



Appendix 6

ADJUNCT TO 5.1 – PUBLIC QUESTIONS STATUS UPDATE

*Response to public question taken on notice at the
Ordinary meeting of Council on 29 March 2023*

Ordinary Meeting of Council

Wednesday 26 April 2023 at 7:00pm

Queenscliff Town Hall



20 April 2023

sm:mg

Gary Smithett
Royal Park Camper
Via email: [REDACTED]

Dear Gary Smithett

PUBLIC QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE

I am writing in response to the public question that was taken on notice at the Ordinary Meeting of Council held on Wednesday 29 March 2023.

The public question reads as follows:

I have been camping at Royal Park Caravan Park for 64 years. Over 55 years of that time we have been on site 67. Early this year concerned campers and myself attended a PLCA meeting where the Mayor and the council CEO attended. We were promised that nothing would change for 18 months concerning regular peoples camp sites. This has not happened. Promises have been broken. Why?

In response to the question, I provide the following advice:

Council understands the long-term association campers have with Royal Park, and other Council managed Tourist Parks, and recognises that for many campers there is a feeling of 'ownership' connected to specific sites.

Under the Crown Land Policy Improving Equity of Access to Crown Land Caravan and Camping Parks 2011 and its Best Practice Management Guidelines, Council has obligations to balance the needs of regular visitors and the rights of wider Victorians to have fair and reasonable access to Crown Land, particularly during peak seasons. To meet such obligations Council continues to review and amend its Tourist Parks booking procedures.

This year regular campers were invited via email to re-book a site on an allocated day. This was prior to the sites been made available to the broader public. I acknowledge this a variation to previous booking practices, but I understand you have been allocated a site this year.

Council is still committed to engaging with Royal Park regulars before making any significant changes to its current packages and booking procedures prior to next season. To assist this Council has established a Caravan Park working group to help guide and inform its consultation and decision-making process.

Yours sincerely

Martin Gill
Chief Executive Officer