



Hon Paul Lucas MP



Queensland
Government

23 JUN 2011

Our ref: MC11/2410
LG/11/20232

Deputy Premier and Attorney-General
Minister for Local Government and
Special Minister of State

Mr Neil Laurie
The Clerk of The Parliament
Parliament House
Cnr Alice and George Streets
Brisbane QLD 4000

Dear Mr Laurie

Re: Petition No 1655-11 - Request to include the Greater Flagstone Development, currently located within the boundaries of Logan City Council, in the Scenic Rim Regional Council boundaries

Thank you for your letter of 1 June 2011.

Chapter 2, Part 3 of the *Local Government Act 2009* (the Act) governs the process for making a Local Government boundary change. The Act requires the Local Government Change Commission, an independent body created under the Act, to assess and make recommendations about whether a proposed Local Government boundary change is in the public interest.

Section 18 of the Act provides that only the Minister for Local Government may apply to the Change Commission to assess whether to alter a Local Government boundary which was made under the 2007 reform process. Given that the current boundaries of Logan City Council and Scenic Rim Regional Council were determined as part of the 2007 reform process, only myself, as the Minister for Local Government, can make an application to change these boundaries.

The State Government's position to this point has been that any proposed boundary changes would not be referred to the Change Commission without the agreement of all affected Local Governments. At this time, no proposal has been submitted by either Scenic Rim Regional Council or Logan City Council seeking an amendment to boundaries to include the Greater Flagstone area within the Scenic Rim Regional Council area.

Level 12 Executive Building
100 George Street Brisbane 4000
GPO Box 15009 City-East
Queensland 4002 Australia
Telephone +61 7 3224 4600
Facsimile +61 7 3224 4781
Email deputypremier@ministerial.qld.gov.au
ABN 65 959 415 158

The decision to include Greater Flagstone within the Logan City Council area was made on the basis of recommendations from the Local Government Reform Commission, allowing the Scenic Rim Regional Council to operate primarily as a rural-based Local Government.

I recently met with the Member for Beaudesert, Mr Aidan McLindon MP, in relation to this matter. I have asked Mr McLindon to write to me concerning this issue. I will formally seek the respective views of the Councils concerned before deciding whether to refer the matter to the independent Change Commissioner. If the affected Councils were to write to me in support of this change, I would be willing to give the matter further consideration.

I trust this information is of assistance.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Paul Lucas', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

PAUL LUCAS MP
Deputy Premier and Attorney-General,
Minister for Local Government
and Special Minister of State