



Candidate questionnaire – Sunshine Coast Regional Council Election 2020

Surname:	Jessop	Given name:	Mike
Position contesting:	Division 3		

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	How do you see them influencing your decision-making? I will faithfully represent ratepayers and voters without fear or favour whether they voted for me or not
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Q 2a What are the relevant legislation and regulations that govern the conduct of councillors and the activities of council?

Response: As per Councillor Candidate induction course 2020 and Local Government Act 2009
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Q 2b How will these impact your decision-making?

Response: I will avoid the interminable finger pointing between federal state and local government as far as possible

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?

NO	If YES, how will you deal with these?
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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: I will work as a team with the utmost integrity and will challenge every corrupt or incompetent action taken by any council member with vigour
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Q 5 Do you believe that all Council meetings should be open to the public?

YES	If NO, then what circumstances might justify a closed meeting?
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	Commercial confidentiality is poorly understood by most people however complete transparency is not always consistent with tact and sensitivity on certain issues and in certain circumstances commercial confidentiality must be observed during negotiations particularly during public tenders
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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

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

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	<p>If NO, why not?</p> <p>I also believe that transcription of forums such as in the run up to elections by candidates should also have legal effect before during and after an election</p>
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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	If NO, why not?
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Q 10 What do you mean by, and how would you measure, sustainable development?

<p>Response: development that does not adversely impact environmental issues and development that actually promotes this such as rainwater tanks for car / boat washing and watering spice and vegetable gardens and fruit trees are what I mean by sustainable development at neutral cost to the community</p>
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Q 11 Are you endorsed or supported by any registered political party?

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
(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
(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
(d) clearing of forest for agriculture and housing has also contributed to the increase in carbon dioxide levels in the atmosphere?	YES/NO
(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

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

Response:

Climate change is here to stay sea levels were 120 meters lower 12,000 years ago this and desertification are the most likely adverse effects to impact humanity but this will create opportunities in other areas such as creation of arable land elsewhere bringing areas inland closer to the oceans

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

Response: by curating the information available by making every publication and broadcast subject to the same rules as existing publishers and broadcasters especially with regard to ethical journalistic standards regarding climate change

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

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

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
(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
(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
(d) that development that is vulnerable to the impacts of Climate Change, flooding, and inundation be prohibited?	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
(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
(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

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

Response: when there is an overriding community need such as the provision of backpacker style accommodation to the homeless

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

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: 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?

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?

NO	If NO, will you, if elected to council, support SCRC advocating to the State Government against this proposal? YES/NO
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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: As long as its within the law to do so.

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: Follow the state government rules regarding development in those 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:

I will reduce domestic rates by 5% per annum for the next 4 years and actually abolish business rates

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?

NO

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?

NO

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

YES

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

Response:

Using my phone email facebook twitter and my website and other correspondence and personally currently at distances greater than 1.5 metres!?

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

Response: I will work collaboratively with local, state and federal representatives to achieve the best possible outcomes for Division 3 and the greater Sunshine Coast community. Also use my experience working in and with all levels of government.

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

Response: I will actively provide accommodation for the homeless that they would otherwise occupy such as backpacker style accommodation to a capacity of 160 persons in every division to alleviate the 1,600 sleeping in their cars or sleeping rough and introduce a fine to the SCRC local government for each individual found homeless on the sunshine coast

Anyone in business will know what needs to be done but there's no one doing it at any level of government and that is reducing the amount of bureaucracy and taxation to businesses and individuals I see local government as the prime opportunity to counter this starting with a reduction in domestic rates of 5% per annum for the next four years and the abolition of business rates as a tax on employment and so regenerate the economy

People are doing it so tough out there and they're being completely ignored. What needs to be done is to make a reduction in government charges which mail order China or from any other country are just not subject to; You've got to reduce the government charges. Every year you get 12 government charges between \$200 and \$900 bucks a month. This is stifling everything that goes on here I will change all that