

**INQUIRY INTO ENVIRONMENTAL PLANNING AND
ASSESSMENT AMENDMENT (INFRASTRUCTURE
CONTRIBUTIONS) BILL 2021**

Organisation: Shellharbour City Council

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Hon. Cate Faehrmann MLC
Chair, Portfolio Committee No. 7 - Planning and Environment Parliament of New South Wales
Macquarie Street
SYDNEY NSW 2000
Emailed to: PortfolioCommittee7@parliament.nsw.gov.au

**Parliamentary inquiry into the Environmental Planning and Assessment
Amendment (Infrastructure Contributions) Bill 2021**

Dear Ms Faehrmann

Shellharbour City Council (Council) welcomes the opportunity to make a submission to the parliamentary inquiry into the Environmental Planning and Assessment Amendment (Infrastructure Contributions) Bill 2021 (Infrastructure Contributions Bill).

Council, the community and all who develop within its boundaries have a vested interest to ensure that community infrastructure is delivered in the most timely, financially sustainably and efficient manner as possible.

In this respect, Council agrees that reform is needed and has actively participated in the process to every extent possible. This has included detailed submissions to the NSW Productivity Commission and Council staff have participated in forums with the Productivity Commissioner, Mr Peter Achterstraat.

While Council does not agree with many of the recommendations of the Productivity Commission, or the State Government's decision to adopt all of the recommendations, there was still an expectation on Council's behalf that the Government would present a comprehensive package of regulatory reform to the parliament (amendments to the Act and associated Regulations along with comprehensive commentary and guidance). This is needed to ensure transparency, accountability, and trust in the reform process.

The Infrastructure Contributions Bill before the Parliamentary Committee does not achieve this. The Explanatory Note accompanying the Bill is less than three pages in length. There is no detail.

Council has had the opportunity to read the submission to the Committee by Local Government NSW and endorses its contents. It too highlights the lack of detail and hence the lack of parliamentary oversight and scrutiny that is needed for one of the most important legislative reforms affecting local government in many years.

Yours sincerely,

Carey McIntyre
Chief Executive Officer