barton deakin

Government Relations

Barton Deakin Brief: Brisbane City Council Overview

12 April 2016

Today Brisbane City's 26 elected Councillors, Lord Mayor and new Civic Cabinet have been sworn in, following Queensland's local government elections on 19 March.

Lord Mayor Graham Quirk has announced a wide-ranging reshuffle of his Civic Cabinet, with the development of the Brisbane Metro subway a priority for this term.

This Barton Deakin brief provides an overview of Brisbane City Council, its Councillors and the Civic Cabinet.

About Brisbane City

The Brisbane City Council area is the largest local government area in Australia spanning 1,367 km². Unlike in Sydney, Melbourne, Perth and Adelaide, the Brisbane City local government area (LGA) covers most of metropolitan Brisbane.

The Council area has a greater population than any other local government in Australia, with an estimated 1.15 million residents. This is roughly equivalent to the populations of Tasmania, the Australian Capital Territory and the Northern Territory combined.

Brisbane City Council administers a budget of around $2.6 billion annually.

Councillors and Civic Cabinet

Brisbane City Council (BCC) is made up of 26 local wards, each represented by a ward Councillor. Wards recently underwent a boundary review, which saw boundary changes in most wards and six wards re-named.

The Lord Mayor is separately elected by more than 600,000 registered voters who live in Brisbane. The Lord Mayor does not preside over a specific ward.

Council has eight Standing Committees:

- Public and Active Transport Committee (with special responsibility for the Brisbane Metro)
- Finance and Economic Development Committee
- Lifestyle and Community Services Committee
- Infrastructure Committee
- Field Services Committee
- Environment, Parks and Sustainability Committee
- City Planning Committee
- Establishment and Coordination Committee (Civic Cabinet)

The Establishment and Coordination Committee is otherwise known as 'Civic Cabinet'. It is chaired by the Lord Mayor and is delegated significant responsibility. The Committee meets weekly. It sets the strategic direction for Brisbane as a city and for Brisbane City Council as an organisation.

Lord Mayor and Councillors

Councillor	Ward	Position	Party
Cr Graham Quirk		Lord Mayor of Brisbane	LNP
Cr Amanda Cooper	Bracken Ridge	Chairman of the Infrastructure Committee	LNP
Cr Angela Owen-Taylor	Calamvale	Chairman of Council	LNP
Cr Vicki Howard	Central		LNP
Cr Adrian Schrinner	Chandler	Deputy Mayor; Chairman of the Public and Active Transport Committee (including the Brisbane Metro)	LNP
Cr Ian McKenzie	Coorparoo		LNP
Cr Jared Cassidy	Deagon		ALP
Cr Ryan Murphy	Doboy		LNP
Cr Andrew Wines	Enoggera		LNP
Cr Charles Strunk	Forest Lake		ALP
Cr David McLachlan	Hamilton	Chairman of Environment, Parks and Sustainability Committee	LNP
Cr Krista Adams	Holland Park	Chairman of the Finance and Economic Development Committee	LNP
Cr Matthew Bourke	Jamboree	Chairman of the Lifestyle and Community Services Committee	LNP
Cr Norm Wyndham	McDowall		LNP
Cr Steven Huang	MacGregor		LNP
Cr Fiona King	Marchant		LNP
Cr Steve Griffiths	Moorooka		ALP
Cr Shayne Sutton	Morningside		ALP
Cr Allan Adam	Northgate		LNP
Cr Peter Matic	Paddington	Chairman of the Field Services Committee	LNP
Cr Kate Richards	Pullenvale		LNP
Cr Kim Marx	Runcorn		LNP
Cr Nicole Johnston	Tennyson		Ind.
Cr Jonathan Sri	The Gabba		Green
Cr Steve Toomey	The Gap		LNP
Cr Julian Simmonds	Walter Taylor	Chairman of the City Planning Committee	LNP
Cr Peter Cumming	Wynnum Manly	Leader of the Opposition	ALP

Elections

The City of Brisbane is Queensland's only local government that is contested by the major political parties at elections. Brisbane City Councillors are therefore generally politically aligned.

Following the declaration of results for the 2016 Queensland Local Government Elections, 20 of 26 Councillors (including the Lord Mayor) are LNP aligned.

View Barton Deakin's brief on the 2016 Queensland Local Government Elections here.

Brisbane City Council elections are held every four years with the next election due in March 2020.

Brisbane City Councillors are elected using optional preferential voting. The Lord Mayor is elected at large from voters in all 26 wards.

Further information

For more information on Brisbane City Council, visit www.brisbane.qld.gov.au.

For more information on Queensland local government elections, visit the Electoral Commission Queensland website www.ecq.qld.gov.au.

For more information on how we can assist your organisation, please contact Gerard Paynter on +61 416 113 059 or Lauren Clark on +61 431 037 671.