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21 January 2013

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

Email: jsclg@aph.gov.au

Dear Mr Worthington

### **Constitutional Recognition of Local Government**

Byron Shire Council considered this matter at its Ordinary Meeting of 20 December 2012 and resolved as follows:

**"12-1009 Resolved** that Council reinforce its support for the constitutional recognition of Councils by sending a submission that supports:

1. Financial recognition.
2. The Federal Government having power to provide funding directly to Local Government where it is in the national interest.
3. Needing certainty of funding for programs such as Roads to Recovery, an amendment to 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 State or Territory."*

4. The need for cross-party support as an essential pre-condition if a referendum is to have the best chance of success.
5. That a referendum is held at the time that maximises the best chance of success for a public funded national education and awareness campaign to inform the public about the Constitution, about how to change it, and about the question being asked before the referendum. This is to enable a voter to be able to vote on facts rather than misinformation."

I trust that you will take this submission into consideration and look forward to hearing the outcomes of the Committee's findings.

Yours sincerely

Ray Darney  
Acting General Manager

ALL COMMUNICATIONS TO BE ADDRESSED TO THE GENERAL MANAGER

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