

Coronavirus Response

New Local Jobs Policy

Townsville City Council's 2020-21 budget underlines its commitment to help the community recover from the economic and social impacts of the COVID-19 global pandemic.

This policy is created to assist Townsville's economic recovery from the impacts of COVID-19, Council will support development that provides new Townsville jobs.

Highlights

- An initiative to stimulate new development right across the city
- A COVID-19 economic support package which aims to encourage new developments across the city
- Under the package, developments valued at more than \$4 million could be eligible for a 25% reduction in Council infrastructure charges, up to a maximum of \$250,000.
- To be eligible for this package, the development must demonstrate the creation of new jobs and have a meaningful economic impact on the city.

WHO CAN APPLY

Any infrastructure in Townsville is eligible to apply if they meet the eligibility criteria.

Council's Support - Reduction in Infrastructure Charges

Council will reduce Infrastructure Charges for qualifying developments by the lesser of:

- The number of direct new jobs the development generates in Townsville multiplied by \$25,000; or
- 25% of the assessed Infrastructure Charges for the development; or \$250,000.
- If the development creates more than 25 new jobs, the Council will reduce the Infrastructure Charges by the lesser of:
- the full value of the assessed Infrastructure Charges for the development; or \$250,000.

ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

To be eligible for a reduction of Infrastructure Charges under the Coronavirus Response New Local Jobs Policy, a development must:

1. demonstrate to the Council's satisfaction that upon completion of the development, at least four new jobs in the Townsville region will be permanently created.
2. demonstrate that at least 90% of the workforce engaged during the planning and construction of the development will be Townsville residents (defined as a person resident in Townsville full-time for not less than three months prior to their engagement on the project –short periods of absence from Townsville for work, holidays or any other reason will be disregarded);
3. demonstrate the additional service being provided by the development caters for an unmet demand for that service;
4. are not developments by or for any level of government, a government entity or a government owned corporation;
5. are a single development with a project value of at least \$4 Million;
6. demonstrate to the Council's satisfaction:
 - the number of direct jobs that will be created during the conduct of the development; and
 - the number of new direct jobs that will be created by the use of the developed property;
7. demonstrate that traineeships – which may include indigenous traineeships - will be provided during the development and that the number of traineeships offered is reasonable having regard to the value and nature of the development (Council believes that any development likely to qualify under this policy will provide at least one traineeship);
8. demonstrate that the development will provide opportunities for indigenous business;
9. at the due date pay for payment of infrastructure charges:
 - lodge with Council a Bank Guarantee for the portion of the infrastructure charges that the Council proposes to waive under this policy; and
 - pay the balance of the infrastructure charges;
10. commence on the-ground construction of the development between 1 July 2020 and 31 December 2020;



11. demonstrate by 31 December 2020 that:
- on-the-ground construction work has commenced;
 - work to a value of at least 20% of the project value has been carried out (note that the on-the-ground construction); and
 - work has been carried out using a workforce that comprised at least 90% Townsville residents;
 - the traineeship/s has (or have) commenced; and
 - the development has provided opportunities for indigenous business.

HOW TO APPLY

Please contact our Planning Department via the Customer Service Centre on 13 48 10.