



King Island Council

Media Release

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MINISTER RESPONDS TO MS MUNRO

The Minister for Planning and Local Government has responded to community concerns about the King Island Council as alleged by Ms Jill Munro.

Minister, Peter Gutwein MP, has advised both Council and Ms Munro that he is satisfied that Council's responses satisfactorily address the claims made and that "the concerns relate to operational or policy decisions and do not appear to indicate significant dysfunction in Council".

Mayor Duncan McFie welcomed the Minister's response and emphasised the importance placed by the Minister on the need for Ms Munro to engage directly with both himself and the Acting General Manager.

The Minister had previously encouraged "King Island community members who hold concerns about their Council's performance and decision making to raise them directly with elected members in an open, transparent and constructive way." He had also advised that "any move to dismiss a democratically elected council should only be considered as a last resort."

The Minister acknowledged that he was "aware that the publicity associated with the petition may be challenging the Council's ability to recruit a new General Manager" and that the "appointment will be crucial to the Council's operations and communication with the community".

Councillors were implored by the Minister to carefully consider community feedback and respond through transparent decision-making in accordance with governance obligations.

"Mr Ball and I are both available for Ms Munro and any other resident, either jointly or individually, to discuss matters of concern" said Mayor McFie. An appointment can be arranged by contacting Council's Executive Assistant on 03 6462 9000.