

MAY-JUNE 2025



Lord Mayor, Adrian Schrinner

Celebrating small business: Lord Mayor

May is Small Business Month and a time for us to celebrate the thousands of hardworking small businesses that make Brisbane a fantastic place to live, work and relax.

From local cafés to innovative startups, small businesses are the backbone of our economy and the heart of our communities.

Having grown up in a small business family, I understand the challenges entrepreneurs face and appreciate just how valuable the right support can be.

As Australia's most small-business friendly city, we are committed to helping local businesses thrive through dedicated programs, grants, and resources tailored to your needs.

Our Brisbane Business Hub is a free one-stop-shop for those looking for inspiration, mentorship or even a place to work from so that we can help your organisation grow.

No matter the size of your business, I encourage you to explore the many programs we offer year-round to help make it easier for you to do business in Brisbane.

Recognising Brisbane businesses

Our diverse business community is one of the many reasons why Brisbane is the best place to live, work and relax.

Every year, we recognise the achievements of our business leaders and industry trailblazers and the impact they make on our city.

Nominations are now open for the following awards.

LORD MAYOR'S BUSINESS AWARDS (LMBA)

Now in its 20th year, these awards shine a well-deserved spotlight on the visionaries, innovators and game-changers driving our city forward.

Nominations close on Friday 27 June 2025. Visit lmba.com.au for more information.

LORD MAYOR'S MULTICULTURAL BUSINESS AWARDS

Celebrate the contribution business leaders from diverse cultural and linguistic backgrounds make to the Brisbane economy and community through their creativity, innovation and resilience.

Nominations close on Sunday 6 July 2025. Visit brisbane.qld.gov.au and search 'Multicultural Business Awards' for more information.



Supporting small business

Brisbane is Australia's most small-business friendly city and we're proud to have a strong history of supporting local businesses.

From pop-up shops to home-based businesses and startups, all types of small businesses can benefit from the opportunities, services and resources we offer to help you start, succeed and thrive.

They include:

- our 24/7 Business Hotline 133 263 (BNE)
- access to more than 2,000 grants worth \$58 billion through our Funding Finder tool
- free co-working space and free business training run by industry specialists at the Suburban Business Hub in Nundah
- free business events at our libraries for learning and skill development
- a full-service workspace, free events and workshops run by industry professionals at the CBD Brisbane Business Hub.

In addition, more than 80% of our procurement is awarded to businesses in South East Queensland.

It's all part of our commitment to boost our local economy to make Brisbane even better.

Join our business Facebook group

Keep up with upcoming Council business events, resources, services and opportunities by joining our Business in Brisbane group. Connect with like-minded business operators and share tips and insights with our local network.

Head to Facebook and search 'Business in Brisbane'.

FOR MORE INFORMATION VISIT [BRISBANE.QLD.GOV.AU](https://brisbane.qld.gov.au) OR PHONE 3403 8888



What's on

TALK TO A PLANNER, FREE

**4 June, 9am–12 noon, Brisbane
Business Hub, Brisbane City**
12 June, 4–7pm, Chermside Library

Speak to planning specialists and ask questions about how *Brisbane City Plan 2014* relates to your building and construction plans. Bookings essential.

brisbane.qld.gov.au

DIY NO COST MARKETING, FREE

**4 June, 12.30–3.30pm, Brisbane
Business Hub, Brisbane City**

Learn how to reach thousands of potential customers weekly and drive traffic to your website.

businesshub.brisbane.qld.gov.au

NAVIGATING CHALLENGING WORK CONVERSATIONS, FREE

**18 June, 9.30–11.30am, Brisbane
Business Hub, Brisbane City**

Learn how to plan and what to say to handle difficult workplace conversations. Includes interactive activities and actionable tips to improve communication skills.

businesshub.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.**



Investing in our suburbs

Brisbane's reputation as Australia's lifestyle capital continues to grow with our latest investment in suburban precincts.

The Better Suburbs – Places and Spaces program aims to refresh neighbourhood spaces across our city, with construction at the first location underway.

We're delivering new street trees, upgraded footpaths, an inviting seating area and better lighting to the neighbourhood precinct at the corner of Ryans and Robinson roads, Nundah.

Along with the Suburban Renewal Precincts program, the Better Suburbs – Places and Spaces program aims to create a city of well-connected suburbs and boost opportunities for new homes and businesses.



Enhance access and connect with more customers

Have you downloaded our *Better Access, More Customers* guide? It offers practical steps you can take to eliminate physical and social barriers for customers of any background, age or ability.

An estimated 5 million seniors and people with disability in Australia have a collective disposable income of more than \$40 billion but can't access products and services due to poor design.

The guide provides simple, achievable, free or low-cost ways to help customers find your business, access your products and services, ask for assistance and feel included.

It's part of our commitment to ensuring businesses of all sizes thrive, and all residents feel included and connected to their communities. For more information visit our website and search 'Better Access, More Customers'.

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



What's on

FIVE STEPS TO BETTER VIDEOS, FREE

26 June, 9.30am–12.30pm, Indooroopilly Library

High-quality video content is essential in modern marketing. Find out the key steps you can take to improve the quality of your videos. Bookings essential.

brisbane.qld.gov.au

MPN GALA DINNER

3 July, 6.30–10.30pm, Victoria Park Golf Complex (Ballroom), Herston

Connect with fellow professionals, leaders, and visionaries from all backgrounds at the Multicultural Professional Network event. Bookings essential.

eventbrite.com.au

2025 ASIA PACIFIC CITIES SUMMIT & MAYORS' FORUM

27–29 October, Expo City Dubai

Save the date! Network with global corporates, city leaders, researchers and policy makers.

apcsummit.org

Events boost our local economy

May kicked off a bumper 3 months of events in Brisbane that are set to attract hundreds of thousands of visitors and drive an estimated \$100 million boost to the economy.



Brisbane is Australia's lifestyle capital and continues to capture global attention as one of the best places in the world to visit.

Events like NRL Magic Round and France's world-famous Ballet Preljocaj create more to see and do in our city.

With local, interstate and international visitors on our shores, there's no better time for Council to support local businesses through activations such as Dine BNE City.

Since 2021, Dine BNE City has championed local businesses by encouraging diners to experience Brisbane City's dynamic food culture, no matter their budget.

This year, the program is serving up its biggest line-up yet, with 100 exclusive dining offers and events across 60 restaurants and bars. Visit dinebnecity.com.au for details.

Buy Local initiative bolsters small businesses

Since 2023, we've committed to supporting Brisbane's small and home-grown businesses through our Buy Local initiative.

Buy Local sets a benchmark ensuring that 80% of our procurement contracts are awarded to businesses in South East Queensland.

More than 82% of contracts have been awarded through the initiative this financial year, with more than \$1 billion injected back into Brisbane's local economy.

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.



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