

Daylight Saving feedback justifies dual time zones

The Daylight Saving for South East Queensland Party believe feedback received through the Queensland Government consultation process justifies implementation of dual time zones.

"The Queensland Government consultation on Daylight Saving in South East Queensland closes today and with reports that support is fairly evenly split, this certainly warrants having a trial," Daylight Saving for South East Queensland Party Leader, Jason Furze, said.

Mr Furze said it is not surprising that there has been some negative feedback, mostly from regional Queensland. "Residents and businesses were never given a defined time zone boundary. Without this clear understanding of the boundary and the impact a dual time zone arrangement, it is understandable that there is a level of public uncertainty. Nevertheless, it is heartening that 50 per cent of respondents are still itching to give dual times zones a chance," Mr Furze said.

Mr Furze said that the sheer volume of feedback to the government, serves to demonstrate how contentious the Daylight Saving is, and shows how significant an issue it is for Queensland.

"We believe the vast amount of feedback received clearly indicates the worth of giving a dual time arrangement a trial. Support for Daylight Saving will always be geographically split in Queensland, so the only way to permanently resolve the issue, is to introduce dual time zones," Mr Furze said.

"It is also clear to us, that many residents from North Queensland have said 'No' to both government feedback questions, without considering that the dual time zone arrangement may not actually affect them – simply because many northerners are so vehemently opposed to Daylight Saving," Mr Furze said.

Mr Furze said that comments like 'we don't need Daylight Saving' and 'they should get up an hour earlier' not only displays negativity, it also demonstrates that there is a lack of understanding in the outer regions, about why Daylight Saving is favoured in South East Queensland.

"The Premier needs to further educate the public, particularly those in the northern and western regions, about why a dual time zone arrangement may permanently resolve the Daylight Saving issue. The Premier should also provide more certainty as to where the boundary would be positioned," Mr Furze said.**ENDS**

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