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23 January 2013

Mr Glen Worthington, Committee Secretary
Joint Standing Committee on the Constitutional Recognition of Local Government
Department of House of Representatives
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Parliament House
CANBERRA ACT 2600

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Dear Sir

RE: *Inquiry into the Constitutional Recognition of Local Government*

On behalf of the Shire of Broome, I wish to advise of Council's support for Constitutional Recognition of Local Government.

The Shire of Broome supports financial recognition in addition to the Federal Government having the power to be able to provide funding directly to Local Government where this is in the national interest. Further to this, certainty in the continuity of funding programs such as 'Roads to Recovery' is essential for Long Term Financial Planning by the sector.

The Shire supports an amendment to Section 96 of the Constitution so that is to read, "Parliament may grant financial assistance to any state **or local government body formed by or under a law of a state or territory**".

Further, please find following a Council resolution passed at the Ordinary meeting of Council held on 14 April 2011:

That Council:

- 1. Supports the ALGA campaign for the Constitutional recognition of local government***
- 2. Calls on the Federal Government to conduct a referendum to achieve the Constitutional recognition of local government at the 2013 federal election***

- 3. Develops a local level campaign, in support of the national campaign, to inform the local community and garner its support**
- 4. Acknowledges that funding implications need to be considered as part of the ongoing financial planning process.**

It is essential that any future referendum on this matter has bi-partisan support and an extensive media campaign to ensure voters are informed on this important issue.

Should you have any further queries please do not hesitate to contact the undersigned on

Yours faithfully

KR Donohoe
Chief Executive Officer