



August 13, 2018

MEDIA RELEASE

Burdekin businesses called on to back farmers

With the deadline for submissions to the Sugar Code of Conduct review fast approaching, member for Burdekin, Dale Last, has called on local businesses to get behind local sugar farmers.

Together with the Burdekin Advocate, Mr Last has prepared a submission that local business owners and managers can quickly complete and submit.

"Sugar is the lifeblood of the Burdekin and we all need to work together to ensure a fair go for our farmers," Mr Last said.

"The review is taking into account the effect that sugar has on the full supply chain as well as for the community in general so we need to have our say and inform the review that we want the Code to stay."

"Canegrowers and other farmer representative groups will make submissions on how this will effect farmers but we need the Federal Government to realise it effects each and every business in the Burdekin district."

Mr Last said his campaign wasn't aimed at political point-scoring and welcomed the Burdekin Advocate's support.

"Throughout the Burdekin you see businesses prosper and suffer depending on conditions in the sugar industry so it's a campaign that is above politics... it's about our future," Mr Last said.

"The Advocate has done a lot to shine a light on these issues and to have their support in getting local businesses behind the campaign means we can get more people submitting and presenting a stronger voice for the district."

"In a way it's similar to what the green groups do and they have had great success in getting their way so we will use that tactic to our advantage this time."

Business owners or managers who want to complete a submission simply have to provide a few details on their situation and submit their reply either electronically or by post.

"We wanted to make this as easy as possible because people are busy but we need all of the Burdekin in the farmer's corner to fight for this," Mr Last said.

Local businesses wanting to make a submission can contact Mr Last's office for a copy or head to www.dalelast.com.au.

ENDS

Media Contact: David Cooper 0427 834 844