



Council Of Mayors (SEQ)

Annual Report 2023 - 2024



Contents

- 3 Council of Mayors (SEQ)
- 6 Our Regional Snapshot
- 8 Board of Directors
- 9 Our Mission and Values
- 10 Our Regional Drivers
- 11 Our Regional Priorities
- 12 Our Delivery Mechanisms
- 14 Timeline
- 16 We are the Voice of SEQ
- 21 Regional Proposition, Talent & Economic Enablement
- 25 Regional Planning & Connectivity
- 28 Waste & the Circular Economy
- 32 Water Security & Environment
- 36 We are Innovative, Agile and Motivated
- 40 Financial Statements



Logan River, City of Logan

Council of Mayors (SEQ)

Council of Mayors, South East Queensland (SEQ) was established in 2005 to represent the interests of one of the fastest growing regions in Australia. Together, councils work to tackle the region's biggest challenges and leverage opportunities to ensure the region is the best possible place to live, work and play.

In its short history, the Council of Mayors (SEQ) has built a reputation as an outcome-focussed organisation, delivering innovative and strategic benefits for the region.

Using the collective influence of our member Councils, we help shape positive government policy reform and investment outcomes for SEQ. We work together to explore emerging ideas and deliver solutions which protect and enhance the prosperity of SEQ.

As at 30 June 2024, member councils included Brisbane City Council, Ipswich City Council, Lockyer Valley Regional Council, Logan City Council, City of Moreton Bay, Noosa Council, Redlands City Council, Scenic Rim Regional Council, Somerset Regional Council, Sunshine Coast Council, Toowoomba Regional Council.



The Council of Mayors (SEQ) Board of Directors.
Back row (left to right): Mayor Jason Wendt, Mayor Tanya Milligan, Mayor Peter Flannery, Mayor Rosanna Natoli, Mayor Tom Sharp, Mayor Frank Wilkie.
Front row (left to right): Mayor Geoff McDonald, Mayor Jos Mitchell, Lord Mayor Adrian Schrunner, Mayor Teresa Harding, Mayor Jon Raven.

Traditional Owner Acknowledgement: We would like to acknowledge the Traditional Owners and Custodians of the land of the Barunggam, Bigambul, Danggan Balun, Githabul, Jagera, Jinibara, Kabi Kabi, Quandamooka, Turrbal, Wakka Wakka, and Yuggera Ugarapul people. We wish to acknowledge and respect their continuing connection to land, waters and culture, and the contribution they make to the life of this region. We pay our respects to their Elders past, present and emerging.

Acknowledgements: Council of Mayors (SEQ) thanks all contributors and stakeholders involved in the development of this document.

Image Credit: Greening Australia, Brisbane Economic Development Agency, Lockyer Valley Regional Council, Tourism Noosa, Gary Cranitch @ Queensland Museum

Cover Images: Tenthill Creek, Lockyer Valley Regional Council; Brisbane River, Brisbane City Council; Noosa National Park, Noosa Council

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Chair's Message

2023-24 was another year of partnership and change for Council of Mayors (SEQ) and South East Queensland.

The release of the State Government's South East Queensland Regional Plan highlighted our region's incredible growth, with an additional 2.2 million people expected to call our region home by 2046.

The collaboration of South East Queensland Mayors is envied across the nation, and importantly, continues to deliver outcomes for our communities as we respond to the challenges of a growing population to keep our region moving.

Local government is closest to the community and Mayors of South East Queensland have a great track record working with other levels of government to get things done.

Councils collect just three cents in every tax dollar paid therefore we need the financial support of other levels of government to provide the services and infrastructure our growing region needs.

This is why the Council of Mayors (SEQ) led strong engagement with all levels of government and all sides of politics in 2024 to ensure our region's growth story and liveability challenges and opportunities are presented.

This included delegations to Australian Parliament House and Queensland Parliament ahead of the 2024 State Elections to advocate for all levels of government to address increased demand on roads, transport, waste management, the environment and local infrastructure.

March also marked the 2024 Local Government Elections and the appointment of a new Council of Mayors (SEQ) Board.

The Mayors are all passionate advocates for South East Queensland and I'd like to thank them for their continued collaboration and leadership in 2024.

I'd also like to acknowledge the significant contribution of outgoing Mayors who have helped to ensure Council of Mayors (SEQ) is in a strong position to deliver significant benefits for our region now and into the future.

With the Brisbane 2032 Games on the horizon, our region is embarking on an exciting new chapter and South East Queensland Mayors remain united in our vision to ensure it remains one the best places in Australia to live, work and invest.

Lord Mayor, Adrian Schinnerer
Chair



Chief Executive Officer's Message

With the local government elections delivering a significant transition for Board, 2023-24 was an opportunity to reaffirm a bold vision for Council of Mayors (SEQ) and the future of South East Queensland.

This came on the back of significant progress on a range of priority projects which will deliver tangible benefits for our region, councils and communities. This included:

- Launching the new Resilient Rivers SEQ: Waterways and Wetlands Investment Strategy in partnership with the Queensland Government to enhance the health and resilience of our waterways, and guide \$40M of investment into our environment.
- Releasing the SEQ City Deal Implementation Plan in collaboration with the Australian and Queensland governments. Significant work is underway to deliver 29 critical projects across SEQ. This included the launch of the \$285.5M SEQ Liveability Fund for new and improved community infrastructure like parks and sporting facilities.

- SEQ Waste Management Plan continued to be implemented with funding to deliver a new Material Recycling Facility at Sunshine Coast, and \$151 million for bin infrastructure to support garden organic waste collection services.
- Brisbane 2032 Games Legacy Plan was launched in the form of Elevate 2042. Importantly, this included a commitment to a SEQ Public Transport and Mobility Strategy which will ensure a strong transport legacy for our growing region.

Operationally, we saw Council of Mayors (SEQ) continue to evolve our operations to meet the growing and changing needs of our Board, Councils as well as government partners. One area I'm particularly excited about is a new and expanded focus for Resilient Rivers SEQ which will see this program significantly expand with more than \$40M of investment in the coming years.

In May the Board met for its inaugural meeting of the term, and used this as an opportunity to review and update its strategic plan. I'd like to acknowledge the leadership and contribution of our new Board and look forward to working closely with them as we focus on the future, which will include the Paris 2024 Olympic and Paralympic Games, as well as State and Federal government elections.

Scott Smith
Chief Executive Officer



Our Regional Snapshot

11 Member Councils

4m people 73% of QLD 1 in 7 Australians 2.96% growth rate 2023-2024

15.9% aged over 65 years 22.6% children and young people aged between 0 to 17 years old 38 years average age

1.81m jobs \$306.90b SEQ GRP 2023-24 66% Queensland's State GRP 372,664 Number of registered businesses (2023)

Top SEQ industries by employment:

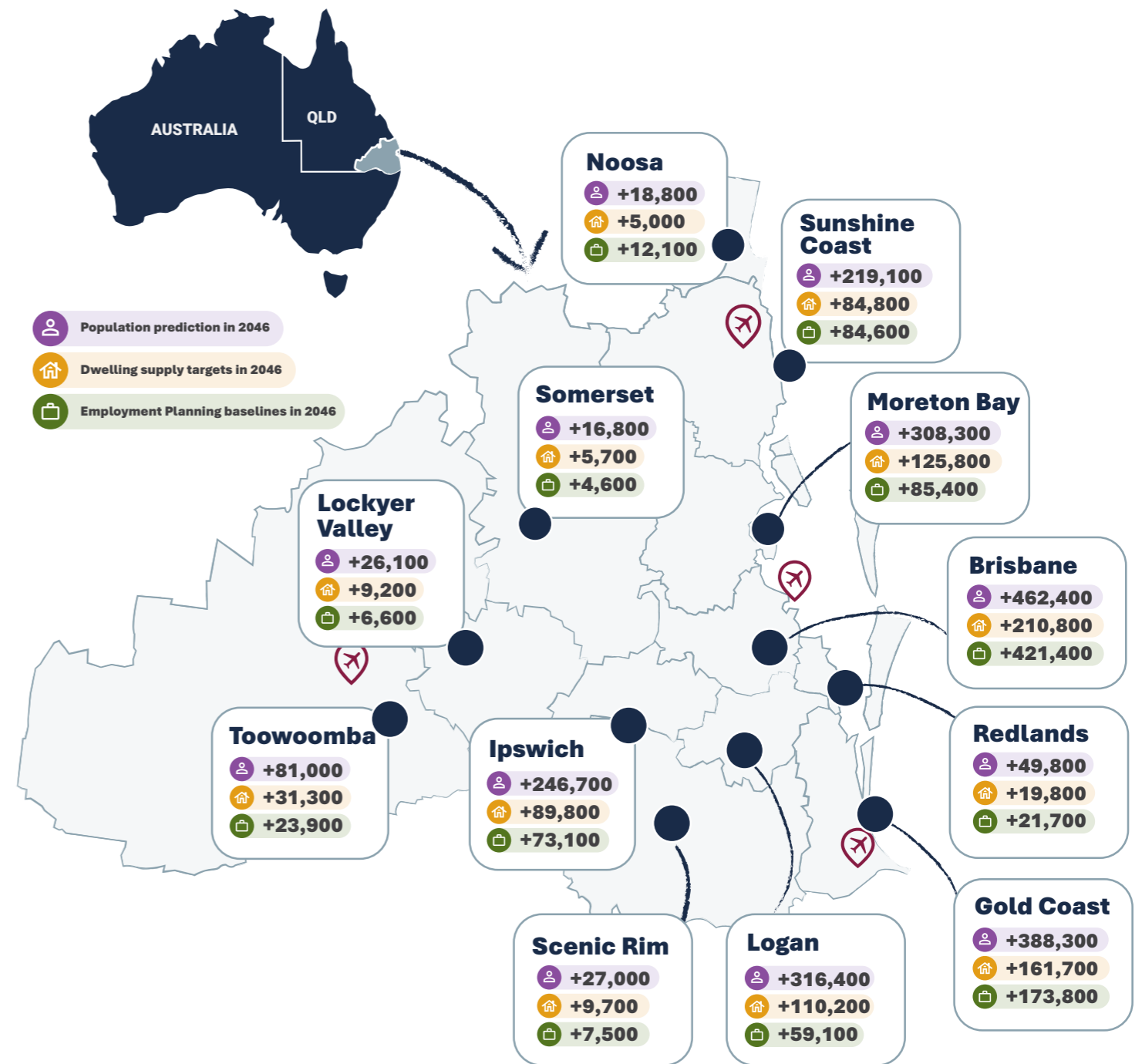
- Health Care and Social Assistance
- Construction
- Education and Training
- Retail Trade
- Professional, Scientific and Technical Services

Tourism

- 77.3% QLD visitor nights are spent in SEQ
- 64% QLD tourists visit SEQ
- Brisbane 2032** Host of the Brisbane 2032 Olympic and Paralympic Games

Growing to 6 Million People by 2046

- +2.2m new residents
- +900k new homes by 2046
- +1m new jobs by 2046
- 29 region shaping infrastructure projects critical for growth



Source: National Institute of Economic and Industry Research (NIER) 2024
 ShapingSEQ 2023, South East Queensland Regional Plan

Board of Directors

As at 30 June 2024, Council of Mayors (SEQ) Directors included:



Adrian Schrunner
 Chair, CoMSEQ Board
 Chair, Resilient Rivers Taskforce
 Vice President, Brisbane 2032
 Lord Mayor, Brisbane City Council



Peter Flannery
 Deputy Chair, CoMSEQ Board
 CoMSEQ Representative, Brisbane 2032
 Intergovernmental Leaders Forum
 Mayor, City of Moreton Bay



Tanya Milligan
 Treasurer, CoMSEQ Board
 Mayor, Lockyer Valley Regional Council



Teresa Harding
 Representative Director,
 Lord Mayor's Nominee,
 Brisbane 2032 Organising
 Committee
 Mayor, Ipswich City Council



Jon Raven
 Chair, CoMSEQ Waste Working
 Group
 Mayor, City of Logan
 Note: Darren Power was the
 CoMSEQ Director until 10 May
 2024, prior to the appointment
 of Mayor Raven at the 2024 local
 government quadrennial elections.



Frank Wilkie
 Deputy Chair, CoMSEQ Waste
 Working Group
 Mayor, Noosa Council
 Note: Clare Stewart was the
 CoMSEQ Director until 10 May
 2024, prior to the appointment
 of Mayor Wilkie at the 2024 local
 government quadrennial elections.



Jos Mitchell
 Mayor, Redland City Council
 Note: Karen Williams was the
 CoMSEQ Director until 10 May
 2024, prior to the appointment of
 Mayor Mitchell at the 2024 local
 government quadrennial elections.



Tom Sharp
 Mayor, Scenic Rim Regional
 Council
 Note: Greg Christensen was the
 CoMSEQ Director until 10 May
 2024, prior to the appointment
 of Mayor Sharp at the 2024 local
 government quadrennial elections.



Jason Wendt
 Mayor, Somerset Regional
 Council
 Note: Graeme Lehmann was the
 CoMSEQ Director until 10 May
 2024, prior to the appointment
 of Mayor Wendt at the 2024 local
 government quadrennial elections.



Rosanna Natoli
 Mayor, Sunshine Coast Council
 Note: Mark Jamieson was the
 CoMSEQ Director until 10 May
 2024, prior to the appointment
 of Mayor Natoli at the 2024 local
 government quadrennial elections.



Geoff McDonald
 Chair, CoMSEQ Leveraging
 2032 Working Group
 Mayor, Toowoomba Regional
 Council
 Note: Paul Antonio was a CoMSEQ
 Director until 4 August 2023, with
 the appointment of Mayor Geoff
 McDonald.

Our Mission and Values

Our Mission

To consistently deliver better regional funding, policy and collaborative outcomes for the communities of South East Queensland.

Strategic Pillars



We are the voice of SEQ

Representing the one in seven Australians who call South East Queensland home.



We are thought leaders

Exploring new ways to solve South East Queensland's challenges and maximise its opportunities.



We are partners in SEQ's Future

Forming strategic alliances and delivering tangible outcomes for South East Queensland.



We are innovative, agile and motivated

Adding value for South East Queensland councils and communities.

Value Statements

- Speak as one region with one voice, using our collective influence to successfully engage key decision makers.
- Be a trusted and accessible local government partner with a reputation as the voice for member councils on regional matters impacting South East Queensland.
- Foster strong relationships that transcend politics.

- Lead with bold decisions that put people before politics.
- Learn, share and grow from experience of comparable regions around the world.
- Explore innovative and collaborative solutions which positively support the region's population and economic growth.
- Support a region connected by world class transit and digital infrastructure that drives the region's economic connectivity.

- Leverage the Brisbane 2032 Olympic and Paralympic Games as a catalyst to deliver tangible local benefits for South East Queensland.
- Respond to the region's significant growth to maintain and enhance South East Queensland's unique lifestyle and investment proposition.
- Enhance the health, sustainability and economic prosperity of South East Queensland.
- Build strategic alliances which build South East Queensland's profile and support regional economic opportunities.

- Facilitate collaboration between SEQ councils on regional issues.
- Maintain an efficient, effective and responsive member-focused organisation.

Our Regional Drivers

South East Queensland (SEQ), home to one in seven Australians, is a region unlike any other. The strong economic growth, high standard of living, and idyllic climate and lifestyle on offer presents a myriad of opportunities for residents, visitors, and investors. SEQ's population growth fuels future projections of strong economic growth for the region in the coming decades. However, these great opportunities come with real challenges.

By 2041, SEQ will be comparable to the size of Greater Sydney today, and this record growth has been further accelerated by increased interstate migration during the pandemic. This growth has and will continue to provide the region with new amenities, infrastructure and services that enhance our lifestyle, but it is also placing increased pressure on many of the things that people love. Things like how easy it is for people to find a job, how easy it is to move around, how affordable it is to live, and the health of our natural environment.

Growth, and how the region manages it, presents an opportunity for coordinated action at a regional level to positively transform South East Queensland. The region is facing the challenge of planning and delivering infrastructure and services needed to accommodate its increasing population, drive productivity and address rising cost of living pressures. South East Queensland's sub-tropical climate also leaves the region vulnerable to severe weather events and drought, significantly impacting the catchments and waterways that are the lifeblood of our businesses and communities.

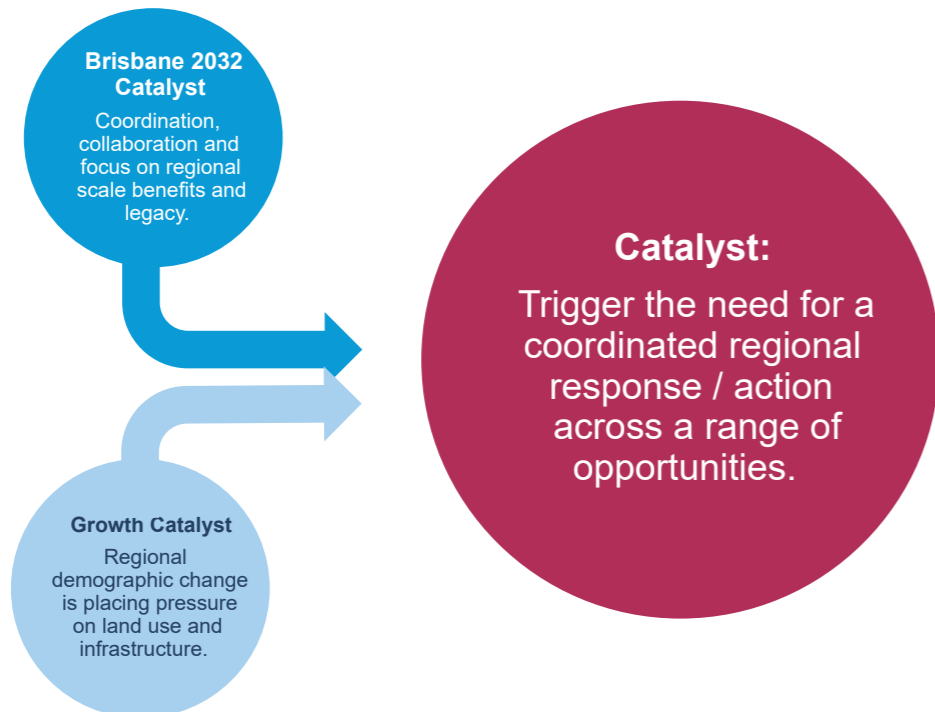
Population growth and traffic congestion will continue to be one of the region's greatest economic, social and environmental challenges. By 2032 congestion is expected to cost our region more than \$6b annually in lost productivity and by 2041 the region's major road networks are forecast to

be overcapacity. It was one of the reasons why the Council of Mayors (SEQ) started the region's Olympic and Paralympic Games journey in 2015 – as a catalyst to secure critical transport infrastructure, and to position the region as a global destination for tourism, trade and investment.

The Brisbane 2032 Games provides an opportunity to transform South East Queensland by driving infrastructure investment, boosting tourism, and supporting economic uplift and job creation for decades to come. With our journey to 2032 well under way, it's an opportunity to ensure South East Queensland and its priorities are firmly on the agenda of government and industry alike. But it will take long-term collaboration and action to ensure we make the most of this opportunity to secure better infrastructure, generate new economic outcomes and local jobs, and support a healthier South East Queensland that is the envy of communities across the globe.

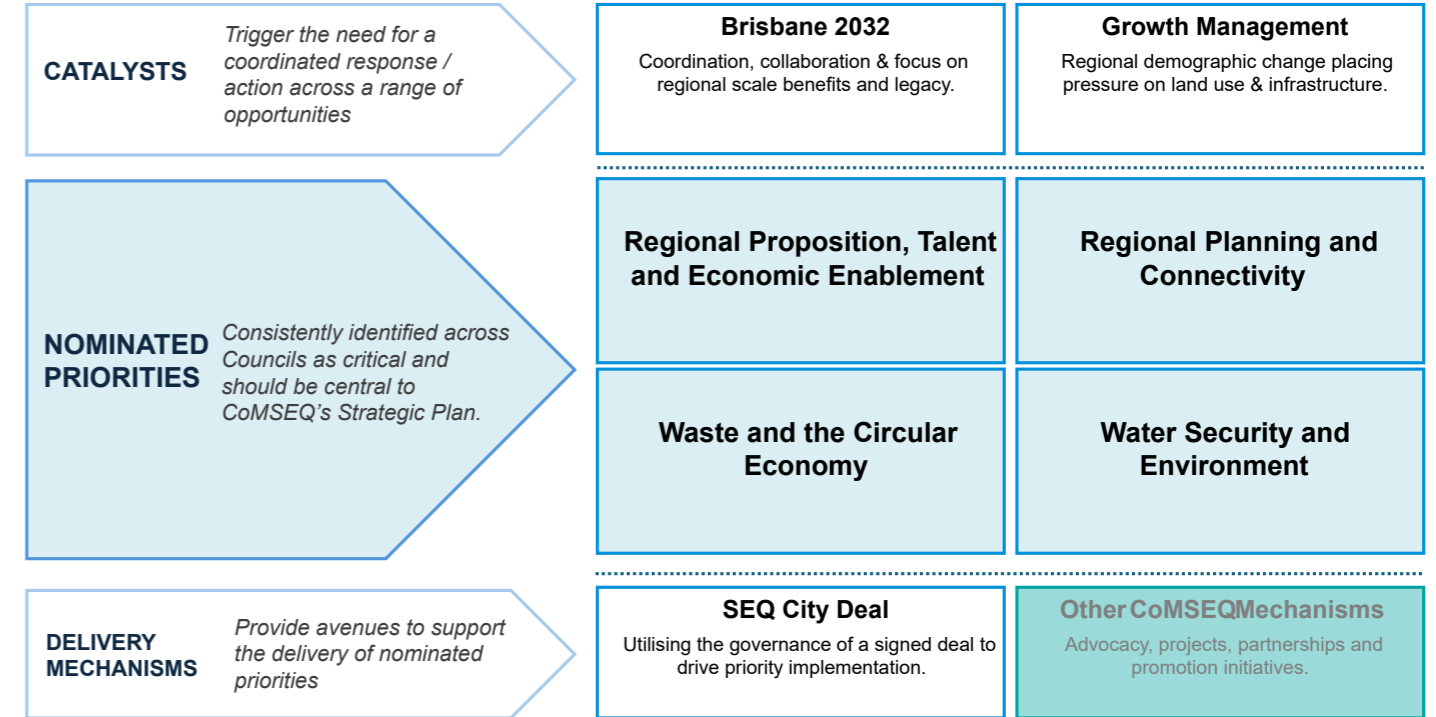
Council to Mayors Olympic and Paralympic Games journey has reinforced that when governments work together, we achieve better outcomes. That's why we continued to work with the Queensland and Australian governments on another bold initiative; securing a City Deal for South East Queensland. The SEQ City Deal, which was signed on 21 March 2022, creates a new delivery mechanism to accelerate investment in the infrastructure we need for growth and to support a successful Brisbane 2032 Games. It sets a long-term vision and framework for our region to deliver a healthy, attractive, connected and prosperous global destination into the future.

The SEQ City Deal Implementation Plan was launched in July 2023 and set the foundation for funding to support projects in the Deal to operationalise in the 2023-24 financial year.



Our Regional Priorities

The Council of Mayors (SEQ) Board has identified priority regional-level ambitions which require a fully integrated and coordinated approach and will form the focus of Council of Mayors (SEQ). These priorities have been identified through engagement with the Board, CEOs and other key Council staff.



SEQ Mayors descended to Queensland Parliament House to strengthen engagement with the State Government.



Our Delivery Mechanisms

Council of Mayors (SEQ) has a track record of working together with industry, member councils and other tiers of government to deliver outcomes that respond to South East Queensland's challenges and capitalise on regional opportunities.

Our Operational Plan builds on this track record and outlines a coordinated approach for how Council of Mayors (SEQ) will work with our councils and strategic partners to build stronger collaborative relationships and deliver greater benefit for the south-east.

This reflects our collective desire for South East Queensland to be a region with unparalleled opportunities for people to live and work, and a region where people can enjoy a sustainable lifestyle supported by a healthy natural environment.

The Plan outlines endorsed regional priorities and corresponding strategic actions to support collaboration with our Board, our member councils and strategic partners to achieve our vision to consistently deliver better regional funding, policy and collaborative outcomes for the communities of South East Queensland.

Council of Mayors (SEQ) has different roles across many of its nominated regional priorities. The Plan helps to ensure these roles are clearly defined and supporting activities are appropriately planned, prioritised and resourced.

We Project Manage

We play a leadership role in delivering key regional projects which align with our regional priorities. In these circumstances our experienced team takes a leadership role in managing complex projects which usually require significant collaboration and coordination with member-Councils and other tiers of government.

We Advocate

Structured engagement with the State and Commonwealth Governments as well as other industry peak bodies. Advocacy is a core function of the Council of Mayors (SEQ) and our advocacy efforts focus on regional outcomes that support the collective interests of our member Councils. This is focussed on regional priority areas and generally promotes changes to public policy, community resourcing or investment that impacts South East Queensland and its councils. Our regional advocacy efforts help to support independent advocacy of Councils at a local level. Advocacy to other levels of government is always stronger when our region speaks with one voice, and Council of Mayors (SEQ) relies heavily on the support of the Board and member-Councils to be truly successful.

We Collaborate

We engage regularly with Commonwealth and Queensland Government representatives, Councils and strategic industry partners. This coordinated collaboration is facilitated through Board meetings, delegations, as well as working groups which provide an opportunity for the Mayors, Councillors and Council Officers to provide input into projects and activities which are being delivered to support Regional Priorities.

We Promote

We are focussed on creating positive collaboration between strategic partners and other tiers of government to unlock our region's potential. We will engage with the private and public sector, both locally and beyond the region to promote South East Queensland opportunities that align with Council of Mayors (SEQ) priorities.



Resilient Rivers South East Queensland partnered with Greening Australia and Locker Valley Regional Council to plant more than 750 native trees in Voluntary Home Buy-Back (VHBB) land adjacent to Lions Park.

Our Year in Review

2023

July

- Launched the SEQ City Deal Implementation Plan in collaboration with the Australian Government, Queensland Government and Council of Mayors (SEQ).

August

- Advocated for the Brisbane 2032 Games to be used as a catalyst for critical growth infrastructure through a submission to the Australian Senate Standing Committees on Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport's inquiry into Australia's preparedness to host Commonwealth, Olympic and Paralympic Games.
- Held the annual SEQ Local Government Forum providing SEQ's Mayors, Councillors and CEOs as an opportunity to collaborate on the region's challenges and opportunities.

- Secured \$151 million from the State Government for bin infrastructure to help SEQ councils implement garden organic waste collection services.
- Sunshine Coast Council launched a \$40.5 million material recycling facility (MRF) with \$22 million funding from the State Government and \$5 million from the Federal Government. This is a major deliverable of the SEQ Waste Management Plan.
- Welcomed the appointment of Mayor Geoff McDonald as a Director following the retirement of Mayor Paul Antonio.

December

- Launched the Resilient Rivers: SEQ Waterways and Wetlands Investment Strategy with the Queensland Government.

November

- Supported the launch of Elevate 2042 – the Brisbane 2032 Games Legacy Strategy in collaboration with Games Delivery Partners, setting a strategic vision and legacy for SEQ communities.
- Participated in three SEQ Regional Planning meetings with Minister for Housing and Local Government, Meaghan Scanlon MP. These meetings provided a focus on updating Mayors on the review and implementation of ShapingSEQ 2023 Update.
- Hosted a world first Advanced Air Mobility (AAM) workshop with all levels of government and key industry providers.
- Joined Premier Steven Miles on a delegation to Canberra to meet with Hon Catherine King MP ahead of the Minister's Review of the National Infrastructure Investment Program. This advocacy was successful in resulting in no major changes in South East Queensland's planned infrastructure program.

ELEVATE 2042

Embracing the opportunities brought about by hosting the Brisbane 2032 Olympic and Paralympic Games.

October

- Supported a successful Asia Pacific Cities Summit and Mayors' Forum in Brisbane.
- Announced intent to progress a Strategic Sister-Region Partnership between SEQ and North America powerhouse Metro Vancouver.
- Hosted a delegation to Queensland Parliament to meet with Palaszczuk Government and key ministers to advocate for SEQ.

2024

January

- Launched the SEQ Liveability fund as part of the SEQ City Deal. The Fund will see \$285.8 million invested into local infrastructure projects to enhance the lifestyle of SEQ communities.

March

- 2024 Local Government Elections were held.
- Responded to the independent 60-day review of Brisbane 2032 Olympic and Paralympic Venues chaired by Graham Quirk.

April

- Partnered with Greening Australia and Lockyer Valley Regional Council to host a Community Planting Day in Lower Tenthill.

May

- Held the first Board Meeting for the 2024-28 Local Government term.
- Hosted a delegation to Queensland Parliament and met with the Miles Government and the Crisafulli Opposition to strengthen partnerships ahead of the 2024 Queensland State Elections.



We are the voice of SEQ

Representing one in seven Australians who call South East Queensland home.

Our Values:

- Speak as one region with one voice, using our collective influence to successfully engage key decision-makers.
- Be a trusted and accessible local government partner with a reputation as the voice for member councils on regional matters.
- Foster strong relationships that transcend politics.

Our Achievements

- Joined Premier Steven Miles in a delegation to Canberra to meet with Hon Catherine King, Minister for Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development and Local Government ahead of the federal government's Independent Strategic Review of the Infrastructure Investment Program. This advocacy was successful with no major changes in South East Queensland.
- Responded to the 60-day Independent Review of Brisbane 2032 Olympic and Paralympic Venue Infrastructure lead by Graham Quirk, Premier Steven Miles and Minister for State Development and Infrastructure Grace Grace. Council of Mayors (SEQ) advocated and provided feedback on behalf of the region outlining the need for major infrastructure, including fit-for-purpose stadiums, are required for an Olympic Games in order to attract further investment into the region and respond to our growth pressures.
- Continued to participate in strategic government and industry forums, representing the interest of South East Queensland local governments. This included actively engaging with and briefing industry on the work of Council of Mayors (SEQ) and member Councils to support strategic priority areas.

Key industry engagements included:

- Attended the 'How are Councils Responding to the Housing Crisis' panel discussion delivered by the Property Council of Australia. The event was an opportunity to discuss how councils can continue to respond to the housing crisis alongside the upcoming State Infrastructure Plan due in 2025. This discussion highlighted councils keen interest in responding to SEQ's growth challenge and need for boosted infrastructure such as public transport.
- Presented at the biennial RotorTech Helicopter and Uncrewed Flight Exposition as an opportunity to work with key industry players and provide an update on SEQ's Advanced Air Mobility (AAM) progress happening within the region.
- Showcased the catalytic impact of the Brisbane 2032 Olympic and Paralympic Games through the collaboration and implementation of the South East Queensland City Deal with Committee for Brisbane.
- Attended the 'How will ShapingSEQ impact you?' event delivered by the Property Council of Australia. The event shone a spotlight on the impact of the South East Queensland Regional Plan on housing, growth and employment targets which will continue to rise.
- Mayoral delegations continued to support engagement with the State Government to discuss South East Queensland's strategic priorities. Two CoMSEQ delegations were held aimed to building relationships and continuing to explore opportunities to work collaboratively to respond to growth.

They include:

- Met with key Shadow Ministers and Ministers under the Palaszczuk Government in October 2023. The delegation co-hosted a reception with Premier Palaszczuk which included senior staff from Queensland Government Departments. The delegation was an opportunity to advocate for SEQ's needs and build on our strong partnership between SEQ Councils and the Queensland Government.
- The second delegation, held in May 2024, met with the Miles Government and the Crisafulli Opposition to strengthen partnerships ahead of the October 2024 Queensland Government Elections. The Mayors co-hosted receptions with both Premier Steven Miles and the Leader of the Opposition David Crisafulli.
- Supported announcement of the \$100m SEQ Community Stimulus Program which will deliver critical housing, local infrastructure and jobs throughout the region.
- Continued to raise the profile of key regional priorities and initiatives for SEQ through campaigns, including the publishing of media releases and generating further traditional print, TV and radio publicity stories. Throughout the reporting period, Council of Mayors (SEQ) had over 300 media mentions. This coverage reached a cumulative potential reach of 7.45 million and an ASR of AUD \$3.61 million.

Key stories included:

- Collaboration with the Australian Government and Queensland Government to launch the SEQ City Deal Implementation Plan.
- Secured an investment of \$151 million for GROW FOGO with the Queensland Government to harmonise bin infrastructure.
- Secured an investment of more than \$285.5 million for local infrastructure projects through the SEQ Liveability Fund as part of the SEQ City Deal. The projects will enhance the lifestyle of South East Queensland's communities.

SEQ Mayors hosted Minister Kristy McBain, Minister for Regional Development, Local Government and Territories during her time in the region.



Delegations to Queensland Parliament deliver regional outcomes

Council of Mayors (SEQ) continues to strengthen ties with all levels of government and as a result has hosted two successful delegations to Queensland Parliament. There is significant collaboration happening in South East Queensland and the delegation provided an opportunity to continue this strategic conversation to ensure our region remains the best place to live, work and play.

The first delegation saw targeted discussions with the Palaszczuk Government and key Cabinet Ministers about the critical need for additional infrastructure to support our rapid growth to ensure our region can continue to grow.

Following the 2024 Local Government Elections and SEQ Mayors took to Queensland Parliament again to call on both major parties ahead of the 2024 State elections for the opportunity to back councils grappling with the region's crippling growth, housing and infrastructure funding.

Council of Mayors (SEQ) successfully hosted receptions with both sides of government to build relationships and was a key platform for advocating for South East Queensland and policy development. The Mayors were able to build meaningful relationships with both the State and Opposition that transcend politics in the interest of supporting our region.

As a result of the delegation, the Council of Mayors (SEQ) welcomed the announcement of \$100m to support SEQ councils through the next phase of the SEQ Community Stimulus Program to deliver housing, local infrastructure and jobs throughout the region.

Together as a delivery partner with the State Government, Council of Mayors (SEQ) continues to support a number of region-shaping initiatives including Resilient Rivers South East Queensland, SEQ Waste Management Plan, and the Brisbane 2032 Olympic and Paralympic Games.

CoMSEQ Board of Directors

In March 2024 the Local Government Elections were held. As a result, Council of Mayors (SEQ) welcomed 6 new Mayors to the Board of Directors. Following the Local Government Elections, the Board met for the first time at the CoMSEQ Strategy Day. The day was an opportunity to discuss SEQ's regional vision, priorities and desired outcomes that will shape our region for generations to come. And the focus of CoMSEQ into the future.



We are thought leaders

Exploring new ways to solve South East Queensland's challenges and maximise its opportunities

Our Values:

- Lead with bold decisions that put people before politics.
- Learn, share, and grow from the experiences of comparable regions around the world.
- Explore innovative and collaborative solutions which positively support the region's population and economic growth.
- Support a region connected by world class transit and digital infrastructure that drives the region's economic connectivity.

Regional Proposition, Talent and Economic Enablement.

Our Focus

- Build SEQ's regional proposition to support strategic partnerships and global networks to enable trade, talent attraction and foreign direct investment opportunities.
- Supporting the region's economic prosperity to accelerate SEQ's transition to a more sustainable and export-competitive, knowledge-intensive region with a diverse range of high-value jobs, while ensuring the region fully leverages the benefits of a 20-year SEQ City Deal between three levels of government, and the hosting of the Brisbane 2032 Olympic and Paralympic Games.

Our Achievements

- In partnership with the Australian Government and Queensland Government, the SEQ City Deal Implementation Plan was launched. This will guide the established SEQ City Deal to support region-wide reform initiatives and collaborative outcomes, including place-based projects by individual councils.
- Launched the SEQ Liveability Fund through the SEQ City Deal guiding \$285.8m. This funding will elevate and expand critical community infrastructure aimed at enhancing local lifestyle.
- Supported a successful Asia Pacific Cities Summit & Mayors' Forum (APCS) and hosted a delegation of North America Mayors and urban leaders. The strengthened partnerships between Metro Vancouver and Council of Mayors (SEQ) is supporting collaboration on social, civic and economic outcomes for each region.
- Hosted SEQ's Roadmap to Advanced Air Mobility (AAM) workshop with Arup. The workshop was a world first and brought together representatives from industry, all three levels of government, as well as Australia's aviation regulator and relevant authorities. The workshop provided attendees with insights from key industry and government representatives about Advanced Air Mobility and the work being undertaken in Australia.
- Hosted a Californian Delegation of business leaders by California Secretary for Natural Resources, Wade Crowfoot and Los Angeles Business Council President, Mary Leslie. This in-bound mission focused on opportunities to compare clean technologies and public transport for the growing regions and discuss the shared challenges and opportunities for hosting the LA28 and Brisbane 2032.
- Participated in the 2032 Legacy Children's Play Forum in collaboration with Thriving Queensland Kids Partnership, Play Matters and Arup to explore how to make 'play' a theme for 2032 planning, design and legacy initiatives. In the lead up to Brisbane 2032, the Forum was an opportunity to discuss the health, development and wellbeing of our children, families and communities, for this and future generations.
- Hosted the SEQin32 – Brisbane Region Trade and Investment Forum, which included SEQ Councils and key industry leaders for an opportunity to enhance continued collaboration at a regional scale when pursuing a long-term approach to economic development.
- Successfully launched the SEQin32 Leveraging Action Plan. Following the announcement of Brisbane 2032, the Mayors worked together to develop a CoMSEQ-led plan to support regional collaboration towards key legacy objectives and actions. The Plan identifies a number of targeted regional legacy priorities to leverage the benefits and opportunities the Games can bring to the South East Queensland region.
- Continued ongoing collaboration and cooperation with our strategic sister-region Metro Vancouver as a result the Council of Mayors (SEQ) successfully coordinated the Pacific Leaders Policy Exchange. This included key engagements with officers designed to share similar policy challenges in growth, housing, connectivity, waste and affordability between South East Queensland and Metro Vancouver. Continued further targeted discussions addressing shared policy experiences and information which can collectively strengthen SEQ's capability to deliver benefits across shared areas of focus.
- Fostered strategic networks and partnerships to showcase SEQ's regional proposition as a global destination for trade and investment, leveraging the green and gold runway to Brisbane 2032.
- Utilised CoMSEQ's role as a Games Delivery Partner for Brisbane 2032 to support collaborative outcomes for SEQ and member Councils and successfully advocated to the Queensland Government for the establishment of an independent delivery authority (now known as the Games Venue and Legacy Delivery Authority (GVLDA)).
- Secured legislative backing for Brisbane 2032 Transport and Mobility Strategy as a key responsibility for the Independent Games Delivery Authority to deliver. This is a significant outcome of CoMSEQ's advocacy to ensure a focused and coordinated transport plan across SEQ ahead of Brisbane 2032.
- Discussed opportunities for Councils to collaborate with an elected Crisafulli State Government to tackle the housing crisis and to meet the targets outlined in ShapingSEQ, as well as the Brisbane 2032 Transport and Mobility Strategy.

Supported a successful Asia Pacific Cities Summit & Mayors' Forum (APCS) and hosted a delegation of North America Mayors and urban leaders. projects in Elevate 2042.

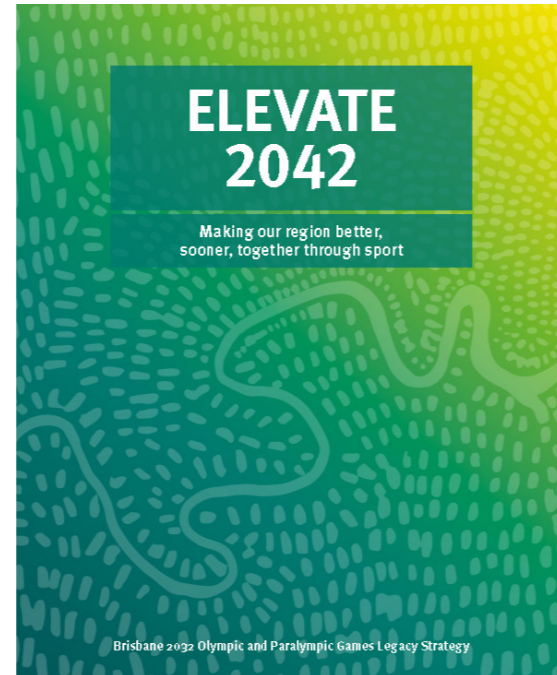


The Brisbane 2032: Games Legacy Strategy

Brisbane's Games Legacy Strategy – Elevate 2042 – was unveiled by Games Delivery Partners in November 2023, outlining the catalytic opportunities to transform our region because of Brisbane 2032.

Elevate 2042 provides the framework for that transformation, with a focus on four key areas to leverage the Games and create a lasting legacy that can transform lives, livelihoods, environments or attitudes. These key areas are connecting people and places; a better future for our environment; economy for the future; and sport, health and inclusion.

The strategy additionally recognises an array of CoMSEQ's initiatives as early enablers of legacy, such as Resilient Rivers South East Queensland and the SEQ Waste Management Plan. It also ensures a strong transport legacy vision for SEQ because of the Games.



Strengthening International Relations

In July 2023, CoMSEQ received a Californian Delegation of business leaders to South East Queensland as a direct response to CoMSEQ's North American Mission.

The Californian Delegation focused on opportunities for the next two Olympic and Paralympic Games hosts to collaborate to ensure the Games brings positive legacies to the cities through public transport and critical infrastructure. Continuing to foster these relations will allow South East Queensland to attract international investment and showcase our region as a global lifestyle destination.

As a part of its broader international engagement, Council of Mayors (SEQ) announced an intent to progress a strategic sister region partnership with Metro Vancouver, as an opportunity to gain global insight to managing population growth, housing affordability and the delivery of more sustainable waste practices.



The strengthened partnerships between Metro Vancouver and Council of Mayors (SEQ) is supporting collaboration on social, civic and economic outcomes for each region.

\$285.8m SEQ Liveability Fund

The Australian Government and Queensland Government along with the Council of Mayors (SEQ) released the South East Queensland City Deal Implementation Plan which guides the delivery of 29 projects.

In January 2024, the \$285.8 million SEQ's Liveability Fund assessment was unveiled revealing 24 local projects which were to benefit the region and deliver and build healthier, liveable and more inclusive, connected communities.

The SEQ Liveability Fund will help one of Australia's fastest growing regions cater for its booming population. The projects unveiled include new parks, playgrounds, community spaces, and environmental infrastructure to support upcoming developments as the regions heads towards the Brisbane 2032 Olympic and Paralympic Games.



We are partners in SEQ's future

Forming strategic alliances and delivering tangible outcomes for South East Queensland

Our Values:

- Leveraging the Brisbane 2032 Olympic and Paralympic Games as a catalyst to deliver tangible local benefits for South East Queensland.
- Respond to the region's significant growth to maintain and enhance South East Queensland's unique lifestyle and investment proposition.
- Enhance the health, sustainability and economic prosperity of South East Queensland.
- Build strategic alliances which build South East Queensland's profile and support regional economic opportunities.

Regional Planning and Connectivity

Our Focus

- Respond to SEQ's significant growth pressures and drive positive planning outcomes by establishing a consistent regional position on key land use planning matters.
- Support prioritisation and investment in regional transport and digital infrastructure to enhance the region's economic connectivity and global competitiveness, increase liveability, and accelerate the creation of future jobs.

Our Achievements

- Secured a \$5m commitment for a Queensland Government led Community Planning Education campaign aimed at educating communities about growth, planning and the benefits of density. A digital campaign was rolled out following the launch of the Shaping SEQ 2023.
- Collaborated with LGAQ and SEQ councils on a Infrastructure Charges Contemporary Research Paper aimed at understanding the growing cost of growth on communities.
- Responded to the Australian Government's draft National Urban Policy. This was an opportunity to emphasise the importance of investing in major infrastructure and connectivity to improve productivity, housing, jobs and improve affordable living.
- With strong engagement with SEQ councils, provided significant input and feedback into the ShapingSEQ 2023 Update, and SEQ Infrastructure Supplement (SEQIS). The nature of the feedback was focussed on improving governance and ensuring strong engagement with Councils, improved integration between land use and infrastructure planning, better infrastructure delivery to ensure infrastructure matches growth, as well as calls for more immediate and pragmatic responses to the housing crisis.
- Continued to work closely with SEQ Councils and the Queensland Government on implementation of ShapingSEQ 2023.
- The SEQIS included an improved approach to infrastructure planning for SEQ and inclusion of a number of new priority public transport and infrastructure projects critical for the region's growth.
- Participated in three SEQ Regional Planning Meetings with Minister for Housing and Local Government, Meaghan Scanlon MP. These meetings provided a focus on updating Mayors on the review and implementation of ShapingSEQ 2023.
- Continued to support engagement and collaboration between SEQ councils to establish a united position on regional planning matters. This advocacy was critical supporting good outcomes for SEQ communities through ongoing engagements with the State.
- Held regular meetings with the Queensland Government to elevate council needs, strengthen partnerships, and improve information sharing. This included stronger support for local government priorities around planning scheme amendments, employment planning and industrial land planning.
- Significant progress has been made on the Planning for Future Region Shaping Infrastructure (SEQCD) project. The commencement of Pilot 1 – Eastern Corridor is underway, with tripartite support secured to explore improved corridor planning between all levels of government.
- Continued to collaborate with industry peaks to support policy development and elevate local government interests. This included opportunities to explore non-planning responses to the housing crisis such as market factors, construction methods and development barriers.
- Successfully coordinated council feedback for the new State Government planning reform proposals. This includes changes to the accelerated planning scheme amendments processes as well as the Housing Availability and Affordability (Planning and Other Legislation Amendment) Bill 2023.
- Engaged with over 90 industry and government bodies to inform the development of the Smart Region Digital Plan.



Regional Advocacy to inform the ShapingSEQ Update

The Council of Mayors (SEQ) developed a comprehensive submission to the draft ShapingSEQ 2023 update and Infrastructure Supplement (SEQIS). This submission highlighted the need for collaborative, evidence-based regional planning and highlighted several key areas of focus:

Collaborative Evidence-Based Regional Planning:

- Emphasised the importance of a unified approach to regional planning, ensuring a resilient, liveable, and prosperous region.
- Advocated for improved connection between land use and infrastructure planning.

Managing the Cost of Growth:

- Addressed the financial burden of growth on communities and called for genuine support from the State Government to expand infrastructure funding.

Housing Supply and Diversity:

- Supported increasing housing supply and diversity while protecting regional liveability.
- Proposed collaborative methodologies for implementing Housing Supply Statements.

Economic Coordination and Collaboration:

- Highlighted the need for strategic regional economic development to align labour demand and supply, and unlock the region's economic potential.

Accelerating Enabling Infrastructure:

- Called for innovative partnership models to accelerate and deliver critical infrastructure projects, emphasising the need for a joined-up planning and infrastructure delivery system.

Collaborative Governance and Well-Resourced Implementation:

- Stressed the importance of strong collaborative governance to support the policy objectives of the updated regional plan.
- Advocated for a strategic partnership approach to ensure effective implementation

This feedback was generally taken onboard in the finalisation of the ShapingSEQ 2023 Update, with a number of matters that will continue to be worked through with the State in implementation of the plan.

Met with Shadow Minister for State Development, Infrastructure and Planning, Shadow Minister for Olympic and Paralympic Infrastructure and Jobs, Shadow Minister for Industrial Relations Mr Jarrod Bleijie to discuss the delivery of more housing and employment opportunities to meet the State's growth targets for SEQ.



Our plan is more of the Queensland you love

Discover how we are planning homes and more for our growing state

SEQ Mayors hosted Premier Steven Miles and Hon. Meaghan Scanlon MP, Minister for Housing, Local Government and Planning and Minister for Public Works Regional Planning Committee (RPC) to continue to support engagement between local and State Government ahead of the release of ShapingSEQ 2023.



SEQ Smart Region Digital Plan

The SEQ Smart Region Digital Plan is an initiative of the SEQ City Deal, led by the Council of Mayors (SEQ) and is a blueprint to support economic growth within the region with a focus area on public service delivery, governance, partnerships and future-focused liveability.

The Plan, which is under development, will establish a digital vision for the region and digital priorities to ensure that digital investment is strategically aligned with broader regional objectives and community needs. The Plan will also identify improved government mechanisms to better coordinate digital planning across SEQ and ensure that federal, state and local digital planning is aligned and coordinated to support implementation of digital projects.

The Plan will be critical for guiding investment of the SEQ City Deal \$50m Local Digital Priority Projects fund and providing a conducive environment for co-investment partnerships with industry.



Coordinated key engagements with Industry, Government and Not-for-Profit bodies to inform and develop the SEQ Smart Region Digital Plan.



Waste and the Circular Economy

Our Focus

- Accelerate SEQ's transition towards a circular economy through coordinated implementation of the SEQ Waste Management Plan.

Our Achievements

- Worked collaboratively with the Queensland Government to secure \$151M investment for bin infrastructure that is needed to support rollout of organics services in SEQ. The Fund delivers the most generous state support for local government to date in Australia, and includes funding for the purchase of green bins, bin harmonization and education.
- Undertook an EOI for residual waste solutions for SEQ councils aimed at identifying possible solutions to divert waste from landfill. CoMSEQ continues to work with SEQ councils and the Queensland Government on opportunities for a regional approach to residual waste that will transition councils in SEQ away from landfill.
- Pursued \$4m funding from the Queensland Government to deliver five regionally-coordinated organics multiple unit dwelling (MUDs) pilots across four SEQ councils, aiming to research and develop organic waste collection practices in a range of unit settings. Pilots will be undertaken by four councils: Brisbane City Council, Sunshine Coast Council, Noosa Council and City of Gold Coast. Outcomes of the pilots will be shared with SEQ councils and help to shape the best possible approach to improving organics recycling in MUDs across the south east and the whole of Queensland.
- Worked collaboratively with the Australian Government, Queensland Government and Sunshine Coast Council to secure funding for a \$40.5 million council material recycling facility. Construction of the facility delivers a significant outcome of the SEQ Waste Management Plan.
- Collaborated with the Queensland Government for investment towards a regional education/behaviours campaign - Let's Get It Sorted Program – which aimed at improving recycling awareness. Additionally, funding was available for councils to deliver resource recovery behaviour change programs and intervention activities with a number of SEQ councils successful in their application to the program.
- Worked collaboratively with the Australian Government, Queensland Government and Sub-Regional Alliance (SRA) to secure funding for a new council-led material recycling facility for Ipswich City Council, Logan City Council and Redland City Council.
- Finalised development of the SEQ Waste Portfolio Plan – Version 2023 which will guide implementation of the SEQ Waste Management Plan and required coordination and support from the Queensland Government.
- Finalised the development of a SEQ Organics Processing Roadmap in partnership with the Queensland Government. The project considers future organics processing requirements of councils, best practice, diversion outcomes, financial impacts on ratepayers, and end-market products to guide delivery across the region. It identified significant challenges with current availability of organics processing in SEQ which is critical to support the organics collection rollout of councils, and provided a number of recommendations to support increased capacity into the future. CoMSEQ is currently finalising an implementation plan, in partnership with the Queensland Government, which will be vital to supporting transition to organics while minimising impacts on households.



Worked collaboratively with the Australian Government, Queensland Government and Sunshine Coast Council to secure funding for a \$40.5 million council material recycling facility. Construction of the facility delivers a significant outcome of the SEQ Waste Management Plan.

GROW FOGO investment to help Queensland households

Working with the Queensland Government, the Council of Mayors (SEQ) secured an investment of \$151 million to support Queensland households transitioning to opt-out organic collection services. This investment, valued at up to \$110 per household, will support SEQ Councils to better dispose of organic waste, and represents the most generous direct support for local governments in the country to date. It will see more than 1 million lime-green lidded organic bins to households across South East Queensland, and is the single biggest intervention in municipal waste reform since the introduction of kerbside recycling services.

Enabling organics collection represents the biggest intervention in municipal waste collection since recycling, and is a vital step in propelling Queensland towards state and national resource recovery targets that will substantially reduce waste going to landfill, reduce greenhouse gas emissions, and create jobs. The Fund supports the implementation of the SEQ Waste Management Plan and Queensland Organics Strategy and Action Plan. Strong collaboration across all SEQ Councils has been possible to deliver the next phase of the SEQ Waste Management Plan to ensure our region remains the best place to live, work and play.



Worked collaboratively with the Queensland Government to secure \$151M investment for bin infrastructure that is needed to support rollout of organics services in SEQ. The Fund delivers the most generous state support for local government to date in Australia, and includes funding for the purchase of green bins, bin harmonization and education.

New recycling facility in Sunshine Coast

A new \$40.5M material recycling facility (MRF) on the Sunshine Coast has opened providing industry-leading intelligent sorting technology.

Council of Mayors (SEQ) played a key role in securing funding between all levels of government, with \$22M from the Palaszczuk Government's Recycling and Jobs Fund, \$13.5M from Sunshine Coast Council and a \$5M contribution from the Albanese Government's Recycling Modernisation Fund.

The MRF is able to process up to 60,000 tonnes per year to recover glass bottles, plastic containers, cardboard, paper and steel and aluminium cans, supplying a range of quality products for re-use across several industries. The MRF is the first new-build and largest new investment publicly owned recycling infrastructure in South East Queensland in a decade. Expanding recycling capacity delivers a key finding of the South East Queensland Waste Management Plan – expanding processing options available to both councils and the private sector through a region-wide collaborative waste approach driven by South East Queensland Mayors.

With continued collaboration across all three levels of government, we can produce better regional outcomes and work towards building a more sustainable future for our region



Met with Mrs Deb Frecklington, Shadow Minister for Energy and Cost of Living, Shadow Minister for Water and the Construction of Dams and Shadow Minister for Regional Development and Manufacturing and Mr Sam O'Connor, Shadow Minister for Environment and the Great Barrier Reef, Shadow Minister for Science and Innovation and Shadow Minister for Youth to discuss the SEQ Waste Management Plan as an early enabler of Elevate 2042 Strategy.



Water Security and Environment

Our Focus

- Enhance the health and resilience of the region's waterways and improve water security for the region's growing residential, agricultural, and industrial needs.

Our Achievements

- Launched the Resilient Rivers: SEQ Waterways and Wetlands Investment Strategy (SWWIS) in collaboration with the Queensland Government to support investment in on-ground rehabilitation projects in South East Queensland.
- Secured Resilient Rivers SEQ (RRSEQ) as an early activated initiative in the Brisbane 2032 - Elevate 2042 Games Legacy Strategy. It is hoped the strong legacy vision will help to ensure SEQ's waterways are a priority now and beyond 2032.
- Resilient Rivers SEQ was recognised in ShapingSEQ 2023 as a key policy initiative for water-sensitive communities to ensure SEQ protects and sustainably manages the region's catchments through a coordinated approach to catchment management.
- Co-ordinated and delivered RRSEQ workshops with key stakeholders, government agencies and Councils. This was an opportunity for key stakeholders to provide input on key activities of the expanded program through the SEQ City Deal guided by the SWWIS.
- Finalised a SEQ City Deal program plan with the Queensland Government, and the Australian Government. The program plan outlines the scope of works for RRSEQ to undertake as part of the City Deal's \$40 million investment over a five-year term.
- Finalised a collaborative agreement between Council of Mayors (SEQ) and the Department of Environment, Science and Innovation to support the delivery of SEQ City Deal projects. This agreement will ensure that RRSEQ is able to successfully co-ordinate on-ground delivery of projects and enhance our region's waterways to ensure a coordinated approach to how we manage and invest across SEQ.
- Secured investment in initiatives to enhance agricultural water supply security for SEQ, under the Water Initiatives for Lockyer and Somerset regions. This includes progressing projects that promote sustainability, water availability, security and efficiency recognising the importance of the agricultural sector to southeast Queensland as well as the key role Lockyer and Somerset play as the prime food production region.

Led the annual Catchment Investment Program for 2023-24, as approved by the Resilient Rivers Taskforce. The Resilient Rivers Taskforce (RRT) is comprised of Council of Mayors (SEQ), Department of Environment, Science and Innovation, Department of Regional Development, Manufacturing and Water, SeqWater, and the Queensland Reconstruction Authority. The taskforce provides oversight of RRSEQ and aims to improve the health of local waterways through a coordinated approach to catchment management across the Logan, Somerset, Ipswich, Scenic Rim, Brisbane and Lockyer Valley local government areas, with the program expanding in 2024-25 across SEQ. Key activities in 2023-24 included:

- Partnered with Lockyer Valley Regional Council and Greening Australia for a local Community Planting Day. The day saw over 750 native seedlings planted on Voluntary Home Buy-Back land adjacent to Lions Park, Lower Tenthill.
- Significant progress towards stabilising Lockyer Creek has been undertaken including maintaining existing revegetation sites, stakeholder engagement and collaboration on complementary catchment projects in the region.
- Undertook a geomorphic assessment and prioritisation for Upper Bremer River and Warrill Creek sub-catchments. The report will identify and rank sites for intervention works to remediate and stabilise degraded sites with the aim of addressing ongoing erosion and building riparian resilience.
- Coordinated riparian revegetation maintenance and weed management along the Logan and Albert Rivers and provided fluvial geomorphology training for 33 Council officers at sites within the Logan-Albert Catchment. The training is designed to practice information-sharing and encourage community stewardship for our waterways.
- Initiated a whole of catchment geomorphic assessment of Oxley Creek to identify and prioritise management actions that will reduce erosion of fine sediment that ends up in Moreton Bay and protect infrastructure, biodiversity and the amenity of the creek and lakes that the local community value.
- Collaborated with Logan City Council's Environment Conservation Partnerships to support maintenance of Resilient Rivers projects. Due to this partnership three project sites along the Albert River will be maintained and protected.
- Planted over 12,000 trees in partnership with Australian Wetlands Landscaping (AWL) across both public and private properties in the Bremer Catchment targeting Upper Black Snake Creek. The planting will limit erosion damage, enhance flood resilience and restore the historical vegetation.
- Successfully delivered the Platypus Pathways workshop in partnership with Scenic Rim Regional Council, Healthy Land and Water, Seqwater and Platypus Watch. The workshop was an opportunity to promote biodiversity on private land additionally, SEQ City Deal funding has been committed for platypus eDNA monitoring in the Logan, Albert, and Bremer Rivers.
- Co-facilitated river-processes workshops with Alluvium to both landholders and inter-departmental council officers. Participants were taught key processes such as streambank erosion and developed an understanding of the management intervention options that work with these natural processes rather than against them.



Co-facilitated river-processes workshop for Council officers with Alluvium.

Delivered the Platypus Pathways workshop with council and industry partners

Continued Collaboration and Partnership with Greening Australia

In partnership with Council of Mayors (SEQ), Lockyer Valley Regional Council, and Greening Australia, for the second year in a row, hosted a community planting day and planted over 750 native seedlings on Voluntary Home Buy-Back land adjacent to Lions Park, Lower Tenthill.

This site is part of a Resilient Rivers South East Queensland project, designed to improve flood resilience, biodiversity, water security and the health of Lockyer Creek and Moreton Bay. The site selected provides essential connection to other Resilient Rivers revegetation projects downstream, including Parklea.

A mix of 44 native species of trees and shrubs were planted and will now be cared for as they take root and form new koala habitat and improve flood resilience and erosion control.

Rehabilitation projects like this pave the way for greener, wilder, and healthier spaces for all to enjoy. Projects and partnerships like this make SEQ a better place to live, both now and for generations to come.



New strategy to deliver healthier and more resilient SEQ waterways and wetlands

In partnership with the Queensland Government and Council of Mayors (SEQ), the Resilient Rivers: SEQ Waterways and Wetlands Investment Strategy (SWWIS) was launched at the Resilient Rivers Taskforce meeting.

The SWWIS provides a blueprint for growth and expansion of Resilient Rivers South East Queensland (RRSEQ) and will guide future investment, prioritisation and collaboration projects including revegetation, weed management, bank stabilisation, erosion control, off-stream watering, stock exclusion fencing and fish passage projects to improve waterway and wetland condition. On top of its environmental benefits, the SWWIS will also support new opportunities for capacity building within the environmental services industry, creation of local jobs in rural communities, and strengthened First Nations engagement in the management of the region's catchments.

RRSEQ is also included in Elevate 2042 and in ShapingSEQ 2023, the Queensland Government's long-term growth management plan for SEQ.



Met with Shadow Minister for Environment and the Great Barrier Reef, Shadow Minister for Science and Innovation and Shadow Minister for Youth, Mr Sam O'Connor to discuss RRSEQ and the SEQ Waste Management Plan as early legacy projects in Elevate 2042.



We are innovative, agile and motivated

Adding value for South East Queensland councils and communities.

Our Values:

- Facilitate collaboration between SEQ councils on regional issues.
- Maintain an efficient, effective, and responsive member-focused organisation.

Our Achievements

- In August, Council of Mayors (SEQ) welcomed the appointment of Mayor Geoff McDonald as a Director following the retirement of Mayor Paul Antonio who served more than 40 years in local government including as CoMSEQ Deputy Chair and Mayor of Toowoomba Regional Council
- Welcomed the appointments of Mayor Jon Raven, Mayor Frank Wilkie, Mayor Jos Mitchell, Mayor Tom Sharp Mayor Jason Wendt and Mayor Rosanna Natoli as Council of Mayors (SEQ) Board Members following their success in the 2024-28 Local Government Elections.
- Appointed a new Executive Committee and Leadership positions at the inaugural Board Meeting of the 2024-28 term. Lord Mayor Adrian Schrinner was appointed as Chair, Mayor Peter Flannery as Deputy Chair and Mayor Tanya Milligan as Treasurer.
- Undertook induction and strategy workshops with the newly elected Board to set the priorities and activities of Council of Mayors (SEQ) for the 2024-28 Local Government Term.
- Conducted Board Meetings to progress key operational projects, and guide the work of CoMSEQ with external stakeholders.
- Continued to conduct updates as an opportunity to keep councils and Councillors updated on Council of Mayors (SEQ) key projects and emerging opportunities.
- Completed quarterly financial statements on time and passed annual financial auditing, keeping the group committed to governing excellence.
- Coordinated various working groups comprising of members from across Local, State and Federal governments and industry as an opportunity to engage and collaborate together from all levels of government.
- Held a successful SEQ Local Government Forum attended by South East Queensland CEOs, Mayors and Councillors with the opportunity to network and hear from some of the most dynamic change makers in the region.
- Continued to implement the Strategic Advocacy and Action Plan for 23/24 which highlights priorities and projects CoMSEQ continues to progress with SEQ councils.

- Continued to facilitate regular engagement, collaboration and updates with council CEOs and senior officers to support the advancement of key projects and regional advocacy.
- Continued to support Queensland Moto Park (QMP) operations as Secretary of the South East Queensland Regional Recreation Facilities (SEQRRF). SEQRRF was established in 2012 by Council of Mayors (SEQ) in collaboration with the Queensland Government to plan, develop and deliver recreational facilities offering services to SEQ residents to encourage community sport and foster thriving communities.

Welcomed the appointment of Toowoomba Regional Council Mayor Geoff McDonald as a Council of Mayors (SEQ) Director following the retirement of Toowoomba Regional Council, Mayor Paul Antonio.



2024 Local Government Elections

In March 2024, Queensland's local government elections were held. The election resulted in Council of Mayors (SEQ) welcoming six new Mayors to the Board of Directors. Additionally, 27% of SEQ's Councillors were newly elected to their roles. Council of Mayors (SEQ) looks forward to continuing our work with all elected members to ensure SEQ remains the best place in to live, work and visit.



Local Government Forum 2023

The annual SEQ Local Government Forum is a chance for Mayors, Councillors and CEOs to learn, share and connect on some of the region's biggest initiatives, opportunities and challenges.

Hosted in August 2023, attendees heard from a number of key speakers including Queensland's Deputy Premier Steven Miles, Acting Director-General at Department of Transport and Main Roads, Sally Stannard and Editor at the Courier Mail, Chris Jones.

The Forum enables elected representatives and senior council executives to explore the future of how South East Queensland will grow over the next two decades through the rising population growth and the legacy opportunities for SEQ. Importantly, the Forum highlighted that strong collaboration and a regional approach is required to drive the best outcomes for local councils and communities. It included a sneak-peak of the new Brisbane Metro.



Hosted the session 'Regional connectivity ahead of the Brisbane 2032' with guest speakers, Sally Stannard, Acting Director at Department of Transport and Main Roads, Graham Fraine, CEO at the Brisbane 2032 Coordination Office, and Beau Waters, Global Market Director at Jacobs, as an opportunity to discuss how SEQ can leverage the Games to deliver better public transport and connectivity.



Lord Mayor Adrian Schrinner and Chris Jones, editor at the Courier Mail discussed opportunities for SEQ to leverage ahead of the Brisbane 2032 Olympic and Paralympic Games.





Council of Mayors (SEQ)
Level 18, 141 Queen Street, Brisbane City QLD 4000
PO Box 12995, George Street, QLD 4003

www.seqmayors.qld.gov.au



Council of Mayors

South East Queensland

Council of Mayors SEQ Pty Ltd

Financial Statements

For the Year Ended 30 June 2024

Council of Mayors SEQ Pty Ltd

Contents

For the Year Ended 30 June 2024

	Page
Financial Statements	
Directors' Report	1
Statement of Comprehensive Income	3
Statement of Financial Position	4
Statement of Changes in Equity	5
Statement of Cash Flows	6
Notes to the Financial Statements	7
Directors' Declaration	20

Directors' Report

30 June 2024

The directors present their report on Council of Mayors SEQ Pty Ltd for the financial year ended 30 June 2024.

1. General information

Principal activities

The principal activity of Council of Mayors SEQ Pty Ltd during the financial year are to:

- be a political advocacy organisation that represents the interests of the residents of members of the company;
 - proactively influence Federal and State Governments to ensure the long-term viability, wellbeing, and sustainability of the residents of the South-East Queensland region;
 - act as an advocate to State and Federal Governments or Public Bodies on issues of concern to members;
 - collectively represent members on bodies that influence the operations of the State, regional and sub-regions and the communities of individual members;
 - speak with one voice to ensure appropriate funding and delivery of infrastructure and services for the residents of the members of the Company;
 - formulate policies and strategies that support coordinated regional growth and management of change;
 - foster co-operation amongst members on issues of mutual concern or to further joint interests; and
 - ensure relevance of the strategic priorities for the region through an annual review
- No significant changes in the nature of the Company's activity occurred during the financial year.

2. Operating results and review of operations for the year

The profit of the Company amounted to \$ 2,408,847 (2023: \$ 1,705,232).

Review of operations

A review of the operations of the Company during the financial year and the results of those operations show that the company continues to deliver on the Company's strategic and operational priorities. The SEQ City Deal implementation plan was announced in July 2023, which allowed for progress on several strategic priority areas, including Waterways and Environment, Regional Planning, and Waste & Circular Economy.

The finalisation and implementation of the Resilient Rivers SEQ Waterways and Wetlands Investment Strategy (the Strategy) in December 2023 builds on the success of Resilient Rivers SEQ to date, guiding the delivery of enhanced on-ground activities and providing opportunities to leverage additional funding and investment through collaborative partnerships. Outcomes from this were realised this financial year, with the inclusion of Resilient Rivers SEQ in the Elevate 2042 Strategy, the leveraging of significant funding from external sources, and signing of the five-year Collaborative Agreement with the Queensland Government for SEQ City Deal Resilient Rivers funding.

The Company secured commitment to a collaborative Brisbane 2032 Transport and Mobility Strategy with Games Partners through the Elevate 2042 Legacy Strategy, and made significant progress on the Planning for Future Region Shaping Infrastructure (SEQCD) project, both key Regional Planning priorities.

This financial year the Council of Mayors (SEQ) Waste Portfolio Management Office continued to deliver on the priorities of the Waste Management Plan, with significant funding secured for two Material Recovery Facilities (MRF) in South East Queensland and a \$151M GROW FOGO Funding program announced, and five initiatives endorsed for funding approval.

The Company also welcomed a new Board of Directors following the Local Government election in March 2024, with six new Directors joining the Board. The Directors replaced retiring Mayors, and Mayors who were not re-elected, with the new Board of Directors inducted at a comprehensive strategy session in May 2024.

Directors' Report

30 June 2024

3. Other items

Significant changes in state of affairs

There have been no significant changes in the state of affairs of the Company during the year.

Future developments and results

The likely developments in the operations of the company and the expected results of 2024/25 will be influenced by the continuation of the SEQ City Deal covering a number of regional initiatives along with the Resilient Rivers SEQ program, and the on-going delivery to key objectives of the CoMSEQ Strategic Plan including the SEQ Waste Plan implementation and the 2032 Leveraging Plan.

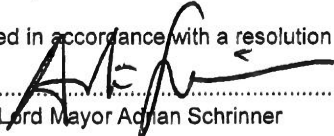
Environmental issues


The Company's operations are not regulated by any significant environmental regulations under a law of the Commonwealth or of a state or territory of Australia.

4. Indemnification and insurance of officers and auditors

Insurance premium has been paid in this financial year for Councillors and Officer Liability which covers any natural person who was, or is, or may, hereafter become a Councillor, Director, Secretary, Officer and/or Employee of the company.

Signed in accordance with a resolution of the Board of Directors:

Director: 
Lord Mayor Adrian Schrinner

Director: 
Mayor Tanya Milligan

Dated this 13th day of December 2024

AUDITOR'S INDEPENDENCE DECLARATION

To the Directors of Council of Mayors (SEQ) Pty Ltd

This auditor's independence declaration has been provided pursuant to s. 307C of the *Corporations Act 2001*.

Independence declaration

As lead auditor for the audit of Council of Mayors (SEQ) Pty Ltd for the financial year ended 30 June 2024, I declare that, to the best of my knowledge and belief, there have been:

- (a) no contraventions of the auditor independence requirements of the *Corporations Act 2001* in relation to the audit
- (b) no contraventions of any applicable code of professional conduct in relation to the audit.



William Cunningham
as delegate of the Auditor-General

13 December 2024

Queensland Audit Office
Brisbane

Council of Mayors SEQ Pty Ltd

Statement of Comprehensive Income
For the Year Ended 30 June 2024

		2024	2023
	Note	\$	\$
Revenue	5	7,408,852	6,076,853
Interest Income	3(a)	212,365	115,868
Other income	5	10,222	9,074
Total income		7,631,439	6,201,795
Employee benefits expense	3(b)	(2,235,590)	(1,694,652)
Depreciation and amortisation expense	3(b)	(116,225)	(102,468)
Other Professional Fees	3(b)	(2,286,193)	(1,965,030)
IT Costs		(133,321)	(102,556)
Travel Costs	3(b)	(45,803)	(351,082)
Meeting and Advocacy Costs		(85,310)	(96,137)
Other expenses		(320,150)	(184,638)
Total expenses		(5,222,592)	(4,496,563)
Total comprehensive income for the year		2,408,847	1,705,232

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.

Council of Mayors SEQ Pty Ltd

Statement of Financial Position

As At 30 June 2024

	Note	2024 \$	2023 \$
ASSETS			
CURRENT ASSETS			
Cash and cash equivalents	6	3,867,013	4,051,668
Trade and other receivables	7	3,442,837	744,360
Investments		500,000	500,000
Accrued interest		-	12,668
TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS		7,809,850	5,308,696
NON-CURRENT ASSETS			
Property, plant and equipment	8	30,836	33,707
Right-of-use assets	9	587,692	54,672
Bank guarantee		74,382	55,000
TOTAL NON-CURRENT ASSETS		692,910	143,379
TOTAL ASSETS		8,502,760	5,452,075
LIABILITIES			
CURRENT LIABILITIES			
Trade and other payables	10	316,989	241,842
Lease liabilities	9	109,524	59,399
Employee benefits	11	302,576	210,592
TOTAL CURRENT LIABILITIES		729,089	511,833
NON-CURRENT LIABILITIES			
Lease liabilities	9	488,287	-
Employee benefits	11	31,099	94,810
TOTAL NON-CURRENT LIABILITIES		519,386	94,810
TOTAL LIABILITIES		1,248,475	606,643
NET ASSETS		7,254,285	4,845,432
EQUITY			
Issued capital		11	11
Retained earnings		7,254,275	4,845,422
TOTAL EQUITY		7,254,286	4,845,433

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.

Council of Mayors SEQ Pty Ltd

Statement of Changes in Equity
For the Year Ended 30 June 2024

2024

	Ordinary Shares	Retained Earnings	Total
	\$	\$	\$
Balance at 1 July 2023	11	4,845,422	4,845,433
Net surplus for the year	-	2,408,847	2,408,847
Balancing Adjustment	-	6	6
Balance at 30 June 2024	11	7,254,275	7,254,286

2023

	Ordinary Shares	Retained Earnings	Total
	\$	\$	\$
Balance at 1 July 2022	11	3,140,190	3,140,201
Net surplus for the year	-	1,705,232	1,705,232
Balance at 30 June 2023	11	4,845,422	4,845,433

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.

Council of Mayors SEQ Pty Ltd

Statement of Cash Flows
For the Year Ended 30 June 2024

	2024	2023
Note	\$	\$
CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES:		
Receipts from customers	4,843,111	5,450,028
Payments to suppliers and employees	(5,132,174)	(4,306,412)
Interest Received	212,364	115,868
Net cash provided by/(used in) operating activities	20 <u>(76,698)</u>	<u>1,259,484</u>
CASH FLOWS FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES:		
Proceeds from acquisition of plant and equipment	<u>(5,256)</u>	<u>(29,959)</u>
Net cash provided by/(used in) investing activities	<u>(5,256)</u>	<u>(29,959)</u>
CASH FLOWS FROM FINANCING ACTIVITIES:		
Repayment of lease liabilities	<u>(102,701)</u>	<u>(100,330)</u>
Net cash provided by/(used in) financing activities	<u>(102,701)</u>	<u>(100,330)</u>
Net increase/(decrease) in cash and cash equivalents held	(184,655)	1,129,195
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of year	4,051,668	2,922,473
Cash and cash equivalents at end of financial year	6 <u>3,867,013</u>	<u>4,051,668</u>

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.

Council of Mayors SEQ Pty Ltd

Notes to the Financial Statements

For the Year Ended 30 June 2024

1. Introduction

The financial report covers Council of Mayors SEQ Pty Ltd as an individual entity. Council of Mayors SEQ Pty Ltd is a not-for-profit proprietary Company, incorporated and domiciled in Australia.

The functional and presentation currency of Council of Mayors SEQ Pty Ltd is Australian dollars.

Comparative information reflects the audited 2022-2023 financial statements, unless otherwise stated.

The Company is an entity to which ASIC Corporations (Rounding in Financial/Directors' Reports) Instrument 2016/191 applies and, accordingly amounts in the financial statements and Directors' Report have been rounded to the nearest dollar.

2. Basis of Preparation

The financial statements are general purpose financial statements that have been prepared in accordance with the Australian Accounting Standards and the *Corporations Act 2001*.

Significant accounting policies adopted in the preparation of these financial statements are presented below and are consistent with prior reporting periods unless otherwise stated.

The company is a not-for-profit organisation as it is not operating for the surplus or gain of its individual members. The financial statements have been prepared on an accruals basis (except for the statement of cash flows which is prepared on a cash basis) and are based on historical costs, except where stated. Amounts in the financial statements have been rounded to the nearest Australian dollar.

The financial statements are authorised for issue by the Directors at the date of signing the directors' declaration.

3. Summary of Significant Accounting Policies

(a) Revenue and Income

Membership Levies

Membership levies are recognised upon issuing an invoice after resolution of financial commitment of funding at General Meetings by members for the financial period.

Project Contributions

Project Contributions were received from members for the Resilient Rivers Initiative Program since the 2016/2017 financial year to identify, assess and mitigate high risk flooding areas in the South-East Queensland region. Several new projects commenced this reporting period with the existing projects progressing further and some to completion. As there were no sufficiently specific performance obligations in relation to this funding the company has recognised this income in the year in which it obtains control over the funds.

Grants and Other Contributions

As the Grant funding has no specific performance obligations in relation to this funding the company has recognised this income in the year in which it obtains control over the funds.

Interest Revenue

Interest is received from cash and cash term deposit accounts held with Australian banks. Funds are held for a period from one month to six months to maturity depending on the cash flow requirements of the company.

Cash investments are held at amortised cost and subject to interest rate risk. This refers to possible fluctuations in the market interest rate of cash at bank earning interest at a variable rate, which could impact the operating result and equity of the company.

Notes to the Financial Statements

For the Year Ended 30 June 2024

3. Summary of Significant Accounting Policies

(a) Revenue and Income

Other Income

Other income is recognised on an accruals basis when the Company is entitled to it.

(b) Expenses

Employee Benefits Expense

Employee benefits relate to amounts expected to be paid to or on behalf of employees for wages and salaries, annual leave, long service leave, worker's compensation and superannuation. A liability is recognised for employee benefits arising from services rendered by employees to the end of the reporting period.

Employer superannuation contributions are paid to a superannuation fund chosen by the employee at contribution rates determined by each employee's contract of employment. Contributions are expensed in the period in which they are paid or payable with no future liability incurred to the company.

Other Professional Fees

Professional fees are in relation to contracted projects and the work to be completed in accordance with the individual contract for such projects.

Lease Expenses

Lease expenses include interest based on the implicit rate in the rental lease and depreciation calculated on a straight-line basis over the right-of-use asset's lease term. This method is considered to best correspond with the underlying pattern of consumption.

Depreciation and Amortisation Expenses

Depreciation and amortisation have been calculated on a straight-line basis over each asset's expected useful life. This method is considered to best correspond with the underlying pattern of consumption. The estimated useful lives are assessed annually and for each class are:

Office Furniture & Equipment: Between 3 and 10 years with zero residual value

Intangible Assets: 5 years with zero residual value

Travel Costs

During the prior period Council of Mayors SEQ undertook a North American Mission to gather knowledge about key focus areas for the business over the coming years. Due to a weather event some of the travel paid for in the prior period were unable to be undertaken and subsequently there were refunds of these costs during the current financial year.

(c) Taxation and General

Revenue, expenses, assets and liabilities are recognised net of the amount of goods and services tax (GST), except where the amount of GST incurred is not recoverable from the Australian Taxation Office (ATO).

Notes to the Financial Statements

For the Year Ended 30 June 2024

3. Summary of Significant Accounting Policies

(c) Taxation and General

Receivables and payable are stated inclusive of GST.

Cash flows in the statement of cash flows are included on a gross basis and the GST component of cash flows arising from investing and financing activities which is recoverable from, or payable to, the taxation authority is classified as operating cash flows.

Council of Mayors (SEQ) Pty Ltd is exempt from income tax under the provisions of Item 2.1 of the table in Section 50-10 of the Income Tax Assessment Act 1997 and has been advised that it would not be required to lodge income tax returns unless and until requested to do so by the Deputy Commissioner of Taxation.

(d) Financial instruments

Financial instruments are recognised initially on the date that the Company becomes party to the contractual provisions of the instrument.

On initial recognition, all financial instruments are measured at fair value plus transaction costs (except for instruments measured at fair value through profit or loss where transaction costs are expensed as incurred).

(e) Leases

At inception of a contract, the Company assesses whether a lease exists.

The non-lease components included in the lease agreement have been separated and are recognised as an expense as incurred.

At the lease commencement, the Company recognises a right-of-use asset and associated lease liability for the lease term. The lease term includes extension periods where the Company believes it is reasonably certain that the option will be exercised.

The right-of-use asset is measured using the cost model where cost on initial recognition comprises of the lease liability, initial direct costs, prepaid lease payments, estimated cost of removal and restoration less any lease incentives received.

The right-of-use asset is depreciated over the lease term on a straight line basis and assessed for impairment in accordance with the impairment of assets accounting policy.

The lease liability is initially measured at the present value of the remaining lease payments at the commencement of the lease. The discount rate is the rate implicit in the lease, however where this cannot be readily determined then the Company's incremental borrowing rate is used.

Subsequent to initial recognition, the lease liability is measured at amortised cost using the effective interest rate method. The lease liability is remeasured whether there is a lease modification, change in estimate of the lease term or index upon which the lease payments are based (e.g. CPI) or a change in the Company's assessment of lease term.

Exceptions to lease accounting

The Company has elected to apply the exceptions to lease accounting for both short-term leases (i.e. leases with a term of less than or equal to 12 months) and leases of low-value assets. The Company recognises the payments associated with these leases as an expense on a straight-line basis over the lease term.

Notes to the Financial Statements

For the Year Ended 30 June 2024

4. Critical Accounting Estimates and Judgments

The company make estimates and judgements during the preparation of these financial statements regarding assumptions about current and future events affecting transactions and balances. Estimates are made for items such as depreciation and employee provisions.

These estimates and judgements are based on the best information available at the time of preparing the financial statements, however as additional information is known then the actual results may differ from the estimates.

5. Other Revenue and Income

Revenue from continuing operations

		2024	2023
		\$	\$
- Membership levies	3.	3,172,609	2,898,614
- Project contributions	3.	3,940,000	2,913,888
- Grants and other contributions	3.	161,243	126,000
- Other income	3.	10,222	9,074
- Travel costs reimbursed	3.	-	138,351
- External Funding	3.	135,000	-
Total revenue from operations		<u>7,419,074</u>	<u>6,085,927</u>

Notes to the Financial Statements

For the Year Ended 30 June 2024

6. Cash and Cash Equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents include cash on hand and deposits held at call with Australia registered only banks, with terms for a period between one and three months.

It is the company's intention to hold these short-term fixed bank deposits to maturity. These short-term deposits held by the company are stated at the amortised cost until interest is received into the accounts.

	2024	2023
	\$	\$
Cash at bank and in hand	945,682	2,687,942
Short-term deposits	2,921,331	1,363,726
	<u>3,867,013</u>	<u>4,051,668</u>

Reconciliation of Cash Flows

Cash and Cash equivalents reported in the statement of cash flows are reconciled to the equivalent items in the statement of financial position as follows:

	2024	2023
	\$	\$
Reconciliation of operating result to net cash provided by operating activities		
Net Surplus/(Defecit)	2,408,847	1,705,232
Non-cash items included in operating result		
Depreciation	8,127	9,400
ROU Asset Interest and Depreciation	108,098	95,332
Change in assets and liabilities		
(Increase)/decrease in trade and other receivables	(2,591,141)	(630,745)
(Increase)/decrease in prepayments	15,179	(60,366)
Increase/(decrease) in trade and other payables	55,067	140,204
(Increase)/decrease in Bank Guarantees	(19,382)	-
Increase/(decrease) in Provisions	28,273	(1,302)
Increase/(decrease) in Payables	(89,766)	1,728
Net cash provided by operating activities	<u>(76,698)</u>	<u>1,259,484</u>

Council of Mayors SEQ Pty Ltd

Notes to the Financial Statements

For the Year Ended 30 June 2024

7. Trade and Other Receivables

	2024	2023
	\$	\$
Trade receivables	3,430,130	729,147
Prepayments	12,707	15,213
Total current trade and other receivables	3,442,837	744,360

Receivables are recognised at the amounts due at the time of sale or service delivery. The collectability is assessed at period end and an allowance is made for the impairment if necessary.

It is highly unlikely the company would need to allow for impairment for Receivables given historically no credit losses have ever been recorded due to the type of debtors.

We note there has been a material increase in the trade receivables balance during this period. This was largely driven by a \$3,000,000 invoice that was raised in June 2024 and remained outstanding at 30 June 2024. This invoice was paid in July 2024 therefore there is no need to consider an impairment provision against this receivable.

Notes to the Financial Statements
For the Year Ended 30 June 2024

8. Property, Plant and Equipment

PLANT AND EQUIPMENT

	2024	2023
	\$	\$
Furniture, fixtures and fittings		
At cost	78,232	72,976
Accumulated depreciation	(47,396)	(39,269)
Total Furniture, fixtures and fittings	<u>30,836</u>	<u>33,707</u>
Total plant and equipment	<u>30,836</u>	<u>33,707</u>

(a) Movements in carrying amounts of property, plant and equipment

Movement in the carrying amounts for each class of property, plant and equipment between the beginning and the end of the current financial year:

	Furniture, Fixtures and Fittings \$
Year ended 30 June 2024	
Balance at the beginning of year	33,707
Additions	5,256
Depreciation expense	(8,127)
Balance at the end of year	<u>30,836</u>
	Furniture, Fixtures and Fittings \$
Year ended 30 June 2023	
Balance at the beginning of year	13,147
Additions	29,960
Depreciation expense	(9,400)
Balance at the end of year	<u>33,707</u>

Notes to the Financial Statements

For the Year Ended 30 June 2024

9. Leases

Right-of-use Assets

The company measures right-of-use assets from leases at present value of cost on initial recognition. Lease liabilities are initially recognised at the present value of lease payments over the lease term that is not yet paid. These will subsequently give rise to depreciation expense and be subject to impairment. The discount rate used is the interest rate implicit in the rental lease. All right-of-use assets are recognised exclusive of GST.

	Land \$
Year ended 30 June 2024	
At cost	641,119
Accumulated depreciation	<u>(53,427)</u>
Balance at end of year	<u><u>587,692</u></u>
	Land \$
Year ended 30 June 2023	
At cost	372,274
Accumulated depreciation	<u>(317,602)</u>
Balance at end of year	<u><u>54,672</u></u>

Lease liabilities

The maturity analysis of lease liabilities based on contractual undiscounted cash flows is shown in the table below:

	< 1 year \$	1 - 5 years \$	Lease liabilities included in this Statement Of Financial Position \$
2024			
Lease liabilities	109,524	488,287	597,811
2023			
Lease liabilities	59,399	-	59,399

Statement of Comprehensive Income

The amounts recognised in the statement of comprehensive income relating to leases where the Company is a lessee are shown below:

	2024 \$	2023 \$
Depreciation of right-of-use assets	(108,098)	(93,068)
Lease Interest	<u>(9,498)</u>	<u>(2,264)</u>
	<u><u>(117,596)</u></u>	<u><u>(95,332)</u></u>

Notes to the Financial Statements
For the Year Ended 30 June 2024

10. Trade and Other Payables

	2024	2023
Note	\$	\$
Trade payables	266,813	164,229
GST payable	49,035	18,257
Other payables	1,141	59,356
	<u>316,989</u>	<u>241,842</u>

Trade and other payables are unsecured, non-interest bearing and are normally settled within 30 days. The carrying value of trade and other payables is considered a reasonable approximation of fair value due to the short-term nature of the balances.

11. Employee Benefits

	2024	2023
	\$	\$
Current liabilities		
Long service leave	190,564	66,429
Annual leave	112,012	144,163
Total current employee benefits	<u>302,576</u>	<u>210,592</u>
Non-current liabilities		
Long service leave	<u>31,099</u>	94,810
Total non-current employee benefits	<u>31,099</u>	94,810

A provision has been recognised for current and non-current employee benefits relating to long service leave.

The provision for long service leave represented the present value of the estimated future cash outflows to be made by the company resulting from employees services provided up to balance date.

The estimate considers future wage and salary increases, period of service and related on costs.

Notes to the Financial Statements

For the Year Ended 30 June 2024

12. Financial Risk Management

The Board of Directors has the authority to control and manage the company's financial affairs, with development and adherence to the company budget, bank authorisations and day to day management.

Financial assets and liabilities are recognised in the statement of financial position when the company becomes party to the contractual provision of the financial instrument. The company has the following categories of financial assets and liabilities:

	2024	2023
	\$	\$
Financial assets		
Cash and cash equivalents	3,867,013	4,051,668
Trade and other receivables	3,442,837	744,360
Fixed Term Bank Deposits	500,000	500,000
Total financial assets	7,809,850	5,296,028
Financial liabilities		
Trade and other payables	316,989	241,842
Held for trading	597,811	59,399
Total financial liabilities	914,800	301,241

Liquidity risk

Liquidity risk refers to the risk that the company is unable to meet its obligations associated with financial liabilities. The company has minimal exposure to liquidity risk as there are no financial loans and only trade payables in terms of financial liabilities. The company manages this risk through the following mechanisms:

- subscriptions for the financial period are invoiced at the beginning of the period and paid within 28 days of invoice date;
- preparing forward-looking cash flow analysis in relation to its operational, investing and financing activities;
- monitoring undrawn credit facilities (credit card balances);
- only investing surplus cash with major financial institutions; and
- comparing the maturity profile of financial liabilities with the realisation profile of financial assets.

Credit risk

The maximum exposure to credit risk at balance date to recognised financial assets is the carrying amount of those assets as disclosed in the statement of financial position and notes to the financial statements.

As at year end, all trade and other receivables are considered current and no receivables are considered impaired.

Market risk

Cash and cash equivalents are subject to market fluctuations (interest rate risk) with this exposure limited due to all investments deposited with Australian banks.

Notes to the Financial Statements
For the Year Ended 30 June 2024

13. Key Management Personnel Disclosures

(a) KMP Remuneration Details

The remuneration paid to key management personnel of Council of Mayors SEQ Pty Ltd during the year is as follows:

	2024	2023
	\$	\$
Short-term employee benefits	333,329	335,575
Long-term benefits	8,525	8,240
Post-employment benefits	33,782	32,574
	<u>375,636</u>	<u>376,389</u>

(b) KMP Remuneration Policies

Key Management Personnel who hold the position of a director or alternate director do not receive any remuneration or employee benefits from the company. Remuneration policy for the company's key executive management personnel is set by the Executive Committee of the company. The remuneration and other terms of employment for the key executive management personnel is specified in the employment contract.

(c) Details of Key Management Personnel

The company's Company Secretary and Chief Executive Officer are identified as KMPs, consistent with additional guidance included in the revised version of AASB 124 Related Party Disclosures.

Chief Executive Officer	The position is responsible for the efficient, effective and economic administration of the company
Company Secretary	The position supports the effectiveness of the Board by monitoring that board policy and procedures are followed and coordinating the timely completion and dispatch of board agenda and briefing material.

14. Related Party Transactions

Transactions between shareholders councils and the company are considered and voted on at regular Directors' meetings. No individual council has influence or control over the activities of the company. There have been no transactions with people/entities that are identified as being related to any Key Management Personnel.

15. Operating contract commitments

	2024	2023
	\$	\$
Not later than 1 year	1,983,393	1,962,426
Total	<u>1,983,393</u>	<u>1,962,426</u>

Operating contract commitments are in relation to several Projects including Resilient Rivers Initiative, Economic Development and Water & Environment that are in progress.

Council of Mayors SEQ Pty Ltd

Notes to the Financial Statements

For the Year Ended 30 June 2024

16. Auditors' Remuneration

	2024	2023
	\$	\$
Remuneration of auditors	16,636	12,300
Total	16,636	12,300

17. Events Occurring After the Reporting Date

No matters or circumstances have arisen since the end of the financial year which significantly affected or may significantly affect the operations of the Company, the results of those operations, or the state of affairs of the Company in future financial years.

18. Disclosure of Membership in Other Entities

Council of Mayors (SEQ) is one of three members of Healthy Land and Water Ltd with voting rights of 25% with no risks or rewards associated with being a member of this entity. Based on the number and composition of the directors of Healthy Land and Water Ltd, Council of Mayors (SEQ) Pty Ltd does not have significant influence over this entity.

One director of Council of Mayors (SEQ) is appointed to the Board of Healthy Land and Water Ltd as a director.

19. Economic Dependency

Council of Mayors (SEQ) activities are dependent upon membership levies from eleven shareholder member councils for the financial year 2023/2024.

Membership levies for the 2024/2025 year have been approved by each of the eleven shareholder member councils.

Council of Mayors SEQ Pty Ltd

Notes to the Financial Statements

For the Year Ended 30 June 2024

20. Board Disclosures

The names of directors in office at any time during or since the end of the financial year are:

Clare Stewart	1 July 2023	to	20 April 2024
Cr Adrian Schrinner	1 July 2023	to	30 June 2024
Cr Frank Wilkie	15 April 2024	to	30 June 2024
Cr Geoff McDonald	21 July 2023	to	30 June 2024
Cr Jason Wendt	30 April 2024	to	30 June 2024
Cr Jocelyn Mitchell	8 May 2024	to	30 June 2024
Cr Jonathan Raven	20 May 2024	to	30 June 2024
Cr Peter Flannery	1 July 2023	to	30 June 2024
Cr Rosanna Natoli	19 April 2024	to	30 June 2024
Cr Tanya Milligan	1 July 2023	to	30 June 2024
Cr Teresa Harding	1 July 2023	to	30 June 2024
Cr Thomas Sharp	24 April 2024	to	30 June 2024
Darren Power	1 July 2023	to	20 April 2024
Graeme Lehmann	1 July 2023	to	20 April 2024
Greg Christensen	1 July 2023	to	20 April 2024
Karen Williams	1 July 2023	to	20 April 2024
Mark Jamieson	1 July 2023	to	20 April 2024
Paul Antonio	1 July 2023	to	11 September 2023

21. Statutory Information

The registered office and principal place of business of the company is:

Level 18, 141 Queen Street, Brisbane City QLD 4000

Council of Mayors SEQ Pty Ltd

Directors' Declaration

The directors of the Company declare that:

1. the financial statements and notes for the year ended 30 June 2024 are in accordance with the *Corporations Act 2001* and:
 - a. comply with Accounting Standards, which, as stated in basis of preparation Note 2. to the financial statements, constitutes explicit and unreserved compliance with International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRS); and
 - b. give a true and fair view of the financial position and performance of the Company;
2. In the directors' opinion, there are reasonable grounds to believe that the Company will be able to pay its debts as and when they become due and payable.

This declaration is made in accordance with a resolution of the Board of Directors.

Director
Lord Mayor Adrian Schinner

Director
Mayor Tanya Milligan

Dated 13 / 12 / 2024

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

To the Members of Council of Mayors SEQ Pty Ltd

Report on the audit of the financial report

Opinion

I have audited the accompanying financial report of Council of Mayors SEQ Pty Ltd.

The financial report comprises the statement of financial position as at 30 June 2024, the statement of comprehensive income, statement of changes in equity and statement of cash flows for the year then ended, notes to the financial statements including material accounting policy information, and the directors' declaration.

In my opinion, the financial report:

- a) gives a true and fair view of the company's financial position as at 30 June 2024 and its financial performance for the year then ended; and
- b) complies with Australian Accounting Standards.

I conducted my audit in accordance with the *Auditor-General Auditing Standards*, which incorporate the Australian Auditing Standards. My responsibilities under those standards are further described in the *Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial report* section of my report.

I am independent of the company in accordance with the ethical requirements of the Accounting Professional and Ethical Standards Board's APES 110 *Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants (including Independence Standards)* (the Code) that are relevant to my audit of the financial report in Australia. I have also fulfilled my other ethical responsibilities in accordance with the Code and the *Auditor-General Auditing Standards*.

I am also independent of the company in accordance with the auditor independence requirements of the *Corporations Act 2001*.

I believe that the audit evidence I have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for my opinion.

Other information

Other information comprises information included in the directors' report for the year ended 30 June 2024 but does not include the financial report and my auditor's report thereon.

Those directors are responsible for the other information.

My opinion on the financial report does not cover the other information and accordingly I do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon.

In connection with my audit of the financial report, my responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial report or my knowledge obtained in the audit or otherwise appears to be materially misstated.

If, based on the work I have performed, I conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, I am required to report that fact.

I have nothing to report in this regard.

Responsibilities of the Directors for the financial report

The company's directors are responsible for the preparation of the financial report that gives a true and fair view in accordance with the *Corporations Act 2001*, the Corporations Regulations 2001 and Australian Accounting Standards, and for such internal control as the company's directors determine is necessary to enable the preparation of the financial report that is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

The company's directors are also responsible for assessing the company's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters relating to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless management either intends to liquidate the company or to cease operations, or has no realistic alternative but to do so.

Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial report

My objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial report as a whole is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes my opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with the Australian Auditing Standards will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of this financial report.

A further description of my responsibilities for the audit of the financial report is located at the Auditing and Assurance Standards Board website at:

https://www.auasb.gov.au/auditors_responsibilities/ar4.pdf

This description forms part of my auditor's report.



William Cunningham
as delegate of the Auditor-General

13 December 2024

Queensland Audit Office
Brisbane