

2022 Potential Motion Stamp Duty Exemption

Who is the key contact for this motion?*	Sarah Hunter, Manager Strategy & Improvement
Do you have a contact at the LGAQ for this motion?	
Submitting council*	Gladstone Regional Council
Supporting organisation (if applicable)	Not applicable
Council resolution # *	[Insert resolution number]
Date of council resolution*	19/07/2022
✓ Does this motion have state-wide relevance? *	
Title of motion*	Stamp Duty Exemption
Motion*	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The LGAQ calls on the Queensland Government to: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Amend the <i>Duties Act 2001</i> to include an exemption from duty for Local Governments in similar terms to that given to the State Government in section 145 of that Act.
What is the desired outcome sought?* 200-word limit	That Local Government have an exemption similar to that given to State Government where land is purchased by Local Government for public or community purposes.
Background* 350-word limit	Under <i>Duties Act 2001</i> Council must pay stamp duty on all purchases of land, which can run into many thousands of dollars. While State Government (s145) and named statutory bodies (s141) are exempt, local governments are not exempt or entitled to any concessions on property purchased/acquired for public or community purposes. Ideally, it would be beneficial to have an exemption similar to that given to State Government where land is purchased by Local Government for public or community purposes. This differentiation between State and Local Government imposes this extra cost on ratepayers in local communities. For example, in 2022 Council purchased land for a future reservoir, the purchase price was \$270,000.00 and the stamp duty was \$7,875.00. Providing Local Government, a waiver on Stamp Duty fees may not be a great cost to the state given the infrequency of land purchases by local governments, however, would reduce financial impact on local ratepayers. In the example above, this could equate to two to three properties rates for the year. Additionally, this change could result in reduced administrative burden for the state in processing of stamp duty documentation.