



22 October 2013

The Director
General Purpose Standing Committee No.3
Legislative House
Macquarie Street
SYDNEY NSW 2000

Contact: Jane Holdsworth
Our Ref: DOC2013/041324
Your Ref:

Dear Sir / Madam

General Purpose Standing Committee – 'Inquiry into Tourism in Local Communities'

On Friday 9 August 2013, I attended the General Purpose Standing Committee, 'Inquiry into Tourism in Local Communities' hearing with Jane Holdsworth, Economic Development Manager, Cessnock City Council.

We have now received the Report of Proceedings and following review have now attached the Report with changes as requested.

In addition, we were requested to provide responses to two 'questions on notice' and we provide the following for your information:

1. Page 48 – Wine Equalisation Tax Rebate

It is our understanding that there are twelve (12) companies in the Cessnock LGA paying \$3 million per annum Wine Equalisation Tax. One company in particular is paying \$600,000.

2. Page 50 – Workshops Held by Destination NSW on Destination Management Plans

It is our understanding that Destination NSW did hold meetings across the State. However, the meetings were to discuss the latest VREF funding, although, we were advised that they did touch on Destination Management Plans and how they would be important to obtain funding.

We thank you for the opportunity of attending such an important inquiry and should you have any further questions or require further information, please do not hesitate to contact Council's Economic Development Manager, Ms Jane Holdsworth on phone 0401 107 425 or email jane.holdsworth@cessnock.nsw.gov.au. or myself on telephone 024993 4208.

Yours faithfully

Stephen Glen
General Manager