



Candidate survey – Noosa Shire Election 2024

Surname:	Morrall	Given name:	John
Position contesting:	Mayor		

1 About you:

Are you a member of a registered political party?	YES/NO	No
If so, are you endorsed or formally supported by that political party?	YES/NO	

2 How will you deal with situations where you or your immediate family have assets, interests or affiliations that might be likely to present you with potential conflicts of interest in carrying out your tasks as a Councillor?

Comment:

The minute a conflict of interest presents I will bring this to the other councillors attention and be dismissed from the decision making process

3 If elected, how do you intend to engage with your community and/or the region?

Comment:

I would like to have monthly meetings with community within their areas, also engage with business owners of Noosa Shire on a regular bases

4 Why do you think that you are the best candidate for the position you are contesting?

Comment:

I've lived and had 2 high profile businesses in Noosa Shire for the past 26 years. I live and breathe everything about Noosa as a father, grandfather and a community member so I have a thorough understanding of our shire.

5 Do you have any additional comments you would like to make concerning this section of the survey?

Comment:

No

Governance, Transparency and Ethical Behaviour

6 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
the relevant legislation and regulations that govern the conduct of Councillors and the activities of Council?	YES/NO	Yes

7 How do you see the above influencing your decision-making?

<p>Comment:</p> <p>It won't</p>

8 Will you:

support providing requested information (other than current commercial-in-confidence) to the community without the need for individuals and organisations having to resort to Right to Information applications?	YES/NO	Yes
support that community consultation will become routine and results respected and acted upon such that the public interest takes precedence over vested interests?	YES/NO	Yes
commit to forensic scrutiny of projects and expenditure directions and the budget overall?	YES/NO	Yes
support the Environment Levy and its policies, including the continued acquisition of land for conservation, support for the Council's Voluntary Conservation Agreement Programs and the provision of funding to the Noosa Biosphere Reserve Trust?	YES/NO	Yes

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

<p>Comment:</p> <p>Sustainable development needs to meet the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs. This will be measured by economics, social and environmental progress indicators.</p>

10 Do you have any additional comments you would like to make concerning Governance, Transparency and Ethical Behaviour?

<p>Comment:</p> <p>I am 100 % committed to this cause and will serve ethically and honestly at all times with 100% transparency.</p>
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Climate Emergency

- 11 What do you see as the key impacts of Climate Change on the Sunshine Coast and how should Noosa Council deal with this now and into the future?

Comment:

The key impacts to address climate change by reducing emissions, promoting renewable energy, enhancing resilience, preserving ecosystems and collaborating for sustainable solutions.

- 12 Do you endorse the Climate Change Emergency Declaration made by the Council in 2019 and will you advocate for a review of its scope, effectiveness, transparency and accountability to give effect to the Declaration?

Comment:

Yes I do support a declaration and being 4 years old now a review is needed to make sure it is up to date with current practices.

- 13 What role do you see for the Noosa Council and its Planning Scheme to accelerate the LGA achieving net zero emissions by 2026?

Comment:

I think the council plays a critical role within its planning scheme to reach this target.

- 14 The Coastal Hazard Adaptation Plan (CHAP):

Will you ensure that the current CHAP is regularly updated as new Climate Change information and IPCC reports become available, and ensure CHAP updates are incorporated in the Planning Scheme?	YES/NO	Yes
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- 15 Do you have any additional comments you would like to make concerning Climate Emergency?

Comment:

Planning issues

16 What is your understanding of when it is appropriate to override the Planning Scheme (PS) when there are conflicts?

Comment:

It may be appropriate to override a planning scheme when there are significant public benefits or urgent needs that justify deviation.

17 Do you agree that:

Development Applications (DA) that conflict with the relevant PS Performance Outcomes and other planning instruments should be refused unless there is an overriding need in the public interest?	YES/NO	Yes
applicants wishing to lodge a DA that substantially does not comply, or seeks to override the PS, with or without a proposed amendment to the Scheme should only be permitted to lodge a DA following a successful appropriate Scheme amendment?	YES/NO	Yes
the community should be able to make formal public submissions and have the right of appeal to the Planning and Environment Court for development applications involving major impacts on the community and the environment?	YES/NO	Yes
Councillors rather than Council staff should decide such major development applications?	YES/NO	Yes
development that is vulnerable to the impacts of Climate Change such as flooding, inundation, coastal erosion, landslip and bushfire hazard should be prohibited?	YES/NO	Yes
longer public submission timeframes than the statutory minimum times concerning amendments to the PS should be implemented to allow time for the community to understand and make an informed response?	YES/NO	Yes
further development on floodplains should be prohibited and not approved?	YES/NO	Yes
where community expectations about the PS are inconsistent with the planning directions and expectations of the State Government (eg in the SEQ Regional Plan Update or State legislation or policies), you will advocate strongly to ensure that the State accommodates the expressed planning wishes of our regional community to the greatest practicable extent?	YES/NO	Yes
Halls Creek should not be recommended for residential development and should remain part of the Inter-Urban Break?	YES/NO	Yes
Do you support measures to curb the proliferation of Short Term Accommodation (STA)?	YES/NO	yes

18 What measures would you propose to reduce the impact of STAs on the liveability of the Noosa Shire?

Comment:

First and foremost put the Noosa Council STA policy on the table and re-work it for the best outcomes for the community. Stand strong on the policing of this policy as this is not happening at the moment.

- 19 Concerning the South East Queensland Regional Plan (Shaping SEQ) Update of December 2023, what are your views on the strategic directions for the Northern Subregion and the population and dwelling requirements for the Noosa region?

Comment:

I would need to do a lot more research into this to give you an open and transparent answer

- 20 Given the focus on increased densification via higher buildings and/or "gentle density" as per the SEQRP2023 Update will you commit to:

the development of careful guidelines for "gentle density" and that this type of development is not just seen as "accepted" or "as of right" development?

YES/NO

Yes

Comment:

- 21 The coastal hazard "erosion prone area" is defined by the Queensland Government. The State Planning Policy Guidance states redevelopment is to "avoid urban footprint expansion into erosion-prone areas while the State Policy prohibits this land "to be used for urban purposes" unless already located in an urban area or urban footprint in a regional plan. Will you oppose increases in the urban footprint and the density of medium and high-rise mixed-use residential buildings in these designated coastal hazard areas to reduce overall risk – and if so, how?

Comment:

- 22 How can the Planning Scheme support the biosphere?

Comment:

By incorporating green infrastructure, protect habitats, promote biodiversity and integrate sustainable practices to support the biosphere.

- 23 Do you have any additional comments you would like to make concerning Planning Issues?

Comment:

Transport Infrastructure and Service

- 24 **Given the Australian Government has withdrawn financial support for all but one of the 5 major transport projects on the Sunshine Coast and has reduced Federal contributions from 80% to 50% for approved projects, and given the strong nexus between land use planning decisions and the provision of transport infrastructure, do you agree that:**

all the current regional transport projects should be reassessed to identify and “lock in” the most effective and affordable project or projects that realistically can be delivered with Federal and State funding?	YES/NO	Yes
accurate budgeting with realistic cost increases and contingency funding must be included in this reassessment process?	YES/NO	Yes
projects that meet the need to efficiently move large numbers of Olympics 2032 spectators to, from and within the Sunshine Coast and that deliver a significant “legacy” transport benefit to the region must be a major decision-making consideration?	YES/NO	Yes
any reassessment should explore some options that do not involve the high capital cost, fixed transport infrastructure projects currently under consideration eg significant increases in the regional public bus network with small and large battery buses on more routes, servicing all major regional destinations, with greater frequency and express services, and with bus right of way clearways at peak periods and priority at traffic lights?	YES/NO	Yes
that ratepayers should not be subsidising major infrastructure projects that have been traditionally funded by the State Government through an increase in Council debt or increases in the Transport Levy?	YES/NO	Yes
given the importance of synchronising and integrating land use planning and development approvals with the planning, funding and delivery of transport infrastructure and services, you will support including in the proposed new Planning Scheme medium, high and gentle density land use changes only where the relevant transport infrastructure and services are guaranteed to be funded and delivered in a synchronised way?	YES/NO	Yes
Active transport and Accessible transport should be made priorities in any transport infrastructure projects?	YES/NO	Yes
Would you advocate for the Noosa Council to own and manage its own small, electric bus fleet to service the Noosa region?	YES/NO	
Comment: Cant answer this as I would have to do a cost analysis to determine its profitability vs outsourcing.		

- 25 **Given the community is calling for a “transformational” approach to address Noosa’s transport and traffic issues, what specific proposals do you advocate to address the problem?**

Comment: Both infrastructure and transport will go hand in hand. Both need to be worked collaboratively to come up with an effective way to meet all needs
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26 Do you have any additional comments you would like to make concerning Transport Infrastructure and Services?

Comment: