



Hon Steven Miles MP

Deputy Premier

Minister for State Development, Infrastructure,

Local Government and Planning

Minister Assisting the Premier on Olympics Infrastructure

Our ref: OUT22/703
Your ref: A829272

25 March 2022

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

TableOffice@parliament.qld.gov.au

Dear Mr Laurie

Thank you for your letter of 1 March 2022 regarding petition 3637-21 received by the Queensland Legislative Assembly on 22 February 2022 about preserving and stopping closure of 50 metre swimming pools.

I note the petitioner's specific concerns to:

- (1) provide proper funding to local and memorial swimming pools
- (2) stop downgrading local 50 metre swimming pools to 25 metre pools
- (3) properly recognise the benefits to the communities and lives saved by proper 50 metre swimming pools in local communities.

The Queensland Government is committed to supporting local governments across Queensland deliver services and infrastructure to local communities through funding programs like Works for Queensland, the Local Government Grants and Subsidies Program and Building our Regions.

The State recognises the benefits of swimming pools in keeping Queenslanders active and healthy. This is why the Queensland Government has invested more than \$60 million in swimming pool, splash park and aquatic centre related projects through programs like Works for Queensland across the State since 2015.

I note the petitioner's concern over transferring management of council-owned swimming pools to private entities, increasing costs and the size of local swimming pools. Councils are the level of government closest to their communities and have a strong understanding of local priorities and community needs and as such are best placed to make decisions about local facilities and services such as swimming pools.

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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 blue ink, appearing to read 'S. Miles', with a small dot at the end.

STEVEN MILES MP
DEPUTY PREMIER
Minister for State Development,
Infrastructure, Local Government and Planning
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