



Recognising and upholding excellence in local government

Mail: PO Box 105
Coolum Beach QLD 4573
Mobile: 0417 577 881
Email: mail@oscar.org.au

Candidate questionnaire – Sunshine Coast Regional Council Election 2020

Surname:	Broderick	Given name:	Jenny
Position contesting:	Division 1		

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? These principles are essential for any leadership and representation. They are principles that should be constantly at the forefront of our minds in regards to any decision making, as they hold Councillors accountable, and ensure all decisions and actions are in the best interest of the people.
------------	--

Q 2a What are the relevant legislation and regulations that govern the conduct of councillors and the activities of council?

Response: Local Government Act 2009 (Current 1 July 2019); Local Government Regulation 2012 (Current 1 July 2019); Local Government Electoral Act 2011; Electoral and other legislation (Accountability, Integrity and Other Matters) Amendment Bill 2019
--

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

Response: The Act and Regulations are there for a reason - we need to ensure that all of our decisions in the best interest of the people and environment. We need to be making decisions that are transparent, effective and sustainable. It is essential that all Councillors are willing to be held accountable for their decisions. Integrity is doing the right thing even when no one is watching. It also means that prior to making decisions, meaningful community engagement has been part of the process. All Councillors should be held to the highest of ethical standards. This is certainly how I intend to serve.
--

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 No	If YES, how will you deal with these?
-----------	---------------------------------------

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:

I believe it's the responsibility of every Councillor / Mayor to uphold the highest level of integrity and the willingness to be kept accountable. Should any of the above situations occur, I would like to think that I would do the right thing and call it out for what it is - majority vote or not. It's up to the Councillors/Mayor to be well informed and ensure they have all the details and processes before making a decision.

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

YES/NO No

If NO, then what circumstances might justify a closed meeting?

There may be the situation where the details discussed may be sensitive to individuals/stakeholders, causing financial impact or potentially danger. HOWEVER, once the time has passed where detailed, sensitive information can be made public, it should be done immediately and at no cost to the public.

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 Maroochy 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?

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?

Q 10 What do you mean by, and how would you measure, sustainable development?

Response:

Effective development that allows us to grow in a way that allows us to keep our environment, culture and economic future safe and to continue to thrive for the generations to come.

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 Yes
(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:

Coastal erosion of our beaches and low lying coastal areas.

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

Response:

One of the significant issues with emissions can be due to the organic waste in our landfill. Contrary to what some may believe, it does not decompose, but releases gases. It's easier to get people on board when they make small changes that become habits. I would seek to look at ways we could encourage further composting in our Communities, therefore stopping a lot of the organic waste going to landfill. Of course there would need to be further awareness, education and practical solutions to make this happen.

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

YES/NO

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
(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 Planning Scheme has taken a lot of time and money to collate and I think it's important that it's adhered to. However, should there be an issue that arises that is of benefit to the community/region, that does not impact negatively around it, it may be considered in isolation. Circumstances change and sometimes we get things wrong in the planning, so we should have the ability to correct that. However, in essence, the Scheme is there for a reason. That's why we revise the Scheme every few years to make sure it's kept up to date, in the best interest of the region. Community Engagement is essential during this process.

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 need to take advice from the necessary people at the time in relation to any specific areas, however, generally, yes

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

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

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:

Residents should have the opportunity to have to have their say on any MCU that will directly affect them. And they should certainly be notified of any intention of change.

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:

High rise mixed used residential in our sensitive areas should be avoided and I will actively advocate against them.

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:

A full assessment into any further rises, and their necessity/reasons should be closely examined.

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 Yes

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

Response:

Community Engagement and effective communication are absolutely essential. I am amazed at the amount of people in our area who still have no idea who their Councillor is!

My intention would be to find as many opportunities available to engage with people, being at community and sporting meetings, events (and supporting those who organise them), regular doorknocking, engaging with businesses and offering avenues to be contactable and available. I would ensure that I have offices in the Division making it easier for people to contact me.

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

Response:

Knowing what the needs and aspirations of the community and engaging with them is a good start. If it's an easy fix, seek to get it sorted as soon as possible with the right people. For significant issues, ensure that they are brought to the Council, for advice in moving forward. I will be determined in making sure our Community voices are heard, and not fade into the distance. Persistence is often key.

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

Response:

I am passionate about community and believe that authentic representation requires someone who understands, actively listens, genuinely engages and effectively communicates with the people in our region. In order to serve your community you need to be actively involved in it. We need clear directions and strong leadership.

There is no time for complacency and our Sunshine Coast deserves a Common sense Council with fresh, relevant, selfless and determined representation – one that is transparent, authentic and available. One who will work collaboratively with our community. I know I can deliver that and would welcome the opportunity to serve in this way.