

## MEDIA RELEASE

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### **Global change makers to take the stage at 2019 Ecofest**

At just 11 years of age, Molly Steer has engaged a global audience with the #StrawNoMore movement and will be heading to Gladstone as one of Ecofest's key note speakers this year.

Just one of the many inspirational speakers at this years' Ecofest, Gladstone Region Councillor Kahn Goodluck said Molly would be joined on stage by Jodi Jones, Sid Crawshaw and staff members from Gladstone Regional Council.

"It is a fantastic line-up of some truly inspirational and knowledgeable speakers, all doing their part for our planet," Councillor Goodluck said.

"They will discuss topics ranging from marine debris, to composting, to sustainable waste reduction and recycling, all issues that we can help address right here in Gladstone."

Cr Goodluck encouraged all members of the community to attend Ecofest, which will take place at the Gladstone Tondoon Botanic Gardens on Sunday 2 June.

#### **Ecofest speakers:**

##### **Molly Steer**

Molly has been at the forefront of changing local government policies regarding single use plastics and is credited with assisting McDonald's to make the decision to cease using plastic straws. More than 900 schools and universities and 700 businesses encompassing over 800,000 individuals have now taken the *Straw No More* pledge.

##### **Sid Crawshaw**

The recipient of the 2019 Gladstone Region Young Citizen of the Year Award, Tannum Sands local Sid Crawshaw aims to inspire others to think twice about using single-use plastics.

##### **Jodi Jones**

The Database Project Officer for Tangaroa Blue foundation, Jodi Jones is constantly inventing ways to use our data to drive change and reduce plastic pollution in our environment.

Representatives from Gladstone Regional Council's Waste Services team will be speaking about sustainable waste reduction and representatives from Gladstone Tondoon Botanic Gardens will be speaking about composting, worm farming and bokashi bins.