



Lockhart Shire Council

File Ref: CG: CD: S20-040

O:\2012-13\General Manager\S20-040\Ltr 1130 Mr G Worthington re Financial Recognition for Local Government.docx

30 November 2012

Submission Number: 71
Date Received: 06/12/2012

Mr G Worthington
Secretary
Joint Select Committee on the Constitutional Recognition of Local Government
PO Box 6021
Parliament House
CANBERRA ACT 2601

Dear Mr Worthington

This letter is to reaffirm that Lockhart Shire Council fully supports the inclusion of financial recognition for Local Government in the Australian Constitution.

Further Council supports:

- The Federal Government having the power to be able to provide funding directly to local government where this is in the national interest;
- Council needs certainty of funding so that programs like Roads to Recovery can continue;
- Council supports an amendment to Section 96 of the Constitution so that it would read: "Parliament may grant financial assistance to any state or local government body formed by or under a law of the state ore territory";
- Bi-partisan support is an essential precondition if a referendum is to have the best chance of success;
- Council supports the referendum being held at a time which maximises its chance of success;
- Council supports a publicly funded national education and awareness campaign to inform the public about the Constitution, how to change it, and about the question being asked before the referendum. An informed voter is more likely to cast an informed vote, which is based on facts rather than misinformation.

Please let me know if you require any further information.

Yours faithfully

Chris Gallagher
GENERAL MANAGER