

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

## **Renewed engagement policy promises to keep community informed and involved**

**15 June, 2020**  
**COOKTOWN**

Cook Shire Council's commitment to meaningful community engagement was reflected with the adoption of a new Community Engagement Policy at the June Council meeting.

The policy, which is reviewed periodically, was updated to include five key promises to build on Council's community engagement. "Council has committed not just to keeping the community informed, but also to consult, involve, collaborate and empower our residents, ratepayers and communities," Cook Shire Mayor Peter Scott said. "The policy makes a strong statement about Council's promise to engage effectively, building the capacity of our communities, increasing the transparency of our decision-making process and ultimately strengthening the democratic process."

The policy references the International Association of Public Participation's (IAP2) Spectrum of Engagement and Core Values of Public Participation. IAP2's mission is to advance the practice of community and stakeholder engagement through education, advocacy and building partnerships.

To see all Council's policies, including the Community Engagement Policy, visit our website at [www.cook.qld.gov.au/council/documents](http://www.cook.qld.gov.au/council/documents) or visit [www.cook.qld.gov.au/council/engagement](http://www.cook.qld.gov.au/council/engagement) for more information on how Council engages with the community and current community consultations.

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