

## Public Accountability Committee – 21 September 2020

### Inquiry into Integrity, Efficacy and Value for Money of NSW Government Grant Programs

#### Responses to Questions on Notice from Hornsby Shire Council (as marked in Uncorrected Proof)

##### Question on Notice No. 1

- A copy of the relevant emails (dated 27 and 28 June 2018) and associated Stronger Communities Fund (SCF) Funding Agreement is attached

##### Question on Notice No. 2

- A copy of the relevant emails (dated 27 and 28 June 2018) and associated SCF Funding Agreement has been provided in response to Question on Notice No. 1

##### Question on Notice No. 3

- Hornsby Shire Council (HSC) has outlined that the long-term impact to its community resulting from the boundary changes, calculated via an independent assessment, is some \$260 million
- HSC understands that the NSW Government has committed to ensuring that HSC will be no worse off as a consequence of the boundary changes that the Government approved and that compensation will be made by the Government to HSC over time

##### Question on Notice No. 4

- HSC received \$90 million from the Stronger Communities Fund in June 2018.
- No further funding has been forthcoming from the NSW Government although the Government has committed to provide further funding over time to ensure that HSC will be no worse off consequent upon the loss of its former area south of the M2 Motorway to the City of Parramatta Council.

##### Question on Notice No. 5

- The six points on the last page of Penrith City Council's submission about how to strengthen the existing range of measures already in place for Government grant schemes are generally supported by HSC

##### Question on Notice No. 6

- A copy of the relevant emails (dated 27 and 28 June 2018) and associated SCF Funding Agreement has been provided in response to Question on Notice No. 1

##### Question on Notice No. 7

- The adviser from the Premier's Office that I discussed the matter with was Mr Matthew Crocker
- During the period April to June 2018, I had several telephone conversations with Mr Crocker in which I advocated HSC's resolved position of seeking relevant compensation from the NSW Government in respect of the Government-approved transfer of the former HSC area south of the M2 Motorway to the City of Parramatta Council

##### Question on Notice No. 8

- I have checked Council's records for the relevant period and am unable to locate any circular from the Office of Local Government (OLG) regarding a change in criteria for the SCF

**Question on Notice No. 9**

- At this stage, HSC has provided three progress reports to the OLG in line with the reporting required by Clause 7a) of the SCF Fund Funding Agreement.
- Those reports were provided to the OLG on 2 May 2019, 30 August 2019 and 28 February 2020