

Overview.

The Local Government Association of Queensland (LGAQ) is the peak body for the 77 local governments in Queensland.

Queensland local governments support the Australian Local Government Association (ALGA) 2019 Federal Election Plan. Central to this, is support for the restoration of Financial Assistance Grants (FAGs) to at least 1 per cent of Commonwealth taxation revenue. Access to this level of revenue would enable local governments to better target the real challenges and opportunities facing their local communities.

Federal funding to local government also makes good public policy and economic sense boosting Australia's Gross Domestic Product by over \$1.4 billion and enabling national challenges to be responded to with local solutions.

Local infrastructure, job creation, social challenges and public amenity can be best addressed when decision making is targeted to each communities' unique needs. Local government is best placed to do this.

Australian communities deserve a guarantee that at least 1 per cent of their taxes are returned to local projects that are important to them.

Queensland councils and their communities also face unique challenges and look to the Federal Government for their support and leadership.

Queensland is Australia's **most decentralised** state.

Over 58% of the land area of Queensland is drought declared in January 2019.

Over 20% of our councils are discrete indigenous councils.

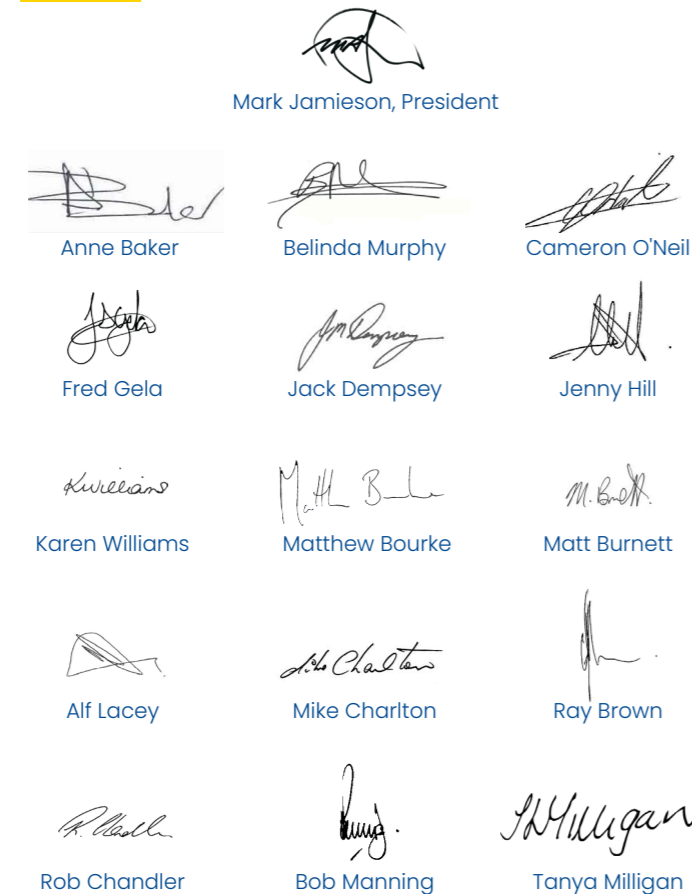
We have the Great Barrier Reef, **supporting 64,000 jobs** and generating **economic activity estimated at \$6.4 billion per year.**

Further, **our state is the most impacted by natural disasters**, with a projected total economic **cost of \$18.3 billion per annum by 2050.**

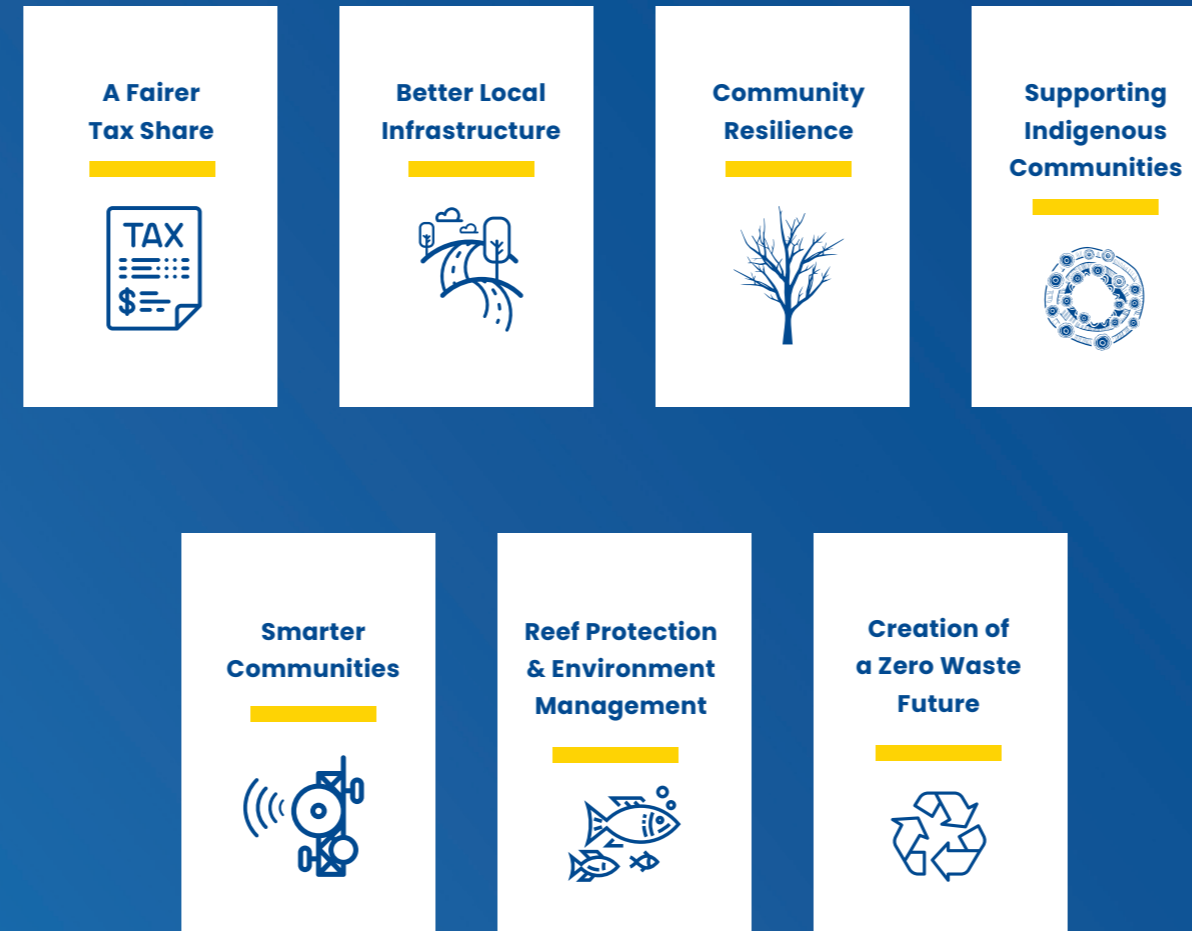
Queensland local governments are asking the Federal Government to support and partner with them to find sustainable solutions that will enable our communities to grow and prosper.

The LGAQ, on behalf of its members, is calling on political parties to align their election commitments to the needs of Queensland communities. We look forward to your response.

LGAQ Policy Executive



Further Information



Contact.

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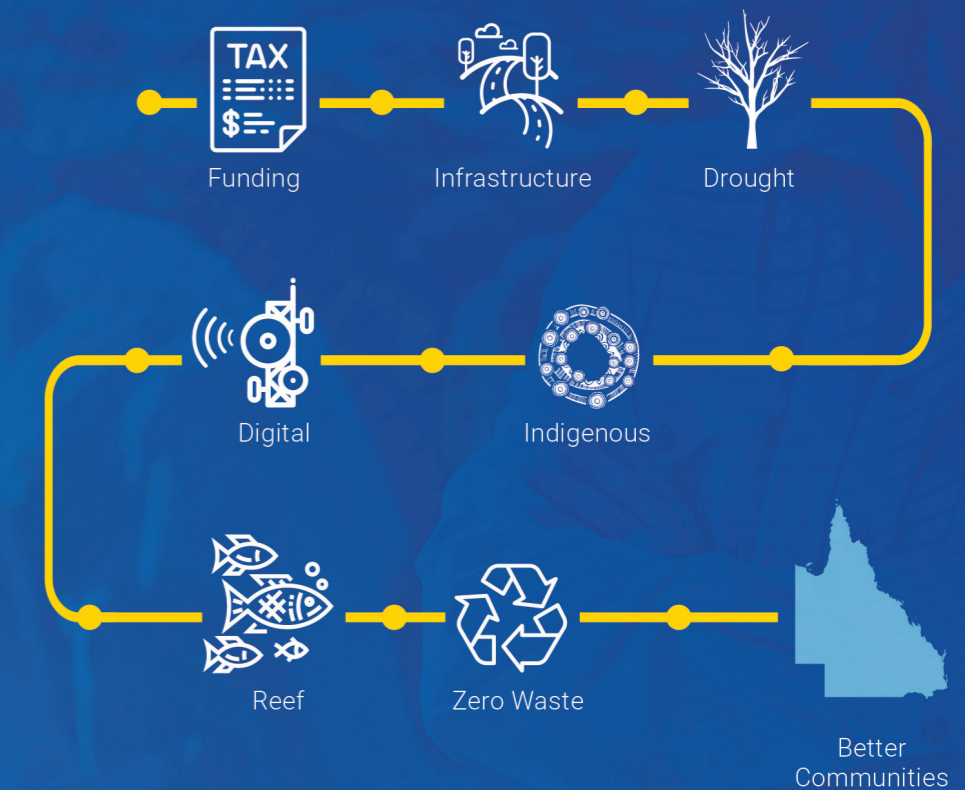


lgaq.asn.au

FEDERAL ELECTION 2019

What Local Communities Need

A 7 Point Plan for QLD Local Government



2019
Local Government
Association of Queensland



1. A Fairer Tax Share

Restore Financial Assistance Grants to at least 1% of the taxes Australians pay Canberra

Local Government gets 3% of total tax share



but manages 33% of public assets

Council responsibilities have risen while funding has fallen

Funding as a proportion has declined

resulting in cost-shifting and a reduction in vital services to communities

1%

1996

0.55%

2018

1%

means \$400 million of extra community assets and services, boosting regional economies and creating local jobs



A fairer go for regional and remote communities through improvements to the zonal tax system



2 Better Local Infrastructure

\$200 million

\$200 million per annum over five years to boost productivity through improved freight routes

\$800 million

Increase road safety and sustainability, including \$800 million per annum for Roads to Recovery and permanent funds for bridge renewals

\$300 million

per annum over four years for community infrastructure

Fairer airfares and services in rural, regional and remote communities

3 Stronger Community Resilience

Formal & genuine commitment to recognise the critical role of local government in supporting communities through drought



\$200 million PER ANNUM

for targeted disaster mitigation over 4 years, and effective Disaster Recovery Funding Arrangements

4 Support for Indigenous Communities

Minimum over ten years

\$5.5 billion to redress housing disadvantage



Genuine Commitment

to increasing local engagement and use of local services and resources



Consultation with local government on community needs, facilities and infrastructure

17 OUT OF 77 QLD Councils are discrete Indigenous communities



5 Smarter Communities

\$100 million

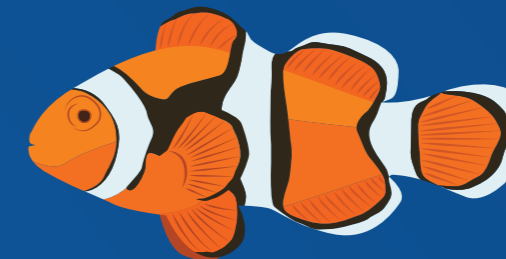
per annum for smart communities program



\$100 million over 4 years

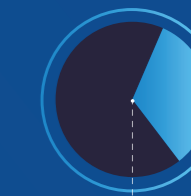
for a Digital Local Government and Rural/Regional telecommunications program

6 Protection of the Great Barrier Reef and Management of the Environment



\$57 million

over 7 years for reef catchment activities by local government



\$9 million

over 3 years for environmental biosecurity

\$9 million

per annum to help eradicate weeds and feral animals in drought affected areas

\$200 million

over four years for climate change responses



Flying-Fox Management

National leadership to implement recommendations from the House of Representatives Standing Committee on the Environment and Energy "Living with Fruit Bats" report

7 Creation of a Zero Waste Future



83% of Queenslanders support zero waste goal

Commitment to energy from waste technology



National leadership is needed for a circular waste economy



Increased recycling through innovation, education and product stewardship