

Barriers to Effective Climate Change Adaptation
Productivity Commission
LB2 Collins Street East
Melbourne VIC 8003



COMMITTED TO A
SUSTAINABLE
PENINSULA



5 June 2012

Dear Chairperson,

Barriers to Effective Climate Change Adaptation

Thank you for the opportunity to examine the draft report – *Barriers to Effective Climate Change Adaptation* and provide written comment. This submission builds on the Mornington Peninsula Shire's submission to the Productivity Commission's Issues Paper.

General Comment

Overall the report is good and provides a thorough examination of the barriers to effective climate change adaptation. However, additional work with regards to the reform priorities is required, in particular, clarification regarding specific responsibilities, timeframes and sources of funding.

Specific Comments relating to Recommendations

The Shire is broadly supportive of the Commission's draft recommendations, specific comment pertaining to a number of recommendations is provided below.

Assessing Reforms and Setting Priorities

Draft Recommendation 4.1: The Shire supports the recommendation but notes that when assessing delivery of net benefit externalities need to be costed to ensure that a true net benefit is considered.

Local Government

Draft Recommendation 7.1: The Shire supports this recommendation. It is vital for roles and responsibilities around adaptation to be clearly defined, at all levels of Government. In the instance of any new roles being delegated to local governments appropriate funding and resourcing provisions need to be made.

Draft Recommendation 7.2: The Shire strongly supports this recommendation. It should be noted that in some instances Councils must be reasonably protected from legal liability, for example when acting in good faith, consistent with State policy and guidance materials as a responsible planning authority.

Planning and Building Regulation

Draft Recommendation 8.1: The Shire supports this recommendation however it is important to ensure that there is clear State policy and regulatory context so that consistency is obtained and unintended consequences are avoided.

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Please note that this submission expresses the views of Council Officers not that of the Council.

Yours Sincerely,

Sophia Schyschow
Manager – Renewable Resources