

Scott Driscoll 'helped sack Norsefire whistleblowers'

- by: *Mark Solomons*
- From: *The Courier-Mail*
- April 26, 2013 12:00AM

PREMIER Campbell Newman has been further drawn into the scandal engulfing his MP as it emerges two of his Government's chief spin doctors helped massage Scott Driscoll's message.



Driscoll ran second group from office

SCOTT Driscoll used his electorate office, staff and computer equipment last year to control a second organisation.

End of sidebar. [Return to start of sidebar.](#)

That worker, along with other complainants, found his services were no longer required at the RCAMB, which was declared insolvent last month and the 23 remaining staff stood down.

Norsefire was hired in September 2011 to provide "media, communications and fundraising services" at \$1000 a week. From about August 2012, this rose to \$2850 a week.

The services extended to Mr Driscoll last year drafting a dismissal letter to be given to an RCAMB manager and approving the wording of redundancy notices for junior staff.

He advised on Fair Work cases, appearing in a conciliation hearing on behalf of the RCAMB against a sacked senior worker in August.

According to a person at the Fair Work hearing, Mr Driscoll "did the majority of the speaking on behalf of RCAMB".

Emails show the worker in the case had reported to the general manager in the run-up to the March 2012 election "a rumour going round that RCAMB is financing Scott Driscoll's election campaign".

Mr Driscoll was forwarded the correspondence, to which he responded on March 9: "Frankly I don't give a s--- what lies any of those gutter rats want to spin about RCA funding my campaign or me flying to Mars to have sex with a one legged mutant midget."

SCOTT Driscoll helped sack managers at a community association who raised concerns about money being paid to the Driscoll family firm, Norsefire.

Mr Driscoll even represented the taxpayer-funded association last year in a Fair Work hearing against one of the sacked staff, while an LNP MP.

Emails show a series of senior staff at the Regional Community Association Moreton Bay complained that consultancy fees charged by Norsefire, owned by Emma Driscoll and where Mr Driscoll was sole director, were excessive or unbudgeted.

The finance manager predicted in November 2011 that Mr Driscoll's invoices threatened the RCAMB's ability to pay wages.

Start of sidebar. [Skip to end of sidebar.](#)

Recommended Coverage



LNP knew of MP Driscoll's consultancy

NEWMAN Government bureaucrats knew seven months ago of LNP MP Scott Driscoll's inappropriate involvement in a taxpayer-funded community association that gave his wife's consulting company Norsefire tens of thousands of dollars in consulting fees.



Premier's spin docs massaged message

The same worker queried the body's finances again later when her team could not obtain funds to buy food for their homeless clients. She was dismissed soon afterwards.

In May, general manager Steve Jarron warned RCAMB treasurer and close associate of Mr Driscoll's, Geoff Jamieson: "The Norsefire arrangement wasn't budgeted for".

On receiving a Norsefire invoice from Mr Driscoll for \$5300, finance manager Pubudu Madawala wrote to Mr Jarron on November 3, 2011: "I would like to bring to your attention that we have a very limited budget for consultancy fee like this (\$10,000) and we have a tight cash flow situation with forecast loss of \$120,000."

Mr Jarron was made redundant in July. Mr Madawala was dismissed weeks later.

With no general manager at RCAMB, Mr Driscoll secretly took over all its operations, directing the most senior remaining staffer by email.

The MP is under joint investigation by the Crime and Misconduct Commission and police over allegations of fraud and misconduct.

He did not respond to a request for comment.

RTI

RELEASED

Pam Spall - FW: RCAI Redcliffe: MBRC - items within the building

From: Leslie B Hill <Leslie.HILL@communities.qld.gov.au>
To: Pam Spall <Pam_Spall@health.qld.gov.au>
Date: 4/26/2013 12:32 PM
Subject: FW: RCAI Redcliffe: MBRC - items within the building
CC: Narelle Profke <Narelle.Profke@communities.qld.gov.au>, Joanne Mckelvey <Joanne.Mckelvey@communities.qld.gov.au>

Hello Pam

Pls see email below. The RCAI Board has phoned Moreton Bay Regional Council just now and confirmed the arrangement of the RCAI Board to move upstairs at the Lamington Drive Redcliffe premises and for Pine Rivers Neighbourhood Association Inc to utilise the space downstairs for the Redcliffe DCCSDS programs

Regards, Leslie

Leslie Hill | Manager, Community Funding and Support Team
 (Southern Office - incorporates Caboolture, Redcliffe and Pine Rivers)

North Coast Region | Department of Communities, Child Safety and Disability Services
 Level 1, 12 King Street, Caboolture QLD 4510
 P O Box 1126, Caboolture QLD 4510

T: 07 5431 2234 | M: | F: 07 5495 1945

From: Leslie B Hill
Sent: Friday, 26 April 2013 12:29 PM
To: Patricia Occelli
Subject: RCAI Redcliffe: MBRC - items within the building

Hello Patricia

Just advising that Mark McCormack phoned me just now and confirmed that the RCAI Board has said they would be available at 1.00 for MBRC and DCCSDS to go into the building.

Jo McKelvey and myself will leave in the next couple of minutes.

Regards, Leslie

Leslie Hill | Manager, Community Funding and Support Team
 (Southern Office - incorporates Caboolture, Redcliffe and Pine Rivers)

North Coast Region | Department of Communities, Child Safety and Disability Services
 Level 1, 12 King Street, Caboolture QLD 4510
 P O Box 1126, Caboolture QLD 4510

T: 07 5431 2234 | M: | F: 07 5495 1945

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Department of
**Communities, Child Safety
and Disability Services**

24 April 2013

Mr Brian Roselt
Chairperson
Regional Community Association Incorporated (Trading as Regional Community
Association Moreton Bay)
PO Box 16
REDCLIFFE QLD 4020

Dear Mr Roselt

I have heard that you have kindly agreed to enable Pine Rivers Neighbourhood
Centre to access space available at the Lamington Drive premises in order for them
to deliver services to the Redcliffe community.

In this activity you will be working with Moreton Bay Regional Council to move
Regional Community Association Incorporated documents into alternative storage.
In this respect I would like to remind you of your obligations in relation to the Survival
Clause 30.6.

Survival Clause 30.6

The following clauses of this Service Agreement (Part A) – Standard Terms of
Funding will survive termination or expiration of the Service Agreement:

- (a) clause 5 – Your reporting obligations;
- (b) clause 7 – Expenditure of Funding;
- (c) clause 18 – Intellectual Property Rights;
- (d) clause 19 – Disclosure of Confidential Information; Version: 1.0 30
- (e) clause 20 – Protection of Personal Information;
- (f) clause 21 – Recordkeeping;
- (g) clause 22 – Insurance and Indemnity; and
- (h) clause 24 – Subcontracting Services under the Service Agreement.

I am enclosing a copy of the Service Agreement for your reference.

Yours sincerely

Patricia Ocelli
Regional Director, Disability and Community Services
North Coast
24/4/2013

Office of the Regional Director
North Coast Region

Level 3, 12 First Avenue
Maroochydore QLD 4558
PO Box 1177
Maroochydore QLD 4558
Telephone: +61 7 5352 7385
Facsimile: +61 7 5352 7260
www.communities.qld.gov.au
ABN 25 791 185 155



CMC, police investigate embattled Redcliffe MP Driscoll

By Kim Lyell

Updated 18 minutes ago

Police have joined forces with Queensland's Crime and Misconduct Commission (CMC) to investigate allegations of official misconduct and fraud against Redcliffe MP Scott Driscoll.

An investigation is underway into claims of official misconduct and fraud against Mr Driscoll.

The first-termer was elected in the Liberal National Party's (LNP) landslide electoral win a year ago but has faced ongoing allegations regarding improper business dealings.

Mr Driscoll denies any wrongdoing but quit the LNP at the weekend amid reports he was about to be expelled.

The CMC says the investigation follows an assessment of new information provided by an unnamed source.

A CMC spokeswoman says she is unable to speculate on how long the investigation will take.

Police Minister Jack Dempsey says he was briefed on the matter yesterday.

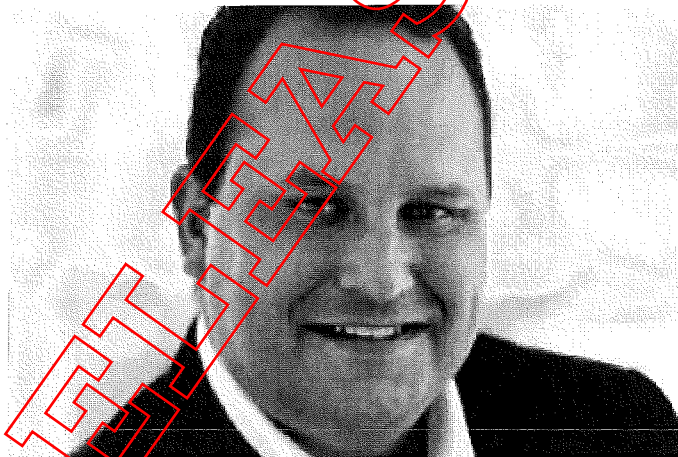


PHOTO: Mr Driscoll denies any wrongdoing (Scott.Driscoll.com)

RELATED STORY: LNP sharpens up preselection process

RELATED STORY: Suspended Driscoll quits LNP

RELATED STORY: Driscoll vows to expose 'names' over LNP expulsion

MAP: Redcliffe 4020

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"Police will investigate the matter thoroughly and if there is other person involved they will certainly look into that," he said.

The ABC has tried to contact Mr Driscoll for comment.

Topics: liberal-national-party-queensland, law-crime-and-justice, state-parliament, public-sector, redcliffe-4020, brisbane-4000

First posted 1 hour 37 minutes ago

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Pages 10 through 12 redacted for the following reasons:

Documents exempt in full - Sch 3, 10(4) - CMC investigation

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DOH-DL-12/13-011

From: Kingsley Bedwell <IMCEAEX-
_O=RICHMOND+20FELLOWSHIP+20QUEENSLAND_OU=EXCHANGE+20ADMINISTRATIVE+20G
ROUP+20+28FYDIBOHF23SPDLT+29_CN=RECIPIENTS_CN=Q+20H@RICHMONDFQ.LOCAL>
To: 47(3)(b)
CC: Rudolf Manu <Rudolf.Manu@RFQ.COM.AU>, Trevor Warren
<Trevor.Warren@RFQ.C...>
Date: 4/23/2013 2:56 pm
Subject: FOLLOW UP

47(3)(b) hi

Thank you for our discussion today and generosity given the circumstances

I am wondering if the RCAMB staff attending the activity tomorrow could be available to meet separately with RFQ staff. This could occur after the activity.

The message I am wanting to convey to RCAMB staff can be summarised as follows -

1. Q.H. has engaged RFQ to provide a 'new service' to the clients who had received a service from RCAMB. This means we will not simply be auspicng or employing the suspended RCAMB staff to provide the service.
2. We genuinely feel for all the staff who have found themselves victims of dreadful circumstances not of their own making. We want to discuss with suspended staff their perspectives on the service they provided and concern for their clients.
3. We respect the 'grassroots' community nature of the service provided by the staff and a priority for us will be to listen and connect with the local community.
4. RFQ is a strongly mission and consumer focussed organisation and a priority will be to listen to consumers and their families to inform the service they receive.
5. While RFQ has established its own service delivery team, we will be assessing the ongoing formation of this team over the next few weeks. However, we are not able to provide any assurances for suspended RCAMB staff in relation to their employment by RFQ if this was their wish. We encourage interested staff nonetheless to forward their resumes if they are interested in employment with RFQ. In submitting resumes, we understand staff may not currently have access to files that would provide all relevant information.

47(3)(b) thanks again for your input and advice.

I've just received your email. You can give the tax form to one of my staff. My staff will be at the theatre at 10.30am.

Sincere regards

Kingsley

Kingsley Bedwell

Chief Executive

Richmond Fellowship Queensland

Email: hq@rfq.com.au<mailto:hq@rfq.com.au>

Tel: 07 3363 2555 / 3363 2661 (direct) / www.rfq.com.au<http://www.rfq.com.au>

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RTI

Pam Spall - Fwd: Fw: RCAMB MENTAL HEALTH CLIENTS

From: Pam Spall
To: hq@rfq.com.au
Date: 4/22/2013 1:40 PM
Subject: Fwd: Fw: RCAMB MENTAL HEALTH CLIENTS

Dear Kingsley

Access refused - Legal Professional Privilege - Sch 3(7)

As you state it is possible to proceed without such information, your meetings with key individuals and direct client contact may have to bridge the information required.

Kind regards

Pam Spall

>>> Kim Woolgar 4/19/2013 11:07 am >>>
For advice Plse
-----Original Message-----
From: hq@rfq.com.au
To: Kim Woolgar
Subject: RCAMB MENTAL HEALTH CLIENTS
Sent: Apr 19, 2013 11:05 AM

Kim, hi. Just an update.

I have had telephone discussions with Melinda Fleming (PRNC) and Michelle Robins (RCAMB).

I have a meeting scheduled with Michelle at our offices on Tuesday with our new service delivery team that has been convened. My expectation is that this team will be on the ground in Redcliffe on Wednesday with Michelle's support, engaging clients.

In relation to the RCAMB client files, has a decision been made to not identify and exercise appropriate statutory powers to access these files? I know such powers would exist (eg disability legislation). It would be in the interests of clients for our service to have these files. We can of course proceed without them.

I don't have Ron's email address to cc him in.

Regards

Kingsley

Kingsley Bedwell
Chief Executive
Richmond Fellowship Queensland
Email: hq@rfq.com.au
Tel: 07 3363 2555 / 3363 2661 (direct) / www.rfq.com.au

PRELIMINARY

Page 16 redacted for the following reason:

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Queensland Health

Enquiries to: Anne Garrahy
A/Director
Employee Relations
Telephone: 07 3234 1958
Facsimile: 07 3234 0314
File Ref: HRS06207

Commissioner Booth
Fair Work Commission
GPO Box 5713
Brisbane QLD 4001

By email: brisbane@fwc.gov.au

Dear Commissioner Booth

I refer to your invitation to the Department of Health (the Department) to attend the Fair Work Commission conference on Friday 12 April 2013 to provide information about funding arrangements for service agreements with the Regional Community Association (the Association). I am advised that during the conference you requested that the Department endeavour to identify a process by which the Association's employees can receive any unpaid wages that may be owed to them.

I confirm the verbal submissions made by Ms Anne Garrahy, Acting Director, Employee Relations, at the conference, that:

- a) The Department is one of several government agencies that have service agreements with the Association;
- b) Under the service agreements being administered by the Department the Association is responsible for payment of all wages and entitlements to employees;
- c) There is no employment relationship between the Department and the Association's employees;
- d) The terms of the service agreements provide for suspension of funding in certain circumstances;
- e) By letter dated 27 March 2013, jointly signed by the Department and the Department of Communities, Child Safety and Disability Services, the Association was advised that an independent financial and compliance audit had been commissioned as provided for under the terms of the service agreements; and
- f) By letter dated 28 March 2013, the Department gave notice to the Association, as provided for under the terms of the service agreements, that payment of funding was suspended pending the outcome of the audit.

Office
Queensland Health
147-163 Charlotte Street
BRISBANE QLD 4001

Postal
GPO Box 48
BRISBANE QLD 4001

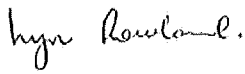
Phone
07 3234 1375

Fax
07 3234 0314

The Department remains committed to its decision to suspend payment of funding to the Association pending the outcome of the independent audit. As the Department does not employ the Association's staff, there is no process available by which the Department can pay any unpaid wages to those staff.

I note that a detailed written summary of the two service agreements being administered by the Department was provided to the Commission at last Friday's conference. If you require further information, may I request that you contact Ms Garrahy in the first instance on 07 3234 1375 or email anne_garrahy@health.qld.gov.au.

Yours sincerely



Lyn Rowland
Chief Human Resources Officer
18/4/2013

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From: Kim Woolgar
To: Ron Hale, Pam Spall
Date: 4/18/2013 10:44 am
Subject: Fw: details as requested

-----Original Message-----

From: hq@rfq.com.au
To: Kim Woolgar
Subject: RE: details as requested
Sent: Apr 18, 2013 9:06 AM

Kim, hi

Thanks for your briefing on Tuesday and the confidence of QH in RFQ delivering for clients in this complex situation.

I have emailed Melinda and will be speaking to her today.

Thanks

Kingsley

Kingsley Bedwell
Chief Executive
Richmond Fellowship Queensland
Email: hq@rfq.com.au
Tel: 07 3363 2555 / 3363 2661 (direct) / www.rfq.com.au

From: Kim Woolgar [mailto:Kim_Woolgar@health.qld.gov.au]
Sent: Tuesday, 16 April 2013 4:45 PM
To: Kingsley Bedwell
Cc: Ron Hale
Subject: details as requested

Details as requested Kingsley of Director of Pine Rivers Neighbourhood Centre:

Melinda Fleming – Director
Pine Rivers Neighbourhood Centre
730 Gympie Road LAWNTON
Post: PO Box 489, LAWNTON QLD 4501
P 07 3205 2955 | F 07 3881 2877
E melf@prnc.org.au W www.prnc.org.au

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Pam Spall - Re: Fwd: NB and letter to FWC re ASU v RCA

From: Pam Spall
To: Anne Garrahy
Date: 4/17/2013 9:43 AM
Subject: Re: Fwd: NB and letter to FWC re ASU v RCA
CC: Kim Woolgar

Anne

After discussion with Kim, only possible inclusion in the letter is to indicate that DoH funds 6 of 23 staff and it is understood that the majority of these are not full time positions (possibly an elaboration of Point a).

Also I don't know if there is any case law on the independent relationship between funding body and NGO, in terms of employment responsibilities. Prof Myles McGregor-Lowndes would know the answer to this question (and would probably be happy to answer it).

His contact details are:

Director of Centre, QUT Business School, Accountancy, and Australian Centre for Philanthropy Nonprofit Studies
 Phone: 3138 2936
m.mcgregor@qut.edu.au

Kind regards

Pam Spall

>>> Kim Woolgar 4/17/2013 8:37 am >>>

>>> Anne Garrahy 4/15/2013 7:39 pm >>>
 Hello Kim

After some discussions here in ER, we've prepared a BN and letter to FWC (attached).

Dave will have a look at these tomorrow for sign off.

Would you please have a look at the documents, and please let me know if they are okay from your point of view?

thank you
 ANne

Kind regards

Anne Garrahy
 A/Director

Employee Relations | Human Resources Branch | System Support Services Division | Department of Health
 GPO Box 48, Brisbane, Qld, 4001 | 147-163 Charlotte Street, Brisbane, Qld, 4001
 P: (07) 3234 1375 | M: 47(3)(b) | F: (07) 3234 0314 | E: anne_garrahy@health.qld.gov.au

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The Courier-Mail

Queensland

LNP bureaucrats knew of MP Scott Driscoll's consultancy

- by: Mark Solomons, Kelmey Fraser
- From: The Courier-Mail
- April 09, 2013 12:00AM



Source: The Courier-Mail

NEWMAN Government bureaucrats knew seven months ago of LNP MP Scott Driscoll's inappropriate involvement in a taxpayer-funded community association that gave his wife's consulting company Norsefire tens of thousands of dollars in consulting fees.


The allegations raise questions about the Newman Government's willingness to investigate the serious matters raised about the behaviour of Mr Driscoll, who has been suspended from the LNP.

The Courier-Mail reported last month that Mr Driscoll had secret control of the Regional Community Association Moreton Bay while an MP, directing day-to-day operations, including its finances and dealings with federal and state governments, until February.

This newspaper can now reveal a Department of Communities official first flagged concerns in late August about a proposed meeting at Mr Driscoll's electorate office to "go through the contract and signing" of a community program.

The official wrote on August 27 to RCAMB services manager Tracy Slater, expressing concerns that "as Mr Driscoll is the sitting Member of Parliament for Redcliffe", direction would have to be sought from the official's Executive Officer.

On September 6 the official wrote: "I am yet to receive the confirmation to accept the meeting with Mr Scott Driscoll MP at his office".

 **EMAIL SENT: September 6, 2012, 4.38pm**

From: Tracey Slater
To: Scott Driscoll [scott@norsefire.com.au]
Subject: Meeting with [REDACTED] DS

Hi Scott,

I have just had a call from [REDACTED] regarding the meeting ... I asked again what was the issue with yourself attending the meeting and it being at your office? Her response was the same: "Scott is the sitting MP" and "Public Perception if something was to happen and they was seen entering or leaving your office".

She is fully aware that this is non-political but seems to be stuck on the Position you hold and the location of the meeting.

I look forward to your response and direction on this matter.

Regards

Tracey Slater
Community Well - Being Service Manager
Regional Community Association Moreton Bay Region

PRIOR KNOWLEDGE: Embattled MP for Redcliffe Scott Driscoll and some of the emails he exchanged with RCAMB services manager Tracy Slater.

The same day, Mr Slater forwarded the email exchange to Mr Driscoll at his scott@norsefire address.

The exchanges between Mr Slater and Mr Driscoll are included above.

On December 14, two Communities department officials met RCAMB senior staff and its president, Bruce Mills. One official asked about the "communication process" used with a consulting firm to which management of the association had been "outsourced".

The officials failed to ask for the firm's name, despite one of them having been copied in on a complaint three weeks earlier naming Norsefire and detailing the involvement at RCAMB of Mr Driscoll and his wife.

RCAMB was later asked to provide the firm's name by December 28 and the communication details by February 28.

**EMAIL SENT: September 6, 2012, 6.41pm****From:** Scott Driscoll [scott@norsefire.com.au]**To:** Tracey Slater**Subject:** Re: Meeting with [REDACTED] DS

Hi Tracey,

[REDACTED]'s comments are truly bizarre. I've had many meetings with various state government departmental officers plus local stakeholders in my office. Her protests on this are nothing if not highly suspicious under the circumstances.

I will address her very strange behaviour at another place and time in the near future.

Please lock in her proposed meeting time below at RCA at that date and time. Please relay this most unusual behaviour re this Officer to Bruce and ask if he is able to attend at that time on behalf of the Board.

Regardless of Bruce being able to attend or not, I will ask Leesa to attend to minute the meeting. There is no reason that [REDACTED] needs to be informed of that, for fear she could come up with some weird phobia about Leesa too given the time and chance.

Regards,

Scott

PRIOR KNOWLEDGE: Embattled MP for Redcliffe Scott Driscoll and some of the emails he exchanged with RCAMB services manager Tracy Slater.

The Courier-Mail understands the information was never supplied.

Separately, a whistleblower made a detailed complaint to Communities after an RCAMB annual meeting on December 19 that Mr Driscoll chaired while office bearers were elected. The whistleblower complained of people being excluded from the meeting, a lack of transparency about financial information, and the identity of companies said to have replaced the role of chief executive.

The Courier-Mail has obtained the department's February 14 response to the whistleblower.

North Coast regional director Patricia Occelli wrote: "Please be reassured that the North Coast Region is investigating your allegations in order to ensure compliance of responsibilities within their Service Agreement and within the Act.

"Therefore, it has been determined that no further correspondence from North Coast Region is required regarding your complaint and it will be closed, effective 15 February 2013."

Four days later, *The Courier-Mail* began publishing a series of exposes of Mr Driscoll's business activities.

The paper revealed last month that Norsefire, where Mr Driscoll was sole director, earned \$2850 a week from RCAMB for "secretariat management services" from about August 2012. Mrs Driscoll was also on the payroll from late last year as HR administrative officer.

Premier Campbell Newman told Parliament on March 19 that the Government had "properly investigated" complaints against Mr Driscoll.

The departments involved now refuse to answer questions about officials' initial concerns, whistleblower complaints and attempts to investigate, all of which have been uncovered by *The Courier-Mail* investigation.

They also decline to say whether Communities Minister Tracy Davis was briefed or had any

involvement.

The Courier-Mail

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Group's audit more check-up than autopsy

AN AUDIT under way at the Regional Community Association Moreton Bay is not the "forensic" probe touted by government spin doctors but a relatively routine look at the organisation's finances.

The Courier-Mail reported last month that Queensland Health and the federal Department of Families, Housing, Community Services and Indigenous Affairs had jointly commissioned an independent audit of the RCAMB following allegations of mismanagement and financial irregularities involving

Member for Redcliffe Scott Driscoll, who has been suspended by the LNP.

The federal department described it as a "forensic" audit. A spokeswoman for PriceWaterhouseCoopers, however, told The Courier-Mail: "We haven't been appointed to undertake a forensic audit. Forensic audit means a very different thing."

According to the website of PwC, the accounting firm hired to do the work, most of its forensic services team "are certified fraud examiners and hold Certificate III in Investigative Services,

Certificate IV in Government Investigation and Fraud Control and Commercial Agents and Private Inquiry (CAPI) licences".

Queensland Health said of the audit: "Should any evidence of criminal activity or misconduct arise, the auditors would refer such findings or evidence to the Department of Health immediately and relevant authorities (such as the Queensland Police Service or Crime and Misconduct Commission) for further investigation."

Mark Solomons

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Documents exempt in full - Sch 3, 10(4) - CMC investigation

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DOH-DL-12/13-011

ABC NEWS



Government under fire over Driscoll-linked community group funding

By Melinda Howells

Updated 1 hour 30 minutes ago

The Regional Community Association Moreton Bay (RCAMB) says it is owed significant sums of Queensland Government funding withheld after complaints of mismanagement.

Redcliffe MP Scott Driscoll has been accused of controlling the group and funnelling money to his wife's consultancy business.

He has denied any wrongdoing.

RCAMB says it will have to appoint a liquidator to wind up the organisation.

Queensland Communities Minister Tracy Davis says services will instead be provided by the Pine Rivers Neighbourhood Centre.

However, the Moreton Bay group says the Pine Rivers group is also in financial trouble.

But Ms Davis says she is not aware of that.

"That's not my understanding and certainly not my brief from the department," she said.

"The money will be used through the Pine Rivers Neighbourhood Centre to deliver the services that were previously delivered through RCAMB."

But Queensland Opposition Leader Anastacia Palaszczuk says the State Government has not done enough to sort out RCAMB's financial problems.

Ms Palaszczuk says Ms Davis and her department have had several options for investigating the group.

"They were able to issue a compliance notice and they were also able to use the powers under the Act for an authorised officer to go in and sort this

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RELEASES

issue out," Ms Palaszczuk said.

"For two weeks the Minister did absolutely nothing."

However, Ms Davis says an auditor has already been appointed, and allegations of misconduct were referred to the Crime and Misconduct Commission last year.

Topics: public-sector, liberal-national-party-queensland, activism-and-lobbying, community-organisations, redcliffe-4020

First posted Tue Apr 2, 2013 1:59pm AEDT

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DOH-DL-12/13-011

Pam Spall - Fwd: ANDREA : Cathy asks have we a justification for being so naughty? FW: Statement from the Board of the Regional Community Association Moreton Bay

From: Kim Woolgar
To: Pam Spall
Date: 4/2/2013 10:52 AM
Subject: Fwd: ANDREA : Cathy asks have we a justification for being so naughty? FW: Statement from the Board of the Regional Community Association Moreton Bay

no doubt we have to do a response - i have rung her and left a message

>>> Andrea Grant 4/2/2013 10:43 am >>>
Hi Kim

Can you give me a call about this as soon as possible please

Thanks
Andrea

Andrea Grant
Media Manager

Media and Communication |
Department of Health
PO Box 48 BRISBANE QLD 4000
07 3234 1734
andrea_grant@health.qld.gov.au
health.qld.gov.au

facebook.com/qldhealth | twitter.com/qldhealthnews

E020881

>>> Craig Brown 4/2/2013 10:38 am >>>

>>> Cameron Thompson <Cameron.Thompson@ministerial.qld.gov.au> 2/04/2013 10:24 am >>>

-----Original Message-----

From: Catherine Border [<mailto:Cborder@networkten.com.au>]
Sent: Tuesday, 2 April 2013 10:06 AM
To: Cameron Thompson
Subject: FW: Statement from the Board of the Regional Community Association Moreton Bay
Importance: High

-----Original Message-----

From: RCAMB Media [<mailto:RCAMB.Media@rcamb.com.au>]
Sent: Tuesday, 2 April 2013 12:37 AM
Subject: Statement from the Board of the Regional Community Association Moreton Bay
Importance: High

Statement from the Board of the Regional Community Association Moreton Bay

DOH-DL-12/13-011

The Board of the Regional Community Association Moreton Bay (RCAMB) who are all voluntary, provide the following statement in the public interest.

The Board of the RCAMB regrets to advise that it has been forced to make an application to wind up the organisation and appoint a liquidator to ensure all debts are collected and all creditors are paid accordingly, along with the staff of the RCAMB. Unfortunately the application cannot be heard until after Easter which meant that the staff had to be stood down so the organization did not incur any further liabilities.

The primary basis of this action is due to non-payment of substantial debts owed by various entities to RCAMB, including other community organisations as well as state and federal government agencies. The organization is owed approximately \$295,000 with another \$200,000 payable in April. RCAMB only requires approximately \$68,000 to meet all current creditors and therefore would be in a very healthy cash position if the Government would release funds that are owed.

\$216,000 of the \$295,000 is owed to RCAMB by Department of Health (Mental Health) for services delivered by RCAMB from July to December last year with another \$108,000 becoming due next week for the March quarter 2013. This represents \$324,000 that RCAMB has outlaid delivering these programs without any reimbursement from Department of Health. Despite repeated efforts by the Board to have some of this money released so we could pay the staff their wages of \$22,000 on Thursday, no funds have been forthcoming.

As the Board of a charity, which operates in a responsible manner with regard to finances and governance, the RCAMB does not maintain excessive cash reserves and is reliant on debts owed to it to be paid in a responsible and timely fashion. This has not been the case, despite the RCAMB providing all services and outcomes required of it and its staff.

The RCAMB Board has been advised that certain funds are now being retained pending an Independent Audit of the organisation because of "anonymous complaints" from unknown individuals. Any such complaints are entirely baseless, given the Board has adopted responsible governance practices, ensured the delivery of agreed and target outcomes for our clients and has presented fully audited financials at all required times and as recently as at the RCAMB AGM late December 2012. No valid issues exist on any of these matters and "anonymous complaints" to the contrary are a complete nonsense. The Board welcomes the Independent Audit and has stated it will work with the Auditor and provide any assistance required.

Over the last 12 months the RCAMB Board and organisation has endured false, misleading and malicious attacks from individuals who were previously associated with the organisation. These attacks have come in the form of direct threats made to Board members and staff, malicious and false claims in certain media as well as grossly aggressive commentary via anonymous social media and Twitter accounts. Also the organization has been caught up in a Political witch-hunt because of its association with the Local Member of Parliament. The direct result of this is now the closure of a great local community organisation.

This is a tragedy on the basis that our performance delivery and our financial position is extremely strong. Our sole issue is cash flow, based on non-payment of accounts of debtors to the RCAMB.

One of the travesties of Justice in this whole matter is that the Minister of Communities has directed, that an organization that owes \$46,000 to RCAMB be appointed to take over the services and staff of RCAMB. RCAMB has delivered services on behalf of Pine Rivers Neighborhood Centre and they have not paid RCAMB for these services even though we believe they have received payment from Government. RCAMB can only presume that Pine Rivers Neighborhood Centre is in financial difficulty because of non-payment of the funds to RCAMB.

The RCAMB Board sincerely thanks the fine staff of the organisation for their efforts over the long term to assist our highly valued clients. The Board will work with the liquidators in the best way we can to ensure debtors are brought to account and creditors and staff are able to access their entitlements. We will also liaise with relevant agencies to ensure our clients suffer as little disruption to services as possible.

The RCAMB ask that people respect the difficult and challenging circumstances being worked through by all concerned.

Regional Community Association Moreton Bay.

ENDS

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The Courier-Mail

Queensland

Scott Driscoll drama is just not croquet

- by: Mark Solomons, Kelmeny Fraser
- From: The Sunday Mail (Qld)
- March 31, 2013 12:00AM

A CLOSE political associate of Redcliffe MP Scott Driscoll, who sacked 23 staff members of the community group at the centre of the scandal surrounding the MP last week, told the shocked workers the controversy was hurting his croquet game.

Geoff Jamieson, election campaign treasurer for Mr Driscoll and a board member of the Regional Community Association Moreton Bay, told the staff "you are all stood down" and then berated them for demanding information about their future.

"You've asked for it so I'm giving it to you," he told astonished workers.

"You asked me for the facts but you didn't let me explain any of the things, so that's what you wanted, OK?"

He had earlier explained that he had resigned as treasurer of RCAMB "some time in February" and then returned so the board - which Mr Driscoll stacked with his political associates - could continue to function.

"Before I came back on as treasurer, I went right through all the accounts to satisfy myself that the organisation was one, solvent, and two, that it had sufficient funds to carry on the programs, and three, that there was no financial impropriety or irregularities in any of the accounting," Mr Jamieson told staff.

"I went right through that with the information that was available to me before I left because what happened is, the day I did that I had to go off, because I play croquet and I was representing the state of Queensland in Adelaide for the ... er, umm, south-east croquet ... er ... state team.

"So I went away to Adelaide for two weeks ...

"When you're playing for your state you have to concentrate and I had to block a lot of this out until I got back."

Shocked staff demanded Mr Jamieson "get to the facts", at which point he told them they were all stood down.

The Courier-Mail revealed last month that Mr Driscoll has been controlling RCAMB from behind the scenes and funneling \$120,000 in consulting fees to his wife's company, Norsefire. Queensland Health has hired an accounting firm to audit the RCAMB but investigators have yet to visit the premises.

The financial collapse of RCAMB last week has raised concerns for the association's 500 vulnerable clients, who rely on its programs.

Speaking to *The Sunday Mail* after Thursday's meeting, Mr Jamieson distanced himself from Mr

Driscoll, accusing him of having "run for the hills".

"I am not here for one second to protect Scott Driscoll," he said. "He is no friend of mine."

He said he tried to avoid standing down staff by appealing to the State Government to lift its funding freeze, but was told money would not be available until after the audit.

Mr Driscoll has repeatedly refused to respond to media questions about his involvement in RCAMB.

The Courier-Mail

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The Courier-Mail

Queensland

Workers at a community association secretly controlled by Redcliffe MP Scott Driscoll have been stood down

- by: Kelmeny Fraser, Mark Solomons
- From: The Courier-Mail
- March 28, 2013 12:00AM



Source: The Courier-Mail

STAFF at a taxpayer-funded community association secretly controlled by Redcliffe MP Scott Driscoll have been stood down.

Twenty-three staff members of the Redcliffe Community Association Moreton Bay were told by the service provider's three remaining board members at a meeting this afternoon their jobs had been terminated.

Staff member and volunteer Len Thomas said staff were due to have received their fortnightly pay yesterday but have been told there is no money.

"We have some pretty distressed and distraught staff down here," said federal member for Petrie Yvette d'Ath.

Ms d'Ath said she had notified state Communities Minister Tracy Davis.

She said staff at the meeting had been told the association was insolvent.

Earlier it was reported, that members of RCAMB, which Scott Driscoll secretly controlled to the benefit of his wife's firm, want the MP's associates removed from the board.

By yesterday, five had put their names to a call for an emergency meeting on April 8, in a bid to take over the body and ensure it continues to provide emergency social services to its 500 or so clients in the community.

The Courier-Mail yesterday met staff of the taxpayer-funded Regional Community Association Moreton Bay who said they feared for their jobs and the future of essential services for clients with mental health problems, the homeless and victims of domestic violence.

The staff said they were shocked and disgusted that no one from the State Government had visited them, despite the widely publicised problems at the centre, and they had not been able to tell employees whether they would be paid this week.

No one had visited or inspected documents in recent weeks, they said, except board members.

Staff said they had been surprised to hear a statement in Parliament by Communities Minister Tracy Davis that her department was "working hard" with RCAMB.

"We want (Premier Campbell) Newman and the minister to come and see us," said one staffer, who did not want to be named. "Where are the CMC?" another asked. "We're waiting for them."

Len Thomas, a former police officer and RCAMB member who is backing the move to overhaul the board, said there were members "ready to step up" and take over governance of the association. "We can change the constitution if necessary," he said. "(The Department of Communities needs to act today to guarantee continuity."

Staff said acting RCAMB president Brian Roselt and treasurer Geoff Jamieson, both close political associates of Mr Driscoll, had not been returning their calls.

Mr Thomas gave The Courier-Mail a letter from the Office of Fair Trading showing that its records had Mr Roselt as president, effective March 11, but made no mention of Mr Jamieson. Instead, Terry Rogers is shown as treasurer.

This is despite Mr Rogers having been forced off the RCAMB board by Mr Driscoll last year after he asked questions about the ownership of Norsefire, Mr Driscoll's wife Emma's company, which has earned \$120,000 in consulting fees from RCAMB over the past 12 months.

Mr Jamieson, who was Mr Driscoll's election campaign treasurer, this week told The Courier-Mail there was "no impropriety" and "no irregularities" at RCAMB. "We've got a short-term cash-flow problem as a result of the media reports about Scott Driscoll," he said.

Mr Jamieson said he had only found out this week that Emma Driscoll had been on the payroll.

The Department of Health last week hired PriceWaterhouseCoopers to carry out a forensic audit of RCAMB.

The Courier-Mail

Search for: Search

Pages 155 through 222 redacted for the following reasons:

Documents exempt in full - Sch 3, 10(4) - CMC investigation

PTI
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DOH-DL-12/13-011



Qld ethics committee to examine Redcliffe MP

By Melinda Howells

Updated 21 minutes ago

Queensland Parliament's ethics committee will investigate the pecuniary interest register of Redcliffe MP Scott Driscoll.

The State Opposition yesterday wrote to the clerk of parliament, alleging inaccuracies.

Under the standing orders, the matter now cannot be discussed in Parliament until the committee makes a decision.

Meanwhile, the Speaker has ruled that she will not refer Premier Campbell Newman to the ethics committee over contempt allegations.

The Opposition alleged Mr Newman had interfered with the Parliamentary Crime and Misconduct Committee's (PCMC) investigations into Fitzgerald inquiry documents.

Speaker Fiona Simpson says only the PCMC chair can make a referral to the ethics committee.

Topics: state-parliament, brisbane-4000

First posted Wed Mar 20, 2013 4:33pm AEDT

PRELIMINARY

Pages 224 through 260 redacted for the following reasons:

Documents exempt in full - Sch 3, 10(4) - CMC investigation

PTI
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DOH-DL-12/13-011

Call for CMC to investigate allegations against MP

Bridie Jabour

Published: March 19, 2013 - 9:28AM

The powers of the Integrity Commissioner are "almost negligible" and the crime watchdog should investigate Liberal National Party MP Scott Driscoll, according to a former chair of the Parliamentary Crime and Misconduct Committee.

Advertisement

LNP defector Alex Douglas has called on Premier Campbell Newman to refer Mr Driscoll to the Crime and Misconduct Commission over allegations about impropriety in his business dealings.

The Redcliffe MP has denied any wrongdoing and referred himself to the parliamentary Integrity Commissioner on Monday.

But former PCMC chairman Dr Douglas says the powers of the commissioner are "extremely limited".

"I wouldn't say they're absent but they're almost negligible, is probably a fair word," he told ABC 612 Brisbane.

"... the CMC is charged with doing investigations on [allegations of] major misconduct and this is what that is."

Dr Douglas said Mr Newman would be the appropriate person to refer Mr Driscoll to the CMC.

The allegations centre around Mr Driscoll's role with the Regional Community Association of Moreton Bay and the Queensland Retail Traders and Shopkeepers Association since becoming an MP.

The RCAMB paid \$120,000 to Mr Driscoll's company Norsefire for consultancy work including \$13,000 for eight days work.

On Tuesday, News Limited claimed Mr Driscoll had used his electorate office as the "secret base" for lobby group the Queensland Retail Traders and Shopkeepers Association.

Questions asked by the Integrity Commissioner David Solomon would not be made public and neither would Mr Driscoll's responses.

Dr Douglas said the commissioner would not be able to conduct a proper investigation into Mr Driscoll and the CMC were the only viable option.

"Because it's only fair to have someone dealt with in an appropriate manner, people should be considered innocent until proven guilty but you've got to be able to investigate them in a proper manner," he said.

"The only investigation mechanism that is appropriate in this circumstance is the CMC."

Mr Driscoll last month told the media he'd had "no operational involvement" in the QRTSA since he was elected to parliament.

This story was found at: <http://www.brisbanetimes.com.au/queensland/call-for-cmc-to-investigate-allegations-against-mp->

20130319-2gc2f.html

PTI RELEASE



MP Driscoll responds to impropriety claims in Parliament

Posted 20 minutes ago

Controversial Redcliffe MP Scott Driscoll has made a statement to Queensland Parliament responding to claims about family business interests.

Mr Driscoll has denied claims he continued his role with a retail lobby group after being elected and that his wife received public funding as a consultant to a local community group.

Premier Campbell Newman says the Crime and Misconduct Commission (CMC) investigated the Regional Community Association of Moreton Bay last year, and found no evidence of wrongdoing.

Mr Driscoll yesterday referred himself to the integrity commissioner, but says he is confident there has been no wrongdoing.

However, he will have to correct his wife's interest in a consulting company on the Parliamentary register.

"While her involvement in this company is already declared, I'll be updating a section of her interest register to reflect the fact that she receives income from that company of more than \$500," Mr Driscoll said.

"I regret this oversight and will rectify this today."

Other allegations

Mr Driscoll is also accused of continuing his role as boss of an industry lobby group while serving as an MP.

The Courier-Mail newspaper claims Mr Driscoll has been using his electorate office to run the Queensland Retail Traders and Shopkeepers Association.

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The newspaper says he installed dedicated phone lines and computers, and used staff on parliamentary salaries to assist the not-for-profit group.

Mr Driscoll has told Parliament extra phone lines were installed for community groups to use.

"I can confirm I wrote to the clerk of Parliament last year advising him of my intention to establish a community hub access point for wifi and communications, which was utilised by various community groups," he said.

"The clerk advised me that there was no issue with this and for a period of a number of months last year, this service had been available to a number of community groups.

"I will also always provide honest advice and support to any small business operator, community group, or individual that seeks my help."

Investigation

Mr Newman says the other allegations are now being investigated.

"There were allegations about the operation of that organisation back in 2011," he said.

"That's the claim I had before me and I can advise the House that it's my understanding that the previous government, and perhaps those opposite who were in Cabinet, maybe should have done something.

"My understanding is they didn't do anything.

Mr Newman says the LNP Government referred the matter to the Crime and Misconduct Commission last year in November.

He says the CMC found no evidence of misconduct.

Mr Newman has told Parliament he has had a similar experience to Mr Driscoll.

"I myself and my wife know only too well about the way that we see in this world today trial by media," Mr Newman said.

"Particularly the tactics of the Australian Labor Party to use the CMC as a political weapon, to attack people, to take their reputations down."

Topics: liberal-national-party-queensland, state-parliament, redcliffe-4020, brisbane-4000

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Pages 267 through 289 redacted for the following reasons:

Documents exempt in full - Sch 3, 10(4) - CMC investigation

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DOH-DL-12/13-011

Driscoll refers himself to Integrity Commissioner

Published: March 18, 2013 - 12:12PM

UPDATED

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Controversial Redcliffe MP Scott Driscoll has sought a meeting with the Queensland Integrity Commissioner in the wake of a series of allegations made in the media, his office has announced.

"Mr Scott Driscoll today sought a meeting with the Queensland Integrity Commissioner to allow the Commissioner to make an independent assessment of allegations made via certain media outlets within a coordinated campaign against the MP and his family," said a written statement from the MP's office.

"Mr Driscoll said he looks forward to letting the independent Integrity Commissioner make an unbiased assessment of all associated matters and has expressed his complete faith that absolutely no wrongdoing whatsoever will be found to have occurred."

Earlier, a senior Queensland minister says a government MP who is facing claims of impropriety must explain himself.

The opposition has gone to police and the auditor-general with serious concerns about the conduct of Liberal National Party MP Scott Driscoll.

Opposition leader Anastacia Palaszczuk says Mr Driscoll has embroiled Campbell Newman in a new scandal, and the Premier should refer his MP to the corruption watchdog.

Energy Minister Mark McArdle has told reporters it's time for Mr Driscoll to make a public statement.

"I think Mr Driscoll has to clear the air very quickly," he said on Monday.

"If there's evidence here of any misconduct, put it to the CMC (Crime and Misconduct Commission) and have it investigated properly.

"I think we're now in a position where to let it go on is not in the interest of anybody."

According to report in *The Courier-Mail*, Mr Driscoll has been secretly controlling a taxpayer-funded community association that helps the homeless and others in need.

It alleges he's been funnelling tens of thousands of dollars in consultancy fees to his wife's company.

The Courier-Mail claims Mr Driscoll has had "secret day-to-day operations" of the Regional Community Association of Moreton Bay, which received about \$1.6 million in public funding and donations in 2012.

The newspaper says it has seen emails, invoices and other documents that Nosefire, a company owned by Mr Driscoll's wife Emma, received almost \$120,000 for consultancy work related to "media communications strategy and management" and "secretariat management fees".

A published email also shows Mrs Driscoll asked the association to wipe a computer after the Department of Communities sought information about payments to consulting companies.

All members of the association's board, except one, worked on Mr Driscoll's election campaign, the report claims.

Mr Driscoll has not responded to AAP's requests for comment.

Comment has also been sought from the Premier.

– AAP

This story was found at: <http://www.brisbanetimes.com.au/queensland/driscoll-refers-himself-to-integrity-commissioner-20130318-2ga2p.html>

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More allegations raised against LNP MP Driscoll

By Melinda Howells and Chris O'Brien

Updated 25 minutes ago

The LNP's Member for Redcliffe, Scott Driscoll, says he will seek a meeting with Queensland's integrity commissioner to discuss allegations against him.

Mr Driscoll has previously denied claims of financial mismanagement in his previous role with a retail lobby group.

Now he is accused of controlling a local community group that has paid consulting fees to his wife, out of public funding.

Premier Campbell Newman has repeatedly said he has confidence in Mr Driscoll, despite the claims of impropriety.

Opposition Leader Anastacia Palaszczuk is calling on Mr Newman to refer allegations against Mr Driscoll to the Crime and Misconduct Commission (CMC).

"About mates being appointed to the board, about public money going to his wife - how his wife came to be employed in the organisation when apparently she had and I quote, 'nil qualifications'," she said.

"There are so many questions here that need to be answered."

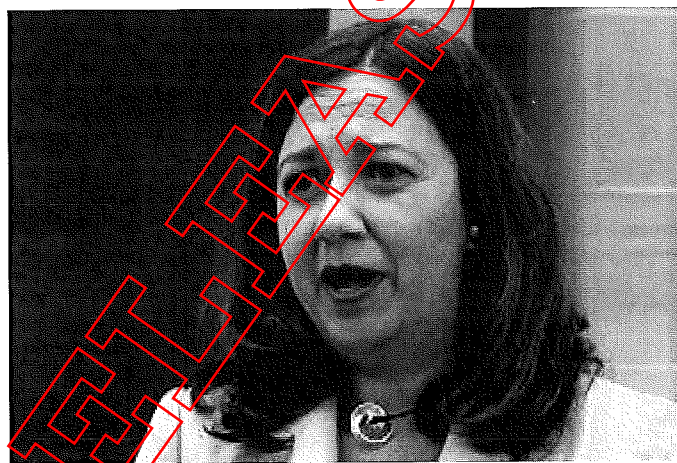


PHOTO: Ms Palaszczuk says Mr Driscoll needs to respond to reports he has been controlling a community group and his wife has been paid consultancy fees. (ABC TV News - file image)

MAP: Redcliffe 4020

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She says the allegations have also been referred to the police commissioner and the auditor-general.

"This is now a scandal engulfing the Premier," she said.

"We also have a Member for Redcliffe hiding and not answering any questions in relations to this."

However, Mr Driscoll says the allegations are part of a coordinated campaign against him and his family.

The first-term MP says he will seek a meeting with the integrity commissioner, so there can be an unbiased assessment of the matters.

Mr Driscoll says he has complete faith that he will be found to have done nothing wrong.

Earlier today, senior State Government Minister Mark McArdle says his LNP colleague needs to make a statement.

"I think that Mr Driscoll has to clear the air very quickly," he said.

"If there's evidence here of any misconduct, put it to the CMC and have it investigated properly.

"I think we're now in the position where to let it go on, is not in the interest of anybody."

Topics: liberal-national-party-queensland, state-parliament, redcliffe-4020, brisbane-4000

First posted 3 hours 1 minute ago

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Driscoll refers himself to Integrity Commissioner

Published: March 18, 2013 - 12:12PM

UPDATED

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Opposition leader Annastacia Palaszczuk says Mr Driscoll has embroiled Campbell Newman in a new scandal, and the Premier should refer his MP to the corruption watchdog.

Energy Minister Mark McArdle has told reporters it's time for Mr Driscoll to make a public statement.

"I think Mr Driscoll has to clear the air very quickly," he said on Monday.

"If there's evidence here of any misconduct, put it to the CMC (Crime and Misconduct Commission) and have it investigated properly.

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It alleges he's been funnelling tens of thousands of dollars in consultancy fees to his wife's company.

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A published email also shows Mrs Driscoll asked the association to wipe a computer after the Department of Communities sought information about payments to consulting companies.

All members of the association's board, except one, worked on Mr Driscoll's election campaign, the report claims.

Mr Driscoll has not responded to AAP's requests for comment.

Comment has also been sought from the Premier.

– AAP

This story was found at: <http://www.brisbanetimes.com.au/queensland/driscoll-refers-himself-to-integrity-commissioner-20130318-2ga2p.html>

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Pages 297 through 303 redacted for the following reasons:

Documents exempt in full - Sch 3, 10(4) - CMC investigation

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DOH-DL-12/13-011

The Courier-Mail

Queensland

Queensland Liberal National Party MP for Redcliffe Scott Driscoll link to fund scandal and claims of secret control of taxpayer-funded community association

- by: Mark Solomons, Kelmeny Fraser
- From: The Courier-Mail
- March 18, 2013 12:00AM



Source: The Courier-Mail

A STATE Liberal National Party MP has been secretly controlling a taxpayer-funded community association that helps the homeless and other people in need, funneling tens of thousands of dollars in consultancy fees to his wife's company.

The Courier-Mail has established that Redcliffe MP Scott Driscoll has been directing the operations of the Regional Community Association of Moreton Bay, a provider of frontline social services to his electorate, from behind the scenes since becoming an MP.

Mr Driscoll cemented control - with the help of friendly RCAMB members - installing political mates on the board in 2012, getting his wife a job on the payroll and having dissenting staff removed and forcing a troublesome board member to resign.

Former RCAMB staffers have told *The Courier-Mail* that money was so tight last year they could not access funds to buy food for homeless clients of the RCAMB, which received about \$1.6

million in public funding and donations in 2012.

It has been established that Mr Driscoll has had secret day-to-day control of the management of the RCAMB for at least the past 12 months, while Norsefire, a company owned by his wife Emma and where he was sole director until she took over on February 25, received almost \$120,000 for consultancy work, only some of which was actually performed.

Emails, invoices and other documents show Norsefire charged \$1000 a week until the middle of last year for "media communications strategy and management" and subsequently \$2600 a week for "secretariat management fees".

From August 2012 there is no evidence of Norsefire having any employees to conduct any work on behalf of RCAMB.

Even prior to this, RCAMB staff say there was little evidence of any benefit from the "press liaison" work they understood Norsefire had been contracted to do.

SCOTT DRISCOLL'S BUSINESS WORLD

- Scott Driscoll is the first-term LNP state MP for Redcliffe
- Regional Community Association of Moreton Bay (RCAMB) is a not-for-profit association which received \$1.6 million last year, mostly in State and Federal Government grants. It provides emergency social services to the homeless, people suffering from mental illness, victims of domestic violence and other people in need.
- Mr Driscoll is officially the "patron" of the Regional Community Association of Moreton Bay.
- In fact Mr Driscoll has been acting as RCAMB's shadow chief executive, directing day-to-day operations by email and insisting he approves everything from strategic financial decisions to which airconditioning company to use.
- Mr Driscoll also controlled the board, which was stacked with his political mates.
- Mr Driscoll's wife Emma was on the payroll of RCAMB from late last year.
- Norsefire – a private company owned by Emma Driscoll of which Mr Driscoll was until last month sole director – received almost \$120,000 in consulting fees in the last 12 months from RCAMB.
- Mr Driscoll has said he has never received money from RCAMB either directly or through a third party.
- He has said Norsefire was 100 per cent owned by his wife who was the sole shareholder.

Scott Driscoll's business world.

Mrs Driscoll, a florist, was from late last year on the payroll as "HR admin officer".

Mr Driscoll wrote her job description, which includes "formal qualification requirement: nil".

On February 28, a day after the Department of Communities asked RCAMB, formerly known as the RCA, for information about payments to consulting companies, Emma Driscoll sent an email to a colleague at the association asking for help to "delete what is in the drop box that was on my laptop which I have of course left at RCA".

"Is there a way we/you can do a complete sweep of that computer both files/trash/word docs etc ... so there is nothing left on there?" she asks.

Scroll down to read the emails.

All the members of the RCAMB board during 2012 except one worked on Mr Driscoll's election campaign, including his campaign director Ben Scott, his campaign treasurer Geoff Jamieson and

former local Federal LNP chairman Brian Roselt. Its president until last month was Bruce Mills, another supporter.

The Courier-Mail understands Mr Mills held about half of the votes of the RCAMB's 20 members as proxies, which with the votes of Mr Jamieson, Mr Scott and Mr Roselt gave Mr Driscoll's political mates control of the board.

The other member of the board is understood to be a "client" of the RCAMB's mental health program.

From: Scott Driscoll
To: Bruce Mills
CC: Leesa Mills, Emma Driscoll
Sent: Tuesday, November 13, 2012. 10:27am

[Email sent after the Department of Communities requested information on the structure of RCAMB and its signatories so taxpayer money could be dispersed]

Bottom line is that a basic letter from you as President needs to be written providing RCA structural updates TODAY.

I suggest the following:

1. You as President be named as the signatory for all grants etc with Govt. This will put all that rubbish to bed.
2. Indicate that in lieu of a GM we have instituted ... the overall financial management and reporting is now managed externally by a well reputed commercial accounting firm and reports directly to the board.

No requirement to mention Norsefire.

From: Scott Driscoll
To: Emma Driscoll
CC:
Sent: Friday, January 18, 2013. 3:15pm

(RCAMB) staff have to stop thinking they can just do what they like, when they want and there will be no consequences for not delivering on specific requests agreed to on time and in the way it was agreed. I'm seriously close to walking in up there and melting some paint off the walls so some of them realise that's a workplace not a sandpit!

From: Emma Driscoll
To: Leesa Mills
CC: Bruce Mills
Sent: Thursday, February 28, 2013. 5:55pm

I have tried to delete all the URf stuff off the RCA computer but as you know I'm not good with computers and I'm worried there will be stuff on there still. Is there a way we/you can do a complete sweep of that computer both files/trash/word docs etc ... so there is nothing left on there.

When former RCAMB Treasurer Terry Rogers, himself a former state MP, questioned Norsefire's involvement in the association in March 2012, Mr Driscoll wrote to Mr Mills and Mr Scott saying:

"The buck stops with an elected MP or Minister to make any required disclosures not Terry Rogers ...

"I personally suggest it's time his position on this board was considered for him and action taken pretty quickly right now".

Mr Rogers was forced to resign from the board shortly afterwards.

Mr Driscoll has disclosed his directorship of Norsefire but has publicly distanced himself, saying it is "100 per cent owned by my wife".

He has only ever described himself as "patron" of the RCAMB.

But emails show he micromanaged the body, giving instructions on everything from financial audits and how to respond to demands for information from bureaucrats to which airconditioning company should be used.

In January he even banned staff from participating in free health checks provided by Medicare Local.

"The fact paid RCA staff at large are being encouraged or allowed to avail themselves of funded services while the staff are meant to be working in essentially a government funded role could understandably create a catastrophic PR disaster," Mr Driscoll wrote to services manager Tracey Slater on January 17.

Emails also show Mr Driscoll presented Norsefire invoices to RCAMB and chased up payments.

Federal and State Governments are investigating the RCAMB over allegations of mismanagement and financial irregularities following complaints by staff.

Mr Driscoll did not respond to a request for comment. Mr Mills did not respond to questions. Mrs Driscoll could not be reached.

Mr Driscoll won the seat of Redcliffe at the LNP's landslide election victory last year.

Redcliffe had long been considered a Labor stronghold but the force of the LNP victory meant such seats were swept to the conservatives. Mr Driscoll has received strong support from Premier Campbell Newman in Parliament in recent weeks under scrutiny from the Labor Opposition.

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Pages 308 through 311 redacted for the following reasons:

Documents exempt in full - Sch 3, 10(4) - CMC investigation

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