

2020 State Election

LGAQ priorities for stronger, more resilient Queensland communities



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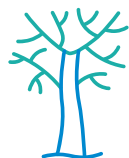
Sustaining
Local Jobs



Strengthening
Our Regions



Keeping
Communities Safe



Supporting
The Bush



Protecting The
Environment



Advancing
First Nations

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A four-year Plan for Queensland Communities

The winner of the 2020 State Election will lead Queensland through its first fixed four-year Parliamentary term. This is a historic opportunity for all political parties wanting to shape our state's future.

The LGAQ wants to ensure Queensland's next Parliament is comprised of representatives who recognise the importance of local government and are committed to working respectfully and cooperatively with the state's councils.

On behalf of our members, the LGAQ is calling on all political parties to align their election commitments to the needs of Queensland communities. We are asking them to:

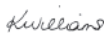
- Sustain local jobs
- Strengthen our regions
- Keep our communities safe
- Protect our environment
- Support the bush
- Advance First Nations' Councils

We will ask Queensland communities to vote for the party who best responds to these priorities. We look forward to your response.

LGAQ Policy Executive



Mark Jamieson, President
Sunshine Coast Regional Council



Karen Williams
Redland City Council



Paul Tully
Ipswich City Council



Jack Dempsey
Bundaberg Regional Council



Paul McVeigh
Western Downs Regional Council



Robyn Fuhrmeister
Balonne Shire Council



Matt Burnett
Gladstone Regional Council



Andrew Willcox
Whitsunday Regional Council



Robert Dare
Diamantina Shire Council



Jenny Hill
Townsville City Council



Bob Manning
Cairns Regional Council



Jane McNamara
Flinders Shire Council



Jason Woibo
Hope Vale Shire Council



Wayne Butcher
Lockhart River Aboriginal Shire Council

Local Government: A strategic partner in economic recovery

Queensland councils are on the frontline, working every day to make our communities stronger and more resilient in these challenging times. To do this effectively we need a State Government that is committed to delivering for our sector and for all of Queensland's unique local communities.

As our state continues to fight and recover from the impacts of Coronavirus every resource must be targeted effectively and efficiently to maximise benefit for all.

Our election priorities will create and support 29,000 jobs across Queensland and generate \$4.6 billion worth of economic activity.

No other level of government or non-government sector can offer state-wide, scalable delivery of local economic stimulus as quickly as councils. Direct funding allocations to councils have been shown to achieve rapid and direct stimulus relevant to the individual needs of local communities and their economies.

Leading consultants EY have confirmed "program impacts increase by providing councils with the means to create economic stimulus relevant to the unique requirements of their community" *.

Councils are more than just "roads, rates and rubbish". We employ 40,000 Queenslanders and are major contractors of locally sourced goods and services - sustaining local supply chains and supporting thousands of indirect jobs.

We have the people and the know-how to drive recovery efforts further. What we need is a State Government who will partner with us to do more for Queensland's local communities.

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*2020 Review of the Federal Government's Drought Communities Programme - Extension

Sustaining Local Jobs

- ❑ **\$100 million** per year for 4 years for *Works for Queensland* or an equivalent program
- ❑ **\$144 million** over 4 years to provide multi-year wage subsidies for 800 local government **apprenticeships** and traineeships to address critical public and private sector **skills shortages**
- ❑ **\$50 million** per year for 4 years for the LGAQ's *Jobs Advantage* program in SEQ



Strengthening Our Regions

- ❑ **\$50 million** per year for 4 years to continue a *Building Our Regions* program with support for infrastructure planning and digital connectivity initiatives
- ❑ **\$50 million** per year for 4 years for tourism infrastructure funding, accessible to councils
- ❑ Increased TIDS funding to **\$80 million in 2021–2022** and to \$100 million by 2024
- ❑ Rejection of mandatory, externally appointed development assessment panels
- ❑ **\$2 million** per year for 3 years for council-led planning innovation and improvement projects to drive leading practice in **strategic land use** planning and development assessment
- ❑ Statutory measures to require **resource project proponents** to compensate councils for their participation in **Social Impact Assessments**
- ❑ A statewide **data sharing system** and code of conduct to **support councils** in managing the use of residential properties for short-term letting and its impact on **local communities**
- ❑ Review and improve Queensland's infrastructure charging and planning framework to **remove inequities** that cost shift onto councils and the community



Keeping Communities Safe

- **\$100 million** per year for 5 years to guarantee delivery of rural water and wastewater infrastructure
- **\$5 million** over 4 years to support coastal councils build resilience and adapt to coastal hazards
- Statutory protections for councils managing risks from **natural hazards** and **climate change**, akin to section 733 of the *New South Wales Local Government Act 1993*
- **\$10 million** for greater access to expert assistance and guidance for local governments undertaking **local disaster risk assessments** as guided by the Queensland Emergency Management Risk Framework



Protecting the Environment

- Ongoing **waste levy** advance payments so Queensland households are not negatively impacted financially
- **\$200 million** per year for 4 years for a local government **Sustainability Fund** to finance resource recovery, waste management initiatives and legacy landfill challenges
- Commit **70% of waste** levy revenue to the funding of sustainable resource recovery, recycling infrastructure and programs to build a **circular economy**
- **\$325,000** per year for 2 years to deliver two NRM Governance pilot projects
- **\$1.5 million** per year for 4 years for **flying fox research** and a grant program to improve management and mitigation
- **\$200 million** per year for 5 years to match local government investment in **Great Barrier Reef conservation** and the delivery of the Reef 2050 Plan to maintain the Reef's \$6 billion economic and environmental asset value
- **\$8 million** over 3 years to significantly advance key aspects of the **Reef Councils' Rescue Plan** to significantly improve urban water quality to the reef by 2027



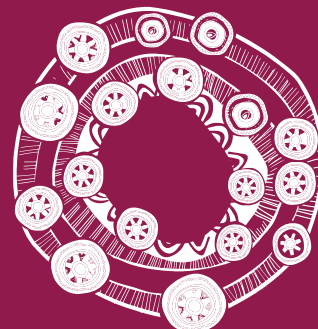
Supporting the Bush

- Sign LGAQ's **bush compact** and commence implementation within the **first 100 days**
- **\$25 million** per year for 4 years for a reinstated **Western Roads Upgrade Program**
- Review the Stock Route Management Regulation 2003 to establish a **user pays** system
- **\$5 million** per year for 4 years to fund **cluster fencing** and extend the Queensland Feral Pest Initiative
- **\$100,000** to review the Darling Downs Moreton Rabbit Board Land Protection Fund payment area and the methodology used for the Wild Dog Barrier Fence



Advancing First Nations

- Increase State Government Financial Aid by **10 per cent** to recognise significant increases in labour costs and assist councils in **retaining workers**
- **\$30 million** per year for 4 years to extend the Indigenous Councils Critical Infrastructure Program to deliver regional solutions for **waste management, resource recovery** and related **essential service activities**
- **\$650,000** to develop five regional waste management plans and achieve the **resource recovery targets** of the Queensland Indigenous Waste Strategy
- An additional **\$2.5 million** per year for 4 years to advance Indigenous Knowledge Centres, upskill Indigenous communities and provide **essential community learning hubs** for their children



Further Information



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