

**Submission
No 14**

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

Organisation: The Hills Shire Council

Name: Mr Dave Walker

Position: General Manager

Date Received: 20/09/2010

20 September 2010

The Secretary
Joint Standing Committee on Electoral Matters
Parliament of New South Wales
Macquarie Street
SYDNEY NSW 2000

Email: Electormatters@parliament.nsw.gov.au

Dear Sir/Madam

Public Funding of Local Government Election Campaigns

I refer to the Committee's seeking of submissions from interested individuals and organisations in regard to it's enquiries concerning electoral matters and in particular the conduct of the most recent Local Government Election.

This Council attended one of the hearings of the Standing Committee and apart from some concerns to do with parking availability at the venue determined by the Returning Officer and some concerns that the State Electoral Office was not able to answer many queries referred to it, overall Council was more than satisfied by the way the Electoral Commission conducted the Elections and acknowledge that in previous years there were many hidden costs and raises no concerns as to the cost of the Election.

However in terms of the one of the proposals of the outcome of the review and that is Public Funding of Local Government Elections, this matter has been considered by Council and Council has resolved as follows:

"The General Manager be authorised to make a brief submission to the Joint Standing Committee expressing the view that prior to any decision being made to introduce public funding of local government elections, a set of draft guidelines be widely distributed as part of a consultation process and that should it be decided to introduce public funding of local government elections, the cost be met by the NSW State Government."

Thank you for the opportunity to lodge a brief submission.

Yours faithfully



Dave Walker
GENERAL MANAGER