

WBBROC's Regional Priorities for October 2020 State Election

These regional priorities have been developed from the 10 July workshop's raw data (where we ran out of time!) and are meant to assist us with the October 2020 State Election only. Further work will be done in the near future to develop more focused and longer-term regional priorities.

Please note: The Queensland Treasurer at the recent ROC Assembly was very clear that any State Government funding will be strongly focused on:

- Prioritising job-creation projects
- Building infrastructure that will enable the economy to move forward
- Backing manufacturing and small business.

Proposed regional priority	Background	Alignment with LGAQ State Election Advocacy Plan
<p>Water for economic development</p> <p>That the State Government start treating water as an economic enabler and not simply as a financial return to their Government-owned corporation</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 21% of the state's agricultural jobs • Supports a vibrant manufacturing sector • Capacity for growth dependent on water 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Sustaining local jobs ✓ Strengthening our regions ✓ Keeping communities safe ✓ Supporting the bush ✓ Planning for the future
<p>Tourism</p> <p>That the State Government assist the region to promote drive tourism in the Wide Bay Burnett region</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Promotion of the region as iconic Qld – Fraser Island, Whales, Turtles, Beaches, Bush, Indigenous Culture, Bunya Mountains, RM Williams, Mary Poppins, Wineries, Art, • Tourism will improve the regional economy post-COVID. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Sustaining local jobs ✓ Strengthening our regions ✓ Supporting the bush ✓ Advancing Indigenous people ✓ Planning for the future
<p>Funding for key roads</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Key freight routes need upgrading 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Sustaining local jobs ✓ Strengthening our regions

Proposed regional priority	Background	Alignment with LGAQ State Election Advocacy Plan
<p>That the State Government increases TIDS funding to regions in order to improve freight movements and support for the regional economy</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Wooden bridges need to be replaced to allow heavy vehicle access 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Keeping communities safe ✓ Supporting the bush ✓ Planning for the future
<p>Telecommunications</p> <p>That the State Government should increase connectivity to allow regional and rural areas access to the digital economy:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Via access to QCN fibre where this is available 2. Funding to improve access where QCN is not available 	<p>Need improved connectivity across the region to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Assist agribusinesses to compete internationally • Connectivity for emergencies on major highways and tourist destinations • High-speed data for education, business and health services. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Sustaining local jobs ✓ Strengthening our regions ✓ Keeping communities safe ✓ Supporting the bush ✓ Planning for the future
<p>Renewable energy</p> <p>That the State Government supports renewable energy projects into the WBB region</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The WBB has plenty of space/land and is located close to SEQ and so places us in an ideal location to boost the energy needs of SEQ. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Sustaining local jobs ✓ Strengthening our regions ✓ Supporting the bush ✓ Protecting our environment ✓ Planning for the future
<p>Industry attraction</p> <p>That the State Government support the best use of land for economic growth in the region</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Wide Bay Burnett has ample land available • The WBB has a great pool of people who need employment • The WBB is the poorest region in Australia and needs strong government support 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Sustaining local jobs ✓ Strengthening our regions ✓ Supporting the bush ✓ Planning for the future

Proposed regional priority	Background	Alignment with LGAQ State Election Advocacy Plan
<p>Indigenous culture</p> <p>That the State Government support recognition and celebration of Indigenous culture across our region</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A number of First Nation groups are Indigenous to the region • The Cherbourg community represents many tribes 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Strengthening our regions ✓ Keeping communities safe ✓ Supporting the bush ✓ Advancing Indigenous people
<p>Education</p> <p>That the State Government seeks to provide better access to all levels of education in regional areas</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Examples are early learning, school-based apprenticeships, vocational education and higher education 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Sustaining local jobs ✓ Strengthening our regions ✓ Keeping communities safe ✓ Supporting the bush ✓ Planning for the future
<p>Health Care</p> <p>That the State Government seeks to provide equitable health care across the region</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • This would help address suicide and mental health issues, as well as the use of illegal drugs 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Sustaining local jobs ✓ Strengthening our regions ✓ Keeping communities safe ✓ Supporting the bush ✓ Advancing Indigenous people

Attachment 1 - Raw data from 10 July workshop

Issues		
Priority regional issues (in no set order)	Other (or duplicate) issues	
Priority = Immediate/near term, on the state political agenda, where WBB can be competitive		
Roads/transport	Water allocation	
Water	Water	
Telecoms	Water for economic development	
Telecommunications and digital economy	Regional unemployment	
Liveability	Waste	
Unemployment	Vocational education and training	
Education options (school based apprenticeships, early learning)	Access to higher education	
Regional tourism (drive)	Higher education opportunities	
Renewable energy opportunity	Appropriate allocation of industrial land	
Environmental sustainability	Financial viability	
Industry attraction	Efficient transport networks	
Lack of recognition of Indigenous culture	Transport connectivity (road, port and rail)	
	Road network upgrades	
	Roads	
	Telecommunications	
	Better connectivity	
	Health care	
	Equitable health care across the region	

	Health	
	Suicide and mental health	
	Drugs!	
The "ask" to address main enablers		
Water	Telecoms	Roads/transport
Support across the region e.g. Barlil Weir	Not just blackspots	More efficient/effective
Water supply reliability throughout the region to support economic growth	QCN expansion	Use the data we have
Re-regulating supply to Stanwell	What is the over arching objective?	More money in the regional bucket
		Better transport networks means economic development, jobs, industry attraction
Water recycling plant at Swickers		
North/South Burnett water feasibility study		RAIV? - Ports? - Airports?
Is water a dividend or economic enabler?		Objective needs to start with "Together"
Won't change pricing methodology		
Change CSOs to discount water in regional areas to support economic development		