

Public Forum Questions and Response

Question from: Mr Vincent De Luca

Meeting Date: 25 October 2005

Subject: Cost Blow out Curl Curl Lagoon Project

Further information provided by the Director Customer and Community Services

Question: a) Is it correct that the contract awarded in 2003 to Patterson & Britton was for \$62,000?

Response:

This is generally correct. The original tender price from Patterson Britton and Partners P/L (PBP) was \$62,400 (\$68,640 inc GST).

This was broken up into 4 components:

1. Review of SEE and Appendices \$6,800
2. Planning focus group meeting and workshop \$12,600
3. Sampling and analysis program \$18,500
4. Update of SEE and Appendices \$24,500

The consultant PBP was selected through a selective tendering process where 5 firms were requested to quote against the specification.

The brief was to “update the Curl Curl Lagoon statement of Environmental Effects to an appropriate standard for submission of a Development Application for Stage 4 of the Greendale Creek and Curl Curl Lagoon Rehabilitation Project”. The original report had been completed by PBP in 1994.

Question: b) Is it correct that the costs to date amount to approximately \$178,000?

Response: No. The cost of the project up to 31 August 2005 is \$162,311.80. See answer to c below for breakdown.

Question: c) What is the exact amount expended to date on this project?

Response: The additional costs relate to:

Economic Evaluation – by Manidis Roberts \$25,944

Ecological Sampling – by Ecology Lab \$16,179

Soils Testing - by SESL/ANL \$3,948

Noise Assessment - by Atkins Acoustic \$5,900

Traffic Study – by Masson \$5,000

Review SEE Additional requirements \$4,200

Legal Advice – by Wilshire Webb \$3,760

Community Day – by Patterson Britton (PBP) \$4,500

4

Additional project management costs - PBP \$30,480

This totals \$99,911 above the original tender amount.

Question: d) If there has been a variance from the original contract amount, have the extra costs been authorised in accordance with the procurement guidelines of Council?

Response: The additional costs were variations to the contract. Some components have been found not to be authorised in accordance with

the Council's Procurement Manual. This issue has been under review by the Internal Ombudsman for some weeks and the report with findings and recommendations will be reported to the General Manager in the next week. The result will be publicly notified at that time.