

Congratulations to the following residents who have won local shopping vouchers in our buy local competition this year:

Sonya McNall (\$500)  
Val Stevenson (\$500)  
Christian Radnedge (\$200)  
Stephanie McKellar (\$200)  
Trigger Smith (\$200)  
Vivian Hodgson (\$100)  
Danny Salmon (\$100)  
Ben Bowen (\$100)  
Leona Lander (\$100)



**BuyLocal**  
Quilpie Eromanga Adavale Toompine

## EROMANGA TREATED WATER

Residents of Eromanga are reminded that the treated water supply should not be used to water lawns.

Excessive use of the treated water could result in the plant not being able to keep up with demand.

Council thanks residents for their understanding.

**A reminder that the Visitor Information Centre is closed for renovations and will reopen on Tuesday 28 January. For any enquiries please visit or contact Council's administration office on 07 4656 0500.**

## Christmas Lights Competition 2019



Quilpie Shire Council would like to thank the residents of Quilpie, Eromanga and Adavale for their participation in the 2019 Christmas Lights Competition. Your enthusiasm and dedication to embracing the Christmas spirit is greatly appreciated by Council and makes for a brighter Christmas for the whole community.

Congratulations to all the Christmas Lights Competition winners for 2019 and we look forward to 2020 Christmas displays.

**Judges Choice** - \$100 - Tracie & Noddy Oates

**Best Outdoor Tree** - \$150 - Paulsen Bros. Friendly Grocer

**Spectacular Seniors Award** - \$150 - Gail Weier & John Haylock

**Best Decorated Business Award** - \$200 - Paulsen Bros. Friendly Grocer

**Best House & Yard Grand Prize** - \$500 - Dan & Ellie Springall

**Eromanga Best Christmas Lights Display** - \$150 - Kimberly Smith & Ralph Walker

**Adavale Best Christmas Lights Display** - \$150 - Narelle Mandusiak

## YOUR COUNCILLORS

Cr Stuart Mackenzie, Mayor  
P: 4656 4771  
M: 0429 069 314  
E: mayor@quilpie.qld.gov.au

Cr Jenny Hewson, Deputy Mayor  
P: 4656 1311  
M: 0428 461 294  
E: jhewson@quilpie.qld.gov.au

Cr Bob Hall  
P: 4656 1124  
M: 0428 561 166  
E: bhall@quilpie.qld.gov.au

Cr Bruce Paulsen  
P: 4656 1421  
M: 0447 802 389  
E: bpaulsen@quilpie.qld.gov.au

Cr Roger Volz  
M: 0428 561 468  
E: rvolz@quilpie.qld.gov.au

## AUSTRALIA DAY

On Sunday 26th January 2020, Council will celebrate Australia Day and recognise members of our community who have made an outstanding contribution to our community during 2019.

Australia Day Celebrations will take place at the Quilpie Swimming Pool.

### *Program of Events:*

**6.00am** Triathlon (Quilpie Legends Swimming Club)

**9.45am** Australia Day Program Commences (Quilpie Shire Council)

- Morning Tea/Lamington Cake
- Award Presentations
- Sausage Sizzle

**11.00am** Australia Day Pool Party (All About Aquatics)

- Gold Coin Donation for Activities
- Pool inflatables
- Games
- Aussie Food Eating Competitions
- Prizes for Best Dressed



# Australia Day

Have you received your 2020 Get Ready Quilpie calendar yet? Featuring all our local emergency service personnel, you can obtain one from the Council Administration Office, the Eromanga Police Station or the Adavale Police Station.

On behalf of the Wild Dog Barrier Fence, Council would like to remind all landholders to contact the Wild Dog Barrier Fence staff prior to laying any traps close to the Wild Dog Barrier Fence. This includes contract trappers working on properties.

Council supports and encourages wild dog control, however a courtesy call to the WDBF Office would assist their staff with co-ordination of works, awareness and most of all safety. It may also avoid potential injury to a person or destruction of the traps by machinery.

## 2019/20 Council Training Calendar

Quilpie Shire Council is committed to the training and professional development of staff and as such, are proposing to undertake the following training courses during the 2019/2020 financial year. Council would like to extend an invitation to local businesses and community members to participate in any of the following courses. Please register your interest with Council's HR Officer, Maree Radnedge by phoning 07 4656 0500 or emailing [hr@quilpie.qld.gov.au](mailto:hr@quilpie.qld.gov.au)

### Plant Operator Tickets/Certificates of Competency COMING JANUARY / FEBRUARY

- Forklift Ticket
- Bobcat Ticket
- Certificate of Competency – Excavator
- Certificate of Competency – Backhoe/Front End Loader
- Certificate of Competency – Drott

### Safety/Traffic Management

- Confined Spaces
- Traffic Management Implementation

### Other

- Microsoft Office Suite (Word, Outlook, Excel)

## Business Queensland

Queensland is home to more than 438,000 small businesses (those employing less than 20 people) that are at the core of every industry sector. They are in every community in every region, represent over 97% of businesses statewide, and employ approximately 44% of all private sector workers.

The Queensland Government's Business Queensland website provides small business assistance including resources, services, tools and support to help you start, run and grow your business in Queensland.

You can find out more by visiting <https://www.business.qld.gov.au/starting-business/advice-support> or by subscribing to the monthly Small Business Connect newsletter. Read all the past editions and subscribe to upcoming editions at <https://www.business.qld.gov.au/starting-business/advice-support/support/small-business/connect>.

Please note the new telephone number for the Eromanga Police Station is 4656 8100.

A reminder also that the Quilpie Police Station number is 4656 8181.



### After School Craft Activities

After School Craft Activities for 2020 will commence **Monday 3 February**. Join us every Monday afternoon from 3:30 – 4:15pm at the Library.

After School Craft Activities are for children aged (5 – 9 years).

Afternoon Tea provided.

For further information please contact Health Promotions Officer, Michelle Donohue on (07) 4656 0509 or Corporate & Community Services Manager, Lisa Hamlyn on (07) 4656 0504.

### Visiting Services

#### Dental Services

The Dental Truck will be visiting Quilpie on a regular basis.

The next scheduled visit is to be advised. To make appointments please call 0400 473 441 or email [smile@thedentaltruck.org.au](mailto:smile@thedentaltruck.org.au)

South West Oral Health Clinic will be providing Oral Health Services at the Quilpie Hospital Dental Clinic. To make an appointment call: 1300 215 659

#### Massage Therapy

Massage Therapist, Ron Murphy will be in Quilpie at dates to be advised. To book for an appointment please ring 0432 377 430

Kerri Vagg offers Remedial Massage therapy in Quilpie. To make an appointment please call 0417 799 426. Health providers offered are Bupa, Medibank and AHM.

A range of specialist services visit **CWAATSICH** on a regular basis. Please contact them on 4656 1391 to make an appointment.

#### Allied Health Visits - Quilpie Hospital

A range of allied health and medical specialists visit Quilpie Hospital on a regular basis. For further information and dates contact the Quilpie Medical Centre directly on 07 4656 1158.

### After School Youth Activities

After School Youth Centre Activities for 2020 will commence on **Wednesday 5 February**.

Join us every Wednesday afternoon from 3:30 – 5:00pm at the CWA Hall (10 – 16 years). Afternoon Tea provided.

Activities include play station games, board games, volleyball, basketball, ten pin bowling, craft or place to come and chill out!

For further information please contact Health Promotions Officer, Michelle Donohue on (07) 4656 0509 or Corporate & Community Services Manager, Lisa Hamlyn on (07) 4656 0504.

### BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT GROUP

There will be a Business Development Group meeting held on **Monday 3rd February 2020 at 5.30pm** in the Quilpie Shire Boardroom.

All residents are welcome to attend.

The meeting will focus on the Economic Development and Tourism Strategy that council is in the process of developing.


### Quilpie Swimming Pool Hours 21 September 2019 - 24 April 2020

Monday -	6.00am - 8.30am, 3.00pm - 6.30pm
Tuesday -	6.00am - 8.30am, 3.00pm - 6.30pm
Wednesday -	6.00am - 8.30am, 3.00pm - 5.00pm
Thursday -	6.00am - 8.30am, 3.00pm - 6.30pm
Friday -	6.00am - 8.30am, 3.00pm - 6.00pm
Saturday -	8.00am - 11.00am, 2.00pm - 7.00pm
Sunday -	11.00am - 6.00pm





## JANUARY 2020

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
20 9.00am St Matthews Hall Gentle Exercises	21 2.00pm St Matthews Hall Craft & Chat	22 10.30am St Matthews Hall Tai Chi	23 9.00am Aqua with Alina 2.00pm St Matthews Hall Healthy Minds	24 10.30am St Matthews Hall Jumble Sale	25	26 
27 Public Holiday	28 2.00pm St Matthews Hall Craft & Chat	29 10.30am St Matthews Hall Gentle Exercises	30 10.00am Quilpie Hospital Foot Care 2.00pm St Matthews Hall Healthy Minds	31 10.30am St Matthews Hall Bingo & Pot Luck Lunch		



# MULGA MATES CENTRE ENROLMENTS 2020

KINDERGARTEN PROGRAM FOR AGES 3+

FRIENDLY & HELPFUL STAFF

AGE APPROPRIATE LEARNING ACTIVITIES

AFTER SCHOOL CARE AND VACATION CARE

KINDY PROGRAM ONLY, PERMANENT, AND CASUAL BOOKINGS AVAILABLE

FOR MORE INFORMATION: CONTACT US

[Q.MULGAMATES@GMAIL.COM](mailto:Q.MULGAMATES@GMAIL.COM)



## ORDINARY MEETINGS OF COUNCIL SCHEDULE FOR 2020

In accordance with the provisions of Section 277 of the Local Government Regulation 2012, notice is hereby given of the days and times when ordinary meetings will be held in 2020.

Meetings are generally held on the second Friday of the month, commencing at 9.30am, but are subject to change, in which case a public notice will be issued. The following meetings will be held in the Council Boardroom, 50 Brolga Street, Quilpie:

Tuesday 14 January 2020

Friday 21 February 2020

Friday 13 March 2020

Friday 17 April 2020

Friday 08 May 2020

Friday 12 June 2020

Friday 10 July 2020

Friday 14 August 2020

Friday 11 September 2020

Friday 09 October 2020

Friday 13 November 2020

Friday 11 December 2020

## RADF Round 2, 2019-2020

Regional Arts Development Fund (RADF) is a partnership between the Queensland Government and the Quilpie Shire Council to support local arts and culture in regional communities.

Quilpie Shire Council's local priorities for the 2019-2020 program, under the framework of the Arts and Cultural Plan are:

1. Our People & Community - A creative, engaged, cohesive community which supports and acknowledges its artists and artisans;
2. Our Place - An appealing, attractive Shire with quality arts & cultural facilities and amenities;
3. Our Past - Preservation and celebration of our rich natural and cultural heritage;
4. Our Partnerships - Productive partnerships and alliances within and external to the Region; and
5. Our Prosperity - An arts and cultural sector that contributes economic value and prosperity.

**ROUND TWO applications are now invited and will close on 3 February 2020.**

Before submitting please read the new RADF Program Guidelines. Application forms are available on the Quilpie Shire Council website – [www.quilpie.qld.gov.au](http://www.quilpie.qld.gov.au).

For further information please contact Toni Bonsey via [radf@quilpie.qld.gov.au](mailto:radf@quilpie.qld.gov.au) or telephone (07) 4656 0500.

# Quilpie Australia Day Triathlon Sunday 26 January 2020

Registrations due: Friday 24th January 2020

Cost: Individuals \$10 (early bird) or \$15 on the day

Teams: \$24 early bird or \$30 on the day

### Adults

Male-Start time: 6.00am (400m swim - 15km ride - 2km run)

Females-Start time 6.30am (300m swim - 15km ride - 2km run)

Business team event: Register by 6.30am (200m swim-10km cycle-1km run)

### Kids

9y - 12y - Start time 7.30am (50m swim - 5km ride - 1km run)

6y - 8y - Start time 8.00am (25m swim - 1km ride - 400m run)

5 & under - Start time 8.30am (15m swim - 1km ride - 300m run)

More information or to register

E: [quilpie@allaboutaquatics.com.au](mailto:quilpie@allaboutaquatics.com.au)

or register at the pool.



## Running for council in 2020?

Stay across eligibility conditions, campaign requirements and councillor responsibilities at [www.dlgrma.qld.gov.au/candidates](http://www.dlgrma.qld.gov.au/candidates)



Queensland  
Government



## From the CEO's Desk

The last Ordinary meeting of Council was held on Tuesday 14 January 2020.

Traditionally a quiet meeting, Councillors provided a brief update on activities they undertook during the previous month.

Following a request to reconsider a decision from the December meeting, Council confirmed its decision to not approve the request for a grid on Boondoon Road.

Council is required to have published Customer Service Standards for drinking water supply. The standards must be re-adopted every two years. Council adopted the Customer Service Standards for Water Supply and Sewerage Scheme.

Council approved a request from the Channel Country Ladies Day Committee for support and assistance in hosting the 2020 event in Quilpie Shire.

Council also approved a request for financial assistance from the Quilpie Cultural Society for \$2,800 toward the employment of a Quilpie Cultural Society Arts Development Officer and Auditor for the 2020 Calendar Year.

Following discussions at the December Ordinary meeting, Council adopted the Eromanga Swimming Pool Policy and the Eromanga Swimming Pool Management Plan. Council also agreed to contribute 100% of the cost of obtaining the required qualification of "Australian Pool Lifeguard Certificate" for up to ten (10) Council approved volunteers.

The Quilpie Swimming Club were successful in the application for funding of \$1,000 to assist with prizes for the Triathlon to be held on Australia Day.

By letter dated 13 January 2020, Christian and Maree Radnedge requested Council consider a relaxation of Local

Law 02 (Animal Management) 2012. Specifically they request permission to keep six (6) dogs to enable them to undertake a breeding program. Council approved the request subject to a range of conditions to be met.

Council reviewed the date for the Ordinary Meeting of Council scheduled to be held on 10 April 2020. As the meeting falls on Good Friday, Council resolved that the meeting be held on Friday 17 April 2020 instead.

Following discussions on options for remedial works on the Bulloo Park Racetrack, it was confirmed that a meeting with key stakeholders will be held to further progress the matter.

Concerns have been raised in relation to ability of the Toompine water supply to meet demand especially during times events such as Polocrosse carnivals are held. The Chief Executive Officer will investigate options for improving the reliability of the supply.

As usual a range of other administrative matters were considered.

The full minutes of Council meetings are generally available on our website the Tuesday or Wednesday following a Friday meeting.

The next Ordinary Meeting is scheduled for Friday 21 February 2020. All meetings of Council are open to the public.

I am happy to meet with anyone that would like further information on any meeting outcomes. Members of the community are also reminded that all Councillors are happy to speak with you on any issue.

Regards

Dave B

## HAD A NEAR MISS OR ACCIDENT ON THE ROAD?

(Particularly along the main state controlled roads)

In an important move to collect data in relation to safety issues on our roads Council has established a dedicated email address ([roads@quilpie.qld.gov.au](mailto:roads@quilpie.qld.gov.au)) to allow residents to advise Council of dangerous experiences.

The data will be used to support road funding applications, particularly to the State Government.

If you report an incident please include location, time of day, and details of the experience.



### Open in Quilpie



As of 25 October, Halliebec Towing & Contracting (41 Chipu Street) will be an approved Container Refund point for anyone wanting to recycle eligible beverage containers, bottles or cans.

Exchange is opening on Tuesday's from 4:30 – 6:00pm. *(These times may be subject to change)*

**Quantities over 1500 will initially be taken by appointment please.**

To set up your Scheme ID visit <https://consumer.containersforchange.com.au/create-account>

Or for more information visit <https://www.containersforchange.com.au/>





## Quilpie Shire Economic Development and Tourism Strategy 2020-2024 Consultation Information Sheet

Quilpie Shire Council has commissioned consultants [SC Lennon & Associates](#) to prepare the *Quilpie Shire Economic Development and Tourism Strategy 2020-2024*. The purpose of the strategy is to provide Quilpie Shire Council with direction for economic development and tourism promotion and facilitation over the next five years. When complete, the strategy will deliver a framework and a plan of action, to build on and strengthen partnerships between Quilpie Shire Council, government, industry and the community to support the development of the local economy.

### Economic Development Strategy Objectives

'**Economic development**' is the continuous process of growing an area's level of income and capital (wealth) and distributing that wealth (through local expenditure and jobs) to the community. Typically measured in terms of income and employment, economic development is also about improvements in education, skills, health, culture, community wellbeing, 'place' and the environment. Ultimately, it is about improving **quality of life** or to capture the concept in a single word, it is about **prosperity**.

For Quilpie Shire, desired economic development and tourism strategy outcomes include the growth and retention of existing businesses; new industry development; the attraction of visitors; and increased employment. To this end, the *Quilpie Shire Economic Development and Tourism Strategy 2020-2024* will:

- Establish a detailed understanding of Quilpie Shire's current economic status and performance, as well as relevant regional policy settings informing local economic opportunities.
- Articulate key issues, challenges and opportunities for Quilpie Shire Council to consider in its role as a facilitator and promoter of economic development and tourism.
- Identify potential collaborative partnerships, where Quilpie Shire Council can engage with other stakeholders on matters concerning local and regional economic development and tourism.
- Provide Quilpie Shire Council with guidance to develop an informed, clear, actionable and achievable 'road map' for economic development and tourism to 2024.

Stakeholder consultation and engagement is a key component of the strategy development process.

### Some Prompts for Discussion

Sasha Lennon of the consultant team is meeting with government agencies, industry representative bodies, regional development organisations, tourism associations, local businesses and others to discuss Quilpie Shire's economic development and tourism strengths, issues, challenges and opportunities. As a key stakeholder, the consultant would like to discuss with you, the following:

1. Generally speaking, what do you consider to be Quilpie Shire's:
  - **Strengths and Attributes?**
  - **Constraints and Challenges** for economic development?
  - **Opportunities** for growth and investment?
2. Having regard for the activities of your organisation, what are the **key issues** impacting on the economic prosperity of the Quilpie Shire area, your particular industry or your community of interest?
3. What are some **key potential projects and activities** (planned or otherwise) which could support the economic prosperity of the Quilpie Shire area? This could relate to a key industry sector, an 'enabling' piece of strategic infrastructure or other opportunities pertaining to your particular interests.
4. What do you believe should be the **priority considerations** for Quilpie Shire Council in its role as a promoter and facilitator of economic development and tourism?

For more information, please contact Karen Grimm, Tourism Manager, Quilpie Shire Council on 4656 0540, or [kareng@quilpie.qld.gov.au](mailto:kareng@quilpie.qld.gov.au).



## About SC Lennon & Associates

SC Lennon & Associates is a Queensland-based economics consulting and advisory practice. Leaders in the field of economic development policy and strategy formulation, our team includes experts in economic development, tourism, regional planning, economic analysis, research and communications.

The firm provides clients in Australia and around the world with informed solutions to a range of policy and planning challenges based on the highest-quality information and an expert understanding of social and economic development trends and issues.

The firm's clients include governments, policy think-tanks, universities, non-government organisations, investment promotion agencies and private enterprise.

Our services include:

### **Policy and Strategy:**

- Economic development strategies
- Tourism strategies
- Investment promotion strategies
- Workforce planning strategies
- Prospectus writing
- Economic studies

### **Research and Analysis:**

- Socio-economic profiling and analysis
- Business confidence surveys
- Cost-benefit analysis
- Business case preparation
- Economic impact assessments
- Industrial land studies
- Socio-Economic needs analysis
- Industry studies

### **Planning:**

- Strategic planning
- Urban and regional planning
- Infrastructure planning
- Corporate planning
- Commercial and industrial land use planning
- Workshop facilitation
- Targeted stakeholder engagement
- Strategy implementation planning / action planning



**SC Lennon & Associates**

economics • planning • policy • strategy

## Sasha Lennon, Director

With 25 years' experience as a consultant, Sasha is a nationally-recognised leader in the field of economic development policy and strategy formulation, socio-economic research and analysis, industry studies, population and employment forecasting, tourism strategies, economic impact assessment, consultation, strategic planning, policy and strategy writing and communications.



### **Qualifications**

- Bachelor of Economics (La Trobe University)
- Graduate Diploma in Advanced Economics (La Trobe University)
- Master of Journalism (Queensland University of Technology)
- Australian Certified Economic Developer (ACEcD)

### **Expertise**

- Economic Development Strategies
- Tourism Strategies
- Indigenous Economic Development Strategies
- Investment Promotion Strategies
- Policy and Program Reviews
- Corporate Plans
- Cost-Benefit Analysis
- Regional Economic Impact Assessments
- Business Case Preparation
- Economic Studies
- Socio-Economic Research and Analysis
- Industry Analyses
- Workforce Planning Strategies
- Stakeholder Engagement and Workshop Facilitation
- Communications
- Policy and Strategy Writing

## FLOOD DAMAGE ROADWORKS UPDATE

Council is progressing work on the flood damage program to restore damaged roads from last year's flood event. Unfortunately due to the dry conditions this work is falling behind schedule. The road construction crews appreciate road users driving to the prevailing road conditions while the works continue.



## Caring for your Pets in the Heat

Tips for owners of all types of pets

- Always provide plenty of cool, clean water. Fill two bowls in case one is knocked over. If outside, ensure they are in the shade.
- Ensure pets have access to cool, shady and well ventilated areas during all parts of the day.
- It is best to leave pets at home during heat-waves, they will be much more comfortable in a cool home than riding in a hot car.
- If pets must be taken along for the ride, don't leave them alone in a parked vehicle. Even with the windows open, a parked car can quickly become a furnace, and pets can get heat stroke, brain damage or die in as little as 4-6 minutes. Never, under any circumstances, leave pets unattended in a car, even on a mild day when the car is in the shade and has the windows down.
- If you and your pet must travel, carry an extra thermos, filled with fresh, cool water, just for them. Put the air conditioning on and if possible, use a window shield (the type used for babies and small children) on the rear windows.
- Add ice blocks to your pet's water bowl throughout the day.
- Fill an empty container or drink bottle with water, freeze it, and place in your pet's bed. Alternatively, place wet towels in the freezer for a few hours, remove and place in your pet's bed.
- Where possible, leaving the air-conditioning or fans on in the house will help to keep pets cool.
- If you know it is going to be a hot day and you will be at work, close the blinds in one or two rooms to keep the sun out. This will help the rooms to stay cooler.
- Animals can get sunburned too! Protect hairless and light-coated dogs and white cats with sunscreen when your animal will be outside in the sun for an extended period of time. Put sunscreen or zinc on exposed areas of pink skin (e.g. ear tips and noses).
- Animals with long coats can be clipped to increase comfort in hot weather.
- Be aware of the signs of heat stroke in animals – this can be potentially fatal. Signs include rapid panting, lethargy, drooling, weakness, muscle tremors, or collapse.
- Pets with signs of heat stroke should be put in a cool shady area, wetted down with cool (not icy) water and fanned. If the animal is conscious, offer cool (not cold) drinking water, but don't allow it to gulp large amounts. Contact the nearest vet immediately, but don't transport animals in a hot car.



## CURRENT VACANCIES

### FINAL TRIM GRADER OPERATOR

Fulltime Position

Salary: Dependent on experience

Closing Date: 4.00pm Monday 03 February

A wide range of salary sacrifice options are available to council employees.

For all the details, including how to apply, visit our website at [www.quilpie.qld.gov.au](http://www.quilpie.qld.gov.au)



# WE'RE HIRING!

JOIN OUR TEAM



**VISITING QUILPIE THIS THURSDAY 23 JANUARY!**



Rural Financial  
Counselling Service  
SOUTHERN QUEENSLAND

"Supporting small businesses in Rural Queensland  
to plan and prepare for change  
and meet future challenges"

## **SMALL BUSINESS**

### **RURAL FINANCIAL COUNSELLING SERVICE**

#### PREPARE AND TAKE CHARGE

Rural communities are facing enormous challenges now and into the future. The Rural Financial Counselling Service understands how impacts on the Agricultural industry flows through to rural and regional businesses and we can help! Despite the best efforts of small business owners, many are facing financial difficulties. There ARE ways you can manage these difficulties and continue to plan for a profitable future.



#### SEEK SUPPORT

Small Business Rural financial counsellors aim to identify options which see you and your business better equipped to manage your circumstances. We can:

- Assess and prepare reports on your current financial position, cash flow and viability
- Identify business options, and help you develop an action plan
- Help prepare you for meetings with financiers
- Help you identify the need for advice and to prepare for meetings with, professional service providers
- Provide referrals to additional assistance from other professionals and services from within both government and private sectors.

#### WORKING TOGETHER

Services provided include:

- free of charge, confidential, impartial and independent assistance delivered by skilled, local professionals who know your area and industry.

Small Business Rural Financial Counsellors can provide you with the tools and knowledge necessary to make informed financial and business decisions.

If you are drought impacted and would like to discuss your financial position and become better prepared to manage future challenges, contact one of our Small Business Rural Financial Counsellors today.

**Email: [smallbusiness@rfcssq.org.au](mailto:smallbusiness@rfcssq.org.au)**  
**Phone: 1300 732 777**  
**[www.rfcssq.org.au](http://www.rfcssq.org.au)**

# Ready for council elections in 2020?

The Queensland Government is pursuing a rolling reform agenda to strengthen the transparency, accountability and integrity measures that apply to the system of local government and elections in Queensland. This means there are some changes that candidates for the 2020 election need to be ready for, even if you are an existing mayor or councillor or you have been a candidate before.

## Nomination process

The Electoral Commission of Queensland (ECQ) manages the candidate nomination process. Updated fact sheets and handbooks to assist candidates will be published on the ECQ website. The Notice of Election will be published in early 2020 and the nomination period will then be open for approximately two weeks.

To check your eligibility to be a councillor visit [www.dlgrma.qld.gov.au/candidates](http://www.dlgrma.qld.gov.au/candidates).

## What do I need to run in the election?

- ▶ Complete *So you want to be a councillor?* compulsory training available online at [www.dlgrma.qld.gov.au/training](http://www.dlgrma.qld.gov.au/training). You will need your completion certificate to submit with your nomination to the ECQ. It is best to complete the training as early as possible.
- ▶ A dedicated bank account for all election expenses and donations received. These account details must be provided to the ECQ at the time of nomination. Note: credit cards cannot be used for election expenses.
- ▶ An ongoing written record kept for all expenses received from 1 May 2019 onwards.
- ▶ Registration with the ECQ to make real-time donation and expenditure disclosures.
- ▶ For election signage, you should contact your local council to find out about local laws regarding signage. For example, you may require a permit to display signage (even on private property).

## More information

[dlgrma.qld.gov.au/candidates](http://dlgrma.qld.gov.au/candidates)

[ecq.qld.gov.au](http://ecq.qld.gov.au) (07) 3452 7148

## Do you need party endorsement?

You can nominate as an individual, a member of a group of candidates or a member of a political party. If you are nominating as an individual candidate, you will need endorsement (i.e. signatures) from six people who live within the Quilpie Shire Council area. For information on running as a group or party candidate, see the Groups in local government elections fact sheet.

## Real-time disclosures (starting 20 January 2020)

If you receive a donation or loan for your campaign of \$500 or more (or smaller individual amounts from the same donor adding up to \$500 or more), from 20 January 2020 onwards you will be required to disclose this to the ECQ within seven business days. Also, from 20 January 2020, you will be required to disclose all expenditure within seven business days. During the last seven business days of the election, you will be required to disclose all expenditure and donations to the ECQ within one business day.

Donors are also themselves required to directly disclose donations to the ECQ. As a candidate, you have a legal obligation to make sure anyone who is a donor to your campaign is aware of their obligation to disclose. You are also required to take steps to notify the community of your obligation to disclose.

Your disclosure period depends on your individual circumstances. For new candidates, your disclosure period starts on the day you announce or otherwise indicate that you will run for election and ends 30 days after election day. For sitting councillors or candidates who contested the election in 2016 (or a more recent by-election), your disclosure period is from 30 days after the 2016 election or the by-election you contested, and ends 30 days after election day. For more information see the Campaign donations and expenditure fact sheet.

## What else do I need to know?

- ▶ Queensland law bans political donations from property developers. It is illegal to make or accept these prohibited donations.
- ▶ You will be required to disclose details of your (and your spouse's) activities and financial interests on your nomination form. If elected, you will also be required to declare the interests of other people closely related to you, including your children.

## The election campaign

You are expected to conduct your campaign in a way that maintains the public's trust and confidence in the democratic election process.

For example, any advertising or posts on social media containing election material must comply with the *Local Government Electoral Act 2011* if they are posted during the official election period. This includes stating the name and address (not a PO Box) of the person who authorised it. The authorising person can be you or somebody else authorising on your behalf.



# The National Disability Insurance Scheme (also called the NDIS) is the new way of providing disability support.

The NDIS will provide all Australians under the age of 65 who have a permanent and significant disability with the reasonable and necessary supports they need to enjoy an ordinary life.



The NDIS will help people with disability achieve their goals. This may include greater independence,



As an insurance scheme, the NDIS takes a lifetime approach, investing in people with disability early to improve their outcomes later in life.



The NDIS also provides people with disability, their family and carers with information and referrals to existing support services in the community.



By 2019, the NDIS will support about 460,000 Australians with disability.



## Can I access the NDIS?

To become an NDIS participant a person must:

- ✓ Have a permanent disability that significantly affects their ability to take part in everyday activities;
- ✓ Be aged less than 65 when they first enter the NDIS;
- ✓ Be an Australian citizen or hold a permanent visa or a Protected Special Category visa; and
- ✓ Live in Australia where the NDIS is available.

### Can I still receive support if I do not meet the access requirements for the NDIS?

A person does not have to be an NDIS participant to receive support from the NDIS. The NDIS will connect people with disability, their families and carers, including people who are not NDIS participants, to disability and mainstream supports in their community.

**To find out more call or visit  
Council's NDIS Support  
Coordinator, Chris Houghton on  
0436 816 827**

