

NATIONAL QUEENSLAND

Pyne continues local government fight with more tabled documents

By **Felicity Caldwell**

August 8, 2017 – 8.36pm



Sensational allegations have been levelled at several Queensland councils in the latest document dump from independent MP Rob Pyne.

Using parliamentary privilege, Mr Pyne's 10 documents include allegations about an Ipswich mayor and mistresses, visits to massage parlours and meetings with developers.



Cairns MP Rob Pyne has used Parliamentary privilege to table more documents. CHRIS HYDE

Names have been redacted in the papers, which were tabled in the Queensland Parliament.

The documents also accuse the Ipswich mayor of having three mobile phones to avoid information being caught by RTI laws.

There are claims about unfettered access to Ipswich's Safe City CCTV room.

There are also complaints about the Ipswich acting mayor holding the position while also running for the role of mayor in an upcoming byelection.

The documents also include allegations of inferior road repairs and council fraud of disaster relief funding in another council and "cover-ups" by senior public servants to evade punishment for misconduct at an unrelated council.

There are also claims about meetings between a former LNP premier and a now ex-mayor in Ipswich about security and cameras, and meetings between the ex-mayor and a former treasurer, although there does not appear to be any evidence of impropriety.

The document says the ex-mayor would "often telephone the Immigration Ministers [sic] office or department to make representations seeking assistance with immigration processing for young Asian women".

It comes after Mr Pyne levelled serious allegations of corruption and misconduct against former Ipswich mayor Paul Pisasale in [documents tabled under Parliamentary privilege in June](#).

Mr Pyne tabled 10 separate documents on Monday and Tuesday, but Speaker Peter Wellington decided to redact parts of the papers after consulting with clerk Neil Laurie.

Allowing the redacted pages to be tabled on Tuesday night, Mr Wellington said there was a duty on members to make sure tabled documents did not offend the Parliament standing rules and practices.

"I also remind members that they should not table in the house material which contains words that if spoken in the house would be out of order or would enliven the rights of other members of Parliament to have withdrawn," he said.

Asked if he was worried about corruption, Local Government Minister Mark Furner said he noted Mr Pyne was actively involved in tabling documents under parliamentary privilege.

"I must say I am always alarmed if there are matters that are brought to my attention that have gone through the correct process of investigation through the (Crime and Corruption Commission) and also through the particular measures," Mr Furner said.

"I look forward to those allegations being ventilated through the correct process through the CCC and, if necessary, through the department."



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