

Agenda

Ordinary Meeting

Wednesday, 25 January 2017

commencing at 9.00am

Council Chambers, 1 Omrah Avenue, Caloundra

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1 DECLARATION OF OPENING

On establishing there is a quorum, the Chair will declare the meeting open.

2 WELCOME AND OPENING PRAYER**3 RECORD OF ATTENDANCE AND LEAVE OF ABSENCE****4 RECEIPT AND CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES**

That the Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held on 8 December 2016 be received and confirmed.

5 OBLIGATIONS OF COUNCILLORS**5.1 DECLARATION OF MATERIAL PERSONAL INTEREST ON ANY ITEM OF BUSINESS**

Pursuant to Section 172 of the *Local Government Act 2009*, a councillor who has a material personal interest in an issue to be considered at a meeting of the local government, or any of its committees must –

- (a) inform the meeting of the councillor's material personal interest in the matter; and
- (b) leave the meeting room (including any area set aside for the public), and stay out of the meeting room while the matter is being discussed and voted on.

5.2 DECLARATION OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST ON ANY ITEM OF BUSINESS

Pursuant to Section 173 of the *Local Government Act 2009*, a councillor who has a real or perceived conflict of interest in a matter to be considered at a meeting of the local government, or any of its committees must inform the meeting about the councillor's personal interest the matter and if the councillor participates in the meeting in relation to the matter, how the councillor intends to deal with the real or perceived conflict of interest.

6 MAYORAL MINUTE**7 PRESENTATIONS / COUNCILLOR REPORTS**

8 REPORTS DIRECT TO COUNCIL**8.1 INFRASTRUCTURE SERVICES****8.1.1 SUNSHINE COAST FLYING FOX MANAGEMENT UPDATE****File No:** 2016/185054**Author:** Flying Fox Management Officer
Infrastructure Services Department**Attachments:** Att 1 - Flying Fox Actions Summary 21 [↓](#)
Att 2 - Flying Fox Education Report 31 [↓](#)**PURPOSE**

The purpose of this report is to provide an update on the outcomes of flying fox management undertaken from 2013 – 2016 and make recommendations regarding flying fox management into the future.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

In 2013 the State Government devolved responsibility to Local Government and council became the lead agency for urban flying fox roost management within the Sunshine Coast local government area. In response to this, council developed a Regional Flying Fox Management Plan (RFFMP), endorsed at the Ordinary Meeting on 24 April 2013.

The RFFMP describes a proactive (education and research) and reactive (roost management) response to flying fox management—funded by the Environment Levy. This plan was re-approved by the State in 2016 and became the first Commonwealth Conservation Agreement for flying fox management in Australia, giving council legal certainty to undertake any of the management actions relating to Grey-headed flying foxes within the RFFMP.

The proactive education and research program supports management through improved knowledge and understanding of flying fox movements and social impacts. This has included extensive community engagement designed to understand the local impacts of flying foxes on residents, improve community understanding and prevention of potential health risks and providing a broader understanding of the ecological role of the flying fox. Of note, the research component of the program has also included the highly successful flying fox tracking project led by council which is now included as an education resource in the national primary school education curriculum.

Under the guidance of the Regional Flying Fox Management Plan, council has implemented reactive management actions at seven urban roosts. This has included five dispersals at three sites, various vegetation management actions at six sites, and the installation of canopy-mounted sprinklers at two sites.

Flying fox exclusion buffers aim to reduce the size of the roost and prevent flying foxes from roosting within 5-30m of residential boundaries. Results show that this can be achieved with a higher degree of certainty and in a more cost effective manner than dispersals. No further complaints have been received this year from four of the five locations that this management technique has been used.

In contrast flying fox dispersals are intended to remove flying foxes from a flying fox roost. Results show there is no certainty that this can be achieved as flying foxes are wild animals. Dispersals are approximately 12% more costly than flying fox exclusion buffers, noting that dispersals can be a compounding cost while buffers are a one off cost. Complete removal of

animals has occurred following two of the five dispersals, however flying foxes have remained in the local area with splinter camps forming resulting in a net transfer and escalation of impacts on the community (refer to Table 3 for details).

Evidenced based learning to date from both Council and national experience indicate that flying foxes cannot effectively be removed from the local area, however their impacts on residents can be reduced and managed. Based on the comparison of dispersal and buffer outcomes, it is recommended that the primary flying fox management tool for council is buffer management supported by education, research and community engagement. It is acknowledged that other management responses detailed in the Regional Flying Fox Management Plan such as dispersals remain available for application as a fall back should other techniques not work. While current environment levy funding allocations will be required at the current rate it is anticipated that funding reductions could be expected over time once buffers are established and fewer or no dispersals are undertaken.

OFFICER RECOMMENDATION

That Council:

- (a) **receive and note the report titled "Sunshine Coast Flying Fox Management Update"**
- (b) **endorse the continuation and resourcing of the flying fox management project as outlined within this report**
- (c) **endorse the technique of flying fox exclusion buffers as a primary tool for roost management and**
- (d) **continue with ongoing research, education and monitoring to support the current program.**

FINANCE AND RESOURCING

From 2013/14 until September 2016, \$747,131 of the Environment Levy and \$168,068 of Operational costs, totaling \$915,199 has been spent on management actions. This includes staff costs and covers the delivery of the annual education and research program, roost monitoring and reactive management applied at seven urban roosts.

Based on the total expenditure to date, Table 1 and 2 shows the cost breakdown of reactive and proactive management actions at different roost sites. This is further illustrated in Figure 1 which shows the expected future trend in expenditure under the existing delivery program. An initial increase in roost management expenditure in 2013/14 of \$262,000 levels off but is likely to remain at an annual rate of \$240,000 for reactive management and an annual rate of \$50,000 for proactive management.

Table 1. Total expenditure for reactive management actions per roost from 2013/14 to September 2016

Cassia Wildlife Corridor, Coolum	<i>Dispersal (x 2)</i>	\$150,568
Elizabeth Street Drain, Coolum	<i>Dispersal (x 2) and Buffer</i>	\$155,593
Dunning Street, Palmwoods	<i>Buffer</i>	\$26,217
Aragorn Reserve, Maroochydore	<i>Dispersal (x1) and Buffer</i>	\$111,686
Emerald Woods, Mooloolaba	<i>Buffer</i>	\$65,489
Tooway Lake, Currimundi	<i>Buffer</i>	\$5,645

Vidler Park, Landsborough	<i>Buffer</i>	\$11,719
Roost Monitoring		\$80,721
Staff 0.8 FTE		\$144,000
TOTAL		\$751,638.

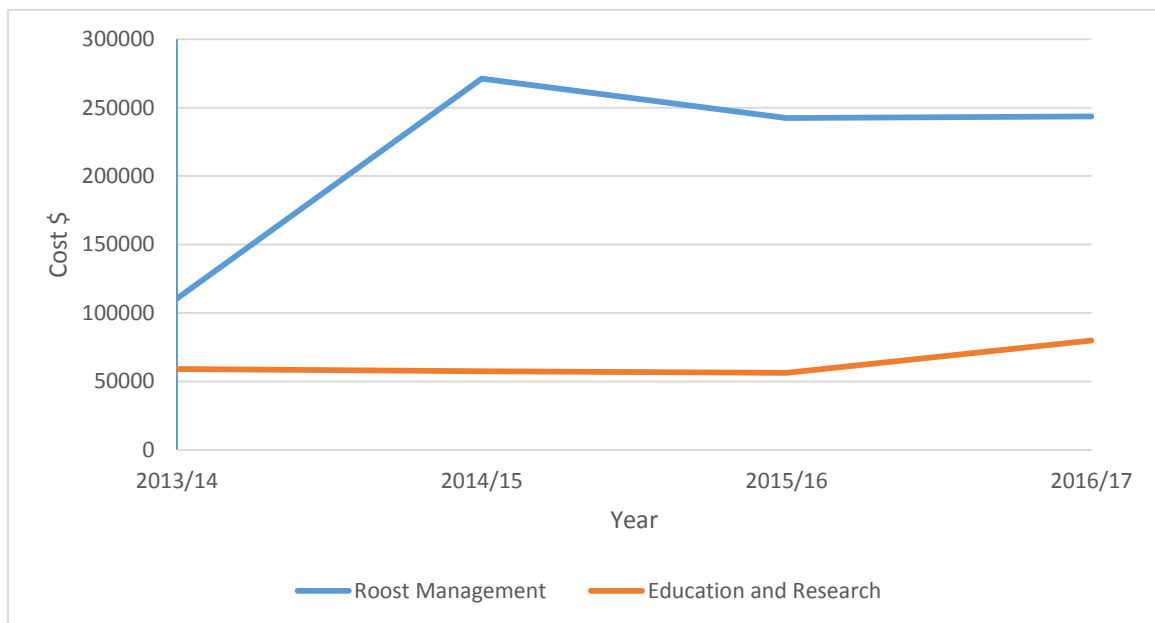
The record of expenditure since 2013 (table 1) shows that that the cumulative costs of repeated dispersals are higher than installing one off Flying fox exclusion buffers.

Table 2. Total year to date costs of proactive management expenditure by activity

Education Activities	Research – satellite tracking project	Research – University of	Contractor planning support	Staff 0.2 FTE
\$38,563	\$51,021	\$18,000	\$19,000	\$36,977

The total expenditure on proactive management from 2013/14 to 2016 is \$163,561

Figure 1. Current expenditure trend for SCC flying fox management, comparing roost management and education and research from 2013 into the future



It is recommended that an ongoing allocation of \$50,000 per annum for proactive management in flying fox research and education continues. Proactive management guides our reactive implementation and influences the best management outcomes.

There has been an average expenditure of \$240,000 per annum including wages for a dedicated flying fox management officer to implement reactive management for the establishment of flying fox exclusion buffers and dispersals. It is recommended that this level of funding is maintained for ongoing reactive management.

CORPORATE PLAN

- Corporate Plan Goal:** *A strong community*
- Outcome:** 2.1 - Safe and healthy communities
- Operational Activity:** 2.1.4.2 - Continue to manage the implementation of Council’s Regional Flying Fox Management Plan

Corporate Plan Goal: *A healthy environment*
Outcome: 3.3 – A reputation for innovative environmental practices
Operational Activity: 3.3.4 – Partner with Universities, including the University of the Sunshine Coast, and other peak research institutions to attract research investments to inform council's decision making on the management and protection of environmental and coastal assets.

Corporate Plan Goal: *Service excellence*
Outcome: 4.2 – Services and assets are efficient, appropriately maintained and managed to meet the needs of a growing community
Operational Activity: 4.2.6 – Undertake community engagement activities to inform the future design and delivery of council services and programs

CONSULTATION

Portfolio Councillor Consultation

Division 5 and Community and Environment Portfolio Councillor Jenny McKay has been consulted.

Internal Consultation

- Manager Environmental Operations
- Coordinator Natural Areas Management
- Senior Natural Areas Programming Officer
- Senior Natural Areas Operations Officer
- Natural Areas Technical Officer
- Bushfire Management Officer
- Conservation Officer Wildlife Management
- Flying fox Management Officer
- Coordinator Biodiversity and Waterways

External Consultation

Eurobodalla Shire Council
 Local Government Association of Queensland
 Australian Bat Clinic
 Queensland Government – Department of Environment and Heritage Protection
 Australian Government – Department of Environment and Energy

Community Engagement

The delivery of council's flying fox management activities is guided by our Communication Plan for dispersal activities. In progressing with the development of a flying fox research and Education Plan, a facilitated workshop was held with members from the Australasian Bat Society, SEQ Catchments, Coolum and North Shore Coast Care, Bat Rescue Inc, Sunshine Coast Environment Council, Queensland Wildlife Preservation Society and Dr Les Hall. Input from local residents living adjacent to urban flying fox roosts was also included via phone interviews.

PROPOSAL

Background

Three species of flying fox are known to occur in the Sunshine Coast Council Local Government Area (SCC LGA). Black flying foxes and Grey-headed flying foxes are the main occupiers of Sunshine Coast roosts, with little red flying foxes seasonal visitors from November to April. Council acknowledges the psychological, social and economic implications of living in close proximity to a flying fox roost and takes action where possible to manage flying fox roosts located on council owned or partially owned land. Council developed a Regional Flying Fox Management Plan (RFFMP) which provides management guidelines consistent with State and Federal legislation in an attempt to reduce the amenity and lifestyle impacts for those residents living in close proximity to urban flying fox roosts.

The RFFMP describes both a proactive (education and research) and reactive (roost management) response to flying fox management and its implementation is funded through the Environment Levy. The RFFMP was endorsed by council at the Ordinary Meeting on 24 April 2013 and is currently approved by the Department of Environment Heritage Protection (DEHP) as a flying fox Management Plan until 2019 and by Federal Government as a Conservation Agreement which will be reviewed in 2021.

In 2013 there were nine known urban flying fox roosts on council managed or partially managed land, including six roosts impacting adjoining residents. Currently there are ten urban flying fox roosts on council managed or partially managed land, including four which are currently being actively managed: Vidler Park – Landsborough, Emerald Woods Environmental Area – Mooloolaba, Aragorn Street Bushland Reserve – Maroochydore, and Elizabeth Street Drain – Coolum.

Reactive management

Since 2013, in response to community concerns a range of reactive management actions have been undertaken at seven urban roosts: Dunning Street – Palmwoods, Cassia Wildlife Corridor – Coolum, Vidler Park – Landsborough, Hardie Buzacott Wildflower Reserve West – Moffatt Beach, Aragorn Street Bushland Reserve – Maroochydore, Emerald Woods Environmental Area – Mooloolaba, and Elizabeth Street Drain – Coolum. This has included five dispersal attempts at three sites, vegetation management through the creation of buffers or modification at six sites, and the installation of canopy-mounted sprinklers at two sites.

Management actions are summarised below and a more detailed description of actions undertaken at each of the roosts is in Attachment 1.

Five dispersals have been undertaken since 2014. Of those five, two have achieved the aim of flying foxes abandoning the locations for extended periods of time. In May and July 2014, two dispersals were undertaken at Cassia Wildlife Corridor resulting in the site being abandoned until August 2014. The flying foxes returned briefly and then established at nearby Elizabeth Street Drain in September 2014.

In 2015, two dispersals were undertaken at Elizabeth Street Drain and flying foxes returned after each attempt. The fifth dispersal was at Aragorn Street Bushland Reserve, Maroochydore in April/May 2016 where to date the flying foxes have not returned. The flying foxes relocated to a nearby site at Eudlo Creek Conservation Area and adjacent to residents on Kawana Island. The Eudlo Creek Conservation Area was naturally abandoned after two weeks, and part of the Kawana Island roost shifted to an island in Mooloolah River where they remained until September 2016. Council did not receive any complaints about either location during the flying foxes occupation.

Buffer management and vegetation modification options have been applied at six of the seven sites: Emerald Woods Environment Area – Mooloolaba, Dunning Street – Palmwoods, Cassia Wildlife Corridor – Coolum, Elizabeth Street Drain – Coolum, Aragorn Street Bushland Reserve – Maroochydore and Vidler Park – Landsborough. Buffers of 5-30m from

residential property boundaries have been created with actions ranging from minimal understory weed removal to change the microclimate, selective roost tree removal, and the complete clearing of vegetation.

Where buffer management does not include dispersal, it has so far resulted in residents accepting the roost location at a more tolerable distance from property boundaries. As a result of this intervention one site has been naturally abandoned, i.e. Dunning Street – Palmwoods. Flying foxes joined the nearby roost on state lands adjacent to the railway line. In 2015 the State agency responsible for this land developed an Options Paper to manage this roost. Council is not required to respond to flying fox issues at this site.

Council has initiated an innovative partnership approach with residents' trialing the use of canopy-mounted sprinklers to deter flying foxes from buffer zones. This has been applied at two sites: Emerald Woods Environment Area – Mooloolaba and Elizabeth Street Drain – Coolool. Success at these sites can be measured from a reduction in customer requests received by council (Table 3).

This novel approach which council was invited to showcase at the National Flying Fox forum, includes a partnership with residents in charge of controlling the sprinklers at their boundary and also agreeing to pay for water and power costs. Council pays for the installation of pump and sprinklers and can relocate the system if flying foxes leave a site.

Another reactive response which is being investigated is the use of acoustic fences to support buffer management and specifically address noise complaints. The likely success of an acoustic fence was demonstrated by the splinter colony that formed after the Maroochydore dispersal when several thousand flying foxes moved to the Kawana Island Riparian Reserve adjacent to residential properties. An existing acoustic fence separated the roost from nearby residents, the site was occupied from May-September and council did not receive any complaints. Currently Council is investigating the option of an acoustic fence at the Vidler Park Roost in Landsborough. This follows community consultation and some of the immediately affected residents offered to participate in a trial. An acoustic assessment is scheduled for 2017 and this will provide a cost benefit assessment for this site.

Proactive management - education and research

Education is a key focus of flying fox management and numerous events have been held to increase the knowledge in the community of not only flying foxes but also the pressure residents experience when living in close proximity to a flying fox roost. Residents adjoining flying fox roosts also acknowledged their appreciation of council communications, highlighting the benefit of personal contact, the availability of roost management options papers, community forums and information updates on council's website. Since 2015 supported events have included the Australasian Bat Night, library talks, Batty Boat cruises and community planting days at roosts using plants which will not attract flying foxes.

In April 2015, to increase council's knowledge of the movements and camp usage by flying foxes, council engaged a Commonwealth Scientific Industrial Research Organisation (CSIRO) researcher and ecologist from the University of Queensland to deliver a flying fox tracking project. Ten Black flying foxes from the Elizabeth St Drain, Coolool roost were captured and fitted with small satellite transmitters.

The satellite trackers were transmitting for over six months with data showing different individuals have very different movement patterns with some travelling very long distances and out of the region within 24 hours while others remain nearby. Of particular interest was the nightly movement between roosts which shows that animals that have been dispersed on one event may be replaced by others from a different roost the very next day.

Further systematic investigation of the data is underway with CSIRO offering to provide the analysis required to develop a final report for this project. An additional outcome of the project has been the inclusion of council's tracking data and associated App into Year 5 and 6 of the national curriculum.

In 2015 council partnered with the University of Melbourne in an Australian Research Council (ARC) Linkage Project entitled *Resolving human-flying fox conflict in the face of environmental change*. The project aims to benefit the understanding of how to resolve human conflict with highly mobile species that are threatened but locally abundant and controversial. The first project commenced in September 2016 and is entitled *Effectiveness of urban flying fox camp management strategies*. The objective of this project is to review all management approaches across the East-Coast distribution of Australia's four mainland flying fox species, to gauge their relative costs, as well as ecological and social effectiveness.

In May 2016, council officers held a facilitated education and research workshop with the aim of developing an effective and targeted flying fox research and education program. Invited participants and a number local residents living adjacent to urban flying fox roosts were surveyed through phone interviews prior to the workshop. The outcomes of the workshop have been developed into the 'Flying Fox Education Report' (Attachment 2). This report provides information that will be used to: update council's key messages and interpretive signage and make recommendations that will guide the development of a future flying fox education and research plan for council.

One of these recommendations currently being explored is to include an interpretive flying fox trail and tourist attraction from Dicky Beach Caravan Park to the Hardie Buzacott Wildflower Reserve West Flying Fox roost, traversing the Tooway Lake Esplanade. Due to the Aboriginal history of this area and association with flying foxes, relevant art installations could also be a unique feature of the trail, promoting local history and creative industries.

In 2013 the flying fox potential habitat map was developed as a management tool to support the implementation of the RFFMP. This mapping identifies areas of low to high conflict habitat which may be suitable for flying fox roosts. There is a total of 22,157ha of potential habitat identified by the mapping and as much as 64% (14,160ha) of the area is identified as low potential conflict. Council is in discussions with bat habitat modelling experts at Queensland University of Technology to develop a partnership project that will provide an updated map. This project will also explore the question of site selection and attractants to find out whether we can draw Flying foxes away from urban areas into other suitable habitat on the Sunshine Coast.

Cost benefit Comparison of Roost Management methods

An analysis of the costs and outcomes for different management actions which council has implemented since 2013 provides a comparison of the two main approaches used, i.e. flying fox exclusion buffers and dispersals. The aim of a flying fox exclusion buffer is to reduce the size of the roost footprint and prevent flying foxes roosting within 5-30m of a residential boundary. The aim of dispersal is to completely remove flying foxes from a flying fox roost.

Figure 2 below compares the success of roost management based on whether the actions aim was achieved and also compares the cost. This shows that dispersals have the lower success and slightly higher financial cost compared to vegetation buffers and canopy sprinklers.

Figure 2. Comparison of the success and cost of management actions

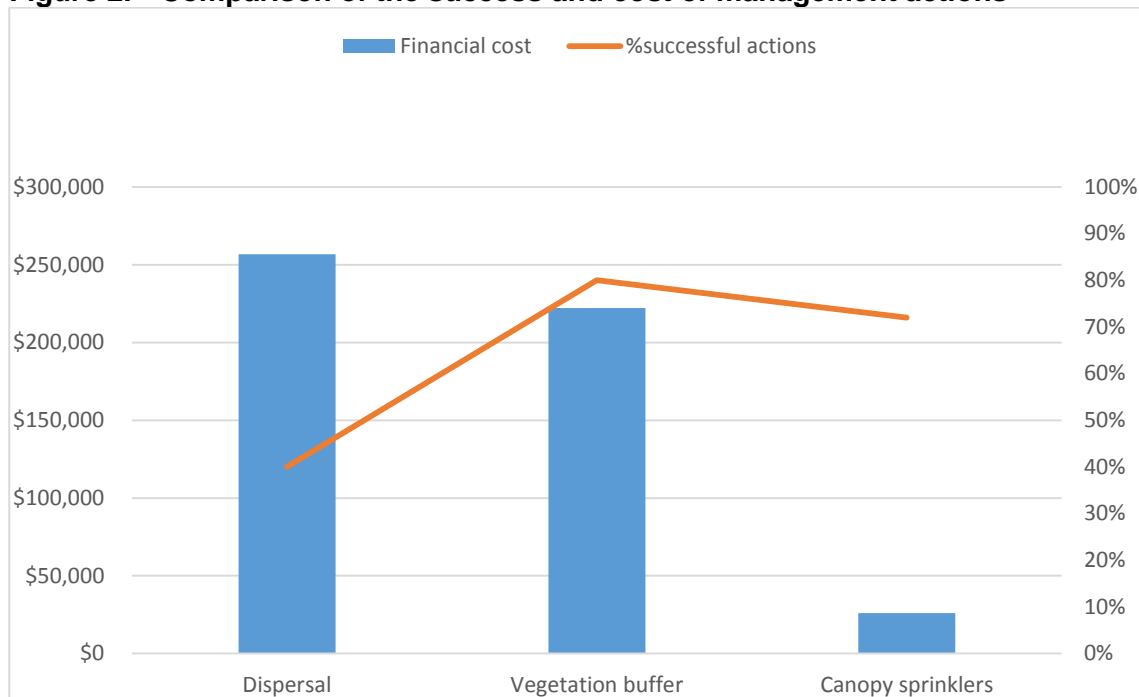


Table 3 provides a CRM summary for the different roosts since 2013. The number of customer requests received has decreased as council management actions have been undertaken. There is a seasonality to the customer requests in that more are received over summer when the Little red flying foxes return and the Black and Grey-headed flying foxes crèche their young.

Table 3. CRM analysis by roost location from 2012/13 – 2016/17

Roost Location	Customer Requests Per Roost Location					Total
	2012/13	2013/14	2014/15	2015/16	2016/17	
Cassia Wildlife Corridor	34	9	3			46
Elizabeth Street Drain			24	25	2	51
Aragorn Bushland Reserve	21	11	6	10	1	49
Dunning Street	6	5	1			12
Emerald Woods	1	3	10			14
Landsborough	1	4	2	3		10
Tooway	3	3		4		10
Other – night feeding, other locations	1	16	9	7		33
For bats/against dispersal or management action	8	10	5	5		28
Total	75	61	60	54	3	253

In addition to the above, three petitions were received from residents and interested parties adjacent to: Dunning Street in 2014 prior to any management action, Emerald Woods in 2015 prior to any management action, and Elizabeth Street Drain in 2016 following unsuccessful dispersal actions.

The total expenditure for reactive flying fox roost management from 2013-2016 is \$751 638, (including \$80,721 for monitoring requirements). Since 2013 a range of proactive management actions have been undertaken which includes the delivery of education and research programs.

What have we learnt locally?

There have been a number of key learnings that have come from the implementation of the RFFMP. The key points that are critical to assist the community when implementing actions have been:

- community engagement and education are essential
- adaptive management is essential – each roost presents different challenges and different solutions are required at each one, and
- more research is needed to explore alternatives as we still cannot control or determine where flying foxes will go.

The following outcomes of council's management actions have been observed:

- partnerships with residents where residents have more control has been successful e.g. sprinklers at Emerald Woods and Elizabeth Street Drain
- flying fox exclusion buffers are useful at increasing the distance between residents and flying foxes and reducing the overall size of the roost and associated impacts
- dispersal has resulted in the establishment of splinter camps which can be in equally undesirable locations, and
- dispersal costs are high for the short term relief they provide to impacted residents compared to the cost of establishing exclusion buffers which can have ongoing longer term benefit to affected residents.

What have we learnt nationally?

- flying fox numbers are not increasing. The National Flying Fox Monitoring Program indicates that the Grey-headed flying fox population remains stable at around 680,000 animals and remains listed as a threatened species under the EPBC Act.
- Flying foxes are increasingly appearing in urban areas due to surrounding habitat loss, drought and increased food security in urban areas through urban plantings.
- Peak public health agencies maintain that threats of disease can be managed with education and exercising reasonable care in the presence of live or deceased flying foxes.
- Proximity of food in relation to a roost is one of the most important determinants for the location of a roost site due to the energy spent searching for food.
- More research is needed into the fidelity to feeding areas – are they more important than roost sites?
- Success of dispersal actions may not be known for several years due to the mobility of flying foxes and their migration response to seasonal flowering and food.
- Flying fox management is a social issue and can be highly emotive for all involved.

Conclusion

With 22 roosts located at various times across the Sunshine Coast (ten on council owned/managed land and twelve on state or private owned land), council's management actions to date have shown us that each roost is unique in terms of site conditions, flying fox behaviour, and community expectations. An adaptive and flexible management approach is therefore very important and education and research is an important part of the program's success.

Evidence based learning to date from both Council and national experience indicate that flying foxes cannot effectively be removed from the local area, however their impacts on residents can be reduced and managed. Based on the comparison of dispersal and buffer outcomes, it is recommended that the primary flying fox management tool for council is flying fox exclusion buffers supported by education, research and community engagement. It is acknowledged that other management responses detailed in the RFFMP such as dispersals remain available for application as a fall back should other techniques not work. While current environment levy funding allocations will be required at the current rate it is

anticipated that funding reductions could be expected over time once buffers are established and fewer or no dispersals are undertaken.

Legal

Queensland State Legislation

- *Nature Conservation Act 1992* – Black, Grey-headed and Little red flying foxes are listed as ‘least concern’ and are regulated under the Nature Conservation (Wildlife) Regulation 2006
- *Nature Conservation Act 1992* – In Queensland, all plants that are native to Australia are protected plants under the Act. Protected plants can be cleared under the protected plants legislative framework and generally there is no need for a permit to clear least concern plants, unless a flora survey trigger map identifies the area as ‘high risk’ of containing ENVT species. The protected plants legislative framework is regulated by the Nature Conservation (Wildlife Management) Regulation 2006.
- *Nature Conservation Act 1992* – Undertaking management actions at flying fox roosts must be in accordance with section 41A of the Nature Conservation (Wildlife Management) Regulation 2006 and the associated *Code of Practice – Ecologically sustainable management of flying fox roosts*.
- *Vegetation Management Act 1999* – This Act applies to all clearing of vegetation and permits may be required at flying fox roosts to undertake management actions
- *Animal Care and Protection Act 2001* – All actions are to be in accordance with this Act, which promotes the responsible care and use of animals and to protect animals from cruelty.

Australian Government Legislation

- *Environmental Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* – The Grey-headed flying fox is listed as vulnerable under this Act. Management actions must be undertaken in accordance with the *Referral guideline for management actions in Grey-headed and Spectacled flying fox camps*.

Policy

Proposed actions within this report on council land are consistent with both operational and corporate policies in relation to a proactive approach to flying fox roost management and safe and healthy communities.

Risk

Council can be considered to be taking all reasonable steps in addressing risk profiles in developing adaptive management programs which incorporate legislative, environmental and social risk considerations.

Previous Council Resolution

Ordinary Meeting 23 May 2013 (Council Resolution OM13/86)

That Council:

- receive and note the report titled “Flying Fox Dispersal Feasibility Study”*
- proceed with dispersal actions for Cassia Wildlife Corridor to commence May/June 2013 at an estimated cost of \$90,120 (including staff costs), noting this does not include vegetation removal and repeat and on-going dispersal actions*
- proceed with option 1, as detailed in this report, in relation to the flying fox dispersal at Aragorn Street Bushland Reserve in Maroochydore to commence May/June 2013 at an estimated cost of \$152,950 (including staff costs), noting that these costs do not include on-going dispersal actions and any action on the private lands of the Stella*

Maris School requires the approval of the owner of the land, The Corporation Of the Trustees Of the Roman Catholic Archdiocese Of Brisbane

- (d) *note that the timing and duration of this action is limited by the Damage Mitigation Permit approval conditions as directed by the Department of Environment and Heritage Protection*
- (e) *note the potential liability, financial and social risks, as detailed in this report, associated with flying fox dispersal actions*
- (f) *approve a transfer from the Environment Levy Reserve – Major Initiatives and Catalytic Projects Theme to fund the non- lethal dispersal and vegetation removal actions for management options for flying fox management immediately to the value of \$243,070 due to the exceptional circumstances*
- (g) *subsequently amend the current Environment Levy Policy to reflect this intent by including as a policy objective “ to respond to flying fox management by implementing the Regional Flying Fox Management Plan”*
- (h) *refer a flying fox project for habitat enhancement, research, community education and partnerships for consideration in the 2013/14 Environment Levy Program and*
- (i) *note that a further report will be presented to council by November 2013 detailing the outcome of the flying fox dispersal actions at Aragorn Street Bushland Reserve, Maroochydore and Cassia Wildlife Corridor, Coolum.*

Ordinary Meeting 23 May 2013 (Council Resolution OM13/87)

That Council:

- (a) *request the Chief Executive Officer to arrange for monitoring of pre-existing flying fox colonies within a 20 kilometer radius of the colonies at Cassia Wildlife Corridor and Aragorn Street Bushland Reserve and inform council immediately there is increased flying fox population and subsequent activity at those locations as a consequence of dispersal at both the Cassia Wildlife Corridor and Aragorn Street Bushland Reserve roosts and*
- (b) *wherever possible obtain permits to address Agenda Item 7.2.3 23/5/2013 that seeks to allow a proactive approach to flying fox management at colonies and*
- (c) *refer this item to the Environment Levy Policy review for the consideration of council.*

Ordinary Meeting 24 April 2013 (Council Resolution OM13/67)

That Council:

- (a) *receive and note the report titled “**Draft Regional flying fox Management Plan**”*
- (b) *endorse the Draft Regional flying fox Management Plan (Appendix A) as amended, for the purpose of submission to the State Government for approval and*
- (c) *note that, for proposed active dispersal intervention action at any recognized flying fox roosts or camps, a report detailing the demand, costs, risks and feasibility will be presented to Council for it consideration and endorsement prior to any action being undertaken.*

Ordinary Meeting 28 March 2013 (Council Resolution OM13/50)

That council request the Chief Executive Officer:

- (a) *to initiate investigations and report back to council regarding the cost and feasibility of a Damage Mitigation Permit for the purpose of the flying fox colony located at Cassia Wildlife Corridor, to consider:*

- (i) *undertaking vegetation management to increase a buffer between residents and the flying fox roost site, and, as an alternative*
 - (ii) *undertaking a flying fox dispersal and vegetation management program to force the relocation of the flying fox colony to another site.*
- (b) *to initiate investigates and report back to council regarding the cost and feasibility of a Damage Mitigation Permit for the purposes of the flying fox colony principally located on Stella Maris Catholic School lands adjacent to Aragorn Street Bushland Reserve, to consider:*
- (i) *undertaking a flying fox dispersal and vegetation management program to force the relocation of the flying fox colony to another site, and in doing so*
 - (ii) *ensure that the Stella Maris Catholic School, on behalf of the owners being Corporation of the Trustees of the Roman Catholic Archdiocese of Brisbane, are completely aware of the extent and implications associated with vegetation removal on their land that would be required to undertake a flying fox dispersal program*

Ordinary Meeting 26 October 2011 (Council Resolution OM11/255)

That Council:

- (a) *receive and note the report titled “flying fox Management”*
- (b) *note the Infrastructure Services Department Directive “flying fox Colony Management (Customer Action Requests)” (Appendix A as amended), and*
- (c) *request the Chief Executive Officer to write to the Minister for Environment (Hon Ms Vicky Darling) to formally request that the Department of Environment and Resource Management (DERM), as lead agent responsible for flying fox colony management, develop a fully funded and comprehensive regional flying fox management program for the SEQ region, which includes a comprehensive community engagement and consultation process.*

Related Documentation

- Sunshine Coast Council Regional flying fox Management Plan
- Australian Government’s Department of Environment *Referral guideline for management actions in Grey-headed and Spectacled flying fox camps*
- Department of Environment Conservation Agreement
- Queensland Government Department of Environment and Heritage Protection *Code of Practice Ecologically sustainable management of flying fox roosts*
- Flying Fox Report and Education Plan
- Rural Industries Research and Development Corporation – Compendium of finding from the National Hendra Virus Research Program 2016
- EIANZ National Flying Fox Forum 2016

Critical Dates

No critical dates relevant to this report.

Implementation

The Regional Flying Fox Management Plan provides the detailed guidelines to implement the recommendations of this report. The implementation of the recommendations in this Council report will be to adopt the technique of flying fox exclusion buffers as a primary tool for roost management with dispersal remaining as a fall back option where flying fox exclusion buffers have proven to be unsuccessful. Also in keeping with the RFFMP Council

will continue to monitor flying fox roosts on the Sunshine Coast and undertake community engagement, education and research to support management actions. The implementation of recommendations for education and research which are listed in the education report Attachment 2 will support this outcome.

8.1.2 LOWER ORDER UNSEALED ROADS UPGRADE PLAN 2016

File No:	Council meetings
Author:	Coordinator Technical Services Infrastructure Services Department
Appendices:	App A - Lower Order Unsealed Roads Upgrade Plan57 ↓

PURPOSE

The purpose of this report is to present the Lower Order Unsealed Roads Upgrade Plan 2016 (The Plan) to council for adoption, which provides the principles, establishing of the warrants, geometric standards to apply, and establishment of a new sub-program in the Capital Budget for the upgrading of the lower order unsealed road network.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Council adopted the Unsealed Roads Upgrade Plan 2015-2035 at its Ordinary Meeting on 28 February 2015.

This plan provides the basis for council to assess and prioritise the upgrading of unsealed roads utilising available funding allocation. The roads which have been identified for upgrading are the more major roads (neighbourhood collectors), typically roads with traffic volumes currently in excess of 300 vehicles per day.

However, council continues to receive requests for upgrading of roads from residents whose properties are accessed by low traffic volume gravel roads. The requests arise from resident's concerns primarily regarding amenity issues and in particular dust nuisance and road surface condition.

The Lower Order Unsealed Roads Upgrade Plan (The Plan) has been developed through discussions with councillors and is to provide principles for council officers and councillors to follow when responding to these ongoing requests from residents.

The Plan focuses on unsealed roads which carry traffic volumes of less than 150 vehicles per day. These roads primarily provide access to residential properties, are typically cul-de-sacs, less than a kilometre long and have little or no likelihood of future extension and/or increased traffic volume.

In a number of cases, the unsealed roads are isolated and surrounded by a sealed road network. Maintenance of these roads can be costly due to their isolation and the cost of transporting gravel and equipment. The Plan does not apply to the development of new roads.

The sealing of lower order unsealed roads is able to be achieved through a variety of funding mechanisms including entirely funded by residents, partially funded by residents, with additional funding from the Divisional Councillors allocation, or entirely funded by council.

Each year the priority list of lower order unsealed roads will be reviewed and the indicative 10 year capital program amended, subject to budget and funding commitments by residents.

The Plan provides for sealing of around 15 kilometres of the currently unsealed lower order road network over 10 years, based on a proposed new funding allocation of \$500,000 per year, and will make a significant improvement to community amenity.

The Institute of Public Works Engineering Australia Lower Order Road Design Guidelines 2015 will form the basis for council's proposed Lower Order Roads Design Guidelines. Whilst this program, in conjunction with the higher order unsealed roads upgrade program, will make an impact, council will still have in the order of 550 kilometres of unsealed roads

remaining. Council does not have the funds to seal the entire gravel road network and in many instances there is no demonstrated need to seal all gravel roads.

OFFICER RECOMMENDATION

That Council:

- (a) receive and note the report titled “Lower Order Unsealed Roads Upgrade Plan 2016 -2026”
- (b) endorse the Unsealed Roads Upgrade Plan 2016 - 2026 (Appendix A), subject to future funding considerations
- (c) consider establishing a new subprogram as part of the 2017/2018 budget, under the Transportation – Capital Roadworks – Lower Order Gravel Road subprogram, with an annual allocation of \$500,000 and
- (d) request the Chief Executive Officer to develop an Assessment and Prioritisation Procedure to guide the decision making in prioritisation of roads and allocation of council monies.

FINANCE AND RESOURCING

Funding opportunities for upgrading of lower order unsealed roads are a challenge given that, on a whole of region basis, the projects have historically not been considered to be a priority for allocation under the existing capital works program funding.

Council currently expends \$3.25 million annually on the maintenance of the unsealed road network which equates to approximately \$5,400 per kilometre.

Under The Plan, lower order unsealed roads may be delivered through a variety of funding mechanisms, including whole or part funding by residents together with divisional councillor, and directly from capital road works funding, if allocated.

In order to support the delivery of identified projects it is proposed that council consider an annual allocation of \$500,000 per year commencing with the 2017/2018 budget.

The delivery of “fit for purpose” sealing of lower order roads is estimated to cost \$350,000 to \$400,000 per kilometre which is around a third of the cost of sealing to a higher order road standard.

CORPORATE PLAN

Corporate Plan Goal: *A strong community*
Outcome: 2.4 - People and places are connected
Operational Activity: 2.4.2.1 - Facilitate the delivery of efficient transport systems and connections through multi modal network planning and studies, and partnerships with the Department of Transport and Main Roads

CONSULTATION

Portfolio Councillor Consultation

Transport, the Arts and Heritage - Councillor R Baberowski.

Internal Consultation

Internal consultation has occurred with the following divisional councillors through a number of informal meetings;

- Councillor R Baberowski
- Councillor J McKay
- Councillor E Hungerford
- Councillor S Robinson
- Councillor G Rogerson.

In addition all councillors and senior staff were engaged through a strategic discussion forum on 29 September 2016.

Infrastructure Services

- Director
- Manager, Transport Infrastructure Management
- Coordinator, Design Services
- Supervisor, Design Services
- Senior Capital Works Program Officer
- Manager, Civil Asset Management
- Coordinator, Maintenance Delivery.

External Consultation

Moreton Bay Regional Council
Somerset Regional Council
Noosa Shire Council
Redland City Council

Community Engagement

There has been no community engagement undertaken in relation to this report. Council receives approximately 90 requests annually for sealing of gravel roads, which would be eligible for upgrading under The Plan.

PROPOSAL**Introduction**

Council adopted the Unsealed Roads Upgrade Plan 2015-2035 at its Ordinary Meeting on 28 February 2015.

That plan provides the basis for council to assess and prioritise unsealed roads for upgrading, utilising available funding. The roads which have been identified as having a high priority are generally higher order roads such as neighbourhood collector roads.

Council continues to receive requests for upgrading of roads from residents whose properties are accessed from unsealed roads. The requests arise from resident's concerns regarding amenity issues, including dust nuisance and road surface condition.

The Lower Order Unsealed Roads Upgrade Plan has been developed in response to these ongoing requests from residents.

The Plan deals with the lower order unsealed roads which carry traffic volumes of less than 150 vehicles per day. In a number of cases, the unsealed roads are isolated and surrounded by a sealed road network. Maintenance of these roads can be costly due to their isolation and the high cost of transporting equipment and materials.

The Plan includes design guidelines which provide guidance for the design of appropriate "fit for purpose" roads which are sound, safe, dust free and of a standard which meets the expectations of the affected residents and the needs of the projected future traffic.

Road Hierarchy

Roads which comprise council's road network are classified according to their function and are identified in the Sunshine Coast Planning Scheme 2014. (refer SC6.17 Planning Scheme Policy for the Transport and Parking Code.)

Lower Order Unsealed roads are typically "Local Access Roads" located in rural areas. For the purposes of The Plan, lower order unsealed roads have:

- a daily traffic volume less than 150 vehicles per day and
- primarily provide access to residential properties and
- are typically cul-de-sacs and
- are up to 1 kilometre in length and have little or no likelihood of future extension and/or increased traffic volume.

The Challenge Ahead

Expectations of the public regarding the level of service provided by the road network are continuing to increase. This includes both long term residents and recent new arrivals. Over the past 2 years a total of 178 requests have been received for the sealing of various gravel roads that are being grouped as Lower Order Unsealed Roads.

Current capital funding for upgrading of unsealed roads is allocated on the basis of assessment of priorities of projects in accordance with the Unsealed Roads Upgrade Plan 2015 – 2035.

Under that assessment process Lower Order Unsealed Roads are not determined to be a priority for funding within the next 25 years.

Assessment and Prioritisation Process

The Plan provides for an assessment and prioritisation for the upgrading of lower order unsealed roads that is similar to the Unsealed Roads Upgrade Plan process. However, there is a greater focus on amenity and maintenance costs.

The prioritisation process in the Plan involves consideration of the following criteria.

- Housing density (number of houses per 200m of road length to be sealed)
- Number of houses
 - less than 40 metres from the road
 - between 40 metres – 90 metres from the road
 - greater than 80 metres from the road
- Benefit to Council (e.g. isolated unsealed road in a sealed network, scours regularly)
- Maintenance Costs.

A weighting would be applied to each criteria, a score assigned and the weighted scores are added to provide an overall total score for the road. The roads are then prioritised by the value of the total score.

The criteria, against which the lower order unsealed roads are assessed, were determined in consultation with divisional councillors and road maintenance supervisory staff.

Delivery and timing of projects is dependent on the priority ranking of the road, the mode of funding and funding availability.

Further site assessment of the practicality and cost of the proposed upgrading works and the benefit to both council and the community, will be required to confirm the road's prioritisation.

Refer Appendix 3 of The Plan for more detail of the assessment and prioritisation process.

An Assessment and Prioritisation Procedure will be developed which will assist with developing the initial prioritised list of gravel roads, how the residents will be engaged and describe how funding from residents will be managed and influence the development of roads to be upgraded in the year being considered.

Funding

Funding opportunities for upgrading of lower order unsealed roads are a challenge given that, on a whole of region basis, the projects have historically not been considered to be a priority for allocation of existing capital works program funding.

These projects may be delivered through a variety of funding mechanisms including whole or part funding by residents together with divisional councillor and capital road works funding if allocated.

The individual merits of each particular case needs to be assessed in regard to the available mix of funding and the project priority. The manner in which this occurs will be dependent on the funding mix, with guidelines included in the Assessment and Prioritisation Procedure.

Where a project is proposed to be fully or partially funded by the community or an individual, then a report will be submitted to council for consideration and approval.

Geometric Road Design Guidelines

In accordance with the national Safe Systems principles, roads are to be designed to provide safe travel at an appropriate speed to cater for expected volume and type of traffic of traffic. The roads are to be “forgiving” such that an incident due to a moment’s distraction or inexperience does not result in serious injury or worse.

As contained in council’s Risk Management Manual 2015 Risk and Opportunities are considered as part of council normal work practices. In undertaking work council accepts that there will be some level of risk and take action to minimise this. All risks can never be fully avoided or mitigated, therefore all organisations have to accept some residual risk.

Assessment of the likelihood and consequences of motor vehicle crashes are considered through the Safe Systems hierarchy of control. Significant vegetation is to be retained, wherever possible, to retain the overall environmental amenity for the community. Mechanisms such as the creation of localised road narrowing points, improved guidepost delineation and advisory signage may also be required to achieve motorist’s compliance with the overall low speed target. In some instances, there may be a need to establish a low posted speed limit.

Off road grassed verges are to be provided, where the topography allows, to enhance the community use of the roadside for pedestrian, cycling and other non-vehicle modes of transport. Stormwater runoff is to be managed, as much as possible, without concentrating or impeding flows and allowing the natural drainage paths to be retained. This will rely on a collaborative approach to the design and construction of road upgrades between council and adjacent landholders.

The Institute of Public Works Engineering Australia Lower Order Road Design Guidelines 2015 will form the basis for council’s proposed Lower Order Roads Design Guidelines.

Community Engagement

The ability of the community and council to develop appropriate fit for purpose sealed road solutions for lower order unsealed roads will only be possible through a collaborative approach supported by the divisional councillor and involving open engagement with the local community.

The community engagement will need to include;

- Standard of road construction proposed – ‘fit for purpose’ standard
- Agreement on the funding model to be used
- Explanation of The Plan prioritisation for road upgrades
- Likely timing of delivery.

Project Design and Construction

If a road upgrade is funded 100% by a private entity The Plan requires that the project design and construction will be undertaken externally by a consulting engineer and contractor engaged by the private entity. The design will be required to be prepared with reference to the Geometric Road Design Guidelines and Safe Systems principles.

Engagement with council’s Transport Infrastructure Management Branch will be required, during the design process, to ensure that a consistent approach is being undertaken. Final design plans and specification are to be submitted to council for review. A bond will be required to be held by council against failure to complete the works; a 12 month maintenance period will be required post construction and “as constructed” plans submitted prior to handover of the road asset. Council will undertake surveillance monitoring as the construction work proceeds.

There are no application fees proposed at this time, however, council may consider this in the future.

If the road upgrade is funded by other means, council will facilitate design and construction and this may be undertaken “in house” or by engagement of a consultant and/or contractor.

Legal

There are no legal implications relevant to this report.

Policy

Once the report is adopted it will form an Infrastructure Services policy.

Risk

There are a number of risk implications relevant to this report:

- All road designs are required under Queensland law to be undertaken or overseen by a Registered Professional Engineer Queensland (RPEQ) and must comply with relevant state and federal standards and specifications including the Queensland Transport and Main Roads specifications and the Austroads specifications. If the design is not of appropriate standard council may be exposed to litigation should a traffic incident occur.
- Unsealed roads can create some local personal health concerns over dust and noise issues, however, the common industry response to public health concerns has been to address them via grading programs. If roads remain unsealed council will likely receive ongoing complaints from residents.

Previous Council Resolution

There is no previous council resolution relevant to this report.

Related Documentation

Sustainable Transport Strategy

Unsealed Roads Upgrade Plan 2015-2035

Institute of Public Works Engineering Australia Lower Order Road Design Guidelines 2015

Critical Dates

Whilst there are no critical dates relevant to this report, its adoption will inform the development of the 2017/2018 capital road works program.

Implementation

On adoption of the Lower Order Unsealed Roads Upgrade Plan 2016 – 2026 by council, it is proposed that, following council budget considerations, the Assessment and Prioritisation Procedures will be developed. Council's direction regarding the upgrading and sealing of lower order unsealed roads will then be able to be communicated to the public.

8.1.3 MAROOCHYDORE BEACH RENOURISHMENT EVALUATION AND FUTURE COASTAL INFRASTRUCTURE WORKS**File No:** Environmental Management**Author:** Coordinator Coastal, Constructed Water & Planning
Infrastructure Services Department**Attachments:** Att 1 - Maroochy renourishment evaluation5 / 192 [⇒](#)
Att 2 - Maroochy river mouth options assessment 57 / 192 [⇒](#)

PURPOSE

The purpose of this report is to provide the following:

- Detail the evaluation (including future recommendations) of the recently completed Maroochydores Beach renourishment project and
- Seek council's direction on the range of options presented for the future coastal infrastructure upgrade in relation to the broader management of the Maroochy River mouth and beach system.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Guided by council's endorsed 2014 Shoreline Erosion Management Plan (SEMP), a number of regional coastal erosion hotspots at Maroochydores, Mooloolaba and Pumicestone Passage have active site management plans in place.

For the Maroochydores Beach section, through to Alex Surf Club, council currently undertakes a coordinated suite of activities at the Maroochy River entrance and Maroochydores Beach in order to maintain the social, economic and environmental values associated with the area.

Maroochy Beach Ongoing Renourishment

The Maroochydores Renourishment Project was completed in 2016 and involved the relocation of approximately 225,000 m³ of sand from a permitted area within the lower Maroochy River to Maroochydores Beach.

An independent external evaluation of the Maroochydores Beach renourishment project was recently undertaken by BMT WBM. As attached (Attachment One) the review found that there was an overall net benefit to the beach system from this work.

Given this positive evaluation this report recommends to continue to renourish along the Maroochydores Beach at an estimated cost to council of \$1 million every two years (to recommence in 17/18).

Maroochy Coastal Infrastructure Upgrade

Four broad options were considered as part of a recent options assessment undertaken by council's consultant BMT WBM (Attachment Two), each designed to enhance the management of shoreline erosion at Cotton Tree and Maroochydores Beach.

The common objective of each option is to mitigate shoreline erosion at Cotton Tree and Maroochydores Beach.

Option 1. Replacement of the existing geofabric sand container groynes with rock and continue beach nourishment using sand from the permitted dredge area.

Option 2. Construction of a new 200 m (indicative length) rock groyne at Cotton Tree.

Option 3. Construction of a northern river channel and construction of a beach connecting Pincushion Island to Cotton Tree.

Option 4. Construction of a northern river channel and construction of a new rock breakwater connecting Pincushion Island to Cotton Tree.

Based on the information provided, as a default position, it is recommended to support Option 1 for the Maroochy River entrance groyne field upgrade, noting that no works will be undertaken until such time as the additional physical and numerical modelling and a detailed cost benefit analysis (CBA) associated with Option 2, is finalised.

This modelling work will be staged e.g. numerical modelling/ state pre lodgement meeting, before further funds are invested in physical modelling to ensure best use of funding resources.

If Option 2 is the preferred approach, a further report will be presented to council detailing the investigation findings and subsequent recommendations.

Specific consultation was undertaken in conjunction with the Divisional Councillor with a range of key community groups for the all the elements contained in this report.

The consultation highlighted the importance of the current structures as a recreational facility for the community as well as the primary role of beach protection groyne. Any proposed change to the structures (e.g. geofabric bag groyne construction to rock) must incorporate safe recreational access as a priority.

Note a comparison of accumulated costs, over the life of the asset, between the use of rock compared to geofabric containers to replace a typical 100m groyne at the river mouth shows a reduction in costs in excess of \$2.4 million over the expected design life of 50 years for the rock groyne in comparison to the 15 years design life for the geofabric asset. The geofabric asset also has a higher yearly maintenance costs which contributes to this accumulated difference.

OFFICER RECOMMENDATION

That Council:

- (a) receive and note the report titled “Maroochy Beach Renourishment Evaluation and Future Coastal Infrastructure Works”**
- (b) support referral for an ongoing operational project bid to continue the Maroochy Beach Renourishment Program to the 2017/2018 budget process for Councils consideration and**
- (c) support Option 1 as the preferred Maroochy River entrance groyne field upgrade (geofabric bags to rock), with additional modelling and detailed cost benefit analysis associated with Option 2 (construction of a new 200 m rock groyne at Cotton Tree) to be completed and if supported a further report will be presented to council detailing the subsequent recommendation.**

FINANCE AND RESOURCING

Item 1 – Maroochy Beach Ongoing Renourishment program

The estimated operational costs for the proposed extension of dredging, to continue to renourish the Maroochy Beach area, is \$1 million every two years (\$500k each financial

year as an ongoing project). Note with the first of the renourishment program to recommence in 17/18 an initial \$1 million allocation is required to deliver the first stage of works.

\$100,000 has been allocated in 16/17 to gain relevant approvals and permits for an ongoing renourishment project.

Note longer term dredging contract arrangements is expected to produce delivery cost savings for this work.

Typical break up of costs of this renourishment expenditure is table below.

Campaign stage of works	Cost Estimates
Site establishment and mobilisation (booster pump, dredge lines, storage facilities, site office, dredge mobilisation etc)	\$120,000
Dredging and replenishment of 100,000m ³ (rates per chainage location, standby rates for fisheries closure dates, placing and spreading sand, silt curtains, navigation aids etc)	\$690,000
Ancillary actions e.g. final trim, survey, permit monitoring (wader bird counts, turtle monitoring, revegetation etc)	\$50,000
Disestablishment and demobilisation (rehabilitation of disturbed areas, removal of dredge and equipment, temp dredge lines removed to depot etc)	\$90,000
Contingency (5%)	\$50,000
Total	\$1,000,000

Item 2 – Maroochy Coastal Infrastructure Upgrade

Break up of costs of all of the infrastructure options (1 – 4) provided by this report are table below.

Option	Description of works	Cost Estimates	Budget
1.	Replacement of existing geobag structures	\$4.711 million	Capital program
2.	Construction of new 200m rock groyne to replace current 70m southern groyne	\$4.837 million	Capital program
3.	Construction of northern river entrance through dredging of a northern channel and filling southern mouth to close (establish a beach)	\$7.560 million	Operational program
4.	Construction of northern river mouth through dredging of northern channel and filling southern mouth to close reinforced with rock/ geofabric breakwater	\$9.156 million	Capital program

Note all of the above options will still require the following actions to be funded as part of the overall mouth management:

- (a) Renewal of river groynes adjacent to the Boat Shed and caravan park geobag revetment walls - \$3 million
- (b) Construction of last line of defence between Maroochy Surf Life Club and Alexander Headland Surf Life Saving Club seawall (in conjunction with State Government) – up to \$5 million (council portion) to be revised as unfunded in the capital program as works will only be undertaken as emergency works in the event the erosion trigger is realised.

Cost comparison – Geofabric containers to Rock

A comparison of costs to replace a typical 100m groyne at the river mouth was undertaken as part of the report development.

- Rock groyne (expected design life 50 years) - \$900,000 plus \$12,000 per year maintenance. This structure includes a 3m wide recreational path
- Geofabric container (expected design life 15 years) - \$516,000 plus \$50,000 per year maintenance

Note while costs of both assets reach an equilibrium at year 10 an additional \$600,000 is allocated in year 15 (and subsequent 15 year intervals) to replace the geobag groyne as the asset reaches the end of its design life.

This comparison indicates a reduction in costs in excess of \$2.4 million over the expected design life of 50 years of the rock groyne. The geofabric asset also has a higher yearly maintenance costs which contributes to this accumulated difference.

For further details see below in background section a graph depicting the direct life cycle costs of both assets up to the 16 year timeframe which represents first life cycle replacement of geobag structure.

Modelling costs

Estimated costs associated with the further investigations of option 2 in the form of numerical and physical modelling and a detailed cost benefit analysis as per the recommendation are up to \$500,000 (one off costs). This modelling work will be staged e.g. numerical modelling/ state pre lodgement meeting, before further funds are invested in physical modelling to ensure best use of funding resources.

Currently only \$2.275 million of the estimated \$7.711 million required for the preferred option has been allocated in the 10 year capital program. The program will be reviewed post this report to ensure funding allocations highlighted above are refined in the forward estimates to align with the final implementation plan.

CORPORATE PLAN

Corporate Plan Goal: *A healthy environment*

Outcome: 3.2 - Well-managed and maintained open space, waterways and foreshore assets

Operational Activity: 3.2.1.2 - Continue to implement the Maroochydoore Beach Protection Plan

CONSULTATION**Portfolio Councillor Consultation**

Details of the report have been provided to Councillor J McKay for consultation.

Internal Consultation

The following range of internal stakeholders were consulted as part of the report development:

- Councillor J O'Pray
- Director Infrastructure Services
- Manager Environmental Operations
- Manager Parks and Gardens
- Principal Coastal Engineer
- Coordinator Holiday Parks and Lifeguard Services

External Consultation

The following range of external stakeholders were consulted as part of the report development:

- WBM BMT coastal consultants
- Department of Agriculture and Fisheries (DAF)
- Department of Environment and Heritage Protection (DEHP)
- Surf Life Saving Queensland

Community Engagement

Specific consultation has been undertaken in conjunction with the Divisional Councillor with a range of key community groups for the all the elements contained in this report.

The consultation highlighted the importance of the current structures as a recreational facility for the community as well as the primary role of beach protection groyne. Any proposed change to the structures (e.g. geofabric bag groyne construction to rock) must incorporate safe recreational access as a priority.

It is expected further project staged specific consultation will be required as the implementation plan for the works highlighted in this report are delivered. This will also include the results of the modelling associated with Option 2.

PROPOSAL

Guided by council's endorsed 2014 Shoreline Erosion Management Plan (SEMP), a number of regional coastal erosion hotspots at Maroochydore, Mooloolaba and Pumicestone Passage have active site management plans in place utilising a range of natural (dune building/ revegetation) and engineered (seawall, groynes) options.

With respect to the Maroochydore site, the lower estuary of the Maroochy River is a complex system of channels, intertidal shoals, islands and coastal bars. The entrance is dominated by a large spit which currently extends southwards from the north shore. Within the estuary, Goat and Channel islands divide the river into two main channels.

The river entrance is an important controlling factor on the tidal regime in the estuary with the shoals and sand bars restricting the propagation of the tide from the ocean into the estuary. A state of dynamic equilibrium best describes this relationship between the tidal prism and the entrance.

The river entrance position naturally migrates in response to the prevailing coastal and estuarine processes with the entrance being located both north and south of Pincushion Island since the 1940's. Southern migration of the entrance in the 1990's saw erosive pressure placed against the Cotton Tree Holiday Park and resulted in council undertaking the construction, in 2003, of a number of groynes and section of seawalls to protect park assets.

Council currently undertakes a coordinated suite of activities at the Maroochy River entrance and Maroochydore Beach in order to maintain the social, economic and environmental values associated with the area. This work includes maintaining the geofabric coastal protection structures and since 2012/13 the dredging of sand from the river mouth and delivered to Maroochydore Beach via a pipeline.

In addition a 35 year trigger based approval for a jointly constructed state/ council seawall between Maroochydore and Alexandra Headland Surf Life Saving Clubs has been approved by the State Government with funding allocated in the outer years of council's 10 year capital program.

With the recent completion of the Maroochydore Beach three year renourishment project and given a number of the range of river mouth coastal structures (e.g. geobag groynes and revetment walls) have now reached the end of their useful life, this report looks to detail the evaluation (including future recommendations) of the recently completed renourishment

project and seek council's direction for the future coastal infrastructure upgrades as part of the broader Maroochy River mouth management.

Maroochy Beach Ongoing Renourishment

Stage one of the Maroochydyore Renourishment Project was completed in 2013 and involved the relocation of approximately 125,000 m³ of sand from a permitted area within the lower Maroochy River to Maroochydyore Beach. The purpose of this work was to maintain an average design storm erosion beach width of 45m and protect the existing land based assets and infrastructure. The sand was relocated via a Cutter Suction Dredge (CSD) and pipeline. Subsequent campaigns involving the relocation of 75,000m³ and 25,000m³ of sand was recently completed in 2015 and 2016 respectively.

A comparison of hydrographic surveys obtained at the completion of the 2013 dredging and prior to the commencement of dredging in 2015 suggests a fill volume of 73,327m³ between October 2013 and June 2015 which corresponds to an infilling rate of approximately 50,000m³/year.

Based on this finding and the existing dredging and renourishment practices, council could expect lower Maroochy River sand source to sustainably provide up to 100,000m³ every two years. Costs associated with this work are estimated to be in the order of \$500,000 per year.

An independent external evaluation of the effectiveness of the renourishment project was recently undertaken by BMT WBM as attached (Attachment One).

The review found that based on longshore sediment transport estimates, the loss of sand from the Maroochydyore Beach compartment during the Project period is estimated to be 100,000 m³. Along the 1.7 km stretch of shoreline, this sand deficit corresponds to an average setback of approximately 15 m (assuming erodible material at the shoreline) over the project period. This suggests that Maroochydyore Beach would be in a poorer condition with low value in the absence of the three-year sand replenishment campaign.

Considering that a total volume of 225,000 m³ of sand was placed on the beach during the Project and the estimated deficit of 100,000 m³ over this period, approximately half the nourishment material remains in the beach system. This suggests an overall net benefit to the beach system; however, it should be considered that the region did not experience a significant design storm event during the Project.

Feasibility assessments prior to the Project estimated a design erosion volume between 200,000 m³ and 260,000 m³ for Maroochydyore Beach (BMT WBM, 2012). This suggests that the beach, its values, and adjacent assets, remain vulnerable to coastal erosion events despite the success of the Project. This highlights the need for an ongoing nourishment program in perpetuity.

Given this positive evaluation this report recommends to continue to renourish along the Maroochydyore Beach at an estimated cost to council of \$1 million every two years (to recommence in 17/18).

In addition an \$100,000 has been allocated in 16/17 to gain relevant approvals and permits for an ongoing renourishment project.

Please note a recent Regional Sand Sourcing Study (to be presented to council in October 2016) undertaken provides that while this type of renourishment program is suitable for the short term (5 year planning horizon) that consideration of the medium to long term options be further explored. For the Maroochydyore site this would include the undertaking of a nearshore nourishment placement trail and the further exploration of the potential to incorporate a sand shifter recirculation system on site.

Maroochy Coastal Infrastructure Upgrade

As tabled below (Table 1) four broad options were considered as part of a recent options assessment undertaken by council's consultant BMT WBM (Attachment Two), each

designed to enhance the management of shoreline erosion at Cotton Tree and Maroochydore Beach.

- Option 1. Replacement of the existing geofabric sand container groynes with rock and continue beach nourishment using sand from the permitted dredge area. This option is consistent with the Sunshine Coast Council’s Shoreline Erosion Management Plan (SEMP), 2014.
- Option 2. Construction of a new 200 m (indicative length) rock groyne at Cotton Tree. Approximately 100,000 m³ of beach nourishment would be required as part of the capital works. Depending on project modelling results this option may recommend the removal or reconfiguration of the remaining geofabric sand container groynes.
- Option 3. Construction of a northern river channel and construction of a beach connecting Pincushion Island to Cotton Tree. This option requires dredging of approximately 300,000 m³ of sand from the north side of the Maroochy River mouth to fill the channel on the south side of Pincushion Island.
- Option 4. Construction of a northern river channel and construction of a new rock breakwater connecting Pincushion Island to Cotton Tree. This option assumes that the dredged material will protect construction of the breakwater wall on the south side. This option will also consider the use of geofabric mega containers as an alternate to a rock construction.

The common objective of each option is to mitigate shoreline erosion at Cotton Tree and Maroochydore Beach.

Table 1 – Summary of Preliminary Options Assessment

Option	Advantages	Disadvantages	Comments
Option 1 Replace existing groynes Est cost - \$4.711m	Limited design and permit requirements No impact on coastal processes or environmental values High likelihood of approvals Low risk Reduced maintenance Cost effective ‘whole of life’ costs	No added benefit	Maintains status quo
Option 2 New 200m rock groyne at Cotton Tree Est cost - \$4.837m	Widening of the beach to the south of groyne Max benefit of future nourishment programs Potential reduction in beach nourishment frequency May be possible to rationalise existing groyne field	Reduced sand supply to north may need mitigation High visual impact Shoreline recession at Cotton Tree may need mitigation	Likely to improve beach width and sand storage offshore from Maroochy Surf Club Ongoing beach nourishment still required at Cotton Tree (downdrift of proposed groyne) and south of Okinja Rd beach access

	<p>Potential opportunity to combine with sand shifter for permanent beach nourishment response capacity</p> <p>High/ medium likelihood of approvals</p>		
<p>Option 3</p> <p>Construction of northern channel with constructed beach in southern entrance</p> <p>Est cost - \$7.560m</p>	<p>Relieves erosion pressure at Cotton Tree</p> <p>Widening of the beach to the south</p> <p>Increase in sand nearshore zone</p> <p>Potential reduction in beach nourishment frequency</p> <p>Very low likelihood of approvals</p>	<p>Significant planning and design phase</p> <p>Challenging approvals framework</p> <p>Similar proposed works not previously supported by state</p> <p>Ongoing commitment to maintain northern entrance</p> <p>High capital and maintenance costs</p>	<p>Represents a significant improvement to shoreline erosion and beach amenity at Cotton Tree</p> <p>Likely to improve beach width and sand storage offshore from Maroochy Surf Club</p> <p>Ongoing beach nourishment still required south of Okinja Rd beach access</p>
<p>Option 4</p> <p>Construction of northern channel with rock breakwater in southern entrance</p> <p>Est cost - \$9.156m</p>	<p>Relieves erosion pressure at Cotton Tree</p> <p>Widening of the beach to the south</p> <p>Increase in sand nearshore zone</p> <p>Northern entrance likely to remain dominate without significant maintenance dredging</p> <p>Very low likelihood of approvals</p>	<p>Challenging approvals framework</p> <p>Similar proposed works not previously supported by state</p> <p>High visual impact</p> <p>High capital cost</p>	<p>Permanent commitment to a northern entrance channel</p> <p>Overtime will trap sand and is likely to improve beach width and sand storage offshore from Maroochy Surf Club</p> <p>Ongoing beach nourishment still required south of Okinja Rd beach access</p>

Note all of the above options will still require the following actions to be funded as part of the overall mouth management:

- (a) Renewal of river groynes adjacent to the Boat Shed and caravan park geobag revetment walls - \$3 million.
- (b) Construction of last line of defence between Maroochy Surf Life Club and Alexander Headland Surf Life Saving Club seawall (in conjunction with State Government) – up to \$5 million (council portion) currently unfunded and will be undertaken as emergency works in the event the erosion trigger is realised.

In addition estimated costs associated with the further investigations of Option 2 in the form of numerical and physical modelling and a detailed cost benefit analysis as per the recommendation (e) are up to \$500,000 (one off costs). This modelling work will be staged e.g. numerical modelling/ state pre lodgement meeting, before further funds are invested in physical modelling to ensure best use of funding resources.

Options Evaluation

Option 1 is considered relatively low risk and likely to gain environmental approval for the following reasons:

1. The option has been successfully 'trilled' using geofabric sand containers since 2003
2. There would be no significant impact to the existing coastal processes or environmental values.

Option 2 represents a relatively standard coastal engineering solution by taking advantage of coastal process of trapping the littoral drift of sand to widen the beach.

The 200m groyne would also assist by maximising the benefit of future beach nourishment campaigns. Impact to sand supply downdrift of the structure (i.e. at Cotton Tree and North Shore Spit) will occur, particularly during the years immediately following the capital works while the groyne 'fills' and the area adjusts to a new dynamic equilibrium. These potential impacts of these new works will be monitored, with the risks associated with a reduced sand supply downdrift typically mitigated with beach nourishment.

An opportunity may also exist from this option to reduce the Maroochydoore Beach renourishment requirements given greater stabilisation of the northern end of the beach.

Option 3 the relocation of the channel from south to north by dredging is operationally the most challenging and carries significant environmental approval challenges. Note similar previous proposals have not received support from the state agencies. Nevertheless, the proposed works are not prohibited under the current legislative regime and may receive support if the environmental risk could be managed and the benefit to erosion mitigation and social values clearly demonstrated.

Option 4 similar to Option 3 but reinforced with a rock breakwater, this option would attract similar planning and approvals challenges to Option 3, but is likely to be a more secure method for creating and maintaining an entrance channel long term to the north of Pincushion Island. The implementation of the breakwater structure represents a permanent commitment to a northern entrance channel.

Additional structures, beyond those described in this report, may be required to mitigate emerging erosion problems in response to a new coastal management strategy.

It is also important to note that ongoing beach nourishment is required to support each option described herein. It is expected that a limited volume of sand from the lower Maroochy River will continue to be used for beach nourishment purposes. However, medium to long term beach nourishment requirements within the project area are likely to exceed to the volume available from the lower Maroochy River sand source. Again the Sunshine Coast Regional Sand Sourcing Study describes potential alternative sand sourcing options for the region and will be presented to council in October 2016.

Preferred Option

While Option 1 represents a status quo approach with no additional benefit than the current management regime is currently delivering, it is believed that the obvious advantages of the additional Option 2 need to be explored further prior to making a final decision on the preferred option.

Based on the information provided, as a default position, it is recommended to support Option 1 for the Maroochy River entrance groyne field upgrade, noting that no works will be undertaken until such time as the additional physical and numerical modelling and a detailed cost benefit analysis associated with Option 2 is finalised. The proposed additional investigation may substantiate Option 2 of the proposed groyne field upgrade as a more effective river entrance and erosion management treatment.

It is expected that the cost of both the modelling investigations and the analysis to be up to \$500,000. This modelling work will be staged e.g. numerical modelling/ state pre lodgement meeting, before further funds are invested in physical modelling to ensure best use of funding resources.

If upon completion of further investigation and analysis Option 2 is defined as a preferred treatment then a further report will be presented to council detailing the investigation findings and subsequent recommendations.

Option 3 is identified to be discounted due to the obvious temporary nature of the proposal and the high risk of losing the beach established between Cotton Tree and Pincushion Island due to extreme weather events and associated coastal processes.

In addition Option 4 is discounted due to the significant planning approval required to progress and the high cost of such a project.

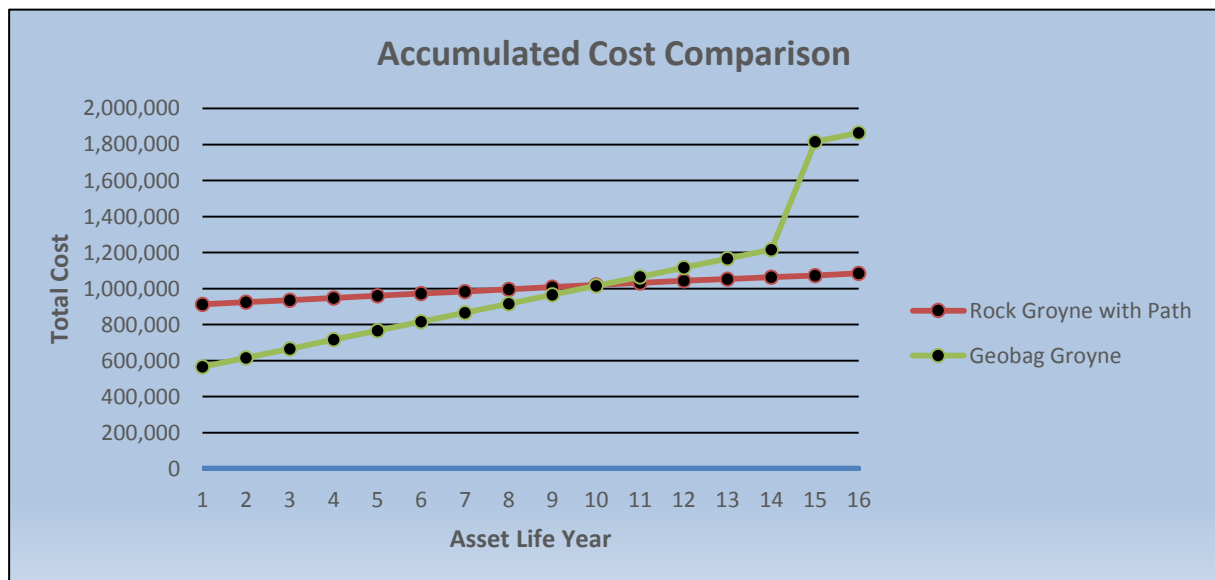
While specific consultation has been undertaken in conjunction with the Divisional Councillor with a range of key community groups for the all the elements contained in this report, it is expected further project staged specific consultation (including the results of the modelling) will be required as the implementation plan for the works highlighted in this report are delivered.

Cost comparison – Geofabric containers to Rock

A comparison of costs to replace a typical 100m groyne at the river mouth was undertaken as part of the report development.

- Rock groyne (expected design life 50 years) - \$900,000 plus \$12,000 per year maintenance. This structure includes a 3m wide recreational path
- Geofabric container (expected design life 15 years) - \$516,000 plus \$50,000 per year maintenance

The graph below depicts the direct life cycle costs of both assets up to the 16 year mark.



Note while costs of both assets reach an equilibrium at year 10 an additional \$600,000 is allocated in year 15 to replace the geobag groyne as the asset reaches the end of its design life.

Community Engagement

Specific consultation was undertaken in conjunction with the Divisional Councillor with a range of key community groups for the all the elements contained in this report.

The consultation highlighted the importance of the current structures (both walls and groynes) as a recreational facility for the community as well as the primary role of beach protection. Any proposed change to the structures (e.g. geofabric bag groyne construction to rock) must incorporate safe recreational access as a priority.

It should be noted that council has received queries in the past, through the Right To Information process, about the management of geobag structures due to slips and falls associated with community use.

Council has recently successfully undertaken this type of rock groyne recreational access development at both Gregory St (Golden Beach) and Kings Beach Groyne renewal projects.

As per the photos below a number of options are available to ensure this access requirements remains in place post construction.

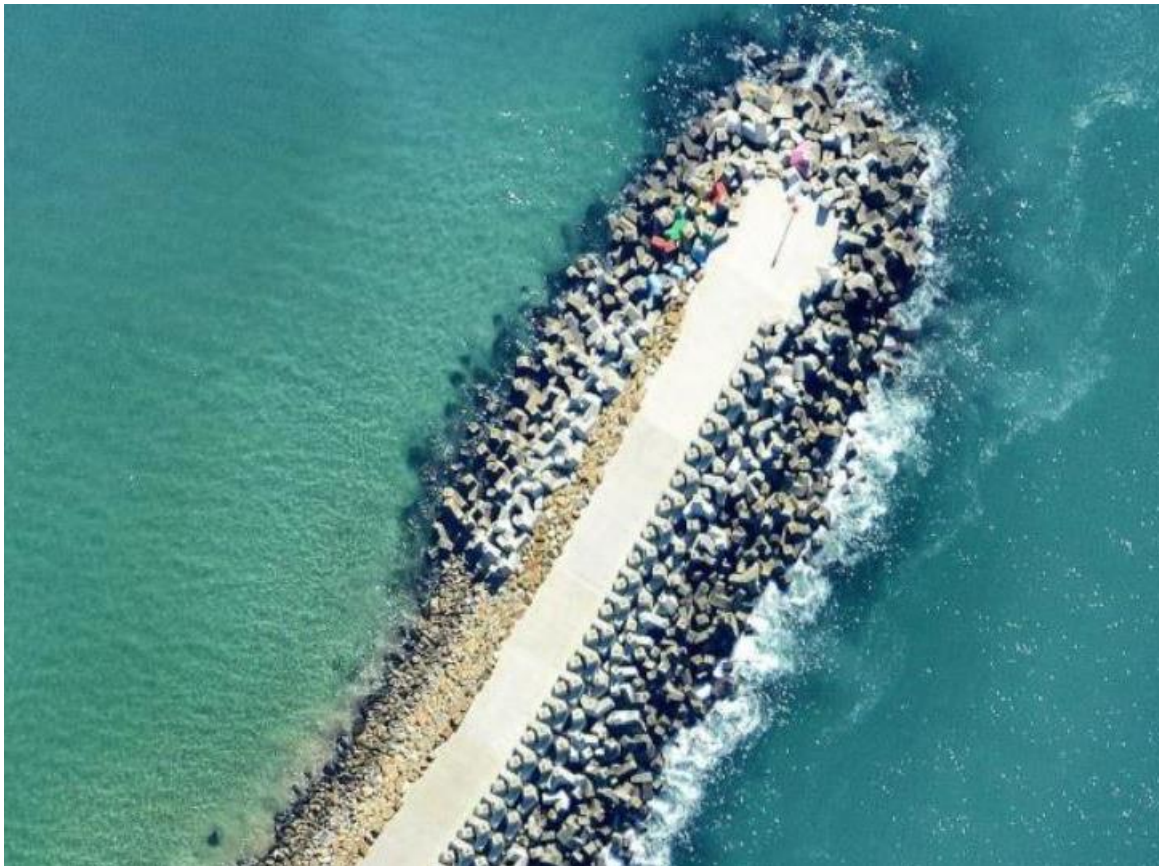


Photo 1 – Recent groyne renewal at Coffs Harbour (NSW)

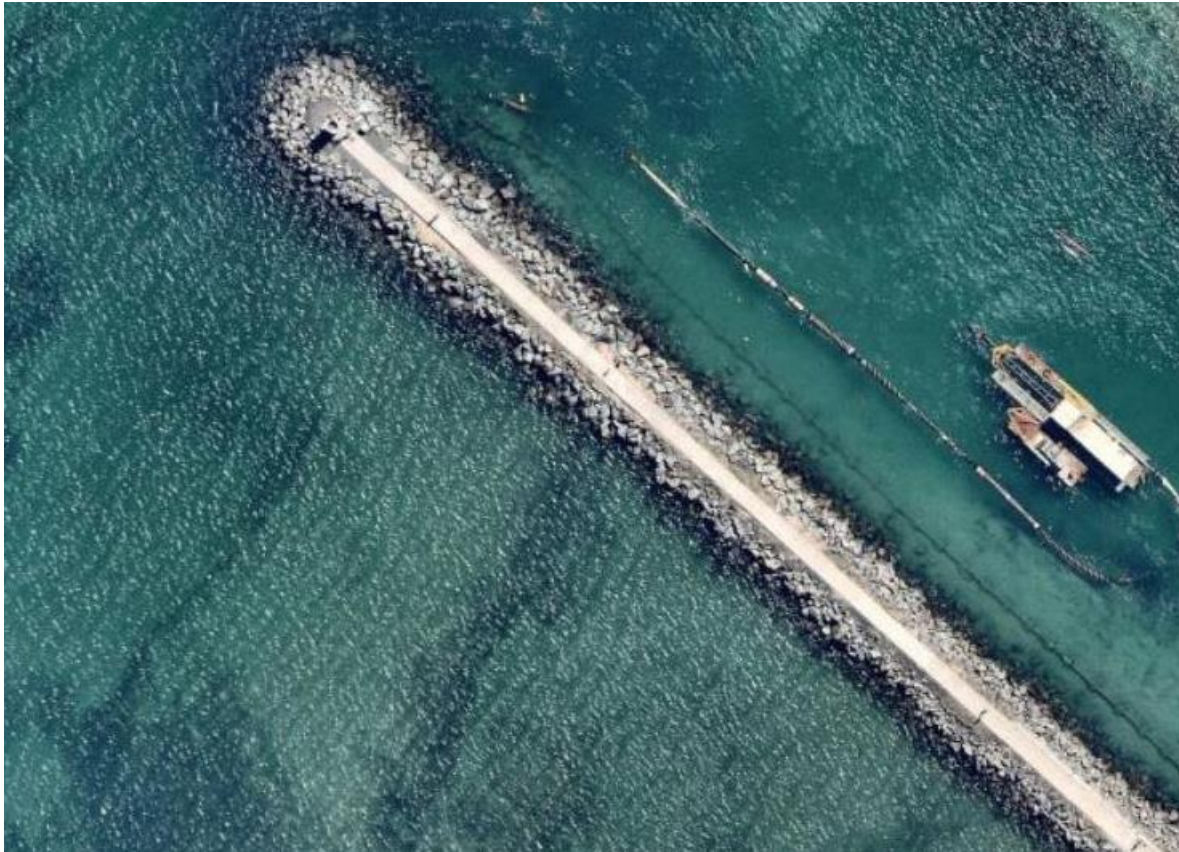


Photo 2 – Mooloolaba Harbour Entrance Northern Training Wall at Mooloolaba (QLD)

It is expected further project staged specific consultation will be required as the implementation plan for the works highlighted in this report are delivered. This will also include the results of the modelling associated with Option 2.

Legal

Subject to the usual approvals, the operations may be undertaken by council.

These approvals may include:

- Environmental authority under the *Environmental Protection Act 1994*
- Approval to interfere or destroy marine plants under the *Fisheries Act 1994*
- Allocation of quarry material under the *Coastal Protection and Management Act 1995*
- Sunshine Coast Council Planning Scheme approval for prescribed tidal works
- Prospective approval under the *Environment Protection & Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999*.

Policy

The report is consistent with the principles of the following documents:

- Shoreline Erosion Management Plan (2014)
- Waterways and coastal management strategy 2011 – 2021.

Risk

This report has considered the risks and opportunities associated with each option. These are shown in Table 1 as advantages and disadvantages.

Previous Council Resolution**Ordinary Meeting 14 November 2013 (Council Resolution - OM13/231)**

That Council:

- (a) *receive and note the report titled "Alexandra Headland to Maroochy Beach Seawall Design and Construct Contingency Plan"*
- (b) *commit to use of the sea wall design treatment for emergency response where critical assets are threatened in the Alexandra Headland to Maroochy Beach target area*
- (c) *develop a staged construction plan for future council consideration based on: (i) state government funding commitment (ii) cost benefit business case for Maroochy Beach Holiday Park protection, in conjunction with (iii) a major sand renourishment study and*
- (d) *write to the Premier to seek commitment for joint state funding to protect critical state government infrastructure.*

Ordinary Meeting 18 October 2012 (Council Resolution - OM12/151)

(PSC) Item 7.3.1 Maroochy Beach Renourishment Project Update

That Council:

- (a) *receive and note the report titled "Maroochy Beach Renourishment Project Update";*
- (b) *endorse the continuation of the project to construct a sand renourishment pipe line;*
- (c) *note that the balance of the 2012/2013 capital project be placed into reserves and that in the 2013/2014 financial year a budget allocation of \$900,000 be provided to undertake a renourishment program of 125,000m³ at a forecast of \$1,400,000, as noted as the medium level of service, option two in this report; and*
- (d) *bring forward the second dredging program, as noted as option two, medium level of service in this report, from 2017/2018 to the 2015/2016 financial year, and to do so allocate and place in reserves \$500,000 in 2014/2015 and \$500,000 in 2015/2016 financial years to fund a beach renourishment program of 75,000m³ at a forecast cost of \$1,000,000.*

Ordinary Meeting 16 November 2011 (Council Resolution - OM11/276)

(PSC) Item 4.2.1 Maroochy Beach Renourishment Treatment Proposal

That Council:

- (a) *receive and note the report titled "Maroochy Beach Renourishment Treatment Proposals"*
- (b) *endorse in principle the proposed sand renourishment program for the beach between Alexandra Headlands Surf Club and the Maroochy River mouth, noting that a further sand renourishment implementation report will be presented to Council detailing the operational logistics, effectiveness and detailed costs of the project*
- (c) *commence investigations, analysis, design and costings of longer term shoreline protection options to inform Council's preparation of the draft Shore Line Erosion Management Plan*
- (d) *endorse further negotiation with the Maroochy Surf Life Saving Club to determine a reasonable financial contribution towards the construction of a beach access ramp and*
- (e) *subsequent to (d) above transfer the balance of the remaining \$600,000 from the Maroochy beach renourishment project into reserves for renourishment actions in the 2012 – 2013 financial year.*

Related Documentation

The report is consistent with the principles of the following documents:

- Shoreline Erosion Management Plan (2014)
- Waterways and coastal management strategy 2011 - 2021

Critical Dates

There are no critical dates relevant to this report.

Implementation

A staged implementation plan is programmed to be developed as part of the 2016/17 capital program consistent with the recommendations of this report.

In addition, the capital program will be reviewed post this report to ensure funding allocations are refined in the forward estimates which will align with the developed staged implementation plan.

While specific consultation has been undertaken in conjunction with the Divisional Councillor with a range of key community groups for the all the elements contained in this report, it is expected further project staged specific consultation will be required as the implementation plan for the works highlighted in this report are delivered.

8.2 PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT**8.2.1 MASTER PLAN 98 (SITE DEVELOPMENT PLAN - BUSINESS VILLAGE PRECINCT 7) 2016, INNOVATION PARKWAY, BIRTINYA**

File No: MPC16/0011

Author: Senior Development Planner
Planning and Environment Department

Appendices: App A - Details for Notice of Determination for new SDP - Master Plan 98..... 101 [↓](#)
 App B - Details for Notice of Determination for amended SDP - Master Plan 9 105 [↓](#)
 App C - Details for Decision Notice for REC16/0153 and OPW16/0788..... 109 [↓](#)

Attachments: Att 1 - Proposed new Site Development Plan - Master Plan 98 125 [↓](#)
 Att 2 - Proposed amended existing Site Development Plan - Master Plan 9 163 [↓](#)
 Att 3 - Subdivision Proposal Plan 231 [↓](#)
 Att 4 - Civil Works Drawings..... 233 [↓](#)
 Att 5 - Concept Landscaping Plan..... 249 [↓](#)
 Att 6 - Indicative Architectural Plans..... 251 [↓](#)
 Att 7 - Amended Master Plan 9 with tracked changes 255 [↓](#)

Link to PD Online:

<http://pdonline.sunshinecoast.qld.gov.au/MasterView/Modules/Applicationmaster/default.aspx?page=wrapper&key=1846586>

SUMMARY SHEET	
APPLICATION DETAILS	
Applicant:	Tynong Pastoral Co Pty Ltd
Proposal:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Proposed Master Plan No. 98 (Site Development Plan – Business Village - Precinct 7) 2016 • Administrative amendments to Master Plan 9 (Site Development Plans – Business Village) 2004 • Development Permit for Reconfiguration of a Lot – Community Title Subdivision (1 Lot into 4 Lots plus common property) • Development Permit for Operational Works (Roadworks, Stormwater and Landscaping)
Properly Made Date:	25/11/2016 (except for MPC16/0011 which was duly made on 20/12/2016)
Information Request Date:	Not applicable
Info Response Received Date:	Not applicable
Decision Due Date:	16/02/2017
Number of Submissions:	Nil

PROPERTY DETAILS	
Division:	3
Property Address:	Innovation Parkway BIRTINYA QLD 4575
RP Description:	Lot 29 SP 181069
Land Area:	8,984m ²
Existing Use of Land:	Vacant
STATUTORY DETAILS	
Planning Scheme:	Caloundra City Planning Scheme 1996
SEQRP Designation:	Urban Footprint
Strategic Plan Designation	Urban
Local Plan Area:	Kawana Waters
Zone:	Area subject to DCP1
Assessment Type:	Code / Site Development Plan (Kawana)

PURPOSE

The purpose of this report is to seek Council's determination of an application within the Kawana Waters Community Development Area pertaining to Precinct 7 of the Detailed Planning Area for the Kawana Business Village. The application is for a new Site Development Plan, consequential amendments to an existing Site Development Plan and a Development Permit for Reconfiguration of a Lot (1 Lot into 4 Lots) and associated Operational Works.

This report is before Council as the application is not being lodged by the master developer and as there is no current officer delegation in place for staff to decide this application under delegated authority.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

An application has been received from Tynong Pastoral Company Pty Ltd, the owner of the subject site, which comprises Precinct 7 of the Business Village. The application has four (4) components and seeks approval of the following:

- Proposed Master Plan No. 98 (Site Development Plan – Precinct 7 of the Business Village) 2016
- Consequential administrative amendments to Master Plan 9 (Site Development Plans – Business Village) 2004
- A Development Permit for Reconfiguration of a Lot – Community Title Subdivision (1 Lot into 4 Lots plus common property)
- A Development Permit for Operational Works (Roadworks, Stormwater and Landscaping).

The proposal relates to Precinct 7 of the Business Village, and involves amendment to the master planning for the precinct to enable subdivision of the site into four (4) lots, with a shared driveway from Innovation Parkway located within common property. The proposed lots range in size from 2,000m² to 2,061m². In order to achieve the proposed subdivision, the applicant seeks approval for a new Site Development Plan (SDP) for the precinct and consequential amendments to the existing Master Plan No. 9 that encompasses all existing SDPs that cover the Business Village to remove all reference to precinct 7.

The subject site is intended to act as a higher density residential precinct to accommodate persons close to activities within the Business Village and the Town Centre. The higher order Master Plan for the Business Village provides for the precinct to accommodate up to 245 dwelling units within buildings up to 8 storeys in height. The proposed new Site Development Plan for the site will facilitate this intent, with no changes proposed to the development yield, height or site cover.

The key difference as a result of the proposal is that the overall yield may now be achieved across four separate smaller developments rather than one large development. The proposed new Site Development Plan requires separate Material Change of Use applications to be submitted for future development proposals on each of the four created lots.

The application also seeks approval of a Development Permit for Reconfiguration of a Lot and associated Operational Works to permit the subdivision of the site into 4 lots and common property in accordance with the proposed Master Plan changes.

Council officers have consulted with Stockland, Unitywater and the Department of Transport and Main Roads on the proposal, who have indicated that they have no objections.

All Site Development Plans (and amendments thereto) are required to maintain consistency with the intent of Development Control Plan 1 – Kawana Waters, the Kawana Waters Structure Plan and the Detailed Planning Area Plan for the Business Village.

Council officers have assessed the Site Development Plan against the Development Documents, namely the Development Control Plan 1, the Kawana Waters Structure Plan and Master Plan No. 5 (Detailed Planning Area Plan – Business Village) 2004. The proposal generally complies with the Development Documents and it is therefore recommended for approval subject to relevant conditions.

OFFICER RECOMMENDATION

That Council:

- (a) approve Master Plan No. 98 (Site Development Plan – Business Village Precinct 7) 2016, Innovation Parkway, Birtinya, subject to conditions contained in Appendix A**
- (b) approve consequential amendments to Master Plan No. 9 (Site Development Plans 1-8 – Business Village) 2004 subject to conditions contained in Appendix B**
- (c) approve with conditions application number REC16/0153 for a Development Permit for Reconfiguration of a Lot – Community Title Subdivision (1 Lot into 4 Lots plus common property) subject to the conditions contained in Appendix C**
- (d) approve with conditions application number OPW16/0783 for a Development Permit for Operational Works (Roadworks, Stormwater and Landscaping) subject to the conditions contained in Appendix C and**
- (e) delegate authority to the Chief Executive Officer to approve any minor or administrative amendments resulting from the implementation of the Master Plan 98 (Site Development Plan – Business Village Precinct 7) 2016, Innovation Parkway, Birtinya.**

FINANCE AND RESOURCING

There are no Council related Financial Contributions triggered with this Site Development Plan application.

The proposed development does not have any financial implications in relation to infrastructure under the Kawana Waters Development Agreement.

The applicant has paid \$29,900 to Council in application fees for the assessment of this application.

CORPORATE PLAN

Corporate Plan Goal: *A new economy*
Outcome: 1.2 - New capital investment in the region
Operational Activity: 1.2.3.3 - Support the implementation of the integrated planning, infrastructure and services identified for key development areas at Kawana, Palmview and Caloundra

CONSULTATION

Councillor Consultation

The divisional councillor has been briefed on this application.

Internal Consultation

The application was forwarded to the following internal council specialists:

- Principal Engineer, Major Urban Developments
- Landscape Officer, Engineering and Environment Assessment
- Environment Officer, Engineering and Environment Assessment
- Principal Architect, Strategic Planning

Their assessment forms part of this report.

External Referrals

The master developer (Stockland) has been informed of this application and has been able to access to the application material via PD online. They have not raised any objection to the application.

The application was forwarded to Unitywater. Their assessment forms part of this report.

The application was also referred to the following IDAS referral agency:

Concurrence

Department of Infrastructure, Local Government and Planning (SARA)

The department is a concurrence agency for state controlled road matters and land contaminated because of unexploded ordinance. The department responded by letter dated 28 November 2016 stating that it requires conditions to attach to any development approval.

The department provided two conditions, one that the development must be undertaken in accordance with submitted Site Development Plan Map 2 (Land subject of the Master Plan, dated 28/11/2016) and two that there are no additional stormwater impacts on the state controlled road (Kawana Way).

Community Engagement

As the land is subject to the Kawana Waters Development Agreement and Master Planned Community Development Process, public notification was not required for this application.

All master plan applications are publicly available via Council's PD-Online system.

The site is located within the Kawana Master Plan Area and is therefore regulated by DCP1 and the applicable Kawana Master Plans. The site comprises Site Development Plan Precinct 7 within the Business Village Detailed Planning Area (DPA). The existing Site Development Plan (insofar as it applies to the subject site) has been in place since 2004.

The site is intended to accommodate a Multiple Dwelling unit development of up to 245 dwelling units.

The existing approved Site Development Plan (SDP) for the Business Village does not envisage subdivision of the site. Therefore the proposed subdivision is not consistent with the current master planning for the site.

In order to resolve this issue, the applicant also seeks Council approval of a new Site Development Plan for the site and to amend the existing SDP for the Business Village to remove reference to Precinct 7 (which comprises the subject site). These master plan applications have been lodged and assessed in conjunction with the Reconfiguration of Lot and Operational Works applications.

The proposed new SDP is consistent with the higher level Master Planning for the site, including the Detailed Planning Area Plan (DPAP) for the Business Village (Master Plan 5), the Kawana Waters Structure Plan, and Development Control Plan 1. It identifies the same preferred uses for the site, the same maximum yield, building height and site cover. The new SDP will also still require separate future Material Change of Use applications to be submitted prior to development of Multiple Dwellings on each proposed lot.

The proposed SDP includes detailed urban design performance criteria to regulate the future development of the four lots, dealing in particular with the increased constraints of the site once it is divided into 4 separate allotments. The urban design performance criteria within the proposed SDP also reflect contemporary design expectations, particularly with regarding to on-site bicycle parking, private open space, sub-tropical design and energy efficiency. Therefore it represents an improvement in terms of the required outcomes for the site compared to the existing SDP for the site.

SITE DETAILS

Background / Site History

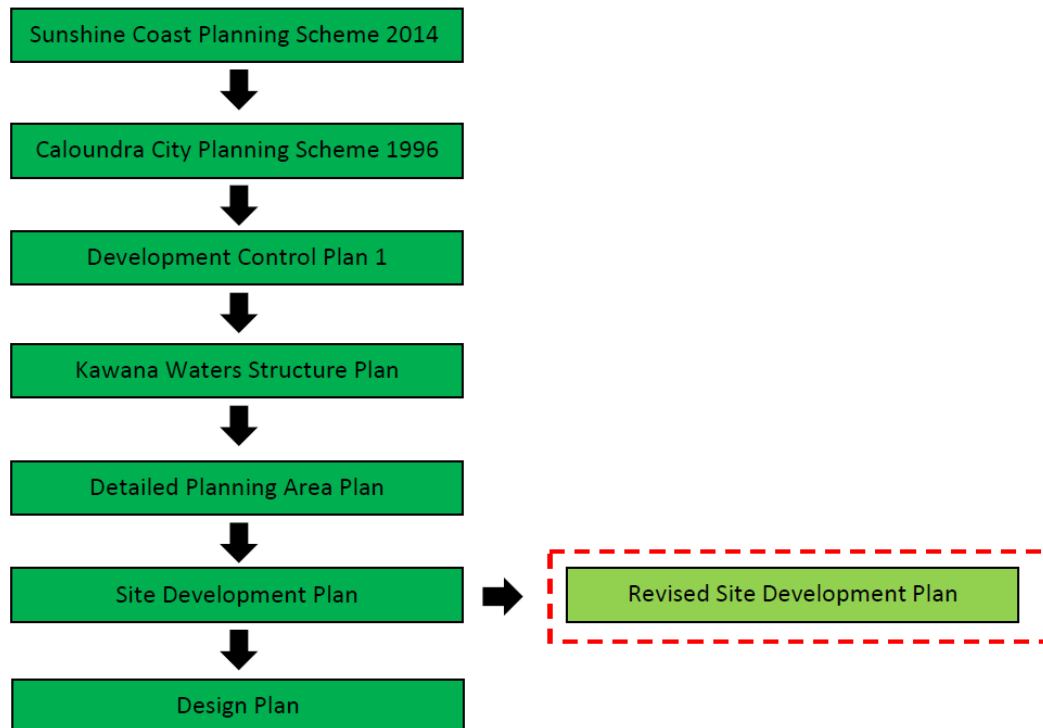
Kawana Wasters Master Planning Process

The Sunshine Coast Planning Scheme 2014 identifies that Section 86 (Planning Schemes for particular local governments) and Section 857 (Development control plans under repealed *Local Government, Planning and Environment Act 1990*) of the *Sustainable Planning Act 2009* provides that the repealed Act, the transitional planning scheme and any transitional planning scheme policies continue to apply to the extent necessary to administer Development Control Plan 1 – Kawana Waters.

The Sunshine Coast Planning Scheme 2014 therefore requires that all land included within the Development Control Plan 1 designation to default to the provisions of Development Control Plan 1, as contained within the Caloundra City Planning Scheme 1996.

Section 7 of Development Control Plan 1 sets out the Master Planned Community Development Process applicable to the Detailed Planning Area, as shown in the flowchart below.

1. Kawana Waters Master Planned Community Development Process



Before development within the Business Village Detailed Planning Area can proceed, the Master Developer must prepare and obtain Council approval for a Detailed Planning Area Plan and a Site Development Plan.

The Master Plan for the Detailed Planning Area has previously been approved. The Master Plan for the development of the individual precincts that make up the Business Village has also been previously approved (the existing SDP).

Following completion of the master planning, the site was extracted from the development lease and created as a freehold lot, with the ownership transferring to the applicant (Tynong Pastoral Company Pty Ltd) in 2007.

Therefore, the obligations of the Master Developer in relation to master planning for the site have been completed.

Amendment of existing Master Plans by Third Party Applicant

The application is not one lodged by the Master Developer as it is proposed by a subsequent purchaser of the site from Stockland. Council sought legal advice in relation to the ability of a purchaser to amend an existing Master Plan and/or propose a new Master Plan over land in the Kawana Waters Master Planned Community Area. The advice received confirms that the applicant may apply to amend an existing Master Plan and/or propose a new Master Plan, provided the proposed Master Plan is consistent with all higher level Master Plans applying to the site. Further, the advice confirms the Master Developer's consent is not required for this application.

The proposed subdivision into 4 lots has been assessed and determined to be consistent with the requirements of the approved Detailed Planning Area Plan and all higher level development documents (refer to discussion in assessment section of this report). Therefore no changes are required to these documents.

However, the proposed subdivision is not consistent with the requirements of the current approved Site Development Plan applying to the site. This is because the SDP includes specific lot layout plans (Maps 10(c) and 10(d)) which identify the site as a single lot. Further, the SDP includes clause 11.2 (Lot Layout), which states:

"The lot layout for Site Development Plans 1-8 is shown on Maps 10(a) to 10(d) Dimension Plans of this document. This lot layout demonstrates the following:

- Large lots are located in areas with the highest exposure to Traffic*
- Small lots are located along Capital Place, parks and likely activity areas.*
- Amalgamation of allotments is permitted subject to Council approval."*

Therefore in order for the proposed subdivision to proceed, a new Site Development Plan is required for the site.

Under DCP1 and the Development Agreement, before land can be developed in the Kawana Waters Master Planned Area, all of the required master plans for the site must be approved. The Master Developer is the applicant for all of the first proposed master plans applying to land on the Kawana Waters Master Planned Area.

In relation to amendment to an approved master plan, Section 7.5.6 (Application for Amendment of Approved Master Plan) of the DCP states:

"An application for amendment of an approved Master Plan shall be made and determined in the same manner as an application for approval of a Master Plan."

Therefore a proposed amendment to a Master Plan is to be dealt with in the same way as an application for a new master plan.

In relation to change of ownership of land, Section 19.1 of the Development Agreement states:

"If there is one or more changes of ownership of any land in the Developable Areas that has been developed, the Development Obligations that relate to the Development of the land the subject of the change of ownership:

- (a) attach to the land and are binding on the owner and the owner's successors in title; and*
- (b) are no longer binding on the previous owner and the previous owner's predecessors in title except to the extent provided for in any deed of novation executed in accordance with clause."*

Therefore upon transfer of the land to the owner, all of the development obligations attached to the land are transferred to the new owner. This includes all obligations in relation to Master Planning. As such, for any application to amend an existing Site Development Plan, or propose a new SDP, applying to the subject site, the applicant will now be Tynong Pastoral Company Pty Ltd and not the original Master Developer.

Process for Approval of a Proposed Master Plan

Under the provisions of DCP 1, an application for approval of any Master Plan must comply with the Development Documents. The Development Documents are defined as:

- Development Lease No. 2
- DCP 1 and the Caloundra City Planning Scheme 1996
- The Transport Infrastructure Agreement
- The Development Agreement

Pursuant to the Master Planned Community Development Process set out in Section 7 of Development Control Plan 1, each Master Plan in addition to the Development Documents must also comply with any higher order Master Plan, including the Conditions of Approval.

With respect to this proposed Master Plan (the Site Development Plan), Council must in accordance with both DCP 1 and the Development Agreement, determine whether to:

- (a) Approve the Master Plan
- (b) Approve the Master Plan subject to conditions or
- (c) Refuse the Master Plan.

Master Plan No. 5 (Detailed Planning Area Plan – Business Village) 2015 requires a Site Development Plan to be prepared for each Site Development Plan Precinct. This application seeks to consequently amend the existing SDP to remove all reference to the subject precinct and proposes to establish a new Site Development Plan specifically for the precinct.

The proposed new SDP reflects the provisions of the higher order Detailed Planning Area Plan (being Master Plan No. 5).

Pursuant to section 7.4.5.2(c) of the DCP1, the proposed SDP includes a Supplementary Table of Development that is consistent with the Master Plan No. 5.

Due to this master plan being for a SDP, Council is required to make a determination within 40 days after the application is taken to be duly made pursuant to section 7.6.3 of DCP1.

Chronological Site History

The Detailed Planning Area Plan for the Business Village (Master Plan 5) was originally approved by Caloundra City Council on 22 February 2001. The most recent version of this Master Plan was approved on 10 December 2015 (MPC15/0007).

The Master Plan containing the individual Site Development Plans for the Business Village (Master Plan 9) was approved by Council on 14 May 2001. The most recent version of this Master plan was approved on 10 December 2015 (MPC15/0007).

On 3 March 2006 the survey plan for the site was sealed, following design plan approval.

Ownership of the site transferred from Stockland to Tynong Pastoral Company on 26 February 2007.

The Master Plans applying to the site (the DPAP – Master Plan 5 and the SDP – Master Plan 9) have been amended several times since their original approval. The amendments that relate specifically to the subject precinct are outlined below. The request for these previous amendments was made by Stockland on behalf of Tynong Pastoral Company as they involved amendments to the higher order Detailed Planning Area Plan as well as the Site Development Plan.

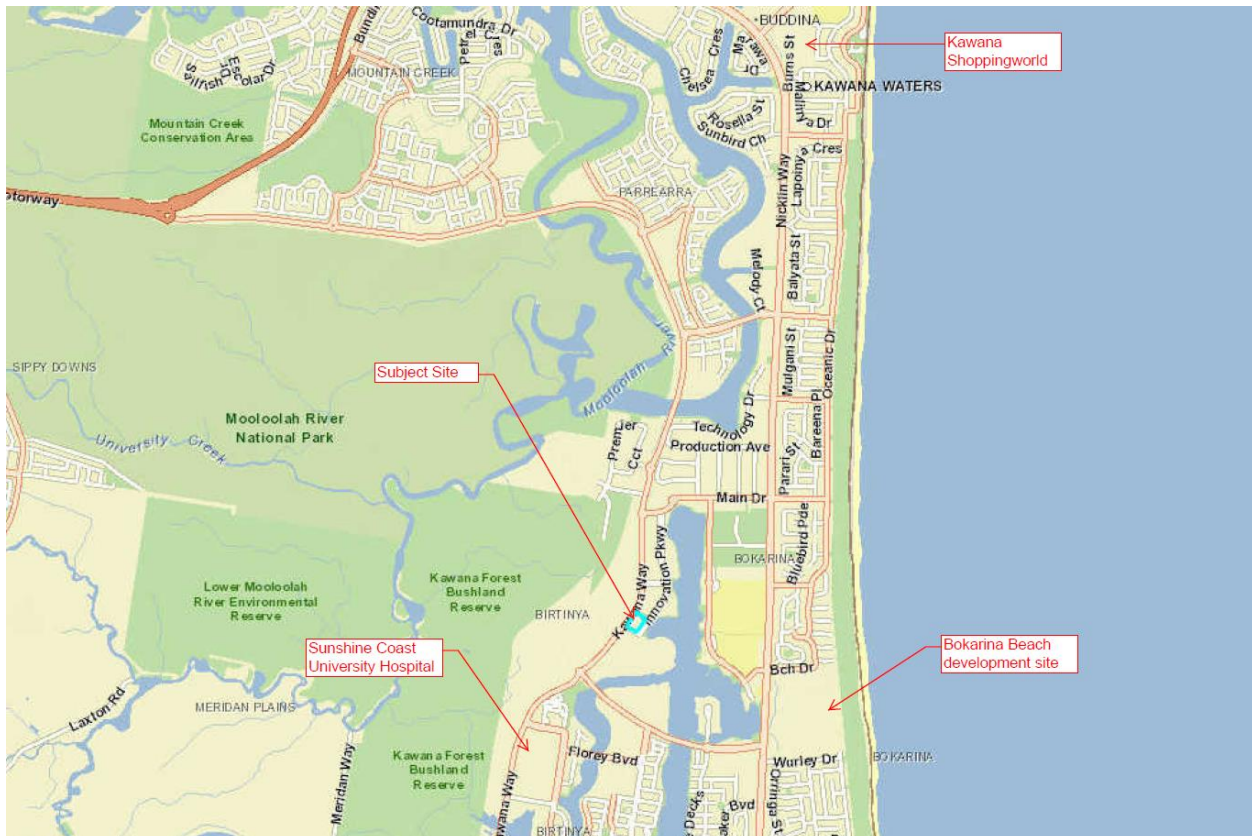
At Council's Ordinary Meeting in February 2011, Council approved an increase to the permitted building height for the site, from six storeys to eight storeys. Council also approved an increased in the maximum residential density, from 100 to 155 dwelling units per hectare.

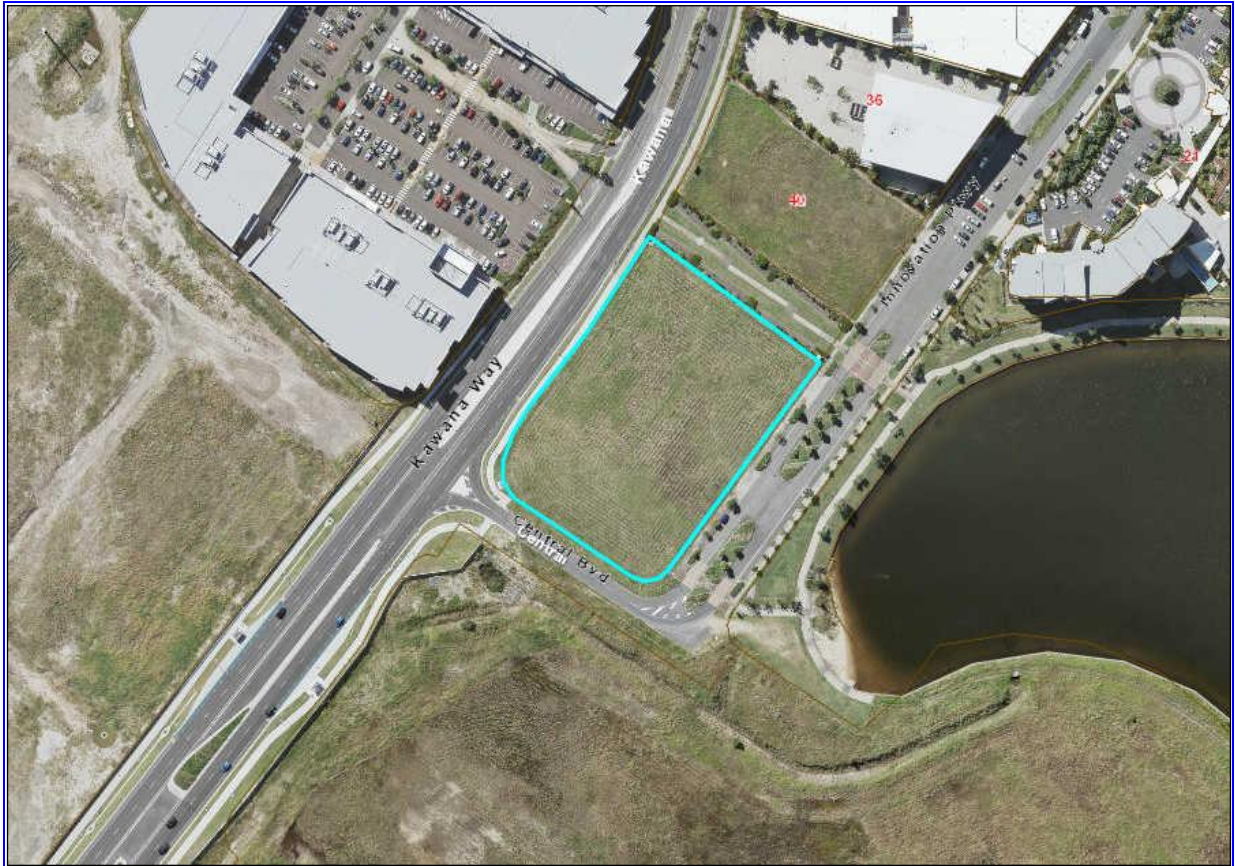
On 10 December 2015 Council approved further changes for Precinct 7, comprising:

- An increase to the maximum residential density, from 155 dwelling units per hectare to 273 dwelling units per hectare. This equates to increasing the potential number of units to be developed on the site from 139 dwellings to 245 dwellings.
- The removal of 'Hotel' from being a permitted use within the precinct.

Site Description

Site & Locality Description	
Road Frontage	110m to Innovation Parkway, 69m to Central Boulevard and 112m to Kawana Way.
Existing Significant Vegetation	Nil
Topography:	Flat
Surrounding Land Uses:	<p>To the north the site adjoins a linear park beyond which is a vacant land parcel, located in Precinct 5 of the Business Village which is intended to accommodate a range of commercial and residential uses (up to 15m in height). There is a Material Change of Use approval over this site for a 2,234m² 2 storey office development.</p> <p>To the east the site adjoins Innovation Parkway beyond which is Lake Kawana.</p> <p>To the south the site adjoins Central Boulevard beyond which is located vacant land within DPA 13 (Town Centre). It is likely the land to the south of Central Boulevard will be developed for commercial and health related uses, consistent with the master planning for the Town Centre.</p> <p>To the west the site adjoins Kawana Way beyond which is the Home Central showroom complex, with Spotlight located adjacent to the site.</p>





STATUTORY ASSESSMENT:

The application has been assessed against the following statutory instruments:

- State Planning Policy
- the South East Queensland Regional Plan
- State Planning Regulatory Provisions
- any Structure Plan or Master Plan in place for declared areas.

The application has been found to generally comply with all applicable statutory instruments. The pertinent issues arising out of the assessment are discussed below.

Proposed Site Development Plan

Consistency with Higher Order Master Plan

The proposed Site Development Plan is consistent with the higher order Master Plan, being Master Plan 5 – Detailed Planning Area Plan for the Business Village.

In relation to precinct 7, Section 8.8 of the DPAP states:

“This precinct is to act as a predominately higher density residential area to accommodate persons engaged in activities within DPA 9 and the Town Centre.”

The proposed Site Development Plan will facilitate this intent as it still allows for the same uses at the same density and scale on the site as the Detailed Planning Area Plan.

Table 1 of the Detailed Planning Area Plan for Precinct 7 is as follows:

PRECINCT	DEFINED USES	BUILDING HEIGHT	DENSITY OF DEVELOPMENT
Precinct 7 Total precinct area of 8984m ²	Accommodation Building Caretaker's Residence Motel Multiple Dwelling Park Public Purpose Public Utility Temporary House and Land Sales Office	Maximum building height of 8 storeys. Roof top structures limited to a maximum of 3m above finished building height.	Residential Uses Accommodation Building / Multiple Dwelling <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Maximum density of 273 dwelling units per hectare ○ Maximum Site Cover of 40%

The supplementary table of development of the proposed Site Development Plan is entirely consistent with Table 1 of the Detailed Planning Area Plan, as shown below.

SITE DEVELOPMENT PLAN PRECINCT	COLUMN 1 PERMITTED LAND USES	COLUMN 2 PERMITTED SUBJECT TO CONDITIONS	COLUMN 3 CONSENT REQUIRED	COLUMN 4 PROHIBITED USES
Site Development Plan Precinct 7	Park Public Purpose Public Utility	Residential Uses to a maximum height of 8 storeys, a maximum density of 273 dwelling units per hectare and a maximum site cover of 40%, limited to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Accommodation Building ▪ Caretakers Residence ▪ Motel ▪ Multiple Dwelling ▪ Temporary House and Land Sales Office 		Uses not listed in Column 1, 2 and 3

Development of any of the defined uses listed in Column 2 will require a separate Material Change of Use and Operational Works approval.

It is noted that due to the size of the precinct being 8,894m², the total number of dwelling units allowed is 245 (based on a density of 278 dwellings units per hectare). The total number of dwelling units will not change under this application.

The proposed Site Development Plan also allows for subdivision of the site, in accordance with the lot boundaries indicated on Map 3A (Dimensions Plan) of the Site Development Plan. The proposed Site Development Plan specifies that subdivision will require a separate Reconfiguration of a Lot and Operational Works approval.

In order to clarify how the development entitlements for the precinct are to be allocated to the 4 proposed lots, a second table is included following the supplementary table of assessment.

The table outlines the maximum residential development yield and site cover for each lot within the Site Development Plan Precinct. These figures are based on an “effective site area”, comprising the area of each lot plus an apportionment of the common property area. This calculation ensures the overall density and site cover for the Site Development Plan precinct does not exceed the overall entitlements outlined in Table 1 – Supplementary Table of Development – Precinct 7.

2.

COLUMN 1	COLUMN 2	COLUMN 3	COLUMN 4
Lot Number	Lot size	Dwelling Entitlement	Maximum Site Cover
Lot 1	2,000sqm	57 dwellings	41% (830sqm)
Lot 2	2,024sqm	57 dwellings	41% (830sqm)
Lot 3	2,061sqm	65 dwellings	47% (965sqm)
Lot 4	2,042sqm	66 dwellings	47% (965sqm)
Common Property	857sqm	Nil	Nil
	Total 8,984sqm	Total 245 dwellings	3,593.6sqm (40%)

It is noted that this table permits a greater proportion of the overall development yield on Lots 3 and 4 than on Lots 1 and 2. These being the lots closest to Lake Kawana and furthest from Kawana Way. This shift in density from the rear lots to the front lots was agreed on the basis that an additional probable solution be included in the urban design performance criteria of the Site Development Plan, requiring that above ground level buildings have a minimum 5m setback to all boundaries adjoining other residential lots. This provision is intended to ensure sufficient separation between buildings to provide adequate natural light, breezes and views to development on the rear lots.

Implications for achievement of ultimate development yield on the site.

In order to ensure the subdivision of the site into four lots does not prejudice the ability for the site to be developed to the maximum yield nominated in the Detailed Planning Area Plan, the applicant was required to demonstrate, through various conceptual architectural drawings, that possible designs for each lot complying with all proposed Site Development Plan provisions could achieve the allowable yield for the site (**Attachment 6**).

It is not intended that future development of the proposed lots be tied to these concepts, they have simply been provided as one possible development option that would achieve the requirements of the Master Plan for the site.

The submitted conceptual designs demonstrate that a second basement level is necessary to achieve the required number of on-site parking spaces. This may not have been necessary if the site had remained as a single lot. A single larger basement extending under the majority of the site (including the area of the proposed shared driveway) may have been able to accommodate all required parking. Construction of second basements is costly and can significantly impact on the viability of development. As such, a property note is recommended for owners and prospective purchasers of the lots, alerting them to the fact that a second basement is likely to be required if the lot is to be developed to its' maximum yield.

Urban Design

The proposed SDP includes an individual map for each lot outlining key parameters including setbacks, driveway locations, landscaping and maximum height.

The building setbacks and deep planting zones shown on the proposed SDP maps take into account the alignment of proposed utility services.

The minimum setback is 3 metres from all boundaries (including basements), with driveways to be located to the end of the proposed private cul-de-sac into the site. No direct vehicle access is proposed to Kawana Way or Central Boulevard, consistent with the existing SDP. A lesser setback is permitted to Innovation Parkway, consistent with the approved Detailed Planning Area Plan, where a commercial use is provided at ground level that directly intersects with, and activates the street (e.g. an ancillary restaurant as part of a Motel).

Development on all lots under the proposed Site Development Plan will be required to provide a high quality interface with all street frontages, including the following specific requirements:

- Provide visually interesting and articulated façade treatments to all elevations visible from all street frontages,
- Provide for the establishment of high quality, deep planted landscaping along all street frontages
- Be setback from the street, side and rear boundaries of the site to maintain a quality level of amenity to the publicly accessible waterfront.

The SDP also includes a requirement that, where double-stacked buildings are proposed, they must incorporate ventilated cores that are non-mechanical and remain open at all building edges to allow light and breezes into the core of the building. This is to improve the energy efficiency of future development on the site. This requirement has not been included in previous SDPs in the Kawana Master Planned Area. It is considered necessary for this SDP as the proposed subdivision will reduce the number of design options for the site, and is likely to result in double-stacked buildings. Previously proposed double-stacked buildings within Kawana have not incorporated naturally ventilated cores, which is not best practise sub-tropical design.

Dual Key Units

The applicant originally sought to include an allowance for Dual Key units within the proposed SDP. This could not be accommodated as they are not envisaged by the approved higher order Detailed Planning Area Plan. In order for Dual Key units to be permitted within the proposed SDP, the higher level Detailed Planning Area Plan would first need to be amended to include a definition of Dual Key unit, as well as urban design performance criteria to regulate them.

Car Parking

The development criteria within the proposed SDP nominate the following rates of provision for on-site resident and visitor parking:

- 1 space per unit for 1 and 2 bedroom units
- 1.25 spaces per unit for units with 3 or more bedrooms
- 1 space per 4 units for visitor parking

This (on-site) visitor parking rate is the same as in the Sunshine Coast Planning Scheme 2014, but the nominated resident parking rates are actually higher than the Sunshine Coast Planning Scheme 2014 (which requires only 1 space per unit regardless of the number of bedrooms).

The parking rates are consistent with those that have been applied throughout the Kawana Master Plan Area.

Bicycle Parking

The proposed SDP includes a requirement for 1 resident bicycle parking space per unit for multiple dwellings and 1 visitor space per 4 units. Lower rates apply for Motel.

The requirement for 1 resident bicycle space per unit within the Kawana master plan area is drawn from the Kawana Waters Structure Plan. The Structure Plan was most recently amended as version 5, approved on 27 August 2015.

In applying the Structure Plan provisions Council has taken the approach that it is reasonable and relevant to ensure that appropriate bicycle parking facilities are provided, particularly considering that:

- the subject site is in close proximity to the network of cycle and pedestrian networks throughout Birtinya, the Health Hub and the future Town Centre and Bokarina Beach development areas
- the intent of the condition is to provide for facilities that encourage active transport mode choices, in this case the use of bicycles.

To determine the required number of spaces Council has referred to the relevant similar requirements of the Sunshine Coast Planning Scheme and the applicable higher order Master Plan for the site (i.e. section 5.1 O6 of Master Plan No. 91 – DPA 11 – Birtinya Island) which requires 1 bicycle parking space per dwelling for residents and 1 per 4 dwellings for visitors. These requirements are reflected in the proposed SDP.

Private Open Space

The proposed SDP requires (through a Specific Outcome) that each dwelling unit above ground level is provided with a balcony having a minimum 12m² with a minimum dimension of 3m (i.e. accommodating a core 3m x 3m square area within the total area). Further, the minimum area and minimum dimension/depth of the balcony is to be actual useable floor area that is:

- exclusive of balustrading, storage areas, clothes drying facilities etc
- calculated as measured *from the inside edge of any walls, balustrading or screening.*

This is consistent with other recent Detailed Planning Area Plan and SPD approvals and with the requirements of the Sunshine Coast Planning Scheme 2014.

A Probable Solution is also included regarding ground floor units being provided with a private courtyard or similar being directly accessible from the main living area and having a minimum size of 20m².

Clothes Drying Facilities / Energy Efficiency

A number of provisions are included in the proposed SDP dealing with clothes drying facilities and energy efficiency. Non-mechanical clothes drying facilities must be provided, either for each dwelling unit or in a communal area. They must be of sufficient size and screened from public view. Additionally, a renewable energy source must be used to supply part, or all, of development's energy needs.

These provisions have been strengthened following experience with previous residential unit developments in the Health Hub where mechanical clothes dryers were suggested as a solution. The amended provisions are consistent with the requirements of the Sunshine Coast Planning Scheme 2014.

Landscaping

The proposed SDP includes landscaping provisions that have been strengthened from the previous version of the SPD.

The amended provisions are designed to ensure that some large trees are provided on the developments sites. Without these stronger provisions there is a risk that landscaping would comprise only low growing shrubs, which would not provide effective shade or visual relief.

The key landscaping requirements are as follows:

A 2m wide landscaping buffer around all frontages of the sites

- Deep planting areas to all street frontages
- Landscaping that assists in providing microclimatic control to buildings, communal and private open space
- Landscaping that makes a positive contribution to the streetscape
- Entry points to the site that are attractively landscaped.

Proposed Subdivision

The proposed subdivision is consistent with the proposed SDP, with the proposed subdivision plan matching exactly the proposed dimensions map within the SDP.

The proposal is for a community title subdivision, with the shared driveway being located within common property. The applicant has amended the plans in response to a request from Council to include a footpath along one side and a landscaping strip along both sides of the driveway (within the Common Property). This will ensure a safe pedestrian route is provided from Lots 1 and 2 to Innovation Parkway and the landscaping strip will ensure a consistent landscaping theme for the entry driveway.

The driveway, footpath and landscaping must be established as part of the subdivision works. Conditions are recommended accordingly.

The location at which it is proposed to connect the common driveway to Innovation Parkway is at an existing constructed driveway access across the verge to the parent parcel. A median break exists at this location providing for all movements access to the site. This access point is approximately 50 metres north of the future Innovation Parkway / Central Blvd intersection. The PwC traffic model currently under assessment (for the Kawana Town Centre) predicts 95th percentile queues at this location of up to 43 metres. It is considered therefore that the access is appropriately located.

The access driveway will need to be designed to accommodate refuse collection vehicles.

The applicant proposes to extend a Unitywater sewer main from the north-western corner of the site along the western boundary of Lot 2 and then down the northern boundary of Lot 1 to the common property. A water main is also proposed to be extended into the site from Innovation Parkway along the alignment of the shared driveway. These works would ensure each lot can be connected to water supply and sewerage infrastructure. These works require a separate approval from Unitywater. Conditions are recommended for the reconfiguration of a lot approval requiring that each lot is connected to water, sewer, electricity and telecommunications infrastructure, with a certificate of supply from the relevant service provided being submitted prior to plan sealing.

The package of (engineering) operational works drawings submitted included drawings relating to water supply and sewerage reticulation connections to each lot – the assessment and approval of these will be subject to a separate application to Unitywater and therefore those drawings have not been included in either the 'Approved Plans' table or the 'Plans Requiring Amendments' table.

Frontage works / street trees

Kerb and channel is already provided to all of the site's frontages. A concrete footpath is provided to the Kawana Way and Innovation Parkway frontages. Street trees are provided to the Innovation Parkway frontage only.

Conditions and plan amendments are recommended requiring the provision of street trees to the Central Boulevard and Kawana Way frontages of the site, with 1 street tree being provided for every 6m of road frontage.

A condition is also recommended requiring provision of a 2.5m wide concrete footpath to the Central Boulevard frontage of the site. This is not identified as a pedestrian link on the Detailed Planning Area Plan or existing SDP maps, as such no minimum width is prescribed in the master plans. Despite not being identified as a pedestrian link, the footpath is

considered necessary as development of the site will generate pedestrian demand for people walking on this road frontage. A minimum width of 2.5m is recommended as it will join to existing 2.5m wide pathways on the Kawana Way and Innovation Parkway frontages.

CONCLUSION

The proposed development generally complies with the requirements of all applicable statutory instruments, including DCP1, the Kawana Waters Structure Plan and the approved Detailed Planning Area Plan and does not raise any significant issues that cannot be addressed by reasonable and relevant conditions. The application is therefore recommended for approval.

8.3 CORPORATE SERVICES**8.3.1 NOVEMBER 2016 FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE REPORT****File No:** Financial Reports**Author:** Coordinator Financial Services
Corporate Services Department**Attachments:** Att 1 - November 2016 Financial Performance Report 307 [↓](#)**PURPOSE**

To meet Council's legislative obligations, a monthly report is to be presented to Council on its financial performance and investments.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This monthly financial performance report provides Council with a summary of performance against budget as at 30 November 2016 in terms of the operating result and delivery of the capital program.

The financial results as at 30 November 2016 do not include budget adjustments applied during Budget Review 2, as the revised statements were not adopted until 8 December 2016.

The operating result at 30 November 2016 shows a positive variance of \$5.3 million compared to the forecast position.

Operating Performance**Table 1: Operating Result as at 30 November 2016**

November 2016	Current Budget \$000	YTD Current Budget \$000	YTD Actual \$000	YTD Variance \$000	Variance %
Operating Revenue	418,433	182,722	189,664	6,941	3.8
Operating Expenses	391,493	158,252	159,913	1,661	1.0
Operating Result	26,940	24,470	29,750	5,280	21.6

Achievement of the full year budgeted operating result will allow Council to meet its debt repayments and capital expenditure commitments.

As at 30 November 2016, \$78 million (30%) of Council's \$263.7 million 2016/17 Capital Works Program was financially expended.

The core Council Capital Program is ahead of forecast with an actual spend of \$52.3 million, due to land acquisitions that will be addressed in budget review 2.

Council's investment portfolio remains within the guidelines established under the Investment Policy.

OFFICER RECOMMENDATION

That Council receive and note the report titled "November 2016 Financial Performance Report".

FINANCE AND RESOURCING

There are no finance and resourcing implications from this report.

CORPORATE PLAN

Corporate Plan Goal:	<i>An outstanding organisation</i>
Outcome:	5.2 - A financially sustainable organisation
Operational Activity:	5.2.2.1 - Ensure Council's finances are well managed and systems are in place to analyse performance, generate revenue and reduce costs

CONSULTATION

Portfolio Councillor Consultation

No consultation with the Portfolio Councillor is required for this report

Internal Consultation

All departments and branches participated in the formation of the recommendations associated with this report.

External Consultation

No external consultation is required for this report.

Community Engagement

No community engagement is required for this report.

PROPOSAL

The financial results as at 30 November 2016 do not include budget adjustments applied during Budget Review 2, as the revised statements were not adopted until 8 December 2016.

The operating result at 30 November 2016 shows a positive variance of \$5.3 million compared to the forecast position.

Achievement of the full year budgeted operating result will allow Council to meet its debt repayments and capital expenditure commitments.

Operating Revenue

Year to date revenues as at 30 November 2016 of \$190 million shows a positive variance of \$6.9 million.

Table 2: Substantial Revenue variances as at 30 November 2016

Operating Revenue Large Variances	YTD Current Budget \$000	YTD Actual \$000	YTD Variance \$000	Variance %
Fees and Charges	29,389	31,880	2,492	8.5
Net Rates and Utility Charges	126,862	129,336	2,474	2.0
Other Revenue	4,836	5,834	997	20.6

Fees and Charges

Fees and charges revenue of \$31.8 million, is \$2.5 million ahead of year to date budget. Significant variances include:

- \$865,000 relates to increased revenues at the Sunshine Coast Holiday Parks, overall Holiday Parks are favourable to budget \$699,000. This surplus will be recognised at budget review 2 with some of these funds to be directed to finalise capital projects.
- \$545,000 is attributable to development service revenue ahead of budget. A realignment of fees and charges and the associated budgets is contributing to the higher variance, despite a decrease in application volumes compared to last financial year.
- \$330,000 across the Community Response Branch, predominantly relating to infringements. Some of this fee revenue will cover slightly higher employee costs and required transfers to restricted cash.

Net Rates and Utility Charges

The favourable variance of \$2.5 million, is mostly attributable to higher than anticipated growth. Prepayments of rates is also having an impact with over 10,000 properties or 7%, choosing to make rates payments in advance. It is difficult to anticipate the extent of property owners that will continue to make prepayments and this will be balanced at the next rate run.

Other Revenue

Other revenue has exceeded the year to date budget by \$1.0 million, this is made up of:

- Royalty payments for the sale of carbon credits and increase in the sale of recoverable materials at the Waste facilities of \$230,000.
- Additional sponsorship revenue received in Community Relations Branch of \$190,000, the most significant include Health Precinct Public Art Project and the Horizon Festival which are being recognised in budget review 2.
- \$173,000 was generated in rebates associated with fleet operations and the sale of minor, non-capital equipment.

Operating Expenses

Year to date expenditure as at 30 November 2016 of \$159.9 million shows a variance over budget of \$1.6 million.

Table 3: Substantial Expenditure variances as at 30 November 2016

Operating Expenditure Large Variances	YTD Current Budget \$000	YTD Actual \$000	YTD Variance \$000	Variance %
Employee Costs	53,596	55,344	1,747	3.3
Materials and Services	63,614	62,419	(1,195)	(1.9)
Finance Costs	4,054	5,101	1,046	25.8

Employee Costs

As at 30 November 2016 employee costs were above budget by \$1.7 million or 3.3%. \$494,000 relates to employee expenditure to deliver projects across capital, operating and region making whereby funding is balanced at project level.

As at November 2016 core employee costs were 2.3% greater than budget, or \$1.2 million.

Up until November a lower instance of leave has been taken. This negatively impacts employee costs compared to budget as leave is expensed as a provision evenly throughout the year. Leave taken will be analysed following the Christmas period after which this position is expected to be somewhat alleviated.

Materials and Services

As at 30 November 2016, materials and services costs were below budget by \$1.2 million.

Project expenditure is under budget by \$568,000 which is partially offset by project employee expenditure.

Lower expenditure than budget in Waste and Resource Management, \$1.1 million, relating to processing and collection contracts.

Community Services materials expenditure is also under budget by a net total of \$490,000 mostly relating to Community Response and Community Relations which is funding employee cost over runs.

During November Planning and Environment has incurred expenditure higher than budget for Discounts Allowed on Infrastructure Charges. This has caused an overspend in materials for the department of \$334,000 however is offset by higher revenue.

Finance Costs

As a result of the recent audit by Queensland Audit Office (QAO), finance costs relating to the Solar Farm Project and some aspects of the Maroochydore City Centre Project are to be expensed. The impact as at 30 November 2016 of these projects is \$537,000 and will be addressed through budget reviews through transfers from capital.

Capital Revenue

Capital revenues are \$27.6 million favourable to the year to date current budget. Cash contributions are ahead of budget by \$4.5 million, which will be recognised at Budget Review 2 with offsetting expenditure.

Contributed assets are at 63.6% of the full year budget. This is an indication of another strong year of assets being contributed by developers, and will be adjusted as part of the Budget Review 2 process.

Capital Expenditure

As at 30 November 2016, \$78 million (30%) of Council's \$263.7 million 2016/17 Capital Works Program was financially expended.

The core Council Capital Program is progressing well with an actual spend of \$52.3 million, which is 40% of the \$131.6 million program. This expenditure is ahead of forecast and the table below outlines this is predominantly due to settlements for land acquisitions approved through council resolution and addressed in budget review 2.

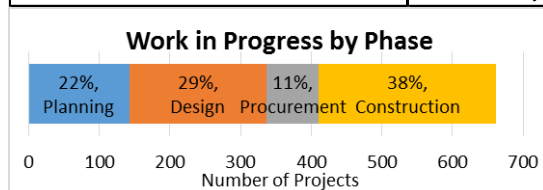
Region Making Projects have incurred some delays during November. Corporate Major Projects and Maroochydore City Centre will recognise some deferrals in upcoming budget reviews, however the Solar Farm is anticipated to meet scheduled delivery this financial year.

Table 4: Capital expenditure variances by program as at 30 November 2016

Capital Works Program	Forecast Budget \$000	YTD Forecast Budget \$000	YTD Actual \$000	YTD Variance	% Variance on YTD budget
Aerodromes	372	60	31	(29)	(47.9)
Buildings and Facilities	10,072	4,471	4,409	(62)	(1.4)
Coast and Canals	1,375	851	476	(375)	(44.1)
Divisional Allocations	3,915	646	708	62	9.6
Environmental Assets	4,628	2,011	3,139	1,128	56.1
Fleet	3,000	55	69	14	26.2
Holiday Parks	2,279	1,385	1,488	104	7.5
Information Technology	3,007	1,348	855	(494)	(36.6)
Parks and Gardens	14,451	7,949	7,837	(112)	(1.4)
Quarries	674	-	119	119	-
Stormwater	4,927	1,267	1,130	(137)	(10.8)
Strategic Land and Commercial Properties	7,867	3,633	7,002	3,369	92.7
Sunshine Coast Airport	5,746	1,789	2,432	644	36.0
Transportation	56,578	18,486	18,669	183	1.0
Waste	12,680	3,980	3,942	(38)	(1.0)
Total SCC Core Capital Program	131,571	47,931	52,307	4,376	9.1
Corporate Major Projects	21,646	4,568	50	(4,518)	(98.9)
Maroochydore City Centre	52,808	6,374	5,367	(1,007)	(15.8)
Solar Farm	32,408	25,742	19,621	(6,121)	(23.8)
Sunshine Coast Airport Runway	25,223	466	629	163	35.1
Total Other Capital Program	132,084	37,149	25,667	(11,482)	(30.9)
TOTAL	263,655	85,080	77,974	(7,106)	(8.4)

Table 5: Projects by status (SCC Base Only)

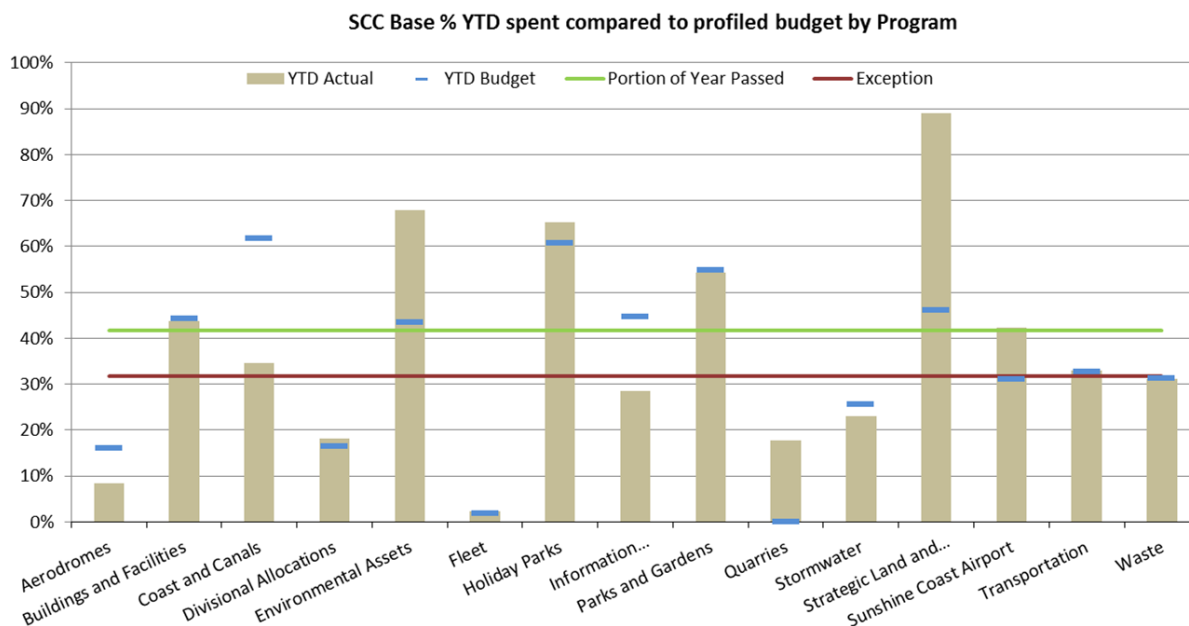
Project summary by Job status	No. Capital Jobs	%	Budget \$000	%
Not Started	88	8.5	3,307	2.5
Works in Progress	662	63.8	112,443	85.5
Complete	256	24.7	12,996	9.9
On Hold	32	3.1	2,825	2.1
Total	1,038		131,571	



The targeted capital completion rate for 2016/17 is 81.3%. This is due to a number of multi-year projects and whole of region accounts.

At the end of November 662 jobs were in progress equating to 85.5% of the core capital budget. The additional graph indicates the phase these projects have progressed to.

Table 6: Capital Exceptions Graph



Aerodromes

The aerodromes program is scheduled for works to occur in the second half of the year. Expenditure to date relates to the finalisation of projects that commenced last financial year.

Fleet

Fleet is progressing as forecast with the first major acquisition to occur in December as scheduled.

Information Technology

The information technology program has suffered some delays during the scoping and tender phases while seeking better understanding of costs and timeframes for delivery. The full program is still planned for delivery in 2016/17 except for the Online Customer Development Information project for \$100,000 which will likely be deferred until 2017/18.

Quarries

Expenditure to date reflects the completion of projects commenced in 2015/16. Replacement of the weight bridge software is one of the larger projects for 2016/17 and is scheduled for tender in early February with implementation anticipated in April. Resource modelling is scheduled to be completed in January which will inform the resource drilling projects to follow.

Stormwater

The stormwater program expenditure to date is on track with forecasts and the most significant project is in progress for the Relining damaged and failing stormwater. This project makes up a quarter of the program spend. A year to date variance is occurring for three smaller projects including Farrell Street Yandina which has been delayed due to Energex approvals and is anticipated to be delivered in February-March. Design results for the Pumicestone and Caloundra Sth Flood Study are currently being finalised and the project will be delivered in full this financial year. The preliminary design is complete on Caloundra LGIP GPT and some savings will be recognised.

Investment Performance

- All investment parameters remain within the guidelines established by the Investment Policy.
- For the month ending 30 November 2016 Council had \$322.5 million cash (excluding Trust Fund) with an average interest rate of 2.83%, being 1.06% above benchmark. This is compared to the same period last year with \$310 million cash (excluding Trust Fund) where the average interest rate was 2.93%, being 0.85% above benchmark.
- The benchmark used to measure performance of cash funds is Bloomberg AusBond Bank Bill Index (BAUBIL) and the Bank Bill Swap Rate (BBSW) for term deposits.

Legal

This report ensures that Council complies with its legislative obligations with respect to financial reporting in accordance with Section 204 of the *Local Government Regulation 2012*.

Investment of funds is in accordance with the provisions of the *Statutory Bodies Financial Arrangements Act 1982* and the associated Regulations and the *Local Government Act 2009*.

Policy

Council's 2016/17 Investment Policy.

Risk

Failure to achieve the budgeted operating result will negatively impact Council's capacity to complete its capital expenditure program.

Previous Council Resolution**Special Meeting Budget 16 June 2016, Council adopted the 2016/2017 budget - Council Resolution (SM16/16)**

That Council:

- receive and note the report titled "Adoption of the 2016/2017 Budget and Forward Estimates for the 2017/2018 to 2025/2026 Financial Years"*
- adopt the 2016/2017 Budget Schedules (Appendix A) including Forward Estimates and*
- adopt the 2016/2017 Capital Works Program, endorse the indicative four-year program for the period 2017/2018 to 2020/2021, and note the five-year program for the period 2021/2022 to 2025/2026 (Appendix B).*

Ordinary Meeting Budget 15 September 2016, Council adopted the Budget Review 1 2016/2017 (OM16/163)

That Council:

- receive and note the report titled "Budget Review 1 2016/17 " and*
- adopt the amended 2016/17 Budget Financial Statements to include the identified operating and capital budget adjustments (Appendix A).*

Related Documentation

There is no related documentation for this report.

Critical Dates

There are no critical dates for this report.

Implementation

There are no implementation details to include in this report.

8.4 COMMUNITY SERVICES**8.4.1 HORIZON SUNSHINE COAST FESTIVAL OF ARTS AND CULTURE****File No:** 1103398**Author:** Coordinator Community Programs and Events
Community Services Department**Attachments:** Att 1 - Horizon Final Report 2016 107 / 192 [↗](#)

PURPOSE

The purpose of this report is to provide a summary of the inaugural Horizon Sunshine Coast – festival of arts and culture 2016, including details of activities, strengths, issues and recommendations, at both the operational and strategic level, and to propose a three year commitment to continue to develop the festival into the future.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Sunshine Coast has a relatively high growth rate which is increasing the demand for cultural activities and experiences. At present the festival and events portfolio of the Sunshine Coast is dominated by sporting events and music festivals. A festival that is arts focused, with a particular emphasis on the fine and performing arts and the use of new media technologies, can be seen as meeting a gap in the regional events portfolio.

The Horizon Festival has provided a vehicle to respond to that gap while also significantly adding to the current economic and socio-cultural benefits that are generated by events on the Sunshine Coast.

In 2015, Horizon Sunshine Coast – festival of arts and culture, was developed after a “cultural festival” was identified as a strategic initiative to be seed funded within the Regional Arts Development Fund (RADF). RADF is a partnership between Arts Queensland and Council (40:60). The Strategic initiative was supported by the RADF committee and Arts Queensland.

RADF is budgeted annually via a formal application process to the State Government which outlines how the funds will be spent. It is then approved via council’s budget processes.

The festival objectives were to:

- Showcase, empower and connect local cultural creatives
- Provide opportunities for the local business community to productively engage with the local creative community
- Deliver a premier festival that has the potential to become permanent fixture on the national arts calendar
- Attract regional, national and international tourists to experience the vibrant creative culture of the Sunshine Coast
- Generate regional, national and international media coverage through the staging of signature events that are highly visually attractive and increase the value of iconic Sunshine Coast features.

The Horizon concept was presented to the Major Events Board on Wednesday 30 March 2016 and received a warm reception and official letter of support which assisted in funding applications.

The 10 day program, held from 2-11 September 2016, ranged from contemporary art and new media exhibitions to film, literature, performance, street art and more. It included more than 200 events in 16 locations.

The festival's model was developed to enable growth, and as it matured, transformation. Its regional and flexible outlook provides the ability to progressively move and add events year on year. This will also enable communities to gain the capacity to take on these events themselves.

The inaugural 2016 event attendance figures were conservatively estimated to reach 20,000 - the actuals were closer to 35,500 people. This is inclusive of attendance at all events that appeared on the Horizon program.

The ability to create a successful festival that delivered a multitude of benefits on a limited budget was a significant achievement in 2016.

However, it did call on a significant amount of generosity and goodwill in terms of staff "adding" the Horizon event to an already jam packed operational program within the Community Relations Branch, and the contribution of the volunteers, the event's partners and stakeholders.

Key outcomes

- Key benefits expressed by participants (event organisers/artists): new audiences; connections and networks established; increased profile of artists/events
- 35,574 attendances, more than 1000 local artists showcased and 339 volunteers engaged
- 20% of attendees attracted to the festival were intrastate, national and international tourists
- 186 regional, national and international media stories
- Economic impact of \$2.84 million was spent by visitors from outside the region – generated from ticket sales, merchandising, accommodation, meals, transport and incidental expenses
- Economic benefit in excess of \$5.56 million – based on the actual average spend of all attendees derived from survey data from the events – this does not include spends by event organisers.
- Building local capacity and legacy in communities by moving events from town to town across the region (expectation that the community will hold an event after Horizon moves on so eventually there are many events happening in multiple locations)
- Five new artworks, an ongoing legacy of the inaugural Horizon event, in Caloundra CBD area and which are now part of the SCC Public Art Collection.

OFFICER RECOMMENDATION

That Council:

- (a) receive and endorse the report titled "Horizon Sunshine Coast festival of arts and culture"**
- (b) endorse the Horizon Festival as a Sunshine Coast Council supported event for the years 2017, 2018 and 2019**
- (c) subject to (b) refer \$205,956 to the 2016/17 financial year third quarter budget review to fund the 2017 Horizon Festival for council's consideration and**
- (d) subject to (b) refer an annual budget of \$343,260 (plus CPI) for a three year period to the 2017/18 budget process for council's consideration.**

FINANCE AND RESOURCING

Funding

There was no operational budget originally provided for the inaugural 2016 Horizon Festival.

The final \$314,304 cost of the festival was funded via three revenue streams: branch operational budget (over two financial years 2015/16 and 2016/17), grants (2015/16) and sponsorship (2015/16).

Sponsorship and grant funding was crucial to the success of the inaugural 2016 Horizon Festival and comprised 64% of the entire festival budget – not including \$16,000 of in-kind sponsorship. In-kind included media and marketing provided at no cost by media (advertising) and public relations providers that partnered the event.

Branch operational budget comprised of a Civic and Community Events team Minor Events budget of \$40,000 (an annual \$20,000 contingency fund is provided to fund ad-hoc event requests), as well as \$40,000 from the Cultural Programs budget which is used to provide cultural opportunities for the region's creative sector. The final \$12,168 was from budgeted event program savings e.g. NYE Mooloolaba and citizenship ceremonies. The \$57,136 additional staffing was covered by the Civic and Community Events team casuals and overtime budgets, which is used to provide resources for community events (2015/16 – \$15,346 and 2016/17 - \$41,790).

Table 1: 2016 Horizon actuals

Item	Expenditure	Income
2015/16 FY		
Planning and development <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Marketing plan development • Digital media strategy and content schedule • Event concept development 	\$15,300	
Marketing and promotions <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Print and radio advertising campaigns • Event operational signage and street banners • Website construction • Collateral such as programs and posters 	\$21,503	
Programming <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ignites launch event • REMIX Summit • Finale event • Long Gallery & Colour the Street • First Coat collaboration (<i>legacy street art</i>) 	\$79,681	
2016/17 FY		
Marketing and promotions <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Print and radio advertising campaigns • Event operational signage and street banners • Website content updates • Collateral such as programs and posters 	\$54,958	
Programming	\$85,726	

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ignites launch event • REMIX Summit • Finale event • Long Gallery & Colour the Street • First Coat collaboration (<i>legacy street art</i>) • The Pod Lounge 		
2015/16 FY – RADF and Arts QLD grant 2016/17 FY – RADF and Sponsorship		\$100,000 \$65,000
Additional staffing (casuals) 2015/16 FY 2016/17 FY	\$15,346 \$41,790	
TOTAL	\$314,304	\$165,000

Cost to SCC *\$149,304

Income includes all funding, donations and sponsorship (cash only) with expenditure being all expenses related to festival expenditure for marketing and Horizon delivered events, as outlined.

The budget does not include any externally delivered events (non-council owned or managed).

It should be noted that some of these events/projects received council funding via the RADF, Major Events Sponsorships or the Community Grants / Councillor Discretionary programs.

The applicants for these grant funded projects, which aligned with the festival objectives, were encouraged to hold their events, wherever possible, during the 10 day Horizon festival period to take advantage of the marketing and promotional support provided to this new event and to extend the program of arts cultural choices to the community. In short, to provide a concentrated program of arts cultural events over the 10 days.

2017 Horizon budget

The ability to create a successful festival that delivered a multitude of benefits on a limited budget was an achievement in 2016, however, it did call on a significant amount of generosity and goodwill in terms of staff “adding” the Horizon event to an already jam packed operational program within the Community Relations Branch, and the contribution of the volunteers, the event’s partners and stakeholders.

It is important to note that this event cannot be replicated in 2017 (or if it is held it will offer a lesser program) if there is no commitment to resourcing the planning, delivery and maturation of Horizon with a dedicated operational budget.

If Horizon can secure an annual operational budget, there is no doubt that the quality of the festival and flow on benefits - economic, tourism, social and cultural – will increase significantly.

The 2017 budget was developed in consideration of:

- the 2016 actuals
- a review of the festival, including extensive community, stakeholder and partner surveys, and recommendations to better achieve cultural and economic outcomes
- the continued gap in the market for this type of event (cultural showcase).

It was also informed by a review of similar local government delivered festivals.

Table 2: Benchmarking with other local government owned festivals

Event Name	Regional Flavours 2015	Toowoomba Carnival of Flowers – Ergon Energy Flower Food & Wine Festival 2012	Wonder of Christmas 2015
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Producer	Brisbane City Council <i>(via Brisbane Marketing)</i>	Toowoomba Regional Council	Brisbane City Council <i>(via Brisbane Marketing)</i>
Event Type	2 day annual event – free to the public	3 day annual event – ticketed to the public	10 day annual event – free to the public
Attendance	approx. 85,000	approx. 15,000	approx. 100,000
Gross expenditure	approx. \$800k	approx. \$500k	approx. \$500k
Cost to Producer	approx. \$350k	approx. \$450k	approx. \$450k

Source: Council spokesperson.

NOTE: No council staffing costs are included in the above.

The income streams in relation to sponsorship and funding are unsecured at this time and are based on forecasts.

Table 3: 2017 Horizon forecast budget

Item	Expenditure	Income
Marketing and promotions <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Print and radio advertising campaigns • Event operational signage and street banners • Website and digital marketing • Collateral such as programs and posters 	\$90,000	
Programming <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ignites launch event • REMIX Summit • Finale event • Art Street event (<i>Long Gallery - Colour the Street and First Coat collaboration</i>) • Hub (<i>festival hub venue with new media artworks focus</i>) 	\$200,000	
Sponsorship and Funding (<i>unsecured forecast</i>)		\$100,000
Funding (<i>secured Arts Queensland</i>)		\$52,740
Temporary staffing: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Horizon Festival Coordinator (contract role) • 2 x Level 2 temporary casual staff (9 months @ .75) 	\$85,000 \$121,000	
TOTAL	\$496,000	(\$152,740)

Potential cost to SCC – expenditure less secured and unsecured funding

\$343,260

This program requires council to provide 60% of the total \$343,260 cost to council - \$205,956 - in this 2016/17 financial year via the third quarter budget review process.

In 2017/18, \$343,260 (plus CPI) would be required annually to fund the event – noting that this budget is reliant on revenue (\$152,740) being received from grants and forecast sponsorship income.

Savings in current programmed events and sponsorship opportunities will continue to be sought to enable this key event in the cultural calendar to grow and expand, and overtime, minimize the cost to council.

Staffing

With Horizon being a new event, ensuring delivery was adequately staffed with the right people, who were appropriately trained and motivated to meet its objectives was crucial.

From the experiences of the inaugural year, a process was implemented to develop an effective structure moving forward.

The key recommendation and opportunity for future development of the Horizon festival is in the annual appointment of a temporary Festival Coordinator and is outlined in the financial information.

CORPORATE PLAN

Corporate Plan Goal:	<i>A strong community</i>
Outcome:	2.3 - Culture, heritage and diversity are valued and embraced
Operational Activity:	2.3.3 - Deliver a celebration, events and cultural program which encourages community participation and capacity and celebrates diversity

CONSULTATION

Portfolio Councillor Consultation

- Councillor Rick Baberowski – Portfolio Councillor for Transport, the Arts and Heritage

Internal Consultation

- Councillor Peter Cox
- Councillor Tim Dwyer
- Councillor John Connolly
- Councillor Jason O'Pray
- Councillor Stephen Robinson
- Councillor Greg Rogerson
- Councillor Jenny McKay
- Councillor Ted Hungerford
- Major Events Board

External Consultation

- Horizon participants
- David Gratton, Events, Tourism and Associates

Community Engagement

- Horizon attendees via feedback and surveys

PROPOSAL

The Sunshine Coast has a relatively high growth rate which is increasing the demand for cultural activities and experiences. At present the festival and events portfolio of the Sunshine Coast is dominated by sporting events and music festivals. A festival that is arts focused, with a particular focus on the fine arts and new media technologies, can be seen as meeting a gap in the regional events portfolio that would significantly add to the current economic and socio-cultural benefits that are generated by events on the Sunshine Coast.

In 2015, to address that gap and create a vehicle to meet relevant policy and strategy priorities (note detail in the Policy section of this report), Horizon Sunshine Coast – festival of arts and culture, was developed.

A “cultural festival” was also identified as a strategic initiative to be seed funded within the 2015/16 Regional Arts Development Fund (RADF). RADF is a partnership between Arts Queensland and Council (40:60). The Strategic initiative was supported by the RADF committee and Arts Queensland.

RADF is budgeted annually via a formal application process to the State Government which outlines how the funds will be spent. It is then approved via council's budget processes.

The festival objectives were to:

- Showcase, empower and connect local cultural creatives.
- Provide opportunities for the local business community to productively engage with the local creative community.
- Deliver a premier festival that has the potential to become a permanent fixture on the national arts calendar.
- Attract regional, national and international tourists to experience the vibrant creative culture of the Sunshine Coast.
- Generate regional, national and international media coverage through the staging of signature events that are highly visually attractive and increase the value of iconic Sunshine Coast features.

Working in partnership with the community to shine a spotlight on established and emerging, contemporary events and take advantage of the geographically diverse communities across the region, an extensive Horizon program was developed.

The Horizon concept was presented to the Major Events Board on Wednesday 30 March 2016 and received a warm reception and official letter of support, Attachment A, which assisted in funding applications.

It included a program of events that ranged from contemporary art and new media exhibitions to film, literature, performance, street art and more. And to also ensure the program was appealing to a geographically diverse audience, the program was developed to cover the breadth of the Sunshine Coast region.

Packaged within a 10 day period, identified as being a "gap" period in terms of events locally and arts/cultural festivals across both the state and the nation, Horizon was held from 2-11 September 2016.

It included more than 200 events in 16 locations. These events include those delivered specifically by Council: Remix, Colour the Street, Dawn Awakening, Art Prize and Horizon Ignites, and a large number of events/projects that had received council funding via the RADF, Major Events Sponsorships or the Community Grants / Councillor Discretionary programs. The events were identified as aligning with the festival's objectives and the applicants for these grant funded projects encouraged to hold their events, wherever possible, during the 10 day Horizon festival period. This enabled the event to take advantage of the marketing and promotional support provided under the Horizon umbrella and attract audiences, while also extending the program of arts cultural choices to the community.

In short, this process enabled council, at minimal cost, to provide a concentrated program of exciting, entertaining and provoking arts cultural events over the 10 days.

The festival's model was developed consciously to enable growth, and as it matured, transformation. Its regional and flexible outlook provides the ability to progressively move and add events year on year. This will also enable communities to gain the capacity to take on these events themselves.

The inaugural 2016 event attendance figures were conservatively estimated to reach 20,000. However, the actuals were closer to 35,500 people, with visitors to the region attending one or more events and survey results showing that the event not only enhanced the visit but, in some instances, was the reason for the visit to the region.

HORIZON 2016 ATTENDANCE DATA	
Event	Attendance
Council delivered events – Remix, Colour the Street, Dawn Awakening, Art Prize and Horizon Ignites	9,445
Music on Kings, Cirque de Opera	6,000
Caloundra Film Festival	1,450
Maroochy Music and Visual Arts Festival	6,574
Other community/industry events (194 separate activities/events/programs)	12,105
Total	35,574

The festival has generated economic and cultural benefits, promoted social inclusion and well-being, brought communities together, fostered participation and enabled residents to gain a wealth of experiences that would otherwise not be readily available or accessible.

The culture of the region's indigenous people will also continue to be not only acknowledged but featured within the festival.

Legacy goals are to:

- grow and strengthen the regional creative industries sector
- develop national and international networks
- strengthen community pride and connectedness
- develop communities capacity to deliver their own events
- foster cultural tourism recognition, growth and maturity and
- deliver hard infrastructure.

In order to continue to develop the festival and achieve success, an environment of support, appreciation and sufficient resources to create the iconic elements that take the festival from a local arts event to one of national and international significance are required.

The ability to create a successful festival that delivered a multitude of benefits on a limited budget was a huge achievement in 2016.

It is important to note that this event cannot be replicated in 2017 (or if it is held it will offer a lesser program) if there is no commitment to resourcing the planning, delivery and maturation of Horizon with a dedicated operational budget.

If Horizon can obtain an operational budget, there is no doubt that the quality of the festival and flow on benefits - economic, tourism, social and cultural – will increase significantly.

Key outcomes

- Key benefits expressed by participants (event organisers/artists): new audiences; connections and networks established; increased profile of artists/events
- 35,574 attendances, more than 1000 local artists showcased and 339 volunteers engaged
- 20% of attendees attracted to the festival were intrastate, national or international
- 186 regional, national and international media stories
- Economic impact of \$2.84 million was spent by visitors from outside the region – generated from ticket sales, merchandising, accommodation, meals, transport and incidental expenses
- Building local capacity and legacy in communities by moving events from town to town across the region (expectation that the community will hold an event after

Horizon moves on so eventually there are many events happening in multiple locations)

- Five new artworks, an ongoing legacy of the inaugural Horizon event, in Caloundra CBD area and which are now part of the SCC Public Art Collection.

2016 Festival overview

The inaugural Horizon Sunshine Coast festival of arts and culture delivered over 200 events to 16 locations across the region from 2 – 11 September 2016.

More than 35,000 attendees and 1,000 local artists and participants enjoyed a broad range of events, exhibitions, workshops and summits showcasing international, national and local artists and presenters in film, literature, creativity, visual and performance art.

The Community Relations Branch coordinated the festival including the overarching marketing and media and the delivery and coordination of key elements within the festival, being:

- Horizon Ignites (launch) - Caloundra
- Colour the Street - Caloundra
- The Long Gallery - Nambour
- Art Trail – across the region
- REMIX Academy Summit – University of the Sunshine Coast
- Dawn Awakening (finale) - Coolumb

A range of sponsors and funding partners supported the festival, including:

- Queensland Government via Arts Queensland
- University of the Sunshine Coast
- SunCentral Inc. | Maroochydhore - The Bright City
- Fresh PR & Marketing
- 92.7 Mix FM
- Sunshine Coast Daily
- Visit Sunshine Coast
- Sunshine Coast Airport
- Sunshine Coast Creative Alliance
- Anonymous personal donation of \$5,000
- Tidal magazine | Limited Run arts collective

Some key festival program partners that collaborated with Horizon in the marketing collateral and/or program included:

- Maroochy Music and Visual Arts Festival
- Caloundra Film Festival
- First Coat
- REMIX
- UNFRAMED contemporary public art festival
- Sunshine Coast International Readers and Writers Festival
- Caloundra Events Centre, Lake Kawana Community Centre, Maroochy Botanic Garden, Arts and Ecology Centre, Caloundra Regional Gallery and Council Libraries
- Cello Dreaming, Louise King
- Peripheral Arts
- Lyndon Davis and the Kabi Kabi dance troupe
- Katie Noonan and the Eumundi School of Rock
- Queensland Ballet

The delivery of the inaugural Horizon festival was overwhelmingly well received by the wider community, sponsors and stakeholders (including event organisers and artists). This is supported by the extensive unsolicited feedback (both formal and informal) and via after event surveying. Indeed, early conversations with both Major Partners clarify that both will be continuing the relationship, with one to potentially double their cash contribution.

Key festival operational recommendations

- Operational budget to continue delivering and developing the festival to it's to full potential and to maximise cultural, social, tourism and economic outcomes.
- Horizon program to have as permanent fixtures the signature events - Horizon Ignites launch, Art Trail, REMIX, First Coat, Long Gallery and finale event. These events will change annually in format and location to keep festival fresh and distribute capacity legacies across the region.
- Horizon branded social media and website be leveraged to develop database as key digital assets. This is essential to the development of the festival in relation to: meeting the expectation of sponsor partners; resource management; audience development and expectation: and community ownership.
- Festival staffing structure be resourced as soon as is practicable to ensure appropriate lead time for coordination of 2017 event.
- Develop touring opportunities for home grown Horizon events to:
 - provide broad and long-term promotional benefits to the Horizon festival
 - contribute to the wider Sunshine Coast region "a place of creativity" brand
 - increase audiences for local artists and events
 - create capacity and legacy for arts and cultural sector on the Coast
- Continue to proactively seek and manage funding and corporate sponsorship opportunities and partnerships.
- Develop and refine internal and external resources, processes and documents to support efficient and effective coordination and communication with all stakeholders.

The attached Horizon Final Report outlines all of the key data and event specific learnings from 2016 and recommendations for the future delivery of the festival.

Legal

There are no legal implications in relation to this report.

Policy

- Cultural Development Policy 2012
Specifically (Guiding principles):
 - **A resilient and robust creative industries sector**
 - Assist groups and individuals to access funding that supports community cultural development, enables cultural expression and encourages community participation.
 - Develop initiatives and partnerships that support and build the capacity and resilience of the region's local creative and cultural industries and communities.
 - **Increased cultural tourism**
 - Maintain and develop partnerships to promote the region's creative and cultural assets and events.
 - Promote and support cultural initiatives to grow local and visiting audiences through the use of traditional marketing tools and existing and future digital technologies.
- Events Policy 2010
Specifically (Key principles):
The following principles are essential for council in deciding which events it will support within its fiscal capacity and corporate priorities:
 - stimulate the local economy through community and business partnerships and involvement;
 - promote, support and encourage local entrepreneurship and innovation;
 - contribute to placemaking and a sense of community; and

- promote the vision of council's Corporate Plan.
- Sunshine Coast Major and Regional Events Strategy 2013-2017
Specifically:
 - Strategy 3 - Secure new major events and facilitate/develop opportunities in association with these events.

Action: Introduce strategies to address the shortfall and improved the mix of cultural/lifestyle events in the portfolio

To note:

- Sunshine Coast Events Board Annual Report 2014/15

Priorities for 2015

- Identify and attract suitable cultural events for the region

Chairman's address:

The Board has also taken a strategic approach to assessing and re-aligning the portfolio of events held on the Sunshine Coast. It has considered alternative ways and means to attract and sponsor additional events that deliver significant promotional and economic returns and it has overseen the implementation of strategies aimed at retaining and growing the existing ones. Much work has been done to enhance and strengthen the relationships with the existing event promoters and to identify and pursue deliberate approaches to balance the portfolio between sport, lifestyle and cultural events.

- Major Events Board: has advised (as per attachment A of the Horizon Final Report 2016) – *The Board has, as one of its tasks, the expansion of Arts and Culture Events in our Region.*
- Social Strategy 2015
 - 3.7 Continue to recognise and support opportunities which develop and grow the creative and cultural industries on the Sunshine Coast, positioning the region as a key destination for both the industries

Risk

It is important to note that this event cannot be replicated in 2017 (or if it is held it will offer a lesser program) if there is no commitment to resourcing the planning, delivery and maturation of Horizon with a dedicated operational budget.

Previous Council Resolution

This report represents the first time that a formal report to council in relation to the Horizon Festival has been presented.

Related Documentation

There is not related documentation relevant to this report.

Critical Dates

The funding for the Horizon Festival in relation to the Budget Review Three consideration and the ongoing annual funding needs to be considered to enable the timely planning and

delivery of a festival of this complexity, including sponsorship negotiations and grant applications.

Implementation

Planning for the 2017 Horizon Festival, including the appointment of a Festival Co-ordinator, and the sourcing of further revenue streams as outlined in this report, will commence in earnest if council decides to endorse the recommendation. A formal request for funding through the Budget Review Three process will be presented to Council in April 2017.

8.4.2 FERAL ANIMAL PREVENTION AND CONTROL PROGRAM

File No:	Council meetings
Author:	Coordinator Healthy Places Community Services Department
Appendices:	App A - Prevention and Control Program for Feral Animals .335 ↓

PURPOSE

This report seeks Council endorsement to conduct a feral animal prevention and control program. The Program is scheduled to commence on 13 February 2017 and end on 30 June 2017 and will be implemented by council's Feral Animal Education and Control Team.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The *Biosecurity Act 2014* (the Act) has replaced the *Land Protection (Pest and Stock Route Management) Act 2002*. A pest animal prevention and control program is proposed and shall be known as the *13 February to 30 June 2017 Prevention and Control Program for feral animals under the Biosecurity Act 2014 for the Sunshine Coast Council area* (the Program). The Program requires authorisation from Council under section 235 of the Act to lawfully conduct this work in the management of pest animals (invasive biosecurity matter). This new process formalizes under the *Biosecurity Act 2014* existing and continuing feral animal programs that are being delivered by council.

The Program is targeting specific feral animals throughout the Sunshine Coast Council area, including wild dogs (dog, other than a domestic dog, dingo), feral pigs, feral goats, feral cats, feral deer, European foxes and European rabbits.

Work under the Program involves confirming the presence, absence, extent and/or magnitude of certain pest animals and the capture and destruction of them.

Council authorisation of the Program gives authorised persons (council officers) power to enter private property without consent. However, council officers will make efforts to locate the occupier and provide information and education to assist them with the management of pest animals. Council offers assistance through training, advice and on-ground support to occupiers of properties to assist them with feral animals which includes trapping and baiting programs.

Council officers respond to hundreds of requests for service regarding pest animals and this Program will support this service. This Program will also support the community led partnerships such as the Community Wild Dog Baiting Programs and operate on both council owned or controlled lands and private properties.

The budget allocation provides sufficient finance and resources to undertake the proposed Program. The Program is consistent with three Council *Corporate Plan 2014-2019* goals, and provides an instrument for the implementation of actions specified in the *Sunshine Coast Local Government Area Pest Management Plan 2012-2016*.

The *Sunshine Coast Local Government Area Pest Management Plan 2012-2016* is a transitional document for this program and will be replaced by the new *Sunshine Coast Local Government Area Biosecurity Plan 2017- 2021*. This new plan is currently under development and requires the endorsement of Council.

OFFICER RECOMMENDATION

That Council:

- (a) receive and note the report titled “Feral Animal Prevention and Control Program”
- (b) adopt the *13 February to 30 June 2017 Prevention and Control Program for feral animals under the Biosecurity Act 2014 for the Sunshine Coast Council area (Appendix A)* in accordance with section 235 of the *Biosecurity Act 2014* and
- (c) authorise the carrying out of the *13 February to 30 June 2017 Prevention and Control Program for feral animals under the Biosecurity Act 2014 for the Sunshine Coast Council area (Appendix A)* in accordance with section 235 of the *Biosecurity Act 2014*.

FINANCE AND RESOURCING

The budget allocated to address pest animal issues through the prevention and control program is \$947,927, allocated as follows:

Salaries	\$ 559,772
Materials and services	\$ 273,820
Vehicles and plant	\$ 82,879
Internal materials and services	\$ 31,456

This equates to 7 full time equivalent persons allocating their time to this program.

This new prevention and control process formalizes under the *Biosecurity Act 2014* existing and continuing feral animal programs that are being delivered by council. This means that there has been a continuation of service to the community through 2016/2017. During the period of the proposed prevention and control program of 13 February to 30 June 2017 (20 weeks) the remaining budget allocation of \$364,587 will be expended. The budget allocation is sufficient and on track to undertake the proposed Program under the *Biosecurity Act 2014*.

CORPORATE PLAN

Corporate Plan Goal:	<i>A healthy environment</i>
Outcome:	3.2 - Well-managed and maintained open space, waterways and foreshore assets
Operational Activity:	3.2.3 - Manage the region’s high quality urban and rural open space network
Corporate Plan Goal:	<i>A healthy environment</i>
Outcome:	3.3 - A reputation for innovative environmental practices
Operational Activity:	3.3.1.4 - Continue to engage, support and grow community partnerships in managing and enhancing the region’s natural assets on public and private lands
	3.3.3 – Strengthen council’s approach to working with the Queensland Government, industry, community groups and land owners to manage plants and feral animals in the region

Corporate Plan Goal:	Service excellence
Outcome:	4.1 – Customer focussed services
Operational Activity:	4.1.5 – Administer and review council’s local laws and relevant State legislation in a manner that supports council’s economic, community, and environmental goals for the region and is consistent with statutory obligations.

CONSULTATION

Portfolio Councillor Consultation

- Cr McKay – Portfolio Councillor for Community and Environment

Internal Consultation

The following internal stakeholders contributed to the development of this report:

- Team Leader Feral Animal Education and Control

External Consultation

The following external stakeholders were consulted:

- Principal Biosecurity Officer, Biosecurity Queensland – Maroochy Research Facility
- The Chief Executive Officer of the Department of Agriculture and Fisheries (consulted on 15 July 2016 and provided a detailed response to council received 23 August 2016 to inform the drafting of the Prevention and Control Program.)

Community Engagement

There has been no community engagement undertaken in relation to this report.

PROPOSAL

Biosecurity matter is defined in full in the *Biosecurity Act 2014*, but in brief is a living plant and animal, pathogen, disease, or contaminant. The Program is targeting specific feral animals including wild dogs (dog, other than a domestic dog, dingo), feral pigs, feral goats, feral cats, feral deer, European foxes and European rabbits.

The proposed Program under the *Biosecurity Act 2014* must be authorised by Council to allow the carrying out of the following activities:

1. provide information and education to an occupier of a place
2. undertake property assessments to determine the travel routes or harbourage areas of the feral animals being targeted in the program
3. collect information from occupiers of properties to inform the program to maximise its functioning
4. establish monitoring cameras, sand pads or other animal detection devices on a property to determine the presence of roaming domestic animals or feral animals
5. install traps and or deploy poisons (1080 and strychnine) in line with regulatory controls including humane destruction
6. install warning signage on the property to alert the public to the actions being conducted
7. visit the property at varying hours to attend to traps or other devices

8. visit the property at varying hours to undertake removal/destruction of feral animals in line with regulatory controls and humane destruction
9. undertake the use of firearms for feral animal destruction purposes within the regulatory controls
10. engage a veterinarian for animal care or destruction purposes where required.

Council authorisation of the Program gives authorised persons (council officers) power to enter private property without consent. However council officers will make efforts to locate the landholder and provide information and education to assist them with the management of pest animals.

Part of this education process will include assisting the person in understanding their “general biosecurity obligation”. The person who is control of the property *has an obligation to take all reasonable and practical measures to prevent or minimize the biosecurity risk.* (section 23.(2))

Council also offers access to free training and feral animal control equipment to assist the occupier to comply.

Legal

Authorisation of the proposed Program by a resolution of the local government is required in accordance with section 235 *Biosecurity Act 2014*. Section 236 of the *Biosecurity Act 2014* outlines what must be stated in the program authorisation for a biosecurity program.

The authorisation of the program enlivens a number of specific powers under the Act including section 261 (Power to enter place under biosecurity program), section 262 (Power to enter place to check compliance with biosecurity order) and section 270 (Entry of place under sections 261 and 262).

Policy

Local governments in Queensland have a biosecurity obligation to control invasive biosecurity matter within their local government area in compliance with the *Biosecurity Act 2014*. (section 48) The Program contributes to the outcomes of the *Sunshine Coast Local Government Area Pest Management Plan 2012-2016*.

The *Sunshine Coast Local Government Area Pest Management Plan 2012-2016* is a transitional document for this program and will be replaced by the new Sunshine Coast Local Government Area Biosecurity Plan 2017- 2021. This new plan is currently under development and requires the endorsement of Council. The new Biosecurity Plan is likely to be presented to Council for adoption in mid to late 2017.

Risk

Risk of not undertaking the program

Failure to endorse the *13 February to 30 June 2017 Prevention and Control Program for feral animals under the Biosecurity Act 2014 for the Sunshine Coast Council area* would mean council would:

- not meet its obligations under the Act;
- not be responding to the hundreds of customer requests from the community requiring assistance and support in addressing feral animals;
- increase the risks associated with not controlling feral animals throughout the region;
- potentially cause significant environmental damage and the resulting loss of biodiversity;
- threaten stock and domestic animals; and

- potentially cause loss of agricultural productivity and loss of community amenity.

Under section 50 of the Act the state government minister responsible for biosecurity may direct by issue of a formal notice to local government to perform a biosecurity function or obligation. The local government must comply with this notice.

Risk of activities being undertaken

The activities conducted to address feral animals include a number of risks. In response to the risks the following treatments have been instituted:-

1. council officers collect information and data from local residents and install monitoring cameras to ensure that the trapping programs do not result in the capture of off target species. eg. domestic animals;
2. council officers are utilising telemetry cameras and remotely activated traps that alert officers immediately to animal captures which improves humane outcomes;
3. firearms stored and licensed in line with Queensland Police/Weapons Licensing requirements and regularly audited;
4. council's Group Licence Holder and Senior Workplace Health and Safety Officer conduct regular audits of the firearms storage;
5. firearms officers have successfully completed firearms safety courses, humane destruction courses and have been issued with occupational weapons licenses from Weapons Licensing after endorsement from council's Chief Executive Officer;
6. all firearms officers attend regular firearms range training;
7. council is continuing to work with leaders in firearms to ensure that control techniques including calibre selection and weapon of choice ensures the best humane outcome for the feral animal and minimising the potential for other risks to present;
8. council has visited a number of other councils and state government agencies within Queensland and New South Wales to ensure that the control techniques are best practice;
9. council has developed and implemented an additional *Firearms Procedure Manual* as an added level of safety and rigour;
10. firearms officers are required to undertake an extensive induction program of 18 months before being granted approval;
11. all properties where a firearm is to be discharged are assessed before undertaking the activity;
12. all authorised officers dispensing 1080 poison and strychnine attend training and must pass exams every two years and are approved by Biosecurity Queensland and Queensland Health;
13. council's mapping; monitoring and data collection; policies and documentation; and communication applied to the community for the baiting programs is best practice and has been recognised by the state government and other councils as a leader in his field;
14. council has developed a 1080 use document that meets Biosecurity requirements;
15. council is currently employing the services of an occupational therapist to produce a manual handling document and deliver the training to staff to reduce injuries that could be sustained from undertaking these duties. eg. installation of heavy livestock panel fencing to build a feral pig trap;
16. all officers are issued with personal EPIRBS to meet *Work Health and Safety Act 2011* remote worker requirements;
17. vehicles and equipment have been selected and developed to be fit for purpose and reduce the potential of harm to officers; and
18. the Feral Deer Officer has been issued a satellite mobile phone due to significant network coverage issues to ensure that he can communicate when the need arises.

Previous Council Resolution

There is no previous council resolution relevant to this report.

Related Documentation

- *Local Government Act 2009*
- *Biosecurity Act 2014*
- *Sunshine Coast Local Government Area Pest Management Plan 2012-2016*
- *Work Health and Safety Act 2011*

Critical Dates

The Program has been scheduled to commence prevention and control activities from 13 February 2017 to 30 June 2017.

Notice of the Program must be given at least 14 days prior to the commencement of the program. The notification would be raised no later than 29 January 2017.

Implementation

The Program will be available at all Customer Service Centres and will be published on the council website at least 14 days before commencement. The Program is a necessary initial step before council can undertake compliance and enforcement work can commence to prevent and control feral animals.

The Program will be implemented by council's Feral Deer Officer and Feral Animals Officers (Healthy Places Unit) in correlation to council land management schedules during the period 13 February 2017 to 30 June 2017. This ensures an efficient delivery for maximum benefit to both community and council's assets. Council has a number of tools to be used in the education, surveillance, compliance and enforcement work including an entry notice and fact sheet that will be supplied to the occupier outlining the requirements of the legislation and their options.

A number of resources including educational booklets, a smartphone application, fact sheets, and public notices will be provided to occupiers of property via social media, mail outs and surveys. Information is also available online at council's website and Biosecurity Queensland's website.

The Program will:-

1. allow the confirmation of the presence of pest animals on a property
2. allow council to communicate and inform a person about their biosecurity general obligation
3. assess whether to issue a Biosecurity Order to a person for failure to discharge their general biosecurity obligation (which may require the person to undertake management action – such as prevention or control)
4. Ensure Sunshine Coast Council is meeting its general biosecurity obligation to manage invasive biosecurity matter – invasive animals that are prohibited or restricted matter in the Sunshine Coast Council local government area to reduce the impacts on human health, social amenity, the economy or the environment (section 48 of the Act);
5. Assist in capacity building of the occupiers of properties to minimise the impacts from invasive animals – prohibited or restricted matter on pets, animals and livestock or agricultural crops;

6. Determine the extent of invasive animals – prohibited or restricted matter in identified locations;
7. Collect data and undertake research to assist in determining trends in invasive animals – prohibited or restricted matter populations and better understand how to manage these populations whilst reducing their impacts including refining and enhancing current programs and services;
8. Determine the effectiveness of education, community/council partnerships and on-ground treatment programs;
9. Permit the deployment of data collection methods such as sand pads, monitoring cameras and infield infrared site surveys;
10. Permit the deployment of trapping systems, Canid Pest Ejectors, tied and buried 1080 meat baits, manufactured 1080 baits and strychnine providing these deployments are within the regulatory controls;
11. The provision of 1080 manufactured and or meat baits to landholders to use for approved feral animal control programs; and
12. Permit the destruction of invasive animals – prohibited or restricted matter subject to meeting regulatory controls including humane destruction under animal welfare legislation.

8.4.3 PEST SURVEY PROGRAM**File No:** Council Meeting**Author:** Coordinator Healthy Places
Community Services Department**Appendices:** App A - Surveillance Program under the Biosecurity Act 2014 353 [↓](#)

PURPOSE

This report seeks Council endorsement to conduct a pest survey program. The Program is scheduled to commence on 13 February 2017 and end on 30 June 2017 and will be implemented by council's Vector and Pest Plant Education and Control Team.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The *Biosecurity Act 2014* (the Act) has replaced the *Land Protection (Pest and Stock Route Management) Act 2002*. A pest survey program is proposed to occur from 13 February to 30 June 2016 *Surveillance Program for Sunshine Coast Council* (the Program). The Program requires authorisation from Council under section 235 of the Act to lawfully conduct this work in the management of pest plants (invasive biosecurity matter).

The Program will target specific pest plants listed in the Act such as groundsel bush, rat's tail grasses, parthenium and salvinia. Work under the Program involves confirming the presence, absence, extent and/or magnitude of certain pest plants. The work also includes monitoring compliance activities and measures that prevent and/or control them.

Council authorisation of the Program gives authorised persons (council officers) power to enter private property without consent. However, council officers will make efforts to locate the landholder and provide information and education to assist them with the management of pest plants. Council also offers access to free weed control equipment to assist the landholder to comply. The Program is a necessary initial step before other compliance work under the Act can occur such as issuing a Biosecurity Order.

The 2016/2017 budget allocation provides sufficient finance and resources to undertake the proposed Program. The Program is consistent with three Council *Corporate Plan 2014-2019* goals, and provides an instrument for the implementation of actions specified in the *Sunshine Coast Local Government Area Pest Management Plan 2012-2016*.

The *Sunshine Coast Local Government Area Pest Management Plan 2012-2016* is a transitional document for this program and will be replaced by new Sunshine Coast Local Government Area Biosecurity Plan 2017- 2021. This new plan is currently under development and requires the endorsement of Council.

OFFICER RECOMMENDATION

That Council:

- (a) receive and note the report titled “Pest Survey Program”
- (b) adopt the *13 February to 30 June 2017 Surveillance Program for Sunshine Coast Council* in accordance with section 235 of the *Biosecurity Act 2014*
- (c) authorise the carrying out of the *13 February to 30 June 2017 Surveillance Program for Sunshine Coast Council* (Appendix A) in accordance with section 235 of the *Biosecurity Act 2014* and
- (d) note the following details of the *13 February to 30 June 2017 Surveillance Program for Sunshine Coast Council* (which are required to be specified in this authorisation under Section 236 *Biosecurity Act 2014*):
 - (i) relates to invasive biosecurity matter – invasive plants that are prohibited or restricted matter as defined in the *Biosecurity Act 2014*
 - (ii) purpose is to monitor for compliance with the *Biosecurity Act 2014* and monitor the presence and extent of invasive biosecurity matter – invasive plants that are prohibited or restricted matter as defined in the *Biosecurity Act 2014*
 - (iii) the period over which the program is carried out is from 13 February 2017 to 30 June 2017
 - (iv) is for monitoring compliance with the *Biosecurity Act 2014* and places that will be entered and inspected are privately owned land within the Sunshine Coast Council Local Government Area and are properties with land size equal to or greater than 4,000m²
 - (v) is for determining the presence or extent of the spread of invasive biosecurity matter – invasive plants that are prohibited or restricted matter as defined in the *Biosecurity Act 2014* and applies to privately owned land within the Sunshine Coast Council Local Government Area and are properties with land size equal to or greater than 4,000m²
 - (vi) surveillance in the localities of Beerwah, Booroobin, Conondale, Diamond Valley, Doonan, Dulong, Glenview, Harper Creek, Hunchy, Kiels Mountain, Landsborough, Meridan Plains, Mooloolah Valley, Palmview, Peachester, Perwillowen, West Woombye, Weyba Downs and Wootha and
 - (vii) Individual properties also previously known to harbour invasive biosecurity matter will be surveyed for ongoing compliance.

FINANCE AND RESOURCING

The 2016/2017 budget allocated to address pest plant issues through the pest survey program is \$364,883 allocated as follows:

Salaries	\$ 273,381
Materials and services	\$ 6,657
Vehicles and plant	\$ 59,767
Internal materials and services	\$ 25,077

This equates to 3 x full time equivalent persons allocating their time to this program:

- 2.2 x full time equivalent positions conduct the proactive inspections (more than 2,500 per year) and
- 0.8 x full time equivalent positions responding reactively to complaints (around 330 complaints per year) lodged by the community on pest plants.

The pest survey program has been delayed due to council officers seeking clarification on a number of legislative instruments from senior Biosecurity Queensland policy officers as this is a new process that has not been undertaken before. Biosecurity Queensland had also provided a template for this process as well as officer training. Whilst this process was underway council officers have still undertaken property inspections however they have had to seek the occupier's approval prior to entry. This has been undertaken in accordance with existing budget allocation, therefore expending approximately \$224,579 of the \$364,883 2016/17 budget.

During the period of the proposed pest survey program of 13 February to 30 June 2017 (20 weeks) the remaining \$140,304 will be expended undertaking around 1000 property inspections and responding to approximately 125 complaints.

The 2016/2017 budget allocation is sufficient and on track to undertake the proposed program under the *Biosecurity Act 2014*.

CORPORATE PLAN

Corporate Plan Goal: *A healthy environment*
Outcome: 3.2 - Well-managed and maintained open space, waterways and foreshore assets
Operational Activity: 3.2.3 - Manage the region's high quality urban and rural open space network

Corporate Plan Goal: *A healthy environment*
Outcome: 3.3 - A reputation for innovative environmental practices
Operational Activity: 3.3.1.4 - Continue to engage, support and grow community partnerships in managing and enhancing the region's natural assets on public and private lands
 3.3.3 – Strengthen council's approach to working with the Queensland Government, industry, community groups and land owners to manage plants and feral animals in the region

Corporate Plan Goal: *Service excellence*
Outcome: 4.1 – Customer focussed services
Operational Activity: 4.1.5 – Administer and review council's local laws and relevant State legislation in a manner that supports council's economic, community, and environmental goals for the region and is consistent with statutory obligations.

CONSULTATION

Portfolio Councillor Consultation

- Councillor McKay – Portfolio Councillor for Community and Environment

Internal Consultation

The following internal stakeholders contributed to the development of this report:

- Team Leader Vector and Pest Plant Education and Control

External Consultation

The following external stakeholders were consulted:

- Principal Biosecurity Officer, Biosecurity Queensland – Maroochy Research Facility
- The Chief Executive Officer of the Department of Agriculture and Fisheries was consulted on 15 July 2016 and provided a detailed response to council received 23 August 2016 to inform the drafting of the Surveillance Program.

Community Engagement

There has been no community engagement undertaken in relation to this report.

PROPOSAL

Biosecurity matter is defined in full in the *Biosecurity Act 2014*, but in brief is a living plant and animal, pathogen, disease, or contaminant. The Program is targeting specific pest plants listed in the Act such as groundsel bush, rat's tail grasses, parthenium and salvinia.

The proposed Program under the *Biosecurity Act 2014* must be authorised by Council to allow the carrying out of the following activities:

- monitoring compliance with the *Biosecurity Act 2014*
- confirming the presence, absence, and/or the extent of invasive biosecurity matter (pest plants)
- monitoring the effectiveness of measures taken in response to a biosecurity risk;
- monitoring compliance with requirements about prohibited matter or restricted matter (as defined in the Act) and
- monitoring levels of biosecurity matter (pest plants), including a carrier. eg. feed contaminated with pest plants.

Council authorisation of the Program gives authorised persons (council officers) power to enter private property without consent.

However council officers will make efforts to locate the landholder and provide information and education to assist them with the management of pest plants.

Part of this education process will include assisting the person in understanding their "general biosecurity obligation". The person who is control of the property *has an obligation to take all reasonable and practical measures to prevent or minimize the biosecurity risk* (section 23(2)).

Council also offers access to free weed control equipment to assist the landholder to comply. The Program is a necessary initial step before other compliance work under the Act can occur such as issuing a Biosecurity Order.

The Program will continue work that council has previously delivered under pest survey programs via the *Land Protection (Pest and Stock Route Management) Act 2002*. Based on historical data from council's work in pest survey programs:

- 7.5% of properties proactively inspected contained declared plants
- 3.5% of landholders entered into a voluntary pest management plan with council to undertake certain actions within certain agreed timeframes

- 3.5% of landholders received a pest control notice and the vast majority complied before the compliance period expired and
- Less than 1% of properties inspected resulted in council engaging a contractor to enter and clear the property.

Legal

Authorisation of the proposed Program by a resolution of the local government is required in accordance with section 235 *Biosecurity Act 2014*.

Section 236 of the *Biosecurity Act 2014* outlines what must be stated in the program authorisation for a biosecurity program.

The authorisation of the program enlivens a number of specific powers under the Act including section 261 (Power to enter place under biosecurity program), section 262 (Power to enter place to check compliance with biosecurity order) and section 270 (Entry of place under sections 261 and 262).

Policy

Local governments in Queensland have a biosecurity obligation to control invasive biosecurity matter within their local government area in compliance with the *Biosecurity Act 2014* (section 48).

The Program contributes to the outcomes of the *Sunshine Coast Local Government Area Pest Management Plan 2012-2016*.

The *Sunshine Coast Local Government Area Pest Management Plan 2012-2016* is a transitional document for this program and will be replaced by new Sunshine Coast Local Government Area Biosecurity Plan 2017- 2021. This new plan is currently under development and requires the endorsement of Council. The new Biosecurity Plan is likely to be presented to Council for adoption in mid to late 2017.

Risk

With increasing numbers of residents moving to our hinterland with limited understanding of rural land management, invasive plants can present a problem on large and small acreage as well as urban fringe areas. Failure to endorse the *13 February to 30 June 2017 Surveillance Program for Sunshine Coast Council* would mean Council would:

- not meet its obligations under the Act
- increase the risks associated with not controlling pest plants throughout the region
- potentially cause significant environmental damage and the resulting loss of biodiversity
- threaten stock and domestic animals and
- potentially cause loss of agricultural productivity and loss of community amenity.

Under section 50 of the Act the state government minister responsible for biosecurity may direct by issue of a formal notice to local government to perform a biosecurity function or obligation. The local government must comply with this notice.

Previous Council Resolution**Council Resolution (OM15/94) on 18 June 2015**

That Council:

- (a) *receive and note the report titled "2015/2016 Pest Survey Programs" and*
- (b) *approve the following pest survey programs for the Sunshine Coast Council in accordance with the Land Protection (Pest and Stock Route Management) Act 2002, Section 241:*
 - (i) *Survey Program 1: 04/07/15 to 30/09/15 for the localities of Glass House Mountains, Peachester, Palmview, Ilkley, Eudlo, Bli Bli, Verrierdale, Eerwah Vale, Kiamba*
 - (ii) *Survey Program 2: 01/10/15 to 31/12/15 for the localities of Peachester, Conondale, Ilkley, Bli Bli, Verrierdale, Eerwah Vale, Kiamba*
 - (iii) *Survey Program 3: 01/01/16 to 31/03/16 for the localities of Peachester, Conondale, Eudlo, Hunchy, North Arm, Verrierdale, Mapleton, Reesville, Witta, Weyba Downs, Tanawha and*
 - (iv) *Survey Program 4: 01/04/16 to 30/06/16 for the localities of Peachester, Conondale, Eudlo, Hunchy, Mapleton, Reesville, Witta, Weyba Downs, Tanawha and North Arm.*

Related Documentation

- *Local Government Act 2009*
- *Biosecurity Act 2014*
- *Sunshine Coast Local Government Area Pest Management Plan 2012-2016*

Critical Dates

The Program has been scheduled to commence monitoring activities from 13 February 2017 to 30 June 2017.

Notice of the Program must be given at least 14 days prior to the commencement of the program. The notification would be raised no later than 29 January 2017.

Implementation

The Program will be available at all Customer Service Centres and will be published on the council website at least 14 days before commencement. The Program is a necessary initial step before council can undertake compliance and enforcement work can commence to prevent and control pest plants.

The Program will be implemented by council's Vector and Pest Plant Control Officers (Healthy Places Unit) in correlation to council land management schedules from 13 February 2017 to 30 June 2017. This ensures an efficient delivery for maximum benefit to both community and council's assets. Council has a number of tools to be used in the education, surveillance, compliance and enforcement work including an entry notice and fact sheet that will be supplied to the owner outlining the requirements of the legislation and their options.

A number of resources including educational booklets, a smartphone application, fact sheets, and public notices will be provided to rural and peri-urban landholders via social media, mail outs and surveys. Information is also available online at council's website and Biosecurity Queensland's website.

Council's Vector and Pest Plant Control Officers will seek voluntary compliance and collaborate with landholders/land managers wherever possible to facilitate the control of pest plants. The Program will:-

- allow the confirmation of the presence of pest plants on a property
- allow Council to communicate and inform a person about their biosecurity general obligation and
- assess whether to issue a Biosecurity Order to a person for failure to discharge their general biosecurity obligation (which may require the person to undertake management action – such as prevention or control).

If a landholder/land manager fails to comply, (or the occupier fails to allow the owner to comply) the authorised Program under the *Biosecurity Act 2014* provides for the property to be entered and for council to undertake the work required (section 263). Costs can be recovered from the person that has failed to comply (section 380).

8.5 ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND MAJOR PROJECTS

Nil

8.6 OFFICE OF THE MAYOR AND THE CEO

Nil

9 NOTIFIED MOTIONS

10 TABLING OF PETITIONS

Petitions only eligible for submission if:

- * Legible
- * Have purpose of the petition on top of each page
- * Contain at least 10 signatures
- * Motion limited to:
 - Petition received and referred to a future meeting
 - Petition received and referred to the Chief Executive Officer for report and consideration of recommendation
 - Petition not be received

11 CONFIDENTIAL SESSION

11.1 PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT

Nil

11.2 CORPORATE SERVICES

Nil

11.3 ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND MAJOR PROJECTS**11.3.1 CONFIDENTIAL - NOT FOR PUBLIC RELEASE - SUNSHINE COAST AIRPORT EXPANSION PROJECT - FUNDING STRATEGY**

File No: Council meetings
Author: Director
Economic Development and Major Projects Department

This report is confidential in accordance with section 275 (e) of the *Local Government Regulation 2012* as it contains information relating to contracts proposed to be made by Council.

11.3.2 CONFIDENTIAL - NOT FOR PUBLIC RELEASE - MOOLOOLABA LAND ACQUISITIONS

File No: Council meetings
Author: Principal Property Officer
Economic Development and Major Projects Department

This report is confidential in accordance with section 275 (h) of the *Local Government Regulation 2012* as it contains information relating to other 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.

11.3.3 CONFIDENTIAL - NOT FOR PUBLIC RELEASE - MAROOCHYDORE LAND ACQUISITION

File No: Council meetings
Author: Principal Property Officer
Economic Development and Major Projects Department

This report is confidential in accordance with section 275 (e) of the *Local Government Regulation 2012* as it contains information relating to contracts proposed to be made by Council.

**11.3.4 CONFIDENTIAL - NOT FOR PUBLIC RELEASE - LAND ACQUISITION
AND DISPOSAL MAROOCHYDORE**

File No: Council meetings
Author: Coordinator Property, Projects and Development
Economic Development and Major Projects Department

This report is confidential in accordance with section 275 (e) of the *Local Government Regulation 2012* as it contains information relating to contracts proposed to be made by Council.

**11.3.5 CONFIDENTIAL - NOT FOR PUBLIC RELEASE - CALOUNDRA MUSIC
FESTIVAL 2017-2019**

File No: Council meetings
Author: Coordinator Major Events Delivery
Economic Development and Major Projects Department

This report is confidential in accordance with section 275 (e) of the *Local Government Regulation 2012* as it contains information relating to contracts proposed to be made by Council.

11.4 INFRASTRUCTURE SERVICES

Nil

11.5 COMMUNITY SERVICES**11.5.1 CONFIDENTIAL - NOT FOR PUBLIC RELEASE - STADIUM FEASIBILITY STUDY - SUNSHINE COAST****File No:** Council meetings**Author:** Manager Community Facilities & Planning
Community Services Department

This report is confidential in accordance with section 275 (h) of the *Local Government Regulation 2012* as it contains information relating to other 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.

11.6 OFFICE OF THE MAYOR AND THE CEO

Nil

12 NEXT MEETING

The next Ordinary Meeting will be held on 23 February 2017 in the Council Chambers, Corner Currie and Bury Streets, Nambour.

13 MEETING CLOSURE