

2024 Local Government Election - Sunshine Coast Council Candidate Questionnaire Responses

Candidate Name	Christian Dickson
Nominating for	Councillor
Which division for?	Division 6
Sunshine Coast Dark Sky Reserve	I have and will continue to fully support the Dark Sky Reserve project. I am on record speaking in favour of and supporting the project. The Dark Sky Reserve project will also be helpful in adding an additional level of assessment to developments in terms of lighting impacts associated with homes and subdivisions on a larger scale.
Do you support the Sunshine Coast Dark Sky designation?	Yes
Circular Economy	Whilst I support the strategy, I feel we need to move faster on waste diversion targets and projects. Burying things in the earth should be a last resort and council should have a stronger focus on moving quickly to improve our circular economy objectives.
Do you support the strategy?	Yes
Biosphere designation	The Biosphere is about everything and everyone from the environment, businesses, development, schools, universities and people. It's about how we all sustain the lifestyle region which is the Sunshine Coast. It's how we control development, protect sensitive landscapes and acknowledge history. It's about our air quality, a water quality and our wildlife. Ultimately its how we exist and live here on the Sunshine Coast without destroying it.

Will you actively promote our Biosphere Aims and Objectives?	Yes
Inter-Urban Break	I believe the Inter-Urban Break is essential to provide our region with a point of difference. Essentially, we need to keep a buffer to Brisbane and Moreton Bay and stop urban sprawl taking over our region. It's about knowing where the Sunshine Coast starts and stops. It's about protecting areas of environmental sensitivity and not allowing rampant urban development in sensitive areas.
Do you support it's protection?	Yes
New Planning Scheme	I am now on record stating that I have concerns around our carrying capacity for the future. With a large backlog of infrastructure projects at all levels of government, perhaps it's time to take a pause and evaluate what our future is going to look like. Do we have to accept the population figures and projections put onto us by the State Government? I don't believe so. I will be carefully watching the new planning scheme and pushing back where I see reason in doing so.
Will you uphold the Community Planning Priorities?	Yes
Climate and Renewables	The Environment and Liveability Strategy 2017 sets a target for council to be a zero-net emissions (ZNE) organisation and for the community to be low carbon by 2041. Councils adopted position that i support is to focus on: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - governance and culture change - waste - electricity - transport - supply chain - buildings and infrastructure.

Do you support Nature based Solutions for climate resilience?	Yes
Sunshine Coast values	I don't know enough about nature-based solutions or "green infrastructure". I do support combining "green" and "grey" infrastructure in assessing resilience projects. I would be open to learning more and trying to unpack what we can do to perform better in this space.
Do you support the use of non-lethal shark deterrent methods in our oceans?	Yes
Will you advocate to manage population growth to protect and restore the region's ecological and liveability values? Liveability definition from SCRC new planning scheme preliminary documents - Liveability is the sum of the factors that add up to a community's quality of life now and in the future, including the built and natural environments, economic prosperity, social stability and wellbeing, equity and access,	Yes

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education, cultural and recreation opportunities.	
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