



ANNUAL CONNECT 2025



Welcome to our 2025 edition of the Annual Connect! Each year, this update offers a snapshot of what we've been working on together, and as always, I am filled with gratitude for being entrusted for a third term to represent this extraordinary community as the only elected Independent in Queensland Parliament.

For our new arrivals, welcome to the family! Noosa is unlike anywhere else. We are 'Different by Nature' and fiercely proud of our independence. Noosa is a shire and electorate with its own unique spirit, shaped by both beach and hinterland communities, and by generations of residents who fought hard to safeguard what we value. As your Independent State MP, I remain committed to carrying forward that legacy, representing you rather than a party ideology, and ensuring our community voice is heard loud and clear in parliament.



This year, our community again demonstrated resilience as we prepared for Cyclone Alfred, with households, volunteers and frontliners ready for the worst. Fortunately, Noosa was spared the effects felt elsewhere. In August, we also felt tremors of a 5.6 magnitude earthquake centred in Kilkivan - thankfully without damage. These moments highlight the importance of always being prepared with information to assist at www.getready.qld.gov.au, and if able, consider joining one of our Rural Fire Brigades, SES crews, or Marine Rescue volunteers who stand ready to protect us all.

On the projects front, the Noosa River Management Plan will be entering stage 6 & 7 on 1st January 2026, with a new 28-day anchoring restriction per financial year across the entire river system for all boats over five metres. Planning for additional boating infrastructure is currently underway with \$2.5 million committed with construction expected in 2027/28. In housing, after 3 years of advocacy, the minister stated that construction on new social housing in Tewantin is anticipated to begin in 2026/27. For the hinterland, \$1 million has also been confirmed for Pomona pedestrian crossings, with construction scheduled to begin in 2026/27.



The decommissioned Tewantin TAFE site has been transferred to the successful proponents and we await their update. Planning continues for the next stages of the Tewantin Bypass, with designs to be completed in 2028, enabling construction to commence. We have also been questioning the government on election commitments never asked for, such as the proposed Sunshine Coast Waterways Authority and Safe Night Precinct, to ensure resources are directed to the priorities our community actually identifies and needs.

While the new government was finding its 'feet' we ensured Noosa's voice was heard from day one. This included questioning decisions being made that disregard evidence or independent recommendations, such as their expansion of shark nets and changes to youth justice laws. We also continued to call for reforms to the committee and estimates processes, which has long failed to deliver the accountability and scrutiny Queenslanders expect. Given that promises for an 'overhaul' by the new government have not materialised, we are now asking a new question. Do we need a reinstated version of an Upper House in Queensland to ensure that there is not an abuse of powers, including legislation that is 'rammed' through bypassing community consultation? I look forward to your thoughts in our 2026 Noosa Community Survey!

The diversity of the year included being a delegate to the Commonwealth Parliamentary Conference in Barbados, visiting the Federal Parliament as part of research and conducting Health, Environment and Innovation Committee public hearings and site visits in Far North Queensland. With information on these posted to our Facebook page, as well to Noosa 360 which is the go-to for updates on everything from housing and policing to health services, education, environment and more. Please visit www.sandybolton.com/noosa360, use the handy search bar, and subscribe to our newsletter at www.sandybolton.com/newsletters to stay up to date, as well be alerted of Noosa specific polls and surveys to ensure your voice is included in shaping Noosa's collective position and future!



Sandy

SANDY BOLTON MP

Independent State Member
for Noosa

Member of the Parliamentary
Health, Environment and
Innovation Committee



For 35 years Sandy has lived, worked and raised her three children in the Noosa community, and shares her life with partner Ian 'Shoey' Schuback OAM, 'fur babies' Jet, Coco and the rascally Bear, as well some native 'characters'!

Sandy holds formal qualifications in Social Innovation and has a diverse background in managerial and consultancy roles in tourism, agriculture, sporting, community, training and social services. Prior to becoming our MP, Sandy held roles such as NDIS project manager for disability service provider Sunshine Butterflies, founding member of Innovate Noosa, Director of the four local Bendigo Community Banks and Community Advisory Council Member of the Sunshine Coast Primary Health Network.

Sandy was also one of the inaugural Councillors to form the de-amalgamated Noosa Council in 2013.

Passionate about 'people before politics' Sandy's focus is outcome-driven by strengthening, informing and uniting our community, and ensuring all voices are heard!



NOOSA WORKING GROUPS

- Local Disaster Management Group
- Kin Kin Roundtable
- Noosa Business Roundtable
- Noosa Shark Net Group



KEEP UP TO DATE

Please subscribe to our monthly newsletters at www.sandybolton.com/connect/newsletters which will also ensure you receive any Noosa related surveys and polling.

WHAT DOES STATE GOVERNMENT DO?

There is often confusion surrounding the three levels of government, their representatives, and what they do!

State and territory governments administer laws and provide services not covered by the federal government such as hospitals, schools, police and housing. The federal government has broad national powers and administers laws in relation to defence, immigration, foreign affairs, trade and taxation. The powers of local councils include responsibility for building regulations, rubbish collection, local roads and pest control. The representatives of these three levels of government work independently of each other, although there are times when collaboration is welcomed and necessary, to achieve resolution.

The role of a State Member of Parliament (MP) is a multi-functional one, having responsibility to our constituents, as well to broader Queensland. We provide assistance and advice to those in difficulty, act as a champion for local interest groups and issues and negotiate outcomes for our electorate. This includes researching bills and voting on Noosa's behalf in the Queensland Parliament.

My electorate office staff can assist you by accessing information and advice on state matters and making representations to the relevant minister's office. As with every process there are rules to follow, and the role of an MP does not allow intervention in a judicial process or civil matters, and rightly so. Should the process or system fail, then an MP's role is to advocate for a review of these and seek amendments to the underpinning legislation in efforts to remedy.

Who to call when you have a concern?

State Government - Our office is located at Suite CB05, Noosa Civic. We regularly conduct mobile offices, and are available via email Noosa@parliament.qld.gov.au, phone 5319 3100, Instagram @sandy_bolton_mp_noosa, Facebook @SandyBoltonNoosa, LinkedIn (sandy-bolton-noosa) or our website www.sandybolton.com.

Local Government - Noosa Shire Council is located in Tewantin. Their friendly staff are available on 5329 6500, or visit their website at www.noosa.qld.gov.au to obtain the contact details of our Elected Councillors.

Federal Government - North is Llew O'Brien representing Wide Bay (most of Noosa area) on 4121 2936 or Ted O'Brien representing Fairfax on 5479 2800 to our south.



ON THE HOMEFRONT

Full updates are available at www.sandybolton.com/noosa360

- Tewantin Bypass - Planning underway, partial funding confirmed.
- Pomona Kin Kin Road Safety - Stage 2 & 3 projected for 2026/27.
- Cooroy Intersections - Business case & designs progressing.
- Factory St, Pomona Pedestrian Crossing - Construction planned 2026/27.
- North Coast Transport Strategy/Shuttle - Draft expected late 2025.
- Electric bike/scooter safety - Parliamentary Inquiry underway.
- Noosa River - Stage 1 to 5 complete, stage 6 & 7 commences January 2026.
- Boating Infrastructure - Construction planned for 2027/28.
- Lake MacDonald Dam Upgrade - Currently in Phase 2 of construction.
- State Facilitated Developments - Tewantin cancelled, program paused.
- Emergency/Transitional housing - Working with Noosa Salvos & churches.
- House with no steps - Working with lessee for a transportables site.
- Doonella Street Housing - Government committed to construction.
- SEQ Regional Plan - Review underway.
- Decommissioned TAFE - Transferred to proponent of 2021 EOI process.
- Mental Health - Increased services for Noosa & ongoing advocacy for more.
- Noosa Private Hospital - Lease extension expected to be finalised July 2026.
- Noosa Dental Service - Advocacy new & ongoing.
- Katie Rose Hospice - Advocacy ongoing.
- Kin Kin Quarry - Controlled action declared, awaiting EPBC consultation.
- Noosa North Shore Airfield - Advocacy for emergency services ongoing.
- Cooloola/Teewah & Turtles - Awaiting response from government.
- Shark Nets - Requested trial of alternatives during whale migration.
- Noosa World Surfing Reserve - Awaiting response from government.
- Tuchekoi National Park Planning - QPWS has increased priority.
- Wildlife Safety - Government developing new strategy.
- Sunshine Beach SHS - Advanced manufacturing design underway.
- Noosa District SHS - Approved for upgraded fencing.
- Alternative Education & intergenerational learning - Pomona workshop held.
- School Transport Assistance Scheme - Improvements under investigation.
- Police Resources - Forward allocations requested, SNP review underway.
- DFV Court - \$74.8m allocated for Maroochydore Courthouse upgrades.
- Small Business - Ongoing advocacy on payroll & land tax.
- Tinbeerwah Rural Fire Station - Land search commenced for new site.
- Rural Fire Brigades - Amendments passed for greater disaster autonomy.
- Sporting infrastructure - Projects submitted to government.
- Junction Live Music - Awaiting outcomes of Queensland noise review.
- Burgess Creek - \$100,000 allocated for catchment management plan.
- Pomona Men's Shed Land Tenure - QPWS & Noosa Council working on.



MP INITIATIVES 2025

We distribute as much as possible of our office operating budget back into the community instead of advertising or self promotion! In previous years, these funds have assisted our young Noosans access sports, provided emergency accommodation, and contributed to major initiatives such as the all-abilities mat at Noosa Main Beach and the 'Be: Noosa Connect-SCUH Transport Pilot' which resulted in transport for vulnerable residents to hospital treatments.

In 2025, 32 Noosa organisations from beach to bush were successful in our Quick Start grant program delivering new equipment and crucial infrastructure for our not for profits, as well supporting vital programs for our youth and so much more. Examples include new volunteer rescue kits for Wildlife Noosa, the installation of an irrigation system at Cooran Organic Garden, and helping support the launch of Plastic Free Noosa's Precious Plastic Project. Separately, other programs we helped fund include Sunshine Beach State High School's Tiny Home Construction Course, the Noosa Women's Shed Cladding Project, and an all-terrain wheelchair to give everyone access to Noosa Main Beach and Noosa National Park.

In addition, our Noosa MP Queensland Day Awards 2025 were record breaking with over 60 deserving and incredible Noosans recognised for giving their time free of charge to provide essential services to our community!

How blessed we are to have so many, doing so much, including our 'elves' who make it possible for us to host the Noosa Christmas Day Community lunch which brings enormous joy to all of us!



KEY CONTACTS



For a list of key contacts in Noosa visit:

www.sandybolton.com/keycontacts

If you would like a printed copy please visit our office.



Our Voice.

Our Noosa.

Our Future.

2025 FUNDING SNAPSHOT

The Noosa Electorate received a diverse range of State Government funding and grants, including:

- **Community Benefit Fund** - A total of \$352,183 collectively for our not for profits to improve the services they provide to us.
- **Work Skills Traineeships Program** - \$546,000 for Noosa and District Landcare's Improving Threatened Species Habitat Program.
- **Non-Competitive Capital** - \$300k upgrade Tigers AFC field lighting.
- **Minor Infrastructure and Inclusive Facilities** - \$225,439 to upgrade courts and construct shade sails to support Peregrian Tennis Club inc.
- **Games On! Program** - Little Athletics \$15,000, Tewantin Tennis Association \$44,000, Noosa Touch Association \$10,000 & Pirates Rugby League \$25,000.
- **Queensland Arts Showcase Program** - \$146k for local art instalments.
- **Public Library Funding** - \$276,692 to Noosa Council.
- **Capital Works Funding** - \$70.1m for major infrastructure & planning.
- **And more!**

NOOSA ELECTORATE MAP

www.sandybolton.com/map

STATE GOVERNMENT QUICK LINKS

Queensland State Government & Departments
www.qld.gov.au

Queensland Parliament
www.parliament.qld.gov.au

One Place Community Services Directory
www.oneplace.org.au

Disasters & Emergencies
www.qld.gov.au/community/disasters-emergencies

Business
www.business.qld.gov.au

Environment
www.detsi.qld.gov.au



HAVE YOUR SAY. BE HEARD.

2026 Noosa Community Survey

It takes just 10 minutes for you to have your say in the Noosa Community Survey! Your responses are invaluable in helping to identify priorities and issues that are important to you and our community. The survey closes 16th of January and can be completed here:

www.sandybolton.com/your-say-annual-survey

Hard copies are also available by calling our office on 5319 3100.



NOTE - From the end of January 2026 this link can also be used to refer to the results of the survey.

Sandy Bolton MP Independent Member for Noosa

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