

MEDIA RELEASE

20 October 2020

How you can help shape the region's economic development

Gladstone Regional Council is in the process of developing a new Regional Economic Development Strategy (2021-2025) and is calling on the community to be a part of the journey.

The Regional Economic Development Strategy 2021-2025 will aim to inform and guide the region towards growth and economic prosperity, while preparing the region for future challenges and nurturing economic resilience.

Council developed a previous strategy in 2015 and since then, particularly in 2020, there have been significant changes in the local, state, national and global economic context.

The new strategy will be based on detailed economic research and analysis, as well as engagement with stakeholders and the community, to envision a future economy that is more diverse and sustainable.

Gladstone Region Mayor Matt Burnett said that community feedback is an important part of the strategy's development and that workshop opportunities for people and groups will be held in various locations to capture a broad overview of the region's needs and priorities.

"I encourage community members, community leaders, progress associations and members of the Gladstone Chamber of Commerce & Industry to attend one of the upcoming workshops," Councillor Burnett said.

"Workshops will be held at Rosedale, Agnes Water, Calliope and Gladstone in early November, while Council's online *Conversations* platform will host a community survey that is available to complete between now and Sunday, 15 November.

"Hardcopy surveys will also be available at each of the workshops and at the Rotary Charity Markets at Tondoon Botanic Gardens on 15 November."

Cr Burnett said the Gladstone Region was well placed to ride the wave of future challenges, citing the Port of Gladstone, natural working assets, industrial base, supply chains, skilled workforce, enabling infrastructure and industrial land access to play a significant role in the future economy.

"The Gladstone Region remains a strategic location for the development of futures technologies, including the development of renewable energy, biofutures and hydrogen projects," he said.

<MORE>

MEDIA INFORMATION: For further information contact Council's Communications and Marketing Section on 4977 6803 or media@gladstone.qld.gov.au

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“Gladstone Regional Council remains committed to maintaining our region as an economic powerhouse and invites people and groups to contribute as we develop an economic development strategy that will see us through the next five years.”

Community workshops will be held at:

- Rosedale Memorial Hall; Tuesday, 3 November; 11am-12.30pm
- Agnes Water Community Centre; Tuesday, 3 November; 3pm-4.30pm
- Calliope Community Centre; Thursday, 5 November; 9am-10.30am
- CQUniversity Gladstone Marina – Leo Zussino Building; Thursday, 5 November; 3pm-4.30pm.

Visit <https://conversations.gladstone.qld.gov.au> for more information and to RSVP to one of the upcoming workshops. RSVPs can also be made by calling Council’s Community Engagement Centre on 4970 6300.

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