1. The Queensland Government is committed to continue its rolling program of Local Government reform to strengthen the equity, transparency, accountability and integrity of Local Government in Queensland. It is also committed to supporting Local Government and enhancing public confidence in the sector.
2. The Crime and Corruption Commission, in its report *Operation Belcarra: A blueprint for integrity and addressing corruption risk in local government* (the Belcarra Report), highlighted the need to strengthen the legislative and regulatory framework for Local Government and reduce corruption risk.
3. The Local Government Electoral (Implementing Stage 2 of Belcarra) and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2019 furthers the Government’s response to the Belcarra Report. It also introduces additional reforms underpinned by the principles of:
   * Integrity — ensuring current and future Councillors are fully informed of their obligations as candidates and Councillors and are aware Councillors must uphold the highest levels of honesty and impartiality when making decisions in the public interest
   * Transparency — clarifying and strengthening requirements to more fully inform electors of candidates’ interests and the community about Council decision-making
   * Diversity — enabling participation by a pool of candidates and election of Local Government Councillors who are representative of the diverse communities they serve
   * Consistency — aligning Local Government election requirements with State and Federal electoral processes and aligning requirements between the Brisbane City Council and other Queensland Local Governments.
4. Cabinet approved the introduction of the Local Government Electoral (Implementing Stage 2 of Belcarra) and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2019 into the Legislative Assembly.
5. *Attachments*
   * [Local Government Electoral (Implementing Stage 2 of Belcarra) and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2019](Attachments/Bill.PDF)
   * [Explanatory Notes](Attachments/ExNotes.PDF)