

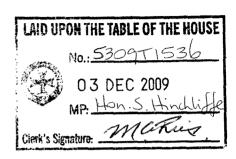


Minister for Infrastructure and Planning

Our ref: 09/36962

n 3 DEC 2009

Mr Neil Laurie Clerk of the Parliament Parliament House George Street Brisbane QLD 36962



Dear Mr Laurie

Thank you for your letter of 29 October 2009 about petition number 1328-09.

A representative from my office and from the Department of Infrastructure and Planning met with the Member for Nicklin, Peter Wellington MP to discuss similar concerns raised in the petition, no. 1329-09 for the Sunshine Coast region.

I understand that the matters raised by the Member for Nicklin are largely a local planning matter for Council. Currently, under the Sunshine Coast Regional Council's planning schemes for the old Maroochy Shire, there are no development assessment codes that exist specifically for a low impact Community Hospice. As such, applications submitted for an impact assessment under the old Maroochy Shire Council's planning scheme, thus proceeding through public notification as part of the process.

There are numerous options available to Council to address local planning matters such as this. One such option is for Council to amend their local planning scheme to introduce a code that specifically addresses a low impact Community Hospice development. I am advised that some councils in Queensland already have introduced this into their planning schemes to address their own local community needs.

As a way forward, the State Government has committed to engaging with the Council to explore the most suitable options available to address this issue for the Sunshine Coast area. Further actions must be undertaken before a resolution can be identified.

In the interim, if you require any information or wish to provide further material to the Department, please contact Ms Amy Marsden, Director, Planning Services Division, Local Government and Planning Group, Department of Infrastructure and Planning on 32379968 who will be pleased to assist.

Your sincerely

Stirling Hinchliffe MP

Minister for Infrastructure and Planning