



## Ipswich (Council Division 2) community forum 5 March 2020

- Interviewer: Paul do you believe that any of your behaviour while a councilor contributed to what staff have labelled and has since come out as a toxic workplace culture at the council?
- Paul Tully: That's a very general question. I don't believe so and I don't know what sort of detail I could possibly go into, but we had a situation where two mayors have been ah convicted of various offences. I just want to make as a general comment, as you know, to whether or not other councilors, you know people say, 'oh you must have been aware'. I found out that Paul Pisasale bought \$50,000 through the Melbourne airport on the 3<sup>rd</sup> of June 2017. I was informed by the CEO. You've got no way when working with people knowing that they are doing that sort of thing. He was also convicted of an offence of bring a tax - *Interviewer interjects*.
- Interviewer: Alright Paul, let's not go there. No let's not go down that path because the question is. The question is... *Background audience noise*.
- Interviewer: You can, but I want you to answer the question
- Paul Tully: Okay, no, I never contributed to what those other people did and there are 10 innocent councillors who weren't aware and never contributed to what happened.
- Interviewer: Alright, thank you Paul. *Audience clapping*. Alright, let, let Paul answer the question okay. Alright. Paul I've got another question for you. You get two. Well you were a councillor so there's possibly a little bit more to talk about. The Office of the Independent Assessor has outstanding complaints it didn't investigate due to the council's dismissal, now these are just complaints, so they are not proven things obviously. Should anyone with complaints against them stand and get in, those investigations into those complaints would be reopened. Now they might find nothing but they the investigation into the complaint would be reopened. Paul, the Office of the Independent Assessor does send letters to anyone who has had a complaint made about or against them, so they know, do you have outstanding complaints against you that will be reopened if you got in and if so what are they in regard to?
- Paul Tully: Well I've read recently in the last few weeks ah about that and I'm not aware of any investigation at all of the OIA into me and I have a letter of clearance from the CCC.
- Interviewer: Okay so, thank you. *Audience clapping*. So just to clarify you are not aware of any complaints because there are no investigations going on, they were ceased because the council were dismissed and didn't want to put the resources into it, so the question is, you're not aware of any complaints?
- Paul Tully: No. That's, that's what I said that I'm not even aware of any investigations commenced rather than being ceased so I'm a little bit confused ah about that situation. I, I understand that there have been no investigations and I am not aware of anything involving me with either of those agencies.

Interviewer: Okay so just to clarify, for the audience. There's no current investigations, there are complaints and those complaints are not being investigated at the moment, should a councillor or former councillor that had complaints against them stand and get back in, those complaints would then be investigated. So, there are no, there are no investigations going on at the moment but there could be if a councillor with complaints against them got in. - *Audience noise*. No, no it's not a threat it's the fact, it's absolutely the fact. *Audience noise*. I just want to make it clear that there are no investigations, okay.