



**Premier & Cabinet**  
Division of Local Government

5 O'Keefe Avenue NOWRA NSW 2541  
Locked Bag 3015 NOWRA NSW 2541

Our Reference: A250374 & A250550  
Your Reference:  
Contact: Penny McKay  
Phone: 02 4428 4218

Mr Stephan Gyory  
Email: [Stephan@thecordstore.com.au](mailto:Stephan@thecordstore.com.au)

12 JUL 2011

Dear Mr Gyory

The Minister for Local Government, the Hon Don Page MP, has referred your emailed letters of 9 and 10 June 2011 to me regarding City Of Sydney Council and the decline in trade on Oxford Street, Sydney.

While I appreciate the circumstances which have prompted you to write I must advise neither the Minister nor the Division of Local Government, Department of Premier and Cabinet can assist you on this occasion.

Councils are established as largely autonomous bodies with a broad range of discretionary powers under the *Local Government Act 1993* and other legislation. They are not generally the subject of intervention by the Minister, or the Division, when they are acting within their discretionary powers.

It is the responsibility of the governing body to direct and control the affairs of the Council in accordance with the Act. Councillors, as members of the governing body, have a responsibility to review the performance of Council and its delivery of services, management plans and revenue policies.

I note that you have also forwarded a copy of your email to the Councillors and staff of City of Sydney Council. You have acted appropriately in this regard as your concerns primarily fall to Council to examine and deal with in its discretion.

Alternatively you may wish to consider writing directly to the General Manger who has responsibility for the examination of complaints concerning the day to day operations of Council.

I trust this information is of assistance.

Yours sincerely

**Ross Woodward**  
Chief Executive, Local Government  
A Division of the Department of Premier and Cabinet

