

Reference: RCH:KT

Contact: Mr. Hunt

17th December 2012

Mr G Worthington Secretary Joint Select Committee on the Constitutional Reform of Local Government PO Box 6201 Parliament House CANBERRA, ACT 2600 Submission Number: 85 Date Received: 17/12/2012



Dear Sir,

CONSITUTIONAL RECOGNITION OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT

Liverpool Plains Shire Council appreciates the opportunity to make a submission on the constitutional recognition of Local Government.

Council is committed to achieving financial constitutional recognition of Local Government. Council requests the Joint Select Committee to support the proposal of changing the Constitution to ensure that the Commonwealth Government can provide funding directly to local councils and not via state governments.

Council supports amending Section 96 of the Constitution to ensure that Local Government is recognised and has the ability to access funding direct from the Commonwealth Government.

Section 96 would be amended to read:

"Parliament may grant financial assistance to any state or local government body formed by or under a law of a state or territory"

Council has the support of its community to achieve a "yes" vote in any referendum on constitutional recognition of Local Government as it will ensure the continued funding for necessary local services and infrastructure currently funded by Commonwealth Government programs such as the Roads To Recovery Program.

Yours faithfully,

R.C. Hunt, GENERAL MANAGER.