




Speech By
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MEMBER FOR CLEVELAND

Record of Proceedings, 10 November 2016

**INFRASTRUCTURE, PLANNING AND NATURAL RESOURCES COMMITTEE:
REPORT, MOTION TO TAKE NOTE**

 **Dr ROBINSON** (Cleveland—LNP) (11.38 am): I rise to make a very brief contribution to the Infrastructure, Planning and Natural Resources Committee report on the consideration of the Auditor-General's report No. 17, *Result of audits: local government entities 2014-15*. I note and support all of the comments made by my colleague the member for Warrego. Ditto to all that she has said, so I will make a few brief additional comments. I thank the committee secretariat staff for their hard and timely work. I also acknowledge my fellow committee members for their contributions and for the effective functioning of the committee.

I note one particular point from the report, which is that 86 per cent of councils met the 31 October financial reporting deadline. That was reported as the best result in the history of local government financial reporting in Queensland. For all the challenges that local governments face, that is a good outcome and I commend them for it. I congratulate the councils for their work.

I make particular note of the Redland City Council, in the seat of Cleveland. I note the work of the Redland City Council and Mayor Karen Williams and acknowledge the good job that she is doing. She inherited a council in a bad budget position. By good leadership and strong economic management, she has been able to turn around our fortunes. The city is growing again in terms of development, investment and jobs. It is in an increasingly good position.

In relation to the Redland City Council and other councils, it is important that we continue to properly fund and support councils. It is important that funding is commensurate with shifting workload. From time to time, mayors and councillors point out that important balance to me. Local government is a critical level of government, as is the state and federal levels of government. It is important that we work closely together. With those few words, I simply conclude by saying that this is an important report.