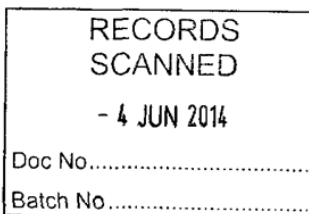




Our ref: R13/0029 Out - 22524

29 May 2014

Mr Paul Hickey  
General Manager  
Ballina Shire Council  
PO Box 450  
BALLINA NSW 2478



Dear Mr Hickey

**Local Government NSW Annual Conference**

The Local Government NSW Annual Conference will be held at the C.ex Coffs (formerly ExServices Club, the same venue as the 2007 conference) from Sunday 19 October – Tuesday 21 October 2014.

Following the feedback from delegates in 2013 in Sydney, where some delegates requested the discussion of specific motions and others requested the discussion of consolidated overarching issues, the Board has decided to try to balance both. Taking into consideration your concerns, the Board has set the first day of business as the primary time to discuss all issues and motions, and a session time will be put aside to ask you how you wish to deal with motions and issues into the future.

The Association would now like to receive input from Councils to guide the content of the business sessions. Councils are requested to identify the most important issues which they believe are causing concern to the Council and/or the local community and provide these details to the Association prior to **Friday 1 August 2014**.

Councils should identify issues or motions relating to the following overall categories:

1. Industrial relations and employment
2. Economic
3. Environmental
4. Governance/Civic leadership
5. Social Policy

Details of what functions or issues fall in each category are set out in the LGNSW Conference Business Session Submission Form, with a guide attached to this letter.

In addition to identifying an issue, Councils are encouraged to suggest an appropriate solution by including either a motion which could be considered by the Conference or notes which might guide delegates to an agreed position.

The Association will review all responses received and then identify the top issues as identified overall by member councils. These issues will then be put to the Conference for debate and deliberation as part of the business sessions.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT NSW  
GPO BOX 7003 SYDNEY NSW 2001  
L8, 28 MARGARET ST SYDNEY NSW 2000  
T 02 9242 4000 F 02 9242 4111  
LGNSW.ORG.AU LGNSW@LGNSW.ORG.AU  
ABN 49 853 913 882

Issues identified by Councils which fall outside of the issues will be considered by the Board prior to the Conference and your council will be informed by the President of the outcome of these deliberations. A copy of the Draft Program (as at 27 May 2014) is attached for your information.

It would be appreciated if Councils could provide their identified issues and any accompanying notes or motions using the online form which can be found on the Association's website at <http://www.lgnsw.org.au/events-training/local-government-nsw-annual-conference> prior to **Friday 1 August 2014**.

For any further information regarding this matter please contact Peter Coulton, Director Corporate Services on 9242 4030.

Yours sincerely,



Cr Keith Rhoades AFSM  
President

Set out below are the definitions for the issues categories:

**1. INDUSTRIAL RELATIONS & EMPLOYMENT**

Industrial relations and employment related legislation; industrial awards and rates of pay; WHS and worker compensation compliance; human resources policy, practice and benchmarking; workforce planning and development; staff and councillor training and development; skills shortages; staff attraction, retention and productivity; employment security; workplace change; Code of Conduct; leadership and management capacity; capability framework; council governance.

**2. ECONOMIC**

Own source revenue (e.g. rates, fees, charges etc.); intergovernmental fiscal relations (e.g. grants, cost shifting etc.); financial management and governance including long term financial planning and asset management; financial sustainability; economic policy affecting Local Government; local and regional economic development (including tourism); transport (e.g. roads, bridges, airports, pedestrian and cycle facilities, rail); Local Water Utilities; stormwater and floodplain infrastructure; other infrastructure and disaster management and recovery.

**3. ENVIRONMENTAL**

Land use planning (including environmental, heritage conservation and development planning); ecologically sustainable development; waste management in accordance with the waste hierarchy and extended producer responsibility; natural resource management; protection of local, regional and state natural environments including air quality, rivers and waterways and biodiversity, biosecurity and weeds management; pollution prevention including energy consumption and soil contamination; environmental risk management through reduction of hazards and pollutants and remediation/rehabilitation of degraded environments; climate change mitigation and adaptation; and responsible resource consumption and conservation.

**4. GOVERNANCE/CIVIC LEADERSHIP**

Local Government legislative and regulatory settings (e.g. Australian and/or NSW Constitutional recognition; Local Government Act review); corporate governance (e.g. role differentiation for Mayors, Councillors, General Managers and senior staff; Codes of Conduct; Political donations); structural reform (e.g. amalgamations and/or boundary changes; shared resources and services); Local Government elections (e.g. financial impact of electoral reforms on councils; impact of electoral reforms); participation (e.g. women's participation rates as councillors; cultural diversity in leadership; other opportunities for citizens to genuinely participate in council processes); and policies and programs of other spheres of government that impact on Local Government governance or citizen involvement in local democracy.

**5. SOCIAL POLICY**

Social planning, social impact assessment, access, equity and social justice; community development and community cultural development; community halls and neighbourhood centres, ageing and disability services, women's services, youth services and children's care and education services; issues of concern and interest to NSW Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples; cultural services (performing and visual arts, art galleries, performing arts centres, museums, public art, community arts, festivals, celebrations, heritage, new media and digital arts); Libraries; Health services (regulatory activities reducing public health risks; promoting healthy lifestyles; immunisation, early childhood health centres or rural medical services); Recreation facilities and services; and crime prevention planning.

## Local Government NSW Annual Conference 2014

### DRAFT PROGRAM 19 - 21 October, 2014 (as of 29 May 2014)

Main conference venue is C.ex Coffs, 1 Vernon Street, Coffs Harbour

#### Sunday 19 October

3.00pm – 7.00pm *Registration opens, Upstairs Auditorium Lobby, off Blue Room*

5.00pm – 7.00pm President's Welcome Reception at C.ex Coffs  
Welcome To Country (Performance)  
Welcome from Cr Denise Knight, Mayor of Coffs Harbour City Council  
Welcome from Cr Keith Rhoades AFSM, President, LGNSW

#### Monday 20 October

##### Business Session Day 1 - chaired by Cr Keith Rhoades AFSM, C.ex Coffs

8.00am – 5.00pm *Registration opens in Trade Expo. Distribution of voting materials and electronic handsets.*

9.00am – 11.00am Opening of the Business session, Adoption of Standing Orders and Consideration of Motions chaired by the President

11.00am – 11.30am *Morning tea in Trade Exhibition*

11.30am – 11.35am Message from Local Government Super

11.35am – 1.00pm Consideration of Conference business continued chaired by the President

1.00pm – 1.50pm *Lunch in Trade Exhibition sponsored by Local Government Super*

1.50pm - 2.00pm Message from sponsor

2.00pm – 2.05pm Short address from the Mining Related Councils (to be invited)

2.05pm - 3.00pm Consideration of Government's response to the Local Government Review Panel's *Revitalising Local Government*

3.00pm – 4.00pm Consideration of Conference Business continued, chaired by the President

*Collection of all electronic handsets and voting cards*

4.00pm – 5.00pm *Happy hour in Trade Exhibition*

5.00pm – 5.30pm *Delegate transfers back to accommodation for dinner*

7.00pm – 7.30pm *Transfers for delegates arriving at Dinner*

##### Conference Dinner, Bonville Golf Resort, North Bonville Road, Bonville

7.30pm Arrival drinks and canapés  
Entertainment with Soulman O'Gaia

8.15pm Delegates seated and main course served  
Welcome from the President  
Introduction of Major Sponsor Statewide Mutual  
Presentation of Outstanding Service Awards

- 8.30pm Entertainment with Lisa Hunt
- 9.30pm Dessert served
- 10.00pm *First transfers offered*
- 11.00pm *Function finishes, final transfer buses*

**Tuesday 21 October**  
**Business Session Day 2, C.ex Coffs**

- 8.00am – 5.00pm *Registration opens in Trade Expo*
- 8.50am – 9.00am Introduction by Master of Ceremony, **Ellen Fanning** (invited)
- 9.00am – 9.10am Annual Report and AGM from **Cr Keith Rhoades AFSM, President LGNSW**
- 9.10am – 9.20am Treasurers Report
- 9.20am – 9.40am Address from **The Hon Mike Baird MP, Premier of New South Wales** (invited)
- 9.40am – 10.00am Address from **The Hon Paul Toole MP, Minister for Local Government** (invited)
- 10.00am – 10.15am Facilitated Q and A with the **Premier of New South Wales/ Minister for Local Government**
- 10.15am – 10.30am Presentation of the AR Bluett Awards
- 10.30am – 11.15am **Claire Madden, Research Director, McCrindle Forecasts**, Demographic Change, Emerging Generations and the Future
- 11.15am – 11.35am *Morning tea in Trade Exhibition*
- 11.40am – 11.45am Message from sponsor
- 11.45am – 12.30pm **Paul Clitheroe AM, Director Ipac Securities, Chairman Financial Literacy Foundation, Chairman Money Magazine** on Business Trends in Australia (invited)
- 12.30pm – 1.00pm Address from **The Hon Duncan Gay MLC, Minister for Roads and Freight** (invited)
- 1.00pm - 2.00pm Address from keynote speaker on planning issues (to be confirmed).  
Planning Panel facilitated by MC, Ellen Fanning, on 'How to make informed decisions about Planning'
- 2.00pm – 2.15pm Close of Conference
- 2.15pm – 3.00pm *Lunch (Conference closing).*

This program is correct at the time of printing; speakers and program details may have changed due to unforeseen circumstances.