

23 March 2017

Hon D J Kelly MLA  
Minister for Water  
8<sup>th</sup> Floor, Dumas House  
WEST PERTH WA 6005

Dear Minister

#### Busselton Water Growth Plan

I am writing to you seeking support for the progress of Busselton Water's Growth Plan as supported at a cabinet level by the previous Liberal National Government and Minister for Water. A decision which supports Busselton Water's proposal is to transfer the Dunsborough Water Scheme and Busselton's drainage management from Water Corporation to Busselton Water.

This proposal involves the merger of the Busselton and Dunsborough Water Supply Schemes to achieve a wide range of benefits which includes water which is currently heavily treated at the Quindalup water treatment plant for public consumption, utilised instead for irrigation. I understand re-purposing existing Dunsborough source and treatment assets to create a non-potable water supply for Dunsborough could also incorporate wastewater re-use which would be an ideal outcome into the future. This proposal to provide non-potable water for public open space in Dunsborough, Dunsborough Lakes Golf Club, Dunsborough Districts Country Club and local primary schools will address outstanding community concern regarding the exhausted local bores in the region.

There are currently 530 kilometres of drains in the area and Busselton Water has a new plan for managing these. Improving the water quality in the drains opens up a whole raft of opportunity like the potential for more production from our farms, increasing biodiversity and the potential to create new and attractive parks and spaces for the community including interlinking urban communities.

It would also support the growth of this business, which potentially means more jobs in the region and a stronger, more sustainable Government service provider in the local economy. Income generated in Busselton will stay in the South West and be re-invested to suit our local needs.

Unit 2 16 Prince Street  
Busselton WA 6280  
PO Box 516  
Busselton WA 6280

(08) 9752 1949

[libby.mettam@mp.wa.gov.au](mailto:libby.mettam@mp.wa.gov.au)

..2/



2.

As Chair of the Vasse Taskforce, I am very aware of the big challenges the region faces with water quality in our local waterways, wetlands and Geographe Bay. This will also mean improvements to the water quality in the drainage system which feeds these waterways as well as directly engaging the community in their management. The drainage system would continue to be managed for flood protection but will also look at greater community access and recreational activities in the future.

In light of this I encourage you to support the existing commitment to see the progression of the Busselton Water Growth Strategy as a priority. I look forward to your response to this important issue.

Kind regards



**Libby Mettam MLA**  
**MEMBER FOR VASSE**