

Public Forum Question and Response

Subject: Eviction by Council of community groups from Dee Why Neighbourhood Centre

Question From: Mr Vincent De Luca OAM

Meeting Date: 26 February 2008

Question:

Could Council please advise on what date they notified services/organizations in the Dee Why Neighbourhood Centre that they would need to relocate to Cromer Community Centre?

- a) What community consultation and consultation with these groups was undertaken by Council prior to informing the stakeholders of this decision?
- b) What are the reasons for moving these organizations from the Dee Why Neighbourhood centre?

Response:

The Acting Director Customer and Community Services firstly advised why people were moved from this area (as a direct result of the development works at the Dee Why Hotel site), and advised that the childcare centre and early childhood health centre located here still had a need to be centrally located in Dee Why. As a result there were discussions and extensive consultation was undertaken with the services that were housed within the cottages in Dee Why. As a result of these discussions, the best option was for these services to move to Cromer Community Centre. The Administrator further advised that he had been involved with some of these discussions and whilst some user groups were not entirely happy about the decision, it was the job of local government to make such difficult decisions, and he hoped that these services would be moved back to Dee Why when new facilities were provided.