**From:** Brett Stonestreet

Sent: Wednesday, 24 July 2024 9:32 AM

To: State Development Cr. Cr Doug Curran

**Subject:** RE: Inquiry into the ability of local governments to fund infrastructure and services

- Post-hearing responses - 15 July 2024

Good morning Amanda,

I provide the following responses on behalf of Mayor Doug Curran and myself to the matters raised in your email of 19 July 2024.

any transcript corrections

There are no requested transcript corrections.

• answers to questions on notice directed to you/your organisation.

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"The Hon. SCOTT FARLOW: Can I ask a follow-up question on that? Which grant program is that where you're applying but not reaching the minimum threshold?

BRETT STONESTREET: There was a fifty-fifty round of grant funding allocated only in the last—the name escapes me, I'm sorry. Peter Thompson might have it.

The Hon. SCOTT FARLOW: If you could take that on notice, that would be great.

BRETT STONESTREET: Yes, I can take that on notice.

The Grant Program is "The Accelerated Infrastructure Fund" The Fund is administered by the NSW Department of Planning, Housing and Infrastructure

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The CHAIR: My next question may, again, be a question for your CFO, but please feel free to answer as you see fit. Should councils move to cost-based accounting versus fair value accounting? Feel free to take it on

notice, if you want more time to consider the answer.

CAROLYN RODNEY: Yes, I'll probably take that on notice. It's probably a big question that I wouldn't be able to answer on the spot.

The CHAIR: Griffith, did you have any views?

BRETT STONESTREET: We would like to take that on notice as well, Madam Chair.

Griffith City Council considers a cost-based approach would provide a more meaningful and true reflection on the long term carrying value of an asset in Councils balance sheet.

Councils construct a significant proportion of their infrastructure assets that are generally held for long periods of time and subject to ongoing capital maintenance and rarely require a full replacement of the asset.

A cost-based approach would provide a more stable and lower carrying value of assets in the long term however this would be a truer reflection of the assets value as well as the rate of consumption of the economic benefits provided by the asset via depreciation.

• any additional information you wish to provide to the committee.

No further information to be provided thank you.

Regards

## **Brett Stonestreet PSM**

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Griffith City Council acknowledges and respects the Wiradjuri people as the traditional custodians and ancestors of the land and waters where we work.

There is no expectation for you to read or respond to this email outside of your normal working hours

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