

Fact sheet 2: Community engagement, education and participation

Council believes that the Queensland Government should take a proactive role in informing and educating the Redlands Coast community about the housing strategy and the Queensland planning system more broadly. Opportunities should also be provided for the community to share its views and expectations on the outcomes of the proposed housing strategy.

Council has advocated for several years through the Local Government Association of Queensland (LGAQ) and Council of Mayors (SEQ) for the Queensland Government to provide assistance in improving the community's understanding of the Queensland planning system.



This is reflected in item 105 of the LGAQ [Advocacy Action Plan 2022](#), in which the LGAQ calls on the State Government to ‘*Initiate a broad community awareness and education campaign to explain performance-based planning, the roles and responsibilities of key stakeholders under the Planning Act 2016, and opportunities for community involvement in the planning and development process*’ (p. 34).

Council has also continued to advocate for community education on the Queensland planning system through regional planning forums and during consultation on new state planning legislation and policy.

Council believes that collective improvements in understanding of the planning system will provide several benefits to the community. This includes:

- A better appreciation of how planning and decision-making impacts growth in the city.
- Increased engagement and participation in plan and decision-making processes.
- Enhanced capacity building, enabling residents to provide more targeted and meaningful feedback on development applications, proposed policy reforms and planning scheme amendments that affect them.

In this regard, Council acknowledges the State Government committed \$5 million towards a Community Engagement and Awareness Campaign on growth and housing diversity following the Housing Summit in November 2022. There is an opportunity to use the educational material produced as part of this campaign to help inform the housing strategy and subsequent community engagement activities.