

COST OF LIVING





Electricity prices

North Queenslanders are in dire need of a long-term energy solution to tackle the escalating cost of electricity. Reliable and affordable electricity in North Queensland can be achieved a few different ways:

1. Abandon the unsustainable pursuit of reaching a 75% emission target by 2035.
2. Restore Queensland's coal-fired and gas-fired power stations and recognise that they have a long term role to provide reliable base load power.
3. Enforce a gas reserve policy, keeping Queensland gas for Queenslanders.
4. Invest in nuclear power. Nuclear is clean, reliable, low carbon and easy to ramp up and ramp down subject to demand.
5. Remove government taxes on power bills.

Grocery prices - Supermarket Dominance

Queenslanders pay too much at the checkout and farmers are not being paid fairly for their produce. In order to rectify this imbalance we need to:

- Abolish the Food and Grocery Code – the entire premise of the Code relies on self-regulation by the Supermarkets and has long been used as an avenue to justify unfair practices.
- Provide for forced divestiture – without further Supermarkets the market dominance, power imbalance and limited options for recourse will perpetuate.
- Provide a proven law enforcer, such as the AFP, with significant investigation and enforcement powers including severe penalties.
- Restrict supermarkets to a maximum mark-up amount - this is fundamental to provide transparency in the price that supermarkets pay the producer and the price they charge the customer.

Rising Insurance Costs & a State Owned Insurance Company

KAP have repeatedly called for the abolishment of stamp duty on North Queensland home, contents, and strata insurance products to help reduce premiums.

- North Queensland, home and contents insurance premiums are a staggering 64% higher than in southern parts of the state.
- 40% of households go uninsured meaning property owners or the State Government eventually end up footing the bill for natural disasters in the end.
- Insurance premiums are unnecessarily ramped up by the stamp duty component payable to the Queensland Government and this money needs to remain in Queenslanders' pockets, not the Government's coffers.

Additionally, KAP have also called for the re-introduction of a State owned insurance company to act as a competitor to keep the big insurers in line.