## FRANK CARBONE, MAYOR OF FAIRFIELD

Q You said "more than two" residents had received the flyer and brought it in or notified you. How many in total were there?

## Response:

At least 4. This was enough to indicate that the letter had been distributed more widely and warranted clarification through my social media.

Q You said you tried to get in touch with the Australian Iraqi Muslim Society to check the allegations made in the flyer. What efforts specifically did you make before you gave these media interviews?

## Response:

The number listed on the letter was called, and the person who answered said "no comment" and did not deny acting on behalf of the organisation. I have since been informed the number has been disconnected.

I checked the organisation's website listed on the letter, but no phone number was available.

On 15 November, I was contacted by Khalid Mousa from the Alliance of Australian Muslims (a separate organisation). I asked him to request the Australian Iraqi Muslim Society to contact me to clarify any concerns about anything I have said or published. I have not received any complaints or correspondence from the Australian Iraqi Muslim Society named in the letter.

Q Was it responsible to do any of these media interviews before having clarified the veracity of the flyer?

## Response:

Yes. My comments focused on two key issues in the public interest:

- 1. Correcting misinformation in a letter that falsely suggested Council had recommended to approve a proposal, and
- 2. Highlighting NSW Government's failure to put in place any proper process or safeguards to ensure that public land advertised as being for housing is actually kept for housing.