

## MEDIA RELEASE

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### **Free Tax Help appointments offered to eligible residents**

Gladstone Region residents may be eligible to receive help to submit their tax return through Gladstone Regional Council's free Tax Help program.

Gladstone Region Councillor Natalia Muszkat said the program would be facilitated by the Community Engagement Centre (CEC) on behalf of the Australian Taxation Office (ATO).

"ATO trained tax help volunteers will provide free and confidential assistance to eligible residents to lodge their 2018-19 tax return," Councillor Burnett said.

The program is available to low-income residents who earn around \$60,000 or less each year and have basic tax needs.

Cr Muszkat said the Tax Help program has proven to be very popular, assisting hundreds of eligible Gladstone Region residents to submit their tax return.

"The service is always well used and helps makes tax time hassle free for eligible community members," she said.

Volunteers received relevant training with the ATO, were required to undergo a police record check and have access to support from ATO staff.

Appointments for the Tax Help program are available weekdays only, from 8.30am–3.45pm.

Bookings are essential and can be made by phoning the Community Engagement Centre on 4976 6300.

The Community Engagement Centre is located at 142 Goondoon Street, Gladstone.

Residents wishing to use the service are encouraged to create a myGov account and link to the ATO at [www.ato.gov.au](http://www.ato.gov.au) before their Tax Help appointment.