

**Submission  
No 18**

**INQUIRY INTO PUBLIC FUNDING OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT  
ELECTION CAMPAIGNS**

**Organisation:** Gloucester Shire Council

**Name:** Mr Allan Young

**Position:** General Manager

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Joint Standing Committee on Electoral Matters  
Parliament of NSW  
Macquarie Street  
SYDNEY NSW 2000

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Dear Sir

**Public Funding of Local Government Election Campaigns**

The Gloucester Shire Council Forward Planning Committee met on 8 September 2010 where the above issue was one of the items on the agenda for discussion.

For a local authority in rural New South Wales with a population of approximately 5,000 and an area of 2952 sq km the questions posed in the document were the subject of limited debate and spirited comment. It was generally acknowledged that in this Shire it is unlikely that public funding for local government elections is either warranted or supported.

It was expressed that no matter what level of government may provide funding the money has to be sourced from somewhere which may have an impact on State or local government spending in a more essential area.

Councillors indicated that they have not looked for or received funding for their electioneering and are unlikely to do so in the future. The overall general concerns of the Committee Meeting was that the issues raised in this discussion paper had minimal relevance to Councils such as Gloucester Shire Council.

Yours faithfully

Allan Young  
**GENERAL MANAGER**