

Airport report re PFAS

From **Cr Jason O'Pray** 
To **Melva Hobson** 
Cc **Colleen O'Shea** 
Date **2019-11-07 11:46**

Message Body

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Hi Melva

Thanks for your email.

Appreciated hey

Just to clarify – and as you would be aware – where Council has resolved that a document is to be considered as confidential, a Council resolution is required to release that document. As a Councillor, I cannot release a document that I know to be confidential. Should I do so, I would be committing an offence under the Local Government Act 2009. Likewise, Council's CEO cannot release a document that Council has resolved to be confidential without committing an offence under the Act. This is what I was referring to when I referred to "lawful" release of information.

What I did obtain agreement for however, is a report that actually goes further than what was contained in the original Council report considered [on 22 August](#), given time has moved on, some circumstances have changed (ie. volume of ponded water remaining on site) and other options have been assessed. At my request, the Ocean Release report that has been published contains all of the most up to date information on all of the options considered and assessed up until this point in time, as well as the relevant departmental advice, PFAS levels, rainfall impacts, ocean release considerations etc.

The Council report remains confidential because – as we identified at the community meeting on 10 September 2019 – it contains information relevant to negotiations with the contractor for the Airport Expansion project – with those negotiations yet to be finalised. All of the relevant information relating to PFAS levels, environmental impacts, options etc (plus additional information as I highlighted above) has been included in the Ocean Release report that has been published on Council's Airport Expansion project website.

Thanks again

Regards

Jason

Sent from my iPhone

On 6 Nov 2019, at 1:02 pm, Melva Hobson <secretary@oscar.org.au> wrote:

[SCC External Email: Use caution with links and attachments]

Thanks for your prompt reply Jason. Just a procedural comment. I would have thought that as you emailed OSCAR re an action you committed to taking that you might have let Greg and OSCAR know directly how you were going to handle things differently and why.

You made a statement about "lawful " information being released in the report for the community. We would appreciate clarification as to the nature of what in the report to Council would have been unlawful to release.

Have a good day. Regards Melva

On 6 Nov 2019 11:30 AM, Cr Jason O'Pray <Jason.Opray@sunshinecoast.qld.gov.au> wrote:

Thanks for your note Melva

In recent times all my communication regarding getting this info out has been with Susie.

Feel free to give her a bell, I reckon I contacted her about half a dozen times or so on this. Kept her updated all the way.

I've done all I can to get all lawful information out. In fact, I even requested, successfully, more detail of more recent times to go out at the same time.

The CEO has put everything council can lawfully put out to the community. There simply is no more, I'm not sure what more you want or what more I can do hey.

Feel free to give me a bell anytime hey
Jas

Sent from my iPhone

On 6 Nov 2019, at 11:06 am, "secretary@oscar.org.au" <secretary@oscar.org.au> wrote:

[SCC External Email: Use caution with links and attachments]

Dear Jason - just following up on your email to Greg (who is overseas at the moment) and OSCAR, in relation to your commitment to put a motion to the October OM re releasing the report on which Councillors, in a closed meeting, voted to dispose of contaminated water to the ocean. There was no motion on the October agenda or given as a "late notice of motion".

We heard later that a report was being prepared by council officers. That report was then placed on the "airport expansion" site without informing the community and OSCAR, to whom you made the commitment to seek publication of the Officer's report. We appreciate that the report is fairly comprehensive, however does not allay the concerns of the community. Our question to you is - Why did SCRC expend council officer time and ratepayer money to produce a report instead of releasing the report to council as you indicated you would seek to do? What was in the officer report to Council that the needed to be withheld from the community?

Jason, can you understand the community's concern and why the community is so concerned about the lack of transparency in SCRC? We appreciate that the CEO and other Councillors may have placed you in an extremely difficult position but we look to our elected representatives to have the courage to stop the secrecy and be open and transparent with the community who elected Councillors and pay their salaries.

We look forward to your response.

Regards,

Melva Hobson

Secretary OSCAR

