

## **PUBLIC INTEREST DISCLOSURES**

**Intent** Cairns Regional Council is committed to fostering an ethical, accountable and transparent culture. In pursuit of this, Council values the disclosure of information about suspected wrongdoing so that it can be properly assessed and, if necessary, appropriately investigated.

Council will provide support to an employee or others who make disclosures about matters in the public interest. This policy demonstrates Council's commitment and ensures that practical and effective procedures are implemented which comply with the requirements of the *Public Interest Disclosure Act 2010* (PID Act).

### **Principles**

By complying with the PID Act, Council will:

- promote the public interest by facilitating public interest disclosures (PIDs) of wrongdoing
- ensure that PIDs are properly assessed and, where appropriate, properly investigated and dealt with
- ensure appropriate consideration is given to the interests of persons who are the subject of a PID
- ensure protection from reprisal is afforded to persons making PIDs.

As required under the PID Act, Council will implement procedures to ensure that:

- any public officer who makes a PID is given appropriate support
- PIDs made to Council are properly assessed and, where appropriate, properly investigated and dealt with
- appropriate action is taken in relation to any wrongdoing which is the subject of a PID
- a management program for PIDs made to Council, consistent with the standards issued by the Queensland Ombudsman, is developed and implemented
- public officers who make PIDs are offered protection from reprisal by Council or other public officers of Cairns Regional Council.

The Public Interest Disclosure Procedure will be reviewed annually and updated as required to ensure it meets the requirements of the PID Act and the standards issued by the Queensland Ombudsman.

**This policy is to remain in force until otherwise determined by Council.**

**Director Responsible for Review:**

**People and Organisational  
Performance**

**ORIGINALLY ADOPTED: 16/04/2014  
CURRENT ADOPTION: 16/11/2022  
DUE FOR REVISION: 16/11/2026  
REVOKED/SUPERSEDED**

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Mica Martin".

**Mica Martin  
Chief Executive Officer**