



PRIME MINISTER

ALGA MAIL
ITEM No:
DATE RECEIVED: 4.2.16
FILE No:

Reference: MC16-000591

1 FEB 2016

Mayor Troy Pickard
President
Australian Local Government Association
8 Geils Court
DEAKIN ACT 2600

Dear Mayor Pickard *Troy,*

Thank you for your letter dated 24 September 2015 regarding a resolution of the National General Assembly of Local Government seeking acknowledgement of Sir Henry Parkes' vision for a unification of all levels of government in the context of Federation reform.

As you are aware, the Council of Australian Government's (COAG) consideration of Federation reform is ongoing. I know you have been an active participant in these discussions, advocating for the critical role local government plays in our Federation.

Leaders have approached these discussions, mindful that the way all levels of government work together is a key factor in improving services and delivering higher living standards for all Australians.

In December 2015, we committed to close collaboration in areas of shared responsibility and agreed reforms in health, education and tax would be key elements of a new economic reform agenda to deliver a stronger, more productive and more innovative Australian economy.

Our officials are working together to develop these reforms so that we can consider what action to take at our first COAG meeting in 2016.

Yours sincerely

MALCOLM TURNBULL