

PRESENTATION TO PUBLIC FORUM  
EXTRAORDINARY MEETING OF COUNCIL  
TUESDAY 9 JUNE 2015

MR CHRIS KOWAL

Thank you Councillors for the privilege of being able to address you this morning.

I am here to talk about the proposal in front of you today and I ask that you give this proposal favourable consideration.

This proposal strikes at the core of our democratic system of governance and processes that are in place to ensure that we act in accord with those principles such as fairness, equity and good governance.

It is a long bow to draw between a photo and DVD exhibition event and a small arms fair.

Question: Does an amendment to an event licence adequately address the range of issues that come with this change? More importantly, is Council and the community adequately protected by a change of this nature to the existing licence?

Independent advice would indicate that is not the case and this matter must be considered as a new development application because a small arms fair is a distinctly different activity from a photo exhibition event and requires a more fulsome review including a transparent and thorough community consultation.

To those councillors who are, or were, running on the ERA platform, you would appreciate your stated position of transparent and accountable local government. It is important that we also ensure councillors act on the best advice and in accord with durable, robust due process. The hallmark of good governance.

Question: What is the impact for Council of the event organisers denying access to our National broadcaster?

**Response:**

Dear Chris

Thank you for taking the time and effort to contribute to public forum at the Extraordinary Meeting of Council on Tuesday 9 June 2015. Contributions to public forum are a welcome insight into the views of our local community.

As you would be aware, at its meeting on 9 June Council resolved as follows:

*THAT:*

- 1. The Council appoint Dr Catherine Dale to conduct a review of Council's planning process and the timeline of legal advice sought and received for Huntfest.*
- 2. The finding of the review be reported back to Council and the community at the July 2015 Council meeting.*

In accordance with Council's wishes, I will be undertaking a very thorough review of Council's processes and advice sought and received since the Huntfest proposal first came to Council.

Thank you once again for making the effort to contribute to Council meetings on such an important issue. Please don't hesitate to contact me on 4474 1308 if you wish to discuss this matter further.

Yours faithfully

Dr Catherine Dale  
**General Manager**