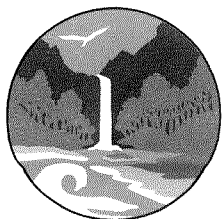


**INQUIRY INTO COMMUNITY BASED SENTENCING
OPTIONS FOR RURAL AND REMOTE AREAS AND FOR
DISADVANTAGED POPULATIONS**

Organisation: Bellingen Shire Council
Name: Mr P J Doyle
Position: General Manager
Telephone: 02 6655 7300
Date Received: 11/04/2005

Theme:

Summary:



BELLINGEN SHIRE COUNCIL

33-39 Hyde Street, Bellingen NSW

All communications to be addressed to the General Manager
P.O. BOX 117 BELLINGEN NSW 2454

ABN: 26 066 993 265

TELEPHONE:

(02) 6655 7300 } Corporate Services and Enquiries
(02) 6655 7332 } Environmental Health and
(02) 6655 7328 } Planning Division
(02) 6655 7301 } Engineering and Operations Division

FAX.: (02) 6655 2310

EMAIL: council@bellingen.nsw.gov.au

IN YOUR REPLY PLEASE QUOTE

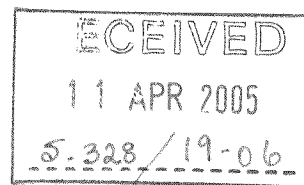
OUR REF.: G.6-4

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CONTACT: P Doyle

7 March 2005

Standing Committee on Law and Justice
NSW Legislative Council
Parliament House
Macquarie Street
SYDNEY NSW 2000



Attn: Hon Christine Robertson MLC
Committee Chair

Dear Madam

INQUIRY INTO COMMUNITY BASED SENTENCING OPTIONS FOR RURAL AND REMOTE AREAS AND SPECIAL NEED/DISADVANTAGED POPULATIONS

Thankyou for the opportunity to comment on this worthwhile project for rural and remote areas in New South Wales.

Council would like to commend the State Government on this initiative. Regional and remote centres throughout NSW often have vastly different needs to that of areas that are largely metropolitan. It is therefore considered very appropriate that State Government is conducting this inquiry.

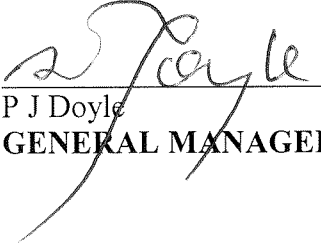
Council's considers that the following issues need to be addressed by the inquiry: -

- Provision of adequate funding for implementation of recommendations that may result of the inquiries findings;
- The special needs and consideration for the Indigenous People in rural and remote NSW;
- Determination of whether the current infrastructure and level of services in rural and remote NSW can adequately cater for any recommendations of findings that may result from the inquiry; and
- The need to address the special requirements of socially disadvantaged people in rural and remote Australia.

Council commends the State Government on this initiative and looks forward to receiving the findings and recommendations of the inquiry.

Should you wish to discuss this matter further, please do not hesitate to contact Ms Josie Robinson, between the hours of 8.30 am to 4.30 pm Monday to Friday on telephone 6655 7336.

Yours faithfully



P J Doyle
GENERAL MANAGER