

<b>DLG – BRIEF FOR DECISION</b>	Date: 14 September 2012
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**SUBJECT:** Assessment of de-amalgamation proposals

**RECOMMENDATION:**

That you:

- **note** the contents of this brief including summary reasons for the recommendations contained in **Attachment 1**

<p>NOTED or APPROVED/NOT APPROVED</p> <p>_____                  Hon. David Crisafulli MP  <b>Minister for Local Government</b></p> <p>Date: _____</p>
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Sch.4(4)(4)Disclosing deliberative process

**BACKGROUND:**

Sch.4(4)(4)Disclosing deliberative process

**KEY ISSUES:**

**Process**

You sought proposals from communities seeking to de-amalgamate. In order to undertake this process submissions were required to be evidenced based and address the following criteria:

- Acknowledge that de-amalgamation costs will be the responsibility of the de-amalgamating council, not the remaining council, should the de-amalgamation occur.
- Show support by way of a signed petition of at least 20 per cent of the voting population of the proposed de-amalgamating council area.
- Demonstrate how de-amalgamation either maintains or improves service delivery to the community being de-amalgamated.
- Demonstrate how the regional economy and economic development will not be adversely affected by the de-amalgamation.
- Demonstrate that the proposed de-amalgamated local government will be financially sustainable based on a standard delivery model for local government.
- Demonstrate the delivery of services through a standard delivery model.
- Demonstrate, where an outsourced model is proposed, the benefits of this model and associated risks, as opposed to a standard delivery model.

Sch.4(4)(4)Disclosing deliberative process

Endorsed by: Director: Logan Timms Telephone: 3405 4238 Date: 13/09/2012	Endorsed by: A/ Deputy Director-General: Telephone: 32258654 Date: ____/____/____	Received by: Chief of Staff: Richard Ferrett Telephone: 3227 8820 Date: ____/____/____
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**De-amalgamation proposals not recommended for referral:**

Sch.4(4)(4)Disclosing deliberative process

**De-amalgamation proposals recommended for referral:**

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**Methodology**

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**Summary of reasons for decisions:**

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**Actions and timeframes for progressing this project:**

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**CONSULTATION:**

Mr Adrian Jefferies – Executive Director, Environment and Resources, Department of the Premier and Cabinet

Ms Catherine Baldwin – Principal Treasury Analyst, Transport Infrastructure and Government Services, Queensland Treasury and Trade

**RIGHT TO INFORMATION:** Contents/attachments suitable for publication  Yes  No

Does this support a media opportunity for the Minister's Office?  Yes  No

RTI RELEASE

Pages 4 through 13 redacted for the following reasons:

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Sch.4(4)(4)Disclosing deliberative process

RTI RELEASE

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**Media Statements**

**Minister for Local Government**  
**The Honourable David Crisafulli**

**Friday, September 21, 2012**

**Minister makes call on de-amalgamations**

Local Government Minister David Crisafulli will refer de-amalgamation proposals from five former shires to the Boundaries Commissioner.

The successful proposals are from Douglas, Isis, Livingstone, Mareeba and Noosa.

"Over the next two and a half months, Boundaries Commissioner Col Meng will be working with Queensland Treasury Corporation to closely scrutinise the financial and logistical aspects of each proposal," Mr Crisafulli said.

"This was always going to be a difficult process but if a proposal stacks up, the community will make the final decision at a referendum."

Mr Crisafulli said he would use the information gathered by the remaining groups to help Councils and communities heal the wounds from the forced amalgamations.

"Far from being a waste of time, this has been a great exercise in democracy by giving communities a chance to voice the concerns they were denied five years ago.

"It was always going to be more difficult years on from the initial amalgamation to build a case to operate separately, because there's already been a lot of work and money spent on unifying the former shires.

"But this proves the embers of de-amalgamation still burn and I want the Councils to use this information to address some of the concerns."

Each group had to meet a set of strict guidelines including a strong, evidence-based, community-backed submission based on the pre-amalgamation local government boundaries.

They had to provide a detailed estimate of the potential financial costs and include a petition signed by at least 20 per cent of the voting population that showed an understanding of all the cost implications.

Petitioners also needed to demonstrate an understanding that the former shire wishing to de-amalgamate would have to meet all costs involved, including their own, and those of the Council they wished to break away from.

Mr Meng will provide a detailed report, including recommendations, to the Minister by 28 November 2012.

**[ENDS] 18 June 2012**

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