



Amanda Spalding Consulting

Amanda Spalding
Chief Executive Officer
Tel: 0417 288 246

Email: aes@amandaspaldingconsulting.com

<https://www.amandaspaldingconsulting.com/>

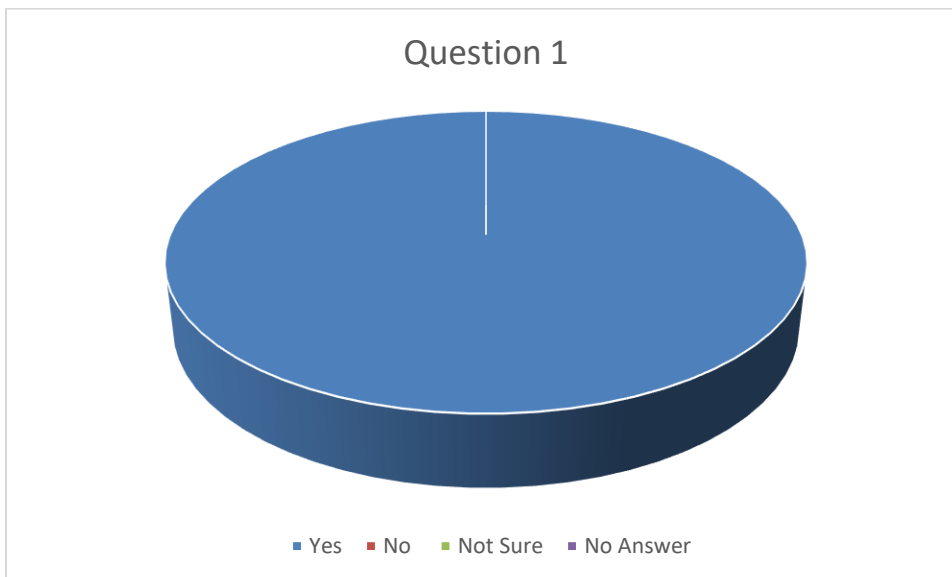
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ALGWA Conference 2019

Whistle blowing – disloyalty or duty of care?

1. Do you agree with Amanda Spalding's decision to report Hay Shire Council to ICAC and the NSW Police for potential corruption and fraud?

- Yes 35
- No 0



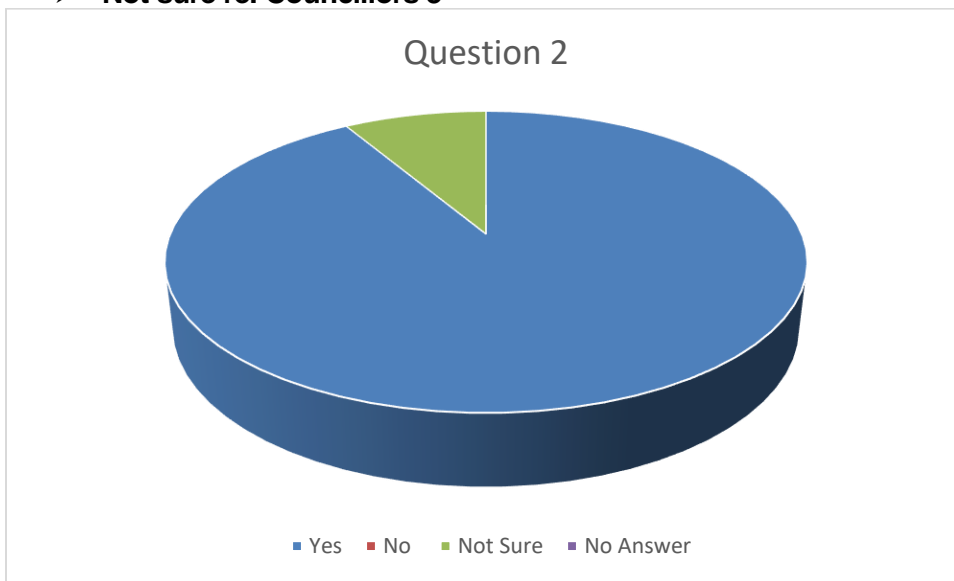
Comments:

- ❖ You go girl!
- ❖ Think it is a duty of care

- ❖ Integrity!! Bravo
- ❖ Public money must be spent and administered correctly
- ❖ Absolutely the right thing to do
- ❖ Definitely
- ❖ Honest and gutsy
- ❖ Brave, brave woman
- ❖ I think Amanda correctly identified her duties under the Act and was brave to do so.
- ❖ Totally agree
- ❖ Absolutely
- ❖ What is S11 for if not to report concerns?
- ❖ Absolutely – part of the role
- ❖ Duty of care and honesty
- ❖ Absolutely

2. Do you agree with Amanda Spalding’s decision to start proceedings against Hay Shire Council and the 5 Councillors who voted to terminate her contract?

- **Yes 32**
- **No 0**
- **Not sure re. Councillors 3**



Comments

- ❖ Yes – given the circumstances and evidence presented
- ❖ Yes – you go girl!
- ❖ Yes – the reputation and future career of Amanda matters, as well as community responsibilities. Councillors have to be accountable.
- ❖ Yes – go get ‘em!
- ❖ Yes – it certainly appears that Amanda’s dismissal was as a DIRECT result of her making the proper complaints
- ❖ Yes – unfair dismissal
- ❖ Yes – most certainly
- ❖ Yes – unfair dismissal
- ❖ Unsure

- ❖ Council as a whole – yes. 5 Councillors probably not but not enough knowledge and information to make an informed decision
- ❖ Yes – if they had nothing to regret they had nothing to fear
- ❖ Unsure – Fair Work and employment standards – laws. Councillors? Council - yes

3. Do you agree that the NSW Government should do more to encourage or enforce good governance by Councils?

➤ **Yes 35**

➤ **No 0**



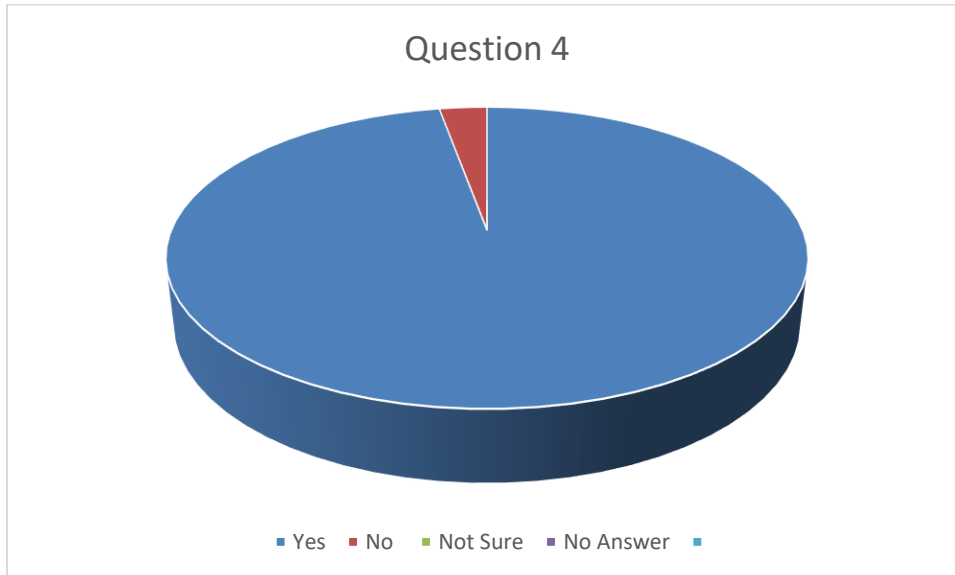
Comments

- ❖ We are held accountable and so should they
- ❖ In my experience the challenge is the lack of action re code of conduct and inability to always prove allegations
- ❖ Don't know how to answer this – good governance is 'expected' by the community the Council represents
- ❖ Meet their responsibilities and accountable to the public!
- ❖ All States should. However, State Governments don't enforce
- ❖ Also aware of issues in relationship Murray Council and former female CEO
- ❖ The system, which continues to fail to support good people being who suffer retribution for whistleblowing, must be fixed!!
- ❖ All should be made to attend
- ❖ It's public money
- ❖ Absolutely. Spilling the board is a good indicator of consequences. This corruption makes all councils and States look bad.
- ❖ It is what they impose by the Local Government Act – their Act to which local government staff and elected members must abide by!
- ❖ All State governments
- ❖ It appears so
- ❖ Constitutional recognition and appropriate oversight to ensure good governance into the future

4. Should councils educate communities about how to hold them accountable?

➤ **Yes 34**

➤ **No 1**

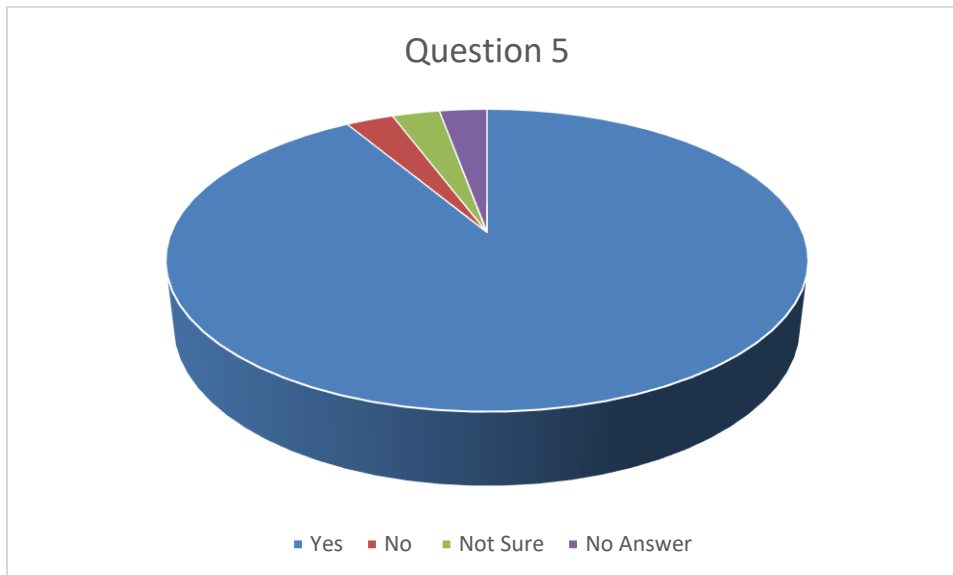


Comments

- ❖ Education is key
- ❖ Communities need to be more aware but so many people are not engaged/choose not to listen/'too busy'
- ❖ Should be accessible information for the local community
- ❖ Website, transmit Council meetings and pop ups. Committees, presentations to others i.e. community groups and schools
- ❖ But also State Government
- ❖ Very strongly agree as it is the community monies
- ❖ It's their money
- ❖ Schools should do this too. All levels of government need to be explained
- ❖ Not sure. They might have conflict. Possibly Local Government Associations' job
- ❖ Communities seem to know very little about responsibilities of Councils

5. Does ALGWA have a role to play in improving the quality of local government?

- **Yes** 32
- **No** 1
- **Not sure** 1
- **No answer** 1



Comments

- ❖ Yes – to support women
- ❖ Yes – so much to be done and Councillors need an advice line/brains' trust
- ❖ Yes – it's a job for all of us!
- ❖ Yes – education and information ensuring empowerment of others to uphold the law
- ❖ Yes – we all have this role
- ❖ Yes – Along with NSW local government. More power the better.
- ❖ Yes – every organisation does
- ❖ Yes – LGMA, LGAQ, LGNSW and ALGWA need to protect and support the integrity of Executive people in this instance and other like instances. Careers should not be impacted by/onto those who protect good financial management and those who act accordingly!!
- ❖ Yes – through public education, public awareness. Everyone should have as much guts, decency and integrity as you especially in Local Government, actually all tiers of government
- ❖ Yes – starting with more women on Council
- ❖ Yes – support Forums and encourage women and diversity in Councils – benefits us all.