01 March 2023

The Hon Sue Higginson MLC Chair Portfolio Committee No 7 – Planning and Environment (Via email: <u>portfoliocommittee7@parliament.nsw.qov.au</u>)

Dear Ms Higginson,

I have been made aware that a Committee Member has circulated questions to some witnesses, kindly providing an opportunity to address questions that may assist the inquiry with their deliberations. I write to address these questions in the interest of full cooperation with the Committee.

Christian Ellis – what is your relationship?

Christian Ellis is a former colleague of mine. We have not had a business relationship for several years.

Hills - what was your involvement?

I have had no involvement in this area and that continues to be the position I hold.

While I have been a member of the Liberal Party for several years, briefly an active member, I have never engaged in branch stacking or indeed any branch recruitment.

Were you aware of any money sought for branch recruitment operations?

No, I am not aware of any money sought for branch stacking and have never been involved in any activity of this type.

Would you have been aware?

No as I have never been someone involved in recruitment. I can only deal in facts and not speculation.

Have you received any advice about attending or co-operating with the inquiry?

Yes, I have received advice from:

- Legal advice
- Medical advice
- Advice from the committee secretariat
- Advice from my friendship/family networks
- And of course, I have sought spiritual advice from my God.

I understand there has been some commentary about me being uncooperative with this Committee. I would like to make the point that since I was initially contacted by this inquiry I have sought to be in regular contact with the secretariat. This is despite very trying circumstances in my household, some of these exacerbated by the actions of the process server, while I have disputed the current standing of parliamentary privilege in the interests of maintaining a cooperative nature with the inquiry, I have addressed the above questions.

Furthermore, while I am not aware of any allegations against me, I have never engaged in any impropriety in the hills council or indeed any council and would refute any allegations of this nature against me.

I respectfully request that the committee consider the above evidence provided by me when deliberating on the final report due to be tabled to the NSW Parliament.

Yours Sincerely,

Jeremy Greenwood