17 December 2013

The Chairman
Independent Pricing & Regulatory Tribunal
Level 8, 1 Market Street
SYDNEY NSW 2000

Dear Sir

RESPONSE TO LLS BOARD OF CHAIRS SUBMISSION ON FUNDING FRAMEWORK FOR LLS NSW

At its meeting on 11 December 2013 Council noted information conveyed in correspondence from Local Government NSW (LGNSW) relative to recommendations made in the Local Land Services (LLS) Board of Chairs response to the draft Review of Funding Framework for Local Land Services NSW.

After consideration of the points raised by LGNSW, Council resolved to make a submission strongly objecting to the following proposals:

- That councils be required to collect or pay LLS rates in respect of land below 2ha.
- That councils’ land holdings be made subject to LLS rates.

This Council is concerned that councils will possibly be subject to LLS rates on land below 2ha and, of even greater concern is that councils will be required to levy this rate and collect it on behalf of LLS on land less than 2ha. The expectation will be that councils remit monies levied to LLS and be responsible for collection of the arrears.

Council sees this as yet another example of cost-shifting to Local Government of a State Government responsibility. Local Government is struggling to keep abreast of its core functions and does not need another imposition to factor into its system. Should these recommendations be adopted, the outcome, particularly financially, will be devastating.

I urge you to consider the long term negative effects these recommendations will have on Local Government and respectfully request you to move against adding another burden to an already overloaded system.

Yours faithfully

RICK WARREN
General Manager