

## AMENDED ITEM



**Item No:** 5.1  
**Title:** Questions with Notice  
**Department:** Councillor

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12 August 2019 Ordinary Council Meeting

Trim Reference: F2019/00041-02 - D13615983

Author: Bruce McLachlan, Councillor  
Kyle MacGregor, Councillor  
Jillian Hogan, Councillor

### 5.1 Questions with Notice

The following question was submitted by Councillor McLachlan:

#### **Management of Vegetation regrowth - Tuggerah Lakes.**

*May Councillors be given an update on current policy re mowing of lakefront reserves, and management of regrowth of Casurina.*

*I am receiving resident concerns regarding the planting out of reserves, and affectations of view corridors to the waterfront.*

*In previous plantings of the reclaimed reserves at Tuggerah Parade The Entrance, the waterfront area become completely obscured by regrowth.  
Can Councillors be advised of current management plans for the reserves.*

This is a complex question requiring research and resources to provide an appropriate response. As a result it is not possible to provide a response for this Council meeting and it is proposed to provide the response by the Director of Environment and Planning for inclusion in the Business Paper for the meeting of 26 August 2019.

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The following question was submitted by Councillor McLachlan:

#### **Profit on Kiah Ridge airport purchase land.**

*When will Councillors and the public be advised of the final proceeds and profits from the sale of the Kiah Ridge airport opportunity purchase land, purchased by Mayoral minute by former WSC for a alternative airport site, then subsequently resold. May Councillors receive an update on the profit proceeds of sale, and any indication of purchasers intentions for the employment zoned land.*

Response provided by the Director Governance;

## 5.1 Questions with Notice (contd)

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The response to this question includes confidential information and will be provided to Councillors separately.

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The following question was submitted by Councillor McLachlan:

### **Wrack - alternate commercial and remedial use for Coal Ash Dams?**

*Has Council ever considered alternate commercial use for harvested Wrack. In the economic development committee meeting the subject was raised regarding EPA tip fees, and the alternate use as mulch cover for the Coal Ash Dams, reducing the effects of wind blown coal ash pollution.*

*Would it be possible for staff to contact the Energy companies who operate the Coal Ash Dam sites, to discuss any possibility to use harvested Wrack as mulch cover to limit dust pollution on surrounding communities.*

This is a complex question requiring research and resources to provide an appropriate response. As a result it is not possible to provide a response for this Council meeting and it is proposed to provide the response by the Director of Environment and Planning for inclusion in the Business Paper for the meeting of 26 August 2019.

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The following question was submitted by Councillor MacGregor:

### **Council payments methods**

*Does Council utilise the post office or other third parties for the payment of bills or fees such as other major companies do? Further, what methods are currently available for residents to pay their council bills or fees and has council investigated or trialled additional or alternative options in the recent past?*

Response provided by the Chief Financial Officer:

Council will issue in excess of 1,000,000 invoices/notices in 2019/2020 for rates charges, water charges and a large number of different services Council provides.

Council does use a number of third party organisations for facilitating payments on our behalf which is prevalent across large organisations. The payment methods that can be used to pay a Council Rates notice, Water notice, Invoice or other document are generally listed on the invoice/notice to the customer.

The current payment methods available to ratepayers to pay their Council Rates and Water notice are:

## 5.1 Questions with Notice (contd)

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- Direct debit
- Online
- Telephone
- BPAY
- Centrepay
- Australia Post retail outlet
- Cheque
- In Person - cash, cheque and debit/credit card.

The last payment channel to be added was Centrepay prior to amalgamation. Council continually investigates different payment channel options that makes it easier for ratepayers/customers to transact with Council. Where our IT systems can be configured to accept different electronic payment methods from customers that is secure, reliable and affordable, we will pursue those opportunities to promote an efficient operation.

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The following question was submitted by Councillor MacGregor:

### **International Mother Language Day**

*The 21st of February each year is the United Nations day of International Mother Language, councils of comparable size and scale are celebrating this day with various social and community initiatives and events, does Central Coast Council have any plans to celebrate International Mother Language day on the Central Coast in 2020?*

Response provided by the Director Connected Communities:

There are no plans at this stage to host this event. Whilst we do offer linguistically diverse services for our multicultural community, we are still developing our limited resources relating to indigenous language, which was the focus for this year's International Mother Language Day.

Our existing diverse language resources currently include:

- English as a Second Language (ESL) Meet and Greet groups
  - ESL Advanced English/Business discussion group
  - International English Language Testing System (IELTS) information seminars
  - Read Around the World Storytime's in different languages
  - In branch collections in different languages
  - Boxes of books available for order from the State Library of NSW in different languages
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The following question was submitted by Councillor Hogan:

**Chain Valley Bay boat landing platform.**

*Chain Valley Bay Progress Association received a grant from the Lake Coal VPA Levy last year, to construct a boat landing platform adjacent to the boat ramp at Joshua Porter Reserve.*

*The group are still awaiting approval from Council and/or Crown Lands to commence construction.*

*Could staff please act on behalf of the group to obtain the necessary approvals as a matter of urgency so construction can commence?*

This is a complex question requiring research and resources to provide an appropriate response. As a result it is not possible to provide a response for this Council meeting and it is proposed to provide the response by the Director of Environment and Planning for inclusion in the Business Paper for the meeting of 26 August 2019.

**Attachments**

*Nil.*