

30 October 2017

140 Tramican Street,
Point Lookout Qld 4183
M. 0408 853 940

Mr Colin Battersby Chair

and members of The Stradbroke Chamber of Commerce

Dear Members of the Executive

Re: Submission re Toondah Harbour PDA by the Stradbroke Chamber of Commerce (SCC)

Thank you for your reply dated 13 October in response to my letter re concerns regarding the SCC's support of the Toondah Harbour development.

You point out in your reply that the constitution provides for the election of an Executive Committee which is responsible to carry out specific missions for the Chamber. While I note that your reply to me was approved by the Executive Committee I believe this was not the case for the submission to the Minister. There are no minutes of a meeting, nor flying minutes to approve the submission. I am also aware that a number of the Executive Committee were unaware of the submission being made.

I pointed out in my letter dated 25 September 2017 that when the survey of SCC members was done in September 2016 the proposed development for which submissions were called for was not available. The development proposal that was on the table in September 2016 had been withdrawn and submissions were called for on the new development proposal. Members were not advised that any survey results would be used for the purpose of making a submission relating to the Toondah Harbour Development proposed by Walker Group. The survey question re Toondah was vague at best with 21 members saying they agreed to a 'Toondah Harbour Project'. Support for a 'Toondah Harbour project' does not necessarily translate into support for any proposed Toondah development by Walker Group. There is also no justification that a lack of response to a survey shows support for an issue. One could just as easily (and just as unjustifiably) add together those against and those not replying. There were only 21 positive responses to this question of a possible 70 members. Your submission to the Minister stated that you represented 85 members.

Members stating that 'Transport and Access' as major issues for the Island. also does not translate into support for the Toondah Development as proposed by Walker Group.

2.

I therefore have a number of questions to ask on behalf of myself and other members of the SCC :

1. The SCC had the same time frame as other groups and members of the public to make a submission re the Toondah Harbour development proposed by Walker Group but hadn't chosen to do so until 48 hrs before the deadline. I was advised when asking for minutes of the committee supporting the submission that there wasn't time for minutes because the Chamber had been asked to submit a submission only 48hrs prior to the deadline. Who made the specific request to the SCC to make a submission at that time and why wasn't approval from the Executive Committee sought?
2. Your submission to the Minister mentioned an 'expert' has been engaged. Please advise who is the expert, were they paid and is there a report?

As a member of the SCC I feel that the SCC is not treating the Department and the EIS process with due respect despite the statements made about its importance. The same can be said of your members who had to find out about this submission when a community group did an FOI search of submissions on the Toondah Development proposed by Walker Group. How can the SCC have a firm view about supporting Toondah before the evidence and review through the EIS is available?

Given the above information I ask that the SCC either:

- a) write to the Minister for the Environment and Energy and have the submission withdrawn; or
- b) write to the Minister and advise that the submission only represents 21 of its members and provide the Minister with the name of the expert who was engaged, providing a copy of the report.

I also ask that SCC members be informed of my correspondence and that any correspondence in the future follow the correct protocols and is fully transparent to both the SCC Committee and it's members.

Yours sincerely



Julie Elliott