



THE HON BEN MORTON MP  
ASSISTANT MINISTER TO THE PRIME MINISTER AND CABINET

Reference: MC20-131038

Councillor Lara Carli  
Mayor  
City of Melton  
PO Box 21  
MELTON VIC 3337

Dear Mayor

Thank you for your letter dated 13 August 2020 to the Prime Minister, the Hon Scott Morrison MP, regarding the role of local government in Australia's intergovernmental architecture. The Prime Minister has asked me to respond on his behalf. I apologise for the delay in responding.

The Prime Minister has written to the President of the Australian Local Government Association (ALGA), Mayor David O'Loughlin, confirming the decision of National Cabinet on 29 May 2020 to continue the National Cabinet, form the National Federation Reform Council (NFRC) and cease the Council of Australian Governments (COAG).

Under the new model, National Cabinet, the Council on Federal Financial Relations and ALGA will meet in person once a year as the NFRC, with a focus on priority national federation issues such as Indigenous affairs and women's safety. ALGA has made an important contribution through COAG for many years, and the Prime Minister looks forward to this continuing under the new NFRC.

I have copied this letter to the Minister for Regional Health, Regional Communications and Local Government, the Hon Mark Coulton MP, and Senator for Victoria, Senator the Hon Sarah Henderson.

Thank you for writing to the Prime Minister.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to be 'Ben Morton', written in a cursive style.

**BEN MORTON**

11 / 9 / 2020