



LEETON SHIRE COUNCIL

Preserving the Past, Enhancing the Future

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LH/EF13/19/13

20 December 2013

Independent Pricing and Regulatory Tribunal of NSW
PO Box Q290
QVB Post Office
SYDNEY NSW 1230

Dear Sir

SUBJECT: REVIEW OF FUNDING FRAMEWORK FOR LOCAL LAND SERVICES NSW

Council at its Meeting held 18 December 2013, resolved to lodge a submission in relation to the funding framework for Local Land Services NSW (LLS).

In particular, Council objects to council land holdings being subject to LLS rates and believes that further explanation is needed with regards to how the LLS rates are proposed to be applied to council owned land and Crown land under the care and control of councils.

As the Local Land Services NSW will be totally independent from Council it is considered inappropriate to propose that councils be the collection agency for associated fees charged by the LLS. Council believes that it could be conceived by land owners that LLS had a financial relationship with local government and whilst this would not be the case, it would become extremely difficult for council staff to explain the associated LLS levies and would also imply an expectation from ratepayers for Council to provide a service as the funds would be coming directly to Council.

Further clarification is needed as to the treatment of council owned land and Crown land under council management, both in terms of the potential ability to pay LLS rates and charges, and terms of co-ordination of public land management between councils and LLS boards.

Council as the controlling body for large areas of reserves and other parkland undertakes the responsibility to manage these areas and be aware of the requirements for appropriate natural resource management and/or management of biosecurity threats on these land parcels.

Should you require further information or wish to discuss the matter please contact the undersigned on (02) 6953 0911.

Yours faithfully

John Batchelor
GENERAL MANAGER