



House of representatives Standing Committee on
Economics, Finance and Public Administration

Submission No: 227

Date Received:

Secretary: *Burdell*

RH:HS
Ref: G/00011

Enq: Peter Vlatko
Ph: 8366 9247

13 August 2002

Mr T Rowe
The Secretary
House of Representatives
Economics, Finance and
Public Administration Committee
Parliament House
CANBERRA ACT 2601

Dear Mr Rowe

RE: INQUIRY INTO LOCAL GOVERNMENT RESPONSIBILITY AND FUNDING

The City of Campbelltown is aware that, per capita, South Australian Councils receive the lowest level of State funding in Australia. With the additional responsibilities imposed on Local Government over the past twenty years this has meant declining expenditure on maintenance and renewal of infrastructure and an ever increasing reliance on income from municipal rates.

Additional responsibilities have arisen from the transfer of functions from other Governments, new compliance standards or increased community expectations. The most recent example is the dramatic cut in funding for Crime Prevention (\$1.4 million to \$600,000) at a time when most Councils have just managed to establish programs and the community expectation is high.

It is the view of this Council that not only is additional funding required to restore the balance but guarantees must be given that any further transfers of responsibilities are accompanied by new funding opportunities.

For these reasons and the more detailed examples contained in the submissions, the City of Campbelltown endorses the submissions from the Local Government Association of South Australia and the Australian local Government Association in the inquiry.

Yours sincerely

**PETER VLATKO
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER**