

2026 LGAQ Annual Conference – Modernisation of the Model Local Laws

Who is the key contact for this motion? (required)	Megan Connolly – Corporate Strategy Specialist
Submitting council (required)	Gladstone Regional Council
Supporting ROC (if applicable)	
Council resolution # (required)	TEC
Date of council resolution (required)	21/07/2026
☐ 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>	
Was this motion suggested by a third party? ☐ No	
Title of motion (required)	Modernisation of the Model Local Laws
Motion (required)	That the LGAQ calls on the State Government to: Review and modernise the model local laws to provide Local Governments with a more relevant and accessible framework as a basis for the administration of animal management and other community responsibilities.
What is the desired outcome sought? (required) 200-word limit	The desired outcome is a modern local law framework that can be easily interpreted and applied by local government officers and the community alike. A reviewed framework would significantly reduce the costs and administrative burden to local governments to update their Local Laws and encourage consistency between local governments, providing better outcomes for ratepayers and the broader community.
Background (required) 350-word limit	Under s 28 of the Local Government Act 2009 (Qld), council has the power to make and enforce local laws that are necessary or convenient for the good rule and government of their local government area. Local laws provide mechanisms for local governments to manage their local government area

	covering topics including animal management, activities on council owned land, management of bathing reserves, gates and grids, and other community issues. Model local laws, developed and administered by the Department Local Government, Water and Volunteers, provides a standard framework that can be used by councils when establishing local laws thus reducing the cost of development and increasing the enforceability and validity of the local laws. The current model local laws were developed following consultation with stakeholders in 2007- 2008 and were based on issues considered appropriate for local government to regulate at the time. Over the past 19 years, there has been significant change in the issues to be managed by local government and how those issues are managed. In addition, the current structure of Administrative Local Law, Local Law and Subordinate Local Law makes the enforcement of local laws a very cumbersome process, and difficult to interpret for both local government officers and the community who must comply. Without modernising the model local laws, individual local governments must undertake costly reviews and updates independently, placing a significant financial burden on councils and making reform unaffordable for some. Modernising the model local laws would reduce unnecessary duplication of effort, deliver better value for communities, and promote greater consistency in the regulation and administration of local laws across Queensland.
Case study/ Example (optional) 350-word limit	