



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

Our ref: MC14/3177

Your ref: 10.4 Petitions

10 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 28 August 2014 about petition 2299-14 received by the Legislative Assembly.

I acknowledge the request by the petitioners to change Gladstone Regional Council from an undivided to divided local government.

I am advised the Principal Petitioner of this petition is Mr Anthony Bridges, and he is the same petitioner located at the same address as the Principal Petitioner of 2246-14, and the request as stated on both petitions is the same.

For the petitioners' information, as previously advised, the *Local Government Act 2009* (the Act) provides the legislative framework for the making of local government changes and also establishes the Local Government Change Commission (Change Commission).

A request for changes to divisional representation of a local government requires a number of issues and interests to be addressed, including relevant consultation with the local government concerned and its community on the proposed changes.

At this time, I am not prepared to refer the petitioners' request for an internal boundary review of Gladstone Regional Council to the Change Commission for assessment.

The Act is very specific and identifies, regardless of whether a local government is divided or undivided, that all councillors have the responsibility to represent the current and future interest of residents for the whole local government area.

I again encourage the petitioners to raise their concerns on representation directly with the Mayor, Councillor Gail Sellers on (07) 4976 6903 or at mayor@gladstonerc.qld.gov.au.

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If you require any further information, please contact Ms Jennie O'Connor, Acting Regional Director, Southern Region on (07) 3452 6772 or jennie.o'connor@dlgcr.qld.gov.au, who will be pleased to assist.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'David Crisafulli', with a large, stylized initial 'D'.

David Crisafulli MP
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