

Public Forum Question and Response

Subject: Darren Jones versus Warringah Council General Manager
(Administrative Decisions Tribunal) – Council's Costs

Question From: Vincent De Luca

Meeting Date: 27 July 2004

Question:

I note from last Saturday's Manly Daily that dismissed Councillor, Darren Jones, has commenced proceedings against the General Manager, Stephen Blackadder, in the Administrative Decisions Tribunal (ADT). Could Council please advise how much it has cost ratepayers of Warringah to date to defend this action?

Response:

The Chief Finance and Information Officer advised that, as at Friday, 23 July 2004, the action has incurred costs to Council of \$9,500 and 38 hours of staff time. The Administrator informed the meeting that he totally supported the General Manager's decision that staff should open correspondence addressed to Council. He believed that opening the mail of past office-bearers was an unavoidable practice.