



Hon Paul Lucas MP



Queensland  
Government

Our ref: MC11/1455  
LG/11/0973

Deputy Premier and Attorney-General  
Minister for Local Government and  
Special Minister of State

Your ref: Petitions

09 MAY 2011

Mr Neil Laurie  
The Clerk of the Parliament  
Parliament House  
Cnr Alice and George Sts  
Brisbane QLD 4000

Dear Mr Laurie

Thank you for your letter of 8 April 2011 about petition 1607-11, the Mount Morgan, Tipperary Point to Redhill suspension bridge and the request for financial and in kind support to the Rockhampton Regional Council to rebuild the Swinging Bridge as a functioning walkway.

I have been advised that the former Minister for Climate Change and Sustainability, the Honourable Kate Jones MP, has already provided funding of \$50 000 to assist Council in assessing the most viable and favourable option. Subsequently, Council had engaged a consultant to prepare a report against various qualitative and quantitative criteria. The options below were assessed:

- do nothing so that there would be no remaining evidence of a swinging bridge
- restore and or retain bridge, or parts, as historical artefacts
- restore and or reconstruct a new trafficable bridge.

Council has indicated that it proposes to present the three options to the Mount Morgan community with the estimated cost of each of the options in the near future. I encourage Mr Richard Needham, Principal Petitioner, to contact Mr Evan Pardon, Chief Executive Officer, Rockhampton Regional Council on 49368278 on the preferred option.

In addition, my Department will shortly release details of the Local Government Grants and Subsidies Program, which will enable Local Governments throughout Queensland to make an application for funding for its priority projects. Local Governments will also need to demonstrate that it has limited capacity to fund the necessary community infrastructure.

I trust this information is of assistance.

Yours sincerely

**PAUL LUCAS MP**  
**Deputy Premier and Attorney-General,**  
**Minister for Local Government**  
**and Special Minister of State**

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