

ITEM 1.2 - INVESTMENT ATTRACTION POLICY (Cont.)

#1 Investment Attraction Policy



Policy: 2150-117

Investment Attraction Policy

Head of Power

Local Government Act 2009

Related Legislation

Planning Act 2016
Planning Regulation 2017

Economic Development Act 2012
Economic Development Regulation 2013

Objective

The objective of this Policy is to attract investment and developments that will stimulate and diversify the economy of the Moreton Bay Region, act as a mechanism to support economic growth, and encourage existing businesses to expand the regional economy through the creation of new jobs and investment.

It establishes:

- (1) the types of investment attraction incentives that are available;
- (2) eligibility criteria for accessing investment attraction proposals; and
- (3) a framework for Council to evaluate these proposals to ensure they provide the maximum benefit to the region.

Definitions

Application means a formal request to receive assistance as part of this investment attraction policy.

Business means an organisation or enterprising entity engaged in commercial, industrial or professional activities.

CEO means Chief Executive Officer

Council means Moreton Bay Regional Council

Application

This Policy applies to:

- (1) any existing business, or agents thereof, that have informed Council in writing of their intention to expand their current operations in the Moreton Bay Region;
- (2) any existing business, or agents thereof, that have informed Council in writing of their intention to expand their current operations into the Moreton Bay Region; and

This policy does not apply where a business is threatened by closure or downsizing due to market factors or other reasons. Furthermore, it does not apply to marginal and/or speculative development, or new or expanding businesses that are servicing population growth in a local area.

Investment attraction incentives will not be provided retrospectively.

ITEM 1.2 - INVESTMENT ATTRACTION POLICY (Cont.)



Policy: 2150-117 - Investment Attraction Policy

Policy Statement

Council supports strong sustainable economic growth within the Moreton Bay Region.

Investment attraction is a key target area of Council's Economic Development Action Plan 2017-2022, with a focus on facilitating investment opportunities.

Council is committed to supporting new investment and development opportunities in the Moreton Bay Region which will create jobs and diversify the industry composition of the regional economy.

Investment Attraction Incentives

Council's support for new investment may include, but not be limited to:

- allocation of a case manager at Council to be a single point of reference dedicated to facilitating the investment opportunity;
- property location assistance;
- guided familiarisation tours, including virtual presentations if desired;
- provision of government network contacts including State and Federal departments and local key infrastructure and utility providers;
- provision of local business network contacts including Industry Groups, MBRIT and Chambers of Commerce;
- provision of a free pre-lodgement application process;
- waiving of Council related application fees and charges (development applications and or Local Laws); and
- deferred and/or discounted payment of infrastructure charges.

Eligibility Requirements

Eligible applicants must:

- hold an active Australian Business Number (ABN) or Australian Company Number (ACN);
- demonstrate a proven track record in the industry (including providing evidence of profitable operations over the last three years and allowing Council to undertake appropriate due diligence as required); and
- demonstrate significant capability and technical experience to deliver the benefits of the proposed investment.

The level of investment applicable to a business/project will be determined by set eligibility criteria including:

- demonstrate the generation (as a minimum) of over \$100million in output benefits to the local economy over the first 4 to 5 years of operation. Output benefits include all direct, supply-chain and consumption effects;
- have significant capability and technical experience to deliver the benefits of the proposed investment
- align with the identified aspirations of the community through the current Community Plan;
- align with the Economic Development Action Plan 2017-2022
- operate within a key strategic industry sector for the Moreton Bay Region; preferably be one of the target industry sectors identified in Council's Regional Economic Development Strategy (currently being prepared);
- demonstrate a significant economic benefit to the region, including future employment growth;
- demonstrate the viability of the proposed activity in the absence of any incentive support;
- be contestable, considering other locations;
- demonstrate the proposed activity would not cause significant detriment to, and/or be a substitute for, existing business in the region;
- demonstrate corporate environmental values aligned to the Moreton Bay region; and
- demonstrate the proposed activity would not compromise national and international trade obligations for Queensland and Australia.

ITEM 1.2 - INVESTMENT ATTRACTION POLICY (Cont.)



Policy: 2150-117 - Investment Attraction Policy

Ineligible applicants include government departments, agencies or government owned corporations as well as regional development organisations.

The following proposals are not eligible for investment attraction incentives:

- proposals which can be more appropriately funded by another government program;
- proposals where the primary focus is population-based services such as retail or property development;
- proposals that are mainly focused on planning, pre-feasibility and feasibility work or marketing activities; and
- proposals that are seeking working capital.

Application Process

Council encourages businesses to consider meeting with Council representatives prior to formally lodging an application with Council. Applications can be submitted to Council at any time during the year.

All businesses must apply in writing to the Council to be considered for investment attraction incentives. Applications do not need to be submitted in a specific format.

Criteria considered during the evaluation of applications include:

- the nature of the proposed business
- the expected economic impact of the project/business
- the capital investment
- the timing of the project
- employment generation, particularly over the short-term;
- the scope to develop strong supply chain links with local businesses within our region;
- the ability to diversify the industry composition of the regional economy;
- the growth potential of the business
- the financial sustainability of the business operations;
- the commitment to the region; and
- can demonstrate environmental sustainability of their business operations.

Each application will be assessed with regard to the eligibility and evaluation criteria and the ability to help the Council achieve its economic development objectives.

Council reserves the right to approve or refuse applications at its sole discretion.

Council will ensure that any incentives are provided in a transparent manner.

Requests for Commercial-in-confidence Classification

Businesses must make requests for commercial-in-confidence classification of any information relating to investment attraction incentives in writing as part of their application. The written request must contain the reasons why Council should withhold the details of investment attraction incentives provided.

Application Outcome

Applications will be assessed in a timely manner and offers extended to businesses subject to Council approval. Successful applicants are required to comply with any terms and conditions associated with the investment attraction incentives provided by Council.

An overview of the application process is contained in Appendix 1.

ITEM 1.2 - INVESTMENT ATTRACTION POLICY (Cont.)



Policy: 2150-117 - Investment Attraction Policy

Related Documents

This Policy complements and is to be implemented in conjunction with other Council policies, directives and relevant documents published by other agencies including, but not limited to:

- Community Plan 2011-202;
- Corporate Plan 2017-2022;
- Economic Development Action Plan 2017-2022;
- Procurement Policy 2150-006 (27 May 2020); and
- Council Rates and Charges - Financial Hardship Policy 2150-113 (25 March 2020).

Review and Evaluation

This policy will be reviewed for applicability, effectiveness, and consistency with relevant legislation, Council resolutions, and other Council documents as part of the COVID-19 recovery process. A review of this policy will occur within 12 months of adoption.

The impact of this policy will be measured by the overall number of successful applications for investment attraction incentives, and an increase in jobs over time.

Responsibility

This Policy is to be:

- (1) implemented by the Chief Executive Officer and relevant CEO Office employees.
- (2) reviewed and amended in accordance with the "Review Triggers" by Chief Executive Officer.

Policy: 2150-117		Official Version: Atba	
Document Control			
Version / Reviewed	Version Adoption (Council meeting / Minute Page) Reviewed (revision comment)	Date	Word version reference
Version 1	DRAFT	xx.xx.2020	A20229703

ITEM 1.2 - INVESTMENT ATTRACTION POLICY (Cont.)



Policy: 2150-117 - Investment Attraction Policy

Appendix 1: Application and Evaluation Process

