Responses to Questions on Notice

Received at the 23 April 2020 Ordinary Meeting of Council

Mark Arnold
General Manager

BYRON SHIRE COUNCIL

1. QUESTIONS WITH NOTICE

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Question with Notice No 1.   **Mitchell Rainforest Snail Discovery**
5   **File No:**   I2020/652

At Council's Ordinary Meeting held on 23 April 2020, Jan Barham asked the following question which was taken on notice:

Can council clarify:
a)   if the relocation area for the 140 Mitchell Rainforest Snails found in the bypass footprint will be protected in perpetuity and if not, why not; and
b)   what the monitoring and reporting requirements are in relation to the success of the relocation?

The Director of Infrastructure Services took the question on notice and advised that Council will be distributing some facts about what we are doing.

Response Director Infrastructure Services:

The post-clearing reports for stages one and two are available on Council's website, which detail where the 163 Mitchell's Rainforest Snails found throughout the bypass were relocated to. In all cases the snails were relocated into adjacent known habitat which is rail corridor land.

Council does not have control of this land and at present is not aware of any in perpetuity protection of that land by the state.

There are no monitoring and reporting requirements relating to the success of the relocation. All government environmental departments acknowledge that for this species, it is not practical. Information relating to the relocations, fauna fencing and fauna underpass is and will continue to be provided to these departments for their records.

Any future development that may impact upon the Mitchell's Rainforest Snail would have to undertake the appropriate environmental assessments. Council is not in position to speculate on the outcomes of these assessments as there is no design to assess.