

Cr Rob Chandler
Chair
Remote Area Planning and Development Board
117 Eagle St
LONGREACH QLD 4730

By email: info@rapad.com.au

Dear Cr Chandler

RAPAD State Election 10 Point Policy Plan

Thank you for your letter dated 4 October, 2017 on behalf of the Remote Area Planning and Development (RAPAD) Board.

Unfortunately, Queenslanders aren't getting ahead and the community is crying out for leadership because Anastacia Palaszczuk and Labor are doing nothing.

Labor is stuck in neutral and Queenslanders are paying the price, through higher car registration, soaring electricity bills and a lack of congestion busting infrastructure.

When our finances aren't managed properly, governments do not have the funds to provide the services that a growing state needs – in our hospitals, a better education for our children, more resources for our police to protect the community from drugs and crime and investing in infrastructure that creates jobs and improves our standard of living.

A Tim Nicholls-led Liberal National government will **Build a Better Queensland**. The LNP's plan will create jobs, support small business, invest in education to raise standards and provide better services for families and retirees.

An LNP Government has five key priorities to create positive change for Queensland. If elected, we will –

1. Create jobs across Queensland and better manage our finances
2. Take action on the cost of living
3. Better support Queensland families
4. Provide safe and liveable communities
5. Build the roads, bridges and dams we need

Please be assured the LNP is determined to build a Better Queensland for all Queenslanders, and that certainly includes the 10,500 residents of the seven Central Western shires that RAPAD represents.

The LNP understands the hardships suffered by the region from drought, with all seven shires drought-declared since 2014 and we are committed to delivering a better future for your region.

The LNP has a strong plan to create 500,000 new jobs over the next decade. We'll do that by establishing the right settings for small businesses to take on more workers, including by

cutting payroll tax. We believe that this initiative is vital, especially in regional Queensland where youth unemployment is over 50% in the Outback region.

We support for checks and cluster fencing to control wild dogs. The LNP understands the benefits for the entire economy of having a renewed sheep, wool and goat meat industry to complement cattle grazing in the pastoral zone.

Getting sheep back to Central Queensland will bring more jobs for contractors, shearers and shed hands. More money will be spent in local towns and businesses and their workers will benefit. More workers and families will mean school numbers will increase and they'll need more teachers.

Growing business and community digital connections

The LNP have announced a \$20 million plan to improve mobile and digital connections in the regions – making businesses more productive and helping local families stay connected.

We have also released a \$3 million policy to boost the availability of free WiFi for tourists and visitors and local residents, in key tourist hotspots and local attractions.

We will partner with local councils and Regional Tourism Organisations to locate these additional hotspots in places that showcase Queensland to the world.

Using digital and social media to showcase the great tourism locations is a smart way to share the word that Queensland is a great place to visit.

Securing essential infrastructure to support economic growth and community wellbeing

The LNP wants to build the roads, bridges and dams we need – and will partner you're your councils to do so.

Our \$500 million Royalties for Regions program will invest in catalytic infrastructure in partnership with local councils. It will be a program which delivers for regional communities to make regional roads safer, provide more community infrastructure, better services and stronger resilience against natural disasters like cyclones and floods.

We will ensure the program is flexible enough to ensure all regional councils can benefit from royalties.

We have made a Regional Roads Guarantee which will mean the LNP will not make any reduction to the Transport Infrastructure Development Scheme (TIDS).

Our infrastructure plan includes a \$60 million Beef Roads Program and an \$80 million Better Bridges fund. The extensive infrastructure plan will build roads, bridges and dams across the state.

A future LNP Government will always invest more in infrastructure and will work with local government in western Queensland to deliver the infrastructure they need.

The LNP also supports the Inland Queensland Roads Action Plan (IQ-RAP) because we want to build the roads and bridges Queensland needs. We'll improve safety, productivity and flood resilience on our roads.

The projects which form the initial rounds of our infrastructure programs have been identified through engaging with local communities and the work done through the IQ-RAP process. Many of the projects we will be funding have been flagged as priorities in IQ-RAP.

A Tim Nicholls-led LNP Government will use the IQ-RAP to inform our funding and prioritisation of road projects in the Queensland Transport and Roads Investment Program (QTRIP), the Department of Transport and Main Roads' capital works program.

Helping councils manage community assets and maintain workforces

The LNP has an economic plan that will create 500,000 jobs across Queensland over the next 10 years and improve wage outcomes for workers by cutting taxes.

Queensland public servants and local government workers deserve to be governed by a system which is consistent with private sector workers in Queensland (who are covered by the Fair Work Act). They also deserve to have their rights preserved and privacy respected by a Government that stands up for their interests, over the interest of their trade union masters.

We will restore the independence of the Queensland Industrial Relations Commission (QIRC) in relation to wage negotiations, following the unprecedented intervention by the Palaszczuk Labor Government in 2016.

Protecting the rural economy

The LNP is fully supportive of co-investment in cluster fencing and other worthwhile programs that boost grazing profitability and bring work and wages back to western towns.

We are also committed to continuing the fight against prickly acacia to arrest the spread of this introduced weed and target stopping its spread to the Lake Eyre Basin.

Growing tourism to diversify the economy

As part of our plan to strengthen and diversify the Queensland economy, the LNP will unlock the potential for Queensland tourism to create jobs and attract more investment.

Our comprehensive tourism plan has more than \$289 million initiatives to attract more visitors, keep them staying longer and encourage them to spend more money and create local jobs.

Key initiatives in our plan include:

- Ensuring the first DestinationQ under the LNP is held in regional Queensland, promoting Outback Tourism and Southern Queensland Country Tourism.
- A dedicated and driven marketing campaign focused on growing tourism and getting back to the basics by encouraging people to get out and see Queensland including \$3 million additional funding for Regional Tourism Organisations and local governments to bid for so that they can showcase their local region.
- Providing \$1 million to boost cultural tourism across Queensland, supporting 'Animating Spaces' events in partnership with local councils and regional arts organisations.
- Launching 'Taste Queensland', a \$1.5 million initiative that showcases our unique food and wine regions and encouraging greater opportunities for drive tourism and agri-tourism.
- A commitment to further reduce red tape that has prevented tourism operators from growing their business, by re-establishing the liquor and gaming expert panel.
- Boosting regional events through a \$1 million country racing events package.

Focussing on a renewable energy future

The LNP has also identified our five-point plan to drive investment in renewable energy:

- Through a Resources and Energy Cabinet Committee, develop an efficient regulatory framework to encourage renewable investment in Queensland. Queensland needs a world-class regulatory framework to secure further investment in renewable energy
- Set up a one-stop shop to facilitate approvals for renewable energy projects.
- Investigate and monitor network linkages to the National Energy Market to ensure renewable energy projects in Queensland have access to the National Energy Market and will protect Queenslanders from excessive volatility in wholesale electricity prices
- Maintain energy security by constantly monitoring intermittent generation for any threat to reliability of supply for Queenslanders
- Support the national renewable energy targets that will see more than 23 per cent of Australia's electricity generated from renewables by 2020.

Responding to the economic and personal costs of drought

The LNP will build more than \$1.3 billion worth of critical water infrastructure and dams across the state.

Under the LNP vital water infrastructure projects the Rookwood Weir, the Urannah Dam, Nullinga Dam and raising the Burdekin Falls Dam will become a reality.

The LNP will also set up a Queensland Dam Company based in regional Queensland to ensure these projects get under way and to ensure future water security is given the priority it deserves.

These commitments to dam infrastructure will absolutely require to enhancement of existing engineering intelligence and these projects will be successfully delivered using emerging technologies.

These dams will support thousands of jobs across the state, provide a real economic boost to our regions and halt the slide in major project investment we've witnessed in Queensland in the last few years.

An LNP Government will provide continued drought relief for rural landholders and small businesses suffering from the effects of the on-going drought.

From Opposition, the LNP has improved the focus of drought and rural debt services and advice from Queensland Rural and Industry Development Authority (QRIDA) formerly QRAA.

We are committed to continue and improve services and work closely with the Federal Government in providing on-going support through low-interest Drought Assistance Concessional Loans for debt restructuring, operating expenses, drought recovery activities and drought preparedness activities.

The LNP understands the dreadful impact that the long years of drought have had on individuals, families and entire communities – the emotional stress of seeing properties and years of work lost, or having to deal with the heartbreak of losing prized breeding stock, having to send off on agistment, or worse having to euthanise those too weak.

The LNP will continue to support community events that have proved vital in helping sustain these communities and the mental wellbeing of residents.

Implementing stock route management reform

The LNP and its local regional Members fully understand the importance of the Stock Route network, especially for western Queensland. Reform to management is overdue and unlike Labor which has pushed the *Stock Route Network Management Bill 2016* down to the very bottom of the legislative agenda during its term, the LNP increased penalties for stock theft.

Securing healthy aged living services for our seniors

The LNP will continue to work with the aged care sector and seniors to secure healthy living services. We are committed to promoting the benefits of preventative health and will have policies announced to tackle chronic illness and disease.

Developing world-class health services for our rural communities

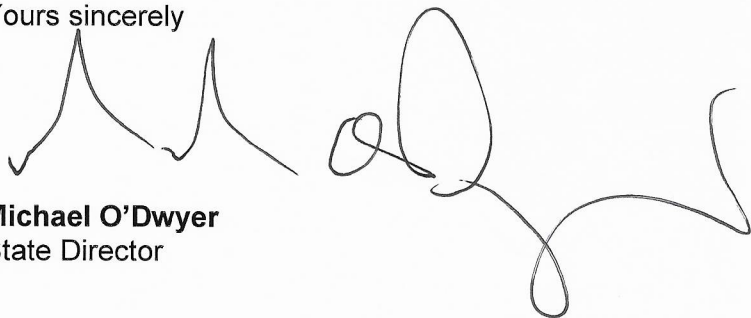
The LNP is the party for rural Queensland. Only a Nicholls LNP Government will deliver leading health services for rural communities. It was the LNP when last in government that doubled the patient travel subsidy scheme. We also set about upgrading and boosting hospital infrastructure in regional communities.

The LNP is committed to retaining its vegetation management framework which allows landholders and farmers to properly manage their properties. While the LNP was successful in defeating Labor's Vegetation Management (Reinstatement) Amendment Bill in 2016, Labor's Deputy Premier Jackie Trad and Environment Minister Steven Miles have made it very clear that should Labor win the election, its Vegetation Management (Reinstatement) Amendment Bill is ready for re-introduction.

A re-elected Labor Government will continue to treat farmers like criminals with its unfair and unnecessary vegetation management laws – stopping development and production and leaving farmers and landholders in limbo when it comes to managing their own land.

We have been travelling the state and listening to the concerns of Queenslanders. They want better government – not more government. It's our commitment to be a common sense government that listens, plans and acts to **Build a Better Queensland**.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Michael O'Dwyer', written over a horizontal line.

Michael O'Dwyer
State Director

20 November 2017

Cr Rob Chandler

Chair
RAPAD

Via email

Dear Rob,

Thank you for your letter on the 4th of October outlining your 10 Point Policy Plan.

At the upcoming election the KAP is only running in regional seats. Our policy priorities are focussed on supporting and developing regional communities.

The KAP has delivered a number of outcomes in the 55th parliament to support communities and industry in regional Queensland including,

- \$77.9 million Rural Assistance and Drought Package,
- \$40 million Western Roads package,
- Successful passage of the KAP Sugar Marketing Bill to give power back to growers,
- Forcing an ethanol mandate through parliament,
- Dredging of the Karumba Port,
- A rural debt taskforce with a number of outcomes including an expanded assistance package and a range of education initiatives,
- Introduction of a bill to establish a Rural Reconstruction Board.

We expect that the upcoming election will result in a minority government with KAP holding significant influence. We will use any influence we are given to continue to push for better policy outcomes for regional Queensland.

I apologise for the delay in our response. Unfortunately we are unable to provide detailed responses to everything you've requested however we are very supportive of RAPAD's Plan and commit to working with you after the election to progress your initiatives.

The table below outlines our position on each of your policies.

RAPAD Policy	KAP Response
<p>Growing Business and Community Digital connections.</p>	<p>The KAP supports the establishment and continuation of programs that fund innovation, however, this innovation should focus on industries where regional Queensland has world leading strengths such as agriculture and mining.</p> <p>The KAP is a very strong supporter of better telecommunications infrastructure in regional Queensland. We have been able to secure a number of optic fibre roll-out and extensions into remote Queensland during the 55th parliament and we will</p>

	continue to push for further roll-outs through the next parliament.
Securing Essential Infrastructure to Support Economic Growth and Community Wellbeing	<p>The KAP supports the initiatives proposed by RAPAD under this policy. In the 55th parliament we were able to secure a \$40 million western roads package and we played a key role in the extension and continuation of the TIDS program.</p> <p>We have been extremely active in our criticism of major airlines and the major parties' lack of action on airfares and rail charges.</p> <p>We encourage the initiation of a review into passenger and freight services however the review must include a commitment to action from the government.</p>
Helping Councils Manage Community Assets and Maintain Workforces	<p>The KAP supports a framework that enables better long term planning for rural and regional councils.</p> <p>We acknowledge the success of the Works for Queensland program and we will push for a dedicated allocative annual fund for maintenance and capital works.</p>
Protecting the Rural Economy	<p>The KAP supports the continuation of the co-investment Queensland Feral Pest Initiative or a similar program enabling an expansion of the RAPAD Cluster Fencing Program by a further \$10 million over four years, as well as increased funding and regionally coordinated control measures for prickly acacia and weeds of national significance.</p>
Growing Tourism to Diversify the Economy	<p>The KAP supports increased investment in regional tourism and greater collaboration between state and local government and the private sector.</p>
Focusing on a Renewable Energy Future	<p>The KAP supports investigation of opportunities for renewable energy in Western Queensland. Our policy objective is to support any technology or solution that can demonstrate a real reduction in electricity prices with no preference to either renewable or traditional forms of generation.</p>
Responding to the Economic and Personal Costs of Drought	<p>The KAP supports the continuation of drought relief initiatives.</p> <p>In the 55th parliament we were able to secure significant increases in drought relief funding including a \$77.9 million Rural Assistance and Drought Package.</p> <p>We will use our influence in the next parliament to ensure further assistance measures are established.</p>
Implementing Stock Route Management Reform	<p>The KAP supports reform to the management of the state's stock route network.</p>
Securing Healthy Aged Living Services for our Seniors	<p>The KAP supports greater collaboration by the state government in the identification and delivery of healthy aged living services in the home and community.</p>

**Developing World Class Health Services
for Rural Communities**

The KAP supports greater collaboration by the state government in the identification and development of world class health standards in rural and regional communities.

Thank you for the opportunity to respond. We look forward to working with you in the next parliament.

Robbie Katter

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Robbie Katter", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

State Leader of the KAP

If elected this is the direction I will be voting;

Striving to create a sustainable society, move away from burning fossil fuel and implement maximum use of finite resources.

Protect our vital ground and surface water supplies.

Maximum support for the renewable industry, spread the benefits through the community.

A more compassionate society, seeking to improve the standard of living for those at the lower end of the socio-economic scale by having them engaged in the workplace.

Bring in and improve on best global management and practice to all areas of the community like, health, education, road construction, rail, telecommunications, etc.

I apologise for the brief reply but running as an Independent and campaigning creates a busy program.

If elected I would be welcoming a representation from your organisation to discuss your plans.

Regards

Bruce Currie

Independent Candidate for Gregory