

**RECORD OF INTERVIEW - DAWN CRICHE**

*OP GRAND*

EXHIBIT No. 215  
*[Signature]* CLERK

**TAPE NO:** 1 (of 2)

**DATE:** 04.11.05

**PLACE:** SOUTHPORT

**TIME COMMENCED:** 11:11 AM

**TIME CONCLUDED:** 11:52 AM

**INTERVIEWEE:** DAWN CRICHLow

**INTERVIEWER/S:  
ALSO PRESENT:** DETECTIVE INSPECTOR KEN BEMI  
INVESTIGATOR LUCINDA O'BRIEN

**LEGAL OFFICER:** THERESA HAMILTON

**RE:** OPERATION GRAND

**FILE NUMBER:** MI-05-2482

Complainant: OPERATION GRAND  
Subject(s): OPERATION GRAND  
Investigator: DETECTIVE INSPECTOR KEN BEMI  
Statement Of: DAWN CRICHLow  
Legal Officer: THERESA HAMILTON  
File Number: MI-05-2482  
Directory :

COPY TAPE 1 OF 2 - RECORD OF INTERVIEW BETWEEN DETECTIVE INSPECTOR  
KEN BEMI OF THE CRIME AND MISCONDUCT COMMISSION AND DAWN  
CRICHLOW. HELD AT SOUTHPORT ON 4 NOVEMBER 2005. ALSO PRESENT  
INVESTIGATOR LUCINDA O'BRIEN

LEGAL OFFICER: THERESA HAMILTON

RE: OPERATION GRAND

KB = Detective Inspector Ken Bemi (CMC)

DC = Dawn Crichlow

LOB = Investigator Lucinda O'Brien (CMC)

- 1 KB Ahh ... am on the morning of Friday the Fourth day of November 2005 (04.11.05). I'm  
2 present in the office of Councillor Dawn Crichlow at Southport and I intend to conduct an  
3 audio interview with her in relation to a present matter that the Crime and Misconduct  
4 Commission in Brisbane is investigating relating to the Gold Coast City Council elections  
5 held in March 2004 and events leading up to the election and also events after that  
6 election. For the purposes of voice identification I ask every person present here starting  
7 with myself to state their full and correct name. My full name is Kenneth William Bemi.  
8 I am a Detective Inspector of Police currently performing duties at the Crime and  
9 Misconduct Commission in Brisbane.
- 10
- 11 LOB I'm Lucinda Maree O'Brien an investigator with the Crime and Misconduct Commission.
- 12
- 13 KB Your full name please?
- 14
- 15 DC Ahh Dawn Mary Crichlow umm a Councillor Division 6 Southport Division.
- 16
- 17 KB Thank you. Can you please state your current address?
- 18
- 19 DC My current address is Unit C11/2 Rivage Royale, 75 Granton Parade, Southport.
- 20
- 21 KB And your date of birth?
- 22
- 23 DC 22 7 42 (22 July 1942)
- 24
- 25 KB And your current role in Council?
- 26
- 27 DC I'm a Councillor for Division 6 which takes in umm part of ahh Labrador, Mulindina  
28 (phonetic) and Southport.
- 29
- 30 KB How long have you been a Councillor?

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31  
32 DC Since 1991.  
33  
34 KB Always in Division 6?  
35  
36 DC Yes ohh at one stage it was known as Division 4 but it was still the same area.  
37  
38 KB And you last got elected as Councillor for Division 6 when?  
39  
40 DC Ahh late in March 2004.  
41  
42 KB The Gold Coast City Councils?  
43  
44 DC That's true.  
45  
46 KB As part of your role as a Councillor can you outline to me what committees that you sit  
47 on, if any?  
48  
49 DC At the moment I sit on the Engineering Services Committee. I sit on the Finance  
50 Committee, the Co-ordination Committee and the Planning Committee.  
51  
52 KB Can you just explain the roles of those committees what they discuss?  
53  
54 DC Certainly – Engineering Services is really to do with the contracts that are awarded with  
55 the Council and anything to do with roads ahh yeah doing things. That's the doing part of  
56 the Council ahh working in the parks, roads that type of thing. Finance ahh finance is ahh  
57 working ahh with the money of the Council so there you're to do with the annual reports  
58 right through and you're to do with anything to do with the finance. The rest of the  
59 committees what they do if they want to spend money they will approve it but then they  
60 put it through the Finance Committee to also umm approve it as well. The Planning  
61 Committee ahh is a committee of 8 people and ahh all applications to do with planning go  
62 to the Planning Committee. That's held once a week. The others are held once a  
63 fortnight. Co-ordination ahh Committee that's the policy making part of Council and  
64 that's become since the last election ahh it's become a very small committee because  
65 there's been extra committees added to the Council that have taken the responsibility of a  
66 lot of the co-ordination committee so it's likely to have two or three agenda items on it  
67 every fortnight.  
68  
69 KB Can you tell me who the Chair is of each Committee?  
70  
71 DC Sure ahh Rob Molhoek's the Chair of Finance. Ray Hackwood is the Chair of  
72 Engineering Services. Ted Shepherd's the Chairman of umm Planning and David Power  
73 is the Chairman of Co-ordination Committee.  
74

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75 KB Thank you. What I intend to do today ahh Councillor Crichlow is conduct an interview  
76 with you in relation to the matter I've previously outlined that the Crime and Misconduct  
77 Commission is currently investigating. It'll take the form of an audio-recorded interview  
78 and by that I mean whatever you say, myself and my colleague here says will be recorded  
79 as we speak. Are you agreeable to participate in this interview?  
80  
81 DC Yes  
82  
83 KB Do you require any other person to be present here with you?  
84  
85 DC No thank you.  
86  
87 KB Perhaps if I can start **[sound of paper shuffling]** on the 31<sup>st</sup> March 2004 can you recall  
88 being interviewed by a legal officer Mr Mark Docwra and Detective Sergeant Ed Batkin  
89 in relation to a complaint that you had previously forwarded to the Crime and Misconduct  
90 Commission?  
91  
92 DC I can.  
93  
94 KB Can you add anything further in relation to that interview that you had with those two  
95 gentlemen?  
96  
97 DC No  
98  
99 KB Can you recall what you outlined to those two gentlemen the nature of your complaint?  
100  
101 DC My concern at the time was certainly umm about the election and about what happened  
102 after the election yes.  
103  
104 KB So what you've stated in your interview with those two gentlemen you can't add anything  
105 further?  
106  
107 DC No  
108  
109 KB In relation to the election held in March 2004 here on the Gold Coast can you provide or  
110 do you wish to provide any information in relation to it that you want to draw my  
111 attention to generally about any issue?  
112  
113 DC No  
114  
115 KB That you haven't previously told those gentlemen?  
116  
117 DC That's right.  
118

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119 KB Alright. So nothing further?  
120  
121 DC No  
122  
123 KB Can I ask you during the lead-up to the Gold Coast City Council elections in 2004 did  
124 you have any involvement with any of the candidates who were running? In other words  
125 did you have any involvement in the sense that did you support any of the candidates or  
126 give them any advice?  
127  
128 DC I had one candidate come to me and that was Grant Pforr. I was umm part of Southport  
129 was Main Beach until we had the amalgamation of the two Councils and he was the  
130 President of Southport umm Southport Surf Life Saving Club but that's at Main Beach  
131 and I'd met him on a couple of occasions when they did an extension to that building.  
132 Well he came in to see me umm and to tell me he was standing for Council and ahh he  
133 asked me you know what the Council was all about and I just roughly umm told him and  
134 umm and that was it. I did attend one or two I'm not quite sure open meetings with the  
135 Citizens for Democracy only umm as an observer ahh because I was aware some of the  
136 candidates were going to be there and I like - quite frankly - I love hearing people's  
137 aspirations of what, what they do and I was aware the umm Mayor, the current Mayor  
138 would be there so I went to listen.  
139  
140 KB What was the title of that group you referred to?  
141  
142 DC Citizens for Democracy they call themselves.  
143  
144 KB And who were - or who was involved with that group do you know?  
145  
146 DC It was basically I think put together prior to the election because some people were  
147 unhappy that their valuations for ocean front properties had gone up so much that they  
148 were going to have to pay a massive amount of umm rates and I think it was around about  
149 that time so they formed some sort of alliance to try and get the Council to umm you  
150 know lower the rates on some individual properties which I didn't support.  
151  
152 KB Who are they? Who are the members of the group?  
153  
154 DC I can't even remember. It was just an open meeting and I think it was - I think it was  
155 held at the Waterways Hall. I can't remember.  
156  
157 KB Is that group still in existence?  
158  
159 DC I've got no idea.  
160  
161 KB Do you know a person by the name of Stuart Hill?  
162

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163 DC Ahh yes I do.  
164  
165 KB Under what circumstances do you know him?  
166  
167 DC He used to be the fireman ahh the Fire Warden at umm Abri Retirement Village in umm  
168 Bower Street, Southport and he used to come to me when they wanted footpaths put in or  
169 he came to Council about doing umm something about fire escapes and things like that so  
170 that's as I knew him at, knew the name.  
171  
172 KB Did he have any connection with the Citizens for Democracy that you've referred to?  
173  
174 DC I don't believe so no.  
175  
176 KB Do you know if he's got any other involvement in any community group around the ahh  
177 March 2004 election? Had he any involvement?  
178  
179 DC I, I, I was un – I was aware he was umm the campaign manager because I saw the  
180 literature. He was the authorised person of the candidate that stood against me.  
181  
182 KB And who was that?  
183  
184 DC Roxanne Scott  
185  
186 KB So you believe that he was the campaign manager for Roxanne Scott?  
187  
188 DC Well he authorised the material that was put out for her campaign yes.  
189  
190 KB And what kind of material was that?  
191  
192 DC That was umm invitations and, and, and brochures to say Vote for Me. How to Vote  
193 brochures and things like that and then about ohh towards the end of the campaign it was  
194 written up in the newspaper that she had disassociated herself with, with Mr Hill. By this  
195 time I might say ahh he had certainly left Abri's ahh as a position. He'd since when he  
196 left Abri he has since ahh ahh got a job as a Surfside Bus Driver.  
197  
198 KB How do spell Abri?  
199  
200 DC A-B-R-I Retirement Village in umm in umm Bower Street, Southport.  
201  
202 KB And now you stated before that you ran as a candidate yourself for Division 6 and you  
203 were a successful candidate and you obviously got elected as Councillor for Division 6.  
204  
205 DC I did  
206

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207 KB During the or on the day of the election did you receive any donations – financial  
208 donations yourself in relation to your campaign?  
209  
210 DC No  
211  
212 KB You didn't at all?  
213  
214 DC Any financial ahh no I had a campaign manager. He received donations yes.  
215  
216 KB Alright. Who was your campaign manager?  
217  
218 DC John Dickson  
219  
220 KB And who is John Dickson? Is he?  
221  
222 DC Ohh a resident of Southport [pause] retired yeah.  
223  
224 KB So he was your chosen campaign manager?  
225  
226 DC Yes  
227  
228 KB What tasks did he undertake in relation to your campaign, election campaign?  
229  
230 DC Well I had a little house in, in Scarborough Street, Southport. A little house ahh that we  
231 rented ahh for the campaign and umm and I had a few people in that little house and umm  
232 and he was one of those people but he was the one that organised all my printing and  
233 stationery and things like that.  
234  
235 KB What about in relation to any financial donations that were made to your campaign fund?  
236  
237 DC Mmm  
238  
239 KB You had a campaign fund?  
240  
241 DC Yes I did.  
242  
243 KB Alright. You – did you receive donations, financial donations?  
244  
245 DC Certainly  
246  
247 KB If I can just refer you to the Return of Gifts Register Form that's been – well it's got  
248 relevant details of gifts that was received. If I can just get you to have a look through that  
249 and can you tell me if that was completed by yourself?  
250

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251 DC Yes that's my handwriting.  
252  
253 KB And can you just go through those donations just the people that donated to the election  
254 campaign fund as contained there?  
255  
256 DC Sure – you want me to read them out?  
257  
258 KB Yeah just the names that's fine.  
259  
260 DC Okay ahh Lex Bell.  
261  
262 KB Yep  
263  
264 DC Ahh two hundred – do you want me to say the amount?  
265  
266 KB Yep  
267  
268 DC \$250.00. Raymar Corporation ahh \$200. Southport Workers Club \$500.00. James  
269 Frizzell Automotive \$500.00. [ui] Fing \$1,000.00. Raymar Realty one donation of  
270 \$200.00 and one donation of \$200.00. Max Dilmage \$10,000.00. Nev Pask \$2,000.00.  
271 Meriton Group \$5,000.00. Bricks Strike Pty Ltd \$2,500.00. K & H Dart ahh \$2,000.00.  
272 Ingles Group \$5,000.00. Auto Affair Car Wash \$1,000.00. Sharks Ausie Rules Club  
273 \$2,500.00. Ron Bruce ahh Motor Trimmers \$1,500.00. Leanne Sarroff \$300.00.  
274  
275 KB Thank you. So that was duly completed by yourself...  
276  
277 DC Yes  
278  
279 KB ...that Election Gift Return?  
280  
281 DC Yes, yes.  
282  
283 KB And is everything contained in that true and correct to the best of your knowledge?  
284  
285 DC Yes  
286  
287 KB Did you receive any other donations that's not included in that return?  
288  
289 DC No I don't believe so no.  
290  
291 KB In relation ...  
292  
293 DC [overtalking] Sorry – I took that out from the receipt book given to me.  
294

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File Number: MI-05-2482  
Directory :



295 KB Okay  
296  
297 DC Yeah  
298  
299 KB Right – in relation to those financial donations that you received were there any donations  
300 from developer groups at all or developers?  
301  
302 DC Ohh absolutely.  
303  
304 KB Can you just identify who they would have been?  
305  
306 [sound of papers shuffling]  
307  
308 DC Raymar Corporation \$200.00. They're a development group. They're just around the  
309 corner, around here in Marine Parade.  
310  
311 KB Yes  
312  
313 DC Umm I don't know whether you'd call [ui] Fing a developer. He owns Australia Fair  
314 here in Southport.  
315  
316 KB Okay  
317  
318 DC Raymar Realty those \$200.00 and \$200.00 ahh well I guess you'd call – well no he's a  
319 real estate agent in Ferrie Road ahh. Nev Pask ahh in [ui] Street, Southport \$2,000.00  
320 he's a developer. Meriton Properties \$5,000.00 they are. Ingles Group \$5,000.00 they  
321 are. That's it.  
322  
323 KB So you didn't receive any other donations from developers that's not included in this  
324 Return?  
325  
326 DC That's right, that's right.  
327  
328 KB Have you ever voted on any matter where these developers who have made financial  
329 donations to your election campaign fund have been involved ahh when you've been  
330 sitting in Council either on any of those committees or sitting in Council itself?  
331  
332 DC Well yes. There was this one here the Ingles Group. About 6 months ago an application  
333 came to Council and umm I voted on it. The application was in the name of a ahh of two  
334 people like Mary and John Smith and I voted on it and then it was brought to my attention  
335 from a journalist that that umm application was actually owned by the Ingles Group ahh  
336 because she had been told by another Councillor David Power that I had voted on  
337 something to do with that. Umm  
338

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339 KB Did you know it was part of the Ingles Group at [ui]?  
340  
341 DC Absolutely not. Absolutely not. So much so I was so angry about that the next week I  
342 changed it where every application must have the name of the applicant at the time of  
343 lodgement of the application and sorry the name of the owner at the time of lodgement  
344 and the name of the owner on the date that we are judging that application.  
345  
346 KB So was it a development application?  
347  
348 DC It was a development application and the owner had changed something like 16 months  
349 before and yet it came to the committee in the previous owner's name.  
350  
351 KB How did you vote on that particular matter by that company?  
352  
353 DC I, I think I probably voted for it.  
354  
355 KB Can you recall where the development was or where it referred to? Like where is the  
356 development or?  
357  
358 DC Ohh yes it was umm it was a development out at Coomera.  
359  
360 KB Alright  
361  
362 DC Yes  
363  
364 KB Were you sitting in full Council as such or on a committee when you voted?  
365  
366 DC No on the, on the Planning Committee.  
367  
368 KB Did it go ...  
369  
370 DC [overtalking] And then went to full Council exactly the same way and as I say it was  
371 brought to my attention by a journalist and so I just wonder how many other times that  
372 has happened.  
373  
374 KB Did anyone vote against that particular application?  
375  
376 DC I really can't, I really can't answer that question but I do have a copy of the application  
377 and the Minutes which would confirm whether or not they did.  
378  
379 KB So when you voted on that particular matter did you think there was a conflict of interest  
380 in relation to yourself with that company?  
381

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382 DC Certainly not because the applicant and the owner's name was completely different. It  
383 was the previous owner from something like 16 months beforehand.  
384  
385 KB Alright. If you can just keep having a look at that Return and identify any other matters  
386 that you may have voted on?  
387  
388 DC No  
389  
390 KB What about in relation to the Meriton company?  
391  
392 DC No I haven't. I, I think it's only come up to Council once and umm ahh and I've excused  
393 myself if it's come up at all. No, the answer's no.  
394  
395 KB Right so you haven't voted either in your capacity when you've sat on the, one of the  
396 committees in relation to a development application from the Meriton Group or in  
397 Council?  
398  
399 DC Ohh I'm sorry I do remember there was an application that came about umm putting a  
400 swimming pool on the roof or something and yes I declared an interest ahh conflict of  
401 interest and left the room.  
402  
403 KB So in other words you didn't vote on it?  
404  
405 DC That's right.  
406  
407 KB Was that on a committee or in Council?  
408  
409 DC Both  
410  
411 KB Can you recall any other occasions where you haven't voted on a matter...  
412  
413 DC [overtalking] No  
414  
415 KB ...because you've believed you've had a conflict of interest?  
416  
417 DC No  
418  
419 KB So apart from the ahh Meriton Group are there any others?  
420  
421 DC No  
422  
423 KB The Meriton Group are they developers of the Sundale site are they?  
424  
425 DC They are.

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426  
427 KB Did you ever have to vote on anything in relation to the Sundale site coming from the  
428 Meriton Group? Anything they had put forward to be approved?  
429  
430 DC Only that one on the swimming pools on the swimming pools of the roof.  
431  
432 KB Right and like you said you didn't vote on that 'cos you excused yourself.  
433  
434 DC That's right. And I must say umm that ahh the owner of the Meriton Group umm has  
435 been a family friend for many years.  
436  
437 KB So where was the swimming pool put that was on top?  
438  
439 DC On, on top of the roof. They came with a change to have both the penthouses have a  
440 swimming pool put on.  
441  
442 KB That's on the old Sundale site there?  
443  
444 DC That's right.  
445  
446 KB So you're certain that you can't recall any other instances where you've either excused  
447 yourself or have voted on development applications from any of the contributors to your  
448 election campaign fund?  
449  
450 DC That's right.  
451  
452 KB If I can just refer you to a matter involving a rates discount issue pertaining to the  
453 Sunland Group.  
454  
455 DC Okay  
456  
457 KB You're aware of that matter?  
458  
459 DC I am.  
460  
461 KB Can I get you to outline your knowledge and any concerns that you may have pertaining  
462 to that particular issue?  
463  
464 DC I've got concerns about that issue and it, it – what happened was it was a Finance  
465 Meeting and the agenda item came up. I'd read the agenda item and I was fully aware in  
466 which way I was going to vote. It was quite clear there should have been no discount  
467 given on this application. The agenda item went through that the application – the  
468 applicant had tried to get a discount on I think 3 occasions and didn't and then the  
469 applicant went to the Mayor according to the agenda item and, and the Mayor asked the

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470 Department to bring it back again and consideration to be given for waiving the discount  
471 on exemplary I think the word was circumstances. Umm I arrived at the Finance Meeting  
472 and ahh there were two people in the room and I was aware those two people worked for  
473 umm Sunland because only that morning an application had gone through for Sunland  
474 about putting wrapping around the building and one of the people there – and I just forget  
475 his name at the moment but I'd know his name – one of the gentle – ahh the man had  
476 been and done a presentation on giving approval for this extra work to be done on the [ui]  
477 1 Building. Ahh the Finance Committee exists of ahh is myself, Councillor Sarroff ahh  
478 Councillor Molhoek's the Chair and Councillor Power and the Mayor is ex-officio and he  
479 arrived too. The application came up and the Chair gave the people in the room umm ahh  
480 said they could sort of put their case across to us and they put their case across to us. I, I  
481 believe I moved that the discount not be waived. Umm I believe it was second – I believe  
482 it was seconded. Anyhow it went down 3 to 2. Went to Council the following week and  
483 once again ahh the discount was allowed.  
484

485 KB Can you recall who seconded it? You moved a motion that it ahh that the officers  
486 recommendation...

487  
488 DC [overtalking] Ahh well Councillor Sarroff I believe.

489  
490 KB Your motion was that the council officers recommendation be adopted, that the discount  
491 not be allowed.

492  
493 DC That's true.

494  
495 KB Did you call for a division at all or was there a division called?

496  
497 DC Normally in a, in a committee meeting you don't call for a division. I could have had my  
498 name recorded against it, as voting against it ahh against – I'm not quite sure – but I mean  
499 I just wasn't happy.

500  
501 KB So you're at – this is at a committee meeting you were referring to.

502  
503 DC It's at Finance.

504  
505 KB Finance Committee Meeting.

506  
507 DC That's right.

508  
509 KB And who is the Chair of that?

510  
511 DC Councillor Molhoek.

512  
513 KB Councillor?

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514  
515 DC Molhoek. Rob Molhoek – and the Mayor umm I can, I cannot remember – I’ve since  
516 found out that he has been to a couple of finance meetings before but I could not  
517 remember him ever coming in to a finance meeting so the vote would have been two all if  
518 he had not have been there and the, and the Chair would have had to have a casting vote.  
519  
520 KB Can you recall who was present at that Finance Committee Meeting?  
521  
522 DC Ahh you mean the visitors?  
523  
524 KB No, just the ahh the members.  
525  
526 DC Ohh certainly myself, Councillor Sarroff, Councillor Power and Councillor Molhoek and  
527 the Mayor.  
528  
529 KB Right so there were five.  
530  
531 DC That’s absolutely...  
532  
533 KB That’s the normal?  
534  
535 DC No normally it’s four but the Mayor is ex-officio on every committee. He can turn up  
536 and get a vote if he so wishes.  
537  
538 KB And that’s what you’re saying that if he hadn’t have done so it would have been two all?  
539  
540 DC That’s right.  
541  
542 KB So obviously there was just yourself and Councillor Sarroff who voted that it shouldn’t  
543 be allowed the discount to Sunland.  
544  
545 DC That’s true.  
546  
547 KB And Councillor Power, Councillor Molhoek ...  
548  
549 DC Molhoek  
550  
551 KB ...and...  
552  
553 DC The Mayor  
554  
555 KB ...Mayor Clarke voted that it should be.  
556  
557 DC Absolutely

Complainant: OPERATION GRAND  
Subject(s): OPERATION GRAND  
Investigator: DETECTIVE INSPECTOR KEN BEMI  
Statement Of: DAWN CRICLOW  
Legal Officer: THERESA HAMILTON  
File Number: MI-05-2482  
Directory :

558  
559 KB What happened after that? Okay, so the – your motion was lost obviously.  
560  
561 DC Yes  
562  
563 KB What happened to?  
564  
565 DC It went through to the full Council then to ahh to be judged by the 15 members of the  
566 Council as to whether the discount should be allowed or should not be allowed.  
567  
568 KB And what was the result of that?  
569  
570 DC The result was umm Sunland got their discount.  
571  
572 KB Can you recall who voted for and against that...[ui]?  
573  
574 DC I really can't but I would say, I would say a division would be called.  
575  
576 KB And can you just explain what you mean by a division for the purposes of the record?  
577  
578 DC Ohh a division – well if you feel strongly against something at full Council and, and you  
579 want to see how the voting pattern is going and so it will be shown on the Minutes of the  
580 Meeting, you know down in history, you usually ahh ask for a division to be called, the  
581 names are recorded for and against.  
582  
583 KB So that records who voted for it and who voted against it.  
584  
585 DC Absolutely  
586  
587 KB So you've got a record in other words.  
588  
589 DC Absolutely  
590  
591 KB If you don't call for a division is that still recorded or it isn't?  
592  
593 DC No  
594  
595 KB So you think you would have called for a division at Council?  
596  
597 DC I believe I, I should have...  
598  
599 KB If I can just...  
600  
601 DC ...because I was upset about that one.

Complainant: OPERATION GRAND  
Subject(s): OPERATION GRAND  
Investigator: DETECTIVE INSPECTOR KEN BEMI  
Statement Of: DAWN CRICHLAW  
Legal Officer: THERESA HAMILTON  
File Number: MI-05-2482  
Directory :

602  
603 KB If I can just refer you to the Minutes I have here and it refers – there's two dates there's  
604 it's got the 340<sup>th</sup> Council Meeting 15 November 2004.  
605  
606 DC Mmm  
607  
608 KB The Finance and Internal Services Committee Meeting 9<sup>th</sup> November 2004.  
609  
610 DC Yes  
611  
612 KB Which one does that refer to?  
613  
614 DC Umm change recommendation – the officer – the motion was lost ahh that the discount  
615 be granted on [mumbling] Committee recommendation – this refers to the umm finance  
616 meeting. The Finance and Internal Services meeting on the 9<sup>th</sup> November.  
617  
618 KB So it doesn't refer to the full Council meeting in relation to it?  
619  
620 DC No  
621  
622 KB Okay. And if you have a look at item 2 you believe that is accurate. That's a motion that  
623 was voted on and how you voted?  
624  
625 DC Absolutely yes.  
626  
627 KB So you had a firm belief that the Sunland Group shouldn't be allowed the rates discount?  
628  
629 DC I'm sorry but I have had pensioners sitting opposite my desk that have been in hospital at  
630 the time when their rates have been delivered at home and they have never had their  
631 discount waived. There is no – in the time – all the time I've been in Council we have  
632 had not been allowed and this was allowed as a presentation to the Committee which  
633 once again on all the time I've been on Finance I believe this is the only presentation  
634 that's ever been allowed for people to come in and do their presentation.  
635  
636 KB Can you recall who delivered the presentation?  
637  
638 DC Ahh it was two – it was the umm Anne Jamieson did most of the talking. She was the  
639 General Manager of Sunland and the other man is, is their architect and I do not  
640 remember his name.  
641  
642 KB And can you recall their reasoning why it should be allowed?  
643  
644 DC Ohh well first of all they said that it didn't go to the right address. Then it did go to the  
645 right address, then the company they didn't recognise the company name and then they

Complainant: OPERATION GRAND  
Subject(s): OPERATION GRAND  
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Statement Of: DAWN CRICLOW  
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File Number: MI-05-2482  
Directory :



646 did recognise the company name and, and if, if that discount, if that discount was not  
647 going to be supported by Council when other community groups came to them for gifts  
648 for example the, if, the Mayoral Committee wanted a donation if they didn't get that  
649 discount they would have to say no to other requests.

650  
651 KB So can you recall any particular Councillors that had – apart from yourself and Councillor  
652 Sarroff that had strong views that it should not be allowed the rates discount?

653  
654 DC I really can't remember and I'm, I'm saying hopefully in the full Council a division was  
655 called but certainly it would have been recorded in the newspaper because it was a  
656 controversial issue and, and I believe the newspaper would have recorded who voted for  
657 and against. I believe Councillor McDonald would have voted against the discount. She'd  
658 been on the Council for a long time and, and wouldn't have seen other approvals go  
659 through like this but I, I cannot answer your question.

660  
661 KB Can you recall a letter being received from the Falcon Group in support of the Sunland  
662 Group receiving a rates discount at all?

663  
664 DC Not at all.

665  
666 KB Do you know the Falcon Group?

667  
668 DC Not at all.

669  
670 KB Is there anything further you'd like to add about that rates issue?

671  
672 DC Nuh

673  
674 KB But in any event the rates discount was granted?

675  
676 DC It was.

677  
678 KB It was allowed in other words and the Sunland Group received their rates discount.

679  
680 DC They did.

681  
682 KB Was that pursued any further after that and it was put through full Council that they be  
683 allowed to receive their rates discount? Was there any other action taken?

684  
685 DC No

686  
687 KB The next matter I'd like to discuss with you involves a matter that you have referred to  
688 the Crime and Misconduct Commission relating to the Director of Engineering Services

Complainant: OPERATION GRAND  
Subject(s): OPERATION GRAND  
Investigator: DETECTIVE INSPECTOR KEN BEMI  
Statement Of: DAWN CRICLOW  
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File Number: MI-05-2482  
Directory :

689 being pressured by some Councillors to give jobs to a Gold Coast Liberal Party identity  
690 that being Lionel Barden I believe.  
691  
692 DC Yes  
693  
694 KB Can you outline your concerns in relation to that matter? You can start from the  
695 beginning and work your way through that if you wouldn't mind.  
696  
697 DC Ahh well my concerns have been for some time about work that has been given to Mr  
698 Barden and prior to Mr Barden umm ahh Fibre Light Industries which he was the ahh  
699 director and I believe Managing Director of and things didn't work ahh he – after Fibre  
700 Light did some work for the Gold Coast City Council. It was on the bridge here at  
701 Sundale and that was in 1992 and it didn't work and the Chevron Island Bridge had come  
702 up where they had signs put on the Chevron Island Bridge saying Chevron Island and  
703 Surfers Paradise and it didn't work. And then there was another job that the Chamber of  
704 Commerce gave in Beenleigh and ahh this was after Mr Barden had left Fibre Light and  
705 had gone into receivership and, and Council had words about Engineering Services one  
706 day – we were talking about the jobs that Mr Barden seemed to get through Council and  
707 we'd just spent – given him another year's rent for an organisation he set down ahh up at  
708 the Airport. We paid the rent ahh for space in that showcase at the Airport and we were  
709 just talking and Council Hackwood said yes he wasn't happy with the lights that had gone  
710 in at Beenleigh and umm and the director was there at the time and in front of I believe  
711 Councillor Douglas, myself, Councillor Hackwood I believe umm he said that ahh 'you'd  
712 be amazed how much pressure's been on us to give this man work' or 'jobs' one of those  
713 'work' or 'jobs'.  
714  
715 KB Who said that sorry?  
716  
717 DC Ahh Warren Day, the Director of Engineering Services.  
718  
719 KB Can you recall...  
720  
721 DC [overtalking] By Councillors – pressure by Councillors.  
722  
723 KB Did he identify those Councillors?  
724  
725 DC No he didn't.  
726  
727 KB Can you recall when you had this conversation with Warren Day at all?  
728  
729 DC Well it was either prior ahh before an Engineering Services Committee Meeting or after –  
730 more likely after because normally everybody arrives right on time for those. So it would  
731 have been after a Engineering Services Committee Meeting.  
732

Complainant: OPERATION GRAND  
Subject(s): OPERATION GRAND  
Investigator: DETECTIVE INSPECTOR KEN BEMI  
Statement Of: DAWN CRICHLOW  
Legal Officer: THERESA HAMILTON  
File Number: MI-05-2482  
Directory :

733 KB Did he provide any further details as to what kind of pressure?  
734  
735 DC No he didn't.  
736  
737 KB So generally he just said well what he stated was that 'you wouldn't believe the amount  
738 of pressure that's been placed on him'?'  
739  
740 DC By some Councillors to get work for Mr Barden.  
741  
742 KB And can you outline the work that was being performed or that Council had some  
743 connection with Mr Barden with at that time? Was there any work Council was  
744 performing for Mr Barden?  
745  
746 DC Ahh well no Mr Barden was performing for Council.  
747  
748 KB Right  
749  
750 DC The work at Beenleigh I believe it was a roundabout and, and the – it was done through  
751 the Beenleigh Chamber of Commerce umm so they actually commission the work so it  
752 didn't go to tender in other words. They actually commission the work for the Chamber  
753 of Commerce the Divisional Councillors supported it so a, lights or a light went up at  
754 Beenleigh. Umm Showcase could have been still opened at that time where umm where  
755 Mr Barden was given umm 12 months rent and then it closes down in 12 months. So it  
756 could – might have been just after that too. So he has had ahh done quite a lot of work  
757 for the Council.  
758  
759 KB Okay. I guess the point I was trying to make did Council perform any work in relation to  
760 where Lionel Barden's business may have been? Like any ahh preferential treatment did  
761 he receive from?  
762  
763 DC Well he got rent for a space down at Showcase umm and and also at that time was – it  
764 was brought to my attention also at that time where Council paid Mr Barden to do the  
765 catering for a team of baseballers, footballers a team of some sport to have their umm  
766 have a launch at his Showcase and Mr Barden actually umm ahh received the money and  
767 did the catering himself personally.  
768  
769 KB Are you aware of any work that was being performed on the Chevron Island Bridge at all  
770 any lighting?  
771  
772 DC Yes yes this is what I mentioned earlier. He got the job after he'd left Fibre Light. How  
773 he got the job I don't know. To do the lights on the Chevron Island Bridge. One said  
774 Chevron Island as you came to it and the other one said, the other end of the bridge said  
775 Surfers Paradise.  
776

Complainant: OPERATION GRAND  
Subject(s): OPERATION GRAND  
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Statement Of: DAWN CRICLOW  
Legal Officer: THERESA HAMILTON  
File Number: MI-05-2482  
Directory :

777 KB Can you add anything further in relation to Mr Warren Day being pressured by certain  
778 Councillors in connection with Lionel Barden?  
779  
780 DC Ahh no ahh no I ca.. – well all I can say is ahh we were outside – we were outside the  
781 Church in a Church in umm Mermaid Waters. There was a funeral. Justin Hickey's  
782 funeral and Warren Day was there and he said umm ahh ahh sorry Suzie Douglas was in  
783 the group too and he said that the CMC I think had spoken to him umm over this matter  
784 and he, he didn't really say it he was just sort of saying umm ohh you know, you know  
785 other Councillors.  
786  
787 KB But you're not aware yourself personally of any pressure having been placed on Warren  
788 Day apart from what he has told you?  
789  
790 DC That's right no.  
791  
792 KB You haven't got any first hand knowledge?  
793  
794 DC No not at all.  
795  
796 KB And you can't recall when that conversation with him took place? It could have been at a  
797 meeting you outlined previously but you don't know the date or?  
798  
799 DC No I don't know the date. Actually on my complaint the date would have been recorded.  
800  
801 KB Was there any other person present when you had this conversation with Warren Day at  
802 all?  
803  
804 DC Ahh yes Councillor Hackwood and Councillor Douglas.  
805  
806 KB And did they...  
807  
808 DC [overtalking] This is at the meeting.  
809  
810 KB At the meeting?  
811  
812 DC Yes  
813  
814 KB So he was addressing the meeting?  
815  
816 DC He wasn't addressing. It was just casually after it was over we were talking about things  
817 you know how you talk about things.  
818  
819 KB And he just said that umm what prompted him to say that?  
820

Complainant: OPERATION GRAND  
Subject(s): OPERATION GRAND  
Investigator: DETECTIVE INSPECTOR KEN BEMI  
Statement Of: DAWN CRICLOW  
Legal Officer: THERESA HAMILTON  
File Number: MI-05-2482  
Directory :

821 DC Well we'd been talking about umm ahh the lights up at Beenleigh and, and maybe the  
822 Showcase had come up I don't know so we were talking about that.  
823  
824 KB Is there anything further you want to say about that complaint?  
825  
826 DC No  
827  
828 LOB We might just change the tape [ui]  
829  
830 KB Thank you. The time now is 11:52 am. This interview is now suspended.  
831  
832 DC Do you want a cup of coffee or tea or something?  
833  
834  
835  
836 **TAPE ENDS**

AL/CRICHLOW, Dawn Tp1 of 2 04.11.05

Complainant: OPERATION GRAND  
Subject(s): OPERATION GRAND  
Investigator: DETECTIVE INSPECTOR KEN BEMI  
Statement Of: DAWN CRICHLOW  
Legal Officer: THERESA HAMILTON  
File Number: MI-05-2482  
Directory :

**RECORD OF INTERVIEW - DAWN CRICHLOW**

**TAPE NO:** 2 (of 2)

**DATE:** 04.11.05

**PLACE:** SOUTHPORT

**TIME COMMENCED:** 11:56 AM

**TIME CONCLUDED:** 12:03 PM

**INTERVIEWEE:** DAWN CRICHLOW

**INTERVIEWER/S:** DETECTIVE INSPECTOR KEN BEMI  
**ALSO PRESENT:** INVESTIGATOR LUCINDA O'BRIEN

**LEGAL OFFICER:** THERESA HAMILTON

**RE:** OPERATION GRAND

**FILE NUMBER:** MI-05-2482

Complainant: OPERATION GRAND  
Subject(s): OPERATION GRAND  
Investigator: DETECTIVE INSPECTOR KEN BEMI  
Statement Of: DAWN CRICHLOW  
Legal Officer: THERESA HAMILTON  
File Number: MI-05-2482  
Directory :

COPY TAPE 2 OF 2 - RECORD OF INTERVIEW BETWEEN DETECTIVE INSPECTOR  
KEN BEMI OF THE CRIME AND MISCONDUCT COMMISSION AND DAWN  
CRICHLAW. HELD AT SOUTHPORT ON 4 NOVEMBER 2005. ALSO PRESENT  
INVESTIGATOR LUCINDA O'BRIEN

LEGAL OFFICER: THERESA HAMILTON

RE: OPERATION GRAND

KB = Detective Inspector Ken Bemi (CMC)

DC = Dawn Crichlow

LOB = Investigator Lucinda O'Brien (CMC)

- 1 KB The time now is 11:56 am on Friday morning the 4<sup>th</sup> day of November 2005. This is an  
2 interview with Councillor Dawn Crichlow is resumed. Councillor Crichlow if I can just  
3 direct your attention back to a previous point that I've discussed with you in relation to  
4 supporting any candidates for the March 2004 elections held here on the Gold Coast.  
5 You mentioned Councillor Pforr.  
6
- 7 DC Mmmm  
8
- 9 KB Were there any other candidates that you supported?  
10
- 11 DC Well I didn't support Councillor Pforr he came in to see me once because he knew me  
12 ahh knew as – and I actually went to Rob Molhoek's launch over at umm over a [ui]  
13 Seafoods ahh just to, you know, like I love seeing people's aspirations and ahh and I went  
14 over there and I saw umm quite a few people from the Chamber of Commerce and I  
15 basically left early.  
16
- 17 KB Okay  
18
- 19 DC Very early.  
20
- 21 KB Did you provide any of those two people with any kind of support in any way? What  
22 you, you consider support?  
23
- 24 DC No  
25
- 26 KB What about in relation to a – is it a journalist that you have some association with Henry  
27 Lack?  
28
- 29 DC Ohh Henry. Well when umm when Grant, Grant Pforr came over here I said I know this  
30 man ohh Henry Lack who's done campaigns for me Henry Lack – he has got how to run a

Complainant: OPERATION GRAND  
Subject(s): OPERATION GRAND  
Investigator: DETECTIVE INSPECTOR KEN BEMI  
Statement Of: DAWN CRICHLAW  
Legal Officer: THERESA HAMILTON  
File Number: MI-05-2482  
Directory :

31 campaign. He – it's a sheet of paper and he, he sells it to people who want to run a  
32 campaign and I said I gave him the phone number and that was the, that was the end of  
33 that. Whether he went ahead with it.  
34  
35 KB You gave who the phone numbers sorry?  
36  
37 DC I gave Grant Pforr umm Henry's mobile telephone number.  
38  
39 KB And Molhoek you didn't ahh actually provide that information to...  
40  
41 DC No  
42  
43 KB ...you just attended his launch over at [ui] Seafood there?  
44  
45 DC Yep  
46  
47 KB Did you believe that they were good candidates Molhoek and Pforr at the time of you  
48 speaking to them?  
49  
50 DC I, I didn't judge them. I didn't, I didn't judge them and, and you know I'm, I'm too long  
51 in the tooth to ahh you know believe everything I hear.  
52  
53 KB Did you believe what they stood for at that time?  
54  
55 DC Ohh there was no what did they stand for. They came to say how, you know, what's local  
56 government all about, you know and I try to tell people it's just grass roots and you  
57 shouldn't get you know involved in, in anything but rates, roads and rubbish to be honest  
58 with you and umm look after people's footpaths and make sure the street signs are up and  
59 things like that and that to me, that's my only sort of advice to anybody.  
60  
61 KB Do you know what motivated Grant Pforr to come to you originally?  
62  
63 DC Only yeah well he, he met me over – when he was the President of the Surf Life Saving  
64 Club.  
65  
66 KB That's what you outlined previously.  
67  
68 DC Yes  
69  
70 KB Was there any other factor apart from that do you think?  
71  
72 DC No  
73  
74 KB So he just simply turned up here one day or did he contact you or did he see you?

Complainant: OPERATION GRAND  
Subject(s): OPERATION GRAND  
Investigator: DETECTIVE INSPECTOR KEN BEMI  
Statement Of: DAWN CRICHLow  
Legal Officer: THERESA HAMILTON  
File Number: MI-05-2482  
Directory:



75  
76 DC Ohh he probably would have been made a phone ahh ahh umm an appointment with Gail.  
77 I can remember he did sit there.  
78  
79 KB In relation to Mr Molhoek...  
80  
81 DC Mm mm  
82  
83 KB ...did you have any conversation with him at his launch? Did you speak to him in  
84 person?  
85  
86 DC Ohh just hello how are you you know that's it no, no, not nuh.  
87  
88 KB So you wouldn't describe it as support apart from you turning up at his, at his what was it  
89 a campaign launch or an information session?  
90  
91 DC Yes and I'd heard it on the radio that he was having a band there and I'd heard it...  
92  
93 KB Campaign launch.  
94  
95 DC Yeah yeah.  
96  
97 KB Do you know a person by the name of Bob Janssen at all?  
98  
99 DC Yes  
100  
101 KB Can you tell me under what circumstances do you know him?  
102  
103 DC Ahh he stood against ahh Bob La Castra at the last election in 2000 and I handed out for  
104 him.  
105  
106 KB So you got on pretty well with him?  
107  
108 DC No not really (laughing).  
109  
110 KB Do you still get on okay with him or?  
111  
112 DC No not really.  
113  
114 KB How would you describe...  
115  
116 DC [overtalking] I never really got on with him at all umm you know he seemed, he seemed -  
117 well once again seemed to be a presentable kind of, kind of fella umm you know and, and

Complainant: OPERATION GRAND  
Subject(s): OPERATION GRAND  
Investigator: DETECTIVE INSPECTOR KEN BEMI  
Statement Of: DAWN CRICHLOW  
Legal Officer: THERESA HAMILTON  
File Number: MI-05-2482  
Directory :

118 I said well I'm not doing anything okay I'll hand – he asked me and I said okay I'll hand  
119 out for you.  
120  
121 KB When was that? When did he run?  
122  
123 DC 2000. The year 2000 against Bob La Castra.  
124  
125 KB And of course he wasn't successful Mr Janssen.  
126  
127 DC No he wasn't. And nobody stood against me so that's why I had a bit of time.  
128  
129 KB So you aren't opposed, elected unopposed that time.  
130  
131 DC Yeah yeah.  
132  
133 KB Alright so you handed things out for him...  
134  
135 DC Yep  
136  
137 KB ...Mr Janssen was that at the – on the election day or beforehand?  
138  
139 DC That was on election day over at Ashmore Primary School in umm Currumburra Road  
140 and umm I believe I was too noisy.  
141  
142 KB Did he have, did he have an involvement with the Chamber of Commerce at all?  
143  
144 DC At that time I, I don't remember to be honest with you I don't remember. I know now he  
145 is.  
146  
147 KB Was it a case were you on his election campaign team?  
148  
149 DC No not at all. I just gave him one hour umm ahh outside the school. One hour maximum  
150 outside the school and I think I took one yeah a friend of mine with me.  
151  
152 KB Now if I can just ask you at this stage in relation to your original complaint and you've  
153 already discussed that you have been interviewed about that...  
154  
155 DC Yes  
156  
157 KB ...by two other people just in summary in relation to your original complaint which is the  
158 biggest one it appears is there anything you'd like to highlight to me again here today  
159 before we conclude this interview about any of your concerns, any specific concerns or  
160 just anything you want to highlight out of that complaint?  
161

Complainant: OPERATION GRAND  
Subject(s): OPERATION GRAND  
Investigator: DETECTIVE INSPECTOR KEN BEMI  
Statement Of: DAWN CRICLOW  
Legal Officer: THERESA HAMILTON  
File Number: MI-05-2482  
Directory :

162 DC No not at all. That was the complaint at the time and that's the way it stands.  
163  
164 KB Okay and you've already stated quite clearly that you haven't anything further to add  
165 apart from what you stated to the other two investigators at that time.  
166  
167 DC That's right.  
168  
169 KB Lucinda do you wish to ask anything?  
170  
171 LOB No thank you.  
172  
173 KB Now Councillor Crichlow would you like to add anything about any matter we've  
174 discussed here today or any other matter that you'd like to bring to my attention?  
175  
176 DC Mmm no I don't think so. No I don't believe so.  
177  
178 KB That being the case do you agree that you've participated in this interview of your own  
179 free will here today?  
180  
181 DC Yes sure.  
182  
183 KB Is what you've stated true and correct to the best of your knowledge and belief?  
184  
185 DC It is.  
186  
187 KB Once again thank you for your time. The time now is 12:03 pm on the afternoon of  
188 Friday the 4<sup>th</sup> day of November 2005. This interview is now concluded.  
189  
190  
191 **TAPE ENDS**

AL/CRICHLow, Dawn Tp2 of 2 04.11.05

Complainant: OPERATION GRAND  
Subject(s): OPERATION GRAND  
Investigator: DETECTIVE INSPECTOR KEN BEMI  
Statement Of: DAWN CRICHLow  
Legal Officer: THERESA HAMILTON  
File Number: MI-05-2482  
Directory :

**RECORD OF INTERVIEW**

**TAPE NO:** 1 (of 1)

**DATE:** 31/3/2004

**PLACE:** 75 BRIGHTON PARADE SOUTHPORT

**TIME COMMENCED:**

**TIME CONCLUDED:** 11:08 AM

**INTERVIEWEE:** DAWN CRICHLOW

**INTERVIEWER/S:** MARK DOCWRA

**ALSO PRESENT:** DETECTIVE SERGEANT ED BATKIN

**LEGAL OFFICER:** MARK DOCWRA

**RE:** COMPLAINT BY DAWN CRICHLOW

**FILE NUMBER:**

**COPY**

Complainant: DAWN CRICHLOW  
Subject(s):  
Investigator: DETECTIVE SERGEANT ED BATKIN  
Statement Of: DAWN CRICHLOW  
Legal Officer: MARK DOCWRA  
File Number: 49281  
Directory :

Complainant: DAWN CRICHLOW  
Subject(s):  
Investigator: DETECTIVE SERGEANT ED BATKIN  
Statement Of: DAWN CRICHLOW  
Legal Officer: MARK DOCWRA  
File Number: 4771  
Directory :

DAWN CRICHLOW

COPY TAPE 1 OF 1 - RECORD OF INTERVIEW BETWEEN DAWN CRICHLOW AND MARK DOCWRA OF THE CRIME AND MISCONDUCT COMMISSION; ALSO PRESENT DETECTIVE SERGEANT ED BATKIN OF THE CRIME AND MISCONDUCT COMMISSION

LEGAL OFFICER: MARK DOCWRA

RE: COMPLAINT BY DAWN CRICHLOW

DC = DAWN CRICHLOW

MD = MARK DOCWRA

EB = DETECTIVE SERGEANT ED BATKIN

UI = UNINTELLIGIBLE

- 1 EB 'Kay ah today is Wednesday the Thirty-First of March 2004 this is a taped conversation  
2 taking place at .. what's the address here  
3  
4 DC 75 Brighton Parade Southport  
5  
6 EB And the conversation's between Senior Legal Officer Mark DOCWRA and Detective  
7 Sergeant Ed BATKIN of both of the CMC and your full name please  
8  
9 DC Dawn CRICHLOW, I'm the Gold City Council, Division 6 Southport  
10  
11 EB Ah also  
12  
13 MD Ah Dawn you've asked ah .. ah or you've called for a, the CMC to investigate into certain  
14 ah relationships between developers  
15  
16 DC (Ui)  
17  
18 MD Property developers on the Gold Coast and members of, of the Gold Coast City Council  
19 and candidates, in the recent election, could you explain to us what your concerns are  
20  
21 DC Yeh certainly I believe that this started some six months ago, we started getting  
22 suspicious after some of us hearing ah ah, people talking c' closing to each other and very  
23 very fancy literature being put out actually it wouldn't be called ah, ah election material  
24 it'd be called propaganda, and we heard, the ones that were connected with it are, were  
25 all, a' involved with a company at Robina. At that time, we didn't know which company  
26 it was, ah but we've since believe it's a company called Quadrant, there was a public  
27 relations company, ah that are involved, we were also suspicious of a ahm, of a legal firm  
28 holding the money, ahm holding the money for, er for, certain candidates and for certain  
29 councillors, and the legal company ah we believed it was, was ah Tony Hickey and  
30 Associates, ah, the Gold Coast Bulletin phoned up ah er Tony Hickey and Associates and

Complainant: DAWN CRICHLOW  
Subject(s):  
Investigator: DETECTIVE SERGEANT ED BATKIN  
Statement Of: DAWN CRICHLOW  
Legal Officer: MARK DOCWRA  
File Number:  
Directory :

31 who absolutely denied it and only last week um I went to a function where Tony  
32 HICKEY himself was, and he got very angry when I mentioned the subject but did admit  
33 that he had put money into, certain candidates .. So, this is it, it just started building up  
34 and building up and they were denying it the Bulletin was on to it then me, David  
35 POWER Sue ROBBINS LA CASTRA and and SHEPHERD, were all denying they had  
36 any involvement with any other candidate that was coming up and categorically denying  
37 it over and over again .. ah

38  
39 MD Can I just inter interrupt there for a moment

40  
41 DC Yeh

42  
43 MD The particular ah, members of the ah Gold Coast City Council candidates that you're  
44 referring to, they're the ones that've been ah identified in recent ah editions of the Gold  
45 Coast Bulletin is that correct?

46  
47 DC That's right

48  
49 MD Right and they're names are, are Lionel BARDEN, ah

50  
51 DC He was not a candidate but he's now been labelled the chairman of the group

52  
53 MD Okay Sue ROBBINS

54  
55 DC Sue ROBBINS, current councillor

56  
57 MD Ah David POWER

58  
59 DC Current councillor

60  
61 MD Ah Ted SHEPHERD

62  
63 DC Current councillor

64  
65 MD Ah Bob LA CASTRA

66  
67 DC Current councillor

68  
69 MD Ah, Grant PFORR

70  
71 DC Ah successful candidate

72  
73 MD Right Roxanne

74  
75 DC SCOTT

Complainant: DAWN CRICLOW  
Subject(s):  
Investigator: DETECTIVE SERGEANT ED BATKIN  
Statement Of: DAWN CRICLOW  
Legal Officer: MARK DOCWRA  
File Number:  
Directory :

76  
77 MD SCOTT  
78  
79 DC Unsuccessful candidate  
80  
81 MD Alright Brian BOW  
82  
83 DC Brian ROWE  
84  
85 MD Bri' beg your pardon ROWE  
86  
87 DC Unsuccessful candidate  
88  
89 MD And Greg BETTS  
90  
91 DC A successful candidate  
92  
93 MD Okay .. now, can you identify for us ah who are the persons ah you, ah believe, ah were  
94 funding, their candidate, candidature for the, this recent election  
95  
96 DC Well it has come forward that it was under the Lionel BARDEN trust  
97  
98 EB [Clears throat]  
99  
100 DC And we have a, they haven't identified that's, where that trust is held, (ui) through which  
101 solicitor .. ah .. er but also has come to the fore that ah, it was ah, Brian RAY, Brian RAY  
102 and ah Soheil ABEDIAN, the U-D-I-A have now said it's fantastic that ah this er the  
103 candidates have got in, and .. and that's it  
104  
105 MD Okay, did you just say the U-D-I-A  
106  
107 DC Yes  
108  
109 MD What's the U-D-I-A?  
110  
111 DC Urban Development Industry Association, today in the Gold Coast Bulletin, have said  
112 they're very pleased, now they might get what they want ah which is their infrastructure  
113 charges which we all voted on ahh, a moratorium put on those and also ahm a delegated  
114 authority for, for ahm, at council officers, you see this is how I think it first started  
115  
116 DC Okay  
117  
118 DC Ah .. in, in September, just after our new town plan came out, in September, the, an  
119 agenda item came to council, the, director had been to both Planning and Development  
120 North and Planning and Development South to get the feelings of the councillors as to

Complainant: DAWN CRICHLOW  
Subject(s):  
Investigator: DETECTIVE SERGEANT ED BATKIN  
Statement Of: DAWN CRICHLOW  
Legal Officer: MARK DOCWRA  
File Number:  
Directory :



121 whether they would support delegate more delegated authority for the officers. He must  
122 of got the feeling right because an agenda item came up, and ah, that agenda item, ah  
123 recommended ah delegated authority for, the chairman of the committee and the, and the,  
124 councillor of the area. What the excuse was, since the new town plan and superseded ah  
125 planning authority have come in ah, then there'd been giv' so many applications have  
126 come to council. And so, therefore it was hard to get the town planners to assess it, so we  
127 wanted to ah bypass that, and allow just the chairman of the committee and the divisional  
128 councillor . Well they were successful when it came to ah, our first committee ahm, co-  
129 ordination committee the vote was 8 to 7, yes the delegated authority and I spoke strongly  
130 against it as did other people. But when it came to full council the following Friday, what  
131 happened there was, ah, one of the ones pushing it, Councillor ROBBINS ah, a nephew  
132 of hers had had an accident in the Army so she wasn't able to be there, so the vote was 7  
133 all because she wasn't there, and the Mayor used his delegated authority to stop it . Since  
134 then it's been full on .. in November ah I chair the Property Industry Advisory Committee  
135 and in November when we had the meeting, one of the, ah one of the people on it is a  
136 man called Greg MAITE .. ah he's in charge of Lewis Land and he'd put a, a general  
137 business item to come up, about delegated authority .. I .. finished the meeting and I said  
138 now general business, and he was sitting to my right, there was only one other councillor  
139 on that committee that was in attendance and that was Councillor SARROFF and he was  
140 sitting there, and he said look there's no need to talk about this in general business now,  
141 we've had a meeting with ah the director, Warren ROWE. With that, our director was  
142 sitting on a chair that side not round the table, he left like a scared rabbit, he ran I've  
143 never seen anything like that happen before, he said, it's alright, ah it's gonna take time  
144 ahm, ah but we'll get the delegated authority and I went off my tree of course, and went,  
145 no way in the world you'll get the delegated authority this is not right, and here it is  
146 November, you tried to get it in September, it didn't happen. And where are the  
147 applications? We have been lucky since that, decision in September, we have been lucky  
148 to have had, four, agenda items on each council, meeting, four, well where are these so  
149 called .. agenda i' er all these massive applications, they're not coming to council, are  
150 they holding them back from the, for this election, or what it is, but certainly with the  
151 amount that've been filtering through to all our planning meetings, certainly didn't  
152 warrant any delegated authority. So ah, that's as I see it, I and I see then, that ah, they had  
153 to get like minded people, into the council, and it had to be funded fully by the likes of  
154 Greg MAITE and U-D-I-A ah so as they could get their own way.

155  
156 MD Right could I just ask ahm the, minutes of the relative council meetings

157  
158 DC Mmm

159  
160 MD Or, Planning Development Committee Meetings ah are they available over the inter  
161 internet do you know?

162  
163 DC Yes they certainly are

164  
165 EB [Clears throat]

Complainant: DAWN CRICLOW  
Subject(s):  
Investigator: DETECTIVE SERGEANT ED BATKIN  
Statement Of: DAWN CRICLOW  
Legal Officer: MARK DOCWRA  
File Number:  
Directory :

166  
167 MD Alright so  
168  
169 DC Planning and Development South and Planning and Development North you will see, the  
170 front page will show you how many are on, on each agenda yes  
171  
172 MD Okay  
173  
174 DC Each meeting  
175  
176 MD Alright now ahm .. do you, ah have .. or are you aware .. of, any particular agreements,  
177 between developers and individual candidates, as to, possible courses of action that they  
178 might .. ah .. pursue once they get into council?  
179  
180 DC No they've only been mentioned as like minded people. For example the candidate that,  
181 ran against me, there was so much money even on election day there were models ... Do  
182 you want me to close the door?  
183  
184 EB Yeh that's actually your front door .. if you could that'd be good thanks  
185  
186 [Clears throat]  
187  
188 DC Good hey .. [door closes] .. it's got the vacuum cleaning going  
189  
190 EB Yeh  
191  
192 DC There were even models on the day and what has been said now in the paper and if you  
193 go back on the papers is, ah that they were just told, to s' ah spend the money, and ah  
194 they will get fixed up for it from ah this trust fund  
195  
196 MD Okay  
197  
198 DC So, so as they would be like minded and, wel' well once you're like minded that means  
199 ah. that means you're working together. As a matter of fact I had a phone call yesterday  
200 from, ahm, both, Councillor HACKWOOD and Councillor SARROFF they were sitting  
201 in the same room, but Councillor HACKWOOD, I don't know why they rang me again  
202 he phoned me earlier, and he's been told by Councillor POWER, unless he or anybody  
203 else that's .. out of this group .. if they don't vote, for what, the group wants, they will get  
204 no funding for their divisions whatsoever.  
205  
206 MD Okay .. what .. is  
207  
208 DC Lionel BARDEN do you want to talk about him  
209  
210 MD Yes please

Complainant: DAWN CRICHLow  
Subject(s):  
Investigator: DETECTIVE SERGEANT ED BATKIN  
Statement Of: DAWN CRICHLow  
Legal Officer: MARK DOCWRA  
File Number:  
Directory :

211  
212 DC Lionel BARDEN, Lionel BARDEN is a man that's been around for some time he had a  
213 company called Fibrelight, when I came into ah, er into, knowing Lionel BARDEN when  
214 he got a job, for that bridge over there to put, fibrelight boats, boats going across the  
215 bridge but, he put them up and it cost the council a lot of money but it didn't work from  
216 day one and so I've been trying to get him to, do it do it do it and he didn't. Then he got  
217 other jobs from the council which I can't understand why he did, he got the lights on  
218 Chevron Island Bridge but once again they never worked either .. he then went into  
219 receivership after getting two million dollars from the Government he, he's a  
220  
221 MD Which Government are you talking about  
222  
223 DC Ah State Government .. the State Government he got two million dollars for .. to ahm ..  
224 for ah .. to .. do better things with fibrelight, you know to have, ah  
225  
226 EB Help develop it  
227  
228 DC Develop it that's the word. But he never did he never employed anybody to develop it in  
229 his factory at Burleigh, he just bought the fibrelight from, from America and that is now  
230 gone into receivership .. only, last year sometime. He's now come up with another idea  
231 called Innovation Show Case a proprietary limited company and he's started that next in  
232 the old, airport nextdoor to this airport here, and umm, in September, ah an agenda item  
233 came up to council and it went into close session because, some of us were very  
234 concerned about this man and it is public money after all, and it was recommending that  
235 he get twe' twenty-four thousand dollars for twelve months rent from the Gold Coast City  
236 Council down at his showcase, to showcase the Gold Coast .. I remember Max  
237 CHRISTMAS was really angry about it cause he knew what had happened with the lights  
238 so was Margaret GRUMMITT and so it bucked but the people behind this, David  
239 POWER, Sue ROBBINS, they're, Jan GREW was involved in it because, he has since  
240 come out in the paper before, they've crowned him as, as, the mastermind sort've the  
241 bagman, he has openly said he's supporting Councillor GREW and Councillor  
242 SHEPHERD. Anyhow, they made notes, to try and give (ui) get me, defamed by him in  
243 that, and he got it, got it through, so far he's been paid twelve thousand dollars, I've got a  
244 copy of that I can give it, what, what he's been paid so far I asked for that on, Monday ..  
245 and I oh also by the way I don' I .. I switch all over the place I realise that that's, they're  
246 the decision on the delegated authority .. and ah .. and so this Lionel BARDEN has now I  
247 believe, ah got ah big funding from the Federal Government. He's involved Kylie with  
248 ah, Margaret MAY and the Liberal Party of that area.  
249  
250 MD Right so you've handed to me ahm, a facsimile from the Gold Coast City Council on the  
251 Twenty-Sixth of March, this year  
252  
253 DC Yeh  
254

Complainant: DAWN CRICHLAW  
Subject(s):  
Investigator: DETECTIVE SERGEANT ED BATKIN  
Statement Of: DAWN CRICHLAW  
Legal Officer: MARK DOCWRA  
File Number:  
Directory :

255 MD Ahm, addressed, to you from Nick MACQUARIE a Business Development Officer and  
 256 you've also handed to me ahm, a copy of Council Meeting dated 19 September 2003 and  
 257 that concerns the ah .. the ah motions concerning the, delegated authority to deal with  
 258 planning approvals. Is that correct?  
 259

260 DC That's right  
 261

262 MD Excellent .. alright so .. the .. your .. the information .. ah .. that you .. has led you to  
 263 become concerned, ah essentially derives from .. ah matters that you've become aware of,  
 264 during council business meetings ah in the last six months?  
 265

266 DC Yes  
 267

268 MD Ah, recent ahm .. ah, reports in the Gold Coast Bulletin, perhaps over the last week?  
 269

270 DC Yes  
 271

272 MD And ahm, is also referred to in these particular ah documents that we've just spoken  
 273 about?  
 274

275 DC Yes  
 276

277 MD Also ahm, you've referred to the ah Criminal Justice Commission ah investigation ah into  
 278 land developers ah back in 1999 at the Gold Coast City Council?  
 279

280 DC 1991  
 281

282 MD 1991 I beg your pardon thank you  
 283

284 DC Yeh  
 285

286 MD Ahm, er is there any other, particular, specific ahm, sources of information that you, you  
 287 think the CMC should be looking at, in relation to this issue  
 288

289 DC Well even last Wednesday there was a mayoral ahm a mayoral breakfast put on, and I,  
 290 have been leaving early because election on  
 291

292 MD Yeah  
 293

294 DC And my office is past the RSL and I came back, ahm early, it was 6 o'clock and there was  
 295 ah Ron CLARK and Lionel BARDEN's car and ah .. Bob JANSON from the other  
 296 Chamber of Commerce at Nerang looking after — he looks after ah, Bob LA CASTRA  
 297 — and there were a few people there it was obviously they were having another kind of  
 298 meeting and I went to that breakfast and it was highjacked, you know it, poor er Gary  
 299 BAILDON walked in like a lamb to slaughter he wasn't told they were voting he wasn't

Complainant: DAWN CRICLOW  
 Subject(s):  
 Investigator: DETECTIVE SERGEANT ED BATKIN  
 Statement Of: DAWN CRICLOW  
 Legal Officer: MARK DOCWRA  
 File Number:  
 Directory :

300 told he could paid he'd be, wasn't told anything, and, and the people, and some of those  
301 people Bob JANSON ah, er John LANG and Ian SOLOMON are mentioned, in, in the  
302 Bulletin as part of Lionel BARDEN's group, and it was obvious he was in charge of even  
303 that so, you wonder how, ah, far it has gone and who is actually in it because when, Ron  
304 CLARK first came back from Melbourne, ah he actually met with most of the councillors  
305 to get a like minded team and that's the same, what they're saying, they're saying now  
306 [mobile phone rings in background] like minded people so ah yeah  
307

308 MD Okay do you just want to answer that phone  
309

310 DC That'll only go for three minutes er three rings  
311

312 MD Ohh .. okay  
313

314 DC Yeah .. yeah .. or four .. no three .. no four .. ah ..  
315

316 MD Can I just ask ah .. can you .. do you know, any of the, or can identify for us, any  
317 business, or corporate, corporation that may be associated with Brian RAY ..  
318

319 DC Ah businesses or corporations  
320

321 MD Yeah  
322

323 DC Oh he's done a lot of ahm developing on the Gold Coast .. actually The Bulletin I think it  
324 was on Saturday did a resume of what where's he's been the developments he's done up  
325 at Coomera, this is where it all stems from all these, development and the delegated  
326 authority he's wanted for the Coomera area, there's developers that have been, getting up  
327 big big parcels of rural land, and under the new t'ah ah town plan or integrated planning  
328 act, you don't have to have, an actual re-zoning like you can put in an application for  
329 anything and it can be judged for anything, whereas before if it was rural it was rural,  
330 now you can put in an application for rural, and get it sub-divided into small lots if you  
331 like, so, it's it's absolutely different to what the town plan used to be ah, prior to this so  
332 [mobile phone rings in background]  
333

334 MD Alright  
335

336 DC Yeh  
337

338 MD Ah ..  
339

340 DC Excuse me  
341

342 MD Just .. Dawn CRICHLow's gone to answer the phone  
343

Complainant: DAWN CRICHLow  
Subject(s):  
Investigator: DETECTIVE SERGEANT ED BATKIN  
Statement Of: DAWN CRICHLow  
Legal Officer: MARK DOCWRA  
File Number:  
Directory :

344 DC Hello .. yeh .. oh yes (ui) can I ring you back .. what's your number .. (ui) .. thank you ..  
345 yep  
346  
347 MD Alright ahm perhaps you could ah, try and identify for us ah any businesses or corporate,  
348 ah associations ah that, Soheil ABEDIAN has er that that you're aware of  
349  
350 DC Oh businesses  
351  
352 MD Businesses company any connections (ui)  
353  
354 DC Soheil (ui) doing the ah .. tallest tower, the biggest tower, in, in Surfers Paradise, he's a  
355 very, very large ah, developer on the Gold Coast, and he was in the paper himself only,  
356 before saying we love you, Gary but, pull your councillors in line but, I mean, there's  
357 been no upheaval here. It'd be different, if it had been a really, ah, ah hostile council,  
358 but there hasn't been. Sure there's some issues that we argue on, and developments 'n  
359 things like that, but on most policy issues, we s', we, we do set the policy alright.  
360  
361 MD Mmm  
362  
363 DC So it's, it's it's, big developer that's obviously wanting to get large developments through  
364 and ah, and, and that's it, yes Soheil was involved in that, but I think it, you should ah,  
365 really, go to Quadrant .. And the lady that sta' stood against me I, she is really really  
366 concerned now I would I would ah, whilst it's fresh in her mind I would investigate  
367 where she got her money from how she got it, and everything else like that, there's a man  
368 called Rob MOLHOEK  
369  
370 MD (Ui) [over talking]  
371  
372 DC Who was successful in Division 4 ah, when he was named as part of that cartel, ah he  
373 rang me and he said look I'm really concerned I only went to one meeting with them I  
374 haven't taken money from them and I'm really concerned what should I do, and I'd said  
375 to him, ring up the paper and clear yourself and tell them the truth who was at the  
376 meeting, which he did do, and then when they spoke to POWER and ROBBINS,  
377 POWER and ROBBINS denied there was ever any meeting and (ui) anything but then  
378 that afternoon, after they were given, by the report, because Rob MOLHOEK said,  
379 they've (ui) actually given him a brochure to copy his from, they then all of a sudden  
380 looked at their diaries and realised oh yeah there must've been a meeting, so, I, I think  
381 there's a few people that are really scared and, I think that they should be chatted to,  
382 immediately  
383  
384 MD Alright  
385  
386 DC That's what I think  
387

Complainant: DAWN CRICLOW  
Subject(s):  
Investigator: DETECTIVE SERGEANT ED BATKIN  
Statement Of: DAWN CRICLOW  
Legal Officer: MARK DOCWRA  
File Number:  
Directory :

388 MD You you ahm, said that ah we should make enquiries with Quadrant, can you explain  
389 what Quadrant is  
390  
391 DC Well apparently it's his, we heard early in the piece there was this person doing all the  
392 logistics or something apparently it's a public relations company, and works at Robina,  
393 and they would have been the ones that would've put all the ads in the paper and  
394 everything else like that, and I er er and so they were the ones that, did all, the work I  
395 guess, and then Lionel BARDEN was the one that got the money in from the developers,  
396 and whether this Lionel, it's been mentioned in paper Lionel BARDEN trust, and he has  
397 replied to that on Saturday, in such a bad way  
398  
399 MD In the Gold Coast Bulletin  
400  
401 DC In the Gold Coast report and he actually e-mailed them, on Friday night and it's pretty  
402 pathetic what he had to say, oh'll yeah there is a trust ah, but, he er Tony HICKEY's  
403 name hasn't come out yet  
404  
405 MD Okay right ahm is there any other specific matter that you'd like to raise with us 'n ..  
406 suggesting avenues of enquiry we might go down  
407  
408 DC Ahm .. (ui) about .. ah that's (ui) Lionel attempts to explain (ui) [voice fades out] ... Well  
409 now .. it's a very interesting thing .. because there were Jim SOORLEY .. Jim SOORLEY  
410 .. ah supported and gave a, a you know a tick, to Gary BAILDON during the election ..  
411 now whether he thought Gary BAILDON was going to get in or not, and the day after the  
412 election, then, ah .. Ron CLARK says Jim SOORLEY, is going to, run, the City for or  
413 help me, for the first hundred days of the City, well in the Gold Coast Sun it's come out  
414 today Sue ROBBINS, is really angry about that, because he apparently was to consult  
415 when he couldn't get, Devine Homes, when they couldn't get through a very large sub-  
416 division, past Sue ROBBINS a few months ago, they actually employed, Jim SOORLEY,  
417 as their consultant and he came down to see her, she still said no she wouldn't be  
418 supporting it it's in her Division, and he made further, as she said further phone calls, to  
419 her in the run up to the election, and here it is, now, ahm, he is now advising and so,  
420 today he said yes he was a consultant for Devine Homes but he's phoned him yesterday,  
421 when and they've let him out of that contract  
422  
423 MD Okay  
424  
425 DC So the whole thing is smelly  
426  
427 MD Can I just ask you you've mentioned the Gold Coast Sun there  
428  
429 DC Yes  
430

Complainant: DAWN CRICLOW  
Subject(s):  
Investigator: DETECTIVE SERGEANT ED BATKIN  
Statement Of: DAWN CRICLOW  
Legal Officer: MARK DOCWRA  
File Number:  
Directory :

431 MD Ahm previously you've indicated to us that we should look at articles ah published by the  
432 Bulletin in the last seven days, ahm is there anything other than ah today's Gold Coast  
433 Sun that we should be looking at  
434

435 DC Oh ab' I've got a pile there of of newspaper going back to when we first started getting  
436 suspicious and you can see, the trail that it's leading to, and the things that were said I'd  
437 like to (ui), to take the pile of of the papers that I've pulled out with you, and just read  
438 through them you know, in order  
439

440 MD Excellent, yeah we'll do that  
441

442 DC Yeah  
443

444 MD Terrific .. now any other matters that you'd like to raise with us  
445

446 DC Ahm, no I don't think so, I don't think so, I just don't want this council corrupted you  
447 know  
448

449 MD Sure  
450

451 DC I really don't but Coomera, as I said, is a massive area massive development we've got a  
452 thousand people a month coming here, and and if somebody don't you know (ui)  
453 hopefully, and it's happened before, you know we've allowed delegated authority and all  
454 of a sudden we've found out oops, made a mistake oops made a mistake, and we've got a  
455 problem here, in our town planning area. Our problem is, we, we, have not been able to  
456 keep our town planners, they've all gone into private enterprise, and we have got very  
457 young people here, and of course they've got no control, they're under the control of the  
458 supervisor manager then director, and ah sometimes their reports were even changed, the  
459 the town planners reports are changed further up the line, and the whole thing, as I say  
460 with the integrated planning (ui), it's absolutely different, new, every, application is  
461 judged on its merits. It's not what the town plan says.  
462

463 MD Okay .. look neither Ed nor I ah today, are authorised to indicate to you how the CMC is  
464 going to deal with this matter and what further inquiries it will take, we'll be taking the  
465 information you've provided to us today, back to senior officers for their consideration  
466 and what decisions to make, ahm .. ah but we will do that, with a great sense of priority  
467 ah and urgency so, ahm what we might do is, now unless you got anything else to  
468

469 DC No  
470

471 MD To, to contribute  
472

473 DC (Ui)  
474

Complainant: DAWN CRICLOW  
Subject(s):  
Investigator: DETECTIVE SERGEANT ED BATKIN  
Statement Of: DAWN CRICLOW  
Legal Officer: MARK DOCWRA  
File Number:  
Directory :