

JULY–SEPTEMBER 2025



Lord Mayor, Adrian Schrinner

Big support for small business: Lord Mayor

Higher living costs aren't just being felt in households, small businesses are feeling them too.

That's why we're striking the right balance between keeping costs down and keeping Brisbane moving, so that we can make doing business in Brisbane even better.

Strong neighbourhoods build strong businesses, and our Better Suburbs – Places and Spaces program is improving local areas to live and work in.

We're also driving future business opportunities through new Suburban Renewal Precincts and expanding popular coffee carts in parks to more than 100 new locations, away from existing businesses.

These initiatives build on our commitment to spend 80% of our procurement budget with local businesses, while offering a 24/7 business hotline, grant programs and free support through the Brisbane Business Hub.

It's all part of our plan to ensure Brisbane continues to be Australia's most small-business-friendly city and a great place to live, work and relax.

More locations for mobile food vendors

Attention mobile food vendors! We've expanded our popular food trucks initiative to include coffee carts and there are now more than 100 new locations where vendors can set up shop.

Our new Brisbane Food Trucks and Coffee Carts program makes it even easier for coffee carts and food trucks to trade in Brisbane's much-loved parks.

All the locations have been carefully chosen with existing businesses in mind.

Don't miss this opportunity to make the most of Brisbane's thriving outdoor lifestyle and reach new customers.

For further details on the Brisbane Food Trucks and Coffee Carts program and to apply, visit bnefoodtrucks.com.au.



Join our business Facebook group

Keep up with Council business events, resources, services and opportunities by joining our Business in Brisbane group. Head to Facebook and search 'Business in Brisbane'.



Kickstart your new financial year goals

Whether you want to reach new customers, improve your resilience or upskill, our business services can help you meet your goals.

- **Manage your waste better**
Help reduce waste to landfill with our business recycling bin collection service.
- **Be more accessible**
Use our online *Better Access, More Customers* guide to broaden your customer base.
- **Stay weather-ready**
Register for Brisbane Severe Weather Alerts for severe thunderstorms, flooding, planned burns, and other safety alerts.
- **Embrace AI**
Learn how to use Artificial Intelligence at our free business events (see 'What's on').
- **Access free business spaces**
Need a co-working space or a meeting venue? Check out Council's business hubs in the CBD and Nundah.

Find out more at brisbane.qld.gov.au.

Calling Brisbane's sustainability champions

Nominations are open for the WasteSMART Brisbane Awards, recognising the achievements of those who go above and beyond to help make Brisbane a clean and sustainable city.

With 12 diverse categories, there are plenty of opportunities to nominate businesses leading the way in sustainability efforts across hospitality, tourism, early learning centres and more.

The new Green Waste Award, which is also open to businesses, recognises efforts in green waste recovery, recycling and education programs. The award celebrates innovative initiatives that transform green waste into valuable resources.

Applications close Friday 29 August 2025. For more information, visit wastesmartawards.com.au/awards.



What's on

BEGINNER'S GUIDE TO FACEBOOK AND INSTAGRAM, FREE

3 September, 9–11.30am, Suburban Business Hub, Nundah

Learn how to reach more customers with digital marketing ads. Presented by JR Digital.

brisbane.qld.gov.au

HOW TO AI, FREE

16 September, 9.30am–12 noon, Wynnum Library

Discover how Artificial Intelligence (AI) can work for your business and learn the tools, platforms and strategies for an AI-powered business. Presented by Social Mediology.

brisbane.qld.gov.au

MARKETING WITH NO MONEY, FREE

15 October, 9–11.30am, Suburban Business Hub, Nundah

Learn strategies and tactics to build your brand and gain leads without spending big. Presented by Business in Training.

brisbane.qld.gov.au

Did you know?

Our *Business in Brisbane* newsletter delivers everything you need to know about running a business in Brisbane to your inbox.



Scan the QR code to sign up for our mailing list.

Boost your precinct's customer appeal

Brisbane is Australia's most small-business-friendly city and our online retail and activation toolkit is just one of the ways we support local businesses.

The toolkit offers resources to help you work with businesses in your area to grow foot traffic and build a vibrant community around your business.

It features customer behaviour insights and case studies, along with templates to guide your precinct's strategy and improve customer experiences.

Learn how to access support services such as emergency preparedness, recycling consultations and graffiti management to keep your precinct safe and inviting.

You'll also find free information such as how to create Google Business Profiles and increase your online visibility.

Visit our website to access the local retail and activation toolkit.



Local festivals get a funding increase

We're increasing funding for all 128 events supported by our Suburban Community and Multicultural Festival Funding Program by 25%.

Brisbane's community organisations and neighbourhood festivals create more to see and do in the suburbs and offer the perfect opportunity for local businesses to thrive and connect with the community.

The boost in funding will help local festivals become bigger and better, creating a bustling environment that's ideal for businesses to showcase their products and services.

By continuing to invest more than 80% of our Budget in the suburbs, we're ensuring Brisbane's lifestyle keeps getting better.

FOR MORE INFORMATION VISIT BRISBANE.QLD.GOV.AU OR PHONE 3403 8888



What's on

Discover what's happening at the Brisbane Business Hub, Queen Street, Brisbane City.

MASTERING AI: THE PRO'S GUIDE, FREE

27 August, 9.30–11.30am

Learn how to brief AI to get the best results, batch a full content calendar, evaluate AI results and more. Presented by Dr Anna Harrison and Michelle Picoto.

MENTORING SESSIONS, FREE

Book a complimentary one-on-one session with experts across a range of industries and sectors in Brisbane.

CO-WORKING AND MEETING SPACES

Available 9am–4pm, Monday to Friday

Work alongside like-minded people in a friendly, collaborative environment. Desks and meeting rooms are available to book 7 days in advance.

Visit businesshub.brisbane.qld.au to find out more.



Do business with Council

Whether you're a small business or a larger company, you can respond to Council's requests for products, services or works through our tender process.

We are committed to backing South East Queensland operations, investing 80% of our procurement spend with local businesses.

Start by registering your business as a supplier through our online portal to receive notifications of upcoming business opportunities and tenders.

If you have an innovative idea to enhance our services, you don't have to wait for a tender opportunity. You can pitch it to Council through the Better Brisbane Proposals (market-led proposals) initiative and it will be considered if it meets the eligibility criteria. Search 'tender process' on our website for more information.

Festivals light up Brisbane's economy

Brisbane Festival runs from 5–27 September, bringing a month-long program that lights up the whole city.

Festivals boost our economy, with more people staying in our city's hotels, enjoying restaurants, bars and cafes, and shopping locally.

Last year, Brisbane Festival delivered more than \$53 million in economic benefits, bringing in:

- **99,258 visitors**
- **15% increase in visitor nights**
- **8.4% rise in overnight spending.**

With more major events on the way, including BIGSOUND and Melt Festival, we're proud to support activities that make Brisbane the best place to visit, work and relax.

Brisbane City Council acknowledges this Country and its Traditional Custodians. We pay our respects to the Elders, those who have passed into the Dreaming; those here today; those of tomorrow.



Brisbane City Council
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