

2024 LGAQ Annual Conference - CQ MRF

Who is the key contact for this motion? (required)	Lieke Kroese – Acting Manager Strategy & Improvement
Submitting council (required)	Gladstone Regional Council
Supporting organisation (if applicable)	Rockhampton Regional CouncilR7 Councils
Council resolution # (required)	This will come after the Council General Meeting on 16 July
Date of council resolution (required)	16/07/2024
☐ Does this motion have state-wide relevance? (This is a required field) - Yes	
Title of motion (required)	Establishing long-term, sustainable recovery and recycling processing solutions.
Motion (required)	The LGAQ calls on the State government to invest in long-term, sustainable recovery and recycling processing solutions to service regional areas, specifically Central Queensland.
What is the desired outcome sought? (required) 200 word limit	Support is urgently required to establish or attract and fund waste processing and recycling facilities and solutions in Central Queensland to deliver on a financially sustainable solution and as a key step in developing future circular economy infrastructure and investment.
Background (required) 350 word limit	Most Local Government Areas have set targets to reduce waste to landfill and work towards a circular economy.
	Councils are considered price-takers for waste management services meaning they are vulnerable to policy changes and external influences such as inflation pressures and flattening commodity prices. These impacts, and other global disruptions have become increasingly prevalent, resulting in increasing costs at Materials Recovery Facilities (MRF).



Currently, there is no MRF in the Central Queensland region and there are significant barriers for Local Governments, business and industry to collecting and transporting waste.

Local Governments in Regional areas face challenges associated with:

- Prohibitive transport costs to transport waste out of region and associated high carbon emissions
- Low population density
- Lack of local processing solutions or markets for commodities
- Lack of scale of waste generation, resulting in no market interest or competition and impacting viability for private proponents.

With capital expenditure for regional scale MRFs estimated at \$18M, high ongoing operational costs, long distances to existing processing infrastructure and end markets and a lack of scale of waste generated in regional communities, establishing waste processing facilities in regional areas is not viable for private operators.

Support is urgently required to establish or attract and fund waste processing and recycling facilities and solutions in Central Queensland to deliver on a financially sustainable solution and as a key step in developing future circular economy infrastructure and investment.

Case study/ Example (optional) 350 word limit