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**To:** [LG CC Submissions](#)  
**Subject:** (56594) Livingstone Shire Council and Rockhampton Regional Council - External Boundary Review - [REDACTED]  
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Online submission for **Livingstone Shire Council and Rockhampton Regional Council**  
- External Boundary Review from [REDACTED]

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### Submission Details

**Name:** [REDACTED]

**Privacy preferences:** Publishing your submission without your name

**Submission text:**

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21 June 2022 – Submission on the local government boundary review for Livingstone Shire and Rockhampton Regional Councils.

Along with my 'No' vote I will be making, I felt to make a submission to the commission after some very eye opening events took place in regards to this matter which I felt should be shared with the Commission.

It seems this very basic issue of whether they should or shouldn't remain where the suburbs of Glenlee, Glendale and Rockyview currently are, has been clouded by propaganda, misinformation and underhanded tactics as both Councils carry on like toddlers fighting over a new toy and who should have it. Obviously the issue is of a much more serious nature, one which has background details not known to the average person in the community as most don't go around reading planning schemes or know about trunk infrastructure or even the ways which Councils work and plan maintenance and upgrades, so in most, residences base their vote on higher level lower level details of what they have heard or what those residences feel they will or wont receive at the end of the day by making a yes or no vote.

Myself, I am impartial. I don't live in those suburbs and I don't think it really matters who the busdriver is, as long as those suburbs are on a bus so to keep moving forward. However I am infuriated that those on the Yes side, may be swayed that way due to mistruths and scare tactics and the dangling carrot of cheaper rates. Let me elaborate:

I have my reasons for voting No. They are well thought out and make sense when you weigh up all the issues at hand. I recently attended the annual show in Rockhampton with my two teenage children. The first stall upon entering was a 'Vote Yes' stand to the local government boundary review upcoming vote. I was approached by a woman and advised her not to waste her time as I was an avid No voter. I went to move on, but she then asked me why I am a No voter and invited me to the stand to 'change my mind'. My kids had run off to meet with their friends, so I thought why not, thinking it would be interested to hear what she had to say that could possibly sway me to the yes team. She raised a few issues, starting with future development of the large vacant land parcels around the three established suburbs and I can only assume she thought I was a general person of the public with lack of knowledge of how local government management works and I was shocked at the complete lies I was hearing. I challenged her multiple times, even to a point where she was speechless as then dodged the answers, changing the subject and asking me how I knew the details I did, mentioning that I 'was really in the know'.

I wish to rely some of the topics we discussed below for your information, keeping in mind that this information is what RRC has been relaying to the community and residences in question, thereby making any Yes vote by RRC residences and the suburbs in question as being based on propaganda and scare tactics, and therefore not a Yes vote based on having all the relevant information at hand and being able to make an educated decision which serves them best.

Firstly, for the ease of this submission, lets call this lady [REDACTED] and assume pretty confidently that she is an employee or Councillor of RRC. She advised me that voting Yes brings a reduction of rates to those suburbs. [REDACTED] showed me a map and pointed to two large vacant land parcels around the three suburbs and stated' that only RRC can and will develop these land parcels to grow the area'. I corrected her in that Councils wont develop this land, only a future developer who lodges a development application can and will develop the land. She said yes that's true, but that RRC will facilitate this better than LSC can. I corrected her again and advised that 1 land parcel already has a preliminary approval over

the land, approved by LSC and the other land parcel has a current development application lodged with LSC under assessment. I also reiterated that LSC facilitated the development of Glenlee, Glendale and Rockyview, so its not something only RRC can do.

Then █████ moved onto infrastructure, advising that LSC doesn't own the infrastructure so cannot provide services to expand development in vacant land. I corrected her again in that the existing developed land has water infrastructure, provisioned and maintained currently by LSC. █████ states, 'but they cant bring sewer as RRC owns the sewer'. I explained to her that the current application under assessment is considering constructing trunk sewer to their 600 lot proposal and that LSC is supportive of this and can provision and maintain this service. █████ said this cannot occur as they have nowhere to discharge the sewer to and only RRC can provide this. I corrected her that this is not the case and LSC will enter into a service agreement to discharge to RRC sewer for a fee. █████ then said RRC may not have the capacity to have all these new lots discharge to RRC sewer so couldn't be supported, then I said 'but didn't you just say that RRC would develop this land so obviously discharge capacity is there?'. She was a bit quiet as she looked for a response, so I jumped in and said, LSC would provide the develop with offsets to the infrastructure charges for the construction of the trunk sewer at a large cost to them and would RRC reimburse this amount should the suburbs become part of RRC? She could not answer yes or no, but said 'Im sure this would be facilitated'. I advised she should not be stating this would occur if she does not have confirmation, as I strongly doubt this would be the case.

This ia land grab, a desperate one, as RRC is out of space to the south, east and west and the northern corridor is their only hope or its inbuilt development only. They see the potential and want into this expanding and vast open space.

█████ then mentioned that its reasonable that those suburbs shop and work in Rockhampton and use more of their services so are better being with RRC. I reiterated with it's a very even use ratio of both local government areas, with RRC residences regularly visiting the beach and surrounding areas and that those 3 suburbs actually shop in nearby Parkhurst which has everything they need in a great little shopping village which has tavern and petrol stations so they don't enter into Rockhampton to do their daily shops and fill up with fuel at all. I have multiple friends who live in those suburbs and they all say that don't enter into Rockhampton to use services.

I then said, that if that's the case, why is RRC Council not wanting their closest suburb which is still in LSC, being Nerimbera. She slipped and said 'that's all flood prone land'. Whoops I thought and she knew it too. I then said 'doesn't that just reiterate that you only want the northern corridor for development and growth?'. Again, █████ was looking for the words to say. I then advised her the the RRC planning scheme allows small lot sizes in rural land whereas LSC planning scheme has a larger minimum lot size. The LSC planning scheme protects the lifestyle that those in Glendale, Glenlee and Rockyview strive to maintain, as it brings beautiful homes and well manicured lawns and gardens which sets the style they want to live in. It prevents ghetto style suburbs with rentals and dual occupancies and attracts the type of people that can more afford the lifestyle. People live out there for this reason and do not want 700sqm blocks packed in around them. But unfortunately, the residences of those suburbs are not aware of this. They are only hearing 'cheaper rates' and that's a huge drawing card. But cheaper rates wont bring them any services as RRC are not interested in the existing residences and they will not receive additional services or upgrades as they are being untruthfully told.

I just felt to relay to the commission that without the propaganda being supervised, those Yes voters maybe doing so with wool pulled over their eyes and not being fully aware of

what Yes will mean for them. It would have been great if each resident was provided with the full story before deciding as I'm sure they would end up voting No in the long run.

But whatever happens, should the yes vote get up which it most likely will just due to more residences living in the RRC area, then I hope the commission provides a condition that compensation be given to LSC, including trunk infrastructure offsets for services already provided plus RRC to take that portion of the debt and staff proportional to the three suburbs population and assist LSC in having to shut regional depots that service those areas and relocate the staff who live in LSC funded accommodation to be closer to the northern suburbs. RRC should also be made to take on Nerimbera and their flood prone undevelopable vacant land as their closest neighbours who definitely use Rockhampton for all their services. Based on the reasoning RRC provides for wanting the northern suburbs this would only be fair.

I sincerely hope the boundaries stay the same – there is no need to change them, they work great for now and always have been and this is simply a money grab by RRC who have also pushed those residences in those suburbs to want to be with RRC with underhanded tactics and omitting the issues that would be relevant to their decision making.

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