



# Burdekin Shire Council

## CORRESPONDENCE FOR INFORMATION

**1. 1627367 \* 471**

**Mick de Brenni MP – Minister for Energy, Renewables and Hydrogen and Minister for Public Works and Procurement**

Letter of Thankyou – Honorable Mick de Brenni MP – Minister for Energy, Renewables and Hydrogen and Minister for Public Works and Procurement

**2. 1626584 \* 146**

**Steven Miles MP – Deputy Premier – Minister for State Development Infrastructure Local Government and Planning**

North Queensland Regional Plan 2020 – Honorable Steven Miles MP – Deputy Premier – Minister for State Development Infrastructure Local Government and Planning4

**3. 1624649 \* 275**

**Regional Development Australia**

Letter of Thankyou – Regional Development Australia





**Minister for Energy, Renewables and Hydrogen**  
**Minister for Public Works and Procurement**

Our Ref: CTS 26228/20  
Your Ref: 124/RG

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8 JAN 2021

Mayor Lyn McLaughlin  
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enquiries@burdekin.qld.gov.au

Dear Mayor

Thank you for your letter of 27 November 2020 offering congratulations on my re-election to the Queensland Government. I am honoured to be serving as Minister for Energy, Renewables and Hydrogen and Minister for Public Works and Procurement.

The Burdekin region is an important area for the future development of economic prosperity for all of Queensland. North Queensland is a key location for the Queensland clean energy transition and the Queensland Government understands the importance of managing this transition to provide communities with clean, renewable energy as well as jobs for the future.

The Queensland Government's renewable energy zone announcement is a key example of this, with a recent registration of interest generating significant interest from investors, especially in North Queensland. The \$145 Million investment in renewable energy zones will support transmission infrastructure and industry attraction, making it easier for renewables projects to connect to the National Electricity Market and easier for businesses to access renewable energy for their operations.

I welcome your invitation to visit the Burdekin Shire Council and the opportunity to discuss projects, planning initiatives and strategies for the benefit of Burdekin and the wider community.

Thank you again for your support and congratulations on my renewed ministerial appointment. If there is anything I can assist further with, please contact, Chief of Staff on 3719 7270.

Yours sincerely

Mick de Brenni MP  
**Minister for Energy, Renewables and Hydrogen**  
**Minister for Public Works and Procurement**



**Hon Steven Miles MP**  
**Deputy Premier**  
**Minister for State Development, Infrastructure,**  
**Local Government and Planning**

Our ref: MBN20/1580

**23 DEC 2020**

Councillor Lyn McLaughlin  
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Burdekin Shire Council  
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Dear Councillor McLaughlin 

Thank you for your ongoing support of the North Queensland Regional Planning Committee (NQ RPC). As you would be aware, the last NQ RPC meeting was held on the 9 June 2020, focusing on the region's economic recovery and how this can best align with the economic growth policy set by the North Queensland Regional Plan 2020 (NQ Regional Plan).

The NQ RPC will continue to play an important role in providing me with advice about delivery of the plan, key regional issues and progress of the region's economic recovery.

As the chair of the NQ RPC, I would like to invite you to attend a meeting on 25 January 2021 providing the opportunity for me to meet the RPC members and to discuss how we will continue our collaborative work to implement the NQ Regional Plan.

Representatives from my department will work with your office to schedule a suitable time and location.

I would appreciate you providing an RSVP to [nqregionalplan@dilgp.qld.gov.au](mailto:nqregionalplan@dilgp.qld.gov.au) by 15 January 2021.

Following the state government election held on 31 October 2020, I intend to re-gazette the NQ RPC to reflect the incoming members. The NQ RPC will be notified in the Queensland Government Gazette and my department will provide a copy of the notice to you for your information.

For your reference, please find enclosed a copy of the updated NQ RPC Terms of Reference.

I look forward to continuing to work with you as part of our ongoing efforts to strengthen economic outcomes in North Queensland.

If you require any further information regarding the above matter, please contact Ms Katharine Wright, Acting Chief of Staff in my office on 3719 7100.

Your sincerely



**STEVEN MILES MP**  
**DEPUTY PREMIER**  
**Minister for State Development, Infrastructure,**  
**Local Government and Planning**

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# North Queensland Regional Plan 2020

North Queensland Regional Planning  
Committee – Terms of Reference  
December 2020

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December 2020.

While every care has been taken in preparing this publication, the State of Queensland accepts no responsibility for decisions or actions taken as a result of any data, information, statement or advice, expressed or implied, contained within. To the best of our knowledge, the content was correct at the time of publishing.

**North Queensland Regional Plan 2020**

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# Introduction

## Queensland's Planning System

Queensland's planning and development assessment system enables state and local governments to facilitate land use, built form and infrastructure to deliver a prosperous, liveable and sustainable Queensland.

The regional planning program focuses on supporting economic development, sustainable growth, resolving competing land use interests and integrating infrastructure provision within land use and development.

Regional plans operate in conjunction with other statutory planning mechanisms, including the *Planning Act 2016* (Planning Act), State Planning Policy and the *Regional Planning Interests Act 2014* to provide a framework to manage growth, change, land use and development by reflecting state policy, and informing a range of other more detailed planning instruments.

## North Queensland

The North Queensland region spans over 8 million hectares (or over 80,200 km<sup>2</sup>) and has a resident population of 238,300 people which equates to approximately 5% of Queensland's population. Anchored by the city of Townsville which functions as the second capital of Queensland, significant industries in the region include agriculture (primarily sugar and cattle), public administration and defence, transport and logistics, health, education and extractive industries.

## Designated region

North Queensland is a designated region established under the Planning Act. The North Queensland region incorporates the geographical area administered by the following local governments:

- Burdekin Shire Council
- Charters Towers Regional Council
- Hinchinbrook Shire Council
- Palm Island Aboriginal Shire Council
- Townsville City Council.

## North Queensland Regional Plan

The *North Queensland Regional Plan 2020* (NQ Regional Plan) was gazetted on 6 March 2020, and is the first regional plan for the region, setting out the framework to manage growth, change, land use and development in the North Queensland region.

The NQ Regional Plan is a state planning instrument within the Queensland planning framework under the Planning Act. It reflects and informs state planning, economic and infrastructure policy and priorities and informs local government planning schemes and infrastructure plans.

The NQ Regional Plan identifies the:

- long-term vision for the North Queensland region
- desired regional outcomes to achieve this vision
- regionally specific policies to achieve the desired regional outcomes
- future land use pattern and infrastructure priorities for the North Queensland region and the long-term implementation process
- specific regional economic, infrastructure, natural and social assets, to be preserved, maintained or developed
- measures to monitor, evaluate and report on the implementation of the NQ Regional Plan

The NQ Regional Plan outlines the long-term goals for a region, however, the COVID-19 pandemic provides a unique opportunity for regions to initiate measures that support immediate economic recovery which can lay the foundation for the long-term outcomes.

## North Queensland Regional Planning Committee

The Minister for Planning is given the head of power to establish the North Queensland Regional Planning Committee (NQ RPC) under the Planning Act.

These Terms of Reference set out the role, membership and operational arrangements for the NQ RPC.

### Role of the NQ RPC

The role of the NQ RPC is to advise the Minister for Planning about the ongoing implementation of regional outcomes, regional policies and implementation actions of the NQ Regional Plan.

### Membership

The membership of the NQ RPC is notified in the Queensland Government Gazette and formally recognises the Mayors of the five local government areas of North Queensland and following Members of Parliament:

- The Honourable Scott Stewart MP – Minister for Resources and Member for Townsville
- Mr Aaron Harper MP – Member for Thuringowa
- Mr Leslie Walker MP – Member for Mundingburra

The Chair of the NQ RPC is the Minister for Planning in Queensland.

### Terms of the membership

The NQ RPC members are expected to meet at key milestone points likely every 6-12 months (or as needed) through the ongoing implementation of the NQ Regional Plan.

Membership of the NQ RPC is on a voluntary basis and no payment is made for participation or travel costs.



Under section 14 of the Planning Act, the Minister for Planning will consider the advice of the NQ RPC for the region when developing and implementing a regional plan.

## Meeting protocols and principles

### NQ RPC Chair

The Minister for Planning will chair all meetings of the NQ RPC. In the absence of the Minister for Planning, a Chair will be nominated by the Minister. Members will be invited by the Chair to nominate issues for discussion at NQ RPC meetings.

The Chair is responsible for:

- setting the meeting agenda
- facilitating discussion at NQ RPC meetings
- ensuring meetings are conducted in an orderly and productive manner.

### NQ RPC Quorum

A quorum for a meeting of the NQRPC is six members.

### Attendance

Members are expected to commit to the NQ RPC throughout the regional plan delivery period. If a member wishes to resign, they must do so in writing to the Chair of the NQ RPC.

If a member is unable to attend a meeting, they may nominate a proxy representative. Details of the proxy should be provided to the Chair, prior to the meeting.

### Confidentiality

Meetings may be opened to approved observers, at the approval of the Chair. There may be limited instances where the need for confidentiality is considered appropriate by the Minister or the alternative Chair.

Examples include cases that may impact on the privacy of persons, matters that may affect commercial decisions, information that may lead to land speculation or matters which are yet to be released by state or local government.

Attendance of observers must be approved by the Chair.

### Communication with the NQ RPC

Communication with the NQ RPC is not limited to meetings and the Minister may also contact members via email or other correspondence for information and feedback on matters relating to the NQ Regional Plan.

## Amendments to the Terms of Reference

The Terms of Reference for the NQ RPC may be amended by the Chair of the NQ RPC. Proposals for amendments to the Terms of Reference shall be given by members to the Chair for consideration.

## Secretariat

The Department of State Development, Infrastructure, Local Government and Planning (DSDILGP) provides secretariat functions for each meeting of the NQ RPC.

## Dissemination and media

Members are encouraged to discuss implementation of the plan with the wider community including their specific interest groups. However, members may only distribute NQ RPC documentation, including to media, that has been approved by the Chair. Issues for media circulation must not include or reference confidential matters, unless otherwise approved by the Chair.

**Subject:** Thank you and compliments to all

Cr Lyn McLaughlin  
Mayor  
Burdekin Shire Council

Good Afternoon Mayor McLaughlin

On behalf of our Chairman Cr Frank Beveridge, Committee members and staff, I send you our sincere appreciation for the time and hospitality shown by Burdekin Shire Council to the RDA Committee yesterday.

We were delighted to have the opportunity to provide an RDA update and to hear from Council about the economic development projects that you are championing. We were particularly pleased to go on the site inspections that took in so many of the projects that were presented.

As they say, seeing is believing!

Thank you for your time and that of Cr Perry, Cr Furnell, Cr Boccalatte and CEO Terry Brennan.

Thank you too for the use of your room and facilities, it was much appreciated.

We would like to pass on our special thanks to Eliza and Rosie for all of their fabulous help with the planning and implementation of the program. They were very professional, friendly and delightful to work with – a great credit to Council!

For the benefit of those we did not get to catch up with, I am attaching a link to our new regional Economic Recovery and Growth Strategy 2020-2030 - <https://www.rdanwq.org.au/about-us/ergs/>  
I am also attaching a slightly updated version of what we presented yesterday.

We look forward to working with you again in 2021 on economic development priorities and projects for our region.

Wishing you and your families a very Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

GLENYS SCHUNTNER  
Chief Executive Officer



RDA facilitates and advocates for sustainable economic development by collaborating with regional stakeholders.



***RDA wishes you a very Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.***

***RDA will close over the Christmas – New Year period from 3:00pm on Friday 18 December and reopen from 9:00am on Monday 11 January, 2021.***

**Regional Development Australia Townsville and North West Queensland Inc.**

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