



City of  
**Ipswich**

- **5.1 Condolence - Mr Sean Nelson Fox**  
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**SEAN NELSON FOX**

Sean Nelson Fox was born in Brisbane on 6 November 1964 and passed away in March this year at the age of 59.

He attended St Ignatius School Toowong from Grades one to three and St Joseph's College Gregory Terrace in Brisbane from 1973 to 1981.

After completing Grade 12, Sean Fox undertook a Law degree at the University of Queensland and commenced work in the private legal sector.

He spent over 30 years in the private sector in areas as diverse as insurance law and local government law.

In 2003, he joined the Ipswich City Council as the City Solicitor until 2006.

He undertook a major review of Council's legal branch and implemented key reforms within the Council, including updated professional linkages with all Council Departments as well as the external legal profession.

Sean Fox also undertook operational reforms of the Ipswich town plan, including the Springfield Land Corporation project legal issues, development application processes and particularly appeals to the Planning and Environment Court.

He had a proactive approach to enforcement action against recalcitrant developers and property owners who ignored town planning, building and other statutory requirements.

He built a reputation as one of the most highly regarded town planning litigation lawyers in Queensland.

When he periodically wore his British-style double-breasted navy blue suit, he would invariably announce that it was his litigation outfit for that day in Court.

During his career, he worked for major law firms and commercial organisations in Sydney and Brisbane.

Sean Fox had an incisive and meticulous legal memory but also a genuine understanding of the frailties of humanity.

In later years, he was the honorary solicitor for a number of key not-for-profit community organisations in Brisbane.

He was a member of the Brisbane Racing Club and the Royal National Association in Brisbane.

He was a lover of animals, in particular dogs, cats and horses.

On 10 March this year, Sean passed away at the Royal Brisbane and Women's Hospital after a prolonged illness.

His funeral was held at his secondary school St Joseph's College Gregory Terrace on 3 April 2024, which was attended by an array of judges, lawyers, teachers, business people, the racing fraternity and his Grade 12 classmates from 1981 who formed a guard of honour at the conclusion of the funeral service.

The celebrant was former Terrace student Father James O'Donoghue.

Sean Fox is survived by his mother Patricia at Villa Maria in Brisbane and his brother Dan at Townsville Grammar School.

*Requiescat in Pace – May He Rest in Peace.*