



Hon David Crisafulli MP
Minister for Local Government,
Community Recovery and Resilience

Our ref: MC13/3497

Your ref: 10.4 Petitions

23 SEP 2013

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

Dear Mr Laurie *Neil*

Thank you for your letter of 13 September 2013 about Petition 2084-13 received by the Queensland Legislative Assembly.

The Kuranda district was part of the former Mareeba Shire Council prior to the forced amalgamation of Queensland councils in 2008.

In 2012, the Government implemented a process to give all communities impacted by the 2008 amalgamations an opportunity to submit proposals for de-amalgamation. This process resulted in the community of the former Mareeba Shire Council area being given the opportunity to vote at a poll held on 9 March 2013 to determine whether to de-amalgamate from the Tablelands Regional Council.

It was always made clear to the community that if the majority vote at the 9 March 2013 poll was in favour of de-amalgamation then it would proceed and the de-amalgamation would be to the same boundaries that existed for the Mareeba Shire Council immediately prior to the 2008 amalgamations.

I understand that the voting patterns across the entire area fluctuated, with voting in some individual booths including Kuranda, being opposed to de-amalgamation, however the poll held on 9 March 2013 was a poll of the entire area which resulted in a majority 57.9 per cent vote in favour of de-amalgamation proceeding.

The *Local Government (De-amalgamation Implementation) Regulation 2013*, which formally implements the de-amalgamation was enacted on 11 April 2013 and the task of undertaking the work necessary to have the new Mareeba Shire Council established and operational on 1 January 2014 is underway. I have also recently announced that fresh elections for the mayor and councillors of the new council will be conducted on 9 November 2013.

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Under the Regulation, the de-amalgamation will be to the same boundaries as the former Mareeba Shire Council and the Government will not be considering any changes to these boundaries as part of this process.

If you require any further information, please contact Mr Gary Kleidon, Director, De-amalgamation Support Unit on (07) 3006 4199 or gary.kleidon@dlgcr.qld.gov.au, who will be pleased to assist.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "David Crisafulli". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a prominent "D" and "C".

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