



Local government legislation

The Department of Local Government, Racing and Multicultural Affairs administers legislation to provide for the good governance of all Queensland local governments. It ensures local governments are accountable, effective, efficient and sustainable.

Local Government Act 2009
The <i>Local Government Act 2009</i> (LGA) is the principal legislation governing the establishment, constitution and operation of local governments in Queensland, with the exception of Brisbane City Council.
Local Government Regulation 2012
The LGA is also supported by the Local Government Regulation 2012, which contains additional guidance on matters not covered by the Act, for example requirements for charging rates, financial accountability, and holding and keeping records of council meetings.
City of Brisbane Act 2010
Brisbane City Council is mostly governed by the <i>City of Brisbane Act 2010</i> (COBA).
City of Brisbane Regulation 2012
The COBA is also supported by the City of Brisbane Regulation 2012, which covers similar matters to the Local Government Regulation 2012.
Local Government Electoral Act 2011
The <i>Local Government Electoral Act 2011</i> (LGEA) covers requirements for candidates and procedures for holding council elections and by-elections.

Powers of local governments

The LGA and COBA state that a local government has the power to do anything that is necessary or convenient for the good rule of its local government area. This can include:

- power to enter into contracts
- power to acquire land and property
- power to charge for services and facilities.

However, local governments are also limited by legislation and the powers of the Queensland Government under the Australian Constitution. Local governments are created under the above legislation and the *Constitution of Queensland*, and the Queensland Legislative Assembly (Parliament) can create and amend legislation governing how local governments operate.

Local governments sometimes require approval from the Minister for Local Government for some decisions, for example creating or changing a town planning scheme.

More information

For more information about legislation, you can view resources at www.dlgrma.qld.gov.au/lgresources or find contacts for your nearest regional office of the Department of Local Government, Racing and Multicultural Affairs at www.dlgrma.qld.gov.au/contact-us-dlgrma.