

The Hon. Ron Hoenig MP

Leader of the House in the Legislative Assembly
Vice-President of the Executive Council
Minister for Local Government



Your Ref: (if applicable)
Our Ref: AA867335

Mr David Blunt
Clerk of the Parliaments
NSW Legislative Council
Parliament House
Macquarie Street
SYDNEY NSW 2000

Dear Mr Blunt,

On 8 December 2022 the Former NSW Government directed Portfolio Committee No. 7 – Planning and Environment (the Committee) to inquire into and report on the allegations of impropriety against agents of the Hills Shire Council and property developers in the region.

The inquiry has now concluded and the Committee tabled its report on 2 March 2023. Please find enclosed the NSW Government Response to the report of the Committee.

Additional copies of the response are available from the Office of Local Government to meet the requirements of the Parliament.

Should you require anything further please do not hesitate to contact my office.

Yours sincerely,

The Hon. Ron Hoenig MP

Leader of the House in the Legislative Assembly
Vice-President of the Executive Council
Minister for Local Government

Encl: Response of the Minister for Local Government to Recommendation 8

MINISTER FOR LOCAL GOVERNMENT RESPONSE
to
REPORT OF PORTFOLIO COMMITTEE NO. 7 – PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT
Allegations of impropriety against agents of the Hills Shire Council and property developers in the region

Recommendation 8 - That the Minister for Local Government undertake an investigation into The Hills Shire Council and consider what steps should be taken, including whether the Council should be put into administration.

This matter has been referred to the Independent Commission Against Corruption (ICAC) and that agency has launched an investigation into alleged impropriety within the Hills Shire Council.

It is appropriate for the Minister to await the finalisation of ICAC's recommendations prior to determining whether to request the Office of Local Government to conduct an investigation into Council's activities under section 430 of the *Local Government Act 1993*.