

# **QUEANBEYAN-PALERANG REGIONAL COUNCIL**

## **Council Meeting Attachment**

**22 NOVEMBER 2017**

ITEM 6.21            AMENDMENT TO 2017-18 OPERATIONAL PLAN

ATTACHMENT 2    COMMENTS FROM QUEANBEYAN RATEPAYERS  
AND RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION INC.

## **Queanbeyan Ratepayers and Residents Association Inc.**

### **Subject – Proposed Amendment to Operational Plan 2017/2018**

The QRRRA understands and does not object to the fact that QPRC requires new office space where staff is situated in one building as opposed to being scattered throughout multiple offices, as is currently the case.

The QRRRA objects to the QPRC increasing their borrowings further for the office development and to the QPRC moving monies (\$11.3 million) from the water and sewer funds to fund this development.

In regards to the Percy Allen report, the QRRRA believes the report has been comprehensively ignored by the then QCC and now the QPRC. The report exposed the dire financial situation facing the QCC/QPRC and emphasized the fact that the water and sewer infrastructure was facing both a structural and financial implosion over the next thirty years. The QRRRA finds it incomprehensible that despite Professor Allen's findings the QPRC believes it be appropriate to 'raid' these funds.

This financial proposal/arrangement seems to be even more disastrous with the alleged major tenant stating publically that they did not wish to move to the new QPRC building. If there is no longer a major/long-term tenant, how does the QPRC believe it will fund this short-fall?

This situation is frighteningly reminiscent of the previous financial decisions that the QCC had been making. It is fundamentally clear that the former QCC, now QPRC, is not in a viable financial position, despite multiple protestations to the contrary, to meet its current liabilities let alone proposed liabilities without raiding the infrastructural reserves (previously QCC has been planning to 'raid' the water and sewer reserves at a \$1 million per year to fix the deficit problem with the General Fund, is this still the case?) and without the need for another special rate variation, which has already been proposed by the QPRC.