



URANA SHIRE COUNCIL

ABN 25 195 569 377

Telephone: (02) 6930 9100
Facsimile: (02) 6930 9101
Email: mail@urana.nsw.gov.au

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All Communications to be addressed
to the General Manager
PO BOX 55 URANA NSW 2645

Ref:54:LA

13th February 2013

Committee Secretary
Joint Standing Committee on Constitutional Recognition of Local Government
Department of House of Representatives.
PO Box 6021
Parliament House
CANBERRA ACT 2601

Submission Number: 239
Date Received: 18/02/2013



Dear Sir,

SUBMISSION - CONSTITUTIONAL RECOGNITION OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT

Council thanks you for the invitation and opportunity to forward a Submission on the important subject of Constitutional Recognition of Local Government.

The Urana Shire Council has long been a supporter of Constitutional Recognition, believing it to be a high priority in terms of securing the long term sustainability of Local Government. At its recent February 2013, unanimously resolved to make submission on the Constitutional Recognition of Local Government.

Council is strongly of the view that:

- Local Government should be recognised in the preamble of the Australian Constitution.
- The Federal Government should be able to fund Local Government directly without the additional bureaucratic burden of passing the funds through the States for programs of national significance. To this end Section 96 of the Constitution should be amended to allow direct funding of Local government.
- A referendum should only proceed if there is strong bi-partisan political support for the proposal.
- Council supports a publicly funded national education and awareness campaign to inform the community about the proposed changes.

For any enquiries please contact the undersigned at the Urana Shire Council office.

Yours faithfully,

LEIGH ASHFORD
ACTING GENERAL MANAGER