



Question on Notice WEST WIMMERA SHIRE COUNCIL

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Question on notice details provided by resident:

Name of resident	Anita McGuigan
Address of resident	94 Birmingham Road, Harrow
Contact number	0434 082 053
Email	oldschoolsrock@gmail.com
Subject	Untreated Water in Harrow
Question	Being that the UN Sustainability Development Goal number 6 is to ensure access to safe water maintaining this is essential to human health and economic prosperity, will Council work proactively to ensure water is safe to drink in Harrow and if so, how?
Date submitted	6.3.18
Date of Council Meeting	31.5.18



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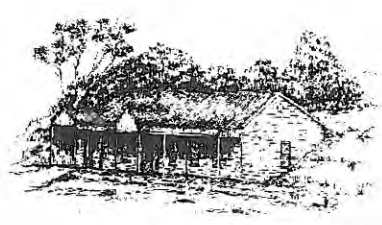
Question on notice details provided by resident:

Name of resident	Ann Vaughan of Harrow Bush Nursing Centre
Address of resident	24 Blair Street, Harrow
Contact number	0355882000
Email	Ann.vaughan@hbnc.org.au
Subject	Disability Access to the Harrow Bush Nursing Centre
Question	How will Council address the urgent issue of dangerous and unsustainable access from vehicle to footpath to the Harrow Bush Nursing Centre for the public using Centre services and also the Ambulance attending to emergencies?
Date submitted	8.3.18
Date of Council Meeting	21.3.18

14 MAR 2018

SCANNED
14-3-18

Harrow Bush Nursing Centre



Reg. No: A11299

ABN: 92 892 565 164

Blair St, Harrow. VIC. 3317.

PO Box 103, Harrow. VIC. 3317.

Phone: 03 5588 2000

Fax: 03 55881300

Email: operationsadmin@hbnc.org.au

"To provide accountable and accessible primary health care services to Harrow and district community"

David Leahy

CEO

West Wimmera Shire Council

Elizabeth st

Edenhope Vic 3318

8th March, 2018

Dear David

Your assistance is urgently needed to ensure that we can provide safe access and parking for members of the public to the Harrow Bush Nursing Centre. We are requesting that you consider funding in the 2018/19 council budget for urgent works to the pathways and curbing adjacent to Harrow Bush Nursing Centre.

The disabled parking and curbing at the front of our building has been identified as extremely hazardous and inadequate for the needs of our frail aged and disabled members to access our buildings. We provide many services and programs for community members and being a health and community service safe parking and access is vital to the continuance of these services.

It has also been identified by Ambulance Victoria that the access for Ambulance is hazardous for transfer of patient trolleys and inadequate in relation to client confidentiality. As Harrow Bush Nursing Centre provides first line emergency response for Ambulance Victoria and provides urgent care for our community, safe access and timely transfer of patients is vitally important in ensuring emergency response is not delayed.

I have attached a supporting letter from Ambulance Victoria and edited copy of our business proposal for the grant application through the Rural Health Infrastructure Fund for your consideration. Unfortunately we were unsuccessful in the round 2 application for this grant funding but will reapply for round 3 funding in the coming year. Our Committee of Management is committed to improving the access to our building and would consider assisting with planning and budgeting around improvements in conjunction with the West Wimmera Shire Council.

I have recently met with Terry Ough and John Griffiths from West Wimmera Shire Council as well as Wendy Lynch, Wimmera Rural Access worker and the concerns regarding parking, disabled and Ambulance access were clearly identified by all parties. I hope that their report will assist Council in consideration of funding for this much needed works.

Thank you for your consideration to this matter in seeking funding for works. We are committed to working together to seek a responsible outcome for these identified concerns.

Yours Sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Ann Vaughan', with a stylized initial 'A' and a trailing flourish.

Ann Vaughan

Centre manager

Harrow Bush Nursing Centre.

Harrow Bush Nursing Centre - Business Case

Provision of safe access for all consumers of Harrow Bush Nursing Centre

Date: 6th March, 2018

Synopsis:

This proposal outlines the urgent need for the West Wimmera Shire Council to address the current accessibility issues to the Harrow Bush Nursing Centre for both consumers and emergency responders. Improving access to the Harrow Bush Nursing Centre is an urgent need due to current existing insufficiencies; to meet the current demand of services for the Centre and provide disability access for a service that provides services to people with disabilities and frail aged. The service requires accessible and safe parking and access for all consumers to ensure that we are meeting the community needs.

There is also urgency in relation to the emergency care provision of the Centre. The Bush Nursing is a first line emergency responder and works in partnership with Ambulance Victoria to provide emergency care to the community. The facilities for provision of emergency care are inadequate to ensure safe and quality care of the patient especially in relation to transfer to ambulance.

This issue has been highlighted after wide consultation with stakeholders, community members and staff and can be identified as affecting the following elements of business sustainability of the Harrow Bush Nursing Centre:

Capability

- There is currently very limited disability access for people disembarking their vehicles and moving to the footpath to proceed to the Harrow Bush Nursing Centre. There is one very old ramp and disabled parking area, however more access is needed as the population is ageing.

Efficiency

- Inadequate ambulance access-slows emergency transfer to Regional Emergency centre.

-Parking congestion resulting from slowing emergency response and ambulance transfer as difficulty to transfer patient onto trolley from Centre across the public footpath.

Quality

-Ambulance access- public access on road parking in full view of public. No confidentiality in small town.

Standard Compliance

-Unsafe ambulance access due to steep outside ramps and needing to park ambulance on road for easier access for trolley.

-Inadequate disability access to building and consulting room space.

- Patient staff amenity – No disabled disability access for client use.

How does improving the access to the Harrow Bush Nursing Centre mitigate the problem / issue(s) identified above?

Capability

- Improved service access and disability access to the building including parking
- improved service access for emergency care provision
- Increased consulting room space means potential to offer more services and frequency of the type of services.

Efficiency

- Ambulance access – private and easy access – transfer of client to vehicle will be more efficient and allows improved client out of care – faster transfer to emergency care.

Quality

- Improved access for parking and disabled access to building improving outcomes for clients.
- Preventing Falls risk to clients.
- Ease of Emergency Ambulance transfer will result improved client outcomes.

Regulatory Compliance

- Disability access – improved outcomes for clients accessing services and programs – options of care.
- OHS – less congestion safety of all clients. Improved outcomes for clients.
- Safety of ambulance staff and parking on the street using ramps for trolleys.
- Improved space and layout of clinical area results in ease of transfer of client to ambulance trolley and improved transfer times to regional emergency centre.

Patient & Staff Amenity

- Improved consulting space for disability access.
- Post-surgery/hospital care. Results in improve clinical outcomes for clients post hospital care.
- Improved facilities for staff ensuring that they will be able to access these.



[4.1.3]

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Question on notice details provided by resident:

Name of resident	Stephen Hocking -
Address of resident	Apsley
Contact number	0429861389
Email	
Subject	Apsley Rec Reserve
Question	Re Road controll.
Date submitted	7-3-18
Date of Council Meeting	21/3/2018



WEST WIMMERA SHIRE COUNCIL

West Wimmera Shire Council

Motion to National General Assembly

Motion:

West Wimmera Shire Council recommends;

1. *That the Australian Local Government Association write to the Federal Telecommunications Minister, to convey the ongoing discontent with telecommunications blackspots and erratic internet services in Rural Australia.*
2. *That the correspondence clearly state that the lack of telecommunications and internet service is acting as an inhibitor to economic development, growth in existing business, the provision of modern education programs and creates difficulties for emergency service management during emergency events.*
3. *That the Federal Government fund the closing of the telecommunications gap that exists between rural and urban residents.*

National Objective:

This is a national issue and should be debated by the National General Assembly, as it affects such a high proportion of the population.

There is also an expectation at a federal level that Local Government invest financially in the provision of telecommunications infrastructure, in-order for the Telco's to justify their investment at sites that may not provide the financial returns of more populated areas.

This scenario cannot be achieved in the revenue restricted environment in which Rural and Regional Local Government operates in.

Summary of Key Arguments:

Large sections of Western Victoria are completely without mobile service and only have access to SkyMuster satellite NBN.

This situation is not exclusive to Western Victoria and is no doubt being experienced across rural and regional communities in every state of Australia.

The services that are lacking in rural and regional communities are taken for granted in metropolitan areas in large cities and in most larger regional cities. The lack of access to these modern facilities create a deterrent to investment in business growth in some regions. This is coupled with public risk due to poor coverage in emergency situations and reduced access to modern education programs.

Through this motion to the National general Assembly, West Wimmera Shire Council is drawing attention to the ongoing gap in service delivery to rural Australia and asking that the Federal Government fund the closing of this gap, rather than the Local Government sector.