Fraser Coast Planning Scheme – Amendment Package 1

FACTSHEET – Home-based Business Code

Council is proposing updates to the Home-Based Business Code to clarify how home-based businesses must operate to remain small-scale and compatible with residential areas. Council remains supportive of providing a pathway for residents to legally operate small-scale businesses, supporting local jobs and innovation.

What is the purpose of the Home-based business code?

A home-based business means the use of a dwelling or domestic outbuilding for a business activity that is subordinate to the residential use of the premises. The purpose of the Home-based business code is to provide the requirements for establishing and operating a home-based business. Most home-based businesses can be established without needing a development application, provided all the requirements of the code are met.

Summary of Proposed Changes

- Introduction of a definition for "home office" to support remote office working trends.
- Requiring the home-based business to be conducted such that buildings on the site retain a residential appearance and character.
- Clarifying the requirements for the scale of use and protection of residential amenity.
- Requiring equipment, materials and storage to be screened from public view.
- Strengthening requirements to manage traffic impacts, including:
  - No more than 10 vehicle trips to and from the site per day;
  - Commercial deliveries or collections limited to courier-sized vehicles, with no more than two deliveries per day;
  - Loading and unloading restricted to 8.00am – 6.00pm Monday to Saturday, with no activity on Sundays or public holidays; and
  - Use of existing driveway and crossover only.
- Requiring on-site sewerage facilities and on-site rainwater collection to adequately service the home-based business where reticulated infrastructure is not available.

What This Means for You

- **Current home-based business operators** -If you already operate a lawfully established home-based business, you do not need to reapply.
- **New home-based business operators** - If you are considering starting a new home-based business, the updated code provides the criteria you will need to comply with. Where you cannot comply with all the requirements, an application to Council may be required.
- **Residents** - The proposed changes seek to ensure that new home-based businesses remain small-scale, respectful of neighbours, and consistent with the residential character of the area.

HAVE YOUR SAY

Council is inviting the community to review the proposed amendments to the Fraser Coast Planning Scheme and make a submission. For many people, nothing will change — but your feedback helps guide future growth.

Find out more and have your say by **1 May 2026.**

Visit **haveyoursay.frasercoast.qld.gov.au** or by scanning the QR code.