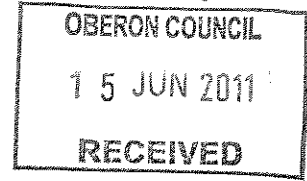


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200 Albion Street
Oberon 2787

15 June 2011



The General Manager
Ms Leanne Mash
Oberon Shire Council
P.O.Box 84
Oberon 2787

Dear Leanne

My partner John Martin and I wish to register our disapproval and disappointment with Council's decision to downgrade our Library.

A 50% cut to the Library funding is deplorable.

Oberon's Library is one of the best I have ever belonged to in my many moves around the country. As pensioners, we strongly depend on the Library to keep up with the latest in magazines and novels, not to mention the excellent selection of non-fiction and reference material.

Oberon is not a rich town. With many families struggling to meet costs these days, we cannot afford the added luxury of book buying.

It is Council's Duty of Care, along with the road upkeep, Information Centre etc. to provide all citizens in the community with the means to access information.

Any time I visit the Library out of school hours, there are children in there researching the books and using the Internet for school assignments, or just reading for enjoyment. Again may I stress that with Oberon's low socio-economic situation, the local children need the means to be well informed, ie access to the latest news and technology so they don't fall behind in knowledge of the latest developments.

Another drawback to everyone's accessing that knowledge, is that I am told we will all be paying not the previous 20c per copy for photocopying, but an outrageous \$1.00 per sheet!!

How can Council possibly justify charging such an amount?

All Council is achieving here is the prohibiting of us all from using the photocopier and printer.

I sincerely ask that Council rethink their cuts to Library funding, as in the long run Oberon itself will be the loser if it's townsfolk do not have services comparable to the more affluent societies.

Yours Sincerely

Robin Toedter and John Martin.