

Local Government Association of NSW



Shires Association of NSW

4 February 2011

Hon. Kristina Keneally, MP
Premier
GPO Box 5341
SYDNEY NSW 2000

Dear Ms Keneally,

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.

As you are well aware, the majority of the serious problems facing the sector are not new, and discussions have previously taken place with you and many other government ministers on many of them.

Whilst the current NSW Government has not been persuaded by the case put forward by the LGSA in recent years, we ask you to look at *NSW Election Priorities 2011* with fresh eyes, with a view to a strengthened and more consultative relationship between the NSW Government and Local Government in the future.

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
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