



## Media Release

13 June 2013

### **Brisbane Residents Fleeced by Lord Mayor**

Brisbane residents are being fleeced by Lord Mayor, Graham Quirk's, 2013-14 Council Budget, with rates, fees and charges all skyrocketing under the LNP registration.

Councillor Johnston said the blatant cash grab was not being reinvested back into much needed road, footpath, park and drainage upgrades in Tennyson Ward.

"Brisbane residents are being asked to pay more for the basics but are getting less in the way of services, facilities and upgrades," Councillor Johnston said.

"This year's Budget has exposed the Lord Mayor's focus on pursuing a reckless economic and financial agenda that is not sustainable, rather than focusing on the needs of the community."

Some examples of fee and charge increases include:

- dog registration up to \$125pa (25%)
- cat registration up to \$57.20pa (25%)
- pool entry fees up for adults to \$5 (2%) per visit and families up to \$10.60 (3%)
- building records up to \$110 (4%)
- adult immunisation fees up to \$38.40 (3%)
- parking fees up 20c per hour to \$4.40 (CBD) and 10c per hour to \$2.70 (city fringe)
- cemetery plots up to \$3,260 (4%)
- residential development infrastructure charges for homes and businesses up \$1000
- school children visiting the Planetarium will be charged more to enter up from \$8 to \$8.20
- busking in the Queen Street Mall up to \$73.50 (4%)
- street stall in suburban areas up to \$113 per metre (4%).

Councillor Johnston said residents would be particularly hard hit by the extraordinary \$25 household fee for multiple residential parking permits (\$10 each).

"I do not support the \$25 charge per household for parking permits and I call on the Lord Mayor to abolish this inequitable tax on family homes and neighbourhoods. Residents should not be forced to pay for the poor planning decisions and inadequate parking arrangements of major sporting, hospital and educational institutions."

**For further information please call Nicole Johnston 34038605 or 0407039198**

