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## STATEMENT BY THE INTERIM ADMINISTRATOR

The decision of the Minister for Local Government to hold a Public Inquiry into Wingecarribee Shire Council is welcomed.

Credit for the Minister's decision must go to the many residents who worked tirelessly to expose the perceived failures of both the elected body and former executive and the arrogance of some who did not follow their clearly stated guiding principles and responsibilities in relation to exercise of functions generally, decision making and community participation.

In my outreach visits residents and organisations placed their trust and confidence in me and it was from this honest and frank dialogue that many of my actions and conclusions were drawn.

I would also like to acknowledge the openness of staff in exposing issues and for their assistance with the independent reviews and audits. I am very conscious of the fact that there are many vacancies in the organisation and the extra demands of working in a COVID-19 world. Be assured that you have contributed to Wingecarribee Shire Council being a much better place in which to work and becoming an employer of choice.

The Council not listening was a feature of the past. The voice of the community has now been heard and the Minister for Local Government has acted.

On a personal note I am determined to see this through and thank the Minister for her confidence in my reappointment.

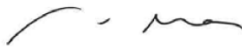
While undertaking my statutory role without fear or favour, I am committed to supporting the General Manager as she builds a professional organisation in which the Shire's community can have confidence, respect and trust.

*Working with you*

Importantly, when elections are held, Councillors will be able to develop a strong partnership with an Administration providing clear, transparent and consistent advice.

Residents, ratepayers and staff may be assured of your Council's total co-operation with the Public Inquiry and when the call for submissions is released, and if you have an experience that will assist (and I have heard so many), I encourage you to come forward.

The rebuild of Wingecarribee Shire Council is well underway and the Public Inquiry can only add value to that process helping to ensure that the community has a Council that is serving its best interests.



Viv May PSM  
**Interim Administrator**