

MIN55915.04 – LAA9461

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

Dear Mr Laurie

I refer to a petition addressed to the Legislative Assembly of Queensland (No.392.04) requesting the rejection of any proposal to amalgamate Noosa Shire with other Councils on the Sunshine Coast.

I have responded directly to Mr Chandler and have attached a copy of my response for your information.

Yours sincerely

Desley Boyle MP
Minister for Environment
Minister for Local Government and Planning
Minister for Women
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Mr Stan Chandler
Unit 131, 71 St Andrews Drive
TEWANTIN QLD 4565

Dear Mr Chandler

The Clerk of the Parliament has forwarded me a copy of a petition lodged with the Queensland Legislative Assembly by Ms Cate Molloy MP, Member for Noosa, requesting the rejection of any proposal to amalgamate Noosa Shire with other Councils on the Sunshine Coast. As the Minister responsible for local government matters, the petition has been forwarded to me for attention. I note from the petition that you are the principal petitioner.

The contents of your petition have been noted, however I would advise that there is currently no proposal before the Government seeking to amalgamate Councils in the Sunshine Coast region.

Under the *Local Government Act 1993*, any changes to the boundaries of local governments are reviewable local government matters which must be subject to an independent review by a Local Government Electoral and Boundaries Review Commission (LGEBRC). To initiate such a review, I must issue a reference to the Electoral Commissioner of Queensland who would then constitute an LGEBRC to examine and determine the matter.

However, I have indicated that I would be unlikely to issue such a reference unless requested to do so by the Councils whose external boundaries are at issue.

Nevertheless, the Government is encouraging local governments to consider regional issues affecting their communities and consider options, including boundary changes, which would improve governance and service delivery.

Under the above circumstances, I would suggest that your petitioners make their views known to their local divisional representatives of Council.

I hope this information is helpful.

Yours sincerely

Desley Boyle MP
Minister for Environment
Minister for Local Government and Planning
Minister for Women