



Hon Paul Lucas MP

23 DEC 2011

Our ref: MC11/4462

Your ref: 1839-11



Queensland  
Government

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: E-Petition 1839-11: Hills District transfer from Moreton Bay Regional Council to Brisbane City Council jurisdiction**

Thank you for your notice of the above E-Petition on of 1 December 2011.

I have met with the Honourable Geoff Wilson MP, Minister for Health and Member for Ferny Grove and the Moreton Bay Ratepayers Action Group a number of times, most recently on 7 December 2011, regarding the issue of the Hills District transferring from the Moreton Bay Regional Council (MBRC) to the Brisbane City Council (BCC) jurisdiction.

The process for making a Local Government boundary change is for an application to be made to the Local Government Change Commission for determination.

The movement of the Hills District from MBRC to BCC would be a significant change involving more than 15 000 residents and impacting on the internal divisional boundaries of both Councils. There are also a number of administrative arrangements that would need to be resolved between the two Councils to implement the recommendations. For example, arrangements would need to be made to transfer the appropriate assets and liabilities between the Councils along with the possible transfer of a number of MBRC employees to BCC.

In light of the significant impacts these changes are likely to have on both Councils, these types of changes are usually scheduled to coincide with the quadrennial Local Government elections so as not to facilitate by-elections in the affected Councils.

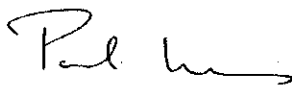
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I have requested the Department of Local Government and Planning and the Moreton Bay Ratepayers Action Group to provide more information concerning the communities of interest between the Hills District and Brisbane before I consider further their proposal for boundary change.

Once all of the relevant information is collated I will make a detailed assessment of all the factors and determine whether I refer the matter to the Independent Change Commission for assessment.

If you require any further information, please contact Mr Joshua O'Keefe, Policy Advisor on 3224 4600 who will be pleased to assist.

Yours sincerely



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