

Mayor: Cr B Longland (Mayor)

Councillors: M Armstrong (Deputy Mayor) G Bagnall C Byrne K Milne W Polglase P Youngblutt

## Agenda

### Ordinary Council Meeting Thursday 16 May 2013

held at Murwillumbah Cultural and Civic Centre commencing at 4.45pm

### COUNCIL'S CHARTER

Tweed Shire Council's charter comprises a set of principles that are to guide Council in the carrying out of its functions, in accordance with Section 8 of the Local Government Act, 1993.

Tweed Shire Council has the following charter:

- to provide directly or on behalf of other levels of government, after due consultation, adequate, equitable and appropriate services and facilities for the community and to ensure that those services and facilities are managed efficiently and effectively;
- to exercise community leadership;
- to exercise its functions in a manner that is consistent with and actively promotes the principles of multiculturalism;
- to promote and to provide and plan for the needs of children;
- to properly manage, develop, protect, restore, enhance and conserve the environment of the area for which it is responsible, in a manner that is consistent with and promotes the principles of ecologically sustainable development;
- to have regard to the long term and cumulative effects of its decisions;
- to bear in mind that it is the custodian and trustee of public assets and to effectively account for and manage the assets for which it is responsible;
- to facilitate the involvement of councillors, members of the public, users of facilities and services and council staff in the development, improvement and co-ordination of local government;
- to raise funds for local purposes by the fair imposition of rates, charges and fees, by income earned from investments and, when appropriate, by borrowings and grants;
- to keep the local community and the State government (and through it, the wider community) informed about its activities;
- to ensure that, in the exercise of its regulatory functions, it acts consistently and without bias, particularly where an activity of the council is affected;
- to be a responsible employer.

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#### **CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES**

CNL-1 [CONMIN] Confirmation of the Minutes of the Ordinary and Confidential Council Meetings held Thursday 18 April 2013

#### SUBMITTED BY: Corporate Governance



#### SUMMARY OF REPORT:

The Minutes of the Ordinary and Confidential Council Meeting held Thursday 18 April 2013 are attached for information and adoption by Council.

#### **RECOMMENDATION:**

#### That:

- 1. The Minutes of the Ordinary and Confidential Council Meetings held Thursday 18 April 2013 be adopted as a true and accurate record of proceedings of that meeting.
- 2 ATTACHMENT 2 is CONFIDENTIAL in accordance with Section 10A(2) of the Local Government Act 1993, because it contains:-
  - (f) matters affecting the security of the council, councillors, council staff or council property.

#### **REPORT:**

As per Summary.

#### **COUNCIL IMPLICATIONS:**

#### a. Policy:

Code of Meeting Practice Version 2.3.

#### b. Budget/Long Term Financial Plan:

Not applicable.

#### c. Legal:

Not Applicable.

#### d. Communication/Engagement:

Inform - We will keep you informed.

#### LINKAGE TO INTEGRATED PLANNING AND REPORTING FRAMEWORK:

- 1 Civic Leadership
- 1.2 Improve decision making by engaging stakeholders and taking into account community input
- 1.2.2 Decisions made relating to the allocation of priorities will be in the long-term interests of the community
- 1.2.2.1 Priority decision making
- 1.2.2.1.1 Council decisions will be in accordance with the Community Strategic Plan

#### UNDER SEPARATE COVER/FURTHER INFORMATION:

To view any **"non confidential"** attachments listed below, access the meetings link on Council's website <u>www.tweed.nsw.gov.au</u> or visit Council's offices at Tweed Heads or Murwillumbah (from Friday the week before the meeting) or Council's libraries (from Monday the week of the meeting).

- 1. Attach 1Minutes of the Ordinary Council Meeting held Thursday 18<br/>April 2013 (ECM 3017685).
- 2. Confidential Attach 2 Minutes of the Confidential Council Meeting held Thursday 18 April 2013 (ECM 3017658).

### SCHEDULE OF OUTSTANDING RESOLUTIONS

#### CNL-2 [SOR] Schedule of Outstanding Resolutions



#### CODE OF MEETING PRACTICE:

#### Section 2.8 Outstanding Resolutions

No debate is to be allowed on Outstanding Resolutions. Any changes to or debate on Outstanding Resolutions should only be by way of a Notice of Motion or a report to Council.

#### LINKAGE TO INTEGRATED PLANNING AND REPORTING FRAMEWORK:

1	Civic Leadership
1.2.1	Council will be underpinned by good governance and transparency in its decision making processes
1.2.2.1	Priority decision making
1.2.2.1.1	Council decisions will be in accordance with the Community Strategic Plan

#### 26 June 2012

#### **REPORTS FROM THE DIRECTOR COMMUNITY AND NATURAL RESOURCES**

27 [CNR-CM] Management and Dedication of Environmental Lands at Kings Forest and Cobaki

#### 364

#### Cr K Skinner Cr W Polglase

**RESOLVED** that this item be deferred for a Workshop to include the proponent, Council officers and Councillors.

**Current Status:** A Workshop has been held and Council continues to negotiate with the proponent and the Department and a final report will be considered by Council in the forthcoming months.

#### 25 October 2012

#### ORDERS OF THE DAY

#### 47 [NOM-Cr K Milne] Greenfield Policy Implications

#### NOTICE OF MOTION:

621 Cr K Milne Cr G Bagnall

**RESOLVED** that Council brings forward a report in regard to enhancing Council's policies for major Greenfield developments to improve outcomes for:

- 1. Ecological sustainability appropriate to Tweed Shire's nationally and internationally significant environment and its current environmental stress,
- 2. Community health planning, including meeting the needs of seniors and children,
- 3. Planning for green spaces, community gardens, edible landscapes and wild places,
- 4. Reduced carbon emissions, energy efficiency, and potential for greater on site waste management, and
- 5. Opportunities to promote and facilitate a more localised economy through appropriate planning.

**Current Status:** A Report is being prepared for consideration at the July Council Meeting.

#### 24 January 2013

#### ORDERS OF THE DAY

#### 46 [NOM-Cr C Byrne] Operation of Library Services

#### NOTICE OF MOTION:

58

#### Cr C Byrne Cr W Polglase

**RESOLVED** that a report be generated to demonstrate the viability of Tweed Shire Council being able to provide library services in its own capacity to all residents, and ratepayers of Tweed Shire, and to explore other partners for the provision of such services.

**Current Status:** Report to be prepared.

#### 21 March 2013

#### ORDERS OF THE DAY

#### 10 [NOM-Cr M Armstrong] Community Workshops - Planning White Paper

#### NOTICE OF MOTION:

122

#### Cr M Armstrong Cr K Milne

**RESOLVED** that:

- 1. Council holds community workshops in Tweed Heads, Banora Point, Murwillumbah and Kingscliff, on the NSW Planning White Paper following its release.
- 2. In facilitating these community workshops, they be held within one (1) month of the release of the White Paper in order to inform our community about the proposals contained within the White Paper and provide an opportunity for Council staff and Councillors to hear community views on these proposals.

**Current Status:** Community Workshops to be organised.

#### 11 [NOM-Cr M Armstrong] Promotion of Sustainable Design

#### NOTICE OF MOTION:

123

Cr M Armstrong Cr K Milne

#### **RESOLVED** that Council:

- 1. Hosts a Community Summit, prior to 30 October 2013, to engage with the community to develop policies to promote sustainable design, sustainable retrofitting of existing homes and sustainable community planning in the Tweed Shire.
- 2. Prepares a report to be brought forward to the December 2013 Council meeting encapsulating the findings of the Community Summit with a view to introducing policies to promote sustainable development throughout the Tweed Shire.

**Current Status:** Community Summit to be organised following Workshop discussion with Councillors.

#### 12 [NOM-Cr K Milne] Establishing a Council Mediation Process

#### NOTICE OF MOTION:

124

Cr K Milne Cr G Bagnall

**RESOLVED** that Council brings forward a report on establishing a formal mediation process within Council's organisation and the potential for appropriate training of staff.

**Current Status:** Report to be prepared.

#### 14 [NOM-Cr P Youngblutt] Equal Access - Tweed Aquatic Centre

#### NOTICE OF MOTION:

126

#### Cr P Youngblutt Cr W Polglase

**RESOLVED** that Council officers, in consultation with the Equal Access Advisory Committee, investigate and report back to Council on the provision of a subsidy to improve accessibility for Tweed Shire residents with permanent or temporary disability to the Tweed Aquatic Centres.

**Current Status:** Report to be prepared.

#### CONFIDENTIAL ITEMS

#### **REPORTS FROM DIRECTOR ENGINEERING AND OPERATIONS IN COMMITTEE**

#### 4 [EO-CM] Bilambil Sports Club

#### **REASON FOR CONFIDENTIALITY:**

Privacy of the individual board members of the Bilambil Sports Club Ltd while the liquidation/bankruptcy process proceeds

#### Local Government Act

This report is **CONFIDENTIAL** in accordance with Section 10A(2) of the Local Government Act 1993, which permits the meeting to be closed to the public for business relating to the following: -

(c) information that would, if disclosed, confer a commercial advantage on a person with whom the council is conducting (or proposes to conduct) business.

C 12

Cr M Armstrong Cr K Milne

#### **RECOMMENDED** that:

. . . . . .

e. Bring forward a further report outlining available options with respect to the outstanding amount of \$63,028 owed to Council at a future meeting.

**Current Status:** Report to be prepared.

#### 18 April 2013

**ORDERS OF THE DAY** 

#### 7 [NOM-Cr G Bagnall] Asset Management

NOTICE OF MOTION:

191

#### Cr G Bagnall Cr K Milne

**RESOLVED** that Council brings forward a report into the adequacy of Council's Asset Management framework (Policy, Strategy and Plans) in dealing with the changing economic (reduced population growth) and environmental risks (extreme weather events) that may eventuate in the next ten years. **Current Status:** Report to be prepared for June Council meeting.

#### 8 [NOM-Cr G Bagnall] Tweed River

NOTICE OF MOTION:

192

Cr G Bagnall Cr M Armstrong

**RESOLVED** that the Council engineers bring forth a report that identifies areas of the Tweed River bank opposite Tumbulgum and the riverbank in Murwillumbah, between Condong Creek and the Riverview Hotel, that require revetments or an appropriate remediation and the estimated cost thereof.

**Current Status:** Report to be prepared.

#### 10 [NOM-Cr G Bagnall] Tweed Urban and Employment Lands Release Strategy 2009

#### NOTICE OF MOTION:

194

Cr G Bagnall Cr M Armstrong

**RESOLVED** that, in light of new census data, Council bring forward a report on the applicability of the currently adopted Tweed Urban and Employment Lands Release Strategy (2009) to the future growth of the Shire.

**Current Status:** Report be prepared to the June Council meeting.

#### 11 [NOM-Cr W Polglase] Economic Development

#### NOTICE OF MOTION:

1

#### Cr W Polglase Cr P Youngblutt

#### **RESOLVED** that Council:

- 1. Engages with National Parks and Wildlife Service, Murwillumbah and District Business Chamber and Destination Tweed to arrange to put up suitable signage at the entrance road to Mount Warning advising what is happening in the park at present.
- 2. Meets with Mr Thomas George, State Member for Lismore, and Mr Geoff Provest, State Member for Tweed, seeking additional funds above the normal budget allocation to get the park open sooner than later.

**Current Status:** Council officers have been in contact with the Murwillumbah and District Business Chamber and Destination Tweed to discuss the proposed signage and to determine their requirements. A draft sign has been prepared and the final details are being negotiated. Once the draft has been finalised the National Parks and Wildlife Service will be contacted to discuss positioning the sign.

On 3 May 2013 Thomas George MP and Goff Provest MP sent out a joint media release which identified that \$200,000 funding had been secured for the restoration of the Mt Warning Summit Track. It was also identified that restoration works had already commenced but there are restrictions on the number of workers that can access the works at any one time due to slope constraints. Also a temporary track needs to be constructed to gain access to a site for a new track.

A letter has been sent to both Thomas George MP and Geoff Provest MP thanking them for their efforts in reinforcing the urgency of reinstating the track to the Minister and recognising the importance the track represents as a major tourist destination for the Tweed.

#### 12 [NOM-Cr K Milne] Unnamed Creek, Harrys Road, Numinbah

#### NOTICE OF MOTION:

196

Cr K Milne Cr G Bagnall

**RESOLVED** that Council brings forward a report on the state of the unnamed creek at Harrys Road, Numinbah and recommendations for remediation as soon as possible.

**Current Status:** Report to be prepared.

#### 13 [NOM-Cr K Milne] Climate Change Priority

NOTICE OF MOTION:

197

Cr K Milne Cr G Bagnall

**RESOLVED** that Council prioritises climate change as an urgent and high priority in all relevant areas of Council policy and operations, and brings forward to a future Workshop, policy options to implement this approach.

**Current Status:** Workshop to be scheduled.

#### 16 [NOM-Cr K Milne] Expanding the Tweed Link

#### NOTICE OF MOTION:

200

Cr K Milne Cr G Bagnall

**RESOLVED** that, in light of the recognition the Tweed Link has received over the years, Council brings forward a report on the costs of expanding the Tweed Link to six pages and how items on the Council agenda and reports of Council meetings could be included.

**Current Status:** Report to be prepared.

#### 17 [NOM-Cr K Milne] Development Control Plan (DCP) A11- Public Notification of Development Proposals

NOTICE OF MOTION:

201

Cr K Milne Cr G Bagnall

**RESOLVED** that Council brings forward a report on DCP A11- Public Notification of Development Proposals in relation to enhancing opportunities for the community to be notified on these matters.

**Current Status:** Workshop to be scheduled.

#### REPORTS FROM THE DIRECTOR COMMUNITY AND NATURAL RESOURCES

#### 35 [CNR-CM] Draft Northern Rivers Regional Affordable Housing Strategy

207

Cr M Armstrong Cr G Bagnall

**RESOLVED** that Council:

...

3. Council holds a Workshop with Councillors to discuss the implications prior to a further report being submitted to Council.

**Current Status:** Workshop scheduled for 13 June 2013

#### **REPORTS FROM THE DIRECTOR PLANNING AND REGULATION**

31 [PR-CM] Compliance Matter - 76 Marine Parade (DA12/0515)

226

Cr M Armstrong Cr C Byrne

**RESOLVED** this matter be deferred for a Workshop to give the Owner/Proprietor an opportunity to address Councillors on this issue.

**Current Status:** Workshop to be scheduled.

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#### **MAYORAL MINUTE**

#### CNL-3 [MM-CM] Mayoral Minute for the period 2 April to 1 May 2013

SUBMITTED BY: Cr B Longland, Mayor



#### Councillors

#### **COMMITTEE MEETINGS**

#### Attended by the Mayor

3 Apr 2013 -	Murwillumbah Community Centre Management Committee - Murwillumbah Community Centre, Nullum Street, Murwillumbah (Cr Polglase also attended)
4 Apr 2013 -	Local Traffic Committee Meeting - Murwillumbah Civic Centre, Tumbulgum Road, Murwillumbah
10 Apr 2013 -	Tweed River Art Gallery (TRAG) Foundation Meeting - TRAG, Mistral Rd, Murwillumbah (also attended by Warren Polglase as Foundation President).
12 Apr 2013 -	Arts Northern Rivers Board Meeting and AGM - Arts Northern Rivers Offices, Old Tintenbar Chambers, 2/5 Bruxner Highway, Alstonville.
19 Apr 2013 -	NOROC Strategic Direction Workshop - Lismore Council Chambers

#### **INVITATIONS:**

#### Attended by the Mayor

5 Apr 2013 -	Official Opening of Pottsville HealthOne by the Hon Jillian Skinner MP, NSW Minister for Health and Medical Research - Pottsville HealthOne, Elizabeth Street, Pottsville.
6 Apr 2013 -	Tweed Netball Association Season Opening Ceremony - Arkinstall Park, Cunningham, Tweed Heads South (Cr Polglase also attended).
10 Apr 2013 -	Citizenship Ceremony & Morning Tea - The Auditorium, Tweed Heads Civic Centre, Cnr Brett and Wharf Streets, Tweed Heads.

	11 Apr 2013 -	Turning of the first sod for Margaret Olley Centre - Tweed River Art Galler, Mistral Rd, Murwillumbah (also attended by Warren Polglase as Foundation President).
	14 Apr 2013 -	Northern Rivers Screenworks' special screening of Cathy Henkel's film Show Me The Magic, The Adventures of Don McAlpine - The Regent Cinema, Murwillumbah.
	15 Apr 2013 -	Murwillumbah Rotary Meeting - Greenhills on Tweed, River Street, Murwillumbah.
	17 Apr 2013 -	Far North Coast Regional Strategy Review with Dept Planning and Infrastructure - Lismore Council Chambers.
	18 Apr 2013 -	Twin Towns Meals on Wheels 40 Year Anniversary Morning Tea - Presbyterian Hall, Florence Street, Tweed Heads.
	20 Apr 2013 -	2013 Gold Coast/Northern Rivers Regional Architecture Awards - La Medusa Ballroom, Palazzo Versace, Sea World Drive, 94 Sea World Drive, Main Beach, Gold Coast.
	22 Apr 2013 -	Murwillumbah Rotary Meeting - Greenhills on Tweed, River Street, Murwillumbah.
	24 Apr 2013 -	Official Opening of new club extension - Murwillumbah Golf Club, Byangum Rd, Murwillumbah.
	25 Apr 2013 -	Uki Anzac Day Dawn Service - Uki Hall.
	25 Apr 2013 -	Pottsville Anzac Day Service - Pottsville Hall.
$\triangleright$	25 Apr 2013 -	Murwillumbah Anzac Day Main Service - Murwillumbah Cenotaph.

#### Attended by other Councillor(s) on behalf of the Mayor

There were no events attended by other Councillors on behalf of the Mayor.

#### Inability to Attend by or on behalf of the Mayor

- 3 Apr 2013 Announcement by Minister for Tourism and Major Events, the Hon. George Souris MP re NSW Regional Tourism Program - Eltham Valley Pantry, 713 Boatharbour Road, Eltham.
- 17 Apr 2013 Destination Tweed Board Meeting Murwillumbah Golf Club, 233 Byangum Road, Murwillumbah.
- 30 Apr 2013 Dutch Australian Festival Committee Dinner in honour of the succession to the throne of HRH Prince Willem Alexander of the Netherlands - Murwillumbah Services Club, Wollumbin Street, Murwillumbah.

Date of Request	Requested by Councillor	Торіс	Councillors For	Councillors Against	Proposed Workshop Date
12/04/13	Cr K Milne	Economic Development Strategy.	Longland Milne Bagnall Armstrong	3 Remaining Councillors	Optional Councillor Meeting held 19/4/13

#### **REQUESTS FOR WORKSHOPS:**

#### **CONFERENCES:**

#### Conferences attended by the Mayor and/or Councillors

Councillors did not attend any conferences in the period from 2 April to 1 May 2013.

#### Information on Conferences to be held

7 June 2013 - LGNSW Councillor Workshop on Community Leadership (9am-4.30pm) - Lismore venue to be advised - Learn from innovative councils about their community involvement and leadership, evaluate your own leadership practices, identify key challenges to your role as councillor and learn some key problem-solving and assertiveness techniques to help you address them -Registration \$660 including GST - Refer <u>http://www.lgnsw.org.au/eventstraining/courses-councillors</u>

#### SIGNING OF DOCUMENTS BY THE MAYOR:

- 10 Apr 2013 Compensation for acquisition of Land for Road Widening DP 1172169.
- 11 Apr 2013 Compensation for acquisition of Land for Road widening DP 1176881.
- ➤ 16 Apr 2013 To record in the register the acquisition of land Lot 4 DP 859809.
- > 26 Apr 2013 Restriction as to user fifteenthly referred to in DP 1083567 Lot 5.
- 1 May 2013 Lease with Linmil Pty Ltd Hangars 3 and 10 Bob Whittle Airfield, Murwillumbah - 1 February 2013 to 31 January 2023.

#### COUNCIL IMPLICATIONS:

#### a. Policy:

Code of Meeting Practice Version 2.3.

#### b. Budget/Long Term Financial Plan:

Appropriate expenditure is allowed for attendance by Councillors at nominated conferences, training sessions and workshops.

#### c. Legal:

Not applicable.

#### d. Communication/Engagement:

Inform - We will keep you informed.

#### LINKAGE TO INTEGRATED PLANNING AND REPORTING FRAMEWORK:

- 1 Civic Leadership
- 1.2 Improve decision making by engaging stakeholders and taking into account community input
- 1.2.2 Decisions made relating to the allocation of priorities will be in the long-term interests of the community
- 1.2.2.1 Priority decision making
- 1.2.2.1.1 Council decisions will be in accordance with the Community Strategic Plan

#### **RECOMMENDATION:**

That:-

- 1. The Mayoral Minute for the period from 2 April to 1 May 2013 be received and noted.
- 2. The attendance of Councillors at nominated Conferences be authorised.

#### UNDER SEPARATE COVER:

Nil.

#### ORDERS OF THE DAY



#### LINKAGE TO INTEGRATED PLANNING AND REPORTING FRAMEWORK:

1	Civic Leadership
1	Civic Leadership
1.2.1	Council will be underpinned by good governance and transparency in its decision making processes
1.2.2.1	Priority decision making
1.2.2.1.1	Council decisions will be in accordance with the Community Strategic Plan

#### CNL-4 [NOM-Cr G Bagnall] Collection and Recycling of Household Batteries

#### NOTICE OF MOTION:

Councillor G Bagnall moves that Council Officers bring forward a report on the feasibility of establishing a business partnership model for the collection and recycling of household batteries within various commercial business districts.

#### CNL-5 [NOM-Cr G Bagnall] Staff Position - Cultural Development Officer

#### NOTICE OF MOTION:

Councillor G Bagnall moves that a report be submitted to council detailing firstly, the manner in which the budgeted salary for the position of Cultural Development officer has been allocated since the position was vacated and secondly, the future of this position.

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#### CNL-6 [NOM-Cr G Bagnall] Assessment of Environmental Land

#### NOTICE OF MOTION:

Councillor G Bagnall moves that Council undertakes a preliminary environmental assessment of the environmental land to the immediate north of the decommissioned Murwillumbah landfill to firstly determine the potential noise and dust impacts from the proposed development on this site and secondly, its ecological value, giving consideration to all fauna and flora on the site and the site's value in terms of the broader terrestrial environment, such as a nursery for endangered bats and bird species.

#### CNL-7 [NOM-Cr G Bagnall] Sportsground Naming Policy

#### NOTICE OF MOTION:

Councillor G Bagnall moves that the sports ground naming policy be reviewed with the view of naming sports fields after their geographic location. In order to help the public identify and locate sports fields easier, the geographically name or the currently used named be the preferred name.

(Note: Of the 34 sports fields in the shire 16 have been named after men who have lived or live in the shire. No sports field has been named after women who have contributed to sports in our shire.)

#### CNL-8 [NOM-Cr G Bagnall] Policy - Animal Management Procedures

#### NOTICE OF MOTION:

Councillor G Bagnall moves that a report be submitted to Council detailing Council's current Companion Animal Regulation functions, in order to determine the suitability of preparing a new Council Policy on animal management procedures, including a preferred process for handling barking dog complaints.

#### CNL-9 [NOM-Cr G Bagnall] Boating Plan of Management

#### NOTICE OF MOTION:

Councillor G Bagnall moves that Council requests the Roads and Maritime Services (RMS) to urgently review the boating plan of management for the Tweed River, due to concerns with ongoing river bank erosion, adverse environmental impacts and the cost of remediation works.

#### CNL-10 [NOM-Cr G Bagnall] Rural Lands Strategy

#### NOTICE OF MOTION:

Councillor G Bagnall moves that Council re-advertises the Rural Lands Strategy with a better balance of locations for consulting with the community, taking into account the highly valuable farming community on state significant lands in the Cudgen area, the coastal farming community and the farming community west of Tweed.

#### CNL-11 [NOM-Cr G Bagnall] Murwillumbah Business District

#### NOTICE OF MOTION:

Councillor G Bagnall moves that the Murwillumbah Town Centre DCP B22 which was adopted by Tweed Shire Council on 13 May 2008 be reviewed, with the view of staging a works program to upgrade the town centre and this be considered in future budgets.

#### CNL-12 [NOM-Cr G Bagnall] Renewable Energy

#### **NOTICE OF MOTION:**

Councillor G Bagnall moves that Council adopts the aspirational goal of becoming the first local government body in Australia to become self sufficient in renewable energy.

#### CNL-13 [NOM-Cr B Longland] Walking Trails Within the Tweed Shire

#### NOTICE OF MOTION:

Councillor B Longland moves that Council provides \$5,000 towards the cost of completing a study and report on opportunities for the expansion of walking trails in the Tweed Shire, with the project to be managed by Destination Tweed.

With the current closure of a number of the Tweed's walking trails, including the Mount Warning Track, and the impact this is having on local business, it is timely to review the region's ability and capacity to position itself as a centre for soft adventure tourism. A study on the trails; what we have, what we can do and what needs to be done, will greatly assist in our understanding of our current position and inventory, as well as providing the rationale and supporting documentation for grant funding applications. The cost of a study and report is estimated by Destination Tweed (DT) to be \$30,000, with funding of \$15,000 from Destination Tweed and \$10,000 from the Caldera Institute.

This project will support the development of longer term product diversity which will both provide the region with a point of difference and assist in developing economic opportunities for local business.

#### CNL-14 [NOM-Cr K Milne] Proposed Chinderah Pontoon - Size

#### NOTICE OF MOTION:

Councillor K Milne moves that Council brings forward a report on the most appropriate size recommended by staff for the proposed Chinderah Pontoon.

#### CNL-15 [NOM-Cr K Milne] Signposting Seagrass Beds

#### NOTICE OF MOTION:

Councillor K Milne moves that Council requests the Roads and Maritime Service to signpost all significant seagrass beds in the Shire and implement an education program and on the spot penalties for entering these areas.

#### CNL-16 [NOM-Cr K Milne] Lot 490

#### NOTICE OF MOTION:

Councillor K Milne moves that:

- 1. A workshop be held with regard to the future use of Lot 490 with members of the community invited to take part.
- 2. Council writes to the NSW Minister to request:
  - a) A meeting with the Minister to discuss the future use of Lot 490;
  - b) Consideration of the development of Lot 490 not proceeds due to significant community opposition and concerns for the cumulative impacts on the coastal environment now that the developer has withdrawn from the arrangement, or, in the alternative;
  - c) An independent review of the financial costs and benefits and environmental impacts be undertaken and a revised comprehensive consultation be carried out to determine the community's preferred options for the site.

# CNL-17 [NOM-Cr M Armstrong] Assistance Animals Including Guide Dogs and Hearing Dogs

#### NOTICE OF MOTION:

Councillor M Armstrong moves that Council:

- 1. As a matter of priority investigates the feasibility of providing off leash space for assistance animals including guide dogs and hearing dogs within the upgrades to Arkinstall Park; and
- 2. Brings forth a report to outline ways in which greater provision can be made for off leash space for assistance animals including guide dogs and hearing dogs both within existing infrastructure and within future large scale residential developments.

#### CNL-18 [NOM-Cr M Armstrong] Policy - Hire Fees

#### NOTICE OF MOTION:

Councillor M Armstrong moves that Council develops a policy to provide support to Resident, Progress and Ratepayer organisations by:

- 1. Upon application providing a reduction in hire fees for Council properties in the amount of 50% of the community rate;
- 2. The period of reduction continues for a period of 12 months; and
- 3. The maximum number of hires to which the discounted hire fee applies during any 12 months period be fourteen.

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#### **QUESTIONS ON NOTICE**

#### CNL-19 [QoN - Cr K Milne] Proposed Chinderah Pontoon Debris Extent

#### **QUESTION ON NOTICE:**

Councillor K Milne asked what is the maximum extent of debris that Council considers could potentially accumulate on the proposed Chinderah pontoon during floods and what is the extent of debris that has been identified in the current plans?

\_\_\_\_\_

# CNL-20 [QoN-Cr K Milne] Proposed Chinderah Pontoon - Legal Liability and Insurance Risk

#### **QUESTION ON NOTICE:**

Councillor K Milne asked does Council have any legal liability and would Council be insured in regard to the potential of the proposed Chinderah pontoon dislodging in a flood and causing damage, particularly in regard to if the debris accumulation was underestimated in Council's approval?

#### CNL-21 [QoN - Cr K Milne] Proposed Chinderah Pontoon Facilities

#### **QUESTION ON NOTICE:**

Councillor K Milne asked how many boats would a 10m, 20m, 30m or 40m pontoon provide for in regard to the proposed Chinderah pontoon and what proportion of the proposed 40m pontoon will be reserved for non boating activities such as fishing?

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#### **RECEIPT OF PETITIONS**

CNL-22 [ROP] Receipt of Petitions

SUBMITTED BY: Corporate Governance



#### SUMMARY OF REPORT:

Under Section 1.5.4 Receipt of Petitions in the Code of Meeting Practice Version 2.3, *Petitions received by Councillors or forwarded to the (Acting) General Manager will be tabled as per the Order of Business, Item 11, Receipt of Petitions.* 

Unless Council determines to consider it in conjunction with a report already listed on the agenda, no motion (other than a motion to receive the same) may be made on any petition until the next Ordinary Meeting after that at which it has been presented.

#### **RECOMMENDATION:**

That the following tabled Petition(s) be received and noted:

#### **REPORT:**

As per Summary.

#### **OPTIONS:**

That in accordance with Section 1.5.4 of the Code of Meeting Practice Version 2.3:

- 1. The tabled Petition(s) be considered in conjunction with an Item on the Agenda.
- 2. The tabled Petition(s) be received and noted.

#### CONCLUSION:

Any Petition tabled should be considered under Section 1.5.4 of the Code of Meeting Practice Version 2.3.

#### COUNCIL IMPLICATIONS:

#### a. Policy:

Code of Meeting Practice Version 2.3.

#### b. Budget/Long Term Financial Plan:

Not applicable.

#### c. Legal:

Not Applicable.

#### d. Communication/Engagement:

Consult-We will listen to you, consider your ideas and concerns and keep you informed.

#### LINKAGE TO INTEGRATED PLANNING AND REPORTING FRAMEWORK:

- 1 Civic Leadership
- 1.2 Improve decision making by engaging stakeholders and taking into account community input
- 1.2.2 Decisions made relating to the allocation of priorities will be in the long-term interests of the community
- 1.2.2.1 Priority decision making
- 1.2.2.1.1 Council decisions will be in accordance with the Community Strategic Plan

#### UNDER SEPARATE COVER/FURTHER INFORMATION:

Nil.

#### REPORTS THROUGH THE ACTING GENERAL MANAGER

#### **REPORTS FROM THE ACTING GENERAL MANAGER**

CNL-23 [GM-CM] Independent Local Government Review Panel - Future Directions for NSW Local Government - Twenty Essential Steps - April 2013 -Submission

#### SUBMITTED BY: Acting General Manager



#### SUMMARY OF REPORT:

The release of the Independent Local Government Review Panel document - *Future Directions for NSW Local Government - Twenty Essential Steps* - April 2013 provides a series of draft local government reform proposals for consultation.

The attached response documents Tweed Shire Council's position, suggestions and questions, where applicable, in relation to the draft proposals. It is not intended to cover all the proposals in their entirety, but rather focus on specific proposals that have the greatest impact on:

a) the Tweed Shire and its communities and

b) the system of local government in NSW.

#### **RECOMMENDATION:**

That Council submits this report and attachment titled 'Tweed Shire Council response to the Future Directions for NSW Local Government - Twenty Essential Steps - April 2013' to the Independent Local Government Review Panel.

#### **REPORT:**

The release of the Independent Local Government Review Panel document - *Future Directions for NSW Local Government - Twenty Essential Steps* - April 2013 provides a series of draft local government reform proposals for consultation.

The attached response documents Tweed Shire Council's position, suggestions and questions, where applicable, in relation to the draft proposals. It is not intended to cover all the proposals in their entirety, but rather focus on specific proposals that have the greatest impact on:

a) the Tweed Shire and its communities and

b) the system of local government in NSW.

The Executive Summary from the response document is reproduced below.

#### **Executive Summary**

The discussion paper *Future Directions for NSW Local Government - Twenty Essential steps* proposes a broad range of reforms to the culture, structure and operation of local government in NSW.

Few would dispute that change is necessary to prepare local government for current and future challenges in providing better services, infrastructure and representation for the communities it serves.

Many of the proposals within the paper outline positive steps towards better local government which would be likely to benefit the Tweed and NSW if legislated at a later stage. These include: proposals to improve the rating system; the development of a set of sustainability benchmarks; the suggestion of a strategic projects fund for roads and bridges to help address the infrastructure backlog; a new focus on financial responsibility; a new governance and service delivery system for western NSW; professional development and higher remuneration for councillors; and improved political leadership.

However, a number of the ideas put forward would be likely to have a detrimental impact on governance, service provision and strategic direction of local government in the Tweed.

The discussion paper acknowledges that it is not taking a 'one size fits all' approach and further consultation will be held with affected councils and communities across the state in coming months to address local concerns. While this is reassuring, Tweed Shire Council needs to determine its position and concerns through a submission to the review panel before the plans are finalised and provided to the Government in the Panel's September report.

Of primary concern is the proposal that Tweed Shire Council become a member council in a multi-purpose council - to be known as the Northern Rivers County Council - along with Byron, Ballina, Kyogle, Richmond Valley and Lismore councils. Lismore would be the major regional centre and the home of the County Council, with the Mayor and General Manager of Lismore City Council taking up the roles of Chair and General Manager of the County Council, respectively.

This model would weaken Tweed Shire Council as a general purpose council, largely due to the proposed loss of strategic capacity and movement of a diverse range of functions to the county council. Depending on the type and number of functions transferred to the centralised county council, Tweed Shire Council may suffer to the extent of not being sustainable into the future, with local government services for its current 90,000 residents eventually provided for by the county council in Lismore.

While there are obvious issues with the physical distance of Lismore from the Tweed and the potential loss of local service provision and decision-making, there are also concerns in regards to representation and equity around the management of the regional county council. The residents of the Tweed - representing approximately 40 per cent of the proposed population base of the county council - would have no say in the election of the Chair, who would be popularly elected by the residents of Lismore alone.

There are a number of factors which make a compelling case for Tweed Shire Council to stand alone as either a general purpose council as it exists today, or if the county council model prevails, as a county council in its own right (perhaps Tweed Valley County Council). In fact, the Tweed local government area satisfies all the criteria in the discussion paper's own factors used to define County Councils (Box 10, page 34) as well as the key attributes of a regional centre (Box 11, page 35) [both Box 10 and 11 are represented in Section 13 below]. The Tweed has a strong community of interest and socio-economic links with southeast Queensland, a viable water catchment (wholly contained within the Shire boundaries) and sound service delivery model, an existing strategic capacity to anchor a county council, and a manageable geographic area on a suitable scale for strategic planning.

Other factors which support the case for a stand-alone council are the Tweed's large and growing population base, easy access to major transport routes, sound financial position and in 2011, recognition through the AR Bluett Award that the Tweed was the best performing regional council, across a broad range of indicators, in the State; and cross border challenges that are unique to the Shire.

Lastly, three councils on the metropolitan fringe of Sydney (Wollondilly, Blue Mountains and Hawkesbury) are proposed to remain to play specialist roles in managing the important areas under their control, such as growing urban areas, water catchments and natural areas. Like these councils, the Tweed plays an important role in acting as a buffer to the growth of the Gold Coast and south-east Queensland, as well as managing areas of high conservation value and National Parks and as such should be accorded similar status and allowed to stand alone.

If Tweed were to be afforded its own status it would not prevent resource sharing and collaboration with neighbouring councils on both sides of the border or with a county council in the greater Richmond Valley based in Lismore.

#### Tweed as a Regional Centre

Lismore has traditionally been the rural service centre for the Northern Rivers although over the past 40 years the Tweed has increased in size and influence to be a major regional centre in its own right. This growth is projected to continue at least over the next 25 years and it would be imprudent to consider that an increase to a population of over 130,000 would not place increasing pressure on the NSW State government to increase and/or relocate services to the Tweed. This situation is unique in the State and cannot be ignored by the Independent Local Government Review Panel. By establishing Lismore as a centre for a County Council with a majority of the region's population stacked away from the identified centre will lead to major political and administrative issues into the future. It is not effective to provide community services by outreach distances from over 80 to 110 kilometres from a regional centre not located on a major transport hub.

There is a strong case for the Tweed to be differentiated as a separate / independent multipurpose county council or general purpose council in its own right, despite the recommendations made in the Report as well as establishing a divergence from the set of core functions identified on p34.

Specifically these are:

#### 1. Tweed Valley - One Catchment

The Tweed local government area represents a single entire catchment represented by the Tweed River. This represents a significant advantage by encapsulating services that need to be delivered on a catchment basis. These include:

- Water Supply
- Sewerage Reticulation
- Catchment / River Management
- Flood mitigation

#### 2. Influence of Gold Coast / South East Queensland

#### "Cross-border issues

The importance of these linkages must be recognised and increasingly arrangements for local and regional governance will need to facilitate cross-border collaboration. The Panel will further explore these issues."

Using the ABS 'Urban centre' classification, Tweed Heads is identified as part of the Gold Coast-Tweed Heads conurbation which has 533,659 people. This is not dissimilar to the metropolitan fringe of Sydney where the councils of Hawkesbury, Wollondilly and Blue Mountains have largely remained intact.

The Tweed's immediate proximity to the NSW / Qld border can play a significant role in influencing decisions made by Tweed Shire Council (TSC) in relation to:

- Economic development
- Land use planning
- Infrastructure planning
- Public transport
- Libraries
- Other community and cultural services
- Licensing

The Department of Planning and Infrastructure (DP&I) identify the Tweed Shire as one of only six local government areas in NSW that have a net in-migration. This is against a tide of out-migration out of NSW. The latest census figures indicate that the majority of in-migration to the Tweed comes from Gold Coast local government area (LGA). This is not surprising considering the population size of the Gold Coast and its immediate proximity to the Tweed.

Strategic land use planning in the Tweed carried out both by the DP&I and Tweed Shire Council have zoned several large green field sites for future urban expansion. One of these proposed developments is Cobaki which proposes 5,500 dwellings. This development is located immediately on the NSW / Qld border. This future subdivision has its main road access coming directly from Tugun in Queensland. The size and pace of the proposed population growth can only be managed at a more localised level. Council's assessment of these large scale developments and negotiations with the developers as well as cross border collaboration of these development projects are handled with particular expertise. These skills and level of understanding are unique to the Tweed.

### 3. Continuing strong population growth

Between 2006 and 2011 the Tweed's population increased by an additional 5,783 residents. This represents 70% of all growth within the Northern Rivers region. In 2011 Tweed Shire's population was 85,106, placing it seventh in size in NSW (excluding the Sydney Metro Area).

Tweed Heads alone is large enough, with 55,551 persons, to be represented as a city in its own right with a larger population than Lismore and other major Regional Centres identified in the Report.

Tweed Heads is the first NSW regional centre to exceed a population of 50,000. This ranks it the 6th largest urban centre in NSW and the largest regional centre outside the metropolitan Sydney environs. For comparison, the other NSW Urban Centre places in population order are:

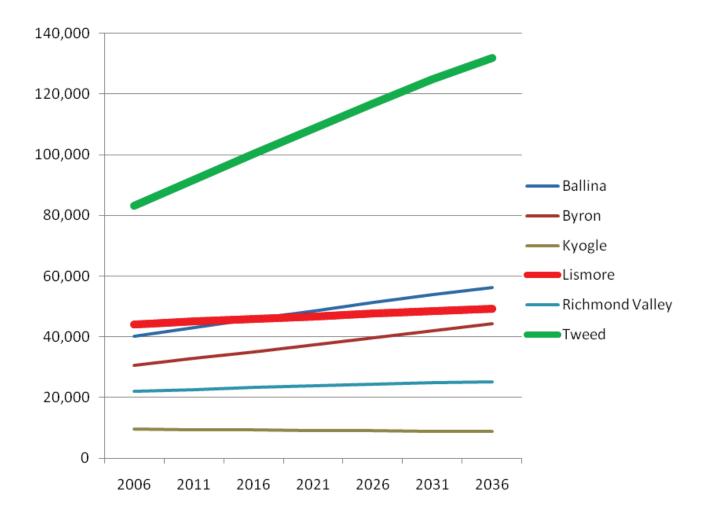
- Wagga Wagga 46,913
- Coffs Harbour 45,580
- Port Macquarie 41,493
- Tamworth 36,132
- Orange 34,991
- Dubbo 32,326
- Bathurst 31,292
- Blue Mountains 28,770
- Nowra- Bomaderry 27,987
- Lismore 27,475

ABS 2011 Census, Urban Centre Classification

The DP&I population forecast represented below, identifies Tweed as containing 37% of the region's population. This is expected to increase to 42% by 2036 where the Tweed will have a total population of over 130,000 people. Lismore on the other hand currently accounts for 18% of the region's population, with a projected decline in its significance to 15% by 2036.

#### Council Meeting Date: Thursday 16 May 2013

						n	
	2006	2011	2016	2021	2026	2031	2036
Ballina	40,300	43,000	45,800	48,500	51,300	53,800	56,200
Byron	30,700	32,900	35,100	37,400	39,800	42,100	44,300
Kyogle	9,700	9,500	9,400	9,200	9,100	8,900	8,800
Lismore	44,200	45,000	45,900	46,700	47,700	48,500	49,200
Richmond Valley	22,100	22,700	23,300	23,900	24,400	24,900	25,200
Tweed	83,100	91,800	100,300	108,700	116,900	124,800	132,000
TOTAL	230,100	244,900	259,800	274,400	289,200	303,000	315,700
TWEED % of North							
Coast Region	36.1%	37.5%	38.6%	39.6%	40.4%	41.2%	41.8%
LISMORE % of North							
Coast Region	19.2%	18.4%	17.7%	17.0%	16.5%	16.0%	15.6%



### 4. Communities of Interest

The background research report "Spatial Analysis of NSW Regional Centres and Selected Regions" (Spiller Gibbon Swan, 2013) does not undertake any comparison or analysis of the Northern Rivers region and therefore cannot be used to support the justification of establishing Lismore as a Regional Centre of a County Council.

Another background report "New South Wales Local Government Areas: Similarities and Differences" (National Institute for Economic and Industry Research, 2013) was prepared to identify the logical communities of interest within the State. In review of this report, most of the County Council areas are identified with very similar demographic characteristics and therefore providing a supporting argument for the County Council model. However the Northern Rivers, and in particular the Tweed in comparison to Lismore and the rest of the Region, has very disparate characteristics. In relation to the characteristics identified in the sub-report the Tweed is represented as being different to Lismore and/or the Northern Rivers in the following areas:

- Population growth
- Age structure
- Household structure
- Religion
- Knowledge economy
- Rate base
- Wealth
- Transport
- Commuters

For one LGA's characteristics to stand out so dramatically is uncharacteristic. As the Tweed demographic profile is so uncharacteristic of its region and the fact that it represents such a large proportion of the region, surpassing the population of the traditional rural service centre (Lismore), gives good argument for the Tweed to be considered as a Regional Centre in a distinct or separate county council to that of the Northern Rivers - perhaps two county councils represented by the greater Richmond Valley and Tweed Valley.

### 5. Housing Supply and Affordability

The NSW Government's Far North Coast Regional Strategy 2006 states the Tweed will increase its number of dwellings by 19,100 by 2031.

The zoned green field residential growth areas in the Tweed have capacity to accommodate 24,000 new dwellings. In addition, the redevelopment capacity of central Tweed Heads is estimated to accommodate an additional 3,500 dwellings as a result of increased densities under current planning controls.

Gross Regio	Gross Regional Product (GRP)1		Local jobs1		Unemployment2	Businesses3		Building approvals5	
LGA	\$m	% Region	No.	% Region	Rate	No.	% Region	,000\$	% Region
Ballina	1,527	18.2%	16,532	17.5%	4.36%	4,197	19.2%	72,828	20.1%
Byron	1,300	15.5%	14,071	14.9%	8.22%	3,866	17.7%	76,295	21.1%
Kyogle	257	3.1%	3,216	3.4%	6.80%	1,089	5.0%	10,745	3.0%
Lismore	1,851	22.1%	22,238	23.5%	5.62%	4,221	19.3%	54,656	15.1%
Richmond Valley	658	7.8%	7,834	8.3%	6.22%	1,591	7.3%	14,166	3.9%
Tweed	2,792	33.3%	30,551	32.3%	5.75%	6,880	31.5%	133,362	36.8%
Northern Rivers Region	8,385	100.0%	94,442	100.0%		21,844	100.0%	362,052	100.0%

The National Economic Indicators Series is a set of key economic measures for every Local Government Area (LGA) in Australia. The series is drawn from National Economics (NIEIR) modelling and other relevant data sources and is updated annually.

The indicators provide a snapshot of each local economy at a point in time, showing how it contributes to the broader State economy and how it is performing in relation to other areas

http://economic-indicators.id.com.au/

<u>1National Institute of Economic and Industry Research (NIEIR)©, 2011/12.</u> <u>2Department of Education, Employment and Workplace Relations (DEEWR), Small Area Labour Markets, Q4</u> <u>2011 and Q4 2012.</u>

3Australian Bureau of Statistics, Counts of Australian Businesses Jun 2007 to Jun 2009.

4Australian Bureau of Statistics, Regional Population Growth, Australia, 2011.

5Australian Bureau of Statistics, Building Approvals, 2011/12.

# 6. Other contentions

### **Commercial Retail**

Tweed Heads is the shopping centre of choice for the eastern half of the Shire (some 65,000 people), the southern suburbs of the Gold Coast (it is closer than Robina or Pacific Fair), and the north of Byron Shire.

Tweed Heads and South Tweed both have sub-regional shopping malls (Tweed Centro and Tweed City shopping centres). A smaller shopping mall is located at Murwillumbah, and supermarkets are located at Murwillumbah (2), Banora Point (2), Kingscliff, Bogangar and Pottsville.

### **Commercial Finance**

Tweed Heads, Murwillumbah and Kingscliff have a range of banks serving the community and business. Credit Unions have offices in each of these centres, together with many financial advisors and accountants. Murwillumbah also comprises all major banks, credit unions, legal offices, accountants, professional services, real estate and property services.

### **Education Primary**

Tweed has 35 primary schools, 9 pre-schools, and 22 child care centres.

### Education Secondary

Tweed has 10 secondary schools totalling 6,013 enrolments in 2012, and comprising (5) State High Schools, (1) independent, (2) catholic and (2) other denominational schools.

### **Education Tertiary**

Tweed has two campuses of Southern Cross University, one in Tweed Heads and one shared with the Gold Coast near Coolangatta Airport. 1,970 students attended university in 2011.

There are also two North Coast TAFE campuses at Kingscliff and Murwillumbah (1,872 students in 2011).

#### Health - General Practioners (GP)

A total of 85 GPs and 6 GP Registrars are members of the Tweed Valley Division of GPs, which serves the Shire and Coolangatta.

#### Health - Hospitals

Tweed District Hospital serves Tweed Shire, the southern Gold Coast and parts of Byron Shire, with the Emergency and Cancer treatment facilities being recently expanded. Total annual hospital separations are greater than any other regional hospital.

Murwillumbah Hospital specialises in rehabilitation and peri-natal services for the Shire.

John Flynn Private Hospital nearby in the Gold Coast provides private specialist services to many Tweed residents.

Two large private day surgeries are established in Tweed Heads; a Health One GP, dental and allied health services facility (745m2 floorspace) has just been opened at Pottsville, and a new GP Super Clinic is under construction in South Tweed.

A significant number of aged care facilities and independent living villages have recently been developed close to the hospitals in Tweed Heads and on the Tweed Coast.

#### **Employment Placement**

Leading employment agencies such as Nortec and Tursa are established in the main centres including South Tweed and Murwillumbah. On Q have offices in Murwillumbah.

### Public Administration

Commonwealth and State Government services have more offices and serve more residents in Tweed than in other Northern Rivers LGA. These include:

- Department of School Education North Coast Regional Office in Murwillumbah;
- Human Services, Centrelink offices in both South Tweed and Murwillumbah, with outreach to Pottsville;
- Federal Electorate Veterans Affairs office in Tweed Heads;

- Health Centres at two hospitals and in four towns;
- Family and Community Services, Housing and Fair Trading at Tweed Heads; Medicare at South Tweed;
- Attorney General's Dept. Juvenile Justice at South Tweed, and Law Courts at Tweed Heads and Murwillumbah;
- Tweed/Byron Police Local Area Command at Tweed Heads, with police stations in Murwillumbah and Kingscliff;
- Firearms Registry in Murwillumbah;
- Office of Racing and Gaming are based in Tweed Heads;
- On Track Community Services are based in Tweed Heads;
- The Family Centre in South Tweed, with YMCA in Murwillumbah.

### Air Transport

Tweed is serviced by Coolangatta Airport, located partly in Tweed Heads, for interstate and international flights making it NSW's second International airport. Murwillumbah Airfield services light and recreational aircraft.

Coolangatta has in excess of 50 flights daily to all mainland capital cities, major regional cities and international destinations of New Zealand, Japan, China, Thailand, Singapore, Malaysia and Indonesia.

It is used by more than four million passengers annually, including many overseas tourists to the Northern Rivers. Murwillumbah Airfield provides crop dusting, training, private leisure and business flights.

### **Commuter Flows**

Tweed is accessed from the Pacific Freeway linking to Sydney and Brisbane, or over shorter distances to Byron, Ballina, and the Gold Coast. Some 5,000 Tweed residents work in the Gold Coast; and 3,000 Gold Coast residents work in Tweed. East-west routes give access from Nimbin/Lismore/Casino and Kyogle.

A recent travel survey of Northern Rivers major employers found that more than half of respondents commuted more than 21kms, indicating that car commuters often work in one LGA and live in another, such as commuting to Murwillumbah from the Gold Coast or from Ocean Shores to Tweed.

### Community

With the onset of population ageing and the migration of thousands of older people to the Shire, Council participated with Ageing and Disability NSW and Southern Cross University to produce Age Friendly Tweed, a prescription to manage this community issue.

The Council's Tweed River Regional Art Gallery is one of the leading regional art galleries in Australia, and is to be the home of the Margaret Olley Centre in a \$4m extension.

Council is also planning to develop its three local museums, with a multi-million-dollar expansion of the Tweed Regional Museum in Murwillumbah in progress.

The Murwillumbah and Tweed Heads Theatre Companies are two of the many active cultural organisations in the Shire. Council is upgrading its two auditoriums to support the local performing arts.

The \$9m Jack Evans Boat Harbour Project just completed, has restored a central park on the bay at Tweed Heads for tourist amenity and community event use and is also a Gateway to NSW.

Council has just placed on exhibition its first Draft Youth Development Strategy after an in depth consultation.

### Growth and Economic Development

In 2009 Council adopted an Urban and Employment Lands Strategy to identify appropriate residential and commercial/industrial locations and infrastructure requirements to enable continuation of the Shire's large scale growth.

In the last decade it has experienced major coastal and urban residential developments, and dealt with the issues of integrating growth with the preservation of one of Australia's most valued natural environments (often referred to as the Green Cauldron).

Wollumbin - Mount Warning, was recently listed as one of Australia's new tourism icons - an honour bestowed upon only a handful of destinations throughout the nation.

#### Environment

With 37 kms of natural coastline, wetlands and estuarine forests, lush pastoral and farm land, the entire basin of the Tweed River, and mountainous regions containing three world-heritage listed national parks, Tweed boasts a unique and diverse environment.

#### Governance

Tweed participates with the other Northern Rivers councils in the Richmond Tweed Regional Library, which administers 13 branch libraries in four regional LGAs, three of them in Tweed.

### **OPTIONS:**

- 1. Submit this report and the attached Tweed Shire Council response to the Future Directions for NSW Local Government - Twenty Essential Steps - April 2013 to the Independent Local Government Review Panel.
- 2. Amend the Tweed Shire Council response to the Future Directions for NSW Local Government Twenty Essential Steps April 2013 and submit to the Independent Local Government Review Panel.
- 3. Defer the Tweed Shire Council response to the Future Directions for NSW Local Government Twenty Essential Steps April 2013 to the June 2013 Council meeting to allow further debate on the response.

### CONCLUSION:

Council agrees that reform within the Local Government Sector is needed to supply a more sustainable approach to the infrastructure and services provided and agreed with respective NSW communities.

However, Council does not agree with certain draft proposals put forward and specifically several issues directly affecting Tweed Shire.

It is imperative for Council to adopt a position that will place the community of the Shire in the best possible position both now and into the future.

### COUNCIL IMPLICATIONS:

### a. Policy:

Not applicable

b. Budget/Long Term Finance Plan:

Not applicable

### c. Legal:

Not applicable

### d. Communication/Engagement:

**Consult**-We will listen to you, consider your ideas and concerns and keep you informed.

# LINKAGE TO INTEGRATED PLANNING AND REPORTING FRAMEWORK:

- 1 Civic Leadership
- 1.3 Delivering the objectives of this plan.
- 1.3.1 Council's organisation will be resourced to provide the essential services and support functions to deliver the objectives of this Plan.
- 1.3.2 Council will seek the best value in delivering services.
- 1.3.3 Existing and future community assets will be properly managed and maintained based on principles of equity and sustainability.
- 1.4 Strengthen coordination among Commonwealth and State Governments, their agencies and other service providers and Statutory Authorities to avoid duplication, synchronise service delivery and seek economies of scale.
- 1.4.1 Council will perform its functions as required by law and form effective partnerships with State and Commonwealth governments and their agencies to advance the welfare of the Tweed community.

# UNDER SEPARATE COVER:

Attach 1 Tweed Shire Council response to the Future Directions for NSW Local Government - Twenty Essential Steps - April 2013 (to be distributed prior to Council meeting).

# CNL-24 [GM-CM] Draft Business Investment Policy

### SUBMITTED BY: Acting General Manager



### **SUMMARY OF REPORT:**

The Draft Business Investment Policy seeks to provide investment incentives for new, relocating, or expanding businesses within the Tweed Shire.

This Policy, coupled with the investments/activities already undertaken, will result in Tweed Shire Council taking proactive measures in accordance with the adopted Community Strategic Plan, Strengthening the Economy theme with a longer-term view of increasing economic activity and hence local jobs creation.

### **RECOMMENDATION:**

That Council:

- 1. Places the Draft Business Investment Policy, Version 1.0 on public exhibition and seek public submissions for 14 days.
- 2. Forwards for information, the Draft Business Investment Policy to Urban Enterprise (currently working with Council, Destination Tweed and the business community) whom are assisting in the formulation of an Economic Development Strategy and that copies also be provided to each Business Chamber for comment.
- 3. Notes the economic development initiatives undertaken by Council to date.

### **REPORT:**

### BACKGROUND:

Global economic downturn and instability stemming from the 2007-2008 global financial crisis has had far reaching implications. With the downturn in economic activity and weaker stock markets most sectors of the business economy have been affected in some way, particularly at a time when consumer spending has shown a steady decline in response to uncertainty in domestic as well as international trade markets.

The net effects are widespread and Tweed Shire is not immune from these global phenomena. As with many Australian States and Territories there has been a significant decline in both the housing construction industry and in general business investment which has impacted on both jobs retention and new employment opportunities.

### POLICY:

The Draft Business Investment Policy (attached) provides investment incentives for new, relocating, or expanding businesses within the Tweed Shire.

The Policy defines:

- Investment attraction and its relevance to Council's Community Strategic Plan and Delivery Program.
- The circumstances in which investment attraction activities will be provided.
- The scope for investment attraction activities and the range of incentives that can be considered.
- The consultation, assessment (including the risk/security for Council), approval, reporting and monitoring arrangements to apply, to ensure the Policy administration occurs in a transparent and accountable manner.

In summary, the Draft Business Investment Policy provides two forms of incentives:

1. Discretionary

Assistance from Council will comprise a non-cash incentive package which allows for payment by instalments of developer contributions for water supply and/or sewer services infrastructure, pursuant to section 64 of the *Local Government Act* 1993 (Infrastructure Charge).

#### 2. Non-discretionary

- Concessions and staged payment offered in relation to the contributions required under section 94 of the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979, Developer Contributions Plan 4 - (there are exemptions to this assistance within the policy document); and
- 2. New development applications for building works, where there is a requirement for payment of Section 64 and Section 94 contributions, consent conditions for such payments will designate payment to be made prior to issue of Occupation Certificate as opposed to the earlier Construction Certificate stage.

The adoption of this Policy will result in Tweed Shire Council taking proactive measures in accordance with the adopted Community Strategic Plan, Strengthening the Economy theme with a longer-term view of increasing economic activity and hence local jobs creation.

It is proposed that Council place the Draft Business Investment Policy on public exhibition and seek public submission for 14 days. The Draft Business Investment Policy and any public submissions will be reported back to the June Council meeting for consideration.

### ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT INITIATIVES TO DATE:

Whilst the proposed Draft Business Investment Policy will add an incentive mechanism for business, it should be noted that Tweed Shire Council resources and undertakes many activities of an economic development nature that has positive flow on effects to the Tweed Shire economy. Some of these are outlined below.

<u>Direct investment/activities</u> Purchase of goods and material within the Tweed Shire area 2011/12	\$25,349,646
Saleyards - 2012/13 Budget Airfield - 2012/13 Budget Business & Economic Management - 2012/13 Budget	\$61,181 \$146,411 \$1,139,135
Total	\$26,696,373
Economic Development Coordinator	A new position that assists businesses with development enquiries, liaises with business community, and facilitates information for business with State and Federal government agencies.
Tweed Business Forum	Half day forum event for small and medium businesses to engage with Local, State and Federal government agencies to investigate funding and support options. Provide opportunity to network with other Tweed businesses
Sustain Tweed – Economic Development Strategy	Council has resolved to prepare an Economic Development Strategy for the Tweed. This Strategy is currently being prepared but will focus on stimulating, attracting and maintaining business activity and employment within the Tweed.
Tourism Promotion (Destination Tweed Contracted Service)	Undertake market research into tourism product, development tourism strategy and marketing plan for the Tweed. Undertake promotion of agreed tourism products. Maintain tourism website for the Tweed. Pursue links with tourism providers and peak tourism industry bodies.

Operate Visitor Information Centres (Destination Tweed Contracted Service)	Provide visitor information services at Murwillumbah and Tweed Heads. Satisfy the requirements of the Visitor Information Centre (VIC) accreditation. Provide an on-line booking system for accommodation bookings. Promote local tourism services through the Visitor Information Centres. Produce a visitor information guide.
Marketing and Promotion of Tweed for Business Investment (Destination Tweed Contracted Service)	Prepare a marketing and promotion strategy to attract businesses to the Tweed. Promote the Tweed for new businesses and ventures. Provide assistance to expanding businesses in the Tweed.
Economic Development – Internal Program	Run Business Breakfasts, Sponsor Major Events. Promote and seek grant funding for key infrastructure with employment / economic development implications. Liaison with Business Chambers. Business liaison. State / Federal Government business and economic development liaison. Cross border liaison with Gold Coast City Council / Qld Government / Gold Coast Businesses. Support cross border parity for business. Own and operate Murwillumbah Airfield. Own and lease Murwillumbah Cattle Sale Yards. Operate Tweed Heads, Murwillumbah, and Kingscliff Main Street CCTV systems. Promotion and lobbying for improved telecommunications infrastructure in the Tweed. Including NBN Co., Mobile providers and internet service providers.

#### Indirect investment/activities

Developer Contribution incentives and Concessions and staged payment offered in relation to the contributions required under section 94 of the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act* 1979, Developer Contributions Plan 4. New development applications for building works, where there is a requirement for payment of Section 64 and Section 94 contributions, consent conditions for such payments will designate payment to be made prior to issue of Occupation Certificate as opposed to the earlier Construction Certificate stage.

Improved web site services.	Improved web site services for property owners, developers and the general public, such as clearer information, guides, checklists on development and building assessment processes, enhanced mapping, DA Tracker and property enquiry functions.
New blink mobile services.	Mobile access to Council's DA Tracker service, and a building inspection booking function.
E Planning initiatives.	Including a free service for the Pre lodgement checking of electronic documents, participation in the NSW State Government's Electronic Housing Code project, and a reduction in the quantity of hard copies required for DA lodgements, which reduces time and costs for applicants.
Planning proposals	Determine and/or support planning proposals for: Boyd's Bay Enterprise Centre, Club Banora, Tweed City Centre, Pottsville industrial land
Improve DA efficiency and determination times.	Closer monitoring of application progress, clearing out longstanding applications.
Planning & Regulation Breakfast Forums	Input sought from the community on various process improvements, and providing Council resources to assist the local businesses in electronic plan lodgements.
Establishment of a Contact Centre	Making it easier to do business with Council across a broad range of services - saving businesses time and money when dealing with Council for general enquiries.
Wastes, recyclables, organics collection services	Seven year contract awarded to a local service provider that employs 32 staff directly and another 25 staff indirectly. The contract provided for a \$14M new infrastructure development at Chinderah, being the Materials Recovery Centre. Contracting a landfill and recycling operation to a local service provider. Contracting a quarry operation to a local service provider. Soon to be investing a large public infrastructure project at Eviron Road with a Stage 1 capital value of approximately \$16m. Hosting of the North East Waste that employs 4 FTE local contractors. Subsidised recycling services to the businesses with Tweed. Assisting businesses reduce their operating costs by auditing waste streams and providing solutions.

Water and Sewerage Infrastructure	Provide infrastructure for development: Chinderah Sewerage Treatment Plant Banora Point Sewerage Treatment Plant Bray Park Water Treatment Plant				
Establishment of an Events Strategy 2011-2016					
Support and delivery of major events	CARnival, NSW Surf Champs, Cooly Rocks On, Battle of the Border.				
Attracting and supporting filming in the Tweed	Through Development Assessment and In-kind and Operational Support, specifically:				
	Mental (Australian feature film), CAMP TV Series currently at Crams Farm, UK TV Series I'm a Celebrity Get Me Out of Here and numerous Australian Drama and Television commercial requirements (ie: Sea Patrol, Holden etc)				
Distribution of festivals and event funding	\$80,000				
Footpath Dining Fees	Standardisation of footpath dining fees.				
Survey and design	Supply survey and design details of Council infrastructure to developers so that they can produce integrated designs at their connection points saves proponents of development and business time and money in design costs in being able to utilise data/information already available.				
Leases	Facilitate leases for communications companies on Council owned assets and property that benefit these companies and all their business customers in the Shire.				
Kirkwood Road	Kirkwood Rd Extension to provide better access to the South Tweed commercial/retail area in terms of efficiency and greater capacity.				
Transport Plan	Tweed Shire Public Transport Plan sets out strategy to improve public transport in the Shire including the growth areas which improves access to all commercial/retail areas.				
Marine Parade	Marine Parade One Way to increase parking availability and reduce traffic speed.				
Margaret Olley Art Centre	The addition of the Margaret Olley Art Centre (MOAC) to the Tweed River Art Gallery will cement the facility's reputation as a dynamic, well-resourced facility with superior programming attracting national and international visitors.				

Regional Digital Economy Strategy	Lead Council working with RDA Northern Rivers, SCU, TAFE and local business to develop a Regional Digital Economy Strategy to assist businesses grow through the utilisation of technology and new markets. Digital Northern Rivers <u>http://digitalnorthernrivers.com.au</u> Digital Economy: Organisational Readiness - Free Online Diagnostic Tool <u>http://digitalnorthernrivers.com.au/2012/12/12/digital- economy-diagnostic-now-live/</u> Public Consultations <u>http://digitalnorthernrivers.com.au/consultations</u> Critical Industries Survey <u>http://www.rdanorthernrivers.org.au/page/Content?&amp;s elect=List&amp;rowid=1287</u> NBN Readiness <u>http://www.rdanorthernrivers.org.au/page/Content?&amp;s elect=List&amp;rowid=1259</u> Skills and Workforce Development <u>http://www.rdanorthernrivers.org.au/page/Content?&amp;s elect=List&amp;rowid=1261</u>
Telecommunications Infrastructure Action Plan	Council has worked with key stakeholders to proactively promote and lobby for improved telecommunications within the Shire and of recent times the early rollout of the NBN. Many achievements have been made including the Tweed being included in the early rollout of Fixed Wireless NBN and the recent announcement by the Prime Minister of fibre to the home for 4,000 business and homes in Murwillumbah. http://www.tweed.nsw.gov.au/Telecommunications/de fault.aspx
Industry Capability Network (ICN)	Promotion and listing of tenders with ICN to assist local business connect with government contracts and work. http://gateway.icn.org.au

# **OPTIONS:**

- 1. Place the Draft Business Investment Policy, Version 1.0 on public exhibition and seek public submissions for 14 days.
- 2. Defer the Draft Business Investment Policy for consideration until after the finalisation of the Economic Development Strategy.

### CONCLUSION:

The Business Investment Policy seeks to encourage the development of a robust Tweed economy which is more resilient to fluctuations in the economic cycle, has a broader range of business activities and supports the growth and development of sustainable employment opportunities for Tweed Shire's population.

### **COUNCIL IMPLICATIONS:**

### a. Policy:

New policy for Council determination.

### b. Budget/Long Term Financial Plan:

Lost interest income due to deferral of Section 94 Developer charges and S64 Developer Service Charges.

### c. Legal:

Council has received legal advice in relation to the Draft Business Investment Policy and the requirement to public exhibit.

".....in our opinion, the draft Business Investment Policy is not subject to any statutory requirement under the Local Government Act 1993 or Regulation, to be publicly exhibited. It is not a "local policy" concerning either 'orders' or 'approvals' that would make it subject to the statutory requirements of Chapter 17, Part 3 of the LG Act (ss 158-167). Part 3 of Chapter 17 must be viewed in the context of the entire Chapter 17 which Part 1 deals with approvals (s 68) and Part 2 with orders (s 124). Part 3 deals with adoption and public exhibition etc. of local policies concerning approvals or orders. Part 4 has been repealed and Part 5 deals with 'appeal' rights in relation to approval and orders.

The Business Investment Policy is not a policy directed to either 'approvals' or 'orders'. Therefore, absent any statutory requirement it would be open to the Council to adopt the policy at anytime."

### d. Communication/Engagement:

Consult-We will listen to you, consider your ideas and concerns and keep you informed.

### LINKAGE TO INTEGRATED PLANNING AND REPORTING FRAMEWORK:

- 3 Strengthening the Economy
- 3.1 Expand employment, tourism and education opportunities.
- 3.1.5 Support innovative employment generating projects.
- 3.1.6 Support creative practitioners and entrepreneurs to access professional and business development opportunities, to enhance their contribution to the creative economy.
- 3.1.7 Establish planning controls that support businesses and promote the growth of home-based industries.
- 3.2 Retain prime agricultural land, farm viability, manage rural subdivision and associated landscape impacts.
- 3.4 Provide land and infrastructure to underpin economic development and employment
- 3.4.1 Ensure an adequate supply of industrial and commercial lands to promote employment and business opportunities.
- 3.4.2 Ensure sustainable provision of infrastructure (utilities, services and transport) is available to support economic development
- 3.4.4 Support the creation of a vibrant self-sufficient retail network that fully services the local community.

### UNDER SEPARATE COVER/FURTHER INFORMATION:

Attachment 1. Draft Business Investment Policy v1.0 (ECM 3050564)

# **REPORTS FROM THE DIRECTOR PLANNING AND REGULATION**

# ENVIRONMENTAL PLANNING AND ASSESSMENT ACT 1979 - SECT 79C 79C Evaluation

- (1) Matters for consideration-general In determining a development application, a consent authority is to take into consideration such of the following matters as are of relevance to the development the subject of the development application:
  - (a) the provisions of:
    - (i) any environmental planning instrument, and
    - (ii) any proposed instrument that is or has been the subject of public consultation under this Act and that has been notified to the consent authority (unless the Director-General has notified the consent authority that the making of the proposed instrument has been deferred indefinitely or has not been approved), and
    - (iii) any development control plan, and
    - (iiia) any planning agreement that has been entered into under section 93F, or any draft planning agreement that a developer has offered to enter into under section 93F, and
    - (iv) the regulations (to the extent that they prescribe matters for the purposes of this paragraph), and
    - (v) any coastal zone management plan (within the meaning of the Coastal Protection Act 1979),

that apply to the land to which the development application relates,

- (b) the likely impacts of that development, including environmental impacts on both the natural and built environments, and social and economic impacts in the locality,
- (c) the suitability of the site for the development,
- (d) any submissions made in accordance with this Act or the regulations,
- (e) the public interest.

**Note:** See section 75P (2) (a) for circumstances in which determination of development application to be generally consistent with approved concept plan for a project under Part 3A.

The consent authority is not required to take into consideration the likely impact of the development on biodiversity values if:

- (a) the development is to be carried out on biodiversity certified land (within the meaning of Part 7AA of the Threatened Species Conservation Act 1995), or
- (b) a biobanking statement has been issued in respect of the development under Part 7A of the Threatened Species Conservation Act 1995.

- (2) Compliance with non-discretionary development standards-development other than complying development If an environmental planning instrument or a regulation contains non-discretionary development standards and development, not being complying development, the subject of a development application complies with those standards, the consent authority:
  - (a) is not entitled to take those standards into further consideration in determining the development application, and
  - (b) must not refuse the application on the ground that the development does not comply with those standards, and
  - (c) must not impose a condition of consent that has the same, or substantially the same, effect as those standards but is more onerous than those standards,

and the discretion of the consent authority under this section and section 80 is limited accordingly.

- (3) If an environmental planning instrument or a regulation contains non-discretionary development standards and development the subject of a development application does not comply with those standards:
  - (a) subsection (2) does not apply and the discretion of the consent authority under this section and section 80 is not limited as referred to in that subsection, and
  - (b) a provision of an environmental planning instrument that allows flexibility in the application of a development standard may be applied to the non-discretionary development standard.

**Note:** The application of non-discretionary development standards to complying development is dealt with in section 85A (3) and (4).

- (4) Consent where an accreditation is in force A consent authority must not refuse to grant consent to development on the ground that any building product or system relating to the development does not comply with a requirement of the Building Code of Australia if the building product or system is accredited in respect of that requirement in accordance with the regulations.
- (5) A consent authority and an employee of a consent authority do not incur any liability as a consequence of acting in accordance with subsection (4).
- (6) Definitions In this section:
  - (a) reference to development extends to include a reference to the building, work, use or land proposed to be erected, carried out, undertaken or subdivided, respectively, pursuant to the grant of consent to a development application, and
  - (b) "non-discretionary development standards" means development standards that are identified in an environmental planning instrument or a regulation as non-discretionary development standards.

# CNL-25 [PR-CM] Draft Local Environmental Plan (LEP) 2012

SUBMITTED BY: Planning Reform Unit

FILE REFERENCE: GT1/LEP/2012



### SUMMARY OF REPORT:

This report has been prepared to ensure statutory compliance with Sections 57 and 58 of the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979.* Its purpose is to inform Council of the issues arising from the public exhibition of *Draft Tweed Local Environmental Plan 2012* (DLEP2012) and *Draft Tweed Local Environmental Plan 2010* (DLEP2010) and seek guidance on the most appropriate approach to implementing a comprehensive Local Environmental Plan under the State Government's the Standard Instrument (Local Environmental Plans) Order 2006.

In addition to identifying all major issues raised during the submission periods by the public, Council and other government agencies, this report identifies a number of competing factors which will need to be balanced in order to achieve an acceptable outcome. While there are a large number of minor issues arising from the exhibition process, the main concerns revolve around the following:

1. The extent to which the DLEP(s) implement existing Council and State Government policy on environmental protection. Council's adopted approach to environmental management outlined in the Tweed Vegetation Management Strategy (2004) recommended substantial changes to LEP 2000 to better recognise, protect and manage natural areas consistent with contemporary State Government policy (see Attachment 2). Although there were initial problems implementing Council's recommended approach under the Standard Instrument template, these have been largely overcome, such that it is now possible to produce a draft LEP that reflects the intent of the Council's adopted policy position. However, at this stage, the draft LEPs only partially implement Council's adopted policies on environmental protection and some further work including reexhibition would be necessary to more fully realise Council's adopted policy position.

- 2. The weight of public submissions calling for better environmental outcomes. The analysis of submissions from both draft LEPs identifies environmental protection as a significant concern for the community at large. Particular issues of concern included protection of Koala habitat and native vegetation, riparian areas and wildlife corridors, mining, and control of domestic animals. Many respondents also questioned Council's commitment to implementing its own policies on environmental protection and some questioned the process calling for a public hearing under Section 68 of the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979.*
- 3. Council resolutions seeking to implement its environmental policies through the LEP process. As a result of community concern relating to environmental outcomes of the draft LEP, Council has resolved on two occasions to seek further consideration of environmental issues within the LEP. Firstly, on 24 January 2013 Council resolved to seek consideration of the draft recommendations of the Revised Environmental Strategy which sought to implement the adopted Tweed Vegetation Management Strategy 2004 under the Standard Instrument LEP framework (which itself was prepared in response to an earlier Council resolution of 20 July 2010). Secondly, on 18 April 2013, Council resolved to revise the draft LEP 2012 to include, where possible, bushland within core koala habitat on the Tweed Coast within an appropriate environmental zone.
- 4. Pressure from the State Government to finalise the LEP. Since the Council resolution of 27 January 2009 Council has sought to "roll over" its current LEP 2000 and adopted strategies into a Standard Instrument LEP format. For various reasons this process has proved far from straightforward. Nonetheless the Department of Planning and Infrastructure (DP&I) are now very keen to see Council complete the process.
- 5. Uncertainty regarding the outcomes of the yet to be completed Stateinitiated review of Environmental zones. On 20 September 2012 the Minister for DP&I announced that he had concerns that environmental zonings in some Council areas on the Far North Coast were being applied to agricultural land and that such areas would be excised from draft LEPs prior to their gazettal. Subsequently the DP&I initiated a review of environmental zonings and overlays on the Far North Coast. This review has not yet been completed but is due to be finalised in the third quarter of this year. This review is likely to have a significant bearing on the scope and form of environmental zoning and overlays permissible within an LEP.
- 6. Uncertainty regarding the new planning system for NSW. In April this year, the DP&I released a white paper which foreshadows a new planning system for NSW. Under the new system LEPs will need to be translated into Local Plans. To ensure this process runs smoothly, it is important that the Council preferred approach to zoning and other provisions (including those seeking better environmental outcomes) are in place as soon as possible.
- 7. Community concern about the LEP process. A large number of submissions, particularly those seeking better environmental outcomes, expressed concerns about the process that led to the exhibition of draft LEP 2012 calling for a public hearing under Section 67 of the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act* 1979.

Issues were raised during the public exhibition about the currency of the section 65 Certificate, which is a precondition of exhibition. The current Certificate was issued for the exhibition of draft LEP 2010.

Council staff sought clarification from the DP&I about whether a new certificate was required owing to the extent of subsequent amendments. Advising that a reissue was not necessary staff were referred to the legislative provisions, of s 68(3B), which state: "a council may (but need not) give public notice of and publicly exhibit, wholly or in part, a draft local environmental plan that has been altered pursuant to subsection (3)." "The provisions of this section and sections 66 and 67, with any necessary adaptations, apply to any such exhibition of a draft plan, but not so as to require a further certificate under section 65." This enquiry concluded that a new Certificate was not required.

There is nonetheless a real risk of prolonging the process of translating Council's current LEP and adopted strategies into a Standard Instrument LEP without any real benefit if opportunities for managing the community's concerns are not addressed by ensuring as much consistency with Council's adopted policy at this point. What is proposed in the preferred Option may lead to avoidance of some of those risks in the longer term.

Consideration of the factors above suggest that the options before Council relate primarily to the time required to revise the LEP consistent with Council policy and community aspirations in the context of continued pressure from the State Government to finalise the LEP and uncertainty regarding the current review of Environmental zones. Three options emerged which are summarised as follows:

- 1. Minimal changes to DLEP2012 consistent with a simple translation of LEP2000 without the need for re-exhibition. This would be followed by a separate LEP amendment to address Council's adopted approach to environmental protection (including SEPP 44 Koala Habitat). This latter work will occur in the context of the outcomes of the State Government review of Environmental zones. This option gives the greatest weight to completing an LEP in the Standard Instrument format but least weight to progressing Council's adopted environmental protection policies.
- 2. Partial implementation of Council's adopted approach to environmental protection without the need for re-exhibition. This would involve the following:
  - Inclusion of Environmental Protection zones exhibited under DLEP2010 on the Tweed Coast.
  - Retention of Environmental Protection zones exhibited under DLEP2012 in the rural hinterland (as per LEP2000).
  - Rationalisation of Environmental Protection zones on Council controlled land to reflect existing and planned use.
  - Inclusion of a riparian Clause to reflect Clause 31 of LEP2000.

This initial work will then be refined by a separate LEP amendment consistent with Council's adopted approach to environmental protection (including SEPP 44 Koala Habitat). This latter work will occur in the context of the outcomes of the State Government review of Environmental zones.

This option would recover a large proportion of koala habitat and other significant bushland on the Tweed Coast that had previously been identified for Environmental Protection under DLEP2010 and LEP2000 (Amendment 21) but removed from DLEP2012. It would therefore address many of the community concerns for better environmental outcomes on the Tweed Coast but would leave further refinement of environmental zoning to a later stage. It is suggested that advice from DP&I is sought to confirm that this option would be supported without the need for further public re-exhibition of the draft LEP.

3. Defer changes to DLEP2012 pending further work to address Council's adopted approach to environmental protection (including SEPP 44 Koala Habitat) in the context of the outcomes of the State Government review of Environmental zones. This option gives the greatest weight to systematically progressing Council's adopted environmental protection policies and will allow Council to consider the outcomes of the State Government review of Environmental zones. However, despite the fact that the DP&I initiated the review of environmental zoning on the Far North Coast it is unlikely to satisfy their desire to see a completed Standard Instrument LEP. Notwithstanding this, most of the elements considered necessary to revise the LEP consistent with Council's policy position are well advanced and could be ready for re-exhibition within a month of the release of the environmental zone review which is expected to be completed in the third quarter of this year.

Option 2 is recommended as it is makes substantial progress toward; implementing Council policy, responding to concerns of council and the community, and can be implemented promptly to satisfy the requests of the DP&I to complete a Standard Instrument LEP. It also provides for further refinement once the outcomes of the current State Government review of environmental zones and overlays is complete. All Options are presented and discussed under Section 3.4 of this Report.

### **RECOMMENDATION:**

That draft Tweed Local Environmental Plan 2012 is endorsed subject to the amendments recommended under Part 3 of this Report, <u>including</u> recommendation No 52a to include environmental zones as exhibited under the draft Tweed Local Environmental Plan 2010, recommendation No 29 to include riparian clause, and including rationalisation of environmental protection zones on Council controlled land and:

- (1) Council seeks advice from the Department of Planning and Infrastructure that the abovementioned changes can be made without the need for further public reexhibition; and
- (2) The draft Tweed Local Environmental Plan 2012 be referred to the Director-General of the Department of Planning and Infrastructure, following its amendment under Resolution 1 above, for the draft local environmental plan to be made; and
- (3) That a draft local environmental plan (planning proposal) be prepared to fully implement Council's adopted approach to environmental protection (including State Environmental Planning Policy 44 Koala Habitat) consistent with outcomes of the State Government's review of the Environmental Zones and Overlays under the Standard Instrument (Local Environmental Plans) Order 2006, for the Far North Coast Region.

# **REPORT**:

# 1 BACKGROUND

Council considered a report on the DLEP at its meeting of 25 October 2012, at which time it was resolved:

- "1. The draft Tweed Local Environmental Plan 2012 be placed on public exhibition for a minimum period of 60 days;
- 2. The supplementary draft Tweed Development Control Plan (DCP) Section A16 Trees and Vegetation Preservation Code be placed on public exhibition concurrently with the draft Tweed Local Environmental Plan 2012; and
- 3. Following public exhibition a further report addressing all submissions is to be submitted to Council.
- 4. A series of PowerPoint presentations being included in the community consultations."

This report provides a summary of the public exhibition submissions received and recommendations for Council's consideration.

The report is structured to address the submissions based on common themes arising. The evaluation of each theme contains identification of an issue, a planning response and a recommended action.

The DLEP was previously exhibited in 2010. LEPs are 'living' instruments. They are regularly amended and periodically updated, as evidenced with the current LEP having been amended 57 times since its commencement in 2000.

The changes to the LEP format witnessed under the Standard Instrument (Local Environmental Plans) Order 2006 are unparallel with any other in their history. Underestimating the change in the format and structure of the template LEP and the ability of councils to vary the template to their specific needs may obscure the reasoning or necessity for changes proposed for the transition of the current Tweed LEP 2000 to a template format.

The Standard template is not perfect but it has improved significantly with the amendments made since it first came into operation. It provides a good starting point for a uniform LEP format across the State and with further refinement over time will provide greater clarity for land-use management, conservation, and development.

It is upon that basis; the limitations and the recognition of the need for additional strategic work that sets the context within which the DLEP has been drafted and the submissions assessed.

# 2 PUBLIC EXHIBITION

The DLEP was publicly exhibited for a period of 65 days from 14 November 2012 – 18 January 2013 at

- Murwillumbah Civic Centre;
- Tweed Heads Civic Centre;
- Kingscliff Library; and
- Council's website.

The DLEP included the following supporting material:

- The DLEP 2012;
- A suite of fact sheets to aid in understanding the information;
- Tweed DCP Section A16 Trees and Vegetation Preservation Code;
- Media release on the E2 and E3 zones to be reviewed in the North Coast LEPs;
- Statement on Council owned land;
- Council report of 25 October 2012 and attachments;
- Section 65 notice;
- Statement about other environmental planning instruments and directions that substantially govern the content and operation of this draft LEP;
- Standard Instrument (Local Environmental Plans) Order 2006;
- Section 117 Directions;
- NSW Coastal; Policy 1997 and Far North Coast Regional Strategy; and
- Tweed LEP 2000.

During the Public exhibition period eight community information sessions were held as follows:

- Tuesday 27 November Tyalgum (Community Hall) attended by 5 people;
- Wednesday, 28 November Murwillumbah (Civic and Cultural Centre, Canvas and Kettle Room) attended by 7 people;
- Tuesday, 4 December Pottsville (Pottsville Beach Neighbourhood Centre) attended by attended by 7 people;
- Wednesday, 5 December Kingscliff (Community Hall, Marine Parade) attended by attended by 13 people;
- Wednesday 9 January, 2013 Banora Point (Banora Point Community Hall) attended by 3 people;
- Wednesday 16 January, 2013 Tweed Heads (South Sea Islander Room) attended by 59 people;
- Kingscliff Resident and Ratepayers Association (members only by request); and
- Tyalgum Community Association (invitees only by request).

Councillor workshops were held on:

- 10 July 2012 on the revised environmental strategy;
- 18 October 2012 updating on the methodology of preparing the DLEP; and
- 9 April 2013 updating on the exhibition of the DLEP.

# 3 SUBMISSIONS

In response to the public exhibition period a total of 1510 submissions were received. These can generally be broken down as:

Number of	Туре
submissions	
12	From Government Agencies
0	From Members of Parliament representing constituents
225	Submissions by individuals
600	Proforma type A submissions
94	Proforma type B submissions
18	Proforma type C submissions
12	Proforma type D submissions
219	Proforma type E submissions
330	Proforma type A and E submissions

In addition, consultation with eight divisions of Council has raised a number of issues, as addressed in section 3.3 Internal Review.

Detailed summaries of the submissions are provided in Attachment 1 to this report.

In summary, the submissions are grouped into and discussed in the following themes:

- Protection of the koala habitat along the Tweed Coast;
- Accuracy of environmental zones based on the LEP 2000;
- Koala Plan of Management;
- Revised Environmental Strategy;
- Appropriate zoning of Pottsville Wetlands;
- Recreational facility near Black Rocks estate;
- Trees and Vegetation Preservation Code (DCP A16);
- Site-specific requests to rezone land or amend the land use table to facilitate development;
- Heritage issues;
- Accuracy of rural and environmental zones in agricultural land;
- Rural subdivision controls;
- Development standards (height of buildings, floor space ratio, lot size); and
- LEP Clauses.

### 3.1 Submissions by Members of Parliament on behalf of constituents

No submissions have been received by members of Parliament on behalf of constituents.

### 3.2 Submissions by Government Agencies

Notification letters were sent to 38 Government Agencies and 12 submissions have been received in response.

The agency submission are summarised as follows:

### 3.2.1 Office of Environment and Heritage (two submissions received)

The Office of Environment and Heritage (OEH) has requested that the sites listed on the Aboriginal Heritage Information Management System (AHIMS) database be included in Schedule 5 – Environmental Heritage. In addition OEH suggests that Aboriginal heritage is inadequately addressed in the DLEP and that Council undertake an Aboriginal heritage study to meet the requirements of the *Ministerial Direction 117(2) 2.3 Heritage Conservation.* 

### Planning comment:

Council is currently undertaking an Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Management Plan (ACHMP) for the Tweed Shire Council area. This plan is being undertaken with extensive consultation with the Aboriginal community and once completed will be suitable for inclusion as an amendment to the LEP. This study has already audited and ground truthed data on the AHIMS database and has revealed many errors.

The outcomes, management and mapping of the ACHMP will be subject to a future report to Council, public exhibition and adoption by Council. It is considered appropriate that incorporation of the corrected and updated AHIMS data and Aboriginal landscape heritage is best undertaken following the endorsement by the Aboriginal community under the Memorandum of Understanding signed as part of the ACHMP process and adoption by Council of the ACHMP, as is the methodology used for incorporation of all strategies, plans and policies within the LEP.

Recommendation/Action:

1 No amendment to the DLEP.

Council is commended for the inclusion of Clauses 7.8 and 7.9.

OEH provides detail and explanation behind the following list of recommendations:

- 1. All rural, business, residential, industrial and infrastructure zones should have an additional zone objective: to protect and enhance the native flora, fauna and biodiversity links.
- 2. Agriculture and environmental facilities in RU1 and RU2 zones should be permitted only with consent.
- 3. Extractive industry and open cut mining should be prohibited in the RU2 zone.
- 4. Environmental facilities should be made permissible with consent in RU5, W1, W2, W3, R1, R2, R3 and R5 zones.
- 5. Forestry should be prohibited under RE1 and RE2 zones.
- 6. Additional clause on development near E1, E2 and E3 zones should be included into the plan.
- 7. Roads, emergency services facilities, community facilities, environmental facilities, research stations and sewerage systems should be made prohibited in the E2 zone.
- 8. Environmental protection works should be made permissible with consent in the E2 zone.
- 9. Environmental facilities should be made permissible with consent in the E3 zone.
- 10. Tweed Development Control Plan should provide controls managing development within the E3 zone.
- 11. Health consulting rooms, helipads and veterinary hospitals should be prohibited in the E3 zone.

- 12. Aquaculture, community facilities, emergency services facilities, research stations and roads should be prohibited in the W1 zone.
- 13. Riparian and watercourse clause should be included in the LEP.
- An additional objective should be included in the Clause 4.1 similar to subclause 4.1(1)(b) of the draft Byron LEP 2012 to ensure lot sizes are compatible with local environmental values and constraints.
- 15. An additional provisions should be incorporated into Clause 4.1B to ensure that future subdivision of land with split zones will result in continued protection and long term maintenance of high conservation value (refer sub clause 4.1A(4) of the draft Coffs Harbour LEP 2012).
- 16. Clause 5.5 Development within the coastal zone and 7.16 Coastal risk planning should be reworded to ensure that a planning horizon is defined and adopted by the consent authority for coastal hazard assessment of development on land with 'coastal risk'.
- 17. Council should liaise with the DP&I in relation to subclause 7.16(3)(f) to ascertain its relevance, given that the use of the NSW sea level rise benchmarks has been withdrawn as such this government policy is no longer applicable.
- 18. 5m contour should be used for Class 5 potential ASS, rather than mapping the entire LGA that is not 1-4.
- 19. Additional local provisions similar to clause 6.12 Riparian land and water courses and Clause 6.13 Development near the E2 and E1 zone, of the draft Byron LEP 2012, should be included in the draft LEP to afford additional protection to high conservation value land, and a water courses map should be prepared to accompany such clause.
- 20. The following controls should be included in the Tweed DCP in relation to land for which Clause 7.8 applies "where impacts to HCV land cannot be avoided, offsets should be provided in accordance with the Offset Principles endorsed by the State Government and may be calculated via the use of the NSW BioBanking Assessment Methodology or via alternative methodologies based on the value of such habitat to be removed and/or impacted."
- 21. Further investigation should be undertaken by Council in relation to the land gazetted under the National Parks and Wildlife Act 1974 and the E1 zone be applied accordingly.
- 22. Further investigation should be undertaken in relation to the HCV land within Crown Reserve Number 59360 and the E2 zone should be applied to the E3 areas.
- 23. The DCP Trees and Vegetation Preservation Code should be amended so that similar provisions as per the E2 zone are applied to the E3 zone.
- 24. References to the RU5 zone in the heading group for the rural zones in clause 1.7 of the draft DCP should be deleted.
- 25. The draft DCP should be referenced "endangered ecological communities" as opposed to ecological communities.
- 26. The text in the third and fourth paragraph for Clause 2.3 Vegetation removal consideration, should read "unless it is satisfied".
- 27. The draft DCP should include additional controls (or footnotes) to address Subclause 5.9(7) of the DLEP and to ensure that proponents are aware of the requirements in relation to cultural heritage (including where development consent may be required.

### Planning comment:

While the benefit of protecting and enhancing native flora, fauna and biodiversity links is acknowledged, the addition of a local subclause in the exhibited version of the DLEP to the Aims of the Plan which reads "to conserve and enhance the biological diversity, scenic quality and ecological integrity of the Tweed" is considered sufficient to ensure that the requirements of this request are satisfied.

Zones and landuses, as listed in the Landuse Table of the DLEP represent a translation and 'best fit' of current zones into the Standard Instrument LEP format; and while existing use rights would apply where there is lawful consent, any request for inclusion of additional permitted uses, or change of zoning is more appropriately pursued through a separate planning proposal.

Council is committed to review the LEP to implement recommendations of the Tweed Vegetation Management Strategy 2004. One of those recommendation is to protect riparian areas through an additional LEP overlay map and clause. Implementation of these recommendations will be undertaken through a separate LEP amendment process.

In relation to comments on the Coastal Risk Planning clause, it needs to be noted that this clause has been prepared by the Department of Planning and Infrastructure (DP&I) for optional inclusion into the LEPs. Councils have limited ability to amend wording of this clause, although Tweed Council will raise this issue with DP&I through separate consultations.

The inclusion of Forestry in the RE 1 and RE2 zones is only permitted with consent, making development application assessment an appropriate safeguard against inappropriate development or activity in this case.

However, with respect to matters raised relating to environmental zones, until such time as the revised Vegetation Management Strategy, and the DP&I provide advice on the outcome of their review of environmental zones in the Far North Coast, it is appropriate to translate the zoning of the land to the corresponding "best fit" zone, as is the methodology behind the DLEP preparation. This rationale applies equally to watercourses and riparian areas as well.

The adjustment of lot sizes without a supporting strategy is not supported by the DP&I; however, a Rural Land Strategy is currently being prepared which will assess the appropriateness of existing lot sizes in relation to current and potential future rural land uses. It is envisaged that this strategy will inform any future amendments to lot sizes.

With respect to Acid Sulfate Soil mapping, only part of the Shire is covered by mapping and the mapping as exhibited was generated from data provided by the DP&I; however, should a new approach to mapping be required by the Department, a formal letter and amended mapping should be provided to Council advising of changes and the use of the 5m contour to delineate the cut-off for Class 5 ASS.

### Recommendation/Action:

2 No amendment to the DLEP.

### 3.2.2 Heritage Council of NSW

The Heritage Council has requested amendment to the aims of the DLEP, including to Clause 1.9A (Suspension of covenants) and 7.11 (Earthworks and drainage) to ensure the due consideration of heritage significance as part of development assessment.

### Planning Comment:

These suggestions amend what are considered "model clauses". It is not a given that these changes will be accepted for inclusion, however they do warrant negotiation with the DP&I to facilitate their inclusion.

#### Recommendation/Action:

3 Council include the suggested inclusion in Clause 1.9A as follows, as the basis for negotiation with the DP&I:

1.9A (2)(h) to any heritage agreement within the meaning of Part 3B of the Heritage Act, 1977.

- 4 Council replace Clause 7.11(1) with the new draft model clause objective for earthworks as follows:
  - (1) The objective of this clause is to ensure earthworks for which development consent is required will not have a detrimental impact on environmental functions and processes, neighbouring uses, cultural or heritage items or features of the surrounding environment.
- 5 Council include the suggested inclusion in Clause 7.11 (3)(f) as follows, as the basis for negotiation with the DP&I.

7.11(3)(f) The proximity to and potential for adverse impacts on any heritage item, archaeological site, or heritage conservation area.

The submission identifies a number of advertising and signage uses within *Schedule 2* – *Exempt Development*, which is considered, in relation to a heritage item, requires assessment rather than allowing as exempt development, given the potential for signage to physically and visually impact on the heritage significance.

### Planning comment:

This request is considered suitable given the potential impacts on heritage items.

#### Recommendation/Action:

6 Schedule 2 Exempt Development signage in subclauses (1), (2), (3), (4) and (7) to be amended to include and additional development standard:

#### (a) Must not be on a heritage item.

The submission raised concern regarding the potential physical and visual impact of hit up walls and tennis courts under *Schedule 3 - Complying Development* on heritage items.

#### Planning comment:

These uses are not currently listed in the Complying development provisions of the *DCP A10 Exempt and Complying Development*. In addition tennis courts are permitted as exempt development in rural and large lot residential land. Therefore it is recommended that these items be removed from Schedule 3.

#### Recommendation/Action:

7 Hit up walls and tennis courts provisions be deleted from Schedule 3 Complying Development Part 1 Types of Development and the relevant inclusions in Part 2 Complying Development Certificate Conditions also be deleted.

The submission has identified a number of inconsistencies within the Schedule 5 – Environmental Heritage, including: the incorrect listing of the Remains of the Condong

Sugar Mill rail line as a "State" item, which should be "local"; and the omission of the State heritage listed *High Conservation Old Growth Forest*" (SHR No 01487).

### Planning comment:

The DLEP needs to accurately reflect the heritage listing and both listings are to be amended and correctly represented in the DLEP.

### Recommendation/Action:

- 8 Item I15 Remains of the Condong Sugar Mill Rail Line within Schedule 5 Environmental Heritage to be listed as a local item.
- 9 The areas identified as State heritage listed *High Conservation Old Growth Forest*" (SHR No 01487) to be identified on the Heritage Map and listed within Schedule 5 Environmental Heritage as State heritage items.
- <u>3.2.3 Transport Roads and Maritime Services (separate submissions received from Sydney office and Northern Rivers office):</u>
  - 1. State Roads, such as the Pacific Highway should be zoned SP2;
  - 2. Roads should be made permissible without consent under the SP2 zone;
  - 3. The LEP should make provisions for developer funding of required road/transport infrastructure improvements that may be a result of future development;
  - 4. For safety reasons child care centres should be prohibited within any zones where the subject property has a direct frontage to a classified road;
  - Council should consider the definition of "permissible development" in rural zones

     for example prohibiting educational facilities in rural zones with direct frontage to classified roads in rural zones;
  - 6. Highway Service Centres are prohibited in all zones. It is requested Council permit highway service centres in a zoning to allow for these facilities as identified under Section 117;
  - 7. No direct vehicular access should be permitted via individual properties to/from classified roads;
  - 8. The key design consideration defined under the Premiers Council for Active Living "Designing Places for Active Living" should be taken into account in the preparation of the new LEPs or major rezoning; and
  - 9. Further development should be designed such that the road traffic noise from classified roads is mitigated in accordance with the Department of Environment and Conservation's criteria for new developments Environmental Criteria for Road Traffic Noise (ECRTN).

### Planning comment:

The Pacific Highway has been zoned SP2 Infrastructure in the exhibited DLEP.

Roads by definition covers an extremely broad array of standards from small private 'tracks' to major local and regional transport links. Due to the potential significant impact of road construction on the environment and community, roads are proposed to remain as permitted with consent in the SP2 Infrastructure zone.

Development in areas adjoining to road corridors and road reservations is managed under the State Infrastructure Planning Policy (Infrastructure) 2007. According to the hierarchy of the planning system in New South Wales, this policy supersedes a local environmental plan, therefore those provisions should not be repeated under a local plan. Please refer to Sections98-104 of the Infrastructure SEPP for further details.

Section 94 contributions make provide the opportunity to levy funds for future works.

Applications for the construction of childcare facilities and educational facilities triggers a range of assessment requirements which would include proximity to classified roads, therefore, it is not considered warranted include additional controls within the LEP.

The Far North Coast Regional Strategy notes that s117 Ministerial Directions are the likely mechanism through which LEPs will be required to be consistent with the Strategy; and makes provision for the location of Highway Service Centres along to Pacific Highway. S117 Ministerial Direction 5.4 Commercial and Retail Development along the Pacific Highway, North Coast specifies requirements that must be complied with when considering a planning proposal, rather than by incorporation within an LEP. Direction 5.4 states that preferred location of a highway service centre is within an urban zone at Chinderah.

Other advice is noted and is considered at the subdivision and development assessment stages.

Recommendation/Action:

#### 10 No amendment to the DLEP.

#### 3.2.4 NSW Land and Housing Corporation

Submission represents the interests of both NSW Land and Housing Corporation (LAHC) and Housing NSW.

Social housing assets on land between Cunningham Street, Lloyd Street, Sullivan Street and Oxley Street, Tweed Heads South be zoned R3 Medium Density Residential rather than the proposed R2. Request that the building height be increased to 13.6m and the minimum lot size removed, consistent with other R3 zones.

### Planning comment:

The area is current zoned 2(a) Low Density Residential, and consistent with the methodology of the preparation of the DLEP, has been translated to the corresponding R2 Low Density Residential. Rezoning of land is outside the scope of the DLEP process and is appropriately undertaken as a planning proposal under the requirements of the EP&A Act, whereby all potential impacts may be considered and appropriate community consultation undertaken.

Recommendation/Action:

#### 11 No amendments to the DLEP.

#### 3.2.5 Trade and Investment Crown Lands

Crown Land seeks to maintain 'open zones' that facilitate multiple-use of Crown land and favour adaptable merit-based development proposals.

Notes that there are some constraints to permitted uses in the RE1 zone, as below:

- 1. Tourist and visitor accommodation, function centre and dwelling houses should be included as permissible with consent in the RE1 zone at venues such as showgrounds and sporting grounds.
- 2. E2 zone for Crown Lands is not supported unless justified by an appropriate environmental study. Extensive application of E2 is not appropriate where recreation is the predominant purpose. Suggests instead E3.

- 3. Zoning of Lots 222 and 223 on DP 877868 (Burringbar Recreation Reserve) should allow 'registered clubs' with consent as the Burringbar District Sports Club is the current use.
- 4. Reserve at Byangum Bridge, Lot 4 DP 1060253, should be rezoned from RU1 to RE1.
- 5. Lots 466 and 467 DP 755701 at Cabarita Gardens should be zoned RE1 not RE2.
- 6. E2 zone over various sections of beach and coastline is not supported.
- 7. W1 zone along the foreshore inside Foysters Wharf is not supported. W3 is a more appropriate zone.
- 8. Reserves for public recreation at Kunghur should be rezoned RE1: Lot 7005 DP 1045349, Lots 1 & 2 Section 5 DP 758588, Lots 2-5 Section 9 DP 758588.
- 9. Reserves at Limpinwood should be zoned RE1 not part RU1 and RU2: Lot 7004 DP 1053480, Lot 7006 DP 1053479.
- 10. Reserves at Piggabeen should be zoned RE1 not RU1: Lot 398 DP 755740, Lot 204 DP 755740.
- Reserves at Pottsville are proposed to be zoned part E2 and Part R3 the land is currently 2(c) and should be zoned R3: Lot 7338 DP 1159863 and Lot 347 DP 755701.
- 12. Reserves at Uki zoned RU5 should be RE1: Lot 203 DP 755730 and Lot 5 DP 1024230.
- 13. Reserves at Tweed Heads for dock site should be zoned RE1 not RE2: Lot 7023 DP 1054058 and Lot 7039 DP 92898.
- 14. Reserve for caravan & camping park at Tyalgum: Lot 105 DP 728111 should be zoned RE1 or the RU5 zone permit "caravan parks".
- 15. Reserve at Tyalgum for public recreation & preservation of native flora and fauna: Lots 102-104 DP 727788, Lots 1-7 Section 2 DP 759012 should be zoned RE1 not part RU5.
- 16. Reserve at Tyalgum should be RE1 not RU5: Lot 107 DP 728117.

#### Planning comment:

The land use table for the RE1 Public Recreation zone has been prepared as a conversion of the land use table from the current LEP 2000, in line with guidelines published by the DP&I. In accordance to those guidelines, the RE1 zone is generally intended for a wide range of public recreational areas and activities including local and regional parks and open space. The uses may include 'recreation facilities,' 'community facilities' such as lifesaving clubs, 'environmental facilities', 'environmental protection works' and other uses compatible with the primary use of the land. Dwelling houses, tourist and visitor accommodation and function centre land uses generally have private/commercial character and as such are inconstant with the intended use of land. Caretakers' dwellings can, in some circumstances be considered as ancillary development, therefore there is no need to permit dwelling houses in the RE1 zone.

The Practice Note PN 09-006 *Providing for tourism in Standard Instrument local environmental plans* recommends camping ground, caravan park and eco-tourism provides guidance on the provision of tourism opportunities in principle LEPs; the uses as listed in this submission are consistent with the mandatory zone objectives and mandatory zone uses.

The DLEP Land Zoning Map has been prepared as a conversion of the current Tweed LEP 2000 Land Zoning Map. As such, there is no increase (nor decrease) in the application of environmental zones over land owned or managed by Crown Lands. With respect to matters raised relating to environmental zones, until such time as the revised Vegetation Management Strategy, and the DP&I provide advice on the outcome of their review of environmental zones in the Far North Coast, it is appropriate to translate the zoning of the land to the corresponding "best fit" zone, as is the methodology behind the DLEP preparation.

The Burringbar Recreation Reserve has been zoned RE1 Public Recreation, consistent with previous request received from the Crowns Land. The request to include 'registered clubs' as a land use permissible with consent under the RE1 zone is not supported, as this use has commercial character inconsistent with the objectives of this zone. Under this zone the Burringbar District Sports Club would continue to operate under existing use rights.

Land currently zoned 6(a) Recreation, and where the land and facilities are of a predominantly public recreational use, is proposed to be zoned RE1 Public Recreation.

The request for reserves at Tweed Heads for dock site to be zoned RE1 not RE2 is considered appropriate as the site is a public wharf and is currently partly unzoned and partly 6(a) Recreation. Translation to a public recreation zone is appropriate.

Cabarita Gardens, Lots 466 and 467 DP 755701, are currently zoned 8(a) National Parks and Nature Reserves, however are not part of the Cudgen Nature Reserve and were translated to RE2 Private Recreation. Given the site is mostly cleared and public recreational in nature it is considered an appropriate request that the site be translated to RE1 Public Recreation.



Figures 1a and 1b: Tweed Heads dock site at Dry Dock Road, Tweed Heads South.



Figure 2: Cabarita Gardens site at Willow Avenue, Bogangar

Caravan parks are not supported in the RU5 Village zone although this zone allows for a variety range of tourism-related uses not associated with movable cabins or structures. Camping grounds are permissible with consent under this zone.

### Recommendation/Action:

- 12 The Draft Tweed LEP 2012 be amended to zone the Tweed Heads dock site, Lot 7023 DP 1054058 and Lot 7039 DP 92898, RE1 Public Recreation.
- 13 The Draft Tweed LEP 2012 be amended to zone Lots 466 and 467 DP 755701 as RE 1 Public Recreation.

# 3.2.6 Trade and Investment Resources and Energy

Submission highlighted that underground mining, mining, petroleum production and extractive industry may be undertaken with development consent within a zone which permits agriculture or industry with consent.

In addition, the Minerals Resource Branch (MRB) submission reiterates that maintaining a supply of sand and course aggregate is imperative to the increasing demand for construction materials and declining resource base is a major concern in the Tweed. A minerals resource audit (MRA) has been undertaken. The MRB raises concern that the E3 zone prohibits open cut mining and extractive industries by omission and expansion of the E3 zone is a concern for the MRB. In addition the E3 zone does not permit agriculture or industry, therefore open cut mining is prohibited under the Mining SEPP. Some examples of this impact are the quarry site at McAuleys Road (F Raye) and significant identified resource area included in the Mineral Resource Audit 2011: Bilambil Potential Resource Area and Round Mountain Deposit.

# Planning comment:

The E3 zone is a translation of the 7(d) Environmental Protection - Scenic Escarpment and 7(l) Environmental Protection – Habitat zones. The Draft LEP 2012 seeks to maintain the existing zone boundaries between Rural and Environmental Protection zones. In addition, the permissibility of agriculture within the areas of environmental protection, whilst not as unequivocally direct in translation, are primarily unchanged as these uses are discouraged within the current Tweed LEP 2000 and prohibited within the Draft LEP 2012.

Any request to rezone the land should be subject to a separate planning proposal process.

### Recommendation/Action:

### 14 No amendments to the LEP.

MRB raised concern that in certain areas the land zoning map is incompatible with the adjacent resource areas identified in the MRA "transition area". These areas identify where proposed developments and land uses changes may impact on mineral and extractive operation or resources. The MRB identifies issues with: McAuleys Road – F Raye; Tweed Quarry – Holcim Pty Ltd; Round Mt Depot; Duroby – Tweed Shire Council; and Cudgen Lakes – Gales Projects Pty Ltd. Brims Quarry and Wardrop Valley Quarry are located within IN1 and the "transition area" transects section of SP2 (infrastructure – Airport).

### Planning comment:

Boundaries of environmental zones as exhibited are a direct translation of the LEP 2000 environmental zones, there has been no expansion of environmental zone boundaries.

Currently operating approved activities would continue to operate under existing use rights; however, for land identified to contain potential mineral resources, should extraction of resources be proposed and the zone is inappropriate, a planning proposal to rezone would be required. Such rezoning would include matters relating to buffers and the transition areas discussed in the submission.

### Recommendation/Action:

#### 15 No amendments to the DLEP.

The submission requests that the Dodds Island and Chinderah (Action Sands Pty Ltd) sand dredging operations areas should be zoned W3 not W as extractive industries are prohibited are prohibited in the W2 zone. Both sites are included in the 2004 Section 117 Ministerial Directions advice as identified resources (with an associated buffer).

#### Planning comment:

With respect to the Dodds Island and Chinderah (Action Sands Pty Ltd) sand dredging operations, it is acknowledged that the proposed re-zoning will present some future limitations at the subject site. However, it is also noted that a lawful development consent to extract sand at the subject location is current. Provided that a valid development consent is maintained, the ongoing extraction of sand at this location would be lawful.

#### Recommendation/Action:

#### 16 No amendments to the DLEP.

The Uki Quarry (Hardings Earth Moving Pty Ltd) is located in the R5 zone and the transition area transects R5, RU2, RE1, SP2 and W1 zones. MRB has concerns regarding further subdivision and development in proximity to the quarry.

### Planning comment:

With respect to transition areas and potential of development in proximity to quarries; it is not the role of this planning process to implement new buffer areas between potentially incompatible landuses. Future subdivision proposals for adjoining land will be notified to all neighbours, at which time opportunity will exist for such concerns to be raised.

#### Recommendation/Action:

17 No amendments to the DLEP.

### 3.2.7 NSW Rural Fire Service

Where Council zones land for development (rural, residential, commercial or industrial), vegetation management including clearing maybe required to enable compliance with the requirements of Planning for Bush Fire Protection 2006 and any other RFS bush fire planning standards.

Other comments provided by NSW Rural Fire Service were not directly related with the provisions of the draft Tweed LEP 2012. Comments focused on development application and planning proposal procedures and are not relevant to the finalisation of the DLEP:

- 1. All future planning proposals on land mapped bush fire prone will need to demonstrate compliance with *Planning for Bush Fire Protection 2006* and any additional RFS documents.
- 2. All future development applications will need to satisfy the requirements of Planning for Bush Fire Protection 2006.
- 3. Australian Standard AS 3959-2009 Construction of buildings in bushfire-prone areas includes grasslands as a hazardous vegetation category.
- 4. There is a lack of correspondence between AS 3959-2009 and Planning for Bushfire Protection in relation to provisions for asset protection zones.

### Planning comment:

The comments provided are noted and while not directly related to the current LEP processes are relevant to the day-to-day operations of Council's Development Assessment Unit, and as such, are addressed at the DA stage.

Recommendation/Action:

18 No amendments to the DLEP.

### 3.2.8 Department of Primary Industries Office of Water

Supports the protection of key water features through separate zoning, additional local provisions and related overlay maps (clauses 7.1, 7.6, 7.9, 7.11 and 7.14), however has some concerns regarding uses permitted with consent in environmental zones.

Recommends mapping watercourses and riparian lands as separate zones (E and W).

Concern about impact of the following land uses in the E2 zone: business identification signs, home businesses, home based child care and roads. Refers to Practice Note 09-002.

Requests additional clause should be included to protect identified coastal sand aquifers from contamination and saline intrusion for vulnerable groundwater sources.

Requests an additional clause and overlay should be included for Coastal Wetlands.

### Planning comment:

The methodology for implementing this requirement has been based on translation of the current LEP with limited changes and addition of local context based on adopted policies and strategies.

Following exhibition of the LEP in 2010, amendments to the recommendations of the Tweed Vegetation Management Strategy (TVMS), and a new approach to the Land Zoning Map with the E3 Environmental Management zone resulted in a "Revised Environmental Strategy" being developed to link the TVMS 2004 and the Standard Instrument LEP. This document requires further review in line with DP&I's approach towards environmental zones in the Northern Rivers region.

Due to ongoing pressure from State Government to finalise the SI implementation process, Council decided to place the draft Tweed LEP 2012 on public exhibition with the intention to implement certain recommendations of the TVMS and to implement the remainder through a separate LEP amendment process (subject to separate public consultations).

The following recommendations of the TVMS are recommended for implementation through a separate LEP amendment process:

- A refined E2 Environmental Conservation zone focussing mostly on the Tweed Coast, public lands and areas already protected;
- A new but flexible E3 Environmental Management zone;
- Revised Waterways zones which more closely reflect existing waterway character and uses;
- A new riparian land overlay map and revised clause; and
- A revised approach to tree preservation.

Coastal Wetlands are currently protected SEPP 14 Coastal Wetlands, and SEPP 71 Coastal Protection.

The DLEP implements the principles of the NSW Coastal Policy through clause 5.5 Development within the coastal zone. This clause provides additional conditions to be considered while assessing development within the coastal zone.

Coastal aquifers are in part protected under separate the *Water Management Act 2000*, and *Water Act 1912* and the NSW Groundwater Protection Policy 1998, through agencies such as the Office of Water under the Office of Environment and Heritage. Council and the Environment Protection Authority are also involved, through the *Protection of the Environment Operations Act 1997*. Notwithstanding this, the opportunity exists for Council to undertake more detailed investigations into protection of vulnerable groundwater systems through the landuse planning process.

Matters raised in this submission will be referred to Council's Natural Resource Management Unit for consideration during the review of the TVMS as discussed above.

## Recommendation/Action:

19 No amendments to the DLEP.

## 3.2.9 Gold Coast Airport

The inclusion of model Clause 7.4 addresses the previous major issues of concern regarding airspace protection and is now comprehensive, strict and enforceable.

Heading of Clause 7.4 – the heading of this clause "airspace operations" does not properly reflect the purpose or content of the clause; the heading should be changed to "protection of airspace".

Wording of Clause 7.4 should be amended to require consultations with the "airport operator" or "Commonwealth Department" instead of "relevant Commonwealth body".

"Limitation or Operations Surface" term should be replaced with OLS (defined as the Obstacle Limitation Surface for Gold Coast Airport) or PANS-OPS (defined as the Procedures for Air Navigation Services - Aircraft Operations for Gold Coast Airport) as the exhibited term is unnecessary and confusing.

Similarly, Clause 7.5 – definition of ANEF contour should be simplified as follows: "ANEF contour means a noise exposure contour shown on the current approved ANEF mapping for Gold Coast Airport".

Land zoning map – all land owned by Gold Coast Airport, including within Cobaki Broadwater, should be zoned as SP1 Special Activities – Airport. E2 zone applied to the Cobaki foreshore does not accurately represent the tenure or land uses status of the land. The airport is regulated by Part 5 of the Commonwealth Airports Act and the SEPP (Infrastructure) 2007 is not applicable to the GC airport. The associated zoning of public infrastructure land cannot therefore affect Commonwealth Land. GC Airport considers that the differentiated zoning will inevitably create an inaccurate presumption for LEP users that the use of the land is regulated under the LEP.

The GC Airport master plan contains and environmental strategy which among other things identifies key NSW legislation ie *Threatened Species Act, Fisheries Management Act, SEPPs 14, 26, 44 and 71* and safe guard these areas.

The part of the Cobaki Broadwater within the boundary of the GC airport is not a recreational waterway, but forms part of the airport property.

## Planning comment:

While the use of the suggested heading of "Protection of Airspace" as an alternative heading is appreciated, Clause 7.4 has been generated from the DP&I Model Local Clauses and as such, the heading and content remain unchanged.

Comments made relating to terminology and content of clauses is acknowledged and appreciated. Again given that this is a model clause, the content of this submission should be discussed with the DP&I for amendment to the model clause if warranted.

LEP Practice Note PN11-002 states that land that is highly unlikely to be used for different purposes should be zoned SP2 Infrastructure and lists airports as one such category; as such, the zoning applied to the Gold Coast Airport site is considered appropriate and in accordance with DP&I requirements.

With respect to matters raised relating to environmental zones, until such time as the revised Vegetation Management Strategy, and the DP&I provide advice on the outcome of their review of environmental zones in the Far North Coast, it is appropriate to translate the zoning of the land to the corresponding "best fit" zone, as is the methodology behind the DLEP preparation.

While it is acknowledged that part of the GCAL property covers the Cobaki Broadwater, tenure does not necessarily infer changes in zoning and as such it is considered that the zoning is consistent with Departmental Practice Notes.

Recommendation/Action:

20 No amendments to the DLEP.

## 3.2.10 Queensland Department of Main Roads and Transport

Is the owner of the land adjoining the Tugun Bypass. Objects to translating Lots 103 and 105 on DP 1127593 from 1(a) Rural to RU2 Rural Landscape and request these properties as IN1 General Industrial.

#### Planning comment:

The proposed RU2 Rural Landscape zone is a direct translation of the current 1(a) Rural zone and as such, the request for an alternative zone is outside the scope of this planning process and requires a separate rezoning process.

Any rezoning outside the methodology applied for LEP conversion should be subject to a separate planning proposal.

Recommendation/Action:

21 No amendment to the DLEP.

#### 3.3 Internal review

## 3.3.1 Water and sewer

#### Byrrill Creek Dam and Clarrie Hall Dam

The DLEP changes the permissibility status of a water storage facility development on the land previously identified for augmentation of the Clarrie Hall Dam and for potential dam at Byrrill Creek (and as identified on the DLEP map as "Existing and Future Water Storage Facilities"). The Water Unit consultation request that the draft Tweed LEP 2012 maintain the status quo of the Tweed LEP 2000.

#### Planning comment:

Under the current LEP, and in conjunction with the State *Environmental Planning Policy (Infrastructure)* 2007, the development of a water storage facility on both sites is permitted without consent and is therefore able to be assessed under Part V of the EP&A Act. The DLEP 2012 permits this type of development without consent on those part of the sites which are zoned RU2 Rural Landscape and with consent\_on parts which are zoned W1 Natural Waterways, thus requiring both a Part IV and Part V assessment.

The need to obtain two different forms of approval has been raised as a substantive issue as it will lead to delay, possibly greater cost, is less certain, and is therefore not in the public interest.

The application of the W1 zone over the Byrrill Creek and Doon Doon Creek corridors is a consistent with the:

- Requirement mandated by DP&I that Standard Instrument LEPs must apply zones for all land and waterways within a LGA (waterway corridors are unzoned under the current LEP); and
- Methodology of applying the W1 Natural Waterway zone consistently across the Tweed Shire.

It is noted that this approach is not universally accepted and that consultation with the NRM Unit has also raised concern, albeit on different grounds were it is said that cattle on adjoining lands will not be able to 'lawfully' access the creek for drinking water.

In the case of the proposed site for the Byrrill Creek dam, the standard conversion of zones and associated land use table has been difficult to achieve due to the requirement to apply a zone to the (currently unzoned) waterway corridors. While preparing the DLEP for exhibition, extensive internal discussion failed to provide an agreed position about whether the development should be facilitated with or without consent, with rationale both for and against.

In their comments to the DLEP, the Water Unit requested that the land use table of the W1 zone should be amended to allow for the development of water storage facilities "without consent", instead of 'with consent' as in the exhibited version of the DLEP. It was argued that this was the better approach as it would permit one kind of approval process and would provide greater certainty.

Notwithstanding, allowing water storage facilities without consent in all areas zoned with the W1 zone across the shire nonetheless appears contrary to the primary objectives of the zone, which are to:

• Protect the ecological and scenic values of natural waterways; and

• Prevent development that would have an adverse effect on the natural values of waterways in this zone.

It is difficult to see how those objectives can be reasonably attained by permitting works that could occur at a relatively large scale without consent. The environmental assessment mechanism of such works under Part 5 of the Act would also only arise if they fall within the criteria set out under cl.110, without which no environmental assessment would be required. A detailed examination of the range of activities and corresponding licensing or approvals arising under other legislation that would trigger Part 5 assessment has not been undertaken, and it may lead to unnecessary or unforseen exposure to risk from environmental harm.

Consequently, the requested amendment is not recommended. It is recommended as an alternative that Council seek the approval of DP&I to amend the DLEP *Schedule 1 - Additional Permitted Uses* to allow development of water storage facilities without consent for those parts of Byrrill Creek and Doon Doon Creek corridors which are within the area identified on the Existing and Future Water Storage Facilities Map of the DLEP and to apply the SP2 Infrastructure zone to public land at Doon Doon Creek identified on the Existing and Future Water Storage Facilities Map of the Existing and Future Water Storage Facilities Map of the Existing and Future Water Storage Facilities Map of the Storage Facilities Map of the draft LEP.

It is noted, however, that Tweed Shire Council received a number of submissions from both individuals and environmental groups expressing strong objection against the proposed development of the Byrrill Creek dam and requesting that the Byrrill Creek valley be zoned with an environmental zone.

This matter was discussed with the Executive Management Team on 4 April 2013 where it was agreed to seek amendment to the DLEP 2012 through Land Zoning Map and/or Additional Permitted Uses Map to allow permissibility without consent for the area of the Byrill Creek and Clarrie Hall Dam, subject to the agreement of the DP&I.

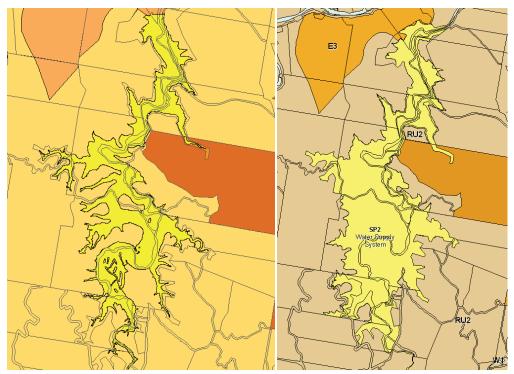


Figure 3: Zoning of the Clarrie Hall Dam as exhibited (left) and after proposed amendments (right).

Consultation with the Water Unit pointed out that at Clarrie Hall Dam, an additional Councilowned land and all "islands" of Council owned land within the water body must also be mapped on the "Potential and Future Water Storage Facilities Map", and as SP2 Infrastructure zone on the Land Zoning Map, given these are part of the operational land on which the dam is situated.

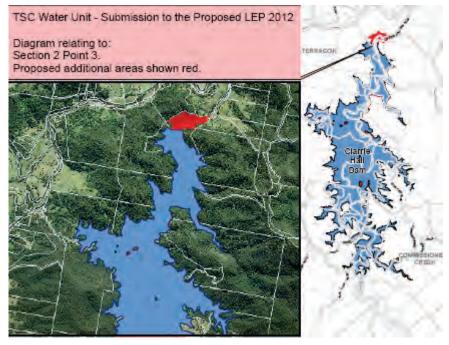


Figure 4: Proposed amendments to the Existing and Future Water Storage Facilities Map for the Clarrie Hall Dam site.

## Recommendation/Action:

22A The draft Tweed LEP 2012 Land Zoning Map be amended as shown on Figure 3, and

- 22B The draft Tweed LEP 2012 Additional Permitted Uses Map and Schedule 1 be amended to allow water storage facilities without consent for those parts of Byrrill Creek and Doon Doon Creek corridors which are within the area identified on the Existing and Future Water Storage Facilities Map of the draft LEP and
- 22C The draft Tweed LEP 2012 Potential and Future Water Storage Facilities Map be amended as shown on Figure 4.

## Definition of Council Infrastructure Development

Water Unit requests that should Council wish to pursue inclusion of Clause 7.3, a clear definition of "*Council Infrastructure development*" must be included as such a definition is not currently provided in the *DLEP2012*.

## Planning comment:

Councils do not have the ability to include additional definitions into the Standard Instrument Dictionary of Definitions. Notwithstanding, Council will formally notify the DP&I to consider an amendment to the Standard Instrument to include this definition into the dictionary.

Recommendation/Action:

23 No amendment to the DLEP.

#### Zoning of certain, existing infrastructure sites

Consultation with the Water Unit raised a number of comments in relation to the appropriate land zone for certain existing infrastructure sites, as follows:

- Bray Park Weir: The SP2 zone must also include Council owned land at Lot 31 DP 217422 and Lot 1 DP 420380 which contain water supply infrastructure intrinsic to the Water Supply System zone.
- Part of an unnamed road reserve at the confluence of the Tweed and Oxley rivers should also be zoned SP2 given aerial imagery confirms it is part of the existing weir water body.
- Bray Park Water Treatment Plant (WTP): the SP2 zone must also include Council owned land at Lot 103 DP 616049 and Lot 92 DP 621415 which contain water supply infrastructure intrinsic to the Water Supply System zone.
- West Tweed Waste Water Treatment Plant: The SP2 zone must extend over the entire WWTP site of Council owned land including Lot 2 DP 1011625, and must extend over the entire WWTP site including the road reserve "Hakea Drive".
- Kingscliff Waste Water Treatment Plant: The SP2 zone must be placed over the entire WWTP site of Council owned land in Lot 20 DP 1082482.
- Clarrie Hall Dam: The SP2 zone must also include Council owned land at Lot 2 DP 628704 which is operational land on which the existing dam is situated.
- At Banora Point WWTP outfall: The SP2 zone does not have a label. It must be labelled SP2 Sewerage System.
- The SP2 zone containing the water supply reservoir to the east of the Koala Beach R2 zone is incorrectly labelled *SP2 Sewerage System*. It must be labelled *SP2 Water Supply System*.
- The SP2 Infrastructure zone should be applied to Regional Sewer Pump Stations on Lot 108 DP 817783 and Lot 22 DP 1013812.
- The SP2 Infrastructure zone should be applied to significant water pump stations on Lot 1 DP 420380 and Lot 92 DP 621415.
- The SP2 Infrastructure site on Lot 1 DP 623932 should be labelled as Sewerage System, not Classified Road.

## Planning comment:

The proposed amendments refer to existing infrastructure sites and are in line with DP&I Practice Notes which guide the Standard Instrument Implementation process.

Recommendation/Action:

24 The draft Tweed LEP 2012 Land Zoning Map be amended as provided above.

## Amendments to the land use table

Water supply systems should be made permissible with consent in the RU1 Primary Production zone.

Water supply systems should be made permissible with consent in the E2 Environmental Conservation zone.

## Planning comment:

Development of water supply systems by or on behalf of a public authority is managed under the State Environmental Planning Policy (Infrastructure) 2007. According to this Policy, water supply systems are permissible without consent (if developed by or on behalf of a public authority). Water reticulation systems are permissible without consent in the E2 zone (through the ISEPP) with the remaining land uses from the water supply systems being prohibited. The E2 zone is considered inappropriate for water treatment facilities and water storage facilities.

#### Recommendation/Action:

25 No amendment to the DLEP.

#### 3.3.2 Natural resource management

#### Aims of the Plan

Additional aim should be added to the Aims of the Plan: (f) to promote sustainable transport, public transport use, walking and cycling.

#### Planning comment:

While the proposed aim is generally consistent with Council's approach towards sustainability, there are two factors that should be considered:

- Council methodology for developing this LEP has been based on the "best fit" conversion of the current LEP with local context based on adopted policies and strategies. For example, the draft Tweed LEP 2012 contains two clauses regulating development on the flood prone lands, which must be read in conjunction with Council adopted policy: DCP A3 Development on Flood Liable Land. At this moment there is no adopted, Shire-wide policy promoting sustainable transport, public transport use, walking and cycling.
- As stated in clause 1.2 of the Standard Instrument, an LEP is required to set out the particular overarching aims of the plan. Each zone then includes core objectives which describe in more detail the purpose of the land it refers to. Permitted land uses and principal development standards are the key tools to be used to achieve objectives of a zone. This means there are three levels of information (aims, zone objectives and land use controls) and they form a hierarchy of policy intention. Any amendments to the aims of the LEP as part of the post-exhibition review may trigger re-exhibition of the entire document as the aims affect all zones, thus all properties within the Shire.

Recommendation/Action:

26 No amendment to the LEP.

#### Sustainable Urban Design

Additional clause should be included into the DLEP:

#### (7.14a) Good Design

- (1) The objective of this clause is to deliver a high standard of resource efficiency in development design.
- (2) This clause applies to all new developments.
- (3) Development consent must not be granted to development to which this clause applies unless, the consent authority is satisfied that, the proposed development exhibits a high standard of design in regards to resource-efficient land use patterns, development standards and precautions against climate change.
- (4) In considering whether proposed development exhibits a high standard of design, the consent authority must have regard to the following matters:
  - (a) How the proposed development responds to the environmental and built characteristics of the site and whether it achieves an acceptable relationship with other buildings on neighbouring sites,
  - (b) Whether settlement patterns and buildings meet sustainable design principles in terms of access to active transport options, sunlight, natural ventilation, wind, reflectivity, visual and acoustic privacy, safety and security and resource, energy and water efficiency, and
  - (c) Whether the proposed development detrimentally impacts on view corridors and landmarks.

#### Planning comment:

The clause would provide legislative rigour to some of the key issues Council has recently incorporated into the revised DCP A1. It also combines key environmental design criteria with a required compatibility with existing environmental, building and neighbourhood character. In light of new legislative reform which will somewhat 'homogenise' the development assessment process, understanding and maintaining landscape and built form character will be vital to future establishing future development and in the Tweed and identity of our subregion. In this regard, the intent of the clause is good in terms of establishing a baseline of good design criteria and should be considered for inclusion.

The key question is how the 'all encumbering' wording of the clause would apply to diverse range of development types, particularly our more regional and agricultural focussed context within the Tweed. This can be assessed by analysing each component:

(1) The objective of this clause is to deliver a high standard of resource efficiency in development design.

This is a good objective reinforcing the overall direction of where Council is currently trying to take out DCP's. It does however contain some ambiguities including what constitutes a 'high standard', and similarly it is uncertain whether the three criteria provided in subclause 4 fully constitute the meaning and application of 'resource efficiency in development design' as it is applied to the Tweed context.

#### (2) This clause applies to all new developments.

This could be onerous when dogmatically applied to all forms of development, particularly in regard to more agricultural based activities more typical of our regional location.

The question is whether due regard of the criteria in terms of relevance of certain criteria would satisfy the terms of this clause. For example, the criteria for achieving land-use, resource, and energy and water efficiency may be relevant to agricultural development, where as having regard to sunlight, natural ventilation, wind, reflectivity, visual and acoustic privacy may not be relevant.

In the same context, the requirement to producing a 'high standard or resource efficiency in development design' in terms of some of our Part 3 applications (including infrastructure) and some of the more minor development applications may not require the same level of scrutiny as a major Greenfield residential development.

The consideration of each of the criteria in terms of implementation and assessment would therefore require the flexibility to determine the relevance and application of the criteria to proposed development.

(3) Development consent must not be granted to development to which this clause applies unless, the consent authority is satisfied that, the proposed development exhibits a high standard of design in regards to resource-efficient land use patterns, development standards and precautions against climate change.

The interpretation of this clause revolves around an understanding of what constitutes a 'high standard of design' (particularly when considering budgets), and whether the three 'measureable' criteria define resource efficient land use patterns as they apply to the Tweed context.

In conclusion, the inclusion of this clause would add additional legislative weight to the core issues of site specific and sustainable development design and as such consideration should be given to its inclusion within the LEP.

Each of the criteria within the clause is currently (disjointedly) contained within some of DCP's. The inclusion of this Good Design Clause within the LEP would further ensure consideration of these core criteria within the preparation of future DCPs and DCP revisions as well as capturing development which may currently sit outside the guidance of our DCP. It will also ensure that all new development has due regard for these criteria.

Consideration however needs to be given to how the clause would be implemented and assessed against, particularly in terms of understanding what constitutes a 'high standard of design', and whether each of the criteria could be assessed in terms of its relevance to a given development.

Similarly to planning response provided to request to include additional aim, there is concern that the inclusion of a clause with a Shire-wide application may trigger a re-exhibition of the entire document.

Recommendation/Action:

27 No amendment to the LEP.

## Environmental facilities should require consent in all zones

#### Planning comment:

The methodology of preparing the draft LEP has been based on two guiding principles:

- The "best fit" conversion. This approach has been taken to simplify the translation of the current LEP 2000 into the format of the standard LEP template in the absence of a Shire wide strategic review of the LEP and zones.
- Local context based only on Council adopted strategies, plans and policies.

Analysis of the current LEP indicates that environmental facilities are prohibited in the 8(a) National Parks zone, permissible with consent in the 1(b) Agricultural Protection, 6(b) Recreation and environmental zones 7(a), 7(d) and 7(l) and without consent in all other zones.

The draft LEP 2012 permits environmental facilities without consent in all zones except for the E2 and E1 zones. According to the methodology of preparing the LEP (outlined above) the land use table for each zone should provide, where possible, identical list of land uses as in the current LEP 2000. As such, the land use table is to be amended to make environmental facilities permissible with consent in RE2 Private Recreation, RU1 Primary Production, and E3 Environmental Management zones.

Any amendments to the land use table outside of the "best fit" translation should be based on an adopted policy or strategy.

Recommendation/Action:

28 Environmental facilities land use to be made permissible with consent in the following zones: RU1 Primary Production, RE2 Private Recreation and E3 Environmental Management.

<u>E2 Environmental conservation zone to reflect SEPP14, SEPP26, Endangered Ecological</u> <u>Communities or otherwise significant vegetation where accurately mapped, larger areas of</u> <u>public owned or administered bushland, shallow or minor waterway reserves or road</u> <u>reserves within or adjacent National Parks and Nature Reserves and minor zone boundary</u> <u>anomalies.</u>

E3 Environmental Management zone to reflect the Revised Environmental Strategy

Koala habitat protection

Changes in environmental zones between 2010 and 2012 versions of the draft LEP

Planning comment:

Please refer to Section 3.4 of this Report for response regarding environmental zones, koala habitat protection and timeframes of necessary amendments to the LEP.

Rationale for zoning the waterways and the land use table

## Planning comment:

The rationale behind applying waterway zones has been based on relevant Practice Notes issued by the DP&I and on objectives of each zone, and includes:

- W1 Natural Waterways zone is generally intended for natural waterways that are to be protected for their ecological and scenic values. These may include sea grass beds or shelf, bed or reef formations of high ecological significance. A limited number of low impact uses that do not have an adverse effect on the natural value of the waterway can be permitted in this zone, such as development associated with recreational fishing, boating and commercial fishing industries.
- W2 Recreational Waterways zone includes water-based recreation, boating and water transport, and development associated with fishing industries, such as natural waterbased aquaculture and recreational fishing. When zoning adjoining land, council must consider whether the land uses are compatible with uses in the waterway, and should make sure that uses complement and support uses in the W zone where necessary. For example, where uses such as 'marinas' that facilitate access to the land are permitted in the waterway, then there needs to be complementary and supporting land uses in the adjoining terrestrial zone.

- W3 Working Waterways zone is intended for waterways that are primarily used for commercial shipping, ports, water-based transport, maritime industries and development associated with commercial fishing industries. When zoning adjoining land, councils must consider whether the land uses are compatible with uses in the waterway. For example, where land based maritime industries, ports, boating facilities etc. adjoin the waterfront, the Working Waterway zone may be appropriate for use.
- The Waterway zones are generally intended for application to the waterway's channel and banks and not for land based development associated with the waterway.
- Waterways within a National Park should be zoned E1 National Parks and Nature Reserves.
- Small and intermittent waterways should generally be zoned according to the surrounding zone.
- Objectives of the W1 zone which aim to protect the ecological and scenic values of natural waterways, to prevent development that would have an adverse effect on the natural values of waterways in this zone and to provide for sustainable fishing industries and recreational fishing.
- Objectives of the W2 zone which aim to protect the ecological, scenic and recreation values of recreational waterways, to allow for water-based recreation and related uses and to provide for sustainable fishing industries and recreational fishing.
- Objectives of the W3 zone which aim to enable the efficient movement and operation of commercial shipping, water-based transport and maritime industries, to promote the equitable use of waterways, including appropriate recreational uses and to minimise impacts on ecological values arising from the active use of waterways.

This approach is essentially similar to the one that was used while preparing the first version of the DLEP, exhibited in 2010. It is noted that this approach is not universally accepted and concerns regarding the waterway zones have been raised on the number of meetings. One of the recommendations of the Revised Environmental Strategy is to implement revised Waterways zones which more closely reflect existing waterway character and uses.

## Riparian Land clause and overlay map

## Planning comment:

Riparian land clause and overlay map are recommended for implementation in the Revised Environmental Strategy. It was initially intended to implement the riparian clause through a separate LEP amendment, however concerns raised by the community during the public exhibition led to a revision in Council's approach towards this matter, with a recommendation to include this clause (without a map, similarly to the current status under LEP 2000) into the DLEP.

Riparian clauses and overlay maps are subject to "review of environmental zones and overlays" undertaken by the DP&I. At this time, the exact date for completing "the review" is uncertain.

#### Recommendation/Action:

29 Riparian clause – in a version consulted with the Department of Planning and Infrastructure is to be included into the DLEP.

## Biting Midge and Mosquitoes breeding areas overlay map and clause

#### Planning comment:

Council initially intended to include the biting midge and mosquitoes breeding areas overlay map and clause. Pre-exhibition consultations with the legal branch of the DP&I indicated that the inclusion of this clause into the draft LEP would not be supported. The DP&I advised that this matter should remain at the development control plan level.

#### Recommendation/Action:

#### 30 No amendment to the LEP.

Lot 3 DP 837715 and Lot 2 DP 1126205 were transferred to the National Parks and Wildlife Services and should be zoned E1 National Parks and Nature Reserves

#### Planning comment:

Lot 3 DP 837715 has not been gazetted as a Nature Reserve, however DP&I guidelines indicate that the environment protection zone E1 can be applied to areas identified as proposed for national park or nature reserves agreed by the NSW Government. Internal review identified.

#### Recommendation/Action:

31 Amend the Land Zoning Map to apply E1 zone for Lot 3 DP 837715 and Lot 2 DP 112605.

#### 3.3.3 Development assessment

Consultation with the Development Assessment Unit has raised a number of questions and concerns which include:

#### Events on Council land to be included as Exempt Development

Under the current LEP, events on Council land are considered as exempt development through DCP A10 where consistent with the Council Policy '*Procedure for issuing temporary licences for events on Council administered land, including Road Reserves*'. Request that events on Council owned land be included within Schedule 2 Exempt Development.

## Planning comment:

As the DCP A10 - Exempt and Complying DCP will be repealed upon publishing the Standard Instrument LEP, consistent with the State Environmental Planning Policy Exempt and Complying Development Codes implementation directions, the only mechanism to maintain this land use as exempt development is within Schedule 2 Exempt Development of the DLEP. The exhibited version of the draft Tweed LEP 2012 did not list events on Council land as exempt development due to ongoing concerns on consistency with the Standard Instrument template. Those concerns have been clarified now that a number of LEPs regulating use of public land have been "made" by the Minister. Additional entry to Schedule 2 of the DLEP 2012 has been developed and is recommended for inclusion.

#### 32 Recommendation/Action:

The DLEP 2012 Schedule 2 Exempt Development to be amended to include the following:

Events on Council land:

- (1) Must be consistent with any applicable plan of management under the <u>Local</u> <u>Government Act 1993</u> for the land,
- (2) Development must have obtained all required approvals to stage the event.

# Footpath trading to be considered as exempt development

Under the current LEP, footpath trading is considered as exempt development through DCP A10 where consistent with the '*Tweed Footpath Trading*' policy. It is requested that footpath trading remain as exempt.

# Planning comment:

As the *DCP A10 - Exempt and Complying DCP* will be repealed upon publishing the Standard Instrument LEP, the only mechanism to maintain this land use as exempt development is within Schedule 2 Exempt Development of the Standard Instrument LEP. The exhibited version of the draft Tweed LEP 2012 did not list footpath trading as exempt development due to ongoing concerns on consistency with the Standard Instrument template. Those concerns have been clarified now that a number of LEPs regulating use of public land have been "made" by the Minister. Additional entry to Schedule 2 of the DLEP 2012 has been developed and is recommended for inclusion:

33 Recommendation/Action:

The DLEP 2012 Schedule 2 Exempt Development to be amended to include the following:

Footpath trading:

- Must be on public land or a public road within the meaning of the <u>Local Government</u> <u>Act 1993</u> or on land to which the <u>Crown Lands Act 1989</u> applies,
- (2) Use of footpath as outdoor eating areas must be associated with lawful food and drink premises.
- (3) Must not involve erection of any structures.
- (4) Must have obtained all required approvals.

Amendment to Terrestrial Biodiversity Clause 7.9 to remove a reference to DCP and reference to preliminary assessment of vegetation.

Development Assessment Unit sought to clarify wording of the Terrestrial Biodiversity Clause. Subclause (3) of this clause provides a reference to a DCP which has not been prepared yet.

## Planning comment:

The Terrestrial Biodiversity clause of the draft LEP has been adopted from the list of 'model local provisions', a list of clauses for optional inclusions 'as they are', published by the DP&I. The Terrestrial Biodiversity clause of the DLEP 2012 is based on relevant 'model clause' but has been modified to include additional subclause as follows:

(3) This clause does not apply if:
 (a) A copy of a preliminary assessment of the land subject to the development (<u>undertaken in accordance with a development control plan made by the Council</u>) has been given to the Council; and
 (b) The Council has provided written advice to the person proposing to carry out the development confirming that results of the preliminary assessment indicate the proposed development is not within an identified area of environmental significance.

Part (a) of the above subclause makes a reference to a DCP which has not as yet been prepared. It is recommended to remove subclause (3) from the Terrestrial Biodiversity clause until relevant DCP chapter providing necessary guidelines is developed and adopted by Council. Similar requests have been made under several submissions lodged by landowners affected by the Biodiversity Map.

#### Recommendation/Action

34 Clause 7.9 Terrestrial Biodiversity of the draft Tweed LEP 2012 be amended by removing subclause (3).

Permissibility of telecommunications facilities in the rural zones.

The permissibility status of telecommunications facilities under the Standard Instrument LEP is unclear.

#### Planning comment:

Guidelines prepared by the DP&I specifically prohibit listing this land use under LEPs. The *State Environmental Planning Policy (SEPP) Infrastructure* provides that telecommunications facilities are permissible without consent if listed under a LEP Land Use Table.

This inconsistency has been discussed with the DP&I, who in principle support inclusion of this land use into the rural and industrial zone land use tables.

This solution is in line with submission (No 1510) lodged by Visionstream Pty Ltd in relation to development of the National Broadband Network (NBN).

Recommendation/Action:

35 The Tweed LEP 2012 be Land Use Table for the RU1 Primary Production, RU2 Rural Landscape and IN1 General Industrial zones be amended to permit development of "telecommunications facilities", with consent.

## 3.3.4 Engineering and Operations

## Floodplain management

Consultation with Engineering and Operations has requested that the Flood Planning Map be updated in line with most recent flood modelling study.

## Planning comment:

The Flood Planning Map is an essential component of the draft Tweed LEP 2012. The recent flood modelling study amends the land area, and therefore properties potentially affected by the flood planning Clause 7.6. Inclusion of the mapping requires consultati9on with affected landowners and would, if included within the DLEP, require the re-exhibition of the LEP. This would significantly delay the finalisation of the DLEP. Given the consultation required to implement the revised flood modelling, it is recommended to amend the "Flood Planning Map" through a separate LEP amendment process.

#### Recommendation/Action:

36 No amendment to the DLEP at this stage. The revised flood modelling and amendment to the Flood Planning Map to be undertaken through a separate LEP amendment process.

# Designated Roads Map and future road and infrastructure corridors to be maintained under the draft LEP.

Consultation with Engineering and Operations has raised a request that future roads and infrastructure corridors of the current LEP be maintained under the draft Tweed LEP 2012.

#### Planning comment:

The Land Zoning Map of the current LEP 2000 contains future roads and electricity transmission corridors. Any development within those corridors need to be assessed under Clauses 37 (electricity) or 38 (road) of the LEP.

The structure of the Standard Instrument template for LEPs does not allow for any additional information (i.e. infrastructure corridors) to be shown on the Land Zoning Map.

The ongoing reform of the planning system in NSW has resulted in new, consistent statewide provisions for considering the impacts of certain types of development on land adjacent to linear infrastructure and vice versa, provided under the Infrastructure SEPP. Any duplication of those State provisions under the LEP would not be supported by DP&I. As such, this request is not consistent with the Standard Instrument Template Order or the DP&I Practice Notes and Guidelines.

#### Recommendation/Action:

#### 37 No amendment to the DLEP.

#### Shop top housing in flood prone areas to be made prohibited.

Consultation with Engineering and Operations highlights the permissibility of shop top housing within areas of the former 3(c) Commerce and Trade Zone is in conflict with Council's Policy position under The Flood Risk Management Policy, which limits LEP amendments that permit additional habitable development unless the areas subject to those amendments are capable of "high road" evacuation in floods.

#### Planning comment:

Under LEP 2000, there are various restrictions on dwellings in business zones. In the current LEP 2000 3(c) Commerce and Trade Zone dwelling houses are only permissible if a "caretakers dwelling", and multi-dwelling housing is not permissible. The 3(c) zone applies to business areas in South Murwillumbah (Prospero Street, Tweed Valley Way etc), and Tweed Heads South (Minjungbal Drive, Machinery Drive, Greenway Drive etc).

Under the draft LEP 2012, multi dwelling housing remains prohibited in business zones, however shop top housing was proposed to be made permissible with consent. The B5 - Business Development zone has been used as the "best fit conversion" for 3(c) zoned land under the draft, and hence applies to South Murwillumbah and Tweed Heads South.

The Tweed Valley Floodplain Risk Management Study (draft) confirms that the areas of South Murwillumbah and Tweed Heads South have significant evacuation constraints, and hence the policy should apply. It is also noted that the South Murwillumbah Business & Owners Group made a submission (No 317) supporting shop top housing within the B5 zone.

The DLEP is prepared, as far as possible, to be a translation of the current LEP provisions and should not contravene other policies and Council. Prohibiting "shop top housing" within the B5 Business Development zone is consistent with the Tweed LEP 2000.

#### Recommendation/Action:

38 The draft Tweed LEP 2012 be amended to prohibit "shop top housing" in the B5 Business Development zone.

## Zoning of Tweed Coast Road between Casuarina and Bogangar

Engineering and Operation have requested the zoning of the Tweed Coast Road between Casuarina and Bogangar should be changed from an environmental zone to an urban zone to reflect its use as a road.

#### Planning comment:

Currently roads are unzoned under the Tweed LEP 2000. Under the Standard Instrument LEP, all roads must be zoned in accordance with Practice Notes published by the DP&I. Generally it is advised to apply adjoining urban zones and the majority of roads in the Tweed LGA have been zoned in this manner. The section of the Tweed Coast Road subject to this submission is an exception given the adjoining land to either side is zone E2 Environmental Conservation as this section of the road runs through a Nature Reserve.

Roads are classified as infrastructure under the SEPP Infrastructure which, consistent with the hierarchy of the planning system in NSW, prevails over the LEP. Section 94(1) of the SEPP Infrastructure states that *Development for the purpose of a road or road infrastructure facilities may be carried out by or on behalf of a public authority without consent on any land*. As such, the E2 zone applied to the roadway does not impose any constrains on road infrastructure and is in line with adjoining zone (E1 National Parks and Nature Reserves).

#### Recommendation/Action:

39 No amendment to the draft Tweed LEP.

#### Events on Council land

Consultation with Engineering & Operations sought additional entry into the Schedule 2 -Exempt Development of the DLEP to recognise events on Council land as exempt development, if consistent with Council policy position. This is a similar request to the one raised by Development Assessment in Section 3.3.3 above.

#### Appropriate zoning of the Black Rocks Sportsfield

Engineering and Operations have requested that the Black Rocks Sportsfield be zoned for recreation rather than environmental to reflect the use of the site.

## Planning comment:

The DLEP2012, as exhibited, proposed to essentially translate the zoning of the current LEP 2000, being an environmental zone with the additional permitted uses of a sporting facility allowed through Schedule 1 and the associated Additional Permitted Uses Map.

The rationale of this approach was to provide balanced controls for managing the sporting field within environmentally sensitive areas, without an intention to expand the existing sporting site.



Figure 5: Location of Lot 301 DP 1125090

This approach resulted in serious concerns and confusion among the local community in Pottsville, concerned that these planning controls may result in additional sporting facility to be erected within the koala habitat.

To clarify Council's intention, it is considered reasonable to remove Area 9 from the Additional Permitted Uses Map and zone the existing sporting field site to RE1 Public Recreation zone, with adjoining areas to be zoned with an environmental zone, as exhibited.

## Recommendation/Action:

40 The draft Tweed LEP 2012 Land Zoning Map be amended to zone Lot 301 DP 1125090 (Figure 5 above), excluding the access road, as RE1 Public Recreation and to amend the Additional Permitted Uses Map to remove area labelled as "Area 9".

#### 3.3.5 Economic development

#### Height controls at/near Murwillumbah Airfield

It is requested that the Maximum height of buildings should be limited to 0 within 30 metres from Runaway Centre Line (RWCL).

#### Planning comment:

Analysis of the Murwillumbah airfield RWCL indicates that the 30 metres buffer does not encroach into private land and is contained within the airfield site, with the exception of the northern edge, where the buffer covers a small portion of Council owned land zoned RE1 Public Recreation.

As the land within the 30 m buffer is in public ownership, restricting building height to 0 m does not appear to be justified.



Figure 6: DLEP Height of Building Map with Runaway Centre Line and 30 m buffer.

Recommendation/Action:

41 No amendment to the draft Tweed LEP.

3.3.6 Waste management

# Appropriate zone for closed Murwillumbah landfill facility

The Waste Management Unit requested that the zoning of the Murwillumbah landfill facility should be amended to reflect recent Council decision to close the facility and commence an EPA approved closure and capping program.

In addition, on 13 December 2012 council resolved to endorse, subject to development consent, lease conditions to enable a motorcycle club to construct, maintain and operate a motorcycle (dirt) track on this site. This land use would be classified, under the Standard Instrument dictionary, as a recreational facility (outdoor).

## Planning comment:

The exhibited draft LEP is proposing to change the zone from 5(a) Special Uses, to IN1 General Industrial, where the recreational facility (outdoor) land use would be prohibited.

An advice from the Executive Management Team (EMT) was sought to determine preferred options for future use of this site and an appropriate zone to facilitate this use. On its meeting of 4 April 2013, the EMT resolved to recommend amendment to the Land Zoning Map on this site to RE1 Public Recreation, in line with intended use of land.



Figure 7: Murwillumbah landfill facility.

# Recommendation/Action:

42 The draft Tweed LEP 2012 Land Zoning Map to be amended to zone Lot 1 DP 232745 and part of Lot 2 DP 1139059 to RE1 Public Recreation, with amendments to the Height of Building Map for the site to apply the standard 10m development control for the RE1 Public Recreation zone.

#### Land use permissibility for Eviron Road Quarry and Landfill Site

Consultation with Waste management has raised concerns that the land use table for SP Infrastructure zone should be amended to permit extractive industry.

#### Planning comment:

The site is proposed to be zoned SP2 Waste Management Facilities. Under the LEP Dictionary of Definitions, "waste disposal facility" allows for the "...winning of extractive material to generate a void for disposal of waste or to cover waste after its disposal", as part of the definition. Therefore, it is considered there is no urgent need to amend the land use table as proposed. If, for reasons unforseen, extractive activities would become a primary use, such as a quarry, then an LEP amendment process should be undertaken to allow for a change of use of the site.

#### Recommendation/Action:

43 No amendment to the draft Tweed LEP.

#### 3.3.7 Implementation of plans adopted by Council since public exhibition

Council has recently gazetted LEP Amendments and adopted amendment to Section B11 Seaside City of the Tweed DCP 2008. It is requested the resolutions of Council be incorporated into the DLEP 2012.

#### Planning comment:

Since the public exhibition of the DLEP 20102, three planning proposals for amendments to the Tweed LEP 2000 have been endorsed by Tweed Shire Council and "made" by the Minister of the DP&I. These plans represent amendments endorsed by Council to the current Tweed LEP 2000 and it is appropriate that the intent of these be translated into the finalisation of the DLEP 2012. Details of the planning proposals include:

- LEP Amendment No 35 to facilitate the expansion of the Tweed Coast Holiday Park (gazetted on 21 December 2012). This amendment rezones the site from 2(a) Low Density Residential to 6(b) Recreation zone in the current Tweed LEP 2000. This site is to be zoned the corresponding RE2 Private Recreation within the DLEP.
- LEP Amendment No 93 to rezone the Boyds Bay Garden World Site (gazetted on 16 November 2012). This amendment rezones the site from 1(a) Rural to 3(c) Commerce and Trade. This site is to be zoned the corresponding B7 Business Park within the DLEP.
- LEP Amendment No 96 to facilitate redevelopment of the Tweed City Shopping Centre (gazetted on 18 January 2013). This amendment rezones the site to part 2(b) Medium Density Residential and 6(b) Recreation to 3(b) General Business. This site is to be zoned B3 Commercial Core within the DLEP.



Figures 8&9: Land Zoning Map for the Seaside City Area as exhibited (left) and after proposed changes (right)

Council at its meeting of 18 April 2013, resolved to endorse amendments to the Tweed Development Control Plan 2008 Section B11 Seaside City. It is noted that the draft Tweed LEP 2012 Land Zoning Height of Buildings, Floor Space Ratio and Lot Size maps for the Seaside City area were based on the previous version of the DCP B11, therefore an update to these maps is required in ensure consistency. The key changes of the DCP amendment include:

 Land Zoning Map: the extent of 'medium density' footprint (Coastal Multi Dwelling and Coastal Units) has been reduced in favour of 'low density' residential development (Coastal Housing). Further, the 'Village Centre' footprint has been reduced in preference for 'medium density' development (Village Centre Fringe and Coastal Multi Dwelling). In addition, previously the Village Centre Fringe area had been translated to the R1 – General Residential zone. The Village Centre Fringe precinct contains a strong residential and tourist focus, along with a high minimum density requirement of 1 unit per 125m<sup>2</sup> site area. Whilst the R1 zone enables these objectives, it is considered that these attributes are better facilitated within the R3 Medium Density Zone.

- Height of Buildings Map: Minor building height changes were made to the Seaside City DCP based on the proponents request, as per adopted amendments to the DCP B11.
- Floor Space Ratio Map: Minor floor space ratio changes were adopted to the Seaside City DCP following the proponents' request. Beyond the DCP based changes, it is considered appropriate to remove the imposition of a maximum FSR from the DLEP for Coastal Housing lots East of Lorna Street / Cylinders Drive. At present, a maximum FSR of 0.5:1 is applicable to these properties, however when considering this control in light of the small residential footprint and the provisions of Clause 4.5(4) of the Draft LEP, the maintenance of this control is considered undesirable towards facilitating the vision and aims within the Seaside City DCP. Maintaining the existing 2:1 FSR control for 'Village Centre' is considered appropriate as it enables appropriate development opportunities to facilitate the visioned development of those lots.
- Lot Size Map: With the changes made to the R2 and R3 footprint, the extent of the corresponding minimum lot size controls also require amendment. The recommended changes are displayed in It is noted that the amendments to the Seaside City DCP enable Dual Occupancy on lots not smaller than 700m<sup>2</sup> (if those lots possess dual frontages) within the Coastal Housing precinct. These provisions create a potential density yield of 1 dwelling per 350m<sup>2</sup>, whereas the minimum lot size within the DLEP 2012 restrict development to 1 dwelling per 450m<sup>2</sup> of site area. The reduction of minimum lot size from 450m<sup>2</sup> to 350m<sup>2</sup> is outside the scope of this planning process, therefore it is recommended to maintain the minimum lot size control for the R2 zone unchanged.

Recommendation/Action:

- 44 The draft Tweed LEP 2012 Land Zoning, Floor Space Ratio, Lot Size and Height of Buildings Maps be amended as per recently gazetted LEP Amendments No 35, 93 and 96,
- 45 The draft Tweed LEP 2012 Land Zoning, Floor Space Ratio, Lot Size and Height of Buildings Maps be amended consistent with recent amendments to the DCP B11 Seaside City.

## <u>3.3.8 Other minor amendments to the draft Tweed LEP 2012 resulting from internal postexhibition review</u>

A number of inconsistencies with the translation of zones and mapping have been identified through final review, as follows:

- Translation of zone for land located at 77 Tamarind Avenue at Bogangar (Deposited Plan No 76700) from 2(e) to RE2 should be amended to R1, in line with recent amendments to development consent and consistently with the current use of land, which is residential with serviced apartments.
- Old Pacific Motorway corridor at Banora Point (now called Sexton Hill Drive) is no longer classified as a State Road, and is recommended to be rezoned from SP2 to the adjoining zone, in line with relevant Practice Notes.

- Zoning of Lot 400 DP 776483, located at 165 Darlington Drive, Banora Point. Under the current LEP the site is zoned 2(a) Low Density Residential. Under the draft Tweed LEP 2012 the site was proposed to be zoned RE1 Public Recreation, as the site is owned by Council and classified as operational land. At its March meeting, Council resolved to sell the parcel by public tender. It is therefore recommended to revert the zoning back to Low Density Residential (R2), in line with the current zoning of the site.
- Land Zoning Map for Lot 6 DP 870582 and Lot 78 DP 502697 to be amended to provide a correct translation of zones 1(a) Rural to RU2 Rural Landscape and 2(a) Low Density Residential to R2 Low Density Residential.
- Internal review of development controls in Salt Village highlighted and inconsistency on Height of Buildings and Floor Space Ratio Maps for areas zoned with the R1 General Residential zone. These two maps, when placed on exhibition in 2012, were to be read in conjunction with development controls of the DCP A1 which were restricting low density residential development to 9 metres. On 18 April 2012 Council resolved to adopt the revised DCP A1. The revised DCPA1 does not maintain the 9 metres restriction for dwelling houses, which can potentially lead to an increase in height of buildings in this locality. Similarly, the revised DCP A1 is silent on the floor space ratio controls, which are defined under the Floor Space Ratio Map of the DLEP. To avoid an increase in density of residential development, and to maintain consistency with current planning controls, it is recommended to amend Height of Buildings and Floor Space Ratio Maps for Lots 553-589 DP 1180830 and 506-513 DP 1137688, located in Kingscliff (as provided on Figure 10 below).



Figure 10: Areas zoned R1 General Residential in Salt Village.

Recommendation/Action:

Amend the Land Zoning Map as follows:

- 46 77 Tamarind Avenue at Bogangar (Deposited Plan No 76700) to be zoned R1 General Residential, and
- 47 Old Pacific Motorway corridor at Banora Point, now called Sexton Hill Drive, to be rezoned from SP2 to an adjoining zone, and
- 48 Lot 400 DP 776483 to be zoned R2 Low Density Residential, and

- 49 The conversion of zones on Lot 6 DP 870582 and Lot 78 DP 502697 to be reviewed to translate zones with no variations to their boundaries, and
- 50 Height of Building Map for Lots 553-589 DP 1180830 and Lots 506-513 DP 1137688 in Salt Village, Kingscliff, to be amended to provide a 9 m maximum height control and
- 51 Floor Space Ratio Map for Lots 553-589 DP 1180830 and Lots 506-513 DP 1137688 in Salt Village, Kingscliff, to be amended to provide a 0.8:1 floor space ratio control.

# 3.4 Environmental protection

## 3.4.1 Submissions objecting to the proposed environmental protection controls

Concerns regarding protection of environment, in particular the koala habitat along the coast and the methodology of converting the current LEP 2000 into the DLEP and the suitability and application of environmental zones elicited the most comments and variety of views during the public exhibition. For this reason the submissions relating to environmental concerns and zoning are discussed separate from the remainder of the submissions following.

All submissions received have been carefully analysed and are detailed in Attachment 1 to this Report. In response to environmental concerns, Council provided a broad analysis of three options for proceeding with the LEP review.

In summary, environmental concerns included:

- Protection of the koala habitat along the Tweed Coast.
- Accuracy of environmental zones based on the LEP 2000.
- Delay the LEP until the Koala Plan of Management is finalised.
- Vegetation clearing controls in koala habitat.
- Delay the LEP until the Revised Environmental Strategy.
- Appropriate zoning of Pottsville Wetlands.
- Objections to any new recreational facilities near Black Rocks estate.
- The DLEP should be deferred until the E-zone review commenced by the DP&I is completed.
- Vegetation and biodiversity must remain a priority and high conservation values should be protected.
- Riparian corridors should be protected.
- The draft LEP does not meet the NSW state government requirement to protect the environment (SEPP 44 or Directions under Section 117).
- The process of preparing the LEP has not been open and Council did not provide accurate information.
- The DLEP should take account of climate change.
- Comments regarding Byrrill Creek Dam, (addressed in section 3.3.1).
- Requests for a public hearing, (addressed in section 3.5.3).
- Council should stand up to the State Government.
- Name of the E3 zone "Environmental Management" is inappropriate and does not inform what the intention of the zone is.

- Open cut mining should be prohibited in the rural zones and CSG should be listed as a prohibited land use.
- Domestic animals should be banned in all new developments.
- A range of site or zone specific use comments.

The above concerns were raised in individual submissions, as well as in proforma submissions. Six different proforma letters were submitted, as follows:

Proforma	Number submitted	Summary of Key Issues
A		I reject the draft Tweed LEP for the following reasons:
(two versions)		<ol> <li>The draft is a step backwards for conservation of native vegetation and biodiversity in Tweed Shire.</li> </ol>
		2) Loss of protection of 1200ha of coastal habitat including Koala habitat.
		3) Habitat currently protected by way of Tree Preservation Orders have decreased by about 10000ha.
		4) Council exhibited the draft LEP without supporting documents such as the revised Environmental Strategy.
		5) Council has not been open with councillors and the community by claiming that this LEP is a rollover of the current LEP 2000.
		6) Council has not provided information on the implications for restrictions of clearing of native vegetation.
		<ol> <li>Revised Environmental Strategy and Tweed Coast Koala Plan of Management to be available to community prior to decision on draft LEP 2012.</li> </ol>
		8) Public Hearing as due process has not been followed.
		Alternative version of this submission:
		I reject the draft Tweed LEP 2012 for the following reasons:
		1) The draft LEP 2012 is a step backwards for conservation of native vegetation and biodiversity in Tweed Shire.
		<ol> <li>It fails to include critical recommendations of Council's own Tweed Vegetation Management Strategy;</li> </ol>
		3) It removes protection of 1 200 ha. of coastal habitat including Koala habitat;
		4) It reduces the area of habitat currently protected by the Tree Preservation Order by approx. 10 000 ha.;
		5) Public Hearing given that due process has not been followed:
		<ul> <li>The Plan was placed on exhibition without all the necessary supporting documentation (e.g. the revised Environmental Strategy);</li> </ul>
		<ul> <li>Council has not been open with Councillors and the community in claiming that this LEP is a rollover of the current LEP 2000, and has failed to adequately document the significant differences between these two plans;</li> </ul>
		<ul> <li>Council has failed to clearly outline the process regarding the protection/clearing of native vegetation on rural land.</li> </ul>
		6) Protect our natural areas from inappropriate development.

Proforma	Number submitted	Summary of Key Issues
В		<ol> <li>Approval of the draft Tweed LEP 2012 will have impacts on Council's ability to protect and recover the koala population.</li> </ol>
		2) Effective protection of koala habitat within the Tweed Coast Koala Study Area will be reduced from 19,725 ha to approximately 9,435 ha.
		<ol> <li>Approx. 1244 ha within the Tweed Coast Koala Study Area identified for environmental zoning under the draft LEP 2010 have been reassigned to other zones.</li> </ol>
		<ol> <li>Request to keep the areas protected by the tree preservation order at 19,725 ha.</li> </ol>
С		Support to the following in the draft LEP:
		1) The application of the E2 and E3 zones over high conservation values,
		2) The application of wildlife corridors and riparian overlays,
		Objection to abandoning zones defined for the Tweed Coast under the draft Tweed LEP 2010.
		Concern about the intensions of the "E-zone review" project undertaken by the DP&I.
D		Support to the following in the draft LEP:
		1) The application of the E2 and E3 zones over high conservation values,
		2) The application of wildlife corridors and riparian overlays,
		Objection to:
		1) Abandoning zones defined for the Tweed Coast under the draft Tweed LEP 2010.
		2) The removal of 1 200 ha. of coastal habitat including Koala habitat.
		3) The reduction of the area of habitat currently protected by the Tree Preservation Order by approx. 10 000 ha.;
		4) Not providing access to Council's Environmental Strategy.
		Concern about the intensions of the "E-zone review" project undertaken by the DP&I.
		Request to extend the exhibition period to allow additional time to consider the draft Environmental Strategy.
E		Objection to any development within the area referred to as "Area 9" on the Additional Permitted Uses Map of the draft Tweed LEP 2012.
		Request to amend the Land Zoning Map for Pottsville Wetlands from E3 Environmental Management to E2 Environmental Conservation.
F		This proforma submission consisted of both letters "A" and "E".

In addition, many of the proforma submissions had additional, individual comments, related with key issues raised in the submissions, such as increased protection for koala habitat, objection to further development in Pottsville or request for a public hearing. Those comments are responded to in this section of the Report.

#### Planning comment:

The first version of the Tweed (Standard Instrument) Local Environmental Plan exhibited in 2010 intended to implement, where possible, recommendations of the Tweed Vegetation Management Strategy 2004 (TVMS). The TVMS had been completed prior to the State Government's request to prepare an LEP under the standard LEP instrument, which resulted in some of the recommendations of the Strategy being extremely difficult to implement in the new template. As a consequence, the DLEP 2010 proposed an increase in the overall areas zoned for environmental protection along the Tweed Coast (including koala habitat), and rezoning areas in the west from current environmental zones to a rural zone with limited, if any, levels of environmental protection.

Following the 2010 exhibition, Council amended the recommendations of the TVMS, which, following consultation with NSW DP&I, resulted in a new approach to the Land Zoning Map with the E3 Environmental Management zone intended to cover rural land constrained by slope, scenic and bushland values. A bridging document, the "Revised Environmental Strategy" (discussed further below) was developed to provide a linkage between the TVMS 2004 and the Standard Instrument LEP, providing a set of eleven recommendations for implementation into the LEP.

Due to ongoing pressure from the State Government to finalise implementation of the Standard Instrument, it was recommended and resolved to place the draft Tweed LEP 2012 on public exhibition with the intention to implement a number of recommendations of the TVMS and with a view to implement the remaining recommendations through a separate LEP amendment process (subject to separate public consultations). It needs to be noted that LEPs are 'living' instruments. They are regularly amended and periodically updated, as evidenced with the current LEP having been amended 57 times since its commencement in 2000.

Notwithstanding this, and in an attempt to implement the intent of the TVMS, the following clauses and maps were added to the 2012 exhibited LEP:

- Bushland overlay map and clause;
- Steep land overlay map and revised clause;
- Drinking water catchment land overlay map and clause;
- Acid sulfate soils clause; and
- A new earthworks clause to reflect existing consent provisions for innominate works under LEP 2000.

Initially, a sixth recommendation related with biting midge and mosquito breeding areas was proposed; however, this recommendation has not been supported by the DP&I as it is considered more suitable as a Development Control Plan control, rather than a LEP clause.

#### Vegetation Management Implementation Principles

In general, the methodology of the preparation of the DLEP 2012 is based on:

• The State Government directions associated with the preparation of a standard instrument LEP: the *Standard Instrument (Local Environmental Plans) Order, 2006*, the suite of State Practice Notes and Planning Circulars; S117 Ministerial Directions; and relevant State Environmental Planning Policies (SEPPs). These documents provide the legal framework the LEP must be consistent with.

- Council's endorsement that the LEP be prepared as both a "best fit" conversion of the current LEP 2000 into the format of the standard LEP template and that local context and clauses be based only on adopted strategies, plans and policies (as discussed further under 3.5.3 below).
- Acknowledgement of the limitations of the current Tweed Vegetation Management Strategy 2004, and development of the bridging "revised Environmental Strategy" which is yet to be publicly exhibited and adopted by Council.
- The DP&I direction of September 2012 stating a strong concern with restrictive controls and extensive use of environmental overlays, E2 Environmental Conservation and E3 Environmental Management on agricultural lands and potentially reducing the value of those properties. As such the DP&I have stated that any E2 or E3 land will be excised from draft LEPs when they are finalised by the State Government.
- Following this announcement the DP&I have engaged Parsons Brinckerhoff (PB) to undertake a review of the use of environmental zones on the Far North Coast. This review is underway; however, is not anticipated to result in a report to the Minister until mid 2013, beyond the deadline for the making of the DLEP.

## Revised Environmental Strategy

Given current level of constraints on the implementation of a comprehensive environmental strategy, as discussed above, Council's preferred approach was to finalise the "Revised Environmental Strategy" which, once endorsed by Council would, via a separate LEP amendment process deliver:

- A refined E2 Environmental Conservation zone focusing on the Tweed Coast, public lands and areas already protected;
- A new flexible E3 Environmental Management zone;
- Revised Waterways zones which more closely reflect existing waterway character and use;
- A new riparian land overlay map and revised clause; and
- A revised approach to tree preservation.

The DP&I environmental zone review is expected to provide a new approach to the application of environmental zones and environmental overlay maps in LEPs in the Far North Coast region. As such, it is considered appropriate to hold the "revised Environmental Strategy" until the outcomes of the environmental zone review project are released. Initially, the review was scheduled for completion by March-April 2013 but this has been delayed to an unknown completion date.

The recent public exhibition revealed that this approach is not accepted by the Tweed community, which requested immediate improvements to protect the koala habitat through the application of environmental zones over the koala habitat, as was proposed in 2010 exhibition. In response to this request, Council has provided alternative options to move forward with the LEP, with one of those options – discussed below – to implement additional recommendation of the TVMS, being "a refined E2 Environmental Conservation zone focusing on the Tweed Coast, public lands and areas already protected".

#### Vegetation clearing

The DLEP amends the approach towards vegetation clearing, which has caused significant concerns expressed in submissions from community. Under the DLEP, vegetation clearing on any land is managed under clause 5.9 *Preservation of trees or vegetation*. Clause 5.9 provides that in certain circumstances defined under the Native Vegetation Act 2003 vegetation clearing is permitted. These circumstances include:

- Routine agricultural management activities,
- Continuation of existing farming activities,
- Vegetation clearing permitted under a property vegetation plan approved for the site,
- Clearing of native vegetation that is only regrowth, but not protected regrowth,
- The clearing of native vegetation that comprises only groundcover is permitted if:
  - (a) The vegetation comprises less than 50% of indigenous species of vegetation; and
  - (b) Not less than 10% of the area is covered with vegetation (whether dead or alive); and
  - (c) Those percentages are calculated in accordance with the regulations.

Those exemptions do not apply to land zoned R5 Large Lot Residential, E2 Environmental Conservation, E3 Environmental Management and E4 Environmental Living.

Other exemptions include:

- Clearing that is authorised by a development consent or property vegetation plan under the *Native Vegetation Act 2003*'
- The clearing of vegetation on State protected land (within the meaning of clause 4 of Schedule 3 to the *Native Vegetation Act 2003*) that is authorised by a development consent under the provisions of the *Native Vegetation Conservation Act 1997* as continued in force by that clause; or
- Clearing of trees or other vegetation within a State forest, or land reserved from sale as a timber or forest reserve under the *Forestry Act 1916*; or
- Action required or authorised to be done by or under the *Electricity Supply Act* 1995, the *Roads Act* 1993 or the *Surveying and Spatial Information Act* 2002; or
- Plants declared to be noxious weeds under the Noxious Weeds Act 1993.

Under the DLEP2012, vegetation clearing which is not captured by any of the above is subject to Council's DCP A16 - Trees and Vegetation Preservation Code. Council's current Tree Preservation Orders will be repealed upon making of the Standard Instrument LEP.

Prior to the 2012 exhibition, Council's Natural Resource Management Unit advised that the best method to ensure adequate clearing controls were maintained was to apply environmental zones (or the R5 zone) to areas which should be specifically protected from native vegetation clearing. This however should be supported by accurate mapping and justified by an adopted strategy.

## Koala Plan of Management

The Koala Plan of Management (KPoM) is currently being prepared and is in a draft form, anticipated to be completed in early 2014. This strategy has not been publicly exhibited for community and landowners to have an opportunity to contribute and provide comments, or adopted by Council.

Subsequently, Council at its meeting of 21 February 2013, resolved:

- 2. Given the unique biodiversity of our region:
  - a) The recommendations [11] contained within the document presently known as the draft Environmental Strategy (based on the Tweed Vegetation Strategy) be accepted as a let submission to the Draft Local Environmental Plan 2012.
  - b) The recommendations included in the Tweed Coast Koala Habitat Study (2011) relating to environmental protection be also accepted as a late submission to the Draft Local Environmental Plan 2012.

In addition, Council at its meeting of 18 April 2013, endorsed the recommendations of the Minutes of the Tweed Coast Koala Advisory Group Committee Meeting held Tuesday 4 April 2013 and resolved:

- 2. The Executive Management Team's recommendations be adopted as follows:
  - 2. LEP update
  - 1. That Council notes that:
    - a) Clause 15(b) of SEPP 44 Koala Habitat Protection requires Council: to make or amend a local environmental plan: (i) to include land identified as core koala habitat within an environmental protections zone, or (ii) to identify land that is a core koala habitat and apply special provisions to control development on that land.
    - b) The Draft Tweed Coast Koala Plan of Management recommends that Council's comprehensive LEP should be reviewed to include zoning for environmental protection of all areas of remnant bushland that occur within identified core koala habitat on Tweed coast.
    - c) Under a Standard Instrument LEP environmental protection zoning is necessary if Council seeks to maintain its tree preservation provisions in areas of identified core koala habitat.
  - 2. Consistent with the requirements of SEPP 44 Koala Habitat Protection, Council considers the revision of Draft LEP 2012 to include, where possible, remnant bushland identified as core koala habitat on the Tweed Coast within an appropriate environmental zone.

In order to respond to Council's resolution of 21 February 2013, this Report recommends an amendment to the Land Zoning Map to apply the E2 Environmental Conservation zone over the koala habitat, as proposed in 2010 exhibition. This recommendation appears to respond – to a degree – to concerns raised by the community during this exhibition. It needs to be noted that this approach creates a significant risk of re-exhibition the LEP which would add significant delays to a project which has been ongoing since 2010, but will also run the significant risk of losing local input into the review and application of environmental zones. The DP&I have made strong representation to all Council's that standard instrument LEPs are to be completed as the highest priority pending the introduction of a new Environmental Planning and Assessment Act.

The recently released Planning White Paper announces that all local environmental plans (and development control plans) will be converted into Local Plans under the new planning system. The new Act will contain provisions to transition existing Standard Instrument Local Environmental Plans and Development Control Plans into the relevant parts of the Local Plan (White Paper, Chapter 5 *Strategic Planning*, page 92). This creates a significant risk that the current LEP 2000 (if not replaced by the Standard Instrument) may not be recognised by the new planning system.

In addition, given the recent "making" of the Ballina, Kyogle and Lismore LEPs, where the E2 Environmental Conservation and E3 Environmental Management zones have been removed from the written instrument and deferred from the mapping, it is almost a certainty that anything other than a direct translation will be deferred from the finalisation of the DLEP, until such time that DP&I finalises the review of environmental zones and provides new guidelines (and potentially an updated Standard Instrument) for finalising LEPs in the Northern Rivers region, as per example below:

Figure 11: Ballina Local Environmental Plan with areas proposed for environmental zones deferred form the Plan.

Translation of the current Tweed LEP 2000 zoned environmental lands into the E2 and E3 zones within the DLEP maintains the current environmental protection and represents a continuation of the status quo, i.e. no net loss of environmental protection zoning. This way forward has been presented as an alternative option and is considered to represent an opportunity for Tweed to maintain the current environmental protection through the finalisation and "making" of the DLEP with a view for further amendments through a separate planning proposal.

# <u>Options</u>

This Report provides three alternative options, with **Option 2** being the recommended opton. **Option 2** attempts to achieve a compromise between community expectation to improve environmental protection, particularly along the Tweed Coast, and State Government's pressure to finalise implementation of the Standard Instrument LEP.

# Option 1:

That draft Tweed Local Environmental Plan 2012 is endorsed subject to the amendments recommended under Part 3 of this Report but <u>without</u> amendments to include riparian clause and environmental zones on the Tweed Coast (proposed under recommendations No 29 and No. 52a); and:

- (1) The draft Tweed Local Environmental Plan 2012 be referred to the Director-General of the Department of Planning and Infrastructure, following its amendment under Resolution 1 above, for the draft local environmental plan to be made; and
- (2) A draft local environmental plan (planning proposal) be prepared to bring about a greater level of protection for Koala Core Habitat, in accordance with State Environmental Planning Policy No.44 Koala Habitat Protection; and
- (3) Following the completion of the State Government's review of the Environmental Zones (E2, E3 & E4) and Overlays under the Standard Instrument (Local Environmental Plans) Order 2006, for the Far North Coast Region, a report detailing the process and strategy for Council to implement its broader environmental strategies be brought forward.

## Option 2:

That draft Tweed Local Environmental Plan 2012 is endorsed subject to the amendments recommended under Part 3 of this Report, <u>including</u> recommendation No 52a to include environmental zones as exhibited under the draft Tweed LEP 2010, recommendation No 29 to include riparian clause, and including rationalisation of environmental protection zones on Council controlled land; and:

- (1) Council seeks advice from the Department of Planning and Infrastructure that the abovementioned changes can be made without the need for further public re-exhibition; and
- (2) The draft Tweed Local Environmental Plan 2012 be referred to the Director-General of the Department of Planning and Infrastructure, following its amendment under Resolution 1 above, for the draft local environmental plan to be made;
- (3) That a draft local environmental plan (planning proposal) be prepared to fully implement Council's adopted approach to environmental protection (including SEPP 44 Koala Habitat) consistent with outcomes of the State Government's review of the Environmental Zones and Overlays under the Standard Instrument (Local Environmental Plans) Order 2006, for the Far North Coast Region.

## Option 3:

- 1. That draft Tweed Local Environmental Plan 2012 is revised to:
  - (i) Include the amendments recommended under Part 3 of this Report.
  - (ii) More fully implement Council's adopted approach to environmental protection (including SEPP 44 Koala Habitat) consistent with outcomes of the State Government's review of the Environmental Zones and Overlays for the Far North Coast Region.
- 2. That the revised Tweed Local Environmental Plan referred to in Resolution 1 above is publically re-exhibited in accordance with Section 68 of the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979.*

While considering recommended **Option 2**, the following need to be measured:

- Re-instatement of environmental zoning along the Tweed Coast, in line with the Land Zoning Map exhibited in 2010 may be considered a significant change and may require re-exhibition of the LEP. The re-exhibition can be limited to the extent of area subject to proposed changes.
- Whilst there is a clear will on behalf of Council to extend the "translation" of the LEP to incorporate protection of environmental lands and core koala habitat, amendments to the Land Zoning Map at this stage of its progress are likely to not only add significant delays to this project which has been ongoing since 2010, but will also run the significant risk of losing local input into the review and application of environmental zones. The DP&I have made strong representation to all Council's that standard instrument LEPs are to be completed as the highest priority pending the introduction of a new Environmental Planning and Assessment Act.
- It is highly likely that the Tweed LEP 2012 will be gazetted without environmental zones at all similarly to recently published Ballina or Lismore LEPs (refer to Figure 11). Under that scenario, environmental zones will be re-instated through a separate LEP amendment commenced upon finalisation of the DP&I's review of environmental zones in the Northern Rivers region. This LEP amendment, through public exhibition stage, would provide an opportunity to further discuss the application of environmental zones with landowners and the community.

In considering **Option 1**, the following must be taken into account:

- Whilst it is considered that the improvement of the vegetation clearing controls through amendments to the Land Zoning Map, particularly within the core koala habitat, is a matter of high priority, any such amendments at this time are likely to result in significant delays in the making of the LEP and generally should be undertaken as a separate amendment to the LEP.
- This option represents the methodology of developing the Standard Instrument LEP in stages, with this stage being a translation of the current LEP 2000, with the view to implement required changes through separate LEP amendments. This approach is in line with DP&I's requirements outlined through practice notes, circulars and ongoing consultations.
- Option 1 does not expose Council of the risk of having the LEP finalised by the DP&I.

In considering **Option 3**, the following must be taken into account:

• The Koala Plan of Management is scheduled for completion in early 2014.

- The exact date for completion of the DP&I review of Far North Coast environmental zones is unknown.
- Proceeding with anything other than a direct translation of environmental zones, <u>before</u> <u>the review of environmental zones is finalised</u>, is likely to require subsequent review to ensure consistency with revised DP&I directions.
- Once the review is finalised, the DP&I will consider amendments to the Standard Instrument template to implement the outcomes of the review (for example, the potential for a new zone to be added to the list of standard zones).
- The Revised Environmental Strategy will need to be updated in line with the outcomes of the DP&I review and in line with the updated version of the Standard Instrument.
- The Revised Environmental Strategy and mapping will need to be prepared to exhibition standards.
- The recently released Planning White Paper, announces that all local environmental plans (and development control plans) will be converted into Local Plans under the new planning system. The new Act will contain provisions to transition existing Standard Instrument Local Environmental Plans and Development Control Plans into the relevant parts of the Local Plan (White Paper, Chapter 5 *Strategic Planning*, page 92). This creates a significant risk that the current LEP 2000 (if not replaced by the Standard Instrument) may not be recognised by the new planning system.
- Diversion of significant Planning Reform and Natural Resource Management staff resources and therefore delays to other programmed work.
- The possibility that these resources will not be effectively used should the State Government report make findings and directions that environmental zoning proceed in a different manner to that embarked on by staff in the interim.

#### Recommendation/Action:

- 52 It is recommended that Council proceeds with the making of the DLEP 2012, and:
  - A draft planning proposal be prepared to bring about a greater level of protection for Core Koala Habitat, in accordance with State Environmental Planning Policy No 44 Koala Habitat Protection, and
  - b) Following the completion of the State Government's review of the Environmental Zones (E2, E3 & E4) and Overlays under the Standard Instrument (Local Environmental Plans) Order 2006, for the Far North Coast Region, a report detailing the process and strategy for Council to implement its broader environmental strategies be brought forward, and
- 52a It is recommended to include Environmental Protection zones on the Tweed Coast, as exhibited under the draft Tweed Local Environmental Plan 2010 and to rationalise environmental protection zones on Council controlled land.

#### 3.4.2 Site specific objections to accuracy of environmental zones

A number of submissions (10) received raised objection to the environmental protection zones (E2 Environmental Conservation and E3 Environmental Management) being imposed on land that was not considered to reflect significant environmental status or sensitivity, nor provide compatibility with the existing land use. The majority of submissions of this nature applied to land that is reported to be farmed at present; however both the E2 and E3 zones prohibit Agriculture.

Many of the submissions provide a detailed account of vegetation types and agricultural activities, articulating that components of the zone boundaries require amendment to better reflect on-ground conditions and farming practices. Predominately, the use of the RU2 Rural Landscape zone in areas where the qualities of the site do not justify environmental protection is requested.

The Draft LEP 2012 seeks to maintain the existing zone boundaries between Rural and Environmental Protection zones. In addition, the permissibility of agriculture within the areas of environmental protection, whilst not as unequivocally direct in translation, are primarily unchanged as these uses are discouraged within the current Tweed LEP 2000 and prohibited within the Draft LEP 2012.

Notwithstanding the above, Council acknowledges that a review of the Environmental zones is needed however is to be pursued through a separate process.

A more detailed assessment of these submissions is under Section 3.5.5 of this Report.

#### 3.5 Community submissions

#### 3.5.1 Public hearing

Public hearing requests have arisen with regard to two issues: the need for investigation into Council's approach to environmental zones and public hearing required in respect of the reclassification of Council owned "community land" to "operational land".

#### Public hearing – public concerns

The proforma submissions included a request that "the draft LEP 2012 should be rejected and a call made for a public hearing as due process has not been followed in the development and exhibition of the draft LEP 2012". This request was similarly made through 24 individual submissions.

## Planning Comment:

The DLEP as exhibited is consistent with the resolution of Council of 25 October 2012, which was premised on the methodology of drafting the draft Tweed LEP 2012, based on two guiding principles:

- i. The "best fit" conversion. This approach has been taken to simplify the translation of the current LEP 2000 into the format of the standard LEP template in the absence of a Shire wide strategic review of the LEP and zones.
- ii. Local context based only on Council adopted strategies, plans and policies. This transparent approach is consistent with the accepted methodology of preparation of an LEP/amendment. An LEP, whether Council or landowner initiated, is premised on incorporating those studies and support information that has been the subject of a report to Council to endorse the strategy/study, public exhibition and final adoption of the same by Council. The DLEP has incorporated adopted strategies, plans and policies, however, has not incorporated those strategies, plans and policies which have not yet been public exhibited or reported to Council as these are not resolved directions of Council.

The draft LEP has also been prepared within the context of a State Government review of environmental zones within the Far North Coast. As advised in the previous report seeking Council endorsement to publicly exhibit the DLEP, the State Government has issued advice that in the interim period until the review is completed, Environmental E2 and E3 zones will be excised by the State Government when the LEPs are finalised. This approach has been taken with the recent "making" of the Ballina, Kyogle and Lismore LEPs, where the E2 Environmental Conservation and E3 Environmental Management zones have been removed from the written instrument and deferred from the mapping, therefore reverting to the zoning in place prior to the making of the LEP under the standard LEP instrument.

The DLEP 2012 has been prepared to translate the current environmental zoned land into the corresponding Standard LEP template environmental zone, thus retaining the current environmental zone, not applying environmental zones to other land, and with the aim of retaining the current environmental protection in light of the State Government review.

The latest information on the State Government environmental zone review is that a draft report by Parsons Brinkerhoff (PB) is due to the State Government potentially June, though this is not confirmed. It is envisaged that the findings of the PB report will be used by the DP&I to review the Standard LEP template. This will result in new directions/ guidelines for the far north coast, potentially new environmental zones and is likely to take some time to complete.

Therefore, given the LEP incorporates a translation of the current environmental zones and that the State Government is reviewing the environmental zones on the far north coast, it is considered the LEP has been prepared following due process. Holding a public hearing at this stage would not achieve any relevant outcome as any recommendations for amending the environmental zones is most likely to be critically dependent on the findings and directions of the State Government review and on the completion and public exhibition of the updated environmental strategy (currently underway) and therefore at this stage the issue is not considered of such significance to require a public hearing.

The recommendation of this Report is to endorse the LEP and commence the LEP amendment process to apply environmental zones in certain areas of the core koala habitat on the basis of mapping that has been developed as part of the Koala Habitat Study 2011 and (draft) Koala Plan of Management. This LEP amendment process will involve extensive community consultations where everyone will have a chance to contribute, provide comments, and request additional information relevant to the process. Subsequently, Council is committed to implement the remaining recommendations of the "revised Environmental Strategy, following the completion of the environmental zones review. This will provide another opportunity for community to take part in the LEP amendment process.

Given that the submission concerns relate predominantly to the environmental zones and that due process has been followed, should Council be of a mind to accept the request of a public hearing into the *due process in the development and exhibition of the draft LEP 2012* [as it relates to the environmental zones] the following will need to be considered:

A public hearing, under S734 of the *Local Government Act, 1993*, the former S68 of the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act, 1979* and the former s14 of the Environmental *Planning and Assessment Regulation 2000* (as both captured by the savings provisions of the EP&A Regulations 2000 S12) requires advertising in the local paper and a letter to all people who requested a public hearing, providing at least 21 days notice of the public hearing details. Given that a large number of people requested a public hearing through the pro forma submissions, it is envisaged that approximately 28 days would need to be set aside for individuals to attend at the hearing process. A report on the public hearing would then need to be prepared and subsequently reported to Council for their consideration. This is likely to, conservatively, take 2-3 months and may return findings that may be inconsistent with the review outcomes and State Government Directions to follow on environmental zones, likely to be finalised around the same time.

Recommendation/Action:

53 No public hearing is required.

Public hearing - reclassification of land to operational

The DLEP included three properties within the Schedule 4 - Classification and Reclassification of Public Land, Part 2 - Land to be classified, or reclassified as operational land – interests changed.

Under the requirements of the Local Government Act, 1993 s29 and s57 of the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act, 1979, a public hearing is required "in respect of a planning proposal under Part 3 of that Act to reclassify community land as operational land".

A public hearing with respect of the three properties is yet to be advertised and held. Given this has the potential to delay the progress of the DLEP, it is recommended that the reclassification of these parcels of land be deferred from the DLEP and the subject of a separate planning proposal for the reclassification of these lands.

## Recommendation/Action:

- 54 The lots listed in Schedule 4 Classification and Reclassification of Public Land, Part 2
   Land to be classified, or reclassified as operational land interests changed to be deleted from the DLEP and to proceed as a separate planning proposal.
- 3.5.2 Requests to rezone land which is based on inaccurate translation of the current LEP into the zones of the Standard LEP template

# Note:For detailed analysis of rezoning requests please refer to Attachment 1 (Table 4) of this Report.

3.5.2.1 Submission No. 392: Request to zone the Murwillumbah Hospital site SP2 Infrastructure

#### Planning comment:

Given the consistency of the proposal with DP&I's guidelines spelt under the Practice Note Zoning For Infrastructure in LEPs, and general consistency with relevant State and local plans, it is considered that the rezoning has merit in terms of applying SP2 Infrastructure zone as a more suitable zone for the hospital site.

#### Recommendation/Action:

55 Lots 7, 8 and 9 DP 8520 and Lot 1 DP 722529 to be zoned SP2 Infrastructure.

3.5.2.2 Submission No 197: Request to amend zone of undeveloped land at the Salt Village, Kingscliff, from SP3 Tourist zone to R1 General Residential.

# Planning comment:

The submission was lodged in relation to Lot 930 DP 1079118 and part of Lot 169 DP 1075495. The submission is based on analysis concluding that in the short to medium term it is highly unlikely that a further resort will be required or viable on the subject site and the SP3 zoning appears to be inappropriate in the circumstances. The submission seeks rezoning of the part of the site as R1 General Residential.

The site is located within the Salt Village Precinct with two major tourist resorts of Peppers and Mantra, retail precinct and open space area for recreation located to the north and east and low density residential development located to the south and west.

The Standard Instrument does not provide a directly comparable zone with the 2(f) Tourist zone, therefore areas subject to the 2(f) zone have been rezoned in line with current land use or with the Master Plan approved for the site.



Figure 13: Area in Salt Village proposed to be rezoned to R1 General Residential

The proposal is generally consistent with all relevant planning strategies and policies. It is considered that the rezoning has merit in terms of proposed uses; the proposal is supported.

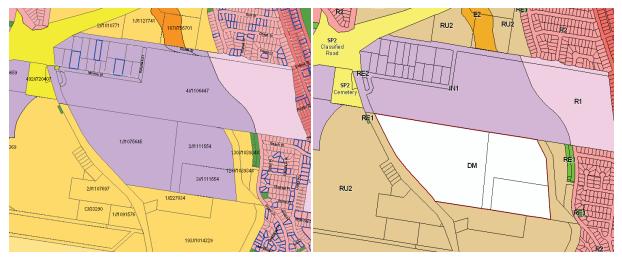
### Recommendation/Action:

- 56 Lot 930 DP 1079118 and part of Lot 169 DP 1075495 to be zoned R1 General Residential.
- 3.5.2.3 Submission No 33: Gales Holding Pty Ltd. Request to leave the former Sewerage Treatment Plant in Kingscliff unzoned; request to amend the land use table to permit with consent the development of a shop on Lot 13 DP 871753, located at Turnock Street Kingscliff; request to amend the Biodiversity Map for Lot 12 DP 871753 to remove Biodiversity Overlay from this site; request to correct mapping anomaly on Lot 4 DP 727425.

## Planning comment:

The submission objects to the application of the Practice Note *Zoning for Infrastructure in LEPs* which resulted in change of the zoning over the subject site from 5(a) Special Uses to IN1 General Industrial. It needs to be noted that this is the only major site in private ownership that has been significantly affected by the application of a Practice Note, which largely refers to public infrastructure sites. In addition, the former sewerage treatment plant site is currently subject to a planning proposal seeking for alternative zoning. The site is also within proposed Kingscliff Locality Plan, scheduled for preparation in the next financial year. In such circumstances, zoning the site with an industrial zone, although supported by DP&I's guidelines, does not achieve its desired outcomes.

The submission requests to leave the site unzoned, however this cannot be supported as unzoned land can be developed in accordance with Clause 2.4 Unzoned land. An alternative solution, supported by the landowner, would be to defer the site from the LEP until such time that the planning proposal is completed or a locality plan for Kingscliff provides guidelines for future use of this land.



Figures 14&15: Zoning of the former sewerage treatment site in Kingscliff as exhibited (Fig. 14, left) and after recommended amendments (Fig. 15, right).

Request to revise the translation of zone on Lot 13 DP 871753 from 2(c) Urban Expansion to R1 General Residential by allowing retail development (shops) through Additional Permitted Uses Map. The Standard Instrument does not provide an equivalent zone for the 2(c) Urban Expansion zone of the current LEP. In most cases, this zone has been converted to R1 General Residential zone, considered to be "the closest translation" of the 2(c) zone. Shops, as well as the majority of commercial land uses are prohibited under this zone as they are inconsistent with the mandatory objectives of this zone. The proposal to allow shops at Turnock Street (as per image below) is consistent with Section B9 Tweed Coast Strategy which recognises this site for potential expansion of the adjoining centre at Pearl Street. In addition, the proposal is consistent with Principle 2 of the Tweed Retail Policy, which states: where appropriate, Council will support the incremental expansion of existing retail centres in such a way as not to threaten or fracture those existing centres, rather than building new ones.



Figure 16: Site at Turnock Street proposed for amendment to the land use table.

The biodiversity mapping has been reviewed on the basis of 2009 aerial photos and captures bushland and wetland areas broadly consistent with reports referred to in the submission. Highly disturbed vegetation is consistent with the bushland mapping criteria. Conservation significance and on site impacts will be determined through the application of the clause when a DA is required. The clause does not influence approved DAs such as the approved fill north and south of Turnock Street nor does it affect routine land management.

A strip of land zoned RU2 Rural Landscape Lot 4 DP 727425 is a result of rezoning a drainage reserve corridor zoned 5(a) Special Uses, in line with the Practice Note *Zoning for Infrastructure in LEPs.* An adjoining zone has been applied, which, in this instance, is the RU2 Rural Landscape.



Figure 17: Lot 4 DP 727425.

Recommendation/Action:

- 57 That the former sewerage treatment plant site at Kingscliff be deferred from the draft Tweed LEP 2012, and
- 58 The Additional Permitted Uses Map be amended to include Lot 13 DP 871753, and

Schedule 1 Additional Permitted Uses be amended to list shops as a permissible land use for Lot 13 DP 871753.

3.5.2.4 Submission No 30: request to zone the caravan park site at Coast Road, Cabarita Beach, with R3 Medium Density Residential zone, consistently with the Major Project Application, approved by the Planning Assessment Commission in September 2012.

## Planning comment:

The submission questions the methodology of translating the zoning of Lots 1-3 Section 1 DP 29748 and Lot 4 Section 1 DP 31209 at 2-6 Coast Road, Cabarita Beach. Under the draft LEP, the current zone 2(e) Residential Tourist has been converted into the RE2 Private

Recreation. The submission requests that the land in question be rezoned as R2 or R3, in line with Major Project Application, recently approved by the Planning Assessment Commission in September 2012.



Figure 18: Cabarita Beach Caravan Park site subject to an approved Major Project Application.

## Recommendation/Action:

- 59 Lots 1-3 Section 1 DP 29748 and Lot 4 Section 1 DP 31209 at 2-6 Coast Road, Cabarita Beach to be rezoned from RE2 Private Recreation zone to R3 Medium Density Residential zone.
- 3.5.2.5 Submission No 1411: Submission seeks amendments to the Land Zoning Map for Lot 2 DP 815182 to apply the E2 Environmental Conservation zone over that part of the site which is subject to the trust agreement between the landowner and the Nature Conservation Trust of NSW.

### Planning comment:

As provided in this Report, and in the Report of 25 October 2012, the methodology for preparing the Land Zoning Map was based on the conversion of the existing zones into zones under the Standard Instrument with zero or minimum variations.

Minor variations to the Land Zoning Map were carried out for areas subject to an approved master plan or a Major Project Application. Given approved agreement between landowners and the Nature Conservation Trust of NSW, available mapping supporting this agreement and general consistency with Section 117 Directions and State Environmental Planning Policies, this request has merit and is supported.

Council is preparing a revised Environmental Strategy which provides recommendations to update the land zoning map (particularly rural and environmental zones) in line with mapping developed under the Tweed Vegetation Management Strategy 2004. Council is committed to implement those recommendations, although this process is now delayed due to the review of environmental zones commenced by the DP&I in October 2012.

### Recommendation/Action:

60 Lot 2 DP 815182 to be zoned E2 in those areas which are subject to the trust agreement between the landowner and the Nature Conservation Trust of NSW.

3.5.2.6 Submission No 4: Submission seeks amendments to the Land Zoning Map for Lot 17 DP 778624 and Lots 165 and 167 DP 755696 to apply the E2 Environmental Conservation zone over that part of the site which is subject to the trust agreement between the landowner and the Nature Conservation Trust of NSW.

## Planning comment:

As provided in this Report, and in the Report of 25 October 2012, the methodology for preparing the Land Zoning Map was based on the conversion of the existing zones into zones under the Standard Instrument with zero or minimum variations.

Minor variations to the Land Zoning Map were carried out for areas subject to an approved master plan or a Major Project Application. Given approved agreement between landowners and the Nature Conservation Trust of NSW, available mapping supporting this agreement and general consistency with Section 117 Directions and State Environmental Planning Policies, this request has merit and is supported.

Council is preparing a revised Environmental Strategy which provides recommendations to update the land zoning map (particularly rural and environmental zones) in line with mapping developed under the Tweed Vegetation Management Strategy 2004. Council is committed to implement those recommendations, although this process is now delayed due to the review of environmental zones commenced by the DP&I in October 2012.

## Recommendation/Action:

- 61 Lot 17 DP 778624 and Lots 165 and 167 DP 755696 to be zoned E2 in those areas which are subject to the trust agreement between the landowner and the Nature Conservation Trust of NSW.
- 3.5.2.7 Submission No 448: Submission seeks amendments to the Land Zoning Map for the following properties: Lot 1 DP 122620, Lots 164, 271 and 329 DP 755701 and Lot 174 DP 755721. The RU2 Rural Landscape zone applied to these lots should be replaced with the E2 Environmental Conservation zone in those areas, which are subject to an approved property vegetation plan or mapped on the Terrestrial Biodiversity Map.

## Planning comment:

As provided in this Report, and in the Report of 25 October 2012, the methodology for preparing the Land Zoning Map was based on the conversion of the existing zones into zones under the Standard Instrument with zero or minimum variations.

Minor variations to the Land Zoning Map were carried out for areas subject to an approved master plan or a Major Project Application. Given approved agreement between landowners and the Nature Conservation Trust of NSW, available mapping supporting this agreement and general consistency with Section 117 Directions and State Environmental Planning Policies, this request has merit and is supported.

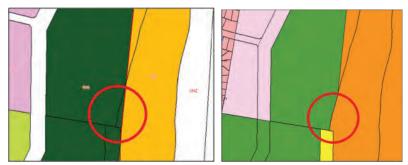
Council is preparing a revised Environmental Strategy which provides recommendations to update the land zoning map (particularly rural and environmental zones) in line with mapping developed under the Tweed Vegetation Management Strategy 2004. Council is committed to implement those recommendations, although this process is now delayed due to the review of environmental zones commenced by the DP&I in October 2012.

## Recommendation/Action:

- 62 Lot 1 DP 122620, Lots 164, 271 and 329 DP 755701 and Lot 174 DP 755721 to be zoned E2 in those areas which are subject to an approved property vegetation plan or mapped on the Terrestrial Biodiversity Map.
- 3.5.2.8 Submission 651: Objection to the conversion of the zones on Lot 7060 DP 1113577 (proposed Cabarita Holiday Park Site). The conversion resulted in reduction of the area zoned RE1 Public Recreation and in increase of area zoned with the E2 Environmental Conservation zone which is inconsistent with the zone conversion methodology.

## Planning comment:

This submission pointed out a mapping anomaly that occurred during the translation of zones into the Standard Instrument template.



Figures 19&20: LEP 2000 (left) and DLEP 2012 (right). Mapping anomaly circled in red.

# Recommendation/Action:

- 63 Zoning on Lot 7060 DP 1113577 to be corrected in line with the current extent of 6(a) and 7(f) zone boundaries.
- 3.5.2.9 Submission No 1510: Request to amend the land use table of the following zones: RU1 Primary Production, RU2 Rural Landscape and IN1 General Industrial to list telecommunication facilities as permissible with consent.

## Planning comment:

Guidelines prepared by the DP&I specifically prohibit listing this land use under LEPs. The *State Environmental Planning Policy (SEPP) Infrastructure* provides that telecommunications facilities are permissible without consent if listed under a LEP Land Use Table.

This inconsistency has been discussed with the DP&I, who in principle support inclusion of this land use into the rural and industrial zone land use tables.

## Recommendation/Action:

64 Amend the land use table to permit development of telecommunications facilities with consent in the RU1 Primary Production, RU2 Rural Landscape and IN1 General Industrial zones.

# 3.5.3 Requests to rezone land to a different zone, which are outside the scope of the LEP translation process

3.5.3.1 Submission No 1 The submission requests amendment to the Land Zoning Map to change zoning of the Dodds Island, Chinderah (Lot 176 DP 755701 and Lot 177 DP 755701), from RU1 Primary Production to RU2 Rural Landscape. The purpose of this request is to allow for development of a rural tourist facility located above flood level, with extensive agricultural activities involving olive and avocado groves with fruit/vegetable gardens, using organic farming techniques.

## Planning comment:

This proposal has been subject to discussion at Development Assessment Panel in April.

The site is flood liable and DCP-A3 Development of Flood Liable Land severely limits the ability to develop the site, particularly for habitable purposes. The site cannot provide an adequate evacuation route to flood free land, and the provision of refuge areas above the PMF level is considered impractical for small scale, isolated dwellings with extreme flood depths and velocities possible. Restrictions to fill and building scale within the high flow area means that raising the land and/or construction of a consolidated facility with a shared refuge also cannot be practically achieved for this site.



Figure 21: Aerial imagery - Dodds Island, Chinderah

## Recommendation/Action:

- 65 No amendments to the LEP.
- 3.5.3.2 Submission No 613 Petition submitted by Kielvale residents with request to rezone portion of Lot 3 DP 877860 zoned RU5 Primary Production to RU2 Rural Landscape.

## Planning comment:

Lot 3 DP 877860 is located directly to the north of the existing village. The total area of the lot is 37.5 ha with approximately 20% zoned RU5 for village expansion. The lot is currently in use for sugar cane cultivation. Vehicular access to the site is provided via Wulffs Lane.

The subject site has been zoned with a village zone 2(d) in both the LEP 2000 and the LEP 1987.

The Tweed Shire Urban Land Release Strategy 2009 considers the subject site as suitable for village expansion.

The site is not identified as Regionally or State Significant Farmland.

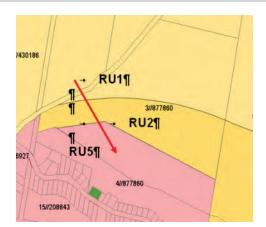


Figure 22: The draft Tweed LEP 2012 Land Zoning Map for the subject site.

Recommendation/Action:

- 66 No amendments to the LEP. Council to advise the signatories of the petition of this recommendation and that any rezoning will need to be sought through a separate planning proposal process.
- 3.5.3.3 Submission No 29 Lot 1 DP 1168904 (Firetail Street and Harrier Street, Tweed Heads South). Request to apply the SP3 Tourist zone to the section of the lot which, under the draft LEP 2012, is proposed to be rezoned from 2(e) Residential Tourist to RE2 Private Recreation.

# Planning comment:

The subject site is currently zoned 2(e) Residential Tourist. The primary objectives of this zone are to encourage the provision of family-oriented tourist accommodation and related facilities and services in association with residential development. The Standard Instrument LEP does not provide an equivalent zone, therefore all allotments within the Shire zoned 2(e) have been rezoned in relation to existing use of land, existing constraints and adjoining land use zones.

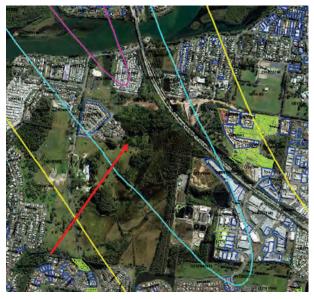


Figure 23: The subject site within the ANEF contour 25-30 (blue line).

The site is located within 25-30 ANEF contour. Under the Gold Coast Airport Master Plan and AS2021-2000, the following land uses are acceptable, or conditionally acceptable: hotel, motel, hostel, public buildings, commercial buildings, light and other industrial.

Under the Practice Note PN 09 -006 *Providing for tourism in Standard Instrument local environmental plans,* the mandatory zone objectives of the SP3 zone provide for a variety of tourist-oriented development and related uses. Any additional local objectives should reflect the particular intention of council's strategy or outcomes of council's study, e.g. council may wish to provide area-specific objectives to identify a particular precinct or local attraction.

The draft Tweed LEP 2012 applies the SP3 zone only for the major tourist resorts in Salt Village, Kingscliff.

Council is open for further discussions with the landowner on appropriate zoning of the site, with consideration given to land constraints and local and regional strategies and polices. Given that the SP3 zone proposed in this submission will not be supported by DP&I and that the ANEF contours identify under Gold Coast Airport Master Plan 2011 preclude residential development on the site, the application of the RE2 zone appears to be the "best fit" conversion of the existing zone.

Recommendation/Action:

- 67 No amendments to the LEP
- 3.5.3.4 Submission No 26 Lot 379 DP 1148511 at Kellehers Road, Pottsville. Request to rezone part of the site from E3 Environmental Management to RU2 Rural Landscape.

Planning comment:

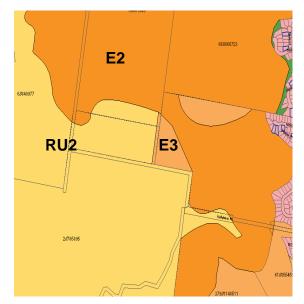


Figure 24: The Draft Tweed LEP Land Zoning Map proposed for the subject site.

The site is currently zoned 7(I) Environmental Protection (Habitat) and is proposed to be zoned E3 Environmental Management, which is a conversion of the current zone into a zone mandated under the Standard Instrument LEP, in line with the methodology of the Standard Instrument implementation process.

The site is identified for urban expansion under the Tweed Shire Urban Land Release Strategy 2009, as part of "Area 7". The proposal to zone the land with a rural zone is inconsistent with this Strategy.

The site is identified as Proposed Future Urban Release Area under the Far North Coast Regional Strategy. The proposal to zone the land with a rural zone is inconsistent with the Strategy.

It is considered that appropriate zone should be applied to the site via a separate planning proposal for Area 7 Dunloe Park Urban Release Area.

Recommendation/Action:

- 68 No amendments to the LEP
- 3.5.3.5 Submission No 1416 Chinderah Bay Drive, Chinderah: Lot 1 DP 371689, Lot 2 DP 781464, Lot 1 DP 1080842, Lots 462, 463 and 470 DP 755701, Lots 12 and 21 DP 260772, Lot 1 DP 32406, Lot1 DP 781888 and Lot 3 DP 913262. Request to amend the land use table of the B4 Mixed Use zone to permit dwelling houses with consent and to include additional zone objective: *to encourage employment opportunities and a focal point for the local community.*

## Planning comment:

The subject site is currently zoned 3(d) Waterfront Enterprise. The primary objective of this zone is to encourage development related to waterfront and marine activities, dwelling houses, recreation or tourism. The Standard Instrument LEP does not provide a zone equivalent to the 3(d) zone. Site has been proposed to be zoned B4, which is an open zone promoting integration of wide range of uses. It is noted that dwelling houses, permissible with consent under the 3(d) zone, are prohibited in B4 zone. The only residential development permissible under the B4 zone is shop top housing.

The standard zones provided under the Standard Instrument Template have very limited flexibility in terms of integrating residential and commercial uses under one zone. Request to allow dwelling houses under the B4 zone, would not be supported by the DP&I.

The Tweed Valley Flood Management Study 2012 (draft) identifies Chinderah Village as "hydraulically sensitive, with the future development potential of these areas extremely constrained".

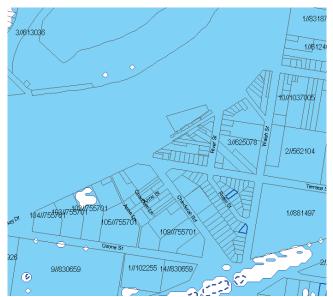


Figure 25: DLEP Flood Planning Map for Chinderah village centre.

The proposal is inconsistent with Section 117 Direction 1.1 Business and Industrial Zones. Allowing dwelling houses in a business zone would reduce the total potential floor space area for employment uses and related services.

The proposal is inconsistent with Part 6 of the Far North Coast Regional Strategy: "Local environmental plans will zone areas subject to high hazard (including flooding) to reflect the capabilities of the land".

The proposed additional objective of the B4 zone to large extent duplicates the current objectives of this zone, thus there is no need to include it in the draft LEP.

### Recommendation/Action:

- 69 No amendments to the LEP
- 3.5.3.6 Submission 1388 Wooyung Properties (Lot 1 DP 779817 and Lot 1 DP 408972). Request to apply SP3 Tourist zone for the footprint of development approved for the site and B4 Mixed Use zone for the north-western corner of the site.

As an alternative, Land Zoning Map should be amended to apply the E3 Environmental Management zone over the site and development standards tailored to allow for subdivision and erection of 25 dwellings.

## Planning comment:

The proposal is inconsistent with the methodology of converting the Tweed LEP 2000 into the Standard Instrument LEP with no or minimum variations.

Under the Far North Coast Regional Strategy, the site is located in Coastal Area, outside of Town and Village Growth Boundaries. The Strategy states that "In the Coastal Area, only land within a Town and Village Growth Boundary may be released for urban purposes. This will ensure that the high coastal environmental values that attract people to the Region are protected".

Preliminary analysis of the consistency of the proposal with the Section 117 Directions.

The proposal is inconsistent with Direction 2.2 Coastal Protection.

The proposal is inconsistent with SEPP 71 Coastal Protection, SEPP 26 Littoral Rainforests and North Coast Regional Environmental Plan 1988 (deemed SEPP). Consistency with SEPP 44 Koala Habitat Protection should be verified in details (the Tweed Coast Koala Habitat Study 2011 defines this area as of significant koala activity with unidentified boundaries).

## Recommendation/Action:

- 70 No amendments to the LEP.
- 3.5.3.7 Submission No 602 Request to rezone Lot 6, DP 524303, 26 George Street, Murwillumbah from RU2 Rural Landscape to R2 Low Density Residential

### Planning comment:

The proposal is inconsistent with the methodology of converting the Tweed LEP 2000 into the Standard Instrument LEP with no or minimum variations.

When analysing consistency of the proposal with relevant local, regional and state planning initiatives, consideration needs to be given to flood hazard on the site.

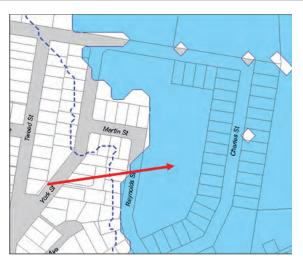


Figure 26: Draft Tweed LEP 2012 Flood Planning Map for the subject site.

The proposal is inconsistent with Direction 4.3 Flood Prone Land of Section 117 Directions.

The proposal is inconsistent with recommendations spelt under Part 6 of the Far North Coast Regional Strategy: "Local environmental plans will zone areas subject to high hazard to reflect the capabilities of the land".

There is an existing approval of a seniors living development (DA 2011/292) granted in April 2012.

Recommendation/Action:

71 No amendments to the LEP.

3.5.3.8 Submission 194 Request to amend the land use table for the RE2 Private Recreation zone proposed for the Seagulls Club, (Lot 2 DP 881169, 54-68 Gollan Drive, Tweed Heads West) to allow for development of shops with consent.

## Planning comment:

When analysing consistency of the proposal with relevant local, regional and state planning initiatives, consideration needs to be given to the methodology of converting the current LEP 2000 into the Standard Instrument LEP:

- The subject site is currently zoned 6(b) Recreation zone. This zone permits general stores with development consent if consistent with the primary objective of this zone, which is to designate land, whether in public or private ownership, which is or may be used primarily for recreational purposes.
- The Standard Instrument LEP provides the RE2 Private Recreation zone as an equivalent to the 6(b) zone of the current LEP. Under the new zone, the land use table has been tailored to achieve consistency with the objectives of the zone. In result, the only types of 'retail' land uses permissible with consent under the RE2 zone are kiosks, markets and food & drink premises.
- The standard zones provided under the Standard Instrument Template have limited flexibility in terms of integrating recreational and commercial uses under a recreational zone. A more suitable approach would be to look at options to rezone the entire site to a commercial zone. This however should be carried out via a planning proposal process, separate to the SI Template implementation process.

Given inconsistency between development of a full line supermarket and objectives of the RE2 zone, the proposal is not supported.

# Recommendation/Action:

- 72 No amendments to the LEP.
- 3.5.3.9 Submission 568 Request to amend the draft Tweed LEP to allow for development of a highway service centre on part of Lot 11 DP 1134229, Tweed Valley Way, Chinderah.

Planning comment:



Figure 27: Aerial imagery for the subject site.

The proposal is inconsistent with the methodology of converting the Tweed LEP 2000 into the Standard Instrument LEP with no or minimum variations.

The subject site is mapped as Regionally Significant Farmland, therefore the proposal is inconsistent with Direction 5.3 (of the Section 117 Directions) Farmland of State and Regional Significance on the NSW Far North Coast. In addition, the proposal is inconsistent with Direction 1.2 Rural Zones (a draft LEP shall not contain provisions that will increase the permissible density of land within a rural zone other than land within an existing town or village).

The proposal is inconsistent with Direction 5.4 Commercial and Retail Development Along

The Pacific Highway, North Coast which requires a highway service centre to be located within an urban zone.

The subject site is located on flood prone land.

Recommendation/Action:

73 No amendments to the LEP.

3.5.3.10 Submission 1417 Kingscliff Beach Hotel (Lot B DP 378968, Lot 17 DP 5879 and Lot 1 DP 356102) made a request to amend Height of Buildings and Floor Space Ratio Maps to allow development of up to 5 storeys (16.6 m) and floor space ratio of 3.5:1.

### Planning comment:

Although generally consistent with relevant planning policies and strategies, the proposal is inconsistent with the methodology of converting the current LEP into the Standard Instrument Template with no, or minimum variations. Under the current LEP the maximum allowed height limit is 3 storeys and the draft LEP is maintaining this limit (expressed in metres).



Figure 28: Kingscliff Beach Hotel site

Council is committed to prepare a locality plan for Kingscliff. A matter of appropriate height limit will be investigated during this process. Any proposal to increase maximum building heights will be subject to community consultations with local residents.

# Recommendation/Action:

- 74 No amendments to the LEP.
- 3.5.3.11 Submission No 762 Request to rezone the extractive industry site located on Lot 28 DP 615931 and Lot 2 DP 590220 from RU1 Primary Production to RU2 Rural Landscape. Objection to the application of the Biodiversity Map over the site and subclause (3) of Clause 7.8 Biodiversity Map.

## Planning comment:

The request to rezone the site has been referred for Rural Land Strategy which is currently under preparation. It is acknowledged that the Land Zoning Map of the draft Tweed LEP 2012 is in certain rural areas outdated, but any site-specific amendments should be supported by an adopted strategy. The Rural Land Strategy involves extensive community consultations commencing in May 2013 and is expected to provide recommendations for amendments to the Land Zoning Map.

The methodology of the process of converting the current LEP 2000 into the Standard Instrument Template is based on a 'best fit' conversion of the Land Zoning Map with zero or minimum variations (where no compatible zones were provided).

In response to objection to the application of the Biodiversity overlay to the site, it needs to be noted that highly disturbed vegetation is consistent with the bushland mapping criteria. Conservation significance and on site impacts will be determined through the application of the clause

The bushland overlay does not prohibit consent uses and is not inconsistent with t SEPP North Coast REP and SEPP Mining

The reference to a DCP is to be removed until relevant section of the DCP is in place.

Recommendation/Action:

75 Subclause (3) of the Terrestrial Biodiversity Clause 7.8 to be removed from the draft LEP.

3.5.3.12 Submission No 823 Request to amend the boundary between RU1 and RU2 zones in line with natural features and agricultural suitability on Lot 10 DP 1014723.

Objection to the application of the Biodiversity overlay map and wording of the Biodiversity Clause (7.8).

Planning comment:



Figure 29: Lot 10 DP 1014723

The request to rezone the site has been referred for Rural Land Strategy which is currently under preparation. It is acknowledged that the Land Zoning Map of the draft Tweed LEP 2012 is in certain rural areas outdated, but any site-specific amendments should be supported by an adopted strategy. The Rural Land Strategy involves extensive community consultations commencing in May 2013 and is expected to provide recommendations for amendments to the Land Zoning Map.

The methodology of the current process of converting the LEP 2000 into the Standard Instrument Template is based on a 'best fit' conversion of the Land Zoning Map with zero or minimum variations (where no compatible zones were provided).

In response to objection to the application of the Biodiversity overlay to the site, it needs to be noted that highly disturbed vegetation is consistent with the bushland mapping criteria. Conservation significance and on site impacts will be determined through the application of the clause.

The reference to a DCP is to be removed until relevant section of the DCP is in place.

Recommendation/Action:

- 76 Subclause (3) of the Terrestrial Biodiversity Clause 7.8 to be removed from the draft LEP.
- 3.5.3.13 Submission No 763 Objection to the wording of the Biodiversity Clause (7.8) (reference to a section of the DCP which has not been prepared yet).

Planning comment:

The reference to a DCP is to be removed until relevant section of the DCP is in place.

Recommendation/Action:

- 77 Subclause (3) of the Terrestrial Biodiversity Clause 7.8 to be removed from the draft LEP.
- 3.5.3.14 Submission No 395 Support to the inclusion of the Biodiversity mapping.

Planning comment: Submission noted.

Recommendation/Action:

- 78 No amendments to the LEP..
- 3.5.3.15 Submissions No 635 and 638 Objections to the methodology of applying the Terrestrial Biodiversity overlay map in Tanglewood and Nunderi, implications of this overlay on routine management activities, consistency with State legislation. Objection to duration of the public exhibition and inadequate community consultations.

### Planning response

The Biodiversity overlay is consistent with councils adopted TVMS and has been included in all draft Comprehensive LEPs since 2004. The clause does not prohibit development; it indicates areas that will require consideration with regards to biodiversity issues when a DA is required. The clause does not have any implications on routine management activities as it is only triggered at the DA stage. Further noxious weed control and bushfire hazard reduction do not trigger a DA and are in fact exempt development.

The DLEP was on exhibition from 15 November 2012 until 18 January 2013. During that time, eight (8) public meetings were held, six of them open for general public and two held by request of community groups. Council staff was providing additional information and guidelines when requested and considered late submission that were lodged after the exhibition closed.

Recommendation/Action:

79 No amendments to the LEP.

3.5.3.16 Submissions 605, 606 and 607 with site specific objection to the application of the Terrestrial Biodiversity Map over a site in Nunderi.

## Planning comment:

Highly disturbed vegetation is consistent with the bushland mapping criteria. Conservation significance and on site impacts are determined through the application of the clause.

The clause is only triggered by a DA. Routine property management does not trigger a DA

Recommendation/Action:

80 No amendments to the LEP.

3.5.3.17 Submission 585 Site specific objection to the application of the Biodiversity Map over camphor laurel and concerns about the accuracy of this overlay. Comments about public consultations and complexity of documentation exhibited.

## Planning comment:

Highly disturbed vegetation is consistent with the bushland mapping criteria. Conservation significance and on site impacts determined through the application of the clause and only applies when a DA is required.

The DLEP was on exhibition from 15 November 2012 until 18 January 2013. During that time, eight public meetings were held, six of them open for general public and two held by request of community groups. Council staff was providing additional information and guidelines when requested and considered late submission that were lodged after the exhibition closed. In addition, Council staff have prepared explanatory material which was available on Council website and in specific locations across the Shire.

### Recommendation/Action:

81 No amendments to the LEP.

3.5.3.18 Submission No 5 Objection to the application of the Biodiversity Map over the Hundred Hills site.

### Planning comment:

The purpose of the Biodiversity Map is to provide additional consideration at the DA stage.

Highly disturbed vegetation is consistent with the bushland mapping criteria. Conservation significance and on site impacts determined through the application of the clause and only applies when a DA is required.

### Recommendation/Action:

### 82 No amendments to the LEP.

3.5.3.19 Submission No 1426 Objection to the application of the Biodiversity Map over Tweed Coast Holiday Park North and South in Pottsville.

### Planning comment:

Highly disturbed vegetation is consistent with the bushland mapping criteria. Conservation significance and on site impacts determined through the application of the clause – all issues raised by the clause will need to be addressed for the development in any case.

The reference to a DCP is to be removed until relevant section of the DCP is in place.

#### Recommendation/Action:

- 83 Subclause (3) of the Terrestrial Biodiversity Clause 7.8 to be removed from the draft LEP.
- 3.5.3.20 Submission No 1492 Site specific objection to mapping camphor laurel on the Biodiversity Map and objection to wording of Clause 7.8 Terrestrial Biodiversity (reference to a DCP which has not been developed yet).

### Planning comment:

Highly disturbed vegetation is consistent with the bushland mapping criteria. Conservation significance and on site impacts will be determined through the application of the clause.

The DCP referred to in clause 7.8 is not A16 and has not been made. The reference to a DCP is to be removed until relevant section of the DCP is in place.

### Recommendation/Action:

- 84 Subclause (3) of the Terrestrial Biodiversity Clause 7.8 to be removed from the draft LEP.
- 3.5.3.21 Submission No 444: The Land Use Table for zone IN1 should be amended to allow highway service centres with consent.

### Planning comment:

Permissibility of a highway service centre land use in the draft Tweed LEP has been based on 117 Directions, in particular Direction 5.4 *Commercial and Retail Development along the Pacific Highway, North Coast.*  According to this Direction, the establishment of highway service centres may be permitted in Chinderah, at Chinderah Bay Road interchange (southbound) and at the western side of highway in urban zone (northbound). In addition, the RMS needs to be satisfied that the highway service centre(s) can be safely and efficiently integrated into the Highway interchange(s).

While a southbound highway service station has already been developed, the exact location of the northbound station is yet to be identified. This should be done through a planning proposal stage, rather than through amendments to the land use table for the IN1 General Industrial zone.

Recommendation/Action:

85 No amendments to the LEP.

3.5.3.22 Submissions 1348 and 796: Requests to amend to the extent of the E2 Environmental Conservation zone in Seaside City in line with 2050 Hazard Line defined on the Coastal Risk Planning Map.

## Planning comment:

The environmental zones on the draft Tweed LEP 2012 Land Zoning Map for Seaside City are based on the LEP 2000.



Figure 30: DLEP Land Zoning Map for Seaside City area.

The draft Tweed LEP 2012 Costal Risk Planning Map is based on the Tweed DCP B25 Coastal Hazards.



Figure 31: DLEP Coastal Risk Planning Map for the Seaside City area.

This request to amend the Land Zoning Map on the basis of Coastal Risk Planning Map is outside the scope of this planning process which is to convert the Tweed LEP 2000 into the Standard Instrument template. In addition, The Coastal Hazard DCP is scheduled for amendment which will result in an update to the Coastal Hazard Maps.

Any request to reduce environmental zones in favour of a residential zone should be subject to a planning proposal.

#### Recommendation/Action:

86 No amendments to the LEP.

3.5.3.23 Submission 1420: Site specific request to identify future land uses for certain areas in Kingscliff zoned with a rural zone.

### Planning comment:

Submission noted. The draft Tweed LEP2012 has been prepared to convert the current LEP 2000 into the Standard Instrument Template, common for all councils in New South Wales.

As provided in this Report, and in the Report of 25 October 2012, the methodology for preparing the land zoning map was to convert the existing zones into zones under the Standard Instrument with zero or minimum variations.

Any requests to rezone the land 'outside' of the standard conversion process should be subject to a separate planning proposal process.

Council is committed to prepare a locality plan for Kingscliff. This task has been proposed for commencement in the next financial year.

#### Recommendation/Action:

#### 87 No amendments to the LEP.

3.5.3.24 Submission No 186: request to rezone the established residential area of Parkes Lane, Trutes Lane, Dobbys Crescent and Terranora Road to R1 or R2, instead of proposed R5 Large Lot Residential zone.

### Planning comment:

Submission noted. The draft Tweed LEP 2012 has been prepared to convert the current LEP 2000 into the Standard Instrument Template, common for all councils in New South Wales.

As provided in this Report, and in the Report of 25 October 2012, the methodology for preparing the land zoning map was to convert the existing zones into zones under the Standard Instrument with zero or minimum variations. The area in subject has been zoned R5 Large Lot Residential, which is a conversion of the current zone 1(c) Rural Living.

Any requests to rezone the land 'outside' of the standard conversion process should be subject to a separate planning proposal process.

#### Recommendation/Action:

### 88 No amendments to the LEP.

3.5.3.25 Submission No 1446 made by Friends of Terranora: Horticulture land use should be permissible with consent under the R5 Large Lot Residential zone. Group homes should be prohibited in the R5 zone. Terranora sub-station should be zoned with an environmental protection zone. R1 General Residential zone within Area E should be changed to R2 Low Density Residential. Unstable map for Area E urban release should be amended to show a real extent of unstable land.

## Planning comment:

The R5 Large Lot Residential is a conversion of the 1(c) Rural Living zone of LEP 2000. While the land use of the R5 zone has been tailored to match the land use of the current zone, it needs to be acknowledged that the R5 zone is part of residential zones, while the previous one belonged to the rural zones. This change is reflected in the new land use table by restricted ability to use the land for farming purposes. The request to maintain horticulture as a land use permissible with consent is in line with the current permissibility under the 1(c) zone and is supported.

Group homes is a land use permissible with consent, subject to merit assessment at the development assessment stage.

The request to allow horticulture with consent is however supported, given the current zone and land use table, and minimum impacts of this land use.

Terranora sub-station has been zoned in accordance with DP&I requirements to apply an adjoining zone for minor infrastructure sites.

Zone R1 has been applied for land within Area E Urban Release Area in line with the methodology of converting the current zones into the Standard Instrument zones. According to this methodology, all undeveloped areas zoned 2(c) Urban Expansion have been zoned R1 General Residential.

### Recommendation/Action:

- 89 Amend the land use table for the R5 Large Lot Residential zone to permit horticulture with consent.
- 3.5.3.26 Submission 6: Submission requests to permit development of Dual Occupancies and Secondary Dwellings in the RU5 Village Zone. Submission also seeks amendments to the land use table of the RU5 Village zone to allow for restaurants with consent.

### Planning comment:

Dual occupancies, secondary dwellings and restaurants are already permitted (with consent) in the RU5 Village zone.

### Recommendation/Action:

- 90 No amendments to the LEP.
- 3.5.3.27 Submission No 1451: Crown Reserve 59360 at Cobaki Broadwater (Tweed Heads Pony Club) should be zoned with an environmental protection zone.

### Planning comment:

The Land Zoning Map of the draft Tweed LEP2012 is a conversion of the LEP 2000 Land Zoning Map. Any amendments to this map should be supported by an adopted Strategy or subject to a planning proposal stage. This submission will be referred to Revised Environmental Strategy.

Recommendation/Action:

91 No amendments to the LEP.

3.5.3.28 Submission 1421 made by Pottsville Community Association. Multiple issues were raised in the submission:

Site specific objection to the application of the R1 General Residential zone and relevant development controls for certain areas in Seabreeze estate. Enquiry about lack of minimum lot size controls for the R3 Medium Density Residential zone. Objection to proposed floor space ratio controls for Seabreeze areas zoned R1.

Objection to proposed maximum height of buildings of 13.6 m proposed to Seabreeze estate areas zoned R1. Objection to the Height of Building Map control of 10 metres for public recreation areas zoned RE1.

Three levels of coastal risk should be incorporated into mapping on Coastal Risk Planning Map. All land identified on Biodiversity Overlay Map should be given adequate protection through the land zoning map. CSG should be listed as prohibited land use.

Other concerns and objections raised in this submission in relation to environment protection have been addressed and responded to in Attachment 1, Table 2 of this Report.

## Planning comment:

The Land Zoning Map of the draft Tweed LEP2012 is a conversion of the LEP 2000 Land Zoning Map. The 2(c) Urban Expansion zone has been converted to corresponding R1 General Residential zone. Any request to change this zone should be subject to a planning proposal stage.

Development controls such as floor space ratio, heights of buildings and lot sizes have been based on the Tweed DCP A1.

There is no minimum lot size for land zoned R3 Medium Density Residential. This approach is in line with objectives of this zone, which are to provide a variety of housing types within a medium density residential environment. The Lot Size Map is not a compulsory component of the Standard Instrument LEP, and does not have to be applicable on the Shire-wide basis.

The Coastal Risk Planning Map and the Coastal Risk Planning clause are based on a model local provision prepared by DP&I for implementation in LEPs. Councils have had a very limited ability to modify this clause and map.

The Coastal Hazard DCP is scheduled for amendment which will result in an update to the Coastal Risk Planning Maps. The request to provide three levels of protection will be addressed as part of this review.

Matters related with environmental protection have been addressed under Table 2 of this attachment.

Permissibility of mining activities under the draft LEP needs to be considered in conjunction with the State Environmental Planning Policy (Mining, Petroleum Production and

Extractive Industries), referred to as "The Mining SEPP". The Mining SEPP provides that mining activities may be carried out on land where development for the purposes of agriculture or industry is permitted with or without development consent. According to the hierarchy of planning documents (environmental planning instruments, EPI) in New South Wales, local environmental plans must not be inconsistent with State EPI.

The purpose of the Biodiversity Map is to provide additional consideration at the development assessment stage. Council is committed to undertake a Shire-wide review of environmental zones (through implementation of the Revised Environmental Strategy) which will result in appropriate environmental zones applied where necessary.

## Recommendation/Action:

92 No amendments to the LEP.

3.5.3.29 Submissions 51 and 656: Site specific objection to the land zoning map. Lot 5 DP 1178620 in Council ownership should be zoned E2.

# Planning comment:

The draft Tweed LEP 2012 has been prepared to convert the current LEP 2000 into the Standard Instrument Template, common for all councils in New South Wales. As provided in this Report, and in the Report of 25 October 2012, the methodology for preparing the land zoning map was to convert the existing zones into zones under the Standard Instrument with zero or minimum variations.

Council is preparing a revised Environmental Strategy which provides recommendations to update the land zoning map (particularly rural and environmental zones) in line with mapping developed under the Tweed Vegetation Management Strategy 2004. Council is committed to implement those recommendations, although this process is now delayed due to the review of environmental zones commenced by the DP&I in October 2012.

## Recommendation/Action:

93 No amendments to the LEP.

3.5.3.30 Submission 587: Submission objects to the application of E3 and R1 zones on the Land Zoning Map for Lot 6 DP 1117326 and seeks amendments to apply the E2 zone for bushland on the site.

## Planning comment:

The draft Tweed LEP 2012 has been prepared to convert the current LEP 2000 into the Standard Instrument Template, common for all councils in New South Wales. As provided in this Report, and in the Report of 25 October 2012, the methodology for preparing the land zoning map was to convert the existing zones into zones under the Standard Instrument with zero or minimum variations.

Council is preparing a revised Environmental Strategy which provides recommendations to update the land zoning map (particularly rural and environmental zones) in line with mapping developed under the Tweed Vegetation Management Strategy 2004. Council is committed to implement those recommendations, although this process is now delayed due to the review of environmental zones commenced by the DP&I in October 2012.

### Recommendation/Action:

## 94 No amendments to the LEP.

3.5.3.31 Submission 600 made by Wooyung Defenders. Multiple issues were raised in the submission:

Clause 5.9 8a(i) of the draft Tweed LEP 2012 should be amended to provide an expiry' of the exemption for Tree Preservation Order when a development consent exists.

The draft Tweed LEP 2012 provides the same colour coding for E2 and E3 zones.

Three levels of coastal risk should be incorporated into mapping on Coastal Risk Planning Map. Other concerns and objections raised in this submission in relation to environment protection have been addressed and responded to under Part 3.4 of this Report.

The draft Tweed LEP 2012 Land Zoning Map has been prepared in accordance with the Standard Technical Requirements for LEP Maps. These requirements have been prepared by the DP&I and are standard for all councils in NSW. Councils do not have the ability to amend colours of zones on the Land Zoning Map.

The request to provide an 'expiry date' for clearing exemptions where development consent exists appears to be inconsistent with *Division 7 Post-consent provisions* of Part 4 of the EP&A Act, in particular with Section 95 Lapsing of consent.

The Coastal Risk Planning Map and the Coastal Risk Planning clause are based on a model local provision prepared by DP&I for implementation in LEPs. Councils have had a very limited ability to modify this clause and map.

The Coastal Hazard DCP is scheduled for amendment which will result in an update to the Coastal Risk Planning Maps. The request to provide three levels of protection will be addressed as part of this review.

Recommendation/Action:

95 No amendments to the LEP. For referral to Coastal Hazard DCP review.

3.5.3.32 Submission 1378 made by Hastings Point Community Association: Submission seeks an alternative option to development of Lot 156 DP 628026 at Hastings Point.

Planning comment:



Figures 32&33: DLEP and LEP 2000 Land Zoning Maps for the subject site.

The methodology of the current process of converting the LEP 2000 into the Standard Instrument Template is based on a 'best fit' conversion of the Land Zoning Map with zero or minimum variations (where no compatible zones were provided). Council is committed to prepare an LEP amendment with recommendations of the Hastings Point Locality Plan. The matter of identifying optimal zone for this site will be assessed at that stage.

A mapping anomaly on the Land Zoning Map has been identified while analysing this submission. The road reserve adjacent to the subject site has been zoned 7(I) under the current LEP, but that zoning was changed to R1 General Residential under the draft. This change of the Land Zoning Map is not consistent with the methodology of zone conversion and should be corrected.

Recommendation/Action:

96 The DLEP Land Zoning Map to be amended to zone road reserve adjacent to Lot 6 DP 1117326 with the E3 Environmental Management zone, consistently with the extent of the 7(I) zone over this reserve on the LEP 2000 Land Zoning Map

### 3.5.4 Miscellaneous issues

3.5.4.1 Submission No 1509 made by Chinderah District Residents Association in relation to flood planning controls: Objection to the wording of the Floodplain Risk Management clause and Flood Planning Map: term probable maximum flood.

### Planning comment:

Both the Flood Planning and Floodplain Risk Management clauses are the "model local provisions" prepared by DP&I and recommended for inclusion in LEPs across the State. Councils have limited ability to amend wording of these clauses. Council may send a formal request to DP&I to review and amend, if necessary, wording of these clauses, as suggested in the submission.

Other comments – for referral to Coastal Hazard DCP review and for Tweed Valley Floodplain Risk Management Plan (draft).

## Recommendation/Action:

97 No amendments to the LEP.

3.5.4.2 Submission No 317 lodged by South Murwillumbah Business & Owners Group: Submission seeks assurance that shop top housing will be retained in the B5 Business Development zone as proposed in the exhibited draft.

Instead of prohibiting residential accommodation, a more efficient early warning system should be investigated to enable people to make a rational decision regarding evacuation.

The draft LEP does little to stimulate economic development of Murwillumbah.

## Planning comment:

Under LEP 2000, there are various restrictions on dwellings in business zones. In the current LEP 2000 3(c) Commerce and Trade Zone dwelling houses are only permissible if a "caretakers dwelling", and multi-dwelling housing is not permissible. The 3(c) zone applies to business areas in South Murwillumbah (Prospero Street, Tweed Valley Way etc), and Tweed Heads South (Minjungbal Drive, Machinery Drive, Greenway Drive etc).

Under the draft LEP 2012, multi dwelling housing remains prohibited in business zones, however shop top housing was proposed to be made permissible with consent. The B5 - Business Development zone has been used as the "best fit conversion" for 3(c) zoned land under the draft, and hence applies to South Murwillumbah and Tweed Heads South.

The Tweed Valley Floodplain Risk Management Study (draft) confirms that the areas of South Murwillumbah and Tweed Heads South have significant evacuation constraints, and hence the policy should apply. It is also noted that the South Murwillumbah Business & Owners Group made a submission (No 317) supporting shop top housing within the B5 zone.

The DLEP is prepared, as far as possible, to be a translation of the current LEP provisions and should not contravene other policies and Council. Prohibiting "shop top housing" within the B5 Business Development zone is consistent with the Tweed LEP 2000.

Other comments: for referral to Economic Development Strategy and the Tweed Valley Floodplain Risk Management Study.

## Recommendation/Action:

98 The Land Use Table for the B5 Business Development zone to be amended by prohibiting "shop top housing" land use.

3.5.4.3 Submission No 542: Submission expresses concerns about the implications of the proposed wording of clauses 7.6 Flood Planning and 7.6 Floodplain Risk Management.

# Planning comment:

The flood planning and floodplain risk management clauses do not aim to prohibit development but to minimise the flood risk to life and property. It is acknowledged that the majority of residential allotments affected by the Flood Planning Map already have dwelling houses.

Whether proposing to replace an existing or construct a new dwelling, each applicant needs to address clauses 7.6 and 7.7 and Section A3 Development of Flood Liable Land of the Tweed Development Control Plan 2008.

There have been a small proportion of allotments from across the Local Government Area affected by flooding in the past that have been unable to obtain consent for the erection of a dwelling. Most, however, have been able to provide a suitable location for a dwelling and safe wading if necessary that does not unduly provide a risk to residents or rescue personnel.

## Recommendation/Action:

## 99 No amendments to the LEP.

3.5.4.4 Submissions No 3 and 1451: Submission requests additional public presentation for Tweed Heads residents. The submission also seeks amendments to the Height of Buildings Map in line with Obstacle Limitation Surface Map of the Gold Coast Airport Masterplan and objects to reverting the Land Zoning Map from what was proposed in the draft Tweed LEP 2010 back to the LEP 2000.

### Planning comment:

Additional public presentation for Tweed Heads was held on 16 January 2013.

Consistency of any proposed development with the Obstacle Limitation Surface Map of the Gold Coast Airport Master Plan 2011 is being assessed under clause 7.4 *Airspace operations.* 

Please refer to section 3.4 of this Report for a detailed response to concerns regarding environmental protection.

## Recommendation/Action:

### 100 No amendments to the LEP.

3.5.4.5 Submission No 1458 lodged by the Kingscliff Ratepayers and Progress Association Inc. Multiple issues were raised in the submission:

Submission seeks changes to the Land Zoning Map to zone all farmland areas bordered by the Tweed Coast Rd, Cudgen Ck, Cudgen Rd and where the Tweed Coast Rd joins Casuarina with the RU1 Primary Production zone.

Height of buildings limit should be lowered from 13.6 m to 13 m and from 10 m to 9 m along Cudgen Creek. There is a lack of consistency on Biodiversity Map: seaward side of the Seaside City is not mapped as biodiversity. Submission expresses concern that Council may still be allowing some owners to build in known flood zones.

Submission raises concerns about the lack of Koala Plan of Management and the Revised Environmental Strategy.

## Planning comment:

Submission noted. The draft Tweed LEP 2012 has been prepared to convert the current LEP 2000 into the Standard Instrument Template, common for all councils in New South Wales.

As provided in this Report, and in the Report of 25 October 2012, the methodology for preparing the land zoning map was to convert the existing zones into zones under the Standard Instrument with zero or minimum variations.

Any requests to rezone the land 'outside' of the standard conversion process should be subject to a separate planning proposal process.

Council is committed to prepare a locality plan for Kingscliff. This task has been proposed for commencement in the next financial year.

The Terrestrial Biodiversity Map for areas at the Seaside city will be updated consistent with the methodology of preparing this map.

### Recommendation/Action:

- 101 The Terrestrial Biodiversity Map to be amended to map the seaward side of the Seaside City. Matters related with Kingscliff to be referred for Kingscliff Locality Plan.
- 3.5.4.6 Submission No 518: Clause 5.9 8a(i) of the draft Tweed LEP 2012 should be amended to provide an "expiry date" of the exemption for Tree Preservation Order when a development consent exists.

The draft Tweed LEP 2012 provides the same colour coding for E2 and E3 zones.

Other concerns and objections raised in this submission in relation to environment protection have been addressed and responded to under Table 2 of Attachment 1 of the Report.

### Planning comment:

The request to provide an 'expiry date' for clearing exemptions where development consent exists appears to be inconsistent with *Division 7 Post-consent provisions* of Part 4 of the EP&A Act, in particular with Section 95 Lapsing of consent.

The draft Tweed LEP 2012 Land Zoning Map has been prepared in accordance with the Standard Technical Requirements for LEP Maps. These requirements have been prepared by the DP&I and are standard for all councils in NSW. Councils do not have the ability to amend colours of zones on the Land Zoning Map.

Matters related with environmental protection have been addressed under Section 3.4 of this attachment.

3.5.4.7 Submissions 2 and 199: Submission seeks to restore vehicular access to the property described as Lot 88 DP 755715, at Upper Crystal Creek.

### Planning comment:

This matter is outside the scope of this planning process. Submission No 2 has been forwarded to Engineering & Operations Division for action.

### Recommendation/Action:

- 102 No amendments to the LEP.
- 3.5.4.8 Submission No 196: Landowner informed about his intention to lodge a planning proposal to facilitate development of a waste disposal facility.

Planning comment:

Submission noted.

Recommendation/Action:

103 No amendments to the LEP.

3.5.4.9 Submission No 1409: Support to the current process, followed by request to update the LEP on the basis of the most recent, accurate mapping.

Planning comment:

Submission noted.

Recommendation/Action:

104 No amendments to the LEP.

3.5.4.10 Submission No 619 made by Murwillumbah Ratepayers and Resident Association Inc. The submission raised a few issues:

The new LEP should not be based on the LEP 2000 but should include work and consultation involved to produce the LEP 2010. Public exhibition was not adequately advertised. The standard LEP template does not fit to Tweed.

The Association requested to consider submission sent in relation to the Tweed LEP 2010 exhibition, when the following concerns were raised:

Building heights in M'bah should be kept on reasonable levels to protect the local character, concern about buffers to National and State Parks which were lost in 2010 version of the Land Zoning Map, accuracy of the Bushland Map, request to maintain dual consent for vegetation clearing.

### Planning comment:

The current LEP has been prepared in response to NSW State Government request for all Councils to convert their LEPs into a single format under the Standard Instrument template. Council's methodology for this conversion has been based on two principles: conversion of the current zones with minimum variations and local context based on adopted policies and strategies.

Council is committed to undertake a Shire-wide update of the Land Zoning Map on the basis of the Revised Environmental Strategy. The Strategy has been prepared to link the Standard Instrument LEP with the Tweed Vegetation Management Strategy 2004. The implementation of the Revised Strategy has been delayed due to the review of environmental zones commenced by the DP&I. The Strategy will be updated to correspond with the outcomes of the review and will be implemented through an LEP amendment process.

The draft LEP exhibition was advertised in two editions of Tweed Link and on Council's website.

Response to the 2010 submission: the draft Tweed LEP 2012 is implementing the Community Based Heritage Study which includes Murwillumbah CBD as a heritage conservation area with additional controls imposed to protect its character. The building height limits are maintaining the current standards defined under the LEP 2000.

The Bushland Map (now Terrestrial Biodiversity Map) has been updated on the basis of the 2009 Aerial Photography.

Request to maintain the duel Council approval for vegetation clearing in its current form, cannot be supported. Under the planning system, the native vegetation clearing is managed under the Native Vegetation Act. This Act provides certain exemptions to carry out clearing in rural areas. In these circumstances, the best method to protect areas with native vegetation is by applying an environmental zone. This is proposed to be implemented through a separate LEP amendment to be undertaken on the basis of the Koala Plan of Management (which is in a draft form) and the Revised Environmental Strategy (delayed due to ongoing review of the environmental zones in the Northern Rivers Region).

## Recommendation/Action:

105 No amendments to the LEP.

3.5.4.11 Submissions 1467 and 1384 by Fingal Head Community Association and Fingal Head Coastcare. Multiple issues were raised in these submissions:

Submissions objected to the approach towards environmental protection zones and vegetation clearing controls in the draft Tweed LEP 2012. Objection to the community consultation process and timing, Objection to extractive industries and open cut mining land uses permissible with consent under RU1, RU2 and RU3 zones.

Submissions made several site-specific recommendations to increase the application of environmental zones. Request to include National Trust classification of Fingal Head Coastal Conservation Area in Schedule 5 Environmental Heritage.

Submissions included matters related with Significant Tree Register, which will be addressed under a separate report on DCP A16 Trees and Vegetation Preservation Code.

## Planning comment:

Matters related with the methodology behind the application of environmental zones, and options for further amendments to the LEP has been addressed under Section 3.4 of this Report.

Permissibility of mining activities under the draft LEP needs to be considered in conjunction with the State Environmental Planning Policy (Mining, Petroleum Production and

Extractive Industries), referred to as "The Mining SEPP". The Mining SEPP provides that mining activities may be carried out on land where development for the purposes of agriculture or industry is permitted with or without development consent. According to the hierarchy of planning documents (environmental planning instruments, EPI) in New South Wales, local environmental plans must not be inconsistent with State EPI.

The land use table of the draft Tweed LEP 2012 has been prepared as a conversion of the current LEP 2000. Open cut mining and extractive industries have been permitted land uses since the first LEP gazetted in1987.

The draft LEP 2012 does not change the maximum height of buildings. It provides maximum height in metres. Maximum heights have been determined on the basis of the current LEP 2000 Height of Building overlay, the Tweed Development Control Plan 2008 and standards and guidelines provided by the DP&I.

Site-specific requests to amend the Land Zoning Map of the draft Tweed LEP will be referred to the Revised Environmental Strategy for implementation through a separate planning proposal amendment.

The request to nominate Fingal Head Coastal Conservation Area for listing under Environmental Heritage schedule will be discussed with the Office of Environment and Heritage NSW.

### Recommendation/Action:

106 No amendments to the LEP. Refer to Recommendation No 52a.

3.5.4.12 Submission No 1365: Request to amend the Height of Buildings Map to provide a 21 m limit for the Tweed City Shopping Centre site.

### Planning comment:

The request is generally consistent with relevant planning policies and strategies. Under the Far North Coast Regional Strategy, the site is located in the identified Town and Village Growth Boundary of the Tweed region, within the existing urban footprint. Increasing the maximum height of buildings limit for the site would assist in achieving the aims of the Regional Strategy, in particular through Assisting in the revitalisation of the Tweed CBD, enabling it to provide a high level of services and employment and Assisting in the development of Tweed Heads as a major centre for tourism through the provision of a variety of retail services.

The request is consistent with Tweed Shire Council Retail Policy Principles:

Principle 1: The character of existing towns and villages and the retail facilities they already have been protected.

Principle 2: Where appropriate, Council will support the incremental expansion of existing retail centres in such a way as not to threaten or fracture those existing centres, rather than building new ones.

Principle 3: Reinforce Tweed Heads south as the major district retail centre by encouraging the expansion and when Tweed's population demands that increased range and level of shopping.

Council has recently finalised a planning proposal for redevelopment of the Tweed City Shopping Centre. Amendments to the Height of Buildings Map to facilitate this expansion were not adequately analysed by proponent and resulted in no amendments to the LEP Height of Buildings Map at that stage.

Given that this proposal is generally consistent with relevant policies and strategies, responds to Retail Strategy Principles and that the site was recently rezoned to facilitate the expansion, it is considered that this request has merit and is supported.

### Recommendation/Action:

- 107 The DLEP Height of Buildings Map be amended to provide a 21 m maximum height of buildings for the Tweed City Shopping Centre site.
- 3.5.4.13 Submission No 189: Wharf or boating facilities, water recreation structures and water storage facilities will encourage further degradation of biological systems.

### Planning comment:

The land uses listed in the submission are considered to be consistent with objectives of this zone, which include "providing for sustainable fishing industries and recreational fishing".

It is a role of the merit-based development assessment process to determine whether a proposed development is consistent with objectives of a zone and other relevant considerations.

Recommendation/Action:

108 No amendments to the LEP.

## 3.5.5 Rural or agricultural land issues

3.5.5.1 Submission No 569 by Combined Tweed Rural Industries Association. Multiple issues raised in submission included: concerns about subdivision standards in rural areas, necessity for and accuracy of Biodiversity overlay, implications of the Flood Planning Map, and limited consultation on exhibition

## Planning comment:

A shire-wide approach to investigating the opportunity for revising the minimum lot size maps and creation of smaller lot subdivision for residential purposes is needed, in part, through the preparation of a Rural Land Use Strategy which is due for completion in late 2013.

The Terrestrial Biodiversity overlay is consistent with councils adopted TVMS and has been included in all draft Comprehensive LEPs since 2004. Developments may be refused or conditioned on any number of grounds including biodiversity considerations. The Biodiversity clause simply seeks to clarify some of the common issues that require consideration. Camphor laurel harvesting for commercial purposes falls under the definition of Forestry under the SILEP

The Biodiversity mapping needs to be detailed to pick up relevant issues. The alternative would be to require similar considerations for all DAs. Specific inaccuracies are not stated however if there are errors these can be addressed via the provisions of Biodiversity clause 7.8.

The DLEP Flood Planning Map is scheduled for amendment in line with the most recent flood modelling data provided to council as part of developing the (draft) floodplain management study.

The DCP A16 does not apply to noxious weeds such as camphor laurel by virtue of clause 5.9(8) of the DLEP.

The control of noxious weeds is exempt development providing it is carried out in a manner that does not cause significant environmental impacts.

The DLEP was on exhibition from 15 November 2012 until 18 January 2013. During that time, eight (8) public meetings were held, six of them open for general public and two held by request of community groups. Council staff was providing additional information and guidelines when requested and considered late submission that were lodged after the exhibition closed.

### Recommendation/Action:

- 109 No amendments to the LEP. For referral to DCP A16 Report and for Rural Land Strategy
- 3.5.5.2 Submissions 27, 601, 757, 1195, 1432, 1435, 1448, 689, 581, 305, 304, 303, 569 raised generally similar concerns on rural subdivision standards and flexibility of the draft LEP 2012 to allow viability of farming in the Tweed.

### Planning comment:

A shire-wide approach to investigating the opportunity for revising the Lot Size Map and creation of smaller lot subdivision for residential purposes is being analysed through the preparation of a Rural Land Use Strategy which is due for completion in late 2013. The Strategy is expected to provide a number of recommendations regarding viability of farming in the Tweed Valley; some of those recommendations will be used to amend the LEP through a separate LEP amendment process.

## Recommendation/Action:

110 No amendments to the LEP. For referral to Rural Land Strategy

3.5.5.3 Submissions 8, 43, 187, 372, 478, 1377, 1403, 1460 and1475 raised similar concerns regarding the accuracy of rural and environmental zones in farmlands and requested an update to the Land Zoning Map to correctly zone areas with farming activities with a rural zone and areas of high conservation values with an environmental zone.

### Planning comment:

The Draft LEP 2012 maintains the existing Environmental Protection zone boundaries with a recommendation put forward in this report to amend the Land Zoning Map for the koala habitat.

Notwithstanding the above, Council acknowledges that a review of the Environmental zones is needed however is to be pursued through a separate process. Amendments to the environmental zones have been included in the Revised Environmental Strategy. The Strategy is scheduled for implementation as a matter of priority, however has been delayed due to the ongoing review of environmental zones commenced by the DP&I in October 2012. Once the review is finalised, its outcomes will be used to amend the Environmental Strategy for implementation to the LEP through a separate LEP amendment process.

### Recommendation/Action:

111 No amendments to the LEP. For referral to Revised Environmental Strategy

3.5.5.4 Submission No 135: The submission raised objection to the Draft LEP 2012 on the grounds that the Land Zoning Map is highly inaccurate. Further, concern is raised that no provision to convert Multiple Occupancies to Community Title is provided under the Draft LEP 2012.

Concern is raised that the Draft LEP 2012 does not reflect existing land use, therefore disadvantaging landholders who are actively involved in environmental enhancement. The submission details areas of environmental rehabilitation that are inconsistent with zone boundaries.

Issue is raised that approved Multiple Occupancies should be able to convert to Community Title, as is the case in Byron Shire.

## Planning comment:

The Draft LEP 2012 maintains the existing Environmental Protection zone boundaries with a recommendation put forward in this report to amend the Land Zoning Map for the koala habitat.

Notwithstanding the above, Council acknowledges that a review of the Environmental zones is needed however is to be pursued through a separate process.

Multiple Occupancies are primarily governed by the State Environmental Planning Policy – Rural Landsharing Communities as opposed to the Tweed LEP.

Council does not currently have any specific planning provisions that apply to Rural Landsharing Communities and as such the inclusion of new controls is beyond the scope of this LEP.

## Recommendation/Action:

112 No amendments to the LEP. For referral to Revised Environmental Strategy and Rural Land Strategy

3.5.5.5 Submission No 372: The submission raises objection to the use of the E3 Environmental Management zone on land. Concern is raised that agriculture is prohibited within the E3 Environmental Management zone, however substantial areas of the property affected by this zone are currently farmed and have been for over 100 years. The prohibition of agriculture would cost the landowner between \$60,000 - \$90,000 per annum and employment of one or two staff or affect land sale value by in excess of \$550,000 in reduction.

Solutions offered include changing the zoning of the property to RU2 Rural Landscape, as per the Draft LEP 2010 (as exhibited) or Tweed Shire Council purchase the E3 affected land, at a price of \$700,000.

The property has been purchased in 2010. The draft LEP 2010 was proposed to remove the environmental zone from the lot and replace it with the RU2 Rural Landscape zone.

## Planning comment:

The Draft LEP 2012 maintains the existing Environmental Protection zone boundaries with a recommendation put forward in this report to amend the Land Zoning Map for the koala habitat.

Notwithstanding the above, Council acknowledges that a review of the Environmental zones is needed however is to be pursued through a separate process.

Whilst Council may wish to purchase land of environmental quality in order to facilitate strategic land management, such an action has not been identified to-date and is not recommended to be instigated in this instance.

## Recommendation/Action:

113 No amendments to the LEP. For referral to Revised Environmental Strategy.

### 3.5.6 Heritage issues

Submissions by the Heritage Council of NSW and the Office of Environment and Heritage (OEH) are addressed in sections 3.2.1 and 3.2.2 above. In addition to these two agency submissions, eight submissions were received from seven organisations/people.

The heritage submissions are detailed in Attachment 1. The issues raised can be summarised as follows:

One submission, from the Tweed Byron Local Aboriginal Land Council (TBLALC) relates specifically to both built and environmental Aboriginal heritage issues and management. The submission notes anticipated community engagement on community projects, such as affordable housing strategies and Aboriginal cultural heritage and supports the use spatial mapping of development controls and linkages between the Tree Preservation Order and vegetation management responsibilities.

The submission has raised concern about the need to lodge a DA to undertake "weed removal" as it may constitute "forestry" as this may impact on land management, rehabilitation and revegetation.

This submission has raised concern regarding high value archaeological sites associated with estuarine and beach areas. The submission requests that future consultation in relation to climate change and impacts of proposed management and development assessment controls concerning the areas omitted from the LEP and adjacent lands that may be subject to high hazard for coastal erosion, include consideration of planning protection and management options for such heritage sites on a locality and cultural landscape basis.

TBLALC coastal holdings may be subject to climate change / erosion processes and management needs to manage multiple hazards. There is some concern regarding inconsistency of the Coastal Risk clause 7.16 and maps with adjoining Byron Council lands, where some areas have been deferred. Suggest consistency be sought and that some areas may need to be omitted from the LEP until this can be demonstrated across LGAs.

This submission suggests that a cultural landscapes mapping is a desirable project and acknowledges the project underway as it facilitates awareness and sensitivity towards Aboriginal heritage. Consultation with the TBLALC will permit input into the design of these projects, which meet multiple agency objectives within the context of the importance of these projects.

## Planning comment:

Council commenced the preparation of an Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Management Plan (ACHMP) in January 2012. This plan is guided by the Memorandum of Understanding signed by the members of the Aboriginal Advisory Committee, TSC and our consultants, Converge Heritage + Community. The MOU outlines the roles and responsibilities of the parties and the manner information may be shared or used. The ACHMP project is a major step forward in developing an ongoing engagement with the Aboriginal community on planning matters.

Land that is the subject of "forestry activities" as defined in the LEP will continue to operate and relate to such things as logging and harvesting of timber. Weed removal should not be captured by the "forestry" definition. Weed removal is more suitably considered as "environmental protection works", which is permitted without consent in most zones.

With regards coastal risk management and the inconsistencies of the Clause 7.16 and associated mapping between TSC and Byron Council, in the absence of State lead policy, each Council is at different stages in their coastal planning and subject to the decisions of their respective Council's as to how coastal risk is managed. Clause 7.16 is based on the DP&I model clause for coastal risk planning and the mapping is based on the TSC adopted coastal hazard area identified in the DCP B25 Coastal Hazard Guidelines.

Given that Council has adopted the Coastal Hazard DCP (currently under review) and the management strategy for such land, it is appropriate that this be included in the DLEP.

### Recommendation/Action:

## 114 No amendments to the DLEP.

One submission raises concern regarding the DLEP deliberately exhibited false information and misuses Council funds, based on the previously submitted issues with the official Tweed history, the naming of Mount Wollumbin and the incorrect term of "Bunjalgung" for the Aboriginal people.

### Planning comment:

The issues with the documented history of the Tweed are outside the scope of the DLEP. The inclusion of heritage items is based on the resolution of Council with regard to the Community Based Heritage Study (CBHS) in August 2012.

Recommendation/Action:

## 115 No amendment to the DLEP.

One submission has raised concern over the incorrect heritage listing of the Willis residence at Tyalgum (listed under item 1107 as 7 Coodgee Street and should be listed as 5 Coodgie Street). The owners of 5 Coodgie Street were contacted by mail and discussions held with them on the implications for them of amending the listing to 5 Coodgie Street.

The owners advise that given they have not been aware of the heritage listing of this property, they object at this time. Given the address has been listed incorrectly, consultation on the listing of this property has not been adequate and it is recommended that this item be removed from the heritage list, subject to assessment, review and consultation on the correct property in a subsequent heritage study.

## Recommendation/Action:

116 The Draft Tweed LEP 2012 be amended to remove the heritage listing of item I107, listed as 7 Coodgee Street, Tyalgum.

Six submissions related to requests to have the heritage listing or conservation area listing removed from their property due to a range of factors including: the additional cost of preparing a Statement of Heritage Impact (SOHI); the lack of detail provided with regard to the significance of the conservation area; clarity surrounding the process, requirements and assessment of development to a heritage item or within a conservation area; properties have been renovated; and concerns with home insurance of property not being provided at a competitive cost.

The properties and areas requested to be removed and the reasons are detailed in the Attachment 1. In summary they include:

- The Tyalgum Community Hall;
- The Tyalgum Conservation Area (2 submissions by one author);
- Flutteries Café, Tyalgum;
- Bungalora, Terranorra; and
- Campbell Residence, Tygalgah listing of three lots covering farmland and the residence.

## Planning comment:

With regard to all above properties, assessment of the items and their heritage significance was undertaken through the Community Based Heritage Study (CBHS) and reported to Council in August 2012. Council resolved at this time to proceed with the listing of these items, given their assessed heritage significance.

Council also considered a report in December 2012 to adopt the management recommendations for appointment of a Heritage Advisor and commencement of a local heritage assistance fund (LHAF) and to seek grant funding for this. This will provide free heritage advice and a small fund to assist owners of heritage items or within conservation area with maintenance and improvement works. Implementation of the heritage advisor and LHAF is dependent on successful Heritage Branch grant funding, once the funding cycle opens.

There is submitted concern that heritage listing will generate public interest, requests to open their house to the public and public dissemination of personal information. Heritage listing of a property does not imply or result in any loss of privacy. As with any privately owned property, heritage listing does not allow the general public to visit your property, nor are owners required to make their property accessible to the public. A site card is maintained on the heritage database which is used as the summary of the property history and significance details.

Submissions regarding the Tyalgum Conservation area are generally concerned with process and the extra consideration and cost of the requirement for a SOHI. All development must be consistent with the requirements of the applicable LEP. With specific regard to heritage items there are two distinct issues clarification has been sought on: when is development consent required; and when is a Statement of Heritage Impact (SOHI) required?

Development consent is required under the provisions Clause 5.10 (2) of the DLEP, which outlines what development requires consent. With regard to a heritage item, heritage significance applies to the identified site unless specifically defined. Where development consent is required the consent authority is required to take into consideration the effect of the proposed development on the heritage significance before granting consent through Clause 5.10 (4) of the DLEP 2012 (and also required by Clause 42(3) of the current LEP 2000). This consideration of the impact on heritage is a SOHI, and therefore is required for all development requiring development consent.

Notwithstanding DLEP Clause 5.10 (2), Clause 5.10 (3) also makes provision for minor or maintenance works, which do not require development consent and therefore do not require a SOHI. "Maintenance" is defined in the DLEP 2012. This process is outlined in the "*Guide for Heritage Owners*", which is a support document to assist in understanding the requirements of heritage owners. In addition some works may be undertaken under the Exempt and Complying Code SEPP.

Concern has also been raised that there are insufficient guidelines for guiding the assessment of significance of development within the conservation area. Council has previously resolved to prepare a Heritage DCP to specifically address development controls guidelines and the significance criteria of conservation areas. This is scheduled to commence this year.

With regards home insurance, whilst it is acknowledged that some insurance companies will not insure heritage listed properties, the Heritage Branch provides guidelines and advice as to insurers who do not discriminate against heritage listing and provide insurance at a competitive rate.

A couple of submissions raised concerns that the heritage listing is not appropriate given the heritage items have been renovated. Heritage listing is not limited to exemplary examples of architecture or condition; in fact there are few examples of this nature which are generally State heritage listed. Local heritage registers aim to select a broad range of examples for inclusion on the heritage register and also aim to include a sample of buildings representing all eras, styles, materials and significant historic associations. Those selected are not necessarily the 'best' or 'grandest' examples, but represent well a type of building characteristic to an area at a certain time or local association. The current best practice with regards heritage listing is to allow an item to be adaptively reused and renovated, subject to heritage assessment of the suitability of the development and impact on the significant fabric.

With regard to the Campbell residence (Lot 1 DP 308105 (the residence) and Lot 1 DP 117073 and Lot 2 DP 557660) the CBHS and inventory site card identifies significance based on associated significance with the family, pioneering history and demonstrating aesthetic characteristics of a c.1890's brick federation home. The site card assessment lists all three lots. Whilst the dwelling is on Lot 1 DP 308105, the other lots contain associated outbuildings significant to the family's settlement.

Heritage listing will not hinder the continued framing of the property; however, it does recognise the historic significance of the family's settlement and the brick federation dwelling. Council has previously considered the listing of this property in 2007 and in 2012 and has consistently resolved to proceed with listing as a heritage item.

## Recommendation/Action:

- 117 The Tyalgum Community Hall (item I110) as mapped and listed in Schedule 5 Environmental Heritage be retained as a heritage item.
- 118 The Tyalgum Conservation as mapped and listed in Schedule 5 Environmental Heritage be retained.
- 119 Flutterbies Café" (item I105) as mapped and listed in Schedule 5 Environmental Heritage be retained as a heritage item.
- 120 "Bungalora" residence (item I2) as mapped and listed in Schedule 5 Environmental Heritage be retained as a heritage item.
- 121 "Campbell" residence (item I111) as mapped and listed in Schedule 5 Environmental Heritage (including Lot 1 DP 308105, Lot 1 DP 117073 and Lot 2 DP 557660) be retained as a heritage item.

## **OPTIONS**:

Option 1:

That draft Tweed Local Environmental Plan 2012 is endorsed subject to the amendments recommended under Part 3 of this Report, <u>without</u> amendments to include riparian clause and environmental zones on the Tweed Coast (proposed under recommendations No 29 and No. 52a); and:

- (1) The draft Tweed Local Environmental Plan 2012 be referred to the Director-General of the Department of Planning and Infrastructure, following its amendment under Resolution 1 above, for the draft local environmental plan to be made; and
- (2) A draft local environmental plan (planning proposal) be prepared to bring about a greater level of protection for Koala Core Habitat, in accordance with State Environmental Planning Policy No.44 Koala Habitat Protection; and
- (3) Following the completion of the State Government's review of the Environmental Zones (E2, E3 & E4) and Overlays under the Standard Instrument (Local Environmental Plans) Order 2006, for the Far North Coast Region, a report detailing the process and strategy for Council to implement its broader environmental strategies be brought forward.

### Option 2:

That draft Tweed Local Environmental Plan 2012 is endorsed subject to the amendments recommended under Part 3 of this Report, <u>including</u> recommendation No 52a to include environmental zones as exhibited under the draft Tweed LEP 2010, recommendation No 29 to include riparian clause, and including rationalisation of environmental protection zones on Council controlled land; and:

(1) Council seeks advice from the Department of Planning and Infrastructure that the abovementioned changes can be made without the need for further public re-exhibition; and

- (2) The draft Tweed Local Environmental Plan 2012 be referred to the Director-General of the Department of Planning and Infrastructure, following its amendment under Resolution 1 above, for the draft local environmental plan to be made; and
- (3) That a draft local environmental plan (planning proposal) be prepared to fully implement Council's adopted approach to environmental protection (including SEPP 44 Koala Habitat) consistent with outcomes of the State Government's review of the Environmental Zones and Overlays under the Standard Instrument (Local Environmental Plans) Order 2006, for the Far North Coast Region.

#### Option 3:

That:

- 1. Draft Tweed Local Environmental Plan 2012 is revised to:
  - (i) Include the amendments recommended under Part 3 of this Report.
  - (ii) More fully implement Council's adopted approach to environmental protection (including SEPP 44 Koala Habitat) consistent with outcomes of the State Government's review of the Environmental Zones and Overlays for the Far North Coast Region.
- 2. The revised Tweed Local Environmental Plan referred to in Resolution 1 above is publically re-exhibited in accordance with Section 68 of the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979.*

#### CONCLUSION:

This Report provides three alternative options to advancing the DLEP with a recommendation to support Option 2.

#### COUNCIL IMPLICATIONS:

#### a. Policy:

Corporate Policy Not Applicable.

#### b. Budget/Long Term Financial Plan:

Not Applicable.

#### c. Legal:

In accordance with State Government LEP template.

#### d. Communication/Engagement:

**Consult**-We will listen to you, consider your ideas and concerns and keep you informed.

#### LINKAGE TO INTEGRATED PLANNING AND REPORTING FRAMEWORK:

- 1 Civic Leadership
- 1.5 Manage and plan for a balance between population growth, urban development and environmental protection and the retention of economical viable agriculture land
- 1.5.3 The Tweed Local Environmental Plan will be reviewed and updated as required to ensure it provides an effective statutory framework to meet the needs of the Tweed community
- 3 Strengthening the Economy
- 3.3 Maintain and enhance the Tweed lifestyle and environmental qualities as an attraction to business and tourism
- 3.3.1 Establish planning controls and balance the need for urban growth against the protection of agriculture, village character and the environment
- 4 Caring for the Environment
- 4.2 Conserve native flora and their habitats
- 4.2.1 Promote the protection of native vegetation and wildlife habitat of high conservation value, social or cultural significance in Tweed Shire

## UNDER SEPARATE COVER/FURTHER INFORMATION:

- Attachment 1. Submission Review Table (ECM 3051915)
- Attachment 2. Background on Policy Position (ECM 3051742)
- Attachment 3. Draft Tweed Local Environmental Plan 2012 (ECM 3051755)

CNL-26 [PR-CM] Variations to Development Standards under State Environmental Planning Policy No. 1 - Development Standards

SUBMITTED BY: Director



#### SUMMARY OF REPORT:

In accordance with the Department of Planning's Planning Circular PS 08-014 issued on 14 November 2008, the following information is provided with regards to development applications where a variation in standards under SEPP1 has been supported/refused.

#### **RECOMMENDATION:**

That Council notes the April 2013 Variations to Development Standards under State Environmental Planning Policy No. 1 - Development Standards.

#### **REPORT:**

On 14 November 2008 the Department of Planning issued Planning Circular PS 08-014 relating to reporting on variations to development standards under State Environmental Planning Policy No. 1 (SEPP1).

In accordance with that Planning Circular, the following Development Applications have been supported/refused where a variation in standards under SEPP1 has occurred.

DA No.	DA12/0411
Description of Development:	Detached dual occupancy
Property Address:	Lot 27 Sec 2 DP 3123 No. 70 Charles Street, Tweed Heads
Date Granted:	23/4/2013
Development Standard to be Varied:	Clause 16 - Heights of Buildings
Zoning:	2(a) Low Density Residential
Justification:	Variation to clause 16 Height of Buildings as the proposal incorporates a partial three storey element within a two storey restricted area. The proposal is supported as the variation does not significantly impact on the view sharing opportunities which are afforded to neighbouring developments. The topography of the site (steep sloping site) creates a void area within the building footprint creating an additional storey that is not used.
Extent:	The proposed dwelling one, has an approximate length of 20.3m, with the variation representing 2.5m in length when viewed from the north-east (side) elevation and 0.6m in length when viewed from the south west (side) elevation.
Authority:	Tweed Shire Council under assumed concurrence

DA No.	DA12/0596
Description of Development:	Dwelling with pool
Property Address:	Lot 357 DP 1087716 No. 31 Cylinders Drive, Kingscliff
Date Granted:	2/4/2013
Development Standard to be Varied:	Clause 16 of Tweed Local Environmental Plan 2000 and Clause 32B of the North Coast Regional Environmental Plan
Zoning:	2(f) Tourism
Justification:	Council has received an application to construct a single residence on the subject property. The property is beach front land in an approved residential subdivision. A SEPP No. 1 variation is sought to Clause 32B of the North Coast Regional Environmental Plan 1988 relating to overshadowing of waterfront open space. The proposed two storey dwelling will cast a shadow on the adjacent waterfront open space during the nominated times in the development standard. The Shadow encroachment cast by the development into the foreshore is considered only minor and will have minimal impact on the public's enjoyment of the foreshore land. The
	shadows cast only impacts on the coastal dune vegetation and do not reach the beach. The Shadow encroachment cast by the development into the foreshore is considered only
Extent:	minor and will have minimal impact on the public's enjoyment of the foreshore land. The shadows cast only impact approximately 15 metres into the coastal dune vegetation and do not reach the beach, which is approximately 100m from the rear property boundary.
Authority:	Tweed Shire Council under assumed concurrence.

# **COUNCIL IMPLICATIONS:**

#### a. Policy:

Not Applicable.

#### b. Budget/Long Term Financial Plan:

Not applicable.

#### c. Legal:

No-Legal advice has not been received. Attachment of Legal Advice-Not Applicable.

#### d. Communication/Engagement:

Not Applicable.

# LINKAGE TO INTEGRATED PLANNING AND REPORTING FRAMEWORK:

- 1 Civic Leadership
- 1.4 Strengthen coordination among Commonwealth and State Governments, their agencies and other service providers and Statutory Authorities to avoid duplication, synchronise service delivery and seek economies of scale
- 1.4.1 Council will perform its functions as required by law and form effective partnerships with State and Commonwealth governments and their agencies to advance the welfare of the Tweed community

# UNDER SEPARATE COVER/FURTHER INFORMATION:

Nil.

# CNL-27 [PR-CM] Planning Reform Unit Works Program 2013

# SUBMITTED BY: Planning Reforms



#### **SUMMARY OF REPORT:**

This report seeks Council's endorsement of the Planning Reform Unit's Work Program 2013/2016.

This report was preceded by a Councillor Workshop relating to the revision of the works program held on 4 April 2013.

The report acknowledges the competing resource commitments and limitations that were raised at the April workshop and in particular the high level of requests arising from Council's commitment to improving strategic land-use planning for the Tweed as well as the need to allocate resourcing for shorter-term development through planning proposals originating from the private sector.

The works program is an essential project management tool. It assists staff in providing more accurate estimates of the Council's planning resource capability in their advice to the development industry, who require greater certainty and confidence on which their preparation of commercial scheduling and planning for future projects and forecasts can be based.

It also provides an insight into the current direction in the Shire's strategic land-use planning and the key projects on which it is comprised, in a format that can be readily understood by the broader community.

The report concludes that it is essential to maintain a balanced work program to assist with the ongoing resource allocation to key strategic projects and for providing greater certainty in the timing and allocation of resources for accepting private planning proposals and delivering important strategic projects.

The report identified a current imbalance in the available resources and the demand for them and recommends strategies for managing an efficient work stream that is balanced and aims to deliver the greatest utility in the shortest time. It concludes as a consequence that there will typically be a small number of projects that will be held-off in the shorter term to make way for those with a higher net benefit or priority and that this is an acceptable project management response.

#### **RECOMMENDATION:**

That:

- 1. Council approves the Planning Reform Unit's Work Program 2013/2016 identified as Tables 2-4 in this report.
- 2. Council approves Recommendation 1 *Planning Proposal PP10/0006 225 Terranora Road* within the report relating to the reprogramming of projects.
- 3. Council approves Recommendation 2 *Planning Proposal PP10/0004 Enterprise Avenue* and Recommendation 3 - *Planning Proposals PP10/0002 & PP10/0005* within the report and the proponent(s) of the projects detailed are, on request, to provide to the Coordinator Planning Reform a sufficiently detailed schedule demonstrating a commitment to progress the project(s) through to completion within an agreed timeframe and a failure to comply within a reasonable time or to show adequate commitment to the completion of the project(s) will terminate Council's resourcing of the project(s).
- 4. A mid-year Work Program review and update be reported to Council no later than February 2014.

## **REPORT:**

As part of the on-going project management of Council's strategic land-use planning resources the Planning Reform Unit's Work Program is reviewed annually and where appropriate revised to reflect and 'match' resource-to-commitment. First adopted in June 2009 it has been successfully utilised to manage expectations arising from speculative requests and investigations as well as genuine development opportunity proposals arising either through Council or from the private sector.

Preceding this report a Councillor's workshop was held on 4 April 2013 to enable Council officers to provide an up-date on the work program and how project commitment targets were being met as well as providing an overview of current resourcing and funding allocations and shortfalls for existing and future projects.

One the key issues raised was the current over-commitment of resources, which had been consistently increasing over the preceding 12 months driven by several factors, including:

- i. The ongoing advancement and amendment of the Draft LEP 2012 which draws significant resources both from within the Planning Reform Unit as well as from other Divisional work areas and which is a major contributor in the delay and consequent reprogramming of several key strategic projects.
- ii. There has been a tendency to over rely on external consultants to asses and prepare planning proposals that was based on an initial estimated resource commitment regarding project management and administration. The use of consultancies has undoubtedly proved to be beneficial both in terms of planning outcome and the number of proposals able to be advanced. However, the project management and resourcing required of council staff has proven to be in excess of initial estimates and quite significant with some of the more complex projects.

Consequently the ability of the Unit to progress/undertake planning proposals needs also to be balanced against the resourcing required to both administer, project manage and assist in the preparation of project planning proposals efficiently. This is essential within a user-pays system where the expectation on service delivery is higher.

iii. Some of the more recent larger and complex polices have generated the need for post project resourcing to assist council staff and external clients with effective implementation. This has generated the need for additional guiding plans or policy in some instances.

By way of example, the Tweed City Centres LEP, gazetted in January this year, has necessitated the preparation of policy to manage the process and outcomes for the new clauses relating to the 'key sites: architectural design competition' and 'architectural roof features'. The adoption of the Community Based Heritage Study has led to internal staff and external community group workshops and consultations, and further work on the guidelines and explanation / interpretation of the project outcomes to achieve effective implementation of the processes it triggers for development applications and works. The 'Area E' locality based DCP has necessitated ongoing support for other Units' and prospective developers with the effective implementation and interpretation of its aims and design orientated outcomes, as has several of the other recent detailed strategic policies.

iv. The slowed progression of some projects driven by the reprioritisation of commercial priorities and realties of some proponent developers, which is undoubtedly driven by prevailing economic conditions. This situation presents project management challenges for the work program because proponents are unwilling to relinquish their place in the queue once work has commenced because there is typically no guarantee that the project will be resourced at a later time convenient to them. This risk is heightened with projects that have a relatively long lead time because the currency of information can change, become obsolete, and costly to update.

The flow on effect creates a barrier to the reallocation of resources to other like projects because there is a risk that those resources may need or be expected to be allocated back to the original project when the proponent is again ready. Given the absolute uncertainty attaching to the pre-gateway assessment stages of most planning proposals about how long a given project is 'likely' to take and what level of resourcing will be required there can typically be no assurance about when a deferred project may recommence.

The better practice remains to keep the resource allocation or terminate the project and in exceptional circumstances defer the project subject to a combination of agreed time frames and automatic termination milestones established in advance.

When preparing the 2013-2016 work program the direction provided by Councillors at the workshop in conjunction with the Tweed Shire Council Community Strategic Plan 2013-2023, Delivery Program 2011/2015 and Operational Plan 2012/2013 were taken into account.

From the above, three salient limitations for acting on a range of projects and or acting on those within certain timeframes are guided by:

- 1. The direction the Council seeks to take with any given project;
- 2. The availability of financial resources; and
- 3. The availability of human resources to either undertake a project or project control external consultancies.

There are several projects identified within this report that have previously been identified as important strategic projects and which the Council has indicated should be pursued. There are however one or more of the limitations mentioned above operating to impact on the progression of all projects simultaneously or within the same time horizon and consequently the works schedules have been developed using available knowledge and indicators to determine the base project priorities from where further refinement or reprioritisation of projects can be made by Council.

The works program is premised on a presumption that any additional projects introduced by the Council will result in the deferral of another project of the same kind off the work schedule to a later date (reprioritisation) rather than displacing the allocated resources to current projects. The exception to that presumption being the allocation of additional resources commensurate with those required to accommodate the new project.

The Works Program serves as an important and helpful project control tool, in particular:

i. It is normal practice during any given year that new projects will come to light and will be reported to Council. These occurrences take into account the impact on the Work Program and the Unit's ability to resource the project. In that way the Work Program is not intended to be immoveable or to raise a barrier to important projects that the Council wishes to prioritise but instead is designed to aid Council with those decisions;

- ii. It provides a medium through which Council can identify additional and future projects; and
- iii. It can be used to guide decisions regarding future budgetary considerations and or allocations.

The allocation and redistribution of budgetary funds available within the Planning Reform Unit was addressed in the previous work program report in May 2012 and the related projects were programmed. There are no additional or available funds.

### The Work Program Generally

The revised works program has taken into account four key project constraining and opportunity factors:

- i. Total PRU staff resources;
- ii. Committed resource allocation;
- iii. Current funding & commitments; and
- iv. Potential future funding.

Based on those four elements and the feedback from the 4 April Councillors' workshop the Tables below provide a proposed work program for the period 2013-2016.

As mentioned above, and with most work programs of this kind, it is in a constant state of change as projects both come and go and it needs to be sufficiently flexible to allow for projects that are not completed within the projected timeframe and rollover into successive program schedules.

Based on the above, the program is based on the same format previously used, which utilises a 'traffic light system'. This is designed to allow a more flexible measure of resourcing at a given point in a project's lifecycle. For example, a project that has a long lead time to its proper commencement or a project that is nearing its completion generally requires less resourcing than one that has a deferred commencement or is in its peak development and so is correspondingly shown with a red or amber 'indicator or light'.

Referring to Table 1 below the indicators may be summarised as:

**Green light:** typically signifies a project in peak development and requiring a significant resource allocation. These are projects typically prepared in-house or where the project is outsourced but the complexity and size of the project requires a significant contribution to both project control and preparation/assessment of related studies and the like.

**Yellow light:** a project that requires a moderate allocation of resources. This could be a comparatively simple project or one that has a long lead in or lead out time that is predominately administrative. It is also used to indicate the level of resourcing required to project control least complex or contentious projects that are outsourced to consultancies.

**Red light:** typically used to indicate a project that is yet to start, or be reported to Council, or is in the final stage of completion but nonetheless involves administration and project management. This might for example include the raising of invoices, contract preparation, report to Council, meeting advice and the like.

**Black light:** projects that have been brought to attention through various media, e.g. proponents of development, Council's delivery and operational plans, community advocacy for key projects and or topics, and the Council, but that are not proposed to be commenced within the specific work program period. These projects are listed to firstly maintain an awareness of them and also because it provides a more seamless and transparent transition of the proposed work stream between the work program schedules (years).

Rating Schedule	
Current Projects (Resourced)	
Current Projects (moderate resources)	0
Project Pending / finalising (minor resources)	0
Not proceeding at this stage / Future Project	

Table 1 - Work Program Project Resources Rating

# Work Program Schedules 2013/2016

The following schedules have been prepared taking into account the considerations and factors discussed above. Several projects are identified as requiring a funding allocation or that require Council's endorsement before they can be commenced. This appears as an initialism abbreviation following the project title description:

- (SCA) Subject to a costs and expenses agreement.
- (SCR) Subject to Council resolution.
- (STF) Subject to funding.
- (STGF) Subject to grant funding approval.

# Table 2 - 2013/2014

Planning Proposals (PPs)		CSP Code	Strategic Plans		CSP Code	General Tasks	
Total (weighting)	15.5		Total (w)	15.0		Total (w)	6.8
PP10-0007 Mooball (Perlo)	•	1.5	Rural Lands Strategy	•		Briefing notes, workshops & presentations or similar (public & internal)	
PP12/0002 Mooball No.2	•	1.5	LGMS	0	1.5, 3.1, 3.4	Meetings / Committees / workshops / Seminars	•
PP10-0005 Hundred Hills	•	1.5	Murbah Main street Heritage Project (STGF)	•	1.5	General Corro, GIS & s149 support	•
DLEP 85 Pottsville Employment	$\circ$	1.5	Com-Retail Dev. Strategy (STGF)	0	1.5, 3.1	Student / University Programs assistance	0
PP10- 0002 Marana Street	•	1.5	Kingscliff Locality Plan	•	1.5, 2.2	Strategic Planning Advice (internal & external) (NOMs)	٠
PP11/0005 Club Banora T/Towns	$\bigcirc$	1.5, 3.1	FNCRS Review	0	1.5, 2.2	DA comments	0
DLEP Shirewide 2012	$\bigcirc$	1.5	ACHMP	0	1.5, 2.1	Grant & Funding Applications	0
		1.5	Tyalgum Locality Plan	$\bigcirc$	1.5, 2.2	NSW Housing Monitor / SEPP Compliance GIS	0
		1.5	Rural Villages DCP	0	1.5, 2.2	Post Project Works, Contracts & Agreements	•
Environmental Zones / Koala LEP Amendment	۰	1.5, 4.1, 4.2	DCP A5 (subdivision) Review	0	1.5, 2.2	Procurement	0
			Housing Adaptability	۲	1.5, 2.2		
						Total ALL Task	37.3
Parked - stalled			Work Program Items				
DA10/0737 s72J BP Chinderah	0	1.5, 3.1	Policy Maintenance	•	1.5		
PP10/0006 225 Terranora (SCA)		1.5	Seabreeze (Stage 2)	0	1.5		
PP10/0004 Enterprise Ave (SCA)	•	1.5, 3.1	CBHS Heritage DCP	0	1.5, 2.1	Total Resource Allocation 2013/201	4
						120.5%	
Facilitating Planning Proposal			Facilitating DCP (From LEP/PPs)				
Hastings Point LDCP		1.5,2.2	Industry & Business Park DCP	•	1.5, 3.1	Resource Commitment by Project Ar	ea
Pottsville LDCP		1.5,2.2	Key Sites: Architectural Design Comp (LEP2009)	0	1.5		
Cabarita LDCP	•	1.5,2.2	Architectural Roof Features (LEP 2009)	•	1.5		
Review Caba Village Controls		1.5				10.2%	
Planning Proposal / Project (notified)						10.2% Plannin Proposi	g als (PPs)
Border Park - Bunnings Rezoning Request (SCA)(SCR)	•	1.5, 3.1				54.3%	c Plans
Palms Village Rezoning (SCA)(SCR)		1.5	Other (from Council)			56.1%	
Tweed City S/Centre Height Rezoning (SCA)(SCR)	0	1.5, 3.1	Iconic Landscapes DCP	۰	1.5, 2.2	Genera	l Tasks
Elrond Drive (SCA)(SCR)	$\bigcirc$	1.5					
West M/bah Industrial (TUELRS							
Area 6) (SCA)(SCR)	$\circ$	1.5, 3.1					

# Table 3 - 2014/2015

Planning Proposals (PPs)		CSP Code	Strategic Plans		CSP Code	General Tasks	CSP Code	
Total (weighting)	7.7		Tôtál (w)	13.7		Total (w	1	6.8
A REAL PROPERTY AND A REAL	0			0		Briefing notes, workshops & presentations or		
PP10-0007 Mooball (Perlo)	-	1.5.3.1	Rural Lands Strategy	-	2.2.2.1	similar (public & internal)	2.1.2.2	۲
PP12/0002 Mooball No.2	0	1.5.3.1	LGMS	۲	3.3.1.1	Meetings / Committees / workshops / Seminars		۲
ALC TOTAL OF ALC ALC ALC			Murbah Main street Heritage					
PP10-0005 Hundred Hills	0	1.5,3,1	Project (STGF)	. 🔘	1.5.2.2	General Corro, GIS & s149 support	2,1.2.2	0
DLEP 85 Pottsville Employment	0	1.5.3.1	Com-Retail Dev. Strategy (STGF)	0	2.1.2.3	Student / University Programs assistance		0
	-		and the second second second	-		Strategic Planning Advice (internal & external)		
PP10- 0002 Marana Street	0	1,5,3,1	Kingscliff Locality Plan		2,2,1,1	(NOMs)		
PP11/0005 Club Banora T/Towns	0	1.5.3.1	FNCRS Review		er trate.	DA comments		0
DLEP Shirewide 2012		2.1.2.3	ACHMP	0	3.2.1.2	Grant & Funding Applications		0
		1.1.1.2	Tyalgum Locality Plan	0	2.6.1.1	NSW Housing Monitor / SEPP Compliance GIS	3.4.1.1	0
		1.1.1.2	Rural Villages DCP	0	4.4.2.1	Post Project Works, Contracts & Agreements		0
Environmental Zones / Koala LEP								Ö
Amendment	0	1.5.3.1	DCP Murwillumbah (South)	۲	2.1.2.3	Procurement		_
		1.5.3.1	Housing Adaptability	. 🔘	2.3.7.1			-
		1.5.3.1	Chinderah Locality Plan (STF)	۲	2.3.7.1	Total ALL Task	k	28.2
Parked - stalled			Work Program Items					
DA10/0737 s72J BP Chinderah	0	1.5.3.1	Policy Maintenance		1.5.2.2		_	
PP10/0006 225 Terranora (SCA)		1.5.3.1	Seabreeze (Stage 2)		1.5.2.2			
PP10/0004 Enterprise Ave (SCA)	0	1.5.3.1	CBHS Heritage DCP	0	2.3.7.1	Total Resource Allocation 2014/2015		
and the second state of the second			and the second		1.5.2.2	88.5%		
					2.3.7.1	1000		
Facilitating Planning Proposal			Facilitating DCP (From LEP/PPs)			* Statement and the statement of the	1.4.4.1	
Hastings Point LDCP		2.3.7.1	Industry & Business Park DCP		1.5.2.2	Resource Commitment by Project	ct Area	
			Key Sites: Architectural Design					
Pottsville LDCP		2.3.7.1	Comp (LEP2009)		1.5.2.2			
	0		Architectural Roof Features (LEP					
Cabarita LDCP	-	2.3.7.1	2009)	•	1.5.2.2			
Review Caba Village Controls		2.3.7.1	Pottsville Employment Lands DCP	0	1.5.2.2	10.2% PI	anning	
							roposals (F	Pe
Planning Proposal / Project (notified)					1.5.2.2	27.0%	-h (-	
Border Park - Bunnings Rezoning								
Request (SCA)(SCR)	0	1.5.3.1			4.4.2.1	st st	rategic Pla	ans
Palms Village Rezoning	-	4.5.5.1			7-7-6-1		and a second second	
(SCA)(SCR)	0	1.5.3.1	Other (from Council)					
Tweed City S/Centre Height				0		51.4%		
Rezoning (SCA)(SCR)	•	1.5.3.1	Iconic Landscapes DCP		1.5.2.2	■G	eneral Tas	sks
Elrond Drive (SCA)(SCR)	0	1.5.3.1			2.3.7.1			
West M/bah Industrial (TUELRS								
Area 6) (SCA)(SCR)	0	1.5.3.1						

# Table 4 - 2015/2016

Planning Proposals (PPs)		CSP Code	Strategic Plans		CSP Code	General Tasks	CSP Code	
Total (weighting)	9.5		Total (w	13.3		V) Total (V	v)	6,8
Dunloe Park Residential (TUELRS Area 7) (SCA)(SCR)	-	1000	a state the second	-	4444	Briefing notes, workshops & presentations or similar (public & internal)		-
Cudgera Road Residential	•	1.5.3.1	Rural Lands Strategy	0	2.2.2.1	similar (public & internal)	2.1.2.2	
(TUELRS Area 5) (SCA)(SCR)		1.5.3.1	LGMS		3.3.1.1	Meetings / Committees / workshops / Seminars		
Pottsville Employment (TUELRS						be and the state of the second		
Area 7) (SCA)(SCR)	0	1.5.3.1	DCP Murwillumbah (South)	0	1.5.2.2	General Corro, GIS & s149 support	2.1.2.2	
Spare	•	1.5.3.1	Com-Retail Dev. Strategy	0	2.1.2.3	Student / University Programs assistance		0
Spare		1531	Kingscliff Locality Plan	0	2.2.1.1	Strategic Planning Advice (internal & external) (NOMs)		۲
spare		1.5.3.1	Housing Adaptability	0	3.4.1.1	DA comments		0
PP10/0006 225 Terranora	0	2.1.2.3	Chinderah Locality Plan (STF)	0	3.2.1.2	Grant & Funding Applications		
PP10/0004 Enterprise Ave	0	1.1.1.2	Review TUELRS		2.6.1.1	NSW Housing Monitor / SEPP Compliance GIS	3.4.1.1	0
			Rural Tourism DCP	0	4.4.2.1	Post Project Works, Contracts & Agreements		
			Housing Affordability Strategy					
			(STF)	0	2.1.2.3	Procurement		0
			Urban Design Charter	۲	2.3.7.1	<u> </u>		
					2.3.7.1	Total ALL Tas	iki	29.6
Parked - stalled			Work Program Items			1	-	
			Policy Maintenance	۲	1.5.2.2			
			Heritage Advisor Project Officer		1.5.2.2	Table All States	lante	
					2,3.7.1	Total Resource Allocation 2015	0/2016	
					1.5.2.2	93.1%		
Facilitating Planning Proposal			Facilitating DCP (From LEP/PPs)		2.3.7.1	The second se		
Facilitating Planning Proposal		2.3.7.1	Spare		1.5.2.2	Resource Commitment by Project Area		
		2.3.7.1	Spare	-	1.5.2.2	Contract Contract Contract		
		2.3.7.1	spore		1.9.2.2			
		2.3.7.1				10.28		
		2.3.7.1					lanning	
Planning Proposal / Project (notified)						33.3% P	roposals (I	PPs)
West M/bah industrial (TUELRS							trategic Pl	ans
Area 6)	0	1.5.3.1						
			Other (from Council)			49.7%		
			Iconic Landscapes DCP		1.5.2.2		eneral Tas	sks
			Charles and the second					

### **Balancing Public - Private Interests**

The work program is limited by several factors as mentioned above. Ultimately there will always be a limit on capacity and a corresponding body of work commitments.

Tweed Council is performing well and making good progress with new and updated strategic planning work and within the confines of the strategic planning resources. Like those before it, this work program seeks to strike a balance between planning proposals originating on demand from the private sector and broader community driven strategic planning policy. This can be further stated as that body of work that investigates and makes permissible new land-uses versus that other body of work which provides the guidelines for how that new development should best proceed.

Despite a large volume of planning proposals within the work program the greater part of the Unit's resources are being taken up by broader strategic policy work. This occurs for many reasons but noticeably is the Council's sustained commitment to good strategic land-use planning and the weaker economy which is both highlighting the need for stronger policy whilst at the same time reducing the pressure for new and more expedient planning decisions, tempered by reduced availability and access to funding for commercial projects.

#### **Council initiated projects**

Council, at the 13 December 2012 meeting, resolved to bring forward a report detailing the current planning reforms agenda and options for reprioritising the planning reforms agenda to include:

- a) a Sustainability policy for Council
- b) a Sustainability Development Control Plan for new developments
- c) a National Iconic Landscapes Development Control Plan

#### <u>ltem a)</u>

This relates to a wider, corporate, policy for Council, the scope and extent of which is to be addressed at an upcoming Councillors' workshop by Council's Director Community and Natural Resources.

#### <u>ltem b)</u>

This is a more specific and targeted approach than the broader 'whole of council operations' policy foreshadowed at Item a), and will be most effective when tailored to key and identifiable areas.

Council's Director Engineering Operations is evaluating how sustainable development principles can be incorporated into Council's subdivision DCP, which is currently being reviewed. The review will look at ways in which the sustainability criteria can be assessed, and benchmarked; acknowledging that performance and monitoring is a fundamental key to effective implementation a success of embedded sustainability. It is envisaged that these criteria will act as a precedent model for incorporation more widely into all development related policies and standards.

#### Item c)

A 'National Iconic Landscapes' DCP has been included within the Work Program for commencement in 2013-14, as shown in Table 2.

#### Benefits and Impacts with the Proposed Work Program

As with the previous work program this program proceeds with an emphasis on the maintenance of Council's current strategic planning policies, which is an area previously identified as lagging other areas of policy development.

A robust and informed planning policy framework has positive impacts not only on the ability to provide certainty to the development industry but it should also initiate and drive more economically sustainable outcomes for the Tweed. This can occur through achievement of the best use of land in key delivery areas including; supply of lower cost and diverse housing, employment generating development, and a reduction on development pressure and release of further large Greenfield development, as well as, protection of agricultural and environmentally sensitive land.

There are several key strategic projects underway that will seek to address a number of those issues. However, there are still many policy challenges ahead that should not be underestimated and which will provide Council with an opportunity to improve the community participation rate in the preparation of important strategic projects as a means of managing decisions about Tweed's future.

As well as the State Government's agenda to reform the NSW planning legislation, which may present many new opportunities and challenges, there are regional issues that Council and community will need to participate in. In particular, the Far North Coast Regional Strategy (FNCRS) is set to recommence its review in April, with the Department of Planning and Infrastructure due to recommence high level meetings with representatives from each of the five councils on how best to inform and develop the Strategy, in-line with the Government's expectations.

The FNCRS is pivotal to the Council's long-term planning. It sets the tone for how the region should be developed, where the major and smaller centres are/will be, and what the population, employment and housing projections are for each local area.

The benefit with this work program is that it attempts to foreshadow some of the likely and probable events (by way of related project) and has sought to both inform processes by ensuring that Council's key strategies are in place (e.g. rural land strategy) and that others will follow suit and be aligned with any change (e.g. review of the TUELRS, local growth management strategy, heritage), ultimately with a view to improving the overall benefit from having a strong policy position and also as a means of lessening any direct impact or flow-on effect arising from the transition into a new legislative framework. This is achieved within the limitations set by this kind of program but remains instructive about the level and kind of policy work and change required.

The principle impact arising from the proposed work program in the shorter term results from there being a fixed resource base, which is out-stripped by project demand for it, and therefore requires projects to be reprogrammed or similar.

#### **Project Reprogramming & Notice of Commitment Recommendations**

It is necessary, in order to maintain an appropriate level of resourcing to the key priority projects, to defer several others to be reprogrammed at a later stage. It is also essential that projects abandoned or not receiving an appropriate level of resourcing from the proponent be brought to account or terminated. This latter class of proposals is a significant drain on Council's resources and its ability to undertake other projects.

The projects identified below fall into one of those categories discussed.

#### Recommendation 1 - Planning Proposal PP10/0006 225 Terranora Road

This planning proposal request seeks to rezone land, which is about 10 hectares in area and currently zoned for the most part 7(d) Environmental Protection and part Rural 1(c), to expand or extend the Rural 1(c) zoning of the land. The request was informed in part by the environmental zones exhibited in the Draft LEP 2010, which resulted in a significant reduction of the environmental zoning and in its place a Rural 1(a) zoning.

The rezoning therefore seeks to reclassify the area land that was proposed to revert from 7(d) to 1(a), for rural living and utilising the standard instrument zoning of R5 Large Lot Residential.

Given the prevailing uncertainty about how these lands and in particular the rationalisation of environmental zoning will be managed through Council's future zone review or that currently being investigated through the Department of Planning and Infrastructure, it is recommended that this project should be deferred and reprogrammed in to the 2014-2015 work period.

### Recommendation 2 - Planning Proposal PP10/0004 Enterprise Avenue

This planning proposal request sought certain lands in Tweed Heads South to be developed and re-developed for a large format retail precinct and waste transfer station, as well as to enable land to be used for direct factory outlet retailing.

Reported to Council's Meeting of 17 August 2010 it was resolved to notify the proponent that the project would not proceed without several key issues first being addressed. These items, including traffic, impact on Council's Banora Point waste water treatment plant and assessment of ecological constraints, remain to be addressed. Consequently the project remains unsuitable to proceed.

It is recommended that whilst the project has been reprogrammed for the 2014-2015 period that Council seek formal advice and commitment from the proponent to proceed with the project within an agreed timeframe, failing which it should be terminated and removed from the Work Program.

#### Recommendation 3 - Planning Proposals PP10/0002 & PP10/0005

Both of these planning proposals seek rezoning of the land for urban residential purposes. Whilst both have been underway for sometime their progress is slow and disjointed with no demonstration of a real commitment to complete the projects within a reasonable time.

Although it is recommended that they remain in the 2013-14 work period it is also recommended that Council seek a firm commitment from the respective proponents to finalise the projects within an agreed time, failing which they should be terminated and removed from the Work Program. This would fee-up capacity to undertake other projects where that commitment exists and best utilises the use of Council's resources.

# **OPTIONS:**

- 1. That the Work Program 2013-2016 presented in Tables 2-4 within this report and the recommendations presented in relation to the deferral of specific projects and proponent show cause notifications be approved; or
- 2. That any amendments to the Work Program be identified and the report deferred to allow amendments to be made and reported on.

#### CONCLUSION:

The benefits and impacts associated with the Planning Reform Work Program are discussed above in this report. Noticeably it serves as a means of project control for aiding decisions about resource allocation, budgetary considerations and allocations, and for identifying important key strategic projects. The Work Program is a guide but nonetheless serves as a means of ensuring that changes and challenges originating externally, whether from government policy or the commercial sector, are foreshadowed, contemplated and managed through a transparent projection of the work needed to address emerging issues.

For the reasons discussed in this report the Work Program 2013-2016 is seen to be a balanced approach to managing the strategic land-use functions required of Council, within the resources available. It is suitable for approval.

## COUNCIL IMPLICATIONS:

#### a. Policy:

This report seeks a clear direction and prioritisation of Council's strategic land-use planning program.

#### b. Budget/Long Term Financial Plan:

Forward budget estimates may arise from Council's endorsement of the Planning Reforms work program as key strategic projects are taken up.

#### c. Legal:

Not Applicable.

#### d. Communication/Engagement:

Not Applicable.

#### LINKAGE TO INTEGRATED PLANNING AND REPORTING FRAMEWORK:

- 1 Civic Leadership
- 1.5 Manage and plan for a balance between population growth, urban development and environmental protection and the retention of economical viable agriculture land
- 1.5.2 Land use plans and development controls will be applied and regulated rigorously and consistently and consider the requirements of development proponents, the natural environment and those in the community affected by the proposed development
- 1.5.2.2 Planning Controls updated regularly

#### UNDER SEPARATE COVER/FURTHER INFORMATION:

Nil.

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### CNL-28 [PR-CM] Update on Development Assessment and Monitoring of Camphor Laurel Harvesting Activities in the Tweed Shire

#### SUBMITTED BY: Development Assessment



#### SUMMARY OF REPORT:

A report was previously reported to Council's Meeting of 18 April 2013 to both update Council on the broader changing regulatory and management aspects of camphor laurel harvesting in the Tweed Shire, particularly in respect of the supply of harvested material to the Condong Mill co-generation plant, as well as to inform Council on the compliance actions taken in respect of a complaint received relating to the recent camphor laurel harvesting activity on premises No. 536 Smiths Creek Road, Stokers Siding.

Council resolved the following in respect of this report:

"That:

- 1. Council works with the industry representatives and State Agencies regarding a future process for approvals and environmental management for camphor laurel removal; and
- 2. No legal action be undertaken regarding the camphor laurel harvesting operation at Lot 4 DP 585624, No. 536 Smiths Creek Road, Stokers Siding for the reasons outlined in the report."

Council were also made aware of a meeting held on 16 April, 2013 between Council officers and representatives of the NSW Environment Protection Authority (EPA), Far North Coast Weeds FNCW) and NSW Sugar (representing the Condong Mill), to seek to formulate a new approach to the assessment and monitoring of camphor laurel harvesting in the Tweed Shire, in order to respond to the environmental impacts issues arising from a number of recent camphor harvesting activity, such as that at No. 536 Smiths Creek Road.

The meeting was very productive as it assisted in clarifying the regulatory roles of each agency in respect of the assessing and monitoring of camphor laurel harvesting activity, the operational aspects of the Condong Mill co-generation, and the changing approach to camphor laurel by Far North Coast Weeds.

A positive outcome of the meeting was that the agencies have produced a clearer system and definition of roles for both Council and the EPA in responding to complaints on unauthorised or inappropriate camphor laurel activities.

However, it was evident that there is a divergence of views among the agencies as to how the harvesting of camphor laurel is defined in statutory terms under both the NSW Environmental Planning and Assessment Act, 1979 (EP&A Act) and the NSW Native Vegetation Act (NVA), and the related extent of approvals and environmental assessment

required. Tweed Council officers are of the view that, depending on the scale of the activity, it could be defined as "forestry", which is considered to require a development application under the upcoming Tweed Draft Local Environmental Plan 2012. Under the Draft LEP "forestry" includes *b*) forest product operations, namely, the harvesting of products of trees, shrubs and other vegetation (other than timber) that are of economic value....

The Council officers have previously supported an exemption from the lodgement of a development application under the Tweed Council Exempt and Complying Development Control Plan, subject to an agreed process between Council, the EPA, FNCW and NSW Sugar, requiring camphor removal contractors to comply with the Camphor Harvesting Code of Practice, necessitating a Weed Control Management Plan signed off by the FNCW and Council before any works were commenced.

Contrary to the view of the Council officers, the EPA and NSW Sugar consider that the activity is best defined as noxious weed control, and therefore should be exempt from requiring approval under either the EP&A Act or the NVA. Council officers maintain camphor laurel harvesting at the scale currently being undertaken goes well beyond any exemption for noxious weed control which must be undertaken to the *minimum extent possible* under the NVA and by methods that *will not: have a significant impact on native flora and fauna; create significant problems with land degradation including soil erosion, coastal erosion and siltation of water bodies under Councils DCP – A10 Exempt and Complying Development.* 

Further doubt on the extent of approvals and assessment required and the feasibility of continuing the voluntary Camphor Harvesting Code of Practice, was created through the advice provide by the FNCW, who will no longer be resourcing any environmental assessment of plans of management for camphor removal jobs relating to the Condong Mill, and have also proposed the de-classification of camphor as a noxious weed in the draft Weed Control Order 30 soon to be released for full public consultation by the State Government.

NSW Sugar has also indicated that they are unlikely to require any further camphor harvesting over the next six weeks prior to the start of crush.

The Group therefore concluded that there was a need to seek a more qualified, independent opinion on the interpretation of the planning definition and associated approvals required for camphor harvesting. In this respect, it is proposed that Council officers seek advice through the NSW Department of Planning and Infrastructure as part of its resolution of outstanding issues for finalising the current Draft Tweed LEP 2012.

In the interim, the Group will continue discussions on how best to resource and monitor the environmental assessment of any upcoming camphor laurel harvesting jobs relating to the co-generation fuel demands of the Condong Mill.

#### **RECOMMENDATION:**

That the report on Update on Development Assessment and Monitoring of Camphor Laurel Harvesting Activities in the Tweed Shire be received and noted.

# **REPORT**:

A report was previously reported to Council's Meeting of 18 April 2013 to both update Council on the broader changing regulatory and management aspects of camphor laurel harvesting in the Tweed Shire, particularly in respect of the supply of harvested material to the Condong Mill co-generation plant, as well as to inform Council on the compliance actions taken in respect of a complaint received relating to the recent camphor laurel removal activity on premises No. 536 Smiths Creek Road, Stokers Siding.

Council resolved the following in respect of this report:

"That:

- 1. Council works with the industry representatives and State Agencies regarding a future process for approvals and environmental management for camphor laurel removal; and
- 2. No legal action be undertaken regarding the camphor laurel harvesting operation at Lot 4 DP 585624, No. 536 Smiths Creek Road, Stokers Siding for the reasons outlined in the report."

Council were also made aware of a meeting held on 16 April, 2013 between Council officers and representatives of the NSW Environment Protection Authority, Far North Coast Weeds and NSW Sugar (representing the Condong Mill), to seek to formulate a new approach to the assessment and monitoring of camphor laurel harvesting in the Tweed Shire, in order to respond to the environmental impacts issues arising from a number of recent camphor removals activity, such as that at No. 536 Smiths Creek Road.

A summary of the main issues of discussion and recommended actions from the meeting is provided below:

#### Clarification of Regulatory Compliance Roles of Council and the EPA

The recent camphor harvesting activity by a contractor at the premises No. 536 Smiths Creek Road generated some confusion about the compliance and enforcement roles of Council and the EPA in terms of responding to amenity and environmental impacts complaints made by adjoining owners.

The EPA outlined their understanding of the current regulatory framework for camphor laurel harvesting. The EPA was supportive of the initial arrangement for harvesting operations based on the requirement that contractors comply with the Camphor Harvesting Code of Practice, (which requires FNCW endorsed Weed Control Management Plans) developed between the Mill, FNCW and Council. Through this process, the EPA's primary role is exercised through the Sugar Milling Cooperative Environment Protection Licence which requires that camphor laurel chips used as fuel at the premises are harvested in accordance with the Camphor Harvesting Code of Practice. The EPA elaborated their understanding that where complaints received from adjoining or surrounding property owners persisted after being referred by the EPA to the Mill, then the EPA would further investigate and take appropriate action. This had rarely been necessary over the years that this system has been in place.

In terms of the camphor laurel harvesting activity, the EPA had a further understanding that Council is the appropriate regulatory authority under the Protection of Environmental Operations Act (POEO Act) for noise, water, and air impact issues, in addition to Council's land use role under the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act (EP&A Act), as it is an unscheduled activity. In those instances where a camphor laurel contractor was not carrying out work in accordance with the Camphor Harvesting Code of Practice, the EPA advised of their understanding that Council should report these actions to the EPA, who have generally responded in a prompt fashion to address these concerns with the Mill. In respect of the recent non-compliance of the contractor on the premises No. 536 Smith Creeks Road, Stokers Siding, it was acknowledged that there appeared to have been some breakdown in communication, which resulted in the EPA not immediately acting upon concerns raised by Council regarding a complaint from an adjoining owner.

The EPA further elaborated that they had acted in response to the complaints by responding to the complainant, visiting the site and requiring the contractor to tidy up the site, and concluded that they will not be taking any further legal or punitive action.

The Council officers pointed out their mis-understanding of the compliance role under the POEO Act, as is many other instances, the EPA is the responsible compliance authority for activities relating to Environment Protection Licences, such as the Condong Mill cogeneration operations.

In light of this mis-understanding on compliance roles for Condong Mill related camphor harvesting, the Group have since agreed on a more effective and responsive complaint management procedure, as outlined below:

- Should a complaint be received by Council, record it on Council's complaint registration system CRM noting all concerns raised (noise, erosion, threatened species etc). Advise the complainant that the EPA and NSW Sugar are initially responsible for responding to the complaint, and that they should contact the EPA Environment Line and NSW Sugar.
- 2. Advise Council's Manager Development Assessment of the complaint. If considered necessary, complaint to be investigated by Planning Compliance Officer.
- 3. If complaints are received after five working day after the date of the initial complaint, advise specifically nominated EPA and NSW Sugar officers. Discuss potential Council action with Director Planning and Regulation. Council action may include an investigation to determine compliance with the *Protection of the Environment Operations Act* 1997 (*POEO Act*). Breaches of the *POEO Act* may result in the issuing of Notices or prosecution.

<u>Note</u>: The EPA and NSW Sugar advised that they will respond to such complaints as soon as practicable. The EPA advised that it is the appropriately regulatory authority (ARA) to regulate the licensed cogeneration plant, which includes ensuring that only material harvested in accordance with the Draft Voluntary Code of Practice is received. The EPA also advised that Council is the ARA for harvesting and associated on-ground works.

This procedure has now been put into place.

Discussion on the Relevant Approvals Processes Required for the Environmental Assessment of Camphor Laurel Harvesting

It was evident that there is a divergence of views among the agencies as to how the harvesting of camphor laurel is defined in statutory terms under both the NSW Environmental Planning and Assessment Act, 1979 (EP&A Act) and the NSW Native Vegetation Act (NVA), and the related extent of approvals and environmental assessment required. Tweed Council officers are of the view that, depending on the scale of the activity, it could be defined as "forestry", which is considered to require a development application under the upcoming Tweed Draft Local Environmental Plan 2012. The Council officers have previously supported an exemption from the lodgement of a development application under the Tweed Council Exempt and Complying Development Control Plan, subject to an agreed process between Council, the EPA, FNCW and NSW Sugar, requiring camphor removal contractors to comply with the Camphor Harvesting Code of Practice, necessitating a Weed Control Management Plan signed off by the FNCW before any works were commenced.

Contrary to the view of the Council officers, the EPA and NSW Sugar consider that the activity is best defined as noxious weed control, and therefore should be exempt from requiring approval under either the EP&A Act or the NVA. Council officers maintain camphor laurel harvesting at the scale currently being undertaken goes well beyond any exemption for noxious weed control which must be undertaken to the *minimum extent possible* under the NVA and by methods that *will not: have a significant impact on native flora and fauna; create significant problems with land degradation including soil erosion, coastal erosion and siltation of water bodies under Councils DCP – A10 Exempt and Complying Development.* 

Further doubt on the extent of approvals and assessment required and the feasibility of continuing the voluntary Camphor Harvesting Code of Practice, was created through the advice provide by the FNCW, who will no longer be resourcing any environmental assessment of plans of management for camphor removal jobs relating to the Condong Mill, and have also proposed the de-classification of camphor as a noxious weed in the draft Weed Control Order 30 that will soon be released for full public consultation by the State Government.

The Group therefore concluded that there was a need to seek a more qualified, independent opinion on the interpretation of the planning definition and associated approvals required for camphor harvesting. In this respect, it is proposed that Council officers seek advice through the NSW Department of Planning and Infrastructure as part of its resolution of outstanding issues for finalising the current Draft Tweed LEP 2012.

# Update on the Condong Sugar Mill Operations

In terms of the Condong Sugar Mill and Co-Gen operations, NSW Sugar provided the Group with an update. Although under receivership, the Mill is still continuing with the co-gen project, but the Mill is in only in production mode during a six month crushing season. It was further explained that the Mill's demand for camphor fuel had declined in recent years due to the corresponding poor seasons in cane production. Camphor is currently the highest cost fuels for its operations, and if it was not available, alternative fuels would have to be used. There are currently no local camphor fuel supply jobs for the Mill during this off season, as there are other fuel sources being stockpiled.

In terms of the Stokers Siding job, the Mill will not use their resulting camphor supply, as it would not be compliant with their licensing arrangement with the EPA, as the contractor did not comply with the Plan of Management.

# **OPTIONS:**

It is recommended that Council receives and notes this report.

## CONCLUSION:

Camphor laurel harvesting for the Condong cogeneration plant operations needs a new regime of assessment and all stakeholders need to play a role with developing a new system that satisfies the various objectives for the Mill, landowners, noxious weed removal and environmental management. Representatives of the relevant agencies have recently met and are working towards clarifying a more efficient and accountable system of development assessment and monitoring of these activities.

#### COUNCIL IMPLICATIONS:

#### a. Policy:

Corporate Policy Not Applicable.

#### b. Budget/Long Term Financial Plan:

Not Applicable.

#### c. Legal:

Not Applicable.

#### d. Communication/Engagement:

Meeting to be held with stakeholders.

#### LINKAGE TO INTEGRATED PLANNING AND REPORTING FRAMEWORK:

- 4 Caring for the Environment
- 4.2 Conserve native flora and fauna and their habitats
- 4.2.3 Recognise the social and economic impacts of managing vegetation
- 4.2.3.1 Noxious weed management

# UNDER SEPARATE COVER/FURTHER INFORMATION:

Attachment 1. Copy of report to Council's Meeting of 18 April 2013 relating to camphor laurel removal issues and the compliance response to the works undertaken at No. 536 Smiths Creek Road, Stokers Siding (ECM 3048590)

# CNL-29 [PR-CM] Electoral Signage

#### SUBMITTED BY: Development Assessment



#### SUMMARY OF REPORT:

Following a complaint received regarding large electoral signage along the Tweed Valley Way road reserve, an investigation has been undertaken with regard to the permissibility of the signage and road safety issues.

The assessment of the existing signage concludes that whilst the signage is not posing a safety hazard, development consent is required. As such, the signage in this particular instance is required to be removed and the owner of the gates (as well as the electorate candidate) needs to be advised that electoral signage is not permitted without development consent.

In addition, Council has been advised of electoral signage within Murwillumbah town centre, which requires development consent. Similarly, the signage needs to be removed and the land owner advised accordingly.

The report also provides a review of all relevant legislation for electoral signage, with the assessment concluding that unless the signage is exempt, signage on public and private land requires development consent where such development is permissible. Historically, applications for signage on public land have not been supported. Electoral signage in residential or rural areas is not permitted by State Environmental Planning Policy (SEPP) 64.

In summary, to be exempt development under Council's Development Control Plan (DCP) A10, signage can only be temporary development, which is limited to 28 days prior to the event. SEPP 64 also has exempt provisions for electoral signage, but this is limited in size and can only be erected 5 weeks prior to the Election Day. In addition, the SEPP requires the signage to be displayed in accordance with any requirements of the Act under which the election is held. It should be noted that electoral signs are not permitted to be erected within any public land, under the provisions of Clause 151B(2A)(a)(ii) of the Parliamentary Electorates and Elections Act 1912.

#### **RECOMMENDATION:**

That:

- 1. The two instances of electoral signage noted in this report are unauthorised and require removal until such time that development consent is obtained. The owners of the gates and shop are to be advised accordingly; and
- 2. Communication is to be developed in order to highlight all statutory requirements in relation to signage for all upcoming elections. All candidates for future elections are to be informed of the outcome.

# **REPORT**:

Council is in receipt of a complaint with regard to two large electoral signs in relation to the upcoming federal election on the eastern side of Tweed Valley Way, near the village of Tumbulgum. The signs are located on the existing double gates at the entrance of the gravel road running off Tweed Valley Way, approximately 1km south of the main intersection of Tweed Valley Way and Riverside Drive (as shown in Figure 1 below).

The signs are quite large (i.e. more than twice the size of a normal real estate sign) with a sign on each of the gates, such that the north and south approaches to the gate has a view of the signs.



FIGURE 1: Existing gates on the Tweed Valley Way road reserve, near Tumbulgum

The complainant raises the issue of road safety, stating that the signs are a "serious distraction" to motorists travelling along Tweed Valley Way. Council's Traffic Engineer has investigated the matter, noting the following:

"The signs are not located at a decision making point in the road. The signs are located on an existing structure which is approximately 7m from the travel lane. The signs are not animated or directing drivers to carry out an action. In review of the above I do not consider the signs to present a significant hazard to road users."

The existing gates are currently opened out onto the road reserve, which is unzoned public land. As such the placement of the electoral signs in this instance would require development consent, pursuant to the provisions of Clause 13 of the Tweed Local Environmental Plan (TLEP) 2000. The lodgement of a development application for signage within the road reserve would require owners consent from Council and would also require a Section 138 approval. Council general practice is that it does not support this type of signage erected on the road reserve.

It is recommended that the landowner of the gates be advised that development consent is required for the placement of signage on the existing gates and that the current signage is to be removed.

Council staff have also been made aware of another large electoral sign within the window of a vacant premises in the Murwillumbah town centre (as shown in Figure 2 below). This signage is not considered to be exempt development and as such requires development consent. The sign should be removed until such time that consent has been obtained. The electoral candidate should also be advised of the statutory requirements for signage.



FIGURE 2: Electoral signage within vacant shop front in Murwillumbah

#### Tweed Local Environmental Plan 2000

Clause 47 of the TLEP 2000 relates to advertising signs. Clause 47(2) requires development consent for signage on land within a zone other than a rural, open space or environmental protection zone, unless it is prohibited by Clause 47(4) which relates to roof signs, A-frame signs on public land, flashing signs and animated signs.

It should be noted that electoral signage (other than signage that is exempt) in a residential zone (but not including mixed residential or business zone) is prohibited under the provisions of SEPP 64. Electoral signage within commercial and industrial zones is permitted with consent.

Clause 47(3) only permits advertisements on land within a rural, open space or environmental protection zone if it is either:

- (a) a temporary sign in Zone 7 (a), 7 (d) or 7 (l), or
- (b) an advertisement that directs the travelling public to a specific tourist facility, lawful business or place of scientific, historic or scenic interest and the consent authority is satisfied that:
  - *(i) the principal purpose of the advertisement is to direct the travelling public to that building or place, and*
  - (ii) the dimensions and overall size of the advertisement are not larger than would reasonably be required to so direct the travelling public, or
- (c) an advertisement relating to a lawful use on the land on which the advertisement is to be displayed.

As noted above, signage within the road reserve (other than that prohibited by Clause 47(4)) is on unzoned land and therefore requires development consent, pursuant to the provisions of clause 13 of the TLEP 2000. However, signage within the road reserve is unlikely to be supported by Council staff.

#### Draft Tweed Local Environmental Plan 2012

The draft TLEP 2012 defines advertisements as 'Signage'. Signage is permitted with consent in the majority of zones under the draft, with the exception of the following zones: RU1 Primary Production; SP1 Special Activities; SP2 Infrastructure; E1 National Parks and reserves; E2 Environmental Conservation; E3 Environmental Management; and W1 Natural Waterways, whereby signage is prohibited.

# DCP A4 – Advertising Signs Code

DCP A4 does not have any specific requirements/restrictions for election signage. Although section A4.6 makes reference to signs within road reserves, noting that Council may consider such applications, it is unlikely that an application for electoral signage in the road reserve would be supported.

#### DCP A10 – Exempt and Complying Development

Council's Exempt and Complying DCP does not make specific provisions for electoral signage. To be exempt, the signage could be defined as a "Temporary Sign". However, to be considered exempt development, the signs: cannot be in zone 7(a), 7(d) or 7(l); must not be displayed earlier than 28 days before the event; and would have to be removed within 14 days of the event.

#### State Environmental Planning Policy No 64 – Advertising and Signage

SEPP 64 does have provisions for advertisements on rural land. However, unless a specific signage DCP has been developed for the area, the SEPP requires the advertisement to...'relate to the land on which the advertisement is displayed or to premises situated on that land', or to be a notice directing the travelling public to tourist facilities etc. Electoral signage is not considered to meet the provisions for rural land under the SEPP. As noted above, signage in a residential zone (but not including mixed residential or business zone) is prohibited under the provisions of SEPP 64.

SEPP 64 also has exempt provisions for electoral signage, but these provisions limit the size of the signage to 8,000 square centimetres in area (0.8m x 1m) and can **only be displayed 5 weeks prior to the Election Day**. In addition, the SEPP requires the signage to be displayed in accordance with any requirements of the Act under which the election is held. The requirements of the Act are noted below.

Therefore, proposed signage within zones other than Residential and Rural, development consent is required. Any development application must include an assessment against the provisions of Schedule 1 Assessment Criteria of SEPP 64.

#### Parliamentary Electorates and Elections Act 1912

The following is an extract from the Act in relation to the exhibition of posters, which relates to the signage display requirements for electoral signage (posters) to be considered as exempt under the provisions of SEPP 64.

#### 151B Exhibition of posters

#### (1) Posters at polling place

A person must not, at any time on the day of polling for an election, display or cause to be displayed any poster of any size:

- (a) within a polling place, or
- (b) within 6 metres of an entrance to a polling place, or
- (c) on the exterior of a building used as a polling place.

Maximum penalty: 3 penalty units.

#### (2) Posters in grounds of enclosure of polling place

Without limiting subsection (1), a person must not, at any time on the day of polling for an election, display or cause to be displayed any poster exceeding 8,000 square centimetres in area within the grounds of an enclosure in which a building used for polling is situated.

Maximum penalty: 3 penalty units.

#### (2AA) **Posters on boundary of enclosure of polling place**

A person must not, at any time on the day of polling for an election, display or cause to be displayed any poster exceeding 8,000 square centimetres in area on the outer wall, fence or other boundary of the grounds of an enclosure in which a building used for polling is situated.

Maximum penalty: 3 penalty units.

- (2A) A person shall not post up, or permit or cause to be posted up, a poster:
  - (a) on or within any premises occupied or used by, or under the control or management of:
    - *(i)* the Crown, any instrumentality or agency of the Crown, or any statutory body representing the Crown or any other body prescribed by the regulations as a statutory body representing the Crown, or
    - (ii) any local authority, or
  - (b) in the case of premises which have no one in occupation, on or within those premises, unless that person has obtained:
    - *(i) in the case of premises owned by one person alone, the permission in writing of that person, or*
    - (ii) in the case of premises owned by two or more persons, whether as joint tenants or as tenants in common or otherwise, the permission in writing of at least one of those persons.
- (3) Nothing in this section shall prohibit:
  - (a) the posting up, exhibiting, writing, drawing or depicting of a sign on or at the office or committee room of a candidate or political party indicating only that the office or room is the office or committee room of the candidate or party, and specifying the name of the candidate, or the names of the candidates, or the name of the party concerned,
  - (b) the projection by means of any cinematograph or other similar apparatus of any electoral matter on to any screen in any theatre or public hall the subject of a development consent in force under the <u>Environmental</u> <u>Planning and Assessment Act 1979</u> in relation to its use as a place of public entertainment,
  - (c) the posting up, exhibiting, writing, drawing or depicting of any poster within a hall or room that is being or is about to be used for a meeting held by or on behalf of a candidate in connection with an election, or
  - (d) the posting up or exhibition of any poster on or at the electoral office of any member.
- (4) Subsection (2A) (a) does not apply in relation to a poster:
  - (a) on the outer wall, fence or other boundary of the grounds of an enclosure in which a building used for polling is situated, or
  - (b) within the grounds of an enclosure in which a building used for polling is situated, or
  - (c) on a vehicle on a road or road related area (within the meaning of the <u>Road</u> <u>Transport (General) Act 2005</u>), or

- (d) fixed or attached to a table or stall on a footpath or other public place at any time on the day of polling for an election.
- (5) Any person who writes, draws or depicts any electoral matter directly on any roadway, footpath, building, vehicle, vessel, hoarding or place (whether it is or is not a public place and whether on land or water) shall be liable to a penalty not exceeding 3 penalty units.
- (6) In this section:

electoral matter means any matter which is intended or calculated or likely to affect or is capable of affecting the result of any election held or to be held under this Act or of any referendum of the electors held or to be held in accordance with the provisions of any Act or which is intended or calculated or likely to influence or is capable of influencing an elector in relation to the casting of his or her vote at any such election or referendum.

electoral matter also includes the name of a candidate at any election, the name of the party of any such candidate, the name or address of the committee rooms of any such candidate or party, the photograph of any such candidate, and any drawing or printed matter which purports to depict any such candidate or to be a likeness or representation of any such candidate.

*local authority* means a council or a county council within the meaning of the Local Government Act 1993.

**poster** means any electoral matter printed, drawn or depicted on any material whatsoever and where any electoral matter is printed, drawn or depicted in sections, such sections, both severally and collectively, shall be deemed to be a poster.

**premises** includes any structure, building, vehicle or vessel or any place, whether built on or not, and any part thereof.

- (7) Where premises referred to in paragraph (b) of subsection (2A) are subject to a lease for a term of six months or more, the reference in that paragraph to the owner of the premises shall be read as a reference to the lessee of the premises.
- (8) Extension of poster offence provisions to pre-poll voting places

For the purposes of subsection (1):

- (a) a reference to a polling place is taken to include a reference to a pre-poll voting place, and
- (b) in relation to such a pre-poll voting place, a reference to "at any time on the day of polling for an election" is taken to be a reference to "during the hours appointed for that place under section 114P".

#### **OPTIONS:**

- 1. The electoral signage on the Tweed Valley Way road reserve and within the window of the vacant premises in the Murwillumbah town centre are considered to be unlawful and should be removed until such time that development consent is obtained; or
- 2. Council staff seek further direction on how to proceed with any upcoming electoral signage, following discussion and review of all statutory requirements for such signage.

#### CONCLUSION:

Given the two instances of signage noted above are considered to be unlawful, the electoral signs need to be removed and the owners advised of the requirements for any future signage.

Discussion needs to be held to provide further direction on how best to proceed with electoral signage, so that Councillors, Council Officers, candidates and the general public are aware of the specific requirements for any upcoming local, state or federal elections.

#### COUNCIL IMPLICATIONS:

#### a. Policy:

Incorporated within State legislation and local planning controls.

#### b. Budget/Long Term Financial Plan:

Not Applicable.

c. Legal:

Not Applicable.

#### d. Communication/Engagement:

Not Applicable.

#### LINKAGE TO INTEGRATED PLANNING AND REPORTING FRAMEWORK:

- 1 Civic Leadership
- 1.1 Ensure actions taken and decisions reached are based on the principles of sustainability
- 1.1.1 Establish sustainability as a basis of shire planning and Council's own business operations
- 1.1.1.3 Assessment of new developments (Development Assessment unit)

## UNDER SEPARATE COVER/FURTHER INFORMATION:

Nil.

# CNL-30 [PR-CM] PP11/0002 Pottsville Employment Land - Change of Ownership and Proposed Use

### SUBMITTED BY: Planning Reforms

FILE REFERENCE: PP11/0002 Pt4



#### **SUMMARY OF REPORT:**

On 27 March 2013 Council was advised that Pottsville Development Corporation Pty Ltd (PDC), had purchased Lot 12 DP 1015369, No. 39 Kudgeree Avenue, Cudgera Creek (the property).

The new landowner is keen to pursue finalisation of all outstanding financial obligations of the previous proponent, and to proceed with rezoning of the site on the basis of a business park style development rather than industrial landuse as proposed in the original planning proposal.

While amendment to the original Planning Proposal is possible under delegation by the Director General of the Department of Planning and Infrastructure, rather than needing to lodge a new planning proposal, a range of outstanding matters were close but not finalised prior to the transfer of ownership to PDC. Addressing these matters to the satisfaction of Council and entering into an arrangement with the new landowner and proponent will be required.

The majority of investigations and reports for the previous proposal had been concluded to the satisfaction of Council officers, but will need to be modified to suit the new proposal.

Issues relating to the disposal of waste water and rehabilitation of steep cleared land on the south of the property require the proponent to enter into a Planning Agreement consistent with Council's previous resolutions.

With a change of ownership and purpose of the planning proposal a range of procedural matters will need to be resolved, including entry into an appropriate Costs and Expenses Agreement, Contract for Services, and Voluntary Planning Agreement with the new proponent, in accordance with previous resolutions of Council, but given the extensive undertaking both by Council officers and the previous proponent to progress the planning proposal to this point, it is recommended that the proposal be amended and proceed to public exhibition.

#### **RECOMMENDATION:**

That Council proceeds with amendment of Planning Proposal PP11/0002 Pottsville Employment Land (Lot 12 DP 1015369) No. 39 Kudgeree Avenue, Cudgera Creek for the purpose of a business park development and environmental protection subject to entry into appropriate Costs and Expenses Agreement, Contract for Services, and Voluntary Planning Agreement with the proponent, and in accordance with previous resolutions of Council.

# **REPORT:**

## Background

On 27 March 2013 Council was advised that Pottsville Development Corporation Pty Ltd (PDC), had purchased Lot 12 DP 1015369, No. 39 Kudgeree Avenue, Cudgera Creek (the property).

PDC is keen to pursue finalisation of all outstanding financial obligations of the previous proponent, and to proceed with the rezoning on the basis of a business park style of development rather than industrial landuse as proposed in the original planning proposal.

This Planning Proposal has been the subject of exhaustive negotiations regarding the extent of potential development of the site, and investigations and reporting to Council following investigations into alleged illegal clearing of native vegetation and wilful damage of Aboriginal heritage scar tree as reflected in previous resolutions of Council listed below.

On 16 August 2011 Council resolved that:

- "1. The Planning Proposal for Lot 12 DP 1015369 Kudgeree Avenue, Cudgera Creek be referred to the Department of Planning and Infrastructure for a 'Gateway' determination under Section 56 of the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979.
- 2. Any Ministerial conditions imposed on any Gateway Determination approval be complied with prior to a further report to Council.
- 3. Any fees arising in association with the preparation of the Planning Proposal shall be recovered from the Proponent in accordance with the Environmental Planning and Assessment Regulation 2000 - Reg 11 and Council's adopted Fees and Charges Schedule, including all charges and disbursements incurred by Council arising in association with the preparation and execution of a Voluntary Planning Agreement.
- 4. Any fees arising in association with the preparation of a Development Control Plan prepared in response to a rezoning of Lot 12 DP 1015369 shall be recovered from the Proponent in accordance with the Environmental Planning and Assessment Regulation 2000 Reg 25AA(2) &(3) and Council's adopted Fees and Charges Schedule.
- 5. Any required vegetation restoration management plan and/or the proponent's commitment to undertake environmental restorative works shall be included within the Voluntary Planning Agreement being prepared in relation to the proponent's commitment to provide waste-water management supply infrastructure for the industrial development and use of the site.
- 6. The Voluntary Planning Agreement being prepared in relation to the proponent's commitment and Council's requirement to provide a stand-alone private wastewater disposal utility scheme and corresponding requirement for a prior licence under the Water Industry Competition Act 2006 (WIC Act) administered by the Independent Pricing and Regulatory Tribunal (IPART) is to require that the licence be obtained following an amendment to the zoning under the Tweed Local Environmental Plan and prior to the lodgement of any development application, in accordance with the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979 Sect 93F.

- 7. The Voluntary Planning Agreement once agreed to by the parties be publicly notified in accordance with the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979 Sect 93D, F, G & L.
- 8. The Voluntary Planning Agreement be registered against the land in accordance with the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979 - Sect 93H, prior to the final planning proposal being submitted to the Minister for the environmental planning instrument amendment to be made."

On 15 March 2011 Council resolved that:

- "1. Council endorses the preparation of a planning proposal for the rezoning of the site for industrial and environmental protection purposes consistent with Council's resolutions of 17 August 2010;
- 2. The proponent be requested to confirm their commitment to the provision of a private waste water system by entering into a Voluntary Planning Agreement, to be prepared by Council's Solicitors at the proponents' cost, pertaining to their commitment to provide a stand-alone private wastewater disposal utility scheme and the obtainment of a licence under the Water Industry Competition Act 2006 (WIC Act) administered by the Independent Pricing and Regulatory Tribunal (IPART);
- 3. Council compliance and enforcement officers implement a protocol for the reporting of alleged damage of Aboriginal artefacts to the Department of Environment, Climate Change and Water consistent with a Notice of Motion endorsed at the Council meeting of 16 March 2010, which requires early notification of any alleged damage of Aboriginal artefacts;
- 4. The General Manager seeks a high level meeting with the Department of Environment, Climate Change and Water regarding a more proactive involvement of the Department in the investigation, enforcement and management of alleged damage of Aboriginal artefacts, and native vegetation within the Tweed."
- On 17 August 2010 it was resolved that Council:
  - "1. Endorses the boundary redefinition of the land subject to the rezoning as identified in Figure 5: Option 5 Revised development footprint and excluded land as proposed by the Proponent; to this report;
  - 2. Defers proceeding with legal action in relation to vegetation clearing on the basis of the landowner agreeing to a revegetation management strategy in accordance with Resolution No. 3 below;
  - 3. Endorses that Council Officers negotiate with the landowner for the restoration, revegetation, contributory off-set planting, maintenance, and protection of vegetation, as necessary, through a legally binding agreement, and that a satisfactory resolution of these matters be concluded prior to the gazettal of any rezoning under GT1/LEP/2000/85 (Amendment No. 85);
  - 4. Endorses that land identified as unsuitable for rezoning for urban purposes be rezoned to reflect the environmental qualities and constraints of the land; and
  - 5. Endorses that the Applicant be advised of Council's concern over the proposed method of waste water treatment proposed and the need for the Applicant to demonstrate certainty of all aspects of the scheme to Council's satisfaction."

## On 15 December 2009 it was resolved that:

**"RESOLVED** that Council endorses Parts A and B in respect of land affected by Draft Local Environmental Plan No. 85 – Pottsville Employment Land.

# PART A – THE REZONING APPLICATION

- 1. The resolution of 13 June 2006 in respect of preparing a draft Local Environmental Plan on Lot 12 DP 1015369, Lot 4 DP753328, Lot 1 DP 215998 and Lot 1 DP 1080884 is amended to relate to Lot 12 DP 1015369 only comprising the land bounded by a heavy black line identified in Figure 2 'Extent of Draft LEP 85 Area Boundary' of this report.
- 2. That item 2, 3 and 4 of the resolution of 13 June 2006 in relation to the preparation of the Draft Local Environmental Plan known as Amendment No.85 as referred to in this report be rescinded.
- 3. The rezoned land is to be rolled over into the new Local Environmental Plan as Industrial Land in accordance with its designation in the Far North Coast Regional Strategy.

# PART B – ALLEGED BREACH OF TWEED LOCAL ENVIRONMENTAL PLAN 2000

- 3. That the Director of Planning and Regulation refer the alleged breaches of the Tweed Local Environmental Plan relating to vegetation clearing in contravention of the Tweed Tree Preservation Order to Council's Solicitors for legal advice in respect of ascertaining options in respect of legal proceedings.
- 4. That the restoration, regeneration, contributory off-set planting and protection of significant vegetation and or areas be included in any rezoning proposal on the land and in any legal proceedings for orders to remedy any established breach of the Tweed Tree Preservation Order.
- 5. That the fire damage to the 'scar' tree sited in the Aboriginal site referred to on the State Aboriginal Heritage Information Management System Register as "Kudgeree Avenue 1" be referred to the NSW Department of Environment, Climate Change and Water for their information and advice.
- 6. That the Full Council receives regular briefings and/or updates on the outcome as they come to hand with regard to Part B recommendations 4 and 5 from the General Manager and/or the Director Planning and Regulation."

## Gateway Determination

On 13 September 2011 a Gateway Determination was received from the Department of Planning and Infrastructure which determined that the proposal for a rezoning from 1(a) Rural to 4(a) Industrial and 7(d) Scenic/Escarpment should proceed subject to a range of mandatory requirements.

Due to financial difficulties experienced by the previous proponent (Heritage Pacific) considerable delays in bringing this project to a conclusion resulted, with two extensions of the Gateway deadline approved by the Department of Planning and Infrastructure, the current extension being to 20 March 2014.

The change of landowner and proponent has resulted in renewed interest and ability to proceed with this proposal, with the new owner requesting that the proposal now proceed as a Business Park style of development in contrast to the Industrial zoning endorsed by the Gateway Determination.

Discussions with Department of Planning and Infrastructure suggest that an amendment to the planning proposal will simply require an authorisation from the Director General, rather than submission of a new proposal, and is a procedural matter not requiring further referral to Gateway for a revised determination.

A copy of the original Gateway Determination can be viewed in Attachment 1.

# **Outstanding Matters**

Notwithstanding the ability of this proposal to proceed, a number of issues raised in the Gateway Determination and by Council officers need to be resolved to the satisfaction of Council, along with the finalisation of a Planning Agreement for the installation of a wastewater treatment facility prior to any development occurring, and rehabilitation of steep land on the southern portion of the property.

These unresolved matters have been the subject of previous resolutions of Council and include:

- Ability to provide stand alone waste water treatment facilities;
- Traffic impact assessment on the local road network and intersection of the Pacific Highway with Cudgera Creek Road interchange;
- Buffers along the Pacific Highway;
- Contaminated land report; and
- Rehabilitation of steep land on the south of the site.

A draft Planning Agreement has been prepared to address wastewater management and rehabilitation of certain land on the southern side of the property, and is close to being finalised should the new proponent agree with the intention of the Agreement.

On 23 April 2013 a meeting between Council, the new proponent and Roads and Maritime Service was held to agree on traffic assessment criteria to meet the requirements of the proposed change in landuse, and broader traffic management issues for the west Pottsville area.

Apart from these further investigations and reports, Council will require a new Costs and Expenses Agreement to be entered into with the proponent and a new Contract for Services to be agreed as a demonstration of the proponent's intention to continue with the planning proposal.

## Benefits of the revised concepts for the site

While the site has been identified as an employment generating land site in the Far North Coast Regional Strategy 2006-2031, the previous proposal for an industrial park was considered to produce a less than optimal use of the land and failed to present strong strategic planning benefits.

Should a business park style of development be established on the site, as proposed by the new landowner, the ability of the site to generate a larger number and greater diversity of employment opportunities is considered a benefit of the revised approach, which has the potential to provide greater employment opportunities for the workforce residing both in the existing Pottsville locality and surrounds, and for the proposed Dunloe Park residential development immediately across the road. While Council had previously endorsed a footprint for development of the site, the preliminary draft concept plan seen in Attachment 2 shows a substantially reduced development envelope with significantly increased buffer to the Pacific Highway.

# **OPTIONS:**

**Option 1:** Proceed with amendment of the Planning Proposal for Business Park and environmental protection purposes subject to entry into appropriate Costs and Expenses Agreement and Contract for Services, and Voluntary Planning Agreement with the proponent, in accordance with previous resolutions of Council; or

**Option 2:** Defer further action on this project until such time as the workload of the Planning Reform Unit provides opportunity to finalise the proposal; or

**Option 3:** Remove this planning proposal from the Planning Reform Unit Work Program.

Council officers recommend Option 1.

# CONCLUSION:

Considerable resources have been invested in the assessment and development of this planning proposal over many years, both by Planning Reform Unit officers and the previous proponent, to the point where agreement was imminent on the last remaining issues to be addressed prior to sending the proposal to public exhibition.

With a change of landowner and apparent commitment to see the proposal proceed to a conclusion as soon as possible it is recommended that Council endorse an amendment of the original proposal to accommodate a business park style of development and enter into appropriate legal arrangements with the proponent to fulfil the previously endorsed position of Council as resolved in past reports to Council.

# COUNCIL IMPLICATIONS:

## a. Policy:

Corporate Policy Not Applicable.

## b. Budget/Long Term Financial Plan:

All reasonable costs and disbursements incurred by Council in association with preparing the planning proposal and the s93 Voluntary Planning Agreement are to be recovered from the proponent in accordance with NSW planning statute law, Council's adopted Fees and Charges Schedule, and by prior agreement with the proponent.

## c. Legal:

Not Applicable.

## d. Communication/Engagement:

**Involve/Collaborate**-We will work with you on an ongoing basis to ensure your ideas, concerns and aspirations are considered. We will provide feedback on Council's decisions. **Consult**-We will listen to you, consider your ideas and concerns and keep you informed. **Inform** - We will keep you informed.

## LINKAGE TO INTEGRATED PLANNING AND REPORTING FRAMEWORK:

- 1 Civic Leadership
- 1.5 Manage and plan for a balance between population growth, urban development and environmental protection and the retention of economical viable agriculture land
- 1.5.3 The Tweed Local Environmental Plan will be reviewed and updated as required to ensure it provides an effective statutory framework to meet the needs of the Tweed community
- 1.5.3.1 Effective updating of Tweed LEP

## UNDER SEPARATE COVER/FURTHER INFORMATION:

Attachment 1. Gateway Determination dated 13 September 2011 (ECM 3049528)

Attachment 2. Draft Concept Plan (ECM 3051010)

- CNL-31 [PR-CM] Development Application DA12/0605 for a Two Lot Subdivision at Lot 1 DP 775668 No. 217 McAllisters Road, Bilambil Heights
- SUBMITTED BY: Development Assessment Unit

FILE NUMBER: DA12/0605 Pt1



## **SUMMARY OF REPORT:**

On 21 December 2012 Council received a Development Application for a two lot subdivision at 217 McAllisters Road, Bilambil Heights.

The proposed subdivision is to create an allotment for the purpose of creating an additional lot for residential purposes. The proposal has not ensured its optimum utilisation as the zone is for future urban development. It is considered that the intent of the proposed subdivision does not satisfy the objectives of the Tweed LEP as both proposed lots will not be serviced in accordance with council's Development Control Plan. Additionally, the subdivision may lead to establishing land use which conflicts with the future urban expansion and strategic planning for the Bilambil area.

The applicant was given the opportunity to provide additional information in regards to servicing the allotments although has provided a letter from a solicitor outlining that they will not supply any additional information.

As the proposed development cannot provide the essential services as required by Council it is considered appropriate to refuse the application.

It is considered that the purpose of the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979 is to secure the orderly development of land. This includes having the necessary infrastructure available in order to service the development. As these necessary services cannot be provided to the subject site the application is recommended for refusal.

## **RECOMMENDATION:**

That Development Application DA12/0605 for a two lot subdivision at Lot 1 DP 775668 No. 217 McAllisters Road, Bilambil Heights be refused for the following reasons:

- 1. The subdivision proposal is not consistent with the provisions of the Tweed Local Environmental Plan 2000 and in particular Clause 4(a), Clause 8[1(a), (b) and (c)] and Clause 11.
- 2. The proposal would have a negative cumulative impact.
- 3. The proposal is not in the public interest.
- 4. The subdivision proposal is not consistent with the provisions of Tweed Development Control Plan Part A5 and in particular Section A5.4.13 Infrastructure.

# **REPORT:**

Applicant:Landsurv Pty LtdOwner:Mrs Alina E LechLocation:Lot 1 DP 775668 No. 217 McAllisters Road, Bilambil HeightsZoning:2(c) Urban ExpansionCost:Nil

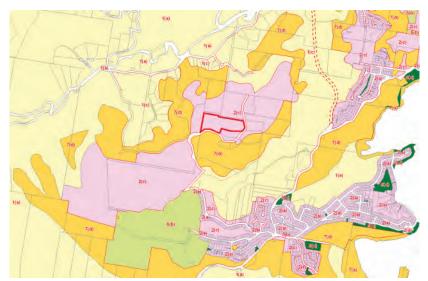
## Background:

## The Subject Site

The subject site is located on the northern and western side of Howards Road currently comprises a total area of 8.017 hectares. It comprises one parcel of 2(c) Urban Expansion zoned land.



Lot 1 DP775668



Subject site within Bilambil Heights Urban Release Area

## The Proposed Development

The application seeks consent to subdivide the 2(c) zoned land (which comprises one allotment) to create two allotments.

The existing allotment comprises:

• Lot 1 DP 775668 with a total site area of approximately 8.017ha.

The proposed layout is as follows:

- Proposed Lot 11 with a total area of approximately 4.009 ha with frontage to McAllister's Road. This allotment would be vacant but would have the benefit of a dwelling entitlement; and
- Proposed Lot 12 with a total area of 4.009 ha with no frontage to McAllister's Road. It is proposed to utilise the existing, unformed access for proposed Lot 12.

# <u>History</u>

Upon review of the submitted detail Council responded to the applicant with the following information request:

- "1. The application is requested to be amended to show compliance with Section A5.4.13 Infrastructure CRITERIA of Council's DCP A5 Subdivision Manual, which states that the following infrastructure is required;
  - All lots created in urban areas for private occupation must be fully and individually serviced with sealed road (equipped with kerb and gutter both sides of the road) frontage, water supply, sewerage, underground electricity and telecommunications.
  - A drainage system that provides Q100 immunity from local stormwater flooding and must have surface levels above the Q100 flood levels of regional river/creek flooding.
  - Utilities and services are to be designed to minimise long term maintenance and ownership costs.
  - Urban subdivision infrastructure must be provided in accordance with Table A5-10.

The submission and assessment of this requested documentation may result in additional Request for Information letters being required.

The above services are required to be provided by the developer in accordance with Council's DCP A5."

As a result of the information request the applicant sought legal advice in regards to the need to provide the infrastructure. The following is correspondence received from McCartney Young Lawyers on 28 March 2013:

## "Summary of Advice

The provisions of the "Tweed Shire Development Control Plan 2008" (DCP) identified in Council's letter are irrelevant to this DA. The DA should be determined without regard to those provisions of the DCP.

# Development permissible in accordance with the provisions of the LEP

The DA proposes a two lot subdivision of the Land. The DA form notes that the area of the Land is approximately 8 ha: the consent will permit the creation of two lots of approximately 4 ha each.

The Land is zoned 2(c) under clause 11 of the LEP. Subdivision is permitted within the 2(c) zone.

Subdivision is controlled by Part 4 of the LEP. Clause 19 (which is in Part 4) provides that subdivision of land requires consent in accordance with the provisions of Part 4 of the LEP. There are no provisions in Part 4 that particularly control the subdivision of land in the 2(c) zone (other than provisions pertaining to strata subdivision which are not relevant here).

The SEE states:

"The subdivision of the land will not diminish the ability to satisfy the Primary and Secondary objectives of the Zone and continue to provide suitable sized holdings for the grazing of livestock or other agricultural pursuits until the Master plan and future development takes place."

In summary, the proposed subdivision is development within the 2(c) zone that is permissible with consent.

Development not constrained by the operation of the DCP Section 79C(1)(a)(iii) of the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979 requires Council to "take into consideration" such provisions of the DCP "as are of relevance to the development the subject of the development application".

The DCP applies to all land in the Tweed Shire. The Land is not a "specific site" in the DCP and thus does not have specific development standards applicable to it.

Section A5 of the DCP is titled "Subdivision Manual". There are a number of components to the Manual which I do not review here as such a review is unnecessary.

Chapter A5.4 is titled "Urban Subdivision Design Guidelines & Development Standards".

Clause 5.4.13 is titled "Infrastructure" and this is the clause referred to in Council's letter of 12 February 2013.

If the DCP is not relevant to the DA, then it should not be taken into account. To take into account an irrelevant consideration is an error of law (Parramatta City Council v Hale (1982) 47 LGRA 319; Centro Properties Limited v Hurstville City Council & Anor [2004] NSWLEC 401).

Chapter A5.4 does not apply to this development. It is irrelevant. I note the following matters.

## The Chapter, on its own terms, does not apply

Chapter A5.4 commences with the following words (page A5-13 of the Chapter A5):

"This chapter provides guidelines for urban master planning and subdivision design which elaborate on the principles and policies of Council's Strategic plan and provide the overall framework for neighbourhood and subdivision design in Tweed Shire."

I appreciate that the future potential development of the Land includes urban subdivision of a "neighbourhood" design. However this is not the development that is the subject of the DA. A simple subdivision of Land is proposed, from one lot (of 8 hectares) into two separate lots (approximate 4 hectares). There is no component of the DA that relates to "urban master planning and subdivision design" These provisions of the DCP are simply irrelevant to the DA.

## "Urban Areas"

The first bullet point of clause A5.4.13 contains the phrase: "All lots created in urban areas...". Thus the rest of that bullet point (concerning services to the lots) should be read to only apply to lots created in urban areas.

The term "urban areas" is not defined in clause A5.4.13 nor is it defined within Chapter A5.4. I am unable to locate a definition of "urban areas" provided in the DCP. In these circumstances, a Court would be obliged to give the words "urban areas" their normal meaning.

The lots that are proposed in the DA are not in an urban area. To define "urban area" as meaning any area in which residential development can be undertaken (which would include land in the 2(c) zone) would be unreasonable. The 2(c) zone is land that is not currently "urban" but rather earmarked for future urban expansion. It has the character of "rural residential" land. Accordingly, the first bullet point in A5.4.13 does not apply to the proposed subdivision.

## "Urban Subdivision"

The final bullet point of clause A5.4.13 contains the words:

"Urban subdivision infrastructure must be provided in accordance with Table A5-10."

(This is also the final dot point in Council's letter.)

As with urban areas, the term "urban subdivision" is not defined in clause A5.4.13 nor is it defined within Chapter A5.4. I am unable to locate a definition of "urban areas" provided in the DCP. In circumstances where the phrase "urban subdivision" is not defined, a Court would be obliged to give these words their usual meaning.

The DA does not seek consent for an "urban subdivision". This is because, as noted above, you are seeking a simple subdivision of land that is more appropriately described as rural residential land.

Furthermore, Chapter A5.4 is titled "Urban Subdivision Design Guidelines & Development Standards" and accordingly clause AS.4.13 should be construed as applying only to "urban subdivision". An urban subdivision is a subdivision which has the characteristics that are the focus of much of this chapter of the DCP: that is, a subdivision to undertake residential development of a particular density and lot size that is characteristic of a residential area (see Table AS-9.1 to Table AS-9.4). Your proposed subdivision of an 8 hectare lot into two 4 hectare lots does not exhibit any of the characteristics one would reasonably expect of an "urban subdivision", particular the type anticipated in this DCP.

The DA does not seek consent for an "urban subdivision". The provisions of Chapter A5.4 do not apply.

# Conclusion

A consideration of the LEP and the DCP leads to the following conclusions:

- 1. The subdivision proposed by the DA is development permitted within the 2(c) zone of which the Land is a part.
- 2. Chapter A5.4 of the DCP, and in particular clause A5.4.13 "Infrastructure", do not apply to the proposed subdivision. These provisions of the DCP are clearly intended to apply to development that is of an "urban" nature which requires "urban master planning". The Land is not "urban" and the subdivision proposed is a simple development that cannot be characterised as urban residential development of the density and lot size anticipated by these provisions. My clients will not provide the information requested in Council's letter of 12 February 2013. Furthermore my clients request that Council proceed to determine the DA without delay."

# <u>Summary</u>

Having regard to relevant statutory controls in particular Section 79C Clause 1(a)(iii):

In determining a development application, a consent authority is to take into consideration such of the following matters as are of relevance to the development the subject of the development application:

(iii) any development control plan

The proposed development is located in the 2(c) Urban Expansion zone which is intended for future urban development. As such, an assessment against the provisions of the urban subdivision objectives of Council's Development Control Plan Section A5 was deemed appropriate. Council does not agree with the representations made above which will be addressed in greater detail throughout this report. The proposed development was assessed against the Tweed LEP 2000 and other relevant statutory controls and it was determined that the proposed two lot subdivision is not considered suitable. The proposed development is recommended for refusal.

## Strategic Plans

Clause 4 of the Tweed Local Environmental Plan 2000 states the following:

(c) to give effect to and provide reference to the following strategies and policies adopted by the Council:

## Tweed Shire 2000+ Strategy

An assessment has been undertaken in regards to Council's Strategic plans. There are three (3) strategic plans which will be addressed with the Tweed Shire 2000+ Strategy and the Tweed 4/24 Strategic Plan being superseded plans and the most recent plan in force being the Community Strategic Plan 2011/2021. Although the earlier plans have been superseded they are still important in outlining the overall strategic plan for the Bilambil Heights area and the direction Council has been working towards strategically for the area. Each of the plans have been assessed below.

## Tweed Shire 2000+ Strategy

The Strategic Plan for Tweed 2000+ which has now been superseded was adopted on 17 December 1996. The Plan provides the broad directions for future planning in the Tweed. Within the policies and actions section, references specifically to Bilambil Heights are made as follows:

**114.** Long Term Urban Release - The Bilambil Heights Release Area has major infrastructure impediments and requires a comprehensive multi-ownership planning approach. No development approvals for the release of land for residential development will be granted until such time as the Tugun Bypass and Cobaki Parkway are commenced to provide appropriate access to the regional road network. Council resolution 17 May 2000.

**120. Bilambil Heights** - The detailed planning for Bilambil Heights is to include the following principles:

- Commitment by the landowners for funding of Scenic Drive Diversion (to the Piggabeen Road intersection).
- Water and sewerage provisions so that there is no unnecessary duplication of mains and pump stations.
- Completion of investigation into clearway provisions for Kennedy Drive.
- Defined areas of potential dual occupancy and medium density development.
- Collector road access to all properties.
- Consideration of current 1(c) zoned land for urban density development if land is hazard free, if it can be economically serviced with water and sewer, and if there are no unacceptable impacts on water quality and scenic values.
- Houses not permitted on prominent ridgelines.
- Commitment to the funding of Kirkwood Road and Lakes Drive Bridge.

From the information above it can be seen that there are a number of strategic directions for the Bilambil Heights area. It identifies a number of issues which need to be addressed prior to the release of the urban land including *major infrastructure impediments and requires a comprehensive multi-ownership planning approach*. If this subdivision was to be approved it would create a situation where there are increased numbers of owners and therefore this would make it increasingly difficult to strategically plan the area. The cumulative impact of approving this application could be that a number of other land owners in the locality undertake similar subdivisions thereby increasing the number of owners substantially. The approval of this subdivision would create an undesirable precedent for the area. It is therefore considered that the proposed development should be refused.

## Tweed 4/24 Strategic Plan

The Tweed 4/24 Strategic Plan which has now been superseded was adopted in September 2004. A key element of the strategy is as follows:

**Urban Development.** Implement current plans for urban expansion including Cobaki and Bilambil Heights. Complete assessments of Terranora 'Area E' and Kings Forest. Retain green belts or buffers between settlements.

Furthermore, Part 7 - Managing Urban Development outlines the following:

Continued urban expansion over the next two decades is inevitable. Substantial areas of land at Cobaki Lakes, Bilambil Heights, Kings Forest and elsewhere have been zoned for development for many years. Population growth has slowed somewhat in recent years, but remains strong.

Further urban development depends on improved infrastructure, including roads, water and sewerage, drainage and flood control, parks and a wide range of community facilities (education, health, police etc). Whilst some of this infrastructure is Council's responsibility, State and Federal governments, the private sector and community organisations all have important roles to play. Adequate funding and effective coordination are essential.

**Challenges and Opportunities** - Council's investigations indicate few physical infrastructure impediments to planned release areas except for road access to Cobaki Lakes and Bilambil Heights. Other necessary road and traffic management improvements include on-ramps to the Tweed Heads Bypass at Kirkwood Road and upgrading of Minjungbal Drive.

**Strategic Directions** - Council will liaise with developers to seek the timely release of zoned urban land to meet market needs. Master Plans for Kings Forest, Bilambil Heights (subject to adequate road access) and 'Area E' at Terranora (subject to rezoning) will be completed as quickly as possible.

**Four-Year Priorities Urban Planning** - Review the likely capacity and timing of proposed urban release areas (Cobaki Lakes, Kings Forest, Terranora 'Area E' and Bilambil Heights) taking into account:

- Housing demand and affordability
- Infrastructure, road access and environmental issues
- Redevelopment potential in existing areas
- Needs for land for non-residential uses
- Possible alternative locations for development.

Complete essential improvements to major road links including access to Cobaki Lakes and Bilambil Heights, and upgrading of Minjungbal Drive at South Tweed Heads.

It can be seen from the information above that Bilambil Heights is still regarded as an area for future urban development. A number of infrastructure improvements need to be completed before this can happen. It puts the onus on not only Council but landowners in the area. If the urban release is to go forward then Council needs to take a coordinated approach to the development. If this subdivision was to go forward then there would be an increase in land owners which could make it increasingly difficult to plan the area.

It is considered that urban land release cannot be undertaken until such time that adequate infrastructure has been provided for the area. This is reliant on a number of areas in the Tweed Heads West and Cobaki area. Council at a meeting held on 22 April 2008 decided on a number of recommendations in regards to the Distributor Road network planning for Tweed Heads West, Cobaki and the Bilambil Heights areas. An extract from the report is as follows:

## Bilambil Heights Urban Land Release Area

This area is identified as future urban release land in the Tweed Development Program 1996 (TSC) and the Far North Coast Regional Strategy (Department of Planning) 2006. It is expected that approximately 9,000 people will be accommodated in this area in approximately 4,000 dwellings.

A major constraint to development of this area is current road network capacity. In the absence of the Scenic Drive Diversion and Cobaki Parkway any development in this area would rely on traffic capacity on Kennedy Drive which is restricted as discussed in Part 3.

The Cobaki Parkway is currently being constructed but there is no definitive date for which this will be complete as a number of infrastructure services still need to be provided. The Scenic Drive Diversion will not be undertaken until the Cobaki Parkway is complete and operational. The Kennedy Drive traffic capacity which is currently at 150.5 trips still has enough capacity to cater for development however it is considered that there would be a negative cumulative impact if this subdivision was to be approved. It would set a precedent for the area of possibly a number of other owners doing the same type of subdivision. These trips would be significantly impacted upon if similar subdivisions were to go ahead. It is therefore considered appropriate to refuse the application based on the cumulative impact.

# Community Strategic Plan 2011/2021

The Strategic Plan 2011/2021 is the current plan and was adopted by Council on 14 December 2010. The Tweed Community Strategic Plan 2011/2021 is the community's 10year vision for the Tweed, to protect the qualities that make the Tweed a great place to live and to create communities which are strong and well connected. This plan creates a framework to implement Council's four-year Delivery Program and annual Operational Plan, which will align the community's aspirations with the necessary strategy development, planning and resourcing required to achieve the long-term vision and deliver the outcomes.

The Community Strategic Plan outlines a number of other plans and polices which are to be used in conjunction with the Plan. These include the Tweed Urban and Employment Land Release Strategy 2009 which was implemented on 17 March 2009. This document is intended to examine growth options that would guide Tweed Shire towards 2031. Section 11 and 13 of this Plan relates to the directions for urban land development and implementation. Council could take a range of planning approaches or a combination of planning approaches to deal with growth and change over the next 25 years. A number of these are outlined as follows:

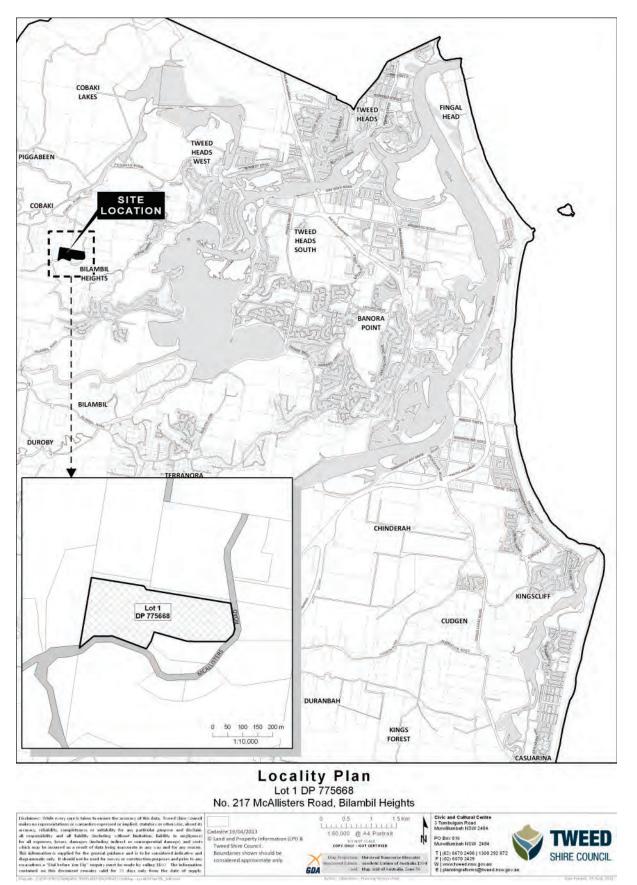
**11.1 Rely on Existing Zoned Areas** - This option would see Council not rezone any more land for residential development over the life of the Strategy (till 2031) relying on existing zoned land to meet the demands of the market. Given the amount of land that Council has already zoned and the predicted growth rates, it is an option that would have some advantages. These would include allowing Council to concentrate on servicing the existing established areas and current zoned lands with infrastructure and social services; allow Council to focus on urban design issues; and allow Council to review existing planning controls (particularly DCP's) to better address local issues.

**13.1.3 Land Release** - The potential urban release lands nominated in this Strategy are considered in a short, medium and long term land release program based on a 0-10 year, 10-20 year and 20+ year time frame. This Strategy recognises the large existing supply of zoned land located predominantly at Kings Forest, Cobaki Lakes, Bilambil Heights, Area E and West Kingscliff and the role that these lands will play in supplying the residential needs of the Tweed over the next 10 years in particular.

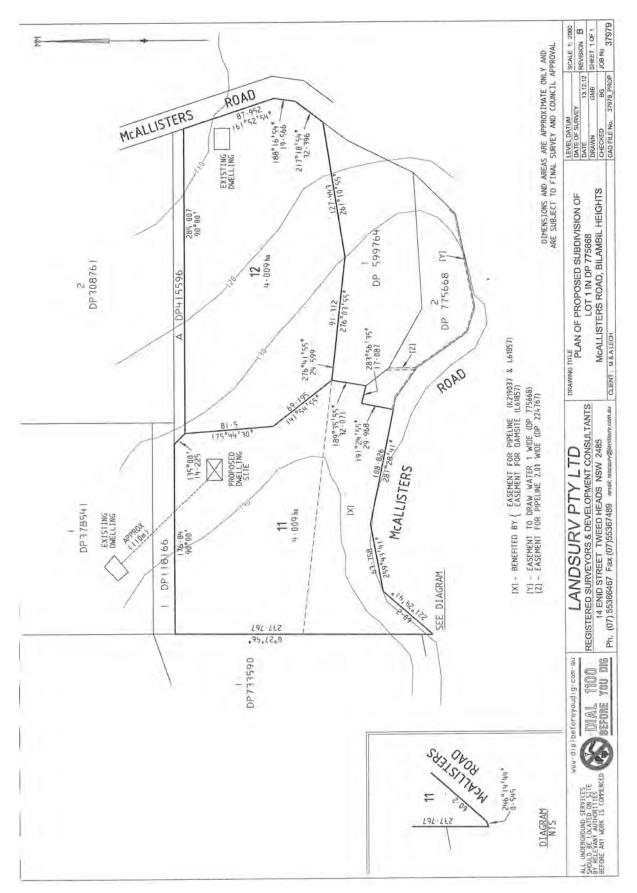
Bilambil Heights is still considered to be a major land release area identified within the strategic plan for Tweed Shire. For effective urban planning to be undertaken it is considered that the fragmentation of urban expansion zoned land should be limited. If this subdivision is approved it will set a precedent for other land owners to undertake similar types of developments reducing Council's ability to move forward with its urban release of the area.

Based on the above strategic plans outlined for the Bilambil Heights area it is considered that the proposed development would have a negative cumulative impact on the surrounding locality. It is therefore recommended that the proposed subdivision be refused.

## SITE DIAGRAM:



## **DEVELOPMENT/ELEVATION PLANS:**



# Considerations Under Section 79c Of The Environmental Planning And Assessment Act 1979:

# (a) (i) The provisions of any environmental planning instrument Tweed Local Environmental Plan 2000 (TLEP 2000)

## Clause 4 - Aims of the Plan

The aims of this plan are:

(a) to give effect to the desired outcomes, strategic principles, policies and actions of the Tweed Shire 2000+ Strategic Plan which was adopted, after extensive community consultation, by the Council on 17 December 1996, the vision of which is:

"The management of growth so that the unique natural and developed character of the Tweed Shire is retained, and its economic vitality, ecological integrity and cultural fabric is enhanced", and

- (b) to provide a legal basis for the making of a development control plan that contains more detailed local planning policies and other provisions that provide guidance for future development and land management, such as provisions recommending the following:
  - *(i)* that some or all development should be restricted to certain land within a zone,
  - (ii) that specific development requirements should apply to certain land in a zone or to a certain type of development,
  - (iii) that certain types or forms of development or activities should be encouraged by the provision of appropriate incentives, and
- (c) to give effect to and provide reference to the following strategies and policies adopted by the Council:
  - Tweed Shire 2000+ Strategy
  - Pottsville Village Strategy, and
- (d) to encourage sustainable economic development of the area of Tweed compatible with the area's environmental and residential amenity qualities.

The proposed development is not considered to be consistent with the aims of the TLEP 2000. The proposed development is not considered to be consistent with the vision of the shire "to manage growth so that the unique natural and developed character of the Tweed Shire is retained." The proposed development is for a two lot subdivision which does not comply with the primary objective of the zone as seen below, and the consent considerations contained within the TLEP 2000.

*Tweed Shire 2000+ Strategy* has been superseded through by both Tweed 4/24 and the adoption of the Community Strategic Plan 2011/2021. All three documents include references to Bilambil Heights' urban release and have been assessed above.

The proposed development is non-compliant with the TLEP 2000 in terms of creating negative cumulative impacts being that it creates a precedent for other similar types of development to go ahead in the area. It is considered not to be in keeping with the aim of the plan in particular, that all development should be restricted to certain land within a zone and that specific development requirements should apply to certain land in a zone or to a certain type of development.

## Clause 5 - Ecologically Sustainable Development

Clause 5 aims to promote development that is consistent with the four principles of ecologically sustainable development, being the precautionary principle, intergenerational equity, conservation of biological diversity and ecological integrity and improved valuation, pricing and incentive mechanisms.

As there are no physical changes to the subject site it is considered that intergenerational equity and conservation of biological diversity and ecological integrity will not be impacted.

## Clause 8 - Consent Considerations

This clause specifies that the consent authority may grant consent to development (other than development specified in Item 3 of the table to clause 11) only if:

- (a) It is satisfied that the development is consistent with the primary objective of the zone within which it is located, and
- (b) It has considered that those other aims and objectives of this plan (the TLEP) that are relevant to the development, and
- (c) It is satisfied that the development would not have an unacceptable cumulative impact on the community, locality or catchment that will be affected by its being carried out or on the area of Tweed as a whole.

The land is within the 2(c) zone and the proposed subdivision is not consistent with the primary objective of the zone which is as follows:

"to identify land for urban expansion (which will comprise mainly residential development focused on multi-use neighbourhood centres) and to ensure its optimum utilisation consistent with environmental constraints and the need to minimise residential landtake."

It is considered that the proposed subdivision does not ensure optimum utilisation of the land. A secondary objective of the zone is to:

"enable planning flexibility to achieve the other objectives of the zone by means of detailed guidelines in a development control plan."

As the proposed development does not comply with Council's Development Control Plan Section A5 - Subdivision Manual as detailed later in this report it is considered that it also does not meet the secondary objective of the zone. The proposed development if approved may result in unacceptable cumulative impacts. The creation of a freehold lot may encourage, or allow for further subdivision development in the surrounding locality. The subject site is within the 2(c) Urban Expansion zoned land and has been identified for future urban development. Allowing this subdivision could create a negative cumulative effect being the first subdivision in the urban expansion area of Bilambil Heights which is underutilised and not serviced by the essential services outlined in Council's Development Control Plans (DCPs). It could lead to a number of other residents within the locality applying for similar subdivisions and hence reducing the likeliness of the area to be strategically planned for its future urban purposes. It is therefore recommended that the application be refused.

## Clause 11 - Zone Objectives

The subject land is zoned 2(c) Urban Expansion. The objectives of the 2(c) zone include:

#### Primary objective

 Identify land for urban expansion (which will comprise mainly residential development focused on multi-use neighbourhood centres) and to ensure its optimum utilisation consistent with environmental constraints and the need to minimise residential landtake.

Secondary objectives

- To allow associated non-residential development which meets the recreation, shopping, commercial, employment and social needs of future residents.
- To ensure that sensitive environmental areas within and outside the zone are protected from any adverse impacts of development.
- Enable planning flexibility to achieve the other objectives of the zone by means of detailed guidelines in a development control plan.

The proposed subdivision is to create an allotment for the purpose of creating an additional lot for residential purposes. The proposal has not ensured its optimum utilisation as the zone is for future urban development. It is considered that the intent of the proposed subdivision does not satisfy the objectives of the Tweed LEP as both proposed lots will not be serviced in accordance with council's Development Control Plan. Additionally, the subdivision may lead to establishing land use which conflicts with the future urban expansion and strategic planning for the Bilambil area.

The proposal is therefore not consistent with the relevant zone objectives and recommended for refusal.

## Clause 15 - Essential Services

Council's Strategic and Asset Engineer has provided the following:

## <u>Sewer</u>

No sewerage is available to this area at present and it is unlikely to be available until the whole area zoned 2(c) is in a position to develop as urban. At present, there are a number of other infrastructure issues preventing urban development in this area.

## Water

The Statement of Environmental Effects states that "The allotments are presently serviced by ... Tweed Water." However it doesn't currently have a water meter and the water meter that used to serve this property was split off to service an adjoining property in March 2007. Water charges associated with this property ceased in 2007. In addition, the meter serving the adjoining lot was removed in June 2007.

The meter itself was located at the water main and not at the property boundary, indicating that there must be a private water pipe along McAllisters Road to the property. Such private water mains are no longer permitted to be installed as the Works Unit (Asset owner of roads) doesn't want a proliferation of private mains in road reserves.

As there is no current water service and no water main at the frontage of either of the proposed blocks, it is considered that water is not currently available at the lots.

The applicant was given the opportunity to provide additional information in regards to servicing the allotments although has provided a letter from a solicitor outlining that they will not supply any additional information.

Electricity services are currently provided to the area via Essential Energy infrastructure.

Telecommunication services are currently provided to the area via Telstra infrastructure.

As the proposed development cannot provide the essential services as required by Council it is considered appropriate to refuse the application.

#### Clause 16 - Height of Building

Not applicable. There are no new dwellings proposed.

#### Clause 17 - Social Impact Assessment

An assessment under DCP A13 – Socio-Economic Impact Assessment has revealed that a Social Impact Assessment is not necessary for this type of development and accordingly Clause 17 is deemed satisfied.

#### Clause 22 - Development near designated roads

McAllisters Road is classified as a Council Designated Road. As per the Objectives of Clause 22 of Council's LEP, in isolation, it is considered that the proposed development is unlikely to constitute a traffic hazard or materially reduce the capacity or efficiency of the designated road. However, the cumulative effect if all (or a significant number) of allotment owners in the vicinity of this development did the same, there would be a significant impact.

## Clause 35 - Acid Sulfate Soils

Clause 35 of the TLEP 2000 requires Acid Sulfate Soils (ASS) management in relation to development where such is likely to be impacted upon. Part of the subject site exhibits Class 5 ASS however, due to the nature of the development being no excavation it is considered that ASS will not be impacted.

## Clause 39A - Bushfire Protection

The subject site has a portion which is identified as being bushfire prone land. The proposed development was referred to the NSW Rural Fire Service who responded on 6 February 2013 with 4 conditions of consent to be included in the recommendations. The proposed development is being recommended for refusal however if required the NSW Rural Fire Service conditions can be inserted into any approval.

## State Environmental Planning Policies (SEPPs)

## SEPP (North Coast Regional Environmental Plan) 1988

## SEPP No 71 – Coastal Protection

SEPP 71 applies to land within the 'coastal zone' which is defined as having the same meaning as in the *Coastal Protection Act 1979*. The subject land is located within the coastal zone and the provisions of SEPP 71 therefore apply to the proposed development. Clause 7(b) of SEPP 71 requires the matters for consideration in clause 8 to be taken into account by a consent authority when it determines a development application to carry out development on land to which the policy applies. A Master Plan is not required for the site as the subdivision is not located within a sensitive coastal location and is under 25 allotments.

It is considered the proposed development does not offend or compromise the intent or specific provisions of State Environmental Planning Policy No.71 – Coastal Protection.

## (a) (ii) The Provisions of any Draft Environmental Planning Instruments

The Draft Tweed Local Environmental Plan 2012 relates to the subject site and zones the land R1 - General Residential. Within the R1 - General Residential zone the minimum subdivision size is 450m<sup>2</sup>. The proposal complies with this minimum allotment size.

Clause 1.2 - Aims of Plan provides the following:

- (2) The particular aims of this Plan are as follows:
  - (a) to give effect to the desired outcomes, strategic principles, policies and actions contained in the Council's adopted strategic planning documents.

The greater strategic plan for the area is for future urban development as per Council's Strategic policies outlined above. It is considered that the proposed development is not consistent with the aims of the Draft LEP 2012 and is recommended for refusal.

## (a) (iii) Development Control Plan (DCP)

Tweed Development Control Plan

## A5-Subdivision Manual

The subject application was referred to Councils Development Engineering Section who provided comment on the application against the provisions of DCP A5. Further information was requested in relation to a number of DCP A5 issues including the provision of sewer and water reticulation to the site. Council's Strategic and Asset Engineer has provided the following:

"This application is for the division of one lot into two 4.09 ha lots in an area that is essentially rural but is zoned in LEP2000 as 2(c) Urban Expansion.

No sewerage is available to this area at present and it is unlikely to be available until the whole area zoned 2(c) is in a position to develop as urban. At present, there are a number of other infrastructure issues preventing urban development in this area as well as an apparent lack of a coordinated approach from land holders.

The nearest water main to the site is in McAllisters Road approximately 120m west of the western boundary of the site. It is a 100mm reticulation main that supplies various rural properties and a group of tanks that supply an area on Cobaki Road.

The Statement of Environmental Effects states that "The allotments are presently serviced by ... Tweed Water." However it doesn't currently have a water meter and the water meter that used to serve this property was split off to service an adjoining property in March 2007. Water charges associated with this property ceased in 2007. In addition, the meter serving the adjoining lot was removed in June 2007.

The meter itself was located at the water main and not at the property boundary, indicating that there must be a private water pipe along McAllisters Road to the property. Such private water mains are no longer permitted to be installed as the Works Unit (Asset owner of roads) doesn't want a proliferation of private mains in road reserves.

As there is no current water service and no water main at the frontage of either of the proposed blocks, it is considered that water is not currently available at the lots.

The water main in question also cannot provide a fire flow in accordance with Council's standard D11 due to the length of the main and its diameter which results in a high head loss at the fire flow rate, even though its current static head is adequate.

It is recommended that the applicant provide a submission either justifying why the lots created should not be serviced as required by DCP Section A5 or how it is proposed to service the lots in accordance with DCP Section A5."

The existing water service can be used to supply the existing allotment, but as a subdivision, it is required that the development provide water reticulation to service both allotments. It is noted by Council's Engineer that at a minimum this would entail construction of approximately 120m of reticulation main from the nearest connection point subject to required Council Standards.

The current site is not provided with sewerage reticulation and previous approval had allowed for an on-site sewage management system to service the site. Under Section A5 of this DCP the subdivision would require connection to sewage which is not envisaged in the near future.

Following further correspondence with the applicant and a meeting with members of Councils Development Engineering Section, it was considered that it is unlikely that the applicant would be willing to provide information in relation to the number of issues raised in the Request for Further Information letter in relation to the provision of separate water and sewer facilities for each site. It is therefore considered appropriate to assess the application based on the information on the file.

The proposed development is considered to be in contravention of DCP A5, in particular Section A5.4.13 Infrastructure, and as such should be refused.

It is noted that Council's Water and Wastewater Strategic and Assets Engineer did make the comment that "*If the subdivision is allowed, it is likely, subject to satisfactory soil and slope conditions, that both sites could be serviced by on site sewerage management systems and there would be adequate room for sufficient rainwater tanks to be provided for water supply, meaning that provision of reticulate water supply and sewerage could be obviated for this particular application, but this would have to be justified by submission of appropriate reports for Council's consideration. Otherwise, strict enforcement of the requirements of DCP Section A5 would require conditioning of Water Supply and Sewerage connections and Section 64 Water and Sewer contributions for each lot created.* 

Such justification has not been provided by the Applicant, but this would only be applicable if Council decided to assess the application as a rural subdivision. A table has been included outlining the differences in requirements between urban and rural subdivisions.

Key Item/Description	Urban	Rural
Road Upgrade	Yes Will be required to provide kerb and gutter for the	No.
	developments frontage to McAllisters Road	
Access Upgrade	Yes The existing unformed accesses would need to be upgraded to provide a sealed access in accordance with Council standards. Tree clearing within the road reserve may be required to achieve adequate sight distances to the south.	Yes The existing unformed accesses would need to be upgraded to provide a sealed access in accordance with Council standards. Tree clearing within the road reserve may be required to achieve adequate sight distances to the south.
Water Retic supply	Yes	No
(and fire fighting	The proposed lots are	The proposed lots could rely
requirements)	required to be connected to Council's reticulation network.	on water tanks or bore water.
Sewer Retic	Yes The proposed lots are required to be connected to Council's reticulation network.	No The proposal could rely on On-Site Sewage Treatment, provided acceptable, supporting documentation was submitted.
Electricity	Yes	Yes
	Must be underground	Can remain above-ground
Telecommunications	Yes	Yes
	Must be underground	Can remain above-ground

Drainage Upgrade	Yes	May be required as
	Must provide major & minor	Council's DCP Section A5
	drainage. As per above kerb	states that the road drainage
	and gutter is required along	must be sufficient to eliminate
	frontage.	any adverse upstream or
		downstream impacts on other
		land and property.
		The existing concrete and
		earth V drains fronting the
		subject allotments along
		McAllisters Road may be
		sufficient. This could be
		conditioned accordingly and
		assessed at CC stage.

Based on the information provided and the Council's strategic planning direction it is considered that the application is required to comply with the urban standards of this section of the Development Control Plan. The application is therefore recommended for refusal.

## (a) (iv) Any Matters Prescribed by the Regulations

## Clause 92(a) Government Coastal Policy

The proposed development is consistent with the objectives and strategic actions of the NSW Coastal Policy 1997.

## Clause 92(b) Applications for demolition

No demolition is proposed with the application.

# (a) (v) Any coastal zone management plan (within the meaning of the <u>Coastal</u> <u>Protection Act 1979</u>),

The site is not located within a coastal zone management area.

## Tweed Shire Coastline Management Plan 2005

The site is not affected by the Tweed Shire Coastline Management Plan 2005. No further assessment is required.

## **Tweed Coast Estuaries Management Plan 2004**

The site is not affected by the Tweed Coast Estuaries Management Plan 2004. No further assessment is required.

## <u>Coastal Zone Management Plan for Cobaki and Terranora Broadwater</u> (adopted by Council at the 15 February 2011 meeting)

The site is not affected by the Coastal Zone Management Plan for Cobaki and Terranora Broadwater. No further assessment is required.

## (b) The likely impacts of the development and the environmental impacts on both the natural and built environments and social and economic impacts in the locality

## Context and Setting

The proposed subdivision whilst considered minor in nature by itself. However looking at the precedent it could start it would cause a negative cumulative impact upon the locality. As outlined previously, the subdivision is located within the Bilambil Heights Urban Release Area. If this application was to be approved it would create a precedent for a number of other similar applications to come in creating a large number of smaller allotments with numerous landowners making it difficult to strategically plan the area. A number of infrastructure issues need to be rectified before this happens.

## Access, Transport and Traffic

There will be only one additional allotment if this application was to be approved and would be considered minor in nature. Although, as stated above, the cumulative effect if all (or a significant number) of allotment owners in the vicinity of this development did the same, there would be a significant impact. It is therefore recommended that the proposal be refused.

## (c) Suitability of the site for the development

## Surrounding Landuses/Development

The proposed development is located within the Bilambil Heights Urban Release Area. The surrounding sites are currently of a similar size as the subject site and utilised for rural residential purposes. The sites are located within the 2(c) Urban Expansion zone and are earmarked for future urban development. The fragmentation of land zoned urban expansion in the area should be limited until such time that the urban release is going to be undertaken. The cumulative effect if all (or a significant number) of allotment owners in the vicinity of this development did the same, would be significant.

## (d) Any submissions made in accordance with the Act or Regulations

## Public Submissions

The proposed development was not required to be notified or advertised in accordance with the Act and Regulations. As such there were no submissions received.

## **Rural Fire Service**

The proposed development was referred to the NSW Rural Fire Service who responded on 6 February 2013 with 4 conditions of consent to be included in the recommendations. The proposed development is being recommended for refusal however if required the NSW Rural Fire Service conditions can be inserted into any approval.

## (e) Public interest

The proposed two lot subdivision is of a relatively minor scale and nature however should the application be approved, it would set a harmful precedent for the continued urban release of the area. As such it is considered that the proposal is not in the public interest.

# **OPTIONS:**

- 1. Refuse this application in accordance with the recommendation for refusal; or
- 2. That Council grant in-principle support for the proposal, and that officers bring back a further report to Council with possible conditions of development consent.

## CONCLUSION:

The proposed development does not provide infrastructure in accordance with Council's Development Control Plan. Additionally, the cumulative effect if all (or a significant number) of allotment owners in the vicinity of this development did the same, would be significant.

Having regard to the assessment of the development against the applicable planning instruments and the objections received following notification, the proposal is not considered suitable and therefore the subject development is recommended for refusal.

## COUNCIL IMPLICATIONS:

## a. Policy:

Corporate Policy Not Applicable.

## b. Budget/Long Term Financial Plan:

Not Applicable.

## c. Legal:

Not Applicable.

## d. Communication/Engagement:

Not Applicable.

## LINKAGE TO INTEGRATED PLANNING AND REPORTING FRAMEWORK:

- 1 Civic Leadership
- 1.1 Ensure actions taken and decisions reached are based on the principles of sustainability
- 1.1.1 Establish sustainability as a basis of shire planning and Council's own business operations
- 1.1.1.3 Assessment of new developments (Development Assessment unit)

## UNDER SEPARATE COVER/FURTHER INFORMATION:

Nil.

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- CNL-32 [PR-CM] Development Application DA12/0498 for the Demolition of Existing Dwelling and Construction of a Three-Storey Dwelling at Lot 1 DP 214686 No. 4 Marine Parade, Kingscliff
- SUBMITTED BY: Building and Environmental Health

FILE NUMBER: DA12/0498 Pt1



## **SUMMARY OF REPORT:**

An application has been received to demolish an existing two storey dwelling house at No. 4 Marine Parade, Kingscliff and construct a new three storey dwelling house with a total floor area of 325m<sup>2</sup>. The property has a site area of 417 m<sup>2</sup>, is located on the west side of Marine Parade, is zoned 2(b) Medium Density Residential and is currently subject to a two storey height limit.

The application was notified to adjoining property owners and three submissions were received to the proposal. The objectors' main concerns were the loss of privacy and amenity, non-compliance with two storey height limit, the lift and spa/swimming pool on the roof will be visually offensive, and the potential destabilisation of the hillside. After consultation with key parties the proposal was modified by the applicant and re-notified with one submission being received reiterating previous concerns.

The amended design removed the lift shaft from the roof deck, lowered the spa and indented the balustrading away from the edge plane of the building. A further late amendment to the design was received on 29 April 2013 which attempts to address the noise nuisance concerns by the inclusion of an 'acoustic green screen' on the back edge of the roof top deck. Those latest plans are now the subject of this report.

The proposal is a three storey building in a two storey height limited area that incorporates a large roof top entertainment area that is likely to have an adverse impact on the amenity of the occupants of the elevated dwelling to the rear. The building exceeds the maximum building height prescribed by the current Development Control Plan and the draft Tweed Local Environmental Plan 2012. The roof top deck which has 118 square metres of usable outdoor living area may result in an undesirable precedent for development on the lower part of a hillside where higher level dwellings can be affected.

On the balance of the assessment of the relevant planning matters, it is considered that the proposed development is not suitable for approval and should be refused.

## **RECOMMENDATION:**

That Development Application DA12/0498 for the demolition of existing dwelling and construction of a three-storey dwelling at Lot 1 DP 214686; No. 4 Marine Parade, Kingscliff be refused for the following reasons:

- Pursuant to Section 79C(1)(a)(i) the development proposal has not demonstrated that compliance with the development standard as being unreasonable or unnecessary in accordance with State Environmental Planning Policy No. 1 – Development Standards:
  - The impact of the additional storey incorporating a roof top deck has not been adequately justified.
- 2. Pursuant to Section 79C(1)(b) the development proposal has not demonstrated acceptable impacts on the built environment:
  - The development is considered to have negative impact on the amenity of the adjoining property to the southwest.
- 3. Pursuant to Section 79C(1)(a)(iii) the development has not demonstrated compliance with Tweed Shire Council Development Control Plan 2008 Section A1 in particular:
  - The development proposal exceeds the nine (9) metre height limit.

# **REPORT:**

Applicant:	Mrs K Carter and Mr R Carter
Owner:	Ms Kristine A Carter
Location:	Lot 1 DP 214686; No. 4 Marine Parade, Kingscliff
Zoning:	2(b) Medium Density Residential
Cost:	\$1,225,000

## Background:

The property is zoned 2(b) Medium Density Residential under Tweed Local Environmental Plan 2000 and is located on the western side of Marine Parade Kingscliff, is 417 m<sup>2</sup> and currently subject to a two storey height limit.

An application has been received to demolish an existing two storey dwelling house at 4 Marine Parade, Kingscliff and construct a new three storey dwelling house with a total floor area of 325 m<sup>2</sup>. The application was notified to adjoining property owners and three submissions were received to the proposal. The objectors' main concerns with the proposal were the loss of privacy and amenity, not consistent with two storey height limit, the lift and spa/swimming pool on the roof will be visually offensive and the potential destabilisation of the hillside. A letter dated 3 December 2012 summarising the concerns and objections of the neighbours and council's assessing officer, was sent to the applicants, care of their planning consultant. In addition, an email was sent by the assessing officer to the applicants dated 7 December 2012 which read:

"Hi Brock & Mr Mrs Carter,

I have read the SEE (Statement of Environmental Effects) submitted and reviewed the plans and visited all the surrounding properties.

My impression is that the proposal is pushing the limits by designing the roof top deck on a three storey building that is in a two storey zone and does not comply with the height limits, rear setbacks, front setbacks and FSR.

The use of the roof top deck will have an adverse impact on the rear property occupants and it is hard to justify this impact when it is largely the result of the other variations above.

It is my feeling that the roof top deck should be removed from the design.

The SEE needs to provide further argument in relation to the 2b zone objectives, provide some justification for the increase in wall plate height, and the front fence does not comply with the DCP regarding openness and driveway sight lines do not comply.

It is requested that you include a response to the above in your response to Council's letter dated 3/12/12."

After consultation with key parties the proposal was modified from the original submission and re-notified with one submission from the owner of 34 Hungerford Lane being received reiterating previous objections.

The amended design removed the lift shaft from the roof deck, lowered the spa and indented the balustrading away from the edge plane of the building. A further late amendment to the design was received on 29 April 2013 which attempts to address the noise nuisance concerns by the inclusion of an 'acoustic green screen' on the back edge of the roof top deck. Those latest plans are now the subject of this report.

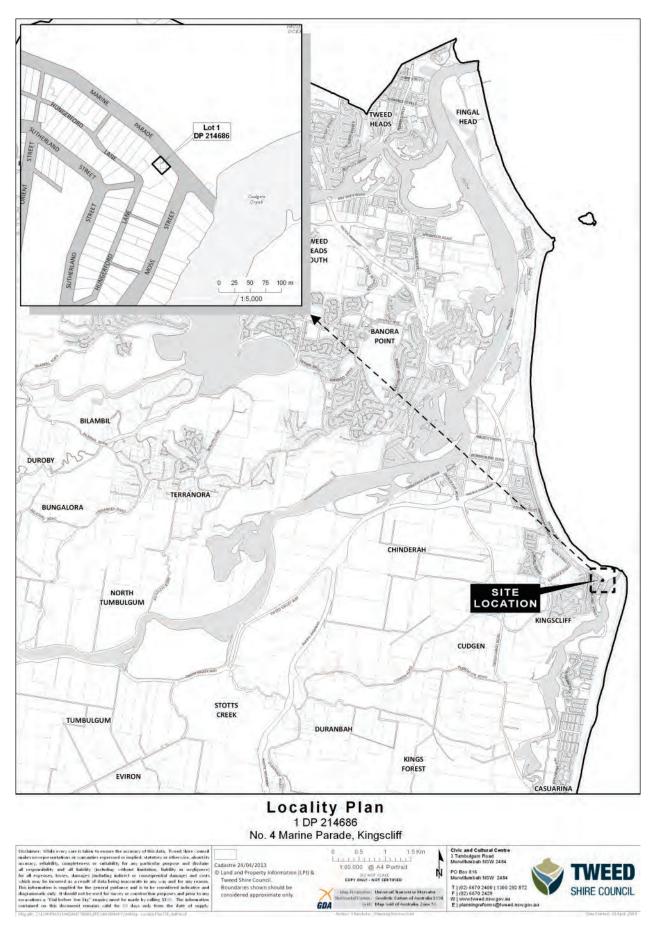
The applicant has provided photo montage images which show that the proposed building is well designed in context with the streetscape and fits well with the scale of the two adjoining three storey dwellings. There will be no significant loss of views from any surrounding properties as a consequence of the proposed development.

The inclusion of the roof top deck on the proposed three storey building is the primary concern in this development. It raises the level of outdoor living area to a level and position that will impact on the residents of at least one property above. Noise and potential evening illumination will impact of on their amenity. Acoustic advice by CRG Acoustic Consultants has been provided and is noted as conservative but suggests that to be fully effective an acoustic screen would need to be 4.5m high and return half way along the sides of the building and as an alternative recommends conditions to control the hours of use and to prevent music being played on the deck.

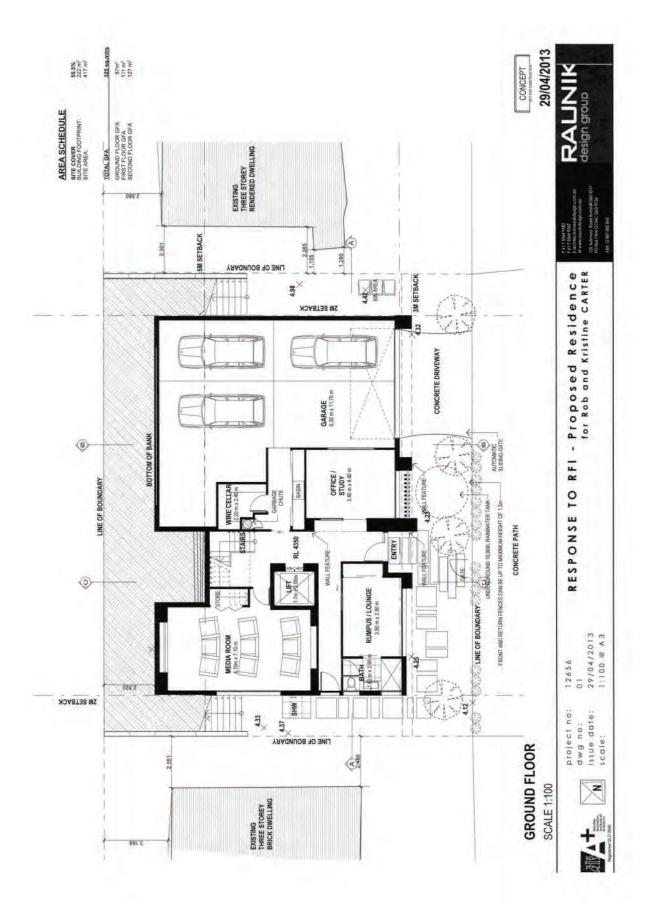
A geotechnical report has been submitted which concludes that the development could proceed without destabilising the surrounding properties.

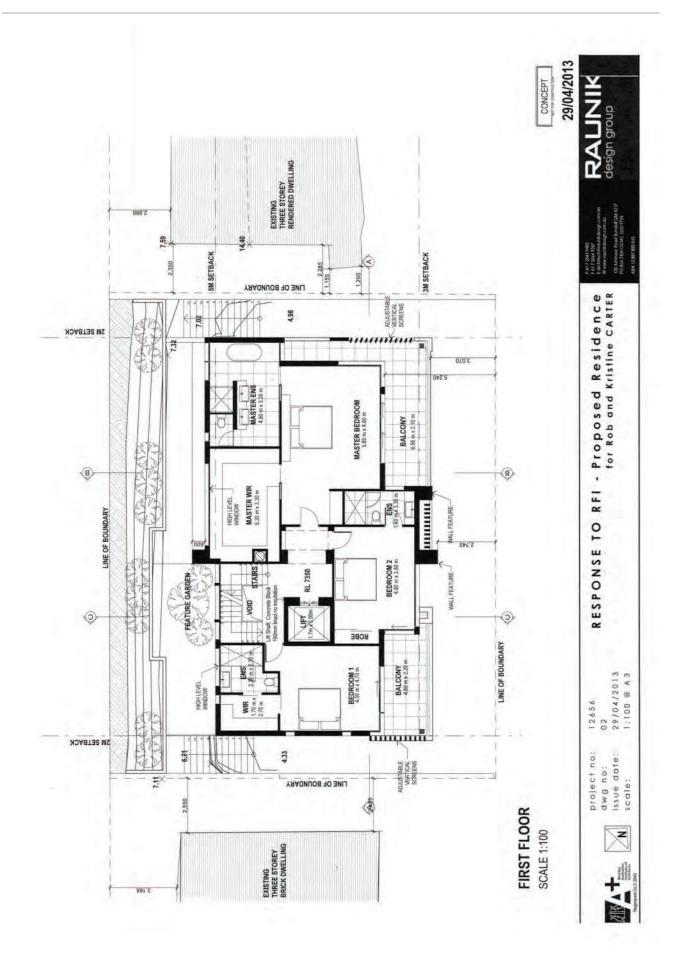
The applicant has been given clear indication of the concerns with this development primarily being the roof top deck and has proceeded to seek Council's determination of the proposal without further amendment.

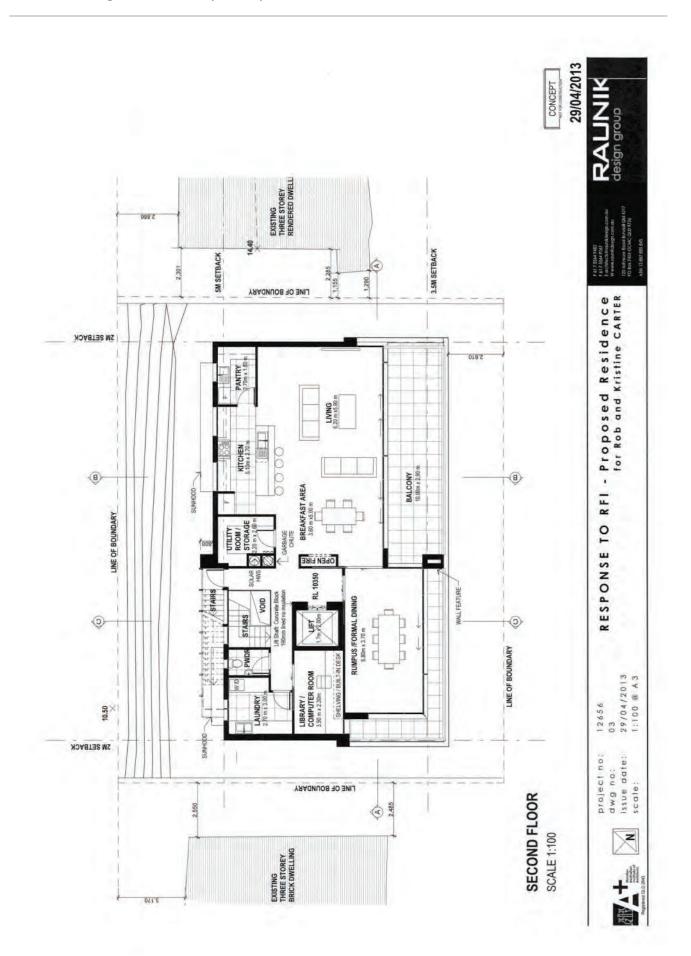
## SITE DIAGRAM:

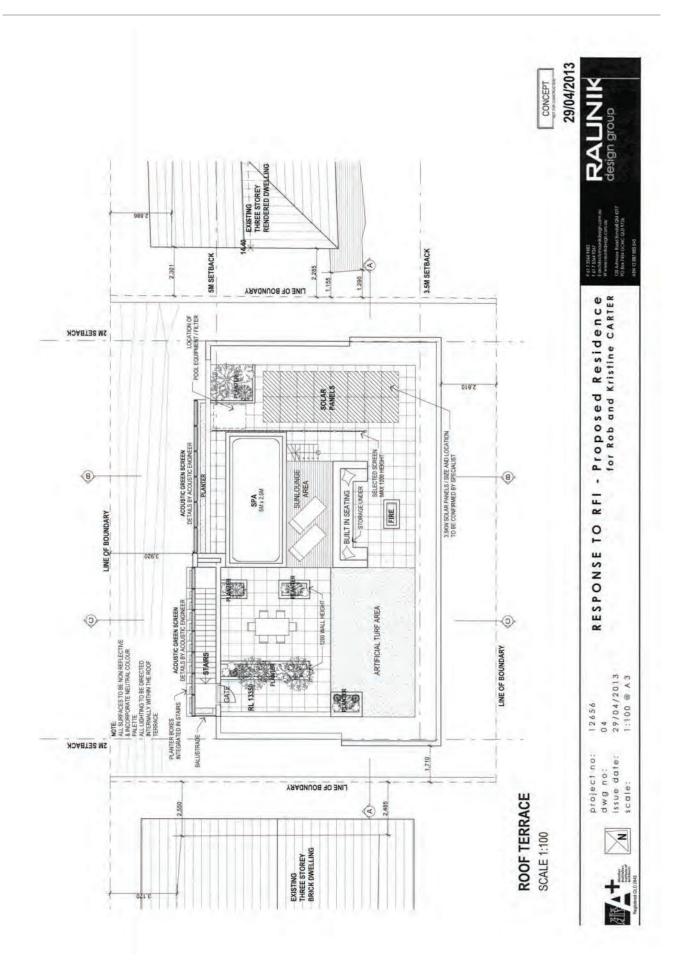


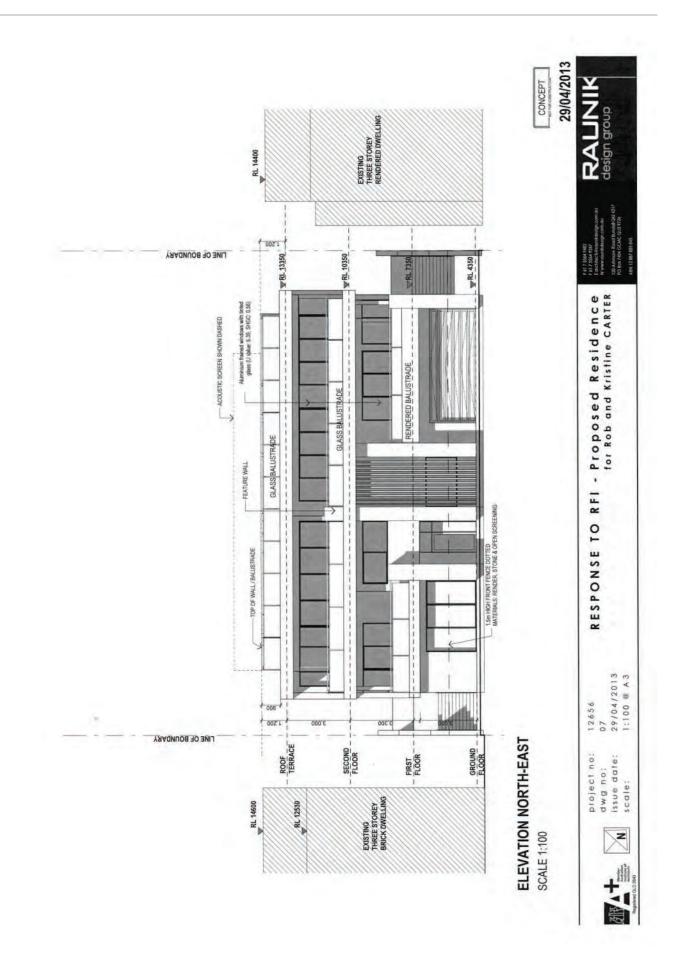
# **DEVELOPMENT/ELEVATION PLANS:**



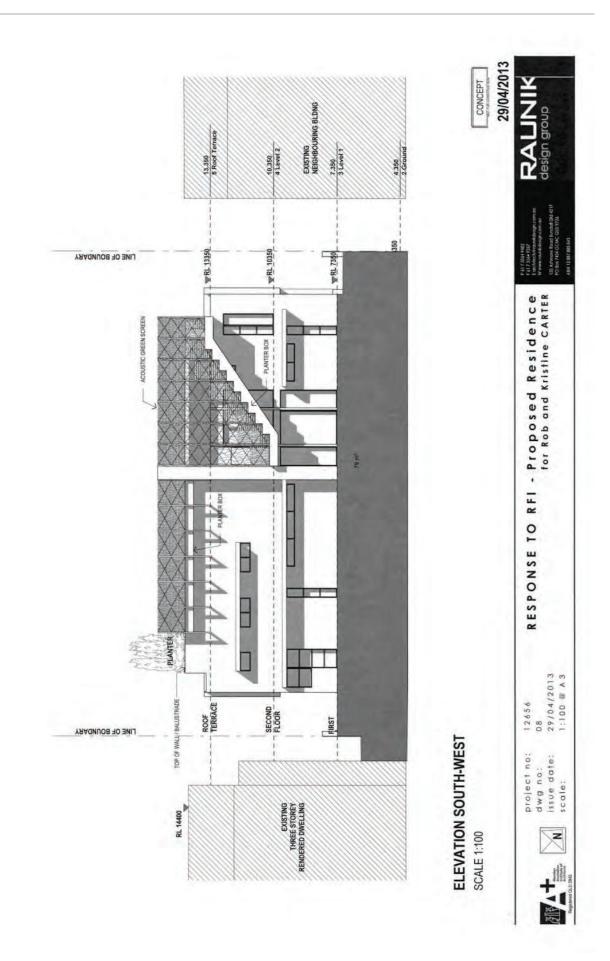


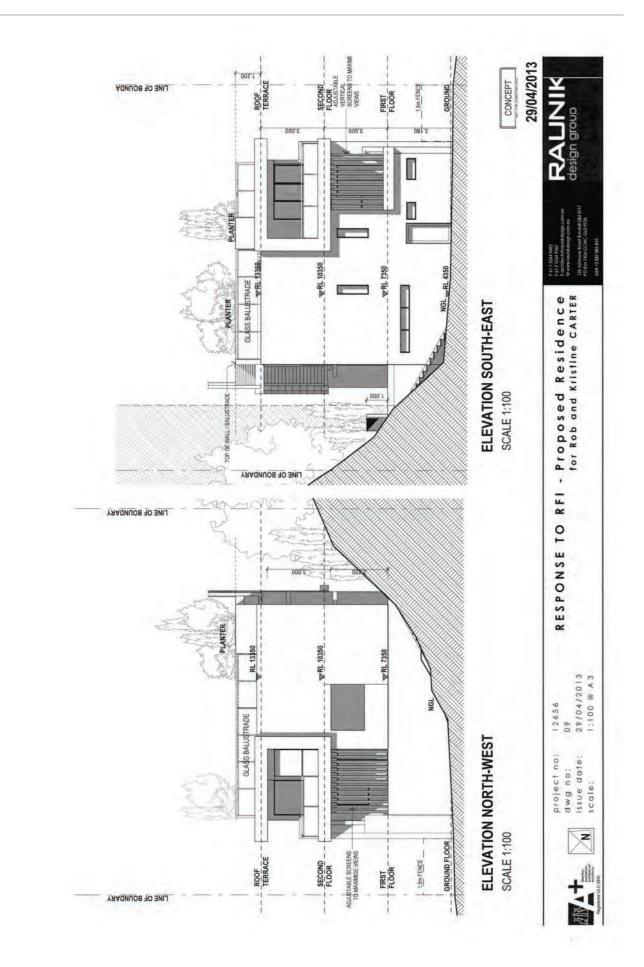






## Council Meeting Date: Thursday 16 May 2013





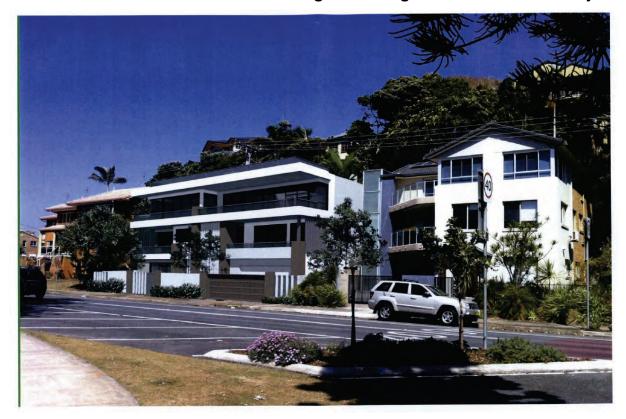






The following photo is provided of the site taken by Council's assessing officer.

Northern view from rear affected dwelling at 34 Hungerford Lane across subject site.



Street montage view of proposed dwelling



Example provided by applicant of a 'green screen'

# ASSESSMENT:

The application was lodged as a requirement of the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979 and is required to be evaluated using the relevant terms of clause 79C of the Act.

As a part of the assessment process numerous site visits by Council's assessing officer have been undertaken to all of the surrounding properties and involving many hours. Impacts have been discussed by phone with the objectors and concerns raised have been discussed in meetings with the applicant planning consultant.

The assessment also utilised the expertise of Council Senior Urban Design Planner who gave assistance in gauging the impact of the development in the context of streetscape and design merit of the building relative to the adjoining buildings and constraints of the site.

Considerations Under Section 79c Of The Environmental Planning And Assessment Act 1979:

# (a) (i) The provisions of any environmental planning instrument

# Tweed Local Environmental Plan 2000

# Clause 4 - Aims of the Plan

The aims or objectives of the plan are not compromised by the proposed development.

# Clause 5 - Ecologically Sustainable Development

For the scale of this development compliance with the submitted BASIX certificate achieves the objective of this clause.

## Clause 8 - Consent Considerations

## Zone Objectives

The subject site is zoned 2(b) Medium Density Residential. The primary objective of the zone is to encourage development for the purpose of medium density housing that achieves good urban design outcomes. The secondary objectives relate to allowance for non residential and tourist development and to discourage the under-utilization of the land for residential purposes, particularly close to the Tweed Heads sub region area.

The proposed development is not consistent with the primary objective of the zone but it has been argued by the applicant that there are a number of constraints to the site that justify the single dwelling being proposed. The allotment is small, with an area of 417 m<sup>2</sup>, and is only 17m in depth from front to rear making the potential for medium density difficult. Also, the applicant points out that this could be categorised as small lot housing being on a lot less than  $450m^2$  which is an alternative form of medium density.

## Cumulative Impacts

The proposed building at three storeys is consistent with other buildings in the area and is unlikely to be dominant amongst the Kingscliff hill.

There is an argument for cumulative impact on the locality in that the building does not comply with the two storey height limits of current Local Environmental Plan (LEP). This is somewhat countered by the existing three storey development along Marine Parade. In addition, the draft Tweed LEP 2012 seeks to remove the reference to number of storey and instead limit the height in this area to 9 metres. The proposed development will have a total height of 10.2m (RL 14550) measured to the top of the roof top deck balustrade.

Clause 11 - Zone Objectives

As discussed above.

## Clause 15 - Essential Services

All essential services are available within the area.

#### Clause 16 - Height of Building

In this case a State Environmental Planning Policy No. 1 objection to the number of permissible storeys has been included in the application.

The proposed dwelling exceeds the two storeys permissible and exceeds the total height of 9m contained in the current DCP part A1 by 1.2m. It should be noted however that the proposed 'acoustic green screen' complies with the height provisions of the LEP and DCP because the site rises steeply at the rear and therefore measuring from existing ground level at that point shows compliance.

The proposed building at three storeys is consistent with other buildings in the area and is unlikely to be dominant amongst the Kingscliff hill.

The roof top deck associated with the extra storey will result in an adverse impact on the amenity of residence of at least one rear adjoining property.

## Clause 17 - Social Impact Assessment

A social impact assessment is not required given the relatively minor nature of the proposal being satisfied that it is unlikely to have a significant social or economic impact in the locality.

## Clause 35 - Acid Sulfate Soils

The site is classified as having the potential for Class 5 soils under the Acid Sulphate Soils mapping. The works proposed are not likely to impact on the affected soils zone.

## Clause 39A – Bushfire protection

The site is mapped as bushfire prone however the vegetation resulting in the mapping no longer exists and therefore no further consideration is required.

## Other Specific Clauses

None apparent.

# State Environmental Planning Policies

# SEPP (North Coast Regional Environmental Plan) 1988

## Clause 32B: Coastal Lands

This clause controls development which could impede public access to a foreshore or overshadow the foreshore before 3pm midwinter (standard time) or 6.30pm midsummer (daylight saving time).

It is recognised throughout all coastal areas that existing urban areas will have some impact in regards to the shadow of the foreshore.

In this case a State Environmental Planning Policy No. 1 objection has been included in the application and the facts and argument presented are acceptable.

The extent of the shadow is minor and is in fact intercepted by the shadow cast by the hillside and vegetation behind. The applicant describes the shadow as 'invisible' because of the hillside at the rear and there is no significant adverse impact resulting on the foreshore parkland to the east of Marine Parade.

Clause 43: Residential development

The proposed development is consistent with the objectives of the North Coast Regional Environmental Plan 1988 Division 2 for Urban Housing requiring broader consideration of roads, access to services, transport, site erosion and of maximising density.

## Clause 81: Development adjacent to the ocean or a waterway

Extract

- (1) The council shall not consent to a development application for development on land within 100 metres of the ocean or any substantial waterway unless it is satisfied that:
  - (a) there is a sufficient foreshore open space which is accessible and open to the public within the vicinity of the proposed development,
  - (b) buildings to be erected as part of the development will not detract from the amenity of the waterway, and
  - (c) the development is consistent with the principles of any foreshore management plan applying to the area.
- (2) Nothing in subclause (1) affects privately owned rural land where the development is for the purpose of agriculture.

The proposed development does not impact on the available foreshore open space, accessibility or amenity of the waterway.

## SEPP No. 1 - Development Standards

An objection to development standard contained in the Council's LEP regarding number of storeys and the standard contained in Clause 32B of the North Coast Regional Environmental Plan have been lodged with the development application and have been addressed under separate headings.

## SEPP No 55 – Remediation of land

There is no evidence or past land use activity that would suggest that the land is contaminated.

## SEPP No 71 – Coastal Protection

The development is generally consistent with the specific provisions and intent of Clause 8 of SEPP 71.

## SEPP (Building Sustainability Index: BASIX) 2004

The applicant has provided a BASIX certificate for the proposal which is consistent with the required energy target.

## NSW Coastal Policy, 1997

The proposed dwelling is not inconsistent with the Coastal Policy

## (a) (ii) The Provisions of any Draft Environmental Planning Instruments

Council staff are working on a Draft Tweed Local Environmental Plan 2012 which proposes similar controls to the site as currently exist with the exception of one significant variation. The Draft Plan proposes to remove the two storey height limit and instead apply a maximum building height of 9m.

The proposed building has a height of 9m to the floor level of the roof top deck and has balustrading a further 1.2m higher again. The proposed development would not comply with the height controls of the draft plan unless the roof top deck use was removed and therefore not require the balustrading and spa pool.

# (a) (iii) Development Control Plan (DCP)

# Tweed Development Control Plan

## A1-Residential and Tourist Development Code

Variation to A1 have been sought for the height of the building, wall plate height, rear deep soil zone, front building line, rear setback and the floor space ratio requirement.

Council's recently adopted amendment to DCP part A1 version 1.5 has effectively removed or minimised some of the non-compliant aspects of this development. Wall plate height and floor space ratio have been removed. Deep soil zone requirements a relaxed and setbacks are also reduced and the consequence is that there are fewer variations to the DCP applicable to the development.

## A2-Site Access and Parking Code

Complies generally.

If approved, a condition requiring separate approval for front fencing incorporating driveway sight clearances has been included.

# A11-Public Notification of Development Proposals

The application was notified in accordance with policy. Please refer to a further section in the report to view a summary of the submissions and the officer's response to those submissions.

# **B9-Tweed Coast Strategy**

The proposal does not contradict any parts of the Tweed Coast Strategy.

# (a) (iv) Any Matters Prescribed by the Regulations

Clause 92(a) Government Coastal Policy

The proposed dwelling is not inconsistent with the Coastal Policy.

## Clause 92(b) Applications for demolition

Australian Standard 2601 is referred to in the demolition work plan and will be reinforced by conditions should the application be approved.

# Clause 93 Fire Safety Considerations

Not applicable.

Clause 94 Buildings to be upgraded

Not applicable.

# (a) (v) Any coastal zone management plan (within the meaning of the <u>Coastal</u> <u>Protection Act 1979</u>),

The proposed building is outside the 2100 erosion escarpment line and no specific development controls need to be applied.

# **Tweed Shire Coastline Management Plan 2005**

This plan does not apply to the subject site.

# Tweed Coast Estuaries Management Plan 2004

The proposed development will not adversely impact on the Cudgen Creek water quality as the proposal will discharge roofwater only into the existing street stormwater system.

# Coastal zone Management Plan for Cobaki and Terranora Broadwater

This plan does not apply to the subject site.

# (b) The likely impacts of the development and the environmental impacts on both the natural and built environments and social and economic impacts in the locality

# Context and Setting

An infill development is proposed, within an established residential subdivision which has been specifically created for residential development. The proposed development is of a design generally in keeping with the architectural style and residential character of the area taking into account the redevelopment occurring overall in the area, with the exception that the roof top deck which has 118 square metres of usable recreation area may result in an undesirable precedent for development on the lower part of a hillside where higher level dwellings can be affected.

# Access, Transport and Traffic

Minimal impact is envisaged, the proposal is a single residence within an approved residential subdivision.

## Flora and Fauna

Minimal impact is envisaged; the site has no significant plantings and is part of an existing urban environment.

#### Site design and Internal design

The roof top deck will have adverse impact on the amenity of the residents of the property to the rear No. 34 Hungerford Lane.

The inclusion of the roof top deck on the proposed three storey building is the primary concern in this development. It raises the level of outdoor living area to a level and position that will impact on the residents of at least one property above. Noise and potential evening illumination will impact of on their amenity. The design now incorporates a 2.5m high 'acoustic green screen' on the back edge of the deck which is likely to reduce a little of the noise impact and provide for some greater visual privacy particularly in relation to the position of the spa/pool. It is to be noted that the total height of the building measured from natural ground level at the point of the 'acoustic green screen' does comply with the 9m maximum height requirements of the DCP.

Acoustic advice by CRG Acoustic Consultants has been provided and is noted as conservative but suggests that to be fully effective an acoustic screen would need to be 4.5m high and return half way along the sides of the building. That would be unsightly and contribute further to the non compliant height of the building.

It is difficult to evaluate the frequency of use of the proposed roof top deck which needs to be taken into account when considering what is reasonable. The design of this deck at 118 square metres of usable floor area and a spa/pool would suggest frequent use.

Other than the concern about the roof top deck the building is considered to be of reasonable design taking into account the relationship with the adjacent buildings on either side. The external finishing is mixed and provides good architectural merit. The design provides four off street car parking spaces and includes privacy screening to the second floor balconies to minimise impact on adjoining residences either side.

# (c) Suitability of the site for the development

## Surrounding Landuses/Development

The proposal is consistent with the surrounding land use and the site is suitable for the proposed development. The property is located within an existing residential area and utilities including reticulated water, public sewer and power are provided to the site. A mixture of old and new dwellings with varying architectural styles exist within the area, the design of the dwelling is considered to be in keeping with the existing residential character of the area.

## Flora and Fauna

Minimal impact is envisaged; the site has no significant plantings and is part of an existing urban environment.

# Topography

The site rises steeply at the rear of the allotment and the geotechnical reports submitted state that the development could proceed without destabilisation of the adjoining properties.

# Site Orientation

The living areas of the dwelling have been mainly orientated to the north and northeast to optimise ocean views and breezes and solar access to the north.

# (d) Any submissions made in accordance with the Act or Regulations

The application was notified to surrounding properties when first received and again after the first amendment. During the initial notification, three (3) written submissions were received. After notification of the amended plans a single submission of objection was received. The main issues raised have been summarised below:

Issue	Objection	Assessment
	Comment	
Loss of privacy to the residents of 34 Hungerford Lane	The proposed roof top deck will impact on privacy as it is clearly visible and raised to the yard level of the of the rear property.	The deck will be visible by the residence of the property at the rear but will be partially screened by some of the existing vegetation. In addition the applicant has made a late inclusion of a 2.5m high 'acoustic green screen' which will further improve visual privacy concerns.
Loss of amenity to the residents of 34 Hungerford Lane	The proposed roof deck is elevated to within 6m height and 15m distance from the lower balcony of 34 Hungerford Lane and will therefore transfer noise and light spill.	There is likely to be considerable noise transfer from the use of the substantial roof deck. Its elevation due to the third storey contributes to the impact. The inclusion of the spa/swimming pool and barbeque intensify the potential use of the area and this will impact on the rear properties. The frequency of use of the upper deck is an unknown and makes it difficult to quantify the impact to occasional of regular. The small nature of the site makes it good sense to utilize the roof area as additional outdoor recreation space but given the increase in height and number of storeys it is not reasonable to justify.
Height and setbacks are non-compliant	Height and rear setbacks do not Comply with LEP or DCP A1 and impact on streetscape and amenity.	Impacts of height in relation to amenity have been discussed above. The reduced setback to Marine parade is not considered to have any significant impact on the streetscape given the openness of the area and articulation used in the design of the building.
Possible instability of the adjacent property and structures	Hillside is steep and has existing instability	A geotechnical report has been provided which states that the development could proceed without de- stabilisation of adjoining properties and structures.

Issue	Objection	Assessment
	Comment	
Additional	Due to the sun	Consideration of what someone might do in the future
shade	and wind it is	is not grounds to influence the determination of the
structures are	likely that	application presented. However if the development
likely on the	additional roof	was to be approved it would include conditions to
roof deck.	shade structures	preclude any roof structures other than basic not
	will be erected	permanent shade umbrellas.
	creating four	
	storeys.	

# (e) Public interest

The development will not have an adverse impact or compromise public interest.

# **OPTIONS:**

- 1. Council refuses the development application; or
- 2. Council supports in principle the development application and that a report be brought forward to the next Council meeting providing recommended conditions of consent.

Council officers recommend Option 1.

# CONCLUSION:

The proposed development exceeds the number of storeys permitted by the current LEP and the use of the roof as a deck necessitates the provision of a balustrade which then creates non-compliance in the height of the building of 1.2m. It is these two variations that will result in the adverse impact on the amenity of the residents behind and although there is uncertainty in the likely frequency of use of the deck it is considered that these variations are not justified and the proposal should be refused.

# **COUNCIL IMPLICATIONS:**

# a. Policy:

Corporate Policy Not Applicable.

# b. Budget/Long Term Financial Plan:

Not Applicable.

## c. Legal:

Should the applicant be dissatisfied with the determination they have the right to appeal the decision in the Land and Environment Court which would incur financial costs to Council in defence.

Should the applications be approved there is potential for one or more of the objectors to lodge an appeal against the adequacy of the processing of the application which would incur financial costs to Council in defence.

# d. Communication/Engagement:

Not Applicable.

# LINKAGE TO INTEGRATED PLANNING AND REPORTING FRAMEWORK:

- 1 Civic Leadership
- 1.1 Ensure actions taken and decisions reached are based on the principles of sustainability
- 1.1.1 Establish sustainability as a basis of shire planning and Council's own business operations
- 1.1.1.3 Assessment of new developments (Development Assessment unit)
- 1.1.1.3.1 Assessment in accordance with the sustainability objectives of the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979 and other relevant legislation

# UNDER SEPARATE COVER/FURTHER INFORMATION:

Nil.

CNL-33 [PR-CM] Development Application DA13/0065 for Dwelling Additions Including Creation of Second Storey and Detached Double Garage with Carport with SEPP No.1 Objection at Lot 3 DP 712922; No. 13 Dalton Street, Terranora

SUBMITTED BY: Building and Environmental Health

FILE NUMBER: DA13/0065 Pt1



## **SUMMARY OF REPORT:**

An application has been lodged to carry out alterations and additions to an existing single storey dwelling house on the subject allotment comprising a first floor addition, roofed verandahs and a detached double garage with carport.

The land is zoned 1(c) Rural Living, encompasses an area of 5000m<sup>2</sup>, and contains an existing single storey dwelling house.

The allotment has vehicular access from Dalton Street, however also fronts Terranora Road which, under the provisions of Tweed Local Environmental Plan 2000, is a designated road.

The required setback of any residential or ancillary structure to a designated road, specified in part 5, clause 24 of the Tweed Local Environment Plan 2000(*TLEP2000*), is 30m.

The existing dwelling house has a building alignment to Terranora Road of about 15m however, the proposed additions will extend to within 11.60m of this property boundary and the proposed garage/carport will observe a setback to Terranora Road of 11.00m. The applicant has included an objection statement to the planning controls as permitted under State Environmental Planning Policy No. 1 (SEPP No. 1) in respect of the above proposed encroachments within the 30m building alignment. As the extent of the building line variation exceeds 10% the objection as permitted under SEPP No. 1 is referred to Council for determination in accordance with previous directions of the NSW Department of Planning and Infrastructure.

The SEPP1 objection is considered to be worthy of support by Council. It is therefore recommended that Council supports the application, subject to conditions.

## **RECOMMENDATION:**

That:

A. State Environmental Planning Policy No. 1 objection to Clause 24 of Tweed Local Environmental Plan 2000 regarding setbacks to designated roads be supported and the concurrence of the Director-General of the Department of Planning be assumed. B. Development Application DA13/0065 for construction of a first floor addition and roofed verandahs to an existing dwelling house and detached double garage with carport at Lot 3 DP 712922 No. 13 Dalton Crescent, Terranora be approved subject to the following conditions:

# GENERAL

1. The development shall be completed in accordance with the Statement of Environmental Effects and Plan Nos 4625- cover sheet & sheets 4-10 & 17 prepared by Stuart Osman Building Designs and dated 26/03/13, except where varied by the conditions of this consent.

[GEN0005]

2. The issue of this Development Consent does not certify compliance with the relevant provisions of the Building Code of Australia.

[GEN0115]

3. Approval is given subject to the location of, protection of, and/or any necessary approved modifications to any existing public utilities situated within or adjacent to the subject property.

[GEN0135]

# PRIOR TO ISSUE OF CONSTRUCTION CERTIFICATE

4. In accordance with Section 109F(i) of the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979 (as amended), a construction certificate for SUBDIVISION WORKS OR BUILDING WORKS shall NOT be issued until any long service levy payable under Section 34 of the Building and Construction Industry Long Service Payments Act, 1986 (or where such levy is payable by instalments, the first instalment of the levy) has been paid. Council is authorised to accept payment. Where payment has been made elsewhere, proof of payment is to be provided.

[PCC0285]

5. The footings to the dwelling additions and floor slab to the garage/carport are to be designed by a practising Structural Engineer and details shall be submitted to and approved by the Principal Certifying Authority prior to the issue of a construction certificate.

[PCC0945]

- 6. A construction certificate application for works that involve any of the following:
  - connection of a private stormwater drain to a public stormwater drain
  - installation of stormwater quality control devices
  - erosion and sediment control works

will not be approved until prior separate approval to do so has been granted by Council under Section 68 of the Local Government Act.

a) Applications for these works must be submitted on Council's standard Section 68 stormwater drainage application form accompanied by the required attachments and the prescribed fee. b) Where Council is requested to issue a construction certificate for civil works associated with a subdivision consent, the abovementioned works can be incorporated as part of the construction certificate application, to enable one single approval to be issued. Separate approval under Section 68 of the Local Government Act will then NOT be required.

[PCC1145]

7. Prior to the issue of a construction certificate for the dwelling house additions the Principal Certifying Authority shall be provided with written confirmation from a practising Structural Engineer that the existing dwelling house is structurally adequate to support the proposed first floor additions.

[PCCNS01]

## PRIOR TO COMMENCEMENT OF WORK

8. The proponent shall accurately locate and identify any existing sewer main, stormwater line or other underground infrastructure within or adjacent to the site and the Principal Certifying Authority advised of its location and depth prior to commencing works and ensure there shall be no conflict between the proposed development and existing infrastructure prior to start of any works.

[PCW0005]

- 9. The erection of a building in accordance with a development consent must not be commenced until:
  - (a) a construction certificate for the building work has been issued by the consent authority, the council (if the council is not the consent authority) or an accredited certifier, and
  - (b) the person having the benefit of the development consent has:
    - (i) appointed a principal certifying authority for the building work, and
    - (ii) notified the principal certifying authority that the person will carry out the building work as an owner-builder, if that is the case, and
  - (c) the principal certifying authority has, no later than 2 days before the building work commences:
    - (i) notified the consent authority and the council (if the council is not the consent authority) of his or her appointment, and
    - (ii) notified the person having the benefit of the development consent of any critical stage inspections and other inspections that are to be carried out in respect of the building work, and
  - (d) the person having the benefit of the development consent, if not carrying out the work as an owner-builder, has:
    - (i) appointed a principal contractor for the building work who must be the holder of a contractor licence if any residential work is involved, and
    - (ii) notified the principal certifying authority of any such appointment, and

(iii) unless that person is the principal contractor, notified the principal contractor of any critical stage inspection and other inspections that are to be carried out in respect of the building work.

[PCW0215]

10. Prior to work commencing, a "Notice of Commencement of Building or Subdivision Work and Appointment of Principal Certifying Authority" shall be submitted to Council at least 2 days prior to work commencing.

[PCW0225]

- 11. Residential building work:
  - (a) Residential building work within the meaning of the <u>Home Building Act</u> <u>1989</u> must not be carried out unless the principal certifying authority for the development to which the work relates (not being the council) has given the council written notice of the following information:
    - (i) in the case of work for which a principal contractor is required to be appointed:
      - \* in the name and licence number of the principal contractor, and
      - \* the name of the insurer by which the work is insured under Part 6 of that Act,
    - (ii) in the case of work to be done by an owner-builder:
      - the name of the owner-builder, and
      - \* if the owner-builder is required to hold an owner builder permit under that Act, the number of the owner-builder permit.
  - (b) If arrangements for doing the residential building work are changed while the work is in progress so that the information notified under subclause (1) becomes out of date, further work must not be carried out unless the principal certifying authority for the development to which the work relates (not being the council) has given the council written notice of the updated information.

[PCW0235]

- 12. A temporary builder's toilet is to be provided prior to commencement of work at the rate of one (1) closet for every fifteen (15) persons or part of fifteen (15) persons employed at the site. Each toilet provided must be:
  - (a) a standard flushing toilet connected to a public sewer, or
  - (b) if that is not practicable, an accredited sewage management facility approved by the council

[PCW0245]

13. Prior to commencement of work on the site all erosion and sedimentation control measures are to be installed and operational including the provision of a "shake down" area, where required. These measures are to be in accordance with the approved erosion and sedimentation control plan and adequately maintained throughout the duration of the development.

In addition to these measures the core flute sign provided with the stormwater approval under Section 68 of the Local Government Act is to be clearly displayed on the most prominent position of the sediment fence or erosion control device which promotes awareness of the importance of the erosion and sediment controls provided.

This sign is to remain in position for the duration of the project.

[PCW0985]

14. An application to connect to Council's sewer or carry out plumbing and drainage works, together with any prescribed fees including inspection fees, is to be submitted to and approved by Council prior to the commencement of any building works on the site.

[PCW1065]

## DURING CONSTRUCTION

15. All proposed works are to be carried out in accordance with the conditions of development consent, approved management plans, approved construction certificate, drawings and specifications.

[DUR0005]

16. Construction and/or demolition site work including the entering and leaving of vehicles is limited to the following hours, unless otherwise permitted by Council:

Monday to Saturday from 7.00am to 6.00pm

No work to be carried out on Sundays or Public Holidays

The proponent is responsible to instruct and control subcontractors regarding hours of work.

[DUR0205]

17. The wall and roof cladding is to have low reflectivity where they would otherwise cause nuisance to the occupants of buildings with direct line of sight to the proposed building.

[DUR0245]

18. All building work (other than work relating to the erection of a temporary building) must be carried out in accordance with the requirements of the Building Code of Australia (as in force on the date the application for the relevant construction certificate was made).

[DUR0375]

19. Building materials used in the construction of the building are not to be deposited or stored on Council's footpath or road reserve, unless prior approval is obtained from Council.

[DUR0395]

20. The Principal Certifying Authority is to be given a minimum of 48 hours notice prior to any critical stage inspection or any other inspection nominated by the Principal Certifying Authority via the notice under Section 81A of the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979.

[DUR0405]

21. It is the responsibility of the applicant to restrict public access to the construction works site, construction works or materials or equipment on the site when construction work is not in progress or the site is otherwise unoccupied in accordance with WorkCover NSW requirements and Work Health and Safety Regulation 2011.

[DUR0415]

22. All cut or fill on the property is to be battered at an angle not greater than 45° within the property boundary, stabilised and provided with a dish drain or similar at the base in accordance with Tweed Shire Councils Design and Construction Specifications, Development Control Plan Part A1 to the satisfaction of the Principal Certifying Authority.

Please note timber retaining walls are not permitted.

[DUR0835]

23. The development is to be carried out in accordance with the current BASIX certificate and schedule of commitments approved in relation to this development consent.

[DUR0905]

- 24. All work associated with this approval is to be carried out so as not to impact on the neighbourhood, adjacent premises or the environment. All necessary precautions, covering and protection shall be taken to minimise impact from:
  - Noise, water or air pollution
  - Dust during filling operations and also from construction vehicles
  - Material removed from the site by wind

[DUR1005]

25. No portion of the structure may be erected over the existing easements along the eastern property boundary.

[DUR1945]

26. The builder must provide an adequate trade waste service to ensure that all waste material is suitably contained and secured within an area on the site, and removed from the site at regular intervals for the period of construction/demolition to ensure no material is capable of being washed or blow from the site.

[DUR2185]

- 27. Council is to be given 24 hours notice for any of the following inspections prior to the next stage of construction:
  - (a) Internal drainage, prior to slab preparation;
  - (b) Water plumbing rough in, and/or stackwork prior to the erection of brick work or any wall sheeting;
  - (c) External drainage prior to backfilling.
  - (d) Completion of work and prior to occupation of the building.

[DUR2485]

- 28. Plumbing
  - (a) A plumbing permit is to be obtained from Council prior to commencement of any plumbing and drainage work.
  - (b) The whole of the plumbing and drainage work is to be completed in accordance with the requirements of the Plumbing Code of Australia and AS/NZS 3500.

[DUR2495]

- 29. All new hot water installations shall deliver hot water at the outlet of sanitary fixtures used primarily for personal hygiene purposes at a temperature not exceeding:-
  - 45°C for childhood centres, primary and secondary schools and nursing homes or similar facilities for aged, sick or disabled persons; and
  - \* 50°C in all other classes of buildings.

A certificate certifying compliance with the above is to be submitted by the licensed plumber on completion of works.

[DUR2555]

# PRIOR TO ISSUE OF OCCUPATION CERTIFICATE

30. A person must not commence occupation or use of the whole or any part of a new building or structure (within the meaning of Section 109H(4)) unless an occupation certificate has been issued in relation to the building or part (maximum 25 penalty units).

[POC0205]

31. Prior to the issue of a final occupation certificate adequate proof and/or documentation is to be submitted to the Principal Certifying Authority to identify that all commitment on the BASIX "Schedule of Commitments" have been complied with.

[POC0435]

32. Prior to the occupation or use of any building and prior to the issue of any occupation certificate, including an interim occupation certificate a final inspection report is to be obtained from Council in relation to the plumbing and drainage works.

[POC1045]

33. Prior to the issue of an occupation certificate the existing dwelling shall be provided with smoke detectors in accordance with the provisions of part 3.7.2 of the Building Code of Australia and which comply with the provisions of Australian Standard AS 3786.

[POCNS01]

# USE

34. The garage is not to be used for any habitable, commercial or industrial purpose without prior approval of Council.

[USE0455]

# **REPORT:**

Applicant:Mrs JA Drew and Mr M DrewOwner:Mr Mervyn W Drew & Mrs Jeanette A DrewLocation:Lot 3 DP 712922; No. 13 Dalton Street, TerranoraZoning:1(c) Rural LivingCost:\$199,828

# Background:

An application has been lodged to construct a first floor addition and roofed verandahs to the existing dwelling house, and a new detached double garage and carport on the subject allotment with the proposed development standing wholly within the required 30m setback.

The subject land is zoned 1(c) Rural Living, is 5000m<sup>2</sup> in area and the allotment has a moderate slope from Dalton Street to Terranora Road. The proposed roofed deck as part of the dwelling additions is to be setback 11.60m from Terranora Road and the detached garage and carport will have a rear setback to Terranora Road of 11m.

Vehicular access exists from Dalton Street and the proposed development will not impact upon the streetscape of Terranora Road as there will be no vehicle access to Terranora Road.

The detached garage will be obscured from the Terranora streetscape by existing mature landscaping and the neighbouring dwelling house.

The first floor additions to the existing dwelling house comprise two bedrooms with en-suites, living area and covered verandahs to the northern, eastern and southern sides of the additions.

The garage/carport will be 10m x 9m with colorbond walls and have a low pitched metal roof. It will be located in the north eastern corner of the allotment utilising the existing vehicular entrance to the site.

Adjoining property owners were notified of the proposal due to the SEPP No. 1 variation and one objection was received in relation to impacts of coastal views due to the design of the dwelling house roof.

In response to this objection the Applicant submitted an amended roof design which reduced the impact of the roof on the views from the objector's residence and maintains a substantial coastal view including the ocean-horizon interface.

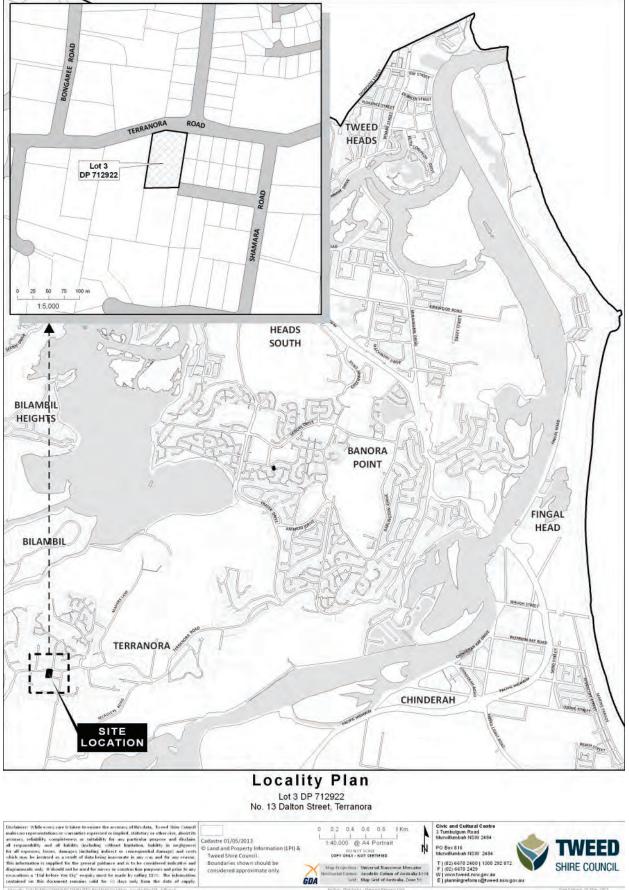
The objector's residence is located about 120m from the subject dwelling house and this spatial separation accompanied by the modified roof design is considered to satisfactorily reduce the dominance of the roof to the objector.

The first floor addition will still have some impact on the coastal views currently enjoyed by the objector however as stated above due to the spatial separation of the objector's dwelling from the subject dwelling house the objector will still have a panoramic view available which is considered to be acceptable and satisfies view sharing principles.

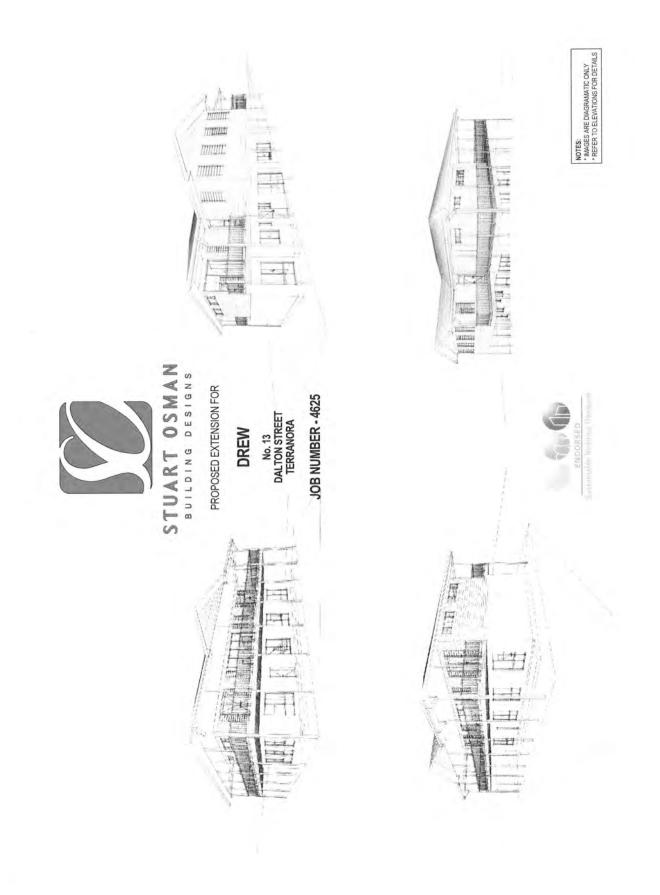
As Terranora Road is classified as a designated road under the Tweed Local Environmental Plan (TLEP2000) Part 5, Clause 24 prescribes a 30m building setback. The applicant has provided a SEPP No. 1 objection statement detailing the reasons for a request to vary the 30m setback requirement to Terranora Road.

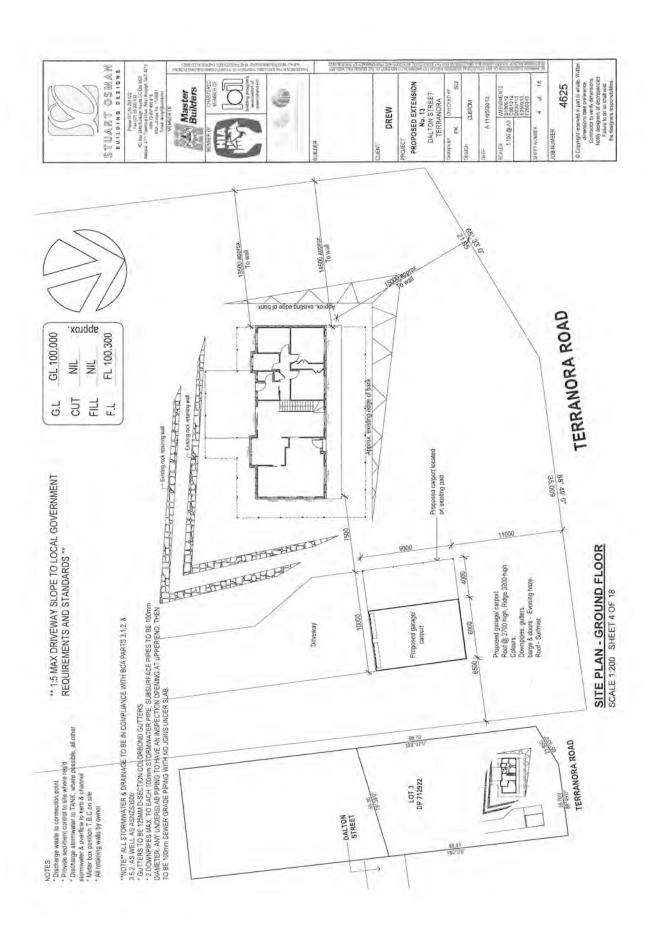
Due to the above amended roof redesign, the large size of the allotment and the zoning of the property (large lot residential) it is considered that the proposed development is comparable to existing approved development in the area and the additions and alterations and detached garage and carport will not adversely affect the amenity of the local environment, the streetscape or public domain of Terranora Road and Dalton Street.

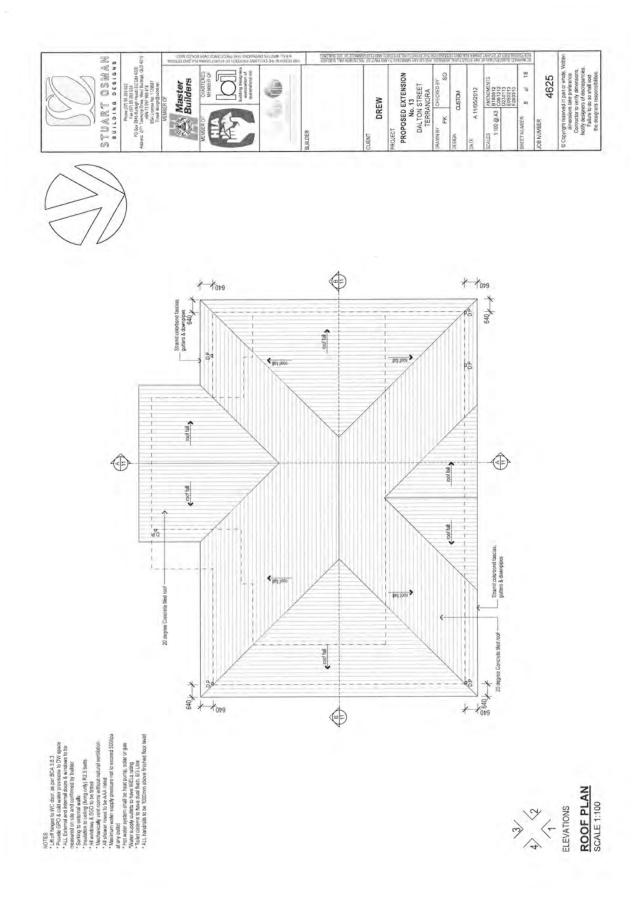
# SITE DIAGRAM:

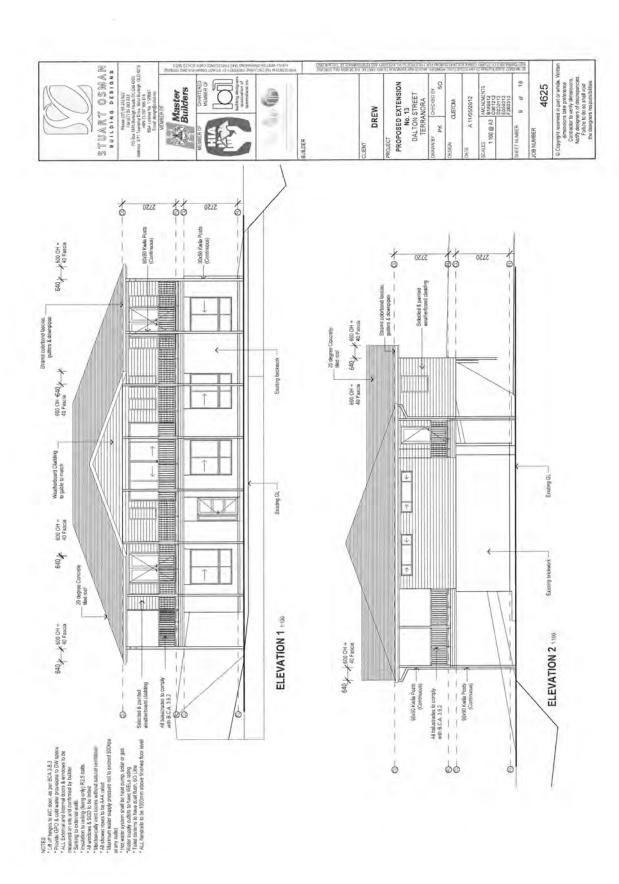


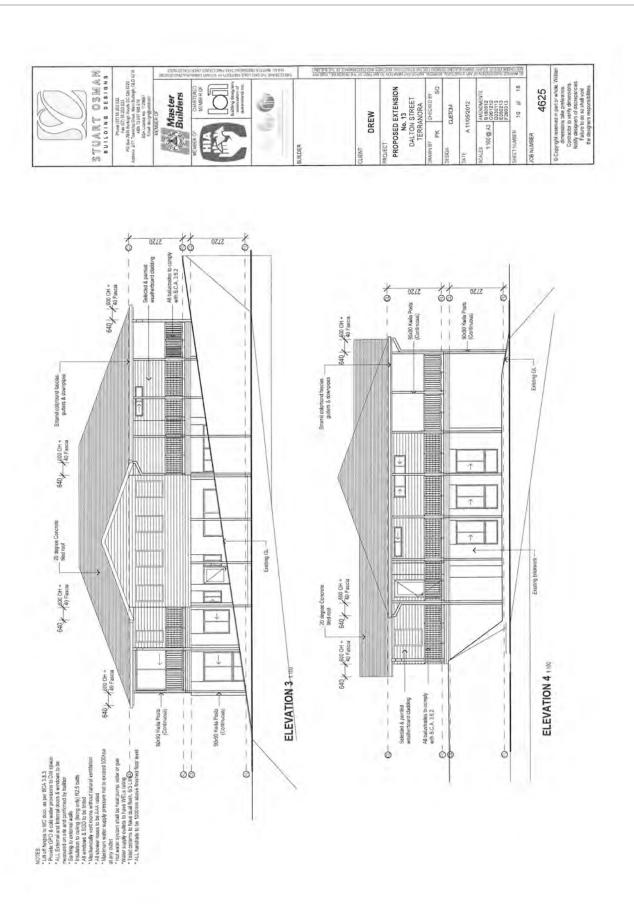
# **DEVELOPMENT/ELEVATION PLANS:**











# Considerations Under Section 79c Of The Environmental Planning And Assessment Act 1979:

# (a) (i) The provisions of any environmental planning instrument Tweed Local Environmental Plan 2000

## Clause 4 - Aims of the Plan

The proposal is consistent with the aims of the plan.

## Clause 5 - Ecologically Sustainable Development

The proposed development is in keeping with ecologically sustainable development principles and is in line with community expectations for the site having regard to the zoning provisions, development control plan provisions and the limitations of the site.

## Clause 8 - Consent Considerations

The development will be consistent with the primary objective of the zone, all relevant aims and objectives of the plan and will be unlikely to have any adverse cumulative impact on the community or locality.

## Clause 11 - Zone Objectives

The proposal will be consistent with the objectives of the zone.

Clause 15 - Essential Services

All necessary services are available and adequate.

Clause 16 - Height of Building

The height of the dwelling house addition will satisfy the controls of DCP A1.

## Clause 17 - Social Impact Assessment

The proposed first floor additions and garage are considered to be unlikely to result in any adverse social impact due the large area of the allotment, spatial separation between dwellings on adjoining properties and existing mature vegetation.

## Clause 35 - Acid Sulphate Soils

The allotment is subject to class 5 Acid Sulphate Soils however the building works are unlikely to have any adverse environmental impact in relation to this matter.

## Other Specific Clauses

Not applicable.

# State Environmental Planning Policies

## SEPP No. 1 - Development Standards

A SEPP No. 1 objection has been received from the applicant in relation to the 30m setback to Terranora Road, *(a designated road)* which is required by clause 24 of the TLEP2000. A copy of this objection has been reproduced below:

## "Clause 24 - Setbacks to Designated Roads

Clause 24 of the LEP requires 'other/ development to have a setback of 30m to a designated road, This Development Standard is unnecessary and unreasonable in this instance, and an Objection under State Environmental Planning Policy No. 1 is submitted to this Development Standard for the following reasons:

- The site and surrounding sites are of a residential nature. Enforcing a 30m setback to Terranora Road is unreasonable as it would render it inappropriate for additions to an existing dwelling.
- The site contains an existing dwelling and it would be unreasonable to restrict the upgrading of the dwelling and the garage/carport due to the 30m setback requirement. The subject application does not intensify the development of the site (remaining at 1 detached dwelling), and the development standard is therefore unreasonable.
- There are many dwellings erected along Terranora Rd in close proximity to the subject site. These dwellings are within 30m of Terranora Rd, It would be unreasonable to restrict the subject development, when there are numerous precedents for development closer than 30m to the Designated Road.
- Approximately 20m to the north and east the zoning changes to a Village zoning (on the opposite side of Terranora Rd). Houses are permitted to be constructed to within 6.0m of Terranora Rd within the Village zoning.
- The application is to extend the existing dwelling and to erect a garage/carport. Adequate setback will be retained. As such the setback requirement is unreasonable in this instance.
- The dwelling additions and garage/carport wouldn't be highly visible or visually obtrusive when viewed from Terranora Road due to the presence of treed vegetation adjacent to the Terranora Rd boundary of the site.

For the above reasons, Council is requested to support the objection under SEPP 1 to allow the development with 30m of the Designated Road.

## Clause 22 - Designated Roads

Clause 22 applies to the proposed development as the site has frontage to a designated road (Terranora Road)' The consent authority must consider the listed matters in Clause 22 (4), as follows:

(a) The development (because of its nature, appearance cumulative effect or illumination, or the intensity or the volume or type of traffic likely to be generated, or for another similar reason) is unlikely to constitute a traffic hazard or materially reduce the capacity or efficiency of the designated road, and

**Comment:** The site is located within an area with a residential character, with access from Dalton Street. The site contains an existing dwelling, and the proposed development would not increase traffic flows from the site. The development would not cause a traffic hazard or reduce the capacity or efficiency of the road.

(b) The location, standard and design of access points, and on-site traffic movement and parking arrangements, would ensure that through traffic movement on the designated road is not impeded, and

**Comment:** the development would be serviced by an existing driveway from Dalton Street. The driveway crossover has been designed so that access to/from the property is convenient and meets

safety requirements. No delays would occur to through traffic, as the road is a cul de sac.

(c) The development, or proposed access to it, will not prejudice any future improvements to, or realignment of, the designated road, and

**Comment:** The development is not located where it would prejudice any future road improvements or realignments

(d) Where the land is in Zone 1(a), 5(a), 7(a), 7(d), 7(f), or 7(l), the development is of a type that necessitates a location in proximity to the designated road for reasons other than only commercial advantage, and

*Comment*: Not applicable.

(e) The development is of a type that is not sensitive to traffic noise or, if it is, it is located or adequate measures are included to ameliorate any potential noise impact, and

**Comment:** the development involves dwelling additions and a garage/carport. Numerous residential dwellings exist along Terranora Road. The Terranora Road environment is not unsuited to residential development'

(f) The development would not detract from the scenic values of the locality, particularly from the point of view of road users, and where practicable, access to the land is provided by a road other than the designated Road.

**Comment:** The development will not detract from the scenic values of the locality'

(g) Where practicable, access to the land is provided by a road other than the designated road.

**Comment**: Access is provided via Dalton Street, and not from Terranora Road".

# SEPP No 71 - Coastal Protection

The subject site falls within the coastal protection zone as identified under SEPP 71 however referral to the Department of Natural Resources is not necessary given the relatively minor nature of the proposal and its distance from sensitive coastal locations. Potential impacts of the development on public access to the foreshore, views, overshadowing of the foreshore, wildlife corridors, the suitability of the site for the development and any measures to reduce other adverse environmental impacts have been considered and having regard to these items, the property distance from any waterway or foreshore; and the existence of developments of similar design and scale on nearby and adjoining properties, Council is of the opinion that the proposed development is consistent with the matters for consideration under SEPP 71.

#### SEPP (Building Sustainability Index: BASIX) 2004

Basix Certificate A 156086 has been submitted in support of the application.

#### (a) (ii) The Provisions of any Draft Environmental Planning Instruments

The draft Tweed LEP 2010 is nearing adoption and the provisions of this draft plan raise no implications for the proposal. The proposal is still permissible with consent.

The proposed Tweed LEP 2010 does not identify designated road and once this instrument is adopted applications such as the subject application will be considered without the need for a SEPP No. 1 variation or referral to Council for determination.

#### (a) (iii) Development Control Plan (DCP)

#### Tweed Development Control Plan

#### A1-Residential and Tourist Development Code

The proposed first floor addition will satisfy the provisions of DCP A1, whereas the garage and carport do not have to satisfy this instrument due to the zoning of the allotment.

#### A11-Public Notification of Development Proposals

The proposal was notified due to the encroachment into the 30m building alignment to Terranora Road.

One objection was received concerning obstruction of views due to the gable roof shape of the first floor addition.

In response to this objection the applicant modified the roof design to a hipped roof in order to reduce the bulk of the roof and thereby reduce the overall impact.

#### (a) (iv) Any Matters Prescribed by the Regulations

#### Clause 92(a) Government Coastal Policy

The proposed alterations and additions to the dwelling and garage/carport will have no adverse impact on the aims & objectives of the policy.

#### Clause 92(b) Applications for demolition

Removal of the roof to the dwelling house will occur however this will be controlled by the necessity to comply with relevant building standards.

#### Clause 93 Fire Safety Considerations

The existing dwelling, as well as the first floor addition, will be required to install smoke detectors which comply with the provisions of the Building Code of Australia and Australian Standard AS 3786.

#### Clause 94 Buildings to be upgraded

The existing dwelling house will require certification from a practising Structural Engineer that it is structurally capable of supporting the first floor addition.

Certain structural elements may require upgrading depending on the Engineers recommendation.

# (a) (v) Any coastal zone management plan (within the meaning of the <u>Coastal</u> <u>Protection Act 1979</u>),

Not applicable.

#### **Tweed Shire Coastline Management Plan 2005**

Not applicable.

#### **Tweed Coast Estuaries Management Plan 2004**

Not applicable.

#### <u>Coastal Zone Management Plan for Cobaki and Terranora Broadwater</u> (adopted by Council at the 15 February 2011 meeting)

Not applicable.

(b) The likely impacts of the development and the environmental impacts on both the natural and built environments and social and economic impacts in the locality

#### Context and Setting

The dwelling house additions will be consistent with the prevailing residential nature of the locality.

#### Access, Transport and Traffic

Vehicular access to the site exists from Dalton Street and the proposed alterations and additions will not require any new access to the allotment.

#### Flora and Fauna

Minor land clearing will be required for the construction of the garage/carport however this is unlikely to result in any significant adverse impact on fauna and flora.

#### (c) Suitability of the site for the development

#### Surrounding Land uses/Development

The proposal will be consistent with surrounding land uses.

Flora and Fauna

No fauna or flora will affected by this proposal.

Topography

Allotment is gently sloping.

Site Orientation

Site is oriented to north.

#### (d) Any submissions made in accordance with the Act or Regulations

In response to the neighbour notification process one written objection to this proposal was received.

The objection related to the impact of coastal views by the roof of the first floor addition to the dwelling house.

In response to this objection the Applicant modified the roof design to reduce the impact on the views from the objector's dwelling house.

The objector's residence is located about 120m from the subject dwelling house and this spatial separation accompanied by the modified roof design is considered to satisfactorily reduce the dominance of the roof to the objector. And protect coastal views.

#### (e) Public interest

The proposed first floor dwelling house addition and freestanding garage/carport is considered to be unlikely to be against the public interest.

#### **OPTIONS:**

- 1. Approve the application with conditions; or
- 2. Refuse the application.

Council's Officers recommend option 1.

#### CONCLUSION:

The proposed first floor addition to the dwelling house and freestanding garage/carport are considered to be an acceptable development for this allotment.

Notwithstanding that the additions and garage/carport will encroach into the 30m building alignment to Terranora Road it is recommended that the SEPP No. 1 objection to this setback be supported by Council as the requirement for such a setback is considered to be unnecessary and unreasonable in this location.

The existing dwelling house already stands within the 30m setback and the construction of a first floor addition to this dwelling house will have no adverse impact on Terranora Road and minimal impact on adjoining properties or the locality generally.

Similarly the construction of a garage/carport is consistent with the local area and will have no adverse impact on the streetscape.

#### COUNCIL IMPLICATIONS:

#### a. Policy:

Corporate Policy Not Applicable.

#### b. Budget/Long Term Financial Plan:

Not Applicable.

#### c. Legal:

Refusal of the application may result in an appeal by the applicant in the Land and Environment Court.

#### d. Communication/Engagement:

Not Applicable.

#### LINKAGE TO INTEGRATED PLANNING AND REPORTING FRAMEWORK:

- 1 Civic Leadership
- 1.1 Ensure actions taken and decisions reached are based on the principles of sustainability
- 1.1.1 Establish sustainability as a basis of shire planning and Council's own business operations
- 1.1.1.3 Assessment of new developments (Development Assessment Services)

#### UNDER SEPARATE COVER/FURTHER INFORMATION:

Nil.

CNL-34 [PR-CM] Development Application DA12/0527 for Internal Alterations and Additions Comprising a New General Store, Extension of Entrance and Carpark Reconfiguration at Lot 2 DP 881169 No. 54-68 Gollan Drive, Tweed Heads West

SUBMITTED BY: Development Assessment

FILE REFERENCE: DA12/0527 Pt1



#### **SUMMARY OF REPORT:**

Council is in receipt of a Development Application which seeks approval for alterations and additions to the existing Seagulls Club to accommodate a full line supermarket. The supermarket is proposed to be operated by the Independent Grocers of Australia (IGA) franchise comprising a gross floor area of 1965m<sup>2</sup>.

The application would involve a change of use of part of the existing club to accommodate the supermarket. The application proposes works to the north eastern façade to improve the access for the IGA and this would involve the creation of an additional 314m<sup>2</sup> of floor area to the existing building. The application also incorporates an amended car parking layout.

The subject site is zoned 6(b) Recreation in accordance with Tweed Local Environmental Plan 2000 (TLEP 2000). In accordance with the current TLEP 2000 shops (by definition) are prohibited in this zone.

The subject site is proposed to be zoned RE2 Private Recreation under Draft LEP 2012. In accordance with the Draft LEP 2012 shops (by definition) and neighbourhood shops (of less than 300m<sup>2</sup>) will be prohibited in this zone. Only kiosks, markets and food and drink premises will be permissible.

The applicant has lodged this application as a <u>"general store"</u> by definition (TLEP 2000) and seeks Council's approval for this as a permissible land use. The applicant has submitted legal advice to support this view and such advice is discussed in this report and provided in full as an attachment to this report.

This report assesses the application for a supermarket on its merits having regard to the matters for consideration under the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979.

In undertaking this merit assessment the size, scale and relationship of the 1965m<sup>2</sup> supermarket with the existing Seagulls Club has been considered. The proposed supermarket is proposed as a separate but complimentary use to the existing club and not an ancillary use and accordingly the merit assessment needs to review this development as a standalone business separate to the existing Seagulls Club. If the Seagulls Club for some reason was to cease operations the proposed supermarket if approved would be lawfully allowed to continue operations in accordance with their consent on the subject site. For this reason the proposed development for a supermarket must be assessed as a separate use to that of the Seagulls Club.

Whether the development is legally defined as a general store or a shop the proposed development has <u>failed</u> to adequately demonstrate how the proposed development:

- Satisfies the strategic objectives for the Tweed;
- Satisfies the primary objective of the recreational zone;
- Satisfies the test of cumulative impact;
- Satisfies the objectives behind social and economic impact;
- Satisfies the zone objectives and permissibility under Draft TLEP 2012;
- Satisfies Council Retail Strategy; and
- Satisfies the general public interest and the impact the proposal would have on the existing commercial zones in the locality.

Accordingly the application is recommended for refusal.

#### **RECOMMENDATION:**

That Development Application DA12/0527 for internal alterations and additions comprising of a new general store, extension of entrance and car park reconfiguration at Lot 2 DP 881169 No. 54-68 Gollan Drive, Tweed Heads West be refused for the following reasons:

- 1. The development is not considered to be consistent with Clause 4 The aims of the Tweed Local Environmental Plan 2000 and the Strategic Planning documents that support the Local Environmental Plan.
- 2. The development is not considered to satisfy Clause 8(1)(a) Consent Considerations of the Tweed Local Environmental Plan 2000 as the primary objective of the 6(b) Recreation Zone has not been met.
- 3. The development is not considered to satisfy Clause 8(1)(c) Consent Considerations of the Tweed Local Environmental Plan 2000 as the development would have an unacceptable cumulative impact on the community, locality and catchment.
- 4. The development is not considered to satisfy Clause 17 of the Tweed Local Environmental Plan 2000 as the application has not adequately demonstrated that the development won't have an unacceptable social or economic impact on the locality.
- 5. The development is not considered to comply with Council's adopted Retail Strategy.

- 6. The development is not considered acceptable having regard to Draft LEP 2012 as the proposed development would be prohibited in the zone and fails to satisfy the zone objectives of the RE2 Private Recreation zone.
- 7. The development is not considered acceptable having regard to the general public interest and the impact the proposed development would have on the existing commercial zones in the locality.

#### **REPORT:**

Applicant:Think Planners Pty LtdOwner:North Sydney Leagues Club LimitedLocation:Lot 2 DP 881169; No. 54-68 Gollan Drive, Tweed Heads WestZoning:Part 6(a) Open Space and Part 6(b) RecreationCost:\$2,750,000

#### Background:

#### Site Details and History

The subject land is described as Lot 2 DP 881169 Gollan Drive, Tweed Heads West and is located approximately 1km west of the Pacific Highway (Kennedy Drive interchange). The site has a total land area of 4.94ha.

The site presently contains the substantial Seagulls Leagues Club building. Bituminised car parking areas providing a total of 582 car parking spaces are located around the club building. The grassed area adjacent to the northern boundary has approval for 232 car parking spaces. This grassed area is used for "over flow" car parking in association with major events at the club.

Vehicular access to the site is primarily via the main driveway at the north-eastern part of the site from Gollan Drive. A secondary driveway also accessing Gollan Drive is located to the southern side of the building.

The area surrounding the club comprises a mixture of remnant bushland, the Terranora Broadwater and low density residential housing.

The existing Seagulls Club was constructed in several stages with initial buildings constructed in the 1960's. At this time and up until the late 1990's the Club had the benefit of an adjoining sports field. These fields have since been re-developed for residential use. The last major addition to the club was constructed in 1983.

Since 1983 there has been multiple development applications, building applications, and complying development certificates that have shuffled the land uses within the approved building footprint. More recently the following applications have been determined:

- DA05/1134 approved a public market each Sunday on the bitumen car park area. It is understood that these markets were not successful due to the heat of operating markets on the bitumen car park area.
- DA05/1452 approved alterations and minor additions to the club over three stages. The club has acted upon Stages 1 and 2 of these works but has yet to commence Stage 3 works which trigger the formalisation of additional parking areas over the grassed areas of the site. The subject Development Application seeks to alter the methodology in calculating required onsite parking spaces on this site and accordingly if Council were to approve this application then DA05/1452 may need to have a Section 96 Modification to align the required car parking spaces across the site.
- CDC05/0213 approved the relocation of gaming machines and staff room and a refurbishment of the toilets.
- CDC06/0023 approved alterations to restaurants and gaming rooms including roof maintenance.
- CDC10/0005 approved the redevelopment of internal areas for doorways and storerooms.

- CDC10/0042 approved a new cool room relocation of an existing bottleshop and minor internal alterations.
- CDC10/0159 approved minor internal alterations to level 1 and 2.
- CDC11/0145 approved restaurant alterations.
- CDC12/0107 approved restaurant alterations and modifications to the existing building to accommodate a children's play centre (Tabatinga) within the Seagulls Club.

The total gross floor area of the building is 16,508m<sup>2</sup> however the above alterations have had the effect of the club utilising less floor space within the building in an attempt to lower the overhead operating costs of the large facility. The Seagulls Club, futsal courts, ancillary gymnasium and the childrens' play centre (Tabatinga) do not occupy the entire 16,508m<sup>2</sup> as many areas of the club are not presently being used. Through the implementation of the gymnasium, a child's play centre (Tabatinga) and now an IGA supermarket the Club is trying to add alternative but complimentary uses to the existing club in a hope of eventually being able to grow back into the size of the Club.



#### Proposed Development

Council is in receipt of DA12/0527 which seeks approval for a new full line supermarket to be operated by the Independent Grocer of Australia (IGA) franchise comprising a gross floor area of 1965m<sup>2</sup> predominantly within the existing footprint of the Seagulls Club.

The applicant has provided the following breakdown of the proposal:

• Internal alterations and additions to existing ground level floor space and fit out for a General Store;

- External works to a part of the ground floor façade and slight increase in floor space to provide for an improved entry to existing Club facilities and the proposed General Store;
- Reconfiguration of existing and previously approved carparking on site, to improve traffic flow and delineation; and
- Other incidental works such as landscaping and paving.

The proposal is predominantly contained within the existing building bulk. Notwithstanding the significant scale and bulk of the existing building, the proposal effectively "softens" this bulk through the introduction of greater articulation of the ground floor façade and introduces improved activity to that part of the building.

The below diagram shows in yellow the proposed footprint of the proposed IGA in comparison to the Club layout:



The applicants have stated the following in regards to the need for the proposal:

"The Seagulls Club has been an iconic institution within the Tweed Heads region for several decades. The Club has operated successfully over these years however in recent years the club has been running a number of operating losses which have grown steadily since 2010. By way of context the last seven (7) years of operations on the site has only seen an operating profit in two (2) of these years, with these operating profits only being 0.67% and 2% of revenue. In 2009 a modest profit was recorded, which was largely due to accounting changes including a shift in the consideration of staff entitlements and the application of depreciation. However since that date, there has been a steady stream of increasing losses:

- \$915,000 loss in 2010;
- \$1,920,000 loss in 2011; and
- \$1,768,000 loss (projected) in 2012.

If it were not for the accounting adjustments in the 2009 financials the Club would have made a loss over each of the past 5 years, with a further loss in 2006 and a minimal profit of less than \$300,000 in 2007.

These increasing losses and a shrinking revenue base means that the operation of the Seagulls Club is not financially viable. In the absence of an increase in revenue and a return to profitability it is unlikely that the Club will continue to operate in the short term. The club has been examining a range of options and the leasing of a portion of the site for an alternate but complimentary use to the existing club was considered most appropriate. In particular given the demographic trends and the future expansion of release areas it was considered that the establishment of a general store to serve the needs of local residents would be most appropriate.

It is highlighted that in the absence of the redevelopment of the site there are serious doubts about the ongoing viability of the Seagulls Club."

It is important to note that the applicants have lodged this application on the basis of the supermarket being legally defined as a general store rather than a shop.

The subject site is zoned 6(b) Recreation and a general store is permissible in the zone with consent while a shop is a prohibited type of development.

This aspect of the development is discussed in detail below.

#### Land Use Definition

Tweed Shire Council has consistently defined supermarkets as a shop in accordance with the TLEP 2000 definitions which define a shop as:

"land used for the purpose of selling, exposing or offering for sale by retail, goods, merchandise or materials, but does not include a building or place elsewhere specifically defined in this Schedule or used for a land use elsewhere specifically defined in this Schedule."

The subject site is zoned 6(b) Recreation and a shop is prohibited in this zone.

Given this prohibition the applicant has lodged the subject application as a general store in accordance with the TLEP 2000 definitions which define a general store as:

"a shop used for the sale by retail of general merchandise and which may include the facilities of a post office."

A general store is permissible with consent in the 6(b) Recreation zone subject to satisfying all the other merit considerations in accordance with Section 79C of the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979.

#### The applicant has provided the following discussion on permissibility:

"Minutes of the Development Assessment Panel held at Tweed Council on Wednesday 9 November 2011 noted that a supermarket facility has been traditionally defined as a "shop", but "General Store" was a permissible use in the zone. This matter of characterisation of the proposal is fundamental and therefore is discussed in some detail below.

It is noted that the application proposes a General Store that may be more commonly referred to as a "supermarket". The day to day operator of the General Store is likely to be a company such as IGA. The General Store is intended to comprise the following types of items for sale:

- (a) The majority of the retail display area will consist of food including:
  - General food lines;
  - Grocery items;
  - Refrigerated meat;
  - Fresh fruit and vegetables;
  - Dairy products and juices;
  - Frozen food;
  - Hot food (including chicken);
  - Delicatessen items;
  - Alcohol; and
  - Bakery items.
- (b) The remaining retail display areas will consist of, but not be limited to, the following food items:
  - Pet care and pet food;
  - Magazines;
  - Audio visual;
  - Electrical items;
  - Beauty and health care products;
  - Baby care products;
  - Pharmaceuticals;
  - Batteries;
  - Laundry and cleaning equipment;
  - Plastic bags and wraps;
  - Household cleaning products;
  - Clothes;
  - Manchester;
  - Gardening items;
  - Cigarettes/tobacco;
  - Toys;
  - Car care products;
  - Hardware items;
  - Fresh flowers; and
  - Other miscellaneous items.

In determining the correct categorisation of whether the proposal is to be considered a "General Store" or "Shop", consideration has been given to a number of relevant cases that have dealt with either categorisation of uses and/or a supermarket. Such cases include:

- Shire of Perth v O'Keefe (1964) 110 CLR 529 at 535;
- Warriewood Properties Pty Ltd v Pittwater Council (2010) NSWLEC 215;
- Snowside Pty Ltd v Holroyd City Council (2003) 126 LGERA 279;
- Maryland Development Co Pty Ltd v Penrith City Council (2001) NSWLEC 135;
- Hastings Cooperative Ltd v Port Macquarie Hastings Council & Anor (2009) NSWLEC 99;
- Hastings Cooperative Ltd v Port Macquarie Hastings Council & Anor (2009) NSWCA 400

The Hastings Cooperative Ltd matters are particularly relevant as this deals with a proposal for a General Store / Supermarket in a zone where "shops" are prohibited and "general store" is permissible. Further, the proposal considered by the Land and Environment Court and the Court of Appeal was for a supermarket with a retail gross fioor area of about  $2012m^2$ .

The Hastings LEP contained an identical definition of general store to the Tweed LEP and a very similar definition of a shop.

The Land and Environment Court noted that the essential difference between a "shop" and a "general store" is that a "shop" offers for sale by retail "goods, merchandise or materials" and a "general store" offers for retail "general merchandise':

The same distinction was discussed in Maryland Development Co Pty Ltd v Penrith City Council where it was held that "the operative element of the statutory definition is the retailing of "general merchandise': It is that concept which distinguishes "general store" from "shop': The distinction between a "shop" and a "general store" observed in this case is directly applicable to the supermarket proposal contemplated in this development application.

It is further noted that the Hastings Cooperative matters was appealed to the Court of Appeal. The Court of Appeal, in a majority decision, determined that a supermarket was properly characterised as a "general store" and was permissible with consent. It is noted that the provisions of the Hastings LEP and the Tweed LEP are effectively identical.

Having regard to the provision of the Tweed LEP, the directly relevant decisions of various Courts and the nature of the proposed supermarket that will offer for sale by retail a broad range of general merchandise, it is concluded that the proposal is rightly characterised as a "general store" which is permissible with consent in the 6(b) Recreation Zone."

In addition to this information the applicant has recently submitted their own legal advice from C W McEwen SC dated 2 May 2013. The advice states:

#### "Is the proposed supermarket properly characterised as a 'general store'?

I am firmly of the opinion that the proposed supermarket is properly characterised as a general store as defined in TLEP. Further, the facts in this case, on the question of characterisation, are identical to those in Hastings Co-operative Ltd v Port Macquarie Hastings Council & Anor (2009) 167 LGERA 205 where Lloyd J determined that a proposed supermarket selling a range of goods identical to those proposed in the present case, was a 'general store'. The definition of general store was the same, as was the definition of shop. In Hastings Lloyd J summarised and applied other decisions of the Court to the same effect. In my opinion the weight of authority is overwhelmingly in favour of the opinion which I have expressed.

Although in general parlance a general store would be described as a shop; that is not to the point. It is the definitions which must be interpreted. Further, historical notions of general stores being small, general outposts must also be put to one side because the definition in TLEP will prevail. Pursuant to TLEP the definition of shop does not include a building or place elsewhere specifically defined. 'General store' is so defined as a shop used for the sale by retail of general merchandise.... The fact that the definition of general store refers to 'a shop' is of no consequence. For the purposes of TLEP a 'general store' is excluded from the definition of 'shop'. This fact was confirmed by the Court of Appeal in Hastings Co-op Ltd v Port Macquarie Hastings Council (2009) 171 LGERA 152.

As was made clear by Lloyd J in Hastings:

It is clear from the definitions above that the essential difference between a 'shop' and a 'general store' is that a 'shop' offers for sale by retail 'goods, merchandise or materials' and a 'general store' offers for retail 'general merchandise'. Hastings Co-operative rightly submits that, as there is little difference between goods, merchandise and materials, the significant difference between the definitions comes from the use of the word 'general' [8]. As noted by Sheahan J in Merryland at [132], the definition is satisfied where a range and variety of product lines are offered for sale by retail. In the present case, it seems to me that the supermarket does offer a range and variety of product lines, and that they are by no means specialised merely because they may broadly be characterised as 'food and household items' ... Having regard to the broad range of merchandise which will be sold at the proposed supermarket, it is my view that the merchandise is general rather than specific in nature, particularly the range of non-food items. I conclude, therefore, that the proposed supermarket in the present case is, for the purposes of the Hastings Local Environment Plan, correctly characterised by the Council as a 'general store' [23].

As previously noted, the range of goods proposed to be sold in the Hastings case is identical to that in the present case and there is no reason to distinguish the Hastings decision. It stands as clear authority for characterisation of the proposed supermarket as a general store. Indeed, in the present case the argument in favour of the proposal being a general store is even stronger than in Hastings. In that case general stores were not specifically permissible with consent. Permissibility arose because the use was not specifically prohibited, even though use for the purpose of a shop was specifically prohibited. In the present case use for the purpose of a general store is specifically identified as a permissible use in the 6(b) zone.

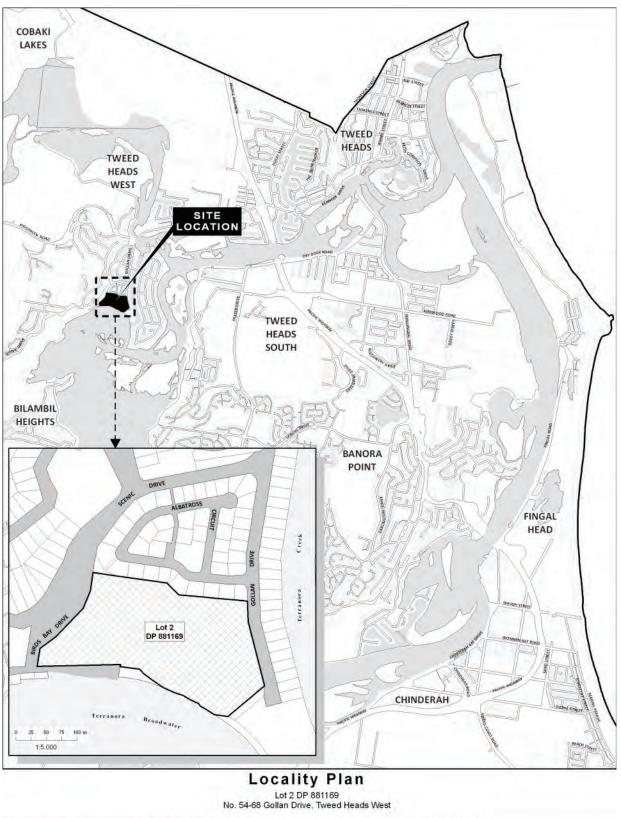
Finally, the size of the proposed store is of no relevance for the purpose of the definition because the general store definition does not limit the store to being of a maximum floor space. In Hastings the proposed supermarket had an area of approximately 3,011 m<sup>2</sup>. In Merryland Development Company pty Limited v Penrith City Council (2001) 115 LGERA 75 Sheahan J held that a proposed supermarket was a general store in circumstances where it proposed a floor space of 3,800 m2 and a range of products which was less extensive than in the present case. The definition of 'general store' in TLEP requires only that the premises sell, by retail, general merchandise. If the range of products to be offered can be so described (as it clearly can in this case), then that is the end of the inquiry into permissibility and the development is a general store for the purposes of the planning instrument. This is reinforced by the fact that item 4 in the zoning table sets out prohibited development. What is prohibited is any buildings, works, places or land uses not included in item 1, 2 or 3. Because general stores is included in item 2, it must follow that use for the purpose of a general store is not a prohibited land use.

Tweed Shire Council has historically applied a delineation between general stores and shops by assuming a general store is a smaller corner store scenario as opposed to a shop which was more like a larger retail supermarket. However, based on the above advice this opinion does not appear to be legally correct and accordingly Council staff now accept the legal advice provided and confirm that the proposed supermarket (Supa IGA) can be legally determined to be a general store.

It should be noted that this matter will be better addressed by the Draft TLEP 2000 which proposes to restrict neighbourhood shops (general stores) to a floor area of 300m<sup>2</sup>. This will clearly delineate between corner stores and larger retail developments into the future.

The acknowledgement that this supermarket can now be legally defined as a general store does not change the merit assessment undertaken within the rest of this report and accordingly the application (despite being permissible with consent) is recommended for refusal having regard to other merit considerations.

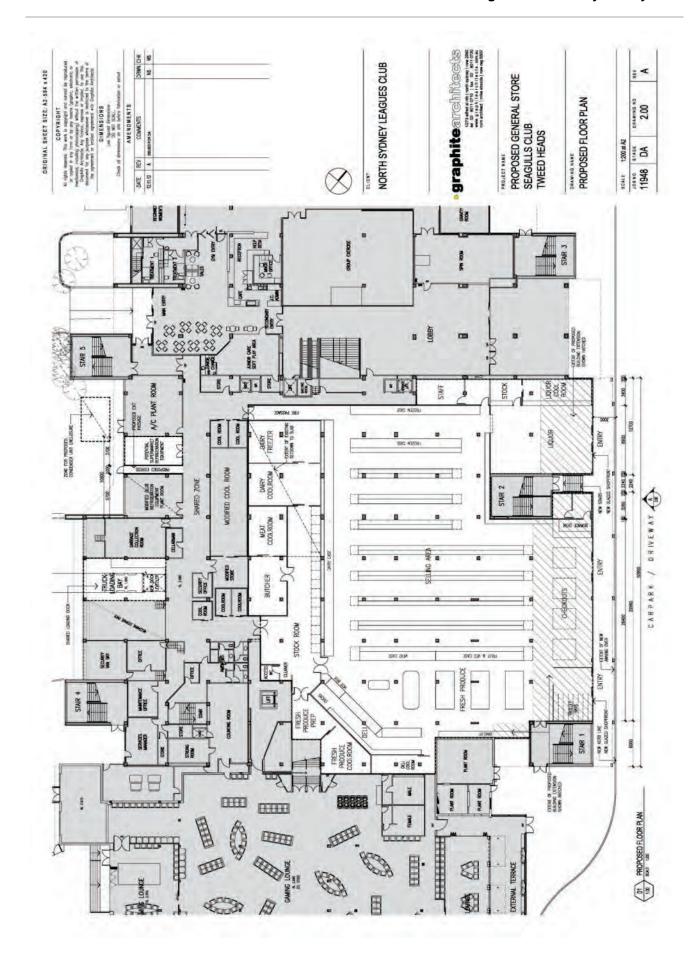
#### SITE DIAGRAM:





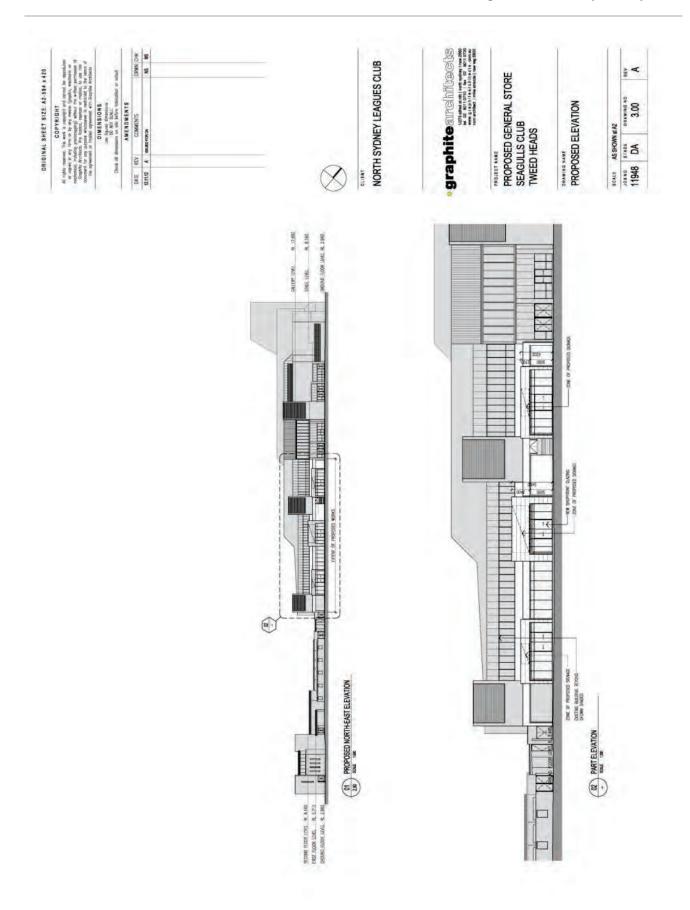
### **DEVELOPMENT/ELEVATION PLANS:**





#### Council Meeting Date: Thursday 16 May 2013





#### Council Meeting Date: Thursday 16 May 2013

# Considerations Under Section 79c Of The Environmental Planning And Assessment Act 1979:

### (a) (i) The provisions of any environmental planning instrument Tweed Local Environmental Plan 2000

#### Clause 4 - Aims of the Plan

**Clause 4** of the TLEP 2000 specifies that the aims of the plan are:

(a) to give effect to the desired outcomes, strategic principles, policies and actions of the Tweed Shire 2000+ Strategic Plan which was adopted, after extensive community consultation, by the Council on 17 December 1996, the vision of which is:

"The management of growth so that the unique natural and developed character of the Tweed Shire is retained, and its economic vitality, ecological integrity and cultural fabric is enhanced", and

- (b) to provide a legal basis for the making of a development control plan that contains more detailed local planning policies and other provisions that provide guidance for future development and land management, such as provisions recommending the following:
  - *(i)* that some or all development should be restricted to certain land within a zone,
  - (ii) that specific development requirements should apply to certain land in a zone or to a certain type of development,
  - (iii) that certain types or forms of development or activities should be encouraged by the provision of appropriate incentives, and
- (c) to give effect to and provide reference to the following strategies and policies adopted by the Council:
  - Tweed Heads 2000+ Strategy
  - Pottsville Village Strategy, and
- (d) to encourage sustainable economic development of the area of Tweed compatible with the area's environmental and residential amenity qualities.

The Tweed Shire 2000+ Strategic Plan (published in 1997) in conjunction with Tweed 4/24 Strategic Plan 2004-2024 (published in September 2004) in conjunction with Tweed Community Strategic Plan 2011/2021 (published in December 2010) in conjunction with the Tweed Urban and Employment Land Release Strategy (published in 2009) in conjunction with the Far North Coast Regional Strategy (published in 2006) all form the strategic framework and visionary direction for the Tweed Shire. They set overarching goals that will help manage the Tweed into the future.

The following principals from Tweed Shire 2000+ Strategic Plan should be considered:

- 8. Consolidate higher order retailing and commercial centres at Tweed Heads as a sub regional centre and at the district centres of Murwillumbah and Kingscliff. Assess and approve future district and neighbourhood centres with a view to encouraging reduced car dependence and self contained "village" communities.
- 103. Integrated Development Future development will be based on the integration of land use and transportation planning, i.e. urban settlement patterns which promote neighbourhood self containment; provision for alternative access ways for walking/cycling; provision for public transport and mixed used developments to reduce private car dependence.
- 104. Council will employ contemporary urban design principals to maximise the desirability of town and district centres for public use. Consideration will be given to social interaction, recreation, amenity, culture, delivery of support services and the transaction of commerce.

The following principals from Tweed 4/24 Strategic Plan 2004-2024 should be considered:

- Pg 12. Finalising retail and commercial development frameworks to support existing centres, guide investment in new facilities, and implement the recommendations of the Tweed Heads Task Force.
- Pg 12. Identify suitable areas of industrial and commercial land to meet current and projection needs, and promote its timely release to the market.
- Pg 21. Finalise the retail development strategy.

The following principals from Tweed Community Strategic Plan 2011-2021 should be considered:

1.5.2 Land use plans and development controls will be applied and regulated rigorously and consistently and consider the requirements of development proponents, the natural environment and those in the community affected by the proposed development

The Tweed Urban and Employment Lands Release Strategy 2009 puts forward an urban centres hierarchy that gives direction to the existing and future size, role and function of the urban areas of Tweed Shire.

The Far North Coast Regional Strategy promotes a clear hierarchy of commercial centres. New commercial development outside of the major centres, are to be *"located within the boundaries of towns and villages, utilising existing commercial centres where possible, and integrated with the Initial planning of new release areas".* 

Whilst these documents do not specifically relate to the current scenario in which an existing recreational facility wishes to expand their operations to incorporate a supermarket they can be used to understand the broad parameters in which Tweed Shire Council assesses the appropriateness of development. The Tweed's retail hierarchy has historically been based on higher order retailing in the main townships of Tweed, Murwillumbah and Kingscliff with additional neighbourhood shopping available in other villages to provide for the local shopping needs of its residents. This philosophy has been reinforced with Council's zoning maps which have facilitated commercial activity in nominated business zones in close proximity to residential development.

This is now reinforced in Council's 7 Point Retail Strategy which has the following objectives:

- 1. The character of existing towns and villages and the retail facilities that have to be protected.
- 2. Where appropriate, Council will support the incremental expansion of existing retail centres in such a way as not to threaten or fracture those existing centres, rather than building new ones.
- 3. Reinforce Tweed Heads South as the major district retail centre by encouraging the expansion and when Tweed's population demands that increased range and level of shopping.
- 4. Maintain and wherever possible enhance the special appeal of the retail centre of Murwillumbah and those village centres of similar style.
- 5. Limit the scale of new retail centres in the coastal region to a level which caters for the majority of localised daily needs. This concept to reflect the need to reduce fuel consumption and to support sustainability within each centre.
- 6. Council does not support the establishment of another district retail shopping centre.
- 7. The retail concepts in these recommendations form the basis of locality plans in the Shire and any retail development applications which are submitted in the interim of these locality plans being prepared and approved by Council be assessed so that the above retail strategies are supported and not compromised.

In the Tweed Heads West area there are three nominated business zones to provide services to the residential development in this area:

 The corner of Gull Place and Scenic Drive two land parcels (Lot 200 in DP 29194 and Lot 4 in DP 700873) comprising a total land area of 3744m<sup>2</sup>. This site is presently occupied by Panorama Plaza Shopping Centre which is a small local shopping area currently comprising of a small supermarket (including post office), bakery, butcher, hairdresser, takeaway food shop, bottle shop, a restaurant (Thai), and two vacant tenancies. This 3(b) General Business zone is located 280m north of the subject site (as the crow flies).

- 2. The southern side of Kennedy Drive (Numbers 212 226 Kennedy Drive which include 6 lots as follows: Lot 100 in DP 1128372, Lot A in DP 407658, Lot 4 in DP 203865, Lot 3 in DP 203865, Lot 2 in DP 203865 and Lot 1 in DP 203865) comprising a total land area of 6817.21m<sup>2</sup>. This site is presently occupied by 5 residential houses and one commercial allotment which is used as a fish and chip shop, and a recently approved chemist and doctors surgery. This 3(b) General Business zone is located 1.2km north east of the subject site (as the crow flies) across Cobaki Bridge.
- 3. The western side of Wollemi Place (west of the service road to the Pacific Highway) which comprises Lot 10 in DP 1084319. This site has recently been rezoned to 3(c) Commerce and Trade for a new Boyds Bay Business Park consisting of 51500m<sup>2</sup>. This site is located 1.8km north east of the subject site.

These are shown diagrammatically below as blue business zones and are labelled 1, 2 and 3 according to the above text.



As detailed above the subject site has been used for recreational purposes since the mid 1960's and accordingly the zoning of the site has followed the historical land use pattern. This site has never been considered for commercial activities as the whole planning framework for Tweed Shire Council has been to consolidate higher order retailing and commercial centres at Tweed Heads. The registered club is more akin to recreational purposes as reflected by the site's zoning. The Development Application states at Page 11 of the Statement of Environmental Effects that:

"These increasing losses and shrinking revenue base means that the operation of the Seagulls Club is not financially viable. In the absence of an increase in revenue and a return to profitability it is unlikely that the club will continue to operate in the short term. The club has been examining a range of options and the leasing of a portion of the site for an alternative but complimentary use to the existing club was considered most appropriate."

This statement raises significant concerns for Council in understanding the core function of the site and the relationship and scale that the proposed supermarket will have in comparison to the Seagulls Club itself.

Whilst the proposed supermarket may compliment the sites use as a registered club in an economic sense it does not mean that the proposed use is ancillary in nature. The proposed IGA is a separate land use that needs to be considered having regard to Section 79C of the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979. This report details this assessment and concludes that the proposed supermarket is contrary to the zone objectives and Clause 8(1)(a) of the TLEP 2000 which requires development to be consistent with the primary objective of the zone which in this instance is:

"to designate land, whether in public or private ownership, which is or may be used primarily for recreational purposes."

The applicant has argued that the IGA will operate as a secondary offering to the Seagulls Club, with the intention to extract synergies between the club, restaurant, fitness centre, child minding and supermarket.

In addition to this information the applicant has recently submitted their own legal advice from C W McEwen SC dated 2 May 2013. The advice states:

## "Will the proposed development be consistent with the primary objective of the 6(b) zone?

Clause 8(1)(a) prevents the grant of development consent unless the consent authority is satisfied that the development is consistent with the primary objective of the zone within which it is located.

I am of the opinion for the reasons which follow that, having regard to the proper context of the clause, construed as part of the planning instrument as a whole, the relevant state of satisfaction can properly be reached.

In the 6(b) zone the primary objective is to designate land, whether in public or private ownership, which is or may be used primarily for recreational purposes. It is of particular importance to note that the secondary objective is to allow for other development that is compatible with the primary function of the zone. That other development must include the land uses which are specifically stated to be permissible with consent, including general stores, childcare centres, markets, tourist facilities, clubs, motels and refreshment rooms which are not generally for recreational purposes. The zoning table when read with the primary and secondary objectives makes it plain that such permissible land uses, although different in nature, are assumed to be compatible with the primary function which is the use of land for recreational purposes.

Returning to the primary objective, one must focus on the word 'primarily'. In context, 6(b) land is not required to be used solely for recreational purposes. 'Primarily' is an ordinary English word which should bear its ordinary English meaning of 'chiefly' or 'principally': see Modog v Baulkham Hills Shire Council (2000) 109 LGERA 443 at [12]; Retirement by Design v Warringah Council (2007) 153 LGERA 372 [97].

Thus, in order to correctly approach the task set by c18, it must be recognised that the 6(b) zone intends to allow for development which, of itself, is not for recreational purposes but which will be compatible with the primary function of the zone. That primary function is described in the primary objective.

Clause 8(1)(a) refers to development that is consistent with the primary objective of the zone. Again, that word bears its ordinary meaning and has been considered in a number of decisions of the Court.

I would hold that it has its ordinary and natural meaning (eg as in the Macquarie Dictionary: 1. Agreeing or accordant; compatible; not self-opposed or self-contradictory; 2. Consistently adhering to the same principles, course, etc.): Dem Gillespies v Warringah Council (2002) 124 LGERA 147.

The word compatible is accepted to mean 'capable of existing together in harmony'. It follows, in my opinion that c18(1)(a) is to be approached by asking whether or not the use of part of the subject land for a general store will conflict with or be incompatible with the land being otherwise used primarily for recreational purposes. Put another way, will the proposed use of general store prevent the land being mainly or principally used for recreational purposes? In my opinion, it will not do so for the following reasons.

First, the primary objective must refer to all land within the Tweed Local Government area which is zoned 6(b) and not just the subject site. So understood, it is highly unlikely that a permissible non-recreational purpose on part of the subject land could be inconsistent with the primary objective. Second, even if limited to the subject land, as previously noted, the proposed supermarket will occupy only part of the ground floor of the three storey club and a minor proportion of the floor space of the Club (1,965 m2 out of 16,822 m2 [11.68 %]). The carparking needs of the supermarket will occupy a similar percentage of the available formal parking (69 spaces out of 582 [12%]). Numerically therefore the Club, and the land upon which it is located, will continue to be used primarily for recreational purposes because the existing uses of the Club will continue upon 90% of its area and those uses are properly described as recreational purposes. I refer to (and agree with) the comments of Mr Byrnes (Think Planners Pty Limited) addressed to the Council in a letter of 22 January 2013:

It is apparent from a review of the floor space and car parking demand that the General Store comprises a minor component of the site's use, which is predominantly that of a recreational facility. The Club provides a wide range of recreational activities on site. Members and their guests visit the Club for numerous reasons such as enjoying meal, dining/bistro facilities; socialise in the lounges; participate in recreational bingo, keno or gaming; meet with people at the bar; attend the gymnasium; allow their children to enjoy the recreation facilities; and play indoor sports at the futsal courts. The broadening of the site's uses to include a general store does not diminish the primary purpose and predominant business of Seagulls Club being that of a recreational facility. The general store forms a complementary activity on site.

Finally, the subject land has a total area of almost 5 ha (49,400 m2). The use of 2,000m2 for a general store and 12% of the formal parking is, on any reasonable view, a minor use of the land and as such will in no way preclude it from being used primarily for recreational purposes. Accordingly the Council should be able to readily be satisfied that the proposed development is consistent with the primary objective of the 6(b) zone. There is no conflict. Indeed, it will be an harmonious relationship where the primary use will remain as one for recreational purposes thereby satisfying the requirements of cl8(1)(a).

With respect Council staff do not concur with the legal advice as outlined above.

The nature, scale and relationship between the existing Seagulls Club operations and the proposed supermarket is not accurately reflected in the above advice.

The existing Seagulls Club does not utilise the entire available gross floor area and accordingly based on current operations the proposed shopping centre will actually reflect 26% of the site's existing businesses not 12% as detailed above. This is based on the applicant's traffic report which provides a breakdown of usable floor area as follows:

- Lounge Area 2222m<sup>2</sup>
- Gaming Area 1572m<sup>2</sup>
- Futsal 1174m<sup>2</sup>
- Gym1045m<sup>2</sup>
- Children Play Centre (Tabatinga) 490m<sup>2</sup>
- Proposed Supermarket 1965m<sup>2</sup>

This total's 7479m<sup>2</sup> of current utilised gross floor area. The proposed supermarket will utilise 1965m<sup>2</sup> which represents 26% of the total gross floor area.

In regards to the parking allocation the proposed supermarket will actually reflect 24% of the site's car parking demand not 12% as detailed by the above legal advice. This is based on the applicant's traffic report which provides a breakdown of parking demand as follows:

- Club =140 car spaces
- Gym = 19 car spaces
- Futsal = 38 car spaces
- IGA store = 69 car spaces
- Children's adventure = 17 spaces

Total Parking = 283 parking spaces. The proposed supermarket will generate 24% of the total parking demand.

Once the scale of the proposed supermarket is established (26% of the current utilised floor area) Council needs to consider the relationship between the existing Seagulls Club and the proposed supermarket.

It is acknowledged that the Club may grow back into its total gross floor area however it must also be acknowledged that the Club due to unforseen circumstances may have to cease operating.

The supermarket will be its own separate commercial entity. Customers would not need to be a member of the club to utilise the facility and customers would not need to enter the club to get to the supermarket. If the Seagulls Club happened to cease operations the proposed supermarket if approved could continue operating despite the club ceasing to operate.

Accordingly the applicant's argument that the proposed development satisfies the primary objective of the zone is not concurred with. If the proposed supermarket was in someway ancillary to the club then the recreational zone objective could be better satisfied however the application is very clear that the proposed supermarket is a separate use not an ancillary use.

Therefore the supermarket itself needs to be assessed against Clause 8(1)(a) of the TLEP 2000 and the corresponding zone objectives. When this exercise is undertaken the proposed development cannot be justified in this zone.

The proposed application is inconsistent with the orderly development of land as required by the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act, and the strategic planning instruments applicable to the site which inform the TLEP 2000 and its zoning hierarchy.

For these reasons the proposed development is not considered to be consistent with the aims of the TLEP 2000.

#### Clause 5 - Ecologically Sustainable Development

Clause 5 of the TLEP requires consideration of the four principals of ecologically sustainable development. The proposed development seeks alterations and additions to an existing building. The additional footprint is limited in size and occurs in a highly modified urban area. The principals of ecologically sustainable development have not been comprised by this application.

#### Clause 8 - Consent Considerations

Clause 8 of the TLEP 2000 sets out the consent considerations when determining a development application.

- 8(1) The consent authority may grant consent to development (other than development specified in Item 3 of the Table to clause 11) only if:
  - (a) it is satisfied that the development is consistent with the primary objective of the zone within which it is located, and
  - (b) it has considered those other aims and objectives of this plan that are relevant to the development, and
  - (c) it is satisfied that the development would not have an unacceptable cumulative impact on the community, locality or catchment that will be affected by its being carried out or on the area of Tweed as a whole.

To address Clause 8(1) (a) the primary objectives of the 6(b) zone states:

#### Primary objective

"to designate land, whether in public or private ownership, which is or may be used primarily for recreational purposes."

The proposed supermarket comprises a floor area of  $1965m^2$ . Whether the facility is legally defined as a general store, a shop or a commercial premises it does not change the nature of the proposed use. The nature of the use is a supermarket and this use needs to be assessed against the primary objective for the 6(b) Open Space Recreation Zone.

According to the applicants traffic report the building's existing and proposed land uses area broken down as follows:

- Lounge Area 2222m<sup>2</sup>;
- Gaming Area 1572m<sup>2</sup>;
- Futsal Area 1174m<sup>2</sup>;
- Gym 1045m<sup>2</sup>;
- Children Facility 60 children 490m<sup>2</sup> (Tabatinga Play Centre);
- Existing General Store 68m<sup>2</sup> (kiosks throughout the club); and
- Proposed IGA 1965m<sup>2</sup>

Please note that there is additional floor area unaccounted for in these figures such as back of house areas and currently unutilised floor area. The club hopes to grow back into the total floor area and at some stage in the future may expand.

The lounge and gaming areas are obviously directly related to the registered clubs use (recreational purposes).

The Futsal and Gym areas are also recreational activities by nature.

The children's facility is a separate commercial business that could be considered ancillary to the other recreational facilities on the site.

The existing kiosks throughout the club are minor in nature and could also be considered ancillary in nature.

Based on the above figures the proposed supermarket development at 1965m<sup>2</sup> represents approximately 26% of the buildings current land uses. The proposed supermarket would be a standalone retail business with no direct correlation to the existing recreational purposes on site. It is a large retail use that the applicant's say will increase revenue to enable the club to continue operating.

Whilst the registered club will continue to operate the proposed supermarket in itself is not deemed ancillary to the club but rather it is a standalone retail use which must be assessed against the primary objective of the zone.

The proposed IGA is not considered to satisfy Clause 8(1) of the TLEP 2000 as Council staff are of the view that the primary objective of the 6(b) zone has not been met as the supermarket use is retail in nature and not recreational.

To address Clause 8(1)(b) this report considers those other aims and objectives of this plan that are relevant to the development.

To address Clause 8(1)(c) this report in its entirety represents a cumulative impact report. This planning report weighs up the development as a whole and makes a recommendation based on consideration of the implications on or from the perspective of site suitability, permissibility, social impacts, retail hierarchy, traffic, amenity, character, economic ramifications, and the general public interest. However specifically in regard to cumulative impact Council has considered various cases before Justice Pain and Justice Pearson (which specifically involved Tweed Shire Council) in which it was provided that cumulative impact incorporates the consideration of what effect this development could have on existing developments and the approval of further similar developments and how these developments might impact on a locality, community and catchment.

The potential impacts as a result of the development need to be considered assuming a duplication of a similar development on other adjoining properties to consider the overall cumulative impact.

The Tweed Local Government area has many registered clubs operating on land zoned 6(b) Recreation. Were all of these registered clubs to be developed for supermarket purposes in the manner proposed by this application there would be an unacceptable impact on the retail hierarchy of planning in the Tweed. Such an action would have major economic impacts on the existing businesses operating in commercial zones and potentially render those existing businesses unviable and undermine the objectives of the zone and the LEP.

Furthermore, the Tweed Heads West area is predominantly residential with existing business zones located along the major roads. This establishes a character of development with local shops easily identifiable for the travelling public. Were the subject application to be approved it would be contrary to the existing established pattern of development in the area.

Therefore it is concluded that the development would have an unacceptable cumulative impact on the community, locality and catchment and accordingly cumulative impact forms one of the recommended reasons for refusal.

#### Clause 11 - Zone Objectives

The subject site is zoned 6(b) Recreation and has the following zone objectives which must be considered:

#### Primary objective:

*"to designate land, whether in public or private ownership, which is or may be used primarily for recreational purposes."* 

#### Secondary objective:

"to allow for other development that is compatible with the primary function of the zone."

As discussed above Clause 8(1)(a) mandates that that consent may only be granted if the development is consistent with the primary objective of the zone within which it is located.

The proposed supermarket in itself cannot be considered to be recreational in any way. It is a retail use that must be considered as a standalone development. Therefore the primary objective of the zone has not been satisfied. This forms one of the reasons for the recommendation for refusal of this application.

The secondary objective of the zone offers some additional flexibility for the 6(b) Recreational zone. To understand the level of flexibility that is afforded to the 6(b) Recreational zone you need to review the permissible uses in the zone table of the Tweed LEP 2000 which are as follows:

#### Item 1 allowed without consent:

beach maintenance

Item 2 allowed only with consent:

- agriculture
- boating facilities
- camping grounds
- child care centres
- community buildings
- dwelling houses if for caretakers
- emergency service facilities
- forestry
- hotels
- markets
- outdoor eating areas
- public buildings
- recreation areas
- recreation facilities
- roads
- tourist facilities
- utility installations (other than gas holders or generating works)

- bed and breakfast
- bushfire hazard reduction
- car parks
- clubs
- cruise craft docks
- earthworks
- environmental facilities
- general stores
- marinas
- motels
- places of assembly
- public utility undertakings
- recreation establishments
- refreshment rooms
- tourist accommodation
- urban stormwater water quality management
- works for drainage & landfill

#### Item 3 allowed only with consent & must satisfy the provisions of clause 8 (2):

- caravan parks
- helipads

•

- educational establishments
- heliports

tourist resorts

retail plant nurseries

#### Item 4 prohibited:

any buildings, works, places or land uses not included in Item 1, 2 or 3

This list demonstrates the additional permissible uses that can be considered subject to compliance with all other aims, objectives and clauses of the LEP.

As detailed in the above report a general stores is listed as "allowed only with consent" in the subject zone. However, the interpretation of this definition needs to be reviewed having regard to other possible definitions within the LEP.

Council staff are of the opinion that the proposed development is better defined as a shop in accordance with the TLEP 2000 and accordingly a shop is prohibited by Item 4 above. However, whether the proposed supermarket is legally defined as a general store or a shop the development has been assessed against all relevant considerations. Having regard to all these considerations the proposed development is considered inappropriate for the subject site and therefore the legal definition of the development has not been the only contributing factor in the recommendation for refusal.

#### Clause 15 - Essential Services

Clause 15 of the TLEP requires Council to ensure adequacy of services prior to determining any application. All essential services are currently provided to the subject site.

#### Clause 16 - Height of Building

Clause 16 of the TLEP requires Council to ensure that the height and scale of development is appropriate to the site and the surrounding built and natural environment. The subject land has a maximum height limitation of 3 storeys.

The existing club is a large building with multiple mezzanine levels. The proposed development represents a change of use within the existing building. The change of uses will incorporate additional floor area at ground level only and thus satisfy the statutory three storey height limit.

#### Clause 17 - Social Impact Assessment

The TLEP specifies that:

"Where the consent authority considers that a proposed development is likely to have a significant social or economic impact in the locality or in the local government area of Tweed, the consent authority may grant consent to the proposed development only if it has considered a socio-economic impact statement in respect of the proposed development."

Tweed DCP Section A13 – Socio-Economic Impact Assessment specifies that a Socio Economic Impact Assessment is required where a place of employment employees more than 25 people, where a club exceeds a gross floor area of 1000m<sup>2</sup>, or where a retail development exceeds a gross floor area of 1500m<sup>2</sup>. Given the proposed supermarket has a gross floor area of 1965m<sup>2</sup> the proposed development requires a Socio Economic Impact Assessment.

Below is a duplication of the applicant's summary of their findings in regards to socio economic impact:

#### "Summary

At one point Seagulls was a heavily patronised club (driven by poker machine patrons from Queensland) with a national rugby league side. The club has contracted significantly since that time due to changes in legislation in Queensland reducing visitor numbers and the loss of the football team. The land abutting the club to the north was once the playing fields and stadium but has subsequently been redeveloped for residential.

The site is now occupied by a modest club operation with entertainment, gym and indoor sporting facilities. Redevelopment of the club to include a 1,965 Sq M supermarket (SupaIGA) is required for the club to remain viable.

#### Catchment

The proposed SupalGA on the Seagulls site will be the first full line supermarket (albeit a small footprint full line supermarket) on the western side of the Pacific Motorway in this part of Tweed Shire. As such it will trade to a wide area that utilises the Kennedy Drive, Gollan Drive, Scenic Drive corridor. The Primary Trade Area is defined as those parts of Tweed Heads West to the west of the Kennedy Drive Bridge, Bilambil Heights and surrounding areas. Tweed Heads West between the motorway and the Kennedy Drive Bridge will from the secondary trade area (STA). The subject site will be the closest and most convenient supermarket for these residents. The new supermarket will enable local residents to more easily conduct regular and bulk weekly supermarket shopping.

#### <u>Demand</u>

The population of the total catchment at capacity is projected to be over 17,400 people and these residents will generate in the order of \$78 million of supermarket related expenditure. This expenditure will be distributed amongst full line supermarkets, convenience supermarkets, convenience (general) stores and a range of specialty shops that carry the same product lines as supermarkets (e.g. fruit and veg, butcher, deli).

The future 17,400 residents of the trade areas will generate demand for over 10,000 Sq M of supermarket (and related) floorspace. This is sufficient to support two full line supermarkets in the order of 3,000 Sq M each and 4,000 Sq M of smaller supermarkets and specialty retailers distributed through a number of centres.

The implication of the population capacity assessment of the Bilambil Heights urban expansion area is that the primary and secondary trade area as currently defined will have the future capacity to support two full line supermarkets: the first to be located at the Seagulls site and the other to be located on a yet to be identified site central to the future Bilambil Heights urban expansion area. It is noted that at 1,965 Sq M the subject site can be considered a small format full line supermarket.

#### Tweed Retail Strategy

The intent of the Retail Strategy principles is to develop supermarket anchored shopping centres throughout the Shire to service the needs of the population while directing development of higher order and specialised retail to the district centres of Tweed Heads and Tweed Heads South. Where possible, these supermarkets should be integrated with existing centres and towns. The development of a SupaIGA at the Seagulls Club fulfils these requirements (without impact the role and function of the district centres at Tweed Heads South) and provides for the needs of the local community.

#### Impact

Any impacts on existing centres in Tweed Shire are expected to be alleviated over time as the population of the total catchment (Bilambil Heights urban expansion area) continues to grow. As such, the proposed supermarket development on the subject site is not expected to affect the viability of any current centres with all centres maintaining the opportunity to operate at viable levels. The proposed supermarket also has the potential to impact on the trading performance of local retail centres. While most local retail centres currently serving the trade area will likely see a reduction in trade in the vicinity of 4% to 7%, the impact on the nearby Panorama Plaza could potentially be greater. Individual stores located in this centre will need to rely on convenience (exposure, parking and accessibility), a response to new competition (price, product range etc) and marketable points of difference in order to avoid a significant impact on turnover.

#### **Conclusion**

The establishment of a small format full line supermarket at the Seagulls Club is considered to be a good fit with the needs of the community. The development (the supermarket in conjunction with the revitalised club) will offer a range of economic and social benefits to the community. A supermarket will also benefit the community through a greater level of convenience and an increase in choice, local jobs, competition (resulting in lower prices) and product offer.

The proposed supermarket will fulfil an established need of the local community. Local residents are currently required to travel four or five km to the larger centres at Tweed Heads and South Tweed Heads in order to undertake what is it regular shopping activity. The redevelopment of the club will also provide 20 equivalent full-time (EFT) construction jobs with the ongoing workforce being approximately 80 EFTs. The operational workforce will consist of a large number of part-time and casual staff which will provide employment opportunities for people entering or re-entering the workforce.

The redevelopment of the Seagulls Club will also allow this facility to remain viable and continue to service the community and entertainment needs of local and regional residents.

The above summary and the full socio economic assessment are not considered to represent all issues that may arise from the proposed development. Council staff have the following issues with the report:

- The terminology throughout the report indicates a distribution of expenditure through full line supermarkets, convenience supermarkets, convenience (general) stores and a range of speciality shops. The report then acknowledges that the land use is a proposed small format full line supermarket (SupaIGA). The report does not assess the proposed use as a convenience (general) store.
- The report acknowledges that "planning for a number of supermarket anchored centres to service the designated growth areas will help ensure the local retail network will successfully cater for residents to retain needs in the short, medium and long term". The current planning (zoning) regime has already undertaken this exercise and it ensures all residential areas have sufficient land zoned for commercial use to enable residents to have the convenience of localised shopping. The proposed development will undermine this planning process by authorising a retail development within a recreational zone.
- The report states that the retail catchment area will incorporate Bilambil Heights expansion area. The Bilambil Heights expansion area will be planned to accommodate its own local commercial areas and will not need to travel to the subject site for local shopping needs.

- The report indicates that the nearby Panorama Plaza caters primarily to passing traffic and impulse shopping and offers a different experience to the larger full line supermarkets and thus is complimentary to all centres currently located in the local area. These comments are contrary to the objections which have been received that clearly state that if the development is approved it would jeopardise the viability of Panorama Plaza. Furthermore the report contradicts the above statement by stating that "the proposed supermarket also has the potential to impact on the trading performance of local retail centres. While most local retail centres currently serving the trade area will likely see a reduction in trade in the vicinity of 4% to 7%, the impact on the nearby Panorama Plaza could potentially be greater. Individual stores located in this centre will need to rely on convenience (exposure, parking and accessibility), a response to new competition (price, product range etc) and marketable points of difference in order to avoid a significant impact on turnover." The impact of the proposed development on the local commercially zoned sites is a major concern to Council.
- The report reiterates the applicants position that the proposed development will allow the Seagulls Club to remain viable. The primary objective of the 6(b) Recreational Zone is *"to designate land, whether in public or private ownership, which is or may be used primarily for recreational purposes"*. A retail use at the subject site is not consistent with the primary objective of the zone and should not be used to justify the viability of the registered club.
- The report indicates that the proposed development complies with Council's Retail Strategy (7 Point Strategy) which are:
  - 1. The character of existing towns and villages and the retail facilities that have to be protected.
  - 2. Where appropriate, Council will support the incremental expansion of existing retail centres in such a way as not to threaten or fracture those existing centres, rather than building new ones.
  - 3. Reinforce Tweed Heads South as the major district retail centre by encouraging the expansion and when Tweed's population demands that increased range and level of shopping.
  - 4. Maintain and wherever possible enhance the special appeal of the retail centre of Murwillumbah and those village centres of similar style.
  - 5. Limit the scale of new retail centres in the coastal region to a level which caters for the majority of localised daily needs. This concept to reflect the need to reduce fuel consumption and to support sustainability within each centre.
  - 6. Council does not support the establishment of another district retail shopping centre.
  - 7. The retail concepts in these recommendations form the basis of locality plans in the Shire and any retail development applications which are submitted in the interim of these locality plans being prepared and approved by Council be assessed so that the above retail strategies are supported and not compromised.

This statement is not concurred with as:

- The proposed development will change the character of the local area as presently commercially zoned areas are located on major roads (not residential streets as proposed by this application) and furthermore the proposed development will have a greater than 7% reduction on trade for local centres;
- The report indicates that existing centres do not have the capacity to expand to cater for a full line supermarket. These comments are not concurred with. The existing commercially zoned sites are underutilised and could be re-developed to expand operations; and
- The development does not integrate with existing centres or towns and actually impacts and jeopardises the existing commercial areas.
- The report states that the development will not have any unsustainable impacts on existing centres yet then goes on to state that "The store at Panorama Plaza that is most directly comparable/competitive with the proposed supermarket is the existing convenience store. The store will need to rely on convenience (exposure, parking and accessibility) and marketable points of difference (as a Lotto agent) in order to avoid a significant impact on turnover." This statement indicates that the proposed development could have an unsustainable impact on an existing centre.
- The report appears to identify that the local population could accommodate additional retail opportunities. However it fails to demonstrate that the subject site is the most suitable and appropriate for this use given the sites zoning.
- The report does not discuss what if any impact there may be from having a supermarket located within a registered club that incorporates gaming machines.

Council communicated the concerns in regards to this application with the applicant and accordingly the applicant has provided an addendum letter addressing socio economic impacts. Both of these documents are attached to this report to enable the elected Councillors to read them in full in conjunction with this report.

Upon review of the addendum letter Council maintains the view that the proposed development is not suited to the subject site given the sites recreational zoning and the potential impact on adjoining commercial zones.

For the above reasons the proposed development is considered unacceptable having regard to Clause 17 of the TLEP 2000 as the application has not adequately demonstrated that the development won't have an unacceptable social or economic impact on the locality.

#### Clause 22 – Development near designated roads

This clause applies to land that has frontage to a Designated Road. The subject site has frontage to Scenic Drive but vehicular access is via a residential area off Gollan Drive. The proposed development has been referred to the Development Traffic Advisory Group in accordance with Schedule 3 of the SEPP (Infrastructure) 2007 and accordingly the applicant was requested to provide additional information to satisfy Council's Traffic Engineer of the sites capacity to cater for the proposed development. Based on the additional information submitted Council has no objection to the proposal from a traffic or parking perspective. The development as proposed is capable of satisfying Clause 22 subject to a statutory assessment of any signage that may be visible from Scenic Drive.

#### Clause 25 - Development in 7(a) Environmental Protection and on adjacent land

The subject site adjoins land zoned 7(a) off Birds Bay Drive, however the proposed development will have no impact on this environmental zone. Onsite drainage can be suitably accommodated if the application were to be approved.

#### Clause 31 – Development adjoining waterbodies

The subject site adjoins Terranora Broadwater, however the proposed development will have no impact on this waterway. Onsite drainage can be suitably accommodated if the application were to be approved.

#### Clause 34 Flooding

The site is partially mapped as being affected by flooding. The proposed change of use within an existing building is suitable for the subject site subject to normal conditions of consent ensuring commercial operations have adequate storage for times during flood events.

#### Clause 35 - Acid Sulfate Soils

The subject site is located on land identified as Class 2 on the Acid Sulfate Soil Planning Maps. The applicants Statement of Environmental Effects (Pg 29) states:

"the proposal does not involve any significant works below the ground surface or works that are likely to lower the water table. It is noted that the construction method will comprise screw piles for support and only minor trenching under the existing building for the purpose of laying hydraulic services. Therefore the detailed provisions of this clause are not relevant to the proposal. An acid sulphate soils management plan for minor works can be found at Attachment 2 of this SEE".

The level of site disturbance is considered to be very minor. Further the degree of historical disturbance and oxidation of existing site materials is also relevant. Council has no objection to the application of the Acid Sulfate Soil Management Plan for minor works and if Council wanted to approve this application appropriate conditions could be drafted.

#### Clause 39A Bushfire Protection

The subject site is partially mapped within a bushfire buffer. The proposed change of use would be considered an acceptable land use despite this constraint subject to suitable conditions of consent.

#### Clause 47 – Advertising Signs

There is no signage proposed as part of this development application.

#### State Environmental Planning Policies

#### SEPP (North Coast Regional Environmental Plan) 1988

#### <u>Clause 46 & 47 Objectives and Principles for Commercial and Industrial</u> <u>Development</u>

This Clause states:

#### 46 Objectives

The objective of this plan in relation to commercial and industrial development is to encourage an adequate supply of zoned land located where there are planned growth areas foreshadowed and where essential services can be provided with minimal environmental damage.

#### 47 Plan preparation <u>and development control</u>—principles for commercial and industrial development

- (1) Before preparing a draft local environmental plan relating to commercial or industrial development, the council should take into consideration the following principles:
  - (a) strong multi-functional town centres should be maintained to focus the drawing power of individual businesses and maintain the integrity of the main business area by only zoning land for further commercial or retail development where that development adjoins or is adjacent to the existing town centre,
  - (b) provisions contained in local environmental plans relating to retail, commercial, business and industrial zones should be flexible, especially to enable the development of light service industry near the central business district,
  - (c) there should be an adequate supply of zoned industrial land located where it is physically capable of development for industrial purposes, is not environmentally fragile and can be serviced at a reasonable cost.
  - (d) (Repealed)
- (2) Before granting consent for industrial development, the council must take into consideration the principle that land used for such development should be located where it can be adequately serviced by the transport system and is accessible from urban areas."

The above clause reinforces the importance of land zoning in determining appropriate sites for commercial and industrial development.

The subject site is not zoned commercial but is relying on the proposed supermarket being defined as a "general store" to be capable of consideration under the 6(b) Recreation zoning.

The proposed development is considered contrary to the objectives of this SEPP in that the site as a Recreational site is not suitable for the proposed retail development.

#### <u>SEPP No 71 – Coastal Protection</u>

The subject site is located within the coastal zone and is subject to the normal matters for consideration under Clause 8 of this Policy. The proposed development will primarily be located within the footprint of an existing development. The application satisfies the provisions of Clause 8.

# SEPP (Infrastructure) 2007

Section 104 of SEPP (Infrastructure) 2007 requires Council to consider all traffic generating developments and consult with the local Development Traffic Advisory Group to determine the accessibility of the site concerned, the efficiency of movement and any potential traffic safety, road congestion or parking implications of the development.

A traffic generating development is considered an enlargement or extension of existing premises, being an alteration or addition of the relevant size or capacity.

In this regard Schedule 3 of the SEPP lists different land uses and specifies a size or capacity deemed to be traffic generating. The proposed development was referred to Council's Development Traffic Advisory Group as any shop over 500m<sup>2</sup> requires consideration by this Group.

The Group requested additional information in regards to the adequacy of the storage bay on Scenic Drive for vehicles turning right into Gollan Drive.

This additional information was received by the applicant and endorsed by Council's Traffic Engineer as being suitable for the proposed development. Accordingly Council has no objection to the proposed development from a traffic or parking perspective.

# (a) (ii) The Provisions of any Draft Environmental Planning Instruments

The Draft LEP 2012 as exhibited proposes to re-zone the subject site from 6(b) Recreation to RE2 Private Recreation.

The RE2 zone has the following objectives and permissible uses

#### Zone RE2 Private Recreation

#### 1 Objectives of zone

To enable land to be used for private open space or recreational purposes.

To provide a range of recreational settings and activities and compatible land uses.

To protect and enhance the natural environment for recreational purposes.

#### 2 Permitted without consent

Environmental facilities; Environmental protection works

#### 3 Permitted with consent

Boat launching ramps; Boat sheds; Camping grounds; Car parks; Caravan parks; Charter and tourism boating facilities; Child care centres; Community facilities; Ecotourist facilities; Emergency services facility; Entertainment facilities; Flood mitigation works; Food and drink premises; Forestry; Function centres; Helipad; Heliport; Industrial training facilities; Information and education facilities; Jetties; Kiosks; Marinas; Markets; Mooring; Mooring pens; Places of public worship; Public administration building; Recreation areas; Recreation facilities (indoor); Recreation facilities (major); Recreation facilities (outdoor); Registered clubs; Research stations; Respite day care centres; Roads; Sewerage systems; Signage; Tourist and Visitor accommodation; Waste or resource management facilities; Water recreation structures; Water supply systems; Wharf or boating facilities

#### 4 Prohibited

#### Any development not specified in item 2 or 3

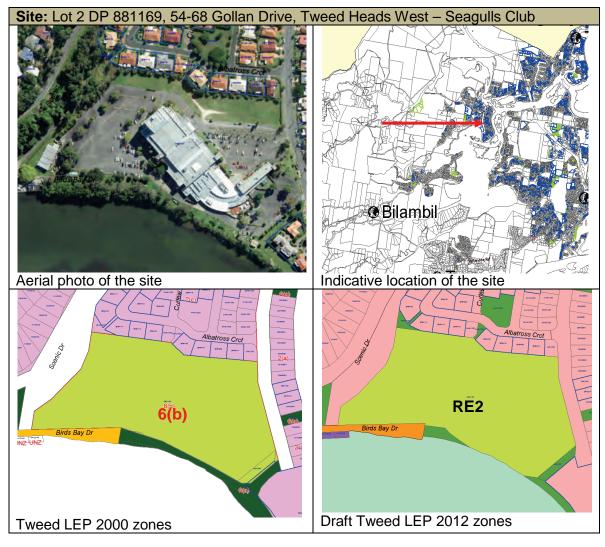
Based on the new definitions within the Draft LEP 2012 the proposed development would be best defined as a commercial premises, which has a more specific definition of retail premises which has a more specific definition of a shop which has a more specific definition of a neighbourhood shop (limited to  $300m^2$ ).

All of which are **prohibited** in the RE2 Private Recreation zone.

The applicant for this Development Application has objected to the Draft Tweed LEP 2012 and has requested that Council consider an inclusion to Schedule 1 - Additional Permitted Uses of the Draft LEP 2012 identifying development for the purposes of a "shop" as permitted with consent.

A copy of the applicant's submission is attached to this report.

This request has not been supported by Council staff with the following justification:



Applicant: Think Planners on behalf of Seagulls Club				
Summary of the request:	Request to amend the draft TLEP 2012 to permit development of a shop on the site.			
Details of the proposal:	The submission seeks amendments to the draft LEP to facilitate development of a shop (IGA supermarket) through Clause 2.5 Additional Permitted Uses for Particular Land and overlay map Additional Permitted Uses Map.			
Analysis:				
Site description	The site is located at Terranora Broadwater and comprises club with associated car park. The overall area of the lot is 4.94 ha.			
	The site is located within low density residential suburb of Tweed Heads West.			
Consistency of proposal with State and Council strategic planning initiatives	When analysing consistency of the proposal with relevant local, regional and state planning initiatives, consideration needs to be given to the methodology of converting the current LEP 2000 into the Standard Instrument LEP:			
	• The subject site is currently zoned 6(b) Recreation zone. This zone permits general stores with development consent if consistent with the primary objective of this zone, which is to <i>designate land, whether in public or</i> <i>private ownership, which is or may be used primarily for</i> <i>recreational purposes.</i>			
	• The Standard Instrument LEP provides the RE2 Private Recreation zone as an equivalent to the 6(b) zone of the current LEP. Under the new zone, the land use table has been tailored to achieve consistency with the objectives of the zone. In result, the only types of 'retail' land uses permissible with consent under the RE2 zone are kiosks, markets and food & drink premises.			
	• The standard zones provided under the Standard Instrument Template have limited flexibility in terms of integrating recreational and commercial uses under a recreational zone. A more suitable approach would be to look at options to rezone the entire site to a commercial zone. This however should be carried out via a planning proposal process, separate to the Standars Instrument Template implementation process.			
	<ol> <li><u>Preliminary</u> analysis of the consistency of the proposal with Section 117 Directions.</li> </ol>			
	The proposal is generally consistent with Directions.			
	<ol> <li>Preliminary analysis of the consistency of the proposal with the Far North Coast Regional Strategy.</li> </ol>			
	<ul> <li>The proposal is generally inconsistent with the Strategy.</li> </ul>			
	<ol> <li>Preliminary analysis of the consistency of the proposal with State Environmental Planning Policies (SEPPs).</li> </ol>			
	• The proposal is generally consistent with the SEPPs.			

Land use and land use pattern in the surrounding area:	The surrounding area combines low and medium density residential allotments located along Terranora Broadwater.	
Proximity to nearest centre:	The site is located approximately 2.5 km from Tweed Heads South business and commercial precinct.	
Access:	Access is available from Gollan Drive.	
Planning Consideration:	Given recent advice received from Department of Planning & Infrastructure that use of Clause 2.5 should be limited to exceptional circumstances only, and inconsistency of a full line supermarket development with objectives of the RE2 zone, the proposal is not supported.	
Recommendation:	The proposal is not supported. Amendments to the LEP in order to facilitate the development of a supermarket should be subject to a separate planning proposal process.	

Draft TLEP 2012 is being reported to Council for consideration of the submissions at the Council Meeting of 16 May 2013. This Draft LEP 2012 is considered to be imminent and accordingly should be given significant weight.

It should be noted that Draft LEP 2012 has a savings provision relating to development applications which state:

"If a development application has been made before the commencement of this Plan in relation to land to which this Plan applies and the application has not been finally determined before that commencement, the application must be determined as if this Plan had been exhibited but had not commenced."

Based on this Clause the subject Development Application must consider Draft LEP 2012 only ever as a Draft as the subject Development Application was lodged prior to Draft LEP 2012 being adopted. However, as a Draft the document can still be given considerable weight in terms of establishing the future desired character of an area.

It is clear that the objectives of the RE2 zone reinforce the site as a recreational area, not a retail or commercial area, as the only types of 'retail' land uses permissible with consent under the RE2 zone are kiosks, markets and food and drink premises.

Commercial premises, retail premises, shops and even neighbourhood shops (limited to 300m<sup>2</sup>) are all prohibited.

Therefore, the lack of ability for the subject development application to even be considered under Draft LEP 2012 (as the use is prohibited) forms another reason why this application has been recommended for refusal.

Given the site's difficulty in maintaining viability as a registered club the applicants may be best pursuing a re-zoning process to establish the best utilisation of the site.

For the reasons outlined in this report and having regard to Draft LEP 2012 the proposed development for a supermarket at the subject location is not supported.

# (a) (iii) Development Control Plan (DCP)

Tweed Development Control Plan

# A2-Site Access and Parking Code

The subject site has a long and detailed history in regards to changes to the internal configuration of the existing building. In more recent times there have been a series of Complying Development Certificates issued that authorised the internal reshuffling of spaces and uses.

The last Development Application that reviewed the onsite parking requirements in regards to the existing building was DA05/1452 which approved substantial changes to the internal configuration of the building. Below is an extract from the car parking assessment for DA05/1452 to understand the history of parking on the site:

	TABLE 3 – DCP NO.2 CAR PARKING REQUIREMENTS DA05/1432					
CLUB ELEMENT	PARKING UNIT	DCP NO.2 RATE			-	Total (Incl
		CUSTOMER	STAFF	CUSTOMER	STAFF	reduction on ESD principle)
Lounge Area	1,063m2	1 space /7m <sup>2</sup>	-	151.86	-	121.49
Indoor Dining Area	1,241m2	1 space /7m²	-	177.29	-	141.83
Outdoor Dining Area	932 <i>m</i> 2	1 space /7m²	-	133.14	-	106.51
Gaming Area	1,097m2	1 space /7m²	-	156.71	-	125.37
Auditorium Area	1,299m2	1 space /15m²	-	86.60	-	69.28
Function Area	576m2	1 space /7m²	-	82.29	-	65.83
Shops	424m2	3.5 spaces /100m <sup>2</sup>	-	14.84	-	11.87
Gymnasium	850m2	6 space /100m <sup>2</sup>	-	51.00	-	40.80
Staff	130 (max)	-	0.3 spaces / staff	-	39	31.20
TOTALS				853.73	39	714.18

"Below is an extract from the applicant's submission detailing the car-parking breakdown:

The current club relies upon 582 formed car spaces and a grassed overflow parking area, which can accommodate approximately 232 spaces. The applicant's submission indicates that this club after refurbishment would require a total of 714 spaces.

On this basis it is likely that at least 132 spaces within the grassed areas would need to be constructed with weather proof seal and formal spaces marked out.

The applicant originally provided that:

"It is certainly the experience of the senior management of the Club, that the existing bitumen car parking spaces easily account for the normal day to day operation of the Club. We have been informed that it is only on a limited number of occasions per year such as a high profile concert that the grass "over flow" car parking area is utilised. This observation is confirmed in the letter attached.

Considering the benefits that the "green space" adjacent to the northern boundary provides to the area in terms of visual amenity, reduced surface water runoff and improvements to stormwater quality, it is considered unnecessary to alter the existing car parking arrangements.

The existing car parking arrangements also comply with Council's requirements in terms of driveway access, gradients, circulation aisle and end aisle extension dimensions.

However, once car parking was raised with the applicant as an issue the following response was received:

"The possibility that Seagulls will have to extend the existing sealed car park, as a condition of consent has been discussed with our client.

Our client agrees in principle to addressing the car park issue despite the recommendations set out in the Statement of Environmental Effects submission December 2005 on the following proviso:

We refer to the attached marked up plan 11176 DA 1.00A and wish to express the following:

It is acknowledged that Seagulls has 582 formed spaces with 232 as "overflow parking" on grassed area - a total of 814 car spaces.

With the current number of 582 formed car spaces, the Club would need to seal an extra 133 spaces. The plan indicates a proposed 135 car spaces that is proposed to be sealed at the completion of the building program.

The required number of 715 formed car spaces would be exceeded by 2 - 717 total. The Club would therefore maintain a grassed area as indicated"

It is therefore recommended that the following conditions of consent be imposed:

- 1. Prior to issue of a Construction Certificate for Stage 3 the applicant is to submit to Tweed Shire Council's General Manager or his delegate a car parking layout plan that details a weather proof seal and formal spaces marked out within the existing overflow grass parking area. This sealed area is to comprise 135 spaces to achieve total on site parking requirements as specified within DCP No. 2.
- 2. Prior to use of Stage 3 part of the overflow grassed parking area is to be constructed in accordance with the approved Plan required by this consent."

The above conditions were adopted as part of DA05/1432.

In summary the last development consent issued for the site required 715 onsite parking spaces for the registered club. In addition the site had approval to operate markets each Sunday morning on the bitumen parking area however this was deemed to be at a time when club patronage was low and accordingly consent was granted for this use. These markets no longer operate.

Since the approval of DA05/1452 the club has been scaling back operations to try to ensure lower operating costs. The applicants hope to grow back into the club and accordingly if the club did return to full scale operation the original level of parking may still be necessary.

In regards to the subject application for the IGA (DA12/0527) the applicant has submitted a new traffic report that only analyses the floor space currently being used by the club and how the proposed IGA can be accommodated by the existing parking on site (it does not review the entire gross floor area as many parts of the club are currently not being utilised, it appears that approximately 8200m<sup>2</sup> is unaccounted for in these figures as the total gross floor are of the building is 16508m<sup>2</sup>).

The applicant's current traffic report can be summarised as follows:

Club Element	Parking Unit	Customer Rate	Staff Rate	Customer	Staff	Total Parking
Lounge Area	2222m <sup>2</sup>	1/7m <sup>2</sup>	-	317	-	317
Gaming Area	1572m <sup>2</sup>	1/ 7m <sup>2</sup>	-	224	-	224
Futsal	1174m <sup>2</sup>	6/100m2	-	70	-	70
Gym	1045m <sup>2</sup>	6/100m2	-	63	-	63
Children facility	60 children	1/ 6 children	-	10	-	10
Existing General Store	68	3.5/100m <sup>2</sup>	-	2	-	2
IGA General Store	1,965	3.5/100m <sup>2</sup>	-	69	-	69
Total Staff	90	-	0.3 per staff	-	27	27
TOTALS				755	27	782

TABLE 5: FUTURE PARKING REQUIREMENT AS PER DCP

The applicant then applies a 20% ecologically sustainable development discount as per the DCP and reduces this total of 782 down to 626 on site parking spaces.

The applicant has then undertaken a parking demand assessment drawing upon actual patronage of the club and the Roads and Maritime Services "Guide to Traffic Generating Developments" and estimates that the club as proposed will only generate the need for the following parking demands:

- Club=140 car spaces
- Gym= 19 car spaces
- Futsal= 38 car spaces
- IGA store= 69 car spaces
- Children's adventure= 17 spaces

# TOTAL Parking = 283 parking spaces

This is a significant reduction in the required car parking compared to the Tweed DCP Section A2 figures above (however this is partly due to the traffic report only assessing current uses not total gross floor area and partially due to the revised methodology. Despite these anomalies Council's Traffic and Transport Engineer has stated that:

"The submitted traffic analysis accompanying the application is thorough and addresses parking and traffic generation.

Parking on site is considered adequate for the proposed development.

The additional traffic implications on the intersection of Gollan Dr and Scenic Dr has been assessed and indicates that a level of service A will be available and queue lengths turning right into Gollan Dr will not impact on through traffic.

The modelling indicates that actual traffic volumes on Kennedy Drive at Cobaki Bridge will decrease as a result of the development as trips towards Tweed Heads are reduced due to residents from the west (Bilambil) accessing the IGA.

Accordingly, based on the submitted traffic report I have no concerns with the proposed development."

It should be noted that at present there are 582 approved formalised car parking spaces located at the front and rear of the site. In addition the site has access to a further 232 informal parking spaces which could be used in an overflow manner.

The proposed plans show a reconfigured parking arrangement that demonstrates 650 formalised car parking spaces with capacity for a further 164 informal parking spaces which could be used in an overflow manner.

Therefore if Council wanted to approve the subject application there is considered to be sufficient parking on site to cater for the proposed development.

Furthermore the existing road network and servicing provisions are also considered adequate to cater for the proposed development.

#### A3-Development of Flood Liable Land

As detailed under Clause 34 of the TLEP 2000 in the above report the site is affected by flooding but not to the extent to warrant refusal of this application on flooding grounds. If the application were to be approved appropriate conditions of consent could be recommended to mitigate flooding implications.

#### A4-Advertising Signs Code

No signage is proposed as part of this application.

#### A11-Public Notification of Development Proposals

The proposed development was notified to adjoining neighbours and publically exhibited in the Tweed Link. Following the exhibition period Council received 16 letters of objection raising issues with the possible impact on the existing Panorama Plaza commercial development, traffic impacts, the incompatibility with the existing zoning, permissibility, the effect of Draft LEP 2012 and the site suitability given the location of the existing club. These submissions are considered in detail later in this report.

#### A13-Socio-Economic Impact Assessment

As detailed under Clause 17 of the TLEP 2000 in the above report the proposed development is not considered suitable having regard to the potential social and economic impacts as a result of the proposed development.

# (a) (iv) Any Matters Prescribed by the Regulations

# Clause 92(a) Government Coastal Policy

The proposed development will have no negative impact on the adjoining waterway and satisfies the objectives of this Policy.

#### Clause 92(b) Applications for demolition

The proposed development could be appropriately conditioned to satisfy the demolition requirements.

# Clause 93 Fire Safety Considerations

The proposed development could be appropriately conditioned to satisfy the fire safety requirements.

# Clause 94 Buildings to be upgraded

The proposed development could be appropriately conditioned to satisfy the building code of Australia provisions.

# (a) (v) Any coastal zone management plan (within the meaning of the <u>Coastal</u> <u>Protection Act 1979</u>)

The proposed development will have no negative impact on the adjoining waterway and satisfies the objectives of this Policy.

# <u>Coastal Zone Management Plan for Cobaki and Terranora Broadwater</u> (adopted by Council at the 15 February 2011 meeting)

The proposed development will have no negative impact on the adjoining waterway and satisfies the objectives of this Policy.

# (b) The likely impacts of the development and the environmental impacts on both the natural and built environments and social and economic impacts in the locality

As detailed in the above report the proposed development would have an unacceptable economic impact on the existing commercial zones in the locality. The applicant's own report indicates that there will be at least a 7% reduction in revenue for these businesses with Panorama Plaza experiencing a possibly higher level of impact. It is unreasonable to have such an impact on these businesses when the proposed land use does not comply with the primary zone objective in which the site is located.

# (c) Suitability of the site for the development

This report details that from a physical perspective the site is capable of adequately accommodating this business, however from a planning perspective the proposed development should not approved on the subject site due to the site's recreational zoning.

#### (d) Any submissions made in accordance with the Act or Regulations

#### Development Traffic Advisory Group and Roads and Maritime Services

The proposed development was referred to both the Development Traffic Advisory Group and the Roads and Maritime Services in regards to traffic and parking considerations. Upon receipt of additional information the proposed development was deemed to be acceptable on traffic and parking grounds.

# Public Notification

The proposed development was publically exhibited between 28 November 2012 and 12 December 2012. Following the exhibition period Council received a total of 16 submissions objecting to the proposed development. The following table summarises these objections:

Objection 1	I like the services I have now and don't see any need for any more. I feel the shops we have now will suffer if this application is approved.		
Objection 2	The applicants community needs and benefits analysis is misleading as the community has not received any benefit of income produced but rather we lost iconic Cunningham Oval.		
	An IGA shop on gaming club premises brings with it added negative repercussions.		
	The existing services in the area already offer the same services in a personalised and community driven manner.		
	The store would bring negative social impacts from loitering and vandalism.		
	The application is driven by North Sydney Leagues Club without consultation with the local community.		
	The declining revenue of the club should not result in ad hoc planning.		
Objection 3	A general store should not go into the Seagulls Club. It should go in Kennedy Drive.		
	It will affect existing business which are trying to make a living.		
Objection 4	The supermarket will duplicate services provided by Panorama Plaza which is 500m from Seagulls Club.		
	The IGA will rely on the custom currently using Panorama Plaza		
	Our businesses have been built over 20 years at considerable cost and the financial loss if the DA is approved will be substantial if the supermarket is established.		
	The proposed supermarket has the financial support of the IGA conglomerate which we do not have.		
	If this supermarket were approved Panorama Plaza would have to reduce staff.		
	If approved business in Panorama Plaza would have to close as at present they operate on a small margin of profit		
Objection 5	There are adequate existing services already.		
	The Clubs have double standards as they were afraid of losing jobs when the poker machine laws changed and now they are happy for other businesses to lose staff to suit their needs.		
Objection 6	It will impact on local businesses.		
	People with a gambling or drinking problem will be more tempted to just drop into the pub "for a quick one" prior to doing their groceries. This may in turn lead to the grocery money being fed into the poker machines or spent on alcohol instead. Alcohol and gambling are the two biggest family destroyers and are in your face wherever you go. Lets not have it a temptation when doing the groceries too,		
	You will end up with young employees serving the intoxicated patrons of Seagulls. Not an environment I would be allowing my child to be placed in.		

Objection 7	The proposal is not viable as IGA can not compete with the major supermarkets on price and shop keepers do not need a dilution of their customer base and I as a local resident will not be using it preferring to shop at Woolworths at Tweed Centro.
Objection 8	The development is next door to Seagulls Shore a gated security complex . The end of Gollan Drive is not suitable for any more traffic coming in to the area as we already have cars from the club to contend with. The entrance to this end of Gollan Drive from Scenic Drive is unsafe both coming and going and is not big enough to take any more traffic.
	It would do so much harm to the Panorama Shopping Centre. It would probably shut them down.
Objection 9	See Objection 3 and Objection 4
Objection 10	The development would make the Panorama Plaza unviable.
	The nearby G&G Seafood closed recently. The nearby Fruit and Veg shop may also be closing. There are too many similar businesses. Panorama Plaza fulfils the needs of the local community.
	This application is disappointing. A supermarket off the main road is not the answer. It will not solve the clubs problems and has the potential to reap financial havoc on local traders not to mention damage Seagulls reputation as a great community player.
Objection 11	If this DA is approved it will financially strain every business in Panorama Plaza.
	The zoning is not appropriate.
	People with gambling problems would spend their money on poker machines before even going into the supermarket.
	Consider locals before interstate club who have no idea about the local community.
Objection 12	A licensed club with gaming is not the place to have a supermarket.
	Panorama Plaza would be ruined if the IGA goes ahead.
	The area is not zoned for commercial use.
	Seagulls need to look at other avenues to help the community not destroy it.
Objection 13	Permissibility and Appropriateness
	The Seagulls Club site is zoned 6{b) Recreation under the Tweed LEP 2000. General Stores' are permissible with consent within the zone, however 'Shops' are prohibited. While supermarkets are traditionally defined as Shops the applicant has used case law to argue that the supermarket can be defined as a General Store and is therefore permissible. The reliance upon case law to support the use, requires careful consideration on terms of merit and appropriateness. The primary objective of the 6(b) Recreation zone is:
	to designate land, whether in public or private ownership, which is or may be used primarily for recreational purposes.
	The secondary objective of the zone is:
	to allow for other development that Is compatible with the primary function of the zone.
	A supermarket is not a recreational use and the proposed supermarkets size and prominence will erode the presentation of the Club as the primary function on the site and will be at odds with the primary objective of designating land for recreational purposes.
	The proposed supermarket will encompass approximately a quarter of the Club's total floors pace at ground floor level and is located within the centre of the Club and within its main frontage. The supermarket is also positioned to benefit from the prime carparking area at the front of the site.

	The proposed shared loading dock to the rear of the site will further impact upon the Clubs operations, requiring stock to be brought in through the Club's retained back of house office areas. This will result in the floorplate of the club being effectively divided in two, which will fragment the club operations and reduce the presence of the club across the site.
	Equally a supermarket use is not considered to be a compatible or complementary or land use such as other small smaller scale uses such that relate to the site such as refreshments rooms/cafes, a merchandise store relating to the sporting teams of the Club or tourist accommodation. These types of uses would be used in conjunction with the Club, supporting its primary recreational purpose. The proposed supermarket however will attract users for the sole purpose of shopping and as such is not compatible with the primary function of the site.
	Inconsistency with the Draft LEP 2010
	it is also noteworthy that under the Draft Tweed LEP 2010 the proposal is prohibited. This provides a clear direction that a development of this nature is not a strategic direction held by Council for this site. Furthermore, a supermarket of the size and nature proposed, coupled with the proposed central location of the supermarket indicates a clear erosion of a use which the site currently supports, and is proposed to be preserved into the future by way of land use zoning and permissibility. The proposed supermarket does not support the site's primary purposes of supporting 'recreational purposes', nor providing a compatibly development which supports the primary function.
	Accordingly it is not considered an appropriate form of development for the 6(b) Recreation zone.
	Inconsistency with Draft Retail Strategy and Centres Policy - Creation of a New Centre
	Following the preparation of a Draft Tweed Retail Strategy, Council resolved at its meeting of 16 November 2005 seven principles as a Retail Strategy for the Tweed Shire. The Draft Tweed Retail Strategy and these principles support the expansion of existing retail centres rather than the creation of new centres or out of centre retailing.
	The Tweed Urban and Employment Lands Release Strategy 2009 puts forward an urban centres hierarchy that gives direction to the existing and future size, role and function of the urban areas of Tweed Shire.
	The Far North Coast Regional Strategy promotes a clear hierarchy of commercial centres. New commercial development outside of the major centres, are to be "located within the boundaries of towns and villages, utilising existing commercial centres where possible, and integrated with the Initial planning of new release areas".
	The provision of a full line supermarket on the Seagulls Club site would constitute the creation of a new small centre which cumulatively would impact the retail hierarchy of the Tweed Shire.
	Similarly the NSW Draft Activities Centres Policy (May 2010) (the 'draft Centres Policy') seeks to locate new retail activity in existing centres, or planned new centres. While new centres will need to be formed, these should be considered on a strategic basis and would require a rezoning of the land. Further it requires a demonstration of existing undersupply prior to creating new out of centre retailing. Consideration of the draft Centres Policy and the existing supply of zoned land to support a supermarket have not been included in this DA.
	Conclusions and Recommendations
	The proposed development includes an excessive retail area in the form of a full line supermarket.
	The proposal in its current form:

	<ul> <li>Despite potential classification as a General Store which is permissible, represents a full line circa 2,000m<sup>2</sup> supermarket, which is inappropriate an inconsistent with the intent of the 6(b) zoning objectives;</li> </ul>		
	Demonstrates excessive retail developm recreational purposes', creating a new co		
	<ul> <li>By nature of the proposed uses, an appr rezoning of the site;</li> </ul>	roval would be tantamount to a	
	• It will negatively impact upon established	d retail hierarchy of the Tweed Shire.	
	<ul> <li>Has the potential to create a precedent of hierarchy which would create an undesir established retail centres in the locality s</li> </ul>	rable level of uncertainty for other	
	<ul> <li>Demonstrates non-compliance with strat Council's Draft Tweed Retail the NSW S Policy.</li> </ul>		
Objection 14	Small businesses will be profoundly impacte	d and staff loses would occur.	
Objection 15	1. Economic Impacts on Our Clients and Exi	isting Business's in the local area	
	Tweed Heads West, and more specifically the area surrounding the Seagull Club, is primarily a low to medium density residential area. This is demonstrate visually by the land use zoning pursuant to the Tweed Local Environmental Pla 2000 (TLEP2000) which is shown in <b>Figure 1</b> (residential zonings shown i pink).		
	residential area would show a complete strategy. The creation of satellite developm Supa IGA at Seagulls, would serve only to t and established retail centres within the T West would make fewer trips into the existin	e proposed Supa IGA is not to be located in a retail space where other local sinesses can operate and benefit from the positive externalities that a 'full line bermarket' provides. Small scale butchers, bakers and fresh produce stalls uld have a large portion of their regular consumer base taken away as all of bir services would now be provided within the Supa IGA, monopolising the reed Heads West area. example of the economic impact that this development would have on small siness can be demonstrated when looking at the most immediate business ntre dealing in the similar trade of goods and services; Panorama Plaza. norama Plaza is located only 160m away from the Seagulls site and would be business hub most affected should this development proceed. The centre	
	businesses can operate and benefit from the supermarket' provides. Small scale butche would have a large portion of their regular of		
	business can be demonstrated when lookin centre dealing in the similar trade of goo Panorama Plaza is located only 160m away		
	General store;	• Takeaway;	
	Bottleshop;	Chicken Carvery;	
	• Butcher;	Chemist; and	
	• Baker;	• Hairdresser.	
	It is noted that the Supa IGA proposal includes a general store, bottles fresh produce, butcher and bakery. Being a 'full line supermarket', the pro- will also draw on elements of a chicken carvery and chemist by selling chickens from the deli as well as cosmetics and various healthcare items.		

The similarities between the existing Panorama Plaza and the proposed Supa IGA are numerous and only serve to demonstrate that the subject application would have negative economic impacts upon small business owners within the Panorama Plaza. A 'one-stop-shop' development such as the Seagulls Supa IGA will effectively dismiss the need for consumers to visit the Panorama Plaza.



Figure 1 – Land Use Zoning – Source; Tweed SC GIS Mapping

The Socio-economic Impact Assessment submitted as part of the proposal states;

#### "Impact

Any impacts on existing centres in Tweed Shire are expected to be alleviated over time as the population of the total catchment (Bilambil Heights urban expansion area) continues to grow. As such, the proposed supermarket development on the subject site is not expected to affect the viability of any current centres with all centres maintaining the opportunity to operate at viable levels.

The proposed supermarket also has the potential to impact on the trading performance of local retail centres. While most local retail centres currently serving the trade area will likely see a reduction in trade in the vicinity of 4% to 7%, the impact on the nearby Panorama Plaza could potentially be greater. Individual stores located in this centre will need to rely on convenience (exposure, parking and accessibility), a response to new competition (price, product range etc) and marketable points of difference in order to avoid a significant impact on turnover."

The proponent states within their application that there will be an impact on local business, as well as a significant impact upon the Panorama Plaza complex. The development application makes reference to the poor economic standing of the Seagulls Club being the reasoning behind the proposal. It is considered that a lack of profitability does not justify a poorly sited retail facility. The approval of such a facility would only serve to shift the problem onto local businesses such as that of our client. It is considered that no impact upon the viability of surrounding businesses is acceptable.

2. Social Impacts associated with the Proposed Development

Another significant aspect that should be taken into consideration regarding this application is the relationship between a 'full line supermarket' and a registered licensed club.

A supermarket is a family based development which provides residents of the Tweed with day to day living items. A registered club offers recreational services, the service of alcohol and gambling facilities. These uses are not seen as compatible when located in such close proximity.			
Examples of situations that have the potential to	arise are as follows;		
<ul> <li>Supermarket staff being harassed by registered club;</li> </ul>	intoxicated patrons leaving the		
<ul> <li>Customers and families feeling threatened by intoxicated patron leaving the registered club;</li> </ul>			
<ul> <li>Night workers starting and finishing wo 6pm after work and 11-12pm club closing</li> </ul>			
<ul> <li>General stores and supermarkets are typical meeting points for children and adolescents. The location of such a development within a busy car park and in close proximity to alcohol and gambling services is not considered to be a desirable arrangement. Car accidents, anti-social behaviour, sexual harassment, assault, loitering and vandalism may result.</li> </ul>			
Council is directed to look further into the development application to assess potential issu			
3. Transport Impacts associated with the Propos	ed Development		
The proposed location of the supermarket within the Seagulls Club does no allow for a steady dispersement of patrons on the site. With a registered club already considered a high demand development, the addition of a full line supermarket' will only increase the total amount of patrons wishing to enter and exit the site. As there is no spread of businesses, all patrons that enter the site will be making their way to a single point. This has the potential to create heavy on-site traffic congestion in close proximity to the Seagulls Club. It is envisaged that this would be similar to the level of congestion experienced within the cal parks of regional shopping centres and is at odds with a suburban club located in a residential area.			
<u>4. Compliance with 'The Right Place for Business and Services' – NSW Planning Policy; Integrating Land Use and Transport - NSW Department of Urban Affairs and Planning, Roads and Maritime Services and Transport NSW</u>			
The above policy outlines why businesses and services which generate transport demand should be in locations that offer a choice of transport. It is noted that dispersed locations cannot be accommodated without significant community and environmental cost. This is clearly the case with this proposal.			
The objectives of the 'Right Place for Business' of	document are as follows:		
<i>Note - (<u>DNC</u> = Does not comply)</i>			
Assessment Criteria	Compliance		
To locate trip generating development which places that:	provides important services in		
Help reduce reliance on cars and moderate the demand for car travel.	DNC		
Encourage multi-purpose trips.	DNC		
Encourage people to travel on public transport, walk or cycle, and	DNC		
-			

Minimise dispersed development that can or cars.	trip generating nly be accessed by	-
Ensure that a network o centres closely aligned transport system accomm opportunities for business delivery.	I with the public nodates and creates	DNC
Protect and maximise com centres, and in transpor facilities.		-
Encourage continuing p investment in centres, and well designed, managed a	ensure that they are	-
Foster growth, competiti investment confidence in o retail and entertainmen consistent and responsiv <u>DNC</u>	centres, especially in to sectors, through	DNC
community cost' assessme stand alone sites is gene acceptable when a net of Socio-economic Impact As does not address this po	t community benefit' and 'net that 'Development on isolated, However alternatives may be n <u>clearly</u> be established'. The ibmitted as part of the proposal tablish a <u>clear</u> net community within the Policy, the following evel of community benefit.	
In determining the net co criteria must be considered		cost, the following assessment
Assessment Criteria	Comment	Compliance
the degree to which the policy and its objectives can be satisfied	objectives assessm that the propo- development does comply with all aims the policy. Particle reference is made to	nent sed not s of ular the with on
the proposed level of accessibility to the catchment of the development by public transport, walking and cycling	proposed full supermarket' within Seagulls Club, W Tweed Heads considered to be isola and not easily access	Vest is ated sible and

<b></b>			
	the likely effect on trip patterns, travel demand and car use	Increased traffic generation to a site that is located away from high level Council infrastructure. Pressure put on roads and services. Adjacent hills and isolation from CBD does not allow for high level of pedestrian or cycle activity. Therefore heavy reliance on personal transport or bus lines.	Generates heavy traffic pressure. Community cost.
	the likely impact on the economic performance and viability of existing centres (including the confidence of future investment in centres and the likely effects of any oversupply in commercial or office space on centres — see section B of the explanatory notes)	The nearby Panorama Plaza, which provides all of the goods and services proposed within the Supa IGA, will be the most effected should this development proceed. Other small businesses existing within the Tweed CBD will lose consumer base due to the 'one- stop-shop' nature of a supermarket. Will impact upon any potential for commercial investment in West Tweed Heads as club/supermarket development has the potential to monopolise consumer choice and will shut small business investment out of the market.	Harmful impact upon small business. On-stop- shop nature of development would destroy Panorama Plaza. Community cost.
	the amount of use of public infrastructure and facilities in centres, and the direct and indirect cost of the proposal to the public sector	Roads and service infrastructure within the West Tweed Heads area has not been designed for substantial retail development. Increased pressure due to traffic congestion will generate the need for upgrades.	Roadways and service infrastructure not equipped. Community cost.
	the practicality of alternative locations which may better achieve the outcomes the policy is seeking	Supermarket development is much more suited to be located within the Tweed Heads CBD and high street areas. Established retail and commercial precincts allow for multipurpose trips, integration with existing street character and will not detract from small business centres such as the Panorama Plaza.	More suitable locations for this type of development. Neutral benefit/cost.

the ability of the proposal to adapt its format or design to more likely secure a site within or adjoining a centre or in a better location.	Supermarkets are designed to form a retail anchor within a complex where other small businesses prosper from positive externalities. The proposal seeks to create a satellite centre where only the club and supermarket gain whilst surrounding small business loses. A more appropriate location for this type of development would be within the Tweed Heads CBD or high street area.	Satellite supermarket development not suited to the West Tweed Heads area. Neutral benefit/cost.
development would gene isolated, stand alone site community benefit it is dee <u>5. Compliance with the Tw</u> Tweed Shire Council reso November 2005. This stra retail development within a are raised within this docu assess its suitability and a Socio-economic Impact As has been written to promo following information sho	,	mmunity cost. Where an the generation of a net Retail Strategy on the 16 <sup>th</sup> objectives for substantial number of key objectives to the subject proposal to ire Council's strategy. The ted as part of the proposal tail Strategy. However, the ccount when undertaking
Assessment Criteria	Comment	Compliance
1. The character of existing towns and villages and the retail facilities that have to be protected.	West Tweed Heads is a	Small businesses will

	The proposed Supa IGA will be a conglomerate general store, bottleshop, baker, butcher, chemist, carvery and fresh produce store. No competition will remain.	
2. Where appropriate, Council will support the incremental expansion of existing retail centres in such a way as not to threaten or fracture those existing centres, rather than building new ones.	The proposal does not seek to improve upon an existing retail centre. It seeks to create a new retail hub and effectively capture the patronage from small businesses within the one complex.	DNC
3. Reinforce Tweed Heads South as the major district retail centre by encouraging the expansion and when Tweed's population demands that increased range and level of shopping.	The proposal seeks to expand retail development into West Tweed Heads, therefore fracturing the retail centre of the Tweed. A satellite development will reduce patronage to the Tweed CBD and high street area.	DNC
4. Maintain and wherever possible enhance the special appeal of the retail centre of Murwillumbah and those village centres of similar style.	N/A – The subject site is far removed from Murwillumbah.	N/A
	N/A – The subject site is not located within the coastal region.	N/A
6. Council does not support the establishment of another district retail shopping centre.	N/A – The proposal is not for a district retail shopping centre.	N/A

	7. The retail concepts in these recommendations form the basis of locality plans in the Shire and any retail development applications which are submitted in the interim of these locality plans being prepared and approved by Council be assessed so that the above retail strategies are supported and not compromised.The proposal does not meet the objectives of the Tweed Retail Strategy 2005 and therefore should not be supported.7. The retail concepts in these solutionThe proposal does not meet the objectives of the Tweed Retail Strategy 2005 and therefore should not be supported.DNC			
	<u>Conclusion</u> DA12/0527 is considered to be an unacceptable development that would serve only to fragment and destroy the existing retail environment within the West Tweed Heads area. Justification of the development application based on the future viability of the Seagulls Club is no reason to shift economic struggle onto other business owners within the area. When assessing the development application, it is essential that Council look to the impacts and content that was not included in the developers submission so as to see the effect that such a development would have on small business and the Tweed retail environment as a whole.			
	Our clients reserve the right to further challenge any approval given, based on the significant economic impact that will result from the approval of the application.			
Objection 16	Business in the Tweed has taken a nose dive. If this business is approved it will ruin another centre nearby. There are already enough empty shops in the Tweed.			
	To have a supermarket which is family friendly inside a club which serves alcohol and supports gambling is morally wrong. A lot of locals have stated they are not conformable with this at all.			

Some of the issues raised in these objections have contributed to the recommendation for refusal of this application.

# (e) Public interest

There are two opposing views on the matter.

The first is the developer's interest in maintaining their right to apply to develop their property to assist the financial feasibility of the existing registered club.

The second comprises some residents and business owners view of wanting to maintain the viability of the existing commercial zones and not develop the subject site for the purpose of a retail premises contrary to the zone objectives.

Despite these two opposing viewpoints each Development Application needs to be assessed on its individual merits.

On review of this application it is recommended that this DA be refused as the development has failed to demonstrate suitable compliance with the relevant heads of consideration in accordance with Section 79C of the Environmental Planning & Assessment Act 1979.

# **OPTIONS:**

- 1. Refuse the application in accordance with the recommended reasons for refusal; or
- 2. Request that conditions be brought back to the next Council Meeting to enable the Council to consider approving the subject application.

Council officers recommend Option 1.

# CONCLUSION:

The proposed development seeks approval for a general store (1965m<sup>2</sup> of retail space for a full line supermarket) within a recreational zone.

Whether the development is legally defined as a general store or a shop the proposed development has <u>failed</u> to adequately demonstrate how the proposed development:

- Satisfies the strategic objectives for the Tweed;
- Satisfies the primary objective of the recreational zone;
- Satisfies the test of cumulative impact;
- Satisfies the objectives behind social and economic impact;
- Satisfies the zone objectives and permissibility under Draft TLEP 2012;
- Satisfies Council Retail Strategy; and
- Satisfies the general public interest and the impact the proposal would have on the existing commercial zones in the locality.

Accordingly the application is recommended for refusal.

#### **COUNCIL IMPLICATIONS:**

#### a. Policy:

Corporate Policy Not Applicable.

#### b. Budget/Long Term Financial Plan:

If the applicant lodges an appeal with the NSW Land and Environment Court Council will incur legal costs to defend any such appeal.

#### c. Legal:

The applicant may appeal any decision of the Council before the NSW Land and Environment Court.

#### d. Communication/Engagement:

Not Applicable.

# LINKAGE TO INTEGRATED PLANNING AND REPORTING FRAMEWORK:

- 1 Civic Leadership
- 1.1 Ensure actions taken and decisions reached are based on the principles of sustainability
- 1.1.1 Establish sustainability as a basis of shire planning and Council's own business operations
- 1.1.1.3 Assessment of new developments (Development Assessment unit)

# UNDER SEPARATE COVER/FURTHER INFORMATION:

- Attachment 1. Applicants Submission to Draft Tweed Local Environmental Plan 2012 (ECM 3049470)
- Attachment 2. Applicants Socio Economic Assessment (ECM 3050676)
- Attachment 3. Applicant's Addendum Letter 15 April 2013 (ECM 3050686)
- Attachment 4. Applicant Legal Advice on Permissibility 2 May 2013 (ECM 3051183)

REPORTS FROM THE DIRECTOR COMMUNITY AND NATURAL RESOURCES

CNL-35 [CNR-CM] Koala Connections Project Implementation

SUBMITTED BY: Natural Resource Management



# **SUMMARY OF REPORT:**

Council resolved at the April 2011 Council meeting to accept a NSW Environmental Trust Grant of \$99,844 awarded to Council for the project Koala Connections. In accordance with the grant application, a further \$40,000 over two years will be contributed to the project from Council's Biodiversity Grant Program and \$20,000 over two years from Council's Estuary Management Program.

The purpose of this report is to seek Council's approval to fund a private landowner, as listed below, in accordance with the provisions of the Grant.

#### **RECOMMENDATION:**

That Council approves the funding as listed in the table below, to assist a private landowner to undertake the project.

Name	Area	Details	Cost Estimate (\$ excl. GST)
Murray (Lot 1 DP 1073829)	Round Mountain	n Bush regenerator for 12 person days for site preparation and planting Supply 600 Koala food trees and fencing material Bush regenerator for 6 person days over 6 months for follow-up weed control	
TOTAL		10,480	

# **REPORT:**

Council resolved at the April 2011 Council meeting to accept a NSW Environmental Trust grant of \$99,844 awarded to Tweed Shire Council for the project Koala Connections. In accordance with the grant application, a further \$40,000 over two years will be contributed to the project from Council's Biodiversity Grant Program and \$20,000 over two years from Council's Estuary Management Program.

The project will implement critical on-ground and educational actions arising from the Tweed Coast Koala Habitat Study (TCKHS) and the Tweed Coast Comprehensive Koala Plan of Management (TCKPOM), which are currently in preparation. Specific actions will include:

- Restoration of existing Koala habitat.
- Connecting fragmented habitats through revegetation on private and public land.
- Installation of strategic fencing to restrict stock and prevent Koala road strikes.
- Connecting landholders, community groups and individuals through publication of a brochure, educational media releases, training workshops and community tree planting working bees.

Together, these actions will help to provide a secure future for Koalas on the Tweed coast and foster a sense of stewardship with landholders and the broader community.

The purpose of this report is to seek Council's approval to fund a private landowner, as listed below, in accordance with the provisions of the Grant.

The proposed works involve the provision of services by professional bushland regenerators to undertake primary weed control, tree planting and assist landholders to more effectively manage environmental weeds and ensure survival of the trees.

Name	Area	Details	Cost Estimate (\$ excl. GST)
Murray (Lot 1 DP 1073829)	Round Mountain	Bush regenerator for 12 person days for site preparation and planting Supply 600 Koala food trees and fencing material Bush regenerator for 6 person days over 6 months for follow-up weed control	10,480
		TOTAL	10,480

# **OPTIONS:**

- 1. That Council approves the proposed funding to assist a private landowner to undertake the project listed in the table contained within the report.
- 2. That Council does not approve the proposed funding to assist a private landowner to undertake the project listed in the table contained within the report.

# CONCLUSION:

The proposed works will contribute to the viability of the Round Mountain koala linkage identified in the Tweed Coast Koala Habitat Study 2011.

# COUNCIL IMPLICATIONS:

#### a. Policy:

Corporate Policy Not Applicable.

#### b. Budget/Long Term Financial Plan:

\$10,480 from NSW Environmental Trust Grant 2010/SL/0070 - Koala Connections budget of \$99,844 which is augmented with a further \$40,000 over two years from Council's Biodiversity Grant program and \$20,000 over two years from Council's Estuary Management Program.

# c. Legal:

Not Applicable.

# d. Communication/Engagement:

**Inform** - We will keep you informed.

# LINKAGE TO INTEGRATED PLANNING AND REPORTING FRAMEWORK:

- 4 Caring for the Environment
- 4.2 Conserve native flora and fauna and their habitats
- 4.2.1 Promote the protection of native vegetation and wildlife habitat of high conservation value, social or cultural significance in Tweed Shire

# UNDER SEPARATE COVER/FURTHER INFORMATION:

Nil.

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CNL-36 [CNR-CM] Formal Adoption of Council Policy - Discharge of Liquid Trade Waste to the Sewerage System

SUBMITTED BY: Water



# SUMMARY OF REPORT:

At the Council meeting of 24 January 2013 it was determined to exhibit the draft Discharge of Liquid Trade Waste to the Sewerage System Policy for public comment. The exhibition process concluded on 22 February 2013.

There were no submissions received from the public or other stakeholders.

# **RECOMMENDATION:**

That Council:

- 1. Adopts the Discharge of Liquid Trade Waste to the Sewerage System Policy noting that there have been no changes to the document that was placed on public exhibition.
- 2. Submits an application to the Director General, NSW Office of Water, to obtain Assumed Concurrence for Classification B discharges for Council.

# **REPORT:**

Council resolved to place the draft Discharge of Liquid Trade Waste to the Sewerage System Policy on public display from 28 January to 22 February 2013, to give members of the public and other stakeholders an opportunity to submit their comments.

No submissions were received during the exhibition period and therefore no changes to the draft policy are deemed necessary. This also means no further communication with NSW Office of Water (NOW) is required for it to approve deviations from the model policy.

An approved Trade Waste Policy is one of the prerequisites for Council to be able to apply to NSW Office of Water for Assumed Concurrence. Assumed Concurrence means Council will be able to process applications involving Classification B and S activities without forwarding these applications to NOW for concurrence.

The Water Unit has the necessary experience and processes to meet the other requirements for Assumed Concurrence so it would be well positioned to gain acceptance and seeks Council support in submitting this application. This would make processing Trade Waste applications more straight forward for the majority of Council's medium sized dischargers.

# CONCLUSION:

Based on no submissions received, the Policy should be adopted in its current form. Council will be well positioned to apply for Assumed Concurrence.

# COUNCIL IMPLICATIONS:

#### a. Policy:

Discharge of Liquid Trade Waste to the Sewerage System.

# b. Budget/Long Term Financial Plan:

Not Applicable.

#### c. Legal:

Not Applicable.

#### d. Communication/Engagement:

**Consult**-We will listen to you, consider your ideas and concerns and keep you informed.

# LINKAGE TO INTEGRATED PLANNING AND REPORTING FRAMEWORK:

- 1 Civic Leadership
- 1.3 Delivering the objectives of this plan
- 1.3.3 Existing and future community assets will be properly managed and maintained based on principles of equity and sustainability
- 1.3.3.9 Develop and enhance Water Supply and Wastewater Policy and Procedure
- 1.3.3.9.1 Develop Policy encompassing connections, metering, easements, water carriers, backflow prevention, water main extensions, rain water tanks, protection of and access to sewer mains, caravan dumping points, private pumping stations, limits of responsibility for sewer connection, wastewater treatment buffer zones, sewer main extensions, drainage diagrams, inspections and rectification and planting near sewers

# UNDER SEPARATE COVER/FURTHER INFORMATION:

Attachment 1. Policy - Discharge of Liquid Trade Waste to the Sewerage System (ECM 2942987)

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# CNL-37 [CNR-CM] EQ2013-060 Operation of the Cafe at Tweed River Art Gallery

# SUBMITTED BY: Community and Cultural Services



# SUMMARY OF REPORT:

At its meeting held on 14 February 2013, Council resolved to commence a selective tender process for the operation of the Café at the Tweed River Art Gallery.

The expression of interest request was advertised on 5 March 2013 in the Sydney Morning Herald, Brisbane Courier Mail, the Gold Coast Bulletin, the Tweed Link and the Byron Echo.

There were six expressions lodged and three potential tenderers were selected for a tender which closed at 4:00pm 1 May 2013 in the Tender Box located at the Murwillumbah Civic Centre.

The selected tenderers were required to prepare a sample luncheon from their proposed menus. The tastings occurred on 30 April 2013 and each applicant was asked set questions to explore their demonstrated background in sound business operation skills and flair in the presentation of local and seasonal produce reflecting the Tweed region. Their views to potentially develop and expand the business operations of the Café were also encouraged.

The 3 tender submissions were evaluated on 2 May 2013.

#### **RECOMMENDATION:**

That, in relation to Tender EQ2013-060 Operation for the Café at Tweed River Art Gallery:

- 1. Subject to a financial assessment being undertaken that returns a satisfactory result, the tender from Paradise Tower Pty Limited be accepted for the value of \$30,000 (inclusive of GST), being the commencing annual licence fee for the operation of the Café at the Tweed River Art Gallery effective from 1 July 2013, for a licence of 3 years with an option for a further 3 years.
- 2. ATTACHMENT 1 is CONFIDENTIAL in accordance with Section 10A (2) (d) of the Local Government Act, 1983, because the disclosure of which would be likely to confer a commercial advantage on a person with whom the council is conducting (or proposes to conduct) business and prejudice the commercial position of the tenders if it was provided.
- 3. All necessary documentation be executed under the Common Seal of Council.

#### **REPORT:**

The current licence for the operation of the Café at the Tweed River Art Gallery will expire on 30 June 2013.

In accordance with appropriate probity requirements and Council's procurement protocols, a selective tendering process was undertaken, initiated by the seeking of expressions of interest pursuant to the requirements of the *Local Government Act* 1993 and *Local Government (General) Regulations* 2005.

The expression of interest request was advertised on 5 March 2013 in the Sydney Morning Herald, Brisbane Courier Mail, the Gold Coast Bulletin, the Tweed Link and the Byron Echo and closed at 4:00pm on 10 April 2013 in the Tender Box located at the Murwillumbah Civic Centre.

There was one Notice to Tenderers sent to all tenderers explaining what equipment would be included in the future licence agreement. This was issued on the 19 March 2013.

There were six expressions of interest received as indicated in the table below:

Expressions of Interest lodged
Supper Club
Adam Housen
Paradise Tower Pty Ltd
Savoir Fare Catering
Joanne Nimmo
MT Hospitality trading as Bangalow Dining Rooms and Byron Bay Catering

#### **Evaluation of Expressions of Interest**

The evaluation was conducted by a panel of Council officers consisting of Council's Legal Services Officer, Manager Community and Cultural Services and the Tweed River Art Gallery Director on 15 April 2013.

The general terms of reference for the Assessment Panel were as follows:

- Assess the Expressions of Interest submitted in accordance with the specified criteria;
- Score and rank all responses against the specified criteria.

The outcomes of the expressions of interest are attached in the confidential attachment.

The 3 selected tenderers were:

- 1. Paradise Tower Pty Ltd Peter Clarke and Charlie Ebel
- 2. Savoir Fare Catering Le Ping and Simone Wong
- 3. The Modern Grocer Joanne Nimmo

All 3 tenderers operate local food establishments; Peter Clarke and Charlie Ebel currently own and operate Mavis' Kitchen at Mount Warning, Le Ping and Simone Wong currently own and operate a catering service, and Joanne Nimmo, the Modern Grocer.

# Tender Evaluation

All 3 successful firms that were selected through the Expressions of Interest process submitted formal tenders which closed at 4 pm on 1 May 2013 in the Tender Box located in the foyer of the Murwillumbah Civic Centre. The tenders received are listed below:

Paradise Tower Pty Ltd Savoir Fair Catering Joanne Nimmo

The tender evaluation was conducted by the Assessment Panel of Senior Contracts Engineer, Manager Community and Cultural Services, Tweed River Art Gallery Director and Legal Services Officer. The assessment included a sample luncheon from each tenderer's menu, and an interview with each tenderer based on a set of questions to ascertain the tenderer's ability to demonstrate sound operational skills, flair in the presentation of local and seasonal produce and explore the tenderer's ideas on how they would develop the business opportunity of the Gallery Café at the Tweed River Art Gallery.

A copy of the Tender Evaluation Report is included in <u>ATTACHMENT 1</u> which is <u>CONFIDENTIAL</u> in accordance with Section 10A(2) (d) of the Local Government Act 1993, because it contains commercial information of a confidential nature that would, if disclosed:-

- (d) commercial information of a confidential nature that would, if disclosed:
- (i) prejudice the commercial position of the person who supplied it, or
- (ii) confer a commercial advantage on a competitor of the council, or
- (iii) reveal a trade secret

# **OPTIONS:**

- 1. Subject to a financial assessment being undertaken that returns a satisfactory result, award the tender to Paradise Tower Pty Limited for the value of \$30,000, being the commencing annual licence fee for the operation of the café at the Tweed River Art Gallery effective from 1 July 2013, for a licence of 3 years with an option for a further 3 years.
- 2. Council determines not to accept the tender from Paradise Tower Pty Limited.

# CONCLUSION:

Subject to a financial assessment being undertaken and that this returns a satisfactory result the tender from Paradise Tower P/L be accepted for the value of \$30,000, being the commencing annual licence fee for the operation of the café at the Tweed River Art Gallery effective from 1 July 2013 for a licence of 3 years with an option for a further 3 years.

Paradise Tower Pty Ltd achieved the highest overall assessment (based on the attached Tender evaluation report) and is deemed as the most advantageous option for Council.

# COUNCIL IMPLICATIONS:

# a. Policy:

Procurement Version 1.4.

# b. Budget/Long Term Financial Plan:

Income derived from the licence fee is included in Council's Long Term Financial Plan.

# c. Legal:

Not Applicable.

# d. Communication/Engagement:

Inform - We will keep you informed.

# LINKAGE TO INTEGRATED PLANNING AND REPORTING FRAMEWORK:

- 2 Supporting Community Life
- 2.3 Provide well serviced neighbourhoods
- 2.3.6 Provide conveniently placed and well equipped parks, sporting, recreational, cultural and community facilities
- 2.3.6.1 Provide conveniently placed well equipped community facilities
- 2.3.6.1.3 Maintain and improve the Tweed River Art Gallery's physical and built environment through the provision of additional educational and family friendly facilities

# UNDER SEPARATE COVER/FURTHER INFORMATION:

Confidential Attachment 1. Supplementary Confidential Information and Tender Evaluation Report dated 3 May 2013 (ECM 3052121).

CNL-38 [CNR-CM] Contract EC2013-034 Bray Park Water Treatment Plant - Design Supply Installation Testing and Commissioning of Potassium Permanganate Dosing System

SUBMITTED BY: Water



#### SUMMARY OF REPORT:

The Tender EC2013-034 Bray Park Water Treatment Plant - Design, Supply, Installation, Testing and Commissioning of Potassium Permanganate Dosing System was called to engage a suitably qualified and experienced dosing system equipment supplier to procure, install, and commission a Potassium Permanganate batching and dosing plant that meets the specification.

Tenders were officially invited in accordance with the provisions of the Local Government Act 1993 and the NSW Local Government (General) Regulation 2005. Tender Submissions closed at 4:00pm (local time) on 6 March 2013 in the Tender Box located in the foyer at the Tweed Shire Council Civic and Cultural Centre, Murwillumbah NSW 2484.

#### **RECOMMENDATION:**

That:

- 1. Council awards tender EC2013-034 Bray Park Water Treatment Plant Design Supply Installation Testing and Commissioning of Potassium Permanganate Dosing System to Liquitek Pty Ltd for the amount of \$193,510 (exclusive of GST).
- 2. The Acting General Manager be given delegated authority to approve variations up to \$150,000 above the initial tender price and those variations reported to Council following completion of works.
- 3. ATTACHMENT 1 is CONFIDENTIAL in accordance with Section 10A(2) of the Local Government Act 1993, because it contains:-
  - (d) commercial information of a confidential nature that would, if disclosed:
    - (i) prejudice the commercial position of the person who supplied it, or
    - (ii) confer a commercial advantage on a competitor of the council, or
    - (iii) reveal a trade secret.

# **REPORT:**

#### Background

Since the commissioning of the Bray Park Water Treatment Plant in 2010, there have been a number of occasions where elevated soluble manganese concentrations in the raw water have resulted in dirty water complaints from domestic consumers. These elevated levels have been attributed to turnover of water in Clarrie Hall Dam coinciding with periods of high rainfall. As there is currently no oxidation step in the treatment process, Council have been utilising a temporary potassium permanganate (KMnO<sub>4</sub>) dosing system located within the old water treatment plant. Following alternative options investigation and assessment of Potassium Permanganate performance, it is proposed to procure a permanent Potassium Permanganate dosing system.

# Request for Tender

The Tender EC2013-034 Bray Park Water Treatment Plant - Design, Supply, Installation, Testing and Commissioning of Potassium Permanganate Dosing System was called to engage a suitably qualified and experienced dosing system equipment supplier to procure, install, and commission a Potassium Permanganate batching and dosing plant that meets the specification.

A concept design for the system has been prepared to communicate the Principal's design intent. This concept design consists of the following documentation:

- Process & Instrumentation Diagram
- Control Functional Specification
- Typical General Arrangement
- Dosing Line Run drawings

The Contractor is to undertake the following scope of works:

- Design, procure, install, test and commission a Potassium Permanganate batching and dosing system, and associated infrastructure in accordance with this specification.
- Note that an electrical local control panel is NOT required.
- Install a dosing line from the dosing system to the dose point.
- Relocate the following services/equipment which are currently located in the work area.
- Fire hose reel.
- Install a safety shower and eyewash station in the bunded area. Connect to the potable water ring main.
- Interface with the Principal's personnel during the electrical installation, testing and commissioning phases of the project.
- Provide Operations and Maintenance documentation.
- Provide training to the Principal's Operations staff.

Tenders were officially invited in accordance with the provisions of the Local Government Act 1993 and the NSW Local Government (General) Regulation 2005. Tender Submissions closed at 4.00pm (local time) on 6 March 2013 in the Tender Box located in the foyer at the Tweed Shire Council Civic and Cultural Centre, Murwillumbah NSW 2484.

# **Tenders Received**

A total of six responses were recorded for EC2013-034 at the Tender Box opening on 6 March 2013. The six Tenders evaluated were from the following organisations:

# Tenderer

Water Treatment Australia Pty Ltd

AquaManage Pty Ltd

Dioxide Pacific Pty Ltd

Liquitek Pty Ltd

Moore Management Pty Ltd

Zeta Engineering Pty Ltd

# **Evaluation Criteria**

The tender evaluation was conducted as per the Tender Evaluation Plan. Tenders were evaluated based on the criteria items extracted from clause 24 of the Conditions of Tendering.

#### Tender Evaluation

The evaluation was conducted by Council's Tender Assessment Panel, consisting of Council's Water and Sewer Project Engineer, Treatment Plant and Process Engineer and a Contracts Engineer.

The general terms of reference for the Assessment Panel as follows:

- Assess the tenders submitted in accordance with the specified criteria;
- Undertake an individual initial assessment of the tender price and non-price data;
- Identify and seek further clarifications (as required) from the tenders and review any qualifications and departures; and
- Score all responses against the specified price and non-price assessment criteria and agreed assessment criteria weightings.

A copy of the Tender Evaluation Report is included as Attachment 1.

**<u>ATTACHMENT 1</u>** which is <u>**CONFIDENTIAL**</u> in accordance with Section 10A(2)(d) of the Local Government Act 1993, because it contains commercial information of a confidential nature that would, if disclosed:-

- (d) commercial information of a confidential nature that would, if disclosed:
  - (i) prejudice the commercial position of the person who supplied it, or
  - (ii) confer a commercial advantage on a competitor of the council, or
  - (iii) reveal a trade secret.

# **OPTIONS:**

- 1. Council resolve to award the contract to the preferred tenderer.
- 2. Council resolve to award the contract to another tenderer and provide the substantiation for so doing.

# CONCLUSION:

#### **Tender Recommendation**

Council awards tender EC2013-034 Bray Park Water Treatment Plant - Design, Supply, Installation, Testing and Commissioning of Potassium Permanganate Dosing System to Liquitek Pty Ltd for the amount of \$193,510.00 (exclusive of GST).

# **COUNCIL IMPLICATIONS:**

#### a. Policy:

Procurement Version 1.4.

# b. Budget/Long Term Financial Plan:

Funding for this project is included in the 2012/2013 budget.

#### c. Legal:

Not Applicable.

# d. Communication/Engagement:

Inform - We will keep you informed.

# LINKAGE TO INTEGRATED PLANNING AND REPORTING FRAMEWORK:

- 2 Supporting Community Life
- 2.3 Provide well serviced neighbourhoods
- 2.3.2 Provision of a secure, high quality and reliable drinking water supply services which meets health and environmental requirements and projected demand
- 2.3.2.7 Deliver Capital Works Program

# UNDER SEPARATE COVER/FURTHER INFORMATION:

(Confidential) Attachment 1. Tender Evaluation Report (ECM 3048576)

# CNL-39 [CNR-CM] Use of Land - Cabarita Youth Service

# SUBMITTED BY: Community and Cultural Services



# SUMMARY OF REPORT:

Council at its meeting of 21 March 2013 resolved as follows:

"that a report be prepared on the feasibility of use of Council owned vacant land in Hastings Road Cabarita, to be utilised for the provision of youth services by the Cabarita Youth Service."

#### **RECOMMENDATION:**

That Council notes that the vacant land located on Hastings Road, Bogangar (Lot 6 DP 872039) is unable to be used for the provision of youth services by the Cabarita Youth Service as it is not an authorised use within the adopted Plan of Management and current zoning, and is not in accordance with the Draft Youth Strategy.

# **REPORT:**

#### The Site

Lot 6 DP 872039 Hastings Road, Bogangar, is Council land classified as community land which has a specific Plan of Management for Car Park, adopted by Council on 3 May 2000 as per Attachments 1 and 2.

The core objective of the Plan is "to provide public off street car parking adjacent to the commercial area of the village of Bogangar/Cabarita Beach for the convenience of the local community and general public".

Section 35 of the Local Government Act 1993 provides that community land is required to be used and managed in accordance with:

- the plan of management applying to the land;
- any law permitting the use of the land for a specified purpose or otherwise regulating the use of the land; and
- this Division.

The Plan of Management expressly states that the land is to be used for car parking purposes. The land is currently zoned 5(a) Special Uses Car Parking, and has been identified as B2 Local Centre in the draft LEP 2012. The current zoning precludes the use to expand to community purposes. The specific Division referred to in the third item above, relates to the use of community land which includes the capacity to lease or licence community land. Section 46 of the Local Government Act allows the leasing or licensing of community land only specified in the Plan of Management. The Plan of Management for the subject parcel does not make any provisions for the leasing or licensing of the land. On this basis Council is constrained from using the parcel for any other purpose than for the provision of car parking.

#### Background

In 2009 following publically expressed concerns and community meetings that involved young people, the Cabarita Beach Business Association arranged support for the establishment of a youth service for Cabarita. The youth service was established at the old Cabarita Post Office on the understanding that use of this location would be temporary and the service would have to vacate once the developer commenced the redevelopment of the site.

In 2010 the Community Development Support Expenditure Scheme (CDSE) provided seed funds to start Cabarita Youth Service (CYS). In 2011 the service became incorporated in its own right, appointed a Board and separated from the auspices of Cabarita Beach Business Association. The service supports young people aged between 13-18 years and was initially assisted by Council in program development and governance advice as well as funds for activities, transport and workshops.

Since opening, the service has provided over 760 young people with a range of essential services including:

- information, advice and referrals to other services;
- employment and training support;
- practical support and emotional support; and,
- provision of weekly social and leisure activities.

In December 2011 the youth service received notification from the developer to vacate the Post Office property by 30 January 2012 for the Woolworths development to proceed.

Consequently, the CYS Executive Committee determined to continue to provide services to the local community via a mobile and/or co-location (hot-desk) service delivery model, with the long term view of moving into their own premises.

The CYS Executive Committee also resolved to enter into discussions with Woolworths management regarding the youth service locating to a permanent subsidised shop front within the new complex.

In February 2012, Council officers met with CYS representatives to discuss support for the service. Subject to meeting specific conditions, Council agreed to fund the youth service \$416 per month (maximum amount \$5,000) over 12-months. The youth service leased a shop-front in Hastings Road, Bogangar. The lease was terminated in October 2012 due to low client numbers and limited finances.

#### **Current Status**

Currently, CYS receives community support from the Cabarita Beach Bowls and Sports Club to operate on site one-day per week to provide counselling, advocacy, activities and workshops. The youth service receives ongoing support from St Josephs Youth Service youth workers. To date the youth service has not secured recurrent funding.

The Draft Youth Strategy was adopted by Council for public exhibition until 7 May 2013 and does not identify establishment of a youth service on the proposed site. Furthermore the strategy strongly advocates for establishment of a Tweed Coast Youth Precinct that co-locates a range of services to provide for the needs of young people. The following actions are included in Strategic Outcome 2, "Young People Feel Proud of Where They Live with Access to Quality Places and Spaces":

Action 10: Update Les Burger Field Master Plan to incorporate a Tweed Coast Youth Precinct.

Action 11: Seek external funding to implement Les Burger Field Master Plan.

#### **OPTIONS:**

- 1. That Lot 6 DP 872039 Hastings Road, Bogangar, is not utilised for the provision of youth services as it is not in accordance with the adopted Plan of Management, current zoning or the draft Youth Strategy.
- 2. That Council could potentially, with allocation of funds and time, seek to amend the Plan of Management for the site to consider alternate uses.

#### CONCLUSION:

A specific Plan of Management for a car park on Lot 6 DP 872039 Hastings Road, Bogangar, was adopted on 3 May 2000 by Council that prohibits use of this land by Cabarita Youth Service to provide youth services. A copy of the Plan of Management and advice on the constraints on using this land for community services is attached. Council has provided both officer and financial support for the establishment and operation of the Cabarita Youth Service over the past five years and is not in a position to extend further financial support. The Youth Development Officer continues to provide support as requested.

The Draft Council Youth Strategy, on public exhibition until 7 May, includes strategic actions that do not support the establishment of a youth facility on this site.

Therefore it is recommended that Council does not support the use of Lot 6 DP 872039 Hastings Road, Bogangar, identified by Cabarita Youth Service for the delivery of youth services as it is not in accordance with the adopted Plan of Management.

# **COUNCIL IMPLICATIONS:**

a. Policy: Youth Version 1.0.

# b. Budget/Long Term Financial Plan:

There is no future ongoing funding provided for Cabarita Youth Service in Council's budget.

#### c. Legal:

Not Applicable.

#### d. Communication/Engagement:

**Consult**-We will listen to you, consider your ideas and concerns and keep you informed.

# LINKAGE TO INTEGRATED PLANNING AND REPORTING FRAMEWORK:

- 2 Supporting Community Life
- 2.1 Foster strong, cohesive, cooperative, healthy and safe communities
- 2.1.3 Provide opportunities for residents to enjoy access to the arts, festivals, sporting activities, recreation, community and cultural facilities
- 2.1.3.2 Provide accessible recreational spaces for young people
- 2.1.3.2.1 Enhance existing infrastructure for youth recreation for example skate parks

# UNDER SEPARATE COVER/FURTHER INFORMATION:

Attachment 1.	Plan of Lot 6 DP 872039 (ECM 3048617)
Attachment 2.	Memo to Director Engineering and Operations dated 11 April
	2013 (ECM 3019311)

# CNL-40 [CNR-CM] Library Funding

# SUBMITTED BY: Community and Cultural Services



# SUMMARY OF REPORT:

Correspondence has been received from the Chairman of Public Libraries NSW-Country requesting Council to endorse a submission to government by the Library Council of NSW, by writing to the Minister for the Arts through the State Members for Tweed and Lismore.

This report outlines the proposals in the submission, and recommends that Council writes in support of the submission as requested.

#### **RECOMMENDATION:**

That Council writes to the Minister for the Arts, the Honourable George Souris MP, through Mr Geoff Provest MP, Member for Tweed and Mr Thomas George MP, Member for Lismore, calling upon the Government to implement the submission of the Library Council of NSW for the reform of the funding system for NSW public libraries.

#### **REPORT:**

#### Background:

The Chairman of Public Libraries NSW-Country, Cr Graham Smith, wrote to Council on 12 March 2013 (Attachment 1) to alert councillors to the current funding situation for public libraries within the State, which has deteriorated, and to seek continued support in attempts to improve the situation.

Cr Smith refers to his previous letter in October 2012 which outlined the cooperative approach between Public Libraries NSW, NSW Metropolitan Public Libraries Association and the State Library of NSW in submitting a compelling evidence-based submission, endorsed by the Library Council of NSW, to government for consideration. This submission is entitled 'Reforming Public Library Funding' (Attachment 2). There is no record of this previous letter being received by Tweed Shire Council.

Mr Smith has indicated that he had also circulated a draft notice of motion on library funding to Council in late 2012, with a request that it be submitted to the Minister via our local member; there is no record of this being received by Tweed Shire Council.

#### The Draft Notice of Motion for Councils on the issue of library funding:

A Draft Notice of Motion supporting the Library Council of NSW's submission, to which Mr Smith refers, advises:

That Council write to the Minister for the Arts, the Hon. George Souris MP, through Mr/Ms AB, Member for XYZ, calling upon the Government to implement the submission of the Library Council of NSW for the reform of the funding system for NSW public libraries.

#### Rationale:

The rationale for the Notice of Motion is stated by Mr Smith to be:

The funding system for public libraries in NSW is broken beyond repair, and within two years will become unsustainable, as grant funds either expire or are completely depleted by the necessity to meet recurrent funding needs due to population growth.

#### **Reform Proposal:**

The Library Council of NSW's proposal is:

#### Transparent Reform:

The Library Council recommends a fairer, simplified and more transparent method for the distribution of funds. The following principles for a new approach are recommended:

- Establish a base level of funding for councils with populations below 20,000 people (a safety net for small councils).
- Grant a modest increase in per capita allocations for all councils to recognise cost movements since 1994.
- Address disadvantage transparently through the application of appropriate disability factors.
- Phase out anomalies in current allocations due to former council amalgamations.
- **Ensure sustainability** by providing that no council receives less recurrent funding than 2012-13.

• **Build and maintain infrastructure** via a substantial capital fund, entitled the Building Library Infrastructure Program.

# A modest proposal:

The Library Council recommends that recurrent public library funding to councils be modestly adjusted from the current \$26.5M to \$30M per annum from 2013/14 and indexed from the following year. This would be allocated as follows: 68% (\$20.4M in2013/14) to councils by population with a base level of funding for councils with fewer than 20,000 residents, 17% (\$5.1M) to councils by NSW Local Government Grants Commission (LGGC) disability factors to explicitly address disadvantage and 15% (\$4.5M) applied to Statewide Programs.

# Capital Needs:

In addition, a Building Library Infrastructure Program of \$30M per annum for building and maintaining infrastructure is recommended to replace the now defunct provision of grants from operating funds. This program will enable councils to renew library buildings, systems, collections and equipment in regional, urban and growth areas. It is proposed that this be phased in, rising to \$30M over the 4 years from 2013-14 and indexed thereafter.

#### **Richmond-Tweed Regional Library comments:**

The Manager, Richmond-Tweed Regional Library, fully supports Cr. Smith's call to continue lobbying for sustainable funding for public libraries, and has provided the following supporting information:

In the report 'Reforming Public Library Funding' visits to libraries in NSW have grown by 24%, while in 7 years visits to the Richmond Tweed Regional Library have increased by 17% to 1,043,012 in 2011/12; loans for physical items have increased in RTRL for the same period by 18% to 1,999,568 without including loans to our ebooks and other online resources. As at March 2013 the RTRL membership stood at 130,469, a 21% increase from June 2006.

Public libraries globally are also in the midst of the ebook and portable device revolution which has not seen a decrease in library use, but it has created the need for libraries to adapt and provide another reading format and related infrastructure such as WIFI hotspots stretching the public library budget even further.

# **OPTIONS:**

- Option 1: That Council writes to the Minister for the Arts through the local State Members for Tweed and Lismore endorsing the Library Council of NSW reforms in accordance with the Draft Motion.
- Option 2: That Council takes no action to endorse the reforms to library funding.
- Option 3: That Council takes different action with respect to the issue of library funding.

It is recommended that Council takes action in accordance with Option 1.

# CONCLUSION:

The Library Council of NSW is the appropriate body to advise on the funding needs for the public libraries of NSW, and its proposals should be endorsed, to the advantage of all NSW local government authorities.

# COUNCIL IMPLICATIONS:

# a. Policy:

Corporate Policy Not Applicable.

# b. Budget/Long Term Financial Plan:

Under the Public Library Funding Strategy 2012/2013, Council has been allocated:

- Subsidy of \$167,503 (@\$1.85 per capita)
- Disability and Geographical adjustment of \$78,211

# c. Legal:

Not Applicable.

# d. Communication/Engagement:

Not Applicable.

# LINKAGE TO INTEGRATED PLANNING AND REPORTING FRAMEWORK:

- 2 Supporting Community Life
- 2.1 Foster strong, cohesive, cooperative, healthy and safe communities
- 2.1.3 Provide opportunities for residents to enjoy access to the arts, festivals, sporting activities, recreation, community and cultural facilities
- 2.1.3.6 Constituent member of Richmond Tweed Regional Library Service
- 2.1.3.6.1 Provide an accessible and contemporary Library Service
- 2.1.6 Provide social, economic and cultural initiatives which enhance access, equity and community well-being

# UNDER SEPARATE COVER/FURTHER INFORMATION:

- Attachment 1. Letter from Graham Smith, Chairman, Public Libraries NSW Country dated 12 March 2013 (ECM 65725849).
- Attachment 2. Reforming Public Library Funding, a submission to government by the Library Council of NSW (ECM 65725849).

# **REPORTS FROM THE DIRECTOR ENGINEERING AND OPERATIONS**

CNL-41 [EO-CM Extinguishment of Restriction as to User - Lot 5 in DP830973, Kirkwood Road, Tweed Heads

SUBMITTED BY: Design

FILE REFERENCE: GS4/92/123



#### SUMMARY OF REPORT:

An application has been received requesting the extinguishment of a Restriction as to User noted as item 7 in DP628995 which refers to the use of a dwelling house on the property.

The Restriction as to User was created in DP628995 over Lot 4. Lot 4 was then subdivided into Lots 4 and 5 in DP830973 which acted to separate the "caretakers residence" from the remainder of the property. The residence now exists solely on Lot 5 in DP830973 however the Restriction as to User is still valid over this parcel.

At the time of the proposed subdivision of Lot 4 in DP628995 (October 1992) the developer made application to modify condition 7 of the consent for development issued 31 August 1982 and showing the Restriction as to User as Item 7 on the Section 88B of DP628995. The minutes of the Development Assessment Panel held on 13 November 1992 relating to this subdivision resolved that "The application under Section 102 of the Act to modify consent T4/2107 be approved and condition 7 be deleted from the consent." No further action was taken after this time.

The owner of the property has again requested that the Restriction as to User be extinguished and all relevant fees have been paid. It is now necessary for Council to provide its consent to the extinguishment of the Restriction as to User seventhly referred to and created in DP628995 in so far as it relates to Lot 5 in DP 830973 only, by signing the relevant documentation.

# **RECOMMENDATION:**

That Council:

- 1. Provides its consent to the extinguishment of the Restriction as to User seventhly referred to and created in DP628995 in so far as it relates to Lot 5 in DP 830973 only.
- 2. All documentation be executed under the Common Seal of Council.

# **REPORT**:

An application has been received requesting the extinguishment of a restriction on use noted as item 7 in DP628995 which refers to the use of a dwelling house on the property.

The restriction reads:

7. No dwelling house or other building or improvement which is not consistent with the purpose of providing a sporting and recreation area for the use and enjoyment of the owners and occupiers of any and every part of the dominant tenements and their guests is to be erected or allowed to remain on any part of the servient tenement other than a dwelling house or such dwelling houses as my be necessary to provide accommodation for workmen directly engaged in the service and maintenance of the servient tenement and any sporting and recreation facilities which stand thereon and any such dwelling house or dwelling houses may only be occupied by such workmen and their families.

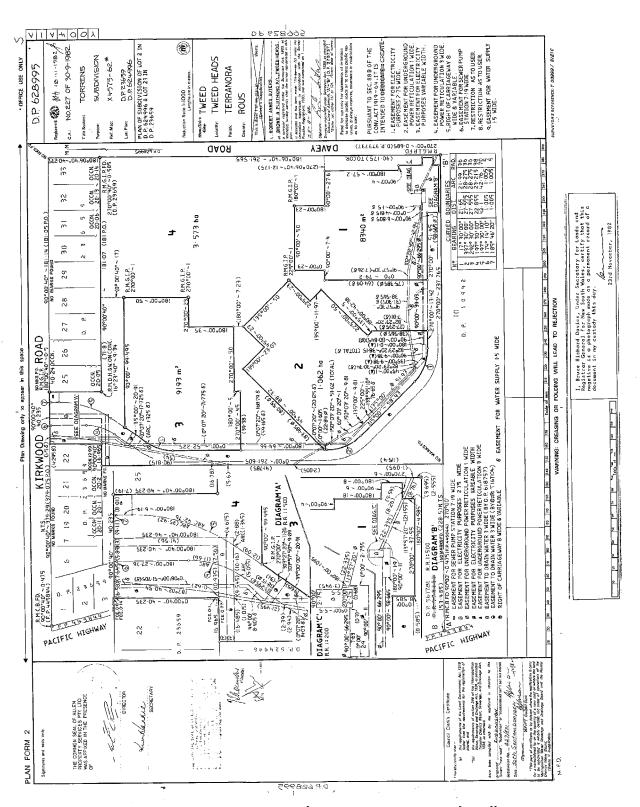
The restriction on Use was created in DP628995 over Lot 4. Lot 4 was then subdivided into Lots 4 and 5 in DP830973 which acted to separate the "caretakers residence" from the remainder of the property. The dwelling exists solely on Lot 5 in DP830973 however the restriction on use is still valid over this parcel.

It appears, from a letter from the developer's legal representative dated 1 July 1982, to have been the intention of the developer when creating Lot 4 in DP628995 to reserve the parcel as a sporting and recreation area for the owners and occupiers of the home units within Lots 1 to 3. Lot 4 was to be owned by a company which would be controlled equally by the bodies corporate of the home unit buildings. The intention was to prevent development of the recreation lot for purposes other than sport and recreation by making it subject to a Restriction as to user.

A request was subsequently made by the developers that consent be given by Council to the construction of a caretaker's residence. The dwelling was to be a three bedroom cottage complete with an office, reception area and interview room to allow for a full time resident caretaker/manager on the site. It was submitted that the size of the development warranted a full time caretaker/manager to attend to the complaints and well being of the residents as well as organising and supervising maintenance and cleaning programmes instituted by the Body Corporate of the development. It was desirable for the caretaker/manager to live in a separate dwelling on the common landscape area of the development to avoid problems associated with membership of the Body Corporate should he/she live in one of the tower units.

Council at its meeting of 4 August 1982 resolved that it had no objections to the erection of a full time caretakers/managers cottage on proposed Lot 4 and that they be invited to lodge formal details by way of a Development Application.

Below is a copy of DP628995 showing the area of Lot 4 - Lots 1, 2 and 3 are the benefiting parties to the Restriction on Use with Tweed Shire Council having the authority empowered to release, vary or modify the Restriction as to User seventhly referred to in the above mentioned plan.



Box;TWRE /Doc:DP 0628995 P /Rev:10-Dec-1992 /Sts:0K.0K /Prt:14-Dec-2000 11:56 /Pgs:ALL /Seq:1 of 1 WARNING : Electronic Document Supplied by LPI NSW for Your Internal Use Only

#### Council Meeting Date: Thursday 16 May 2013

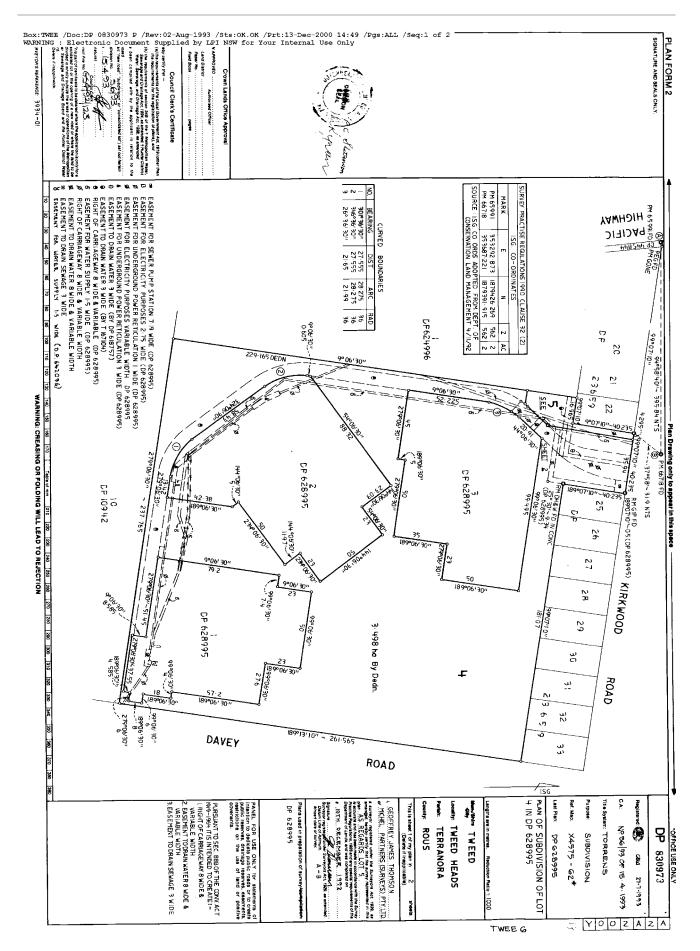
In October 1992 the developer submitted a further plan of subdivision of Lot 4 in DP 628995 which was effectively to create a separate parcel of land for the caretakers/managers cottage. The Lots then became Lots 4 and 5 in DP830973. At this time the developer made application to modify the Restriction as to User created in DP628995, being condition 7 of the consent for development issued 31 August 1982 and showing the Restriction as to User as Item 7 on Section 88B of DP628995.

The minutes of the Development Assessment Panel held on 13 November 1992 relating to the subdivision resolved that "The application under Section 102 of the Act to modify consent T4/2107 be approved and condition 7 be deleted from the consent". No further action was taken after this time.

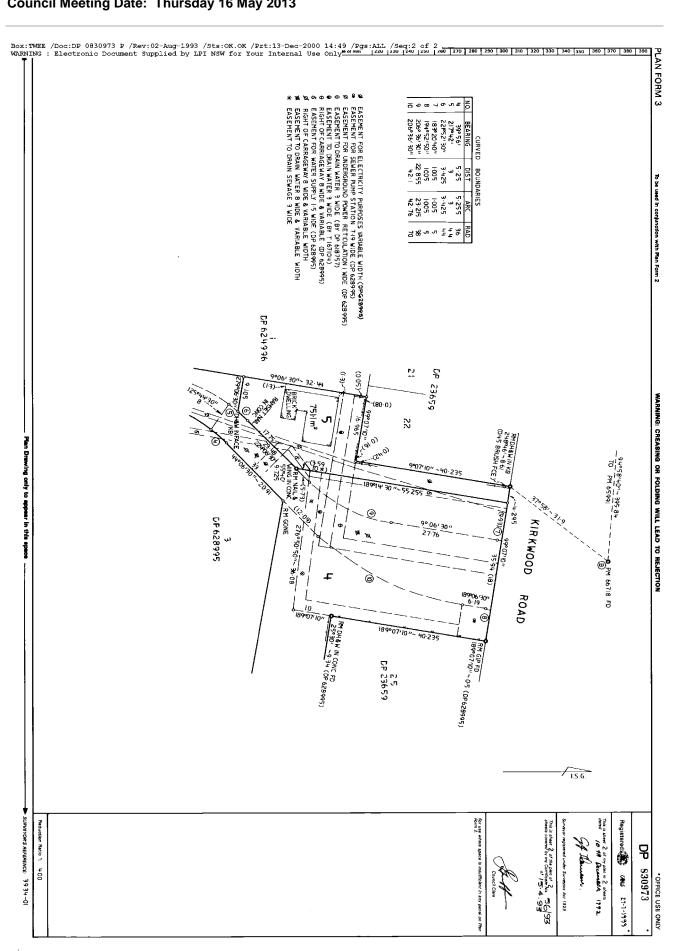
One of the current directors of Dutchmead – who own the 3 complexes (Lot 4) to which 24a Kirkwood Road was originally associated advises that the house was used as a caretakers office for only a short period of time, a couple of years, before it was deemed to be financially unviable. The house was sold in 1993 and moneys received from the sale went to pay for external contractors to maintain the common area of the remaining three complexes, and this remains the case. Since 1993 no full time caretaker has been required by the owners of Lot 4 and as such accommodation is no longer required to be provided.

The owner of the property has requested that the Restriction as to User now be extinguished to allow for the private sale of Lot 5 in DP830973 as a residential premises no longer associated with the adjoining development.

Below is the plan of subdivision - DP830973 which created Lots 4 and 5, and effectively created a separate parcel, Lot 5, for the dwelling.



Council Meeting Date: Thursday 16 May 2013



# **OPTIONS:**

- 1. Council approves the extinguishment of the Restriction as to User seventhly referred to in DP628995 only in so far as it relates to Lot 5 in DP 830973.
- 2. Council approves the extinguishment of the Restriction as to User seventhly referred to in DP628995 in its entirety.
- 3. Council does not approve the extinguishment of the Restriction as to User seventhly referred to in DP628995.

# CONCLUSION:

It is now necessary for Council to provide its consent to the extinguishment of the Restriction as to User seventhly referred to and created in DP628995 in so far as it relates to Lot 5 in DP 830973 only, by signing the relevant documentation.

# COUNCIL IMPLICATIONS:

# a. Policy:

Corporate Policy Not Applicable.

# b. Budget/Long Term Financial Plan:

There are no budget implications for Council.

# c. Legal:

Not Applicable.

# d. Communication/Engagement:

Inform - We will keep you informed.

# LINKAGE TO INTEGRATED PLANNING AND REPORTING FRAMEWORK:

- 1 Civic Leadership
- 1.3 Delivering the objectives of this plan
- 1.3.1 Council's organisation will be resourced to provide the essential services and support functions to deliver the objectives of this Plan
- 1.3.1.16 Provision of property and legal services for internal clients
- 1.3.1.16.1 Review property and legal services section resources to ensure client timeframes for projects are maintained and implement appropriate remedial measures if required

# UNDER SEPARATE COVER/FURTHER INFORMATION:

Nil.

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# CNL-42 [EO-CM] Chowan Creek - Road Closure Application - Parish of Nullum

SUBMITTED BY: Design

FILE REFERENCE:



#### SUMMARY OF REPORT:

Council has received an application for reassessment of a previous Crown Road closure application objection by Council, resolved at its meeting of 20 April 2010. A copy of the report and resolution is attached for information. This report relates to 2 separate objections resolved by Council in the April 2010 meeting.

During the original investigation it was noted that part of the proposed closures were road reserves located adjacent to the Tweed River with the potential to provide access for foreshore regeneration works. Council's Policy on Road Closure and Private Purchase provides that road closures which impact on access to the waterways are not eligible for closure and purchase.

At the time of the application Council was not provided with any details of the adjacent land owner's application to the Crown or the reasons for requesting a closure.

Information has now been received which shows that the majority of the original road reserve areas have been severely eroded and damaged with further significant damage caused as a result of recent major flooding in the area.

The adjacent land owner, who is the applicant, has requested that regeneration works be completed by the Crown in an attempt to stop further erosion and damage. The Crown has advised however that they are unable to provide financial assistance for such works which have been estimated in the vicinity of \$8,000 to \$10,000. The Crown advised the applicant that he may, however, pay for the works himself but will be required to licence the area from the Crown which includes an ongoing annual fee.

As the road reserve has now eroded to a point where any formation would be impossible and urgent remediation works are required to stop further foreshore damage it appears that the original resolution to object to its closure is not warranted. The road reserve is not able to provide access to the waterway nor could it be judged to be of more economic worth than the current land value.

If the road reserve is closed and purchased by the applicant it will become land held in fee simple by the land owner who may then be eligible for assistance for riverbank rehabilitation through Council's river health grants program. It is considered that the most economic and best environmental outcome would be to withdraw Council's original objection to the application and allow the applicant to close and purchase the sections of road reserve along the eastern boundaries of Lot 4 in DP705636 and Lot 95 in DP755754 which in turn would allow remediation works to commence.

# **RECOMMENDATION:**

That Council:

- 1. Withdraws the original objection as resolved at its meeting of 20 April 2010 to the closure and purchase by the applicants of the Crown Road reserve which runs along the eastern boundaries of Lot 4 in DP705636 and Lot 95 in DP755754; and
- 2. Executes all relevant documentation under the Common Seal of Council.

# **REPORT**:

Council has received an application for reassessment of a previous Crown Road closure application objection which was resolved by Council at its meeting of 20 April 2010. A copy of the report and resolution is attached for information.

During the original investigation it was noted that part of the proposed closures were road reserves located adjacent to the Tweed River with the potential to provide access for foreshore regeneration works. Council's Policy on Road Closure and Private Purchase noted that due to this fact the road was not eligible for closure and purchase.

At the time of the application Council was not provided with any details of the adjacent land owner's application to the Crown or the reasons for requesting a closure.

This is standard practice, so when an application for the closure and purchase of a Crown Road reserve is received, Council undertakes a desktop assessment and, in most cases, a site inspection where the subject road reserve is accessible, together with reference to the Policy on Road Closure and Private Purchase.

No site inspection was undertaken for the subject application as it is not easily accessed from public land, and as a result of the desktop review and the Council Policy, it was recommended that Council object to the closure of the subject Crown Road reserves.

Information has now been received which shows that the majority of the original road reserve areas have been severely eroded and damaged with further significant damage caused as a result of recent major flooding in the area.

Below are several photos of the areas of concern which shows the erosion damage.







The adjacent land owner, who is the applicant, has requested that regeneration works be completed by the Crown in an attempt to stop further erosion and damage. The Crown has advised however that they are unable to provide financial assistance for such works which have been estimated in the vicinity of \$8,000 to \$10,000. The Crown has advised the applicant that he may however pay for the works himself but will be required to licence the area from the Crown which includes an ongoing annual fee.

As the road reserve has now eroded to a point where any formation would be impossible and urgent remediation works are required to stop further foreshore damage it appears that the original resolution to object to its closure is not warranted. The road reserve is not able to provide access to the waterway nor could it be judged to be of more economic worth that the current land value.

If the road reserve is closed and purchased by the applicant it will become land held in fee simple by the land owner who may then be eligible for assistance in riverbank rehabilitation through Councils river health grants program. Council's Natural Resources Management Unit has been in consultation with the land owner in this regard and support the closure and purchase.

This appears to provide the best environmental outcome as the land can be rehabilitated preventing further erosion and it is work that will not be funded by the Crown.

# **OPTIONS:**

- 1. Council withdraws the original objection as resolved in its meeting of 20 April 2010 to the closure and purchase by the applicants of the Crown road reserve which runs along the eastern boundaries of Lot 4 in DP705636 and Lot 95 in DP755754, or
- 2. Council upholds the original resolution from its meeting of 20 April 2010 objecting to the closure and purchase by the applicants of the Crown road reserve which runs along the eastern boundaries of Lot 4 in DP705636 and Lot 95 in DP755754.

#### CONCLUSION:

It is considered that the most economic and best environmental outcome would be to withdraw Council's objection to the application and allow the applicant to close and purchase the sections of road reserve along the eastern boundaries of Lot 4 in DP705636 and Lot 95 in DP755754 which in turn would allow remediation works to commence.

#### COUNCIL IMPLICATIONS:

#### a. Policy:

Road Closures and Private Purchase Version 1.2.

#### b. Budget/Long Term Financial Plan:

Not Applicable.

#### c. Legal:

Not Applicable.

#### d. Communication/Engagement:

**Consult**-We will listen to you, consider your ideas and concerns and keep you informed.

# LINKAGE TO INTEGRATED PLANNING AND REPORTING FRAMEWORK:

- 1 Civic Leadership
- 1.3 Delivering the objectives of this plan
- 1.3.1 Council's organisation will be resourced to provide the essential services and support functions to deliver the objectives of this Plan
- 1.3.1.16 Provision of property and legal services for internal clients
- 1.3.1.16.1 Review property and legal services section resources to ensure client timeframes for projects are maintained and implement appropriate remedial measures if required

# UNDER SEPARATE COVER/FURTHER INFORMATION:

1. Report and Resolution from Council Meeting held 20 April 2010 (ECM 3048496).

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CNL-43 [EO-CM] EC2013-019 for the Supply of One (1) 27,500Kg GVM Heavy Commercial Truck Chassis and Build and Supply of One (1) Tilt-Tray Slide Back and Crane

SUBMITTED BY: Works



#### **SUMMARY OF REPORT:**

Council advertised tender EC2013-019 on 4 February 2013 for the Supply of One (1) 27,500Kg GVM Heavy Commercial 8X4 Truck Chassis and Build and Supply of One (1) Tilt-Tray Slide Back and Crane Unit for Council operations, with a closing date of 27 February 2013.

This report outlines the tenders received.

The recommendation has been formulated based on the Selection Criteria which is contained in Confidential Attachment 1.

#### **RECOMMENDATION:**

That in relation to EC2013-019 for the Supply of One (1) 27,500Kg GVM Heavy Commercial Truck Chassis and Build and Supply of One (1) Tilt-Tray Slide Back and Crane:-

- 1. The tender from Murwillumbah Truck Centre Option No12, for the Supply of One (1) Mitsubishi Fuso FS52 27,500Kg GVM Heavy Commercial 8x4 Truck Chassis, and Build and Supply of One (1) Ekebol Tilt-Tray Slide Back Body and HMF 1420K4 Crane, be accepted to the value of \$335,362.00 exclusive of GST.
- 2 ATTACHMENT 1 is CONFIDENTIAL in accordance with Section 10A(2) (d) of the Local Government Act 1993, because it contains commercial information commercial position of the tenders if it was provided. The information identifies the tenderers in relation to the tender price and the evaluation of products offered by each tenderer. If disclosed, the information would be likely to prejudice the commercial position of the tenderer in terms of market competitiveness, by giving their competitors an advantage. Accordingly, disclosure of the information is not in the public interest.

#### **REPORT:**

#### **Background**

Tender EC2013-109 was advertised in the following media groups:

Sydney Morning Herald Brisbane Courier Mail Gold Coast Bulletin Tweed Link Councils Web Site

Council Tender EC2013-019 is a re-tender for contract EC2012-231 which was declined by Council at its meeting held on 12 December 2012.

Council Tender EC2013-019 used the open tender process to invite responses for the Supply of One (1) 27,500Kg GVM Heavy Commercial 8X4 Truck Chassis and Build and Supply of One (1) Tilt-Tray Slide Back and Crane Unit for Council operations.

Previous Tender EC2012-231 received thirteen (13) responses, with twenty four (24) responses being received for Tender EC2013-019.

A suitably qualified and experienced independent Evaluator was engaged to participate in the operator evaluation of shortlisted tenders due to concerns expressed by Council in previous tender EC2012-231. While this is not a regular Council procedure due to the additional cost incurred and the difficulty of coordinating suppliers, equipment, operational staff and independent evaluators, similar arrangements will be made from time to time to confirm that the evaluation process is thorough, transparent and objective.

This unit is a multi-purpose vehicle used for movement and delivery of small plant and equipment and materials such as pipes, pre-cast components and storage containers to worksites. Items for transportation can be loaded and unloaded by use of the crane, or by winching plant items and containers onto the tilt-tray body.

The following assessment criteria were used in the Tender and Equipment evaluation process:

- **1.** NPV Capital Outlay, Whole of Life costing
- 2. Operational evaluation Chassis Safety, design strength and build quality of chassis for application intended, emissions and environmental considerations, fuel economy factors, operational ability, innovation, product support, equipment warranty and training
- 3. Operational Evaluation Body and Crane Design strength and build quality of similar units in operation, manufacturer's experience in build type (number of units built per annum and to date) proximity of build facility to Council (ease of project management and warranty repair work) body and crane warranty
- 4. Maintenance evaluation Ease and speed of regular preventative maintenance, maintenance intervals, service and parts accessibility on machine, technician's safety when servicing, strength and quality of high wearing parts, parts availability from supplier, breakables and innovation in engineering
- 5. Operator evaluation Ergonomics in cab and controls, safety, suitability for application intended, seating comfort back and lumbar support, access/egress, visual search and daily maintenance checks.

# **Responses and Evaluations**

A total of twenty four (24) responses were received for tender EC2013-019 Supply of One (1) 27,500Kg GVM Heavy Commercial 8X4 Truck Chassis and Build and Supply of One (1) Tilt-Tray Slide Back and Crane Unit for Council operations.

Tenderer and Responses	
Southside Truck Agencies (5)	
VCV Brisbane (5)	
Brown & Hurley (1)	
K&J Trucks (2)	
Murwillumbah Truck Centre (2)	
Newcastle Iveco (9)	

Three (3) Tender responses scored low on completion of Whole of Life Costing/NPV and operational evaluation stage, therefore not progressing to the short listing stage of the operator and maintenance evaluation.

#### Tender Evaluation

The tender and product evaluation was conducted by Council's Evaluation Panel consisting of the Plant and Materials Coordinator, a Maintenance Technician, the Fabrication Supervisor, two experienced Council equipment operators and an experienced independent evaluator from a Gold Coast heavy commercial driver training centre.

A copy of the Tender Evaluation Report is included in <u>ATTACHMENT 1</u> which is <u>CONFIDENTIAL</u> in accordance with Section 10A(2)(d)(I) of the Local Government Act, 1993, because it contains commercial information in relation to the tenders, the disclosure of which would be likely to prejudice the commercial position of the tenderers if it was provided. The information identifies the tenderers in relation to the tender price and the evaluation of the products offered by each tenderer. If disclosed, the information would be likely to prejudice the commercial position of the tenderer of market competitiveness by giving their competitors an advantage. Accordingly, disclosure of the information is not in the public interest. Recommendations appear below for the Tender.

# One (1) 27,500Kg GVM Heavy Commercial 8X4 Truck Chassis and Build and Supply of One (1) Tilt-Tray Slide Back and Crane Unit

# **OPTIONS:**

Not Applicable.

# CONCLUSION:

After product analysis, product evaluation and criteria weighting, it is recommended that:

• Option No12 - <u>Murwillumbah Truck Centre</u> be nominated for EC2013-019 for the supply of One (1) 27,500Kg 8X4 Truck Chassis - Mitsubishi Fuso FS52 Unit and the build and supply of One Ekebol Tilt Tray Slide Back Body and HMF 1420 K4 Crane to Tweed Shire Council.

Details of Tenderers relative competitiveness are shown in the Evaluation Report **CONFIDENTIAL ATTACHMENT 1** which was endorsed by the Evaluation Committee.

#### COUNCIL IMPLICATIONS:

#### a. Policy:

Procurement Version 1.3.

#### b. Budget/Long Term Financial Plan:

Funds Available in the 2012/2013 Fleet Budget

#### c. Legal:

Not Applicable.

#### d. Communication/Engagement:

**Inform** - We will keep you informed.

#### LINKAGE TO INTEGRATED PLANNING AND REPORTING FRAMEWORK:

- 1 Civic Leadership
- 1.3 Delivering the objectives of this plan
- 1.3.1 Council's organisation will be resourced to provide the essential services and support functions to deliver the objectives of this Plan

#### UNDER SEPARATE COVER/FURTHER INFORMATION:

(Confidential) Attachment 1. EC2013-019 Supply of One (1) 27,500Kg GVM Heavy Commercial 8X4 Truck Chassis and Build and Supply of One (1) Tilt-Tray Slide Back and Crane Unit for Council operations. (ECM 3020367) CNL-44 [EO-CM] EC2013-021 for the Supply of One (1) 24,000Kg GVM Heavy Commercial Truck Chassis and Build and Supply of One (1) 10 Cubic Metre Tipping Body

SUBMITTED BY: Works



#### SUMMARY OF REPORT:

Council advertised tender EC2013-021 on 15 February 2013 for the Supply of One (1) 24,000Kg GVM Heavy Commercial 6X4 Truck Chassis and Build and Supply of One (1) 10 Cubic Metre Tipping Body Unit for Council operations, with a closing date of 13 March 2013.

This report outlines the tenders received.

The recommendation has been formulated based on the Selection Criteria which is contained in Confidential Attachment 1.

#### **RECOMMENDATION:**

That in relation to EC2013-021 for the Supply of One (1) 24,000Kg GVM Heavy Commercial 6X4 Truck Chassis and Build and Supply of One (1) 10 Cubic Metre Tipping Body:

- 1. The tender from Gold Coast Isuzu for the Supply of One (1) Isuzu FXY1500L 24,000Kg GVM Heavy Commercial 6X4 Truck Chassis be accepted to the value of \$150,651 Exclusive of GST.
- The tender from Vince McNamara Engineering for the build and supply of One (1) 10 Cubic Metre Tipping Body be accepted to the value of \$36,200 Exclusive of GST.
- 3. <u>ATTACHMENT 1</u> is <u>CONFIDENTIAL</u> in accordance with Section 10A (2) (d) of the Local Government Act, 1983, because it contains commercial information in relation to the tenders, the disclosure of which would be likely to prejudice the commercial position of the tenders if it was provided. The information identifies the tenderers in relation to the tender price and the evaluation of products offered by each tenderer. If disclosed, the information would be likely to prejudice the commercial position of the tenderer in terms of market competitiveness, by giving their competitors an advantage. Accordingly, disclosure of the information is not in the public interest.

#### **REPORT:**

#### **Background**

The tender was advertised in the following media groups:

Sydney Morning Herald Brisbane Courier Mail Gold Coast Bulletin Tweed Link Councils Web Site

Council Tender EC2013-021 used the open tender process to invite responses for the Supply of One (1) 24,000Kg GVM Heavy Commercial 6X4 Truck Chassis and Build and Supply of One (1) 10 Cubic Metre Tipping Body for Council operations.

This combined unit will be utilised for the transport of heavy materials.

The following assessment criteria were used in the Tender and Equipment evaluation process:

- **1. NPV** Capital Outlay, Whole of Life costing
- 2. Operational evaluation Chassis Safety, design strength and build quality of chassis for application intended, emissions and environmental considerations, fuel economy factors, operational ability, innovation, product support, equipment warranty and training
- 3. Operational Evaluation Body and Crane Design strength and build quality of similar units in operation, manufacturer's experience in build type (number of units built per annum and to date) proximity of build facility to Council (ease of project management and warranty repair work) body and crane warranty
- 4. Maintenance evaluation Ease and speed of regular preventative maintenance, maintenance intervals, service and parts accessibility on machine, technician's safety when servicing, strength and quality of high wearing parts, parts availability from supplier, breakables and innovation in engineering
- 5. Operator evaluation Ergonomics in cab and controls, safety, suitability for application intended, seating comfort back and lumbar support, access/egress, visual search and daily maintenance checks

# **Responses and Evaluations**

A total of eight (8) responses were received for tender EC2013-021 Supply of One (1) 24,000Kg GVM Heavy Commercial 6X4 Truck Chassis and Build and Supply of One (1) 10 Cubic Metre Tipping Body for Council operations.

Tenderer and Responses	
Gold Coast Isuzu (1)	
Murwillumbah Truck Centre (3)	
Southside Truck Centre (2)	
VCV Brisbane (1)	
Newcastle Iveco (1)	

Five (5) Responses were deemed non-compliant against Councils technical requirements of tender.

Non-Compliant Responses	
Murwillumbah Truck Centre (3)	
Southside Truck Centre (1)	
VCV Volvo (1)	

Therefore the compliant tenders for Chassis supply were:

Compliant Responses
Gold Coast Isuzu - Isuzu FXY1500L
Southside Truck Centre - Volvo FM11
Newcastle Iveco - Iveco Stralis AD450

Of the remaining three (3) compliant tenders, the highest scoring response in Whole of Life Costing, NPV and operational evaluation (Gold Coast Isuzu) was progressed through to Operator and Maintenance Evaluation stage. On completion of these evaluations it was deemed impossible for the remaining two (2) responses to obtain scores significant enough to equal or exceed Gold Coast Isuzu's final weighting score.

# Tender Evaluation

The tender and product evaluation was conducted by Council's Evaluation Panel consisting of the Plant and Materials Coordinator, Maintenance Technician and Council equipment operator.

A copy of the Tender Evaluation Report is included in <u>ATTACHMENT 1</u> which is <u>CONFIDENTIAL</u> in accordance with Section 10A(2)(d)(I) of the Local Government Act, 1993, because it contains commercial information in relation to the tenders, the disclosure of which would be likely to prejudice the commercial position of the tenderers if it was provided. The information identifies the tenderers in relation to the tender price and the evaluation of the products offered by each tenderer. If disclosed, the information would be likely to prejudice the commercial position of the tenderer of market competitiveness by giving their competitors an advantage. Accordingly, disclosure of the information is not in the public interest. Recommendations appear below for the Tender.

# One (1) 24,000Kg GVM Heavy Commercial 6X4 Truck Chassis and Build and Supply of One (1) 10 Cubic Metre Tipping Body

# CONCLUSION:

After product analysis, product evaluation and criteria weighting, it is recommended that:

- <u>Gold Coast Isuzu</u> is nominated for EC2013-021 for the supply of One (1) 24,000Kg 6X4 Truck Chassis Isuzu FXY1500L Unit to Tweed Shire Council.
- <u>Vince McNamara Engineering</u> is nominated for EC2013-021 for the build and supply of One (1) 10 Cubic Metre Tipping Body Unit to Tweed Shire Council

Details of Tenderers relative competitiveness are shown in the Evaluation Report **CONFIDENTIAL ATTACHMENT 1** which was endorsed by the Evaluation Committee.

# COUNCIL IMPLICATIONS:

#### a. Policy:

Procurement Version 1.3

# b. Budget/Long Term Financial Plan:

Funds Available in the 2012/2013 Fleet Budget

#### c. Legal:

Not Applicable.

# d. Communication/Engagement:

**Inform** - We will keep you informed.

# LINKAGE TO INTEGRATED PLANNING AND REPORTING FRAMEWORK:

- 1 Civic Leadership
- 1.3 Delivering the objectives of this plan
- 1.3.1 Council's organisation will be resourced to provide the essential services and support functions to deliver the objectives of this Plan

# UNDER SEPARATE COVER/FURTHER INFORMATION:

(Confidential) Attachment 1. EC2013-021 Supply of One (1) 24,000Kg GVM Heavy Commercial 6X4 Truck Chassis and Build and Supply of One (1) 10 Cubic Metre Tipping Body for Council operations (ECM 3020360).

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# CNL-45 [EO-CM] EC2013-046 Annual Supply of Ready Mixed Concrete

#### SUBMITTED BY: Contracts



#### **SUMMARY OF REPORT:**

This report outlines the tender for EC2013-046 Annual Supply of Ready Mixed Concrete with a twelve (12) month contract period commencing 1 July 2013 until the 30 June 2014. Recommendations have been formulated based on the Selection Criteria which is contained in the Tender Evaluation, Pricing Report included in Confidential Attachment A.

#### **RECOMMENDATION:**

#### That:

- 1. In relation to EC2013-046 Annual Supply of Ready Mixed Concrete Council accepts the tender from Boral (Area 1), Hymix (Area 2) and Brims (Area 3) for the supply of Ready Mixed Concrete for the period 1 July 2013 until the 30 June 2014.
- 2. ATTACHMENT 1 is CONFIDENTIAL in accordance with Section 10A(2)(d) of the Local Government Act 1993, because it contains commercial information of a confidential nature that would, if disclosed:-
  - (d) commercial information of a confidential nature that would, if disclosed:
    - (i) prejudice the commercial position of the person who supplied it, or
    - (ii) confer a commercial advantage on a competitor of the council, or
    - (iii) reveal a trade secret

## **REPORT:**

Council tender EC2013-046 Annual supply of Ready Mixed Concrete closed on 10 April 2013. The tender sought prices for the supply and delivery of ready mixed concrete for maintenance and construction purposes in various mix types and quantities across the Shire.

The supply contract is for the period 1 July 2013 until the 30 June 2014.

#### **Tenders Received**

A total of five (5) submissions were received.

Submissions were received from the following suppliers:

Holcim Australia	Areas 1, 2 & 3
Brims	Areas 1, 2 & 3
Nucon	Areas 1, 2 & 3
Hymix	Areas 1 & 2
Boral	Area 1

#### Tender Evaluation

The Tender Evaluation was conducted by Council's Tender Panel, consisting of Council's Works Unit's Senior Construction Engineer, Construction Engineer and Contracts Unit's Engineering Admin Supervisor. A copy of the Tender Evaluation Report is included in **ATTACHMENT 1** which is **CONFIDENTIAL** in accordance with Section 10A(2)(d) of the Local Government Act, 1993, because it contains commercial information in relation to the tenders, the disclosure of which would be likely to prejudice the commercial position of the tender price and the evaluation of the products offered by each tenderer. If disclosed, the information would be likely to prejudice the commercial position of the tender of the information in the public interest.

Based on the evaluation contained in the Confidential Attachment, it is recommended that Council accepts the tender of Boral (Area 1), Hymix (Area 2) and Brims (Area 3) for the Supply of Ready Mixed Concrete for the period 1 July 2013 until the 30 June 2014.

#### **OPTIONS:**

Not Applicable

## CONCLUSION:

That Council accepts the submissions from Boral (Area 1),Hymix (Area 2) and Brims (Area 3) for the supply of Ready Mixed Concrete for the period 1 July 2013 until the 30 June 2014.

## COUNCIL IMPLICATIONS:

## a. Policy:

Procurement Version 1.3.

## b. Budget/Long Term Financial Plan:

Provision made in 2013/2014 Maintenance and Capital Works budgets for the Supply of Ready Mixed Concrete.

#### c. Legal:

Not Applicable.

#### d. Communication/Engagement:

Not Applicable.

#### LINKAGE TO INTEGRATED PLANNING AND REPORTING FRAMEWORK:

- 1 Civic Leadership
- 1.3 Delivering the objectives of this plan
- 1.3.2 Council will seek the best value in delivering services
- 1.3.2.5 Procurement of works, goods and services by quotation and tendering. Incorporate "value for money" criteria into Tender Evaluation Plans
- 1.3.2.5.1 Preparation of tender/quotation documents and contract administration and supervision

## UNDER SEPARATE COVER/FURTHER INFORMATION:

1. **Confidential Attachment** EC2013-046 Annual Supply of Ready Mixed Concrete (DW 3020924).

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# CNL-46 [EO-CM] EC2013-064 Provision of Surf Life Saving Services 2013-2017

SUBMITTED BY: Contracts

## FILE REFERENCE: GC12/4/2013064



#### SUMMARY OF REPORT:

The Tender EC2013-064 Provision of Surf Life Saving Services 2013-2017 was called to engage a suitably qualified and experienced organisation to provide professional life saving services, education and awareness programs to the Tweed Shire Local Government Area for a term of four (4) years commencing with the 2013/2014 season.

Tenders were officially invited in accordance with the provisions of the Local Government Act 1993 and the NSW Local Government (General) Regulation 2005. Tender Submissions closed at 4:00pm (local time) on 10 April 2013 in the Tender Box located in the foyer at the Tweed Shire Council Civic and Cultural Centre, Murwillumbah NSW 2484.

#### **RECOMMENDATION:**

#### That

- 1. Council awards tender EC2013-064 for the Provision of Surf Life Saving Services 2013-2017 to Australian Lifeguard Service for the amount of \$2,010,276.94 (exclusive of GST).
- 2. The General Manager is given delegated authority to approve variations up to \$150,000 above the awarded tender amount and those variations reported to Council following completion of works.
- 3. Council accepts the rates to provide services for Queensland school/public holidays where they do not coincide with NSW holidays for the tendered amount but that this service not be utilised at this time but called upon in the event that Council resolves to extend the services to cover these additional holiday periods.
- 4. ATTACHMENT 1 is CONFIDENTIAL in accordance with Section 10A(2)(d) of the Local Government Act 1993, because it contains:-
  - (d) commercial information of a confidential nature that would, if disclosed:
    - (i) prejudice the commercial position of the person who supplied it, or
    - (ii) confer a commercial advantage on a competitor of the council, or
    - (iii) reveal a trade secret.

## **REPORT:**

The Tender EC2013-064 Provision of Surf Life Saving Services 2013-2017 was called to engage a suitably qualified and experienced organisation to provide professional life saving services, education and awareness programs to the Tweed Shire Local Government Area for a term of four (4) years commencing with the 2013/2014 season.

Tenders were officially invited in accordance with the provisions of the Local Government Act 1993 and the NSW Local Government (General) Regulation 2005. Tender Submissions closed at 4:00pm (local time) on 10 April 2013 in the Tender Box located in the foyer at the Tweed Shire Council Civic and Cultural Centre, Murwillumbah NSW 2484.

## **Tenders Received**

One response was recorded for EC2013-064 at the Tender Box opening on 10 April 2013 from Surf Life Saving Service Pty Ltd trading as Australian Lifeguard Service.

#### Tender Evaluation

A Tender Evaluation Plan was developed based on the premise that competitive tenders were to be received and scored against specific selection criteria in order to select the best value tender for Council for contract EC2013-064.

As with previous surf life saving services tenders only one tender submission was received at tender closing. As such it was decided to assess the tender from Australian Lifeguard Service, as with the current period contract, against the broad criteria in the Tender documentation. Refer to confidential ATTACHMENT 1 for the detailed Tender Evaluation Report.

The Tender Evaluation was conducted by Council's Tender Panel, consisting of Manager Recreation Services and Director Engineering and Operations. A copy of the Tender Evaluation Report is included in ATTACHMENT 1 which is CONFIDENTIAL in accordance with Section 10A(2)(d) of the Local Government Act, 1993, because it contains commercial information in relation to the tenders, the disclosure of which would be likely to prejudice the commercial position of the tenderers if it was provided. The information identifies the tenderers in relation to the tender price and the evaluation of the products offered by each tenderer. If disclosed, the information would be likely to prejudice the commercial position of the information is not in the public interest. Recommendations appear below for the Tender.

The sole tenderer met all of the selection criteria and contract requirements.

Based on being the sole tenderer and Council's previous experience with Australian Lifeguard Service, it is recommended that Tenderer Australian Lifeguard Service be nominated for the provision of Surf Life Saving Services over a 4 year term commencing with the 2013/2014 season.

## **OPTIONS:**

During the tender period tenderers, through formal Notices to Tenderers, were asked to provide prices for surf life saving services for the periods where Queensland holidays, particularly School holidays, do not coincide with New South Wales. This is brought about by Council acknowledging a suggestion of the Australian Lifeguard Service 2011/2012 season report where local lifeguards and members of local life saving clubs noted increased popularity of Tweed Shire beaches over the NSW QLD school holidays. The cost for Australian Lifeguard Service to provide these additional services over the term of the contract above what is included in the recommended tender award amount is \$186,884.53 (GST Exclusive).

## CONCLUSION:

## Tender Recommendation

Council awards tender EC2013-064 for the Provision of Surf Life Saving Services 2013-2017 to Australian Lifeguard Service for the amount of \$2,010,276.94 (exclusive of GST).

## COUNCIL IMPLICATIONS:

#### a. Policy:

Procurement Version 1.4.

#### b. Budget/Long Term Financial Plan:

The cost of these services is allocated in the Long Term Financial Plan.

#### c. Legal:

Nil.

## d. Communication/Engagement:

We will keep you informed.

## LINKAGE TO INTEGRATED PLANNING AND REPORTING FRAMEWORK:

- 1 Civic Leadership
- 1.3 Delivering the objectives of this plan
- 1.3.1 Council's organisation will be resourced to provide the essential services and support functions to deliver the objectives of this Plan
- 1.3.1.29 Implementation of the recommendations of the Beach Safety Audit
- 1.3.1.29.1 Ongoing implementation through lifeguarding contract and the Beach Safety Liaison Committee

## UNDER SEPARATE COVER/FURTHER INFORMATION:

(Confidential) Attachment 1. - Tender Evaluation Report (ECM 3048452).

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# CNL-47 [EO-CM] EC2013-077 Budd Park Murwillumbah Landscape Upgrade

## SUBMITTED BY: Contracts



## SUMMARY OF REPORT:

The Tender EC2013-077 Budd Park Murwillumbah Landscape Upgrade was called to engage a suitably qualified and experienced Landscaping Contractor to provide landscaping construction works for the proposed Budd Park Murwillumbah landscaping upgrade.

Tenders were officially invited in accordance with the provisions of the Local Government Act 1993 and the NSW Local Government (General) Regulation 2005. Tender Submissions closed at 4:00pm (local time) on 24 April 2013 in the Tender Box located in the foyer at the Tweed Shire Council Civic and Cultural Centre, Murwillumbah NSW 2484.

#### **RECOMMENDATION:**

#### That:

- 1. Council awards tender EC2013-077 for the Budd Park Murwillumbah Landscape Upgrade to Greenwood Landscape Management Pty Ltd for the amount of \$140,490.59 (exclusive of GST).
- 2. The General Manager is given delegated authority to approve variations up to \$150,000 above the initial tender price and those variations reported to Council following completion of works.
- 3 ATTACHMENT 1 is CONFIDENTIAL in accordance with Section 10A(2)(d) of the Local Government Act 1993, because it contains:-
  - (d) commercial information of a confidential nature that would, if disclosed:
    - (i) prejudice the commercial position of the person who supplied it, or
    - (ii) confer a commercial advantage on a competitor of the council, or
    - (iii) reveal a trade secret.

## **REPORT:**

The Tender EC2013-077 Budd Park Murwillumbah Landscape Upgrade was called to engage a suitably qualified and experienced Landscaping Contractor to provide landscaping construction works for the proposed Budd Park Murwillumbah landscaping upgrade.

Tenders were officially invited in accordance with the provisions of the Local Government Act 1993 and the NSW Local Government (General) Regulation 2005. Tender Submissions close at 4:00pm (local time) on 24 April 2013 in the Tender Box located in the foyer at the Tweed Shire Council Civic and Cultural Centre, Murwillumbah NSW 2484.

The landscaping services are sought from a suitable qualified and experienced Landscaping Contractor with expertise in landscaping construction works.

The proposed works to be under taken involve the protection of existing trees, supply and construction of all types hard landscapes as detailed, supply and installation of landscape furniture as detailed, supply and installation of all power to shelters and the supply and installation of all soft landscape works as detailed in design drawings.

## **Tenders Received**

A total of seven responses were recorded for EC2013-077 at the Tender Box opening on 24 April 2013 they were as follows:

## Tenderer

Boyds Bay Landscaping Pty Ltd Jmac Construction Pty Ltd Landscape Solutions Pty Ltd Greenwood Landscape Management Pty Ltd Skeen Constructions Pty Ltd Scape Shapes Landscaping Pty Ltd Naturelink Landscapes & Design Pty Ltd

## **Evaluation Criteria**

The tenders were evaluated based on the criteria items listed below:

Note that specific criteria & weightings were not detailed to potential tenderers during the tender period.

Item	Criterion	Weighting %
	Tender Price (Total Normalised Score)	60
	Quality Management System/Plan	10
	WHS Management System/Plan	10
	Previous Contract Experience	10
	Environmental Management System/Plan	10
	Total	100

## **Tender Evaluation**

The evaluation was conducted by Council's Tender Assessment Panel, consisting of Council's Landscape Architect and one of Council's Contract Engineers.

The general terms of reference for the Assessment Panel as follows:

- Assess the tenders submitted in accordance with the criteria;
- Undertake an individual initial assessment of the tender price and non-price data;
- Identify and seek further clarifications (as required) from the tenders and review any qualifications and departures; and
- Score all responses against the specified price and non-price assessment criteria and agreed assessment criteria weightings.

A copy of the Tender Evaluation Summary Report is attached.

#### **OPTIONS:**

Not Applicable

#### CONCLUSION:

#### Tender Recommendation

Council awards tender EC2013-077 for the Budd Park Murwillumbah Landscape Upgrade to Greenwood Landscape Management Pty Ltd for the amount of \$140,490.59 (exclusive of GST).

#### COUNCIL IMPLICATIONS:

#### a. Policy:

Procurement Version 1.4.

#### b. Budget/Long Term Financial Plan:

The project is funded from 2012/2013 budget

#### c. Legal:

Not Applicable.

#### d. Communication/Engagement:

Not Applicable.

#### LINKAGE TO INTEGRATED PLANNING AND REPORTING FRAMEWORK:

- 2 Supporting Community Life
- 2.3 Provide well serviced neighbourhoods
- 2.3.6 Provide conveniently placed and well equipped parks, sporting, recreational, cultural and community facilities
- 2.3.6.6 Park improvements program

## UNDER SEPARATE COVER/FURTHER INFORMATION:

(Confidential) Attachment 1. Tender Evaluation Summary (ECM 3048273).

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# CNL-48 [EO-CM] EC2013-084 Contract for Concrete Works at Fraser and Leisure Drive Intersection

#### SUBMITTED BY: Contracts



## SUMMARY OF REPORT:

The Tender EC2013-084 Concrete Works at Fraser and Leisure Drive Intersection was called to engage a suitably qualified and experienced Contractor to provide all plant, labour and materials to perform an intersection upgrade at Fraser and Leisure Drive, Banora Point.

Tenders were officially invited in accordance with the provisions of the Local Government Act 1993 and the NSW Local Government (General) Regulation 2005. Tender Submissions closed at 4:00pm (local time) on 1 May 2013 in the Tender Box located in the foyer at the Tweed Shire Council Civic and Cultural Centre, Murwillumbah NSW 2484.

#### **RECOMMENDATION:**

#### That:

- 1. Council awards the Contract EC2013-084 Concrete Works at Fraser and Leisure Drive Intersection to the nominated Tenderer for the amount as recommended in the tender evaluation confidential <u>ATTACHMENT 1</u>.
- 2. The General Manager be given delegated authority to approve variations up to \$150,000 above the initial tender price and those variations reported to Council following completion of works.
- 3. <u>ATTACHMENT 1</u> is CONFIDENTIAL in accordance with Section 10A(2) (d) of the Local Government Act 1993, because it contains:-
  - (d) commercial information of a confidential nature that would, if disclosed:
    - (i) prejudice the commercial position of the person who supplied it, or
    - (ii) confer a commercial advantage on a competitor of the council, or
    - (iii) reveal a trade secret.

## **REPORT:**

The Tender EC2013-084 Concrete Works at Fraser and Leisure Drive Intersection was called to engage a suitably qualified and experienced Contractor to provide civil construction works for the proposed intersection upgrade at the aforementioned location.

Tenders were officially invited in accordance with the provisions of the Local Government Act 1993 and the NSW Local Government (General) Regulation 2005. Tender Submissions will close at 4:00pm (local time) on 1 May 2013 in the Tender Box located in the foyer at the Tweed Shire Council Civic and Cultural Centre, Murwillumbah NSW 2484.

The construction services are sought from a suitably qualified and experienced organisation to provide all plant, labour and materials to perform an intersection upgrade at Fraser and Leisure Drive, Banora Point. The main reasons for the upgrade are signal lantern and travel lane realignment on approaches to the intersection along with new detector loops being provided by others.

Key elements include removal and eventual reinstatement to the new alignment of existing line marking and concrete medians, installation of 100mm thick AC pads to allow for traffic signal vehicle detectors (installed by others).

## **Evaluation Criteria**

The tender evaluation will be conducted as per the approved Tender Evaluation Plan. Tenders will be evaluated based on the criteria items extracted from clause 24 of the Conditions of Tendering.

Note that specific criteria & weightings were not detailed to potential tenderers during the tender period.

Item	Criterion	Weighting %
	Tender Price (Assessed Tender Cost)	70
	Experience and Capability	20
	Management Systems- WH&S, Environmental and Quality	5
	Methodology and Proposed Work Program	5
	Total	100

## **Tender Evaluation**

The evaluation will be conducted by Council's Tender Assessment Panel, consisting of Design Manager, Technical Officer (Client) and Contracts Engineer (Panel Chairperson).

The general terms of reference for the Assessment Panel as follows:

- Assess the tenders submitted in accordance with the specified criteria;
- Undertake an individual initial assessment of the tender price and non-price data;
- Identify and seek further clarifications (as required) from the tenders and review any qualifications and departures; and
- Score all responses against the specified price and non-price assessment criteria and agreed assessment criteria weightings.

A copy of the Tender Evaluation Report <u>ATTACHMENT 1</u> will be tabled as a late inclusion to this report due to time required to conduct the assessment and recommendation with this being beyond the time required to submit initial report.

**<u>ATTACHMENT 1</u>** which is <u>**CONFIDENTIAL**</u> in accordance with Section 10A(2)(d) of the Local Government Act 1993, because it contains commercial information of a confidential nature that would, if disclosed:-

(d) commercial information of a confidential nature that would, if disclosed:
(i) prejudice the commercial position of the person who supplied it, or
(ii) confer a commercial advantage on a competitor of the council, or
(iii) reveal a trade secret.

## **OPTIONS:**

Not Applicable.

## CONCLUSION:

#### **Tender Recommendation**

Council accepts the recommendation as detailed in the tender evaluation confidential <u>Attachment 1</u> for the tender EC2013-084 Concrete Works at Fraser and Leisure Drive Intersection.

## COUNCIL IMPLICATIONS:

#### a. Policy:

Procurement Version 1.4.

## b. Budget/Long Term Financial Plan:

The project is funded by the NSW Roads and Maritime Services.

#### c. Legal:

Not Applicable.

## d. Communication/Engagement:

Not Applicable.

## LINKAGE TO INTEGRATED PLANNING AND REPORTING FRAMEWORK:

- 2 Supporting Community Life
- 2.4 An integrated transport system that services local and regional needs
- 2.4.1 Provide a safe and efficient network of arterial roads connecting neighbourhoods to town centres, employment, shopping, health, commercial and education facilities
- 2.4.1.4 Provide traffic facilities infrastructure, including signage and line marking,

## UNDER SEPARATE COVER/FURTHER INFORMATION:

Nil - to be provided as a late attachment.

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CNL-49 [EO-CM] EQ2013-027 Pay Parking Scheme Investigation and Implementation

## SUBMITTED BY: Planning and Infrastructure



#### SUMMARY OF REPORT:

At the meeting of 24 January 2013, Council considered a report regarding the investigation and implementation of a pay parking scheme, targeting high use foreshore public car parks across the Shire.

Council resolved that:

- "1. An allocation of \$30,000 to commence a parking demand study as a pre-requisite to the introduction of a pay parking scheme be included in the March 2013 Quarterly Budget review; and
- 2 The introduction of a pay parking scheme targeting high usage parking areas in Tweed Shire be considered in the 2013-2014 budget, to provide upfront funding for implementation at two pilot sites, with establishment costs estimated at \$85,000, and first year running costs of \$10,500."

Tenders were called for the "Provision of Services for Tweed Shire Parking Study" (EQ2013-027), with one submission received from Bitzios Consulting. However the quoted lump sum significantly exceeds the budget allocation of \$30,000.

Given the budget limitations, it is recommended that the received tender be declined.

The draft 2013-2014 Budget was adopted for public exhibition at the 18 April 2013 Council Meeting. It does not include an allocation for the pilot parking scheme.

It is therefore recommended that the parking demand study be deferred until such time as Council resolves to include adequate funding in a future Operational Plan and Budget. Detailed public consultation on the matter should similarly be deferred.

#### **RECOMMENDATION:**

That Council:

- 1. Declines the tender submission for EQ2013-027 from Bitzios Consulting;
- 2. Defers commencement of the parking demand study and community consultation on the pay parking proposal until such time as adequate budget allocation for the parking demand study and for the implementation of a pay parking scheme is included in a future Operational Plan and Budget.
- 3. ATTACHMENT 1 is CONFIDENTIAL in accordance with Section 10A(2) (d) of the Local Government Act 1993, because it contains:-
  - (d) commercial information of a confidential nature that would, if disclosed:
    - (i) prejudice the commercial position of the person who supplied it, or
    - (ii) confer a commercial advantage on a competitor of the council, or
    - (iii) reveal a trade secret.

## **REPORT:**

At the meeting of 24 January 2013, Council considered a report regarding the investigation and implementation of a pay parking scheme, targeting high use foreshore public car parks across the Shire.

Council resolved that:

- "1. An allocation of \$30,000 to commence a parking demand study as a pre-requisite to the introduction of a pay parking scheme be included in the March 2013 Quarterly Budget review; and
- 2 The introduction of a pay parking scheme targeting high usage parking areas in Tweed Shire be considered in the 2013-2014 budget, to provide upfront funding for implementation at two pilot sites, with establishment costs estimated at \$85,000, and first year running costs of \$10,500."

#### Parking Demand Study

Council invited tenders for the "Provision of Services for Tweed Shire Parking Study" (EQ2013-027), with submissions closing on 3 April 2013.

Only one submission was received from Bitzios Consulting, with the lump sum significantly exceeding the budget allocation of \$30,000, provided in the March Quarterly Budget Review. A tender assessment report is included as a confidential attachment to this report.

Options were considered to reduce the scope of the parking demand study to meet the budget, however this would potentially conflict with Roads and Maritime Services guidelines for such studies, and would have limited the available data upon which Council could base the details of a pay parking scheme.

Given the budget limitations imposed by the Council resolution, it is recommended that the received tender be declined at this time.

#### **Budget Considerations**

The draft 2013-2014 Budget was adopted for public exhibition at the 18 April 2013 Council Meeting. While the cost allocations foreshadowed by the January Council resolution were considered in the preparation of the budget document, the draft budget for exhibition does not include an allocation for the pilot parking scheme.

It is therefore recommended that the parking demand study be deferred until such time as Council resolves to include adequate funding in a future Operational Plan and Budget.

#### **Public Submissions**

The January report recommended that public consultation on the proposed pay parking scheme be undertaken in June 2013, following completion of the parking demand study and consideration of the pilot parking scheme in the budget. This would allow Council officers time to undertake a detailed review of such issues as appropriate parking fees, concessions and permits for rate payers and long term/frequent parking users, nominated sites for the pilot scheme, and target stakeholder groups, for due consideration by the public.

Despite the limited scope of the January resolutions, community members, the media and interest groups took it upon themselves to campaign against the pay parking proposal. At the time of writing over 200 written submissions have been received. These consist of individual submissions, form letters and a petition submission (423 signatures, plus 136 signatures and comments, tabled at 18 April 2013 Council meeting). These include submissions from the Tweed District Residents and Ratepayers Association, Mooball and District Moovers, Chinderah Districts Residents Association, and recreational fishing and boating organisations. The majority of form letter submissions specifically oppose pay parking in Kingscliff.

As far as staff resources have permitted, these submissions have been responded to, by outlining the previous resolution requiring the parking study and budgetary considerations, and the intent to undertake formal public consultation prior to any scheme proceeding.

Given the parking study has not commenced, and the omission of funding for a pilot pay parking scheme in the draft budget, further public consultation on the matter should also be deferred.

## **OPTIONS:**

With regard to the parking demand study, there are two options:

- 1. Decline the tenders for budgetary reasons, or
- 2. Allocate additional funding to cover the full scope of the parking demand study.

Given Council has thus far omitted funding for the pilot parking scheme from the draft 2013-2014 Budget, it is recommended that no further funding for the parking demand study be sought.

## CONCLUSION:

As demonstrated in the January Council report, pay parking presents a potentially viable supplementary revenue option in Tweed Shire. This is reflected in the April 2013 report from the Independent Local Government Review Panel (Chapter 6), which nominates *"Road user charging, including increasing revenues from on-street car parking..."* as a possible revenue alternative to increasing rates.

However the January report also highlighted the significant upfront costs of establishing such a scheme, and currently Council has not allocated sufficient funding to commence implementation. It is therefore recommended that the pay parking scheme be deferred.

Should Council revisit the scheme in the future, it is clear that a very high level of community discussion and consultation will be required, and is expected, given the considerable negative response to the initial report.

## COUNCIL IMPLICATIONS:

#### a. Policy:

Corporate Policy Not Applicable.

# b. Budget/Long Term Financial Plan:

The March Quarterly Budget Review allocated \$30,000 for a parking demand study. The tender received exceeds this budget and it is therefore recommended that this be declined.

Should this approach be supported by Council, this budget allocation can be directed elsewhere.

## c. Legal:

Not Applicable.

#### d. Communication/Engagement:

Inform - We will keep you informed.

#### LINKAGE TO INTEGRATED PLANNING AND REPORTING FRAMEWORK:

- 2 Supporting Community Life
- 2.4 An integrated transport system that services local and regional needs
- 2.4.1 Provide a safe and efficient network of arterial roads connecting neighbourhoods to town centres, employment, shopping, health, commercial and education facilities
- 2.4.1.3 Provide road and traffic planning services

## UNDER SEPARATE COVER/FURTHER INFORMATION:

(Confidential) Attachment 1. Confidential Attachment - EQ2013-027 Tender Assessment (ECM 3049117).

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# CNL-50 [EO-CM] EC2013-018 Leddays Creek Cane Haul Road Upgrade

## SUBMITTED BY: Contracts



#### SUMMARY OF REPORT:

This tender has been called to engage a suitably qualified and experienced organisation to construct an unsealed sugar cane haul road. The haul road is to extend from Leddays Creek Road approximately 900 metres west to the adjacent creek and includes the replacement and widening of a culvert and associated headwalls. The work is required to ensure a safe cane haul road as haul routes have been disrupted due to the installation of the wire rope protection fence along Tweed Valley Way.

The work to be performed under the subsequent contract includes the provision of all labour, plant and materials and the performance of all operations of whatever kind necessary for the complete and proper construction of Leddays Creek cane haul road.

#### **RECOMMENDATION:**

#### That

- 1. The tender from Hardings Earthmoving be accepted to the value of \$127,982.14 exclusive of GST for tender EC2013-018 Leddays Creek Cane Haul Road Upgrade.
- 2. The General Manager is given delegated authority to approve variations up to \$150,000 (inclusive of GST) above the initial tender price and those variations be reported to Council following completion of the works.
- 3. The ATTACHMENTS are CONFIDENTIAL in accordance with Section 10A(2) (d) of the Local Government Act 1993, because it contains:-
  - (d) commercial information of a confidential nature that would, if disclosed:
    - (i) prejudice the commercial position of the person who supplied it, or
    - (ii) confer a commercial advantage on a competitor of the council, or
    - (iii) reveal a trade secret.

#### **REPORT:**

#### Tender Background

This tender has been called to engage a suitably qualified and experienced organisation to construct an unsealed sugar cane haul road. The haul road is to extend from Leddays Creek Road approximately 900 metres west to the adjacent creek and includes the replacement and widening of a culvert and associated headwalls. The work is required to ensure a safe cane haul road as haul routes have been disrupted due to the installation of the wire rope protection fence along Tweed Valley Way.

#### **Tender Advertising**

As per the requirements of the Local Government Regulation 2005, tenders were officially advertised for EC2013-018 Leddays Creek Cane Haul Road Upgrade on Tuesday 2 April 2013 in The Sydney Morning Herald. The tender was also advertised in The Tweed Link on 1 April 2013.

#### **Tender Addendums**

There were two Tender Addendums (Notice to Tenders) issued before close of tender:

Addendum No.01 was been issued to advise Tenderers that Council has arranged a site meeting. This meeting was not mandatory but was useful for site familiarisation. Council also arranged for a representative from NSW Sugar to attend and discuss construction issues.

Addendum No.02 was issued to advise Tenderers that Council has updated the scope of work and schedule of rates after discussions at the site meeting.

#### **Tender Submissions**

As per the requirements of the Local Government Regulation 2005, tender submissions closed at 4:00PM (local time) on 24 April 2013 in the Tender Box located in the foyer of the Tweed Shire Council Civic and Cultural Centre, Murwillumbah NSW 2484. 3 tender submissions were recorded at the Tender Box opening and their details are as follows:

Tenderer	ABN	Tendered Amount (incl GST)
Hardings Earthmoving	69 045 752 191	
JD & LF Reeve	84 141 043 018	Confidential Information
Blanch Earthmoving	13 002 247 109	

## **Evaluation Summary**

Tenders were evaluated based on the criteria noted in the table below which were also listed in the Conditions of Tendering. The details of the price and non price evaluation are shown on the attached Tender Evaluation Spreadsheet

Criterion	Document Reference	Weighting (%)
Value for Money (Normalised Tender Price)	Schedule 2 & 3	45
Tender Conformity	All Schedules	5
Quality Management	Schedule 7	10
Environmental Management	Schedule 7	10
WHS and Risk Management	Schedule 7	10
Previous Contract Experience	Schedule 8	20
Sustainable Procurement	Schedule 10	Yes/No Item
	Total	100

## Assessed Contract Prices

The tender included a request for RATE ONLY for two items of work that may have a significant impact on the project. These items are:

- Item 3A Treatment and Disposal of spoil in accordance with acid sulphate soil management plan (material to be stockpiled adjacent to site – along Leddays Creek Road); and
- Item 3B Supply and compaction of fill where subgrade requires treatment.

The evaluation team has assessed these items on site and note that potentially up to 500m<sup>3</sup> of unsuitable material may be found. The assessed tender prices factoring in these indicative quantities are shown in the confidential attachments to this report.

## **OPTIONS:**

Nil.

#### CONCLUSION:

The tender from Hardings Earthmoving be accepted to the value of \$140,655.00 including GST and the assessed value of up to \$203,330.00 incl GST be noted for budgeting purposes. Hardings Earthmoving achieved the highest overall assessment score (7.67) and is deemed as the most advantageous option for Council.

## COUNCIL IMPLICATIONS:

#### a. Policy:

Procurement Version 1.3.

## b. Budget/Long Term Financial Plan:

Funding from Black Spot Program for Tweed Valley Way.

## c. Legal:

Not Applicable.

## d. Communication/Engagement:

**Involve/Collaborate**-We will work with you on an ongoing basis to ensure your ideas, concerns and aspirations are considered. We will provide feedback on Council's decisions.

#### LINKAGE TO INTEGRATED PLANNING AND REPORTING FRAMEWORK:

2 Supporting Community Life

2.1 Foster strong, cohesive, cooperative, healthy and safe communities

- 2.1.4 Provide education and advocacy to promote and support the efforts of the police, emergency services and community groups to improve the safety of neighbourhoods and roads
- 2.1.4.7 Provide ongoing road safety services and support road safety programs

## UNDER SEPARATE COVER/FURTHER INFORMATION:

(Confidential) Attachment 1. Tender Evaluation Report (ECM 3051016).

(Confidential) Attachment 2. Tender Evaluation Record and Assessment (ECM 3051020).

# CNL-51 [EO-CM] Ed Parker Rotary Park - Kingscliff Landscape Concept Plan

## SUBMITTED BY: Recreation Services



#### SUMMARY OF REPORT:

At its meeting held 25 October 2012, Council resolved to place the draft landscape concept plan for Ed Parker Rotary Park on public exhibition.

At the close of comment two submissions were received, both supporting the proposals but suggesting minor amendments.

#### **RECOMMENDATION:**

That Council adopts the Ed Parker Rotary Park landscape concept plan included in this report.

## **REPORT:**

At its meeting held 25 October 2012, Council resolved to place the draft landscape concept plan for Ed Parker Rotary Park on public exhibition.

At the close of comment two submissions were received, one from the Rotary Club of Kingscliff and the other from Coastal Marine Rescue, both supporting the proposals but suggesting minor amendments as detailed below:

COMMENT	RESPONSE
Kingscliff Rotary	
Installation of information stations along walkway providing information about local bird life and ecology; history of the park and Ed Parker; role of sand mining in shaping the park	The plan has been amended to include this suggestion
The boat ramp near Faulks park is very popular but its use for recreation swimming creates conflicts with boats. Suggest installation of signs directing people to Ed Parker Rotary Park as an alternate swimming location	Installation of signs will be investigated
Inclusion of a shower on an existing concrete pad at the southern end of the park.	The installation of a shower is supported, however the use of the concrete pad is not the preferred option. The shower will be located at an appropriate position within the park where drainage and runoff issues with a shower can be properly addressed.
Concern that there is not enough parking when observed on a long weekend.	When designing parks, Council generally does not design formalised parking to cater for peak use. The result of this approach would be large expanses of car park that consume limited parkland, be very expensive and be unused for the majority of the year. Generally designs allow for informal overflow parking on grassed areas. Examples of this can be seen at Pottsville, Hastings Point and Fingal. If formal parking in these areas was constructed to cater for peak demand such as long weekends there would be little actual parkland left. The draft concept plan for Ed Parker Rotary Park does not restrict access to the areas on the northern side of the entry road allowing for significant informal parking to cater for peak period.

	The plan has been amended to expand formalised parking on the southern side of the entrance road creating a total of 35 formal car spaces.
Coastal Marine Rescue	
Conservation efforts on the creek bank should be only at a basic level so as not to overly restrict public access.	Creek restoration works were considered by the Rotary Club and Council's Natural Resource Management Unit as a priority for this area due to the increasing problems from bank erosion. No change to the plan
No need to extend boardwalk as this will restrict public practical use of the creek.	The proposed new low raised walkway is in an area currently reasonably inaccessible. The boardwalk will increase accessibility and reduce impact of numerous unmanaged access tracks.
Vehicle parking needs to be adequate to cater for large numbers of people that visit the park	Refer to comments above.
Proposed to move the roundabout at the northern end of the park south by approximately 20m to facilitate movement to and from the boat ramp	The plan has been amended to move the roundabout as requested.
Suggestion to keep the return section of the current access road open to allow for vehicular access to this section of the park and easier egress for boats.	The closure of this section of the road was an integral component of the Rotary Club's proposal. The intent is to remove vehicular conflict from the park to make this section safer and more usable for families and children. This suggestion is not supported.

The Kingscliff Rotary Club initially approached Council requesting support and assistance to develop a plan to address several issues within the park, in particular creek bank erosion and control of vehicular access. The draft plan was developed with Council staff and Rotary Club representatives and endorsed by the Rotary Club. The Rotary Club is eager to finalise the plan so they can commence restoration works and planning for some of the infrastructure

# Implementation:

Whilst the works identified in the plan are not currently funded, the intent of the Rotary Club is to develop an adopted plan so that they can then work towards implementing over time and use to apply for funding when available. The restoration and creek bank stabilisation works within the park will be undertaken through existing funded programs. Other elements will be implemented as funding becomes available.

# Concept Plan:



## **OPTIONS:**

- 1. Adopt the Ed Parker Rotary Park Landscape Concept Plan included in this report.
- 2. Rejects the Ed Parker Rotary Park Landscape Concept Plan included in this report.

## CONCLUSION:

The Kingscliff Rotary Club approached Council requesting support and assistance to develop a plan to address several issues within the park including creek bank erosion and control of vehicular access. A draft plan was developed with Council staff and Rotary Club representatives and endorsed by the Rotary Club. The draft plan was presented to the Kingscliff Ratepayers and Progress Association who also provided their endorsement.

The main elements of the draft plan include:

- 1: Stabilisation works on the creek bank including access control.
- 2: Removal of the loop road within the park and restricting vehicular access to the southern section of the park from the access road. The loop road will be replaced by a turn-around area and car park areas will be provided along the access road. This will separate traffic from recreation areas and increase the usable area of the park.
- 3: A raised viewing platform at the eastern section of the creek. This will use the natural topography to provide views to the mouth of the creek.
- 4: A low raised walkway through a tidal area to create access to a beach area and reduce access tracks up the bank face.

Whilst the works identified in the plan are not currently funded, the intent of the Rotary Club is to develop an adopted plan that they can then work towards implementing over time and use to apply for funding when available.

#### Submissions Received:



"Service Above Self"

The Rotary Club of Kingscliff Inc. DISTRICT 9640

> P.O. Box 1027 KINGSCLIFF NSW 2487

The Rotary Club of Kingscliff P.O. Box 1027 Kingscliff 2487

The General Manager David Keenan Tweed Shire Council P.O. Box 816 Murwillumbah 2484

10 March 2013 SERVICE ORG - ROTARY OTHIS - FAULKS PK PARKS - ED PARKER REC'D: 14 MAR 2013 ASSIGNED TO: Sequice HARD COPY IMAGE

Dear Mr Keenan,

The Rotary Club of Kingscliff supports in principle the upgrade of Faulks Park and the Ed Parker Rotary Park in Kingscliff.

As an interested stake holder in the Ed Parker Rotary Park our group is keen to ensure amenities are enhanced for locals and visitors alike and recommend the following inclusions, a minimum of four information stations along the walkway with a plaque showing:

The local bird life or ecological information.

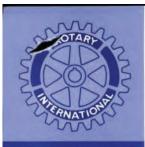
A history of Ed Parker and why Rotary Park is named after him The role sand mining played in the shaping of Kingscliff and Cudgen Creek today.

It has been suggested that Rotary will find sponsors to subsidise the costs associated with the construction and installation of the mono pod information station in lieu of brand recognition of the sponsor on the post or plague.

After speaking with locals, visitors and our membership we would like to pass on the following insights and recommendations.

The boat ramp area near Faulks Park is very popular with day trippers and in particular families because of tables, natural shade and access to the shallow waters via the ramp. This is problematic in that there is no separation of reversing vehicles and people entering and exiting the water. No one will ever stop people from doing this but we are encouraging council to develop some directional signage to guide people towards Rotary Park as an alternate family safe site once works are complete.

We have also had feedback from users of the creek at Rotary Park that there is a lack of changing facilities and simple wash down zones. We appreciate that there are toilets half way along on the top side of the park but they do not contain a change room, shower or wash down facilities.



"Service Above Self"

The Rotary Club of Kingscliff Inc. DISTRICT 9640 2

We are recommending that council uses the existing concrete pad on the south side of the park near the bridge for such a facility. A water connection is located fifteen metres north of the pad.

We also note that there are no additional shade structures in the plans. The two shown are existing and we would recommend another two sheltered zones.

Best Regards

P.O. Box 1027 KINGSCLIFF NSW 2487 Adele Barrett Secretary The Rotary Club of Kingscliff



"Service Above Self"

The Rotary Club of Kingscliff Inc. DISTRICT 9640

> P.O. Box 1027 KINGSCLIFF NSW 2487

The Rotary Club of Kingscliff P.O. Box 1027 Kingscliff 2487

The General Manager Tweed Shire Council P.O. Box 816 Murwillumbah 2484

Dear Sir,

After the recent long weekend the Rotary Club of Kingscliff would like to make you aware of the inadequate parking provided in the new concept plan for Ed Parker Rotary Park. There were at least 45 cars in the park at one time. If it is still possible we would like extra parking spaces made available and added to the landscape concept plan.

6 April 2013

11 APR 2013

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PRES-MAINT + IMPROJEME

TWEED SHIRE COUNCIL

1-0:

IMAGE

Regards

adele Barrett

Adele Barrett Secretary The Rotary Club of Kingscliff

Some Good IDEAS. IN THIS PROPOSAL. FORWARDED TO APROPRATE COUNCIL OFFICER FOR PERUSUAL AND THOUGHTS.

3 MAIN IDEAS - Y ADEQUATE DRAINAGE AT ENTRANCE TO PARK - MO 21 SURGEST THE ROUND ABOU: NEAM THE ANGA TRAINING ROOMS, Come BACK ABOUT 20 MTRS, 31 SIDE TRACK OUT FROM NEAM TOILETS BE PRESENVED AS BOATS & TRUCKS WOULD HOVE MORE SPACE TO EXIT PARK IN A SAFER MANNER.

THESE ARE ONLY IDEAS SURGESTIONS From COMMANDER ANCER KINGSCHIFT.

Parks - maintenance. VALOSIN JALE BOATIN' Carparks - Kingschiff. Stormwater - Council. Traffic-Roundabouts TWEED SHIRE COUNCIL by whall. FILE No: Parks - Ed Parker. DOC. No: lom MAN DER REC'D: 12 APR 2013 ASSIGNED TO: Brawley S 0410427947 HARD COPY IMAGE

Volunteer Coast Guard Assoc. PO Box 1364 Kingschiff.

#### Ed Parker Park Upgrade Kingscliff

The Ed Parker park upgrade project has merit in primary concept however it has a number of positives in its current format that may be lost with current plans. It currently provides for disabled and emergency vehicle parking as well as suitable boat vehicle trailer access near the Coastguard training centre with easy access to their boat ramp facility. The current usage provides for flexible parking over a wide area of the park area and facilitates the erection of pop up shade shelters for park users over peak holiday periods such as Easter, Australia day and Christmas. This assists with local tourism and business with supporting visitation to the area. Currently vehicles have parking not too distant from the creek shoreline and this is important for family usage. Some parkland area concepts may be aesthetic to the eye but in reality do little to provide for ease of access and use by the public. This parkland area firstly needs to be practical in design over its desire for aesthetics.

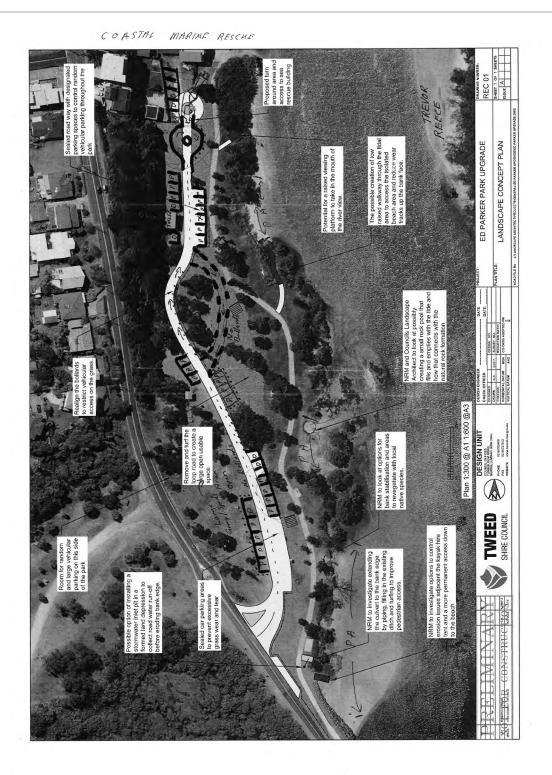
Kingscliff relies very much on week-end tourism and week-end visitation particularly from the Brisbane and SE QLD market as well as local regional visitation. This park needs to not only provide for creek utilisation and public swimming / beach / shoreline access at multiple points but shoreline picnic space in this area. It is an ideal space for families and young children with water float mats, water play equipment and creek side fun. Proposed designs seem to restrict such activity.

Creek shoreline conservation I feel needs to be only at a basic level here and conservation efforts better concentrated westward of the bridge. There is little need to extend the current boardwalk and this would only restrict public practical usage of the creek area along side this area of public parkland. Existing small mangroves are well established and provide a natural learning centre for young snorkelers with mums and dads without overly restricted access. Creek bank stabilisation should be able to be achieved without overly restricting shoreline usage and access. One can get too carried away with stabilisation measures where money in this regard could be better spent in other areas of conservation within this creek.

Vehicle parking needs to be not too distant from the creek side for families with younger children and easy transfer of picnic goods and play equipment. Vehicle parking needs to be adequate to cater for the large numbers of people that currently utilise this park area and designs to maintain substantial parking for public usage. The current design appears to be severely restricting in providing adequate and well placed parking. The planned design also could provide for disabled parking alongside of the toilet facilities but does not seem to do so. There is opportunity and the need to provide for parking along side substantial stretches to the northern roadway access through the park and these need not all fully bitumen but restrict further park access with parking bollards where parkland ground security might be a concern. <u>Sporting clubs should have access to areas for larger tents and gatherings which occur regularly in this park.</u> Parking on the creek side of the park access road needs to be substantial and this may require some rethinking or redesign of the park road access on the current proposed plans. The current roadway developed mostly out of natural flow and usage seems to work well in providing for public needs in the greater part.

I attach an alternative concept plan with some of the above elements for consideration. Kingscliff Rotary and the Volunteer Coastguard might be contacted for comment to these design elements.

Regards - Trevor Reece Seaview St Kingscliff



# COUNCIL IMPLICATIONS:

# a. Policy:

Corporate Policy Not Applicable.

# b. Budget/Long Term Financial Plan:

Nil.

### c. Legal:

Not Applicable.

### d. Communication/Engagement:

**Consult**-We will listen to you, consider your ideas and concerns and keep you informed.

# LINKAGE TO INTEGRATED PLANNING AND REPORTING FRAMEWORK:

- 2 Supporting Community Life
- 2.3 Provide well serviced neighbourhoods
- 2.3.6 Provide conveniently placed and well equipped parks, sporting, recreational, cultural and community facilities

# UNDER SEPARATE COVER/FURTHER INFORMATION:

Nil.

# CNL-52 [EO-CM] Faulks Park - Kingscliff Landscape Concept Plan

# SUBMITTED BY: Recreation Services



### **SUMMARY OF REPORT:**

At its meeting held 25 October 2012, Council resolved to place the draft landscape concept plan for Faulks Park Kingscliff on public exhibition.

At the close of comment three submissions were received, all supporting the proposals but suggesting minor amendments.

#### **RECOMMENDATION:**

That Council adopts the Faulks Park landscape concept plan included in this report.

# **REPORT:**

At its meeting held 25 October 2012, Council resolved to place the draft landscape concept plan for Faulks Park, Kingscliff on public exhibition.

At the close of comment three submissions were received, all supporting the proposals but suggesting minor amendments as summarised below:

COMMENT	RESPONSE
Possible relocation of toilet block closer	The current position provides greater
to the coast guard tower.	security through opportunities for casual
	surveillance being located close to
	Marine Parade.
Upgrade to park lighting required and	Within the park lighting is included within
additional lighting to link surf club with	shelters. Park lights can be included on
Faulks park	the master plan, but will not be a
	component of this stage of works.
	Lighting to the surf club is outside the
	scope of this plan
The park shelter nearest the boat ramp is	The small park area near the boat ramp
not part of the park upgrade but should	may be the subject of another process
be.	considering alignment of the cycleway.
	Therefore, it is considered better to leave
	the replacement of this shelter until this
	process is undertaken.
A number of issues raised about the boat	The boat ramp is outside the scope of
ramp and the safety issues	this project.
Consider male/female/disability toilet	The configuration of the toilet block can
block (and refurbish the surf club toilet)	be reviewed. However, having separate
	male/female/disabled cubicles requires a
	sink to be located outside the cubicles
	which tends to be a target for vandalism.
	The surf club toilets are outside the
	scope of this project
Additional pathways to link headwall	Additional pathways will be added to the
pathway to the park	plan, but will be outside the scope of
logudo posiblo futuro bos-boido	construction of this stage of the upgrade
Include possible future beachside	Beachside path included on concept plan
pathway.	but will be outside the scope of
Look at aviating mounding to improve	construction of this stage of the upgrade
Look at existing mounding to improve	Mounding has been reviewed on final
open space without impacts on future	plan
triathlon events.	

Through the exhibition period, Council officers also met with the Kingscliff Chamber of Commerce to discuss the draft plan.

In the intervening time between the October Council meeting and finalisation of the draft plan for comment, initial feedback from Council's draft youth strategy was available. One of the recommendations of the draft was to look for opportunities to include youth orientated facilities in parks upgrades and constructions. In response, a half basketball court was included in the draft plan placed on exhibition. The proposed half court received verbal support from the Kingscliff & District Chamber of Commerce and Kingscliff Ratepayers and Progress Association Inc and no objections from submissions received.

### Implementation:

The 2012-2013 budget has an allocation of \$100,000 from the public toilets capital works budget to replace the old toilet block, \$150,000 from the park asset renewal (7 year plan) budget, \$100,000 from developer contribution plan 5 - local open space and \$26,800 from the Youth Strategy Infrastructure Improvements for the youth space. This funding will be utilised to replace the old toilet facility and park assets such as shelters, play equipment and BBQ's and provide linking paths and associated landscaping and construction of half court youth space.

It is unlikely the available funding will be sufficient to implement the complete plan including the additional pathways and lighting added through the consultation process. Should Council resolve to adopt the landscape plan, works within the allocated budget as described above will be undertaken as soon as the approval and tender process is complete, and remaining works will be undertaken at a later date as funding becomes available.

# Landscape Concept Plan:



# **OPTIONS:**

- 1. Adopt the Faulks Park Landscape Concept Plan included in this report.
- 2. Rejects the Faulks Park Landscape Concept Plan included in this report.

# CONCLUSION:

The primary objective of the draft Faulks Plan Landscape Concept Plan is the replacement of ageing assets and increased accessibility throughout the park. The draft plan seeks to achieve this by replacing the ageing assets and installing linking pathways and associated landscaping.

The feedback from the community and community groups has been very supportive with a number of suggested additions proposed. The draft plan was amended to include the suggestions where they were considered appropriate.

Funding has been allocated in the 2012/2013 budget to commence implementation of the plan; however it is unlikely these funds will allow for the completion of all of the elements of the plan in the first instance. The priority will be replacement of the ageing assets and access through the park and construction of the youth space with additional paths and lighting being undertaken at a later date as funding is available.

# COUNCIL IMPLICATIONS:

### a. Policy:

Corporate Policy Not Applicable.

# b. Budget/Long Term Financial Plan:

	<b>.</b>	
Faulks Park:	\$100,000	from Toilets Capital budget
	\$150,000	from Park Assets Renewal (7YP) budget
	\$100,000	Contribution Plan 5
	\$26,800	Youth Space Infrastructure Improvement Program
Total	\$376,800	

c. Legal:

Not Applicable.

# d. Communication/Engagement:

**Consult**-We will listen to you, consider your ideas and concerns and keep you informed.

# LINKAGE TO INTEGRATED PLANNING AND REPORTING FRAMEWORK:

- 2 Supporting Community Life
- 2.3 Provide well serviced neighbourhoods
- 2.3.6 Provide conveniently placed and well equipped parks, sporting, recreational, cultural and community facilities
- 2.3.6.8 Playground upgrade and rationalisation program
- 2.3.6.8.4 Remove Lions Park Kingscliff Playground and construct new playground at Faulks Park Kingscliff

# UNDER SEPARATE COVER/FURTHER INFORMATION:

Nil.

# CNL-53 [EO-CM] Trees in Streets and Parks

# SUBMITTED BY: Recreation Services



# SUMMARY OF REPORT:

Street trees pose management challenges as a result of community expectations for amenity, functionality and safety. Removal of trees from nature strips and parks is potentially the greatest cause of conflict in the management of the Shire's trees. Conflict arises from both perspectives, that is, people can be as passionate in their resolve to have a tree removed as to have one retained.

Each year Council receives hundreds of requests for tree removals. These requests are assessed in accordance with Council's Tree Management Guidelines. The attention focused on the occasional removal of old, large or prominent trees may lead to the impression that Council removes trees wilfully and indiscriminately. This report provides a perspective of Council's tree management within the Shire and provides figures that demonstrate the number of trees planted and propagated (4,788) far outweighs the number removed (106) and that requests for tree removals are assessed judiciously.

#### **RECOMMENDATION:**

That Council receives and notes report on Trees in Streets and Parks.

### **REPORT:**

#### Introduction

Good planning, species selection and appropriate maintenance are vital for safe and manageable street, roadside and other trees that will provide aesthetic, physical, environmental and ecological benefits to the community.

It is Council's role to manage these trees in a safe, effective and efficient manner to provide maximum aesthetic, physical and psychological benefits to the community. Modern arboriculture is a new and evolving science that is poorly understood by most people. This often results in unrealistic expectations with regard to tree management.

Trees have a finite life. Their genetic potential and external factors impact on them and determine how well they perform. In the case of street trees, the growing conditions are usually significantly altered from those encountered in their natural growing environment, resulting in the need for clear knowledgeable tree management.

The combination of poor general understanding of modern arboriculture and the emotional entanglements that come with large, long living things such as trees can result in emotive situations. Council developed the Tree Management Guidelines with the objective of providing reasonable and consistent guidelines to defuse these situations. The protocol provides a framework for the management and maintenance of the Shire's street roadside and other trees that will deliver positive outcomes in a fair and consistent manner for our community.

#### Park and Street Tree Management

Removal of trees from nature strips and parks is potentially the greatest cause of conflict in the management of the Shires trees. Conflict arises from both perspectives, that is, people can be as passionate in their resolve to have a tree removed as to have one retained.

The following figures for the past 12 months highlight the volume of tree management issues responded to by Council each year and also the net positive impact on the tree inventory:

ITEM	NUMBER
Customer request regarding trees generally*	994
Customer request for tree removals	240
Trees removed as result of request	106
Trees planted in streets and parks	1451
Tube stock trees planted in parks and revegetation works**	3337

Table 1: 12 month figures for tree management issues.

- \* Categories include tree inspections; trees fallen; tree pruning; tree roots and tree stump removal
- \*\* Figure is highly conservative and only includes stock distributed from Council's main nursery.

In addition to the figures above, Council's main nursery also collects and propagates large amounts of seed locally for use in revegetation works and Council streets and parks. Council also supports local schools with donations of trees and mulch when undertaking revegetation and planting programs.

# Tree Removals:

As evidenced from the figures in Table 1, Council receives significant requests for tree removals. These requests are assessed in accordance with Council's Tree Management Guidelines. Section 4 of the guidelines details the considerations when assessing requests for tree removals and is reproduced below:

# 4 TREE REMOVALS

Removal of trees from nature strips and parks is potentially the greatest cause of conflict in the management of the Shires trees. Understandably, residents can become very attached to a long-lived tree that has been growing near their home for many years. Prudent tree management requires Council to assume that every tree, no matter how insignificant it may appear, has some value to someone.

Unfortunately, it sometimes becomes necessary to remove trees, either because of a problem with the tree itself, it may be causing damage or to facilitate development (buildings and infrastructure). Experience shows that public concerns associated with the removal of trees can be minimised through consultation with residents and a demonstration of respect for the importance of trees by Council work practices.

# 4.1 The following details Councils policy on tree removals:

- a) Subject to 4.1b) and 4.1c), no tree shall be removed by reason only that it is determined to be of a species that has the known or suspected propensity to cause injury to persons or damage to property by tree root exposure, invasion or infestation; or by naturally occurring 'sudden branch or limb drop syndrome'.
- b) Reasons for the removal of a tree shall include it being declared:
  - on inspection; and
  - by an authorised person;
  - to be a danger to human life or property.
  - a weed under the Noxious Weeds Act 1993
  - a recognised environmental weed.
- c) Provided always that a tree declared to be a danger to human life or property:
  - shall be removed or made safe at the earliest possible opportunity; and
  - a tree shall not be declared a danger merely because it may naturally drop sap, gum, flowers, fruit, seeds and shed leaves, twigs or branches etc. over which people may slip, trip or fall on or otherwise suffer injury or property damage.
- *d)* For the purpose of *c*), the terms:

"made safe" include the erection of safety measures or by rendering a tree safe by pruning.

"*naturally drop*" includes the shedding or dropping or excreting of sap, gum, flowers, fruit, seeds, leaves, twigs or branches etc due to seasonal, environmental stresses (e.g. drought or excessive wet conditions), adverse weather conditions or disease.

In addition to the clauses discussed previously, Council will not remove or approve removal of a tree or part of a tree on Council managed land:

- that is in good health;
- that has heritage, landscape or environmental value that outweighs associated risk;
- where the removal of part of the tree is considered to be a suitable alternative;
- to enhance views;
- to increase natural light;
- to improve street lighting of private property;
- to reduce animal droppings from being deposited on personal property;
- to address concerns that there is potential for damage to underground services (unless supported by written expert advice and only where reasonable alternatives are not feasible);
- for the reduction of bushfire risk unless it is substantiated to the satisfaction of the Rural Fire Service or Council's Bushland Officer;
- because of minor lifting of driveways and paths; and
- because of the presence of white ants unless they have caused structural damage with a high associated risk.
- E Installation of Solar Photo Voltaic (PV) Panels, and/or Solar Hot Water Systems: In regards to situations where an application is lodged requesting removal or pruning of tree(s) for the installation of solar PV panels or solar hot water systems. Council will require an assessment from the installers outlining the extent the tree(s) will overshadow the PV panels, taking into account summer and winter sun elevations.
- Council will then make an assessment of the tree(s) in accordance with criteria detailed above, taking into consideration the health, structure, and significance of the tree(s)
- If the tree(s) are considered to be of local or regional significance to the area by Council's arborist, an alternative location for the installation of solar panels will need to be investigated.
- If the tree(s) are considered to be healthy and structurally sound but of little significance to the local amenity, and environment, Council will consider the removal or trimming of the tree(s) upon receipt of documentation that the solar panels have been installed.

# **OPTIONS:**

That Council receives and notes this report.

# CONCLUSION:

The management of trees in Council streets and parks will always be a source of conflict due to poor general understanding of modern arboriculture and the emotional attachment that come with large, long living things such as trees. Council's Tree Management Guidelines provides a framework for the management and maintenance of the Shire's street. park and other trees that will deliver positive outcomes in a fair and consistent manner for our community.

The occasional removal of old, large or prominent trees receives a high level of scrutiny and may lead to the impression that Council removes trees wilfully and indiscriminately. The figures provided in this report place these removals in perspective and illustrate that less than 50% of requests for tree removals are carried out and that the number of trees planted and propagated far outweighs those removed.

#### **COUNCIL IMPLICATIONS:**

#### a. Policy:

Tree Management Guidelines

b. Budget/Long Term Financial Plan:

Not Applicable.

#### c. Legal:

Not Applicable.

#### d. Communication/Engagement:

Inform - We will keep you informed.

#### LINKAGE TO INTEGRATED PLANNING AND REPORTING FRAMEWORK:

- 4 Caring for the Environment
- 4.1 Protect the environment and natural beauty of the Tweed
- 4.1.2 Protect, regulate and maintain natural assets (the coastline, coastal and inland waterways, biodiversity, bushland and scenic landscapes) for current and future generations

#### UNDER SEPARATE COVER/FURTHER INFORMATION:

Nil.

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# CNL-54 [EO-CM] Local Preference Procurement Policy

# SUBMITTED BY: Director



# **SUMMARY OF REPORT:**

Council procured goods and services to the value of \$99.13M in the 2011/2012 financial year. \$23.35M or 25.6% was sourced from local suppliers in Tweed Shire. It is recognised that there is a positive economic impact on the local economy through increased use of local suppliers. A local preference policy is a means of increasing the amount of local procurement and in turn a means of stimulating the Tweed Shire economy.

Any local preference policy must be balanced against the need to obtain best value for money for ratepayers and residents in the procurement of Council works, services and projects. This balance may be achieved by restricting the value of local preference to a reasonable percentage and by capping the total amount of financial cost for each transaction.

There is merit in exhibiting a draft local preference policy to obtain feedback from industry stakeholders and the general public. However because of the significant financial risks involved, before Council makes a final determination, it would be prudent to obtain expert advice on the likely financial costs to Council's operations and effectiveness of the policy in stimulating the local economy.

#### **RECOMMENDATION:**

#### That:

- 1. Council adopt Option 3 of this report being:
  - (a) Draft Version 1.5 of the Procurement Policy be placed on public exhibition for a period of 28 days and seeking public submissions for 42 days.
  - (b) Council concurrently seek advice and reports from the Audit Committee and the External Auditor on the likely implications of the draft policy on Council's finances and operations
  - (c) Council obtains economic modelling on the likely impact of the draft policy on the local economy

- (d) Before compiling a final report on the amended policy, a Councillor workshop be conducted to consider outcomes of (b) and (c) above and submissions from the public and industry stakeholders.
- 2. An internal cross divisional "Sustainable Procurement Working Group" be established to:
  - (a) Develop and utilise systems to track and record sustainable purchases for the organisation to benchmark, record, and quantify progress.
  - (b) Work with suppliers to discuss and implement specific sustainability opportunities
- 3. <u>ATTACHMENT 1</u> is CONFIDENTIAL in accordance with Section 10A(2)(d) of the Local Government Act 1993, because it contains:-
  - (d) commercial information of a confidential nature that would, if disclosed:
    - (i) prejudice the commercial position of the person who supplied it, or
    - (ii) confer a commercial advantage on a competitor of the council, or
    - (iii) reveal a trade secret.

# **REPORT**:

# 1. Background

At Council's meeting on 13 December 2012 Council it was resolved:

"Resolved that Council brings forward a report on:

- 1. Options for improving sustainability outcomes and preference for local suppliers in regard to Councils procurement policies, tender processes and selection criteria
- 2. The legislative obstacles that impact on Council's ability to improve sustainability outcomes through the above measures, including suggested recommendations that might address these issues."

These issues impact significantly on two of the four themes in Council's Community Strategic Plan 2011/2021.

# Strengthening the Economy

The overarching aim of planning for the Tweed's future is sustainability while also promoting business and investment. To achieve this, the following key objectives are identified in the strategic plan under the auspices of Strengthening the Economy:

- "Strengthening the Economy with the primary indicators being;
  - Gross Local Product and Gross Local Product per Capita
  - o Total employment
  - o Qualifications
  - Employment Levels
  - o Employment containment
  - o Number of Registered businesses
  - Number of employees per registered businesses"

# Caring for the Environment

The essence of sustainable outcomes has been previously driven by this section of the Community Strategic Plan. In the adopted Strategic Plan Council addresses issues relating to sustainable population, sustainable development and the promotion of sustainable and innovative agricultural practices.

# 2. Legislation, Policy and Guidelines

Council's procurement is governed by the Local Government Act 1993 (sections 55, 55A, and 400B to 400N), the Local Government (General) Regulation 2005 (Clauses 163 - 179, 209 and 211) and Council's *"Procurement Policy Version 1.4"*. Internal procurement procedures to implement the policy are detailed in the management adopted *"Procurement Protocol Version 1.4"*. The Council policy and protocol are also guided by the NSW Division of Local Government issued *"Tendering Guidelines for Local Government 2009"* and ICAC reports on procurement and *"local preference"*.

# 2.1. Local Government Act 1993 and Local Government (General) Regulation 2005

Little guidance is provided regarding sustainability or local preference in the legislation. Most of the Act and Regulation are concerned with procedural, probity and legal issues. Regulation Clause 178 gives a cryptic direction for Councils to *"accept the tender that, having regard to all the circumstances, appears to it to be the most advantageous."* 

# 2.2 Tendering Guidelines - NSW Division of Local Government, 2009

The Division's Guidelines advocate "Value for Money" and provides advice that this "does not automatically mean lowest price."

In regard to "local preference", the Division advise in Section 1.6:

### "1.6. Local Preference Policy

Councils often have a significant role in local and regional economic development. This may include consideration of local supply issues and Aboriginal and young people's employment participation policies.

The implementation of local preference policies is not necessarily inconsistent with the principles of National Competition Policy. However, the use of local preference in the evaluation of tenders and awarding of contracts possesses inherent risks in terms of anti-competitiveness and the maintenance of defensibility, accountability and probity.

Where a council wants to consider local preference as a factor in the supply of goods and services or the disposal of property, it should develop and adopt a local preference policy. This policy should be based on sound reasoning and outline the circumstances in which the council would bring this policy into effect. For example, where an additional cost would be incurred by the council in implementing its local preference policy, the maximum amount or percentage of that additional cost should be specified and the particular circumstances in which the amount should also be acceptable to the local community.

The policy, as well as a statement indicating the basis for its use, should be provided to any potential tenderers prior to their decision to submit a tender. Such a policy should be included in the tender documents and identified in the evaluation criteria.

When reporting the result of a tender evaluation process, the application of the policy should be clearly referred to and details provided regarding any additional costs to be incurred by the council if it accepts a tender, other than the lowest tender, as a result of the implementation of the policy.

Councils should also consider seeking legal opinion regarding their proposed local preference policy to ensure the policy does not breach either the Trade Practices Act 1974 (Cth), the Fair Trading Act 1987 (NSW), or various international trade agreements."

The Division is silent in relation to sustainability as an assessment criteria. The range of assessment criteria that are suggested by the Division include, but are not limited to:

- "Whole-of-life costs, including capital, operational and disposal costs
- Innovation offered
- Delivery times offered
- Quality offered
- Previous performance of tenderer
- Experience of tenderer and their personnel
- Capability of tenderer, including technical, management, staff, organisational and financial capability and capacity

- Tenderer's occupational health and safety management practices and performance
- Tenderer's workplace and industrial relations management practices and performance
- Tenderer's environmental management practices and performance
- Tenderer's community relations practices and performance
- Value adding components such as economic, social and environmental development initiatives, if appropriate and relevant to the procurement
- Conformity of tender with requirements."

### 2.3 Independent Commission Against Corruption (ICAC)

In a 2001 report on "Corruption Resistance Strategies: Researching risks in local government", the ICAC advise in relation to Local preference policies:

"As a means of supporting their communities, some councils have local preference policies. These policies set out types of advantage granted to suppliers of goods and services from within the council's boundaries. The reasons for local preference policies may vary. On the whole they are used when it is perceived that a greater public benefit will be served (eg. more employment in the area) than the possible savings on an individual purchase from a remote supplier.

For example, a 10 per cent leeway on tender prices may be given to a local company or, if price and quality are equal between a local and a remote provider, council will favour the local supplier.

The risk of giving local suppliers a preference is that doubts can be raised about whether best value for money solutions are achieved and negative perceptions can form about the probity of council practices and conflicts of interest for staff and councillors. Examples exist of local preference practices that create situations that allow corruption to flourish"

# 3. Present Tweed Shire Council Procurement Policy Procedures

#### 3.1 **Procurement Policy**

The Procurement Policy (Version 1.4 adopted by Council 20 March 2012 has the following provisions relating to sustainability and local preference:

#### Sustainability:

The Policy advises:

"Officers making decisions on the procurement of goods and services must consider relevant sustainability criteria associated with the goods or services. For example:

The environmental performance of prospective contractors or suppliers.

The suitability of competing products that may have a reduced impact on human health and / or the natural environment.

The environmental performance of a requested product, such as:

Energy and/ or water efficiency rating Fuel efficiency Durability Recycled content Toxicity Origin of any components made from wood (e.g. paper purchases) End of life disposal / ability to be reused or recycled "

#### Local Preference

The policy mirrors the Division of Local Government principle stating:

"Council bases procurement decisions on the principle of 'value for money' over the life cycle of products rather than the 'lowest cost'"

Specifically in regard to local preference the policy states:

"Council through the provisions of this Policy aims to encourage the development, promotion and growth of business and industry within the Shire boundaries. In the event of a valuation being equal, Council prefers to purchase Australian made products and services and to purchase them locally."

### 3.2 Procurement Protocol

Protocols are internal procedure documents adopted by the management team that detail the specific procedures required to implement Council policy.

Procurement Protocol (Version 1.4 adopted by Executive Management Team 23 November 2011).

### 3.22 Sustainability

The Protocol specifies in Clause 4.3:

"Council's Workplace Environmental Safety Protocol makes a commitment to:

Minimise waste generation, particularly waste-to-landfill. Minimise greenhouse gas generation. Minimise the consumption of energy, water and natural resources. Prevent pollution. Employ environmental considerations in purchasing decisions.

In order to meet these commitments, purchasing decisions must consider relevant sustainability criteria of competing products. For example: Energy/water efficiency (refer to Appendix A for minimum standards) Fuel efficiency Durability Recycled content Toxicity (e.g. cleaning chemicals) Origin of any components made from wood (e.g. paper purchases) End of life disposal/ability to be used or recycled.

When seeking quotations for purchases greater than \$50,000, the Environmental Performance schedule (appendix B) must be completed by each supplier for consideration during the evaluation process"

# Appendix A and B are reproduced below:

# Procurement Standards

Sustainable Procurement Product List



PRODUCT	MINIMUM REQUIREMENT	
Tap fittings (internal and external)	4 star Water Efficiency Labeling Scheme (WELS) rating	
Toilets	4 star WELS rating	
Urinals (trough and wall hung)	5 star WELS rating (preferably waterless - with maintenance flush if required).	
Washing machines (clothes)	4 star WELS rating 4.5 star energy rating	
Clothes dryers	3.5 star energy rating	
Washing machines (dishes)	4 star WELS rating 3.5 star energy rating	
Fridges and Freezers	3.5 star energy rating	
Showerheads	3 star WELS rating	
Printers, Copiers, Faxes, Scanners, Computers, Monitors, Televisions, DVD Players etc	ENERGY STAR® compliant - Where a rating exists, appliances must be a minimum of 3.5 star energy rated	
Hot water ums	Timer switch to be included in the install.	
Hot water systems	Minimum 4 star energy rating and incorporating solar or heat pump technology wherever possible.	
Split system air conditioners	Minimum 5 star energy rating. Consider the use of solar or heat pump assisted units.	
Packaged unit air conditioners	Minimum 5 star energy rating. Consider the use of solar or heat pump assisted units.	
Other energy / water consuming equipment	For all other energy and / or water consuming products ensure the product is in the top 5 for efficiency.	
Office paper	Minimum 50% recycled content and Forestry Stewardship Council certified	
Toilet paper / hand-towels	Not to be sourced from native forests. Preferably with post-consumer recycled paper content.	

Energy efficiency product comparisons can be undertaken at: www.energyrating.gov.au

Water efficiency product comparisons can be undertaken at: www.waterrating.gov.au

Refer to TSC Environmental Design Guidelines for information on glazing, insulation, rainwater tanks etc.



#### Schedule





Tweed Shire Council is committed to environmental stewardship and ecological sustainability.

The following information will be used by Tweed Shire Council to assess the environmental performance of your organisation and the products and services it provides.

Item	Yes	No	If yes, please specify / attach
Does your organisation have a written			
environmental policy or statement?			
Does your organisation have an accredited			
quality system or an environmental management system to manage environmental risk?			
Does your organisation have current documented			
procedures to be followed in the event of an			
environmental accident/incident?			
Does your organisation undertake waste audits,			
environmental audits or monitoring programs to			
minimise environmental impacts?			
How does your organisation demonstrate a			
commitment to energy efficiency and greenhouse			
gas reduction?			
Does your organisation have any involvement in			
the wood-chipping of native forests?			
Has your organisation ever been prosecuted for			
breach of environmental legislation?			
Is your organisation familiar with contractor /			
supplier responsibilities under Tweed Shire			
Council's Environmental Safety Protocol?			
Can your organisation recommend a more			
environmentally sustainable product / service			
than the one specified?			
Construction works only – does your design			
comply with Tweed Shire Council's			
Environmental Design Guidelines for New			
Council Facilities?			

#### DECLARATION

"I declare that all the information submitted on this schedule is true and correct."

Signed:	 		
Name:			
Job Title:	 		
Date:	 1	/	

		Page 1 of 1

# 3.23 Local Preference

In matters of selection criteria, the Protocol follows and reinforces the Policy's principle of obtaining *"value for money"* and in section 2.3 addresses the evaluation criteria that may be included in the tender document or specification requirements, which are listed as follows:

"The evaluation criteria shall be included in the specification and may include:

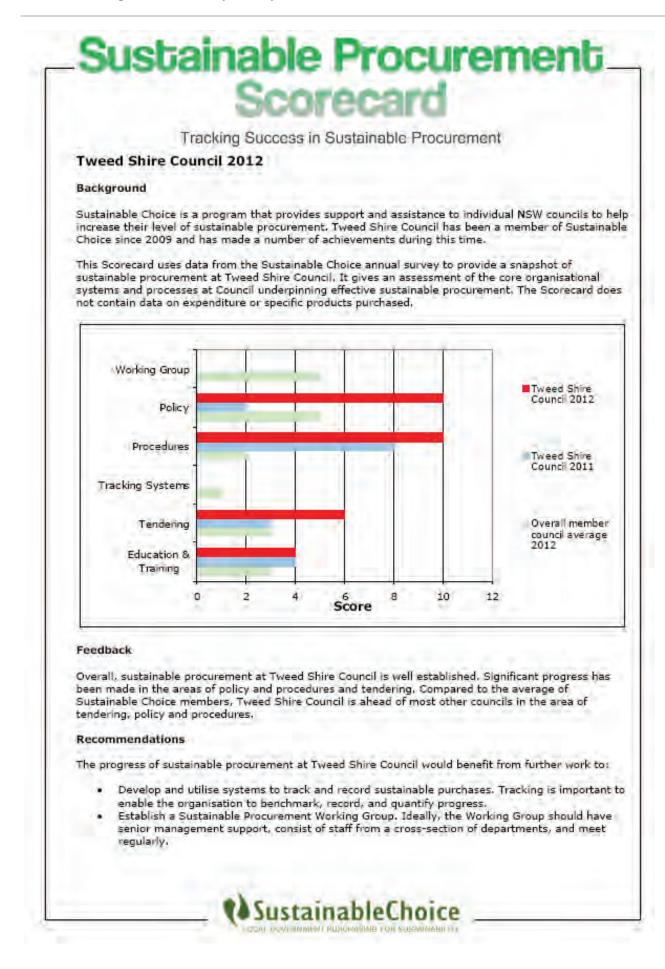
- Discounted Cash Flow (NPV)
- Internal Rate of Return (IRR)
- Payback Period
- Accounting Rate of Return (ARR)
- Maintenance cost
- Whole of Life cost
- Operator, User, Functional Evaluation
- Implications of Enterprise Risk
- Price
- Quality of goods or services provided
- Warranties
- Contractual terms
- Reliability of supply
- Length of time quotation is valid
- Delivery schedules
- Payment terms (if contradictory to Council Policy)
- Capability of the organisation, including experience and track record
- Environmental Accreditation/Risks
- Compliance with Council's WH & S requirements
- Sustainability refer to LGSA sustainable choice
- Financial capacity to deliver the Contract
- Economies of scale through standardisation, compatibility, integration, minimisation of inventory and technical knowledge."

# 3.3 Current Sustainability Policy and Practice Summary

The current Tweed Shire Council sustainability policies and practice have been recognised as best practice in the industry and Council was the 2011/2012 winner of the "Sustainable Procurement Practices Award - Best Project" sponsored by the NSW Office of Environment & Heritage and the Local Government and Shires Associations.

Tweed Shire Council has also scored well in the "Sustainability Choice - Sustainability Procurement Scorecard". There is always room for improvement and recommended further initiatives include:

- "Improve information sharing on sustainability procurement issues by establishing a cross divisional "Sustainable Procurement Working Group"
- The Group will
  - 1. develop and utilise systems to track and record sustainable purchases for the organisation to benchmark, record, and quantify progress.
  - 2. work with suppliers to discuss and implement specific sustainability opportunities



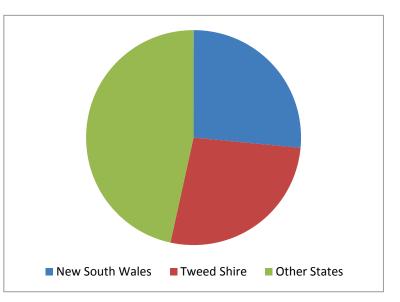
These are changes to practice rather than the Procurement Policy itself. No amendments to the sustainability provisions of the Procurement Policy are recommended in this report.

# 4. Geographical Spread of Council Procurement

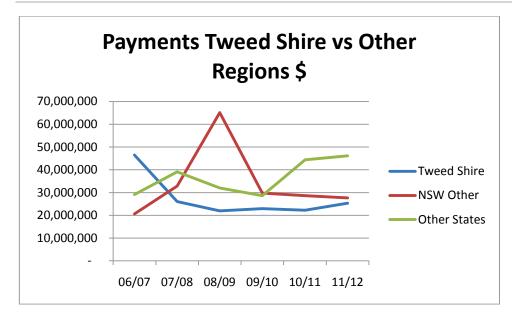
Council's expenditure in the 2011/2012 financial year is shown by post code preference. If the business has a registered address located within the Tweed Shire, then this expenditure is recorded as being spent within the shire.

The figures identified in Graphs and Tables below indicate that 25.6% of Councils creditor expenditure is spent within the Tweed Shire.

Tweed Shire Council Spread of Creditors 2011/12		
Tweed		25.6%
Shire	25,349,646	
New South		27.9%
Wales	27,639,687	
(Other)		
Other		46.5%
States	46,137,560	
National		100%
	99,126,893	



The spread of creditors varies over time as the following graph shows:



In the above graphics, Tweed Shire is defined as payments to suppliers with a postcode between 2483 and 2489.

The high proportion to Tweed Shire in 2006/2007 is a result of payments to Fulton Hogan Pty Ltd, for construction of Kingscliff STP. Payments for this creditor were made to an address in Kingscliff, although it appears that it is an international company.

The high proportion to NSW Other in 2008/2009 is a result of payments to Reed Constructions Australia Pty Ltd, for construction of Bray Park WTP.

A local preference policy is an option for improving the local expenditure. But must reflect the adopted Strategic Plan, not contravene legislative requirements and be fair, reasonable and transparent.

A review of other Local Government entities procurement and local preference policies in Australia and overseas was conducted. This exercise was to glean ideas of models, to ensure that options presented form a basis that can be viewed as good procurement strategies.

# 5. Other Local Government Entities - Local Preference Policies

A number of mechanisms are used by other local government authorities and they introduce a number of issues including the definition of "local'.

# 5.1 Definition of "Local"

This usually, but not always means a business with an address and employees in the Local Government Area (LGA). A few examples are:

# Kiama NSW

"local content means goods or services procured from a local supplier or employees living permanently in the Kiama Municipal Municipality Council Local Government area."

# Cairns Qld

"In this policy statement, a "local supplier" is a supplier which:

a) is beneficially owned by persons who are residents or rate payers of the local government area of Council; or

- b) has its principal place of business within the Local Government area of Council; or
- c) otherwise has a place of business within the Local Government area of Council which solely or primarily employs persons who are residents or rate payers of the Local Government area of Council."

# Tumut NSW

"local supplier means a business, contractor or industry:

(i) either permanently based in, or employing permanent staff operating from, permanent premises situated within the Shire's boundaries."

Other local preference policies extend the "local supplier" definition to include other LGAs in their region. Examples include:

# Wyong NSW

"Local" - means the NSW Central Coast, specifically the Wyong Shire and Gosford City Local Government Areas."

# **Mid Western Regional Council NSW**

"....discounts may also apply to suppliers based outside the Mid-Western Regional Council area where such suppliers:

Use goods, materials or services of a significant amount via sub-contracts that are sourced within the Mid-Western Regional Council area. The discount applies to the value of the goods, materials or services sourced and used from the local government area; or

Can demonstrate the use of locally sourced products and services as opposed to using products and services from outside the Mid-Western Regional Council area. In these circumstances, the discount is only applicable to the local content component of the price, and not the total price submitted."

# Gold Coast City Qld

Gold Coast have a range of local preference weightings, ranging from 15% for Gold Coast Business, 6% for branch office in Gold Coast with minimum 5 full time equivalent employees (FTE), 4% for adjoining LGA (Logan, Scenic Rim, Redland, Tweed), 2% for Qld business, 1% for interstate business and 0% for overseas business.

# Mandurah WA

"The region this policy relates to includes the district of the City of Mandurah (the 'City') and the non-metropolitan Peel Region districts of the Shires of Murray, Boddington, Serpentine/Jarrahdale and Waroona."

# 5.2 Mechanism Used to Apply Local Preference and How Much

# 5.21 Percentage Price Discount With or Without Cap

The simplest mechanism is providing a fixed percentage price discount for goods/services tenders/quotations from "local" suppliers. Such mechanisms are often accompanied by an upper "cap" on the local discount that can be applied. Some examples are:

# Kiama NSW

"For local suppliers who respond to Council's Procurement Requests, Council will assess their response as if their total net cost bid was reduced by 5%. Discounts will be limited to a maximum of \$15,000.

For non local suppliers who respond to Council's Procurement Requests if at least 25% of the net cost of their response or tender includes or is attributable to local content, Council will assess such response as if the total net cost attributable to local content were reduced by 5%. Discounts will be limited to a maximum of \$15,000".

# Tumut NSW

"Where the cost of a local supplier's offer is to be compared with one from outside the area, the local supplier's cost will be reduced by 10% for the sake of cost comparison. The maximum discount amount able to be included in the calculation is \$3,000".

# Leeton NSW

"Purchases up to \$5,000 with local content will be given a 10% concession; Purchases from \$5,000 - \$15,000 with local content given a 5% concession; Purchases from \$15,000 - \$99,999 with local content given a 3% concession."

# Mandurah WA

"3. The following levels of preference will be applied under this policy:-Where purchase is up to \$9,999 (excluding GST)

- 3% to businesses located within the City
- 2% to businesses located within the other non-metropolitan Peel Region Council districts

Where purchase is between \$10,000 and \$49,999 (excluding GST)

- 2.5% to businesses located within the City
- 1.5% to businesses located within the other non-metropolitan Peel Region Council districts

Where purchase is greater than \$50,000 (excluding GST)

- 2% to businesses located within the City.
- 1% to businesses located within the other non-metropolitan Peel Region Council districts.
- 4. The maximum price reduction allowed for the levels of preference in paragraph 3 above will be \$50,000."

# Leon County Florida USA

"(1) Individuals or firms which have a home office located within Leon, Gadsden, Wakulla, or

Jefferson County, and which meet all of the criteria for a local business as set forth in this article, shall be given a preference in the amount of five percent of the bid price.

(2) Individuals or firms which do not have a home office located within Leon, Gadsden, Wakulla, or Jefferson County, and which meet all of the criteria for a local business as set forth in this article, shall be given a preference in the amount of three percent of the bid price.

The maximum cost differential shall not exceed \$20,000.00......"

# 5.22 Local Preference Selection Criteria

The other mechanism used is allocating local preference as a selection criteria. Examples include:

# Lismore NSW

"Local content will be weighted at minimum of ten percent (10%) of the selection criteria. The local content weighting can be higher than 10% if considered appropriate for the goods and services being procured."

# Wyong NSW

- "E1. The policy will apply to all procurement with a definable cumulative value greater than \$20,000 (ex GST) that is to be sourced from a single supplier.
- E2. Offers must be sufficiently detailed to enable Council to assess the level of Local Content included. To support assessment of the level of Local Content contained in Offers, Council may provide pro-forma templates to bidders for completion and/or require bidders to provide necessary detail in another form(s).
- E5. A weighting will be applied to each evaluation criterion. Local Content will have a mandatory weighting of 10% of the total evaluation criteria. Weights applied to price and non-price criteria will have a maximum cumulative weighting of 90%."

Wyong complicates the policy by capping the *"maximum adverse financial implication"* of the policy by applying for services, a sliding percentage tailing out to a maximum of \$50,000 adverse impact for services, \$20,000 for goods and \$35,000 for works.

# Gold Coast Qld

- "the issue and receipt of quotations to Gold Coast businesses or businesses with a branch office on the Gold Coast in the first instance is mandated for contracts less than \$200,000
- evaluation criteria for tenders specifically include a 15 percent weighting for local business and industry to be apportioned on a sliding scale to local, regional, intrastate, interstate and overseas suppliers
- evaluation criteria for tenders include a two percent weighting related to the Gold Coast Business Awards.
- invitations to suppliers include a schedule of questions to establish local credentials and safe work practices"

# Cairns Qld

"A local preference selection criteria with a weighting of no more than 10% (of the selection criteria total) will be utilised in the evaluation process, and where price, performance, quality, suitability and other selection criteria are evaluated equal, then;

- 1) Council may accept a tender submission or offer from a local supplier in preference to a comparable tender submission or offer from a non-local supplier even if the tender submission or offer from the non-local supplier has been assessed as more favourable in terms of one or more of the assessment criteria applied (including, but not limited to, price), so long as the overall differences are not substantial, and so long as it is clear that the selected local supplier can meet Council's requirements at an acceptably high standard which is generally comparable to that of other offers.
- 2) Local preference is not simply a 10% price benefit to a local supplier, eg where their price is 10% higher than a competitor's price, but rather a quantitative measurement that can be utilised in recognition of location of supplier and the associated benefits that this provide to Council, such as;
  - creation of local employment opportunities
  - more readily available servicing support
  - more convenient communication for contract management.
  - economic growth within the local area
  - benefit to Council of associated local commercial transactions"

# 6. Cost to Council Operations of Local Preference Policy

With annual procurement of around \$99M, the costs of supporting a local preference policy could be substantial, but this depends on the type of policy, the percentage advantage provided and whether caps are in place for high end contracts.

On one view the presence of say a 10% local preference policy could mean that local suppliers could load their prices by up to 9%, knowing that all other things being equal they will still be price competitive against non-local competition. This of course fails to account for competition between local suppliers themselves. Nevertheless if a local preference policy is adopted and increases the share of procurement for local suppliers then there will be a cost to Council's operations.

The table below, based on annual procurement of \$99M, gives a range of possible increases in local procurement costs if there is an uncapped local preference policy.

Increase in local Share of	Increase in annual local	Annual Cost to Oprocurements cos	perations (No Cap) at an additional:	, if additional local
procurement	value of procurement	3%	5%	8%
from 25.6% to 40%	· ·	\$0.42M	\$0.7M	\$1.1M
From 25.6% to 50%	\$23.8M	\$0.7M	\$1.2M	\$1.9M
From 25.6% to 75%	\$45.5M	\$1.4M	\$2.3M	\$3.6M

Council's current budget for Business and Economic Management is around \$1.5M (includes contracts with Destination Tweed, ID Consulting, VIC and staff costs). If the figures in the above table were realised it would represent a substantial increase in Council's allocation to this budget area, but a likely unsustainable impost on Council's operational budget.

To avoid the high end of possible costs of a local preference policy, it is necessary to cap the financial cost/advantage that can be achieved on any individual procurement.

# 7. RISKS

The major risk involved in adoption of a Local Preference Policy is the impact (cost) to the operational budget. If costs are substantial it will be necessary to find cuts in budget funds for works, services and projects. This report has not provided considered financial analysis of this financial risk. It is therefore proposed to refer the proposed policy to both Council's Audit Committee and Council's Auditor to seek their advice on the financial implications of the policy.

Another risk is that the policy may or may not be effective in significantly enhancing the local economy.

The Policy will require more staff resources to administer the procurement process, and to conduct checks on the claims of businesses claiming local status. There will also be more resources required by suppliers to provide the additional information needed to validate their "local" claims.

# 8. OPTIONS:

As can be seen from the examples from other LGAs there are many ways on how to implement local preference policies. For the purpose of this report however, only two options are proposed, the first being the status quo, the second being for a local preference policy that has local preference as 10% on the assessment criteria. It is open to Council to consider a greater range of options.

# Option 1:

The status quo, no change to existing Procurement Policy which states in Section 6:

"Council through the provisions of this Policy aims to encourage the development, promotion and growth of business and industry within the Shire boundaries. In the event of a valuation being equal, Council prefers to purchase Australian made products and services and to purchase them locally."

# Option 2:

Adopt a Local Preference Policy with 10% local preference assessment criteria for procurement above \$10,000 in value, with a variable cap permitting a maximum of \$50,000 financial cost/advantage for each individual offer. Implement this by the following amendments to Council's Procurement Policy.

### Compile Draft Version 1.5 of Council's Procurement Policy By Deleting:

### "6. PROCUREMENT PREFERENCE

Council through the provisions of this Policy aims to encourage the development, promotion and growth of business and industry within the Shire boundaries. In the event of a valuation being equal, Council prefers to purchase Australian made products and services and to purchase them locally."

# And Inserting:

# "6. LOCAL PREFERENCE POLICY

#### 6.1 Policy Objectives

Whilst Council is committed to obtaining the best value for money, Council also recognises the positive impact on the local economy through considering the local content contained in offers for supply of goods and services.

# 6.2 Definitions

For the operation of Section 6 of this policy:

"Business located in the Tweed Shire" means the person, business or enterprise making the offer must employ at least one person working in a full-time position in a workplace within the Tweed Shire Local Government Area and has done so for a period of no less than six (6) months prior to the date of first advertising or calling for Offers.

"Neighbouring Local Government Area" - means Gold Coast, Byron, Kyogle, Lismore, Ballina, Richmond Valley or Clarence Valley Local Government Areas.

"Nominated Local Value" means the predicted cost related to a tender/quotation of:

- Wages and subcontractors normally located in Tweed Shire
- Plant normally located in Tweed Shire
- Goods produced in Tweed Shire

- Manufacturing, production, processing, servicing and value adding conducted in Tweed Shire
- Services by providers located in Tweed Shire
- Agriculture products grown in Tweed Shire
- Value adding conducted in Tweed Shire to goods or equipment sourced outside Tweed Shire
- Overheads, profit margin on the above

But Excludes:

• Imported cost of goods and equipment sourced from outside Tweed Shire

• Any other goods, labour, plant or services sourced from outside Tweed Shire "Offers" – means quotations, tenders, expressions of interest and submissions made under a competitive basis for the provision of goods and services to Council. "Policy" – means this Local Preference Policy

# 6.3 Operation

6.3.1 The Policy will apply to all procurement with a definable cumulative value greater than \$10,000.00 (Incl GST) that is to be sourced from a single supplier.

6.3.2 Offers must be sufficiently detailed to enable Council to assess the level of Local Content included. To support assessment of the level of Local Content contained in Offers, Council may provide pro-forma templates to bidders for completion and/or require bidders to provide necessary detail in another form(s).

6.3.3 In assessing Offers, Council and its officers must be reasonably satisfied as to the level of Local Content stated. It is the responsibility of bidders to provide relevant documentary evidence to establish the veracity of the claimed level of Local Content. Council retains the right within its sole discretion to accept the veracity of stated Local Content.

6.3.4 Multi Criteria Evaluation: Local Content will have a mandatory weighting of 10% of the total evaluation criteria. Weights applied to price and non-price criteria will have a maximum cumulative weighting of 90%. A "Local Preference Score" (out of 10) will be applied to the 10% Local Content evaluation criteria based on details submitted in the Local Preference Information Form.

6.35 Price Criteria Only Evaluation: For price comparative purposes, a % discount will be applied in accordance with the "Local Preference Score" (out of 10) based on details submitted in the Local Preference Information Form.

6.36 The Local Preference Score shall be based on information submitted with offers on a "Local Preference Information Form".

6.37 The Local preference Score shall allocate:

- 3 points for "Businesses Located in the Tweed Shire"
- 1 point for businesses located in a "Neighbouring Local Government Area"
- 1 point for businesses that employ at least 5 persons who reside in Tweed Shire
- between 1 and 6 points for "Nominated Local Value".

6.3.8 The Local Preference Selection Criteria shall not apply if the cost above the most competitive complying offer exceeds the following

Price of most competitive conforming offer	Financial	l Cost Cap
>\$10,000 to <\$50,000 general items	10%	up to \$5,000
\$10,000 to <\$50,000 motor vehicles only	3%	
\$50,000 to <\$150,000	7.5%	\$3,750 to \$11,250
\$150,000 to <\$500,000	5%	\$7,500 to \$25,000
\$500,000 to <\$1M	3.5%	\$17,500 to \$35,000
>\$1M	2.5%	\$25,000 to max \$50,000

Place amended Draft Version 1.5 of Council's Procurement Policy on public exhibition.

### Option 3:

This Option proposes to place amended Draft Version 1.5 of Council's Procurement Policy on public exhibition as per Option 2 and concurrently:

- Request both the Audit Committee and Council's External Auditor to examine the draft policy and report likely implications on Council's finances and operations
- Refer the proposed policy to the National Institute of Economic and Industry Research (NIEIR) through our contractors IDD Consulting to model and quantify impacts of the policy on the local economy.
- Conduct a Council workshop to consider the proposed amendments, the advice of the Audit Committee, Council's Auditor, NIER and submissions from industry stakeholders and the public
- On completion of the above, compile a final report to Council.

# 9. CONCLUSION:

A significant positive economic impact is expected on the local economy through additional Council procurement from local suppliers. However this must be balanced by the need to obtain best value for money for ratepayers and residents in the procurement of Council works, services and projects. This balance may be achieved by restricting the value of local preference to a reasonable percentage of total evaluation criteria and by capping the total amount of financial cost for each transaction.

Option 3 is the preferred option. There is merit in exhibiting a draft local preference policy to obtain feedback from industry stakeholders and the general public. Before Council makes a final determination on this matter there is also merit in obtaining expert advice on the likely financial costs to Council's operations and the likely effectiveness of the policy in stimulating the local economy.

### COUNCIL IMPLICATIONS:

#### a. Policy:

Possible amendment to Procurement Policy Version 1.4. If the policy was amended, then management would also amend the internal Procurement Protocol to implement the detail of the amended policy.

#### b. Budget/Long Term Financial Plan:

Possible substantial negative impacts and further expert advice is needed as per Conclusion of this report.

# c. Legal:

Any amendment to the Procurement Policy must be in accordance with relevant legislation.

### d. Communication/Engagement:

**Involve/Collaborate**-We will work with you on an ongoing basis to ensure your ideas, concerns and aspirations are considered. We will provide feedback on Council's decisions.

### LINKAGE TO INTEGRATED PLANNING AND REPORTING FRAMEWORK:

- 1 Civic Leadership
- 1.1 Ensure actions taken and decisions reached are based on the principles of sustainability
- 1.1.1 Establish sustainability as a basis of shire planning and Council's own business operations
- 1.3 Delivering the objectives of this plan
- 1.3.2 Council will seek the best value in delivering services
- 3 Strengthening the Economy
- 3.4 Provide land and infrastructure to underpin economic development and employment
- 3.4.3 Manage Council business enterprises to provide economic stimulus and maximise returns to the community

# UNDER SEPARATE COVER/FURTHER INFORMATION:

*(Confidential)* Attachment 1. Example Local Preference Information Form and Worksheet 1 (ECM 3048842).

# CNL-55 [EO-CM] Casino to Murwillumbah Transport Study

# SUBMITTED BY: Director



# SUMMARY OF REPORT:

The NSW Government commissioned a report titled *"The Casino to Murwillumbah Transport Study"* after the 2011 NSW election. The report was released 23 April 2013.

The report recommends rail services remain suspended as they will not meet existing and future public transport needs of the region and the estimated cost of \$953M to repair the rail assets is not warranted.

The report also recommends continued low level maintenance of rail assets to ensure they are safe and that there be further work on development of the Regional Transport Plan for the Northern Rivers.

The report recommends improvements (increased frequencies) to regional bus services including Route 603 Tweed Heads – Pottsville and Route 605 Tweed Heads – Murwillumbah and recommends better integration of Services 603 (Tweed Heads/Pottsville) and 605 (Tweed Heads/Murwillumbah) with Queensland TransLink services 765 (to Varsity Lakes Rail) and 760 (to Broadbeach and interchange with Light Rail).

The Transport Study explores the use of the rail corridor as a rail trail and advises that this has been done with some success in Victoria and New Zealand where they are used for walking, riding and cycling trails. The report advises a range of economic benefits can be derived from rail trails including:

- "Job creation during and after construction.
- Increased direct expenditure and indirect regional income.
- Opportunities for new and expanded local businesses.
- A higher profile for the regions tourism industry"

There could be major sustainable lifestyle, economic and tourism benefits to Tweed Shire from the establishment of a rail trail on the disused rail corridor. Using the rail corridor for this purpose would have the added benefit of ensuring the corridor is maintained in public ownership and available for the re-establishment of rail services if needed at some future time. It is therefore recommended that Council actively support and promote the establishment of the rail trail on the Casino to Murwillumbah rail corridor.

# **RECOMMENDATION:**

That:

- 1. In regard to the Casino to Murwillumbah Transport Study recommendations, Council:
  - (a) Notes with regret the recommendation regarding "*Rail services*" that rail services on the Casino to Murwillumbah rail line will remain suspended.
  - (b) Notes the recommendations regarding "*Rail assets*" and supports ongoing investment by the NSW Government to ensure the rail assets are maintained in a safe condition.
  - (c) Supports the recommendation regarding "*Rail corridor*" with the addition of the following additional dot points:
    - "That further detailed work be undertaken by the NSW Government to determine the feasibility of converting the existing rail corridor to a rail trail facility and
    - That the existing rail corridor be kept in public ownership for future use as a rail trail facility and thereby preserving the corridor so it would be available at some future date if needed for re-establishment of rail services."
  - (d) Supports the recommendations regarding the bus mode for investigating improvements to "*Existing services*", particularly Route 603 Tweed Heads Pottsville and Route 605 Tweed Heads Murwillumbah.
  - (e) Notes the recommendations regarding the bus mode for "New or amended services."
  - (f) Supports the recommendations regarding the bus mode for "Better integration", particularly Services 603 (Tweed Heads/Pottsville) and 605 (Tweed Heads/Murwillumbah) with Queensland TransLink services 765 (to Varsity Lakes Rail) and 760 (to Broadbeach and interchange with Light Rail)." with the addition of the following additional dot point:
    - "The full integration of bus services in Tweed Shire into the Queensland "TransLink" and "GoCard" system will be actively pursued with the Queensland Government."
- 2. To support sustainable tourism, healthy outdoor activities and economic development in Tweed Shire, Council actively support and promote the establishment of a rail trail on the Casino to Murwillumbah rail corridor, particularly the section extending south from Murwillumbah.

# **REPORT**:

# 1. Background

The NSW Government commissioned a report titled "The Casino to Murwillumbah Transport Study" after the 2011 NSW election. The report was released 23 April 2013.

The purpose of the study is to provide recommendations to the NSW Government on:

"How the public transport needs of the study area should be met in the short and longer term and planned through the Northern Rivers Regional Transport Plan.
The future of the existing Casino to Murwillumbah Rail Line."

# 2. Study Documents

The Transport Study consists of 3 documents:

- "Casino to Murwillumbah Transport Study" the primary document of 137 pages containing the comprehensive report, findings, conclusions and recommendations.
- "Casino to Murwillumbah Rail Line Study, Corridor Options Future Rail Connection to South East Queensland" - this report presents the results of the investigation into the potential connections to South East Queensland's public transport network and examines alternative corridors between Coolangatta and Chinderah (2 options), Chinderah and Yelgun (4 options), Chinderah to Murwillumbah (one branch option) and Yelgun to Byron Bay (2 options).
- "Casino to Murwillumbah Rail Line Study Stage 1 Condition Assessment" This study assesses the condition of existing assets with consideration to reinstatement of rail services, but does not evaluate feasibility and cost of reinstating rail services. This is done in the main study.

This report to Council will briefly analyse the first document only which will be referred to as the "Transport Study".

# 3. Structure of the Transport Study

The Transport Study comprises the following main sections:

- Executive summary, Introduction
- Customers and stakeholders
- Responding to the NSW framework of planning, landuse planning, transport planning and investment
- The existing transport network
- Current and future transport needs
- The role of the rail line
- Conclusions/recommendations
- Appendicles including
  - o rail mode option assessment
  - o demand modelling
  - o assessment of route options
  - o estimated repair costs to re-establish rail services
  - o rail trail case studies
  - o preliminary cost estimates for improved bus services

# 4. Findings of the Transport Study

The findings of the Transport Study are reproduced below:

# "Current need

- The current accessibility and mobility needs of the study corridor and of the Northern Rivers region, in the short to medium term, are not primarily driven by economic growth but by a large and increasing dependent population needing regular access to services.
- Private vehicle travel will continue to be the dominant transport mode, with upgrading of the Pacific Highway providing travel times between major centres that public transport is unable to match both now and into the future.
- The areas with the highest need for improved public transport are Tweed Heads/Tweed Coast with connections to South East Queensland, and the Lismore-Ballina – Byron Bay corridor. These are the current and future growth corridors and are not serviced by the existing rail corridor.
- There are no existing or future opportunities for rail freight transport in the region that could contribute to the case for reinstating rail services.
- Tourism, particularly at Byron Bay presents an opportunity to contribute towards improved local bus services. However, public transport is unlikely to compete with private vehicle and private bus operators, that service the needs of visitors on a mostly "user pays" basis. Using the rail line to service tourists, identified by some stakeholders as an opportunity, would require significant private sector investment with little likelihood of financial return.
- Regular consultation with the Transport Study stakeholders indicates that, with the exception of local rail interest groups, there is little support for substantial investment in re-opening of the rail line at the expense of improved bus services or investment in social services. There is a strong local recognition that the public transport needs of the study area and Northern Rivers region could be best addressed by a quality bus network.
- Existing road congestion problems in Byron Bay CBD, Bruxner Highway between Goonellabah and Lismore, as well as the Tweed Heads/ Coolangatta area will require road upgrades in the short to medium term to alleviate growing congestion (some of this work has already begun). Improving bus services in these areas will assist with management of congestion during peak periods.

# **Future need**

- Low population densities along the existing rail corridor and modest population growth, does not create significant economic, social or environmental drivers to justify the large investment in high capacity public transport such as heavy rail.
- Preliminary modelling undertaken by this study indicates the existing rail line will not contribute to an increase in public transport mode share, and that increasing bus services will be more effective and significantly cheaper. A high capacity rail corridor extending southwards from the Gold Coast Airport may be required beyond 2031 but would require concentrated growth within key transport corridors such as the Pacific Highway/M1 motorway, continued strong growth of the Gold Coast Airport and extension of the Gold Coast rail line by the Queensland Government from Varsity Lakes to the airport.
- Any requirement for a mass transit corridor would be primarily driven by economic activity, increased trip generation and associated road congestion. Predicted future trip generation undertaken by the study indicates that the highest growth in trips will occur in the Tweed Heads Tweed Heads South Kingscliff Pottsville corridor.

While the growth is significant in relative than 2 per cent of total trips in 2031) is insufficient to justify the significant investment. A mass transit corridor, should it be required, would extend southwards along the coast rather than connecting to the existing rail corridor at Murwillumbah.

- Work undertaken by this study supports The Tweed Shire Council Public Transport Strategy that advocates improved bus services from Gold Coast Airport to Pottsville via coastal villages, and, due to uncertainty of need, no reliance on a heavy rail link from Coolangatta to Yelgun in the medium to longer term.
- Modelling predicts that the increase in trips in the Lismore Ballina Byron Bay corridor is not of the magnitude to need recommencement of rail services in the longer term. Continual improvement in bus services, infrastructure and integration of private operators will provide more benefits to the customer and could support growth of existing facilities such as Southern Cross University and Wollongbar TAFE.
- The study has undertaken an engineering feasibility of potential heavy rail corridors from Gold Coast Airport, connecting to the existing rail corridor at Byron Bay and Yelgun. A corridor option with a connection to Murwillumbah was also included for comparison purposes. All identified corridors are technically feasible and there are no social or environmental factors that could not be effectively managed. The construction costs for these corridors ranges from \$15 million to \$30 million per kilometre, apart from the Coolangatta-Tweed Heads- Chinderah options where significant bridge and tunnel structures increase estimated construction costs to \$50 million to \$60 million per kilometre.

# The condition of the rail line

- Since rail services were suspended in 2004, the condition of the Casino to Murwillumbah Rail line has deteriorated. It is heavily overgrown, has a number of landslides, and the majority of timber bridges and wooden sleepers have little or no residual life.
- There has been little maintenance to the line during this period, apart from keeping the line to a suitable safety standard, and some stations and vegetation management of the corridor in towns. Even with a reduced maintenance program, the annual budget for this work has averaged around \$750,000 each year between 2007 to 2011 (Parliament of NSW, 2011).
- Reinstatement of the rail line to an operating standard is estimated to have a capital cost in excess of \$900 million. The significant level of investment required to reinstate the rail line is required for either XPT services or for other alternatives such as lighter, higher frequency shuttle services.
- The estimated cost is significantly higher than previous studies, reflecting the more comprehensive condition assessment and significant degradation of the assets since 2004. It must also be noted that any reinstatement outcome would need to comply with current rail standards and standards of operation to allow safe operations at acceptable levels of service.
- The rail line is in the best condition between Casino to Lismore. Between Byron Bay and Murwillumbah, the rail line is in particularly poor condition, with the rugged terrain presenting barriers to effective maintenance.

# Responding to the region's needs; the future of the rail line

Figure 3 shows the location of the existing rail corridor, relative to the identified future growth corridor for the Northern Rivers Region. The key findings of the study in the context of the rail line are as follows:

- The rail corridor cannot serve transport needs of the corridor between Lismore and Ballina, Ballina and Byron Bay and the Tweed Coast/South Tweed region. Importantly, the rail line does not provide direct connections to education, medical and other social services in Lismore, Ballina and because of excessive travel times compared with direct bus services or car travel.
- Currently, only 40 per cent of the population of the Northern Rivers region would have reasonable access to the rail line. With continued growth along the coastal corridor, by 2031, it will serve less than 25 per cent of the population.

Figure 3 The Casino to Murwillumbah Rail Line corridor compared to the primary growth corridor



• Any future heavy rail connection to South East Queensland, should it be required after 2031, should extend south from Gold Coast Airport along the Tweed Coast rather than inland to connect to the existing rail line at Murwillumbah. This is to better serve likely population centres and therefore patronage demand."

# 5. Conclusions of the Transport Study

"The Study has made the following conclusions regarding the condition of the existing rail line, and requirements for reinstatement:

- A significant level of investment would be required to reinstate the rail line to a safe operating standard; in excess of \$900 million. Given that the rail line does not connect the region's major growth centres and social services, such an investment is not warranted.
- The 'do nothing' option requires on-going investment by the NSW Government. Maintenance costs are around \$750,000 per annum between 2007 and 2012 (Parliament of NSW, 2011), but have not been significant enough to stop the degradation of asset condition. The state of timber bridges and the inherent safety risks they pose requires ongoing inspections and maintenance to ensure the corridor is safe.
- That recommended bus service improvements are included in the next review of Northern Rivers Bus Services contracts, or be implemented on a 12-month trial basis.
- That recommendations regarding improvements to cross border integration are included in discussions with the Queensland Government.

# 6. Recommendations of the Transport Study

# "9.1Rail

# **Rail services**

• That rail services remain suspended. Reinstating rail services will not meet existing and future public transport needs for the region and patronage demand does not warrant the significant investment (in excess of \$900 million9) needed for a safe operational rail corridor.

# Rail assets

- That rail assets be maintained to a minimum standard only; i.e. to 'make safe'.
- That a safety assessment be conducted on three bridges over public roads that have been identified as a potential safety hazard, to determine definitively whether they should be removed, maintained or replaced. These bridges are over Bangalow Road, Binna Burra, over Terania Street, North Lismore and over Friday Hut Road, Binna Burra.

# **Rail corridor**

 That further work be undertaken during the development and implementation of the Regional Transport Plan to determine whether a rail corridor to Gold Coast via Tweed Heads should be identified for future land use and transport planning purposes.

# 9.2 Bus

# **Existing services**

- That Transport for NSW further investigate improvements (increased frequencies) to the following existing routes:
  - Route 603 Tweed Heads Pottsville.
  - Route 605 Tweed Heads Murwillumbah.
  - Route 640 Ballina Byron Bay Mullumbimby.

- Route 661 Ballina Lismore.
- Route 637 Sunrise Beach Byron Bay Suffolk Park.

# New or amended services

- Routes 661 and 662 be restructured to include regular connections to Lismore Hospital, Southern Cross University and Wollongbar TAFE.
- Route 637 be updated to be a regular town loop service structured to meet peak visitor periods.
- New express services be provided to service the following connection: Bryon Bay

   Ballina Lismore via Bruxner and Pacific Highways.

# **Better integration**

• The following routes be integrated in terms of timetable and passenger information:

- Services 661 (Lismore/Ballina), 675 (Lismore/Casino), 640 (Ballina/Byron/Mullumbimby).
- Services 603 (Tweed Heads/Pottsville) and 605 (Tweed Heads/Murwillumbah) with Queensland TransLink services 765 (to Varsity Lakes Rail) and 760 (to Broadbeach and interchange with Light Rail)."

# 7. Comments on the Transport Report

The report recommends rail services remain suspended as they will not meet existing and future public transport needs of the region and the estimated cost of \$953M to repair the rail assets is not warranted. It notes that "Currently, only 40 per cent of the population of the Northern Rivers region would have reasonable access to the rail line. With continued growth along the coastal corridor, by 2031, it will serve less than 25 per cent of the population."

The report is aligned with the findings of the Tweed Shire Council Public Transport Strategy (adopted by Council 19 July 2011) that improved bus services (including dedicated bus lanes) are the preferred public transport mode to service the fast growing urban areas of the Lower Tweed and Tweed Coast. The report also examines a number of alternative routes for connection of the Casino/Murwillumbah line to the proposed extension of the South East Queensland suburban railway network to Coolangatta Airport. These options all involve a route extending south from Coolangatta and Tweed Heads adjacent to the Tweed Coast before converging with the existing disused railway line between Yelgun and Byron Bay. An option using the existing line through Murwillumbah is not favoured as the connection to Queensland because this route is not aligned with population growth areas.

Section 7.4.2 of the Transport Study explores the use of the corridor as a rail trail and advises that this has been done with some success in Victoria and New Zealand where they are used for walking, riding and cycling trails. The report advises a range of economic benefits can be derived from rail trails including:

- "Job creation during and after construction.
- Increased direct expenditure and indirect regional income.
- Opportunities for new and expanded local businesses.
- A higher profile for the regions tourism industry"

There would be major sustainable lifestyle, economic and tourism benefits to Tweed Shire from the establishment of a rail trail on the disused rail corridor. Using the rail corridor for this purpose would have the added benefit of ensuring the corridor is maintained in public ownership and available for the re-establishment of rail services if needed at some future time. It is therefore recommended that Council actively support and promote the establishment of the rail trail on the Casino to Murwillumbah rail corridor.

The reports recommendation to continue maintenance to rail assets to ensure they are safe should be supported.

The report's recommendations for improvements to bus services and better integration of Tweed bus services with TransLink services on the Gold Coast should also be supported.

# **OPTIONS:**

# Option 1.

Note the recommendations of the Casino to Murwillumbah Transport Study.

# Option 2.

Support some parts of the Transport Study as per the following recommendation: That:

- 1. In regard to the Casino to Murwillumbah Transport study recommendations, Council:
  - (a) Notes with regret the recommendation regarding "*Rail services*" that rail services on the Casino to Murwillumbah rail line will remain suspended.
  - (b) Notes the recommendations regarding "*Rail assets*" and supports ongoing investment by the NSW Government to ensure the rail assets are maintained in a safe condition.
  - (c) Supports the recommendation regarding "*Rail corridor*" with the addition of the following additional dot points"
    - "That further detailed work be undertaken by the NSW Government to determine the feasibility of converting the existing rail corridor to a rail trail facility and
    - That the existing rail corridor be kept in public ownership for future use as a rail trail facility and thereby preserving the corridor so it would be available at some future date if needed for re-establishment of rail services."
  - (d) Supports the recommendations regarding the bus mode for investigating improvements to "Existing services", particularly Route 603 Tweed Heads – Pottsville and Route 605 Tweed Heads – Murwillumbah.
  - (e) Notes the recommendations regarding the bus mode for "New or amended services".
  - (f) Supports the recommendations regarding the bus mode for "Better integration", particularly Services 603 (Tweed Heads/Pottsville) and 605 (Tweed Heads/Murwillumbah) with Queensland TransLink services 765 (to Varsity Lakes Rail) and 760 (to Broadbeach and interchange with Light Rail)." with the addition of the following additional dot point:
    - The full integration of bus services in Tweed Shire into the Queensland "TransLink" and "GoCard" system will be actively pursued with the Queensland Government.
- 2. To support sustainable tourism, healthy outdoor activities and economic development in Tweed Shire, Council actively support and promote the establishment of a rail trail on the Casino to Murwillumbah rail corridor, particularly the section extending south from Murwillumbah.

# **COUNCIL IMPLICATIONS:**

#### a. Policy:

Tweed Shire Council - Public Transport Strategy.

# b. Budget/Long Term Financial Plan:

Not Applicable in the short term, however promotion and support of establishment of a rail trail could be the subject of future budget allocations.

#### c. Legal:

Not Applicable.

#### d. Communication/Engagement:

Inform - We will keep you informed.

# LINKAGE TO INTEGRATED PLANNING AND REPORTING FRAMEWORK:

- 2 Supporting Community Life
- 2.1 Foster strong, cohesive, cooperative, healthy and safe communities
- 2.1.6 Provide social, economic and cultural initiatives which enhance access, equity and community well-being
- 2.1.6.7 Promote public transport initiatives and planning

# UNDER SEPARATE COVER/FURTHER INFORMATION:

Nil.

CNL-56 [EO-CM] Stormwater Drainage onto Lots 11 and 12 in DP 1112698 Hogans Road, Bilambil

SUBMITTED BY: Works



# SUMMARY OF REPORT:

Council has received a request from the landowners of Lots 11 and 12 in DP1112698 Hogans Road to carry out remediation of ground erosion in gullies below road pipe culvert discharge points. The road and culverts were designed and constructed circa 1984 to cater for stormwater discharge of upstream catchments at that time. Surface erosion to the properties is reported to have commenced in or about 1999 after re-contouring of an upstream property for farming purposes was completed.

#### **RECOMMENDATION:**

#### That:

- 1. Council notifies the owners of Lots 11 and 12 in DP1112698 that Council declines their request for erosion remediation works to the properties apart from those listed in recommendations 2 to 4 below.
- 2. Council installs rock pitching to the immediate surrounds of outlets to pipe culvert numbers 1 and 9 as identified in this report;
- 3. Council modifies the outlet to the raised pipe culvert number 5 to redirect the flow at ground level;
- 4. All pipe culverts fronting Lots 11 and 12 are internally inspected for faulty joints and repairs as required effected.
- 5. ATTACHMENT 1 is CONFIDENTIAL in accordance with Section 10A(2) of the Local Government Act 1993, because it contains:-
  - (g) advice concerning litigation, or advice that would otherwise be privileged from production in legal proceedings on the ground of legal professional privilege

# **REPORT:**

Council has received a request from the landowners of Lots 11 and 12 in DP1112698 Hogans Road to carry out remediation of ground erosion in gullies below road pipe culvert discharge points. The remediation works requested include rock filling and stabilisation of eroded gullies, a review of existing pipe culvert capacities and upgrading if required, the construction of energy dissipaters at culvert outlets and sediment basins. In addition, the property owners request that Council stabilise the banks of Bilambil Creek through Lot 12 to prevent its changing of course following flood flows, and to reimburse them for costs associated with storm damage to the driveway to the house situated on Lot 12.

# **Remediation of Gully Erosion**

The current alignment of Hogans Road was designed and constructed circa 1984. The design of the pipe culverts was in accordance with upstream catchment areas of the time. The landowners have reported that erosion to the properties commenced in or around 1999 after re-contouring of an upstream property for farming purposes was carried out. It is alleged that the re-contouring had altered the catchment boundaries resulting in a redirection of overland flows towards Hogans Road and its pipe culverts. The damage to the properties includes eroded ground surfaces and deposition of sediment. In August 2000 Council was notified in writing by the landowner of Lot 12 of erosion to his property following the clearing of an upstream property, and was advised that under the 1(a) zoning of the land that clearing for farming activities did not require Council consent. In correspondence dated 9 February 2001, the landowner was further advised that as no erosion to the properties was evident until the upstream property was cleared then Council did not propose to perform any works. The landowners subsequently engaged Soil and Water Science and Engineering consultants Gilbert and Sutherland Pty Ltd to identify the cause of the surface damage and proposed remediation measures. This consultant report dated October 2002 summarised the causes of the property damage as:

- "Changes to upstream landuse, including development for horticultural use
- Changes to upstream topography, including levelling and regrading of land and rerouting of surface runoff with no flow attenuation
- Absence of regulation of these works and the consequent environmental impacts
- Poor engineering design of public infrastructure (road culverts etc)"

On this section of Hogans Road, eleven (11) pipe culverts have been identified under the road (refer below aerial view). Of the above listed factors, it is considered that the last point is the only issue raised that Council should be responsible for. Specifically, the report identifies a pipe culvert that discharges at a height of 1m above the ground surface in Gully 2 (pipe number 5 in below aerial view) and others that do not have energy dissipaters installed. It is usual practice for culverts to be placed at natural ground levels to direct water flows across receiving lands, and so some modification at this outlet is considered warranted as according to both the landowners and the consultant report the primary cause of the damage is the reshaping of an upstream property that has increased and concentrated runoff towards Hogans Road. Erosion repairs to the immediate surrounds of two pipe culverts (numbers 1 and 9 in below aerial view) are considered.

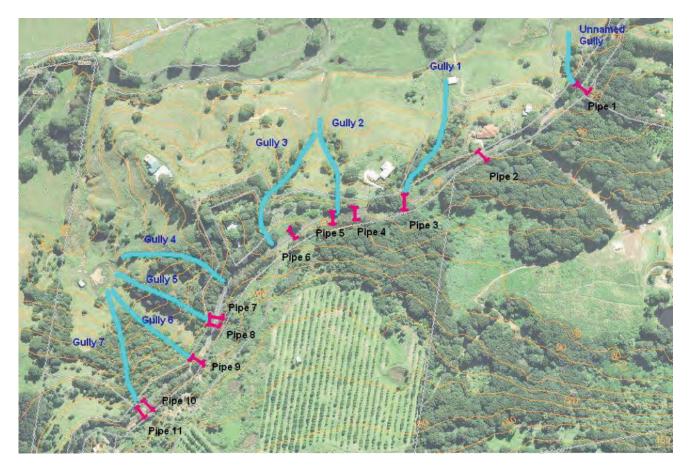
The consultant report indicated that some pipe culverts may have separated joints that in their opinion may pose a stability issue for Hogans Road. This will be investigated by having all culverts fronting Lots 11 and 12 internally inspected and repairs scheduled if required.

#### **Bilambil Creek Bank Stabilisation**

The request for bank stabilisation to Bilambil Creek to prevent it from changing its course in high flow events is not considered an issue warranting the use of public funds by Council. It is unlikely that the meandering of the Creek over time is influenced to any significant extent by the rather remote Hogans Road culverts and gullies. Certainly it would be reasonable to attribute a major contribution to any un-natural stream meandering to the clearing and farming practices conducted adjacent to and within the creek bed.

#### Storm Damage to Driveway to Lot 12

During the Australia Day Flood/Storm in 2012, the owner has reported that the high volume of runoff down the abandoned section of Hogans Road that serves as the access to Lot 12, continued down the driveway within Lot 12 and caused damage to the driveway surface, fencing and a minor landslip. The owner has requested reimbursement of the costs of repair of these facilities. In the design of all infrastructure there is a level of risk accepted by the asset owner – for example, culverts across roads are usually designed for 5 year Average Recurrence Interval with the excess high flows being conducted by overland flow. Similarly the owner in the design and construction of his driveway has (even if unconsciously) made a decision on the balance of cost of protection versus residual risk. It is unreasonable to expect the community via Council to reimburse the owner when this balance is exceeded.



Pipe culvert and gully locations opposite Lots 11 and 12 in DP 1112698 Hogans Road.

#### **OPTIONS:**

Nil.

#### CONCLUSION:

The property owners of Lots 11 and 12 in DP1112698 have over a period of years requested Council to perform remediation works to gullies where erosion is evident. The owners, and their consultants, have repeatedly identified the primary cause of the erosion as land management practices of upstream private properties. Accordingly, to date Council officers have denied assistance.

#### COUNCIL IMPLICATIONS:

#### a. Policy:

Corporate Policy Not Applicable.

# b. Budget/Long Term Financial Plan:

Road Maintenance.

#### c. Legal:

Advice has been sought from Council's insurers in the preparation of this report.

#### d. Communication/Engagement:

Not Applicable.

#### LINKAGE TO INTEGRATED PLANNING AND REPORTING FRAMEWORK:

- 2 Supporting Community Life
- 2.3 Provide well serviced neighbourhoods
- 2.3.5 Ensure adequate stormwater drainage, flood management and evacuation systems are in place to protect people and property from flooding
- 2.3.5.5 Stormwater drainage system maintenance to address defects in accordance with the adopted level of service

# UNDER SEPARATE COVER/FURTHER INFORMATION:

*(Confidential)* Attachment 1. Gilbert & Sutherland report provided by land owner (ECM 65444932).

REPORTS FROM THE ACTING DIRECTOR TECHNOLOGY AND CORPORATE SERVICES

CNL-57 [TCS-CM] Mayor and Councillors Annual Remuneration 2013/2014

SUBMITTED BY: Corporate Governance



#### SUMMARY OF REPORT:

The Local Government Remuneration Tribunal has made a determination under Sections 239 and 241 of the Local Government Act 1993 in relation to fees payable to Mayors and Councillors for the 2013/2014 financial period, of a 2.5 per cent increase over the fees payable in 2012/2013.

Council needs to determine the fees payable to the Mayor and Councillors for 2013/2014.

#### **RECOMMENDATION:**

That the annual fees payable for the Mayor and Councillors for the 2013/2014 financial period be:

Mayor	\$38,160
Councillors	\$17,490

In accordance with the maximum fees as determined by the Local Government Remuneration Tribunal.

# **REPORT:**

The Local Government Remuneration Tribunal has made a determination under Sections 239 and 241 of the Local Government Act 1993 in relation to fees payable to Mayors and Councillors for the 2013/2014 financial period.

Council is one of the thirty two (32) councils classified within the category of Regional Rural. The Tribunal did not review the categories of Councils during the 2013 review.

In accordance with Section 241 of the Local Government Act 1993, the Tribunal has determined minimum and maximum annual fees payable to Mayors and Councillors, an increase of 2.5 per cent, over the fees payable in 2012/2013. The determination in relation to the Regional Rural Category is disclosed in the following table:

	20	)13/2014	20	)12/2013
	Minimum	Maximum	Minimum	Maximum
Councillor	\$7,930	\$17,490	\$7,740	\$17,060
Mayor*	\$16,890	\$38,160	\$16,480	\$37,230

\* The Mayoral fee is payable in addition to the fee paid to the Mayor as a Councillor in accordance with Section 249(2) of the Local Government Act 1993.

# **OPTIONS:**

Council can determine the fees applicable across the range from between the minimum to the maximum for the Regional Rural Category.

# CONCLUSION:

That Council determines the applicable fees payable for the 2013/2014 financial period.

# **COUNCIL IMPLICATIONS:**

#### a. Policy:

Councillors-Payment of Expenses and Provision of Facilities for Mayor and Councillors Version 1.7 in accordance with Determination by the Local Government Remuneration Tribunal.

#### b. Budget/Long Term Financial Plan:

Adequate allowance has been made in the 2013/2014 Estimates for Mayor and Councillors Remuneration.

Payment of the maximum fees will result in an expenditure of \$160,590 compared to \$156,650 in 2012/2013.

#### c. Legal:

Not Applicable.

#### d. Communication/Engagement:

Inform - We will keep you informed.

# LINKAGE TO INTEGRATED PLANNING AND REPORTING FRAMEWORK:

- 1 Civic Leadership
- 1.2 Improve decision making by engaging stakeholders and taking into account community input
- 1.2.1 Council will be underpinned by good governance and transparency in its decision making process
- 1.2.1.2 Provide information to Councillors to enable them to carry out their civic office functions

#### UNDER SEPARATE COVER/FURTHER INFORMATION:

Attachment 1. Determination of the Local Government Remuneration Tribunal dated 8 April 2013 (ECM 3048846)

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# CNL-58 [TCS-CM] Quarterly Report - 1 January 2013 to 31 March 2013

#### SUBMITTED BY: Corporate Governance



#### **SUMMARY OF REPORT:**

The Corporate Quarterly Report for the period 1 January to 31 March 2013 is presented for consideration by Council.

This report and accompanying attachments detail the progress of the 2012/2013 Operational Plan activities up to 31 March 2013.

#### **RECOMMENDATION:**

That Council endorses the Corporate Quarterly Report as at 31 March 2013.

# **REPORT:**

At the Council meeting held Tuesday 26 June 2012 the Operational Plan 2012/2013 was adopted by Council and a reporting structure has been developed which is based upon four themes identified below.



Civic Leadership - Aim: To set the overall direction and long-term goals for the Tweed in accordance with community aspirations.



Supporting Community Life - Aim: To create a place where people are healthy, safe, connected and in harmony with the natural environment, to retain and improve the quality of community life.



Strengthening the Economy- Aim: To strengthen and diversify the region's economic base in a way that complements the environmental and social values of the Tweed.



Caring for the Environment - Aim: For Council and the community to value, respect and actively participate in the care and management of our natural environment for current and future generations.

The following projects have been completed during the period 1 January to 31 March 2013.

1.1.1.2.1 Prepare Draft LEP in accordance with the sustainability objectives of the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979 and other relevant legislation

The project is complete.

- **Review of stock turnover** 1.3.1.20.2 The project is complete.
- 1.4.1.1.3 Complete the upgrade of the geographical information held by Council so that it is survey accurate an aligned with the NSW LPMA DCDB (digital cadastre database)

The update is complete.

- 2.1.1.3.4 Exhibition and adoption of Youth Strategy The draft Youth Strategy and Action Plan were placed on public exhibition from 9 April to 7 May 2013.
- 4.1.3.9.1 Upgrade of Cudgen Creek Boat Ramp The project was completed.
- 4.1.3.7.1 Inspection of Caravan Parks and Manufactured Home Estates Inspection of all caravan parks and manufactured home estates in the shire is complete.

# 4.1.3.1.1 Develop, implement and maintain best practice procedures

Average days for the Building Unit to issue a:

- construction certificate was 13 days,
- complying building application was 3 days and
- development application was 34 days.

All well within statutory timeframes.

# **OPTIONS:**

Not Applicable.

# CONCLUSION:

An undertaking given through the overarching Community Strategic Plan was that the General Manager will report quarterly to Council on the progress in meeting activities and targets of the Operational Plan. This is the third quarterly report on the progress of the 2012/2013 plan.

# COUNCIL IMPLICATIONS:

# a. Policy:

Being reported in accordance with requirements associated with Integrated Planning and Reporting Framework.

# b. Budget/Long Term Financial Plan:

In line with the impacts of the adopted Operational Plan.

# c. Legal:

Section 404(5) Local Government Act 1993 (NSW).

# d. Communication/Engagement:

We will keep you informed.

# LINKAGE TO INTEGRATED PLANNING AND REPORTING FRAMEWORK:

- 1 Civic Leadership
- 1.3 Delivering the objectives of this plan
- 1.3.2 Council will seek the best value in delivering services
- 1.3.2.3.1 Regular reviews of progress of Delivery Program

# UNDER SEPARATE COVER/FURTHER INFORMATION:

- Attachment 1. Quarterly Report Civic Leadership (ECM 3048957)
- Attachment 2. Quarterly Report Supporting Community Life (ECM 3048960)
- Attachment 3. Quarterly Report Strengthening the Economy (ECM 3048959)
- Attachment 4. Quarterly Report Caring for the Environment (ECM 3048956)

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# CNL-59 [TCS-CM] Quarterly Budget Review - March 2013

# SUBMITTED BY: Financial Services



# SUMMARY OF REPORT:

This is the third quarter statutory budget review for this financial year and summarises the estimated expenditure and income changes to the 2012/2013 Budget.

This statutory report is prepared in accordance with the Local Government (General) Regulations 2005, sections 202 and 203. Council will have a balanced budget as at 31 March 2013 in all Funds.

# **RECOMMENDATION:**

#### That the:

- 1. Quarterly Budget Review Statement as at 31 March 2013 be adopted.
- 2. Expenditure and income, as summarised below and detailed within the report, be voted and adjusted in accordance with the revised total expenditure and income for the year ending 30 June 2013.

Description	Change to	Vote
•	Deficit	Surplus
General Fund		•
<u>Expenses</u>		
Employee costs	185,429	0
Materials & Contracts	0	215,776
Interest	0	0
Other Operating costs	2,993	0
Capital	750,000	0
Loan Repayments	0	0
Transfers to Reserves	307,975	0
	1,246,397	215,776

IncomeRates and Annual Charges0Interest revenue0Operating Grants & Conts0Capital Grants & Conts0User Charges & Fees0Other Operating Revenue0Loan Funds0Recoupments0360,00Transfers from Reserves115,000Asset Sales0Net Surplus/(Deficit)
Interest revenue0Operating Grants & Conts0Capital Grants & Conts0User Charges & Fees0Other Operating Revenue0Loan Funds0Recoupments0Transfers from Reserves115,000Asset Sales0Net Surplus/(Deficit)
Operating Grants & Conts0352,43Capital Grants & Conts0190,00User Charges & Fees048,19Other Operating Revenue0195,00Loan Funds0195,00Recoupments0360,00Transfers from Reserves115,0001,145,62Net Surplus/(Deficit)
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Net Surplus/(Deficit) Deficit Surplu
Deficit Surplu
•
Expenses
Employee costs 0
Materials & Contracts 0 450,00
Interest 0 29,48
Other Operating costs 0
Capital 0 3,273,60
Loan Repayments 0 33,30
Transfers to Reserves 891,728
891,728 3,786,39
Income 0
Rates and Annual Charges 0
Interest revenue 0 891,72
Operating Grants & Conts 0
Capital Grants & Conts 0
User Charges & Fees 0
Other Operating Revenue 0
Loan Funds 0 Recoupments 1 502 115
Recoupments 1,502,115
Recoupments1,502,115Transfers from Reserves2,284,279
Recoupments1,502,115Transfers from Reserves2,284,279Asset Sales0
Recoupments1,502,115Transfers from Reserves2,284,279Asset Sales03,786,394891,72
Recoupments         1,502,115           Transfers from Reserves         2,284,279           Asset Sales         0           3,786,394         891,72           Net Surplus/(Deficit)
Recoupments1,502,115Transfers from Reserves2,284,279Asset Sales03,786,394891,72Net Surplus/(Deficit)Water Fund
Recoupments1,502,115Transfers from Reserves2,284,279Asset Sales03,786,394891,72Net Surplus/(Deficit)Water FundExpenses
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Recoupments1,502,115Transfers from Reserves2,284,279Asset Sales03,786,394891,72Net Surplus/(Deficit)91,72Water Fund91,72Expenses0Employee costs0Materials & Contracts0Interest0Other Operating costs0Loan Repayments0
Recoupments1,502,115Transfers from Reserves2,284,279Asset Sales03,786,394891,72Net Surplus/(Deficit)91,72Water Fund91,72Expenses0Employee costs0Materials & Contracts0Interest0Other Operating costs0Capital01,317,65

Income		
Rates and Annual Charges	0	0
Interest revenue	0	601,436
<b>Operating Grants &amp; Conts</b>	0	0
Capital Grants & Conts	0	0
User Charges & Fees	0	0
Other Operating Revenue	0	0
Loan Funds	0	0
Recoupments	45,113	0
Transfers from Reserves	403,441	0
Asset Sales	0	0
	448,554	601,436
Net Surplus/(Deficit)		0

# **REPORT**:

# Budget Review 31 March 2013 (Quarterly Budget Review)

In accordance with section 203(1) of the Local Government (General) Regulation 2005, a Budget Review Statement and revision of the estimates of income and expenditure must be submitted to council within two months of the close of each quarter.

The Regulation requires that the quarterly financial review must include the following:

- A revised estimate for income and expenditure for the year.
- A report as to whether or not such statements indicate that the financial position of the Council is satisfactory and if the position is unsatisfactory, make recommendations for remedial action.

#### Report by Responsible Accounting Officer – Quarterly Budget Review Statements

The Quarterly Budget Review Reports are prepared to provide Council and the community with information in relation to Council's financial performance and proposed amendments to its budget and forward estimates. The reports are prepared under accrual accounting principles in accordance with the requirements of the Local Government Act 1993.

From the 2011/2012 financial year, councils are required to prepare a Quarterly Budget Review Statement, which includes the following information:

- The original budget
- Approved changes to the original budget
- Recommendations by Council officers regarding changes to the revised budget
- A projected year end result
- Actual year to date figures
- Key Performance Indicators
- New contracts entered into during the quarter
- Consultancy and legal expenses

This information is presented in the following reports:

- List of changes which will impact on revenue, i.e. will affect the Operational Plan (budget) or Long Term Financial Plan
- Detailed list of recommended changes, including those recommended by officers and those adopted by Council
- Income and Expenses Statement, consolidated and by fund
- Funding Statement, consolidated and by fund, which gives the total budget result
- Capital Budget Review Statement
- Cash and Investments Budget Review Statement
- Budget Review Key Performance Indicators Statement
- Budget Review Contracts (part A) and Other Expenses (part B)

# Impacts on the Operational Plan and/or Long Term Financial Plan

Some recommended changes will have no net effect on the Operational Plan (1 year budget). Others will have long term effects and will need to be reflected in the next revision of the Long Term Financial Plan. The changes which will have such an effect are listed below:

Description	\$	\$
	Net Effect on	
- ·- ·	2012/2013	Net Effect
General Fund	Budget	on LTFP
Legal costs	30,000	
Civic Centre security fence	14,000	
Standards subscription	4,500	4,500
Employee Costs	239,000	
Section 603 certificates	(20,570)	
Merchant Service Fee surcharge	(12,309)	
Flood leave	26,430	
Building fees	(23,427)	
Safer Community Compact	(10,824)	
Paid Parking Scheme study	30,000	
Bilambil Sports Club lease income	15,200	
Various operational savings	(292,000)	(292,000)
	0	(287,500)

# Detailed list of changes

In/E x	lte m	Category	Description	Current Vote	Change to Vote	Details / Comments
		1. Proposed V	/ariations General			
Ex In	1 1	Ex-Op In-OG&C	Invasive Animal Control Environmental Trust grant		44,455 -44,455	Project to protect native fauna funding for above Bank stabilisation and rock
Ex	2	Ex-Op	Budd Park Stage 1 works	360,000 1,446,06	100,000	revetment
Ex	2	Ex-Op	Lower Tweed Management Plan	6	-100,000	Funding for above
Ex	3	Ex-OpOther	Legal costs	0	30,000	Confidential matter
Ex	4	Ex-Capital	Murwillumbah civic Centre		100,000	Security fence
Ex	4	Ex-Op	Risk Management Program	86,000	-86,000	Funding for above
Ex	5	Ex-Op	Planning proposals - developer funded		7,085	Consultancy fees
In	5	In-Operating	Rezoning application fees		-7,085	Funding for above
Ex	6	Ex-Op	Subscriptions	15,210	4,500	On-line Standards subscription
Ex	7	Ex-Op	Arkinstall Park Stage 2		150,000	Feasibility study
In	7	In-Recoup	CP26 Regional Open Space		-150,000	Funding for above
Ex	8	Ex-Capital	Chinderah Pontoon		120,000	Better Boating project
In	8	In-CG&C	RMS grant		-60,000	Funding for above
In	8	In-CG&C	Chinderah community contribution		-30,000	Funding for above
Ex	8	Ex-Op	Waterways asset management	30,000	-30,000	Funding for above
Ex	9	Ex-Capital	Murwillumbah Netball facility stage 1	0	100,000	Extension and re-roofing
In	9	In-Recoup	CP5 Open Space	0	-100,000	Funding for above
Ex	10	Ex-Capital	Merve Edwards field	0	25,000	Shelters & fencing
Ex	10	Ex-Op	Park asset maintenance (7 year plan)	655,264	-25,000	Funding for above
Ex	11	Ex-Capital	Kennedy Drive Cycleway		210,000	Boat ramp via Crystal Waters Dr to Kennedy Plaza.
In	11	In-CG&C	RMS grant		-100,000	Funding for above
In	11	In-Recoup	CP22 Cycleways		-60,000	Funding for above
Ex	11	Ex-Op	Kennedy Drive upgrade	243,240	-50,000	Funding for above
Ex	12	Ex-Op	Sportsfield strategy		50,000	Development of strategy
In	12	In-Recoup	CP5 Open Space		-50,000	Funding for above
In	13	In-Operating	Section 603 certificates	-80,942	-20,570	Income greater than anticipated
In	14	In-Operating	Merchant Service Fee surcharge	-64,050	-12,309	Income greater than anticipated
Ex	15	Ex-OpEmp	Flood leave		26,430	January flood event
Ex	16	Ex-OpOther	Community Options internal admin fee	-100,358	17,993	Reduction due to loss of COMPACKS contract
Ex	16	Ex-OpEmp	Cultural officer	62,413	-17,993	Funding for above
In	17	In-Operating	Plumbing inspection fee	-116,338	-4,662	Income greater than anticipated
In	17	In-Operating	Backflow prevention	-27,235	-6,765	Income greater than anticipated
In	17	In-Operating	Essential fire services	-28,000	-3,000	Income greater than anticipated
In	17	In-Operating	Sewer plans	-71,000	-9,000	Income greater than anticipated Consolidate with Community
Ex	19	Ex-Op	Community Safety plan	30,450	19,550	Compact
Ex	19	Ex-Op	Safer Community Compact	30,374	-30,374	No longer required
Ex	20	Ex-Op	Access funding	96,065	-53,000	Reverse roll-over vote
In	20	In-TFR	Access reserve	-75,239	53,000	Reverse roll-over vote
Ex	21	Ex-Op	Community Centre recurring costs Murwillumbah Community Centre	50,000	-50,000	Move to new account
Ex	21	Ex-Op	operations	0 2,641,13	50,000	Move from old account
Ex	22	Ex-Capital	Murwillumbah Museum extensions	2,041,13	445,000	Updating budget

# Council Meeting Date: Thursday 16 May 2013

Ex	22	Ex Copital	Museum storage facility	667 374	120,000	Lindating hudgat
ΕX	22	Ex-Capital	Museum storage facility	667,374	120,000	Updating budget Utilising part unexpended respite
In	22	In-Loan	Unexpended loans		-195,000	centre loan
Ex	22	Ex-Capital	Proposed museum Flagstaff Hill	370,000	-370,000	Utilising Arts NSW grant funds
Ex	23	Ex-Op	Model Biodiversity DCP	25,387	30,000	Contract labour costs
Ex	23	Ex-OpEmp	NRM salaries (savings from vacancy)	744,842	-30,000	Funding for above
Ex	23	Ex-Op	Vegetation management strategy	584,367	22,008	Consultancy engagement
Ex	23	Ex-OpEmp	Community salaries (savings from vacancy)	484,559	-22,008	Funding for above
-	• •			1,343,39		
Ex	24	Ex-OpEmp	Employee costs	6	239,000	Unanticipated contract variation
Ex	25	Ex-Op	Printing & Stationery (Governance)	149,350	-60,000	Savings on current projections
Ex	26	Ex-Op	Office Expenses (Finance)	86,440	-20,000	Savings on current projections
Ex	27	Ex-OpOther	Legal Expenses (Building)	30,900	-20,000	Savings on current projections
Ex	28	Ex-Op	Rangers Mobility Plan	38,110	-10,000	Savings on current projections
Ex	29	Ex-OpOther	Legal Expenses (Environmental Health)	36,123	-25,000	Savings on current projections
Ex	30	Ex-Op	Advertising (Development Assessment)	66,950	-35,000	Savings on current projections
Ex	31	Ex-Op	C&NR Divisional Sundries	32,337	-16,000	Savings on current projections
Ex	32	Ex-Op	Parks & Reserves litter collection	186,729	-13,000	Savings on current projections
Ex	33	Ex-Op	Office Expenses (Engineering)	50,470	-30,000	Savings on current projections
Ex	34	Ex-Op	Consumables (Design)	10,067	-8,000	Savings on current projections
Ex	35	Ex-OpEmp	Miscellaneous projects (Design)	86,390	-10,000	Savings on current projections
Ex	36	Ex-Op	Western Drainage Scheme	143,848	-30,000	Savings on current projections
Ex	37	Ex-Op	Roadside Park Maintenance	49,039	-15,000	Savings on current projections
					-45,200	
_			Sewer Fund			
Ex	38	Ex-Op	Banora Pt WWTP operations		-450,000	Deferrals to future years
ln In	38	In-Interest	s64 Interest		-91,656	Funding adjustment
In	38	In-Interest	Interest - Asset Replacement		-800,072 -	Funding adjustment
Ex	38	Ex-Capital Ex-Loan	Various Capital Works		3,273,600	Deferrals to future years
In	38	Reps	Loan repayments		-33,305	Funding adjustment
In	38	Ex-Interest	Interest on loans		-29,489	Funding adjustment
Ex	38	Ex-TTR	Transfers to Asset Replacement Res.		800,072	Restriction of interest
Ex	38	Ex-TTR	Transfers to Capital Contributions Res. Transfers from Capital Contributions		91,656	Restriction of interest
In	38	In-Recoup	Res.		1,502,115	Funding adjustment
In	38	In-TFR	Transfers from Revenue Res.		2,284,279	Funding adjustment
					0	
			Water Fund			
In	39	In-Interest	Interest - Capital Contributions		-300,456	Funding adjustment
In	39	In-Interest	Interest - Asset Replacement		-208,946	Funding adjustment
In	39	In-Interest	Interest		-92,034	Funding adjustment
Ex	39	Ex-TTR	Reversal of restricted interest income		92,034	Restriction of above
Ex	39	Ex-Capital	Various Capital Works		- 1,317,653	Deferrals & adjustments
Ex	39	Ex-TTR	Transfers to Asset Replacement Res.		208,946	Restriction of interest
Ex	39	Ex-TTR	Transfers to Capital Contributions Res.		300,456	Restriction of interest
Ex	39	Ex-TTR	Transfers to Asset Replacement Res. Transfers from Asset Replacement		869,099	Funding adjustment
In	39	In-TFR	Res.		403,441	Funding adjustment
In	39	In-Recoup	Transfers from Capital Contributions Res.		45,113	Funding adjustment
					0	
<b>F</b> -	40		Arising from Council Resolutions		007 075	
Ex	40 40	In-OG&C	RMS payments Sexton Hill Drive		-307,975 307,975	Council meeting 24/1/2013
Ex	40	Ex-TTR	Reserve for future maintenance		307,975	Council meeting 24/1/2013
Ex	41 42	Ex-Op	Paid Parking Scheme study		30,000	Council meeting 24/1/2013
Ex	42 42	Ex-Op	Cancel Goorimabah public art project		-62,000 62,000	Council meeting 24/1/2013
In	42	In-TFR	Carried forward grants		62,000	Council meeting 24/1/2013

In	43	In-Operating	Bilambil Sports Club lease income	-15,200	15,200	Council meeting 21/3/2013
					45,200	
			Summary of Votos by Type			
			Summary of Votes by Type			
			2012/13 Variations		-45,200	
			Council Resolutions	_	45,200	
					0	

# **Results by fund:**

#### **General Fund**

The General Fund is expected to remain as a "balanced budget".

#### Water Fund

The Water Fund is expected to remain as a "balanced budget".

#### Sewer Fund

The Sewer Fund is expected to remain as a "balanced budget".

# **Quarterly Budget Review Statements**

# Income and Expense - Consolidated Budget Review Statement for the quarter ended 31 March 2013

					Recommended	Projected	
	Original	Ар	proved Cha	nges	changes	year end	
	Budget	Sep	Dec	Revised	for Council	result	Actual
		Review	Review	Budget	Resolution		YTD
	(000's)	(000's) *	(000's)	(000's)	(000's)	(000's)	(000's)
Income							
Rates and Annual Charges	85,185	-	-	85,185	-	85,185	65,442
User Charges and Fees	34,749	-	(54)	34,695	48	34,743	25,769
Interest and Investment Revenue	6,088	1,694	(119)	7,663	1,493	9,156	8,044
Other Revenues	1,854	-	-	1,854	-	1,854	1,367
Grants & Contributions - Operating	16,215	(167)	83	16,131	352	16,483	9,492
Grants and Contributions - Capital	1,957	22	239	2,218	190	2,408	5,971
- Contributions (S94)	5,742	(72)	-	5,670	-	5,670	3,502
Net gain from the disposal of assets	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Share of interests in joint ventures	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total Income	151,790	1,477	149	153,416	2,083	155,499	119,587

#### Expense

Experies							
Employee costs	45,737	374	(43)	46,068	185	46,253	32,252
Borrowing Costs	13,589	-	-	13,589	(29)	13,560	8,747
Materials & Contracts	45,835	18,852	(1,691)	62,996	(695)	62,301	33,473
Depreciation	39,643	-	-	39,643	-	39,643	29,598
Legal Costs	441	-	-	441	-	441	201
Consultants	624	284	-	908	29	937	539
Other Expenses	14,878	49	(51)	14,876	3	14,879	10,765
Interest and Investment Losses	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Net Loss from Disposal of Assets	-	-	-	-	-	-	81
Share of interests in joint ventures	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total Expenses	160,747	19,559	(1,785)	178,521	(507)	178,014	115,656
Net Operating Result	(8,957)	(18,082)	1,934	(25,105)	2,590	(22,515)	3,931
Net Operating Result before capital items	(10,914)	(18,104)	1,695	(27,323)	2,400	(24,923)	(2,040)

# Funding Statement - Consolidated - Source and Application of Funds

Operating Result (Income Statement)	(8,957)	(18,082)	1,934	(25,105)	2,590	(22,515)
Add Back non-funded items:						
Depreciation	39,643	-	-	39,643	-	39,643
Add non-operating funding sources Transfers from Externally Restricted Cash Transfers from Internally Restricted Cash Proceeds from sale of assets	13,519 14,841 2,294	- 8,368 26,478 2,393	- (1,616) (2,114) -	- 20,271 39,205 4,687	- (1,187) (2,802) -	- 19,084 36,403 4,687
Loan Funds Utilised	6,660	8,999	-	15,659	195	15,854
Repayments from Deferred Debtors	-	-	-	-	-	-
Funds Available	68,000	28,156	(1,796)	94,360	(1,204)	93,156
Funds were applied to:						
Purchase and construction of assets	41,956	30,817	(2,021)	70,752	(3,842)	66,910
Repayment of principal on loans Transfers to Externally Restricted	7,094	-	-	7,094	(33)	7,061
Cash Transfers to Internally Restricted	5,529	-	-	5,529	-	5,529
Cash	13,421	(2,661)	225	10,985	2,671	13,656
Funds Used	68,000	28,156	(1,796)	94,360	(1,204)	93,156
Increase/(Decrease) in Available Working Capital	-	-	-	-	-	-

# Income and Expense- General Fund Budget Review Statement for the quarter ended 31 March 2013

	Original	Approved Changes			Recommended changes	Projected year end	
	Budget	Sep	Dec	Revised	for Council	result	Actual
		Review	Review	Budget	Resolution		YTD
	(000's)	(000's) *	(000's)	(000's)	(000's)	(000's)	(000's)
Income							
Rates and Annual Charges	60,632	-	-	60,632	-	60,632	46,499
User Charges and Fees	17,709	-	(54)	17,655	48	17,703	13,385
Interest and Investment Revenue	3,135	83	-	3,218	-	3,218	4,122
Other Revenues	1,627	-	-	1,627	-	1,627	1,127
Grants & Contributions - Operating	15,282	(167)	83	15,198	352	15,550	8,727
Grants and Contributions - Capital	1,957	-	239	2,196	190	2,386	5,971
- Contributions (S64/S94)	1,587			1,587		1,587	1,751
Net gain from the disposal of assets				-		-	
Share of interests in joint ventures				-		-	
Total Income	101,929	(84)	268	102,113	590	102,703	81,582

Expense					1		1
Employee costs	35,415	228	(43)	35,600	185	35,785	25,516
Borrowing Costs	6,221	-	-	6,221	-	6,221	3,824
Materials & Contracts	35,254	18,073	319	53,646	(245)	53,401	27,974
Depreciation	24,055			24,055		24,055	18,041
Legal Costs	366			366		366	201
Consultants	70			70	29	99	304
Other Expenses	11,379	49	(51)	11,377	3	11,380	8,887
Interest and Investment Losses				-		-	
Net Loss from Disposal of Assets				-		-	81
Share of interests in joint ventures				-		-	
Total Expenses	112,760	18,350	225	131,335	(28)	131,307	84,828
					ſ		1
Net Operating Result	(10,831)	(18,434)	43	(29,222)	618	(28,604)	(3,246)
Net Operating Result before capital items	(14,375)	(18,434)	(196)	(31,418)	428	(30,990)	(9,217)

# Funding Statement - General Fund - Source and Application of Funds

Operating Result (Income Statement)	(10,831)	(18,434)	43	(29,222)	618	(28,604)
Add Back non-funded items:						
Depreciation	24,055			24,055	-	24,055
Add non-operating funding sources						
Transfers from Externally Restricted Cash	2,346	6,163	838	9,347	360	9,707
Transfers from Internally Restricted Cash	2,189	24,083	(105)	26,167	(115)	26,052
Proceeds from sale of assets	2,294	2,393		4,687	-	4,687
Loan Funds Utilised	6,660	8,999		15,659	195	15,854
Internal charges	7,318			7,318		7,318
Repayments from Deferred Debtors				-		-
Funds Available	34,031	23,204	776	58,011	1,058	59,069
Funds were applied to:						
Purchase and construction of assets	22,606	23,204	776	46,586	750	47,336
Repayment of principal on loans	3,072	-		3,072	-	3,072
Transfers to Externally Restricted Cash	2,357			2,357		2,357
Transfers to Internally Restricted Cash	5,996	-		5,996	308	6,304
Funds Used	34,031	23,204	776	58,011	1,058	59,069
Increase/(Decrease) in Available Working Capital	-	-	-	-	-	_

# Income and Expense- Sewer Fund Budget Review Statement for the quarter ended 31 March 2013

	Original	Approved Changes			Recommended changes	Projected year end	
	Budget	Sep	Dec	Revised	for Council	result	Actual
		Review	Review	Budget	Resolution		YTD
	(000's)	(000's) *	(000's)	(000's)	(000's)	(000's)	(000's)
Income							
Rates and Annual Charges	20,546	-		20,546	-	20,546	15,911
User Charges and Fees	1,401	-		1,401	-	1,401	1,337
Interest and Investment Revenue	1,891	1,266	2	3,159	892	4,051	2,688
Other Revenues	20	-		20	-	20	25
Grants & Contributions - Operating	455	-		455	-	455	453
Grants and Contributions - Capital		22		22	-	22	
- Contributions (S64/S94)	1,349			1,349		1,349	632
Net gain from the disposal of assets				-		-	
Share of interests in joint ventures				-		-	
Total Income	25,662	1,288	2	26,952	892	27,844	21,046

Expense							
Employee costs	6,300	52		6,352	-	6,352	3,927
Borrowing Costs	2,595	-		2,595	(29)	2,566	1,347
Materials & Contracts	4,719	214	(927)	4,006	(450)	3,556	2,181
Depreciation	8,534			8,534		8,534	6,266
Legal Costs	75			75		75	
Consultants	434			434		434	111
Other Expenses	1,923			1,923	-	1,923	1,382
Interest and Investment Losses				-		-	
Net Loss from Disposal of Assets				-		-	
Share of interests in joint ventures				-		-	
Total Expenses	24,580	266	(927)	23,919	(479)	23,440	15,214
Net Operating Result	1,082	1,022	929	3,033	1,371	4,404	5,832
							1
Net Operating Result before capital items	1,082	1,000	929	3,011	1,371	4,382	5,832

# Funding Statement - Sewer Fund - Source and Application of Funds

	1					
Operating Result (Income Statement)	1,082	1,022	929	3,033	1,371	4,404
Add Back non-funded items:						
Depreciation	8,534	-	-	8,534	-	8,534
Add non-operating funding sources Transfers from Externally Restricted						
Cash Transfers from Internally Restricted Cash	4,108 5,797	349 3,793	(815)	4,457 8,775	(1,502) (2,284)	2,955 6,491
Proceeds from sale of assets	,	,	· · ·	-	( )	-
Loan Funds Utilised				-	-	-
Repayments from Deferred Debtors				-		-
Funds Available	19,521	5,164	114	24,799	(2,415)	22,384
Funds were applied to:						
Purchase and construction of assets	10,811	5,661	112	16,584	(3,274)	13,310
Repayment of principal on loans Transfers to Externally Restricted	3,001	-	-	3,001	(33)	2,968
Cash	340			340		340
Transfers to Internally Restricted Cash	1,901	(497)	2	1,406	892	2,298
Internal charges	3,468			3,468		3,468
Funds Used	19,521	5,164	114	24,799	(2,415)	22,384
Increase/(Decrease) in Available Working Capital	-	-	-	-	-	-

					Recommended	Projected	
	Original	Ар	proved Cha	nges	changes	year end	
	Budget	Sep	Dec	Revised	for Council	result	Actual
		Review	Review	Budget	Resolution		YTD
	(000's)	(000's) *	(000's)	(000's)	(000's)	(000's)	(000's)
Income							1
Rates and Annual Charges	20,546	-		20,546	-	20,546	15,911
User Charges and Fees	1,401	-		1,401	-	1,401	1,337
Interest and Investment Revenue	1,891	1,266	2	3,159	892	4,051	2,688
Other Revenues	20	-		20	-	20	25
Grants & Contributions - Operating	455	-		455	-	455	453
Grants and Contributions - Capital		22		22	-	22	
- Contributions (S64/S94)	1,349			1,349		1,349	632
Net gain from the disposal of assets				-		-	
Share of interests in joint ventures				-		-	
Total Income	25,662	1,288	2	26,952	892	27,844	21,046

# Income and Expense- Water Fund Budget Review Statement for the quarter ended 31 March 2013

Expense							
Employee costs	6,300	52		6,352	-	6,352	3,927
Borrowing Costs	2,595	-		2,595	(29)	2,566	1,347
Materials & Contracts	4,719	214	(927)	4,006	(450)	3,556	2,181
Depreciation	8,534			8,534		8,534	6,266
Legal Costs	75			75		75	
Consultants	434			434		434	111
Other Expenses	1,923			1,923	-	1,923	1,382
Interest and Investment Losses				-		-	
Net Loss from Disposal of Assets				-		-	
Share of interests in joint ventures				-		-	
Total Expenses	24,580	266	(927)	23,919	(479)	23,440	15,214
Net Operating Result	1,082	1,022	929	3,033	1,371	4,404	5,832
Net Operating Result before capital items	1,082	1,000	929	3,011	1,371	4,382	5,832

#### Funding Statement - Sewer Fund - Source and Application of Funds

Operating Result (Income Statement)	1,082	1,022	929	3,033	1,371	4,404
Add Back non-funded items:						
Depreciation	8,534	-	-	8,534	-	8,534
Add non-operating funding sources Transfers from Externally Restricted						
Cash	4,108	349		4,457	(1,502)	2,955
Transfers from Internally Restricted Cash	5,797	3,793	(815)	8,775	(2,284)	6,491
Proceeds from sale of assets				-		-
Loan Funds Utilised				-	-	-
Repayments from Deferred Debtors				-		-
Funds Available	19,521	5,164	114	24,799	(2,415)	22,384
Funds were applied to:						
Purchase and construction of assets	10,811	5,661	112	16,584	(3,274)	13,310
Repayment of principal on loans Transfers to Externally Restricted	3,001	-	-	3,001	(33)	2,968
Cash Transfers to Internally Restricted	340			340		340
Cash	1,901	(497)	2	1,406	892	2,298
Internal charges	3,468			3,468		3,468
Funds Used	19,521	5,164	114	24,799	(2,415)	22,384
Increase/(Decrease) in Available Working Capital	-	-	-	-	-	

This document forms part of Tweed Shire Council's Quarterly Budget Review Statement for the quarter ended 31 March 2013 and should be read in conjunction with other documents in the QBRS.

## Capital Budget Review Statement - Consolidated - for the quarter ended 31 March 2013

					Recommended	Projected	
	Original		proved Char		changes	year end	
	Budget	Sep	Dec	Revised	for Council	result	Actual
		Review	Review	Budget	Resolution		YTD
	(000's)	(000's)	(000's)	(000's)	(000's)	(000's)	(000's)
Capital Funding *			(=0)				
Rates and other untied funding	23,421	1,684	(59)	25,046	205	25,251	12,471
Capital Grants & Contributions	2,976		237	3,213	190	3,403	1,435
Internal Restrictions (Reserves)	10,007	3,797	(1,620)	12,184		12,184	4,621
External Restrictions							
- s64 & s94 funds	5,543	2,205	(580)	7,168	160	7,328	2,867
Other Capital Funding Sources							
- Ioans	4,810	55		4,865	195	5,060	2,134
Income from sale of assets							
- plant and equipment	2,293			2,293		2,293	967
- Land, Buildings, Furniture, Fittings							
Total Capital Funding	49,050	7,741	(2,022)	54,769	750	55,519	24,495
Capital Expenditure							
New Assets	[]						
- Plant and Equipment							230
- Land, Buildings, Furniture, Fittings		118		118	395	513	2,107
- Roads, Bridges, Footpaths	652		475	1,127		1,127	6,948
- Drainage							1
- Water & Sewer Infrastructure	9,440	(205)	(2,035)	7,200		7,200	3,885
- Other	2,689			2,689	145	2,834	367
Renewals (Replacement)							
- Plant and Equipment	5,231			5,231		5,231	
- Land, Buildings, Furniture, Fittings	500	(22)		478		478	
- Roads, Bridges, Footpaths	8,905			8,905		8,905	
- Drainage	1,591			1,591		1,591	
- Water & Sewer Infrastructure	2,561	1,381	(685)	3,257		3,257	1,259
- Other	13	(13)	· · ·			·	
Upgrades	-	( - )					
- Plant and Equipment							
- Land, Buildings, Furniture, Fittings	150			150		150	
- Roads, Bridges, Footpaths	450			450		450	
- Drainage	2,425			2,425		2,425	
- Water & Sewer Infrastructure	7,349	6,437	(77)	13,709		13,709	4,452
- Other	1,010	45	300	345	300	645	7,702
	7 094	-10	000		500		5 246
		7 7 4 4	(2,022)		0.40		
Loan Repayments (principal) Total Capital Expenditure	7,094 49,050	7,741	(2,022)	7,094 54,769	840	7,094 55,609	5,246 24,495

## Capital Budget Review Statement - General Fund - for the quarter ended 31 March 2013

				Recommended	Projected	
Original	Ар	proved Cha	nges	changes	year end	
Budget	Sep	Dec	Revised	for Council	result	Actual
	Review	Review	Budget	Resolution		YTD
(000's)	(000's)	(000's)	(000's)	(000's)	(000's)	(000's)

#### Capital Funding \*

Capital Fulluling					r		
Rates and other untied funding	13,045	69	300	13,414	205	13,619	5,746
Capital Grants & Contributions	2,976		237	3,213	190	3,403	1,435
Internal Restrictions (Reserves)	1,770	4		1,774		1,774	748
External Restrictions							
- s64 & s94 funds	784		238	1,022	160	1,182	499
Other Capital Funding Sources							
- Ioans	4,810	55		4,865	195	5,060	2,134
Income from sale of assets							
- plant and equipment	2,293			2,293		2,293	967
- Land, Buildings, Furniture, Fittings							
Total Capital Funding	25,678	128	775	26,581	750	27,331	11,529

#### **Capital Expenditure**

New Assets

New Assets							
- Plant and Equipment							190
- Land, Buildings, Furniture, Fittings		118		118	395	513	2,107
- Roads, Bridges, Footpaths	652		475	1,127	210	1,337	6,948
- Drainage							1
- Water & Sewer Infrastructure							
- Other	2,689			2,689	145	2,834	367
Renewals (Replacement)							
- Plant and Equipment	5,231			5,231		5,231	
- Land, Buildings, Furniture, Fittings	500	(22)		478		478	
- Roads, Bridges, Footpaths	8,905			8,905		8,905	
- Drainage	1,591			1,591		1,591	
- Water & Sewer Infrastructure							
- Other	13	(13)					
Upgrades							
- Plant and Equipment							
- Land, Buildings, Furniture, Fittings	150			150		150	
- Roads, Bridges, Footpaths	450			450		450	
- Drainage	2,425			2,425		2,425	
- Water & Sewer Infrastructure							
- Other		45	300	345		345	
Loan Repayments (principal)	3,072			3,072		3,072	1,916
Total Capital Expenditure	25,678	128	775	26,581	750	27,331	11,529

## Capital Budget Review Statement - Sewer Fund - for the quarter ended 31 March 2013

	Original	Apr	proved Char	Ides	Recommended changes	Projected year end	
	Budget	Sep	Dec	Revised	for Council	result	Actual
		Review	Review	Budget	Resolution		YTD
	(000's)	(000's)	(000's)	(000's)	(000's)	(000's)	(000's)
Capital Funding *						1	1
Rates and other untied funding	8,957	1,519	73	10,549		10,549	6,226
Capital Grants & Contributions							
Internal Restrictions (Reserves)	2,836	3,793	23	6,652		6,652	1,972
External Restrictions							
- s64 & s94 funds	2,019	349	16	2,384		2,384	1,404
Other Capital Funding Sources							
- loans							
Income from sale of assets							
- plant and equipment							
- Land, Buildings, Furniture, Fittings							
Total Capital Funding	13,812	5,661	112	19,585		19,585	9,602
Capital Expenditure							
New Assets						Γ	1
- Plant and Equipment							40
- Land, Buildings, Furniture, Fittings							
- Roads, Bridges, Footpaths							
- Drainage							
- Water & Sewer Infrastructure	5,350	275	65	5,690		5,690	3,102
- Other							
Renewals (Replacement)							
- Plant and Equipment							
- Land, Buildings, Furniture, Fittings							
- Roads, Bridges, Footpaths							
- Drainage							
- Water & Sewer Infrastructure	1,058	876	50	1,984		1,984	706
- Other							
Upgrades							
- Plant and Equipment							
- Land, Buildings, Furniture, Fittings							
- Roads, Bridges, Footpaths							
- Drainage							
- Water & Sewer Infrastructure	4,403	4,510	(3)	8,910		8,910	3,192
- Other							
Loan Repayments (principal)	3,001			3,001		3,001	2,562
Total Capital Expenditure	13,812	5,661	112	19,585		19,585	9,602

## Capital Budget Review Statement - Water Fund - for the quarter ended 31 March 2013

				Recommended	Projected	
Original	Ар	proved Cha	nges	changes	year end	
Budget	Sep	Dec	Revised	for Council	result	Actual
	Review	Review	Budget	Resolution		YTD
(000's)	(000's)	(000's)	(000's)	(000's)	(000's)	(000's)

#### Capital Funding \*

Capital Funding						
Rates and other untied funding	1,419	96	(432)	1,083	1,083	499
Capital Grants & Contributions						
Internal Restrictions (Reserves)	5,401		(1,643)	3,758	3,758	1,901
External Restrictions						
- s64 & s94 funds	2,740	1,856	(834)	3,762	3,762	964
Other Capital Funding Sources						
- loans						
Income from sale of assets						
- plant and equipment						
- Land, Buildings, Furniture, Fittings						
Total Capital Funding	9,560	1,952	(2,909)	8,603	8,603	3,364

#### Capital Expenditure

New Assets

New A33613					1		
- Plant and Equipment							
- Land, Buildings, Furniture, Fittings							
- Roads, Bridges, Footpaths							
- Drainage							
- Water & Sewer Infrastructure	4,090	(480)	(2,100)	1,510		1,510	783
- Other							
Renewals (Replacement)							
- Plant and Equipment							
- Land, Buildings, Furniture, Fittings							
- Roads, Bridges, Footpaths							
- Drainage							
- Water & Sewer Infrastructure	1,503	505	(735)	1,273		1,273	553
- Other							
Upgrades							
- Plant and Equipment							
- Land, Buildings, Furniture, Fittings							
- Roads, Bridges, Footpaths							
- Drainage							
- Water & Sewer Infrastructure	2,946	1,927	(74)	4,799		4,799	1,260
- Other							
Loan Repayments (principal)	1,021			1,021		1,021	768
Total Capital Expenditure	9,560	1,952	(2,909)	8,603		8,603	3,364

This document forms part of Tweed Shire Council's Quarterly Budget Review Statement for the quarter ended 31 March 2013 and should be read in conjunction with other documents in the QBRS.

\* Note: figures in the Actual YTD column of capital funding are estimates only. Detailed calculations of funding results are performed annually.

Cash and Investments Budget Review Statement for the quarter ended 31 March 2013

	Original Budget (000's)	App Sep Review (000's)	proved Cha Dec Review (000's)	nges Revised Budget (000's)	Recommended changes for Council Resolution (000's)	Projected year end result (000's)	Actual * YTD (000's)
Unrestricted	4,138			4,138		4,138	4,096
Externally restricted							
RTA Contributions	141			141		141	0
Developer contributions	25,521	268	(838)	24,951		24,951	21,931
Domestic waste management	6,603	(15)	()	6,588		6,588	6,588
Special Rates	229	( - )		229		229	0
Special purpose grants	2,722			2,722	190	2,912	1,074
Water Supplies	13,689	(2,622)		11,067		11,067	24,051
Sewerage Services	19,675	(4,639)		15,036		15,036	49,447
Other	45,488			45,488		45,488	40,000
Total Externally restricted	114,068	(7,008)	(838)	106,222	190	106,412	143,091
Internally restricted							
Employee Leave entitlements	2,199			2,199		2,199	4,414
Unexpended loans	6,488	(6,488)		0		0	5,391
Unexpended grants	3,404	(3,404)		0		0	1,074
7 Year Plan	2,978	(2,978)		0		0	4,607
Works Carried Forward	4,584	(4,584)		0		0	1,109
Replacement of Plant and Vehicles	20			20		20	20
Tip improvements	3,375			3,375		3,375	3,375
Asset renewals	838	(50)		788		788	735
Other	5,342	(5)		5,337		5,337	5,337
Total Internally restricted	29,228	(17,509)	0	11,719	0	11,719	26,062
Total Restricted	143,296	(24,517)	(838)	117,941	190	118,131	169,153
	·						
Total cash and investments	147,434	(24,517)	(838)	122,079	190	122,269	173,249
				1			1
Available cash	4,138	0	0	4,138	0	4,138	4,096

\* Note: figures in the Actual YTD are estimates only. Detailed calculations of funding results and cash restrictions are performed annually.

#### Notes:

The available cash position excludes restricted funds. External restrictions are funds that must be spent for a specific purpose and cannot be used by council for general operations. Internal restrictions are funds that council has determined will be used for a specific purpose.

#### Statement of compliance with investment policy:

Council's investments have been made in accordance with Council's investment policies.

#### Reconciliation of restricted funds with current investment report:

	(000's)
Total restricted funds	169,153
Total invested funds as per March Investment Report	159,472
Note come restricted for the case hald be each as the cutil he utilized in the summary period	

Note, some restricted funds are held as cash as they will be utilised in the current period.

#### Statement of bank reconciliation:

Cash has been reconciled with the bank statement. The last bank reconciliation was completed to 21 April 2013.

#### **Reconciliation of cash and investments:**

Cash and investments as per above	<b>(000's)</b> 173,249
Cash on hand and at bank	13,777
Investments	159,472
	173,249

This document forms part of Tweed Shire Council's Quarterly Budget Review Statement for the quarter ended 31 March 2013 and should be read in conjunction with other documents in the QBRS.

# Key Performance Indicators Budget Review Statement for the quarter ended 31 March 2013

Note that Key Performance Indicators will be distorted by the short reporting period (3 months), and by the fact that detailed calculations are only prepared on an annual basis.

These ratios should therefore be viewed with caution.

1. Unrestricted Current Ratio		
	(000's)	
Current assets less all external restrictions	62,743	3.15:1
Current liabilities	19,932	

## Purpose:

To assess the adequacy of working capital and its ability to satisfy obligations in the short term for the unrestricted activities of Council.

#### Comment:

Higher than it would be for the annual calculation, as expenditure throughout the year will run down cash and receivables.

	Amounts	Indicator
2. Debt Service Ratio		
	(000's)	
Debt Service Cost	14,251	13.62%
Selected operating income	104,670	

#### Purpose:

To assess the impact of loan principal and interest repayments on the discretionary revenue of Council.

This document forms part of Tweed Shire Council's Quarterly Budget Review Statement for the quarter ended 31 March 2013 and should be read in conjunction with other documents in the QBRS.

#### Budget Review Contracts and Other Expenses for the quarter ended 31 March 2013

PART A-Contracts Listing		Contract value	Commencement	Duration of	Budgeted
Contractor	Contract detail & purpose EC2013-013 Supply and Construction of Two DN200 DICL Water Mains at	\$	date	contract	(Y/N)
Jag Civil & Drainage Pty Ltd	Murwillumbah	\$490,000.00	02/04/2013	12 weeks	Y
PART B - Consultancy and L	.egal expenses			Expenditure YTD	Budgeted
Expense				\$	(Y/N)
Consultancies				854,477	Y
Legal expenses				197,810	Y

This document forms part of Tweed Shire Council's Quarterly Budget Review Statement for the quarter ended 31 March 2013 and should be read in conjunction with other documents in the QBRS.

# Statutory Statement – Local Government (General) Regulations 2005 (Sections 202 & 203) by "Responsible Accounting Officer"

#### 202 Responsible accounting officer to maintain system for budgetary control

The responsible accounting officer of a council must:

- (a) establish and maintain a system of budgetary control that will enable the council's actual income and expenditure to be monitored each month and to be compared with the estimate of the council's income and expenditure, and
- (b) if any instance arises where the actual income or expenditure of the council is materially different from its estimated income or expenditure, report the instance to the next meeting of the council.

#### 203 Budget review statements and revision of estimates

- (1) Not later than 2 months after the end of each quarter (except the June quarter), the responsible accounting officer of a council must prepare and submit to the council a budget review statement that shows, by reference to the estimate of income and expenditure set out in the Statement of the council's revenue policy included in the operational plan for the relevant year, a revised estimate of the income and expenditure for that year.
- (2) A budget review statement must include or be accompanied by:
  - (a) a report as to whether or not the responsible accounting officer believes that the statement indicates that the financial position of the council is satisfactory, having regard to the original estimate of income and expenditure, and
  - (b) if that position is unsatisfactory, recommendations for remedial action.
- (3) A budget review statement must also include any information required by the Code to be included in such a statement.

#### **Statutory Statement**

It is my opinion that the Quarterly Budget Review Statement for Tweed Shire Council for the quarter ended 31/03/2013 indicates that Council's projected financial position at 30/06/2013 will be satisfactory at year end, having regard to the projected estimates of income and expenditure and the original budgeted income and expenditure.

17. All-

M A Chorlton 01/05/2013 "Responsible Accounting Officer" Manager Financial Services Tweed Shire Council

#### **OPTIONS:**

Not Applicable.

#### CONCLUSION:

Refer to Statutory Statement above.

#### **COUNCIL IMPLICATIONS:**

#### a. Policy:

Corporate Policy Not Applicable.

## b. Budget/Long Term Financial Plan:

As detailed in the report.

## c. Legal:

Not Applicable.

#### d. Communication/Engagement:

Inform - We will keep you informed.

## LINKAGE TO INTEGRATED PLANNING AND REPORTING FRAMEWORK:

- 1 Civic Leadership
- 1.2 Improve decision making by engaging stakeholders and taking into account community input
- 1.2.3 Financial requirements and the community's capacity to pay will be taken into account when meeting the community's desired levels of service
- 1.2.3.1 Financial Services and legislative financial reporting
- 1.2.3.1.1 Prepare and maintain a balanced budget throughout the financial year.

## UNDER SEPARATE COVER/FURTHER INFORMATION:

Nil.

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## CNL-60 [TCS-CM] In Kind and Real Donations - January to March 2013

## SUBMITTED BY: Corporate Governance



## SUMMARY OF REPORT:

Details of in kind and real donations for the period January to March 2013 are reproduced in this report for Council's information.

#### **RECOMMENDATION:**

That Council notes the total donations of \$37,651.13 for the period January to March 2013.

## **REPORT:**

Council maintains a register of in kind and real donations. Details of these donations for the period January to March 2013 are reproduced as follows:

## **Financial Assistance**

Amount	Recipient	Donated Item	Date
\$1,000.00	Creative Inc	Donation - Salt Carols by the Beach	14/01/2013
\$300.00	Lions Club Kingscliff	Donation - Supporting Small Communities Australia Day Events	16/01/2013
\$300.00	Tumbulgum Community Association Inc	Donation - Supporting Small Communities Australia Day Events	16/01/2013
\$300.00	Burringbar District Sports Club Inc	Donation - Supporting Small Communities Australia Day Events	16/01/2013
\$300.00	Lions Club of Tweed Coast South Inc	Donation - Supporting Small Communities Australia Day Events	16/01/2013
\$300.00	Tyalgum Community Hall Association	Donation - Supporting Small Communities Australia Day Events	16/01/2013
\$300.00	Cabarita Beach-Pottsville Beach Lions Club	Donation - Supporting Small Communities Australia Day Events	16/01/2013
\$26,162.00	Tweed District Rescue Squad Inc	Budget Allocation	13/03/2013
\$3,000.00	Friends of the Koala Inc	Budget Allocation	20/03/2013
\$31,962.00			

#### **Goods and/or Materials**

Amount	Recipient	Donated Item	Date
\$62.40	Tweed Land Care Committee	Printing	Feb/March
\$62.40			

## Provision of Labour and/or Plant & Equipment

Amount	Recipient	Donated Item	Date
\$911.58	Street Christmas Decorations	Provision of Labour & Council Plant	11/01/2013
\$742.91	Kingscliff Triathlon	Provision of Labour & Council Plant & Dumping Fee	15/03/2013
\$1,720.51	Life Education Van Relocation	Provision of Labour & Council Plant	Jan/Feb/ Mar

\$3,375.00

Rates			
Amount	Recipient	Donated Item	
\$31.08	Twin Towns Police & Community Youth Club	Sewer Usage	09/01/2013
\$440.75	Twin Towns Police & Community Youth Club	Water Usage	09/01/2013
\$471.83			

Tweed Link	Advertising		
Amount	Recipient	Donated Item	Date
\$180.90	Various Community Notices	Advertising	22/01/2013
\$305.10	Various Community Notices	Advertising	29/01/2013
\$52.10	Various Community Notices	Advertising	05/02/2013
\$86.40	Various Community Notices	Advertising	12/02/2013
\$89.10	Various Community Notices	Advertising	19/02/2013
\$189.00	Various Community Notices	Advertising	26/02/2013
\$86.40	Various Community Notices	Advertising	05/03/2013
\$67.50	Various Community Notices	Advertising	12/03/2013
\$118.80	Various Community Notices	Advertising	19/03/2013
\$129.60	Various Community Notices	Advertising	26/03/2013
\$1,304.90			
Room Hire			
Amount	Recipient	Donated Item	Date
\$50.00	Banora Point Rate Payers Association	Room Hire - Coolamon Room Banora Pt Com Centre	04/02/2013
\$50.00	Blind & Vision Impaired Support Group	Room Hire - Coolamon Room Banora Pt Com Centre	18/02/2013
\$50.00	Blind & Vision Impaired Support Group	Room Hire - Coolamon Room Banora Pt Com Centre	18/03/2013
\$35.00	Twin Towns Friends	Room Hire - South Tweed HACC	13/02/2013
\$35.00	Twin Towns Friends	Room Hire - South Tweed HACC	13/03/2013
\$85.00	Tweed Heads Hospital Ladies Auxiliary	Room Hire - Tweed Heads Meeting Room	04/02/2013
\$85.00	South Sea Islanders Meeting	Room Hire - Tweed Heads Meeting Room	09/02/2013
\$85.00	Tweed Heads Hospital Ladies Auxiliary	Room Hire - South Sea Islander Room	04/03/2013
\$475.00			

## \$37,651.13 Total Donations 3rd Quarter (January, February, March 2013)

#### **OPTIONS:**

Not Applicable.

#### **CONCLUSION:**

For Councillor Information and inclusion in Annual Report.

## **COUNCIL IMPLICATIONS:**

#### a. Policy:

Donations and Subsidies Version 1.2.

# b. Budget/Long Term Financial Plan:

As per Budget estimates.

## c. Legal:

Not Applicable.

## d. Communication/Engagement:

Inform - We will keep you informed.

## LINKAGE TO INTEGRATED PLANNING AND REPORTING FRAMEWORK:

- 2 Supporting Community Life
- 2.1 Foster strong, cohesive, cooperative, healthy and safe communities
- 2.1.3 Provide opportunities for residents to enjoy access to the arts, festivals, sporting activities, recreation, community and cultural facilities

## UNDER SEPARATE COVER/FURTHER INFORMATION:

Nil.

## **REPORTS FROM SUB-COMMITTEES/WORKING GROUPS**

CNL-61 [SUB-TRAGAC] Minutes of the Tweed River Art Gallery Advisory Committee Meeting held Wednesday 13 March 2013

## SUBMITTED BY: Community and Cultural Services



#### **SUMMARY OF REPORT:**

The Minutes of the Tweed River Art Gallery Advisory Committee Meeting held Wednesday 13 March 2013 are reproduced in the body of this report for the information of Councillors.

#### **RECOMMENDATION:**

That:

- 1. The Minutes of the Tweed River Art Gallery Advisory Committee Meeting held Wednesday 13 March 2013 be received and noted; and
- 2. The Executive Management Team's recommendations be adopted as follows:

Proposal to Charge an Entry Fee to Visitors of the Gallery

That Council notes the advice of the Tweed River Art Gallery Advisory Committee regarding entry fees to the Gallery.

## **REPORT:**

The Minutes of the Tweed River Art Gallery Advisory Committee Meeting held Wednesday 13 March 2013 are reproduced as follows for the information of Councillors.

Venue:

Tweed River Art Gallery

Time:

5.00pm

Present:

Clr Warren Polglase, Clr Phil Youngblutt, Louise Devine, Dr Daena Murray, Robert Dagworthy, Joanne Nimmo, Katrina Primikiri-Mackney, Lyn Stewart (Friends' President), Stephen Senise, Susi Muddiman (Gallery Director), Anne Schardin (Assistant Gallery Director).

## Apologies:

Shirley Kennedy, David Oxenham (Director of Community and Natural Resources).

Minutes of Previous Meeting:

Moved: Robert Dagworthy

Seconded: Clr Phil Youngblutt

RESOLVED that the Minutes of the Tweed River Art Gallery Advisory Committee meeting held 12 December 2012 be accepted as a true and accurate record of the proceedings of that meeting.

Business Arising:

Website

Susi Muddiman reported she had met recently with Tiffany Stoddard, Council's Communications Co-ordinator. As part of the Communications Plan for the Gallery, Council is in the process of redesigning the website. A template for the site will allow art gallery staff to update the page as required.

## Carpark

Susi Muddiman read comments from David Oxenham regarding this matter to the effect that Council has no funding available for additional parking facilities. The present parking facilities meets development conditions. Park and ride options can be engaged for larger events. Susi Muddiman will contact the local bus company to encourage a more regular bus service once the Margaret Olley Art Centre is operational.

## Signage

Susi Muddiman reported that more detailed information has been requested regarding the signage.

Signs must be directional only, not advertising. Cost of additional signage is to be made available from the Gallery's budget.

The exact location and wording on the current directional signs needs to be supplied and a proposal presented addressing why the signs need to be re-worded and / or enlarged.

A strong case for the additional signs will be required. The Committee indicated at the previous meeting that three additional directional signs are required at (1) at Alma St, Murwillumbah near Budd Park, (2) on the corner of Kyogle and Bakers Rd, Byangum and (3) on the corner of Stokers and Bakers Road, Dunbible.

Susi Muddiman requested that all Committee members bring their precise suggestions to the next meeting.

Gallery Director's Report Moved: Clr Warren Polglase Seconded: Louise Devine

RESOLVED that the Gallery Director's Report including 4 new acquisitions to the Collection, as per attachment, be ratified.

Susi Muddiman reported that the Friends' fund raising events held in February and March for the Margaret Olley Art Centre were very successful and were widely supported by 695 enthusiastic participants. By popular demand an additional tour is to be held on Saturday 13 April of the popular Margaret's Top Drawer Tour to the MOAC store.

Susi Muddiman advised that she had travelled to Sydney to attend meetings and events at the Museum of Sydney run by the Historic Houses Trust. She was very pleased that both events indicated an enthusiasm for the MOAC project.

The MOAC tender has been awarded to Alder Construction. It is hoped that building work will begin soon and that the new extension will open February 2014 which will coincide with the 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the opening of the building in February 2004.

The Café Pavilion will be included in the building program offering covered seating to approximately 55 people, with a covered walkway from the Café. Funding of \$200,000 for the Pavilion will be provided by the Tweed River Art Gallery Foundation Ltd through generous donations by two Board Directors Doug Anthony and Ashby Utting.

Expressions of Interest for the Licence to operate the Gallery Café have opened and will close on 10 April. There have been a number of interested parties that have contacted the Gallery to obtain further information.

General Business:

Proposal to charge an entry fee to visitors of the Gallery

Clr Warren Polglase addressed the meeting regarding his objection to the possibility of an entry fee being introduced by Council for the Gallery.

Robert Dagworthy stated that he hoped Council was aware of the fact that the Gallery visitors are of enormous economic benefit to the region and to Murwillumbah in particular. He added that entry fees would constitute a detrimental barrier to a successful educational facility.

Robert Dagworthy cited the Australian Maritime Museum at Darling Harbour, Sydney as a case in point. Prior the introduction of an entry fee to this facility, the museum was a very popular and busy institution. On his last visit, since the introduction of an entry fee, he was the only visitor in the whole building.

Joanne Nimmo added that she knows that her business derives direct benefits from the flow of Gallery visitors coming into Murwillumbah. She stated that she was not adverse to the idea of charging a ticket entry for the occasional special exhibition.

Stephen Senise added in response of Clr Youngblutt's suggestion that a minimal entry fee of \$2 should be introduced, that he was not at all in support of an entry fee, and that it would be detrimental to even charge \$2 to visitors.

Dr Daena Murray stated that in her experience as a long standing industry professional, the income generated by entry fees would cost as much in necessary administration, extra staff and equipment.

Lyn Stewart stated that the Friends of the Tweed River Art Gallery Inc. strongly opposed the entry fee, adding that the group had submitted a paper arguing against the proposal.

In his role of President of the Tweed River Art Gallery Foundation Ltd, Warren Polglase added that the Gallery would lose a lot of support from donors and potentially miss out on many larger donations if the Gallery were to charge an entry fee.

He added that the fee would mean that the Gallery would also lose a lot of interest from support groups such as the Friends of the Gallery, as well as the over 120 Gallery Volunteers and Guides who willingly give their time and expertise free of charge.

Donations of works of art donated to the Gallery collection would also be effected.

Warren Polglase further stated that the Gallery currently makes a reasonable income from art and shop sales, café lease, raffles and donations, which could potentially be lost.

## RECOMMENDATION:

Moved: Robert Dagworthy

Seconded: Louise Devine

That the Committee respectfully advises Council that it does not support the introduction of an entry fee.

#### Meeting dates

Four meetings dates were set for 2013, being Wednesday 13 March 2013, 12 June 2013, 14 August 2013 and 4 December 2013.

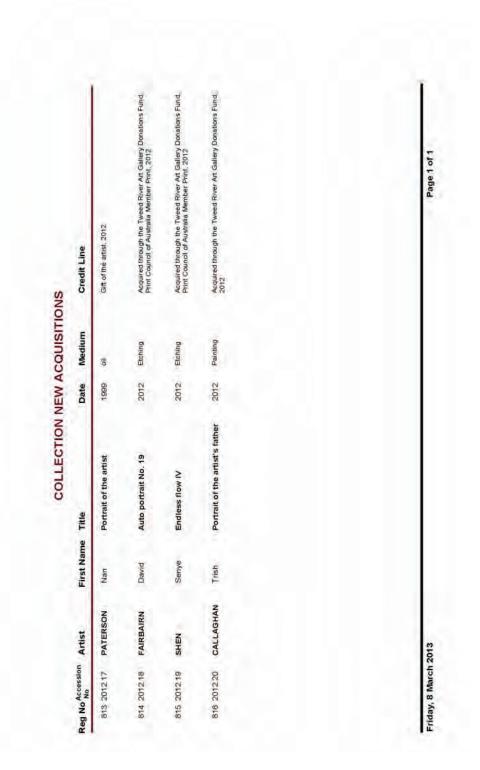
## Next Meeting:

The next meeting of the Tweed River Art Gallery Advisory Committee will be held at Tweed River Art Gallery on Wednesday 12 June at 5.00pm.

The meeting closed at 6.30pm.

EXECUTIVE MANAGEMENT TEAM COMMENTS: Proposal to Charge an Entry Fee to Visitors of the Gallery Nil.

EXECUTIVE MANAGEMENT TEAM RECOMMENDATIONS: Proposal to Charge an Entry Fee to Visitors of the Gallery That Council notes the advice of the Tweed River Art Gallery Advisory Committee regarding entry fees to the Gallery.



## COUNCIL IMPLICATIONS:

# a. Policy:

Code of Meeting Practice.

Terms of Reference - Reviewed 21 August 2012.

# b. Budget/Long Term Financial Plan:

Not applicable.

## c. Legal:

Not Applicable.

## d. Communication/Engagement:

Inform - We will keep you informed.

## LINKAGE TO INTEGRATED PLANNING AND REPORTING FRAMEWORK:

- 2 Supporting Community Life
- 2.1 Foster strong, cohesive, cooperative, healthy and safe communities
- 2.1.1 Work closely with government and community organisations to improve services to children and families, youth, elderly, Indigenous people, disadvantaged and minority groups and to build stronger and more cohesive communities

## UNDER SEPARATE COVER/FURTHER INFORMATION:

Nil.

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## CNL-62 [SUB-LTC] Minutes of the Local Traffic Committee Meeting held Thursday 4 April 2013

#### SUBMITTED BY: Planning and Infrastructure



#### SUMMARY OF REPORT:

The Minutes of the Local Traffic Committee Meeting held Thursday 4 April 2013 are reproduced in the body of this report for the information of Councillors.

#### **RECOMMENDATION:**

That:

- 1. The Minutes of the Local Traffic Committee Meeting held Thursday 4 April 2013 be received and noted; and
- 2. The Executive Management Team's recommendations be adopted as follows:

SECTION A - FORMAL ITEMS SECTION - DELEGATIONS FOR REGULATORY DEVICES FOR ENDORSEMENT BY COUNCIL:

A1 [LTC] Sutherland Lane, Kingscliff

**RECOMMENDATION TO COUNCIL:** 

That the Committee supports the one way designation of traffic east to west on Sutherland Lane Kingscliff subject to satisfactory community consultation including the Kingscliff District Business Chamber.

A2 [LTC] Tumbulgum Road, Murwillumbah

**RECOMMENDATION TO COUNCIL:** 

That:

1. The one-way designation of Tumbulgum Road between Old Ferry Road and Sunnyside Lane is not supported due to potential adverse impacts on the intersection of Alma Street/Commercial Road roundabout and the additional traffic entering the Murwillumbah CBD via Old Ferry Road.

- 2. The Committee did not support the installation of pedestrian fencing on the footpath as this would limit the width of the footpath to an unacceptable level.
- 3. A yellow edge line be installed on the footpath.
- 4. "Dismount Bicycles" signage be installed on both approaches.
- 5. Roads and Maritime Services be requested to designate the section of Tumbulgum Road between Old Ferry Road and Sunnyside Lane at 40km/h.
- 6. Council considers moving the double centre line closer to the riverside to widen the width of the north bound lane.
- A3 [LTC] Pearl Street, Kingscliff

**RECOMMENDATION TO COUNCIL:** 

That the existing children's crossing on Pearl Street adjacent to St Anthony's School be upgraded to include markings for a zebra crossing.

## **REPORT:**

The Minutes of the Local Traffic Committee Meeting held Thursday 4 April 2013 are reproduced as follows for the information of Councillors.

VENUE: Mt Warning Meeting Room

TIME: Commencing at 10.00am

#### PRESENT:

Committee Members: Cr Barry Longland, Mr Ian Shanahan, Roads and Maritime Services of NSW, Snr Constable Chris Davis, NSW Police, Mr Geoff Provest MP, Member for Tweed.

Informal: Mr Ray Clark (Chairman), Mr Michael Kenny, Ms Sandy Zietlow (Minutes Secretary).

APOLOGIES: Mr Thomas George MP, Member for Lismore; Mr Col Brooks, Mr Paul Brouwer.

CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

RESOLVED that the Minutes of the Local Traffic Committee Meeting held 7 March 2013 be adopted as a true and accurate record of proceedings of that meeting.

[LTC] Confirmation of Previous LTC Minutes Meeting held 7 March 2013

FOR VOTE - Unanimous

Mr Geoff Provest MP advised that Mr Thomas George MP has given him delegated authority to vote on items in the Lismore electorate.

SCHEDULE OF OUTSTANDING RESOLUTIONS

[LTC-SOR] Schedule of Outstanding Resolutions

From Meeting held 7 March 2013

[LTC-SOR] Pottsville Road (B2)

ORIGIN: Planning & Infrastructure

FILE NO: ECM 56883966; Traffic - Committee; Traffic - Speed Zones; Pottsville Road

SUMMARY OF REPORT:

This item was on the Schedule of Outstanding Resolutions from meeting held 7 February 2013 (Item 2) and is brought forward for further discussion.

"Council is requesting a review of the 100km/h speed limit on Pottsville Road due to the high incidence of speed related type crashes.

In the five year period July 2006 to June 2011 there were 31 recorded crashes with 27 of those crashes "off path on curve".

The 85<sup>th</sup> percentile speeds and Average Daily Traffic are as follows:

	Percentile	Date	ADT
	Speeds		

From Meeting held 7 February 2013:

COMMITTEE ADVICE:

That the speed limit on Pottsville Road be referred to Roads & Maritime Services (RMS) for review in consideration of the speed related crash history on this road and be placed on the Schedule of Outstanding Resolutions.

*Current Status: That the Schedule of Outstanding Resolutions Item Pottsville Road, from Local Traffic Committee meeting held 4 April 2013 remain on the list of Outstanding Resolutions.* 

(This item was originally listed as an Outstanding Resolution at the Local Traffic Committee Meeting held 18 October 2012 (Item B2)."

BUSINESS ARISING Nil.

#### A. FORMAL ITEMS SECTION

#### DELEGATIONS FOR REGULATORY DEVICES

A1 [LTC] Sutherland Lane, Kingscliff

ORIGIN:

Planning & Infrastructure

FILE NO: ECM64944937; ECM64948052; Traffic - Committee; Traffic - Safety; Traffic - Local Area Traffic Management; Sutherland Lane, Kingscliff

SUMMARY OF REPORT:

Request received for changing traffic in Sutherland Lane, Kingscliff from two-way to one-way.

"My reasons are primarily safety issues, as traffic exiting Sutherland Lane into Marine Parade has limited vision due to the outdoor eating area construction at 36 Marine Parade, Kingscliff. Many delivery trucks use this lane also, and it is very narrow if a car is coming down the laneway. I have witnessed many instances over the years of cars having to back up a little way to allow the trucks to pass. Pedestrian traffic here is also busy, especially in holiday times, and as the designated footpath is extremely narrow, it is not able to be used by strollers and groups of people.

I have brought this forward for your consideration at this particular time as the northern part of the shopping precinct has been made one way, and therefore local traffic from Hungerford Lane no longer needs to use Sutherland Lane to exit onto Marine Parade. This traffic can continue down Hungerford Lane to Seaview Street, and turn left to go either south or north, as it is no longer possible to drive north from the fig tree roundabout. Many elderly patients of the doctors at 40 Marine Parade also use this laneway to access their rear carpark, and life would be a lot safer and easier for them if they met no traffic while driving up the lane.

I hope you and other council officers consider my proposal as a common sense solution to further improve the ambience for both foot and vehicular traffic in the southern Kingscliff business area."

Pedestrian and vehicle counts will be conducted and provided to the Committee for consideration. Sight distances and photographs will also be provided for consideration.

The Chairman requested that this item be moved to Section A Formal items section of the Minutes.

The Committee recognised that limiting vehicular traffic onto Marine Parade from Sutherland Lane would improve pedestrian safety.

## COMMITTEE ADVICE:

That an advertisement be placed in the Tweed Link requesting comments on the proposed one way designation of traffic east to west on Sutherland Lane Kingscliff and this Item be brought back to the Committee for its May meeting for consideration.

## RECOMMENDATION TO COUNCIL:

That the Committee supports the one way designation of traffic east to west on Sutherland Lane Kingscliff subject to satisfactory community consultation including the Kingscliff District Business Chamber.

FOR VOTE - Mr Geoff Provest, Mr Ian Shanahan, Cr Barry Longland

A2 [LTC] Tumbulgum Road, Murwillumbah

ORIGIN: Planning & Infrastructure

FILE NO: ECM 63440068; Traffic - Committee; Pedestrian Safety; Tumbulgum Road, Murwillumbah; Equal Access Committee

SUMMARY OF REPORT:

At the Equal Access Advisory Committee meeting held 22 November 2012 it was resolved that:

"Council considers alternative strategies to ensure public safety such as one way traffic on this section of Tumbulgum Road until a permanent solution can be found."

The Executive Management team at its Meeting held 14 February 2013 adopted:

"2. Pedestrian Access along Tumbulgum Road between Murwillumbah Library and Coolamon Cultural Centre

That Council notes the Equal Access Advisory Committee's recommendation for Council to consider alternative strategies to ensure public safety such as one way traffic on this section of Tumbulgum Road until a permanent solution can be found."

Approximately one year ago Council removed the pedestrian boardwalk on riverside of Tumbulgum Road between Sunnyside Lane and Old Ferry Road due to concerns over its structural integrity. Pedestrians are now required to utilise the existing footpath on the western side of the road and concerns are being received over its adequacy in particular its width and proximity to adjacent through traffic. A report will be submitted to the Committee in consideration of these issues.

A site inspection by the Committee of this location will be undertaken at the Local Traffic Committee meeting on 4 April 2013.

The Chairman requested that this item be moved to Section A Formal items of the Minutes.

The Committee took a formal inspection of the footpath on Tumbulgum Road.

COMMITTEE ADVICE:

The Committee considers this report.

**RECOMMENDATION TO COUNCIL:** 

That:-

- 1. The one-way designation of Tumbulgum Road between Old Ferry Road and Sunnyside Lane is not supported due to potential adverse impacts on the intersection of Alma Street/Commercial Road roundabout and the additional traffic entering the Murwillumbah CBD via Old Ferry Road.
- 2. The Committee did not support the installation of pedestrian fencing on the footpath as this would limit the width of the footpath to an unacceptable level.
- 3. A yellow edge line be installed on the footpath.
- 4. "Dismount Bicycles" signage be installed on both approaches.
- 5. Roads and Maritime Services be requested to designate the section of Tumbulgum Road between Old Ferry Road and Sunnyside Lane at 40km/h.
- 6. Council considers moving the double centre line closer to the riverside to widen the width of the north bound lane.

FOR VOTE: Mr Geoff Provest, Mr Ian Shanahan, Cr Barry Longland.

A3 [LTC] Pearl Street, Kingscliff

ORIGIN: Planning & Infrastructure

FILE NO: ECM 64457866; Traffic - Committee; Pedestrian Crossings; Pedestrian Safety

SUMMARY OF REPORT:

Request received for a pedestrian crossing in Pearl Street, Kingscliff due to a marked change in traffic conditions now that Marine Parade is one-way.

"There has been a marked change in traffic conditions in Marine Parade (one way zone) which has seen increased traffic using Pearl Street. This situation has meant more congestion and significantly more pedestrians using this street.

A pedestrian crossing would allow the elderly particularly to cross safely as at present they are most at risk of being seriously injured. Many of the elderly are either on foot or motorised scooters and the pedestrian refuge is not an adequate safety facility for them.

High school and Primary school students cross this road as well as tourists, business people and daily local shoppers. Local business employees are witness to many near misses in this street and it would be tragic if someone is seriously injured or worse.

I request a new traffic count to reinforce the obvious need for a pedestrian crossing in this street. Kingscliff Ratepayers Association support this request and realise the situation is an urgent safety concern."

Results of site inspections (pedestrian and traffic counts) will be tabled.

Observations were conducted at 3 locations on Pearl Street, at the existing children's crossing, at the existing pedestrian refuge and near the roundabout of Turnock Street. Pedestrian counts were 129, 69 and 37 respectively. Traffic volumes were 840 for the hour. The warrants for a marked pedestrian crossing were met at the existing children's crossing.

The Chairman requested that this item be moved to Section A Formal items of the Minutes.

COMMITTEE ADVICE:

That the Committee considers the submitted counts.

**RECOMMENDATION TO COUNCIL:** 

That the existing children's crossing on Pearl Street adjacent to St Anthony's School be upgraded to include markings for a zebra crossing.

FOR VOTE: Mr Geoff Provest, Mr Ian Shanahan, Cr Barry Longland

#### B. INFORMAL ITEMS SECTION

GENERAL TRAFFIC ADVICE

B1 [LTC] Tweed Valley Triathletes Season 21 September 2013 to 15 March 2014

ORIGIN:

Planning & Infrastructure

FILE NO: ECM 65388236; Traffic - Committee; Sport - Rec - General; Events - Other

SUMMARY OF REPORT:

Request received for permission to use roads for the Tweed Valley Triathletes season commencing Saturday 21 September 2013 and concluding on Saturday 15 March 2014.

"The senior (adult) course, as well as the swim leg in the pool, comprises a 10km cycle and 4km run. The cycle and run leave from the Tweed Regional Aquatic Centre. The cycle leg consists of a circuit which includes Tumbulgum Rd, Cane Road, Queensland Road, Murwillumbah St and Wharf St. the run leg goes along Tumbulgum Rd and then onto Racecourse Rd for 1km and returning the same way.

The Intermediate (adult) course includes a 7km cycle leg along Tumbulgum Rd, Racecourse Rd, Queensland Rd, Murwillumbah St and Wharf St and a 2km run leg form the pool to the Tumbulgum Rd/Racecourse Rd intersection and return.

The Junior course includes a 3km cycle along Tumbulgum Rd, part way along Racecourse Rd and return and a 1km run to the Old Ferry Rd/Tumbulgum Rd intersection and return.

Our transition area is the Council parking area on the western side of the civic centre and the area adjacent to the side entrance to the main pool.

Adult members are on the road between 6:05am and 7:10am. Junior members are on the road between 7:30am and 8:00am.

Tweed Valley Triathletes Inc. believes that its long standing record of safety and reliability demonstrates its commitment to providing a safe environment for conducting our triathlon events."

These events have been undertaken for a number of years without incidents reported to Council. The Club has developed a Management Plan that controls the conduct of the event.

COMMITTEE ADVICE:

That the proposed Tweed Valley Triathletes events from 21 September 2013 to 15 March 2014 be supported subject to standard conditions of approval, NSW Police approval being obtained, community and business consultation and advertising in the Tweed Link.

B2 Sutherland Lane, Kingscliff - This item was moved to Section A (Item A1)

B3 [LTC] SALT Multisport Festival 12 and 13 October 2013

#### ORIGIN:

Planning & Infrastructure

FILE NO: ECM 64800896; 63983635; 64016951; 64016958; Traffic - Committee; Traffic - Control; Festivals/Events; SALT Central Park

## SUMMARY OF REPORT:

This item was initially discussed at the Local Traffic Committee meeting held 7 March 2013 where it was resolved that:

"further information be sought from the applicant on the conduct and control of the events for the SALT Multisport event on 12 and 13 October 2013, particularly the cycle leg."

#### Running - Sunday 13 October 2013

"Course:

10km runners (approximately 250) will complete 2 laps of the course. 5km runners (approximately 150 people) will complete 1 lap.

Race Start (8:00am) – Bells Blvd on the outside of SALT Central Park. Corner of Pass Street. Runners complete one lap of SALT Central Park and then:

Turn left into Gunnamatta Av..... Left into Barrel St ...... Right into Cylinders Dv ..... Right into Banzai St..... Left into Avoca St..... Right into Lorna St

Runners will then exit Lorna Street & run along the Casuarina Bike path and return northbound past SALT Central Park and rejoin North Point Av...continue south and turn right into Shipstern and then left into Pass Street back to the finish on Bells Blvd.

#### Road Closures:

- 1. Pass Street for safety reasons this road will be closed from 7:30am 9:30am.
- 2. Bells Blvd for the start of the race only from 8:00am 8:05am. This will allow all runners to exit the carpark and cars can once again enter.

#### Traffic Delays minimal:

1. Traffic may be delayed for short periods of time (no more than 2 - 3 minutes) as runners pass through the streets of SALT as outlined above. This is residential traffic and in the past 5 years we have had minimal cars affected by the runners."

It is confirmed that temporary road closures on Saturday 12 October 2013 for the 42km cycle road race will apply and that details are now as follows:"

Bicycle Race - Saturday 12 October 2013

#### "Course:

Approximately 500 cyclists will complete 1 lap of the course..... leaving in FOUR separate waves approximately 10 minutes apart.

Race Start (7:00am, 7:10am, 7:20am and 7:30am) – Double laned road through Seaside off Casuarina Way.

Riders head out of this road and turn left onto Casuarina Way, travel south then turn right into Dianella Dr and then right to join the Tweed Coast Rd and travel North. Turn left into Plantation Rd - Left into Cudgen Rd - Left onto Tweed Valley Way - Left onto Clothiers Creek Rd - Left into Tweed Coast Rd....Right onto Casuarina Rd and then turn right at the roundabout into the double laned road where we will finish the event.

Road Closures:

- 3. Casuarina Way southbound for the START only this road will be closed from 7:00am 7:02am, 7:10am 7:12am, 7:20am 7:22am and then 7:30am 7:32am (the time it takes cyclists to travel from the start to safely leave Casuarina Way). The road will then re-open immediately.
- 4. Tweed Coast road for the START only as riders make their way onto the road from Dianella Dr. Cars in both directions will be stopped to allow cyclists onto the road and disruptions would be a maximum of 2-3 minutes each time.
- 5. Tweed Coast road southbound as cyclists return to the finish and travel north and need to turn right into Dianella Dr. TC will stop traffic as cyclists approach and then let them through at regular intervals when the road is clear."

A meeting was held with the applicant and Police representatives where concerns were raised on the conduct of the cycle race impacting on through traffic particularly on Tweed Coast Road and Tweed Valley Way. It was agreed that the cycle race will no longer be a race as such and all participants will ride according to the Australian Road Rules.

The applicant has agreed to inform all participants of the above prior to registration. There are to be no road closures associated with the cycling event, however traffic controllers will be in place to manage intersections where high levels of conflict is expected. This will include on Tweed Coast Road for cyclists turning right from Dianella Drive and Duranbah Road where cyclists are turning right from Cudgen Road.

There are still some concerns regarding the impact on through traffic on Tweed Coast Road for the beginning of the ride. The applicant will need to manage cyclists to minimise traffic delay.

The Committee has concerns over the size of the bicycle group and impact on through traffic. It was considered that minimising the group size to 40 will address this issue.

#### COMMITTEE ADVICE:

That the proposed SALT Multisport Festival Cycling and Running legs on 12 March 2013 be supported subject to no more than staged groups of 40 being released from the starting point and standard conditions of approval, NSW Police approval being obtained, community and business consultation and advertising in the Tweed Link.

B4 Tumbulgum Road, Murwillumbah - This item was moved to Section A (Item A2)

B5 Pearl Street, Kingscliff - This item was moved to Section A (Item A3)

B6 [LTC] Tyalgum Road, Eungella

ORIGIN: Planning & Infrastructure

FILE NO: ECM 64370092; Traffic - Committee; Safety; Speed Zones; Access to Property; Driveways; Tyalgum Road; Eungella

SUMMARY OF REPORT:

Request received in relation to the speed of vehicles on Tyalgum Road in particular outside No. 126 Tyalgum Road, Eungella.

"The section of Tyalgum Rd outside our house is not subject to any speed restrictions and, being a straight section of road, is used as a virtual raceway in both directions.

Difficulties turning into my driveway as vehicles behind me assume from my indicator that I am suggesting that they overtake me.

In order to deal with this I am obliged to move into the centre of the road prior to turning in order to block overtaking. This is quite dangerous as I am driving into the setting sun for several months of the year.

This morning there was a serious car accident about 100 metres west of our driveway, which I think involved a fatality.

This section of the road is an accident waiting to happen. The speed at which drivers of both cars and motorbikes accelerate along this straight section of road, possibly the only straight section of Tyalgum Rd is, in my mind dangerous.

The difficulty I have in entering my driveway is extremely dangerous and I request, that as a matter of urgency, you consider policing this section of road with a restrictive speed limit and warning regarding our driveway."

Council crash data indicates that there was a single vehicle crash in 2006 in close proximity to the property access. It is estimated that the 85<sup>th</sup> percentile speeds in this area will be approaching 100km/h in this area. Sight distance of vehicles approaching from the west of this property is adequate (approx 250 metres). Approach sight distance of drivers travelling west of a potential vehicle turning right into a property is in excess of 200 metres. The issues raised would not appear to be unusual for any property owner living on a 100km/h speed limited road.

## COMMITTEE ADVICE:

That a review of this speed limit on Tyalgum Road is not supported as adequate sight distance and overtaking opportunities exist.

B7 [LTC] Murwillumbah Street, Murwillumbah

ORIGIN: Planning & Infrastructure

FILE NO: ECM 64605243; 64712027; Traffic - Committee; Parking Zones; Murwillumbah Street, Murwillumbah; School - Mt St Patrick High; Ppty 11027

SUMMARY OF REPORT:

Request received for a disabled parking space at 151 Murwillumbah Street, Murwillumbah the provision of health services 4 times a week at the property.

"As well they require the services of the taxi for doctors, medical supplies and shopping requirements.

There is no area to park as the parking areas are taken up each day by cars from the school children.

Taxis have made several complaints re the access for an area to park safely for pick up and drop off.

It is also dangerous to safely access the taxi related area to a lip on the curb and driveway access to the laneway.

I would appreciate you consider one parking area to be made available for the safe entry and exit from the property."

Council cannot install disabled parking spaces on the road reserve to cater for individuals as this would set a precedent throughout the shire. It is noted that there is driveway access to the property and this could be utilised to set down or pick up passengers.

COMMITTEE ADVICE:

That the request for a disabled parking space on Murwillumbah Street adjacent to number 151 is not supported.

#### B8 [LTC] Winders Place - Parked Vehicles

ORIGIN: Planning & Infrastructure

FILE NO: ECM 64472758; 64704472; 65108139; 65156114; 65336693; Traffic -Committee; Parking Zones; Schools - St Josephs - Tweed Heads; Safety; Winders Place; Minerva Court

SUMMARY OF REPORT:

Request received regarding parked vehicles from St Josephs College, parking daily in Winders Place.

"Their cars are parked on both sides of the street and often into the small side street (Minerva Court). It can be a nightmare trying to pass another car let alone a large van or a bus. These cars are parked in Winders Place from 8.30am til 3.30pm every day of the school term. At one time there was not enough parking at the College but more parking has been made available. There is plenty of parking at the College and there is absolutely no need for these cars to be parked in Winders Place.

Winders Place is NOT designed to accommodate so many parked cars. We have many elderly people living here and we do not need the extra stress of negotiating past so many parked cars when there is ample parking at St Joseph's College.

Can your Committee please address this issue and perhaps a "Residents Only" sign could be erected."

Council has received four letters of complaint. Council has inspected this location and can confirm that vehicles with "P" plates are parked on both sides of Winders Place and Minerva Court during school hours.

The inspection determined that not all vehicles parked had "P" plates. All were legally parked. There is ample room to pass both ways in Winders Place. There also exists an avenue to discuss this situation directly with the school.

There is a request to install a dedicated right turn phase for drivers turning into Winders Place. Traffic volumes will be assessed and forwarded to the RMS for consideration. To make a two hour parking enforceable on Winders Place, signage will be installed at approximately 40 metre spacing for its length and all vehicles would be obliged to obey the time limit including residents and visitors. The enforcement of time limited parking in residential areas would be a major resource commitment to Council.

#### COMMITTEE ADVICE:

That Council writes to the School requesting that students be considerate of residents' amenity when parking remote from the school.

B9 [LTC] Tweed Heads Hospital - Pedestrian Crossings

ORIGIN:

Planning & Infrastructure

FILE NO: ECM 64702406; 64658670; Traffic - Committee; Pedestrian Crossings; Hospital - Tweed Heads; Solander Street; Powell Street; Florence Street; Keith Compton Drive

SUMMARY OF REPORT:

Two requests received regarding the lack of marked pedestrian crossings at access points to the hospital.

"Tweed Hospital is bounded on all sides by local traffic streets and I understand there are no marked crossings at any point to allow safe passage for less mobile clients."

Similar requests were considered at the Local Traffic Committee meeting held 12 October 2012 and the warrants were not met for marked pedestrian crossings on Powell Street which has the highest pedestrian activity. However, Council is currently in the process of installing kerb extensions and ramps on Powell Street near the bus shelters which will assist pedestrians to cross in the vicinity of the hospital.

#### COMMITTEE ADVICE:

That pedestrian kerb extensions be installed on Powell Street adjacent to the Main entrance of the hospital.

NEXT MEETING:

The next meeting of the Local Traffic Committee will be held Thursday 16 May in the Mt Warning Meeting Room commencing at 10.00am.

There being no further business the Meeting terminated at 11.45pm.

# SECTION A - FORMAL ITEMS SECTION - DELEGATIONS FOR REGULATORY DEVICES FOR ENDORSEMENT BY COUNCIL:

A1 [LTC] Sutherland Lane, Kingscliff

**RECOMMENDATION TO COUNCIL:** 

That the Committee supports the one way designation of traffic east to west on Sutherland Lane Kingscliff subject to satisfactory community consultation including the Kingscliff District Business Chamber.

A2 [LTC] Tumbulgum Road, Murwillumbah

#### **RECOMMENDATION TO COUNCIL:**

That:

- 1. The one-way designation of Tumbulgum Road between Old Ferry Road and Sunnyside Lane is not supported due to potential adverse impacts on the intersection of Alma Street/Commercial Road roundabout and the additional traffic entering the Murwillumbah CBD via Old Ferry Road.
- 2. The Committee did not support the installation of pedestrian fencing on the footpath as this would limit the width of the footpath to an unacceptable level.
- 3. A yellow edge line be installed on the footpath.
- 4. "Dismount Bicycles" signage be installed on both approaches.
- 5. Roads and Maritime Services be requested to designate the section of Tumbulgum Road between Old Ferry Road and Sunnyside Lane at 40km/h.
- 6. Council considers moving the double centre line closer to the riverside to widen the width of the north bound lane.

A3 [LTC] Pearl Street, Kingscliff

**RECOMMENDATION TO COUNCIL:** 

That the existing children's crossing on Pearl Street adjacent to St Anthony's School be upgraded to include markings for a zebra crossing.

#### COUNCIL IMPLICATIONS:

#### a. Policy:

Code of Meeting Practice.

Terms of Reference - reviewed 21 August 2012.

#### b. Budget/Long Term Financial Plan:

Not applicable.

#### c. Legal:

Not Applicable.

#### d. Communication/Engagement:

Inform - We will keep you informed.

## LINKAGE TO INTEGRATED PLANNING AND REPORTING FRAMEWORK:

- 2 Supporting Community Life
- 2.4 An integrated transport system that services local and regional needs
- 2.4.1 Provide a safe and efficient network of arterial roads connecting neighbourhoods to town centres, employment, shopping, health, commercial and education facilities

#### UNDER SEPARATE COVER/FURTHER INFORMATION:

Nil.

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## CNL-63 [SUB-TCC] Minutes of the Tweed Coastal Committee Meeting held Wednesday 10 April 2013

#### SUBMITTED BY: Community and Natural Resources



#### SUMMARY OF REPORT:

The Minutes of the Tweed Coastal Committee Meeting held Wednesday 10 April 2013 are reproduced in the body of this report for the information of Councillors.

#### **RECOMMENDATION:**

That the Minutes of the Tweed Coastal Committee Meeting held Wednesday 10 April 2013 be received and noted.

#### **REPORT:**

#### Venue:

Canvas & Kettle Meeting Room

#### Time:

1.10pm

#### Present:

Cr Barry Longland (Chair); Cr Gary Bagnall; Ben Fitzgibbon (Office of Environment and Heritage); Rhonda James (Restoration Industry); Terry Kane (Cabarita Beach-Bogangar); Jason Pearson (Kingscliff); Tim Jack Adams (Kingscliff); Roger Graf (Fingal Head); Jane Lofthouse, Tom Alletson, Stewart Brawley (Tweed Shire Council).

#### Informal:

Cathey Philip (Minutes Secretary).

# Apologies:

David Cranwell (Pottsville); Michael Munday (Bogangar); Pat Dwyer (Department of Industry & Investment NSW); Lance Tarvey (Office of Environment and Heritage); John Harbison (Mooball); Peter Sloan (Bogangar); Sebastien Garcia-Cuenca, Mark Kingston (Tweed Shire Council).

Minutes of Previous Meeting:

Moved: Terry Kane

Seconded: Stewart Brawley

RESOLVED that the Minutes of the Tweed Coastal Committee meeting held Wednesday 13 February 2013 be accepted as a true and accurate record of the proceedings of that meeting.

Business Arising: Nil.

Agenda Items:

A1. Coastal Zone Management Plan (CZMP) for the Tweed Coast Estuaries - Public Exhibition Submissions

Tom provided an update on the 11 submissions received from the community. Tom was concerned that there were no submissions from Tweed Coastal Committee members and advised that a short extension would be provided until 19 April. Tom said he would appreciate at least an endorsement from members if they didn't have any specific changes.

A lengthy discussion took place regarding the various submissions.

Points of interest:

- Opening protocol for Cudgera Creek and possibly Mooball Creek;
- General comment on dredging within all creeks not for navigational purposes;
- Horse access to beach at Cudgen Nature Reserve and other locations to be considered in Tweed Coast CZMP;
- Include action develop horse access strategy; consult with horse trainers/pony clubs;
- Shorebird nesting strategy;
- Improve signage and encourage greater enforcement of dogs at bird nesting sites.

A2. Kingscliff Foreshore and Tweed Coast Studies

Jane provided an update on the above studies and discussed the main issues. The Hazard Study will be forwarded to Committee before next meeting for discussion.

Discussion on the potential for the removal or shortening of Cudgen Creek training walls to reduce sand supply impact on Kingscliff Beach.

A3. Kingscliff Foreshore Benefit Cost Assessment

A workshop was held with invited stakeholders on Wednesday 27 March. The purpose of the workshop was to get a better understanding of the values within the community for Kingscliff Beach and foreshore. This group will be further consulted as part of this project.

Jason left at 2.35pm

A4. Tweed DuneCare Coordinating Committee - Minutes of last meeting There was a brief discussion regarding the minutes.

Discussion again on the capacity for regulatory services to increase patrolling of coastal areas. Noted that the community needs to report incidences to Council to escalate the importance of issues and ensure they are recorded.

Moved: Rhonda James

Seconded: Roger Graf

RESOLVED that the Committee supports the Tweed DuneCare Coordinating Committee's request for a letter of support from Council to the Tweed Byron Local Aboriginal Land Council biodiversity grant application for restoration works along the coast.

Rhonda left at 2.40pm

General Business:

GB1. Sutherland Point

Tim initiated discussion on the use of Sutherland Point for primitive camping for school groups tied in with environmental education opportunities.

A general discussion took place regarding the various places that could possibly be utilised for setting up school camps.

Tim stated there is a need for this type of facility in the Tweed and it was an economic opportunity.

Outstanding Items:

O1. Attendance by Office of Environment and Heritage (NPWS) Jane to check if Lance Tarvey is going attend future meetings and if not, could another representative be appointed.

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Next Meeting: The next meeting of the Tweed Coastal Committee will be held Wednesday 12 June 2013.

The meeting closed at 2.50pm.

# EXECUTIVE MANAGEMENT TEAM'S COMMENTS: Nil.

EXECUTIVE MANAGEMENT TEAM'S RECOMMENDATIONS: Nil.

# COUNCIL IMPLICATIONS:

#### a. Policy:

Code of Meeting Practice. Terms of Reference - adopted 21 March 2013.

# b. Budget/Long Term Financial Plan:

Not applicable.

#### c. Legal:

Not Applicable.

#### d. Communication/Engagement:

Inform - We will keep you informed.

# LINKAGE TO INTEGRATED PLANNING AND REPORTING FRAMEWORK:

- 4 Caring for the Environment
- 4.1 Protect the environment and natural beauty of the Tweed
- 4.1.2 Protect, regulate and maintain natural assets (the coastline, coastal and inland waterways, biodiversity, bushland and scenic landscapes) for current and future generations

#### UNDER SEPARATE COVER/FURTHER INFORMATION:

Nil.

# CNL-64 [SUB-TRC] Minutes of the Tweed River Committee Meeting held Wednesday 10 April 2013

#### SUBMITTED BY: Community and Natural Resources



#### **SUMMARY OF REPORT:**

The Minutes of the Tweed River Committee Meeting held Wednesday 10 April 2013 are reproduced in the body of this report for the information of Councillors.

#### **RECOMMENDATION:**

That the Minutes of the Tweed River Committee Meeting held Wednesday 10 April 2013 be received and noted.

## **REPORT:**

The Minutes of the Tweed River Committee Meeting held Wednesday 10 April 2013 are reproduced as follows for the information of Councillors.

#### Venue:

Canvas & Kettle Meeting Room

#### Time:

9.10am

Robert opened the meeting by welcoming members and recognising traditional owners of the land.

#### Present:

Robert Quirk (NSW Cane Growers' Association) (Chair); Cr Katie Milne; Cr Gary Bagnall; Ben Fitzgibbon (Office of Environment and Heritage); Pat Dwyer (Department of Industry & Investment NSW); Carl Cormack (Roads and Maritime Services); Claire Masters (Tweed Landcare Inc); Scott Petersen (Tweed River Charter Operators); Sam Dawson (Caldera Environment Centre); Rhonda James (Restoration Industry); Max Boyd (Community Representative); Jane Lofthouse, Tom Alletson (Tweed Shire Council).

#### Informal:

Cathey Philip (Minutes Secretary); Matt Bloor (Tweed Shire Council).

#### Apologies:

Nigel Greenup (Community Representative); Eddie Norris (Community Representative); Sebastien Garcia-Cuenca, Mark Kingston (Tweed Shire Council).

#### Minutes of Previous Meeting:

Moved: Max Boyd

#### Seconded: Claire Masters

**RESOLVED** that the Minutes of the Tweed River Committee meeting held Wednesday 13 February 2013 be accepted as a true and accurate record of the proceedings of that meeting.

Robert advised members that Andy Reimanis from the Caldera Environment Centre would be doing a presentation during the meeting.

#### **Business Arising:**

# BA1. Revegetation of Riparian Land at Windmill Corner

Tom provided a brief update on the progress of investigation of this matter and advised he thought it was worth approaching landowners to open discussions regarding Council purchasing the land.

Cr Milne raised concerns about the many other areas of land that need revegetation.

Rhonda attended at 9.20am

A discussion was held and it was agreed that a meeting should take place.

#### Moved: Claire Masters

#### Seconded: Sam Dawson

**PROPOSED** that discussions be held with the owners of land at Windmill Corner regarding the purchase of land and that Council staff undertake preparing a list of other sites that might also benefit from rehabilitation.

#### AMENDMENT:

Moved: Cr Milne

Seconded: Rhonda James

**PROPOSED** that an assessment be undertaken of all opportunities prior to continuing with investigation of the purchase of Windmill Corner.

After discussion the amendment lost.

Further discussion took place regarding the feasibility of investigating other land as it would be a major undertaking for staff and Council has already indicated it had no money for this purpose.

#### SECOND AMENDMENT:

Moved: Max Boyd Seconded: Ben Fitzgibbon

**RESOLVED** that Council staff and Robert investigate the purchase of land at Windmill Corner for rehabilitation.

The original motion was withdrawn and the second amendment was put to the meeting.

The motion was carried.

It was requested that Mark Kingston and Nigel Greenup discuss the potential methodologies that could be used by Council to identify land with high conservation value which could be purchased through an acquisitions program.

#### BA2. Rural Land Study

Claire raised the issue of inviting a relevant Council staff member or consultant to attend a Tweed River Committee meeting to give an overview of the rural land use study.

The project team, including Stuart Russell, is to be requested to attend the June meeting.

Sebastien is also to be requested to update the Committee on the Sustainable Agriculture Strategy.

#### BA3. Erosion - Tumbulgum Bridge

Max still concerned about amount of bank falling into river along upriver from bridge. Council has put up banding but it's only a matter of time before it falls into river.

#### BA4. Budd Park

Cr Milne requested information regarding the second stage of works. Tom advised it was out to tender at the moment. It was advised that Councils Waterways, Recreation Services and Works Unit had shared costs of the first stage of works.

Moved: Cr Milne

Seconded: Sam Dawson

**RESOLVED** that information regarding LandCare be included in considerations for interpretive signage at Budd Park.

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#### Agenda Items:

#### A1. State of the Tweed River Report - Draft Scope

As per the resolution of the last meeting, Tom presented a draft scope of matters which are to be considered in the preparation of a State of the Tweed River Report.

A general discussion was held on the scope presented by Tom.

Andy attended at 10.25am

Members were requested to email Tom their thoughts and/or concerns.

Robert suggested a workshop take place and Tom is to schedule one for members who are able to attend.

The three primary objectives are:

- Community Engagement
- Audit of Implementation
- State of the Environment

#### Suspension of Standing Orders:

Standing Orders were suspended to allow Andy Reimanis from the Caldera Environment Centre to make a presentation to the Committee.

Tom introduced Andy and advised that the presentation related to the river and its historical use; and to Andy's idea for an art project which required funding.

A discussion followed with members asking Andy various questions.

Cr Milne stated that more emphasis was required on aboriginal history. Andy agreed and advised there would definitely be indigenous culture included in the project.

Tom to advise Andy on the degree of support available from the Tweed River Committee.

Andy left at 11.10am

## Resumption of Standing Orders:

Standing Orders were resumed.

A2. Implementation Summary - Lower Tweed Estuary and Upper Tweed Estuary Management Plans

Tom presented an overview of these documents, their key recommendations and the actions implemented.

There was a general discussion on the plans.

Tom also circulated a paper on the plans and actions. Robert encouraged all members to take the time to consider the paper.

The Committee decided to further discuss this matter at the workshop on the Tweed River.

#### A3. Update on Platypus and Lower Oxley River Bank Stabilisation Project *Platypus*

Matt provided a brief update on the progress on the platypus project.

A general discussion was held on the benefits or otherwise of platypus.

Robert requested members go back to their respective groups and ask them to contact Matt if they have any pertinent information as this project is a way to emphasise River Health Grants.

#### Lower Oxley

Tom provided a brief update on the progress of the stabilisation project.

A general discussion was held regarding the project.

Robert asked members that if they know of any landholders with serious erosion problems to ask them contact Tom.

#### A4. National River Prize Application

A copy of Council's application to the International River Foundation- National River Prize was emailed to Committee members. Aspects of Stage 1 of the application were discussed.

# A5. Funding applications to Australian Government Caring for Our Country and Biodiversity Fund

The Waterways Program has been working collaboratively with several organisations on applications for the above grants. Tom provided brief details to the Committee.

# General Business:

#### GB1. Chinderah Pontoon

Cr Milne raised concerns that the proposal was not going out for public exhibition.

Tom updated the committee on the status of the project and advised that the proposal will be going on public exhibition.

# GB2. Wake Study and Riverbank Erosion Management Plan

Cr Milne asked what was happening with Stage 2 of this project - ie. finalising a riverbank erosion management plan. Tom provided an update and advised work to be done and that he has made a commitment to present a draft river bank erosion management plan to the August Tweed River Committee meeting.

In addition, a report will be prepared for Council summarising the findings of the Wake Study and community response to it. Recommendations will be provided to Council on the issue of wake impact on river banks and the approaches and or position that Council may take on the issue.

#### GB3. Tweed Endeavour Cruises Waterways Map

Scott distributed copies of the above pamphlet and advised that this is a first edition. Scott requested members email him if they have further information that could be included in future copies.

Robert offered an invitation to the Roads and Maritime Services' Regional Manager to attend a future meeting if Carl thought it helpful.

# GB4. Sponsors Lagoon

Rhonda provided the committee with a brief overview of the condition of Sponsors Lagoon and the success of the project undertaken in the area as a partnership between Council and the Tweed Byron Aboriginal Land Council. The outcomes have been very positive for both marine and terrestrial vegetation.

## GB5. Office of Environment and Heritage Funding Application for Acid Sulfate Soils

Ben advised that the application by Council for funding from the NSW Estuary Management Program for Acid Sulfate Soils remediation and research in the Coastal Creek catchments looks good. It was advised that researches from University of NSW would present the findings of the ARC research project to the Tweed River Committee and Tweed Coastal Committee in June.

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#### Next Meeting:

The next meeting of the Tweed River Committee will be held Wednesday 12 June 2013.

The meeting closed at 12.30pm.

EXECUTIVE MANAGEMENT TEAM'S COMMENTS: Nil.

EXECUTIVE MANAGEMENT TEAM'S RECOMMENDATIONS: Nil.

## COUNCIL IMPLICATIONS:

#### a. Policy:

Code of Meeting Practice.

Terms of Reference - 21 December 2012.

#### b. Budget/Long Term Financial Plan:

Not applicable.

#### c. Legal:

Not Applicable.

#### d. Communication/Engagement:

Inform - We will keep you informed.

#### LINKAGE TO INTEGRATED PLANNING AND REPORTING FRAMEWORK:

- 4 Caring for the Environment
- 4.1 Protect the environment and natural beauty of the Tweed
- 4.1.2 Protect, regulate and maintain natural assets (the coastline, coastal and inland waterways, biodiversity, bushland and scenic landscapes) for current and future generations

#### UNDER SEPARATE COVER/FURTHER INFORMATION:

Nil.

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# CONFIDENTIAL ITEMS FOR CONSIDERATION

# REPORTS THROUGH THE ACTING GENERAL MANAGER IN COMMITTEE

# **REPORTS FROM THE DIRECTOR ENGINEERING AND OPERATIONS IN COMMITTEE**

# CNL-C1 [EO-CM] Area E Terranora Altitude Aspire Voluntary Planning Agreement

# **REASON FOR CONFIDENTIALITY:**

This report deals with legal negotiations with the developer.

#### Local Government Act

This report is **CONFIDENTIAL** in accordance with Section 10A(2) of the Local Government Act 1993, which permits the meeting to be closed to the public for business relating to the following: -

(c) information that would, if disclosed, confer a commercial advantage on a person with whom the council is conducting (or proposes to conduct) business.



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