

12th March 2025

Reference: MCU2024/0015

I would like to support the MCU2024/2015 submitted by Northpoint Planning on the following grounds.

- Woolworths have long held a monopoly on grocery sales in our region and the existing competition seem unwilling or unable to compete meaning residents are paying substantially more for our groceries compared to our near neighbours in Townsville.
- Similar-sized towns, such as Ingham, Ayr, Innisfail, and Mareeba, all have two major supermarkets and additional independent stores like IGA. Even towns with populations between 10,000 and 18,000, such as Maranoa and Inverell, have more than one supermarket.
- Economic growth is crucial for Charters Towers, and adding another supermarket would contribute to job creation and affordability, ensuring families can continue to live and thrive in the region.
- Many residents currently travel to Townsville for their grocery shopping. A second supermarket would help retain local spending and ensure Charters Towers has the right retail mix to meet community needs
- With multiple boarding schools in the area, local youth need opportunities for casual employment to develop essential workplace skills such as communication, customer service, and time management.
- Nearly 40% of retail spending is currently leaving Charters Towers. Providing better shopping options will encourage residents to spend locally, strengthening the town's economy.
- The proposed Coles supermarket will fit in well with the existing Goldtower precinct and supports its role as a shopping destination.

Yours Sincerely



Tony Titley
Director