

Redlands Coast 2020 State Election Advocacy Plan



Redland City Council acknowledges the ongoing support of the State Government and on behalf of our community we advocate for the following projects and initiatives with the aim of working in partnership with successful candidates to deliver these initiatives.

The following will be provided to all candidates seeking election in the October 2020 state election and we will publish their replies for the benefit of the community.



1. A connected community

1.1 Transport infrastructure:

The opportunity:

Redlands Coast has a deficit in transport infrastructure, creating congestion and impacting economic potential. The majority of roads connecting Redlands Coast to the wider South East Queensland region are State Government controlled and already exceed design capacity.

Additionally, the State Government managed public transport network in and out of Redlands experiences low utilisation, long trip times and low frequency, resulting in a network that is inefficient and not fit for purpose. An ineffective public transport network increases the burden on the road network and thereby contributes to increased traffic congestion.

Census data indicates that 6.9% of residents in 2016 used public transport to travel to work, remaining steady from the 2011 census, resulting in over 50,000 residents using private vehicles to travel to work.

The ask:

To help support our objectives of a better connected community, Council is advocating for all State candidates to support:

Project	Benefit
Duplication of the Cleveland rail line	<p>The Draft State Government SEQ Regional Transport Plan shows the Cleveland rail line is significantly underperforming with it consistently being faster to drive from Redlands Coast to Brisbane rather than using rail transport.</p> <p>A significant part of the problem is that the Cleveland Line remains one of the only single rail lines in the region, providing no redundancy of service.</p>
Full upgrade of Cleveland-Redland Bay Road corridor	<p>With the State Government's SEQ Regional Plan focussing growth in the south of the city, this road will be critical to residents being able to move around the city safely and quickly. Council acknowledges current commitments to duplicate part of the road and is seeking a commitment from the State Government to upgrade the full corridor – incorporating improved public transport and active transport opportunities.</p>
Delivery of full Eastern Busway to Capalaba	<p>More than a decade ago the State Government committed to delivering a full dedicated busway connecting Capalaba to Brisbane. This project has since been changed to the Eastern Transit way only, a series of bus priority lanes at intersections. Council is seeking a commitment to deliver the full 18 kilometre busway, which would reduce travel times by up to 20 minutes. Council is currently undertaking a project to revitalise the Capalaba CBD, which offers an ideal opportunity to partner with the State Government to investigate delivery of the Eastern Busway, including commencing the project in Capalaba and ending it in Carindale rather than the other way around.</p>
The adoption of innovative transport solutions such as Autonomous Transport.	<p>Redland City Council is a leader in innovative transport and has partnered with RACQ to trial autonomous (driverless) transport to help plug the Public Transport gap that exists in the city. Council is looking to deploy this transport technology in other locations across the city and is seeking support of the State Government to provide the necessary approvals to facilitate this and to support and encourage transport providers to take up this technology.</p>
Contribute to the upgrade of Rickertt/Green Camp Road between the Redlands and Brisbane.	<p>This busy road links the Redlands and Brisbane, carrying many local residents who travel to Brisbane each day for work. Redland City Council upgraded Quarry Road in 2009, however an upgrade is still needed on the Brisbane side to help locals travel in and out of the city safely. There is existing funding from Brisbane City Council and the Federal Government and a State Government contribution would see this busy road receive a commitment from all three levels of government, delivering a truly collaborative upgrade for the community.</p>
Active transport infrastructure and end of trip facilities	<p>Council is focussed on delivering active transport, committing \$5.8 million this year alone on footpaths and cycle ways and including active transport as a key component of our transport plan. Council is looking to partner with the State Government to deliver the active transport infrastructure and end of trip facilities to help residents get around the city safer and faster.</p>

1.2 Better internet connectivity.

The opportunity:

Internet connectivity is regularly identified as one of the main reasons businesses leave the Redlands, which is why Council is investigating connecting key business areas across the city through faster internet fibre. Council is currently partnering with the State Government to install this internet fibre in key locations across Cleveland. In addition to connecting Council facilities, this internet fibre will travel past key businesses in the Cleveland Industrial estate, Cleveland CBD, Redland Hospital, State Government facilities and businesses in between, allowing these businesses to also access higher speed internet.

The ask:

In addition to Council's existing internet fibre project in Cleveland, Council has identified internet fibre routes in Capalaba and Victoria Point that would support Council facilities while also offering fast reliable internet to key business areas. We are looking to again partner with the State Government to deliver internet fibre in these locations to support local business and better connect the community.



2. Liveable neighbourhoods

2.1 Clearer planning and better engagement:

The opportunity:

Redland City Council has long advocated for the State Government to move away from the current “performance based” planning regime which provides less certainty and is difficult for the community to understand. This clearer planning framework should be supported through a community education and engagement program.

The ask:

As the level of government that sets Queensland’s overarching planning regime, Council is calling on the State Government to introduce a clearer more prescriptive planning framework.

2.2 State infrastructure that matches growth:

The opportunity:

The Community needs more information about what State infrastructure will be delivered and when it will be delivered to accommodate State Government growth targets (as outlined in the SEQ Regional Plan).

The ask:

Council believes a longer term State Infrastructure plan is required and can be achieved by replacing the current 5-15 year State Infrastructure Plan with a prioritised list of projects that align with State Government growth targets.

Further Council believes a State Government infrastructure charging mechanism should be implemented to ensure new development helps to fund necessary State infrastructure.

2.3 Infrastructure funded by the industry rather than ratepayers.

The opportunity:

Under their SEQ Regional Plan, the State Government requires Councils to accommodate a certain number of dwellings to accommodate population growth in the region. These new dwellings and associated urban amenities require infrastructure to support them and Councils levy developer infrastructure charges to help fund this infrastructure (to build things like water, sewer, transport, parks etc.) However in 2011 the State Government capped the amount Councils can charge developers for this infrastructure, leaving an infrastructure funding shortfall that then has to be paid by Council (ie ratepayers) to meet the growth required by the State Government.

The ask:

Council has long advocated for the cap on infrastructure charges to be removed, allowing Councils to recoup the full cost of providing the infrastructure needed to support new and expanded communities in the city, meaning more of the cost of the necessary infrastructure improvements is funded by the development industry rather than Council.



2.3 Priority lifestyle projects

The opportunity:

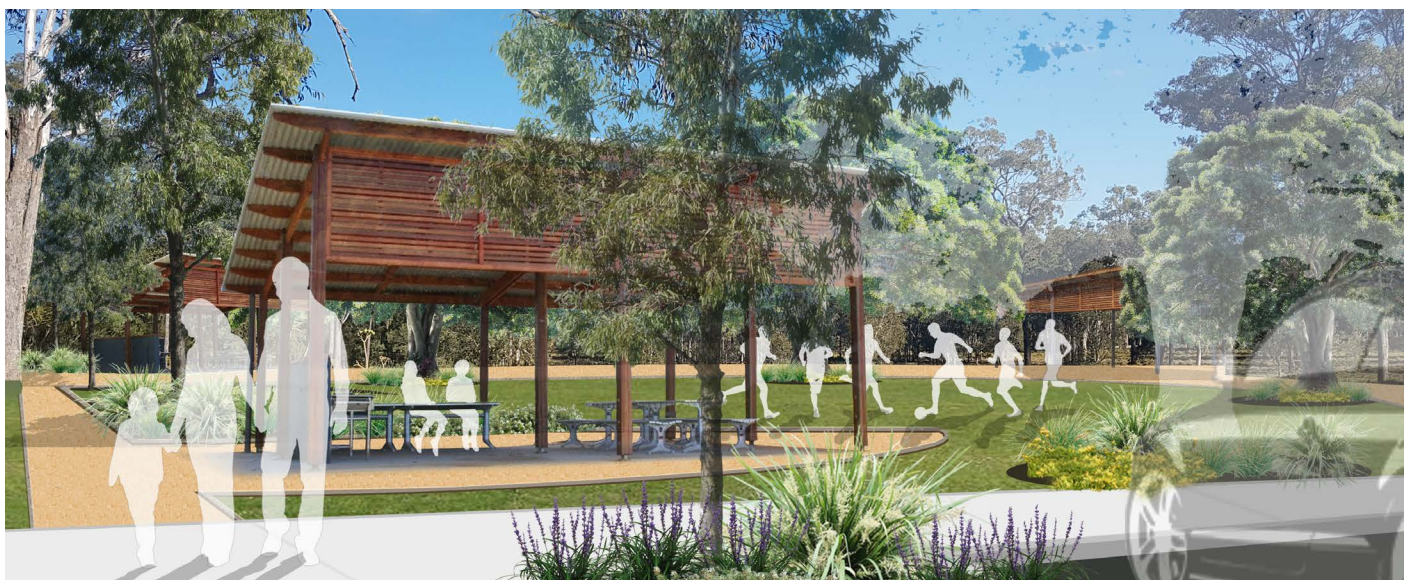
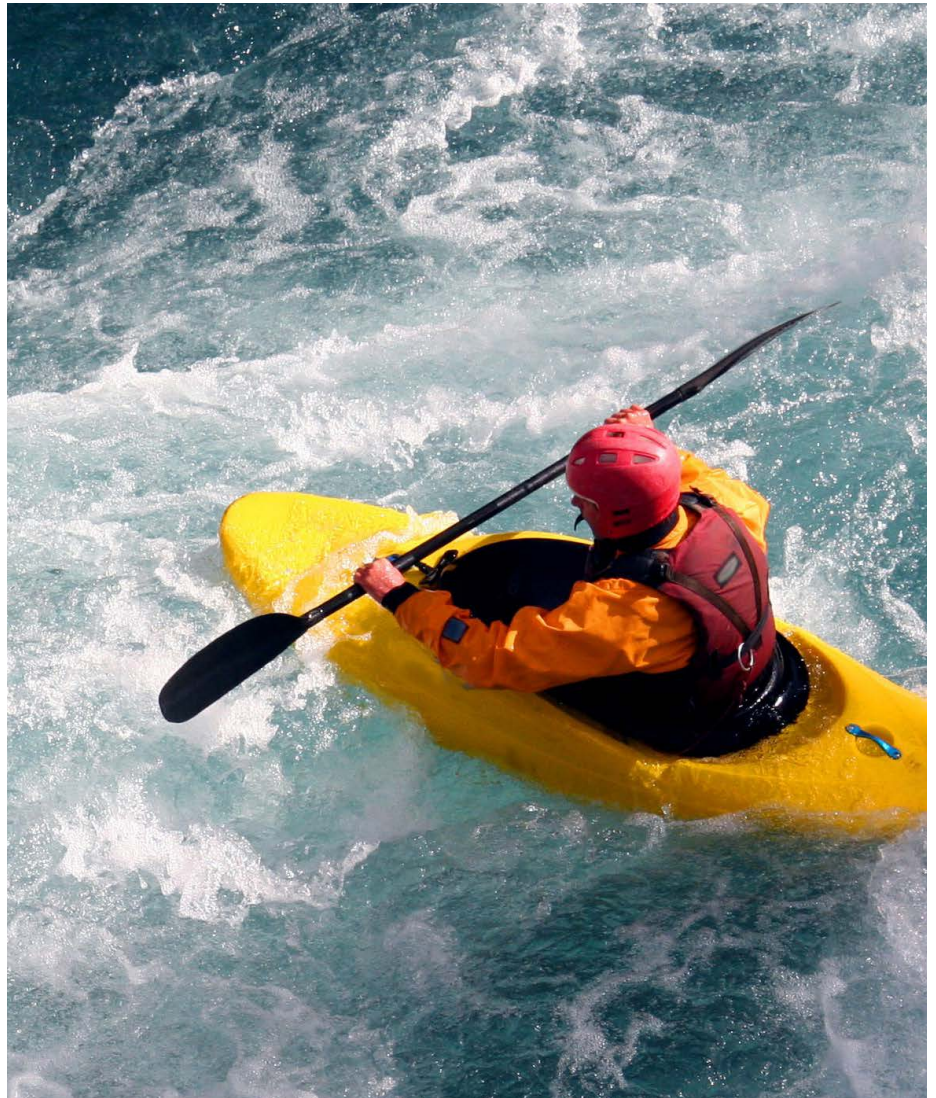
Council is committed to delivering a series of projects aimed at supporting the Redlands Coast lifestyle and is seeking State Government support in helping these exciting projects become a reality.

These include:

- + The Redlands Coast Adventure Sports precinct: An adventure sports and emergency services training facility including an Olympic-standard Canoe-kayak venue and supporting adventure sports integrated with a new Redlands Aquatic Centre.
- + The Redlands Coast Regional sports and recreation precinct: A regional sport and recreation precinct with state of the art club houses, pump track and criterion for local families to enjoy.

The ask:

Council is seeking to partner with the State Government on these exciting projects, including providing funding opportunities to deliver them sooner for the community.



2.4 Security of essential social services

The opportunity:

Having a robust and responsive service sector is essential for maintaining and enhancing quality of life, and liveable neighbourhoods for local communities. In Redland City, the strength of the social service sector is particularly important in responding to a rapidly growing aged community as well as a significant population of people with core assistance needs, and increased pressures of certain social service providers.

The ask:

As an ageing community with a high prevalence of Domestic and Family Violence, Redlands Coast has a complicated need in terms of social services that requires a coordinated and collaborative response across all levels of government. Council seeks to partner with the State Government to secure an increase in funding for our local service providers by providing robust community data to support targeted funding, particularly for homelessness, DFV and ageing services.



3. Sustainable environment

3.1 Resource security for our islands

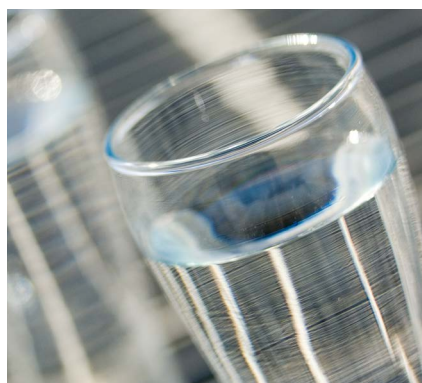
The opportunity:

As isolated communities, Redlands Coast islands are more vulnerable to water and power supply interruptions. Recent supply interruptions has seen our islands without water or electricity for extended periods with little or no redundancy of supply available.

The ask:

Council is seeking a commitment from the State Government to investigate alternative supply options for our islands.

We are also seeking a commitment to undertake a full and transparent investigation of water extraction from North Stradbroke Island. This water is extracted from natural bores on the island and supplied into the regional water grid and Council is interested in understanding the extent of water extraction and potential environmental impacts.



3.2 Support for our local koalas

The opportunity:

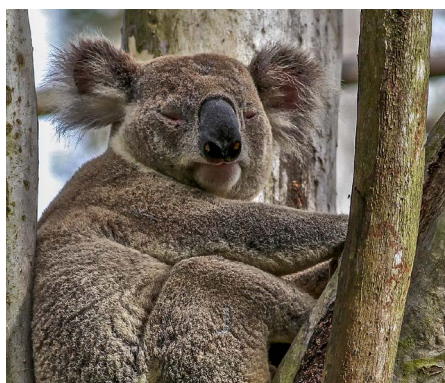
Redlands Coast is known for its naturally wonderful environment, including being home to an array of wildlife. Our strong environmental character provides an opportunity to partner with other levels of government and wildlife organisations to strengthen and research our local wildlife population.

Through our Koala Conservation Strategy Council looks to partner with other levels of government and the community to deliver projects to protect our local koala population.

The ask:

Council is seeking a commitment from the State Government to support, both financially and through genuine partnerships, the delivery of this strategy.

We are also seeking State Government support for a proposed local koala sanctuary, including health care facility. This facility would include private business, wildlife organisations and all levels of government and Council is seeking expertise and financial support from the State Government to undertake a full feasibility study into this facility.



3.3 Support for mosquito management

The opportunity:

In 2019 Council approved the Mosquito Management Action Plan 2019-2024, which outlines Council's commitment to delivering a year round, best practice mosquito management program that is safe for the environment and for residents. Council's Mosquito Management Program involves regular monitoring of known mosquito breeding sites across the Redlands, including State Government land. Through its Mosquito Management Action Plan 2019-2024 Council is also committed to partnering with other levels of government and industry experts to investigate innovation in mosquito management that will benefit Redlands Coast and the broader SEQ region.

The ask:

Council is seeking a State Government commitment to supporting our Mosquito Management Action Plan 2019-2024, including providing financial support to conduct annual monitoring and management, as well as partnering with Council to explore innovative mosquito management.



4. Thriving economy

4.1 Greater support for our islands:

The opportunity:

Redlands Coast is a city of islands, boasting one of the largest populations of un-bridged islands in Australia. While our islands provide our unique city character, they also add significant challenges in the delivery of services and projects.

The ask:

North Stradbroke Island:

Following the State Government decision to cease sandmining last year, North Stradbroke Island (Minjerribah) is undergoing a significant economic transition. While this transition was supported through some State Government funding, Council believes more needs to be done to deliver a sustainable economic future for the island. The economic impact has been further compounded by the downturn in tourism resulting from the unfolding COVID-19 pandemic.

Council is looking for a commitment from the State Government to deliver ongoing planning, funding and partnerships to comprehensively transition the island's economy and support its community's aspirations. Key projects, such as critical upgrades to ferry terminals at Dunwich and One Mile, must be funded and prioritised by the state government.

Regional recognition for our islands:

Our island communities have a range of challenges that are comparable with many regional communities, including high unemployment and an ageing population. Despite these challenges Redland City (including our islands) is not eligible for State Government regional funding because we are classed as part of Metropolitan Brisbane area. Council has long believed that our islands, with their isolation and socio economic challenges, should be classified differently to the mainland and hence eligible for State Government regional funding.



4.2 Support a local Hydrogen economy

The opportunity:

Council is investigating ways to support a local Hydrogen industry, including integrating Hydrogen into Council facilities and partnering with key industry representatives to explore other opportunities.

The ask:

Council is seeking a commitment from the State Government to include Council as part of any local Hydrogen initiatives and working with Council to explore the development of a local Hydrogen industry.

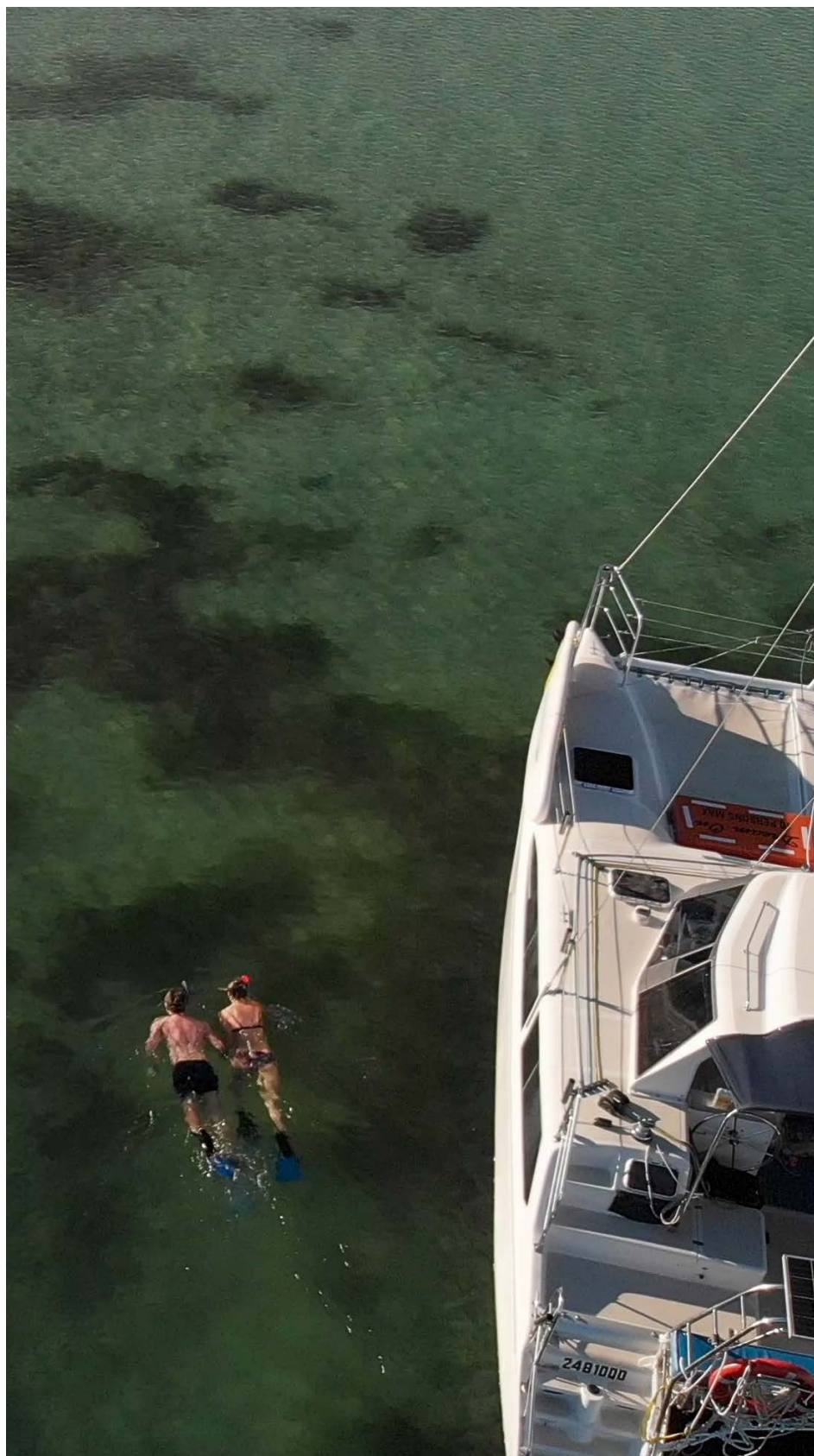
4.3 Support for the local tourism sector

The opportunity:

Redlands Coast boasts stunning tourism destinations in their own right and Council is in the process of developing a new Redlands Coast Tourism Destination Management Plan 2021-2026 to help support our local industry.

The ask:

Council is looking for a commitment from the State Government to support a local Redlands Coast tourism industry, including a fully-funded destination marketing campaign and infrastructure designed to help residents and visitors access the beautiful Moreton Bay. We are also looking to partner with the State Government to deliver a Moreton Bay Tourism Strategy to promote and facilitate tourism in Moreton Bay, including investment in river/marine facilities to support dispersal of visitors to Redlands Coast.



4.4 Redlands Coast State Government offices

The opportunity:

One of the most significant economic drains on Redlands Coast is the daily exodus of people leaving the city to work, including State Government employees. Council is currently involved in a number of revitalisation projects that offer potential locations for regional offices, including the Weinam Creek PDA and Capalaba and Cleveland CBD revitalisations. In the wake of the COVID-19 pandemic and the alternative ways of working that have been adopted by all industry sectors, there is significantly increased opportunity for State Government offices to function effectively from Redlands Coast.

The ask:

Council is looking for a commitment from the State Government to establish a regional office in the Redlands for State Government employees, reducing the number of people leaving the city each day; reducing congestion and delivering economic benefits.

4.5 Redlands Coast Health and Wellness Precinct

The opportunity:

Council has partnered with Metro South and Mater Health to develop the Redlands Health and Wellness Precinct Masterplan, centred around the Redlands Hospital which itself is planning further expansion. The Redlands Health and Wellness Precinct is identified in the Shaping SEQ Regional Plan 2017 as a knowledge and technology precinct, which contains a core of high level health, education, research or similar facilities and will provide opportunities for complementary and ancillary services to develop in the area over time.

The Health Care and Social Assistance industry sector is one of Redlands Coast's largest employers and is expected to continue growing beyond the national average. This project will ensure the city is well placed to become a leader in health, aged care and medical services and provide significant opportunities for employment and economic growth in the sector.

The ask:

We are seeking a commitment from the State Government to continue this ongoing partnership by supporting initiatives that seek to establish the Redlands Coast Health and Wellness Precinct Masterplan and funding the planned upgrades to the Redlands Hospital.

4.6 State Government remissions for concealed leaks

The opportunity:

The State Government is responsible for treating and selling bulk water to Council, who in turn provides it to our residents. On occasion residents have a concealed leak on their property, resulting in water being lost and the resident being charged for this water.

Redland City Council has a concealed leaks policy that reimburses 100% of the RCC consumption (distribution and retail) charge of estimated water loss for approved pensioners and 80% for all other small customers. However Council charges are only a portion of what residents pay for water, with the State Government bulk water costs making up the majority of the expense. Currently the State Government does not have a policy to reimburse its bulk water costs to residents who have experienced a concealed leak.

The ask:

Council believes the State Government has a responsibility to help reduce financial impacts caused by concealed leaks and calls on them to implement a reimbursement policy covering bulk water costs similar to that made available by Council.



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