

DAVID NEISH
B.Arch. FRAIA

30th Sept 2010

Ms Barbara Stone MP
Chair,
Law Justice and Safety Committee
Parliament of Queensland

Review of Local Government Electoral System in Qld.

Dear Madam,
Having attended the Meeting in Rockhampton on 27th August last I was told I could still
Make a Submission by the end of September.

I was a Rockhampton City Councillor from 1994-97 and have stood for every Election since
Including the the last Amalgamated Election so have kept an ongoing interest in these
Matters. I wasn't successful. Mainly I was told because I didn't live in the Division 2
I recently spoke to a long standing Councillor of the former Livingstone Shire Council,
Brian Dorey. He told me that the best Council he was in was when there were no Divisions.
Everyone worked for the good of the whole area.

I would like to see the Rockhampton Regional Council have no Divisions like they presently
have in Mackay Regional Council. It seems to be working well there. It is a similar
Community to Rockhampton but I believe Mackay is more progressive.

We now need more people with expertise as Councillors and unfortunately with Divisions
Councillors seem to be able to build up their little "Empires" and stay there for some time.
At the last Election no new Councillors were elected. Only the Mayor was new to the job
Not having been a Councillor before.

Of Course the Mayor is elected by the whole area.

I feel that the Councillors at the moment by supporting Divisions are protecting their own
Plot.

If we need people to look after certain areas of the Electorate like "Rural" "City" "Coastal"
Etc the appropriate relevant people can be appointed after the Election. This they do in
Mackay

I Know that many Councillor colleagues of mine in the past have preferred no divisions.
I just hope this will be implemented next time.

Sincerely,
David Neish