



Sunshine Coast Community Strategy 2019-2041

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www.sunshinecoast.qld.gov.au
mail@sunshinecoast.qld.gov.au
T 07 5475 7272 F 07 5475 7277
Locked Bag 72 Sunshine Coast Mail Centre Qld 4560

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involved in the development of the *Sunshine Coast
Community Strategy 2019-2041* and *Action Plan 2019-
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council to contribute to a thriving Sunshine Coast region.
This includes (but is not limited to):

Alliance for Suicide Prevention

Fusion Mental Health and Wellbeing Network

Healthy Ageing Partnership

Heart Foundation Australia

Sunshine Coast Human Social Recovery Sub-Group

Integrated Family and Youth Services

Jinibara People Aboriginal Corporation

Kabi Kabi First Nation

Local community and sporting groups

Multicultural Advisory Group and Multicultural Network

Parkrun

PHN Sunshine Coast

Queensland Council of Social Services

Queensland Government agencies

Queensland Police Service

Social Enterprise Network Sunshine Coast

Sunshine 60 and Better

Sunshine Coast Access and Advisory Network

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Youth Connect Network

Volunteering Sunshine Coast.

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and academic sectors for their participation in the
community and stakeholder engagement process which
underpinned this document.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF TRADITIONAL OWNERS

Sunshine Coast Council acknowledge the Kabi Kabi peoples and the Jinibara peoples whose lands and waters we all now share. The Traditional Owners' unique values and ancient and enduring cultures deepen and enrich the life of our communities.

Sunshine Coast Council was among the first local governments in Queensland to endorse a Reconciliation Action Plan (RAP). We are committed to working in partnership with the Traditional Owners to support self-determination through economic and community development.

Through important cultural events such as the Bunya Festival, this region has been a place of celebration, abundance, connection and kinship for thousands of years. Every three years from December to February, thousands of First Nations people from across Queensland descended on the Sunshine Coast to feast on the bunya nut, meet friends and

relatives, and engage in trade, governance meetings, cultural activities, marriages and dispute settlement. Many people walked hundreds of kilometres for this important festival.

Truth telling is a significant part of our journey. We are committed to better understanding the collective history of the Sunshine Coast and the experiences of First Nations people. Legacy issues resulting from colonisation are still experienced by Traditional Owners and First Nations people. We recognise our shared history and will continue to work in partnership to provide a foundation for building a shared future with the Kabi Kabi people and the Jinibara people.

Sunshine Coast Council acknowledges the Traditional Owners of the Sunshine Coast, and pays respects to their elders past, present and emerging.

Together, we are all stronger.



Image: Soraya Fewquandie Scott performing at Dawn Awakening, Horizon Festival 2018.
Photo by ben vos productions.



OUR VISION – Together we thrive

In all of our communities people are connected, included and feel welcomed. At the heart of our communities are our people who come together and actively participate in their community and contribute to the social, cultural and creative life of our region. People are welcoming, caring and respectful and equal opportunities are available to all. The Traditional Owners, the Kabi Kabi and the Jinibara peoples' enduring connection to country, and the contribution of the broader First Nations community is acknowledged, celebrated and valued. We value our heritage and diversity, our natural environment and the quality lifestyle that our region offers. Together we have created a shared future where we all thrive.

LOOKING TOWARDS 2041

Our relaxed lifestyle, iconic natural landscapes and growing opportunities will mean more people will continue to choose to call the Sunshine Coast home. In 2041, the Sunshine Coast will be an extraordinary place to live, work and play. We will be more diverse, equitable and inclusive. Opportunities will be available to people of all ages, abilities and backgrounds. We will be healthier, more active and enjoy better connections to people, places and spaces. We will be more environmentally sustainable so that we can continue to enjoy the natural beauty of our surroundings. We will be more creative, with a vibrant, cosmopolitan atmosphere, offering world-class art, music and leisure experiences that showcase our rich culture and heritage. We will be more innovative, with rapid advancements in technology enabling us to engage with the world in ways we never thought possible. We will stay true to our values as a compassionate, resilient, safe, creative and healthy community providing opportunities for everyone to participate.

We are experiencing a transformation from a regional centre to a regional city. Our community is growing by almost 8000 residents each year and this trajectory will continue to 2041 when our region will be home to more than 500,000 people. This growth brings exciting opportunities. However, we need to plan our communities well to ensure we continue to thrive. We want to be able to adapt to change and to new trends, technologies and ideas that could improve the way we live.

It is vital that council has a clear framework for the future so that people and places remain connected, inclusive

and cohesive as we grow. The *Sunshine Coast Community Strategy 2019-2041* (the Community Strategy) outlines this framework based on what our community told us they want the future to look like. They envision a place that retains what is special about the Sunshine Coast now – a community that is connected with people, places and spaces. Where we stay true to our values as a caring, resilient and safe community, with opportunities for all to participate.

In addition to the growth anticipated for the Sunshine Coast, global megatrends will also impact the way we live over the next two decades. This includes a growing and ageing population, climate variability and biodiversity loss, increasing digital forms of connection and a strengthening of the Asian economy (CSIRO, 2012). While it is difficult to determine precisely how these global megatrends will impact the Sunshine Coast, what we do know is that they will influence our future in many ways (CSIRO, 2017).

These megatrends present the Sunshine Coast with opportunities, but also challenges, which The Sunshine Coast Council (council) is already seeking to address in partnership with the community. The investment that is occurring in regional infrastructure like the Sunshine Coast Airport expansion, the international broadband submarine cable, the Maroochydore city centre development and the growing health precinct at Birtinya, will help to ensure that the region provides the jobs and services that will be in demand over the next 20 years. This will create greater opportunities for people now and into the future to live and work in a strong community with an enviable lifestyle.

What is clear is that it will be increasingly important for communities, governments and businesses to work together to encourage inclusive, socially cohesive and resilient communities to provide equitable access to basic services and social and economic opportunities. Equally, It is our shared responsibility - indeed, part of our compact with our community - that we are all aware of and understand the opportunities and challenges confronting our region and how we each can play a role in capturing these for the enduring benefit of our community. Much can be achieved by supporting the growth of social and human capital – by investing in things that strengthen a community, that help people to earn a good living and build people’s capacity to adapt to social and economic change. This will require ongoing conversations about our strengths, opportunities and growing awareness of how we can build on them to reach a shared vision for the future.

There is no doubt the Sunshine Coast is evolving. Council is enthusiastic to work with our community to ensure that the values and ideals that underpin who we are will endure. We are built on strong foundations, and at the heart of our community is our people. In 2041 our region will remain a great place to connect, create and innovate and we will capitalise on the opportunities that come with technological advancements, global change and working together. In this way, we can build a more connected and inclusive community together – which is what healthy smart, creative regions do.





Contents

1. Our goal - a strong community	8
2. About the Community Strategy	10
3. A broader view of Council	12
4. The role of government in supporting strong communities	14
5. A brief history of the Sunshine Coast	18
6. Who we are: a demographic snapshot	20
7. Trends and opportunities	22
8. What our community told us	24
9. A vision for a future where our communities are thriving	28
10. The community strategy: building a strong community together	30
Outcome 1: Healthy, active communities	32
Outcome 2: Vibrant communities	34
Outcome 3: Inclusive communities	36
Outcome 4: Connected, resilient communities	38
Outcome 5: Creative, innovative communities	40
Glossary	42
Reference list	44

OUR GOAL - A STRONG COMMUNITY

The Sunshine Coast is a rich tapestry of landscapes, places and people. Our communities represent our aspirations and define our sense of place. They reflect the values and lifestyles important to those who call the Sunshine Coast home. They also reflect our history - from which we build our plans for the future.



Why is a strong community important?

A community is defined as “a group of people living in the same place or having a particular characteristic in common.” We form communities not just to connect and belong: in a contemporary context, a connected and inclusive community can be an essential part of our social and emotional wellbeing.

A strong community is a place where people consistently do a variety of simple things together that give them opportunities to connect with others, building trust and social connection. A strong community is one that keeps itself informed and feels empowered to respond to local issues together. This web of trusting relationships and local awareness fosters greater connection, collaboration, innovation and strengthens resilience.

In developing our vision for the future, we asked what a strong community means to the people of the Sunshine Coast. Our community reinforced that we are optimistic, compassionate and proud of who we are now.

However, we do face challenges. Like other regions across Australia, housing affordability, homelessness, family and domestic violence, transport infrastructure and connectivity, and youth unemployment impact our community. These are challenges which council is committed to addressing through partnership, collaboration, advocacy and direct action.

Thank you to the many voices who contributed to the development of the Community Strategy and the *Community Strategy Action Plan 2019 – 2024* (the Action Plan). Community voices of all ages and backgrounds were vital to ensuring this strategy reflects our collective aspirations for the Sunshine Coast. Our communities’ voices have been heard and have influenced the vision, outcomes and actions this strategy encompasses. We look forward to working collaboratively to strengthen the fabric and vitality of our communities. Together we can build a more connected and inclusive community – a strong community.

ABOUT THE COMMUNITY STRATEGY

A clear story of what a strong community means for the Sunshine Coast emerged from insights our community shared with us. This shaped our vision - together we thrive - and informed our commitment to five outcomes we seek to achieve by 2041. These outcomes are:

- healthy and active communities
- vibrant communities
- inclusive communities
- connected and resilient communities
- creative and innovative communities.

Purpose of the Strategy

The Community Strategy replaces the *Sunshine Coast Social Strategy 2015*, which had a five-year outlook from 2015 to 2019. The Community Strategy provides a longer-term framework which reflects a shared responsibility for how council and our community will work together to advance our shared goal for a strong community through to 2041. The framework says what council will (and can) do as a local government, and how we will go about doing it.

Specifically, the purpose of the Community Strategy is to:

- empower our community to live **healthy** and **active** lifestyles
- focus on ensuring community places and spaces are **vibrant**, inclusive, accessible, adaptable and meet the needs of people of all ages, abilities and backgrounds
- strengthen connection, **inclusion**, awareness and opportunity for all people in our community
- build capacity in our communities to be **connected**, **resilient** and to respond to local issues
- nurture **creative** and **innovative** approaches to building a strong community.

The Community Strategy also provides a clear approach to measuring and reporting regularly on our progress towards our community outcomes.

How the Community Strategy was developed

The Community Strategy's vision was developed through extensive community and stakeholder engagement.

Those who contributed came to us with enthusiasm, local wisdom and great ideas. The feedback has built a shared vision for our future and provided a framework for how we can work together to build a strong community where everyone thrives.

We carried out engagement in two phases. Firstly, on the question of what a strong community means, and secondly, to develop the five-year action plan which supports the implementation of the Community Strategy.

We connected through:

- focus groups and key sector networks
- schools
- stakeholder forums
- online and face-to-face surveys
- pop-ups stalls
- social media
- internal and external stakeholder advisory group meetings.

Further to this, significant research into best practise community development initiatives and analysis of trends and forecasts have informed the development of the Community Strategy. Importantly, through this work, the role and responsibility of council, relevant to other tiers of government, has provided a foundation for how we may leverage off our existing success and lead greater change.

Measuring impacts and outcomes

The Sunshine Coast will lead the way we collect and report on outcomes that contribute to building a strong community. Against each of the five outcomes, we have articulated headline outcome measures that we will track to ensure we are delivering on our goal. These outcome measures are:

- **The Sunshine Coast Local Government Area is one of the healthiest regional communities in Queensland**
- **More than 80% of our residents agree that council's community infrastructure meets the needs of their community**
- **Improving social and economic opportunities over time relative to other South East Queensland Local Government Areas**
- **More than 85% residents agree they can get help from friends, family, neighbours or community organisations when they need it**
- **More than 20% growth in social enterprises operating in the Sunshine Coast Local Government Area.**

These outcome measures will be evaluated every five years at the completion of the Action Plan. By ensuring strong outcome measurement, the Sunshine Coast as a region will be well placed to address challenges as they arise and advocate for services as required.

Implementation

The Community Strategy sets a vision, five outcome areas, guiding principles and methods for how the goal of a strong community will be achieved. The Community Strategy will be implemented through the delivery of the Action Plan, which will in turn guide council's annual operational planning. The Community Strategy and the Action Plan are supported by the *Sunshine Coast Community Strategy 2019-2041* Background Paper which sets out the evidence for the opportunities and challenges we face.

Ongoing review

Challenges and opportunities in our community will inevitably shift and change over time. For this reason, the Community Strategy must be dynamic and versatile, reflecting our community's insights over time. The Community Strategy will be evaluated every five years to ensure it remains relevant in its achievement of the Community Strategy's goal of a strong community.

A BROADER VIEW OF COUNCIL

Council's corporate vision is to be Australia's most sustainable region. Healthy. Smart. Creative. The *Sunshine Coast Corporate Plan 2019-2023* sets the pathways we will pursue on behalf of our community for the next five years to realise this vision. It is underpinned by five goals – a strong community, a healthy environment, an outstanding organisation, a smart economy and service excellence. This corporate vision is designed to ensure that in all our communities, people are included, treated with respect and opportunities are available to all. It underpins our approach to everything we do.

The Community Strategy represents a compact with our community and is the principal policy document that directs council's commitment, strategic direction and approach to achieving the goal of a strong community. Central to it's delivery is a shared responsibility on the part of all stakeholders to engage, participate, inform and remain aware of the opportunities to achieve this vision.

Relationship to existing council strategic directions

The Community Strategy, along with the Environment and Liveability Strategy and the Regional Economic Development Strategy, form the three long-term strategic policy positions of council and work together to inform corporate and operational planning and delivery.

The Regional Economic Development Strategy has set a pathway to transition to a new economy that respects and nurtures the region's values and authenticity and looks beyond its horizons to establish the region in the global economy. The Environment and Liveability Strategy builds a pathway to a healthy, liveable environment. The three strategies have strong synergies. Like the Community Strategy, the Regional Economic Development Strategy and Environment and Liveability Strategy emphasise the importance of collaboration, creating inclusive communities and protecting and celebrating our natural assets to achieve positive outcomes.

Existing Commitments

The direction and focus we will take to achieving the goal of a strong community is also outlined in a number of existing council policies, strategies, plans and charters. A number of these documents are due for review in coming years and the Community Strategy will provide the ongoing strategic direction for these documents to be updated. Visit council's website to find out more about the plans and strategies that help to achieve this goal for our region.

How The Community Strategy Fits With Other Council Strategies



THE ROLE OF GOVERNMENT IN SUPPORTING STRONG COMMUNITIES

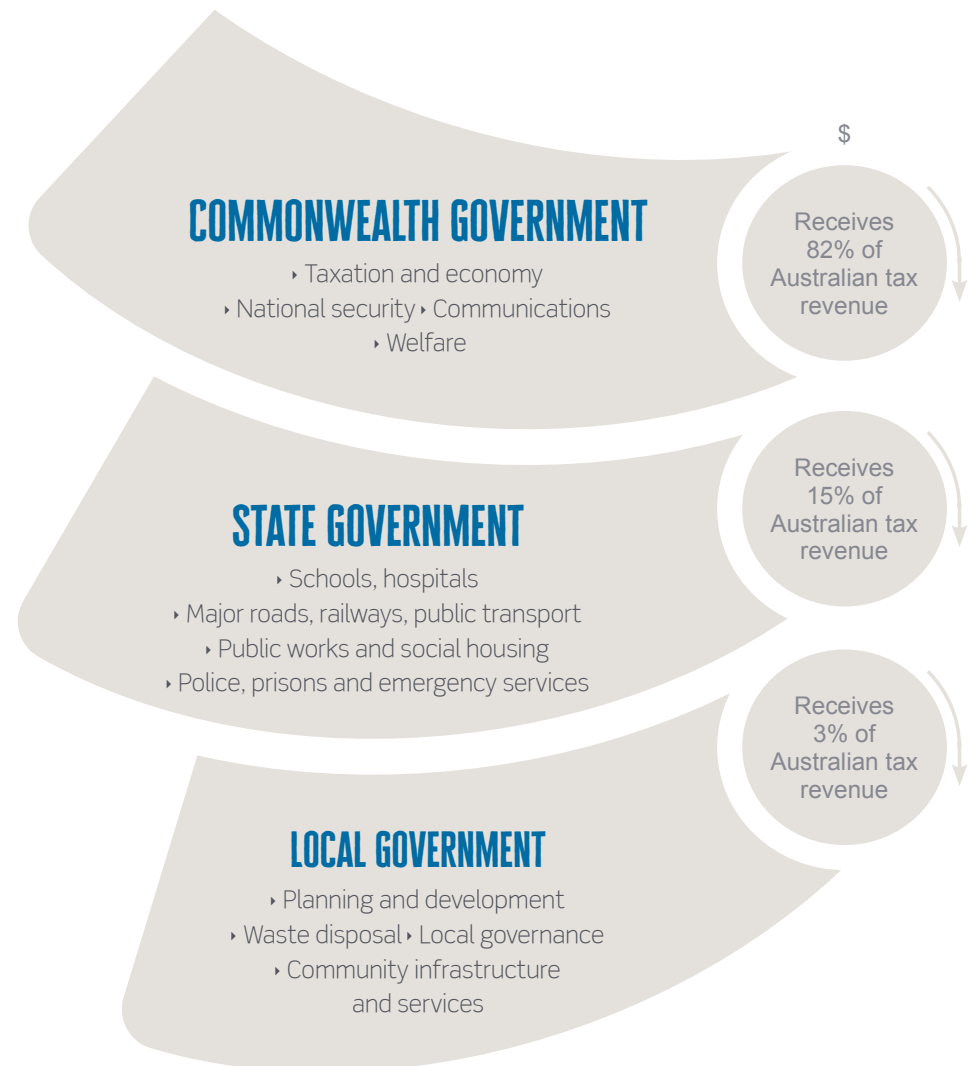
In Australia's federal system of government, power is divided between the Commonwealth government and the six state governments. Under the Constitution, state and territory governments define the roles and powers of local governments.

The Federal Government is also a key funding partner in the delivery of human services – much of which is delivered through State governments and the community services sector. This includes health, education, disability support, housing, Indigenous services, disaster recovery and environmental policy consistent with Australia's international treaty obligations and aspects of industrial relations.

The State Government is both a funding provider and deliverer of services across the spectrum of the human services system. This includes responsibilities for schools, hospitals, social housing, Indigenous housing and other support services, support for the community services sector, law and justice services including community justice services, sport and recreation, emergency services, conservation and environment policy and regulation and consumer affairs. In addition, the State Government is responsible for major transport infrastructure and the public transport network and services.

Local government has the most limited source of revenue of any tier of government. Of an estimated 260 taxes that may be imposed under Australia's current taxation system, local government has just one. On average, rates revenue constitutes around 3% of Australia's total taxation revenue per year, which compares with the share of total taxation raised by the states (15%) and the Commonwealth (82%) (ALGA, 2008). This often results in a mismatch between the financial resources local government has available and the services and infrastructure expectations of their community (PC, 2007).

Their limited share of public revenue, councils across Australia are responsible for 33% of the nation's infrastructure, including 76% of the entire length of the nation's road network. Council is also responsible for implementing state building and planning regulation at the local level, administration of public health regulations (such as food hygiene and water, pests and disease control), local roads and footpaths, parks and playing fields, libraries, some local environment and heritage responsibilities, waste disposal and community planning. Given its limited capacity or authority to raise revenue, council cannot assume responsibility for the functions that are the responsibility of other tiers of government.



The role of council in building a strong community

Council, as the level of government closest to our community, plays an important role in the support of an active and empowered community. We undertake a wide range of community planning and development activities by working with communities to provide programs, services and infrastructure that offer people opportunities to connect, build their capacity to respond to local issues, keep informed and improve their wellbeing. In addition, we seek to influence the physical infrastructure and functionality of places so they are welcoming, inclusive and activated, and responsive to the needs and aspirations of the people who live there. This combination of community, planning, delivery and urban design contributes to building a strong community.



What does council already do?

We already make a significant investment in the social fabric of the region through the following:

Roles	What Council does
Deliver and manage infrastructure and some key services.	The sustainable development and management of natural and built assets and infrastructure, and the delivery of effective services in accordance with the <i>Local Government Act 2009 (Qld)</i> . This includes roads, waste, parks and community facilities that support sport, recreation, art, culture and literacy pathways.
Ensure community safety as a regulatory body.	Local laws are made by local government to ensure the safety and good governance of our community in accordance with the principles set out in the <i>Local Government Act 2009 (Qld)</i> .
Promote strong, inclusive and safe communities.	We raise awareness to support reconciliation, diversity, equity and inclusion, accessibility, health and wellbeing, volunteering and civic participation, and nurture connection, culture, and creativity.
Build the capacity of the community to respond to local challenges.	We work with volunteers, community organisations and local communities to strengthen their capacity to respond to their needs.
Deliver key programs.	We partner with support services and activities that promote health and wellbeing, civic participation, life-long learning, community connection, art, culture. This, together with a strong economy and environment to support a vibrant community.
Advocate for the needs of our community.	We advocate on behalf of the community regarding state and federal issues (i.e. health, housing, transport, education).
Partner strategically to achieve outcomes for the community	We frequently engage with our community and seek to work together with stakeholders and the community to achieve suitable outcomes.
Promote greater input from the community on decisions.	We promote the importance of democratic representation, social inclusion and meaningful community engagement in accordance with our role under the <i>Local Government Act 2009 (Qld)</i> .
Provide information that helps people access services and stay connected and be informed.	We provide a range of information and service to help people connect to our community and access support, information and activities.

A BRIEF HISTORY OF THE SUNSHINE COAST



Dr Amy Clarke
Senior Lecturer
in History
University of the
Sunshine Coast

The Sunshine Coast region has been occupied for over 40,000 years. The Kabi Kabi peoples are the traditional owners of the coastal plains and the Mary River Valley. The southern hinterland is the traditional country of the Jinibara peoples.

In the 1840s the area was visited by the occasional European explorer and escaped convict, but the Brisbane penal colony to the south remained the focus for development. By the 1860s however, news of the beauty and potential of the Sunshine Coast region had spread. Timber-getters and the first group of European farmers moved in.

Roads and accommodation became more common following the Gympie gold rush in 1867, as thousands of people travelled through the region in hope of making their fortune. The land began to change: what had once been rainforest, scrubland and mangrove-lined waterways was converted to pasture, fruit and sugarcane plantations, and timber mills. The Indigenous peoples were pushed from their territories.

South Sea Islander indentured labourers arrived up until 1904, often being put to work in the fields. The

climate and economy was unpredictable in this era, and many settlers were forced to experiment with new types of produce. This is how the region came to be known for pineapple and ginger, and how dairy farmers gradually replaced the timber-getters and sugarcane plantations.

The coming of the railway in the early 1890s made it easier for settlers. Many of the towns we know today: Buderim, Nambour, Maleny, Eumundi, and Yandina, started to take shape. It was not until after the Second World War that the Sunshine Coast became more widely known as a beachside holiday destination. Tourism became a dominant force, and by the 1980s it was one of the region's largest industries. People visited to experience the beautiful landscapes along the coast and in the ranges and to enjoy the region's produce and outdoor recreation.

When we reflect on the history of our region, it becomes clear that many groups of people (with different hopes and ways of living) have left their mark on the landscape. Their stories are filled with messages of hard work, adaptability, cooperation, innovation, and, above all, dependence on the Sunshine Coast's unique landscapes. We can honour these past generations by remembering the central role our region's diverse environment has played: providing food, shelter, employment and enjoyment for communities over many thousands of years.





WHO WE ARE: A DEMOGRAPHIC SNAPSHOT

The Sunshine Coast is undergoing rapid population growth and change (SCC, 2018). The Estimated Resident Population of the Sunshine Coast Local Government Area in 2018 was 319,922. This increased by 52,681 people from 2011. The median age of the population was 43 years in 2016 compared to 37 years for Queensland (QGSO, 2018a).

Unless indicated otherwise, the demographic statistics for this section have been sourced from the Sunshine Coast Council Community Profile ID, and provide a point-in-time snapshot of the demography of the Sunshine Coast Local Government Area based on 2016 census data.



Median household income

The Sunshine Coast currently has a lower median household income than Queensland. Between 2011 and 2016, median household income increased by \$250 or 25% from \$1017 to \$1267 per week. In Queensland over the same period, median household income increased by \$166 or 13.5% from \$1266 to \$1392 per week.



Most populated localities

The five most populated localities are Buderim-Kuluin-Mons-Kunda Park (32,683), followed by Wurtulla-Buddina and District (23,800), Little Mountain-Caloundra West-Meridan Plains-Bells Creek (20,264), Nambour-Burnside and District (17,758) and Maroochydore (16,793).



Volunteering

In 2016, 49,803 people aged over 15 (20.7%) volunteered for an organisation or group compared with 20.2% in 2011. By comparison, 18.7% of people volunteered in Queensland in 2016 compared to 18.8% in 2011.



Carers

26,842 people provided unpaid assistance to a person with a disability, long term illness or old age in 2016 compared to 22,757 people in 2011.



Cultural diversity

57,460 people (or 20% of our population) was born overseas, predominantly from the United Kingdom, New Zealand and South Africa. In 2016, 14,689 people (5%) spoke a language other than English at home, an increase of 4390 people from 10,299 in 2011.



Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander People

5716 people (or 1.9% of our population) identified as Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander in 2016, an increase of 1670 people from 4046 people in 2011.



Beliefs

160,634 people (54.6%) identified as Christian in 2016 compared to 62.8% in 2011. 6793 people (2.3%) identified other religious beliefs compared to 2.2% in 2011. 9523 people (33.8%) identified as having no religion compared to 25.8% in 2011.



Net migration

The majority of population growth will be delivered through net migration (97% of all population growth). The largest population increases will be those aged 35-39 years and those aged 0-4 years and 5-9 years.



Employment

The unemployment rate for the Sunshine Coast at June quarter 2018 was 5.8%, compared to the Queensland average of 6%. Youth unemployment on the Sunshine Coast at June 2018 was estimated at 11.5% compared to 13.3% for Queensland (QGSO, 2018b).



Household arrangements

The number of households in the Sunshine Coast increased by 13,383 between 2011 and 2016 to 116,408 households. Couples without children households represent 29.5% of households, followed by couples with children (27%), sole persons (21.9%), sole parent families (10.3%) and group households (3.8%). The remaining 7.5% is made up of other family, visitor only and not classifiable households.



Homelessness and social housing

The number of people experiencing homelessness has increased 6% from 744 in 2011 to approximately 785 people in 2016. Of the 970 people on the State Government Social Housing Register, 75% were identified as being in high to very high need (DHPW, 2018).



Disability

16,853 people (5.7%) require help in their day-to-day lives due to disability, an increase from 5% in 2011.



Physical activity and obesity

The proportion of adults meeting physical activity guidelines on the Sunshine Coast has declined from 57.7% in 2007-08 to 52.0% in 2014-15. The proportion of adults who are overweight or obese has declined from 63.6% in 2007-08 to 59.1% in 2014-15. (Progress in Australian Regions, 2018).

TRENDS AND OPPORTUNITIES

Image: Andrews Veivers and the Sunshine Coast Guitar Orchestra perform at Soundwave, Horizon Festival 2018. Photo by bern vos productions.

- Our community is growing by almost 8000 residents annually and this trajectory will continue to 2041 when our region will be home to more than 500,000 people. This growth will bring increased demand for community facilities, services and transport options. Careful planning is essential to ensure our communities continue to thrive.
- While our community will continue to age, we also anticipate an influx of younger families. This presents an opportunity for our community to find ways of sharing knowledge between generations.
- We have a strong volunteering culture supporting our communities in many ways. Maintaining and growing our volunteer culture as generations age may be a challenge for our community and economy.
- Our communities have many assets and resources that offer opportunities to be better shared. Maximising partnerships between people, organisations and community facilities (both public and private) makes better use of what we have and encourage creative and innovative solutions.
- Owner-occupancy rates are high compared to rental rates (although the impact of very large new communities may change this). Low availability of social housing remains a challenge and is not increasing to match population growth.
- Median household income levels are rising and getting closer to Queensland levels. However, there is increasing incidence of housing stress and some evidence of increasing homelessness.

A more detailed investigation of the community strengths, potential challenges and strategic priority areas is outlined in the *Community Strategy Background Paper*.

Strengthening connection

Social connection is an essential building block that helps to build strong communities. Social connection builds relationships with other people (or social capital networks), trust in others, common values and helps to support equitable opportunities to participate in social and economic life. Each contributes to our physical and mental health in a variety of ways (VicHealth, 2010).

However, many aspects of social connection are declining and at risk of falling further. A lack of social connection (also known as social isolation) can be as bad for your health and wellbeing as obesity, lack of physical activity, substance abuse, injury and violence (Holt-Lundstad 2015). Unless appropriate interventions occur, the number of people that are most at risk of social isolation could continue to grow: older people, people from culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds, people living alone and sole parents (Queensland Government, 2018).

In Australia, research has found that one in ten people lack social support and one in six people experience emotional loneliness (Relationships Australia, 2018). Some of the factors that have been blamed for this decline are also likely to increase, including the use of digital technology and high residential mobility. This could make it harder for people of all ages to connect with their neighbours and communities. An inclusive communities' approach will ensure that, as we grow, we will continue to protect and build upon our strengths for future generations.

Opportunities are available to all

It is increasingly recognised that inclusive communities provide a broad range of benefits for everyone in our community. This includes supporting inclusive economic, political and social institutions, tackling the structural barriers that keep some people from opportunity and tracking progress across different population groups (CEDA, 2018). When a community has opportunities to participate socially and economically, the desired impacts range from economic benefits, social cohesion and community harmony (Carter, 2015). This can be achieved through:

- inclusive growth approaches. Poverty and inequality are reduced when excluded groups gain greater access to education, employment and business. There is also evidence of the positive relationship between diverse workforces and company profitability
- gender equality can promote economic growth and human capital
- communities that keep themselves informed and participate in decision making are often more trusting of each other and socially cohesive.

The Community Strategy focuses on inclusive communities through supporting the growth of social connection and collaboration through a place-based approach. Together with a commitment to 62% of future growth through urban consolidation reflected through the Environment and Liveability Strategy and land use

planning outlined by the State Government under the South East Queensland Regional Plan (Shaping SEQ, 2017), a number of game-changer regional projects through the Regional Economic Development Strategy, the Community Strategy will bring greater opportunities for all to participate, socially and economically.

WHAT OUR COMMUNITY TOLD US

As part of the process for developing the Community Strategy we listened to what people told us a strong community means to them. Their words and ideas have shaped the vision of the Community Strategy – for a strong community that is connected, engaged and inclusive – a place where together we thrive.

We heard about the importance of connection between people and how these connections nurture the growth of a strong community. We also heard about how people like to connect with others in their community as a means of fulfilment, inclusion and to resolve local issues. Some people like to volunteer, while others like to attend community events or visit their local library to access a range of information, services and seminars. Many people are active in their local community through local sport or recreation clubs. People also talked to us about our outstanding natural surroundings and subtropical climate and how this connects them to a healthy and active outdoor lifestyle. We listened to conversations about the 'village feel' of some of our communities and the value people placed on those elements. We asked people about how they want to be engaged. Many people, of all ages, want to be more involved in decision-making that affects them and their future.

We asked our community to prioritise nine engagement themes to indicate areas of concern and those that are improving or remaining the same:

We heard that the areas of greatest concern are:

- housing affordability and homelessness
- transport infrastructure
- employment and education
- safe communities.

We heard that the areas that are improving or staying the same are:

- community infrastructure
- social equity and inclusion
- community recovery from disaster
- health and wellbeing
- community engagement.

This alignment of community priorities with evidence-based research helps us as a community to identify our values and to prioritise what is important. These priorities have directly informed the development of the outcome areas and priorities of the Community Strategy.

Our community also told us they value:

- **connection** – to each other and to our community
- **inclusion** – through embracing diversity and the principles of social justice
- **collaboration** – empowering communities to work together
- **liveability** – making sure our communities are vibrant, welcoming and accessible for all, with a balance between our natural and built environment
- **prosperity** – where everyone has the opportunity to participate socially and economically.

Our community told us they want us to:

- work with other levels of government to develop innovative responses to public transport and mobility options, as well as housing affordability and homelessness
- seek increased access to health and wellbeing programs, information and infrastructure
- support the activation of our places and spaces, and more events and activities for people of all ages and abilities to participate and connect
- maintain a strong emphasis on preserving the natural environment and open space for passive and active use
- remain true to the region's identity, through managing planning and urban development, to maintain the desired lifestyle and distinct characteristics that make up the Sunshine Coast
- support an inclusive, caring community that looks after each other and values diversity
- be more visible in our community and provide a diversity of ways to engage that enables people to influence matters that impact them.

CASE STUDY – a focus group consultation with our youth

The eyes of our future

Our priority throughout our engagement processes has been to ensure that we have used engagement methods that authentically connects with the people we are speaking to. As such, we have ensured that each engagement was tailored to meet the aspirations of those who contributed to developing the Community Strategy. One of the many groups we engaged with was council's *Speak Up Engage Youth Advisory Group*. The group participated in a Futures Visioning Workshop with futures researchers from the University of the Sunshine Coast. Through this engagement the young people were asked to describe their vision for the Sunshine Coast to 2041.

The group came up with six values to direct their desired future vision and a vision statement. The group's vision reflects the central themes of all feedback received during our consultation.

Speak Up Engage Youth Advisory group's values:

- **feeling connected:** with family, friends and community, through our ancient and enduring cultures and participation in events and celebrations
- **creating change by working together:** to solve issues and foster opportunities
- **preserving our environment:** and preserving our natural assets through education and practice of sustainable behaviours
- **fostering creativity and innovation:** by nurturing the arts, cultivating entrepreneurship and encouraging imagination in all people
- **living by principles of equity and equality:** to ensure everybody is equally represented, has opportunities to participate and feels included
- **supporting individual wellbeing:** by following personal passions, feeling inspired by opportunities and being empowered to live a happy life.

Speak Up Engage Youth Advisory group's vision:

We envision a future where the Sunshine Coast is accessible and safe for all, a place where everybody is equally represented, where places are accessible and there is respect for culture and diversity. Our homes and communities are sustainable, powered by clean and renewable energy. The education system is centred on life-long learning and capacity-building. This fuels creativity and innovation in our people and communities and enables personalised approaches in learning, knowledge and freedom of expression.



Image: ben vos productions

A VISION FOR A FUTURE WHERE OUR COMMUNITIES ARE THRIVING

Our community told us they envisioned the Sunshine Coast as a place of connection, inclusion and collaboration. Where our people and communities are welcoming and opportunities are available for all.

A place where together we thrive.





As citizens of our regional community, we all share a vested interest and a personal responsibility to inform, be aware and contribute to the Sunshine Coast we want to see by 2041. Council will work with our community to ensure that together, we thrive. We will achieve this as a community by:

Focusing on place and building on strengths

The Sunshine Coast is a mosaic of communities. Each community has its own unique sense of place. Place-based approaches to building community bring together the efforts of a range of stakeholders in local communities (residents, community organisations, the private and public sector) to respond to issues and opportunities of local importance. Place-based approaches are highly collaborative and drive shared accountability that leads to longer-lasting social change and impact within communities. They are long-term and build thriving communities through shared design, shared stewardship, and shared accountability for outcomes and impact. This approach looks to the existing strengths within the community and builds on these as a means to respond to complex, interrelated or challenging issues.

Collaborating and working together

Using a collective approach to community opportunities and challenges, together we will take full advantage of our shared networks and leverage opportunities to inform, partner and collaborate for a common cause. These collaborations will be unified under the shared vision for the future of the Sunshine Coast community, *Together we thrive*, and commit to continuous communication and increasing awareness that reinforces trust, reciprocity and positive social outcomes.

Measuring impacts and outcomes

The Sunshine Coast will lead the way we collect and report on outcomes that contribute to building a strong community. Outcomes are the effects of a program or activities on participants and communities. An outcome-based approach means outcomes are aligned with goals and that we try to measure the extent to which we have achieved our goals. Measurement of progress towards an outcome tracks performance and provides feedback that is used to inform adjustments to a strategy where necessary. By ensuring strong outcome measurement, the Sunshine Coast as a region will be well placed to address challenges as they arise and advocate for services as required.

THE COMMUNITY STRATEGY: BUILDING A STRONG COMMUNITY TOGETHER



Chart 2: Sunshine Coast Community Strategy strategic framework

GUIDING PRINCIPLES:

Place-based

Place-based approaches bring together the efforts of a range of stakeholders in local communities (residents, community organisations, the private and public sector) to respond to issues and opportunities of local importance. Place-based approaches are highly collaborative and drive shared accountability that leads to longer-lasting social change and impact within communities.

Collective approach

A collective approach brings together the four foundational elements of asset based community development and best practice community engagement. A collective approach brings together communities and local organisations to build a vision of the future based on common values and narratives, in turn opening up peoples' hearts and minds to new possibilities.

Outcome-focused

Outcomes are the effects of a program or activities on participants and communities. An outcome-based approach means outcomes are aligned with goals and that we try to measure the extent to which we have achieved our goals. Measurement of progress towards an outcome tracks performance and provides feedback that is used to inform adjustments to a strategy where necessary.

Community engagement

Community engagement is a process that ultimately seeks to involve the community (citizens, business, and stakeholders) in matters that affect their community. Engagement processes can extend from an information sharing and consultation phase of interaction to an active participation level of involvement and collaboration. It is well documented that effective community engagement and involvement of community in decisions that matter to them leads to better decision-making and shared outcomes.

Capacity building

Community capacity building involves building the skills and confidence of individuals and groups to develop, implement and sustain community initiatives that meet community needs. Community capacity building can help communities to build resilience in various areas, from responsiveness to natural disasters, improved organisational governance, enhanced health and wellbeing, greater sense of inclusion and belonging, and increased opportunities to meaningfully participate in community life.

Partnerships and collaboration

Collaboration involves the identification of a common goal and value in working together to achieve a desired outcome. Mutual benefits for the parties along with opportunities to participate and communicate their ideas are an important factor in these types of working relationships. Developing partnerships provides networking opportunities, the combining of efforts, strengthened connections and relationships, and shared resources and ownership that contribute to meeting community challenges and making the most of opportunities.

Advocacy

Advocacy is a professional approach to seeking support from other levels of government and organisations to achieve positive outcomes for our community. From council's perspective, advocacy helps to activate the expertise and resources of relevant stakeholders where a shared outcome sits outside a primary local government remit. Council also advocates to the community on matters such as healthy, active lifestyles, diversity, inclusion and family and domestic violence.

Community grants and funding

Community organisations and their volunteers contribute to the local community in many ways, and are a critical component in achieving our shared vision for the future. Council's social investment through community grants assist to enable community organisations, in association with other funding and in-kind support, to deliver benefits to the community. Successful funding applications made by council to federal and state governments can also result in collaborative opportunities to deliver initiatives aligned with council and community priorities.

OUR METHODS:



OUTCOME 1: HEALTHY, ACTIVE COMMUNITIES

How do healthy, active communities help us to thrive?

Participation in sport and physical activity provides positive physical and mental health outcomes, builds social connections, and reduces crime and supports educational and employment outcomes (Queensland Government, 2016). Regular physical activity and healthy eating also reduces the risk of a number of chronic diseases that are the major cause of death and disability in Australia (Heart Foundation, 2017). Participation in sport also supports health and wellbeing in the broader community by providing opportunities for people to connect around common objectives or interests.

Volunteering also contributes to better physical and mental health. Studies have shown volunteers benefit from building new skills, experiences, friendships, networks, and confidence (Volunteering Queensland, 2017). This helps to make volunteers, and the communities they support healthier and happier.

What our community said

Our community told us they value:

- opportunities to be healthy and active
- affordable access to services, resources and programs helping people to connect to one another
- people who volunteer and actively participate in community life.

Outcome measure: The Sunshine Coast Local Government Area is one of the healthiest regional communities in Queensland.

What does a healthy, active community look like?

Elements	What council does
People are physically active each week to maintain good health	The Healthy Sunshine Coast program provides free and low-cost physical activity programs for all ages across the region. Provision and maintenance of high-quality sport and recreation facilities across the region.
People observe a healthy lifestyle and have low rates of chronic disease	The Healthy Sunshine Coast webpage provides links to services available in the community. Council also partners with community and health service providers to raise awareness and support a healthy lifestyle, including the Heart Foundation, Parkrun and Sunshine Coast Hinterland Mental Health Network.
Support people experiencing mental ill health	
Active transport	We plan for safe, comfortable and direct walking and cycling connections, and work with state and federal government to provide an integrated and connected transport systems.
Volunteering	We support community organisations and volunteers and provide highly-valued volunteer programs which include: TurtleCare, BushCare, volunteering at art galleries and for adult literacy programs.

Policy Objectives

Policy objective: Our community is one of the healthiest regional communities in Queensland

Priority areas

People of all ages and abilities have access to programs to get physically active and improve their health and wellbeing.

Research and partnerships support opportunities to improve health and wellbeing outcomes for the community.

Policy objective: The health and wellbeing of our community is strengthened through active participation

Priority areas

Strengthen the substantial and ongoing participation of, and contribution by, volunteers to community life.

How we'll track our progress

As one of the healthiest regions in Queensland, we will track data on risk and protective factors published by the Queensland Chief Health Officer. This includes data on: physical activity, nutrition, body mass index, rates of sunburn, smoking and alcohol consumption. This will be complemented by other indicators, such as participation rates in our Healthy Sunshine Coast program. We will also track data on volunteer participation rates.





OUTCOME 2: VIBRANT COMMUNITIES

How do vibrant communities help us to thrive?

Community infrastructure (such as community halls, libraries and aquatic centres) and open spaces (such as parks and sports fields) are important places where the community can meet, enjoy sport and recreational activities, engage in creative pursuits and access information, services and programs.

These spaces and places bring people together, help to build social capital, community capacity, and support individuals, families and communities to grow and thrive.

In recognition of the vital role of community infrastructure, we provide a region-wide network of libraries, sporting clubs, sports fields, aquatic centres, community centres and cemeteries. The Sunshine Coast Environment and Liveability Strategy 2017 defines Council's community (or social) infrastructure and open space (see Glossary).

What our community said

Our community told us they value:

- community infrastructure, including: parks, pathways, open space, and sport and recreation infrastructure
- working together to care for our built and natural environment and make sure we can all continue to enjoy our relaxed outdoor lifestyle and clean, green spaces
- a well-designed community, with good urban planning.

Outcome measure: More than 80% of our residents agree that council’s community infrastructure meets the needs of their community.

What do vibrant communities have?

Elements	What Council does
Libraries	We invest significantly in making sure communities have access to a diverse range of accessible, vibrant and fit-for-purpose community places, spaces and facilities.
Community centres and halls	
Cultural and arts facilities	
Sports facilities, sporting fields and aquatic centres	
Parks, playgrounds, trails and pathways	
Areas of recreational open space; including dog parks	
Vibrant civic spaces	

Priority areas

Policy objective: Our community has community infrastructure to meet their needs
Priority areas
Community infrastructure is safe, welcoming, inclusive, adaptable, well-used and activated.
Evidenced need drives planning, delivery, management and operations of community infrastructure.
Policy objective: Our community has great places and spaces for all
Priority areas
The public realm supports activated, vibrant places that are green, accessible, inclusive and reflect local character.

How we’ll track our progress

We will measure progress towards vibrant communities from data on place and space usage and satisfaction rates of council-managed community facilities. This will be complemented by reflecting on other indicators, such as our investment into supporting new infrastructure and facility repairs, maintenance, and improvements.





OUTCOME 3: INCLUSIVE COMMUNITIES

How do inclusive communities help us to thrive?

The social justice principles of access, equity, human rights and participation level the playing field so everyone has the opportunity to thrive. Social justice seeks to identify and address disadvantage, discrimination and inequality by ensuring everybody can equally access resources and opportunities, as well as be included, valued and recognised. A social justice approach supports communities to be inclusive, cohesive and equitable.

What our community said

Our community told us they value:

- inclusion, diversity, equality and equal opportunities for all
- providing opportunities for social and economic participation
- a welcoming, caring and happy community
- being informed, involved, and empowered to have influence.

Outcome measure: Improving social and economic opportunities over time relative to other South East Queensland Local Government Areas.

What do inclusive communities have?

Elements	What Council does
People of all ages, backgrounds, lifestyles and socio-economic status are welcomed and valued	A range of our policies, programs and activities seek to ensure greater social inclusion, i.e. adult literacy programs, community development and grants programs.
Age-friendly and accessible so everyone can participate in community life.	We provide a range of services, programs, infrastructure and information so all people can connect to their community.
An appropriate range of affordable living options	A mix of diverse and affordable living options are planned through the Planning Scheme and related policies.
A range of cultures that enrich economic and civic life	We partner with multicultural communities to develop greater opportunities for economic and social participation.
Everyone has a range of opportunities to participate in economic, educational and social life	We provide information and opportunities for volunteering, capacity building and funding for community organisations. The Community Grants Program provides some indirect support to enhance economic, social and educational participation.
Traditional Owners and First Nations Peoples are valued and respected	We are committed to reconciliation and social and economic opportunities for the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander community as demonstrated through our Reconciliation Action Plan.
People most at risk of social isolation and disadvantage have programs that level the playing field	The Community Grants Program enables community organisations to support those experiencing disadvantage.

Priority areas

Policy objective: Our community is equitable and inclusive

Priority areas

The value that all people bring to our community is recognised, respected and embraced.
Opportunities are available for everyone in our community to participate socially and economically.

Policy objective: Our community has housing opportunities that match community need

Priority areas

Collaborative regional responses to local housing needs are prioritised.
The need for appropriate responses to our community housing are well articulated.

How we'll track our progress

We will measure the inclusive nature of our communities by comparing our progress in improving social and economic opportunities relative to other South East Queensland Local Government areas. The indicators we will track include: increased participation in economic and employment opportunities, access to suitable housing and income levels.

These indicators are measured through a number of indices from the Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS), Socio-Economic Indexes for Areas (SEIFA), including but not limited to, economic advantage and disadvantage, education, occupation and economic resources. Selected indicators from the Scanlon-Monash Social Cohesion Index and housing stress will also be considered.



OUTCOME 4: CONNECTED, RESILIENT COMMUNITIES

How do connected, resilient communities help us to thrive?

People, and communities, who have a wide range of social networks (or social capital) often feel more connected to others, generally have lower rates of anxiety and depression, are happier, have higher self-esteem and are more empathetic, trusting and cooperative towards others.

Central to all definitions of social capital are relationship networks which build trust and a shared sense of values, and enable people to join forces to respond to challenges and opportunities. These networks help make people and communities more resilient and build capacity to design appropriate responses to local challenges.

What our community said

Our community told us they value:

- a community where people interact and have connections – to people and their community
- everyone feeling safe
- having strong, local family support and opportunity for intergenerational connections
- efficient, effective transport infrastructure and public transport systems.

Outcome measure: More than 85% residents agree they can get help from friends, family, neighbours or community organisations when they need it.

What do connected, resilient communities have?

Elements	What Council does
Strong networks and connections between people, organisations and local business	We run or provide support and/or funding to programs, events, activities and community spaces and places that support community connections in a range of ways.
A diversity of assets, resources and skills	We work closely with communities, community centres and community organisations who wish to build their own capacity to respond to local issues.
A deep understanding of community strengths, challenges and opportunities	
An ability to leverage resources, skills and knowledge to respond to local challenges	
Community trust, shared values and a willingness to help each other in times of need	We support community events and celebrations, connect community organisations to grants and support volunteer organisations to help bring people together and build trust.
Support available to those who need it	We partner and collaborate to support community centres and community organisations to provide support to those who need it.
People that help each other to prepare, respond and recover from natural disasters and emergency events	We provide a comprehensive disaster management function and work with communities to help them to prepare, plan and respond.

Priority areas

Policy objective: Our community is strengthened through connection
Priority areas
Place-based approaches strengthen connections between people and their community.
High perceptions of community safety are achieved through collaborative partnerships.
Community resilience is strengthened through collaboration and capacity building.
Policy objective: Our community develops innovative solutions to complex community challenges
Priority areas
Our community has the capacity to identify and respond to complex community challenges.
Funding opportunities support the community to respond to local needs.
Policy objective: Our community has efficient mobility options
Priority areas
Efficient and effective transport solutions are delivered with others.

How we'll track our progress

We will measure the connectedness and resilience of the community by observing the support of place-based, community-led projects and initiatives. This will be complemented by data on the percentage of people who say they have someone they know in the local community who they can turn to in times of need.



OUTCOME 5: CREATIVE, INNOVATIVE COMMUNITIES

How do creative, innovative communities help us to thrive?

Innovation which is community-led and place-based and combines government, community and relevant sectors' efforts to build on community strengths and raise social and economic activity, has been shown to have a positive impact on complex social challenges.

Arts, culture and creative expression contribute to a 'sense of place' and attract residents, visitors and investors to the Sunshine Coast.

Participation in the arts, and community and cultural events and activities has a positive impact on social inclusion, health, wellbeing and quality of life for all people.

What our community said

Our community told us they value:

- supporting local business and working to build the social benefit derived from local business
- free and low-cost community events and programs
- our shared cultural histories
- the 'village feel' and unique sense of place distinguishing our communities.

Outcome measure: More than 20% growth in social enterprises operating in the Sunshine Coast Local Government Area.

What do creative, innovative communities have?

Elements	What Council does
Smart infrastructure and technology making communities safe, accessible and user friendly.	Develops smart technology solutions for waste, parking, street lighting and autonomous mobility solutions.
A wide range of skills, with local and global networks and connections.	We offer a range of support for local entrepreneurs, innovators and creatives, including high school students.
A support network and a creative and innovative ecosystem to realise ideas.	We provide links and support to the development of the arts, support for start-ups, incubators, co-working spaces, collaboration and capacity building opportunities and events.
A connection that expresses identity and sense of place in the public realm through art, culture, heritage and community events.	Through engagement and place-making, we work with communities to reflect our shared sense of place in the public realm, in a range of ways.
Art and cultural infrastructure and programs.	We invest in a range of community and cultural facilities to support the community to make, practise and experience art and culture.
A life-long approach to learning, education and literacy.	We invest in a library network supporting child and adult literacy, a love for reading and learning, and a range of programs and activities to connect and learn.
Willing to try creative approaches to respond to local community issues.	We work to build the capacity of our community in many ways, through community grants funding, creative, cultural and community development, and through engagement activities.

Priority areas

Policy objectives: Our community nurtures innovative opportunities that provide social and economic benefit

Priority areas

Growth in local employment comes from supporting local business, including social enterprises and creative sectors.

Priority: Our community enjoys rich and diverse arts and cultural experiences

Priority areas

Arts and culture continues to build connection and broadens regional arts and cultural experiences.

The shared cultural histories of the region are preserved, protected and celebrated.

Policy objective: Our community has a unique identity that sets us apart

Priority areas

The region's key elements of unique identity are enhanced and protected.

The development of cultural and leisure experiences are supported and expanded.

How we'll track our progress

We will measure how creative and innovative our communities are by ensuring more than 80% customer satisfaction with library and cultural programs. We will also track data on increases to social enterprises operating in our region.

GLOSSARY

Asset based community development	Asset based community development builds from community assets and strengths to respond to opportunities and needs. It identifies and mobilises individual and community assets, skills and passions. It is community driven and it focuses on relationships to drive a collective approach to achieving community outcomes.
Community development	Community development promotes participative democracy, sustainable development, rights, economic opportunity, equality (particularly structural inequalities related to gender, race, disability, class, age and sexual orientation) and social justice, through the organisation, education and empowerment of people within their communities, whether these be of locality, identity or interest, in urban and rural settings.
Community infrastructure	The <i>Sunshine Coast Environment and Liveability Strategy 2017</i> defines community (or social) infrastructure and open space and provides desired standards of service and network blueprints to support planning and development of community assets and local natural amenity.
Community planning (also known as social planning)	plays a pivotal role in creating liveable communities, vibrant economies, sustainable places, diverse cultural expression and social cohesion. Social planning involves planning for the needs and aspirations of people and communities through strategic policy and action, integrated with urban, regional and other planning activity. Community planning is founded on the principles of social justice (equity, access, participation and rights) and aims to enhance community wellbeing and effectiveness.
Community resilience	generally relates to the ability of systems (and people) to effectively respond and adapt to changing circumstances and to develop skills, capacities, behaviours and actions to deal with adversity – ‘resilience’ can be described as a process of adaptation before, during and after an adverse event.
Cultural competence	is the ability to participate ethically and effectively in personal and professional intercultural settings. It requires being aware of one’s own cultural values and world view and their implications for making respectful, reflective and reasoned choices, including the capacity to imagine and collaborate across cultural boundaries. Cultural competence is, ultimately, about valuing diversity for the richness and creativity it brings to society.
Cultural and linguistic diversity	refers to the range of different cultures and language groups represented in the population. In popular usage, culturally and linguistically diverse communities are those whose members identify as having non-mainstream cultural or linguistic affiliations by virtue of their place of birth, ancestry or ethnic origin, religion, preferred language or language spoken at home.
Game-changer projects	Sunshine Coast Council’s game changer projects include: digital connectivity through the Sunshine Coast International Broadband Network; integrated public and freight transportation through the duplication of the North Coast line, fast rail to Brisbane and intra-regional light rail; expansion of the Sunshine Coast Health Precinct and health research development; an event, convention and exhibition facility with associated four and five star branded short term accommodation; smart, connected centres through the Maroochydore City Centre, Aura, Bokarina Beach and Harmony developments. Also refer to the <i>Sunshine Coast Regional Economic Development Strategy 2013-2033</i> .

High residential mobility	places with high residential mobility often have less social connection between people, as social connection grows with the length of time you live in a location.
Low-income families	are defined as families in occupied private dwellings whose family income was less than \$650 per week or less than \$33,800 per year.
Megatrends	are the major social, economic and environmental trends at a national and/or international scale.
Open space	is defined in the <i>Sunshine Coast Environment and Liveability Strategy 2017</i> , Part C Network Plan to include recreation, amenity and linear parks, landscape corridors, sports grounds and specific purpose sports and recreation trails.
Place-based	The Queensland Government define place-based approaches as Queensland Government, 2018. Framework for Place-Based Approaches.
Social capital	broadly refers to those factors of effectively functioning social groups that include such things as interpersonal relationships, a shared sense of identity, a shared understanding, shared norms, shared values, trust, cooperation, and reciprocity that help to facilitate coordination and cooperation for mutual benefit.
Social cohesion	works towards the wellbeing of all its members, fights exclusion and marginalisation, creates a sense of belonging, promotes trust and offers its members the opportunity of upward mobility. Rapid social change, particularly in growth areas, can result in disharmony between newly arrived groups and established communities. Social tensions in the wider community can also play out at the local level.
Social inclusion	refers to people having the resources, opportunities and capabilities to participate in all aspects of life, so that they can meet their basic needs and live in dignity.
Social trust	is the level of confidence we have that others will behave according to social norms, or act as they say they are going to act.
Social sustainability	The OECD definition of social sustainability blends traditional social policy areas and principles, such as equity and health, with emerging issues concerning participation, needs, social capital, the economy, the environment, and more recently, with the notions of happiness, wellbeing and quality of life.

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www.sunshinecoast.qld.gov.au

mail@sunshinecoast.qld.gov.au

T 07 5475 7272 F 07 5475 7277

Locked Bag 72 Sunshine Coast Mail Centre Qld 4560

[@sunshinecoastcouncil](#) [@councilscc](#) [@sunshinecoastcouncil](#)