

2023

# We're small business friendly

Business programs and assistance from your biggest fan, your local Council



# Contents

● Message from the Mayor	1
● Working with Council	2
● Navigating permits	3
● Business programs	4
● Information and data	5
● Making connections	6
● Business toolkit	7
● Talk to a real person	8
● Explore further resources	9

## **Acknowledgement**

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.

## **Disclaimer**

Moreton Bay Regional Council and its officers accept no liability for decisions made based on information, expressed or implied, provided in this document. Nothing in this document should be taken as legal advice.

## **Image Credits**

Images on Pages 3, 7 and 8 courtesy of Moreton Bay Region Industry and Tourism.

# Message from the Mayor

We love our small businesses in the Moreton Bay region.

We are proud supporters of our local communities, and small business gives us the energy to stretch for the bigger, bolder and brighter goals in our award-winning Regional Economic Development Strategy 2020-41.

As one of the largest councils in Queensland to join the Small Business Friendly Council initiative, we are committed to supporting small business growth, resilience, and innovation.

This guide provides information about small business programs and assistance Moreton Bay Regional Council offers you. It also links you with support from other levels of government.



Thanks for being a small business in the Moreton Bay region; together we can continue to grow a strong and vibrant local economy.

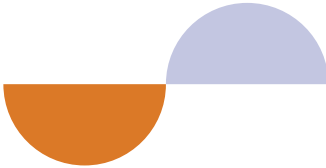
A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'P. Flannery', with a long, sweeping underline that loops back to the right.

**Peter Flannery**

Mayor Moreton Bay Regional Council

**#TeamMoretonBay**

**#BackaLocal**



If you are reading this as a printed version, please be aware that information/links are regularly updated. Please use this QR code to access a live digital version.



# Working with Council

Many businesses want to supply products and services to Council. Our Local Preference Policy aims to source as much local content as possible and provides additional weighting in our selection criteria to achieve this.

## Getting started

1. Watch our 'Working with Council' video that explains how to be a supplier to Council.  
[Q Doing business with Moreton Bay Regional Council](#)
2. Visit our supplier portal for information on how to register on Vendor Panel and Local Buy for updates on Council procurement opportunities.  
[Q Moreton Bay supplier portal](#)
3. Council periodically goes out to market to create new or renew purchasing arrangements. These invitations are advertised as open tenders on Council's website and the eProcure website.  
[Q Moreton Bay latest tenders](#)
4. If you wish to supply or exhibit at our region's major events, many are run by Moreton Bay Region Industry and Tourism (MBRIT). You can register to become a stallholder.  
[Q MBRIT stallholders](#)



# Navigating permits

For many small businesses, you simply want to know IF and HOW you get approval to run your business in the Moreton Bay region.

The Queensland business launchpad platform provides this information from all three levels of government, so you know which permits and licenses you will require upfront.

[Q Queensland business launchpad](#)

Information specifically on Council's permits and license requirements are available on our website or you can call 3205 0555 to talk to our Permitting Team.

[Q Moreton Bay permits and licences](#)

If you would like to organise an event, we have put all the information you need to know in one place.

[Q Organising an event in Moreton Bay](#)

Our step-by-step process will get you started with how to plug in to our Moreton Bay Pop Ups program to sell your goods or services on designated public spaces across the region.

[Q Moreton Bay Pop Ups Program](#)



Portabella  
Restaurant



# Business programs



We've partnered with our local university to offer a local business planning course.

This program is FREE for local businesses.

[Q UniSC business planning course](#)

Council's Economic Development team regularly creates and promotes workshops to help increase the capacity and capability of our business community. You can stay up to date with upcoming workshops on our events and learning web page.

[Q Moreton Bay business events](#)

We deliver a business and quality management systems workshop series to help your business get on the path to ISO accreditation and win supply opportunities with larger firms and government.

[Q Moreton Bay business management systems](#)

We provide entrepreneurship and innovation programs and initiatives that may help you connect, grow and scale your business.

[Q Innovate Moreton Bay](#)

We offer the ASPIRE circular economy program to connect you to new suppliers and markets.

[Q Moreton Bay ASPIRE program](#)

We offer a local business support program to help you in times of need to handle disasters and disruptions.

[Q Moreton Bay business resources](#)

Our Funding Finder tool provides free access to the largest source of grant programs in Australia.

[Q Moreton Bay funding finder](#)

We have partnered with six chambers of commerce to keep more money in our local economy through the Moreton Money gift card program that you may also be able to join.

[Q Moreton Money](#)

We deliver a virtual work experience program called My Future in Moreton Bay for people who want to work and stay in the region as we grow, so there is more talent on offer for your business.

[Q The Forage Moreton Bay](#)



# Information and data

## Follow us on socials

-  MoretonBayCouncil
-  moreton-bay-regional-council

## Stay up to date

Sign up for our Business Connect bi-monthly newsletter to see what's happening across the region.

[Q Moreton Business Connect](#)

Sign up to What's On Moreton Bay for all the region's happenings.

[Q What's On Moreton Bay](#)

You can stay up to date with upcoming business workshops and learning events on Council's web page.

[Q Moreton Bay business events](#)

## Want to access data but don't know where to start?

Ask Morty is our new data concierge service which answers three critical business questions to help you make informed decisions based on up-to-date Census data.



[Q Ask Morty chatbot](#)



## Take a data deep dive

Do you want more information on our region, your suburb or the demographics of our communities.

We subscribe to the .ID suite of economic data sets and make them available for FREE.

[Q Moreton Bay economy ID](#)

We also provide an open Datahub for exploring location based information and resources.

[Q Datahub Moreton Bay](#)



# Making connections

One of the best things we can do for you is connect you to new business contacts and supporters.

Our region has a range of industry groups such as:

## Food and Agribusiness Network

Moreton Bay is famous for our leading food, agriculture and horticulture businesses.

[Q FAN Moreton Bay](#)

## Advanced Manufacturing Network

Connect with the region's best manufacturers.

[Q Moreton Bay advanced manufacturing](#)

## Moreton Bay Region Industry and Tourism

Tourism industry updates and resources from Council's partner MBRIT.

[Q MBRIT industry resources](#)

## Innovate Moreton Bay

Specialist innovation and growth services to foster our regions entrepreneurs.

[Q Innovate Moreton Bay](#)

## Your key supporters

The Queensland Small Business Commissioner provides lease mediation assistance and advocacy programs to enable and empower your business to succeed.

[Q Queensland Small Business Commissioner](#)

Moreton Bay has several Chambers of Commerce which you may wish to join.

- Bribie Island Chamber of Commerce
- Greater Caboolture Chamber of Commerce
- North Lakes Chamber of Commerce
- Pine Rivers Chamber of Commerce
- Redcliffe Peninsula Chamber of Commerce
- Samford and Districts Chamber of Commerce
- The Hills and Districts Chamber of Commerce
- Business & Professional Women North Lakes and Caboolture

Chambers of commerce and industry groups work to support small businesses every day.

[Q CCIQ Find a local chamber](#)

The Small Business Financial Counselling Service Southern Queensland provides free, impartial and confidential planning and support services to businesses.

[Q Queensland Small Business Financial Counselling](#)



# Business toolkit

We have compiled a useful business owner toolkit to provide links to information, resources and training opportunities.

[Q Moreton business owner toolkit](#)

## Build your resilience

We provide disaster preparedness information, so you can plan and act ahead.

You can also contact us to discuss how we can assist you.

[Q Prepare your business Moreton Bay](#)

Download the Small Business Disaster Hub app to understand the steps you can take to navigate a range of disasters and business disruptions.

[Q Qld Small business disaster hub](#)

When a natural disaster hits, have all the up-to-date information you need at your fingertips with Council's Disaster Dashboard.



[Q Moreton Disaster Dashboard](#)

Cyber security information and protection is crucial to modern businesses. The Business Qld website can help you understand your risks, obligations and options.

[Q Online cyber security for Queensland businesses](#)

You are your business' greatest asset. Free, one-on-one small business wellness coaches are available to assist with your unique and personal business challenges, needs and opportunities. You can book a coach now.

[Q Queensland business wellness coaches](#)

## Celebrate your successes

Have you considered applying for or attending the Moreton Bay Business and Innovation Awards for inspiration or new connections?

[Q Moreton Bay business awards](#)

These industry case studies show you the talent and capability in our region. Can you follow a similar format to showcase your business?

[Q Invest Moreton Bay case studies](#)

Tradesmen on Time



# Explore further resources

## Tax time toolkit

The ATO has developed a useful toolkit to help small businesses at tax time.

[Q ATO tax time toolkit](#)

## Mentoring for Growth (M4G)

M4G offers insights, options and suggestions relating to challenges and opportunities that you may be facing in your business. These may include cyber security, workforce management, cashflow, exporting and business development.

[Q Queensland M4G](#)

## Hiring employees checklist

A business.gov.au checklist to help you meet Australian laws when hiring employees.

[Q Hiring employees checklist](#)

Not sure how to get started with a business? The Queensland Government has a fantastic resource that you can investigate.

[Q Starting a business in Queensland](#)

## Worksafe Queensland

Advice about work health and safety issues for small businesses.

[Q Worksafe Queensland](#)

## EcoBiz

A free program to help reduce your water, energy and waste bills provided by CCIQ (funded until 2024)

[Q CCIQ ecoBiz](#)

## Digital Solutions

Access 7 hours of mentorship for \$44 to improve your digital presence and strategy. An extensive range of free and low-cost events, workshops and webinars on all things digital are also run through this federally funded platform.

[Q Business station digital solutions](#)

## Business Investment Fund

Grant opportunities for early stage (Enterprise Acceleration Fund) and established small-medium businesses (Business Investment Fund) managed by the Queensland Investment Corporation.

[Q QIC business investment fund](#)

## Small Business Connect newsletter

A monthly newsletter that keeps you up to date with all the latest information for Queensland small businesses.

[Q Qld Small business connect](#)



Kallangur Dental Surgery

# Talk to a real person

Most importantly, we know that sometimes you need to talk to a real person.

We employ two dedicated Local Business Support Officers who meet with and support our small business community. We prefer to come to you.

Sometimes, we organise a tour of your business area, and fellow businesses, and bring your local Councillor and Chamber of Commerce representative as well. This way we can understand you better and help where we can.

**Reach out to our Local Business Support Officers from the Economic Development Team at [economic@moretonbay.qld.gov.au](mailto:economic@moretonbay.qld.gov.au) or call (07) 3094 3647 to enquire how we can help you.**



# We know you're busy.

So Moreton Bay Regional Council has created **Moreton Business Connect**, a one stop shop for all your Moreton Bay business news.

Subscribe to ensure you're kept up to date with local business news, opportunities, workshops and events.

## Moreton Business Connect

#TEAMMORETONBAY

