

Honourable Deb Frecklington MP Attorney-General and Minister for Justice Minister for Integrity

23 JUL 2025

Our ref: 618823/1, 7437322

Your ref: 4249-25

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Mr Neil Laurie The Clerk of the Parliament Parliament House George Street BRISBANE QLD 4000

Dear Mr Laurie

I refer to e-Petition 4249-25 tabled in the Legislative Assembly on 24 June 2025 titled Continued funding for the Environmental Defenders Office (EDO).

I acknowledge the vital role of the legal assistance sector and the significant contribution of its staff and volunteers in delivering critical support to vulnerable and disadvantaged Queenslanders.

The former Labor Government provided limited-term funding to EDO, which expired on 30 June 2025. No additional funding was budgeted beyond this period of time. The Crisafulli Government has honoured its pre-election commitment by maintaining EDO's funding agreement until its expiration on 30 June 2025.

I am advised that EDO continues to receive funding from the Federal Government.

The Crisafulli Government has delivered a \$142 million uplift to the legal assistance sector to ensure that Queenslanders, particularly those experiencing domestic and family violence, homelessness, or who are victims of crime, have access to high-quality, timely legal assistance. This addressed a funding cliff left by the former Labor Government and allowed Queensland to access nearly a billion dollars in Commonwealth funding for the sector.

I thank the petitioners for bringing their concerns to the attention of the House.

Yours sincerely

DEB FRECKLINGTON MP

Attorney-General and Minister for Justice

Minister for Integrity