

A BUDGET FOR RENEWAL

embracing recovery today. shaping tomorrow's resilience



A word from the Mayor

We know that many households and businesses are doing it tough right now. That's been front of mind as we've shaped this year's Budget – and it is why we have worked hard to keep costs as manageable as possible while still delivering what our community needs.

The overall increase in Council's rates, charges and utility revenue will be 4.79%. What does that mean for most people? On average, it's about a \$4.10 rise per week across general rates and utility charges combined. For 79% of residential ratepayers, the general rates part of that works out to about \$1.32 extra a week.

We do not make these decisions lightly. Like many councils across Queensland, we are being asked to do more with what we have got. The reality is, much of our infrastructure is aged and urgently needs renewal. At the same time, we are still recovering from one of the biggest flood events in our region's history.

The February floods were a powerful reminder of how important it is to invest in resilience – not just to bounce back, but to be better prepared for the future.

This Budget reflects that. It acknowledges the financial pressures we all face but remains firmly focused on what matters most: smart, responsible investment in the infrastructure and services our region depends on. It won't be easy. But this Budget backs recovery today and lays the groundwork for a stronger, more sustainable tomorrow.

Cr Ramon Jayo
Mayor

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4.79%
overall rate
increase

**For 79% of
residents,**
the average
residential general
rates bill will
increase by
\$1.32 a week

**Council's
rebate of 20%
for eligible
pensioners,**
in addition to
Queensland
Government
pensioner
concessions

\$323K
in rates discounts
for not-for-profit
organisations
\$130K
for community
and art development
grant support*

\$55.1M
overall budget
that puts renewal
first

\$7.4M
capital works
budget for 50
projects:
\$3.3M roads and
drainage
\$1.8M water and
sewerage
\$1.3M plant and
equipment
\$1M community
and sustainability

\$43M
total operating
revenue

\$47.7M
total operating
expenses

This budget will
help us maintain our
operations...


32km
footpaths and
cycleways


736km
roads


1
aquatic
centre


6,700
tonnes
of waste
managed


203
employees


14
water
facilities


9,908
customer
service
requests


282km
water mains


46
open spaces


429
development
and building
applications


2
art gallery
and theatre


2
libraries


6,614
rateable
properties


5,847
homes and
businesses
that receive
waste
removal
service

2025-2026



HINCHINBROOK
SHIRE COUNCIL

project highlights

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\$3.3M roads and drainage

- Bitumen reseal program
- Gravel resheeting program
- Stallan Street kerb and channel renewal project
- Haig Street pavement renewal project
- McIlwraith Street stormwater drain renewal project
- Cooks Lane micro-surfacing works**
- Lannercost Extension Road works**
- Lucinda Commercial Jetty upgrade**



\$1.8M water and sewerage

- Fire hydrant replacement program
- Sewer relining program
- Water main replacement
- Water supply generators



\$1.3M plant and equipment

- Fleet replacement program
- Self funded fuel tank



\$1M community and sustainable infrastructure

- Ingham SES building improvements***
- Forrest Beach bus shelter replacement
- Mount Fox campgrounds facilities upgrade
- New Ingham Cemetery mausoleum construction
- Martin Steet Depot roof top solar installation
- Dungeness Marine Access environmental approvals

* \$30,000 to deliver the Regional Arts Development Fund program, a partnership with the Queensland Government and \$100,000 to deliver the Hinchinbrook Shire Community Grants Program

** Proudly funded by the Queensland Government through the Transport Infrastructure Development Scheme.

*** Funding support from the Queensland Government through the SES Support Grant program.

SCAN FOR
MORE DETAILS
ON THE BUDGET



Our region might be small, but it's mighty – offering world-class fishing, bird diversity that rivals Kakadu, and the stunning Hinchinbrook Channel as a top destination. We're also proud that Hinchinbrook has been named one of the best places to retire in Australia, thanks to our warm climate and strong community spirit, it is the perfect place to enjoy life at any age.

Our region's output generates

\$1.6B



1,293

businesses registered



37,645

average annual visitors



5,011

local jobs

