



# **MINUTES**

*of the*

## **COMMUNITY AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE MEETING**

**CHAIRMAN: Cr A Perrett**

**Held in the Boardroom  
Town Hall,  
Gympie Qld 4570**

**On Wednesday, 8<sup>th</sup> February 2012,  
following the General Meeting.**

***Recommendations to be considered for adoption at the  
General Meeting to be held on 22<sup>nd</sup> February 2012 at 9.00am.***

## COMMUNITY & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT MEETING

### COMMITTEE MEMBERS:

*Cr A Perrett (Chairman),  
(Mayor) R Dyne, Crs D Neilson, I. Petersen, L Friske,  
J Watt, G Engeman, J Walker, R Gâté.*

### APPOINTMENTS:

**11.00am Leanne Shedlock, Director of Marketing  
AGL Helicopter Action Rescue**

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Meeting commenced at 9.44am

**PRESENT:** Cr A Perrett (*Committee Chairman*), (Mayor) R Dyne, Crs D Neilson, L Friske, J Watt, G Engeman, I Petersen, R Gâté and J Walker.

Also in attendance were Acting Director of Community Services and Health & Environmental Services Coordinator (Mr I. Wolff) and Minutes Clerk (Ms C Kennedy).

## **APOLOGIES/LEAVE ABSENCE**

Nil

## **DECLARATION OF INTERESTS BY COUNCILLORS**

Nil

## **CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING**

CS01/02/12 Moved: Cr R Gâté

Seconded: Cr J Walker

That the Minutes of the Community & Economic Development Committee Meeting held on the 9<sup>th</sup> November 2011 be taken as read and confirmed.

Carried

## **SECTION 1: HEALTH & ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES**

1/1 Health and Environmental Services Report – November 2011 to January 2012

Re: **CS02/02/2012** Health and Environmental Services Report – November 2011 to January 2012

From: Coordinator Health and Environmental Services – Mr I Wolff

File: 2-1-11-0001

Date: 31 January 2012

### **NOTIFIABLE DISEASES**

Queensland Health has advised Council of the following case of notifiable disease currently being treated by local medical practitioners between 17 October 2011 and 20 January 2011.

<u>Disease</u>	<u>Location</u>
Barmah Forest Virus	Cooloola Cove
Barmah Forest Virus	Gympie (2 cases)
Campylobacter Enteritis	Cooloola Cove
Campylobacter Enteritis	Gympie (7 cases)
Campylobacter Enteritis	Imbil
Campylobacter Enteritis	Southside
Campylobacter Enteritis	The Palms
Campylobacter Enteritis	Tin Can Bay
Campylobacter Enteritis	Traveston (2 cases)
Cryptosporidiosis	The Dawn
Pertussis	Chatsworth
Pertussis	Curra
Pertussis	Gympie (7 cases)
Pertussis	Kandanga
Pertussis	Tuchekoi (2 cases)
Ross River Virus	Gympie
Ross River Virus	Kandanga
Ross River Virus	Tandur
Salmonellosis, unspecified	Imbil
Salmonellosis, unspecified	Gympie
Salmonellosis, specified	Imbil
Salmonellosis, specified	Gympie (4 cases)

### **WATER SAMPLES**

During **November 2011** the following water samples were forwarded to the Government Laboratory for microbiological analysis.

<b>Location</b>	<b>Total</b>
Gympie reticulated water supply	9
Imbil reticulated water supply	2
Kandanga reticulated water supply	2
Amamoor reticulated water supply	2
Rainbow Beach reticulated water supply	5
Tin Can Bay /Cooloola Cove reticulated water supply	7
Kilkivan reticulated water supply	2
Goomeri reticulated water supply	2
Gympie Memorial Pool / Wading Pool	2
Tin Can Bay Pool / Variable Depth Pool	2
Kandanga Pool	1
Kilkivan Pool	1
Goomeri Pool / Wading Pool	2

During **December 2011** the following water samples were forwarded to the Government Laboratory for microbiological analysis.

<b>Location</b>	<b>Total</b>
Gympie reticulated water supply	7*
Imbil reticulated water supply	2
Kandanga reticulated water supply	2
Amamoor reticulated water supply	2
Rainbow Beach reticulated water supply	4
Tin Can Bay /Cooloola Cove reticulated water supply	6*
Kilkivan reticulated water supply	2

Goomeri reticulated water supply	2
Gympie Memorial Pool / Wading Pool	2
Tin Can Bay Pool / Variable Depth Pool	2
Kandanga Pool	1
Kilkivan Pool	1
Goomeri Pool / Wading Pool	2

\* Two (2) less water samples taken from Gympie reticulated water supply and one (1) less water sample taken from Tin Can Bay/Cooloola Cove reticulate water supply due to Christmas/New year Closure of laboratory.

During **January 2012** the following water samples were forwarded to the Government Laboratory for microbiological analysis.

Location	Total
Gympie reticulated water supply	9
Imbil reticulated water supply	2
Kandanga reticulated water supply	2
Amamoor reticulated water supply	2
Rainbow Beach reticulated water supply	5
Tin Can Bay /Cooloola Cove reticulated water supply	7
Kilkivan reticulated water supply	2
Goomeri reticulated water supply	2
Gympie Memorial Pool / Wading Pool	2
Tin Can Bay Pool / Variable Depth Pool	2
Kandanga Pool	1
Kilkivan Pool	1
Goomeri Pool / Wading Pool	2

#### Reticulated Water Supply

Analysis results for all samples taken in November 2011, December 2011 and January 2012 from reticulated water supplies to Gympie, Amamoor, Imbil, Rainbow Beach, Tin Can Bay/Cooloola Cove, Kilkivan and Goomeri indicated satisfactory bacteriological quality in accordance with the *National Health and Medical Research Council Australian Drinking Water Guidelines 2004*.

#### Swimming Pools

Analysis results for samples taken in November 2011 and December 2011 from the municipal swimming pools at Tin Can Bay, Kandanga, Gympie, Kilkivan and Goomeri indicated satisfactory bacteriological quality in accordance with the *Queensland Health Swimming and Spa Pool Water Quality and Operations Guidelines 2004*.

Analysis results for Tin Can Bay, Kandanga and Gympie for the month of January 2012 are yet to be received from the laboratory.

#### **FOOD**

(*Food Act 2006*)

Council's Environmental Health Officers continued to assist operators in achieving compliance with legislative standards specified in the *Australia New Zealand Food Standards Code*.

During the period the Community Services Directorate issued Food Business Licences to seven (7) new food businesses being conducted within the region. As of 31 January 2012, there were 308 licensed food businesses operating in the Gympie Regional Council area.

### **ENVIRONMENTALLY RELEVANT ACTIVITIES**

*(Environmental Protection Act 1994)*

During the period Environmental Health Officers continued to assist operators of registered Environmentally Relevant Activities (ERAs) in achieving compliance with the *Environmental Protection Act 1994*.

As of 31 January 2012, there were 149 Environmentally Relevant Activities regulated by the Gympie Regional Council pursuant to the *Environmental Protection Act 1994*.

### **STAFFING ARRANGEMENTS**

At the close of 2011, Council's Cadet Environmental Health Officer – Ms Tanya Allen completed a Bachelor of Applied Science (Environmental Health), studied externally through the University of Western Sydney, and completed her six-year cadetship with Council. Ms Allen remains with the Community Services Directorate as a qualified Environmental Health Officer.

#### **Casual Environmental Health Officer**

A casual Environmental Health Officer has been engaged to carry out inspections of licensed premises. This Officer commenced duties on Monday, 23 January 2012 and has been engaged for a fixed period. Priority will be given to inspections of food premises and as of Tuesday, 31 January 2012, in excess of thirty (30) premises have been inspected.

### **CLEAN UP AUSTRALIA DAY**

Clean Up Australia Day is Australia's largest community-based environmental event. The Community Services Directorate annually assists local community groups and schools to take part in the event through notifying of event dates, registration of sites, supplementing the provision of clean up materials and provision of refreshments.

This year Clean Up Australia Day activities will be held on the following days:

Clean Up Australia Day – Sunday, 4th March 2012  
Schools Clean Up Day – Friday, 2nd March 2012

During January more community groups and schools across the Gympie Region were contacted to advise of the event.

The Community Services Directorate will be liaising with community groups and schools to confirm Clean Up sites during the month of February.

**WASTE MANAGEMENT FACILITIES****Cardboard Recycling**

The Red Cross maintains cardboard recycling bins at Council's Bonnick Road and Southside Waste Management Facilities.

During the month of November 2011, the Red Cross collected 5,400 kg of cardboard from Bonnick Road Waste Management Facility and 1,850 kg of cardboard from Southside Waste Management Facility.

During the month of December 2011, the Red Cross collected 3,950 kg of cardboard from Bonnick Road Waste Management Facility and 2,150 kg of cardboard from Southside Waste Management Facility.

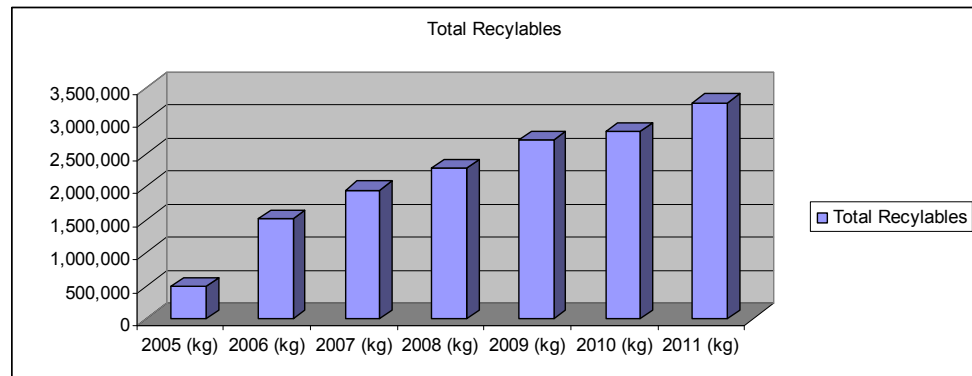
During the month of January 2012, the Red Cross collected 4,000 kg of cardboard from Bonnick Road Waste Management Facility and 2,700 kg of cardboard from Southside Waste Management Facility.

**Recyclable Materials – November 2011 and December 2011**

The following weights of recyclable material were collected by Council's Cleansing Contractor for the former Cooloola Shire Council.

<b>GYMPIE REGIONAL COUNCIL RECYCLABLES REPORT</b>		
	01/11/11 - 30/11/11	01/12/11 - 31/12/11
	<b>Nov</b>	<b>Dec</b>
Aluminium	1,872	2,113
Glass - Clear	8,872	10,014
Glass - Coloured	15,205	17,162
HDPE	3,723	4,202
Plastic - Mixed	1,797	2,029
Paper - C/board	116,278	131,244
P.E.T.	3,569	4,029
Steel	5,868	6,624
Glass Fines	54,816	61,871
<b>Total Recoverables</b>	<b>212,001</b>	<b>239,287</b>
Waste/Ceramics	63,819	72,033
<b>Total Including all Waste</b>	<b>275,820</b>	<b>311,320</b>

	<b>2005</b>	<b>2006</b>	<b>2007</b>	<b>2008</b>	<b>2009</b>	<b>2010</b>	<b>2011</b>
Total Recyclables (kg)	489,000	1,508,938	1,953,306	2,283,150	2,709,402	2,839,154	3,271,999



### “Litter Critter” Litter Vacuum

Council has purchased and commenced using a ‘Litter Critter’ – a specially designed litter vacuum. The litter critter will assist Council in controlling windblown litter at landfills and transfer stations.

Photographs for this litter control vacuum appear below for Council’s information.



### Queensland Government Waste Levy

The Queensland Government Waste Levy commenced on 1 December 2011.

In order to comply with Council’s legislated obligations, the gatekeeping and recycling contractor at the Bonnick Road and Tin Can Bay Waste Management Facilities – Res Q and Recycle Pty Ltd – has been engaged on a temporary basis to collect detailed data from persons delivering waste to these facilities.

Council’s fee structure for disposal of waste at waste management facilities was reviewed during December 2011 and changes to waste



disposal charges were made in order to include a component of the waste levy.

Volumetric surveys and declaration of Resource Recovery Areas were completed and submitted to DERM during December 2011.

During December 2011, Council submitted a request to DERM to use an alternative methodology for monitoring and reporting waste data for some sites. Use of the approved alternative methodology permits a relaxation of the monthly data reporting schedule to annually for these sites.

Waste data collected from the Bonnick Road and Tin Can Bay Waste Management Facilities is required to be reported to DERM monthly. The deadline for submitting the first waste data return to DERM is the 20 February 2012. This will contain data pertaining to the month of December 2011.

During December, Council submitted an application to DERM for a funding grant to provide a weighbridge and ancillary equipment to the Bonnick Road Waste Management Facility. Funding was also requested for ancillary infrastructure/equipment at other landfill sites, which include fencing, signage, site offices and utilities.

Council is still awaiting a response from DERM in respect of this application.

During January, Council acquitted previous funding received from DERM for the purchase of PDAs and waste data software. Council is in the process of setting up this software in order for the PDA's to be used on-site.

#### QWOLS Training

On 1 December 2011 the QWOLS (Queensland Waste Online Levy System) went live. The QWOLS is the online interface into which Council must submit waste data returns and calculate the waste levy. DERM has developed a training programme to assist the use of the system.

Four (4) officers from Council's Community Services Directorate have registered to attend the closest training session which will be held over 3 hours on Thursday, 9 February 2012 in Bundaberg.

#### Waste information session for local businesses

Council's Economic Development and Public Relations unit proposes to facilitate a waste information session for local businesses, tentatively booked for 12 April 2012.

The information session will provide information on waste reduction and recycling opportunities and offer a unique opportunity for local businesses to network, share ideas about waste reduction and recycling and listen to local case studies.

The information session will be delivered by a guest speaker, organised by the Economic Development and Public Relations Unit, with the Community Services Directorate providing some support for the event.

### Green Waste Trial

A trial is currently under way to determine costings for loading and removal of green waste from Council's Bonnick Road Waste Management Facility. The trial is being conducted in two (2) stages, each stage involving the loading, removal and shredding of ten X seventy-five cubic metre (10 X 75.0m<sup>3</sup>) bins of green waste.

Stage one (1) was conducted on Friday, 13 January 2012 and Council is awaiting costings on this work. Once received and assessed, these costings will form the basis for the second trial with a view to further refining the costs for this type of operation. The required outcome of this trial is to produce a \$cost/M<sup>3</sup> of unprocessed green waste. Upon completion of the trial and assessment of the costings, Council will be better positioned to determine a strategy to deal with the issue of green waste.

### Polystyrene Waste

An issue has been raised by a local retail business regarding charges for disposal of polystyrene at Council's Bonnick Road waste management facility.

Polystyrene is 100% recyclable. However, enquiries have revealed that there are no polystyrene recycling companies available to collect product in the Gympie area. There are two (2) companies which operate out of Brisbane however they will only travel as far as Nambour to collect polystyrene from dedicated collection centres.

The local Red Cross Recycling Centre has advised that they have researched this issue but are not progressing at this time.

Council's cleansing contractor has advised that a new "Material Recycling Facility" (MRF) currently under construction at Maryborough may expand into polystyrene recycling. This may occur sometime after June 2012.

There are two (2) on site treatment systems available. The polystyrene may be compressed in a compactor however it has to be bound in its compressed form in order to prevent the "memory" problem. There is also a heat treatment available which effectively melts the product down to a fraction of its original size. Both end products are 100% recyclable; however the machinery required is expensive and would be more affordable to a specialist recycling centre rather than a regional retail store.

Enquiries with two (2) other retail outlets in Gympie confirm that they have the same issue with polystyrene. All three retailers have confirmed that they recycle their cardboard and plastic through Red Cross. If they were able to recycle polystyrene as well, the resultant waste from their businesses would be limited to staff lunch wrappers and the like and could be serviced with commercial wheelie bin services.

Enquiries regarding the recycling of polystyrene are continuing.

### Manumbar Waste Transfer Station

Construction of the Manumbar Waste Transfer Station has been completed with the first of the fortnightly services conducted on 13 December 2011.

Photographs of the site taken post construction appear below for Council's information.



### Woolooga Waste Transfer Station



The ongoing misuse of this site continued throughout the period. The photographs above taken on Thursday, 5 January 2012 show the facility

three (3) days after the bins had been emptied. An extra service of the bins had to be organised for the next day and the site cleaned up.

As previously reported, the majority of the problems are being caused by misuse of the facility for the disposal of inappropriate and bulky items such as furniture, mattresses, tyres and whitegoods.

### **Caravan Park Leases – Gympie and Kingfisher Caravan Parks**

The proposed leases have been assessed by both Council and the successful tenderers and are currently awaiting Ministerial consent.

### **New Public Toilets – Rainbow Beach and Goomeri**

New public toilets have been opened at Rainbow Beach and Goomeri.

The Rainbow Beach facility is located adjacent to and replaces the existing beachfront toilet block which is to be dismantled and removed. The new facility includes a lockable first aid room for use by the Rainbow Beach Life Saving Club.

An issue has been raised regarding the provision of hot water at this facility. Hot water was initially reticulated to all showers however, this has now been restricted to the First Aid room and the disabled shower. Enquiries are continuing into whether Council has a legal obligation to supply the disabled shower with hot water as there is no practical method of restricting use of this shower to disabled users only.

With reference to Council resolution G180112 regard the matter of showers and security at the Rainbow Beach facility, a further report will be presented to a future Community and Economic Development Meeting for further discussion.

Council's Community Services Directorate has arranged regular cleaning and servicing of both facilities.

### **Swimming Pools**

The Goomeri and Tin Can Bay Public Swimming Pools are equipped with solar pool water heating systems which require regular maintenance and periodic repair. In the past this work has been carried out by a Brisbane based company however, this can be an expensive exercise if urgent repair works are required.

A local company has now been identified which can carry out this work. This will result in lower costs to Council (less travel) and a more reliable and immediate service if urgent repairs are required.

The company has already been engaged to carry out repairs and servicing to the system at Goomeri Pool with positive results.

**CS02/02/12 Moved: Cr R Gâté**

**Seconded: Cr D Neilson**

**Recommend that the Health & Environmental Services Report for the month December 2011 and January 2012 be received.**

**Carried**

CS03/02/12 Moved: Cr D Neilson

Seconded: Cr R Gâté

**Recommend that Council congratulate Ms Tanya Allen on her completion of Bachelor of Applied Science (Environmental Health)**

**Carried**

1/2	<b>Delegations for the Management and Enforcement of Litter and Illegal Dumping</b>
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Re: **CS04/02/2012** Delegations for the Management and Enforcement of Litter and Illegal Dumping  
 From: Director General, Department of Environment and Resource Management  
 File: 3-1-03-0001  
 Date: 31 January 2012  
 Reference: Previous Council Resolutions CS07/06/08 and CS07/08/10

*“Following commencement of the “Waste Reduction and Recycling Act 2011” (‘the Act’), the Department of Environment and Resource Management (‘the department’) has prepared the attached delegations to all Queensland local governments for the management and enforcement of litter and illegal dumping provisions.*

*The delegation titled “Waste Reduction and Recycling (Authorised Persons) Delegation (No. 1) 2011” will enable council to appoint authorised officers and to issue identity cards for the management and enforcement of litter and illegal dumping provisions of Chapter 5 of the Act.*

*The delegation titled “Waste Reduction and Recycling (Local Government – Waste Management) Delegation (No. 1) 2011” will delegate certain powers of the chief executive to local government, similar to the previous provisions of the “Environmental Protection Act 1994” for the management of litter and illegal dumping. This delegation permits subdelegation by local government to appropriately qualified entities (as defined in the Act).”*

### **Executive Summary**

The Department of Environment and Resource Management have issued blanket delegations to all Queensland Local Governments for the littering and illegal dumping provisions contained within the *Waste Reduction and Recycling Act 2011*. It is up to Council to decide whether to accept these delegations or not.

### **Previous Council Considerations**

Resolution CS07/06/08

***That in order to ensure a consistent approach to the enforcement of the littering provisions of the “Environmental Protection Act 1994” and its subordinate legislation, council resolve that where complaints of alleged indiscriminate disposal of refuse at council’s bulk bin sites and waste management facilities are received by its community services directorate, each allegation will be investigated by an authorised person and evidence gathered.***

***In the event of the evidence gathered being sufficient to justify proceeding with a prosecution (as may be determined by council’s solicitor), that the director of community services be delegated by council to either:***

- ***Issue a penalty infringement notice to the offender;***
- or***
- ***Commence legal action as necessary to enforce the provisions of the “environmental protection act 1994” and its subordinate legislation relating to littering offences.***

***Further, that relevant action to be taken in respect of littering offences to be determined by the director of community services.***

***That Council officers further investigate methods for litter enforcement in public areas and report back to a future meeting.***

Resolution CS07/08/10

***Recommend that Council introduce “on the spot” fines for littering. The issuing of tickets will be at the discretion of council and within budgetary constraints.***

**Report: (Environmental Health Officer – Ms C Dempster)**

The legal powers for the management and enforcement of littering and illegal dumping provisions were previously located within the *Environmental Protection Act 1994*. These provisions were devolved to Local Government to enforce. They are now located within the *Waste Reduction and Recycling Act 2011* and are no longer devolved, so Council now has a choice whether to accept the delegation or not.

The types of litter which the delegations refer to include:

- Basic littering and illegal littering – this includes general littering such as domestic waste dumped on the side of the road to dangerous littering such as throwing a lit cigarette onto dry grass in extreme fire danger and leaving a syringe in a public place.
- Material that may become waste – this material is unsolicited advertising material which is any of the following if it includes any form of advertising for a commercial purpose: a circular; a flyer; promotional matter; and information or a letter. It also includes newspapers, magazines or other publications distributed without charge to intended readers.

Offences within this section include:

- any of the above mentioned advertising material left on a vehicle or building;
- any of the above mentioned advertising material left at a premises which has a sign stating “No Junk Mail”, “No Advertising Material”, “Australia Post Mail Only” or similar on their letterboxes

However, the following is not unsolicited advertising material for premises –

- a newspaper delivered to the premises, unless the owner or occupier of the premises has advised the publisher or distributor of the newspaper that the owner or occupier does not wish to receive the newspaper;
  - material folded or inserted into a newspaper delivered to the premises if under this subsection the newspaper is not unsolicited advertising material for the premises.
- Vehicle littering or illegal dumping offences – this section includes persons who committed the offence of general littering or illegal dumping and was either in the vehicle when the offence was committed; was leaving or had just left the vehicle when the offence was committed; used the vehicle to transport waste to the place where the offence was committed or committed the offence near the vehicle before entering the vehicle.
  - DERM has advised that the legislation includes the same provisions as red-light camera and speed camera offences meaning there is scope for the owner of the vehicle to fill out a Statutory Declaration to transfer the fine onto another person such as a passenger of the vehicle. Certain exemptions apply in respect of public passenger vehicles such as taxis.

DERM has commenced an advertising campaign which covers radio, community newspapers, billboards, posters, buses and online. The advertising advises the public that if they see someone dumping waste illegally to record their number plate and vehicle details and to visit the DERM website ([www.derm.qld.gov.au](http://www.derm.qld.gov.au)) and report it. A copy of the “Littering & Illegal Dumping Reporting Form” is attached. Also attached is information form DERM for local governments regarding the management and enforcement of litter and illegal dumping provisions of the Waste Reduction and Recycling Act 2011 and penalties under this legislation. (Refer to Attachment 1)

Below is how other State’s and the Australian Capital Territory deal with the reporting of litter offences:

- Victoria – Victorian Litter Report Line, allows members of the public to report anyone they see littering from a motor vehicle by calling a 1300 number or visiting the Victorian Environmental Protection agency website.
- Western Australia – has a litter reporting scheme through Keep Australia Beautiful Western Australia (KABWA), where littering can be registered and reported online by visiting KABWA’s website.

- Tasmania – littering can be reported online by visiting the Department of Environment's website or calling a 1300 number to obtain a Littering From a Motor Vehicle report form.
- New South Wales – litterers can be reported by visiting the Department of Environment's website, however and enforcement officer must witness an offence for a fine to be issued. Only an advisory letter can be sent stating they have been observed littering and provide them with information regarding penalties for their actions.
- Australian Capital Territory – litter reports can be made through Canberra Connect either on their website or phone or by faxing a litter report from to the city rangers.

The above is only information reported at a State and Territory level, it is not known if this information is then filtered down to the relevant Local Government.

Upon receiving the above correspondence from DERM, contact was made with the Local Government Association of Queensland (LGAQ) to ascertain whether Council is obliged to accept these delegations.

The Local Government Association of Queensland's Principal Advisor for Environmental Health has advised that Council does not have to accept all or some of the delegations. If Council chooses not to accept the delegations the Department of Environment and Resource Management have asked that Council advise them so that they can appropriately resource their regional office.

With the State Government's introduction of the *Waste Reduction and Recycling Act 2011* there has already been a significant increase in workload for Community Services Directorate staff in respect of ensuring that Council meets its obligations pursuant to the legislation in remitting the waste levy to the State.

#### Strategic Implications

Corporate Plan: 3.1, 3.3

Operational Plan: 3.1 (i)

Budget Implications: Nil

Budget Reference: Nil

Legal/Statutory: *Waste Reduction and Recycling Act 2011*

#### Consultation

Health & Environmental Services Co-ordinator  
Director of Community Services  
Principal Advisor – Environmental Health, LGAQ

#### Checklist



- Financial Services Directorate
- Corporate Services Directorate
- Community Services Directorate
- Engineering Services Directorate
- Planning & Development Directorate
- Office of the Chief Executive Officer

**CS04/02/12 Moved: Cr I Petersen**

**Seconded: Cr G Engeman**

**Recommend that Council does not accept any of the littering and illegal dumping provisions contained within the *Waste Reduction and Recycling Act 2011* which have been delegated to Local Governments by the Department of Environment and Resource Management and inform the Director-General of the Department of Environment and Resource Management of Council's decision in order for the Department to appropriately resource their regional office.**

**Carried**

Compliance and Local Disaster Coordinator, Mr Ron Potter entered the meeting at 10.19 am.

## **SECTION 2: COMPLIANCE & LOCAL DISASTER**

**2/1 Compliance & Local Disaster Report – November 2011 to January 2012**

Re: **CS05/02/12** Compliance & Local Disaster Report – November 2011 to January 2012  
 From: Coordinator of Compliance & Local Disaster, Mr R Potter  
 File: 2-9-01-0008  
 Date: 2 February 2012

**Report: (Coordinator Compliance & Local Disaster – Mr R Potter)**

### **OVERGROWN LAND**

Concerns of overgrown land throughout the Gympie region has increased due to significant rain fall in parts of Gympie. Inspections were carried out and subsequently notices were issued for compliance, work orders were served on properties that did not comply with the notices.

### **ANIMAL CONTROL – (dog complaint nuisance dogs)**

Complaints were routinely dealt with in relation to animal control including nuisance animals and particularly barking nuisances and permits were issued for the keeping of more than two dogs. While the Local Laws Officers are conducting patrols they are regularly educating the community on animal responsibility (dogs on leads, clean up after your dog etc)

**Court Matters**

25 January 2012, one matter was heard at the Magistrates Court, Maroochydore. The matter was regarding the destruction orders placed on two (2) dogs that attacked a person on public land causing injury in February 2011. The matter was heard by the Queensland Civil Administration Tribunal (QCAT) in accordance with *Animal Management (Cats and Dogs) Act 2008*. The tribunal confirmed Council decision for the destruction of these dogs. The offences from the attack that occurred in February 2011 will be pursued in the Magistrates Court.

**Regulated Parking**

For the month of November 2011 through to January 2012 (44) parking infringement were issued. The majority of these infringements were issued to motorist breaching the maximum time limit in the regulated parking area.

**Pound Figures - November 2011**

	<b>Dogs</b>	<b>Cats</b>
Reclaimed	21	0
Euthanised	8	29
RSPCA	10	13
In care	19	6
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>58</b>	<b>48</b>

**Pound Figures - December 2011**

	<b>Dogs</b>	<b>Cats</b>
Reclaimed	16	3
Euthanised	10	22
RSPCA	31	49
In care	5	0
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>62</b>	<b>74</b>

**Pound Figures - January 2012**

	<b>Dogs</b>	<b>Cats</b>
Reclaimed	13	3
Euthanised	9	6
RSPCA	32	11
In care	9	17
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>63</b>	<b>37</b>

CS05/02/12 Moved: Cr R Gâté

Seconded: Cr L Friske

Recommend that the report be received.

**Carried**

2/2

**Proposed New Dangerous Dog Offence**

Re: **CS06/02/12** Proposed new dangerous dog offence  
From: Paul Lucas - Attorney-General, Minister for Local Government and Special Minister of State  
File: 2-1-6-1  
Date: 3 November 2011

*On 13 September 2011, the Queensland Government announced its intention to review the sufficiency of the existing Queensland laws in relation to dog owners who fail to prevent their dog from causing serious injury or death to other persons.*

*As a consequence of that review a proposed new offence of dangerous management of a dog has been created for inclusion in the Criminal Code.*

*Under the proposed new offence provision, a person responsible for a dog who manages the dog dangerously causing the death of or grievous bodily harm to another person commits a crime punishable by a maximum of 10 years imprisonment. This proposed offence will supplant the current offence provisions of sections 194(1)(a) and 195(l)(a) of the Animals Management (Cats and Dogs) Act 2008 and has been drafted to appropriately interface with section 289 (Duty of persons in charge of dangerous things) of the Criminal Code.*

*The creation of the proposed new offence will transfer responsibility for investigation and commencement of proceedings for serious dog attacks from Local Government to the Queensland Police Service.*

*A draft of the proposed amendments is attached for your consideration and comment.*

*I would be grateful if you could forward your comments to me by 11 November 2011.*

**Executive Summary**

The writer is advising that a review of the *Animal Management (Cats and Dogs) Act 2008* for the provision of section 194 (1)(a) and 195 (1) (a) be dealt with by the Queensland Police Service

**Report: (Compliance & Local Disaster Coordinator – Mr R Potter)**

Under the current sections 194 (1) (a) and 195 (1) (a) of the *Animal Management (Cats and Dogs) Act 2008*, a dog attack on a person that results in death or grievous bodily harm attracts a maximum penalty of (300 penalty units) which equates to a maximum penalty of \$30,000. According to the proposed new provision a person responsible for a dog dangerously causing death or grievous bodily harm commits a crime punishable under the Criminal Code. This offence would transfer to the Queensland Police Service for investigation.

The proposed new provision will only focus on a dog attack on a person causing death or grievous bodily harm, not an animal. Any attack on an animal causing death or Grievous bodily harm will be dealt with under the *Animal Management (Cats and Dogs) Act 2008* and will be the responsibility of Local Government.

#### Strategic Implications

Corporate Plan:	Section 1.5 Continue to provide a range of facilities for the region.
Operational Plan:	Sections 3.2 (iv) Local Laws and Animal Control Services
Budget:	Nil
Legal/Statutory:	Dog attack causing death or grievous bodily harm under the Animal Management (Cats and Dogs) Act 2008 would transferred to Queensland Police Service
Risks:	Low

#### Consultation

Community Services Directorate

**CS06/02/12 Moved: Cr L Friske**

**Seconded: Cr J Walker**

**Recommend that the information be received.**

**Carried**

2/3

Waiver of Park Use Hire Fees

Re: **CS07/02/12** Gympie & District – Women's Health Centre  
From: Ron Potter, Compliance & Local Disaster Co-ordinator  
File: 2-7-05-0018  
Date: 2 February 2012  
Reference: Doc ID 1545497

*I am writing on behalf of the Gympie and District Women's Health Centre to request that the Gympie Regional Council consider waiving the usual fee for use of the Memorial Park for the International Women's Day community celebrations.*

*International Women's Day is held annually on the 8th March throughout the world. 2012 represents the seventeenth celebration which the Gympie and District Women's Health Centre has been committed to. 2012 marks the 101 year anniversary of the movement. In the interests of equity, this will be a free event so that any person interested could attend without cost being a barrier.*

*The Celebrations would be held on Thursday, 8th of March and we anticipate that we would be in Memorial Park from 8.30am until 3.00pm. This includes setup and cleanup time. The actual event will run from 10.00am to 2.00pm. We have invited guest speakers, a singing teacher and her choir and dancers to perform. It is anticipated that we would make use of the Rotunda as a stage. The theme of the day is sustainability. As we will have a PA system, we would require access to electricity.*

*We would be happy to include Gympie Regional Council as a sponsor on all programs, flyers, invitations and press releases in the lead up to the day should our application be successful.*

*I have enclosed a completed application form and a copy of our public liability insurance. I am available should Council require further information.*

*Due to our time frame, a timely response would be appreciated.*

*Council's time and effort in considering this request is appreciated.*

**Executive Summary:** Gympie & District – Women's Health Centre have written to Council requesting a waiving of Memorial Park bond and hire fees for their event on 8<sup>th</sup> March 2012.

**Previous Council considerations:**

Council considers numerous requests for waiving of park hire fees

**Report:** Compliance & Local Disaster Co-ordinator, Ron Potter

The anticipated hire fee for the event is \$890.00 Bond and \$210.00/day.

**Strategic Implications:**

Corporate Plan: 1.5 Continue to provide a range of community facilities for the region.  
4.1 Council is maintaining responsible financial management.

Operational Plan: 3.3 (ii) To provide venues for cultural and artistic activities

To provide a range of suitable venues throughout the Region to promote economic, community and cultural growth.

Budget Implications: The budget would be negatively affected as no allowance was made for this request.

Legal/Statutory:

Risks: There is a low level corporate risk of setting a precedent if acting outside the adopted fees and charges.

**Consultation:**

Community Services

CS07/02/12 Moved: Cr R Dyne

Seconded: Cr D Neilson

**Recommend that Council waiver all fees associated with Gympie & District – Women’s Health Centre 101 anniversary celebration.**

**Carried**

Mr Potter left the meeting at 10.29am

Community Facilities and Services Co-ordinator, Mrs H Kelly entered the meeting at 10.29am

### **SECTION 3: COMMUNITY FACILITIES & SERVICES**

#### **3/1 Community Facilities & Services Report – November 2011 to January 2012**

Re: **CS08/02/12** Community Facilities & Services Report – November 2011 to January 2012  
 From: Ms K Peters and Mr M Allard, Youth & Community Development;  
 Ms J Gibbs, Gympie Regional Gallery;  
 Mrs L Kempster, Pavilion;  
 Ms K Forrest, Kilkivan Museum  
 Date: 31<sup>st</sup> January 2012

#### **YOUTH AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT REPORT**

**Report: (Youth and Community Development Officer’s –Ms K Peters & Mr M Allard)**

#### **The Noise Magazine**

The Noise Magazine Committee officially launched ‘Issue 1 - Rebirth’ of The Noise Magazine on 9<sup>th</sup> December 2011. In celebration of the launch, the team hosted two (2) events consisting of Movies till Midnight at Gympie Sovereign Cinema and a Skate/BMX/Scooter Competition at Nelson Reserve, Gympie.

#### *Day 1 - Movies till Midnight 6*

Day 1 of the launch held at Gympie Sovereign Cinema was Movies till Midnight. The cinema reached its full capacity and provided the opportunity to give away an array of prizes including the new ‘Noise Magazine’ skate deck. Upcoming performers Hayley McFarlane and Alisha Todd supported the event by providing fantastic performances in the break between each movie.

#### *Day 2 – UX 11 Skate/BMX/Other Wheeled Devices Competition*

Day 2 of the launch due to be held on 9<sup>th</sup> December 2011 was unfortunately postponed due to wet weather until January 21<sup>st</sup> 2012.

The action packed day at Nelson Reserve Skate Park saw hundreds of

young people participate in a number of activities including a workshop and skate demo with Brisbane based skateboarding company 'Drawing Boards'. This provided a great opportunity for enthusiasts to 'show their stuff' to the Drawing Boards Team in a Skate/BMX/Scooter competition all hoping for a chance at gaining sponsorship. This gave all competitors the added drive to reach their limit and highlighted many amazing athletes.

To cap the event off the 2011 Battle of the Bands Winners 'KYMIRA' provided yet another outstanding performance.

Six thousand (6000) copies of the magazine were disseminated throughout the region thanks to a successful partnership with The Gympie Times and supporting businesses. Overall feedback regarding the magazines new format continues to be extremely high including an increased demand from local businesses and community organisations.

The team is now planning and developing 'Issue 2 - Retro Edition' which is due out in April and their National Youth Week activities. The magazine committee continues to grow and now consists of a team of 36 who actively contribute to the development of the magazine and participate in community based projects.

### School Holiday Program

Youth and Community Development hosted a variety of activities for all age groups during the January school holidays.

Date	Activity	Target Group	No. of Participants
10 <sup>th</sup> Jan	<b>Circus Skills Workshop</b> <b>Location: Kilkivan</b> A workshop aimed at developing young people's fitness, coordination and self-confidence through learning basic circus skills.	12 - 25	25
12 <sup>th</sup> Jan	<b>Circus Skills Workshop</b> <b>Location: Tin Can Bay</b> A workshop aimed at developing young people's fitness, coordination and self-confidence through learning basic circus skills.	12 - 25	30
18 <sup>th</sup> Jan	<b>Wii Gaming Competition</b> <b>Location: Gympie</b> A round robin gaming competition that is played on the cinema screen at Gympie Sovereign Cinema	All age groups	70
20 <sup>th</sup> Jan	<b>Movies till Midnight 7</b> <b>Location: Gympie</b> Three consecutive movies showing at Gympie Sovereign Cinema until midnight  Held in conjunction with The Noise Magazine Committee	All age groups	60

The School Holiday Program continues to be well received and provides great opportunity for young people to assist in the programs planning and development.

**Gympie Regional Careers Expo**

The Gympie Regional Careers Expo 2012 will be held on Friday 27<sup>th</sup> July at The Pavilion and is open from 10.00am until 4.00pm. The Expo attracts over 2000 students from eight of the Region's high schools and involves over 60 organisations and service providers to showcase a diverse range of career pathways.

**Gympie Community Youth Project**

At the 20<sup>th</sup> January meeting, schools, support agencies and government services and departments formed collaborative working groups to create action plans based on the Gympie Community Youth Project Report

The report identifies gaps in support that are currently impeding a number of young people in the Gympie Region from successfully completing education and/or transitioning to further education or employment.

The groups will continue to meet and will be required to report on the progress of the group's actions at the next Gympie Community Youth Project meeting to be held in May.

See attachment – Gympie Community Youth Project Report

**Gympie Events Advice Project**

The Gympie Events Advice draft project report has been completed and is currently being reviewed by relevant council staff.

**Tin Can Bay Community Complex**

Currently 5 incorporated not for profit organisations that utilise the Tin Can Bay Community Complex on a regular basis are investigating the future opportunity to amalgamate into 1 organisation. Youth and Community Development Officers are supporting the investigation of this amalgamation.

**Governance Assistance to Community Organisations**

Tin Can Bay Community Complex  
 Mothar Mountain Hall Committee  
 Tin Can Bay Fishing Club Committee  
 Curra Country Club  
 Kandanga Creek Hall Committee

**Meetings Attended**

The Noise Magazine Committee  
 RADF Committee  
 Gympie Community Youth Project – DETA, UCC  
 Men on Track Reference Meeting  
 Healthy Communities Application Feedback Session  
 Local Area Coordination

**COMMUNITY RECOVERY AND WELLBEING UPDATE**

At the Regional CDEI Meeting on the 15th December 2012, the LGAQ advised that all funded Community Development Officers were required to do Community Mapping in the manner prescribed by them and that a final report be submitted by no later than **17th February 2011**.



Having aligned the mapping activity with Gympie Community Plan Outcomes, to maximise the efficiency of the activity, during the month of January, 2012 mapping activities have been facilitated across the region:

**Gympie Central**—Avenues Lifestyle Support Inc. (Board 8), Residents and Business operators (2).

**The Coast**—Tin Can Bay (Chamber of Commerce 2), Cooloola Bay Bulletin 1, Cooloola Cove Residents Association 4, Vietnam Vets 3, Medical Transport 1 and Hall Committee 1. Rainbow Beach Hall Committee Representative 1.

**The West**—Goomeri, SES 2, Goomeri Pumpkin Festival 2 and State School 2, Kilkivan Council Staff 10 and business operators 2, Woolooga Hall Committee 1 and Widgee (to be completed).

**The North**—Gunalda, Miva residents and business community (8) and Curra residents and community (8).

**The Mary Valley**—Imbil, Amamoor, Dagon, Kandanga, Kybong and Traveston (6). Several community meetings held in addition to mapping activities (65).

Support for the Community Recovery and Wellbeing Program has been strong, with willingness to take the time to participate in the mapping activities, (which can take up to three hours) has been overwhelmingly enthusiastic.

Representing only the beginning of resilience discussions with the community, the inspiring and insightful information provided to date will form the basis of the Gympie Human and Social Local Plan, as well as the foundations of some fantastic community recovery and resilience project initiatives.

## **LIBRARY REPORT**

### **Report: (Libraries Manager – Mrs L Day Wilson)**

#### **CIRCULATION (Number of items borrowed):**

Gympie	29 272
Tin Can Bay	4 307
Rainbow Beach	922
Imbil	993
Kilkivan	975
Goomeri	557
Web	1 044
<b>Total</b>	<b>38 070</b>

#### **MEMBERSHIP (Active Borrowers):**

Gympie	17 904
Tin Can Bay	2 880
Rainbow Beach	1 013
Imbil	764
Kilkivan	723
Goomeri	519
<b>Total</b>	<b>23 803</b>

#### **Total Number of New Members this month: 212**

#### **Branch Breakdown:**

Gympie	154
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Tin Can Bay	26
Rainbow Beach	16
Imbil	7
Kilkivan	6
Goomeri	3

**STOCK (including magazines):**

Gympie	68 283
Tin Can Bay	10 871
Rainbow Beach	5 198
Imbil	5 693
Kilkivan	6 017
Goomeri	4 515
Stack	273
<b>Total</b>	<b>100 850</b>

**VISITS TO THE LIBRARY (no. of people through the door):**

Gympie	12 863
Tin Can Bay	3 320
Rainbow Beach	1 614
Imbil	804
Kilkivan	915
Goomeri	684
<b>Total</b>	<b>20 200</b>

**VIRTUAL VISITS TO THE LIBRARY (i.e. no. of times the Library Web Page was accessed this month): Total: 4627**

**GENERAL:****CLIENT SERVICES:**

Another successful introduction to the Internet was held at Gympie Library on Wednesday 25 January at 10.30 am. Feedback confirms that these sessions are assisting members of the local community to access the expanding range of personal communication, social media and government information sources now available online.

**INFORMATION SERVICES:** The Information Services Desk was again a busy outlet throughout January with the following queries being attended to:

Information queries	<b>2212</b>
Inter-Library Loans requests	<b>127</b>
Local History research	<b>37</b>

**Flood and Cyclone Mosaic:** Residents of the Gympie Region are invited to take part in the Flood and Cyclone Mosaic. The State Library of Queensland is seeking photos from the state's 2010/2011 summer of natural disasters, to include in the mosaic. This month photo's taken by Greg Weir, depicting the 2011 floods, were displayed at Gympie Library. Staff assisted clients to load their photos to the Flood and Cyclone Moasic website. Information and how to add photographs are both readily accessible on: [www.mosaic.slq.qld.gov.au](http://www.mosaic.slq.qld.gov.au)

**Wikipedia Training:** Gympie Regional Libraries has been notified that they are one of the seven successful library services in Queensland

selected to host community Wikipedia training in the first half of 2012. Experienced members of the Wikimedia Australia community will be conducting these sessions in partnership with State Library and Gympie Regional Libraries. Workshop participants can be local historians, amateur enthusiasts, local museums, and art galleries, family history groups, public librarians, teachers or anyone who has knowledge of the local community and wants to be part of one of the most searched encyclopedias in the world.

***Breastscreen Queensland:*** Staff from “Breastscreen Queensland” created an informative display in the library foyer this month. This display helped to raise awareness of the importance of breast screening and advised people where to go locally, to utilise this service.

**YOUNG PEOPLE’S SERVICES:** Attendances at 12 sessions within the library service points this month totalled 298 children and their carers.

#### **EVENTS/VISITS:**

Events this month included school holiday activities at all service points, (except Imbil, where indicated attendance did not necessitate an activity during this holiday period) and two story time sessions for preschool children.

- The school holiday activities received “a mixed response” this year as many people holidayed outside of our region. However, overall attendances remained pleasing, as in previous years.
- *Jampacked* was as popular as ever and 700 copies of this in-house publication were “snapped up” across the six service points.

#### ***Activities held included:***

- Create something from recycled materials
- A Journaling Workshop titled “Creating your own personal journal”
- Mosaics – using reject tiles to make a name plate for the bedroom door, or a street number sign
- Library bag painting – how to personalise & create a design, using fabric paint
- Summer Reading Club activities - registration, log sheets & reading rewards.

**FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARY:** Contributed 208 hours and 48 minutes, to the library service this month. The time was spent in local history projects and research, home library service selection and delivery, sheet music issuing, and deletion of worn/out-of-date stock for the FOL book sales, as well as the monthly FOL Executive meetings.

### **GALLERY REPORT**

**Report: (Gallery Co-ordinator, Ms J Gibbs)**

#### **EXHIBITION PROGRAM:**

##### **The Gympie Times Exhibition Space:**

- **8<sup>th</sup> November – 31<sup>st</sup> December 2011:** *Catchment Collective*  
Group show of environmental art by five artists from the Sunshine Coast.
- **3<sup>rd</sup> January – 25<sup>th</sup> February 2012:** *Transform:* Curated by Gympie Regional Gallery and University of the Sunshine Coast University.

Nationally acclaimed artists – Simone Eisler, Emma Davies, Hew Chee Fong, LM Noonan, Pamela Kouwenhoven, Terry Summers.

#### **Hugo du Rietz:**

- **8<sup>th</sup> – 26<sup>th</sup> November 2011:** *Artesian Country* works from Barcaldine area toured by QAC.
- **29<sup>th</sup> November - 31<sup>st</sup> December 2011:** *Armchair Traveller*. Artist books and works by Liz Powell.

#### **Gallery Three:**

- **8<sup>th</sup> – 26<sup>th</sup> November 2011:** *Unique Expressions*, Selection of works from the Thursday morning FOG Art Group.
- **29<sup>th</sup> November – 31<sup>st</sup> December 2011:** *Annual Friends of the Gallery Art & Craft Extravaganza*.
- **3<sup>rd</sup> – 28<sup>th</sup> January 2012:** *Jeff Douwes' Retrospective: Painting the Story*. Local Gympie artist.

#### **Education and Public Programs for month of November, December & January:**

##### **Openings:**

- Friday 11<sup>th</sup> November of *Catchment Collective* by Richard Newport and Wendy McGrath, and *Unique Expressions* by Lynne Hall.
- Wednesday 30<sup>th</sup> November of *Armchair Traveller* and *Art & Craft Extravaganza*.
- Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> January – *Jeff Douwes' Retrospective: Painting the Story and Transform*.

##### **Floor Talks:**

- Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> November with Richard Newport and Wendy McGrath participating artists in *Catchment Collective*.
- Wednesday 30<sup>th</sup> November by Liz Powell as part of the opening of *Armchair Traveller*.
- **FOGlets:** Saturday 5<sup>th</sup> November, 1<sup>st</sup> December.
- **Workshop** with Liz Powell on Altered Books, Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> December.
- **Gympie Cooloola Tourism** Gallery tour and talk, 17<sup>th</sup> November.
- **Afternoon Tea/Thankyou/Photographic Session:** for mentors and mentorees of Youth+Art=Connections Project, 2<sup>nd</sup> November.
- **Hi-artworks critiques:** Saturday 5<sup>th</sup> November.
- Showing of '**Addicted to Plastic**' DVD on Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> December after FOG Christmas party to the general public as part of the *Catchment Collective* exhibition.
- **Gallery Visit:** by Christian Family Vacation Care 15<sup>th</sup> December.
- **School Holiday Workshops** – 15 workshops over two weeks 10<sup>th</sup> – 20<sup>th</sup> January.
- **Family Day:** including *Drawing Life for Kids on Tour* activities, Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> January, supplied by GOMA (Gallery of Modern Art) in conjunction with the Matisse exhibition.

#### **Visitor Numbers**

November: 1022

December: 771

January: 1,128

**Public Art Management Plan:** Still organising details of Public Art Advisory Group.

**Gallery Strategic Direction Plan:** Geoff Butler from Vestra Business Advantage has presented his final Strategic Plan for the Gallery.

**Marketing:** Developing display at Gympie Cooloola Tourism with FOG Shop Coordinator.

**Cultural Plan:** Working in with Community and Youth Development – nothing to report.

### **Workshops, Rentals/Room usage**

**Eleven Regular Groups meet at the Gallery:** Most groups took a break over the Christmas period and are resuming late January or early February.

#### **Others:**

- Networking Evening with Shelley Pisani, Creative Regions. Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> December
- Creative Regions community meetings in Meeting Room.
- CoolArts Gympie Christmas function 11<sup>th</sup> December on the verandah.
- High School art teachers meeting 7<sup>th</sup> December.

### **Gympie & District Women's Health workshop.**

- Gympie State High School meetings for their Centenary Exhibition in 2012.
- Selection Committee Meeting Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup> November.
- Gympie Theatre Association meeting 22<sup>nd</sup> November.
- Drawing Course with Sandra Ross – Friday afternoons.

### **Friends of the Gallery:**

- Contributed funds from November to January of: \$393 for catering, \$671 for tables and \$20 for a TV aerial. **Total \$1,085**
- Meeting to prepare for Bizzart Day on 3<sup>rd</sup> March.

### **Volunteers:**

Front Desk	218
Catering/opening events	20.5
Installation approx.	111.5
Education and Public Programs	36
Desk Volunteer Coordinator	15
Training/inductions	2
Newsletter	10
Office	8

**Total** **421**

### **Other:**

#### **Community Involvement:**

- Assistance with the Bands in the Rotunda as a member of the Heritage Committee.
- Involvement with Mary River Festival Saturday 12<sup>th</sup> November.
- Social Outreach: Christopher Neilson Grade 11 from St Patrick's College, 4 days.
- Gallery display panel as part of the renewal project for Mary

Street, James Nash Arcade.

- Gympie Cooloola Tourism volunteer familiarisation tour of the Gallery Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> November.
- Attended the Heritage Council luncheon at AICM on 2<sup>nd</sup> December.

#### **Staff Activities:**

- One of our members is undertaking a short Photography course
- Initial consultation with Steve Chaddick and Norman from Timeline Heritage Consultants to assess the Environmental Sustainability of the Gallery building.
- Meeting with Queensland artist Glen Skein regarding the Gallery touring his exhibition in 2013.
- Geoff Butler meeting for Gallery Business Planning Friday 18<sup>th</sup> November
- Mentoring program for the Design trainee has been taken on by one of our staff.

#### **Coordinator activities:**

- Attended opening night of Daphne Mayo exhibition at Queensland Art Gallery, 3<sup>rd</sup> November.
- Coordinator and volunteer represented the Gallery at the Museums and Galleries Services Queensland Standards Program One Year On event in Brisbane, and visited Fireworks Gallery to discuss next year's exhibition.
- Attended a day session on public art at Maroochydore Botanical Gardens for Sunshine Regional Council, 23<sup>rd</sup> November.
- Opened Artist-in-Residence exhibition/project at Tin Can Bay School 7<sup>th</sup> December.
- Undertaking Cert IV in Implementing & Participating in Environmentally Sustainable Work Practices online through Sunshine Coast TAFE.

### **PAVILION REPORT**

#### **Report: (Pavilion Manager – Mrs L Kempster)**

##### **General:**

December saw the start of the Christmas Season with Nolan Meatworks Christmas Party. Approximately 450 attended with everyone being well behaved and no incidents were reported. This year the event was smaller in numbers than previous years. Organisers were happy with the outcome and have tentatively booked again for next year. This month also saw a number of small training days utilise the conference rooms.

Pavilion staff have started the New Year with their cleaning and maintenance program. Floor areas are currently being stripped in preparation for their annual polish, all cold rooms/fridges are being washed down and bleached, gardens are being pruned and bark chip replenished. No damage or issues occurred to the building over the Christmas shutdown period.

January will also see a number of small conferences take place. The start of University examinations are also due to commence this

month, along with two fundraising events being held in the Corbet Stadium.

### **Sports:**

December saw Gympie Indoor Volleyball hold its grand final between ladder leaders Hookers and Woodies. The match was dominated by the Woodies and despite the Hookers best efforts they were always playing a chasing game. Afterwards a BBQ and presentation was held and trophies distributed.

Both Volleyball and Basketball are due to commence their 2012 season at the end of January.

### **Regular Bookings**

Gympie Basketball Association  
Masters Competition – Corbet Stadium, Monday evenings  
Fixtures – Corbet Stadium, Monday, Tuesday.  
Gympie Volleyball Association  
Fixtures – Corbet Stadium, Thursday evenings  
E-Commerce  
Business meeting – Smith Room, 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday evenings  
Business meeting - Smith Room, 4<sup>th</sup> Monday evenings  
Meeting – Smith/Bishop Room, 1<sup>st</sup> Thursday mornings

### **January Bookings**

Business Meetings  
Training Seminars  
100 Club Dinner  
University Examinations  
Qld Fire Services Training Days

## **KILKIVAN MUSEUM REPORT**

### **Report: (Administration Assistant – Ms K Forrest)**

For the Month of November, items from KM-11157-0 to KM-11406-0 have been numbered, totalling 307 items which included Tools and machinery, photographs, documents and clothing.

Also in the month of November, with the help of a volunteer, the dates of 2<sup>nd</sup>, 9<sup>th</sup>, 16<sup>th</sup> and 23<sup>rd</sup> were spent in the Kilkivan Branch Office checking both systems to ensure that all details were correct on numbers KM-10890-0 to KM-11308-0.

For the month of December, items including documents, maps, photographs, tools, mining and horse gear were numbered from KM-11406-1 to KM-11518-0. Work was also carried out at the Kilkivan Branch Office on 7<sup>th</sup>, 14<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup>.

For the month of January numbering of items covered between KM-11519-1 to KM-11660-0, totalling 254 items. These items included

documents, maps, photographs, tools and Military items. Work was also carried out at the Kilkivan Branch Office on 4<sup>th</sup>, 11<sup>th</sup>, 18<sup>th</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup>.

Once again the support from the Volunteers for the month of November, December 2011, and January 2012 have been wonderful. The following details the statistics for the Kilkivan Information Centre Complex:

November:

No of volunteers: 10

No of volunteer hours: 186.25

No of visitors: 451

December:

No of volunteers: 9

No of volunteer hours: 151.50

No of visitors: 337

January:

No of volunteers: 9

No of volunteer hours: 151

No of visitors: 353

#### **Civic Centre usage for December 2011**

<b>Area</b>	<b>Hirer</b>	<b>Function</b>
Fossickers Room	Sunshine Coast Revival Fellowship Zinc 96.1 Dept of Communities Private hire Private hire	Church meeting Meeting Community Meeting Baby Shower Spiritual gathering
Prospectors Hall	Wide Bay Tafe Filipino Association Victory Church	Graduation Ceremony Christmas Party Banquet
Heritage Theatre	Kristine Ditchfield Ballet School	Rehearsals & Show
Miner's Court	Filipino Association	Christmas Party
Kitchen	Filipino Association Victory Church	Christmas Party Banquet
Entire	Little Haven	A Christmas Affair

#### **Civic Centre usage for January 2012**

<b>Area</b>	<b>Hirer</b>	<b>Function</b>
Fossickers Room	Sunshine Coast Revival Fellowship GRC GRC GRC	Church meeting Meeting Forum Supper
Prospectors Hall	Private hire EMQ GRC	Wedding Meeting Supper
Heritage Theatre	nil	nil
Miner's Court	Private hire	Wedding



Kitchen	Private hire	Wedding
Entire	Gympie Police	Blue Light Disco

**CS08/02/12 Moved: Cr R Dyne**

**Seconded: Cr J Watt**

**Recommend that the report as presented be received and noted.**

**Carried**

**3/2**

## **Regional Arts Development Fund Annual Bid**

Re: **CS09/02/12** RADF Annual Bid  
 From: Matt Allard, Youth & Community Development Officer  
 Date: 30 January 2012  
 Reference: N/A

### **Executive Summary**

The RADF Committee are wishing to bid for funding from Arts Queensland for the 2012/2013 year. The bidding process relies on a Council contribution however as the timelines fall outside of Council's Budget timeframes an out of budget request for funding is being made.

Previous Council considerations:

Council has funded RADF out of budget for a number of years. In the 2005/2006 year the allocation was increased to \$20,000. It has remained at this level since this time.

### **Report: (Youth and Community Development Officer, M Allard)**

Regional Arts Development Fund (RADF) is driven by the RADF Committee and supported by Council through a financial contribution that has the potential to be matched on a 40:60 ratio by Arts Queensland and appointment of a RADF Liaison Officer and an allocation of funding for this.

RADF is requesting an out of budget allocation for the amount of \$20,000. The RADF bidding guidelines indicate this level of support equates to eligibility for \$30,000 Arts Queensland funding. RADF Bids must be submitted to Arts Queensland by March 31st 2012. Notification of outcomes is expected in May.

The current RADF program has received immense community support with a greater number of eligible applications than recipients. It is envisioned that this support will continue and the role of RADF in the community continues to grow.

Funded projects across all sectors of the arts world including visual arts, museums, and performance arts. The program further gives local artists the opportunity to develop skills and share these within the local community.

In considering this request Council should consider the further funding previously allocated to administer the RADF program. In the 2011/2012 budget this equated to \$7660.

**Strategic Implications:**

Corporate Plan: 1.2, 1.3, 2.2, 3.5, 4.1,

Operational Plan: 3.3 (i), (ii), and (iii)

Budget: 2012/2013 allocation of \$20,000 grant funding and \$7660 administration

An allocation prior to 2012/2013 budget is requested

Risks: There is a low level of risk associated with this request.

**Consultation:**

RADF Committee  
Director Financial Services Directorate

**CS09/02/12 Moved: Cr R Gâté**

**Seconded: Cr G Engeman**

**Recommend that Council commit to allocate \$20,000 for RADF Grant funding in the 2012/2013 budget subject to a successful Arts Queensland Bid and the RADF administration costs be referred to the Director of Financial Services Directorate for inclusion in the 2012/13 Draft Budget discussions.**

**Carried**

Cr I Petersen left the meeting at 10.41am  
Mrs Kelly left the meeting at 10.41am

The Manager of Economic Development and Public Relations, Mrs L Wilbraham entering the meeting at 10.41am.

Cr I Petersen returned to the meeting at 10.44am

## SECTION 4: ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

### 4/1 Economic Development & Public Relations Report November 2011 to January 2012

Re: **CS10/02/12** Economic Development and Public Relations Report – November 2011 to January 2012  
 From: Manager, Economic Development/Public Relations– Mrs L Wilbraham  
 Date: 1 February 2012

#### **Executive Summary:**

Report for the period 9 November 2011 to 31 January 2012

**Previous Council considerations:** Nil

**Report:** (Manager, Economic Development/ Public Relations, Mrs L Wilbraham)

#### **Business Development**

##### Existing business development -

The Economic Development Unit is a key point of contact for businesses in the Gympie Region, Queensland and interstate when investigating business expansion or establishment in the Region.

Discussions have been held with 4 business operators regarding regional business development opportunities.

##### Business Workshops and meetings held during December 2011 and January 2012

- 8 December – Social Ventures Australia Workshop
- 30 November – Gympie Region Major Projects Forum
- 25 January - Launch of Business Confidence Survey Results

##### Business Workshops and meetings scheduled during February 2012

- 03 February – AIEMnet and DEEDI Business Matching Project Forum
- 07 February – Considering a Business Workshop – DEEDI
- 08 February – Digital Economy Strategy Workshop – DEEDI
- 24 to 26 Feb and 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> March – Edgware Build your Business workshop

##### New business assistance -

4 enquiries were received about new business establishment opportunities in the Region – creative, service and manufacturing businesses.

#### **Industry Development**

##### Manufacturing Industry –

The Gympie Region Major Projects Forum was held at Wide Bay TAFE Gympie Campus, 24 November 2011. Presenters at the Forum provided information about major project supply opportunities for the resources sector and also for upcoming major projects in the Region.

The focus of initiatives such as this is to provide businesses in the Region with information, contacts and skills to help identify and access supply opportunities.

#### Creative industries network

The network is working to promote and showcase creative and knowledge based business and industry in the Gympie Region.

The focus of economic development activities in relation to this sector is on training and development and business development opportunities.

#### Agribusiness and Value Added Food Processing

Subsequent to Council's attendance at the Good Food and Wine Show in November 2011 and support which was received from industry a meeting was convened to canvass support for the development of the Gympie Region Food Industry Cluster. Feedback from attendees was positive for the development of a branding and marketing strategy to promote our Region's produce, growers and processed foods.

Further industry development activities are planned for February 2012.

### **Regional Development**

#### Federal Government Projects –

Keep Australia Working – Federal Government project -

Reference Working Group – this role provides input and direction in the development of strategies for the creation of employment opportunities in the Gympie Region.

Projects are being developed and implemented across the Gympie, South Burnett with a focus on employment creation opportunities, supporting economic and employment development projects and programs and linking with government, business and industry to implement these projects.

#### State Government – Skills Queensland Jobs and Skills Development Officer -

A number of projects have been identified for development through activities undertaken by Council's contracted JSDO, Mr Corrie McColl.

These projects are being developed with input from the Keep Australia Working Reference Group and also, dependant on the project focus, relevant stakeholder reference groups.

Current approved projects -

- "Mary River Rebuilding project". This funding submission has been approved and is valued at approximately \$110,000. This project will see 20 unemployed people managed by Conservation Volunteers Australia cleaning debris from around Mary River bridges and river access ways and, restoring access points.

- Gympie AFL and Parks rebuilding – Restoration work to drainage and access points of the Park.

#### Wide Bay Burnett Regional Economic Advisory Committee

Projects being progressed by this Committee are focusing on the development and implementation of a Regional Marketing strategy for the Wide Bay Burnett Region, incorporating an Investment Attraction and Marketing Plan and Digital Economy Strategy for Small to Medium Enterprises in the Wide Bay Burnett Region.

Council's Economic Development Manager is a representative on this Committee which comprises Economic Development Managers and Officers from Wide Bay Burnett Regional Councils and

#### Gympie Region Economic Profile –

This Profile was updated in November 2011 and released at the Major Projects Forum. As an independent economic analysis, the Profile provides information which benchmarks our Region against other areas Regional Queensland and also provides comparative data to assess performance in key industry sectors and economic indicators.

#### Regional Business Confidence Survey

The Results of the November 2011 Survey were released in January 2012. Survey Results are available through the Business and Industry Section of Council's website.

The Gympie Chamber of Commerce has indicated that this organisation would like to partner with Gympie Regional Council for the next business confidence survey to be launched in May 2012.

Suncorp Bank partnered with Boardroom Business and Gympie Regional Council in the November 2011, providing very welcome financial support.

#### Regional Economic Development Strategy

It is now 12 months since the development of this Strategy. Projects, recommendations and actions identified in the Strategy are currently being reviewed to assess any amendments which need to be made as a result of changing external or internal environmental impacts.

#### Mary Valley Economic Development Fund

The majority of projects approved through this Fund have now commenced. Discussions are taking place with approved applicants to ensure that any Conditions Precedent outlined in Funding Agreements are met.

#### RV Friendly Town Application

Advice been received from the Caravan and Motorhome Association of Australia that applications lodged by Council to have Gympie and Goomeri recognised as RV Friendly Towns, have been approved.

Planning is underway to officially recognise and promote this achievement.

**Public Relations and Media –**

- 30 media releases and articles were prepared and distributed during reporting period. Media releases are being listed on Council's Website to provide a record and a reference point.
- Gympie Regional Roundup feature is in place on the last Saturday in each month in the Gympie Times, providing information about Council's activities in all localities of the Gympie Region. Hard copies are available through Council offices and Libraries.
- Mary Street Information Booth
  - 409 enquiries as at December 2011
  - 144 of these were Gympie Region residents
  - 18 were new residents and
  - 247 were visitors to the Region
- Council's quarterly Community eNews was launched in December
- This online publication will showcase activities, projects and initiatives and let ratepayers and residents know about exciting events upcoming in the Region.
- Strong support in the promotion distribution of information about Council activities and initiatives continues to be received through ABC Radio Coast FM and Wide Bay. Channel 7 Sunshine Coast has also been supportive in providing coverage about Gympie Regional Council Activities and events.

Corporate Plan: Outcome 2.1 - Strategic planning for the Region  
Determine the best economic development delivery model for the Gympie Region.

Outcome 2.2  
Supporting the ongoing development of our existing businesses.

Outcome 2.3  
Attracting new businesses to the Region

Operational Plan: 1.1 (vi) Economic Development  
1.1 (vii) Special Projects and Research

Budget Implications: Nil

Budget Reference: 2110901  
2110804  
1131312

Legal/Statutory: Nil

Risks: a) The likelihood of risks is "Low" in the of these activities as all relevant corporate and operational areas are considered in the development and implementation of the projects and activities.

Feedback and information will be sought from all areas of council including the Mayor and Councilors.

**Consultation:**

CEO

Director – Community Services Directorate

**Checklist:**

- Financial Services Directorate
- Corporate Services Directorate
- Community Services Directorate
- Engineering Services Directorate
- Planning & Development Directorate
- Office of the Chief Executive Officer

**CS10/02/12 Moved: Cr D Neilson**

**Seconded: Cr J Walker**

**Recommend that the Economic Development and Public Relations report be received.**

**Carried**

Cr R Dyne left the meeting at 10.48am  
Cr R Dyne returned to the meeting at 10.51am

Cr L Friske left the meeting at 10.53am

Mrs Wilbraham left the meeting at 10.59am

Acting General Manager, Gympie Cooloola Tourism, Mr A Murnane entered the meeting at 10.59am.

Cr L Friske returned to the meeting at 11.01am

## SECTION 5: REGIONAL & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

5/1	Gympie Cooloola Tourism Report – November 2011 to January 2012
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Re: **CS11/02/12** Gympie Cooloola Tourism Report – November 2011 to January 2012  
 From: Acting General Manager – Mr A Murnane  
 File: 1-3-05-0020  
 Date: 30 January 2012

**Report: (Acting General Manager - Mr A Murnane)**

**General Information:**

Gympie Cooloola Tourism is currently engaged in a number of key initiatives: through the course of the first part of 2012 these initiatives will begin to impact on the overall performance of the organisation.

These initiatives will be incorporated into an overall review, which is being undertaken in partnership with Council officers.

**MARKETING AND COMMUNICATION:****Social Media**

There is a major effort currently underway to develop and implement a new social media strategy.

The social media strategy will initially focus on Facebook, and it is expected will begin to deliver major benefits to the regions tourism industry in the coming months.

**The Aims of the Strategy**

1. To create awareness and traffic through the Facebook page. Get people talking about Gympie Cooloola Tourism and have positive customer interaction.
2. To use Facebook as a means of free advertising for GCT and our members.
3. To direct tourism focused clients through the Facebook page as a means for booking accommodation, tours, and other member activities.
4. To direct Facebook traffic into the information centre and convert those numbers into sales.
5. To develop improved relationships with current members through increased business.
6. To attract and maintain contact with existing customers. To encourage repeat business and utilise their capacity to "On Market" the Cooloola product.
7. To attach an online store to our Facebook page and sell store stock online. Customers can use their credit /debit card or paypal. This will present the opportunity of expanding our current range.
8. To train our members on the benefits of utilising Facebook efficiently in their day to day business. Strengthening Facebook as a key business tool for members and linking GCT Facebook to members directly.
9. To promote and expand a powerful group booking strategy.



### **Implementing the Strategy**

1. Staff Training - Develop a manual and train staff in the use of Facebook, ensuring all staff are capable of assisting in administration duties.
2. Clean up and Update - Remove all business spamming, non relevant posts, photo albums that have never been used and all other irrelevant comments. Update all information regarding contact info, opening hours etc..
3. Get back the Attention - frequently post current news, photos and event information .This will create the awareness that GCT is no longer a stagnant page.
4. Members - Link all of our member's pages to ours, this will create advertising exposure for our members as well as us. By posting photos, making comments and mentioning our members in posts we will create a larger circle of influence. This activity will also have a positive effect on our and our members Google page ranking score for our website.
5. Complete Front Page Restyling - Make a welcome page, this will not only look attractive but have links to lead people to our website, email and contact details. This will also represent GCT as an active and welcoming page.
6. Competitions - Create huge hype about an upcoming competition, call for entries and friends and family of entrants to log on to our page 'Like' us and eg. vote for photos. Prize for winner.
7. Bookings through Facebook- By creating forms on Facebook we can gain booking or contact information with ease. Starting with two forms, each form will have a small icon that will be located on the right of the page, this will lead the customer to either a 'Contact Us' form or a 'Booking Request' form. The potential customer can let us know their travel needs and we can then contact them and arrange a booking. Major applications for group booking strategy.
8. Create a regular Facebook Activity - Launch a regular activity to keep giving users a reason to come back to our page. Involving the members in this would be a double benefit eg. Competitions linked to members or regions to deliver direct benefits back to members.
9. Linking Facebook with the Information Centre - There has been a new trend in how people use social media. One of the popular new trends is the use of "Check ins" this has become very popular with social apps and are used by people who check into a place on their phone. This generates interest in a place as well as good brand exposure when people come into the Info Centre and 'check in' it sends a message out to their whole network of friends that they have come to Gympie Cooloola Information Centre.
10. Broaden Our Reach - Create signage to remind people to check in on Facebook and jump on and subscribe to our page. This may be implemented with the use of free internet at the info centre after

subscribing to our Facebook page.

11. Online Shop Front - Create a mini website online shop then attach this to our Facebook page. This is different from our website and will allow people to shop directly on Facebook for our products and souvenirs. The customers will be able to make a secure online payment with either PayPal or credit card. Customers will be able to share pictures of products with family overseas before buying.
12. Evaluate - Prepare ongoing monthly presentations of figures to the board. Reevaluate how things are going with the Facebook strategy, are we in line with the original plan? How are then new statistics comparing to our starting point? What is the next move to step forward?
13. Members Training - Promote the associations Facebook strategy to members and encourage participation. Assist members with training.

#### **Website:**

GCT will undertake an over haul of its' current web site to assist with functionality and reduce current restrictions.

Currently the Website is an avenue for bookings through GCT Bookeasy system, however the uptake is low and it is the intention of the changes and development of the web site and Facebook to dramatically change this performance level.

#### **Printed documents:**

The Board are currently re-evaluating the current strategy of its printed promotional materials. The review will examine how to improve the function and promotional reach of the documents and explore other methods to improve the strategy

#### **Brisbane Caravan, Camping and Touring Show**

GCT will book prominent space in the June Expo and staff the promotions for the full period. Last years expo proved to be a significant stimulus for the activities promoted.

The strategy will be to have new materials and packages prepared in time for the expo.

Liaison with other regions is taking place to explore cross promotions, and GCT will be discussing other options with Council re promotion opportunities to this important market.

#### **Group Bookings:**

A new approach to Group Bookings is currently under construction with a series of new packages being prepared to market both in Australia and selected Asian markets.

These initiatives will deliver an increased flow of domestic and international visitors to the region, and benefit local tourism operators with new trade.

### **Membership:**

Current membership numbers stand at 132, with a major increase targeted once the new promotional tools are in place.

### **NEW STAFF:**

New staff have joined GCT in the past few months with the part-time admin position and the replacement for the maternity leave role of VIC co-ordinator has also started duties in GCT marketing with two days a week towards that role.

### **Training:**

A new training approach is being adopted to assist VIC volunteers to improve their skills and delivery and interaction with customers.

### **New Vehicle:**

GCT has recently traded its' 12 seater bus for a new xtrail.

## **INDUSTRY ENGAGEMENT MEETINGS**

- Council re branding and strategy review
- Meetings with 11 businesses in the Kilkivan Goomeri region
- G10 reps
- Event network meeting
- Fraser Coast Tourism
- Woodwork Museum

### **Budget:**

The Board are currently reviewing the operation budget, and will be seeking discussion with council re future allocation and new initiatives for the regions tourism industry.

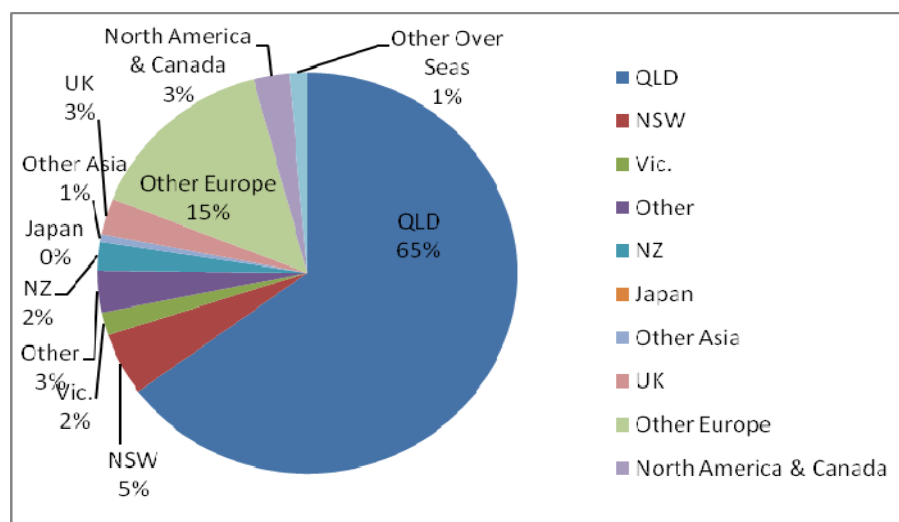
### **Constitutional change**

At the recent AGM a constitutional change was approved that will see two extra positions allocated to the Board. The new positions will be opened-up at a special meeting to be called once the changes have been approved through Fair Trading.

## **VISITOR INFORMATION CENTRE STATISTICS**

Lake Alford Visitor Information Centre saw 645 people pass through during November 2011. This figure was up 21% compared to November 2010 where 535 people passed through.

Matilda Visitor Information Centre saw 1,269 visitors through the Information Centre during November. This figure is down 9% compared to November 2010 where 1,388 people passed through.



**CS11/02/12 Moved: Cr G Engeman**

**Seconded: Cr L Friske**

**Recommend that the report as presented be received and noted.**

**Carried**

Mr Murnane left the meeting at 11.05am.

## **SECTION 6: DIRECTOR OF COMMUNITY SERVICES**

### **6/1 Compulsory Acquisition of Native Title Rights and Interests Toolara**

Re: **CS12/02/12** Compulsory Acquisition of Native Title Rights and Interests Toolara (Lot 10 on DP220190)  
 From: Director of Community Services - Mr M Grant  
 Date: 1 February 2012  
 Reference: Previous Council Resolution CS211209

#### Executive Summary

Council has recently accepted the State Governments offer of purchase for the Toolara landfill site. One of the conditions of purchase requires Council to resolve native title issues. King and Company have commenced proceedings for compulsory acquisition of native title rights and interests on Council's behalf and advise that Council is required to make resolutions for both "the reasons for the proposed acquisition " and "delegation to the Chief Executive Officer to act pursuant to the Native Title Act 1993".

Previous Council Considerations:  
 Resolution CS21/12/09 states in part:

**Recommend that Council:****(c) Toolara Central Landfill Project**

1. **advise FPQ that the terms and conditions of land purchase for the Toolara Central landfill project are satisfactory to Council;**
2. **agree to option B for compensation of the current tree plantation;**
3. **authorise FPQ to proceed with the revocation process.**

**Report: (Director of Community Services – Mr M Grant)**

King & Company have advised that Council is required execute one Notice of Intention to Acquire Native Title Rights and Interests for each of the representative bodies and each claimant (if any) to commence the acquisition process. King and Company have prepared the relevant notices on Council's behalf, however to proceed this matter, Council is required to pass the following proposed resolutions:-

- 1) This resolution is required to form a schedule to the Notice of Intention to Acquire Native Title Rights and Interests.

Pursuant to the provisions of the *Acquisition of Land Act 1967*, the *Local Government Act 2009*, the *Native Title Act 1993 (Commonwealth)* and the *Native Title (Queensland) Act 1993* the Council propose to acquire all existing native title rights and interest (if any) in the land described in the schedule ("the Land") to the Notice of Intention to Acquire Native Title Rights and Interests a true copy of which is annexed hereto for waste management facility purposes.

The reason for the proposed acquisition is that Council intends to use the Land for waste management facility purposes. Council has determined that it does not have sufficient land available for use for waste management facility purposes in the relevant locality. The Land has been determined to be the most suitable site within the relevant locality for use for waste management facility purposes.

The Land is considered most suitable for waste management facility purposes because:-

- (a) infrastructure such as roads and power are readily available to the Land;
- (b) use of the Land in the manner proposed is compatible with Council's planning scheme;
- (c) use of the Land in the manner proposed is compatible with applicable State planning requirements;
- (d) use of the Land in the manner proposed promotes the efficient delivery of public services and public infrastructure;
- (e) the proposed use of the Land maximizes and balances social, economic and environmental benefits to the local community;

- (f) the area and topography of the Land are suitable for the proposed use;
  - (g) use of the Land in the manner proposed minimizes adverse impacts on natural and historic values in the relevant locality;
  - (h) there is a current need for the development of land in the area for waste management facility purposes; and
  - (i) the Land is flood free and is not contaminated in any way and there is nothing that would prevent the Land being used for waste management facility purposes.
- 2) This resolution provides the Chief Executive Officer with powers to act pursuant to the Native Title Act 1993.

That Council further resolves, pursuant to section 257 of the *Local Government Act 2009* to delegate to the Chief Executive Officer its powers as follows:

1. The power under section 24MD of the *Native Title Act 1993*, section 144 of the *Native Title Act (Queensland) Act 1993*, and section 7 of the *Acquisition of Land Act 1967* to execute and serve pursuant to section 7 of the *Acquisition of Land Act 1967* Notices of Intention to Acquire Native Title Rights and Interests upon any and every person who to the knowledge of Council:-
  - (a) will be entitled to claim compensation in respect of the taking of the land/native title rights and interests concerned; or
  - (b) is a mortgagee of the Land.

The power to hear the grounds of objection to the taking of any land/native title rights and interests for and on behalf of the Council where such objection is validly made under a Notice of Intention to Acquire Native Title Rights and Interests and prepare a report thereon for the consideration of Council.

#### Strategic Implications:

Corporate Plan: Outcome 3.3

Operational Plan: Outcome 3.1(iii)

Budget Implications: Council is aware that compensation will be payable.

Budget Reference:

Risk Analysis: Council has an obligation to provide the region with secure long term waste management facilities. Therefore it is critical to complete satisfactory negotiations regarding this matter and satisfy land purchase conditions imposed by the State Government.

#### Consultation

#### Checklist

- Financial Services Directorate
- Corporate Services Directorate
- Community Services Directorate
- Engineering Services Directorate
- Planning & Development Directorate
- Office of the Chief Executive Officer

**CS12/02/12 Moved: Cr L Friske**

**Seconded: Cr I Petersen**

**Recommend that Council authorise the Chief Executive Officer to serve the Notice of Intention to Acquire Native Title Rights and Interests for the Toolara Central Landfill site, in accordance with section 7 of the *Acquisition of Land Act 1967* and thereafter proceed in accordance with the requirements of the said Act with the intent of procuring the publication in the Queensland Government Gazette of the proclamation vesting the Land in Council subject to due consideration of all objections made in accordance with the provisions of said Act and the following be attached to each notice as a schedule:**

**Pursuant to the provisions of the *Acquisition of Land Act 1967*, the *Local Government Act 2009*, the *Native Title Act 1993 (Commonwealth)* and the *Native Title (Queensland) Act 1993* the Council propose to acquire all existing native title rights and interest (if any) in the land described in the schedule (“the Land”) to the Notice of Intention to Acquire Native Title Rights and Interests a true copy of which is annexed hereto for waste management facility purposes.**

**The reason for the proposed acquisition is that Council intends to use the Land for waste management facility purposes. Council has determined that it does not have sufficient land available for use for waste management facility purposes in the relevant locality. The Land has been determined to be the most suitable site within the relevant locality for use for waste management facility purposes.**

**The Land is considered most suitable for waste management facility purposes because:-**

- (a) infrastructure such as roads and power are readily available to the Land;**
- (b) use of the Land in the manner proposed is compatible with Council’s planning scheme;**
- (c) use of the Land in the manner proposed is compatible with applicable State planning requirements;**
- (d) use of the Land in the manner proposed promotes the efficient delivery of public services and public infrastructure;**
- (e) the proposed use of the Land maximizes and balances social, economic and environmental benefits to the local community;**

- (f) the area and topography of the Land are suitable for the proposed use;
- (g) use of the Land in the manner proposed minimizes adverse impacts on natural and historic values in the relevant locality;
- (h) there is a current need for the development of land in the area for waste management facility purposes; and
- (i) the Land is flood free and is not contaminated in any way and there is nothing that would prevent the Land being used for waste management facility purposes.

Recommend that Council further resolves, pursuant to section 257 of the *Local Government Act 2009* to delegate to the Chief Executive Officer its powers as follows:

2. The power under section 24MD of the *Native Title Act 1993*, section 144 of the *Native Title Act (Queensland) Act 1993*, and section 7 of the *Acquisition of Land Act 1967* to execute and serve pursuant to section 7 of the *Acquisition of Land Act 1967* Notices of Intention to Acquire Native Title Rights and Interests upon any and every person who to the knowledge of Council:-
  - (a) will be entitled to claim compensation in respect of the taking of the land/native title rights and interests concerned; or
  - (b) is a mortgagee of the Land.
3. The power to hear the grounds of objection to the taking of any land/native title rights and interests for and on behalf of the Council where such objection is validly made under a Notice of Intention to Acquire Native Title Rights and Interests and prepare a report thereon for the consideration of Council.

**Carried**

Director of Marketing for AGL Action Rescue, Ms Leanne Shedlock entered the meeting at 11.10 am in order to present her deputation.

## **SECTION 7: GENERAL BUSINESS**

NIL

## **SECTION 8: IN COMMITTEE ITEMS**

NIL



<b>SECTION 9: ATTACHMENTS</b>
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Attachment 1: Refer Item 1/2 - Delegations for the Management and Enforcement of Litter and Illegal Dumping.

Attachment 2: Refer Item 3/1 – Gympie Community Youth Project Report

There being no further business, the meeting was closed at 11.42am

CONFIRMED THIS SEVENTH DAY OF MARCH 2012

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*Cr A. J. Perrett*  
Chairman



# **ATTACHMENT 1**

## **Littering and Illegal Dumping Reporting Form Refer Item 1/2**

*for the*

## **COMMUNITY AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE MEETING**

Held Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> February 2012

# Littering and Illegal Dumping Reporting Form

Waste Reduction and Recycling Act 2011

Department of Environment and Resource Management (DERM)



Queensland Government

This form is to be used if you have witnessed an act of illegal dumping or littering and wish to report the incident to DERM. This form should only be used if you are unable to complete and submit the online form.

DERM can issue an infringement notice to the registered owner of a vehicle/vessel based on your report. You may be required to give evidence in court, so please only submit your report if you are willing to testify in court.

Fields marked with \* are mandatory for a valid report.

## Witness affirmation

1. Please verify that you personally witnessed this incident\*

Yes

No

You are not able to submit a Littering or Dumping report form if you are not the eye witness of the incident

2. Do you know the person who deposited the waste?\*

Yes

No

3. Are you (the witness) prepared to give witness testimony at court?\*

Yes

No

4. What did you see?\*

Littering

Dumping

5. On what date did you see the incident occur?\*

Day / Month / Year

NOTE: The sooner you report the incident the more likely a fine can be issued

6. Time of incident:\*

: AM/PM

7. Name of any other Witness (if applicable)

## Incident details

8. Location at which you observed the incident\*

Location description (street/road, nearest corner, cross street or landmark e.g. bridge, car park, building name, GPS/SatNav coordinates, northbound, southbound, waterway). The more details you provide helps us to issue a more effective infringement notice.

9. Nearest suburb or town\*

10. Local Government Area (if known)

## Rubbish type\*

11. Littering Substance: (littering is considered to be 200 litres in volume or less, on average A wheelie bin is about 200 litres in volume)

If a littering offence was witnessed, please select the substance from the following list. If a dumping offence was witnessed, please proceed to question 12.

broken glass  lit cigarette thrown onto

cigarette butt  flammable material

fast food packaging  sharps/medical waste

lit cigarette  small item of litter

Other: (please describe)

12. Dumping Substance: (dumping is considered to be 200 litres or more, on average a wheelie bin is about 200 litres in volume).

If a dumping offence was witnessed, please select a substance from the following list. If you have already selected a littering substance proceed to question 13.

animal/meat waste  garden Waste

asbestos  landfill materials

cars, bodies and parts  plastic bags – contents

construction and demolition waste  unknown

drums  sharps/clinical waste

tyres

white goods, electronic waste and furniture

Other (please describe)

## Offender's action

13. Please indicate how you saw the item(s) being deposited:\*

from vehicle/vessel  fell or blew off vehicle/vessel

before getting into vehicle/vessel  uncovered load

after getting out of vehicle/vessel  found illegal dumping

14. Approximate volume:\*

single item (small)  multiple items (<200L in volume)

single item (large)  multiple items (>200L in volume)

wheelie bin size  car trailer size

metric truckload size

## Offender's vehicle details

15. Please select the type of vehicle involved in the incident:\*

Vehicle  Trailer  Vessel

16. Vehicle Details:

Your information enables us to crosscheck the vehicle details with the Department of Transport and Main Roads to avoid mistakes and vexatious reporting. Insufficient or incorrect information may result in your report not being processed.

Registration:\*

State:\*

Make:\*

Model:

Shape:\*

Colour:

Other distinguishing features

## Offender's details

17. Location in vehicle/vessel:\*

Driver  Rear right passenger

Front passenger  Other/unknown(please specify)

Rear left passenger

18. Gender\*

Female  Male  Unknown

19. Description of offender (if seen):

Continued over page...

**Witness (your) details**

**20. Please provide details below**

Title:*	Given Name/s:*
<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
Family Name:*	
<input type="text"/>	
Residential address:*	
<input type="text"/>	
Postal address: (if same as residential, write 'AS ABOVE')	
<input type="text"/>	
Daytime contact phone number:*	Date of Birth:*
<input type="text"/>	Day / Month / Year
Email address:	
<input type="text"/>	

**Witness declaration\***

I declare that the information contained in this report is true and correct to the best of my knowledge and that I am willing to testify in court if required. .

**PLEASE NOTE:** it is an indictable offence to intentionally or negligently provide false or misleading information, penalties may apply.

Witness signature	Date
<input type="text"/>	Day / Month / Year

**Completion checklist**

- Witness to complete all sections within the form.
- Ensure you have read all fine print and understand your declaration

**Contact Details – Concerns and Enquiries**

If you have any enquiries regarding your lodgement please contact DERM  
Phone: 13 QGOV (13 74 68)  
Email: [infringement.notices@derm.qld.gov.au](mailto:infringement.notices@derm.qld.gov.au)

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Affix  
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*PINs  
Department of Environment and Resource Management  
GPO Box 2454  
Brisbane City Qld 4001*

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**Privacy Statement:** The Department of Environment and Resource Management collects the information on this form under the State Penalties Enforcement Act 1999 so that the identity of the person who is alleged to have committed the offence may be established. This information is accessible by the other Queensland government departments and may be used to law enforcement purposes. The information is also accessible by authorised departmental officers and some information may be disclosed to other Queensland government departments and interstate Government authorities. The Department of Environment and Resource Management will not disclose your person details to other third parties without your consent unless authorised by law. For further information please visit the DERM web site <http://www.derm.qld.gov.au/privacy.html>

**Information for local government  
regarding the management and enforcement of litter and illegal dumping  
provisions of the *Waste Reduction and Recycling Act 2011*.**

**Q. Are officers authorised by local government able to issue penalty infringement notices (PINs) for the deposit of litter in a public place?**

A. Yes. The delegation to local government allows authorised officers to issue PINs for littering and illegal dumping offences as previously allowed under the Environmental Protection Act.

**Q. If an authorised officer issues a PIN for a littering offence and DERM also issues a PIN for the same offence following a report to the Litter and Illegal Dumping Online Reporting System, what will happen?**

A. If both DERM and a local government authorised officer have issued a PIN, in the event where neither PIN has been paid, the department will withdraw its PIN. In the event that one of the PINs has been paid, the unpaid PIN should be withdrawn, regardless of who issued the PIN.

**Q. When an illegal dumping incident is reported to DERM's Litter and Illegal Dumping Online Reporting System, what procedures are in place to deal with the incident?**

A. All public reports of illegal dumping, involving a vehicle, sent to DERM will be referred by the system operator to the Illegal Dumping Taskforce located within the Waste Management Division for assessment and referral to the respective local government, DERM regional office or other relevant authority for investigation.

**Q. What issues will be referred to local government for investigation?**

A. All illegal dumping incidents that are not associated with state controlled land will be sent to local government or the relevant state agency in the first instance. Incidents on state controlled land will be referred to the respective DERM regional office for investigation.

**Q. Does the industry waste levy apply to illegally dumped material cleaned up by local government?**

A. No. Under Section 25 of the Waste Reduction and Recycling Act (WRR Act) wastes recovered from the cleanup of illegally dumped material is exempt waste.

**Q. Does the delegation allow local government to manage the delivery of unsolicited material to residential premises?**

A. Yes. Section 106 of the WRR Act states that the delivery of unsolicited advertising material to a premises is unlawful if there is a clear sign or marking on an external receptacle or other place for receiving mail, stating 'No Advertising Material', 'No Junk Mail' or words to similar effect.

The sign or marking must be legible, clearly visible to the deliverer, located in a suitable place and state in English the requirement to not receive unsolicited advertising.

'No Junk Mail', 'No Advertising Material' or 'Australia Post Mail Only' are suitable terms for a sign or marking. An offence is not committed if unsolicited advertising material is personally given to a person at the premises. For example, this allows that a delivery person who speaks with a person at the premises can provide that person with unsolicited advertising material if that person consents.

The unsuitable delivery of unsolicited advertising material includes but is not limited to, leaving the material unsecured on top of a fence post, or on public land such as footpaths and median strips. For example, if a person has implied consent to the delivery of a free community newspaper, the deliverer must still ensure that the delivery is secure.

**Q. If unsolicited advertising material is not delivered in a suitable manner, is the person delivering the material committing an offence?**

A. If an authorised officer reasonably believes that advertising material has been distributed in an area in contravention of the unlawful delivery provision (s106) or the secure delivery provision (s107), a notice may be given to a person who is an adult if it is reasonably believed that the person—

- authorised or arranged for the distribution of the advertising material; or
- authorised or arranged for printing of the advertising material; or
- delivered any of the advertising material.

The notice may require the person to provide the name and contact details of—

- any person who delivered any of the advertising material; or
- the person who authorised or arranged for distribution of the advertising material.

The person who authorises, or arranges for, the distribution of advertising material is to take all reasonable steps to ensure that the advertising material does not become waste.

Material may become waste if it is not delivered in an appropriate manner, for example unsecured material may become wind blown and end up as waste. An authorised officer can direct a person to collect unsolicited advertising material if the person contravenes the unlawful delivery provision or the secure delivery provision.

**Q. Are newspapers unsolicited advertising material?**

A. A newspaper (including any material folded or inserted into the newspaper) delivered to the premises, is not deemed unsolicited advertising material unless the owner or occupier of the premises has advised the publisher or distributor of the newspaper that they do not wish to receive the newspaper. As such, the provisions in the Act relating to unlawful delivery, secure delivery and avoiding accumulations of waste do not apply.



## **ATTACHMENT 2**

### **Gympie Community Youth Project Report Refer Item 3/1**

*for the*

### **COMMUNITY AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE MEETING**

Held Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> February 2012

# **Gympie Community Youth Project Purpose and Recommendations**

Carol Gollschewsky

Regional Youth Support Coordinator

November 2011

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North Coast Regional Office

Department of Education and Training



**Queensland**  
Government

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## **Summary of Gympie Community Youth Project**

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In October 2011, the Department of Education and Training, Gympie Regional Council and the Youth Support Coordinator Initiative hosted the Gympie Community Youth Project.

The project originated from the Department of Education and Training North Coast Region District Office and was organised by: Carol Gollschewsky, Regional Youth Support Coordinator; Matt Allard, Gympie Council's Youth & Community Development Officer; and Heather Cummings, Uniting Care Youth Support Coordinator. It was formed in response to the high numbers of young people in the Gympie Region who are disengaging from education and facing multiple personal and social barriers. These barriers impede their ability to successfully complete education and/or transition into further training or employment. There are currently 2330 secondary students in the Gympie area. Department of Education and Training data shows that every school day 110 state high school students in the city area have absences from school that are indicative of educational disengagement.

In the Longitudinal Survey of Australian Youth 2009 Briefing Paper "At Risk Youth" young people who are most at risk of disengaging from education and experiencing poor transition outcomes are those that: are indigenous; live outside metropolitan areas; have low levels of numeracy and literacy; and have low socio economic status.

This forum focused on creating a collaborative local partnership to identify the most common barriers young people are experiencing. Participants were also asked how service delivery could be enhanced for young people and their families and what factors would encourage them to stay engaged and successfully complete education and/or transition to further training or employment. Approximately 50 individuals attended the workshop representing local high schools, community agencies, government services and departments. Their knowledge and expertise as frontline workers, supporting youth in the Gympie area, has been invaluable in putting this report together.

The following information has been collated from the workshop and will be used to inform local, state and federal government departments on the attainment and transition barriers young people in the Gympie area are experiencing.

## **Overview of Gympie Region**

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The local government area of Gympie Regional Council is 6,897.5 km<sup>2</sup>, or 0.4 per cent of the total area of the state. Gympie is located 170 kilometres north of Brisbane, 80 kilometres north of Maroochydore and 87 kilometres south of Maryborough. Its main industries are timber processing, tourism, agriculture and retail. Its population of 49,334 people in 2010 is 1.1% of Queensland's population and Gympie's projected growth rate of 1.6% per annum will lead to a population of 67 373 in 2031.

Two of the challenges faced by the young people of Gympie include: living in an area that has Queensland's second highest unemployment rate at 7.7% (Australian Bureau of Statistics 2009); and 46 % of its population has been identified as being the most disadvantaged in social and economic conditions (Socio-Economic Indexes for Areas 2006), compared with the 20 per cent average across Queensland.

## Methodology

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To identify the most common attainment and transition barriers for young people in the Gympie area, six questions were asked of the 50 representatives attending the forum. The groups were organised so that each had representatives from support services and high schools. Each group was presented with the same list of questions and asked to write down all of their responses sequentially. The group then discussed and prioritised these responses from one (being the most common issue) to five. The responses have been collated and presented according to the prioritisation of the working groups responses. This information is recorded below and an elaboration is given at the end of this section.

## Project Findings

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Forum Questions	Group Response
<i>What are the social issues affecting the engagement and successful transition of students and young people in the Gympie area?</i>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Family / relationship breakdown</li> <li>2. Homelessness or risk of homelessness</li> <li>3. Lack of transport options</li> <li>4. Mental health issues</li> <li>5. Peer pressure and poor social relationships</li> </ol>
<i>What are the major barriers to young people succeeding in school, training or employment in the Gympie area?</i>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. The need for more flexible education and training options</li> <li>2. Family support</li> <li>3. Peer pressure and poor social relationships</li> <li>4. Lack of transport options</li> <li>5. High unemployment</li> </ol>
<i>What services and or supports are needed to increase the potential of young people to achieve their goals?</i>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Coordination of services</li> <li>2. The need for more flexible education and training options</li> <li>3. Homelessness or risk of homelessness services</li> <li>4. More transport options</li> <li>5. Family support services</li> </ol>
<i>What is working to support engagement and successful transition of students and young people in the Gympie area?</i>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Apprenticeships / School Based Traineeships / Work Experience</li> <li>2. School support</li> <li>3. Community programs</li> <li>4. Community response</li> <li>5. Family support</li> </ol>
<i>What is not working to support engagement and successful transition of students and young people in the Gympie area?</i>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Coordination of services</li> <li>2. School support</li> <li>3. Lack of services for primary schools and youth under 15 years old</li> <li>4. Family Support</li> <li>5. Public transport options</li> </ol>
<i>Suggestions for increasing support for young people to assist the engagement and successful transition of students and young people in the Gympie area?</i>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Coordination of services</li> <li>2. Family Support services</li> <li>3. Flexible education and training options</li> <li>4. Increased opportunities for apprenticeships, traineeships and work experience</li> <li>5. Early intervention and prevention programs within primary schools</li> </ol>

## Forum Responses

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- **Family / Relationship Breakdown**

- i. Families need to be connected into community response networks to create easy access to support services to reduce the number of families effected by: family relationships breakdown; generational educational disengagement and unemployment; domestic/family violence/abuse; isolation; low socio-economic status; drug & alcohol dependency.
- ii. Early intervention / prevention programs could support families and young people to develop financial independence and break generational cycles of unemployment, financial crisis and welfare dependence.
- iii. Positive parenting and relationship programs could assist parents and families to develop needed skills to reduce the number of young people affected by trauma and neglect during developmental years.

- **Homelessness or risk of homelessness**

- i. Many young people are faced with homelessness or risk of homelessness due to family / relationship breakdown.
- ii. There are few crisis accommodation services and no options for young people under 16 who are homeless.
- iii. More emergency housing is needed for young people and families.
- iv. Supported accommodation and subsidised housing is needed for families and independent young people.

- **Public Transport**

- i. Gympie has a lack of public transport options and a population that is spread over a wide geographic area.
- ii. Young people in outlying communities find it extremely difficult to apply for work, traineeships, and alternative education options and to access support services that are located in Gympie's business district.
- iii. Petrol costs make it difficult for parents to support their children to access these supports.
- iv. Subsidised public transport would make a discernable difference to many young people in accessing work, support programs and training.
- v. Gympie has many outlying areas that provide few options for young people and it can often be impossible for parents or family to transport young people into Gympie.

- **Mental health issues**

- i. Early diagnosis and intervention programs are needed to address the high level of mental health issues faced by young people and their families which lead to community and education disengagement and family relationship breakdown.

- **Peer pressure & poor social relationships**

- i. Many young people have a negative perception of education. Disengaged youth often believe that there is little hope of positive change in their future. This belief leads to lack of motivation, high levels of substance abuse, risk-taking behaviour, isolation and educational disengagement.
- ii. There are few supported recreational options for young people that focus on positive behaviour, peer support and changing cycles of negative peer pressure.
- iii. More opportunities for young people to engage with community through mentoring programs, work experience, and flexible school / training options could assist with the re-engagement of students.

## Forum Responses continued

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- **More Flexible Education and Training Options**

- i. There is a lack of tertiary education opportunities and a limited range of training opportunities for young people to access.
- ii. Active partnerships with universities and discussions on the possibility of satellite campuses could create more options for academic young people.
- iii. A lack of vocational pathway and career information leads to many young people not accessing courses that are available.
- iv. Many families and young people face financial and geographical barriers to accessing further training or education.
- v. Low literacy and numeracy impacts on young people being able to apply for further education and employment and is a major reason for disengagement.
- vi. More networks between schools and industry are needed to support innovative vocational pathways for young people that are not academic.
- vii. Flexible timetables within schools assist in supporting a variety of vocational pathways.

- **Family Support**

- i. Many families are unable to meet the needs of young people during their education years and this leads to early disengagement from education.
- ii. Early intervention and prevention parental support programs are needed to break cycles of: generational disengagement; family dissociation; drug and alcohol dependence; financial crisis; mental health issues; and isolation.
- iii. Parental education programs are needed for distribution of information on: transition support; parenting skills; health; nutrition; financial management; social and emotional learning.
- iv. Due to family networks breaking down there is a lack of positive role models in young people's lives.
- v. There is potential for increasing opportunities for supported family activities to increase community networks and parental education.
- vi. Supported school holiday activities that focus on positive health, behaviour and lifestyle choices.

- **High unemployment**

- i. The Australian Bureau of Statistics (2009) states that the Wide Bay Burnett area has Queensland's second highest unemployment rate at 7.7%.
- ii. Attracting new industry to the area could help to address this issue.
- iii. Employment and transition support programs within agencies and schools could help to support young people into more varied vocational pathways.

- **Service Coordination**

- i. Many services within Gympie are stretched to their limits to fulfil the needs of the community.
- ii. Communication and coordination between services and networks needs to be more effective.
- iii. Service delivery for young people and their families could be better coordinated and outreach to outlying areas of Gympie needs to be organised.
- iv. Stronger networks and coordination between schools and community agencies would create more safety nets so that fewer young people fall through the gaps.
- v. Stronger coordination would assist in identifying service gaps and community needs.
- vi. Coordinated free counselling services are needed both within the community and within schools to address issues of family relationship breakdown, drug alcohol and parenting issues.

## **Forum Responses continued – Service Coordination**

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- vii. Ease of access to information on current programs is needed so that service coordination can be facilitated and schools have access to current information.
  - viii. Creation of an activity based youth centre could facilitate service coordination and could also be used as a drop-in centre for youth and their families.
  - ix. Collaboration between services and schools for more effective funding and grant applications.
  - x. Mapping of services and coordination is required to avoid duplication and to ensure services target shared and agreed goals.
  - xi. Programs known to be effective are: social and career mentoring; early intervention and prevention; local provider outreach services for information and support services.
  - xii. Working group and action plan to be formed as follow on from Youth Project.
  - xiii. Creation of a data base of volunteers or coordination with volunteer organisations that are willing to support youth.
  - xiv. Provision of free tutoring programs that focus on literacy and numeracy.
  - xv. Promotion and celebration of community success stories through local media.
- **Apprenticeships / School Based Traineeships / Work Experience**
    - i. School based apprenticeships, traineeships and work experience support young people to be engaged with training and employment and are very successful in supporting young people to transition from school.
    - ii. Innovative industry links with schools support young people to look at different career options and training opportunities.
    - iii. Transition programs within schools that support work placement readiness and employment skills.
    - iv. Career expos that facilitate links between industry, training facilities, schools, young people and their families.
    - v. Government subsidies (including transport) for relevant study / program training.
- **School Support**
    - i. The dedication and flexibility of school staff in supporting young people to stay engaged with education and/or successfully transition into employment or training is vital to student attainment.
    - ii. Support programs that provide community links for schools are important for their ability to respond to a variety of student and family needs.
    - iii. School curriculum needs to be flexible to support a wide range of learning styles.
    - iv. Flexible timetables offer opportunities for non academic students to explore alternative vocational pathways.
    - v. More support is needed within schools to address issues of truancy, suspensions, school refusal and mental health issues.
    - vi. Provision of professional development opportunities for school staff working with students with challenging behaviours.
    - vii. Strong school and community links will support a stronger safety net.
    - viii. Access to a school based police officer to provide stronger community links.
- **Community Programs**
    - i. Many community programs are successful in supporting young people and their families but need outstrips availability leading to worker burnout and slow referral processes.
    - ii. Coordination and communication between services and schools could form better referral processes, more collaborative case management, effective use of resources and stronger safety nets for young people at risk.

## Conclusions

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From the information collected it can be concluded that the main barriers being experienced by disengaged youth in the Gympie area are:

- Family and relationship breakdown leading to a lack of family support
- Lack of transport options to access available alternative training, programs and support
- A need for more flexible education and training options to open up more opportunities for employment / apprenticeships / traineeships and work experience and support the creation of innovative vocational pathway support
- Homelessness and risk of homelessness
- Mental health issues

It can also be concluded that the main community actions needed are:

- Improved service coordination to increase community links with schools and create more effective case management and support
- Coordinated community response to the needs of families and young people in need of support
- Early intervention and prevention programs for parents, families, primary and high schools

## Recommendations

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At the conclusion of the October 2011 Gympie Community Youth Project it was agreed by all participants that a collective and collaborative working group be developed, that includes schools, support agencies and government services and departments.

The findings in this report can be used as focus points for the working groups community action plan.

A working group meeting is to be held in early 2012 when participants may choose an area to work in and how the action groups will be structure.

Please see below for an example of how the actions could be organised for each group.

<b>Priority - Increase transport options so that young people can access alternative training, programs and support</b>				
<b>Actions needed</b>	<b>Partner Agencies</b>	<b>Actions Outlined</b>	<b>Goals</b>	<b>Timeline</b>

At the first 2012 meeting the individual working groups will be decided and future whole meeting dates set.

At this meeting, each working group will nominate a key person or persons responsible for the coordination of individual working group actions.