



**Hon David Templeman MLA**  
**Minister for Local Government; Heritage; Culture and the Arts**

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Our Ref: 66-02249

Hon Matthew Swinbourn MLC  
Chair – Standing Committee on Environment and Public Affairs  
[env@parliament.wa.gov.au](mailto:env@parliament.wa.gov.au)

Dear Mr Swinbourn

Thank you for your correspondence dated 17 August 2017 requesting my comments on Petition No. 11 – Wave Park, Alfred Cove.

I am advised that the approval of the ground lease by the City of Melville council, with various terms and conditions, was the first step in the process of approval for the proposed Wave Park.

A development application will need to be lodged with the Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions (DBCA), which will then be published on its website. The public will have a chance to comment on the application, and advice may be sought from other Government departments, before a draft report, containing the DBCA's recommendation, is prepared. I understand that this report will also be made publicly available and feedback sought, before the final report, with recommendation, is provided to the Minister for Environment.

The issues raised by the petitioners are primarily the responsibility of the Minister for Environment and the Minister for Planning, who I trust have also been contacted by the Committee.

The *Local Government Act 1995* creates local governments as autonomous bodies, able to make decisions believed to be in the best interests of the community. As the Minister for Local Government, I do not have the authority to intervene in lawful council decisions.

While there has been considerable community interest in this proposal, there is a legitimate assessment process to be followed, in which many of the petitioners' concerns will be considered. Pre-emptive intervention in this process would not be in the public interest, if the State does indeed have the power to do so.

I thank you for the opportunity to comment on this matter and trust this information is of assistance.

Yours sincerely

HON DAVID TEMPLEMAN MLA  
**MINISTER FOR LOCAL GOVERNMENT;  
HERITAGE; CULTURE AND THE ARTS**

7 SEP 2017