

Media Release

Have your say on tree disputes

The State Government is reviewing laws on how people can resolve disputes about trees.

Warringah Councillor, Vincent De Luca is encouraging residents to have their say and make submissions to the Government on how best they think neighbourhood disputes about trees can be resolved.

"Currently the law in place provides for the Land and Environment Court to make orders to restrain or prevent damage to property or prevent injury to a person. The Court can also order compensation for or rectification of damage caused by a tree. I think going to the Land and Environment Court to sort out disputes over a tree is cost prohibitive to mums and dads and the every day person in the community" Cr De Luca stated.

"Every week I receive calls and letters from constituents about trees. It is amazing how prevalent this issue is and there needs to be a simplified and cheaper system to resolve such disputes. Alternatives could include going before a Local Court Registrar or Local Court appointed Mediator/Arbitrator with the authority to make orders".

The public can comment on the matter by making a submission to the NSW Attorney General's Department GPO Box 6, Sydney 2001 or email lpd_enquiries@agd.nsw.gov.au by Wednesday 18 February 2009.