

Monday, 7 November, 2011

Ku-ring-gai Council meeting and GIPA request
Response given to North Shore Times

Councillor Tony Hall of Ku-ring-gai Council applied under the GIPA Act to see briefing notes prepared for Planning Minister Brad Hazzard ahead of his meeting with the Ku-ring-gai mayor and councillors on August 23. When Cr Hall received the information back, the final page of a pink document was mostly blanked out. The only visible writing was a short note written by Mr Hazzard. Can you tell me why this information was withheld?

Department of Planning and Infrastructure response:

The department received a GIPA request from Cr Tony Hall on 13 September 2011 in regard to the Ku-ring-gai Town Centres LEP and a meeting on 23 August. Cr Hall's application included a request for 'deputation notes' for the meeting.

The department has not been withholding information and in fact provided Cr Hall with 40 pages of information/ documentation in a formal response to Cr Hall on 12 October 2011.

However, as there was no deputation or briefing note prepared for the meeting, none was provided.

After further phone discussions with Cr Hall, the department provided an additional response to Cr Hall on 31 October 2011.

This response included the handwritten note referred to in your query. This note was at the bottom of a briefing note that contained confidential legal advice, which was covered by legal privilege and therefore was not released.