



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

Our ref: MC13/3916

Your ref: 10.4 Petitions

25 NOV 2013

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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 30 October 2013 about Petitions 2184-13 and 2112-13 received by the Queensland Legislative Assembly.

In 2008, the previous Government forcibly amalgamated local governments without allowing the communities of Queensland to vote. Councils were warned by Mr Andrew Fraser that they would be sacked if they conducted a vote.

Under this Government, all communities in Queensland were provided with an opportunity to submit a detailed proposal for de-amalgamation.

On 29 June 2012, I announced the details of the process for de-amalgamation together with the appointment of the Queensland Boundaries Commissioner, Mr Colin Meng.

The process was a clear, concise and well-structured way for communities to demonstrate, among other things, that a de-amalgamated council would be viable and that any costs associated with de-amalgamation would be the responsibility of the de-amalgamating council.

To be considered, proponents were required to provide a strong, evidence-based, community-backed submission which demonstrated significant community support for the proposal. This was to include a petition signed by 20 per cent of the voting population of the proposed de-amalgamating area.

Nineteen Queensland communities responded by the closure date of 29 August 2012. Of these 19, proposals from Noosa, Livingstone, Mareeba, Douglas and Isis were referred to the Queensland Boundaries Commissioner for his detailed assessment.

Following my consideration of the Boundaries Commissioner's Report on 28 November 2012, and taking into account what I considered to be strong community support for de-amalgamations, I made the decision to conduct polls in Noosa, Livingstone, Mareeba and Douglas.

Each community in Queensland was given the same opportunity to provide a proposal on de-amalgamation.

The matter of any further de-amalgamations in Queensland is closed, however I will continue to work with those Councils and communities that were forcibly amalgamated.

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', with a stylized flourish at the end.

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