

## Financial Assistance Grants

### Northern Australia Priority: Supports all visions

**State Electorate:** Cairns / Barron River / Mulgrave / Cook / Hill / Traeger / Hinchinbrook

**Federal Electorate:** Leichhardt / Kennedy

**Council:** ALL FNQROC Councils

### Priority Recommendation

FNQROC seeks Government support to restore core local government funding of Financial Assistance Grants (FAGs) to at least 1% of Commonwealth taxation revenue.

### Project Overview

In 1996 the funding provided under the FAGs program was equal to around 1% of Commonwealth taxation revenue. Today the figure has fallen to just under 0.55% while over this time additional responsibilities have been devolved to local councils (aka cost shifting) by both the Commonwealth and State Governments.

Much of the assets owned by local councils were built in the 1950's with funding provided by central governments. Many of these assets have a growing infrastructure renewal gap through aging or no longer fit for purpose i.e. roads/bridges built for commuter vehicles now hauling cane trucks or type 1 or 2 road trains as well as tourist vehicles, or our aging population requiring further support etc.

FNQROC support the Australian Local Government Association (ALGA's) priority to restore core local government funding of Financial Assistance Grants (FAG's) to at least 1% of Commonwealth taxation revenue.

### Key Strategic Drivers

<b>Economic</b>	Identifies the strategic policy, projects and investment required to support continued economic growth and activity
<b>Social Enterprise</b>	Establishes a shared vision in support of improved quality of life for the community
<b>Employment</b>	Provides foundation for a strong economy supporting ongoing employment opportunities and growth.
<b>Tourism</b>	Establishes a shared vision for continued regional tourism branding and diversification