

# MORETON BAY REGIONAL COUNCIL ANNUAL REPORT

2021/22



United in  
recovery.



# WELCOME

**Moreton Bay Regional Council is proud to present its Annual Report for the financial year to 30 June 2022.**

This report demonstrates our commitment to open, transparent and accountable governance. It outlines Council's operational and financial performance for the year against the goals, strategies and priorities within our Corporate Plan 2017-22 and the 2021-22 budget.

**We acknowledge the Kabi Kabi, Jinibara and Turrbal Peoples as the Traditional Custodians of the lands and waterways of the Moreton Bay Region, and pay our respects to their Elders, past, present and emerging. We recognise that the Moreton Bay Region has always been a place of cultural, spiritual, social and economic significance to First Nations people.**

**We are committed to working in partnership with Traditional Custodians and other First Nations communities to shape a shared future that celebrates First Nations history and culture as an irreplaceable foundation of our region's collective identity.**

---

## **Acknowledgments**

Council thanks all of the contributors involved in the development of this document.

## **Accessing this report**

This report is available on our website at [www.moretonbay.qld.gov.au/annualreport](http://www.moretonbay.qld.gov.au/annualreport)  
You can also access a hard copy of the report at one of our Customer Service Centres located at Redcliffe, Caboolture, Strathpine or at any one of our 10 libraries.

## **Share your feedback about the work of Council**

Your Say Moreton Bay is an online engagement platform where you can share your ideas and provide feedback on Council projects that matter to you.  
Visit [www.yoursay.moretonbay.qld.gov.au](http://www.yoursay.moretonbay.qld.gov.au)

## **Moreton Bay Regional Council**

[mbrc.qld.gov.au](http://mbrc.qld.gov.au)  
[mbrc@moretonbay.qld.gov.au](mailto:mbrc@moretonbay.qld.gov.au)  
(07) 3205 0555  
PO Box 159 Caboolture QLD 4510

Cover photos:

1. White Patch residents after February floods
2. Deception Bay flood clean up



# CONTENTS

- 02** Welcome
- 04** Message from the Mayor
- 05** Message from the CEO
- 06** Our Region
- 08** Our Priorities
- 09** Budget Highlights
- 10** Key Projects
- 11** Our Response to the February Weather Event
- 13** A New Era of Engagement
- 15** **Creating Opportunities**
  - 16** Well Planned Growth
  - 18** Digital Literacy and Commerce
  - 19** Local Jobs for Residents
- 21** **Strengthening Communities**
  - 22** Safe Neighbourhoods
  - 25** Healthy and Supportive Communities
  - 28** Strong Local Governance
- 30** **Valuing lifestyle**
  - 31** Healthy Natural Environments
  - 34** Diverse Transport Options
  - 35** Quality Recreation and Cultural Opportunities
- 37** Our Councillors
- 38** Our Team
- 40** Governance
- 51** Discretionary Funds
- 71** Policies
- 76** The Community Financial Report
- 85** Financial Statements for the Year

# MESSAGE FROM THE MAYOR



**The 2021/22 financial year was a challenging and transformative time for Council. Just when we thought we'd seen it all over the past couple of years, Moreton Bay was hit with some of the worst flooding and storms in our history.**

The continuing impacts of the pandemic and the February weather event had a significant compounding impact on the social and economic fabric of our region. Despite the challenges, Council has worked hard to deliver for our community, including a record \$245 million capital works investment to propel the region's economy forward and keep locals employed.

More than 2,500 properties were impacted by the unprecedented disaster that saw over two metres of rain fall over some parts of our region in February alone.

It may have broken rainfall records, but it did not break the spirits of those in our community. Despite some people losing absolutely everything the community came together in one of the strongest showings of resilience and solidarity I've ever seen.

I'd like to thank the Council staff for their efforts to get the region back on its feet, emergency services crews who saved countless lives throughout the event and those who volunteered to be part of the Moreton Army clean-up.



Much of our focus over the past year has rightly been on responding to the pandemic and the disaster. This has included financial supports for business, providing a one-off rate rebate of \$250 to over 550 property owners who were significantly affected by the flooding, \$1 million in recovery funding to local groups, clubs and not-for-profits to help them get back on their feet following the floods and massive stimulus spending on construction and community projects.

Council is steadfast in ensuring the Moreton Bay Region realises its full potential for future economic recovery and prosperity. The region's first Advocacy Plan delivers a framework for a unified and consistent approach to the region's advocacy.

Moreton Bay is already reaping the benefits of this plan and through these partnerships we secured \$60 million in State and Federal government funding to fast-track the delivery of 146 local projects and create 1,600 local jobs. Working together with the State and Federal Governments is critical to deliver our key strategic projects including the upgrade of the Buchanan Road/Bruce Highway interchange, the future transport needs of Caboolture West and our other growth fronts, and the planning and future delivery of the Bruce Highway Western Alternative.

Additionally, the SEQ City Deal will see more than \$45.5 million of funding to kickstart liveability projects across Moreton Bay as well as enabling infrastructure for Caboolture West through the \$210 million Growth Area Compact. Our region will also have access to more than \$400 million in funding pools through the deal.

The successful 2032 SEQ Olympic and Paralympic Games bid has also resulted in exciting economic, infrastructure and promotional opportunities for the region, including the announcement that Council will deliver an Olympic-standard Moreton Bay Indoor Sports Centre, providing a range of sporting, community and other legacy benefits for the region.

In May 2022, we established the Mayor's 2032 Legacy Working Group, consisting of a diverse group of community, social, education, sporting and business sector representatives, to help identify and guide regional and local legacy outcomes for the Moreton Bay Region as part of the 2032 Games and on behalf of Council.

I have also been fortunate to be appointed as Chair of the Council of Mayors South East Queensland (CoMSEQ) 2032 Legacy Working Group, which works across the 11 SEQ mayors and councils to identify strategic goals around connectivity, liveability, and creating a global identity and thriving regional economy for SEQ. Moreton Bay will play a key part in this work between now and 2032.

We have a massive opportunity to showcase Moreton Bay's natural beauty, lifestyle, culture, business and investment opportunities and Council is grabbing that opportunity with both hands.



**Council's core business has come a long way from just roads, rates and rubbish. This report highlights our continued plan to improve our level of service and demonstrates our commitment to open, transparent and accountable governance.**

In September 2021, Council held its first Community Council Meeting in Samford, followed by Deception Bay and Woodford. Representing a vast region like ours has its challenges and I know a lot of locals don't have the time or ability to get to our Chambers in Strathpine and Caboolture, so after the success of the first three in the 2021-22 financial year, we'll be making these regular events to get out to as many parts of our region as possible.

In response to feedback provided from our community, Council has acted to provide a much sharper focus on planning and good planning outcomes, shaping the character of our communities and for greater protection of our environment.

Council is committed to balancing the needs of people with the needs of the environment, and in the last financial year Council has continued to progress significant environmental initiatives such as:

- Refined the Land Buyback for Environmental Purposes Policy to enhance wildlife corridors and the protection of important flora and fauna species for generations to come, as well as purchase two additional properties under the program
- Planted 18,500 koala food & habitat trees in 17 of the region's parks and 4,500 native plants including trees, shrubs and groundcovers to offset the impact of Council's transport projects
- Worked with industry leaders and architects to develop the Your Flood Smart Buildings Guideline to support residents and business owners to building back better following the February 2022 flood event.

It is my driving passion to make decisions today that will guarantee Moreton Bay Region is the best place in South East Queensland to live, work, and play.

**Peter Flannery**

Mayor Moreton Bay Regional Council

# MESSAGE FROM THE CEO



**In the 2021-22 financial year, Moreton Bay Regional Council again demonstrated its commitment to better service delivery as our region's communities faced the extraordinary collective challenges presented by the late February 2022 weather disaster, abnormally high rainfall through early 2022 in general and the continuing Covid pandemic combined with an intense flu season.**

In this annual report, I am proud to reaffirm this commitment as we highlight the delivery of key milestones and transformational projects to ensure we enable our region to deal with the future, including the development of our new Corporate Plan 2022- 2027. Developed through listening to our communities, this corporate plan helps shape how our amazing places and natural spaces will look and feel 20 years from now. It sets out a refreshed long-term vision for the future of Moreton Bay, a roadmap for the next five years and beyond and outlines where we will focus our efforts and how we will measure progress and success.

Covid obligated us to make big changes to the way we operate and deliver services and has created some positive opportunities for Council as we move towards the 2032 Olympic and Paralympic Games.

**The transition to a refreshed Council vision is now well underway, and Council is working on a suite of long-term Strategies and Plans in consultation with our communities. This includes new Community Wellbeing, Environment and Sustainability, Growth Management, Integrated Transport, and Organisational Excellence Strategies.**

These Strategies will serve as guideposts and benchmarks for our operations and services into the future; ensuring Council continues to focus on the issues that matter most for our communities.

As with the Corporate Plan, Council will continue to engage with our communities to ensure the Strategies stay relevant and continue to bring the voices of our communities into our planning and decision-making. I want to thank everyone who has already been involved.

Throughout 2021-22, Council endeavoured to engage more meaningfully with our communities, so everyone has an opportunity to be informed about what's happening in the region, and to help officers provide valid advice to the Mayor and Councillors to make better informed and transparent decisions. Council held its first Community Council Meetings to connect locals directly with Councillors and staff to discuss local issues, projects, ideas and ways to address challenges in the area. These meetings were a great way for Council to build on the insights gathered through our Moreton Says surveys and community consultations to make sure we are aligning our planning with our communities' values. I want to thank everyone for "having their say" and I assure you Council is listening and delivering based on the concerns highlighted by our communities.

Council's staff and elected representatives put in a huge effort to deliver for our communities this year, despite the challenges responding to record rainfall events during a pandemic. The region's amazing community spirit, resilience and mateship was on display with neighbours, friends, family and even complete strangers digging in to help each other cleanup and search for belongings lost in the flood waters. I am extremely proud to lead the Council staff and see the commitment, dedication, empathy and support provided to our communities during the response and into the recovery phase of the disaster. Whether it was the crews working in the challenging weather with precision and teamwork to arrange sandbags, repair roads, clear debris, and make our open spaces safe; the disaster management team coordinating the response or our team members assisting at the shelters or on the phones, thank you for your commitment to delivering outstanding results for our communities.

On behalf of all Council staff, I would like to acknowledge and thank our elected representatives for demonstrating leadership, providing direction and their commitment as we work together to bring our communities' vision to life.

**Greg Chemello**  
Chief Executive Officer

# OUR REGION

**Moreton Bay has many strengths. We boast a diverse and thriving region of opportunity and choice where our communities enjoy an enviable lifestyle.**

The Moreton Bay Region is the third largest local government area in Australia with a population of over 476,340 people. Covering an area of 2,041 square kilometres, the region comprises a range of diverse landscapes and lifestyles. From the pristine sands of the coast to the charm of hinterland hamlets, spectacular national parks, large industrial estates, thriving business precincts and booming residential hubs.

Moreton Bay has something for everyone and offers some of the most desirable locations and lifestyles in South-East Queensland. With well-connected communities, reliable transport links and affordable living options, residents can experience the benefits and convenience of our proximity to Brisbane City and the Sunshine Coast without the hustle and bustle.

Our region features premier waterfront locations, pristine environmental areas, vibrant entertainment and cultural venues and an abundance of community facilities. Residents also enjoy access to award-winning medical, commercial, leisure, residential and educational precincts. It's our diversity that makes Moreton Bay the perfect place to live, work and play.



## Our Region



**2,041 km<sup>2</sup>**  
Size



**3,806 km**  
Roads



**294 km**  
Coastline  
and estuaries



**3,470 ha**  
Parks



**184,473**  
Rateable  
properties

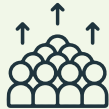


**\$18.7 billion**  
Local  
economy

## Our Community



**476,340**  
Population



**1.47%**  
Annual population  
growth



**39 years**  
Median age



**20%**  
Population under  
15 years



**42%**  
Couples with  
children



**14%**  
People with bachelor  
degree or higher

## Our Business Community and Workforce



**31,938**  
Registered  
businesses



**143,448**  
Local jobs



### Top 5 industries (by economic contribution)

1. Construction
2. Health Care & Social Assistance
3. Retail Trade
4. Education & training
5. Manufacturing



**80%**  
Local jobs  
filled by locals

## A Year in Moreton Bay



**7,013**  
New residents



**3,722**  
Building  
approvals



**50 ha**  
New parks



**10 km**  
New local  
roads



**44 km**  
New footpaths



**19.5 km**  
New storm  
water pipes





# OUR PRIORITIES

As Australia’s third largest local government area, Council has a wide range of roles to meet our community obligations. This includes asset management, regulation of buildings and development, keeping our public spaces clean and tidy, and local roads and footpaths in good condition. We deliver cultural experiences and community services including parks and sporting facilities, libraries and art galleries, as well as managing local environmental issues, waste collection and recycling. We are also responsible for managing growth through smart forward planning.

Having confidence and trust in Council is important to the residents of Moreton Bay and it’s important to us that we are meeting your expectations.

This annual report is part of Council’s commitment to open, transparent and accountable governance. It demonstrates our competence and capability in managing Council’s day-to-day business, while effectively planning for the needs of the region into the future.

Council’s vision and mission is achieved by delivering on the priorities and actions outlined in the Corporate Plan 2017-22. The outcomes and actions identified in the Corporate Plan link directly to key performance indicators in Council’s annual Budget and Operational Plan and are reported on within this report.

## OUR VISION

A thriving region of opportunity where our communities enjoy a vibrant lifestyle.



## OUR MISSION

Moreton Bay Regional Council is dedicated to serving the community to create a region of opportunity and a vibrant lifestyle, while focusing on excellence and sustainability.



## OUR VALUES

We proudly uphold the following values in our daily operations with our customers, external partners and our people.



SERVICE	TEAMWORK	INTEGRITY	RESPECT	SUSTAINABILITY
<p>We seek to understand the needs of those we serve</p> <p>We strive to exceed expectations</p> <p>We communicate clearly</p> <p>We take a positive approach</p> <p>We are proud to serve our community</p>	<p>We promote a friendly, supportive work environment</p> <p>We inspire and encourage innovation</p> <p>We develop and maintain relationships</p> <p>We work collectively to achieve common goals</p> <p>We work collaboratively with our community and external partners</p>	<p>We are ethical and honest</p> <p>We take responsibility for our actions</p> <p>We act within statute and law</p> <p>We take pride in the manner in which we perform our duties</p>	<p>We listen to people</p> <p>We treat people fairly and consistently</p> <p>We embrace diversity and opinions</p> <p>We treat others as we wish to be treated</p>	<p>We focus on the future</p> <p>We respect the environment</p> <p>We demonstrate leadership by example</p>

# BUDGET HIGHLIGHTS

Council's \$743 million 2021-22 budget delivered a record \$245 million capital works program with a focus on healthy and active lifestyles. Here's a snapshot of the 2021-22 budget:



**\$174m**

Road and transport networks



**\$61m**

Parks and the environment



**\$59.6m**

Waste management



**\$20.1m**

Sport and recreation



**\$20.1m**

Libraries, arts, community facilities and history



**\$25m**

Waterways and coastal areas



**\$1.6m**

Planning better communities and managing growth



**120**

New CCTV cameras throughout the region



**148,000+**

Trees planted



# KEY PROJECTS

## PROJECTS IN PROGRESS

- \$12.5 million to improve safety, increase traffic capacity and reduce delays on Old Gympie Road (Alma Road to Goodwin Road), Dakabin
- \$7.5 million for the construction of a signalised intersection, pedestrian crossing and shared pathways on Old Gympie and Boundary Roads, Dakabin
- \$4.9 million for road improvements and traffic signals including signalised pedestrian crossing on Beeville Road, Petrie
- \$2.3 million for the widening and reconfigured intersection at Chelmsford Road, Mango Hill
- \$1.85 million for the relocation of services to allow construction to commence to improve safety on Old Gympie Road (Whitehorse Road to Alma Road), Kallangur
- \$1.56 million in improvements to the road and intersection at William Berry Drive, Morayfield
- \$1.46 million road rehabilitation and new pathway on Warroo Drive, Deception Bay
- \$1.08 million for road improvements to Victoria Avenue, Woody Point
- \$1 million for road improvements and intersection upgrade at Oakey Flat Road (Ashbrook to Lakeview), Morayfield
- \$940,000 towards road rehabilitation on Endeavour Drive, Banksia Beach
- \$335,000 to resurface John Street, Redcliffe.

## Jointly funded projects

- \$11.6 million to begin construction on the new Queensland Centre of Excellence for Women's Football, home to Brisbane Roar women and youth teams at South Pine Sporting Complex, Brendale\*
- \$5 million to finalise detailed design and commence construction of a new four lane bridge and road construction to improve flood immunity at Youngs Crossing, Joyner/Petrie\*
- \$5 million to improve traffic flow and road safety at the entrance to Bunnings North Lakes with upgraded intersections at Flinders Parade-Cook Court and Torres Crescent-Diamond Jubilee Way\*
- \$4.5 million to rebuild a new Community Hall at Deception Bay\*
- \$4 million for stage 1 construction of new rugby union and touch football clubhouse and amenities at Petersen Road Sportsgrounds, Morayfield\*#^
- \$3.35 million to upgrade the existing two-lane cross section to 4-lanes at Graham Road, Morayfield\*
- \$2.7 million to design and build a pedestrian and cycle bridge over the South Pine River at Percy Cash Bridge, Samford Valley#
- \$1.25 million for stage 1 building upgrade to the Pine Rivers PCYC, Bray Park\*
- \$1.2 million for the design renewal and upgrade of the skate park at Albany Creek\*
- \$950,000 for the renewal and extension of Soccer Field 3 at James Drysdale Reserve, Bunya\*
- \$900,000 for a 950m missing link pathway along Bribie Island Road (Bestmann Road to Aylward Road), Ningi\*.

\* This project is also supported by the Australian Government

# This project is also supported by the Queensland Government

^ This project is also supported by the Caboolture Sports Club

# OUR RESPONSE TO THE FEBRUARY WEATHER EVENT

The 2022 flood disaster surpassed most historical weather records. It impacted over 2,500 homes and damaged almost every road in the region, forcing 224 Council roads to close with communities cut off during the peak of the emergency.

It left the region with a damage bill of over \$270 million in private infrastructure such as housing and businesses, and over \$14 million in Council assets.

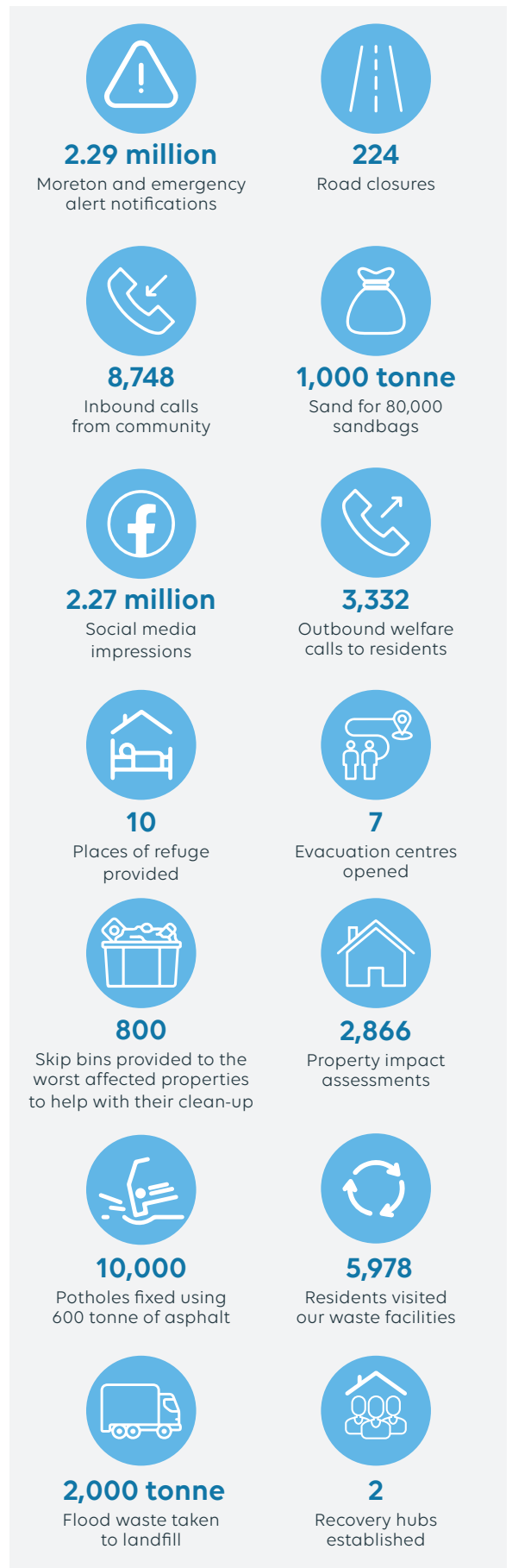
Council crews worked day and night on a 24-hour rotational roster throughout the entire disaster to respond to the event and ensure our communities could get back on their feet swiftly.

## NOTHING SHORT OF A MIRACLE: WHITE PATCH CROSSING REOPENED IN RECORD TIME

The crossing to White Patch, a coastal suburb on Bribie Island, was completely obliterated during the weather event but a temporary access was provided just 96 hours after it washed away in the floodwaters.

This feat required tremendous effort and collaboration between Council's Construction and Technical Operations teams, our partner agencies, and the local community.

There were some outstanding displays of community spirit on show throughout the incident. Some residents allowed crews to use their properties as central meeting points for the community to be kept informed during the works and crews were cheered on by the stranded residents as they worked to reconnect them to Bribie Island.



## LOCAL BUSINESS RESILIENCE AND RECOVERY

Moreton Bay Regional Council was heavily engaged in assisting our local business community respond to challenging times experienced from January 2022 to July 2022 with the Covid-19 Omicron wave, wet weather and floods.

The business disruptions included reductions in footfall/trade, unforeseen staffing issues, cashflow stress, significant supply chain issues, inflationary pressures and difficulties in business planning and forecasting.

The impact at the start of the year from the Covid-19 Omicron wave was particularly disruptive with consumer sentiment hitting a 30 year low according to an ANZ-Roy Morgan survey. Council responded with an extensive #BackALocal campaign to encourage local residents to back local businesses and increase local spend. The campaign reached more than 90,000 people across its six-week duration. As a continuation of this campaign, a region-specific gift card program, Moreton Money was established in partnership with six local Chambers of Commerce and came into effect in the second half of 2022.

The February flood event was one of the most devastating natural disasters in our history. The Insurance Council of Australia reported 772 commercial insurance claims made in the region totalling \$32 million of damages. A Department of Employment, Small Business and Training survey of 348 impacted businesses uncovered that 208 jobs were lost in the region as a result of the event and 180 businesses forced to close for a period of time due to the impacts they experienced. Forty eight per cent of survey respondents did not have appropriate business insurance to cover the flooding disaster with a further 33% unsure if they were adequately insured. The Queensland Government's Extraordinary Disaster Assistance Recovery Grant program received 198 applications from small businesses, non-profits and primary producers in the region which were either uninsured or under insured for the impacts on their businesses.

The Moreton Bay Economic Recovery Sub-Group was established from March to June 2022 with seven State and Federal Government agencies meeting which was chaired and coordinated by Council. The Sub-Group set out and completed 28 immediate recovery actions, three medium term actions and set two long term actions focussed on increasing insurance coverage and disaster preparedness.

Throughout these challenging times, Council staff maintained direct communications with businesses. Fact sheets on business assistance were sent to over 16,000 local businesses to assist them in navigating the impacts of both Covid-19 and February's floods. A monthly online meeting of Chambers, Industry Groups and government was held, becoming a vital way to both inform and hear from the business community directly. Council officers also visited impacted businesses, provided one-on-one support and prepared and released a 'Disaster Proof Your Business' publication. Council also delivered an online 'Disaster Recovery Forum' to provide further information on available grants, support and services for businesses. Moreton Bay Regional Council is a proud member of the Small Business Friendly Council initiative and is committed to building business resilience across the region.



# A NEW ERA OF ENGAGEMENT

**Moreton Says is a major engagement program Council is delivering to bring the voices of our communities into our planning and decision-making.**

The decisions we make today will shape the future of our communities. To make the best decisions possible Council needs to understand what is important to those who live, work and play in our region.

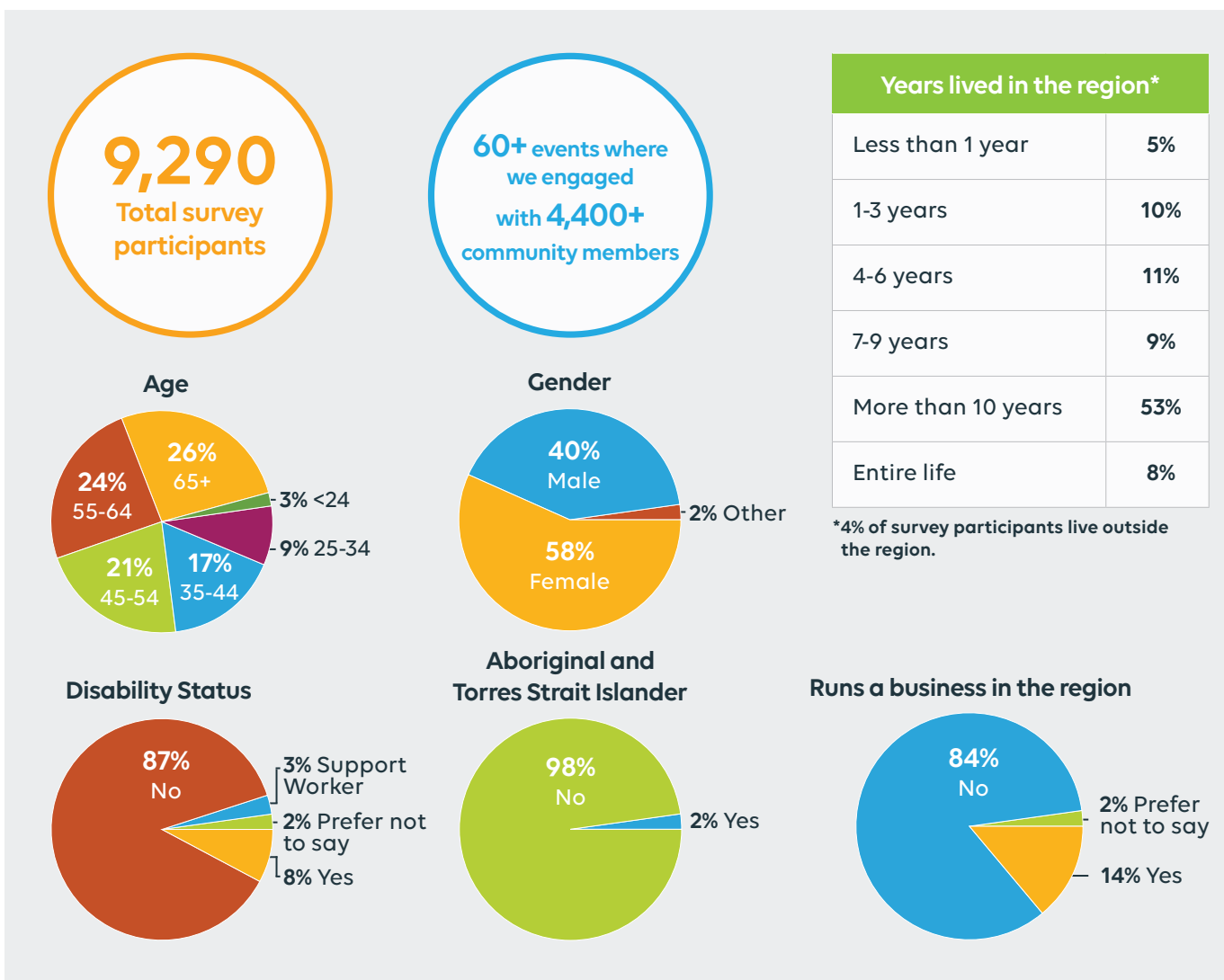
Since its April 2021 launch, Moreton Says surveys are completed every few months to help us keep our finger on the pulse and track how our relationship with the community is going. We completed two surveys in the 2021-22 financial year, with 4,940 people participating.

But it's not just Moreton Says driving better outcomes through better engagement.

With a commitment to being accountable, transparent and building your trust in us, we have engaged with our communities on a range of projects in the 2021-22 financial year including:

- The Our Moreton Program, to develop a new Corporate Plan and six supporting strategies.
- Kallangur-Dakabin Neighbourhood Plan
- Morayfield Neighbourhood Plan
- Caboolture Place Naming Project
- Animal Management Plan
- Reimagining Our Moreton Bay
- Local Laws Review
- Bellara Foreshore Renewal Project

## WHO PARTICIPATED?



**The Moreton Bay Region is projected to grow from currently 470,000 to 697,000 residents by 2041.**

Working together with the State and Federal governments is critical if Council is to secure the infrastructure required to manage the region's growth and preserve our residents' quality of life. They have invested significantly in the Moreton Bay region, and we have rewarded their trust in Council by being a proven delivery partner.

Local Government raises only 3% of all national taxation revenue and manages \$150 billion in community assets in Queensland, yet councils are responsible for one-third of the nation's infrastructure.

The Advocacy Plan adopted by Council at the Community Council Meeting held in Samford on 15 September 2021 delivers a framework for a unified and consistent approach to the region's advocacy. It is designed to create and foster an environment that will encourage collaboration and support positive regional outcomes.

The plan sets out Council's advocacy agenda, highlighting key region-building projects and initiatives which need the collaborative support of industry and other levels of government to be realised.

Council committed to reporting on its Advocacy Plan initiatives and the following summary outlines the progress we made during the 2021-22 financial year:

- The SEQ City Deal includes \$210 million for a Growth Area Compact for Caboolture West as well as access to other funding programs including a guaranteed \$45 million from the SEQ Liveability Fund
- \$15.3 million in 2022 federal election campaign commitments from local Labor candidates
- \$5 million in Federal Government funding from the Local Roads and Community Infrastructure Program
- \$3.2 million in Federal Government funding from Community Development Grants
- \$2.4 million in State Government funding from Sport and Recreation Recovery Grants
- \$2.38 million in Federal Government funding from the Black Spot Program
- \$650,000 in State Government funding from the Cycle Network Local Government Grants Program
- \$400,000 in Federal Government funding from the Building Better Regions Fund
- \$20,000 in State Government funding from the Flying-Fox Roost Management - Local Government Grants Program.

