



Dale Last MP
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Media Release – Minister’s excuses dry up on creek delays

Member for Burdekin Dale Last says the Minister’s excuses for the delays on the upgrades to Alligator Creek Visitor Area had dried up after it was revealed the re-opening had been pushed out to more than a year after it first closed.

Mr Last said the project should have been something to look forward to for the community but instead had caused frustrations among locals and tourists in the Townsville area looking to access the popular swimming spot.

“From the start of this project the Minister has demonstrated this community’s interest in the visitor area did not matter,” Mr Last said.

“We saw the lack of consultation with park users around camping at the facility and now we are seeing the finish date for this project delayed again.

“The Alligator Creek area is one of Townsville’s closest natural swimming spots and is a favourite among locals but more importantly it’s a tourist attraction and now is when locals and tourists are eager to access it.”

“We have already missed out on the potential to draw visitors over the summer school holidays to the area and now, as quickly as the project re-opening was promised to be in time for the Easter school holidays, we see the rug ripped out from under us again.”

Mr Last said with the project now having dragged out for well over a year from when it first started, the Minister needed to front up with some actual answers as to why it had taken so long.

“We are talking about an investment of well over \$1million in funding to upgrade facilities at the park and we are still waiting to see the final product,” Mr Last said.

“In March last year we were promised the project would be done by July, then December, then the end of March 2022, now we are hearing the park won’t re-open until the end of May and that’s not good enough.”

“People are rightly frustrated at the situation and once again we are left waiting for a response from the Minister as to why a project that was originally supposed to have been open and in full use to the public by now, remains behind closed gates.”

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