

**Read, Shane (REPS)**

**From:** Cr Murray Elliott [murraye@Redland.qld.gov.au]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, 9 July 2002 1:05 PM  
**To:** 'efpa.reps@aph.gov.au'  
**Subject:** Inquiry Into Local Government And Cost Shifting

**Importance:** High  
**Sensitivity:** Confidential

House of representatives Standing Committee on Economics, Finance and Public Administration	
Submission No: .....	25
Date Received: .....	19/7/02
Secretary: .....	Bardell

Mr David Hawker MP,

Dear Sir,

With reference to the above inquiry I would like to submit the following submission.

Presently the Australian community is administered by 3 levels of government structure which should as soon as possible be reduced to 2 ,namely Federal and local . There does not need to be a recognition of local government in councils as I feel this would only encourage party politics to happen. It works well as it is .Redland Shire councils budget is \$125million and we have no problems at all.

Indicated below is the present structure followed by my proposed layout.

Federal gov covers telecommunications ,postal services,foreign affairs, immigration,pensions ,customs ,defence and trade.

State Gov has public hospitals ,conservation ,fire brigades,main roads,ambulances,education,railways and police.

Local Gov (in QLD.) has water supply,sewerage disposal,waste management,garbage collection,building approvals,animal & pest control,planning,local roads,childcare and libraries.

The feds could easily add in the state responsibly of public hospitals,conservation (policy),education ,railways and police( a local police force like America is not the solution.)The rest could be done by the local councils standing on their ears.Presently we have difficulties with the state Gov on issues of planning law, noise jurisitition,pest management ,local road funding issues , environment and compliance .

If local councils and the feds had 2 clear lines of demarcation, residents would easily be able to see who was not doing there job.Presently the local councils point the finger at the state and then they in turn point to the feds and nothing happens or happens very slowly.

Only last week our 6 monthly meeting with our 2 local federal members indicated that the state would not make a decision or would not play the game. This was on 3 out 5 items on the agenda to discuss.The amount of funds used by this duplication process would fund a huge amount of projects across the nation.

It's high time that there was standardisation across the nation in everything from planning to police.This confusion causes great costs to all who use and pay for the system.

Kind Regards  
Cr. Murray Elliott  
0418 780 824. 3829 8629.