

APPENDIX B

Minister's Referral



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

Our ref: MC19/803

26 MAR 2019

Mr Pat Vidgen PSM
Electoral Commissioner
Electoral Commission Queensland
GPO Box 1393
BRISBANE QLD 4001

1 William Street
Brisbane Queensland 4000
PO Box 15009
City East Queensland 4002
Telephone +61 7 3719 7560
Email lgrma@ministerial.qld.gov.au
Website www.dlgrma.qld.gov.au

ABN 65 959 415 158

Dear Pat

I am writing to you in relation to a Local Government electoral review that was undertaken by the Rockhampton Regional Council in preparation for the 2020 Local Government quadrennial elections.

I have received correspondence from Mr Evan Pardon, Chief Executive Officer of the Council dated 7 February 2019 advising that the review concluded that the number of electors in Divisions 2 and 4 of the Council is out of the quota of a reasonable proportion of electors as required by the *Local Government Act 2009* (the Act).

Section 18 of the Act provides that only I may apply to the Local Government Change Commission (Change Commission) for an assessment of a proposed Local Government change. Further, under section 19 of the Act, the Change Commission must consider whether the Local Government change is consistent with the Act and must consider my views on any proposed changes.

Having examined the Council's submission, I consider it appropriate to refer the matter to you for independent assessment and determination by the Change Commission. I recommend that in assessing the out of quota divisions, the Change Commission also considers the potential impacts of the proposed Local Government boundary change that I referred to it for assessment on 31 January 2019, thereby seeking to minimise the impact of possible successive divisional boundary changes on residents.

I have asked for Mr Daniel Westall, Manager, Governance, Local Government Division in the Department of Local Government, Racing and Multicultural Affairs to assist you with any further queries. You may wish to contact Mr Westall on [REDACTED] or by email at [REDACTED].

Yours sincerely

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