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## Local Government Centre

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28 November 2012

Mr Glenn Worthington Secretary Joint Select Committee on the Constitutional Recognition of Local Government PO Box 6021 Parliament House CANBERRA ACT 2601 (email jsclg@aph.gov.au

Dear Glenn,

The Rural City of Murray Bridge unanimously supports the Constitutional Recognition of Local Government and has reaffirmed its support for the financial recognition of Local Government in the Australian Constitution at its meeting on the 26 November 2012.

Our Council supports the Federal Government having the power to be able to provide funding directly to local government where this is in the national interest and requires certainty of funding so that programs like Roads to Recovery can continue.

The Rural City of Murray Bridge unanimously supports an amendment to Section 96 of the Constitution to read: "Parliament may grant financial assistance to any state or local government formed by or under a law of a state or territory".

Our Council also believes bi-partisan support is an essential precondition if a referendum is to have the best chance of success and supports and encourages a referendum being held at a time which maximises its chance of success. Support is also given to a publicly funded national education and awareness campaign to inform the public before the referendum as an informed voter is more likely to cast an informed vote, which is based on facts rather than information.

Thank you for reviewing our submission and we look forward to confirmation that the referendum will proceed.

Yours faithfully,

Peter Bond, Chief Executive Officer. Visitor Information Centre 3 South Terrace Murray Bridge T 08 8539 1142

Works Depot

21 Hindmarsh Road Murray Bridge T 08 8539 1160

Public Library

Level 2 51 South Terrace Murray Bridge Market Place Murray Bridge T 08 8539 1175

Regional Gallery

27 Sixth Street Murray Bridge T 08 8539 1420

Lerwin Nursing Home 67 Joyce Street Murray Bridge T 08 8539 1185

Youth Centre 3-5 Railway Terrace Murray Bridge T 08 8531 2122

Town Hall 13-17 Bridge Street Murray Bridge T 08 8539 1430