



We've got it all

Moreton Bay Regional Council
Annual Report 2014/15



Moreton Bay Region

We've got it all

Lifestyle, opportunity, scenery, adventure and experiences – Moreton Bay Region has everything you're looking for.

The Moreton Bay Region is one of South East Queensland's most diverse areas, spanning more than 2,037 square kilometres of coastal, urban and hinterland communities. It is also one of Australia's fastest-growing regions and is home to around 420,000 people.

From family-friendly parks to pristine beaches and waterways, scenic drives, bushwalks, rainforest trails, thriving shopping and commercial precincts and vibrant entertainment – there is so much to enjoy and explore in the Moreton Bay Region.

So make some time to visit one of the signature festivals, events or attractions on offer in the Moreton Bay Region.

www.visitmoretonbay.com.au

Contents

We've Got It All in the Moreton Bay Region	2
Our Priorities	3
Mayor's Report	4
CEO's Report	5
Elected Representatives	6
Corporate Structure	10
Our Team	11
Creating Opportunities	13
Business development	15
Tourism	17
Land use and infrastructure planning	19
Strengthening Communities	21
Community capacity building	23
Community support services	25
Community safety	25
Disaster management	27
Customer service	29
Office of CEO	29
Building and plumbing services	31
Local laws	31
Development assessment	33
Public health services	35
Valuing Lifestyle	37
Environmental initiatives	39
Waste collection, reduction and recycling	41
Roads and transport	43
Stormwater infrastructure	45
Waterways and coastal infrastructure	47
Cultural services	49
Libraries	53
Community Facilities	55
Events	57
Parks	59
Sport and recreation	61
Governance	62
Community Financial Report	93
Financial Statement for the Year	99

We've Got It All in the Moreton Bay Region

Moreton Bay Regional Council is Australia's third largest local government, conveniently located between Brisbane City and the Sunshine Coast Region.

The Moreton Bay Region is a diverse area, spanning more than 2,037 square kilometres and boasting everything from rural townships to urban centres, coastal villages and thriving business precincts – We've Got It All.

Moreton Bay Regional Council employs more than 1,600 staff dedicated to servicing the needs and enhancing the lifestyle of around 409,000 residents.

This annual report covers the period 1 July 2014 to 30 June 2015. It provides readers with a snapshot of council's major highlights covering activities, projects and programs that were undertaken during this period.

The report also contains a Community Financial Report that demonstrates Moreton Bay Regional Council's strong financial position.

A snapshot of the Moreton Bay Region as at 30 June 2015

	30 June 2015	30 June 2014	30 June 2013
Estimated population	417,092*	408,914*	406,414*
Number of rateable properties	160,555	156,753	153,974
Number of properties exempt from rates	5,084	4,807	3,849
Total number of council staff	1,660	1,676	1,740
Total loan debt	\$395 million	\$395 million	\$383 million
Debt level calculated per resident	\$947	\$966	\$942
Total net rates and charges	\$250.5 million	\$238.9 million	\$226.6 million

**based on the Office of Economic and Statistical Research's two per cent population growth forecast for Moreton Bay Region.*



Our Priorities

Moreton Bay Regional Council's priorities, decisions and policies are guided by its Corporate Plan 2012-2017 which sets a clear strategic direction through its vision, mission, and values statements. This Corporate Plan is council's response to the 2011-2021 Community Plan and outlines what council is doing to achieve the vision.

Council's Operational Plan outlines key performance indicators and goals and is designed to support and deliver the objectives of the corporate plan.

In conjunction with the operational plan, council adopts a budget each year which allocates resources to help achieve our vision.

Our Vision

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

Our Mission

We will serve the community to create a region of opportunity and a vibrant lifestyle, while focusing on excellence and sustainability.

Our Values

Council proudly upholds the following values in its daily operations with customers, external partners and staff

Respect • Service • Integrity • Teamwork • Sustainability

Respect

We listen to people
We treat people fairly and consistently
We embrace diversity and opinions
We treat others as we wish to be treated

Service

We seek to understand the needs of those we serve
We strive to exceed expectations
We communicate clearly
We take a positive approach
We are proud to serve our community

Integrity

We are ethical and honest
We take responsibility for our actions
We act within statute and law
We take pride in the manner in which we perform our duties

Teamwork

We promote a friendly, supportive work environment
We inspire and encourage innovation
We develop and maintain relationships
We work collectively to achieve common goals
We work collaboratively with our community and external partners

Sustainability

We focus on the future
We respect the environment
We demonstrate leadership by example

Mayor's Report

2014/15 was a big year for Moreton Bay Regional Council.

In June 2015, council was awarded the strongest economy in Queensland and 14th nationally (Australian Local Government Association's 2015 State of the Regions report).

A fantastic result that reflects this council's strong economic management plan, region-building capital works program and bold vision for the future.

In the past 12 months alone, more than 12,300 jobs have been created in our region, which has outpaced jobs growth in many other parts of South East Queensland.

This reflects continued growth in economic confidence in our region, following the commencement of major infrastructure projects including the Moreton Bay Rail Link.



First planned more than a century ago and on-track for completion in 2016, the 12.6 kilometre Moreton Bay Rail from Petrie to Kippa-Ring will bring reliable public transport to our region.

The billion dollar investment includes the first new train stations built in our region in more than 30 years.

Construction has continued across the rail network in 2014/15 with completion of scores of road and rail bridges to better connect our local residents to the new train network.

Council has also delivered a number of significant road projects across our region, including construction on the four-lane upgrade of South Pine Road from Camelia Avenue to Queens Road in Everton Hills and completion of the Perry Irwin Bridge in Caboolture.

These works have helped to boost capacity in our local road network, improve road safety and reduce traffic congestion.

Storm season brought heavy rainfall and flash-flooding to many parts of our region. Council operations and disaster management crews worked around the clock to open and close roads in the height of storm events, issue alerts and community messaging.

Thousands of residents have continued to sign up to council's free storm messaging service, MoretonAlert, to receive warnings about storm and flood events.

Council has continued to invest in State Emergency Service (SES) facilities including the opening of a new facility at Woodford, in addition to recent building upgrades at Caboolture and Bribie Island SES groups.

Our region has continued to benefit from ongoing visitation and tourism. There is so much to do and see in our region from stunning beaches, great fishing spots, swimming holes, shopping destinations and cultural experiences to the green rolling hills of the hinterland.

Moreton Bay Region is home to some of South East Queensland's best festivals including Festival of Sails, Urban Country Music Festival, KiteFest and Redcliffe Festival, Decades Festival and the iconic Woodford Folk Festival.

We continue to be a proud supporter of these festivals including many other great local community events which help to bring our community together.

I think you'll agree We've Got It All in the Moreton Bay Region.

Allan Sutherland
MAYOR

CEO'S Report

The past year was a period of review, consolidation and innovation for Moreton Bay Regional Council.

Local government is a dynamic environment affected by changes in government policy and economic conditions, emerging local opportunities and most importantly the needs and expectations of the communities it serves.

Council remains committed to providing the best possible outcomes for the community.

With reductions in the level of funding and subsidies from other levels of government, council's focus continues to be on the efficient delivery of services to our community.

The way we provide services is continually being reviewed to ensure council provides the best possible outcomes at the lowest cost for ratepayers.

Meeting the long-term infrastructure needs of our growing region while continuing to deliver essential, everyday services is often a delicate balance.

To make the most of available funding, it is essential that council pursues more efficient and economical ways of achieving the same or even better outcomes.

Technology continues to play a key role in re-shaping the way we deliver our services – providing new opportunities and options that enable us to reduce our operating and business costs, while also enhancing our responsiveness and services.

Whether it is a smart phone app that speeds up the handling of customer requests, new technologies that reduce our energy costs or forging better electronic links between work in the field and work in the office, it is all about providing better value for money for the community.

During 2014/15, Moreton Bay Regional Council continued its commitment of maintaining a strong balance sheet.

The recent Local Government Association's State of the Regions Report, which analyses data from every local government in Australia ranked Moreton Bay's economy as No. 1 in the state.

Moreton Bay Regional Council also remains one of the very few local governments in the state that has improved its credit outlook and is on track to deliver a fifth consecutive operating surplus in 2015/16.

Importantly, these financial achievements are allowing council to invest responsibly in key region-building projects – many of which are profiled in this report – while keeping rates among the lowest in South East Queensland.

I thank the Mayor and Councillors for setting a strong direction for our region and for working with the community to make the Moreton Bay Region an even better place.

I also acknowledge the projects and programs highlighted in this report would not have been achieved without the commitment of our dedicated staff and volunteers.

Daryl Hitzman
CEO



Elected Representatives

Division 1



Cr Gary Parsons

Representing Banksia Beach, Bellara, Bongaree, Donnybrook, Godwin Beach, Meldale, Ningi, Sandstone Point, Toorbul, Welsby, White Patch, Woorim and parts of Caboolture and Elimbah.

Cr Parsons was a member of Caboolture Shire Council from October 2002 until March 2008. He was elected to Moreton Bay Regional Council in March 2008 and again at the 2012 local government elections.

[Spokesperson for Parks, Recreation and Sport.](#)



Division 2



Cr Peter Flannery

Representing Beachmere, Burpengary, Burpengary East, parts of Caboolture East, Deception Bay, Morayfield and Narangba.

Cr Flannery was a member of Caboolture Shire Council from 2004 until March 2008. He was elected as councillor for Moreton Bay Regional Council at the 2012 local government elections.

[Spokesperson for Asset Construction and Maintenance.](#)



Division 3



Cr Greg Chippendale

Representing Caboolture, Caboolture South, Morayfield, parts of Bellmere and Moodlu.

Cr Chippendale was a member of Caboolture Shire Council from 1997 and was appointed Deputy Mayor in 2000 and 2004. He was elected to Moreton Bay Regional Council in March 2008 and again at the 2012 local government elections. He continued serving over 13 consecutive years as Deputy Mayor until his resignation as Deputy Mayor in May 2013.



Elected Representatives

Division 4



Cr Julie Greer

Representing North Lakes, Mango Hill, Griffin and parts of Kallangur and Deception Bay.

Cr Greer was appointed to Pine Rivers Shire Council at a special meeting in April 2007. She was elected to Moreton Bay Regional Council in March 2008 and again at the 2012 local government elections.

[Spokesperson for Lifestyle and Amenity.](#)



Division 5



Cr James Houghton

Representing Redcliffe (north), Scarborough, Newport, Kippa-Ring (north) and Rothwell.

Cr Houghton was a Redcliffe alderman from 1973 to 1976. He was re-elected to Redcliffe City Council in 2004. He was elected to Moreton Bay Regional Council in March 2008 and again at the 2012 local government elections.



Division 6



Cr Koliana Winchester

Representing Clontarf, Woody Point, Margate, Redcliffe (south), and Kippa-Ring (south).

Cr Winchester was a Redcliffe City Councillor from 2005 to March 2008. She was elected as councillor for Moreton Bay Regional Council in 2012.



Elected Representatives

Division 7



Cr David Dwyer

Representing Petrie, Dakabin, Murrumba Downs and parts of Kurwongbah, Kallangur and Narangba East.

Cr Dwyer was a member of Pine Rivers Shire Council from 1994 until March 2008. He was elected to Moreton Bay Regional Council in March 2008 and again at the 2012 local government elections.



Division 8



Cr Mick Gillam

Representing Strathpine (east), Bray Park, Lawnton, Joyner, Cashmere (north) and Warner (north).

Cr Gillam served as a Pine Rivers Shire Councillor from 1994 to March 2008. He was elected to Moreton Bay Regional Council in March 2008 and again at the 2012 local government elections.

[Spokesperson for Planning and Development.](#)



Division 9 Deputy Mayor



Cr Mike Charlton

Representing Albany Creek, Brendale, Eatons Hill, Strathpine (west), Warner (south), parts of Cashmere.

Cr Charlton served on Pine Rivers Shire Council from 1994 to March 2008. He was elected to Moreton Bay Regional Council in March 2008 and again at the 2012 local government elections. He was elected as Deputy Mayor in May 2013.



Elected Representatives

Division 10



Cr Brian Battersby OAM

Representing The Hills District (Arana Hills, Everton Hills, Ferny Hills) Bunya and southwest Albany Creek.

Cr Battersby has served as a councillor since 1976 and was appointed Pine Rivers Shire Council's Deputy Mayor in March 2007. He was elected to Moreton Bay Regional Council in March 2008 and was elected unopposed at the 2012 local government elections.

In March 2016 Cr Battersby will have achieved 40 years continuous service in local government. Cr Battersby was awarded the Centenary award in 2001 and the Order of Australia Medal in 2012 for service to local government and the community.

[Spokesperson for Economic Development and Tourism.](#)



Division 11



Cr Bob Millar

Representing Armstrong Creek, Camp Mountain, Cedar Creek, Clear Mountain, Closeburn, Dayboro, Draper, Highvale, Jollys Lookout, King Scrub, Kobbie Creek, Laceys Creek, Mount Glorious, Mount Nebo, Mount Pleasant, Mount Samson, Ocean View, Rush Creek, Samford, Samford Valley, Samsonvale, Whiteside, Wights Mountain, Yugar, Cashmere, Kurwongbah and Narangba.

Cr Millar was a member of Pine Rivers Shire Council from 2000 until March 2008. He was elected to Moreton Bay Regional Council in March 2008 and again at the 2012 local government elections.

[Spokesperson for Corporate Services.](#)



Division 12



Cr Adrian Raedel

Representing parts of Bellmere, Bellthorpe, Booroobin, Bracalba, parts of Burpengary, Campbells Pocket, parts of Caboolture, Cedarton, Commissioners Flat, D'Aguilar, Delaneys Creek, Elimbah, Moodlu, Mount Delaney, Mount Mee, parts of Morayfield, Moorina, Neurum, Rocksberg, Stanmore, Stony Creek, Upper Caboolture, Wamuran Basin, Wamuran and Woodford.

Cr Raedel was elected to Moreton Bay Regional Council in March 2008 and again at the 2012 local government elections.



Corporate Structure



Our Team

As at 30 June 2015, Moreton Bay Regional Council employed 1,660 staff. The chart below provides a breakdown of their years of service to the community.

Council continued to maintain an Equal Employment Opportunity (EEO) Policy, to ensure all staff members are respected on their merits. Council values a workforce that closely reflects the community it serves. Our workforce comprises people of different ages, cultures, religions, values, beliefs, educations, languages, abilities and genders.

By creating a workplace in which every employee is valued for their diverse skills, knowledge and perspectives, council is encouraging a more cohesive work environment and better team performances.

Staff Length of Service	Operations Staff	Office Staff	Grand Total	Per cent
0 to 1	164	187	351	20.9%
2 to 5	151	259	410	24.5%
6 to 10	121	319	440	26.3%
11 to 15	57	141	198	11.8%
16 to 20	29	91	120	7.2%
21 to 25	23	49	72	4.3%
25 +	23	46	69	4.1%
Total	568	1092	1660	

Staff Length of Service

