



The Hon Jarrod Bleijie MP
Deputy Premier
Minister for State Development, Infrastructure and Planning
Minister for Industrial Relations

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1 William Street
Brisbane Queensland 4000
PO Box 15009
City East Queensland 4002
Telephone: +61 7 3719 7100
Email: deputy.premier@ministerial.qld.gov.au
Email: industrialrelations@ministerial.qld.gov.au

ABN 65 959 415 158

Mr Warren Bolton
me@warrenbolton.com

Dear Mr Bolton

Thank you for your email of 13 March 2025 about the Minister's Guidelines and Rules (MGR), particularly regarding infrastructure charging by Local Governments.

I note your concerns regarding infrastructure charging for proposed development and the process to calculate the relevant infrastructure charge amount. I appreciate you providing this feedback and it is being considered further by the Department of State Development, Infrastructure and Planning (the Department) as part of ongoing monitoring and improvements.

As further context may be helpful, I have included below some information about infrastructure planning under the *Planning Act 2016* (the Planning Act).

In Queensland, infrastructure planning aims to align the planning and delivery of planned trunk infrastructure with the projected demand for essential community services like water, sewerage, transportation and parks. Proactive and considered planning for infrastructure maintains or improves the community's quality of life and provides for the transparent expenditure of Local Government charges and rates revenue.

The MGR sets out guidelines and rules for plan-making and other important functions, including the process and requirements for Local Governments to draft, amend and review Local Government Infrastructure Plans (LGIP).

Local Governments plan for infrastructure in several ways, including LGIPs incorporated as part of their local planning scheme. LGIPs integrate infrastructure planning with land use planning identified in the local planning scheme, provide transparency regarding the intended provision of trunk infrastructure, enables a Local Government to estimate the cost of providing infrastructure, ensures efficient delivery of planned trunk infrastructure and provides a basis for imposing conditions about infrastructure on development approvals.

New development is likely to result in additional demand being placed on the existing trunk infrastructure servicing an area. Where an LGIP has been adopted, a Local Government may levy infrastructure charges on new development to recover costs associated with future expenditure on trunk infrastructure that is necessary to support the increased demand that the new development places on trunk networks. During the development assessment process, a Local Government may determine whether development places additional demand on trunk infrastructure by undertaking a demand assessment of the development using criteria within its LGIP and infrastructure charges resolution.

All Local Governments with an LGIP are required to keep and have available for inspection and purchase, an infrastructure charges register. The online version of the Local Government's infrastructure charges register is required to be updated monthly. Local Governments also report annually and some quarterly, on the trunk infrastructure items delivered by the Local Governments and developers for the previous financial year.

The Queensland Government has committed to delivering a new \$2 billion Residential Activation Fund (the Fund). The Fund will be delivered over four years from 1 July 2025 and is dedicated to accelerating the delivery of critical trunk and essential infrastructure for residential housing developments. The Department is administering the Fund on behalf of the Queensland Government. Applications for Round 1 opened on 7 April 2025 and the Program Guidelines are available on the Department's website. For enquiries about the Fund, please contact the Department by telephone on 3452 6882 or email at RAFund@dsdip.qld.gov.au.

Thank you again for sharing your insights. I assure you that the Department is committed to continuous improvement and will continue to consider and undertake improvements to ensure the planning framework continues to be fair, balanced, transparent and accountable, while also being efficient and effective.

I have asked for Ms Kristy Coulter, Manager, Policy and Statutory Planning in the Department to assist you with any further queries. You may wish to contact Ms Coulter on (07) 3452 7516 or by email at Kristy.Coulter@dsdilgp.qld.gov.au.

Yours sincerely



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