

## MEDIA RELEASE

July 16, 2018

### **Free Tax Help appointments offered to eligible residents from July 23**

Gladstone Regional Council's Community Advisory Service (CAS) is now taking appointments for a free Tax Help program from eligible residents.

Gladstone Region Mayor Matt Burnett said the program would again be facilitated by CAS on behalf of the Australian Taxation Office (ATO).

"ATO trained tax help volunteers will provide free and confidential assistance to eligible residents to lodge their 2017-18 tax return," Councillor Burnett said.

The program is available to low-income residents who earn around \$60,000 or less each year and have simple tax needs.

Cr Kahn Goodluck said the Gladstone Region would be one of more than 600 locations across Australia to offer the Tax Help service during the next few months.

"In previous years the Tax Help program has proven to be very popular assisting hundreds of eligible Gladstone Region residents to submit their tax return," he said.

"The service is always well used and helps makes tax time hassle free for eligible community members," Cr Goodluck said.

Volunteers have received relevant training with the ATO, are required to undergo a police record check and have access to support from ATO staff.

Appointments for the Tax Help program are essential and can be booked by phoning staff at the Community Advisory Service, 142 Goondoon Street, Gladstone on 4976 6300.

Residents wishing to use the service are encouraged to create a myGov account and link to the ATO at [www.ato.gov.au](http://www.ato.gov.au) before their Tax Help appointment.