



Correspondence

CORRESPONDENCE FOR INFORMATION

1. 1425230 * 853
North Queensland Sports Foundation

LGA Contribution and North Queensland Sports Foundation Board.
2. 1425662 * 894
Hon Anthony Lynham MP - Minister For State Development Minister For Natural Resources And Mines

Townsville Community Cabinet Meeting - Burdekin River Irrigation Area Revitalisation Project.
3. 1425906 * 1262
Local Government Association Of Qld Ltd - LGAQ

Financial Assistance Grants to Local Government.
4. 1426546 * 724
Ayr Anzac Memorial Club Inc

Request to Relinquish One Car Park - Young Street, Ayr.
5. 1426705 * 449
Local Government Association Of Qld Ltd - LGAQ

LGAQ Circular - 2015-012 - Local Government Benchmarking - New Tool Released.
6. 1426834 * 307
Keep Queensland Beautiful

Registrations Open for Tidy Towns.
7. 1427619 * 1262
Local Government Association Of Qld Ltd - LGAQ

2014 LGAQ Annual Conference Resolution 6.
8. 1427669 * 449
Local Government Association Of Qld Ltd - LGAQ

LGAQ Circular - 2015-013 - LGAQ Local Government Election Plan 2016.

9. 1428280 * 406
Electoral Commission Queensland

Quadrennial Local Government Elections 2016.

10. 1428281 * 894
Hon Mark Bailey MP - Minister For Main Roads Road Safety And Ports Minister For
Energy And Water Supply

Townsville Community Cabinet Meeting - Burdekin Shire Council's Priorities for the
Burdekin Region.





North Queensland Sports Foundation

Proud to be North Queensland

Established in 1983 by the Local Government Authorities of North Queensland

BURDEKIN SHIRE COUNCIL	
File ID No.	853
22 APR 2015	
Document No.	
Retention Period	

20 April 2015

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

Dear Matthew,

Following the most recent Meeting of the North Queensland Sports Foundation on 28 March 2016 in Hughenden, I would like to make you aware of two issues that were raised.

LGA Contribution

The Board agreed to a small increase in the Council levies to be paid to the North Queensland Sports Foundation. The levies have been increased to 22.52c (from 22.14c) per capita, based on the most recent census (2011). This represents an increase of 1.7%, in line with CPI.

For the 2015/2016 financial year, the levy for your Council will be \$3909.92 plus GST of \$391.00, making a total of \$4300.92.

An invoice for this amount will be sent early in the new financial year.

North Queensland Sports Foundation Board

The new seven person Board, representing the needs of the full North Queensland Sports Foundation membership base, has been elected. The seven Members of the Board are:

Cr Pat Ernst – Townsville City Council (Large Local Authority) - Chairperson
Cr Jessie Richardson – Cairns Regional Council (Large Local Authority)
Cr Paul Steindl – Mackay Regional Council (Large Local Authority)
Mr Tony Vaccaro – Burdekin Shire Council (Medium Local Authority)
Cr Nipper Brown – Mareeba Shire Council (Medium Local Authority)
Cr Sean O'Neill – Flinders Shire Council (Small Local Authority)
Mr Dan Jackson – Townsville City Council (on behalf of Non-Local Authority Members)

A diagram outlining the Board representation format is attached to this letter.

Don't hesitate to contact the office should you have any queries.

Yours sincerely,

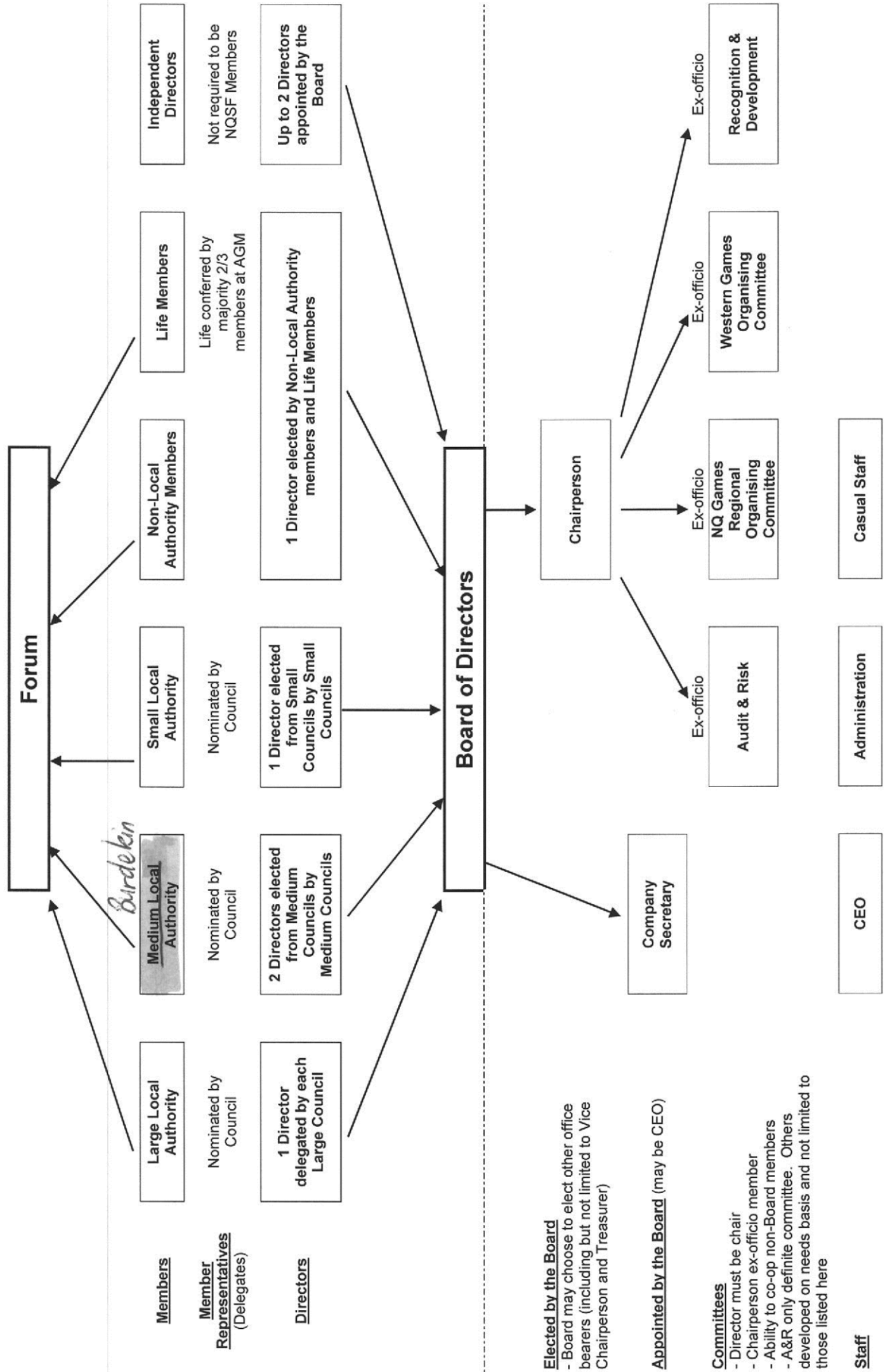
Andrew Bligh
Chief Executive Officer

VIEW	COMDEV	AGENDA	C1 21
		DATE	12.5.15.
NOTED		APPLIC #	
TENDER		PROP #	
ACTION		LAND #	
DEADLINE			



APPENDIX

North Queensland Sports Foundation Governance Chart





The Hon Dr Anthony Lynham MP
Minister for State Development and
Minister for Natural Resources and Mines

BURDEKIN SHIRE COUNCIL	
File ID No.	894
23 APR 2015	
Document No.	
Retention Period	

Ref: OUT15/2277

21 APR 2015

Level 17 QMEC Building
61 Mary Street Brisbane QLD 4000
PO Box 15216 City East
Queensland 4002 Australia
Telephone +61 7 3199 8215
Email sdnrm@ministerial.qld.gov.au

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

Dear Mr Magin

Thank you for meeting with me at the Townsville Community Cabinet meeting on 29 March 2015, to discuss the Burdekin River Irrigation Area Revitalisation Project.

The Burdekin River Irrigation Area Revitalisation Project, now known as the Burdekin River Catchment Development Project, is being progressed by the Department of State Development and seeks to support the development of the agriculture, manufacturing and mining industries in the Burdekin and Townsville regions. The project is in response to the growing demand for water from the Burdekin Falls Dam and associated irrigation systems.

Both surface and ground water will be considered along with the current and future environmental impacts. There will be a collaborative approach to:


- reviewing existing water use
- determining current and future supply and demand
- undertaking a systems capacity audit
- developing an evidence-based infrastructure options paper for greater efficiencies of operations and infrastructure to meet new demand.

This project is an important step in understanding the water demand from the Burdekin Falls Dam, the existing capacity to meet demand and the options to enhance supply.

As discussed I intend to visit the region and meet with Councillor Lowis to discuss this issue in the second half of this year.

If you have any questions about my advice to you, Mr Adrian Noon, Acting Chief of Staff, will be pleased to assist you and can be contacted on telephone 3719 7365.

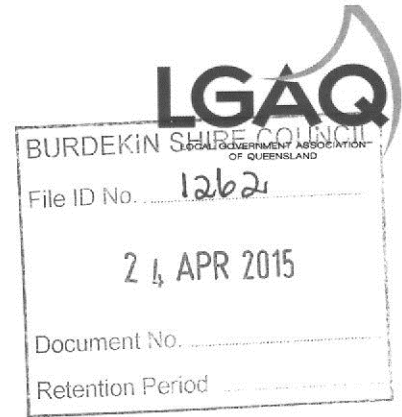
Yours sincerely


Dr Anthony Lynham MP
Minister for State Development and
Minister for Natural Resources and Mines

VIEW	CEO	AGENDA	C121
	ELDEV	DATE	12.5.15
NOTED		APPLIC #	
TENDER		PROP #	
ACTION		LAND #	
DEADLINE			



AUSTRALIAN LOCAL
GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION



21 April 2015

Cr Bill Lewis
Burdekin Shire Council
PO Box 974
AYR QLD 4807

Dear Cr Lewis

Financial Assistance Grants to Local Government

We wrote to you recently to seek Council's support in the fight to restore indexation to the Financial Assistance Grants (FAGs) from the Commonwealth Government.

These untied grants are a vital part of Local Government's revenue base, allowing the provision and maintenance of community infrastructure such as local roads, swimming pools and libraries. However, the Commonwealth Government's 2014 Budget decision to freeze indexation for this critical funding source will result in a permanent base reduction of about 13% once the freeze ends.

The Australian Local Government Association (ALGA) is writing to your local Member of Parliament, Mr George Christensen MP, drawing attention to the impact on the electorate. We are asking for strong support for the restoration of indexation of the grants and for the matter to be raised with the Treasurer. We would also appreciate your support through your own complementary advocacy.

The three councils within the electorate of Dawson will receive combined FAGs payments of \$14,383,659.00 from the Australian Government this financial year. However, if all councils feel the full impact of the indexation freeze, they could see an electorate-wide loss of up to \$5,609,627.01, by the time the freeze ends in 2017-18.

The impact on your council could be just as significant. This financial year you will receive \$3,259,723.00 in FAGs payments. It is important to note that the full impacts of the indexation freeze will not be felt until the final year, by which time we estimate Burdekin Shire Council alone will have lost as much as \$1,271,291.97. This loss cannot help but impact on the quality of local services and infrastructure you currently provide.

Today we urge you to take up this issue with your MP, to highlight the specific implications of the FAGs indexation freeze. Your Federal MP, they need to know the specific services and/or infrastructure that may be at risk as a result.

If you could copy LGAQ and ALGA into any such correspondence with your local Federal MP we will continue to build a national record of the specific impacts of this Commonwealth decision, which we can use in our ongoing advocacy work on this matter.

Yours sincerely

Cr Margaret de Wit
President

Mayor Troy Pickard
President

Local Government Association of Queensland

VIEW	MAYOR	AGENDA	CI 2
CEO	FIN	DATE	12.5.15
NOTED		APPLIC #	
TENDER		PROP #	
ACTION		LAND #	
DEADLINE			

Australian Local Government Association



AYR ANZAC MEMORIAL CLUB INC

101 Burke Street, Ayr Qld 4807
PO Box 92, Ayr Qld 4807
Phone : 47831283 Fax : 47835178
ABN : 84 650 561 476

Website : www.ayranzac.com.au
Email : ayr.anzac@bigpond.com

24TH April, 2015

The Chief Executive Office
Burdekin Shire Council
PO Box 974
AYR 4807

BURDEKIN SHIRE COUNCIL	
File ID No.	724
28 APR 2015	
Document No.	
Retention Period	

Dear Sir,

Relinquish one car park

The Ayr ANZAC Memorial Club requests to relinquish one car park situated along the footpath in Young Street Ayr and make it a drop off zone only. This would give easy access to the ramp for the elderly and disabled.

At a meeting with Ted Bawden, Ted spoke about his concerns and the difficulty the elderly and disabled are having accessing the club via Young Street and he suggested the Club relinquish one car park. This was then taken to the April General Meeting and the Committee unanimously voted to put this request to Council seeking your support.

Awaiting a favourable reply

Yours faithfully

JOHN ROBINSON
GENERAL MANAGER
AYR ANZAC MEMORIAL CLUB INC

VIEW	TECH.	AGENDA	C1 2
		DATE	12.5.14
NOTED		APPLIC #	
TENDER		PROP #	
ACTION	DESIGN	LAND #	
DEADLINE	20.5.14		

Circular

Local Government Performance Benchmarking - New Tool Released

For Information

Circular: 2015-012
Release Date: Monday, 27 April 2015
Authorised by: Greg Hallam PSM Chief Executive Officer

Councils can now access a new [performance benchmarking service](#) via a secure login within LG Online.

The new service provides access to comparative local government data covering in excess of 10 different measures and is provided in a visual format that allows users to both assess individual council performance over time (trend) as well as comparisons against various peer groups.

Additional performance measures are scheduled to be added to the service before July, 2015.

The value of the service lies in its ability to allow councils to choose what measures of performance they would like to assess, and what method of comparison is most relevant. The service also provides the option to print confidential reports.

Additional [training resources](#) are available online. Technical, consulting and interpretive support is available by contacting the Members' Hotline on 1300 542 700 | ask@lgaq.asn.au. Councils are reminded of the copyright protections that exist over both the online and printed versions of the service which prohibit unauthorised public release. The Association has previously advised members that it will not be releasing any performance measurement data publicly until after further consultation with members, and not till after the 2016 local government elections.

The future direction for the service will be developed after further consultation with members. Councils are encouraged to provide feedback directly to the Association by the 30th September, 2015 in writing or by email and/or by attendance at one of several regional workshops. The Association is seeking feedback on the value of the service, recommendations for improvement and suggestions for additional performance measures.

Details regarding the dates and times for the regional workshops will be announced in coming weeks.

In addition, the Association is also interested in hearing from any council that has a desire to be a leader in performance measurement and assessment. The LGAQ is looking to establish a working partnership between similar minded councils to pursue, potentially under a co-investment model, a dedicated performance measurement and reporting project targeting operational improvement outcomes.

For councils interested in this project please contact Glen_Beckett@lgaq.asn.au | 1300 542 700

FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY

From: [David Curtin](#)
Subject: Is your town an accredited Tidy Town?
Date: Tuesday, 28 April 2015 4:46:46 PM
Attachments: [image003.gif](#)
[image004.gif](#)
[image005.gif](#)
[image006.jpg](#)
[image002.png](#)
[image008.jpg](#)



Please forward this email to each elected Councillor.

Are your towns accredited Tidy Towns?

Towns across the Sunshine State can now pick up a star rating for their cleanliness, environmental credentials and community spirit, as part of **Keep Queensland Beautiful's revitalised Tidy Towns program**.

The iconic Tidy Towns program has been running for 44 years as an awards program, however **last year we introduced accreditation, allowing towns to be recognised on a 1 to 5 star rating system**.

In the past, the Tidy Towns program focused solely on awarding one winning town – now, every town is awarded for their contribution and commitment to their local community. This new approach is not only much more inclusive, it also helps towns to achieve long term environmental goals, as they work towards improving or maintaining their star rating, year after year.

In addition to providing accreditation, the Tidy Towns program will continue to recognise the Friendliest Town and any outstanding contributions to Queensland communities by volunteers; individuals, businesses and not-for-profit associations through special achievement awards.

Last year we accredited 25 towns across Queensland, with **Cooktown** being named Queensland's Tidiest Town and **Tambo** winning the Friendliest Town gong.

Why become accredited?

- Boost community morale
- Encourage positive social change
- Promote local businesses, community groups, unique natural environment and cultural heritage
- Encourage tourism (through a dedicated tidytowns.net directory profile)
- Enhance the reputation of your town as a great place to live, work and stay

Tidy Towns accreditation provides formal recognition of the hard work that communities are already carrying out to foster long-term environmental and social health.

This year, the accreditation process has been further simplified with Keep Queensland Beautiful staff available for one-on-one assistance throughout the process.

You can register online:

<http://www.keepqueenslandbeautiful.org.au/programs/tidytowns/registration>

Call (07) 3252 2886 or email info@keepqueenslandbeautiful.org.au

Register early, so you have sufficient time to put forward the best possible submission and so our staff can schedule your one-on-one assistance and key-focus area workshops.

Submissions close: 28 August 2015

Regards,
David

David Curtin
Chief Executive Officer &
Chairman of the Board

KQB logo_RGB

Shop 2, 88 Brunswick St, Fortitude Valley Q 4006
PO Box 3260, South Brisbane Qld 4101
P 07 3252 2886 | 1300 LITTER
M 0435 602 737

Email DCurtin@keepqueenslandbeautiful.org.au
Website www.keepqueenslandbeautiful.org.au



Banner-720x90px-Litter-campaign-flick2



This email has been scanned by the Symantec Email Security.cloud service.
For more information please visit <http://www.symanteccloud.com>

30 April 2015

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

Dear Cr Lewis

Bill

VIEW	MAYOR	AGENDA	C1 21
CEO	FIN	DATE	12.5.15
NOTED		APPLIC #	
TENDER		PROP #	
ACTION		LAND #	
DEADLINE			

2014 LGAQ Annual Conference Resolution 6

The Local Government Association of Queensland (LGAQ) held its successful 118th Annual Conference in Mackay between 27 – 29 October 2014, with over 350 delegates attending and representing each of the 77 Queensland local governments. A total of 110 motions were passed at this year's Annual Conference, including the following submitted by Burdekin Shire Council, Tablelands Regional Council, Charters Towers Regional Council and endorsed by the North Queensland Local Government Association:

Resolution 6 – Funding – Financial Assistance Grants – Reversal of Federal Government's Decision to Freeze the Indexation of FAGs for Three Years to 2017-18

"That the Local Government Association of Queensland call on the Federal Government to:

- Reverse its decision to freeze the indexation of Federal Assistance Grants to local governments for three years until 2017-18; and
- Restore the indexation of Federal Assistance Grants in line with population growth and the Consumer Price Index."

The following background information was considered by the Conference in the adoption of this resolution.

Charters Towers Regional Council

The Federal Government maintains the system of payments to support local government, through Financial Assistance Grants (FAGs). To date, FAGs have been increased annually, based on population growth and the consumer price index (CPI).

On 13 May 2014, the Federal Government announced a freeze on the indexation of FAGs to local governments for three years until 2017-18.

All councils use FAGs to build and maintain community assets and provide services to the community. They form the larger part of the revenue for rural and remote councils, and it is expected that this decision will have a greater impact on such councils.

Burdekin Shire Council

On 16th June 2014, delegates of the Australian Local Government Association's (ALGA) National General Assembly resolved to call on the Commonwealth Government to restore indexation of FAGs in line with CPI and population growth immediately as per the following resolution:

Delegates of the 2014 National General Assembly, in recognition of the vital importance of the Financial Assistance Grants (FAGs) to local government for the provision of equitable levels of local government services to all Australian communities, call on the Commonwealth Government to:

- *Restore indexation of Financial Assistance Grants in line with CPI and population growth immediately;*



- *Reject Recommendation 22 of the National Commission of Audit in which the Commission recommends that tied grants to local government cease, and to the extent that programmes are identified as priorities, local and state government provide them to the communities they serve.*

Further delegates resolve that:

- *It is imperative that the Commonwealth consult with local government, the states and territories and local communities in the development of the White Paper on Reform of the Federation and the White Paper on Taxation; that the Government's White Papers must genuinely reflect the wishes of the Australian people; and that future Federal-State and local financial relationship arrangements must ensure long term sustainable distribution of taxation revenues between the levels of government that are commensurate with the roles and responsibilities of each local government in our modern federation.*

Tablelands Regional Council

The Federal Government FAGs are used especially in regional councils to supplement the general rates revenues and help cover operating expenditures. Smaller local government operating expenses usually exceed rates revenues when adding in things like road maintenance and community service. Effectively with lower FAG allocations smaller councils will most likely incur deficit budgets.

CPI increases on FAGs eases this burden, therefore without CPI, councils will be further behind in terms of operating expenditures due to wage increases, electricity charges, and so on. Councils effectively have to find the shortfall which will come from ratepayers and may result in financial stress for some ratepayers taking into account rises in utilities charges.

A freeze on FAGs funding has a fundamental impact on smaller councils. Smaller local governments have a lower ratepayer base than large councils; every dollar not received is multiplied more when you have a smaller ratepayer base.

Enclosed is the formal response from the Deputy Prime Minister's Chief of Staff.

The LGAQ has also been participating in discussions with the Australian Local Government Association and other State and Territory Associations about a campaign to restore indexation for FAGs. As you are well aware, unfortunately, FAGs funding is not keeping pace with demand for services and infrastructure in local communities, and the Commonwealth decision to freeze indexation of FAGs in the 2014 Federal Budget will worsen this. Freezing FAGs at their current level until 2017-18 will result in a permanent reduction in the FAGs base by 13%.

A letter will shortly be sent from ALGA and the LGAQ, seeking the support of your council in our Federal advocacy work.

This response from the Deputy Prime Minister's office has also been provided to the Cr Frank Beveridge in his capacity as Chair of the North Queensland Local Government Association.

Yours sincerely

Greg Hoffman PSM
GENERAL MANAGER – ADVOCACY

cc: Mr Matthew Magin, Chief Executive Officer, Burdekin Shire Council

NB: All received responses to LGAQ Annual Conference resolutions can be found at:
<http://www.lgaq.asn.au/group/quest/annual-conference-proceedings>



Office of the Hon Warren Truss MP

Deputy Prime Minister
Minister for Infrastructure and Regional Development
Leader of The Nationals
Member for Wide Bay

LGAQ
29 APR 2015
RECEIVED

22 APR 2015

PDR ID: MC14-005131

Mr Greg Hallam
Chief Executive Officer
Local Government Association of Queensland
PO Box 2230
FORTITUDE VALLEY BC QLD 4006

Dear Mr Hallam

Thank you for your letter dated 15 December 2014 to the Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Infrastructure and Regional Development, the Hon Warren Truss MP, regarding the 2014 Local Government Association of Queensland (LGAQ) Annual Conference Resolutions. The Deputy Prime Minister has asked me to reply on his behalf. I apologise for the delay in responding.

The Australian Government (the Government) notes the LGAQ's work in building the skills and capacity of its members with a particular focus on financial strategies, such as co-investment, that deliver greater outcomes in productivity for local government, business and the local community.

The Government would also like to thank you for your assistance as Deputy Chair of the recent Industry, Innovation and Competitiveness Agenda Roundtable in Rockhampton. This meeting was part of a series of discussions with industry, and provided valuable insights into issues relating to the planning and provision of economic infrastructure in regional Australia.

Please find enclosed, the Government's responses to the resolutions relating to the Infrastructure and Regional Development portfolio. As requested in your letter, I have forwarded the responses to the resolutions to Ms Beth Norman.

Thank you for raising these matters.

Yours sincerely

David L. Whitrow
Chief of Staff

Enc

Response to 2014 LGAQ Annual Conference Resolutions

Resolution 6: Funding -Financial Assistance Grants - Reversal of Federal Governments Decision to Freeze the Indexation of FAGs for Three Years to 2017-18.

That the Local Government Association of Queensland call on the federal Government to:

- *Reverse its decision to freeze the indexation of Federal Assistance grants to local Governments for three years until 2017-18; and*
- *Restore the indexation of Federal (Financial) Assistance Grants in line with population growth and the Consumer Price index.*

Response:

The Commonwealth supports sustainable, viable and strong local government as an important part of the Australian Government's (the Government) economic development agenda.

The Coalition Government has continued the Financial Assistance Grant programme which will provide an estimated \$9.3 billion in untied funding to local government over the period 2014-15 to 2017-18 (approximately \$2.3 billion per year). For 2014-15, this includes an extra \$30 million as a result of an increase in Australia's population. There will be a temporary pause to the indexation applied to the programme from 2014-15 to 2016-17.

The Final Budget Outcome for 2013-14 confirmed a \$48.5 billion deficit, which brings into sharp focus the need for budget repair. Including 2013-14, Labor left the Government with future deficits of \$123 billion to 30 June 2017. Labor left Australia with no plan to fund the future and address their unsustainable spending trajectory over the medium term. The Government is disappointed that a temporary pause of indexation for three years is required, but is asking all sectors of the economy to contribute to repairing Labor's debt and deficit disaster, including local government.

Nonetheless, local governments around Australia will benefit from the Government's commitment to supporting local government and funding economic infrastructure. This includes an additional \$350 million as part of the Government's \$2.1 billion Roads to Recovery programme, an additional \$200 million for the \$500 million Black Spot programme, and \$200 million for the Heavy Vehicle programme. They are also eligible for the Government's new \$300 million Bridges Renewal programme and \$1 billion National Stronger Regions Fund.

**Resolution 10: Funding -Financial Assistance Grants -Review of Methodology
Water / Waste Water Disability Factor.**

That the Local Government Association of Queensland call on the Federal Government to include a disability factor for councils who have financially unsustainable water/waste water services.

Response:

The Financial Assistance Grant programme is administered under the *Local Government (Financial Assistance) Act 1995* (the Act) and has two components. The first is the general purpose component, which is distributed by the Commonwealth between the states and territories according to population; and the second is an identified local road component, which is distributed by the Commonwealth between the states and territories according to fixed historical shares.

Funding under the Financial Assistance Grant programme is distributed by the Commonwealth through the states and territories for immediate distribution to local governing bodies. The grant is paid on a quarterly basis and is untied in the hands of local governing bodies, allowing councils to spend the grant according to local priorities.

Local government grants commissions have been established in each state and the Northern Territory to recommend the distribution of the funding under the Financial Assistance Grant programme to local governing bodies in accordance with the Act and the National Principles. The National Principles cover a range of issues including horizontal equalisation, effort neutrality, minimum grant, other grant support and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander populations. Further information on the National Principles can be found on the Department of Infrastructure and Regional Development's website at: <http://www.regional.gov.au/local/assistance/index.aspx>.

Each Local Government Grants Commission develops methodologies in accordance with the Act and local priorities. These methodologies include factors such as road length, remoteness, climate, population, ability to raise revenues and amalgamations. Further information on the methodology used by the Queensland Local Government Grants Commission to allocate funding under the Financial Assistance Grant programme can be found on their website at: www.qlggc.qld.gov.au/. Any concerns you may have with the allocations in Queensland should be forwarded to the Queensland Local Government Grants Commission. I note that LGAQ is writing separately to the Queensland Local Government Grants Commissioner on this matter.

Resolutions 11, 12, 13, 14, and 17: Disaster Management - NDRRA and SDRA - Impact of Changes on Local Governments, Level of Federal Funding, Eligibility of Council Day Labour Costs, Extension of Day Labour Value for Money Trial and Funding for Community Development and Resilience Programmes.

That the Local Government Association of Queensland makes representations to the Federal and State Governments to:

- *address the impact on local governments due to changes to the Natural Disaster relief and Recovery arrangements and State Disaster Relief Arrangements (SDRA);*
- *maintain the Federal Government's financial support at 75% contribution in relation to the Natural Disaster Relief and Recovery Arrangements funding;*
- *reinstate council day labour costs as an eligible expenditure under the NDRRA Determination provided value for money outcomes can be demonstrated;*
- *approve an extension of the trial in allowing the use of Council day labour to be an eligible cost in the restoration works completed under the NDRRA in to the future; and*
- *lobby the State and Federal governments for financial support for local governments to undertake community development and resilience programs to improve disaster preparedness.*

Response

In April 2014, the Productivity Commission commenced an inquiry into the full scope of Commonwealth, state and territory expenditure on natural disasters, including planning, mitigation, resilience and recovery. The inquiry was established following a request from the states and territories in December 2013 for a Productivity Commission review.

The Commission's final report was provided to the government in December 2014, following extensive consultation with state, territory and local governments around Australia. I thank the Local Government Association of Queensland for their considered responses and input to the review process.

The Government notes the concerns expressed by state, territory and local governments about some of the Commission's draft findings and recommendations. The reforms proposed by the Commission are complex and wide-ranging and the Government will require time to properly consider its response to the report.

Resolution 82 - Road Funding - Federal and State Government Commitment

That the Local Government Association of Queensland makes representations to the State and Federal Governments to confirm and commit to road funding allocations for regional and remote councils, and increase available funding based on identified social and economic need.

Response

The Government works with all levels of government and industry to determine infrastructure priorities. In 2014, the Government made a historic \$50 billion commitment to deliver the vital transport infrastructure for the 21st Century. This includes an additional \$350 million as part of the Government's \$2.1 billion Roads to Recovery programme, an additional \$200 million for the \$500 million Black Spot programme, the \$200 million Heavy Vehicle programme and the Government's new \$300 million Bridges Renewal programme. This significant investment is a crucial part of the Government's Economic Action Strategy to boost economic growth and prosperity, increase productivity and support thousands of new jobs across Australia. Local Governments, including regional and remote councils can access funding through these programmes.

As part of the above commitment, a number of road projects in Queensland have already received Australian Government funding under the National Partnership Agreement on Land Transport Infrastructure Projects (NPA). Under this NPA some \$27 billion of Australian Government funding will be applied to projects for the period from 1 July 2014 to 30 June 2019. The Government works closely with the Queensland Government who, as the project proponent, is responsible for construction and delivery arrangements. Local government has a vital role in liaising with the Queensland Government in project development and prioritisation.

Many of the projects committed under the NPA will deliver benefits to rural and regional areas in Queensland by enhancing connectivity between regions. For Example the Government will contribute over \$210 million towards the delivery of the Cape York Region Package and \$11 million to the Outback Way project. These investments will upgrade vital transport and community infrastructure leading to improved network efficiency and road safety, increased economic benefits from tourism.

These projects will also facilitate the achievement of improved land transport infrastructure that supports economic growth and productivity for communities, regions and industry. Such infrastructure will help promote growth in the mining industry and secondary economies, and strengthen local Indigenous communities so they may take advantage of the increased economic activity in the region.

Road Funding Allocations

The Government is currently working with state, territory and local governments to examine new models of road funding and investment. For example, the Government is investigating opportunities to test the practical application of Road Funds through pilot schemes, building on existing regional-based models such as the Roads and Transport Alliance framework currently in place in Queensland. Additionally, the Government is also considering trialling new models of user charging using telematics for commercial road users on particular stretches of roads, such as on the Perth Freight Link corridor.

Implementation of FIFO/DIDO Report

That the Local Government Association of Queensland call on the State and Federal governments to implement the recommendations of the fly in/fly out/ drive in/drive out report entitled "Cancer of the bush or salvation for our cities: fly in, fly out and drive in, drive out workforce practices in regional Australia", as a matter of urgency to protect regional workforces, and recognise local government as a key stakeholder to be included in all relevant policy review and development.

Response

The Government is considering the recommendations made by the former House of Representatives Standing Committee on Regional Australia into fly-in fly-out work practices. As the report's 21 recommendations were wide-ranging and require a whole-of-government response, it is appropriate for the Government to carefully consider these recommendations before responding.

Resolutions 98 and 99 - Regional Development- Review of Taxation Zone Rebates and Regional Development- Review of Zone Allowance

That the Local Government Association of Queensland call upon the Federal Government to undertake a review of zone rebates for taxation purposes for regional areas and lobby the Federal Government on the payment conditions and the value of zone allowances paid to employees in the western area compared to other areas of Queensland.

Response

Existing taxation arrangements will be considered in the upcoming White Paper on the Reform of Australia's Tax System, expected to be completed by the end of 2015. The White Paper will be coordinated with the White Paper on Reform of the Federation. I understand that LGAQ is working collaboratively with the Australian Local Government Association providing its views and submissions to this and a range of other state and federal policy initiatives.

Adjoining Transport Links

That the Local Government Association of Queensland make representations to the Australian Government to require airports and seaports under Commonwealth jurisdiction to adequately fund or contribute to connecting land transport, including road, rail and active transport infrastructure as applicable for areas beyond their traditional boundaries.

Response

As part of the 2014-15 Budget, the Government committed \$50 billion for vital transport infrastructure for the 21st Century. A core component of the Government's \$50 billion commitment is the Infrastructure Investment Programme (IIP).

The objective of the IIP is to invest in a safe, sustainable national transport system to enhance the interconnectivity of transport networks of significant economic opportunity across Australia.

The Government recognises the significance of Australian air and sea ports as important international gateways, and the need to ensure they are productive and competitive in the global market place. The Government is working to ensure also, that freight infrastructure including road, rail, intermodal terminals and ports are all geared to meet forecast growth.

The Government has already demonstrated its commitment to provide high standard freight and passenger connections that enable better land transport connections to sea ports in funding of projects through the IIP.

Examples of Australian Government investment in supporting infrastructure include a \$95 million contribution towards construction of the Townsville Port Access Road, completed in November 2012 and a \$930 million commitment to upgrade and widen the northern section of the Gateway Motorway in Brisbane, which provides the main freight route to the Port of Brisbane from the north.

The Government has also committed to building a new key piece of national infrastructure by constructing an Inland Railway between Melbourne and Brisbane via central-west NSW and Toowoomba. Part of this \$300 million commitment includes investigating a rail link from the Brisbane end of Inland Rail at Acacia Ridge to the Port of Brisbane. Work is underway on this aspect. Inland Rail and the connection to the Port of Brisbane would facilitate both interstate and regional freight, enhancing the national freight network, reducing freight costs and facilitating an efficient export link to international markets via ports including the port of Brisbane.

Circular

LGAQ Local Government Election Plan 2016

For Information

Circular: 2015-013
Release Date: Friday, 1 May 2015
Authorised by: Greg Hallam PSM Chief Executive Officer

We have begun work on an election support plan focusing on the needs of elected members across our diverse state.

The LGAQ has started planning for the 2016 local government elections to ensure we provide the best possible support services to councils, elected members, CEOs and other key stakeholders.

Following the 2016 election, we will help new and returning elected members take up their roles through briefings, workshops and tailored professional development programs. We again intend to run an election night tally room and issue a post-election 'kit' to all successful candidates.

The election plan also includes efforts to educate the community about the good work of local government and the important role of councillor.

A comprehensive overview of all planned support services and resources will be communicated to councils well in advance of the 2016 elections.

The Association welcomes any suggestions as to how we may be able to better support elected members and councils in the lead up to election night, and for the weeks immediately following the election. Please forward any suggestions to [Glen Beckett](#), General Manager Assist 1300 542 700.

IN REPLY PLEASE QUOTE

CONTACT OFFICER

TELEPHONE

1300 881 665

FACSIMILE

(07) 3036 5776

ABN 69 195 695 244

1 May 2015

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

BURDEKIN SHIRE COUNCIL	
File ID No.	406
5 MAY 2015	
Document No.	
Retention Period	

Quadrennial Local Government Elections 2016

Dear Mr Magin

I write in reference to planning for the Local Government quadrennial elections, which you would be aware are due to be held on 19 March 2016. The Commission is seeking to work co-operatively with Councils in order to better meet the reasonable expectations of electors, while ensuring efficient use of limited resources, and meeting the standards required for the public to have confidence in electoral outcomes.

Under section 8 of the *Local Government Electoral Act 2011* the Commission is responsible for the conduct of Quadrennial elections, by-elections and fresh elections. To enable this, Section 9A (2) of the Act provides for the Commission to give directions for the proper conduct of the event to the Returning Officer, and that these must be complied with. This being the case, it is likely there will be occasions in the planning stages and through the event where the Commission will need to give specific directions and where Council will need to provide advice and assistance to ensure a successful electoral process.

The *Local Government Electoral Act 2011* states that the Chief Executive Officer of each Council is the Returning Officer for that Council's elections, unless that person opts out of the role by providing the Electoral Commissioner a withdrawal notice by 1 July 2015. I am keen to hear from all Councils, if they haven't advised the Commission previously, as to whether the chief executive wishes to accept this responsibility.

Additionally, the Commission is aware that a number of Councils have requested changes to electoral arrangements (e.g. provision for a postal ballot), and that these requests are currently under consideration by the Deputy Premier, Minister for Transport, Minister for Infrastructure, Local Government and Planning and Minister for Trade. Once the Commission has received advice on these matters relevant Councils will be contacted as soon as practicable so that detailed planning can be finalised.



VIEW		AGENDA	C1 2
		DATE	12.5.15
NOTED		APPLIC #	
TENDER		PROP #	
ACTION	CEO	LAND #	
DEADLINE			

Apart from those two fundamental matters, I believe there are other areas where we can commence planning to assist the effective and efficient delivery of next year's election for your Council. We are currently investigating alternatives to provide efficiencies for the coming event.

One of the obvious ways to save and still provide service is by utilising council's facilities as Returning Officer accommodation, polling booths and pre-poll centres where these premises are suitable.

I would like to establish a line of communication between Councils and the Commission and have nominated the following Commission staff to be available to discuss and escalate any electoral matter through the planning phase of election preparations.

Peter McGraw 3035 8029 peter.mcgraw@ecq.qld.gov.au

Bill Huey 3035 8021 bill.huey@ecq.qld.gov.au

Alicia Hangan 3035 8033 alicia.hangan@ecq.qld.gov.au

John Robson 3035 8036 john.robson@ecq.qld.gov.au

Suzanne Ball 3035 8045 suzanne.ball@ecq.qld.gov.au

As I mentioned previously I am looking to work consultatively and co-operatively with all Councils to provide the best outcome for the elector. Accordingly I encourage your Council to contact any of the staff I have listed above to commence preparations for the coming event.

Yours sincerely



Walter van der Merwe
Electoral Commissioner



Minister for Main Roads, Road Safety and Ports
Minister for Energy and Water Supply

Our ref: CC13853

30 APR 2015

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

BURDEKIN SHIRE COUNCIL	
File ID No.	894
5 MAY 2015	
Document No.	
Retention Period	

Level 15 Capital Hill Building
85 George Street Brisbane 4000
GPO Box 2644 Brisbane
Queensland 4001 Australia
Telephone +61 7 3719 7300
Facsimile +61 7 3224 2493
Email mainroads@ministerial.qld.gov.au
Website www.tmr.qld.gov.au

Matthew,
Dear Mr Magin

Thank you for attending the Townsville Community Cabinet meeting on 29 March 2015 and discussing the Burdekin Shire Council's priorities for the Burdekin region.

I commend council for taking proactive steps to develop and grow the Burdekin region and I assure you that the Queensland Government is committed to working collaboratively with council in relation to future road infrastructure investment in the region.

As discussed, road upgrades on the Bruce Highway, including the Haughton River Floodplain upgrade and the second Burdekin River crossing, are contingent on Federal Government funding. The Palaszczuk Government will continue to work with the Federal Government to prioritise and progress Bruce Highway upgrades and will ensure continued consultation with council in relation to these projects.

Thank you for bringing these issues to my attention and I hope this information is of assistance to you.

Yours sincerely

MARK BAILEY MP
Minister for Main Roads, Road Safety and Ports and
Minister for Energy and Water Supply

VIEW	CEO	AGENDA	C1 2
MAYOR	ECDEV	DATE	12.5.15
NOTED		APPLIC #	
TENDER		PROP #	
ACTION		LAND #	
DEADLINE			