

Ordinary Meeting

An ORDINARY MEETING of LISMORE CITY COUNCIL will be held at the COUNCIL CHAMBERS, Oliver Avenue, GOONELLABAH on **February 13, 2007** and members of Council are requested to attend.

Paul G. O'Sullivan
General Manager

February 13, 2007



Agenda

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Questions Without Notice

Confidential Matters – Committee of the Whole



Strategic Plan Summary

Lismore regional city

STRATEGIC PRIORITY	AIMS	INITIATIVES
Economic Development	Build Lismore's reputation as a regional city for residents, businesses, education providers, health services and government.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Champion education ▶ Promote health facilities ▶ Support regional agriculture ▶ Promote cultural life ▶ Promote Lismore as a legal centre ▶ Support for sport
	Increase regional economic development, tourism and job creating investments.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Promote regional development ▶ Develop tourism ▶ Support businesses ▶ Pursue CBD revitalisation ▶ Assist in job creation ▶ Assist in creating new income opportunities
Quality of Life	Make Lismore a safe, healthy and caring community in which to live.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Increase social cohesion ▶ Support villages ▶ Provide community services ▶ Encourage sustainable development ▶ Promote recreation and leisure
Leadership by Innovation	Lead the region by demonstrating innovative practices in governance, customer service, communication, consultation, virtual amalgamation and financial management.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Lead the region ▶ Increase revenue from grants ▶ Improve customer service ▶ Consult the community ▶ Update technology ▶ Provide user pays services ▶ Privatise selected services ▶ Share assets and resources
Natural Environment	Preserve and rehabilitate Lismore's natural environment.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Provide sustainable land use planning ▶ Improve catchment management ▶ Conserve and repair the environment
Infrastructure	Further enhance Lismore's transportation, parking and pedestrian networks.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Improve transport systems ▶ Improve roads, cycleways and footpaths ▶ Assist with public transport ▶ Assist airport operations ▶ Support fleet operations
Water and Waste Cycle	Educate our community and lead the state in water and waste-cycle management.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Manage stormwater drainage systems ▶ Manage water and sewage ▶ Manage the waste stream and reduce waste

Notice of Motion

I hereby give notice of my intention to move at the next meeting of Council the following motion:

That Council:

1. Review its Social Impact Assessment Policy (5.2.30) with a view to making it more specific in terms of what any assessment should cover.
2. That in order for the assessment to be seen as independent and unbiased, Council prepare the SIA or contract experts to undertake the SIA and to then recover the cost from the proponent of the development.

Councillor Tomlinson

Councillor Comment

Concern is being expressed by members of our community that the SIA does not cover all the concerns that residents have about a development.

In addition, as the developer usually employs someone to undertake the SIA, it is not seen as being independent. There is often a perceived conflict of interest for the person undertaking the SIA. Given that an SIA is an important document when determining amenity issues it should be seen as being unbiased and comprehensive. Council should undertake the assessment or employ someone to undertake it with the costs to be recovered from the developer. This way Council and the community can have confidence in its findings without additional cost to Council.

Staff Comment

1. Management supports the first part of this Notice of Motion as there is a recognition by staff that the Social Impact Assessments currently being received are limited in depth and frequently do not clearly articulate the social impacts that will be occasioned by the development proposal nor do some present adequate amelioratory measures.
2. A review of the Social Impact Assessment Policy is supported as it will allow the Policy to more clearly define Council's expectations in regard to these assessments and lead to a better outcome for the community. There is also a need to review the trigger which determines the types of development that require Social Impact Assessments.
3. Clarification of Council's expectations with respect to the methodology and outcomes for Social Impact Assessment should result in better quality reports being submitted by consultants.
4. The second part of this Notice of Motion is not supported as it would be inequitable to impose a Council overseer role in the preparation of Social Impact Assessments when Council accepts developer commissioned expert reports on flora and fauna, traffic, wastewater, stormwater and the like.

Report

Subject	Resource Sharing and Business Cluster Initiatives
File No	S908
Prepared by	Simon Adcock
Objective	To inform Councillors of resource sharing and business cluster initiatives to be discussed with other regional Councils as part of the Department of Local Government's "A New Direction in Local Government" initiative.
Strategic Plan Link	Leadership by Innovation

Overview of Report

The following report provides details of a number of resource sharing opportunities that warrant discussion with other local Councils. These opportunities are wide ranging and cover many areas of Council business. This initiative is in response to a request from the Minister for Local Government for proposals of Council business clusters. Business clusters are defined as "formal arrangements between Councils that aim to improve efficiency in service delivery"

Background

At the 2006 Local Government Association Annual Conference the Minister for Local Government outlined a new direction for Local Government. In his opening address the Minister outlined his vision for local government as "Local Government is one business with many providers. While communities are unique, councils administrations are not." This vision encapsulates the ethos of resource sharing networks and business clusters which the Minister defines as "formal arrangements between Councils that aim to improve efficiency in service delivery.

The Minister went on to say that "When Councils get serious about resource sharing, inefficiencies will diminish and community support should grow..." "To drive this vision, I am asking all Councils to form business clusters..." "The sector cannot afford 152 entities producing the same systems and process in each and every Council. This is not a very effective way to run a business."

As part of the subsequent report - "A New Direction for Local Government" the Minister outlines the need for improved business efficiency by creating a "high level of connectivity across communities and Councils." He asks for Councils to put forward proposals for Council business clusters and asks that all proposals are forwarded to the DLG by 28 February 2007.

In response to the request from the DLG to submit proposals for business clusters and resource sharing initiatives, the General Manager has sought feedback from other Councils in this region. It is the intention of this report to introduce for discussion, a number of options identified by Lismore City Council where closer working relationships, alliances and the sharing of resources could provide benefits to individual Councils and the regional community as a whole.

Introduction

To identify proposals for business clusters Council Management conducted an internal workshop where senior staff members were asked to use their knowledge of the region to make suggestions for resource sharing opportunities. These ideas have been collected and further developed to a point where they can be discussed in a forum with other regional Councils. The following report seeks to inform the

Council of the discussion paper that Lismore has put to other Councils. It is not intended that these options constitute a proposal to the DLG, they are intended merely as a basis for discussion.

The resource sharing options identified by Lismore City Council are:

- Rous Water and Lismore City Council Resource Sharing
- Resource Sharing – Advertising / Printing / Artwork
- Centralised HR
- Specialist Staff Pool
- Apprenticeship Scheme
- Waste and Recycling Resource Sharing
- Quarries
- Regional Record Archiving
- Bridge Crew
- Road Resurfacing
- SIMC Clusters

In order to present a final proposal to the DLG discussions on options for business clusters and resource sharing will be conducted at General Manager level with all the regional Councils. This discussion will bring together all the ideas from all the Councils including those raised by Lismore.

At the conclusion of these discussions Councils will be in a position to finalise their proposals to the DLG.

Rous Water and Lismore City Council Resource Sharing

In recognition of the potential benefits of resource sharing Rous Water and Lismore City Councils has begun discussions on the how the provision of water services can be rationalised in the Lismore Council area.

It has been identified that there is a possible duplication of both personnel and infrastructure within both Rous Water and Lismore City Council. Both organisations supply water services to two sets of customer in the same or similar geographical area. Discussions have centred around options to remove duplication by rationalising water infrastructure management as well as a number of back office and customer facing services.

Discussions are still in their early stages and no major consensus has been reached. Agreement reached so far is as follows:

1. Rous Water prepare a proposal to undertake LCC's capital works contract administration
2. That further discussions take place regarding resource sharing in the areas of workshop services and water testing
3. The working group support in principle sharing/strategic alliance in its various forms including water billing, GIS and Human Resource support services

Resource Sharing – Advertising / Printing / Artwork

Although Councils may have differences in administration, there are many similarities in the type of messages they are looking to communicate, and locally some are using the same communication mediums and often competing for the same space.

Councils on the North Coast including Tweed and Clarence Valley are placed in an excellent position in terms of media support. With news crews from two television stations, commercial, ABC and community radio stations, a regional daily newspaper and many community newspapers the area is well serviced with good communication streams.

When it comes to advertising there can be significant cost savings in the bulk purchase of space. By

joining forces the Councils of the Northern Rivers region can significantly increase their buying power and ensure the best possible deal from the various media organisations.

There has been a history of cooperation in this area with a number of successful joint advertising promotions centred on, road safety, waste and environment education, greenhouse gas reduction and water conservation.

Most of these promotions have emerged from regional meetings of peers from the different Councils who have met regularly, formed alliances and developed joint campaigns and messages which mutually benefit all Councils represented, and some non-participating Councils.

Although to date, the majority of joint advertising has supported education programs, there is potential to provide other information in a co-operative fashion. Some areas to be investigated include:-

- Rates Payments Due (already occurs for some Council areas)
- Roadworks advice
- Development Applications
- Local Government Week

All Councils are required by Law to advertise development and building applications. If Councils joined forces they could buy regular space in the print media under one contract or arrangement. The use of this bulk buy power may provide cost savings to all.

More general information which affects all local governments may also benefit from joint Council media releases, advertising or graphic design and printing. For example:- dog registrations, health standards and building regulations.

Example:

Lismore, Ballina and Tweed Councils have successfully conducted a number of comprehensive advertising campaigns which utilised radio, print and television mediums. One in particular was a road safety campaign – 100km is the Max, Not a Must!! Although Tweed needed to run a separate radio and print component, all three Councils were able to benefit from using one television station whose viewing window covered all three LGA's. This meant greater bargaining power, a more extensive schedule and a dollar saving as well. The evaluation report on this campaign demonstrated broad knowledge about the campaign and excellent recall and understanding of the message.

To date all alliances have been formed by officers working on particular projects. This proposal seeks to formalise these alliances in order to fully understand the requirements of the region as a whole and then investigate all possible cost and resource saving opportunities.

Centralised HR

Background

There is significant potential to further develop the area of Human Resource Management, and a centralised HR service for the regional councils is highlighted for consideration.

The Northern Rivers Human Resources Interest Group (NRHRIG) has as its function:

Providing professional assistance and support amongst its membership and the development of strategic initiatives which enhance the efficiency and effectiveness of local government in north-eastern NSW.

The HR Group has been actively working together for quite a number of years, primarily as an information sharing network with some shared training delivery for the Councils' staff and exchange of policy documents being the most tangible cost saving activities and the most beneficial aspect of the group members' networking.



In 2004 the group demonstrated its ability to embrace a resource-sharing project with the launch of the Human Resources Information System (HRIS) 'pilot project' involving eight local authorities. The attached letter was forwarded to the Minister at the time of the media launch, and the project was promoted with the following strategic aims:

- Enhanced service to ratepayers
- Pooling resources
- Change at the operational level

The benefits to be gained from this project were highlighted as:

- Cost Saving (**\$150,000** for the Council managing the project)
- Implementation of 'Best Practice' HRIS
- Enhanced HR service to staff

The cost saving was derived from a budget submission made by the HR Department at Lismore City Council, whereby a budget submission had been made with a request for funding allocation to cover the purchase and implementation cost of a stand-alone HRIS which would cost **\$200,000**.

The arrangement was formalised through a written agreement signed by the participating Councils and followed a project management methodology.

Full Shared Service Model using Centralised HR Service

This is a project that could lay the foundation for a model whereby Councils utilise shared services and/or systems via a centralised HR service or 'bureau'.

The overall benefit of such an approach is that it enables standardised service levels, with all Councils accessing the services being assured of a best practice approach. Economies of scale are able to be achieved by investing in a range of HR services eg training and business systems for a number of Council clients, thereby providing a more cost-effective service for all. Councils would have access to a pool of talented specialist staff who have the experience and expertise in their chosen fields that may surpass those available in individual Councils where it is often the case that due to financial constraints, HR staff need to undertake generalist roles and handle a broader range of areas/services.

It is envisaged that a Service Level Agreement would be developed with an appropriate fee for service structure and containing the following broad parameters:

- Organisational Context
- Period of the Arrangement
- Definition of Scope - Service Types & Service Categories
- Definition of how to achieve the Scope (Service Provider) – Methods & Resources
- Relationship/Contract Management – Reporting, Roles and Responsibilities
- Performance Measures

Specialist Staff Pool

All small and medium sized businesses have, from time to time, the need for specialist staff or a specialist skill set. However because of the size of the organisations there is not the critical mass required in these specialist areas to justify a full time position. This leaves the employment of staff on short term contracts or on a consultancy basis as the only option for such organisations. This option is not only expensive but it means that the skill and experience generated walks out the door at the end of the project or task.

This argument holds true with Councils within the Northern Rivers area. Individually the Councils do not all have the critical mass to generate enough work to justify full time Project Managers, Contract Managers or other specialist roles.

However, if the region acted as a group, a critical mass would be reached where these specialist roles would be justified. This arrangement would likely take the form of a pool of specialists which would be shared amongst the participating Councils. This situation would require a creative approach to resource management but would ensure that specialist skills are available to all at a reasonable cost, without the issue of the loss of valuable experience.

The following examples of Project Managers and Contract Managers suggest how this principle can be applied.

Project Managers

The Local Government industry is now at a key juncture in its development. As highlighted in the department's discussion paper, 'Councils operate in a context of increasingly demanding and complex community expectations where there are limited resources and skills shortages'.

The combination of increased community expectations and the national skills shortage means that a feature of the environment in which Councils operate is the demand for staff with skills that are outside the traditional skills set of Local Government. The one hundred and fifty-two Councils competing for funds and exploring other income sources, means that project management skills of a more commercial nature are highly sought after. A strong business acumen and related skills to seek out funding and establish commercial partnering arrangements would ensure that when funding is secured the project is managed and reported on effectively.

It is envisaged that to meet the above requirement, it would be highly desirable for a pool of staff to be available with the following skills set:

- Postgraduate qualifications and/or extensive experience in project management;
- Ability to develop, coordinate and manage projects and resources effectively to meet deadlines and project schedules;
- Ability to lead, inspire and develop productive working relationships with professional consultants, community group representatives and members of the public;
- Highly developed interpersonal and communication skills with particular emphasis on the areas of consultation, negotiation, influencing, conflict resolution and assertiveness in order to resolve project issues and ensure timely delivery of project outcomes; and
- Sound understanding of state and local government legislation, policies and procedures.

Contract Managers

Somewhat related to the above area of project management, is the increasing need for staff with knowledge of managing contracts arising from external partnerships.

Many Councils are entering into very significant and valuable contracts, and this adds another level of complexity to contract management as a discipline area.

The key issue for Councils is filling this need for specialist skills, where they do not have a 'critical mass' and cannot therefore justify a FTE (Full Time Equivalent) position within their budget and organisational structure.

Such a role would be concerned with ensuring good governance and risk management principles and have as its objectives to:

- Effectively coordinate the tender and contract process, including review and enhancement of organisational policies, procedures and practices in accordance with Council and legislative requirements;

- Develop and implement compliance and audit processes (other than financial audits) including risk management processes across the organisation; and
- Develop and maintain strong working relationships with internal clients.

Apprenticeship Scheme

A number of recent reports have concluded that the challenge of attracting and retaining skilled workers in rural and regional New South Wales is considerable. The Legislative Council Standing Committee on State Development delivered its final report in June 2006, and part of the findings support the formation of strategic alliances between councils that deliver benefits arising from traineeship programs and partnerships with educational institutions.

The apprenticeship and traineeship system in New South Wales is undergoing rapid change, and initiatives have been taken to promote a more flexible and responsive system. There has also been a reduction in traineeship and apprenticeship programs generally, and also within Local Government in New South Wales and in the Northern Rivers Region.

Group Training Organisations (GTOs) employ apprentices or trainees and place them with employers for periods of time. Whilst there are benefits in using GTOs to undertake administrative and other responsibilities like other commercial services this comes at a cost and there are some challenging issues that can arise with GTOs' mode of operation.

It is proposed to investigate the formation of a structure to undertake the role currently performed by GTOs. This would enable a number of the councils to make savings on the GTOs' current charge out rates to host employers, which comprise all on-costs that are associated with that particular learner or training arrangement (ie superannuation, sick leave, rec leave, workers compensation – approx. 40% of the award wage) and then the additional administration fee (approx 3%)

Waste and Recycling Resource Sharing

Lismore has identified three potential initiatives for the sharing of Waste and Recycling resources.

1) Creation of a regional MRF

At the current time a number of Councils within the Northern Rivers region pay a considerable premium to transport recyclable materials to MRFs in locations such as the Gold Coast, Brisbane and Ipswich. If regional Councils pooled resources to create a local MRF the cost of transport alone would be considerably reduced.

All interested Councils would contribute sufficient capital to build a suitably located MRF for use by all. This could be anywhere in the region, but preferably centrally located to further reduce transport costs. If any member Council is significantly disadvantaged by the location of the MRF then some subsidization of cartage could be factored in. The operation would run as a joint venture with an independent manager and Board representing member Councils. Excess funds would be returned in the form of dividends.

Currently Lismore and Ballina send material north to an MRF at Carrara. Existing price structure is \$25 per tonne Gate Fee (processing) and \$35 cartage. On top of this is about \$8 handling costs. Cartage to a centrally located site could be significantly reduced (to say \$10), as would handling fees, so potential savings of \$30 plus.

Current volumes are insufficient for any one Council to make a profitable business of sorted recyclable materials, due to the transport and handling costs. However, as the relationship between transport cost and weight of material is not linear (as the weight increases the cost of transport reduces), by increasing the volume of sorted material a profitable operation become viable. For example, initial studies have suggested that if each Council produces around 4,000 tonne each, the cost to take the material to market is higher than the value of the material. If two Councils join forces with a shared MRF then the venture will break even. If three or more Councils are involved then the venture will make a profit. As

already mentioned these profits will be returned to member Councils.

Benefits

- Reduction in recycling costs.
- Considerably increase the economic viability of recycling for the smaller regional Councils.
- Considerable reduction in transportation costs.

2) Sharing of LCC's Waste and Recycling Operations

There is currently additional capacity within the Lismore City Councils Waste and Recycling Operations. Lismore currently has advanced infrastructure, plant which is idle at times and considerable internal expertise. Using this potential Lismore City Council is well placed to provide a service to other regional Councils. These services would be provided on a fee for service basis much like any other commercial arrangement.

This concept involves the sharing of LCC operations on 2 fronts; collection and processing. These activities would reduce LCC unit costs through increased efficiencies and reduce capital and overhead costs for other Councils who avail themselves of the services. As Lismore would not have the overheads of a commercial organisation or the overheads of having a dedicated waste management business unit within each Council this proposal would benefit both Lismore and participating Councils. The factors which make this viable are listed below:

- Lismore currently has a significant fleet of well run and maintained vehicles. These could easily be double shifted to cover the collection needs of adjoining Councils.
- In conjunction with collection Lismore have well established customer service facilities and back office operations to support this function.
- LCC has a well developed education package that could be rolled out to adjoining Councils.
- Lismore has just purchased shredding machinery which will have sufficient capacity to cope with the waste from other Councils
- The quarry's mobile crushing plant may be able to be used to crush waste concrete and rubble piles for other waste operations. Trials will commence in a couple of months.

Benefits

- Reduced overall overhead cost for Lismore and participating Councils.
- Significant reduction in required plant and machinery
- Reduced idle time of remaining plant and machinery
- Competitive alternative with private sector involvement.
- Provision of an effective and efficient waste management operation.

3) Creation of a regional waste management organisation

This would see the creation of an organisation that would service the waste and recycling needs of the whole region. Through this organisation, Councils would effectively share staff, waste disposal sites, recycling infrastructure, and plant. Created from the merger of each Councils Waste and Recycling operations, the organisation would operate as a commercial entity, charging each customer for service and paying a dividend back to the Councils. The organisation would have all the benefits of a commercial operation without having to share profits with private investors.

Benefits

- The organisation would be able to leverage considerable economies of scale. It would reduce the overall management overhead, increase the utilisation of plant and machinery and increase the return on investment of high cost infrastructure, such as a regional recycling and sorting installations.

- Councils would be able to choose the most appropriate site for infrastructure from a much wider geographical area.
- A larger organisation would be well positioned to take advantage of commercial opportunities within and without the region. These commercial opportunities would represent a considerable revenue stream to member Councils.

This option has enhanced benefits to the preceding options. This option would see all the economies of scale listed in option two with the addition that these economies of scale would be extended across the whole waste management function. It would also have all the benefits of option one by having the critical mass needed to justify the establishment of a MRF and provide a full and cost effective recycling service to the whole of the region.

Quarries

Lismore has recently purchased a mobile crushing plant. The output of this plant is in excess of the requirements of LCC at this stage. Lismore is in the position to offer, on a fee-for-service basis, this machinery on-site at other Council quarries. This means that any quarry in the region can be utilised without the normal investment in expensive machinery therefore increasing the viability of local aggregate production and reducing the reliance on commercial suppliers.

Benefits

- Utilisation of local resources
- Cost reductions for road base and aggregate supplies
- Reduced road construction costs
- No capital outlay
- LCC operates high standard OH&S, environmental and other systems similar to other Councils, reducing the risk of compliance from using external contractors.

Regional Record Archiving

The concept of a regional record archiving facility has long been discussed within the Northern Rivers area. The concept calls for the creation of a centralised repository for physical archives which is used by all participating Councils to store records and materials that are not required by each business on a regular basis. This material is stored off-site, freeing up large amounts of space in each organisation's on-site storage facility.

The requirements of business and the extensive archiving standards stipulated by State Records mean that the creation and maintenance of an archiving facility is expensive and resource intensive. Not only does a facility require a large amount of space it also requires a considerable investment in the physical protection of the material. These factors conspire to provide most Councils with a considerable problem in resource allocation terms.

As is the case with most infrastructure one large record storage facility is far more cost effective than a number of smaller ones. It is currently the case that all the Councils in the Northern Rivers area have their own on-site record storage facility and that the standard of these independent facilities is not uniform. There is therefore considerable potential benefit from the creation of a centralised records repository.

It should be noted that off-site storage is only practical for material that is rarely accessed. Much of the material held in on-site storage is required on a regular basis by the business of each Council. This regularly accessed material would need to remain on-site. This means that this proposal would only remove a proportion of the material held by each Council. The exact proportion of this material will be dictated by each Council's individual requirements but is likely to be a function of the speed of retrieval from any off-site store.

Discussion between a number of regional Councils and Southern Cross University has occurred over the last few months. SCU currently have a site which they propose to convert into a commercially viable, climate controlled, record storage facility, which complies with all the relevant record keeping requirements and legislation, suited to housing, along with records, valuable historical items and art work.

The outcome of the discussions so far are that SCU will prepare a business plan and canvass interest from all regional Councils, health professionals, legal practitioners, schools and other obvious potential users. SCU has suggested a two step approach which requires the building of an archive standard environment with the initial offering limited to storage only, rather than a fully managed archive service. Discussions have included the concept of a strata style development as this may facilitate the capital funding being more achievable.

Bridge Crew

The deterioration of Councils' assets and aging infrastructure has been highlighted most recently in the Allan inquiry, which is also referred to in the Department's position paper.

A specific need in the Northern Rivers as well as in the broader regional areas is for staff with specialist skills in bridge maintenance who can travel between Councils to ensure that the condition of bridges is maintained to a high enough level to meet risk management guidelines.

Each of the Northern Rivers Councils has responsibility for the maintenance of bridges within their area. Building and maintaining bridges requires a specialised skills set and expertise. It is possible that there are varying degrees of these skills and expertise within the region and that the region as a whole would benefit from the sharing of people and resources in a region wide, dedicated bridge crew.

Lismore City Council maintains a strong and dedicated Bridge Crew, experienced in both construction and maintenance of bridges and other waterway structures.

While the Bridge Crew is fully committed to on-going projects within Lismore City Council, the Council can still offer the following services to surrounding Councils:

- Asset Inspections and Reporting
- Bridge Condition Rating

Lismore currently already carry out bridge inspections for Ballina Shire Council for the Pearces Creek Bridge and have provided a quotation for the replacement of the timber bridge.

Lismore would be interested in entering into an arrangement with other regional Councils where Lismore could benefit from the experience and skill of other Councils or where other Councils could benefit from the skills and experience that Lismore currently has.

Road Resurfacing

Lismore City Council proposes that Councils in the region should merge their road resurfacing tenders into one tender for savings from larger economies of scale. This shared tendering process will have the following benefits:

- One tender/contract using the same tender shell documents providing for lower tendering costs from tenderers
- Use of same or similar OH&S and Quality Assurance specifications to lower Contractor's compliance costs
- Providing a larger scope of works for tenderers to allow for lesser establishment and de-establishment costs
- A larger scope of works will also attract keener tender prices, and better response time in terms of customer service.

- A successful Contractor would be able to base themselves in a central area within the region. From this base, they would be able to quickly respond to individual Councils requirements and better adjust their program should individual Councils require changes to work schedules. This provides considerable flexibility for both the participating Councils and the Contractor.
- The region as a whole would only need to maintain one contract for road resurfacing. Currently each conducts its own tendering process and manages its own contract. This proposal would make considerable savings in tender and contract management.

It is proposed that regional Councils use either AS2124 or AS4300 in order use “separable portions” under the Contract to allow for any specific requirements of individual Councils, e.g. one Council may require use of aggregate from its own quarries, while another may require use of its trucks and sealing equipment.

SIMC Clusters

The Single Invitation Maintenance Contract (SIMC) clustering proposal is an initiative first raised by the Roads and Traffic Authority (RTA) NSW. Currently the RTA have individual contracts with Councils. They are encouraging Councils to form a group of Councils or cluster so it is easier for the RTA to administer the contract and they are hoping for savings due to increased scale of works.

Lismore is participating through the Regional Engineering Director’s meetings in the development of a Cluster Proposal – SIMC. The current situation is detailed in the following extract from a letter forwarded to the RTA;

“*The Council’s*, as responsible public road managers, were of course willing to invest time in considering the proposal, to seek any opportunity to see public funds better utilised and road services improved. To this end *the Councils* suggested a model including the formation of a cluster (with extent and structure of formation not defined at that stage) whereby any administration or other cost savings gained by the RTA would be to the RTA’s sole benefit, and any funds generated from the operational role of the cluster would be pooled and distributed to the Councils for expenditure on Regional Road projects.” I understand such a proposition was not acceptable to the RTA.

Therefore it was determined that it would be advantageous to await the RTA response to the request of the LGSA for the publication of a discussion paper that would assist in establishing a consistent, Statewide framework or boundary for the respective expectations of RTA and local government in regard to the cluster proposal.”

That discussion paper has now been prepared and unfortunately, it is the view of *the Councils* that the discussion paper adds very little information to assist us in exploring the way forward. Consultation between the RTA and the Councils continues.

Grant Applications

There is currently considerable cross Council activity in the area. As part of the regional Economic Development focus group (CED) Councils have assisted each other in applying for grants. An example of this was the Richmond Rivers Opportunities grant application.

Many Councils rely on grants as funding for activities and project. Applying for grants is not easy; firstly, there needs to be a broad knowledge of the grants that are available and for what they are available for. Secondly grant applications require considerable research which is often difficult and time consuming requiring the researcher to obtain, read, understand and summarise a large amount of unfamiliar information. Thirdly, actually writing a grant application requires considerable knowledge of the grant assessment process and a high degree of experience in writing a strong case that answers a selection criteria. Grants which tend to be successful also require a degree of originality or a particular focus which sets them apart from other applications. All these factors together make the grant application process a daunting prospect.

Such is the difficulty of the grant application process that many Councils lack an adequate skill set required to make successful applications. Some organisations find the task so daunting that they avoid the process all together. This prevents some Councils from obtaining revenue to which they would otherwise be entitled. This in turn prevents the community from gaining valuable facilities and resources.

Considering the difficulty of the grant application process, there is considerable potential benefit from sharing the available skill and knowledge within the region. This proposal seeks to formalise the existing arrangements of the CED focus group in order to provide permanent expertise in this area to all Councils within the region.

Over time Lismore has developed extensive skill and experience in the area and as a resource sharing initiative will explore sharing this skill and experience with other Councils.

Recommendation

1. That Council endorse the management initiatives which require continuing discussion with other regional Councils on the following options for resource sharing:
 - Rous Water and Lismore City Council Resource Sharing
 - Resource Sharing – Advertising / Printing / Artwork
 - Centralised HR
 - Specialist Staff
 - Apprenticeship Scheme
 - Waste and Recycling Resource Sharing
 - Quarries
 - Regional Record Archiving
 - Bridge Crew
 - Road Resurfacing
 - SIMC Clusters
2. That Council inform the Minister of Local Government of the opportunities for business clusters identified by Lismore City Council and confirm that further negotiations will be required with other Councils of this region before any formal agreement can be concluded.
3. That this Council's proposals be advised to NOROC as a means of formally placing resource sharing, strategic alliances and business clusters on the local government agenda, at a regional level.

Report

Subject	Banking Services-Expression of Interest
File No	S373
Prepared by	Financial Information Officer
Reason	Banking Contract expired August 31, 2006
Objective	To select successful applicant to provide transactional banking services for a fixed contract period of five years
Strategic Plan Link	Leadership by Innovation
Management Plan Activity	Various

Overview of Report

In accordance with Section 55(1)(f) of the Local Government Act 1993 which specifically provides Councils with an exemption from tendering in respect of banking services, The Northern Rivers Regional Group of Councils (NRRGC) invited the Commonwealth Bank, Westpac Bank, National Australia Bank and the ANZ Bank to provide Expressions of Interest (EOI) for the provision of banking services.

The NRRGC collectively currently have their banking services provided by the Commonwealth Bank

Expression of interests were received from three of the four banks, Commonwealth Bank, Westpac Bank and the ANZ Bank with fees structures provided based on each individual Councils level of transactions, and as a Group (the Group pricing being contingent that all Councils accepting).

The NRRGC has estimated that based on a minimum of 100,000 transactions (this is a conservative estimate) savings will be realised if an agreement is made by the Group with one banking provider - \$23,000.

Cost of services provided by all banks in the EOI to the Group were comparable, the major cost to the Group was determined to be the cost of conversion from the current provider (Commonwealth Bank), estimated to be \$14,000 - \$20,000

It is recommended that based on timeline constraints and the cost of conversion being \$14,000 to \$20,000, Lismore City Council accept the Commonwealth Bank as bank service provider. It also recommended that the agreement be entered into as part of the NRRGC, with the intention to provide banking services to the NRRGC as a group for a fixed period of five years to reduce the cost of daily transactional fees (\$23,000 savings).

Background

Section 55 of the Local Government Act 1993 provides that Councils generally must tender for contracts unless otherwise exempted and if below \$50,000. However, Section 55(1)(f) of the Local Government Act 1993 specifically provides Councils with an exemption from tendering for services in respect of banking services. Based on this exemption, it had been decided by the NRRGC to not tender for the provision of transactional banking services but to seek Expressions of Interest as a group which

included:

Lismore City Council
 Tweed Shire Council
 Byron Shire Council
 Ballina Shire Council
 Kyogle Council
 Clarence Valley Council
 Rous Water
 Richmond Valley Council

In addition, two regional libraries servicing Councils within the NRRGC also participated, being: Richmond-Tweed Regional Library and Richmond-Upper Clarence Regional Library.

The Expressions of Interest were sent to four banking institutions with three submissions received from:

1. Commonwealth Bank
2. Westpac Bank
3. ANZ Bank

On December 11, 2006, the NRRGC met to discuss and decide on the preferred banking provider.

The criteria used to evaluate the Expressions of Interest received were based on the following (not indicative of importance or weight):

1. Whether requirements of the Councils are met as set out in the specification contained in the Expression of Interest document.
2. Competitiveness of pricing offered, transparency of pricing structure including mechanism for price adjustment.
3. Whether the respondent has the capacity to perform the contract with emphasis on experience in performing similar work and the capability to perform the service as required in this Expression of Interest document.
4. Quality of references in the same or similar service sector of Council.
5. Quality/availability of backup and support services.
6. Customer service network offered to Councils and a commitment to maintain or enhance existing branches throughout the geographic areas of the Councils participating in this Expression of Interest.
7. The potential transition costs from existing bank to a new bank.

Only two banking institutions met these criteria with the ANZ bank not fully complying with all the criteria. As a comparison, the following shows the fees schedule by the Commonwealth and Westpac banks for Group and Individual Councils for particular fees based on 100,000 transactions.

	BPay facilities		EFT Credits (Payroll & Creditors)		Electronic Debits & Credits	
	<u>Group</u>	<u>Individual</u>	<u>Group</u>	<u>Individual</u>	<u>Group</u>	<u>Individual</u>
Commonwealth Bank	\$67,100	\$77,000	\$8,800	\$22,000	\$9,900	\$11,000
Westpac Bank	\$70,400	\$74,800	\$7,700	\$ 9,900	\$9,900	\$11,000

As shown above, the fees are competitive and if Management approve the Commonwealth Bank as the successful banking provider, the fees are considerably reduced based on the group fees. Also, as a comparison, the Commonwealth Bank is currently charging the following fees based on 100,000 transactions.

BPay facilities	EFT Credits (Payroll & Creditors)	Electronic Debits & Credits
------------------------	--	--

Commonwealth Bank	\$88,000	\$11,000	\$10,000
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Therefore, based on the group fees offered by the Commonwealth Bank and what they are currently charging, there would be a savings of \$23,200 based on 100,000 transactions. In addition the cost of conversion to another bank is estimated to be \$14,000 to \$20,000.

Comments

Financial Services

n/a

Other staff comments

n/a

Public consultation

n/a

Conclusion

Taking into consideration the

1. cost of conversion of banking services to another bank,
2. the volume of transactions of the group and savings on such volumes,
3. the timeline restraints
4. that all the members of the NRRGC currently have their banking services provided by the Commonwealth Bank,

the most cost effective and beneficial outcome to all Councils would be to remain with the Commonwealth Bank as the preferred provider of banking services. It will be up to the individual Council to contact the Commonwealth Bank, once approval has been made by Management in order to have their own contracts drawn up and signed for a fixed period of five years.

Recommendation

1. That the Commonwealth Bank be adopted as the preferred provider of transactional banking services to Lismore City Council under the group contract initiated by the Northern Rivers Regional Group of Councils for a fixed period of five years.

Report

Subject	Proposal for Council to become a Local Government friend of Australian Red Cross
File No	
Prepared by	Community Development Officer
Reason	Australian Red Cross is inviting Council to become a Local Government friend of Red Cross.
Objective	To obtain Council's endorsement for, and to formalise, an existing strong relationship at the local level between Council and Australian Red Cross Northern Region
Strategic Plan Link	Quality of Life
Management Plan Activity	Social Plan implementation

Overview of Report

To outline the proposal for Council to become a Local Government friend of Australian Red Cross

Background

At the 2006 NSW Local Government Association Conference, a resolution was passed that *'the Local Government Association become 'Local Government Friends of Red Cross' and ipso facto all NSW Local Governments if they choose to be, and thus engage in shaping the future of our organisations in the context of community building and governance.'* Australian Red Cross has made a formal approach to Council to seek support for this initiative. (see attached)

Council support of the proposal would formalise an existing strong relationship between Council and Australian Red Cross' Northern Region office. Council and Australian Red Cross currently partner across a range of activities including the annual Australian Red Cross Calling appeal, Harmony Day, fund raising activities, and response to emergencies. Council provide representatives at Australian Red Cross meetings, have provided funding for small projects and work jointly to promote quality of life at the local level.

The benefits for both organisations in a formal 'Local Government friend' agreement are that local residents see a strong partnership between our two agencies, community development initiatives are enhanced and staff have opportunities for learning from each other. Other opportunities for mutual benefits include:

- Demonstration to local residents that Council formally recognises the important work of Red Cross in the community
- Australian Red Cross will forward copies of Humanitarian magazine to Council to keep representatives up to date with important areas of work in Australia and overseas
- Pathways to volunteering will be opened up for Council staff, offering opportunities for participation in Australian Red Cross community programs.

Formalisation of the partnership will not require additional Council resources and the formal relationship will be managed by Council's Community Development Officer who currently liaises with Australian Red Cross Regional Office.

Comments

Financial Services

Not required

Other staff comments

Not required

Public consultation

Not required.

Conclusion

Council already has a strong and active relationship with Australian Red Cross at the local level, which benefits the quality of life for Lismore community. Formalising this relationship through becoming a Local Government friend of Australian Red Cross will continue and enhance the positive initiatives which currently exist and will facilitate further development of the partnership.

Recommendation

That Council support Australian Red Cross' proposal for Lismore City Council to become a Local Government friend to Red Cross.

Marie Everingham

From: McKay, Kerry [kmckay@redcross.org.au]
Sent: Monday, 8 January 2007 3:45 PM
To: Records
Subject: Australian Red Cross
Attachments: image001.jpg

LISMORE CITY COUNCIL	
- 9 JAN 2007	
File No:	5389
Letter No:	07-213
Ac. Off:	W Johnson
Complete:	10/1/07
File out with:	
Complete:	Resub:

Mr Paul O'Sullivan
 General Manager
 Lismore City Council
 council@lismore.nsw.gov.au

8/01/2007

copy GM

Dear Mr O'Sullivan

I would be grateful if you would arrange for this letter to be brought before the elected members of council for their consideration.

The purpose of this letter is to invite Lismore City Council to become a Local Government Friend of Australian Red Cross. This follows the resolution at last year's Local Government Conference in NSW where this resolution was passed: 'That the Local Government Association become 'Local Government Friends of Red Cross' and ipso facto all NSW Local Governments if they choose to be, and thus engage in shaping the future of our organisations in the context of community building and governance.'

For over 92 years Red Cross has enjoyed a close working relationship with Local Government in NSW and we would now like to formalise a relationship with Lismore City Council.

Recently we established Parliamentary Friends of Red Cross groups in the national Parliament and in a number of State Parliaments around Australia including NSW.

We believe that the need to build formal links at the local government level is perhaps even more important, because whilst Red Cross is known for our international emergency and development work, we are equally recognised for the work of our branches and our community services programs at the local level. Australian Red Cross has always seen our work in the local community as one of our highest priorities.

Should Lismore City Council become a Local Government Friend of Red Cross, we would be particularly interested in pursuing practical initiatives that would see tangible benefits for your staff and/or your local community. Some options you may be interested in include:

- Partnering with Australian Red Cross to undertake local community programs in common areas of interest for example in youth programs; aged care programs or disaster management programs; thereby potentially increasing the number or quality

9/01/2007

Meeting held February 13, 2007

of programs available in your local community.

- Taking up opportunities for local council staff to be seconded to Red Cross for short term placements in International or Domestic Disaster Response or
- Disaster Preparedness programs. Australian Red Cross is specifically interested to utilise Environmental Health Engineers and Public Health professionals in its international emergencies work. Council staff would receive training and international experience that may increase their ability to contribute locally.
- Developing closer links to communities in our region. Australian Red Cross currently has programs in humanitarian relief or community development in our immediate region including with East Timor, Papua New Guinea; Solomon Islands; Fiji and Indonesia. Should council decide to participate with Red Cross to assist the most vulnerable communities in our region, opportunities for broader relationship building through knowledge sharing and/or visits may evolve.

Other opportunities for mutual benefits arising from Lismore City Council becoming a Local Government Friend of Australian Red Cross may include:

- Demonstration to local residents that council formally recognises the important work of Red Cross in the community.
- Australian Red Cross will forward a copy of our Humanitarian magazine to elected members and senior staff, three times a year. This publication will keep council representatives up to date with important areas of our work in Australia and overseas.
- Opportunities for council to participate in and support the Australian Red Cross Calling annual appeal.
- Pathways to volunteering will be opened up for council staff, offering opportunities for participation in Australian Red Cross community programs.

On behalf of Australian Red Cross we are pleased to invite Lismore City Council to become a Local Government Friend of Australian Red Cross by completing the membership form below.

Should you wish to find out further information, please do not hesitate to contact Kerry McKay, Community Relations on kmckay@redcross.org.au or 02. 9229 4119.

Kind regards


Lewis Kaplan
Executive Director
Australian Red Cross NSW

Report

Subject	Nimbin Skate Park
File No	P20198
Prepared by	Manager Community Services
Reason	To obtain a Council resolution
Objective	For Council to determine whether it will financially contribute to an acoustic assessment of the facility
Strategic Plan Link	Quality of Life
Management Plan Activity	Community Services

Overview of Report

The Nimbin Community Development Association (NCDA) has approached Council to assist with the costs associated in conducting a noise assessment, noise modelling to consider treatment options, and the preparation of a report with recommendations for future construction work at the skate park. The report summarises the history of the skate park.

Background

The development and construction of this project has been in progress since December 2001 when the initial development application (DA) was lodged by the Nimbin Community Development Association. The following provides a chronological listing of further applications and consent approvals:

- Initial DA was approved in February 2002 and indicated a steel formed skate ramp as part of Stage 1 with Stage 2 comprising a concrete extension.
- Development consent modification was lodged in June 2002, and an amended construction certificate issued in August 2002. Included in the amendment was consent for Stage 2 to be of steel construction.
- Development consent modification was lodged in November 2003 and approved in December 2003.

The November 2003 Development Application determination included the following conditions of consent:

20. *The land use shall not interfere with the amenity of the locality by reason of the emission of noise, vibration, smell, fumes, smoke, vapour, steam, soot, ash, dust, waste water, waste products or grit, oil or otherwise.*
23. *Any noise generated during the construction of the development shall not exceed the limits specified in the Noise Control Manual.*

The proposed landuse shall not result in the emission of offensive noise.

Offensive noise means:

- (a) *that by reason of its level, nature, character or quality, or the time at which it is made, or any other circumstances*
- (i) *is harmful to (or is likely to be harmful to) a person who is outside the premises from which it is emitted, or*

- (ii) *interferes unreasonably with (or is likely to interfere unreasonably with) the comfort or repose of a person who is outside the premises from which it is emitted, or*
- (b) *that is of a level, nature, character or quality prescribed by the regulations or that is made at a time, or in other circumstances, prescribed by the regulations.*

Note 1: It may be necessary to engage an acoustical consultant to provide advice as to means or modifications to comply with noise conditions associated with this development or a restriction of hours should be considered.

The NCDA engaged TURSA Work for the Dole crews to undertake the majority of construction works. During the construction phase in 2005 Council received several complaints from nearby residents, objecting to the level of noise generated by the metal skate ramps. A preliminary acoustic report was prepared by Ambience in March 2005 which identified the use as creating offensive noise and the nomination of potential attenuation measures.

Following discussions between Council and NCDA another Noise Impact Assessment was prepared by Greg Alderson for the NCDA in June 2005 to further advance consideration of attenuation works that would enable the facility's compliance with the noise performance standard nominated by conditions of development consent. Council contributed 50% of the reporting costs (approximately \$1500). The noise assessment confirmed that noise emissions from the skate facility exceeded acceptable levels and amelioration measures would be required to achieve a noise reduction of at least 25dB(A). The assessment provided four options to achieve the required outcome:

- Option 1 – enclosure of the facility within a building
- Option 2 – erection of a five metre barrier around the facility
- Option 3 – enclosure of ramp sides (this option alone will not reduce noise levels sufficiently)
- Option 4 - relocation.

The key component of on-site attenuation works was an enclosure, whether through the use of a building or barrier structure. The construction of attenuation works of this scale would require further development consent. Council identified that barriers raised significant issues of concern relating to crime prevention, asset management and aesthetics. Council at this time recommended that work on the skate facility pause while options and alternatives were considered.

To facilitate a way forward that met Council's regulatory requirements and Nimbin community expectations Council established a working group in September 2005. The working group comprised stakeholders from the following interest groups: skaters, residents, TURSA, Peace Park Management Committee, NCDA, and Council staff. The working group recommended the following points:

1. NCDA complete, as much as practicable, the project in accordance with current conditions of development consent until the end of the current TURSA commitment. It was noted that the building materials had already been purchased and any works undertaken would be at no additional cost to the project.
2. Compliance test on noise levels to be undertaken at the conclusion of the TURSA commitment to assess impact on adjoining residences and other relevant locations.
3. The skate facility to remain closed to the public until such time that Council issues an Occupation Certificate.
4. The NCDA, with the assistance of Council when required, will investigate alternative options to the current facility. These should include, but are not limited to:
 - Relocation of the existing structure
 - New structure / concrete facility on new site
 - Concrete facility on existing site
 - Enclosure of existing facility
 - Implementation of sound mitigation measures to existing facility.
5. Working Group to re-convene after compliance test has been completed.

NCDA and TURSA have continued to work towards the completion of the skate ramp. Works have included secure welding of metal sheets, construction of awning sound barriers and packing tyres underneath the ramp. However, there is a clear need to determine the scale of works necessary to attenuate the noise to an acceptable level. At a meeting between Council staff and NCDA representatives in September 2006, it was agreed that the NCDA would seek further professional advice regarding the scale of possible noise treatment requirements and that a specific design would be provided.

Accordingly the NCDA has sought quotes from several acoustic engineering organisations, and has requested Council to financially assist with the cost of the acoustic report from their preferred consultants, Air Noise Environment Pty Ltd. The fee proposal from Air Noise Environment Pty Ltd includes a noise assessment of separate background and skate activity levels; 3-dimensional computational noise modelling for the proposed design including consideration of the proposed acoustic barriers and screens; and a report of the noise modelling and assessment together with recommendations about any acoustic mitigation and management measures that may be required.

Comments

Financial Services

Funding is available within the Community Services program to meet the \$2,500.00 recommended.

Other staff comments

Environmental Health Officer

Council's Environmental Health unit has consistently encouraged the developer (NCDA) to undertake noise assessment activities to facilitate the preparation of an overall design of noise attenuation works considered necessary to ensure compliance with conditions of development consent.

The design detail would highlight the scale of works required and be a necessary component for any subsequent application seeking approval to undertaken such works.

The proposed assessment process is a positive step toward this outcome.

Public consultation

Not required.

Conclusion

The Nimbin community has invested considerable energy and commitment toward this project and there is a great desire to see the skate park fully completed and operational. However, all noise testing to date has been directed towards a compliance assessment and the required noise attenuation has not been achieved. A specialist acoustic report would provide an in principle design and scope of works necessary to achieve adequate sound attenuation of the existing facility.

Recommendation

That Council:

1. Contribute up to \$2,500.00, being 50% of the Air Noise Environment Pty Ltd fee proposal, provided the finished report includes an in principle design and scope of works for noise mitigation measures required to achieve compliance with the current development consent.

Report

Subject	2005/06 Special business rate variation levy: Evaluation and audit
File No	S740 (07-770)
Prepared by	Manager – Finance and Manager – Economic Development
Reason	In accordance with Council resolution
Objective	To inform Council about the evaluation and audit reports received for the expenditure of the promotion fund component of the special business rate variation levy
Strategic Plan Link	Economic Development
Management Plan Activity	Economic Development, Tourism & Events

Overview of Report

The evaluation and audit reports for the promotion fund component of the 2005/06 Special Business Rate Variation Levy (SBRVL) have been received from Lismore Unlimited Opportunities (LUO) in accordance with Council's requirements.

The evaluation looked at SBRVL funded events and also canvassed views on a signature event for Lismore. The audit was for all LUO's financial dealings during 2005/06 including SBRVL funds.

Background

Council rates all urban business (commercial, retail and industrial) properties at a slightly higher level to generate a promotion fund and LUO, in accordance with the '2005-2008 Three Year Strategic Plan' adopted by Council in September 2005, expends these funds. Business properties bound by Molesworth, Woodlark, Keen and Magellan streets are rated slightly higher again and these funds are used for the *CitySafe* program.

In 2005/06, \$194,200 was available for the promotion fund with \$177,200 collected from current rates and \$17,000 unexpended from previous years and interest revenues. A total of \$157,800 was expended in 2005/06 and the unexpended balance of \$36,200 carried forward to 2006/07.

For the *CitySafe* program, including Council's contribution of \$83,500, \$272,000 was available in 2005/06. A total of \$194,300 was expended in 2005/06 and the unexpended balance carried forward to 2006/07. These funds are administered internally by Council and are expended in accordance with the Strategic Plan and Memorandum of Understanding.

When considering the Strategic Plan, Council resolved to require LUO to provide both an independent evaluation and audit reports on the expenditure of the promotion funds. These reports relating to the 2005/06 SBRVL have now been received with the Australian Regional Tourism Research Centre producing the evaluation report and WHK Rutherfords the audit report.

These reports are included in LUO's Annual Report 2005/6 and a copy is available in the Councillors Room or can be viewed at <http://www.luo.com.au/index.php?page=ChamberEvents>

Overview of reports

Evaluation

By way of disclosure, from February to December 2006 the Manager – Economic Development held the Ex-Officio position on the LUO Board, as the Lismore City Council representative. At the time of writing this report, the Manager – Economic Development does not hold a LUO Board position whilst the process of renewing this role takes place.

Evaluation of SBRVL funded events for 2005/06 was undertaken as one single study conducted between October & December 2006 by an independent body, Southern Cross University's CRC for Tourism. It should be noted that the SBRVL events & festivals studied were not phased exactly with the 05/06 financial year. The report, entitled *Evaluation of the Impact of SBRVL Funded Major Events on the Lismore Business Community*, also canvassed views on a signature event for Lismore. Unlike previous years, the evaluation was conducted from the point of view of the contributors to the SBRVL fund (property / business owners & business tenants), as opposed to the participants in the events & festivals themselves.

It is also important to note that the abovementioned SCU Report addressed the "Events & Festivals" element of the SBRVL Promotion Fund, but was silent on other elements of the promotion fund referred to in the LUO – SBRVL Strategic Plan & budget for 2005-06 (attached).

The SCU Study explored the following issues:

- the extent to which these property & business stakeholders engaged in activities designed to capitalise on visitors drawn to Lismore by SBRVL funded major events
- spin-off employment generated by SBRVL funded events
- Lismore business perceptions as to the impact of such events on their business outputs and intentions to expand in the short-term future, and
- overall attitudes regarding the need for Lismore to feature a signature event

The SCU Report's Executive Summary (attached) indicates that whilst 88.7% of respondents supported the notion of a signature event for the Lismore region, a low percentage (only 20%) actually engaged in any promotional/leveraging efforts in 2005/06 across the five SBRVL funded major events, with the exception of the Lismore Stocktake Sale, where 38.8% of businesses engaged. Lismore businesses generally felt that SBRVL major events did not impact greatly on their business outputs, with 71.5% of businesses indicating that these major events had little or no impact on their business outputs. Further, 73.6% of businesses surveyed envisaged expanding over the coming 18 months, but the data suggests this is for reasons other than spin-off effects of SBRVL funded major events.

When asked to rate the appropriateness of three current SBRVL funded major events, i.e. the Northern Rivers Health and Herb Festival, the Lismore Lantern Parade, and the Lismore Show as Lismore's "signature event", it was the Lismore Lantern Parade which generated the greatest overall percentage of positive support. However, inconsistency in the views of the property holder and business sub-groups was evident, with property holders showing strong support in favour of the Lismore Show.

Finally, when suggestions were called for an alternative signature event for Lismore, the most prevalent proposition was an event which showcases the local produce and heritage of the Lismore region. Themes such as macadamia nuts, coffee, fruit, and dairy products were most frequently cited. Other commonly suggested events were sporting, music, and floral themed affairs.

The SCU Evaluation Report does not make any specific recommendations, nor have any been tabled by LUO. The findings of the SCU Study are somewhat contradictory in that a large percentage of businesses indicated they were strongly in favour of a signature event, but an equally large percentage did not capitalise nor engage in any promotional/leveraging efforts whilst the event was on, nor did they believe that their business outputs were affected by such events.

The strong support exhibited for the notion of a signature event for the Lismore region has resulted in LUO formulating a Signature Event Working Party, with invited representation from businesses, SBRVL and property owners. Council will be represented by staff from the Economic Development Unit. The first meeting will be held on 6 February 2007.

The Study highlights a range of issues. Due to the strong support exhibited by respondents to the survey, attention should definitely be given to the development of a signature event for the Lismore region. However, consideration should also be given to the rationale behind all the expenditure in the promotion fund with LUO being in the best position to drive that process.

The apparent contradiction in the evaluation results and no specific recommendations from LUO makes it impossible to assess exactly what this means and the way forward from here. All that we do know, with any certainty, is that it does indicate that the results are inconclusive; therefore a review of the overall planned expenditure of the promotion fund by LUO is recommended.

Audit

LUO's financial reports for the year ended 30 June 2006 have been audited and the auditor has issued an unqualified audit report with an opinion in part which states that they "...presents a true and fair view...".

In summary, LUO's financial performance for 2005/06 was a deficit of \$5,816 with equity reduced to \$62,353 as at June 30, 2006.

As to the SBRVL promotion funds, the reported financial details (revenues, expenses and current liabilities) reconcile in total to Council's information. The \$5,138 held as unexpended at June 30, 2006 relates to the Lismore Stocktake Sale and payments to suppliers with these funds were made in the 2006/07 financial year.

A summary of all payments relating to the SBRVL is attached which includes both the promotion and *CitySafe* funds.

Other staff comments

Not required

Public consultation

Not required

Conclusion

The evaluation and audit reports for the promotion component of the 2005/06 Special Business Rate Variation Levy have been received from Lismore Unlimited Opportunities in accordance with Council's requirements.

The evaluation report does not make any specific recommendations, nor have any been tabled by LUO. The apparent contradiction in the evaluation results and no specific recommendations from LUO makes it impossible to assess exactly what this means and the way forward from here. All that we do know, with any certainty, is that it does indicate that the results are inconclusive; therefore a review of the overall planned expenditure of the promotion funds by LUO is recommended.

The audit opinion in part concludes that the financial reports "...presents a true and fair view..." and the financial details in total agree to Council's records.

Recommendation

That Council;

1. Receive and note the evaluation report on the expenditure of the promotion fund component of the 2005/06 Special Business Rate Variation Levy.
2. Request Lismore Unlimited Opportunities to review the planned expenditure of the promotion fund for 2007/08 in light of the inconclusive and contradictory findings of the survey and report back by June 2007.
3. Require Lismore Unlimited Opportunities to report back on the outcomes from the Signature Event Working Party before committing any SBRVL funded expenditure exceeding \$10,000 for any one event, in the 2007/08 year.
4. Confirm that the audit report provided by and for Lismore Unlimited Opportunities, including the expenditure of the promotion fund component of the 2005/06 Special Business Rate Variation Levy meets expectations of the funds being expended in accordance with the adopted 2005-2008 Three Year Strategic Plan and Memorandum of Understanding between Council and Lismore Unlimited Opportunities.

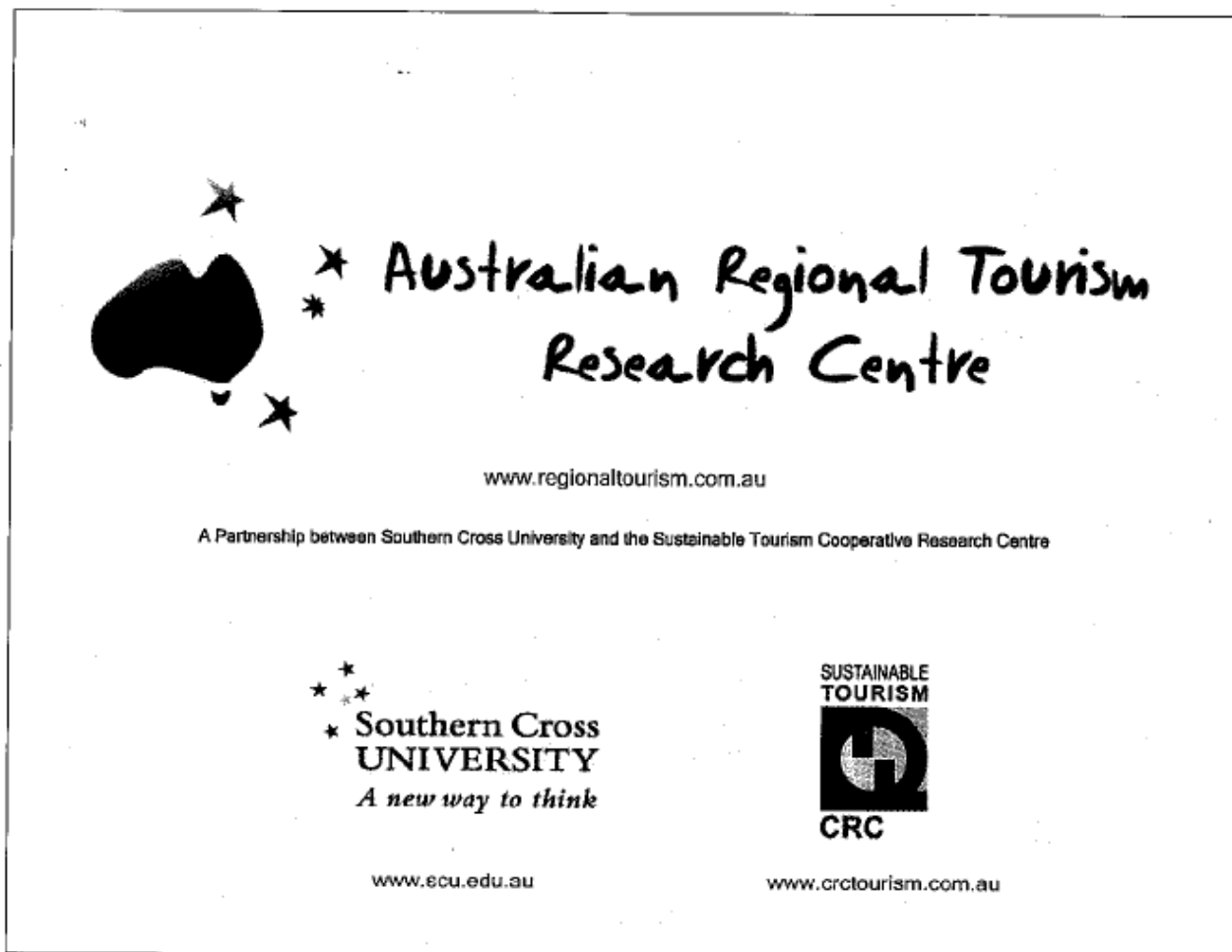


7.1 2006-8 SBRVL Budget – by Annual Spend

2005-6	Safety & Security (CitySafe)	Street Beat	\$123,000	
		CCTV	\$50,000	
		Camera maintenance	\$20,000	
		Security Camera in Laneway (LUO, LCC)	\$15,000	
		Parenting Space (LUO, YWCA)	\$7,000	
		Contingency	\$1,200	Total \$216,200
Events & Festivals	Health & Herb Festival (LUO, LCC)	\$57,500		
	Lismore Lantern Parade	\$7,000		
	Light n Up Christmas/New Year Festival (LUO)	\$7,000		
	Stock Take Sale (L.I.O)	\$7,000		
	Spring Celebration	\$6,000	Total \$84,500	
Greater CBD Revitalisation	Lismore Laneways (LUO, LCC)	\$37,000		
	Lismore Gateways (LUO, LCC)	\$3,000	Total \$40,000	
Skills Devel & Training	Training & Seminars (LUO)	\$8,000	Total \$8,000	
Marketing	Lismore Strategic Planning (LUO)	\$4,000		
	Lismore Marketing Material (LUO)	\$3,700	Total \$7,700	
Annual Audit Administration	External Audit	\$7,000		
	Admin (LUO)	\$30,000	Total \$37,000	



2006-7	Safety & Security	Street Beat	\$123,000	Total \$177,200
		CCTV	\$50,000	
		Camera Maintenance	\$20,000	
		Parenting Space (LUO, YWCA)	\$7,000	
		LUO Sheltered Walkway lgts & camera (LUO, LCC)	\$10,000	
		Contingency	\$8,900	Total \$218,900
	Events & Festivals	Health and Herb Festival (LUO, LCC)	\$51,700	Total \$88,700
		Lismore Lantern Parade	\$7,000	
		Stock Take Sale (LUO)	\$7,000	
		Light n Up Christmas/ New Year Festival (LUO)	\$7,000	
Business Awards		\$10,000		
	Spring Celebrations	\$6,000	Total \$88,700	
Greater CBD Revitalisation	Lismore Laneways (LUO, LCC)	\$37,000	Total \$42,000	
	North Lismore Revitalisation (LUO, LCC)	\$5,000		
Skills Devel & Training	Training & Seminars (LUO)	\$8,000	Total \$8,000	
Marketing	Lismore Positioning – TV (LUO)	\$5,000	Total 5,000	
Annual Eval & Audit Administration	External Audit	\$7,000	Total \$37,000	
	Admin (LUO)	\$30,000		
				Total \$180,700



Evaluation of the Impact of S.B.R.V.L. Funded Major Events on the Lismore Business Community

Prepared for Lismore Unlimited Opportunities by the Australian
Regional Tourism Research Centre

December, 2006

Executive Summary

This report documents the findings of a survey administered to commercial property holders rated for the Special Business Rate Variation Levy (SBRVL), in addition to a sample of the Lismore CBD business community.

The SBRVL is a rate levied on the Lismore business community to financially support the *City Safe* program and provide funding for promotional activities designed to enhance Lismore as a business centre. Lismore City Council collects the funds from property owners who own property in Lismore business urban areas. Lismore City Council manages the safety and security component of SBRVL funds, while Lismore Unlimited Opportunities (LUO) manages the promotional component. SBRVL funds are always expended according to the agreed strategic plan, which is overseen by Council.

This study was undertaken as part of LUO's annual evaluation of the SBRVL, which is a requirement of the Three Year Strategic Plan established in 2005 to guide the management of SBRVL funds. The objectives of the study were as follows:

1. To identify the extent to which Lismore businesses engaged in leveraging/promotional efforts associated with the five SBRVL funded major events held annually in Lismore;
2. To identify the promotional mediums which Lismore businesses used to conduct promotional/leveraging efforts associated with the five major SBRVL funded major events;
3. To identify the amount spent by Lismore businesses on promotional/leveraging efforts associated with the five SBRVL funded major events;
4. To quantify 'spin-off' employment generated by the five SBRVL funded major events;
5. To identify the impact of the five SBRVL funded major events on Lismore businesses' bottom lines, in addition to intentions to expand in the coming eighteen months;
6. To establish if a need for a signature event for Lismore exists; and

7. To explore the appropriateness of three current SBRVL funded major events to act as Lismore's signature event.

The five events evaluated in this study were:

- The 2006 Northern Rivers Health and Herb Festival;
- The 2006 Lismore Lantern Parade;
- The 2006 Lismore Business Awards;
- The 2006 Lismore Stocktake Sale; and
- The 2005 Lismore Show.

It must be understood that the Lismore Show does not receive SBRVL funding. This event was included in the study as it is a long-established hallmark event within the Lismore community, and an understanding of how it performed against events that do receive SBRVL funding was desired. For reporting purposes however, the five events are hereafter referred to collectively as 'SBRVL funded major events'.

The survey was administered to SBRVL-liable property holders and businesses in the Lismore CBD during late September, October, and November 2006. An electronic version of the survey was distributed to 230 Lismore businesses on 29th September, while 1100 hard copy surveys were posted to SBRVL property holders in early October. A low business response rate necessitated a repeat electronic survey distribution on 21st November. Additionally, a subsequent face-to-face distribution of hard copy surveys to Lismore CBD businesses was conducted between the 9th and 23rd of November, which boosted business responses to a reasonably acceptable number of 98.

In all, a total of 226 usable responses were obtained and were used to inform this evaluation. This total consisted of 98 responses from Lismore businesses, and 128 responses from SBRVL-liable property holders. A copy of the data collection instrument can be found in the appendix of this report. The most notable findings of this report are summarised below:

- Across the five major SBRVL funded major events studied, the mean percentage of businesses that engaged in promotional/leveraging efforts for these events was 20.0%.
- The 2006 Lismore Stocktake Sale was the event during which Lismore businesses made the most effort to engage in leveraging/promotional efforts, while the 2005 Lismore Show exhibited the lowest percentage of leveraging/promotional involvement.
- The 2006 Northern Rivers Health and Herb Festival generated the highest total additional employment hours of the five events (230 hours), while the 2006 Lismore Stocktake Sale exhibited the highest percentage of businesses that employed existing staff for additional hours of the five events.
- 71.5% of businesses surveyed indicated that the five SBRVL funded major events had little or no impact on their business outputs.
- 73.6% of businesses surveyed envisage expanding over the coming eighteen months; however the data suggested that this is for reasons other than spin-off effects of SBRVL funded major events.
- 88.7% of respondents support the notion of a signature event for the Lismore region.
- Property holders strongly supported the Lismore Show to act as Lismore's signature event, while business respondents tended to favour the Lismore Lantern Parade.
- The most common suggestion for an alternative signature event was one that showcases local produce and heritage, such as dairy farming, macadamia nuts, coffee, and fruit.

2005/06 Special Business Rate Variation Levy Funds	
	Expenditure
Safety & Security (CitySafe)	
Street Beat & CCTV (Council)	192,283
Other	0
Security Camera in Laneways	0
Parenting Space	0
Lismore Lantern Parade	2,000
Contingency	0
Events & Festivals	
2005 Greenridge Health & Herb Festival	57,500
Lismore Lantern Parade	7,000
Light n Up Christmas/New Year Festival	7,000
Stocktake Sale	7,000
Spring Celebrations	6,000
Lismore Business Awards	10,000
Greater CBD Revitalisation	
Lismore Laneways	0
Lismore Gateways	0
Skills Development & Training	
Training & Seminars	3,000
Marketing	
Lismore Strategic Planning	0
Lismore Marketing Material	6,266
Mothers Day Promotion	6,000
Annual Audit & Administration	
External Audit	7,000
Administration	30,000
Reserves	
Marketing - LUO Website Development	3,000
2006 Greenridge Health & Herb Festival	8,000
Totals	352,049

Report

Subject	Far North Coast County Council – Financial Agreement
File No	S331
Prepared by	Manager – Finance
Reason	Far North Coast County Council have recommended changes to the current agreement and seek all constituent councils approval
Objective	For Council to adopt the revised agreement
Strategic Plan Link	Leadership by Innovation
Management Plan Activity	Parks and Recreation

Overview of Report

Council has a financial agreement with Ballina, Byron, Kyogle, Richmond Valley and Tweed Councils to make a financial contribution to Far North Coast County Council for the eradication of certain aquatic pests and noxious plants.

The current agreement commenced in 1981 with the only change being to the funding formula in 1994. Far North Coast County Council has reviewed the agreement and has proposed changes including the formal inclusion of the funding formula changed in 1994 and applied since, and provisions relating to pegging contribution increases to rate pegging and the requirement for unanimous support for increases above rate pegging.

These changes are supported as the funding formula uses a range of reasonable variables, linking increases in the financial contribution to rate pegging provided a greater level of certainty in regards to the amount of the annual contribution and offers an option for mutually agreed to additional works.

Background

Far North Coast County Council (FNCCC) undertakes the eradication of certain aquatic pests and noxious plants, as declared noxious from time to time, for and on behalf of the constituent councils of Ballina, Byron, Kyogle, Lismore, Richmond Valley and Tweed.

Each constituent council makes a financial contribution to FNCCC based on the agreed formula which considers each council's situation in relation to the total of all constituent councils. The agreed formula is

Part A: Area % + Length of Rural Roads% + No of Rural Holdings% + Population%
Part B: Allocation of Costs + Number of Inspections,

with 50% of the contribution from Part A and 50% from Part B.

This formula was adopted in 1994 and has applied since. However, no formal agreement was entered into between the constituent councils nor was any provisions made for pegging of increases in the financial contribution or for dealing with an individual Council's special or needs.

FNCCC wrote to Council in 2005 seeking comment and from a management perspective, advised that

the proposed agreement changes were supported as linking increases in the financial contribution to rate pegging provided a greater level of certainty in regards to the amount of the annual contribution and importantly offered an option for mutually agreed to additional works.

In regards to the agreed formula, no comment or suggested alternative was provided as it does take into account a number of key variables which could all be considered reasonable.

FNCCC considered changes to the financial agreement at its February 22, 2006 meeting and resolved "that Council accept the Agreement as presented and forward to constituent Council's for concurrence and completion". The agreement was received by Council in January 2007 after adoption by three other constituent councils and addresses the issues raised as proposed. In summary, the funding formula applied since 1994 is included in the agreement as well as the following provisions relating to each council's annual contribution:-

- 3 ii) Pegged to increases in total equivalent to the increase approved for rate pegging purposes
- iii) Subject to special increase beyond the pegged amount only with the unanimous support of constituent Councils after special application along similar lines to that required under rate pegging legislation.

As such, support of the revised Financial Agreement is recommended.

A copy of the proposed agreement is attached.

Other staff comments

Not Required

Public consultation

Not Required

Conclusion

Far North Coast County Council has revised the Financial Agreement and is seeking Council's endorsement. The proposed changes include the funding formula changed in 1994 and applied since, and provisions relating to pegging contribution increases to rate pegging and the requirement for unanimous support for increases above rate pegging.

These changes are supported as the funding formula uses a range of reasonable variables, linking increases in the financial contribution to rate pegging provided a greater level of certainty in regards to the amount of the annual contribution and offers an option for mutually agreed to additional works.

Recommendation

That Council agree to revised agreement between the Councils constituting Far North Coast County Council and the document be executed under the Common Seal of the Council.

17-01-2007 08:40

FROM-ROUS WATER

02 66221101

T-363 P.003/006 F-679

AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE COUNCILS CONSTITUTING
THE FAR NORTH COAST COUNTY DISTRICT

THIS DEED made between the COUNCILS OF THE CITY OF LISMORE, the MUNICIPALITY of CASINO and the SHIRES OF BALLINA, BYRON, KYOGLE, RICHMOND RIVER and TWEED, hereinafter referred to as the "constituent Councils" -

.....

WHEREAS the constituent areas have been duly constituted as the FAR NORTH COAST COUNTY DISTRICT by proclamation of His Excellency the Governor of the State of New South Wales in Government Gazette No. 139 of 4th December, 1959 (altering the name from the RICHMOND RIVER COUNTY DISTRICT, formerly the RICHMOND RIVER WATER HYACINTH BOARD as validated by Section 569 of the Local Government Act, 1919, as amended by subsequent Acts), the Areas constituting and the names of the constituent Councils being as altered by Government Gazette No. 37 of 21st March, 1969, No. 155 of 28th November, 1975, No. 138 of 22nd October, 1976, and No. 99 of 25th July, 1980;

AND WHEREAS it has been agreed by and between the parties hereto that the eradication of certain aquatic pests and noxious plants, as declared noxious from time to time within the County District by proclamation in the Government Gazette for the State of New South Wales, should be undertaken by the COUNCIL OF THE FAR NORTH COAST COUNTY DISTRICT for and on behalf of the constituent Councils;

AND WHEREAS it is provided by Section 564 of the Local Government Act, 1919, as amended by subsequent Acts, that the councils of the municipalities and shires concerned in a county district may, by resolution under seal, request the Governor to delegate to the county council the power to exercise or perform for the benefit of the county district any power or duty which by law those councils or any of them may exercise or perform;

AND WHEREAS by Section 565 of the said Act it is provided that a majority of the councils concerned may enter into a joint agreement respecting the whole or any part of the powers delegated to the county council and particularly in respect of any matter for which the county council is not authorised to rate, prescribing the manner in which the expenses of the county council are to be met by the constituent Councils.

.....2

AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE COUNCILS CONSTITUTING

THE FAR NORTH COAST COUNTY DISTRICTNOW THIS DEED WITNESSETH THAT -

1. IT IS AGREED AND DECLARED by and between the parties hereto that all contributions to be made by the constituent Councils to the Council of the Far North Coast County District towards the total expenditure of the County Council incurred (after deduction of all Government Grants and other miscellaneous income, if any), shall be contributed by the constituent Councils in proportion to a "contribution unit" calculated in the first part on the expenditure incurred by the Council of the Far North Coast County District as direct costs of inspection of private land and eradication of noxious plants on public land within each constituent Council's area; and based in the second part on the population residing within each constituent Council's area.
2. THE "CONTRIBUTION UNIT" shall in each financial year be calculated by aggregating the direct costs of inspection and eradication within each constituent Council's area incurred during the four (4) most recent financial years for which the County Council's accounts have been audited, expressed as a percentage of the total of those direct costs for all the constituent Councils, sixty (60) per centum of such percentage forming the first part of the "contribution unit"; the "contribution unit" in each financial year shall be added to by expressing the numerical total of the population residing within a constituent Council's area, as stated for the most recent year available by the Australian Bureau of Statistics, as a percentage of the total population residing within the County District for such year, forty (40) per centum of such percentage forming the second part of the "contribution unit".
3. THE CONTRIBUTIONS to be made by the constituent Councils pursuant to clauses one and two shall be assessed for the financial year commencing on the first day of January, One thousand nine hundred and eighty two and subsequent years until amended or repealed by a further agreement made and approved in accordance with the said Act.
4. NOTICE OF ASSESSMENT shall be served by the County Council on the constituent Councils during the month of December in the year preceding the year to which the assessment relates, and such assessments shall be due and payable by the constituent Councils on or before 31st January of the financial year to which it relates; PROVIDED THAT a constituent Council may elect to pay its assessment in three equal instalments, each instalment being due and payable on or before the last day of January April and July of the financial year to which it relates; PROVIDED THAT the provisions of Section 158 of the said Act shall apply, mutatis mutandis, to overdue assessments.
5. THE PREVIOUS AGREEMENT assented to on the eighth day of January, 1975 and the Deed of Variation to the previous Agreement assented to on the thirteenth day of October, 1976 are repealed in accordance with Section 565, Clause 4 of the said Act, but any liability previously incurred by any one or more of the constituent Councils of the Far North Coast County District shall not be thereby discharged or limited.

AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE COUNCILS CONSTITUTING

THE FAR NORTH COAST COUNTY DISTRICT

THE COMMON SEAL of the COUNCIL)
of the MUNICIPALITY OF LISMORE)
was hereto affixed this seventh)
day of September, 1981)
pursuant to a resolution of the)
Council passed at a duly convened)
meeting held on the first day)
of September 1981)

[Signature]
DEPUTY MAYOR
[Signature]
TOWN CLERK

THE COMMON SEAL of the COUNCIL)
of the SHIRE OF BALLINA was)
hereto affixed this 18TH)
day of AUGUST 1981)
pursuant to a resolution of the)
Council passed at a duly convened)
meeting held on the 23RD day)
of APRIL 1981)



[Signature]
PRESIDENT
[Signature]
SHIRE CLERK

THE COMMON SEAL of the COUNCIL)
of the SHIRE OF BYRON was)
hereto affixed this 7th)
day of August 1981)
pursuant to a resolution of the)
Council passed at a duly convened)
meeting held on the 31st day)
of July 1981)

[Signature]
DEPUTY PRESIDENT
[Signature]
SHIRE CLERK

THE COMMON SEAL of the COUNCIL)
of the SHIRE OF KYOGLE was)
hereto affixed this sixteenth)
day of September 1981)
pursuant to a resolution of the)
Council passed at a duly convened)
meeting held on the ninth day)
of June 1981)

[Signature]
PRESIDENT
[Signature]
SHIRE CLERK

THE COMMON SEAL OF the COUNCIL)
of the SHIRE OF RICHMOND RIVER)
was hereto affixed this sixth)
day of October 1981)
pursuant to a resolution of the)
Council passed at a duly convened)
meeting held on the 21st day)
of April, 1981)

[Signature]
PRESIDENT
[Signature]
SHIRE CLERK

THE COMMON SEAL of the COUNCIL)
of the SHIRE OF TWEED was)
hereto affixed this 2nd)
day of JULY 1981)
pursuant to a resolution of the)
Council passed at a duly convened)
meeting held on the 24th day)
of JUNE 1981)

[Signature]
PRESIDENT
[Signature]
SHIRE CLERK

THE COMMON SEAL of the COUNCIL)
of the MUNICIPALITY OF CASINO)
was hereto affixed this 25th)
day of SEPTEMBER 1981)

[Signature]
MAYOR

17-01-2007 09:40

FROM-ROUS WATER

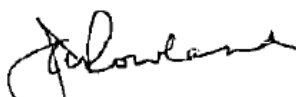
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T-369 P.006/006 F-678

LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT, 1919.

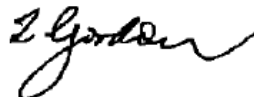
APPROVAL OF AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE COUNCILS OF THE CITY OF LISMORE, MUNICIPALITY OF CASINO, AND THE SHIRES OF BALLINA, BYRON, KYOGLE, RICHMOND RIVER AND TWEED.

By His Excellency Air Marshal Sir JAMES ANTHONY ROWLAND, Knight Commander of the Most Excellent Order of the British Empire, upon whom have been conferred the decorations of the Distinguished Flying Cross and the Air Force Cross, Knight of Grace of the Most Venerable Order of St. John of Jerusalem, Governor of the State of New South Wales in the Commonwealth of Australia.


Governor,

I, Air Marshal Sir JAMES ANTHONY ROWLAND, the Governor of the State of New South Wales, in pursuance of the provisions of section 565 of the Local Government Act, 1919, and with the advice of the Executive Council, do hereby approve of the agreement between the Councils of the City of Lismore, Municipality of Casino and the Shires of Ballina, Byron, Kyogle, Richmond River and Tweed, relating to the financing of expenses of the Council of the Far North Coast County District.

Signed and sealed at Sydney,
this *eighteenth* day of
November 1981.



By His Excellency's Command.

Report

Subject	Conduct Committee (S18)
File No	S18
Prepared by	Corporate Compliance Coordinator
Reason	Need to confirm membership
Objective	To amend the membership of the Conduct Committee
Strategic Plan Link	Leadership by Innovation
Management Plan Activity	Councillors

Overview of Report

Council amended the structure of its Committee in February 2006. Due to a number of factors the Committee's membership again need to be reviewed and an amended structure is recommended.

Background

Under the Council's Code of Conduct, it is required to establish a Conduct Committee, Clause 10.8 which is reproduced below;

- 10.8 Council will establish a conduct committee that will consist of the Mayor, the General Manager and at least one person independent of Council. The independent representative/s should comprise Council's nominated legal adviser or other independent person/s of appropriate standing. In the instance of a complaint being made by or against the Mayor or the General Manager, the Deputy Mayor, or another Councillor who has been designated by Council, will take the place of the Mayor or General Manager on the committee.

When Council first established the Committee it appointed Mr Pagotto (Walters Solicitors) the independent representative and no alternate Councillor.

In February 2006 Council received a Mayoral Minute advising that Mr Pagotto and the Deputy Mayor were on extended leave. The minute recommended that David Wolfe (Walters Solicitors) and Councillor Crimmins be appointed as alternate members. This was resolved by Council with the additional inclusion of Councillor Dowell on the Committee.

Two issues have subsequently arisen:

1. With the sad passing of Mr Pagotto, Council needs to determine his permanent replacement.
2. The Broken Hill City Council Public Inquiry (page 106) indicates that Council cannot increase the Councillor numbers on the Committee over that prescribed in clause 10.8 of the Code of Conduct.

Contact has been made with Mr Wolfe, who has indicated his willingness to be appointed to the Committee.

It is open for Council to determine if it wishes to nominate the Deputy Mayor or an alternate Councillor to replace if required, Mayor/General Manager on the Committee.

The Code and the Inquiry Report are silent on the legality of appointing alternate delegates to appointed members. No independent legal advice has been sought on this issue and given the uncertainty it is suggested no alternate appointment be made.

It should be noted that no matters are currently before the Committee and there is, as far as can be known, no matters waiting to be submitted to the Committee.

Comments

Financial Services

Not required

Other staff comments

Not required

Public consultation

Not undertaken

Recommendation

That David Wolfe be appointed to the Conduct Committee as an independent representative and the Deputy Mayor be confirmed as the alternate to the Mayor or General Manager.

Report

Subject	Management Plan Review 2006-2007 – quarter ended December 2006
File No	S4
Prepared by	Executive Services Coordinator
Reason	Requirement of Local Government Act S.407(1)
Objective	Information of Councillors
Strategic Plan Link	Leadership by Innovation
Management Plan Activity	General Manager

Overview of Report

This report relates to the performance of programmes and activities highlighted in the 2006/07 Management Plan during the quarter ended December 2006.

Background

The General Manager is required under Section 407 (1) of the Local Government Act, 1993 to periodically report on the performance targets outlined in the Management Plan.

GENERAL MANAGER/CHIEF EXECUTIVE

Management Plan Review
Period ended December 2006

Review of objectives across each functional area of the General Manager's Directorate.

Communications and Corporate Management

- Mayor of Lismore Scholarships** – Two scholarships have been offered for 2007. These are 1) Mayor of Lismore Scholarship for Academic Achievement 2) Waste Water Management Scholarship which this year studies the effect of traditional human activities on the river system.
- Community Events to display Council Services** –
 - Rotunda Recommission - Musical Event held in Spinks Park (well attended and enjoyed)
 - Lismore's 150 year celebration - Acknowledged with launch of history book 'Lismore – from Lios Mor to Tuckurimba'
 - NC A&I - Lismore Show - High representation of staff, high visitation by public, excellent feedback
 - Odds'n'Evens - Introduction of Water Conservation Strategy (outdoor water use)
 - Living Library Project - Bringing together people from all walks of life to share life experiences/opinions
 - Santa Goes Green - Sustainable Christmas project engaged 60 households to commit to reduce greenhouse gases whilst fully enjoying the festivities of the Christmas season.

3. Ensure Efficient Governance of Council:

- Adoption of a revised Code of Meeting Practice
- Adoption of Councillors Expenses and Facilities Policy
- Annual Report produced

4. Comprehensive financial management systems implemented and periodically reviewed to ensure compliance with statutory obligations / audit requirements:

- 2005/06 Audit Report referred to November Council Meeting.

5. Risk Management:

- Annual audit of Council's Risk Management Elements completed and submitted to Statewide for verification.

6. Community Consultation

Consultation on the topics listed below has been undertaken using the following modes - meetings, personal one-on-one visits, flyers, letters, surveys, and some media releases.

- Community Flood Education
- Carrington Street Upgrade Works
- Rural Recycling
- Ballina Road renaming

23 media releases sent out (Oct - Dec 06)

Main Issues

- Public Health Forum - closure of Rehab Centre
- Carrington Street Upgrade
- Partnership with Cancer Council
- VIC - new look
- Water conservation strategy
- Ballina Road/Street/ New Ballina Road Renaming

Human Resources and Organisational Development

- Held final session of the Culture, Leadership and Management Development Program for GM, Executive and Program Manager levels
- Monitored implementation of new aspects of staff Performance Review process
- Reported to ExCom with an update on Smoking Procedure & Asbestos Management Plan
- Received evidence of positive progress with supervisors prioritising risk management and reporting of incidents and undertaking follow up investigations within the requested timeframes. Also greater commitment and assistance with injury management and return to work initiatives of injured workers.
- Received positive feedback from LCC staff involved in regional management development program with SCU
- Held preliminary planning meeting with regional HR Group to promote successful Careers Expo 3 May 2007
- Met with LCC's provider for recruitment advertising under the Local Government Procurement Arrangements – Provider is Leonard Holt Robb
- Progressed options and presented to Consultative Committee on new salary system as part of the review process
- Continued with significant levels of activity in the recruitment and selection of new staff

- Assisted with the staff induction and transitional arrangements - Lismore Memorial Baths
- Compiled information on resource sharing and HR service provision framework for Rous Water

Finance

1. **Replacement of corporate financial and land information systems** – Administration, set up and data migration training and planning have commenced and are ongoing.
2. **Remote water meter reading** – Initial investigation commenced but deferred pending outcome of resource sharing proposal with Rous Water.
3. **Review of new general valuations for rating purposes** - Valuations received from Valuer General for application from 1/7/07. Executive summary indicates an average increase of approximately 20%. Implications on rating categories including the farmland 20% maximum have been assessed and a report is to be sent to the Strategic Plan Steering Committee in February 2007.

Major Capital Works – A schedule of future major capital works was prepared and considered by Council at a workshop first and then the December 2006 meeting. It was resolved to adopt the schedule in principle and to seek community feedback with a further report to the March 2007 Council.

2005/06 Financial Reports – Finalised and adopted at the November 2006 Council meeting after public display. Copy submitted to the DLG and all statutory requirements met.

Investments - Meeting with investment advisors to a) review investment strategy guidelines with a change in focus from short term to longer term investments to be implemented and b) the performance of the Individually Managed Portfolio.

Lismore Memorial Gardens Business Opportunity – Review financial information, commence due diligence process and engaging business valuation professional.

INFRASTRUCTURE SERVICES
 Management Plan Review
 Period ended December 2006

Review of objectives across each area of the Infrastructure Services Directorate.

Parks and Recreation

- Provided assistance to initial talks with Gold Coast Titans representatives regarding the confirmed NRL trial in February 2007 at Oakes Oval.
- Liaised and coordinated various processes in the installation of the Dunoon Balzer Park Lighting project implemented by the Dunoon & District Sports & Recreation Club.
- Continued our relationship with the Showground and maintained the booking system and customer liaison. Events included various rug sales, communications displays, Bunning's storage and Harvey Norman Sales.
- Supported and provided landscaping assistance to Lismore East's Cricket Club for new Cricket Nets at Neilson Park.
- Provided assistance and support to the Lismore Lantern Parade.
- Began a trial pro-active maintenance system of our street trees. Focus has been with the northern areas of the CBD and is currently moving into Lismore Heights and Goonellabah areas.
- Initiated a benchmarking exercise. We are currently waiting for results.
- Bin emptying responsibility in the CBD has been referred to Council's Waste section to make improvements, as waste removal is part of their core business.

Roads

- Completed the following rural road reconstruction projects:
 - MR142 Nimbin Road at Coffee Camp, Length 1km.
 - MR142 Blue Knob Road, south of Milgate Road, Blackspot, Length 0.8km.
 - Numulgi Road, north of Railway Bridge, Length 0.5km.
 - James Gibson Road, Length 0.8km.
 - MR148 Coraki Road, North of Glebe Bridge, Length 0.6km.
 - MR544 Kyogle Road, North of Fernside Road, Length 0.8km.
 - Duncan Road Stage 1 & 2, South of Hunters Hill Road, Length 2.5km.
- Commenced Stony Chute Road bitumen seal extension.
- Completed road reconstruction and landscaping for the Carrington Street Streetscape Upgrade Project.
- Completed urban road reconstruction for Oakeshott Street, from High to Cooling Streets.
- Finalised design for the Dawson / Leicester Street Roundabout, funded by the RTA.

Road Safety

The road safety program remains in abeyance until an appointment can be made to the position. – expected in February.

Asset Management

The assessment of Council's sealed road network and subsequent reporting on the financial sustainability of Council's road network continues to be delayed due to issues with the data produced by the contractor that undertook the assessment. It is now expected that this matter will be resolved in February.

Implementation of Council's new software systems, and in particular the AIM module which deals specifically with assets is in progress. An asset hierarchy has been developed and the next phase of the implementation is to set up work orders and transfer data into the system. Work will also commencing on the collection of data for council buildings and properties.

Properties

Options are being examined to establish a reserve fund for future major capital upgrades in existing buildings and will be examined as part of the budget process. A process of site investigation and information gathering has commenced in preparation to market the remaining land at Simeoni Drive Goonellabah. Advice is being taken on the best method to market the property.

Traffic, Emergency Services and CitySafe Operations

Construction is progressing well on the new headquarters for the Lismore SES and it is expected to be complete in March 2007. The SES should be able to move into the premises in April 2007.

Council has anecdotal evidence that the security camera system in both the CBD and at Nimbin is having a positive effect on reducing crime and undesirable behaviour. The NSW Police are very supportive of the system and appreciate the assistance that video footage provides to them in dealing with incidents that do occur. Monitoring trial of the cameras at Nimbin has commenced.

Fleet Operations, Workshop and Signshop

Building improvements at the workshop to comply with relevant building code, OHS and EEO requirements are complete. These included construction of female and accessible toilet facilities. Improvement to fire safety facilities in the building to comply with the building code as a result of a fire safety audit have also commenced.

Options for Council to reduce fuel usage within the fleet have been examined and a report on the outcomes will be presented to the Strategic Planning Steering Committee.

Northern Rivers Waste

1. Recycling Services Implementation

- new urban collection service operational
- rural recycling operation approved – rollout in January
- Transfer Station concept plans with consultants
- Material Recovery Strategy continuing development of options

2. Organics Strategy

- Contract with Tryton finalised
- Mulching operations commenced

3. OH&S Compliance Improvement

- Audits undertaken
- Systems implementation under way
- Training commenced

Northern Rivers Quarry and Asphalt

1. Implement Plant Upgrade

- First items of new plant delivered
- Expect fully operational early February

2. Development Approval Update – Blakebrook

- Review of conditions completed
- DA application made to NSW Dept Planning – preliminary meeting conducted – await feedback on requirements for submission

3. Improve Production Efficiency

- Production planning awaiting start-up of new plant
- Pit design and extraction plan review commenced

4. Improve Staff Performance

- Training plans finalised
- Team survey to be conducted January

Lismore Memorial Gardens

1. Assessment of Undeveloped Lands

- Site survey completed
- Engaging consultants for design of concept plans for bushland burial area

2. Chapel Expansion

- Project to commence Feb 07

3. Install Security Cameras

- CCTV system installation completed

Water Supply Services

- **Improve Customer Service Levels in Water Services:** Customer service response times remain within the deadlines outlined in the customer charter. Over 95% of service repairs have been attended to within four working hours. Water quality of all 13 sites remains within quality guidelines and continued assessment of our system occurs. An ultimate process for Nimbin is being developed as a Resource Sharing exercise with Rous Water.
- **Promote water conservation through demand management:** Lismore Water continues its close working relationship with Rous Water to reduce water usage.
- **Implementation of the Water Main Replacement Program:** Lismore Water has expended \$500,000 in mains replacements including Conway St, Terania St, and High St in renewing old mains. This leaves \$700,000 remaining for the continuation of this work.
- **Remote meter reads:** The feasibility study is scheduled for completion by July 2007.
- **Telemetry Upgrade:** The tender is underway with a report to be presented to Council in March 2007
- **Integrated Water Cycle Management Strategy:** This task is due for completion by July 2007.

Wastewater Services

- **Improve Customer Service Levels in Wastewater Services:** During the September quarter Lismore water responded to over 95% of sewer requests within four hours, continues to ensure that 100% of trade waste customer have approval and responds to customer requests within the guidelines of the customer charter.
- **Clunes Wastewater Project:** Lismore Water has been investigating the preferred option as recommended by the Clunes Wastewater Committee during the September quarter. This option involves onsite treatment and transporting reuse water to a centralised irrigation area. The procurement of suitable land for irrigation is essential to the viability of this proposal. The characteristics of the site may significantly impact on the details and cost of the final scheme.
- **Implementation of the sewer mains replacement programme:** This project remains on schedule.
- **Telemetry Upgrade:** The telemetry upgrade for wastewater services is due for completion by April 2007.

DEVELOPMENT AND GOVERNANCE

Management Plan Review
Period ended December 2006

Review of objectives across each functional area of Development and Governance.

Planning Services

1. Customer Service

Planning staff available for telephone and counter enquiries between 8.30am and 10am, and at other times by appointment. Temporary Planning Assistant retained to assist with response to written, phone and counter planning enquiries.

Responses prepared to 18 Councillor requests.

Dwelling entitlement searches continued, quantified under 'Miscellaneous approvals' below.

2. Implement adopted land use strategies

Industrial Land Strategy: LEP Amt 31 (rezoning at Wyrallah Rd for industrial development) remained with the Department/Minister for gazettal was lodged on June 19, 2006.

Rural Housing Strategy: LEP Amt 20 for rural residential development was endorsed by Council at its October meeting and a draft planning agreement has been prepared for provision of infrastructure.

3. Review and update planning controls

LEP Amt 23 (Annual general amendment plus Aldi supermarket rezoning) gazetted 17 November.

LEP Amt 26 (to permit alterations and additions to buildings in the floodway) gazetted 13 October.

LEP Amt 28 (industrial rezoning at Holland St, Goonellabah) gazetted 8 December.

4. Efficient assessment of development applications

DAs received: 56

DAs determined: 49

DAs on hand ((on public exhibition, awaiting further information, return of referrals or Government Department views, awaiting determination): 49

Assessment time

- integrated/concurrence DAs: 62 days average
- locally determined DAs: 31 days average

Miscellaneous applications (modifications of consent, dwelling entitlement searches): 39

Subdivision Certificates issued: 6

5. Compliance

40 land use planning matters investigated.

Environmental Health and Building Services

Building Services

1. **Customer Service** - Standard letters and documents have been amended to reflect Local Government legislative changes.
2. **Essential Services Program** - Councils Essential Services Program which reviews public safety issues is continuing. An interim fee structured system for the 06/07 financial year has been established and is being successfully implemented until the new corporate computer system has been finalised. Council's temporary Fire Safety Officer (18 hours/wk) will continue until February 2007 to progress outstanding issues in this area.
3. **Planning DA referrals** - All assessment of DA's from Planning Services have been undertaken within the statutory turn around time. Fifty four (54) referrals received from Planning Services. Mean turn around time 8.8 days
4. **Application Assessment**
 - Building Statistics – October, November, December

175 Development Applications received for this section
171 Development applications approved
Average approval time = 23.37 days
156 Construction Certificates issued
5 Building Certificates issued
182 Construction Certificates lodged
167 Construction Certificates Issued
Total Cost of Certificates Issued \$7,351,069
20 Section 68 Applications received
661 Building Inspections performed
5. **Fire Safety Audit** - Councils Fire Safety Audit continues with inspections conducted and Orders to upgrade issued on a regular basis. Council is currently dealing with 54 separate properties in regard to fire upgrades. Councils Fire Safety Officer is progressing issues in this area.
6. **Policy Development** – Minor changes to the Building Code of Australia have occurred. Building in bushfire prone areas and BASIX are considered in assessment of Development Applications. New BASIX's rules applicable after October 2006 are being implemented.
7. **Swimming Pool Safety Program** – The swimming pool program continues with 19 new swimming pool inspections and 25 follow up inspections undertaken in the quarter (target 25). Council's swimming pool brochure is being distributed with each inspection.
8. **Law enforcement** - Law enforcement in regard to unlawful building activities and complaints continue to be undertaken as required.

Environmental Health

1. **Customer Service**
Quarterly complaints received in regard to Animal control, Food complaints, Public Health, Pollution: 105 requests received (3 personally, 93 telephone, 9 written). Mean processing time is 15 days.
2. **Development Application Assessment:**
Nineteen Onsite sewage management reports have been assessed for the quarter.
All assessment of DA's from Planning Services have been undertaken within the agreed turn around time. Fifty-six (54) referrals received from the Planning Services. **Median turn around is 20 days.**

3. **Cities for Climate Protection:**

Cities for Climate Protection (CCP): Stage 1, 2 and 3 of the Cities for Climate Protection program has been finalised. Stage 3, which identifies action plans has been approved by Council and is currently on public exhibition.

4. **Environmental Restoration & Enforcement**

Council continues to implement grants in relation to Restoration of low land forestation on the floodplain and wetland rehabilitation.

Planning for revegetation in areas of Tucki Tucki and Hollingsworth creeks as a result of SEPAG budget submissions are being planned and will commence in February 2007.

Council has made application for the relocation of flying foxes in Rotary Park. However, a new application is current being established, including independent expert analysis in this regard.

5. **Commercial Premises Management**

Councils commercial premises risk strategy continues to be implemented. Council has engaged a public health officer full time for 6 months. The position will be reviewed in the next quarter.

Inspections of food premises, hairdressers, beauticians and skin penetration businesses continue to be inspected.

The number of Commercial premises inspected in the quarter is as follows;

High risk 91

Medium risk 11

Low Risk 11

Skin Penetration 7

Pre-Purchase 2

Re-inspections 20

New premises 2

Complaints 2

6. **On-site Sewage Management**

The On-site Sewage management inspection program has stalled in the last quarter due to the position becoming vacant. The position was filled in December 2006. The annual target is 250.

7. **SOE Reporting**

The 2006 Supplementary SOE has been reported to Council in November 2006.

8. **Emergency Management**

- A special meeting of the Local Emergency Management Committee was held in November 2006 with the Attorney General Phillip Ruddock in attendance.
- Council's Risk Management Plan is completed and has been sent to the State Emergency Management Committee for endorsement.
- A review of Council's DISplan has been completed with grant funding and is currently with the District Emergency Management Committee for endorsement.

9. **Clean Up Australia Day**

Clean Up Australia Day will be conducted March 4, 2007.

10. **Contaminated Lands Policy**

The Regional Contaminated Lands Policy has been completed. A workshop for Councilors is to be held February 2007.

11. Sustainable Environment Policy Environment Group(SEPAG)

The SEPAG continues to meet on a regular basis. Seven Policies on Funding, Water, Land, Atmosphere, Biodiversity, Heritage and Waste have been completed and submitted to other PAG's for their comment prior to submission to the Sustainable Policy Advisory Group for approval.

12. Water Sensitive Urban Design (WSUD)

Progress on WSUD with Development Control Plan policy is complete. A specification on WSUD principles for developers is currently being established prior to a workshop with Councilors in 2007.

13. Sustainability/CET

Organisation of a Stormwater Management (Source Control) Workshop to be presented by Australia's leading Hydrologist John Argue from the University of South Australia, in February is being organised.

14. Grant Funding

Environmental Health staff continue to activate current grants which include:

- Lowland Rainforest restoration-Environmental Trust
- Wetlands rehabilitation - CMA
- Catchment Education Program-Rainforest to the Sea Program – CMA

15. Catchment Management

The Stormwater services Charge (SSC) is being utilised by Environmental Health staff who are compiling relevant information in regards to catchments within the urban area of Lismore. A table of actions proposed for the 2006/07 financial year is being established. Council's Stormwater Management plan is being reviewed as part of this process.

16. Environmental Monitoring

- Environmental Monitoring is continuing with monthly water monitoring being undertaken as per the 06/07 management plan.
- The Regional contaminated lands Policy has been completed and was reported to the November meeting of Council. A workshop is being proposed in February/March 2007.
- Investigation of environmental issues continues on a regular basis. Relevant legislation including the POEO Act has been utilised for enforcement.

Enforcement

1. Control and Regulate Parking:

Parking patrols continue. Recent staff recruitment has enabled this program to be enhanced. Barney Shearman paid car parking was established and is operating effectively.

2. Impounding Functions

Rangers continue to impound abandoned vehicles, dogs and stray stock as required.

3. Community Awareness

Community awareness programs have been postponed until the vacant Ranger position is filled.

4. Companion Animals Act

Regular patrols for stray dogs and impounding occurs on a regular basis. Pound facilities are maintained daily.

Information Services

Key projects

1. Corporate Information Systems Replacement

The implementation of the new Corporate Information System AUTHORITY, from Civica Pty Ltd is progressing well. Initial workshops commenced in October and to date the following modules have been established and Administrator training conducted: Rates, Property, Streets/Suburbs, Names and Addresses, Records Management, Applications (in progress), Infringements Register, Licenses and Permits Register, Trust Register, Accounts Payable, Purchasing, Accounts Receivable, General Ledger and Estimates, Assets, Plant, Responsible Officers, Receipting and System Administration.

Over 50 days of onsite training has already been delivered to 30 staff who will be administering the various modules. These staff are involved in making sure the new system supports and enhances existing business practices and in some case develop new means of doing business.

The following modules are scheduled for set-up over the next three months: Certificates, Water Billing, e-Services, Registers, Customer Services, Payroll and Human Resources.

The scheduled Go Live date is Monday July 2nd, 2007.

2. Internet/Intranet Development

Council's 3 major web sites www.lismore.nsw.gov.au (Lismore City Council), www.visitlismore.com.au (Visit Lismore) and www.lismoregallery.org (Lismore Regional Gallery) continue to be developed and enhanced. Future developments will include a range of enhanced web based services for residents following the implementation of the new Corporate Information System.

Other Items

Review of IT Disaster Recovery Plan

Strategies for the protection of Council's substantial electronic data holdings and critical information systems continue to be developed.

Interactive Maps

The provision of interactive maps of the Lismore region is being finalised and expected to be released to the public shortly. These maps will enable users to see both aerial photographs of the area as well as property and infrastructure facilities including bus and waste collection services.

Economic Development and Tourism

Incorporating Business Development/Expansion, Tourism, Festivals & Events, Grants, Riverbank Project and Lismore Regional Airport.

1. Develop Strategic Planning Material & Direction

- Developed & implemented new procedure for providing holistic advice & assistance to preliminary business-related enquiries at the EDU (pre DA lodgment) & engaged a contract Client Services Planner to work alongside the Manager, Economic Development. Advice given extends to the following issues: development planning, business related (operational, finance & marketing considerations), labour force requirements & employee training, site identification

- 2. Develop industry workshops with key industry sectors to broaden networks/information sources**
 - Conducted second quarterly meeting between SCU and Council (under the terms of the MoU) focusing on projects of mutual benefit, such as the Cultural Precinct
- 3. Grants and project co-ordination**
 - Final AusIndustry funding acquittal completed for the *Lismore Business Incubator Feasibility Study*
 - Success with Regional Partnerships funding of \$24,000 for Nimbin School of Arts *"Inside-Outside Project"*
 - Riverbank Project: DA Consent granted for second historic site, plus MOU with Bundjalung Elders renewed; preparations made for removal of historic Butter Churn & artistic recreation
- 4. Upgraded Security Lismore Airport**
 - Inaugural annual compliance audit conducted by the Office of Transport Security on the *Transport Security Program*, with nil non-conformances
 - Mandatory annual *Aviation Safety Audit on Lismore Aerodrome* conducted resulting in our Certificate of Compliance being renewed by CASA
 - *Airport Safety Management System* draft document completed and issued to CASA for comment
- 5. Improvements Lismore Airport**
 - Maintenance crack sealing of runway and aprons completed
 - 20 Year Pavement Plan reviewed
- 6. Lismore Airport General Aviation (GA) Sub-Division**
 - One hangar lot being prepared for sale to fund the larger GA sub-division; DA Consent granted, drawings approved for engineering works & water
- 7. Lismore Airport Market Survey**
 - Now expected to be undertaken April 2007
- 8. Manage 2006 Northern Rivers Health & Herb Festival**
 - Final management report forwarded to LUO, together with all records relating to the event for the past three years; awaiting evaluation on this event, as well as evaluation on all SBRVL funded events for the past 12 months being undertaken by SCU's CRC for Tourism, funded by LUO
- 9. Attract four new, major external events to the City**
 - Prepared bids for the 2007 NSW Water Polo Country District Championships (Memorial Baths) & the 2008 Local Government Managers Australia Conference (400 potential attendees)
- 10. Refine management of city events hosted and supported by the Events Office**
 - Successful events supported by Events Office during the period include:
 - North Coast National – Arena Spectacular 18-21/10/06
 - Relay for Life 4-5/11/06
 - Carrington Street Re-opening 9/12/06
 - Draft *Event Management Guidelines* produced
 - Implementation of the marketing strategy for the Masters Games commenced, marked by the successful promotion of 2007 Lismore Masters Games at Pan Pac Masters Games in Southport, QLD
- 11. Further support and enhance development of Nimbin Tourism Industry**
 - Initiated contract for Nimbin VIC to collect detailed daily visitor data
 - Provided training famils on local tourism product for Nimbin volunteers & staff
 - Development of new tourism product - The Nimbin Walking Trail Project (incorporating the

Walker Arboretum); Steering Committee formed and two of four community workshops undertaken to scope the project & feasibility

12. Implement Tourism Marketing Strategy for Lismore LGA

- Preparations for the Nimbin Tourism Survey to commence March 2007
- Lismore LGA Dining Guide produced, with 25+ participants
- Lismore Tourism newsletter aimed at industry operators released
- 6 cafés renewed their subscription to the Café & Culture Trail networking group; implementation of the marketing plan continued on track

13. Revitalise Lismore Visitor Information Centre

- Lismore VIC renovations completed
- Training famils on local product provided for Lismore volunteers & staff
- Eight volunteers now working at the Lismore VIC
- Revamped Lismore Tourism website
- Greater range of merchandise offered; stock tracking system revamped

14. Increase joint activities and co-operation in tourism

- Designed and printed *Lismore Café Exhibitions* postcard
- Jointly conducted Stage 1 of the *Farm and Nature Tourism Program* (developed by SCU), to 40 local participants
- Network gathering held for 50+ Lismore LGA tourism/hospitality operators
- Submitted proposal to LUO for joint activity: themed street (drop) banners at 4 permanent sites in the CBD promoting Lismore & its many faceted offerings

Community Services

1. **Employment of Aboriginal trainees** – Chrystal Walker and Mitch King complete their traineeships with Lismore City Council in January 2007. They have completed all TAFE and workplace attendance requirements and have worked very well through the year.
2. **Youth Inter-Agency Planning Day** – Council's Youth Development Officer conducted an evaluation and planning day for the Lismore Youth sector. Forty participants engaged in an evaluation of past service delivery and planning for the coming year.
3. **Youth Activities Fund Allocation** – The annual allocation of funds to local youth services and community groups was concluded. Funds were awarded to support the following initiatives:
 - YWCA School holiday program.
 - PCYC Goonellabah Outreach sporting activities.
 - Creation of three youth pages in The Echo.
 - The creation of a hip-hop CD by young local musicians.
 - Infra-structure support to enable young Sudanese people to access sporting activities.
 - Two cultural camps for Indigenous youth.
 - Development of opportunities for Indigenous youth to access cricket through support for the creation of the Boomerangs Cricket Club.
 - Swim and Survive workshops for Dunoon Scouts.
 - The delivery of 'In Safe Hands' art workshops by the Centre Against Child Sexual Assault to Indigenous girls affected by sexual assault.

4. **Crime Prevention Plan** - The NSW Attorney General's Department confirmed the allocation of Safer Community Compact Grant funds for 2007.

This funding will support three initiatives identified in Council's Crime Prevention Plan. The YWCA will receive funding to support its delivery of School Holiday Programs to young people in the Goonellabah area. Three Indigenous Girls Well-being camps will be delivered in collaboration with local Indigenous organisations. Two offerings of the Indigenous anti-violence training program 'Our Journey to Respect' will be offered in partnership with the Department of Juvenile Justice.

5. **Elders Park Cycleway** – The cycle way was completed during this quarter. It was a major focus of the activities which were provided to children at the Goonellabah Christmas party and has been in constant use from the moment the cement had dried.
6. **Goonellabah Christmas Party** – Goonellabah's annual Xmas party was held in Elders Memorial Park. Approximately 250 residents from the local housing estates participated in games, karaoke, face painting, cricket and Santa's visit. This event was hosted by Council in partnership with the Department of Housing, the YWCA and North Coast Community Housing.
7. **Development of Cultural Precinct** – a report was considered at the December Council meeting which resolved to commit \$6 million towards the development of a Regional Gallery and Exhibition Centre building within the Cultural Precinct. It was also resolved to continue to support the Richmond River Historical Society at 165 Molesworth Street, and to undertake a strategic review of the future needs of the Historical Society. Lois Randall and Peter Woods of Arts Northern Rivers have been engaged to undertake the review which should be completed by end February 2007. Just prior to the Christmas break Council staff and the Mayor began to lobby the federal government for matching funds for the Regional Gallery and Exhibition Centre building, engaging with Senator Rod Kemp, federal Minister for the Arts, and Ian Causley. Lobbying will continue with both federal and state governments.
8. **Bundjalung Stories** – The Bundjalung Elders Stories project was successfully launched in August at the Lismore Regional Gallery. It is anticipated that the DVD component will be completed in early 2007. Project participants have been provided with a story book that summarises each individual story and the project context.
9. **Social Plan implementation** –

Lismore's Living Library - Australia's first Living Library was launched in Lismore on November 3. The community initiated project was supported by Lismore City Council and the library, and aimed to build social cohesion through bringing people together for a half hour conversation. Thomas George launched the event, attended by 120 people and up to 200 community people attended throughout the day. Over 32 'living books' represented many of Lismore's diverse community including people from different faith (Buddhist, Muslim, Catholic Nun), a Bundjalung Elder, the multicultural community (Filipino, Italian, Sudanese refugees), Gay men and lesbians, people with HIV/AIDS, young people (inter-country adoptee, Aboriginal, Persian), older people, a Police Officer and people with disability (vision impairment, physical, mental and intellectual disability). 'Living books' were borrowed for a half hour conversation during which time 'readers' could ask questions and learn about the experiences of people who suffer prejudice or negative stereotyping in our community. 'Readers' at the launch also reflected Lismore's diversity and included high profile community leaders (SCU's Vice Chancellor, editor Northern Star, Regional Directors of Education and Juvenile Justice and Superintendent of Police etc), students from Woodlawn College and Steiner School, senior citizens and general community members. The evaluations have been overwhelmingly positive and indicated that the initiative achieved its aim of building social cohesion and challenging negative stereotypes through people coming together and talking. Due to popular demand the Living Library opened again in December and will be open on the first Friday of the month during 2007. Lismore City Library has agreed to take on the organisation of the library, with minimal support from Council. Council has received calls of interest from all over Australia from groups, Councils and libraries wanting to establish their own Living Library. It is hoped that the Living Library will travel to events

including the Byron Writers Festival and Lismore A&I Show. This initiative represents a positive investment by Council in our community's social infrastructure.

International Day of People with Disability 2006 - Lismore City Council's Access Committee organised a successful day of celebration for people with disability in December attended by over 100 people. The theme for 2006 was Art with Heart and featured art and performance by people with disability. Opportunities were available for people to try painting, clay and music in the morning, followed by performance in the afternoon including wheelchair dancing, Signing Choir, singing, conducting a recorder group and poetry. Catering was also provided by people with disability. Next year the committee wants to encourage greater participation by the general community to witness the abilities of people with disability in our community.

10. Crime Prevention Plan

The endorsement of Council's Crime Prevention Plan 2006/2009 by the NSW Attorney General's Department has enabled staff to apply for funding to deliver three developmental crime prevention strategies in 2007. On confirmation of the funding, three Indigenous Girls Wellbeing Camps will be conducted, the YWCA School Holiday Programme will receive funding to support staffing their Goonellabah School Holiday Activity Program and 'Our Journey to Respect: Anti- Violence Training' will be delivered to service providers working with young Indigenous offenders in the Goonellabah area.

- 11. Goonellabah Recreation Centre** – at the December Council meeting it was resolved that Council would continue with the tender process to design and construct an indoor 2 court facility, with youth activities space, fitness centre (gym and aerobics area) administration, amenities, child minding area, café, and at least 600m² of indoor leisure water with operable walls to link with green open space, car parking, skate park and open space. Council resolved to continue negotiations with two short listed tenderers and address design issues raised in the selection process. Staff will provide tenderers with a specification for the leisure water in January 2007. It is anticipated that the designs and cost estimates will be brought to the March 2007 Council meeting to enable the selection of one preferred tenderer.

12. Lismore Park Plan of Management

Submissions regarding the Plan of Management have been received and acknowledged. A public meeting has been scheduled for Wednesday 31 January 2007. The public meeting will be facilitated by an external facilitator. Issues raised at the meeting will be reviewed by Council staff and the Plan of Management will be modified accordingly, if appropriate. A further draft of the Plan of Management will be reported to Council.

13. Lismore Memorial Baths

In late November the incumbent Pool Manager advised Council of his intention to resign from managing the Memorial Baths. The period of notice was brief and gave Council little choice but to take over the management of the facility. The changeover took place on 19 December, and since that date all staff have been employed by Council via JHA Recruitment and Staff at Work. It is envisaged that this interim management period will continue for some months while Council staff fully understand the systems operating at the Baths (staffing, programs, events, Learn to Swim, manuals, software system, plant etc). A deeper understanding of the operational and business elements of the Baths will provide invaluable information for Council when it considers whether to contract the management function or to manage the facility itself.

New shade structures and seating have been installed at the Baths.

Lismore Regional Gallery

- In November the summer surf show, Epic, opened. The show was supported by a \$10 000 grant from the State government and was curated by one of Australia's leading curators, Jason Smith, from the National Gallery of Victoria. The show also included Australia's top two artists; Tracey Moffatt and Patricia Piccinini.
- Lismore City Council committed \$6 million to the capital works budget for the \$12 million new Gallery and Exhibition building.
- In December the Mayor, senior Council staff, the Gallery Director and Michael Yabsley met with the Federal Arts Minister, Senator Rod Kemp, and requested \$6 million for the construction of the new Gallery.
- There are now over 250 Gallery members, representing 150% growth over the past 12 months.

Child Care

Koala Child Care Centre

- Enrolment figures for the first 6 months of the financial year was a daily average of 29.21 children or 85.91% occupancy capacity.
- Centre Christmas celebrations in early December were a big success, featuring face painting, clowns and Santa on a fire truck for the children's entertainment.
- ASPARD Documentation submitted to Department of Community Services late November for recurrent funding for the 07/08 financial year.
- Staff Skills assessment documentation completed with career goals and performance plan objectives as well as training needs for the next calendar year.

Lismore Outside of School Hours Care is averaging approximately 66 students per day, children attending from 10 different schools in Lismore.

- Completed 3 program Active After School sessions for term 3 (martial arts, circus and multiskill)
- Conducted parent survey regarding Active After School care
- Reviewed fees policy and circulated.

Gingerbread House

- Reviewed and reprinted Centre Handbooks to include Health Food Policy and Late Fee policy.
- Completed 3 program Active After School sessions for Term 4 (Martial Arts, Circus and Multiskill)
- Service transferred from Centrecalc database to Quikids database.
- Centre averaging approximately 64 students per day.
- 2007 enrolment taken and funding for special needs clients applied for.

Recommendation

That the report be received and noted.

Report

Subject	December 2006 Quarterly Budget Review Statement
File No	S929
Prepared by	Principal Accountant
Reason	Clause 7, Local Government (Financial Management) Regulations 1993
Objective	To gain Council's approval to amend the 2006/07 Budget to reflect actual or anticipated results
Strategic Plan Link	Leadership by Innovation
Management Plan Activity	Various

Overview of Report

Council's 2006/07 Budget has moved from a \$28,800 surplus in September 2006 to balanced budget as at December 2006. The operating deficit for December being \$28,800, this result includes a transfer to the Flood Mitigation reserves of \$49,000 for the Lismore Flood Levee.

A summary of the major items impacting the surplus has been included in the body of the report with some being: savings in salary costs due the finalisation of the restructure within the GM's Directorate \$30,000; funding received in relation the art gallery curator position \$27,000 and the transfer to the Flood Mitigation reserve of - (\$49,000) being for additional costs in relation the Lismore Levee Scheme. Additional comments have been provided in the body of the report in relation to these movements.

Revenues – overall are currently within expectations. There have been other adjustments to revenue as a result of additional grant funding, developer contributions to works and increased collections however these have not impacted on the operating result as they have been tied to specific programs or works.

Expenses – other than those reported impacting the operating surplus, are overall in-line with expectations. Some other adjustments have been made to expenses which have resulted from adjustments to grants, developer contributions to works and increased collections however these have not impacted on the operating result.

Background

The Local Government Act 1993 (LGA) requires the annual budget to be reviewed on a quarterly basis and any significant variances to be reported to Council. This report satisfies the LGA's requirements.

General Fund

The 2006/07 Management Plan provided for a balanced budget. The September review reported an accumulated surplus of \$28,800. This review details a deficit of \$28,800 with the accumulated annual result at December 31, 2006 being a balanced budget.

A summary of this movement follows:

Budget Movements for Quarter	Amount \$
Opening Surplus Balance at September 30, 2006	28,800
Plus – Salary savings due to revised structure within GM directorate	30,000
Plus – Unexpended grant funding from 2005/06 not previously included in the 2006/07 Management Plan.	27,000
Less – additional costs for the refurbish CBD to accommodate cash receipting.	(12,000)
Less – Floodplain management plan - additional modelling	(7,300)
Less – additional contribution towards Fire Brigade	(4,900)
Less – operation costs emergency generator admin building.	(2,000)
Less – Spinks park rotunda additional costs of completion and opening.	(10,600)
Less – contribution Lismore Flood levee works	(49,000)
Closing Surplus Balance at December 31, 2006	Nil

For Council's information, details of programs with significant variances other than those reported as impacting on the cash result are listed below. Please refer to the attachment for individual programs for a summary of all budget movements.

Lismore Flood Levee works - \$49,000

The additional funding requirements in relation to the Lismore Flood Levee are currently being assessed with Richmond River County Council however it is anticipated that Lismore Council's level of funding will be in excess of the reported surplus. It is recommended that the surplus of \$49,000 be transferred to the Flood Mitigation reserve for these works.

Floodplain Management Plan - \$7,300

Richmond River County Council has requested Council contribute \$7,300 towards additional modelling of the Lismore Floodplain Management Plan. The additional modelling will include rural lands in the Gundurimba, Wyrallah, Dungarruba and South Ruthven areas. The result will be a comprehensive two dimensional model of the whole floodplain which will support flood management for Council, Department of Natural Resources, SES and other agencies

The Planning department has provided the following comment in relation to the Floodplain Management Plain - "Council has good flood model data for the Lismore urban area which underpins its flood planning controls expressed through the LEP and DCP No 7 (Flood Prone Lands). However the current modelling extends only as far south as Gates Lake. There have been a number of development proposals downstream on the floodplain, particularly in the Gundurimba area, where there is a significant gap in Council's flood data. The additional modelling proposed by Richmond River County Council will help to plug this gap and provide a sounder basis for development assessment in this area. Council also has a responsibility under the recently released Far North Coast Regional Strategy to identify and zone areas subject to a high level of flooding hazard. The outcome of this project will therefore also assist Council in the preparation of its new LEP."

Human Resources Management

Additional allocation of \$20,000 has been included for support, research and legal fees; this has been funded from reserves and therefore has no impact on the operating surplus.

Water Services

Additional works for water mains renewal has been included \$132,000 with funding from reserves which will have no impact on the operational result.

Waste

Responsibility for street bin collection has been transferred from Parks and Gardens to Waste, with a corresponding transfer of \$36,000 from Parks operating expenses to Waste operating expenses. This is a reallocation of an existing vote and has no impact on the operating result. An additional \$15,000 has been included for the maintenance of skip bins and is funded from reserves with no impact on the operating result.

Properties and Community Facilities

A grant received in 2004/05 – Community Water Grant \$43,000 was repaid due to delays in the commencement in the project. The grant was in relation to the Goonellabah Recreation Centre. There is no impact on the operating result.

Parks and Recreation

An additional \$24,000 has been included in relation to the Elders Park Cycles way, funding has been sourced from grant revenue \$10,000 and reserves \$14,000. Responsibility for street bin collection has been transferred from Parks and Gardens to Waste, with a corresponding transfer of \$36,000 from Parks operating expenses to Waste operating expenses. Operating expenses have been increased by \$20,000 to reflect the reallocation of amounts included in the 2006/07 as capital projects to operating expenses. There is no impact on the operating surplus.

Traffic and City Safe

Additional capital funding has been included for the extension of security cameras in the Lismore CBD - \$50,000. This has been funded from the Special Business Levy reserves and has no impact on the operating surplus.

Roads

Additional funds have been included for capital works - \$297,700 and maintenance works - \$2,654,200. These works have been funded from additional funds received in relation to PAMP funding from the RTA - \$30,000, RTA black spots - \$1,236,000 and Flood repairs \$929,700. The balance was funded by transfers from reserves - \$514,400, unexpended grants \$177,800 and contributions to works \$64,000. The two major projects included under the black spot programme are: the roundabout at Leicester-Dawson Street – \$1,100,000 and Pineapple Road to Oliver Avenue - \$76,000.

Workshop

Grant funding has been received in relation to capital works, the provision of SBS transmissions (for Lismore, The Channon and Nimbin) - \$99,500.

Lismore Art Gallery

The Curator's position at the Art Gallery has received 50% grant funding - \$27,000 per year for three years, with the initial payment received in January 2006. These funds were not included in the original management plan and have impacted on the operating surplus. The unexpended component of the 2006/07 grant funds – \$21,000 will be carried forward for use within the 2007/08 Management Plan. Sales revenue for the Margaret Olley catalogue - \$11,800 has been included with funds being allocated to increased operating expenses with no impact to operating result.

Economic Development

Additional funds have been included to provide planning services to potential investors/developers and business people on relocations and expansions within Lismore Area - \$15,000. These funds have been sourced from reserves with no impact on operating surplus.

Environmental Health and Building Services

Grant funds included in the 2006/07 Management Plan are not to be received – \$60,000. Additional grant funding has been recognised in relation to the Lowland Rainforest – \$27,000, with unexpended grants of \$27,700 also brought forward. Operating expenses have been adjusted to reflect the

movement in revenue and grant funding and there is no impact to the operating surplus.

Change in Net Assets

The 2006/07 Management Plan showed a surplus in the "Change in Net Assets" of \$5,044,700. The December review shows an accumulated surplus in the "Change in Net Assets" of \$4,891,000.

It should be noted that this amount reflects the estimated increase in net assets held under the Council's control for this year. It does not reflect in any way the Council's cash or liquidity position.

Other staff comments

Not required

Public consultation

Not required

Conclusion

Council's budget has moved from a surplus budget in September 2006 of \$28,800 to a balanced budget December 2006.

The December 2006 period has generated an actual deficit of \$28,800, with the major items that have had an impact being:

- a) Savings in salaries due to the finalisation of the staffing structure within the GM directorate - \$30,000,
- b) Transfer to Flood mitigation reserves - \$49,000 for works in relation to the Lismore Flood Levee.

It is expected that there will additional savings in expenses (interest 2006/07 loan program) offset by lower than expected revenues (interest from investments as a result of the lower investment base). These items are planned to be reviewed and reported in the March review.

Adjustments have made to other operating revenues, expenses and capital programs. These have been funded from within existing programs, reserves, section 94, and revenues with a nil impact on the operating result. A program summary is attached that summarises those changes.

Recommendation

- 1 Council adopt the December 2006 Budget Review Statement for General, Water and Sewerage Funds.
- 2 This information is submitted to Council's Auditor.

Report

Subject	January 2007– Investments held by Council
File No	S178
Prepared by	Principal Accountant
Reason	Required under Clause 212 Local Government (General) Regulations 2005, Local Government Act 1993, and Council's Investment policy.
Objective	To report on Council Investments
Strategic Plan Link	Leadership by Innovation
Management Plan Activity	Financial Services

Overview of Report

Council investments as at 31 January 2007 is estimated to be \$34,765,007 subject to the final value of funds held under separate management being advised shortly.

The interest rate reported over the period of January 2007 is estimated to be 6.90% in comparison to 6.18% for January 2006. The final interest return may vary due to actual returns achieved in the funds held under separate management. The portfolio managers have provided an estimate of returns expected for the period, this may vary due to capital movements within investments held.

Council has transferred some investments into an Individually Managed Portfolio managed by Grange Securities. This portfolio is managed to attain maximum returns and the basket of investments may change over the course of the reporting period. Reporting for this investment has been made on consolidated basis with all other investments.

Background

The Local Government Act 1993, Clause 212 Local Government (General) Regulations 2005 and Council's Investment policy requires a monthly report be provided to Council on investments. The report is to include the source and amount of funds invested, terms of performance of the investment portfolio over the preceding period and a statement of compliance in relation to the requirements of the Local Government Act 1993.

Due to timing issues the final value of some investments is not available within the required reporting time-frame, therefore an estimate is provided based on the investments held at the time of this report. The actual balance will be confirmed in the report to the next Council meeting.

Report on Investments

- *Confirmation of Investments – 30 November 2006* \$37,530,533
- *Investments – 31 December 2006* \$37,694,773

Interest return for December 2006 was 6.90% compared to 6.18% for the same period 2005.

Some variation is expected on the final balance of funds held under separate management. The final valuation of these funds is not made until after the end of the month.

The current rate of return on investments for January 2007 is estimated to be 6.90% compared to 6.18% for the same period last year. The final rate of return may vary as a result of the finalisation of the funds held under separate management. These will not be advised until after the month end. The rate of return reported has been calculated using actual returns where available and estimates provided by portfolio managers.

Council has transferred some investments into an Individually Managed Portfolio managed by Grange Securities. This portfolio is managed to attain the maximum returns and the basket of investments may change over the course of the reporting period. Reporting for this investment has been made on consolidated basis with all other investments.

A summary of Council's investments in graphical form has been included as attachments.

Comments

Other staff comments

N/A

Public consultation

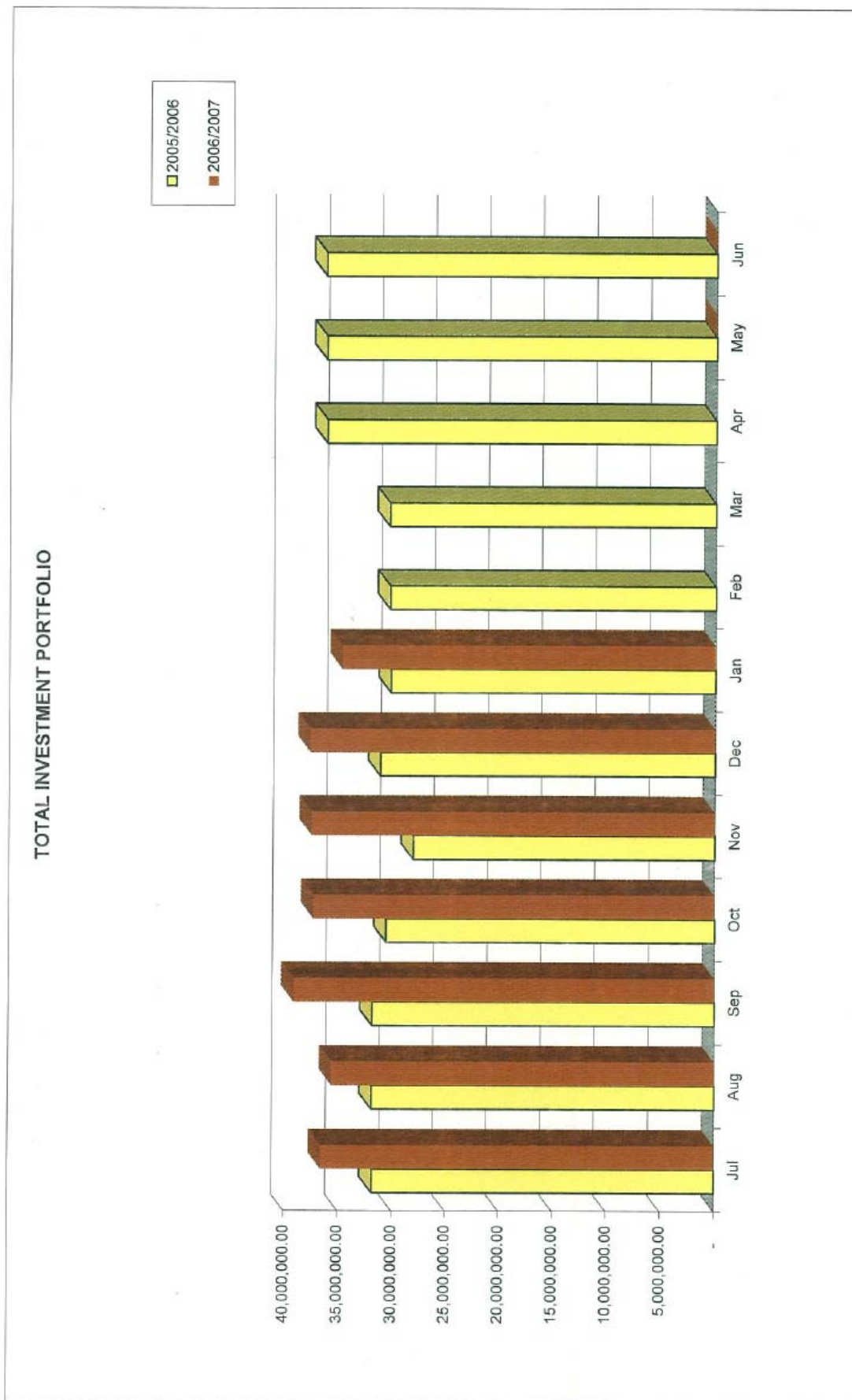
N/A

Conclusion

The investments held by Council with various financial institutions, have been made in accordance with the Local Government Act 1993, Local Government (General) Regulation 2005 and Council's investment policies.

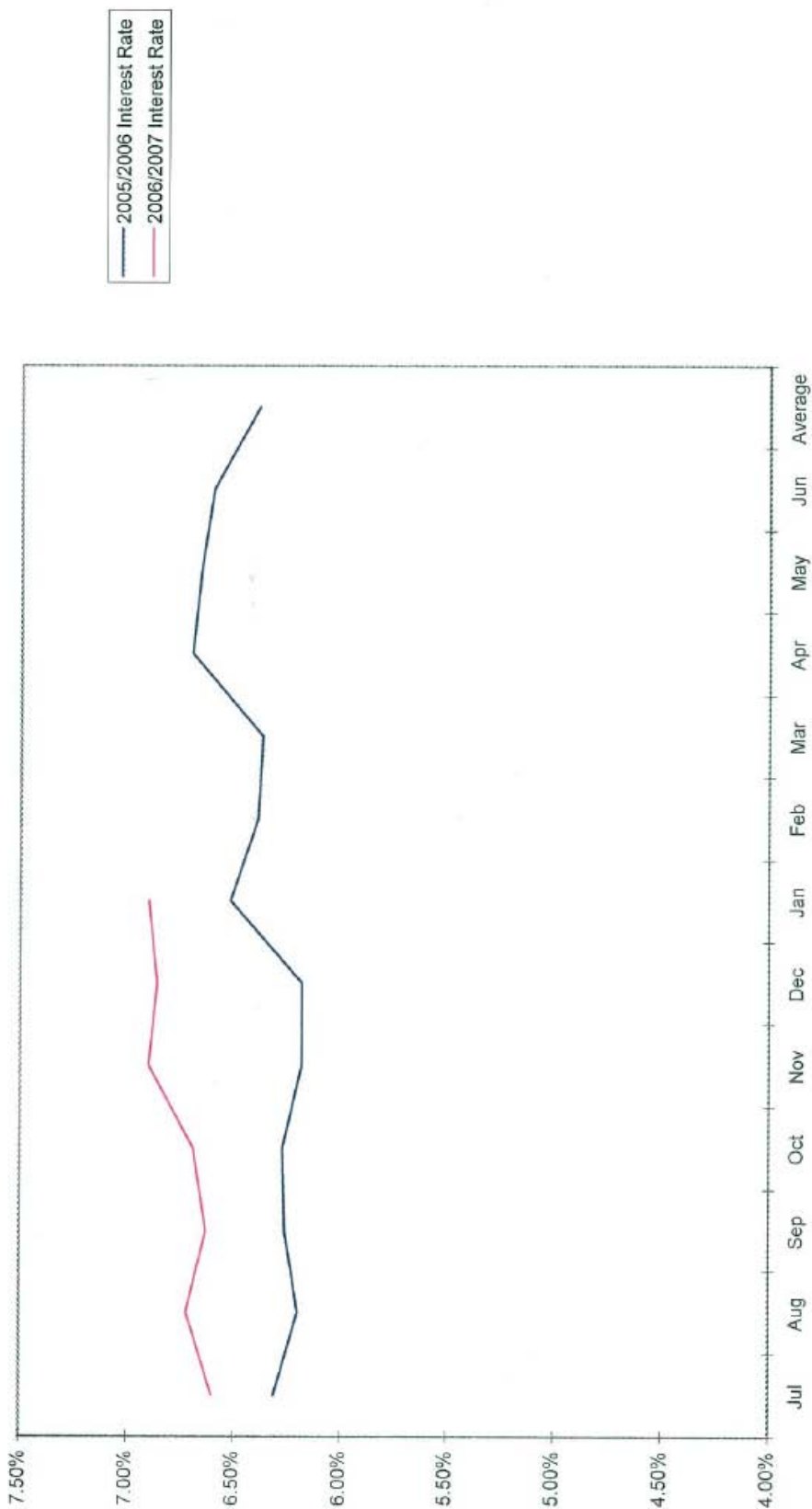
Recommendation

The report be received and noted



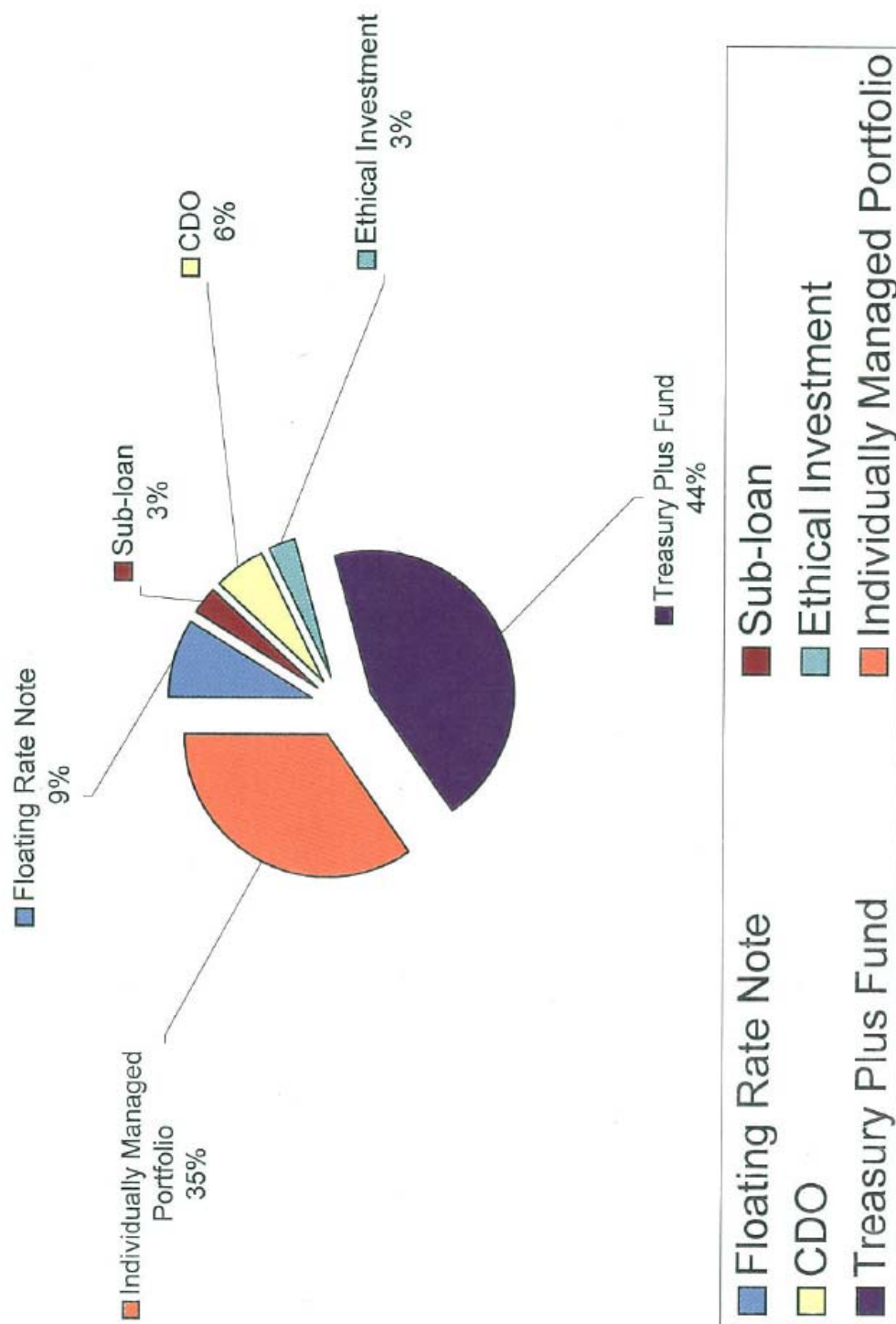
2006-07 Investments.xls

WEIGHTED AVERAGE INTEREST RATE



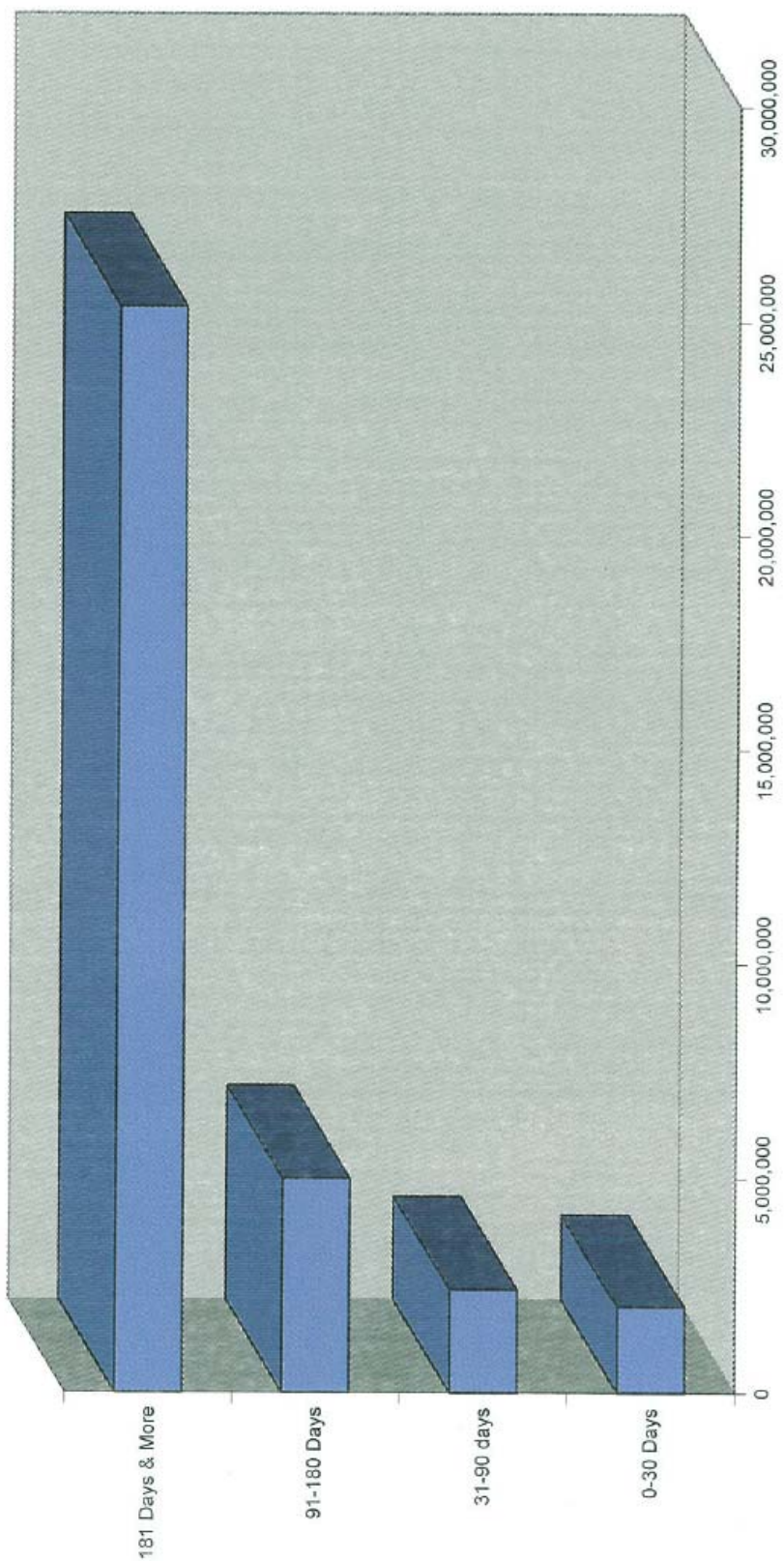
2006_07 Investments v1e

INVESTMENT BY TYPE

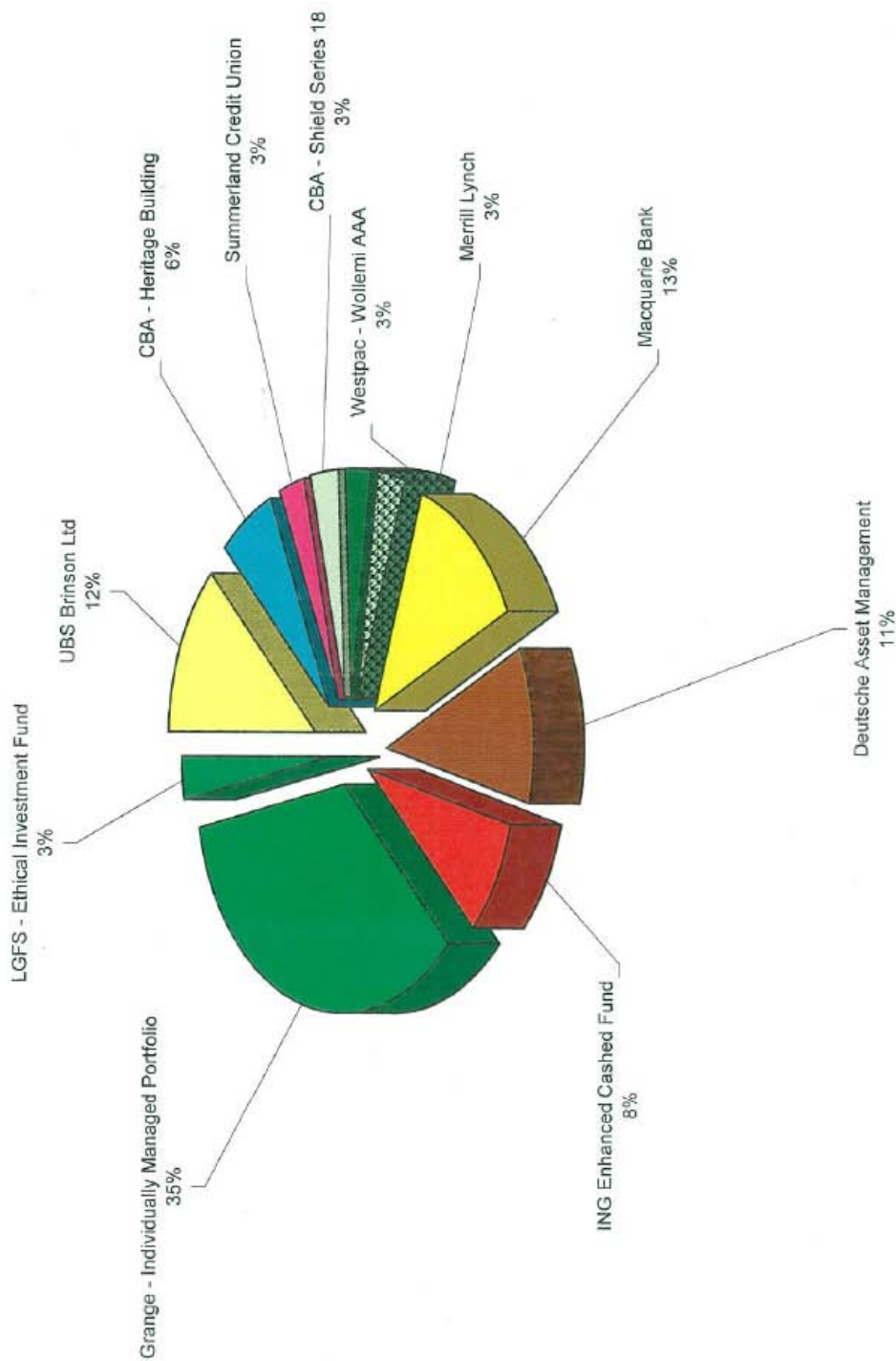


2006-07 Investments.xls

SPREAD OF INVESTMENT MATURITIES



INVESTMENT BY INSTITUTION



**MINUTES OF THE TRAFFIC ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING
HELD ON DECEMBER 20, 2006, AT 10.00 AM.**

	Present	Councillor Merv King (<i>Chairperson</i>), Thomas George, MP, Michael Baldwin (<i>RTA</i>), Snr Const Steve Hilder (<i>Lismore Police</i>).
	In Attendance	Councillors Jenny Dowell and John Hampton, Garry Hemsworth (<i>Executive Director-Infrastructure Services</i>), Scott Turner (<i>Manager-Assets & Support Services</i>) and Bill MacDonald (<i>Traffic & Emergency Services Coordinator</i>).
TAC91/06	Apologies	Nil
TAC92/06	Minutes	The Committee was advised that the minutes of the Traffic Advisory Committee Meeting held on November 22, 2006, were confirmed by Council on December 12, 2006.

Disclosure of Interest
Nil

Part 'A' – Committee Recommendations

R Watson; requesting a No Parking sign be installed at the eastern end of Uralba Street near the Baptist Church as parked vehicles often block access to the driveway.

TAC93/06 **RECOMMENDED** that a No Stopping zone be created on the northern side of the access road to the Baptist Church from opposite the top side of the driveway for a distance of 12m downhill. (06-10729;R6058)

Intersection of Rosehill Road / Rock Valley Road, Tuncester

Concern had been raised about the difficulty drivers of larger vehicles have been experiencing when exiting Rock Valley Road onto Rosehill Road and the potential for conflict with motorists travelling south on Rosehill Road.

TAC94/06 **RECOMMENDED** that a 'Trucks Turning' warning sign be erected beneath the existing T-intersection warning sign on Rosehill Road. (R2401,R2704)

Nielson Street, East Lismore – Entrance to Wyrallah Road Public School

(Refer Item B-06:09-6 of minutes of meeting held September 20, 2006)

Results of a recent resident survey were tabled at the meeting. It showed that all respondents were in favour of the proposed installation of No Stopping signs on the eastern side of Nielson Street and all but two were in favour of installing a speed hump on Nielson Street. Mr Baldwin suggested that the times on the No Stopping signs be the same as on the School Zone signs. It was proposed that the signs be installed initially and that the speed hump should only be constructed if it was found that there was evidence of a speeding problem.

Nielson Street, East Lismore – Entrance to Wyrallah Road Public School (c'td)

- TAC95/06 **RECOMMENDED** that No Stopping signs with the times “2.30pm to 4.00pm School Days” be installed on the eastern side of Nielson Street between Elizabeth Street and the school gate, and further that a speed hump be installed at a later stage only if it can be established that excessive speed is a problem. (R7459)

Dawson Street – Pedestrian Crossing Proposal

Mr MacDonald tabled the results of a vehicle and pedestrian survey that had been carried out on Dawson Street, between Uralba and Magellan Streets. The survey was carried out between 8.20am and 9.20am and 3.00pm and 4.00pm and indicated that the warrant for a marked pedestrian crossing may be met. Mr Baldwin advised that a further count was required in order to determine if the warrant was met and this would be organised shortly.

- TAC96/06 **RECOMMENDED** that provided the third count confirmed the warrant for a marked pedestrian crossing on Dawson Street, between Uralba and Magellan Streets was met, that this proposal then be referred to Council’s Design Services Section to prepare a plan and estimate for any works, including footpath links, followed by lodgement of an application to the Roads & Traffic Authority for approval. (R6017)

Part 'B' – Determined by Committee

Kadina High School OH&S Committee; thanking the Committee for recommendations made to date to improve road safety for students and staff and seeking further input to reduce vehicle speeds on Kadina Street after exiting the roundabout.

- B-06:12-1 The installation of a raised platform or pedestrian crossing on Kadina Street at the location of the existing pedestrian refuge was not considered a viable option due to its close proximity to the roundabout. There was some doubt as to whether students would use any alternative facility that would be located further down Kadina Street. However, it was suggested that a survey of pedestrian movements be carried out in the New Year once school had resumed to assist in determining any further action required. (06-10533:R6469)

D & J Crouch, B & E Thompson, RB Holmes, G & G Goulding & Family; requesting the Bruxner Highway be widened at the intersection with McInnes Road, McKees Hill, to provide for the construction of turning lanes.

- B-06:12-2 Mr Baldwin advised that this issue should be referred to the Roads & Traffic Authority for assessment and consideration in any future funding programme. (06-10791:R4903,R4807)

Ms D McClelland; requesting consideration be given to increasing the School Zone on Kyogle Street, South Lismore, as the zone currently commences at the boundary line of Lismore South Public School and suggesting motorists be given more warning upon approaching a School.

- B-06:12-3 It was noted that roadworks were still in progress in Kyogle Street adjacent to the school and that cars would normally be parked on both sides of the road, particularly during morning and afternoon peaks when the School Zone was in force. Vehicle speeds during these periods would be reasonable given the conditions. Sight distance to the existing signs was considered adequate and there was some doubt as to the need for them to be relocated. However, it was suggested that the area be monitored in the New Year once school had resumed and upon completion of the roadworks to determine if any further action was required. (06-10890:R6925,S346)

Closure

This concluded the business and the meeting terminated at 10.40 am.

Chairperson

Traffic and Emergency Services Co-Ordinator

Financial Assistance - Section 356

a) City Hall Reductions in Rental – Policy 8.4.2 (GL2033.2)

Budget: \$11,700 To date: \$12,837

Lismore Soup Kitchen Inc. requesting a donation for the hire of the City Hall for the annual Christmas lunch (P6816, S164:06-1893)**Recommendation:** In accordance with Clause 5 of the policy and consistent with the Council's decision in previous years, a 100% discount apply \$260**Local Congregation of Jehovah's Witnesses** requesting a donation towards the hire of the City Hall for the presentation of bible lectures (P6816:07/874)**Recommendation:** In accordance with Clause 1 of the policy, a donation of 25% of hire fee apply. \$460**b) Council Contributions to Charitable Organisations****Waste Facility – Policy 5.6.1 (GL2033.15)**

Budget: \$6,000 To date:\$4,881.63

Challenge Foundation	\$117.36
Five Loaves	\$64.18
Friends of the Koala	\$21.82
Lismore Soup Kitchen (period 1/5/06 – 30/11/06)	\$1,070.00
Lifeline	\$170.00
Shared Vision Aboriginal Corporation	\$10.90

In accordance with policy. \$1,560.91**c) Mayor's Discretionary Fund (GL2033.26)**

Budget: \$2,700 To date: \$968.20

Yabur Yulgun Aboriginal Corporation sponsorship of local Aboriginal Oz-tag team to attend the NSW State oz-tag titles.*In accordance with policy* \$100**g) Miscellaneous Donations****Laurie Lawrence Kids Alive** is conducting the 2007 National Drowning Prevention Campaign and has requested Council waive all fees for the use of the Lismore City Hall to present the 'Kids Alive Do the Five Show Tour'. This is a community awareness campaign and is free of charge.

Unfortunately, the City Hall venue is booked (February 20, 2007) and the City Hall Manager has suggested the Star Court Theatre as an alternate venue. The charge to hire the venue is \$290.00.

Recommendation: Not waive all fees but instead based on Council's City Hall Policy 8.4.2 Clause 1, a 25% contribution be approved \$752.50**U/12 Junior Cricket Carnival** held in Lismore from January 9-12, 2007. Request to waive 90% of ground hire fees. This donation has been supported by Council for several years.

\$1,602.00

Recommendation

In accordance with Section 356(1) of the Local Government Act 1993, the assistance to persons as listed above is hereby approved.

MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY MEETING OF THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LISMORE HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER, GOONELLABAH ON TUESDAY, DECEMBER 12, 2006 AT 6.04 PM.

- Present** Mayor, Councillor King; Councillors Chant (7.02pm), Crimmins, Dowell, Ekins, Graham, Hampton, Henry, Meineke, Swientek and Tomlinson, together with the General Manager, Executive Director-Development & Governance, Executive Director-Infrastructure Services, Manager-Finance, Communications Co-ordinator, Corporate Compliance Officer and General Manager's Personal Assistant.
- 242/06 **Apologies/ Leave of Absence** An apology for non-attendance on behalf of Cr Irwin was received and accepted and leave of absence granted for Cr King (11/2/07 to 3/3/07) and Cr Tomlinson (16/12/06 to 10/1/07)
(Councillors Hampton/Graham)
- 243/06 **Minutes** The minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held on November 14, 2006, were confirmed.
(Councillors Dowell/Meineke)

Public Access Session

Prior to the commencement of the meeting, a Public Access Session was held at which Council was addressed by the following:

Wendy Pool – Goonellabah Recreation Centre

(See Minute No. 251/06)

Ms Pool spoke on behalf of the Lismore Basketball Association in support of the submission they had made to Council. She raised concerns about the shared activity at Goonellabah, the possible impact upon the Keen Street courts and sought a commitment from Council for future of their courts.

(SP22522, S736)

Ms Robbie Braithwaite – Lismore Regional Gallery and Exhibition Centre

(See Minute No. 252/06)

Ms Braithwaite speaking on behalf of the RRHS in support of Option 2. She outlined the benefits of such facilities to the community, and advised that refurbishment of the current facility would not bring a satisfactory result, i.e. a regional museum.

(S857, S921)

Andrew Binns – Lismore Regional Gallery and Exhibition Centre

(See Minute No. 252/06)

Mr Binns spoke in support of Option 1 on the basis that this was achievable in the short term whilst Option 2 would not be. He explained the linkages of option 1 with the RRHS. He cited the broad benefits to the Community of the cultural precincts and referred to State and Federal funding opportunities.

(S857, S921)

Samlara Canin-Henkel – Kyoto Protocol (Kadina High)

(See Minute No. 247/06)

Miss Canin-Henkel spoke in support of the Kyoto Protocol and gave Council practical examples of measures that could be introduced in the local community to reduce carbon emissions.

(S232)

Rodney Carter – Snow and Cook Street Proposed Link

(See Minute No. 253/06)

Mr Carter spoke against any road connection from Snow to Cook Street. He disputed the need for such a facility and claimed it would only increase problems for local residents.

(R6911, R6935)

Brian Suffolk – Snow and Cook Street Proposed Link

(See Minute No. 253/06)

Mr Suffolk supported a one way street option. He claimed lack of such a road was having an adverse impact on development of the area and that its execution would ease the situation on nearby residential streets.

(R6911, R6935)

S 451

The Mayor, Councillor King declared an interest in this matter, vacated the chair and left the Chamber during the presentation.

Election of Chair

The General Manager advised the meeting that as the Deputy Mayor was not present, the meeting would need to elect a chairperson.

A nomination was received for Cr Hampton.

The General Manager declared Cr Hampton elected to the position of chairperson.

Peter Bailey – Lismore Showgrounds

(See Minute No. 254/06)

Mr Bailey advised Council that his club was willing to purchase land off the Show Society. He suggested this may be an alternative to the overdraft option by Council.

(S81)

John Gibson – Lismore Showgrounds

(See Minute No. 254/06)

Mr Gibson thanked Council for their previous support and sought a further extension of the overdraft to enable the Trust to finalise options.

(S81)

At this juncture, Councillor King rejoined the meeting and resumed the chair.

Disclosure of Interest

S451

Councillor King declared an interest in Lismore Showgrounds (Member of the Showground Trust and Board of Management).

Councillor Hampton declared an interest in TAC 84/06, Traffic Advisory Committee Minutes (Adjacent land owner).

Councillor Tomlinson declared an interest in Section 356 - Donation to Woodlawn College (Daughter undertook HSC at Woodlawn).

Notice of Motions

Shade cover at Memorial Baths

244/06 Formal notice having been given by Councillor Tomlinson it was **RESOLVED** that Lismore City Council investigate full shade cover over the 25m heated pool at the Memorial Baths and that the nature of the shade take into account the cost of the shade itself as well as the longer term health and financial implications for effective use of the pool. Further that a report be brought back to Council in March 2007 detailing the preferred option.

(Councillors Tomlinson/Dowell) (P6768)

Enhancement of the main approaches to Lismore

245/06 Formal notice having been given by Councillor Ekins it was **RESOLVED** that Council staff prepare a report on measures that could be taken to enhance the main approaches to Lismore and avoid poorly designed development in these areas.

(Councillors Ekins/Dowell) (S73)

Heritage Study for the Village of Eltham

Formal notice having been given by Councillor Ekins it was **MOVED** that Council, as part of the current LEP review prepare a community based Heritage Study for the Village of Eltham.

(Councillors Ekins/Dowell) (S393)

On submission to the meeting the MOTION was defeated

Voting against: Councillors King, Chant, Hampton, Meineke, Crimmins and Graham

A Place in the Sun

246/06 Formal notice having been given by Councillor Dowell it was **RESOLVED** that Council approve the public screening of 'A Place in the Sun'.

(Councillors Dowell/Tomlinson) (S703)

Kyoto Protocol

Formal notice having been given by Councillor Dowell it was **MOVED** that Council -

1. Write to the Federal Government requesting that it ratify and implement the Kyoto Protocol.
2. Undertake as soon as practical, a media campaign to inform our community of Lismore's Local Action Plan and Council's progress towards reducing greenhouse gas emissions through our participation in the International Cities for Climate Protection program.

(Councillors Dowell/Tomlinson)

An **AMENDMENT WAS MOVED** that Council -

Undertake as soon as practical, a media campaign to inform our community of Lismore's Local Action Plan and Council's progress towards reducing greenhouse gas emissions through our participation in the International Cities for Climate Protection program.

(Councillors King/Hampton) (S232)

On submission to the meeting the AMENDMENT was APPROVED and became the MOTION.

Voting against: Councillors Dowell, Tomlinson, Swientek and Ekins.

247/06 **RESOLVED** that Council –

Undertake as soon as practical, a media campaign to inform our community of Lismore's Local Action Plan and Council's progress towards reducing greenhouse gas emissions through our participation in the International Cities for Climate Protection program.

(Councillors King/Hampton) (S232)

A FORESHADOWED MOTION was MOVED that Council hold a workshop in 2007 to take us through the pros and cons of the Kyoto Protocol.

(Councillors Henry/Graham)

248/06 **RESOLVED** that Council hold a workshop in 2007 to take us through the pros and cons of the Kyoto Protocol.

(Councillors Henry/Graham) (S232)

Voting against: Councillor Swientek

Water Conservation Strategy

Formal notice having been given by Councillor Swientek it was MOVED that Lismore City Council seek support from neighbouring local governments drawing on Rocky Creek Dam water to consult with their communities with a view to establishing the same water conservation measures that Lismore has imposed regarding outdoor water use on an odds and evens basis.

(Councillors Swientek/Ekins) (S302)

An AMENDMENT WAS MOVED -

That Lismore City Council seek support from neighbouring local governments drawing on Rocky Creek Dam water with a view to establishing the same water conservation measures that Lismore has introduced.

(Councillor Dowell/Tomlinson)

On submission to the meeting the AMENDMENT was defeated.

Voting against: Councillors King, Chant, Henry, Crimmins, Swientek, Hampton, Meineke, Graham and Ekins.

On submission to the meeting the MOTION was defeated.

Voting against: Councillors King, Chant, Henry, Crimmins, Hampton, Meineke, Graham, Dowell and Tomlinson.

Nuclear Power Plant

Formal notice having been given by Councillor Swientek it was MOVED that Lismore City write to the Prime Minister and our local federal member Mr Ian Causley expressing Council's opposition to the establishment of a nuclear power plant in this Council area or in this region.

Further, that Council write to our neighbouring local government authorities indicating our opposition and action in relation to the establishment of nuclear power station(s) within our

boundaries and/or in this region and seeking their position on this important matter.

(Councillors Swientek/Ekins) (S405)

On submission to the meeting the MOTION was DEFEATED.

Voting against: Councillors King, Chant, Henry, Tomlinson, Crimmins, Hampton, Meineke, Graham and Ekins

Altering Order of Business

249/06 **RESOLVED** that the order of business be altered to debate the following matters raised during Public Access.

- Goonellabah Recreation Centre
- Lismore Regional Gallery and Exhibition Centre
- Snow and Cook Street Proposed Link
- Lismore Showgrounds

(Councillors Graham/Hampton)

Reports

Goonellabah Recreation Centre

A MOTION WAS MOVED

1. Nature and scope of components within the Centre

That Council:

- 1.1) proceed with the process for the design and construction as specified for a 3 court indoor complex, with provision to expand to a third court in future if required.
- 1.2) endorse the inclusion of indoor leisure water, with provision for 1000m² water including beach entry and learn to swim area, wet amenities, storage and operable walls allowing indoor/outdoor access.

2. Tender to Design and Construct the Goonellabah Recreation Centre

That:

- 2.1) In accordance with clause 178 (1) (b) of the Local Government (General) Regulations 2005, and as provided in the tender document, Council decline to accept any tenders for the Design and Construction of the Goonellabah Recreation Centre.
- 2.2) In accordance with clause 178 (3) (e) of the Local Government (General) Regulations 2005, Council enter into negotiations with the preferred tenderers, Lahey Constructions and SPANTECH to resolve issues as outlined in the report.
- 2.3) Negotiation of said issues will be undertaken with reference to the Goonellabah Recreation Centre Project Team and user groups.
- 2.4) In accordance with clause 178 (4) (a) and (b) of the Local Government (General) Regulations 2005 the reasons Council will not call fresh tenders for the works and will enter into negotiations are:
 - The tenders received are not unsatisfactory, but require finalisation of some issues prior to entering into a contract.
 - Discussions about those issues, if conducted after a contract has been awarded, would confer a commercial advantage to a successful tenderer.
 - A satisfactory result can be achieved through negotiation of the relevant issues.
 - Two tenders have been identified through the tender assessment process as

- potentially satisfactory.
- To call fresh tenders would unnecessarily delay the project.

(Councillors Swientek) (P22522, S736)
The MOTION lapsed for want of seconder

A MOTION was MOVED that the report be received and -

1. Nature and scope of components within the Centre

That Council:

- 1.1) proceed with the process for the design and construction as specified for a 2 court indoor complex, with provision to expand to a third court in future if required.

2. Tender to Design and Construct the Goonellabah Recreation Centre

That:

- 2.1) In accordance with clause 178 (1) (b) of the Local Government (General) Regulations 2005, and as provided in the tender document, Council decline to accept any tenders for the Design and Construction of the Goonellabah Recreation Centre.
- 2.2) In accordance with clause 178 (3) (e) of the Local Government (General) Regulations 2005, Council enter into negotiations with the preferred tenderers, Lahey Constructions and SPANTECH to resolve issues as outlined in the report.
- 2.3) Negotiation of said issues will be undertaken with reference to the Goonellabah Recreation Centre Project Team and user groups.
- 2.4) In accordance with clause 178 (4) (a) and (b) of the Local Government (General) Regulations 2005 the reasons Council will not call fresh tenders for the works and will enter into negotiations are:
 - The tenders received are not unsatisfactory, but require finalisation of some issues prior to entering into a contract.
 - Discussions about those issues, if conducted after a contract has been awarded, would confer a commercial advantage to a successful tenderer.
 - A satisfactory result can be achieved through negotiation of the relevant issues.
 - Two tenders have been identified through the tender assessment process as potentially satisfactory.
 - To call fresh tenders would unnecessarily delay the project.

(Councillors Tomlinson/
The MOTION lapsed for want of seconder

A MOTION was MOVED that -

1. Nature and scope of components within the Centre

That Council:

- 1.1) proceed with the process for the design and construction as specified for a 2 court indoor complex, with provision to expand to a third court in future if required.
- 1.2) endorse the inclusion of indoor leisure water, with provision for at least 600m² water including beach entry and learn to swim area, wet amenities, storage and operable walls allowing indoor/outdoor access.
- 1.3) design the nature and scope of the components in such a manner that optimises the potential for future expansion of leisure water, multi purpose courts, passive recreational areas and/or other attached or detached community facilities.

2. Tender to Design and Construct the Goonellabah Recreation Centre

That:

- 2.1) In accordance with clause 178 (1) (b) of the Local Government (General) Regulations 2005, and as provided in the tender document, Council decline to accept any tenders for the Design and Construction of the Goonellabah Recreation Centre.
- 2.2) In accordance with clause 178 (3) (e) of the Local Government (General) Regulations 2005, Council enter into negotiations with the preferred tenderers, Lahey Constructions and SPANTECH to resolve issues as outlined in the report.
- 2.3) Negotiation of said issues will be undertaken with reference to the Goonellabah Recreation Centre Project Team and user groups.
- 2.4) In accordance with clause 178 (4) (a) and (b) of the Local Government (General) Regulations 2005 the reasons Council will not call fresh tenders for the works and will enter into negotiations are:
 - The tenders received are not unsatisfactory, but require finalisation of some issues prior to entering into a contract.
 - Discussions about those issues, if conducted after a contract has been awarded, would confer a commercial advantage to a successful tenderer.
 - A satisfactory result can be achieved through negotiation of the relevant issues.
 - Two tenders have been identified through the tender assessment process as potentially satisfactory.
 - To call fresh tenders would unnecessarily delay the project.

(Councillors King/Chant) (SP22522, S736)

MOTION BE PUT

250/06 **RESOLVED** that the motion be put
(Councillors Hampton/)
Voting against: Councillor Swientek

251/06 **RESOLVED** that -

1. Nature and scope of components within the Centre

That Council:

- 1.1) proceed with the process for the design and construction as specified for a 2 court indoor complex, with provision to expand to a third court in future if required.
- 1.2) endorse the inclusion of indoor leisure water, with provision for at least 600m² water including beach entry and learn to swim area, wet amenities, storage and operable walls allowing indoor/outdoor access.
- 1.3) design the nature and scope of the components in such a manner that optimises the potential for future expansion of leisure water, multi purpose courts, passive recreational areas and/or other attached or detached community facilities.

2. Tender to Design and Construct the Goonellabah Recreation Centre

That:

- 2.1) In accordance with clause 178 (1) (b) of the Local Government (General) Regulations 2005, and as provided in the tender document, Council decline to accept any tenders for the Design and Construction of the Goonellabah Recreation Centre.
- 2.2) In accordance with clause 178 (3) (e) of the Local Government (General) Regulations 2005, Council enter into negotiations with the preferred tenderers, Lahey Constructions and SPANTECH to resolve issues as outlined in the report.
- 2.3) Negotiation of said issues will be undertaken with reference to the Goonellabah

- Recreation Centre Project Team and user groups.
- 2.4) In accordance with clause 178 (4) (a) and (b) of the Local Government (General) Regulations 2005 the reasons Council will not call fresh tenders for the works and will enter into negotiations are:
- The tenders received are not unsatisfactory, but require finalisation of some issues prior to entering into a contract.
 - Discussions about those issues, if conducted after a contract has been awarded, would confer a commercial advantage to a successful tenderer.
 - A satisfactory result can be achieved through negotiation of the relevant issues.
 - Two tenders have been identified through the tender assessment process as potentially satisfactory.
 - To call fresh tenders would unnecessarily delay the project.

(Councillors King/Chant) (SP22522, S736)

Voting against: Councillor Tomlinson

Lismore Regional Gallery and Exhibition Centre

A MOTION WAS MOVED that Council -

1. Commit **\$8** million in its future capital works financial plan towards the construction of the Lismore Regional Gallery, **Museum** and Exhibition Centre on the Cultural Precinct site on the understanding that the balance of necessary funds will be secured from external sources.
2. Continue to develop the architectural schematic drawings to a level of detail and presentation suitable to attract external funding and provide certainty for interested parties.
3. Call for expressions of interest for the lease and/or sale of "accommodation area" of DCP 49 and that a further option report be brought back to Council.
4. Invite Michael Goss, Program Manager for Community Cultural Development, Museums and Capital Infrastructure, in NSW Ministry of the Arts, to local politicians and representatives of other funding bodies to meet with Councillors and staff to discuss the Cultural Precinct, its inclusions and funding opportunities.

(Councillors Dowell/Ekins)

AN AMENDMENT was MOVED that Council -

1. Commit \$6 million in its future capital works financial plan towards the construction of the Lismore Regional Gallery, Regional Museum Exhibition Area and Multi Usage Exhibition area on the Cultural Precinct site on the understanding that the balance of equal or matching funds will be secured from external sources
2. Continue to support the RRHS other activities at 165 Molesworth Street, Lismore.
3. Assist in undertaking a strategic review of the future direction of the needs of the RRHS which incorporated the provision of items such as internal lift, air conditioning and additional ground floor space at 165 Molesworth Street, Lismore.
4. Continue to develop the architectural schematic drawings to a level of detail and presentation suitable to attract external funding and provide certainty for interested parties.

5. Call for expressions of interest for the lease and/or sale of "accommodation area" of DCP 49 and that a further option report be brought back to Council.
6. Invite Michael Goss, Program Manager for Community Cultural Development, Museums and Capital Infrastructure, in NSW Ministry of the Arts, local politicians and representatives of other funding bodies to meet with Councillors and staff to discuss the Cultural Precinct, its inclusions and funding opportunities.

(Councillors Henry/Meineke)

On submission to the meeting the AMENDMENT WAS APPROVED and became the MOTION-

Voting against: Councillors Dowell, Tomlinson, Ekins and Henry

252/06 **RESOLVED** that the report be received and Council –

1. Commit \$6 million in its future capital works financial plan towards the construction of the Lismore Regional Gallery, Regional Museum Exhibition Area and Multi Usage Exhibition area on the Cultural Precinct site on the understanding that the balance of equal or matching funds will be secured from external sources.
2. Continue to support the RRHS other activities at 165 Molesworth Street, Lismore.
3. Assist in undertaking a strategic review of the future direction of the needs of the RRHS which incorporated the provision of items such as internal lift, air conditioning and additional ground floor space at 165 Molesworth Street, Lismore.
4. Continue to develop the architectural schematic drawings to a level of detail and presentation suitable to attract external funding and provide certainty for interested parties.
5. Call for expressions of interest for the lease and/or sale of "accommodation area" of DCP 49 and that a further option report be brought back to Council.
6. Invite Michael Goss, Program Manager for Community Cultural Development, Museums and Capital Infrastructure, in NSW Ministry of the Arts, local politicians and representatives of other funding bodies to meet with Councillors and staff to discuss the Cultural Precinct, its inclusions and funding opportunities.

(Councillors Henry/Meineke)(S857, S921)

Voting against: Councillor Swientek

Snow Street and Cook Street Proposed Link Road

A MOTION WAS MOVED that the report be received and -

Council adopt the alternate option of a one-way street southbound (ie, from Cook Street to Snow Street), to an area approximately mid-way along the proposed route and from this point further south, the road would be two-way to permit access from Snow Street to potential blocks of land in the newly constructed street.

(Councillor Meineke/Graham)

An AMENDMENT WAS MOVED that -

1. Given the community opposition, questionable benefit to the community and proposed cost of the works, no further action be taken to progress a proposed road link from Cook Street to Snow Street at South Lismore in the format presented.
2. Council consult further with the local community on an alternate option of a one-way street southbound (ie, from Cook Street to Snow Street), to an area approximately mid-way along the proposed route and from this point further south, the road would be two-way to permit access from Snow Street to potential blocks of land in the newly constructed street.
3. Following the consultation a report be brought back before Council.

(Councillors Tomlinson/Swientek)

On submission to the meeting the AMENDMENT WAS APPROVED and became the MOTION -

Voting against: Councillors Graham, Crimmins and Meineke.

253/06 **RESOLVED** that the report be received and that -

1. Given the community opposition, questionable benefit to the community and proposed cost of the works, no further action be taken to progress a proposed road link from Cook Street to Snow Street at South Lismore in the format presented.
2. Council consult further with the local community on an alternate option of a one-way street southbound (ie, from Cook Street to Snow Street), to an area approximately mid-way along the proposed route and from this point further south, the road would be two-way to permit access from Snow Street to potential blocks of land in the newly constructed street.
3. Following the consultation a report be brought back before Council.

(Councillors Tomlinson/Swientek) (R6911, R6935)

Lismore Showgrounds

S 451

The Mayor, Councillor King, declared an interest in this matter, vacated the chair and left the Chamber during discussion and voting thereon.

In his absence the Deputy Mayor, Councillor Chant chaired the meeting.

254/06 **RESOLVED** that the report be received and Council -

1. Extend the service agreement between Council and North Coast National Agricultural and

Industrial Society for Council to assist the Society to carry out its operational and management responsibilities for the Lismore Showgrounds to March 31, 2007.

2. Provide a letter of comfort to the Lismore Showgrounds Trust's banker to the value of \$30,000 up to April 30, 2007 for the operation and management of the Lismore Showgrounds.
3. Request the Lismore Showgrounds Trust and North Coast National Agricultural and Industrial Society to immediately commence their exploration to maximise the resources available including sale of land owned by the NCNA&IS for reinvestment back into the Lismore Showgrounds and report back on the progress to Council by March 2007
4. Request the Lismore Showgrounds Trust and North Coast National Agricultural and Industrial Society to pursue the alternative of using land owned by the Society as security for the Trust's bank account from May 2007.

(Councillors Swientek/Hampton) (P331)

Voting against: Councillor Ekins

At this juncture, Councillor King rejoined the meeting and resumed the chair.

Lismore Memorial Baths

255/06 **RESOLVED** that the report be received and Council -

1. Endorse Option 2 which operates the 25 m pool over winter for a trial period in 2007.
2. Advise pool management to adopt the proposed opening hours as of 16 December 2006, including the provision for flexible hours of opening, as indicated in the body of this report.
3. That a report on the operations of the pool from October 2006 – September 2007 is prepared and tabled at the October 2007 Council meeting.
4. Staff bring a report to Council on the feasibility of installing solar heating panels at the Memorial Baths

(Councillors Tomlinson/Dowell) (P6768)

Rural Recycling Strategy

256/06 **RESOLVED** that the report be received and -

1. That Council approve the implementation of a rural recycling service.
2. The Waste Collection Service – Rural Recyclable charge of \$20.00 be advertised for 28 days seeking public submission.
3. That Council approve the retention of the Brewster Street Drop-Off Centre.

(Councillors Swientek/Tomlinson) (S763)

Provision for the Disposal of Co-mingled Recyclables

257/06 **RESOLVED** that the report be received and -

1. That Council accept the Tender from Visy Recycling for the disposal of co-mingled recyclables for a 12-month period at a rate of \$45.50 per tonne (exclusive of GST).
2. That the Mayor and General Manager be authorised to execute the contract on Council's behalf and attach the Common Seal of the Council.

(Councillors Henry/Swientek) (T27003)

Pinchin Road – Proposed Reconstruction at Goolmangar

258/06 **RESOLVED** that the report be received and -

1. That in accordance with Section 67 of the Local Government Act Council agree to undertake works to level land on private property, being Lot 2, DP 611606, at no cost to the owner for the following reasons:
2. Council is to acquire a small area of the land to facilitate improved alignment of a section of Pinchin Road when it is reconstructed.
3. The area to be acquired is relatively level and currently used by the property owner to train horses for dressage purposes.
4. The work proposed to level a small area of the land is to replace an equivalent area to that which will be acquired by Council to facilitate the road reconstruction.

(Councillors Graham/Hampton) (R2820, P16447)

Local Preference in Tendering

259/06 **RESOLVED** that the report be received and -

1. No further action be taken in regard to the preparation of a local preference policy in tendering at Lismore City Council
2. A further report be prepared on opportunities for implementation of a specific selection criteria including a triple bottom line approach in assessing appropriate tenders for works and services.

(Councillors Tomlinson/Dowell) (S81)

Major Capital Works

260/06 **RESOLVED** that the report be received and -

1. That Council agree in principle to the Major Capital Works Schedule subject to Urban Strategic Road network bridge crossing item being included in years 6-10 and advertise the details inviting community feedback.
2. That a report on the submissions and comment received be presented to the Council in March 2007.

(Councillors Graham/Henry) (S929)

Voting against: Councillor Swientek

Tenders for the Renewal of Sewer Mains – Tweed Street, North Lismore

261/06 **RESOLVED** that the report be received and -

1. That Council identify the reason for not advertising tenders was due to the urgency of the Works
2. That the contract for renewal of sewer mains at Tweed Street, North Lismore, be awarded to Little Ants Pty Ltd (the estimated price of the worked being \$194,500 plus GST).
3. That the Mayor and General Manager be authorised to execute the contract on Council's behalf and attach the Common Seal of the Council.

(Councillors Hampton/Graham) (T26011)

Granting of Delegated Authority to the General Manager to determine a Section 96 Modification to the Parradenya Consent

A MOTION WAS MOVED that the report be received and that –

No decision be made to the Section 96 modification to the Parradenya Consent until the appropriateness of swales or alternative stormwater management has been addressed in the new DCP of Parradenya being prepared by staff.

(Councillors Ekins/Dowell) (DA 98/7)

On submission to the meeting the MOTION WAS DEFEATED.

A FORESHADOWED MOTION WAS MOVED that that the report be received and that Council grant the General Manager delegation to determine the Section 96 Application (MC060060) to vary Condition No 1, in relation to the requirement to provide open drainage swales on all roads in Development Consent No 98/7.

(Councillors Hampton/Graham) (DA 98/7))

- 262/06 **RESOLVED** that that the report be received and that Council grant the General Manager delegation to determine the Section 96 Application (MC060060) to vary Condition No 1, in relation to the requirement to provide open drainage swales on all roads in Development Consent No 98/7.

(Councillors Hampton/Graham) (DA 98/7))

Voting against: Ekins

Council's Code of Meeting Practice

- 263/06 **RESOLVED** that Council adopt its revised Code of Meeting Practice as exhibited.

(Councillors Swientek/Hampton) (S43)

Voting against: Councillors Ekins, Dowell and Tomlinson

The Lismore Development Control Plan (Consolidation of DCPs)

- 264/06 **RESOLVED** that the report be received and that Council exhibit the reformatted Lismore Development Control Plan for a period of 28 days.

(Councillors Swientek/Crimmins) (S924)

Management Plan Review 2006-2007 – quarter ended September 2006

265/06 **RESOLVED** that the report be received and noted.

(Councillors Dowell/Hampton) (S4)

Continuation

Resolved that the meeting continue until the completion of the agenda.

(Councillors Henry/Graham)

November 2006 – Investments held by Council

266/06 **RESOLVED** that the report be received and noted.

(Councillors Dowell/Meinkek) (S178)

Committee Recommendations

Traffic Advisory Committee November 22, 2006

S 451

Councillor Hampton declared an interest in this matter and left the Chamber during discussion and voting thereon.

267/06 **RESOLVED** that the minutes be received and adopted and the recommendations contained therein be adopted.

(Councillors Dowell/Graham) (S352)

At this juncture Councillor Hampton rejoined the meeting.

Financial Assistance - Section 356

S451

Councillor Tomlinson declared an interest in this matter and left the Chamber during discussion and voting thereon.

268/06 **RESOLVED** that in accordance with Section 356(1) of the Local Government Act 1993, the assistance to persons as listed is hereby approved.

(Councillors Dowell/Graham)(S164)

Voting against: Councillor Swientek

At this juncture Councillor Tomlinson rejoined the meeting.

Confidential Matters – Committee Of The Whole

269/06 **RESOLVED** that Council now exclude the press and public and meet in Committee of the Whole to consider the following matters;

Section 339 Report

Grounds for closure: Section 10A(2)(a): personal matters concerning particular individuals

Public interest: Discussion of this matter in an open meeting would on balance be contrary to the public interest because it deals with personnel matters that identify employees.

Mayoral Minute

Grounds for closure: Section 10A(2)(a): personal matters concerning particular individuals

Public interest: Discussion of this matter in an open meeting would on balance be contrary to the public interest because the contents of the report are of a personnel matter concerning a particular individual.

(Councillors Hampton/Graham)

Resumption of Open Council

When the Council had resumed its former sitting, the General Manager reported that Council, meeting in Committee of the Whole, had RECOMMENDED –

Section 339 Report – Senior Staff

That the Council note the report, treat the information as confidential and acknowledge the report complies with the requirements of Section 339 of the Local Government Act.

Performance Review – General Manager

1. That the Performance Review of the General Manager for the twelve months August 2005 to July 2006 be received and noted.
2. That the Council record its satisfaction with the overall 'Better than Satisfactory' rating of the General Manager's performance for 2005/2006
3. That Council endorse the 2006/07 Performance Plan as negotiated.

270/06 **RESOLVED** that the General Manager's report of Council meeting in Committee of the Whole be received and adopted.

(Councillors Hampton/Meineke)
Voting against: Councillor Ekins

Closure

This concluded the business and the meeting terminated at 11.25 pm.

CONFIRMED this 12th of December, 2006 at which meeting the signature herein was subscribed.

MAYOR