

Council vets itself on airport extension plans,
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HERVEY Bay City Council has approved its own development application to extend the runway at the city's airport.

The application was lodged and vetted by council's development staff to ensure that the council was being transparent and that it complied with its own laws.

Among the conditions imposed on the council is that it must conduct structural inspections of all houses within 100m of the outer limit of the runway extension before work starts.

Working hours on the runway have been restricted to Monday to Saturday between 6.30am and 6.30pm except for 20 days when asphaltting could take place 24 hours a day. If work needs to be done outside these limits, residents within a 500m radius of the site must be told in writing before the work starts.

Meanwhile, there is nothing preventing jet aircraft landing at night when the extensions are finished.

Council airport manager Ron Fennell said there were no restrictions on night landings, although these were rare.

He said the Australian Noise Exposure Forecast for the current airport allowed for two take-offs and landings a night.