

2nd March 2009

Dear Resident of the former Douglas Shire

The LNP understands that the Labor Government's forced council amalgamations has caused great concern throughout the former Douglas Shire area.

Your calls for the Labor Government to recognise your concerns have been ignored.

The LNP has a clear policy that will allow the realignment of existing council boundaries around local communities of interest (de-amalgamation).

The LNP Government shall ensure that there is open and logical process with adequate public consultation before any changes are made to the local government boundaries including minor boundary realignments, agreed amalgamations and any de-amalgamation of councils.

And to this end, a LNP Government would:-

1. invite individuals, community groups and local governments to make submissions on the suitability of councils following the forced amalgamations prior to the March 2008 Local Government elections;
2. consult with Councils and the community about the proper distribution of local government boundaries;
3. establish a Queensland Boundaries Commission to independently consult with councils and communities and research the economic, social and environmental viability of altered local government boundaries in the priority areas;
4. require the Queensland Boundaries Commission to prepare the preferred options for new Local Government boundaries and publish the priorities for de-amalgamation and changes to local government boundaries;

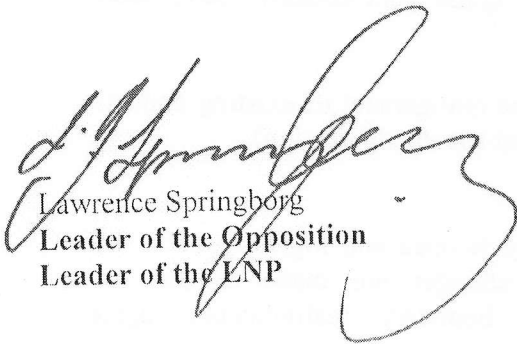
Address: Parliament House
Alice Street Brisbane
Queensland 4000 Australia
Telephone: (07) 3406 7997
Facsimile: (07) 3221 1496
Email: leader@opposition.qld.gov.au
Website: www.springborg.com

5. **except for minor boundary alterations, conduct an advisory poll of voters** within the new Local Government boundary area; and
6. when establishing any new local government, ensure that there are appropriate transitional and financial arrangements.

The LNP recognises your concerns and, on obtaining government in Queensland, would move to establish an independent Local Government Boundaries Commission and advise the Commission to contact you and commence proceedings in line with the above policy statement.

Our policy will enable your local community to come together and have its say and put its case for a more representative local government area to cater for the needs of your district.

Yours sincerely



Lawrence Springborg
Leader of the Opposition
Leader of the LNP



Howard Hobbs MP
Member for Warrego
Shadow Minister for Local
Government, Planning and
Regional Development