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27 July 2017

Economic Regulation Authority
PO Box 8469
PERTH BC WA 6849

BY EMAIL ONLY: publicsubmissions@erawa.com.au

To whom it may concern,

RE: City of Swan submission in response to draft report into Emergency Services Levy (ESL) Review

I write to make a submission in response to the draft report into Emergency Services Levy (ESL) Review.

Broadly the City is supportive of the recommendations in the draft report and is hopeful that these continue to be recommendations in the final report. The City provides comments on the following recommendations within the report as follows:

Recommendation 12

Whilst the City agrees that the ESL should not fund recovery, clear pathways are required for Local Governments to gain rapid State and Federal Government funding and support during the recovery process. While the City of Swan has significant capabilities some smaller Local Governments are likely to become overwhelmed quickly when a recovery process is required.

Recommendation 14

As the Community Emergency Services Manager (CESM) position is fundamentally employed for preparedness and response activities, the position should be fully funded by the ESL.

Recommendation 21

To support this recommendation the City of Swan will conduct a review of the Unimproved Value (UV) of properties within the City of Swan Local Government area for the 2017/18 financial year.

Recommendation 33

The City of Swan supports the inclusion of information with the distribution of rates notices that clearly identifies the monetary portion and purpose of ESL collection through the rates notice.

Recommendation 36

Whilst the City supports this recommendation, it is important that the data bases and systems that have been established to manage Bushfire risk management plans are continued to be supported and upgraded by the Department of Fire and Emergency Services to allow Local Governments to continue this work.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide further comment as part of the ESL review. Should you require any further information or clarification, please do not hesitate to contact me via the contact details listed above.

Yours sincerely,

Mark Bishop
Executive Manager
Community Wellbeing