

STATEMENT TO QLD FLOODS COMMISSION OF INQUIRY

NAME: Mr John Rauber

OCCUPATION: Chief Executive Officer – Moreton Bay Regional Council

DATE OF STATEMENT: 9 September 2011

I, JOHN RAUBER, Chief Executive Officer of Moreton Bay Regional Council (MBRC) [REDACTED] Strathpine, Queensland, being under oath, say as to the points raised in the letter dated 19 August 2011 – **Reference Doc 1621317**:

1. The number of members in each State Emergency Service (SES) unit within the council area.

1.1. As at 22 August 2011, the Moreton Bay Region SES Unit has 301 members broken down by the following SES Groups:

Arana Hills	48
Bribie Island	27
Caboolture	69
Deception Bay	37
Petrie	47
Redcliffe	73

1.2. These figures have been provided by Emergency Management Queensland. Emergency Management Queensland cannot provide an exact figure for 2009-10 or 2010-11; however the average SES membership was approximately 250 members during these periods.

1.3. Council is trialling an SES presence in the Woodford community for the next 12 months. Initial indications show this could amount to an additional 30-45 members within the Woodford area. A recruitment evening occurred on 6 September 2011. If community interest is maintained and the viability of a new Group is proven, Council will work with Emergency Management Queensland to create a Woodford SES Group in the latter half of 2012.

2. The equipment, if any, that the council provided the SES units.

2.1 In 2009-10, Council owned and maintained six (6) facilities to house the SES Groups.

2.2 In 2010-11, an additional facility was procured to house the SES headquarters. This was a jointly funded project in partnership with Emergency Management Queensland. Council also provides the vehicles, trailers, computers and phones for use by the SES.

3. Whether the council employed any staff in SES positions on a full-time basis or any other basis; and if so:

- a) The remuneration paid to each staff member; and
- b) A copy of each staff member's statement of responsibilities; or, if a statement does not exist, a description of each staff member's responsibilities.

3.1 In 2009-10 Council provided an honorarium of \$35,000 per annum to the Local Controller. This was increased in 2010-11 to \$60,000 per annum. The Local Controller is also issued a Blackberry phone, laptop and has the use of an SES vehicle for operational purposes. A position description is attached for your information.

4. A description of the roles or tasks which SES units in the council area generally performed.

4.1 Moreton Bay Regional Council has a signed agreement with Emergency Management Queensland detailing the functions of the Moreton Bay Region SES Unit. These functions are: storm damage, land search, flood boat, traffic management, agency support, incident management, specialist rescue and community education. These functions have been maintained over the 2009-10 and 2010-11 period.

5. The form, amount and purpose of funding, if any, the council provided to SES units.

5.1 In 2009-10 approximately \$15,000 was spent installing a disabled toilet at the Deception Bay SES Group depot. In 2010-11 Council provided approximately \$445,000 for the refurbishment / rebuilding of two (2) SES depots at Bribie Island and Caboolture; the purchase of replacement air conditioning units and security grills at SES depots, and Council's contribution to a demountable building for use as a headquarters.

5.2 Council allocates \$100,000 per annum for the replacement of SES vehicles.

5.3 Council spends on average \$40,000 per annum maintaining the SES depots.

5.4 Council owns and maintains eighteen (18) vehicles, four (4) quad bikes, four (4) floodboats and twenty (20) trailers on behalf of the SES. Council provides funding for fuel to run the SES vehicles and associated small plant e.g. chainsaws, generators; and general office stationary and consumables to operate the SES depots. Including the honorarium for the SES Local Controller, Council's SES Operations costs were approximately \$210,000 in 2009-10 and \$183,000 in 2010-11.

Item	2009-10	2010-11
Capital - buildings	\$15,100	\$445,000
Capital - vehicles	\$100,000	\$100,000
Building maintenance	\$40,000	\$40,000
SES Operations	\$210,000	\$183,000
Total	\$350,000	\$742,000

5.5 Council also provides email and telecommunications support to the SES. In 2010-11 six (6) SES Group Leaders, two (2) Deputy Local Controllers and the Local Controller were allocated a Blackberry phone for operational purposes and six (6) Deputy Group Leaders were provided Nokia mobile phones for use.

5.6 Below is a table for the 09/10 and 10/11 financial years covering fixed line, mobile and data costs associated with SES.

The summary of the expenditure is:

Item	2009-10	2010-11
Data (Internet)	\$ 561.21	\$ 2,952.52
Fixed Line (Voice)	\$ 2,442.58	\$11,858.02
Mobiles and Aircards	\$18,219.20	\$31,377.52

*All costs are including GST

All the facts sworn to in this affidavit are true and correct to my knowledge and belief except as stated otherwise.

Sworn by JOHN RAUBER at
Strathpine this 9th day of September 2011
before me, Angus James Conaghan:

