

**NOTICE OF MOTION**

**SUBMITTED BY COUNCILLOR:** Cr Jenny McKay

**COUNCIL MEETING:** Ordinary Meeting 14th June

I hereby notify of my intention to move the following motion at the Ordinary Meeting to take place on Thursday 14th June 2018

That Council authorise the Chief Executive Officer to investigate the following:

Sunshine Coast Council investigate opportunities to phase out single-use plastic items at council managed facilities and council run events, in recognition of the significant environmental impacts resulting from plastic waste.

.....  
Councillor

*JMMcKay*

.....  
Date

*07/06/2018*

**To all Councillors and Directors**

I hereby notify that Councillor Jenny McKay intends to move the motion as shown above at the Ordinary Meeting to be held on Thursday, **14th June 2018**

.....  
Chief Executive Officer

*M. Seiverson*

.....  
Date

*7/6/2018*

## COUNCILLOR COMMENT

Council has been proactive in reducing plastic waste generated through its operations and in the community, through a number of key initiatives over recent years (see Attachment 1), and is now seeking to further these efforts by investigating opportunities to phase out various single-use plastic items .

Plastic waste poses a significant threat to land and marine environments, which is increasingly being recognised in Australia and internationally.

This is an opportunity to address the impacts of plastic waste on Pumicestone Passage and other water catchments across the region by showing leadership to the community.

In response to managing plastic waste, many local councils across Queensland have developed commitments to reduce or phase-out various single-use plastic items used at facilities and events they manage. Some of the councils who have addressed this issue are:

- Cairns Regional Council set a goal to ban plastic straws and reduce other single-use plastic items at council managed facilities;
- Brisbane City Council committed to phasing out plastic straws, single-use plastic bottles and helium balloons in all council operations and council sponsored events;
- Moreton Bay Regional Council pledged to phase out single-use plastic straws at council-operated venues and event.

There are an increasing number of products and strategies available to reduce or remove various single-use plastic items, however potential operational, financial and regulatory implications need to be considered.

This Notice of Motion recommends council investigates opportunities to phase out single-use plastic items across its operations, with consideration of how to address potential implications. This investigation would inform a report to Council for consideration and adoption, on effective measures that can be taken to reduce and avoid single-use plastic items.

This aligns with the *Environment and Liveability Strategy 2017* policy position 10.1: *Energy and resource usage, and waste management are transformed to minimise emissions and maximise environmental, social and financial benefits*, as well as the *Waste Strategy 2015 - 2025 Waste Reduction and Recycling Plan*.

## **Attachment 1: Existing council initiatives supporting the reduction of single-use plastic items**

The following council initiatives have been implemented to support the reduction of single use plastic items:

### Regulation:

- **Helium balloons** are banned on the Sunshine Coast through council's *Local Law No. 3 (Community Health and Environment Management) 2011*. Balloons are also regarded as litter under the *Waste Reduction and Recycling Act 2011*.

### Existing bans at council run events:

- **Plastic water bottles and single-use plastic cups** have been banned at the Caloundra Music Festival, with hydration stations and reusable cups provided as alternatives.
- **Glow sticks** have been banned at the 2017/18 Mooloolaba New Year's Eve event due to litter issues on the beach.

### Council guidelines:

- **Draft Sunshine Coast Events Guideline** recommends and provides options for reducing single-use plastic items at events.
- **Sunshine Coast Council Catering Guidelines** recommends and provides options for reducing single-use plastic items from council's catered events.

### Pilot initiatives at council run facilities:

- **Removal of plastic straws and cutlery** as a pilot initiative at the Caloundra Indoor Stadium.

### Awareness-raising campaigns:

- **BYO Sunshine Coast** campaign supports the international Plastic Free July program to encourage community and staff to carry reusable alternatives to avoid single-use plastic items.

