



**Hon Steven Miles MP**  
Deputy Premier  
Minister for State Development, Infrastructure,  
Local Government and Planning  
Minister Assisting the Premier on Olympic and Paralympic Games Infrastructure

Our ref: MC23/1070

Your ref: A1073690

**29 MAR 2023**

1 William Street  
Brisbane Queensland 4000  
PO Box 15009  
City East Queensland 4002  
**Telephone** + 61 3719 7100  
**Email** [deputy.premier@ministerial.qld.gov.au](mailto:deputy.premier@ministerial.qld.gov.au)  
**Website** [www.statedevelopment.qld.gov.au](http://www.statedevelopment.qld.gov.au)

ABN 65 959 415 158

Mr Neil Laurie  
The Clerk of the Parliament  
[TableOffice@parliament.qld.gov.au](mailto:TableOffice@parliament.qld.gov.au)

Dear Mr Laurie

Thank you for your letter of 15 March 2023 regarding petition Number 3841-22 received by the Queensland Legislative Assembly on 14 March 2023 about the dismissal of Councillor Greg Christensen, Mayor of the Scenic Rim Regional Council (the council) and the appointment of an Administrator.

While the *Local Government Act 2009* (the LGA) provides a mechanism for an individual councillor, including a mayor, to be dismissed from their role, the Queensland Government takes very seriously any intervention action with a local government and these powers are used judiciously. There is no intention to dismiss the mayor from his democratically elected role.

Further, an Interim Administrator is only appointed to act in place of councillors where a local government is dismissed or where every councillor is suspended. The current circumstances at the council do not trigger the appointment of an Interim Administrator.

As the petitioners may be aware, the Director-General of the Department of State Development, Infrastructure, Local Government and Planning (the department) appointed an Advisor to provide support to the council in areas such as governance and meeting procedures. The role of the Advisor is one of support and does not replace the councillors. The responsibility for decisions still rests with the council.

If the petitioners are dissatisfied with any decision made by the council, I would encourage them to raise their concerns with the council's Chief Executive Officer, Mr David Keenan at PO Box 25, Beaudesert Qld 4285 or by email at [mail@scenicrim.qld.gov.au](mailto:mail@scenicrim.qld.gov.au).

If any petitioner is dissatisfied with the council's response to their complaint, they can refer the decision to the Queensland Ombudsman for review. One of the functions of the Queensland Ombudsman is to investigate the administrative actions of local governments.

Complaints can be made to the Ombudsman at GPO Box 3314, Brisbane Qld 4001, or by using the online complaint form that can be found at [www.ombudsman.qld.gov.au](http://www.ombudsman.qld.gov.au). The Ombudsman's office can also be contacted on (07) 3005 7000 or toll-free (outside Brisbane) on 1800 068 908.

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 stylized flourish at the end.

**STEVEN MILES MP**  
**DEPUTY PREMIER**  
**Minister for State Development, Infrastructure,**  
**Local Government and Planning**  
**Minister Assisting the Premier on**  
**Olympic and Paralympic Games Infrastructure**