

Public Forum Question and Response

Subject: Local Approvals Service Unit and Outstanding Assessment of Development Applications

Question From: Vincent De Luca

Meeting Date: 25 November 2003

a. **Question:** How many development applications have been submitted to Council and are awaiting assessment?

Answer: The Administrator advised there are 752 applications pending.

b. **Question:** How many development applications have exceeded 40 days and can now be taken to the Land & Environment Court for deemed refusal appeals?

Answer: The Administrator advised 451 applications exceeded 40 days.

c. **Question:** How many development assessment officers are in the LASU?

Answer: The Director LASU advised there is currently 19 officers being down by 6 due to vacancies and long service leave. Interviews are currently being held to fill vacant positions.

d. **Question:** Are there any proposals to outsource outstanding matters or employ further assessment officers to overcome any delays being experienced with assessment of development applications?

Answer: The Director LASU advised Council is using consultants to address the workload and the review of LASU, currently underway, includes a recruitment strategy.