



14 August 2008
In reply please quote: Item 6

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The Hon. Rod Welford MP
Minister for the Arts
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Dear Minister

Re: Funding for the State Library of Queensland

At the annual conference of the Urban Local Government Association of Queensland held recently in Gympie members resolved that representations be made to the State Government to provide funding to the State Library of Queensland to collect and provide long-term access to selected online Council publications and web-sites no longer available due to the amalgamation process.

In 2007 the Queensland Government implemented a major reform of the State's local government system to deliver a stronger, more efficient and more modern local government system that has a greater ability to deliver services and infrastructure for all Queenslanders.

As a result the number of Councils in Queensland was reduced from 157 to 73 at the Council elections on 15 March 2008. Many of the local government authorities lost in the process had rich histories dating back to the late nineteenth century.

While records from the beginnings of many of these Councils are available through Archives Queensland, their websites and online publications are not. These electronic records are also worthy of preservation. The development of a single website archive for online publications and websites of Councils which have disappeared would not only preserve the records for future research purposes but also collect all records in one easily accessible location.

There is a need to preserve the online publications and websites of these Councils for future generations.

Your consideration of the matter and advice in due course would be appreciated.

Yours sincerely

**P PISASLE
PRESIDENT**