



Hon Desley Boyle MP
Member for Cairns

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LA/10/2333

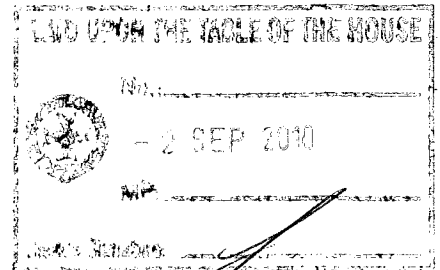
01 SEP 2010

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



Queensland
Government

Minister for Local Government and
Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander
Partnerships



Dear Mr Laurie

Thank you for your letter of 4 August 2010 concerning petition 1478-10 regarding the provision of parents' pram parking in Hervey Bay at shopping centres and along the Esplanade within the Fraser Coast Regional Council Local Government Area.

The location, number and type of parking facilities in public areas or on new developments remain a decision of individual Local Governments. Local Governments are charged with taking independent action on a wide range of matters necessary for ensuring the good rule and government of their areas. As such, each Local Government is responsible for how it deals with these matters.

As the Minister for Local Government, I have limited powers under the *Local Government Act 2009* to direct or intervene in respect to this matter.

A State wide policy at this detailed level of planning would not be practical to implement across all Local Government areas in Queensland and would remove Local Governments' ability to respond to the changing population dynamics of their communities.

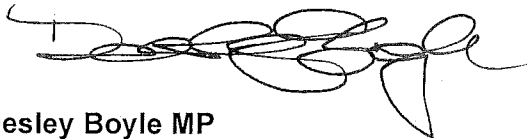
In reference to the request for additional parents' parking bays in existing shopping centres, there are no legislative provisions which can retrospectively require existing approved shopping centres to provide extra car parking bays for parents with prams. Any changes to the configuration of these existing parking bays would need to be discussed with the centre's management or owners of the complex.

I can confirm that officers of the Department of Infrastructure and Planning have also sought further information from the Fraser Coast Regional Council on this matter. Senior Council officers have advised that Council would consider, on merit, requests for future pram enabled parking. These requests should be made in writing to the Chief Executive Officer, Fraser Coast Regional Council at PO Box 1943, Hervey Bay QLD 4655, and would be considered in accordance with appropriate parking requirements and within Council's budgetary considerations.

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Should you require any further information in relation to this matter, please contact Mr Lachlan McKenzie, Policy Advisor of my office on 3227 8819.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Desley Boyle', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Desley Boyle MP
Minister for Local Government and
Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Partnerships
Member for Cairns