Correspondence

CORRESPONDENCE FOR INFORMATION

1. 1208800 * 05-01-01 & 05-05-01A

Queensland Urban Potable Water and Sewerage Benchmarking Report - Trial 2010/2011.

2. 1216121 * 01-03-01

Department Of Natural Resources And Mines

Annual Valuation Effective 30 June 2013.

3. 1216934 * 01-07-08

Australian Local Government Association - Alga

Update on Constitutional Recognition Together with Copies of the Case for Change.

4. 1216935 * 03-04-01

Hon David Crisafulli Mp - Minister For Local Government

Applications for Funding Under the Local Government Grants and Subsidies Program - Flood Response 2012-2013.

5. 1216950 * 03-06-04

Surf Life Saving Queensland

Thanking Council for its support and forwarding Surf Life Saving Queensland's Annual Report 2011/12.

6. 1217279 * 04-04-03A & 01-10-03

Department Of Local Government And Planning

2012-2013 Local Government Grants and Subsidies Program - Flood Response Component - Burdekin Cyclone Shelter

7. 1217301 * 01-08-01

Local Government Association Of Qld Ltd (LGAQ)

LGAQ Circular - 2012-240 - New Local Government Legislation in Force.

8. 1217835 * 01-07-08

Australian Local Government Association - Alga

First Stage of "National State of the Assets Report" launched at National Local Roads and Transport Congress in Hobart on 16 November 2012.

9. 1218154 * 01-07-08

Local Government Association Of Qld Ltd (LGAQ)

Forwarding thanks for support in electing her as President of the Local Government Association of Queensland.

10. 1218155 * 01-08-04

Electoral Commission Queensland

Electoral Commission Queensland's Report on 2012 Quadrennial Local Government Elections' Report is now available on website - www.ecq.qld.gov.au.

11. 1218156 * 03-08-11A

Hon John Mcveigh Mp - Minister For Agriculture Fisheries And Forestry

Further response to Council's request for Update on Future of Former Burdekin Agricultural College.

12. 1218540 * 01-07-08 & 05-03-01 & 01-08-01

Local Government Association Of Qld Ltd (LGAQ)

LGAQ Circular - 2012-251 - New Legislation - Elected Member Updated February 2013 (EMU 2013).

13. 1218542 * 01-07-08 & 01-08-01

Local Government Association Of Qld Ltd (LGAQ)

LGAQ Circular - 2012-253 - LGAQ Commentary on Local Government Act Changes.

14. 1219300 * 05-04-01

Australian Dental Association Queensland

Community Feedback regarding Water Fluoridation.

15. 1219561 * 01-10-28

Rosemary Menkens M P - Member For Burdekin

Reply from Minister for Police and Community Safety advising there is no Change to Levy or Standard Fire and Rescue Services in Ayr.

16. 1219666 * 01-10-17

Cannavan, Emily

Thank You for Donation - Representation of Queensland in Golf - Emily Cannavan.

17. 1219730 * 01-10-17

Burdekin Neighbourhood Centre Association Inc

Annual Donation for 2012/2013 Financial Year - Burdekin Neighbourhood Centre Association Inc.

18. 1219731 * 01-10-17

Schreiber, Patrick

Thank You for Nomination - BHP Billiton Cannington Mine NQ Sports Development Bursary - Patrick Schreiber.

Queensland's Urban Potable Water and Sewerage Benchmarking Report – Trial 2010/11

This Urban Potable Water and Sewerage Benchmarking Report contains a suite of indicators and benchmarking data for all QLD urban water/sewerage utilities that reported data via SWIM in 2010/11. The data is presented in figures which provide comparative information to enable each Service Provider to benchmark its performance against that of similar sized Service Providers.

The report is divided into two areas (i.e. Sewerage Services and Potable Water Supply) and looks at aspects of capacity and viability, customer service, condition of assets, management and performance.

qldwater strongly supports the use of performance reporting and benchmarking to assist Service Providers in the continuous improvement of the services they provide to their community. Performance reporting and benchmarking provides valuable comparative data which enables each Service Provider to critically examine its performance by investigating trends in its performance indicators and by benchmarking these against those of similar Service Providers, and particularly against one or two high-performing Service Providers and implementing the best-practices identified.

External factors potentially influencing performance

There are a wide range of 'external' factors which can influence a Service Provider performance. These factors include such things as:

- climate (e.g. rainfall patterns, evaporation, temperature)
- geography (e.g. geology (i.e. soil reactivity (shrink-swell)), typology (i.e. mountains, flood plain)
- size (e.g. population, number of connections, km²)
- location (e.g. SEQ vs. Western Qld, dense urban vs. rural urban)
- services provided (e.g. water treatment vs. treated water imported from other supplier)
- water supply (e.g. river vs. dam vs. bore water may require different treatment, distance to supply)
- asset age (e.g. old assets may require more maintenance/repairs and be less efficient)
- regulatory requirements (e.g. fluoridation, sewerage treatment levels)

It is important to take into account these factors when comparing performance with other Service Providers.

One way for Service Providers to limit the effects of these external factors is to examine trends in their own performance indicator over time. It must be remembered though that there may be changes in the external factors over time as well (e.g. wet vs. dry years).

Service Provider size as a factor in assessing Statewide 'benchmark' performance

It is important to note up front that the figures for smaller Service Providers may be skewed towards higher values for indicators that standardise data by 'per property', 'per connection' or 'per 100 km of mains'. This is due to these smaller Service Providers having very low populations and relatively short main lengths which means that even small figures can be magnified when compared with larger organisations. This means that these indicators can result in small organisations comparing poorly with larger ones and benchmarking is only useful against Service Providers of a similar size.

Sewerage Services

Capacity and viability

The total reported capital expenditure on sewerage infrastructure in Queensland was \$473,740,715 for 2010/11. The Statewide median average capital expenditure was \$190 per property. In addition, the total reported operating costs to collect and treat sewerage from across the State was \$312,295,368 at a median average cost of \$413 per property for the State. The median value of the typical residential bill for sewerage services was \$492.

Capital expenditure

Capital expenditure will vary markedly from year-to-year, particularly for Service Providers with a smaller number of sewerage assets, but still provides a snapshot of investment across the industry.

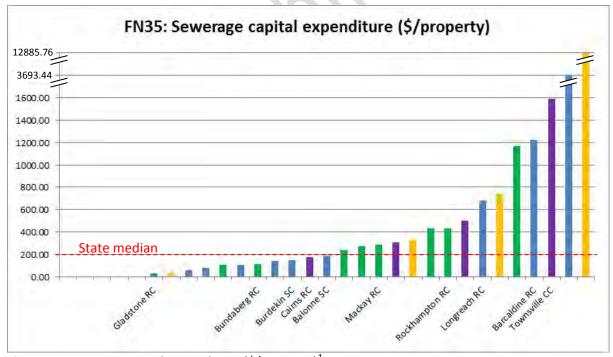


Figure 1. Sewerage capital expenditure (\$/property)¹.

Note: This figure shows ranked values of sewerage capital expenditure (\$/property) for each Service Provider (\$P) who reported in 2010/11 in 4 groups based on the number of connected properties served – small SP with less than 1,000 connections (orange), medium SP with between 1,000 and 9,999 connections (blue), large SP with between 10,000 and 50,000 connections (green), and extra-large SP with more than 50,000 connections (purple). The 2010/11 Statewide median value for sewerage capital expenditure is \$190 per property. Each bar represents one SP.

¹ Note: figures for smaller SPs may be skewed towards higher values due to their very low populations.

Operating costs

The 'operating cost (sewerage) per property' is a good indication of the performance of a Service Provider. The components of operating cost (operation, maintenance and administration) are:

- Charges for bulk treatment/transfer of sewerage
- Salaries and wages
- Overheads on salaries and wages
- Materials/chemicals/energy
- Contracts
- Accommodation
- All other operating costs that would normally be reported
- Items expensed from work in progress (capitalised expense items) and pensioner remission expenses
- Competitive neutrality adjustments, they may include but not be limited to, land tax, debits tax, stamp duties and council rates

The type of treatment as well as the level of treatment (related to the discharge requirements) of sewerage will affect the operation costs. With higher levels of sewerage treatment come associated increase in other costs, particularly energy.

Topography will also affect operation costs through the amount of pumping needed to move the sewage to the treatment plant. With higher levels of sewerage pumping come associated increase in energy costs.

Service Providers with a number of separate sewerage systems, larger areas of low density service (i.e. low numbers of properties serviced per km of main) and those with higher numbers of, and smaller, sewerage treatment plants will generally need more employees to effectively manage their systems and thus have higher costs.

The maintenance costs of sewerage infrastructure is related to several factors, such as the age and condition of the assets, the soil reactivity (shrink-swell rating) and the density of connected properties.

Typical residential bill

The 'typical residential bill – sewerage' is the dollar amount of the typical residential sewerage bill for the financial year, including special levies. If the bill is cost-reflective and a Service Providers' operations are run as effectively and efficiently as possible then the typical residential bill should be minimised and the Service Provider is thus providing value for money to the community. The aim for a Service Provider should be to provide agreed levels of service at the lowest, but importantly sustainable, residential bill. The trend for smaller water service provider's bills to reflect lower costs than large providers is opposite to the trend of decreasing cost with size demonstrated for large utilities nationally.

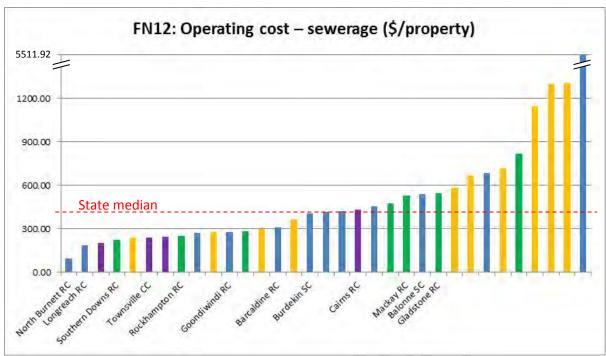


Figure 2. Operating costs – sewerage (\$/property)².

Note: This figure shows ranked values of operating costs – sewerage (\$/property) for each Service Provider (SP) who reported in 2010/11 in 4 groups based on the number of connected properties served – small SP with less than 1,000 connections (orange), medium SP with between 1,000 and 9,999 connections (blue), large SP with between 10,000 and 50,000 connections (green), and extra-large SP with more than 50,000 connections (purple). The 2010/11 Statewide median value for operating costs – sewerage is \$413 per property. Each bar represents one SP.

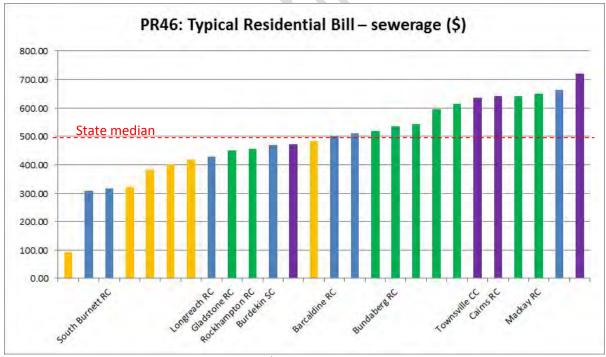


Figure 3. Typical residential bill – sewerage (\$).

Note: This figure shows ranked values of the typical residential bill – sewerage (\$) for each Service Provider (SP) who reported in 2010/11 in 4 groups based on the number of connected properties served – small SP with less than 1,000 connections (orange), medium SP with between 1,000 and 9,999 connections (blue), large SP with between 10,000 and

² Note: figures for smaller SPs may be skewed towards higher values due to their very low populations.

50,000 connections (green), and extra-large SP with more than 50,000 connections (purple). The 2010/11 Statewide median value for the typical residential bill – sewerage is \$492. Each bar represents one SP.

Economic real rate of return

The financial performance of most Service Providers is intricately meshed with that of the owner councils. This makes determining the financial performance of the sewerage operations, as an individual business unit, hard to assess.

In addition, an important distinction must be made between the category of (usually large) councils that can be categorised as financially sustainable and can provide dividends to their stakeholders, and the smaller and often remote councils. In the latter, small populations (and thus rate bases) can mean that capital investment in sewerage infrastructure is difficult or impossible and relies on funding assistance and subsidies from other council income. In some cases even operating costs can be difficult to manage.

One comparator of financial performance is the Economic Real Rate of Return (ERRR). The ERRR (sewerage) is the revenue from sewerage business operations less operating expenses for the sewerage business divided by written down replacement cost of operational assets. An appropriate value for ERRR is difficult to determine for Service Providers but should be at least positive with a margin to allow for return on capital (NWC, 2011). OTTER (2011) suggested that an ERRR of around 7% was required for full cost recovery in the Tasmanian urban water industry while NWC (2011, p. 386) questioned the appropriateness of NWC and NSW Office of Water definitions of full cost recovery as an ERRR "greater than or equal to zero".

Conclusive comparisons are difficult because of the range and diversity of service providers listed and the small number of data, but it appears that the larger the Service Provider the more likely it will have a positive (>0) ERRR (sewerage) value. The Statewide median value for ERRR (sewerage) was 0.08%.

Customer service

Sewerage service complaints

During 2010/11 a total of 4,748 sewerage service related complaints were reported across the State. The Statewide median number of complaints per 1,000 connections was 4.6.

Response time to sewerage incidents

The Statewide median for the average response time for sewerage incidence was 45 minutes.

Condition of assets

Sewerage main breaks and chokes

The Statewide median for the number of sewer main breaks and chokes reported per 100 km of sewer mains during 2010/11 was 16. This indicator can provide a rough surrogate for the condition and age of sewerage infrastructure.

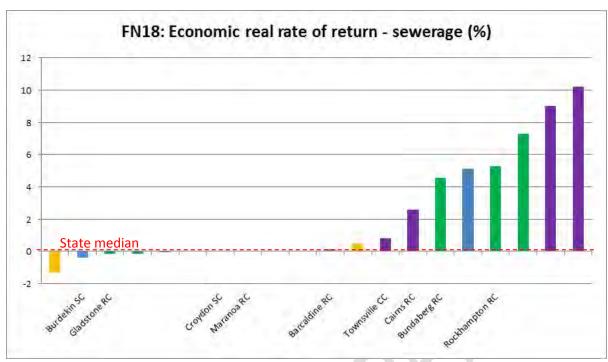


Figure 4. Economic real rate of return (ERRR) – sewerage (%).

Note: This figure shows ranked values of the ERRR – sewerage (%) for each Service Provider (SP) who reported in 2010/11 in 4 groups based on the number of connected properties served – small SP with less than 1,000 connections (orange), medium SP with between 1,000 and 9,999 connections (blue), large SP with between 10,000 and 50,000 connections (green), and extra-large SP with more than 50,000 connections (purple). The 2010/11 Statewide median value for the ERRR – sewerage is 0.08%. Each bar represents one SP.

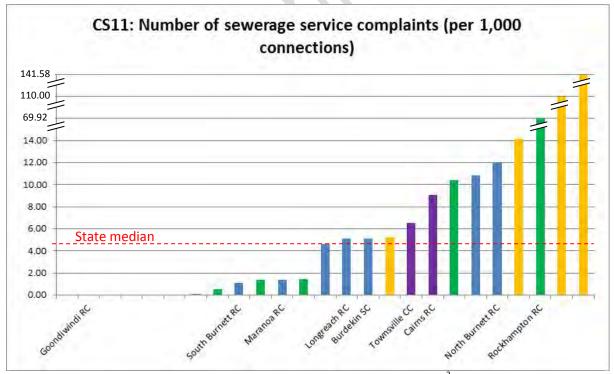


Figure 5. Number of sewerage service complaints (per 1,000 connections)³.

Note: This figure shows ranked values for the number of sewerage service complaints per 1,000 connections for each Service Provider (SP) who reported in 2010/11 in 4 groups based on the number of connected properties served – small SP with less than 1,000 connections (orange), medium SP with between 1,000 and 9,999 connections (blue), large SP with

6

³ Note: figures for smaller SPs may be skewed towards higher values due to their very low populations.

between 10,000 and 50,000 connections (green), and extra-large SP with more than 50,000 connections (purple). The 2010/11 Statewide median value for the number of sewerage service complaints per 1,000 connections is 4.6. Each bar represents one SP.

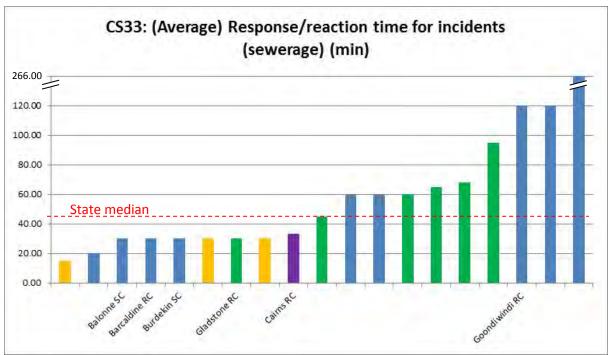


Figure 6. (Average) Response/reaction time for incidents (sewerage) (min).

Note: This figure shows ranked values for the (average) response/reaction time for incidents (sewerage) (min) for each Service Provider (SP) who reported in 2010/11 in 4 groups based on the number of connected properties served – small SP with less than 1,000 connections (orange), medium SP with between 1,000 and 9,999 connections (blue), large SP with between 10,000 and 50,000 connections (green), and extra-large SP with more than 50,000 connections (purple). The 2010/11 Statewide median value for the (average) response/reaction time for incidents (sewerage) is 45 minutes. Each bar represents one SP.

Performance

Sewage overflows

During 2010/11 Service Providers reported that a total of 457 sewerage overflow events were reported to DERM with a Statewide median of 0.14 events per 100 km of mains. Overflows at pumping stations may occur in wet weather when sewage flows are increased from illegal connections to the sewer and because of stormwater infiltration. Overflows can also be caused by mechanical or power failures or blockages. Pumping stations are designed with a capacity to overflow at such times to prevent back-up of sewage and potential overflows to private premises.

Compliance of treated sewage

The 2010/11 Statewide median for the amount of sewage treated that was compliant with current licence limits is 96%.

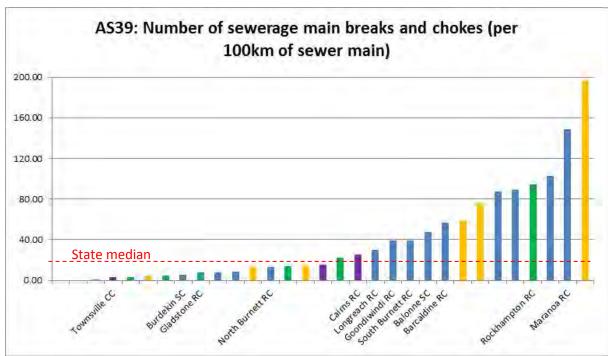


Figure 7. Number of sewerage main breaks and chokes per 100km of sewer main⁴.

Note: This figure shows ranked values for the number of sewerage main breaks and chokes per 100km of sewer mains for each Service Provider (SP) who reported in 2010/11 in 4 groups based on the number of connected properties served – small SP with less than 1,000 connections (orange), medium SP with between 1,000 and 9,999 connections (blue), large SP with between 10,000 and 50,000 connections (green), and extra-large SP with more than 50,000 connections (purple). The 2010/11 Statewide median value for the number of sewerage main breaks and chokes is 16 per 100km of sewer main. Each bar represents one SP.

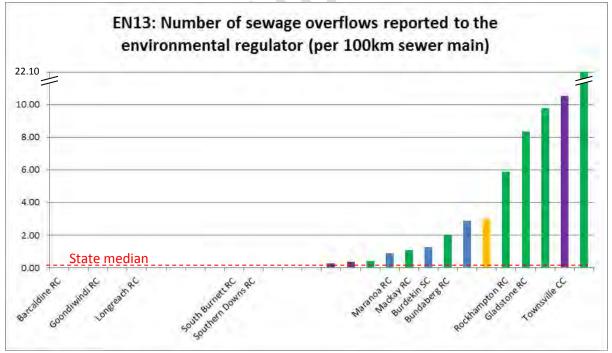


Figure 8. Number of sewage overflows reported to the environmental regulator (per 100km sewer main)⁵.

⁴ Note: figures for smaller SPs may be skewed towards higher values due to their relatively short main lengths.

⁵ Note: figures for smaller SPs may be skewed towards higher values due to their relatively short main lengths.

Note: This figure shows ranked values for the number of sewage overflows reported to the environmental regulator (per 100km sewer main) for each Service Provider (SP) who reported in 2010/11 in 4 groups based on the number of connected properties served – small SP with less than 1,000 connections (orange), medium SP with between 1,000 and 9,999 connections (blue), large SP with between 10,000 and 50,000 connections (green), and extra-large SP with more than 50,000 connections (purple). The 2010/11 Statewide median value for the number of sewage overflows reported to the environmental regulator (total, annual) is 0.14 per 100km sewer main. Each bar represents one SP.

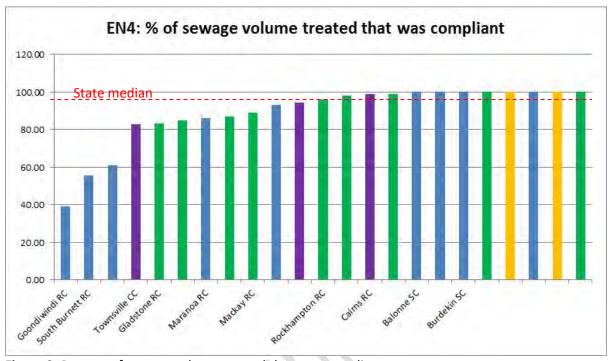


Figure 9. Percent of sewage volume treated that was compliant.

Note: This figure shows ranked values for the percent of sewage volume treated that was compliant for each Service Provider (SP) who reported in 2010/11 in 4 groups based on the number of connected properties served – small SP with less than 1,000 connections (orange), medium SP with between 1,000 and 9,999 connections (blue), large SP with between 10,000 and 50,000 connections (green), and extra-large SP with more than 50,000 connections (purple). The 2010/11 Statewide median value for the percent of sewage volume treated that was compliant is 96%. Each bar represents one SP.

Potable Water Supply

Capacity and viability

The average reported annual potable water supplied per connection for the State was 551 kL in 2010/11 which is slightly down on the 2009-10 value of 621 kL.

The reported total capital expenditure on water supply was \$188,345,849 for 2010/11. The Statewide median average capital expenditure was \$193 per property. In addition, the reported total operating costs to supply water from across the State was \$517,975,831 at a median average cost of \$446 per property for the State. The median typical residential bill for water supply was \$546.

Capital expenditure

Capital expenditure will vary markedly from year-to-year, particularly for Service Providers with a smaller number of water assets, but still provides a snapshot of investment across the industry.

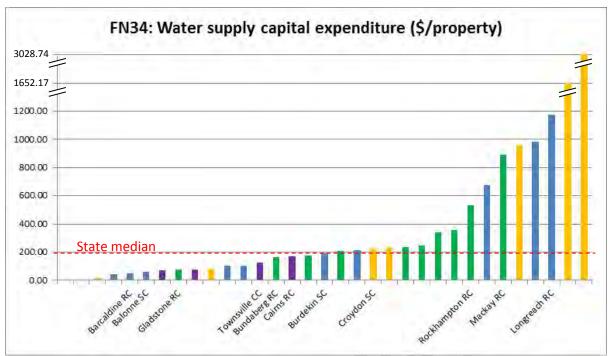


Figure 10. Water supply capital expenditure (\$/property)⁶.

Note: This figure shows ranked values of water supply capital expenditure (\$/property) for each Service Provider (SP) who reported in 2010/11 in 4 groups based on the number of connected properties served – small SP with less than 1,000 connections (orange), medium SP with between 1,000 and 9,999 connections (blue), large SP with between 10,000 and 50,000 connections (green), and extra-large SP with more than 50,000 connections (purple). The 2010/11 Statewide median value for water supply capital expenditure is \$193 per property. Each bar represents one SP.

Operating costs

Service Providers with cost reflective pricing and effective and efficient system will have lower operating costs and thus provide better value for money to their customers. The components of operating cost (operation, maintenance and administration) are:

- Water resource access charge or resource rent tax.
- Purchases of raw, treated or recycled water
- Salaries and wages
- Overheads on salaries and wages
- Materials/chemicals/energy
- Contracts

Accommodation

- All other operating costs that would normally be reported
- Items expensed from work in progress (capitalised expense items) and pensioner remission expenses
- Competitive neutrality adjustments, they may include but not be limited to, land tax, debits tax, stamp duties and council rates

Service Providers that maintain major storage dams for their water supply have larger capital expenditure and operating costs.

⁶ Note: figures for smaller SPs may be skewed towards higher values due to their very low populations.

The amount of treatment needed for the water sourced will affect the operation costs. However, larger water treatment plants can generally reduce this cost, relatively, through economies of scale.

The topography and location of the water supply will also affect operation costs through the amount of pumping needed to move the water to the treatment plant and then onto the customer. Again, high density connections provide economies of scale which will help to reduce this cost, relatively. With higher levels of water pumping (e.g. in hilly areas) come associated increase in energy costs.

Service Providers with a number of separate water supply systems, larger areas of low density service (i.e. low numbers of properties serviced per km of main) and those with higher numbers of, and smaller, water treatment plants will generally need more employees to effectively manage their systems and thus have higher costs.

Maintenance costs of water supply infrastructure is related to several factors, such as the age and condition of the assets, the soil reactivity (shrink-swell rating), water pressures and the density of connected properties.

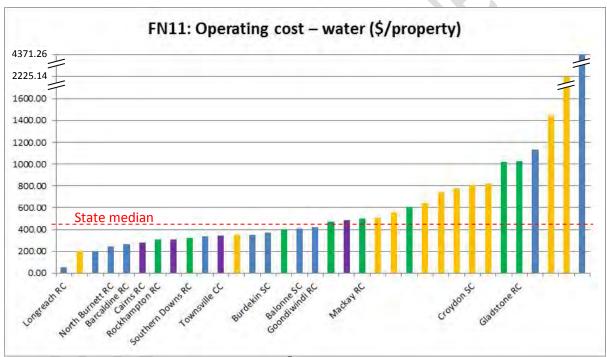


Figure 11. Operating costs – water $(\$/property)^7$.

Note: This figure shows ranked values of operating costs – water (\$/property) for each Service Provider (SP) who reported in 2010/11 in 4 groups based on the number of connected properties served – small SP with less than 1,000 connections (orange), medium SP with between 1,000 and 9,999 connections (blue), large SP with between 10,000 and 50,000 connections (green), and extra-large SP with more than 50,000 connections (purple). The 2010/11 Statewide median value for operating costs – water is \$446 per property. Each bar represents one SP.

Typical residential bill

The 'typical residential bill – water' is the dollar amount of the typical residential water bill for the financial year, including special levies. If a Service Providers' operations cost reflective and are run as effectively and efficiently as possible then the typical residential bill should be minimised and the Service Provider is thus providing value for money to the community. The aim for a Service Provider

⁷ Note: figures for smaller SPs may be skewed towards higher values due to their very low populations.

should be to provide satisfactory levels of service at the lowest, but importantly sustainable, residential bill.

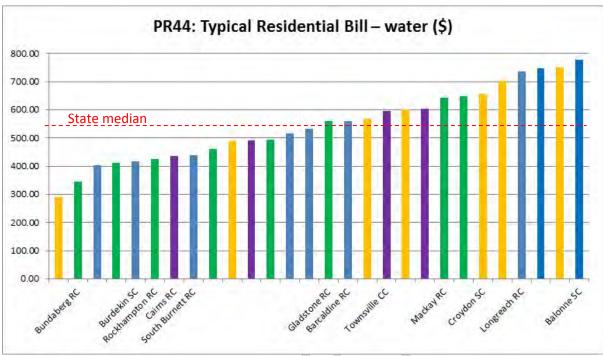


Figure 12. Typical residential bill – water (\$).

Note: This figure shows ranked values of the typical residential bill – water (\$) for each Service Provider (SP) who reported in 2010/11 in 4 groups based on the number of connected properties served – small SP with less than 1,000 connections (orange), medium SP with between 1,000 and 9,999 connections (blue), large SP with between 10,000 and 50,000 connections (green), and extra-large SP with more than 50,000 connections (purple). The 2010/11 Statewide median value for the typical residential bill – water is \$546. Each bar represents one SP.

Economic real rate of return

The financial performance of most Service Providers is intricately linked with their owner councils, making it difficult to assess the financial performance of the water supply operations.

In addition, an important distinction must be made between the category of (usually large) councils that can be categorised as financially sustainable and can provide dividends to their stakeholders, and the smaller and often remote councils. In the latter, small populations (and thus rate bases) can mean that capital investment in water infrastructure is difficult or impossible and relies on funding assistance and subsidies from other council income. In some cases even operating costs can be difficult to manage.

One comparator of financial performance is the Economic Real Rate of Return (ERRR). The ERRR (water) is the revenue from water business operations less operating expenses for the water business divided by written down replacement cost of operational water assets. An appropriate value for ERRR is difficult to determine for Service Providers but should be at least positive with a margin to allow for return on capital (NWC, 2011). OTTER (2011) suggested that an ERRR of around 7% was required for full cost recovery in the Tasmanian urban water industry while NWC (2011, p. 386) questioned the appropriateness of NWC and NSW Office of Water definitions of full cost recovery as an ERRR "greater than or equal to zero".

Conclusive comparisons are hard to be drawn because of the range and diversity of service providers listed and the small number of data, but it appears that the larger the Service Provider the more likely it will have a positive (>0) ERRR (water) value. The Statewide median value for ERRR (water) was 0.91%.

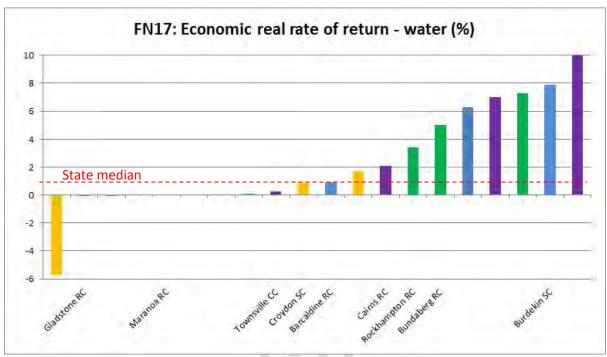


Figure 13. Economic real rate of return (ERRR) – water (%).

Note: This figure shows ranked values of the ERRR – water (%) for each Service Provider (SP) who reported in 2010/11 in 4 groups based on the number of connected properties served – small SP with less than 1,000 connections (orange), medium SP with between 1,000 and 9,999 connections (blue), large SP with between 10,000 and 50,000 connections (green), and extra-large SP with more than 50,000 connections (purple). The 2010/11 Statewide median value for the ERRR – water is 0.91%. Each bar represents one SP.

Customer service

Water service complaints

During 2010/11 a total of 14,647 water related complaints were reported across the State. The Statewide median number of complaints per 1,000 connections was 25.

Condition of assets

Water main breaks

The Statewide median for the number of water main breaks that were recorded per 100 km of main during 2010/11 is 19.

Real water losses

The Statewide median for the amount of reported real water losses for 2010/11 is 105 litres per service connection per day.

Performance

Microbiological compliance

The Statewide median for the percent of total population where microbiological compliance was achieved in 2010/11 is 100%.

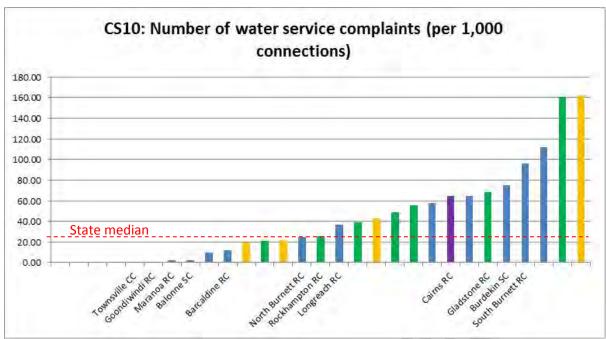


Figure 14. Number of water service complaints (per 1,000 connections)⁸.

Note: This figure shows ranked values for the number of water service complaints per 1,000 connections for each Service Provider (SP) who reported in 2010/11 in 4 groups based on the number of connected properties served – small SP with less than 1,000 connections (orange), medium SP with between 1,000 and 9,999 connections (blue), large SP with between 10,000 and 50,000 connections (green), and extra-large SP with more than 50,000 connections (purple). The 2010/11 Statewide median value for number of water service complaints per 1,000 connections is 25. Each bar represents one SP.

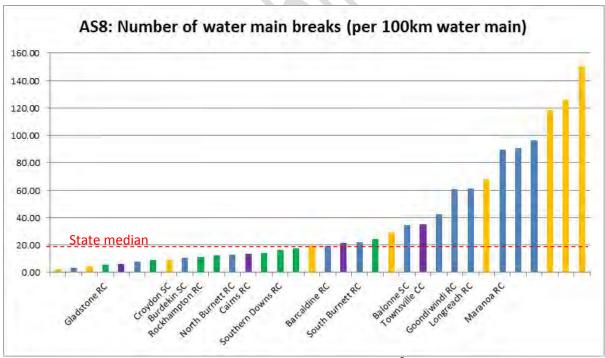


Figure 15. Number of water main breaks per 100km of water main⁹.

Note: This figure shows ranked values for the number of water main breaks per 100km of water main for each Service Provider (SP) who reported in 2010/11 in 4 groups based on the number of connected properties served – small SP with less than 1,000 connections (orange), medium SP with between 1,000 and 9,999 connections (blue), large SP with between

9 Note: figures for smaller SPs may be skewed towards higher values due to their relatively short main lengths.

 $^{^{\}rm 8}$ Note: figures for smaller SPs may be skewed towards higher values due to their very low populations.

10,000 and 50,000 connections (green), and extra-large SP with more than 50,000 connections (purple). The 2010/11 Statewide median value for the number of water main breaks is 19 per 100km of water main. Each bar represents one SP.

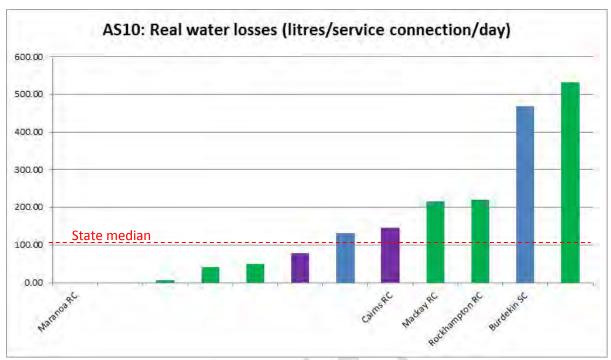


Figure 16. Real water losses (litres/service connection/day).

Note: This figure shows ranked values for real water losses (litres/service connection/day) for each Service Provider (SP) who reported in 2010/11 in 4 groups based on the number of connected properties served – small SP with less than 1,000 connections (orange), medium SP with between 1,000 and 9,999 connections (blue), large SP with between 10,000 and 50,000 connections (green), and extra-large SP with more than 50,000 connections (purple). The 2010/11 Statewide median value for real water losses (litres/service connection/day) is 105 litres per service connection per day. Each bar represents one SP.

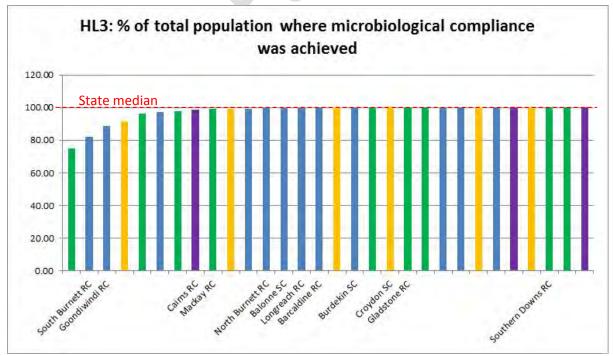


Figure 17. Percent of total population where microbiological compliance was achieved.

Note: This figure shows ranked values for the percent of total population where microbiological compliance was achieved for each Service Provider (SP) who reported in 2010/11 in 4 groups based on the number of connected properties served – small SP with less than 1,000 connections (orange), medium SP with between 1,000 and 9,999 connections (blue), large SP

with between 10,000 and 50,000 connections (green), and extra-large SP with more than 50,000 connections (purple). The 2010/11 Statewide median value for the percent of total population where microbiological compliance was achieved is 100%. Each bar represents one SP.

References

NWC (National Water Commission). 2011. Urban Water in Australia: Future Directions. NWC, Canberra.

OTTER (Office of the Tasmanian Economic Regulator). 2011. Tasmanian Water and Sewerage State of the Industry Report 2009-10. Tasmanian Government, Hobart.



21 November 2012

Mr Ken Holt Chief Executive Officer Burdekin Shire Council PO Box 974 AYR QLD 4807

Dear Mr Holt

RE: ANNUAL VALUATION EFFECTIVE 30 JUNE 2013

Thank you for your response to my request seeking your opinion on whether or not an annual valuation (effective 30 June 2013) should be undertaken in the Burdekin local government area. You have advised that an annual valuation should be undertaken.

The Land Valuation Act 2010 (the Act) requires that the Valuer-General undertake an annual valuation of all land in a local government area except in unusual circumstances or after consideration of:

- a market survey report for the local government area which reviews sales of land and the probable impact of the sales on the value of land since the last annual valuation, and
- the results of consultation with the local government for the area and appropriate local and industry groups.

After considering the statutory criteria, I have decided that an annual valuation for the Burdekin local government area will not be undertaken in 2013.

Should you wish to discuss this matter further, please contact Brett Bowen, Area Manager, State Valuation Service on (07) 4222 5500.

Yours sincerely

Valuer-General

Department of Natural Resources and Mines

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State Valuation Service Department of Natural Resources and Mines Level 12, 41 George Street, Brisbane PO Box 15216, City East 4002 Telephone: 3330 5955

> Facsimile: 3224 2363 Website: www.dnrm.qld.gov.au ABN 46 640 294 485



22 November 2012

Burdekin Shire Council PO Box 974 AYR QLD 4807



Dear Mayor, Councillors and CEO

Update on constitutional recognition, together with copies of the Case for Change

Further to my letter of 9 November on the establishment of a Joint Select Committee on Constitutional Recognition of Local Government I am writing with additional details on the parliamentary committee and to again urge all councils to make a submission to the inquiry, as these are critically important in convincing the committee of the level of support within local government and to counter submissions lodged which might oppose constitutional recognition. We need the support of all councils across Australia to present a strong and unified voice to the committee. I thank those councils which have already prepared and lodged submissions.

The Joint Committee has taken longer than anticipated to be established and to confirm its full membership, and at the time of writing this letter to you, the committee website is not yet operational. However, the Committee has advised the Australian Local Government Association (ALGA) and state and territory associations of its terms of reference and asked for these to be disseminated to interested parties. It has also flagged the possibility of holding a public hearing at short notice to facilitate the December timeframe specified in the resolution of appointment. The time taken to establish the committee may have implications for the reporting dates, as the resolution requests an interim report in December 2012 and a final report by the end of February 2013.

Although the Committee has not yet called for submissions, councils do not need to wait for this call and can use the key points in my last letter as a guide for submissions. For your convenience, I am again including the key points we ask your council to include in your submission:

- Reinforce that your council supports financial recognition. Most councils have already passed resolutions supporting financial recognition. You could refer to the date that this resolution was passed by council (a new council resolution is not necessary and submissions should be lodged quickly to meet the Committee's timeframe);
- Reinforce that your council supports the Federal Government having the power to be able to provide funding directly to local government where this is in the national interest;
- Reinforce that your council needs certainty of funding so that programs like Roads to Recovery can continue;
- Reinforce that your council supports an amendment to Section 96 of the Constitution so that it would read: "Parliament may grant financial assistance to any state or local government body formed by or under a law of a state or territory";
- Reinforce that bi-partisan support is an essential precondition if a referendum is to have the best chance of success:

- Reinforce that your council supports the referendum being held at a time which maximises its chance of success;
- Reinforce that your council supports a publicly funded national education and awareness campaign to inform the public about the Constitution, how to change it, and about the question being asked before the referendum. An informed voter is more likely to cast an informed vote, which is based on facts rather than misinformation.

A committee secretariat has been established and councils can send their submissions to:

Mr Glenn Worthington
Secretary
Joint Select Committee on the Constitutional Recognition of Local Government
PO Box 6021
Parliament House
CANBERRA ACT 2601
(via email to jsclg@aph.gov.au)

The committee prefers to receive submissions in electronic format, where possible.

Further information on the inquiry can be obtained from either the Committee Secretary, Glenn Worthington on (02) 6277 4044, or from the Inquiry Secretary Thomas Gregory on (02) 6277 2332 (direct line), or the committee website when operational.

The Case for Change

To assist councils with submissions and as a resource when speaking to constituents, the media and in preparing mayoral columns and articles for the local paper, I am enclosing 10 copies of a document produced by ALGA *The Case for Change: Why Local Government needs to be in the Australian Constitution.*

The Case for Change is also available on ALGA's dedicated constitutional website http://www.councilreferendum.com.au under the "council resources" tab. Further hard copies of the report are available to councils on request from ALGA.

Once you've made a submission, promote your submission and the benefits constitutional recognition will have in your local community. The *Case for Change* contains facts, statistics and answers to questions, which can be used to convey the message within your communities and in discussions with local media.

Our weekly electronic newsletter *ALGA News* features regular stories and my President's column on progress and developments on constitutional recognition. I urge all councillors to take up the free subscription to *ALGA News*, via the website at www.alga.asn.au, so you receive the latest information on our campaign.

Again, I stress the importance of each council making a submission to the committee to demonstrate their support for the campaign. I will continue to keep you updated.

Yours sincerely

Mayor Felicity-ann Lewis

President

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Hon David Crisafulli MP Minister for Local Government

BURDEKIN SHIRE GOUNCIL

Decument No.

Level 18 Mineral House 41 George Street Brisbane PO Box 15031 City East Queensland 4002 Australia Telephone +61 7 3234 1870

Facsimile +61 7 3012 8901 Email localgovt@ministerial.qld.gov.au

Our ref: MBN12/1666

21 November 2012

Councillor Bill Lowis Mayor Burdekin Shire Council PO Box 974 AYR QLD 4807

Dear Councillor Lowis

Applications for funding under the Local Government Grants and Subsidies Re: Program - Flood Response 2012 - 2013

I refer to your application for funding under the Queensland Government's Local Government Grants and Subsidies Program – Flood Response 2012 - 2013.

I am very pleased to advise that I have approved subsidy of \$38,720 for the Installation of backflow prevention devices on Beach Road Culverts project, with a total project cost of \$96,800.

This funding is to be used for the approved project as outlined in council's application.

Floods have extracted a heavy toll on communities throughout Queensland. I hope this funding will help you address the impact of flooding in your community. I am keen to ensure the maximum amount of money gets spent this financial year and I would encourage you to commence work swiftly.

If your staff require further information, they can contact Richard Ferrett, Chief of Staff on (07) 3234 1870, who will be pleased to assist you.

Yours sincerely

David Crisafulli MP

Minister for Local Government

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Ken Holt Chief Executive Officer Burdekin Shire Council PO Box 974 AYR QLD 4807

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22 November 2012

Dear Ken,

As we, at Surf Life Saving Queensland (SLSQ), reflect on our 2011/12 season and document this in our Annual Report, I would like to thank you for your continual support of one of Queensland's largest volunteer organisations with close to 33,000 members and offer you a copy of SLSQ's 2011/12 Annual Report.

The 2011/12 Annual Report's theme is innovation and looking to the future. Innovations being trialled by SLSQ to help keep our beaches safe include:

- A remotely piloted aircraft to monitor beaches, swimmers, marine life and coastal national parks.
- Radio beacons that can alert rescuers of potentially hazardous situations have been trialled at Tannum Sands, Elliott Heads, Hervey Bay and one will be placed at the Maroochy River and Townsville.
- The current camera networks will trial night monitors at hot spots like Surfers Paradise.
- SLSQ in conjunction with James Cook University hold an annual Marine Stinger Symposium to inform the local community and tourism operators on marine stingers and their legal obligations towards their tourism clientele.
- Increase in surveillance patrols on unpatrolled beaches, such as Moreton Island.
- Brisbane Lifesaving Service continues to grow as Brisbane residents interested in a healthy lifestyle and giving back to the community sign on to the program.

Our community awareness programs continue to grow from strength to strength reaching more people each year, especially those in high-risk groups. Thanks to the generous support of our sponsors, in the 2011/12 season, over 300,000 people were educated about the importance of beach and aquatic safety.

Last season, Queensland's red and yellow army of surf lifesavers were on the frontline spending more than 300,000 hours on patrol, performing 346,008 preventative actions and most importantly, saving 2,866 lives in the process.

Finally, the Annual Report reflects the outstanding work our lifesavers do across the state, not just on the beach, but also behind the scenes making sure our frontline red and yellow army are ready for any situation that might arise.

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Surf Life Saving Queensland t +61 7 3846 8000 f + 61 7 3846 8008 w lifesaving.com.au 18 Manning St, South Brisbane, QLD 4101 | PO Box 3747, South Brisbane, QLD 4101 ABN 27 360 485 381

Should you require any further information, please do not hesitate to contact me on 07 3846 8016 or email me at ibrennan@lifesaving.com.au

Yours sincerely,

Mr John Brennan OAM

CEO Surf Life Saving Queensland



Department of Local Government

Our ref: MBN12/1666

26 November 2012

Mr Ken Holt Chief Executive Officer Burdekin Shire Council PO Box 974 AYR QLD 4807

Dear Mr Holt

I refer to Burdekin Shire Council's application for funding under the Queensland Government's 2012-2013 Local Government Grants and Subsidies Program – Flood Response (LGGSPFR) component.

Unfortunately, Burdekin Shire Council was unsuccessful in its application for the following project:

Project title	Total project cost
Burdekin Cyclone Shelter	\$4,000,000

The Department received 64 applications requesting a total subsidy of \$25,315,744 of which a total of fifty-three projects were allocated to 33 councils under this program.

If your officers require any further information, please contact Lynn Sawtell, Manager, Finance and Funding on 3224 7122 or lynn.sawtell@dlg.qld.gov.au, who will be pleased to assist.

Yours sincerely

Stephen Johnston

Acting Director-General

Department of Local Government

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Level 17 Mineral House 41 George Street Brisbane PO Box 15009 City East Queensland 4002 Australia



New Local Government Legislation in Force

For Information/Action Circular: 2012-240

Release Date: Friday 23 November 2012

Authorised by: Greg Hallam PSM Executive Director

Local Government and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2012 was assented to on 22 November. The new Local Government Regulation is expected to commence on 13 December 2012.

Following passage of the Local Government and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2012 in Parliament on 13 November (see <u>Circular 2012-233</u>), the Bill was assented to on 22 November. The provisions contained in this piece of legislation, now referred to as the <u>Local Government and Other Legislation Amendment Act 2012</u>, **are now officially in force**, with the exception of a number of provisions which will commence on a day to be fixed by proclamation.

Three of the provisions in question relate to the issue of re-corporatisation of local governments, namely sections 77, 150 and 151. These provisions will not commence until local governments, who are bodies corporate, have been declared not to be National System Employers for the purpose of the Fair Work Act. Such a declaration will enable those local governments to fall under the State Industrial Relations system. The Department of Local Government has advised that, because of the required Commonwealth action, these provisions are not expected to commence until 31 January 2013.

The Department of Local Government has advised that all other remaining provisions listed in section 2 of the Local Government and Other Legislation Amendment Act 2012 are expected to commence by proclamation on 13 December 2012.

The new Local Government Regulation, which will amend and consolidate the Local Government (Beneficial Enterprises and Business Activities) Regulation 2010, Local Government (Finance, Plans and Reporting) Regulation 2010 and Local Government (Operations) Regulation 2010, **is also expected to commence on 13 December 2012**.

Questions about these issues can be directed to <u>Greg Hoffman</u>, General Manager – Advocacy, by telephone (07) 3000 2245.



27 November 2012

Burdekin Shire Council PO Box 974 AYR QLD 4807 Dear Mayor, Councillors and CEO

National State of the Assets Report

The Australian Local Government Association (ALGA) launched the first stage of its *National State of the Assets Report*, commissioned Jeff Roorda and Associates, at the National Local Roads and Transport Congress in Hobart on Friday 16 November 2012.

The report builds on *The Local Roads Funding Gap Report* launched at the 2010 Congress, which raised the need for a 'national state of the asset' reporting process to monitor progress on council asset management systems, and to support further advocacy for Commonwealth funding support for local government roads and transport.

The first stage of our new Report draws on data from 55 councils from around Australia and concludes:

- State of the Assets Reporting on local roads at the national level is achievable;
- There are significant benefits in extending State of the Assets Reporting to all councils in Australia; and
- State of the Asset reporting will identify financial sustainability challenges.

This year's stage 1 report paves the way for next year's report that is expected to include all Australian councils and to provide a detailed technical platform for ALGA's advocacy on Roads to Recovery (R2R) in the future. The 2010 report, "The Local Roads Funding Gap" identified a national shortfall in the level of funding for local roads of about \$1.2 billion annually. This figure is consistent with the PricewaterhouseCoopers Financial Sustainability Report of 2006. Our objective is that this figure will be further refined and that an assessment of the actual funding gap will become increasingly accurate with the availability of the National State of the Assets Report in future years.

ALGA will draw on the findings of the Report in developing its roads and transport advocacy campaigns, in next year's federal election campaign and in developing further work for local government asset management.

If you would like further copies of the report, please do not hesitate to contact the ALGA Secretariat directly.

Yours Sincerely

Mayor Felicity-ann Lewis

President

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29 November 2012

Cr Bill Lowis Mayor Burdekin Shire Council PO Box 974 AYR QLD 4807

Dear Cr Lowis Bill

I am writing to thank you for your support in electing me as President of the LGAQ. I assure you I will always act in the interests of all Queensland Councils in my deliberations and decision making on your behalf in the years to come.

As you may be aware I grew up on a dairy farm at Jandowae in what is now the Western Downs Regional Council and since leaving school have lived in Brisbane. I have experienced the best and worst of both worlds and have a genuine affinity with the country and the city.

I have been fortunate to have enjoyed a successful corporate career, have worked for charities and now been a Councillor for more than 15 years. I am well versed in the business of government and I am prepared for the role ahead. By virtue of my years at Brisbane City Council I enjoy a strong relationship with and access to the Premier and Treasurer who were both former council colleagues. More importantly I can assure you I will discharge my obligations as President in a totally apolitical manner.

I have always operated as a team player and will not be changing that style as your President. I commit to consulting with you and your council as far as is possible subject to confidentiality restrictions and time frames we will at times have to operate under. I know I am not the font of all knowledge and will not be frightened to ask for your advice or opinions. Rest assured I will not be a one woman show.

Already a month of my tenure has passed. It has been an intense settling in period and has included nearly a week in Hobart in my role as Director of ALGA at the ALGA AGM and the National Local Roads and Transport Congress.

In planning for 2013 I have advised the LGAQ staff that I want to attend as many district and regional meetings as possible. In my initial briefing to all LGAQ staff I explained that I want to go further in promotion of regional co-operation amongst councils and "twinning" between large and small councils. In times of scarce resources and increasing challenges we all need to work together. In my mind there is nothing better than councils working collaboratively and looking after each other.

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Finally in closing I want to assure you of my absolute commitment to giving my all in the service of my colleagues in Local Government and to be available to you as and when required. To that end my mobile phone number is 0418 750 747 and email margaret dewit@lgaq.asn.au . Please feel free to contact me at any time.

Yours sincerely

Margaret de lulit
Cr Margaret de Wit
PRESIDENT



Greg Rowe
X
(07) 303 58012
(07) 3225 2601

ABN 69 195 695 244

29 November 2012

Chief Executive Officer Burdekin Shire Council PO Box 974 AYR QLD 4807

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The Electoral Commission of Queensland has published its report on the 2012 Quadrennial Local Government Elections conducted by the Electoral Commission in April this year.

The Document contains five parts:-

- 1. Executive Summary;
- 2. Election evaluation feedback from staff, candidates, councils and voters;
- 3. Attendance voting versus Full Postal voting;

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- 4. Summary results of the elections conducted across the 73 councils in Queensland; and
- 5. Ballot Paper Survey.

The document is available on the Commission's website www.ecq.qld.gov.au

Yours sincerely

Walter van der Merwe

Acting Electoral Commissioner

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Councillor Bill Lowis Mayor Burdekin Shire Council PO Box 974 Ayr Queensland 4807

BURDEKIN SHIRE COUNCIL
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Level 8 Primary Industries Building 80 Ann Street Brisbane 4000 GPO Box 46 Brisbane Queensland 4001 Australia Telephone +61 07 3239 3000 Facsimile +61 07 3211 8199 Email daff@ministerial.qld.gov.au

Dear Councillor Lowis

Thank you for your letter of 15 October 2012 concerning the former Burdekin Agricultural College.

As advised in previous correspondence on this matter dated 17 August 2102, the Australian Agricultural College Corporation (AACC) operations are under review with the aim of identifying a sustainable business model for the future.

Ernst & Young (E&Y) has undertaken a more detailed analysis of AACC's business operations and I expect to receive that completed report in the next few weeks. I have committed to sharing this report with key stakeholders, so we are all looking at and considering the same information.

I am currently consulting with industry, community and education leaders to find out exactly what is required for the future of the AACC.

The Queensland Skills and Training Taskforce (QSTT) released its final report on 7 November 2012. It contains recommendations focussing on changes to the Vocational Education and Training (VET) funding system, changes to the structure and management of TAFE Queensland, a rationalisation and reorganisation of current TAFE Queensland assets and structures and a new funding framework for VET in Schools (VetiS). I need to understand any implications that may arise from these in relation to AACC.

Once I have all information I require and I have completed discussing options with stakeholders, I will make a final decision on the longer term future of AACC.

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If you require any further information regarding this matter, please contact Mr Geoff Johnston, Principal Project Officer of the Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry on telephone 07 3234 1007 or email geoffrey.johnston@daff.qld.gov.au.

Yours sincerely

JOHN McVEIGH, MP

Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry

Member for Toowoomba South



New Legislation - Elected Member Updated February 2013 (EMU 2013)

For Information/Action Circular: 2012-251

Release Date: Wednesday 5 December 2012

Authorised by: Greg Hallam PSM Executive Director

Half Day Interactive Workshops will be held in 9 regional centres around the state.

The state government has made over 250 changes to critical pieces of local government legislation that will have effects on council's powers, systems and operations and have personal implications for elected members and officers.

Many changes have been made to the Local Government Act and Regulations, and the Sustainable Planning Act – many proposed by both LGAQ and by member councils.

In addition, the new Economic Development Act, which replaces and significantly expands the powers of the superseded Urban Land Development Authority, will have major consequences for Council's planning powers.

The LGAQ invites you to join with councils in your region to hear from our legal partners and legislative experts King & Company about these changes and what they mean.

In addition, there will be the opportunity to receive a briefing on the latest emerging issues for your region and to raise new matters with your Association.

Please join us at one of these sessions:

Region	Venue	Date	Time
Longreach	Longreach Civic and	Monday 4 February	11.30 – 5.00 pm
	Cultural Centre	2013	
Bundaberg	Bundaberg Civic	Tuesday 5 February	9.30 – 3.00
	Centre		
Mount Isa	Mount Isa Civic	Tuesday 5 February	9.30 – 3.00
	Centre		
Townsville	Rydges Southbank	Wednesday 6	9.30 – 3.00



	Townsville	February	
Rockhampton	Travelodge	Wednesday 6	9.30 – 3.00
	Rockhampton	February	
Cairns	Civic Reception	Thursday 7 February	9.30 – 3.00
	Rooms Cairns		
	Regional Council		
Mackay	Mackay	Thursday 7 February	9.30 – 3.00
	Entertainment and		
	Convention Centre		
Charleville	Racecourse Complex	Thursday 7 February	9.30 – 3.00
Brisbane	Training Room	Tuesday 12 February	9.30 – 3.00
	LGAQ House		

Cost is \$295 per person (lunch included).

On-line registrations are required for these workshops.

For further details, please call 1300 542 700 or email ask@lgaq.asn.au



LGAQ Commentary on Local Government Act Changes

For Information/Action Circular: 2012-253

Release Date: Wednesday 5 December 2012

Authorised by: Greg Hallam PSM Executive Director

LGAQ has prepared a commentary of the changes to the Local Government Act 2009 which came into force on 22 November 2012.

Further to <u>Circular 2012-240</u>, the Local Government and Other Legislation Amendment Act 2012 assented to on 22 November 2012 made numerous and substantial amendments to the Local Government Act 2009, including:

- Many changes introduced by the previous State government in 2009 have been removed.
- A number of the powers of the CEO have been transferred to the council.
- Prescription has been reduced, with the emphasis on saying 'what' must be done, rather than 'how' it must be done.
- The role of mayors has been strengthened mayors are now responsible for preparing the budget and can direct 'senior executive employees'.

The amended Local Government Act 2009 is now available on the Parliamentary Counsel website.

LGAQ has prepared a <u>commentary on the changes</u>, for the benefit of councils. A similar document on the changes to the Local Government Regulations will be made available to councils once the new Regulation has entered into force.

As per <u>Circular 2012-251</u> LGAQ will conduct Elected Member Update workshops in February 2013 about these changes.

Questions about the legislative changes can be directed to <u>Greg Hoffman</u>, General Manager – Advocacy (07) 3000 2245.

From: ADAQ [ADAQ@adaq.com.au] [ADAQ@adaq.com.au]

Sent: Monday, 10 December 2012 2:47 PM

To: ADAQ

Subject: Water Fluoridation

Categories: 00_Inward

Dear Mayor

I am writing to you in relation to the recent changes in State Legislation that allows Councils to decide whether or not to fluoridate their local water supplies. The Australian Dental Association (Queensland Branch) notes that some Councils are now calling for community feedback on water fluoridation.

As public health measure, all health and scientific experts conclude that fluoridation is the most effective, cheapest and safest way of delivering the benefits of fluoride to the community, particularly to those with the greatest need; elderly and infirm people, children, and residents of low socio-economic areas. It is also endorsed by the World Health Organisation (WHO), National Health and Medical Research Council (NHMRC), the Australian Medical Association (AMA) and the Australian Dental Association (ADA) as a safe and cost-effective means of reducing dental decay.¹

While a noisy minority opposing water fluoridation cite alleged health risks, the reality is that the science of water fluoridation is proven, and many countries around the world, other states of Australia and some towns in Queensland have, for several decades, enjoyed the benefits of fluoridated water with no adverse effects.

Fluoridation of water supplies not only benefits children but also benefits people of all ages, and as Professor Ian Frazer, inventor of the Gardasil cervical cancer vaccine and 2006 Australian of the Year stated: "I believe that the evidence overwhelmingly supports the safety and effectiveness of water fluoridation."

I appreciate there is a cost, but the ongoing cost of water fluoridation is insignificant compared with the cost of pain and suffering of dental decay and the cost of remedial dental treatment. The relatively small investment in water fluoridation will far repay itself many times over in terms of reducing the burden of oral disease and the cost of treating that disease within your local community. A study showed that in Melbourne the first 25 years of water fluoridation saved the state of Victoria \$1billion in dental costs and lost productivity.²

I urge you to support the fluoridation of your local water supply, and in the meantime, should you have any specific concerns about water fluoridation please don't hesitate to contact the Association on 3252 9866.

Yours	sincerel	y
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Dr Bruce Newman President

References:

- 1) Australian Dental Association Victoria. Celebrating 25 years: fluoridation of Melbourne water 1977-2002. Melbourne: Australian Dental Association Victoria; 2002
- 2) Department of Human Services Victoria. Water fluoridation: Information for health professionals. Melbourne: Victorian State Government; 2004.

Australian Dental Association (Queensland Branch) 26-28 Hamilton Place BOWEN HILLS QLD 4006 PO Box 611 ALBION DC QLD 4010

P: 07 3252 9866 F: 07 3252 4488 E: <u>adaq@adaq.com.au</u> W: <u>www.adaq.com.au</u>

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ROSEMARY MENKENS MP

State Government Senior Whip MEMBER FOR BURDEKIN



Postal Address: SHOP 30 Centrepoint

Ayr Qld 4807

Tel: 07 4783 2017

1800 817 594

Fax: 07 4783 4163

Tuesday 4th December 2012

BURDEKIN SHIRE COUNCIL Folder No. 1110/28 - 6 DEC 2012 Document No.

Mr Dan Mulcahy Director of Corporate & Community Services Burdekin Shire Council PO Box 974 AYR QLD 4807

Dear Mr Mulcahy

Please find enclosed copy of letter recently received from the Minister for Police and Community Safety, Hon Jack Dempsey MP in response to my initial 24th September 2012 representation and subsequent follow-up letter of 20th November 2012.

Thank you for your contact and do not hesitate to contact me at any time.

Yours sincerely

Rosemary Menkens

enc.

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Hon Jack Dempsey MP Member for Bundaberg

File No: SPD/00155 Ref No: 08966-2012

Minister for Police and Community Safety

1 9 NOV 2012

Mrs Rosemary Menkens MP Member for Burdekin Shop 30 Centrepoint Queen Street AYR QLD 4807

Dear Mrs Menkens

Thank you for your correspondence received on 15 October 2012, on behalf of the Burdekin Shire Council, regarding the state fire levy in Ayr.

The Commissioner, Queensland Fire and Rescue Service (QFRS) has advised there has been no change to the levy or the standard fire and rescue services in Ayr. The staffing model for Ayr is operating as intended and matches the urban levy charged. The staffing arrangement at Ayr is for permanent firefighters crewing the station during the day and auxiliary staff on-call for duty at night.

The Ayr Fire and Rescue Station is one of a number of composite stations in the Northern Region along with Ingham, Bowen and Charters Towers Stations staffed by both fulltime and auxiliary firefighters.

The Ayr Fire and Rescue Station operates 24/7 and provides services to the community with four permanent staff on duty each day from 7.00am to 6.00pm. From 6.00pm to 7.00am auxiliary firefighters respond, and are supported by off duty permanent staff as required.

I have also been advised that at present the auxiliary firefighter level at the Ayr Fire and Rescue Station is low and in order to support those staff and the community the Ayr Fire and Rescue Station is currently approved to continuously operate a call-in crew of full-time firefighters (24/7).

The current on-call arrangements at the Ayr Fire and Rescue Station provide flexibility to rostered staff in how they respond to emergency incidents after hours, be it by pager or telephone. Home Hill Fire and Rescue Station also provides mutual support to Ayr and is staffed by auxiliary firefighters.

I understand that a comprehensive recruitment drive is currently progressing in Ayr and the surrounding areas to increase auxiliary firefighter numbers. Once sufficient numbers are recruited an auxiliary firefighter recruit course will be conducted.

I appreciate you bringing this matter to my attention. Should you require further assistance, please contact Mr Michael Prain, Chief of Staff, on telephone number (07) 3239 0199.

Yours sincerely

Jack Dempsey MP Minister for Police and Community Safety

THANK YOU

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To the Burdekin Shire Council,

On behalf of myself and my family I would like to thank you for your assistance in giving me a kind donation towards my achievement in representing Queensland in school golf.

I was happy with my performance as the Queensland team won the Craig Parry Shield by one shot over NSW. I returned back with an increased love of the game.

While I was in Sydney I met new people and made new friends which I will cherish forever.

Thank you once again for your support.

Yours Sincerely,

Emily Cannavan

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BURDEKIN NEIGHBOURHOOD

President: Secretary:

K. Duggan B. Garioch

Co-ordinator:

N. Saroglia

6th December 2012

The Chief Executive Officer Ken Holt Burdekin Shire Council P.O. Box 974 AYR Q 4807

Dear Ken,



CENTRE Assoc Inc

Re: Annual Donation for 2012/2013 Financial Year

On behalf of our President, Kay Duggan and the Management Committee of the Burdekin Neighbourhood Centre Assoc Inc I would like to express our sincerest gratitude for the Burdekin Shire Council's annual donation for the 2012/2013 Financial Year of \$12 670.

As you would be aware, all contributions are greatly valued - they enable us to continue our services and support to the Burdekin community. In light of the recent State Government funding cuts, this donation is even more valuable to us, as we certainly could not function at our current capability without the Council's support.

The Management Committee and Staff are committed to ensuring that what funds our Centre does receive go towards ensuring that our Centre can meet the needs of Burdekin residents.

We would also like to take this opportunity to thank all the Councillors who have made themselves available for our various activities. It always a pleasure to have our local Councillors attend and showing their support for local community organisations.

We would also like to extend our heartfelt thanks to former Cr. Mark Haynes and to Cr. Lyndy McCathie for their presence as the Council Representative on our Management Committee. They have both brought a great deal of expertise and support to the Management meetings.

If, at anytime, the Burdekin Neighbourhood Centre can be of assistance to the Council, please do not hesitate to contact us. Please find enclosed a receipt for the donation amount.

Again, many thanks,

Yours sincerely

Natalie Saroglia Co-ordinator.

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"Working with our Burdekin Community"

40 Chippendale Street, AYR

P.O. Box 1342, AYR Q 4807

P: 07 47 83 4243 F: 07 47 83 5338 E: bncai@bigpond.net.au

ABN: 62 769 398 508

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BURDEKIN SHIRE COUNCIL
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Mr Patrick Schreiber 60 Hillier Street AYR QLD 4807

8 December 2012

The Mayor Mr Bill Lowis Burdekin Shire Council PO Box 974 AYR QLD 4807

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Dear Mr Lowis

I would personally like to thank you for nominating me for the BHP Billiton Cannington Mine NQ Sports Development Bursary. The \$750 bursary that was awarded to me allowed me to go to the Champion Schools of Australia that took place on the $3^{\rm rd}$ of December to the $7^{\rm th}$ of December in Melbourne.

Since my nominations and the receipt of the award I have recently been selected in the under 18 Queensland North team to go to Nationals in April 2013.

I have also been invited to train with the Townsville Crocodiles NBL team over the Christmas break. This is very exciting for me.

I would again like to thank you and all the staff of the council who helped me and supported me in the nomination of me for this award. It has given me the opportunities to play in some of the best competitions available in Australia.

Thanking you

Patrick Schreiber

thehohn

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