



**THE HON PETER DUTTON MP
MINISTER FOR IMMIGRATION
AND BORDER PROTECTION**

Ref No: MC17-017059

Mayor David O'Loughlin
Australian Local Government Association
8 Geils Court
DEAKIN ACT 2600

Dear Mayor O'Loughlin

Thank you for your correspondence of 22 August 2017 concerning the migration related resolution following the National General Assembly of Local Government. I appreciate the time you have taken to bring this matter to my attention. I apologise for the delay in responding.

Australia has well managed and targeted migration programmes that are designed to meet our social and economic needs. The programmes are directed toward supporting and enhancing Australia's national prosperity and social cohesion.

Every five years, the Australian Government produces an Intergenerational Report which looks 40 years into the future. It assesses the long-term sustainability of current Government policies, and how changes to Australia's population size and age profile may impact economic growth, workforce and public finances. It also examines the policy settings required to promote jobs, growth and opportunity and ensure that Australians continue to enjoy high living standards in the future.

The Government has made improving the livability, accessibility and productivity of our cities and regions a priority under its national economic plan. Through the Government's \$75 billion investment in infrastructure over the next ten years, and through the Smart Cities Plan, the Government is working closely with state, territory and local governments to ensure infrastructure planning and investment is aligned across all levels of government, keeps pace with demand and meets the needs of our changing population size and distribution.

Australia's Migration Programme plays a significant role in Australia's shaping population. Migration is designed to balance our social and economic needs with those of our natural and built environments. As part of current planning arrangements, the Government seeks the views of the public and stakeholders through various avenues and analyses a broad range of evidence, including the impact our migration has on programmes, on Australia's population, net overseas migration and long-term demographic trends.

The Government is committed to continually improving our migration planning and design process to support a strong economy and cohesive society into the future. I look forward to continuing to work with all levels of government, including local government, to ensure our migration planning framework is fit for purpose in the years ahead and is focussed on delivering benefits to Australia.

Please note that Resolution Number 40 regarding refugee settlement falls under the portfolio responsibilities of the Minister for Social Services.

Thank you for bringing this matter to my attention.

Yours sincerely



PETER DUTTON

19/10/17