

CLASS 1 – LOCAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT

Prepared under the Gaming Machines Act 2001

and

the Gaming Machines Regulation 2002

To accompany an application for an increase

Of two in the gaming machine threshold

Of

The Grange Hotel

Prepared for the licensee

Grant Lawrence Hill

17 February 2015

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

1. Introduction

- 1.1 Under the Gaming Machines Act (the Act), certain applications made to the Independent Liquor and Gaming Authority (the Authority) to increase the gaming machine threshold (GMT) of a hotel need to be accompanied by a Local Impact assessment (LIA). [The GMT establishes the maximum number of gaming machines that can be kept in a hotel]. The Authority must be satisfied that the LIA meets specified criteria before it can approve it and that approval is necessary prerequisite to the Authority approving the application for the GMT increase.
- 1.2 Section 26 of the Act specifies that, for the Authority to approve an LIA, it must be satisfied that;
 - a. The LIA complies with the requirements of the relevant provisions of the Act and the Gaming Machines Regulation (the Regulation);
 - b. The LIA demonstrates the gambling activities in the relevant venue will be conducted in a responsible manner; and
 - c. In the case of a Class 1 LIA (LIA1) related to an established hotel, that:-
 - i. The proposed increase in the GMT will provide a positive contribution towards the local community; and
 - ii. The LIA has adequately addressed community concerns arising out of the consultation process required under the Regulation.
- 1.3 Grant Lawrence Hill, the licensee of the Grange Hotel (the hotel), is applying – under Section 34 of the Act to the Authority for approval of a GMT increase of two (2), ie from 28 to 30.
- 1.4 The hotel is in the city of Gosford (the city) which is classified by the Authority, pursuant to Section 33 of the Act as a Band 2 LGA. Because the increase in GMT sought is in the low range of

increases as defined in clause 34 of the Regulation, an LIA1 is required to accompany Mr Hill's application.

2. The Hotel's Location and Surroundings

- 2.1 The hotel is located on the south east corner of the intersection of the Pacific Highway and Renwick Wyoming approximately 2.5klms to the North of Gosford City centre (vide Plans /1 and 2). The Pacific Highway forms the Western boundary of the hotel and Renwick Street the Northern boundary.
- 2.2 To the north of the hotel is largely residential. To the south of the hotel is mostly commercial. To the east of the hotel is predominantly residential. The western side of the Pacific Highway near the hotel has a small commercial area but is largely bushland. The main northern railway line is located to the west of the hotel.
- 2.3 The area surrounding the hotel has changed little in recent years.
- 2.4 Traffic flow through the intersection of the Pacific Highway and Renwick Street is controlled by a multi-lane roundabout and carries large variable volumes of traffic daily.

3. The Hotel

- 3.1 The land on which the hotel stands has been occupied by the hotel for in excess of forty (40) years. The bulk of the present hotel building was erected in the early 1970's but substantial additions and renovations have been made to it in subsequent decades. The most recent of these renovations in 2010 have greatly increased the hotel's patronage. The hotel has always been known as the Grange Hotel.
- 3.2 The hotel is a single story building constructed of brick. The hotel's liquor barn is a separate building located on the western boundary of the property, separated from the hotel by part of the hotel's car park. The hotel provides parking for 170 cars on the eastern, western and southern sides of the main hotel building. Access to the hotel's car park is via two entrances on Renwick Street.
- 3.3 The hotel contains a public bar at its western end, a gaming lounge in its mid section. There is an outdoor gaming area on the southern side of the building adjacent to the gaming lounge. There is a bistro/dining area at the eastern end of the hotel and an outdoor beer garden at the northern end.
- 3.4 Patrons can enter the hotel from the car park via doorways into the public bar and the bistro/dining area.
- 3.5 The hotel engages security personnel each night from 20 minutes prior to closing time.
- 3.6 The hotel trades 10.00am – 12 Midnight Monday to Sunday.
- 3.7 The hotel provides entertainment sporadically.
- 3.8 The hotel is popular. During the daytime, its clientele consists mainly of business people and tradesmen. In the evenings its clientele consists mainly of local residents many of whom dine in the hotel's dining area.
- 3.9 There are 52 people on the payroll of the hotel and on busy Friday and Saturday nights 25 are usually on duty.

4. The Hotel's Gaming

- 4.1 The hotel's gaming room is regular in shape with the bulk of the machines located in a part where players can't smoke. Annexure A contains a plan of the gaming room showing the locations of the machines currently in operation and the proposed locations of the two additional machines when the GMT is increased.

- 4.2 The hotel's GMT is 28 this was established in 2013. The hotel currently keeps 28 gaming machines.
- 4.3 The hotels gaming machines are all located in the gaming room which complies with the provisions of Clause 9 of the Regulation in that :-
- The gaming room is located in/off a bar area;
 - The gaming room is physically separated from the general bar area by walls and doors;
 - Patrons are not compelled to pass through the gaming room in order to enter or leave the hotel or in order to gain access to another part of it;
 - Entry to the gaming room is free of charge;
 - The gaming machines cannot be seen or heard from any place outside the hotel that is used by the public or to which the public has access.
 - All gaming machines are suitably spaced in order to facilitate access; the gaming room is supervised at all times by electronic means and/or the physical presence of the licensee or an employee; and
 - The gaming room cannot be accessed directly from a public street.
- 4.4 The renovations to the hotel in 2010 have resulted in a substantial increase in patronage. Consequently, during the majority of trading periods the capacity of the hotel's existing gaming machines to cope with player demand is being taxed regularly. This means the hotel is failing to meet the reasonable expectations of those of its patrons who wish to play, and that in turn affects its business. The GMT increase sought would assist the hotel in meeting player demands and should improve its profitability, thereby enabling it to finance further improvements to its premises and/or its operations.

5. Competitive Facilities

- 5.1 Within a five (5) kilometre radius of the hotel there are eight (8) hotels (including the Grange Hotel) with gaming machines. In this same radius there are four (4) registered clubs with gaming machines.
- 5.2 The total gaming machines in the eight hotels is 176. The total number of gaming machines in the four registered clubs is approximately 550.
- 5.3 There are no other hotels or registered clubs within a two (2) kilometre radius of the hotel.

6. The Local Community

- 6.1 For the purposes of this application, the area being adopted as being that within which the local community lives is that lying within approximately two (2) kilometres of the hotel. That local community embraces the suburbs of Wyoming, Narara and North Gosford.
- 6.2 At the 2011 census the population of the local community was 21,182. The population of the Gosford LGA was 162,440.
- i. The percentages of children aged 0-4 was 6.8% which is slightly higher than Gosford LGA 6%.
 - ii. The percentages of people aged over 75 years was 8.8% lower than Gosford LGA 10.9%.

- iii. The percentages of people born overseas was 21.4% comparable with Gosford LGA 21.5%
- iv. The percentages of people who speak only English was 89.6% comparable with Gosford LGA 89.9%
- v. The percentages of people who also speak another language was 10.4% comparable with Gosford LGA 10.1%
- vi. The percentages of people with University degrees was 16.3% slightly less than Gosford LGA 18.9%
- vii. The percentages of people with Certificate III trade qualifications or above was 15.5% slightly higher than Gosford LGA 15%
- viii. The percentage of low income households (ie less than \$600 per week) was 15% slightly higher than Gosford LGA 13.2%.
- ix. The percentage of lone person households was 25.6% less than Gosford LGA 27.2%.
- x. The percentage of one parent families with dependent children was 5.5% higher than Gosford LGA 4.2%
- xi. The percentage of rented accommodation was 27.7% slightly higher than Gosford LGA 25.9%

7. Harm Minimisation and Responsible Gaming

7.1 Under Clause 37c of the Regulation, details of the harm minimisation and responsible gambling measures that are in place at the hotel must be provided.

7.2 The applicant conducts gaming in the hotel in compliance with the provisions of the Act and Regulations as well as the policies and guidelines adopted by the Australian hotels Association (AHA) NSW. It is a standard arrangement with the AHA/Centa-Care Gambling Counselling Program if counselling is required.

7.3 Thus, gaming in the hotel is conducted in accord with the provisions of the Act and Regulation in that:-

- The applicant and all staff involved in gaming duties hold Responsible Conduct of Gambling Certificates. Copies of these certificates are kept on the premises and are available for inspection by relevant authorities.
- The hotel operates a self exclusion scheme which complies with the provisions of the legislation through AHA/Centa-Care.
- The hotel has an arrangement with that organization in relation to the provision of problem gambling counselling and patrons are advised of the *gambling HELP* service.
- Relevant staff members have training in self exclusion and on referral to counselling services.
- All required signage and notices are displayed in conspicuous positions and are maintained.
- Gambling counselling service contact cards are freely available and are on display in the gaming room.
- A clock is clearly visible from any gaming machine in the gaming room.
- No ATM is located in the gaming room.
- The hotel does not provide credit.
- There is a \$2,000 limit on cash payment on winnings, any remaining balance is paid by crossed cheque.
- No cheques are cashed at the hotel.
- The hotel does not offer promotional prizes that are indecent or offensive.
- No gambling inducements are offered.
- There is no external advertising of the hotel's gaming machines.
- The hotel's gaming machines cannot be seen from outside the hotel.

7.4 These practices will be maintained.

7.5 The applicant observes self-exclusions from relevant patrons at his hotel and those from other premises.

8. Community Benefit.

8.1 If the application is approved in full the applicant will arrange for a donation of \$25,000 to be made to Coast Shelter a local charity organization. Annexure B contains copies of correspondence regarding this donation.

8.2 The applicant selected this organization as recipients because Coast Shelter is a long standing local charity that provides, amongst other things, much needed emergency accommodation (more than 150 beds per night) and more than 1000 meals per week to those in need.

8.3 This donation would be in addition to the regular generous donations the hotel currently makes to various charities, community and sporting organizations such as Rotary, Legacy, Cancer Care, Variety Club, several local schools, Narara/Wyoming Cricket Club, Wyoming Soccer Club and Gosford Swimming Club.

9. Conclusion.

9.1 The information in this Class 1 LIA complies with the Authority's Guidelines. In particular it:-

- Addresses the responsible gambling and harm minimisation measures to be undertaken by the hotel.
- Identifies the local community.
- Provides information to show that a positive contribution will be made to that local community if this LIA is approved and the hotel's GMT threshold is increased by two.

10. Consultation.

10.1 In accordance with Clause 39 of the regulation, within 2 working days of the application being lodged with the Office of Liquor, Gaming and Racing (OLGR) copies of the application and this LIA will be provided to Gosford City Council and to Gosford Police. Notification of the application will be provided to the Council of Social Services NSW and the Central Coast Area Health Service. Nine organizations funded by the Responsible Gambling Fund for the purpose of providing gambling-relates counselling or treatment services will be notified of the application. In addition an advertisement will be placed in a local newspaper and a notice will be placed on display in a conspicuous location outside the hotel.

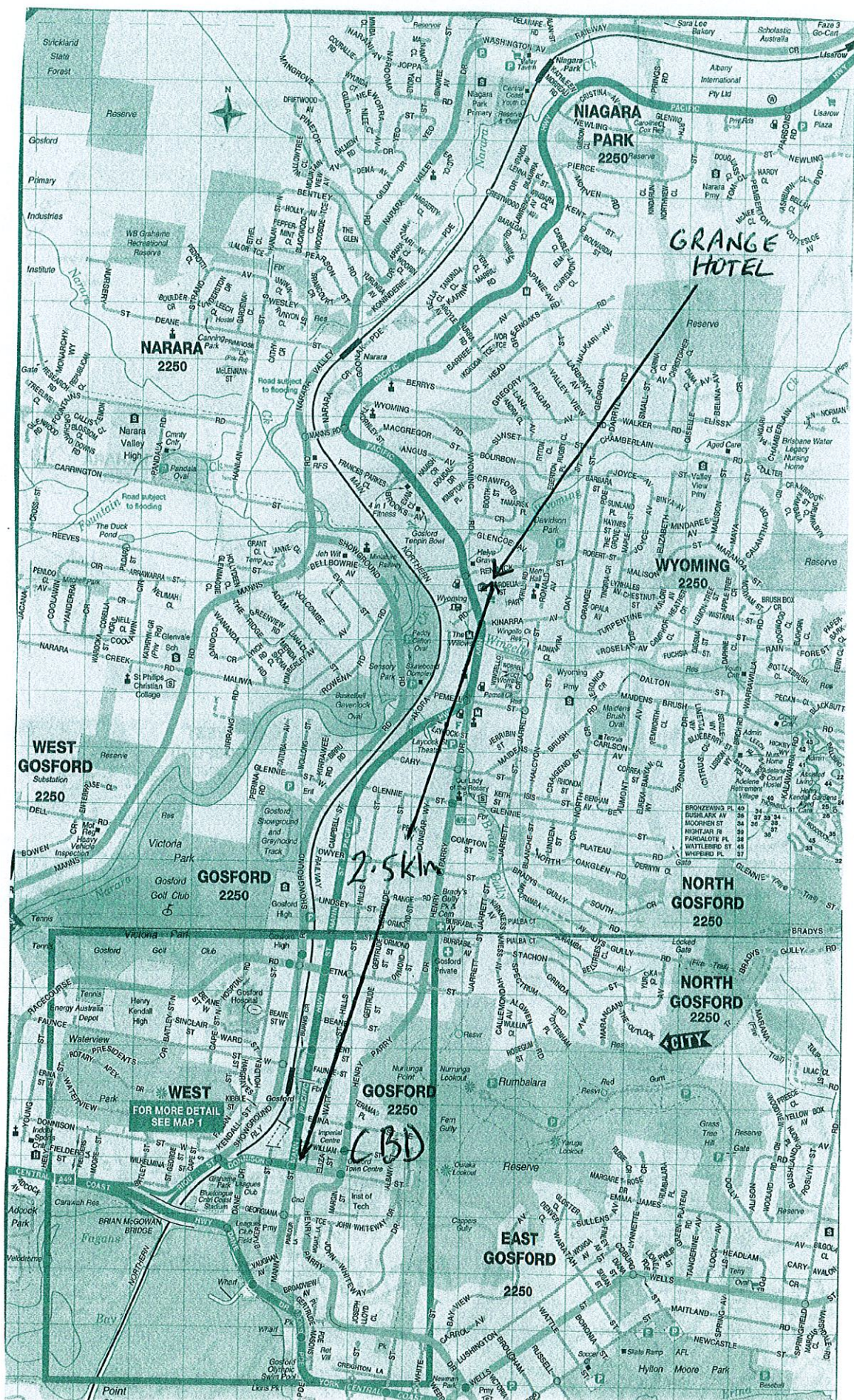
10.2 All notifications and the advertisement will outline and explain the nature of the application, that this LIA accompanies it, that the application and this LIA may be inspected on the OLGR website and that any person may make a submission to OLGR in relation to the application within 30 days of the date specified on the advertisement or in the notice.

10.3 If OLGR forwards any submissions it may receive to the applicant endeavours will be made to resolve any relevant concerns that may be raised.

PLAN 1



PLAN 2



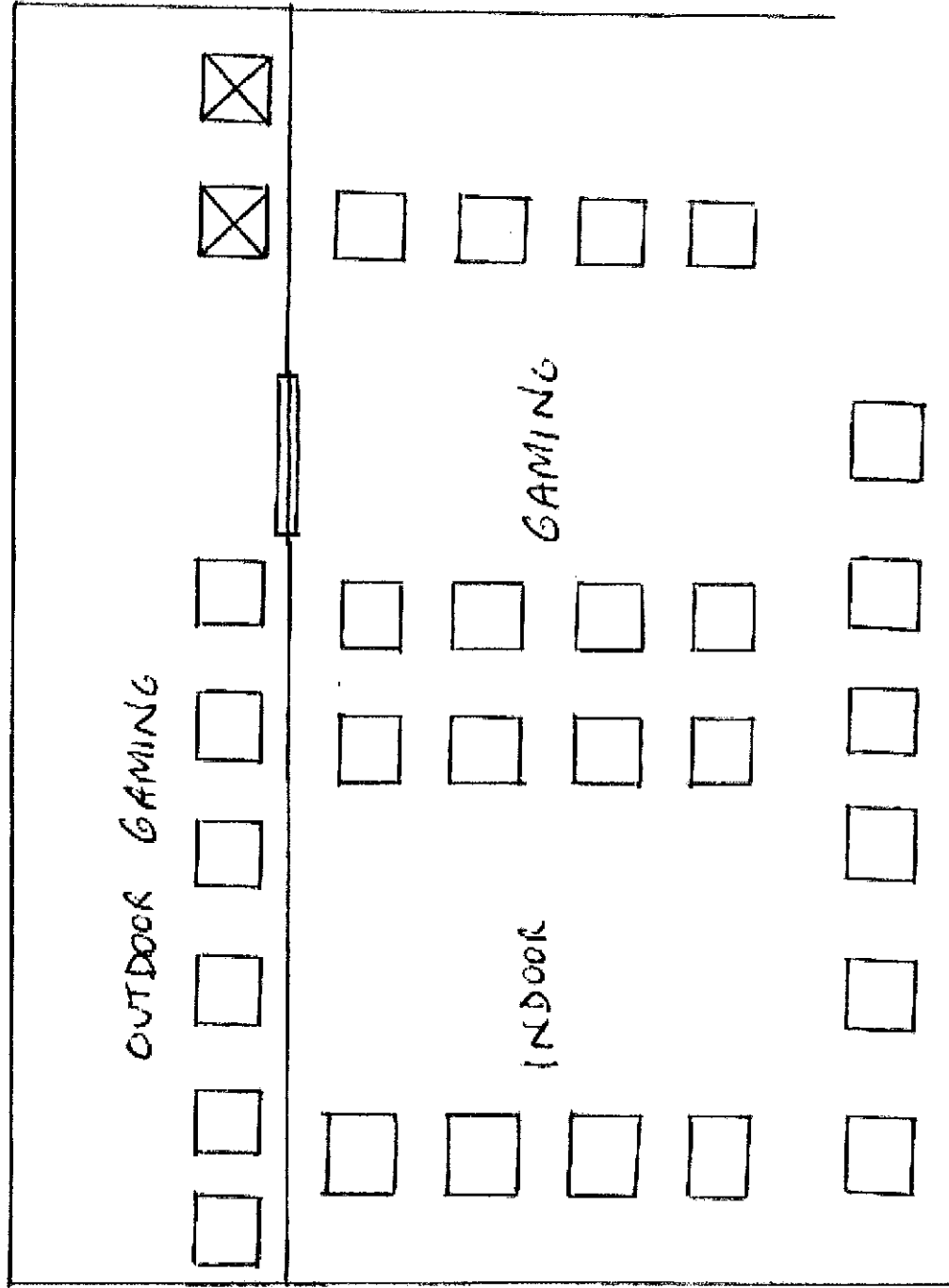
GRANGE HOTEL GAMING ROOM ANNEXURE A

LOCATIONS OF
CURRENT EGMs



LOCATIONS OF 2

PROPOSED EGMs



ANNEXURE B

Glen Cook Pty Limited

ACN 140 459 338
ABN 65 140 459 338
PO Box 5038
Empire Bay NSW 2257
Email cookglenn@gmail.com

DIRECTOR
Glenn W Cook
JP 179891
Tel 0414239101
Fax: (02) 4311 2602

Fundraising Coordinator
Coast Shelter
346 Mann Street
NORTH GOSFORD NSW 2250

RE The Grange Hotel Pacific Highway Wyoming.

Dear Vicki

Following our recent telephone conversation I am writing to confirm that the licensee and owner of the Grange Hotel Mr Grant Hill proposes to make a donation of \$25,000 to your organisation to demonstrate to the Liquor and Gaming Authority that a *'positive contribution towards the local community'* will arise should his application to increase his gaming machine holdings by two be approved.

Mr Hill does not seek any publicity in relation to the donation and as such the donation will not be mentioned in any of his hotel's advertising either internal or external.

Would you please confirm in writing on your organisation's letterhead that you will accept Mr Hill's donation should his application be approved. It would also be of assistance if you would outline how this donation would benefit your organisation.

Should you wish to discuss this matter please don't hesitate to telephone me 0414239101.

Yours faithfully


Glenn Cook
6 February 2015

Mr Grant Hill
Grange Hotel
Pacific Highway
Wyoming NSW 2250

9th February 2015

Dear Mr Hill

Coast Shelter would like to offer our sincere thanks for the proposed donation of \$25,000 from the Grange Hotel.

This donation would be used to help fund the Coast Community Centre located at 346 Mann Street, North Gosford providing free meals, assessment, referral and support to help homeless, vulnerable, financially disadvantaged and socially isolated community members. It is open to anyone needing assistance - no questions asked. Over 150 free meals are served every day to anyone in need.

Coast Shelter has been providing support services to the homeless on the Central Coast for over 21 years and relies totally on community donations and the support of more than 200 volunteers. We are a Central Coast organisation looking after our local community and we are extremely grateful for the financial support we receive from local businesses, so thank you to the Grange Hotel for considering Coast Shelter for this donation, it will change lives locally!

Please contact me for any further information

Yours sincerely



Vicki de Carle
Fundraising Coordinator
0437 999797

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FUNDED BY:



Human Services
Community Services

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North Gosford NSW 2250 Fax: (02) 4324 7876
[PO Box 1234, Gosford NSW 2250] ABN 46 095 999 287