Media Release

25 September 2024

Community Forums introduced to strengthen community connections

Gladstone Regional Council is proud to introduce Community Forums – a new, innovative community engagement model designed to connect Council to the communities within our region.

These ongoing forums will bring Councillors and Council officers to multiple locations across the Gladstone Region so that community members can have meaningful discussions about the things that are important to them.

Each Community Forum will consist of three segments:

- Meet-and-Mingle allows for informal conversations with Councillors and Council officers over a tea or coffee.
- Topic Tables will see subject matter experts explain Council projects that may affect the community and answer any questions.
- Community Questions are a chance for Council to provide answers to the community's most requested questions.

Gladstone Region Mayor Matt Burnett said Council will host 16 Community Forums in the 2024/25 Financial Year at various locations across the Gladstone Region in order to give all communities an opportunity to connect with Council.

"We understand that your time is valuable, which is why our Community Forums are designed to be flexible," Councillor Burnett said.

"Join us for the full event, stay for a segment or pop-in to discuss a single topic that matter to you – it's your forum, your way.

"Round One dates and venues have been confirmed and we're excited to invite residents to join us."

RSVPs and community question submissions open six weeks prior to the event.

Visit Council's Conversations website <u>conversations.gladstone.qld.gov.au/community-forums</u> for more information and to find a Community Forum near you.

ENDS

