Review of funding framework for Local Land Services NSW
Independent Pricing and Regulatory Tribunal of NSW
P.O. Box Q290
QVB Post Office NSW 1230

Dear Sir

REVIEW OF THE FUNDING FRAMEWORK FOR LOCAL LAND SERVICES

At the December meeting of Council a Mayoral Minute was presented raising extreme concern with elements of a submission made by the Local Land Services Board of Chairs concerning the funding of Local Land Services NSW.

Council resolved to make a submission that:-

1. Strongly opposes properties of less than 2ha being subject to Local land Service NSW rates.

2. Strongly opposes local Government being the collection agent for any Local Land Service NSW rates and charges. The Office of State Revenue has access to the same property data base information as local government and therefore there are other agencies that can fulfil this requirement other than local government.

Introducing Councils into this role has the potential to confuse ratepayers as to who they are paying for what services and who is responsible for the delivery of those services. In addition it is assumed that Council will be responsible for debt collection. This is an unacceptable burden on already resource strapped local councils.

3. Strongly advocates retaining the exemption for public lands for Local Land Service NSW rating purposes. Local Land Services NSW should instead devote resources to the management of Crown Lands which are often neglected and the purveyors of noxious weeds and animals and overgrown allotments that present vermin and fire hazards.

IPART must ensure that the development of a sustainable funding framework for Local Land Services NSW is not at a cost to local government in NSW.

Should you wish to clarify any matter do not hesitate to contact the undersigned.

Yours faithfully

[Redacted]

Steven Pinnuck
General Manager
GREATER HUME SHIRE COUNCIL

20 December 2013