



OFFICE OF THE  
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15 August 2013

Mr Glendon Young  
President  
Woolloongabba Business Association Inc.  
C/- 4 Hubert Street  
WOOLLOONGABBA QLD 4102

Dear Mr Young

Thank you for your letter of 1 July 2013 about the rating category for commercial properties in Woolloongabba.

I understand there has been some recent discussion in the community about the rating category for commercial properties in your area. I can assure you that these properties will not have the same rating category as commercial properties in the CBD.

Woolloongabba and other commercial areas adjacent to the CBD, referred to as the 'CBD Frame', play an important role in Brisbane's growth and my goal is to encourage business investment in these areas. Council has earmarked Woolloongabba as a future growth area and corridor hub and, through our City Plan, has allowed for additional commercial space, high-density residential, major health, education, knowledge and creative industry and entertainment facilities.

Due to its proximity to the CBD, Woolloongabba enjoys a greater number of Council services and public transport options. This location is an attraction for a number of people, bringing significant focus on the restaurants, bars and speciality shops in the area. The location of Brisbane's iconic cricket ground, The Gabba, also contributes to this patronage particularly on game days. As I hope you can appreciate, this is a luxury that commercial areas outside the 'CBD Frame' do not share.

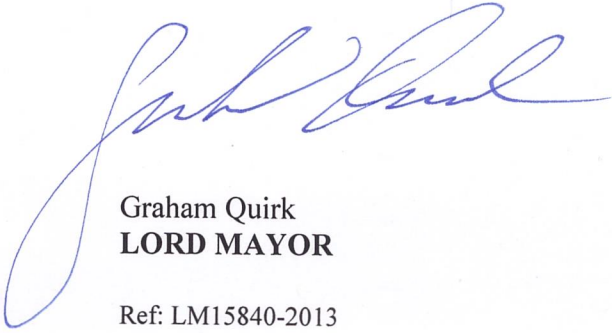
While I acknowledge rates have increased for commercial properties within the CBD Frame, you may be interested to know that the rate in the dollar is 26.8% lower than commercial properties within the CBD. On average, CBD Frame properties pay 83.3% less general rates compared to CBD properties when valuations are taken into account. Council also applies a rate cap of 5% for commercial properties that remain in the same ownership. Once again, please be assured that commercial businesses within the CBD Frame will not be paying the same as those within the CBD.

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*Delivering for our suburbs*

Should you wish to discuss this matter further, please contact Mr Simon Murphy, Acting Team Leader in Rates Management, on 3027 5230.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Graham Quirk', with a large, sweeping flourish on the left side.

Graham Quirk  
**LORD MAYOR**

Ref: LM15840-2013