

ITEM NO: 20

**SUBJECT: RESPONSE TO QUESTION WITH NOTICE ON COSTS TO DATE OF
 THE SPRINGWOOD TOWN CENTRE PROJECT**

FILE NO: F04897

Recommendation:

That the Council receives and notes this report.

Report by Group Manager, Community and Corporate

Reason for report

The purpose of this report is to respond to the following Question with Notice from the Council meeting of 17 February 2009.

Question with Notice by Councillor Mays:

Please advise the total cost to date (Jan 2009) of the Springwood revitalisation project. Such costs should include, but not be limited to:

- *Council staffing costs;*
- *Consultant costs (external and internal);*
- *Community consultation costs; and*
- *Any ancillary costs.”*

Background

Although there have been previous investigations into options for development of sites owned by the Council within Springwood Town Centre, the actual Springwood Town Centre Project was initiated through Council request in late 2006 and confirmed through Council resolution on 30 January 2007. A number of staff have worked on the project over the period 2007 to 2009. There have been Councillor, stakeholder and community workshops conducted over this period. Consultants have undertaken specialist investigations. The Expression of Interest process involved specific costs including staff time, advertisement costs, and consultants have provided expert advice on the process, probity and financial assessments of proponents.

Response

A search of Council records has provided details of expenses however the number of hours worked on the project by staff is an estimate. Considering the known and estimated costs a figure of \$206,818 is an approximation of all Council costs associated with the Springwood Town Centre Project to January 2009.

The approximate cost of \$206,818 is comprised of the following:

- Council Staffing (estimated): \$ 87,000
- Consultants (external and internal): \$101,853
- Community consultation: \$ 14,320
- Ancillary including advertising: \$ 3,645
