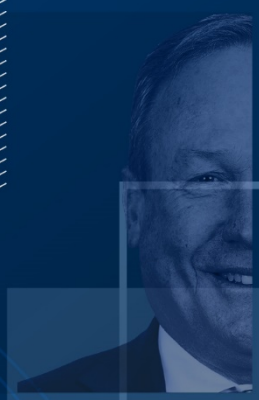
LGAQ 125TH
ANNUAL CONFERENCE

FINAL AGENDA



LGAQ
125 YEARS
1896 - 2021

DAY 1

SUNDAY
24th October 2021

9:00am - 12:00pm	**Peak Services Professional Development Course** De-escalating aggressive and hostile language
1:00pm - 4:00pm	**Peak Services Professional Development Course** De-escalating aggressive and hostile language Course repeated Attendees must register with Peak Training prior to arriving at Conference
12:00pm - 4:30pm	**Policy Executive meeting**
12:00pm - 4:30pm	**Registration** **Delegates, observers, trade, corporate and accompanying persons**

DAY 2

MONDAY
25th October 2021

8:00am - 5:00pm	**Registration** **Delegates, observers, trade, corporate and accompanying persons**
10:30am - 5:00pm	**Indigenous Leaders Forum**
10:30am - 11:00am	**Morning tea**
11:00am - 12:30pm	**Trade & Investment Queensland workshop**
12:30pm - 1:00pm	**Lunch**
1:00pm - 2:45pm	**Regional Roads and Transport Group Assembly**
2:45pm - 3:15pm	**Afternoon tea**
3:15pm - 5:00pm	**Council Forums** Rural and Remote Councils Resources Councils SEQ Councils Coastal Councils

CONTINUED

5:15pm - 6:30pm	**Welcoming ceremony**
5:25pm	**Welcome to Country**
5:30pm	**Welcome to Mackay** Mayor Greg Williamson
5:35pm	**Response** Mayor Mark Jamieson President, LGAQ
5:40pm	**Sponsor address** Tim-Fynes Clinton, Managing Partner King & Company
5:45pm	**2021 LGAQ Journalism award** The LGAQ Regional Journalism Award is dedicated to showcasing excellence in reporting in regional Queensland. The award honours the memory of ABC journalists John Bean, Paul Lockyer and Gary Ticehurst. The 2021 winner will receive a $15,000 prize
5:55pm - 7:30pm	**Networking drinks** Trade exhibition

DAY 3

TUESDAY
26th October 2021

8:00am - 5:00pm	**Registration**
8:30am	**Security briefing** Masters of Ceremonies - Mr Tim Cox, Communications Advisor, LGAQ
8:31am	**Call to Order by the President**
8:33am	**Presentation of Policy Executive**
8:45am	**Official opening** Hon Steven Miles MP, Deputy Premier, Minister for State Development, Infrastructure, Local Government and Planning and Minister Assisting the Premier on Olympics Infrastructure
8:55am	**Presidential address** Mayor Mark Jamieson President, LGAQ
9:15am	**Keynote address: Demographic destiny** Bernard Salt AM Futurist, columnist, business advisor and author
9:50am	**Sponsor address - Telstra**
10:00am	**Morning tea**

CONTINUED

10:30am	**Panel session: Council showcases** **Goondiwindi Regional Council –** Hydrogen from household wastewater, Mayor Lawrence Springborg AM **Ipswich City Council –** First steps to a FOGO future, Mayor Teresa Harding **North Burnett Regional Council –** Financial sustainability, first and foremost, Mayor Rachel Chambers **Cloncurry Shire Council –** Maximising Survivor TV's time in the 'Curry, Mayor Greg Campbell **Mornington Shire Council –** Fresh advocacy in government relations and media, Mayor Kyle Yanner
11:55am	**Sponsor address - NBN**
12:00pm	**The Future of IoT for Queensland Councils: Revolutionising your citizen engagement, asset management and decision making** Professor Rodney Stewart Griffith University
12:30pm	**Lunch**
1:30pm	**LGMS member update and risk management awards presentation** Ian Leckenby, Chair, LGMS Mayor Rachel Chambers, North Burnett Regional Council and Board Member

CONTINUED

1:50pm	**Conflicts done better** Kathleen Florian, Independent Assessor **Panel discussion:** Facilitated by Glen Beckett, Head of Assist, LGAQ Kathleen Florian, Independent Assessor Tim Fynes-Clinton, Executive Partner, King & Company Solicitors Brett de Chastel, CEO, Noosa Shire Council, President, LGMA
3:00pm	**Alison Woolla Memorial Award for Local Leadership in Preventing Domestic and Family Violence presentation**
3:15pm	**Sponsor address - LGIASuper**
3:20pm	**Keynote address - Boost your personal brand** Jodie Bache-McLean, Managing Director of June Dally Watkins and Chic Management Brisbane
4:05pm	**Program concludes**
6:15pm for 7:15pm	**Gala Dinner** The Big Shed, Mackay Showgrounds supported by Hastings Deering
7:45pm	**Butch Lenton Memorial Bush Council Innovation Award presentation**
11:30pm	**Dinner concludes**

DAY 4

WEDNESDAY
27th October 2021

8:30am	**Conference resumes**
8:35am	**Annual General Meeting including debate of motions**
10:00am	**Australian Local Government Association update** Councillor Linda Scott, President, ALGA
10:05am	**Sponsor address - Department of State Development, Infrastrucutre, Local Government and Planning**
10:10am	**Morning tea**
10:35am	**Peak Services update** Brent Reeman, Managing Director Teresa Handicott, Non-Executive Director
10:55am	**Sponsor address - Mapien**
11:00am	**Motions debate**
12:25pm	**Opposition update** Ms Ann Leahy, Shadow Minister for Local Government (Invited)
12:30pm	**Lunch**
1:30pm	**Council community champions presentations**
1:40pm	**Motions debate**
3:00pm	**Keynote address - Beyond the finish line** Blake Cochrane, 4x Paralympian and Exercise Physiologist Logan Martin, Olympic Gold Medalist in BMX Freestyle Jana Pittman, Athlete, doctor, speaker and author
3:45pm	**Plenary concludes**

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MOTIONS SECTION

SUBJECTS FOR DISCUSSION

The following decisions of previous Annual Conferences have been observed in compiling the Agenda and shall continue to be the procedure until such time as altered by an Annual Conference.

SESSIONAL ORDER – MOTIONS – CLASSIFICATION

That the motions before the Conference shall be classified into three groups:

'A' Those embodying questions of principle not previously determined.
'B' Those of importance (but not involving a major issue) not previously determined.
'C' Those which are affirmations of earlier decisions.

Motions grouped under 'A' shall be given priority over all other motions and be discussed in the order in which they appear in the Agenda Paper.

Motions grouped under 'B' shall follow discussions of those under Group 'A' and be taken in the order in which they appear in the Agenda Paper.

Motions grouped under 'C' shall be adopted under the one motion referring them to the Policy Executive for appropriate action. Subject to the reservation that should any Delegate wish any motion to be taken from Group 'C' for general discussion, it shall be open to them to request the Conference to do so, not later than the close of business on the first day of the Conference.

Subjects for Discussion

(a) A Member may bring forward for discussion at an Annual Conference any matter connected with the objects or the Association or pertaining to a subject of common concern to Members, upon giving to the Chief Executive officer 6 weeks' notice, in writing, of such intention.

(b) However:-

(i) The requirement for such notice may be dispensed with by resolution of the Conference if the matter is one which, in the sole opinion of the President:-

(A) Is relevant to all, or substantially all, of the members of the Association; and
(B) Requires an urgent decision in order to protect or advance the interests of members such that it is not possible or practical to refer the matter to the next Policy Executive meeting after the conference to enable the Policy Executive to consider and determine an appropriate response to the matter on behalf of members.

(ii) The Policy Executive, or an Agenda Committee appointed by the Policy Executive under Rule 5.13, may determine that a matter will not be brought forward if:-

(A) The matter has previously been dealt with by a conference and the Executive or Agenda Committee is of the view that there has been no material change in circumstances so as to warrant the matter being brought forward again;
(B) Action has already been taken to implement or response to the matter in accordance with a direction of the Executive or an adopted policy of the Association; and
(C) The matter is outside the proper scope of the objects of the Association.

(iii) The Policy Executive or an Agenda Committee may also amalgamate one or more matters into a single item for consideration by the Conference where those matters relate to the same or substantially the same subject.

(c) The President must rule a matter out of order if the required notice under Rule 25 (a) has not been given and the President is not satisfied as required by Rule 25(b) (i).

(d) A determination by the President under Rule 25(c) that a matter is out of order is a substantive and final decision, and no delegate may move a motion of dissent from that determination or otherwise seek to challenge it at the Conference.

(e) Despite a decision of the Policy Executive or an Agenda Committee under Rule 25(b)(ii), a matter the subject of such a decision may be brought forward if the Conference so decides by resolution.

(f) At any Special Conference no business may be transacted except such as is stated in the notice thereof and other matters incidental or directly relation to that business.

PART 15 – SCHEDULE 1 – RULES OF PROCEDURE FOR DEBATE

1. Motions to be Seconded

A motion must not be debated unless it is seconded.

2. Motions Not to be Withdrawn Without Consent

When a motions has been proposed and seconded, it becomes subject to the control of the General Meeting, and may not be withdrawn without the consent of the General Meeting.

3. Amendment May Be Moved

1) When a motion has been proposed and seconded, and delegate is at liberty to move an amendment thereon.
2) However, and amendment may not be debated unless it is seconded.

4. Only One Amendment At A Time

A second or subsequent amendment must not be taken into consideration until previous amendment has been disposed of.

5. Further Amendment may be Moved on Amended Questions

1) If an amendment has been carried, the question as amended then becomes the question before the General Meeting.
2) A further amendment upon such question may be moved.

6. How Subsequent Amendments May Be Moved

1) If a motion for amendment, whether upon the original question or upon any question amended as aforesaid, has been lost, then a further amendment may be moved to the question to which such first-mentioned amendment was moved, and so on.
2) However, not more than one question and one proposed amendment therefor may be before the General Meeting at any one time.

7. Limitations As To The Number And Duration Of Speeches

1) The mover of an original motion has:-
   a) a right of general reply to all observations which have been made in reference to such motions; and
   b) the right to speak upon every amendment moved in respect of the motion.

2) Subject to Rule 8, every delegate other than the mover of an original motions, has right to speak once upon such motions, and once upon every amendment moved in respect of the motion.
3) Except with the consent of the General Meeting, a delegate must not speak more than once upon any one motion except when misunderstood or misrepresented, in which case the delegate is permitted to correct or explain the misunderstanding or misrepresentation without adding any further observations than may be necessary for the purpose of such correction or explanation.
4) Except with the consent of the General Meeting:-

   a) the mover of an original motion, in his or her opening speech, must not speak for more than three minutes at any one time.
   b) a speaker must not otherwise speak for more than three minutes at any one time.

8. Speakers In Rotation

1) Despite Rule 7, when a motion or amendment has been moved or seconded no delegate may speak further in support of the motion until someone has spoken in opposition to the motion, and thereafter speakers are only entitled to speak for or against in rotation.
2) However, in any case where the same motion has been submitted by more than one Member, a representative from each such Member is entitled to speak.

9. Digression

Every delegate speaking must confine his or her remarks to the matter then under consideration.

10. Imputations

A delegate must not make personal reflections on or impute improper motives to any other delegate.

11. Chairperson To Decide As To Pre-audience

If two or more delegates rise to speak at the same time, the chairperson decides which of the delegates may speak first.

12. Chairperson To Maintain Order

The chairperson must maintain order, and may, without the intervention of any delegates, call any delegate to order whenever, in his or her opinion, the necessity arises for so doing.

13. Delegates May Raise Questions Of Order

A delegate who considers that any other delegate is out of order may call the attention of the chairperson to that matter. The question of order must be dealt with immediately, without further discussion, in accordance with Rule 14.

14. Questions Of Order – How Dealt With

1) Upon a question of order being raised, the delegate called to order must immediately resume his seat, unless specially permitted by the chairperson to offer an explanation, retraction, or apology.
2) If the delegate is so permitted, he or she may explain, retract, or apologise for the matter or remark alleged to have been out of order.
3) If such explanation, retraction or apology is considered satisfactory by the chairperson, no further discussion on the question of order is permitted.

15. Motions Out Of Order To Be Rejected

Whenever it has been decided that any motion, amendment, or other matter is out of order, it must be rejected.

16. Irrelevance Or Repetition In Debate

The chairperson may:-

1) Call the attention of General Meeting to continued irrelevance or tedious repetition on the past of any delegate; and
2) Direct the delegate to discontinue his or her speech.

17. Closure Of Debate

1) The closure of a debate may be obtained by a motion made, according to the evident sense of the conference, “That the question be now put”.
2) No discussion is permitted on that question.

18. How Questions Are To Be Put

1) The chairperson must put to the General Meeting all questions on which it is necessary that a vote shall be taken, first in the affirmative, and then in the negative, and the delegates present and voting thereon must vote in the specified manner.
2) In Rule 18(1), the “specified manner” of voting is the process determined by the Board from time to time.
3) To avoid doubt, the specified manner of voting:-
   a) must enable each delegate to vote in a manner which gives effect to its voting entitlements; and
   b) may involve or include the use of electronic devices.
4) The specified manner of voting to apply at any conference must be notified and explained by the chairperson to General Meeting before the first vote is taken at General Meeting.
5) The chairperson must declare the result to the General Meeting.

19. Chairperson May Repeat Question

The chairperson may:-

1) Put any questions as often as may be necessary to enable him or her to form his opinion as to the results of the voting; or
2) Appoint tellers, to count the number of votes for and against the question.

20. Questions – How Determined

Every question is decided by a majority of votes of the delegates present at any General Meeting and voting on that question.

21. Suspension Of Rules

1) Any one or more of the following of the foregoing rules of procedure for debates may be suspended by resolution at any conference of the Association.

A resolution under Rule 21(1) must state the purpose of the suspension

Notice of Annual General Meeting

In accordance with Rule 4.1 & 4.2 of the LGAQ's Constitution, all Councils are notified of the Annual General Meeting of the Local Government Association of Queensland Ltd ACN 142 783 917 which will be held at the Mackay Entertainment & Convention Centre, 258 Alfred Street, Mackay, Queensland on Wednesday, 27 October 2021 commencing at 8.35 am.

The business of the Annual General meeting, is as follows: -

Motion 1

That the President's Annual Address for 2020-2021 be received and adopted.

Motion 2

That the Annual Report by the Policy Executive for 2020-2021 be received and adopted.

Motion 3

That the Annual Directors' Report, Annual Financial Statements for the year ended 30 June 2021 and Auditor's Report be received and adopted.

Other Motions

Any such other business as may be lawfully be brought before the meeting for consideration.

If your Council is not attending the AGM, you may appoint a proxy to vote on your behalf at the AGM by completing a proxy form. The completed appointment of proxy form must be returned to the registered office of the LGAQ before the time at which the AGM is to be held; tabled at the AGM or produced when the poll is taken.

If your Council is attending the AGM, you must appoint one or two delegates who are either the Chief Executive or Councillor of your Council to vote on your behalf at the AGM. To appoint delegates you must notify the Chief Executive Officer in writing or by electronic submission in the manner approved by the Chief Executive Officer and notified to members.

Table of Contents

A MOTIONS 11

1. Association Matters - Reception and Adoption of the President's Annual Address for 2020-2021 11
2. Association Matters - Reception and Adoption of the 125th Annual Report by the Policy Executive 11
3. Association Matters - Reception and Adoption of the Annual Financial Statements and Auditor's Report 11
4. Election of District representatives to the LGAQ Policy Executive 12
5. Restoration of Financial Assistance Grants 14
6. National Cabinet Membership 16
7. Increased Disaster Mitigation Funding 18
8. Amendments to the Civil Liabilities Act 2003 20
9. Fixing Conflict of Interest Provisions 22
10. Works for Queensland funding 24
11. SEQ Stimulus Funding 27
12. Closing the Gap data 29
13. Informing and Skilling Prescribed Body Corporations (PBCs) by the Office of the Registrar of Indigenous Corporations (ORIC) 31
14. Increase of housing supply for remote and discrete Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities 33
15. Housing Solutions - Supporting Economic and Community Development 36
16. Housing Affordability and Social Policy 39
17. Housing and Accommodation 42
18. Abandoned and empty properties 44
19. Solutions for housing (Accommodation) shortage in the Regions 46
20. Inclusion of regional infrastructure plans in the regional planning process 48
21. Review the limitations on minimum lot size subdivisions for rural land under Queensland's planning framework 51
22. Body corporate fees and sale of land issue 53

23. Strategic identification and preservation of future transport corridors in potential growth areas 57
24. Continuation of Local Roads and Community Infrastructure Program (LRCIP) as a regular source of funding to councils 59
25. DTMR Road Maintenance Performance Contract (RMPC) Risk Management 61
26. Heavy vehicle access implications of increased restrictions on State-controlled roads. 63
27. State Government review of Rail Interface Agreements 65
28. Continuation of the Regional Recycling Transport Assistance Program 67
29. Continuation of Waste Levy Advance Payments to Local Government 69
30. Funding to implement Regional Waste Management Plans 71
31. Seed Funding from Waste Levy Revenue 73
32. QWRAP Funding Round 6 75
33. Community Service Obligation – Water, Waste & Sewerage Services 78
34. PFAS Affected Land 80
35. Capacity Building for the Procurement of Low Emissions Products and Services 82
36. Strategic Management Framework for Carbon Farming in Queensland 86
37. 2032 Olympics – Sharing of benefits and funding commitments for Rural and Remote Queensland Communities 89
38. Quarantining an amount of all Queensland Government business grants for regional Queensland 92
39. Health Services and Doctor Shortage in Rural and Remote positions 94
40. Stronger Rural Health Strategy – Is It Hitting the Mark? 96
41. Local Government Hydrogen Industry Development 99
42. Ergon Energy – Response Time for Power Connections to Development Projects 102
43. Development of an Integrated Renewable Energy Strategy for Queensland 104
44. Transition Coal Fired Regional Communities to Support a Modern Energy Economy . 106
45. Asset Sustainability Depreciation Fund 109
46. Review of legislation - Adoption of statutory plans and reports 111
47. Provision of Personal Protective Equipment to Maintain Essential Front-line Social Services in Pandemics 113

48. Provision of Economic Data 115
49. Complaint Reform 118
50. Anonymous Complaints 121
51. Clarification of Reporting Requirements for Group Campaign Activites in Local Government Elections 123
52. Changes to the way elections are conducted to promote sustainable practices 124
53. Amendment to Partners in Government Agreement 2019 126
54. Body-worn cameras and CCTV systems 128
55. Census – Covid Influence on Tourism populations 131
56. Regional University Centres 133
57. Insurance and financing to address Coastal Hazard risks for Community Resilience ... 136
B MOTIONS 139
58. Telecommunications - Mobile Service Level Guarantee 139
59. Social and Affordable Housing – Interim measures to reduce Housing Stress for Vulnerable Residents 141
60. Social Housing 144
61. Regulation of short term accommodation styles 146
62. Practical Redevelopment Standards for Existing Buildings 148
63. New School Supporting Site Infrastructure Standards and Process for Transfer to Council 150
64. Proactive planning and operations to mitigate the threat of bushfire on State Government-controlled land 153
65. Biodiversity planning assessments and mapping of Good Quality Agricultural Land ... 154
66. Biosecurity Queensland's continued involvement in 1080 oversight 156
67. Support for Vermin Control 158
68. Funding for Preservation, Maintenance and Management of Environmental Precincts and Corridors 160
69. Greater Regulation of Commercial Herbicides 162
70. Processes to facilitate low risk activities for Remediation, Rectification or Restoration of Riparian Environments 164

71. Endorse and implement the recommendations of the Senate Inquiry into the Impact of Feral Deer, Pigs and Goats 166
72. Restricted Dogs 169
73. Unregistered dogs - Increasing Enforcement Powers 171
74. Shark Monitoring 173
75. Management of Crocodiles 174
76. Review of Poultry Farming Guidelines and Assessment Framework 176
77. Enforcement of helmet usage 178
78. New and Expanding Schools and their Impact on the broader Transport Network 179
79. Principal Cycling Network Plans (PCNP) 182
80. Queensland Reconstruction Authority (QRA) - Increased accountability measures - Minimising the burden on Rural and Remote Councils 184
81. Bushfire Hazard Compliance - Cost recovery for Remedial Work 186
82. Resourcing support for development and implementation of Reconciliation Action Plans (RAPS) 188
83. Funding for prevention of Domestic and Family Violence 190
84. Youth crime 192
85. Whole-of-Life Costing for Community Infrastructure for remote and rural Councils 194
86. Department of Justice court-related fees 196
87. State Government investment in COVID-19 Social Resilience research 197
88. Development of dedicated funding program/s for Water and Wastewater Infrastructure 199
C MOTIONS 201
89. Department of Transport and Main Roads Community Consultation and Communication with Councils 201
90. Local involvement in Bikeway Decisions 203
91. Adequate car parking for commuters at Queensland Railway Stations 204
92. Freight Equalisation Scheme for Remote Communities 206
93. State Consultation on Public Boat Ramps 208
94. Resourcing Management of State-controlled Land 210

95. Flexible State Planning Policies for Rural Areas 212
96. Reform of the Queensland Stock Route Network 214
97. Additional Biosecurity Officers to Support Local Government 216
98. Funding for the Control of Weeds in Regional areas of Queensland 218
99. Yellow Crazy Ant bait supply 220
100. Valuation for Rating purposes – Local Government issues to the systemic review by Valuer General 223
101. Changes to Local Government Regulation – Section 116 226
102. Action to Address Regional Inequality 228
103. Program to Replace Existing Street Lighting with Solar Lighting 231
104. State Penalties Enforcement Registry Process Improvements 232
105. Amendment of section 236 of the Local Government Regulation 2012 235
106. Local Government Community Child Care Fund Review 237
107. Greater flexibility in Queensland Government sporting grant funding guidelines 239
108. Community Access to Education Department Facilities in Local Communities 241

A Motions

Submitting council / organisation LGAQ Policy Executive	
LGAQ Policy Executive district LGAQ Policy Executive	
Number and title of motion	1. Association Matters - Reception and Adoption of the President's Annual Address for 2020-2021
Motion	That the President's Annual Address for 2020-2021 be received and adopted
Background	The President's Annual Address will be read on 26 October 2021, and will be formally received and considered on 27 October 2021.

Submitting council / organisation LGAQ Policy Executive	
LGAQ Policy Executive district LGAQ Policy Executive	
Number and title of motion	2. Association Matters - Reception and Adoption of the 125th Annual Report by the Policy Executive
Motion	That the Annual Report of the Policy Executive for 2020-2021 be received and adopted
Background	The Policy Executive's Annual Report will be formally received and considered on 26 October 2021.

Submitting council / organisation LGAQ Policy Executive	
LGAQ Policy Executive district LGAQ Policy Executive	
Number and title of motion	3. Association Matters - Reception and Adoption of the Annual Financial Statements and Auditor's Report
Motion	That the Annual Directors' Report, Annual Financial Statements for the year ended 30 June 2021 and Auditor's Report be received and adopted.
Background	The Annual Financial Statements and Auditor's Report will be formally received and considered on 27 October 2021.

Submitting council / organisation Somerset Regional Council	
LGAQ Policy Executive district District 2 - Western Region	
Number and title of motion	4. Election of District representatives to the LGAQ Policy Executive
Motion	That the LGAQ calls on the LGAQ Constitution regarding Policy Executive Districts to ensure equitable representation, particularly for councils with smaller populations.
Background	Election of LGAQ Policy Executive District Representatives. The 15 District representatives elected to the LGAQ Policy Executive are nominated by member Councils of each District. When more than one candidate is nominated a vote is held to determine who will be the representative. By way of example, the member Councils of Electoral District No 2 (Western Region) include Ipswich City Council and Lockyer, Somerset and Scenic Rim Regional Councils. When electing a representative to the Policy Executive to represent the District there are 14 votes available with 8 allocated to Ipswich and 2 each to the other member councils. Where more than one nomination is received and an election is held, this allocation of votes would appear to make it difficult for a representative nominated by either Lockyer, Somerset or Scenic Rim to be elected as Ipswich have a majority of votes. It is understood that the number of votes allocated to each member Council is driven by the formula which governs the subscription paid by each Council. In the above example the population of Ipswich City Council will continue to outpace the regional councils with growth and likely further entrench the disparity. Council requests a comprehensive review of the LGAQ Constitution in regard to District representation, including a review of overall number of Districts and supporting voting methodologies.
What is the desired outcome sought?	The desired outcome is a review of the LGAQ Constitution to ensure an equitable system for the election of District Policy Executive representatives.
LGAQ comment	The constitution was last reviewed in so far as electoral districts are concerned, at the time of the 2008 amalgamation. While the election of Policy Executive District representation still works well for the state,

	South East Queensland has grown exponentially in recent years. A review would require establishing a chair and/or a panel, setting the Terms of Reference, and running a consultation process for constitutional review and/or amendment if determined appropriate.

Submitting council / organisation LGAQ Policy Executive	
LGAQ Policy Executive district LGAQ Policy Executive	
Number and title of motion	5. Restoration of Financial Assistance Grants
Motion	That the LGAQ calls on the Federal Government to restore Federal Assistance Grants to at least 1 per cent of Commonwealth Taxation Revenue to address the serious financial sustainability issues experienced by all councils.
Background	This important funding request is consistent with the Australian Local Government Association's (ALGA) longstanding request for increased Financial Assistance Grants (FAGs). The motion is consistent with the LGAQ's 2021-22 Federal Budget Submission sent to the Federal Treasurer in February and is a key request of all political parties for the coming federal election. ALGA has also nominated this funding request as a priority for its national election campaign on behalf of all Local Governments. The LGAQ has undertaken direct engagement in support of increased FAGs funding has occurred with the Federal Local Government Minister and Queensland Senators and Federal Members of Parliament, including at the 2021 LGAQ National General Assembly breakfast.
What is the desired outcome sought?	The restoration of Financial Assistance Grants to at least one per cent of Commonwealth taxation revenue would see over $160 million per annum in additional funding flow to Queensland councils, supporting over 1500 jobs, predominantly in rural and remote parts of the state. With financial sustainability being a key issue for many local councils, highlighted again in the recent Auditor-General's report, this additional funding would provide much-needed local economic stimulus to support local supply chains and job creation. Increased funding for Financial Assistance Grants would target development and implementation of local economic strategies, project planning to underpin a pipeline of works, delivery of community infrastructure and maintaining important services that are expected by local communities.

LGAQ comment	This motion is consistent with the LGAQ's policy statement and 2021 AAP, which states: AAP 1: Restore Financial Assistance Grants (FAGs) to one per cent of Commonwealth taxation revenue to support direct and indirect local government jobs, in staged increments that reflect Federal Government priorities. The Policy Executive have endorsed the following statement to be a key advocacy request for the coming Federal Election: Create and support more than 1500 Qld jobs by restoring Financial Assistance Grants (FAGS) to at least 1 per cent of Commonwealth taxation revenue. As part of our Federal Election campaign, the LGAQ will promote the different role Queensland councils play when compared to our interstate counterparts - including planning and development, disaster preparedness and response and water and wastewater management. It is an important education campaign that demonstrates the benefit of partnering with Queensland councils to support service delivery and infrastructure in local communities.

Submitting council / organisation LGAQ Policy Executive	
LGAQ Policy Executive district LGAQ Policy Executive	
Number and title of motion	6. National Cabinet Membership
Motion	That the LGAQ calls on the Federal Government to restore the voice of local communities by giving local government full membership of the National Cabinet and a guaranteed seat in other National Ministerial forums.
Background	The Australian Local Government Association (ALGA) was a member of COAG since its inception in 1992. However, when the National Cabinet was established amid the COVID-19 Pandemic ALGA was not included as a member. The LGAQ has led calls for Local Government to be given a seat at the National Cabinet table with full membership rights. As part of this advocacy, the LGAQ has secured support from the Queensland Premier and Deputy Premier who have both publicly backed LGAQ's calls for ALGA to join the National Cabinet. ALGA and the LGAQ want to ensure local communities are represented and that local-decision making is respected at the National level. This is a critical opportunity to drive jobs growth and economic reform at the local level and recognises a partnership approach between all levels of government. The Federal Labor (Opposition) has already committed to giving local government a seat on National Cabinet. Following Federal Labor's announcement, the LGAQ wrote again to Prime Minister Scott Morrison on 16 March 2020, restating our request. More recently, the LGAQ's ALGA board representatives, Mayors Jack Dempsey and Matt Burnett have also raised this directly with the Federal Local Government Minister. This will become a key advocacy ask of the Federal Government in the 2021/22 Federal Election Campaign.

What is the desired outcome sought?	To ensure local communities are represented and to respect local-decision making, local governments are seeking a permanent seat at National Cabinet and a guaranteed seat in other National Ministerial forums. Restoring local government's seat at the national decision-making table also respects the role of local governments, who are at the coalface of their communities. Queensland local councils also have a crucial role in disaster management co-ordination and response, proving the value and experience of local leadership.
LGAQ comment	There are no previous LGAQ policy statements in relation to this matter. The most recent LGAQ Annual Conference motion in relation to this matter is from 2020 and is as follows: motion 23 - Restoration of Local Government's Critical Role in National Decision-Making. The most recent Advocacy Action plan point is as follows: AAP item number 114: Restore local government's critical role in national decision-making, including participation in National Cabinet. This has been a key advocacy item since the cessation of COAG and the LGAQ has worked with ALGA to advocate to federal representatives about the importance of including local government as part of National Cabinet. To date, the Federal Opposition has announced their commitment to this policy area in the lead up to the next federal election. The LGAQ has raised this issue directly with the Prime Minister, the Deputy Prime Minister and most recently the Assistant Minister for Local Government. The issue was also set to be raised at the most recent LNP State Convention as a motion for debate, and due to time limitations, it was deferred to the next LNP State Council due later this year.

Submitting council / organisation LGAQ Policy Executive	
LGAQ Policy Executive district LGAQ Policy Executive	
Number and title of motion	7. Increased Disaster Mitigation Funding
Motion	That the LGAQ calls on the Federal Government to provide $200 million per year for four years for targeted disaster mitigation and to future-proof community infrastructure.
Background	This request was included in the LGAQ's 2021/22 Federal Budget Submission and is also a request from the Australian Local Government Association (ALGA). Independent economic modelling shows that this request would not only protect Queensland communities, but also generate 350 local jobs and $52 million to the annual Gross State Product. Queensland is Australia's most disaster-prone state, with the total economic cost of natural disasters averaging $11 billion per year over the 10 years to 2016 – equating to 60% of the national disaster bill. The Building Resilience to Natural Disasters in our States and Territories report by Deloitte Access Economics predicted that the economic cost of natural disasters in Queensland will reach $18 billion a year by 2050, a growth rate of 3.3% per year. The 2021/22 Federal Budget provided $615.5 million over six years for local projects that support disaster reduction, and funding to establish a new national recovery and resilience agency to prepare for and manage future events.
What is the desired outcome sought?	Queensland councils have approximately $1 billion worth of shovel-ready disaster resilience projects awaiting funding, including levees in the state's coastal communities. It is important that partnership approach between Queensland councils and the Queensland Reconstruction Authority is supported and utilised with the roll-out of the Federal Government's new strategy and the establishment of the National Recovery and Resilience Agency.
LGAQ comment	The LGAQ policy statement holds multiple positions in relation to this matter including: 3.7.1.1, 3.7.1.2, 3.7.2.1, 3.7.2.2, 3.7.2.3, and 3.7.2.4.

	The most recent LGAQ Annual Conference motions in relation to this matter is from 2020 and is as follows: motion 66 - That the LGAQ lobby the State and Federal Governments to streamline their disaster recovery funding arrangements to maximise recovery effectiveness. The Queensland Reconstruction Authority has a list of shovel ready disaster mitigation projects that will protect local communities from the impacts of natural disaster, assist in lowering insurance premiums for households and businesses, support the creation of local jobs in construction and help to maintain important freight routes during disaster situations.

Submitting council / organisation LGAQ Policy Executive	
LGAQ Policy Executive district LGAQ Policy Executive	
Number and title of motion	8. Amendments to the Civil Liabilities Act 2003
Motion	That the LGAQ calls on the State Government to amend the Civil Liabilities Act 2003 to strengthen indemnity provisions and address concerns that the Goondiwindi v Tait case has created for councils with RMPCs.
Background	Queensland Local Governments have raised concerns around increased exposure in light of the decision by the Queensland Court of Appeal in Goondiwindi Regional Council v Tait and the High Court's decision not to grant the LGAQ special leave to appeal the decision. The implications of Goondiwindi vs Tait are yet to be fully understood, however the case has given legal affect to road stewardship, which could result in an increase in the number of claims. As councils are liable for these legal costs, even successfully defended claims would impose costs to councils. Many councils rely on RMPC's to maintain workforces, however an increase in legal claims would have significant financial obligations, in particular the erosion of the protection afforded by section 37 of the Civil Liability Act 2003 (Qld). The Court's decision sets a precedent which requires amendment to the indemnity provisions within Road Maintenance Performance Contracts (RMPC) or legislative reform to the Civil Liability Act (Qld) 2003 in order to protect the 55 councils affected.
What is the desired outcome sought?	There are two key issues that councils require outcomes: 1. Amendment to the current RMPC contract to provide greater protections to councils, clause 8.4.3 Principal's indemnity for non-performance which effectively imposes on councils the same liability as a council-controlled road, without any additional funding. 2. Amendment to s37 of the Civil Liability Act 2003 (Qld) to extend legal protections to local government when performing maintenance on state-controlled roads.

LGAQ comment	The LGAQ policy statement holds the following positions in relation to this matter: 8.1.2 Responsibilities for Roads 8.1.2.1 Local government seeks an agreement by which the state and federal governments agree to substantially increase funding for the local road network where: • Local roads provide for significant arterial and through traffic, or have economic significance beyond the access interests and responsibility of ratepayers; • The relationship between a council's potential rate base and its road responsibility is so unbalanced that the council is unable to meet its obligations. 8.1.2.2 Local government accepts responsibility for effective management and maintenance of the local road network by adopting professional asset management standards, maximising productivity gains, seeking and applying the most effective technology, and setting priorities which provide required levels of access in the most cost-effective manner. Legislative reform to the Civil Liability Act 2003 will help councils to address limit legal liability concerns for councils stemming from the outcome of the Goondiwindi Regional Council v Tait case. The Goondiwindi Regional Council v Tait case gave legal effect to road stewardship and this stewardship gives sufficient control to impose common law duty of care to maintain roads to safe standards. To avoid liability, risk of injury from a road being, or becoming unfit for normal speed will oblige repair or warning, even if a defect is yet to emerge. Based on legal advice obtained by the LGAQ, councils would need to put signs on every road that has the potential for future defects, permanently lower speeds or even close roads to successfully negate any liability from potential incidents. Amending s37 of the Civil Liabilities Act 2003 would afford greater protection when it is impractical for councils to know all future defects. This would also complement the ongoing engagement.

Submitting council / organisation Maranoa Regional Council; LGAQ Policy Executive	
LGAQ Policy Executive district LGAQ Policy Executive	
Number and title of motion	9. Fixing Conflict of Interest Provisions
Motion	That the LGAQ calls on the State Government to urgently amend the Local Government Act 2009 and the City of Brisbane Act 2010 to address the unintended consequences of current Conflict of Interest requirements that continue to negatively impact the ability of councillors to effectively represent their communities.
Background	The Conflict-of-Interest legislation (COI), which took effect on 12 October 2020 (Local Government Act 2009 and the City of Brisbane Act 2010), is having multiple unintended consequences and adversely impacting council meetings. The LGAQ have raised this with the Deputy Premier and Minister for Local Government, the Department of Local Government and with the Office of the Independent Assessor. In March, the LGAQ sent a comprehensive submission to the state government asking for this legislation to be amended. It included real examples from 27 councils that demonstrated how the existing legislation was negatively impacting their councils in serving their communities. The submission did not advocate for a complete overhaul of the legislation – rather, for some limited but sensible practical changes that would improve the efficacy of the law whilst preserving the intention to improve integrity. Since lodging the LGAQ's COI submission, which drew upon examples from 27 councils, the LGAQ and King & Co have met with the Department of Local Government to go through the submission our requested legislative reforms to the Local Government Act 2009 and City of Brisbane Act 2010.The LGAQ has also met with the Deputy Premier Steven Miles on multiple occasions since the COI submission was made. The LGAQ will meet again with the department as it finalises its review of our submission. The LGAQ is strongly advocating a considered process in consultation with our members, to help move to a more workable solution on the COI legislation as soon as possible.

What is the desired outcome sought?	Legislative Amendments to the Local Government Act 2009 and the City of Brisbane Act 2010 informed by the LGAQ's COI submission to address the unintended consequences of current Conflict of Interest requirements that continue to negatively impact the ability of councillors to effectively represent their communities. Sensible and practical changes are required urgently to improve the efficacy of the law whilst preserving the intention to improve integrity of local governments.
LGAQ comment	The LGAQ policy statement holds the following positions in relation to this matter: 1.6.1, 1.6.2 , and 1.6.3. The most recent LGAQ Annual Conference motion in relation to this matter is from 2020 and is as follows: motion 20 - That the LGAQ lobby the State Government to review the Electoral and Other Legislation (Accountability, Integrity and Other Matters) Amendment Act 2020 subsequent to the Crime and Corruption Commission's Operation Belcarra report to determine if there are inconsistencies with Human Rights Act 2019 and with the cultural rights afforded to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples under sections 27 and 28 of the Human Rights Act 2019. The most recent Advocacy Action plan point is as follows: AAP item number 85: Review the Electoral and Other Legislation (Accountability, Integrity and Other Matters) Amendment Act 2020 subsequent to the Crime and Corruption Commission's Operation Belcarra to ensure it correctly addresses any conflict with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander lore. On 28 July 2021, the Deputy Premier and Minister for Local Government Steven Miles confirmed in a ministerial media release the State Government's intention to streamline the process of declaring conflicts of interest, clarifying when a councillor can and cannot participate in decision-making, and how the conflict of interest framework, including the definition of 'related party', applies in small council settings. Ensuring Queensland's conflict of interest rules are both workable and effective is of critical importance to local councils and the communities they serve. The LGAQ's recent and extensive legislative reform submission to the Government outlined some of the unintended consequences our member councils are experiencing and recommending potential reforms to the Local Government Act. The LGAQ looks forward to the State enacting legislative changes to address some of the concerns raised.

Submitting council / organisation LGAQ Policy Executive	
LGAQ Policy Executive district LGAQ Policy Executive	
Number and title of motion	10. Works for Queensland funding
Motion	That the LGAQ calls on the State Government to maintain Works for Queensland funding at $100m a year for the next four years.
Background	With more than 40,000 staff across the state, Queensland councils are significant employers. Councils are also major contractors of goods and services sourced and purchased from local businesses, sustaining local supply chains, and supporting thousands of indirect jobs. The highly successful Works for Queensland program has already delivered more than 26,000 jobs and 2,700 projects benefiting local communities right across the state. Works for Queensland is the cornerstone job-creation program for Queensland's local government sector. It represents a critical partnership between the State and local governments that showcases the economic and social benefits that can be delivered by working together to create, support and sustain local jobs in almost every Queensland community throughout the state. The 2021-22 budget papers reflect the State Government's pre-election commitment to provide $400m over six years for the Works for Queensland Program. It includes an additional $200m for Works for Queensland over three years from 2024-25, taking total funding to $1b. (BP 2, page 22) Allocations over the forward estimates are as follows: o $100m in 2021-22 o $70m in 2022-23 o $30m in 2023-24 o $100m in 2024-25. (BP 2, page 145) The LGAQ will continue to strongly advocate for funding levels to be maintained at $100m pa for four years, in line with our state election priorities.
What is the desired outcome sought?	In line with our State Election campaign request, and the explicitly expressed views of Queensland councils, the LGAQ's Works for Queensland budget request remains at $100 million per year ongoing. We are therefore seeking an additional $100 million in Works for

	Queensland funding across the forward estimates: • FY 22/23 – an additional $30m on top of existing projections • FY 23/24 – an additional $70m on top of existing projections The LGAQ will continue to call on the State Government to restore projected funding for this program to $100 million a year in line with historical funding levels to ensure its job-creation benefits are sustained moving forward as Queensland communities continue their COVID-19 economic recovery.
LGAQ comment	The LGAQ policy statement holds the following positions in relation to this matter: 3.1.2.4, 3.1.3.1, 3.1.3.2, 3.1.3.3 and 3.1.3.4. The most recent LGAQ Annual Conference motion in relation to this matter is from 2020 and is as follows: Association motion 9 - That the LGAQ lobby the State Government to make permanent the Works for Queensland program with funding of $100 million per annum, indexed to the Council Cost Index. The most recent Advocacy Action plan point is as follows: AAP item number 2: Support more than 4,000 local government jobs and deliver important community infrastructure by maintaining Works for Queensland funding at $100 million per annum, indexed to the Council Cost Index. Works for Queensland was a pre-covid economic support program implemented to support regional councils to undertake job-creating maintenance and minor infrastructure projects. Despite all of the momentum gained, Queensland councils hold grave concerns that the reduction of Works for Queensland funding in 2022/23 and 2023/24 will adversely impact local workforces in their communities. With reduced funding to deliver local projects, demand for locally sourced labour and materials will also reduce. Of the $400 million allocated to the 2019-21 W4Q and 2020-21 COVID W4Q funding: • $68.9 million or 17 per cent of total funding was spent on critical water and wastewater projects • $69.5 million or 17 per cent was spent on community infrastructure • $59.2 million or 15 per cent was spent on tourism related infrastructure • $52.4 million or 13 per cent of total funding was spent on road projects • $34.8 million or 9 per cent of total funds were spent on other

	critical infrastructure for regional communities like airport upgrades and cultural precincts As our economy continues to rebound from the impacts of COVID-19, it is important to maintain the economic momentum achieved through Works for Queensland, by continuing annual funding of $100 million per year to support regional communities and secure local jobs.

Submitting council / organisation LGAQ Policy Executive	
LGAQ Policy Executive district LGAQ Policy Executive	
Number and title of motion	11. SEQ Stimulus Funding
Motion	That the LGAQ calls on the State Government to maintain SEQ Stimulus Funding at $50 million a year for the next four years.
Background	At the last State Election, the Premier pledged $200 million over the next six years for this important job generating program and last year's budget committed $50 million in additional funding across the forward estimates. The LGAQ acknowledges and appreciates this funding commitment. The 2021/22 budget: • Reconfirmed in the 21/22 Budget from State Government pre-election commitments. • $25m for the SEQ Community Stimulus Package is allocated in 2021-22. (BP 3, page 103) • Allocation over the forward estimates will be as follows: o $25m in 2021-22 o $40m in 2022-23 o $10m in 2023-24 o $50m in 2024-25. (BP 2, page 144) • The LGAQ will strongly advocate for funding levels to be maintained at $50m per year for four years, in line with our State Election priorities.
What is the desired outcome sought?	In line with our State Election campaign request, and the explicitly expressed views of Queensland councils, the LGAQ requests the SEQ Community Stimulus Package be continued at $50 million per year for the coming four years. We are therefore seeking an additional $50 million in SEQ Community Stimulus funding across the forward estimates: FY 22/23 – an additional $10m on top of existing projections FY 23/24 – an additional $40m on top of existing projections The government estimates this program will create or support up to

	6,000 jobs in SEQ with a focus on outer urban areas or low socio-economic areas, however that will only be achieved if the program is appropriately funded in line with the LGAQ's funding request.
LGAQ comment	The LGAQ policy statement holds the following positions in relation to this matter: 3.1.2.4, 3.1.3.1, 3.1.3.2, 3.1.3.3 and 3.1.3.4. The most recent LGAQ Annual Conference motion in relation to this matter is from 2020 and is as follows: Association motion 10 - That the LGAQ lobby the State Government to commit to a permanent Jobs Advantage Program (Southeast Queensland), with initial funding of $50 million per annum, indexed to the Council Cost Index. The most recent Advocacy Action plan point is as follows: AAP item number 3: Make the Unite and Recover Community Economic Stimulus Program for South East Queensland permanent with funding of $50 million per annum, indexed to the Council Cost Index, to create 2,000+ jobs in areas of socio-economic disadvantage and high unemployment in South East Queensland. The SEQ Community Stimulus Program is an important COVID economic recovery program and maintaining momentum with consistent funding will ensure the State Government continues to partner with councils to upgrade and maintain local community infrastructure, while securing local jobs. As the national economic recovery continues, maintaining consistent funding for this program will enable councils to plan and deliver capital works over the long-term and support a pipeline of local projects throughout South-East Queensland.

Submitting council / organisation LGAQ Policy Executive	
LGAQ Policy Executive district LGAQ Policy Executive	
Number and title of motion	12. Closing the Gap data
Motion	That the LGAQ calls on the State Government and the National Indigenous Australians Agency (NIAA) to establish and periodically release to councils the relevant data sets for each local government area against each of the Closing the Gap targets.
Background	The absence of local data on the numbers and level of disadvantage of local First Nations people makes it difficult to evaluate the local effectiveness of federal and state initiatives to address disadvantage. Far too often, federal and state governments have relied on state wide expenditure and progress reports to support their activities which is confounding for local leaders who struggle to see the reported expenditure and progress occurring on the ground within their communities. The new National Partnership Agreement between the state and federal governments is intended to achieve new Closing the Gap targets. Given the significant disparities in indigenous representation and indigenous disadvantage that exists across different communities, it is imperative that local targets for each local government area be set and data made available against each of these targets. This data should be readily accessible to local leaders and identify local data sets against each targeted area, costs and resources expended locally to address the targets and progress against each target.
What is the desired outcome sought?	Local governments have access to data showing the level of disadvantage being experienced by First Nations people within their local government area. The data would be against each of the Closing the Gap targets and updated regularly. Closing the Gap targets would be set for each local government area. Data would also include information on levels of government expenditure against each of the targeted gaps and differentiate between expenditure on administration, money spent outside of the community and money spent “on the ground” in community.

LGAQ comment	The LGAQ policy statement holds the following positions in relation to this matter: 1.9.5 State and Federal governments will work with local governments to ensure that government investment in their communities will be expended in a manner that encourages a local economy, promotes local skills acquisition and local employment and serves to close the gap on the identified areas of disadvantage occurring in the communities. The most recent Advocacy Action plan point is as follows: AAP item number 84 Allocate $100 million per year for five years to increase housing supply in remote and discrete Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities to reduce overcrowding and help close the gap across education, health, incarceration and employment. A key recommendation of the Queensland Productivity Commission in their 2017 Inquiry into Service Delivery in remote and discrete Indigenous Communities called for the state government to work with the federal government to "provide outcomes, expenditure and services data at the community level". The state committed to implement all of the QPC recommendations. Local data is yet to be available. With both state and federal governments extolling the virtues of working in partnership with local communities to redress the significant and continuing gaps between the lives of First Australians and Australians generally, the supply of local meaningful data should be inherent in any roll out of the new Closing the Gap (CTG) strategy, targets and agreements. Providing data against each of the Closing the Gap targets for local government areas will promote the CTG strategy, ensure that resources target areas of need as well as enhance the capacity of stakeholders to measure and assess outcomes of any initiatives designed to redress an identified gap. Data outlining expenditure on First Nation initiatives should also differentiate between money spent on the ground in communities and moneys spent elsewhere including on state and federal government administration.

Submitting council / organisation LGAQ Policy Executive	
LGAQ Policy Executive district LGAQ Policy Executive	
Number and title of motion	13. Informing and Skilling Prescribed Body Corporations (PBCs) by the Office of the Registrar of Indigenous Corporations (ORIC)
Motion	That the LGAQ calls on the Federal Government to work with the Office of the Registrar of Indigenous Corporations (ORIC) to establish a mechanism for regularly informing and educating Prescribed Bodies Corporate (PBC) across Australia on any legislation, regulatory changes, governance and performance arrangements, and to ensure that a similar mechanism is in place at state level to inform Deed of Grant in Trust (DOGIT) trustees.
Background	ORIC is the regulator for 235 PBCs nationally, 80 of which are in Queensland. PBCs have two primary functions: managing land and managing a trust on behalf of traditional owners (trusts are set up when land is used to gain economic benefit to ensure benefits go back to the Traditional Owners). Councils regularly enter discussions with PBCs on a range of land use matters. Some councils have reported difficulty in dealing with PBCs as many of the PBCs, through no fault of their own, lack contemporary knowledge around land use matters and around their role and expectations generally. ORIC's role in building capacity of PBCs and ensuring PBCs are kept informed of regulatory and other relevant procedural changes is limited by their resource availability for these very important functions. Informed and knowledgeable PBCs operating within the same knowledge set as councils are essential if councils are to have meaningful dialogue with PBCs. It would be disingenuous to expect councils to play any role in ensuring PBCs are contemporaneous in their perceptions of their role and the operating environment in which they are can negotiate outcomes. Ensuring ORIC has the resources, and the mandate, to keep PBCs (with their regularly changing membership) informed of their role and the rules and regulations that govern their operations is imperative for building and maintaining effective working relationships between councils and PBCs.

	In the same way, it is important the state government ensure that DOGIT trusts are also kept informed of changes in their operating environment to maximise meaningful dialogue between the Trusts and other parties.
What is the desired outcome sought?	The Federal Government to ensure the Office of the Registrar of Indigenous Corporations has the resources and systems in place to regularly inform and educate Prescribed Bodies Corporate across Australia on any legislation, regulatory changes, governance, and performance arrangements, and that a similar mechanism operates at the state level to inform Deed of Grant in Trust trustees.
LGAQ comment	There are no previous LGAQ policy statements in relation to this matter. There are also no Advocacy Action Plan (AAP) points or recent previous conference motions regarding this issue. ORIC has confirmed they struggle to service the large number of PBCs across Australia. Importantly, the personnel of PBCs change regularly which demands ORIC has a system for regularly ensuring PBCs are up skilled on latest Native Title and other developments necessary for them to fulfill their roles. Relying on local government to educate PBCs on legal requirements during ILUA negotiations and other interactions exposes Councils, and any outcomes, to challenges of misinforming PBCs for their own interests or relying on the lack of awareness of PBCs to gain an advantage. ORIC needs to be sufficiently resourced to fulfill their important role. Similarly, the state also has obligations to ensure Deed of Grant in Trust (DOGIT) trustees are likewise kept informed of legal and other relevant developments.

Submitting council / organisation LGAQ Policy Executive	
LGAQ Policy Executive district LGAQ Policy Executive	
Number and title of motion	14. Increase of housing supply for remote and discrete Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities
Motion	That the LGAQ calls on the Federal Government to allocate $100 million per year for five years to increase housing supply in remote and discrete Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities.
Background	While overcrowding exists to the extent that it does in remote and discrete Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities, prospects of genuinely "closing the gap" remain distant. Overcrowding impacts directly and significantly on education, health, juvenile crime, youth suicide and domestic and family violence. The federal government recognised the level of overcrowding in these communities and committed significant funds to alleviate the situation. This commitment for dedicated funding for housing in remote and discrete First Nation communities ceased in 2019. This decision to cease funding was made despite calls from the state government, local governments and relevant private sector bodies urging for the funding to continue as, despite the improvements, much more investment was needed if the communities were to achieve similar levels of housing as communities generally across Australia. Indeed, a report from their own review of the outcomes of their investment supported the program but stated that "the job was not yet done" and indicated that more than 1000 additional houses still needed to be built. The Federal Government has recently reaffirmed their commitment to closing the gaps for First Australians. If the federal government is serious about closing the gap in these communities, then investment in housing in these communities can not be left entirely to the state to fund out of their general housing allocations for Queensland. The World Health Organisation research found that much of the existing gap can be explained by social determinants such as education, employment, housing, and income. An investment in housing addresses all of these. Dedicated investment in housing in these remote and discrete communities, as it has done in the past, would serve as a powerful stimulus to re-energise the local economy, provide much needed employment, and provide hope for the future of younger people

	disenfranchised by the isolation and social environment in their communities.
What is the desired outcome sought?	For the Federal Government to allocate $100 million per year for five years to increase housing supply in remote and discrete Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities.
LGAQ comment	The LGAQ policy statement holds the following positions in relation to this matter: 7.1.7.5 Local government seeks provision of appropriate housing for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities under a continuing National Partnership Agreement on Remote Indigenous Housing (NPARIH) that is environmentally appropriate, encourages home ownership and is cost efficient. The most recent Advocacy Action Plan point is as follows: AAP item number 84: Allocate $100 million per year for five years to increase housing supply in remote and discrete Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities to reduce overcrowding and help close the gap across education, health, incarceration, and employment. The LGAQ is committed to working with our First Nations councils and other levels of government to meaningfully progress the Closing the Gap targets. Addressing housing supply shortfalls continues to be a key priority for Queensland's First Nations council leaders in addressing these targets. Queensland requires at least 1,800 to 2,000 additional new homes to meet current demand. Some experiences of our Indigenous communities lay bare these needs as these examples from various councils show: • Council indicated that "70% of houses were overcrowded and that many people living in them were not recorded." • Council reported "at least 30% of all households are overcrowded or not meeting the health, disability and child safety needs of families. A total of 1,500 people from 275 household applicant groups are currently living with other family members… An additional 157 families were living outside of the region due to overcrowding in their area". • Council simply sums up the issue by saying "there is an ever-growing waiting list for housing allocation". • Council have done their own survey of the community and estimate that "50% of houses in the Shire are overcrowded – and will worsen with population growth projections and influx of relations from other communities with similar overcrowding issues". • Council estimates that on average fifteen (15) people are residing in each house irrespective of the number of bedrooms with up to as many as thirty (30) occupants per house. It is estimated that "in order to immediately house the applicants on the wait list and get all existing

	houses back to condition and eliminate overcrowding an additional 700 new builds are required”.

Submitting council / organisation Murweh Shire Council	
LGAQ Policy Executive district District 5 - South West	
Number and title of motion	15. Housing Solutions - Supporting Economic and Community Development
Motion	That the LGAQ calls on the State Government to: 1. Expedite actions to work with individual councils, regional organisation of councils and the LGAQ to address the significant housing deficit across the State; and 2. Consider how best to co-ordinate responses at both an individual and regional level which ensure (at a minimum): a. An integrated approach and coordinating mechanism across levels of government, the private sector as well as other relevant organisations and stakeholders. b. The broadest range of housing 'issues' are addressed – not just social housing and homelessness. c. Land use planning priorities across State and Local Governments are better understood and facilitate land release in a timely way. d. Fees, charges and grants and subsidy arrangements from the Commonwealth and State are fit for purpose – see below. e. Improved financing arrangements and investment vehicles are explored for both individuals, government entities and other organisations. f. Investment into skills training and / or regional trade placement incentives to facilitate access to relevant skills in regional centres.
Background	The availability, diversity and quality of housing has always been inherently linked to communities fulfilling and growing their economic and social potential. The emergence of regional housing shortages and rapid rises in the last 12 months in regional house prices and rents, and falls in rental vacancy rates, have caught government and many communities off guard. A recent study undertaken by the Western Queensland Alliance of Councils in conjunction with the Regional Australia Institute highlights the severe under-investment in housing in regional Queensland over many years, including declines in the quantity and quality of housing

	stock. The release of the Queensland Housing and Homelessness Action Plan 2021–2025 and the establishment of the $1 billion Housing Investment Fund are both welcome initiatives, especially the stated intent to "work with regional councils to increase and diversify the supply of housing, including opportunities for alternative government and non-government investment and incentives" (2021, p. 12). Whilst this action is very much supported, it is proposed that further work is still required to ensure (at a minimum): • an integrated approach and coordinating mechanism across levels of government, the private sector as well as other relevant organisations and stakeholders. • the broadest range of housing 'issues' are addressed – not just social housing and homelessness. • land use planning priorities across State and Local Governments are better understood and facilitate land release in a timely way. • Fees, charges and grants and subsidy arrangements from the Commonwealth and State are fit for purpose – for example: o Review stamp duty and development charges for regional new builds o A dedicated grant or expansion of the 'First Home Owner' grant for the purchase of existing (as opposed to new) housing stock to improve affordability and stimulate investment o A dedicated program to support local governments in rural and remote areas to construct new homes to provide housing stock for on-sale or rental • Improved financing arrangements and investment vehicles are explored for both individuals, government entities and other organisations; • Investment into skills training and / or regional trade placement incentives to facilitate access to relevant skills in regional centres.
What is the desired outcome sought?	A tri-partite government and business sector response to address the critical housing shortage in regional communities which is acting as a major barrier to both economic and social development.
LGAQ comment	The LGAQ Policy Statement and Advocacy Action Plan (Items 82, 84 and 110) include a range of policy positions and advocacy asks related to housing matters. A range of housing related motions have been put forward for consideration at the 2021 LGAQ Annual Conference and have also been passed at previous LGAQ Annual Conferences.

	Housing is the cornerstone of a range of social, economic and environmental outcomes. Despite various State/Commonwealth policies and programs, many Queensland regions and local communities are experiencing significant housing shortages, affordability challenges, and a lack of diversity/quality in housing product being delivered. Addressing these issues have been key advocacy priorities for Queensland councils and the LGAQ for many years, with many local governments responding to housing issues by undertaking a range of actions, including studies into housing barriers, needs and opportunities. In June 2021, the LGAQ formalised the Rural and Remote Councils Compact, comprising three strategic priorities – one of which is housing. Considering issues of housing supply and affordability in Australia is also the subject of a Parliamentary Inquiry at the national level which commenced on 16 August 2021. The Terms of Reference for the Inquiry include consideration of current taxes, charges and regulatory settings at a Federal, State and Local Government level, the factors that promote or impede responsive housing supply as well as the effectiveness of initiatives to improve housing supply in other jurisdictions and their appropriateness in an Australian context. In August 2021, the LGAQ Policy Executive endorsed preparation of a Local Government Housing Action Plan, by the LGAQ in consultation with member councils. This will provide the opportunity to comprehensively consider and define priority advocacy asks to address housing supply, diversity and affordability challenges across Queensland's regions, such as sought by this motion.

Submitting council / organisation Sunshine Coast Regional Council	
LGAQ Policy Executive district District 2 - Northern Region	
Number and title of motion	16. Housing Affordability and Social Policy
Motion	That the LGAQ calls on the State Government to develop and a joint State/Local government package of measures that will enable a more timely response to housing affordability and availability in high growth areas of the State.
Background	Trend analysis shows Queensland as a whole has seen increased domestic migration – particularly to regional areas – during the COVID-19 pandemic. The Regional Movers Index published on 28 June 2021, shows that since the March 2020 quarter, an increasing number of people have departed capital cities for regional areas. In the March 2021 Quarter, the Gold Coast and Sunshine Coast recorded the largest growth in migration from capital cities in Australia. Further, three of the top five areas recording the highest annual growth in inwards migration were located in regional Queensland. While population growth can provide impetus to regional economies, it also places significant pressure on housing availability with consequent implications for affordable housing options. This is particularly pronounced in high growth local government areas. For example, the residential vacancy rates on the Sunshine Coast have seen a sharp downturn since the onset of COVID-19. The REIQ (March 2021) notes the Sunshine Coast median house prices increased by 8.9% over the quarter to $675,000. This is compared to $499,000 only 5 years ago. The Sunshine Coast has the lowest number of rental vacancies across the State, posting a vacancy rate of just 0.4% in December 2020, with rents sharply rising. Feedback from stakeholders, and anecdotal evidence suggests the lack of available and affordable housing options in high growth areas has: • led to greater pressure on human services agencies and community housing organisations; • impacted the ability of employers to secure labour force supply;

	and • exacerbated the incidence of homelessness. What is clear is existing mechanisms to influence housing supply – namely the land use planning system and private investment – are not able to respond in a timely and agile manner to accelerate delivery of appropriate solutions (temporary and longer term). The major statutory, policy and funding levers to accelerate housing supply solutions principally reside with the State. Councils can also play an important role as the holder of substantial land assets, ability to identify areas of particular need and as a provider of regulatory assessment and monitoring services. Both tiers of government need to ensure any accelerated mechanisms deliver on intended affordability objectives.
What is the desired outcome sought?	Should the Motion be resolved at the Annual Conference, that the LGAQ seek to negotiate a package of statutory, policy and funding measures with the Queensland Government through a collaborative approach with councils in high growth areas which will deliver more timely and affordable housing solutions to meet identified community demand and need.
LGAQ comment	The LGAQ Policy Statement (various sections) and Advocacy Action Plan (Items 82, 84 and 110) include a range of policy positions and advocacy asks related to housing matters. A range of housing related motions have been put forward for consideration at the 2021 LGAQ Annual Conference, and have also been the focus of previous LGAQ Annual Conference resolutions including but not limited to: * Social housing funding - Resolution 92 (2020) & Resolution 67 (2019), * Regional inequality - Resolution 54 (2020), * Community Housing Management - Resolution 47 (2019), * Short Term Visitor Accommodation - Resolution 17 (2017) & Resolution 104 (2018). Housing is the cornerstone of a range of social, economic and environmental outcomes. Despite various State/national policies and programs, many Queensland regions are experiencing significant housing shortages, affordability challenges, and a lack of diversity/quality in housing product being delivered. Addressing these issues have been key advocacy priorities for Queensland councils and the LGAQ for many years, with many local governments responding to housing issues by undertaking a range of actions, including studies into housing barriers, needs and opportunities.

	In June 2021, the LGAQ formalised the Rural and Remote Councils Compact, comprising three strategic priorities – one of which is housing. The Parliamentary Inquiry into Homelessness released its final report (including a range of recommendations in relation to social housing) in August 2021 and another Inquiry into Housing supply and affordability in Australia has commenced. In August 2021, the LGAQ Policy Executive also endorsed preparation of a Local Government Housing Action Plan, by the LGAQ in consultation with member councils. This will comprehensively consider and define priority advocacy asks to address housing supply, diversity and affordability challenges across Queensland's regions, including in high growth areas, as sought by this motion.

Submitting council / organisation Flinders Shire Council	
LGAQ Policy Executive district District 11- North West	
Number and title of motion	17. Housing and Accommodation
Motion	That the LGAQ calls on the Federal and State Government to: • investigate the housing needs within rural and remote communities, taking into consideration local government housing studies that have been undertaken, and • address regional housing needs and housing affordability through a range of policy responses developed in consultation with local government, including modification of the first home owners grant to be available for renovations and refurbishment of existing housing stock.
Background	NWQROC and WQAC has conducted an in-depth housing study across 22 shires which has indicated a shortage with social and community housing as well as private dwellings, NOAC and NWQROC are in full support. Rural and remote councils are endeavouring to increase projects and industry to accommodate the required workforce. Community housing to be affordable for the low socio-economic worker, rent needs to be affordable. Indigenous housing should be built in a culturally appropriate manner and to meet the needs of the extended families.
What is the desired outcome sought?	That a State Government review into the severe housing crisis in some communities will lead to dedicated strategies to address the crisis including innovative initiatives that build on existing schemes such as extending 1st Home Owners Grants to first home buyers looking to purchase pre-existing housing/buildings to renovate and refurbish. Community & indigenous residents are able to purchase and live in appropriate and affordable accommodation.
LGAQ comment	The LGAQ Policy Statement and Advocacy Action Plan (Items 82, 84 and 110) include a range of policy positions and advocacy asks related to housing matters. A range of housing related motions have been put forward for consideration at the 2021 LGAQ Annual Conference and have

	also been passed at previous LGAQ Annual Conferences. Lack of suitable housing has been identified as one of the top four (4) priority issues concerning councils across Queensland. The lack of social housing for the disadvantaged, lack of suitable and affordable housing for residents and a lack of suitable housing for council staff have all been identified as serious concerns across Queensland. Strategic investment in housing would not only serve as economic stimulus for local economies and provide employment opportunities post COVID but would also address the issues of homelessness and assist councils in their efforts to attract and retain staff. In June 2021, the LGAQ formalised the Rural and Remote Councils Compact, comprising three strategic priorities – one of which is housing. Considering issues of housing supply and affordability in Australia is also the subject of a Parliamentary Inquiry at the national level which commenced on 16 August 2021. The Terms of Reference for the Inquiry include consideration of current taxes, charges and regulatory settings at a Federal, State and Local Government level, the factors that promote or impede responsive housing supply as well as the effectiveness of initiatives to improve housing supply in other jurisdictions and their appropriateness in an Australian context. In August 2021, the LGAQ Policy Executive endorsed preparation of a Local Government Housing Action Plan, by the LGAQ in consultation with member councils. This will provide the opportunity to comprehensively consider and define priority advocacy asks to address housing supply, diversity and affordability challenges across Queensland's regions, such as sought by this motion.

Submitting council / organisation Townsville City Council	
LGAQ Policy Executive district District 9 - Northern	
Number and title of motion	18. Abandoned and empty properties
Motion	That the LGAQ calls on the State Government to examine the feasibility of introducing legislation similar to the housing reforms and measures adopted by the UK Government to provide local government with increased powers and incentive mechanisms to address the problems created by abandoned, unused and empty properties.
Background	Across all parts of Queensland decaying, abandoned and empty houses and commercial properties can be found. In many cases, these properties can become the target of vandalism and illegal squatters. Local governments have limited powers to address these problems and the ensuing social issues that can be created. Powers exercised by local governments are typically limited to taking enforcement action if a property poses a public hazard or safety concern and making the property safe. Ultimately, local governments cannot force property owners to redevelop vacant or unused properties. Property owners in Queensland remain able to meet the holding costs for properties, such as paying council rates and state taxes, whilst legally able to leave the land unused, in many cases for years and years. It is noted that the UK Government has introduced a range of housing reforms and legislation to combat the issues created by empty, unused and abandoned properties. These reforms have expanded the powers and incentives available to UK local authorities to address these issues. These measures include but are not limited to empty dwelling management orders, rating and tax premiums and incentive reforms, enforced sales, compulsory purchase and measures to secure the improvement of empty properties.
What is the desired outcome sought?	The LGAQ lobby the State Government to examine the feasibility of introducing legislation similar to the housing reforms and measures adopted by the UK Government to provide local government with increased powers and incentive mechanisms to address the problems created by abandoned, unused and empty properties.
LGAQ comment	There are no previous LGAQ policy statements in relation to the matter of abandoned, unused and/or empty properties and there are no

	previous annual conference motions relating to this matter. Whilst some Queensland councils have implemented local laws to respond to issues of unsightly or dilapidated buildings, and enforcement powers do exist for local governments under Queensland building laws to require rectification of buildings, structures or building work that is dangerous and/or in a dilapidated condition, unlike local authorities in the UK, Queensland local governments do not have the range of powers and incentives at their disposal to bring empty homes back into use. According to the 2016 census, 195,570 private dwellings (or 10.6% of dwellings state-wide) were unoccupied in Queensland on census night. The figure was a rise from 2011, when 177,912 properties in Queensland (or 10.3% of dwellings state-wide) were recorded as unoccupied. Some jurisdictions across Australia have sought to address the issue of vacant properties through State based land taxes - for example the Victorian Government in 2018, introduced a vacant residential land tax to help address the lack of housing supply in Victoria. This annual tax is set at 1% of the capital improved value of taxable land, and applies to homes in inner and middle Melbourne that were vacant for more than six months (not necessarily continuous) in the preceding calendar year (1 January to 31 December). The Parliamentary Inquiry into Homelessness released its final report in August 2021 and another Inquiry into Housing supply and affordability has commenced. In August 2021, the LGAQ Policy Executive also endorsed preparation of a Local Government Housing Action Plan, by the LGAQ in consultation with member councils. This will comprehensively consider and define priority advocacy asks to address housing supply, diversity and affordability challenges across Queensland's regions.

Submitting council / organisation Whitsunday Regional Council	
LGAQ Policy Executive district District 7 - Whitsunday	
Number and title of motion	19. Solutions for housing (Accommodation) shortage in the Regions
Motion	That the LGAQ calls on the State and Federal Governments to implement initiatives to increase new housing numbers through a range of legislative changes, taxation benefits and other incentives that will support increased housing investment in regional areas.
Background	A housing shortage is being experienced in many regional areas to an extent not faced before. This is restricting job opportunities in key areas as new employees are unable to find suitable cost-effective accommodation and so return to capital cities. The initiatives to increase new housing numbers could be through a range of methods that include: offsets against headworks charges for local government, increasing tax benefits for institutional investors, increasing first home owner benefits, increasing tax incentives for negative gearing, offset transport costs for construction materials to regional areas, adopt additional tax incentives for the use of under-occupied housing and legislate to allow development to pay infrastructure charges after sealing and release of plans of subdivision.
What is the desired outcome sought?	The aim is to increase new housing numbers in regional areas that are currently experiencing a housing shortage and restore rental opportunities to an acceptable level. It is acknowledged that the impacts of Covid Pandemic have led to a range of consequences not considered likely in 2019, with one of the impacts being a significant housing shortage in regional areas.
LGAQ comment	The LGAQ Policy Statement (various sections) and Advocacy Action Plan (Items 82, 84 and 110) include a range of policy positions and advocacy asks related to housing matters. A range of housing related motions have been put forward for consideration at the 2021 LGAQ Annual Conference and have also been passed at previous LGAQ Annual Conferences including but not limited to: * Social housing funding - Resolution 92 (2020) & Resolution 67 (2019), * Regional inequality - Resolution 54 (2020), * Community Housing Management - Resolution 47 (2019), * Short Term Visitor Accommodation - Resolution 17 (2017) & Resolution

	104 (2018). In June 2021, the LGAQ formalised the Rural and Remote Councils Compact, comprising three strategic priorities – one of which is housing. Issues of housing supply and affordability in Australia are the subject of a Parliamentary Inquiry at the national level which commenced on 16 August 2021. The Terms of Reference for the Inquiry include consideration of current taxes, charges and regulatory settings at a Federal, State and Local Government level, the factors that promote or impede responsive housing supply as well as the effectiveness of initiatives to improve housing supply in other jurisdictions and their appropriateness in an Australian context. In August 2021, the LGAQ Policy Executive also endorsed preparation of a Local Government Housing Action Plan, by the LGAQ in consultation with member councils. This will provide the opportunity to comprehensively consider and define priority advocacy asks to address housing supply, diversity and affordability challenges across Queensland's regions, including in regional areas, as sought by this motion.

Submitting council / organisation Ipswich City Council	
LGAQ Policy Executive district District 2 - Western Region	
Number and title of motion	20. Inclusion of regional infrastructure plans in the regional planning process
Motion	That the LGAQ calls on the State Government to include regional infrastructure plans as a key component of each Regional Plan made under the Planning Act 2016.
Background	Many high growth councils across Queensland are grappling with the same challenge, managing the impacts of a rapidly growing region without the vital infrastructure needed to support sustainable growth. South East Queensland, the epicentre of Queensland's growth, is a clear example of this issue. Shaping SEQ forecasts the region will grow from 3.4 million to 5.3 million by 2041. Most of this growth will be outside Brisbane, putting pressure on the need for better public transport links, as well as community and social infrastructure. As growth continues to outstrip infrastructure delivery, particularly in public transport, the financial impacts build. Infrastructure Australia predicts traffic congestion in the south-east alone will cost the Queensland economy more than $6 billion a year by 2031. Currently, more than 80 percent of South East Queensland's commuters rely on private vehicles as their primary mode of transport. Given the lack of transport investment across the region, this is unlikely to improve in the coming decades. The Council of Mayors (SEQ) anticipates a successful proposal to host the 2032 Olympic and Paralympic Games will act as a catalyst to address this issue. However, this needs to be delivered through strategic and coordinated planning, alongside the region's growth, to 2032 and beyond. This motion proposes to incorporate regional infrastructure plans within the regional planning process, further aligning infrastructure funding and delivery with the growth and demands anticipated of each region. This would not only de-politicise the process but could address many of the community's concerns with growth by ensuring the necessary

	infrastructure is delivered in line with population growth. By fostering greater alignment between state and local governments, this could provide a strong advocacy position to seek support from the Commonwealth. Regional plans, incorporating infrastructure, would create a solid foundation on which to build City / Regional Deals or similar joint funding mechanisms. This is an important motion not only for the south-east but across Queensland. Whether it is securing water resources, digital connectivity, power supply or transport, these investments should be considered alongside the regional planning process to ensure liveable and prosperous regions for Queensland.
What is the desired outcome sought?	- Inclusion of regional infrastructure plans, scheduled to be rolled out in late 2021 and 2022, into future reviews and delivery of each Regional Plan. - More equitable allocation of infrastructure investment to match the forecast growth and demand of each region. - Firm targets shared by state and local governments in accommodating growth as well as the delivery of supporting infrastructure.
LGAQ comment	The LGAQ Policy Statement includes the following agreed policy positions of relevance: 6.1.2.1 Local government supports integrated infrastructure and land use planning measures within local planning instruments. 6.1.2.2 Local government supports the state government developing comprehensive state infrastructure plans that support and inform local planning instruments and statutory regional plans. 6.1.1.8 Local government supports the introduction of a statutory regional planning framework that: • Represents a true regional partnership between the state and local governments; • Addresses matters of state and regional interest; and • Informs local planning instruments. At the 2019 LGAQ Annual Conference, Motion 55 was passed seeking amendments to the State Infrastructure Plan (SIP) to better inform local government infrastructure plans, and align with regional plans and local planning schemes. In response to this, the former Minister for State Development, Manufacturing, Infrastructure and Planning advised that a review and update of the SIP would be undertaken in consultation with

	key stakeholders. The proposed new State Infrastructure Strategy will for the first time, be supported by seven Regional Infrastructure Plans. Preliminary engagement was undertaken by the State Government in May/June 2021, to seek initial feedback on regional infrastructure priorities. Further consultation will be undertaken as the draft Strategy and regional infrastructure plans are developed during late 2021 and 2022. Under the Planning Act 2016, there are currently 11 statutory regional plans, 1 non-statutory regional plan (Gulf Regional Development Plan) and 1 regional plan under review (Wide Bay Burnett). It is intended that the next generation of regional plans will link long-term economic strategy with land use and infrastructure planning.

Submitting council / organisation Scenic Rim Regional Council	
LGAQ Policy Executive district District 2 - Western Region	
Number and title of motion	21. Review the limitations on minimum lot size subdivisions for rural land under Queensland's planning framework
Motion	That the LGAQ calls on the State Government to review limitations on minimum lot size for subdivisions for "Rural land" under Queensland's planning framework (including regional plans), to enable local governments to plan appropriately for local communities and better reflect the true merit of specific areas to be preserved as Highest Beneficial Use as Rural Land or converted to other land use offering more sustainable futures.
Background	The South East Queensland (SEQ) Regional Plan came into effect in 2005 and guides the future settlement pattern by designating land under a Regional Land Use Classification of Urban Footprint, Rural Living Area, & Regional Landscape and Rural Production Area. Scenic Rim is predominantly the category of Regional Landscape and Rural Production Area, which through the provisions of the SEQ Regional Plan limit subdivision of any new lots to be a minimum size of 100 hectares. This is intended to halt the fragmentation of rural and farming lands and limit the creation of new rural residential developments by directing population and residential expansion to the more urban areas (townships with existing services and infrastructure) such as Beaudesert and Boonah. Scenic Rim in its current planning scheme has been able to retain the former Boonah Shire Rural Precincts of 60 hectare and 40 hectare minimum lot sizes in the former Boonah areas but this does not apply to the whole of Scenic Rim. As a result, Council is unable to consider alternative methods of increasing revenue through development within these areas. There are many areas that have low environmental or rural value where an approved subdivision would provide a more beneficial use of the land.
What is the desired outcome sought?	That the State Government remove the planning restrictions over rural land parcels to allow for subdivision into smaller acreage residential lots.

LGAQ comment	There are no previous LGAQ policy statements in relation to the matter of rural subdivision however it does contain the following long held policy positions of local government relevant to this motion: 6.1.1.1 Local government should be recognised as the sphere of government immediately responsible for land use planning and development assessment. 6.1.1.3 Local government supports the definition of a 'state Interest' being limited to whole of state government endorsed land use planning policy that has undergone rigorous community review. 6.1.1.5 Local government opposes state government land use planning policy or intervention that inhibits local decision making. The State Planning Policy (SPP) does not prioritise one state interest over another at a statewide level or prescribe minimum lot sizes for subdivision of rural land. However, regulatory provisions do exist to support implementation of the ShapingSEQ Regional Plan. These are contained in the Planning Regulation 2017 and specify a minimum lot size of 100 hectares for any new subdivisions in the category of Regional Landscape and Rural Production Area under the SEQ Regional Plan. The regional land use category mapping forms part of ShapingSEQ, and will only be amended as part of the periodic regional plan review process in response to the State Government's SEQ Growth Monitoring Program, and following public consultation. Regional plans are reviewed generally every five to seven years. On this basis, a review of ShapingSEQ would see a new plan delivered sometime between 2022 and 2024.

Submitting council / organisation Mackay Regional Council	
LGAQ Policy Executive district District 7 - Whitsunday	
Number and title of motion	22. Body corporate fees and sale of land issue
Motion	That the LGAQ calls on the Attorney General to commit to directly resolving the long-standing body corporate debt and sale of land issue as a stand-alone issue, and that, at a minimum, require the Working Group to give urgent and high priority to addressing the issue of debt recovery recommendations.
Background	The LGAQ and affected Councils have been making representations seeking a solution to this issue since 2014. There is a conflict between the two pieces of legislation, in that under local government legislation Council is obliged to transfer a property sold under the arrears of rates provisions free of encumbrance, yet the incoming owner in fact risks incurring a continuing encumbrance via the unpaid body corporate fees under Body Corporate legislation. There are a growing number of cases where body corporates have not been able to actively pursue recovery of their debt themselves, yet the debt prevents a Council from acting to recover its rates debt because of the potential onerous liability for a purchaser moving forward. Currently, prudent purchasers are not prepared to take the risk of purchasing property which is potentially subject to onerous liabilities in the form of substantial Body Corporate fee debt. Equally, a local government will not want to incur the costs and consumption of resources involved in repeated sale of land for arrears of rates action where there is no prospect of a sale eventuating. This contrasts with the treatment of registered mortgages. When the mortgage is dissolved by the legislated local government sale of land process, the loan agreement with the defaulting ratepayer remains but is unsecured by the mortgage. The financier is able to continue to pursue the borrower for any unpaid monies as an unsecured debt, and the purchaser does not inherit the debt.

	The LGAQ and councils see this approach as being the only sensible way forward – i.e. the body corporate is able to continue to pursue the original defaulting owner for any unpaid monies as an unsecured debt, the new purchaser does not inherit the debt. Councils have been disappointed by the most recent response from the Attorney General to submissions by LGAQ and councils since 2014, the most recent submission and advocacy following the 2020 LGAQ Annual Conference. The Attorney-General will only commit to dealing with this matter through the government's consideration of QUT property law recommendations, and the Community Titles Legislation Working Group will progressively work through the recommendations.
What is the desired outcome sought?	A commitment to resolve the legislative ambiguity between the Local Government Regulation 2012 and the City of Brisbane Regulation 2012 regarding the sale of land for overdue rates recovery where unpaid body corporate contributions exceed the value of the sale proceeds. To clearly articulate the policy intent contained in legislation to maximise the ability of local governments to recover unpaid rates, the LGAQ believes that legislative amendments could be made to a number of regulations, without amendment to either the Local Government Act 2009 or the Body Corporate and Community Management Act 1997. The LGAQ suggests amendments could be made to: • s144(4) and s145(4) of the Local Government Regulation 2012 • s136(4) and s137(4) City of Brisbane Regulation 2012 by adding the words "…and any liability to a body corporate for unpaid body corporate fees." In addition, the LGAQ suggests that the Body Corporate and Community Management (Standard Module) Regulation 2008 and each of the other Body Corporate and Community Management Module Regulations be amended to make it clear that a person who acquires land at a rates auction is not liable for any body corporate contributions which have arisen prior to the sale. For example, the LGAQ suggests that amendments could be made to s145 of the Body Corporate and Community Management (Standard Module) Regulation 2008 to insert the new subsection: • (3A) Despite sub-section (3)(b), a person who becomes the owner of land following its sale by a local government for overdue rates and charges is not liable to pay a body corporate debt which was outstanding before the land is sold.

LGAQ comment	There are no previous LGAQ policy statements in relation to the matter. The 2020 Advocacy Action Plan (AAP) stated the following: 127. Legislate to address the impasse between local government and body corporates that inhibits positive action to recover both rates and body corporate fees. The 2020 LGAQ Annual Conference endorsed the following resolution in relation to this matter: That the LGAQ lobby the State Government to amend the Local Government Regulation 2012 and the Body Corporate and Community Management Act 1997 so that where a local government sells a unit in a community management scheme for unpaid rates, the buyer, or the local government, does not become liable for unpaid body corporate levies and charges. There is presently a conflict between two pieces of legislation (Body Corporate and Community Management Act 1997 (BCCM Act) and Local government Act 2009) meaning when Councils are in legal possession of property due to unpaid rates, there is often a body corporate debt attached to the property also. • The rates component of the debt is discharged by the sale of the property, whereas body corporate debt is treated differently to rates arrears and transfers over to the new owner/buyer. • The council rates and body corporate debt can in some cases exceed the property value. In these cases, prudent potential purchasers are not prepared to take on the onerous financial liabilities of outstanding and substantial Body Corporate fee debt. • Due to the current legislative ambiguity, these properties are left in limbo with mounting and unrecoverable debts. Unpaid body corporate debt creates a disincentive for purchasers and fails to assist councils recover rates owed. • This type of situation is increasing due to COVID-19, lack of international owners travelling, oversupply of units and low interest rate conditions. • Councils have requested government take action to resolve the long-standing body corporate debt and sale of land issue. • The LGAQ has made numerous submissions over the last 5-6 years seeking a resolution of the very real problem of collection of outstanding rates and charges of Body Corporate tenured properties, where Body Corporate fees/charges are also outstanding. It was also raised at a meeting with the Attorney-General in August 2021. • The Attorney-General's most recent response dated 7 May 2021 advised the matter would be the QUT property law report working group

	in due course. Councils are seeking for the matter to be prioritised and expediated.

Submitting council / organisation Scenic Rim Regional Council	
LGAQ Policy Executive district District 2 - Western Region	
Number and title of motion	23. Strategic identification and preservation of future transport corridors in potential growth areas
Motion	That the LGAQ calls on the State Government to support the State Government's Strategic Sustainable Growth Requirements, by identifying, preserving and maintaining Strategic Land Corridors for purposes including Transport System future needs.
Background	Areas within a local government can be planned for growth. These areas can be subject to multiple developments, which result in population expansion over time and the need for the construction of major roads and services. Often, there is no land reserved for State transport corridors. So when the need arises to construct roads in those areas, developed land has to be resumed. This land should be identified and preserved as future State transport corridors as part of long term strategic planning before the area is developed. Strategic planning of these corridors would negate expense and grief caused by the resumption of developed land. Once these corridors have been preserved, DTMR should then be responsible for the maintenance of the corridors. An example within the Scenic Rim which is an ongoing challenge is the Canungra by-pass.
What is the desired outcome sought?	That the State Government identifies transport corridors as part of strategic planning for growth. The State preserves these corridors by acquiring the land and maintaining it until the need arises for construction of roads and other services to meet the needs of the community.
LGAQ comment	The LGAQ Policy Statement notes the following of relevance to this motion: * 6.1.2.2 Local government supports the state government developing comprehensive state infrastructure plans that support and inform local planning instruments and statutory regional plans. * 8.2.1.3 In planning for land use and transport integration the federal government, state government and local government should adopt a collaborative multi-modal approach which minimises the impact on the environment and energy consumption, supports accessibility and encourages the use of alternative modes of transport.

	The Department of Transport and Main Roads (DTMR) has an essential role in connecting Queensland and its people by providing a long-term strategic direction for roads throughout the state. DTMR has a lead role in developing Regional Transport Plans as a requirement under the Transport Planning and Coordination Act 1994. This Act also allows the DTMR to acquire land, and the Acquisition of Land Act 1967 explains the provisions for acquisition. Existing and future state transport corridors are identified by DTMR and are reflected in the mapping that supports the State Planning Policy (SPP) and specifically, the Transport Infrastructure state interest. All planned future transport corridors are categorised in accordance with the DTMR Approved Planning Policy. Regional plans under the Planning Act 2016 may also identify regional transport outcomes and specific transport corridors. The State Government is also in the process of developing a new State Infrastructure Strategy which will for the first time, be supported by seven Regional Infrastructure Plans. Preliminary engagement was undertaken by the State Government in May/June 2021, to seek initial feedback on regional infrastructure priorities. Further consultation will be undertaken as the draft Strategy and regional infrastructure plans are developed during late 2021 and 2022.

Submitting council / organisation Carpentaria Shire Council	
LGAQ Policy Executive district District 11- North West	
Number and title of motion	24. Continuation of Local Roads and Community Infrastructure Program (LRCIP) as a regular source of funding to councils
Motion	That the LGAQ calls on the Federal Government, through the Australian Local Government Association (ALGA), to continue the LRCIP funding as an ongoing funding source paid directly to local government similar to the Roads to Recovery Program introduced in 2000.
Background	Financial Sustainability of local government is a number one concern for many local governments across the Nation with many having a dependency on grant funding from the other levels of government. During COVID and the Economic Recovery the Federal Government (through a joint media release from the Prime Minister, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Local Government) announced the Local Roads and Community Infrastructure Program (LRCIP) on 22 May 2020. Since the initial announcement the program has now entered phase three. The program has provided necessary economic stimulus, job creation and/or job retention and assisted greatly in the provision of necessary infrastructure across the nation. Roads to Recovery was introduced in November 2000 under the Roads to Recovery Act 2000 to provide $1.2 billion for road expenditure by local governing bodies. Roads to Recovery is now included in the National Land and Transport Act 2014 and contains no sunset clause. $6.2 billion will be paid by the Australian Government between 2013-2014 and 2023-2024 under Roads to Recovery direct to local government by the Federal Government. An opportunity exists to encourage the Federal Government to continue this program (LRCIP) with funding paid directly to local government in the same manner as the Roads to Recovery program. These programs start as an extra stimulus to local government and it can be demonstrated that they are both appreciated and welcomed by local government, support jobs and deliver necessary infrastructure for communities across the Nation.

What is the desired outcome sought?	A continuation of the LRCIP post the economic stimulus as a regular funding program paid from the Federal Government direct to councils. Roads to Recovery has been a very welcome funding boost to councils across the nation and is talked about often as beneficial to local government and the communities that we serve. It creates and/or retains jobs and provides benefit to the road networks we manage and for the travelling public. LRCIP has provided a very necessary economic stimulus to communities since its introduction in 2020 and Carpentaria Shire Council would like to see this funding program become a regular funding source from the Federal Government direct to councils similar to Roads to Recovery. Councils have the opportunity to bring forward works on aging assets to reduce depreciation expense by increasing the useful life of community assets. Council also have a level of flexibility with this funding program and we see that all councils would benefit from its continuation as a regular funding source to councils.
LGAQ comment	The LGAQ Policy Statement notes the following: *3.1.3.3 The method of interstate distribution of general-purpose grants should be changed from a per capita basis to a fiscal equalisation basis. *8.1.1.5 The quantum of federal and state funds allocated to local government for roads should be increased commensurate with local governments' responsibilities as a road asset manager and maintained in real terms. The LGAQ has recently made representations to the Federal Government, including in the Federal Budget Submission to continue funding for the Local Roads and Community Infrastructure (LRCI) Program. In the LGAQ's representations it has highlighted local governments track record as a value for money mechanism to deliver essential road and community infrastructure projects while boosting the economy and jobs. Through the 2020–21 Budget, the Australian Government announced a $1 billion extension of the LRCI Program, now referred to as the LRCI Program Phase 2. Following strong community and local government support, the Australian Government has also committed to Phase 3 of the LRCI Program. From 1 January 2022, councils will be able to access funding through LRCI Program Phase 3, with projects under the Program to be delivered by 30 June 2023.

Submitting council / organisation South Burnett Regional Council; Western Downs Regional Council	
LGAQ Policy Executive district District 4 - Darling Downs	
Number and title of motion	25. DTMR Road Maintenance Performance Contract (RMPC) Risk Management
Motion	That the LGAQ calls on the State Government to increase Department of Transport and Main Roads' (DTMR) RMPC funding to cover the significant number of unfunded defects that exist on the State-controlled network and further that the RMPC is amended to ensure that the current conditional indemnities do not unfairly favour DTMR in circumstances where the State-controlled road network is in such a poor condition.
Background	Western Downs Regional Council (WDRC) has concerns with the risk to road users and to the organisation, posed by the significant number of outstanding defects that have triggered intervention under the terms of the RMPC on the State-controlled road network and insufficient funding provided by DTMR to repair these defects. Currently in Western Downs, 1,648 severe defects have met the contractual intervention level and been allocated a response time to repair, at an estimated repair value of $23.3 million. The allocated budget for Western Downs for the RMPC in 2021/22 is $5.07 million which means most of these severe defects will remain unrepaired and non-compliant under the terms of the RMPC. Due to this non-compliance, and apart from accessing conditional indemnities offered by DTMR under the RMPC, council would be liable for any damages caused by these defects. The lack of asset renewal to the State road network within the Western Downs by DTMR, as the Asset Manager, is responsible for the generally poor condition of the network. Yet the RMPC disproportionally allocates risk associated with this poor network condition to council as the network steward. Council has a vested interest in continuing to deliver the RMPC as it is best placed to perform this role effectively and ensure the best possible outcome for road users in our region. Council is seeking support to lobby DTMR for increased RMPC funding to be allocated, pursuant to the needs of the State-controlled network

	across the State. Council is also seeking support for LGAQ to work with DTMR to amend the current conditional indemnities of the RMPC to ensure any liability taken on by councils delivering work under the RMPC does not unfairly include the risks associated with unfunded defects that cannot reasonably be delivered under the terms of the current RMPC.
What is the desired outcome sought?	Increased funding that is linked to the condition of the network will ensure that the standard of the state-controlled road network can be improved. This will reduce the risk that these currently unfunded defects put on councils and result in a more equitable position to ensure the best outcomes are achieved for both council and DTMR in the delivery of RMPC works on Queensland's State-controlled network. Equitable conditional indemnity clauses will more fairly align liability to the party that should reasonably take that responsibility. Council, as the network steward, should take on liability relating to the delivery of maintenance on behalf of DTMR. They should not be at risk for the actions or inaction of DTMR, as the asset manager, as is currently the case.
LGAQ comment	The LGAQ Policy Statement notes the following: *3.1.4.4 Federal and state government infrastructure grants and subsidy programs should be annually indexed in recognition of the increased costs of infrastructure provision and population growth. *8.1.1.5 The quantum of federal and state funds allocated to local government for roads should be increased commensurate with local governments' responsibilities as a road asset manager and maintained in real terms. Local government road networks are integral to state and national roads and provide essential linkages for the freight industry and other users. * 8.1.4.2 Local government is committed to collaborating with federal and state government agencies to implement initiatives aimed at reducing regional road trauma. The LGAQ and DTMR have established a working group to consider RMPC contract conditions. This will include scrutinising issues and operational concerns identified by councils, step by step. The LGAQ sees this as an important avenue to iron out operational issues and seek further legal advice if necessary.

Submitting council / organisation Gladstone Regional Council	
LGAQ Policy Executive district District 6 - Central Queensland	
Number and title of motion	26. Heavy vehicle access implications of increased restrictions on State-controlled roads.
Motion	That the LGAQ calls on the Department of Transport and Main Roads (DTMR) to conduct a review of its decision to impose increased heavy vehicle restrictions on State-controlled roads, and its subsequent enforcement activity, and work with councils to address the increased heavy vehicle traffic on the local government road network that has resulted from this decision.
Background	Recent increased heavy vehicle restrictions on the State-controlled roads (SCR) network, and subsequent increased compliance on those restrictions, has resulted in increased heavy vehicle traffic on the local government network as a detour or alternative route. These increased volumes of heavy vehicle traffic on the council network will increase maintenance costs without recompense. This also places increased risks on public safety and on council infrastructure such as bridges and culverts. Generally, the local government road network (including bridges and culverts) was not designed to cater for high volumes of heavy vehicle traffic. An example of this, is the restriction on the Calliope River Bridge on the State-controlled Hanson Road, which is the main road from Gladstone Port to the Bruce Highway. This has resulted in an increase in heavy vehicles instead using the locally controlled Red Rover Road and Blain Drive. To support local economies and industry, local government road managers provide access to the first and last mile where safe and appropriate. However, when making access decisions local government road managers would not anticipate heavy vehicle volumes equivalent to access on the SCR network or for their roads to be used as a heavy vehicle bypass. Any decisions by a road manager that would drastically divert traffic on to another road manager's network should involve all parties to discuss

	and address implications such as: • Suitability of alternate route • Cost implications of diversion, including length of time alternate route is required • Safety • Compliance
What is the desired outcome sought?	The desired outcome is a one network view to heavy vehicle access that facilitates safe and efficient network access. To achieve this desired outcome, the Department of Transport and Main Roads need to work with local government road managers to work through network deficiencies and to develop network strategies and solutions to enable industry to continue to operate without cost shifting and liability shifting.
LGAQ comment	The LGAQ Policy Statement notes the following: *8.1.2.1 Local government seeks an agreement by which the state and federal governments agree to substantially increase funding for the local road network where: * Local roads provide for significant arterial and through traffic, or have economic significance beyond the access interests and responsibility of ratepayers. *The relationship between a council's potential rate base and its road responsibility is so unbalanced that the council is unable to meet its obligations. *8.1.5.3 Local government is committed to working with federal and state governments to develop strategic freight routes, and to address impediments to accessing the locally controlled network. *8.1.5.7 Local government calls on the federal and state governments to provide adequate funding to repair damage to roads associated with heavy vehicle use, and to upgrade or construct roads, including bridges and culverts, to facilitate improved heavy vehicle access. An example of the current TMR bridge and culvert restrictions that has resulted in increases in heavy vehicles using local roads as alternative routes is the current restrictions (August 2021) for 'Category 2' Special Purpose Vehicles. Of the 709 structures listed, 267 structures are 'Do Not Cross', 358 are 'Single Trip' and 84 are unrestricted. The single trip structures require permits for each crossing and due to the administrative time requirements, telematics monitoring and compliance activity on State roads, industry are increasingly using local roads as alternative routes.

Submitting council / organisation Scenic Rim Regional Council	
LGAQ Policy Executive district District 2 - Western Region	
Number and title of motion	27. State Government review of Rail Interface Agreements
Motion	That the LGAQ calls on the State Government to: a) Review and amend s251 of the Transport Infrastructure Act 1994 to more properly clarify that the "Rail Infrastructure Manager" retains responsibility for the area defined as the "Danger Zone" at all times and particularly where such zone intersects a Road Corridor; and b) Review and update the "Agreement for Management of Rail/Road Interface Risks between Rail Infrastructure Managers (such as Qld Rail Ltd) and Specific Councils (as Road Managers) based on a) above. Such a review and update process, in considering both operation and effectiveness of such agreements, should achieve an outcome that properly reflects contemporary work practices, responsible delineation of risk scope and management responsibility, and legal implications.
Background	The Transport Infrastructure Act 1994 requires the Railway Manager to maintain the surface of a road only to a distance of 0.6m from the outer rail. Any work which could impact on the Rail Danger Zone which is up to 3m from the outer rail requires Rail Manager approval, Protection Officer in attendance and staff trained in rail safety, resulting in cost and program impacts to Council works.
What is the desired outcome sought?	Road Managers such as local governments require the ability to carry out work on their assets under their own control without the requirement to gain approval from an external agency. An updated agreement and legislation would allow local governments to program, plan and undertake both planned and reactive works at an appropriate time and in a cost effective manner.
LGAQ comment	The LGAQ Policy Statement notes the following: 8.1.2.2 Local government accepts responsibility for effective management and maintenance of the local road network by adopting professional asset management standards, maximising productivity gains, seeking and applying the most effective technology, and setting priorities which provide required levels of access in the most cost-effective manner. The LGAQ is a member of the Queensland Level Crossing Safety

	Committee (QLCSC), which includes members from the Department of Transport and Main Roads (DTMR), the Office of the National Rail Safety Regulator and Rail Infrastructure Managers. At the last QLCSC meeting in July 2021, the LGAQ raised the issues regarding Rail Interface Agreements and DTMR indicated they would be open to discuss and review the operational issues raised by local government.

Submitting council / organisation Cairns Regional Council; Rockhampton Regional Council	
LGAQ Policy Executive district	
Number and title of motion	28. Continuation of the Regional Recycling Transport Assistance Program
Motion	That the LGAQ calls on the State Government to continue the funding of the Regional Recycling Transport Assistance Program (RRTAP) for four years.
Background	The Regional Recycling Transport Assistance Program (RRTAP) was a funding program launched in late 2019 by the State Government, with the purpose of funding the transportation costs associated with recycling activities in regional communities. This was seen as a key component of delivering the Queensland Waste Management and Resource Recovery Strategy, providing interim support to existing or emerging recycling activities in the regions that would otherwise not be financially viable due to the cost of transporting materials to secondary processing facilities. In April 2020, Rockhampton Regional Council received $176,760 to assist with the ongoing cost of transporting sorted materials from the Rockhampton Material Recovery Facility (MRF) to secondary markets in Brisbane, NSW and overseas. In addition, in response to the Rockhampton MRF fire event in November 2020, Rockhampton Regional Council received additional funding to assist with the additional transportation costs of bulk hauling their commingled recyclables to Mackay and Brisbane. Livingstone Shire Council, Gladstone Regional Council and Central Highlands Regional Council all received their own allocation of funding for similar levels of support. Similarly, Cairns Regional Council received $250,000 in grant funding to transport approx. 4,500 tonnes of paper and cardboard to Southeast Queensland.
What is the desired outcome sought?	Ultimately the desired outcome is for the State Government to continue the Regional Recycling Transport Assistance Program. Regional Queensland relies on such funding from the State Government to provide some equity in the cost of recycling to regional communities. Consequently, it is recommended that councils can resolve as stated in this report and submit this resolution to the LGAQ for consideration at the 2021 annual conference.

LGAQ comment	The LGAQ Policy Statement 2020 states: 5.3.7 Recycling 5.3.7.1 Local government is strongly committed to the introduction of economically, environmentally and socially sustainable recycling schemes. 5.3.7.3 Local government strongly supports the principle of the integration of waste management from 'cradle to grave', especially with a focus on those waste minimisation options at the top of the waste management hierarchy: waste avoidance and reduction, and materials re-use and recycling. 5.3.7.4 Local government supports the development of expanded markets for recyclables through influencing government policy and committing to promoting and marketing recycled products. The Regional Recycling Transport Assistance Program (RRTAP) launched in 2019 was successful in providing funds to regional Queensland councils to assist with the costs associated with diverting recyclables away from landfill towards resource recovery markets where local/regional markets did not exist. The RRTAP aligns with the LGAQ policy position and local government commitment towards waste reduction and material re-use and recycling. This program had provided significant assistance at diverting recycled content to markets. The 2021 LGAQ Advocacy Action Plan (AAP) sought a State Government commitment to: * Commit $6 million per year for four years to continue the RRTAP to ensure cost equalisation for regional councils in transporting recyclables. The 2021 State budget announcement on 15 June has not funded the continuation of this program, with the State Government yet to confirm an alternative funding arrangement to achieve equalisation for regional Queensland. Until such time as viable markets have been established in regional areas, the cost burden associated for regional councils to continue to divert recyclables away from landfill, continues to be borne by local councils across regional Queensland.

Submitting council / organisation Brisbane City Council; Burdekin Shire Council; Cairns Regional Council; South Burnett Regional Council; Southern Downs Regional Council	
LGAQ Policy Executive district	
Number and title of motion	29. Continuation of Waste Levy Advance Payments to Local Government
Motion	That the LGAQ calls on the State Government for the continuation of the 105% waste levy advance payments for councils within the State Government Waste Levy Zone to cover the costs associated with the disposal of municipal solid waste (MSW) to landfill. These payments should be maintained until viable markets to divert waste from landfill have been established across Queensland and until local councils and the State Government have agreed to a sustainable phased reduction in the payments to avoid impacts on Queensland households.
Background	With the introduction of the State Government waste levy in July 2019, the State Government announced waste levy advance payments of 105% of waste levy liability for MSW within the State Government Waste Levy Zone, to cover the costs of disposal of MSW to landfill, and therefore ensure that the waste levy has no direct financial impact on households. The current commitment is to review the waste levy advanced payments within 3 years, by 30 June 2022. The removal of the waste levy advance payments will have a direct impact on households of at least $75 per annum. This is of significant concern to councils as there has been insufficient time since the waste levy was introduced for viable markets for recycling and reprocessing to be developed to divert waste from landfill. Whilst there are emerging technologies as alternatives to landfilling, these are not yet widely available and implemented. This is particularly the case for regional local governments within the Waste Levy Zone. The continuation of the waste levy advanced payments is essential to ensure there is no financial impacts from the disposal of municipal solid waste to landfill on Queensland households. Additional time is required for local governments and industry to be able to implement measures and create viable markets to increase resource recovery and reduce the quantity of waste being disposed to landfill.
What is the desired outcome sought?	The State Government continue the 105% waste levy advance payments for councils within the State Government Waste Levy Zone to cover the costs associated with the disposal of municipal solid waste to landfill until

	such time that viable markets are established allowing the diversion of waste from landfill.
LGAQ comment	At the LGAQ Conference 2020, Association Motion 15 - 'Sustainable Local Government Waste Management and Resource Recovery' was passed unanimously stating: That the LGAQ lobby the State Government to recommit to the continuation of the advance payments to councils for Municipal Solid Waste beyond 2022 and for at least the next State Government term. The 2021 LGAQ Advocacy Action Plan (AAP) seeks the State Government to: Continue advance payments to councils for Municipal Solid Waste beyond 2022 – and for at least the current State Government term – to ensure Queensland households are not negatively impacted by the waste levy. When the State Government announced in 2018 it would introduce this levy, it made repeated commitments that householders will not be left paying an additional tax as a result of its levy. On 15 June 2021, the State Budget was handed down without forward estimates provisions for waste levy advance payments to councils. The budget confirms the advance payments of approximately $150 million/year will continue until June 2022, with no budgetary line item after that date. On 25 June 2021, the LGAQ Policy Executive met to discuss the approach to take in response to the future of the waste levy advance payments. A joint letter signed by all 39 Waste Levy Zone councils, raising concerns and calling for a genuine partnership, was sent to the Premier on 1 July and discussed in a meeting with The Hon. Meaghan Scanlon. On 28 July, Deputy Premier Steven Miles, stated: "I can however advise the committee that the Palaszczuk government is committed to no impact on households from the waste levy." Furthermore, he reiterated that "the intention is still very much to ensure that households are protected from the impost of the levy." All 39 waste levy councils have stated that it is premature to remove waste levy advance payments and that it should be maintained until viable markets to divert waste from landfill have been established to avoid impacts on Queensland households.

Submitting council / organisation Logan City Council	
LGAQ Policy Executive district District 2 - Southern Region	
Number and title of motion	30. Funding to implement Regional Waste Management Plans
Motion	That the LGAQ calls on the State and Federal governments to provide funding to support the implementation and recommendations of current and future Regional Waste Management Plans across Queensland.
Background	Councils across Queensland have adopted a regional approach towards waste management. These partnerships promote increasing resource recovery rates while diverting waste from landfill. To ensure timely implementation of these plans, funding is sought from State and Federal governments to assist councils with one-off transition and start-up costs, as well as smoothing cost increases to households. For example, in May 2021 the Council of Mayors (SEQ) approved the South East Queensland (SEQ) Waste Management Plan. This plan sets out a path for action and collaboration across SEQ councils to address the challenges and opportunities associated with Municipal Solid Waste (MSW) management across the region. The one-off costs for managing the transition for the SEQ Waste Management Plan are estimated at $210 million - $280 million by 2030. The SEQ Plan focuses on three areas to achieve a 2030 'target state' of maximising resource recovery and minimising waste to landfill: (i) Optimising comingled recycling, including improving the collection rate; reducing contamination; supporting the development of additional Material Recovery Facility (MRF) capacity; and supporting the development of secondary markets for recycled products. (ii) Removing organic waste from landfill, including introducing organics recovery (mulching, composting); supporting behavioural change in households; and developing secondary markets for organic waste. (iii) Optimising the treatment of residual MSW by acting decisively on areas (i) and (ii), while also exploring the best options for residual management.
What is the desired outcome sought?	Implementation of Regional Waste Management Plans will have both environmental and employment benefits. In the case of the SEQ Waste Management Strategy these include: • Increasing the MSW landfill diversion rates from 28% to 45% by

	2030, driven mostly by improvements in organics recovery. • Move SEQ around 60% of the way toward meeting Queensland Waste Strategy recycling targets. • Create around 310 permanent jobs in SEQ, driven mostly by the improved management of Food Organics and Garden Organics (FOGO).
LGAQ comment	At the LGAQ Annual Conference 2020, Association Motion 15 - 'Sustainable Local Government Waste Management and Resource Recovery' was unanimously passed stating: That the LGAQ lobby the State Government to: * Recommit to the continuation of the advance payments to councils for Municipal Solid Waste beyond 2022 and for at least the next State Government term; * Introduce a dedicated and quarantined sustainability fund for local government waste and resource recovery infrastructure projects to cover ALL costs including both capital and operational expenses; and * Commit to funding sustainable waste and resource recovery initiatives to tackle problem waste streams across all Queensland in SEQ and regional areas. The 2021 Advocacy Action Plan (AAP) seeks the State Government to: * Commit $200 million per year for four years to a dedicated and quarantined Sustainability Fund for local government energy-from-waste facilities, resource recovery and recycling initiatives that covers both capital and operational expenses. * Commit 100% of waste levy revenue to the funding of sustainable resource recovery, recycling infrastructure and programs to build a circular economy. The introduction of dedicated funding for local government accessible to both SEQ and regional councils would provide the funding required to implement Regional Waste Management Plans across Queensland. In addition, the reinvestment of waste levy revenue not only supports the delivery of Regional Waste Management Plans but would also make a significant contribution to achieving the resource recovery targets in the Queensland Waste Management and Resource Recovery Strategy.

Submitting council / organisation Southern Downs Regional Council	
LGAQ Policy Executive district District 4 - Darling Downs	
Number and title of motion	31. Seed Funding from Waste Levy Revenue
Motion	That the LGAQ calls on the State Government to provide seed funding from the revenue raised by the State Government Waste Levy so Councils can undertake organic and other innovative waste and resource recovery trials at the local level.
Background	The State Government Waste Management and Resource Recovery Strategy highlights the importance of action by local government in delivering more sustainable waste management. Local governments have limited resources and competing financial obligations, and therefore are not necessarily in the position to undertake innovative trials to improve resource recovery and waste diversion from landfill without funding assistance. Southern Downs Regional Council welcomes the news of the recently announced 'Food Organics, Garden Organics (FOGO) Kerbside Collection Trial' funded for three local governments in Queensland. However, it is recommended similar funding be made available for additional innovative projects, and to more local government regions, from the revenue raised by the State Government Waste Levy.
What is the desired outcome sought?	The State Government provide funding to local governments, to allow for organic and other innovative waste and resource recovery trials at the local level.
LGAQ comment	At the LGAQ Annual Conference 2020, Association Motion 15 - 'Sustainable Local Government Waste Management and Resource Recovery' was unanimously passed stating: That the LGAQ lobby the State Government to: * Introduce a dedicated and quarantined sustainability fund for local government waste and resource recovery infrastructure projects to cover ALL costs including both capital and operational expenses; and * Commit to funding sustainable waste and resource recovery initiatives to tackle problem waste streams across all Queensland in SEQ and regional areas.

	The 2021 Advocacy Action Plan (AAP) seeks the State Government to: * Commit $200 million per year for four years to a dedicated and quarantined Sustainability Fund for local government energy-from-waste facilities, resource recovery and recycling initiatives that covers both capital and operational expenses. * Commit 100% of waste levy revenue to the funding of sustainable resource recovery, recycling infrastructure and programs to build a circular economy. State Government funding programs have had mixed success for councils i.e. Resource Recovery Industry Development Program (RRIDP) and as such have not delivered key local government projects and priorities due to the current funding criteria, timing and specific focus on key waste industries. Of the 29 successful projects totalling $35 million only $1.2 million was directed to councils. Last year's Annual Conference reinforced the strong support from councils seeking the establishment of a dedicated sustainability fund that should align to council budget cycles and would allow adequate planning and timing for the development of business cases and feasibility studies to inform council decision making processes prior to allocation of capital funds e.g. organics programs. The introduction of a dedicated program providing 'fit for purpose' funding for councils would deliver significant resource recovery and waste management outcomes across Queensland.

Submitting council / organisation Blackall-Tambo Regional Council	
LGAQ Policy Executive district District 8 - Central West	
Number and title of motion	32. QWRAP Funding Round 6
Motion	That the LGAQ calls on the State Government to commit to permanent funding of $2 million per annum for the Queensland Water Regional Alliances Program (QWRAP) beyond its current round of funding that ceases in June 2022.
Background	QWRAP is an industry-led initiative to investigate regional collaboration on water and sewerage services in regional Queensland. The program is a collaboration among the LGAQ, qldwater, the State Government (through the Department of Regional Development Manufacturing and Water) with 57 councils engaged across nine regions. It has been funded by the Department since 2011 with significant leverage of cash and in-kind contributions from other partners. QWRAP works to strengthen urban water and sewerage services in Queensland's regional communities through collaboration. The aim is to ensure safe, secure and sustainable services for more than 300 water schemes in regional Queensland, which include 25 councils that own and manage some of the smallest water schemes in Australia. QWRAP funding averaged $300,000 p.a. between 2011 and 2016 establishing three pilot regions including the RAPAD region. Funding doubled in 2016-2018 adding two regions and initiating 'emerging regions' with initial technical collaboration. In 2018, funding increased to $800,000 p.a. promoting mature projects and expansion to more regions. South-West Queensland has become the sixth QWRAP region and North Queensland has been invited to become the seventh. This expands coverage of QWRAP to all of Queensland outside of the Cape York first nations councils and South East Queensland. All QWRAP projects to date have yielded financial benefits. Immediate benefits arise from economies of scale and savings from joint procurement, strategic planning and contract oversight that comes with a regional approach. Some projects have also driven strategic sustainability outcomes and led to enhanced future collaboration within a region or across multiple

	regions. These projects have increased in the current funding round with the increasing maturity of some regions, strong regional champions, and the additional focus that has been placed on strategic planning and benefits capture. Key examples include: • extending successful, tested initiatives across multiple regions, • developing systems and approaches that are adopted by other Queensland councils, • driving momentum and interest in improvement and collaboration, • bringing together experts from different fields including academia to deliver practical and technology-focused solutions to complex problems, and • prioritising innovation to address complex challenges common to regional Queensland.
What is the desired outcome sought?	Some of the existing QWRAP projects may have occurred without the Program but would be unlikely to extend beyond individual councils. Many projects would not have been possible without collaboration; either because of the additional scope warranted or the greater focus on water and sewerage services generated by the Program. QWRAP has also been pivotal in progressing the collaboration maturity within and across participating regions. Increased maturity in collaboration results in larger projects, shared resources and investment and development of expertise. Skills development builds capacity and is common to many regions along with projects building operational efficiencies and standardisation. High-maturity regions explore joint infrastructure planning to support regional growth for years to come. These benefits would not be possible in most regions without QWRAP.
LGAQ comment	The LGAQ's policy statement contains positions relevant to this motion including: 3.1.4.3, 8.5.1.1, 8.5.1.3, 8.5.1.4, 8.5.1.5, 8.5.1.6, 8.5.5.1, 8.5.5.2, 8.5.5.3 and 8.5.5.4. Until the recent announcement of the three-year Building our Regions (BoR) State funding targeted for 'shovel ready' water and sewerage projects, QWRAP was the only State Government Program that supported local governments to improve the delivery of water and wastewater services to regional communities since its commencement in 2011. With the current QWRAP Round 5 funding coming to an end in June 2022, it is critical to ensure continuity of funding/technical support to QLD councils, particularly since the Program has expanded significantly since the beginning of Round 5: - Five regional groups at the beginning of Round 5 to 9 regional collaborations presently;

	- 30 councils at the beginning to almost 60 councils now; - Increased collaboration maturity within participating councils; - More complex projects being undertaken, requiring significantly more funding support; - More participation from small and remote councils adding complexity, distance and sustainability challenges; and - Whole-of-State Program requiring extended communications and coordination. QWRAP could also play an increasing role in supporting councils deliver non-infrastructure solutions and in understanding their priority infrastructure options to complement the BoR Program . The LGAQ has prepared a Mid-Year Fiscal and Economic Review submission that includes the $2 million p.a. permanent QWRAP funding ask and has commenced a rebid campaign to support this submission.

Submitting council / organisation Barcoo Shire Council	
LGAQ Policy Executive district District 8 - Central West	
Number and title of motion	33. Community Service Obligation – Water, Waste & Sewerage Services
Motion	That the LGAQ calls on the State Government to investigate a Community Services Obligation payment to Local Government for supply of water, waste and sewerage services to achieve cost neutrality of their water, waste and sewerage services.
Background	The State Government through Ergon Energy provides a Community Service Obligation as part of its commitment to keep regional Queensland power prices on par with South East Queensland, the Queensland Government provides a subsidy to meet the additional costs involved in supplying electricity to regional Queensland. This subsidy is called the Community Service Obligation (CSO) payment, which is around $462 million each year. Ergon Energy state on their website "We understand it's essential for households and businesses in regional Queensland communities to have access to power at a similar cost to those in the southeast." For more information on electricity facts visit Queensland Competition Authority (QCA) at https://www.qca.org.au/project/our-role-electricity/electricity-facts/ . In the same vein as power, Barcoo Shire Council is responsible for water and waste services, and due to our small population, it is not possible to provide this service at the same cost as South East Queensland and achieve cost neutrality. For example, for our water service to achieve cost neutrality it would require the average water charge to more than double over a 10 year period. Other western Queensland councils provide sewerage services and would not be able to match the cost of South East Queensland and achieve cost neutrality.
What is the desired outcome sought?	That a minimum standard be set for water, waste and sewerage services across Queensland through the existing Drinking Water Quality Management Plans for water and Environmental Authorities for Waste

	and Sewerage. Council's be audited through the Department of Regional Development, Manufacturing and Water (water) and the Department of Environment and Science (waste and sewerage) to check costings and levels of service. Then the difference between the actual cost of operating the service and the average cost to deliver the same service in South East Queensland be paid to each council to ensure parity across the State as a Community Service Obligation.
LGAQ comment	LGAQ policy statement positions relevant to this matter include: 3.3.2.2 & 8.5.1.2 Communities expect to have access to at least the same minimum standards of service for urban water services in Queensland. Clarification of minimum standards for provision of safe and secure drinking water is essential to determining future investment for water treatment and delivery infrastructure. This entails building and maintaining effective community engagement processes to manage customer expectations in negotiating minimum levels of service for each community and using that as a basis for determining future investment needs. The LGAQ's Water and Wastewater Management Advisory Group at their meeting on 5 February 2021 agreed to five high-priority objectives including: Raising the bar – establishing agreed minimum levels of service across the State. The long-term path to maturity for water and sewerage service providers in Queensland requires addressing significant fiscal and sustainability challenges associated with a diverse and geographically dispersed state. Providing fit-for-purpose technologies requires long-term financial planning incorporating whole of life cycle costs of critical water and sewerage infrastructure in order to affordably meet community and regulatory expectations. For Queensland's most at-risk, small communities, appropriate technologies to maintain minimum standards may be unaffordable due to a small rate base. A Community Service Obligation (CSO) mechanism to support such communities on an equitable basis was recommended by the National Productivity Commission and has been generally supported by the Water Sector for small communities.

Submitting council / organisation Toowoomba Regional Council	
LGAQ Policy Executive district District 4 - Darling Downs	
Number and title of motion	34. PFAS Affected Land
Motion	That the LGAQ calls on the Federal and State Governments to: • Establish a consistent national approach to the management of development related PFAS risks, informed by the Department of Defence's on-going investigations and monitoring; and • Establish a co-ordinated advisory authority for land-owners/residents/business owners about safe practices on PFAS affected land once developed.
Background	PFAS are a group of synthetic (i.e. 'man-made') compounds which include perfluorooctane sulfonate (PFOS), perfluorohexane sulfonate (PFHxS), and perfluorooctanoic acid (PFOA). Human exposure to or consumption of PFAS may have adverse health implications. PFAS was widely used in fire-fighting foams. The migration of PFAS from some Department of Defence land and other government owned land into the water and soil or surrounding areas is a critical risk for many communities around the country. There is currently no nationally consistent approach to the regulation of development related PFAS risks and this is creating uncertainty within the affected communities.
What is the desired outcome sought?	The establishment of a consistent national approach to the management of development related PFAS risks, informed by the Department of Defence's on-going investigations and monitoring and a co-ordinated advisory authority for land owners/residents/business owners about safe practices on PFAS affected land once developed.
LGAQ comment	The LGAQ's current policy relating to this matter: 5.1.4, 8.5.1.1, 8.5.1.2 & 8.5.1.3. A PFAS related motion (not similar) was tabled at last year's annual conference and carried. All Australian governments are parties to the National PFAS Position Statement that supports transitioning away from the use of chemicals that cause irreversible or long-term contamination of the environment. The State Government PFAS Contamination Protocol states that where a site has legacy stocks and/or elevated PFAS levels and the original user cannot be readily identified or held responsible for investigating and managing potential pollution, the current owner/controller is the

	responsible entity for that site. At the moment, there is not much information available for many emerging contaminants including PFAS within the Queensland context. There are numerous international studies that have examined environmental PFAS contamination in the USA and Europe, but Australia is different, because PFAS has never been manufactured here. As such, the risk posed by many individual contaminants to ecosystems is not completely understood. Media attention and consequently, regulation is directed to high-profile contaminants of emerging concern, but without consideration of the actual risk to the environment and human health. The LGAQ is currently seeking to participate in a CRC-CARE national research for PFAS, in a potential collaboration involving key government and industry stakeholders including qldwater to better understand the impacts of PFAS i.e. more transparency, information and clarity around contamination and associated human/ecological risk to inform policy at a state and national level.

Submitting council / organisation Cairns Regional Council	
LGAQ Policy Executive district District 10 - Far North	
Number and title of motion	35. Capacity Building for the Procurement of Low Emissions Products and Services
Motion	That the LGAQ calls on the State Government to develop: 1. A targeted, long-term capacity building program for Queensland businesses, particularly suppliers to government, to support their transition to low emissions products and services, and 2. Guidance and capacity building for local governments to advance their emissions reduction goals through procurement.
Background	Queensland councils are proudly transitioning to serve their communities using less greenhouse gas emissions and many have made emissions reduction commitments. The State Government has a zero net emissions target by 2050 on 2005 levels, with a 30% interim reduction target for 2030. As local councils consider or progress their own zero net emissions targets, which requires consideration of emissions in their supply chain (scope 3 emissions), there will be a growing demand for businesses that can provide emissions-related information for their products and services, and can demonstrate reductions or offsets. At the same time, with increased international commitments for net zero emissions, Queensland councils acknowledge the emerging transition risks to trade exposed sectors. Emissions that are unaccounted for may reduce competitiveness or potentially be subject to tariffs. While emissions intensive industries have been required to report on these matters, less intensive industries and small to medium businesses may be less equipped to present emissions accounting information and reduction initiatives to interested markets, including local and State governments. Without these skills, Queensland businesses may miss out on gaining competitive advantage when tendering for projects with strong sustainable procurement considerations or identifying their own opportunities that may bring cost savings. Local governments' procurement decisions prioritise supporting local

	suppliers and economies. An important consideration for councils in progressing emissions reduction goals through their supply chain is that smaller regional businesses, who are not as well-resourced as their larger counterparts, are not disadvantaged. A focus on capacity building would allow businesses to compete for local government projects and assist them in their transition to supporting local and state aspirations for a low emissions products and services. This would also result in improved sustainability outcomes throughout the life of the procurement, as well as flow through sustainability improvements for supporting industries.
What is the desired outcome sought?	1. The design of a targeted, mid to long-term capacity building program for Queensland businesses, particularly suppliers to government, to support their transition to low emissions products and services including: - the development of sector-appropriate greenhouse gas emissions accounting and reduction skills; - one on one support for small and medium businesses (as per the State Government's Sector Adaptation Plan- actions 6 &17) to identify and leverage emissions reduction business opportunities; - appropriate tools or funding to support business emissions management; - marketing Queensland's low emissions products and services; and; - guidance to best present this information when tendering to government and other markets. It is proposed that government procurement networks (e.g. Local Buy, Industry Capability Network etc.) and trade-exposed businesses, subject to transition risks from emerging international emissions tariffs, are targeted and engaged in the design and delivery of the program. 2. Procurement guidance and capacity building for local governments to advance their emissions reduction goals through procurement. Acknowledging the State Government's 'Procurement Guide to Integrating Sustainability', local governments need further capacity building and procurement guidance to support the reduction of scope 3 emissions through their supply chains. This may include training, advice, templates or guidelines to support: - an informed assessment of emissions intensity for products and services; - balanced consideration of local benefits and organisational emissions

	reduction goals; - consistency for suppliers in tendering for government contracts, including assistance in responding to emissions-related information requests; and - upskilling of staff for low emissions procurement, policy development, practice and how to integrate this into project management throughout the life of procurement. It calls on assistance in assessing the market readiness of key government-supplying sectors to participate in related tenders by government and other market opportunities.
LGAQ comment	The LGAQ Policy Statement contains the following agreed policy positions in relation to procurement, climate risk management, transitioning to a low carbon economy, and training and development, consistent with the intent of this motion: * 3.4.1.1 Local governments and the State government should work closely together on maximising opportunities for whole of government procurement in Queensland. * 3.6.1 Local government is committed to providing a leadership role to assist local communities, including industry, to understand and address climate risk including acute and chronic physical risks and transition risks associated with moving to a low carbon economy. 4.1.2.1 Local government supports accredited and non-accredited training and skill development that builds capacity in elected members and employees. 4.1.2.2 Local government recognises that an investment in training and development is an investment in people and the future success of Queensland local government. In July 2021, the State Government released its online based Queensland Climate Action Plan 2030, outlining the state's roadmap to reach its emissions and renewables targets. One case study presented in the Action Plan is the free State Government-funded ecoBiz program, delivered by the Chamber of Commerce and Industry Queensland to support small and medium sized businesses improve resource efficiency and environmental sustainability, and reduce operating costs. There is opportunity for the LGAQ to advocate for the outcomes sought by this motion through the consultation process on the Queensland Climate Action Plan 2030. The LGAQ is also continuing advocacy in relation to Item 67 of the LGAQ Advocacy Action Plan seeking the State Government "Provide $1.6 million over three years to accelerate delivery of on-ground actions to strategically adapt to climate risks and transition

	to a low carbon economy through the establishment of a regional Climate Resilient Alliances of local government".

Submitting council / organisation Paroo Shire Council	
LGAQ Policy Executive district District 5 - South West	
Number and title of motion	36. Strategic Management Framework for Carbon Farming in Queensland
Motion	That the LGAQ calls on the State Government to work with local governments and other relevant stakeholders to: Develop a strategic management framework for the emerging carbon farming industry in Queensland that supports (at a minimum): • a balanced approach to growing the industry, whilst protecting important agricultural areas across Queensland's regions; • best practice by landholders through awareness of Federal, State and local government legislative requirements (e.g. under the Biosecurity Act 2014 and council planning schemes); • an adaptive approach to managing the cumulative and social impacts of multiple projects within communities; • improved communication and transparency whereby local governments are formally notified of carbon farming projects proposed within their local government area.
Background	Both the Federal and State governments have committed to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, with the State Government committed to reducing emissions by at least 30 per cent on 2005 levels by 2030 and reaching zero net emissions by 2050. To give effect to these commitments, the Federal Government through its Emissions Reduction Fund and the State Government through its Land Restoration Fund are incentivising businesses and land holders to reduce the amount of greenhouse gases they create and to undertake activities that store carbon through a range of land management activities designed to either increase carbon sequestered in vegetation and soils or reduce greenhouse gas emissions from vegetation, soils and livestock (i.e. Carbon Farming). As a consequence, the pursuit of carbon farming is growing in popularity across Queensland as a means for businesses and landholders to diversity their income through the Federal Government's purchasing of Australian carbon credits (ACCUs).

	Anecdotal evidence suggests the increase in carbon farming is disproportionate in some areas of Queensland and is occurring without prior knowledge of local government. Additionally, there are State Government requirements under the Biosecurity Act 2014 as well as local government planning considerations that may need to be taken into account when landholders enter into carbon farming ventures. To date there has been limited research into the issues and impacts of carbon farming across Queensland, especially from a social impact perspective. Whilst the SWQROC group of councils, along with the Federal and State governments are about to commence such research, it is proposed that the State Government begin investigating (in consultation with local government and other relevant stakeholders) how best to manage this emerging industry in Queensland to ensure that its benefits are maximised and that any adverse impacts are mitigated or appropriately managed.
What is the desired outcome sought?	A strategic approach to the management of the carbon farming in Queensland to ensure industry benefits are maximised and that any adverse impacts are mitigated or appropriately managed.
LGAQ comment	There are no previous LGAQ policy statements in relation to carbon farming. However, the following positions are relevant: 3.6.1 Local government is committed to working in partnership with all spheres of government, industry and the community to develop and implement effective climate risk management strategies focusing on emissions reduction and adaptation. 5.3.9.2 Local government seeks to work cooperatively with the Federal and State governments to control the impacts of declared and environmental invasive plants and animals in the state. 5.3.9.3 Local government requires the support of the State Government to facilitate regional and local biosecurity planning. 6.1.1.1 Local government should be recognised as the sphere of government immediately responsible for land use planning and development assessment. 6.1.1.2 Local government supports an effective planning system guided by appropriate legislation and balanced social, environmental, cultural and economic interests. 8.9.2 All spheres of government must work collaboratively in the early stages of developing and subsequent implementation of policies and plans that impact on the social, environmental and economic growth of

	regional Queensland. At the 2020 LGAQ Annual Conference, Motion 32 was also passed seeking State and Federal Government support to investigate the socio-economic impacts of increased carbon farming activities and assist councils address financial impacts that may arise. The LGAQ has been in discussions with South West Queensland (SWQ) councils regarding this resolution and understands SWQ councils are progressing a study in partnership with the State and Federal governments. The LGAQ is also preparing guidance for councils regarding policy options and regulatory requirements in relation to carbon farming. Despite existing emissions reduction programs, the LGAQ is not aware of any State or national strategic management framework for the emerging carbon farming industry in Queensland, as sought by this motion.

Submitting council / organisation Mount Isa City Council	
LGAQ Policy Executive district District 11- North West	
Number and title of motion	37. 2032 Olympics – Sharing of benefits and funding commitments for Rural and Remote Queensland Communities
Motion	That the LGAQ calls on the Queensland Government to: • establish a "2032 Olympics Rural/Remote Queensland Funding Program" to ensure that areas outside of South East Queensland, particularly rural and remote communities, also receive equitable funding for essential infrastructure and community facilities to ensure these areas of Queensland also share in the economic benefits flowing to the state from the Olympics; • significantly invest in destination marketing for rural and remote Queensland in an effort to encourage tourism dispersal beyond Brisbane; • manage and mitigate any negative consequences of civil and construction / trade workers being drawn / diverted from regional centres to South East Queensland as Olympic construction programs commence; • ensure that small businesses in rural and remote communities are also supported and offered opportunities to provide goods and services as part of the Olympics planning and implementation framework; • ensure that membership of any State Government 2032 Olympics planning committees include rural/remote representation, including from local government; and That the LGAQ include this matter (benefits from the Olympics) as a priority as part of its Rural and Remote Councils Compact
Background	The announcement that Brisbane will host the 2032 Olympic Games has been warmly welcomed by many. Both the State and Federal governments have indicated massive investment in Brisbane and across South East Queensland to ensure the success of the Games. Whilst this is to be expected there is concern that Government investment in other parts of the State will be diminished as a result. This is supported by commentary and research on previous Olympics which indicates that - "In economic terms, the outcomes of major sporting events involving large government spending have generally been poor. This is despite the optimistic projections often made for such

	events" - (Professor John Quiggin, School of Economics - Faculty of Business, Economics and Law, UQ Compact Magazine "Golden Opportunity" 2021). Further, "Queensland residents may not see the benefits shared equally, with those living in rural and regional areas – as well as those in disadvantaged or marginalised communities – less likely to benefit. Evidence for long-term increases in tourism after hosting a mega-event is mixed, and a positive tourism legacy is not guaranteed. Efforts are being made to propose regional locations for some event venues (such as Cairns or Townsville), but dispersing visitors to regional areas is a challenge for destination marketing bodies as it is harder to persuade international tourists – who are usually time-poor – to travel to areas that aren't as well served by transport links and tourist facilities" - (Associate Professor Judith Mair, School of Business - Faculty of Business, Economics and Law, UQ Compact Magazine "Golden Opportunity" 2021). If the 2032 Olympics are genuinely going to benefit the entire state, as indicated by the Premier, there needs to be a tangible demonstration of this commitment by way of guaranteed funding to rural and remote communities as well as other measures (as outline above) to ensure the dispersal of benefits across as many communities as possible.
What is the desired outcome sought?	That the benefits of the 2032 Olympic Games are equitably shared with the rest of the state particularly rural and remote Queensland communities.
LGAQ comment	The LGAQ policy statement holds positions relevant to the matter including: 8.8.1 Local government should play a key role in the stimulation of regional economic development. Where appropriate, joint local bodies should be formed to assist with attraction of development opportunities to an area. 8.9.1 Regional Queensland underpins the state's economy through a diverse industry base including agriculture, resources and tourism and seeks to be supported by appropriate levels of service and infrastructure. The success of the proposal for Brisbane to host the 2032 Olympic and Paralympic Games presents all three levels of government with a pivotal opportunity to work together to deliver generational infrastructure and economic and community benefits across Queensland. But work must be done to ensure the pre-Games and post-Games benefits are spread across the state. The LGAQ has been advocating for the benefits to be shared and is

	actively participating in working groups being established in the wake of the success of the Games bid to ensure all Queensland communities are represented. The Rural and Remote Councils Compact is designed to give rural and remote Queensland councils and their communities a stronger voice with State Government. It came into effect in June 2021 following its official signing by Deputy Premier and Minister for Local Government Steven Miles and LGAQ President Mark Jamieson at the 25 June Policy Executive meeting. The five rural and remote Policy Executive representatives make up the Compact Guardians. The role of the Guardians is to set the strategic priorities for the Compact, representing the needs and interests of the 45 rural and remote councils. After consulting with members, the Guardians have identified three strategic priorities for the coming year - being roads, housing and financial sustainability.

Submitting council / organisation Townsville City Council	
LGAQ Policy Executive district District 9 - Northern	
Number and title of motion	38. Quarantining an amount of all Queensland Government business grants for regional Queensland
Motion	That the LGAQ calls on the Minister for Employment and Small Business (Hon. Di Farmer) and the Minister for Tourism Industry Development and Innovation (Hon. Stirling Hinchliffe) to mandate a certain portion of small business and innovation grant funding pools be provided to small businesses and/or start-ups in regional Queensland.
Background	The Queensland Government administers a number of grants for small business, and are administered through either the Department of Tourism, Innovation and Sport or the Department of Employment, Small Business and Training. Grants that do not have an amount reserved for regional Queensland include the Business Boost Grants Program, the Business Basics Grants Program, and the Business Growth Fund Program. Grants that have an amount reserved for regional Queensland include the Advancing Regional Innovation Program, Regional Startup Hubs Support Program, Startup Onramp Regional Queensland Program, Regional Angel Investors Support Program and the Small Business COVID-19 Adaption Grant Program Round 2.
What is the desired outcome sought?	That funding guidelines for all Queensland Government small business and innovation grants be amended to quarantine a proportion of grant funding pools to small businesses and start-ups outside South East Queensland.
LGAQ comment	The LGAQ policy statement holds positions relevant to the matter including: 8.8.2 The Federal and State governments should encourage regional development as a means of facilitating regional growth and relieving the pressures of urban growth in major centres. 8.8.6 Local government is a legitimate partner with state and federal governments in facilitating sustainable economic and regional development. The local government does this through its role as purchaser, property owner/developer, regional leader, infrastructure

	provider, economic policy and community advocate, regulator and business development facilitator. There are also no past motions that pertain to this motion either. The Business Boost Grants and the Business Basics Grants program guidelines state the following: "Department of Employment, Small Business and Training (DESBT) may prioritise applications for fair distribution across: • geographic areas; • Queensland's diverse business population (including diversity in ethnicity, culture, people with disability, gender, and age)." However, the guidelines do not mention that any proportion of the grant funding is quarantined.

Submitting council / organisation Flinders Shire Council	
LGAQ Policy Executive district District 11- North West	
Number and title of motion	39. Health Services and Doctor Shortage in Rural and Remote positions
Motion	That the LGAQ calls on the State and Federal governments to address doctor shortages and the lack of GP health services in rural and regional areas.
Background	• There is a need for an adequate doctor-to-patient ratio to provide the appropriate level of care that is exists in metropolitan areas. • Rural and regional shires have a longstanding issue with lack of interest in recruitment of doctors for their communities. • COVID-19 has resulted in increased visitor numbers and contractors to our regional centres which is adding pressure to our existing health services. Flinders Shire Council calls on the LGAQ to lobby both State and Federal Governments to resolve issues with the provision of general practitioners (GP) and related primary health services to outer metropolitan, rural, and regional Australians, with particular reference to: a) The current state of outer metropolitan, rural and regional GPs and related services b) Current and former State and Federal Government reforms to outer metropolitan, rural and regional GP services and their impact on GP's, including policies such as: 1. the “Stronger Rural Health Strategy”, “Distribution Priority Area” classification system, and the “Modified Monash Model” geographical classification system, 2. GP training reforms, and 3. Medicare rebate freeze c) the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on doctor shortages in outer metropolitan, rural and regional Australia; and d) any other related matters impacting outer metropolitan, rural and regional access to quality health services, such as concerns over the lack of available developmental opportunities. An example of the local impact in the Flinders Shire, which had a population of more than 1500 residents at the 2016 Census, is that there is currently only one GP available at any one time and if that GP is sick (as has recently been the case with a locum GP), there is no availability for

	anyone in the shire to access a GP to have scripts renewed or receive any other local medical services they may require from a GP. This puts additional pressure on the public hospital in Hughenden, with the next closest GP services being Richmond or Charters Towers (if available) or Townsville – which is more than four hours away.
What is the desired outcome sought?	Incentive schemes to encourage regional service or relocation of GPs to regional and remote areas. Such as: • reduced fees HECS/HELP repayments linked to rural and remote service • the re-introduction of bonded scholarships such as the "rural and remote pathway" streams for junior medical officers • guaranteed developmental opportunities for regional Doctors • relocation incentive schemes for GPs to achieve a sustainable and acceptable standard of health services in outer metropolitan, rural and regional areas.
LGAQ comment	There are no previous LGAQ policy statements in relation to the matter. There are currently no relevant Advocacy Action Plan (AAP) points. Provision of health services is not core business for councils, however, the availability of medical services is a key part of the liveability of a community, impacting safety, emergency response and long-term care. It can also be a barrier to people potentially moving into regions. AGM 2020 Resolution 91 was seeking to address this through the reinstatement of housing subsidy to doctors who relocate to regional and remote Queensland to ensure that hospitals provide sufficient care to all communities. AGM 2012 Resolution 78 called for an urgent review of the Australian Standard Geographic Classification - Remoteness Area (ASGC-RA) System - to Identify anomalies in the current system which impact on rural medical workforce recruitment and retention; and Identify positive impacts of the current system to be retained and enhanced where possible; and Obtain professional advice regarding options for alterations to the current system.

Submitting council / organisation Isaac Regional Council	
LGAQ Policy Executive district District 7 - Whitsunday	
Number and title of motion	40. Stronger Rural Health Strategy – Is It Hitting the Mark?
Motion	That the LGAQ calls on the Federal Government to assess the effectiveness of the 2019 Stronger Rural Health Strategy, specifically the impacts of sub-standard health services, in order to deliver an equitable model of fit for purpose health care to Australians living in rural and remote areas.
Background	In 2019 the Federal Government implemented the Stronger Rural Health Strategy. The aim of the Stronger Rural Health Strategy is to build a sustainable, high-quality health workforce that is distributed across the country according to rural and remote community need. The Australian Institute of Health and Welfare (AIHW) report published October 2019 determined: - On average, Australians living in rural and remote areas have shorter lives, higher levels of disease and injury and poorer access to and use of health services. - They have higher rates of potentially preventable hospitalisations with very remote areas 2.5 times as high as major cities; and - They need to travel long distances or relocate to attend health services or receive specialised treatment. The Australian Institute of Health and Welfare, October 2019 report, identifies that the health workforce is measured by the number of full-time equivalent (FTE) health professionals in an area divided by the estimated resident population of the area. Australians living in remote and very remote areas experience health workforce shortages, despite having a greater need for medical services and practitioners and a broader scope of practice, according to the Australian Medical Association (2017). The AIHW Report draws on an ABS Survey of Health Care (2016) which identified that Australians living in regional, remote and very remote areas, reported that not having a GP nearby was a barrier to seeing one. This was 2.5 times as high for outer regional areas and six times as high for remote and very remote areas.

	The statistics for the proportion of people not having a specialist nearby as a barrier to seeing one increased from six per cent in major cities, to 22 per cent in inner regional areas, to 30 per cent in outer regional areas, and to 58 per cent in remote and very remote areas. Despite the range of worthy initiatives in the Stronger Rural Health Strategy, anecdotal evidence is that the strategy is not cutting through. The model for allocation of medical professionals to rural and remote communities is inadequate.
What is the desired outcome sought?	The objective of the motion is for the establishment of an inquiry that will engage with rural and remote communities to examine the Stronger Rural Health Strategy and correlate current experiences of rural and remote communities with accessing medical, nursing and allied health services in rural and remote regions. Anecdotal evidence in the Isaac region can be seen in new parents having to travel away from their communities to give birth, patients having to travel for a life-saving diagnosis often followed by relocation for ongoing life-saving treatments. Further, when critical medical services are needed in the region for emergency industry response, the service capacity is not available. There are critical shortages of medical, nursing and allied health staff across the Isaac region. These critical shortages present an unacceptable risk to Isaac communities. The AIHW report, inclusive of the ABS Survey of Health Care, identifies that this issue is echoed throughout regional communities across not only Queensland but Australia, and is intensified by remoteness Australians living in rural and remote Australia deserve an equitable model of health care fit for purpose. The motion was supported at the 2021 Australian Local Government Association's National General Assembly in June. The LGAQ is called on to support and advocate to the Federal Government for an urgent review of its 2019 Stronger Rural Health Strategy.
LGAQ comment	There are no previous LGAQ policy statements in relation to the matter. A similar issue was raised in at previous Annual Conferences in 2019 (Motion 69) and 2017 (Motion 34). The motion was supported at the 2021 ALGA National General Assembly in June through the endorsement of ALGA motion 44 - That this National General Assembly calls on the Australian Government to urgently conduct an inquiry and engage rural communities to assess the

	effectiveness of the 2019 Stronger Rural Health Strategy, and in particular, to identify any anomalies in the strategy that are symptomatic of the diversity of rural Australia and its health. The Stronger Rural Health Strategy was a 2018-19 Federal Government initiative that incorporated several programs to produce a sustainable health workforce in rural and remote areas. Programs and initiatives included: HeaDS UPP- Health Workforce Planning Tool, junior doctor training, strengthening the role of the nursing workforce, using overseas trained doctors in areas of doctor shortage, reformed bonded medical programs, use of the Royal Flying Doctor Service, rural bulk-billing incentives, streamlining General Practice training, providing support for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander health professional organisations, as well as the Murray-Darling Medical Schools Network, and the Workforce Incentive Program.

Submitting council / organisation Bundaberg Regional Council	
LGAQ Policy Executive district District 3 - Wide Bay & Burnett	
Number and title of motion	41. Local Government Hydrogen Industry Development
Motion	That the LGAQ calls on the State and Federal Government to provide funding for local governments across Queensland to investigate and support the uptake of hydrogen use within their own operations and across local industry.
Background	Queensland is well placed for renewable hydrogen production, with significant renewable energy resources and available land to support further renewables expansion. The Queensland Government is developing and expanding the production of hydrogen as part of Queensland's plan for economic recovery. Hydrogen production will: • play a critical role in helping us reach our 50% renewable energy target by 2030 • create new jobs • open a new export market for the state • entice foreign investment. Around $60 million has already been committed across multiple initiatives to help stimulate the hydrogen supply chain and support future hydrogen jobs in Queensland. Furthermore, the Palaszczuk Government will invest $2 billion into renewable energy and hydrogen jobs as part of our COVID-19 Economic Recovery Plan. Local government is enthusiastic to participate, however knowledge and capacity varies significantly. With many councils being significant users of energy and be potential suppliers, there is a great opportunity to work with the State Government to achieve its target of 50 per cent renewables by 2030. Additionally, many local governments are looking to transition their wastewater facilities to a more efficient operation and using these facilities can be a catalyst for developing a local supply to the hydrogen economy and is a good opportunity in the waiting. From the information provided to date we understand that hydrogen is a safe, efficient and an important investment for our future. However,

	many of our colleague councils still need to be convinced. Once converted, councils can find numerous opportunities to convert their large fleets of vehicles, heavy equipment, buses, wastewater facilities etc to hydrogen usage and build supply and demand locally. Councils are well positioned to lead the way and demonstrate at the grassroots level to business that the conversion to hydrogen is possible. Councils have the governance, the framework, and the resources to be able to do this effectively and efficiently. Local government is also well positioned to be a major source of local supply and support the uptake of hydrogen by filling the gap of 'refuelling blackspots'. Particularly in rural and regional areas, where it is likely for commercial operators to be slow to implement new operations.
What is the desired outcome sought?	The desired outcome is for the State Government to: • Provide funding to undertake a research project on the potential for utilising council's assets (Fleet, Wastewater Treatment Facilities, electricity systems) in the development of the local hydrogen industry and local production of refuelling stations. • Provide funding for a scoping study to inform the location and selection of hydrogen projects for local governments. • Commit to funding an event to help educate the local government sector on the opportunities and challenges for investment and the development of the local hydrogen industry. • Commit to funding to support and kickstart initiatives and recommendations produced by the review to activate the local hydrogen industry and local production, starting with pilot projects across 10 local governments to demonstrate financial viability and sustainability. • Commit to funding to help a local government campaign to build community awareness and confidence in the development of the hydrogen industry.
LGAQ comment	There are no previous LGAQ policy statements in relation to the matter and there are no previous and related Annual Conference motions. The State Government in May of 2019 released the Queensland Hydrogen Industry Strategy and committed $19 million to this strategy. The Hydrogen Industry Strategy is part of the State Government's vision to reach a renewable energy target of 50 per cent by 2030. The State Government recognises that local governments play an effective role supporting the growth of the hydrogen industry in

	Queensland as well as the National Hydrogen Strategy. In late 2020, the State Government committed a further $10 million for hydrogen industry development activities. As part of the commitment, a grant funding round (round 2) of $5 million was available for local government to take advantage of: 1. Integration of hydrogen technologies with wastewater treatment plants (WWTP) 2. Application of hydrogen technologies related to mobility or transport sector projects The LGAQ has: * Secured a seat on the Ministerial Energy Council * Advocated to be a part of the Queensland Hydrogen Task Force to provide a voice for local government * Delivered (Sept 2020) a hydrogen forum specifically for local government to inform, educate and connect local councils on the economic opportunities surrounding emerging and key industries. Briefings were provided by State and Federal Government agencies as well as industry.

Submitting council / organisation Banana Shire Council	
LGAQ Policy Executive district District 6 - Central Queensland	
Number and title of motion	42. Ergon Energy – Response Time for Power Connections to Development Projects
Motion	That the LGAQ calls on the State Government, as the primary stakeholder in Ergon Energy, to work with the company to improve responsiveness in respect to councils' strategic priorities.
Background	Banana Shire Council has undertaken a number of development projects over the last two years to support economic development within the Shire. Ergon responsiveness to power connections to estates and properties has been somewhat lacking with delays exceeding six months in some cases. Delays in power connection have put some objectives and projects at risk due to the time taken to secure power for sites. Banana Shire is calling on the State Government, as the primary stakeholder in Ergon Energy, to work with the company to improve responsiveness in respect to councils' strategic priorities.
What is the desired outcome sought?	That Ergon Energy provide dedicated support to local governments to reduce waiting times for power connections to public facilities and services.
LGAQ comment	The LGAQ policy statement holds positions relevant to the matter including: 6.1.3.2 Local government supports an efficient planning and development system that utilises streamlined procedures commensurate to risk and appropriate technology to minimise costs. 6.1.3.4 All spheres of government should comply with the provisions of local planning instruments when undertaking development, inclusive of obtaining and complying with appropriate approvals, payment of relevant fees, and provision of required external infrastructure or financial contributions. Ergon Energy has a role as a referral agency for development applications under the Development Assessment Rules of the Planning Act 2016 for a development that could affect the operation of the state's electricity distribution network. It is responsible for providing an on-schedule and reliable reticulated energy supply to its customers within the agreed

	timeframe.

Submitting council / organisation Banana Shire Council	
LGAQ Policy Executive district District 6 - Central Queensland	
Number and title of motion	43. Development of an Integrated Renewable Energy Strategy for Queensland
Motion	That the LGAQ calls on the State Government to take the lead in planning how and where renewable energy projects are developed through the development of an integrated renewable energy strategy for Queensland.
Background	The State Government is actively pursuing a strategy for the development of renewable energy across Queensland, primarily in the form of wind and solar projects. While the State Government has identified renewable energy zones across Queensland, there appears to be a lack of cohesion in respect to the development of renewable energy projects. Private sector entities are leading the establishment of renewable energy projects with the primary criteria for project establishment being access to high transmission power lines and this has led to projects being planned for areas where renewables are not the optimal use of the land or indeed where renewable projects have the capacity to significantly impede the use of adjoining land. While there are multiple players in the supply side of renewable energy projects in Queensland, the State Government and State Government-owned corporations are the primary purchasers of renewable energy and have a very high commercial as well as regulatory capacity to influence how and where renewable energy projects are developed.
What is the desired outcome sought?	That the State Government take the lead and work with councils in developing a strategic framework directing how and where renewable energy projects are developed within Queensland through the development of an integrated renewable energy strategy for Queensland.
LGAQ comment	There are no previous LGAQ policy statements in relation to this matter. 2017 Annual Conference resolution 37 was related to this matter. This resolution called on the LGAQ to seek advice from the State Government as to the basis of valuation for land used for energy generation through solar and wind farms, and confirmation that this will be applied consistently across the state for its application to local government

	rating. The LGAQ has representation on the Ministerial Energy Council and has been advocating for meaningful engagement with local government by the State for the Queensland Renewable Energy Zone (QREZ) initiative. Public consultation (Community Consultation Paper) and a survey began on the 10th of August. The objective of these consultations is to ensure that there will be a coordinated approach to development and will help shape the overarching framework for developing these zones. The LGAQ responded to the consultation on behalf of members. Additionally, further consultation will be sought when the Technical Discussion Paper is released later in the year.

Submitting council / organisation Banana Shire Council; South Burnett Regional Council	
LGAQ Policy Executive district	
Number and title of motion	44. Transition Coal Fired Regional Communities to Support a Modern Energy Economy
Motion	That the LGAQ calls on the State and Federal governments to review the regulatory approvals process in terms of renewable energy projects, progress a coordinated approach to ensure social and economic benefits of such projects are delivered in asset communities, and provide funding to commence transition planning for regions that will be impacted by the closure of coal-fired operations.
Background	The uncertainty of national climate and energy policies and the State Government's renewable energy targets are bringing rapid, uncoordinated and unknown change to the social and economic foundations of regional communities. Stakeholders including community, industry, landlords, landholders and local governments in regional communities who host current coal operations need a clear policy to facilitate planning for significant lost employment and income, changes to demographic structures and their economic sustainability. Impacted local government areas require an overarching and well-resourced transition policy that urgently underpins and implements an action plan that facilitates a more diversified economy ahead of the closure of coal operations. Local governments are most vulnerable to the multiple impacts as highly skilled and high-income earners exit ahead of closure in the absence of alternative suitable employment. This exacerbates the existing challenge of attracting and retaining skilled employees and critical services in regional areas. Renewable energy operations are not large employers in regional communities and policy settings are required to ensure they employ, procure and make significant social contributions to regional communities to the end of asset life. Government policy must ensure prime agricultural land is not sterilised and local primary producers are not displaced or under-valued from the construction and operation of renewable energy projects. Stronger protection for landowners must include legal and other professional

	advice when engaged by proponents. The rapid and uncoordinated development of renewable energy projects with multiple investors exploring projects in regional communities should be held to stringent public notification processes to ensure community expectations are met at every stage. Local governments seek a commitment from both the State and Federal Government that proponents align developments with community expectations and that they are tied to the exit of coal operations so that they make a significant contribution throughout their life to the social and economic foundations of regional communities.
What is the desired outcome sought?	That the State and Federal Government provide funding and policy mechanisms to support regions experiencing the removal/closure of coal-fired power stations with the following: • Maintenance of a skilled workforce; • Retention or provision of equivalent employment; • Successful transition of the economy by mitigating adverse economic and social impacts; • Mitigation of the adverse impact on small and medium local businesses. Review of the regulatory approvals process in terms of renewable energy projects to support the ongoing protection of important agricultural areas and quality agricultural land.
LGAQ comment	There are no previous LGAQ policy statements in relation to this matter. 2017 Annual Conference resolution 37 was related to this matter. This resolution called on the LGAQ to seek advice from the State Government as to the basis of valuation for land used for energy generation through solar and wind farms, and confirmation that this will be applied consistently across the state for its application to local government rating. 2018 Annual Conference resolution 30 related to the protection and prioritisation of important agricultural areas. It called for changes including: 1. Amending the State Planning Policy to enable the prioritisation and protection of important agricultural areas (including locally important agricultural areas) by local government, when making or amending a local planning instrument; 2. Preparing guidance material to support the protection of important agricultural areas and guide the assessment of competing land uses; and

	3. Undertaking a study that provides clear guidance and identifies appropriate areas for new agricultural growth industries. The LGAQ has representation on the Ministerial Energy Council and has been advocating for meaningful engagement with local government by the State for the Queensland Renewable Energy Zone (QREZ) initiative. Public consultation (Community Consultation Paper) and a survey began on the 10th of August. The objective of these consultations is to ensure that there will be a coordinated approach to development and will help shape the overarching framework for developing these zones. The LGAQ responded to the consultation on behalf of members. Additionally, further consultation will be sought when the Technical Discussion Paper is released later in the year.

Submitting council / organisation Longreach Regional Council	
LGAQ Policy Executive district District 8 - Central West	
Number and title of motion	45. Asset Sustainability Depreciation Fund
Motion	That the LGAQ calls on the Queensland Government to establish a funding program that funds the annual depreciation of assets in qualifying local governments.
Background	The requirement that depreciation be expensed in accordance with AASB 116 (Property, Plant and Equipment) represents a significant cost to local governments. This is particularly true of councils with a low rate base and a large asset base. The Queensland Audit Office, in their recent 'Local Government 2020' report to parliament, identified that: "As of 30 June 2020, 25 councils are at a high risk of not being financially sustainable. This is four more councils than last year and represents approximately one-third of the sector." This motion suggests that the LGAQ call on the Queensland Government to fund asset depreciation in qualifying councils to support the financial sustainability of local government.
What is the desired outcome sought?	It is envisaged that such a program could be indexed to the financial sustainability of individual LGAs. The Queensland Audit Office recently recommended that the department develop new financial sustainability ratios considering the different sizes, services, and circumstances of the various councils. The funding program could be restricted to activities that support asset maintenance, renewal, or betterment. In this way, asset sustainability can be progressively addressed and improve community services throughout Queensland. This initiative addresses one of the most critical impacts of the financial sustainability crisis gripping local government in Australia. Importantly it does so in a manner which is linked directly to a community's asset profile and the level of services supported by it.
LGAQ comment	The LGAQ policy statement holds positions relevant to the matter including: 3.1.3.1 To deliver infrastructure and services that are more responsive to

	community needs, the State Government and local government should work together to implement a simpler, more efficient model of State Government grants to local government. 3.1.3.2 To support councils' long-term planning, asset management and financial sustainability requirements, it is essential that this new grant funding model provides local government with certainty regarding grant funding over the forward estimates of the State Budget.

Submitting council / organisation Maranoa Regional Council	
LGAQ Policy Executive district District 5 - South West	
Number and title of motion	46. Review of legislation - Adoption of statutory plans and reports
Motion	That the LGAQ calls on the State Government to undertake an immediate review and implement changes that allow elected councillors to fulfil their responsibility of developing and adopting statutory plans and reports.
Background	Local Government Act 2009, Section 150EF (1) (c) includes as an ordinary business matter, a matter that "is solely, or relates solely to, a resolution required for the adoption or amendment of a budget for the local government." However, Section 104 (5)(a) and (b) includes a number of financial planning and financial accountability documents of which the budget is only one. (a) the following financial planning documents prepared for the local government— (i) a corporate plan that incorporates community engagement; (ii) a long-term asset management plan; (iii) a long-term financial forecast; (iv) an annual budget including revenue statement; (v) an annual operational plan; and Similarly: (b) the following financial accountability documents prepared for the local government— (i) general purpose financial statements; (ii) asset registers; (iii) an annual report; (iv) a report on the results of an annual review of the implementation of the annual operational plan.
What is the desired outcome sought?	That for Section 150EF (1)(c) the reference to "budget" be replaced with "financial planning and accountability matters that relate to council's budgetary responsibilities". Further, that the reference to "required" be removed so as not to inhibit robust discussion as part of any meeting of Council (special meetings,

	ordinary meetings or committee meetings) for Council's deliberative process. i.e., "is solely, or relates solely to, a resolution required for the consideration, adoption or amendment of a financial planning or financial accountability document for the local government."
LGAQ comment	The LGAQ policy statement holds positions relevant to the matter including: 1.6.2 The governance arrangements that apply to local government should, where appropriate, be consistent with those applying to the state government – the obligations placed on local government will generally not be higher or lower than those applying to the State Government. This motion contributes to a fuller suite of reforms that the LGAQ is seeking to the Local Government Act. The particular issue canvassed by the motion has been raised previously by other councils. Specifically the concern is that the inclusion of "adoption or amendment of the budget" is too restrictive and not reflective of the full array of a council's required role in each of the matters mentioned.

Submitting council / organisation Cairns Regional Council	
LGAQ Policy Executive district District 10 - Far North	
Number and title of motion	47. Provision of Personal Protective Equipment to Maintain Essential Front-line Social Services in Pandemics
Motion	That the LGAQ calls on the State Government to make provision within Queensland Health caches for Personal Protective Equipment for essential front-line social services.
Background	During the initial stages of COVID-19, across the state critical front-line social services reported significant service disruption as they sought to navigate the primary health directives and secure the Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) needed for business continuity. This was compounded by a lack of clear definition of what constituted an 'essential service' and supply chain issues. This situation effectively reduced or suspended personalised in-home care for people with a disability, those living with a life-threatening illnesses or age-related mobility issues among others. This left many residents stranded and at risk. While acknowledging the challenges associated with a rapidly unfolding ad unprecedent event such as COVID-19, the lack of clarity around 'essential' services compounded the situation. While many local community and social services assumed that they were an essential service, confirmation is critical. This status guides roles and responsibilities, first responder obligations and access to resources such as funding and PPE. In a report by James Cook University (2020), 65 service and agency representatives reported on these impacts. They described that the acute shortage of Personal Protective Equipment meant the necessary volumes of service continuity were unavailable, there were significant price increases per unit eating into their budget bottom lines, and sourcing and securing supplies required significantly more time away from core business. In addition, storage for bulk orders, necessary to keep prices down, was problematic and beyond the capacity of most services and smaller place-based organisations struggling to compete without purchasing power. One service provider reported paying $300 for 10 litres of sanitizer. Ultimately, Cairns Regional council funded $50,000 in PPE to meet this requirement. It is acknowledged that local and district disaster management arrangements exist to identify and escalate resource needs such as PPE during events. However, lead times and sourcing supplies when a crisis is

	already underway is problematic as distribution lines are already likely to be interrupted and/or at capacity. It is therefore recommended that the State Government source and fund an allocation of PPE supplies within Queensland Health caches that are available for distribution at the outset of activation to essential front-line social services.
What is the desired outcome sought?	Provision of PPE for essential front-line social services within Queensland Health caches, that can be distributed at the outset of an event.
LGAQ comment	There are no previous LGAQ policy statements in relation to this matter. With the onset of COVID 19 in March 2020, there were immediate impacts felt by front line and emergency operations including local government sector with a lack of availability of Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) including masks and sanitizer. This also impacted other frontline industry groups who were equally challenged gaining access to limited and contested supplies. The situation has since improved with increased access to essential PPE. Discussions with key State Government departments universally reflected these challenges. Supplies of PPE do exist and are stored at various regional locations across Queensland. These supplies are intended to be made available for disaster and emergency events and would be accessible to key personnel who would be required to be activated/stood up for these specific incidences. At this stage, these supplies have not been identified to support front-line operations including those performed by local government.

Submitting council / organisation Winton Shire Council	
LGAQ Policy Executive district District 8 - Central West	
Number and title of motion	48. Provision of Economic Data
Motion	That the LGAQ calls on the State Government to provide sufficient funding to support a program that develops a suite of dashboards to help shape the quality and accessibility of economic data used to make decisions affecting local government and the communities they represent.
Background	Data plays a critical role in helping local governments and community decision-makers to make informed decisions that improve the welfare of their communities. Data helps local government leaders make strong evidence-based decisions and inform them of trends so they can make future planning and policy decisions that will positively impact their communities. Data can be exceptionally important in times of disasters and pandemics. This was particularly evident recently when assessing impacts from the COVID pandemic and its effect on local business communities. Many communities were impacted in different ways and that is one of the reasons why local government is keen to seek timely access to high quality, nationally consistent but locally appropriate data, to gather a good understanding of current conditions and ensure responses to the everchanging environment are safe, timely, proportionate, and equitable. This will, in turn, help responses to be focused, targeted and efficient. Furthermore, the LGAQ can also use this data to help guide and inform member councils with their decision making, to develop better evidenced-based advocacy and to help measure and identify the impacts (positive and negative) of programs, services, and policies that they support and advocate for. There is also a strong desire by communities to see evidence on how policy changes, programs and initiatives truly impact their regions and more scrutiny on why certain decisions are made. Even when times are good, community leaders and local businesses need to make good decisions based on data/facts and well sourced information which will assist with their plans for future development. There needs to be some consistency on what data is being used and a single point of truth. Very much like the concept of the state and federal government data portals (data.qld.gov.au/ www.data.gov.au) but on a local government level. One single

	point that could aggregate the data from the local government level up and better assist key decision makers and stakeholders.
What is the desired outcome sought?	For the State and Federal government to provide all member councils access to a suite of tools, information, and data to provide solutions for their communities to help build the prosperity from a local level. The current data market provides several tools to local government however the data does have issues as it can be expensive to access, old, inaccurate, not available publicly, nor easy to understand. It is essential that both business communities and local leaders have: • a single point of truth and easy access and linked to the most locally used online information source (e.g. Council website) • data which is displayed in a manner easy to understand the "Why" • data that is relevant and up to date • councils have the option to pick tools that fit their economic development needs. The types of data tools that local leaders use and need: • Community Profiles – for understanding the demographic of a community and to understand the changes in trends that happen over time. • Economic Advantages – to help community leaders and the local business community to understand and communicate the region's unique value proposition. • Economic Impact - understand the impact of development, events, disasters/pandemics on local economy's recovery and get the insights needed to make better policy and budget decisions. • Growth and Opportunities – mapping and data that reveals where the development zones are for local communities. • Industry Advantages – data showing fastest-growing, largest, specialist clusters etc. • Industry Insights - data for helping understand the local impacts of industry (employment, GRP contribution, trends, and more tools for benchmarking) • Logistics and Accessibility Advantages – mapping out the key infrastructure and highlighting what is available to business/industry (Major Ports, Rail, Broadband etc.) • Market Advantages – data to help local businesses to map and understand local incomes and local spend across the regions. • Search Properties – data and tools to help non-experts make better business decisions when buying or leasing a commercial property. • Talent Pipeline Advantages – data that shows the number of enrolments for universities and colleges across multiple fields of study within their communities. • Target Sector Advantages - interactive charts and dynamic maps addressing employment and establishments for target sectors. • Workforce Advantages - dynamic charts addressing unemployment

LGAQ comment	There are no previous LGAQ policy statements in relation to this matter and there are no previous annual conference motions relating to this matter. The LGAQ made a submission (July 2021) on behalf of members to the Federal Government's Regional Data Hub initiative asking for the data to help inform local leaders, regional communities and industry. The Regional Data Hub is part of the Australian Government's $13.7 million 'Better Data Use to Support Delivery for Regional Australians' program announced in the 2020–21 budget. In its submission, the LGAQ specifically noted the importance that data places for evidence-based initiatives for regional communities, local leaders, industry and all levels of government by bringing together key economic, demographic and socio-economic data to provide easy access to up to data/information about their regions. Submissions were used to determine the data priorities and design for the Hub and the LGAQ is monitoring the initiatives website to test the proposed site. The LGAQ also approached the State Government (August 2021) requesting Queensland Treasury to share localised data with councils about the economic performance of their regions; the resilience across their local business and industry landscape; and which sectors in each region are experiencing the greatest levels of financial stress. This data would be used to assist councils in targeting their resources and assistance measures where they are most required and where they will have meaningful impact.

Submitting council / organisation Mount Isa City Council	
LGAQ Policy Executive district District 11- North West	
Number and title of motion	49. Complaint Reform
Motion	That the LGAQ calls on the Office of the Independent Assessor to consider applying an administration/lodgement fee of $200 per complaint made against elected members of local government.
Background	Mount Isa City Council is in a similar position to a number of other Queensland local government authorities. Council has in the past and continues to receive a significant number of complaints about elected officials. In broad terms the complaints are made by Councillors about other Councillors, anonymous people and former or current employees. Since 2017, Mount Isa City Council has had 14 complaints made to the Office of the Independent Assessor (OIA). Each of these 14 complaints has been dismissed. Whilst many of the investigations have been dealt with in relatively short periods of time, there is one complaint that took eleven months to be determined by the OIA. In addition to the complaints dealt with by the OIA, Council has had to work with the Crime and Corruption Commission (CCC) in relation to further 14 additional complaints over the same period of time. It is estimated that over the last twelve months over $200,000 has been expended on undertaking investigations on behalf of the CCC and the OIA. This excludes the hours contributed by Council staff. The amount expended represents approximately 1% rate rise and clearly these funds could be used effectively elsewhere. This amount is not accounted for in the operational budget and the required funds must be sourced within the budget, often at the expense of other scheduled activities or initiatives. Council believes requiring a monetary contribution to accompany a complaint (to the OIA) may be one means of reducing the number of complaints and in turn reducing the level of expenditure for local government authorities. The fee would be refunded where the allegations made in the complaint were substantiated, If the allegations made by the complainant were not substantiated, then the $200 administration/lodgement fee would be

	forfeited. It is noted that there is a fee to have a matter heard at the Queensland Civil and Administrative Tribunal, and in relation to accessing RTI there is an application fee of $52.60.
What is the desired outcome sought?	The number of frivolous and vexatious complaints that are submitted to the Office of the Independent Assessor and the subsequent impacts financially and culturally on a local government authority would be reduced by placing a $200 application fee on complaints as is outlined within the draft motion above.
LGAQ comment	There are no previous LGAQ policy statements in relation to this matter. The LGAQ Advocacy Action Plan contains points relevant to this motion including: That the State Government: • Monitor, review and support the implementation of all integrity reforms to ensure they lead to increased transparency and accountability in practice, are proportional to the issues to be addressed and maintain local government as a high-functioning, responsive and flexible system of government that reflects the diversity of council operations and communities of interest. • Increase funding for the Office of the Independent Assessor, Integrity Commissioner and Queensland Ombudsman to ensure timely outcomes for communities. A number of legislation provisions require public officials to report possible misconduct by an elected member. For example, s150P of the Local Government Act requires a "government entity" to refer all complaints to the OIA where a local government entity includes a councillor and CEO. It also restates the provisions of the Crime and Corruption Act regarding the necessity to report corrupt conduct. The Councillor Code of Conduct requires a councillor to report any suspected wrongdoing to the appropriate entity in a timely manner. Any fee arrangement may need to differentiate between a public official lodging a complaint in accordance with their obligation as a public official and their lodging a complaint as a concerned citizen. Section 306 of the Local Government Regulation indicates that a complaint made under s268 may be made anonymously. Section 17 of the Crime and Corruption Act specifies that a person may make a disclosure in any way, including anonymously whereas the Public Interest Disclosure Act also specifically allows PIDs to be lodged anonymously. The process for charging a fee for anonymous

	complainants will need to be addressed. For the OIA to consider not pursuing anonymous complaints, legislative change may be necessary.

Submitting council / organisation Mount Isa City Council	
LGAQ Policy Executive district	
Number and title of motion	50. Anonymous Complaints
Motion	That the LGAQ calls on the Office of the Independent Assessor to not deal with or respond to anonymous complaints or compel local government authorities to deal with or respond to anonymous complaints.
Background	There are many avenues through which a person(s) can lodge a complaint with the appropriate protections, and these should be utilised rather than accepting and processing anonymous complaints. Removing the requirement to investigate complaints made anonymously would serve to reduce the number of frivolous complaints and complaints lodged merely to cause mischief and angst.
What is the desired outcome sought?	The number of mischievous and vexatious complaints that are submitted to the Office of the Independent Assessor and the subsequent impacts financially and culturally on a local government authority would be reduced by the OIA having the capacity to refuse to accept anonymous complaints.
LGAQ comment	There are no previous LGAQ policy statements in relation to this matter. The LGAQ Advocacy Action Plan contains points relevant to this motion include: That the State Government: • Monitor, review and support the implementation of all integrity reforms to ensure they lead to increased transparency and accountability in practice, are proportional to the issues to be addressed and maintain local government as a high-functioning, responsive and flexible system of government that reflects the diversity of council operations and communities of interest. A number of legislation provisions require public officials to report possible misconduct by an elected member. For example, s150P of the Local Government Act requires a "government entity" to refer all complaints to the OIA where a local government entity includes a councillor and CEO. It also restates the provisions of the Crime and Corruption Act regarding the necessity to report corrupt conduct. The Councillor Code of Conduct requires a councillor to report any suspected

	wrongdoing to the appropriate entity in a timely manner. It does not require councillors to self-identify in fulfilling this responsibility. (b) The State Government would seem to favour complaints being made anonymously with Section 306 of the Local Government Regulation indicating that a complaint made under s268 may be made anonymously. Section 17 of the Crime and Corruption Act specifies that a person may make a disclosure in any way, including anonymously whereas the Public Interest Disclosure Act also specifically allows PIDs to be lodged anonymously. For the OIA to consider not pursuing anonymous complaints, legislative change may be necessary.

Submitting council / organisation Mackay Regional Council	
LGAQ Policy Executive district District 7 - Whitsunday	
Number and title of motion	51. Clarification of Reporting Requirements for Group Campaign Activites in Local Government Elections
Motion	That the LGAQ calls on the State Government to clarify the provisions of the Local Government Electoral Act 2011 regarding group campaign activities.
Background	The provisions of the Local Government Electoral Act 2011, in particular section 183, defines a range of group campaign activities, which may only be undertaken by a registered group, or candidates endorsed by the same political party. Clarification is required related to "how to vote" cards and similar advertising, and the ability for candidates not part of a group to cross-list or reference other candidates by virtue of numbering of for example one to five against candidate names in an undivided council seeking multiple representatives. Registering as a group brings with it very stringent reporting requirements, however individual candidates are not responsible for the same level of reporting.
What is the desired outcome sought?	Amendments to the Local Government Electoral Act 2011 to provide clarity regarding the provisions for group activities including advertising, and "how to vote" cards, related to individual candidates cross referencing or listing other candidates when registered groups have a higher level of reporting requirements.
LGAQ comment	There are no previous LGAQ policy statements in relation to this matter. The LGAQ wrote to Deputy Premier and Minister for State Development, Infrastructure, Local Government and Planning The Hon. Steven Miles in April 2021 requesting a broader range of legislative reforms on behalf of members, including changes to the Local Government Electoral Act 2011 with respect to managing the cost of elections and allowing councils to determine if their election will be conducted by postal vote. A response is yet to be received from the Minister regarding these particular reforms. Should this motion be endorsed at the 2021 Annual Conference, the LGAQ will seek to pursue the outcomes sought by this motion as part of these discussions.

Submitting council / organisation Fraser Coast Regional Council	
LGAQ Policy Executive district District 3 - Wide Bay & Burnett	
Number and title of motion	52. Changes to the way elections are conducted to promote sustainable practices
Motion	That the LGAQ calls on the Department of Local Government, Racing and Multicultural Affairs to seek an amendment to relevant legislation, to the extent that it is constitutionally permissible, to provide councils with the power to: a. Limit or prevent the distribution of election material at polling booths; b. Limit or prevent the attendance of candidates and their assistants at voting places at pre-poll and election day; and c. Allow only pre-defined static displays at voting places and polling booths.
Background	During the 2020 local government elections, the Electoral Commission of Queensland issued a directive that resulted in all persons being prohibited from canvassing for votes or distributing how-to-vote cards or election material. The 2020 local government elections highlighted that an election can successfully be held without the requirement for volunteers to be in attendance and no election material being distributed. Council believes that there are potential benefits in providing local governments with the discretion to determine the level of election material that is distributed when conducting future elections. Such a change would enable local governments to reduce paper use/disposal and realise benefits in terms of efficiencies and sustainability when conducting future elections. Further to this, there would be an additional benefit of reducing the risk of community transmission of viruses such as COVID-19. It is recognised that the decision made during the 2020 election was understandably forced due to a peak in the infection rate of the COVID-19 within communities. However, COVID-19 has remained a concern and changed the way we live, highlighting the need to consider how local governments can promote safe practices to reduce the risk of community

	transmission of viruses such as COVID-19. This is particularly important in the Fraser Coast Region where there are vulnerable communities given our demographic.
What is the desired outcome sought?	The desired outcome is as follows: (1) Local governments have the option to conduct future elections without the distribution of any election materials and the attendance of candidates and their assistants for future elections, at pre-poll and on election day. (2) Local governments can promote efficient, sustainable, and safe practices during the conduct of future elections.
LGAQ comment	There are no previous LGAQ policy statements in relation to this matter. Supreme Court and High Court decisions have clarified the extent of local government power to control election activity in light of the implied right to freedom of political communication. While cases related specifically to laws attempting to control or limit elections signs erected on private property, these cases may impact/prevent the outcomes sought in this motion. The High Court in the case of Australian Capital Television Pty Ltd v Commonwealth of Australia deemed there is an implied freedom of political communication ('the implied freedom') within the Australian Constitution. In this case, the majority of the High Court reasoned that representative democracy is constitutionally entrenched and there is therefore implied in the Constitution a guarantee of freedom of communication on all political matters. Local government powers to regulate political activity was the subject of a decision by the Supreme Court in Liberal Party of Australia (Western Australia Division) Inc v City of Armadale [2013] WASC 27. The City of Armadale's Local Planning Policy prohibited electoral signage in the locality of Armadale, even on privately owned land. At the hearing the City sought a compromise, as opposed to a complete ban, limiting: • the number of electoral signs to one sign per street frontage of every lot; • the area of the sign would not exceed 1 square metre in area; and • the period during which the signs were erected to no more than 60 days prior to the election date. The Court considered that the above regulatory controls were still a significant fetter against political communications in the lead up to the State election in circumstances where the only justification was the preservation of local amenity. The Court concluded that the democratic process outweighed any concerns about amenity, at least for the duration of the looming election campaign.

Submitting council / organisation Livingstone Shire Council	
LGAQ Policy Executive district District 6 - Central Queensland	
Number and title of motion	53. Amendment to Partners in Government Agreement 2019
Motion	That the LGAQ calls on the State Government to: 1. Reaffirm its commitment to the Partners in Government Agreement 2019 (https://www.dlgrma.qld.gov.au/resources2/laws-policies/partners-in-government-agreement), particularly the following sections: a. Agree the relations between the parties should be conducted in a spirit of mutual respect and cooperation with an emphasis on partnership – a commitment to timely and frequent communication and with recognition of each other's roles and responsibilities (Section 4.1, pg.7). b. Undertake timely and meaningful engagement on all policy, legislation, strategy and program initiatives where local government has an interest, with where practicable, a minimum consultation period of four weeks (Section 4.2, pg. 8). 2. And, when the agreement is renewed in 2022 the following inclusion be made: "Where applications are made to local government requiring input and approvals from State agencies, those agencies be obliged to consult with the local government before making a decision."
Background	There have been recent examples in local government to suggest that state agencies might be departing from the intent of the Partners in Government Agreement affirmed between the State Government and Local Government Association of Queensland (on behalf of all local governments) in 2019. In Livingstone Shire, two recent examples are: 1. The granting of a conditional Environmental Authority by the Department of Environment and Science for an environmentally relevant activity during the public notification phase of the related land-use development application. The granting of that State approval created an expectation amongst some that the local government should also approve the land use upon which the activity would be conducted. This placed the local authority in a difficult position in relation to the eventual refusal of the application which is now the subject of a Planning and Environment Court Appeal. 2. Plans for significant upgrading to a State-declared road would

	normally involve lengthy planning and engagement with the local authority and impacted residents. A current project in Livingstone Shire is about to issue Land Resumption Notices (with plans to break dirt by year's end) and the local Transport and Main Roads office is yet to share any plans with the local authority. Local residents (who have been told to expect Resumption Notices) have shared information that local Council roads (and private accesses) will be affected, along with waste collection services. This is not the normal way that the Department of Transport and Main Roads does business.
What is the desired outcome sought?	Where applications to local government also require input/approvals from other state agencies, those agencies be required to consult with local government, prior to agency decisions, to ensure consistency of information.
LGAQ comment	The LGAQ policy statement holds the following position in relation to this matter: 1.3 Context 1.3.1 Local government's vision for our sphere of government is that we provide local leadership; open, accountable, transparent, community-based local government; effective and efficient local government; co-operative partnerships with state and federal governments; and quality people and organisations resulting in customer focused service to the people of Queensland. There are no Advocacy Action Plan (AAP) points or recent previous conference motions regarding this issue. The existing Partners in Government Agreement was signed on 20 August 2019 and remains in operation for three years from the date of signing. Negotiations for a renewed Partners in Government agreement will commence early in 2022. If this motion is endorsed by members at annual conference the proposed amendments will be progressed as part of negotiations on an updated agreement. In the meantime, if this motion is endorsed, the LGAQ will write to all Ministers and Directors-General after Annual Conference to remind them of the existence of the agreement, its intent and its provisions.

Submitting council / organisation Moreton Bay Regional Council	
LGAQ Policy Executive district District 2 - Northern Region	
Number and title of motion	54. Body-worn cameras and CCTV systems
Motion	That the LGAQ calls on the State Government to amend the Local Government Act 2009 to: Provide lawful authority for authorised persons to use surveillance devices including body-worn cameras, surveillance cameras and CCTV to record images and/or sound while the authorised person is acting in the performance of the authorised persons duties or during the investigation of offences.
Background	Current situation: The Local Government Act 2009 does not make it lawful for authorised persons to use body-worn cameras, surveillance cameras and CCTV to record images and or sounds while acting in the performance of their duties or during the investigation of offences. Issue: Considering recent proposed changes to Queensland privacy legislation, namely the Draft Surveillance Devices Bill, Council is concerned that the use of surveillance devices by local governments in ways that are currently lawful may be problematic. This would diminish the ability of local governments to detect, investigate and prosecute offences and to keep proper records of interactions between local government officers and members of the public. Additionally, local government officers are exposed to the risk of breaching section 43 of the Invasion of Privacy Act 1971 by inadvertently recording conversations on their body-worn cameras that they are not a party to in the ordinary course of their duties. Body-worn cameras also contribute to the safety of officers in the execution of their duties. Regulatory officers from local governments are often exposed to the threat of physical violence and, similar to police, body-worn cameras provide another layer of protection to those officers in both discouraging threatening behaviour and providing evidence in the event of altercation. Among the reasons that QPS lists for the wearing of body-worn camera's is "changing the behaviour of people and incidents"

	and "less need for officers to use force." (QPS Body-Worn Camera Devices website) For the same reasons as outlined in the Domestic and Family Violence Protection and Another Act Amendment Bill 2015, as it relates to police officers, local government officers should be protected from the risk of breaching the Invasion of Privacy Act 1971 in those circumstances outlined above.
What is the desired outcome sought?	That any changes to Queensland privacy legislation preserve local government's current ability to use surveillance devices. See the below example of provisions within the Police Powers and Responsibilities Act 2000 providing for the use of body-worn cameras by police officers. 609A Use of body-worn cameras (1) It is lawful for a police officer to use a body-worn camera to record images or sounds while the officer is acting in the performance of the officer's duties. (2) Use of a body-worn camera by a police officer under subsection (1) includes use that is— a. inadvertent or unexpected; or b. incidental to use while acting in the performance of the officer's duties. (3) Subsection (1) does not affect an ability the police officer has at common law or under this Act or another Act to record images or sounds. (4) To remove any doubt, it is declared that subsection (1) is a provision authorising the use by a police officer of a listening device, for the purposes of the Invasion of Privacy Act 1971, section 43(2)(d). (5) In this section—a body-worn camera means a device that is: a. worn on clothing or otherwise secured on a person; and b. designed to be used to— i. record images; or ii. record images and sounds.
LGAQ comment	The LGAQ policy statement holds the following positions in relation to this matter: 7.4.2 Community Safety 7.4.2.1 Councils will work in cooperation with the Queensland Police Service and communities to address crime, fear of crime, and injury prevention. 7.4.2.2 Local government will work with the State Government and all sectors of the community to assist with the identification of issues of local and regional concern and negotiate appropriate responses that

	contribute to a sense of safety and wellbeing. Local government will actively seek to engage stakeholders as part of planning and development processes as a contribution to building communities in which people feel safe. 7.4.2.3 Local government will incorporate Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design (CPTED) principles in their assessment frameworks within the planning development process. There are no Advocacy Action Plan (AAP) points or recent previous conference motions regarding this issue. In order for local government officers to have authority to use body cameras in line with the Police Powers and Responsibilities Act 2000, an amendment to the Local Government Act to facilitate this is a reasonable request in the interest to better facilitate the gathering of evidence and officer safety. This motion requests that the same capacity afforded police in the execution of their duties is provided to council regulatory officers in the investigation of offences. Body-worn cameras provide valuable information in the gathering of evidence and, the QPS has indicated, contribute to improved prosecution and fewer disputed matters at court. In addition, the cameras are designed to reduce incidents of inappropriate behaviour by individuals when interreacting with officers. NOTE: The QPS website lists some of the benefits of body-worn cameras, including: 1. Better evidence collection, 2. Fewer "not guilty pleas, 3. Improved professional and officer conduct. 4. Fewer Complaints. https://www.police.qld.gov.au/initiatives/body-worn-cameras

Submitting council / organisation Whitsunday Regional Council	
LGAQ Policy Executive district District 7 - Whitsunday	
Number and title of motion	55. Census – Covid Influence on Tourism populations
Motion	That the LGAQ calls on the Federal Government to give special consideration in the Census 2021 to the tourism population numbers which will be impacted by current border closures and lockdowns resulting in lower than normal population data being recorded within those communities who are linked to significant tourism destinations like the Whitsundays.
Background	With the current closure of state and international borders and State-imposed lockdowns across the country, there are reduced numbers of tourists in those significant tourist destinations such as the Whitsundays and Cairns, than would normally exist. There is a concern that this is not representative of the normal travel seasons and will skew the data that is collected to not represent what are the more normalised population numbers. This needs to receive further consideration when this data is collected and how it is compared and used against historical data.
What is the desired outcome sought?	That the census data is reviewed on the basis that the border closures and lockdowns will have an impact on the population data that is recorded through the census which is impacted by reduced tourist populations in significant tourism destinations such as the Whitsundays, Cairns and the Gold Coast.
LGAQ comment	There is currently no LGAQ policy statement on this matter. There are also no Advocacy Action Plan (AAP) points or previous conference motions on this. There have been similar concerns with regards to the accounting of non-resident populations for resource communities. (AGM 2014 Motion 92 – Resource Sector Impacts – Census Data to Reflect FIFO Workers). 2021 Census data will be released in a staged approach, over three key releases: - June 2022 – most topics will be released for almost all geographic outputs for place of usual residence and for place of enumeration on

	Census night. - October 2022 – a smaller number of topics including employment and location-based variables will be released. - Early to mid-2023 – complex topics that require additional processing such as distance to work, socio-economic indexes for areas (SEIFA) will be released.

Submitting council / organisation Mount Isa City Council; Tablelands Regional Council	
LGAQ Policy Executive district	
Number and title of motion	56. Regional University Centres
Motion	That the LGAQ calls on the State and Federal Governments to provide $20 million to develop 10 pilot sites to provide students from rural and regional Queensland with greater choice in, and access to, higher education.
Background	The Federal Government identified that at least 40 per cent of the community will require a Bachelor degree or higher level of education to sustain our economic growth into the future. The percentage of population with a Bachelor degree or higher when compared to major cities is considerably lower in regional and remote communities. For example, currently in the Tablelands Regional Council region and based on Economy iD (2016 census) only 11.7 per cent of the region's population have this level of qualification. This is of equal concern across regional and remote QLD. The QLD average in regional and remote areas is just 22.7 per cent when compared to major cities at 44.6 per cent and well below the national average of 39.7 per cent. The Regional University Centres program takes an innovative approach to improve access to tertiary education for regional and remote students. A Regional University Centre is a facility that regional students can use to study tertiary courses locally delivered by distance from any Australian institution. Centres have been established around Australia now since 2018 and have proven to be sustainable and able to be integrated into existing infrastructure around the regions (council libraries, agriculture colleges, TAFE facilities etc). Centres provide: Infrastructure, including: • Study spaces • Break out areas • Video conferencing • Computer facilities • High-speed internet access Administrative and academic support services such as: • Developing writing and research skills

	• Managing administrative processes Student support services, including: • Pastoral support • Study advice • Help accessing student services There is an already established provider of regional university hubs in Queensland, the Country Universities Centre. Country University Centres are community-owned and operated, based on a not-for-profit model run by a community representative board. The first country universities were established in NSW in 2013. There are currently three locations in QLD (two in the Balonne Shire and one in the Maranoa Regional Council area). These centres offer study space, collaboration space, and tutorial rooms and are overseen by a centre manager and learning skills advisors for face-to-face support. Following on from the success of the Regional University Centre programs across Australia and with proven centres in Queensland, local government would like to see the expansion of this program further across the state to help students in regional and remote areas access higher education without having to leave their community. The Regional University Centres program aims to: • Enable students in rural, regional, and remote Australia to access and complete higher education without having to leave their community. • Meet a demonstrated gap in support for study in a regional, rural, or remote community. • Support students who wish to stay in their community while they complete their course of study. • Enhance strong links between the centres and other organisations in the area, including industry and other support services that students may access. • Complement, rather than replace, existing and planned university investments and activities in regional areas, such as satellite campuses and study centres.
What is the desired outcome sought?	That the centres are located outside of a 200km/and over two hour's drive radius of any existing university centres and that the funding for this project be used to: • Establish additional centres around Queensland to further support regional and remote students who remain in their local communities. • Connect with existing established centres around Australia and share best practice in becoming self-sustainable and successful. • Engage a not-for-profit, third-party such as Country Universities

	Network to facilitate the network and provide central support for all centres. • Ensure evaluation of the program to inform ongoing improvements to the program, governance, and operation. • Undertake a research project on centre partnerships and how to best support them, particularly centre-university partnerships, with local government and business. • Conduct a scoping study to inform the location and selection of future centres.
LGAQ comment	The LGAQ has no existing policy statement and there are no previous annual conference motions relating to this matter. The Federal Government developed a number of initiatives in response to recommendations made by the National Regional, Rural and Remote Tertiary Education Strategy, and seeks to bridge the gap between regional and remote students and metropolitan students, and drive productivity for the regions. The package increases financial support for regional and remote students, including and more facilities in regional areas. The 2020 "Closing the Gap Report" found Regional University Centre's (RUCs) were demonstrating success, including for Indigenous students. The current RUC program responds to Recommendation 1, Action 3 of the Napthine Review, to expand and enhance the Regional Study Hubs program using a broader range of models tailored to community needs, with sufficient program management and governance support to ensure success. In order for this motion to be successful it is imperative to receive support from the State Government and that they work in partnership with the federal and local governments to deliver sustainable outcomes. To help inform the LGAQ membership of this initiative, the LGAQ delivered a workshop on the County University Centre model that has delivered three Regional University Centres in Balonne and Maranoa Regional Council. A copy of this recording is available to membership.

Submitting council / organisation Cairns Regional Council; Whitsunday Regional Council	
LGAQ Policy Executive district	
Number and title of motion	57. Insurance and financing to address Coastal Hazard risks for Community Resilience
Motion	That the LGAQ calls on State and Federal Governments to: • Develop a comprehensive coastal hazard adaptation framework and actions in consultation with local governments and the finance/insurance industry, that effectively consider, and address insurance and financial implications of coastal hazard risks identified through completed Coastal Hazard Adaptation Strategies; and • Commit to ongoing funding for implementation of coastal hazard adaptation initiatives and disaster recovery in the short, medium and long term, given the increasing risk profile predicted with a changing climate to ensure resilience and future viability of our community infrastructure.
Background	Currently, 31 coastal councils are preparing or have completed a Coastal Hazard Adaptation Strategy (CHAS) under the State Government-funded QCoast2100 program, delivered through the LGAQ. As part of the project, councils have mapped coastal hazards (storm tide inundation, erosion and sea-level rise) at time increments between now until 2100 to determine the increasing risk of coastal hazards impacts over time. The CHAS projects provide councils with a long-term strategy from now until 2100 on how to plan for and adapt to the impacts of coastal hazards to ensure the resilience of our communities now and in the future. Insurance is an annual premium and is based on the likelihood of events occurring and of damage to infrastructure in the policy period. The coastal hazard mapping prepared as part of the CHAS projects under the QCoast program shows that in many cases these impacts will not increase substantially in the short to medium term, however are expected to increase from 2060. Currently, when events occur which impact our coastal areas (e.g. storm tide or erosion due to cyclones), councils are reliant on the Queensland Reconstruction Authority to fund the rebuilding of these areas. As risks increase over time, it is anticipated that there may be competing priorities for funding which are a potential future financial risk to coastal

	councils. More attention is needed to ensure the ongoing sustainability of recovery funding in the short, medium and long term, given the increasing risk profile predicted with a changing climate, to ensure the future resilience and viability of our community infrastructure. The Federal Government recently committed a $10 billion reinsurance pool to reduce insurance premiums for residences and businesses, however, more needs to be done to prepare, mitigate and adapt to these risks and to consider planning and delivering infrastructure in this area to ensure the ongoing resilience of our communities.
What is the desired outcome sought?	That the State and Federal government support local government in providing insurance and financial mechanisms to ensure the future resilience of our communities against the risk of coastal hazards. This could be achieved by: Federal and state governments develop a comprehensive coastal hazard adaptation framework to address the finance and insurance implications of coastal hazards including Council and community assets. Committing to ongoing planning and funding of implementation of initiatives, disaster recovery, resilience and infrastructure to address coastal hazard risks in the short, medium and long term. Insurance companies should be made aware of the findings of the CHAS projects so that they do not increase premiums in the short term. Long term planning and endorsed actions in the CHAS should also be considered by insurance companies in relation to planning for increased resilience of Council and community assets. Additionally, the adaptation options that are proposed to manage coastal hazard risks over time as proposed in the State endorsed Coastal Hazard Adaptation Strategies should be prioritised and implementation supported.
LGAQ comment	The LGAQ policy statement includes the following agreed policy positions relevant to and consistent with the intent of this motion: • 5.3.5.1 Local governments recognise the importance of coastal hazard adaptation planning to help safeguard their communities from the impacts of coastal hazards. • 5.3.5.2 Local governments seek financial support from the State for the implementation of coastal protection projects. • 6.1.1.12 Compensation should not be available where local planning instruments are made or amended to manage risks associated with natural hazards, including flood, bushfire, landslide, storm tide

	inundation and coastal erosion. • 3.5.1.2 Local governments support the introduction of a legislative exemption from • liability for advice given or acts done or omitted to be done in good faith in respect to the management of natural hazards, including flood, bushfire, landslide, storm tide inundation and coastal erosion. • 3.7.1.1 The federal and state governments should commit to continued funding of the Natural Disaster Resilience Program (NDRP) as a fund to assist local governments to undertake community resilience building projects to reduce the impacts of identified natural disaster risks on communities. This motion is also consistent with the LGAQ Advocacy Action Plan (Item 25) which seeks that the Federal Government: • Establish a National Coastal Hazards Adaptation Framework to build resilience in communities most likely to be impacted and provide $500 million per year for four years for the implementation of coastal hazard adaptation strategies. The QCoast2100 program has been instrumental in supporting Queensland councils in the preparation of a Coastal Hazard Adaptation Strategy (CHAS). In 2020, the State Government made an election commitment to provide $3 million over two years to expand the QCoast2100 program to enable eligible local governments to develop and implement a CHAS.

Submitting council / organisation Western Downs Regional Council	
LGAQ Policy Executive district District 4 - Darling Downs	
Number and title of motion	58. Telecommunications - Mobile Service Level Guarantee
Motion	That the LGAQ calls on the Australian Communications and Media Authority (ACMA) and telecommunications providers to commit to a customer service guarantee for mobile (calls and data) network services.
Background	Many telecommunications providers have committed to the legislated Telecommunications (Customer Service Guarantee) Standard 2011 ("the CSG Standard") issued by ACMA. This includes our biggest provider in the Queensland region - Telstra. The CSG Standard specifies certain requirements for carriage service providers with regards to fixed telephone services but does not cover mobile services. Telecommunications providers do have their own guarantees for mobile services however, this is not legislated. The availability and quality of mobile coverage is critical for remote communities to stay: connected, attract staff and families to the region, expand employment opportunities, economic, business support, economic development, disaster and emergency management, and enable access to services not readily available nearby.
What is the desired outcome sought?	A standard is developed and legislated for mobile (calls and data) services, and for telecommunications providers to commit to a more comprehensive set of minimum requirements that include availability of services, quality and reliability of service (including repair times).
LGAQ comment	The LGAQ Policy Statement contains several positions relevant to this motion including: 8.4 Communication 8.4.1 Service Access 8.4.1.1 Advances in technology should be applied to give remote areas access to telephone, television and internet services consistent with those available in urban areas.

	8.4.1.2 Local government across Queensland experiences significant inequities in mobile phone coverage between rural and urban communities. Local government will engage the state and federal governments to address this inequity. 6.1.7 Telecommunications 6.1.7.1 Local government acknowledges the fundamental role played by 'telecommunications' infrastructure as an enabler of economic development and in the provision of health and education services in rural and remote areas of Queensland. 6.1.7.3 Local government supports co-location of telecommunications infrastructure and information sharing amongst the development industry, telecommunications providers and local government in order to minimise disruption to local communities and to maximise efficiencies. The Advocacy Action Plan also contains points relevant to this motion including that the Federal Government: AAP point 06: Legislate to require telecommunication operators to provide competitors access to their mobile infrastructure in regional areas to enable roaming. AAP point 07; Fully implement recommendations of the Rural Telecommunications Independent Review Committee Report benefitting rural and First Nations councils. There have also been multiple Annual Conference resolutions with regards to mobile services including calling on providers of telecommunications to replace damaged infrastructure, calling for equality across local governments and calling for the introduction of mobile roaming. This is a key concern for regional councils - as raised in the 2021 Regional Telecommunications review. The LGAQ has prepared a submission to the review on behalf of member councils.

Submitting council / organisation Cairns Regional Council	
LGAQ Policy Executive district District 10 - Far North	
Number and title of motion	59. Social and Affordable Housing – Interim measures to reduce Housing Stress for Vulnerable Residents
Motion	That the LGAQ calls on the State Government to implement interim measures aimed at addressing the immediate housing crises for vulnerable residents across Queensland.
Background	Queensland is facing unparalleled levels of housing stress due to a highly competitive market. As supply outstrips demand, vulnerable households on low to moderate incomes face unaffordable rent increases coupled with record low vacancy rates and are effectively squeezed out of the market. State-wide some 47,000 applicant households (and many more individuals) await public housing, with an estimated 14,700 of those households listed as very high needs. In the Cairns region, there are 2,699 applicant households with 87 per cent deemed to very high or high needs. The average wait time is 11 months. Recent State Budget announcements include a welcomed and unprecedented commitment to increase the supply of housing stock and products. For Cairns this includes 234 additional properties over the next four years. However, there is a compelling need for an increased focus on interim measures that alleviate the current levels of need. In a recent survey of ten social service sectors in Cairns, 76 per cent of service users identified the key reason for seeking help was due to inadequate housing/accommodation. Of those presenting for other reasons, 75 per cent were also experiencing housing stress and instability as an underlying issue. Further, in a recent online survey of 595 residents across Cairns, almost a quarter of respondents said their housing situation was worse off compared to the previous 12 months, with 15.5 per cent describing their current situation as 'poor'. Across Queensland, specialist housing and homelessness services describe how the 'unprecedented housing crises' is driving unsustainable demand for assistance. This situation highlights the urgency to bring forward commitments with the potential to increase supply for vulnerable groups and sustain

	existing tenancies in the immediate to short-term. Until conditions ease, through partnerships with the social services sector interim measures may include: • An immediate and substantial increase in the number of head leasing subsidies. • Expansion of the number of providers to administer increased subsidised headleases, across both community housing providers and specialist and homelessness services. • Targeted strategies to attract private lessors to offer rental properties to headleasing organisations. • Sector partnerships with REIQ members to increase supports available to vulnerable tenants in the private rental market.
What is the desired outcome sought?	Commitment to implement interim measures to alleviate acute housing stress particularly among vulnerable Queenslanders until pipeline stock becomes available and conditions ease.
LGAQ comment	The LGAQ policy statement (section 7.17.7) and Advocacy Action Plan (Item 110) contain agreed policy positions and key advocacy priorities with regard to affordable and social housing. In recent years, the following resolutions have also been passed at LGAQ Annual Conferences seeking social housing funding to address immediate need for people on low to moderate incomes: * Resolution 67: Social Housing Funding (2019) That the LGAQ lobby the State Government to increase funding to social housing that provides accommodation for people experiencing or at risk of homelessness. * Resolution 92: Social Housing Funding (2020) That the LGAQ lobby the State Government to urgently increase funding for social housing, especially for vulnerable people who have been temporarily accommodated during the COVID-19 pandemic. On 15 June 2021, the 2021-22 State Budget was announced, confirming a commitment of $2.9 billion to support the Queensland Housing and Homelessness Action Plan 2021-2025, and deliver more than 6,365 new social homes before 30 June 2025 under the Queensland Housing Investment Growth Initiative. The LGAQ welcomed this announcement but is aware this does not adequately address social housing need/demand state-wide, and will continue advocating for continued investment in social housing to meet the needs of local communities. The Parliamentary Inquiry into Homelessness released its final report (including a range of recommendations in relation to social housing) in August 2021 and another Inquiry into Housing supply and affordability has commenced.

	In August 2021, the LGAQ Policy Executive also endorsed preparation of a Local Government Housing Action Plan, by the LGAQ in consultation with member councils. This will provide the opportunity to comprehensively consider and define priority advocacy asks to address housing supply, diversity and affordability challenges across Queensland's regions, including immediate housing need, as sought by this motion.

Submitting council / organisation Townsville City Council	
LGAQ Policy Executive district District 9 - Northern	
Number and title of motion	60. Social Housing
Motion	That the LGAQ calls on the State Government to allocate a further $4.8 billion over four years to quadruple the investment to increase housing supply and provide relief to those seeking social housing.
Background	Following the release of the $1.9 billion second housing action plan, the Queensland State Government has allocated $1.6 billion to capital investment over four years. This announcement is welcomed, however, the proposed level of investment by the State Government is insufficient to meet the growing demands for social housing across Queensland. The North Queensland region, in which Townsville is captured, is allocated a 4-year target to increase housing supply by 229. The current unmet demand for social housing supply in Townsville alone is over 2,000. Further action and investment is urgently needed to address the growing social housing needs and problems affecting Queenslanders.
What is the desired outcome sought?	The LGAQ lobby the State Government to allocate a further $4.8 billion to quadruple the investment to increase housing supply and provide relief to those seeking social housing.
LGAQ comment	The LGAQ policy statement (section 7.17.7) and Advocacy Action Plan (Item 110) contain agreed policy positions and key advocacy priorities with regard to affordable and social housing. In recent years, the following resolutions have also been passed at LGAQ Annual Conferences seeking social housing funding to address the immediate need for people on low to moderate incomes: * Resolution 67: Social Housing Funding (2019) That the LGAQ lobby the State Government to increase funding to social housing that provides accommodation for people experiencing or at risk of homelessness. * Resolution 92: Social Housing Funding (2020) That the LGAQ lobby the State Government to urgently increase funding for social housing, especially for vulnerable people who have been temporarily accommodated during the COVID-19 pandemic. On 15 June 2021, the 2021-22 State Budget was announced, confirming a commitment of $2.9 billion to support the Queensland Housing and

	Homelessness Action Plan 2021-2025, and deliver more than 6,365 new social homes before 30 June 2025 under the Queensland Housing Investment Growth Initiative. The LGAQ welcomed this announcement but is aware this does not adequately address social housing need/demand state-wide, and will continue advocating for continued investment in social housing to meet the needs of local communities. The Parliamentary Inquiry into Homelessness released its final report (including a range of recommendations in relation to social housing) in August 2021 and another Inquiry into Housing supply and affordability has commenced. In August 2021, the LGAQ Policy Executive also endorsed preparation of a Local Government Housing Action Plan, by the LGAQ in consultation with member councils. This will provide the opportunity to comprehensively consider and define priority advocacy asks to address housing supply, diversity and affordability challenges across Queensland's regions, including in relation to social housing.

Submitting council / organisation Brisbane City Council	
LGAQ Policy Executive district District 1 - Brisbane	
Number and title of motion	61. Regulation of short term accommodation styles
Motion	That the LGAQ calls on the State Government to re-establish a Short-Term Residential Accommodation Industry Reference Group to consider and ensure adequate regulatory authority to cater for and manage the growth and impact of short-term accommodation styles.
Background	AirBNB style accommodation requires local governments, as regulators of property usage to protect community amenity, and ensure health and fire safety standards are met. Local government's capacity to effectively manage and regulate AirBNB accommodation styles must be supported in legislation.
What is the desired outcome sought?	That local governments consider the combined legislative and regulatory needs for all areas of responsibility so that an effective and unified approach can be delivered in partnership with the State Government.
LGAQ comment	The LGAQ policy statement contains the following agreed positions relating to the short-term letting of residential properties: * 6.1.5.1 Local government should continue to establish and enforce appropriate planning, local law and rating responses for residential properties used for short-term letting, within their local government area. * 6.1.5.2 Local government is committed to working in partnership with the State Government and industry to effectively manage the growth of emerging short term accommodation styles and the impact of this on local communities. 6.1.5.3 Local government supports the State Government in: • developing a Code of Conduct, including information regarding fire safety standards, for hosts and guests of residential properties that are advertised for short-term letting, • obtaining the agreement of online accommodation booking agencies to provide details regarding the location of residential properties that are advertised for short-term letting, to regulatory authorities, and • establishing a state-wide data sharing system across the short-term accommodation sector, that is accessible by local government.

	The LGAQ policy statement was updated to include the above in response to a motion passed at the LGAQ 2017 Annual Conference (Resolution 17 - Rating - Short Term Visitor Accommodation - Online Booking). In response to this resolution, the former Minister for Innovation and Tourism Industry Development and Minister for the Commonwealth Games, established a Short-Term Residential Accommodation Industry Reference Group which commenced in 2018. The LGAQ actively participated as a member of this group and whilst significant, positive progress was made, the State Government disappointingly disbanded this group in 2020. In July 2021, LGAQ recommended the Industry Reference Group be re-established in its submission on the "Action Plan for Tourism Recovery" Discussion Paper and that policy reforms progress, consistent with the LGAQ policy statement.

Submitting council / organisation Mackay Regional Council	
LGAQ Policy Executive district District 7 - Whitsunday	
Number and title of motion	62. Practical Redevelopment Standards for Existing Buildings
Motion	That the LGAQ calls on the State and Federal governments to develop practical guidelines and standards under the laws, codes and standards for redevelopment of existing buildings, in consultation with local government.
Background	The transformation of empty shops within CBD areas, in particular, is being hampered by the need to meet all current laws/codes/standards, which in many cases becomes cost-prohibitive, meaning that properties remain vacant and undeveloped. This is particularly the case when premises previously used for a certain purpose, are being considered for a new use (ie a retail shop being converted to a Café, or conversion to inner-city living), triggering prohibitive building requirements. While planning schemes have become more facilitative towards interchangeable uses within existing buildings, transitional provisions of building codes remain restrictive. It is also imperative that any changes take into account public and occupant safety, however a practical solution is needed to overcome the issue of properties remaining vacant as it is too expensive to upgrade buildings retrospectively to current laws/codes/standards.
What is the desired outcome sought?	Practical, and safe, laws/codes/standards taking into account the difficulties in retrospectively renovating existing buildings for another purpose.
LGAQ comment	The LGAQ Policy Statement includes a range of positions in relation to building certification, including support for enhanced education and training of building certifiers (6.2.1.4). Training of building certifiers has also been the subject of previous LGAQ Annual Conference resolutions including resolution 35 in 2019. The Building Act 1975 calls up the applicable building codes for all building work including the National Construction Code (NCC) and Building Code of Australia (BCA)), and the Queensland Development Code for Queensland specific standards. Chapter 5, Part 3 of the Building Act regulates the making of BCA

	classification or use changes to an existing building. Where a building approval is required for alterations or additions to a building, a building certifier has some discretion available when applying the provisions of the NCC or other codes to the existing part of the building. In relation to alterations within an existing building, this may include assessing the works under earlier building assessment provisions (such as those in force at the time the building was originally built). Under section 112 of the Building Act, concessional approval for particular existing buildings may also be granted if the building was in existence before 14 December 1993. However, the change may only be approved if structural loadings and fire safety requirements can be met. In 2020, the Australian Building Codes Board released the Handbook: Upgrading existing buildings, to assist practitioners achieve a balanced approach, considering cost and practical solutions, to upgrade existing buildings. Greater clarity and education regarding the minimum necessary safety, health and amenity requirements when designing for and assessing new building work in existing buildings, may assist in achieving the outcomes sought by this motion.

Submitting council / organisation Ipswich City Council	
LGAQ Policy Executive district District 2 - Western Region	
Number and title of motion	63. New School Supporting Site Infrastructure Standards and Process for Transfer to Council
Motion	That the LGAQ calls on the State Government, specifically the Department of Education, for a new agreement between the two parties which addresses the required design standards, construction methods and handover processes of new school supporting site infrastructure which is intended to be transferred to Council for future operation and maintenance.
Background	New schools delivered by the Department of Education (DoE), and their delivery partnership agreements, via the Ministerial Infrastructure Designation (MID) process, are opening on day one with significant operational and maintenance issues with their supporting site infrastructure (i.e. site access intersections, off-street car parking, pathways, lighting and drainage etc.). The DoE is requiring councils to take on these operational and maintenance burdens which are the result of inadequate design which sometimes does not meet Queensland or Australian standards, poor construction methods or poor quality management procedures and recordkeeping. There have been examples when car parking numbers and lighting standards have not been met and when 'As-constructed' drawings could not be provided to Council as part of the handover of facilities. As this infrastructure is internal or frontage works to the site, it is generally not covered by the 1997 Guidelines on Arrangements for Infrastructure External to State Government Sites and Non-State Schools. The design of school transport infrastructure should be guided by the TMR Planning for Safe Transport Infrastructure in Schools document which provides good guidance and then refers to Australian Standards and Austroads for requirements such as carpark numbers and design etc. However, it does not appear that all school designs are adhering to this guideline and the document does not specifically cover other infrastructure elements such as lighting, drainage, pavements, construction practices, documentation, quality management and inspections. Additionally, through the MID process, the Minister only has

	to be satisfied that the site design has considered the TMR guideline and Council concerns. Meaning, there is no way for councils to require an acceptable standard of facility prior to accepting the transfer of infrastructure to their jurisdiction.
What is the desired outcome sought?	In order to ensure that this infrastructure is built and handed over to an acceptable standard, some councils are requesting that the school sites submit an operational works development application. This means that the infrastructure which is to be transferred to Council in the future would be subject to the standards and requirements of the relevant planning scheme. However, to date this has only been executed 'in good faith' in some specific circumstances. Feedback from DoE planning, design and construction contractors has been that they would consider following council operational works development application processes, however project timeframes do not align with the Council application, assessment, approval and inspection process. If DoE project timeframes do not allow for the inclusion of an operational works development application, a new agreement (separate from the 1997 Guidelines on Arrangements for Infrastructure External to State Government Sites and Non-State Schools) needs to be created between both parties which outlines the minimum required standards and processes that must be followed prior to any transfer of new school supporting site infrastructure to Council jurisdiction. It must cover such elements as: - Compliance with the TMR Safe Planning for Safe Transport Infrastructure in Schools; - Lighting - Drainage - Pavements - Construction practices - Documentation - Quality Management - Inspections The new agreement must also be of a certain weight so as to inform any DoE delivery partnership agreement and project timeframes, and require any contractors to follow the agreement prior to the transfer of school supporting site infrastructure to Council.
LGAQ comment	The LGAQ Policy Statement contains the following relevant positions: 3.1.2.5 The State Government should provide a 100 per cent subsidy to councils for provision of external infrastructure to state government sites and to non-state school sites...

	6.1.1.6 Local government supports an infrastructure designation framework that provides for appropriate local government engagement and approval processes to ensure compliance with relevant local planning instruments. 6.1.3.4 All spheres of government should comply with the provisions of local planning instruments when undertaking development, inclusive of obtaining and complying with appropriate approvals, payment of relevant fees, and provision of required external infrastructure or financial contributions. Previous LGAQ Annual Conference resolutions also include: * 2018 Resolution #89 Funding - Funding for Off-street School Car Park Maintenance * 2018 Resolution #102 Planning Scheme - State Government infrastructure projects to comply with local parking requirements * 2018 Resolution #108 Roads and Transport Management - Responsibility of School Car Parking * 2017 Resolution #82 Planning Powers – Community Infrastructure Designations * 2017 Resolution #41 Roads - New public schools – excise of off-street car parks to road reserve * 2016 Resolution #59 Planning Powers - Guidelines for Infrastructure External to State Government sites and Non-State schools - Revision of Guidelines. The LGAQ is aware the 1997 Guidelines were replaced in 2006 (and subsequently updated in 2019) with the External Infrastructure Subsidy Scheme Guidelines for non-State schools. LGAQ has recommended a formal partnership approach between state and local government be embedded into the process for making a Ministerial infrastructure designation under the Minister's Guidelines and Rules, however this was not adopted. The LGAQ continues to advocate on these matters through participation on the Queensland Schools Planning Commission and other forums.

Submitting council / organisation Scenic Rim Regional Council	
LGAQ Policy Executive district District 2 - Western Region	
Number and title of motion	64. Proactive planning and operations to mitigate the threat of bushfire on State Government-controlled land
Motion	That the LGAQ calls on the State Government to immediately improve proactive planning and operations, including the allocation of appropriate and necessary resources, in mitigating the threat of bushfire on State Government-controlled land that threatens local communities.
Background	Whilst Queensland Fire and Emergency Services (QFES) works in a number of ways to mitigate the threat of Bushfire, in particular Operation COOL BURN and through Regional Fire Management Groups, these programs and groups are largely made up of voluntary membership with no capacity to enforce desired outcomes. The 2020 Bushfires in Queensland, and across Australia, have highlighted the need for greater commitment by multiple landowners, in particular the array of State Government departments who control multiple parcels of land, to ensure it is working in concert with other tenure owners to effectively undertake actions to reduce active fuel loads and lessen the threat of bush fire to the community.
What is the desired outcome sought?	To immediately improve planning and operations in the reduction of fuel loads on State Government-controlled land to lessen bush fire impact on local communities through a coordinated mitigation process, in partnership with local government and Local Disaster Management Groups.
LGAQ comment	There is currently no LGAQ policy statement on this matter. The LGAQ Advocacy Action Plan includes an action point calling on the State Government to: • Accept responsibility for mitigating unreasonably high fuel loads on State Government-controlled land holdings by being proactive in planning, taking positive alleviation measures and allocating appropriate resources. Mitigation and protection of communities remains a priority for councils and the continued advocacy in this space will ensure a workable partnership between QFES and councils. Substantial work has been undertaken in 2020 with the formation of the State Bushfire Committee of which LGAQ is a member. Regional fire management groups are being redefined to ensure that priority is afforded to land that will impact on communities.

Submitting council / organisation Southern Downs Regional Council; Western Downs Regional Council	
LGAQ Policy Executive district	
Number and title of motion	65. Biodiversity planning assessments and mapping of Good Quality Agricultural Land
Motion	That the LGAQ calls on the State Government to update biodiversity planning assessments and the detailed mapping of Good Quality Agricultural Land (GQAL) to ensure planning decisions about appropriate land use are based on current terrestrial ecological values.
Background	A Biodiversity Planning Assessment (BPA) identifies the terrestrial ecological values in a region or bioregion according to their conservation significance. BPAs are used by governments, members of the community and landholders to make planning decisions about appropriate land use. BPAs have been released for approximately 80 per cent of Queensland, however, some assessments date back to 2007. Councils use BPAs to make planning decisions on appropriate land use when assessing development applications. If the BPAs are out of date or non-existent, councils run the risk of making ill-informed decisions. Good information is vital to good decision-making. In some instances, data and mapping for biodiversity matters and GQAL remains significantly different from the on-ground conditions, for example, it has been found that land categorised by on-ground assessment as GQAL Class C is noted on mapping as Class A. This adds a layer of complexity for planning and other decision-making and also results in additional cost and time for local government and the community.
What is the desired outcome sought?	The completion of all BPAs and an update of those BPAs that were released more than 10 years ago as well as a commitment to update the existing mapping for good quality agricultural land.
LGAQ comment	The LGAQ policy statement holds the following positions in relation to this matter: 5.2.1.4 Local government supports the protection of natural resources such as good quality agricultural and strategic cropping land to ensure the future sustainability of local communities and industries. 5.3.8.2 Local government seeks to work cooperatively with federal and state governments to protect biodiversity values and threatened species

	in Queensland. There are no previous conference resolutions in relation to this matter.

Submitting council / organisation Goondiwindi Regional Council	
LGAQ Policy Executive district District 4 - Darling Downs	
Number and title of motion	66. Biosecurity Queensland's continued involvement in 1080 oversight
Motion	That the LGAQ calls on the State Government to amend the "Departmental Standard – dealing with restricted S7 (RS7) poisons for invasive animal control" to include the Department of Agriculture and Fisheries – Biosecurity Queensland as an authorised department with responsibilities in compliance monitoring and incident management of RS7 poisons.
Background	Regulated Schedule 7 (RS7) poisons, such as 1080, play a vital role in invasive pest management programs aimed at protecting our State's environmental values and agricultural industries. Strong oversight of their use is important to avoid misuse and maintain community confidence, to ensure continued access for invasive pest management programs. To date, Queensland Health has provided the high-level oversight of RS7 poisons; however, since the 1960s when 1080 was first used as an agricultural poison in Queensland, it has been the Department of Agriculture and Fisheries' Biosecurity Queensland officers who have undertaken the primary oversight of 1080 at a community level. Now, as the State Government is moving to a more commercialised system for 1080 distribution (and there is likely to be increased access points to 1080 within the community), it is vital for the Department of Agriculture and Fisheries to continue to play an oversight role in partnership with Queensland Health. Biosecurity Queensland officers are best placed to support the interests of their invasive pest management and agricultural stakeholders due to their role in administering the Biosecurity Act 2014.
What is the desired outcome sought?	Biosecurity Qld be identified as an 'authorised department' in the Departmental Standard giving them responsibilities and powers to: •Undertake initial investigations of incidents suspected to involve a RS7 toxin. •Maintain a centralised record system of users accessing RS7 toxins.

	•Implement the approval process for end users accessing RS7 toxins. •Monitor compliance of end users with conditions of use.
LGAQ comment	The LGAQ policy statement holds the following position in relation to biosecurity: Local government seeks to work cooperatively with the Federal and State governments to control the impacts of declared and environmental invasive plants and animals in the State. The Department of Agriculture and Fisheries have taken the decision to cease manufacture of 1080 concentrate and move to a commercial supply system once the current stock pile is depleted. The Medicines and Poisons Act 2019 is due to commence on 27 September 2021 and will replace the: * Health Act 1937 and subordinate legislation including Health (Drugs and Poisons) Regulation 1996 * Pest Management Act 2001 * Pest Management Regulation 2003 The Act is underpinned by the following subordinate legislation: * Medicines and Poisons (Poisons and Prohibited Substances) Regulation 2021 * Medicines and Poisons (Pest Management Activities) Regulation 2021 * Five departmental standards including the Departmental Standard – Dealing with Restricted Schedule 7 poisons for invasive animal control. The continued access to Restricted Schedule 7 poisons provides land managers with an important tool for effective control of vertebrate pests. The Department of Agriculture and Fisheries are responsible for the Biosecurity Act 2014, which requires landholders to uphold a General Biosecurity Obligation to manage biosecurity risk across Queensland.

Submitting council / organisation Banana Shire Council	
LGAQ Policy Executive district District 6 - Central Queensland	
Number and title of motion	67. Support for Vermin Control
Motion	That the LGAQ calls on the State Government to develop a vermin control strategy and a funded program to assist communities with vermin control.
Background	The mouse plague in 2021 highlighted the vulnerability of rural communities to vermin and pest animals. Species with high reproduction rates such as mice, rats and rabbits experience high fluctuations in periods of favourable environmental conditions. These fluctuations in population result in significant expenses to landholders and rural communities in managing fluctuations following periods of low morbidity. This resolution seeks support from the State for ongoing funding and strategies to manage vermin.
What is the desired outcome sought?	A funded program to be developed to assist at risk communities manage vermin in their respective districts to minimise health risks and economic loss.
LGAQ comment	The LGAQ policy statement holds the following position in relation to this matter: 8.9.1 Regional Queensland underpins the State's economy through a diverse industry base including agriculture, resources and tourism and seeks to be supported by appropriate levels of service and infrastructure. The most effective approach for controlling vermin is to integrate land management practices with a combination of different control methods (e.g. chemical, baiting, trapping, barrier fencing, habitat modification, ultrasonic devices, repellents and biological control). Vermin such as the house mouse is not a prohibited or restricted invasive animal under the Biosecurity Act 2014. However, by law, everyone has a general biosecurity obligation to take reasonable and practical steps to minimise the risks associated with invasive plants and animals under

	their control. There is no state-wide strategy or funding program for vermin control in Queensland.

Submitting council / organisation Scenic Rim Regional Council	
LGAQ Policy Executive district District 2 - Western Region	
Number and title of motion	68. Funding for Preservation, Maintenance and Management of Environmental Precincts and Corridors
Motion	That the LGAQ calls on the State Government to recognise the shared responsibility for preservation, maintenance and management of environmental precincts and corridors that are recognised as vital to mitigating climate change and preserving biodiversity, through the provision of recurring funding to councils where they are typically carrying this burden at ratepayer expense.
Background	Scenic Rim has large areas of State mandated environmental precincts and wildlife corridors. The responsibility to protect and preserve, along with the cost to maintain these areas can be challenging to offset with limited revenue opportunities. Some of these areas require pest and weed management and have limited access for maintenance making property management difficult and expensive.
What is the desired outcome sought?	That the State Government provide funding to local governments to offset the costs associated with protecting, preserving and maintaining large environmental precincts and wildlife corridors.
LGAQ comment	The LGAQ policy statement holds the following positions in relation to this motion: 5.3.10.1 Local government is a major investor in natural asset management and seeks state and federal governments' co-investment by making funds directly available to councils to value add to natural asset management outcomes in the state. A study completed by the LGAQ in 2015/16 identified that Queensland local governments invest $260 million per annum on natural resource management activities including: * controlling invasive plants and animals * fire management * undertaking biodiversity conservation activities such as habitat restoration and revegetation * catchment management activities such as riparian restoration and streambank rehabilitation * supporting community groups

	* running community education and engagement campaigns * undertaking research and development.

Submitting council / organisation Fraser Coast Regional Council	
LGAQ Policy Executive district District 3 - Wide Bay & Burnett	
Number and title of motion	69. Greater Regulation of Commercial Herbicides
Motion	That the LGAQ calls for the ban of the domestic sale of commercial grade herbicides, such as Tebuthiuron 'Graslan' and establish a permit or register system to ensure the product is able to be used whilst ensuring the risk of environmental harm is reduced.
Background	Fraser Coast Regional Council has suffered from vegetation vandalism events in many areas throughout our region with the most high profile of those being along the Hervey Bay Foreshore which is a popular holiday destination for many as well as being a much-loved recreation asset for locals. While the methods being used for vegetation vandalism traditionally involved people cutting off branches or poisoning individual trees, with widely available domestic herbicides of recent times, Fraser Coast Regional Council has suffered large-scale damage from the wide spread application of commercial products such as "Graslan". One recent high-profile poisoning event occurred at a location adjacent the Gataker's Bay boat ramp with a large number of trees on the foreshore being poisoned with the likelihood that at least some of the poison washed into turtle nesting habitat areas along the Council's coastline. Gataker's Bay is also a habitat area that supports over 80 types of birds and it is extremely concerning to Council that vandals can access potent poisons such as "Graslan" to destroy this habitat area. The Council has had independent soil testing throughout the area in question to confirm the product used to destroy the trees. While Fraser Coast Regional Council has taken strong local action by fencing and screening the area for at least 12 months before re-examining the site to see if the poison levels will allow replanting, the Council also believes that the State could play a role by limiting the sale of dangerous herbicides such as "Graslan" which aren't designed for a domestic purpose. Fraser Coast Regional Council is not opposed to those with a genuine agricultural need for use of the product being able to access it but

	requests that the State considers banning its sale for any domestic use and establishes a permit or register system to ensure the ability of the product to be used for environmental harm (as has happened in the Fraser Coast region) is reduced.
What is the desired outcome sought?	The desired outcomes are as follows: (1) Regulations are established that will ban the sale of commercial grade herbicides, such as Tebuthiuron 'Graslan' for domestic uses; and (2) Risk of environmental harm caused by commercial grade herbicides is reduced.
LGAQ comment	The LGAQ policy statement holds the following positions in relation to this matter: 5.3.1.1 Local government is committed to protect, enhance and maintain natural assets as well as provide support to community groups and private landholders to encourage stewardship and sound land management. 5.3.8.2 Local government seeks to work cooperatively with federal and state governments to protect biodiversity values and threatened species in Queensland. 5.3.9.2 Local government seeks to work cooperatively with the federal and state governments to control the impacts of declared and environmental invasive plants and animals in the State. The Biosecurity Act 2014 specifies the need for all landholders to uphold their General Biosecurity Obligation by minimising biosecurity risk. Products such as Tebuthiuron are used to control invasive species such as Mimosa pigra and woody weeds to minimise the spread of invasive plants. Tebuthiuron is a thiadiazole urea herbicide that acts to kill plants by uncoupling electron transport and thereby inhibiting photosynthesis. Graslan® contains Tebuthiuron at concentrations of either 10, 20, or 30%, and is applied to soils in clay pellet form, with primary uptake by plants being through root absorption. The Chemical Usage (Agricultural and Veterinary) Control Act 1988 controls the use of registered and unregistered agricultural and veterinary chemicals in Queensland.

Submitting council / organisation Lockyer Valley Regional Council	
LGAQ Policy Executive district District 2 - Western Region	
Number and title of motion	70. Processes to facilitate low risk activities for Remediation, Rectification or Restoration of Riparian Environments
Motion	That the LGAQ calls on the State Government to establish coordinated, integrated and streamlined processes to facilitate activities for remediation, rectification or restoration of riparian environments, and in particular provide exemptions or self-assessable solutions for low risk activities.
Background	Creeks and tributaries may become blocked with debris (natural and rubbish) and sediment following flood events, potentially resulting in impacts to infrastructure and riparian vegetation. Feedback has been received from landholders that have management rights over sections of the waterways, that they have to contend with multiple pieces of legislation and multiple processes in order to undertake even relatively minor low-risk clean-up and remedial works on the creek banks. Legislative requirements come under the jurisdiction of multiple State Government departments (eg Department of Agriculture and Fisheries, Department of Environment and Science, Department of Resources). State Government departments function under a range of guidelines and procedures and do not always operate together, with an integrated, outcomes focussed approach. This can be confusing to the public and landholders may not be aware of all the necessary requirements and considerations to be undertaken prior to commencing work in riparian areas. Alternatively, they can be deterred from undertaking any works due to the complexity of the requirements and confusion on where to access the necessary information. The periodic restructuring of State Government department roles and responsibilities and changes to titles can also exacerbate this uncertainty. Certain relatively low-risk activities to remediate, rectify or restore riparian environments could be efficiently and effectively undertaken in a timely manner and stem further damage if State Government approval processes provided appropriate exemptions or accepted forms of activity that meet measurable self-assessable criteria.

	It is recognised that complex, higher-order, significant works with an elevated risk profile should be subject to a higher level of scrutiny and assessment. However, the assessment and regulatory regime for these works similarly needs to be coordinated, integrated and accessible to stakeholders undertaking work of this nature.
What is the desired outcome sought?	(a) State Government requirements for activities to remediate, rectify or restore riparian environments are integrated, coordinated and accessible to stakeholders wishing to contribute to the improvement of riparian environments. The nature of the requirements and approval processes reflect the scale, intensity and risk profile of the proposed works. (b) A range of exemptions and accepted works subject to measurable criteria are established in relation to State Government requirements and processes to facilitate low risk improvements within riparian environments by a range of stakeholders.
LGAQ comment	The LGAQ policy statement holds the following positions in relation to this matter: 5.3.6.1 Local government recognises its role in providing sound catchment management outcomes including streambank rehabilitation, erosion and sediment control and revegetation to protect the water quality of natural assets. 5.3.1.1 Local government is committed to protect, enhance and maintain natural assets as well as provide support to community groups and private landholders to encourage stewardship and sound land management. There are no previous conference resolutions in relation to this matter. The State Planning Policy 2017 articulates the state interest in water quality, that is, that the environmental values and quality of Queensland waters are protected and enhanced. There are also numerous pieces of legislation governing the management of waterways in Queensland including the Water Act 2000, the Planning Act 2016 and the Environment Protection Act 1994. The State Government is currently finalising the Queensland River Management (Rehabilitation) Guideline in consultation with stakeholders, including local government.

Submitting council / organisation Balonne Shire Council	
LGAQ Policy Executive district District 5 - South West	
Number and title of motion	71. Endorse and implement the recommendations of the Senate Inquiry into the Impact of Feral Deer, Pigs and Goats
Motion	That the LGAQ calls for the endorsement of the recommendations of the Senate Inquiry into the Impact of Feral Deer, Pigs and Goats, specifically: a) The Australian Government agrees to adopt and implement the recommendations from the inquiry, in particular recommendations 2 and 17. b) The Australian Government recognises local government as a key contributor in invasive plant and animal control by explicitly acknowledging this role in strategies and recovery plans going forward. c) The Australian Government funds local governments to support increased invasive plant and animal control activities where local government is explicitly included in strategies and recovery plans.
Background	In September 2018, the Australian Government Senate referred to the Environment and Communications Reference Committee to understand the impact of feral deer, pigs and goats in Australia, and national priorities to prevent the problems worsening for the natural environment, community and farmers. The report from the inquiry was handed down in May 2021 and included 17 recommendations for consideration by the Australian Government. To date, the Australian Government have not committed to endorsing and implementing the recommendations. At a Local Government Association of Queensland (LGAQ) Natural Assets and NRM Advisory Group meeting on 31 May 2021, the group proposed the following motion be put to the LGAQ Annual Conference in response to the Senate Inquiry and its recommendations: 1) Endorse and implement the recommendations of the Senate Inquiry into the Impacts of Feral Deer, Pigs and Goats, in particular: a) Recommendation 2: that the Federal Government commit to providing significant long-term funding to support the implementation of the National Feral Pig Action Plan once it is finalised, as well as the proposed National Feral Deer Action Plan. b) Recommendation 17: that the Federal Government direct the Productivity Commission to review the costings and funding models necessary to appropriately manage invasive species in Australia. 2) Recognise the role of local government as a key stakeholder in managing invasive pests, and their proven ability to deliver control

	programs when funded appropriately. In July 2021, LGAQ approached Council to endorse the LGAQ Natural Assets and NRM Advisory Group Senate Inquiry into the Impact of Feral Deer, Pigs and Goats motion, specifically: 1) The Federal Government agrees to adopt and implement the recommendations from the inquiry. 2) The Federal Government recognises local government as a key contributor in invasive plant and animal control by explicitly acknowledging this role in strategies and recovery plans going forward. 3) The Federal Government funds local governments to support increased invasive plant and animal control activities where local government is explicitly included in strategies and recovery plans.
What is the desired outcome sought?	a) The Australian Government agrees to adopt and implement the recommendations from the inquiry. b) The Australian Government recognises local government as a key contributor in invasive plant and animal control by explicitly acknowledging this role in strategies and recovery plans going forward. c) The Australian Government funds local governments to support increased invasive plant and animal control activities where local government is explicitly included in strategies and recovery plans.
LGAQ comment	The LGAQ policy statement holds the following position in relation to biosecurity: 5.3.9.2 Local government seeks to work cooperatively with the federal and state governments to control the impacts of declared and environmental invasive plants and animals in the State. The LGAQ provided a submission to the Senate Inquiry into the Impact of Feral Deer, Pigs and Goats in October 2018 which noted: Feedback from local governments in Queensland indicate that feral deer and pigs present a significant problem across Queensland and feral goats to a lesser extent. A species prioritisation process undertaken at a regional scale across Queensland local governments in 2016/2017 showed that of the 10 regions across Queensland: • Six of the ten regions consider feral deer to be a high priority species for control • Eight of the ten regions consider feral pigs to be a high priority species for control • Nine of the ten regions consider feral goats to be a low priority, whilst one region considered them to be a high priority.

	This data shows that there is wide spread occurrence of feral pigs and deer across the Queensland landscape as well as a concern for the potential impacts should further spread occur. At present it is unclear the exact extent of these species and further work needs to be completed to understand current and potential range of each of these species. All of the recommendations from this submission are relevant to the senate inquiry, in particular, the recommendation for the establishment of collaboratively developed national threat abatement plans that are fully implemented and appropriately resourced.

Submitting council / organisation Moreton Bay Regional Council	
LGAQ Policy Executive district District 2 - Northern Region	
Number and title of motion	72. Restricted Dogs
Motion	That the LGAQ calls on the State Government to amend the Animal Management (Cats and Dogs) Act 2008 (Qld) to prohibit the ownership of restricted dogs in Queensland.
Background	Current situation: The prohibition of owning restricted dogs remains at the discretion of each local government authority in Queensland. Issue: The Animal Management (Cats and Dogs) Act 2008 (Qld) empowers local governments to issue permits for the keeping of restricted dogs within a given region. Restricted dogs are defined under the Customs Act 1901 (Cth) as those breeds prohibited from importation into Australia and they cannot lawfully be kept without a permit due to the considerable risk these breeds pose to the community. Under the Customs Act 1901, the following breeds are restricted dogs: Dogo Argentino Fila Brasilerio Japanese Tosa American Pit Bull Terrier / Pit Bull Terrier Perro de Presa Canario or Presa Canario. The discretion for local governments to provide permits for restricted dogs under the existing legislation has translated into a lack of consistency across the State's 77 local government areas. To ensure community safety outcomes, a holistic approach across the State is needed.
What is the desired outcome sought?	Removal of existing provisions allowing for the discretionary approval of restricted dog permits by local governments. Replacement of the existing section 71 with a new section providing for the prohibition of keeping restricted dogs in Queensland. Any current

	restricted dog owners could be excepted from this prohibition until they relocate or the dog passes away, if conditions continue to be complied with.
LGAQ comment	The LGAQ Policy Statement 2020 states: 5.5.2 Dog Control 5.5.2.1 The aim of the State Government regulatory framework for regulated dogs and council local laws should be to ensure that people who keep dogs do so in a responsible manner and that all persons are adequately protected from wandering dogs. 5.5.2.2 Penalties for non-compliance with local laws for dog control should be set at high levels to act as an effective deterrent. Recent LGAQ Annual Conference motions in 2019 and 2020 continue to reflect the continuing concerns of councils and urgent need to review the Animal Management (Cats and Dogs) Act 2008. Continuing challenges for local councils have centred around the management and control of dangerous and regulated dogs, progressing compliance action, having greater flexibility for issuing infringements for various incidents that do not progress to prosecution. Recently, the Department of Agriculture and Fisheries (DAF) have advised that they would be willing to conduct a limited review of the Animal Management (Cats and Dogs) Act 2008. This review is primarily intended to look into the capacity of councils to issue PINs, however may also provide an opportunity to consider additional outstanding concerns including dangerous and regulated dogs. Although not intending to be a full review, there is an opportunity for DAF to consider a Department of Justice and Attorney General (DJAG) submission to seek some limited legislative amendments. The LGAQ continues to advocate for a full legislative review of the Animal Management (Cats and Dogs) Act 2008.

Submitting council / organisation Moreton Bay Regional Council	
LGAQ Policy Executive district District 2 - Northern Region	
Number and title of motion	73. Unregistered dogs - Increasing Enforcement Powers
Motion	That the LGAQ calls on the State Government to: 1. Amend the Animal Management (Cats and Dogs) Act 2008 to provide powers for authorised persons to seize, impound and make an application to a Magistrates Court for the forfeiture of unregistered dogs. 2. Amend the Animal Management (Cats and Dogs) Act 2008 to provide for a Magistrate to make an order for the prohibition of the keeping of animals for persons guilty of offences against the Act. 3. Amend the Animal Management (Cats and Dogs) Act 2008 to provide an additional and greater maximum penalty for the failure to register a regulated dog under section 44(2) and 44(3).
Background	Current situation: The Animal Management (Cats and Dogs) Act 2008 provides only for financial penalty in relation to the failure to register dogs. The Act does not provide sufficient additional enforcement powers to ensure compliance with the purpose of the Act such as the seizure and forfeiture of the dog. Issue: The current powers to issue fines do not go far enough in achieving the purpose of the Act of ensuring dogs are registered. Fines are a good deterrent, however they do not provide any measure of ensuring compliance. In circumstances where fines are ineffective, the Act does not provide any other powers for local government to ensure compliance. The penalties available do not differentiate between regulated and unregulated dogs. In the case of registration fees for regulated dogs, infringement amounts are less than the registration fees imposed by some local governments.
What is the desired outcome sought?	Previous resolutions from LGAQ have sought amendment to the mandatory conditions for the keeping a regulated dog to include

	registration. This motion provides an alternative approach. The proposed approach is to: 1. provide authorised persons from the local government the power to seize/impound and seek forfeiture orders for unregistered dogs; and 2. provide local government provisions within the Act to seek orders via the Magistrates Court for the forfeiture of animals and the prohibition of animal keeping of offenders similar to those contained in s182 and 183 of the Animal Care and Protection Act 2001. 3. Add a subsection to the maximum penalty of sections 44(2) and 44(3) of the Animal Management (Cats and Dogs) Act 2008 to specify regulated dogs with a substantial increase in the penalty.
LGAQ comment	The LGAQ policy statement states: 5.5.2 Dog Control 5.5.2.1 The aim of the State Government regulatory framework for regulated dogs and council local laws should be to ensure that people who keep dogs do so in a responsible manner and that all persons are adequately protected from wandering dogs. 5.5.2.2 Penalties for non-compliance with local laws for dog control should be set at high levels to act as an effective deterrent. Recent LGAQ Annual Conference motions in 2019 and 2020 continue to reflect the continuing concerns of councils and urgent need to review the Animal Management (Cats and Dogs) Act 2008. Continuing challenges for local councils have centred around the management and control dangerous and regulated dogs, progressing compliance action, having greater flexibility for issuing infringements for various incidents that do not progress to prosecution. Recently, the Department of Agriculture and Fisheries (DAF) has advised that they would be willing to conduct a limited review of the Animal Management (Cats and Dogs) Act 2008. This review is primarily intended to look into the capacity of councils to issue PINs, however may also provide an opportunity to consider additional outstanding concerns including dangerous and regulated dogs. Although not intending to be a full review, there is an opportunity for DAF to consider a Department of Justice and Attorney General (DJAG) submission to seek some limited legislative amendments. The LGAQ continues to advocate for a full legislative review of the Animal Management (Cats and Dogs) Act 2008.

Submitting council / organisation Cairns Regional Council	
LGAQ Policy Executive district	
Number and title of motion	74. Shark Monitoring
Motion	That the LGAQ calls on the State Government to continue funding for shark monitoring and detection programs in consultation with local government to manage ongoing risks.
Background	The Department of Agriculture and Fisheries has an ongoing Shark Control Program supporting research and trials for appropriate options for managing risk.
What is the desired outcome sought?	Funding to continue for the Department of Agriculture and Fisheries to undertake studies to determine number of sharks and associated risk to the community, similar to recently completed crocodile studies including active engagement with local government.
LGAQ comment	The LGAQ holds the following position in relation to this matter: 5.3.1.3 Local government supports the State Government retaining primary responsibility and expertise for wildlife management. 5.3.8.2 Local government seeks to work cooperatively with federal and state governments to protect biodiversity values and threatened species in Queensland. There are no previous LGAQ Annual Conference motions in relation to this matter.

Submitting council / organisation Cairns Regional Council	
LGAQ Policy Executive district	
Number and title of motion	75. Management of Crocodiles
Motion	That the LGAQ calls on the State Government to increase resourcing of monitoring, detection and deterrent projects to support the proactive management of crocodiles.
Background	The Department of Environment and Science has an ongoing Crocodile Management Program and has recently completed a Queensland Estuarine Crocodile Monitoring Program 2016–2019 which included a survey of crocodile numbers and includes ongoing crocodile detection, deterrence, movement and DNA projects. The Crocodile Management Program staff regularly meet and brief Council and the community.
What is the desired outcome sought?	An increase in resourcing for the Department of Environment and Science to actively manage identified crocodile threats, and continue programs relating to monitoring, detection and deterrent projects associated with crocodiles. The Department of Environment and Science to consider any actions that may make the program more proactive in identifying and managing crocodile risk, most notably full-time, dedicated staff to actively monitor community swimming locations and to implement suitable management tools, in addition to the existing trapping program.
LGAQ comment	The LGAQ holds the following position in relation to this matter: 5.3.1.3 Local government supports the State Government retaining primary responsibility and expertise for wildlife management. 5.3.8.2 Local government seeks to work cooperatively with federal and state governments to protect biodiversity values and threatened species in Queensland. There are no previous LGAQ Annual Conference motions in relation to this matter. In the State Government budget handed down on 15 June, 2021, the following funding was committed: * $12 million over four years * $3 million per annum ongoing for the management and removal of

	problem estuarine crocodiles and associated 'Crocwise' safety education, population monitoring and research and development of new management techniques.

Submitting council / organisation Somerset Regional Council	
LGAQ Policy Executive district District 2 - Western Region	
Number and title of motion	76. Review of Poultry Farming Guidelines and Assessment Framework
Motion	That the LGAQ calls on the State Government to undertake a comprehensive review of the poultry farming sector regulatory framework, including the State Government's 'Development of Meat Chicken Farms in Queensland' (July 2016) to provide more certainty to local governments and the community and reflect advancements in the sector.
Background	Queensland produces about 20% of Australia's chicken meat, contributing more than $580 million to the state's economy. Chicken meat production has continued to grow strongly over the past 5 years, averaging 10% growth each year. The industry is forecast to experience similar growth into the future. Population growth, particularly acute urban footprint growth pressures in South-East Queensland, is creating increasing conflict between urban areas and intensive animal industries such as poultry farming. The 'Development of Meat Chicken Farms in Queensland' (July 2016) purports to provide information for the planning, design and development of meat chicken farms across Queensland. While not a compliance, operational or management manual, it provides some advice on operational arrangements, where relevant, to manage the potential impact of meat chicken farms on the environment and broader community. The document is considered both inadequate and outdated, as it was developed under the superseded planning legislation, namely the Sustainable Planning Act 2009 and its subordinate instruments. The document also fails to provide enough certainty for local governments in Queensland and is driving inconsistencies in assessment, enforcement and administration.
What is the desired outcome sought?	The desired outcome is a comprehensive review of the 'Development of Meat Chicken Farms in Queensland' (July 2016) and broader assessment framework. The review would be undertaken in consultation with local government and industry and include a fundamental review of statutory responsibilities for assessment, enforcement and administration.

LGAQ comment	There are no agreed local government policy positions regarding poultry farms in the LGAQ policy statement, however there have been previous LGAQ annual conference resolutions. At the 2016 LGAQ Annual Conference, Motion 60 was passed seeking a review of the State's meat chicken farm guidelines. The former Deputy Premier, Minister for Transport and Minister for Infrastructure and Planning, responded to the LGAQ on this motion in September 2017, confirming the State Government was "currently reviewing the state-wide policy direction for poultry farming and the development assessment framework" and that "the review has been prompted by concerns raised by a number of local governments ..." At the 2017 LGAQ Annual Conference, Motion 54 was also passed seeking a review of the definition for 'intensive animal industry'. The former Minister for State Development, Manufacturing, Infrastructure and Planning responded to the LGAQ regarding this resolution in September 2018, confirming the State Government was reviewing planning matters surrounding poultry farms, and would be providing guidance material for local governments. The former Department of Infrastructure, Local Government and Planning released a 'Poultry Farming Regulatory Reform Proposal Paper' in mid-2017, outlining proposed reforms to the existing regulatory framework for industrialised poultry farms. The LGAQ made a submission on the proposed reforms in August 2017, highlighting concerns and outstanding issues raised by local government. In October 2017, the department confirmed it would continue to further develop a poultry farming reform package prior to seeking ministerial approval for a state-wide public consultation process, however this work did not progress prior to the 2020 State elections. The guideline 'Development of Meat Chicken Farms in Queensland' (July 2016) has not been updated, despite changes in state planning legislation since that time.

Submitting council / organisation Brisbane City Council	
LGAQ Policy Executive district District 1 - Brisbane	
Number and title of motion	77. Enforcement of helmet usage
Motion	That the LGAQ calls on the Queensland Government to undertake more targeted enforcement of helmet wearing for riders of personal mobility devices.
Background	Section 244F of the Transport Operations (Road Use Management - Road Rules) Regulation 2009 requires a personal mobility device user to wear an approved bicycle helmet unless subject to specific exemptions listed in the Road Rules. As this is State Government legislation, only the Queensland Police Service (QPS) can enforce this. Research in Brisbane has revealed that 46% of reported injuries are people riding without a helmet. Although operators of e-scooter shared schemes provide helmets, and wearing a helmet is a condition of use, helmet usage continues to be very low. More targeted enforcement by QPS will reduce the injury rate.
What is the desired outcome sought?	To reduce the injury rate on personal mobility devices and increase public confidence in their safety.
LGAQ comment	The LGAQ Policy Statement notes the following: 8.1.4.5 Local government calls on federal and state governments to recognise and respond to local road safety issues. There are no previous LGAQ annual conference resolutions directly relating to this matter, however previous motions relating to road safety have been received.

Submitting council / organisation Ipswich City Council	
LGAQ Policy Executive district District 2 - Western Region	
Number and title of motion	78. New and Expanding Schools and their Impact on the broader Transport Network
Motion	That the LGAQ calls on the State Government for an updated agreement between the two parties which addresses gaps in external infrastructure delivery associated with new schools, to mitigate potential impacts on the broader transport network.
Background	The motion relates specifically to the Guidelines on Arrangements for Infrastructure External to State Government Sites and Non-State Schools (1997), which were established with the aim of identifying responsibility for the provision of community infrastructure and its associated external services and facilities. Under the 1997 guidelines, roles and responsibilities are outlined for the provision of external transport infrastructure. Currently, the State Government is required to prepare a traffic report as part of a Ministerial Infrastructure Designation (MID) process to identify potential impacts of the development on the external road network and to inform the associated infrastructure requirements. Historically, the traffic reports prepared by the State Government have been basic in nature and often do not highlight the full impact new schools have on the safety and efficiency of the existing local transport network. While local governments have the opportunity to comment on the State Government's traffic report, the Minister only has to be satisfied that a council's concerns have been considered, before making a decision on an approval. There have been examples in the City of Ipswich where the impacts on the external transport network have been inadequately addressed, even though comments were received from council highlighting potential issues. This often leaves councils with a transport network that is not fit-for-purpose, resulting in unacceptable traffic and parking outcomes and the need for additional work and financial burden to address the traffic impacts generated by the school. The transport network is also often below the expectations of the school and general community using it to access the school. This situation also has implications on the capital works program of councils from a budgetary and delivery perspective.

	The need to deliver external roadworks associated with school access has the potential to fast-track previously unplanned works and delay investment in other local government priority projects. Council understands that the State is currently planning a number of new schools within the City of Ipswich which are likely to require significant upgrades to the existing transport network to provide safe and efficient access for the schools.
What is the desired outcome sought?	It is recommended that the 1997 guidelines be updated to firstly remove the financial obligation of local governments to deliver external transport infrastructure to support new school developments. This has a severe impact from a budgetary perspective, as well as timely delivery of programmed priority transport upgrades. It is also recommended that more detail be provided in the updated guidelines as to what forms part of a 'traffic report'. At a minimum, a Transport Impact Assessment should be prepared in accordance with the Department of Transport and Main Roads' Guide to Traffic Impact Assessment to understand the potential impacts that the development will have on the transport network, as well as identifying mitigation measures to ensure the network operates safely and efficiently with the proposed development. Impacts on the local road network generated from new school developments should be identified and mitigated like any other development. It is unreasonable that the financial and operational burden of a network that is not fit-for-purpose be placed on local government.
LGAQ comment	The LGAQ policy statement notes the following: * 3.1.2.5 The State Government should provide a 100% subsidy to councils for provision of external infrastructure to state government sites and to non-state school sites and make arrangements for improved engagement and associated planning mechanisms to ensure a better balance is achieved between state and local government priorities in the provision of essential public infrastructure. *6.1.3.5 All spheres of government should comply with the provisions of local planning instruments when undertaking development, inclusive of obtaining and complying with appropriate approvals, payment of relevant fees, and provision of required external infrastructure or financial contributions. *6.1.2.7 Contributions towards the cost of providing local government infrastructure associated with state government projects should be the same as those imposed for similar private sector developments.

	The following recent received motions include: * 2018 Resolution #89 Funding - Funding for off-street school car park maintenance. * 2018 Resolution #102 Planning Scheme - State Government infrastructure projects to comply with local parking requirements. * 2018 Resolution #108 Roads and Transport Management - Responsibility of school car parking. * 2017 Resolution #41 Roads - New public schools – Excise of off-street car parks to road reserve. The LGAQ is aware the 1997 guidelines were replaced in 2006 (and subsequently updated in 2019) with the External Infrastructure Subsidy Scheme Guidelines for non-state schools. LGAQ has recommended a formal partnership approach between state and local government be embedded into the process for making a ministerial infrastructure designation under the Minister's Guidelines and Rules, however this was not adopted. The LGAQ continues to advocate on these matters through participation on the Queensland Schools Planning Commission and other forums.

Submitting council / organisation Cairns Regional Council	
LGAQ Policy Executive district District 10 - Far North	
Number and title of motion	79. Principal Cycling Network Plans (PCNP)
Motion	That the LGAQ calls on the State Government to provide 100% funding for priority routes in accordance with the Principal Cycle Network Plans (PCNP)
Background	The PCNP and Priority Route Maps were developed to guide the delivery of a connected and cohesive cycle network across Queensland. The PCNP and Priority Route Maps reflect a 'one network' approach to cycle network planning and have been formally endorsed by all local governments covered as well as the Department of Transport and Main Roads (TMR). The maps are addendums to the PCNP and identify the priority assigned to principal cycle routes in each local government area. Through the Department of Transport and Main Roads' Cycling Network Local Government Grants (CNLGG) Program, council is (generally) eligible to apply for up to 50% funding for the design and construction of routes on the Far North Queensland PCNP. Council adopted its new Active Transport Strategy in March 2020. The strategy detailed an ultimate active transport network plan for the local government area. The Network Implementation Plan identified routes on the FNQ PCNP, which Council estimates to equate to $9.1 million in construction works. Council's strategy identifies approximately $28 million of additional high priority routes that are NOT on the FNQ PCNP and therefore not eligible for funding from TMR through CNLGG programs.
What is the desired outcome sought?	Local Governments are eligible for 100% funding for design and construction of projects on the PCNP. Rationale: The State Government has set a strategic direction and committed to achieving its vision of having more cycling, more often through the Queensland Cycling Strategy. The strategy prioritises the delivery of principle cycle networks across Queensland and should therefore commit 100% funding to aid the local government in delivering these outcomes.

LGAQ comment	There is currently no LGAQ policy statement on this matter.

Submitting council / organisation Balonne Shire Council	
LGAQ Policy Executive district District 5 - South West	
Number and title of motion	80. Queensland Reconstruction Authority (QRA) - Increased accountability measures - Minimising the burden on Rural and Remote Councils
Motion	That the LGAQ calls on the QRA to ensure that in determining any new accountability measures required of councils, including the possibility of a separate bank account for all QRA-funded projects, that it fully considers all options and minimises the additional compliance burden and costs, particularly for rural and remote councils.
Background	It is understood the QRA administers some 12 grant programs open to local governments which operate on the basis of a 30 percent upfront payment when a grant is approved. At any one time, it is possible for upwards of $100 million to be held by councils awaiting drawdown when the projects commence. QRA is concerned that it has no visibility as to the application and/or use of these funds in the intervening period. Its accountability in relation to these funds has resulted in discussion with councils about the possibility of a separate bank account. Acknowledging the QRA's concerns about accountability and its open discussions with councils about the possible additional requirements, it is requested that the QRA fully evaluate the compliance and costs burdens that could result. For many rural and remote councils, increasing regulatory and compliance tasks are imposing significant pressures on limited staff numbers and financial information and management systems. With this in mind, alternative approaches by the QRA need to be considered.
What is the desired outcome sought?	Any additional reporting and compliance obligations placed on councils by the QRA be developed in full consultation with affected local governments; that they be risk-based and tailored to the circumstances of different council segments so the costs and demands on councils and staff are kept to a minimum.
LGAQ comment	The LGAQ policy statement contains several positions relevant to disaster management but does not cover this aspect. The review of accountability measures has been commenced by the QRA

	with an undertaking of full engagement with councils to ensure no undue additional burden.

Submitting council / organisation Scenic Rim Regional Council	
LGAQ Policy Executive district District 2 - Western Region	
Number and title of motion	81. Bushfire Hazard Compliance - Cost recovery for Remedial Work
Motion	That the LGAQ calls on the State Government to: Amend the Fire and Emergency Services Act 1990 to recognise Notices to Reduce Fire Risks as remedial notices under the Local Government Act 2009 where unpaid costs for remedial work for non-compliance undertaken by Queensland Fire and Emergency Services (QFES) become a rates debt over the property.
Background	More and more people across Queensland are enjoying a 'tree change'. This often means urban dwellers are moving into unfamiliar, fire-sensitive landscapes or purchasing parcels of vacant acreage land in those areas. Some of these people are unfamiliar with the bush fire hazards associated with the uncontrolled growth of vegetation on the property. The accumulation of such material provides a risk to the community in times of bush fires where excessive vegetation can facilitate the rapid spread of fire. The Queensland Fire and Emergency Services (QFES) can direct property owners to remove hazardous vegetation and materials from their property by issuing notices to reduce fire risks. If they fail to comply with the notice, QFES has the power to enter the property and undertake remedial action. The QFES can take the property owner to court to recover the costs of this remediation, but this process is expensive and lengthy. QFES are reluctant to undertake enforcement and conduct remedial action in these circumstances due to the difficulties with recovering the costs they have incurred.
What is the desired outcome sought?	The QFES are provided with an efficient cost recovery mechanism whereby costs for remedial action taken under the Fire and Emergency Services Act 1990 for non-compliance with fire hazard management can be sought under the provisions of the Local Government Act 2009. Notices issued by QFES need to be recognised as remedial notices under the Local Government Act where non-payment of costs for QFES to remediate the hazards can be applied to the property as a rates debt. In partnership with QFES, local government can then facilitate the recovery of the unpaid remedial costs as a rates recovery exercise.
LGAQ comment	There is currently no LGAQ policy statement on this matter. Somerset and Isaac Regional Councils last year submitted a combined motion to

	have the State Government take greater responsibility for fire mitigation on state land. This motion was included in the Advocacy Action Plan and resulted in the creation of the State Bushfire Committee, of which the LGAQ is a member. This motion seeks to apply unpaid debts to QFES for remedial action under Fire and Emergency Services Act to be recognised under the Local Government Act to be applied as a rates debt.

Submitting council / organisation Isaac Regional Council	
LGAQ Policy Executive district District 7 - Whitsunday	
Number and title of motion	82. Resourcing support for development and implementation of Reconciliation Action Plans (RAPS)
Motion	That the LGAQ encourages all Regional Organisations of Councils and individual councils to work with Reconciliation Queensland and the State Government in the development and implementation of Reconciliation Action Plans (RAPs) by providing appropriate coordination, resourcing and support.
Background	A Reconciliation Action Plan (RAP) is a strategic document that supports local government by the inclusion of practical actions that will drive its contribution to reconciliation, both internally and within in its communities. Isaac Regional Council, like many Queensland local governments, has endorsed a First Nations Peoples Policy which identifies a range of outcomes for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people in Isaac communities. Isaac Regional Council has begun the process of developing its RAP and aims to establish and commit to a program of continual improvement and engagement of relations with all First Nations Peoples in the Isaac region. The state-wide application of RAPs across all arms of government will contribute to greater respect, stronger relationships and more opportunities for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Queenslanders. A consistent and collaborative approach will lead to a more comprehensive, cohesive and more efficient process that could see an earlier implementation of RAPs state-wide.
What is the desired outcome sought?	That a coordinated resource is provided by LGAQ to facilitate a streamlined and efficient approach to the development and implementation of RAPs across Queensland local government. Through provision of a central resource, a consistent and collaborative approach will lead to a more comprehensive, cohesive and more efficient process that could see an earlier implementation of RAPs state-wide.

LGAQ comment	A number of councils have developed RAPs. Reconciliation Queensland has expressed concern at the lack of registered RAPs across local government. Depending on local circumstances, RAPS can be very resource intensive for a council, with smaller councils struggling due to lack of resources and local expertise. A central resource could assist through sharing resources, providing best-practice examples and supporting local staff responsible for the development of the local RAP. The LGAQ would need to engage additional resources to complete this exercise and might need to approach the State Government for funding assistance. Ultimately, however, the engagement of an additional resource would need to be contingent upon sufficient councils indicating their intention to develop a local RAP, the benefits of which will only be realised if the organisation is fully committed to developing a RAP to enhance local reconciliation.

Submitting council / organisation Redland City Council	
LGAQ Policy Executive district District 2 - Southern Region	
Number and title of motion	83. Funding for prevention of Domestic and Family Violence
Motion	That the LGAQ calls on the State Government to provide recurrent funding for local services that provide support and programs for the prevention of the Domestic and Family Violence crisis in the State. Funding will also be sought for programs to raise the community understanding and recognition of coercive and controlling behaviours. The LGAQ policy statement will be reviewed to include the content of this motion.
Background	Domestic violence can be exhibited in many forms, including physical violence, sexual abuse, emotional abuse, intimidation, economic deprivation or threats of violence. Programs are currently being implemented across the world to re-educate offenders. The way forward is prevention. There is a pilot program in Redland City that provides perpetrator support for men only, however perpetrators are not just men. The program assists perpetrators to find alternative solutions to their adverse behaviour and to reduce impacts of domestic violence within our community. Associations involved in the prevention of domestic violence require funding, which is usually directed toward victims, to assist those already impacted. If increased funding could be given to assist possible perpetrators, then the overall cost to the community – emotionally, physically and economically - caused by domestic violence, may be reduced.
What is the desired outcome sought?	To provide a holistic approach to the prevention of Domestic and Family Violence in our community by: • Directing sufficient funding to programs that can assist with prevention of domestic violence, and education in managing adverse behaviours. • Recognising and supporting prevention support groups to the same level as the victims of domestic violence groups. • Seeking recognition of associations and programs for

	perpetrators and ensuring sufficient funding is allocated in this area, without reducing funding to victims.
LGAQ comment	7.4.2.2 Local government will work with the State Government and all sectors of the community to assist with the identification of issues of local and regional concern and negotiate appropriate responses that contribute to a sense of safety and wellbeing. Local government will actively seek to engage stakeholders as part of planning and development processes as a contribution to building communities in which people feel safe. The Fourth Action Plan of the National Plan to Reduce Violence against Women and their Children 2010-2022 acknowledges that 'prevention is the most effective way to eliminate violence'. Primary prevention is about stopping abuse before it starts. This means changing the behaviours and norms in all areas of society that excuse, justify or promote violence and abuse. Responsibility for the prevention of violence and abuse needs to become a core priority for all workplaces and communities. At the 2020 Inquiry into Family, Domestic and Sexual Violence, the House Standing Committee on Social and Legal Affairs concluded that the next national plan "should continue with the core philosophy of primary prevention being key to reducing family, domestic and sexual violence". Local community services are uniquely placed to deliver tailored primary prevention and awareness activities. Their existing relationships with key stakeholders and their understanding of the needs of community result in a higher likelihood of successful implementation and uptake of activities. Pilot programs in Redlands have already demonstrated the value of local service providers delivering interventions via behaviour change programs and community awareness activities. Further funding can expand and enhance the delivery of these existing pilot programs and potentially develop new primary prevention activities across the State.

Submitting council / organisation Mareeba Shire Council	
LGAQ Policy Executive district District 10 - Far North	
Number and title of motion	84. Youth Crime
Motion	That the LGAQ calls on the State Government to address youth crime and anti-social behaviour in our communities in the following ways: 1. Increase penalties and consequences for criminal acts by youth offenders 2. Introduce legislation and increase funding that: (a) Allows state and community service agencies to provide targeted intensive support to identified families where there is a lack of parental care or threat, that reinforces parental responsibilities to enable children to feel safe and cared for by their family; (b) Reinforces and supports parents to provide adequate care for children/youth and provide mechanisms to deal with those parents who cannot or will not; 3. Provide additional funding to agencies to deliver support and facilities where youth can be safely housed and provided guidance and help in situations when living at home is not a safe option. This includes education and trade skill opportunities. 4. Engage with councils, via the LGAQ, on how to address these issues.
Background	There is a marked increase in the levels and frequency of youth crime in our community and across the State. This is having a massive impact on our communities, causing fear and division, and certainly results in unnecessary financial burdens dealing with the impacts of crime. The various state agencies are doing what they can to address the issue but are severely limited in the actions they can take. While a relatively small number of youths are committing most of the crime, the consequences to offenders are minimal and serve as no deterrent - and the community impacts are significant. We recognise that often the young people involved are some of the most disadvantaged in our communities. The agencies charged with addressing the underlying causes are also limited by legislation and funding. While well-intentioned, the Government's five-point plan lacks teeth and needs to be reviewed as we are not seeing the necessary positive outcomes. Councils are best placed to comment on what is happening in their backyard and, through LGAQ , have an opportunity and a responsibility to help by demanding legislative reform and being involved in reform which guarantees a safer community.

What is the desired outcome sought?	1. The State increases the penalties and consequences for criminal acts by youth offenders and, potentially, guardians. 2. The State introduces legislation and increases funding that: (a) Allows state and community service agencies to provide targeted intensive support to identified families where there is a lack of parental care or threat; that reinforces parental responsibilities to enable children to feel safe and cared for by their family. (b) Reinforces and supports parents to provide adequate care for children/youth and provide mechanisms to deal with those parents who cannot or will not. 3. The State provides additional funding to agencies to deliver support and facilities where youth can be safely housed and provided guidance and help in situations when living at home is not a safe option. This includes education and trade skill opportunities 4. The State engages with councils, via the LGAQ, on how to address these issues.
LGAQ comment	The LGAQ policy statement includes the following: 7.1.1.1: Local government will work with its community and other spheres of government and the private sector to facilitate and coordinate appropriate planning and resourcing for the delivery of human services. The State Government has expressed a focus on keeping communities safe by addressing the drivers of youth crime and providing young people with alternative pathways. The Department of Children, Youth Justice and Multicultural Affairs seeks to support community safety by: * Providing services to the youth justice system * Funding early intervention and prevention services * Partnering with government agencies * Funding complementary services A recent amendment to the Youth Justice Act 1992 introduced a limited presumption against bail for children charged with particular offences. A trial into the use of GPS monitoring is also being undertaken and will be reviewed after 12 months. Councils will be invited to provide feedback on this trial. As the closest form of government to the community, councils can provide important feedback on the effectiveness of legislative and social interventions within their communities. Consultation with councils could help the development of tailored interventions that are suitable for their communities and the unique challenges they are facing in relation to youth crime.

Submitting council / organisation Torres Shire Council	
LGAQ Policy Executive district District 10 - Far North	
Number and title of motion	85. Whole-of-Life Costing for Community Infrastructure for remote and rural Councils
Motion	That the LGAQ calls on State and Federal Governments to provide whole-of-life funding for essential community infrastructure to remote and rural councils with nil or extremely low rate bases.
Background	As Council noted in its post-COVID submission to the Queensland Parliament: The Australian Productivity Commission 2007 study into local government's own-source revenue followed on from the Report of the House of Representatives Standing Committee on Economics, Finance and Public Administration Inquiry into Local Government and Cost Shifting (Hawker Report) that was released in October 2003. The Hawker Report was one of a number of reports and reviews undertaken both by local government and other bodies to examine local government funding and related issues. (Torres Shire Council Submission – Queensland Government's Response to COVID-19, 26 My 2020). Hawker report documented the practice of Commonwealth and State Governments providing initial funding to projects and then leaving the ongoing whole-of-life cost to local government. Remote and rural councils provide a wide range of 'non-commercial' infrastructure and services (e.g., sporting facilities and other community programs) where cost-recovery through user pays fees and charges is adopted but remains a challenge. Changing demographics have seen the types of services provided by councils change dramatically over time. Attempting to fund these redistributive services through increased rates and charges is not appropriate and could result in high need/low capacity to pay councils not being able to provide adequate service delivery. This is certainly the case for remote and regional councils where they are further challenged with either no rate base (such as Indigenous councils) or a low rate base (such as Torres Shire Council). Total taxation should pay for all non-commercial government services.

	Local government is primarily a service provider with limited taxation and revenue raising capacity under the federation, which provides that surplus federal funds should be redistributed to address the issue of vertical fiscal imbalance (VFI). Rates cannot be redistributed between councils which are further compromised in circumstances of no or a low rate base. This means that high capacity to pay councils have a greater level of service than low capacity to pay councils.
What is the desired outcome sought?	State and Federal Governments to provide whole-of-life funding to rural and remote councils with nil or extremely low rate bases for essential community infrastructure including sporting facilities and other community facilities deemed essential for the desired level of social interaction for community residents and are currently available in other communities.
LGAQ comment	The most relevant LGAQ policy statement position in relation to this issue is that: 3.1.4.4 Federal and state government infrastructure grants and subsidy programs should be annually indexed in recognition of the increased costs of infrastructure provision and population growth. There are also no Advocacy Action Plan (AAP) points or recent previous conference motions regarding this issue. The 2020 LGAQ Annual Conference endorsed the following resolution that relates to whole-of-life funding for new facilities or upgrades: That the LGAQ lobby the State and Federal Governments to engage with local governments to explore how maintenance costs could be included in funding arrangements for new facilities or upgrades. Most of these councils are in the high risk of financial unsustainability as rated by the Queensland Audit Office. These councils simply cannot take on an asset that will require maintenance and operational expenses where there is no additional revenue coming from that new asset to support its maintenance. Unless and until whole-of-life costing and additional expenses are addressed, residents in these remote communities will be denied access to facilities that are readily available in other Queensland communities.

Submitting council / organisation Moreton Bay Regional Council	
LGAQ Policy Executive district District 2 - Northern Region	
Number and title of motion	86. Department of Justice court-related fees
Motion	That the LGAQ calls on the State Government to: Amend section 16(3) of the Uniform Civil Procedure (Fees) Regulation 2019 such that a local government is included in the meaning of 'state-related person'.
Background	Current situation: Local governments are subject to fees under the Uniform Civil Procedure (Fees) Regulation 2019. Issue: Local governments are subject to fees under the Uniform Civil Procedure (Fees) Regulation 2019 for carrying out similar functions to the State Government, which is not subject to those same fees
What is the desired outcome sought?	The amendment of section 16(3) of the Uniform Civil Procedure (Fees) Regulation 2019 such that a local government is included in the meaning of 'state-related person'. This would provide greater parity between the State Government and local governments carrying out similar functions.
LGAQ comment	There is currently no LGAQ policy statement on this matter. There are also no Advocacy Action Plan (AAP) points nor recent previous annual conference motions regarding this issue. Currently local government is not included in the definition of state-related persons under the legislation. By including local government in the definition of State related parties, this would ensure parity of treatment with the State Government under the Uniform Civil Procedure (Fees) Regulation 2019. This would mean that in a proceeding to which a State-related or local government-related person is a party, the State-related or local government-related person need not prepay any fees of court.

Submitting council / organisation Cairns Regional Council	
LGAQ Policy Executive district District 10 - Far North	
Number and title of motion	87. State Government investment in COVID-19 Social Resilience research
Motion	That the LGAQ calls on the Queensland Government to invest in COVID-19 Social Resilience research to improve disaster response and recovery capability in pandemics.
Background	COVID-19 is an unprecedented event that is having wide-ranging human, social and economic impacts. Effectively managing and mitigating these impacts will be one of the biggest challenges faced by our generation. For many COVID-19 was an event of first-time experiences: First time to access welfare payments, accessing counselling supports, suffering extreme financial hardship, and for some, a first-time experience of family violence. This also involved needing to navigate new service pathways, many of which evolved as the event unfolded and continue to emerge in response to lag effects. However, current events also offer an unparalleled opportunity for learning. The impacts of COVID-19 on individuals, communities and service systems provides a unique learning experience to better understand and improve future response and recovery arrangements. This includes the complexities and interface between pre-existing social conditions and pandemic events, the profile of who is vulnerable in communities and their specific support needs, together with understanding models of effective service coordination and delivery with a pandemic overlay. This process will help to build an evidence base to inform ongoing COVID-19 preparedness, response and recovery arrangements related to pandemics.
What is the desired outcome sought?	COVID-19 Social Resilience evidence-base to improve disaster response and recovery capability in pandemics.
LGAQ comment	The LGAQ policy statement contains a number of positions on disaster response and recovery but currently does not cover this aspect.

	There are no relevant Advocacy Action Plan points nor previous Annual Conference motions related to this topic. The COVID-19 pandemic has helped reshape disaster responses with council experiences contributing to the valuable learnings of managing disaster events, particularly a prolonged and life-threatening pandemic/epidemic.

Submitting council / organisation Cairns Regional Council	
LGAQ Policy Executive district District 10 - Far North	
Number and title of motion	88. Development of dedicated funding program/s for Water and Wastewater Infrastructure
Motion	That the LGAQ calls on the State and Federal Governments to establish a dedicated ongoing funding program/s for water and wastewater infrastructure (including both asset renewals and new infrastructure required to support population and economic growth).
Background	Historically, dedicated funding was provided to local governments to assist in maintaining adequate infrastructure for essential services. Over many years, this funding has continued to diminish, placing excessive burden on local ratepayers. Challenges currently facing the urban water sector such as ageing infrastructure, population growth and changing needs of users have been discussed and highlighted by several reviews, the most recent being the 2019 Australian Infrastructure Audit. Following this audit, Infrastructure Australia has now identified town and city water security as a key priority investment area.
What is the desired outcome sought?	Round 6 of the State Government's Building Our Regions (BOR) Program will offer $70 million in funding over three years for councils to improve their water supply and sewerage systems. With 70 Queensland councils eligible for BOR, this equates to an average allocation of $1 million per council. While this funding is welcomed, it will fall significantly short of the level of investment many councils will need to make in water and wastewater infrastructure over the coming decade. The competitive process adopted for BOR will also limit the opportunity for many projects due to some local governments not having the appropriate resources to conduct planning and detailed design for 'shovel ready' projects. Local governments will still have a large asset renewal cliff to manage at the same time as continuing to deliver and manage new infrastructure to allow for growth and economic prosperity. There is a growing impact on the community to continue to see increases in essential services costs and this is unreasonable to continue to expect from the community, especially during the current economic climate.

	The desired outcome would see dedicated and ongoing funding program/s established to adequately address ageing infrastructure replacement and new infrastructure investment, utilising a risk-based approach and working across all levels of government with strong peer reviews to ensure projects identified are of the greatest benefit to the community. The quantum of funding allocated to these programs also needs to reflect the significant level of investment that will be required.
LGAQ comment	The LGAQ's current policy statement contains several points relating to this matter: 3.1.2.1, 3.1.4.3, 8.5.1.1, 8.5.1.2, 8.5.1.3, 8.5.2.1, 8.5.2.3, 8.5.5.1, 8.5.5.2 Similar annual conference motions seeking an infrastructure support program or dedicated water/sewerage funding were submitted by Central Highlands Regional Council in 2020 (carried), North Burnett and Tablelands Regional Council in 2014 (carried), and Logan City Council in 2013 (carried). Up to 2009, the State Government had a historic arrangement with local governments to provide 40 per cent of funding for all water and sewerage related infrastructure. This meant that funding was relatively consistent. Since 2009, this funding arrangement has collapsed and has been opportunity-based and grants-based. The last 10 years has also seen population decline in regional Queensland which has seriously impacted local governments' ability to finance for water provision through rates. In recent discussions with Minister Glenn Butcher (Minister for Regional Development, Manufacturing and Water), the LGAQ welcomed the BOR funding announcement but also noted that a dedicated funding stream (or subsidy) to support water and wastewater projects beyond the current 3-year period to provide funding certainty is needed so that councils can plan and deliver cost-effective projects over the long term through effective asset management and investment decisions. The minister recognised issues related to ageing infrastructure and noted the need to better understand the infrastructure cliff for water and sewerage assets, particularly the conditions assessments and asset criticality information which could help inform any future funding requirements.

C Motions

Submitting council / organisation Whitsunday Regional Council	
LGAQ Policy Executive district District 7 - Whitsunday	
Number and title of motion	89. Department of Transport and Main Roads Community Consultation and Communication with Councils
Motion	That the LGAQ calls on the Department of Transport and Main Roads (TMR) to establish a communication and engagement protocol with them to ensure that there is more open and collaborative engagement with councils and communities on key construction projects to ensure better informed councils and communities on proposed works in advance of projects commencing.
Background	There are gaps in the current processes for communication and engagement with councils and communities on key projects before these projects commence. A more collaborative and joined- up approach to work with councils and communities is needed to reduce confusion and misinformation on key projects that are having an impact on local communities. A distinct lack of communication is occurring within communities as key projects are commenced by TMR with little to no knowledge of council and local communities. There appears to be a disconnect between regional offices and the head office in Brisbane, with communities and councils having to find out after the fact on construction projects after they commence. To address this disconnect, it is proposed to establish a communication and engagement protocol that would allow councils to work with TMR on that local communication and engagement to ensure better information flows to communities and councils prior to construction commencing.
What is the desired outcome sought?	That a formalised arrangement is put in place to ensure better communication and engagement with councils and communities on key construction projects, so that councils, TMR and communities are better informed before works commence.
LGAQ comment	The LGAQ Policy Statement notes the following: *8.1.3.1 Local government is committed to the principles embodied in the Roads and Transport Alliance Memorandum of Agreement (MoA). These principles reflect a spirit of cooperation and joint decision making

	between local governments, and between local government and the State Government. The RTA (MoA) notes the following: *TMR and local governments have an equal interest in working together for the efficient provision of road and transport infrastructure, which reflects community expectations, regardless of ownership. In 2019, the State Government and the LGAQ signed an agreement for the partnership and relationship between the State Government and Local Government in Queensland. The agreement establishes a set of principles and roles and responsibilities, including that under this agreement, both parties will: *Agree that relations between the Parties should be conducted in a spirit of mutual respect and cooperation with an emphasis on partnership - a commitment to timely and frequent communication and with recognition of each other's roles and responsibilities.

Submitting council / organisation Banana Shire Council	
LGAQ Policy Executive district District 6 - Central Queensland	
Number and title of motion	90. Local involvement in Bikeway Decisions
Motion	That the LGAQ calls on the State Government to consult fully with local councils to ensure the most appropriate mode of transport is funded in local communities before plans are approved and projects are announced.
Background	Banana Shire Council has recently been advised of the installation of bikeways along the Dawson Highway in the town of Moura within the Banana Shire. The proposed spend on this project approaches $2 million, however there are very few actual bike riders in Moura. The proposed bikeway will result in the loss of a number of carparks on the Dawson Highway, denying local consumers key car parks and potentially business. Council is seeking a change of policy by the State that will facilitate a redirection of funding for bikeways to rural roads at the request of the relevant local government to ensure that funding is allocated to the highest level of needs for the community and align with the community's priorities.
What is the desired outcome sought?	That the State Government engages more effectively with rural communities when designing, funding and constructing bikeways in rural towns.
LGAQ comment	The LGAQ Policy Statement notes the following: *8.1.3.1 Local government is committed to the principles embodied in the Roads and Transport Alliance Memorandum of Agreement (MoA). These principles reflect a spirit of cooperation and joint decision making between local governments, and between local government and the state government. The RTA (MoA) notes the following: *TMR and local governments have an equal interest in working together for the efficient provision of road and transport infrastructure, which reflects community expectations, regardless of ownership.

Submitting council / organisation Redland City Council	
LGAQ Policy Executive district District 2 - Southern Region	
Number and title of motion	91. Adequate car parking for commuters at Queensland Railway Stations
Motion	That the LGAQ calls on the State and Federal governments to supply sufficient infrastructure, including car parking, at Queensland railway stations to accommodate and encourage use of public transport such as trains.
Background	South East Queensland is one of the fastest growing regions in Australia. With this influx of density, like other areas Redlands has experienced increased pressures on our road network. There is a need to encourage people to use public transport and this includes making the transport hubs user friendly for all stakeholders. All areas have seen City Plans change over the past 10 years to increase density in close proximity to transport nodes, such as train stations, for more efficient use of existing infrastructure and to mitigate urban sprawl. This "infill" has impacted on existing residents and public transport commuters. At present, the increased impacts of lack of car parking is a particular disincentive for use and has also placed an unacceptable burden on what were once quiet neighbourhood streets.
What is the desired outcome sought?	More funding allocated to Queensland railway stations for car parking, including the consideration of land purchases for future planning, to encourage usage and to mitigate impacts on existing residents.
LGAQ comment	The LGAQ policy statement notes the following: 8.2.1.1 Federal and State government funding should be available to provide for a regionally and locally focused, multi-modal and integrated public transport network. The funding should be available for infrastructure delivery and operational continuance in preparation for sustained urban growth. 8.2.1.3 In planning for land use and transport integration, the federal, state and local governments should adopt a collaborative multi-modal approach which minimises the impact on the environment and energy consumption, supports accessibility and encourages the use of alternative modes of transport.

	A related motion, from Redland City Council was carried at the 2019 Annual Conference. The January 2020 response from the Minister for Transport and Main Roads noted: • TMR continues to monitor park 'n' ride use to understand customer behaviour and demand. This information helps inform future investment priorities to ensure park 'n' ride improvements are targeted at locations that provide the greatest benefit. • The State Government is currently investing over $125 million in expanding park 'n' rides in South East Queensland, which will add more than 3000 new spaces to the 31,500 plus car parks already provided at 159 park 'n' rides across the Translink train, bus, ferry and tram network. • TMR continues to work with councils on a case by case basis to ensure park 'n' ride improvements support desired land use and transport outcomes. A related motion was also carried at the 2018 Annual Conference, with a similar formal response from the Minister. Additionally, a $711 million Commuter Car Park Fund has been established within the Federal Government's Urban Congestion Fund to encourage greater use of public transport.

Submitting council / organisation Torres Shire Council	
LGAQ Policy Executive district District 10 - Far North	
Number and title of motion	92. Freight Equalisation Scheme for Remote Communities
Motion	That the LGAQ calls on the Federal and State Government to work together to investigate and establish a freight equalisation scheme for Queensland's remote communities to help address unsustainable costs of living.
Background	The cost of freight is a major contributor to the high cost of living and doing business in remote communities and especially Indigenous communities across Cape York, the Torres Strait and on Mornington Island. Costs are driven even higher during the wet season when roads become impassable for months at a time and communities become totally reliant on air and sea freight for food, household goods and general cargo. In its submission to the Federal Government's Inquiry into food pricing and food security in remote Indigenous communities, Outback Stores noted that the cost of freight can range up to 20 per cent of sales. Community Enterprises Queensland, operators of 27 community stores across the region, reported that the wet season supply chain can see freight costs five times higher than in the dry season, although CEQ noted that freight costs were not passed on to the consumer. CEQ's submission noted that freight accounts for approximately 13% of cost of goods sold. Freight service provider Sea Swift, which is the only sea freight provider across much of Northern Australia, indicated during the same inquiry that the logistical challenges of providing services in remote regions - such as varying quality of infrastructure, very high fixed costs despite fluctuating freight volumes, and climatic conditions - impacted what they needed to charge to deliver goods. In April this year, the Indigenous Leaders Forum passed a motion: "That the LGAQ request the State Government review freight and transport charges of food and consumable items to discreet communities to ensure equitable pricing and access to quality, healthy food."

	But it is now time to put pressure on both levels of government to come to the table with a bipartisan approach to addressing this issue properly. We can no longer afford to tinker around the edges with more reviews and inquiries if we are to come anywhere near to achieving Closing the Gap targets and improving the health and wellbeing of our people.
What is the desired outcome sought?	Freight subsidies have long been touted as a way to address the high cost of freight, however, there has been no willingness by the Federal or State governments to explore this as an option. There is precedent already for an effective freight subsidy – the Tasmanian Freight Equalisation Scheme (TFES) – which is funded by the Federal Government and has been in operation since 1979. The purpose of the TFES is to lessen the freight cost disadvantage of shippers moving goods by sea, in recognition of the significantly higher costs to ship goods by sea in the absence of a road freight network. Our issues are no different, and that is why we are calling on the Federal and State Governments to jointly agree to investigate and establish a freight equalisation scheme. The desired outcome: The Federal and State Governments jointly agree to investigate and establish a freight equalisation scheme to alleviate the freight cost disadvantage by freight carriers operating in remote regions, along the lines of the TFES.
LGAQ comment	The LGAQ policy statement notes the following: *1.9.5 State and federal governments will work with local governments to ensure that government investment in their communities will be expended in a manner that encourages a local economy, promotes local skills acquisition and local employment and serves to close the gap on the identified areas of disadvantage occurring in the communities.

Submitting council / organisation Mackay Regional Council	
LGAQ Policy Executive district District 7 - Whitsunday	
Number and title of motion	93. State Consultation on Public Boat Ramps
Motion	That the LGAQ calls on the Queensland Government to ensure full and proper consultation with local government regarding the installation and construction of public boat ramps
Background	An example is available of the installation of a new public boat ramp, with the boat ramp needing both an access road and carpark, neither of which are deemed a State responsibility and therefore are not funded as part of the State's project. There is an assumed expectation that Councils will provide the "land side" infrastructure, however there was no consultation with Council prior to the announcement of the project (nor was it part of any advised/agreed priority listing), and no agreement with Council to fund the road and carpark. As such, a boat ramp is being constructed without associated supporting infrastructure, demand for which will now come from users. An example of the importance of consulting with council and communities to better understand local conditions is the recent construction of a boat ramp facility in the Mackay Region, where the State Government followed the 'standard' drawings when constructing the boat ramp. In this example, council has since received feedback from the community that the ramp is not usable and does not meet the requirements for local users. Despite this feedback, the State will not consider changes as the design meets their 'standard drawings'.
What is the desired outcome sought?	True consultation with local government, as the co-funders of public boat ramp facilities, as well as with interested local residents to ensure agreement with projects and plans and suitability for local conditions.
LGAQ comment	There are no previous LGAQ annual conference resolutions in direct relation to this matter, however previous motions relating to consultation with the State government have been received. The LGAQ policy statement states: 8.1.3.1 Local government is committed to the principles embodied in the Roads and Transport Alliance (RTA) Memorandum of Agreement (MoA). These principles reflect a spirit of cooperation and joint decision-making between local governments, and between local government and the

	State Government. The RTA (MoA) notes the following: TMR and local governments have an equal interest in working together for the efficient provision of road and transport infrastructure, which reflects community expectations, regardless of ownership.

Submitting council / organisation Somerset Regional Council	
LGAQ Policy Executive district District 2 - Western Region	
Number and title of motion	94. Resourcing Management of State-controlled Land
Motion	That the LGAQ calls on the State Government to increase investment in managing antisocial behaviour within areas under their jurisdiction, including illegal camping and vehicle access in water courses of significant recreational and environmental value.
Background	The Mid Brisbane River and surrounds are a beautiful natural environment that provide a diverse playground for residents and visitors alike. The Mid Brisbane River is essentially a flowing pipeline between South-East Queensland's major water storage dams, Wivenhoe and Somerset, and the water treatment plants at Mt Crosby. Unfortunately, significant damage is being caused to the Mid Brisbane River and surrounds by groups of people illegally camping and four-wheel-driving. In addition to the anti-social behaviour and destruction of banks and the river bed, damage is now occurring to fences of adjoining residents and the rubbish, including human excrement and illicit drug utensils left behind, is escalating. Council has genuinely attempted to respond to the issues in the past through various strategies and joint initiatives with Queensland Police, however they are invariably undermined by the ability to regulate across multiple tenures, high capital costs and ongoing investment of people on the ground. These capital and operational costs are a significant limitation for the Somerset Regional Council given our large area and relatively small rate base. Council has reported these activities to the Department of Resources with an understanding it is their jurisdiction to regulate some of these activities, such as vehicle access and illegal camping, on unallocated State land and on State land that is on the water side of the high bank. Council understands this is a common issue across many local governments in Queensland where there is an interface with State land. To-date, the State Government's response has clearly indicated apathy to local problems and inadequate resourcing to effectively manage land under their own jurisdiction.

What is the desired outcome sought?	A State Government commitment to provide additional capital and operational resources to manage areas under their jurisdiction in areas of Queensland that contain significant recreational and environmental value.
LGAQ comment	The LGAQ policy statement holds the following position in relation to this matter: 5.3.4.4. Local governments seeks adequate state government resourcing of National Parks and Crown Land management authorities to ensure that appropriate land management practices are undertaken. Queensland local governments invest $260 million per annum on a range of different activities to manage natural resources including biodiversity conservation such as revegetation and habitat restoration, catchment management such as riparian restoration, bushfire management, weed and pest control and community engagement. There is no recurring funding program or framework to support a partnership approach to the management of unallocated state land between local and state government. There are no recent LGAQ Annual Conference motions that relate to this matter.

Submitting council / organisation Mackay Regional Council	
LGAQ Policy Executive district District 7 - Whitsunday	
Number and title of motion	95. Flexible State Planning Policies for Rural Areas
Motion	That the LGAQ calls on the Queensland Government to review the applicable State Planning Policy to enable individual councils more flexibility in considering reconfiguration of lot applications in Rural zoned areas.
Background	Provisions within the State Planning Policies and guidance material related to reconfiguration of lot applications in Rural designated areas do not always take into consideration the practical aspects of locating new development such as sensitive land uses and lot reconfigurations in areas that minimise conflict with agricultural uses, therefore aligning usable land with other uses to support long-term viability of farming operations. To ensure the protection of Good Quality Agricultural Land, it is proposed that some flexibility is available to local government, who as the local authority are best placed to understand local needs and requirements, however State Planning Policies that dictate Planning Schemes have inflexible guidelines.
What is the desired outcome sought?	Flexibility for local government to make more local and informed decisions related to reconfiguration of lot applications in Rural designated areas.
LGAQ comment	The LGAQ policy statement contains the following long-held policy positions relevant to this motion: 6.1.1.1 Local government should be recognised as the sphere of government immediately responsible for land use planning and development assessment. 6.1.1.3 Local government supports the definition of a 'state Interest' being limited to whole of state government-endorsed land use planning policy that has undergone rigorous community review. 6.1.1.5 Local government opposes state government land use planning policy or intervention that inhibits local decision making. When making or amending a local planning instrument, local governments are required to identify relevant State Planning Policy (SPP) state interests, determine how to balance state interests (as necessary) and how best to integrate these interests into a local planning

	instrument. The SPP does not prioritise one state interest over another at a state wide level. Whilst the SPP Agriculture state interest seeks that 'the resources that agriculture depends on are protected to support the long-term viability and growth of the agricultural sector', the SPP does not dictate specific reconfiguration of a lot requirements on rural zoned land. In general, the setting of minimum lot sizes in different zones is at the discretion of a local government. Some regulatory provisions do exist to support implementation of a Regional Plan under the Planning Act 2016. For example, the SEQ regulatory provisions contained in the Planning Regulation 2017 do specify a minimum lot size of 100 hectares for any new subdivisions in the category of Regional Landscape and Rural Production Area under the SEQ Regional Plan. The State Planning Regulatory Provisions (SPRP) for the Mackay Isaac Whitsunday Regional Plan ceased to have effect from 11 July 2012.

Submitting council / organisation Longreach Regional Council; Richmond Shire Council; South Burnett Regional Council; Western Downs Regional Council	
LGAQ Policy Executive district	
Number and title of motion	96. Reform of the Queensland Stock Route Network
Motion	That the LGAQ calls on the State Government to: • Review and implement changes to the Stock Route Management Act 2002 and Regulation to support greater cost recovery to councils through changes to the fee structure; • Allow councils to keep 100% of the revenue from permit fees; • Allow councils to waive permit fees for adjacent landholders to graze the network in times of drought at council's discretion; • Establish the Queensland Stock Route Advisory Group to support implementation of the Queensland Stock Route Network Strategy; • Work with local governments to provide a strategic approach to resolving the issue where landholders have historically fenced in the stock route network and/or are accessing the land free of charge without a Permit to Occupy; and • Commit to funding the ongoing maintenance of the stock route network at no expense to local government.
Background	The Queensland Stock Route Network (the network) is a system of State roads and reserves designated primarily for the purpose of travelling stock. Forty-eight local government areas in Queensland have parts of the stock route network within their Local Government Area. Local governments have responsibilities for day to day management and overall compliance on the network, whilst the State Government is the custodian of the land, providing support, guidance and strategic direction and management of Permits to Occupy on reserves. The current fee structure allows local governments to recoup just 4.6% of the total cost of managing the network, resulting in ratepayers bearing a large proportion of these costs. A regulation discussion paper was released in August 2021, was subject to public consultation. Additionally, councils would like to be able to encourage local landholders to graze the stock route network in times of drought at no charge. Currently, councils may waive the fee they receive at their discretion but are still required to collect the 50% of fee revenue required to be passed on to the State Government. Whilst greater cost recovery is likely to be achieved by an increase in

	permit fees, councils and their ratepayers are still heavily subsidising the operation of the stock route network. Local governments seek to work with the State Government to identify other mechanisms for the achievement of full cost recovery for local governments.
What is the desired outcome sought?	The LGAQ seeks greater cost recovery to councils for managing the network; greater ability for councils to waive permit fees for adjacent landholders in times of drought; the establishment of a Stock Route Network Working Group; a strategic approach to resolving issues associated with access to the network; and to work with the State Government to identify mechanisms for achieving full cost recovery for councils.
LGAQ comment	The LGAQ policy statement holds the following positions in relation to this matter: 5.2.2.1 Local government supports an equitable partnership approach with the state government in the sustainable maintenance and effective management of the stock route network. 5.2.2.2 Local government supports the inclusion of local government representation to provide opinion, comment and advice to the state and relevant Minister on the development of legislation, policies and guidelines for the use and management of the stock route network. 5.2.2.3 Local government supports a fair and equitable fee structure that enables a greater cost recovery to ensure the sustainable management and maintenance of the stock route network. The most recent LGAQ Annual Conference motions in relation to this matter is from 2020 and is as follows: That the LGAQ lobby the State Government to waive permit fees for owners seeking to graze their stock on the stock route and local roads adjacent to their properties during a declared drought. The verbal response received by the LGAQ from the Hon Scott Stewart, Minister for Resources in April 2021 was that there would be opportunities to progress this matter during the Stock Route Regulation 2003 review process. The LGAQ provided a submission to the Stock Routes Discussion Paper on 3 September 2021 in support of the proposed changes to increase the permit fees. In this submission the LGAQ also called for the ability for councils to retain 100% of the permit fees (and thereby use their discretion to waive fees in times of drought) as well as seeking further discussions with the State Government to identify mechanisms to achieve greater cost recovery by local governments.

Submitting council / organisation Southern Downs Regional Council	
LGAQ Policy Executive district District 4 - Darling Downs	
Number and title of motion	97. Additional Biosecurity Officers to Support Local Government
Motion	That the LGAQ calls on the State Government to resource additional biosecurity officers across Queensland to support local governments and the community to fulfil their requirements under the Biosecurity Act 2014.
Background	Queensland local governments under the Biosecurity Act 2014 are responsible for ensuring invasive biosecurity matter is managed in compliance with the Act by managing their own land but also ensuring landholders uphold their General Biosecurity Obligation. Queensland councils invest approximately $45 million per annum to control invasive plants and animals. A study conducted by the LGAQ in 2017/18 identified that for every dollar spent controlling invasive plants and animals, $2.20 of direct agricultural production benefits were generated and $3.00 of other socio-economic and environmental benefits were generated. The Australian Government have acknowledged the need to significantly bolster Australia's biosecurity system and announced investment of $370 million in the 21/22 budget. Recently local governments have witnessed the secondment of regional biosecurity officers into response activities such as the African Swine Fever Preparedness and Prevention Project. This has caused a significant decrease in the service provision to local government biosecurity officers, as the positions were not backfilled. Additionally, local governments contribute almost $5 million per annum to the on ground and research component of the Land Protection Fund and expect an appropriate level of on ground support as an important component of this contribution.
What is the desired outcome sought?	Additional regional biosecurity officers to increase the support to local governments and landholders in upholding their legislative obligations within the Biosecurity Act 2014.
LGAQ comment	The LGAQ policy statement holds the following position in relation to biosecurity:

	5.3.9.2 Local government seeks to work cooperatively with the federal and state governments to control the impacts of declared and environmental invasive plants and animals in the state. Queensland local governments spend $45 million per year controlling invasive plants and animals as a way of meeting their General Biosecurity Obligations under the Biosecurity Act 2014 and to ensure the protection of the environment and agricultural industries. Councils have witnessed declining support over the last decade, particularly the reduction of staff in regional areas to support councils discharge their responsibilities under the Biosecurity Act 2014. This has been particularly the case when Biosecurity Queensland staff are diverted to biosecurity response activities and their substantive positions are not backfilled.

Submitting council / organisation Charters Towers Regional Council	
LGAQ Policy Executive district District 9 - Northern	
Number and title of motion	98. Funding for the Control of Weeds in Regional areas of Queensland
Motion	That the LGAQ calls on the State and Federal governments to provide a targeted, regular and consistent funding stream to assist local governments in managing weeds across Queensland.
Background	During the past five years, Queensland regions have gradually seen a decrease in funding for weed management programs that are open for eligibility to various sectors including NRMs, universities and commercial entities. At present, there are no specific weed management funding programs from either state or federal government to assist Queensland local governments in the control and eradication of weeds. Councils are competing for a reduced portion of funding to manage pest weeds and larger Local Government Area footprints require a greater proportion of funding, for effective weed eradication in the regions. In an effort to control and maintain eradication programs, Councils such as Charters Towers Regional Council are having to allocate additional annual budget funds towards weed management. Limited funding availability is continuing to see significant impacts to the agriculture sector, with the ongoing threat of weeds spread from Council owned or controlled land to private properties. With the agricultural sector providing significant benefits to state and federal government, it is important that targeted funding is allocated and invested into protecting and developing agricultural land and the broader environment.
What is the desired outcome sought?	A reliable and targeted funding source is provided for Queensland Local Government Areas for the management and eradication of pest weeds. Prevention is better than cure – failure to source adequate funding will have costly consequences for Queensland councils.

LGAQ comment	The LGAQ policy statement holds the following positions in relation to this matter: 5.3.9.1 Local government seeks ongoing federal and state maintenance of the Weeds of National Significance (WoNS) program and its adequate resourcing to meet WoNs strategy outcomes. 5.3.9.2 Local government seeks to work cooperatively with the Federal and State Governments to control the impacts of declared and environmental invasive plants and animals in the state. 5.3.10.1 Local government is a major investor in natural asset management and seeks State and Federal government co-investment by making funds directly available to councils to value add to natural asset management outcomes in the State. Section 48 of the Biosecurity Act 2014 outlines local government's responsibilities in managing biosecurity, including the need to manage biosecurity risks on council land as well as to ensure the compliance by landholders to the Act. A study completed by the LGAQ in 2018 identified that local governments spend $45 million per annum controlling invasive plants and animals. The most recent round of the Queensland Feral Pest Initiative provided just under $900 000 worth of funding for stakeholders including local governments, for the management of invasive plants and animals through a competitive grants process. The total quantum of funding sought by eligible stakeholders was for $3.5 million, signalling the significant demand for funding programs such as this. The Federal Government announced $29.1 million worth of funding for established weeds and pests in its 21/22 budget but further details regarding eligibility are yet to be released. The LGAQ wrote to the Honourable David Littleproud, Minister for Agriculture and Northern Australia, in July 2021 indicating the substantial role of Queensland local governments in managing pests and weeds and the sector's willingness to partner to deliver programs with adequate resourcing.

Submitting council / organisation Brisbane City Council	
LGAQ Policy Executive district District 1 - Brisbane	
Number and title of motion	99. Yellow Crazy Ant bait supply
Motion	That the LGAQ calls on the State Government to manage Yellow Crazy Ants through the provision of baits to affected local government areas.
Background	Yellow Crazy Ants (YCA) - Anopolepis gracillipes - are an invasive ant species that is present in South East Queensland (SEQ) and other areas of the State. YCA form super colonies that can cause significant environmental harm. This has been well documented and demonstrated on Christmas Island. Prior to the commencement of the Biosecurity Act 2014, the State Government was responsible for the eradication of YCA in Queensland. Upon commencement of the Biosecurity Act 2014, eight of the nine known original YCA infestations were eradicated from the Greater Brisbane area. Fire ant reporting processes identified additional YCA infestation sites, with three infestations in Brisbane, and new incursions in Gold Coast and Moreton Bay. This species has not yet become established outside of these known infestations and, as demonstrated in other parts of Queensland, the opportunity for full eradication is currently feasible. YCA eradication will have benefits across all land tenures and all Local Government Areas throughout SEQ.
What is the desired outcome sought?	All local governments have an obligation under the Biosecurity Act 2014 to manage invasive biosecurity matter as outlined in Schedule 2, part 2. Tramp ants such as YCA are not species included in this schedule. However, local governments do have a responsibility to uphold their General Biosecurity Obligation (GBO), that is to undertake reasonable and practical measures to minimise biosecurity risk. To date, council has managed their GBO by delivering chemical treatments on council land and a program to map known infestations and monitor their rates of expansion. However, investment and success in managing YCA in Far North Queensland and Townsville have presented the opportunity for eradication to be pursued in SEQ.

	To position local governments to contribute to the eradication program, we are seeking the State Government to obtain an Australian Pesticides and Veterinary Medicines Authority (APVMA) off label permit and recommended chemicals (Antoff) to be available to support on ground eradication efforts, the in-kind contribution made by localities where YCA exist. This could result in not only the eradication of YCA in Australia, but also in the development of a collaborative approach to the sharing of research and science for the management of invasive species.
LGAQ comment	The LGAQ Policy Statement holds the following position in relation to biosecurity: 5.3.7.2 Local government seeks to work cooperatively with the federal and state governments to control the impacts of declared and environmental invasive plants and animals in the state. At the 2019 LGAQ Annual Conference, the following motion was passed: That the LGAQ lobby the State Government for an increase in resources and community awareness campaigns to combat the spread of invasive ant species in Queensland. The response received from the Minister for Agricultural Industry Development and Fisheries, Hon. Mark Furner on 25 March 2020 notes the following in relation to yellow crazy ants: The community awareness activities of the Whitsunday Regional Council in its response to yellow crazy ants at Shute Harbour are being supported in-kind by officers of the Department. Invasive ants such as Red Imported Fire Ants (RIFA), yellow crazy ants and electric ants are classified as Category 3 restricted matter invasive ant under the Biosecurity Act 2014. They have the potential to impact on our outdoor lifestyle, unique environment and profitable agriculture. In its 2019/2020 budget, the Federal Government allocated additional $9.2 million to control yellow crazy ant infestations. Following this, the State Government allocated $9 million from 2019 to 2022 to control further yellow crazy ant infestations. In addition, the State Government is delivering a program to eradicate RIFA under a National Cost Share Agreement worth $411 million in concert with the Federal Government since 2017. The LGAQ having received a similar motion in relation to Red Imported

	Fire Ants at the 2020 LGAQ Annual Conference, is currently working with the Department of Agriculture and Fisheries to advocate for a trial where councils are provided with baits for fire ant control.

Submitting council / organisation Balonne Shire Council; Brisbane City Council; Tablelands Regional Council; Whitsunday Regional Council	
LGAQ Policy Executive district	
Number and title of motion	100. Valuation for Rating purposes – Local Government issues to the systemic review by Valuer General
Motion	That the LGAQ calls on the Valuer General/ State Valuation Service (SVS) for improvements in the system of delivery of valuations for rating purposes by the Valuer General/State Valuation Service (SVS), through participation in the current SVS review, with an emphasis on • timeliness of provision of valuations to suit Council needs in budget preparation cycle, • reduced costs if no valuation is issued in a given year • requiring the valuer-general to make an annual valuation of land in a local government area where the local government has requested an annual valuation to be undertaken • currency of valuation through annual or (at least) more frequent valuations, • improved communication and engagement with councils and market sectors around methodology in the lead up to, and objection and appeal period after the issue of valuations • improve transparency and clarify its methodology for rural land valuations given the significant increases across primary production in the South West (and other regions) and mixed messages around whether farming properties are exempt from highest and best use.
Background	The LGAQ has received four proposed motions for consideration the 2021 Annual Conference, all of which relate to matters to be raised with the Valuer-General to improve the useful delivery of valuations for rating purposes. They have been combined into this composite motion but are listed individually below. Whitsunday Shire Council: Local Government Land Revaluations The LGAQ calls on the State Government for changes to the current practices on local government land valuations, to ensure that the maximum period between revaluations should be reduced from five years to three years. Balonne Shire Council: Land Valuations – Queensland

	That the LGAQ lobby the State Government to: a) improve transparency and clarify its methodology for rural land valuations given the significant increases across primary production in the South West (and other regions) and mixed messages around whether farming properties are exempt from highest and best use; and b) review the timing of its land valuations so that it does not impact on council's ability to forecast revenue without knowing the outcome of valuation objections. Brisbane City Council: Annual valuations That the Local Government Association of Queensland lobby the State Government to amend Section 74(1) of the Land Valuation Act 2010 to require the valuer-general to make an annual valuation of land in a local government area where the local government has requested an annual valuation to be undertaken. Further, where the Valuer-General determines an annual valuation of land in a local government area will not be undertaken under Section 74(1) of the Land Valuation Act 2010, that the cost to the local government for State Valuation Services be reduced to reflect this reduction in services provided. Tablelands Regional Council: Significant Land Valuation Movements That the LGAQ lobby the State Government for:- a) The Department of Resources (DoR) to provide more public education about valuation processes and methodologies where valuation outcomes produces extreme valuation relativity changes (say +/- 25%) in a land use category. b) The DoR to provide greater transparency, awareness and details regarding the property valuation methodology, particularly in relation to how water is attributed to valuations. c) The reintroduction of local valuation consultative forums to enable relevant stakeholders to provide advice to regional DoR (valuation) staff on issues impacting local valuations and the provision of local intelligence to be considered by DoR prior to releasing valuations.
What is the desired outcome sought?	That the Valuer-General/Valuations Service review current processes for implementation of the Land Valuation Act 2010 to provide a focus on the needs of their major "customer", local government, with regard to the timeframes of the valuation/rating cycle, and make improvements to stakeholder and community engagement processes in delivering land valuations.

LGAQ comment	These issues have been part of ongoing and regular LGAQ advocacy to the Valuer-General via the LGAQ's representation on the Valuer-General's Valuation Reform Reference Group meetings. The LGAQ has recently made a preliminary submission to the Valuer-General's in-house review of their implementation of the provisions of the Land Valuation Act 2010, emphasising that local government is one of only two customers the Valuer-General is established to service through provision of valuation services, and it is a reasonable expectation that improvements in their process that will benefit councils should be prioritised.

Submitting council / organisation Whitsunday Regional Council	
LGAQ Policy Executive district District 7 - Whitsunday	
Number and title of motion	101. Changes to Local Government Regulation – Section 116
Motion	That the LGAQ calls on the State Government to change the Local Government Regulation 2012 (Section 116) to allow for rates capping to apply to negative changes in valuations, to limit the amount that general rates can reduce to improve consistency in rating practices.
Background	The State Valuation Service, through the Department of Resources, provide land valuations each year to local government to provide a basis for issuing general rates on the value of the land. There is a section (116) within the Local Government Regulation 2012 to limit the increase in rates, but no corresponding section on decreases when there are negative movements in the valuation. This year council received its revaluation for the first time in five years. There were wide ranging and disparate changes in the valuations across the whole region. In essence, a third of the valuations went up, a third went down, and a third remained about the same across most land use types in the region. And these changes were not consistent within similar land uses in different areas of the region. While council was able to limit the increases (through capping), there was no mechanism to provide a floor – or maximum reduction for consistency. Those general rates dropped significantly, and these changes flowed through to real reductions in rate accounts. There was no mechanism to limit (cap) the decrease in valuation.
What is the desired outcome sought?	It is proposed to seek an amendment to the legislation to allow for the limitation to apply to increases and decreases in valuations that flow onto to general rates calculations. This will provide more consistency in rating outcomes for local government and for the equitable treatment of valuation changes.
LGAQ comment	The LGAQ policy statement holds positions relevant to this matter including: 3.2.1.1 There should be no interference with the autonomy of local governments in the setting of rates and charges. 3.2.1.2 The responsibility for valuation should remain with the State Government

	This matter was the subject of a similar motion in 2017 (Resolution 18 - Rating —Valuations Averaging). The LGAQ advocated on behalf of the membership for changes but the Minister at the time was not supportive. The legislation and principles around the issue state that the rateable value of a property is the indicator of the property's ability to generate revenue, and council's rating (taxing) powers are used to determine levy of equitable rates and charges. Valuations are determined by the Valuer-General, in accordance with the Land Valuation Act 2010, annually or less frequently depending on market movement and time since last valuation etc. Rating tools are available to councils to give flexibility in developing rating strategies resulting in equity in protecting ratepayers from adverse and extreme outcomes of valuation increases - including averaging, capping, differential categories and minimum general rates to name the main tools. However, the tools are limited to determining "equity" where there is an increase in valuation relative to other properties. A relative decrease in valuation must be applied in the property owner's favour and cannot be adjusted by averaging or capping. A minimum general rate is often used in order to ensure that all properties contribute a reasonable amount to the costs of the functioning of the local government, regardless of land value.

Submitting council / organisation Isaac Regional Council	
LGAQ Policy Executive district District 7 - Whitsunday	
Number and title of motion	102. Action to Address Regional Inequality
Motion	That the LGAQ calls on the Federal Government to implement the recommendations of the Senate Economics Reference Committee Inquiry Report into the indicators of, and impact of, regional inequality in Australia in December 2020, in order to address regional inequality.
Background	The Economic References Committee draw reference to the many previous inquiries into Regional Australia. The Select Committee on Regional Development and Decentralisation report tabled 28 June 2018 included a very extensive list of parliamentary inquiries and major research spanning 20 years. A further Select Committee of the House of Representatives – the Select Committee on Regional Australia is due to report on 31 March 2021, making it the third Commonwealth parliamentary inquiry into regional Australia in three years. Given the extensive research conducted into Regional Australia, now is the time to take stock of the findings and advance a positive regional development program, as recommended by the Senate Economics References Committee. A program that builds on what has been learned through the many inquiries and the expertise of those who live in the regions. Close analysis of the effectiveness of Regional Development Australia and the Office of Northern Australia will also be useful to determine if current Government approach to managing and developing regional Australia is optimal. The focus of the recommendations of the Report provide an opportunity for collaborative partnerships between all levels of government and the regions and will contribute to community and council resilience for the regions. Recommendation 1 recommends the Australian Government fundamentally re-examine its regional infrastructure spending plan and make an expanded infrastructure program the basis for its stimulus plan for Australia's economic recovery from the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic; and

	Recommendation 2 recommends, in order to achieve the most appropriate response for regional investment, the Australian Government undertake a series of round table consultations with: • Commonwealth departments and agencies; • State and local governments; • Regional associations; and • Community organisations.
What is the desired outcome sought?	The global pandemic has been one of the most significant events of the past 50 years. It has required a new way of thinking about economic, social and political issues. There has been new thinking on working from home and new thinking on cities, as regional Australia has been the least affected by the pandemic. Initial evidence has shown that the pandemic has inspired a reconsideration of city living and a look to the regions. Regions are now more attractive with lower house prices, relaxed lifestyles, and a safer environment regarding illness and health. Combined with the changed government thinking on debt and deficits – being that in times of crisis borrowing to support the economy is appropriate – the pandemic has provided a catalyst for change. The 2020-21 Federal Budget featured significant funding for Australia's infrastructure with a $7.5 billion investment in transport infrastructure around the country as part of the COVID-19 economic recovery plan. Now is the time to reconsider the approach to Australia's regions. The vast list of previous inquiries have repeatedly heard that for the regions to prosper and reduce inequality they need large and sustained investment in infrastructure, education, training, amenities and healthcare. The Federal Budget, on 6 October 2020 earmarked $552.9 M over 4 years to support regional Australia to recover from the impacts of COVID-19 and recent natural disasters, build resilience to future economic shocks and support long term economic growth. That is less than $140M a year. Now is the time to make necessary investments in the regions to develop, stimulate and rebuild the Australian economy. The next decade presents a once in a century opportunity to make those investments and allow regional Australia to fulfil its potential.

	This motion provides an opportunity for collaborative partnerships between all levels of government and the regions and will contribute to community and council resilience for the regions. The motion was supported at the 2021 ALGA National General Assembly in June. The LGAQ is called on to support and advocate to the Federal Government to address regional inequality.
LGAQ comment	The LGAQ policy statement holds positions relevant to this matter including: 8.9.1 Regional Queensland underpins the state's economy through a diverse industry base including agriculture, resources and tourism and seeks to be supported by appropriate levels of service and infrastructure. The 2020 LGAQ Annual Conference previously considered this matter and resolved: That the LGAQ lobby the Federal Government to acknowledge that regional inequality still exists and to commit to a consistent policy approach through all agencies to address regional inequality in Australia. Following changes in the Federal Ministry, the LGAQ wrote to the new Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Infrastructure, Transport and Regional Development – The Honourable Barnaby Joyce MP to welcome him to the portfolio and pursue the issue of regional inequality. In response, the Deputy Prime Minister acknowledged and welcomed the findings from the Senate Economics Reference Committee's Inquiry into the indicators of, and impact of, regional inequality in Australia in December 2020, and stated that the government is currently considering its response.

Submitting council / organisation Banana Shire Council	
LGAQ Policy Executive district District 6 - Central Queensland	
Number and title of motion	103. Program to Replace Existing Street Lighting with Solar Lighting
Motion	That the LGAQ calls on the State Government to develop a program to replace existing street lighting with solar lighting.
Background	Banana Shire Council currently spends over $500,000 on street lighting per year. This is a significant cost for the various communities across the Banana Shire and this would be reflected across many communities in Queensland. A program to replace town street lighting with solar lights would provide a significant saving to local Councils and would have the State taking a significant lead in introducing renewable electricity technology into main line transport infrastructure across the State. There are a number of examples of solar powered lighting currently in place, offering a reasonable level of confidence of the reliability of solar powered lights in public spaces.
What is the desired outcome sought?	This program will assist communities to become more carbon neutral by installing street lighting powered by renewable energy.
LGAQ comment	The LGAQ Policy Statement contains positions relevant to the matter including: 8.7.2.3 Local government recognises the advancement of public lighting technology, especially in relation to energy efficiency and smart street light technology. Distribution entities should make their plans for a timely transition to these new technologies publicly available.

Submitting council / organisation Moreton Bay Regional Council	
LGAQ Policy Executive district District 2 - Northern Region	
Number and title of motion	104. State Penalties Enforcement Registry Process Improvements
Motion	That the LGAQ calls on the State Government to: 1. Ensure the State Penalties Enforcement Registry (SPER) source and implement an updated "fines-on-line" web portal service. 2. Amend SPER processes and practices to require the approval of the issuing authority prior to the cancellation of an enforcement order in circumstances where legislative requirements of service and lodgement have been met by the issuing authority. 3. Facilitate the compulsory refunding of all fees paid by issuing authorities to SPER on the approval of any Work and Development Orders. 4. Ensure the commencement of quarterly engagement between SPER and issuing authorities requiring motions raised to be addressed and outcomes provided in a timely manner. 5. Ensure quarterly reports detailing Work and Development Orders applicable to issuing authorities identifying the community benefit.
Background	Local governments are required to use the State Penalties Enforcement Registry (SPER) for the collection of fines and penalties. SPER's current 'fines-on-line' web portal is outdated and not compatible with current generation internet browsers. It is only compatible with Internet Explorer which is unsupported by Microsoft. SPER's current internal processes grant a cancellation of enforcement orders on application without investigation or stakeholder feedback from the issuing authority, shifting and increasing the administrative burden to issuing authorities where penalties have already been issued, served and lodged as per legislative requirements. Council is not aware of any evidence of Work and Development Orders

	providing benefit to the community. The only benefit appears to be to the debtor.
What is the desired outcome sought?	That SPER be required to: • Update the fines-on-line software as a priority; • Obtain Local Government approval to cancel enforcement orders in circumstances where legislative requirements have been met; • Obtain approval from the respective Local Government for any Work and Development Orders made against debts lodged by the local government; • All fees should also be returned to the local government on approval of orders.
LGAQ comment	There are no previous LGAQ policy statements in relation to this matter. There are also no Advocacy Action Plan (AAP) points or recent previous conference motions regarding this issue. 1) SPER has some planned upgrades to the system including the 'fines-on-line' web portal. While there is no current timeframe for this, they have advised that the service is old and they will be doing a minimum upgrade to ensure it is safe and risk-free platform and be accessed easier for councils. 2) SPER confirmed within the legislation the term 'service' is very grey. Clarifying this term would require a legislative amendment and they are aware of this need. 3) Work programs, such as work and development orders, are not currently covered in the SPER legislation. Therefore, this change would need to be considered in the context of any future policy / legislative changes. 4) Currently SPER meets with key agencies, but they advised that due to the number of issuing agencies it would not be possible to meet with every agency on a quarterly basis. The LGAQ meets regularly with the SPER. 5) SPER advised that currently any requests have to go through the intelligence team and they are assessed on a case-by-case basis. Agencies can send an email to a specific email address as all requests must be in writing. The email should include what information is required, frequency of reports, etc. The sort of information may not include

	behavioural details (for privacy and Human Rights considerations) but broad topics with de-identified information about individual cases.

Submitting council / organisation Sunshine Coast Regional Council	
LGAQ Policy Executive district District 2 - Northern Region	
Number and title of motion	105. Amendment of section 236 of the Local Government Regulation 2012
Motion	That the LGAQ calls on the Department of State Development, Infrastructure, Local Government and Planning to work with the LGAQ and member councils on options for expanding the scope of section 236 of the Local Government Regulation 2012; to facilitate local level decision-making on approvals for an exemption from the compulsory tender or auction requirements for the disposal of non-current assets, in circumstances where there is a clear business case that demonstrates the disposal of the asset would provide demonstrable beneficial outcomes for the economy and/or community.
Background	Section 227 of the Local Government Regulation 2012 (LGR) provides that a local government cannot enter into a valuable non-current asset contract unless it first undertakes a tender or auction process. Section 236 of the LGR provides an avenue for exceptions from the compulsory auction and tender requirements in section 227 of the Regulation for certain limited circumstances. While it is acknowledged the Minister is not limited in the scope of circumstances for which an exemption may be granted, the need to pursue a Ministerial exemption should be an avenue of last resort. It is acknowledged that councils – if afforded greater flexibility to authorise their own disposal of a valuable non-current asset (including land) without undertaking a tender or auction process – should be basing such decisions on a clear, evidence based business case. In such instances, the business case should demonstrate that a beneficial outcome will be realised for the economy and/or community by undertaking the disposal without a formalised tender or auction process. Should councils be afforded greater flexibility in this regard, there should also be a requirement that the return to the local government is at least equal to or greater than market value of the land. The existing provisions in Chapter 5B of the Local Government Act 2009 relating to the management of Councillor Conflicts of Interest apply to

	participating in a decision of a local government – which includes participating in any decision a council may make in granting an exemption from the compulsory tender and auction requirements in relation to the disposal of a valuable non-current asset. Affording greater flexibility to councils to determine such exemptions based on an evidence based business case and demonstrable beneficial outcome for the community and/or would enable councils to: • Be more agile in dealing with innovative land development and infrastructure delivery models with private and community sector partners; • Facilitate alternative models for the delivery of community and other public facilities and services; and • Enable longer-term local economic, social and environmental outcomes to be salient considerations for a local government in determining any potential disposal arrangements.
What is the desired outcome sought?	As per the motion
LGAQ comment	There is currently no LGAQ policy statement on this matter. However, the policy statement does state: 1.7.1 Local government will commit where possible and practical to: Maximisation of operational productivity, for example via joint local government resource sharing; • Utilising "best practice" in local government; • Flexibility and adaptability to changing circumstances; • Innovation in all aspects of local government operations.

Submitting council / organisation Longreach Regional Council	
LGAQ Policy Executive district District 8 - Central West	
Number and title of motion	106. Local Government Community Child Care Fund Review
Motion	That the LGAQ calls on the Federal Government to review how the Community Child Care Fund can better support childcare services operated by local governments in rural and remote Australia.
Background	The way childcare is funded in Australia changed with the adoption in 2018 of the New Childcare Package. As part of the package, The Community Child Care Fund (CCCF) is designed to help services stay open and available to children in disadvantaged, regional and remote communities. Local governments in rural and remote areas operate childcare services in the absence of any viable private sector alternative. These services, supported by local government, drive important workforce participation outcomes in our rural and remote communities. Structural issues faced by local government in providing these services make the long term planning and viability of services a challenge.
What is the desired outcome sought?	A review of the CCCF guidelines that specifically addresses the ongoing viability of childcare services delivered by local governments in rural and remote communities. Consideration could be given to factors including but not limited to: • allocated (non-competitive) funding; • the duration of the funding window; • potential indexation; • the timely assessment and approval of applications; • needs analysis, including workforce attraction & retention outcomes; • means testing; and, • demand forecasting. The review would ideally be conducted with a view to improving the long term sustainability of childcare services offered by local government and its associated social and economic outcomes.

LGAQ comment	The LGAQ policy statement holds the following position in relation to this matter: 7.1.4.1 Local government will continue to work in collaboration with state and federal government departments with jurisdiction for childcare services, monitor changes in childcare legislation and government policy, and develop a local government position. There are no Advocacy Action Plan (AAP) points or recent previous conference motions regarding this issue. The Community Child Care Fund has a range of grant programs, including open competitive, restricted non-competitive and special circumstances grants. The department has identified a list of priority areas that experience particularly high levels of disadvantage compared to most other communities. The department uses the Australian Statistical Geography Standard Statistical Area 2 level (SA2) mesh block to identify priority areas. The priority areas list is based on Australian Early Development Census, Socio-Economic Indexes for Areas, and Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) data. Given that the Fund was established in 2018, it is timely for a review to ensure it is meeting set objectives.

Submitting council / organisation Mackay Regional Council; Townsville City Council	
LGAQ Policy Executive district	
Number and title of motion	107. Greater flexibility in Queensland Government sporting grant funding guidelines
Motion	That the LGAQ calls on the State Government to amend sporting grant funding guidelines to allow not-for-profit organisations, including regional sports bodies with a focus on promoting physical activity, to be eligible for such grants.
Background	The 2021 ActiveKIT program was a pool of funding, worth approximately $4.1 million, with a stated aim "to support innovative solutions within the Active Industry to increase physical activity opportunities for target cohorts and contribute to the industry's capability and resilience". In the 39 projects that were funded through ActiveKIT, a number of corporate recipients receive significant funding, as well as the multi-billion dollar-budget University of Queensland, while not-for-profits such as the North Queensland Sports Foundation, were deemed to be ineligible.
What is the desired outcome sought?	That the Minister for Sport amend future funding program guidelines to allow not-for-profit groups with significant regional coverage, but not necessarily statewide coverage, with a focus on promoting physical activity, to be eligible for a wider number of sports funding programs, including ActiveKIT.
LGAQ comment	The LGAQ Policy Statement contains positions relevant to this motion including: 7.4.1.4 Local government will lobby the state government and the private sector to provide a wide range of funding and grant programs to meet identified community need for a diverse range of sport and leisure facilities. The State Government announced the ActiveKit fund in March 2021. The fund's aim is to support sports technology companies, businesses and local government invest in Knowledge, Innovation and Technology (KIT) that will support more Queenslanders to become physically healthy, fit and active. Organisations eligible to apply for the grant included councils, state-level organisations, and national sporting organisations operating in Queensland, Queensland based NFPs providing state-wide services,

	tertiary or research institutions, and SMEs. Organisations not eligible to apply included local and regional active industry organisations, TAFE colleges and schools. Funding cash co-contributions were required. Expanding grant eligibility in the manner proposed by this motion may make grant success more difficult for some councils as a result of increased competition from newly eligible regional organisations. On the other hand, where councils don't lodge their own grant application, their communities could still benefit as a result of a successful application lodged by a regional sport organisation that was not previously eligible to apply. In the most recently funding round there were 39 successful applicants including Bundaberg, Fraser Coast, Logan, Noosa, Redlands, Scenic Rim and Toowoomba Regional Councils. Brisbane City Councils' Green Heart City Smart Pty Ltd was also successful. Funded projects included: • An app to encourage office workers to make movement part of their daily routine. • Physical activity programs for cancer survivors, arthritis sufferers and Queenslanders with a disability. • A multi-gym access pass for sport climbers • Digital registration system to streamline club sign-on days. • Administration software for sporting clubs. • Local Government-developed, location-specific exercise opportunities for seniors, women and girls. • Online coaching platforms for community clubs by state level sporting organisations.

Submitting council / organisation Banana Shire Council	
LGAQ Policy Executive district District 6 - Central Queensland	
Number and title of motion	108. Community Access to Education Department Facilities in Small Communities
Motion	That the LGAQ calls on the State Government to provide direction to school principals encouraging community access to Education Department facilities in small communities.
Background	In many small rural communities, schools operate a number of significant community facilities such as halls, pools and sports facilities. In many of these areas, the education facilities are the only access the community has to these types of facilities. Unfortunately, community access to these facilities is heavily reliant on the school principal at the time. While many school principals encourage a high-level of interaction between the community and the school, some principals take a far more cautious approach restricting the availability of school facilities to the community. Reduction in community access to education pools, halls and sporting facilities has an immediate and pervasive impact on local communities because access to public facilities is often more than an hours' drive and, in some cases, can be two to three hours' drive to access public facilities. Local communities rely on cohesive relationships and shared facilities to prosper and a firm direction from the State on access to education facilities will go a long way to encouraging sustainability in these communities.
What is the desired outcome sought?	That residents in local communities have a structured approach to access Education Department facilities where public facilities are not otherwise economical to develop.
LGAQ comment	The LGAQ Policy Statement includes two specific and relevant policy positions: * 7.4.1.1 Local government seeks a more coordinated approach to accessing existing state land and facilities, particularly state schools and colleges, for community based sporting clubs outside normal school hours. * 7.4.1.2 Local government seeks a Memorandum of Understanding

	(MOU) with the state government to establish the policies and procedures to achieve the outcome sought in 7.4.1.1. The issue of community use of, and access to, school sporting and leisure facilities has also been the subject of previous LGAQ Annual Conference resolutions such as: * Resolution 90 (2017) - That the LGAQ lobby the State Government to commence discussions on partnering with local councils to better utilise education facilities. * Resolution 86 (2016) - That the LGAQ lobby the state government to request that State school and college sporting and open space facilities be made available for use by community based sports clubs outside of normal school operating hours. In response to these resolutions, the State Government has previously advised that "Principals are currently required to give consideration to all requests to use existing school facilities, including any local government requests"... and that "Schools in Queensland and other states have been moving towards a more autonomous model of operation... Providing schools with the autonomy to make local decisions is supported and there is no intention to move to a centralised policy position." The LGAQ has however been advocating on behalf of councils on these matters over many years. The Department of Education recently updated its 'Community Use of State School Facilities Policy' (to take effect on 5 October 2021) which states a commitment to ensure local community groups have the opportunity to use school facilities, when they are not required by the school, as they are important community assets for the benefit of the broader community.