1. The Local Government (Integrity) and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2019 (the Bill) continues the Government’s rolling program of reforms to improve accountability, transparency and integrity in the Local Government system and Local Government elections. The program of reforms includes:
* the passage of the *Local Government Electoral (Implementing Stage 1 of Belcarra) and Other Legislation Amendment Act 2018* which was given Assent on 21 May 2018; and
* the Local Government Electoral (Implementing Stage 2 of Belcarra) and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2019 which was passed by the Legislative Assembly in the sitting week 15‑17 October 2019.
1. The proposed reforms in the Bill include amendments to:
* align the processes for filling Councillor vacancies between the *Local Government Act 2009* and the *City of Brisbane Act 2010* and provide for the runner-up to fill a casual vacancy from a first-past-the-post voting election;
* allow Councillors to direct Local Government designated employees who provide administrative support to elected representatives, within Chief Executive Officer approved guidelines which prohibit provision of political assistance to Councillors;
* establish a framework for Local Governments, including the Brisbane City Council, to contract ‘political staff’ to provide administrative and policy support to Councillors; and
* have the Councillor conflict of interest and registers of interests systems to align with the proposed systems for Cabinet Ministers.
1. Cabinet approved that the Local Government (Integrity) and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2019 be introduced into the Legislative Assembly.
2. *Attachments*
* [Electoral and Other Legislation (Accountability, Integrity and Other Matters) Amendment Bill 2019 (incorporating the Local Government (Integrity) and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2019)](Attachments/Bill.PDF)
* [Explanatory Notes to the Electoral and Other Legislation (Accountability, Integrity and Other Matters) Amendment Bill 2019](Attachments/ExNotes.PDF)