







Welcome





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, plans, strategies and priorities within our Corporate Plan 2022–27 and the 2022-23 budget.



Acknowledgements

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

Accessing this report

This report is available on our website at **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.

Council wants your feedback

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 yoursay.moretonbay.qld.gov.au.

City of Moreton Bay

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Acknowledgement

We acknowledge the Kabi Kabi, Jinibara and Turrbal Peoples as the Traditional Custodians of the lands and waterways of the City of Moreton Bay, and pay our respects to their Elders, past, present and emerging.

We recognise that Moreton Bay 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 city's collective identity.

Reconciliation with First Nations Peoples

We are committed to reconciliation and working in partnership with Traditional Custodians and First Nations communities to shape a shared future for the benefit of all communities within our city and beyond.

Legacy issues resulting from colonisation are still experienced by Traditional Custodians and First Nations peoples. Initiatives such as the Murri Interagency Network and Yarning Circle, Local Aboriginal Languages Project, Welcoming Places in our libraries, and our work with Traditional Custodians on cultural heritage preservation are an important part of our reconciliation journey. We also proudly support activities that celebrate National Reconciliation Week and NAIDOC Week.

We are now progressing the development of our first 'Innovate' Reconciliation Action Plan (RAP) as the next step in our journey. The development of the plan and its actions will be informed by the voices of First Nations' communities and create a better understanding of their priorities for our shared future. It will also aim to improve Council's capacity to deliver positive outcomes for First Nations communities by acting as a foundation for respectful relationships, stronger partnerships and meaningful opportunities.

We recognise that reconciliation is a journey and will require leadership to ensure that our relationships and planning is culturally informed and our commitment to reconciliation is voiced and integrated across our strategic planning documents and reflected in our programs, projects and services.



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Message from the Mayor

The 2022-23 financial year was a coming-ofage for the Moreton Bay community. Through collaboration with our residents, businesses, and stakeholders, we were able to lay the foundations to successfully undergo a classification change to transform from a region to Australia's newest city.

City of Moreton Bay is one of the most rapidly growing local government areas in the country. We understand there are growing pains and ensuring this growth is managed in a coordinated and sustainable way is one of Council's biggest challenges, but also one of our greatest opportunities as we welcome over 240 new residents each week.

As Mayor, I am proud of Council taking control of the future we want for our city and its polycentric centres, advancing the ambitious projects highlighted in this report as we transform from a regional council into a national player. We deserve greater recognition as home to over half a million people.

Council has implemented an aspirational roadmap that will guide transformational change as our city grows and evolves.

In June 2022, Council set out a refreshed longterm vision for the future of Moreton Bay. The 2022-27 Corporate Plan, along with a new suite of five long-term strategies, developed in consultation with the community. The strategies will help achieve a balanced approach to growth whilst preserving the values our communities consider most important: the natural beauty of our city, affordable and active lifestyles, and access to valued services and facilities.

This was the first financial year of delivery against the new plan. Despite the ongoing challenges presented by the tough economic times we're all facing, Council has been pragmatic about our immediate needs, strategically investing in our future without going beyond our debt limits.

Like many households and businesses, Council has felt the significant cost increases in items



like fuel, materials, products, services and more. Despite the financial pressures that have impacted the cost of purchasing goods and services, Council delivered a small surplus and remained in a strong financial position.

The record \$816 million budget delivered a \$266 million capital works program, which focused on prioritising what the community wants, including greater investment in waste management, stormwater, waterways and coastal areas, and the environment as part of our objective to 'Go Green As We Grow'.

Council's strong commitment to balancing the needs of communities with the needs of the environment meant we continued to progress significant planning and environmental initiatives such as:

- set an ambitious goal of protecting 75% of Moreton Bay's landmass from development
- developed our Living Coast Plan to guide the actions needed to improve coastal resilience and infrastructure
- provided more trees, more habitat, and more environment in the koala cradle of Moreton Bay to provide better wildlife linkages through our suburbs and into the hinterland
- delivered the inaugural Environment and Sustainability Strategy 2042 with an ambitious climate target of net zero for Council operations by 2039 based on science
- continued the Land Buyback for Environmental Purposes Program, acquiring a further 19.8 hectares in 2022-23, bringing the total to more than 100 hectares of land acquired since the program began.



As our city grows, it is important we meet the needs of our dynamic and changing demographic. Increasingly, the role of Council is more than just roads, rates and rubbish. Council also has a responsibility to unlock the future of the city to make it an attractive place to live, work and play.

Moreton Bay's affordability is one of its most attractive qualities and in the grips of a housing crisis, Council's Attraction of Affordable Social Housing Policy was implemented. The policy waives all development fees and infrastructure charges in targeted suburbs for the construction of affordable social housing to tackle supply shortages, high rents and create construction jobs in the process.

Our investment in free and low-cost activities and events made it possible for our communities to enjoy and celebrate our city's vibrancy and cultural diversity close to home without hurting the hip pocket.

We continued our commitment to provide sport and recreation programs to encourage healthy and active lifestyles, attracting more than 46,000 people across 4,000 activities.

Our wonderful galleries, libraries and museums saw more than 1.2 million visitors in the 2022-23 financial year alone, and crowds across 45 signature and community events returned to pre-pandemic levels. We want everyone to know Moreton Bay is a vibrant and inclusive community where we embrace everyone for who they are. Our inaugural Moreton Bay PrideFest was a glittering success, attracting a crowd of about 3,500, promoting more than 20 LGBTIQA+ charities and support services, and raising \$20,000 for charity partner headspace Moreton Bay.

I would like to thank my fellow Councillors and team members for their commitment and support during this exciting new chapter in our story. I know we are incredibly bold with our goals, but we represent an ambitious city, so we must stretch to meet our residents' expectations. I'd like to recognise our new CEO, Scott Waters, who joined us in May and is keen to lead the organisation with his energy and enthusiasm for our city's potential.

I'd also like to thank the entire Moreton Bay community for their ongoing commitment to support the future of our city and for helping us shape our shared future.

I look forward to our continued collaboration as we bring our vision to life, with pride in the Moreton Bay lifestyle we all know and love.

Peter Flannery Mayor



Message from the CEO

The 2022-23 financial year was certainly an exciting and transformative time for Moreton Bay. I began my role as CEO in May 2023 and it was clear early on how passionate our elected representatives, team members and community all are about the future of City of Moreton Bay.

I would like to thank Mayor Peter Flannery and the Councillors for having faith in me to deliver the Council's ambitious vision for Moreton Bay as we write a new chapter as one of the fastest-growing local government areas in the country. The work to manage population growth while committing to great service delivery is both challenging and rewarding.

I acknowledge former CEO Greg Chemello and Acting CEO Tony Martini for their hard work in laying the foundations of success, overseeing the preparation and implementation of our new corporate strategies, and ensuring Moreton Bay has remained in a strong financial position through an incredibly difficult time. Council's sound financial management has allowed us to improve the services we deliver, and attract great people as our city grows.

The 2022-23 Annual Report provides a vibrant review of Council's achievements over the last year.

I am pleased to highlight the successful delivery of our decisions, deliverables, and strong financial position against the new Corporate Plan 2022-2027. Council's new plan and strategies were developed in consultation with the community and measuring our performance against these new objectives in a clear and accessible way will ensure that we stay accountable and on track, especially as we transform from a regional to a city council.

These strategies will guide City of Moreton Bay's evolution. Together with Council's Regional Economic Development Strategy adopted in 2020, the new Community Wellbeing Strategy, Environment and Sustainability Strategy, Growth Management Strategy, Integrated Transport Strategy and Organisational Excellence Strategy provide an aspirational roadmap that will guide the decisions and actions of Council over the next 20 years.



They will help to ensure that:

- our neighbourhoods and centres are well-planned, with a diversity of housing options and access to transport, services, education, jobs and green spaces
- enhance community wellbeing and inclusion, recognising that collaboration and partnerships with our communities and other stakeholders are critical to our success
- ensure we embrace new technologies and innovation to continuously improve the way we work and deliver services to our communities.

We have already set an ambitious target of protecting 75% of our city from urbanisation to preserve the environment and force us to make better use of existing infrastructure, ensuring growth is managed in a coordinated and sustainable way. Our polycentric city vision will help spread jobs and amenities across centres so our residents can work closer to home, which helps reduce congestion, and makes active transport possible.

City of Moreton Bay has a lot of great fundamentals, and we're just getting started.

I am grateful to our hardworking team members who are committed to upholding our values of service, teamwork, integrity, respect and sustainability. Their passion for the community to make a difference, and make Moreton Bay the best place to live, work and play was evident the first day I started and is apparent wherever I go in our city.

It is an honour to be the first CEO of City of Moreton Bay - and it's clear we're going to be known as a progressive city, and a fantastic place to live, work, and visit for years to come.

Scott Waters

Chief Executive Officer



Our Moreton Bay

City of Moreton Bay is an amazing place located in the heart of South East Queensland.

Our city has been home to the Kabi Kabi, Jinibara and Turrbal peoples for thousands of years. Today it is home to many communities from a wide range of cultural backgrounds and welcomes visitors from all parts of Australia and around the world.

Our city covers a land area of more than 2,045 square kilometres, and we are one of the largest and fastest growing council areas in Australia. In late 2022, the population eclipsed 500,000. Over the next 20 years, an additional 200,000 people are expected to call Moreton Bay home.

A city of natural beauty, boasting access to the iconic waters of Moreton Bay (the city's namesake) and the D'Aguilar mountain range. We have extensive waterways, wetlands and bushland corridors with an abundance of wildlife, much of which is of national and international significance.

Over the last decade, our city has experienced significant development and supports a diverse set of neighbourhoods, each with their own unique characteristics and needs - from urban hubs and seaside towns to suburban estates and hinterland villages. Its unique combination of affordable living, lifestyle, education, employment, housing and transport choices make it a great place to live, work and visit.

Given our location and growing population the city is well placed to strengthen its position as the engine room of the South East Queensland economy. Our proximity

to key transport and logistics infrastructure provides direct access to domestic and global markets including New Zealand and South East Asia, supporting our ability to attract investment, tourism and other economic opportunities.

Our passion for sport and cultural events is well-renowned and will continue to be an important part of our lifestyle and connection with others. Our focus on accessibility and inclusion is also growing the reputation of our playgrounds and other spaces as attractive destinations for locals and visitors alike.

The 2032 Olympic and Paralympic Games will be an opportunity for our city to showcase its amazing facilities, places and communities. With investment from all levels of government, there will be opportunities for improved infrastructure, transport, and new and improved sporting facilities. After all, our bid for the Olympic and Paralympic Games was based on the need for better transport and connectivity across South East Queensland.







Our city's snapshot





500,000+ Resident population



Largest local government in Australia by population



193,031Rateable properties



Suburbs with an average population density of 243 per km²



2,045km² Land area



294km Coastline and estuaries



\$19.9 billion

Local
economy



158,837 Local jobs



31,077 Registered businesses



3.9%
Residents who identify as Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander



21% Residents born overseas



80%Population over the age of 15 years

Our Vision and Values



Our Vision

Our roadmap is structured around five strategic pillars that work together to achieve our vision. The pillars support our commitment to delivering a balanced plan that will help to create a sustainable and liveable future for our city. Each pillar includes a goal and outcomes that set the strategic direction for where we want to be by 2033. This is the mid-way point to achieving our vision. It also identifies the key strategies and plans, key initiatives and service areas that will help drive our goals and outcomes over the next five years and beyond.



Our Values

Our values define how we work together and with others.

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

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

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

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

SUSTAINABILITY

We focus on the future

We respect the environment

We demonstrate leadership by example



Key Projects

Council-funded key projects for 2022-23

- \$24 million for the construction of a new Council depot at Narangba
- \$16 million toward the South Pine Sporting Complex Upgrade at Brendale
- \$13 million for the completion of Griffin Sports Complex Stage 2
- \$4.9 million for a clubhouse redevelopment at Petersen Road Sportsgrounds at Morayfield
- \$4 million for environmental restoration works at The Mill site at Petrie
- \$1.2 million for the new Mount Glorious Community Hall
- \$1.7 million for a new walking and cycle track and bridge along Mungarra Reserve and Sweeney Reserve at Lawnton





Jointly funded projects

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. Since the commencement of this term of Council, we have secured \$165 million in additional funding from the state and federal governments in line with our Advocacy Plan 2021-2024. This has enabled Council to deliver a range of new projects and rejuvenate existing facilities beyond what would be funded under our normal capital budget. As the level of government that only raises 3 per cent of taxation, advocacy to the other levels of government is essential to ensure that Moreton Bay taxpayers get their fair share of taxation revenue spent back in their city.

Jointly funded projects completed or in progress in 2022-23 are listed below. These figures represent the total expenditure for the project across multiple years.

- \$16 million for upgrades to the South Pine Sporting Complex at Brendale, with a \$143,000 federal government contribution
- \$15 million for the Henry Road and Dohles Rocks Road Reconstruction at Griffin with a \$3.2 million contribution from the federal government
- \$6.5 million BMX track at Nolan Park, Brendale, with a state government \$1.2 million contribution
- \$6.1 million for road, crossing and pathway upgrades along Graham Road between Lomandra Drive and Hargrave Street, Morayfield, with a federal government commitment of \$703,000 through the Blackspot Funding Grant program
- Stage 1 of the \$2.9 million Joseph Crescent community space, Deception Bay with a state government contribution of \$600,000
- \$1.5 million new-look Deception Bay Skate Park, with a federal government contribution of \$156,000.

