



**BRRAG**

**Belmont Resident and Ratepayer Action Group Inc.**

*"To provide an effective voice for the people of Belmont"*

6 November 2019

The Mayor and Councillors  
City of Belmont  
Belmont WA 6104

Dear Mayor Marks and Councillors

On the 21<sup>st</sup> October we wrote to you advising about possible PFAS contamination at 49 Hardey Road.

At the Ordinary Council Meeting on 29<sup>th</sup> October I asked further questions regarding the PFAS contamination. The response to the questions taken on notice is attached.

It is extremely concerning to find out that the City of Belmont Officers were first advised of the possible contamination at the Country Comfort Motel back in June 2017. In the most recent report from the Officers which was tabled at the June 2019 council meeting, there was no mention of potential contamination at the site of the old fire station.

As councillors one thing under section 67 (n) (i) you have to give consideration to is any environmental impact. How are you able to do this when it appears this relevant information has not been given to you by Officers? Unless I am mistaken, PFAS does not understand boundaries. It would not know there is a boundary between the Country Comfort Motel and the adjacent property. Government documentation is pretty clear it can travel in the underground waterways and there can be contamination of soil. Therefore this omitted information is VERY relevant when assessing any environmental impact.

BRRAG intends lodging a Form 1 in the next couple of days with respect to 49 Hardey Road. Now this information is known it would not matter what was going to be built on this land. Much has been reported on PFAS recently and the residents need to know our council is doing the right thing by them in terms of health and safety. Unless a report is done to rule out PFAS, no one can say whether or not it is there or its not.

Furthermore as councillors, I would be seriously asking why you have not been told about this. It does beg the question what else have you not been told in the past about other things you are suppose to vote on?

We have previously advised about omissions and discrepancies in the June report on the proposed Hardey Road Youth Centre. One of the reasons we made a third party application to SAT was because of more relevant information we believe we have included in our submissions. The information provided to our councillors should be so you can make appropriate decisions. In this case we certainly do not believe this is the case.

Please be advised this letter will be made available to the residents on the BRRAG website as will any response.

In the event PFAS is discovered at the site of the old fire station and ANY development has gone up at 49 Hardey Road, would there be any liability on the councillors or the City of Belmont in the future? You wont be able to say you did not know about it.

Kindest regards  
Lisa Hollands  
Chairperson BRRAG

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Australia