INQUIRY INTO ELECTORAL AND POLITICAL PARTY FUNDING

Organisation: Warringah Council

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14 February 2008

Rachel Simpson Select Committee on Electoral and Political Party Funding Parliament House Macquarie Street Sydney NSW 2000

Dear Rachel

Submission - Electoral and Political Party Funding

Thank you for the opportunity to lodge a submission to the Parliamentary Inquiry on Electoral and Political Party Funding.

Council at its meeting on 12 December 2006 gave consideration to a Charter of Political Reform submitted by a local community group, The Friends Of Warringah.

In summary, the Charter requires Council election candidates:

- to be invited to lodge a statutory declaration committing to not accepting donations from property developers or persons with real estate interests.
- to be invited to disclose the source of donations over \$500, with donors being advised their donations will be publicly disclosed.
- To be invited to declare their property and business interests before the election, and those declarations being published.
- To disclose auction fund raising donations over \$500 (including donations to parties and groups)
- To be invited to declare current or previous membership within the last 4 years of political parties
- To declare any political trust funds
- If elected as a Councillor, to act with due diligence to be aware of donations made to their parties at State or Federal level, and not to vote at a Council Meeting where a decision might benefit that donor.

Council has resolved to support the aims and objectives of the Charter of Political Reform submitted by the Friends of Warringah. Should you wish to discuss this matter further please do not hesitate to contact Council's Team Leader Governance, Bob Pigott on 99422444.

Yours sincerely

Diane Lawrence

Director - Strategy and Policy