



## AUSTRALIAN LOCAL GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION

### COUNCIL SUBMISSION TEMPLATE TO THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES ECONOMICS COMMITTEE INQUIRY INTO COST SHIFTING ONTO LOCAL GOVERNMENT

On 28 May, the House of Representatives Standing Committee on Economics, Finance and Public Administration announced it would be conducting an inquiry into the issue of cost shifting onto Local Government, and the financial position of Local Government.

The inquiry was initiated in response to concerns that Local Government is increasingly having to provide a range of services to communities such as health care centres, aged care facilities, employment programs, and security guards without the financial resources to do so.

The Inquiry has been referred by the Minister for Regional Services, Territories and Local Government, Wilson Tuckey, with the support of the Prime Minister and Treasurer.

The Minister has asked the committee to examine “ways forward for service provision”, including reviewing international models and examples.

The Terms of Reference can be accessed at  
<http://www.aph.gov.au/house/committee/efpa/localgovt/index.htm>

Below is a suggested template, councils may wish to follow, when drafting their submissions.



# CABOOLTURE SHIRE COUNCIL

## HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES ECONOMICS COMMITTEE INQUIRY INTO COST SHIFTING ONTO LOCAL GOVERNMENT

---

<b>NAME</b>	CABOOLTURE SHIRE COUNCIL
<b>POPULATION SIZE</b>	115,000
<b>GEOGRAPHIC SIZE</b>	1,228km <sup>2</sup>
<b>CURRENT BUDGET</b>	\$125 M

### ***ANY RELEVANT DEMOGRAPHIC INFORMATION***

NO

***OVERVIEW OF HISTORICAL DEVELOPMENT OF THE COUNCIL  
(Is the council the result of amalgamation, have boundaries significantly  
changed, etc)***

### ***IS THE COUNCIL MEMBER OF A REGIONAL ORGANISATION OF COUNCILS?***

YES .

### ***WHICH?***

NORSROC,  
SECROC

**OUTLINE ANY CONTRACT WORKS COUNCIL HAS UNDERTAKEN FOR ANY STATE, FEDERAL OR OTHER AGENCY DURING 2001/02 AND ITS VALUE.**

<b>Agency</b>	<b>Nature of activities</b>	<b>Value of contracts (01/02)</b>
Main Roads	Maintenance of Median strips Morayfield Road	\$50,000
Dept Natural Resources & Mines		
Qld Parks & Wildlife Service		
Environmental Protection Agency		
Public Works Dept.		
Queensland Health		
Queensland Education		
Telstra		
Ergon/Energex		
Others (specify)		
Urban Rural Fire Levy	Collect fire levy for the State (Commission paid by the State)	\$4,000,000
Pensioner Remission Scheme	Administer scheme for the State (No Commission paid by the State)	\$1,650,000
Woodford Prison STP	Operate sewerage treatment plant for the prison	\$70,000

**OUTLINE ANY ACTIVITY COUNCIL HAS UNDERTAKEN WHICH WOULD NOT NORMALLY BE PART OF COUNCIL ACTIVITIES, OR TRADITIONALLY HAS BEEN PROVIDED BY FEDERAL OR STATE GOVT DURING 2001/02 AND ITS VALUE**

Function	Nature of Activity	Outlays (01/02)	Revenue 01/02 (if any)
Law & Order (eg night patrols)	Security patrol services	\$172,632	-
Health (eg support for rural doctor, hospital funding)			
Education (eg support to some aspect of primary/secondary education)	Environment and Waste Management Education	\$100,000	-
Welfare (eg aged care)	Rowe Street Aged Units	\$23,703	\$36,387
Public Housing ( <b>not staff housing</b> )			
Communications (eg television/radio)	Community Radio	\$11,000	-
Roads/Transport ( <b>not Council roads or MRD contract works</b> )			
Environment Protection (eg clean-up of chemical spills)	EPA cleanups	\$10,000	-
Other (specify)			
Rural Lands Protection Contribution	Rural Land Protection	\$25,000	-
Management of Environmental Parks	Maintain Environmental Parks	\$100,000	-

**DOES THE COUNCIL BELIEVE THAT DEVOLUTION OF SERVICES OVER THE LAST TEN YEARS HAS PLACED ADDITIONAL FINANCIAL BURDENS ON THE COUNCIL?**

YES

**OUTLINE WHAT SERVICES HAVE BEEN DEVOLVED AND APPROXIMATE ANNUAL COST AND INCOME.**

<b>Activity/Function</b>	<b>Estimated annual cost</b>	<b>Estimated annual income (ie fees, user charges or specific purpose grants)</b>
Backpacker Hostel Licensing	\$25,000	Nil
Community Development Sport, Youth, Social	\$300,000	Nil
Immunisation	\$28,000	Nil
Maintain Register of Contaminated Land	\$50,000	Nil
Integrated Planning Act extra responsibilities	\$150,000	Nil

**OUTLINE COSTS INCURRED BY COUNCIL IN MEETING FEDERAL AND STATE COMPLIANCE/ADMINISTRATIVE REQUIREMENTS.**

<b>Activity/Function</b>	<b>Additional Annual Compliance cost</b>
COAG and NCP Reforms	\$150,000
GST Regime	\$100,000
Monitor Waste Management Sites	\$50,000
State Agencies, Non Payment of General Rates	\$300,000
Landfill Sites – compliance with new Environmental Legislation	\$1,000,000 for 15 years
Administer Pensioner Remission Scheme for the State	\$100,000

**HAS THE COUNCIL HAD TO EMPLOY ADDITIONAL STAFF TO PROVIDE DEVOLVED SERVICES OR MEET ADDITIONAL COMPLIANCE /ADMINISTRATIVE REQUIREMENTS?**

**YES**

**HOW MANY?**

**12**

**OUTLINE ANY COUNCIL SERVICES THAT COULD BE BETTER PROVIDED BY ANOTHER SPHERE OF GOVERNMENT OR THE PRIVATE SECTOR?**

**OUTLINE ANY SERVICES CURRENTLY PROVIDED BY OTHER SPHERES OF GOVERNMENT THAT COULD BE BETTER PROVIDED BY LOCAL GOVERNMENT.**

<b>Function/Service</b>	<b>Why better outcome?</b>
Public Transport	Local Government better placed to understand local community needs
Registration, Nursing Homes, Retirement Villages	Local Government resources better suited for this role
Speed Cameras	Local Government could use this function in conjunction with traffic control calming devices to better serve the community's interest