

PAWS UP HAVE YOUR SAY ABOUT DOGS OFF LEASH AREAS IN THE CASSOWARY COAST



Lady walking her dog at Mission Beach

Our favourite four-legged friends may soon have a new way to exercise with a community survey on proposed Dog Off Leash Areas (DOLA) open now.

Cassowary Coast Regional Councillor and Environment Portfolio holder Jeff Baines said consultation is being undertaken in response to increasing requests by local residents to have DOLAs in the Cassowary Coast region.

"This could be good news for dog owners with six sites proposed by Council with the opportunity of four (or more) being trialled, based on feedback provided by the community.

"Under a plan proposed by Council, selected locations in Innisfail, Tully,

South Mission Beach, Mission Beach, Kurrimine Beach and Cardwell could trial allowing dogs, big and small, to be off leash within the designated area. However, dog owners should be warned that fines will be issued if their dog is not under control at all times or if they unleash their pets outside the off-leash area.

Councillor Baines said that the off-leash areas can be a valuable asset to the community in terms of providing physical exercise opportunities and health and wellbeing benefits.

"Ultimately, the success of the trial will depend on community awareness and compliance."

"Once in place, DOLAs will be supported by enforcement, public aware-

ness campaigns and targeted management of dogs who may be off leash in unapproved areas.

"The proposed locations have been carefully chosen to balance the interests of beach/park-goers, dog owners, residents, and visitors, with environmental and wildlife considerations.

"Everyone can now have their say and have their voice heard, with the matter going before Council in late 2022. The survey will be open for a month and can be accessed by visiting yoursay.cassowarycoast.qld.gov.au/dog-off-leash."

The proposed locations are Groom Esplanade, Innisfail; Boustead Park, Kurrimine Beach; Wildsoet Park, Wongaling Beach; Coral Sea Park, Card-

well and parts of the foreshores at Mission Beach and South Mission Beach.

It is proposed that once in place, a trial will run for up to 12 months with signage planned to highlight the trial areas.

Council has planned a community survey to ensure everyone has the opportunity to have their say so a decision can be made based on the needs of residents and dog owners.

Have your say and provide feedback on the proposed DOLAs at: yoursay.cassowarycoast.qld.gov.au/dog-off-leash or online click, <https://bit.ly/3C3scKA>

For further information contact Council at 1300 763 903 or via email enquiries@cassowarycoast.qld.gov.au.

WHAT'S ON

	<p>Tuesday 11 October - Morning Melodies Ella, Etta, Eartha Tickets available online at: trybooking.com/BWDUB</p>	<p>12 - 15 October - Cassowary Coast Libraries Mental Health Week Events Tools for Wellness: - Breath and Sound with Kellie</p>
	<p>Saturday 22 October - Brass Sweat & Tears - Cairns Brass Tickets available online at: trybooking.com/CBZBI</p>	<p>- The Mind Gut → Connection with Heidi Bookings are essential, registration, and times via https://cassowaryspydus.com/</p>
	<p>21 - 22 October - Cardwell Barra Bonanza Registrations are now open at: www.cardwellsportfishingclub.com.au</p>	<p>Tuesday 6 December - Morning Melodies A Holly Christmas Tickets available at: www.trybooking.com/BWDUF</p>

Visit Councils website cassowarycoast.qld.gov.au/events for more information.



WASTE RESCUE IN LOCAL SCHOOLS



Household waste (wet and dry) currently makes up 50% of total waste to landfill. Committed to a goal of reducing total waste to landfill by 35% by 2025, Cassowary Coast Regional Council is piloting a school waste education program, which will help set patterns of behavior for life in the youngest of our community.

Designed around the concept of 'kids teaching kids' the Waste Rescue Education Program provides year three and four students with an opportunity to learn about waste issues in their own school and work together to develop solutions to divert waste from landfill, increase recycling and decrease waste contamination.

Councillor Teresa Millwood who holds the portfolio for Waste Management and Innovation said the Waste Rescue Education Program is a perfect tool to educate and create behavioral change for waste disposal practices at school and home.

"Council is very pleased to launch this program in collaboration with Lower Tully Primary School who will pilot the program in Semester Four, this year.

"Fourteen schools participated in the initial survey and all indicated that for a Waste

Education Program to be successful in the goal of reducing waste, the program must address barriers of time and resources

"This program offers schools a full suite of hands on educational resources including three interactive sessions facilitated by Council's Community Education Officer, waste audits, signage and additional support to help schools reach their waste reduction goals, including assistance with applying for funding through Council's Sustainability Grants program.

"Teaching kids how to save food at school is a skill they take with them to their homes and beyond, which widens the impacts and most importantly positively feeds into behavior change," said Councillor Millwood.

If local schools or community members would like to find out more information regarding the Waste Rescue Education Program, please contact Council's Waste Education team on: shared.wasteeducation@ccrc.qld.gov.au.

For further resources on Council's Waste Management Programs and how Council supports sustainable practices, please visit www.cassowarycoast.qld.gov.au/waste-management



COMMUNITY GRANTS PROGRAM HITS REFRESH

Cassowary Coast Regional Council has endorsed a new Community Grants Program which increases opportunities available for applicants and provides a stronger service to the community.

Modified into three categories, the new Community Grants Program will provide support for local community organisations that endeavour to make positive change and contribute to a vibrant and diverse community.

Community and Culture Portfolio Holder, Councillor Trudy Tschui said the new changes will see an increase in the amount of funding available within the Community Grants Program, as Council steps away from the provision of some services and asset hire.

"The new Community Grants Program will increase support for local businesses and increase community capacity.

"Feedback provided in the Cassowary Coast Community Scorecard revealed it is evident the priorities of the community are changing and funding support for events and activities should reflect this.

"As a result, the new Community Grants Program will aim to create opportunities for diverse activities and events and strengthen our community through social inclusion and increase resilience. It also has a strong

focus on collaborative partnerships which prioritise physical and mental wellbeing for residents as well as the natural environment.

"As endorsed in the September Council Meeting, a review of the Community Grants Program Guidelines and Policy documents will be undertaken six months after implementation and will include a funding stream for community infrastructure, in part, funded by savings realised through contemporary leasing arrangements and asset rationalisation.

"To ensure funding is more accessible, Council has also adopted the online grant management platform Smarty Grants. This platform will be an invaluable tool in the management of grants and is currently used by all levels of Government as well as numerous Local Governments.

"Council will be holding Public Sessions to discuss the new Community Grants Program and will provide information on how to use the Smarty Grants Platform," said Councillor Tschui.

Follow Council's Facebook Page for information on the session times. Alternatively, for further information contact Council at 1300 763 903 or email enquiries@cassowarycoast.qld.gov.au.

BE CASS-O-WARY, THIS WORLD CASSOWARY DAY

To celebrate World Cassowary Day on Monday 26 September, Cassowary Coast Regional Council, in partnership with the Department of Environment and Science (DES), launched a series of six educational signs at Ettu Bay that take a comical approach to protecting the region's favourite bird – the Cassowary.

Featuring a cartoon Cassowary called 'Snitty', the signs use humour and wit to discuss how Cassowaries can behave and what visitors should and shouldn't do around the protected species. The signs aim to stand out from regular signage and messaging which is more commonly used, and influence behavior change of people visiting the region.

Environment Portfolio Holder, Councillor Jeff Baines, said that World Cassowary Day is a day of celebration to draw attention to how important Cassowaries are to the ecosystem and to promote the protection of the bird.

"There is no better day, than World Cassowary Day, to launch the newly created signage, and get the community and visitors talking about how to be Cass-O-Wary!

"The signs which were created by First Dog on the Moon artist, Andrew Marlton, an award-winning political cartoonist for the Guardian Australia, use a comical approach to educate Ettu Bay visitors on how to act around Cassowaries and the important do's and don'ts.

"Across Australia, the current population estimate for the Southern Cassowaries, the species located on the Cassowary Coast, is just 4,000. Unfortunately, habitat loss, car strikes and dog attacks continue to threaten the species.

"It is important that visitors and the community be vigilant in areas where Cassowaries frequent and don't feed, approach or leave food scraps behind," said Councillor Baines.

Senior Wildlife Officer Dinouk Perera said the iconic blue, black and red southern cassowary is thought to be a relic of the age of dinosaurs.

"Cassowaries play a unique role in maintaining the rich biodiversity of Queensland's World Heritage Wet Tropics Rainforest," Mr Perera said.

"Queensland is the only Australian state where these iconic, massive, flightless birds can be found in the wild, and it is always exciting for people to catch a glimpse of a Cassowary in the wild.

"Unfortunately, cassowaries do become victims of vehicle strikes and we're asking people to slow down in the region, never feed cassowaries and always try and observe them from a distance.

"The Department of Environment and Science is working with the Cassowary Coast Regional Council to help protect these magnificent animals."

Remember, Be Cass-o-wary!!

- Don't approach cassowaries – they are very unpredictable.
- Don't approach chicks – the father will be nearby and may defend them fiercely.
- Never feed cassowaries – it is against the law, potentially dangerous for people and has led to cassowary deaths.
- Discard food scraps in closed bins in cassowary country and ensure compost bins have secure lids.
- Slow down and be on the look-out when driving in southern cassowary territory.
- Never stop your vehicle to look at southern cassowaries on the road.
- Keep dogs behind fences or on a leash.
- If you come face-to-face with an aggressive bird, it's best to back away slowly and put something like a tree, a backpack between yourself and the bird, and let it go on its way.

To view the series of signs, visit the Ettu Bay foreshore and to report a Cassowary sighting please call 1300 130 372.



Councillor Jeff Baines and Councillor Renee McLeod with the newly launched cassowary signs

HAVE YOUR SAY ON COUNCIL'S DRAFT UNSEALED ROADS IMPROVEMENT PLAN



Cassowary Coast Regional Council is seeking feedback on the 'draft' Unsealed Roads Improvement Plan, to ensure the review provided accurately represents the needs and requirements of Cassowary Coast residents.

Asset Sustainability portfolio holder, Councillor Barry Barnes, said local roads along with footpaths, trails and cycleways were identified as the highest priority by

residents within the Community Scorecard.

"Council recognises current community priority is to see active improvements within these areas, and as a result, wants to ensure adequate consultation is made on the 'draft' Unsealed Road Report.

"The basis of the report comes from an external review undertaken by industry experts on Council's management and maintenance techniques on our unsealed roads.

"Council is seeking feedback, particularly in regard to identified initiatives to improve our service to the community.

"The report outlines an Improvement Plan with short, medium and long-term timeframes.

"There is some 'low hanging fruit' that can make a very positive change, while others will take

more time and might be more costly or difficult to implement.

"Council understands that living within a high rainfall region creates other needs compared to other areas of the State.

"Council encourages the community to review these initiatives and provide feedback as to whether any should be changed, reprioritised or removed," said Councillor Barnes.

To review the 'draft' Unsealed Roads Improvement Plan in full, visit yoursay.cassowarycoast.qld.gov.au/unsealed-roads-improvement-plan and submit your feedback for consideration.

For further information contact Council at 1300 763 903 or email enquiries@cassowarycoast.qld.gov.au.



NEW ONLINE BOOKING SYSTEM FOR COUNCIL EVENT SPACES

To make booking your next venue easier, Council is moving to the online platform Space to Co – an easy to use platform entirely online.

Launching on October 10th 2022, the new system will be trialled with the Innisfail Shire Hall and The Con. Council aims to increase community usage of these spaces, providing opportunities for community groups and individuals to host events and activities, supporting the region's livability and vibrancy.

Following the initial trial period, additional venues will be added to the platform. Venue fees and charges have been updated to an hourly per day rate.

LEARN RELEVANT PROFESSIONAL SKILLS ON LINKEDIN LEARNING

Cassowary Coast Libraries are encouraging library members to take advantage of LinkedIn Learning, a free online resource available to members wanting to learn or improve a new skill, self-improve in a variety of areas. Members can get access to 16,000+ online courses in 7 languages, expert instructors with real world experiences and 60+ new courses are added each week. Courses cover leadership, mental wellness, job hunting, photography and videography, sales, digital marketing and more! Cassowary Coast Library members can access this free resource via the Library website – using their library card number and password, or enquire at your local branch.

LinkedIn
Learning



Community Connect.

Subscribe now.

Receive Council updates and information straight to your inbox.



KIRRAMA RANGE UPGRADES SET TO BEGIN

Road maintenance will commence on the Kirrama Range Road Network, improving the travel conditions for residents who frequent the road as well as off-road campers and explorers.

The Kirrama Range Road, opened in 1941 and was originally used to facilitate the transport of timber from logging camps in the Kirrama State Forest to Cardwell. Today, the road is used by weekend explorers who travel across the range to view the spectacular scenery and is a vital link connecting

property owners to the coast.

The works, which are externally funded through the Disaster Recovery Funding Arrangements (DRFA) Restoration of Essential Public Assets (REPA), are in response to the impacts of Tropical Cyclone Niran and the associated low-pressure system event which occurred in early March 2021.

Initially, emergent works were undertaken by Council following the wet weather event to ensure the safety of road users. The next stage of works will be undertaken in mid-

October by local contractors IMEC, and will include gravel re-sheeting and the formation of 18 kilometres of the Kirrama Range Road.

Works are intended to further improve the safety and drivability of these sections of roads.

Traffic control and signage will be in place to minimise risk and coordinate movement through the works. The expected duration of the project is six weeks, weather permitting.

The upgrades are jointly funded by the

Commonwealth and Queensland Governments and approved by the Queensland Reconstruction Authority (QRA).

All road users need to be aware of changed traffic conditions in the area and drive accordingly, speed limits will be strictly enforced.

For more information contact Cassowary Coast Regional Council on 1300 763 906 or email enquiries@cassowarycoast.qld.gov.au.

GET TO KNOW COUNCIL'S EDAC MEMBERS

The role of the Economic Development Advisory Committee (EDAC) members is to actively communicate the views of the broader business community to Council. Get to know the committee members below:

DESIREE LAKE

Desiree Lake is currently the Assistant Manager at the Cardwell Beachcomber Motel and Tourist Park and is the Secretary of the Cardwell Chamber of Commerce. She has extensive experience in management, administration, and business ownership. Cardwell has been her home for almost 20 years and she is passionate about the beautiful town. Desiree has a sound knowledge of local issues. When she is not working, she is spending time with family, in her garden or out camping.

DAVID SINGH

David has been farming bananas and sugarcane in the Kennedy District for over 35 years. Five years ago, he diversified to establish an avocado orchard. David was the Director on the Innisfail CANEGROWERS Board from 1997 to 2010 and is currently the Director on the Tully CANEGROWERS Board, serving since 2012. David holds good knowledge of local issues that are relevant to businesses and the economic development of the region. He is passionate about the future of the agriculture industry in the Cassowary Coast. David is looking forward to working with other committee members and Council to provide input to shape the final outcome of the Economic Development Strategy for our region.

LIZ FABIAN

Liz Fabian is a registered Business Activity Statement Agent with a range of client's across various industries. Liz's passion is to work with clients to help them manage and grow their own businesses. Liz was raised in the Innisfail region, however, moved to the USA for a couple of years after completing schooling. She eventually moved to Victoria, and after nine years living there, her love for the region and its community, brought her back to the Cassowary Coast. Liz always remembered the kindness and support of our region and now sees this as her opportunity to give back to the community.

STEVEN BAILEY

Steven Bailey is currently the Managing Director of The Water Shed, with three branches across FNQ. He previously held a National General Managers role for two companies, and a Regional Manager/Branch Manager's Roles prior to that. He spent 13 years in Darwin before moving to Far North Queensland in 2016.

SANDRA HENRICH

Sandra Henrich is the Manager of CANEGROWERS Innisfail. Having worked for CANEGROWERS for over fifteen years, Sandra values the economic, cultural and environmental contribution that the industry makes to Queensland's coastal communities and strives to ensure a thriving industry for future generations. Sandra holds qualifications in Business Management, Corporate Governance, Not-for-profit Finance and Adult Education. In her spare time, Sandra and her husband run a small fruit farm in Bartle Frere.

PARKING TO PARKLETS

A newly launched Parklet Program will provide food and beverage business owners within certain areas the opportunity to apply to extend their outdoor dining within the road reserve to create new and better dining experiences.

Parklets are car parking spaces that are temporarily transformed into places to meet, eat and relax with outdoor seating and greenery.

Councillor Nolan said the Parklets Program is available at various locations on the Cassowary Coast and aims to create new and interesting places that safely extend the service area of restaurants and cafes.

"Parklets provide the opportunity to support existing local food and beverage business owners while positively contributing to the broader community and creating a feeling of vibrancy.

"Residents have approached Councillors seeking more al fresco type dining facilities across our region and Council are now delivering.

"The Parklet Program is supported by our Small Business Charter and represents a fundamental change for how businesses and dining precincts operate.

"Parklets not only support restaurants and cafes to increase their seating capacity, trade and revenue, but they also support the creation of local jobs," said Councillor Nolan.

Interested parties are required to meet the necessary safety and building standards required for the Parklet structure. These are outlined in Council's Parklet Policy and associated guidelines.

Council remains committed to working with the local business community to ensure a fair, transparent and streamlined process is in place that balances the needs of local businesses and parking regulations to ensure Parklets operate safely.

For more information please contact Council at 1300 763 903 or via email at enquiries@cassowarycoast.qld.gov.au.



Seeking Applications

TRANSFER STATION ATTENDANT

Applications Close Monday
10, October 2022

For more information or to apply, please visit:
www.cassowarycoast.qld.gov.au/employment-opportunities



KEY CONTACTS



Cassowary Coast Regional Council
Contact **1300 763 903**
Visit our website
www.cassowarycoast.qld.gov.au



Write:
Please address all correspondence to:
Andrew Graffen, Chief Executive Officer
PO Box 887
Innisfail, QLD 4860
Email:
enquiries@cassowarycoast.qld.gov.au

Visit Council

Cassowary Coast Regional Council has three Customer Service Centres across the region. Specially trained staff can provide information and advice on topics including:

- local laws and compliance
- rates enquiries
- account payments (EFTPOS facilities available)
- animal registration.

Customer Service Centres and Opening Hours

Innisfail Shire Hall

70 Rankin St. Innisfail
Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday
8:30am - 4:30pm
Wednesday 9:30am - 4:30pm

Tully

Tully Civic Centre, 38-40 Bryant St. Tully
Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday
8:30am - 4:30pm
Wednesday 9:30am - 4:30pm

Cardwell

Cardwell Library, 4 Balliol St. Cardwell
Monday - Friday 9:00am - 5:00pm

Cassowary Coast Libraries

comprises of four branches located at Cardwell, Innisfail, Tully and Mission Beach. For locations, opening times or general enquiries, please call 1300 366 616 or visit www.cassowarycoast.qld.gov.au/libraries

Waste Transfer Stations locations and opening hours can be found by visiting: www.cassowarycoast.qld.gov.au/transfer-stations

Community Connect is a publication of the Cassowary Coast Regional Council. Supplied by Council and published within the Cairns Local News newspaper. All enquiries regarding content contained within this publication should be directed to Council.