

Leonie Lambert Hon Sec

The Manangatang Improvement Group Inc  
Manangatang, 3546  
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9 September 2002

Dr Kathleen Dermody  
Secretary  
Parliamentary Joint Committee on  
Corporation & Services  
Room SG.64  
Parliament House  
CANBERRA ACT 2600

Dear Dr Dermody

Re Inquiry into the Level of Banking and Financial Services in Rural, Regional and Remote Areas of Australia

We have been advised our local government The Swan Hill Rural City Council of the opportunity to put forward a submission regarding the above inquiry

Manangatang is a small rural town that has been struggling against the decline in services in rural areas. Since the Banking sector closed their branches our town has lost several of its small business.


To try to overcome this we have established with the help of the government a local Rural Transaction Center that has been very beneficial to our community.

While Gyro post has most Banking Facilities two major banks have still not made themselves available through this venue. We would like the government to pressure the Bank of Melbourne to become involved with this service as approximately half our community bank with this bank.

With the dry conditions that have prevailed this year and our area being considered for drought area it will be even more valuable to our community members if they do not have to travel 90 Kms to do their bank transactions.

Assistance to our rural community would be greatly appreciated.

Yours faithfully

  
Leonie Lambert Hon Sec