Bess Price
Minister for Local Government and Community Services

Palmerston Council approved to take out $4 million loan for unbudgeted expenses

4 February 2016

The City of Palmerston (Council) has received Ministerial consent to borrow up to $4 million over eight years to address a Pollution Abatement Notice (PAN).

Under the Local Government Act, Councils are required to seek approval from the Department of Local Government and Community Services in consultation with the Treasurer when borrowing money.

The PAN was served in April 2015 by the Environment Protection Authority (EPA) and relates to the Archer Land Fill Site.

The PAN identifies land that is noted to be ‘polluted from its former use as a landfill, and requires actions in relation to managing landfill gas and leachate, rehabilitation and aftercare.’

Although Council knew about this pending expense for over 3 years it appears they didn’t allocate a provision within their own budget.

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