

Inquiry into Crocodile Control and Conservation Bill 2025

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Submitted by:	Local Government Association of Queensland
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Committee Secretary
Health, Environment and Innovation Committee
Parliament House
George Street
BRISBANE QLD 4001

Via portal: <https://qldparlcomm.snapforms.com.au/form/heic-crocodile-control-and-conservation-bill-2025-submission>

Dear Committee Secretary,

RE: LGAQ Submission – Crocodile Control and Conservation Bill 2025

The Local Government Association of Queensland (LGAQ) welcomes the opportunity to provide feedback to the Health, Environment and Innovation Committee (the Committee) on the *Crocodile Control and Conservation Bill 2025* (the Bill), released for consultation in February 2025.

The LGAQ, as the peak body for local government in Queensland, has been advising, supporting and representing local councils since 1896, enabling them to improve their operations and strengthen relationships with their communities.

The LGAQ does this by connecting councils to people and places; supporting their drive to innovate and improve service delivery through smart services and sustainable solutions; and providing them with the means to achieve community, professional and political excellence.

The LGAQ notes that the main purpose of the Bill is to “... place(s) greater value on human life by responsibly reducing the risk of crocodile attacks as much as possible” and “... aim(s) to eliminate from ... waterways any crocodiles that pose a threat to human life, while continuing to protect crocodiles from becoming extinct as a species.”¹

To achieve its purpose, the Bill proposes to establish the Queensland Crocodile Authority and supporting Advisory Committee.

In accordance with the LGAQ’s Policy Statement², a definitive statement of collective voices from our councils across Queensland, the following statements represent the agreed policy positions that are relevant to the Bill.

5.3.1 Natural Asset Management

- 5.3.1.3 Local government supports the State Government retaining primary responsibility and expertise for wildlife management.
- 5.3.1.4 Local government seeks formal recognition as a key contributor in the development of natural asset management legislation, programs and policies, including the development of grants and programs.

¹ Crocodile Control and Conservation Bill 2025, Explanatory notes (pp. 1)

² [LGAQ Policy Statement \(2023\)](#)



5.3.8 Biodiversity

- 5.3.8.2 Local government seeks to work cooperatively with Federal and State governments to protect biodiversity values and threatened species in Queensland.

5.3.2 Regional Natural Asset Management (NAM)

- 5.3.2.1 Local government acknowledges the need for integrated and coordinated regional, sub-regional and catchment approaches to natural asset management.
- 5.3.2.2 Local government supports the concept of natural asset management governance arrangements with appropriate funding allocations that have links to other regional/local planning processes; streamlined administrative processes; clear communication channels; reduced duplication of effort and better governance integration.

Noting the above policy positions of Queensland councils, the LGAQ has no opposition to the Bill.

The LGAQ does however, note that the Advisory Committee's membership, as proposed in the Bill, does not include local government representation.

As the level of government closest to the community, local governments are acutely aware of the relationships between their communities and local crocodile populations, and as such, the LGAQ believes that the Advisory Committee would benefit from local government representation.

Furthermore, the LGAQ also notes that the Bill does not include provisions for the development and implementation of an overarching crocodile management strategy – like the current Queensland Crocodile Management Plan (2017)³.

To support the Queensland Crocodile Authority in the management of crocodiles across Queensland, the LGAQ believes that the Bill would benefit from a statutory four-year strategy that sets transparent goals, objectives and actions on how the Authority will manage crocodiles in Queensland and, in extension, achieve the Bill's purpose.

Based on this feedback, the LGAQ provides two recommendations to the Committee for consideration:

- **Recommendation 1:** The LGAQ recommends the Advisory Committee membership under the *Crocodile Control and Conservation Bill 2025* be expanded to include local government representation.
- **Recommendation 2:** The LGAQ recommends the *Crocodile Control and Conservation Bill 2025* includes provisions to develop a statutory crocodile management strategy to inform the management of crocodiles across Queensland, and to be delivered by the Crocodile Management Authority.

If you have any questions about any element of this submission, please do not hesitate to contact Joshua Dyke – Lead, Natural Resources and Environment via email at [REDACTED] or phone on [REDACTED]

Yours sincerely,

[REDACTED]

Alison Smith
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

³ [Queensland Crocodile Management Plan](#)