MINUTES OF THE PUBLIC FORUM

HELD ON 8 NOVEMBER 2023

1. Opening

The Public Forum commenced at 5.31pm.

2. Presentations relating to listed Items on the Council Agenda

The following presenters were heard:

	Name	Item no	Item description	For/Against
1	Laura Ghasemi	9.1	Development Application - DA.2023.0160 - 10-24 Saltbush Parade Tralee - Construction of 8 two storey dwellings	For

3. Petitions

There were no petitions submitted.

4. 'Questions on Notice' from the Public

Responses to the following 'Questions on Notice' received up to 1 November 2023 were provided and tabled at the meeting (see attached for responses):

Nos	Received from	In relation to:
1 & 2	Shane Geisler	Cybersecurity

5. Presentations by Invitation from the General Manager

There were no presentations.

6. Closure

As there were no further matters, the Public Forum closed at 5.34pm.

ATTACHMENT TO MINUTES OF THE PUBLIC FORUM
HELD ON 8 November 2023

'Questions on Notice' from the Public

Responses to the following 'Questions on Notice' received up to Wednesday 1 November 2023 were provided and tabled at the meeting.

One question from Mr Shane Geisler, which was not accepted, asked to confirm a Council official's declaration of a conflict of interest. Advice from the General Manager confirmed that conflicts of interest are announced prior to Council meetings and recorded in the Minutes, in accordance with Council's Code of Meeting Practice.

Questions submitted by: Shane Geisler

1. **On the 27th March 2023, I was advised via an email from a QPRC representative that the QPRC Cyber Incident Response Plan was currently in draft format. Noting that this document was identified for completion in December 2022, can you please confirm the date upon which it was finalised?**

   The Cyber Incident Response Plan has not yet been finalised. Due to a few higher-priority and time-sensitive projects, including commissioning of the Queanbeyan Civic and Cultural Precinct and the migration of TechOne to the 'cloud' to become Software as a Service, the Plan remains a work in progress. We aim to formalise it in early 2024. In the meantime, we can rely on QPRC's formal Disaster Recovery Plan (DRP), which addresses all risk management plans related to a cyber incident scenario.

2. **Can you please confirm how many cyber security incident response drills have been conducted within 2023 and the functional scope of the drills e.g.:**

   We have successfully tested the disaster recovery failover of critical servers (18 in total) twice in the past year. The entire process took less than 25 minutes, after which services were available for key business users to test it.

   No additional drills have been conducted in 2023.

   (a) **Were the drills table top exercises conducted in isolation by the IT team without the involvement of the broader QPRC staff?**

   The test involved restoring critical servers, testing with key users, and finally failing them back to QPRC's on-premise infrastructure.

   (b) **Did the drills require the physical recovery of data from backups, movement to an alternative location and rebuild and restoration of servers and networks to simulate a disaster recovery event?**

   Yes. We use a high quality backup/disaster recovery software package which allows us to trigger High Availability Disaster Recovery. The package enables us to restore critical ICT infrastructure and services in less than 30 minutes.

(c)   **Was / has the QPRC Executive Team been engaged to lead a simulated response to a data breach event at any time?**

No, however the Executive Team receive a report on the simulation and are aware of Digital's data breach testing.

(d)   **Does any member of the QPRC Senior Executive have practical experience in leading the technical and communications requirements of responding to a data breach event?**

Yes. In the event of serious disasters, including a data breach, QPRC stands up its Crisis Management Team. This team includes the Senior Executive (General Manager and four Directors); Manager Digital; Manager Customer and Communications; Manager Workplace and Performance; and Council's Risk Specialist. It may also call on Council's Legal Officer.

In the event of a serious data breach, Council will also be guided by the expert advice of relevant authorities and agencies including NSW Government, Cyber Security NSW, and Council's contracted legal experts. Also, QPRC can leverage its Australian Cyber Security Centre Network Partner status.

(e)   **If the QPRC Executive have not been engaged, can you please explain why?**

QPRC Executive will be engaged when we activate a full-scale Disaster Recovery drill.