



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

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Our ref: MC14/3178

Your ref: 10.4 Petitions

17 SEP 2014

Mr Neil Laurie
The Clerk of the Parliament
Parliament House
George Street
BRISBANE QLD 4000

Dear Mr Laurie

Neil

Thank you for your letter of 27 August 2014 about petition 2282-14 received by the Queensland Legislative Assembly.

You would appreciate that the request for the Tablelands Regional Council to be dismissed and an Administrator appointed is a very serious matter. Section 123 of the *Local Government Act 2009* states the dissolving of a democratically elected local government requires me to reasonably believe that the local government has seriously or continuously breached the local government principles, or is incapable of performing its responsibilities.

At this time, there is no evidence on which I might reasonably form such an opinion, and consequently, no justification to dissolve the Council. However, I would be open to the consideration of such evidence, should the petitioners who have brought this matter to the notice of the Parliament possess it.

Alternatively, I would encourage petitioners to engage with Council so as to inform and influence its decision making. Ultimately, the residents of the Tablelands Regional Council will pass judgement at the next Council election.

There has been concern expressed regarding the conduct and performance of councillors of the Council. Recently, I met with the Mayor and councillors to discuss improving Council's performance by keeping personalities out of its debates and focussing on the interests of the community. I will continue to monitor the situation.

If you require any further information, please contact Ms Jo Stephenson, Regional Director, Northern Region on (07) 4758 3420 or jo.stephenson@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 stylized and cursive.

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