

Media Release

10 March 2021

Mayor Burnett welcomes commitment for a local voice at National Cabinet

Gladstone Region Mayor and Australian Local Government Association (ALGA) Vice President Matt Burnett has welcomed today's announcement by the Australian Labor Party (ALP) that local government will have a seat at National Cabinet should the ALP form government at the next federal election.

Mayor Burnett is now calling on Prime Minister Scott Morrison to match the ALP's election commitment in order to provide a voice for local governments on the National Cabinet table.

"National Cabinet has not included local government at the table so it's fantastic to see the federal Labor party have made this decision," Cr Burnett said.

"I'm now asking the Prime Minister to consider matching this commitment from the ALP to ensure local councils have their voice heard.

"One voice for the 537 councils across the country is not too much to ask."

Mayor Burnett said that having a voice at National Cabinet would not only benefit the Gladstone Region, but Central Queensland as a whole.

"By having local government representation, you are ensuring that all three levels of government are heard when decisions are being made at National Cabinet," Cr Burnett said.

"ALGA has five key areas of advocacy – Financial Sustainability for local governments, Waste and Recycling, Roads and Infrastructure, Disaster Mitigation and a seat at National Cabinet.

"For ALGA and local government to have a strong voice in Canberra, we need ALGA President, Cr Linda Scott, at the table."

ENDS