

Fire risk and community safety compliance program

FEBRUARY 2018

Southern Moreton Bay Islands

Redland City Council has developed an action plan to reduce and manage bushfire risk on the City's islands, following the 2016 Russell Island fires and the subsequent recommendations of a Fire Management Plan Review Report prepared by Queensland Fire and Emergency Services (QFES).

The actions being undertaken are holistic and designed to protect the safety of residents by reducing bushfire risk to people and property. They include fire mitigation work to reduce fuel loads and actions to manage risk on both private and public property, including a public education and clean-up campaign.

Compliance action (measures to enforce local laws) to reduce the number of unlawful and potentially dangerous structures and ensure structures are constructed to the appropriate standard is also part of the plan.

How might this affect you?

In the coming months, Council officers will be inspecting properties on the Southern Moreton Bay Islands that have been identified as possibly presenting a risk to public safety and having the potential to add to bushfire fuel loads.

These properties may currently contain:

- Unapproved building work and/or use of land (for example., dwellings, sheds, shipping containers)
- Temporary homes
- Accumulation of materials on properties

Council will also be reviewing and acting on overgrown properties, illegal dumping and illegal camping.

What action can you take?

To assist with the response and avoid enforcement action or fines you can:

- Remove unapproved or temporary structures from your property
- Remove unsightly and potential fire hazards such as accumulated rubbish and overgrown vegetation.

What action can Council take?

The compliance actions are being undertaken under the provisions of the *Local Government Act 2009*, *Planning Act 2016* and *Building Act 1975*, and Local Laws, which provide Council with various mechanisms to ensure that the relevant laws are complied with.

Council will work with residents to determine the most appropriate way to achieve compliance, however there will be an expectation that action will be taken quickly.

Enforcement actions depend on the degree of non-compliance and threat to health and safety but can include:

- Official warnings
- Notices and orders, such as stop work, show cause or enforcement notices
- Fines
- Prosecution for criminal offences
- Enter and clear actions or court orders

Please refer to Council's website or contact Council if you have any questions.

Your assistance with this important community safety initiative is appreciated.