

→ Michael Leary

Local Government
Association of NSW

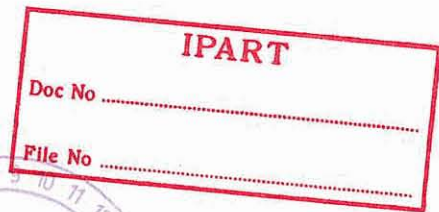


Shires Association of NSW

Our ref: R90/0397-05sm Out-16754

17 December 2008

Dr Michael Keating AC
Chairman
Independent Pricing and Regulatory Tribunal of NSW
PO Box Q290
QVB Post Office NSW 1230



Dear Mr Keating

REVIEW OF REVENUE FRAMEWORK FOR LOCAL GOVERNMENT

I refer to the recent Tribunal workshop on a coordinated revenue framework for Local Government and certain NSW Government agencies held on 26 November 2008 in Sydney as part of the Tribunal's Review of the Revenue Framework for Local Government.

During the workshop it became clear that of the four special purpose agencies relevant to the review, one had already been abolished (Growth Centre Commission) and two will cease to exist in the next two years (Sydney Harbour Foreshore Authority and Redfern Waterloo Authority). Only the Sydney Olympic Park Authority (SOPA) is to continue to exist as a fully operational government agency.

The Associations believe that it is not necessary to introduce a new regulatory framework in order to address the single relevant matter of coordination of cost recovery between the SOPA and the only affected council, Auburn Council. It would be more efficient to allow SOPA and Auburn Council to coordinate cost recovery in a flexible manner through mutual agreement. This would also avoid setting a precedent that might not suit the relationship between Local Government and potential future special purpose agencies.

The Associations hope their comments will be of assistance in your considerations and look forward to continuing to work with you on this important review.

For further information please contact Mr Shaun McBride, Strategy Manager – Finance, Infrastructure and Planning, by phone 02 9242 4072 or email shaun.mcbride@lgsa.org.au.

Yours sincerely



Bill Gillooly AM
Secretary General