



# BEACH WHEELCHAIRS

## User Guide and Conditions of Use

Council is supportive of all residents and visitors having the opportunity to access and experience Fraser Coast beaches and has made available two beach wheelchairs for those with a disability.

This User Guide contains information on the use and operation of these beach wheelchairs.

### Are there costs associated with hire?

The wheelchairs are free to hire

### Where can I use the wheelchairs?

They are specifically designed for use on sand and soft soil. To prevent damage, any use on paved footpaths, roads and other hard surfaces should be very minimal as the tyres are inflatable and may puncture.

Be aware that due to wind and tidal variations, beach suitability may vary from one day to the next.

### What do I need to know about their use and operation?

Council is committed to ensuring the beach wheelchairs are kept in good working order. Persons who use a wheelchair have a responsibility to ensure they take all reasonable steps to avoid an accident by operating it in a safe and careful manner.

People who use a beach wheelchair do so at their own risk and Council cannot be held liable for any incident which occurs while it is in the charge of a third party.

The following safety and handling information has been prepared to assist with the operation of the beach wheelchairs.

1. As these wheelchairs are not self-propelled the carer needs to gauge for themselves the ease with which they can push their chair (the user) onto a cleared grassed area before tackling the sand. The grassed area must be cleared of debris as the tyres are inflatable and may puncture.
2. It is advisable for there to be two people to help with the wheelchair if the person in the chair is over 60-70 kg, unless the carer is at least equal to the user's weight and has good strength.

3. If there is a major mismatch eg. a 60-year-old, 40kg mum/dad trying to manage a 30-year-old, 50kg son/daughter – the chair can only be taken onto a cleared grassed area, if at all. The carer (on their own) may need help getting the chair on and off the beach.
4. Extreme caution is recommended when taking the chair into the water. Do not venture any further than axle depth.
5. If the dry sand seems particularly soft to negotiate, instead of pushing (rear wheel drive), turn the chair around and pull (front wheel drive) the chair.
6. It is strongly encouraged to use the brake when stationary.
7. After use, the chair must be returned to the location where it was first obtained, in the same condition as when it was loaned out. If any item (eg pin, buckle or protective cover) is missing or defective, this should be indicated on the 'sign-on' sheet when signing the wheelchair out.
8. Please ensure the beach wheelchair is washed thoroughly after use to prevent damage from sand and salt, and as a courtesy to the next user.

### How do I book?

Bookings are essential. Loan of a chair must be arranged by phone at least 24 hours in advance.

The wheelchair can be booked for 2 days at a time by arrangement with the Council.

The wheelchairs can be collected from:

- Botanic Gardens – Elizabeth Street, Urangan

The attached Loan and Indemnity Agreement must be completed prior or at time of collection.

For general enquiries or to book a beach wheelchair please contact Fraser Coast Regional Council on 4125 9700.

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Telephone us  
1300 79 49 29



Email us  
[enquiry@frasercoast.qld.gov.au](mailto:enquiry@frasercoast.qld.gov.au)

# Beach Wheelchairs

## Loan and Indemnity Agreement

Name of Applicant/Carer	
Address	
City/Town and Postcode	
Telephone	
Mobile Phone	
Driver's Licence No / Pension Card No. <i>(Proof of chair hirer identity will need to be sighted prior to hire)</i>	
Date required	
Days/Time required	
Resident or Visitor (please circle)	Resident    Visitor

I hereby agree to indemnify Fraser Coast Regional Council against all claims directly or indirectly arising from, or incurred in connection with, damage to or loss of property, or injury, arising from the use of the beach wheelchair whilst in my care.

I acknowledge that I have read and understood the Conditions of Use and Safety and Handling forms and will abide by all requirements.

I hereby authorise for the Fraser Coast Regional Council to charge my credit card should damages occur through misuse of the wheelchair.

I confirm that the information supplied above is true and correct and I agree to this indemnity agreement.

Signature ..... Date .....

Loan Officer *(office use only)* .....Date *(office use only)* .....