

**INQUIRY INTO INTEGRITY, EFFICACY AND VALUE FOR  
MONEY OF NSW GOVERNMENT GRANT PROGRAMS**

**Organisation:** Goulburn Mulwaree Council

**Date Received:** 20 August 2020

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## OFFICE OF THE MAYOR Mayor R.J (Bob) Kirk

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19 August 2020

Stewart Smith – Committee Director  
Public Accountability Committee  
[public.accountability@parliament.nsw.gov.au](mailto:public.accountability@parliament.nsw.gov.au)

Dear Mr Smith

### **Re: Integrity, Efficacy and Value for Money of NSW Government Grant Programs**

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The Goulburn Mulwaree Council wishes to make a formal submission to your Parliamentary Select Committee on your investigation into the Integrity, Efficacy and Value for Money of NSW Government Grant Programs.

Over the past 5 years Local Government in NSW has been privileged and benefited considerably from the effective and efficient outcomes of grant programs. We have been impressed as a Council in the fairness and equity in the distribution of this grant funding. There has always been a robust, accountable and transparent grant process which has allowed all Councils to genuinely participate and receive the benefits of the programs put in place by the State Government.

This Council has benefited from the following programs:

- Stronger Country Communities
- Growing Local Economies
- Regional Cultural Fund
- Fixing Country Roads
- Fixing Local Roads
- Bush Fire Community Resilience Fund

As Council we would be disappointed if Local Members of Parliament were not able to have an input in the distribution of these funds. As a community we vote for Members of Parliament to represent us, not bureaucrats. Those Members of Parliament know our communities; understand our communities; spend time in our communities and have a full understanding of needs and expectations.

The Goulburn Mulwaree Council strongly support the current process. Regional NSW has never before enjoyed the level of benefits that we are currently experiencing. The economic growth and opportunities that have been created plus the social benefits that we have enjoyed, have made Regional NSW a powerhouse in the growth of the whole state.

I trust your committee in its deliberations will continue to support the current process that has been delivered by the State Government of NSW. In my view, this State Government is working particularly well with Local Government and although we don't always get what we want, we do understand how and why the decisions are made.

Yours faithfully

  
Cr R.J (Bob) Kirk  
Mayor Goulburn Mulwaree Council

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