



Councils Reference:
G.020.00 BW/AP
Telephone enquiries to:
Brian Wilkinson

30 June 2004

The Committee Manager
Standing Committee on Public Works
Parliament House
Macquarie Street
SYDNEY NSW 2000

Dear Sir

Reference is made to the "Inquiry Into the Joint Use and Co-Location of Public Buildings".

On behalf of Council, the following comments are provided:

1. The concept of joint use and co-location is supported.
2. For that concept to have effective outcomes, there are a number of pre-requisites; these are:
 - the need for Council(s) to have meaningful forward financial planning and strategies.
 - an effective partnership needs to be established between State Government and Local Government. In that respect, the roles of the tiers of government and issues of cost shifting need to be resolved. In addition, communication between State Government agencies and Local Government needs to be increased and strategies for the provision of public infrastructure to become more aligned. This should also be looked at from regional and/or sub-regional perspectives, i.e. the strategies for each region be defined so that "energies" are spent on likely outcomes rather than unsustainable wish lists.

Council appreciates the opportunity to comment on this Inquiry.

Yours faithfully


Brian Wilkinson
GENERAL MANAGER

All correspondence should be addressed to:

**The General Manager,
RICHMOND VALLEY COUNCIL**

Administration Office: Cnr. Walker St. & Graham Place (Locked Bag 10) CASINO NSW 2470