



**ATTORNEY-GENERAL
THE HON ROBERT McCLELLAND MP**

10/6264, MC10/8705

08 JUL 2010

Brunswick Heads
NSW 2483

Dear Mr Thompson

I refer to your letter received on 10 June 2010 regarding the 1988 referendum.

In 1988, four proposals to amend the Constitution were put to voters in accordance with section 128 of the Constitution. One of those proposals sought to give constitutional recognition to local government but the proposal was not carried.

The Constitution does not currently recognise local government. Any change to the Constitution to recognise local government would need to be approved by voters at a referendum. The Government will continue to explore reform, including constitutional recognition, to facilitate cooperation with local government.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'R. McClelland', written in a cursive style.

Robert McClelland