



Hon Andrew Fraser MP

Member for Mt Coot-tha

MC06.5242 - TPA 23816



**Queensland
Government**

**Minister for Local Government,
Planning and Sport**

Mr Neil Laurie
Clerk of the Parliament

TableOffice@parliament.qld.gov.au

Dear Neil

Thank you for providing me with a copy of the wording of petition no. 707-06 regarding Maroochy Shire Council's handling of water quality issues within Chancellor Park. I share the concerns of the principal petitioner regarding this matter, especially considering the artificial lakes are in close proximity to the Mooloolah National Park.

Officers of the Department of Local Government, Planning, Sport and Recreation have investigated what action is being taken by Council. Council's current actions include the following:


- Council is currently reviewing a number of possible solutions to address the issue. These solutions were outlined in a report tabled in the July 2006 Council meeting, which is available to the public. Other Council documents relating to this matter may need to be accessed by making an application under the *Freedom of Information Act 1992* (FOI Act). The FOI Act gives the community a right of access to documents held by local governments, subject only to limited exceptions;
- Council has advised it is committed to rectifying the water quality issues relating to the artificial lakes at Chancellor Park; and
- Council is currently taking necessary legal action against the developer to rectify the problem which may or may not include financial remuneration. The lawful decision to increase or impose a rates charge is a local government matter in which I cannot intervene. Of course, local governments must comply with the provisions of the *Local Government Act 1993* in reaching a decision about these matters.

As the regulation of development and enforcement of conditions of approval in the Maroochy area are primarily a Maroochy Shire Council responsibility, the petitioners should liaise directly with Council in relation to their concerns. Maroochy Shire Council may be contacted by telephone on 5475 8501 or by writing to The Chief Executive Officer, PO Box 76, Nambour QLD 4560.

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Should you require any further information in relation to this matter please contact Mr Michael Dart, Senior Advisor, of my office on telephone number 3224 7492.

Yours sincerely



ANDREW FRASER