



8 March 2021

**MEDIA RELEASE**

## **Tide is out for poorly handled projects**

Burdekin MP Dale Last has warned the tide is out on Molongle Creek and so is the community's patience over two vital projects he says have been 'poorly handled' from the start.

After highly anticipated dredging work suddenly stopped at Molongle Creek to repair cyclone damage Mr Last said he wrote to Whitsunday Regional Council.

*"The response I received stated that the 'ceasing of the dredging activity has occurred for a number of reasons, most of which are commercial' and went on to say that these reasons could not be revealed as they were commercial-in-confidence," Mr Last said.*

It is not the only dredging work that was to be completed at the site with a project to complete All Tide Access for the more than 200 hut owners and tourists promised in the 2017 State Election.

*"This maintenance dredging was to commence, according to the Premier, on 2nd July 2019 and the All Tide Access project was supposed to be completed by now."*

*"Whitsunday Regional Council also refers to the tri-party agreement and that, due to the fact that agreement has commenced, TMR (Transport and Main Roads) 'have the responsibility of dredging the channel'."*

*"I must say that this is different to what was previously advised, namely that Whitsunday Regional Council were responsible for the maintenance dredging," Mr Last said.*

Mr Last said he had fielded multiple calls to his office from frustrated hut owners and locals who had simply had a gut full.

*"Since receiving that reply, I have contacted the Regional Director of TMR asking when the maintenance dredging and the dredging relating to the All Tide Access projects will commence."*

*"Our community has waited long enough and deserve to know when these projects will be completed."*

**ENDS** - Media Contact: Mikayla Mayoh 07 47670500 or 0488195127