

Local Government Association
of Queensland



Advocacy Action Plan 2024

Because every Queensland
community deserves to be
a liveable one



Every Queensland
community deserves
to be a liveable one

The Local Government Association of Queensland acknowledges Australia's First Nations Peoples as the Traditional Owners and Custodians of the lands and waters on which we work and live, and gives respect to Elders past and present.

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples should be aware that this publication may contain the images of people who have passed away.

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A message from LGAQ CEO, **ALISON SMITH**



Queensland's councils know better than anyone what is needed to create liveable communities. Consequently, our councils undertake more than roads, rates and rubbish. We step in to provide extra services to ensure our communities prosper and we often assume the responsibility of other levels of government when they fail to fulfill their obligations.

This is why, the Local Government Association of Queensland (LGAQ) is ready to provide a strong and united voice on the critical issues that matter most to Queensland's 77 councils and the diverse local communities they represent.

The LGAQ's 2024 Advocacy Action Plan represents **136 motions** endorsed by Queensland councils at the LGAQ's 2023 Annual Conference, targeted to the level of government most able to action them. These resolutions outline the collective work that will be undertaken by the LGAQ on your behalf.

This year's policy themes - reducing the cost of living, energy and community transformation, better local infrastructure, addressing the housing crisis, building safe, resilient and liveable communities, empowering First Nations peoples, stronger councils and protecting the environment - reflect the challenges Queensland councils and communities encounter on a daily basis and the areas where the State and Federal governments need to take action - not cost shift.

The year 2024 heralds a period of transition with the local government elections, state government elections, and closely following federal government elections in 2025. It's important to note that this period presents a significant opportunity to prioritise local government concerns and, through unwavering advocacy, deliver solutions for our communities.

Undoubtedly, Queensland can only thrive if all three levels of government collaborate. The 2024 Advocacy Action Plan will aid in the LGAQ's negotiations to secure outcomes that benefit local communities and ensure essential funding from State and Federal governments.

For newly elected Mayors and Councillors, the 2024 Advocacy Action Plan is a crucial tool to inform you of the strategic advocacy priorities your fellow Queensland councils ratified.

The LGAQ has an impressive history of relentlessly pursuing crucial council issues, and I anticipate that this year will uphold that standard because of the unwavering belief that every Queensland community deserves to a liveable one.

ALISON SMITH
CEO, Local Government Association of Queensland



ABOUT **THE ADVOCACY ACTION PLAN**

The LGAQ is committed to member-led advocacy. The 2024 Advocacy Action Plan has been created from the 2023 Annual Conference motions proposed by, voted on and endorsed by Queensland's 77 councils on those things that help create liveable communities.

This year, the AAP includes 136 resolutions – requests and calls to action to be made to the State and/or Federal governments on behalf of our sector. These resolutions demonstrate both the extent of our sector's advocacy challenge, and the critical role local government plays in every aspect of community life – local government is more than roads, rates and rubbish.

Throughout the year, the LGAQ's Advocacy team will work with members to progress resolutions with the relevant level of government. We will do this through meetings, submissions, correspondence, working groups, forums, and public campaigns.

Our advocacy campaigns are always stronger when our members speak with one voice, collaborating to achieve a positive outcome. The LGAQ encourages our members to read the AAP to build awareness and understanding of the wide-ranging scope of your advocacy efforts, and to help support your own council's, or region's, independent advocacy on issues of importance to your community.

As the local government sector's peak organisation, we are committed to working with our members to build stronger, more resilient local communities through focussed and determined advocacy.

Should you wish to discuss any of the AAP points contained within this document, or have any further feedback, please contact:

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Ensuring the liveability of Queensland communities by

Reducing the cost of living



On behalf of our members, the LGAQ is asking:

The State Government to:

- ➔ Increase the maximum State Government pensioner rate subsidy to improve liveability for seniors; and increase the maximum subsidy annually in line with the consumer price index.

[Resolution 115 ▶](#)

- ➔ Take immediate action to address the issue of unpaid rates on mining leases within local government areas by; amending legislation to establish the mandatory payment of rates to local authorities as an obligation for all mining lease holders, and directly engaging in discussions with relevant mining companies on behalf of affected councils to resolve local authority rate arrears promptly and ensure fair financial responsibility, at no cost to councils.

[Resolution 116 ▶](#)

- ➔ Offset dividends provided by Sunwater against urban water pricing to help offset bulk water price impacts to urban customers.

[Resolution 138 ▶](#)

Both levels of Government to:

- ➔ Limit the co-contribution requirements for grant funding programs (including the Growing Regions Program) to 10 per cent or less, for local government areas classified as regional, rural or remote, which have limited capacity to raise or increase own source revenue outside current rating streams.

[Resolution 54 ▶](#)

- ➔ Urgently implement measures to alleviate the financial burdens imposed by unaffordable flood insurance premiums.

[Resolution 111 ▶](#)

Photo credit to Tourism and Events Queensland



Photo credit to Tourism and Events Queensland

Ensuring the liveability of Queensland communities with

Energy and community transformation



On behalf of our members, the LGAQ is asking:

The State Government to:

- Give the highest priority to expediting solutions for the renewal of quarry sales permits or the granting of new permits that comply with the *Native Title Act 1993* (NTA). These solutions will ensure that where Indigenous Land Use Agreements (ILUAs) are required; there is continued access to existing quarries whilst ILUAs are being negotiated, the cost of negotiating ILUAs is borne by the State Government, ongoing costs arising from the conditions negotiated in the ILUAs are borne by the State Government such as, royalties and employment guarantees, and give consideration to outsourcing professional resources to expedite negotiations.

The process of establishing a non-claimant application on areas where there is no Native Title Prescribed Body Corporate (PBC) needs to be initiated as a priority in all relevant areas.

The LGAQ calls on a coordinated approach by all relevant government agencies including Department of Transport and Main Roads (TMR) will ameliorate the high costs that will be imposed on councils resulting from the loss of access to existing quarries, that will not have adequate quarries available to them or are unable to have new quarries created.

Resolution 27 ▶

- Amend the *Planning Act 2016* to enable submitter appeal rights for renewable energy projects such as solar farms and wind farms.

Resolution 59 ▶

- Require - through its State Assessment and Referral Agency (SARA) planning authority for renewable energy projects - that neighbouring councils with road infrastructure critical to the delivery of these projects are engaged and that appropriate road infrastructure agreements are made prior to the commencement of construction.

Resolution 60 ▶

- Either establish a dedicated, independent and statutory Carbon Farming and Renewable Energy Projects Commission or extend the legislative functions of the current Queensland Gasfields Commission to cover the development and growth of Queensland's carbon farming and renewable energy industries.

Resolution 61 ▶

- Regulate for proponents to be held accountable to the Clean Energy Council best practice charter for renewable energy projects and seek a community contribution fee of \$1000 per annum per megawatt of a renewable project site, with 50 per cent of these funds paid directly to the local government hosting the site to enable the construction, maintenance, and operational management of local community-owned infrastructure projects.

Resolution 62 ▶

- Provide support to local governments assessing solar farm applications.

Resolution 63 ▶



- Require solar farm project proponents to enter into make-good agreements with immediate and impacted neighbouring properties, prior to the submission of the development application to council.

Resolution 64 ▶

- Add a land use management classification for carbon farming for valuation purposes.

Resolution 66 ▶

- Accelerate funding for replacement of bus fleets to zero emission vehicles.

Resolution 99 ▶

- Introduce legislation and policy which requires proponents of renewable projects to make a 'local benefit' contribution to regional communities by implementing the following measures; a mandatory notification process to local government for all renewable energy projects occurring within their region, meaningful engagement with local government, community, and local leaders, have a community contribution fee, based on capacity, for all renewable projects to support better community outcomes and provide access to Renewable Project Decommission Bonds, or local government hold these in trust, in order to protect prime agricultural land and support better decommissioning at an acceptable standard for community.

Resolution 133 ▶

- Guarantee the long-term competitiveness and sustainability of Queensland's resources sector during the implementation of current Net Zero policies, recognising the financial contribution the exploration, coal, metals, petroleum and gas sectors make to local communities, emerging industries (such as renewables) and the State as a whole.

Resolution 134 ▶

- Establish a dedicated fund to invest in critical infrastructure and to support the workforce sectors needed to enable the transitioning energy sector.

Resolution 136 ▶



Both levels of Government to:

- ➔ Support the local government sector to transition to net zero emissions through targeted operational and capital grants programs for councils to establish and maintain corporate emissions inventories (including mapping and annual emissions tracking) and corporate emissions reduction plans and invest in capital projects and supplement operational expenses, including dedicated council staff, that support identified emissions reduction priorities and climate mitigation strategies.

Resolution 135





Ensuring the liveability of Queensland communities with

Better local infrastructure



On behalf of our members, the LGAQ is asking:

The Federal Government to:

- ➔ Provide funding certainty for all Queensland councils by restoring the very successful Local Roads and Community Infrastructure (LRCI) Program, which is currently due to end on 30 June 2026, with the same broad program remit that was initially introduced and in legislation.

[Resolution 8 ▶](#)

- ➔ Ensure the response times for restoration and or repair to landline and mobile network infrastructure align with the Universal Service Obligations (USO) and the funding conditions through the mobile black spot program.

[Resolution 17 ▶](#)

The State Government to:

- ➔ Introduce an immediate top-up round of \$100 million to boost the successful Works for Queensland program and commit to permanently fund the program at a minimum of \$100 million a year, plus indexation, to give councils and local communities certainty.

[Resolution 5 ▶](#)

- ➔ Provide urgent investment certainty for local governments and industry that will develop a circular economy across Queensland, by fast-tracking the delivery of new resource recovery infrastructure and associated services, with front-ended funding under a long-term infrastructure plan.

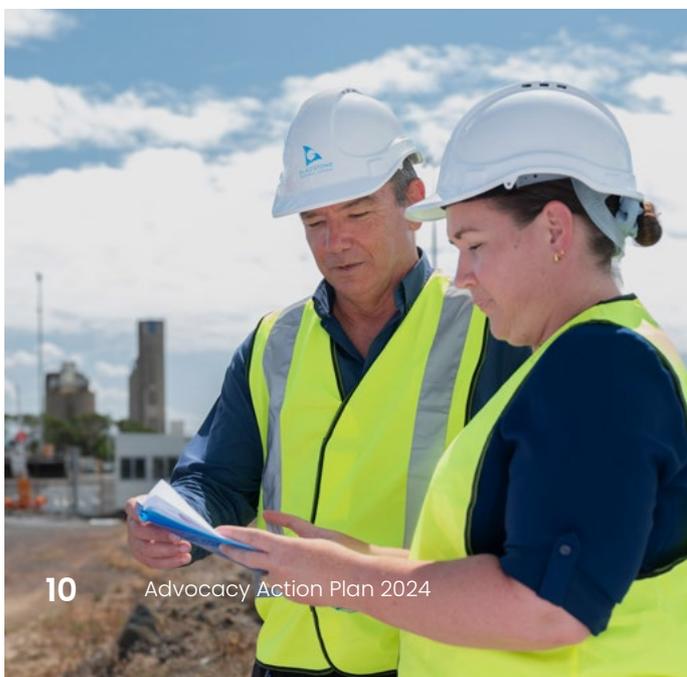
[Resolution 10 ▶](#)

- ➔ Increase funding for the Transport Infrastructure Development Scheme (TIDS) to ensure TIDS is increased to, and remains, a \$100 million annual funding program.

[Resolution 11 ▶](#)

- ➔ Introduce a Sewerage and Water Infrastructure Development Scheme (SWIDS), similar to the Transport Infrastructure Development Scheme (TIDS).

[Resolution 12 ▶](#)



- Simplify the regulatory processes to allow councils to utilise local gravel pits to ease supply chain pressures and to support local economic development.

Resolution 28 ▶

- Increase the amount of gravel to be drawn annually from borrow pits from 5,000 tonnes to 10,000 tonnes.

Resolution 29 ▶

- Allow gravel for flood damage that does not meet road technical standards to be able to be used where the nearest registered pit is more than 50km from the work site.

Resolution 30 ▶

- Amend how grants for essential infrastructure are determined and allocated, recognising the critical needs of smaller rural and remote councils by supporting more allocative funding opportunities.

Resolution 53 ▶

- Review the process for the development of business cases for major transport projects, to ensure costs are attributed to the correct level of government.

Resolution 55 ▶

- Clarify its policy position regarding the renaming of official or approved place names to Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander place names, provide guidance as to the effecting place name changes and provide funding to local governments to effect and market place name changes.

Resolution 58 ▶

- Work with local government to develop an enforceable framework, similar to the concept of a Road Infrastructure Agreement, to be used by councils and proponents across all industries, allowing for hard and soft social infrastructure needs to be addressed in affected communities.

Resolution 65 ▶

- Undertake legislative reform of the assessment process for major projects in Queensland to ensure contemporary impacts of major projects are appropriately consulted, considered and regulated for all stages of the project lifecycle.

Resolution 67 ▶

- Ensure that continuous active transport connections are provided to existing local networks, when planning and delivering major state-led infrastructure projects.

Resolution 102 ▶

- Ensure it engages with councils during the concept development phase of state-led infrastructure projects to ensure the respective council's landscape and urban design requirements are included in each project's scope of works.

Resolution 103 ▶

- Clarify expectations for asset improvements in meeting drinking water quality ensuring a consistent interpretation and approach for all Queensland water service providers.

Resolution 141 ▶

- Increase the funding to Road Maintenance Performance Contracts annually by the published Council Cost Index (CCI).

Resolution 144 ▶

- Review the Austroads and Queensland Guide to Temporary Traffic Management as it applies to local governments roles, responsibilities and obligations as the road infrastructure manager, to reduce over-regulation and growing costs associated with temporary traffic management and develop a risk-based approach to the Event Traffic Management framework to enable councils to authorise personnel to manage council and community event road closures/ vehicle movements at low-risk events.

Resolution 151 ▶

Both levels of Government to:

- Introduce new grant funding programs to address escalating local government infrastructure and service delivery costs.

[Resolution 52 ▶](#)

- Deliver funding to address areas of social disadvantage and limited infrastructure to island communities that no longer qualify for regional grants.

[Resolution 96 ▶](#)

- Support and commit appropriate funding to progress the inland rail to the Gladstone Port without prejudice to the existing scope that has been committed to.

[Resolution 106 ▶](#)

- Commit to the removal of select Open Level Rail Crossings (OLC) in Queensland by 2032.

[Resolution 143 ▶](#)

- Ensure reliable access to telecommunications infrastructure/services and improved mobile coverage in urban, regional and rural areas, by mandating all mobile phone carriers to properly address and resolve key mobile black spots within shorter timeframes, revising the funding approval process for the Mobile Black Spot Program to include a sign off from the local government area that the infrastructure proposed will be located in as part of the process, increasing funding for connectivity in regional areas, in particular narrowing black spot coverage areas and applying and ensuring telecommunication providers comply with a Community Service Obligation (CSO)/ Universal Service Obligation (USO) when supplying publicly-funded communications infrastructure/services, whether partially or wholly funded.

[Resolution 148 ▶](#)



Ensuring the liveability of Queensland communities by

Addressing the housing crisis



On behalf of our members, the LGAQ is asking:

The State Government to:

- ➔ Partner with councils to fund the implementation of practical solutions to the housing crisis, particularly experienced in regional areas, as identified under Local Housing Action Plans (LHAPs).
Resolution 35 ▶
- ➔ Review and amend the *Land Act 1994* and other related legislation, in consultation with councils, to provide greater flexibility for local governments trustees and streamline existing processes, including the transfer process for State Government reserves to local authorities where requested, to allow for a more cost-effective transition to freehold and/or broader use.
Resolution 36 ▶
- ➔ Consult with local government to pass legislation to include new definitions within the Planning Regulation 2017 for smaller scale attached residential development (up to six dwellings) and build-to-rent developments.
Resolution 38 ▶
- ➔ Consult with local government to pass legislation to support local government to condition covenants on property titles to ensure that affordable or social housing outcomes in new developments are binding on successive owners of the dwelling.
Resolution 39 ▶
- ➔ Review, in consultation with local governments, s20A of Schedule 6 of the Planning Regulation 2017, with a view to provide a more balanced approach to circumstances where vegetation clearing is allowed for bushfire hazard reduction, to minimise biodiversity impacts associated with such clearing.
Resolution 40 ▶
- ➔ Amend the *Body Corporate and Community Management Act 1997 (Qld)* to enshrine that a body corporate cannot refuse the reasonable request of a resident to access EV charging facilities within the premises.
Resolution 57 ▶
- ➔ Limit permanent workers camp arrangements in small resource communities such that they do not provide permanent accommodation.
Resolution 68 ▶
- ➔ Significantly increase funding to local community providers for outreach in response to the housing crisis, recognising that housing and homelessness is the responsibility of the State.
Resolution 91 ▶
- ➔ Acknowledge and respect the population growth projections as planned for by individual councils in the formation of regional plans, including the current *ShapingSEQ* review, ensuring the review process is consistent with each individual councils' aspirations for their region.
Resolution 94 ▶

- Provide dedicated funding, including access to low-interest loans, for councils wanting to voluntarily undertake housing projects to deliver affordable housing outcomes where needed, similar to the dedicated funds available to community housing providers.

[Resolution 119 ▶](#)

- Actively collaborate with councils to understand the impact of short-stay accommodation on amenity of neighbours and the availability of long-term rental stock, to improve regulation of the growth and impact of short-stay accommodation.

[Resolution 120 ▶](#)

- Rescind relevant provisions in the Planning Regulation 2017 making 'community residences' accepted development.

[Resolution 122 ▶](#)

- Provide adequate funding for infrastructure to match any increase in dwelling and population projections imposed by the State Government during any review of regional plans including the current *ShapingSEQ* review process.

[Resolution 153 ▶](#)





Ensuring the liveability of Queensland communities by

Building safe, resilient and liveable communities



On behalf of our members, the LGAQ is asking:

The Federal Government to:

- Introduce new legislation that will compel social media platforms to expeditiously remove content of people committing alleged crimes and remove the posts from the relevant platform.

[Resolution 31 ▶](#)

- Improve regional banking services by preventing the further closures of banks, taking immediate action to address discriminatory lending practices that unfairly target regional and remote areas based on postcode and advocating for responsible banking practices that ensure equitable access to banking services for all communities.

[Resolution 41 ▶](#)

- Not solely use water buybacks to recover water for the Murray Darling Basin targets, noting that an equitable triple bottom line approach is important for sustainable Queensland communities.

[Resolution 71 ▶](#)

The State Government to:

- Review the blue card framework so historical offences of a non-serious nature and not involving children are not taken into account.

[Resolution 13 ▶](#)

- Update all relevant legislation, including the *Second-hand Dealers and Pawnbrokers Act 2003*, to mitigate the rise of copper theft in Queensland.

[Resolution 20 ▶](#)

- Establish a local government funding program derived from the *Criminal Proceeds Confiscation Act 2002 (CPCA)* where money and property forfeited to the State as proceeds of crime is sold and returned to the State's consolidated revenue fund, a portion to be redirected to be reinvested in the community, through a local government community safety funding program.

[Resolution 32 ▶](#)

- Further amend the *Youth Justice Act 1992* to remove or amend Schedule 1 – Charter of Youth Justice Principles no. 18 and no. 19 relating to detention of a child in custody, for an offence, being only as a last resort.

[Resolution 33 ▶](#)



- Enable information sharing between the Queensland Police Service and local government by amending section 69 of the Police Services Administration Regulation 2016 to identify local government authorities as a law enforcement agency for the purposes of section 10.2G of the *Police Service Administration Act 1990*.

Resolution 51 ▶

- Educate the community on the fire safety risk of battery electric vehicles.

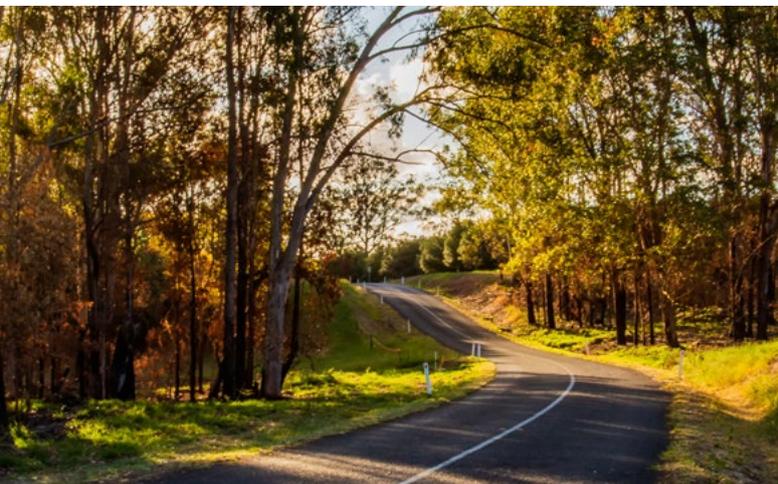
Resolution 98 ▶

- Require aged care facilities to develop agreed evacuation plans for their facilities to enable the necessary equipment, transport and accommodation to be available/accessible if required when natural disasters strike.

Resolution 105 ▶

- Implement a risk-based approach when assessing heavy vehicle access permits.

Resolution 107 ▶



- Address the decline in volunteer numbers throughout Queensland, promote recruitment of volunteers across our communities, support the establishment of Regional Volunteer Hubs (RVH) and integrate the activities of the Queensland Volunteer Resource Centre Network into the State's volunteer framework, building and maintaining a stronger and more resilient volunteering sector.

Resolution 114 ▶



Photo credit to Tourism and Events Queensland

- Invest in necessary social infrastructure and services to improve liveability and attract and retain workers in regional communities.

Resolution 137 ▶

- Amend the *Fire and Emergency Services Act 1990 (Qld)* and *Fire and Emergency Services Regulation 2011 (Qld)* and adopt a similar system to South Australia as set out pursuant to the *Emergency Services Funding Act 1998 (SA)* whereby the State Government administers and collects emergency management levies. Such legislative reform should be accompanied by modelling to ensure that there is no net increase to emergency management levies for property owners.

Resolution 146 ▶

- Renew its commitment to equitably fund arts and culture in regional and rural communities including the re-establishment of the Regional Arts Protocol between State and local government.

Resolution 152 ▶



Both levels of Government to:

- Engage with local governments to determine how maintenance arrangements and data access for councils for high priority gauges will be assured following any transfer of flood warning infrastructure to the Bureau and calls for the remainder of the network (medium and low priority gauges) to be included within the transfer of ownership to become Bureau assets.

Resolution 15 ▶

- Conduct an audit of all existing place-based youth justice programs, including diversionary and other specific initiatives to ensure funding is directed to those that are responsive to local needs, meeting intended outcomes and are fit for purpose, including additional programs developed in partnership between local government and Queensland Police Service that addresses gaps in service or assist better integration of outcomes for local communities.

Resolution 34 ▶

- Increase support to address gambling addiction and provide counselling services in regional, rural and remote areas throughout Queensland, to levels that match those services provided in major urban areas.

Resolution 113 ▶

- Provide increased investment toward the construction of new and augmented water infrastructure projects across regional Queensland to improve water security and deliver long-term, bulk water sources for regional communities.

Resolution 140 ▶

- Provide funding for dam safety improvement projects throughout the state.

Resolution 142 ▶

- Support and implement ongoing betterment funding programs to increase the resilience of assets and communities in the event of future natural disasters and increase betterment funding for disaster susceptible roads to ensure they are reconstructed to make the road network connecting communities in Queensland to critical services more resilient.

Resolution 145 ▶

- Actively engage with local governments, health providers and other stakeholders to better understand primary health care needs across Queensland's regions and deliver new place-based solutions to improve community health outcomes.

Resolution 149 ▶

- Collaborate on innovative solutions to urgently address healthcare shortages in regional, rural, and remote Queensland by boosting funding and support for public healthcare services and hospitals to ensure effective delivery of hospital and allied health services to all communities, expanding existing incentive programs to cover increasing living costs including raising financial incentives to attract General Practitioners (GPs) to live and work in rural and regional communities, increasing travel and accommodation allowances for regional patients.

Resolution 150 ▶



Ensuring the liveability of Queensland communities by

Empowering First Nations peoples



On behalf of our members, the LGAQ is asking:

The Federal Government to:

- ➔ Increase new housing supply in First Nations communities by allocating \$100 million per year for five years as a tangible and targeted measure to reduce overcrowding and achieve a key Closing the Gap target, which is currently not on track to be met.

Resolution 6 ▶

Both levels of Government to:

- ➔ Investigate health service delivery to ensure appropriate integration with complementary services in First Nations communities including community-controlled health services, alter the roll out of “home dialysis” programs to include a more expansive “community dialysis” approach – to allow dialysis to take place in community in a safe environment more appropriate to a First Nations context and to consider community-led palliative care models to ensure First Nations peoples have their right to heal and seek end-of-life support on country.

Resolution 18 ▶

- ➔ Provide funding to enable the negotiating and review of Indigenous Land Use Agreements to ensure they meet the ongoing needs of the community, traditional owners and local governments to support housing, economic and social development.

Resolution 37 ▶

Ensuring the liveability of Queensland communities with

Stronger councils



On behalf of our members, the LGAQ is asking:

The Federal Government to:

- Increase funding for Financial Assistance Grants and provide a pathway to restore funding to at least one per cent of Commonwealth taxation revenue, reversing the current trend which is seeing a funding reduction in real terms in each year's budget.

[Resolution 7 ▶](#)

- Establish and maintain consistency in payment timing for Financial Assistance Grants.

[Resolution 49 ▶](#)

The State Government to:

- Commit to supporting the autonomy of Queensland local governments and the manner in which they are elected by their local communities, for the remainder of this term and as an election commitment in 2024, by ruling out any changes to the current voting system (including any moves to introduce Compulsory Preferential Voting) and ruling out the introduction of a State imposed rate capping policy for Queensland councils.

[Resolution 9 ▶](#)

- Ensure that the planned amendments to the *Local Government Act 2009* regarding the Office of the Independent Assessor are progressed through Parliament as a matter of priority.

[Resolution 45 ▶](#)

- Amend the *Right to Information Act 2009* to apply to all State Members of the Queensland Legislative Assembly and their Electorate Office, to improve government transparency.

[Resolution 46 ▶](#)

- Provide further assistance to small, rural and remote councils to implement the Financial Sustainability Framework.

[Resolution 47 ▶](#)



- Make mandatory the existing “Equity and Fairness in Rating for Local Governments” Guideline as guiding principles to underpin their rating decision making process.

Resolution 48 ▶
- Introduce criteria for urgency within the *Land Act 1994 (Qld)* specific to local government which applies in the assessment of applications submitted by local government for the provision of community infrastructure to acquire a redundant reservation under section 26A of the *Land Act 1994 (Qld)* or to convert a lease to freehold under section 166 of the *Land Act 1994 (Qld)*.

Resolution 69 ▶
- Amend the *City of Brisbane Act 2010 (COBA)* and the *Local Government Act 2009 (LGA)* to include a clear offence provision for owners who do not comply with a written notice to connect a property to local government stormwater infrastructure, and consequently amend the State Penalties Enforcement Regulation 2014 (SPER) to enable local governments to issue an infringement notice for the offence.

Resolution 73 ▶
- Change the frequency in which land valuations are issued for predominately rural councils to every three years, if requested by the relevant council.

Resolution 76 ▶
- Urgently progress amendments to the *Land Valuation Act 2010* that seek to make the amalgamation of rural land parcels for valuation purposes, an applicant led process.

Resolution 77 ▶
- Mandate the ‘councillor code of conduct’ for all intending candidates from the period that they declare they are running for election, including the upcoming local government election in March 2024, and that the legislation be amended to provide a level playing field for all election candidates, noting that there is no control/regulation at present.

Resolution 82 ▶
- Implement legislation indemnifying water and sewerage service providers from liability associated with the release of Perfluoroalkyl and Poly Fluoro Alkyl Substances (PFAS) to potable and receiving waters, including stormwater as the industry are passive receivers of these substances and there are no viable technologies to remove these substances from water and sewerage systems cost effectively.

Resolution 87 ▶
- Amend section 6.2 of the Cabinet Handbook and/or other necessary State Government legislation and policy to ensure that prior to the introduction of a Bill or policy change which impacts on local government, the Department of Premier and Cabinet must mandatorily consult with the relevant local government and consider the implications on the local government.

Resolution 90 ▶
- Provide funding to support local governments to develop, implement and continually improve ePlanning tools and systems, as needed, and to work with local governments to integrate their existing ePlanning tools with State Government reviews and approvals of local planning instruments.

Resolution 92 ▶
- Confirm that the cost for enforcing the rectification of combustible cladding on impacted buildings, is not shifted from State to local government through utilisation of current devolved general responsibilities within the *Building Act 1975*.

Resolution 93 ▶
- Create a mechanism for population projections provided by Queensland Treasury to be reviewed in circumstances where a local government considers the population projection to be incorrect.

Resolution 95 ▶

- Implement changes to the Queensland Rural Workers' Accommodation Initiative to ensure councils are formally consulted and provided with all supporting information in relation to applications received by the Planning Minister under the initiative. Provide councils the opportunity for greater input into the decision making process in the assessment of proposals, and there is a clear transition pathway for approved use of premises once the initiative ceases in December 2025.

Resolution 97 ▶

- Amend the disability parking permits conditions to improve local government's ability to undertake regulatory enforcement and advocate to the Federal Government to explore adopting a digital permit scheme that is recognised nationally and internationally.

Resolution 100 ▶

- Amend section 106 of the *Transport Operations (Road Use Management) Act 1995 (the Act)* to allow multiple infringements to be issued to the responsible person where the infringement notices are not physically placed on the vehicle (to account for the use of emerging technology i.e. mobile enforcement vehicles, to identify paid parking offences).

Resolution 101 ▶

- Amend the Planning Regulation 2017 in consultation with local government, to remove regulatory burdens impacting local government bushfire risk management activities, where involving land containing marine plants.

Resolution 104 ▶

- Undertake an urgent review of Industrial Relations legislation in Queensland to modernise the legislation in particular reference to enterprise bargaining and negotiations.

Resolution 109 ▶

- Provide clarity regarding local government responsibilities for historical and/or 'lapsed' building approvals under the *Building Act 1975* and associated provisions within the *Planning Act 2016*, to enable local governments to consistently enforce these responsibilities.

Resolution 110 ▶



- Amend the *Land Valuation Act 2010* to include the option for councils to request market valuations for the purpose of rating strata titled / community titled properties.

Resolution 117 ▶

- Amend the *Land Valuation Act 2010* to remove the value of a water licence from the unimproved value of the land to which the licence is attached.

Resolution 118 ▶

- Undertake a review of the complaint referral process between local government and the QBCC to create a dedicated, streamlined process for local governments to refer matters to the QBCC.

Resolution 121 ▶

- Lobby for a distinct accounting standard for local government funding that accurately matches expenses with revenue and reflects council's true balance sheet.

Resolution 129 ▶

- Ask the Queensland Local Government Grants Commission to disclose the full details of the general purpose grant calculation methodology to all Queensland councils when requested.

Resolution 131 ▶

- Develop a regionalisation strategy for Queensland, which aligns with and supports the Regional Australia Institute (RAI) "Regionalisation Ambition 2032 – A Framework to Re-balance the Nation (2022)" and includes elements of the NSW Government's Regionalisation Strategy (2021) which seeks to increase the number of public sector roles outside metropolitan areas.

Resolution 132 ▶

Both levels of Government to:

- Establish a rapid response team with relevant skill sets who, in the face of significant and/or catastrophic disasters, can be deployed to assist local governments whose workforce capabilities and skill sets may be overwhelmed.

Resolution 16 ▶

- Develop innovative programs to attract and incentivise professional, skilled and unskilled local government workers to regional and remote areas.

Resolution 112 ▶

- Work with local councils to identify existing skills shortages and on-the-job training opportunities for water and wastewater treatment that meet micro-credentialing requirements and support increased investment in skills training, supply chain improvements, and initiatives to ensure the reliable delivery of potable water, wastewater collection and treatment, and other essential services.

Resolution 139 ▶



Ensuring the liveability of Queensland communities by

Protecting the environment



On behalf of our members, the LGAQ is asking:

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The Federal Government to:

- Amend the *Environment Protection Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999 (EPBCA)* referral process to provide local government with greater clarity around the application of the EPBCA, and provide retroactive recognition for previous environmental protection efforts, including conservation acquisitions and revegetation as part of advanced offset recognition.

Resolution 72 ▶

The State Government to:

- Bring forward the review of waste levy rates, levy zones and advance payments to local government in line with outcomes identified by Regional Waste Management Plans, and maintain the waste levy annual payments for all levy councils at 100% until such time as the state waste targets and corresponding advance payments can be reviewed and better aligned with the data compiled in Regional Waste Management Plans.

Resolution 21 ▶

- Provide dedicated funding to reduce the impacts of distance for regional, rural and remote councils from existing advanced waste recycling or repurposing facilities and provide additional funding for appropriate and compliant waste management services.

Resolution 22 ▶

- Develop and administer a recycled products directory for Queensland to facilitate streamlined sourcing and procurement of recycled content from local suppliers.

Resolution 23 ▶

- Mandate recycling and responsible waste management practices within all Queensland State Schools.

Resolution 24 ▶

- Provide relief of the waste levy for food organics and green organics to landfill sites where landfills have landfill gas infrastructure in place or planned.

Resolution 25 ▶

- Retrospectively postpone the changes to the clean earth exemption due to take effect on 1 July 2023, which will remove 'clean earth' from the definition of exempt waste under the *Waste Reduction & Recycling Act 2011 (Qld)*. In the interim, work with researchers and manufacturers to develop and commercialise an innovative alternative solution to the use of clean earth, as day cover for the tip face, ideally from recycled products, and provide financial support to local governments to purchase the alternative solution developed.

Resolution 26 ▶

- Not to approve carbon capture and storage technology on the Great Artesian Basin, and further requests the State and Federal governments work collaboratively to protect the Great Artesian Basin for regional communities, as it is the only reliable source of fresh water for much of inland Australia.

Resolution 70 ▶

- Provide greater differentiation for rural and remote councils in meeting increasing environmental compliance costs for landfill and waste by increasing timeframes, funding and adopting a tiered level of compliance standards in recognition of smaller councils' inability to pay and the relatively low impact per square kilometre of environmental impact of waste on small populations.

Resolution 74 ▶

- List navua sedge as a restricted invasive plant under the *Biosecurity Act 2014*, provide urgent funding to accelerate research into potential biological controls for navua sedge and provide urgent funding for the control of navua sedge particularly on main roads.

Resolution 75 ▶

- Extend the Queensland Climate Resilient Councils (Q CRC) program and services for three years with increased funding and to provide targeted operational and capital grants programs to enable councils to build climate resilience through local implementation of the Climate Risk Management Framework for Queensland Local Government and their associated Climate Risk Management Plans.

Resolution 78 ▶

- Provide approved deemed weights for recyclable items destined for the Resource Recovery Area (RRA) and allow the use of these deemed weights in mixed load transactions with multiple delivery destinations (e.g. tyre for the RRA and general waste for landfill).

Resolution 86 ▶



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- Lower the annual local government payment into the Land Protection Fund, acknowledging the reduced level of service being provided by the State through the Land Protection Fund.

Resolution 88 ▶

- Amend the *Environmental Protection Act 1994* to simplify regulatory requirements to ensure that communities can continue to provide washdown facilities to mitigate the spread of weeds and seeds and support other biosecurity measures.

Resolution 89 ▶

- Incentivise the establishment of new recyclable repurposing and processing facilities within Queensland, which adopt methods that make use of low value/underutilised recyclable waste feedstocks profitable and the purchase of advanced recyclable processing technologies by Materials Recovery Facility Operators.

Resolution 123 ▶

- Take immediate steps to introduce and publicise a consistent and ongoing statewide recycling and waste minimisation education program that, in addition to supporting community education undertaken by local government is deployed within a maximum of 12 months of the date of the LGAQ Annual Conference, aims for a reduction in contamination of kerbside recycling and supports initiatives under adopted Regional Waste Management Plans and circular economy principles.

Resolution 124 ▶

- Provide additional and expanded funding aimed at developing sustainable long-term solutions for flying fox management, including support for scientific research, monitoring and management programs and the inclusion of a property buyback scheme for situations where the safety, hygiene and amenity of properties adjoining a roost are severely affected.

Resolution 125 ▶

- Maintain and fully fund the Queensland Wild Dog Barrier Fence for biosecurity purposes.

Resolution 127 ▶

- Assist local governments with funding to eradicate yellow crazy ant infestations where the infestations are small and where eradication is feasible, and develop and implement a process for the movement of building, construction and landscaping material that requires a “pest ant hygiene” declaration process from the supplier to the receiver to reduce the potential spread of pest ants from known pest ant locations.

Resolution 147 ▶



Both levels of Government to:

- ➔ Recognise the role of councils in delivering outcomes required from the Reef 2050 Plan through funding and collaboration through programs such as the Reef Guardian Program and include addressing the impacts from road and drainage sediment run-off and nutrient enrichment of groundwater and sub-soils, as priority strategic actions in the Reef 2050 Plan to reduce the impacts from land-based activities.

Resolution 79 ▶

- ➔ Implement a mandatory product stewardship scheme to prohibit the return of End-Of-Life Tyres (EOLT) to customers following changeover of tyres, or alternatively, mandate the requirement for record keeping relating to the trade of tyres.

Resolution 84 ▶

- ➔ Develop solutions for the disposal of solar panels, possibly including reclamation, recycling, and implementation of a levy mechanism for solar panels to ensure better waste disposal, exploring manufacturers' liability for the photovoltaic (PV) panels to encourage sustainable management and working with State Government to legislate industry wide solutions.

Resolution 85 ▶

- ➔ Ensure that local government's are empowered and supported to protect and enhance locally significant koala habitat through increased funding.

Resolution 126 ▶



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