



Candidate questionnaire – Sunshine Coast Regional Council Election 2020

Surname:	Dunbavan	Given name:	Angela
Position contesting:	Division 9		

Governance, Transparency and Ethical Behaviour

Q 1 Are you aware of the Principles listed at the beginning of the Local Government Act 2009 and will you commit to abiding by these principles?

YES/NO Yes	<p>How do you see them influencing your decision-making?</p> <p>The Local Government principles will underpin all aspects of my decision making process and I am committed to abiding to these principles.</p> <p>The community has been raising significant concerns in relation to the transparency of the current Council. These must be addressed and I support all measures that will increase community confidence in Council and Council process, including the live streaming of Council meetings and the public release of all Council documents and information as soon as is practically possible.</p> <p>There are existing plans that detail how Council services should be delivered and how development, assets and infrastructure should be managed. I will respect and uphold these plans, ensure that the community is consulted and heard, and I will advocate for the community in all my decisions.</p> <p>There are opportunities to review and update the Town Plan in the coming months/years. Council's role is to represent the community and I would be guided by the community in relation to any changes/ammendments to the Town Plan.</p> <p>I will reset the way Council interacts, communicates with and responds to the community. I don't intend to wait for the community to approach Council with their frustrations and concerns. Council is there to represent the community and I will be present and available, part of the fabric of the community and respond to issues before or as they arise, so they don't become significant problems or a cause for conflict and disappointment with Council.</p> <p>I will be seeking out the voices of marginalised members of the community. Council engagement needs to be more inclusive all members of the community including First Nation peoples, young people, culturally diverse people, people with disabilities.</p>
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Q 2a What are the relevant legislation and regulations that govern the conduct of councillors and the activities of council?

<p>Response:</p> <p>Local Government Act 2009</p> <p>Code of Conduct for Councillors in Queensland</p>

Q 2b How will these impact your decision-making?

Response:

The Act & Code of Conduct will guide my decision making to ensure I -

* Carry out responsibilities conscientiously and in the best interests of the Council and the community

I am committed to being an active participant and strong advocate for the community in all Council related activities. I am also confident in my ability to call out behaviour or activity that doesn't comply with legislation or Council policy and procedure. I am standing as an independent with no ties to a political party or interest group and am committed to working in the best interests of my community.

* Treat people in a reasonable, just, respectful and non-discriminatory way

Before moving into the performing arts industry, I spent over a decade as a community worker in SE Queensland and the UK. With a Bachelor of Social Work (University of Queensland), my years working in community and youth organisations has grounded my approach to life and work which is based in the importance of community and the role it plays in individual and societal wellbeing. My professional framework of practice is embedded in the principles of social justice and respect for all members of the community. I will not tolerate bullying, harassment or intimidation towards myself or any member of the community.

* Ensure my conduct does not reflect adversely on the reputation of the Council.

I am very aware that the community decisions I advocate may not always align with the majority of Councillors. I am committed to working collaboratively, responsibly and to respect to democratic process. It is my intention to focus on relationship building within Council, to open up discussion, to seek new voices especially the voices of marginalized members of our community, to devise creative solutions and to work across Council to respond to difficult community issues through dialogue, education and collaborative decision making processes.

Q 3 Do you or your immediate family have assets, interests or affiliations which might be likely to present you with potential conflicts of interest in carrying out your tasks as a councillor?

YES/NO Yes	<p>If YES, how will you deal with these?</p> <p>I currently own and operate a performing arts company - Red Chair - that has previously been engaged to produce small and medium performing arts related projects for Council. If elected I will be stepping down from the day-to-day operations of the company. If any projects relating to my business arise in relation to my Councillor responsibilities I will declare the conflict of interest and abstain from any decisions relating to the project. I will never vote on an issue where there is a conflict or potential conflict of interest regardless of whether legislation and policy permit this.</p>
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Q 4 As councillor/mayor you will regularly meet to vote on various matters. Some of these votes may be passed by a majority decision, yet there exists aspects which indicate some or all of the following: improper due process, breaches around what might be deemed 'reasonable action' according to duty of care, statutory instruments, local government legislative provisions, by-laws, policies, procedures and responsibilities. What action would you take?

Response:

The Local Government Act sets out the steps a Councillor can take to address such concerns. First and foremost, I am committed to raising any aspect of a vote that may indicate improper due process or breaches around what might be deemed 'reasonable action'. I am committed to the principles of the Local Government Act and the Councillor Code of Conduct and I am confident in my ability to speak out in relation to any real or perceived improper due process or breach.

Q 5 Do you believe that all Council meetings should be open to the public?

YES/NO No	<p>If NO, then what circumstances might justify a closed meeting?</p> <p>The only circumstance that would justify a closed meeting is if the contents of the meeting are confidential in nature and likely to prejudice the interests of Council or someone else or enable</p>
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	a person to a gain a financial advantage. A decision to close a meeting must involve serious consideration and not be done as a matter of course and Council should clearly state the reasons for the closure of the meeting. The contents of the meeting should be made publicly available as soon as the issues relating to confidentiality have passed or been resolved.
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Q 6 Do you support providing requested information to the community without the need for individuals and organisations having to resort to Right to Information applications?

YES/NO Yes

Q 7 Will you commit to voting to implement the live streaming and video recording of council meetings at Caloundra, Nambour and subsequently Maroochydore by 30 June 2020?

YES/NO Yes

Q 8 Do you support that, once the previously published reasons for confidentiality have passed, the live recording, related documentation and information of the confidential meeting should immediately be made public?

YES/NO Yes	If NO, why not?
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Q 9 Do you support all financial dealings of Council in relation to major projects such as, but not limited to, the Sunshine Coast Airport Expansion, The Maroochy CBD, the Broadband Cable, the City Hall and the Solar Farm being made fully available to ratepayers once a decision to proceed has been made?

YES/NO Yes	If NO, why not?
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Q 10 What do you mean by, and how would you measure, sustainable development?

Response: Sustainable development responsibly addresses social, environmental, cultural and economic factors. It is about future and forward thinking responses that balances these factors and should be measured using a quadruple bottom line in relation to those four factors.

Q 11 Are you endorsed or supported by any registered political party?

YES/NO No

Climate change

Q 12 Do you accept that:

(a) as the level of carbon dioxide in the atmosphere increases the proportion of the sun's radiant energy that is retained by the earth increases?	YES/NO Yes
(b) consequences of the increase in the retained energy include rising average temperatures and major changes in weather patterns that can result in drought and heavy rain in areas where such weather events had not previously occurred?	YES/NO Yes
(c) the combustion of fossil carboniferous fuels such as coal, oil and natural gas has been a major contributor to the increase in the level of carbon dioxide in the atmosphere that has occurred since industrialisation began?	YES/NO Yes
(d) clearing of forest for agriculture and housing has also contributed to the increase in carbon dioxide levels in the atmosphere?	YES/NO Yes
(e) the major source of greenhouse gas emissions for local government comes from the decomposition of organic residues in landfill?	YES/NO
(f) maintenance of biodiversity as close as possible to what it was before human intervention is essential for the healthy survival of the human species?	YES/NO Yes

Q 13 What do you see as the key impacts of Climate Change on the Sunshine Coast?

Response:

Continuing sea-level rise, higher minimum and maximum temperatures, more hot days and fewer cold nights, lower annual average rainfall and extended droughts, more frequent and more intense bushfires, more intense storms, increasing tendency for cyclones to track south, increasing risk from large hailstorms and an associated increase in storm surges along the coastline.

Q 14 How should the Sunshine Coast Regional Council deal with this now and into the future?

Response:

Commitment to and resourcing strategies that protect the biodiversity of the region, sustainable development as a priority, supporting opportunities for residents, business and Council to invest in renewables, collaboration with and support of environmental groups working to address climate change, advocacy to state and federal government to act now on climate change, review emergency response plans, consult with traditional owners on environmental management.....

Q 15 Do you support the SCRC in joining other councils in signing a Declaration of Climate Emergency?

YES/NO Yes

Q 16 Will you advocate for the SCRC to have a moratorium on any development proposed in areas vulnerable to the impact of climate change such as in flood-prone areas and coastal zones until such time as the Coastal Hazard Adaptation Strategy is completed?

YES/NO Yes

Planning issues

Q 17 Do you agree that:

(a) development applications that conflict with the relevant Planning Scheme Acceptable Outcomes and other planning instruments should be refused?	YES/NO Yes
(b) genuine community consultation should be undertaken in the early stages of a Proposed Planning Scheme amendment and prior to being progressed to the state?	YES/NO Yes
(c) applicants wishing to lodge a Development application that substantially does not comply, or seeks to over-ride the Planning Scheme should be advised to await the formulation of the next planning scheme when they can lodge a submission on that new planning scheme during the public consultation period?	YES/NO Yes
(d) that development that is vulnerable to the impacts of Climate Change, flooding, and inundation be prohibited?	YES/NO Yes

Q 18 Do you agree that:

(a) Planning Scheme provisions regarding density, site cover, height and parking requirements must comply with the Acceptable Outcomes in the Planning Scheme?	YES/NO Yes
(b) financial contributions in lieu of the provisions of onsite parking should not be allowed unless improvements are provided within 200 metres of the development?	YES/NO Yes
(c) greater enforcement is needed where a developer constructs (or private certifier signs off) other than what has been approved, particularly in relation to height and density of development?	YES/NO Yes

Q 19 What is your understanding of when it is appropriate to override the Planning Scheme, when there are conflicts?

Response:

The only time I think it could be appropriate to override the Planning Scheme is if there was overwhelming community support to do so and evidence that a proposed development meets sustainability criteria.

Q 20 Would you support extending submission timeframes from the statutory minimum in relation to Planning Scheme amendments?

YES/NO Yes

Q 21 The floodplains of the Sunshine Coast have been extensively filled primarily for urban development. This has increased the risk to people, property, infrastructure and the environment from coastal inundation and flooding and contributes to greater exposure to extreme weather events associated with climate change. Planning instruments, State Planning regulation and various reports give regulatory and guidance material regarding floodplain management with land-use one of the key areas to avoid and manage risk. Will you act to prohibit further development on the floodplains?

Response:

I would follow regulatory and guidance material relating to floodplain management. I do not have extensive knowledge of this topic and would rely on the advice and knowledge of independent environmental professionals/groups in relation to future development.

Q 22 With respect to the South East Queensland Regional Plan (Shaping SEQ) that was given effect on 11 August 2017, do you support the Plan in its current form relating to the Northern sub-region, including designation of the Urban footprint and population targets?

YES/NO

Q 23 Do you support the proposed Coolum West intense residential/mixed use development and wave pool proposal on significantly constrained land, which is also outside the urban footprint?

YES/NO No

If NO, will you, if elected to council, support SCRC advocating to the State Government against this proposal? YES/NO Yes

Q 24 What is your view in relation to this statement:

“ALL mixed-use multi-residential buildings requiring a Material Change of Use (MCU) must be “impact assessed” except where compliance is achieved with all relevant SCPS “Acceptable Outcomes” in the codes applicable to each development application. Community notification and rights of appeal in the P&E Court will therefore be restored for all non-compliant applications simply by this change”

Response:

I'm do not support the removal of impact assessments and I am concerned about the use of codes to allow development approvals to proceed without impact assessment. I believe Council needs to advocate for impact assessments regardless of whether compliance is achieved through the Acceptable Outcomes proviso.

Q 25 The coastal hazard and “erosion prone area” is defined by the Queensland Government and State Planning Policy Guidance states redevelopment is to “avoid urban footprint expansion into erosion prone areas (3.2)”.

How will you participate in supporting a change to limit or avoid increases in the footprint and density of medium and high rise mixed use -residential buildings in these designated coastal hazard areas to reduce overall risk?

Response:

I have a commitment to vigilance, consultation and advocacy and a responsibility to make decisions that will limit or avoid urban footprint expansion into erosion prone areas.

General

Q 26 The Sunshine Coast Regional Council ratepayers have been consistently hit with annual rate increases much higher than the region's CPI. How would you address this?

Response:

The reason for proposed rate increases should be clearly communicated to ratepayers and ratepayers should be consulted prior to implementation. I believe Council has a responsibility to work within our means and rate increases should be avoided wherever possible. The community is already struggling within the current economic climate and Council should not be adding to that burden.

Q 27 Would you support a proposal that all Statutory Community Engagement exercises either by Council or other parties (including developers) must be carried out by a demonstrably independent and professional third party organisation according to specific pre-determined parameters?

YES/NO Yes

Q 28 Do you support the Environment Levy and its policies, including continued acquisition of land for conservation, partnership funding for Land for Wildlife and other environment programs?

YES/NO Yes

Q 29 Do you live in the division for which you are standing as a Councillor?

YES/NO/NA NA

Q 30 If elected, how do you intend to engage with your community?

Response:

I'm committed to providing the community with regular and ongoing opportunities to meet with their Councillor in their community. Being approachable and present, and building strong relationships with all sectors of the community are priorities for me. I don't believe that residents and groups should have to make an appointment, write a letter or travel to Nambour or Maroochydore to access their local representative.

Q 31 If elected as a Divisional Councillor how will you advance the specific needs of your Division?

Response:

I believe that the best decisions and choices for any community should be made by the community - a community that is informed, active and well represented. As your Division 9 Councillor, I will facilitate greater participatory governance, where all members of the community have the opportunity to be understood and participate in the decisions that impact on us.

I will also ensure that our community's voice is heard in local affairs and advocate for our community on matters that are determined by other levels of government and industry.

Q 32 Why do you think that you are the best candidate for your Division or as Mayor?

Response:

I think there is a real opportunity during this election to reset the way Council interacts, communicates and responds to the community.

- There are a significant number of council divisions that are currently open with existing Councillors choosing not to recontest their seats.
- Governments are beginning to recognize that they need to listen more closely to independent voices within the community to make timely and important decisions

- My aim from the onset will be to ensure that our community's voices are sought and heard in all Council decisions and that Division 9 has strong representation in all matters that impact on us
- I love this community. The Sunshine Coast is my home and also home to my extended family. I'm passionate about ensuring that Division 9 is a healthy, happy and sustainable place to live, raise families, grow old and create a bright and beautiful future for the next generation
- I have the skill set needed to do the role of Councillor justice including –
 - Training (Bachelor of Social Work) and years of experience in community work. Working with all sectors of the community and facilitating processes to respond to difficult community issues through dialogue, education collaborative decision making processes.
 - 20 years business experience building a successful company that has sound financial practices, flexible and supportive human resource management policies and has endured the challenges of time (e.g. the Global Financial Crisis, numerous changes of government, changing technologies).
 - Strong working knowledge of government process including experience across numerous council environments
 - I'm a really hard worker and I have always worked in demanding roles that require long hours and after hours commitments. My family and I have built our home life around this model of work and have already navigated creative ways to ensure we are happy and supported.