

Minister for Local Government
and Water and Minister for Fire,
Disaster Recovery and Volunteers

DELIVERING
FOR QUEENSLAND



Our ref: 23072/25

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14 NOV 2025

Mr Neil Laurie
The Clerk of the Parliament
Parliament House
Corner of Alice and George Streets
BRISBANE QLD 4000

TableOffice@parliament.qld.gov.au

Dear Mr Laurie

Thank you for your email dated 15 October 2025, regarding Parliamentary Petition 4310-25 and 4281-25 concerning the Western Downs Regional Council to ask residents whether Thomas Jack Park should host large buildings.

I acknowledge the concerns regarding the opposition to the council's decision on the Dalby Cultural Centre. While this has generated robust debate across the community, this is a council decision and not one in which the Queensland Government can intervene or compel council. Under the current legislative arrangements, the Queensland Government cannot direct a council in matters such as the delivery of infrastructure projects or how general community engagement is undertaken.

Concerns regarding consultation with the public undertaken to date, or other decisions or actions related to the project, can be raised through a formal complaint to the council's Chief Executive Officer, Mrs Jodie Taylor at PO Box 551, Dalby Qld 4405 or by submitting the administrative action complaints form by email to info@wdrc.qld.gov.au. The form can be found at the managing complaints page of the council's website at www.wdrc.qld.gov.au. The petitioners may also wish to contact their local councillor to discuss the park's redevelopment.

If the petitioners choose to lodge a formal complaint and remain dissatisfied with the council's response, it can then be referred to the Queensland Ombudsman for further investigation. In Queensland, the Office of the Ombudsman has been established independent of the government to investigate complaints about operational matters of this nature. Complaints can be made to the Ombudsman at GPO Box 3314, Brisbane Qld, 4001 or by using the online complaint form that can be found at www.ombudsman.qld.gov.au. The Ombudsman's office can also be contacted on (07) 3005 7000.

I would like to thank the petitioners for raising this matter with me and I trust this information is of assistance.

Yours sincerely

ANN LEAHY MP
Minister for Local Government and Water
Minister for Fire, Disaster Recovery and Volunteers