



Minister for Local Government,  
Minister for Racing and  
Minister for Multicultural Affairs

Our ref: MC20/2796

Your ref: A559603

1 June 2020

Mr Neil Laurie  
The Clerk of the Parliament  
Queensland Parliamentary Service  
TableOffice@parliament.qld.gov.au

Dear Mr Laurie

Thank you for your letter of 21 May 2020 regarding petition number 3280-20, received by the Queensland Legislative Assembly on 19 May 2020, requesting the Queensland Government withdraw all public funding from the Local Government Association of Queensland Ltd (LGAQ).

I am advised that the funding provided to the LGAQ by the Queensland Government is provided under binding legal agreements which requires the LGAQ to either expend the funds for the purpose which they are granted or return any unspent funds to the relevant Government Agency.

The funds provided by the Queensland Government to the LGAQ includes funding for the following programs which deliver important community outcomes:

- Indigenous Vocational Education and Training Partnerships
- Queensland Water Regional Alliances Program
- Climate Change (Coastal Hazards) Adaptation Program.

Officers of the LGAQ are not Queensland Government employees and are not subject to the requirements and obligations imposed on public sector employees under the *Public Sector Ethics Act 1994*. Accordingly, if the petitioners claim that senior officers of the LGAQ have allegedly made statements that are injurious to them, it is suggested the petitioners consider obtaining independent legal advice.

I would like to thank the petitioners for raising this matter with me and I trust this information is of assistance.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Stirling".

**STIRLING HINCHLIFFE MP**  
**Minister for Local Government,**  
**Minister for Racing and**  
**Minister for Multicultural Affairs**

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