



Legislative Council Economy and Infrastructure Committee

Inquiry: Inquiry into Local Government funding and services

Hearing Date: 7 August 2024

Question[s] taken on notice

Directed to: Corangamite Shire Council

Received Date: 2 & 4 September 2024

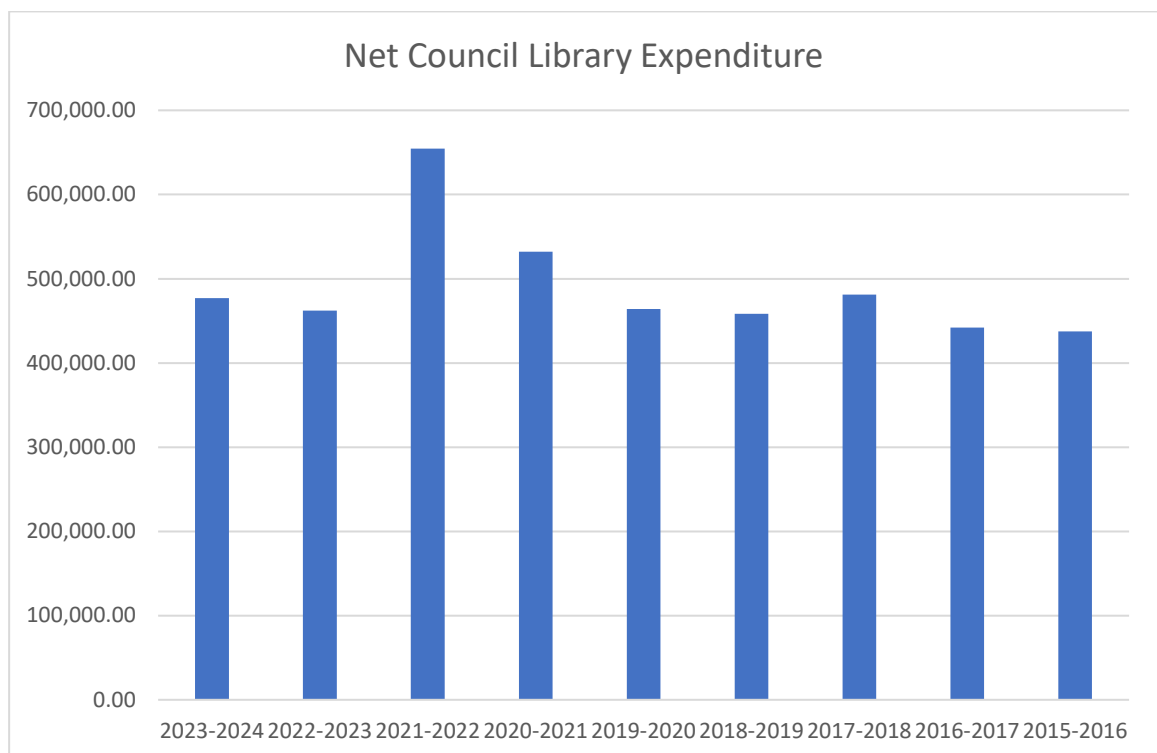
1. **David DAVIS, Page 15**

Question asked:

I am going to ask a similar set of questions as I asked the last council, Swan Hill, and that is particularly in the areas that I am interested in, which are maternal and child health, libraries, cultural and arts funding and to an extent local roads too. Along the time series I just want to see that change and the impact that that is having, and I think it is quite significant. That is a take on notice, if that is possible, please.

Response: Universal Maternal and Child Health services have been provided on a 50:50 ratio for a number of years and Corangamite Shire is currently providing the service within these ratio's.

Council's contribution to the provision of Library services has continued to increase. The following graph shows the contribution in 2015-2016 was \$437k and rose to \$655k in 2021-2022. During this period, Council was a member of the Regional Library Corporation which disbanded in June 2022. For the past 2 years, Council has run a shared service with Moyne Shire and the costs in 2023-2024 were \$477k.



Corangamite Shire does not have an art gallery and therefore the cultural and arts spend is more adhoc with Government grants being the main contributor to the spend. There is a strong reliance on these grants to provide culture and arts to the Corangamite community and it is hard to put in place longer term plans and projects with the uncertainty of the funding.

The Corangamite Shire has a large road network and is supported through funding from the Federal Government, State Government and rate income. The State Government previously provided \$1m annually through the Country Roads and Bridges program. Since this ceased, the funding has been on a competitive basis and Corangamite Shire has received the following funding:

- 2016-2017 Regional Infrastructure Fund - \$1,000,000
- 2017-2018 Local Roads to Market Round 1 - \$460,000
- 2018-2109 Local Roads to Market Round 2 - \$240,000
- 2020-2021 Agrilinks Upgrade Program - \$325,000

2. **David DAVIS, Page 16**

Question asked:

David RAE: It is somewhat unrelated to the MCH service – that is separately funded. This is around, I guess, the broader state scheme for recording immunisations as well. There is a software product that needs to be, I guess, funded in a particular way.

David DAVIS: What is that called? Do we know the name?

David RAE: I will take that on notice.

David DAVIS: Send it on, yes.

The CHAIR: Last question, Mr Davis.

David RAE: I am happy, by you, Chair, to provide a copy of that letter, subsequent to the meeting.

Response: Letter as attachment 1

3. **Sonja TERPSTRA, Page 19**

Question asked:

And in your submission I think as well you say that there has been a rise in fees and charges that the government is required to collect on behalf. So is that one? You are saying that is a charge on top of you, but what other fees and charges then are you saying that you are being required to collect, on top of government, that would be contributing to your costs?

David RAE: ...Yes. I am happy to take that on notice.

Response: Council collects a number of fees and charges on behalf of the State Government. Examples of this include the waste levy and the fire services levy. There are costs to Council to administer and collect both levies.

4. **Bev McARTHUR, pages 20 – 21**

Question asked:

Bev McARTHUR: Has the dairy industry done a calculation on how much poor roads are costing them?

David RAE: Through you, Chair: I will take that on notice.

Response: There are a number of studies that have been conducted including the Barwon South West Regional Dairy Supply Chain Study (<https://www.corangamite.vic.gov.au/files/assets/public/v/1/documents/publications/priorities/priorities-2024-2025/investment-prospectus-dairy-supply-chain.pdf>). The investment proposal detailed in the study has an estimated cost saving increasing to \$54 million to the sector by 2045 (page 15 of the study).