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# COROWA SHIRE COUNCIL

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REFERENCE:BJC:MTH - 22  
 CONTACT: MR BRUCE CORCORAN  
 2002/1190

29 August, 2002

Secretary  
 Parliamentary Joint Committee on  
 Corporations and Financial Services  
 Room SG.64  
 Parliament House  
 CANBERRA ACT 2600



Dear Madam

RE: **INQUIRY INTO THE LEVEL OF BANKING AND FINANCIAL SERVICES  
 IN RURAL, REGIONAL AND REMOTE AREAS OF AUSTRALIA**

Council would like to thank you for the opportunity to provide a submission to the inquiry into banking and financial services in rural, regional and remote areas of Australia.

Corowa Shire Council is situated on the Murray River in southern NSW. Corowa Shire Council is a predominantly rural Council with two major urban centres being Corowa with a population of 5,300 and Mulwala with a population of approximately 1,700. The total population of the Shire is 8,500.

The town of Corowa has adequate banking services provided by all the major banks. These services are provided through normal banking outlets however there has been a move in recent times to provide banking services through in-store facilities.

There is currently one of these in-store operations provided and from all reports is providing the services required by the customers of this banking outlet.

Mulwala, being the other major urban centre within the Shire, does not have any banks located in the town however there are banking facilities provided in the nearby town of Yarrowonga. Yarrowonga is in Victoria and has a population similar to Corowa and meets the banking services required by the residents of Mulwala.

The rural population within the Shire access their banking services by mail, visiting the major urban centres or through electronic means that are available today.

Today we see an ever increasing use of electronic means to access banks and particularly in our rural areas there is a need to upgrade the speed of Internet access to banking.

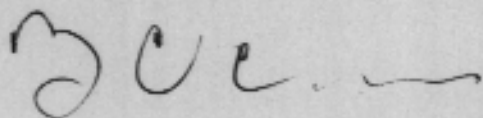
## COROWA BIRTHPLACE OF FEDERATION

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In times of new technologies and the need to rely on this form of banking it will be important that people in rural, regional and remote areas of Australia are able to economically and efficiently access this type of banking service.

I trust the information provided in this submission is of assistance in your inquiry.

Yours faithfully

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'BJ Corcoran', with a long horizontal flourish at the end.

BJ CORCORAN  
**GENERAL MANAGER**

COROWA BIRTHPLACE OF FEDERATION