



# Hear it from Hain

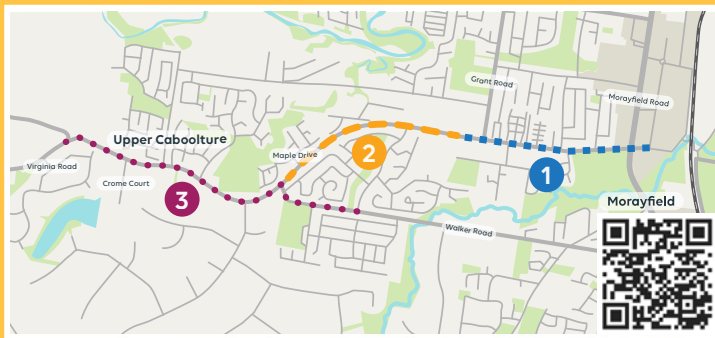
YOUR LOCAL COUNCIL NEWSLETTER FOR DIVISION 3  
COUNCILLOR ADAM HAIN

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Representing Caboolture and parts of Bellmere, Moodlu and Morayfield.

Issue 45

## IMPROVEMENTS AHEAD FOR CABOOLTURE RIVER ROAD



Almost 50 percent of community members told us in the Moreton Says survey that traffic congestion is their top transport concern in the face of City of Moreton Bay's rapid population growth. I also know from my own conversations that our communities want to see infrastructure more effectively planned to occur in line with the development of the City.

**Caboolture River Road is a priority project set to receive major improvements over the coming years.**

The four-kilometre section from Morayfield Road to Crome Court will be transformed from a two-lane road into an enhanced four-lane carriageway that will better cater for the growing population.

The improvements will provide increased traffic capacity, additional safe crossing points for cyclists and pedestrians, increased opportunity for cycling and pedestrian activity, upgraded intersections and dedicated turning lanes. To **stay up to date** with planning and works along this important road corridor, scan the QR code or subscribe to the project newsletter at: [moretonbay.qld.gov.au/caboolture-river-road](mailto:moretonbay.qld.gov.au/caboolture-river-road)

## LUNA NEW YEAR 2024 IN MORETON BAY



Embrace the vibrant traditions of the East as the Moreton Bay Lunar New Year returns to Caboolture for a spectacular family-friendly celebration marking the beginning of the Chinese New Year!

Join us in welcoming the Year of the Dragon on Saturday, 17 February at Caboolture Town Square.

Indulge your taste buds in an Eat Street-style feast of tantalizing Asian flavours. Sample a variety of delectable dishes or savour your favourite Asian cuisine. Stay tuned for the exciting line up and activities of our 2024 program!

## FOR ALL YOUR COUNCIL NEEDS

Phone: 3205 0555

Email: [council@moretonbay.qld.gov.au](mailto:council@moretonbay.qld.gov.au)

[moretonbay.qld.gov.au/Contact/Request](mailto:moretonbay.qld.gov.au/Contact/Request)

Or download the Snap, Send and Solve app for *free*

All information stated in this newsletter is correct at the time of printing. For all the latest local information, follow City of Moreton Bay on social media or visit the website at [moretonbay.qld.gov.au](http://moretonbay.qld.gov.au).

## PEOPLE SLEEPING ROUGH

Over the last decade reported homelessness has increased by more than 90% in Moreton Bay. The current cost of living crisis and generational under investment in social and affordable housing across the country is driving an increasing number of people into homelessness and housing insecurity. And City of Moreton Bay is no exception.

The two main queries I get from the public on housing and homelessness are polarising. The first is, 'what are we doing to help these poor people?' and the second is 'what are you doing to get that tent on my street moved or a campsite cleaned up?'. For the most part I find the public are understanding, but not if there is antisocial behaviour attached to the situation.

With more than 1,400 people experiencing homelessness or sleeping rough in Moreton Bay right now, I thought I would take this opportunity to let you all know who is responsible for responding to the current housing and homelessness crisis and what Council is doing to help.

### Who is responsible?

**Housing and Support Services** - The Queensland Government Department of Housing is the lead agency responsible for responding to housing and homelessness issues across the state. Their responsibilities include provision of suitable social, transitional and crisis housing. Unfortunately, there is a significant undersupply of this housing across Queensland and extensive housing and support service waitlists. So, many people have no other option than to stay in public spaces until they find housing, or are provided a solution by the State Government. Council does not provide social, transitional or crisis housing.

**Crime, public safety and nuisance in public spaces** - Responding to criminal activity and nuisance behaviours in public spaces (whether associated with persons experiencing homelessness or otherwise) is the responsibility of the police. Council does not have any powers or jurisdiction to respond to such matters. All resident concerns associated with public safety, criminal activity or public nuisance should be directed to Queensland Police Service.

**Amenity of council-controlled public spaces** - Maintaining the amenity of Council-controlled public spaces is the responsibility of Council under our Local Laws. From time-to-time, locations where people experiencing homelessness are staying may become messy, and may inhibit public access to these locations. In these situations, concerned residents should contact Council and the matter will be investigated by our rangers.

**Camping in public spaces by persons experiencing homelessness** - Council's regulatory powers around illegal camping extend only to the issuing of Penalty Infringement Notices (fines). But, if a person camping in a council-controlled public space is identified as experiencing homelessness, Council's Local Laws say they must meet certain responsibilities, including but not limited to: maintaining engagement with Department of Housing and service providers, and be working towards a housing outcome; as well as keeping the area clean, safe and tidy to avoid a fine.

**Moving people on from Council-controlled public space** - The powers to move people on from public spaces, including those considered to be illegally camping, rest with the police. Council officers do not have the power to move people on from public spaces.

### What is Council doing to help?

Funding for, and delivery of, social housing, crisis housing and homelessness services remain the functional responsibilities of the State and Federal governments. They are not part of Council's core business, but with the current housing crisis being so bad Council is doing everything we can to help.

For example, City of Moreton Bay is offering Council-owned land for the construction of social, affordable and crisis housing. We're contributing funding to the construction of a new Moreton Bay Homelessness Hub in Redcliffe and contributing \$50,000 to a Sleepbus service that provides safe, overnight sleep spaces. We're also waiving up to 100% of fees and charges for social and affordable housing developments in key suburbs to reduce development costs for external providers.

Council has also recently adopted a Housing and Homelessness Action Plan to guide our response to the national housing crisis over the next five years. Whilst this issue is not our core business, Council is using its authority, resources and influence to the greatest extent practical to alleviate this issue in our city.

For more information, please visit [moretonbay.qld.gov.au/HHAP](https://moretonbay.qld.gov.au/HHAP)

If you see a person in a public space who is an immediate risk to themselves or others, phone Triple Zero (000). Visit the link about to lodge a request if you suspect someone is experiencing homelessness and sleeping in a public space - Council will seek to connect with the person and offer to assist:  
[moretonbay.qld.gov.au/Housing-And-Homelessness](https://moretonbay.qld.gov.au/Housing-And-Homelessness)





## CENTENARY LAKES PRECINCT UPDATE

We're going to make a big splash with this one Caboolture! I know a lot of residents have been asking for these improvements, so I'm really excited to see the designs for the Centenary Lakes Water Park with an all-ages, accessible, zero-depth splash park water play space and associated amenities building. It will be well integrated into a wider all abilities, nature-based, and active play space area.



It's one of five key projects Council is seeking funding for via the South East Queensland City Deal, with assistance from the Federal Government. Council's expression of interest is being considered and we are expecting to be invited to submit a detailed application to finalise the funding agreement in the new year. The splash park project is set to benefit from a \$3 million funding boost, should its funding be approved, via an election commitment from the Federal Government's Investment in our Communities Fund.

This \$10 million regional playground complements an additional \$10 million application for funding under the South East Queensland City Deal for the Centenary Lakes Activation. This project is part of the Revitalising Caboolture program and includes active transport upgrades from Elliott Street to Caboolture River, west of Morayfield Road and a new shared pathway along Esme Avenue to provide pedestrian and cyclist access around and to the Caboolture CBD from the cable-stayed bridge connecting to Caboolture South.

So that's 2 out of 5 big projects for Division 3! Fingers crossed City of Moreton Bay is successful with the funding.

### Caboolture Rugby League Clubhouse Project

The Caboolture Snakes and City of Moreton Bay are redesigning the clubhouse.

This initiative started when structural issues began to arise in the original clubhouse due to its age. We intend to deliver a regional, staged facility that will bring the club into a bright new era.

This exciting project is reliant on a funding commitment made by the Federal Government in the last election. Once we have confirmation, Council can move forward with this project!

***Go the Snakes!***

*Please note that projects are scheduled for completion by the 2027-28 financial years and subject to change*

## COMPLETED PROJECTS!

**Another great local project completed!** Council has installed a new picnic shelter and picnic setting at Summerfields Drive Park at Caboolture.

I'm pleased that this project has been completed as it was a direct request from the local ParkRun group and local residents.



Council recently completed a new 380m concrete pathway at Mitchell Street in Caboolture.

This will help link pedestrians from McKean Street to the train station.

To improve safety for pedestrians and cyclists, Council is delivering 650 metres of new pathways at Morayfield Road between Walkers Road and Oakey Flat Road, and Station Road to Garfield Street, Morayfield. The two-metre wide pathways, kerb ramps and new street trees will be delivered from mid-January.



## SHEEP STATION CREEK SKATE PARK UPGRADE

Unfortunately, soon after work commenced on the much-anticipated skate park upgrade at Sheep Station Creek, workers uncovered an unknown 1960's water main not shown on Unitywater or Dial-before-you-dig data, nor was it identified during site investigations.

Council and Unitywater are working together to relocate the pipe so that works on the skate park can recommence as soon as possible. The job is now on hold until Unitywater provide a plan to move forward.

This is a massive project and I want to thank everyone for their patience while these works are underway.





# Our City of Moreton Bay

With Mayor Peter Flannery



## DISASTER DASHBOARD

We all know that living in Moreton Bay means being prepared for extreme weather all year round, but this summer is particularly unpredictable with bushfires and storms both presenting a threat.

City of Moreton Bay is helping you prepare should the unthinkable happen, by providing a free emergency warning system called MoretonAlert.

Receive real-time SMS, email or voice message before and during an emergency weather event by signing up today at [moretonbay.qld.gov.au/moretonalert](https://moretonbay.qld.gov.au/moretonalert)

The success of this service relies upon having accurate information, so now is the time to make sure your details are correct and up to date so you don't miss out on critical information that could save your life.

Current SMS subscribers will have already received a text message from the number (04 0817 0536) to update their details, so it's safe to save this number and be confident that it isn't spam. We will be following up with an email next month.

For all other information during an emergency event, please visit Council's Disaster Dashboard to get updates on bushfire warnings, sandbag stations, evacuation centres, road closures, and so much more.

I trust you had a good break over the holiday season and here's to 2024!

In our first full year as a city, 2024 will see Council continue to focus on the needs of our communities first, including advocating for our fair share of funding especially for infrastructure, while also conserving our distinctive lifestyle and wildlife corridors, against the backdrop of population growth.

Realising our priority of 'going green as we grow', Council will roll out the first phase of a dedicated food organics and garden organics (FOGO) waste kerbside collection service from late 2024. Phase one will see the introduction of a garden organics collection service (GO) where lime green lidded bins will be distributed. Once processing facilities have been secured, waste collection will transition to a complete FOGO service. FOGO will increase our city's recycling rate, reduce landfill and see resources produced from recovered materials.

Another significant step forward is the allocation of council-owned land at Dakabin for the construction of a dedicated wildlife hospital. Currently, a gap in the SEQ wildlife hospital network means injured wildlife rescuers travel up to two hours for animal care. We're urgently seeking financial support from state and federal governments to bring this vital facility to fruition.

Council's ambitious goal of protecting 75% of City of Moreton Bay's landmass from development will ensure that housing and infrastructure to accommodate a booming

population is balanced with the preservation of our flora and fauna.

This commitment to balance growth extends to housing and homelessness challenges. The Housing and Homelessness Action Plan (HHAP) outlines key activities addressing affordability and homelessness over the next five years. We're offering council-owned land in Morayfield and Caboolture for potential social, affordable or crisis housing developments, guided by changes in our Community Leasing Policy.

We're also continuing the Attraction of Affordable Social Housing Development Policy, waiving fees for developers. Already, this initiative has helped people experiencing homelessness secure accommodation at Bric Housing's recently completed 18-dwelling accommodation block at Redcliffe with more to be realised this year.

And we're taking the cost-of-living pressure off families with Council's extensive calendar of free events from movie nights to Lunar New Year celebrations.

Council looks forward to continuing to support our communities, protect and enhance our natural spaces, and maintain sustainable lifestyles this year as we work together to bring our living city vision to life.

Best wishes for a fantastic 2024 in City of Moreton Bay. There's nowhere else I'd rather be!

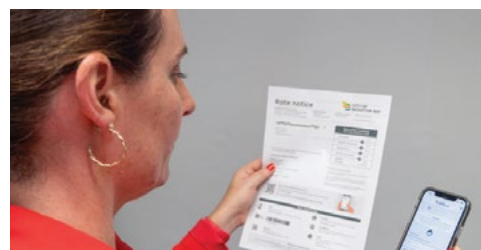


### Is being healthy and active your new year's resolution?

Council delivers a wide range of community services and programs to drive healthy and active lifestyles in Moreton Bay.



Scan the QR codes or visit [moretonbay.link/active-lifestyles](https://moretonbay.link/active-lifestyles) to check out what's on in your area and get started today.



### A faster, more flexible way to pay your rates is here!

Payble allows you to set up flexible payment plans that can be direct debited on a schedule that works for you.

You can choose to pay your rates in smaller, more frequent payments and never forget a payment again. It's easy to set up, you can check your balance at any time and even adjust how often you pay. Visit [payble.moretonbay.qld.gov.au](https://payble.moretonbay.qld.gov.au) to create a free Payble account.



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