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Candidate survey – Sunshine Coast Regional Council (SCRC) Election 2024

Surname:	Moseley	Given name:	Deborah
Position contesting:	Councillor Div 7		

1 About you:

Do you live in the Division for which you are standing?	YES/NO	Yes
Are you a member of a registered political party?	YES/NO	Yes
If so, are you endorsed or formally supported by that political party?	YES/NO	Greens

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:

If this is to happen, I will be transparent and respect the values of fair and proper process

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

Comment:

I will take advice from administration. The Greens have a history in Brisbane of Pop-up consultations in parks and public spaces. I would aim to ensure that information on what I am achieving is available online and through quarterly newsletters. Being accessible to all is important to me.

4 If elected as a Divisional Councillor, how will you advance the specific needs of your community?

Comment: I will have a register of meetings and prioritise issues that require urgent attention. I will reach out to sectors of the community who I believe do not have a voice, or equity in communicating their concerns. As a new councillor, I am not yet aware of the specific protocols of how to speak on behalf of my community.

5 **Why do you think that you are the best candidate for your Division or for Mayor?**

Comment: My career has led me to creating meaningful partnerships that benefit the community based on trend analysis. I am honest, I know the issues of this community. The Greens have consistently stood to fight corruption in government, and to ensure that all voices are heard. Clearly it is the residents that will judge me and seek accountability. I judge my own performance on how well all life has fared with me as a councillor. It is the trees, the animals, the soil quality, the sustainability and livability of the hole system which I value.

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

Comment:

Governance, Transparency and Ethical Behaviour

7 **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	
the relevant legislation and regulations that govern the conduct of Councillors and the activities of Council?	YES/NO	

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

Comment: My career has focused on opportunities for young people, and my passion is to protect Aboriginal Cultural Heritage. So I look to a future for all, celebrating the past and the ancestors. My decisions will serve generations into the future.

9 **If elected 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
advocate to ensure consistent, high-quality, professional outcomes by requiring the planning and execution of all Council-initiated community engagement processes to be oversighted by the community engagement team of the Council?	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, partnership funding for Land for Wildlife and other environment programs?	YES/NO	Yes

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

Comment: Sustainable development considers the needs of all life, and assesses impact on the total ecosystem of projects that serve humanity. Sustainability relies on the creed of minimising harm. All changes have an impact on the environment, there are checks and balances. Trees, animals and waterways are animated to give voice to their needs. In Europe trees have a financial value, the older and more they contribute to the total ecosystem, the higher the dollar value. So to take trees out will cost the developer in such a way that removal becomes a significant cost, and alternative strategies to develop property are considered. The costs of tree removal will be used by council to plant more trees where they are needed.

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

Comment: The Greens have proven at all levels of government that they fight for more transparency and ethical behaviour: this is a core value I bring to this position. I will learn on the job how these values can be embedded in SCC

Climate Emergency

12 **What do you see as the key impacts of Climate Change on the Sunshine Coast and how should the SCRC deal with this now and into the future?**

Comment: Water quality, availability and management. Coastal erosion. Cost of insurance for ratepayers. Species destruction, No development on flood plains or on low lying areas near the coast.

13 **Do you endorse the Climate Change Emergency Declaration made by the current Council and will you advocate for a review of the scope, effectiveness, transparency and accountability of the current corporate performance mechanisms to give effect to the Declaration?**

Comment: Absolutely. I am a member of SCEC and I have been involved in this discussion for decades. Climate change is coming faster than we predicted, and having impacts we can all see. We will need stronger controls on erosion controls, weed management, emergency response, habitat preservation. I would like to see community led hubs where people are able to work together on local responses to severe weather and fire. Street by street, communities can work with a consultant to advise on risk management and support each household. Such community support systems would be acknowledged by the insurance Council as risks are better managed, and overall costs are better managed.

14 **What role do you see for the SCRC and the Planning Scheme to accelerate the Sunshine Coast becoming a low emissions region by 2041?**

Comment: Transport is one key area that SCC can help to reduce road transport. Passive heating and cooling housing, more effective use of housing, so that more people share in one air-conditioning system by encouraging buildings to go up, rather than individual dwellings. Concrete and loss of trees are major contributors to climate change, so designs that minimise concrete, and avoid heat sinks could be incentivised to lower net emissions.

15 **The Coastal Hazard Adaptation Strategy (CHAS):**

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

Comment:

Planning issues

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

Comment: Conflicts should be judged by what is a reasonable expectation of the people that the council serve. If I am elected I would stick to the values that I promised the electorate. I would expect that it is reasonable to override the Planning Scheme when new information comes to light, or there has been a significant change which had not been taken into account. Consultation is key.

18 **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
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
financial contributions in place of the provisions of onsite parking should not be allowed unless improvements are provided within 200 metres of the development?	YES/NO	

longer public submission timeframes than the statutory minimum times concerning amendments of the PS and for the proposed new PS should be implemented and consultation time for the new PS should be longer than the statutory timeframes (currently a minimum of 40 business days) to allow time for the community to understand and make an informed response?	YES/NO	Yes
further development on the floodplains should be prohibited and not approved?	YES/NO	Yes
a thorough review of the proposed Draft of the new PS, including the assumptions underlying it and the provision of infrastructure on which the proposed Draft PS is relying should be undertaken by the new Council? These include for example, the proposed rate of population growth specified in the SEQ Regional Plan Update to be accommodated on the Sunshine Coast and the impact of that rate of population growth in the region including the increases in dwelling numbers and densities mandated in the Update.	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 as per the long-held view of the SCRC and supported by OSCAR?	YES/NO	Yes
there should be a level playing field for all quarry operations in the Sunshine Coast region by ensuring that the new PS has the same zoning for all quarry operations and the same level of development assessment for their operations?	YES/NO	Yes

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, the expansions of the Urban Footprint at Yandina, and the population and dwelling requirements for the Sunshine Coast region?**

<p>Comment: I would like to keep the character of Yandina and have been very disappointed with the recent opportunistic development aesthetically. I do support gentle density in established towns, and I do support development around transport infrastructure. The pace of transport infrastructure is not aligned with the rate of development, which continues to be a real problem for the region. Clearly there is a lot of further research that this question requires for an in depth analysis which I would need to understand more thoroughly to give a model answer.</p>
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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 development"/"as of right"?	YES/NO	Yes
ensuring that SCRC undertakes a pilot project for higher density living that demonstrates the best in planning outcomes as per the ELS policy?	YES/NO	Yes

- 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: Our waterways quality has declined significantly. The complexity of the water table has not been respected. I support the Blue Heart Project and the intention of this regions being used to address the imbalance in the water system. There are many conflicts of intent between those of us that hold the environment as an irreplaceable asset and the financial benefits of exploiting the land. The later course is degrading the land.

I believe that if we do not put more resources into protecting the natural areas from invasive species and development, it will be too late. This coming term of council is at a critical phase. My vision is for a planning scheme that concentrates the needs of people in existing urban footprints, and quality housing using green spaces as effectively as possible.

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

Comment: Absolutely. Our First Nations Cultural Heritage is being destroyed at an alarming rate. I have seen standing stones older than Stonehenge being bulldozed in the clear of land. I have seen 70 year old trees being pushed up into burial caves. The State Government Cultural Heritage mapping is not used proactively, allowing the destruction of ancestral and sacred sites. We must appoint a First Nations Officer in the Planning and Development team who has the power to demand full consultation with the traditional owner at all listed cultural heritage sites, and with those sites that only the local custodians are aware of. To continue to do nothing to protect these place is contrary to the Queensland legislation, and is an act of vandalism.

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	I agree but I am not sure this is possible
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 traditionally have been funded by the State and Australian Governments through an increase in Council debt or increases in the Transport Levy?	YES/NO	for discussion
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

25 **Do you have any additional comments you would like to make concerning Transport Infrastructure and Services?**

Comment: Reliable, frequent and free public transport to hubs and particularly into Brisbane is a priority. The cost on road of heavy vehicles used in development should be paid for by the developers.

Thank you for your responses. We appreciate your time commitment to complete this survey.