



Office of the Mayor
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Mayor of Wyong



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F2004/06400

4 April 2014

Local Government Report Consultation
Division of Local Government
Locked Bag 3015
NOWRA NSW 2541

Dear Minister

Wyong Shire Council Submission in Response to the NSW Independent Local Government Review Panel's Final Report

Wyong Shire Council (Council) has received the '*Revitalising Local Government*' final report and congratulates the Independent Review Panel on its work. Enclosed is Council's submission in response to the final report's recommendations.

It should be noted that Council supports in principle recommendations 47 and 48, which have a direct and significant impact on Council and its Community. Those recommendations relate to:

- a proposed boundary adjustment (which would involve land in the south of the Lake Macquarie local government area, in and about Morisset and Wyee becoming part of the Wyong local government area), and
- the possible amalgamation of Wyong Shire Council with Gosford City Council.

Wyong Shire Council strongly supports an immediate boundary adjustment between Wyong Shire Council and Lake Macquarie Council, as the boundary adjustment is not a material change to our Council area and there are numerous benefits, as detailed in our submission, that will arise to the community if it proceeds.

The proposed merger of Gosford City Council and Wyong Shire Council is viewed as a material change to our Council area. As such Wyong Shire Council is prepared to support progressing this matter by requesting the preparation of a detailed independent cost benefit analysis and for this information to be presented to the Central Coast community. If this analysis demonstrates a positive benefit to the Central Coast community then a community poll should be undertaken to ascertain the views of our people. If a majority of the Central Coast community support the creation of a Central Coast Regional Council then Wyong Shire Council would endorse the merger occurring.

Wyong Shire Council greatly appreciates the opportunity to respond to the final report and looks forward to working with you and the Office of Local Government in making NSW Local Government the best in Australia.

Yours sincerely

Cr Doug Eaton
MAYOR