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## Mayor's Desk by Mayor Cr Rachel Chambers



Question 9 in the "10 Hardest Questions to answer in Local Government". **Prudence: Are we good at spending the money we receive and do we use all our available resources (human, technical, financial) efficiently and productively?**

One thing I can guarantee you is that we are one of the most prudent, shrewd and careful councils in Queensland. We don't have the surplus funds which some other councils have the luxury of having as we simply don't have the income/rate base they do. Each dollar we collect via rates or charges; and each dollar we have managed to pry from the State and Federal budgets, means something to us.

Our council employs approximately 200 FTE (full time equivalent) staff to complete a range of tasks such as: Animal Control, Biosecurity, Cemeteries, Development and Planning, Environmental waste, Future planning, Gardens, Heavy Vehicle access, Parks, Roads and Rates, Swimming Pools, Tenders and Water to just name a few. Across a region bigger than the council areas of Brisbane, Noosa, Gold Coast, Ipswich, Lockyer, Logan, Moreton Bay, Redlands, Sunshine Coast and Bundaberg combined. The major difference being, these councils combined have a population of over 3 million people yet we have a population of 10,000. It's vital to note however, that we are expected to deliver and report on the same things as our council cousins. Just because we may only have a fraction of their service usage, our reporting requirements to other authorities are the same

and our legislative requirements are the same. To complicate matters even further (because we love a good challenge) the size of our region necessitates we have to double up on some services for convenience and travel costs.

In regards to our financial resources, the hardest issue we face is what to prioritise our spending on. Many people tell us its easy...just spend it on roads, but as council we have to think further afield than that. With no corporate spend in our region providing livability (parks and recreational activities are often funded by development companies and private enterprise in other council areas) council is also left to provide a sense of livability to our residents.

The desire to have smooth, bitumen roads, safe water on tap, sewerage, recreational activities, events, beautiful places and spaces does not diminish the further you live away from the coast, it simply just becomes less achievable due to limited corporate spending in the region and a lack of population affecting councils financial resourcing.

All in all, it's a balancing act – a similar one to your household budget. There is never enough money, time or people around to do the work you see needs doing but year after year, you keep plugging away at what you can get done with the resources you have, all the while hoping you will one day win lotto (or in the regions case, attract an industry or three which will bring jobs/people to the region).

Talk soon,  
Rachel.

### COUNCIL MEETINGS

Council's next **General Meeting will be held in Gayndah on Wednesday, 27 June** commencing 9am, followed by Council's **Standing Committee Meetings in Mt Perry on Wednesday, 4 July** commencing 9am. Council meetings are open to the public.

All members of the public are welcome to attend Council's Public Question Time, held during **Council's General Meeting from 9:30am to 10:30am**. This is an opportunity to bring forth any items that you would like your Councillors to address. Standing Committee Deputations by appointment.

Prior indication of your question is appreciated. Please phone 1300 696 272 (1300 MY NBRC) to discuss with an Executive Support staff member or email executive.support@northburnett.qld.gov.au

### EVIDENCE OF RESIDENCY

Did you know that residents utilising the free waste service available for dumping of domestic waste for up to 1m<sup>3</sup> at North Burnett Regional Council Waste Management Facilities are required to provide evidence of residency?

Since July 2016 when free dumping for residents was introduced, there has been a significant increase in the amount of household waste taken to landfill? This is fantastic, however we just want this service to be available for North Burnett residents only.

For further information regarding Council's Waste Management Facilities please see Council's website, contact Council's Environmental Services staff on 1300 696 272 (1300 MY NBRC), or email Council.

### COUNCIL'S 2018-19 BUDGET DELIBERATIONS CURRENTLY UNDERWAY

North Burnett Regional Council's budget deliberations are currently underway, with the 2018-19 Budget set to be presented and adopted at the Special Budget Meeting to be held in Mt Perry on Wednesday, 4 July 2018.

The common theme of reducing expenses and reviewing levels of service in order to meet community expectations have remained forefront in past budgets and will continue to be the main budget topics, going forward.

Council looks forward to presenting the 2018-19 Budget and 2018-19 Operational Plan to North Burnett residents in the new financial year.

### WE WELCOME YOUR FEEDBACK... COME AND 'HAVE YOUR SAY!'

To better gauge Council's level of customer service and customer satisfaction, residents will soon be invited to participate in monthly Customer Satisfaction Surveys which will be available in a variety of formats including online surveys, hard copy surveys, interactive token talks and survey apps. Keep an eye out and... Have your say!



### TENDER - SALE OF SURPLUS FLOODLIGHTS GAYDAH AND MUNDUBBERA

Tender Number - 291703\_2017-18\_TTB\_35  
Tenders close 2pm, Friday, 29 June 2018

Tenders are hereby called for the sale of the following items of surplus floodlights at the Gayndah and Mundubbera - 'As is Where is'.

- Gayndah – light poles with light fixtures attached
- Mundubbera – light poles with light fixtures attached

Items can be inspected on site on at Evelyn Grimson Park, Gayndah and Archer Park, Mundubbera.

Written Tenders close at **2pm, Friday, 29 June 2018**, and should be addressed to Chief Executive Officer, PO Box, 390, Gayndah Qld 4625 and clearly marked with the appropriate Tender Number.

Council reserves the right to invite applicants to change their tender in accordance with the *Local Government Act* and Section 228 (7) of the *Local Government Regulation 2012*. No submission will be accepted after the closing date/time. The highest/lowest of any tender may not necessarily be accepted. All tenders will be responded to by mail.

For further information please contact Council's Asset Department on 1300 696 272 (1300 MY NBRC) or email [admin@northburnett.qld.gov.au](mailto:admin@northburnett.qld.gov.au)

### POSITION VACANT

#### PROCUREMENT OFFICER - Gayndah

Position Status: Permanent Full-Time

Applications close: 5pm, Friday, 29 June 2018

North Burnett Regional Council is seeking a Procurement Officer to join our Corporate Services Section. This key finance position will provide procurement expertise and assist stakeholders to plan, develop, source and manage procurement arrangements to effectively meet organisational and business objectives.

*North Burnett Regional Council is a drug and alcohol free workplace and is an Equal Opportunity Employer.*

### BUILDING CERTIFICATION

North Burnett Regional Council offers the following building certification services to the North Burnett Regional Council area:

- All domestic construction: dwellings, sheds, pools;
- All commercial & industrial development;
- Pool safety inspections.

For further information please contact Council's Development Services staff on 1300 696 272 (1300 MY NBRC).

QBCC Licence: A31909

& Pool Safety Inspector Licence: 100421

R Burton PSM  
ICEO

### POSITIONS VACANT

- Procurement Officer - close 29-06-18

### TENDERS / EOI

- Sale of Surplus Floodlights - close 29-06-18

Further information on Positions Vacant or Tenders can be obtained via Council's:

Website: [www.northburnett.qld.gov.au](http://www.northburnett.qld.gov.au)

Email: [admin@northburnett.qld.gov.au](mailto:admin@northburnett.qld.gov.au)

Phone: 1300 696 272 (1300 MY NBRC) or call into one of Council's Customer Service Centres / Libraries.

### FLOOD RESTORATION UPDATE

Over the next fortnight, flood restoration works will be concentrated in the following locations:

**Biggenden** - Gospel Hall Rd, Mt Woowoonga Rd, Woowoonga Hall Rd

**Gayndah** - Faulks Rd

**Monto** - Abercorn Rd, Aberfeldie Rd, Airport Rd, Bryans Rd, Cattle Creek Rd, Clives Rd, Collingwoods Rd, Evans Rd, Fairweathers Rd, Golf Links Rd, Misfortune Rd, Monal Rd, Nets North Branch Rd, Old Rawbelle Rd, Staatz Rd, Tecoma Rd, Weir Rd

**Mt Perry** - Deep Creek Rd, Kalliwa Rd, Tenningering Rd

**Mundubbera** - Barbours Rd, Burrows Rd, Deems Rd, Greentree Rd, Hawkwood Rd, New Cardarga Rd



Cannindah Rd, Monto 'under construction'.

Council acknowledges the Natural Disaster Relief and Recovery Arrangements (NDRRA) funding is a joint Commonwealth and State Government program.

### PLASTIC BAG BAN TO BE INTRODUCED 1 JULY 2018

Did you know that the Queensland Government is taking action to protect our unique environment and wildlife through the introduction of a ban on the supply of single-use lightweight plastic shopping bags on 1 July 2018?

From 1 July 2018, retailers are no longer able to supply single-use lightweight plastic shopping bags less than 35 microns in thickness to customers, for free or at a charge, including compostable, degradable and biodegradable bags.

The ban therefore applies to ALL retailers in Queensland including market-stall holders and organisations which supply single-use lightweight plastic shopping bags.

The ban does not include plastic bags such as: multiple-use heavyweight reusable plastic shopping bags that supermarkets generally sell; single-use heavyweight 'department store' plastic shopping bags; fruit and vegetable bags for unpackaged perishable food items; bags that are integral to the packaging of an item; kitchen tidy bags or bin liners; nappy bags, and; dog poo bags.

Plan for the ban now...

For further information refer to the Queensland Government website <https://www.qld.gov.au/environment/pollution/management/waste/plastic-bags> or contact Council's Environmental Services team by phone 1300 696 272 (1300 MY NBRC) or email [admin@northburnett.qld.gov.au](mailto:admin@northburnett.qld.gov.au).

