

JOHN H. BLACK, FCPA

PO Box 1766

PORT MACQUARIE NSW 2444

5 July 2002

House of Representatives Standing Committee on Economics, Finance and Public Administration	
Submission No:	22
Date Received:	17/7/02
Secretary:	Burdell

The Secretary
HR Standing Committee on Economics
Finance and Public Administration

Dear Sir/Madam,

I would like to make a submission to the Committee on its Inquiry into Cost Shifting on to Local Government.

I only have a general knowledge of local government activities, but am concerned about the number of judicial inquiries into the administration of their activities. The recent findings from the Rockdale Council inquiry leave me concerned that stricter management controls are necessary.

Rather than waiting for a problem to arise and have it investigated by a formal inquiry, I believe that the administration of all management activities at each council should be subjected to an efficiency review once during the life of each council.

I do not see the review as a second audit but as a high level review of governance and the correct management of resources, to prevent misuse of funds provided by governments and ratepayers. The report on the review should be sent to each ratepayer within 3 months of the council election date.

Yours sincerely,

J. Black

(J. H. BLACK)