

# Pascas Food Basket

Estimated Resident Population of Gold Coast City was 635,191 as of the 30th June 2020. The population estimate for Tweed Shire as of the 30th June 2020 is 98,382.

Total population for Gold Coast and Tweed Shire as of 30 June 2020 **735,000**

Annual growth rate being about 2.25%, or about 16,000 per annum, 6 years adds 100,000

Gold Coast is one of Australia's fastest growing regions, with its population expected to reach as many as 820,000 by 2035. And possibly reach a population of **1.2 million people** by 2050.

The Gold Coast Food Aid Working Group, which is an off shoot of the Gold Coast Homeless Network and was formed during the COVID lockdown of 2020 to pool resources to best meet the food needs of those adversely affected by the various restrictions. We are all representatives of Not-For-Profit agencies on the Gold Coast who distribute food in some way, shape or form to those in need.

Our group has been talking about getting off the ground a Gold Coast Food Distribution Hub and it is literally the same conversation I (Vicky Rose) was party to years ago driven by the local Councillor but fizzled due to the magnitude of it. The need, has not decreased and if anything, has only increased. It just needs to be done. On the morning of 14 September 2021, at our meeting we;

1. discussed avenues of support i.e.; political, philanthropic and community
2. identified some key business people on the GC whom we have tasked our chairperson to approach about logistical support i.e.; a warehouse space
3. agreed on a media blurb and will contact our person at The Gold Coast Bulletin
4. committed to have this conversation 'out there' and be spoken about on every platform we can think of and are party to
5. started a timeline

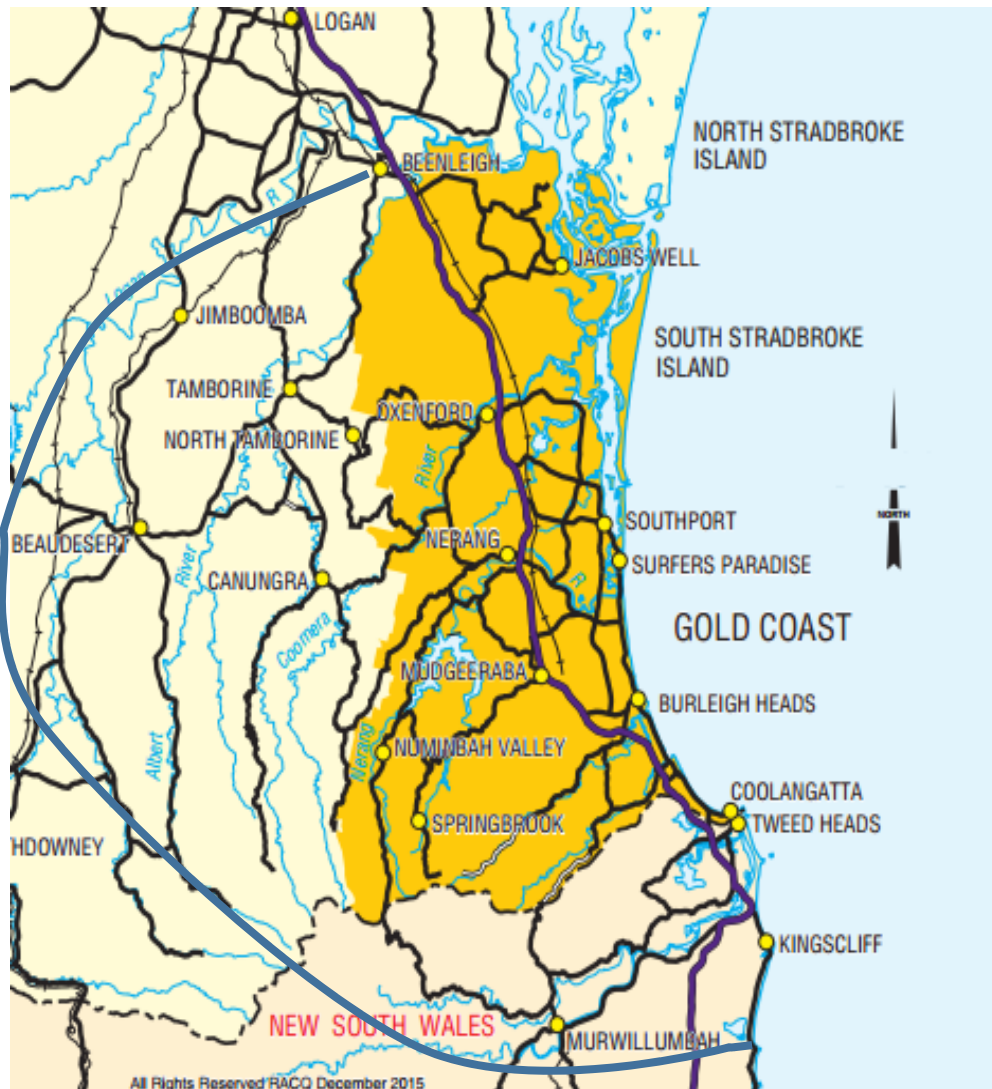
There are over 40 Gold Coast / Tweed charities driving up and down to Brisbane every week to purchase food from Foodbank which has only been gathered from the Gold Coast anyhow. The Foodbank Distribution warehouse can only cater to so many charities and our Gold Coast charities are effectively limiting the access of Brisbane local services needing to access such food too (and vice versa). We also saw further limitations on accessing the warehouse (and food) during the lockdown period last year too. We need our own (central Gold Coast / Tweed city).

We have been discussing this for years and even have a feasibility study on the need for it. None of the government levels can, or will, offer financial support but will no doubt be available for a photo opportunity should we get this up and running. I was wanting to know whether this could be something PASCAS might support in some way...? What do you think? YES!!! 100% unanimous!!!

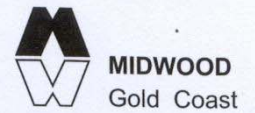
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The primary service and support area for Pascas Food Basket can be defined as follows, however, it is not limited to the following:

The blue line is to be adjusted accordingly.



# Gold Coast



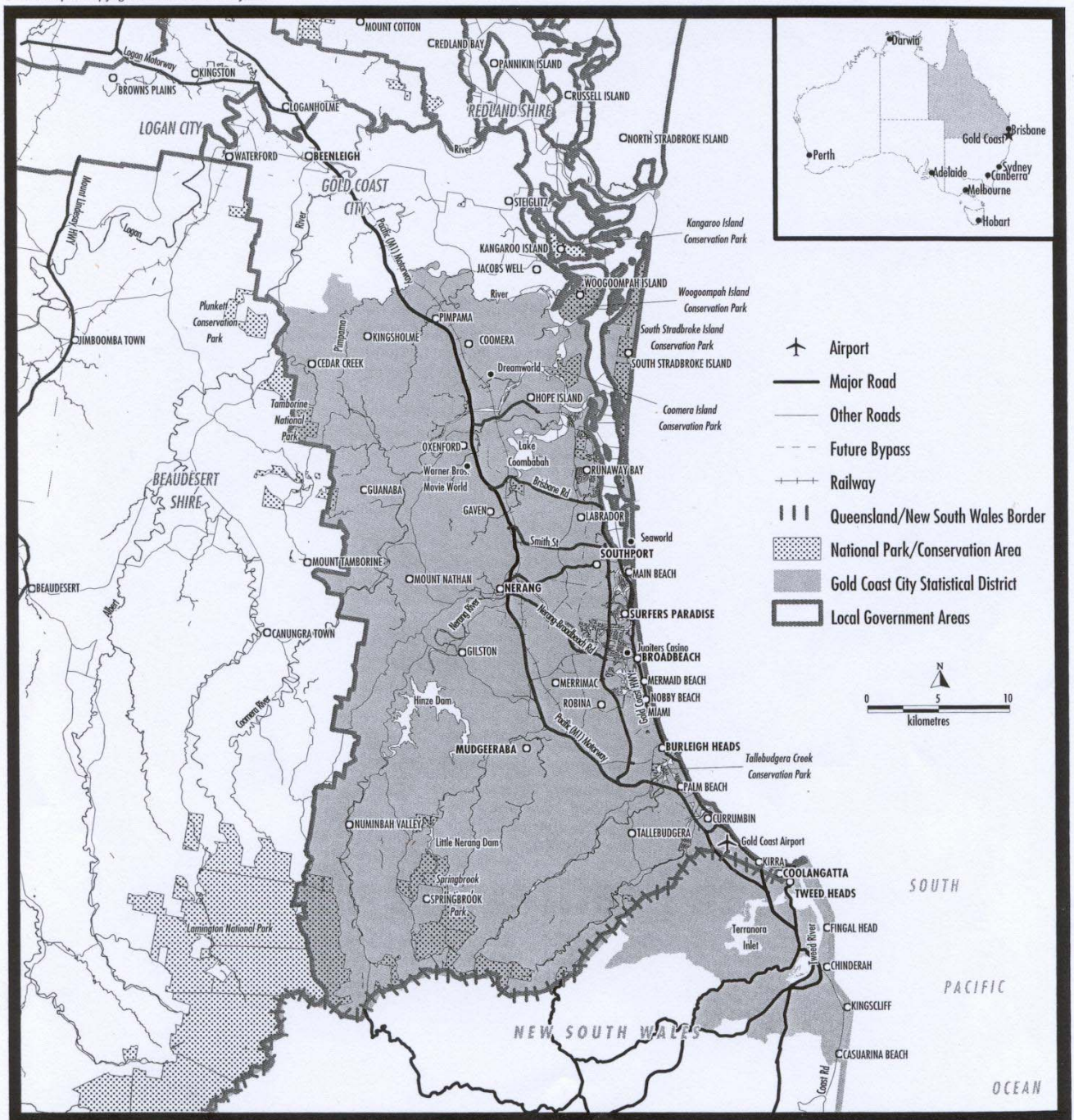
The Gold Coast region contains a 40 kilometre urban coastal strip from Coomera to Tweed Heads. It is Australia's most popular tourist destination and in addition to magnificent surfing beaches it enjoys spectacular National Park scenery in the hinterland mountains. Surfers Paradise is 80 kilometres south of Brisbane's international airport.

The City extends inland to Mt. Tamborine and north to include Beenleigh. Rural acreages behind Nerang and Mudgeeraba are within 10 km of the beach. With the completion of the Pacific Motorway in 2000 there is a trend towards living in the northern area and along the highway

corridor to Brisbane. To the south is Tweed Shire in New South Wales which provides a wealth of mountain scenery, rural pursuits and beachside living. To the east the islands of Moreton Bay protect a still water playground called The Broadwater which is ideal for boating and fishing.

The Australian Bureau of Statistics rationalised this conglomeration of Local Authority areas in 1976 by establishing the **Gold Coast Statistical District**. This is hatched on the map below. It includes the contiguous urban area of Tweed Heads over the NSW border, but excludes Beenleigh and the northern part of the City.

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## GOLD COAST / TWEED:

Community groups and charities that are assisting food security throughout the Gold Coast / Tweed areas and would avail themselves of support are also asked to outline the needs that they have identified as requiring support for.

This is an opportunity to draw together a solution for many aspects of what society is needing to be addressed. We appreciate the bringing together a vast and detailed review of the inadequacies in services that people in stress seek assistance with. In this way we can bring a collective pathway of solutions for all that is identified.



## PARTICIPATING CHARTIES in the PROVISION of FOOD SECURITY and CRISIS HOUSING:

Organisation Name:    Address:    Contact Person:    Phone:    Email:

## SURVEY of REQUIREMENTS:

Each participating organisation is asked to outline, without limiting to, the following, if you please:

Number of meals being provided per week (or what is appropriate for your organisation).

The number of food baskets provided per week.

Special event food distributions.

How would you quantify the volume of food required by your organisation through a Food Basket style of support?

What ratio or volume should come out of cold storage, freezer or off the shelf?

Kindly assist us in understanding what you need.

Kindly base your review on your current operations.

What do you anticipate what you could require or should be presently supported with to fulfil the requests coming to you for your assistance.

## WHAT AREA AND POPULATION do you SUPPORT and SERVICE:

Do you have a specific domain / area that you support?

What is your geographic area of interest?

How many people do you support each week?

Do you have seasonal loads, high and low numbers please?

## DO YOU ASSIST DOMESTIC VIOLENCE VICTIMS?

What are the numbers for:

Women:

Men:

Women with children:

Men with children:

Children without supporting parents:

**NATIONALITIES and RACIAL GROUPINGS:**

Do you have specific nationalities and racial groups to assist?

Please outline the details.

**HOMELESS CHILDREN:**

Do you assist homeless children?

What ages?

Numbers of girls:

Numbers for boys:

What facilities do you require?

What facilities are required?

**HOMELESS ADULTS:**

What numbers are you identifying in your area?

Age groupings?

Male:

Female:

What facilities do you consider appropriate?

**YOUR ORGANISATION'S SPECIFIC NEEDS:**

Please outline what is required.

Commercial kitchens required to be located where and size:

HOW TO MITIGATE these INDIVIDUAL DISTRESSFUL CRISIS SITUATIONS:

This is truly the most important question. It has never been understood nor has any institution or organisation began to address this underlying issue which is generational OR will be for those people now coming to you. Now is the moment to show the way:

HOMELESS MEN:

HOMELESS WOMEN:

HOMELESS CHILDREN:

SUBSTANCE ABUSE ADDICTS:

MENTAL HEALTH:

CHILD ABUSE VICTIMS: Verbal abuse, etc.

WHAT SERVICES and SUPPORT do you provide that have not been considered above?

IN SHORT: What is the underlying cause as to why a person has to present herself or himself to your institution for assistance?

May we understand what that is for each and every person you are supporting in a given week? Should we draw all these answers together then we can assist them in a supportive, loving and effective way. Yes, the support will go on for years but the demands on governmental services will be mitigating as we go along.



By bringing together an overall survey for the Gold Coast / Tweed, then we may collectively be able to address many issues while gaining a comprehensive overview of the regional crisis.

For example. The Pascas Food Basket warehouse facility may be structured to handle the needs of the area up to when the population is 50% more than today. In the meantime, the unused floor space can be used to accommodate homeless people – this has been done in Canada!

Further, consider this exercise as a demonstration of what a city community can do in collaboration with each other to comprehensibly address social issues in a manner never considered possible.

As for the future, consider that we have moved out of a golden age, though many would never consider the past few decades a golden age, and that we are about to endure decades of disruptions and distress. So, let us go for the worst case scenario and see what can be achieved.

What will come out of this collaboration will be delivered by the people who are participating in this survey and development of what is to be established. This is your agenda, no one outside of your organisations are to impose their will upon you.

Pascas Foundation (Aust) Limited understands that through Pascas, what is undertaken here on the Gold Coast and Tweed areas may be replicated in other regions, modified to their specific characteristics.

May we draw your attention to [www.pascashealth.com](http://www.pascashealth.com) website, kindly go to the Library Download page and scroll down the index and consider any of the topics that take your interest, click on the PDF link and the Pascas Paper will download. Welcome to Pascas.

*John the Typist*

John Doel for

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**Eat** the Colors of the Rainbow