

Top 5 Election Priorities for the Sunshine Coast

With the Queensland Government election in March and the local government election in April 2012, there has never been a more important time for the Sunshine Coast business community to call on our political leaders to deliver for the Sunshine Coast.

Based on research undertaken in conjunction with the University of the Sunshine Coast, the Sunshine Coast Regional Council and others, the Sunshine Coast Business Council commissioned further research and has now set out the top five priorities as we lead into the State Government and local government elections.

The Business Council is calling on all levels of government to work cooperatively with each other and with the business community to create a healthy, diverse and vital Sunshine Coast economy.

<p>State Priority #1 Commit to a jobs target of 250,000 to support a projected population of 500,000.</p>	<p>Local Priority #1 Commit to a jobs target of 250,000 to support a projected population of 500,000.</p>
<p>State Priority #2 Commit to regular and on-going engagement with the business community so critical issues facing the business community are understood by government.</p>	<p>Local Priority #2 Commit to regular and on-going engagement with the business community so critical issues facing the business community are understood by government.</p>
<p>State Priority #3 Deliver the Sunshine Coast University Hospital by 2016.</p>	<p>Local Priority #3 Establish an Economic Development and Major Projects Department, reporting directly to the CEO, to assess the economic impact of major projects, and to deliver the region's four transformational projects:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the Health Hub at Kawana, • the upgrade of the Sunshine Coast Airport, • the development of the Sippy Downs Technology Precinct, and • the creation of the Region's CBD at Maroochydore.
<p>State Priority #4 Relocate a major government department or service to the Sippy Downs Technology Precinct.</p>	<p>Local Priority #4 Cut red-tape and reduce costs to business and processing time taken for all Local Government approvals by simplifying the planning and approval systems.</p>
<p>State Priority #5 Commit State Government funding to deliver the Health Hub at Kawana, the upgrade of the Sunshine Coast Airport, the development of the Sippy Downs Technology Precinct and the Maroochydore CBD.</p>	<p>Local Priority #5 Investigate the full range of financing options to enable the planned upgrade of the Sunshine Coast Airport to be delivered urgently.</p>

Our motto is "One Vision ... One Voice", and we believe it is critical that the region unite to create a healthy, diverse and vital Sunshine Coast economy with jobs and investment to support a projected population of 500,000 (*source: SEQ Regional Plan 2009-2031*).

For further information please visit the Sunshine Coast Business Council web site www.scbusinesscouncil.com.au.