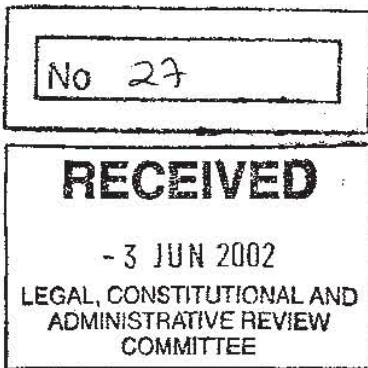




From the Mayor's Office  
**Don Seccombe**  
 Mayor of Redland Shire

29 May, 2002



Our Ref: DS:gs:jd  
 File No: 1493  
 Contact: Gary Photinos

Ms Kerryn Newton  
 Research Director  
 Legal, Constitutional and Administrative Review Committee  
 Parliament House  
 George Street  
 Brisbane QLD 4000

Dear Ms Newton

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on your Issues Paper April 2002.

My Council's comments will only relate to whether the constitution should include a provision stating that a fresh election of Local Government Councillors is required as soon as possible after the appointment of an administrator.

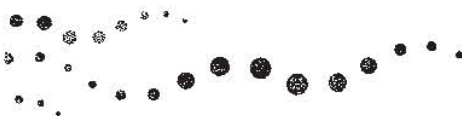
Council reconfirms the position it has held since our last submission to the constitutional review commission in September 1999, that it would support such provisions to be included in the constitution subject to the following conditions.

- That the State could dissolve a Local Government with the approval of the Legislative Assembly only where a process of investigation and suspension precedes it.
- A properly elected Local Government can only be suspended if a report of properly constituted investigation so recommends and only where the Local Government has been afforded its rights under natural justice to respond to such a report.
- Should an investigation reveal the need to dissolve Local Government due to misconduct or corruption, Council is supportive of the need to dissolve a Local Government by having an instrument approved by the Legislative Assembly.
- When such instrument is not required, the duly elected Local Government must be reinstated as soon as possible and no later than six months from the time of the suspension.
- When such instrument is required, fresh election must be called as soon as possible and no later than six months from the time of the suspension.

We believe that this position further strengthens the constitutional status of government at the local level. We welcome any further opportunities to participate in your reviews in the future.

Yours sincerely

**Don Seccombe**  
Mayor of Redland Shire



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