



Minister for Community Services

Mr P E McLeay, MP
Chairperson
Legislative Assembly
Public Accounts Committee
Parliament of New South Wales
Macquarie Street
SYDNEY NSW 2000



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- 3 APR 2009

Dear Mr McLeay *Paul*

I refer to your correspondence inviting the NSW Department of Community Services to provide a submission to the Public Accounts Committee's inquiry into sustainable procurement. I apologise for the delay in replying.

Thank you for providing the opportunity to comment.

In 2008, the Department of Community Services released its Procurement and Purchasing Policy for the Supply of Goods and Services. The policy promotes the purchase of sustainable products, instructing staff to give preference to the purchase of office products with recycled content and recycled materials in manufacture.

In addition, the Department implements an Energy Management Policy which aims to promote sustainable use of energy and adequate energy management. The Department also implements a Waste Reduction and Recycling Strategy to manage its resources and the environment in which it operates. The waste management framework is integrated into current workplace systems and practices.

I am advised that the NSW Department of Commerce is coordinating a whole of government submission to the inquiry, as part of which the Department of Community Services has provided information to that agency.

Yours sincerely

Linda Burney
Minister for Community Services