

Local Government Association of NSW



Shires Association of NSW

4 February 2011

Mr Barry O'Farrell, MP
Leader of the Opposition
Parliament House
Macquarie Street
SYDNEY NSW 2000

Dear Mr O'Farrell,

Please find enclosed a copy of the Local Government Association of NSW and Shires Associations of NSW's (LGSA) *NSW Election Priorities 2011*.

This document has been sent to all parties contesting the 2011 NSW Government Election, and outlines the issues of significance for NSW councils and the communities they represent, and the LGSA's proposed solutions. It covers six key themes:

- Improving Local Government financial viability.
- Restoring the balance to land use planning.
- Stronger support for communities.
- Greater natural environment protection.
- Enhanced infrastructure provision and maintenance.
- Better local governance.

The LGSA are requesting a formal response in writing from all parties by Monday 28 February 2011. In addition, we would like to arrange a meeting with you to further discuss our proposed solutions to the key issues facing Local Government.

Many critical issues in Local Government have been ignored under the present NSW Government. It is essential that we work together to resolve the long standing and serious issues faced by the sector, to prevent our communities from suffering further.

We look forward to continuing the consultative relationship we have built with you and your colleagues in recent years and exploring fresh approaches to benefit our local communities.

Please don't hesitate to contact either of us on our mobiles, which are listed below.

Yours sincerely

Cr Keith Rhoades AFSM
President
Local Government Association of NSW
0408 256 405

Cr Bruce Miller
President
Shires Association of NSW
0428 629 934