



16 December 2013

Dr. Peter J Boxall AO
Chairman
Independent Pricing and Regulatory Tribunal of NSW
PO Box Q290
QVB Post Office NSW 1230

LLS Board of Chairs Submission on Funding Framework for LLS NSW

Dear Mr. Boxall

I refer to the above submission and wish to express Council's total opposition in respect to the following recommendations being proposed by the Board of Chairs of LLS NSW.

- Council does not support general taxpayer funding of LLS services and would remind you of IPART's draft report that indicates that this form of revenue raising should be a last resort.
- Council strongly opposes local councils becoming debt collectors for State Government Agencies. There will undoubtedly be a community perception that such a tax is simply another council imposition, regardless of any public education program to the contrary. While there is a suggestion of a financial contribution to councils for undertaking this collection process no amount of compensation will remove council staff from being exposed to ridicule and abuse from members of the public being burdened with yet another tax. Bland Shire Council prides itself on the strong and positive relationship it has with the community it represents and we do not wish this to be placed in jeopardy by becoming a collection agency for the LLS.
- Council objects to being charged for LLS activities on public lands held by councils, either freehold or on behalf of the Crown. There is already a plethora of State Government charges and taxes on local councils for Crown lands under their management and any additional charges would have an adverse affect on a council's ability to continue to provide the many other services to its community.

I trust that the above comments will be taken into account when this matter is further considered.

Yours sincerely •


Ray Smith
General Manager

C.C. – LGNSW
C.C. – REROC