



Hon Paul Lucas MP



Queensland
Government

Our ref: MC11/2462

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 1688-11 – Development of a Water Park at Main Beach, Yeppoon

Thank you for your letter of 1 June 2011.

On 14 June 2011 the State Government released its 2011-2012 Budget which proposed a new funding program for Queensland's Local Governments (the Local Government Grants and Subsidies Program). The program is expected to commence in July 2011.

This program requires local governments to apply for funding of community infrastructure under this program where it can demonstrate a limited capacity to fund the projects.

To be eligible, the proposed project:

- (i) Must have arisen from a local government's community engagement processes; and
- (ii) Be part of the council's long term asset management plan.

Applications will be assessed by the Office of Local Government of the Department of Local Government and Planning with final approval being made by myself, as the Minister for Local Government. I encourage the petitioners to contact their respective local government to advocate the lodgement of applications for community infrastructure such as the proposed water park.

Under this new program, funding will be prioritised to projects that align with the Queensland Government's Towards Q2 – Tomorrow's Queensland ambitions as well as to projects in Local Government areas that were affected by the significant natural disasters in 2010-2011. Proposed projects will also be required to demonstrate compliance with the State Government's climate ready infrastructure initiative.

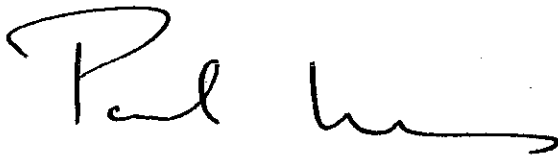
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Historically, Queensland Councils have benefited from significant levels of State funding which they have invested in a range of necessary infrastructure that contributes to long-term community and environmental benefits. In fact, since 1 July 1998, the Queensland Government has allocated more than \$4.8 billion, primarily to Councils to offset the costs of these essential works. In addition, in July 2006 the State Government committed \$700 million over five years to the 2006 to 2011 suite of grant and subsidy programs.

The allocation to Rockhampton Regional Council between 2006 and 2011 has been \$73 million.

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