate as its Chief Executive Officer.
3. To authorise the Mayor to sign all relevant documents to give effect to the Chief Executive Officer appointment.
4. That this report and attachment remains confidential.

CARRIED 10/1

Crs Jos Mitchell, Wendy Boglary, Peter Mitchell, Paul Gollè, Lance Hewlett, Shane Rendalls, Julie Talty, Rowanne McKenzie, Tracey Huges and Jason Colley voted FOR the motion.

Cr Paul Bishop ABSTAINED from the vote, therefore his vote counted AGAINST the motion.

20.6 STRATEGIC PROPERTY OPPORTUNITY**OFFICER'S RECOMMENDATION/COUNCIL RESOLUTION 2025/28**

Moved by: Cr Peter Mitchell

Seconded by: Cr Rowanne McKenzie

That Council resolves as follows:

1. To endorse due diligence investigation and subsequent negotiations into the potential purchase of the property listed in the report at fair market value.
2. To note the delegation the Chief Executive Officer holds under section 257(1)(b) of the *Local Government Act 2009*, to make, vary, negotiate, and discharge the contract, including signing all relevant documents, to acquire the property at fair market value and execute all associated documentation.
3. To authorise the allocation of sufficient funds to acquire the property and to fund establishment and maintenance costs during the 2024-25 financial year.
4. That the report remains confidential until settlement, or as required by any legal or statutory obligation, subject to maintaining the confidentiality of legally privileged, private, and commercial in confidence information.

CARRIED 8/3

Crs Peter Mitchell, Paul Gollè, Lance Hewlett, Shane Rendalls, Julie Talty, Rowanne McKenzie, Tracey Huges and Jason Colley voted FOR the motion.

Crs Jos Mitchell, Wendy Boglary and Paul Bishop voted AGAINST the motion.

21 MEETING CLOSURE

The Meeting closed at 1.58pm.

The minutes of this meeting were confirmed at the General Meeting held on 19 March 2025.

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CHAIRPERSON