



Candidate questionnaire – Noosa Shire Council Election 2020

Surname:	WILKIE	Given name:	FRANK
Position contesting:	Councillor		

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	How do you see them influencing your decision-making? They're integral and a requirement.
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Q 2 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 No	If YES, how will you deal with these?
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Q 3 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 in such a situation?

Response: Apologies, but I find the wording and the aim of the above multi-section question confused. Which of the situations listed above are you wanting a response to please?

Q 4 Do you believe that all Council meetings should be open to the public?

YES/NO Yes	If NO, then what circumstances might justify a closed meeting? Yes, except for commercial in confidence or issues to do with employees contracts
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Q 5 Will you commit to continuing to support/extend the live streaming and video recording of all council meetings including those of the Planning and Environment and Services & Organisation committees?

YES/NO Yes

Q 6 Do you support that, once the previously published reasons for confidentiality have passed, the live recording, related staff reports and information of the confidential meeting should immediately be made public?

YES/NO Yes	If NO, why not?
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Q 7 Are you endorsed or supported by any registered political party?

YES/NO No

Climate change

Q 8 Do you accept the international scientific community's view that global climate change is the result of human activity over the past 200 years, principally through the burning of fossil fuels?

YES/NO Yes	If NO, why not?
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Q 9 What do you see as the key impacts of Climate Change on the Noosa Shire?

Response: Extended fire season, as witnessed last summer, worsening coastal erosion and flooding especially during storm surges, plus increased incidence of heat related illnesses.

Q 10 How should the Noosa Shire Council deal with Climate Change now and into the future?

Response: Through its planning scheme, which in 2016 included updated flood and fire hazard mapping based on climate change predictions, through its Climate Change Adaptation Plan, Coastal Hazards Adaptation Plan, Climate Change Response Policy, Zero Emissions Noosa 2026 action plan and Environment Strategy action plan

Q 11 Will you advocate for the Noosa Shire Council to promote and support further Climate Change action within the broader community?

YES/NO Yes

Q 12 Do you support maintaining Noosa Shire Council's Declaration of Climate Emergency?

YES/NO Yes	If NO, why not?
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Q 13 Will you advocate for the Council 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 Plan is completed?

YES/NO Yes

Planning issues

Q 14 What do you mean by, and how would you measure, sustainable development?

Response:

Development that over time progresses at a rate and scale does not negatively impact on a community's capacity to fund its own services and facilities and maintain quality of amenity and lifestyle. Measured by a council's capacity to fund essential services and new projects while maintaining healthy financial ratios and not exceeding projected population capacity targets.

Q 15 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) applicants wishing to lodge a Development application that does not substantially 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
(c) that development that is vulnerable to the impacts of Climate Change, flooding, and inundation be prohibited?	YES/NO Yes
(d) 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

Q 16 The new Noosa Planning scheme has been approved by the Planning Minister subject to a number of conditions, two of which are of concern to the Council. They are:

(1) Provisions for mandating 10% of high density housing as social and community (affordable) housing at the Shire Business Centre and former Noosa Bowling Club site at Noosa Junction.

(2) Requirement that Noosa Council adopt the recent State changes to koala protection regulations and remove local provisions.

(a) Will you support the Noosa Plan as it is?

YES/NO Yes	If NO, why not?
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(b) If elected will you support Noosa Shire Council in negotiating with the State Government to achieve a better outcome for the community in relation to these two provisions?

YES/NO No	If NO, why not? The planning scheme in my view is already overdue and needs to be ratified immediately. Any negotiations over refinements can take place as part of a considered process associated with amendments.
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Q 17 What is your understanding of when it is appropriate to override the Planning Scheme, where there are conflicts?

Response:

When there is overwhelming public benefit in doing so and/or to address a failure/error of land use planning identified/verified in credible, council funded studies.

Q 18 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 Yes

Q 19 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?

NB The reason for this question being asked of Noosa Shire candidates is that Noosa Tourism published a survey in what appeared to be support for the project

YES/NO No

If NO, will you, if elected to the Noosa Shire Council, support SCRC community groups in advocating to the State Government against this proposal?
Yes

General

Q 20a The Noosa Biosphere Reserve designation by UNESCO was recently renewed for another 10 year period. What do you understand is the significance of the Biosphere Reserve designation to the Noosa Shire and its community?

Response:

At its best, the UNESCO designation is a reminder that our community is promoted globally as an example of how strong and consistent environmental protection can lie at the heart of a community's liveability and socio-economic prosperity.

It helps reinforce the idea that what has been achieved here is worth understanding, appreciating and preserving.

Q 20b Over the past 10 years the Noosa population has undergone significant change with new residents moving to the area. Will you advocate for an education and marketing program about what it means to local residents and the community as a whole to be a UNESCO Biosphere and how the community can assist in supporting and maintaining that status?

YES/NO Yes

Q 21 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

If NO, why not?

Q 22 In a recent interview the current Mayor referred to a "Crisis" in the Noosa River with biodiversity plummeting. What actions would you propose to address this issue?

Response:

Firstly identify the causes of the decline in the river's benthic health and implement actions to remedy. In the meantime, execute key actions of the Noosa River plan such as the Zero Litter to Waterways program involving upgraded storm water collection, gross pollutant traps, bio-retention basin installation/maintenance and ridding the shire of single use plastics.

Q 23 Given Noosa Shire is an undivided council, if elected, how do you intend to engage with the whole Noosa Shire community?

Response:

By continuing to respond to enquiries, attend meetings and understand issues from residents and groups anywhere across the shire.

Q 24 Why do you think that you are the best candidate for Councillor or Mayor of the Noosa Shire Council?

Response:

The "best" candidate is a subjective call made by the voter.

That said, I have a commitment to serve that has been geared towards assisting residents and groups achieve their aims and objectives.

I am also committed to, and have experience in, making decisions on behalf of, and in consultation with, the community in the best long-term interests of the shire.

I have also always aimed to respect and work effectively with the community's choice of councillors and Mayor and in order to leave Noosa in a better state- socially, environmentally, economically- for future generations.