



# News from your Local Councillor

## Cr Murray Elliott



### Dear resident of Division 7

The recent sale of the former chicken farm at Kinross Road, Thornlands, will allow the continuation of the residential development footprint south towards Boundary Road.

A major developer has bought this key site. While it was operating, residential development could not occur within 500m of the chicken farm, so the sale will allow other interested parties to realise their development potential as well.

Surveyors have been on site and the developer has had meetings with Council officers.



*POTENTIAL: The former chicken farm site on Kinross Road.*

### Report hoons to get them off our roads

We can all help put the brakes on hoons and speeding drivers by following advice from local police officers.

They have suggested a number of ways for residents to report offences such as street racing and burn-outs:

- If life or property is in immediate danger or the event is time critical, call Triple Zero (000);
- If it's non-urgent, not life threatening or there is little likelihood that the offenders are still in the area, call Policelink on 131 444;
- For hoon-specific information call 13HOON (13 4666), which goes to Policelink or report online; or
- Contact your local police station.

By calling police when you see such behaviour, the chances of catching the offenders increases.

Residents should also remember to observe speed limits themselves and take care while on the road this holiday season.



*ROAD SAFETY: Please curb your speed on our roads.*

### Christmas by Starlight

Christmas by Starlight, our City's largest free community event, will be held on Sunday, 18 December, at Mt Cotton's Sirromet Winery.

It will again feature exceptional local talent as well as some of Australia's finest performers.

The all-age family-friendly event will begin at 3pm with an afternoon of free children's activities, including jumping castles and face painting. There will be a variety of stalls hosted by local not-for-profit community groups and licensed commercial operators. The show will wrap up at about 8pm with a fireworks display.

Watch [www.redland.qld.gov.au](http://www.redland.qld.gov.au) for updates and transport arrangements.



## Study to look at solar savings

Council is investigating building a local solar farm to reduce power costs and provide greater energy efficiency.

It follows the adoption of a feasibility study which shows there is the potential to save more than \$10 million over 20 years through harnessing solar technology.

We will be looking into several renewable energy projects, with the most significant being a 1-1.5MW solar farm at Council's Cleveland wastewater treatment plant, which has the potential to save between \$4.4 million and \$6.1 million over the next two decades.

We will also look at the possibility of local solar sites not only offsetting electricity use but also potentially generating power in the future, which can then be sold to generate revenue.

Council is being open-minded in its search for options to save on our power costs and believes it is important that we start planning now for the future.

Modelling suggests these solar facilities could significantly reduce costs to ratepayers, so it makes sense to at least investigate ways to reduce our dependency on the power grid.

This is an example of Council's commitment to constant improvement and looking for ways to reduce costs for ratepayers.

The next step will be for a business case to be put to Council identifying the final sites, costs and timeframes for construction.

Council will then look to test the concept before we progress to a larger project.

## It's time to 'Get Ready'

While we were relatively unscathed by last year's storm season, we should not become complacent.

As the few summers before that showed, the Redlands is not immune to significant and damaging weather events and bushfires.

This year, the Bureau of Meteorology is expecting an active storm season, so it is important that residents take the time now to ensure their homes, family and neighbours are prepared. This is especially important in our part of the Redlands.

The weather experts say the storm threat is higher than average and we can expect maybe four cyclones to cross

### Preparing an emergency kit

Your emergency kit should contain:

- a portable radio with spare batteries
- a torch with spare batteries
- a first-aid kit
- candles and waterproof matches
- a waterproof bag for valuables
- important documents including emergency contact numbers

If evacuation is likely or required:

- a good supply of any prescribed medications
- any special requirements for babies, the disabled, infirm or elderly
- strong shoes and protective clothing
- food and drinking water



the Queensland coast. Heat waves - classified as three or more days of high temperatures - are also likely this summer, so remember to keep an eye on more vulnerable family and friends. If you

have an elderly family member or neighbour make sure they are also prepared, especially for the heat. Check out [www.redlanddisasterplan.com.au](http://www.redlanddisasterplan.com.au) for information.

## Pet rules make it safe for all

I would like to offer a friendly reminder that the Redlands values responsible pet ownership as well as supporting the rights of others who may be affected by straying and boisterous pets.

As a pet owner in the Redlands you are required to register your dog or cat at 12 weeks of age and have them microchipped.

Wandering cats can be quite a neighbourhood nuisance and it is important that cat owners understand that they have a responsibility to keep their pets confined to their properties at all times.

Cats will hunt at night and can be very destructive in our natural environment. However, they can be happily kept inside or contained if you provide the right environment.

While many dog owners may believe their pet is well trained, friendly and no problem when walking off-lead, other people can become concerned and even fearful in the presence of an unrestrained dog, even if it is small.

Check out Council's website at [www.redland.qld.gov.au](http://www.redland.qld.gov.au) for advice. It's under "animals and pets".

## Merry Christmas and stay safe

I would like to wish all residents of Division 7 and their families all the best for Christmas and a healthy and safe New Year.

Feel free to contact me if you need help with any issues.

Kind regards,

**Cr Murray Elliott**  
Division 7