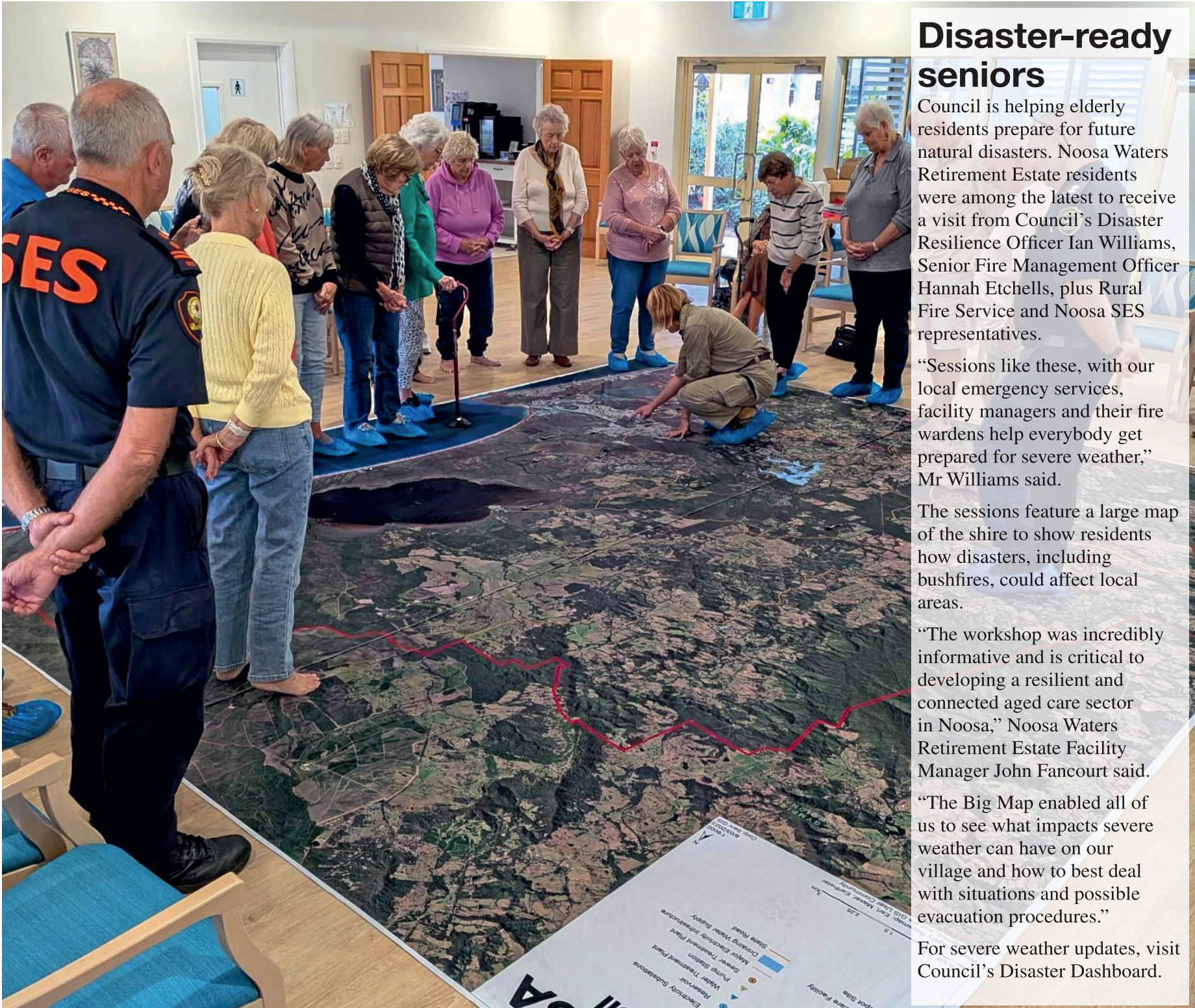




Residents study Noosa's Big Map with Council's Disaster Resilience team to plan for severe weather.

Disaster-ready seniors

Council is helping elderly residents prepare for future natural disasters. Noosa Waters Retirement Estate residents were among the latest to receive a visit from Council's Disaster Resilience Officer Ian Williams, Senior Fire Management Officer Hannah Etchells, plus Rural Fire Service and Noosa SES representatives.

"Sessions like these, with our local emergency services, facility managers and their fire wardens help everybody get prepared for severe weather," Mr Williams said.

The sessions feature a large map of the shire to show residents how disasters, including bushfires, could affect local areas.

"The workshop was incredibly informative and is critical to developing a resilient and connected aged care sector in Noosa," Noosa Waters Retirement Estate Facility Manager John Fancourt said.

"The Big Map enabled all of us to see what impacts severe weather can have on our village and how to best deal with situations and possible evacuation procedures."

For severe weather updates, visit Council's Disaster Dashboard.

One-lane closure for Doonella Lake Bridge
Major renewal works will improve safety and reliability while future-proofing this key transport connection for the community

A major upgrade to Doonella Lake Bridge will create traffic delays from early July, but the work is required to strengthen one of Noosa's busiest transport connections between Tewantin and Noosaville.

Carrying more than 20,000 vehicles, cyclists and pedestrians daily, the bridge renewal will include structural strengthening,

upgraded barrier rails and significant remediation works designed to extend the life of the bridge and improve long-term safety and reliability.

One-lane will be closed during the work and it's unfortunate but necessary to ensure the bridge can continue supporting the growing needs of the community.

Director Infrastructure Services, Shaun Walsh said Council and contractors would work to minimise impacts where possible while delivering the important infrastructure renewal.

"This is a significant investment in the region's transport network that will provide a safer, stronger and more resilient bridge for our community into the future," Mr.

Walsh said. The project is proudly funded through the Australian Government's Safer Local Roads and Infrastructure Program in partnership with Noosa Council.

To stay up-to-date with project information, traffic impacts, and frequently asked questions, and to subscribe for email updates, visit noosa.qld.gov.au/wip.

Prioritising everyday services



Peregian Playground set for \$670,000 upgrade.

Maintaining core services coupled with a responsible Capital Works program is the cornerstone of the 2026-27 Noosa Council Budget.

"We are prioritising those services valued by the community," Mayor Frank Wilkie said.

A \$670,000 upgrade to Peregian Beach playground and better toilet facilities at Stan Topper Park are examples of critical

community projects to be delivered over the next 12 months.

Cr Wilkie said councillors were mindful of cost-of-living pressures faced by households and maintaining Noosa to the standard we all expect.

A new Changing Places facility in Noosaville is being built and park furniture, shelters, playgrounds, BBQs, and drinking fountains

across the shire are also being renewed, thanks to a \$2.5 million commitment.

Over \$1.5 million in community grants will be made available for non-for-profits and community groups

Pathways, boardwalks and the trail network benefit to the tune of \$4.4 million.

Cr Wilkie said Council is experiencing significant increases in operating expenses, particularly with fuel costs and what we pay for goods and materials.

"Council's financial sustainability has allowed it to respond in a disciplined, measured way and minimise the impacts of the recent land valuation jumps that averaged 37 percent."

The on-going investment on maintaining and renewing essential community infrastructure and public spaces are what's valued by our residents. Waste will see a \$15 million commitment to enhance the management in resource recovery and recycling outcomes.

These funds ensure the waste facility at Doonan continues to meet stringent waste regulations and enhance safety at the landfill.

In Brief



Pathway upgrades to improve safety and connectivity

Council is upgrading pathways in Tewantin and Noosaville to improve pedestrian safety, accessibility and connectivity.

Works include a new pathway along Williams St. in Tewantin and pedestrian ramps at Bluebell Ct. in Noosaville to better connect existing networks. Construction is expected to be completed by late July.

Please don't bin your batteries

Residents urged to use new free battery drop-off points

Council is urging residents to keep batteries out of household bins following a spate of waste truck and Resource Recovery Centre fires.

Batteries can ignite when compacted, posing serious risks to waste management staff and infrastructure.

"Batteries belong nowhere near your household bin. They can easily spark dangerous fires in trucks and at our waste facilities," Council's Waste Coordinator Peita Otterbach said.

Residents can now dispose of small items with embedded

batteries - like vapes, headphones, toys, smart watches and toothbrushes - for free at drop off bins at Council's Tewantin offices, Cooroy and Noosaville Libraries, Noosa Leisure Centre, Noosa Aquatic Centre and our waste facilities.

Larger batteries can be dropped off free at Council's waste facilities, including the Eumundi Noosa Road Resource Recovery Centre.

Items such as old e-bikes and e-scooters must be handed directly to waste facility staff, not dumped with other rubbish, to ensure embedded batteries are

removed and properly recycled.

Small household batteries can be dropped off using the Recycle Mate app.



Discard devices with embedded batteries in bins.

Rates discount retained

Council has retained the 5 per cent early payment discount.

This can be a yearly saving of about \$77 for the average residential ratepayer on the minimum general rate.

The full pensioner rebate remains in place, giving relief to all eligible pensioners in the shire.

Council has kept most levies unchanged, except for a \$5.55 increase in the Sustainable Transport Levy, which will provide more opportunities to enhance transport options across the shire. All details on the 2026-27 budget can be viewed on the Council website.