

File: 05/01/06 15 October 2015

Mr Robert Wright General Manager—Water and Wireline Markets Australian Competition and Consumer Commission GPO Box 520 **MELBOURNE VIC 3001**

postalservices@accc.gov.au

Dear Mr Wright

AUSTRALIA POST – LETTER PRICING 2015

I write to express my concern at the substantial increase in the cost of postage proposed to be incurred in January 2016.

The costs of postage to Council will be considerable and, in the current economic climate with proposed rate capping and the realities of other economic constraints, the impact will significantly impact on the levels of service that Council provides.

Council covers an area of 22,330km² and posting information to our residents and ratepayers is often the only means of communication.

In 2014/15 Council expended approximately \$206,838 in essential postage expenses. This essential postage includes Annual and Quarterly Instalment Rate Notices, Animal Registrations, seeking feedback from the community in addition to our regular everyday mail communication with our community.

Increases in postage charges to the extent proposed will clearly impact on Council's financial situation and therefore directly upon its ratepayers.

Should you require any further information, please contact Richard Sexton, Manager Corporate Administration, on (03) 5018 8189.

Yours sincerely

MANAGER CORPORATE