



## Budget to focus on access for all

### Community Resilience and Connection

Equitable access to Bundaberg Regional Council facilities is one of the highlights of its 2024-25 budget which provides a continued commitment to community support and accessibility improvements.

Deputy Mayor and Community Resilience and Connection portfolio spokesperson Cr Tracey McPhee said the budget featured funding to improve accessibility in public facilities from an options analysis for a Changing Places facility to the installation of more disability-compliant toilets in community halls throughout the region.

“Ensuring that our public spaces are accessible to all is a priority for Council,” she said.

“By installing more disability-compliant toilets, we are taking concrete steps to make our community halls more inclusive and accommodating for everyone, regardless of their mobility needs.”

She added that a community survey was already underway for a Changing Places facility within the region.

“A Changing Places facility allows residents with high support needs to take part in community life, without having to limit their time away from home due to concerns about being able to access a suitable toilet,” Cr McPhee said.

“The facilities are larger than standard accessible toilets and include additional features such as an adult-sized change table that is height adjustable, along with a hoist system, privacy screen and more.

“A survey is available now for residents to express their views on where such a facility would best be located.

“It’s just another way Council is looking to enhance our region by making it an enjoyable and accessible place for all.”

This financial year the important work of the Gin Gin Community Connect worker will also continue, supporting vulnerable individuals and families to navigate access to suitable social programs and services.

# Budget 2024–25



Cr McPhee said the initiative had been an invaluable resource, providing assistance to residents in times of need.

"This position plays a crucial role in linking residents with essential services, providing social support, and facilitating community engagement activities.

"The role has been particularly vital in addressing the needs of vulnerable populations, including the elderly and those experiencing social isolation."

The Gin Gin Community Connect worker is supported with funding from Department of Treaty, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Partnerships, Communities and the Arts.