

**Read, Shane (REPS)**

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**From:** Vern McKay [Vern.McKay@manjimup.wa.gov.au]  
**Sent:** Thursday, 5 September 2002 1:14 PM  
**To:** efpa.reps@aph.gov.au  
**Subject:** INQUIRY INTO LOCAL GOVERNMENT AND COST SHIFTING

I refer to my previous submission to the inquiry which I emailed on 7 August 2002.

In that submission (and with respect to item 4 of the Terms of Reference) I advised the inquiry of additional costs imposed on the Shire of Manjimup through "Withdrawal of State support for Tourist Bureaus (4 in Manjimup) requiring additional direct and indirect support from LG" at an estimated annual cost of \$20,000.

When that State funding was withdrawn approximately 3 years ago, the State argued that the funding was being redirected into Regional Tourist Associations (RTAs) for marketing purposes. The RTA covering our area is Tourism South West which receives funding of approximately \$240,000 per annum from the State Tourism Commission (WATC).

During the last week the Tourist South West Board has been asked to sign off on a funding agreement with the State which will reduce funding from \$240,000 to around \$120,000 (a 50% reduction). The State's argument now is that Local Government should contribute the other 50% (\$120,000). For Manjimup this could mean a further contribution of around \$20,000 pa. The application of this policy across the State of WA could involve cost of several million dollars.

This is another clear example of the WA State Government endeavouring to shift costs to Local Government.

It would be appreciated if this information could be brought to the attention of the Inquiry Committee.

Yours sincerely

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House of representatives Standing Committee on Economics, Finance and Public Administration	
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Date Received:	10/9/02
Secretary:	<i>Bardell</i>

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**Thankyou.**

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