

## 2025 LGAQ Annual Conference – Motion Template

<b>Who is the key contact for this motion?</b> (required)	Kim Marxsen – Manager Strategy and Improvement
<b>Submitting council</b> (required)	Gladstone Regional Council
<b>Supporting organisation</b> (if applicable)	
<b>Council resolution #</b> (required)	XXXX
<b>Date of council resolution</b> (required)	15/07/2025
<input type="checkbox"/> Does this motion have state-wide relevance? <i>For a motion to be accepted, it must have state-wide relevance / this box must be ticked.</i>	
<b>Title of motion</b> (required)	Effective resourcing to address the administrative burden from the Planning Amendment Bill.
<b>Motion</b> (required)	<p>That the Local Government Association of Queensland (LGAQ) calls on the State Government to ensure councils are adequately resourced to meet the additional responsibilities arising from proposed Planning Act amendments, including but not limited to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Funding support for the administration and delivery of Community Benefit Agreements (CBAs), to ensure councils can effectively negotiate, prepare, monitor, and report on CBAs in the public interest; and</li> <li>Financial and technical assistance to enable councils to meet expanded compliance, engagement, and reporting obligations, while maintaining quality planning outcomes for their communities.</li> </ul>
<b>What is the desired outcome sought?</b> (required) 200 word limit	<p>The desired outcome is that the State Government acknowledges the increased expectations placed on councils through proposed Planning Act changes and provides appropriate support to uphold strong planning outcomes for communities.</p> <p>This includes targeted funding and technical assistance to implement new responsibilities—such as Community</p>

	<p><i>Benefit Agreements and enhanced community engagement—without diverting resources from other essential local services.</i></p> <p><i>By investing in councils' capacity to deliver these expanded functions, the State can help ensure that planning processes remain transparent, inclusive, and responsive to community needs—without compromising the financial and operational sustainability of local government.</i></p>
<p><b>Background</b> (required) 350 word limit</p>	<p><i>In May 2025, the Queensland Government introduced the Planning and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2025, proposing significant changes to the Planning Act. While the Bill rightly acknowledges that councils are well positioned to represent and balance the strategic interests of their communities, the proposed amendments—particularly those relating to Community Benefit Agreements (CBAs)—introduce new and complex responsibilities for local governments.</i></p> <p><i>These changes have the potential to improve planning transparency, drive more equitable development outcomes, and deliver greater social value for communities. However, the expanded responsibilities come with increased administrative, engagement, and compliance obligations that councils will be required to manage.</i></p> <p><i>Without appropriate support from the State, there is a real risk that councils may be unable to implement the changes effectively, leading to delays, inconsistent outcomes across regions, and reduced public confidence in the planning system. Of particular concern is the introduction of CBAs, which will require councils to coordinate extensive stakeholder engagement, negotiate agreements, manage compliance, and report on outcomes—tasks that require both technical expertise and sustained resourcing.</i></p> <p><i>To ensure communities truly benefit from these reforms, the State must commit to resourcing councils appropriately. LGAQ advocacy is essential to securing the funding and capacity-building support needed to deliver fair, consistent, and community-focused planning outcomes across Queensland.</i></p>

**Case study/ Example**  
(optional) 350 word limit

*Regional councils such as Gladstone Regional Council have limited staff and are already stretched meeting existing statutory timeframes and community expectations. The introduction of Community Benefit Agreements would require significant additional effort to consult, negotiate, monitor and enforce. Without dedicated resourcing, this could divert critical staff time from core planning assessment responsibilities and delay development outcomes.*