



SUPPLEMENTARY COUNCIL MEETING AGENDA

Tuesday, 21 July 2026

CCEC Chambers, 49 Stockyard Street, Cunnamulla



49 Stockyard Street, Cunnamulla Qld 4490

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12. LATE REPORTS

- 12.1 LGAQ Annual Conference motion – Regional Feral Pig Coordinator funding

12.1 LGAQ Annual Conference Motion – Feral Pig Coordinator funding

Council Meeting: 21 July 2026
Department: Office of the Chief Executive Officer
Author: Martin Leech
Attachment: 1. Draft LGAQ Annual Conference motion

Purpose

This report provides a draft motion for the 2026 Local Government Association of Queensland (“LGAQ”) Annual Conference calling on the Queensland Government to ensure the security of coordinated landscape-scale feral pig management in Queensland.

Recommendation

That Council endorse the following motion for submission to the 2026 LGAQ Annual conference for consideration:

That the Local Government Association of Queensland calls on the Queensland Government to:

- permanently continue, and substantially increase, funding for the Queensland Feral Pest Initiative – Feral Pig Coordination (Biosecurity Preparedness) Program by committing to long-term, multi-year funding that sustains the network of regional feral pig management coordinators beyond the current short-term funding cycles; and*
- expands coordinator coverage, on-ground control resourcing and cross-tenure coordination to match the scale of the feral pig threat to Queensland’s agriculture, environment and biosecurity.*

Discussion

The proposed motion and background is set out in Attachment 1.

The LGAQ is the peak body for local government in Queensland, representing all 77 councils. The LGAQ advocates on behalf of member councils to both the Queensland and Commonwealth governments. Each year the LGAQ hold a conference for representatives of member Councils. The conference provides an opportunity for member councils to consider strategic priorities that can be best progressed as motions.

In order to have a motion considered at the conference, Council must first approve each motion by resolution. Once approved, the motions must be submitted to the LGAQ.

Motions should:

- Relate to a statewide issue or an issue impacting a large portion or segment of the membership
- Ask for action from the State or Federal Government
- Not result in a responsibility or cost shift to local government
- Not relate to a matter considered at a previous Annual Conference in the last five years, unless seeking to alter or update the adopted policy position.

Budget/Financial Implications

Not applicable

Legislation/Statutory Implications

Not applicable.

Corporate Plan and/or Operational Plan

Corporate Plan

Theme: 3. Prosperous Economy

Program Area: 3.1 Promote and support a sustainable and diverse agricultural industry

Theme: 4. Environmental Sustainability

Program Area: 4.3 Best practice biosecurity and pest and land management

Risk Management

The following risks are relevant to the matters considered within this report:

Risk Summary

Risk	Explanation
Reputation & Civic Leadership Failure to undertake advocacy opportunities to provide for better community outcomes.	The LGAQ provide an important advocacy role to lobby State and Commonwealth Governments for improvements on issues affecting the local government. Failure to identify these advocacy opportunities results in missed opportunities for enhancement to communities.

Consultation

LGAQ

2026 LGAQ Annual Conference – Motion Template

Who is the key contact for this motion? (required)	Mayor Suzette Beresford
Submitting council (required)	Paroo Shire Council
Supporting ROC (if applicable)	SWQROC
Council resolution # (required)	M26/
Date of council resolution (required)	21/07/2026
☒ Does this motion have state-wide relevance? <i>For a motion to be accepted, it must have state-wide relevance / this box must be ticked.</i>	
Was this motion suggested by a third party? No	
Title of motion (required)	Securing the Future of Coordinated, Landscape-Scale Feral Pig Management in Queensland
Motion (required)	That the Local Government Association of Queensland ("LGAQ") calls on the Queensland Government to permanently continue, and substantially increase, funding for the Queensland Feral Pest Initiative – Feral Pig Coordination (Biosecurity Preparedness) Program by committing to long-term, multi-year funding that sustains the network of regional feral pig management coordinators beyond the current short-term funding cycles; and expands coordinator coverage, on-ground control resourcing and cross-tenure coordination to match the scale of the feral pig threat to Queensland's agriculture, environment and biosecurity.
What is the desired outcome sought? (required) 200-word limit	Secure ongoing, predictable and adequately resourced coordination of feral pig management across Queensland by: a) Transitioning the Feral Pig Coordination (Biosecurity Preparedness) Program from short-term, competitive grant rounds to a permanent, multi-year funded program that gives regional coordinators, councils and landholders funding certainty and continuity of effort;

	b) Increasing the level of investment so coordinator numbers, on-ground control campaigns (aerial shooting, baiting and trapping) and data collection can be scaled up to keep pace with rapidly growing feral pig populations; and c) Maintaining the landscape-scale, cross-tenure model that coordinates control across private land, state forests, national parks, Indigenous land and local government areas, so that pigs cannot simply relocate across boundaries. The desired outcome is a durable statewide biosecurity preparedness capability that protects primary production, natural assets and disease-preparedness (including African Swine Fever) from the ongoing and worsening impacts of feral pigs, rather than a stop-start effort that loses momentum and skilled coordinators each time a funding round ends.
Background (required) 350-word limit	Feral pigs are one of Queensland's most damaging invasive species, causing significant losses to agriculture, degrading natural and cultural assets, fouling waterways, and posing a serious exotic disease risk - particularly as a potential vector for African Swine Fever, which would be catastrophic for the pork industry and the broader economy. Through the Queensland Feral Pest Initiative (QFPI), the Queensland Government funded a network of regional feral pig management coordinators across six priority regions to drive coordinated, landscape-scale control. This coordinated, cross-tenure approach is essential to achieve genuine population suppression rather than temporary local reductions in feral pig numbers. However, the core weakness of the current arrangement is that it is delivered through short-term, competitive grant rounds rather than as a permanent, multi-year program. This creates funding uncertainty, makes it difficult to retain skilled coordinators, and risks losing hard-won momentum, landholder trust and coordination networks each time a round ends. Local governments carry substantial biosecurity responsibilities under the <i>Biosecurity Act 2014</i> but have limited resources to tackle feral pigs at the scale required. The QFPI coordination model leverages council, landholder and NRM effort and delivers strong value for money, but its short funding horizon undermines the enduring legacy the program is intended to build.

	The Queensland Feral Pig Management Action Plan and continued QFPI investment demonstrate government recognition of the problem. However, one-off and short-cycle funding is insufficient to match a rapidly reproducing pest. Permanent, expanded funding for the coordination program is a cost-effective, whole-of-state biosecurity investment that protects agricultural production, the environment and disease preparedness, and this issue is directly relevant to councils across regional, rural and remote Queensland.
Case study/ Example (optional) 350-word limit	The Darling Downs and South West Queensland Feral Pig Program, hosted by the South West Queensland Regional Organisation of Councils (SWQROC) and supported through QFPI funding, is a leading example of the coordination model in action. Rather than leaving individual landholders to act alone, the coordinator brings neighbours together to run synchronised control across property and tenure boundaries - combining aerial shooting, 1080 baiting and trapping for maximum, lasting impact. This tackles the fundamental problem that feral pigs breed rapidly and readily relocate, so isolated, uncoordinated efforts deliver only short-lived results. Critically, the program illustrates why permanent, expanded funding is needed. After strong seasons, coordinators report feral pig numbers building up dramatically and the need to sustain pressure without interruption. The value built through this program - skilled personnel, landholder trust, cross-tenure networks and data - is exactly what is put at risk by short-term funding cycles. Continuing and scaling up the coordination program would protect and grow this return on investment across South West Queensland and comparable regions statewide.