



## **LOCAL GOVERNMENT CHANGE COMMISSION**

# **REPORT ON A CHANGE TO THE EXTERNAL BOUNDARY OF THE GOONDIWINDI REGIONAL COUNCIL AND WESTERN DOWNS REGIONAL COUNCIL**

**NOVEMBER 2015**





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# **REPORT ON A CHANGE TO THE EXTERNAL BOUNDARY OF THE GOONDIWINDI REGIONAL COUNCIL AND WESTERN DOWNS REGIONAL COUNCIL**

**NOVEMBER 2015**

Electoral Commission Queensland  
Level 6, 160 Mary Street, Brisbane QLD 4000  
GPO Box 1393, Brisbane QLD 4001

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## Background

On the 8 April 2015, the Honourable Deputy Premier, Minister for Transport, Minister for Infrastructure, Local Government and Planning and Minister for Trade Jackie Trad MP, referred Councils' application for consideration to be given to the realignment of the common boundary between the Goondiwindi Regional Council and Western Downs Regional Council.

The application proposes a change to the common boundary between the local governments and involves the following lots currently located in Western Downs Regional Council —

- Part of Lot 8 on Crown Plan CVN344; and
- Part of Lot 1 on Survey Plan SP254479

It is proposed that—

- Part of Lot 8 on CVN344, Flinton; and
- Part of Lot 1 on SP254479, Southwood

be transferred to the Goondiwindi Regional Council.

The Change Commission in this case is comprised of the Electoral Commissioner Mr Walter van der Merwe and a Casual Commissioner Mr Gregory Rowe, in accordance with Section 22 of the *Local Government Act 2009* (the Act). The Change Commission is responsible for assessing whether a proposed local government change is in the public interest. In doing so, the Change Commission must consider—

- whether the proposed local government change is consistent with the Act; and
- the views of the Minister about the proposed local government change; and
- any other matters prescribed under a regulation.

Section 19(3) of the Act provides that the Change Commission may conduct its assessment in any way that it considers appropriate including, for example—

- ask for submissions from any local government that would be affected by the proposed local government change; and
- hold a public hearing to ask the public for its views about the proposed local government change.

The Change Commission determined that a public hearing was unnecessary on this occasion.

## Submissions

The Minister referred this matter to the Change Commission based on a submission received from the Goondiwindi Regional Council. The Minister referred these matters without expressing a view for or against the proposal (see Appendix A). The Council's submissions are included in Appendix B.

The Minister's referral also included correspondence from the Western Downs Regional Council supporting the Goondiwindi Regional Council's proposal to move the referred lots into the one Council area.

Both Council's expressed agreement that the two Lots should be moved into Goondiwindi Regional Council.

The private owner of Lot 8 on Plan CVN344 was unable to be contacted by both the Council and the Change Commission. The owner of Lot 1 on SP254479 was agreeable to the proposed move of their lot to Goondiwindi Regional Council (see Appendix B).

The Change Commission determined that it was unnecessary to call for further submissions on this occasion, as both the Council's and one land owner were in support of the transfer.

These anomalies were submitted to the Minister and the Change Commission based upon advice from the then Department of Natural Resources and Mines.

## Findings

After an assessment of the material submitted and having taken into account all considerations specified in the Act, it is recommended that—

- Part of Lot 8 on Crown Plan CVN344; and
- Part of Lot 1 on Survey Plan SP254479

be moved from Western Downs Regional Council to Goondiwindi Regional Council. The lots are located in the localities of Flinton and Southwood respectively.

See Maps attached at Appendix C for details.



## Reasons for Findings

The proposed boundary change is assessed as being consistent with the *Local Government Act 2009*.

The Change Commission supports the land owner and the Council's submissions to move parts of the two lots from Western Downs Regional Council to Goondiwindi Regional Council. This transfer is in the interests of the landowners, the Councils and also for essential services, as it will result in the entirety of the lots being included in the same locality and Council area. In doing so, this will help reduce the confusion caused when local government boundaries bisect lots.

The Change Commission's support for the referred changes to both of the lots has been made in the public interest.

## Implementation

The Governor in Council may implement the Change Commission's recommendation under a regulation.

The regulation may provide for anything that is necessary or convenient to facilitate the implementation of the local government change.

Walter van der Merwe and Gregory Rowe  
**Local Government Change Commission**



# **APPENDIX A**

## **Minister's Referral**





## Hon Jackie Trad MP

Deputy Premier

Minister for Transport, Minister for Infrastructure,  
Local Government and Planning and Minister for Trade

Our ref: MBN15/189

**- 8 APR 2015**

Mr Walter van de Merwe  
Electoral Commissioner of Queensland  
GPO Box 1393  
BRISBANE QLD 4001

Dear Mr van de Merwe

I refer to the enclosed application of 24 September 2014 from Goondiwindi Regional Council requesting a review of its boundaries with Western Downs Regional Council.

In accordance with Chapter 2, Part 3 of the *Local Government Act 2009*, I refer Goondiwindi Regional Council's application for assessment of the following boundary changes:

- Lot 8 on CVN344 and Lot 1 on SP254479 to be wholly incorporated within Goondiwindi Regional Council.

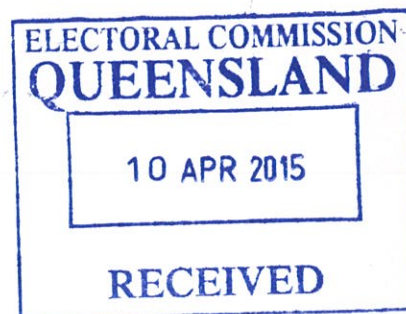
The enclosed application includes documentation showing support for this proposal from Western Downs Regional Council, as the other affected local government, and the affected landowners.

If you require further information, I encourage you to contact Ms Jennie O'Connor, Acting Regional Director, Southern Region on (07) 3452 6772 or by email at [jennie.o'connor@dlgcr.qld.gov.au](mailto:jennie.o'connor@dlgcr.qld.gov.au).

Yours sincerely

**JACKIE TRAD MP**  
**DEPUTY PREMIER**  
Minister for Transport, Minister for Infrastructure,  
Local Government and Planning and Minister for Trade

Enc (1)



Level 12 Executive Building  
100 George Street Brisbane  
PO Box 15009 City East  
Queensland 4002 Australia  
Telephone +61 7 3719 7100  
Email [deputy.premier@ministerial.qld.gov.au](mailto:deputy.premier@ministerial.qld.gov.au)



# **APPENDIX B**

## **Council's Submissions**







Author : Jason Quinell:eo  
Enquiries : 07 4671 7400  
File : Boundary realignment  
Date : 09 July 2014

Hon. David Crisafulli MP  
Minister for Local Government,  
Community Recovery and Resilience  
PO Box 15031  
**CITY EAST QLD 4002**

Dear Minister

**RE: REQUEST TO REVIEW THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT BOUNDARY BETWEEN  
GOONDIWINDI REGIONAL COUNCIL AND BALONNE SHIRE COUNCIL**

I refer to the above and advise that in recent months, Council has given consideration to correspondence received from the Department of Natural Resources and Mines that identified 'anomalies' (that is, whole lots dissected by local government boundaries) in the local government boundary between Goondiwindi Regional Council and Balonne Shire Council, Western Downs and Southern Downs Regional Councils.

As a result of Councils consideration of DNRMs correspondence, Council wrote to the affected owners seeking their comments and requesting that owners consider which local government that area would be most suitable. Of the replies received, Council noted the property owners comments and requests and then considered the merits of each identified anomaly against the following criteria:

- Identifying the property owners' community of interest and incorporating their land holding into the respective government
- Incorporating the entirety of the rate assessment into one local government area – generally following where the majority of assessment presently resides; and
- The most appropriate alignment for the boundary to prevent alienation of other parcels / properties within one property holding / rate assessment.

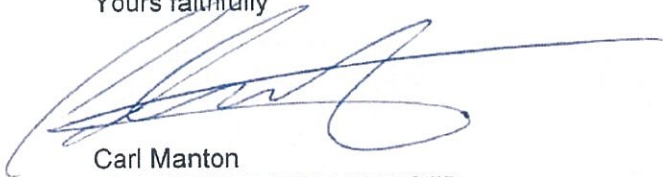
Council sees significant merit in resolving the anomaly created by Goondiwindi Regional Council and Western Downs Regional Council local government boundary dissecting **Lot 1 on Plan SP254479**. Council has resolved at its July 2014 meeting that we request you to refer to **Lot 1 on Plan SP254479** to the Local Government Change Commission with Council's recommendation that this Lot be wholly incorporated into Goondiwindi Regional Council, following owners consent.

Conversely, Council sees no merit in initiating a review of its boundary in response to the other anomalies identified by the Department of Natural Resources and Mines.

Council notes that our neighbouring local governments may also be making requests to amend our Council boundaries. In referring Council's request (above) to the Local Government Change Commission, Council would greatly appreciate you directing the Commission to consult with Goondiwindi Regional Council prior to finalising any assessment on proposed boundary change initiated by adjoining local government.

Would you please contact Mr Jason Quinnell should you require any further information in relation to this matter.

Yours faithfully

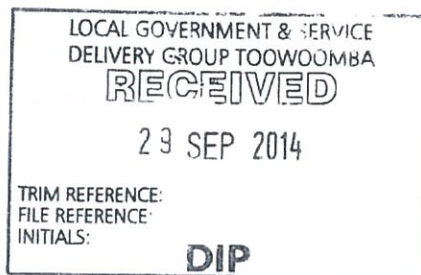
A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Carl Manton', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Carl Manton  
**CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER**



Goondiwindi Customer Service Centre: (07) 4671 7400  
Inglewood Customer Service Centre: (07) 4652 0200  
Texas Customer Service Centre: (07) 4653 2600  
Facsimile: (07) 4671 7433

Postal: LMB 7, Inglewood QLD 4387  
Email: mail@grc.qld.gov.au  
Web: www.grc.qld.gov.au



Author: Jason Quinnell/klp  
Enquiries: 07 46717400  
Date: 24 September 2014

Joanne Murrell  
Senior Advisor – Southern Region  
Department Local Government, Community Recovery & Resilience  
PO Box 825  
TOOWOOMBA QLD 4350

Dear Joanne

**RE: GOONDIWINDI & WESTERN DOWNS REGIONAL COUNCIL  
BOUNDARY REALIGNMENT**

I make reference to your correspondence and subsequent conversations regarding the proposal to initiate the realignment of the Goondiwindi and Western Downs Regional Council boundary.

This matter was considered at the 24<sup>th</sup> September Ordinary meeting of Council with the following resolution adopted, *"That Council resolves to proceed with the amendment of its Council boundary with the Western Downs Regional Council such that the following parcels are located within the Goondiwindi Regional Council area in their entirety:-*

- Lot 8 CVN344, Locality North Bungunya; and
- Lot 1 SP254479, Locality Southwood.

If you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact this office.

Yours faithfully

  
Jason Quinnell  
**ACTING CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER**





Customer Contact  
1300 COUNCIL (1300 268 624)  
07 4679 4000  
[www.wdrc.qld.gov.au](http://www.wdrc.qld.gov.au)



OUR COMMUNITIES | OUR FUTURE

ENQUIRIES TO:  
Lynn Sharpe  
P 1300 268 624

FILE REF:  
14/3/1

PB:LTS

22 August 2014

Mr Carl Manton  
Chief Executive Officer  
Goondiwindi Regional Council  
LMB 7  
INGLEWOOD 4387

Dear Sir

**RE: Review of Local Government Boundaries**

I refer to correspondence forwarded to our respective Councils by the Department of Natural Resources and Mines seeking a review of the alignment of identified Local Government boundaries which bisect land parcels.

This Council appointed a small committee to meet and review the identified anomalies. Following consultation with the affected landowners it is proposed that two identified properties on our common boundary, being Lot 1 SP254479 (map E attached) and Lot 8 CVN344 (map F attached), become part of your Council area.

Could you please confirm your Council's support, or otherwise, for this proposal.

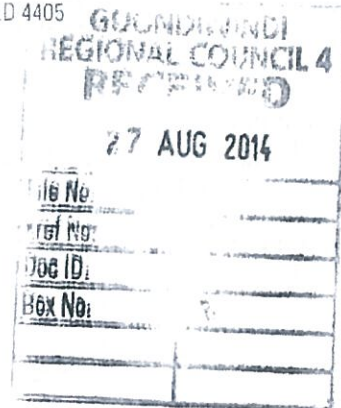
Should you wish to discuss this proposal further, please contact Council Governance and Information Support Manager, Mrs Lynn Sharpe.

Yours faithfully

  
Phil Berting PSM  
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

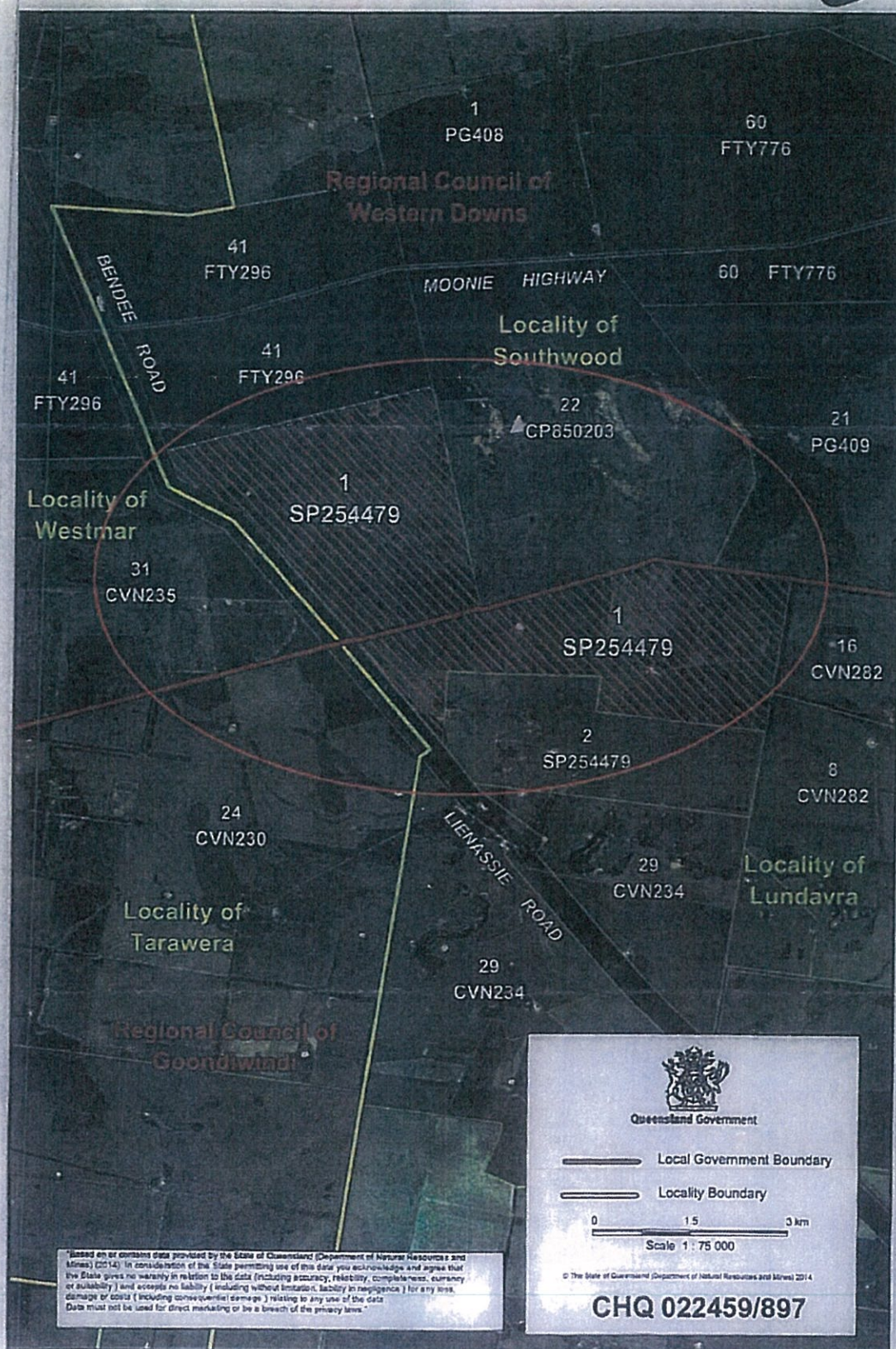
Enc.  
Map E  
Map F

Address all correspondence  
to the Chief Executive Officer  
PO Box 551, DALBY, QLD 4405  
[info@wdrc.qld.gov.au](mailto:info@wdrc.qld.gov.au)

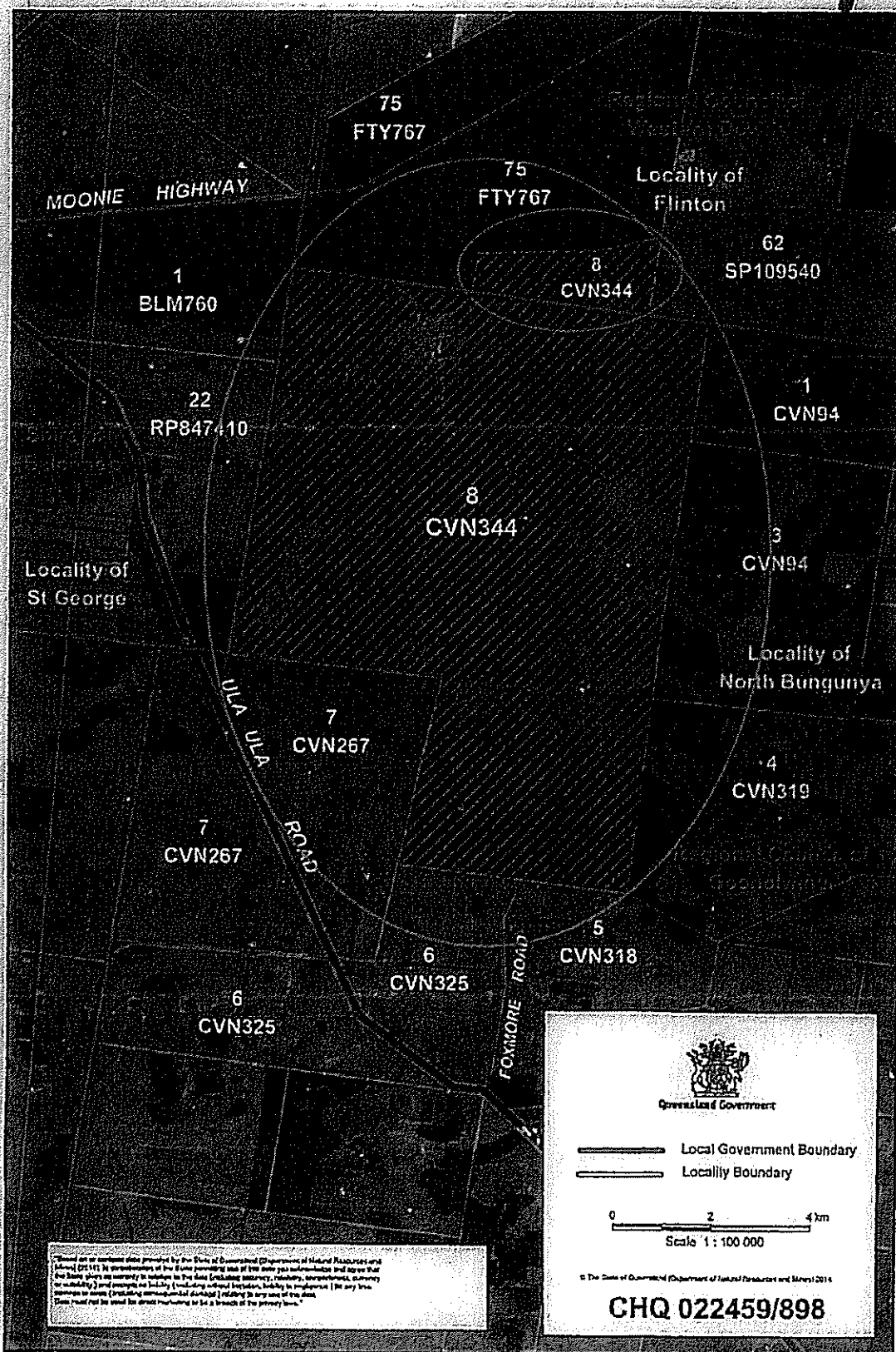




E











A 31 799

**Western Downs Regional Council  
Local Government Boundary Anomalies  
Survey Form**

Please forward your response:-

- by email for the attention of Ms Lynn Sharpe to [info@wdrc@qld.gov.au](mailto:info@wdrc@qld.gov.au); or
- by letter to the Chief Executive Officer, Western Downs Regional Council, PO Box 551, Dalby 4405.

Please tick ✓ your preferred response:-

- ☐ I would prefer that the current boundary arrangements remain unchanged; or
- ☐ I would prefer that all of Lot 1 SP254479, assess no 31799 at Bendee Road Westmar Qld 4406 be located in Western Downs Regional Council; or
- ☒ I would prefer that all of Lot 1 SP254479, assess no 31799 at Bendee Road Westmar Qld 4406 be located in Goondiwindi Regional Council; or
- ☐ I would prefer an alternative option (please attach details)
- ☐ I agree that a copy of this response may be forwarded to Goondiwindi Regional Council.

Signed: .....

*BW Davis*

Date: .....

*10/6/2014*

Name: .....

*BARRY WAYNE DAVIS*

W.D.R.C. RECEIVED				
6 13 JUN 2014				
(Post/Hand/Fax/Original) Time: <i>10</i>				
Officer	FYI	Task	Initials	Date
<i>Lynn</i>	✓			

*P*



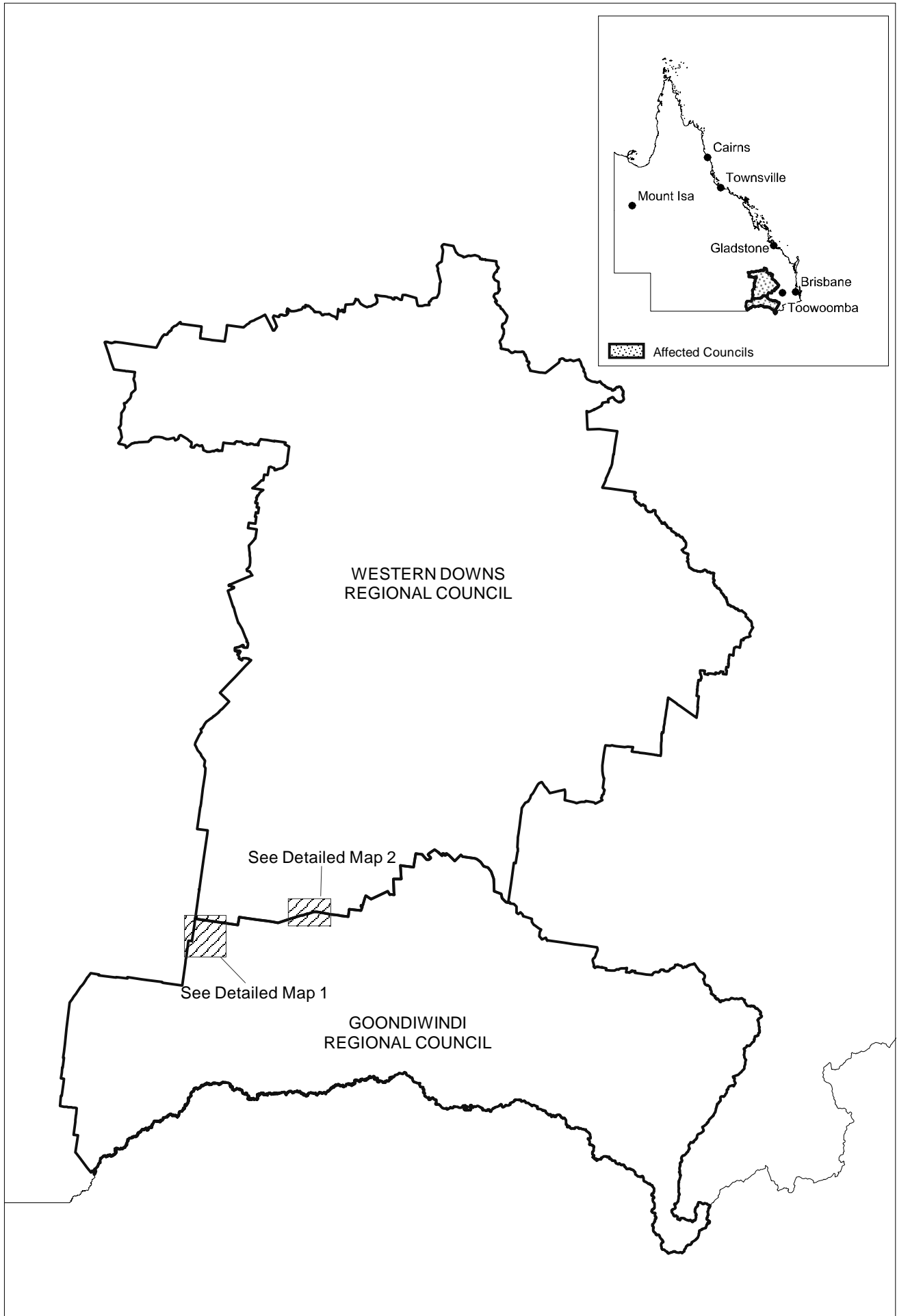
# **APPENDIX C**

## **Maps**



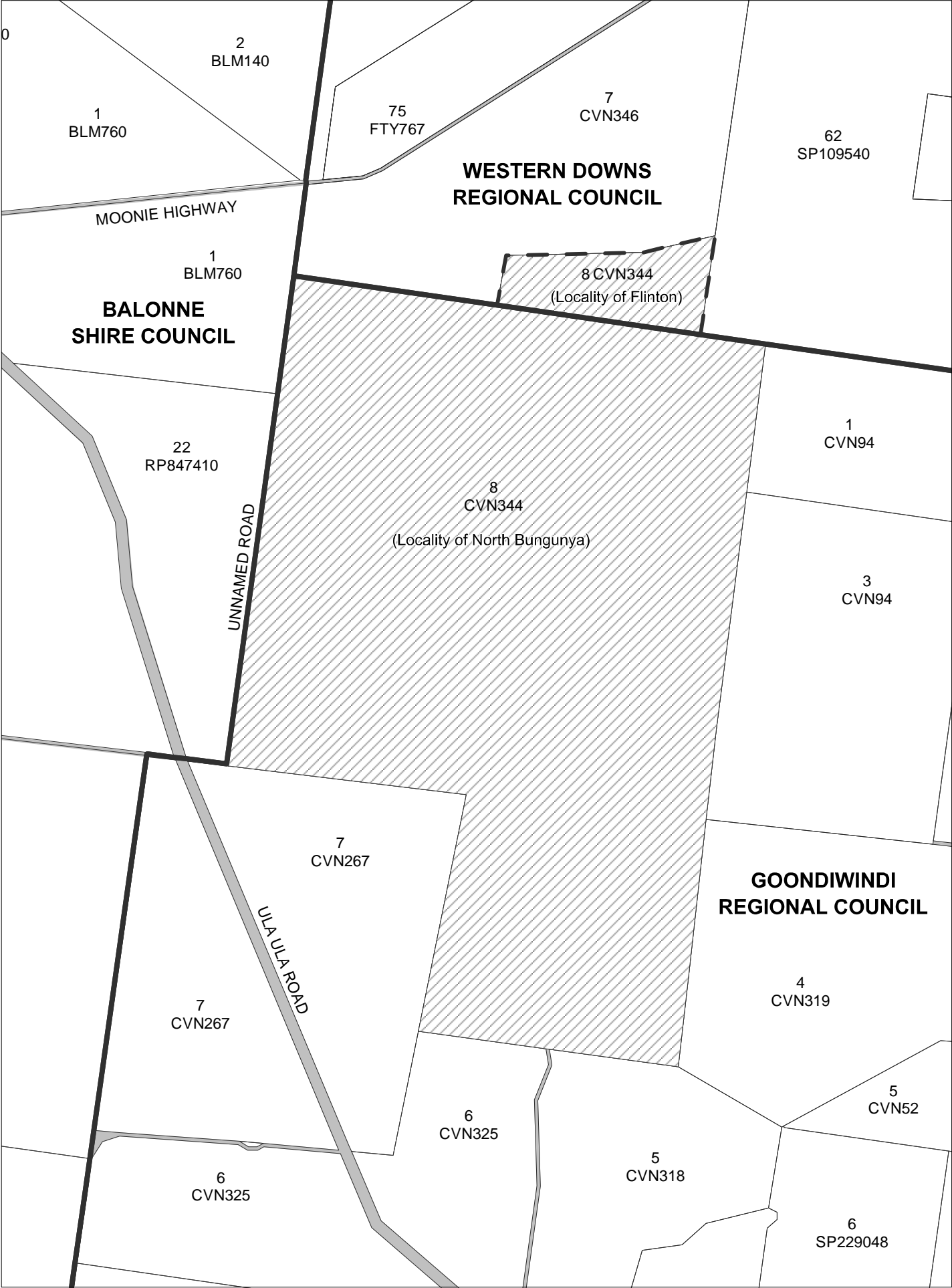
# Overview Map

## Western Downs Regional Council and Goondiwindi Regional Council



— Local Government  
Boundary

 Review Area



**Local Government Boundary**

**Proposed Boundary**

**Property  
Boundary**

**Review Area**

