



If telephoning or calling please ask for:

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Your Ref:

CRIME AND MISCONDUCT
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GOLD COAST CITY COUNCIL INQUIRY  
CRIME & MISCONDUCT COMMISSION  
GPO BOX 3123  
BRISBANE Q 4000

Dear Sir

**Re: Discussion Paper on Local Government Electoral Process**

The Commission's discussion paper on the Local Government electoral process was considered by Noosa Council at its meeting on 19 January 2006. At that time, Council resolved to provide the following submission.

It is important that whatever rules are ultimately adopted, they should be consistent with State and Commonwealth rules regarding elections. Trying to resolve any problems raised in the Gold Coast City Council experience via legislation that is inconsistent with rules for elections at the State and Commonwealth level is not the answer. For example, placing monetary limits on expenditure for candidates is not warranted if it is to be applied in a piecemeal fashion to Queensland Local Government elections and not Queensland State elections. The suggestion that a candidate can outspend another candidate to raise their profile in the media is true but it also applies to all levels of Government, not just Local Government.

The same principle applies to other issues raised in the CMC discussion paper i.e. there needs to be parity in terms of how candidates are treated and elections conducted across all three levels of Government. There is no equity in having different rules for Local Government compared to other levels of Government.

Our Council has provided a copy of this submission to the Local Government Associated of Queensland for their information.

Yours faithfully

Brett de Chastel  
DIRECTOR CORPORATE SERVICES

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