



PAWS FOR THOUGHT: Rachael Johns and Jodie Crawford from Council's Local Laws team are teaching young children about dog safety

DOG SAFETY IS CHILD'S PLAY

Our Local Laws team has been out in the community teaching the next generation of safe and responsible dog owners.

This program was developed by Noosa Council Local Laws Supervisor Jonathon Marshall to teach students in kindy, through to grade three, the importance of being responsible dog owners and how to stay safe around dogs.

Sadly, Council officers are called on to investigate a large number of dog attacks every year, many on children.

Jonathon told us, "Our talks are aimed at reducing the number of these incidents through teaching kids how to stay safe around dogs.

"We highlight the dos and don'ts around dogs and how to safely meet a dog for the first time."

He added, "When we visit classrooms, we like to make it fun and interactive for the kids and we tailor the talks for each age group."

They also provide teachers with free resources to use in the class such as stickers, activity books and bookmarks.

To book a time, please email: locallaws@noosa.qld.gov.au.

HAVE A SAY ON NEW WALKING, CYCLING PLAN

Noosa has more than 150 kilometres of dedicated cycle network on offer for locals and visitors keen to swap the car for two-wheeled transport

A new strategy to get Noosa residents cycling and walking – for health, tourism, transport and environmental benefits – is open for comment until April 16.

Have a say on the draft Noosa Walking and Cycling Strategy at yoursay.noosa.qld.gov.au

Council assembled a diverse reference group that includes

residents-and-ratepayers associations and business owners – including cycling converts like Bike On's Tracey Wyatt - to deliver the draft strategy.

"My favourite place is the coastal bike path. It's beautiful. It's scenic. It's already there," she said.

The strategy looks at ways to

get more people using Noosa's existing 153km-long cycle network.

Fellow reference group member and Zero Emissions Noosa President, Vivien Griffin, said cycling "ticked all the boxes".

"It's great exercise, you get to enjoy the scenery, and it helps the planet."

Council is looking at on and off-road facilities to encourage walking and cycling, and behaviour change programs.

Meanwhile, residents can have a say in Council's online budget consultation until March 29, or join councillors at two face-to-face sessions on April 8 and 13. Places are limited. Book on (07) 5329 6500.

FINDING BALANCE WITH NEW LAW



HERE TO STAY: A draft local law to help Council manage short-stays is open for comment.

It's the culmination of 18 months' work as Council strives to balance the needs of residents, visitors and the industry over how to manage short-stay letting.

The reworked draft Local Law heads back out for community feedback over a five-week period from April 9 to May 14.

"A workable local law is critical coupled with the sensible

enforcement of that local law," said Finola Thompson, chair of the Noosa Short Term Accommodation Association.

"This is an evolving process and the industry is keen to work with Council and residents on an ongoing basis to get it right."

NSTAA represents a vast majority of licensed property managers in Noosa and is among the key

stakeholders Council continues to consult with over the proposed local law.

"The industry has long advocated for the need for all STL to be required to operate to a set of professional standards. Regulation in this area has got to work for both residents and property managers," Ms Thompson said.

Council recognises that most operators of short-stay letting act responsibly and manage their properties appropriately, however the impacts on residential amenity continue to be an issue for the community.

"We have considered hundreds of submissions from the first draft," said Anita Lakeland, Council's Principal Strategic Planner.

Key inclusions are a Code of Conduct for guests, a contact person must be available to manage the property and be available 24 hours a day. The contact person is the first point of contact for complaints and must keep a register.

"Through the work we do, it feels as though you are contributing to the lifestyle and vibe of our community," she said. From April 9, visit yoursay.noosa.qld.gov.au to provide feedback.

APPLY NOW FOR GRANT FUNDING

Council has distributed more than \$3.5 million since 2015

Council is calling for applications for the latest round of grant funding.

Since July 2015 Council has distributed more than \$3.5 million to more than 550 projects in the form of Community Grants, Environment Grants and Regional Arts Development Fund (RADF) Grants.

Distributed twice a year, the grants help eligible not-for-profit incorporated organisations deliver projects with strong community or environmental benefits.

Recent funding has helped provide Coast Guard Noosa with

new radio equipment, fund a new tranquility garden at Katie Rose Cottage and support Noosa Trailblazers (pictured) to keep local trails in tip top shape.

"Grants from the Noosa Council help our Club, Noosa Trailblazers, maintain and improve the Wooroi Mountain Bike Trail network for riders, runners and walkers of all age groups in the wider Noosa community to enjoy," club spokesman Rick Tate said.

Council's Community Development Manager, Alison Hamblin says local not-for-profits must contact Council's Grants team for advice on their projects'

eligibility and the application process.

Applications for this round close noon, April 14, 2021. Check out noosa.qld.gov.au/council-grants.



IN BRIEF

Hub goes live

Almost \$10 million in major infrastructure projects are set to be delivered across Noosa in the next 12 months.

To keep our residents informed, a Major Projects Hub section has been established on Council's website. The Hinterland Adventure Playground, Rufous St Precinct and Community House project, plus Noosa Parade upgrade are among the projects listed. See noosa.qld.gov.au/major-projects.

Boardwalk plan

Council recently called for tenders to replace a closed section of boardwalk between the Peregrine Beach lifeguard tower and beach access 57. The project will also provide a new beach shower at beach access 57.

FREE BUSES BACK FOR EASTER

It's time to hop back on! Let Go Noosa's Free Holiday Buses take the stress out of your local travel plans this Easter.

More than 60% of people who caught a free bus at Christmas were Noosa residents.

Go Noosa runs from April 2-18 and includes free buses, discounted travel passes on the Noosa Ferry and two-minute Drop & Go car parks.

Catch the Go Noosa Loop Bus from the Noosa AFL Grounds Park & Ride. It leaves every 15 minutes between 7am and 7pm and every 30 minutes until 11pm. Visit noosa.qld.gov.au/go-noosa-holidays for further details.