

Local Government Association of NSW



Shires Association of NSW

Our ref: R120/0033
24 March 2011

The Greens NSW
19 Eve Street
ERSKINEVILLE NSW 2043

Dear Greens NSW,

Thank you for responding to the Local Government and Shires Associations of NSW (LGSA) *NSW Election Priorities 2011*.

Your response was impressive, highlighting your commitment to councils and the communities they serve. We would like an opportunity to discuss aspects in more detail in the future following the election and we offer some initial comment in this letter.

The LGSA are particularly pleased about your recognition of the importance of returning local planning decisions to local communities, and more specifically your support to repeal Part 3A and abolish Joint Regional Planning Panels.

Your strong backing for improved financial sustainability for Local Government, through the removal of rate pegging and the ceasing of cost shifting onto councils, is welcomed.

Local Government is at its best when it is kept local, so we were heartened to see your pledge to fight any attempts to force amalgamations of councils.

We are please to receive your support for the recognition of Local Government in the Australian Constitution and look forward to your ongoing support on this issue.

We wish your candidates success with their campaigns this Saturday. We look forward to forging a stronger partnership between Local Government and The Greens, and working together on many of our key issues following the election on 26 March.

Yours sincerely

Cr Keith Rhoades AFSM
President
Local Government Association of NSW

Cr Bruce Miller
President
Shires Association of NSW