

# BUSINESS AND COMMUNITY SUPPORT COMPLIANCE RESPONSE PACKAGE

## INTRODUCTION

In the rapidly changing COVID-19 pandemic and the imminent recessionary impacts expected to follow, Council has introduced this initial Business and Community Support Compliance Response Package of measures to direct immediate responses to support and as far as possible, provide early stimulus to Isaac communities and businesses. Council's priority is to take considered and progressive action to do what it can to keep its 17 communities and many small to medium businesses as strong as possible in the weeks and months ahead.

Further measures will continue to be identified and considered by Council as the pandemic progresses and its consequences are better understood.

---

## PACKAGE DETAILS

The Business and Community Support Compliance Response Package includes the following measures:

### 1. COMPLIANCE POSTURE

#### **Risk based approach**

- Council will only undertake high-risk essential compliance activities for the next six months.
- During this time Council will provide grace for the timing of existing compliance requirements other than high-risk requirements.
- Council will continue to develop its community education focus to support its future compliance programs.
- Council will continue to undertake its systematic review of all compliance activities under its regulatory reset program during this period, so that business can have a greater confidence that future compliance and regulatory activities are based on international risk methodologies and are applied consistently and objectively.

#### **Advisory capacity for pandemic impacts and consequences**

- Council's Community Education and Compliance team will be ready and willing to provide advice on the pandemic in line with Commonwealth and State advice and for consequential matters such as food spoilage and disposal
- The team will provide advice on new practices necessitated by Commonwealth and State directives (such as food transport and delivery practices) to ensure the introduction to these practices does not add unnecessary risk to the local food supply chains.

## 2. ECONOMIC RELIEF

### Waiver of imminent fees

- Waive Backflow Prevention Device Annual Registration fees otherwise due by 31 May 2020 - there are currently 634 devices registered with Council by small to medium businesses. These fees represent a cost to these businesses of approximately \$46,916.
- Waive Trade Waste Annual Registration fees which are otherwise due by 31 May 2020 - There are currently 140 registered small to medium business trade waste generators in the region. These fees represent a cost to these businesses of approximately \$32,644.
- Trade Waste audit inspections which are aimed at reducing risks to the operations of essential sewage treatment plants across the region will continue as normal. These inspections do not attract a fee.

### Further review

- Review the impacts of Business-Related Fees and Charges for the whole of the Planning Environment and Community Services Directorate to address in the FY2020/21 Budget