



RECOGNITION OF FULL TIME EQUIVALENT POPULATION IN RESOURCE COMMUNITIES FUNDING METHODOLOGIES

WHEN WE COUNT EVERYONE, WE CAN SUPPORT EVERYONE.

The Isaac region works hard. Our towns support the Nation and State's resources sector, energy production, agriculture and export industries. The people who live and work here contribute every day to Queensland's prosperity.

But the way funding is currently allocated does not reflect the real number of people our communities support. Funding is based only on the number of permanent residents. It does not account for the thousands of non-resident workers who live here while on shift and rely on the same services and infrastructure.

↓ WHAT IS HAPPENING NOW

Isaac has around 23,000 permanent residents.

Each day, more than 16,000 non-resident workers also live in the region.

On paper we are a region of 23,000 people. In reality, our communities are supporting close to 39,000. The non resident workforce living here while on shift is almost 70 percent of our permanent population, and our services are expected to stretch to meet that demand.

However, funding for local services, health, education and infrastructure is only calculated using the resident population. Councils and communities are left to absorb the additional costs of servicing a much larger population than the system recognises.

↓ WHY IT MATTERS?

When funding does not match the real population:

- Local roads deteriorate more quickly
- GP and hospital services are under pressure
- Emergency services face increased demand
- Childcare and schools struggle to keep pace
- Community facilities and sporting clubs wear the strain

- Council budgets are stretched to fill gaps

This affects families, workers, schools, employers and the long-term confidence of communities. Regardless of where you put your head on your days off, everyone when they are out here should have the right to access adequate medical, emergency, and support services when they are out here.

➔ WHAT WE'RE ADVOCATING FOR

We are seeking a funding approach that reflects the reality of how regional economies operate.

We ask that the Commonwealth and Queensland Government:

1. Use full-time equivalent population data in planning and funding decisions.
2. Recognise the service load carried by resource regions.
3. Align investment with the scale of our contribution to the State economy.

The data required already exists and is collected by the Queensland Government Statistician's Office. This is a practical adjustment that will make a meaningful difference in service delivery and liveability.

↓ WORKING TOGETHER

The Isaac region is proud of the role we play in powering Queensland.

We want to ensure our communities remain strong, stable and liveable into the future.

We are ready to work in genuine partnership with the Queensland Government to put in place a fair funding approach that reflects the real needs of regional communities and the workforce that supports them.