



12 June 2017

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The General Manager
Lithgow City Council
PO Box 19
LITHGOW NSW 2790

Re: Internal Reference IPR17-21

This letter is an addition to the HDP A letter submitted earlier today to Council in relation to the above reference. There are two additional matters we would like to emphasise:

a) *Weeds Management*

A number of our residents have expressed concern regarding roadside weed management in the Hartley Valley, particularly African Lovegrass and St John Wart. Council currently pays \$178 000 pa to the Upper Macquarie County Council - is this enough and/or are we getting value for our money? Effectively this work is undertaken by another body on Council's behalf, we believe Council needs to be more demanding on residents' behalf and to require compliance with strict KPIs by the Upper Macquarie County Council to ensure ratepayers are getting value for money. Additionally, we believe that Council should be willing to accept complaints regarding weed control rather than the present approach which seems to be largely to claim that "it's out of Council's control".

b) *Local Roads Infrastructure*

The condition of our rural roads and subdivision access roads continues to be a concern to Hartley Valley residents. Mc Kanes Falls road is currently a disgrace and needs urgent maintenance. We have written separately to Council regarding our concerns relating to Banners Lane. The residents of Kanimbla Valley in particular have long been concerned about the quality of their road which continues to attract increasing levels of tourist traffic being the key mid-point access to the six-Foot Track and the Eco lodge located down at the point where the track crosses the Cox. Consideration should be given to the possibility of accessing special grant money to address this issue. We believe that Council needs to constantly explore the potential to obtain special grant funding from the State or Federal governments and to explore the need for a special levy to improve our roads infrastructure if other support is not forthcoming.

We trust that Council give utmost consideration to the above issues as part of the forward plan and strategy.

Thank you again for the opportunity to respond.

Yours sincerely

Renzo Benedet
President
Hartley District Progress Association