

The Director
General Purpose Standing Committee No. 6
Parliament House
Macquarie Street
SYDNEY NSW 2000

Dear Sir/Madam

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE – TAMWORTH REGIONAL COUNCIL

Ref: nh/PB/SF7151

Thank you for the opportunity to appear before the General Purpose Standing Committee No. 6 on Tuesday 18 August 2015 for the inquiry into local government in New South Wales.

The attached information is provided in response to two questions on notice that were raised with Cr Russell Webb during the hearing.

Council would be pleased to provide any further information or clarification as required.

Yours faithfully

Paul Bennett
General Manager

14 September 2015

Questions on Notice – Tamworth Regional Council

Mr DAVID SHOEBRIDGE: Thank you all for your presentations. The first question is addressed to you, Councillor Webb. Do you know since amalgamation what the change in council employment numbers are in each of Nundle, Manilla and Barraba?

Amalgamation occurred on 17 March 2004 and at that time the number of regular staff (as defined by the Act) was as follows:

- Barraba 36.05
- Manilla 44.17
- Nundle 20.72

Existing employment numbers attributed to each centre are currently as follows:

- Barraba 24.36
- Manilla 26.50
- Nundle 6.78

Barraba Shire Council was split between Tamworth Regional Council and Gwydir Shire Council and at the time of amalgamation it was agreed that 12 staff should have been transferred to Gwydir Shire Council. This did not occur and Tamworth agreed to host all of the staff for the initial three year period following amalgamation. Therefore the number of staff attributed to Barraba at amalgamation that relate to Tamworth Regional Council should be 24.05 as compared to 24.36 that are currently employed.

However, it may also be of interest to note that there has been very little change in where employees of TRC reside since amalgamation. In 2004 council employed 29 residents of Barraba compared to 22 today, 34 employees were residents of Manilla compared to 35 today, and 19 were residents of Nundle and there are currently 17 residents employed from this area. This demonstrates that while the actual place of employment may have changed, this has not had a major detrimental impact on the population of those towns.

Mr DAVID SHOEBRIDGE: What about population in those towns? Has population gone up or has population gone down? Does that contrast to Tamworth?

The available population statistics based on census data for each area is as follows;

	2006	2011	Change
• Tamworth Urban	39,721	42,465	+2,744
• Barraba – Rural North	1,758	1,775	+17
• Manilla & District	3,188	3,208	+20
• Nundle – Rural South	1,209	1,190	-19