

## **INQUIRY INTO LOCAL GOVERNMENT AMENDMENT (ELECTIONS) BILL 2025**

**Organisation:** Clarence Valley Council

**Date Received:** 10 July 2025

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To Whom It May Concern

Unfortunately, Clarence Valley Council missed the opportunity to make a submission by the due date. However, the Mayor and I would like to express support for the countback provisions, given the cost implications of holding by-elections.

Clarence Valley Council is 10,400sqkm with a relatively small rate base (26,000) and population of 55,000. The Local Government Area does not have wards and so any by-election is a whole of Council by-election. To date, local government elections in the Clarence Valley have also not included above the line voting, which further enforces the importance to our LGA of countback provisions.

By-elections are cost prohibitive for regional Council's like Clarence Valley Council. Countback provisions provide some guarantee in the first 18 months following an election of a less costly process to filling vacated seats.

Regards

Laura Black  
General Manager

[www.clarence.nsw.gov.au](http://www.clarence.nsw.gov.au)



We acknowledge the Bundjalung, Gumbaynggirr and Yaegl people as the Traditional Owners of the land on which we live and work. We honour the First Nations peoples culture and connection to land, sea and community. We pay our respects to their Elders past, present and emerging.



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