



Legislative Council Economy and Infrastructure Committee

Inquiry: Inquiry into Local Government funding and services

Hearing Date: 21 August 2024

Question[s] taken on notice

Directed to: Buloke Shire Council

Received Date: 13 September 2024

1. **Bev McARTHUR, Page 24**

Question asked:

Daniel McLOUGHLAN: There are certain services, whether or not they are necessarily complained about while they exist from our ratepayers, like immunisation and maternal and child health. Particularly our maternal and child health services, which are a 50–50 partnership with the state government – so that is a severe cost – are vital given our location and our lack of medical services, particularly for first-time mums. I know when we had young children that that service was very much welcomed, and in smaller communities new mums and dads in particular being facilitated by maternal and child health nurses is a really good service. Unfortunately, the more cost that gets shifted onto the council, I would assume – not that I am a councillor – that there is certainly –

David DAVIS: But they should not have put in immunisation tax on. That is bizarre.

Bev McARTHUR: Are you going to go along with that?

The CHAIR: We are short on time, so we might need you to take that on notice if that is okay.

Bev McARTHUR: Well, they can answer the question. Are you going to go along with the job tax?

Anthony SMITH: To the committee, that is something that I have certainly made a note of to follow up when I get back, because I have not got any detail on that at this present time.

The CHAIR: I will need you to take that on notice because we have three more members to get through in 12 minutes.

Response: *Assuming the “Immunisation Tax” referred to is the Department of Health request for payment to use the CIRV immunisation programme, which they promised would be provided for free as it always has been. Buloke Shire Council use “VaxApp” immunisation programme so it doesn’t apply to Council.*