

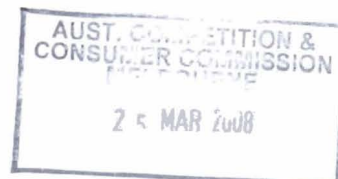


Sharon Bird MP

FEDERAL MEMBER FOR CUNNINGHAM



March 20, 2008



Grocery Price Inquiry – Submissions
Australian Competition and Consumers Commission
GPO Box 520
MELBOURNE VIC 3001

Dear Sir

Please find enclosed correspondence I have received from Mr Ronald Knowles, a constituent in my electorate, expressing views on the price of groceries in Australia.

Although I realise that the deadline for submissions has closed, I have advised Mr Knowles that his correspondence to me has been forwarded to the inquiry for consideration.

Yours sincerely

SHARON BIRD MP

FILE NO.	
DOC:	D08/23978
MARS/PRISM.	

22 Hillcrest Street
Wollongong 2500
ph 42 265727
18 March 2008
In Reply Please Quote
208/110/03

Mrs S Bird MP

Member for Warrimoo

Ru. Groves P.O. Clerk.

Whilst I support regular price checks to identify

• cheapest supermarket

• price rises for different types of goods

I believe that too much emphasis is placed on prices
of times.

I believe any price check should also include other
items of customer service standards including

• wide range of goods

• sufficient stock rather than variant values

• sufficient counter

• sufficient staff reducing delays at checkouts

• staff to assist customers, including taking items to
customers cars

• phone in service

• email/computer ordering

• home delivery service

Recently I have witnessed many people especially elderly
and low income people struggling in having to use
public transport (with waiting times at bus stops) to
take their groceries home. I have in submission to
NSW Dept of Planning have suggested that
• phone ordering
• email/computer ordering
• home delivery service

- home delivery service should be compulsory for the two major developments Belmorgan Gravity and GPT here in Wollongong
- I note this might mean less car parking spaces need to be provided This would
- mean saving of \$25000 per car parking space - this is estimated cost of each car space in a multi story carparking station
- reduced congestion of our roads (surely we don't want traffic gridlock like in Sydney)
- reduced petrol consumption
- reduced greenhouse gases
- less burden for elderly and low income people

It is easy for a supermarket to have lower prices if they have no delicatessen counter, reduced staff and poorer customer service like no home delivery

I would hope that these views would be considered

Yours faithfully
Ronald Charles Knowles
RONALD CHARLES KNOWLES