

19 February 2018

The Berry Forum
BERRY NSW 2535

Attention: David Carter (Chair), Stuart Coughlan
(Secretary)

Partner Greg Wrobel
Direct Line (02) 8083 0411
Email Greg.Wrobel@holdingredlich.com
Our Ref GJW 17680243

By email berryforum@hotmail.com

Dear The Berry Forum

The Berry Forum

Our client has requested that we write to you following his attendance at the Berry Forum (**Forum**) meeting held on Thursday, 15 February 2018 (**Meeting**).

During the course of the Meeting, our client formed the view that his recent Requests for Information from the Forum (**Requests for Information**), and his intentions generally, may have been misinterpreted by the Forum Committee (**Committee**).

Our client was surprised to see that the Requests for Information were recorded under the title of "*Complaints about Forum Committee*" in both the Meeting Agenda and on the Berry Forum Website (**Forum Website**).

When the subject of our correspondence to the Forum was presented under the same title at the Meeting, our client felt that this portrayed the Requests for Information in an unjustifiably negative light.

Given the response from the floor at the Meeting, our client did not wish to unnecessarily inflame the situation by speaking out at the time but felt that it would be more appropriate to address the matter by writing to the Forum.

To provide further context to the Requests for Information, and our client's Submission to Shoalhaven City Council (**Council**), our client would like to make the following clear:

- 1 Our client has not made any complaint about the Forum or the Committee;
- 2 As noted in our letter dated 24 January 2018, our clients' submission to Council is not about the Forum's activities specifically, but rather provides commentary on the Guidelines that govern all Community Consultative Bodies (CCB) in the region;
- 3 Our client began his review of the Forum Website, and subsequently made the Requests for Information, to assist with the preparation of his submission to Council; and
- 4 If our client has any specific concerns about any activities of the Forum, he will of course make comment to the Committee directly, as was done previously in our letter dated 24 January 2018.

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Level 65 MLC Centre 19 Martin Place Sydney NSW 2000 DX 529 Sydney
GPO Box 4118 Sydney NSW 2001 T +61 2 8083 0388 www.holdingredlich.com

ABN 15 364 527 724

In addition to the above, our client has also requested that we forward to you a copy of his initial submission to Council for review by the Committee and for publication on the Forum Website. Our client respectfully requests that the **attached** submission, and any correspondence between our office and the Forum, be published separately under a more appropriate title on the Forum Website.

Our client would also like to offer to speak directly with the Committee, either at a Committee Meeting or otherwise, if the Committee feels that this would be of benefit. Alternatively, our client would be more than happy to address any questions or concerns the Committee or other Forum Members may have in writing if that is preferable.

Our client genuinely hopes that this correspondence will serve to provide clarity as to the reasons for the Requests for Information and is looking forward to receiving your response to the same.

Yours faithfully

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Holding Redlich", written in a cursive style.

Holding Redlich