

**Submission
No 5**

**INQUIRY INTO INTEGRITY, EFFICACY, AND VALUE FOR
MONEY OF THE LOCAL SMALL COMMITMENTS
ALLOCATION PROCESS**

Organisation: Bayside Council

Date Received: 23 January 2025

23 January 2025

Our Ref: 25/21800

Director, Public Accountability and Works Committee
Parliament House
Macquarie Street
SYDNEY NSW 2000

Via email: PAWC@parliament.nsw.gov.au

Dear Sir/Madam

Re: Inquiry into Integrity, efficacy, and value for money of the Local Small Commitments Allocation process

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the Inquiry into Integrity, efficacy, and value for money of the Local Small Commitments Allocation process.

Bayside Council was the recipient of three grants, these being LSCA671 – King St Mall Playground upgrade; LSCA356 – L'Estrange Park upgrade and LSCA258 – Booralee Park upgrade.

Council makes the following comments from a user-experience perspective:

- We note that representatives from the Premier's Department kept a consistent clear communication with Bayside Council
- While we understand that there was a lot of information sessions for Councils on this program, given it's also a new program for our local Members, they didn't appear to have a model framework on how to deal with and manage the applications within their offices
- From an administrative perspective, some of the application processes were inconsistently applied to user-recipients. As an example - for one of our projects there was a pre-filled application number and profile created, whereas for another project Council was required to liaise with the local Member's office, gain their support and then liaise with the office LSCA to create a profile number
- There was a project which was incorrectly allocated to Bayside Council to manage and which was ultimately transferred out of Council's control

We acknowledge that we are still at the commencement stage for all three projects and may have further comments to make once these projects are complete.

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On behalf of Bayside Council, we thank the NSW Generations Fund of the NSW Premier's Department for the opportunity to take part in this program and deliver significant benefit to our local community. Our projects were to deliver a suite of community infrastructure projects which directly benefit our residents which we may not have been able to achieve without this important funding.

Sincerely

Meredith Wallace
General Manager