



**I hereby give notice that an Ordinary Meeting of Council will be held on:**

**Date:** Tuesday, 21 March 2017  
**Time:** 9:00am  
**Location:** Bloomfield Hall  
Ayton

## **AGENDA AND BUSINESS PAPERS**

### **Ordinary Council Meeting**

**21 March 2017**

**Tim Cronin**  
**Chief Executive Officer**



**Order Of Business**

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**3 MEETING OPENED**

**4 APOLOGIES**

Mayor Peter Scott

**5 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

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Nil

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Ordinary Meeting - 21 February 2017

**9 BUSINESS ARISING**

**10 NOTIFIED MOTIONS**

Nil

## 11 COUNCILLORS' REPORTS

### 11.1 COUNCILLORS MONTHLY REPORT

**File Number:** D17/2892

**Author:** Executive Assistant

**Authoriser:** Tim Cronin, Chief Executive Officer

**Attachments:**

- 1 Monthly Activity Report Mayor Peter Scott
- 2 Monthly Activity Report Deputy Mayor Alan Wilson
- 3 Monthly Activity Report Cr Kaz Price
- 4 Monthly Activity Report Cr Robyn Holmes
- 5 Monthly Activity Report Cr John Dessmann
- 6 Monthly Activity Report Cr John (Chook) Giese
- 7 Monthly Activity Report Cr Larissa Hale

#### PRECIS

Councillor monthly activity reports.

#### BACKGROUND/HISTORY

Each month Councillors report on their activities relating to their portfolios. An endorsement of the report is an endorsement of the attended and future activities. Not all activities will be listed in advance due to timing.

#### LINK TO CORPORATE PLAN

##### *4.1 Leadership and Governance*

4.1.1 Provide, to a standard that ensures (at a minimum) legislative compliance:

- a) Sustainable financial and administrative management of the Shire's municipal and community resources.

##### *4.3 Active, Creative and Connected*

4.3.1 Provide, to a standard that ensures (at a minimum) legislative compliance and equitable access:

- e) Community Engagement across all relevant activities.

##### *4.5 Identity and Integrity*

4.5.1 Provide:

- a) Support and advocacy for groups and statutory planning endeavours that further the preservation of the Shire's cultural heritage.
- d) Recognition of diversity within the Shire's community whilst valuing and encouraging equity and inclusiveness.

#### CONSULTATION

Various groups as per individual reports.

**LEGAL IMPLICATIONS (STATUTORY, BASIS, LEGAL RISKS)**

Nil

**POLICY IMPLICATIONS**

Expense Reimbursement Policy (Councillor)

**FINANCIAL AND RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS (BUDGETARY)**

Operational Budget

**RECOMMENDATION**

That the activities contained in the individual Councillor monthly report be endorsed by Council.

**12 EXECUTIVE SERVICES - REPORTS****12.1 CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICERS ACTIVITY SUMMARY**

**File Number:** D17/2893  
**Author:** Chief Executive Officer  
**Authoriser:** Tim Cronin, Chief Executive Officer  
**Attachments:** Nil

**CEO UPDATE****February/March 2017**

Date	Activity	Details	Outcome	Status
15/2/2017	LDMG	Monthly meeting		
15/2/2017	Events Centre Steering Committee	Informal meeting		
20-22/2/2017	Council Meetings			
23/2/2017	Risk Management Committee	Quarterly Meeting		
23/2/2017	Corporate Plan Workshop			
24/2/2017	Safety Committee	Monthly Meeting		
25/2/2017	QAO Technical Update			
25/2/2017	Frankie Carroll	Update		
27/2/2017	Executive Services			
28/2/2017	Mediation			
1/3/2017	LDMG	Monthly Meeting		
1/3/2017	Projects Committee	Review of W4Q		
2/3/2017	Hazard Inspection	Sewage Treatment Plant		
2/3/2017	Council Morning Tea			
3/3/2017	Planning Advisory Committee			
3/3/2017	Waterfront Committee			
3/3/2017	Corporate Plan Workshop			
9-10/3/2017	Indigenous Leaders Forum			



Date	Activity	Details	Outcome	Status
13/3/2017	FNQROC Strategic Planning Workshop			
13/3/2017	Local Government Minister Briefing			
13/3/2017	Queensland Cabinet Briefing			
14/3/2017	RDA Cape York Economic Forum			

Upcoming Travel				
Date	Activity	Details	Location	
3/4/2017	Elected Member Update	LGAQ Update	Atherton	
6/4/2017	LGMA Forum	CEO	Brisbane	

## RECOMMENDATION

That the activity summary from the Chief Executive Officer is accepted.

**12.2 WORKS FOR QUEENSLAND INFRASTRUCTURE PROGRAM**

**File Number:** D17/3821  
**Author:** Executive Assistant  
**Authoriser:** Martin Cookson , Director Corporate Services  
**Attachments:** Nil

**PRECIS**

Works for Queensland funding acknowledgement and request for the continuation of the program

**BACKGROUND/HISTORY**

Funding traditionally is for the creation of new infrastructure and not for maintenance focused projects.

The Queensland Government's Works for Queensland (W4Q) program was rolled out to local councils outside of South East Queensland to undertake job-creating maintenance and minor infrastructure works.

Cook Shire Council was granted \$2,470,000 which has been approved to be used on eight projects.

Without this funding these projects would only be progressed when fund became available.

To be considered projects had to demonstrate job creation, support or sustain jobs in a local community or across a region, and had to be delivered by 30 November 2017. Eligible projects must improve the condition, quality or lifespan of a local government owned asset, and are not proposed in the 2016-17 budget.

Projects approved:

- |   |             |
|---|-------------|
| • Cooktown Airport Aviation Park Taxiway      | \$1,300,000 |
| • Cooktown Waterfront Recreational Area Works | \$345,000   |
| • Coen Footpaths                              | \$160,000   |
| • Ayton Waste Transfer                        | \$160,000   |
| • Laura Waste Transfer                        | \$160,000   |
| • Lakeland Waste Transfer                     | \$160,000   |
| • Rossville Playground                        | \$150,000   |
| • Portland Road Picnic Area                   | \$35,000    |

**LINK TO CORPORATE PLAN**

Environmental Wellbeing

4.2.1 Undertake the management and provision of the following, to a standard that ensures legislative compliance:

- e) Waste management facilities and services

4.2.2 Where resources and capacity allow:

- d) Match expenditure on assets against requirement for core service provision.

#### Active Creative Connected

4.3.1 Provide to a standard that ensures (at a minimum) legislative compliance and equitable access

b) Public access to playgrounds, reserves and open spaces.

4.3.2 Where resources and capacity allow:

d) Match expenditure on assets against requirement for core service provision.

4.3.3 Special Projects

a) Work to fund improvements that support common Shire Goals, inclusive of sport and recreation facilities and open spaces.

#### Identity and Integrity

4.5.1 Provide:

c) Streetscapes and open spaces that reflect the lifestyle and character of the Shire's constituency.

#### Infrastructure, Transport and Services

4.6.1 Manage and provide, to a standard that ensures (at a minimum) legislative compliance and equitable access:

a) A maintenance and extension program (where necessary) for Council's drainage, stormwater, road, footpath and bridge network.

c) Waste management facilities and services.

g) Aerodrome facilities appropriate to the Shire's needs.

4.6.3 Special Projects

e) Progress commercial and industrial development at the Shire's airports.

#### Economic Wellbeing

4.7.3 Special Projects

b) Progress, where financially feasible and sustainable, the Webber Esplanade Waterfront development.

d) Progress commercial and industrial development at the Shire's airports as a means of attracting investment.

### **CONSULTATION**

Extensive consultation was undertaken with the Councillors, Executive Leadership Team, Projects Management Committee, and Grants Management Committee with regards to the nomination and prioritisation of eligible projects.

### **LEGAL IMPLICATIONS (STATUTORY, BASIS, LEGAL RISKS)**

All projects must meet all relevant legislation.

### **POLICY IMPLICATIONS**

Each approved project is to have a project plan and meet the requirements of the Projects Committee Charter.

**FINANCIAL AND RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS (BUDGETARY)**

Works for Queensland funding - \$2,470,000.

**RECOMMENDATION**

That the Council write to the Queensland Government:

1. Thanking them for the Works for Queensland program.
2. Requesting for the Works for Queensland program to remain.

## 13 CORPORATE SERVICES - REPORTS

### 13.1 2016 - 2017 BUDGET REVIEW

**File Number:** D16/17747

**Author:** Director Corporate Services

**Authoriser:** Martin Cookson , Director Corporate Services

**Attachments:**

- 1 Amended Debt Policy 2016-17
- 2 Budget Review 2016-17
- 3 Amended Budget Revenue and Expenditure 2016-17

#### PRECIS

The Annual Budget may be amended at any time - *Local Government Regulation 2012 Division 3, Sec 170 (3)*. The amended budget must comply with *Sec 169*.

#### BACKGROUND/HISTORY

This report provides an overview of Council's operations to 28 February 2017 against actual operations.

The Budget papers include the following amended documents:

- Debt Policy
- Financial Position
- Cash Flow
- Income and Expenditure
- Changes in Equity
- Summary of Reserves
- Financial Ratios
- Long Term Financial Forecast and
- Inclusive of Amended Budget for Revenue & Expenditure

There was no change to the following documents adopted for the original budget:-

- Revenue Statement
- Revenue Policy
- Investment Policy
- Fees and Charges 2016-17

#### LINK TO CORPORATE PLAN

##### 4.1 Leadership and Governance

4.1.1 Provide, to a standard that ensures (at a minimum) legislative compliance:

- b) A sound annual budget which ensures adequate funding and reserves to provide for Council's future financial obligations.

#### CONSULTATION

Executive Leadership Team

**LEGAL IMPLICATIONS (STATUTORY, BASIS, LEGAL RISKS)**

*Local Government Regulation 2012* Section 170 Adoption and Amendment of budget

(3) The Local Government may, by resolution, amend the budget for a financial year at any time before the end of the financial year.

**POLICY IMPLICATIONS**

Debt Policy 2016-2017

**FINANCIAL AND RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS (BUDGETARY)**

Amendments to the original budget are provided in the attached budget documents.

**RECOMMENDATION**

That the February 2017 Budget Review be adopted.

**13.2 REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE - FEBRUARY 2017**

**File Number:** D17/2894  
**Author:** Director Corporate Services  
**Authoriser:** Martin Cookson , Director Corporate Services  
**Attachments:** 1 Financial Reports for February 2017

**PRECIS**

Revenue and expenditure for month ending February 2017

**BACKGROUND/HISTORY**

*Local Government Regulation 2012* Chapter 5 S204 – The local government must prepare a financial report stating the progress it has made against the adopted budget during the financial year.

**LINK TO CORPORATE PLAN**

## 4.1 Leadership and Governance

4.1.1 Provide, to a standard that ensures (at a minimum) legislative compliance:

- a) Sustainable financial and administrative management of the Shire's municipal and community resources.
- b) A sound annual budget which ensures adequate funding and reserves to provide for Council's future obligations.

**CONSULTATION**

Executive Leadership Team

**LEGAL IMPLICATIONS (STATUTORY, BASIS, LEGAL RISKS)**

*Local Government Regulation 2012*  
*Local Government Act 2009*

**POLICY IMPLICATIONS**

Investment Policy  
Debt Policy  
Revenue Policy

**FINANCIAL AND RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS (BUDGETARY)**

Operational budget.

**RECOMMENDATION**

That the Revenue and Expenditure Statements for February 2017 be adopted.



**13.3 WRITE-OFF RATE CHARGES FOR MINING LEASES**

**File Number:** D17/3038  
**Author:** Revenue Administration/Rates Officer  
**Authoriser:** Diana Spyker, Senior Finance Officer  
**Attachments:** Nil

**PRECIS**

Request for Council to write-off the following Rates and Charges for mining leases held by the debtor.

Assessment 10017614 - \$1023.99

Assessment 10017648 - \$6650.53

**BACKGROUND/HISTORY**

The debtor went into liquidation in 2015. Notification received from DNRM in November 2016 that the leases were cancelled effective 16/06/2015. Rate charges and interest have been adjusted back to 16/06/2015.

Notification of Liquidation Meeting to be held on the 22/08/2016 was received 28/07/2016. Cook Shire Council remained as an "Unsecured Creditor".

Representative from the liquidators phoned 16/02/2017 and stated that no further payments would be made to unsecured creditors.

**LINK TO CORPORATE PLAN****4.1.1 Provide, to a standard that ensures (at a minimum) legislative compliance**

c) Appropriate corporate governance.

**CONSULTATION**

Senior Finance Officer

**LEGAL IMPLICATIONS (STATUTORY, BASIS, LEGAL RISKS)**

*Local Government Regulation 2012 – Schedule 5, Part 9 (Liability)*

**POLICY IMPLICATIONS**

Debt Recovery Policy

**FINANCIAL AND RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS (BUDGETARY)**

Loss of Revenue

**RECOMMENDATION**

That Council accepts these debts as unrecoverable and can be written off for the following values.

Assessment 10017614 - \$1023.99

Assessment 10017648 - \$6650.53

**13.4 DISPOSAL OF COUNCIL ASSET**

**File Number:** D17/3512  
**Author:** Records and Contract Supervisor  
**Authoriser:** Martin Cookson , Director Corporate Services  
**Attachments:** 1 Title Search 28 Taylor St  
2 Title Search 5 Shephard St  
3 Google Map 5 Shephard & 25 Taylor

**PRECIS**

Lot 13 SP117585 5 Shephard St Coen is the property of Department of Housing & Public Works and Council had an agreement that allowed the use of that property, the agreement expired some years ago and we have been notified that the department requires the land back to build accommodation for Queensland Health during 2017-18.

Council has built multiple structures on that site as part of the Heritage House Display. The Department has advised that they would be willing to consider a land swap for another freehold lot owned by Council within the township.

**BACKGROUND/HISTORY**

In March 2006 Council requested to purchase land from the Department to house old mining equipment previously located in Weipa. In return correspondence in April the Department declined to sell to Council.

In September 2006 the Department agreed to and issued a Licence Deed. This Licence was for 6 months and expired 31 May 2007.

In February 2008 Council applied for a Community Heritage grant to set up the displays on this site. Council has since spent extensive monies on new structures on this site and as such would be financially unviable to dismantle and relocate these structures. Heritage House and its displays is a major tourism drawcard for the Coen Community.

Currently Council has one freehold block at 25 Taylor St. Council is in the process of renewing a lease with Cape York Employment over one half of this block. This leased area has accommodation and office buildings that were built as part of the original Tripartite Lease with Jobfind. These buildings became the property of Cook Shire Council on 12 December 2014.

There is enough room on this lot to subdivide into two parcels with the second parcel able to be transferred to the Department in place of 5 Shephard St.

**LINK TO CORPORATE PLAN****4.1.1 Provide, to a standard that ensures (at a minimum) legislative compliance:**

a) Sustainable financial and administrative management of the Shire's municipal and community resources.

**4.1.2 Where resources and capacity allow:**

b) Increase and improve services where 'whole of life' costing is known, community need is demonstrated and essential and additional expenditure does not compromise sustainable core service provision.

## CONSULTATION

Consultation around land tenure and availability with Council's Asset Manager and Department Housing & Public Works.

## LEGAL IMPLICATIONS (STATUTORY, BASIS, LEGAL RISKS)

### Financial management systems

(1) To ensure it is financially sustainable, a local government must establish a system of financial management that—

- (a) ensures regard is had to the sound contracting principles when entering into a contract for—
- (ii) the disposal of assets; and

## POLICY IMPLICATIONS

### DISPOSAL OF ASSETS POLICY

#### 2.1 Disposal Methodology

##### 2.1.1 VALUABLE NON-CURRENT ASSETS\*, LAND AND "AN INTEREST IN LAND"

Items deemed **valuable non-current assets, land** and "**an interest in land**" \* (those leases that are lodged with the Titles Office) will be disposed in accordance with the *Local Government Regulation 2012*:

Exceptions to the requirement to dispose of by Auction or Tender will only be undertaken when in accordance with the *Local Government Regulation 2012*.

Notwithstanding

#### **Local Government Regulation 2012 s236**

#### **Exceptions for valuable non-current asset contracts**

(1) Subject to subsections (2) and (3), a local government may dispose of a valuable non-current asset other than by tender or auction if—

- (b) the valuable non-current asset is disposed of to—
  - (i) a government agency; or
  - (ii) a community organisation; or

## FINANCIAL AND RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS (BUDGETARY)

Cost of Survey and Subdivision of Council's Freehold property. Legal costs to be covered by each party.

## RECOMMENDATION

That Council approve the subdivision and transfer of lot 13 SP117585 to the Department of Housing & Public Works.

## **14 INFRASTRUCTURE SERVICES - REPORTS**

### **14.1 REVIEW OF WASTE MANAGEMENT FEES AND CHARGES**

**File Number:** D17/3303  
**Author:** Manager, Parks and Waste Operations  
**Authoriser:** Robert Uebergang, Director Infrastructure Services  
**Attachments:** Nil

#### **PRECIS**

A reduction in fees for domestic mixed waste, mixed commercial waste, waste oil and cooking oil is recommended to reduce the amount of waste that is being disposed of inappropriately.

An increase in the environmental levy is recommended to help fund future infrastructure development.

A review of the waiving of fees for Laura businesses is also included.

#### **BACKGROUND/HISTORY**

A review of current waste fees has been undertaken, prompted by concerns that current levels may not be appropriate or effective. The review found that Cook Shire Council is charging higher fees for mixed waste than some nearby councils. Staff have also voiced concerns that a result of the current fee level is a reluctance by some residents to dispose of rubbish in the appropriate way, and complaints about the current fees are common, with some refusing to pay. A reduction in fees may increase Waste Transfer Station patronage and reduce the amount of illegal dumping.

A fee for waste oil and cooking oil greater than 20 litres was introduced in the 2016/2017 fees and charges as the cost to Council in disposing of this is significant. However residents can dispose of oil at the Cooktown wharf facility for free. The amount of oil taken to the wharf area since the introduction of the fee has increased and is taking more time to remove it and increasing the risks of injuries to staff when lifting the oil containers. It is therefore recommended that these fees be removed and the dumping of waste oils be made free of charge, a practice also followed at Mareeba Shire Council and Tablelands Regional Council. Note that the introduction of restricted access is planned for the wharf facility, in order for it to meet its intended use of being a waste disposal facility for vessels using the wharf.

The Environmental Levy is currently set at \$76.00 per annum for each parcel of rateable land within Cook Shire. The purpose of the levy is to fund waste infrastructure upgrades and development, such as capping landfills within the shire, leachate management, and other works necessary to meet obligations set under Council's Environmental Authority, and to meet work health and safety standards. Significant investment will be required at the Cooktown Waste Transfer Station in order for it to function properly as a transfer station. Site based management plans are required for each site, as are closure and post closure plans for former landfills. Most of these are yet to be undertaken, and it is expected that each plan will identify further costs. Note that levy monies collected will only fund a small proportion on the anticipated expenditure on such items.

With regard to Laura waste issues, the September 2016 Council meeting considered the following points:

1. The quantity of general waste deposited at the Laura transfer station by each local business be recorded between September 2016 and end-February 2017. This period should provide good indication of business general waste quantities for both the tourist season and non-tourist season.
2. Charges for general waste generated by businesses and deposited at the Laura transfer station be waived for the three month period start October to end December 2016. This fee-free period for business general waste is aimed at providing reparation for businesses disposing of general waste from passing tourists over the July to September three month period. Current General waste disposal charges would recommence for businesses after this period.
3. That based on the general waste quantities received in 'tourist' months vs 'no-tourist' months, a proposed corresponding change (or not) in general waste charges be determined for Laura businesses, followed by a report on same for consideration by Council. This report is proposed to go to the March 2017 Council Meeting to pre-empt the start of the 2017 tourist season.

The following resolutions were passed:

That Council:

1. Undertakes analysis of general waste quantities from Laura businesses over tourist and non-tourist months and then further considers general waste disposal costs for Laura businesses.
2. Waives fees for Laura Business's to dispose of general waste at the Laura Transfer Station from 1<sup>st</sup> October 2016 to 31<sup>st</sup> December 2016.

Records of rubbish deposited by Laura businesses at the transfer station during tourist vs non-tourist months shows deposits of 8.6m<sup>3</sup> waste occurred in October 2016 compared with 4.4m<sup>3</sup> in December 2016. This indicates a 100% increase of waste during tourist vs non-tourist months which accords with business owners concerns. However, as it is recommended to reduce mixed waste fees by more than 50% across the board, it is suggested that no further reduction be made for Laura businesses.

## **LINK TO CORPORATE PLAN**

Infrastructure, Transport and Services

4.6.1 Manage and provide, to a standard that ensures (at a minimum) legislative compliance and equitable access:

c) Waste management facilities and services.

4.6.2 Where resources and capacity allow:

b) Increase and improve services where 'whole of life' costings is known, community need is demonstrated and essential, and additional expenditure does not compromise sustainable core service provision.

## **CONSULTATION**

This report was considered and endorsed at the Executive Leadership Team meeting on 1 March 2017, following a meeting between Waste staff, Relief Waste Management Co-ordinator, Manager of Parks and Waste Operations, Asset Manager and Director Corporate Services to review fees and charges. Abolishing fees for domestic mixed waste was discussed but some felt this would result in a lack of recycling and a small fee was needed to encourage this.

Waste staff input has indicated that customers regularly come into the Waste Transfer Station and complain about fees, and may leave after being told the cost. Illegal dumping becomes problematic.

Interdepartmental consultation indicated that a reduction in fees for domestic mixed waste would have a positive effect on the community and if this resulted in less illegal dumping than it would also impact positively on visitor experiences with the shire.

Research into fees at Mareeba Shire Council found that they did not charge a fee for residents disposing of up to one cubic metre of mixed waste if the waste was sorted i.e. recyclables, scrap metal, batteries and mixed waste. If it was not sorted they charged a sorting fee.

Research into fees at Tablelands Regional Council found that they did not charge residents a fee to dispose of mixed waste.

Staff have noticed an increase in oil deposited at Council's free collection site at the wharf.

### **LEGAL IMPLICATIONS (STATUTORY, BASIS, LEGAL RISKS)**

*Waste Reduction and Recycling Act 2011*

Cook Shire Council's Environmental Authority, permit number EPPR0075513

### **POLICY IMPLICATIONS**

Posted Fees and Charges will need to be updated to reflect changes. The software program used at the Waste Transfer Station (Mandalay) will need to be updated and the new fees advertised.

### **FINANCIAL AND RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS (BUDGETARY)**

From 1 July 2016 to 31 December 2016 the revenue raised from domestic mixed waste was \$11,756.00 with the total revenue being \$102,129.00. Domestic mixed waste makes up less than 12% of waste revenue. If this had been charged at \$20.00/m<sup>3</sup> the revenue would have been \$4,199.00, a \$7,558.00 loss over six months.

However, it is likely that a reduction in fees will reduce the cost to Council for illegal littering and dumping and may also encourage more people to use the Waste Transfer Stations, so the revenue loss may be balanced by overall productivity gain.

Eliminating the fee for waste oil and cooking oil greater than 20 litres is not expected to reduce revenue as disposing of less than 20 litres of oil is currently free and there have been no residents disposing of more than 20 litres of oil. Currently oil of any quantity can be taken to the wharf facility for free.

Increasing the Environmental Levy will increase Council's capacity to perform essential construction of transfer station infrastructure. The levy is collected through rates instalments. Currently there are 2,787 collected each year, at \$76.00 each, netting \$211,812.00 per annum.

An increase of \$49.00 per annum (matching Mareeba Shire's levy) to \$125.00 will yield an additional \$136,563.00 for a total of \$348,375.00 per annum.

**RECOMMENDATION**

That Council alter and approve the following Waste Management fees and charges, to take effect in the 2017/18 financial year:

1. Council reduces the fee for domestic mixed waste from \$56.00 per cubic metre to \$20.00 per cubic metre with a minimum fee of \$2.00. This would mean:
  - a) A smaller trailer, ute or van load of mixed waste cost reduces from \$56.00 to \$20.00 (approximately 1 cubic metre of waste).
  - b) A car or 4WD load reduces from \$28.00 to \$10.00 (approximately half a cubic metre of waste).
  - c) A 240L wheelie bin reduces from \$14.00 to \$5.00 (approximately a quarter of a cubic metre of waste).
  - d) Waste less than a quarter of a cubic metre would cost \$2.00.
2. Council does not charge a fee for disposal of Waste Oil or Cooking Oil.
3. Other waste disposal fees remain unchanged.
4. Council increases the Environmental Levy by \$49.00 per annum from \$76.00 to \$125.00 per annum.
5. That Laura businesses waste disposal charges be consistent with those outlined above.



## 14.2 BERTIEHAUGH ROAD

<b>File Number:</b>	<b>D17/3794</b>
<b>Author:</b>	<b>Director Infrastructure Services</b>
<b>Authoriser:</b>	<b>Robert Uebergang, Director Infrastructure Services</b>
<b>Attachments:</b>	<b>1 Extract Joint Select Committee of Northern Australia</b>
	<b>2 Cape York Peninsula Land Tenure Map</b>
	<b>3 DSD-Coordinated Project Process</b>

### PRECIS

This report provides a preliminary brief on the issues that require careful consultation, advocacy, planning, and negotiation with any future proposal to develop the Bertiehaugh Road alignment as a trafficable roadway.

### INTRODUCTION

The construction and opening of Bertiehaugh Road has been discussed for some time since gating of parts of the original track through Bertiehaugh Station further to the establishment of the Steve Irwin Wildlife Reserve Nature Refuge. A road reserve was put in place in 2014 to enable re-alignment of the Bertiehaugh Road so it could connect to Moreton Bramwell Road near Bramwell Junction. The opening of the road would allow an alternative access to Weipa and effectively form a loop for Cape traffic travelling to and from north of Weipa.

This paper provides an initial investigation and summary of the significant hurdles and process required if the project were to be progressed.

### BACKGROUND

Some of the best background to Bertiehaugh Road issues can be found as public information from the *Joint Select Committee on Northern Australia 3/7/2014: Development of Northern Australia*. This paper outlines the push of the Weipa Town Authority to open the Bertiehaugh Road route to allow a four wheel drive tourist loop and facilitate economic development of the area. The paper refers to:

- Bertiehaugh Road requiring construction of 50 km of new road as a four wheel drive option to attract more tourism into the town
- The 50km new road being through virgin scrub
- A causeway being required at the Wenlock River (Stones Crossing)
- The new road requiring two runs with a dozer and two runs with a grader, forming so it does not wash out, crowning formation, and construction to a gravel standard (not sealed)
- Pushing the 50km road through for a couple hundred grand, and with a causeway at Stones Crossing the project being summed up for a million dollars
- Tendering and construction over a dry season.

### INITIAL INVESTIGATION

Regulatory Pre-Approval Process - Advice was received from the TMR via Kev Allan Regional Manager-Land Services DNRM, with both this advice and the EIS coordinated project process attached separately. The advice signals that a Flora and Fauna Assessment would be required, a Legislative compliance exercise completed, followed by a submission to the Department of Environment and Energy via an EPBC referral. The referral is assessed by the department and the minister who then decide if an EIS is required. There are potential showstoppers that may be identified throughout this on-ground and detailed process, with associated significant costs to studies required and approvals needed.

Security of the Route as a Public Road - A 60m wide road reserve was established in 2014 over approximately 60 km of the proposed Bertiehaugh Road alignment between Moreton Bramwell Road and Stones Crossing on the Wenlock River. The road reserve is largely covered with native scrub and represents an area of approximately 360 Ha. The Bertiehaugh Road south of Stones Crossing is not on road reserve, with connecting roads to Weipa again not on road reserve. The tenancy of the roadways from Stones Crossing to Weipa include Aboriginal Shire Council grant in trust and mines tenure, with no road reserve gazettal appearing to be in place.

Vegetation Clearing – To construct a formed road and table drain, clearance of approx. 30 m width is required along the road alignment. This represents approx. 180 Ha of vegetation clearance along 60km of Bertiehaugh Road, a significant amount. Permissions would be required and potentially an EIS successfully completed before construction could proceed – refer above.

Cultural Heritage – A cultural heritage study would be required along the length and clearance width of the road.

Road Standard – Construction of a new road should be to required standards to minimise the risk to road users, Council’s liability, and on-going maintenance and renewal requirements. To construct and open a “four wheel drive only track” and then undertake nil maintenance to that track potentially exposes Council to public safety risks and associated liabilities, reputational risk, and implied on-going maintenance to keep the road open, including post-wet season openings.

Cook Shire Council has adopted FNQROC development standards for road construction on new developments - this is the appropriate standard for construction of a new road such as Bertiehaugh Road. The road would require full engineering design and certification as per other developments.

Cost – There have been various costs outlined for the construction of Bertiehaugh Road. Construction costs are dependent on the road standard adopted, extent of drainage works required, causeways or other structures required, nature of subgrade and formation materials, availability and nature of gravel, etc. To enable proper costings the road requires full survey, geotechnical investigation and detailed design to allow QS estimation. The costs to undertake this initial work is estimated at several hundred thousand dollars.

At a very preliminary level, the estimated cost to construct Bertiehaugh Road to a gravel road FNQROC standard is estimated as follows:

- Vegetation clearance, formation, table drains, 150mm gravel pavement 7m wide: 60km at \$250,000/km = \$15,000,000
- Stones Crossing causeway = \$800,000

- Other structures and drainage = \$1,000,000
- 20% contingency on above = \$3,300,000
- Total of Above = **\$20,100,000.**

Total project value including survey, design, cultural heritage and perhaps environmental studies, and project management, is estimated to be in the order of \$22M.

Ongoing Maintenance and Renewal – Costs associated with maintenance and renewal of this road are considerable. Pavement renewal over a 10 year useful life is in the order of \$600,000 per annum.

### **1. Summary**

There are some foundational items that need establishment to further consider the opening of Bertiehaugh Road:

- a. Decision to proceed with environmental assessments, analysis and submission of an EPBC referral to the minister, knowing that there will be significant costs to complete this process, and it is likely that showstoppers will be identified that would render the project unviable. Such decision would require:
  - appropriate community consultation, feedback, advocacy and support to provide a solid position to commit the time, resources and funds, with the measured understanding that the process may well identify issues resulting in the project not proceeding
  - exhaustive political advocacy with political support leading to securing of grant funding to progress the necessary studies and application
  - engagement of all stakeholders and formulation of a project scope and plan before proceeding.
- b. Security of the road tenancy – defined road control and management via gazettal or legal agreement along the Weipa township to Stones Crossing route is required
- c. Identification of standards of construction and maintenance to enable road managers of the various road sections (including Council) to come to common agreement with the aim of entering into a MOU in this respect over the entire Weipa to Bramwell Junction route.

### **RECOMMENDATION**

That Based on the wide ranging approvals required and anticipated road blocks to the project progressing to construction, no further work be undertaken in developing the Bertiehaugh Rd project.

## 15 DEVELOPMENT, ENVIRONMENT AND COMMUNITY - REPORTS

### 15.1 GRANTS COMMITTEE

**File Number:** D17/3804

**Author:** Director Development, Environment & Community

**Authoriser:** Gary Kerr, Director Development, Environment & Community

**Attachments:** 1 Grant Committee Minutes 8 March 2017

#### PRECIS

The Grants Committee meeting on the 8 March 2017 has recommended Council provide in-kind support for the Laura Rodeo and Campdraft as well as the RSL Remembrance Walk.

#### BACKGROUND/HISTORY

The Grant Committee's purpose is to:

- Oversee the maintenance of an extensive grant program database;
- Provide advice on available grants to community groups and businesses;
- Recommend appropriate grants for pre-approved projects as determined by the Project Development Committee; and
- Monitor the progress and acquittal of 'live' grant contracts
- Oversee and make recommendations to Council on Council's internal grants programs (Economic Development, Community Development and Events) and sponsorship requests.

#### LINK TO CORPORATE PLAN

##### 4.1 Leadership and Governance

4.1.1 Provide, to a standard that ensures (at a minimum) legislative compliance:

- a) Sustainable financial and administrative management of the Shire's municipal and community resources
- c) Appropriate corporate governance

##### 4.3 Active, Creative, Connected

4.3.1 Provide to a standard that ensures (at a minimum) legislative compliance and equitable access

- c) Support and advocacy for community groups, clubs, societies and organisations

##### 4.7 Economic Wellbeing

4.7.3 Special Projects

- g) Support development through the provision of advocacy, support and partnership arrangements

#### CONSULTATION

Members of the Grants Committee

**LEGAL IMPLICATIONS (STATUTORY, BASIS, LEGAL RISKS)**

Nil

**POLICY IMPLICATIONS**

Nil.

**FINANCIAL AND RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS (BUDGETARY)**

Laura Rodeo and Campdraft

Potentially up to \$4,000 of fee revenue forgone. This was previously free when the Laura Landfill was operating.

RSL Remembrance Walk

Estimated to be \$500 in-kind value for the provision of marquees, chairs and rubbish removal in ANZAC Park

**RECOMMENDATIONS**

1. That Council approves the waiving of waste fees at the Cooktown Landfill for the Laura Rodeo and Campdraft.
2. That Council approves the in-kind support for the RSL Remembrance Walk by providing marquees, chairs and rubbish removal

**15.2 BUILDING OUR REGIONS ROUND THREE APPLICATION - COEN LANDFILL LEACHATE INFRASTRUCTURE UPGRADE**

**File Number:** D17/3938  
**Author:** Grants Officer  
**Authoriser:** Gary Kerr, Director Development, Environment & Community  
**Attachments:** Nil

**PRECIS**

Council's Expression of Interest to Round Three of the Building Our Regions program for the Coen Landfill Leachate Infrastructure Upgrade project has been successful in moving to the detailed application stage.

**BACKGROUND/HISTORY**

The detailed application requires a Council resolution containing more detail than resolved at the 8 February Council meeting.

Copy of a Council Resolution indicating that the local government:

- supports submission of the detailed application – please ensure the project name is included
- is committed to delivering the project and approves any applicant financial and/or in-kind contributions; and
- is committed to the management and costs associated with the ongoing operation and maintenance of the infrastructure

**LINK TO CORPORATE PLAN**

## 4.1 Leadership and Governance

4.1.1 Provide, to a standard that ensures (at a minimum) legislative compliance:

- a) Sustainable financial and administrative management of the Shire's municipal and community resources
- c) Appropriate corporate governance

## 4.3 Active, Creative, Connected

4.3.1 Provide to a standard that ensures (at a minimum) legislative compliance and equitable access

- c) Support and advocacy for community groups, clubs, societies and organisations

## 4.7 Economic Wellbeing

## 4.7.3 Special Projects

- g) Support development through the provision of advocacy, support and partnership arrangements

**CONSULTATION**

Consultation with Director Infrastructure Services, and Department of State Development who are delivering the Building Our Regions program.

**LEGAL IMPLICATIONS (STATUTORY, BASIS, LEGAL RISKS)**

Nil – Funding programs only require evidence that Council supports the lodgement of the applications and is aware of any potential Council funding commitments and cost of life commitments for these projects.

**POLICY IMPLICATIONS**

Nil

**FINANCIAL AND RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS (BUDGETARY)**

Coen Landfill Leachate

Total project budget of \$752,838. A funding application under Building our Regions program of \$500,000 (maximum available) will require a Council contribution of \$252,838 from the Environmental Levy Reserve.

**RECOMMENDATION**

That Council make an amendment to Resolution 2017/23 to include the following

1. That Council supports the submission of the detailed application to Building Our Regions Round 3 for the Coen Landfill Leachate Infrastructure Upgrade.
2. That Council is committed to delivering this project and approves the financial contribution of \$252,838 towards the cost of the Coen Landfill Leachate Infrastructure Upgrade project be taken from Environmental Levy Reserve.
3. That Council is committed to the management and costs associated with the ongoing operation and maintenance of the infrastructure.

**15.3 APPLICATION FOR A DEVELOPMENT PERMIT FOR DA/3681 - RECONFIGURATION OF A LOT BY WAY OF CREATION OF AN ACCESS EASEMENT (EASEMENT 'B') OVER LOT 100 ON PLAN SP288900 (LOT 100 ON PLAN SP258892), PENINSULA DEVELOPMENTAL LAKELAND.****File Number:** D17/3665**Author:** Special Projects Officer (Planning)**Authoriser:** Gary Kerr, Director Development, Environment & Community**Attachments:** 1 Appendix 'A' Approved Plan DA/3681  
2 Appendix 'B' Concurrence Agency Response and Conditions DA/3681**PRECIS****Applicant**

Bill Reddie and Laura Wallace c/- RPS Australia East Pty Ltd

**Owner**

L and R Collins Pty Ltd

**Location**

Peninsula Developmental Road, Lakeland

**Real Property Description**

Lot 100 on Plan SP288900 (Lot 100 on Plan SP258892)

**Area**

290.1 Hectares

**Zone**

Rural

**Proposed Use**

Creation of an Access Easement (Easement 'B') over Lot 100 on Plan SP288900 (Lot 100 on Plan SP258892) in favour of Lot 34 on Plan SP256280.

**Current Use**

Rural purposes

**REPORT**

Application has been made to Council for the issue of a Development Permit for the Reconfiguration of Lot 100 on Plan SP288900 (previously Lot 100 on Plan SP256280), Peninsula Developmental Road Lakeland, by way of creation of an Access Easement (Easement 'B') over Lot 100 on Plan SP288900 in favour of Lot 34 on Plan SP256280. This application was received as a properly made application on the 17 November 2016 and will be assessed under the Planning Scheme for Cook Shire (2007). The application is Code Assessable Development under this Planning Scheme.



**PROPOSAL**

The application is for a Development Permit for Reconfiguration of Lot 100 on Plan SP288900 located Peninsula Developmental Road Lakeland, by way of creation of a ten (10) meter wide Access Easement (Easement 'B') over Lot 100 in favour of Lot 34 on Plan SP256280. The proposed access easement is intended to provide a secondary point of access to Lot 34 from the Peninsula Developmental Road.

**SITE**

The land is located approximately sixteen (16) kilometres north west of Lakeland on the Peninsula Developmental Road and has an area of approximately two hundred and ninety (290) hectares. The easement is to be located along the north western boundary of Lot 100, adjacent to Lot 12 on Plan BS207.

**TOWN PLANNING CONSIDERATIONS**

The development site (Lot 100 on Plan SP288900) is zoned Rural under the Planning Scheme for Cook Shire (2007) and Reconfiguration of a Lot for provision of an Access Easement is Code Assessable Development. The purpose of the Rural Zone Code is to achieve the following overall outcomes for the Rural Zone:

- *The Rural Zone incorporates a range of agriculture, animal husbandry, forestry, aquaculture and supporting uses which strengthen the rural economy and service the rural community while preserving the amenity and character of rural land;*
- *Good Quality Agricultural Land is protected and is not alienated or fragmented;*
- *Rural zoned land identified as Future Urban Land provides for the long-term expansion of the township and is protected from inappropriate subdivision or changes of use, which could jeopardise its functionality as Future Urban Land. Subdivision of Future Urban Land for urban purposes only occurs where there is a demonstrated community need;*
- *The Rural economy and community is serviced by adequate infrastructure (particularly roads);*
- *Intensive rural activities are located away from sensitive land uses and do not have a detrimental impact on the amenity of adjoining land;*
- *Scenic landscape values and the rural character of the land is preserved for enjoyment of residents, visitors, and tourists;*
- *New extractive industry operations utilise significant local resources and are appropriately located and designed to mitigate any significant environmental impacts; and*
- *Existing extractive industry operations and known resource bodies are protected from the encroachment of incompatible land uses.*

The proposed development complies with the overall outcomes of the Rural Zone Code.

**CODE REQUIREMENTS**

The Planning Scheme for Cook Shire (2007) identifies the following Codes as being applicable to this development application:

- Rural Zone Code
- Reconfiguration of a Lot Code

- Rural Locality Code
- Works, Services and Infrastructure Code
- Parking and Access Code
- Natural Hazards Code

The proposed development is acceptable from a planning point of view and the proposed Reconfiguration complies with the relevant Performance Criteria applicable to this application.

#### **REFERRAL AGENCIES**

The Department of Transport and Main Roads through the Department of Infrastructure, Local Government and Planning (SARA) is a Concurrence Agency for the purpose of this application (see SARA response dated 15 February 2017)

#### **DISCUSSION**

The proposed development for a ten (10) meter wide access easement over Lot 100 on Plan SP288900 in favour of Lot 34 on Plan SP256280 will provide a secondary point of access to Lot 34 from the Peninsula Developmental Road. The proposed access easement is located 3.4 kilometres north of the existing access easement and is intended to provide ease of access to the north western parts of Lot 34. Access points and construction standards have been set by the Department of Infrastructure, Local Government and Planning in their Concurrence Agency response dated 15 February 2017. The proposed development complies with the Acceptable Solutions of the relevant codes applicable to this application and is consistent with the intent of the Rural Zone Code. This development is therefore recommended to Council for approval with Conditions.

**RECOMMENDATION**

That the application by Bill Reddie and Laura Wallace c/- RPS Australia East Pty Ltd for a Development Permit DA/3681, Reconfiguration of Lot 100 on Plan SP288900 (SP258892) Peninsula Developmental Road Lakeland, by way of Access Easement 'B' in favour of Lot 34 on Plan SP256280 be approved subject to the following Conditions:

**A. Assessment Manager (Council) Conditions****Approved Plans**

1. The development must be carried out generally in accordance with the following Proposal Plan (Appendix 'A') submitted with the application, except for any variations required to comply with the conditions of this approval:
  - Survey Plan - Plan of Easement 'B' – Plan No SP288903

**Access**

2. Access must be from the Peninsula Developmental Road. Access location and construction standards must be to the requirements of the Department of Transport and Main Roads as outlined in Concurrence Agency response letter from Department of Infrastructure, Local Government and Planning dated 15 February 2017.

**Public Utilities**

3. The developer is responsible for the cost of any alterations to Public Utilities as a result of complying with the Conditions of this approval. Utilities design must be in accordance with the FNQROC Developmental Manual D8 Operational Works Design Guidelines "Utilities".

**Outstanding Charges**

4. All rates, service charges, interest and other charges levied on the land must be paid prior to Council endorsement of the Plan of Survey.

**Compliance**

5. The Reconfiguration of a Lot approval authorised by this Development Permit must be complete and the Plan of Survey submitted to Council for endorsement within two (2) years from the commencement of this Approval or this approval will lapse.

**B. Concurrence Agency Response & Conditions Appendix 'B'**

See attached Concurrence Agency Response with Conditions from the Department of Infrastructure, Local Government and Planning dated 15 February 2017.

**16 CONFIDENTIAL REPORTS****RECOMMENDATION**

That Council considers the confidential report(s) listed below in a meeting closed to the public in accordance with Section 275 of the Local Government Act 2009:

**16.1 LAND TENURE OFFICER REPORT**

This matter is considered to be confidential under Section 275(e) and (h) of the Local Government Act, and the Council is satisfied that discussion of this matter in an open meeting would, on balance, be contrary to the public interest as it deals with contracts proposed to be made by Cook Shire Council and business for which a public discussion would be likely to prejudice the interests of the local government or someone else, or enable a person to gain a financial advantage.

**16.2 Request to Waiver Vacant Water Charge**

This matter is considered to be confidential under Section 275(d) of the Local Government Act, and the Council is satisfied that discussion of this matter in an open meeting would, on balance, be contrary to the public interest as it deals with rating concessions.

**16.3 REQUEST FOR CONCESSION OF WATER CONSUMPTION**

This matter is considered to be confidential under Section 275(d) of the Local Government Act, and the Council is satisfied that discussion of this matter in an open meeting would, on balance, be contrary to the public interest as it deals with rating concessions.

**16.4 REQUEST FOR CONCESSION ON WATER CONSUMPTION**

This matter is considered to be confidential under Section 275(d) of the Local Government Act, and the Council is satisfied that discussion of this matter in an open meeting would, on balance, be contrary to the public interest as it deals with rating concessions.

**16.5 Minutes of the Risk Management Committee Meeting - 22 February 2017**

This matter is considered to be confidential under Section 275(h) of the Local Government Act, and the Council is satisfied that discussion of this matter in an open meeting would, on balance, be contrary to the public interest as it deals with business for which a public discussion would be likely to prejudice the interests of the local government or someone else, or enable a person to gain a financial advantage.

**16.6 Minutes of the Waterfront Advisory Committee - 3 March 2017**

This matter is considered to be confidential under Section 275(h) of the Local Government Act, and the Council is satisfied that discussion of this matter in an open meeting would, on balance, be contrary to the public interest as it deals with business for which a public discussion would be likely to prejudice the interests of the local government or someone else, or enable a person to gain a financial advantage.

**17 EXECUTIVE SERVICES - INFORMATION**

Nil

## 18 INFRASTRUCTURE SERVICES - INFORMATION

### 18.1 BIOSECURITY SERVICES MONTHLY REPORT - FEBRUARY 2017

**File Number:** D17/3857  
**Author:** Senior Biosecurity Officer  
**Authoriser:** Robert Uebergang, Director Infrastructure Services  
**Attachments:** Nil

#### PRECIS

Report on the activities of the Biosecurity Services unit including legislative changes, contracts and progress of tasks in the Biosecurity Services Operational Plan 2016/17.

#### BACKGROUND/HISTORY

Biosecurity Services undertake invasive species management in accordance with the *Biosecurity Act 2014*, the Cook Shire Council Pest Management Plan 2012-2016, and the Biosecurity Services Operational Plan 2016-17.

#### LINK TO CORPORATE PLAN

##### Environmental Wellbeing:

4.2.1 Undertake the management and provision of the following, to a standard that ensures legislative compliance:

f) Pest and weed management services.

4.2.2 Where resources and capacity allow:

a) Incorporate best practice management as a benchmark in all activities.

#### CONSULTATION

Executive Leadership Team, Inter-department consultation with Local Laws, Parks and Gardens and Roads maintenance; Community Consultation for development of new Shire Biosecurity Plan. State Government Departments and other local government authorities are also consulted on a regular basis.

#### LEGAL IMPLICATIONS (STATUTORY, BASIS, LEGAL RISKS)

Implementation of Local Government responsibilities under the *Biosecurity Act 2014*.

#### POLICY IMPLICATIONS

#### FINANCIAL AND RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS (BUDGETARY)

As per approved budget.

#### SURVEILLANCE AND CONTROL WORK

##### Weeds:

Rain severely disrupted roadside weed spraying in the month of February with only one full week completed. Treatment of rubbervine between Lakeland and Laura is close to complete with

another two days estimated to complete the work. Drooping tree pear has been treated at Finch Bay. Planned trips to treat gamba grass south of Weipa and localised infestations of sicklepod and rubbervine on local roads have had to be postponed several times due to the roads being impassable.

An interim report was prepared for Main Roads outlining progress to date. Biosecurity Services has sought additional funding to ensure that all high priority infestations on the Main Road network can be treated.

A contract with Napranum Council to use their rangers for weed spraying has been finalised. The intention is for Biosecurity Officers to spend 6 days working with the rangers providing hands on training during the upcoming northern gamba grass control program (scheduled for 13-24 March). This will ensure they have the capacity to adequately treat gamba grass and collect GIS data using Council's professional software/hardware. The long term aim is to have contractors north of the Archer River able to undertake works when flooding prevents access to Cooktown based crews.

#### Pest Animals:

Pig numbers are on the increase with requests for traps coming in from the Cooktown and Lakeland areas.

#### **CUSTOMER REQUESTS**

Received	ID	Category	Requirement	Closed	Outcome
03/03/2017	271/2017	Biosecurity - Feral Pig Control	Requested loan of Pig Trap	07/03/2017	CRC
02/03/2017	268/2017	Biosecurity - Feral Pig Control	Requested loan of Pig Trap	10/03/2017	CRC
01/03/2017	259/2017	Biosecurity - Feral Pig Control	Requested loan of Pig Trap	07/03/2017	CRC
01/03/2017	256/2017	Biosecurity - Feral Pig Control	Requested loan of Pig Trap	01/03/2017	CRC
20/02/2017	225/2017	Biosecurity - Feral Pig Control	Requested loan of Pig Trap.	01/03/2017	CRC
20/02/2017	223/2017	Biosecurity - Weed Control	Request to loan a QuikSpray unit to control sicklepod	20/02/2017	CRC
20/02/2017	222/2017	Biosecurity - Weed Control	Request to loan a QuikSpray unit; weed id/assessment required prior to loaning unit.	09/03/2017	CRC
03/02/2017	123/2017	Biosecurity - Weed Control	Request to loan a QuikSpray unit to control sicklepod		PEND
03/02/2017	122/2017	Biosecurity - Invasive Insects	Request to collect ants for id	03/02/2017	CRC
01/02/2017	98/2017	Biosecurity - Weed Control	Request to loan a QuikSpray unit to control sicklepod		PEND
01/02/2017	96/2017	Biosecurity - Weed Control	Request to loan a QuikSpray unit to control sicklepod		PEND

Note: Pending requests for loan Quikspray units are due to property access problems caused by heavy rain and waterlogged ground. Customers have been advised to call Biosecurity Services once they are able to safely take the equipment onto their property and have the ability to control declared weeds.

Main Roads also requested GIS data for mapped weeds on PDR (completed)

Note: 2 trailers have arrived for mounting the Quikspray units on to make it easier for customers to collect and transport the units. These should be in service in the next week or so.

### **LAKELAND WASHDOWN BAY**

The tanks have been pumped out and the water and sediment disposed of in Mareeba.

As per resolution 2017/27 from the last Council meeting, letters have been sent to DTMR & DAF advising that we are going to decommission the washdown bay and asking if they were interested in removing or operating the facility. No response had been received at the time of writing this report.

### **1080 BAITING CHANGES**

Advice sought from Biosecurity Queensland regarding the relaxation of restrictions on using 1080 close to towns. Advice received is that as a consequence of recent changes there are no longer any minimum distance requirements or requirements to obtain consent of those within a 1 kilometre radius of a 1080 impregnated bait. All that is required is public notification and written notification to all those living within a 1 kilometre radius. However, Biosecurity Officers will not be able to take advantage of these relaxations until update training has been provided by BQ at an as yet to be determined date later in the year.

There has also been changes with the way landholders can access manufactured 1080 baits PAPP baits, and Canid Pest Ejectors with 1080 capsules, They will now be able to purchase these directly without going through a local government, however to be eligible they will have to complete 2 units of competency covering chemical preparation, application, transport and storage as well as obtain approval from the relevant local government authority. There is no change for obtaining and using concentrated solution used for major baiting programs using meat or grain products. Agforce has been funded to deliver training in the 2 units of competency required across Queensland, with the nearest course to Cook Shire being run in Mareeba in April.

### **BIOSECURITY ACT AND COMPLIANCE**

A letter has been sent to the Director-General of the Queensland Department of Agriculture and Fisheries advising of Cook Shire Council's intention to locally declare Calotrope and Navua Sedge under Local Law No. 3. Both these invasive plant species have been rated as high priority weeds with an aim for eradication within the Cook Shire Local Government area in the Draft Biosecurity Plan. Local area declaration is needed as they are not listed under the Biosecurity Act as prohibited or restricted biosecurity matter. Local declaration will enable Biosecurity Services officers to utilise powers of entry to conduct surveys and mapping of infestations and initiate compliance actions if required.

Several analogous sections within other Councils have been contacted seeking drafts of existing Biosecurity Act Enforcement Procedures. While all Councils have responded only Cairns Regional Council were able to provide a draft document. Moreton Bay Regional Council has asked that Biosecurity Services contact them at a later date when they have a document finalised.

### **PEST PLANNING**

Drafting of a Cooktown Pest Animal Management Plan that aims to co-ordinate trapping and baiting in Cooktown and surrounding areas to better manage the problem of feral pigs and wild dogs in town is under way. The plan will require participation from local landholders in addition to



Queensland Parks and Wildlife (QPWS). Input from QPWS has already been sought and Biosecurity Services is awaiting a response.

**MEETINGS ATTENDED**

Darryn attended FNQROC NAMAC in Mission Beach on the 23 February.

**OTHER WORK**Firearms and Ammunition:

Approval has been obtained from the Attorney General's Department and Weapon's licensing to sell the excess to requirement Category D weapons. The disposal process is being worked through at the moment with Asset Manager and Risk and Governance Manager.

An application has been lodged with the Explosives Directorate for a "Licence to Sell" explosives to enable the legal disposal of excess ammunition. A proposal is under development to enable the excess ammunition in stock to be incorporated into Council's Pest Incentive Scheme and made available for feral animal control by Cook Shire land managers.

**RECOMMENDATION**

That the information be noted.

**19 CORPORATE SERVICES - INFORMATION**

Nil

**20 DEVELOPMENT, ENVIRONMENT AND COMMUNITY - INFORMATION**

Nil