Extract from Hansard

[ASSEMBLY — Tuesday, 16 June 2020] p3645c-3646a Mr Sean L'Estrange

TOWN OF CAMBRIDGE — SUSPENSION

Petition

MR S.K. L'ESTRANGE (Churchlands) [3.11 pm]: I have a petition from 723 petitioners that has been certified by the clerks in the following terms —

To the Honourable the Speaker and Members of the Legislative Assembly of the Parliament of Western Australia in Parliament assembled.

We, the undersigned, say:

We are opposed to any suspension of the Town of Cambridge Council pursuant to s8.15C of the Local Government Act, as the Council has met and exceeded all their obligations to ratepayers, residents and businesses within the Town of Cambridge, under the Local Government Act by:

- 1. Delivering no increase in rates for <u>four</u> consecutive years, along with balanced budgets.
- 2. Completing the installation of underground power throughout the Town, acting to rejuvenate Perry Lakes and enhancing the Towns parks and open spaces.
- 3. Holding the Town's administration to high level of performance and efficiency, reforming key administrative processes and updating planning instruments neglected for a decade.

Further, we say the Council is being denied procedural fairness, as it has not been provided with adequate particulars of the alleged conduct referred to in the Show Cause Notice. We say the Intervention by the Minister pursuant to ss8.15B and 8.15C of the Local Government Act must be suspended or delayed until the Minister can provide particulars of the alleged conduct referred to in the Show Cause Notice, by causing the report of the Authorised Inquiry into the Council to be released.

Now we ask the Legislative Assembly to:

- 1. order an independent review of the Department of Local Government's conduct of the Authorised Inquiry into the Council;
- 2. require the Minister for Local Government to immediately table the Authorised Inquiry Report;
- 3. (if there are any allegations in the Show Cause Notice which are not addressed in the Authorised Inquiry Report), require the Minister to provide particulars of those allegations to the Council; and
- 4. require the Minister to extend the due date for the Council's response to the Show Cause Notice until 21 days after the date on which the Authorised Inquiry Report (and any other required particulars) is made available to the Council.

[See petition 178.]

A similar petition was tabled by **Mr S.K. L'Estrange** containing 28 signatures.

[See petition 179.]

Nonconforming Petition

Mr S.K. L'ESTRANGE: There were also 15 nonconforming signatures due to some technical aspects, but they still form the basis of the 723 and 28 signatures on the petitions already tabled.