

Addendum Report

REPORTS THROUGH THE GENERAL MANAGER

REPORTS FROM THE DIRECTOR COMMUNITY AND NATURAL RESOURCES

a14 [CNR-CM] Memorandum of Understanding - Northern Community Support Alliance

SUBMITTED BY: Community and Cultural Services

Valid



Civic Leadership



Supporting Community Life

LINKAGE TO INTEGRATED PLANNING AND REPORTING FRAMEWORK:

- | | |
|-----|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1 | Civic Leadership |
| 1.2 | Improve decision making by engaging stakeholders and taking into account community input |
| 2 | Supporting Community Life |
| 2.1 | Foster strong, cohesive, cooperative, healthy and safe communities |
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SUMMARY OF REPORT:

Council resolved at its meeting on 20 November 2014 to support a further report being presented as soon as practicable on a Memorandum of Understanding to guide Council's ongoing discussions in regional level service provision.

A draft Memorandum of Understanding has been prepared between Tweed, Clarence Valley, Glen Innes Severn, Uralla and Great Lakes Shire Councils and Booroongen Djungun Ltd to formalise the statement of the mutual intentions to cooperate, collaborate and identify opportunities to work together including, but not limited to Aged Care Services and Disability Services and is presented for Council's consideration.

The purpose of this Memorandum of Understanding is to provide a common understanding among the parties as to their agreement to enter into planning, negotiations, proposals and funding applications as a partnership arrangement. This MOU specifically covers those areas under the Community Services portfolios of each of the parties including but not limited to:

- Aged Care Services;
- Disability Services;
- Other services as agreed;

This MOU is limited to the Community Services portfolios and clearly excludes other areas of business within each of the designated areas.

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RECOMMENDATION:

That the draft Northern Community Support Alliance Memorandum of Understanding be adopted, executed and forwarded to the Northern Community Support Alliance for implementation.

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REPORT:

Council's Community and Cultural Services staff have been anticipating changes to service delivery for the aged and disability services delivered by Council as Government reforms roll out significant changes to the current funding models across Australia. Initial discussions in terms of a possible Northern Community Support Alliance (NCSA) have commenced between Tweed, Clarence Valley, Glen Innes Severn, Uralla and Great Lakes Shire Councils and Booroongen Djungun Ltd. These discussions have reached the stage of presenting the attached Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) in order to facilitate cooperation, collaboration and opportunities for working together including, but not limited to Aged Care Services and Disability Services.

The purpose of this Memorandum of Understanding is to provide a common understanding among the parties as to their agreement to enter into planning, negotiations, proposals and funding applications as a partnership arrangement. This MOU specifically covers those areas under the Community Services portfolios of each of the parties including but not limited to:

- Aged Care Services;
- Disability Services;
- Other services as agreed;

This MOU is limited to the Community Services portfolios and clearly excludes other areas of business within each of the designated areas.

At its confidential meeting of 20 November 2014, Council considered and resolved to support:

- "1. *staff to continue discussions with the proposed Northern community Care/Support Alliance.*
2. *a proposed subcontractor arrangement for the Department of Social Services Regional Assessment Service tender through Community Options Australia and/or the proposed Northern Community Care Alliance subject to a risk assessment and a satisfactory mitigation of identified risks once the model of delivery and governance has been agreed.*
3. *a further report will be presented to Council as soon as practicable on the Memorandum of Understanding and the results of the risk assessment."*

The MOU is presented for Council's consideration. The risk assessment will be reported to Council separately, as soon as practicable. The purpose of the MOU is to provide a common understanding among parties as to their agreement to enter into planning, negotiations, proposals and potential funding applications as a partnership arrangement. It constitutes a statement of the mutual intentions of the parties and creates no rights in favour of any party, does not constitute an obligation binding on any party. The intention is to facilitate cooperation, collaboration and opportunities for working together including, but not limited to Aged Care Services and Disability Services.

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The rationale for Council to develop ongoing relationships and to explore the service models at a wider regional level. Reforms in funding and providing services at both State and Federal Government levels increasingly require that proponents deliver at regional levels. The regions are sometimes dictated by the funding agency, and sometimes open for local providers to consort to deliver across regions. The boundaries are rarely the same and do not have regard for Local Government regions. Funding rounds are often issued with limited time to prepare and structure consortia and the preparation of this MOU will enable a more considered, planned and effective platform for service provision in the Northern Region of NSW.

Appendix A - Schedules to MOU, Schedule A refers to the alliance tendering for Regional Assessment Service RFT 70004342. Since the drafting of the MOU the Lead Agency for this tender has been determined to be Booroongen Djugun Limited (BDL). BDL had accepted a quote from KPMG to write the tender in the order of \$5,688. The subcontractors and parties to the MOU have agreed to share the cost of the tender writing across the organisations that are included in the final tender. BDL has accepted the quote and carrying of the risk of the whole cost given that all organisations have not yet completed their agreed final unit costs. Tweed Council staff are working through the model of delivery for the RAS as well as a risk assessment and satisfactory mitigation of any identified risk, the results of which will be reported back to Council as soon as practicable.

OPTIONS:

1. That Council endorses the recommended Memorandum of Understanding with Clarence Valley, Glen Innes Severn, Uralla and Great Lakes Shire Councils and Booroongen Djungun Ltd.
2. That Council rejects the Memorandum of Understanding with Clarence Valley, Glen Innes Severn, Uralla and Great Lakes Shire Councils and Booroongen Djungun Ltd.

CONCLUSION:

The development of the MOU represents an opportunity for Council to formalise a statement of mutual intentions in order to facilitate cooperation, collaboration and opportunities for working together including, but not limited to Aged Care Services and Disability Services across the Far North Coast, Mid North Coast and New England areas.

COUNCIL IMPLICATIONS:

a. Policy:

Corporate Policy Not Applicable.

b. Budget/Long Term Financial Plan:

To be funded by Community Options budget.

c. Legal:

Not Applicable.

d. Communication/Engagement:

Not Applicable.

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UNDER SEPARATE COVER/FURTHER INFORMATION:

Attachment 1. Memorandum of Understanding (ECM 3534579)

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