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Mr Neil Laurie
The Clerk of the Parliament
Parliament House
Email: tableoffice@parliament.qld.gov.au

Dear Mr Laurie

Thank you for your email dated 14 October 2025 regarding Petition No. 4231-25 in relation to requests to 'Restore or Replace the Dean Street Footbridge' adjacent to the Red Hill Special School, received by the Queensland Legislative Assembly.

The Crisafulli Government is committed to maintaining and strengthening relationships between schools and their local communities, including neighbouring residents.

The Department of Education is delivering a project to amalgamate the Red Hill Special School's Waterworks Road campus and Ithaca campus into one site at its Ithaca campus site (formerly Ithaca TAFE) at Fulcher Road, Red Hill. Through the project's consultation process, the department became aware that members of the community were under the impression that the pedestrian bridge would be rebuilt with funding from the State Government and/or Brisbane City Council (Council).

I understand that in April 2024, Ms Jonty Bush MP, Member for Cooper, wrote to residents in the surrounding area advising that she had been able to secure the funding and commitment from the State Government to rebuild the pedestrian bridge. I am advised that the rebuilding of the pedestrian bridge, which is located outside the department's site, was never included in the scope of works for the campus amalgamation project by the former Labor Government, and no funding was ever allocated by the former government to rebuild the pedestrian bridge.

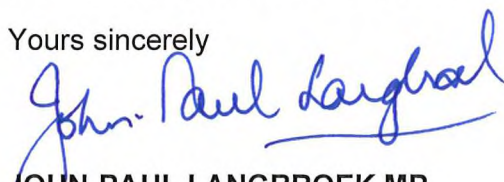
During the consultation process, the department committed to providing a walkway route around the outside of the school fence, linking Dean Street to Ithaca Creek. I can confirm this work will be delivered as part of the campus amalgamation project.

The department closed access to the bridge in January 2024, following receipt of an engineer's report which found the footbridge to be structurally unsound and unsafe for community use. The engineer's report noted that the structure, in particular the severely degraded decking and excessive deflection under the load of a single person, is in poor condition and it is not considered economically viable to extend the useful life of the footbridge. The department is currently seeking development approval from Council to remove the bridge.

I am advised an alternate footbridge available for community use is located at the end of Lugg Street and Jason Street, approximately 300 metres away from the closed Dean Street footbridge. The local community is encouraged to use this alternate footbridge to access the Ithaca Creek corridor.

I would like to thank you, the principal petitioner, and every person who signed the petition for their advocacy for Red Hill Special School.

Yours sincerely



JOHN-PAUL LANGBROEK MP
Minister for Education and the Arts