



LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

PUBLIC ACCOUNTABILITY COMMITTEE

10 December 2020

D20/62940

The Hon Gladys Berejiklian MP
Premier of New South Wales
Via email:
cc:

Dear Premier

Inquiry into the integrity, efficacy and value for money of NSW Government grant programs

As you would be aware, the Public Accountability Committee is currently holding an inquiry into the integrity, efficacy and value for money of NSW Government grant programs.

The committee had previously resolved to invite you to appear as a witness at a future hearing of the inquiry. We note the response from your office on 20 November 2020 declining this invitation.

However, following evidence by former ministerial staff on 9 December 2020 regarding the Stronger Communities Fund, the committee wishes to question you directly. This has become more, rather than less important, as we have now heard from two members of your staff who were unable to explain to the committee the basis on which you supported over \$141 million in grants to local councils that were overwhelmingly in seats held by Coalition MPs.

The committee has therefore resolved to ask you to reconsider declining its invitation and to re-invite you to appear as a witness at a hearing on Monday 8 February 2021.

Please indicate whether you are accepting this invitation to attend the hearing by **5.00 pm Thursday 17 December 2020**.

If you require any further information in relation to this matter, please contact _____, Principal Council Officer, on _____ or public.accountability@parliament.nsw.gov.au.

Yours sincerely

Mr David Shoebridge MLC
Committee Chair