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## MEDIA RELEASE

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**For immediate release**

### LNP TO SUPPORT LOCAL COMMUNITY GROUPS

Hinchinbrook MP, Andrew Cripps, says the LNP's commitment to provide \$4 million over 3 years to community and volunteer groups through its *Caring for our Community* program, would be of enormous assistance to many organisations in the Hinchinbrook electorate.

Mr Cripps said he was proud that the LNP was not only focused on major economic issues in Queensland, but also on the important social and cultural contribution to the state by the activities and services provided by thousands of community and volunteer organisations.

"I know in the Hinchinbrook electorate, that non-for-profit, volunteer based organisations and service clubs are the backbone of the local community. They generously give their time and in many cases, their money, to help and support their local community" said Mr Cripps.

"The LNP believes strongly that in return, these community organisations deserve to be supported. Our *Caring for our Community* program will provide community groups with small grants to help them afford the equipment they need to keep up the good work" he said.

"This program is designed to give small, community based organisations the opportunity to apply for small grants of between \$5000 and \$15,000, to purchase new or replace existing equipment that will help them continue with their activities that help others" said Mr Cripps.

"While the LNP is determined to grow our four pillar economy based on agriculture, tourism, resources and construction, we also understand the need to support local communities to make them stronger and more resilient, to strengthen families and neighbourhoods" he said.

Mr Cripps said the LNP was aware of the need to balance the big picture plans for Queensland's future with the need to get the basics right by supporting people at the grass roots level and that the *Caring for our Community program* was designed to do just that.

"Whether it's a new printer or computer, a new fridge or microwave, the cost of equipment can mount up for community groups. The LNP is committed to supporting them with grants of up to \$5000 that will allow them to get on with doing what they do best" said Mr Cripps.

"For more significant equipment upgrades, such as making food preparation areas compliant with regulations, grants of up to \$15,000 will be available. The LNP understands the practical issues faced by Queenslanders in local communities and we want to help" he said.

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